

ZONE 3- Survey Responses

In an effort to gather additional input and to give the opportunity to everyone to express their views and desires, during the first public meeting and through the “New Plan for Mobile” website, the consultant team distributed a survey/questionnaire to the residents and stakeholders of Zone 3. Forty questionnaires were completed and returned to the EDSA team. The list below includes the array of all the responses and records the frequency in which they appeared.

Question 1 – Study Area Thoughts

In this survey, you can help us to identify general conditions, needs and opportunities for your neighborhood and surrounding neighborhood areas. Please list the top three things and/or areas that you believe are strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats to your Neighborhoods.

Total
Responses

Strengths

Community concern & togetherness; communicating between the city and the community has improved; communication with fellow homeowners	5
Police	5
Close proximity to Downtown Mobile; center of Mobile & near interstate & historic Downtown; special events; Brookley Field; Waterfront	4
Working on improvements	2
Historical significance	2
Friendly people	2
Low crime	1
Ladd Stadium - Historical landmark of Mobile	1
Good schools	1
Strong churches	1
Good teachers	1
Fire Department	1
Some properties have been maintained	1
Street lights are working fairly well	1
Relatively clean	1
Excellent Sanitation Department services	1
Housing	1
The Arts, museums, Imax, Square - activities	1
Stable community	1
Great infrastructure	1
Good leaders	1
Trash pick up / Street cleaning	1
Parks (Washington Square Park is wonderful)	1

Weaknesses

Vacant/abandoned, dilapidated buildings/housing; blighted housing - vacant houses & lots encourage crime: drug trafficking, prostitution, hang out areas, people sleeping in empty buildings & cars too many run-down properties	20
Street drainage; flooding, etc. (e.g., Dublin & Ghent; Bay to Gale)	11
Trash / Litter in streets - need better, cleaner streets (e.g., Catherine St.; open field Cattrell & Bascombe; Ann St. in deplorable condition); disease from rodents;	10

Survey Responses
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Not enough police protection; need more policeman to patrol area; lack of police visibility; Police takes too long to respond	7
Need better, improved street lighting	6
Need better grocery stores	5
Need better sidewalks	4
Need after school activities for children and especially teenagers (or students on suspension from school)	4
Noise - late night boom boxes; loud music	4
Poor infrastructure conditions	4
Limited shopping - need more stores, e.g., department, nice shops	3
Rental properties, Section 8 low-income community - too much	3
Public schools - Pillans Middle, Mae Eanes Middle, Lillie B Williamson High	3
Lack of jobs for adults and children	3
Parks (Lack of / Need repair) (Park on Texas St. is inadequate)	3
Section 8 housing (un-maintained, lowers property value, residents have no ownership in the neighborhood)	3
Abandoned cars and trucks on lots, the streets and in some yards	3
Trash / Litter - Code violations - City property not cleaned enough	2
Non-neighborhood people discarding their junk	2
Transportation	2
Lack of City Council communication, caring and participation in the community	2
Need better housing	1
Aircraft noise	1
Noise from the interstate	1
Need to repair homes	1
Property in front of Williamson High School	1
Trash outside businesses - leading into Ladd Peebles Stadium	1
Need parking sign, Dublin & Ghent; parking too close to corner blocks people from getting into street	1
Slum grocery stores - very dirty & food unhealthy for human consumption	1
Very high interest rates	1
High utility bills	1
Lack of job-training resources	1
Not many opportunities for people in the area	1
No public access to Mobile Bay	1
Property owners who do not keep their property clean	1
Do not move handicapped area at Mardi Gras	1
No wheelchair ramps at Ladd-Peebles Stadium	1
Need more jobs	1
Need better / more retail	1
Becoming less of a family-oriented area	1
Noise at night (due to traffic, drunk people walking the streets, fighting)	1
Speeding cars	1
People relocating who don't have love for the city	1
Trust	1
Children walking the streets and cursing	1
Apartments and houses on same street	1
Young men with saggy pants	1

Loitering in the neighborhood	1
Ann & Arlington Streets have gotten very bad	1
Old Tom store & Robert shop block the school sidewalk	1
Train crossings at Broad St. and Washington Ave. - are needed, but close off traffic at bad times during the day	1
Need better access street to get from Oakdale when the trains block the streets	1
The FedEx planes sometimes fly too low over the Oakdale residential areas	1

Opportunities

Beautification plans	3
Jobs, supposedly, with new industries	3
Educational opportunities (literacy programs)	3
More community involvement opportunities for youth in technology & after-school and summer camps; Group meetings where teenagers can voice their opinions	2
Job training and more jobs for youth; more jobs in general	2
Manage growth - urban renewal (housing, traffic, biking friendly)	2
Develop a stronger community development blueprint; structure programs that can be implemented by community leadership; empower leadership to become change agents; Better communication between city and community	2
Shelter from hurricanes	2
Cleaner streets, preventing crime and development programs for our youths	2
Community-based program/Assistance that allows people to buy homes and/or renovate them with the help of the community	2
Washington Ave. area-Canal to Virginia Streets - become Historic District	1
Create the Ladd Stadium Historical District	1
Grants for storefronts with specific specs to adhere to along Houston Street	1
Development of a community association for change	1
Alabama Power becoming an asset in community-funding community Technology Center and employment opportunities	1
More schools, churches & recreation	1
Bishop State - upgraded; more opportunities	1
Mixed-use housing	1
Sense of community	1
Property renovation	1
Getting back to promoting pride in the neighborhoods	1
Maintain cleaner neighborhoods/properties	1
Neighborhood watch programs	1
New housing	1
Parks (renovation)	1
Focus may be drawn from this area to West Mobile	1
Ann Street is a strong street, but needs improving	1
Economic growth for the city because of the new contract / new jobs	1
Open space at New Jersey & Washington Streets could be a park	1
Open space on south side of Ladd Stadium could be used for recreation or parking	1
Create access to the new Arlington Park from Broad Street	1
Hartwell Field - turn into a baseball field	1
Senior citizen center	1
Washington Ave. demolition between N. & S. Carolina (housing)	1

Marine Street - south of interstate (housing)	1
Michigan /Virginia to interstate (housing)	1
Kentucky between Washington and South (housing)	1
Texas Street area - housing that was built in 1920s needs to be saved	1
Package stores being set up in our neighborhood	1
Apartments need to be torn down and replaced with houses or condos	1
Downtown development - shopping, restaurants, residential (for residents and tourists staying in downtown hotels)	1
For people to take the time to do the things necessary to make lives better	1
Thugs in the streets with their pants down to their knees	1
Night curfew for children	1
Affordable housing	1
Organizations that are a threat to neighborhoods (with problem people) - 1107 Arlington St. - men are urinating on the front of the building, loitering, people still living in the building even though they were supposed to move out	1
Book mobile	1
Health awareness program	1
More community support for the public school system	1
Brookley Complex - expansion	1
Mobile ship channel	1

Threats

Crime - Fire arms robberies, young people out of school, young men in jail; need reduction in criminal activity, etc.	11
Drug trafficking; drug activity (the area of Cottrell and Bay Ave is an area where drugs are being pushed)	11
Constant gun fire; late night shootings; people with guns	3
Unleashed dogs	2
Landlords of rental properties have drug tenants	1
Teen pregnancy	1
Loitering	1
Cannot allow negative forces drive out community goals and objectives; do not allow the visions of the community to unfold	1
Do not allow all stakeholders to be heard	1
Renters that don't want to move from the place they're renting	1
People that pull childish pranks	1
Moving people away from their comfort zones	1
Transients	1
Chemical spill	1
The Brookley airstrip can be used for foreign invasion and/or attacks	1

Question 2 – Economic Development

Please list the single biggest asset and issue shaping your area’s economic development?

Asset

Brookley Field	2
Historic properties	1
The children	1

Zone 3

Airplane manufacturing at Brookley; shipbuilding	1
Library & Social Security building	1
Understanding the need to build coalitions	1
Location	1
Not wasting	1
New residential space in downtown	1
Coast Guard station	1
Theodore Industrial Port	1

Issue

Need waterfront activities to draw tourists Downtown	1
The need to prepare individuals for entry-level employment	1
Need to revitalize area	1
Need new retail	1
Housing projects	1
Abandoned housing	1
Drugs	1
Businesses won't invest in the community if they don't feel safe	1
Better opportunities for people in the surrounding areas of Mobile	1
Poor schools are pushing students/families to private schools & to Baldwin County	1
Lack of funds	1

Untapped Resources

None that have helped in the past	1
Maybe the future holds more resources and opportunities for advancement	1
Undeveloped land in areas that have long been vacated on Michigan and Maryville community	1
Waterfront	1
Human resources - our youth would love to be part of our development	1
Church resources should be used to train and empower people in our community	1
There needs to be listening sessions for youth	1
Make new houses from abandoned houses and properties	1
Bishop State (more programs)	1
Dauphin Island Pkwy businesses	1
Develop more business along Virginia Avenue corridor	1
Convert the warehouse on Broad near the railroad track into a Wall-Mart	1
Downtown development (renovations to storefronts, retail, residential)	1
Promote foot traffic on Dauphin Street	1
Unique shops, restaurants (for both residents and tourists)	1
The area between and adjacent to I-10 - Michigan Ave. below Broad Street southward toward Fort Whiting Auditorium needs to be revitalized	1

Question 3 – Transportation and Infrastructure

Please list the single biggest asset and issue with the transportation, parking and infrastructure system in your area?

Asset

Bus services	2
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Easy access to interstate	1
Sidewalks	1
Public transportation	1
Vehicle parking on sidewalk	1

Issue

Transportation system needs improving. No night transportation or to remote areas (e.g., buses, taxis); poor bus service - Greyhound out too far; need better schedules for transit system; Transportation boundaries need to expand further west of Mobile	4
Poor infrastructure conditions (street, sidewalk repair, More lighting in parking lots)	3
18 wheelers blocking driveways	2
Big truck and train traffic has increased due to the new construction (Broad St. at Baker St, Brookley Field)	2
Need more parking areas for Downtown	1
Little or no assets	1
Bad streets; streets in disrepair that damage cars	1
Flooding due to new construction on McDuffie Island (Broad Street at Baker St.)	1
Trains can stall traffic and inconvenience residents	1
Concerns about air quality due to increased traffic	1

Overlooked Opportunity

Public transportation	2
Civic Center could be used for parking	1
Need an attractive depot downtown area	1
Listen to the people	1
Visitor parking permits (Residents can purchase and generate revenue for the city) - (especially for area around Ladd Stadium)	1
Better routes to airport from West Mobile	1
A better North/South corridor	1
Extend Water Street	1
Use empty lots for parking structures (possibly with 2 free hours of parking for the public; make sure that the structures are attractive and blend in with existing architecture)	1

Question 4 – Historic and Cultural Resources

What are the most significant historic resources, cultural elements and heritage stories in your area?

Ladd Stadium and Senor Bond	3
Cathedrals & churches (Catholic, Presbyterian, etc.) (St. Matthews Catholic Church, El Bethel Church)	3
Renovated historic buildings / homes	2
Mother always spoke of old baseball field at Ann & Virginia Streets	1
Downtown sites - museums, etc.	1
Cemeteries - Magnolia, Jensen, U.S. National	1
Williamson High School	1
Mardi Gras	1
Mission	1
Oakleigh House	1

Are there any overlooked cultural resources that need to be brought to light, discussed and celebrated?

Ladd Stadium	1
Civic Center - upgrade	1
Wharf area could be beautiful to enhance downtown	1
Baltimore Park (it is still in operation, but not safe for children)	1
Downtown YMCA	1
Taylor Park	1
Ladds Pharmacy (Baltimore and Broad St.)	1
Build on the history of the church community	1
Old street car ran down Texas, Broad & Ann - there was a park at the end of the line (Monroe Park w/ Bay access)	1
Classify more areas as 'historic'	1
Utilize significant historic figures in the community	1
Better codes for new buildings	1
Community involvement in the revitalization and renovations of dilapidated buildings (will help build a sense of pride and ownership - like Habitat for Humanity)	1

Question 5 – Your Vision

What do you as a stakeholder of Mobile want to see happen in your area over the next ten years?

Cleaner and safer neighborhoods	5
Get rid of / Repair dilapidated or abandoned housing in entire area	5
Better infrastructure conditions	3
More good jobs	2
Downtown area needs department store, sit-down restaurants	2
More youth involved in planning & implementation of our community	2
Schools and community partnership; Schools to be safer and competitive	2
Less crime	2
Cleaner streets (street cleaning on Saturdays)	2
More youth programs / recreational facilities	2
Better lighting (streets, sidewalks)	2
Better homes keeping with Historic District	1
Development of storefront businesses down Houston Street	1
Total landscape & facelift to 2 blocks of community space around Ladd Stadium & on Virginia Street to interstate	1
On Halls Mill Rd, I see a "loft" community of mixed use property	1
I've seen transformation of communities, like Maysville, convert to wonderful scapes	1
Don't let wealthy people buy out all of the community; block grant money or low interest money to homeowners	1
I see new communities like Atlanta, GA	1
New Brookley Field	1
Walking, riding trails in the area	1
Larger stadium - Ladd enlarged	1
Better drainage, more police and firemen	1

Zone 3

A new change in City council leadership that will be involved with and in the community	1
Beautification of Oakdale	1
Post Office in Oakdale	1
Better housing development	1
Senior Community Center	1
Shopping center	1
Elimination of the housing projects in the area	1
Housing project relocated	1
Less train traffic	1
Resources for people to reinvest in their homes, businesses	1
Family-oriented community	1
Better enforcement of traffic regulations	1
Town watch meetings	1
Redevelop stadiums	1
Educational opportunities	1
More jobs for the youth	1
L & N station brought back into operation	1
Bring the train back into the city	1
Night curfew for children	1
Every city official doing their job to make the city better and safer	1
RV project needs to be torn down	1
Ann Street needs to be repaired	1
Downtown to have the same feel as the French Quarter	1