

COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Survey Summary – Utica, NY

Priority Economic Development Needs

Cleaning Contaminated Properties, Adaptive Reuse and Rehabilitating Buildings with a focus on energy efficiency came across as strong themes for economic development.

Top High School Responses (High Need %)

- Clean Contaminated Properties (78%)
- Reuse & Rehabilitate Buildings – energy efficiency (60%)
- Focus on “Downtown Living” (55%)

Top Public Youth Responses (High Need %)

- Adaptive Reuse of Existing Buildings (59%)
- Commercial Building Rehabilitation (52%)
- Green Building Incentives – energy efficiency (49%)

Top Public General Responses (High Need %)

- Reuse & Rehabilitate Buildings – energy efficiency (83%)
- Help Private Developers & Business Owners (78%)
- Assist Entrepreneurs - Incubators & Start-up Help (65%)
- Clean Contaminated Properties (63%)

Top Public Advanced Responses (High Need %)

- Adaptive Reuse of Existing Buildings (61%)
- Commercial Building Rehabilitation (52%)
- Clean Contaminated Properties (48%)

Most Important Neighborhood Development Needs

Community Policing – Crime Prevention, Walkable Street – Safe Sidewalks and the Reuse of Vacant Houses, Building and Lots came across as strong themes for neighborhoods.

Top High School Responses (High Need %)

- Walkable Streets - Safe Sidewalks & Lighting (81%)
- Community Policing - Crime Prevention (80%)
- Remove Trash, Reduce Litter & Increase Recycling (76%)

Top Public Youth Responses (High Need %)

- Community Policing - Crime Prevention (76%)
- Reuse / Remove Vacant Houses, Building & Lots (74%)
- Walkable Streets - Safe Sidewalks & Lighting (74%)

Top Public General Responses (High Need %)

- Walkable Streets - Safe Sidewalks & Lighting (88%)
- Community Policing - Crime Prevention (83%)
- Access to Healthy Food – Grocery Stores (71%)

Top Public Advanced Responses (High Need %)

- Absentee Landlord / Slumlord Penalties (77%)
- Reuse / Remove Vacant Houses, Building & Lots (74%)
- Community Policing - Crime Prevention (70%)

Most Needed Public Improvements

Top High School Responses

- Street Paving & Curbing (71%)
- Public Wi-Fi & Internet Services (63%)
- Sidewalks & Trails (55%)

Top Public Youth Responses (High Need %)

- Reuse / Redevelopment of Abandoned Buildings & Sites (73%)
- Street Paving & Curbing (72%)
- Sidewalks & Trails (44%)

Top Public General Responses (High Need %)

- Reuse / Redevelopment of Abandoned Buildings & Sites (79%)
- Street Paving & Curbing (68%)
- Water & Sewer Systems (47%)

Top Public Advanced Responses (High Need %)

- Reuse / Redevelopment of Abandoned Buildings & Sites (79%)
- Street Paving & Curbing (70%)
- Sidewalks & Trails (36%)

If you had unlimited funds...

Top 4 Youth Comments

1. Street and Road Improvements
2. Housing Improvements
3. Education Improvements
4. Reuse or Demolish Old Buildings

Top 4 Adult Comments

1. Street and Road Improvements
2. Housing Improvements
3. Reuse or Demolish Old Buildings
4. Public Safety

This document presents results drawn from Qualtrics software and shows general trends and common responses. This summary is not a complete analysis, the full results are available in the appendix. Any information and recommendations are presented in good faith and believed to be correct. In no event will Cornell Cooperative Extension of Oneida County or any of its components be responsible for damages of any nature whatsoever resulting from the use of or reliance upon such information.

Street Paving and Curbing, Sidewalks and Trails, and the Reuse and Redevelopment of Abandoned Buildings and Sites came across as strong themes for Public Improvements.



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What makes us stay...

Most Needed Amenities

Top Public General Responses

(High Need %)

- Youth Centers (71%)
- Parks and Recreation (68%)
- Farmers Markets (71%)

Top Public Advanced Responses

- Youth Centers (43%)
- Farmers Markets (42%)
- Parks and Recreation (39%)

Venues & Events to Enjoy

Top High School Responses

- Boilermaker / Road Races (50%)
- Utica Memorial Auditorium (47%)
- City Parks System (47%)

Top Public Youth Responses

- Utica Memorial Auditorium (75%)
- Boilermaker / Road Races (64%)
- Stanley / Players Theater (64%)

Additional Support Needed

Top Public General Responses

- Safe & Reliable Childcare (45%)
- Mentorships and Internships (29%)
- Mental Health Services (27%)

Top Public Advanced Responses

- Education Aligned w/ Jobs (61%)
- Mentorships and Internships (60%)
- Crime Prevention Programs (54%)
- Abused Children (54%)

1,454 Youth (under age 25) &
1,024 Adults (over age 25)
accessed the community survey

Household Income

25% of adults that answered the survey live in households with an income less than \$40,000, while 26% live in households with an income over \$80,000.

Household Income	Youth Survey	Adult Survey
Less than \$20,000	6%	10%
\$20,000 - \$29,999	2%	7%
\$30,000 - \$39,999	3%	8%
\$40,000 - \$49,999	1%	11%
\$50,000 - \$59,999	1%	9%
\$60,000 - \$69,999	2%	9%
\$70,000 - \$79,999	1%	6%
\$80,000 or More	6%	26%
Not Sure	58%	1%
Prefer Not to Share	19%	13%

Age

More than 45% of the adults that provided their age were under 40 years old.

Age Range	Youth Survey
Under 14	1%
14-17	91%
18-21	6%
22-24	1%
Over 25	1%

Age Range	Adult Survey
Under 25	9%
25-39	37%
40-54	27%
55-70	24%
Over 70	3%

Who did we hear from...

Household Size

86% of youth surveyed are from household with 3 members or more, while 71% of adults surveyed live in households with 3 members or less.

Persons per Household	Youth Survey	Adult Survey
One	1%	16%
Two	7%	40%
Three	15%	15%
Four	26%	15%
Five	21%	6%
Six	12%	2%
More than Six	12%	1%
Prefer not to share	6%	5%

Gender

Gender	Youth Survey	Adult Survey
Male	43%	34%
Female	49%	62%
Other	1%	0%
Prefer not to share	7%	4%

Race/Ethnicity

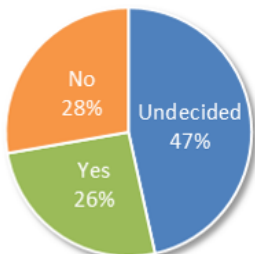
Youth respondents were far more diverse.

Race / Ethnicity	Youth Survey	Adult Survey
White / Caucasian	41%	74%
Black / African American	17%	2%
Native American / Alaskan	0%	0%
Native Hawaiian / Pacific	0%	0%
Asian	15%	1%
Hispanic / Latino	16%	3%
Two or More Races	10%	1%
Other / Prefer not to share	1%	19%

Who will live here...

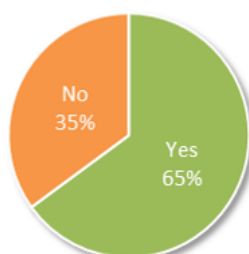
Based on the responses from the high school surveys, there is significant potential to retain youth in Utica.

Do you plan on making Utica your home upon graduating from high school/college?



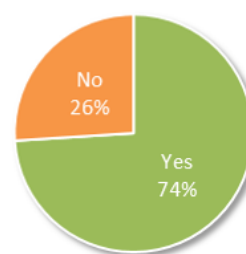
High School Students

If offered tuition incentives at a local college, would you agree to live and work in Utica for the next five years upon graduation?



High School Students

Would you consider living in Utica if there was a program to partially pay for your student loans in exchange for renting or owning a home in the City?



High School Students

Survey Themes

Roads & Infrastructure

Jobs & Employment

Education & Training

Crime & Public Safety

Technology & Wi-Fi

Lighting & Beautification

Health & Housing

Quality of Life