Community Feedback
On FY18 Budget

Presented to City of Houston Budget and Fiscal Affairs Committee

Patrick Walsh, P.E., Director of Planning & Development
Dr. Bob Stein, Rice University

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An Improved Budget Process

- August 2016 BFA: reviewed improved process for setting annual budget priorities
  - Inform City Council with community input
  - Use Plan Houston as guide
  - Consistent with E.O. 1-53 and Administrative Policy 4-10
- Today: share results of community feedback
  - Background info for future budget retreat
3 Community Feedback Methods

• Priorities exercise
• Plan Houston Steering Committee
• Citizen satisfaction survey
Priorities Exercise

• Simple snapshot of community priorities

• One question:
  
  – “If the City could place a greater focus on three issues in the next year, what should those issues be?”
  
  – Select from 22 options based on Plan Houston

• Primarily on-line survey tool
  
  – Paper copies available

• Zip code, written comments as well
Getting the word out

• Citizens Net and other email lists
• Paper surveys at libraries and multi-service centers
• Meetings and events:
  ▪ Organization meetings
  ▪ Workshops
  ▪ Neighborhood events
  ▪ Sunday Streets
  ▪ Veterans Day Parade
• Four languages
• 6,129 responses within City limits
Plan Houston Responses

- Crime and public safety: 2731 responses
- Flooding: 2290 responses
- Potholes and street condition: 2106 responses
- Traffic congestion: 1793 responses
- Transportation options like rail, buses and bike lanes: 1600 responses
- Walkable streets including safe sidewalks and lighting: 1536 responses
- Affordable housing: 999 responses
- Air quality and the environment: 807 responses
- Access to job training: 807 responses
- Supporting schools and after school activities: 771 responses
- Neighborhood character: 610 responses
- Neighborhood parks: 507 responses
- Food deserts: 399 responses
- Drinking water: 398 responses
- Health services: 354 responses
- Arts and cultural activities: 351 responses
- Sewage back-ups and overflows: 303 responses
- Supporting local businesses: 273 responses
- Trash and recycling pick up: 236 responses
- Fire and emergency medical response: 229 responses
- Communicating effectively with the public: 219 responses
- Libraries: 154 responses

6129 = Total # of Respondents
18,387 = Total # of Issues
Selected
Map to be added

Distribution of responses by zip code
Responses By Zip Code: Crime and Public Safety

Legend
Percentage of Respondents
- 0.00 - 0.10
- 0.11 - 0.20
- 0.21 - 0.35
- 0.36 - 0.50
- 0.51 - 1.00

2730 Respondents Prioritizing Crime
Plan Houston Steering Committee

- Leadership from community organizations with broad-based responsibilities
- Provided input on priorities facing City
- Also served as ambassadors for encouraging public participation
Committee Membership

- Blue Print Houston
- Center for Houston’s Future
- Central Houston
- Greater Houston Black Chamber of Commerce
- Greater Houston Builders Association
- Greater Houston Partnership
- Houston Tomorrow
- Houston Independent School District
- Houston Housing Authority
- Houston Endowment
- Houston Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
- Houston Galveston Area Council
- Houston Area Urban League Young Professionals
- Houston Parks Board
- Houston Real Estate Council
- Houstonians for Responsible Growth
- Indo American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Houston
- Kinder Institute
- Local Initiatives Support Corporation
- Management Districts
- Mayor’s Office of Cultural Affairs
- Planning Commission
- Super Neighborhood Alliance
- Texas Southern University
- Urban Land Institute
Committee Discussion

- Identify priorities based on Plan Houston survey
- Top priorities:
  - Transportation options like rail, buses and bike lanes
  - Affordable housing
  - Walkable streets including safe sidewalks and lighting
  - Supporting schools & after school activity
  - Traffic congestion
  - Flooding
  - Communicating effectively with the public
Committee Discussion

- **Transportation options**
  - City should lead regional transportation decisions working towards greater mode split

- **Affordable housing**
  - Develop comprehensive housing policy that promotes mixed income housing in desirable areas

- **Walkable Streets**
  - Enhance sidewalk policies to address investment priorities, development standards, interagency coordination and maintenance

- Additional information available in packet
- More info on planhouston.org