

Bottineau Community Works

The cities of Brooklyn Park, Crystal, Golden Valley, Minneapolis and Robbinsdale are working in collaboration with Hennepin County on a variety of advanced planning efforts for the Bottineau Corridor, such as identifying gaps for people walking, biking, and rolling near stations; analyzing housing needs and opportunities; guiding future development through planning and zoning changes; developing wayfinding plans; and helping local businesses access resources.

Community engagement on advanced planning recommendations

From December 2019 through March 2020, Bottineau Community Works contracted with six community and cultural groups to engage Bottineau corridor residents and businesses regarding the completed FTA TOD planning grant work products. The purpose of this engagement was to uncover their community priorities moving into future implementation efforts along with ensuring that communities understood how their feedback was incorporated into these work products, and how to access them online. This work finalizes the community engagement deliverables funded through the FTA TOD planning grant.

Contracted organizations helped to turn out community members to three Bottineau Community Works corridor-wide feedback sessions. In addition, contracted organizations hosted their own focus groups, stakeholder interviews and assisted with delivering a survey that was designed to reveal community priorities to the strategic approaches recommended through the FTA TOD planning grant.

Contracted community and cultural organizations

Each of the contracted community and cultural organizations have expertise on community engagement related to Bottineau Corridor development. Each organization conducted outreach through their existing networks with social media, direct outreach, and convening in-person sessions.

Organizations	Focused outreach	Surveys	Engagement sessions
African Career & Education Resources	African, African American, Latinx	17	Focus group w/10 people
African Economic Development Solutions	African immigrant businesses	22	Phone conversations w/ 50 businesses
Asian Media Access	Asian, African American, Latinx, White and mixed race	71	In-person surveys to residents at strategic locations in the corridor
CAPI USA	Immigrant community	67	In-person surveys to clients
Lao Center of MN	Lao & Asian community	37	39 community members attended 2 BCW feedback sessions
Liberian Business Association	Liberian businesses	40	53 members participated in 2 events
Bottineau Community Works	Bottineau gov.delivery list, consultants, and cities conducted outreach	Total: 558	3 feedback sessions: 90 people
Total community engagement numbers = 800		558	242



Survey and feedback session methodologies

Bottineau Community Works staff designed a survey for online and in-person distribution to residents and small businesses throughout the Bottineau Corridor. Over 558 surveys were collected from Bottineau corridor residents. All the in-person engagement was framed utilizing these survey questions. In-person engagement collected community input through three community feedback sessions, focus groups and stakeholder interviews. 90 residents attended Bottineau Community Works three feedback sessions facilitated in World Café style on February 19th, 20th and 27th in 2020.

Community Engagement results summary

Survey summary:

For more detailed analysis see Appendix A with priorities by race and gender.

1. For commercial and business nodes, the top community priorities included:
 - making it easier to bike and walk to businesses
 - making existing businesses stronger
 - helping create new businesses
2. For walk, bike, and roll connections, the top priorities included:
 - making sidewalk connections to improve walkability
 - improving connections to public transit for walkers and bicycles
3. For housing choices, the top priorities were:
 - repairing and preserving existing housing – single family homes and rental
 - encouraging new TOD near public transit
 - providing more affordable housing connecting walk/bike to public transit
4. For marketing and branding, the top priorities for residents were:
 - attracting investments to the corridor
 - developing pride in the corridor and its cultural assets
 - creating a shared vision
5. For innovative financing, the top priority was:
 - identifying financing strategies to minimize resident and business displacement
6. For Community engagement the top strategy was:
 - having a community voice in the planning and implementation

Feedback sessions summary:

For detailed feedback see Appendix B

1. For commercial and business nodes, “reflecting local communities and cultures at business nodes” came in as a strong priority with “creating new business opportunities” along with “strengthening commercial and business nodes in the station areas” and “creating affordable rental spaces for businesses” as subsequent community priorities.
2. For walk, bike, and roll connections, “pedestrian safety” along with “strengthening sidewalk connections” came in as a strong priority. In addition, input was gathered related to biking safety and connections, wayfinding, and station area facilities for walking, biking, and rolling.
3. For housing choices, “increasing and improving affordable housing” came out as a strong priority. In addition, support of mixed use and multi-unit housing along with single family homes as subsequent priorities both with a mix of market rate and affordable.
4. For marketing and branding, “recognizing culture and history as the corridor positions itself for future development opportunities” is an important priority. In addition, Theodore Wirth Park should be recognized and promoted as a regional destination.
5. For innovative financing, “a resource guide to support existing and new developers investing in the corridor” came out as a strong priority. In addition, subsequently these priorities were identified: “financial support for existing

small businesses,” “financing strategies to prevent gentrification and displacement,” and “investing in financial incentives as ways to promote development in the corridor.”

6. For community engagement, participants want to see outreach go to where people are naturally gathering along with connecting with existing community resources such a media and community-based groups. Also utilizing the existing meeting structures for the Blue Line Extension as subsequent community priorities.

Appendix:

Appendix A: Bottineau community survey summary

Appendix B: Bottineau Community Works community feedback sessions summary

Appendix C: Bottineau Corridor community survey

Appendix D: Bottineau community survey announcement

Contact

Communication and Engagement Services

Joan Vanhala, Engagement Specialist

Office: 612-348-0043

Joan.Vanhala@hennepin.us

Website

hennepin.us.bottineau-community-works

Appendix A



Bottineau community survey analysis 2020

Hennepin County Housing and Economic Development

May 5, 2020



Bottineau community survey background

The Bottineau Community Works (BCW) Partnership brings cities, communities and other partners together to build long-term value through collaborative planning for housing, transit, jobs and placemaking. BCW is currently concluding FTA TOD grant deliverables.

- **December 2019** – March 2020: BCW contracted with six community and cultural groups to conduct community engagement on the FTA TOD grant deliverables.
- **Purpose:** Understand how community feedback was incorporated into FTA TOD work products, how to access them online, and to uncover community priorities moving into future implementation efforts.
- **Methodologies:** Online and paper surveys, community-led focus groups and presentations, three BCW community feedback sessions

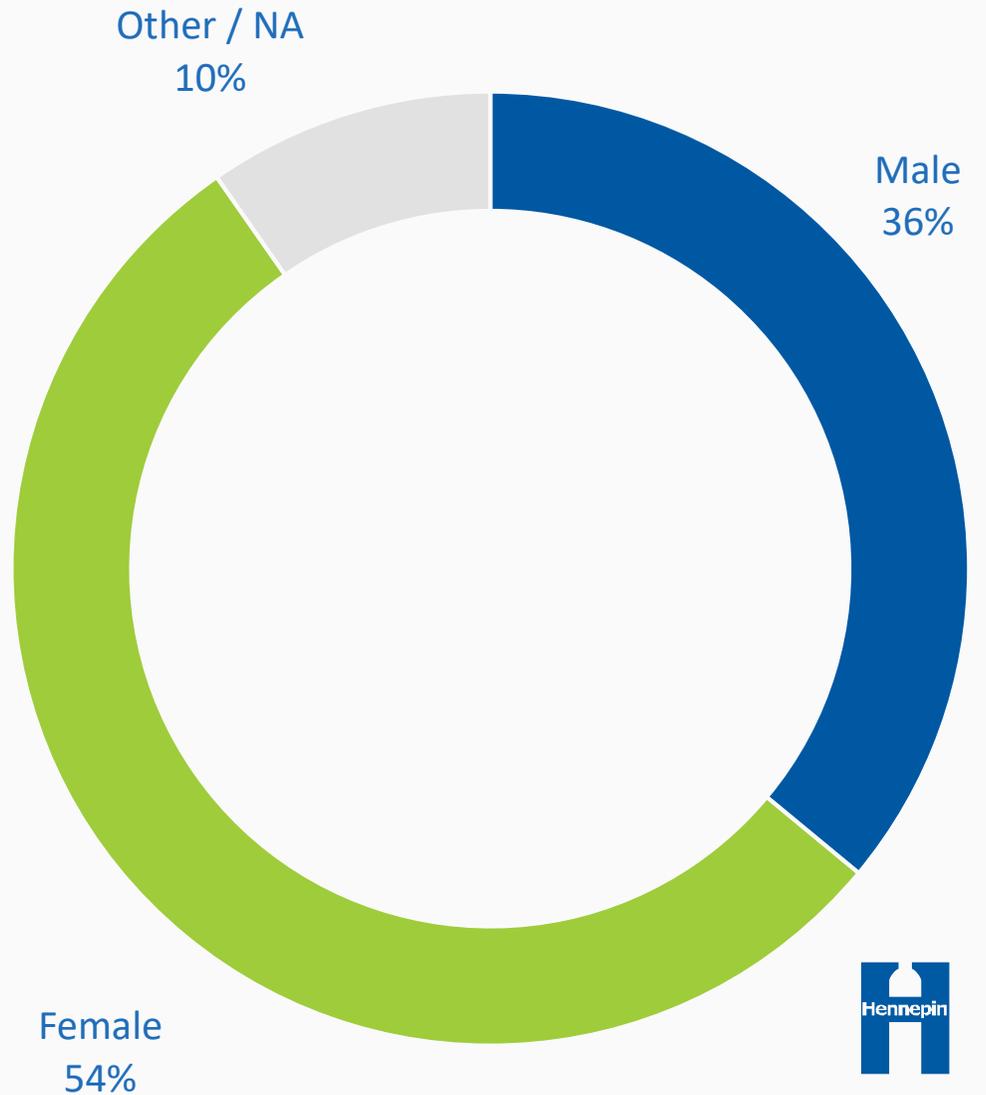
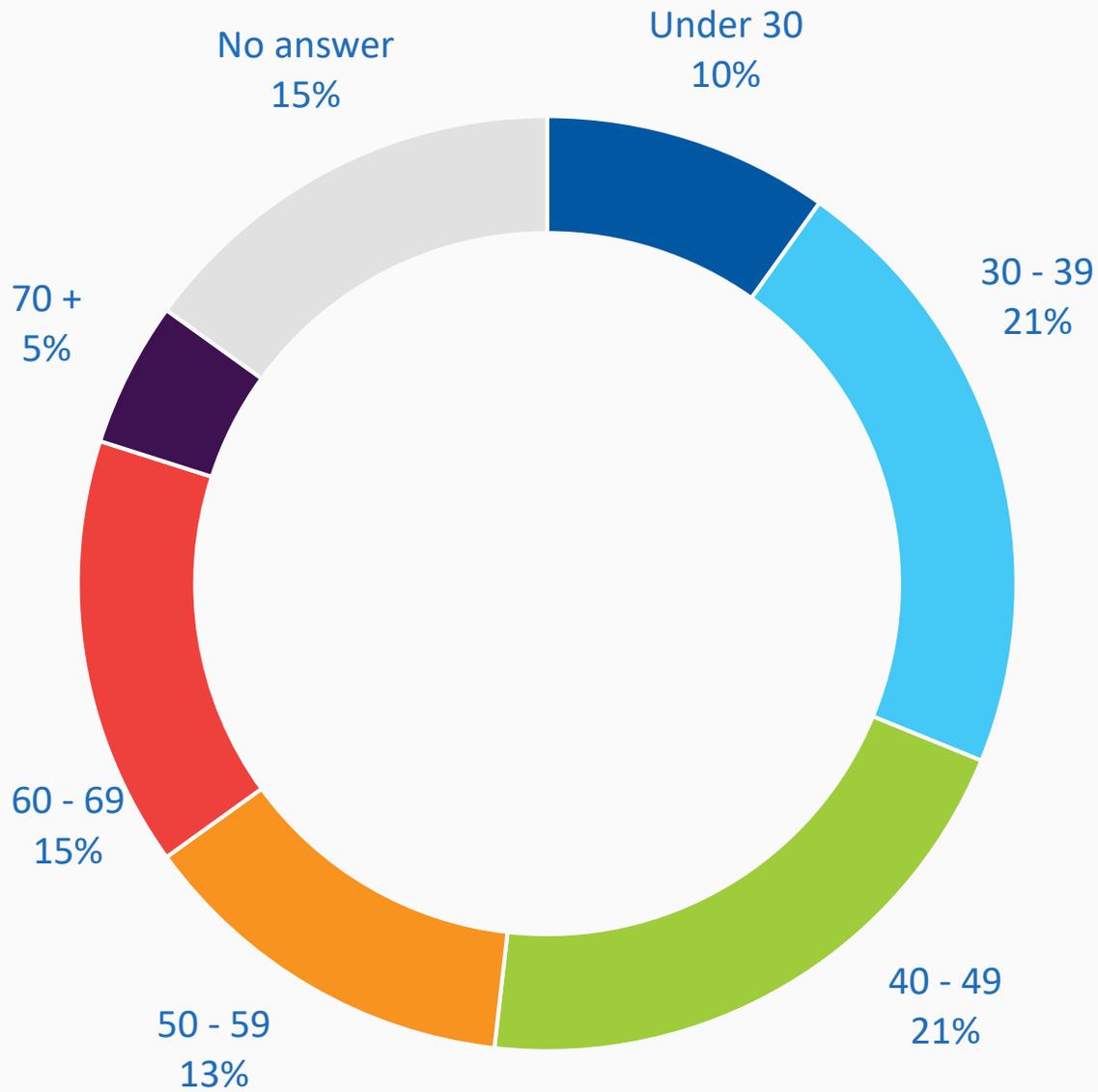
Bottineau survey methodology

Community engagement contracts:

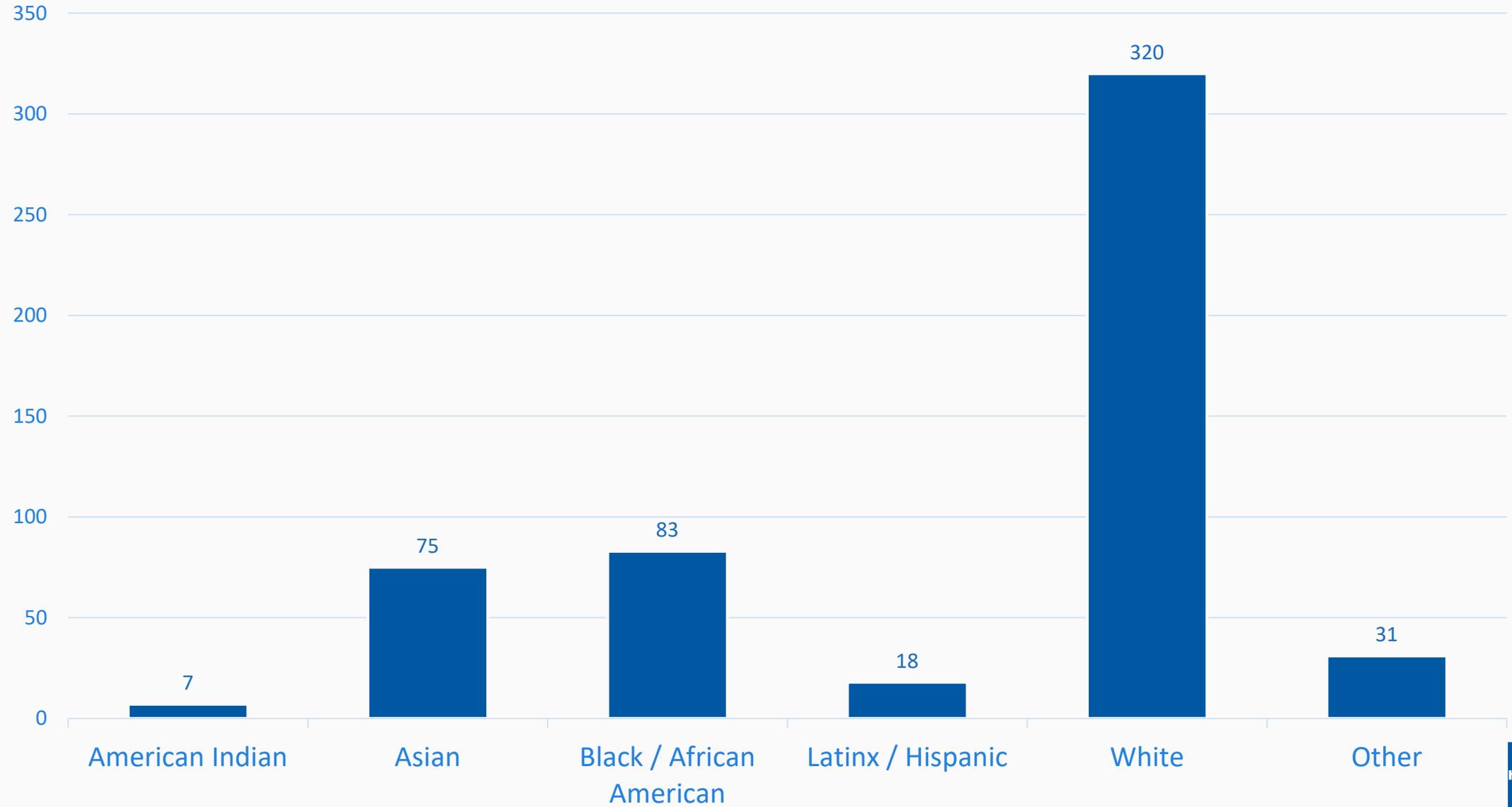
- African Career and Resource Center (ACER)
- African Economic Development Solutions
- Asian Media Access
- CAPI USA
- Liberian Business Association
- Lao Center of Minnesota

558 surveys collected in-person, online, and phone interviews

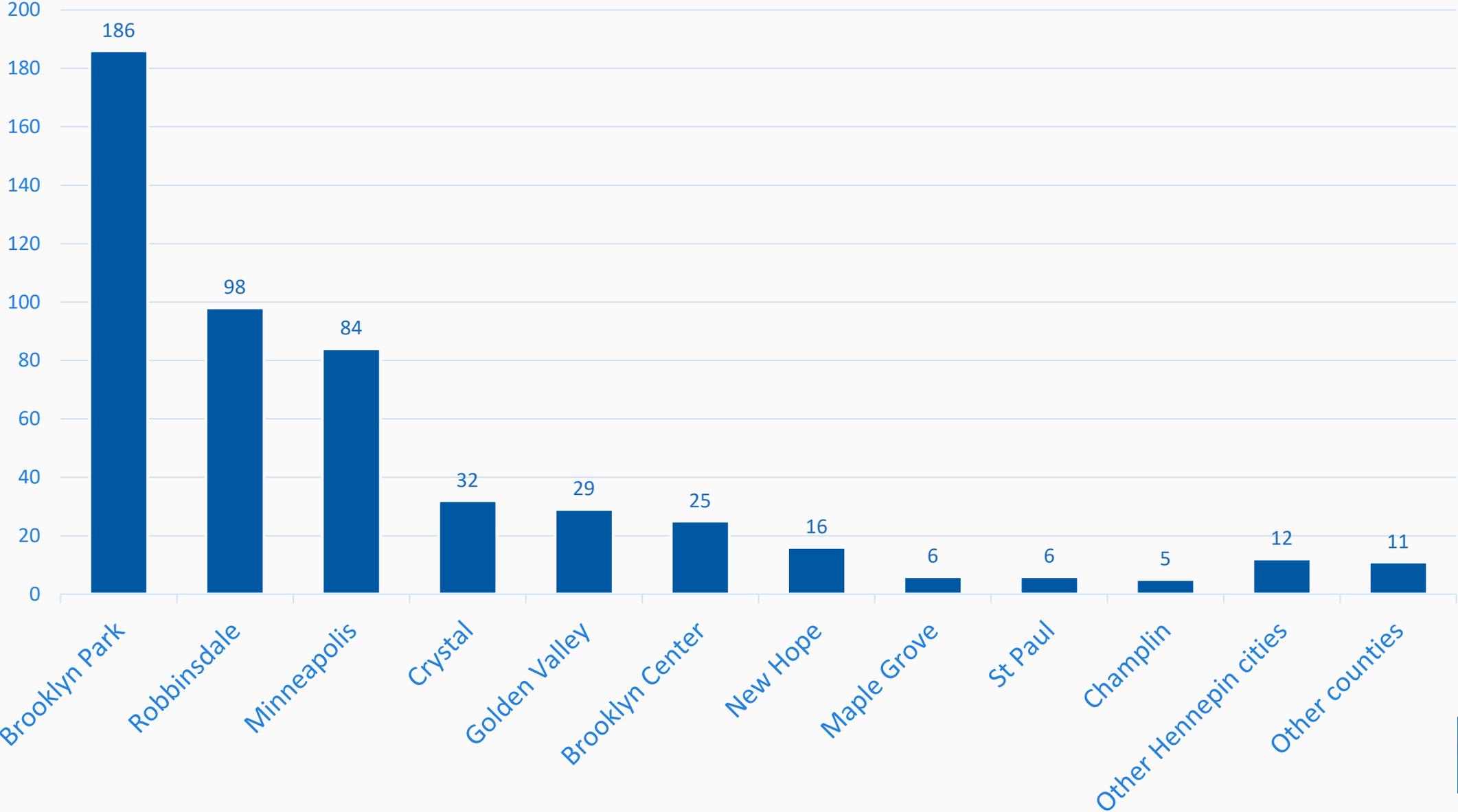
Age and Gender of Respondents



Race and Ethnicity of Respondents

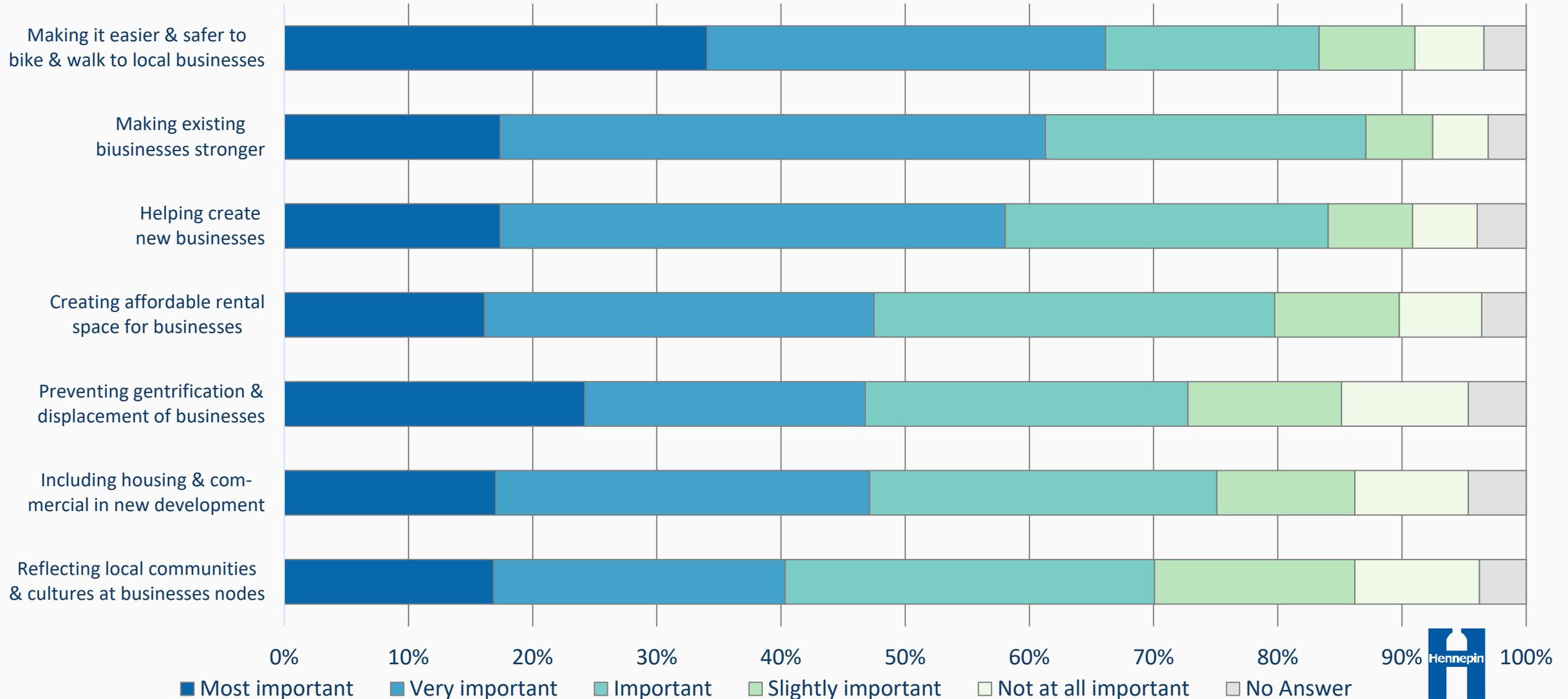


Where do you live?



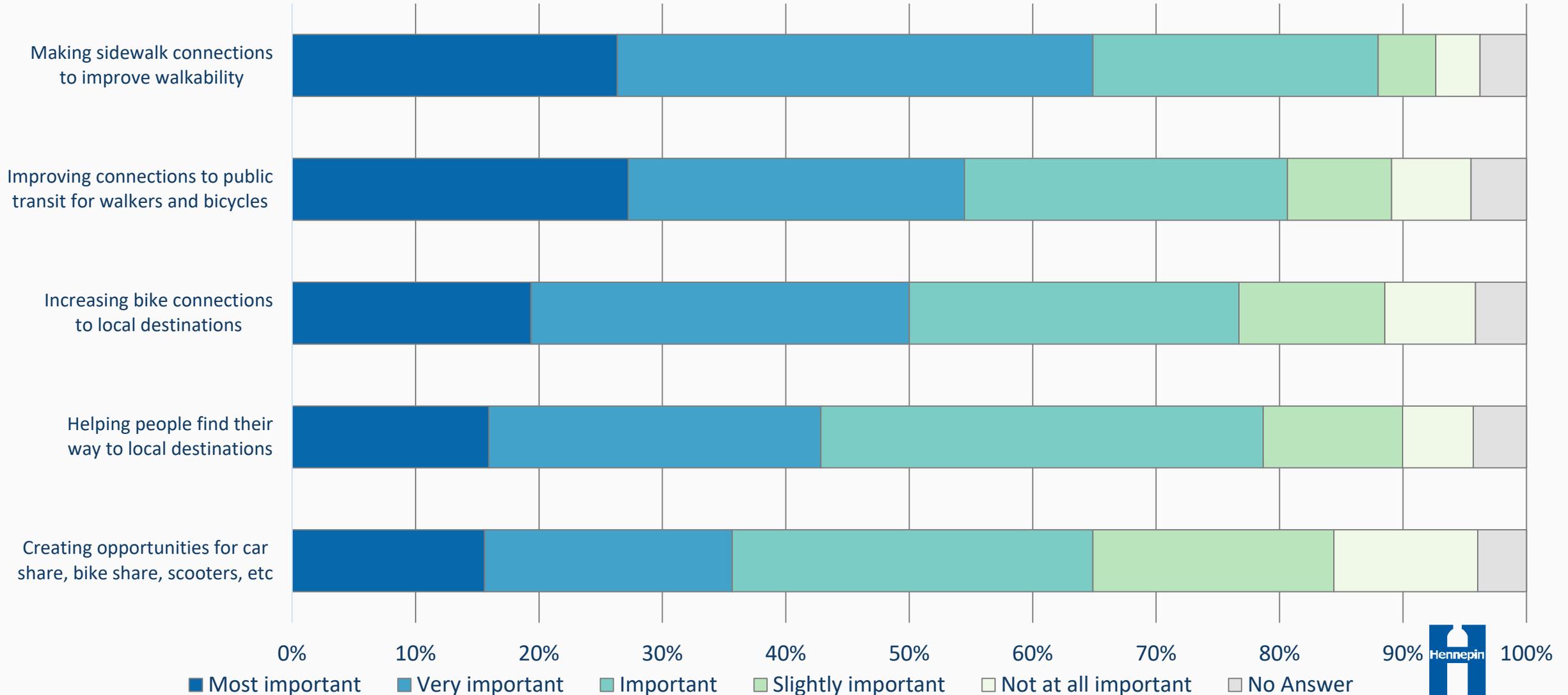
Rate these strategies:

Healthy commercial & business nodes are important for creating a vibrant Bottineau Corridor



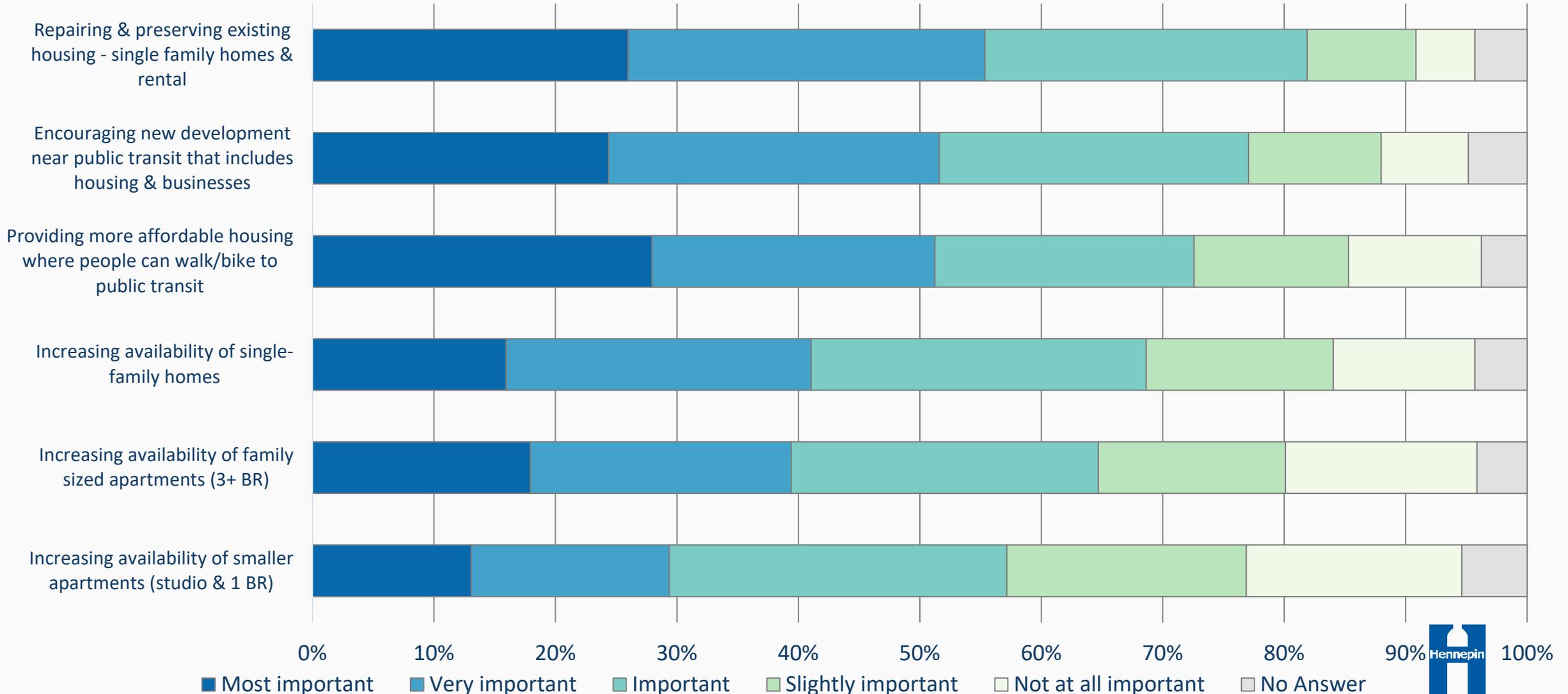
Rate these strategies:

Improving connections will provide residents options to get to where they want to go



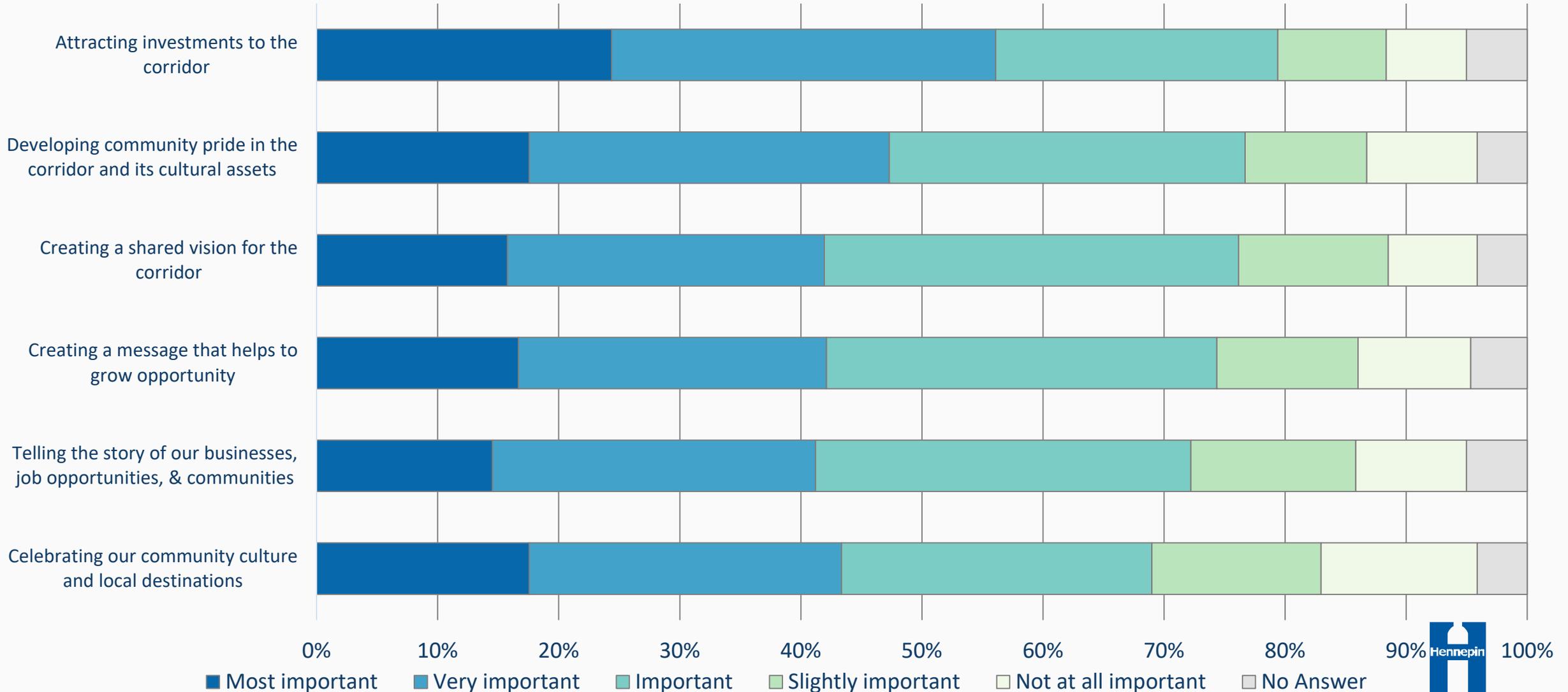
Rate these strategies:

Housing choices are important for residents & families to find housing in the Bottineau Corridor



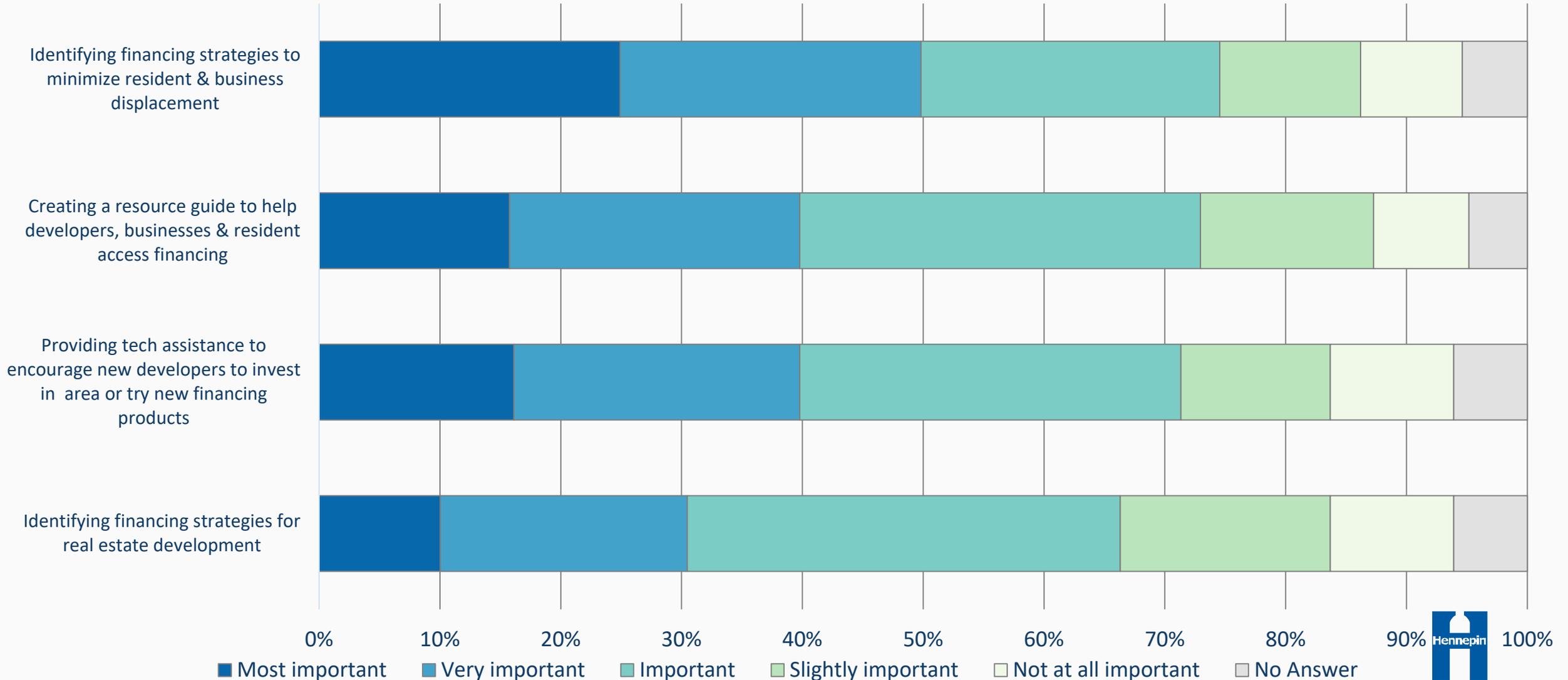
Rate these strategies:

Marketing, promotion, & branding can bring people, businesses, & investments to this area



Rate these strategies:

Innovative financial strategies can be used to improve development opportunities in the corridor



Comparison of strategy ranking by gender (1 to 10)

Strategy	Total Rank	Female Rank	Male Rank
Making it easier and safer to bike and walk to local businesses (3.84)	1	1	6
Making sidewalk connections to improve walkability (3.83)	2	2	2
Making existing businesses stronger (3.66)	3	5	3
Repairing and preserving existing housing - single family homes and rental (3.66)	4	3	8
Improving connections to public transit for walkers and bicycles (3.63)	5	4	7
Attracting investments to the corridor (3.61)	6	10	1
Helping create new businesses (3.61)	7	9	4
Encouraging new development near public transit that includes housing and businesses (3.53)	8	11	5
Identifying financing strategies to minimize resident and business displacement (3.49)	9	7	16
Providing more affordable housing where people can walk or bike to nearby public transit (3.46)	10	6	15

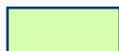
Comparison of strategy ranking by gender (11 to 20)

Strategy	Total Rank	Female Rank	Male Rank
Increasing bike connections to local destinations (3.45)	11	13	9
Creating affordable rental spaces for businesses (3.42)	12	12	10
Preventing gentrification and the displacement of businesses (3.40)	13	8	21
Developing community pride in the corridor and its cultural assets (3.38)	14	15	11
Helping people find their way to local destinations (3.38)	15	14	18
Including housing and commercial uses into new building development (3.36)	16	16	14
Creating a shared vision for the corridor (3.32)	17	18	13
Creating a message that helps to grow opportunity (3.30)	18	17	19
Creating a resource guide to help developers, businesses and resident access financing (3.27)	19	22	17
Telling the story of our businesses, job opportunities, and communities (3.25)	20	21	20

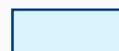


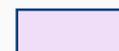
Comparison of top 10 strategies ranked by race

	Asian respondents	African American/Black respondents	White respondents
1	Creating affordable rental spaces for businesses	Providing more affordable housing where people can walk/bike to public transit	Making it easier and safer to bike and walk to local businesses
2	Making sidewalk connections to improve walkability	Encouraging new development near public transit that includes housing and businesses	Making sidewalk connections to improve walkability
3	Creating a resource guide to help developers, businesses and resident access financing	Preventing gentrification and the displacement of businesses	Repairing and preserving existing housing - single family homes and rental
4	Making existing businesses stronger	Increasing the availability of family sized apartments (3 or more bedrooms)	Improving connections to public transit for walkers and bicycles
5	Helping create new businesses	Improving connections to public transit for walkers and bicycles	Attracting investments to the corridor
6	Providing more affordable housing where people can walk/bike to nearby public transit	Repairing and preserving existing housing - single family homes and rental	Identifying financing strategies to minimize resident and business displacement
7	Providing tech assist to encourage new developers to invest or try new financing products	Creating affordable rental spaces for businesses	Making existing businesses stronger
8	Increasing the availability of single-family homes	Making it easier and safer to bike and walk to local businesses	Helping create new businesses
9	Increasing bike connections to local destinations	Making existing businesses stronger	Encouraging new development near public transit that includes housing & businesses
10	Increasing the availability of family sized apartments (3 or more bedrooms)	Increasing the availability of single-family homes	Preventing gentrification and the displacement of businesses

 Businesses/development

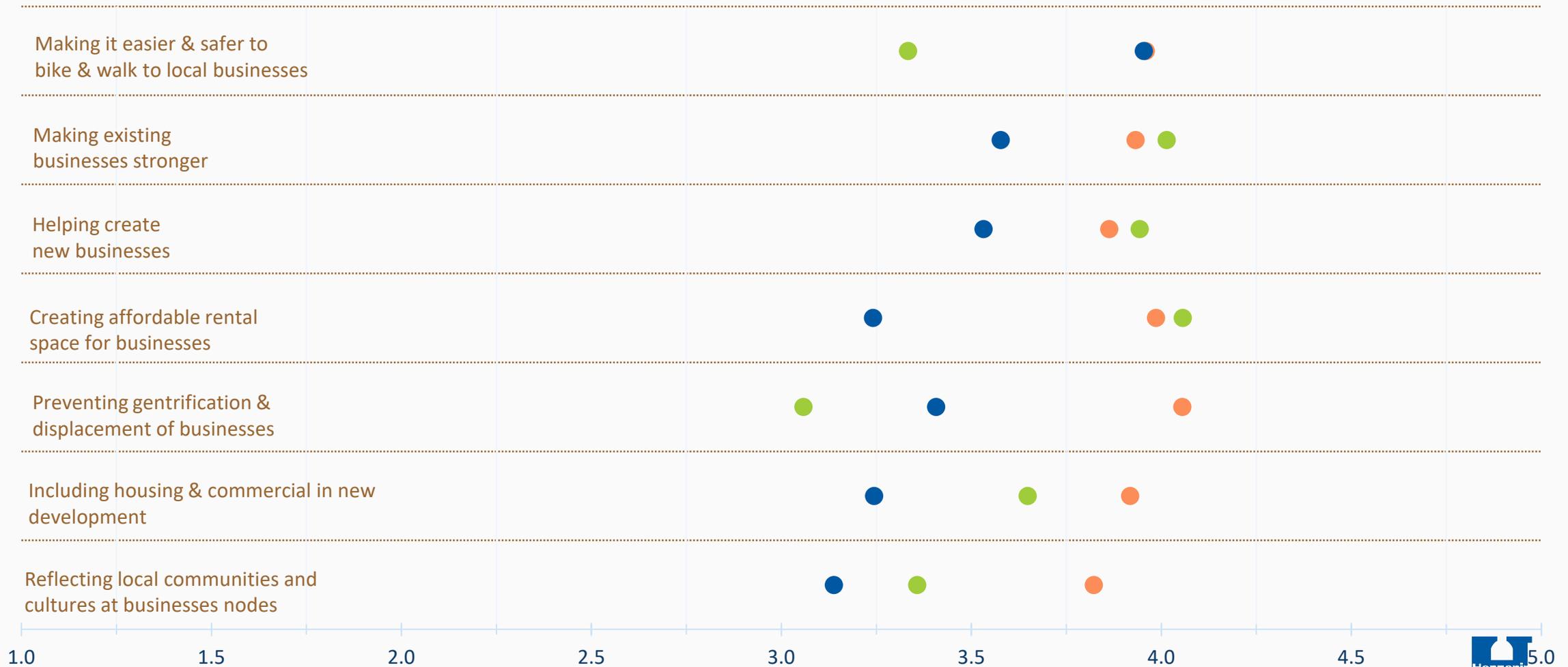
 Connections

 Housing

 Finance/marketing

Rate these strategies (by race):

Healthy commercial & business nodes are important for creating a vibrant Bottineau Corridor.

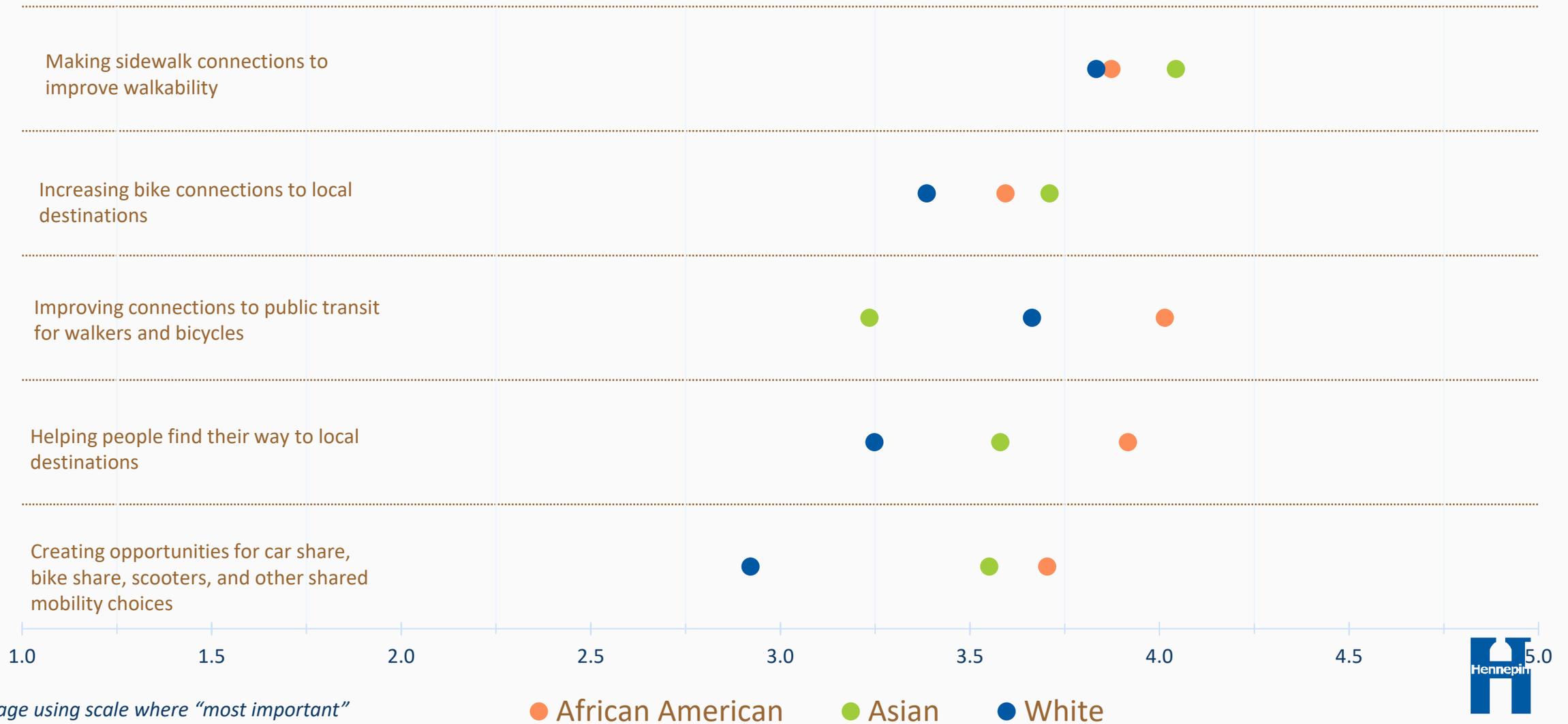


Average using scale where "most important" = 5 and "not at all important" = 1

● African American ● Asian ● White

Rate these strategies (by race):

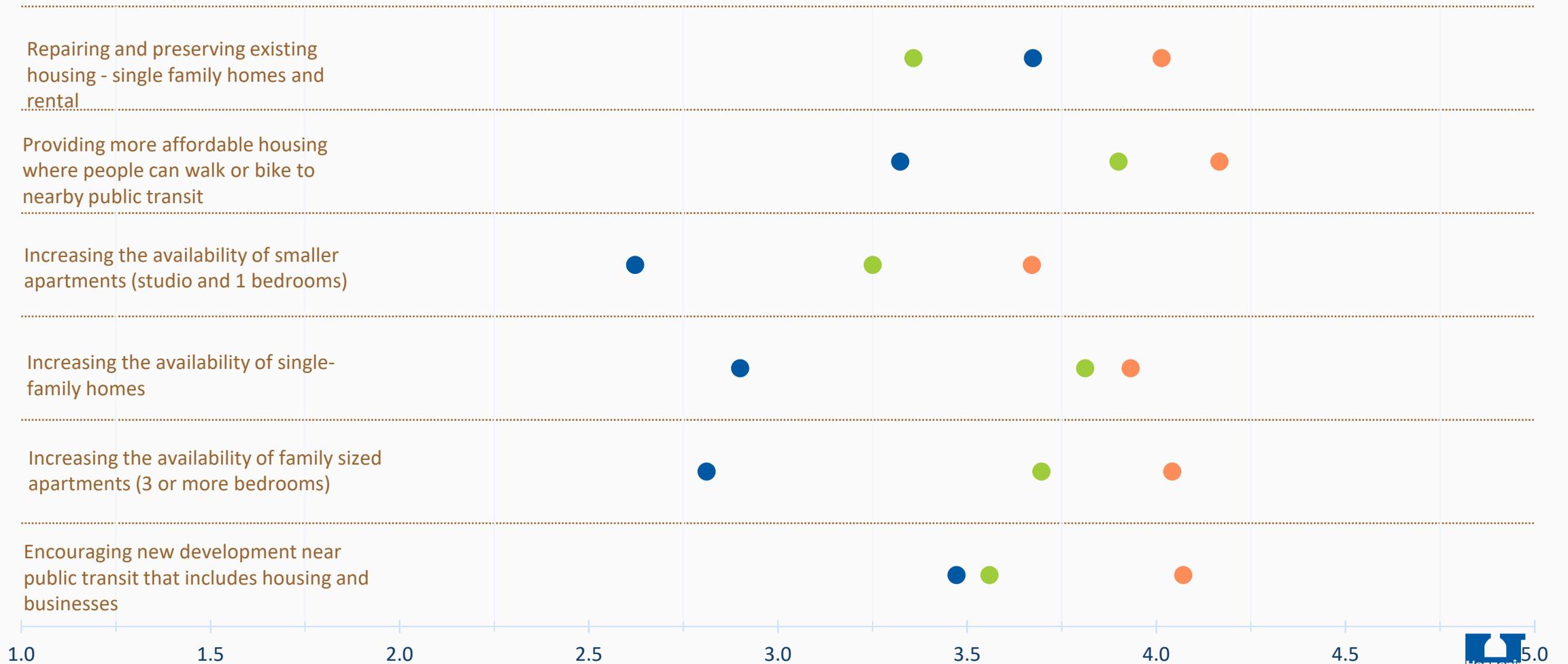
Improving connections will provide residents options to get to where they want to go



Average using scale where "most important" = 5 and "not at all important" = 1

Rate these strategies (by race):

Housing choices are important for residents & families to find housing in the Bottineau Corridor



Average using scale where "most important" = 5 and "not at all important" = 1

● African American ● Asian ● White

Rate these strategies (by race):

Marketing, promotion, & branding can bring people, businesses, & investments to this area



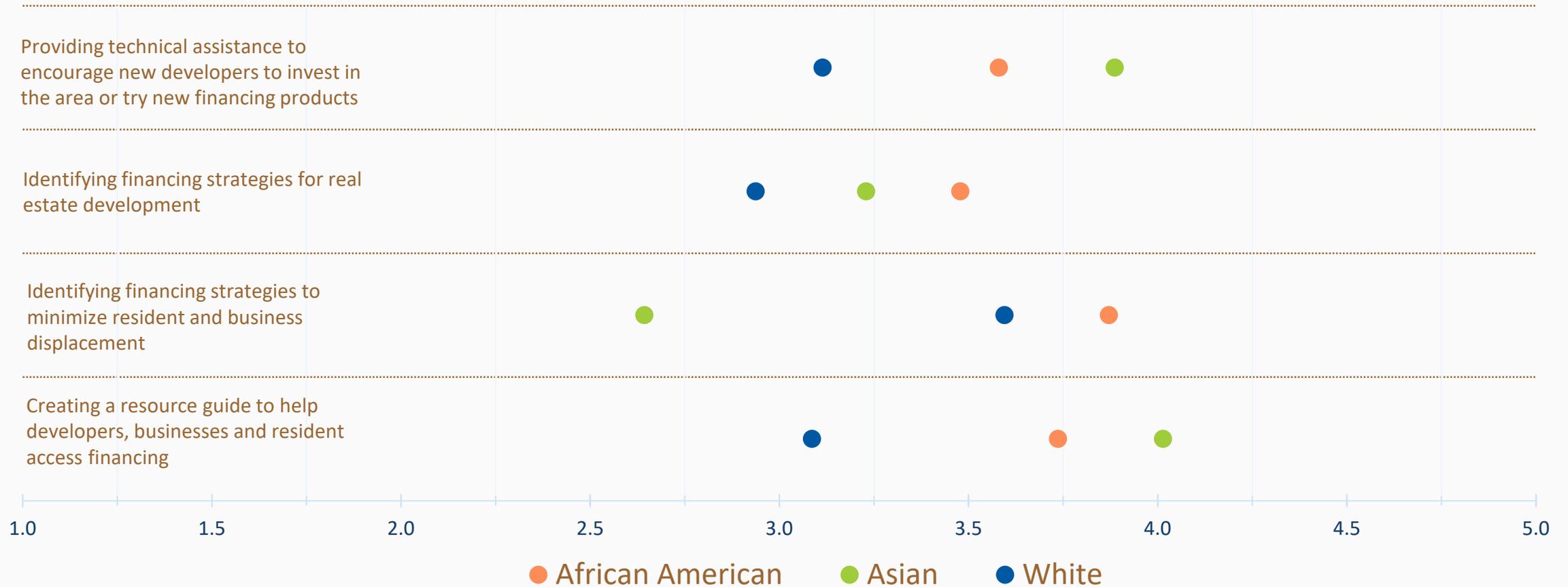
Average using scale where "most important" = 5 and "not at all important" = 1

● African American ● Asian ● White



Rate these strategies (by race):

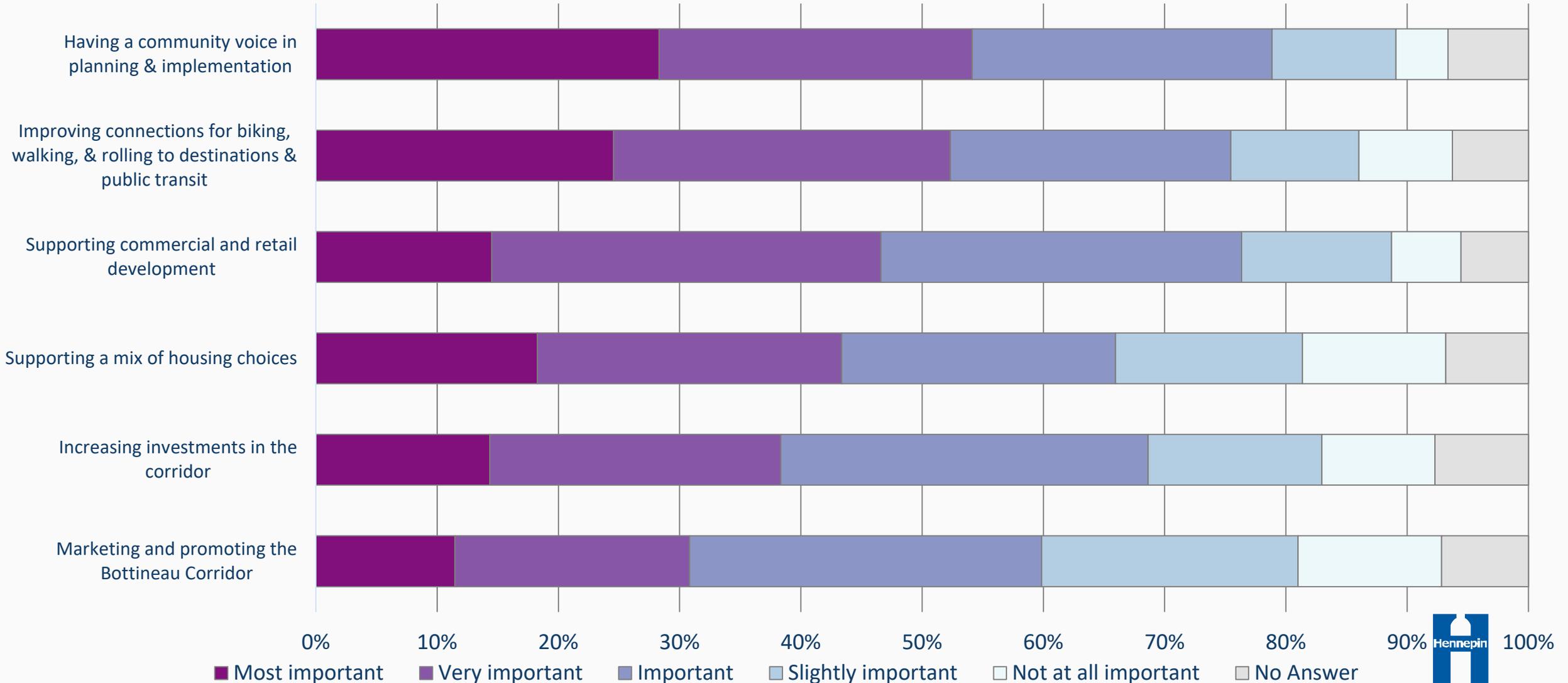
Innovative financial strategies can be used to improve development opportunities in the corridor



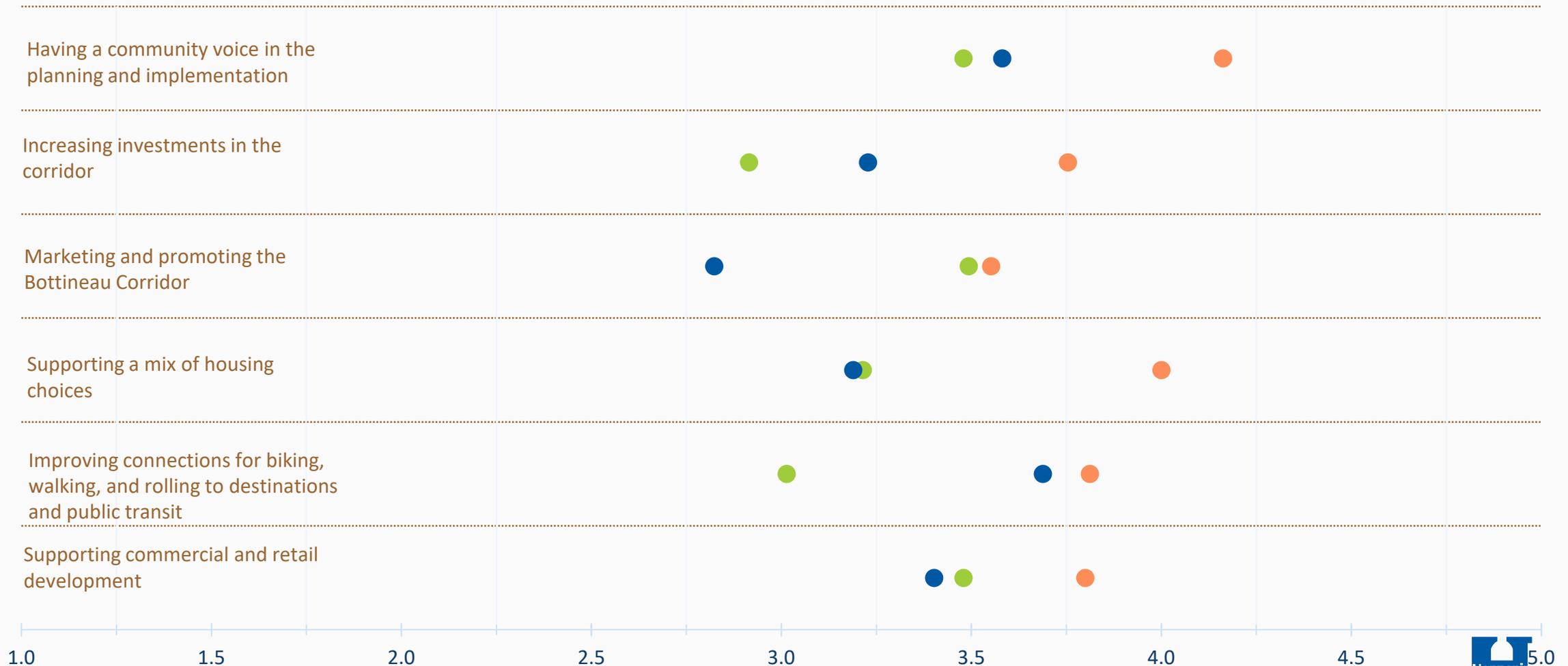
Average using scale where "most important" = 5 and "not at all important" = 1



Thinking overall about the Bottineau Corridor, what is most important to you in creating a vibrant, prosperous, and livable area?



Thinking overall about the Bottineau Corridor, what is most important to you in creating a vibrant, prosperous, and livable area? – by race



Average using scale where “most important” = 5 and “not at all important” = 1

● African American ● Asian ● White

Business survey results

40 paper surveys collected by Lao Center of Minnesota

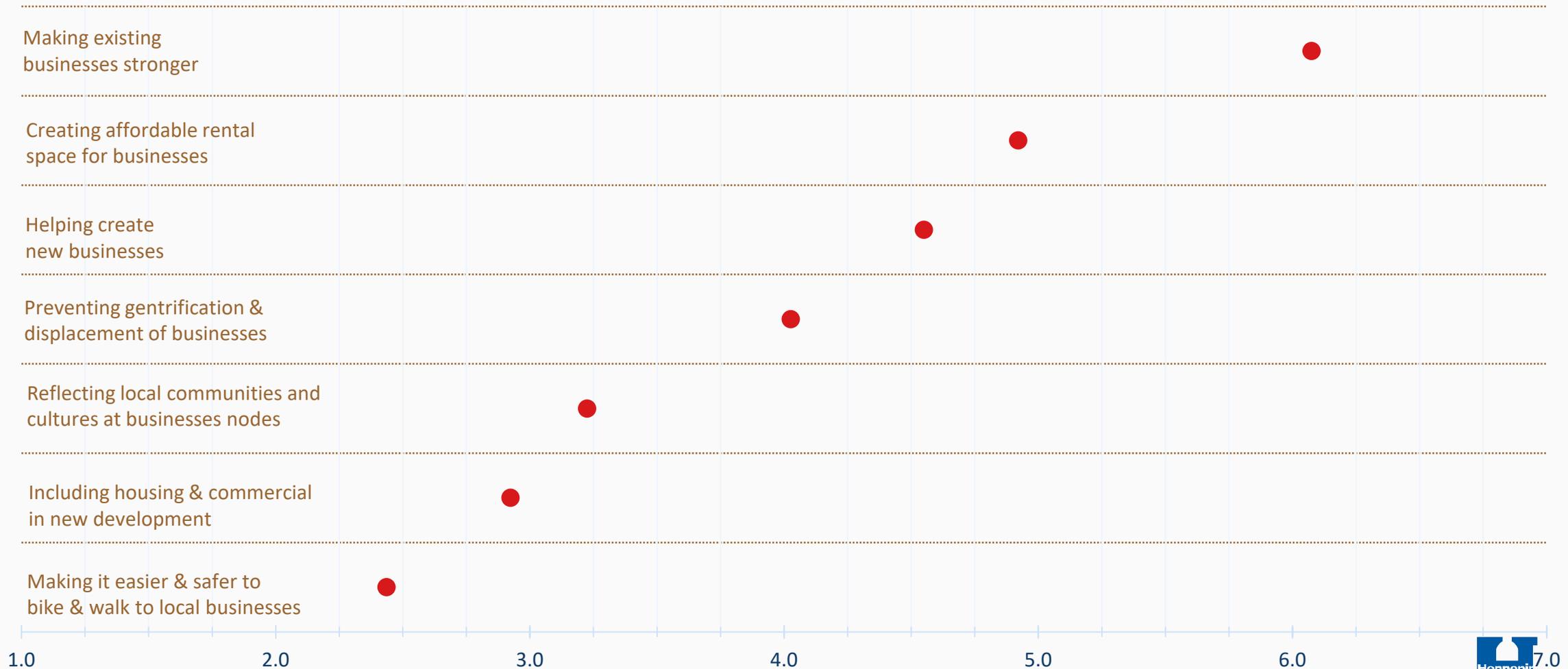
Gender 15 female
 25 male respondents

Race: 34 African America / black
 3 Asian
 2 white/Caucasian

Format: Instead of “rating” each statement on a 1 to 5 scale, respondents were asked to “rank” the statements from highest to lowest preference

Rate these strategies:

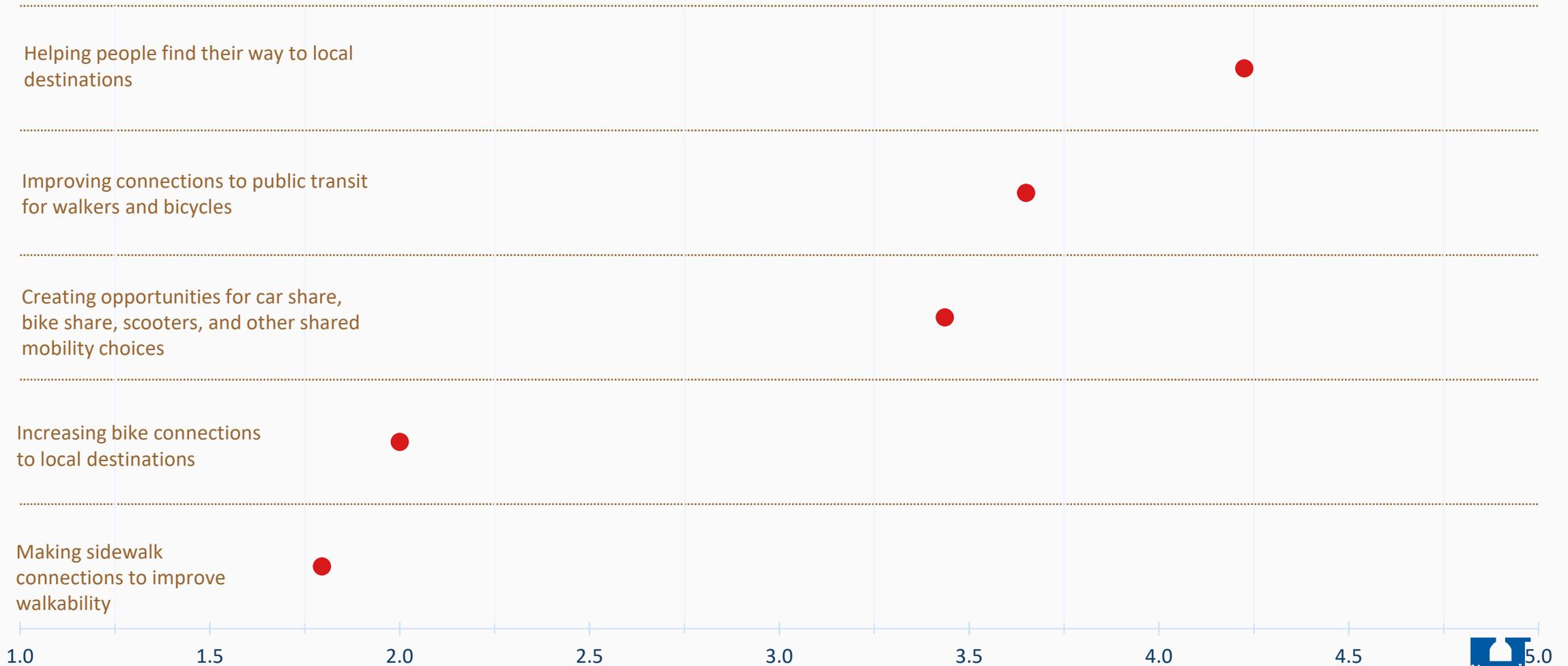
Healthy commercial & business nodes are important for creating a vibrant Bottineau Corridor.



Average using 1 to 7 ranking with
"7" highest and "1" lowest

Rate these strategies:

Improving connections will provide residents options to get to where they want to go

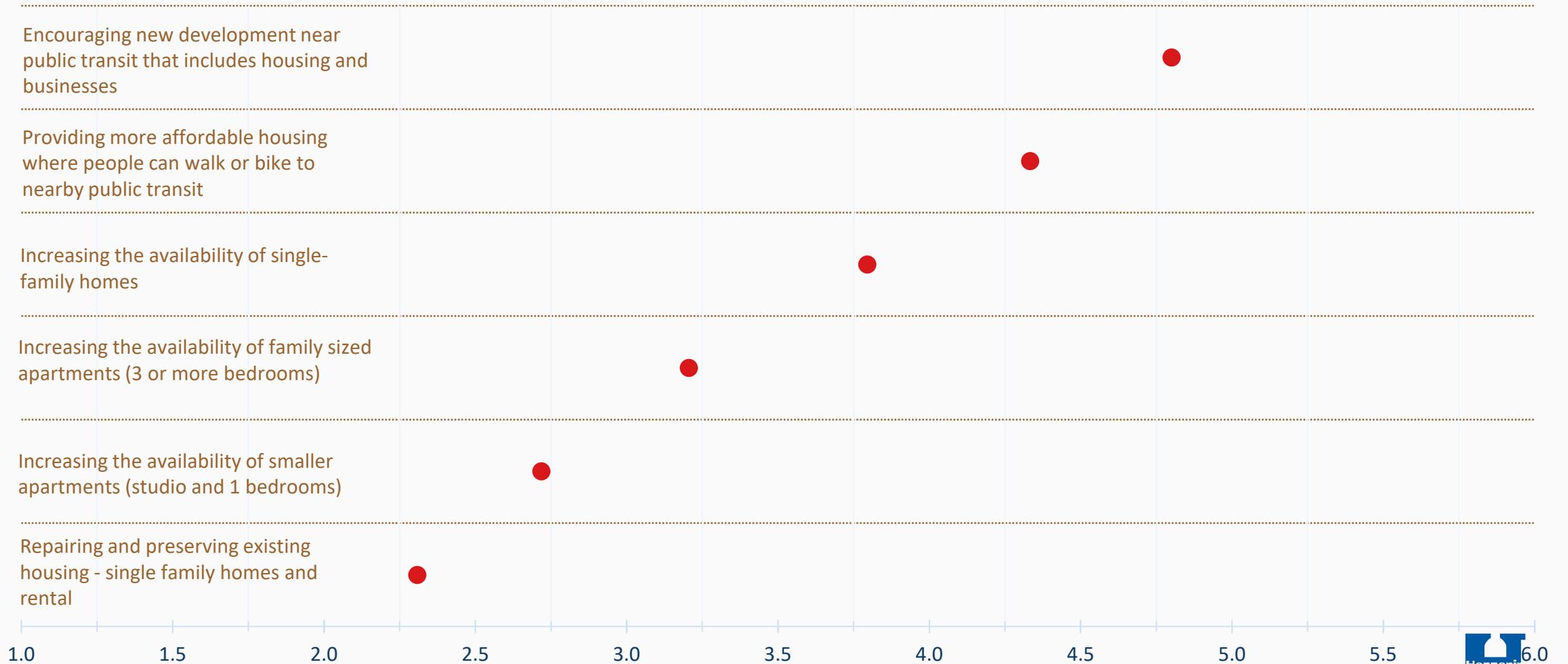


Average using 1 to 5 ranking with "5" highest and "1" lowest



Rate these strategies:

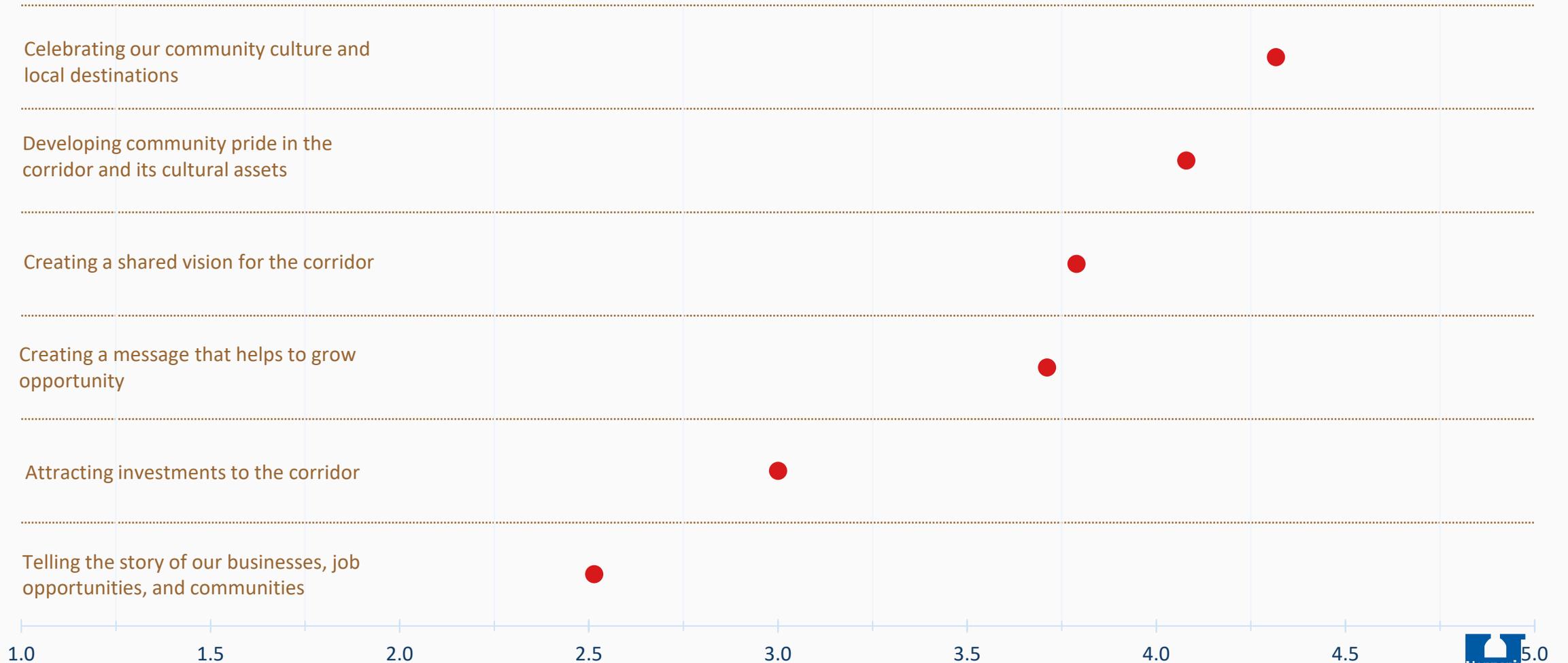
Housing choices are important for residents & families to find housing in the Bottineau Corridor



Average using 1 to 6 ranking with "6" highest and "1" lowest

Rate these strategies:

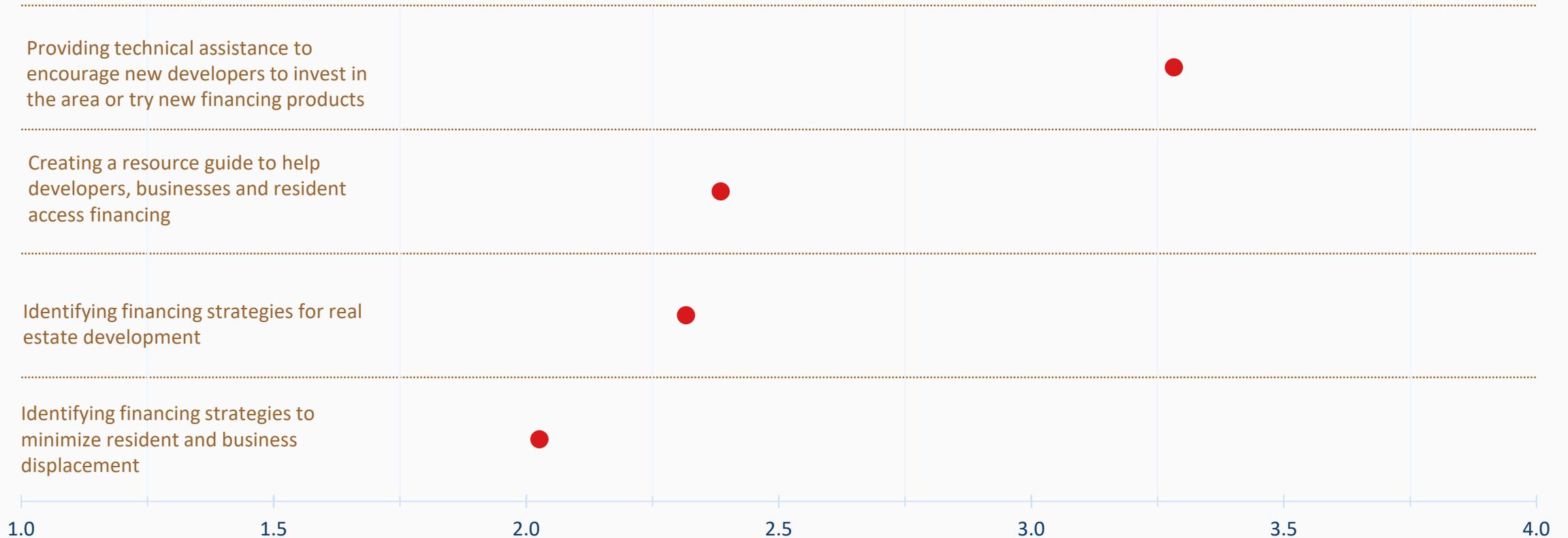
Marketing, promotion, & branding can bring people, businesses, & investments to this area



Average using 1 to 6 ranking with "6" highest and "1" lowest

Rate these strategies:

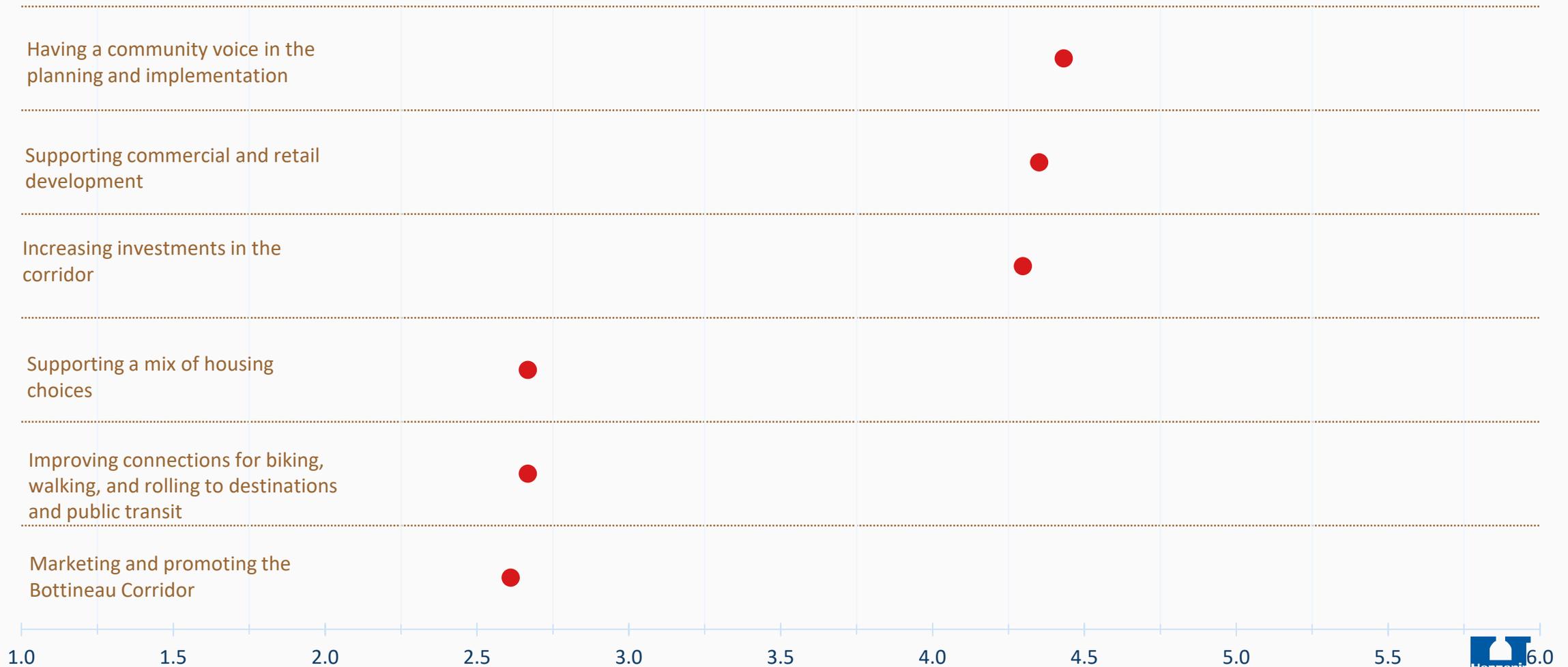
Innovative financial strategies can be used to improve development opportunities in the corridor



Average using 1 to 4 ranking with "4" highest and "1" lowest



Thinking overall about the Bottineau Corridor, what is most important to you in creating a vibrant, prosperous, and livable area?



Average using 1 to 6 ranking with "6" highest and "1" lowest

Questions?

Robb Lucklow, Program Analysis Supervisor
612-348-9344; robert.lucklow@hennepin.us

Joan Vanhala, Engagement Specialist
612-348-0043; joan.vanhala@hennepin.us



Appendix B

BCW CE feedback sessions summary

February 19th, 20th, and 27th, 2020

90 residents attended Bottineau Community Works three feedback sessions facilitated in World Café style on February 19th, 20th and 27th in 2020. Here is a complete listing of their feedback comments organized in categories.

1. Commercial and business nodes

Reflecting local communities and cultures at business nodes

- Need for more cultural businesses and celebrations that reflect the community x8
 - Cultural awareness months – celebrations represented at cultural nodes
 - Something like a Christmas Village
 - Right now, people on transit don't stop in north Minneapolis – they just pass through
 - Want to make north Minneapolis a destination
 - For example, Prince's former home in north Minneapolis could be used as an anchor
 - Idea for cultural celebrations that are destinations in the neighborhood
 - North side Christmas village
 - Events to celebrate Black history month, Somali Independence Day, Hmong holidays
- We need a coffee shop where people can meet, work, relax, hang x3
- We want to have a bike shop x2
- An interesting mix of restaurants is important to our vitality and desirability and key to a walkable community x2
- A general marketplace with affordable rental space that can serve a diverse community x2
- Good safe nightlife too
- Personality to make it interesting, something that gets talked about & gets press. More that brings people into the community to play and then they will stay
- Local businesses (small shops)
- Pharmacy
- Playground
- Small shopping area
- No liquor stores!!
- Laundromat and stores
- Need a variety of businesses, not just restaurants
- Want corridors to add to/enhance the community not just functionally, but aesthetically too
- Create spaces people want to be in, spend time in, enjoy

Create new business opportunities

- Support creating new businesses with funding support x4
- Have the businesses that residents want and need x2
- Don't bring in franchisees/chains/big box businesses x2
- Helps existing businesses to expand and better themselves x2
- Helps people as workers get places to better themselves and their families
- Creates a community that is prospering
- The small businesses in Robbinsdale are focused on making our city a better place we should prioritize them
- Should be a good mix, keep desirable businesses and attract others that residents want and need

- Give tax incentives to existing small businesses to help them transition from what is now affordable to what may soon become unaffordable
- Helps city's tax base
- No business in North Minneapolis – need more business development in North Minneapolis
- Including housing and commercial uses into new building development
- Being really strategic about the types of businesses that are attracted
- This is the highest priority: Do residents of Robbinsdale want it to grow, or do they want it to stay small town feel? What kind of development do they want to see? We have to think about it in advance, so we aren't just reacting to developers plans
- Mixed commercial with residential development with parking underneath
- Housing + commercial development is good
- Parking is an issue

Station areas

- Public safety for biking and walking to local businesses and housing x4
- Public transportation connections with cars, bikes, and peds x3
- We really need a coffee shop near the transit center x2
- If we want people to bike because it is good, green, healthful we really need a bike shop, places to park and lock your bike, and safe routes to ride
- Really, we should have a place to grab food and a direct path with wayfinding to local businesses letting folks know how many minutes away from what?
- This is the highest priority
- More that brings people into the community to play and then they will stay
- This may be a concern perhaps a guide focused for locals to keep what's here
- Increase the desirability of what's here
- It can be a huge boom for local businesses too.
- We want our business mix to draw non-residents here on their way through to play and perhaps stay
- The community wants entertainment space close to the Blue Line, a place that could be rented by community members for celebrations, events, and marketplace events
- Make sure there are businesses along the Blue Line, including grocery stores, affordable housing, entertainment
- Community wants to make sure there are gathering spaces close to the Blue Line, such as coffee shops or restaurants where people can relax and talk with each other that is affordable (like there is in downtown Minneapolis, but more affordable)
- Transit should be close enough
- The pharmacy and clinic should be close to the transit station
- Worried the Asian businesses won't have a stop near them
- Transit accessible parks, housing, cultural center
- Helping create small businesses near transit that is easy to access
- Access to bike routes and housing

Creating affordable rental spaces for businesses

- We already have this with high vacancy rates as it is, do not need more space that is affordable, instead need to mix in upscale establishments x2
- Protect our community from large businesses coming in and buying out or putting others out of business
- Improving Hubbard, the street that the Police station is on would be great
- The city currently turns its back to the new transit area, this will need reorientation
- Have the businesses that residents want and need
- Creating affordable rental space for businesses

- This is so far down the lane there is so much vacant space and affordable space now

Preventing gentrification and the displacement of businesses

- This is a big one generally, but it could be a good thing if some businesses were displaced that we want out and there was room for persons and businesses at the high end of the spectrum, currently there is not a good balance
- Being able to get to the station area and use transit to get businesses and services are important to build wealth and have people in the area stay there. Grocery stores and businesses are important for people's health.
- Financial support, like less tax to local small businesses to help them survive, improve buildings, stay, compete
- How to keep the local small business to survive long term as area turns more high-end
- Shutdown due to financial struggles with taxes increasing and rents increasing
- There will be a certain amount of sink or swim, if you are not up to the game
- Tax incentives for small businesses

2. Bike Ped connections feedback and priorities:

- This is the priority, the focus on the traffic, the biking, the walking, the safety and comfort of getting places
- Do not rank connections (and overbuild), instead correctly promote usage

Pedestrian Safety

- Crosswalks and intersections:
 - Crossing Highway 55 is difficult; cars pick up speed between lights making it hard for pedestrians to cross between signalized intersections; signal timing can be made to give pedestrians advantages as has been done around the UMN campus
 - Crosswalks don't always have signals
 - Trying to cross the intersection at 42nd/Lake Drive and Bottineau/81 is dangerous.
 - Implement safe shared traffic engineering, with lights, timing, etc.
 - Each person noted where walking across or next to the street is dangerous and some have know people who were injured.
- Kids and parks:
 - It's very dangerous for kids bicycling in north Minneapolis because they don't obey signals; barriers are needed to prevent bicyclists from crossing against red lights
 - There are many good parks, but children cannot be sent to them because it is unsafe to walk there.
 - Make more connections for schools & parks so that it's safe for kids to get from one place to another
- Station area:
 - Safe walking paths around LRT stations are important; many low-income people using LRT
 - Prioritize pedestrians and not the automobiles passing through and around the station (safety)
 - Keep people safe with tracks, motor vehicles...
- More outreach/training is needed for pedestrian safety
- We need to prioritize safety
- People must get safely to and fro
- Robbinsdale does not have direct access to highways and commuters are impatient to pedestrians in crosswalks and buses
- The term "rolling" in 'D' is annoying by "skates, scooter, boards" when not following rules but fully agree with "rolling" as handicap because they mostly follow rules

Sidewalks

- Highest priority is sidewalks followed by bike paths

- Sidewalks in good repair are important to allow non-driving people to make connections;
- Sidewalk connections are food for elderly and people who do not have bikes. It also helps people who are making multiple connections and cannot maneuver their bike on transit.
- Making sidewalk connections to improve walkability

Bicycles

- Travel by bike takes longer than it should due to not having safe, direct routes
- No direct bike connection to Oak Grove station area from the northeast corner of Brooklyn Park
- Need dedicated bike routes
- Want this to be included in the Nice Ride area x3
- Safe bike storage x2
- Cyclists cannot be on the sidewalk, but being on the street is not safe, need safe places to bike to, from and around town
- I can't go down Broadway as a cyclist, need a safe place to bike
- Previous Robbinsdale parking lot stolen by bike lane, but new bike lane not maintained during winter which promotes Robbinsdale as non-bicycle friendly
- City bike destinations are not bike friendly when without bicycle stands and/or locking stations
- Bicycles (and scooters, boards, etc.) need to comply with traffic rules (stopping, no ear buds, etc.)
- Increasing bike connections to local destinations. France Avenue is not safe.

Wayfinding

- Clear signage is needed
- Downtown Minneapolis has clearly marked bike routes
- Clear signage/wayfinding would also help kids find their way and prevent from getting lost. Multi-lingual because grandparents are taking care of kids too and may not have strong English skills or be literate (Lao, Hmong)
- Robbinsdale as the Robin flies – well branded, don't lose our identity in the station, signage, and other wayfinding.
- Need better signage around rail tracks/controlled crossing/etc.
- Helping people find their way to local destinations
- Need an overall map of nearby city at stations

Station area facilities

- Improving Connections means having weather breaks (enclosure) while waiting on platforms (both light rail and busses)
- We also need a kiss and ride drop off and pick up lane too
- Make the station friendly to store and/or commute with bicycle, scooters, boards, etc.
- Scooters get dropped everywhere
- Improving Connections to public transit for walking, biking and rolling
- Increase east-west connections.
- Workers commuting from out of area want to more options to commute as seasons change
- Greater mobility would allow people to support and open small businesses

Seniors

- Language barrier will prevent many older Hmong residents from using LRT
- Elder members do not drive and rely upon younger people to drive them places. older people without transportation options get stuck in their homes. Concerns regarding safety on LRT. Just like in other cultural communities, there is an increase in the senior population. There is a low comfort level with using transit due to language and cultural barriers

3. Housing feedback and priorities

Affordable housing

- Affordable housing is needed in station areas x4
- Affordable and spacious senior citizens housing---55+ with exercise facility x3
- Both Crystal and Robbinsdale have over 90% affordable housing, and need more market rate housing and mixed use to attract a more diverse community and more businesses x2
- When questioned why affordable apartments did not make the cut with the groups, the consensus was that apartments encourage crowding and when there is crowding, crime goes up.
- Affordable rent control
- Lao priority – want to stay in their community. Keep housing affordable and close to amenities
 - Have to travel to St. Paul or Brooklyn Park for grocery shopping for their foods
 - Barbershop, pharmacy, restaurant, grocery store, fast food
 - Olson Townhomes are preparing to be torn down.
 - Seniors don't live on their own – always with family
 - Younger families are moving into single family homes in Brooklyn Center and Brooklyn Park
 - Lao community has lived by Van White and Olson Memorial HWY for 50 – 55 years
- Housing affordability depending on family income
- Providing more affordable housing where people can walk or bike to nearby public transit
- New apartments at Bottineau are not affordable housing but are market rate housing
- Maintain affordable housing but recognize that families move out if they can't upgrade
- Need affordable housing, but need a variety of different sizes of units (studio and family size)
- Repairing and preserving existing housing – single family homes and rental

Mixed use and multi-unit housing

- Increasing family sized apartments where seniors can live with family x3
- Mixed use housing with stores
- Townhomes for ownership
- Increasing the availability of smaller apartments (studio and 1 bedrooms)
- Smaller sized apartments are great in moderation
- Millennials use smaller apartments, affordable housing and market rate housing while using other modes of transportation without owning automobiles. Millennials are great for community growth
- Mixed income housing
- Zoning challenges for mixed development
 - Including housing and commercial uses into new building development
 - It has to be the right mix
 - I would like to do more of this
 - I'd like to see more of that
 - It helps the community immensely
- Sure put up a four story tower, but you do not want to live above a bar
- More market rate, upscale housing
- Need rules to require minimum off-street parking per unit to minimize street parking as density increases
- Need business mix (full spectrum of services) to attract new residents
- Renovation of existing housing or improve to multi-use building
- Stations are not located close to high density housing/businesses but should encourage development
- Important to get the right types of businesses to attract new residents that stay
- Housing for seniors isn't enough. They like the idea of taking housing and making single units for people to move into
- Joint ownership of housing units

- Create more high-end housing to achieve a better balance

Single family homes

- Single family homes (critical)
- Many young families moving into north Minneapolis
- Homeowners concerned about higher property taxes and population density
- Single family homes to rehab and remodel
- Priority --- Single family homes with cultural representation
- Increasing the availability to single-family homes
- Single family homes are great in moderation
- Robbinsdale has old homes with great architecture but difficult (expensive) to remodel with building codes

4. Marketing and branding feedback and priorities:

Culture and history

- Share the history of the people that live in the area no. be deliberate about what is reflected in the art and location of the station areas. X2
- Community of immigrants: Hmong, Somali, Jewish people
- More diverse opportunities
- Involve local artists as stakeholders in designing are at the station areas such as JXTA
- Capitalize on a mixed culture
- At least a dozen different cultures here
- Use marketing to change mindset, humanize all riders, showcase diverse riders to break stereotypes
- Promote cultural destinations to enjoy food, dance performances, celebrations

Positioning for opportunity

- Avoid passing through our community to serve commuters
- Transit improves community
- Marketing promotion and branding is a great way to position North Minneapolis for change
- Create destinations and attractions
 - Northpoint Health and Wellness
- Heritage Park on the verge of change
- Educational resources
- Health care resources
- Increase the desirability of what's here

Theodore Wirth Park

- Theodore Wirth is a regional destination:
 - LRT should accommodate different modes such as skis, snowshoes, along with bikes.
 - Unique park in the Twin Cities
 - History of the park
 - Hidden gem: Rock with marker and signpost at Golden Valley Road and Theodore Wirth Parkway for the 45 Parallel. Plaque on a rock marks the midway point between the Equator and the North Pole. Just north of the rock, a signpost notes the distance each way: 3,109 miles.
 - Loppet Foundation new investment – The Trailhead
 - Nature area with wildlife
 - Marketing to different groups x2

5. Innovative financing feedback and priorities:

Resource guide/technical assistance

- Creating a resource guide to help developers, businesses and residents to access financing x5
 - Solo business types may need this, not developers they've got this down
 - If we do everything else right financing will be the least of our problems
 - This may be a concern perhaps a guide focused for locals to keep what's here
- Financing strategies to incentivize mixed-use development (i.e., street-level retail space and affordable housing in the same building)
- Financial strategies that drive commercial development in North Minneapolis
- Financial strategies to incentivize affordable housing development
- Identify financial strategies to minimize displacement of corporate adult foster care homes (such as Common Bonds) in corridor (transit necessary for adults with disabilities to access jobs, community)
- Providing technical assistance to encourage new developers to invest in the area or try new financing products
- Financing strategies to incentivize businesses with apprenticeship programs for local youth
- Financial strategies for smaller developers
- Financial strategies that drive commercial development along corridor in north Minneapolis such as: grocery stores, barber shops, entertainment options that are affordable
- Like the strategy of identifying financial strategies for real estate development
- Like the strategy of providing technical assistance to encourage new developers to invest in the area
- Like the strategy of identifying strategies to minimize displacement of residents and businesses

Small business support

- Financial strategies to support and outreach to small businesses owned by communities of color/specific cultural communities to help them get started connecting to resources x5
- Need to view immigrant communities as business owners, entrepreneurs who can contribute greatly to local economy if given the right resources x2
- Set-asides to help new businesses to compete with larger, more established business (or chains), loans for new business owners, subsidizing rental costs for small business owners along corridor x2
- Financial strategies to develop grocery stores, barber shops in North Minneapolis
- Set-aside to help small businesses to compete with large businesses
- Financial support for small businesses that are owned by specific communities – to help them get started – such as Hmong restaurants
- Also help small businesses with marketing and promotion
- Increase access for minority owned businesses to access financing/borrow
- Typically, financing strategies offered by government are geared towards larger developers and businesses – need for financial strategies that also support smaller businesses (need a more balanced approach to financial strategies)
- Need to provide resources up front to small businesses starting out, instead of incrementally in smaller amounts at later periods

Gentrification/displacement

- Identifying financing strategies to minimize resident and business displacements
 - I am most concerned about this x4
 - Taking advantage of the least advantaged businesses and entrepreneurs
 - There are businesses that are very much a part of the community and you do not want to see them hurt
 - It has to be fair
 - I'm not worried about this

- We need to do utmost to minimize harm
- I think we should replace the less desirable with better businesses
- Having values go up is a good thing, but we need affordable housing too
- How to keep the local small business to survive long term as area turns more high-end
- Shutdown due to financial struggles with taxes increasing and rents increasing
- It can be a huge boom for local businesses too.
- There will be a certain amount of sink or swim, if you are not up to the game, some businesses should fail, they are ill conceived, unprepared not ready for prime time
- Financial support, like less tax to local small businesses to help them survive, improve buildings, stay, compete

Investing in financial incentives

- Community-owned plots/buildings that businesses can lease x2
- Combine ground floor retail space with affordable housing apartments above
- Strategies to support businesses that have apprenticeship programs for youth that includes training
- Education facilities resource allocation
- Small flexible investments (bonds), low interest rates accessible to communities.
- Money goes back into the community
- Change financial rating criteria so it reflects racial equity approach
- Use funding and resources from the government, such as the sale/use of government owned land or tax incentives to help with financing
- New investment opportunities for the community (such as government bonds) that are suited for small investments that are flexible and for shorter time periods – investments would stay in the community, and used to fund community businesses/initiatives
 - Many community members want to invest, but they don't trust traditional banks, and don't have enough money to invest in opportunities typically offered in traditional banking
 - Community members would like to access investment opportunities backed by government entities (that are trusted by the community) that are suited for smaller investments, for shorter periods of time (flexible – less penalties for pulling money out early)
- Money from these investments would be used to fund initiatives/development in that community
 - Identifying financing strategies for real estate development. Don't see this as a need, except for existing small businesses to improve their property, position/location, and/or expand.
- Where they get the money to develop is of no concern, with developers we assume you are an expert and know what you are doing. However, we should be helping small businesses with financing and the resources they need to startup and/or grow
- I don't worry about the developers. They find the money and they build always
- It is relatively affordable already

6. Community Engagement feedback and priorities

- Waiting to hear what's going on with the delay on the Blue Line Extension LRT
- Need to educate community on how to use/ride transit

Locations

- Go to where the people are:
 - Adult education centers such as Osseo ABE (Adult Basic Education)
 - Crystal Learning Center
 - Sun Foods
 - Farmers markets
 - CAPI USA food shelf serves 4500 people
 - CAPI USA employment program is a trusted source

- Adult Day Care in the northwest suburbs
- Elders need transportation to events
 - CAPI provided transportation to the event tonight
- Hmong community has problems with public transportation because of safety issues

Translation

- Language/translation is a barrier
 - Translation should be provided by Hennepin County
 - Translation should be provided by the partnering nonprofit as a trusted source

Media

- Local radio show Hmong TNT 1600 – studio located on Brooklyn Boulevard
- Media:
 - CCX Channel 12
 - Not many folks watch cable TV because of the cost
 - Facebook and social media are more used
 - Posting flyers in local businesses and community gathering spots

Resources

- Consult with Hmong Elders Council – 18 Clans represented
- There are lots of opportunities for community engagement in the past and in the future:
 - CAC, BAC, community outreach for various projects, SAP community working groups
 - Important that community stays involved in future planning to keep people informed
 - Residents
 - Businesses
 - Corporate community – large and mid-sized
 - Banks
 - Reach out to large employers in the corridor, How are they committed to the corridor?

Appendix C

Bottineau Corridor community survey 2020

Hennepin County's Bottineau Community Works (BCW) program is working in partnership with corridor cities and communities to plan for community and economic development around the planned METRO Blue Line Extension (Bottineau LRT). This work has resulted in a variety of recommendations to support a vibrant, prosperous, and livable corridor.

We'd like to hear your opinions on the following strategies!



1. Healthy commercial and business nodes are important for creating a vibrant Bottineau Corridor.

<i>Please rate these strategies</i>	Not at all important	Slightly important	Important	Very important	Most important
Making existing businesses stronger	<input type="radio"/>				
Helping create new businesses	<input type="radio"/>				
Creating affordable rental spaces for businesses	<input type="radio"/>				
Including housing and commercial uses into new building development	<input type="radio"/>				
Making it easier and safer to bike and walk to local businesses	<input type="radio"/>				
Reflecting local communities and cultures at businesses nodes	<input type="radio"/>				
Preventing gentrification and the displacement of businesses	<input type="radio"/>				
Other? <i>Write in here</i>	<input type="radio"/>				

2. Improving connections provides residents options to get to where they want to go in the Bottineau Corridor.

<i>Please rate these strategies</i>	Not at all important	Slightly important	Important	Very important	Most important
Making sidewalk connections to improve walkability	<input type="radio"/>				
Increasing bike connections to local destinations	<input type="radio"/>				
Creating opportunities for car share, bike share, scooters, and other shared mobility choices	<input type="radio"/>				
Helping people find their way to local destinations	<input type="radio"/>				
Improving connections to public transit for walkers and bicycles	<input type="radio"/>				
Other? <i>Write in here</i>	<input type="radio"/>				

3. Housing choices are important for residents and families to find housing in the Bottineau Corridor.

<i>Please rate these strategies</i>	Not at all important	Slightly important	Important	Very important	Most important
Providing more affordable housing where people can walk or bike to nearby public transit	<input type="radio"/>				
Increasing the availability of single-family homes	<input type="radio"/>				
Increasing the availability of family sized apartments (3 or more bedrooms)	<input type="radio"/>				
Increasing the availability of smaller apartments (studio and 1 bedrooms)	<input type="radio"/>				
Repairing and preserving existing housing - single family homes and rental	<input type="radio"/>				
Encouraging new development near public transit that includes housing and businesses	<input type="radio"/>				
Other? <i>Write in here</i>	<input type="radio"/>				

4. Marketing, promotion, and branding of the Bottineau Corridor can bring people, businesses, and investments to this area.

<i>Please rate these strategies</i>	Not at all important	Slightly important	Important	Very important	Most important
Creating a shared vision for the corridor	<input type="radio"/>				
Developing community pride in the corridor and its cultural assets	<input type="radio"/>				
Creating a message that helps to grow opportunity	<input type="radio"/>				
Celebrating our community culture and local destinations	<input type="radio"/>				
Telling the story of our businesses, job opportunities, and communities	<input type="radio"/>				
Attracting investments to the corridor	<input type="radio"/>				
Other? <i>Write in here</i>	<input type="radio"/>				

5. Innovative financial strategies can be used to improve development opportunities in the corridor.

<i>Please rate these strategies</i>	Not at all important	Slightly important	Important	Very important	Most important
Creating a resource guide to help developers, businesses and resident access financing	<input type="radio"/>				
Identifying financing strategies for real estate development	<input type="radio"/>				
Identifying financing strategies to minimize resident and business displacement	<input type="radio"/>				
Providing technical assistance to encourage new developers to invest in the area or try new financing products	<input type="radio"/>				
Other? <i>Write in here</i>	<input type="radio"/>				

6. Did you or someone you know participate in the planning activities for the Bottineau Corridor?

Yes - Why? _____

No - Why Not? _____

7. Thinking overall about the Bottineau Corridor, what is most important to you in creating a vibrant, prosperous, and livable area?

<i>Please rate these strategies</i>	Not at all important	Slightly important	Important	Very important	Most important
Supporting commercial and retail development	<input type="radio"/>				
Improving connections for biking, walking, and rolling to destinations and public transit	<input type="radio"/>				
Supporting a mix of housing choices	<input type="radio"/>				
Marketing and promoting the Bottineau Corridor	<input type="radio"/>				
Increasing investments in the corridor	<input type="radio"/>				
Having a community voice in the planning and implementation	<input type="radio"/>				
Other? <i>Write in here</i>	<input type="radio"/>				

8. If you would like to hear updates about this work, please provide your email below.

Please tell us about yourself by answering the following. This will help us know who we are reaching.

9. Gender

- Female
- Male
- Non-binary/third gender
- Prefer to self-describe _____
- Prefer not to say

10. What is/are your race or ethnicity? (select all that apply)

- American Indian
 - Asian (option to specify) _____
 - Black/African American (option to specify) _____
 - Latinx, Hispanic
 - Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
 - White
 - Other _____
-

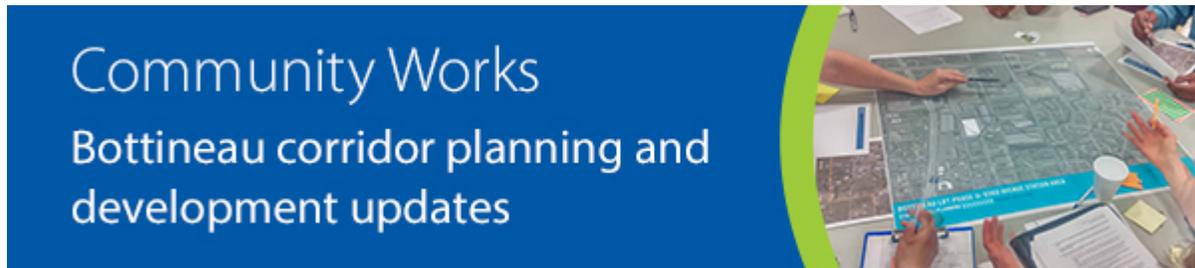
11. What is your age?

12. What city do you live in?

HENNEPIN COUNTY MINNESOTA

Bottineau community survey and feedback sessions

Hennepin County sent this bulletin at 01/30/2020 04:03 PM CST



January 30, 2020

The Bottineau Community Works Partnership brings cities, communities and other partners together to build long-term value through collaborative planning for housing, transit, jobs and placemaking.

Community survey and feedback sessions



As cities and communities continue to prepare for the opportunities of the planned METRO Blue Line Extension (Bottineau LRT), Hennepin County Bottineau Community Works partners want to hear about your community and economic development priorities moving forward.

- [Take the survey](#)
- Attend a community feedback session (details below)

Hear about completed work and share your priorities for the future

The cities of Brooklyn Park, Crystal, Golden Valley, Minneapolis and Robbinsdale have been working in collaboration with Hennepin County on a variety of recent planning efforts, such as:

- Identifying gaps for people walking, biking, and rolling near stations
- Analyzing housing needs and opportunities
- Guiding future development through planning and zoning changes
- Developing wayfinding plans
- Helping local businesses access resources

You are invited to learn more and share your feedback at three upcoming community sessions.

Community feedback sessions

Wednesday, February 19

6-8 pm

Brooklyn Park City Hall, council chambers
5200 85th Avenue North
Brooklyn Park, MN 55443

[Click here to RSVP](#)

Thursday, February 20

6-8 pm

Robbinsdale City Hall
4100 Lakeview Avenue North
Robbinsdale, MN 55422

[Click here to RSVP](#)

Thursday, February 27

6-8 pm

Harrison Recreation Center, multipurpose room
503 North Irving Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55405

[Click here to RSVP](#)

Online survey

You can also share your feedback through an online survey.

Take the survey now

Contact

Joan Vanhala
Community engagement coordinator
joan.vanhala@hennepin.us
612-348-0043

hennepin.us/bottineau

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