

# 710 Community Fellows Program



Youth Summit & Survey Results Summary – April 18th, 2026

At least 35 students from seven area schools attended the event

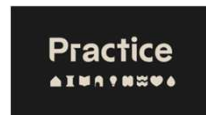
Schools involved included Muir, PHS, Marshall, Rose City, Polytechnic, and Sequoyah High Schools and Sierra Madre Middle School.

Councilmembers Tyron Hampton and Rick Cole participated in different parts of the program, spoke with students, and answered their questions.

Other attendees included: PUSD board member Michelle Bailey Richardson, District 6 Field Rep Justin Chapman, and District 1 Field Rep Nicole Bernard.

The 710 Community Fellows program would like to thank

Councilmembers Tyron Hampton and Rick Cole along with Practice Architecture Studio for the use of their space. We would also like to thank our supporters: Pasadena Education Foundation, Arroyo Seco Placekeepers, DBK Group, and Sequoyah School as well as the ACE mentor program and John Muir Engineering and Environmental Sciences Academy.



## Who attended?





The morning session focused on young people generating their vision for the 710 area. The afternoon then emphasized ways to effectively communicate that vision to local leaders. This included taking a survey and composing a collective letter to the Mayor Gordo and the City Council.

## Format & Schedule

9:30	<b>Orientation</b> Upstairs: Light breakfast, background video, mix and mingle Downstairs: Trivia games, walk to Green Street Bridge	
10:00	<b>Welcome</b> by students and the Honorable Councilmember Tyron Hampton	
	<b>Visioning</b>	
10:10	<b>710 Vision Workshop</b> Work with others to create a vision for the future of the 710 ditch	<b>Cultural Center Vision Workshop</b> Decide what a 710 cultural center should look like and what should happen there
11:30	<b>Group presentations</b> From morning workshops	
11:45	<b>Pizza Lunch</b>	
	<b>Communicating Your Vision</b>	
12:15	<b>Concept Map presentation of the 710 and city government</b>	
12:20	<b>Fireside chat</b> with the Honorable Councilmember Rick Cole	
12:45	<b>Take the Youth Survey!</b>	
12:55	<b>710 Feedback Workshop</b> Provide individual and collective feedback on the 710 vision plan	<b>Long-Term Youth Engagement Workshop</b> Define ways for young people to stay engaged in the future of our city
1:50	<b>Closing, Appreciations &amp; Adjourn</b> w/ option to record your comment to City Council	

# Executive Summary

**710 Vision Workshop** - Students used a specially-designed board game to debate how to assign different uses to the 710 area and address design challenges posed by the project. Students then went on to hear from students in the ACE mentor program about their master plan for the space and review and provide feedback on the draft vision plan created for the City by the firm Perkins Eastman.



# A Community Reblooming

## A COMMUNITY RE-BLOOMING

### THE PASADENA 710 FREEWAY RESTORATION | CULTURAL CENTER PROJECT

#### Overview

ONCE A FLOURISHING NEIGHBORHOOD, THIS PART OF PASADENA WAS PHYSICALLY, SOCIALLY, AND ECONOMICALLY DISRUPTED BY THE UNFINISHED 710 FREEWAY STUD. THE PASADENA 710 RESTORATION PROJECT SEEMS TO RECONNECT THIS SEVERED PORTION OF THE COMMUNITY AND RESTORE THE CONTINUITY THAT WAS LOST.

TITLED A COMMUNITY RE-BLOOMING, THE DESIGN HONORS PASADENA'S LEGACY WHILE CREATING THE FOUNDATION FOR REVIVED GROWTH THROUGH A CULTURAL CENTER, HOUSING, COMMERCIAL AND RETAIL SPACES, AND SHARED OUTDOOR PLACES FOR GATHERING TOGETHER. THESE ELEMENTS CULTIVATE A URBAN NEIGHBORHOOD WHERE COMMUNITY LIFE CAN TAKE ROOT ONCE AGAIN.

#### Concept

THE URBAN DESIGN CONCEPT SEEMS TO RESTORE CONTINUITY TO THE SURROUNDING NEIGHBORHOOD BY THOUGHTFULLY RECONNECTING PASADENA'S HISTORIC FABRIC BY FEEDING THE COMMERCIAL AND RETAIL CORRIDOR OF OLD TOWN INTO THE SITE, ALLOWING THE FIBER AND CHARACTER OF THE DISTRICT TO FLOW NATURALLY INTO THE NEW NEIGHBORHOOD. TOGETHER, THESE ELEMENTS WEAVE REMEMBRANCE AND RENEWAL INTO A UNIFIED URBAN ENVIRONMENT WHERE THE COMMUNITY CAN FLOURISH ONCE AGAIN.

#### Historical Viewpoint

OVER THE PERIOD OF 1964-1974 PASADENA WENT THROUGH A SERIES OF CHANGES DUE TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE 710 FREEWAY. NEIGHBORHOODS WERE DEMOLISHED AND DIVIDED DURING THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE FREEWAY, AN INTERVENTION THAT SO TRULY LED TO THE DESTRUCTION AND DISPLACEMENT OF A COMMUNITY THAT HAS YET TO RECEIVE JUSTICE FOR THE LOSS OF THEIR HOMES, HISTORY, AND SOCIAL CONNECTIONS. IN CURRENT TIMES, THIS FREEWAY STILL STANDS AS A REMINDER OF THE MANY WHO LOST THEIR HOMES DURING THIS INJUSTICE.



#### The Market Commercial/Retail

- FRAMES OLD TOWN PASADENA'S RETAIL AND PROFESSIONAL PLAZA
- ADDS A NEW COURTYARD TO HOST COMMUNITY EVENTS AND GATHERINGS SUCH AS FARMERS MARKETS
- PARKING STRUCTURE AND BUSINESS CENTER LOCATED OFF UNION STREET



#### The Rose Cultural Center

- DEDICATED TO PASADENA'S HISTORY AND COMMUNITY BELIEFS
- STRUCTURES INCLUDE A MUSEUM, AMPHITHEATER, PUBLIC FACILITIES AND COMMUNITY SPACES
- OPENED TO HIGHLIGHT PASADENA'S HISTORY OF HANDSHIPS AND TRAMPS
- FOCUSED ON THE REESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONSHIPS AND COMMUNITY



#### The Garden Residential Area

- DRAWS INSPIRATION FROM ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES IN SUBSURROUNDING COMMUNITIES
- CREATES A WELCOMING AND INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY THROUGH A SERIES OF CONNECTED GARDEN SPACES AND WALKABLE PATHS
- PROVIDES A VARIETY OF RECREATIONAL AREAS SUCH AS PLAYBOARDS, TRAMP COURTS, PONDS, AS WELL AS VARIOUS ESSENTIAL AMENITIES SUCH AS OVENS AND LAUNDROMATS



#### Budget / Cost

THE GARDEN	
Site Preparation, Protection	\$4,087,713.00
Foundations, Columns & Decks	\$153,957,183.00
Buildings and Infrastructure	\$703,402,368.00
Site Improvements	\$11,993,185.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$872,440,354.00</b>

THE ROSE	
Site Preparation, Protection	\$9,308,334.00
Foundations, Columns & Decks	\$42,545,587.00
Buildings and Infrastructure	\$229,808,853.00
Site Improvements	\$20,373,495.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$302,036,269.00</b>

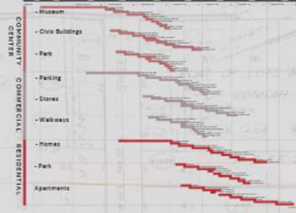
  

THE MARKET	
Site Preparation, Protection	\$4,488,095.00
Foundations, Columns & Decks	\$146,783,789.00
Buildings and Infrastructure	\$220,202,378.00
Site Improvements	\$17,785,438.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$449,300,690.00</b>

OVERALL	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$872,803,317.00</b>
<b>CONTINGENCY</b>	<b>20% \$97,280,332.00</b>
<b>TOTAL COST</b>	<b>\$1,000,083,649.00</b>

#### Project Timeline



#### Constructability & Phasing

**PROJECT PHASING:** DUE TO THE PROJECT SCALE, CONSTRUCTION IS DIVIDED INTO THREE PHASES: CULTURAL CENTER, COMMERCIAL/MARKET DISTRICT, AND RESIDENTIAL.

**TRAFFIC COORDINATION:** THE SITE SITS AT A MAJOR INTERSECTION AND KEY ROUTE TO HUNTINGTON HOSPITAL, REQUIRING EARLY TRAFFIC PHASING AND COORDINATION TO MAINTAIN CONTINUAL AND EMPLOYEE ACCESS.

**DEMOLITION & INFRASTRUCTURE:** CONSTRUCTION BEGINS WITH DEMOLITION OF THE EXISTING FREEWAY STUD FOLLOWED BY INSTALLATION OF THE NEW STREET ROUTES, INCLUDING THE ADJUNCTION OF S. PASADENA AVE., ST. JOHN AVE., AND THE LONG BEACH FREEWAY CONNECTION.

**GRADE STRATEGY:** THE MARKET DISTRICT WILL BE CONSTRUCTED AT FINISHED GRADE ABOVE THE FREEWAY, WITH TUNNELS ALLOWING FREEWAY TRAFFIC TO CONTINUE TERMINATING AT S. PASADENA AVE AND ST. JOHN AVE.

**VERTICAL CONSTRUCTION:** THE CULTURAL CENTER IS BUILT FIRST AT THE LOWER FINISHED GRADE, ALLOWING SIMULTANEOUS PARTWORK FOR THE MARKET DISTRICT. THE MARKET FOLLOWS, WITH RESIDENTIAL BUILT LAST TO MINIMIZE LONG-TERM CONSTRUCTION IMPACTS ON FUTURE RESIDENTS.

**SCHEDULE:** DESIGN BEGINS IN 2026, WITH PHASE 1 CONSTRUCTION TARGETING PROJECT COMPLETION BY 2032.



Muir students in Pasadena's ACE (Architecture, Construction, Engineering) Mentor Program entered the Construction Industry Round Table (CIRT) National Design Competition and created their own master plan for the project area. to national design competition. Their design gives public space the most acreage with a "Great Lawn" for public markets, social gathering, large events, and a rose-shaped cultural museum and amphitheater. It also includes housing and commercial space.

# Concept Page



## The Garden Residential Area

- DRAWS INSPIRATION FROM ARCHITECTURAL RESOURCES IN SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES
- CREATES A WELCOMING AND INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY THROUGH A SERIES OF CONNECTED GARDEN SPACES AND WALKABLE PATHS
- PROVIDES A VARIETY OF RECREATIONAL AREAS SUCH AS PLAYGROUNDS, TENNIS COURTS, PONDS, AS WELL AS VARIOUS ESSENTIAL AMENITIES SUCH AS GYMS AND LAUNDROMATS



## The Market Commercial/Retail

- CONNECTS TO PREEXISTING STRUCTURES IN OLD TOWN PASADENA
- IMMERSES SMALL BUSINESSES INTO A PREESTABLISHED COMMERCIAL AREA
- WORKS WITH THE CULTURAL CENTER'S OUTDOOR SPACE
- CONNECTS TO COLORADO BLVD, A SIGNIFICANT AND HISTORICAL PART OF PASADENA



## The Rose Cultural Center

- DEDICATED TO PASADENA'S HISTORY AND COMMUNITY BUILDING
- STRUCTURES LIKE A MUSEUM, PUBLIC FACILITIES AND COMMUNITY SPACES WERE ERRECTED
- THE MIDDLE SECTION WAS ARRANGED TO HIGHLIGHT PASADENA'S HISTORY OF HARDSHIPS
- FOCUS HAS BEEN PUT ON THE REESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONSHIPS AND COMMUNITY

SKETCH / MODEL



OR



## The Rose Cultural Center

- DEDICATED TO PASADENA'S HISTORY AND COMMUNITY BUILDING
- STRUCTURES INCLUDE A MUSEUM, PUBLIC FACILITIES AND COMMUNITY SPACES
- THE MIDDLE SECTION WAS DESIGNED TO HIGHLIGHT PASADENA'S HISTORY OF HARDSHIPS
- FOCUS HAS BEEN PUT ON THE REESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONSHIPS AND COMMUNITY



SKETCH / MODEL

THE GARDEN		
Site Preparation, Protection,		\$4,087,203.00
Foundations, Columns & Decks		\$1,512,997,839.00
Buildings and Infrastructure		\$215,407,298.00
Site Improvements		\$13,993,385.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>THE GARDEN</b>	<b>\$150,425,876.00</b>
THE ROSE		
Site Preparation, Protection,		\$8,338,324.00
Foundations, Columns & Decks		\$42,543,587.00
Buildings and Infrastructure		\$225,808,855.00
Site Improvements		\$22,228,492.00
<b>TOTAL ROSE</b>	<b>THE ROSE</b>	<b>\$301,477,268.00</b>
THE MARKET		
Site Preparation, Protection,		\$1,488,029.00
Foundations, Columns & Decks		\$148,762,299.00
Buildings and Infrastructure		\$263,522,214.00
Site Improvements		\$12,748,028.00
<b>TOTAL MARKET</b>	<b>THE MARKET</b>	<b>\$426,520,570.00</b>
<b>OVERALL</b>	<b>OVERALL</b>	<b>\$978,600,373.00</b>
<b>CONTINGENCY</b>	<b>CONTINGENCY</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>TOTAL COST</b>	<b>TOTAL COST</b>	<b>\$1,086,861,398.00</b>

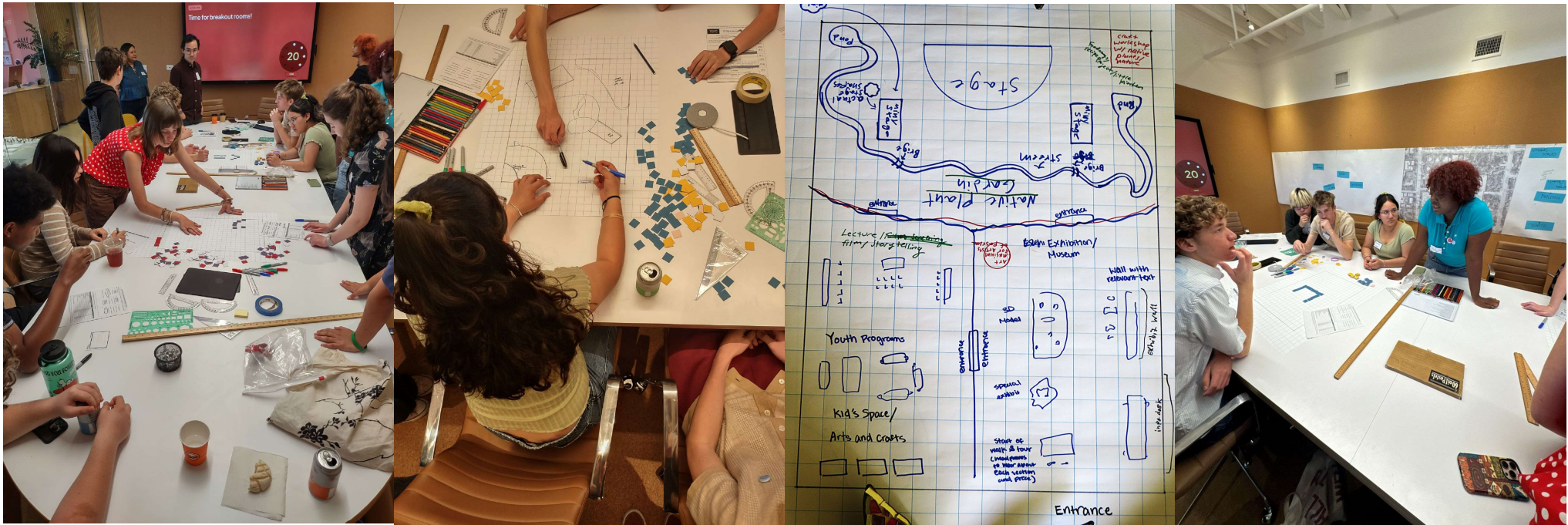
710 FREEWAY RESTORATION PROJECT		ASR Model Program - Position Type	
<b>THE GARDEN</b>			
Site Preparation, Protection, Demolition, Clearing, and Storage			\$1,977,212.00
Foundations, Columns & Decks			\$1,512,997,839.00
Buildings and Infrastructure			\$215,407,298.00
Site Improvements			\$13,993,385.00
<b>TOTAL GARDEN</b>	<b>THE GARDEN</b>		<b>\$150,425,876.00</b>
<b>THE ROSE</b>			
Site Preparation, Protection, Demolition, Clearing, and Storage			\$8,338,324.00
Foundations, Columns & Decks			\$42,543,587.00
Buildings and Infrastructure			\$225,808,855.00
Site Improvements			\$22,228,492.00
<b>TOTAL ROSE</b>	<b>THE ROSE</b>		<b>\$301,477,268.00</b>
<b>THE MARKET</b>			
Site Preparation, Protection, Demolition, Clearing, and Storage			\$1,488,029.00
Foundations, Columns & Decks			\$148,762,299.00
Buildings and Infrastructure			\$263,522,214.00
Site Improvements			\$12,748,028.00
<b>TOTAL MARKET</b>	<b>THE MARKET</b>		<b>\$426,520,570.00</b>
<b>OVERALL</b>	<b>OVERALL</b>		<b>\$978,600,373.00</b>
<b>CONTINGENCY</b>	<b>CONTINGENCY</b>		<b>10%</b>
<b>TOTAL COST</b>	<b>TOTAL COST</b>		<b>\$1,086,861,398.00</b>

COMMUNITY CENTER  
COMMERCIAL  
RESIDENTIAL



The students shared their designs with the other students, which set the stage for a productive conversation about the draft vision plan.

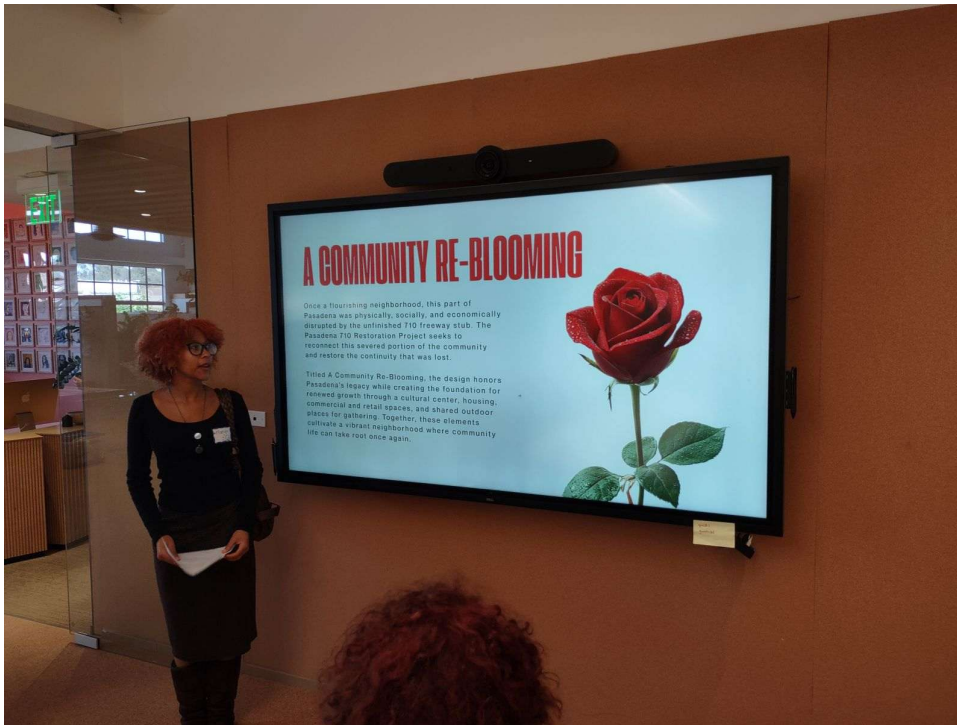
**Cultural Center Vision Workshop** - Students learned about the ACE mentor program's plans for a 710 Cultural Center and drew inspiration from other centers to design an indoor/outdoor space focused on community storytelling and educating young people about the 710 project.



**Communicating the Vision** - After hearing from Councilmembers Tyron Hampton and Rick Cole, students decided on recommendations for the 710 vision plan and how to keep young people engaged in the 710 project and other community planning issues long-term.



# Recommendations – Sustainability + Environment



- Organized gardens (wild but organized). A balance of landscape design similar to the Arlington Gardens;
- Compensation (in habitat) for animals affected by the freeway's destruction;
- EV chargers in parking structures;
- Solar panels on the roofs;
- Open and green spaces for mental health and community;
- A community garden where people can grow their own food.

# Recommendations – Streets + Transportation

- Wide open streets and sidewalks so people choose to walk;
- Equitable public transit;
- Inclusion of bike lanes;
- Alert stations for public safety (similar to college campuses).

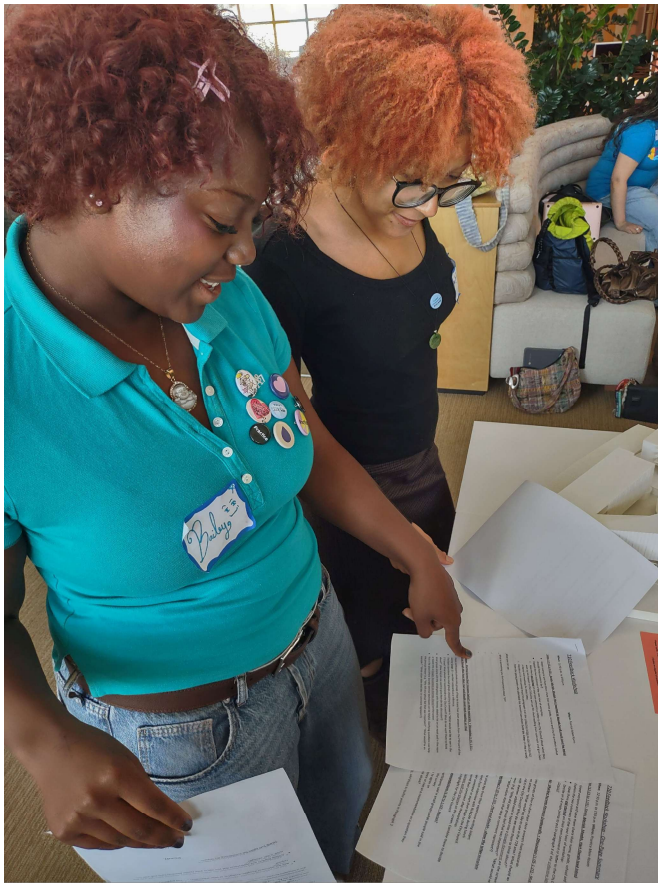


# Recommendations – Commerce



- Attractiveness: take the best aspects of Pasadena and converge them into one;
- Impressiveness to compete with the Glendale and Arcadia malls;
- Small businesses and smaller corporations;
- Space for a farmer's market;
- Small businesses that accept EBT or have affordable products.

# Recommendations – Housing



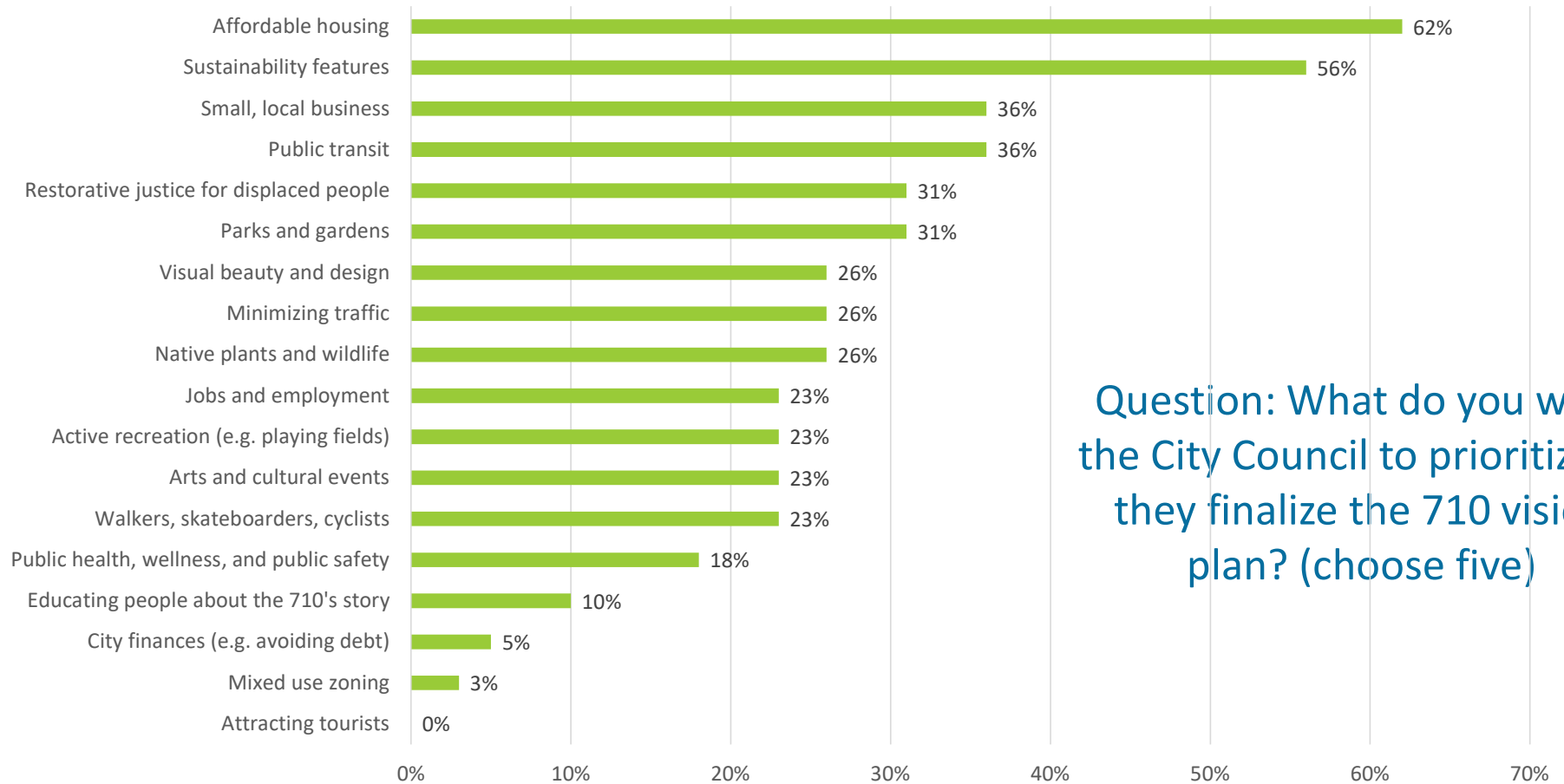
- High-density housing;
- Senior housing;
- Multi-family housing.

# Recommendations – Mindset + Philosophy

- Open-mindedness to adapting;
- Future-ready infrastructure;
- Maintenance of a route to the hospital.

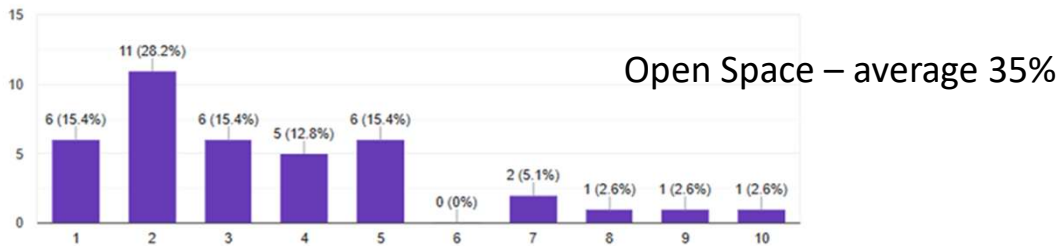
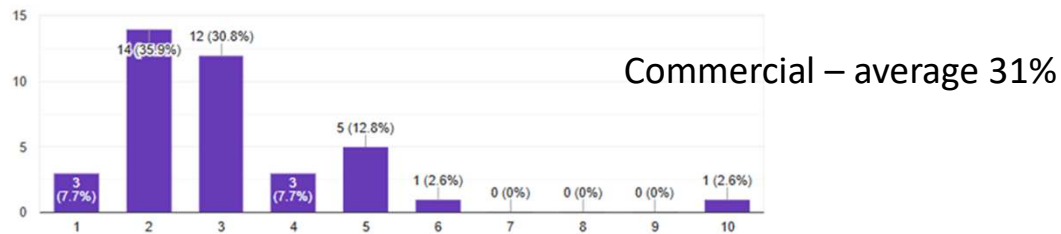
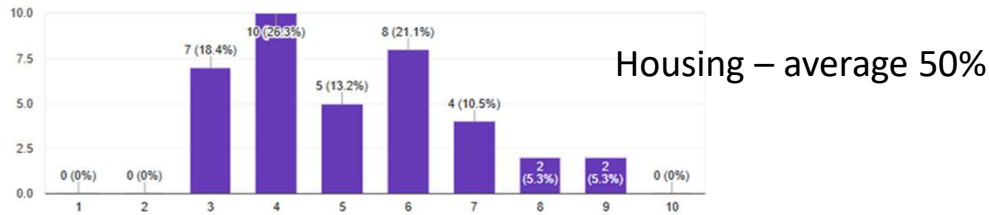


# Results of Youth Survey (39 respondents)



Question: What do you want the City Council to prioritize as they finalize the 710 vision plan? (choose five)

Question: How much of the land area would you make housing, commercial, and public open space (e.g. 1 = 10%, 2 = 20%...9 = 90%, 10 = 100%)?



Note that the game activity about space allocation in the morning generated different percentages:

- Housing – 29%
- Commercial – 23%
- Open space + water features – 48%



## What would you like to communicate to the City Council as they make decisions about the future of the 710 area?

### Support for sustainability

**Sample comment:** Affordable housing is a top priority, as well as design and infrastructure. Walkability will also help connect this entire strip, so sustainably-sourced concrete or other material sidewalks will assist the popularity of the neighborhood. Clean air, clean water, and plenty of open space will also increase feelings of community and a sense of safety, especially by greening.

**Sample comment:** Nature should be an integral part of the space no matter what, but when making that space consider native plants that take up less water and can survive well

### Emphasis on affordable housing

**Sample comment:** I would like to communicate the importance of implementing flexible housing- meaning housing that can be used as both commercial and residential space. We need more housing, that is obvious, but there are ways to maximize the way we use our space both for the wellbeing of those who live there and for the improvement of the economy.

**Sample comment:** Affordable high-density housing should be a priority in combating homelessness, poverty, and LA housing crisis

### Create spaces for community building

**Sample comment:** I would like to communicate the importance of having space for community. I believe the space for parks and gardens is essential as the idea of the project is to feed the people of Pasadena. I think that dedicating time and resources to making this place as accessible and appealing as possible would go a long way.

**Sample comment:** I think we should value building a sense of community and comfort within the 710

What would you like to communicate to the City Council as they make decisions about the future of the 710 area?

### Give preferences to small businesses

**Sample comment:** Not having big corporations getting first dibs on the new stores.

### Make it aesthetically pleasing

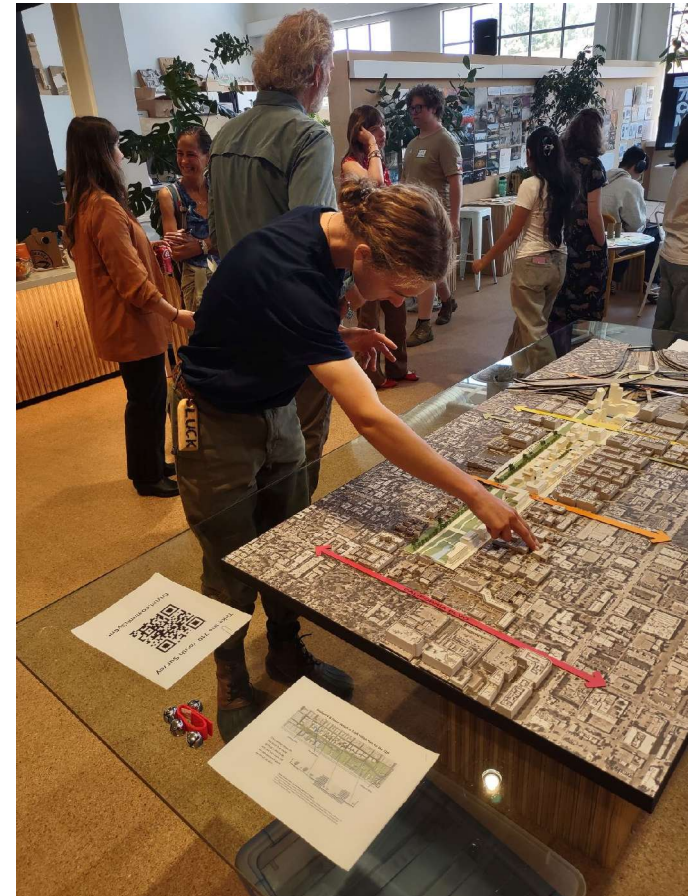
**Sample comment:** The city council needs to make the area at bare minimum look good. The 710 currently looks ugly and ruins the Pasadena look. We also need more small businesses for residents to own and affordable housing to make reparations for the initial construction of it and to help Eaton Fire victims.

**Sample comment:** Don't make the housing modern looking; preserve the Pasadena aesthetic

### Provide reparations for families who were displaced

**Sample comment:** Something I would like to communicate to the city council is that restorative justice should be the main priority when going ahead. Therefore, I want to urge them to consider the community when going through with the project and what their needs are.

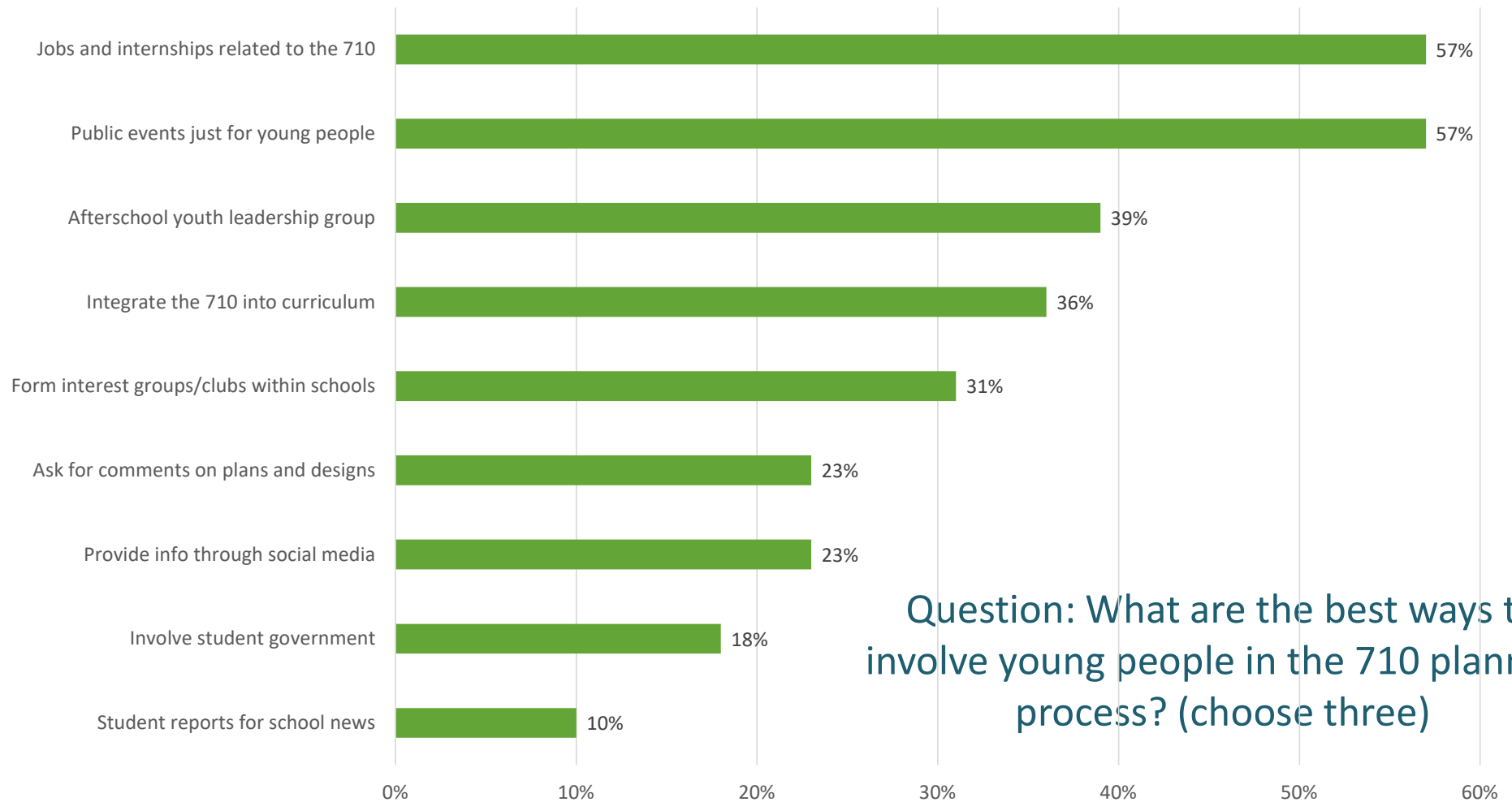
**Sample comment:** We should prioritize making amends for the people that were displaced.



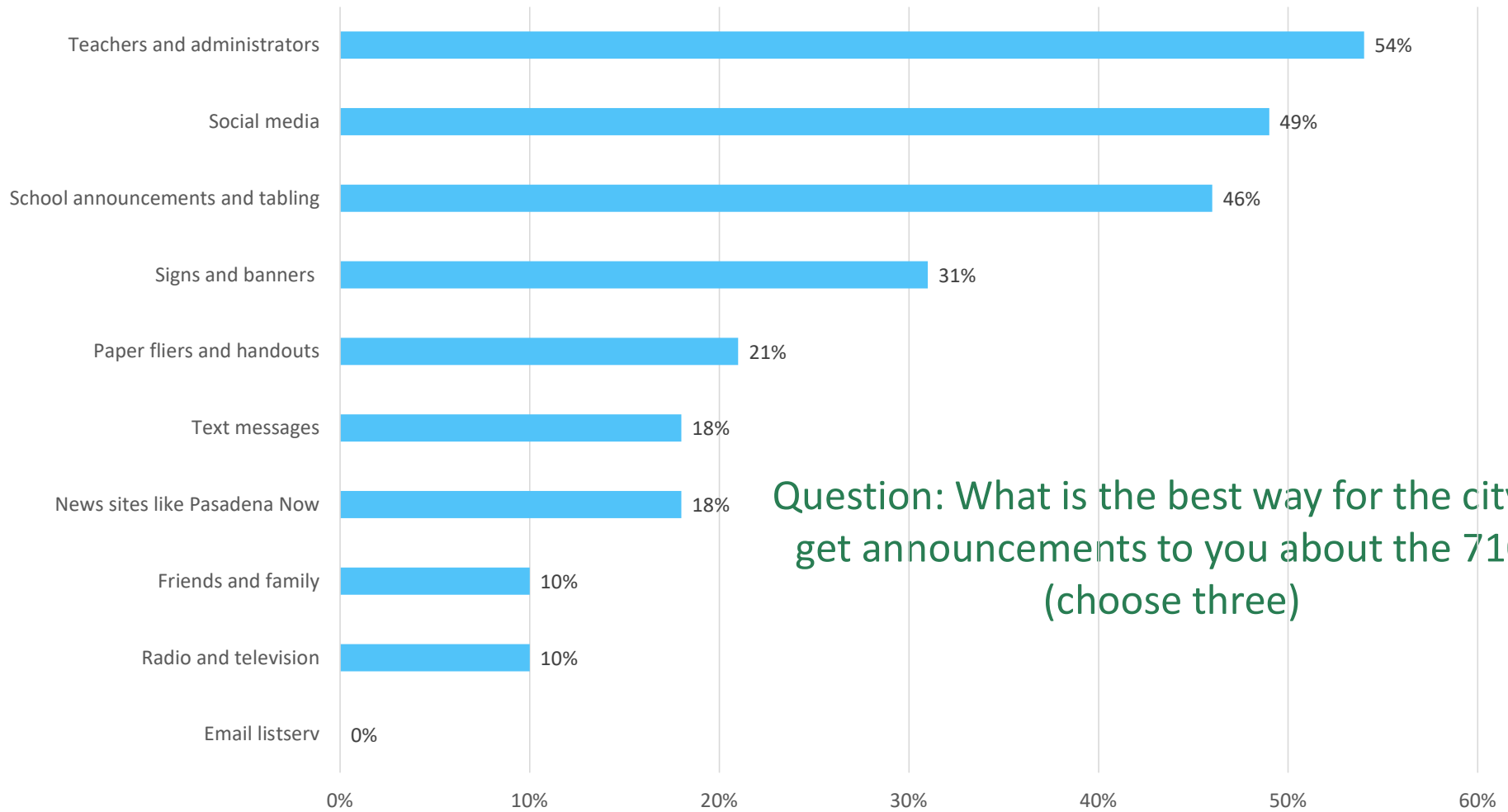
# Recommendations – Long-term Youth Engagement



- Reinstating Pasadena's Youth Council, which this will allow for more student involvement in local issues;
- A guarantee that city government will hear and seriously consider the voices and opinions of students and youth;
- Jobs and internships related to civic involvement are an important way to engage young people;
- Provide incentives through community service hours and recognition we can use for college applications.



Question: What are the best ways to involve young people in the 710 planning process? (choose three)



Question: What is the best way for the city to get announcements to you about the 710?  
(choose three)

What do you want to tell the city council and planning department about how to engage young people about the 710 and other community issues?

Work through institutions – re-create a Pasadena youth council and get into the schools

**Sample comment:** Make a real effort to not only ask for the youth's opinions, but to integrate the youth into the process itself. Creating permanent frameworks to involve youth opinion will help the people who will feel the effects of these projects for the longest give the valuable feedback that the city needs.

**Sample comment:** Provide students with consistent opportunities, that way it becomes a core piece in routine to some extent and those people will be dedicated to the project

Jobs and internships are important

**Sample comment:** I think that the idea of providing jobs, internships, and community service hours related to the 710 project is a fantastic idea. It would answer the question "what's in it for me?" that many young people will probably wonder. It assists the movement of the project to be faster paced and allows more people to look into it while also benefiting those who help out.

Provide incentives through community service hours and college applications

**Sample comment:** Treat the youth as capable individuals that are equal to other changemakers. Young people are not oblivious to the performative nature of incorporating youth in planning projects, as long as it is made clear to students that their contributions actually matter and that they are going to get something out of it (eg. extra credit or recognition) they would be much more likely to participate.

Continued...

## Events are keys, workshops are good

**Sample comment:** Offering 710 informative sessions or sessions like the one held today, offered as extra credit or community service hours would be majorly helpful. Offering 710 internships over the summer for different programs requiring internships to graduate would be a great way to engage young people as well.

**Sample comment:** events are key

**Sample comment:** hold workshops and youth events regularly! Stress the importance of this project to our future!

## Keep it fun!!

**Sample comment:** Engage young people by meeting them where they are—schools, social media, and community hubs—giving paid leadership roles, hands-on education, and accessible, youth-friendly opportunities that fit their schedules so their input genuinely shapes planning decisions.

**Sample comment:** try to make things simple to explain or fun and engaging activities.

**Sample comment:** Don't be so formal, something entertaining while accomplishing to engage the youth.



## What's next?



- ✓ Continue to advocate for youth voices as the 710-planning process moves forward.
- ✓ Advocacy for youth priorities such as a 710 cultural center
- ✓ Field trips to local and regional cultural center
- ✓ Continued dialogue with Pasadena Unified School District about a 710 curriculum in local schools
- ✓ Fundraising for a 710 Teacher's Institute to design new lessons, field trips, and units on civic engagement

# Appreciation to...

Councilmember Tyron Hampton, Beverly Rodriguez, Dr. Lawton Gray, Dr. Rebecca Hong, Muir Engineering and Environmental Sciences Academy's ACE program, Wendy Macias, Practice Architecture Studio and Perkins Eastman



The 710 Community Fellows Program is a program of City Council District 1 - Councilmember Tyron Hampton, with support from the following community institutions and organizations: Muir High School Engineering and Environmental Sciences Academy, ACE Mentorship program, Sequoyah School, The DBK Group, Arroyo Seco Placekeepers, Pasadena Education Foundation, Center for Restorative Justice, Practice Architecture Studio, and the Armory Center for the Arts. For more info, contact Marcus Renner at [mvrenner@gmail.com](mailto:mvrenner@gmail.com).