



## **PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE**

The following is public correspondence received by the City Clerk's Office after the posting of the original agenda. Individual contact information has been redacted for privacy. This may *not* be a comprehensive collection of the public correspondence, but staff makes its best effort to include all correspondence received to date.

To send correspondence to the City Council, on matters listed on the agenda please email [PublicComment@losaltosca.gov](mailto:PublicComment@losaltosca.gov)

**From:** [Abhambly](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment, Agenda item #8, Nov. 9 meeting  
**Date:** Monday, November 8, 2021 11:58:58 AM

---

Four years ago, the city paid over \$300,000 to complete a 10 year Downtown Vision Plan. Many citizens weighed in on their preferences. Building a downtown theater was included in that Vision Plan. I think it's time for the city to proceed with further study. The Working Theater Group has spent many hours of research and discussions with a variety of experts and community members. Please listen carefully to their comments and study the report.

Please consider their request to allow more time for further research, including a feasibility study.

Thank you,  
Anne Hambly  
Los Altos resident

**From:** [Pat Marriot](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** PUBLIC COMMENT Item 8 November 9, 2021 Downtown Theater, comment 2  
**Date:** Sunday, November 7, 2021 12:15:50 PM

---

Council Members:

**Regardless of who pays for it, a theater feasibility study requires you to give away one of our parking plazas. That's public land that belongs to Los Altos residents.**

Regardless of whether the Theater Working Group can raise money to build, operate and maintain a theater, there will still be a need for more parking to replace the building and support the theater and downtown businesses.

Regardless of assumptions that a theater would be financially successful, e.g., performances will pay for themselves, organizations will want to rent the space, some percentage of attendees will stay in town for dinner, it is all wishful thinking. The 2017 economic study showed a 190-seat theater – with parking – would only increase restaurant sales by an estimated 2.7% and other downtown retail sales by an estimated 0.7%.

Regardless of what FOLA or LAVA or the Women's Caucus or individual commissioners might think about a theater – or what your personal feelings might be – you were elected by and have a fiduciary responsibility to the residents of Los Altos. Our land is not yours to give away.

Regardless of any estimated benefit a theater might bring to downtown businesses, Los Altos is under pressure from the state to meet its RHNA goals. There are now consequences for falling short: *"Attorney General Rob Bonta announced Wednesday a new housing strike force within the California Department of Justice, a 12-member team that he said would address the state's affordability crisis by enforcing development and tenant rights laws. That could include more lawsuits against local governments that state officials believe are not making a genuine effort to plan for and approve enough housing to accommodate future growth."*  
<https://www.sfchronicle.com/politics/article/State-strike-force-proposed-ballot-measure-16590411.php>

If we must give up a parking plaza, I urge you to weigh your state-mandated responsibilities – as well as the human need for more housing – vs. a small theater. I know which is more important to me.

Thank you,  
Pat Marriott

**From:** [Pat Marriot](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** PUBLIC COMMENT Item 8 November 9, 2021 Downtown Theater  
**Date:** Friday, November 5, 2021 5:28:19 PM

---

Council Members:

Having been present during startups' presentations to VCs, I know it takes a lot of convincing to get funding. The theater group's "presentation" wouldn't get their foot in the door, let alone funding consideration.

After six months of meetings, they have provided nothing concrete that justifies money or staff time from Los Altos taxpayers. I had expected them to come to this meeting with a feasibility study, not asking residents to pay for one.

- *"A 16-person group of residents was tasked by the City Council with developing a proposal for placing a 125-to-180-seat community theater in downtown Los Altos."*

Council did not "task" residents to develop a proposal. At the January 2021 council retreat, Mayor Fligor pushed relentlessly for an objective "to form a working group for exploring a theater for our community." Other council members objected with concerns about staff time, land use and city assets. The mayor changed her wording to "support a working group ..." insisting that this objective be placed on the council's list, while assuring us there would be no staff time and no funding provided. Since then, she has been a proponent of the theater in newspaper articles and Chamber of Commerce meetings. Contrary to her assurances, we are now being asked for time and money.

While I understand that any public official may have personal interests in projects, IMO Mayor Fligor has crossed the line of objectivity, starting with her insistence to "support" the theater working group in January and championing it every step of the way to tonight's presentation. According to the city's ethics training, "If a decision-maker prejudges a matter, the decision-maker could be disqualified from participating in the decision."

- *"Goal: To attract residents of surrounding communities to Los Altos' downtown business district for expanded and varied nighttime programs."*

How many out-of-towners are likely to come to a small theater to see a little-known acting company when they can go to Mt. View Center for the Performing Arts or Lucie Stern in Palo Alto (425 seats) to see TheatreWorks productions? Or to the Oshman JCC Cultural Arts Hall (381 seats), which also rents space for films, lectures, meetings? Or to any of the theaters in San Jose? How many major drama, dance, or other companies would be interested in performing for such a small audience when there are so many better venues?

- *"Bus Barn Stage Company, now doing business (successfully) as Los Altos Stage Company ..."*

Where are the financial statements to prove success?

- *"Los Altos Stage Company presents 5 quality productions each year to the greater Los Altos Community and employs 100 actors, technicians, directors and serves over 10,000 patrons yearly."*

Again, where are the numbers? 5 shows/year \* x nights/show \* 100 seats = 10,000 attendees? How many of those are "friends of the family" who go to every show vs. 10,000 unique attendees? How many come from out-of-town?

- *"The Vision further suggests the construction of a parking structure (or underground parking) adjoining a potential condo/apartment complex on the 2nd Street end of this plaza. ... it is the desire of the Theater Working Group to raise private funds for the design and construction of the new theater."*

The Downtown Vision assumes parking is an integral part of the theater plan. Page 64: "Exempt live theater from all parking requirements. The location of the live theater is adjacent to and over a proposed parking structure."

The Working Group hopes to raise private funds for a theater, but not for the required garage.

- *"OPPORTUNITY SITES AND PROPOSALS FROM THE DOWNTOWN VISION"*

The Working Group uses the Downtown Vision as the cornerstone of its arguments. It's actually King Lear's 2014 theater proposal that is contained in the Vision. He provided much more detail in his plan than what is in the current presentation and also stated, "The theater program funding should include the cost of parking the theater."

The following pages are from "Economic Vitality Strategy Options for Downtown Los Altos" at [https://www.losaltosca.gov/sites/default/files/fileattachments/community\\_development/page/40281/los\\_altos\\_econ\\_report\\_final\\_2.28.2017.pdf](https://www.losaltosca.gov/sites/default/files/fileattachments/community_development/page/40281/los_altos_econ_report_final_2.28.2017.pdf)

### New Performing Art Theater Downtown

The Los Altos Stage Company was incorporated in 1995 and has been producing live theater performances in town since that date. Its performances are held in old school maintenance building in the civic center campus that is in poor exterior condition. The theater has 100 seats and stages approximately 135 event-days/evenings per year. At an assumed average attendance to be 80 percent of capacity, 50 percent of the attendees visiting the downtown for meals or drinks associated with the theater event, and an average expenditure of \$50, the current theater patrons generates an estimated \$270,000 in mostly restaurant and food service sales in the downtown. If an additional ten percent is

added for the sales of performers, theater staff and volunteers, the current theater impact on downtown sales would be approximately \$297,000.

In 2014, a group of community leaders proposed a new theater of approximately 190 seats with a 12,000 square feet overall size to be located in the downtown (Figure 22). With the excitement generated by a new building, we assume that the number of event-days/evenings would increase to 200 per year. At an assumed average attendance of 80 percent of capacity, 70 percent of the attendees visiting the downtown for meals or drinks, an average expenditure of \$55 per attendee, and including the impact of performers and staff, the new theater would generate an estimated \$1.29 million in downtown sales. The net gain mostly during the evening hours would be approximately \$1 million (Table 8).

Figure 22: Concept Illustration for New Downtown Theater



Source: A Theater and parking Garage for Downtown, Presentation to City Council June 10, 2014

The Working Group quotes the economic benefits of going from a 100-seat theater to a 190-seat theater, though they are proposing only 125 to 180 seats, which is quite a difference in terms of financial feasibility. This table shows estimates from the 2017 economic analysis. Note the small percentage increase in sales to restaurants and even smaller increase to retail shops.

Table 8: Estimated New Downtown Theater Impact on Downtown Sales

	Existing Theater	New Theater
Seating Capacity	100	190
Estimated Event Days/Evenings	135	200
Estimated Attendance @ 80% of Capacity	10,800	30,400
Estimated Percentage of Attendees Patronizing Downtown	50%	70%
Average Spending for Meals/Drinking/Incidentals	\$50	\$55
Theater Patron Sales Impact on Downtown	\$270,000	\$1,170,400
Add 10% for Performer and Staff Impact	\$297,000	\$1,287,440
<b>Gain in Downtown Sales Due to New Theater Patrons/Performers/Staff</b>		<b>\$990,440</b>

Source: LEG estimates based upon interview with Executive Director of Stage Company

This new 12,000 square feet theater will generate approximately \$1 million in addition downtown sales, almost entirely in restaurants, bars and coffee shops. This \$1 million in new sales represents a 2.7 percent increase in downtown restaurant sales and only a 0.7 percent increase in total downtown retail sales.



- *"Members of the Working Group met with representatives of: ..."*

A long list of commissions and organizations follows, but there's no information about what transpired. Did group members give a sales pitch? Did they request support? What response did they get? We all know commissioners can only speak as individuals, not for the commission, so why engage them? Without details, this list is meaningless. It also indicates the group did no outreach to the community at large.

The Working Group's presentation does not warrant support from the city or from residents. We cannot afford to donate time or money or land. We face tough financial times, with our new city manager still trying to get a handle on the budget. We also have the daunting task of allocating space for state-mandated housing. A parking plaza could be a good place to meet those goals – and bring more people to our downtown.

I urge you to vote a firm and final NO on any financial, land or staff commitments to the theater group.

Pat Marriott

November 5, 2021

Dear Mayor Fligor, Vice Mayor Enander, and Councilmembers Lee Eng, Meadows, and Weinberg,

The Los Altos Theater Working Group is coming before you on Tuesday, November 9<sup>th</sup> to request financial support for a feasibility study of a live performance theater located in our downtown. To the best of my knowledge there has been no outreach by the city or the Working Group to the community at large to determine the level of support for such a theater.

A group of residents of Los Altos created a survey, the Downtown Theater Survey. They endeavored to create a balanced survey that would gauge the level of support by residents of Los Altos for a live performance theater located on a downtown parking plaza. The survey also gauges the level of support for the city funding the construction and ongoing maintenance and operations of a theater.

Los Altos Residents (LAR) is an organization comprised of members of the community whose mission is to increase community engagement so that the voices of all Los Altos residents are heard by the Council and the City Staff. Accordingly, LAR assisted with the dissemination of the Downtown Theater Survey.

We believe the Council should make every effort to understand the level of support in Los Altos for such a theater particularly in comparison to the many other superseding priorities. We hope the City Council will carefully weigh the input from over 400+ residents who took the time to participate in the Downtown Theater Survey knowing that their input was for the purpose of providing helpful guidance to you as their representatives. We are providing Council with two documents: 1) the aggregated results of the survey; and 2) the comments provided by respondents. We would be happy to answer any questions the Council may have about the survey, the methodology and the results.

Thank you for your consideration of this information.

Sincerely,

Freddie Wheeler

# Survey of Residents of Los Altos Regarding Downtown Theater

November 1, 2021



# Executive Summary

- 444 Los Altos residents responded
- 43% would like a theater downtown; 39% would not
- 52% do not want a theater to replace a parking plaza
- 51% do not want city to contribute to construction
- 53% do not want city to contribute to operations & maintenance
- 50% want to vote on whether city land is used for a theater
- 53% want to vote on whether city contributes to construction
- 53% want to vote on whether city contributes to operations & maintenance

# Objective & Methodology

- Objective
  - Gather resident opinions to present to Council for consideration during discussion of downtown theatre proposal
- Methodology
  - Survey link posted on Nextdoor, emailed to approximately 1500 fellow residents
- Duration
  - Two weeks

# Survey email from Los Altos Residents

**CALL TO ACTION:**

**PLEASE TAKE THIS DOWNTOWN THEATER SURVEY**

The purpose of this anonymous survey is to solicit your thoughts about a live performance theater in downtown Los Altos. As you may have read in the Town Crier, a New Theater Working Group has been formed and will soon seek approval from the City Council to build the theater on one of the downtown parking plazas.

The aggregated data from this survey will be provided to the City Council when this topic is scheduled to go before them.

We welcome your thoughts and opinions. To make your voice heard, please [click on this link](#).

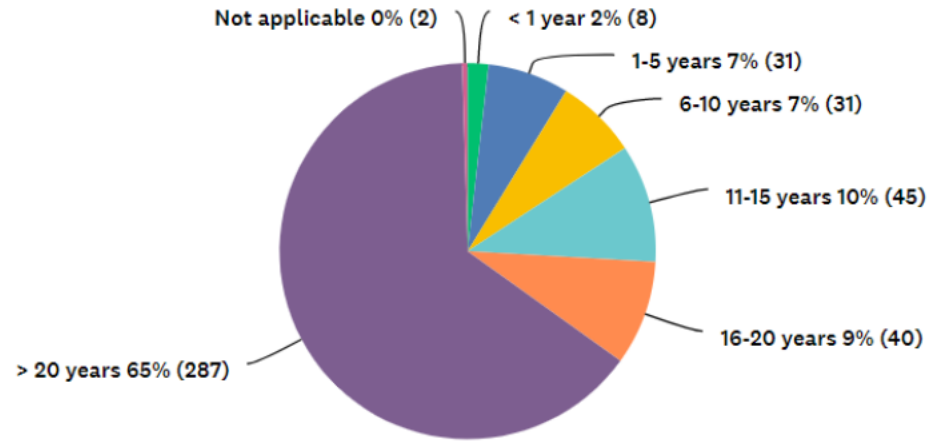
**THANK YOU!**

# Resident Responses

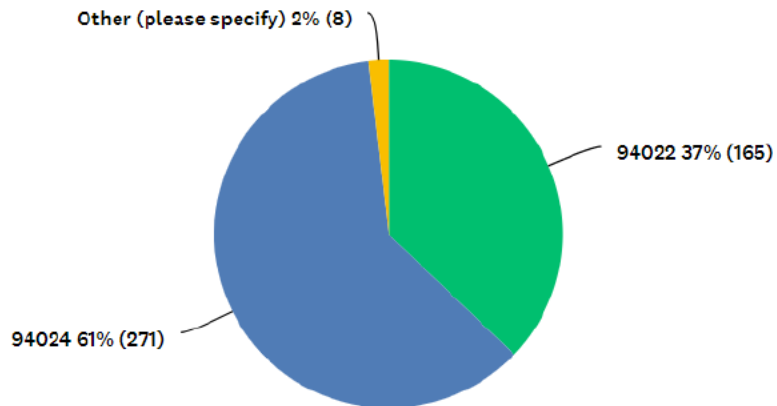
Aggregated data for respondents who identified as residents

# Demographics

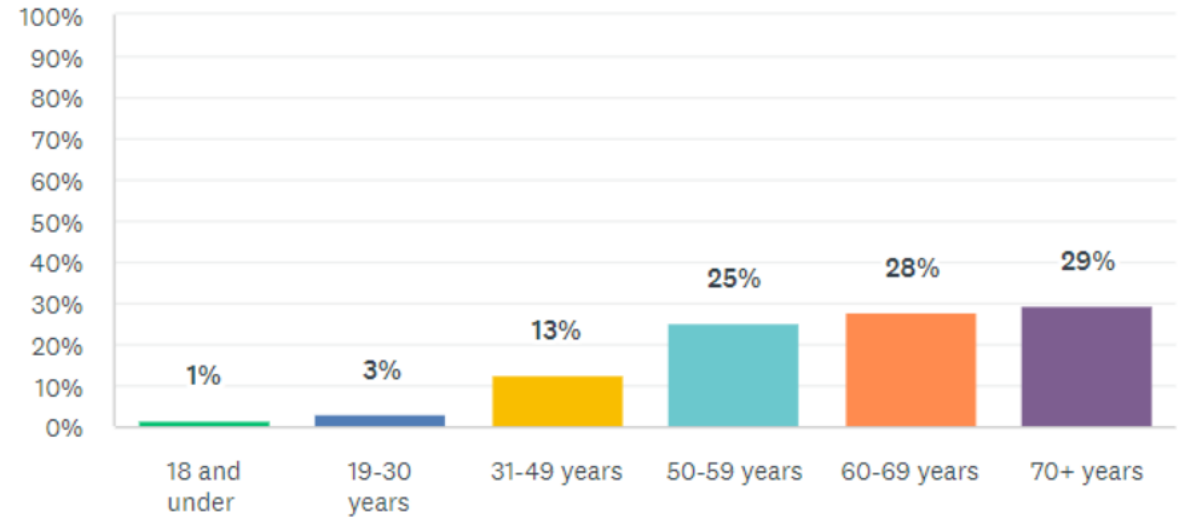
- Q2: How long have you lived in Los Altos?



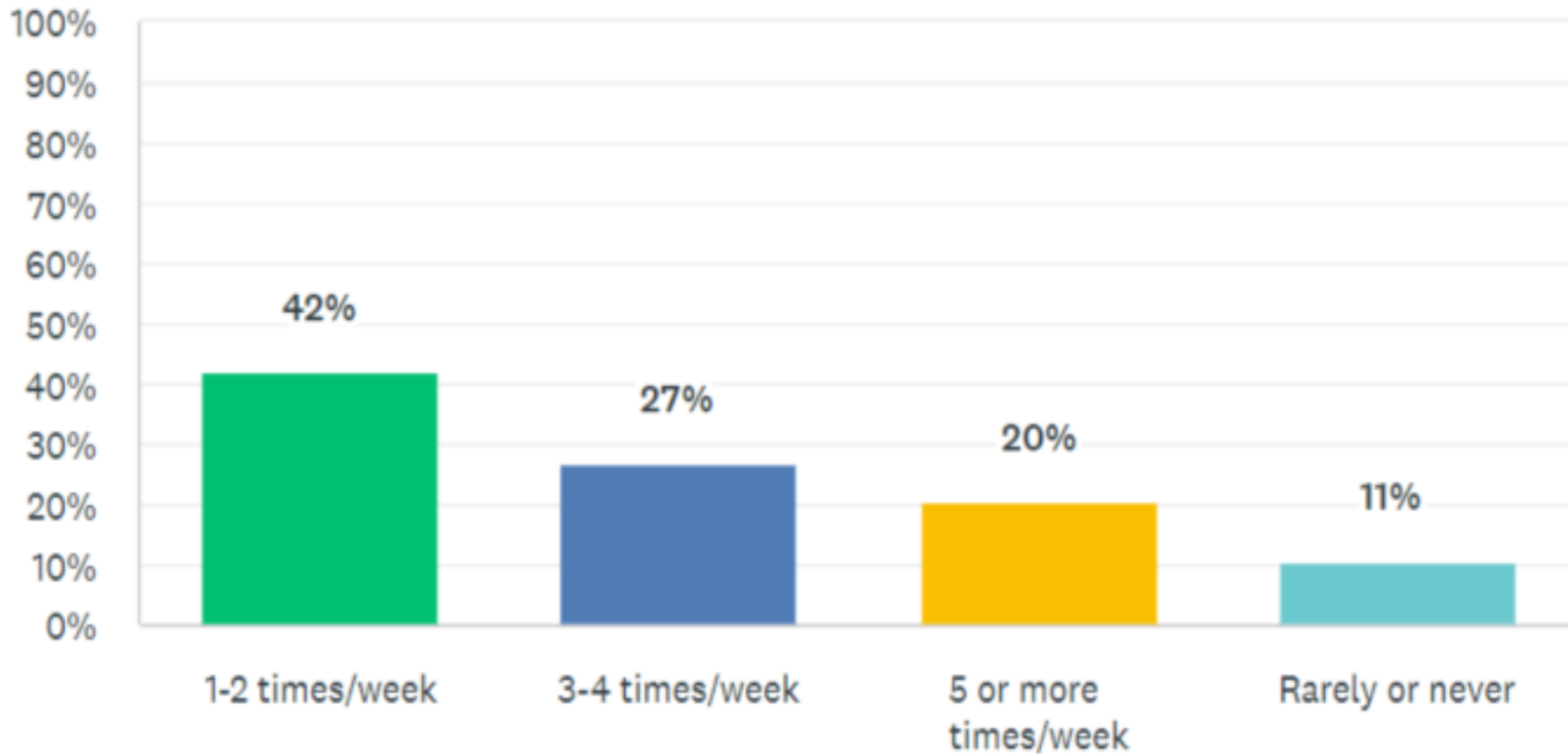
- Q3: My zip code is?



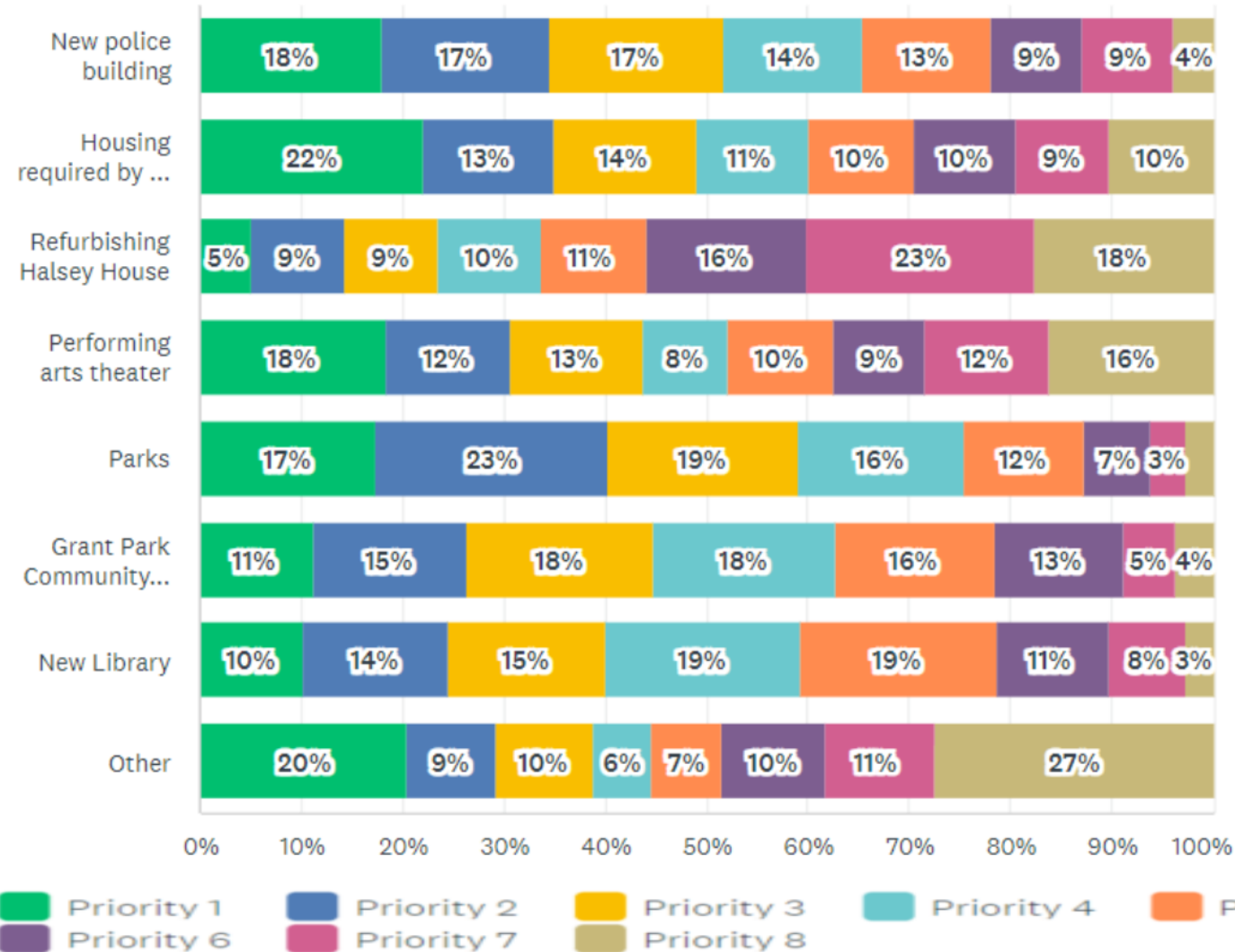
- Q4: My age group is:



## Q5: I visit downtown Los Altos



# Q6: Please rate the following in terms of where the city should spend city funds and resources:



# Q6: Tallying priorities 1, 2, 3 tells us residents want to spend money on

---

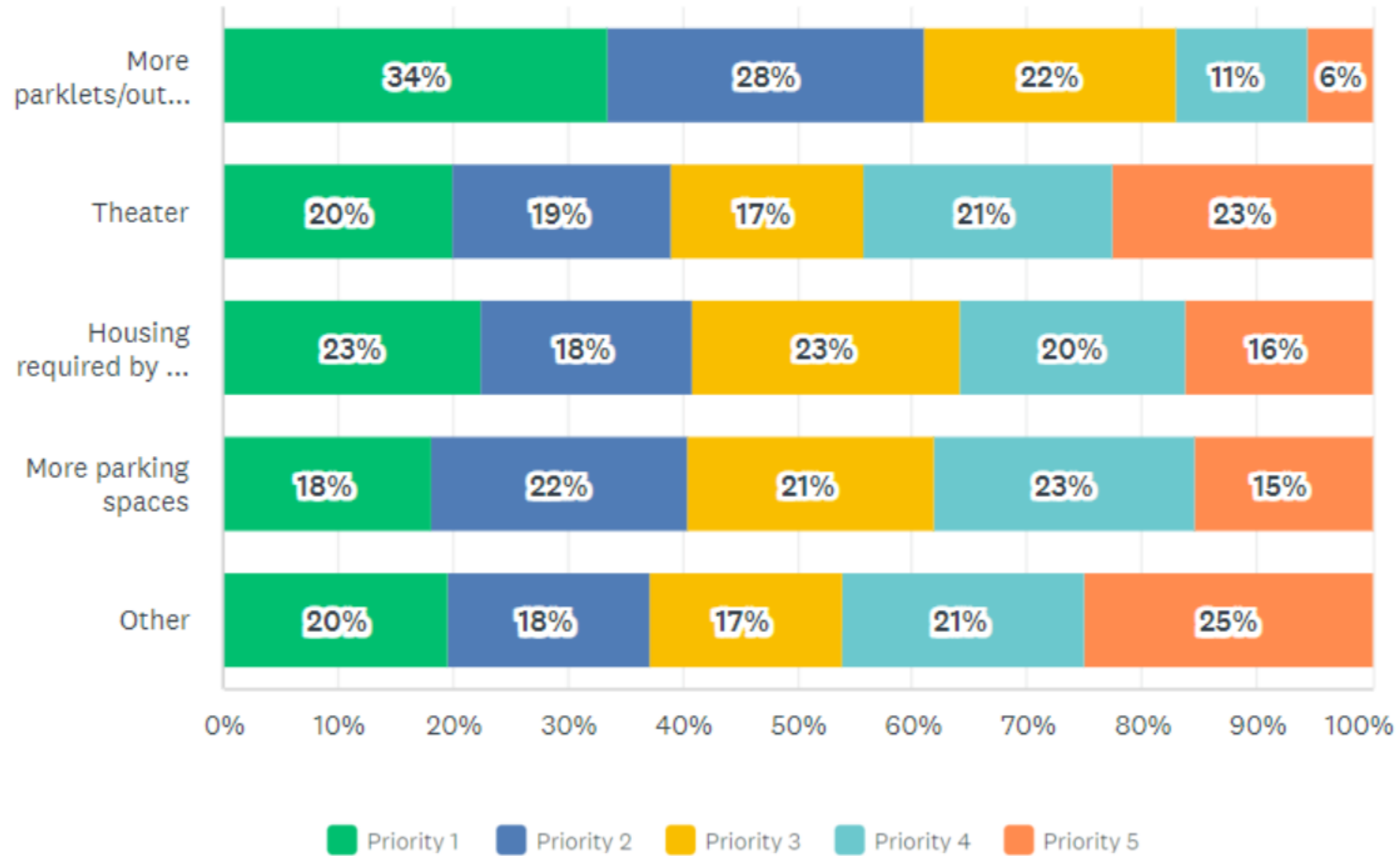
#1 Parks	59%
#2 New police building	52%
#3 Housing	49%
#4 Grant Park	44%
#5 Theater	43%
#6 Library	39%
Other*	39%
#7 Halsey House	23%

---

\* Includes 152 random comments, e.g., pool, parks, more parking. See attachment.



# Q7: Please rate the following in terms of land use in downtown Los Altos:



## Q7: Tallying priorities 1, 2, 3 tells us residents prioritize land use as follows:

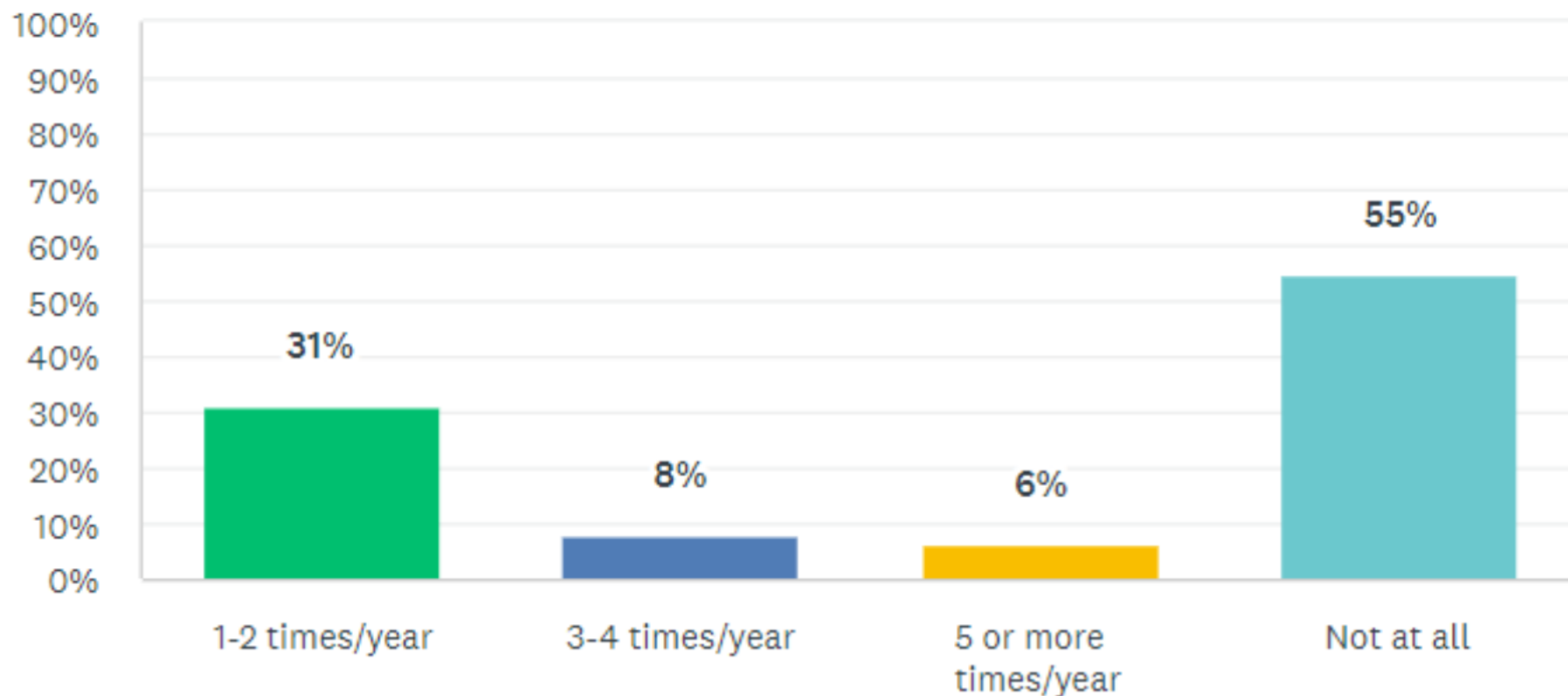
---

#1	More parklets	84%
#2	Housing	64%
#3	More parking	61%
#4	Theater	56%
#5	Other*	55%

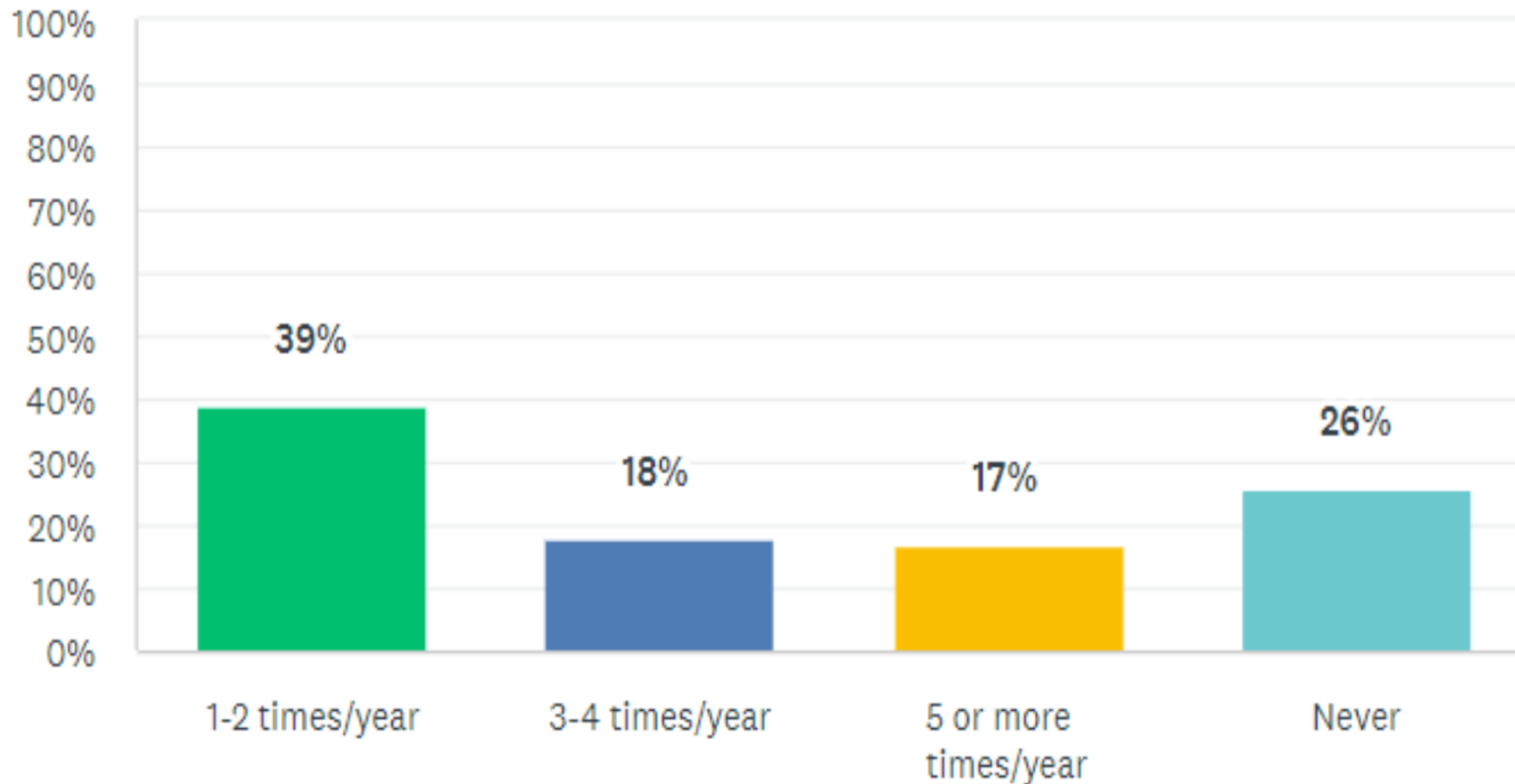
---

\* Includes 112 random comments, e.g., pool, dog parks, more parking. See attachment.

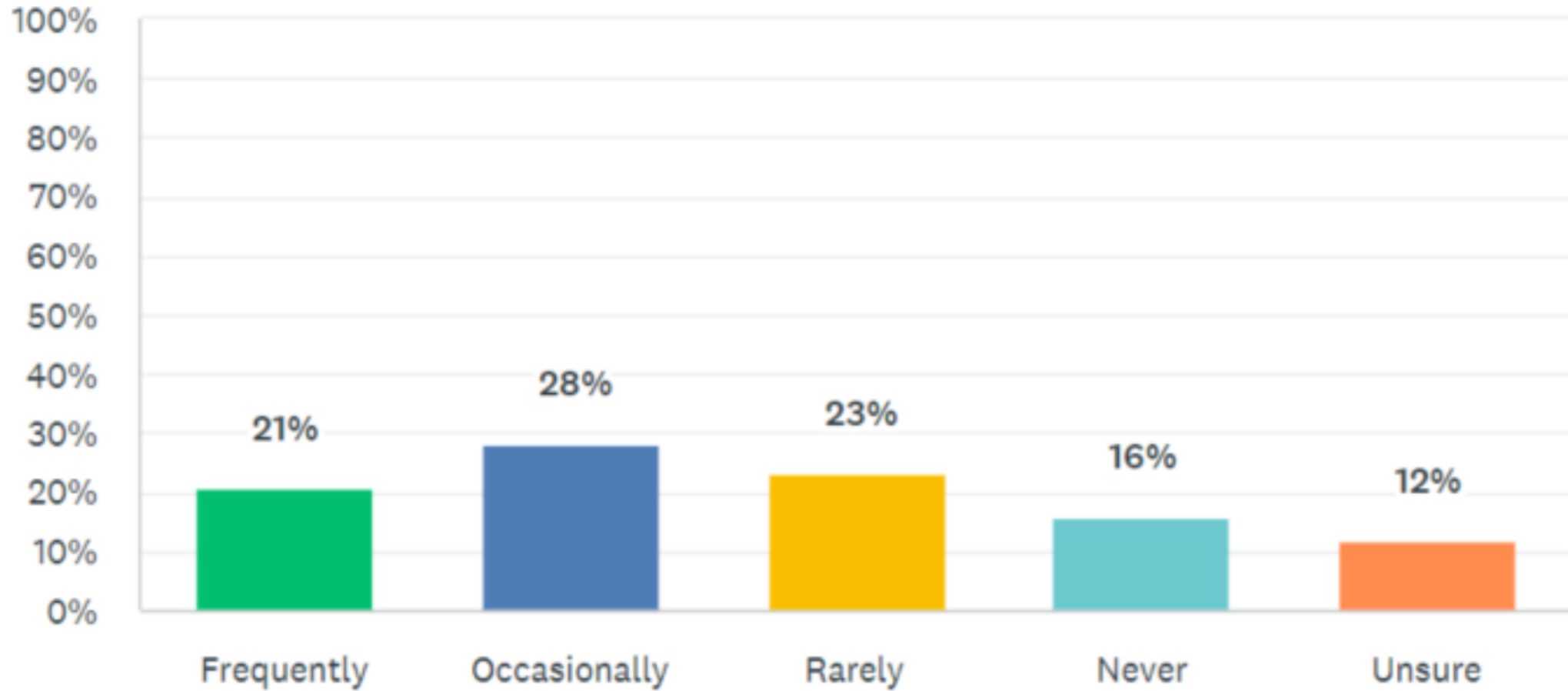
## Q8: Pre-COVID, I attended live performances at Bus Barn Theater



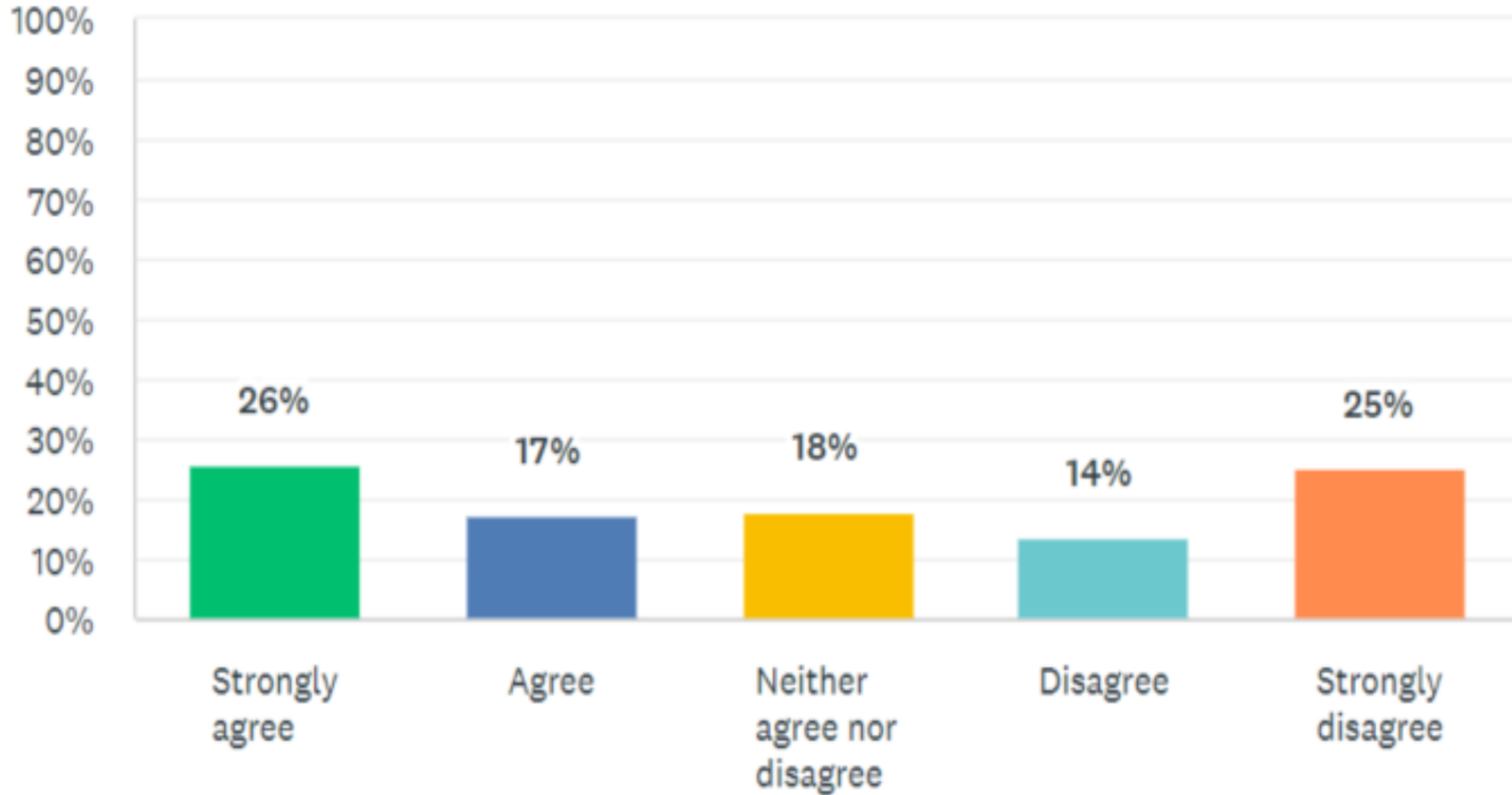
Q9. Pre-COVID, I attended live performances at live theaters such as Mt. View Center, Oshman JCC, Hillbarn, Lucie Stern, etc.



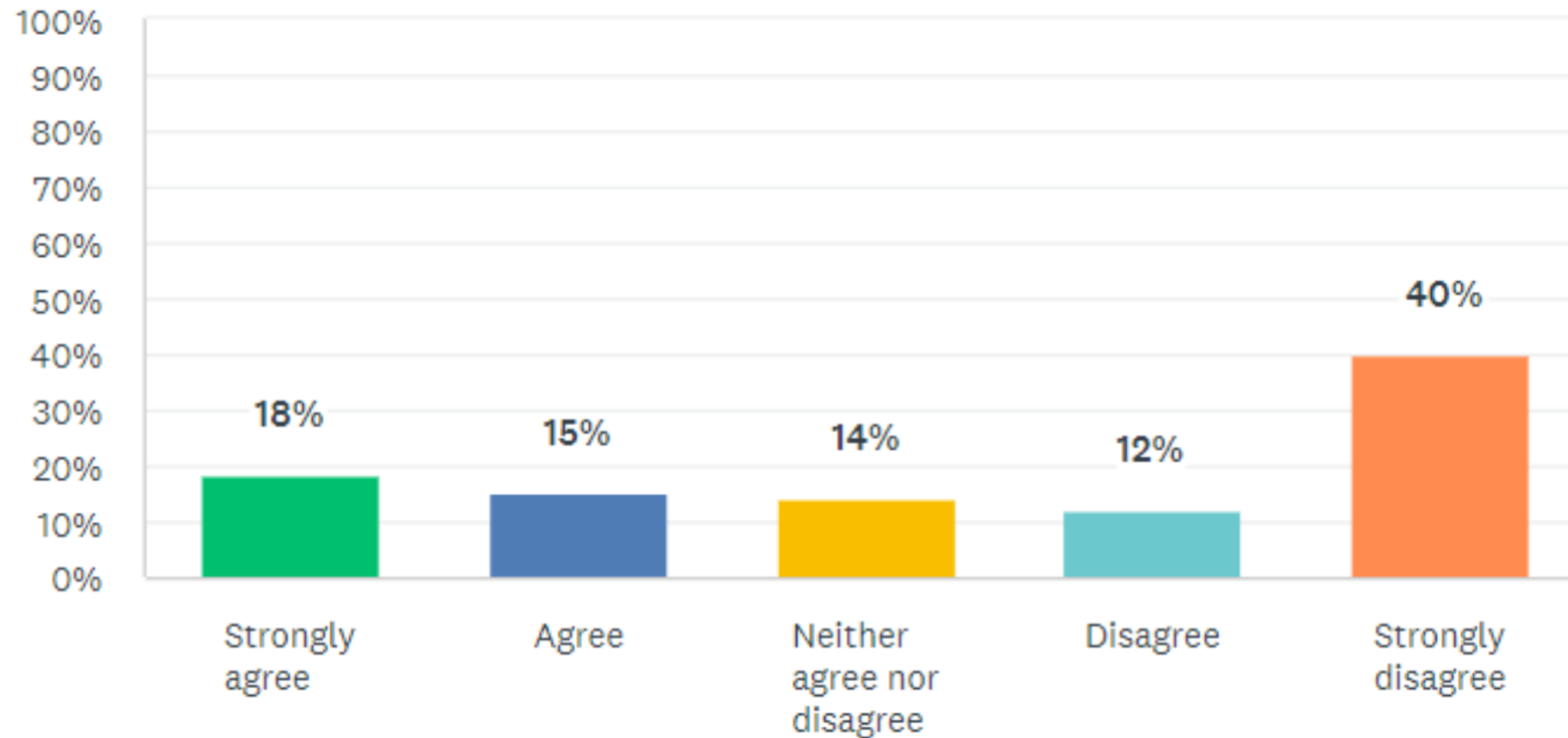
# Q10: I would attend live performances at a theater in downtown Los Altos.



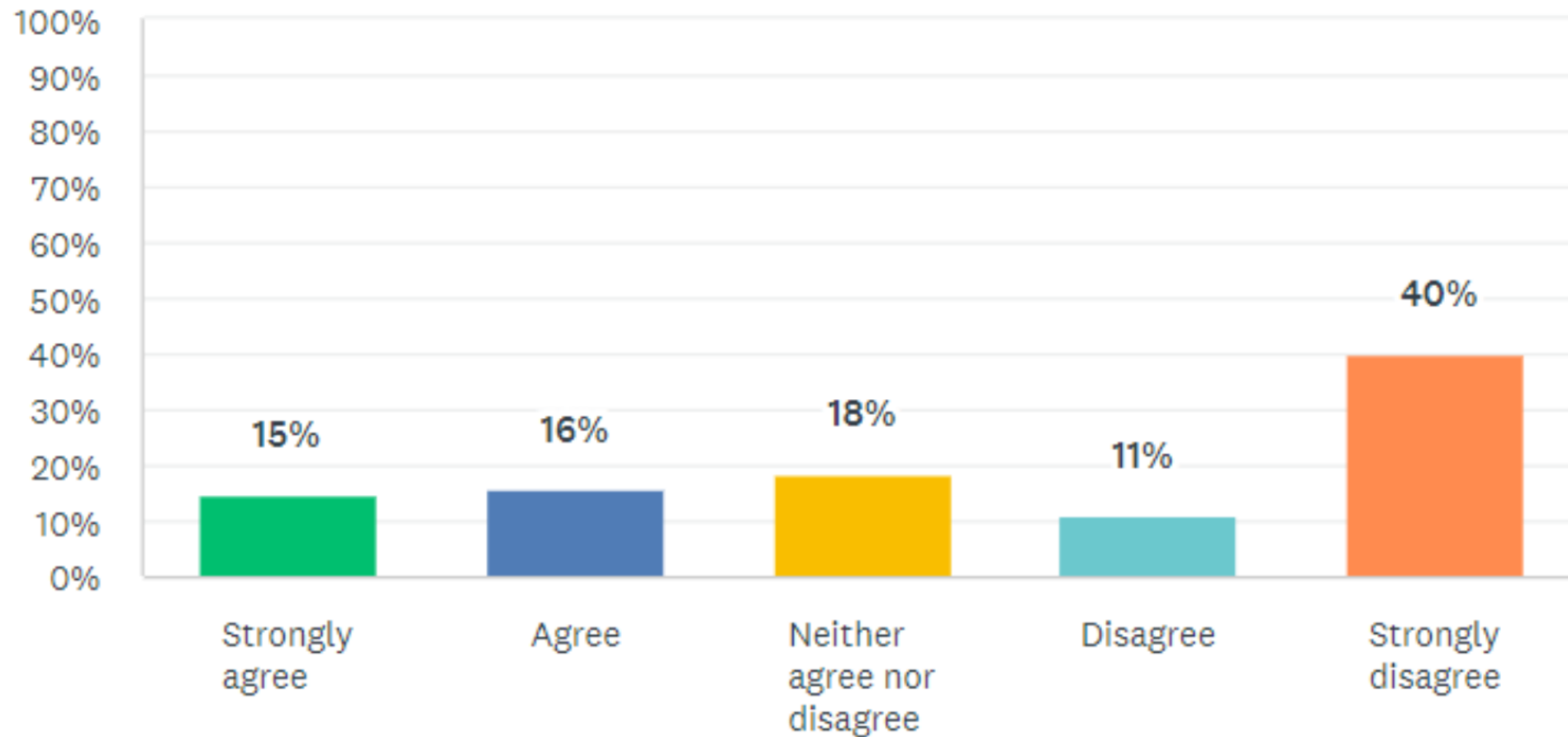
# Q11: I would like to have a live performance theater downtown.



Q12: I want the city to allow a theater to replace a downtown parking plaza (for example, Plaza #2 behind the Main Street Post Office).

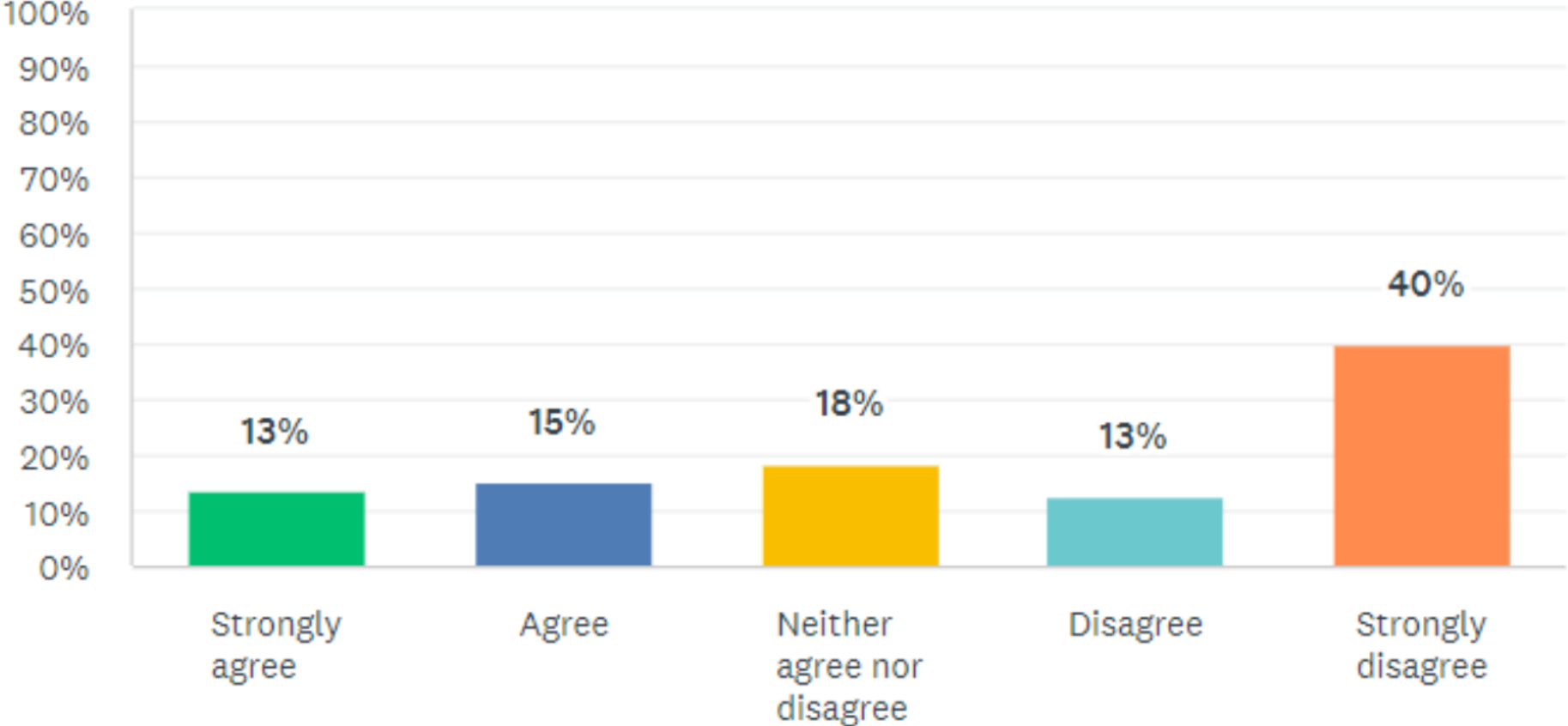


Q13: I want the city to provide funding from the city budget toward the cost of construction of a downtown theater.

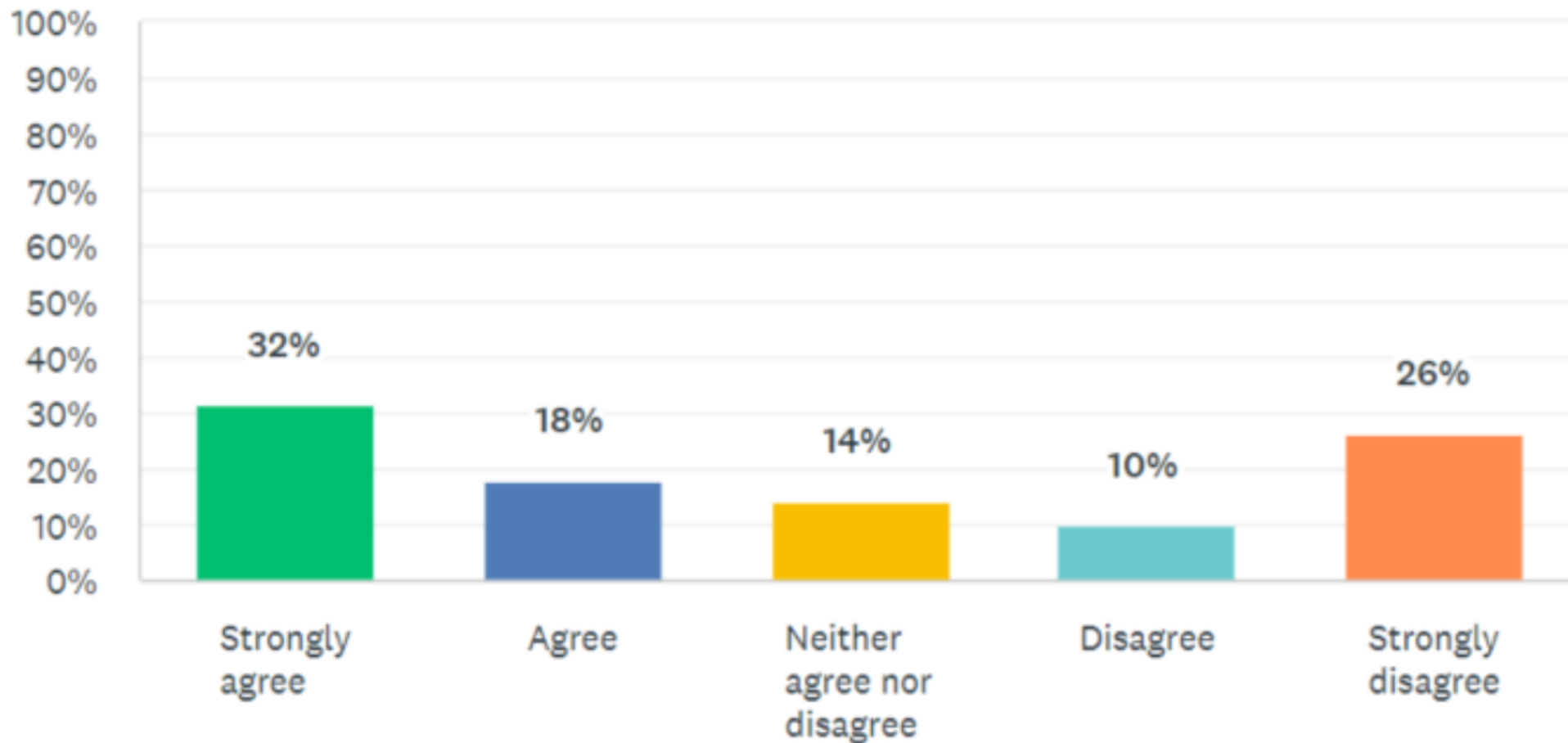




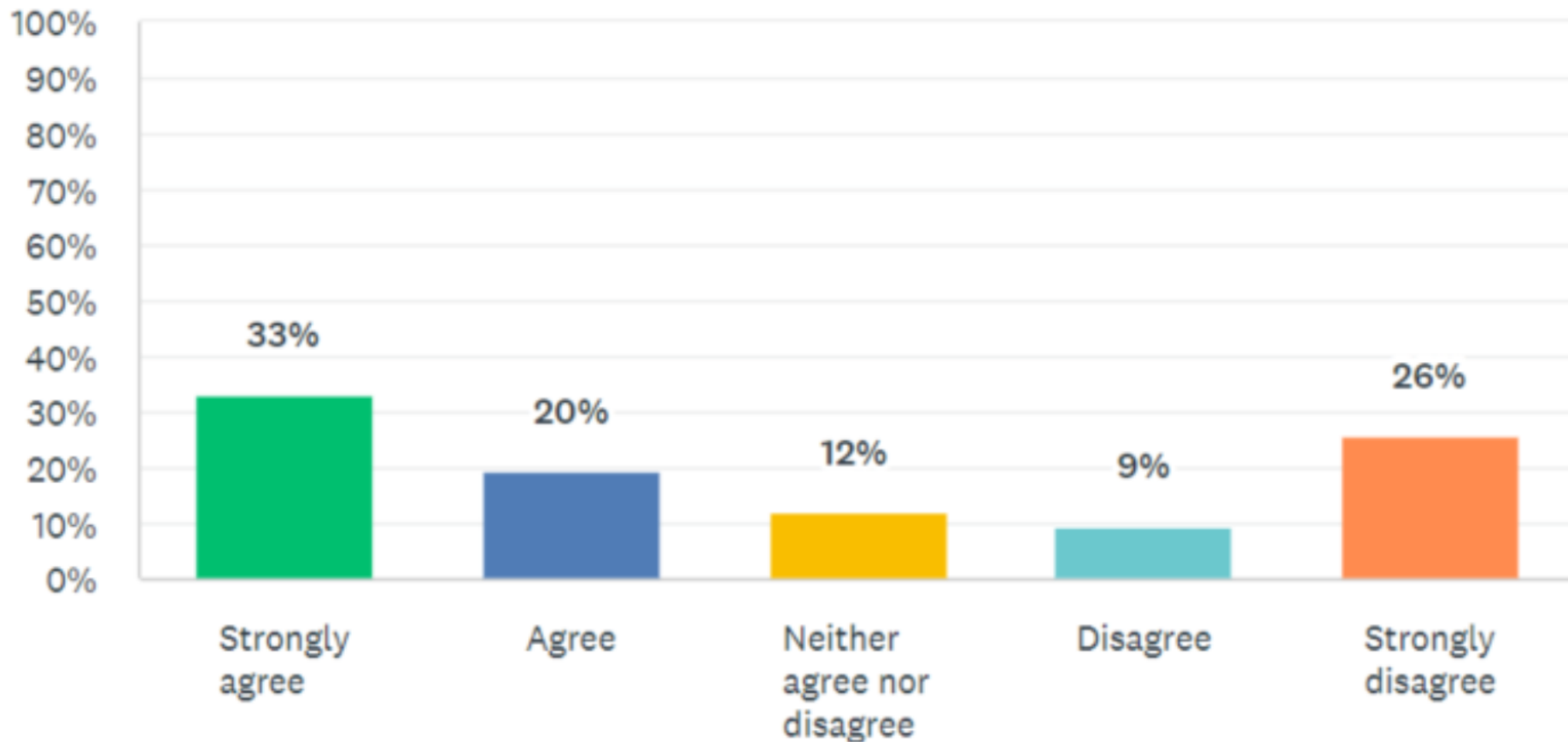
Q14: I want the city to provide funding from the city budget toward the ongoing maintenance and operating expenses of a downtown theater.



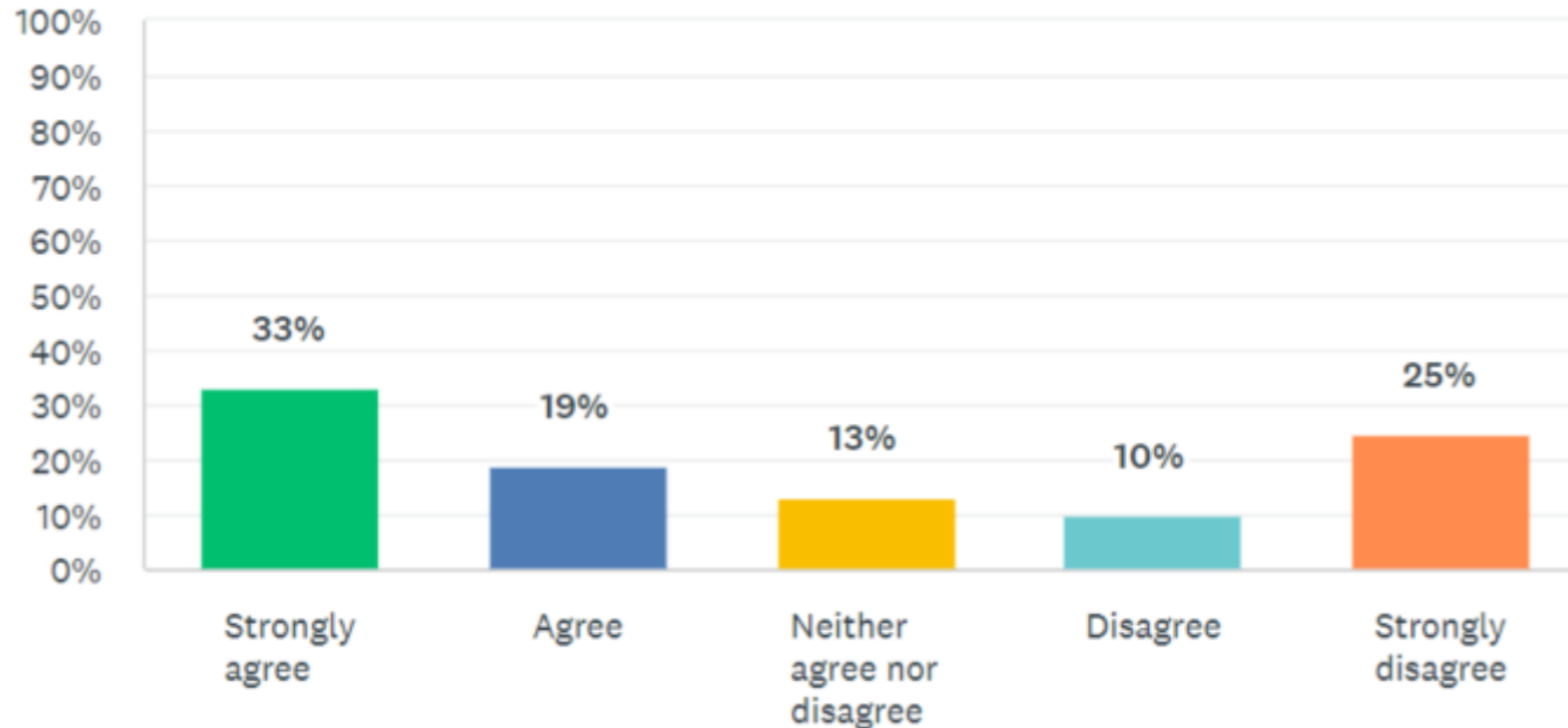
Q15: I want to vote in a citywide election on whether to use city-owned land (for example, Parking Plaza #2 behind the Main Street Post Office) for a theater.



Q16: I want to vote in a citywide election on whether the city should provide any funding from the city budget toward the cost of construction of a downtown theater.



Q17: I want to vote in a citywide election on whether to provide any funding from the city budget for the ongoing maintenance and operating expenses of a downtown theater.



## Survey of Residents of Los Altos Theater in Downtown Los Altos - Open Ended Responses

Q3. My zip code is:

Answer Choices

94022

94024

Other (please specify)

Respondents	Other (please specify)
1	why does this matter?
2	Zip code is not relevant to this survey

Q5. I visit downtown Los Altos

Answer Choices

1-2 times/week

3-4 times/week

5 or more times/week

Rarely or never

Please feel free to elaborate on your response here:

Respondents	Please feel free to elaborate on your response here:
1	I visit downtown probably 2 -3 times per MONTH.
2	Once every 2 months Since the post office moved to Main Street, and parklets were added, parking is hard to find on Main Street. I normally park BEHIND the post office, risking life and limb, and competing with delivery trucks, because there is nowhere to PARK and SHOP on Main Street. Parking lots and parks in Los Altos seem to be at risk of special interests who see them as free real estate created for their own best interests. Leave the parks alone, unless it is to improve them. Repave and improve upon the safety of parking lots in Los Altos so
3	customers will want to shop there. I am 3 miles south of the city. In good weather, I bike about 2 times a week for shopping at stores and for fresh produce and for restaurant take-out and every week the Farmers' Market is operational. The Winter curbs my travel
4	somewhat.
5	I visit downtown Los Altos almost every day. One reason I don't often go is that it isn't that interesting and vibrant. I've gone when the farmers market takes place. It's fun to have streets closed
6	and many people walking around as well as food to eat. I lived previously in Los Altos an additional 10 years and was closer to downtown. Plus my Kids were younger. At that time, we were downtown a lot,
7	probably 3-5 times a week.

8 I attend a weekly yoga class and go to lunch afterwards  
I visit downtown about twice per month. Pre-Covid, I visited 3 or 4 times per  
month. My husband visits more often--and rides his bike to downtown  
probably 3 to 4 times per week. I'm no longer able to ride a bike--so I only  
visit downtown on days/times when I can be fairly sure that parking will be  
9 available.

10 There are several shops I frequent and sometimes the restaurants.  
11 We go primarily for restaurants. Rarely for anything called shopping.  
12 lack. of parking with access.  
Downtown is a great place to walk to, hangout with friends, or have drinks or  
13 food with friends.

14 I live two blocks from downtown and usually walk from home.  
usually bike with my daughters (10 and 11 year old) to downtown for brunch,  
15 desert, or tea  
16 possibly 2 or 3 times a month  
Pre-covid frequency; hope to resume when not as restricted by covid  
17 concerns.

I like the cuteness of downtown. If you keep making it generic (like 1st street,  
like where Cetrella is) then I have less incentive to go downtown because I  
18 can get generic anywhere else (downtown MV, Sunnyvale, Palo Alto etc.)  
19 I do not want a downtown theatre. We have other more important priorities.  
I visit downtown to go shopping for various items. Parking availability is  
20 important to me.

21 Why not fix the old bus barn theater?  
I haven't gone out much since Covid. I answered this question based on how  
22 often I visited downtown prior to Covid.

23 Visit the coffee shops, restaurants, and live downtown  
I do go there to visit the restaurants, bank and other businesses, but not  
24 every week.

25 I usually go to the library and then head downtown for a coffee or lunch  
I love that I can park once and do all my errands - groceries, drug store, dry  
cleaning, coffee, etc. I volunteer at the Los Altos History museum and visit  
the library regularly as well. We almost never go out to dinner anywhere  
other than Los Altos, bringing friends and family along with us. I've never  
26 loved living anywhere as much as I love living in Los Altos.  
We often have dinner downtown once or twice a week, and sometimes a  
weekend breakfast, and there's the relatively new Amandine! We also  
grocery shop in downtown Los Altos and sometimes do other errands (e.g.,  
27 tailoring at Paris Tailor or shoe repair at European Cobbler).

28 Typically dinner. Sometimes weekend morning coffee and pastry.  
Occasionally to eat. We need pickleball courts in Los Altos. Mountain View  
has pickleball courts so it is easier to go to restaurants in Mountain View after  
29 playing pickleball

30 Hard to find parking

31 occasionally go to downtown Los Altos to shop, but mainly go there to eat out. Honestly, our favorite place downtown is State of Mind pizzeria. Good food, good beer, good atmosphere for families & sports fans, and a fun arcade.

32 Modern, approachable and appeals to multiple types of people.

33 I live in the area and work downtown.

We need more downtown parking so that the center pedestrian areas can eventually become car free. Find another place for a theater.

34 As a frugal citizen and resident I believe that there are more important matters for the city to think about than a live theatre. We used to have a cinema on Main St. which my family and neighbors attended frequently. I realize that live theatre is not the same. This area has, imo, sufficient venues for live theatre in neighboring communities and the small Los Altos venue seems to serve its purpose nicely enough. Foothill college presents high quality and a variety of performances for example. Personally I prefer opera and symphony instead of amateurish live plays.

35 Once a month

36 On e every 2 weeks.

38 I try to shop in Los Altos whenever possible, to support the local shop owners. I walk to Los Altos and around LA daily. Walk to all community events in Los Altos.

39 Usually every day

When COVID is over we will again be hurt for parking. Taking a parking plaza for non parking would be a major mistake. Yes the old costume bank building. My wife and I are regular visitors/shoppers in downtown Los Altos. Pre-Covid19 we had a more attractive city WITHOUT the dining park-lets. These obstruct pedestrian/shoppers and clutter the sidewalks and parking spaces.

42 There is nothing attractive about them and they take away available parking. In a town the size of Los Altos, I am wondering why the zip code is a factor. The North/South Divide???

Though I live in "south" Los Altos, I visit downtown a minimum of 4x a week. I have worked there in the past and have been shopping there since junior high (early 1960s).

43 Downtown Los Altos could be so much better! The continued opposition to improving it hurts the quality of life here.

44 Live near 280/foothill, therefore rarely go that way. Would go that way for good reasons.

45 I primarily go to town for the restaurants or the library. We live in the south part of town, so I do most errands closer to my home (grocery, drugstore, post office, gift shopping).

47 I typically walk or drive to downtown every other day for food, coffee, or  
picking something up at Los Altos Hardware.

48 Finding parking is an issue.

49 I am always in DT & have raised 3 kids here  
I go grocery shopping, I go to the bank, I got a Starbucks, etc. I am born and  
50 raised in Los Altos.

I would like to but we are at the other end of town. I wish more services and  
programs were more centrally located. I used to come more often but the  
parking is not set up for those with mobility issues. The merchants did not  
want to make any handicapp spaces as they take up more space to they  
51 don't want us there.

52 I walk downtown every day on my way up into Los Altos Hills.

53 There's not much going on downtown to attract me there

54 We have always wanted a theatre. It is the hub in Los Gatos  
Busy with 4 kids and sports and COvid. Maybe prior to Covid - 1-2x per  
55 week to pick up take out. Do not do much down town

56 1 or 2 times per month

I visit less at this juncture due to the continuance of COVID and people who  
57 are not vaccinated nor wear masks indoors.

Why are only now three responses-out of 8 below being recorded? This  
58 question is broken.

59 I try to shop locally whenever possible.

I mostly visit the Los Altos library, De Martini's and on occasion Linden Tree  
60 books and Uncommon Threads. Other than that I rarely shop downtown.

61 1-2 times per month

62 do banking and lunch/dinners/ bike or drive

63 We walk downtown almost every day for exercise.

64 I don't think this is best use if city space and funds.

65 post office, bank, walgreens, safeway, occassionally to a restaurant

We walk into town most days, and often twice a day. Both for shopping,  
66 exercising, and enjoying the downtown.

I walk to town almost daily to shop or eat. To have a theatre nearby would be  
67 fabulous.

68 I support our local businesses

69 So far, you have not asked any question needing a more detailed response.

70 More likely once a week

71 usually just the arts fairs

72 I live near downtown and walk there every day  
I live in South Los Altos and shopping is easier rather than going downtown.

73 Restaurants in Mountain View are better.

74 About once per month.

75 Mostly bakery, library, & dog park.

I probably visited once a week before Covid but rarely now except that rare  
76 means bi-weekly



**Q6. Please rate the following in terms of where the city should spend city funds and resources:**

- New police building
  - Housing required by the state to meet regional mandates
  - Refurbishing Halsey House
  - Performing arts theater
  - Parks
  - Grant Park Community Center improvements
  - New Library
  - Other
- Please feel free to elaborate on your response here:

Respondents	Please feel free to elaborate on your response here:
1	New or improved sidewalks; bike lanes; road safety like cross-walk signage; etc.
2	All are the preceding are 8's with the exception of park improvements where I believe the city is long overdue in helping the mid to high school kid. Like Mt. View and Menlo Park a skateboard park would be nice. The benefits speak for themselves.
3	why do we need to spend all of our money?
4	reducing taxes
5	I can't support building anything new in Los Altos—including state-mandated housing--until we have adequate water, roads, upgraded parks, parking lots and overflowing coffers of cash. A new theatre the taxpayers would pay for and maintain? Are you kidding?? This community is too small to support a theatre and too run-down to put the cost of it on the backs of its constituents. We now have a lovely community center without classrooms—and nothing to do there! Please use common sense!!
6	traffic safety/improvements
7	Community pool
8	Removing the PG and E lines so that they stay under the ground. They started a fire in my neighbors house and are a fire hazard.
9	It would be helpful to know the background on some of these items - ie why specifically do we need a new police building. Is the old building too small, lacking in vital high tech features etc. What are the issues at Grant Park? I would assume most people in south Los Altos would prioritize improving the G.P. community center, while those of us in North Los Alto may be unfamiliar with its shortcomings.
10	I can't answer this without understanding the state of each of these items and the costs.
11	I'm of the group that really thought there should have been a community pool. Probably an idea that has come and gone.

- 12 I don't have strong feelings on improvements but would like to see the maintenance of parks.
- 13 Other: Traffic Calming projects. I feel that libraries are extremely important, especially for children/students. However, I was not aware that the current library was not sufficient to meet the needs. If the current library is not sufficient, than I would give it a higher priority.
- 14 Performing arts venues are important. We need more of them, not bigger ones. Modifying large public rooms, gymnasias at schools, even out door venues, which could to accommodate audiences of 75-150 would be helpful.
- 15 Parking, as always, is another problem.
- 16 The use of priorities inherently means there is an assumption that Los Altos cannot do all of them. That is a false assumption, and the assumption is not even stated. The introduction falsely implies that the city would pay for a theater, and this priority list falsely implies that the city would pay for everything on the list.
- 17 not familiar with police station
- 18 Other: Residential underground power grid.. perhaps incentives for streets of neighbors who agree to pay for lines from the center of street or from back fence line to their individual homes. This is long, long overdue.
- 19 Parking
- 20 Parking is still a problem
- 21 Improve stores downtown
- 22 More park space, especially in North Los Altos
- 23 More restaurants
- 24 I feel library and parks, and police building can benefit more LA residents. Performance arts is kind niche so fewer get benefit. Of course housing mandate is due to state, doesn't benefit LA residents.
- 25 Please turn 999 Fremont into a plaza as specified in the Loyola Corners Specific Plan. This is LONG OVERDUE! There is not enough parking in Los Altos as it is and turning a parking lot into a performing arts theatre should be a low priority.
- 26 These are important issues and I would need to think about and have more information to rank them. For instance, what is needed by our police to require a new building?Is there a state requirement that we spend money on regional mandates for housing? What is Halsey House? What would be done for our parks, and why do we need a new library? Since I know Grant Park Community Cent has long been neglected I am placing that as Priority 1.
- 27
- 28 Number one priority should be bike/ped safety improvements, especially near schools and including air quality. Get rid of gas-powered machines, ban leaf blowers (including electric ones which stir up harmful dust that contains heavy metals and bacteria) and ban wood burning. It is not safe to bike or walk in Los Altos because we are always breathing in toxic fumes from leaf blowers and wood smoke from chimneys in the winter.

My comment here is that city funds should support the needed feasibility study, now. Private funds should finance the theater building on a parking plaza. It will become a city owned building.

27 All other capital items, such as police department, will happen when designed.

28 I assume that #5 is high priority.

29 Pave roads and increase police services for community

30 Pave the roads

31 Movie theater for downtown

Making downtown a place people want to go, not just a place with a few restaurants and 50 hair salons (it's gotten better in the past 5 years but could still improve)

32 A performing arts theatre in one of the park settings might be very nice. That would be preferred over a parking lot setting.

33 I am basing my ranking on the Performing Arts theater with the assumption that the building would be used for other public functions as well.

34 Buying back properties from Ann Wojcicki's foundation so that she stops re-creating downtown Los Altos the way she specifically wants it to be.

35 Is 1 higher or lower? My answer assumes 1 is high and 8 is low.

36 Our civic buildings are outdated with lack of cutting edge technology. Living in a place like Los Altos, I expect better buildings and infrastructure. Hopefully it won't take as long as it took to get a decent community center. I wish we had a community pool. Once Covington's pool was removed, there is no local pool. Performing arts center sounds great but if it comes at the expense of parking space (one of the parking plazas) it is more damage than benefit since parking in down-town is getting tougher.

Making downtown harder to park in is not something I look forward to.

38 We have two great/nice libraries: no need to have another.

39 All plans should take parking into account. E.g. theater should not take away parking space!

I wonder if the Bus Barn could be refurbished. Seems like a lot of money and valuable parking space would be used for a new theater.

For "other" I'd like Los Altos to have some resources for helping with unhomed individuals. We need someone who can case manage and can help with other supports.

40 Also for "other" I would like to see some improvement at Loyola Corners, particularly creating a bike lane and intersection alignment at Fremont and "A" Street to encourage walking/biking, and for the safety of students commuting to school. I would like to see 999 Fremont become a community plaza or park.

41 I do not support using precious City funds and resources to refurbish Halsey  
42 House. The City has many other needs that should receive a higher priority.

42 Parking

We are required to spend money on housing. But I would suggest saving funds which might really be needed in the future.

43

The Los Altos Library was begun around 1916, long before the city was incorporated. For that reason, it is a county library. That said, the city did a great disservice several years ago when Friends of the Los Altos Library lost the use of Hillview for sorting and selling books. The fancy new community center did not replace that important civic function.

44

45 permanent dog park in portion of Grant Park.

The Los Altos theater is testimony to our residents belief in the performing arts as mindful recreation, a multi-cultural platform to present the worlds beyond our ken. Intelligent entertainment inspires all ages. A new theater in proximity to the State Street market could rival the Berkeley rep in drawing people throughout the Bay Area to visit Los Altos. I prioritize resources for a community theater, in this increasingly depersonalized society, live theater is a joy and can bring economic benefits to downtown.

46

47 Parking

48 More bike paths

Los Altos down town should be protected - too many shops have already moved out and now are already empty.

49 I am assuming 1 is the highest priority

Rankings are based on what items affect the most residents and for me that is the library (highly used), housing, Grant community center (affects many of our seniors) and then the police building.

50

Housing is a regional crisis. I feel that should be addressed before other amenities.

51

PARKS PARKS PARKS. As housing mandates are cutting lot sizes and increasing density, thereby reducing private outdoor space, the city MUST make public parks and outdoor green spaces the top priority. As our housing becomes more like Palo Alto and Mountain View, there should be a proportional increase in public parks.

52

Housing should be private money. Library and theater can be used by everyone for all types of activities!

53

Hard to rate when I don't know current state of library or police station so not sure which is needed more. Also, I don't know Halsey House? The housing issue is important as our city has mandates to meet so should be addressed first.

54

These items are not all equivalent, and thus the question can't be answered as asked. For example, while the City permits housing, developers build it (though, of course, the City could provide public land). The County operates our libraries, so may be willing to fund part or all of a new building. Public-private partnerships are certainly a strong possibility for several of these items as well. Nor does potential return on investment factored into the question.

55  
56 Providing more activities for the senior community of Los Altos.

Are these the only budget items the city plans to spend funds on? Road safety, park maintenance, full police/safety services funding are the priorities I would make. How about giving property taxes back to the residents? ie. finding a way to take less in the first place. Everything else is gravy, and

57 should be funded by private or outside sources.

At this point Halsey House should be torn down.

Don't think we necessarily need a new police building.

Housing required by state/regional mandates will have to be done so could be thought of as #1 or even #0 since we'll have to do that.

58 Think a downtown theater would be great for community!

59 Other: down town parking

Top priority should be to add pickleball courts which is the number one

60 growing sport in America

I didn't know which was higher, priority One or priority. So I went with priority

61 One. It also only let me pick a few or one.

The only thing the City should spend money on is the library. The police have a cushy job with crimes low, not sure why they need better accommodations.

Halsey House should be mothballed. The City shouldn't spend money on low income housing, zone so it is desirable for developers to build it on major traffic corridors. Grant Park is a LAR shining example of where they want money spent that benefits a few, so no, we don't need two senior centers

62 and no on spending money on the facility.

Nothing wrong with the current library should spend \$\$\$ on some pickleball courts

63  
64 Other: schools and children/family resources

We need affordable housing and a thriving downtown with shops and restaurants, And we have a new rec building - where is that in this ??

65 We should be remodeling or building new construction of the Bus Barn right where it is

66  
67 Oyster shell Bocci courts for Grant Park

The most important is housing; the city should offer sites for affordable housing. Parks are important; one of the parking plazas should become a park. A theater would be nice. Police, new library, Grant Park: yeah whatever. Other: well, more housing, I guess. The city should spend \$0 on

68 refurbishing Halsey House, because it should be torn down.

69 Nothing other than housing is a priority issue

Grant Park Senior Center should be greatly improved. My rare experience at the Los Altos Senior Center has been, to say the least, somewhat unsatisfactory. I have taken group exercises at the Mountain View facility which was more desirable.

70 which was more desirable.

71 a decent dog park. the current one is awful..

72 Other: recreation dept. classes and programing for residents

There is community theatre in MW and Palo Alto. We do not need it. Here as well. There are plenty of tickets. We need housing.

73 There is not enough detail to rank. Why a new police building? Is it in disrepair? What kind of theatre? We have bus barn and Shoreline and MV arts and Flint Center all within reach. The main library? Why?

74 Grant park yes because I know it's old and needs work.

I cannot answer this as I lack information as to why improvements in existing facilities are needed.

I do think that a theater could be a draw for the community - but finding out how much people would actually us it, and what for, would be important. However, with the closing of the CineArts at Palo Alto Square, and the Flint Center at DeAnza, there may be an opening.

75 The city paid over \$300K for the Downtown Vision study. We all want a vibrant downtown. The theater was rated as most important to a vital downtown

76 I am not in favor of using parking space to build a theater in downtown. Perhaps we should use that available space to build the low-cost housing required. Los Altos could do like Stanford; sell the small houses but lease the land. Please study this idea.

77 don't feel comfortable offering opinions as i don't have any information on needs and justification.

78 There would be huge benefits to building a new performing arts theater. The residents would benefit by having a local entertainment center, the restaurants in Los Altos would benefit from having more customers since often people like to eat out before a performance, the entire downtown shopping area would benefit from people in neighboring communities coming to visit. The theater could share live performances that mostly attract older audiences with movies that attract a younger audience. Matinee and evening performances of live shows and movies could keep the performing arts center open all day, every day and make Los Altos more vibrant.

79 This is a poor question. Several of these projects deserve equal ranking

80 Don't know what Halsey house is.

81 Bike boulevards, sidewalks, and proper bike lanes to and around all of Los Altos making roads safer for people not to drive. Traffic calming

82

Parks and housing are equally important. Choosing where we put dense housing is imperative, otherwise we'll end up with ADUs and 4 plexes everywhere, making traffic even more of a nightmare than it is. Putting dense buildings with a big percentage of AFFORDABLE units would mean the state could not force us to add housing where we don't want it. As you add people, you need to also add green space. Otherwise, we will all end up

83 feeling like rats in a cage.

84 Swimming pool and dog park.

I am not clear on whether funding for the theater or a new library would come from the city. My understanding is that funds for a new library would come from the County, and funds for the theater would come from private donations or foundations.

I believe that city resources should be spent on housing, but to my knowledge the city does not have funding for new housing unless they waive fees, like they did with 330 Distel.

85 Fenced in dog park, swimming pool

86 Traffic calming like speed bumps on busy residential streets.

I believe the City should spend it's money to provide more community amenities like a performing arts theater, swimming pool, more amenities for kids and especially teens and a dog park with amenities.

87 Other = keeping outdoor dining on downtown streets. Make it permanent  
Please don't build on the parking plaza until I'm too old to drive.

88 A theater would be number 1 on my priority list if it was to be built anywhere  
90 else.

Halsey House should be steadily improved with grant money available from the County and historical trust funds. With the Community Center nearing completion, the south end of town's public spaces need investment to lessen

91 the inequality between the two sides of town.  
A simple relatively inexpensive undertaking would be to have our downtown sidewalks regularly cleaned/pressure washed -- "at least" once a month.

Too many dogs leaving there urine all over downtown; at every corner, bench, flower pot, street lamp pole, etc., disgraceful!

The outdoor eating adds to the attractiveness of our downtown and the added  
92 spilled food/drink messes.



Parks should be a priority, especially since we are required to build more housing by the state. Those living in condos and apartments especially and those living in dwellings on sub-standard lots need green space to enjoy. We already have fewer parks per thousand residents than surrounding communities.

Halsey House is a hidden gem that should never have been allowed to deteriorate.

If the police dept. needs repairs/updating then it should be a top priority; certainly before a Performing Arts Theater. There is a Performing Arts Theater in Mtn. View as well as the Pear Theater both of which we have enjoyed, There is a Children's theater in Palo Alto. There are theaters in San Jose. Plenty of theaters in close proximity to Los Altos. There is no need for a

93 performing arts theater in every town!

94 Roundabout at San Antonio/Main/Edith/new entrance into Library area

95 Repave roads.

Don't use Grant Park so really can't comment. But if South LA residents use it a lot then of course upgrade. However the new Community Center should be

96 for all of LA

I consider policing to be of the highest priority. And mandating SB 9 and SB10 is a terrible idea that will lower quality of life in Los Altos.

I do not want a live performance theater built in downtown Los Altos. Small theater companies are going broke and as a taxpayer I do not want to

98 subsidize a theater.

99 Add community pool to grant pro community center

Refurbishing the existing theater could be a lower cost option. Also a business plan for a downtown theater showing that it would have enough events to support the theater operating costs. Current revenues of the theater group don't indicate that they can support a theater. An event coordinator would be needed. Also parks, and nature centers etc. Seem to benefit more people in

100 the community

101 Priority 1 is high, priority 8 is low

The question is misleading. There are priorities for what should happen, and there are separate priorities for where the city should spend its money to

102 make them happen. These are NOT the same thing.

103 Bicycle lane improvements

104 Could not vote all items because priorities are exclusive.

Let's provide housing for diverse residents.

Our Performing Arts Theater is woefully behind Mtn. View, Palo Alto, Sunnyvale, and Saratoga.

105 Parks are a key, outdoor, shared resource, particularly with COVID.

This project would likely be a public/private partnership so this question suggests that it's unclear how a theater ranks among other city needs.

Feasibility and terms need to be developed first. Also moving a theater would free up land for a New Library or other needs. Without knowing what is

106 entailed realistic tradeoffs can not be identified.



We need to have off-leash hours for dogs at several city parks, that are accessible from the spectrum of neighborhoods, north to south. Definitely would love this and use it at Grant Park, near my home, rather than driving to Mt. View, Cupertino, Sunnyvale, top let my dog chase a ball (legally)! PLEASE don't waste the 10-years of "exploration" done by the Dog Park

107 Subcommittee of PARC!

108 Creating design guidelines to protect neighbors form encroachment as buildings become larger and more encroaching.

I think library comes from other funds. Also, parks should generally come from park in-lieu fees so this doesn't seem an appropriate use of general fund typically. Similarly, although I think affordable housing is a priority, generally City funds are not used to fund this. As a result, I don't think this question is well worded.

109 Paving our roads is most important

110 Other = Lighting and finalize downtown planning includiing KEEPING parklets for dining as an integral part of the overall plan.

111 I don't think housing requires much in terms of funds, just changing regulations to allow more housing. The library is fully utilized and expanded facilities are needed, especially as more people stay in the area during the day rather than commuting to offices. I also think the city should create a public pool.

112 We need a theatre like we need a hole in the head, get real. Los Altos doesn't need it's own of everything- support Theatreworks Stanford and MVCPA.

113 Want local theatre- do theatre in the parks.

114 I don't support losing another parking lot and especially not for live theater.

The city shouldn't spend money on housing and isn't required to. Not sure why that would be on this list. I think the city divides plans between operational and capital needs. This ranking mixes in the two together. The city is very small and has little resources for capital improvements.

115 Unfortunately I don't think we can afford a new library. As I understand it, this theater proposal is self-funding and would increase the parking downtown. So it may be that the development could be funded from property owners who would benefit from the new parking. Hmmm?

"Other" category should be whatever will benefit the largest number of residents. This should be determined by a professionally conducted survey by the City. I prefer off leash dog areas throughout Los Altos. I believe recent statistics show that at least 35 percent of Los Altos households have dogs and the number is increasing. We don't have a single off leash dog area with recent cessation of the trial park at Hillview.

116

117 Don't waste money on Grant Park or Halsey House!

We need a dog park. A dedicated fenced in dog park. I'd be curious to know how many Los Altos residents own one or more dogs. If improvements to parks are to be made, I see no reason why a dedicated fenced in area for dogs can't be built in several of them. Every city surrounding Los Altos welcomes dogs in their parks. However, Los Altos; a city that has an annual pet parade, can't seem to even have just one dog park. Not to mention that the recent pilot program at Hillview, was destined to fail from the beginning and now it has.

What will become of the bus barn theater If a performing arts center is built? Who are the advisers for this performing arts center?

118 If the police station is remodeled, will it include jail/holding cells? If so, how many?

I was shocked to learn we have no pool yet in our town. I thought it was going to be at civic center. If they build on it should be centrally located. For theater they could maybe use mountain view center for performing arts.

120 I believe a new downtown theater will add so much vibrancy to our downtown. These things don't all require city funds, so this question is comparing apples and oranges. The theater and the library would likely be built with money from other sources. Housing mandates don't require the city to fund the housing, only to authorize it.

121 Downtown needs some cultural attraction to bring some social interaction to the city.

123 Pool, pool, and pool!!! Did I say this city needs a community pool?

I am concerned about losing a parking plaza in downtown Los Altos. I am unable to bike there from South Los Altos and there is no public transportation to downtown. Not everyone in Los Altos lives close enough to walk

124 downtown.  
125 Road Repairs

Quite honestly I wish they would build a combined Performing Arts and a Innovation lab where kids, seniors and adults could support creativity and building for kids. I tried to suggest this years ago, k-8 could use it for school trips, maybe even the high school kids could fulfill volunteer hours teaching kids coding, CAD, design, robotics and seniors could be involved...That was my vision. I think it would be used more than Performing Arts on a daily

126 basis. So if Performing Arts - how will it be used on a daily basis?  
127 Doesn't say if level 1 or level 8 is highest. Please fix this.

Parks, Grant Park Community Center improvements, and a new police building are a tie for # 3 priority but your survey doesn't allow that.

128 New satellite community center for SOUTH Los Altos on par with the design values of the new NORTH Los Altos community center.  
129

I believe there should be a community swimming pool, replacement of broken sidewalks, and repaving of streets with potholes before there are any more expensive projects started.

I am supportive of a theater in theory, especially is equipped to show films too.

130 I don't have enough information about the items listed to prioritize them.  
This question mechanics is broken. I can;t rate each 8 options.

131

132 Swim center

I feel like housing should be built with private money, not city funds. A performing arts theater is something that our city desperately needs. The current theater is inadequate and unsafe.

133 Halsey House should be torn down. It's a long ignored blight to which now would be a waste of money expensive renovation. Tear down both the  
134 houses down there and create a lovely atrium or nature center new.  
The city should spend more funds and resources to educate the public on what they must do to avoid disasters due to human induced climate change. They should also spend funds to ensure that Los Altos remains a rural  
135 suburb and not become more like a city.

136 Off leash hours at most parks - especially Marymeafe and Grant park I can walk to.

137 Would much rather have a movie theater downtown instead of a performing arts theater!

The city should NOT be in the entertainment business. If people feel strongly about a theater, sell the land to a developer or the Stage Company, with the provision LA gets first choice on use of the property. What would the theater be used for when no shows are scheduled? A private group using it for their practices and so forth- this sounds like some private group wanting to get the city to pay to build this thing so they can use it for their special, exclusive use under the guise of a community theater.

138

139 Priority 1 is high, 7 is low

Other - I very much support infrastructure maintenance, and meeting city legal commitments (Halsey House). Think roads, sewers, parks, sidewalks, etc. Things residents use every day. I am not talking about the minimum effort possible to check the box, like now - I am talking about a quality, durable job.

I do not think projects should be funded, or even planned, where there is undemonstrated CLEAR need, if it replicates existing facilities or capability, or violates the existing city plan approved by residents. With the new community center, which has not even opened, it is unclear how any expansion of the library or a theater can even be considered. I have not heard of overcrowded crowds at the Bus Barn, or if the High School has a theater facility that can be shared. I have not heard any compelling, genuine argument as to why the police department needs to be expanded, but I am more open to that (if demonstrated) than the prior 2. I would rather spend money fighting the state mandates that conflict with the Los Altos city plan, rather than build the housing. It would be fine if that money came from any initiative to build a theater or a new library.

140

These are not either/or decisions. You rank 5 and give 6 choices. Grant

141

Park needs upgrading. We need a new library. Badly done survey

142

Other: reduce expenses.

143

There are enough performing arts centers in nearby Mt. View, Cupertino and Palo Alto. I do not see any severe need for one in Los Altos. Local thespians can utilize the existing facility or find another one nearby.

144

Make downtown more vibrant.

145

Other: Maintaining roads

146

increasing visibility of more stop signs and stop lights. The neon orange tape outlining signs and lights that have been completed really makes them stand out

147

better outdoor dining and walking streets for downtown. Let's turn this into a walking, open European best-in-class location. We had a good start with the parklets but we can do even better

148

Mandates have to come first. Policing is critical. These are non-negotiable and actual role of governments. Then Parks and then all the rest that is wasteful spending of taxpayers' hard earned money.

149

Loyola Corners Triangle Property needs to be developed per the LCSP. We need a neighborhood mini-park/plaza as an entrance to the shopping area.

150

Dog or skate park

151

Creating off-leash hours M-F for one hour each morning between 8-10 am window and every afternoon 4-6 pm year round to account for daylight saving changes and keep hours the same at each park if possible.

152

I do not believe a small 125 person theatre is needed because we have many nearby venues and do not own enough city land to justify.

152

save money for the rainy day that is coming

**Q7. Please rate the following in terms of land use in downtown Los Altos:**

- More parklets/outdoor eating
  - Theater
  - Housing required by the state to meet regional mandates
  - More parking spaces
  - Other
- Please feel free to elaborate on your response here:

Respondents	Please feel free to elaborate on your response here:
1	New or improved sidewalks; bike lanes; road safety like cross-walk signage; etc.
2	Structured parking like M.V. Park improvements. Better maintenance of streets and existing parking in Los Altos. No parking garages, please. Parklets were meant to be temporary.
3	Get rid of them. They reduce already limited parking!
4	green space A nice tree lined street with shade and may be a duck pond that weaves through downtown Los Altos. More parks, and walking trails on flat land for seniors and children and others that is relatively car free.
5	I think the main parking issue is lack of spaces near key places for seniors, and those with mobility issues but do not qualify for handicapped placards. I would love to see some short-term parking spaces for seniors. It would be difficult to enforce and probably rely on the honor system, but our small town it could work.
6	Again, this is overly simplified. We need to provide housing, but is the best place downtown? Maybe so if downtown becomes more vibrant. But it isn't easily connected to public transportation which means more cars. Does the city pay for this or private builders? We shouldn't take up more room for cars, but perhaps a parking garage might help--depending on costs. These are complex questions that can't be answered by a simple survey. Do you simply want to know what I like? Lots of parks, theater, and food. Does that mean we build it? I don't think so.
7	Planting trees wherever possible and maintaining trees
8	I would support using a portion of public land for housing projects for essential workers such as school district employees and city employees (including emergency employees). This is far more important than a theater, and would help us meet the regional housing requirements. It almost seems unbelievable that a sub-group would be pushing for something so expensive
9	at a time when the budget has had to be cut.
10	I have really enjoyed the increased art work. The Bears were a great idea. A new theme every 2 years or yearly would add to the charm of downtown.

11 Businesses suffer from unreal rents. What does the business community  
12 think is necessary.  
13 where to put theater. can we not use existing facilities?  
14 Summer block closeure for restaurants  
15 It is very difficult to find parking downtown  
16 More green spaces, playgrounds, parks, gardens  
17 I think outdoor eating is great, not only for the pandemic. We are lucky in this  
18 mild climate, it feels good to be able to eat outside weather permitting, even  
19 w/o pandemic.  
20 Keep the outdoor dining at least seasonally and therefore keep the other  
21 parking spaces as parking spaces. I do not think we have enough non used  
22 space to provide city builit housing downtown. All of this should be part of a  
23 bigger thoughtful plan.  
24 This is a collection of false choices. So long as covid remains a threat to  
25 indoor gathering, more outdoor eating is a hopefully temporary priority. To  
26 the extent that indoor gathering remains an ongoing threat, an enclosed  
27 theatre building is not a wise use of resources. Older and disabled residents  
need more accessible parking, regardless of the vicissitudes of covid. The  
city of Los Altos stupidly sold prime downtown real estate at well below  
market rates only to end up with a commercial building that creates a canyon  
and serves very few residents. For this older people should give up  
convenient parking for the rest of our lives? The city has no obligation to  
provide land for housing mandates. There are plenty of private owners and  
developers who will address this. What the city needs to do is make lower  
income housing a serious requirement of any of these developments. The  
state, county, and city need to change the incentives away from offices to  
housing.  
Increased parking would be provided by restriping to have slightly smaller  
spaces - but not as small as spaces in Palo Alto parking structures.  
"Other" = greater variety of restaurants and shops. The new food court is a  
good start.  
Going to the theatre is a niche hobby that only caters to a small percentage of  
the population. It tends to attract audiences that are white and elderly. There  
is no need for a theater in downtown.  
Please do not give away more parking spaces, particularly for older people  
who can't walk to downtown from their home.  
Movie theater  
Keep and maintain all parking plazas, no high rise or underground parking  
structures.  
Assumes 1 is high and 5 is low.  
I think it would be great of Los Altos had a decent theater. Again, having live  
performances in a metal shed is below Los Altos standards.  
Theater should NOT take away parking space

Go to the expense and put in underground parking under any new structures downtown, like the theatre. Make Main Street a permanent pedestrian mall with parking structures or underground parking on current parking plazas as needed. Have a dedicated bike lane and make Downtown much more friendly to bike and pedestrian traffic. Put below market and mixed residential use on existing parking plazas with underground parking like Palo Alto did on High Street. During day, there is parking space for shoppers in underground parking while residents and diners use it at night.

28

This is a SMALL downtown. There is no reason to use every inch of it for more buildings,

29

Theaters, or parking spaces.

parking garage would allow street use for outdoor dining while maintaining parking.

30

31 restaurants

32

Permanent walking only streets.

I favor underground parking if we want to develop on top of the parking plazas.

33

In order to move towards a more vibrant downtown, all of the above should be considered and planned for. As far as parking, I'd like to see parking integrated into the plans. If we have an increase in parking spaces, this should be done in a way that maximizes land use (such as parking garages).

34

I was unable to click on BOTH parklets/outdoor dining AND theatre. BOTH Priority 1 for our age and our teen children (who have nowhere to hang out). ANOTHER Priority 1 is a place for schools kids to hang out together that is not Safeway & Walgreens.

35

36 Better optimization for pedestrian and bike traffic.

37

Safer biking routes.

It is very rare that I visit downtown and cannot find a parking space within a block of my destination. That seems reasonable to me. If the city can find a way to have more parking, I'm for that.

38

39 Reduce speed limit on Magdalena ave.

40

We should consider blocking off traffic from 1st for to 3rd on Main St. for pedestrian mall. Pandemic has shown how popular this has become.

41

Pickleball courts

42

Install pickleball courts like mt view and Sunnyvale offer

I think the priority of outdoor spaces far exceeds the priority of other land use options.

43

44 More green grass

45

Other: Turn a downtown parking plaza into a lovely park with trees and shade.

On my rare trips into town I have never found parking to be a problem. Now if you ask me about the rudeness and arrogance of some drivers that would be another story.

46

47 Other=greenery, trees, plantings, arbors, etc.  
Community space; space for recreation dept. classes and programing for  
48 residents  
49 I would close Main St to traffic, and have it be more of a pedestrian mall.  
50 see above  
Who doesn't want a vibrant downtown. The theater would be of maximum  
51 benefit to that goal  
Build Theater where the current theater is located. Parking can be shared  
with the new Community Center..  
Do not take more downtown parking for this purpose.  
As more high rise apartments are built, some with limited parking there will be  
less available.  
52 Do not create a worse problem.  
53 Plaza area for gatherings, concerts, etc.  
54 See above comment  
We need a real garage. Every nearby town except for Los Altos has a  
garage and some have several. It needs to be multi story and at a  
convenient location so people can park, leave their car and walk to town to do  
business, run errands, shop, eat at the restaurants, enjoy the theater LIKE A  
REAL TOWN not a sleepy relic of the past. We need to bite the bullet and  
build a 3 story garage, one level below ground, one ground level, and one or  
two levels above ground. Just do it. A convenient small bus could shuttle  
people from the garage to State and Main Streets and then back to the  
55 garage to get their cars, running at night after the show gets out.  
56 Outdoor dining is a good thing. Not necessarily in parklets  
57 Walkability/bike ability, more green spaces.  
We definitely do not need more parking spaces.  
58  
59 Better restaurant and retail stores  
60 Dog playground, more chain retail stores like Lululemon  
61 Other=spruced up landscaping for existing parking lots  
OTHER: Underground garage with retail on first floor and low income/ market  
62 rate housing on the four stories above.  
"More park-lets/outdoor eating":  
I am NOT RATING because they are too low on my list to rate? They should  
be done away with; getting back to dining inside, i.e. pre-covid19. NONE,  
NOT MORE.  
"More parking Spaces":  
We have plenty of parking IF the park-lets for outdoor eating are eventually  
removed AND our council and committees preserve our city owned parking  
63 plazas.



I don't know that we need more parking but we certainly don't need less parking. Parklets are hurting retail. The parklets make it difficult to even see the retail stores from a car. I know the shops like the back of my hand but for those less familiar, they can't see what businesses are here with all the paraphernalia in front (signs, barrels, plants, heaters, umbrellas). The sidewalks are dirtier than ever and almost impassable in certain areas. This  
64 creates hazards for pedestrians.

pedestrian bridges (2) from Lincoln park into 1st street with closing of pedestrian traffic across Foothill expressway at both Main and Edith. The two bridges would be on either side of Main in the middle of the blocks on 1st street. This would also include a roundabout on San Antonio/Edith/Main/entrance into Library area and no pedestrian crossing at  
65 Cuesta/1st street/San Antonio

66 I do not want land in downtown Los Altos used for a theater.

67 Community pool

If parklets are added which I think are desirable then the city should add  
68 parking to the downtown area to make up for the loss.

The question is misleading and wrongly implies that such things as more parking would take up land. We could add parking while using LESS land if we  
69 do what most cities do, which is to build parking structures.

70 Ride share drop off locations

Again votes are exclusive. There is not enough information to put priority on  
71 theater. Will theater exacerbate parking problem?

An updated Performing Arts Theater would bring intellectually curious audience members to the downtown area, helping restaurants, and thoughtful  
72 conversations.

Why just these needs? These items are not mutually exclusive and depend on design and budget considerations. You can achieve all of the above  
73 through creative planning and design if desired by the community.

While housing would be first on my list, I have zero confidence anything will  
74 be done there.

Negotiate rent reductions, leases and other aspects to help and to encourage  
75 more small business to open and remain open in downtown.

I think this question is also poorly worded. I don't think we need more parklets/outdoor eating than what we currently have. We should see how these work long-term, but I do like these. I don't see the theater and housing as being mutually exclusive. They could have a symbiotic relationship.  
76 Funding sources would be very different.

Other = Lighting and beautification, including maintenance and expansion of  
77 tree parking lots.

The city should try to revive the proposal for a park on 1st across from the  
78 Safeway over underground parking.

Here again the survey is very hard to complete. I don't think the city should pay for parking spaces but should get the landowners to fund these, parklets and other downtown improvement things as they have been doing for years. So if the private landowners are doing it, how does that fit into a city survey? The city shouldn't be paying for outdoor dining spaces, but the city should relax and impediments to this and perhaps handle issues related to ADA compliance.

79

Off leash dog hours at several existing Parks at various locations in the city. It is ridiculous to have to drive to a single spot in Los Altos to exercise your dog off leash. With the Hillview Park experiment, people from South Los Altos would have about a 6 mile round trip drive to reach that site.

80

Dog park dog park dog park... It probably requires the least amount of land amongst all of these.

81

Handicapp parking. Outdoor pool

82

These are not mutually exclusive. A theater project could include both more parking and housing.

83

There's no point in preserving parking if there's no reason to go downtown in the first place

84

No movie theater but real live theater.

85

Dog park

86

Parking is horrible. We should have resolved this years ago. Anne offered to do this years ago but was shot down. Incredibly poor city planning.

87

Pedestrian mall downtown.

88

Doesn't say if level 1 or level 8 is highest. Please fix this.

89

Again, a tie with More parklets/outdoor eating and More parking spaces but your survey doesn't allow that!

90

We don't need more parking

91

More dog parks

92

Outdoor public areas

93

We need a MOVIE THEATER

94

any more parking should be either underground or in parking structures.

95

There are only two items in this section that I feel should have any priority.

Housing required by the state is baloney. Most people do not take public transportation to work and "affordable" housing does not make a dent in the homeless problem.

96

I don't spend that much time in the downtown but I've never had any problems parking. Even if I have to walk a couple of blocks I don't think that's

96

a problem.

97

Parks in place of parking lots.

97

More restaurants, cafes and a movie theater

98

The idea of we citizens subsidizing a small group of people that want a space to dance is absurd. Let the rich people that are part of this town foot the bill so they can act like they have some culture. Use Mountain View's performing arts center for their shows. LA is a SMALL town, give them a small place to dance, like someones garage in the hills. I am tired of a small group of people trying to get the rest of us to pay for their hobbies. What's wrong with the Bus Barn Theater being used? Expand it if it is too small.

99 We be need more access to  
100 Parking downtown, not a continued barrage of things that continually eat away at our parking  
101 downtown should be a downtown-retail and services. we have the civic center for community center and the theater. downtown should not turn into the stepchild for housing  
102 Closed store fronts are not leveraging that 'land use', and are depriving the residents of shopping opportunities, give the town a dead look, and do not encourage visitors to come to Los Altos. The city should work with property owners and potential businesses to populate the empty storefronts.

Parklets were helpful during the pandemic, but are a hazard to navigation, particularly with large vehicles and the aging population. The city should create a sensible plan for their removal, likely over the winter when they will be sparsely used, and indoor dining is allowed at capacity.

There is already too much high density housing downtown relative to the 'small town' that is supposed to be Los Altos. There will be nothing unique about Los Altos is we evolve into a mini Mountain View.

Certainly the parking plazas should be retained in their current condition. Continually downsizing the spots to make more of them is counterproductive at this point.

102 encourage telecommuting so we can convert office space to housing

103 The theater is a good initiative. It can become a multi purpose hub

104 Put all the state-required housing down along El Camino Real or along San Antonio Road. Leave residential neighborhoods untouched. Start a campaign for a new Proposition to cancel SB 9 and SB 10 and get rid of the state mandated housing requirements. We do not need growth and do not want growth. Preserve what we have to the best of your ability and tell

105 Sacramento to stuff it.

106 A more vibrant downtown.

107 Other: Expanded outdoor plaza for informal gathering

108 More handicapped spaces close to Main St

109 closing streets to walk/play

110 We already have a theater (Bus Barn). How about looking at a dog or skate park?

- 111 Instead of taking converting a parking plaza to a theatre above one level parking why not create a series of parks with trees and perimeter fencing that could also be used for off-leash dog hours.
- 112 save money

**Q8. PRE-COVID, I attended live performances at Bus Barn Theater.**

Answer Choices

- 1-2 times/year
- 3-4 times/year
- 5 or more times/year
- Not at all

Please feel free to elaborate on your response here:

Respondents

Please feel free to elaborate on your response here:

- 1 Moved to the region during COVID
- 2 I've thought about it but have not.  
My youngest daughter did theatre programs throughout the SV and Bus Barn was one of them.
- 3 I used to go often when my kids were young and performed there. After that I didn't get information about the shows being performances there. The productions were always great and a lot of fun. I would attend more if I had more notice of the plays. Advertising - maybe emails would keep me in the loop. More effort/deals for subscription tickets would get me there a lot more.
- 4 I like the location where it is.
- 5 only a few times in 30 years
- 6 I would have attended more, but do not like the current theatre facility.
- 7 Twice in whole life here in Los Altos
- 8 Actually I went once (in more than a decade living in Los Altos).
- 9 The Bus Barn is not a facility that seniors find safe or comfortable.  
A new theater with modern sound, light boards, dressing rooms, a nice lobby where receptions could be held, a shop for set construction, indoor bathrooms, classroom space and underground parking would be a wonderful addition to Downtown Los Altos. If we had an aggressive fund raising campaign with the city providing seed money and matching funds, we could get a first-class facility to support all kinds of performing arts: live theatre, small ensemble music concerts, readings, lectures, film festivals. It does not need to be grand, but carefully planned as an educational, rehearsal and performance space, using environmentally friendly design and materials, environmentally sensitive landscaping creating inviting indoor and outdoor
- 10 spaces.
- 11 Once every few years would be more accurate.  
I have lived in Los Altos over 20 years and have never attended a
- 12 performance at Bus Barn Theater.

Should be an answer for occasionally. My attendance was not consistent  
13 year to year.

14 Bus barn is an awful place to watch theater. Sound system, noise insulation,  
amenities are sorely lacking

15 Rarely

For many years we had season tickets, then decided to diversify our arts  
16 experiences so opted for single performance tickets to Bus Barn instead.

17 It has been years since we attended a Bus Barn performance

18 less than once a year. The facility is so poor.

Live performances as great for children and their families, but not high priority  
19 for others, which is why they are not financially viable.

20 I did not live here pre-COVID.

21 Bus Barn is fine for Los Altos...we dont need a new venue downtown

Frankly I have not had any desire to see a performance at Bus Barn for the  
reason that I like classical, traditional and intelligent plays and there are only  
22 few of these offered, judging from the reviews.

23 I have attended, however, several years ago.

We had season tickets to Bus Barn Theater for many years, but do not feel  
24 comfortable being indoors with lots of people during this Covid pandemic.

The theaters like Mt View and Oshman are wonderful nearby venues, so I  
25 had no reason to go to Bus Barn.

I do not believe that every small city or town needs to have it's own "city  
owned" theater company. There are plenty of adjoining cities with facilities  
that could accommodate a theater group from Los Altos.

ALSO: There a number of "extremely" wealthy residents in Los Altos/Los  
Altos Hills that can certainly support and or create "on private property" (i.e.  
restaurant/bar cabaret theater) space for such a local theater group without  
26 dipping into City funds for creation and maintenance.

I'm perfectly happy to drive to San Francisco or San Jose to see  
professional opera, ballet, plays. I have enjoyed performances at the Pear  
Theater and Performing Arts Theater in Mountain View which is but a hop,  
skip and jump away. Please don't spend my tax money on something Los  
Altos doesn't need. Those (I'm guessing, in the minority) who want it can pay  
27 for it themselves. I do not approve of building in the parking plazas.

I don't consider that a theater, plus the park space it is using is a huge waste.

The perfect building to refurbish for a theater in downtown Los Altos was the  
building that was renovated into the food court. Perhaps one of the bank  
buildings could be purchased and refurbished into a downtown theater. DO

28 NOT TAKE AWAY ANY PLAZA PARKING.

29 Would do more if possible.

30 I would go to theatre in S.F., San Jose, or, occasionally Mt. View.

31 They rarely have shows that appeal to my taste.

32 We have been subscribers for many years.

33 Less than 1-2 per year , however occasionally

I was the theater manager at Los Altos High School for 11 years. I was also the front house manager for the San Jose repertory theater and was responsible for the volunteer program, and front of house staff, concessions, and the wine bar. It was my responsibility to meet the performers and to do the curtain speech before each performance or have one of my Assistant

34 house managers perform the tasks if I was working at the high school

35 Rarely attended.

I have only attended Bus Barn when my children were younger and involved children's theater.

36 children's theater.

Bus Barn is top notch! Let's support live theater and concerts. But pool and parks should come first as those are much harder to come by. And getting more trees and mitigating overhead air traffic. Do the important things!

37 more trees and mitigating overhead air traffic. Do the important things!

38 In 20 years I think I attended 2 performances?

39 Had season tickets a number of years. Would go more if nicer theater.

40 Occasionally

I'd attend more if the theater was better (more sound insulation from noise outside, rain on the metal roof, indoor bathrooms, etc.). I attend live

41 productions at other locations but would rather support the arts in Los Altos

I feel it is unsafe and the performances are rarely good. The acoustics are horrible. I especially dislike the Follies, which may have ended, as it was too political and insulting to many local people. The Bus Barn WAS a bus barn where the old school bussed were kept. It should have never been changed to a live theater because the construction materials are not meant for that many people. We have other wonderful theaters in the area, but mostly we prefer to stay home and watch streaming TV theater.

42 prefer to stay home and watch streaming TV theater.

43 I go to nicer venues in other towns with better shows due to larger size.

44 None of the show are of interest to me. Get some better variety

attended youth performances when our kids were little and performing there.

45 havent been back in a decade or more

However, I attended performances in Mountain View, Foothill College, and in

46 Palo Alto

Bus Barn serves the local purpose. Nothing better or grander is needed.

47 Upgrade it if necessary, but learn to live with it.

As we get older, we prefer neighborhood theaters. The old Bus Barn had

48 very uncomfortable seats, so we went to the Mountain View Theater.

Existing parking should not be used for a theater that will only be enjoyed by a subset of the population of Los Altos. I support the theater being closer to the community center. We need to preserve existing parking area if the day is coming where we close downtown Main Street and/or State Street to make pedestrian street(s) only. If that occurs, we need to build 2-3 story parking

49 structures to make up for lost parking that currently exists.

- 50 It is a perfectly easy drive to the Mtn View Center for Performing Arts or to the ICON or Century 16
- 51 Years ago I went to one performance of kid show with grand kids. In view of Covid and available venues elsewhere there is no need for this land use. I will and continue to go to other larger venues like the Mountain View Center of the Performing arts or same in San Jose instead where world class shows like Hamilton are run.

**Q9. PRE-COVID, I attended live performances at live theaters such as Mount**

Answer Choices

- 1-2 times/year
- 3-4 times/year
- 5 or more times/year
- Never

Please feel free to elaborate on your response here:

Respondents

Please feel free to elaborate on your response here:

- 1 Less than 1/year  
I have attended theater's in SF, San Jose, Foothill Community College and the local schools.
- 2 I retired just before covid. I immediately signed up for a subscription series to Mt View CPA. Of course, then covid shut it down and I haven't yet been able to attend. But I will. I would love to attend Bus Barn as well. Wish they sent out information as does MVCPA.
- 3 We attend SJ Symphony and Opera as subscribers.
- 4 love mtn view center for performing arts . can park, eat, see show.
- 5 We have an excellent local theatre group - Theatre Works. This award-winning organizations perform in Mt. View and in Palo Alto at Lucie Stern. We should be supporting them.
- 6 Actually I went to Bus Barn Theater once.
- 7 Bing at Stanford  
We do not need to compete with TheatreWorks, rather support the interest in our community for a venue designed for theatre and other performances to enhance the quality of life in Los Altos and a performance space to support the quality of theatre Los Altos Stage Company brings to our community. Through informed, careful planning, this new center could be a gem, win-win for all interests.
- 8 I've attended TheaterWorks performances at both Mountain View Center and Lucie Stern. I attended a live performance at the JCC once, several years ago.
- 9 I haven't done much in the past but have interest in attending more going forward.
- 10 We attend all TheaterWorks performances.
- 11 Rarely but not Never.



14 Occasional Broadway show in SF  
15 occasionally  
16 I did not live here pre-COVID.  
17 I attend Foothill theater many many times. Best theater on peninsula.

18 I attended events at Mountain View performing center 2 or 3 times in the past.  
We had season tickets to Symphony Silicon Valley in San Jose and to the  
Performing Arts Center in Mtn. View for many years, but do not feel  
19 comfortable being indoors with many people now during the Covid pandemic.  
I have attended performances in Mtn.View and Palo Alto but am more likely to  
20 go to San Jose or S.F. for the entertainment I enjoy.  
21 Rarely  
22 I attend large lectures  
23 We have also been long-time subscribers to TheatreWorks.  
24 Occasional performances at Foothill College Theatre  
25 stern  
26 Less than once a year not "never"  
As I said in my previous answer, I was the theater manager at Los Altos High  
School and I also was the front house manager at the San Jose repertory  
theater for three years. I worked very closely with the San Jose Center for  
performing arts, San Jose opera, and TheatreWorks.  
I was also responsible for renting out the high school theater to local groups  
and was responsible for bringing the BANFF international film Festival to Los  
Altos. Working with the Commonwealth Club, I brought in many famous  
speakers as well.  
At the San Jose rep, I had the privilege and honor of working with Carrie  
27 Fisher, Ed Asner, and Lou Gossett Jr.  
Love center for performing arts in mountain view. Park below and go to show.  
28 We go to SF for season tickets to musicals.

I enjoy live performances that are more professional, ie, Broadway, San  
29 Francisco, live concerts. I have never been much interested in local theater.  
We love local theater and joined bus barn when we moved into Los Altos in  
2000. We also had a subscription to Theaterworks for a few years and now  
30 we continue to support Altos Stage Company.  
31 Live performances make for an event and are very pleasant.  
32 Occasionally

33 Why go out when you can see great theater in the comfort of your own home?  
34 Depends on what performances are presented.  
We have more than enough live theatre availability in close proximity. We do  
not need live theatre in lis altos, especially at the expense of a va parking lot.  
35 !!'



- 36 I have been to all of these venues over the years and find them perfectly satisfactory. No need for yet another in Los Altos -- especially with the loss of parking spaces.
- 37 We also attended Opera and Symphony performances in San Jose.
- 38 We only attend concerts which are outside of Los Altos.

**Q10. I would attend live performances at a theater in downtown Los Altos.**

- Answer Choices
- Frequently
  - Occasionally
  - Rarely
  - Never
  - Unsure
- Please feel free to elaborate on your response here:

Respondents	Please feel free to elaborate on your response here:
1	It depends on what is being performed and how well it is performed. I'd certainly rather come to Los Altos than go up to SF, but quality is important.
2	I think we will be living with COVID, including future variants, for a very long time--perhaps forever, and I plan to avoid being in large crowds, unless it is something very enticing. This seems like a very odd time to be pushing for something like this.
3	I feel putting the theater downtown is the wrong approach. I won't attend more often in town than at the current location. I won't go out to dinner more because there's a theater in town.
4	Depends entirely on the play being performed. We prefer light hearted fare.
5	Theatre Works season ticket holder
6	We should support long-established theatre groups like Theatre Works.
7	Depends on programs and cost. Not everyone in Los Altos is high income, especially older residents. Moderate income families cannot afford high prices to pay for an entire family to attend a family oriented event. Perhaps an outdoor theatre with a covered stage area, like a small Hollywood Bowl, that could also be used for other purposes between performances would address the practical needs of the area more than what is currently proposed. Retractable ceiling/audience canopy could address both heat and rain concerns while extending the hours and seasonal use of such a facility.
8	I look at live performances to also include guest speakers
9	An Indi,Foreign and/or classic movie theater would be great, more inclusive. Los Altos Stage Company deserves a home to meet its needs. COVID will pass. Our local area population is growing as witnessed by all the residential development being built along El Camino, potential new theatregoers or audiences for other local smaller venue performances who would not need to go far for desired live entertainment. They would be drawn to events at a modern, new theatre in Downtown Los Altos that also provides restaurants, coffee houses and shops for before and after the show.
10	

11 Bad idea to put a theater here. Leave it for the larger cities.

12 It would depend who is playing or performing  
It would depend on the works performed given that there are many

13 opportunities to attend live performances in the area.

14 Yes please!!  
However, having the resource available to frequent theater goers is a good  
thing and a downtown theater would bring vitality to the town and additional

15 business to restaurants and possibly other retail establishments.  
I question the viability of a live theater performance in downtown Los Altos,  
16 given that TheaterWorks is so proficient.  
I would attend them as often as I did Bus Barn/Los Altos Theater Company.  
The 200 or so yard difference location would not change my attendance  
habits. What drives me to go to a show is what is being shown and if I can get

17 discount tickets.  
My husband is disabled with Parkinson's. We love to attend concerts and

18 theater events and the closer it is to home, the easier it is for us.

19 I would go to musical productions and concerts  
It depends on what the show is. If the theater had shows I wanted to see, I

20 would go.

21 Would rather attend at bus barn

22 It really depends on what the performances are.  
I have a child into theatre and another into dance, so could anticipate they'd

23 use the space  
Depends on what they are. See above. Are films not an option? Or

24 speakers?

25 Keep the Theater at its current location in front of LA History Museum!!!

26 Not the best use of land.

We love live theater and also documentary films and good fictional films and  
do not do streaming at home. We prefer to "go out" to the movies and pre

27 Covid we attended a performance of some sort every week at least one time.

28 COVID isn't going away, so I worry about the safety of a small theater.  
Not overly interested in amateur theater. However, as I referenced above the  
possibility of a small privately funded venue (theater/cabaret setting) would be

29 more likely attended.

30 Not that interested in amateur theater.

31 If it is just the Los Altos theater companies I have no interest.  
When I go, I appreciate quality and doubt that a theater in LA would offer what  
is available at MV Performing Arts, De Anza, Lucie Stern, Foothill College,

32 Stanford, SJ and SF.  
Personally I am quite interested in attending performances. I have strong

33 personal family reasons that prevent me from going.

34 Convenience and quality of production will influence the decision.

It depends on what's in the theater. I would probably attend every new show.  
35 If there is improv or comedy, I would visit it frequently.  
36 I'm a senior on a fixed income and I attend live performances by ushering.  
37 It depends on who's performing!  
I suppose it depends on the productions, venue size, ambience and  
38 aesthetics, pricing, and what as well as how the space was being utilized.  
39 I think there are better places to put it. Loyola corners  
The Bus Barn theater is intimate, but has no other redeeming features. A  
40 modern theater would greatly improve the experience.  
41 For live music performances  
42 Yes please!  
If we had a new theater - which we don't need - maybe it could go in the  
parking lot next to the new restaurant plaza on State Street. People could  
have a nice meal, walk safely to the theater nearby and perhaps gather  
afterward with the performers in the restaurant plaza after the performance. I  
43 can't think of any other place that makes any sense.  
A live performance theater \*could\* be a good thing. It really depends on what  
will be performed there. I've enjoyed the Pear Theater in Mt. View and other  
44 theaters around the Bay Area.  
Obviously your question is stupid- what the hell kind of live performances?  
Two people sitting in a chair on stage is a "live performance". That doesn't cut  
45 it. Explain what kind of performances your talking about!  
46 Because I would be angry at a waste of money building it.  
Plenty of live theatre nearby if you want yo  
47 see it.  
48 unlikely to attend  
I used to subscribe to the Palo Alto Players for many years. The 'modern'  
content of the plays motivated me to stop. I like community theater, but would  
be much more likely to attend in a smal, intimate venue than something like  
the Mountain View Center. That would not be 'community', but rather  
pretending to be professional. Sorry, but they are not, and will likely never be,  
49 that. Pretty much typically pretentious Los Altos.  
Attending a local venue would depend on the quality of the performance. I  
would not attend anything merely because it was in downtown Los Altos. It  
50 would have to be better than whatever the surrounding areas offered.  
51 Depends on the production and quality.  
52 Why have a downtown theater when we already have a theater at Hillview.  
The proposed theatre is too small to attract any artists I would like to see and  
we have many movie theatres with lounge seating nearby if they survive  
53 changes caused by Covid.

Q11. I would like to have a live performance theater downtown.

Answer Choices

Strongly agree

Agree  
Neither agree nor disagree  
Disagree  
Strongly disagree

Please feel free to elaborate on your response here:

Respondents

Please feel free to elaborate on your response here:

I think it is fine where it is. But there should be more walking trails and tree lined streets.

1

2 BusBarn is sufficient and "small town"

This would be OK if it is privately funded on private land. Otherwise, I don't think it is justifiable to use invaluable and irreplaceable public land. There are many other live theater venues available in the area, including the fairly new theater at Palo Alto High School. I attended a live performance there about three years ago, and the facilities were very impressive. Generally, I am

3 more likely to attend live performances for music and dance, than theater.

I think allowing the space to be a multipurpose venue open to a variety of

4 purposes would be the most useful.

I think the right (and more financially reasonable) approach is to fix the Bus Barn Theater where it is. It is charming and attending there given a very nice community feel. The building needs work, but that would be a much less

5 onerous job than trying to force a theater in downtown.

Bus Barn is "downtown" as far as I am concerned. Updating Bus Barn in its present locatiion is desireable.

6 How about a theater that could accommodate "rock" concerts? Or a theater that could accommodate performances by the many local schools, ballet, music,.....Or lectures....

A well-designed theater - with good acoustics - could serve many valuable purposes and would improved the overall quality of downtown Los Altos.

If done properly, a new theater could provide housing and parking as well.

7 It could be done at no cost to the city.

8 Movie theater, not live plays

Would prefer to have it in one of the park settings. Not take up valuable

9 parking spaces.

10 Not at the expense of parking spaces

11 See above.

I think we should have a live performance theater. I have a hard time with the location, and with the amount of resources (\$) it would take to develop and maintain. I would also like to see broader usage - music performances (all

12 types of music), speakers, etc.

A theater would be fine if it's independently financed. If it has to be financed

13 by the city, then I strongly disagree.

14 not that I don't want a theater, but there are much higher priorities.

15 No way  
It would be great to see a performing arts space that will have a broad range of types of performances. For example, not just theater/drama but also

16 MUSIC and children's performances.

17 So fun!! Would love to have something like this in our community.

18 I'm not sure it needs to be downtown but close (library area, etc)  
Moving the theater from its current location to downtown would free up land at the Civic Center for other uses in addition to the benefits described in

19 response to question 10.  
The problem might be >>The performances in MtView/Lucie Stern are given by professional actors. My understanding of Bus Barn is that the performances are given by locals who are very talented - but not

20 professionals. I may not be correct - but this is what i think.

21 Would probably need ongoing subsidy  
Turn the area with the theater, History Museum, library and Community Center into a cultural center and be done with it. Rebuild the current facility

22 and be done with it.

23 No parking and the theater in mt view is close enough  
we already have multiple performance theaters nearby. To revitalize Los Altos, we should look to more modern solutions, like outdoor park/event

24 spaces and restaurants - places to eat and drink and gather.  
I think we would get far more use out of a theater that shows movies. I don't

25 see the necessary interest/numbers to support live theater.

26 Not at the expense of parking availability near the Post Office.

27 Need to hear more details before I decide whether I agree.

28 In addition to Bus Barn? No

29 I'd be more interested in film, I think.

30 Keep the Theater at its current location in front of LA History Museum!!!  
There are enough live theatre venues right next to Los Altos in Palo Alto and

31 Mountain View. Why would there need to be one in Los Altos?  
I have already elaborated on how I believe having a theater would benefit this

32 town, most residents and businesses.  
Given that live performance usually take place at nighttime, this might cause trouble to residents who live close to downtown. In addition, now it's already a bit hard to find parking spots during weekends and holidays. Adding a theatre with a big capacity may worsen the problem and our intimate, peaceful

33 downtown vibe may be disturbed.

34 I don't really care if we have one, but I don't want to have to pay for it.

35 Better things we can do with our funds  
Again, having something funded by private funds downtown in a privately

36 owned building there would be no objection from me. (see above comments)  
If someone with money/donations can buy a building already standing and

37 turn it into a community theater I certainly have no objection.

38 Would love if it could also be a movie theater and concert venue

Agree with the idea that a flexible theatre can increase vibrancy downtown. The PR should show that it's not just being built for LASC but for concerts, talks, meetings, etc. maybe even Saturday movies for kids like I remember in downtown Palo Alto where I grew up.

39

40 Way too expensive.

Not needed and expensive and will impact parking and will not offer the quality of other theaters and Los Altos already has a theater which is all that we need of r 31,000 people!

41

It would help make Los Altos downtown into a better place, provide a better venue for performances, and free up the land that is currently used by the Bus Barn theater for other purposes. Those could include a new police station, new library, or other uses.

42

43 Benefits a very small vocal group

44 Does this replace bus barn?

Live theater and a movie theater would both be welcome forms of entertainment in our downtown area.

45

A performance venue would go a long way to attracting attention to our downtown in the evening when things are really dead down there. Would be a great benefit to dining establishments.

46

As a retiree, I would love the convenience of seeing performances so close to home! This would also make "dinner and a show" very appealing, with Los Altos as the destination.

47

The City is spending more than they are taking in. The City should not spend any money on a theater. City money should be used for basic services such as paying employees, public safety, police and paying down CALPERS

48

Not sure there is need for yet another performance venue. I would rather see a movie theater to bring more young people and families to downtown in the eves like Palo Alto.

49

If the cost of the live performance theater is truly \$15 million (and likely more, we know how construction works generally), there's better use of that money elsewhere in Los Altos.

50

We are surrounded with numerous venues for live theater, movies, music and lectures. Leave Busbarn where it is and between that resource and all of the other venues at neighboring towns, there is plenty of opportunity for entertainment of all types within a reasonable distance.

51

52 It would add some much needed culture to the city.

This should have been taken into acct when center was built. And built as park of community center. Also would like a pool more than theater.

53

The mountain center for performing arts is a nice asset to their city so I would think that Los Altos could benefit from one as well.

54

55 I don't mind keeping Bus Barn next to library.

Not if it takes up any of our valuable parking spaces and definitely not if the taxpayers are expected to pay a portion of the costs.

56

NOT at any city expense or city land allocation.

57 If done purely privately, I have no objection.

58 In theory I agree.

A multi use theater would serve the entire community and could serve many  
59 more functions than was possible in the small, outdated Bus Barn location.

I won't go, but maybe others would go if it was not too far from restaurants  
60 and there were performances children would enjoy.

The idea of a theater downtown to attract people is outdated. The downtown  
is a great place for walking, eating out and shopping. The theater is not  
going to draw people in. Live theater is old fashioned when you can get top  
notch entertainment from thousands of sources. People want high quality  
entertainment and not homespun live theater. The problem with local theater  
companies is that it's not going to draw enough people to make the  
investment worthwhile. The BusBarn does not fill it's seats. Why do we need  
61 a bigger venue?

Your group has not presented any valid reasons to spend my tax money on  
some hair brained ideas by a group of people that want a place to act or  
perform. You have not explained what the benefits are to the city, or the  
citizens are. Who will run this theater, what groups are going to perform-local  
or regional, or nationally know star, local children's groups, what types of  
people will be attending, what will they bring to the city- money, trash, thefts,  
62 fights, gangs?

doesn't belong in downtown-should be at civic center or another location that  
has plenty of existing parking. our parking is needed for the retail, restaurants  
63 and the new housing that is being built but underparked.

Bus Barn is that. Also, I assume there is a theater at Los Altos High that sits  
64 idle most of the time.

No need for it. Just a "want" on the part of some local thespians. Very  
65 expensive and very optional.

I don't think we need this downtown and I'm not sure it would used that often.  
66 Why not put in around the current Bus Barn?

67 a waste of money

If this is funded with private funds and private land I should have no say  
except I will never be a customer. If this requires use of city land like a  
parking lot then this would only make sense if the city retains ownership of  
the resulting parking garage and the theatre and also require private funds for  
68 construction and on-going cost of operation.

Q12. I want the city to allow a theater to replace a downtown parking plaza  
(for example, Plaza #2 behind the Main Street Post Office).

Answer Choices

Strongly agree

Agree

Neither agree nor disagree



Disagree

Strongly disagree

Please feel free to elaborate on your response here:

Respondents

Please feel free to elaborate on your response here:

- 1 Need to know more about alternatives, relative costs.
- 2 I would want to know how much that parking is used, and I don't know that.  
I guess I'm out of the news loop - did the old theatre go away with the new  
3 construction?
- 4 Ease of parking is a bonus to going downtown in Los Altos vs some other  
towns/cities where parking is much more difficult.
- 5 Totally unnecessary. Wont' impact my attendance at the theater or our  
downtown restaurants.
- 6 Depends on what the theater could accommodate. More than what we call  
"regional theater" would be reasonable.
- 7 This question is inherently biased. A new theater can and should be  
accompanied by new parking structure. There is no way to answer this  
leading question without encouraging its inherent bias.
- 8 i have not been downtown for a long time.  
If parking space is used, need to add additional parking in other location to  
access downtown
- 9 Could Theatre be placed with or close to Community Center location?  
It has to be built somewhere in our city. It is a required element in a cultured  
10 community!
- 11 Parking is already very difficult  
I disagree, unless the theatre or city replaced the parking spots used (via  
new underground parking garage) and made it multi purpose, i.e. for live  
theatre, movies, dinner theatre, ceremonies, events, etc. multiuse. If they  
12 met these items I would agree to this development.
- 13 Many people need parking near shops to be able to shop downtown  
This should not go in downtown area. It should go near community center  
right where busbarn is. It's so obvious this is where it belongs. Redo the  
busbarn building.!! There's parking ... it's most cost effective. Why spend  
such a Gladys amount of \$\$ city funds on this building under the ruse it will  
bring business to town.? Businesses themselves bring the business, not  
citizens' tax money. Why don't businesses lower their rent to attract business  
back to our town.  
  
Plus anyone thinking a big building belongs in the parking plaza must not  
really come downtown and try to park if u r in a wheelchair. There are none of  
these spots on main or state. Do people really understand the flow of ups  
trucks and fed ex trucks and handicapped people using the parking plaza  
areas? Soooo out of touch is this plan for a downtown theater!! Terrible and  
14 thoughtless.



I think parking plaza is a waste of precious space. There should be a parking structure so that we don't need to have a parking plaza. I support any function to make more use of the land.

15 There is already not enough parking in Los Altos as is, especially with restaurant parklets for dining.

16 Figure out parking needs as part of the design.

17 Or, Plaza behind Chase Bank building.

18 I think it would have made the most sense to have built a new theater as part of the Los Altos Community Center. However, it's never too late to correct a mistake; we can still build a new theater there now.

19 We need parking!

20 Plaza #2 is one of the most actively used parking spaces specifically because it is behind the Main Street Post office and provides easy access to many of the Main Street shops and banks.

21 IF underground parking replaced the repurposed street level parking plaza. IF the new theatre complex were attractively and environmentally designed to enhance existing businesses in that area and upgrade the neighborhood.

22 I'm worried about giving up a parking plaza.

23 Not enough parking now. The parklets for restaurants have made it worse. more outdoor dining. make main/state one way (loop) and use 1/2 street for pedestrian/dining. parking garage in plaza to make up lost spaces.

24 We don't have enough parking as it is. Keep the theater where it is.

25 Insufficient parking with all the condo developments planned already

26 If we were to build on a parking plaza I would prefer it be allocated to housing I don't have enough detail on the consequences of replacing a parking plaza.

27 Are there other options beside a theater?

28 If the City replaces this parking, will there be space nearby or underneath? Look to other cities that have done a good job of adding a theater and creating new parking spaces.

29 As long as you plan for parking in the structure or another place downtown My concern is that we have already lost parking due to parklets so would be worried about parking becoming a bigger issue. Also, have often would this space be actively used for theater performances vs laying empty? I'd want to make sure this is the best use of this valuable space.

30 "replace a downtown parking plaza" is disingenuous. While we are far from a specific proposal or plan for a new theatre, there will undoubtedly be parking associated with whatever the final design is.

31 A theater would require parking in order to be successful. Los Altos may need to create a parking structure like those in Mt. View near the theater. It's not a reasonable choice to take away parking to create a theater.

32 If there's so little parking available - people would stay away and go to places w/ easy parking - like the MT View Center for Performing Arts with the wonderful underground parking. I can't imagine Los Altos would have the funds to build such a place.

33

34

35

36 Only if there is additional future parking addressed vs taking over that area.  
instead of a theater, what about an indoor/outdoor event space that could  
accommodate multiple live performances, including music festivals, holiday  
events, family festivals, dance? Some of the nearby events we love are  
Mountain View's German Holiday Market, local Diwali festivals, local band  
concerts, etc. We also love symphony and opera and love spending time  
outdoors (I used to spend my childhoods at Tanglewood in the Berkshires,  
Massachusetts). Another popular option would be a venue where people  
could gather and eat and drink and and play games or sports. Bocce ball,  
lawn bowling, etc. Even archery, ax throwing!

I believe a mixed use space would be more widely received than a single use,  
indoor live performance theater and could appeal to long-time residents, older  
residents, and families. If the new community center supports this, great, but  
37 residents aren't yet aware of these amenities.

38 Parking is limited during peak hours at the Post Office.

Rather than eliminate parking there, make the streets more pedestrian  
39 friendly and close them. Find a better place for a theatre.

40 Need to make sure the market is there to know if this would be a good tradeoff.

41 NO!

The downtown parking plaza should be replaced with a 3 - 4 story garage at  
some other convenient location, and a small bus should shuttle people from  
the garage to town and back, including running in the evening when the  
42 theater is open.

43 New performing arts theater should include underground parking.

44 NO NO NO

With limited parking on Main and State Streets, the parking plazas are a  
45 necessity.

46 No, No, and double no. Refurbish a bank or other building downtown

The parking plazas are one of the best parts of Los Altos.

47 I strongly oppose replacing any parking plazas with a parking garage.

48 And put in parking underneath

49 Will create more congestion.

Absolutely not! Do not take anymore parking away. The parakeets are bad  
50 enough. No more taking away parking period!

Parking is now limited. Seventy some parking places have been replaced by  
51 parklets. Should not reduce parkign further.

The question is highly misleading, it wrongly implies that a theater would  
eliminate parking, while there is no evidence of that. The city should add a  
52 theater with additional parking, and believe that they would do so.

53 Not enough information.

54 We could easily push parking to the periphery of the downtown area and  
create a more vibrant, pedestrian friendly core downtown area with eateries,  
shopping, and cultural institutions.

55 Feasibility studies need to be undertaken first to assess options I would think.  
Conceptually I think there are many higher and better uses for some of the  
parking plazas.

56 Assuming that this would mean underground parking were built, to  
accommodate the loss in parking spots?

57 We need our present parking  
I think the downtown parking plazas should be used to revitalize downtown as  
58 described in the Downtown Vision document.

We lost 71 parking spots because restaurants are using them for dining. We  
need more parking spots, not less. More apartment buildings are going in on  
59 First Street . There will be more traffic and a need for more parking.

60 If we make parklets permanent, especially on State Street, we need more not  
less parking.

Downtown parking plazas should be looked at after we resolve making  
restaurant parking and outdoor parklets (green) a permanent part of  
downtown plan and look/feel. A theatre is not the highest priority for use of  
61 valuable land.

62 The parking needs to be underground beneath a new theater. They aren't  
mutually exclusive.

So long as there was no underground parking. I personally feel that if  
anything was to be built underground for a theater, it should be for things  
such as dressing rooms, Storage, a green room for actors, costuming, and of  
course an orchestra pit. And having a two-story parking garage would suffice  
and potentially be able to accommodate parking not only for the theater but  
63 for local businesses as well.

64 It's ok with me, as long as the loss of parking spaces is replaced somehow.  
The existing parking plazas are generally unsightly and terribly inefficient use  
of land and generate no revenue. Putting a theater project on a plaza would  
increase revenue for surrounding businesses (and the city via sales tax) due  
to the increased customer traffic, generate tax revenue for any commercial  
and residential elements of the theater project, and be more environmentally  
sound than a large expanse of concrete. In addition using a parking plaza for  
the project would free up the Bus Barn's current land at the Civic Center,  
which could be important for future development of the library, police station,  
65 or other Civic Center uses.

66 NO.

67 Only if you build underground parking as well. Parking is terrible in downtown

68 Not unless there's parking added someone else nearby.

I go downtown frequently, daytime and evening, and I can always find a parking spot. Gee, sometimes I have to walk one or two blocks. (...gasp!) Not a big deal. Festivals get crowded but that's expected and has been handled well.

69 Do not need or want a performance theater. A movie theater would be good and would bring more people to the downtown area if other places were open in the evening.

70 That doesn't make any sense to me. That is a city-owned parking plaza and the lot behind the new Restaurant Plaza on State Street is privately owned. Let that owner donate the property for the theater if they want to, but don't

71 take parking spaces away from small businesses and restaurants. Why would a non profit group with a relatively small group of interested residents get to use the land that is for the benefit for all the people? This is gifting city land to a select few and only those privileged to partake in the events (which are limited in scope and availability) would get to use the dedicated space. The parking plazas serve a great many more people than the theater ever would. Land is scarce and it's needed for restaurant parking and parking for shopping. Los Altos has a shortage of parking which would be made worse with the loss of a plaza. The plaza should not be built upon for any reason as it will restrict access to the downtown and make the

72 downtown less attractive. I don't think the city should reduce parking in favor of a theater. The building of the theater should include its own separate parking. The city should also

73 include ongoing maintenance and upkeep in the theater plans. Voter should decide what to do with city land as promised after defeating

74 Measure C by small margin.) We need more parking. This project proposes to eliminate a lot of parking

75 spaces. It should not be a replacement but an enhancement with underground or

76 aboveground parking Does not really seem to be needed by the community, but more of an ego booster to those pushing it. It also sets a precedence for building on the parking lots, so soon there will be housing projects and other 'worth projects'.

77 You need to arrest cancer before it starts. Without loss of parking This is a priority in the Vision Report the City

78 accepted

79 Where would the parking area move ? Underground?

80 If you make parking inconvenient, people won't come downtown. What is there to elaborate about? I think the idea is not a good one. A waste

81 of money. Advantages and disadvantages of different possible locations should be considered carefully - I don't understand why you are only considering

82 parking plazas

83 WE NEED MORE PARKING!!!

84 We do not have enough parking now and what could be better than parking in the open air steps away from shops or restaurants.

Q13. I want the city to provide funding from the city budget toward the cost of construction of a downtown theater.

Answer Choices

Strongly agree

Agree

Neither agree nor disagree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

Please feel free to elaborate on your response here:

Respondents

Please feel free to elaborate on your response here:

Yes, but conditional upon:

1. The city not borrowing money to pay for the downtown theater. The funds must come from the existing budget.

2. Only after the key priority of: New or improved sidewalks; bike lanes; road safety like cross-walk signage; etc.

2 Keep the barn. save money, cut taxes with the money.

Again, it would depend on many factors. What else needs to be funded? Can the city get matching grant funds if they kick in some money. How much money are we talking about?

3 The City has so many other pressing needs and is currently in debt. Again, this is unnecessary and won't accomplish what proponents want the town to believe it will.

5 only if we can with out cutting services short and after we have a pool.

6 Some amount should be for support.

Step 1 should be a design and budget. I am OK with City paying 25% of that phase. Stage Company should develop a plan to fund, e.g., public/private partnership, donations, etc. for construction.

8 It's a combination of some skin in the game from the City and philanthropy

9 I DO NOT WANT THE CITY TO SPEND MONEY ON A THEATER. WE HAVE SO MANY OTHER MORE IMPORTANT NEEDS.

10 Pay for feasibility study.

11 I vote for a wealthy donor to donate a large sum of money to cover most of the cost of the building for naming rights!!

12 Although I would like those of us supporting a new theatre to also fund raise to supplement what the city will dedicate so we can have underground parking and a first-class little theatre complex. This is such a wonderful opportunity to help revitalize our aging Downtown.

13 I only disagree because 15 million is too much money. I would encourage fundraising.

14 Unreasonable to spend city money on a facility to be used by a very small minority of the population. If we want to spend money, I suspect a sports facility would be more popular and more highly utilized.

15 I prefer this be privately funded by donors. We are a city of wealthy residents who have proven we will donate to local causes if there is enough interest. Budgets aren't unlimited. Housing, police, library, upgrading Grant, saving Halsey House seem like higher priorities. Is there a study on how much revenue a theater would generate for downtown?

16 Depends on what other needs are. Maybe it can be part of a multi year plan.

17 Other cities have municipal theatres!

18 I don't know enough about the city budget.

19 The City's contribution could be an exchange of the current site for land downtown and/or there could be a financial contribution as a part of a public-private partnership. Since there is no proposal yet as to how a new theatre would be funded, it is hard to say what the best contribution from the City should be, though I do think it should have "skin in the game" as there are many potential benefits to the City.

20 I want the city to provide the land for a theater. Building funds could be raised privately.

21 Need more pickleball courts not theaters

22 Maybe the city could lease the plaza for a small fee, but the city has better uses for its money than a theater downtown.

23 yes, but not in the plaza parking lot

24 This is a meaningless question. There is no proposal yet from the Theater Working Group

25 NO! Construct it where current theater exists!

26 no

27 i think you have better things to do. Also private funding is an indication of interest. I don't mind city accommodating the project in terms of zoning accommodation or street planning and thus incur some indirect expense.

28 I already elaborated above. The old Bus Barn needs replacing just like the old run down school needed to be replaced with a decent Community Center. Los Altos has history of community funding for cultural projects

29 I would like the city to contribute but funds to be mostly provided from other sources.

30 It's not clear to me that construction for a theater would come from the city budget, but if the city were to have the funds, I would not mind the funds going towards a theater.

31

32 Prioritize expenditures. Be fiscally responsible.

34 The City should support the new performing arts theater with funding, but  
35 more importantly with land, similar to how Mountain View's theater is on city  
36 land.

37 NO NO NO

I don't know all the Ins and Outs of the current budget. If possible, yes, do it.

38 How about partnering with one of the local billionaires to assist?

39 Will help entire LA community

We have so many CIP priorities that were "prioritized" but nothing has been done because we lack the funds to do everything. These are needed projects, not vanity projects. We are going to have a few years with reduced revenues because of Covid. We need to concentrate on the thing the city needs, a new police building, all the deferred maintenance on our existing city buildings. All the unfunded CIP priorities. I know the few members of the theater group desperately want a theater and the Mayor is trying to sway the sentiment of the residents with her articles in the Town Crier. But we should not pay one cent towards the construction of this theater and we should  
40 definitely not do away with a downtown parking plaza.

City is not in strong financial shape. The shortfall because of COVID, the loan the city has incurred due to the overrun of the community center have left us  
41 weaker financially. No city funds should be dedicated to this project.

Again, a misleading question. As far as I know, there is no proposal on the table yet, so there is no information on how much funding, if any, would come  
42 from the city. It might even be all privately funded.

43 Not enough information!

The City of Los Altos should provide some funding, but we should also solicit private and corporate donors as well.

It is very premature to ask this question since I have no idea whether a deal  
44 can be reached and how it would be structured.

i don't feel enough people would use it to justify taking away parking in the  
45 downtown (which everyone uses) or spending city money on it.

First and foremost, no giving away of public lands!! Our budget is already stretched thin. In addition, we need to pay off the loan for the new community center. We need to spend money on housing, Grant Park kitchen and so  
46 much more.

47 I am waiting for more information before having an opinion.

If we are going to take on another big \$\$ project, a swimming pool to teach our children how to swim would be my preference. Not everyone can afford  
48 to join the Y or have their own backyard pool.

I do not feel the city should budget for planning proposals, legal fees, EIRs, staff time, etc. for ANY of the costs incurred to evaluate, plan, develop or maintain a downtown theater. There are higher priorities. And the downtown theater should be able to pay monthly leasing and use costs for the land in  
49 perpetuity.

I think it depends on the details of the arrangement.



Again, I do not feel there's a need for a live theater downtown. As a voter I  
50 strongly urge the City to consider other uses for that money.  
51 No public or taxpayer funds should be spent on this fiasco.  
52 Some funding from city, some from donors  
53 It's part of art and culture in the city should invest more in it.  
We need other services for health and welfare of citizens.. we could use high  
54 school or community college theater.  
Some funds could be contributed by the city, however the bulk could come  
55 from special interest groups.  
I am aware that the city does not have the funds for construction of a new  
56 theater. We will have to look for private funding.  
Depends on the size of the request, it's purpose, and the ROI. If a small  
amount of funding can leverage a large amount of private funding it could be  
57 worthwhile.  
58 Would prefer fundraising and bonds to offset some of cost  
Only if you figure out how to properly fund this theater. Why can't the theater  
59 pay off a loan back to the city with future profits.  
60 A public/private partnership would be a better option for this.  
61 Not until our streets and sidewalks are all safe.  
I thought we were over this in 1999 and 2000 when the council voted down  
the 16-screen theater in the parking lot by Los Altos Grill. That went to  
Redwood City and made it a high-crime area. The theater owners filed for  
bankruptcy, as I recall. It is not safe to walk to or from a theater at night,  
especially alone or with just two people. Mountain View has the money to  
have police guarding people as they exit and large parking garages that are  
62 well lit. Let's stop with this idea. Stop.  
No way. The theater is a private enterprise. It is not the City's responsibility  
or an appropriate use of funds for the City to spend money like this. The City  
has a hard enough time with the ongoing maintenance of the public areas that  
63 they should not stretch themselves.  
64 City funds should only be used for cuts services.  
the community center was a disaster-it was to be 25M, then 35M and now  
65 with overruns and the bond will cost us 40M that the city doesnt have.  
Too much has already been spent on the Community Center. It is not even  
open yet, and they are eyeing this new project. I gather WE will have debt of  
\$25M on the CC, and now we can add \$12 for this unnecessary theater? Put  
city funds into fixing and maintaining the infrastructure until that is under  
control. Save the \$25M to pay off the CC. The save some money for and  
66 about other expensive projects.  
67 A public private partnetship  
68 the city wastes too much money already.



- 69 No need for it. I would much rather see a very nice high-end dog park. I would get a lot more enjoyment from that rather than a taxpayer-paid theater which duplicates other venues already established and nearby.
- 70 See above.
- 71 We are currently in debt but even if not I never want city funds to be used to fund private for profit or non-profit businesses or organizations.
- 72 blah blah

Q14. I want the city to provide funding from the city budget toward the ongoing maintenance and operating expenses of a downtown theater.

Answer Choices

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

Please feel free to elaborate on your response here:

Respondents

Please feel free to elaborate on your response here:

Yes, but conditional upon:

1. The city not borrowing money to pay for the downtown theater. The funds must come from the existing budget.
2. Only after the key priority of: New or improved sidewalks; bike lanes; road safety like cross-walk signage; etc.

Some cities have foundations that support the arts. Grants provide a way for the arts to survive and at the same time, give access to people who might not be able to afford attending. With all the wealthy people in our area, couldn't we have a foundation for this? Maybe we do, and I don't know about it.

Another biased question. Why imply that the city would pay for ongoing maintenance and operating expense?

How is Mountain View Theatreworks run?

Waste of city resources

if it is successful, it should be able to support itself, if not, it should be replaced by something that can self-sustain, instead being supported by the city.

I would expect Stage Co's current lease to be "traded" for a new lease. Most maintenance should be in that lease.

I DO NOT WANT THE CITY TO SPEND MONEY ON A THEATER. WE HAVE SO MANY OTHER MORE IMPORTANT NEEDS.

I am not sure the City has looked at all aspects of how to fund the maintenance.

If taxpayer dollars are invested in the theatre, taxpayers have a big stake in seeing that the theatre is properly maintained, much like the Lucy Stern Center in Palo Alto or the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts. These are wonderful additions to those communities and the surrounding area that have thrived because they have been maintained and supported by taxpayers.

I think it would depend on how the theater were being used. If this is exclusive usage, I disagree. If it could be used for wider community benefit, I would feel differently.

A waste of money.

Need more information before committing funding

This theater should be privately funded and operated.

Depends what the other needs are. How does Mountain View maintain its theater? I'd love for this to be a smaller and different kind of theater, since MV has a large theater close by.

If they do contribute to building the theater, the theater should pay for itself. Education, social welfare programs, and environmental/green programs should be a much more important funding priority.

I assume both city and private donor funds, ticket sales..

It's hard to answer this without knowing more about the budget. If the city funds this, what gets cut? That would impact how I answer.

I don't believe this is what is being proposed. A private/public partnership is being proposed where cost burdens would be shared. Feels like a biased question.

Don't know if ongoing funding would be necessary. I don't believe the City pays for operating expenses of Bus Barn.

If a theater cannot pay for maintenance then they are not viable.

While I think a theater is a wonderful asset for the community, I don't want it to be completely dependent upon city budget. It should strive to be self sustaining.

Maintenance, yes. The city could allocate a certain \$ amount annually, as they do with the history museum.

Towards Bus Barn

This is a meaningless question. There is no proposal yet from the Theater Working Group

Not if you build it downtown!

I may change my mind say 10 years from now after the theatre has been proven popular and its maintenance is relevant to the character and charm of downtown.

NO NO NO

I would rather see the city spend some of that budget on keeping the sidewalks clean and in good repair. Am I the only one who sees the stains and filth which has become more evident since everyone eats outdoors now and apparently no one can leave home without a dog or two in tow? There are pee stains at every corner and around the too numerous pots dotting the sidewalks. More birds, especially crows (with outdoor eating) are leaving their calling cards as well. I challenge someone on the council to walk the 4 blocks that comprise our downtown with me so I can point out the trouble spots.

29  
30 Hmm... maybe at first, but i think it could be viable on its own  
31 Public private partnership?  
32 The theater should be a self supporti g entity  
33 Other priorities are much more important.  
34 What another loaded question.  
35 Same  
Theater programming for thoughtful adults as well as for children's shows is  
36 needed for a vibrant community.  
37 This again is premature question and would depend on negotiated terms.  
Probably disagree but need more information. Believe theater should be self-  
38 sustaining at this point in the discussion.  
39 Same as #13.  
I don't believe enough residents will benefit from any city provided financial  
40 support.  
Unless a Theater companies are allowed to bed on renting the space; long  
term or short term, or local organizations can rent it out for private events for  
41 a fee and city employees can be responsible for operating it and oversight.  
42 I would think that this is inevitable.  
The city should provide maintenance similar to what they do with the history  
43 museum.  
Depends on what benefit the city is getting from the theater. If the theater is  
saving the city money by providing facilities which would otherwise need to be  
44 built or maintained then it might be reasonable.  
You need a financial analyst to work out the numbers not just commit the city  
to this. If this is planned properly this could be structured as a long term loan  
45 to be paid off by future profits.  
46 A public/private partnership would be a better option for this.  
The city council should invest in the arts as a significant factor in Los Altos  
47 quality of life for all ages. The arts also support a vibrant local economy.  
The city can't keep the parking lot under the Safeway Market on First Street  
48 clean and safe. How can they keep anything else clean and safe?  
See comments above. A theater is not a city necessity and is not going to be  
for the benefit of the whole community. Only a limited number of people will  
come to the theater and see the performances. It is not going to draw a wide  
49 audience.

50 The city funds CHAC more than \$380K annually for interns. Seems a theater would have much wider range of use and community benefit.

A theater should draw enough attendees to pay for most of the ongoing maintenance and operating expenses. If it can't then maybe it shouldn't be built. The city might contribute some funding but the theater should be able to

51 support itself mostly.

52 City funds should only be used for city services.

Sure, the city has lots of extra money hanging around. What would this cost of maintenance be? How much will our taxes go up?

Who in the city will manage this? Do we have to hire another bureaucrat to sit on their butts all day collecting \$100K per year?

Who in the city besides the idiot mayor is pushing this idea? What is in it for her- more contributions to her next election, feel good programs helping the

53 disadvantaged?

we cannot afford to maintain our existing facilities, so why would we add another that we cannot afford to maintain. the theater audience is a very very small subset of the los altos population-why is the rest of the city need to

54 support that small special interest group?

55 This survey is biased to the negative

56 the city wastes too much money already.

No need for it. I would much rather see a very nice high-end dog park. I would get a lot more enjoyment from that rather than a taxpayer-paid theater

57 which duplicates other venues already established and nearby.

58 Absolutely NOT. This is a wasteful use of taxpayers' hard earned money.

Our city should never fund a private activity like this one no matter how

59 attractive it may or may not be.

Q 15. I want to vote in a citywide election on whether to use city-owned land (for example, Parking Plaza #2 behind the Main Street Post Office) for a theater.

Answer Choices

Strongly agree

Agree

Neither agree nor disagree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

Please feel free to elaborate on your response here:

Respondents

Please feel free to elaborate on your response here:

1 Forget about it.

Voters typically don't understand the full picture. If there is a clear analysis performed and an unbiased presentation in simple language, perhaps the community as a whole should be involved. Certainly not in any kind of special

2 election.

3 too expensive to hold an election. Choices would not be broad enough.

This question is blatantly biased, hence answers are not valid.

Additional public elections for decisions that are properly the domain of the city council would be just another way to hobble the council from getting anything done. This is a transparent attempt to resurrect the horrible Measure C.

4

5 too expensive for election

6 This should be a city council and planning teams responsibility

Only if new parking spaces can be added as well to make up for the shortfall and add more spaces for theatre patrons.

7

Let's try in earnest to make a deal w private investors (without using city/tax payer money) before spending more by putting it up to vote to spend city tax paid funding on this. Let's allow private capital/markets to make a theatre happen in DT Los Altos. But in the meantime let's zone an area, develop traffic/parking flows, regulations, fire, safety, etc. so we have items to

8

negotiate w developers.

9

but during a regular election, no special election

10

I will vote NO

11

This is losing proposition on the part of a few people in it for themselves.

Let City Council do their jobs. That is why we elect them. Could set a precedent where good many decisions need to go to a vote. That would be expensive for the City and most people do not get themselves sufficiently up

12

to speed to vote.

13

I don't want to spend time and money on an election either!

14

Council decision

15

I don't want election at all, just stop the project now. The city should not give in to some people's vanity project.

16

I feel that the City Council and City planners have the ability to make these decisions without always spending more money on one item issues. Why do we elect the best and brightest if they can't handle making smart decisions?

17

If we need to go to a bond measure to support the project, then it will have to go to a vote. A 2/3rd bar is pretty high and does not reflect MAJORITY opinion. If we have a City/private partnership for funding, then the Council working with an advisory committee should keep the community apprised but we should not spend the money on an election. Put that money into the project.

18

Probably a good idea to show that a theater is not supported.

19

not just vote on theater, but all options.

20

No need to pay for another special election. Review residents sentiments and or host a town hall type of voting event

In this case I'll go along with what the Council decides. Also, I'd rather not spend money to put this on the ballot and rather spend it on other more  
21 needed services

22 This is why we elect our council members  
We have a representative democracy where we elect people so we,  
individual residents don't have to make all the decisions. Putting everything to  
23 vote would stifle progress.  
A downtown theatre is already part of the Downtown Vision. Let's implement it  
24 already, and not keep re-litigating these decisions!  
We should not have a vote on every single decision the city needs to make.  
That's why we elect City Councilmembers. It is up to them to make these  
25 decisions.

26 This needs to be up to the voters, not the City Council.  
I would like to think that the elected city council would be able to make that  
judgement, but am concerned that they are more likely to sway with the wind  
27 of loud voices on causes-du-jour.  
Is there no way that the local government can come up with something less  
polarizing than this? You can't take away parking to create a theater. You  
must have an alternate plan for parking if the theater is to reside on a parking  
28 plaza.

29 ELECTIONS/VOTING IS EXPENSIVE \_ JUST ITSELF!  
30 Elected officials are the right folks to determine this.  
31 Versus no say  
if the City Council takes up the issue and it doesn't die here after the survey, I  
32 would like to have residents vote on it.  
33 I would vote "no" for that particular plot of land.  
Can we stop wasting money on things like this. We elect representatives. Let  
34 them actually do their jobs.  
35 Isn't this the job of the council?  
36 Measure C was defeated by Los Altos residents  
37 Measure C was defeated. Yield to the will of the people  
38 Never!  
39 We have elected officials & should trust them to vote to make such choices.  
We have elected officials to make these decisions. Los Altos voters  
40 confirmed this practice by defeating Measure C.  
The Council and the City Staff can decide how to use land because that is  
41 their job.  
Adding items to the ballot is expensive and unnecessary, but I will vote for it if  
42 it is a ballot issue.  
We have elected officials for this reason. Don't need every decision to be a  
43 vote. That is not a good use of resources.  
The city owned the land at the corner of First and Main where there is now  
(you guessed it) another restaurant!) That property would have lent itself to a  
44 theater. It would also have made an excellent "car park".

DO NOT USE A DOWNTOWN PLAZA. That is a very charming piece of Los  
45 Altos, If anything, budget to spend money to enhance the plazas!!!

46 Whatever the experts think is necessary

Let the voters decide, not a small group of 3 council members. This is an  
47 important decision and commitment.

Yet another loaded question. This looks like Measure C all over again. That  
48 was an utter waste.

I defer this to the City Council to determine. That's why the voters elect  
49 Council Members, so that they can handle execution and legislative details.

Absolutely not, I would hope our elected officials will act in the long term  
interest of our city. The cost and burden of special elections could be better  
spent on funding some of the unmet needs cited elsewhere in this survey  
which is starting to seem very biased against a potential theater as I go  
50 through it.

The point of electing officials is to make it so I don't have to understand all the  
51 nuance of every issue. Let them do their job.

This should have been resolved by Measure C. We elect the Council to make  
52 these decisions. Elections are costly and take time.

53 I would vote NO.

What we do not need is another half-baked plan coming up to a "vote" where  
54 there is no real understanding of consequences of that decision.

Election should only be required if the city decides to issue bonds to fund the  
55 theater.

56 should not be on ballot

The land belongs to the city but it's essentially in trust for the property owners  
in the parking district. If it adds more parking and generates foot traffic, I  
would expect them to be for it. Also a theater like this could be used for lots  
of things besides live performances. There could be film festivals held there,  
57 for example. Groups could rent it out for meetings... and so on.

Measure C got 47 percent support from residents to require a vote by the  
residents for any sale or lease of any city land resources. This comment  
58 applies to the remaining questions below.

59 We have too many elections for special interests like bocce ball.

60 Is that necessary?

The city of Los Altos should lease the parking plaza to Los Altos Stage  
Company for \$1 per year similar to what they do with the current bus barn  
61 location.

We have elected City Councilmembers to represent our interests. This is a  
decision which falls squarely into the Council's jurisdiction. Holding an election  
would be expensive and potentially make the private investment needed to  
62 support a project impossible.

63 City council needs to make this decision

64 Although I fear nothing will ever get approved.

65 We elect our city council members. Voting on multiple issues are a waste of  
time and money.

66 This should be determined by a public vote since public land is involved.  
If the city Council decides that the use of the parking plaza for the theater is  
67 how they want to spin city funds before that could be approved it would need  
to be voted on in a city wide regular election

The city council should review and approve this project. That's what we elect  
them to do—show leadership and forward thinking. We finally have a  
68 community center (yay!!)—a community theater is the next step.

Ummm.... these questions are really biased. You might want to have  
69 someone else create your survey

70 I am beginning to laugh at this now....

Sure. We can put it up for a vote. If the majority of citizens this this the best  
71 use of city owned land, I would defer to the majority

We elected Council members - this is their vote along with commissioners.

72 Stop wasting money on these frivolous independent issue votes.

Voters should decide!

73

We don't need a vote, we need a city council that is more cognizant of the  
costs of this project and not ready to give away our land for some egalitarian  
74 use. Reject this idea outright.

75 We elect people to make these decisions.

I never want to see it even come to a vote. I think it should not get by any  
76 further than this survey.

what, a popularity contest? the city land belong to the city and the parking  
plazas are supposed to be for the use of the existing downtown businesses.

i would hope that a rationale city council would say no, but that is too much to  
ask, so i guess we need to have a vote on it. where is a city policy on land  
77 use so we dont go thru this nonsense with another group?

Special elections are so costly and not a wise way to spend our city's limited  
78 funds.

I think they should shelve the project until the city finances are completely  
under control. If they can not be financially responsible, then they should be  
79 forced to put it to a vote.

80 Representative government. Council should decide

Better to let everyone vote than to let the City Council make a controversial  
81 decision supposedly on our behalf.

A downtown theatre is a big change for our city that should be decided by  
voters and not council members. Previous councils said that Measure C was  
not needed because the council would always protect our city owned  
property from beings sold, given away for free, or leased. So why does this  
82 council want to violate this trust?



Q16. I want to vote in a citywide election on whether the city should provide any funding from the city budget toward the cost of construction of a

Answer Choices

Strongly agree

Agree

Neither agree nor disagree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

Please feel free to elaborate on your response here:

Respondents	Please feel free to elaborate on your response here:
1	I dont want any money to go for a new theater downtown.
2	I don't feel competent to make this judgement. Additional public elections for decisions that are properly the domain of the city council would be just another way to hobble the council from getting anything done. This is a transparent attempt to resurrect the horrible
3	Measure C.
4	only if an ongoing election
5	This should be a city council and planning teams responsibility Once all the facts are gathered and presented to the city council the city council must vote. Then it is put on the ballot for ratification or approval. Otherwise it is divisive to the community without the council's examination of costs and space allocation/ usage. The pubic wants to be objective and see the council
6	asking the detailed right questions.
7	No vote is needed on this.
8	but during a regular election, no special election
9	NO vote again, waste of money
10	If you put this up for a vote you will LOSE. My rationale here is the same as for question #15. If there is a required bond measure or parcel tax, then I would expect a vote.
11	Council decision
12	A city wide election would give you the most accurate assessment regarding the views and opinions of the residents.
13	See above.
14	To show that most people don't want to spend city money on a theater.
15	See above - boy is this a leading question!
16	Same as sbove
17	We have a representative democracy where we elect people so we, individual residents don't have to make all the decisions. Putting everything to
18	vote would stifle progress.

We elect a Council which selects a City Manager and appoints Financial Commissioners. Council, Commission and staff are much more knowledgeable about the City budget and financial resources than residents.

19 Let's let them do the job we ask them to do. Good grief.

20 I want to see much better plans before I vote.

21 Likewise, elected officials should do their jobs.

22 Versus no say

23 see #15

24 Stop wasting money on elections for these things.

25 Measure C was defeated by Los Altos residents

26 Measure C was defeated. Yield to the will of the people

27 Not to build it downtown!

28 Why spend money for an unnecessary election?!

29 If it comes to a vote, i will vote no. This question needs not be asked.

30 We have elected officials & should trust them to vote to make such choices.

Adding items to the ballot is expensive and unnecessary, but I will vote for it if

31 it is a ballot issue.

Yet another loaded question. This looks like Measure C all over again. That  
32 was an utter waste.

I defer this to the City Council to determine. That's why voters elect Council Members, so that they can handle budget decisions. If, however, the funding  
33 would need a bond measure, then that could be voted on by residents.

Absolutely not, I would hope our elected officials will act in the long term interest of our city. The cost and burden of special elections could be better spent on funding some of the unmet needs cited elsewhere in this survey which is starting to seem very biased against a potential theater as I go  
34 through it.

I don't want to have to vote about this topic. I want the City Council to do the right thing and not give away our land to a special interest project.

HOWEVER, if the CC does decide to give away our land and our staff time,  
35 the voters must be allowed to vote regarding this issue.

Again, we elect the Council to make these decisions. We can let Councilmembers know what we think about particular issues but the idea of  
36 elections on these subjects is a terrible idea.

37 I would vote NO.

38 should not be on ballot

39 Too soon to tell...

Leaving the decision up to a private entity to build a performing arts center potentially prevents the city from having any say regarding usage and  
40 frequency of use.

41 We have elected City Councilmembers to represent our interests. This is a  
 42 decision which falls squarely into the Council's jurisdiction. Holding an election  
 43 would be expensive and potentially make the private investment needed to  
 44 support a project impossible.  
 45 City council needs to make this decision  
 46 I need to understand how the city budget allocates its money currently  
 47 See answer #15  
 48 This should be determined by a public vote since public funds are involved.  
 49 I'd vote for it if it was on a ballot, but I don't think a city wide election is  
 50 necessary.  
 51 Never got a say in the years and years we've continued to fund CHAC as a  
 52 city. Gonna put that on the ballot with it?  
 53 Voters should decide.  
 54 The city council needs to find better use of the city's land.  
 55 Again, I hope it stops here and never gets to a vote. The very idea that we  
 need V live theatre downtown is ridiculous.  
 i would hope that a rationale city council would say no, but that is too much to  
 ask, so i guess we need to have a vote on it  
 Special elections are so costly and not a wise way to spend our city's limited  
 funds.  
 Representative government. Council should decide  
 Better to let everyone vote than to let the City Council make a controversial  
 decision supposedly on our behalf.  
 Subsidizing an organization that voters do not support is just another form of  
 corruption. Let the voters decide.

Q17. I want to vote in a citywide election on whether to provide any funding from the city budget for the ongoing maintenance and operating expenses

Answer Choices

Strongly agree

Agree

Neither agree nor disagree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

Please feel free to elaborate on your response here:

Respondents

Please feel free to elaborate on your response here:

1 Same as above.

2 No voting

Additional public elections for decisions that are properly the domain of the city council would be just another way to hobble the council from getting anything done. This is a transparent attempt to resurrect the horrible

3 Measure C.

4 This should be a city council and planning teams responsibility

5 No vote is needed for this.  
We need more parking, period, to help our downtown businesses. We r  
6 losing too many stores  
7 but during a regular election, no special election  
8 Will vote NO!  
You guys are really pushing for spending money on this - what a waste of our  
tax dollars! You should be spending money on helping to promote the  
businesses that are here that have been struggling during Covid. You also  
should be completing projects that you are behind on - such as turning 999  
9 Loyola into a plaza,  
Slippery slope. Where would the line be drawn on maintenance and operating  
expenses? Is it being proposed that any funding g over that limit would  
require a city-wide vote? Here again, I am on the opinion that City Staff and  
Council Members are elected to get up to speed and make these decisions  
10 as a part of the annual budget approval process.  
11 Council decision  
A city wide election would give you the most accurate assessment regarding  
12 the views and opinions of the residents.  
This definitely should be at the discretion of our elected Council. We have  
REPRESENTATIONAL Democracy, not direct Democracy in Los Altos on  
13 these kinds of decisions.  
14 We need to be specific about how the theater would be used.  
15 To show that most people don't want to spend city money on a theater.  
16 Ridiculous idea.  
Falls in the category of "have you stopped beating your wife" kind of question  
17 😊  
18 I can help with outreach and a campaign to help this pass  
We already have theater options with Bus Barn and the new complex on San  
19 Antonio beyond Safeway in Mt View  
We have a representative democracy where we elect people so we,  
individual residents don't have to make all the decisions. Putting everything to  
20 vote would stifle progress.  
21 See elaboration on question 16.  
22 I think the City Council should make the decisions for Items #15, 16, 17.  
I'm completely in favor of providing some resources towards a downtown  
theater, but I want the theater to strive to be self-sustaining, and the city must  
resolve parking situation before attempting to call a vote on whether or not a  
23 theater is desired.  
24 see #15  
25 Please stop holding elections for things like this.  
26 Measure C was defeated by Los Altos residents  
Measure C was defeated. Stop this nonsense. This is a meaningless  
27 question. There is no proposal yet from the Theater Working Group  
28 Redundant questions to support your position... not mine!

29 No election needed. Waste of time & money. This theatre idea is  
unnecessary.

30 If it comes to a vote, i will vote no. This question needs not be asked.

31 We have elected officials & should trust them to vote to make such choices.  
This survey assumes more knowledge than I have. It should have been  
32 tested and modified so a "typical" resident could answer the questions.  
Adding items to the ballot is expensive and unnecessary, but I will vote for it if  
33 it is a ballot issue.

34 we elect the council for this  
Yet another loaded question. This looks like Measure C all over again. That  
35 was an utter waste.

I defer this to the City Council to determine. That's why the voters elect  
36 Council Members, so that they can handle execution and legislative details.  
Absolutely not, I would hope our elected officials will act in the long term  
interest of our city. The cost and burden of special elections could be better  
spent on funding some of the unmet needs cited elsewhere in this survey  
which is starting to seem very biased against a potential theater as I go  
37 through it.

Same as above. I don't want to vote, but we should, if council thinks it is okay  
38 to give away public land for a special interest group.

39 Same response as above

40 I would vote NO.

41 this should not even be on ballot

42 Still too soon to tell.

The city should have some degree of control over the theater. They can set  
expectations and potentially provide guidelines for usage without necessarily  
43 restricting content.

44 If going to redo bus barn ??? Maybe??  
City council should vote to approve maintenance and  
45 Operations for the new theater.

We have elected City Councilmembers to represent our interests. This is a  
decision which falls squarely into the Council's jurisdiction. Holding an election  
would be expensive and potentially make the private investment needed to  
46 support a project impossible.

47 City council needs to make this decision

48 See answer #15

49 This should be determined by a public vote since public funds are involved.  
I'd vote for it if it was on a ballot, but I don't think a city wide election is  
50 necessary.

If a theater is brought to Los Altos, it should be privately owned and not  
funded by taxpayers. We have other priorities that are far more important on  
51 the short and long term.

52 Voters should decide.

53 I would vote NO to all three of your attempts to saddle the city with costs that should be privately born.

54 Strongly opposed to the notion of eliminating parking for a project that would be very inadequately utilized. We have many options for attending multi-levels of amature, semi-professional and professional theater within a short driving distance and many are stuggling to find an audience. The Bus Barn was adequate for our town.

55 See above

56 i would hope that a rationale city council would say no, but that is too much to ask, so i guess we need to have a vote on it

57 Special elections are so costly and not a wise way to spend our city's limited funds.

58 Representative government. Council should decide

59 Better to let everyone vote than to let the City Council make a controversial decision supposedly on our behalf.

60 Let the voters decide. I do not trust this council or any future council to make this kind of decision.

**Q18. May we contact you for further input? If so, please provide your name and email address here:**

We are not releasing the names and contact information provided due to privacy concerns and lack of authorization from those who responded to this question.

tain View Center, Oshman Jewish Community Center, Hillbarn, Lucie Ste

rn, etc.



**From:** [Roberta Phillips](#)  
**To:** [Public Comment](#); [City Council](#)  
**Subject:** Nov 9 Council Meeting Item #8 Theater working group  
**Date:** Friday, November 5, 2021 1:11:42 PM  
**Attachments:** [Ethics Training 1.png](#)  
[Ethics Training 2.png](#)  
[Ethics Training 3.png](#)

---

Dear City Council Members and Gabe Engeland

Although a new theater sounds like a lovely idea, at this time I must ask that the City Council decline to give any money or staff time or land to build a new theater downtown or do a feasibility study. The reasons are as follows:

1. At a recent Council Meeting where the American Rescue Package monies were discussed, Jon Magninot said that our expenses far exceed our revenues. According to the consultant Barry Foster, the City revenues were down ( Minus) -\$5.7 million in 2020. In 2021 minus -\$6.111.266 . Then through 2023 the total of lost revenues are over \$25 million dollars.
2. At the last week's Council Meeting Nov, 2,2021 Kuljeet Kulkut the Chair of the Finance Commission said that the City does not have any money for CIP Projects and will not for at least two years.
3. Nobody is happy about the loss of revenues, however it is the City Council's Fiduciary responsibility to protect the assets and financial well being of the City. I know that the City is trying to get their arms around our expenses and revenues, and we as residents understand and are patient. I hope that you will not move forward with so many unknowns on our finances, The residents expect basic services such as road repair, staff salaries, building maintenance and police services . We all understand that luxuries will have to wait at least 3 to-5 years. So why do a feasibility study now ?
4. The Theater Working group said that they met with Friends of Los Altos, Los Altos Library Commission, Los Altos Finance Commission, Los Altos Arts Commission. This claim in the Working Group's presentation is deceptive as they did contact one or two members of the commissions mentioned, but they did not have the discussion agendaed nor did any commission endorse their proposal.
5. The Working Theater Group said this will not cost the City any money or staff time, yet they are asking for \$50,000 from the City for a feasibility study plus staff time.
6. We have lost the use of 71 parking spots downtown, as there are now tables and chairs in the parking spots for outdoor dining. This information was sent to me by Anthony Carnesecca. It is unfair to ask the tax payers of Los Altos to pay for a new parking structure, or remove more parking spaces by leasing one of our parking lots to build a theater. Our City owned land has a very high value and should not be given away for \$1 a year or some other absurdly low price.
7. The Bus Barn Theater, along with other theaters have lost money every year, for many years. We should not be subsidizing a theater with much higher priorities at hand. . We need to be looking at the RHNA numbers and the housing element, garbage collection, police services, fire services and park maintenance to name a few , that are more essential. If the Bus Barn Theater / Los Altos Stage Company wants a new theater they should buy their own land and pay for construction and ongoing maintenance themselves.
8. I have received many concerned calls and emails about Neyse Fligor's potential conflict of interest as she has been pushing for and speaking at public events and in the newspaper about her support for a new Theater Downtown. Although I have not served on a commission, I have received the following slides on the Ethical Training given to all who serve. Perhaps the City Attorney should advise on this issue..

Sincerely  
Roberta Phillips  
650-941-6940

.

# Fair Process

## *Best Practices for Decision-Makers*

- If you can't be fair, don't participate
- Avoid statements before the close of a hearing
- Make decisions based on administrative record
- Avoid the appearance of bias
- Pay attention
- Above all, you will be judged by your fairness and integrity



Progress:  12%[Help](#)[Options](#)[Logout](#)

## The Importance of Public Perception


The interesting—and somewhat unique—aspect of public service ethics is that it is not exclusively an introspective process.

A public official can be absolutely confident that he or she is able to put personal interests or relationships aside, but the public may question whether indeed that is so.

Public perception, therefore, matters a great deal in one's analysis of what the "right thing to do" is in public service. This is because, as public servants, public officials are stewards of the public's trust in the public's governing institutions.

**In short, public service ethics is not only about doing the right thing, but also about the public's confidence that indeed the right thing has been done. Public servants must maintain a high standard of ethical conduct that promotes public confidence that public officials' actions are motivated solely by the public's interests.**

[Back](#)[Next](#)

Progress:  42%[Help](#)[Options](#)[Logout](#)

## Beyond Legal Minimums

If your agency attorney advises you that you cannot participate in a decision, you must disqualify yourself or seek the Fair Political Practices Commission's advice regarding how the conflict of interest disqualification rules of the Political Reform Act apply to you.

If you receive advice that the law permits you to participate in a decision, your analysis is not over.

Ask yourself whether your constituents will reasonably question your ability to put your personal interests and relationships aside and put their, the public's, interests first. You can decide to voluntarily abstain if you are concerned that your constituents would reasonably question whether you should be involved in the decision-making process.

Remember the law is a floor, not a ceiling, for public service ethics.

[Back](#)[Next](#)