

# Engagement Series #1: Visioning

December 2019 – January 2020

## Analysis Summary

On the week of December 2, 2019, a series of events were held for project staff to better understand resident and stakeholder priorities along the Lyndale Avenue corridor as they relate to a vision for the future. Those events included:

- Stakeholder meetings – with staff, elected officials, business community, artist/designers, etc.
- Public Open House – at Sports Page, a popular Lyndale restaurant/bar on a weekday evening
- Small Pop-up Events – at David Fong’s, a Lyndale restaurant, at VEAP and Hennepin County Regional Services, a farmers market at the Bloomington Arts Center, engagement with two after school groups at Jefferson High School, with students at Normandale Community College, and employees of Toro
- Online resources – interactive mapping and commenting tool, online survey

The Lyndale Avenue Retrofit provides an opportunity to (re)build Bloomington’s ‘Main Street’ creating an important connection within the community, and to better support the immediate area. In order to do so, the corridor needs to create and support desirable experiences – a place where people want to stop and spend time in addition to travelling through.



It became clear at the engagement events that some residents are particularly sensitive to government spending as of late, potentially related to a recent community center project, rising property taxes, and/or other events in the city and elsewhere. Further, the connection between commercial/industrial corridor revitalization and the reduction of the residential tax burden is perhaps not widely understood or communicated. There is also sensitivity to the concept of eminent domain, which may stem from previous projects along the corridor, and/or a historic takings case in Richfield.

When people discuss their ideas for the future of Lyndale, they often describe a place that is enjoyable to experience as well as a place to run daily errands. They describe supporting the existing businesses along the corridor as well as creating an environment that attracts new, innovative, and local businesses. They talk about the importance of daily necessities along Lyndale – including affordable housing, grocery stores, and pharmacies. They also talk about creative, public places where they can hold meetings, create art, watch productions, and taste craft beer. People envision a future Lyndale that

supports through-traffic (including by foot, bike, bus, and car), as well as a street that supports the desire to stop, meet, and hang-out.

Long-time residents also express regret when thinking about community assets that have closed over the years – notably breakfast restaurants, a roller rink, a bowling alley and arcade.

At Sports Page on December 3, people were asked to write 6-Word Stories about the future they envision for Lyndale Avenue, a sample is listed below (with full list on a following page):

- *Happy people walking thru small businesses*
- *Save the Bear, save the Bear*
- *Multigenerational community hub featuring local establishments*
- *Rode bike, shopped, came back again*
- *Don't bring Mpls problems to Bloomington*

People were asked to vote on their top three priorities for the Lyndale Avenue Retrofit. 267 votes were cast with the greatest number of votes placed in support of small business and entrepreneurship. People voted for expanding housing options as the second top priority. Expanding cultural and entertainment options, and expanding public space, green spaces placed third and fourth respectively. There was also a 'write-in option' - with just 2 notes prioritizing no-change or to generally slow the pace of development.







At the same event, people were asked to write what they *love* about Lyndale, what they would like to see *more*, and what they would like to see *less* (love, more, less). Here are some prevailing themes:

People *love*:

- Businesses along the corridor
- The Great Bear Sign
- Driving uninhibited
- Multi-modal access
- Daily services, activities along Lyndale

People prefer *less*:

- Asphalt
- Empty lots
- Stagnation
- Auto-dependency

People envision *more*:

- Public space
- Pathways, trees
- Places to meet, hang out
- Local stores and restaurants
- Affordable housing

Meetings with stakeholder groups largely correlated with what was learned at Sports Page – there is a lot of opportunity along Lyndale with underutilized properties and potential for reinvestment. But there is also an understanding that the businesses, industry, and residences along the corridor have kept Lyndale Avenue active and that those investments require protection.

# Full Documentation

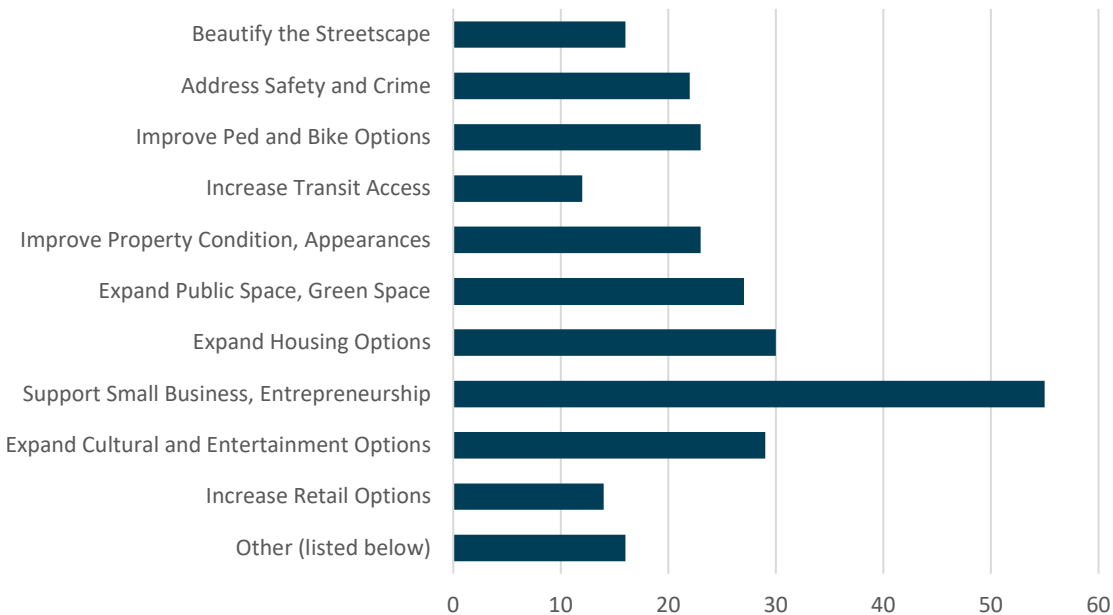
## 6-Word Stories

Sports Page 12/3/2019 – Participants were asked to write a short (six-word) story on a card that described their vision for the future Lyndale Avenue. The results are listed below:

- *Safe streets for bikes and pedestrians*
- *Happy people walking thru small businesses*
- *Save the Bear, save the Bear*
- *Pedestrian experiences improves pub-private partnerships*
- *Multigenerational community hub featuring local establishments*
- *Destination to dine, play, and walk*
- *Don't kill current business with improvements*
- *Less cars, more people*
- *Healthy & safe social, cultural, economic engagement*
- *More walkability, cleanup retail & houses, add local coffee houses*
- *More of a mix, less fast food*
- *If no car, public transportation. Thanks*
- *Equitable & safe accessible neighborhoods for all!*
- *Great food, groceries, housing, transportation & banking!*
- *Sidewalks paved of roots & trash*
- *Support streets to expedite car traffic*
- *Enhanced multiroom condos for younger families*
- *Model like Excelsior & Grand, please*
- *Safe multimodal, connected community asset now!*
- *Gratefully, he changed "was" to "is"*
- *Rode bike, shopped, came back again*
- *Safety first, taxpayer's funds last*
- *Don't bring Mpls problems to Bloomington*
- *Flashback: Beanie's Arcade – many quarters spent there*
- *Connections, greenspace, bikes, walking, fun! Diverse*
- *A happy, walkable, bikeable, engaged community*
- *Live, work, & play together on Lyndale*
- *Unique Shops*
- *Lingering coffee, small shops, cozy feel*
- *Gathering spaces for family and friends*
- *Non-franchised restaurants and pubs*
- *Met Mike. St Paul Girl Finds Love*
- *Lovely walk, visiting small local businesses*
- *Walk, share, visit...The heartbeat of Community*
- *Mom & Pop Pizza Place with Wine, Smells, and FUN 😊*
- *Breweries*

## Bloomington Bucks

Sports Page 12/3/2019 – Participants were given three bills to ‘invest’ in predetermined categories or use a ‘write-in’ option and write their idea on the back of the bill. 267 bills were placed, equaling 89 people engaged. The table below illustrates the number of bills placed in each bucket:

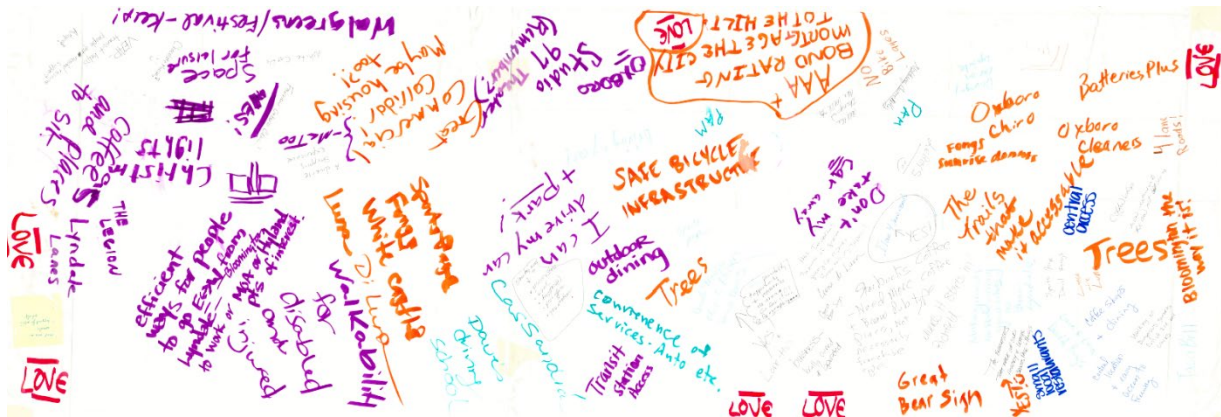


Statements written on the back of the bills placed in the ‘Other’ bucket:

- Improve traffic flow
- Develop very slowly
- Move commercial buildings up to the street, put parking in the back. Cut back on rear parking. Allow mixed use zoning with shops on lower levels, residential on top
- Improve traffic light timings. Easier to drive car around town
- Why are so many restaurants closing – Timber Lodge, DQ, Bakers Square
- Leave Valley View Park alone. No community center
- Improve traffic flow to help small businesses
- Support/enable small business
- Smoother, faster traffic flow
- Music venue
- Assure specific needs like adequate food, grocery stores, drug stores, and other essential services are close by
- Leave it as it is. There is no need to change it
- Do not assess tax payers for the City’s weird ideas
- Build the new community center on the space left by the bowling alley (94<sup>th</sup> across from Fong’s) and add some space by removing surrounding buildings
- Community Center – 94<sup>th</sup> and clear more space [2x]

## Love

Sports Page 12/3/2019 – One table covered in a paper tablecloth had a sign that read “Along Lyndale Avenue, I love...” Event attendees covered the table with notes about the things they love, shown below.



- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Batteries Plus</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> 4 lane roads</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Trees</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Bloomington the way it is</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Taco Bell</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Oxboro Cleaners</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Central access</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Oxboro Chiro</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Fong's</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sunrise Donuts</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The trails that make it accessible</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Coffee shop</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> More restaurants that are not chains</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Coffee shops and dining</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Luna di Luna</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sports Page</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> David Fong's</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Walking on dangerous streets full of ice and cracks</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Central location and easy access to freeways</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Small local restaurants</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Luna di Luna</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> David Fong's</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The businesses that make up our history i.e. Leroy's, Sports Page, Fong's [added by another: Yes]</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Nothing much. No redeeming qualities to bloom Lyndale</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Great Bear sign</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Where it starts in Richfield</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> I love 4 lane roads [added by another: Yes]</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Starbucks Coffee – need more coffee and brew pub type places, not necessarily franchise type</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Great Bear sign</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Luna di Luna</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Has important businesses of gasoline, grocery, car repairs, base needs, very important</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> The possibility and opportunity to modernize the area. Go for it. Be exemplary.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Drooling Moose</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Maz-In Flowers</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Sunrise Donuts [added by another: Yes. Love this. Business locally owned and operated]</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Trees</li> </ul> |
|--|--|--|

- Sports Page
- Transit station access

## Love (continued)

- Convenience of services – auto, etc.
- Outdoor dining
- Close by access to grocery store, bank, drugstores, post office, gas station
- Safe bicycle infrastructure
- Driving my car
- I can drive my car and park
- AAA+ bond rating mortgage the city to the hilt
- No bike lanes
- Don't take my car away
- Leroy's
- Nothing currently
- All the things I can walk to
- Driving my car on Lyndale
- Dave's Driving School
- Cassandra's
- Oxboro
- Studio 97 Theater remember
- Great commercial corridor, maybe housing too [added by another: Me too]
- A diverse shopping experience
- Sports Page
- Fong's
- White Castle
- Luna Di Luna
- Walkability for disabled and injured
- Walgreen's
- Festival – keep
- The Legion
- Lyndale Lanes
- Coffee and places to sit
- Christmas lights
- VEAP – transit helps people get needed resource, support
- Autopia
- Chocolate Moose
- Space for leisure
- White Castle
- Fairview Oxboro Clinic [added by another: Yes]
- Efficient ways for people to go east-west from Lyndale to work or MOA or Hyland. Points of interest.
- Need cars on corridor
- Support for public schools







## More (continued)

- Non franchise food places
- Meeting rooms for civic groups. Rare/difficult to reserve.
- Bike lanes and connections
- Bus routes
- Places to buy good groceries
- Safe streets for cyclists and pedestrians. My partner uses a bike as her primary mode of transportation. Automobiles and bikes need to be treated equally [added by another: Yes]
- Grocery and food sources – assure future vitality of same
- Green space
- Better snow removal for walking
- Walkable neighborhood
- Bike friendly
- Housing
- More transit options, more bus service
- Support of long term tenants
- Businesses employing people with good jobs
- Trendy restaurants with an appearance that flows
- Use Lyndale Ave future as theme for City
- Artist studios/space [added by another: Yes]
- Outdoor dining
- Small businesses
- Public spaces
- Liquor licenses for businesses outside of hotels – local not chains. Craft cocktail oriented destinations
- Flowers
- Not franchise restaurants
- Local coffee shops
- Housing for people of all ages, income, and family size
- Co-op – organic grocery [added by another: Yes]
- Alternatives for people who cannot drive or do not wish to drive
- Growing businesses
- More traffic [added by another: Not]
- Meeting rooms – reserving is difficult
- Walkable, bikeable [added by another: Yes]
- Ethnic restaurants [added by another: Yes]
- Small businesses
- Shippers on the railroad (RR is not publicly funded infrastructure. If starved for business, it will disappear)
- Frequent bus service
- Smooth roads
- Retail shops
- Places to go for fun/entertainment
- Small town feel
- 4 lane roads
- Newer looking buildings
- Integration into larger picture for a thriving, healthy city
- Walkable paths, connected amenities
- Food
- Bike lanes
- Nice walkways
- Parks
- Public space
- Healthy restaurant options
- Green
- Boulevard sidewalks [added by another: With shade]
- More people walking their dogs, more single family home
- Significant new mixed use and apartments
- Family owned small restaurants- not too expensive but good food

## More (continued)

- Mixed income housing some low, some more upscale
- Affordable transportation options and efficient transportation
- Equitable use for all residents with a range of incomes, ages, and abilities
- Transit, bus, park and ride
- Trees
- Convenient, pleasant public transit
- Destination to come to work, shop, spend time
- Green space
- Health care
- 5-star chef
- Better restaurants – organic, fine dining, fresh. Variety. More than burgers and beer
- Businesses aimed to support healthy living and lifestyles for all budgets and walks of life
- Environmentally sustainable buildings and landscapes – drought resistant and native MN plants
- Green space for peaceful, beautiful enjoyment with others or solo – benches, tables, shade
- Appealing aesthetics to prompt people to want to spend time here.
- Cultural opportunities to support meaningful engagement or residents and visitors including pop-up opportunities
- Inviting accommodations for pedestrians, bicyclists and people with disabilities
- Accessible and safe for all – walkers, cars, wheel chairs, bikes, and other forms of transport
- Bike share program
- Safe with a focus on lighting, biking, pedestrian and accessible use
- Car charging stations
- Bike fix it stations
- Good parking for bikes and safety, and safe entry points for pedestrians
- I want more small businesses, bus stops, and bike/pedestrian routes both on Lyndale and near it. Some favorites – Sunrise Donuts, Drooling Moose, RBCU, Maz-in Flowers. I'd like to be able to bike to those, or walk on pleasant walkways instead of seeing vehicles everywhere as I approach/leave businesses
- Accessible parking
- Shopping restaurants
- Multimodal options
- Cohesion or theme – wonder if Great Bear or Lincoln Bears could have a district name
- Connectivity
- Meeting room space for non-profits to gather and meet and plan initiatives for the community
- Eladnyl equals Lyndale backwards

## Less

Sports Page 12/3/2019 – One table covered in a paper tablecloth had a sign that read “Along Lyndale Avenue, I want less...” Event attendees covered the table with notes about the things they want less on Lyndale Avenue, shown below.



- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Fast food locations</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Roundabouts</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Bike lanes</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Want more meeting rooms to gather in this area – meet and greet and work on organizations initiatives [added by another: Doesn't make people money – waste of space</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Dog man</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Commercial establishment</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Less too wide streets</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Need less use of property for payday and loan places and get rid of e-cig places</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Fear while riding my bike [added by another: I agree]</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Pavement, cars</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Old thinking</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Pawn shops, parking lots, fast food chains, auto parts stores</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Gun shops</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Get in car to drive to one places without other areas to go</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Less traffic</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Government</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Less pawn shops</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Less development, leave it alone</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Less cigarette shops says the team</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Industry</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Less speed, lower speed limits for safer streets</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>[added by another: Too slow is hazardous]</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> I want less difficult walking or biking, endless vehicles in and beside the roadway, when I think of Lyndale I think of cars, and I try to find a different route or destination</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Car repair shops and parts</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Less fast food dives, dumps</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Vacant lots, stagnation, dumps</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Less bike lanes</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Homeless</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Please no roundabouts</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Roundabout I think are ok</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Less stoplights</li> </ul> |
|---|--|---|

## Less (continued)

- No more retirement homes
- Less bike lanes
- Slippery ice sidewalks
- Less bike lanes
- Ugly buildings, fewer
- Less big box, more local business
- Bike lanes [added by another: No]
- Stop lights, more roundabouts
- Less sprawling auto shops
- Public subsidized housing, low incentives [added by another: Crime; added by another: Prejudice people; added by another: Yes]
- 4 lane roads
- Speeding traffic
- Less corporate businesses, more local and small business [added by another: Totally agree; added by another: Yes]
- Less theft
- Combo retail living truly affordable rent own
- Traffic
- Car dependence
- Industry
- Less repair shops [added by another: Wrong repair shops important]
- Parking lots
- More opportunity for small business, less big box
- Industrial buildings
- Low income housing [added by another: Yes; added by another: Ditto]
- Auto related shops, there are about 17 [added by another: But it's good to have those nearby]
- Traffic disruptions for my business
- Less garbage in our parks
- Better traffic control in Cub parking lot – like crash can derby
- Icy parking lots – like here
- Parking lots in view
- Pavement – 5 lane road, parking lots
- Freeway Ford – build housing on this site
- Run down strip malls
- Storage and large vehicle storage



## Study Area Map

Sports Page 12/3/2019 – Participants wrote on post-it notes and placed them on a large-scale print corridor map to indicate places and concepts that are important to them.



- Don't want to lose Nicollet 494 exit and increase drive around on Lyndale
- Worried about tall buildings and property takings
- Safe streets for cyclists and pedestrians is a must have
- Speed limit signs and stop sign enforcement
- Add bike lanes on 82<sup>nd</sup>
- Don't want to lose my house but street is an eye-sore – don't want to lose value
- Perkins is the best Bloomington can do?
- Would love a breakfast place – locally owned & operated
- No other place in Bloomington to get Breakfast, why? Want mom-and-pop breakfast
- Safe place for teen hang out
- Mini parks
- Eliminate business parking on Wentworth residential
- Add lights to Bryant Park
- Don't touch Bryant Park
- Need off road protected bike trail entire length
- More police watch in Cub lot – nearly hit several times
- Stop signs on 85<sup>th</sup> and Wentworth – dangerous
- No parking on corners of 85<sup>th</sup> and Wentworth
- New name for Lyndale
- I want to walk to Cub but crossing Lyndale here is dangerous



- Keep Lyndale multi-lane to permit bus, heavy truck traffic
- Reduce to 2-lane divided like Richfield's new Lyndale
- Great connections to other bike routes
- Davanni's is fine
- Leave bikes on Nicollet and Portland, not used
- Consider 3 lanes, 95<sup>th</sup> – American
- Everything on Lyndale is currently either a horrible anti-pattern or fine
- Extend 4L bus route to 106<sup>th</sup>
- Luna di Luna (2x)
- More places like Luna
- Places for youth
- Visit to schools – social studies, need kids input
- Leroy's Station
- Bike lane on 90<sup>th</sup>
- Walkability should / needs to support local business over chains
- Sport Page
- Iconic Great Bear sign
- Keep iconic Bear sign
- Sunrise Donuts
- Is there any childcare in the area?
- Transit station
- Bike lanes, slower traffic, pedestrian walkways
- Removal of stop signs cuts out thru traffic, speeding
- Need bike friendly corridors
- Need "neighborhood" – is this plan an opportunity?
- A name for this neighborhood?
- Covered and heated bus stops (added by another: I agree)



- No to bike lanes (added by another: I agree)
- Get rid of thru traffic from 94<sup>th</sup> to 90<sup>th</sup>
- Bike lanes on Lyndale
- Yes to bike lanes
- No changed needed – worried about eminent domain
- Waffle house
- Need a better east-west connection by bike
- Value post office, drug store, banks, groceries here – don't want to lose
- Restaurants by the lake [added by another: Go to Minnetonka]
- Railroad is a hidden asset for industry jobs and commuters
- Trees
- Need flashing yellow arrows at American, 95<sup>th</sup>, 98<sup>th</sup>
- Proximity of residential to jobs – commercial and industrial – facilitates non-automotive commutes
- Could use more affordable housing
- Need meeting room space for non-profits – in RBCU?
- Need HAWK signal instead of RRFB
- Better bus service – more frequent – VEAP needs it
- White Castle
- Redevelop Freeway Ford site – has potential
- More trees and greenery
- Auxiliary lanes not needed
- Downtown Bloomington – where are you?
- A small-town downtown “main street” feel – shop, parking
- Coffee wine bar
- More busing







***Describe the most unique thing on or about Lyndale Avenue***

- Sports Page (6x)
- David Fong’s (6x)
- Great Bear sign (2x)
- Fairview/health center (2x)
- Bryant Park
- Train/tracks
- Mix of uses
- Chan’s Market
- Local businesses
- Mix of local, chains
- Community events
- Starbucks
- Tight-knit community
- Lemon Tree
- Cub Foods walkability
- Proximity to River, rec.
- Clock tower
- Not many landmarks
- Congested area going into Cub Foods from Lyndale
- Little Caesars – Never know if it’s open
- Luna di Luna Restaurant
- Gyros/deli in Clover Center
- Trim Lyndale like Richfield did on Portland
- Wixon [jewelers] shopping center, south of Festival

***What is something along Lyndale Avenue that you would miss if it were gone?***

- Cub Foods (15x)
- David Fong’s (11x)
- Sports Page (7x)
- CVS (6x)
- VEAP/County (6x)
- Walgreen’s (6x)
- Fairview (5x)
- Chan’s Market (4x)
- Home Depot (4x)
- Sam’s Club (4x)
- Clock tower (3x)
- Holiday Station (3x)
- Leroy’s (3x)
- Starbucks (3x)
- Wells Fargo (3x)
- Aldi – Richfield (2x)
- Festival Foods (2x)
- Goodwill (2x)
- Great Bear sign (2x)
- Minuteman Press (2x)
- Oxboro Shops (2x)
- Post Office (2x)
- Public Storage (2x)
- Railroad/tracks (2x)
- Salvation Army (2x)
- Shantytown (2x)
- Sunrise Donuts (2x)
- Trees and Nature (2x)
- Variety (2x)
- White Castle (2x)
- A1 Phone
- Affordable housing
- African Market
- Autopia
- Bird shop
- Bloomington Drug
- BP
- Bryant Park
- Bus company location
- Chinese restaurants
- Cool, diverse people
- Dairy Queen
- Discount Tire
- Domino’s
- Driving
- Droolin’ Moose
- Erberts and Gerberts
- FedEx Office
- Fireman’s Tournament
- Friend’s town house near Perkins
- Gas Station at 90th
- Grand Car Wash
- Great Bear Center – salon and small shops
- Green space
- Industry
- Kimson
- Lack of traffic
- Little strip malls (mom and pop shops)
- Luna di Luna
- Lyndale Plaza barber
- McDonald’s
- Oxboro Lake
- Paradise car wash
- People using x-walks

- Perkin’s
- Popeye’s
- Public transit
- Sawatdee
- Sidewalks
- Snap Fitness
- Speedway
- Stable businesses
- Thermo King
- Through-travel
- TKG Auto
- Toro
- Trailer Park on 102nd
- Transit Center
- Twin City Tire
- US Bank
- Valley View Park

***Comments from the Farmers Market (what is missing along Lyndale Avenue?)***

- Activities for families:
  - Bowling alley, etc.
  - Trees, plantings
  - Places to walk & sit
  - Restaurants with outside seating
- More park areas – green space
- Community Center at the Bus Garage
- Main Street feel
- Brewery Pubs
- Mom and Pop style Breakfast House
- Daytime and evening stores
- Trees – The whole of Bloomington needs more
- Walkable
- Permeable parking lot surfaces
- More landscaping/trees
- Coffee shop (not “Big” one)
- Promoting more small businesses
- Locally-owned coffee shop
- Attractive Buildings – Too much automotive
- Dairy Queen that is OPEN!
- Too industrial and dated. Need:
  - Non-chain restaurants
  - Green space
  - Seating
  - Outdoor park
  - Condos
- Bike path
- Park space and seating
- Drive-thru coffee shop
- Bike paths
- Community Center where school buses are now, or public storage.
- Attractive businesses. Walkable district that brings people in. Restaurants/microbrewery/wine bar.
- Microbrewery/brew pub
- Local coffee shop with Open Mike Night/Paint Your Canvas Nights, etc.
- Narrow Roads, Roundabouts, Add Bike Paths, Trees/Beautify (+another agreed).
- Family Fun Activities
- More green space to BREATHE
- Small independent restaurants
- Great breakfast place
- Small shops, coffee shop, cozy feel
- Mom & Pop Pizza joint!
- Video Games
- WI-FI
- Non-chain restaurants
- Grand Ave St Paul feel – Unique shops
- Family/non-franchised restaurants/pubs
- Trees with green space
- Kwik-Trip Gas Station.

**Additional Comments written on ‘Mining for Gems’ activity**

- Missing places already lost (9x), mentions:
  - Trio Restaurant
  - Bill and Bunny’s Restaurant
  - Glass Stem bar
  - Marthell’s
  - Roller rink
  - Pizzeria
  - Bowling Alley
- Walkability is important (3x)
- Need destination stores, chef-led restaurants, farmers market, crafts people, large employers
- Worried about city pressuring owners to sell
- Wanting additional auto-lanes
- Façade improvements needed
- Want look of Mpls Lyndale, boulevards
- Lyndale is center of Bloomington, connects
- Good alt route to 35W
- Need more transit
- Affordable apartments needed
- Vacancies in Clover Center an issue
- Big box not wanted
- Wanting indoor volleyball courts
- Walmart closer nice for groceries
- Make street bigger
- Fix potholes
- Need kid-friendly businesses
- Why take established trees?
- Visual appeal missing
- Not much shopping, use Walmart in Shakopee
- Shopping for everyday needs
- More of a through-way, like trees
- Highway access important
- Everything in one place on 98<sup>th</sup> and Lyndale
- Lyndale too busy for bike lanes
- Don’t stop here much
- Nothing but pawn shops, fast food
- Communicate construction, detour well
- More stuff to excite people
- Cub too expensive, need alternate
- Don’t want to see it go to one lane
- Automotive is an eyesore
- Keep 4 lanes
- Uses Lyndale to circumvent Nicollet and Portland, because they went to 1 lane
- Get rid of bus garage
- No roundabouts
- Don’t like planters – Hard to see pedestrians (e.g. France and Old Shakopee Rd)
- We need something like Carmines on Lyndale, with good things e.g. Sunday brunch, live music, bingo, happy hour. Walkable
- Need small businesses, but heard that it is difficult to start a small business in Bloomington
- Don’t put in Community Center at Valley View
- Old Planet Fitness (Valley West Shopping Center – West of France Avenue) would be ideal for a brewery
- Lives at Penn and American, and loves that it is walkable, and that has everything there, so doesn’t need to go to Lyndale
- No roundabouts - but agree with 4 to 3 lane conversion with center turn lane

- Bloomington doesn't have many bakeries
- Would be nice to improve landscaping
- I avoid Lyndale – too many lights. I live on 82<sup>nd</sup> and take Aldrich and Bryant south to 90<sup>th</sup> or 94<sup>th</sup> before heading east to the post office, etc.
- No roundabout at 98<sup>th</sup> and Lyndale (2)
- Don't put in boulevard
- Walkability is important, especially to walk to services (grocery) and activities
- Support affordable
- Like that City is thoughtful at regulations
- Like more small gathering places (deli's, etc)
- Need fish restaurant (Fish & Chips)
- Need more food places

## Stakeholder Meetings

### *City Staff*

- Public health considerations – Sidewalks are narrow, biking is challenging, Lyndale adjacent to census tract with lowest life expectancy, lots of fast food restaurants/tobacco shops/firearms dealers, highest vulnerability related to CDC Vulnerability Index
- Cultural assets
  - Four apartment complexes on corridor are housing people with disabilities
  - Starbucks is a gathering place
  - US Bank also a place where people gather
  - Gathering places may not be gathering from the neighborhoods, people coming from around city
  - Lyndale doesn't have nodes of ethnic retailers like other parts of the city, it has more of a fast food character
- Development opportunities and constraints
  - Industrial zoning on east side
  - Market is at 72-75% of AMI, developers are saying they are building “affordable” projects
  - Opportunity Housing Ordinance approved in February, went into effect in September 2019
- Infrastructure
  - 82<sup>nd</sup> north is more tied to federal highway changes, 82<sup>nd</sup> south the City has decision-making authority without impediments
- Hennepin County wants a template for suburban retrofit, to reduce racial disparities, and is interested in economic development along with getting people close to jobs.
- Placemaking priorities
  - Want physical places to meet people – “places with bulletin boards”
  - Outdoor “places to eat your sandwiches”



### ***Metro Transit***

- Orange Line
  - Downtown Minneapolis to Lakeville – has been planned for four decades
  - 2005 – Metro Transit adopted a BRT report that showed there could be stations in this area
  - Currently in construction
  - 17 miles with own fleet, 7 days of 20-hour service
  - Supposed to open in December 2021
- Orange Line Connecting Bus Study
  - Being conducted right now
  - Spring will have first concept map
  - Looking at standalone Lyndale route, trying to establish all day service on Lyndale
  - Ridership forecasts – currently about 400 boardings per day
  - Metro Transit has a Flickr account showing BRT TOD examples

### ***City Council/Boards/Commissions***

- Planning Commission has been part of discussions related to TOD at the future station, dealerships taking advantage of proximity to 35W and 494
- Planning Commission noted that there is direction in the Comprehensive Plan for the industrial area east of Lyndale Avenue and within the project study area
- Type of businesses along Lyndale are auto repair and similar uses – what will happen with those businesses?
- From a sustainability standpoint, density is great. Carbon footprint goes down when you can walk to what you need. Excited about walkability. Lyndale is worst road to walk on in the city. Vision for less cars, more people.
- Twin Cities has huge volume of small theaters (<100K/year budget, places without their own home)
- How can we develop an approach to preserving job-generating businesses? Need to keep that diversity in the corridor.
- Lots of small parcels will require packaging parcels together.
- Stormwater issue along Lyndale – will it be regional ponding or site by site?
- Would like to see a brewery or distillery- new ordinance now allows them
- 25K single-family homes in Bloomington with two-car garage. Not going to change over time and those neighbors can't be ignored with a new vision for Lyndale.

- We need to balance current car ownership with electrification of cars and alternative mobility options.
- Creative Placemaking Commission has canvassed the neighborhoods – they love outdoor seating with plantings, and they want their small ugly places made into beautiful places. They also want festivals.
- Lyndale is part of a much larger ecosystem with plans from Metro Transit, Hennepin County, plans from adjacent cities, etc.
- Better sidewalks and a bike lane, pollinator garden with benches for seating, and rooftop solar panels

### *Developers*

- To do a new development nowadays, you need \$2/foot. We aren't seeing that right now on Lyndale.
- Rents have been flat in Bloomington for years.
- Demographics around corridor are older which is probably why we've seen four senior co-ops recently.
- South Loop
  - Don't underestimate the value of the public realm – surface improvements, landscaping
  - There was a real public private partnership around infrastructure, including a central park – TIF paying for public and public-related infrastructure (parking), pedestrian experience
- The experience starts at the curb.
- For affordability, we need to find a model to work with Bloomington on doing affordability without the tax incentive.
- Comparable projects to investigate
  - Excelsior and Grand
  - West End
  - 50<sup>th</sup> & France
  - Hopkins – historic main street
  - Robbinsdale – historic main street
- Blocks in suburbs are so long, not walkable – how do we break these up?

### **Artists/Designers**

- What is the character of Lyndale?
  - Feels kind of broken with buildings set back from street, parking – the challenge is making it affordable for businesses and pedestrian-friendly
  - 98<sup>th</sup> & Lyndale is not pedestrian-friendly at all, very scary
- Landscaping and good sidewalks are not going to create great places – we need those “sticky” spaces where people will want to hang out
- Huge demand for art working spaces, waiting list in Northeast Minneapolis
  - South of the river in suburbs has a tremendous lack of space
  - Artists are working out of their homes, they need study and gallery space
  - They would want [especially natural] light, also sinks
- Artistry organization is a regional draw, housed in Bloomington
- What has made great places – large and small – on other suburban corridors?
  - Night life, and particularly night light – especially during non-winter times
- What makes Lyndale gritty-desirable?
  - Shantytown restaurant right off Lyndale
  - David Fong’s
  - Great Bear sign
  - Used to be wonderful old brick buildings that have been knocked down
- Minneapolis’ Creative Vitality Index included Bloomington – this might be a good resource.
- Bloomington has a good lifestyle for families and parents that may have initially thought of Minneapolis that are choosing houses in Bloomington.
- We need to redefine what an artist space is like in the suburbs – what are the demands?
- From an architecture standpoint, plan incrementally. Also pay attention to something tall and out of character because then that building will set the new character of Lyndale (that may not be wanted)
- Need to have flexibility in plan to accommodate the things and ideas that change.

### **Businesses**

- How do we keep the family orientation and infrastructure that is good for businesses?
- Which market segment is driving your business?
  - Jewelry doesn’t have local market, includes whole metro – employees struggle to suggest nice restaurants to visit along corridor when asked for suggestions.
  - Duluth Trading draws from everywhere

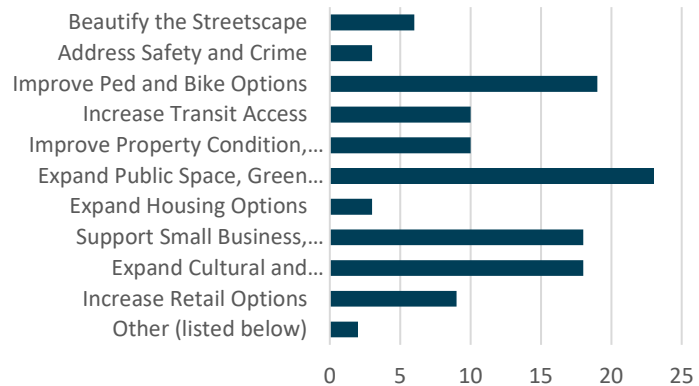
- Drooling Moose is a destination, designed building to be unique enough as a destination, flagship store, they also own a music venue in the same building
- Churches – mainly still people from the neighborhood, new people moving into nearby housing is more racially diverse, need to work with congregation on tackling issues of racism, there aren't really places in Bloomington to gather as a community
- What is Lyndale's brand?
  - Car dealerships have a broad market but need to change image, be more focused on relationships with nearby residents and businesses like Toro, Donaldson, and Thermo King.
  - 98<sup>th</sup> & Lyndale used to be Bloomington's downtown, 494 strip used to have all local businesses, MOA kind of pulled all of that apart. Bloomington has multiple characters as opposed to "Richfield is Richfield" and "Edina is Edina". What part of Bloomington are we talking about? It would be nice to reestablish Lyndale as downtown Bloomington. We need to do what we're known for.
- One word for what people want . . . experience. All retail should be recreating their landscapes to be an experience, keep people for a longer time.
- VEAP draws from Bloomington, Richfield, Edina, South Minneapolis. Co-located by the County. South suburban hub for the County for human services. Access/transit is critical. 160-200 households come per day. Serve people beneath 200% of the poverty guidelines.
- Car dealer – Manufacturers require dealer to keep 1200 cars on the lot, City wants to rezone to Commercial that have bigger FAR requirements



## Kennedy High School –

### *Women of the Future and National Honors Society (January 14, 2020)*

This event was attended by approximately 30 High School Students, who gave valuable input using the Bloomington Bucks exercise described earlier and listing elements that they believe to be missing along Lyndale.



Statements written on the back of the bills placed in the 'Other' bucket:

- More trees and plants – looks really sad
- Ability to get in and out of the store and fast food places – streets and parking

### *'What is missing?'*

- More places to hang, close by
- Taqueria La Hacienda (2 more agree)
- Expand Logan Park (It's quiet and secluded) Study area and fire pit. Has a lot of potential
- Lounge
- Old Time Diner for the good vibes ☑
- Study Space
- Shady places [creepy alley – not sure what this is about?]
- Frozen yogurt shop
- Café (with more space to meet)
- Sidewalks
- Bike lanes
- Teen hangout with food and space
- A mall
- Canes (Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers) Many agreed!
- A car ban (ban on cars) #reclaimthestreets
- Late night places
- Bring back old time arcade and pinball
- Trees
- Ice cream – A better Taco Bell
- Bike trails
- All-season soccer dome/football, lacrosse, Frisbee, baseball, golf, spikeball, anything
- Hangout space for teens that's affordable
- Movie theatre
- More nature
- Pizza parlor

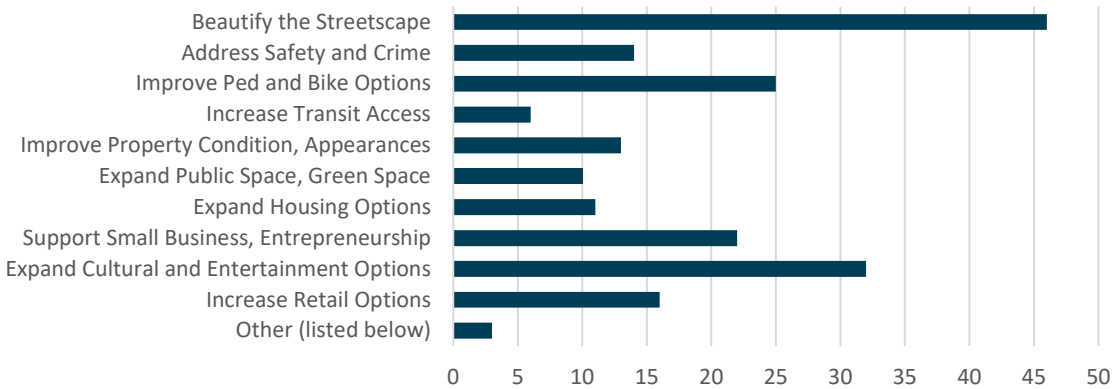
- Dog park
- Family-owned businesses
- More Culvers [frozen custard/restaurant]
- Small businesses
- Small businesses – not chains – Cafes, coffee shops & ice cream
- More cheap places for teens, especially during winter
- Cosmetic stores - Ulta
- Low cost/free hang out space for winter
- Hang out space for winter where there is no obligation to purchase something if you're there.
- What about the abandoned gas station on 90th & Penn?
- A new coffee shop on Lyndale, like Mugshots
- Small businesses
- More near the River Bottoms?
- Dog park
- Fitness center
- Places for teens/youth to spend time all seasons
- A lot of restaurants near us are expensive or close at 8:00 p.m.
- Cafes
- Park with meeting space (like Moir)
- Tutor
- More mall stores near our areas. Like PacSun, Journeys, etc.
- Inside meet up places
- More entertainment ex. more places to have fun, like Sky Zone, Grand Slam, arcades, etc
- Yes! More entertainment
- Bowling?
- I want more gyms near us
- Have activities like Minnehaha, such as more than one-person bikes and scooters
- Bubble Tea/ChaiTime
- More entertainment
- Family owned coffee shops
- Antique store
- More places for teens/places to hang out
- Ice cream \*Dairy Queen Closed ☹️
- Teen hangouts
- I would like thrift stores because the closest one is Apple Valley & Burnsville
- Boba Te
- I would like more cultural stuff, like Dinkytown AND BUBBLE TEA!
- Thrift stores
- Games
- Five Guys
- Recreational areas
- A place to study with food and a bigger space. A library and Starbucks combined
- Generally nicer stuff on the East side. The West side is way more developed
- Clothing stores
- Modeling stuff
- Bike roads
- Clothing [sis xoxo]
- There are a lot of auto shops so close together. As far as what could go there I'm not sure.
- Local theatre
- Dollar Tree
- I'd like to see a Chick-fil-a and Tiicup
- Sushi
- Entertainment areas like a movie theatre
- Local areas to hang out, other than MOA

- Places to hang out.

**Student Government (January 16, 2020)**

This event was attended by approximately 60-70 high school students, who gave valuable input using the Bloomington Bucks exercise described earlier and listing elements that they believe to be missing along Lyndale.

Bloomington Bucks:



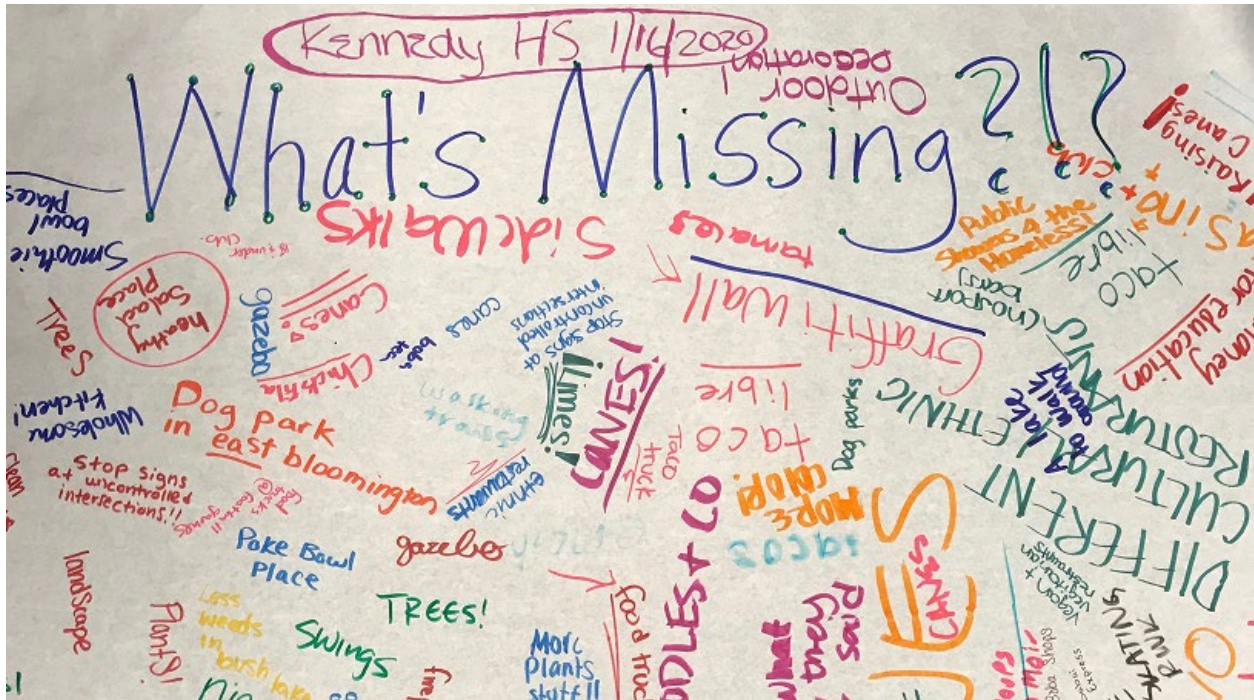
Statements written on the back of the bills placed in the 'Other' bucket:

- More green space
- More trees
- Want a movie theater

Additional comments

- Places to go include Boba tea, MOA, Taco Bell, Target, Running Park, Sunrise Donuts
- They wouldn't want to live on Lyndale because it's not designed well for residential. It's loud, lots of traffic, doesn't look very good

*'What is missing?'*



- Smoothie bowl places
- Healthy salad place
- Trees
- Wholesome Kitchen!
- Clean parks
- Stop signs at uncontrolled intersections!! (another agreed)
- Landscape
- Less grey buildings!
- Picture spots
- 18 & Under Club
- Gazebo (several agreed)
- Dog park in EAST Bloomington
- Food trucks @ football games
- Plants!
- Less weeds in Bush Lake
- Fireplaces
- More dog parks (several agreed)
- Noodles & Co
- More color
- Tacos
- Taco Libre (several agreed)
- Less plastic (another agreed)
- NES
- More color!
- Sidewalks
- Graffiti wall
- Tamales
- Hoops at Moir
- Boba shops (several agreed)
- Sabai Express
- Vegan & vegetarian restaurants (several agreed)
- Ice skating rink
- Different cultural/ethnic restaurants (not sports bars)
- A lake to walk around
- Public showers for the homeless!
- Casino and club
- Farmers' Markets
- Dutch Bros
- Nicer schools

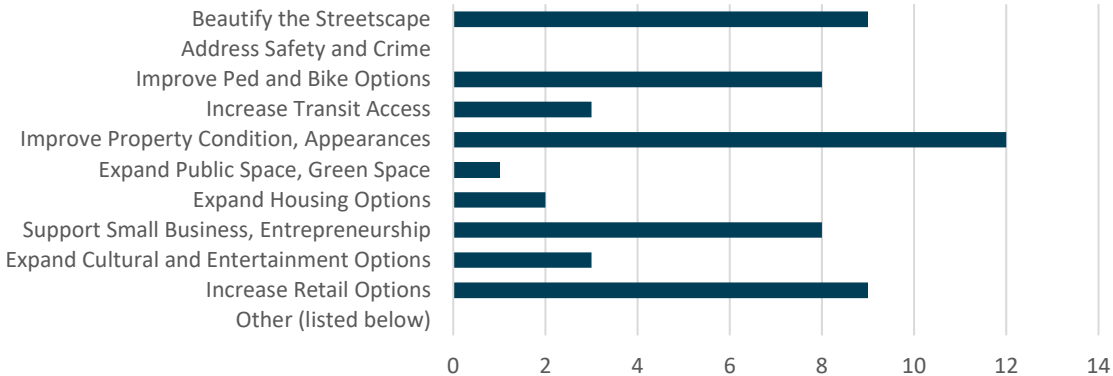


- Poke bowl places
- Swings
- Good outdoor concerts
- Chick-fila
- Raising Canes! (multiple agreed)
- Walking trails
- Ethnic restaurants
- Trees!
- ! Limes!
- Taco truck
- Food trucks
- Sidewalks
- A lake waterfall
- Basketball court
- Charging stations (another agreed)
- Less modernization
- Pretty buildings
- Prettier roads
- Bike lanes
- Personal businesses
- More pools
- Sit down restaurants
- Caribou coffee in East Bloomington
- Public restrooms
- Cute coffee shops
- Farmers Markets
- La Michoacana! (another agreed)
- La Loma!
- Independent businesses
- Bakeries
- In'n'Out Burgers
- Hair salons
- Soup kitchen
- Hang out spot
- La Hacienda Andale
- Dunkin' Donuts
- Outdoor decoration
- Money for education
- More lakes
- Small coffee shops

## Toro Headquarters

Barb Wolff gave a presentation to approximately 25 Toro employees, to introduce them to the Lyndale Avenue Retrofit Project.

Bloomington Bucks:



## Transportation and Services

<b>How do you get to work?</b>				
Transit – 1	Bicycle – 1	Walking – 0	Driving – 16	Other – 0
<b>What options do you wish you had?</b>				
Transit – 4	Bicycle – 5	Walking – 2	Driving – 1	Other – 1 (Nice Ride)

<b>What stops do you make on your way to and from work?</b>				
Groceries – 13	Coffee – 5	Restaurants/bar – 10	Pharmacy – 4	Other – ○ Lifetime Fitness (2x); Target (2x); LA Fitness; Retail/Shopping
<b>What options do you wish you had?</b>				
Groceries – 4	Coffee – 5	Restaurant/bar – 8 Healthy lunch (1x)	Pharmacy – 0	Other – ○ Hy-Vee (2x); Community Center; High-end sit-down restaurants; Patina; Small businesses; Specialty shops; Market place; Specialty small businesses (e.g. Droolin' Moose); Healthy food options; Happy hour spots

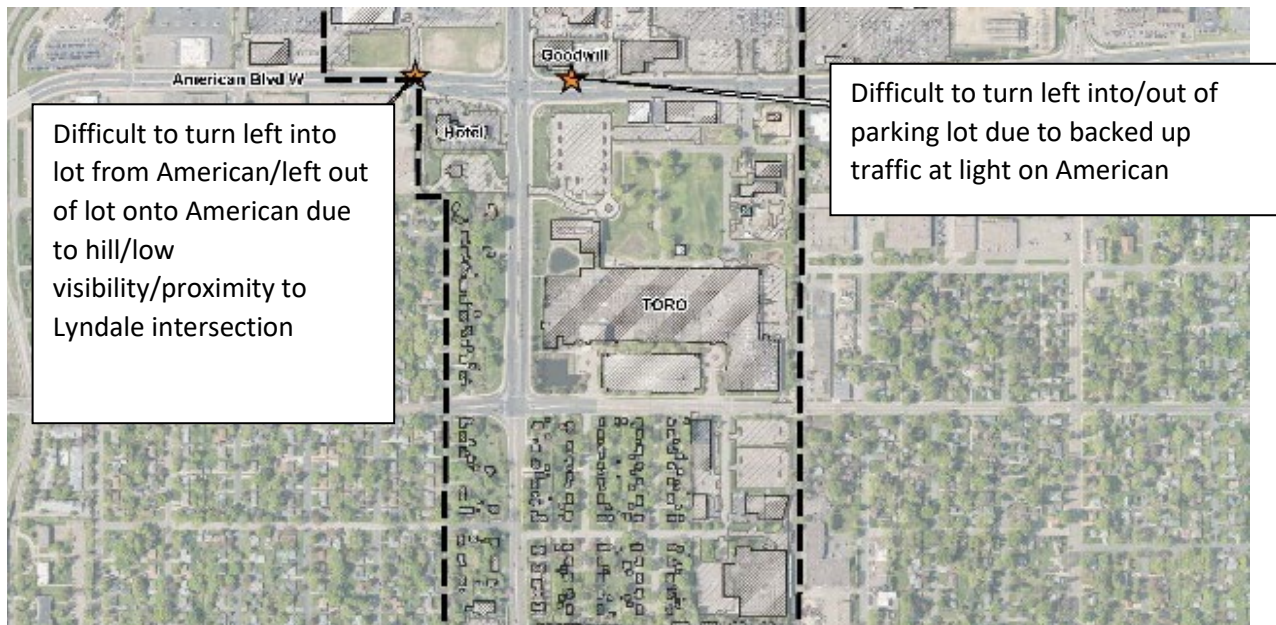
6-Word Stories:

- *Convenient shopping dining and socializing safely*
- *Shopping – Food – Entertainment and fun for families*
- *Work, dine, connect. Live Lyndale.*
- *Pleasant, welcoming and energetic zone*
- *Healthy walk down shady boulevard*
- *Townhouse options instead of high-rise apartments*
- *Inviting day and night life*
- *Lively Road, entertainment with sustainable spaces*
- *Compact walkable green space to work, live, play*
- *Walkable neighborhood for easy access and inviting for all*

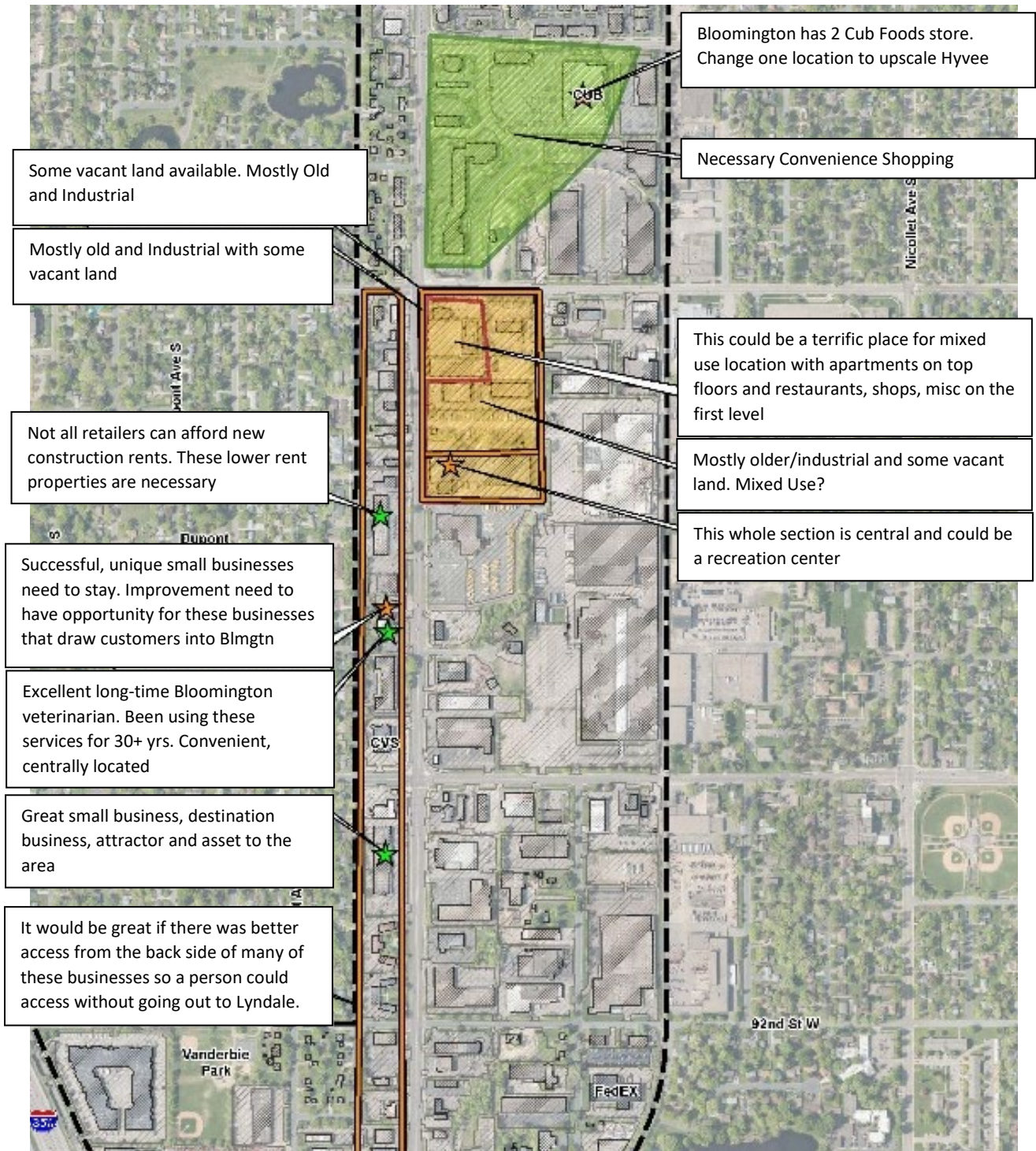
Other comments:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Access to and from Clover Center is hazardous</li> <li>○ Cub Foods on 84th Street – parking is horrible</li> <li>○ Would like healthier restaurant choices</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Just because we live in East Bloomington...We still want nice things.</li> <li>○ Keep Fongs! Enhance surrounding.</li> <li>○ Offer some townhome options. We don't all want apartments!</li> </ul> |
|--|---|

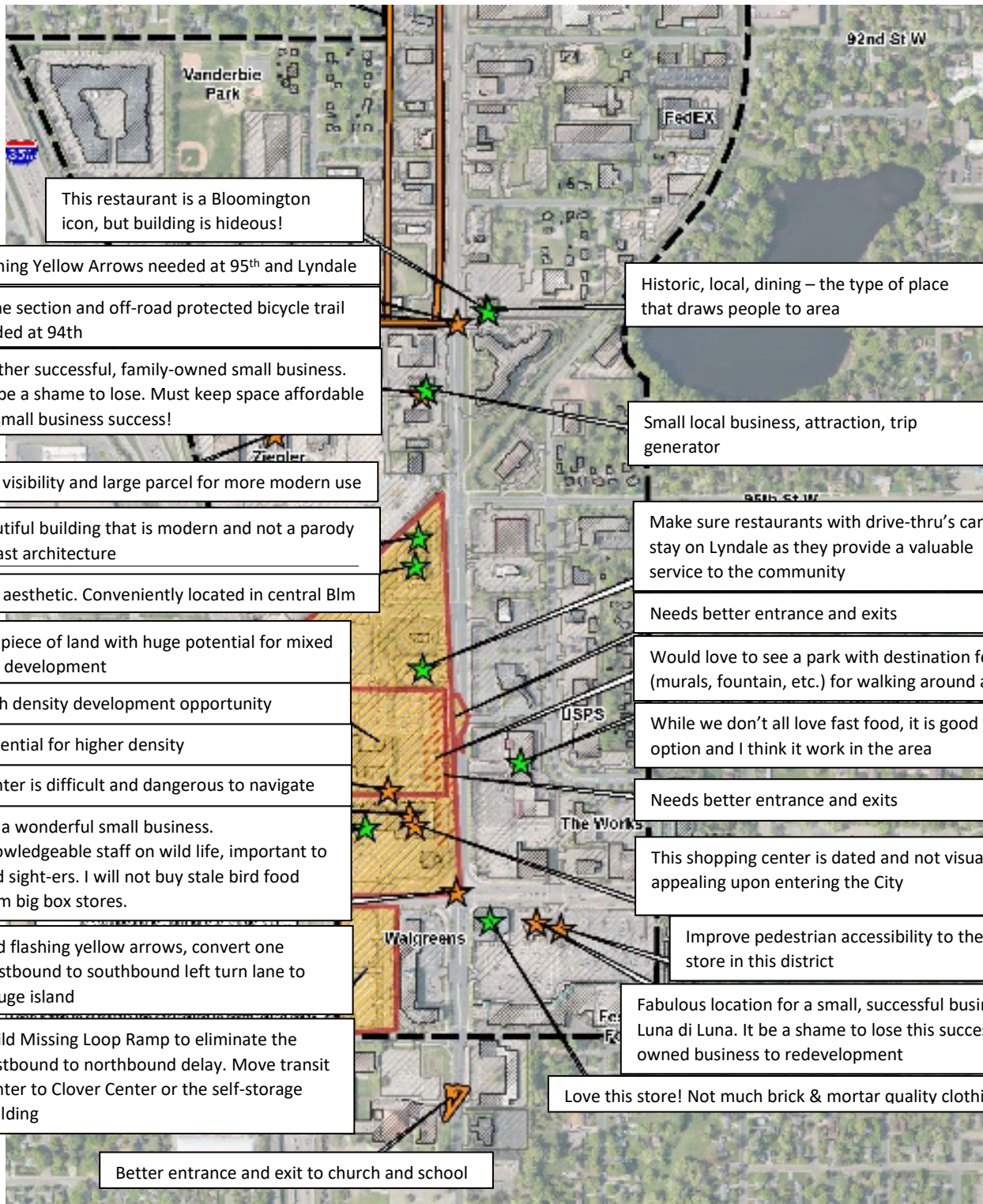
**Interactive Map**







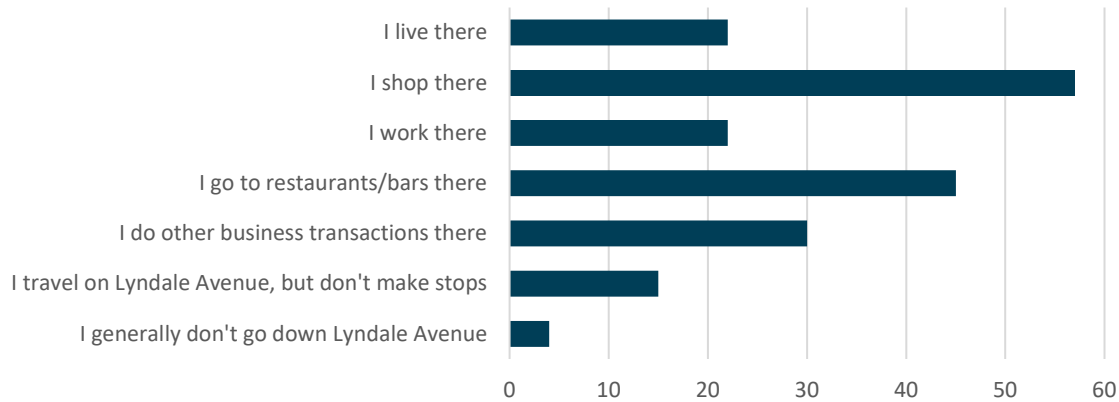




## Online Survey

A 22-question online survey was published on the City’s website to expand the engagement reach. The questions asked were similar to those that were asked in the public events. 78 people completed the survey, averaging 8 minutes to complete.

### Question 1: What generally brings you to places along Lyndale Avenue (check all that apply).



### Question 2: Why else do you stop along Lyndale Avenue? What else do you do there?

- Just a few restaurants I do go once in a while. Not much activity to do or would be nice to have a dog park close by.
- I go out to restaurants (lunch) and shop.
- I occasionally shop at Oriental Market, Cub Foods, and occasionally go to Sawatdee or Sports Page
- I specifically love visiting Luna di Luna, Mandarin Kitchen, Chan Oriental market. I think Mandarin Kitchen specifically brings a lot of good traffic to Lyndale avenue.
- Weekend car show during the summer
- gas, food, stores, shopping
- my place to live
- Work, food, drink
- Shopping, going out to eat, medical appointments
- Restaurants and occasionally walks at lunch
- I live and work in the area. I do my grocery shopping at cub and visit the restaurants for meals. I drive on this road to get to anywhere I need to go.
- Food, Travel to work to avoid 35W traffic
- Gas, grocery shopping, stores, and going to the gym
- Just business or restaurants.
- Medical clinic, Post office, Banking, Auto servicing, Gas stations, Pharmacy
- FedEx, post office, way to lifetime fitness
- I take that route on my way to other places. I don't shop much on the Lyndale shops. Need more fun places to shop and eat. Not fast foods!
- I use South Bloomington Transit Center.
- I cross Lyndale on buses but I generally would have to walk up or down from cross streets (98, 86, 66) to access anything.
- Banking, postal, gas and car wash

- I live right off of Lyndale, and it's my main route to both work and the gym (also off of Lyndale!)
- I donate blood at the American Red Cross
- In the summer I walk 8-10 miles per day. Lyndale is the best street because it is flat and there is access to businesses with bathrooms. There is access to banks, grocery stores, the post office, and restaurants. I can complete 85% of my errands on foot with a backpack when I walk down Lyndale.
- banking
- Get coffee, groceries, food
- Food
- I get gas at Leroy's for personal and work vehicles. I drive down there all the time for my job with rental cars.
- I think it's all covered in the previous question
- Fast food /auto stores
- Urgent Care at Fairview Clinic, Friday night Car Show at Applebee's.
- I travel Lyndale frequently, I live off 90th & Morgan. I don't think we need more traffic down Lyndale, honestly.
- "Nativity of Mary Church & School.
- Post office"
- "Vehicle repair and wash
- Fast food"
- Gas, grocery shopping
- A few of the fast food restaurants.
- Gas
- Pharmacy, eye doctor, hair salon are all on Lyndale
- Travel to Mpls when weather is bad
- Grocery shopping, dining, general retail shopping....
- Running errands (grocery, liquor store, bank, haircut, hardware) especially. Occasional event attendance (classic cars outside the Applebee's, city run festivals, The Works museum).
- Traffic jams and stop lights with an occasional train.
- i use various service providers

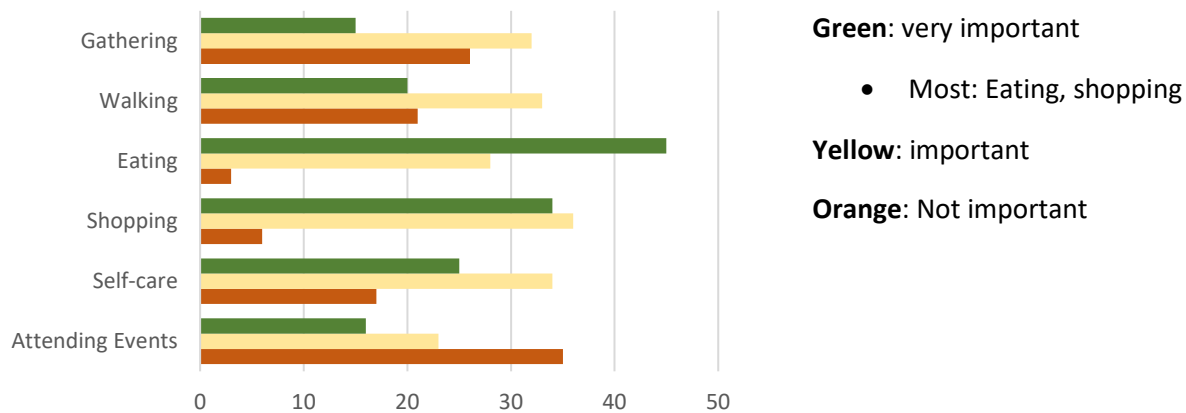
**Question 3: Why don't you go to Lyndale? What prevents you from stopping?**

- It's all auto parts Stores, factories, empty parking lot. Old restaurants, not Modern or appealing Walking distant restaurant. Not well lite area and doesn't feel safe to walk. No more motels or hotels or storage unit.
- It's a very wide street with a lot of traffic. It can be hard to get across or make left turns.
- Not much shopping or businesses of interest on Lyndale. It is a pass-through street to get around 35W traffic. The road is more of a warehouse style district.
- There are a lot of businesses that aren't things I need often, for example, there are so many tire shops, auto shops, parts shops that I don't visit often.
- its old and dingy
- Lots of lights, can be difficult to make a left turn or right turn across traffic from shopping locations. I avoid shopping during busy traffic time because of this reason.
- Some parts seem a little sketchy, old unmaintained buildings, sometimes questionable people, congested traffic, not enough grade A restaurants

- I travel Lyndale Ave almost every day!
- Lacks amenities that we would normally be looking for. We like local coffee shops, breweries, stores, and we generally have to go into MSP or STP for those neighborhoods.
- why would i want to walk along a large road when the city has nice parks and riverbeds?
- Go there all the time.
- Not really an issue.
- Nothing other than rush hour red traffic
- Too much fast food places.
- Very unfriendly environment for walkers and bikers.
- I would go there more if there were more restaurants/bars. Bloomington is really lacking in these compared to Edina, Eagan, Burnsville, just about any other city. Pretty much no where to go out to eat unless you want an Asian or pizza place with a few exceptions.
- Only commuter type buses on Lyndale most of the time (535 route I believe). If there was a regular bus traveling every 1/2 hour most of m-f, sa, su, I would do more business on Lyndale. Route 18 for example gets me north to the south Bloomington transit center but then goes to Nicollet so if I want a Lyndale business I have to walk over. Therefore I take by shopping and other business to Nicollet and 66th in Richfield or Minneapolis Cub instead of Lyndale Cub.
- I usually have no need to stop on Lyndale ave unless I need to buy something. Feels somewhat sprawling and tedious to go from store to store -- more car friendly than pedestrian friendly
- NOT bike friendly, good lord. Now I take Nicollet or other back roads by bike, and then cross over to where I need to be on Lyndale.
- I work in Minneapolis. I will run errands to avoid heavy commuting times and try and logistically plan them around where I am spending my day to avoid peak times.
- Not enough of what I like & want in restaurants & groceries. Starbucks is too busy.
- only handful of restaurants and a couple of stores (auto parts). Nothing else is a 'draw' for me. No entertainment. A brewpub with live music would get me there :)
- Not the best shopping
- nothing - I've lived in Bloomington for 60 years and it works for me just the way it is
- I stop along Lyndale all the time, from auto parts to fast food, I think it's just fine the way it is. Maybe update the store fronts and such but I don't think we need to turn it into Penn American and similar projects. Waste of money in my opinion.
- Stores don't interest me or too hard to get in or out of lots.
- Smell of burning rubber. Lack of walking and shopping
- Not enough bars and sit-down restaurants
- Too much crime around Walgreens.
- Nothing
- Nothing. Love the area
- We don't eat fast food. Or go to the multitude of car part stores.
- I live in west Bloomington, so I'm not there much.
- Not many types of shopping, food, drink that I'm interested in. Not walking or it's bike friendly either.

- Screwed up traffic patterns by Old Shakopee Road. Too many hyper caffeinated idiots making illegal turns to get to Starbucks. The exit from Clover Center needs closing.
- I just get what I need and leave, and since I drive from place to place, I do not linger or drop in at stores that are not right next to each other

**Question 4: How important is it that people are able to do the following activities along Lyndale Avenue?**



**Question 5: What activities or amenities would attract more people to Visit Lyndale Avenue?**

- Dog park, amphitheater, gathering location for small local business or food truck gathering, festival events. Modern restaurant that would attract younger family.
- If it was more walkable it would get more people out during the summer.
- Shopping destination that is not in a strip mall configuration - a mixed use property, walkability,
- Convenient/quick places to get necessities when commuting home.
- Making Lyndale a safer street to walk down and congregate would attract more people. If it was a place where visitors could park and take the time to walk around to shops, cafes, restaurants and bars.
- Nothing really, it's a long street with plenty of businesses (e.g. restaurants, banking, gas stations, etc.). I am satisfied with it. Please don't screw up a good thing just to waste tax dollars.
- shops, barber shops, gyms, playgrounds for kids
- How about not destroying the asphalt again. The last big project on Lyndale turned away more business than a tornado or earthquake would have. It's all new. Why rip it up again?
- More attractive street environment. blocking the noise of the street from the eateries and shopping locations.
- Beautification of Lyndale Avenue, give the buildings a facelift, make the area seem more approachable and comfortable

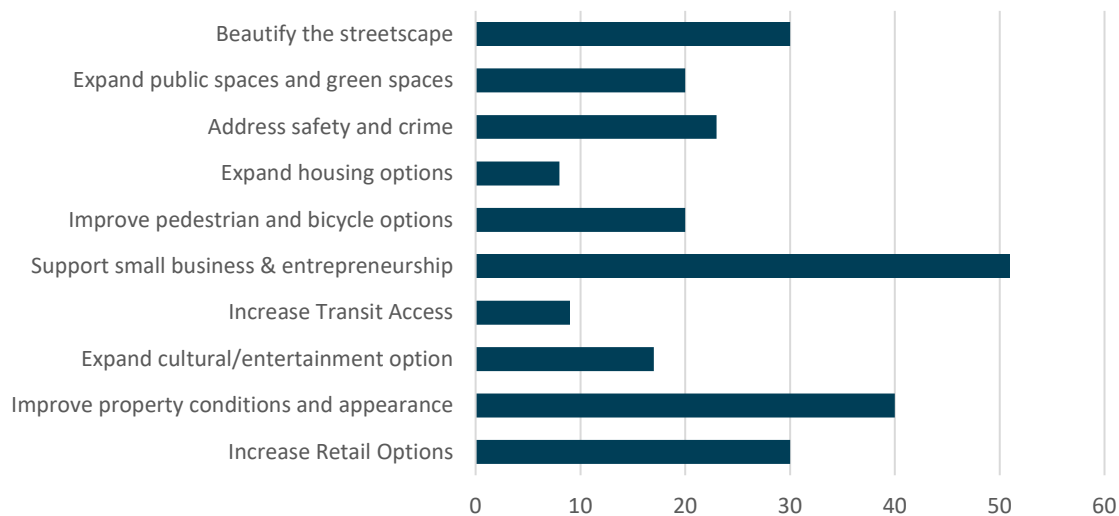


- Outdoor seating areas/green space, walking paths, coffee shops
- farmers markets, outdoor events, more green space, walkable space
- More outdoor patios at bars and restaurants.
- Making it more of an inviting place, currently its a lot of paved surfaces pushed back from the street. It would be nice to see more of a park area or dog park mixed in and more inviting store fronts. Farmers market would be great! Lyndale is more of a vessel to pass thru or go to the one place on your list. Make it a place to go and hang out with everything connected.
- I think creating commercial nodes that combine local shops with apartment spaces above (mixed use buildings) would attract many. Think of Lynnhurst/Fulton MSP neighborhood areas (specifically 50th and Bryant)
- Shops and services
- There is plenty of traffic on Lyndale, so attracting more people is not a problem. Lots of great businesses to visit there.
- More yellow lights for left turns. Bars and restaurants with nice outdoor dining.
- Brew pub
- Good eating places, not fast food, old town look on the retail fronts, good sidewalks for everyone
- More mixed-used development and better accessibility without a car.
- Restaurants & Bars, small stores/shops. Treat the east side as well as the west side. Bring in a nice store like Trader Joe's,
- Personally, I don't care about amenities, I believe people need affordable housing, transportation, public services, health care, and basic needs like affordable grocery stores to make communities livable.
- Making it a more walkable area
- movie theater
- Bike lanes
- We have what we need. Places like Sports Page have been around for years. The combination retail/housing structures should be reconsidered when retail is already struggling so hard. Updating the street will cause construction challenges for the businesses. Many of them can't afford a large increase in rent.
- Brew pubs, higher-end restaurants/bars, national chain stores, less car repair.
- Easier access to parking lots on and off of Lyndale and access back on to Lyndale leaving a parking lot.
- Lyndale is already overused and I don't believe any more people should be attracted to the area. With the exception of Clover, which has been a commercial hub for decades, Lyndale is heavily traveled and mostly developed. The multi-unit housing that has been added has increased traffic, garbage in the streets and police activity with the exception of Applewood. Extended Stay is a continual source of police activity.
- A decent grocery store, decent restaurants with healthy food choices
- live music venue, brewpub, nightclub
- Destination restaurants - unique, locally owned with quality food, cocktails and live entertainment. A place to enjoy nightlife

- without having to struggle to find parking nearby.
- Brewery. Boutiques. Good places to eat. Coffee shop.
- Arcade for adults
- I don't think we need to attract more people to Lyndale. What's to gain from that?
- I'm not sure; my biggest gripe is usually having to walk so far from one place (i.e. work) to another place (i.e. Great Bear Shopping Center or TGK Automotive)
- More attractive small businesses, brewpubs, safer sidewalks, more greenspace, more mixed-use infill development.
- I guess I need to know WHY does every bit of space need to attract people?
- I don't know.
- Drive through coffee Patio/deck seating with a view to something pretty
- Shops, better restaurants, breweries

- Non chain restaurants, better lighting around businesses, get rid of pawn shops and small car sales lots.
- Gas stations
- Places to eat besides fast food. More retail, we end up going to EP and Edina to shop. Would rather stay in Bloomington but hate MOA. Also, we go out to eat in other cites because Bloomington doesn't have the best choices. Where are the breweries??
- I cannot believe this is even a question! There are plenty of things to do here - why does there need to be MORE?! Are people actually asking for more traffic & noise? Why has this suddenly become some sort of "mission"?
- Attract businesses other than car parts stores and pawn shops.

**Question 6: If you were a Bloomington decision-maker with limited resources for improvements along Lyndale Avenue, what would be your top three priorities?**



**Question 7: What I love about Lyndale Avenue is...**

- Nothing too exciting
- It's a diverse place
- It is easy to get from I-494 to 98th street.
- There are a ton of amazing small businesses that are hard to find anywhere else.
- All the current business options to choose from.
- it is a quiet area people are friendly.
- mostly I like it because it is a town center you can buy anything you want around
- Minimum of 4 lanes of traffic. Do not change to 2 lanes like the changes to Nicollet and 82nd. Terrible change on Nicollet adding the bike lane for one biker a day while the lane is needed for many hundreds of cars a day.
- The street is BRAND NEW. Just finally got it all done from 82nd down to at least 98th. Perfect. LEAVE IT ALONE.
- main hub of the city
- The variety of choices for shopping and eating.
- Variety of eating options
- Closeness of everything. Easy to get a few things done in one swoop
- variety of essential stores; gas, grocery, banking, car repair/auto parts.
- My Doctor, chiropractor, grocery store, work, insurance agent, car dealer, and on are all located on Lyndale ave!!!
- it has a majority of everything you need
- The convenient nature to residents and visitors.
- I love that there are a lot of small businesses
- Great place to eat with lots of options, and great businesses there that I need.
- Auto parts stores
- REI and Duluth Trading are unique stores Lyndale Ave or adjacent blocks on 98th street have almost any type of fast food, takeout food, or less expensive dining which makes for a quick meal.
- Most everything can be found
- nothing
- Lots of fast food options.
- Chocolate Shop, Applebee's, Shopping center @ 98th & Lyndale with Festival, MGM & Golden Wok, that's about it
- Rarely see anything north of 98 and Lyndale. That has some useful places but the traffic is terrible, dangerous when you have to walk across a street.
- Lots of concentrated businesses one-stop
- There's a lot there already I use - my gym, several grocery stores
- It is central, walkable, and can support traffic with the changes to Portland and Nicollet.
- Central to the city of Bloomington, currently has no bike lanes :), has some of the retail shopping that I use.
- There are a lot of fast food places in close proximity. I am a member of the RBCU on Lyndale. Things are close to my home.
- it has a small town feel with many small and diverse businesses.
- Centralized location within Bloomington
- convenient location, multiple dining options

- Convenient to home and many options for food.
- It's in Bloomington
- The Sport's Page, Leroy's and many more local businesses around.
- it's zoned for smaller retail and restaurants, great access to 494 from central Bloomington, it handles it's current traffic load just fine the way it is.
- It's history. my mother grew up in Blmgtn and the intersection of Lyndale & OSR were a "hub" for them. Lyndale also meant access to the city (pre-freeway)
- There are some interesting small businesses (eg Droolin' Moose)
- I love it just the way it is, I like the updated storefronts at 86th and Lyndale, I think that is enough.
- Nothing
- Close to work and home
- Wide street, low traffic
- Great place for car repair
- Drooling moose. . . But that parking lot though.
- nostalgia
- ...everything I need is close by and I can afford where I live. And you need to let We The People decide which 3 things are the top priorities - not choose from YOUR agenda in question #6.
- It has so much potential! Also that Great Bear sign! Gotta keep it. :)
- It's like any other street in Bloomington, nothing special here.
- there is a neighborhood feeling despite all the retail
- Many choices on Lyndale or just off of it.

**Question 8: What I want less of on Lyndale Avenue is...**

- Less auto parts stores, fast food restaurant, hotel/motel, factories, or warehouses
- Strip malls
- mechanics
- Rough road and big bumps when going over man-holes or along drain holes.
- Auto shops and fast food chains
- No useless bike lanes. Waster of time and money.
- ROAD CONSTRUCTION. LEAVE IT ALONE. WE JUST SPENT MILLIONS RIPPING IT ALL UP AND PUTTING IT ALL BACK TOGETHER.
- Run down businesses, poorly identified companies, difficulty crossing traffic to enter or exit businesses.
- Crime, dirty or unsafe feeling
- Do not add bike lanes. There are bike lanes on the other streets (Nicolette and Portland) there is no need to have them on every street.
- Industrial uses
- Run-down buildings, tons of cars
- Low income apartment buildings. Glad the old trailer park on 86th block is gone!!
- how spaced out it is, things are run down but portions have been updated. it would be nice for it to become more of a mixed

- use street with the pedestrian in mind as a priority
- Manufacturing/auto-related stores. These are all important for the city, but to have them right along Lyndale is resulting in missed opportunities for the urban style life that will attract and retain residents.
  - Auto shops. Run down buildings
  - less concrete more green spaces
  - Nothing. It is perfect just the way it is.
  - Bus garage must go!
  - Not so much subtracting but adding. Important to retain industry and other commercial businesses.
  - Junky old building not maintained. But not by pushing owners out but creating a new facility that might house several of them
  - fast food places, car repair/tire/dealerships, cell phone shops, nail salons
  - High speed traffic and auto-oriented development.
  - Old or empty buildings / lots- just looks so dirty
  - parking lots, empty stores and gas stations, weeds, crime, wasted space, traffic
  - Pot holes
  - Car-dominated. I love being able to bike everywhere (at least when there isn't snow), and I don't feel super safe on Lyndale without a bike lane. I regularly see locals biking on the sidewalk to compensate
  - Keep the road. Bikes can take Nicollet, Portland, and 86th. Most bikers divert to American Blvd. and/or are not using the streets we already redid to support them. Lyndale is high traffic. Leave it alone so we are not forced to take the freeways.
  - Less auto repair and auto supplies. less low income housing like at 86th street.
  - Bike lanes. I rarely see anyone using them and it makes driving more difficult. Instead of having two lanes to drive in, there is only one and it takes longer and is more difficult to exit a parking lot. When entering Lyndale from a side street, it takes longer because the you have to wait for all cars to pass instead of the car driving on Lyndale being able to move over and let you enter.
  - multi-unit housing.
  - Less fast food & automotive shops
  - urban sprawl
  - While I like the shops that are in the strip malls, it seems like there are way too many strip malls of along Lyndale - especially 98th & Lyndale. It seemed more like a town and less like a business strip when there were individual shops/buildings.
  - Old buildings
  - Accidents
  - new congestion due to high density housing,
  - fast food places
  - Autoparts stores, huge ugly signs.
  - Less talk about how terrible it is.
  - Pot holes.
  - Run down buildings
  - Pawn shops, car lots, chain restaurants
  - No new townhomes. We live on Aldrich Ave and want the green spaces to remain across from the Toro area.
  - Self storage
  - Fast food. Auto parts store. So many.
  - Car business and car repair shops



- Tire/auto stores, pawn shops, storage facilities, outdated office parks and commercial spaces
- ...city planners trying to gentrify this area! This will just be another not-so-sneaky attempt to get rid of affordable housing and push-out the so-called "riff-raff". And by affordable housing I don't mean Section 8, but just in general. "They" did this in Richfield, so I guess Bloomington is jealous....
- Chain fast food
- auto shops, car thoroughfare, vape and pawn shops
- Traffic, poor street maintenance, pawn shops, car parts places. The City wantonly squandering money on trying to make Lyndale into 50th & France or Minneapolis Lite.
- a feeling a crowdedness
- Please don't limit it to two driving lanes. That is a huge problem now in Bloomington where too many streets are like that. If you end up behind a bus, garbage truck, driver who thinks the road is 30 miles or less per hour or whatever you're stuck!

**Question 9: What I want more of on Lyndale Avenue is...**

- Modern amenities to attract young family.
- Greenery and separation from traffic for pedestrians.
- walking paths or park options, updated stores, good sit-down restaurants incorporated into mixed use areas
- Better methods to cross traffic when exiting a business.
- Since I live nearby, I would love a walkable area where I could shop, eat and spend time at without feeling like I would have to drive to every single establishment.
- Nothing, don't screw up what is not broken.
- Unobstructed driving due to trenches, traffic cones, barricades, closed lanes, and all the crap we put up with the last 3 years. Time to just let it be, PLEASE
- safety, current choices
- Trees, green space, shopping.
- Areas to go for walks, take in the natural landscapes
- Ease of traffic. It's next to impossible to not get stopped at a light.
- Areas to walk and spend time outdoors during breaks from my work. Retail uses.
- Walk- and bike-able space. Greenspace. Cleaner, more pleasing appearance
- restaurants, not fast food.
- More outdoor patios at bars and restaurants.
- green space, dog park
- Breweries!! Walkable areas where we can spend an afternoon going in and out of local shops and get a good meal from a non-chain location.
- A holistic wellness center
- more green spaces
- Not a thing. It is perfect just the way it is. Don

- If Bloomington wants more density, this is the place. Leave or neighborhoods alone.
- Maybe more density with housing. Maybe more bars and restaurants with outdoor dining. Maybe book store. Big wish would be a Costco or Lowes but suspicious that real estate values make it not feasible. Curious when orange line opens will cross town connections 538, 539, and along American Blvd be changed and become more frequent.
- Trees. Green.
- Nice places to eat, fun shops, nice curb appeal fresh look, old town look, not too modern
- Wide sidewalks, bike lanes or cycle tracks, 3-lane road diet, higher density mixed-use development, and all-day local transit service.
- same as above- Restaurants- Not fast food. A store Like Trader Joe's,
- affordable housing, nice rentals but affordable, a decent grocery store south of 86, more daily public transit with shelters (including south bound, Bloomington is terrible on bus shelters, even some benches would help, for example on 98 between Nicollet and Penn, both ways). And it would be nice if those nearby would help clear snow and ice for pedestrians and transit users.
- Bike lanes
- more frequent public transit buses
- A bike lane!
- Preservation of our small businesses and entrepreneurship. "Trendy" hot spots will not be sustainable when people return to their habits after the "newness" wears off.
- More brew pubs (gathering spots), fitness centers, coffee shops, sit-down restaurants, food hall.
- Traffic studies for ease and safety in driving.
- safety on the road itself.
- Healthy food options, updated buildings, diversified businesses for young families, a NICE grocery store, green space
- entertainment and options for things to do after 9 PM
- Restaurants - local ownership. Breakfast places. Dining and cocktails that are destination locations. Would definitely visit places with craft cocktails. Also more patio locations. Locations with live entertainment (that doesn't mean DJs.). A full service bakery would be nice.
- New places..brewery
- I think it's fine the way it is
- easy access to Bloomington's neighborhoods and small shops
- gathering places, a variety of shopping experiences.
- Places to meet for food and drink, greenspace, walkable nodes.
- Just update the storefronts.
- Better flow in and out of shopping areas.
- Breweries
- Bookstore, non chain restaurants, coffee shops, places to sit and enjoy others' company.
- Older buildings improved appearance
- Retail
- Retail, actual restaurants.
- Green space and trees, like a parkway
- Small business, non-chain restaurants, breweries, drive thru coffee

- Nothing. If I wanted something more, I'd move...which is probably what will happen whether I like or not after this. Why do people feel the need to 'fix' something that clearly isn't 'broken'?
- Restaurants/cafes, walkable nodes, sense of place, a place to pause at instead of speed through, integrated/green storm water system infrastructure
- small businesses, independent restaurants, entertainment options
- Restaurants other than fast food joints, shopping other than pawn shops and car parts places.
- an invitation to linger

**Question 10: Ernest Hemingway was famous for his 6-Word Story contest, an exercise in creativity while providing telling information about a thought or experience. If you were to write a 6-Word Story about the future of Lyndale Avenue, what would you say?**

- *Modern amenities to attract young family.*
- *Greenery and separation from traffic for pedestrians.*
- *walking paths or park options, updated stores, good sit-down restaurants incorporated into mixed use areas*
- *Better methods to cross traffic when exiting a business.*
- *Since I live nearby, I would love a walkable area where I could shop, eat and spend time at without feeling like I would have to drive to every single establishment.*
- *Nothing, don't screw up what is not broken.*
- *Unobstructed driving due to trenches, traffic cones, barricades, closed lanes, and all the crap we put up with the last 3 years. Time to just let it be, PLEASE*
- *safety, current choices*
- *Trees, green space, shopping.*
- *Areas to go for walks, take in the natural landscapes*
- *Ease of traffic. It's next to impossible to not get stopped at a light.*
- *Areas to walk and spend time outdoors during breaks from my work. Retail uses.*
- *Walk- and bike-able space. Greenspace. Cleaner, more pleasing appearance*
- *restaurants, not fast food.*
- *More outdoor patios at bars and restaurants.*
- *green space, dog park*
- *Breweries!! Walkable areas where we can spend an afternoon going in and out of local shops and get a good meal from a non-chain location.*
- *A holistic wellness center*
- *more green spaces*
- *Not a thing. It is perfect just the way it is. Don*
- *If Bloomington wants more density, this is the place. Leave our neighborhoods alone.*
- *Maybe more density with housing. Maybe more bars and restaurants with outdoor dining. Maybe book store.*

*Big wish would be a Costco or Lowes but suspicious that real estate values make it not feasible. Curious when orange line opens will cross town connections 538, 539, and along American Blvd be changed and become more frequent.*

- *Trees. Green.*
- *Nice places to eat, fun shops, nice curb appeal fresh look, old town look, not too modern*
- *Wide sidewalks, bike lanes or cycle tracks, 3-lane road diet, higher density mixed-use development, and all-day local transit service.*
- *same as above- Restaurants- Not fast food. A store Like Trader Joe's,*
- *affordable housing, nice rentals but affordable, a decent grocery store south of 86, more daily public transit with shelters (including south bound, Bloomington is terrible on bus shelters, even some benches would help, for example on 98 between nicollet and penn, both ways). And it would be nice if those nearby would help clear snow and ice for pedestrians and transit users.*
- *Bike lanes*
- *more frequent public transit buses*
- *A bike lane!*
- *Preservation of our small businesses and entrepreneurship. "Trendy" hot spots will not be sustainable when people return to their habits after the "newness" wears off.*
- *More brew pubs (gathering spots), fitness centers, coffee shops, sit-down restaurants, food hall.*

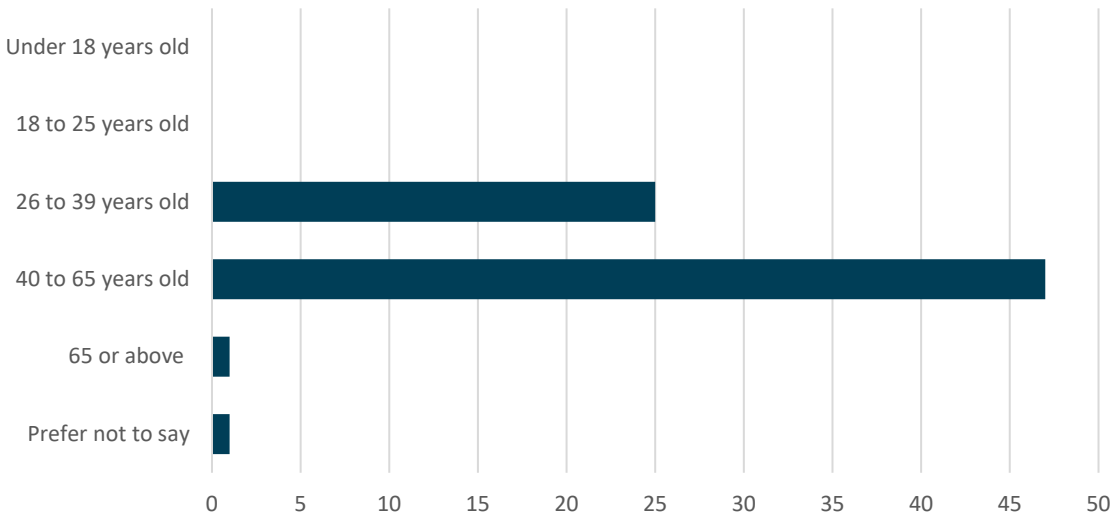
- *Traffic studies for ease and safety in driving.*
- *safety on the road itself.*
- *Healthy food options, updated buildings, diversified businesses for young families, a NICE grocery store, green space*
- *entertainment and options for things to do after 9 PM*
- *Restaurants - local ownership. Breakfast places. Dining and cocktails that are destination locations. Would definitely visit places with craft cocktails. Also more patio locations. Locations with live entertainment (that doesn't mean DJs.). A full service bakery would be nice.*
- *New places..brewery*
- *I think it's fine the way it is*
- *easy access to Bloomington's neighborhoods and small shops*
- *gathering places, a variety of shopping experiences.*
- *Places to meet for food and drink, greenspace, walkable nodes.*
- *Just update the storefronts.*
- *Better flow in and out of shopping areas.*
- *Breweries*
- *Bookstore, non chain restaurants, coffee shops, places to sit and enjoy others' company.*
- *Older buildings improved appearance*
- *Retail*
- *Retail, actual restaurants.*
- *Green space and trees, like a parkway*
- *Small business, non-chain restaurants, breweries, drive thru coffee*
- *Nothing. If I wanted something more, I'd move...which is probably what will*



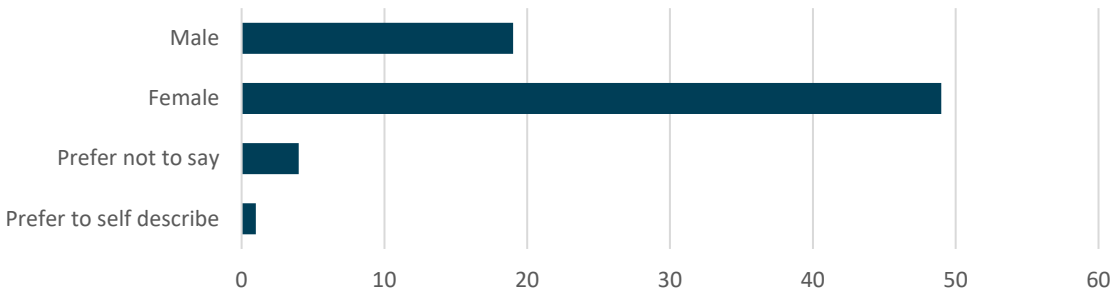
*happen whether I like or not after this. Why do people feel the need to 'fix' something that clearly isn't 'broken'?*

- *Restaurants/cafes, walkable nodes, sense of place, a place to pause at instead of speed through, integrated/green storm water system infrastructure*
- *small businesses, independent restaurants, entertainment options*
- *Restaurants other than fast food joints, shopping other than pawn shops and car parts places.*
- *an invitation to linger*

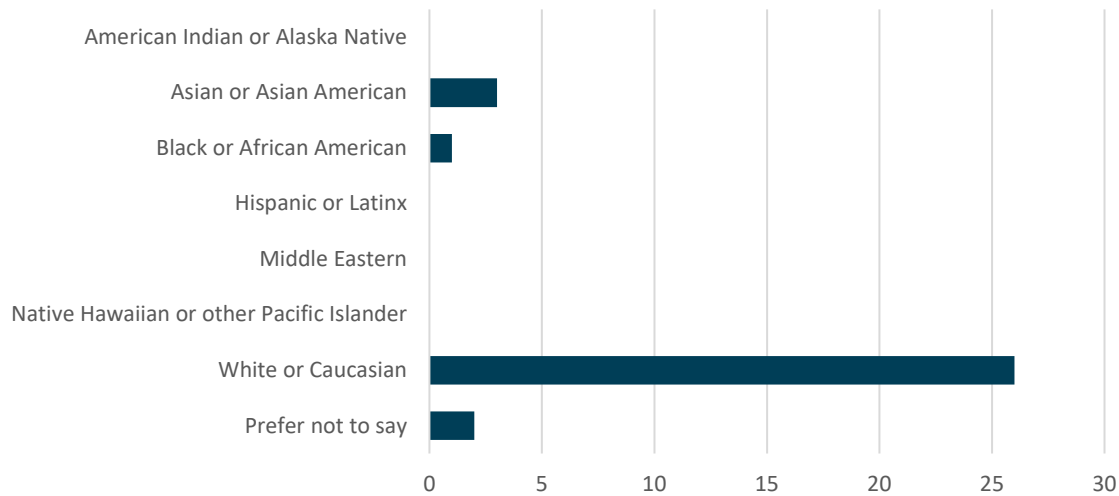
**Question 11: (Optional) So that we might have a better understanding for who is completing this survey, please provide us with your age:**



**Question 12: (Optional) Gender:**



**Question 13: (Optional) Race/ethnicity:**



**Question 14: (Optional) stay up-to date on the planning process by entering your information here:**  
 [Redacted]

**Additional Comments**

- Don't make taxpayers pay for my improvements – no hidden taxes
- Traffic disruption for business- medians, construction issues
- Enhance police visibility if we want to have more walkability
- We need to understand the risks besides the opportunities
- We don't have to go nuts
- I have a toddler, and although Stantec mentioned the future is childless households, having green space that is kid friendly with scattered climbable artwork, swings, and picnic benches would be valuable. And maybe some of those senior parks that have been popping up... those sound really cool, too! Places to play and take breaks as one is walking through a pocket, which would also naturally fit under the Creative Placemaking umbrella.

And regarding my efforts towards a theater, I also thought it would be cool to have a projection screen incorporated so movies could be shown... maybe not blockbusters that folks would want to go to a big theater for, but more along the line of what the Trylon [theater in Minneapolis] focuses on. There is lots of time when a theater isn't being used and a matinee screening schedule could be additional multi-use of the space and further encourage folks to come to Lyndale.

I've also been thinking more about what the outgoing mayor said about bringing along all the car centered households to the west. I've been thinking about how successful Grand Ave in St

Paul, the Lyn Lake neighborhood, and Hopkins DT are... they have population dense and amenity filled areas that one could still drive to, and many people do. I am drawn to the idea of someone driving to Lyndale (even if it's only a few blocks), parking, and then walking between a number of destinations. And if one can walk between errands (common ones for our family are grocery/bank/hardware, for example) then one is more likely to choose a short/convenient drive. That would be a bridge between where we are at and where we are going.

Since we live in a place that is winter for so much of the year I'd love to have them consider winter recreation and amenities. Like wouldn't it be cool to have an outdoor performance space/amphitheater that you could flood in the winter and turn into an ice rink? Stuff like that... embracing the potential for winter festivals and winter activities that encourage walkability in wintertime.

## 494 Improvement Project Related Comments

- Don't want to lose Nicollet 494 exit and increase drive around on Lyndale [from map]