



SURVEY SUMMARY

INFRASTRUCTURE

+902 245 6450 / mcarty@inspiringcommunities.ca / inspiringcommunities.ca

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THE PERSPECTIVE

"I am worried about the dirt road I live on. I am the only person living here now.... Others have left because of the condition. A man died here awhile back because the ambulance couldn't reach him in time because of road conditions."

Some survey participants (11%) specifically mentioned concerns about infrastructure issues. Even more (19%) suggested that infrastructure improvements would make their community better.

While infrastructure may not have been identified as a primary area of concern by a majority of participants, it is fundamental to many areas of peoples' lives and is a key component to many other issues –including health care, employment and ability to access services, activities and shelter options.

People seem most concerned about getting to where they need and want to go. Participants noted that the lack of public transportation options as well as poor road conditions in many of the small communities combine to create isolation and difficulties with accessing services and activities.

Concerns were expressed by some participants that decisions about infrastructure issues are being made without effective leadership. These participants suggested that there is a need for more transparency about how decisions are made regarding infrastructure development and improvement.

Areas of concern named by survey participants include:

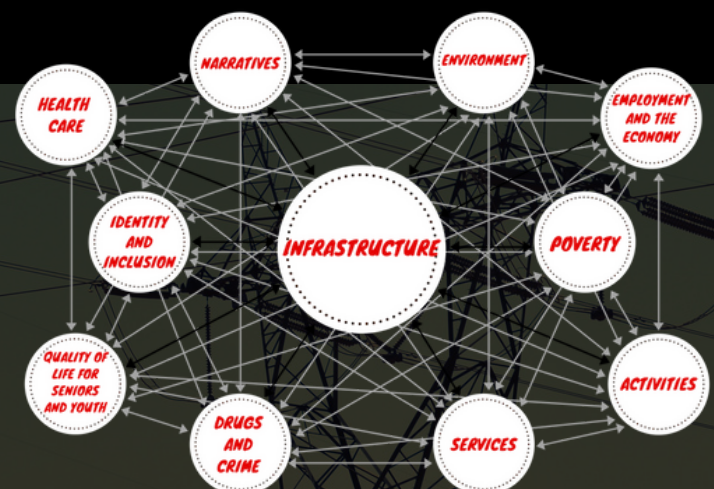
- Road conditions;
- Affordable housing;
- Transportation options;
- Internet, cell phone and power grid issues; and
- Clean up and beautification.

"(concerns) around poverty, housing, job opportunities (I assume there is a direct co-relation to these issues and our current lack of power grid/internet); Missed opportunities of companies moving to our area that require high capacity of both power and internet."

CROSSING THEMES

Infrastructure is a key element of several themes, such as poverty, economy, health care, activities and services:

- Affordable housing is a critical factor affecting individuals living in poverty;
- Transportation issues also affect individuals living in poverty and seniors more than others;
- Transportation options are related to accessibility of health care appointments;
- Downtown development affects tourism and businesses;
- Infrastructure limitations relating to cell phone, internet and power grid capacities affect employment and the economy;
- Road systems affect safety, transportation and business opportunities.



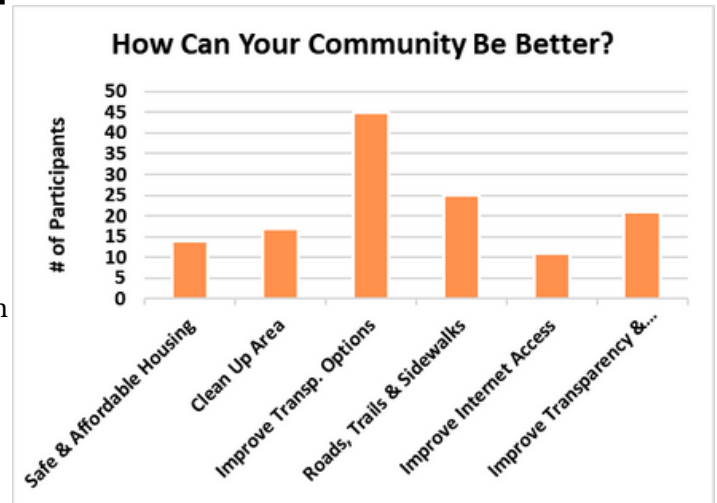
"Accessing community events is nearly impossible for folks in outlying areas... many people cannot access events... This seems crazy in this day and age."

HOW CAN OUR COMMUNITY BE BETTER?

19% of respondents identified a need to focus on our overall infrastructure systems.

Suggestions included:

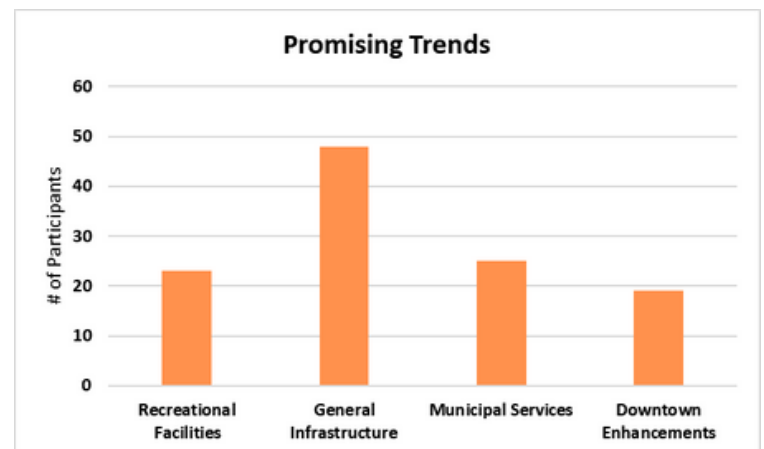
- Enhance public transportation options;
- Update roads/trails/sidewalks;
- Improve transparency and better leadership in decision making about infrastructure issues;
- Clean up the area and stop littering;
- Improve affordable housing and shelter options; and
- Upgrade internet access.



PROMISING TRENDS

POSITIVES IN INFRASTRUCTURE

- General infrastructure is in place;
- Municipal services;
- Recreational facilities; and
- Downtown enhancements.



SUGGESTIONS TO SHIFT THE THEME

INTERESTING IDEAS FROM PARTICIPANTS INCLUDED...

"... the benefits of initiatives such as beach sweeps and the development of beach infrastructure in Sandy Cove..."

"Get more people involved and improve infrastructure and businesses by utilizing underused resources; address internet overuse, reduce isolation, develop more connection in the community and be more involved; creative ways to connect people as well as provide a service (ie. micro public transportation service, volunteer-driven support for seniors by giving a ride and/or accompanying for a medical appointment)."