

HEALTHY Neighborhoods For All

Outreach and Engagement Summary

August 2025



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Overview

The Healthy Neighborhoods for All Element will rely on inclusive community input and participation to develop goals, policies, and actions for future implementation. This document provides an overview of the steps taken to create opportunities for meaningful public input and gather feedback from the public. An overview of engagement events conducted, the project timeline, and overall strategy for outreach and engagement are provided, followed by an engagement summary that will be used to inform the Healthy Neighborhoods for All Element.



Preliminary Engagement

- Preliminary Engagement
- Building Awareness
- About the Survey
- Key Findings

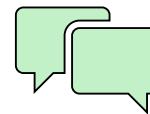
The City of Morgan Hill's Long Range Planning Division conducted initial outreach and engagement to build awareness around the Healthy Neighborhoods for All Element. This section summarizes activities conducted to build awareness and a high-level overview of survey participation and key findings—up to this point in the process.

The survey encompassed two questions that presented environmental and social issues and several more questions that captured the demographics of respondents. The first question sought to identify and prioritize environmental and social issues being experienced by Morgan Hill community members based on topics that will be covered in the Healthy Neighborhoods for All Element. The second question focused on broadening understanding of environmental conditions impacting communities. Demographic questions helped identify gaps and opportunities to broaden engagement. Together, these efforts informed engagement materials and activities that supported and expanded the reach of this initiative.

Building Awareness



Community Group announcements and presentations.



Stakeholder Outreach, introductions, and conversations.



Attendance and Participation in meetings for opportunity neighborhoods, stakeholders, and ¡Morgan Hill Prospera! steering committee.



Outreach at Community Events across Morgan Hill.



Sharing Information through traditional and electronic outreach.

BARRIOS Saludables Para Todos
Empoderando a cada vecindario para que prospere!

Barrios Saludables Para Todos significa crear una comunidad vibrante y próspera donde todos puedan llevar una vida saludable, activa y plena.

¿Por qué son importantes los barrios saludables?

El aire limpio, los hogares seguros y los parques son la base de la salud, la calidad de vida, y las oportunidades de nuestra comunidad.

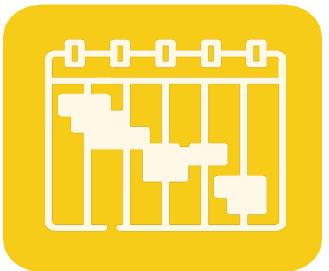
TOME LA ENCUESTA

La ciudad necesita su ayuda para identificar qué está afectando la salud de su comunidad y qué es importante para usted.

CITY OF MORGAN HILL
MORGAN HILL TOGETHER

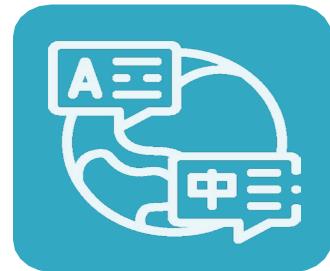
ELEVATE
MORGAN HILL

About the Survey



**March 2025 –
May 2025**

The survey was live from March 2025 to May 2025.



Available in 2 Languages

The survey was available in Spanish and English.

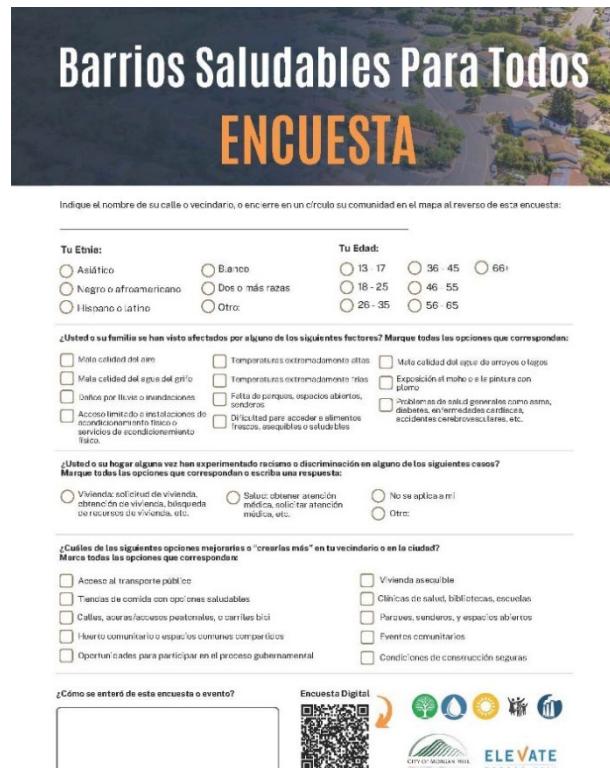
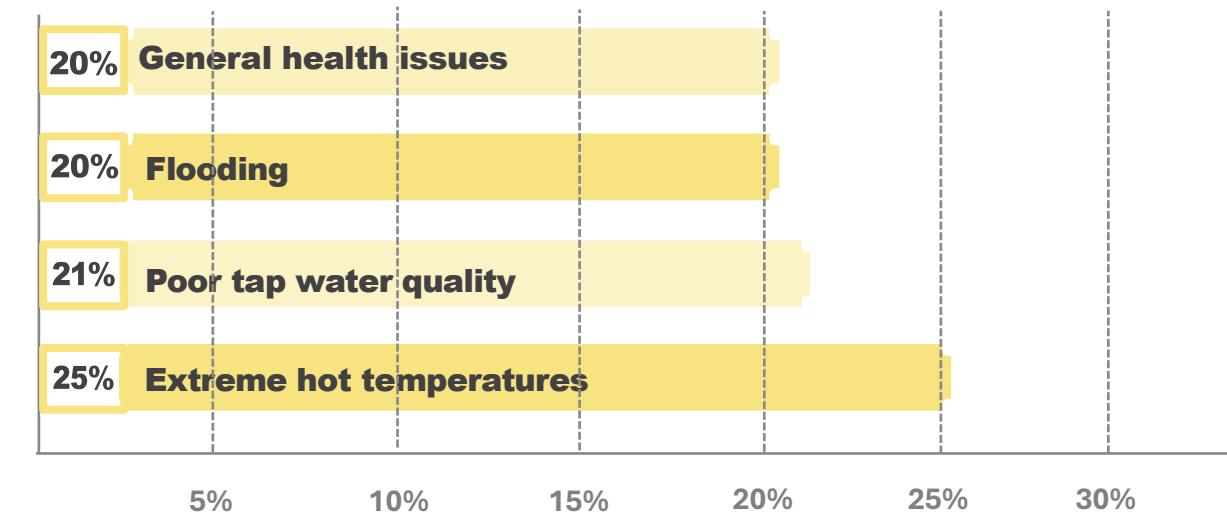


414 Responses

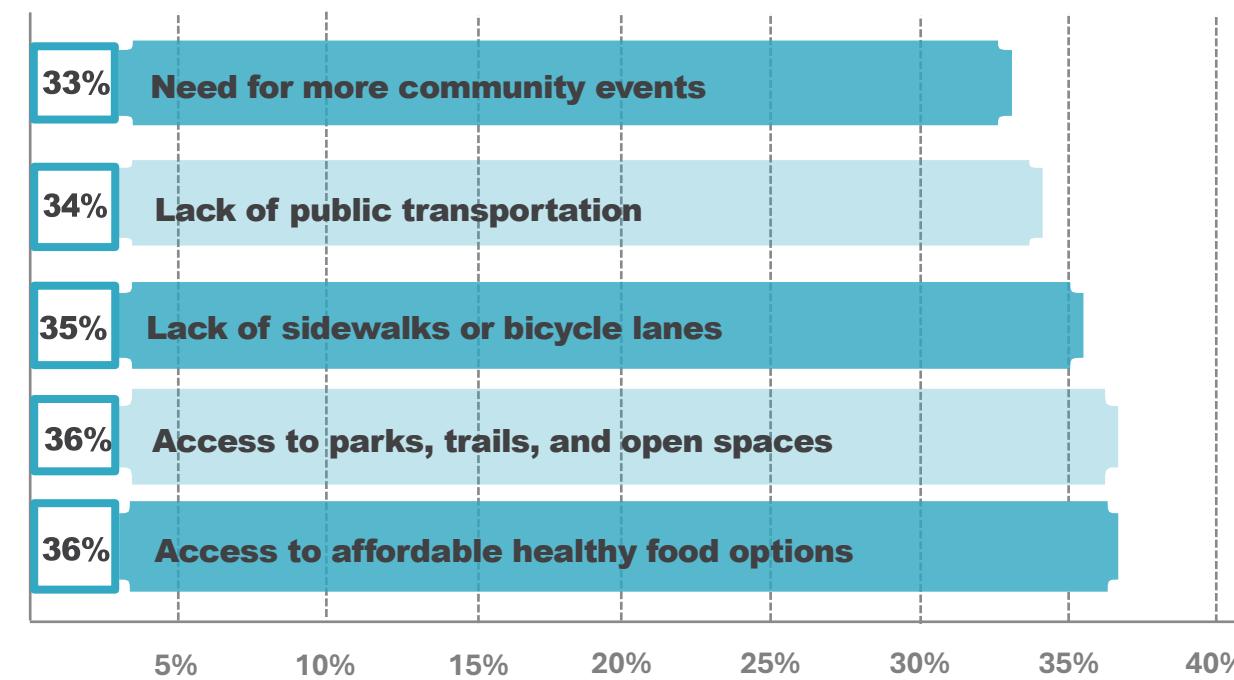
A total of 414 community members completed the survey (a quarter of responses in Spanish).

Key Findings

Top 4 environmental issues:



Top 5 categories summarizing environmental conditions impacting health and livability:





Developing a Strategy

- Identify the Audience(s)
- Spectrum of Public Participation
- Engagement Strategy
- Project Timeline

Identify the Audience(s)

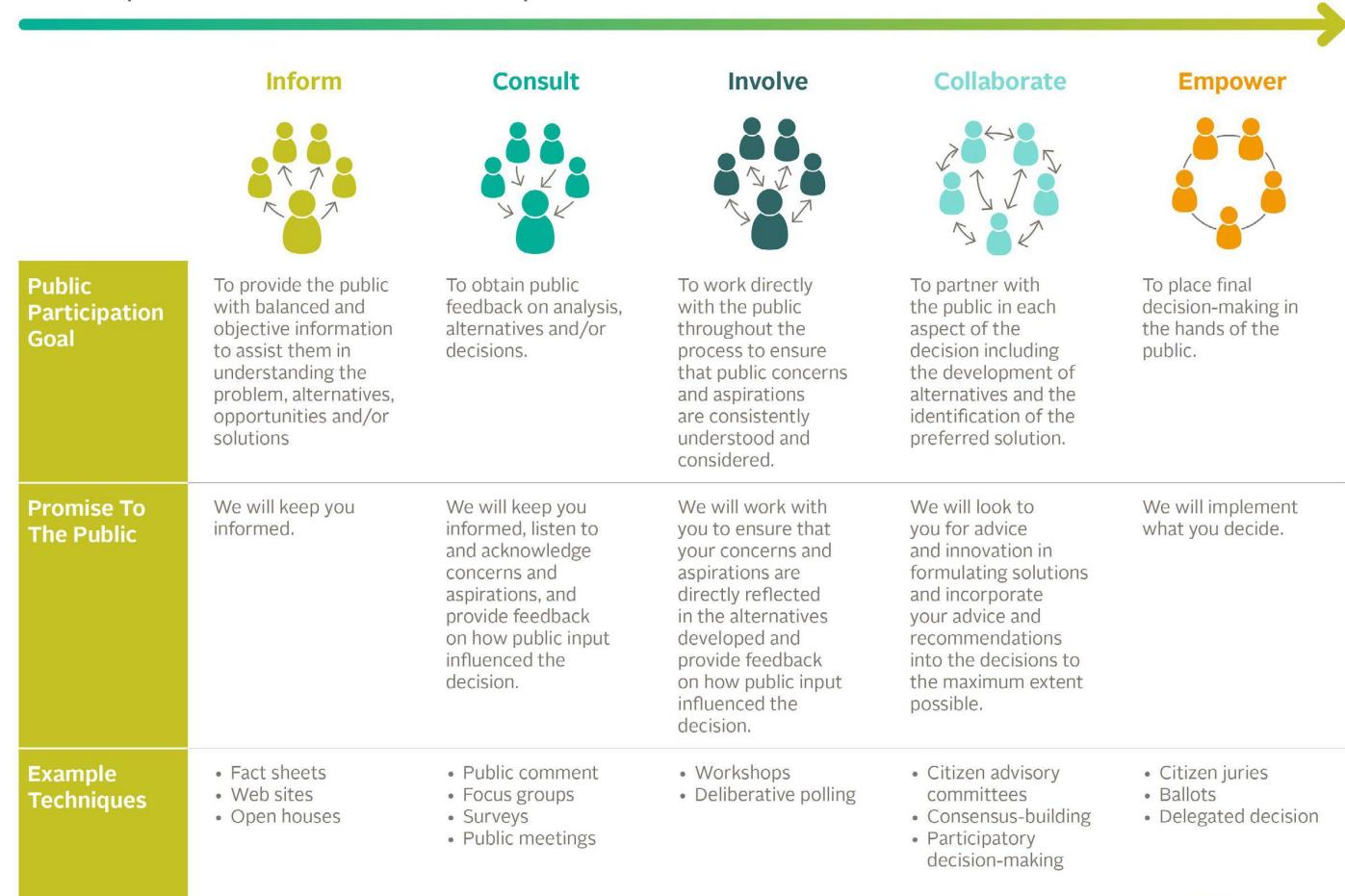
There are several audiences that were engaged throughout this process.



Spectrum of Public Participation

The IAP2's Spectrum of Public Participation, developed by the International Association for Public Participation, helps identify the level of participation by the public. This tool is used globally and is commonly found in plans for engaging the public in different activities. Where each engagement type and event falls on the spectrum was identified to ensure a well-balanced mix of opportunities of engagement is provided.

IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation



Adapted from: International Association for Public Participation, Canada

Engagement Strategy

A variety of methods were used to reach stakeholders to share and receive feedback on issues related to the Healthy Neighborhoods for All initiative. This section outlines the outreach and engagement strategy for the Healthy Neighborhoods for All Element.

Pursued Pop-up Outreach Opportunities

Inform Involve

The project team hosted a booth at various community and school events to make information more accessible and reach community stakeholders to share more about the City's efforts regarding the Healthy Neighborhoods for All initiative.

Participated in Cross-Collaboration Committee Meetings

Inform Involve Collaborate

The City participated in committee meetings to foster coordination and planning collaboration between organizations working to advance environmental health conditions of those who are most impacted in Morgan Hill. These meetings helped identify opportunities to coordinate programs and actions.

Formed & Facilitated Stakeholder Committee

Consult Collaborate

The project team facilitated the ¡Morgan Hill Prospera! steering committee, consisting of "Promotoras" (community ambassadors), CBO's, Planning Commissioner members, and Santa Clara County Social Services Agency and South County Youth Task Force staff. Input from ¡Morgan Hill Prospera! will be incorporated into the Healthy Neighborhoods for All Element to support strategies that were equitable, culturally competent, and effective.

Supported Area-Specific Engagement Activities

Involve Collaborate

The City worked with community-based organizations (CBOs) and housing managers on outreach efforts and engagement activities to gather feedback, with the goal of reaching those who are most impacted.

Door-to-Door outreach in Priority Neighborhoods

Inform Collaborate Empower

The project team held meetings (with bilingual facilitators) within opportunity neighborhoods, meeting people where they are (i.e. apartments, mobile home parks, affordable housing, etc.). Postcards, in Spanish and English, were also mailed out to opportunity neighborhoods to inform residents of the Healthy Neighborhoods for All initiative and to gather survey responses.

Presented at Workshops & Public Hearings

Consult

Feedback gathered will be incorporated into the Healthy Neighborhoods for All Element, which will be presented at Planning Commission and City Council for consideration and adoption. The public is invited to all public hearings to share additional information and listen to ongoing discussions around this initiative.

Provide Informational Materials

Inform Consult

A variety of informational materials have been developed to easily learn more about the Healthy Neighborhoods for All Element and foster a transparent process. These materials included:

- Project Website
- Background Review Report
- Flyers
- Postcards
- Survey
- PowerPoint presentations

Engagement Strategy

Engagement Events

A multifaceted approach was used to ensure various ways of community involvement and empowerment to facilitate the development of the Healthy Neighborhoods for All Element.

Pop-Up and Community Events

Community events were led by the Long Range Planning Division throughout the city to broadly engage community members on Healthy Neighborhoods for All topics in their neighborhoods, using different methods to meet people where they are.

Visioning Workshops

Visioning workshops to inform the development of the Healthy Neighborhoods for All Element were led by the Long Range Planning Division to meet community members of all age groups at places within their neighborhoods.

Roundtable Meetings

Facilitated by the Long Range Planning Division, roundtables provided the space for the ¡Morgan Hill Prospera! steering committee to share updates on ongoing outreach and engagement activities and lessons learned, as well as to provide input on the development of Healthy Neighborhoods for All goals, policies, and actions.



Engagement Tactics

The various engagement tactics that were deployed to gather a variety of input from community members are described below:

Flyers, posters, surveys, and newsletters in Spanish and English offered an opportunity to inform community members of the Healthy Neighborhood for All topics and create an opportunity to identify issues.

Pop-up events were organized at various businesses and schools to inform community members of the Healthy Neighborhood for All topics and to gather input.

Community events were organized at established community events and food distribution centers (with bilingual facilitators) to meet the community where they are and to gather input on Healthy Neighborhoods for All issues.

Workshops and meetings facilitated open discussions and knowledge-sharing (with bilingual facilitators) around relevant Healthy Neighborhoods for All topics, ensuring that community members had a platform to voice their ideas and concerns.

Topics Covered

The City of Morgan Hill's Healthy Neighborhoods for All Element Outreach and Engagement Plan focused on the topics listed below. To hear from community members in areas most impacted by compounded health risks, various events were held to help inform the goals, policies, and actions related to each topic—advancing Healthy Neighborhoods for All within Opportunity Neighborhoods.



Pollution Exposure & Air Quality



Promoting Physical Activity



Affordable Healthy Food Access



Inclusive Public Engagement in City Decisions



Safe & Healthy Homes

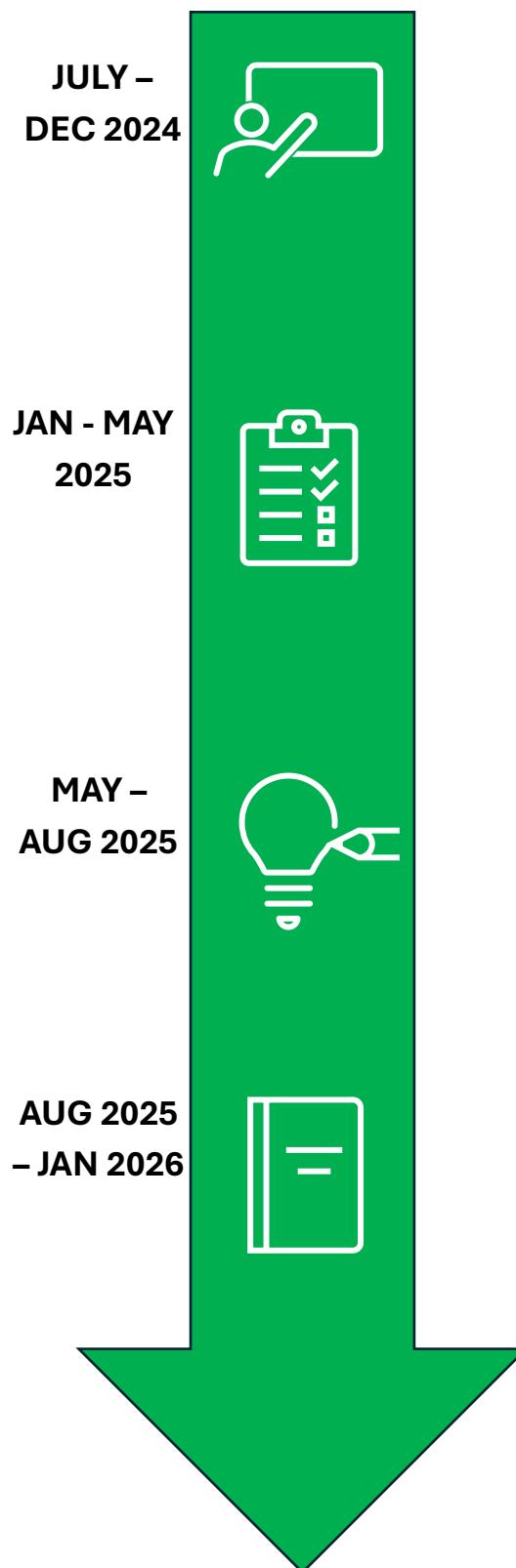


Increase Overall Health



Public Facilities & Infrastructure

Project Timeline



Project Initiation

- Project webpage created
- Healthy Neighborhoods for All education campaign at pop-up events
- Draft Community of Concern map available for discussion and input

Phase 1: Listening & Learning

- Healthy Neighborhoods for All Background Review Report released
- Healthy Neighborhoods for All Survey released
- Gather community input via surveys, meetings, and outreach events (Identify key issues)

Phase 2: Visioning & Engagement

- Host community discussions, pop-up events, and outreach activities to refine priorities
- Healthy Neighborhoods for All Outreach and Engagement Summary released

Phase 3: Draft Plan & Public Review

- Draft Healthy Neighborhoods for All Element
- Present findings, gather feedback on proposed policies and actions, and finalize recommendations
- Public hearings & adoption of Healthy Neighborhoods for All Element



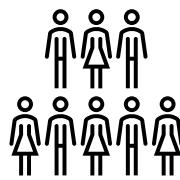


Engagement Summary

- Summary of Engagement Tactics
- Schedule of Events
- What We Heard
- Lessons Learned

Summary of Engagement Tactics

	# of events	# of people engaged
	6	Pop-Up Events 176
	23	Community Events 577
	27	Visioning Workshops 749
	3	Morgan Hill Prospera! 27



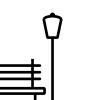
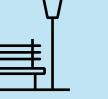
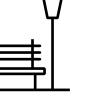
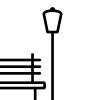
59 events reaching a total of 1,529 community members

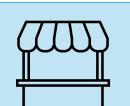
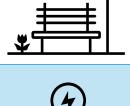
Schedule of Events

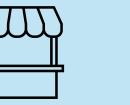
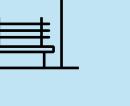
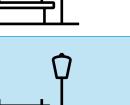
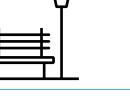
The events that follow are listed by organization and were done with the idea of connecting with community members at places, events or established meetings that people already planned to attend.

Event	Tactic	Strategy
National Night Out Tuesday, August 6, 2024 5:00pm – 8:00pm Civic Center		Inform Involve
Sidewalk Saturday Saturday, August 10, 2024 10:00am – 3:00pm E 3rd St		Inform Involve
Elevate Morgan Hill Tuesday, August 27, 2024 5:30pm – 8:30pm Community & Cultural Center		Inform Involve
Sidewalk Saturday Saturday, September 14, 2024 10:00am – 3:00pm E 3rd St		Inform Involve
Community Crossroads: Autos & Artisans Saturday, September 28, 2024 9:00am – 3:00pm Community & Cultural Center		Inform Involve
Sidewalk Saturday Saturday, October 12, 2024 10:00am – 3:00pm E 3rd St		Inform Involve
Youth Action Council Tuesday, January 14, 2025 5:00pm – 6:00pm Centennial Recreation Center		Inform Involve Collaborate
Cafecito con la Directora Wednesday, February 12, 2025 8:00am – 9:00am Voices Charter School		Inform Involve
Chamber of Commerce Economic Development/Government Relations Committee Thursday, February 13, 2025 8:00am – 9:30am Online		Inform Involve Collaborate
Local Government Day – Leadership Morgan Hill Friday, February 21, 2025 11:30pm – 1:00pm Council Chambers		Involve Collaborate

Event	Tactic	Strategy
Community Asset Builders Meeting Friday, February 21, 2025 12:00pm – 1:00pm Online		Inform Involve Collaborate
All Hands Development Services Meeting Tuesday, March 4, 2025 9:00am – 10:00am Civic Center		Inform Involve Collaborate
Chamber of Commerce Economic Development/Government Relations Committee Thursday, March 13, 2025 8:00am – 9:30am Online		Inform Involve Collaborate
Horizons Community Meeting Tuesday, March 25, 2025 10:00am – 11:00am Horizons Senior Housing		Inform Collaborate Empower
iMorgan Hill Prospera! Steering Committee Wednesday, March 26, 2025 6:00pm – 7:30pm Civic Center		Consult Collaborate
Festival Dia Del Nino Thursday, March 27, 2025 4:30pm – 6:30pm Pacific Clinics		Inform Collaborate Empower
Paradise Valley Engineering Academy - Open House Thursday, March 27, 2025 5:00pm – 6:30pm Paradise Valley Engineering Academy		Inform Involve
Youth Action Council Tuesday, April 1, 2025 5:00pm – 6:00pm Centennial Recreation Center		Inform Involve Collaborate
Pop-up Event Thursday, April 10, 2025 9:00am – 10:00am Morgan Hill Laundry		Inform Involve
Pop-up Event Thursday, April 10, 2025 11:30am – 1:30pm Super Taqueria		Inform Involve
Food Distribution Wednesday, April 16, 2025 8:00am – 10:00am P.A. Walsh Elementary		Involve Collaborate

Event	Tactic	Strategy
Food Distribution Thursday, April 17, 2025 8:00am – 9:00am Advent Lutheran Church		Involve Collaborate
Park Place Spring Celebration Thursday, April 17, 2025 1:30pm – 3:00pm Park Place Apartments		Inform Collaborate Empower
Crossings at Morgan Hill Community Meeting Thursday, April 17, 2025 5:30pm – 7:00pm Crossings at Morgan Hill Apartments		Involve Collaborate
Food Distribution Tuesday, April 22, 2025 10:30am – 12:00pm Community & Cultural Center		Involve Collaborate
Food Distribution Tuesday, April 22, 2025 1:00pm – 2:30pm St. Catherine of Alexandria Catholic Church		Involve Collaborate
Planning Commission Meeting Tuesday, April 22, 2025 7:00pm Civic Center		Consult
MHUSD Student Services Team Collaborative Meeting Wednesday, April 23, 2025 11:00am – 12:00pm Online		Inform Involve Collaborate
Loaves & Fishes Wednesday, April 23, 2025 12:30pm – 2:30pm St. Catherine of Alexandria Catholic Church		Involve Collaborate
Food Distribution Thursday, April 24, 2025 1:00pm – 2:30pm St. Catherine of Alexandria Catholic Church		Involve Collaborate
Children's Play Space Grand Opening Saturday, April 26, 2025 10:00am – 12:00pm Morgan Hill Library		Inform Involve
Earth Day Festival Saturday, April 26, 2025 10:00am – 12:00pm Community & Cultural Center		Inform Involve

Event	Approach	Strategy
Substance Use Prevention & Intervention Resources Fair Monday, April 28, 2025 12:00pm – 1:00pm Live Oak High School		Involve Collaborate
Morgan Hill/San Martin Thrives! Committee Meeting Wednesday, April 30, 2025 10:00am – 12:00pm Pacific Clinics		Inform Involve Collaborate
P.A. Walsh -Open House Thursday, May 1, 2025 5:30pm – 7:00pm P.A. Walsh Elementary		Inform Involve
Art a la Carte Sunday, May 4, 2025 1:00pm – 4:00pm Community & Cultural Center		Inform Involve
Cinco de Mayo event by Victory Outreach Monday, May 5, 2025 4:30pm – 6:00pm Royal Oak Village Apartments		Inform Collaborate Empower
Palomino Community Meeting Wednesday, May 7, 2025 5:00pm – 6:30pm Palomino at Orchard Ranch Apartments		Inform Collaborate Empower
Park Place Mother's Day Event Friday, May 9, 2025 11:00am – 1:00pm Park Place Apartments		Inform Collaborate Empower
Open Streets Fair Saturday, May 10, 2025 9:00am – 1:00pm Community & Cultural Center		Inform Involve
City/School Liaison Committee Meeting Thursday, May 15, 2025 9:00am – 10:30am MHUSD District Office		Inform Involve Collaborate
Health and Wellness Resources Fair Saturday, May 17, 2025 10:00am – 1:00pm Community & Cultural Center		Inform Involve
Community Cafecito Thursday, May 22, 2025 6:00pm – 8:00pm Community & Cultural Center		Involve Collaborate
Morgan Hill Prospera! Steering Committee Wednesday, May 28, 2025 6:30pm – 7:30pm Civic Center		Consult Collaborate

Event	Approach	Strategy
Pop-up Event Thursday, May 29, 2025 2:00pm – 3:30pm San Martin/Gwinn Elementary School		Inform Involve
BMX at Barrett Monday, June 9, 2025 12:00pm – 1:00pm Barrett Elementary School		Inform Involve
Windmill Mobile Estates Community Meeting Wednesday, June 11, 2025 6:30pm – 7:30pm Windmill Mobile Estates		Inform Collaborate Empower
Community Meet & Greet/SCHEALS Thursday, June 26, 2025 6:00pm – 8:00pm Centennial Recreation Center		Involve Collaborate
Parks and Recreation Night Summer Fun Saturday, June 28, 2025 4:00pm – 7:00pm Galvan Park		Inform Involve
Murphy Ranch "The Help Market" Monday, July 7, 2025 2:00pm – 5:00pm Murphy Ranch Apartments		Inform Collaborate Empower
Community Cafecito Thursday, July 10, 2025 6:00pm – 8:00pm Centennial Recreation Center		Involve Collaborate
Sidewalk Saturday Saturday, June 14, 2025 9:00am – 2:00pm E 3rd St		Inform Involve
Sidewalk Saturday Saturday, July 12, 2025 9:00am – 2:00pm E 3rd St		Inform Involve
The Huntington Community Meeting Tuesday, July 15, 2025 1:00pm – 2:00pm The Huntington Senior Apartments		Inform Collaborate Empower
Terracina Community Meeting Wednesday, July 30, 2025 4:30pm – 5:30pm Terracina Apartments		Inform Collaborate Empower
National Night Out Tuesday, August 5, 2025 5:00pm – 8:00pm Civic Center		Inform Involve

Event	Approach	Strategy
The Lodge Community Meeting Thursday, August 14, 2025 1:00pm – 2:00pm The Lodge Senior Apartments		Inform Collaborate Empower
Morgan Hill/San Martine Thrives! Committee Meeting Wednesday, August 27, 2025 10:00am – 12:00pm Pacific Clinics		Inform Involve Collaborate
iMorgan Hill Prospera! Steering Committee Wednesday, August 27, 2025 6:00pm – 7:30pm Community & Cultural Center		Consult Collaborate



What We Heard

This section summarizes the community feedback received at the Pop-Up Events, Community Events, Visioning Workshops, and ¡Morgan Hill Prospera! steering committee. Each topic has a summary paragraph that gives an overview of what was commonly said by community members, followed by a section that outlines recurring themes and key issues regarding the topic.

Inclusive Public Engagement in City Decisions

Community members were interested in participating in civic engagement opportunities and expressed a desire to be made aware of topics of interest and the future decision-making processes. However, some community members were unsure of how to initiate their participation and voiced concern that they are not aware of the various opportunities available to them. Distance, time, and childcare hinder active civic engagement, highlighting the need for easily accessible opportunities to encourage involvement. Other barriers to participation, such as limited access to technology, transportation, and Spanish translation were also noted, emphasizing the importance of increased outreach efforts and providing a variety of ways to engage in City processes.

Suggestions for improving opportunities for civic participation included offering translation services at meetings, better marketing/notification of meetings, and providing childcare during meetings.

Themes	Key Issues
Desire for Community Involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community members expressed a positive attitude towards civic engagement, emphasizing their desire to be heard and be involved in decision-making processes regarding topics that affect or interest them. Challenges such as distance, time, and childcare were identified as impediments to civic engagement, highlighting the need for accessible opportunities for involvement. Community members said they did not know how to get involved or what issues are being heard at Planning Commission and City Council meetings. Hispanic/Latino community members expressed the fear they face of the recent Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) actions nationally, including raids and increased enforcement and deportation, thereby reducing community members interactions with the City.
Barriers to Civic Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some community members felt uncertain about how to begin engaging and were not aware of available opportunities for involvement. Challenges around access to technology, transportation, and Spanish translation were noted as barriers to participation, indicating a need for increased accessibility and outreach efforts.
Communication and Outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving communication between city officials and the community was suggested to facilitate civic engagement and ensure that community members are informed about opportunities to participate. Language and technology barriers hinder access to information, necessitating the translation of planning language into more accessible messaging and concerns about engaging the City's Hispanic/Latino population. Community members expressed the need to increase visibility, access, and use of the City's website in Spanish. During Visioning Workshops, community members were unaware of community events, expressing the need for better or alternative marketing for events.



What We Heard

Pollution Exposure and Air Quality

Community members advocated for increasing green spaces and tree canopy as strategies to improve environmental health, reduce pollution, and provide recreational opportunities. Addressing pollution exposure and air quality concerns, such as diesel traffic-related pollution and providing alternative transit options, was identified as essential to ensure the well-being and health of the community.

Many community members expressed the desire to bring back MoGo, or a similar rideshare program. Public transit within Morgan Hill is limited, and MoGo served as a last-mile on-demand rideshare service to supplement existing public transportation. It offered citywide trips to and from designated stops, with virtual stops located at key areas like commercial centers, community spaces, and neighborhoods, aiming for convenience and affordability. The service was a two-year pilot project that ended in early 2025.

Air and noise pollution due to heavy traffic were identified, especially in densely populated areas and near schools. Improvements to public and active transportation options, implementing regulations on vehicles to prevent traffic congestion and increasing the number of green spaces and trees were requested to enhance overall health and air quality.

Some community members advocated for integrating eco-friendly community amenities and practices to promote environmental sustainability and resilience, such as requiring zero emissions for businesses.



Themes	Key Issues
Traffic-related Pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Concerns were raised about air and noise pollution resulting from heavy traffic, particularly in densely populated areas and near schools.A desire for improved public transportation and active transportation options to mitigate the negative effects of traffic on air quality was raised.Many community members expressed the desire to bring back MoGo or a similar rideshare program.More trees and green spaces are needed to improve air quality and overall environmental health.
Green Spaces and Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Many community members expressed the desire to increase the amount of green spaces and tree canopy within the City to offset pollution, provide areas to recreate, and provide shade.Increase community gardens, wider sidewalks, bike lanes, accessible transportation options for non-drivers, speed management for motorized vehicles, and bus shelters with weather protection were suggested.
Eco-friendly Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Some community members expressed concerns about homes abutting non-compatible uses such as industrial buildings and auto-repair shops.Concerns were raised about adjacent incompatible uses and the need to require zero emissions for businesses.Local air quality raised concerns for community members and the need to have an air filtration or air purifier program for homes.

What We Heard

Promoting Physical Activity

Community members highlighted that accessible healthcare services and well-maintained public spaces, including parks, are crucial to promoting physical and mental health in their communities. Community members that were engaged through this process emphasized the importance of infrastructure improvements for walking and cycling to encourage active lifestyles and provide opportunities for indoor and outdoor recreation. Community health centers were also prioritized to promote overall well-being and physical activity. Participants were interested in expanding affordable sports programs and recreation camps, especially for teenagers, and discussed the benefits of gardening and sports for physical health and community engagement.

Themes	Key Issues
Community Health and Well-Being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hospitals, medical clinics, and mobile dental clinics were identified as a priority, emphasizing the need for accessible healthcare services to promote overall well-being within the community. Activities for children and teenagers were discussed as being essential to promote wellbeing at an early age; however high costs for sports programs and summer recreation programs were the primary reason they do not participate in these programs. Membership costs to the Centennial Recreation Center and Aquatics Center were discussed as prohibitive for community members in Opportunity Neighborhoods. Safe and well-maintained, lit, public spaces, including sidewalks and parks, were noted as essential for promoting physical and mental health. Infrastructure improvements for cycling and walking (sidewalks) were desired to encourage active lifestyles and provide opportunities for outdoor recreation, such as exercise equipment at parks, contributing to improved health outcomes. Expand community events and free recreation, specifically the Splash Pad hours at the Community and Cultural Center. Provide information about discounted recreation program costs and translate information to Spanish.

Themes	Key Issues
Improvements in Public Facilities and Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community members expressed a need for enhancements in street and pedestrian infrastructure, including improvements in intersections to ensure smoother traffic flow and safer pedestrian crossings. Additionally, high speeds on roadways created pedestrians and bicyclists to feel unsafe, thereby reducing their comfortability to walk or bike. Safety enhancements, such as installing streetlights and improving cycling infrastructure, were suggested to address safety concerns in public spaces and promote active transportation. Improvements to public transit accessibility and efficiency to reduce reliance on cars and promote sustainable transportation options were raised at community events. This included addressing issues such as limited amenities nearby and inefficient transit routes. Community members expressed the need to have closer parks, parks for all abilities, and parks for teenagers. Trails to schools were widely expressed as needed to provide students with a safe way to bike to school.



What We Heard

Affordable Healthy Food Access

Three focus areas were suggested as priorities for improving access to healthy food: food affordability, expanding community garden programs, and promoting healthy food education.

Community members would like to improve the accessibility of healthy and affordable food options, especially for seniors with limited mobility. Community members have limited access to healthy and affordable options within walking/rolling distance, as the current food system is car-centric and the few large grocery stores are clustered together but are separated by significant distances from residences. Community members expressed that they use food distribution centers, but the days and hours of operation of the food distribution centers are limited due to only being open during work hours and therefore other community members who have jobs in need of accessible food are not able to use the food distribution centers. In addition, the locations of the food distribution centers are limited and therefore are car-centric for many community members.

To make healthy food options more accessible and affordable, it was recommended that local food systems be incentivized, provide additional community gardens near neighborhoods, and collaborate on food rescue programs. Workshops and programs that promote learning, personal growth, mental well-being, and focus on nutrition were also discussed.

Themes

Affordable and Accessible Healthy Food

Key Issues

- The community prioritized access to fresh and healthy food, emphasizing both affordability and distance as key factors.
- Healthy and affordable food for overall well-being and the health benefits of nutritious food were raised by those engaged.
- Financial constraints were identified as a barrier to food access for many community members, underscoring the need for affordable options.
- Community members expressed concerns about the lack of accessibility to healthy and affordable food options, particularly for seniors with limited mobility.
- Allowing permanent fruit stands and produce markets, food rescue programs, and mobile “ugly produce” markets were highlighted as a desirable addition to help promote access to healthy and locally grown foods.

Themes

Affordable and Accessible Healthy Food (cont'd)

Key Issues

- Education programs were suggested to help community members learn how to grow and access affordable and healthy food, as well as nutrition workshops/materials to support community members in making healthy lifestyle choices.
- Support to expand the locations and hours for food banks was highlighted as a need within the community.
- Concerns about the distance to healthy and affordable food, safety issues, and limited space for growing food were also raised.

Community Gardens

- Those engaged expressed a desire for increasing community gardens throughout the city as a solution for improving access to affordable and healthy food options.

Local Food Systems and Infrastructure

- Concerns were raised about the current food infrastructure, which relies on a car-centric model with few large grocery stores that are clustered together but are separated by significant distances from residences.
- Suggestions include allowing permanent fruit stands and produce markets and allowing affordable food wholesale.



What We Heard

Safe and Healthy Homes

The increasing cost of housing and the limited availability of affordable options were identified as the main barriers to safe and healthy homes. There was an overwhelming concern that individuals and families will be forced out of their homes due to the high costs of buying or renting property, making it difficult to find a suitable place to live in Morgan Hill. In addition, community members who rent expressed that they do not report health (i.e. mold, lead paint) and maintenance issues (i.e. plumbing or appliance issues) to landlords in fear that their rent will be raised. Overall, there was an underlying demand for more subsidized and affordable housing, including single-story and accessible housing options, to tackle the housing affordability crisis.

Community members also expressed concerns regarding community safety and overall health conditions within homes. Speeding of automobiles is a concern, in which community members felt unsafe walking or biking next to roadways. Ensuring safe and healthy homes was a priority with community members, with a focus on improving living conditions, particularly having clean drinkable tap water, air quality within homes, and receiving educational materials about healthy home living.

Themes	Key Issues
Affordable Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community members expressed concerns about the affordability of housing in Morgan Hill, making it difficult for individuals and families to buy or rent property. There was a call for more subsidized and affordable housing, including single-story and accessible options, to address the housing affordability crisis. Issues related to rising housing costs, limitations on housing availability, and concerns about displacement were highlighted as major community priorities. Community members expressed concern about the displacement of community members due to rent increases. Community members stated the need for low-cost loans for critical home repairs and weatherization.

Themes	Key Issues
Community Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community members emphasized the need to address safety hazards such as speeding cars, making community members feel unsafe to bike or walk on sidewalks next to roadways. Flooding was an issue for some community members affecting ground floor apartments and flooded roadways affecting employed community members getting to work. Some community members expressed concerns regarding transient activity around apartments and parks.
Community Well-being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring safe and healthy homes was a priority, with a focus on improving living conditions. Issues of displacement, building maintenance, and the economic challenges faced by the community were also highlighted. Education programs were suggested to help community members learn about safe and sanitary homes to support community members in making healthy lifestyle choices. Access to clean water was a concern to many community members, with suggestions to have a water filtration program for homes be provided. Community members suggested better advocacy on water quality and water testing, especially to renters. Air quality within homes was a concern for areas adjacent to industrial and high-trafficked areas, with community members recommending air filtration or air purifier programs for homes be installed. Eliminate the use of toxic pesticides.

What We Heard

Increase Overall Health

Opportunity Neighborhoods are more impacted by environmental and social factors influenced by climate change and the resilience of the built environment than more affluent communities, thereby impacting overall health of community members within the Opportunity Neighborhoods. Climate change is giving rise to extreme weather conditions that impact well-being, safety and overall health across the City, such as flooding, wildfires, and extreme heat; however, some neighborhoods bear a heavier burden and possess fewer resources to be able to cope with and respond to these challenges. To safeguard the city's most vulnerable populations, such as low-income community members, children, seniors, and individuals with disabilities, it is essential to address climate vulnerabilities, especially within Opportunity Neighborhoods. Community members highlighted the need for increased resilience and health within their neighborhoods, ranging from health education to increased active transportation opportunities.

In addition, community members expressed a need for programs that address physical, mental and emotional well-being within their neighborhoods. This includes enhancement and support for social infrastructure such as health centers.

Themes	Key Issues
Support for Recreation and Physical Activity Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community members expressed a desire for free exercise programs and initiatives that encourage outdoor play and physical activity, particularly among children and teenagers, and on weekends. There was recognition of the benefits of gardening and playing sports for physical health and community engagement. Membership costs to the Centennial Recreation Center and Aquatics Center were discussed as prohibitive for community members in Opportunity Neighborhoods.
Programming for Personal Health and Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community members valued workshops and programs that promote learning, personal growth, and mental health well-being. Educational materials in Spanish and English on allergies, asthma, and overall health were recommended. Educational materials on nutrition and budgeting programs were also recommended.

Themes	Key Issues
Community Health and Well-Being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hospitals, medical clinics, and mobile dental clinics were identified as a priority, emphasizing the need for accessible healthcare services to promote overall well-being within the community. Activities for children and teenagers were discussed as being essential to promote wellbeing at an early age. Safe and well-maintained, lit, public spaces, including sidewalks and parks, were noted as essential for promoting physical and mental health. Infrastructure improvements for cycling and walking (sidewalks) were desired to encourage active lifestyles and provide opportunities for outdoor recreation, such as exercise equipment at parks, contributing to improved health outcomes. High speeds on roadways created pedestrians and bicyclists to feel unsafe, thereby reducing their comfortability to walk or bike. Expand community events and free recreation, specifically the Splash Pad hours at the Community and Cultural Center. Provide information about discounted recreation program costs and translate information to Spanish. Revise landscaping policies around shrubs, bushes and trees that are asthma friendly. There is a desire to bring back MoGo or a similar rideshare program so community members can access medical appointments, recreation, and groceries. Many community members expressed the impacts of extreme heat in their communities, with recommendations to increase tree canopy and open spaces throughout Morgan Hill.

What We Heard

Public Facilities and Infrastructure

When community members were asked how to improve existing infrastructure and public spaces, many of the responses centered on increased support, access, and funding for programming opportunities. Community members voiced a desire for enhanced parks and affordable recreation that catered to the needs of all family members, particularly teenagers and adults, and provided safe opportunities for physical activity. The high costs for sports programs and summer recreation programs were a major concern for most community members. Apprehensions about recreating in the evening led community members to provide a broad range of ideas for how to increase safety within public spaces.

Stormwater infrastructure improvements were recommended as some community members had experienced some level of flooding within their neighborhoods. While specific suggestions for solutions to this were not made, it highlights the need for climate resilience and runoff capture both during times of extreme weather and normal storm events.

Themes	Key Issues
Support for Recreation and Physical Activity Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community members were keen on enhancing active transportation connectivity to facilitate access to public amenities and schools. Membership costs to the Centennial Recreation Center and Aquatics Center were discussed as prohibitive for community members in Opportunity Neighborhoods. Safe and well-maintained, lit, public spaces, including sidewalks and parks, were noted as essential for promoting physical and mental health. Infrastructure improvements for cycling and walking (sidewalks) were desired to encourage active lifestyles and provide opportunities for outdoor recreation, such as exercise equipment at parks, contributing to improved health outcomes. Expand community events and free recreation, specifically the Splash Pad hours at the Community and Cultural Center.
Stormwater Management and Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community members suggested improving stormwater management practices and infrastructure to avoid flooding in their neighborhoods.

Themes	Key Issues
Improvements in Public Facilities and Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community members expressed a need for enhancements in street and pedestrian infrastructure, including improvements in intersections to ensure smoother traffic flow and safer pedestrian crossings. Additionally, high speeds on roadways created pedestrians and bicyclists to feel unsafe, thereby reducing their comfortability to walk or bike. Safety enhancements, such as installing streetlights and improving cycling infrastructure, were suggested to address safety concerns in public spaces and promote active transportation. Improvements to public transit accessibility and efficiency to reduce reliance on cars and promote sustainable transportation options were raised at community events. This included addressing issues such as limited amenities nearby and inefficient transit routes. Community members expressed the need to have closer parks, parks for all abilities, and parks for teenagers. Trails to schools were widely expressed as needed to provide students with a safe way to bike to school. Increase community gardens, wider sidewalks, bike lanes, accessible transportation options for non-drivers, speed management for motorized vehicles, public restrooms at parks, human-scale lighting, and bus shelters with weather protection were suggested. More benches/seating around the City along sidewalks and trails were also suggested.
Access to Community Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public park facilities in Opportunity Neighborhoods are limited (there is only one public park). Access from these neighborhoods to other parks or recreation facilities have safety concerns due to traffic congestion, and inadequate or safe public transportation, or alternative transportation means. Community members recommended to partner with MHUSD to improve "Safe Routes to Schools".

Lessons Learned

From August 2024 to August 2025, the City spearheaded dozens of community events and visioning workshops, as well as three ¡Morgan Hill Prospera! steering committee roundtable sessions.

The ¡Morgan Hill Prospera! steering committee sessions aimed to provide ongoing updates, offer a platform for steering committee members to voice community concerns directly to the City, and foster knowledge-sharing among participants. This approach facilitated the identification of recurring themes, real-time feedback collection and the enhancement of reports. In the roundtable sessions, steering committee members and city officials collaborated to align goals and expectations, devised engagement strategies, and addressed prevalent concerns within Opportunity Neighborhoods.

Reflecting on the outreach performed, the City recognizes the need to conduct various types of outreach. The Pop-up Events and Community Events served as ways to educate and inform the community of the Healthy Neighborhoods for All initiative, as well as build trust in the community. As community members saw City staff in the community more, community members began to open-up more and converse with staff regarding the work being performed and ultimately building relations to host visioning workshops at apartment complexes and affordable housing developments within the Opportunity Neighborhoods.

Food distribution centers, along with affordable apartment complexes, were invaluable locations to engage community members, and food provisions and prizes during engagement events were impactful. On the other hand, overcoming language barriers was identified early in the outreach process as essential and key to engagement endeavors led by the City.

Throughout the process, key takeaways included:

- A clearer understanding by community members of the Healthy Communities for All Element
- The development of cohesive engagement messages
- The identification of priority Healthy Communities for All topics
- Recommendations for improving community participation like incentive strategies, including raffles, gift cards, food, and translation services

Overall, the importance of community input in shaping policies and initiatives, highlighting the need for ongoing collaboration and support between the city, housing managers, and CBOs to address Healthy Neighborhoods for All issues effectively is underscored.

