



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING WITH NOTES

DECEMBER 2, 2022

Buckeye Hills Regional Council

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order | Kevin Ritter, Treasurer
- II. Roll Call | Chasity Schmelzenbach, Executive Director, Secretary (per BHRC Bylaws)
- III. Consent Agenda | Kevin Ritter, Treasurer TAB #1
- IV. Legislator and Partner Agency Updates
 - a. Office of Congressman Johnson | Brice Brightbill, Marietta District Staff Assistant
 - b. Office of Auditor of State Faber | Dorinda Byers, Deputy Director of Operations TAB #2
and Lisa Woodford, Project Manager
- V. Regional Transportation Planning Organization Update | Melissa Zoller, Transportation Planning Manager
- VI. Executive Director Report | Chasity Schmelzenbach TAB #3
- VII. Citizen Participation
- VIII. Other Business
- IX. Adjournment

THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 6, 2023

**Minutes of the November 4, 2022
Buckeye Hills Regional Council Executive Committee Meeting**

The Buckeye Hills Regional Council (BHRC) Executive Committee meeting was held November 4, 2022. The meeting was held at Buckeye Hills, Marietta, Ohio.

In attendance were:

OFFICERS:	Lenny Eliason, Vice President	Athens County
	Kevin Ritter, Treasurer	Washington County
	Chasity Schmelzenbach, Secretary (non-voting member per Bylaws)	BHRC Executive Director

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:	Steve Patterson	City of Athens
	Brian Howard	Meigs County (Private Sector)
	Adam Shriver	Morgan County
	Brad Peoples	Noble County
	Ben Carpenter	Perry County
	Jeff Dennis	Perry County (Private Sector)
	Misty Crosby	Emeritus

GENERAL POLICY COUNCIL:	James Booth	Washington County
--	-------------	-------------------

GUEST:	Danielle Mason Shannon Wells	Office of Ohio Attorney General Yost Morgan County Economic Development
---------------	---------------------------------	--

STAFF:	Carly Fitz	Development Specialist I
	Jen Huck	Fiscal Assistant
	Michelle Hyer	Program Manager/OPWC Liaison
	Denise Keyes	Fiscal Director
	Angie Lawrence	HR & Payroll Manager
	Sam Miller	Development Director
	Jason Pyles	Senior Planner
	Amanda Reeder	Communications Specialist
	Jenny Simmons	Executive Assistant
	Drew Tanner	Communications Director
	Dawn Weber	Homecare Director
	Jennifer Westfall	Aging & Disability Director
	Melissa Zoller	Transportation Manager

CALL TO ORDER

Lenny Eliason, Vice President, called the meeting to order.

ROLE CALL

Chasity Schmelzenbach, Executive Director, conducted roll call.

CONSENT AGENDA

Brian Howard moved to approve the consent agenda which included the Minutes from the October 7, 2022 meeting; Statement of Activities, Administrative Expense YTD; Quarterly Budget Adjustment; Aging and Disability Programs Services and Funding Report for period July 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022, Grant Agreements Received and Executed for

October 2022 and Division and Director's Reports. Ben Carpenter seconded the motion. All yeas. Motion carried.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE UPDATES

Kevin Ritter moved to approve the appoint of Brad Peoples to the Management Committee by President Ron Moore. Adam Shriver seconded the motion. All yeas. Motion carried.

The Management Committee recommended the Management Committee Report for approval to the Executive Committee. Steve Patterson moved to approve the Management Committee Report of resignations, terminations, retirements and new hires for the time period of June 4, 2022 to November 4, 2022. Brian Howard seconded the motion. All yeas. Motion carried.

The Management Committee recommended the staff evaluations and salary increases for approval to the Executive Committee. Brian Howard moved to approve the recommended staff evaluations and salary increases starting in January 2023. Kevin Ritter seconded the motion. All yeas. Motion carried.

The Management Committee recommended the salary scale increase for approval to the Executive Committee. Adam Shriver moved to approve the recommended salary scale increase starting in January 2023. Brian Howard seconded the motion. All yea. Motion carried.

The Management Committee recommended a one-time salary adjustment for licensed RN and LSW staff. Licensed staff from 1-5 years salary to be raised to a minimum of \$44,000 and licensed staff from 6+ years to be raised to a minimum salary for \$45,000. If the salary is already above \$45,000, a one-time increase of \$1,000 will be given to staff. Steve Patterson moved to approve the one-time salary adjustment for licensed RN and LSW staff. Ben Carpenter seconded the motion. All yea. Motion approved.

The Management Committee recommended the updated organizational chart for approval to the Executive Committee. Brian Howard moved to approve the updated organizational chart. Kevin Ritter seconded the motion. All yeas. Motion approved.

The Management Committee recommended the 2023 Annual Expenditures Renewals in the amount of \$139,436 to the Executive Committee. Kevin Ritter moved to approve the 2023 Annual Expenditures Renewals. Adam Shriver seconded the motion. All yea. Motion carried.

The Management Committee recommended the Cost Allocation Plan for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 to the Executive Committee. Kevin Ritter moved to approve the Cost Allocation Plan. Steve Patterson seconded the motion. All yeas. Motion carried.

APPALACHIAN COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM

Sam Miller, Development Director, provided an overview of the Appalachian Community Grant Program to the Executive Committee. This same presentation was given in each county at the community meetings.

Jason Pyles, Senior Planner, provided an Access and Assistance with Data presentation to help the members with completing applications.

LEGISLATOR AND PARTNER AGENCY UPDATES

Danielle Mason, Eastern Regional Director, Office of Ohio Attorney General Yost, provided an update to the members.

ODOT AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION: MONROE, NOBLE, AND WASHINGTON COUNTIES

Kevin Ritter moved to approve the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) Authorizing Resolution: Monroe, Noble, and Washington Counties; Brad Peoples seconded the motion. All yeas. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Chasity Schmelzenbach provided an update to the members:

- Dominion Energy Community Impact Awards Call for Entries are due by 11/30/2022.
- Appalachian Community Grant Program launched on 10/20/2022 and staff have conducted five community meetings already with three remaining next week.
- Governor DeWine announced three counties in the region to be included in the Demolition Grants: Monroe, Noble and Washington Counties
- RISE Ohio Virtual Workshop: Opportunity Zones 201 is scheduled for 11/17/2022 at 10 am.
- Encouraged members to bring staff to the meetings that would benefit from the information and discussions.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

No citizens present wished to address the committee.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business, Ben Carpenter moved to adjourn the meeting. Kevin Ritter seconded the motion. All yeas. Motion carried.

Approved By: _____
Chasity Schmelzenbach, Secretary

Date: _____



STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

July 1, 2022 through October 31, 2022

YEAR TO DATE ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE DETAIL

Administrative Expenses for Fiscal Year 2022 totaled \$1,962,704.80 at October 31. This total represents 31.29% of the Council's administrative budget utilized. Total spending for this time period is budgeted to be 33%. Advertising, Conference Registration Fee, Equipment Purchase/Maintenance, Legal Costs, Printing Costs, Supplies and Travel expenses are higher than anticipated and will be monitored closely. Insurance and Subscriptions expense are higher than 33% due to the timing of the payments. The cumulative Indirect Cost rate for this period is 45%. Projected Indirect Costs for Fiscal Year 2023 are 50.69%.

AGING AND DISABILITY PROGRAMS SERVICES & FUNDING REPORT

The Aging and Disability Division worked with various service providers and helped administer a multitude of direct service programs to eligible residents of our eight-county region. Between July 1 and October 31, nearly \$3 million in direct service dollars were utilized to provide the units of service listed in the report. BHRC continues to support our provider network to evaluate the needs of the communities and serve area seniors in the best way possible.



Administrative Expense Detail
For the Period July 1, 2022 - October 31, 2022

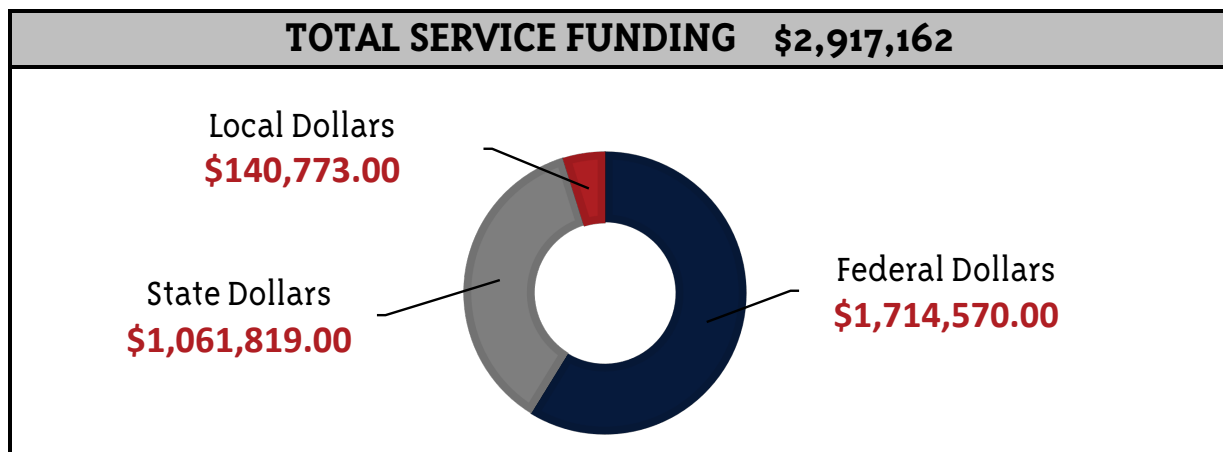
	2022 YTD Actual	2023 YTD Actual	2023 Budget	% of Budget
Salary	\$ 988,111.82	\$ 1,044,538.24	\$ 3,234,826.00	32.29%
Fringe Benefits	\$ 415,273.76	\$ 467,233.47	\$ 1,620,331.00	28.84%
Advertising	\$ 52,101.24	\$ 68,382.09	\$ 100,000.00	68.38%
Audit Costs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 30,000.00	0.00%
Building Maintenance	\$ 2,644.00	\$ 3,879.06	\$ 11,000.00	35.26%
Communications	\$ 34,430.04	\$ 35,649.12	\$ 102,300.00	34.85%
Conference Registration Fee	\$ 5,834.00	\$ 13,490.00	\$ 22,000.00	61.32%
Contract Services	\$ 31,551.18	\$ 5,893.75	\$ 294,852.00	2.00%
Employee/Governing Board	\$ 1,264.40	\$ 6,189.20	\$ 15,000.00	41.26%
Equipment Purchase/Maintenance	\$ 2,866.41	\$ 8,533.08	\$ 18,350.00	46.50%
Insurance	\$ 34,195.93	\$ 20,867.16	\$ 40,000.00	52.17%
Legal Costs	\$ 3,402.25	\$ 1,855.00	\$ 3,500.00	53.00%
Organizational Dues	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 10,225.34	\$ 39,250.00	26.05%
Other Costs	\$ 2,865.17	\$ 7,152.00	\$ 15,000.00	47.68%
Postage	\$ 6,000.82	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 24,408.00	24.58%
Printing Costs	\$ 6,919.78	\$ 3,764.69	\$ 6,750.00	55.77%
Software & Licenses	\$ 41,874.59	\$ 18,034.12	\$ 87,683.00	20.57%
Space	\$ 85,113.65	\$ 85,113.66	\$ 255,342.00	33.33%
Staff Training Fees	\$ 1,137.98	\$ 9,914.66	\$ 15,000.00	66.10%
Subscriptions	\$ 2,060.70	\$ 5,526.89	\$ 6,000.00	92.11%
Supplies	\$ 81,460.21	\$ 70,983.52	\$ 141,839.00	50.05%
Travel - Mileage Reimbursement	\$ 11,978.68	\$ 34,599.85	\$ 94,903.00	36.46%
Travel - Out of Town Expense	\$ 17,378.26	\$ 34,879.90	\$ 94,903.00	36.75%
TOTAL EXPENSES FOR THE PERIOD	\$ 1,830,164.87	\$ 1,962,704.80	\$ 6,273,237.00	31.29%
INDIRECT COST RATE FOR THE PERIOD	48%	45%		

Buckeye Hills Regional Council

Aging and Disability Programs Services & Funding Report

July 1, 2022 - October 31, 2022

SERVICES PROVIDED		
Direct Service Hours Provided	Transportation Trips	Adult Day Service Days Attended
87,650	3,618	522
Adult Day Service Miles Traveled	Meals Provided	Home Medical Equipment & Emergency Response Units
2,384	82,228	842
Legal Services Contacts	Home Accessibility Modification And Pest Control Jobs	Senior Farmers Market Coupons Redeemed
367	5	13,925
Grocery Shopping and Delivery	Telephone Reassurance	Evidence Based Classes
134	262	231
Assisted Living Days	Alzheimers Education Contacts	Senior Volunteer Hours
4,787	128	0



REGIONAL STATS		
Total Consumers Served	Total Population	Total Population Eligible for Services by Age (60+)
3,375	249,172	65,746



GRANT AGREEMENTS RECEIVED AND EXECUTED NOVEMBER 2022

PROGRAM NAME	FUNDING AGENCY	GRANT PERIOD	AMOUNT
Administration of EDA Public Works Project	Athens County Port Authority	October 19, 2022 to May 31, 2025	\$50,000

CURRENT INITIATIVES

Age-Friendly/Athens | This initiative is a 5-year process intended to ensure that people of all ages can grow healthfully, safely and independently in a supportive and inclusive community. Over 100 local people and partners are engaged in this process that involves addressing 9 domains of livability including: social participation/inclusion; outdoor recreation; housing; transportation; climate resilience; and employment/civic engagement. BHRC participates on the Housing Committee.

Update: The Age-friendly Athens County (AFAC) survey results have been reviewed and detailed notes have been prepared: see attachment. The information gleaned from these results will be used to determine next steps for the initiative.

SolSmart Designation | BHRC has started the process to secure SolSmart designation for the region. SolSmart is a national program led by the International City/County Management Association and the Interstate Renewable Energy Council (IREC), along with a team of partners with deep expertise in solar energy and local governments. The designation program recognizes cities, counties, and regional organizations that foster the development of mature local solar markets. There are currently four communities that have secured local SolSmart designation within the BHRC Region.

Through regional designation, BHRC seeks to influence other communities throughout our region to take advantage of the benefits of solar energy.

Update: Work is ongoing toward adding a solar landing page to the BHRC website. This will include links to member communities, construction guidelines, a SolSmart commitment letter, and a description of BHRC's roles and responsibilities related to solar. Negotiation is underway toward broadening the landing page beyond the SolSmart program and guidelines in order to appropriately address the challenges throughout our region related to the acceptance of renewable energy options.

Discussions will be initiated around sustainability of this initiative beyond the BHRC Assistant Executive Director's retirement.

Community Health Workers (CHWs) initiatives | We are continuing to work on establishing our participation in the Community Pathways program. This evidence-based program will enable BHRC to operate as a Care Coordination Agency (CCA) under the aegis of Access Tusc as the HUB for the program; we will utilize community health worker-certified Community Care Coordinators (CCCs) to provide face-to-face assistance to vulnerable populations of all ages throughout our region. This assistance is essentially connecting folks up to resources and programming based on each individual's need. Our current plan is to begin on a part-time basis utilizing current employees for supervision and community care coordination and generate referrals for the program through forming/strengthening partnerships and identifying individuals through our screening department.

Update: Access Tusc (the Pathways HUB organization) was awarded a \$1.8 million POWER grant. This will potentially enable BHRC to expand and enhance its start-up plan.

*Serving Athens, Hocking, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Noble, Perry and Washington Counties in Southeast Ohio.
1400 Pike Street | Marietta, OH 45750 | 1.800.331.2644 | 740.373.6400 | fax: 740.373.1594*

Substance Use Disorder Initiative | The team that had collaborated on last year's DDAA SUD Learning Collaborative has been awarded \$500,000 from ARC's INSPIRE initiative. ARC's Investments Supporting Partnerships in Recovery Ecosystems (INSPIRE) initiative, which is a 3-year program, is providing funding for our team's efforts to further address the SUD (substance use disorder) crisis in Appalachia through assisting individuals in recovery in moving successfully toward securing employment; the focus is on support services that enable and support an individual's successful entry or reentry into the workforce, thereby creating an employment recovery ecosystem. The project includes Wood, Washington and Athens Counties, but will also benefit the residents of bordering counties.

Update: I am working with the SUD Collaborative in procuring an additional Peer Recovery Support (PRS) worker from the SUD Initiative to place within the Washington County Community Resource Center (CRC). The PRS will be funded through a grant obtained by the SUD Collaborative and will be hired through SW Resources out of Parkersburg, WV. Brandi Beaver, the BHRC Opioid Resource Navigator, will assist in training the new PRS on services and resources available throughout the county and region.

BHSS, Inc./Buckeye Fields Status | A closing date will be announced soon. We are expecting closing to occur in early December. Applications for residency will begin to be accepted shortly after closing.

Update: Negotiations are currently underway between Chatham Financial and Settlers Bank to determine the permanent loan's interest rate cap prior to commencing the project's closing process.

CONTACT INFO: Rick Hindman, Assistant Executive Director | rhindman@buckeyehills.org | 740-376-1029

Serving Athens, Hocking, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Noble, Perry and Washington Counties in Southeast Ohio.
1400 Pike Street | Marietta, OH 45750 | 1.800.331.2644 | 740.373.6400 | fax: 740.373.1594

buckeyehills.org



AFAC Planning Meeting

8.10.22

Survey notes

- 436 online surveys
- 147 mail in surveys
- The percentages for each chart is based on the number of people answering the question, therefore the number of people responding to each question will differ. If you want the number of people responding to a particular question, please ask and allow time to gather that information.
- There is a large difference between the number of total surveys taken versus the number of responses for individual questions.

Quick Overview

- Primarily white respondents.
- Larger percentage of female respondents.
- Most live in Athens year-round.
- Predominate higher earning bracket.
- Substantially democratic party affiliation.
- Primarily middle to early late adulthood respondents.
- Most respondents have lived in Athens County for more than 25 years.

What Are the Survey Gaps

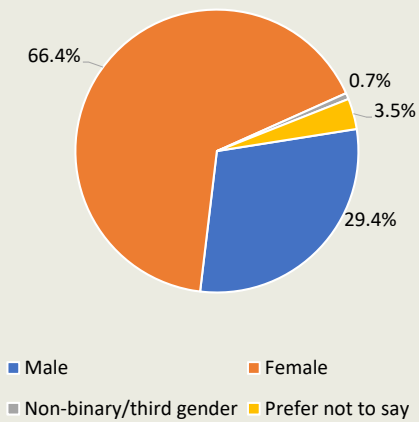
- Capture low-income persons Maslow gaps.
- Connect with marginalized or those who sit in the margins.
- Create focus groups outside Athens and Albany.
- Potential home price points for retired individuals.
- How many people have access to the internet on a regular and consistent basis?
- Others will be identified as we continue the assessment process.

Demographics: Zip Code

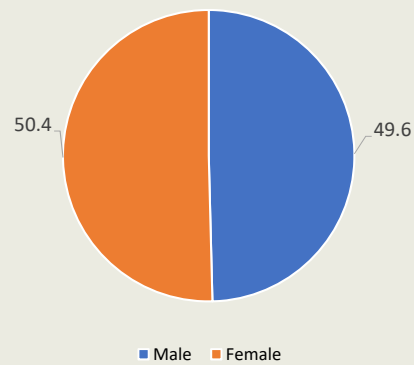
Zip Code	Survey	Athens County	Zip Code	Survey	Athens County
45701	58.0%	45.5%	45776	0.6%	1.0%
45711	7.1%	1.5%	45750	0.4%	
45710	6.5%	7.4%	43144	0.2%	
45780	5.7%	4.3%	45716	0.2%	0.6%
45764	5.3%	12.6%	45742	0.2%	4.0%
45732	4.8%	6.4%	43731	0.2%	
45766	2.8%	1.8%	45701-9748	0.2%	
45761	2.6%	2.3%	45719	0.2%	1.4%
45723	1.6%	5.0%	45764-9502	0.2%	
45735	1.2%	2.3%	45739	0.2%	
45778	1.0%	1.1%	45740	0.2%	0.7%
45782	0.6%	0.5%	43728	0.0%	1.7%

Demographics: Gender

• Survey



• Athens County



Demographics: Race

- Survey

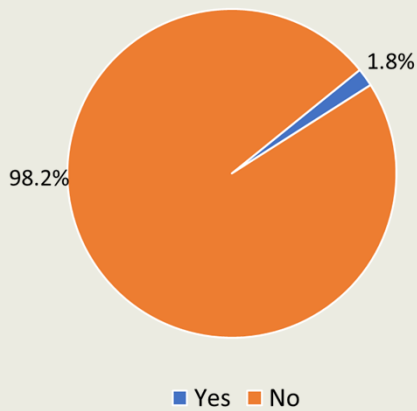
Race	Percentage
White	90.7%
Black or African American	0.7%
Asian	0.7%
Native Hawaiian or other pacific islander	0.3%
Other, please specify	1.0%
Prefer not to answer	3.8%
White and Black or African American	1.0%
White and other	0.3%
White and American Indian	0.7%
White and prefer not to answer	0.7%

- Athens County

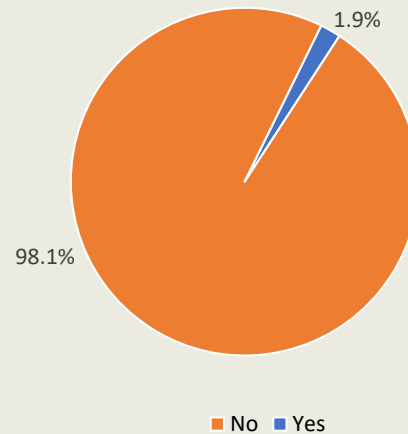
Race	Percentage
White	93.8%
Black or African American	3.9%
American Indian and Alaska Native	1.0%
Asian	3.8%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.1%
Some other race	0.5%

Demographics: Latinx or Hispanic

- Survey



- Athens County



Demographics: Age

• Survey

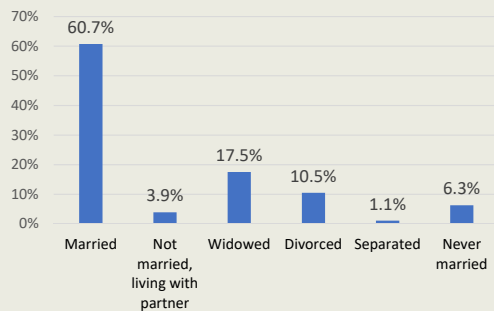
Range	Percent
20 to 24 years	1.2%
25 to 34 years	1.2%
35 to 44 years	4.4%
45 to 54 years	7.1%
55 to 59 years	6.3%
60 to 64 years	11.1%
65 to 74 years	38.1%
75 to 84 years	21.8%
85 years and over	8.7%

• Athens County

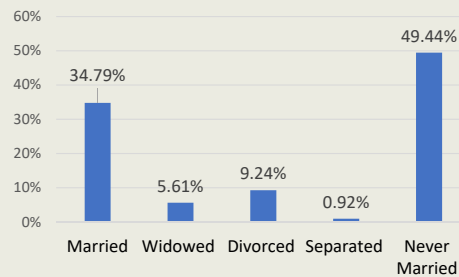
Range	Percent
20 to 24 years	18.2%
25 to 34 years	12.3%
35 to 44 years	9.9%
45 to 54 years	10.1%
55 to 59 years	5.8%
60 to 64 years	5.5%
65 to 74 years	7.9%
75 to 84 years	3.4%
85 years and over	1.6%

Demographics: Marital Status

• Survey

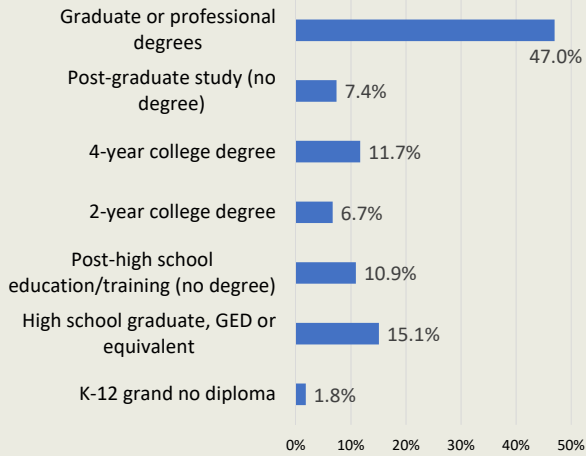


• Athens County

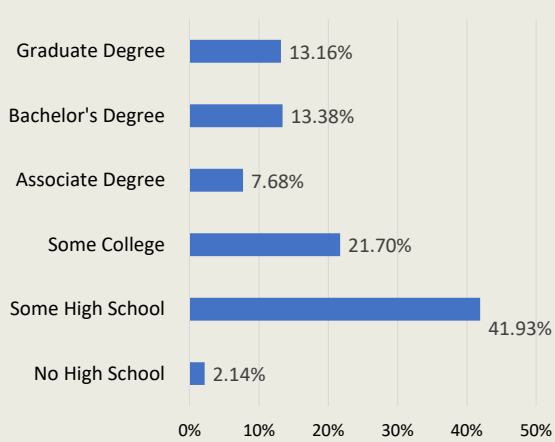


Demographics: Educational Level

• Survey

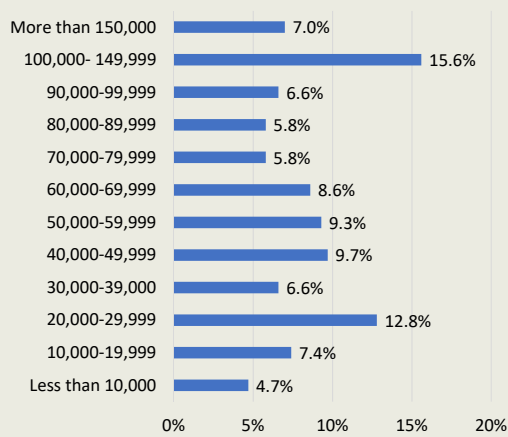


• Athens

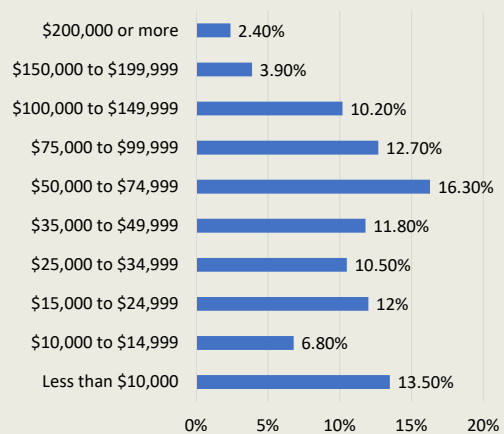


Demographics: Income

• Survey

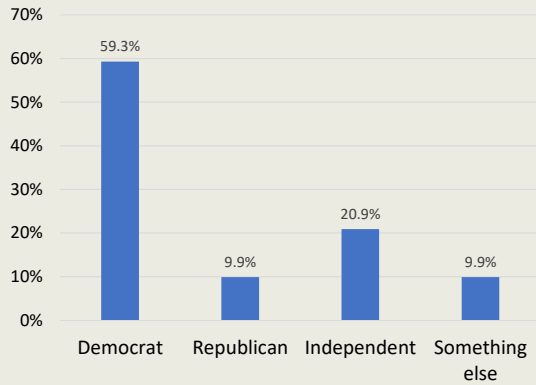


• Athens County

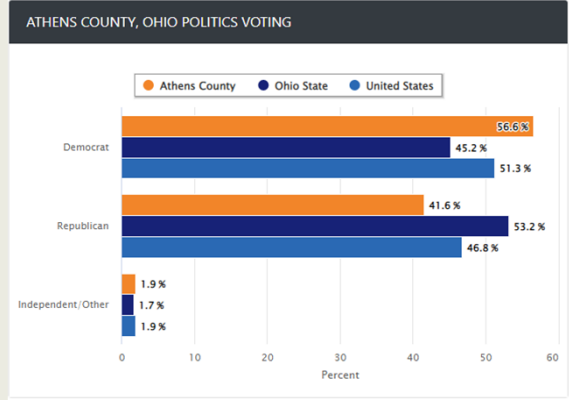


Demographics: Political Affiliation

- Survey

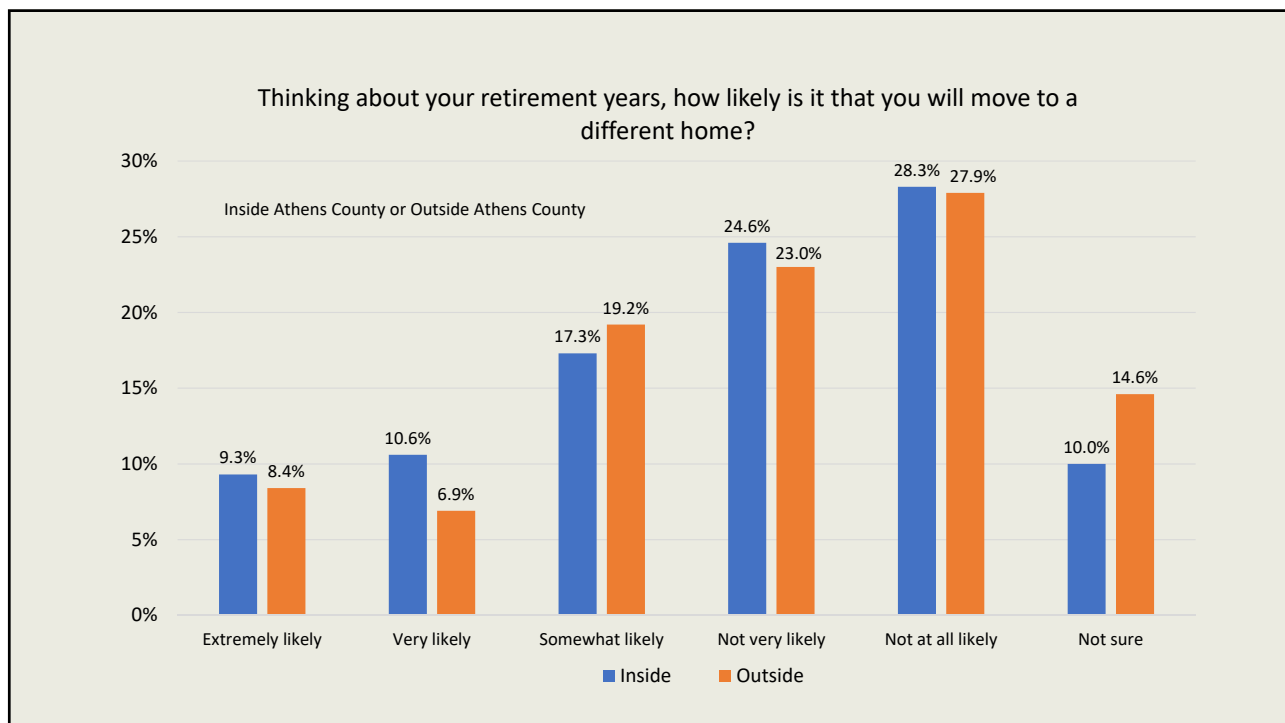
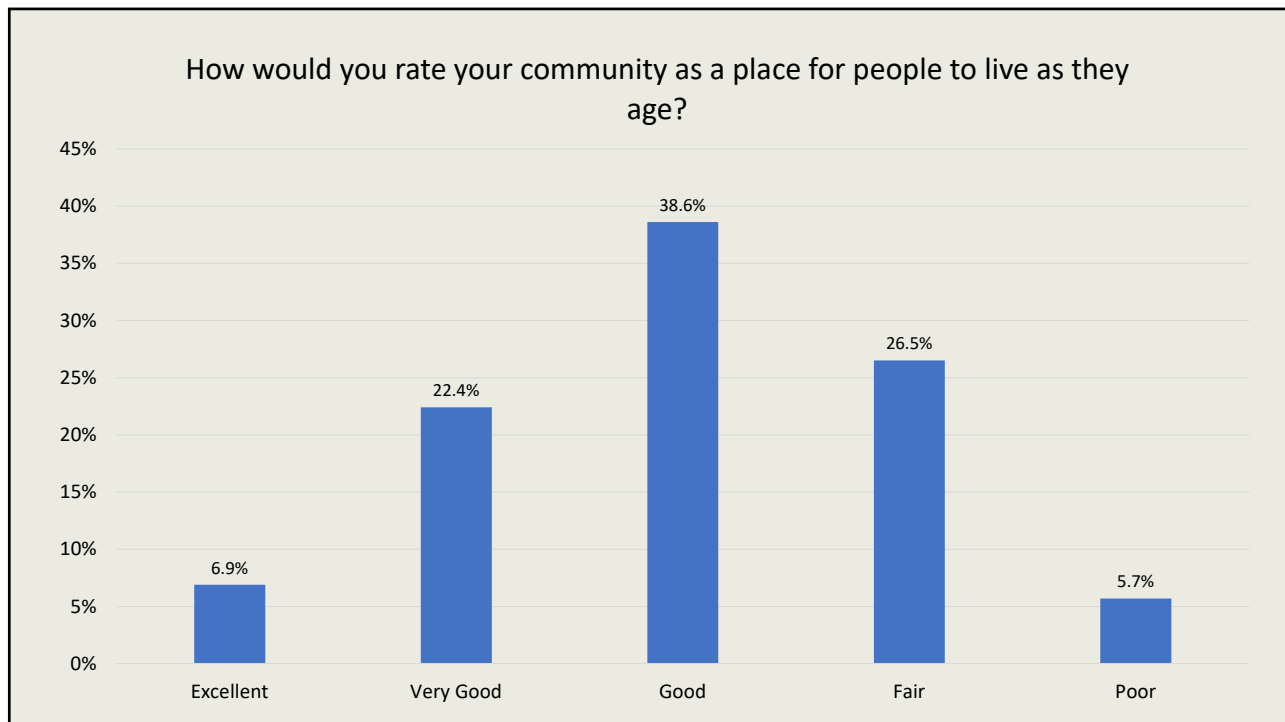


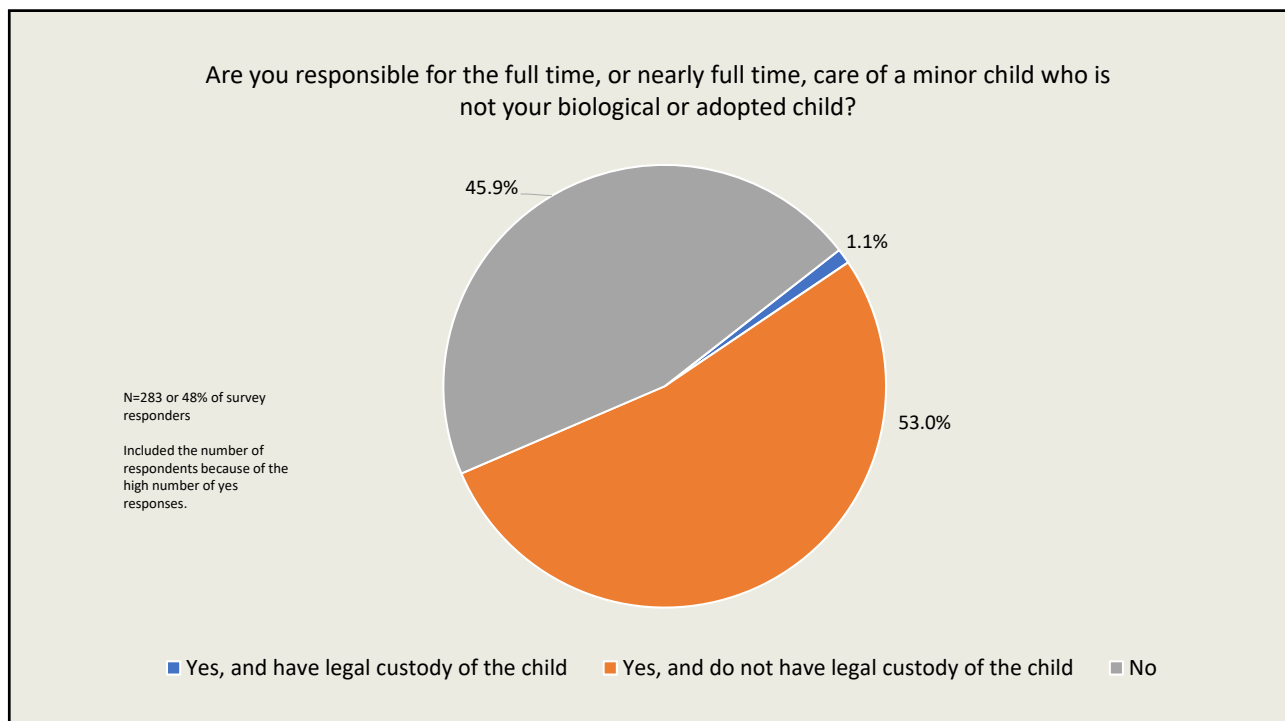
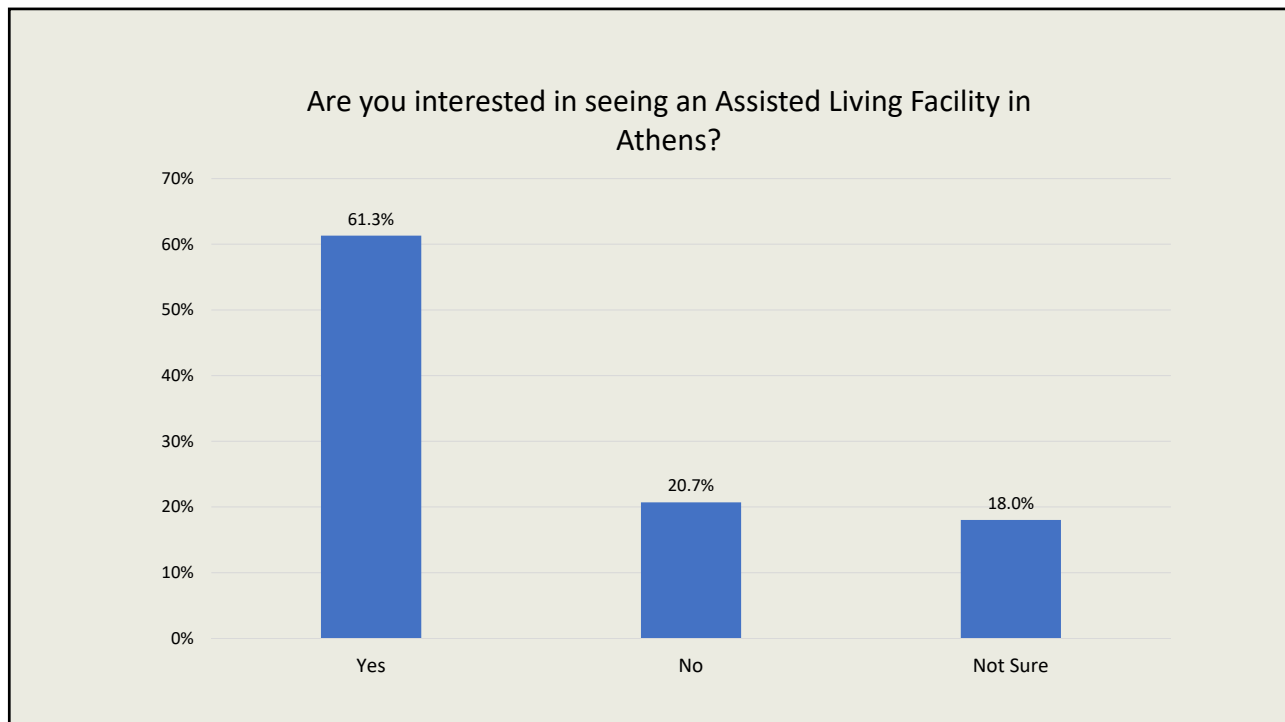
- Athens County



Some survey results

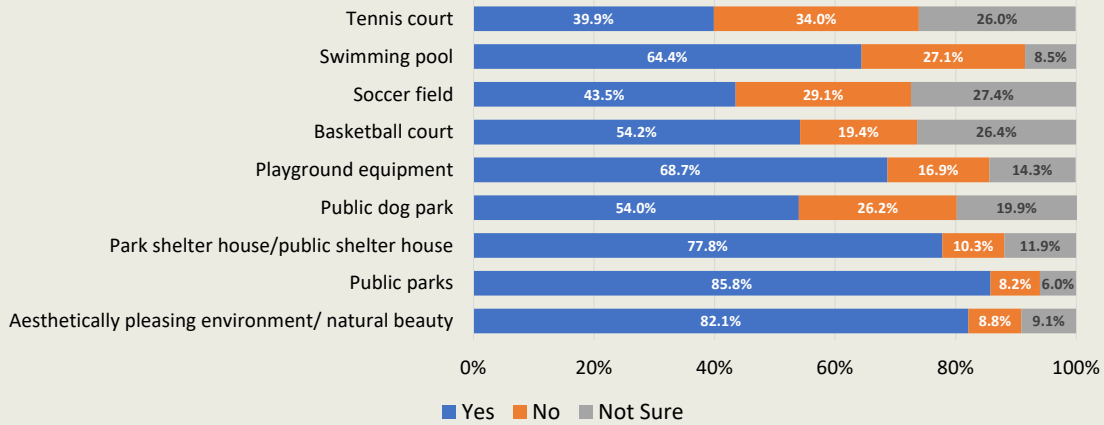
- There will be a few general information slides followed by a selected slide(s) for each of the domains.



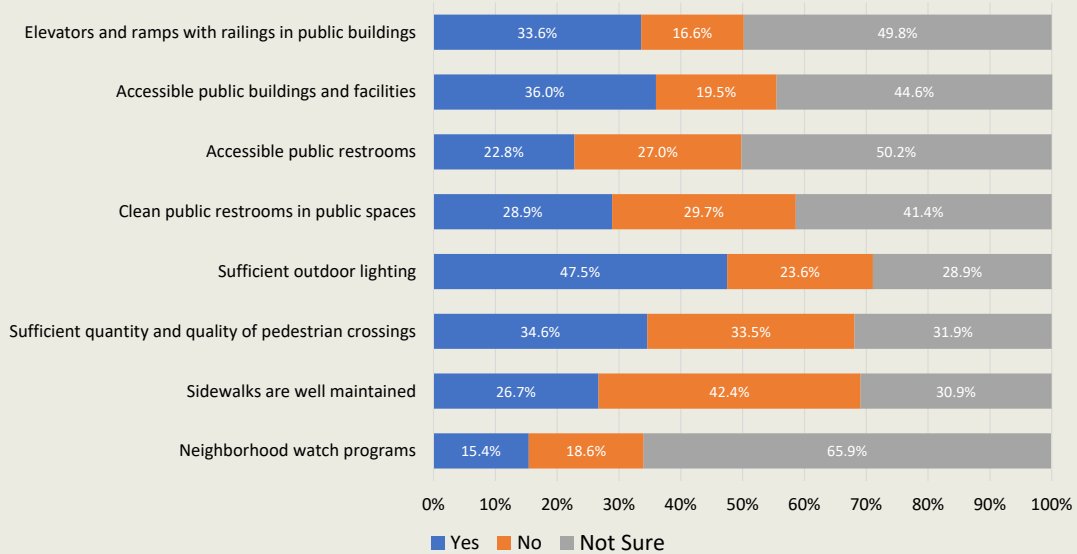


Outdoor spaces and buildings

Are these services or spaces **available** to you to have in your community?

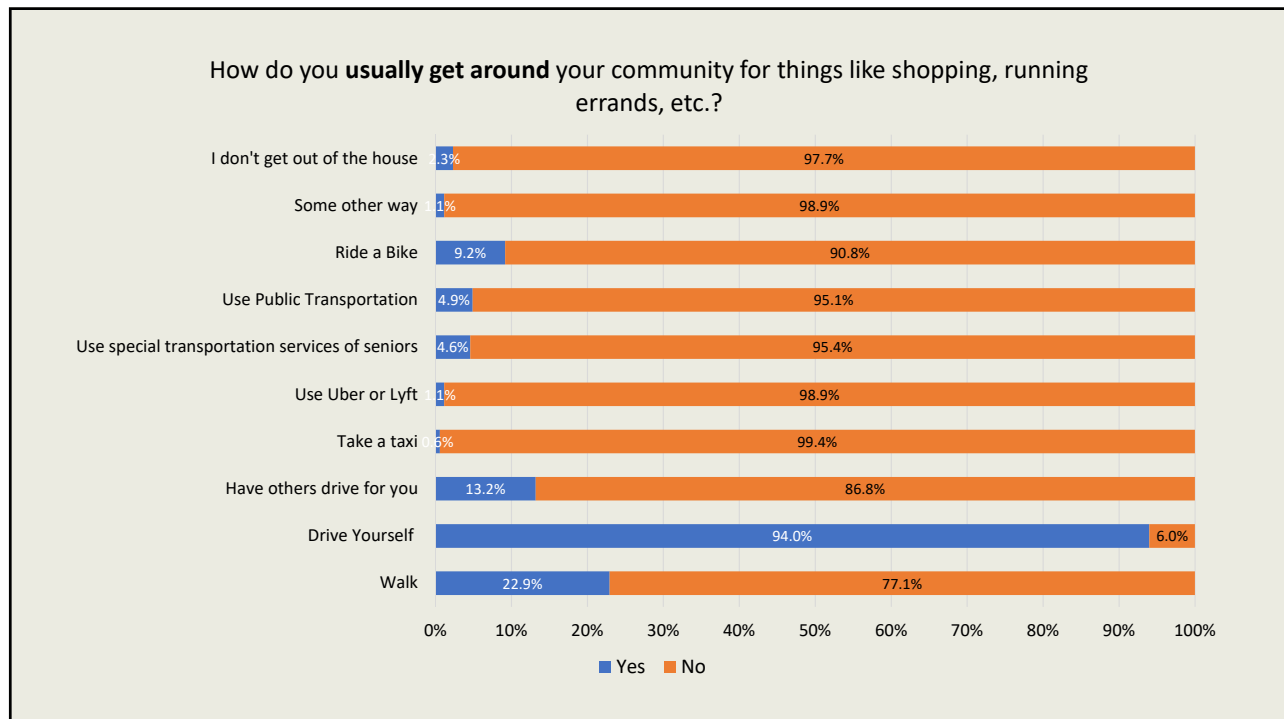


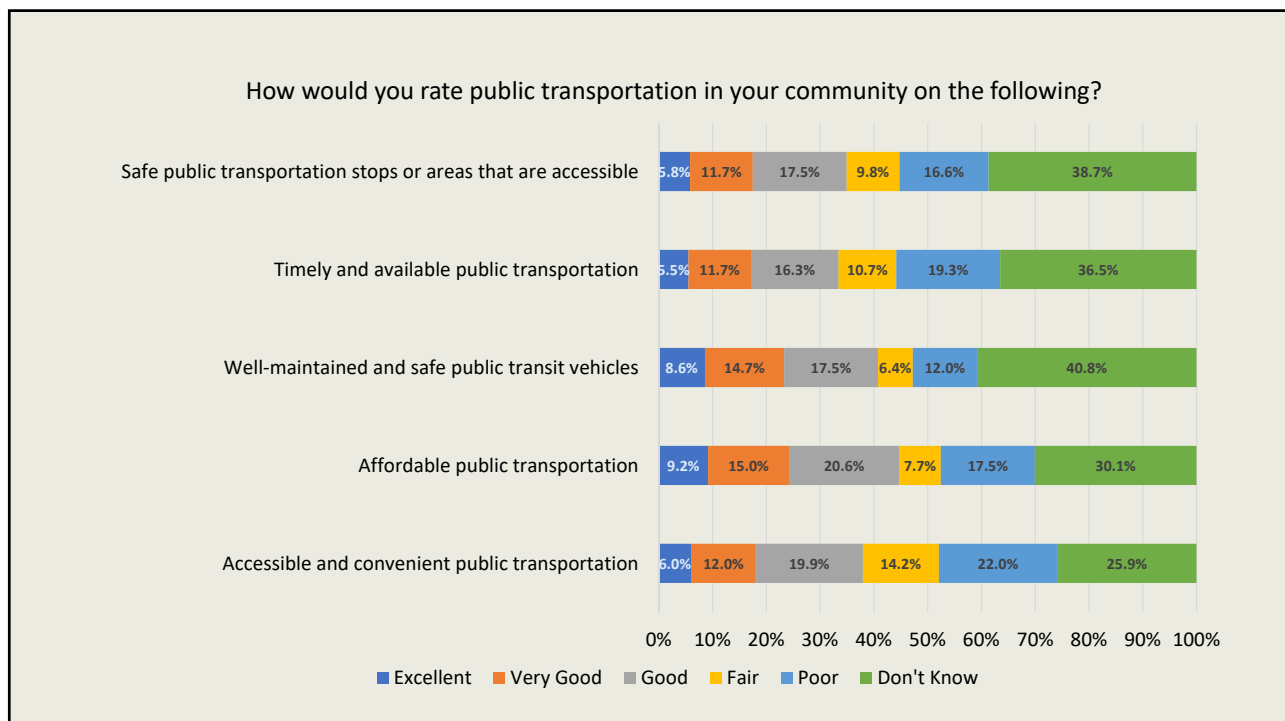
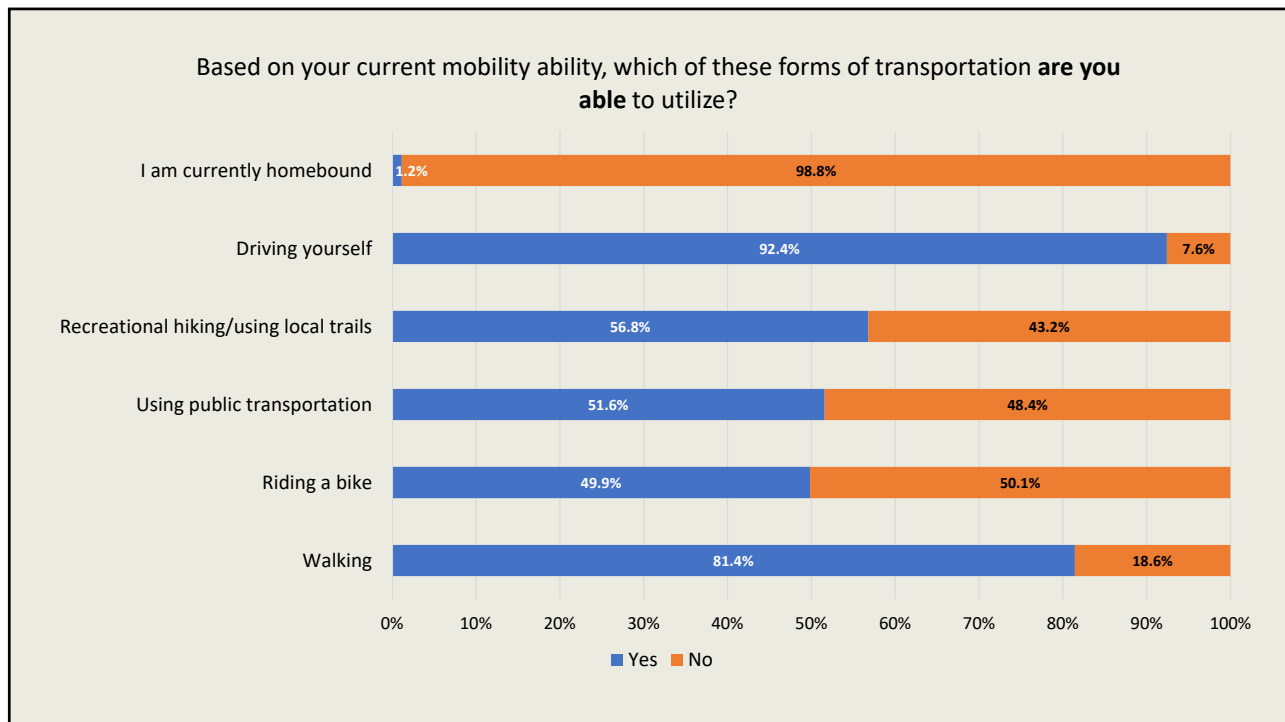
Are these spaces and services **easy to use**?



Transport

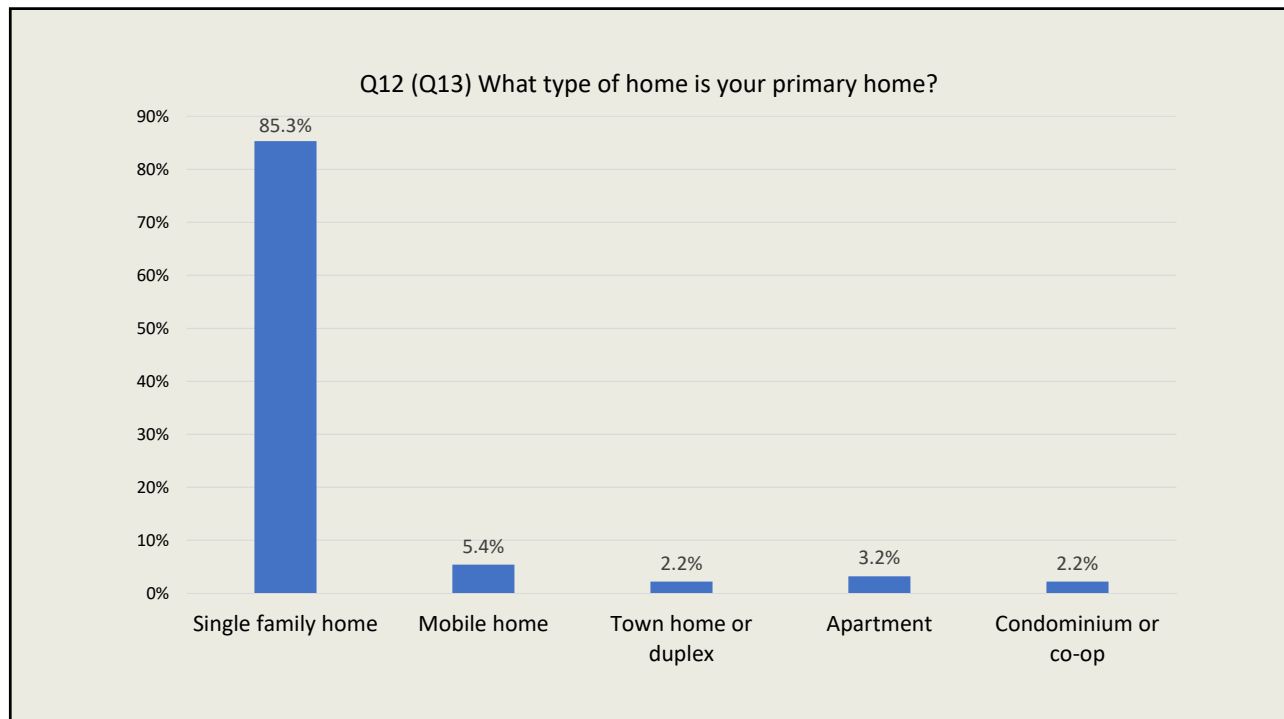
- Better walking trails to support current practices.
- Substantial percentage say sidewalks are a challenge.
- Traffic signs and the clarity of signs was highly noted.
- Very few persons are aware there is such a things as a pass to public transportation.
- Senior shuttle service needed/awareness of current services.

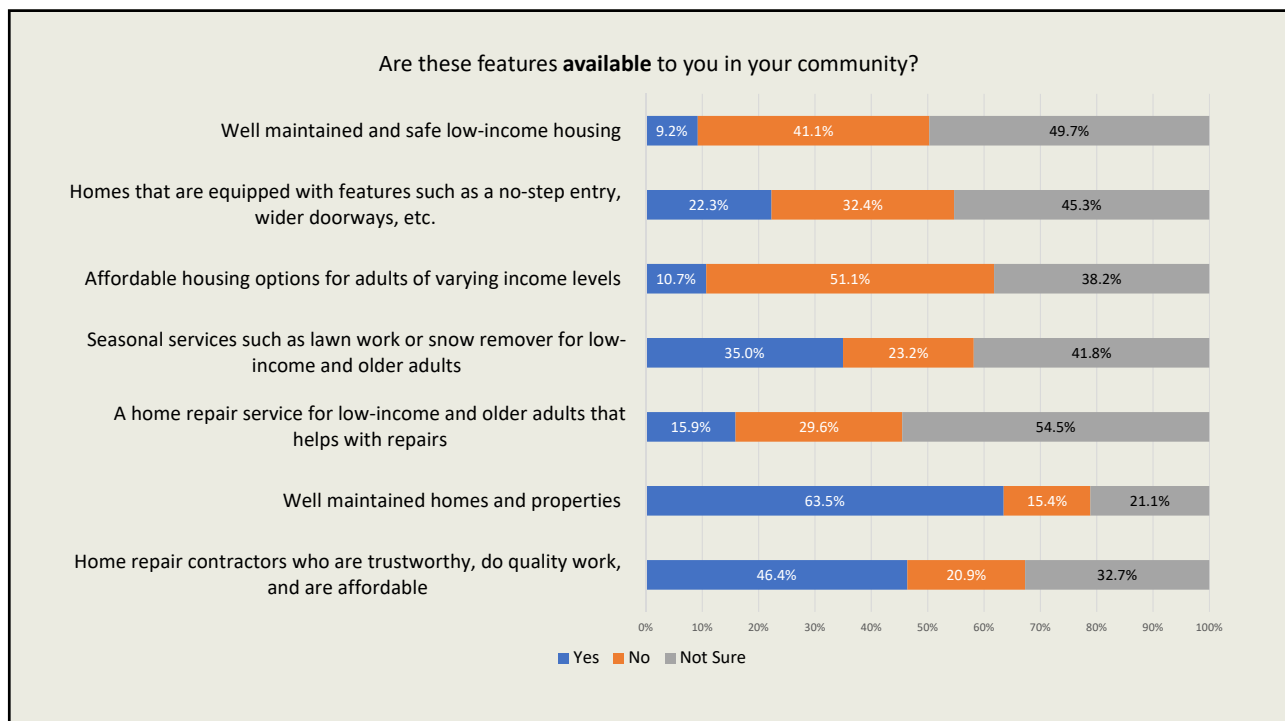
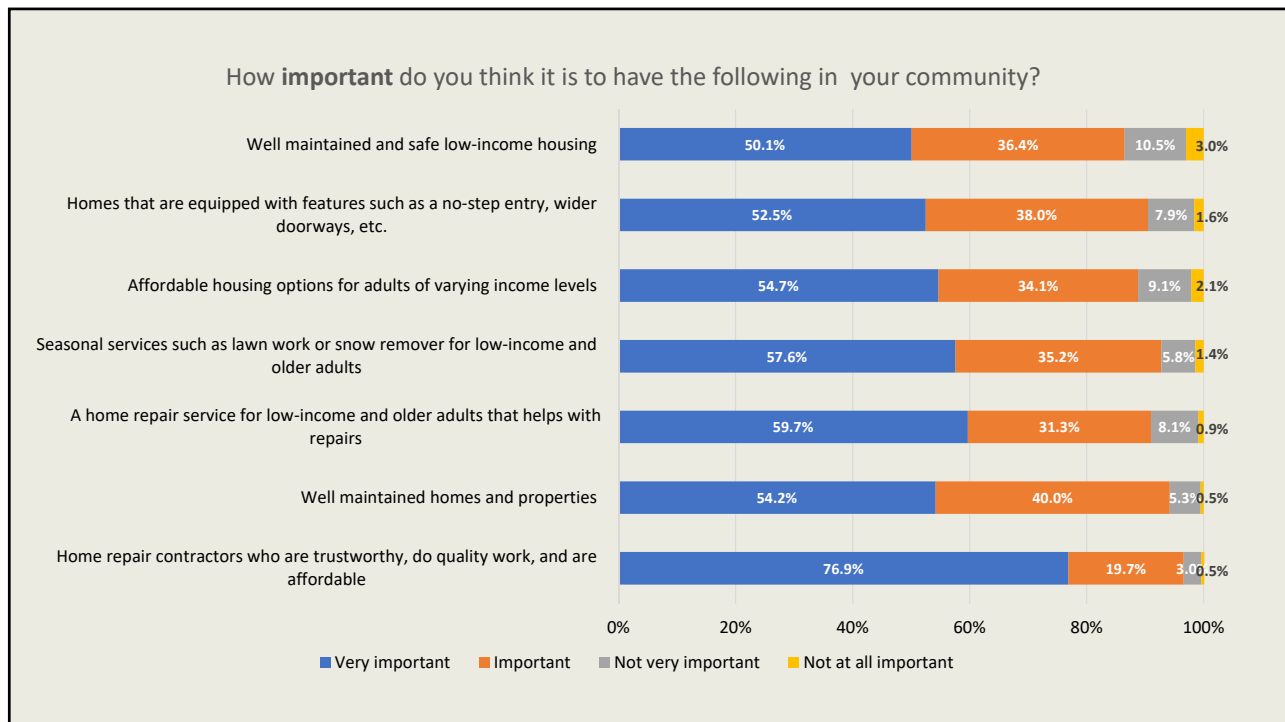




Housing

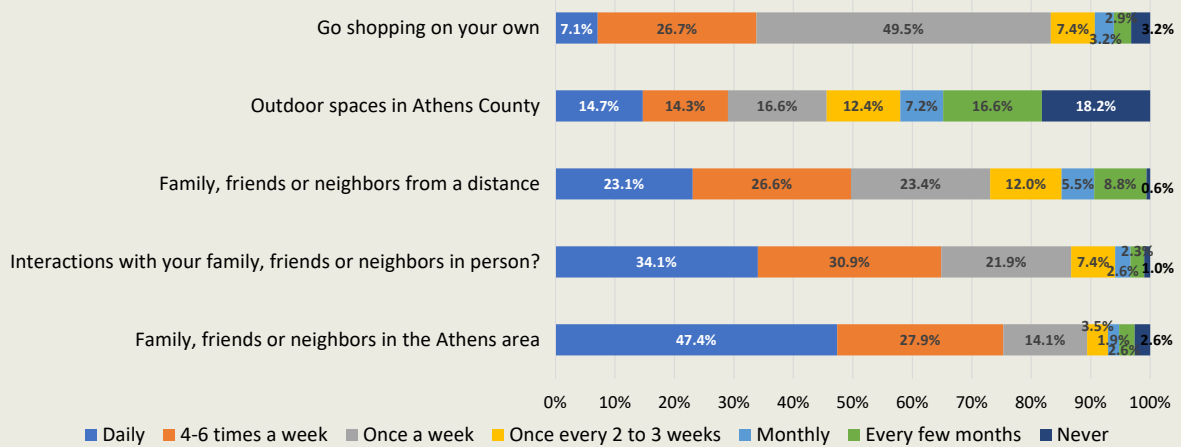
- Majority have a single-family home.
- Majority own their own homes.
- Majority intend on staying in the same home upon retirement.
- 93% thought it important to live independently in their own homes.
- 61% of the persons are interested in a assisted living facility in Athens.
- Only 18.4% of persons intend on moving to a different home in the region.
- Want/Need to tap into and support rehab work in current homes that support live in place (potential for small business enterprise).



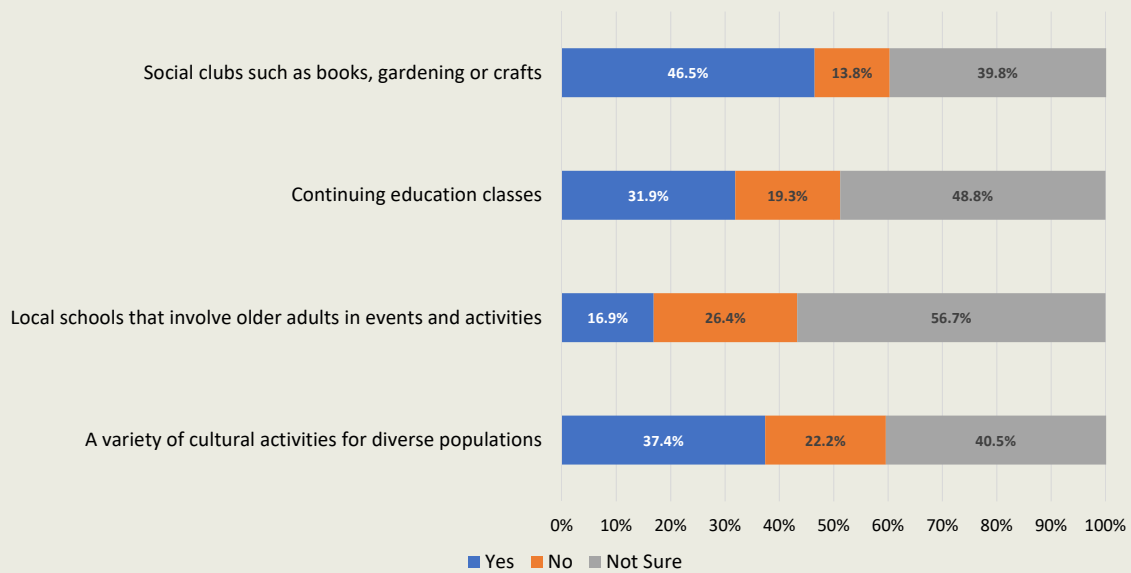


Social participation

How frequently do you do the following?

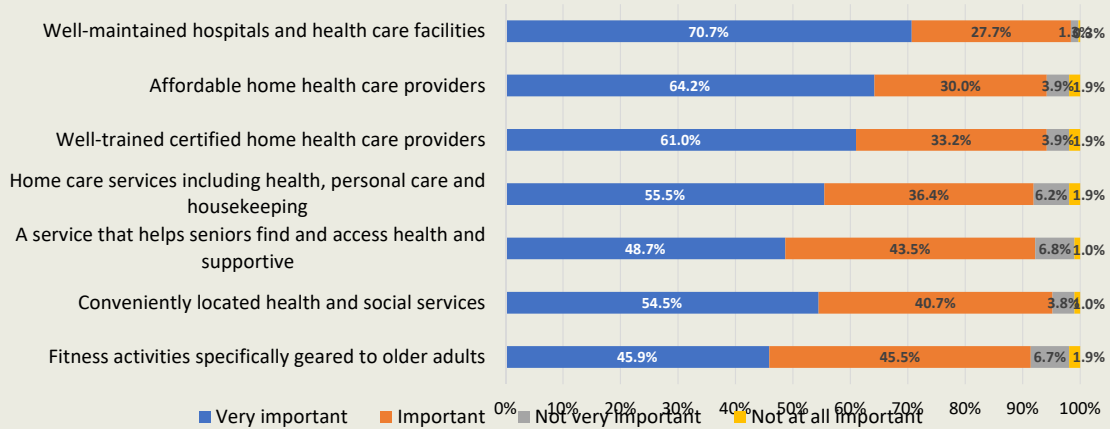


Are these features **available** to you in your community?

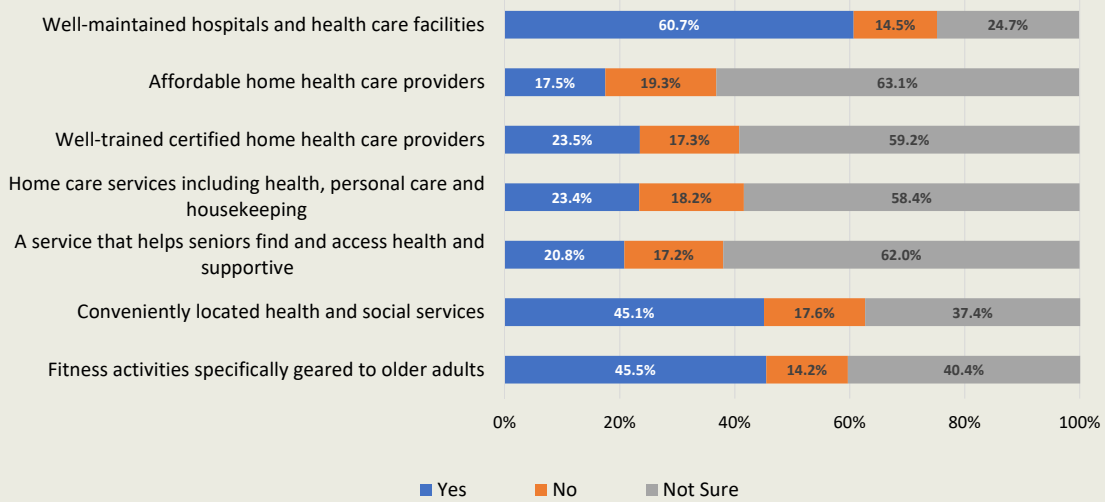


Health

How **important** do you think it is to have there the following in your community?

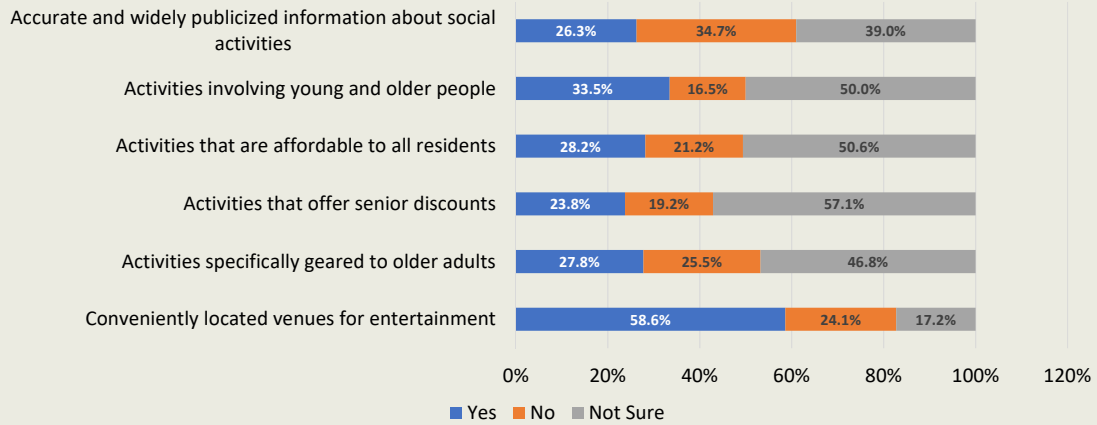


Are these **available** to you in your community?



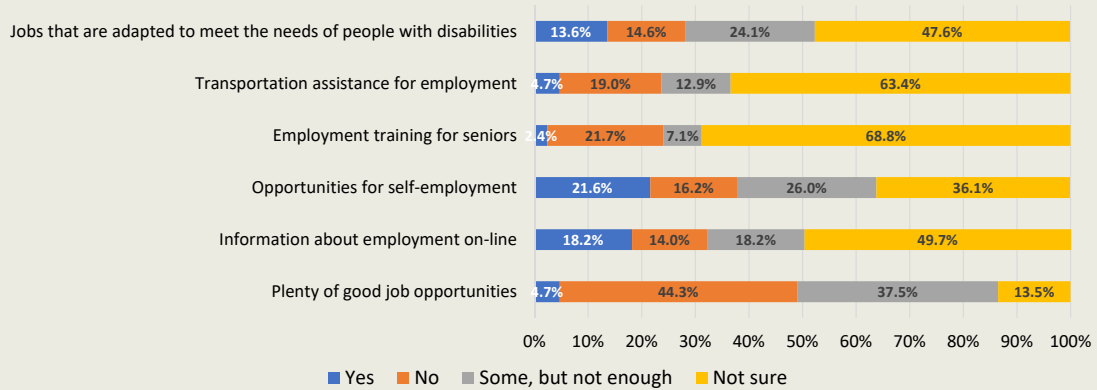
Respect and social inclusion

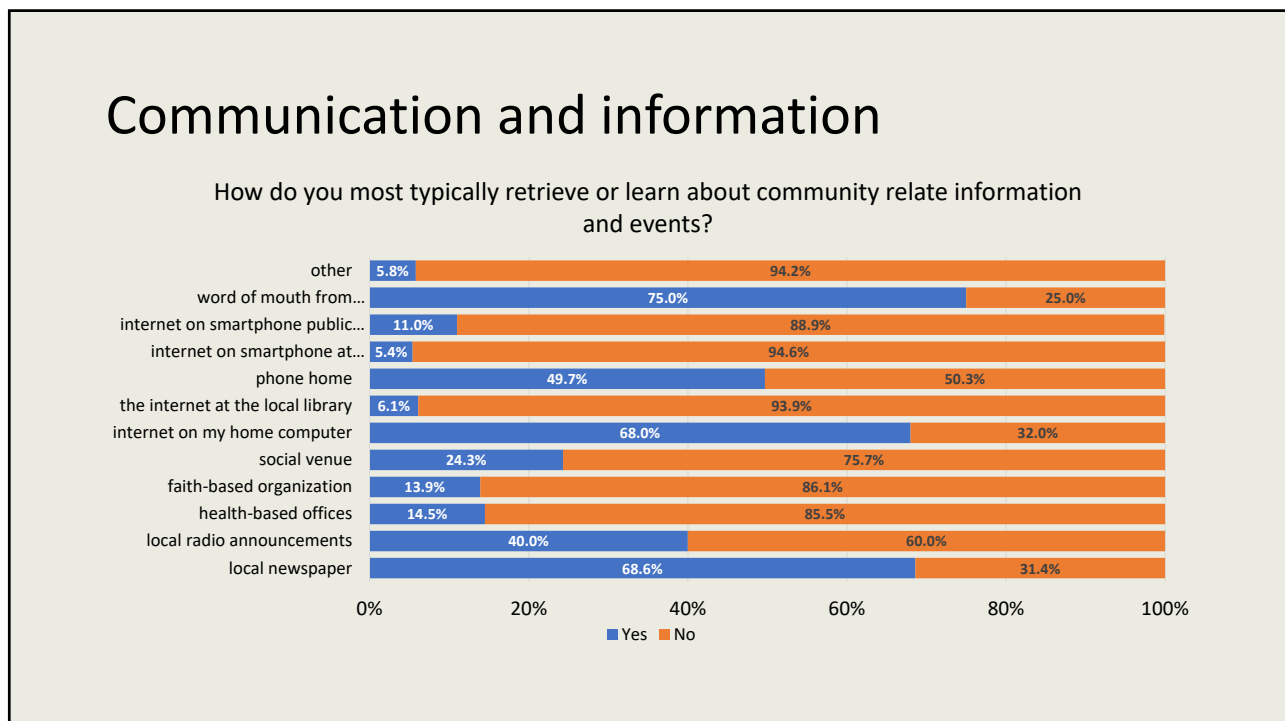
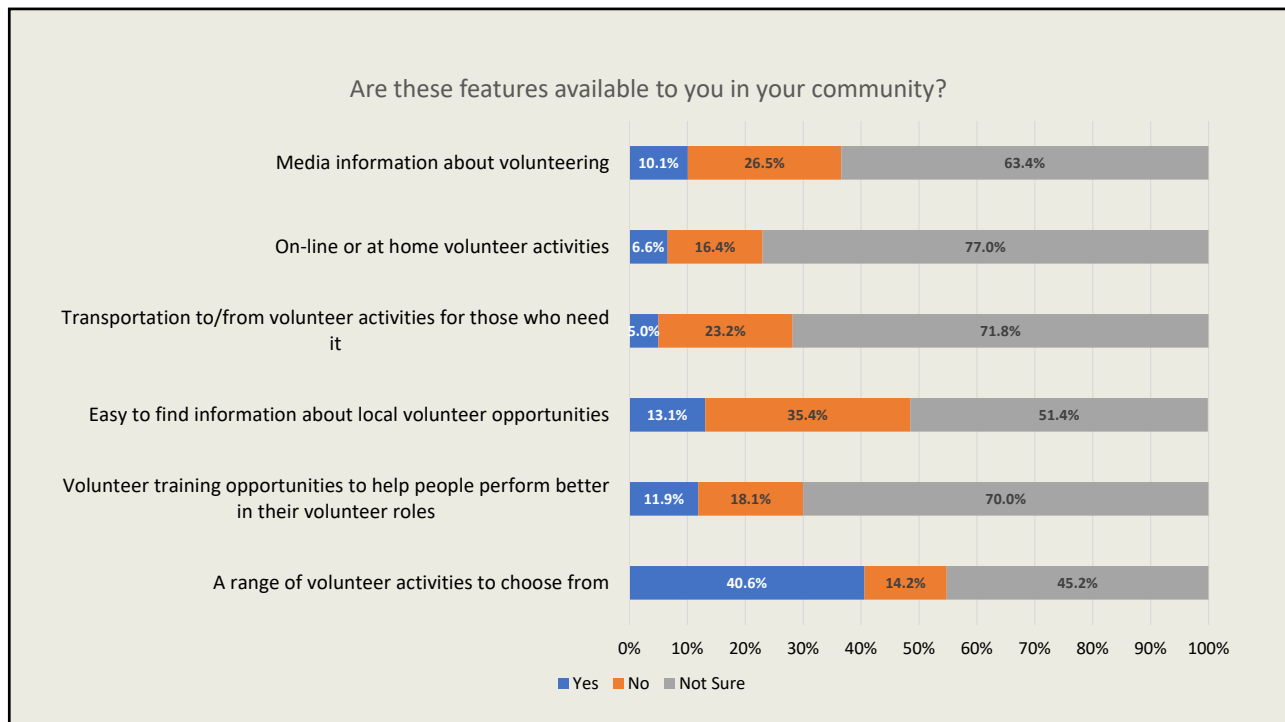
Are these available to you in the community?

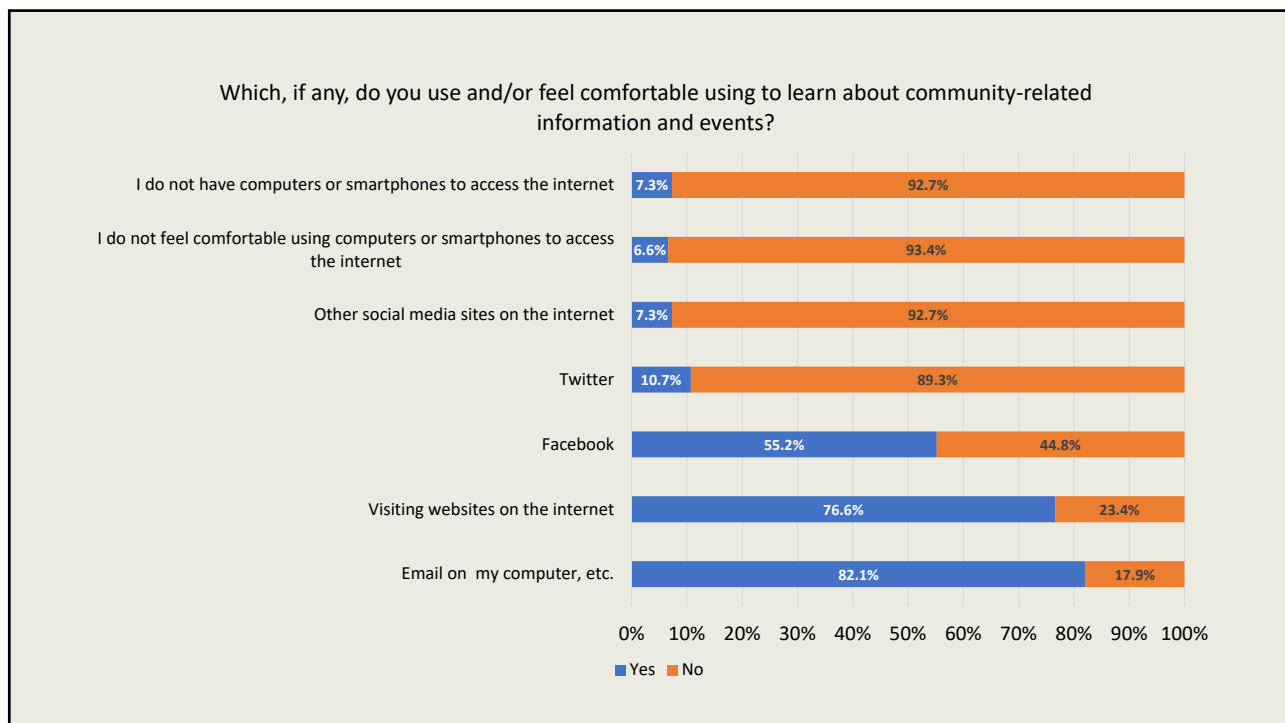
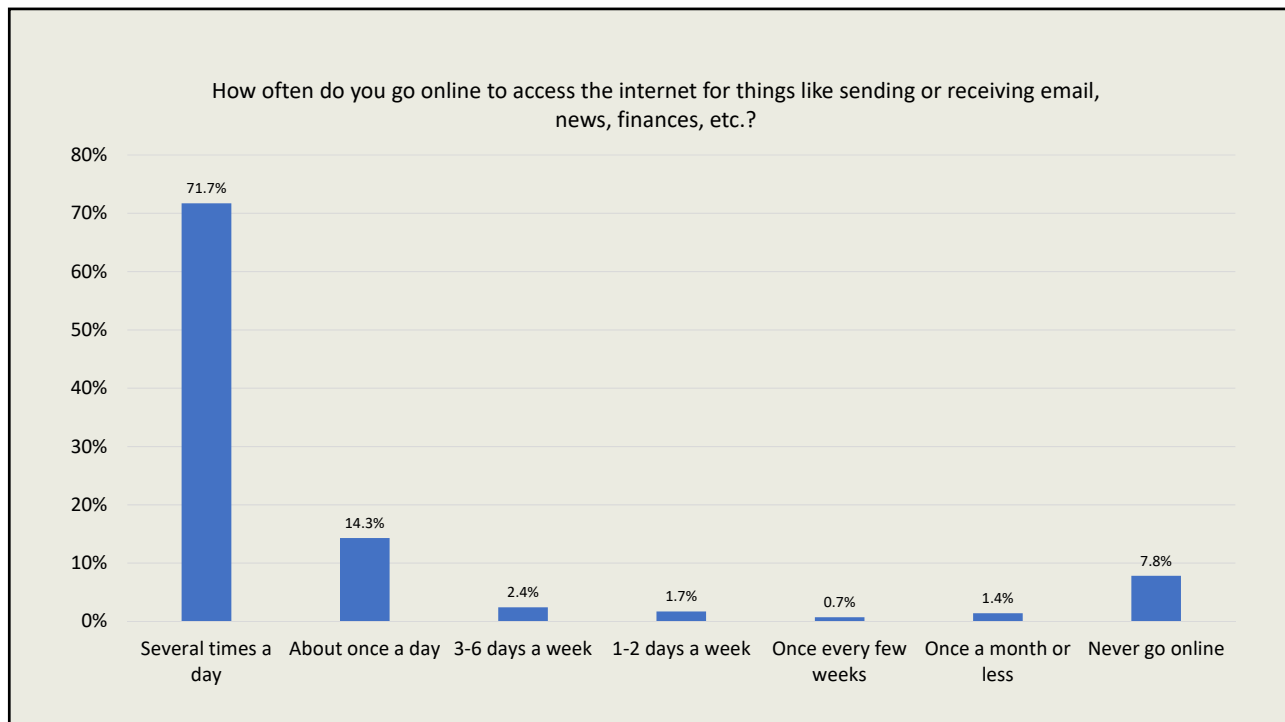


Civic participation and employment

Does the community where you live have the following?

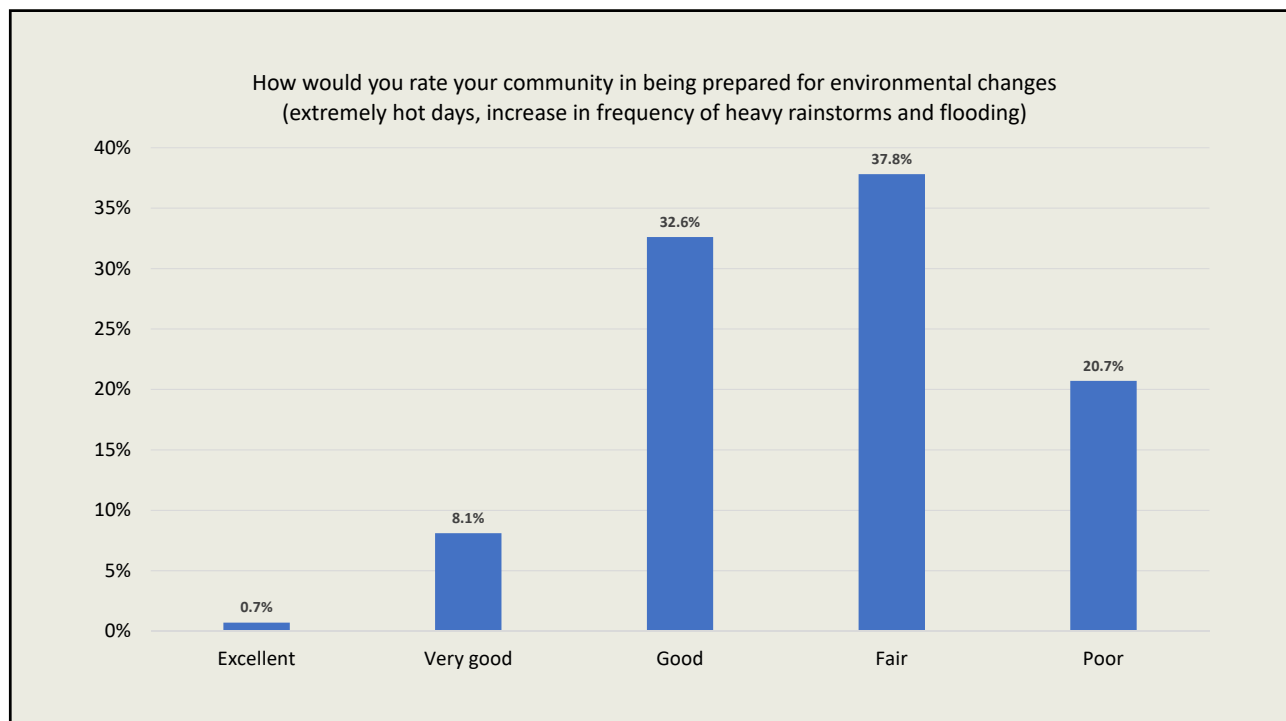


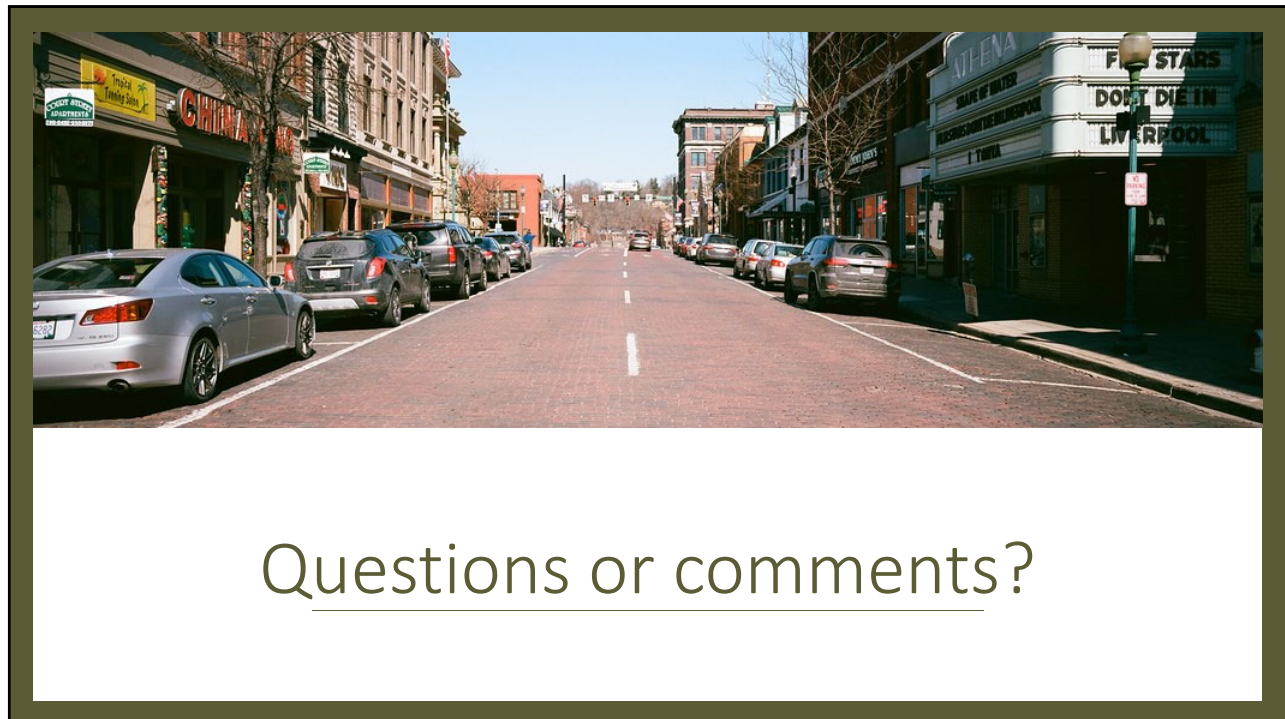
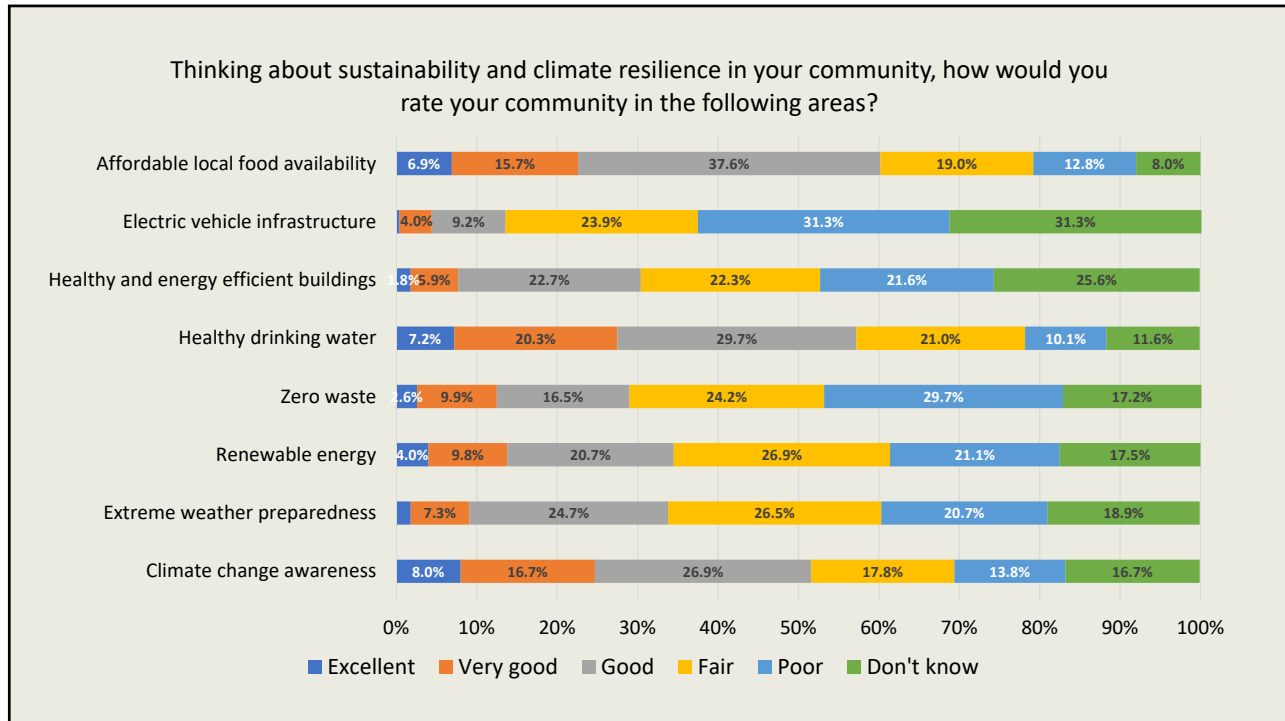




Sustainability Concerns

- Water Safety
- Recycling and Waste
- From narrative response:
 - Increase focus on climate environment
 - Preserve or increase green spaces
 - Water safety
 - Recycling and waste
 - Better heating and cooling options for old homes





CURRENT INITIATIVE/ NEWS

Ohio Department of Medicaid | postponed the implementation of **NexGen Medicaid** for managed care organizations until February of 2023. This only impacts the implementation to the MCOs. All other implementations that have taken place in 2022 will remain in place, such as the Ohio RISE and the Single Pharmacy Benefit Manager.

Provider Round Table | BHRC is hosting the round table on **December 9th** from 11am to 1pm. This event will encourage open discussion between providers, caregivers, ODM and ODA regarding current reimbursement rates, workforce shortages and the future of home and community-based services.

Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Audit | Due to a CMS audit, a request for a corrective action plan from the **Ohio Department of Medicaid**, Care Managers for Assisted Living and Adult Day Service enrollees, will be conducting an assessment to ensure that settings are meeting the home and community-based rule requirements. The checklists and attestations must be completed by December 31st 2022.

Program & Service Update

BHRC aging leadership team is beginning talks with **Qur Health** and the **“Sheela” Pilot Program**. Sheela is a conversational AI technology platform that can act as a “stop gap” during the workforce crisis being felt nationwide. Qur Health has interest in a rural pilot to determine feasibility. The pilot will end March of 2023 and allows for five participating agencies. Sheela includes care plan configuration for vitals management, medication adherence, symptom recording and social care management. **UPDATE:** Aging staff met with Qur Health and do not feel that this type of AI system fits within our current programming. BHRC does not have unrestrictive funds available to pilot programs such as Sheela. PASSPORT is not a compatible program due to medical necessity and payer sequence requirements.

Open Enrollment 2022 | Continues until December 15th. Please encourage your residents, friends and family to reach out to the front door staff for an assessment of their current or future Medicare coverage. Formularies change each year and can result in increased costs for consumers.

Federal Public Health Emergency | Expiration notice has not been received by State agencies. Agencies are required to have 60 days of notice for the expiration. With no notice given, the PHE will continue to be extended. At this time, BHRC does not have a new expiration date.

Assessments completed October 1st to October 31st 2022

Athens	10	Perry	10
Hocking	5	Washington	26
Meigs	10	Total	69
Monroe	1		
Morgan	5		
Noble	2		

PASSPORT AND ASSISTED LIVING CASELOAD REGIONWIDE

Current PASSPORT caseload is **754 individuals and 56 individuals** on the Assisted Living Waiver.

CONTACT: Jennifer Westfall, Aging and Disability Director | jwestfall@buckeyehills.org, 740-376-1038
Dawn Weber, Home Care Director | dweber@buckeyehills.org, 740-376-1041

Serving Athens, Hocking, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Noble, Perry and Washington Counties in Southeast Ohio.
1400 Pike Street | Marietta, OH 45750 | 1.800.331.2644 | 740.373.6400 | fax: 740.373.1594

buckeyehills.org

CURRENT INITIATIVES

Appalachian Community Grant Program | Our resource page at buckeyehills.org/acgp and has been viewed more than 1,000 times since its launch on October 20. The Communications department worked with development staff to promote the recent series of community meetings and grant workshops throughout November, engaging more than 400 stakeholders across the region.

HEAP Outreach | Winter/Regular Program outreach is occurring with weekly social media posts. A run of billboards in all eight of our counties began this month and will continue through March promoting the program and directing consumers to their local Community Action Agencies.

Agging Outreach | Buckeye Hills is scheduled to be a sponsor or participate in outreach events throughout the year. These include Senior Fairs, Health Fairs, virtual presentations, and speaking engagements with community groups. Recent outreach events have included:

- Veterans Appreciation Day in Middleport (November 9)
- Planning meeting for a future Social Services Fair in Athens County (November 15)

If there is an upcoming outreach event in your community we should attend or a civic group that would like to have a speaker on Aging topics, please contact Amanda Reeder at areeder@buckeyehills.org.

Medicare Outreach | Medicare Open Enrollment is winding down, concluding on December 7. We had advertisements scheduled across seven radio stations reaching all eight counties. Newspaper advertisements running in Monroe, Morgan, Perry, and Meigs county papers. There was also a WOUB commercial airing 148 times throughout the enrollment period encouraging individuals to call the OSHIIP hotline for assistance with enrollment.

Vaccine Outreach | With the recent extension of the ODA Vaccine Support Grant, the Communications team has worked with local radio stations across the region to schedule a combination ad encouraging community members to receive both their flu shot and COVID vaccine. A total of over 1,800 spots will air from the end of November through the middle of February. Stations include Results Radio, WMOA, WATH, WYVK/WBYG/WTHQ, and WYBZ.

2023 State of the Region Conference | The Communications Director continues to be involved in planning meetings with our sister LDDs and staff from the Ohio University Voinovich School for the State of the Region Conference scheduled for May 2023.

Website and Communications Material Updates | With the Executive Committee's recent approval to changes in the BHRC Organizational Chart, the Communications team is reviewing our website and communications materials for necessary updates.

NEWS

- **Recent Press Releases & Notices**
 - November 1: [Caregiver Assistance News - November 2022](#)
 - November 3 – [River Cities Tribune & Register: HEAP can help Ohio seniors with home energy bills](#)
 - November 9 – Coshocton Tribune: [Housing, new hotels and more seen as key to economic development](#)
 - November 10: [Governor's Office of Appalachia Requesting Planning Services Proposals](#)

Serving Athens, Hocking, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Noble, Perry and Washington Counties in Southeast Ohio.
1400 Pike Street | Marietta, OH 45750 | 1.800.331.2644 | 740.373.6400 | fax: 740.373.1594

- November 11 – The Marietta Times: [Commissioners talk WASCO building project](#)
- November 15 – The Marietta Times: [32 Ohio counties eligible for \\$500 million total in funds for projects](#)
- November 16 – Perry County Tribune: [Commissioners discuss uses of House Bill 377 grant money | News](#)
- November 22: [FCC Releases National Broadband Map](#)
- November 23 – [WOUB: New grant program offers big money for transformational change in Appalachian Ohio](#)

CONTACT INFO: Drew Tanner, Communications Director | dtanner@buckeyehills.org | 740-376-1030

Serving Athens, Hocking, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Noble, Perry and Washington Counties in Southeast Ohio.
1400 Pike Street | Marietta, OH 45750 | 1.800.331.2644 | 740.373.6400 | fax: 740.373.1594

buckeyehills.org

CURRENT INITIATIVES

Updates to the Noble, Monroe and Washington Coordinated Plans | Melissa Zoller will be presenting the coordinated transportation plans and giving an overview of the updates made to them.

Addition of Monroe County to the Non-Emergency Medical Grant | In January, ODOT awarded BHRC money to provide non-emergency medical transportation services to residents in Noble and Washington counties. Melissa Zoller will be presenting an update to the scope of the grant to include Monroe County.

Appalachian Community Grant Program Guidelines Planning Projects | Buckeye Hills Regional Council plans to be the lead applicant on three planning grants: the Muskingum River Corridor, the Ohio River Corridor, and the Greater Buckeye Hills Region. These projects will include governmental jurisdiction and organizations in the counties around the geographical centers. The planning grants will focus on coordinating projects that cover the components of infrastructure, workforce and healthcare. The goal of the planning projects will be to develop asks for the implementation phase that are regional and score the most points possible.

NEWS

Program & Service Updates

Sam Miller Attends Appalachian Leadership Institute | Miller will represent BHRC among 40 leaders from across the 13 Appalachian Regional Commission states in Chattanooga, TN from December 5 – 9.

OneOhio Region 12 Update | The next organizational meeting of the OneOhio Region 12 will be held on November 18. The meeting will be held at John McIntire Library In Zanesville.

Arts & Economic Prosperity 6 Study | In addition to survey collection by BHRC staff, collection of the survey by our area venues has increased. We continue to raise awareness of the survey in our community and have established venues who are fully involved in the process of distributing and collecting both paper and online surveys. Our goal is to increase the number of venues that feel comfortable using their own staff and volunteers to collect the survey as it will only widen the scope of data we are trying to capture in our region. We are utilizing the help of the Ohio Arts Council's marketing team to help spread the message of what we're trying to do with the survey. Finally, we are putting as many dates as possible on our calendar that BHRC staff are able to attend. These are events where the venue's staff and volunteers are limited.

Development Specialist | With the departure of Carly Fitz, the Development Division is currently hiring for the position of Development Specialist. If you would like more information on the position, reach out to Sam Miller at smiller@buckeyehills.org

STAFF UPDATES

- **Brandi Beaver** has worked on increasing outreach to Monroe, Morgan and Noble counties over the last months. She has started working with the Washington County Mental Health Court.
- **Madelyn Brewer** is assisting communities in completing applications for state Area Development funds for FY 2023 and finishing up federal applications for FY 2022. Communities submitting applications for Federal Area Development funds have begun working on their applications.

Serving Athens, Hocking, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Noble, Perry and Washington Counties in Southeast Ohio.
1400 Pike Street | Marietta, OH 45750 | 1.800.331.2644 | 740.373.6400 | fax: 740.373.1594

- **Ryan Collins** continues to aid in moving project forward across the region including Athens and Noble County. With the release of the FCC maps, Broadband Ohio is releasing a toolkit to assist communities in challenging the data. We will be reaching out about this once the information is released.
- **Julia Hinzman** held public meetings for the updates to the Coordinated Plans in both Washington and Noble.
- **Kelly Islay** updated the Monroe County Coordinated Transit Plan to reflect Green Cab assisting with transportation in Monroe with the non-emergency medical grant. She is also preparing for the final Monroe County TAC meeting of the year on Dec. 6 at 11 a.m. at the Generations Complex in Woodsfield.
- **Michelle Hyer** has been focusing the majority of her time on the Appalachian Grant Program. She has been providing support to the communities and attending the workshops held in all 8 counties. Michelle has also been working on the Ohio Public Works Programs as well as Community Development Block Grant for Meigs and Washington counties.
- **Kate Dunn** and American Structurepoint have now completed one project for RISE Ohio: the Putnam Commons Structural Evaluation and Marketing Prospectus report. The Putnam Commons building is located on Putnam Street in Marietta, Washington County and this report is available upon request. RISE Ohio is also working to complete a total of 16 projects with at least one project in each of our eight counties.
- **Jada Riley** attended and took notes at the Appalachian Community Grant Program county meetings in Morgan, Washington, and Noble counties. On November 15, she attended and took notes for each of the ACGP Zoom Meetings dedicated to the Muskingum River Corridor, Ohio River Corridor, and the Greater Buckeye Hills Region applications.
- **Melissa Zoller** has been developing application for the second round of capital funds. The RTPPO Committee will be meeting on Dec. 6 in the BHRC office.

CONTACT: Sam Miller, Development Director | smiller@buckeyehills.org | 740-376-1028

Serving Athens, Hocking, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Noble, Perry and Washington Counties in Southeast Ohio.
1400 Pike Street | Marietta, OH 45750 | 1.800.331.2644 | 740.373.6400 | fax: 740.373.1594

buckeyehills.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **FCC Releases National Broadband Map** | The FCC officially published its long-awaited National Broadband Map on November 18 at broadbandmap.fcc.gov. The map allows members of the public and local governments to submit challenges both on the service availability and serviceable addresses reported by internet service providers. These maps will be used to determine the allocation of the historic funding for broadband provided by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. We highly encourage individuals, businesses, and local governments to look over the maps and search for your address. If there are any inaccuracies, you can submit those from within the map. Alternatively, you can notify BHRC Broadband Coordinator Ryan Collins (rcollins@buckeyehills.org), and we can submit a challenge on your behalf. Of note, when viewing the map, please ensure you go to the settings (the gear icon) and turn on the "All Terrestrial" layer to provide the most accurate picture. Otherwise, the map will also display coverage by satellite internet providers, which are not being included as a determinant of served or unserved locations for the upcoming **Broadband Equity Access and Deployment Program**.
- **2022 Appalachia Forward Conference Session Recordings** | If you missed any of the sessions from October's Appalachia Forward Conference or want to revisit a presentation, the conference is now available on-demand via the Ohio University website. Navigate to the conference schedule at ohio.edu/voinovich-school/projects/appalachia-forward, where the recordings are hyperlinked in each session title.
- **Holiday Schedule** | Our offices will be closed on the following dates as we celebrate the holidays with our families:
 - Monday, December 26
 - Monday, January 2
 - Monday, January 16

CURRENT INITIATIVES

- **Appalachian Community Grant Program Launches** | Through our series of county meetings and follow-up meetings over the past month, we have engaged with more than 400 stakeholders from local governments, partners, nonprofits, and businesses. Our staff are now finalizing narratives ahead of the December 9 deadline for three broad planning grant applications that are geographically focused on the Ohio River Corridor, the Muskingum River Corridor, and the Greater Buckeye Hills Region. These applications should put the partners in these applications in a solid position to apply for ACGP Development Grants in Round 2 in late 2023. We are continuing to post updates and resources on our website at buckeyehills.org/acgp. The Ohio Department of Development also recently released a frequently asked questions document about the program, which is now available at development.ohio.gov/community/governors-office-of-appalachia/appalachian-community-grant-program.

FEDERAL UPDATES

- **Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Resources from NADO ATC Available** | During the 2022 NADO Annual Training Conference (ATC), the U.S. Department of Transportation's Rob Hyman and Alex Clegg shared a presentation about the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, which can be viewed at slideshare.net/nado-web/tapping-into-bil-funds-at-dot. Visit transportation.gov/dot-navigator for upcoming transportation grants.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES & EVENTS:

- **Ohio Public Works Commission Round 37 Executive Committee** | The District 18 Ohio Public Works Fiscal Year 2024 (Round 37) Executive Committee meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, December 6, 2022, at Buckeye Hills Regional Council, 1400 Pike Street in Marietta. The purpose of this meeting is to review and approve the Fiscal Year 2024 (Round 37) State Capital Improvement Program (SCIP) and the Local Transportation Improvement Program (LTIP) slate of projects. Questions regarding this program should be directed to Michelle Hyer, Development Specialist III/District 18 Liaison, via email at mhyer@buckeyehills.org or via phone at 740-376-1025.
- **Monroe County Transportation Advisory Committee** | The Monroe County Transportation Advisory Committee will meet on December 6, 2022, 11:00 a.m., at the Generations Complex, 47115 Black Walnut Parkway in Woodsfield. Buckeye Hills Regional Council serves as the Regional Transportation Planning Organization and Mobility Management agency for Monroe County. Questions regarding this meeting should be directed to Kelly Isaly, Mobility Manager, at kisaly@buckeyehills.org or 1-800-331-2644 ext. 2860.
- **Regional Transportation Planning Organization Committee** | The Buckeye Hills Regional Council Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO) Committee will meet on Tuesday, December 6, 2022, at 11:00 a.m. following the District 18 Ohio Public Works Committee meeting at the offices of Buckeye Hills Regional Council, 1400 Pike Street in Marietta. The purpose of this meeting is to review the capital block grant project intake and the Long Range Transportation Plan. Buckeye Hills Regional Council is a designated RTPO for Southeast Ohio in partnership with the Ohio Department of Transportation. Questions regarding this meeting should be directed to Melissa Zoller, Transportation Manager, at mzoller@buckeyehills.org or 740-376-1027.
- **Aging & Disability Regional Advisory Council** | During the year-end meeting of the Aging & Disability Regional Advisory Council, we will celebrate the successes of our partners in 2022. We will also host a Provider Roundtable at 11:00 a.m. to discuss the home-and-community-based services workforce shortage and hear updates from our region's legislators. The Regional Advisory Council (RAC) serves as a liaison between older adults and their local County Councils on Aging. The RAC is formed of representatives from those County Councils on Aging and other Buckeye Hills appointees. Lunch will be provided. Space is limited. Please RSVP to Janie Collins at jcollins@buckeyehills.org or 740-376-1039 by November 30.
- **RISE Ohio Virtual Workshop: Moving Forward** | The final virtual workshop in our RISE Ohio series is scheduled for Thursday, January 19, at 10:00 a.m. Since May 2022, Buckeye Hills Regional Council, in partnership with Steadfast City Economic and Community Partners and Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association, has presented a series of monthly virtual workshops to help local leaders build their community development toolkit to make the most of Opportunity Zones. The series will conclude with a session on Moving Forward with the lessons learned from the previous workshops.

CONTACT INFO: Chasity Schmelzenbach, Executive Director
cschmelzenbach@buckeyehills.org | 740-376-1034

Serving Athens, Hocking, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Noble, Perry and Washington Counties in Southeast Ohio.
1400 Pike Street | Marietta, OH 45750 | 1.800.331.2644 | 740.373.6400 | fax: 740.373.1594

buckeyehills.org