

City of Brooklyn Park
COMMUNITY IMPACT SURVEY PART 2 RESULTS
 May 28, 2020

INTRODUCTION

Objective

The objective of the Community Impact Survey was to get rapid feedback on the needs and assets in our community. Similar to the first report, which was released in early April 2020, the results will be shared with the Emergency Operations Center, City Council, partners and community-at-large.

Evaluation Questions

The evaluation questions were:

- What are the concerns of residents? Have they changed since the first survey?
- What is the mood of residents? How hopeful are residents that our community will pull through?
- What concerns do parents have for their children/teens?
- Are residents interested in participating in city programs? What types of public health safety measures are needed as city programming reopens?

Methodology

- The survey opened May 13 and closed the morning of May 26.
- **Internet** – The majority of respondents took the survey via the web, having received the link from an email, social media, or a flyer at their apartment community.
- **Phone** – Staff also called residents whose numbers we had (i.e. from Recreation and Parks programming or because they saw a flyer with that option).

Thanks to the Brooklyn Bridge Alliance for Youth for their assistance with data collection and analysis.

DEMOGRAPHICS

	Number	%	Census %
	1,861	100	26,928 (HH)
Household includes school-aged (elementary, middle, and/or high school) children	658	35%	41% (0-18)
Renter	151	8%	29%
Homeowner	1,594	86%	71%
Black American	155	8%	15%
Hispanic or Latino/a	65	3%	8%
Southeast Asian or Asian	127	7%	15%
West African or African	43	2%	12%

White	1,378	74%	46%
Other	44	2%	4%

The 1,861 surveys completed represent about 8% of the households in Brooklyn Park, if we assume that not more than one household member participated. There was a -14% decrease in responses from the first survey in March 2020. The demographics as compared to data from the US Census Bureau is relatively similar when looking at households who have youth. There was an oversampling of homeowners and of white residents. To try to achieve a more accurate sample, the results were weighted to better represent an estimate from the Census data on the race and ethnicity categories represented in the city (West African or African, X2, White X0.5, all others X1). The unweighted and weighted data is shown in some of the tables below for comparison.

Some of the data below is disaggregated to show differences between the responses of our cultural communities and renters. However, the number of responses in the subgroups are too low to be statistically significant and may not accurately represent responses of the entire subgroup within acceptable error ranges.

NEIGHBORHOODS AND APARTMENT COMMUNITIES

Respondents were asked about which Brooklyn Park neighborhood they lived in to better gauge if responses were received from all parts of the city.

<i>N=1,817</i>	Number	%	ESRI %
Bass Creek	33	2%	2%
Birch Grove	54	3%	3%
Brookdale Park	73	4%	3%
Candlewood	58	3%	4%
Central	74	4%	5%
College Park	20	1%	2%
Commerce	0	0%	0%
Edinburgh	234	13%	7%
Eidem	49	3%	2%
Founders	68	4%	4%
Greenhaven	13	1%	0%
Hartkopf	87	5%	8%
Lakeland Park	26	1%	6%
Monroe	18	1%	2%
Northland	3	0%	0%

<i>N=1,817</i>	Number	%	ESRI %
Norwood	89	5%	5%
Oak Grove	58	3%	1%
Orchard Trail	71	4%	3%
Palmer Lake	46	3%	2%
Park Center	26	1%	2%
Pinebrook	37	2%	1%
River North	43	2%	2%
River Park	90	5%	4%
River View	39	2%	1%
Shingle Creek	47	3%	3%
Sunny Lane	66	4%	5%
Tessman	113	6%	6%
Trinity Gardens	92	5%	4%
Village Creek	14	1%	6%
Willowstone	59	3%	3%

Northwoods	46	3%	2%
-------------------	----	----	----

Not a resident	44		
-----------------------	----	--	--

Overall, the response rates from the neighborhoods was relatively consistent with estimates of households in those neighborhoods from city data (ESRI). The Edinburgh neighborhood was slightly oversampled, and the Lakeland Park and Village Creek neighborhoods were slightly under-sampled. Similarly, residents of apartment communities were asked to identify which apartment complex they resided in.

<i>N=117</i>	Number	% Total
610 West	8	7%
Autumn Ridge	7	6%
Blue Ridge	0	0%
Brook Gardens	0	0%
Brooklyn West	2	2%
Brooks Landing	0	0%
Creskide Gables	0	0%
Fountains in the Parks	0	0%
Eden Park	1	1%
Evergreen	1	1%
Huntington Place	6	5%
The Fairways	27	23%
Kensington Place	1	1%
Garden Gates	0	0%
Granite Ridge	0	0%
Groves	0	0%
Highland Gables	0	0%
Imperial Gates	2	2%

<i>N=117</i>	Number	% Total
Moonraker	4	3%
Park Haven	3	3%
Pebble Creek Estates	4	3%
Point of America	1	1%
Ridgebrook	7	6%
Riverview	3	3%
St. Therese - Oxbow Lake	4	3%
Summercrest	10	9%
The Regent	1	1%
The Willows I (Park)	4	3%
The Willows II (Brook)	1	1%
Tradition	3	3%
Villa Del Coronado	0	0%
Waterford Estates	2	2%
Waterford Manor	2	2%
West Broadway	0	0%
Windsor Gates	0	0%
Other	13	11%

Many apartment communities had low number of responses. Twelve apartment communities had 0 respondents.

SURVEY QUESTIONS

The survey questions and results are listed below, and broken down by race/ethnicity, and rental/homeowner status.

What are the 3 areas you are MOST concerned about during the next few months of the COVID-19 pandemic? (Check up to 3.)

(N=1,861)	Overall (un-weighted)	Overall (weighted by race)	Black American	Hispanic or Latino/a	South-east Asian or Asian	West African or African	White
You or your loved ones getting sick with the coronavirus	64%	66%	66%	62%	70%	60%	66%
Economy/stock market/investments	40%	35%	21%	17%	22%	9%	45%
Job loss, furlough, or reduced hours	26%	26%	23%	40%	39%	28%	24%
K-12 school closures	22%	23%	25%	22%	28%	21%	22%
Mental health struggles or loneliness	21%	22%	26%	15%	17%	12%	23%
Youth programs and sports cancelled	18%	18%	23%	9%	15%	23%	18%
Working in an unsafe environment without enough preventative measures & PPE	18%	21%	19%	29%	35%	47%	15%
Accessing medical care	17%	16%	17%	18%	13%	12%	18%
Ability to pay rent/mortgage	10%	12%	17%	20%	21%	30%	6%
Internet access	5%	4%	4%	5%	2%	2%	6%
Not having enough food for your household	5%	6%	6%	17%	6%	14%	4%
College campus closures	5%	5%	6%	5%	3%	5%	5%
Childcare closures	4%	5%	7%	11%	3%	2%	5%
Other	12%	12%	8%	9%	12%	9%	12%

Cells shaded blue indicate at least 10 percent higher than the overall percentage.

(N=1,861)	Overall (un-weighted)	Renter	Home-owner
You or your loved ones getting sick with the coronavirus	64%	58%	66%
Economy/stock market/investments	40%	16%	43%
Job loss, furlough, or reduced hours	26%	28%	25%
K-12 school closures	22%	17%	22%
Mental health struggles or loneliness	21%	31%	20%
Youth programs and sports cancelled	18%	17%	18%
Working in an unsafe environment without enough preventative measures & PPE	18%	24%	17%
Accessing medical care	17%	17%	17%
Ability to pay rent/mortgage	10%	28%	8%
Internet access	5%	7%	5%
Not having enough food for your household	5%	11%	4%
College campus closures	5%	2%	5%
Childcare closures	4%	7%	4%
Other	12%	11%	12%

Cells shaded blue indicate at least 10 percent higher than the overall percentage.

Other responses include: people not abiding by public health guidelines (social distancing, masks, etc.), overreach of the government in the pandemic response, access to groceries and limiting people's ability to work and go about their lives, too much government spending and taxes, an increase in crime, opening up too quickly, not opening up quickly enough, not being able to attend church or mosque, overuse of parks, the loss of small businesses, and residents of assisted living facilities.

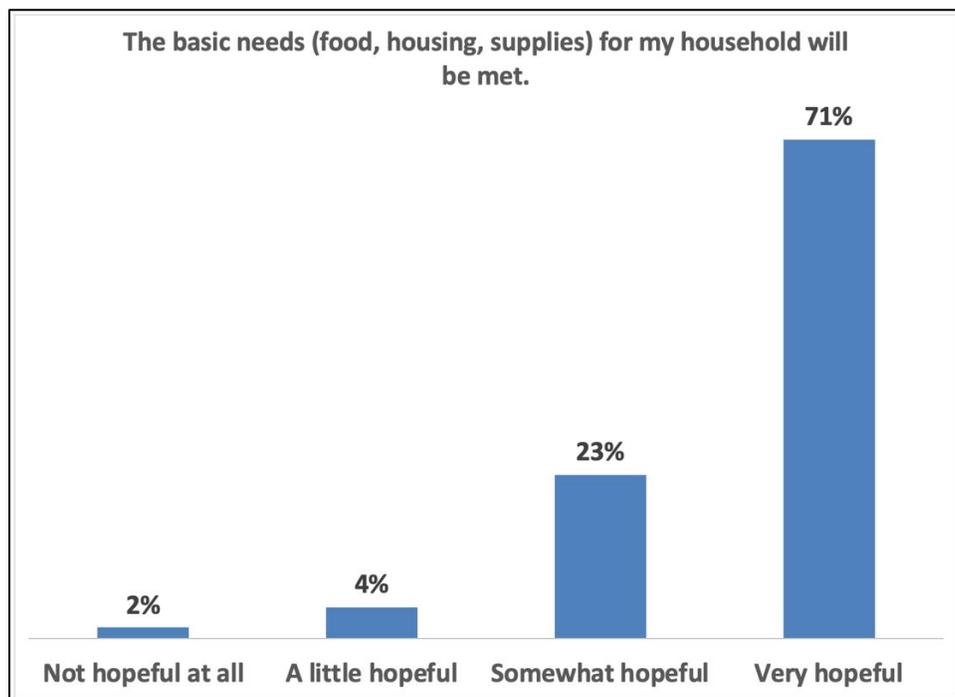
Overall, respondents said that their top 3 concerns were getting sick with the coronavirus, the economy/stock market/investments, and job loss/furlough/reduced hours.

When disaggregated by race and compared to the weighted overall percentages, Hispanic or Latino/a respondents were especially concerned with job loss/furlough/reduced hours and not having enough food for their households, Southeast Asian or Asian respondents were especially concerned with job

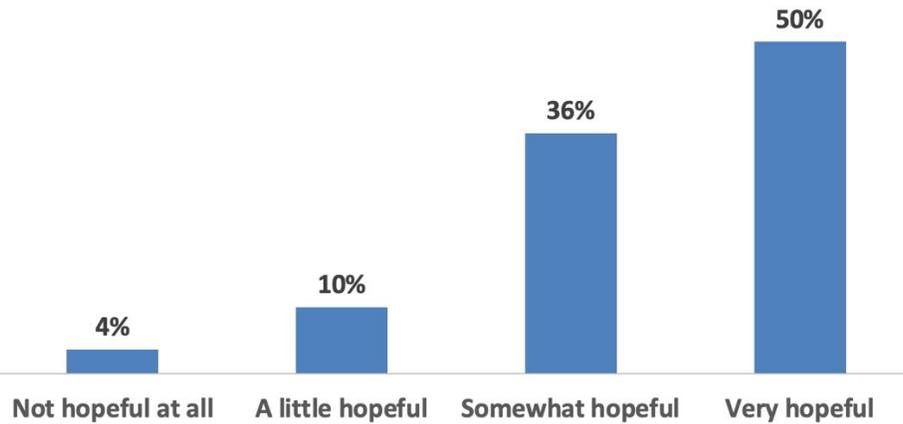
loss/furlough/reduced hours and working in an unsafe environment without enough preventative measures & PPE, West African or African respondents were especially concerned with working in an unsafe environment without enough preventative measures & PPE and the ability to pay rent/mortgage, and White respondents were especially concerned with the economy/stock market/investments.

Respondents in the apartment communities were especially concerned about mental health struggles or loneliness, and the ability to pay rent/mortgage.

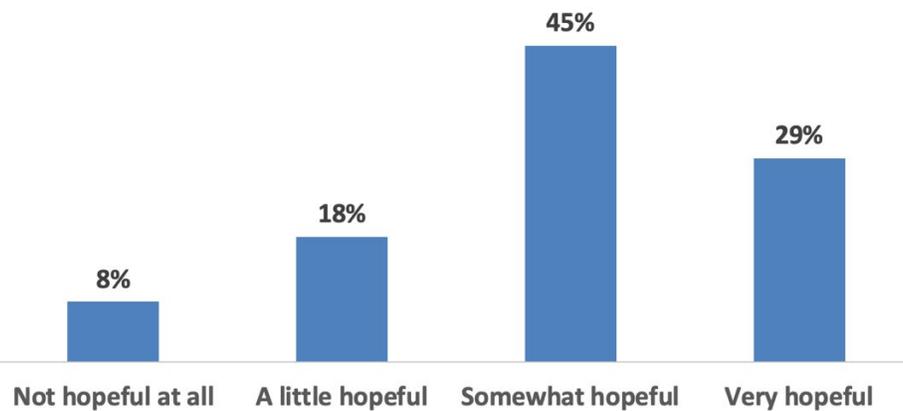
How hopeful are you about the following statements? (Select one response for each statement from the following choices: Not hopeful at all, A little hopeful, Somewhat hopeful, Very hopeful.)

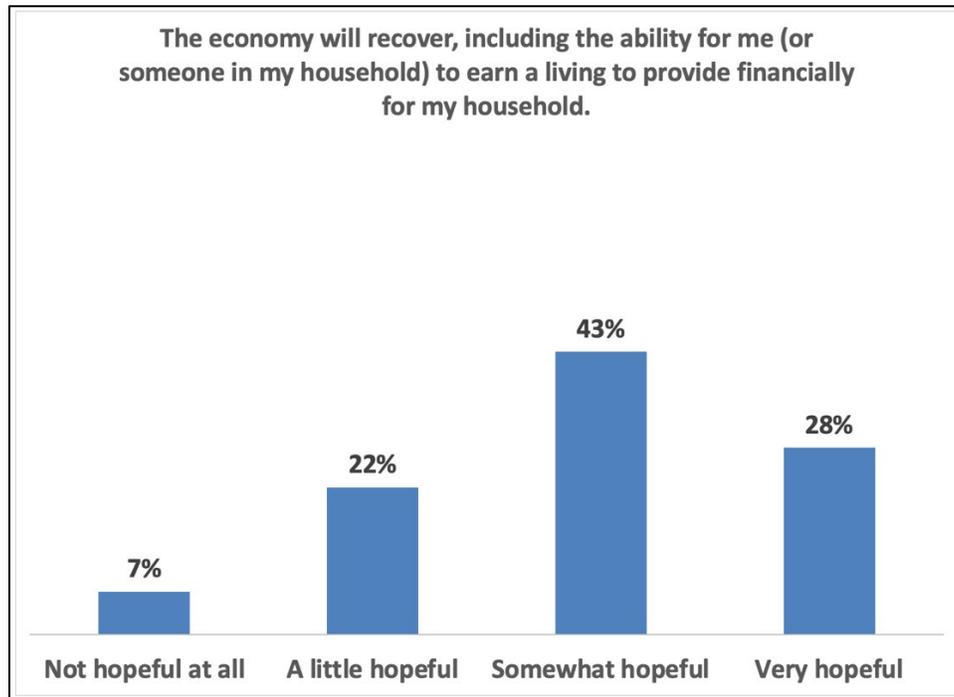


The emergency response and public services of the City of Brooklyn Park will keep me, my household, and my community safe.



The public health response by the State of Minnesota will keep me, my household, and my community safe from COVID-19.





Although most respondents were Somewhat hopeful or Very hopeful about all four statements, there is somewhat less hopefulness about keeping the community safe from COVID-19 and the recovery of the economy.

The table below displays the percentage of respondents that responded *Somewhat hopeful* or *Very hopeful*.

(N=1853)	Overall (weight)	Overall (weighted by race)	Black American	Hispanic or Latino/a	South-east Asian or Asian	West African or African	White
The basic needs (food, housing, supplies) for my household will be met.	94%	92%	93%	88%	84%	86%	95%
The emergency response and public services of the City of Brooklyn Park will keep me, my household, and my community safe.	86%	85%	82%	75%	80%	84%	89%
The public health response by the State of Minnesota will keep me, my household, and my community	74%	74%	67%	74%	71%	72%	77%

safe from COVID-19.							
The economy will recover, including the ability for me (or someone in my household) to earn a living to provide financially for my household.	71%	72%	69%	69%	73%	80%	72%

Cells shaded blue indicate at least 10 percent lower than the overall percentage.

Respondents identifying as Hispanic or Latino/a were slightly less hopeful that the city’s public services would be able to keep them safe.

(N=1853)	Overall (weight)	Renter	Home-owner
The basic needs (food, housing, supplies) for my household will be met.	94%	83%	95%
The emergency response and public services of the City of Brooklyn Park will keep me, my household, and my community safe.	86%	80%	89%
The public health response by the State of Minnesota will keep me, my household, and my community safe from COVID-19.	74%	64%	77%
The economy will recover, including the ability for me (or someone in my household) to earn a living to provide financially for my household.	71%	65%	72%

Cells shaded blue indicate at least 10 percent lower than the overall percentage.

Renters responded slightly less hopeful that their basic needs would be met and the public health response would be able to keep them safe from COVID-19.

While we know many people are struggling right now, what brings you hope for our community?

This question was asked open-ended on the survey. Respondents could write whatever they felt was appropriate. The results were read, themed, and quantified.

(N=1140)	Count	%
Neighbors are kind, and willing to help and support each other.	247	22%
People are following public health guidelines (social distancing, wearing masks, opening up slowly)	155	14%
God, prayers, their faith	108	9%
Minnesota state government and Governor Walz	102	9%
City of Brooklyn Park and local government	102	9%
Unity and pride among Brooklyn Park community	99	9%
Nothing	56	5%
Economy and local small businesses opening back up	44	4%
People outside enjoying nice weather	41	4%

Other: People in our community are resilient and resourceful (3%), getting back to normal as things open up (3%), history shows that we will get through this (3%), vaccine or treatment (2%), people standing up for their rights and against government overreach (2%), COVID-19 cases trending downward/not as bad as expected (2%), family and friends (2%), everything needs to open up right now (1%), voting out current leaders (all levels) (1%), access to parks and trails (1%), federal government and President Trump (1%), and the reopening of churches (1%).

Neighbors are kind, and willing to help and support each other. The top answer given for what gives respondents hope, is seeing neighbors help each other out. There were many examples of neighbors bringing food and supplies, making masks, and volunteering to provide for the needs of others.

People are following public health guidelines. Respondents also talked about how seeing others in their community wear masks and practice social distancing made them feel like they were taking this pandemic seriously and doing their part to prevent the spread of the coronavirus. Especially for those people who are concerned about contracting COVID-19, other people’s actions gave them hope that the community as a whole would be able to get through this.

God, prayers, and their faith. Many respondents said that what gives them hope are their spiritual beliefs, especially that God is in control. Some commented that they were hopeful that their church communities could re-open soon.

Minnesota state government and Governor Walz. Respondents pointed to the actions of the Minnesota state government to institute stay-at-home restrictions to help slow the spread of the virus as giving them hope. Specifically, they praised the efforts of Governor Walz, his strong leadership, and his use of data to make decisions.

City of Brooklyn Park and local government. Similar to their comments about the state government, respondents said the communication, and strong leadership and actions of the city to follow the state’s guidelines gave them hope. The public services (police, fire, etc.) helped residents feel safe and cared for.

Unity and pride among Brooklyn Park community. Respondents talked about how seeing people in the community come together during adversity and the strength and diversity of the Brooklyn Park community gave them hope during this time. They felt safe and mutual respect.

Nothing. Some respondents mentioned that there was nothing that brought them hope. This spanned from people who were concerned about the spread of the coronavirus, to those who were worried about shutting down the economy and the overreach of the government.

Economy and local businesses opening back up. Respondents were worried about the local businesses in their community, and the beginning signs of opening back up the economy were encouraging. For some people who didn’t agree with the stay-at-home measures, opening the economy was the only thing that brought them hope.

People outside enjoying nice weather. Respondents talked about how seeing others out walking in the neighborhood and enjoying the outdoors as the weather gets nicer brought them hope.

What would make you feel comfortable coming to city events later this summer or fall (dependent on CDC and MDH recommendations)? (Check all that apply.)

(N=1852)	Count	%
Hand-washing / hand sanitizer stations	866	60%
Social distancing requirements of 6 feet between people	982	53%
Participants and staff wearing face masks	1120	50%
Limiting the number of people attending	923	47%
Nothing, I would not attend	472	25%
Other	238	13%

Respondents indicated which public health measures would make them feel comfortable with participating in city events. Only a quarter of residents indicated they would not attend regardless.

If the Recreation and Parks Department were to offer online programming for seniors (55+ years old) for a fee, which programs would you like to participate in? (Check all that apply.)

(N=933)	Count	%
I would not pay for or participate in virtual or online programs	366	39%
I would not pay for virtual or online programs, but I would participate in them at no cost	333	36%
Fitness classes	219	23%
Informational speakers	139	15%
Book club	87	9%
Art/painting classes	74	8%
Tours	73	8%
Other	79	8%

Seniors (55+ years old) asked about online programs, indicated that 39% would not participate and 36% would participate only if they were free.

Questions about receiving a weekly wellness call, follow-up call, or informational emails from the city

	Yes
If you or a household member are over 55, do you want a weekly wellness call?	17
Do you want city staff to follow up with you and direct you to resources?	24
If you don't already get texts or emails from the City of Brooklyn Park, do you want us to sign you up?	48 (texts) 65 (emails)

The Recreation and Parks Department is providing the weekly wellness calls to seniors, and the Community Engagement Department followed up with those respondents who requested it and signed the respondents up who wanted to be on the city's email or text list.

QUESTIONS FOR PARENTS

Respondents who identified as being from a household with school-aged children were asked further set of questions which are detailed below.

What are the age groups of your children?

(N=620)	Count	%
0 – 4 years old	145	39%
5 – 9 years old	296	36%
10 – 13 years old	286	23%
14 – 18 years old	306	49%

The breakdown of ages of youth is listed above. This data can be used to help us further identify which age range to target youth programming and supports to parents to for the parks and recreation department, for example.

Would you feel comfortable sending your school-aged children to summer activities or programs if the appropriate precautions were taken (social distancing, limited numbers of participants, masks, dependent on CDC and MDH recommendations, etc.)?

(N=611)	Count	%
Yes	321	53%
No	229	37%
Other	61	10%

Over half (53%) of parents responded that they feel comfortable sending their school-aged children to summer activities or programs if precautions are taken.

Would your family be interested in recreation activities (art, sports, fitness, etc.) to do together (while social distancing with others) in a parking lot or park?

(N=419)	Count	%
---------	-------	---

Yes	271	65%
No	148	35%

Sixty-five percent (65%) of parents would be interested in family recreation activities.

And if so, would you be willing to register and pay \$5 per family per opportunity?

(N=620)	Count	%
Yes	244	91%
No	25	9%

Of those respondents who answered “Yes” to the previous question, 91% of them would pay a \$5 fee per family per opportunity to participate.

***Which worries do you have for your children and/or teens now or in the next couple of weeks?
(Check all that apply.)***

(N=602)	%
Social interaction	50%
Exercising/staying active and healthy	36%
Finding summer programs, activities, and enrichment opportunities for them	29%
Mental or emotional support	21%
Needing help with their schoolwork	17%
Getting them ready for college	13%
Finding a job for them	11%
Getting medical care if they get sick or someone in the family gets sick	8%
Their relationship with their family (or anyone else in your house)	8%
Getting enough food for them	4%
Cyber-bullying	4%
Getting medications (i.e. prescription, over-the-counter) for them	2%
Getting access to a computer, laptop, or tablet	2%
Getting access to the Internet	1%

Housing	7%
Other	2%

The top concerns parents had for their children and teens were social interaction, exercising/staying active and healthy, and finding summer programs or activities.

What do you need during this time to help your children and/or teens feel safe and to support them?

This question was asked open-ended on the survey. Respondents could write whatever they felt was appropriate. The results were read, themed, and quantified.

(N=141)	%
Safe activities for their children/teens to participate in (in-person and online)	20%
Safe ways and places for their children/teens to get social interaction	13%
Nothing / Doing okay	13%
Youth sports programs and summer camps	8%
Everyone should follow public health guidelines (social distancing, wearing facemasks in public, etc.)	7%
Educational material / books / activities / support	7%
Restrictions need to be lifted to get back to normal	7%
Mental health supports	4%
Playgrounds should be reopened	4%

Other responses: Assistance meeting basic needs (2%), information for teens about COVID-19 (2%), childcare (2%), I don't know (2%), financial assistance (2%), government/media stop scaring children (2%), job (1%), reassurance (1%), college readiness (1%)

Parents responded about the support they desired. In general, with all of the restrictions and closures in place, parents are mostly wanting activities for their children and teens to participate in.

Twenty percent (20%) wanted activities for their children/teens to participate in. Mostly they were asking for outdoor programs but some asked for online programs as well.

Thirteen percent (13%) of parents wanted safe ways and places for their children/teens to be able to connect with their friends. Another 13% said they were fine and needed nothing, while 8% of parents were looking for sports programs or summer camps.

These top answers were consistent with the top concerns for parents about their children/teens: social interaction, exercise/staying active, and finding summer activities. There were additional requests for educational materials and support, and mental health supports.

DISCUSSION

- **Residents are most concerned about getting sick with the coronavirus, and the economy.** They are also concerned with the loss of jobs, furloughs, or reduced hours, and school closures. In the first survey, residents were most concerned about having access to supplies (cleaning products, toiletries, and PPE), food, and medicines when they need it. Although some reported this concern in this second survey, it seems that the concerns have shifted away from acquiring basic needs towards staying healthy as the state approaches the peak period and dealing with the changes to “normal” life that the response to the pandemic has brought.
- **Residents are very hopeful that their basic needs will be met and the city’s emergency response and public services will keep them safe.** The overwhelming majority of residents were somewhat hopeful and very hopeful about these two statements (94% and 86%, respectively).
- **Residents are somewhat hopeful that the public health response from the state will keep them safe from COVID-19, and the economy will recover.** Residents were overall slightly less hopeful in these next two statements, although the majority were still somewhat hopeful or very hopeful (74% and 71%, respectively). This matches the first questions about their top concerns: getting sick with the coronavirus and the economy.
- **Residents feel that their community brings them hope during this time.** Many respondents mentioned that seeing their neighbors help and support each other was encouraging. Also, seeing others take steps to social distance and wear facemasks in public showed them that people in the community cared about keeping everyone safe. Finally, many residents mentioned seeing people in their community come together in unity brought them hope.
- **Many residents have an interest in participating in summer Recreation and Parks programming.** Only 25% indicated that they would not attend. Residents who are 55+ years old expressed interest in online programming. Over half (53%) of parents are interested in sending their children to summer programming and 65% indicated an interest in group recreation activities.