



AGENDA
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
SENIOR/COMMUNITY CENTER TASK FORCE
November 19, 2024 6:00 PM

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. PUBLIC REMARKS
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 22, 2024
6. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC
7. NEEDS ASSESSMENT DISCUSSION
8. RESCHEDULE MARCH 2025 MEETING
9. PUBLIC REMARKS
10. ADJOURNMENT

Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact: Director of Community Planning and Development
Timothy R. Schmitt, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864 or 517.853.4506 - Ten Day Notice is Required.
Meeting Location: 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864



Charter Township of Meridian
Senior/Community Center Task Force
Township Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864
Tuesday, October 22, 2024 – Minutes

Members

Present: Scott Hendrickson, Patrick Malley, John Hood, Josh Robertson, LuAnn Maisner, Steve Vagnozzi and Mary Nardo Farris (for Amanda Lick)

Members

Absent: Suchir Nagisetty, Michele Steed and Amanda Lick

Staff

Present: Interim Township Manager Timothy Schmitt, Deputy Township Manager Dan Opsommer, and Parks and Recreation Director Courtney Wisinski

Others

Present: None

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Supervisor Hendrickson called the meeting to order and called the roll at 6:01pm.

2. PUBLIC REMARKS

Supervisor Hendrickson opened comments from the public at 6:03 pm.

Barbara O’Kelly, Township Resident/Senior Center Advisory Board Member, shared a modification to the design plan from the former task force. This design shows how the seniors would use the space. She asked the feasibility of adding a second floor to the current Service Center building then making the first floor a Senior Center and the second floor the Parks and Recreation offices.

Supervisor Hendrickson closed comments from the public at 6:05pm.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION BY MEMBER ROBERTSON TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER VAGNOZZI.

Supervisor Hendrickson mentioned they received a communication earlier in the week asking that public remarks be added at the end of the agenda.

SUPERVISOR HENDRICKSON MOVED TO AMEND THE AGENDA TO INCLUDE PUBLIC REMARKS BETWEEN ITEMS 8 AND 9. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER VAGNOZZI. MOTION APPROVED 7-0.

SUPERVISOR HENDRICKSON MOVED TO APPROVE THE AMENDED AGENDA. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER VAGNOZZI. MOTION APPROVED 7-0.

4. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES-September 23, 2024

MEMBER ROBERTSON MOVED TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 23, 2024 MINUTES. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER MALLEY. MOTION APPROVED 7-0.

5. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Supervisor Hendrickson reviewed several communications in the packet. Discussion was had regarding the method that the task force will receive communications from the public. The Interim Manager will continue to forward the emails to the task force in a timely manner.

6. FOLLOW UP ITEMS FROM SEPTEMBER MEETING

A. Usage Metrics

Director Wisinski presented the usage metrics of the Senior Center to date for 2024. Currently, there are 383 members. Of those members, 200 have attended at least one type of event/activity. Membership was at 483 in 2019. The membership has continued to grow over the past few years since the pandemic. There are 93 new members since 2023. The Parks Department continues to market the Senior Center in the following ways: Parks and Recreation's monthly e-newsletter, Facebook, 517 Living, Nextdoor, Senior Preferences resource guide, a brochure mailing every 2-3 years, and outreach events as available. The Parks Department has three other senior groups outside of the Senior Center. There are two groups of pickleballers, one at Towner Road Park and one at Hillbrook Park with around 80 participants. Also, the 55 plus fitness group that meets three times a week at Central Park Pavilion or Meridian Mall.

Member Vagnozzi stated that the trend looks like we should be back to pre COVID membership numbers next year.

Supervisor Hendrickson asked the numbers of 55 year olds plus in the Township. Director Wisinski stated, based on the 2020 Census, there were 16.6% (approximately 7,500 people) of our population that was 65 years old plus in the Township.

Member Robertson asked for membership data prior to COVID from 2010-2020. Director Wisinski will bring back the total membership numbers for those ten years.

B. Needs Assessment

Interim Manager Schmitt stated we are currently under contract with Progressive and that would be the easiest path forward. He suggested that whichever firm is chosen that they attend the November task force meeting to start the discussion of perceived needs, where we have been and where we are headed. The firm would reach out to meet with the Senior Center Advisory Board between the November and December task force meetings. Then, hold one or two public meetings regarding concept plans in January. This would allow for a February/March action from the task force. Discussion about the cost of this assessment. It was stated it would be between \$20,000 - \$30,000 for one or two sites. One concept would be the 10,000 square feet Senior Center and the second a 40,000-50,000 square feet Senior/Community Center.

Member Vagnozzi questioned how we will decide the size of the facility. Interim Manager Schmitt suggested we focus on sites first. This will aid in meeting the Board's direction of a recommendation by April 2025. The decision of site(s) needs to be made by the task force tonight.

Discussion on whether to conduct the needs assessment for a stand along Senior Center or for a Senior/Community Center. Interim Manager Schmitt stated the Board has directed the task force to provide both options.

Member Vagnozzi suggested looking at a Senior Center only facility with the potential to add on the Community Center component.

Park Commission Chair Farris asked if the only constraint on the project is the site. Supervisor Hendrickson stated that cost is the other constraint. It is far more expensive to build and operate the combined Senior/Community Center.

Supervisor Hendrickson expressed support with moving forward with the needs assessment. The task force was in agreement with having Staff work on getting the needs assessment started for \$20,000 - \$30,000.

Superintendent Hood suggested that in addition to the current Senior Center members, seniors who are not using the Senior Center, and stakeholders from the local schools should also be involved in the needs assessment.

7. SENIOR COMMUNITY CENTER LOCATION ANALYSIS

Interim Manager Schmitt shared an update on the Nokomis Center. Included in the packet is their land lease. They have a plan to start a capital campaign in the next year to 18 months to expand the facility. He stated that the Nokomis site is not viable for new construction at this time.

Supervisor Hendrickson asked if the Nokomis Center was asked if they would be interested in examining the possibility of becoming a part of the Senior Center on that site. Deputy Manager Opsommer says they have not been asked, but we could have that discussion, but the price tag may be too large. Discussion was held about parking, and it is outside of the lease. For that location, the utilities would be easier to bring in from Marsh Road.

Deputy Manager Opsommer reviewed the recreation fields at the Municipal Building. There are just under two acres, which the Township owns, near the Central Park Pavilion. The site is constrained by utility needs and wetlands. Another issue with this site would be finding other land for the recreation events that currently take place there.

Deputy Manager Opsommer presented 5280 Okemos Road, located at the northeast corner of Okemos Road and Gaylord C. Smith Court. The Township acquired this property for a trailhead/park facility. The site is 1.7 acres and close to the train track and would have noise. It may be possible to mitigate the noise through a railroad quiet zone for about \$800,000. The site has direct access to utilities. It is unlikely it would be on a CATA route.

1492 Grand River Avenue is coming off the market so that is no longer a viable site.

Deputy Manager Opsommer presented the Central Fire Station site as a Senior/Community Center option. There is about 10 acres to work with and the building would face Central Park Drive. Discussion that noise from the Fire Station would not be an issue on this site and there is already a water main on the site. A wetland delineation was done on the property as part of the original Task Force review and found that there

is less than a half of acre of wetlands on the site, outside of the main floodplain on the southern half of the site.

The former Younkers site was presented for a Senior/Community Center. It is 95,000 square feet. The Township has already designed the space with Progressive. The floor plan is included in the packet and based on the elevator shaft and the gymnasium space there is not a lot of flexibility with the floor plan. It is on the CATA route. The operational cost was too expensive when presented previously and the Township Board opted not to proceed with the location.

Supervisor Hendrickson asked if demolition of the former Younkers site was ever discussed to build something smaller. It was discussed in the past and determined to be in excess of \$1,000,000 to demo and detach from the Mall and another \$1,000,000 to reconnect to the Mall, making demolition not a viable option.

Discussion occurred about the costs of renovating the existing former Younkers building versus building new on the Fire Station site.

Deputy Manager Opsommer presented the former Wardcliff Elementary site. Space would not be an issue, it is a block from the CATA stop, and there are four recreation fields that we would not build on. Okemos Public Schools owns the property. It is not centrally located in the Township. Superintendent Hood stated he would not recommend to the School Board to engage this site for a Senior/Community Center because there could be a need to use the school as a building in the future due to Bennett Woods growth and the aging Central Montessori building.

Deputy Manager Opsommer presented 1410 Grand River Avenue, currently a driving range, it is 21 acres. It is for sale for \$4.5 million. The site might require some road work on Grand River Avenue by MDOT. The parcel seems larger than we would need. Discussion that this property is flat and may be a good fit for cricket or other recreational park facilities. Supervisor Hendrickson mentioned it might be interesting to discuss land acquisition with the Land Preservation Advisory for this property.

Discussion about the various CATA stops and which ones are the highest frequencies. It was stated that being on a CATA bus route was a criteria, but not a high priority. Member Vagnozzi said there may be room to negotiate Redi-Ride services around a particular location, if needed.

Member Maisner explained that she is most excited about the site at 1410 Grand River Avenue.

Deputy Manager Opsommer described 1510 West Grand River at Powell Road. The site was clear cut and a little under 9 acres. It is listed for \$2.25 million.

Deputy Manager Opsommer presented a parcel located on Central Park Drive between Belvedere and Columbus. It is not currently on the market. It would be expensive to acquire. Likely more than \$4.5 million. It is not on a high frequency CATA route. The site has some wetland concerns as well, but acquisition is the main hurdle for the site.

Supervisor Hendrickson summarized, for the Senior Center only, sites include Nokomis, Central Park, and 5280 Okemos Road. The Senior/Community Center sites include Central Fire Station, Younkers, Driving Range, Powell and Grand River and Central Park.

Park Commission Chair Farris and Member Robertson mentioned reviewing parcels that could fit both a Senior Center and Community Center would be best.

The Task Force chose to eliminate pursuing the following Senior Center only sites: Nokomis, Central Park, and 5280 Okemos Road.

Member Vagnozzi mentioned that a lot of work has already gone into the Younkers site and there is not a need to address it further at this time. Superintendent Hood stated there are limiting issues with the site including the elevator shafts and not knowing who the neighbors may be.

Discussion about limiting the sites down to one site we own and one that we would need to acquire and Younkers being the last option. There was consensus to have Staff pursue the Central Fire Station and the Driving Range sites.

Supervisor Hendrickson mentioned we should consult with our Township Attorneys regarding funding for the Grand River site and the possibilities of using land preservation funds.

Supervisor Hendrickson stated on November 12, 2024 there will be an update given to the Township Board on the Task Force and asked for two volunteers to present. Member Maisner and Member Robertson will present.

We will need to reschedule the date for the March Task Force meeting due to spring break.

8. PUBLIC REMARKS

Kathy Harrison, Township resident, stated she was reviewing discussions from the first meeting and confirmed if the Senior Center is not built on a school site, bond money will not be available. She questioned why is there discussion of a Community Center in addition to the Senior Center? Supervisor Hendrickson commented we did receive a \$5 million grant from the State of Michigan and the Community Center has been a goal of the Township Board for several years.

9. NEXT MEETING DATE

a. November 19, 2024, 6:00pm-Township Municipal Building, Town Hall Room, 5151 Marsh Road.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05pm without objection.

Providing a safe and welcoming, sustainable, prime community.

Tim Schmitt

From: Steve Vagnozzi [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, October 22, 2024 2:40 PM
To: SCC Taskforce
Cc: Dan Opsommer
Subject: Senior/Community Center Prospective Site Evaluation

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

Site Comparison: It would be helpful to have a chart of the sites that includes acquisition costs, can it support both senior and community center, CATA stop, site improvements needed, etc.

Can we fund Senior Center only construction without needing a millage?

I think the most pragmatic plan for building a combined center would be to build the senior center first then add on the community center in the future rather than trying to build both at the same time.

I think that Redi Ride service could be sufficient for the Senior Center. We should survey current users before making a regular CATA stop a requirement.

Respectfully,

Steve Vagnozzi
[REDACTED]

Tim Schmitt

From: Okelly, Barbara Ann [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 24, 2024 5:03 PM
To: SCC Taskforce
Subject: Fw: Open House: New Williamston Senior Center: Saturday, December 7, 2024 from 12-4pm

You don't often get email from okelly@msu.edu. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hello, Task Force Members--

Visiting our neighbor's new center might be helpful for our task force members. Or perhaps a private tour could be arranged for our group.

Barb

Barbara O'Kelly (she/her)

From: Christian & Beth Ann Bechtel [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, October 24, 2024 3:18 PM
To: Steve Vagnozzi [REDACTED]; erportnoy@yahoo.com [REDACTED]; 'Margaret Frisch' [REDACTED]; 'Ralph Frisch' [REDACTED]; 'jean mcdonald' [REDACTED]; cherie.wisdom@okemosk12.net <cherie.wisdom@okemosk12.net>; Okelly, Barbara Ann [REDACTED]
Subject: Open House: New Williamston Senior Center: Saturday, December 7, 2024 from 12-4pm

Hi Everyone,

FYI. I just wanted to let you know that I just talked to Executive Director Julie Rudd from the Williamston Senior Center. Julie just informed me that there is going to be an **Open House at the New Williamston Senior Center on Saturday, December 7, 2024 from 12:00-4:00 p.m.** This Open House is open to the community and all are welcome to attend, ask questions, tour their 8,500 sq. ft. building plus their 7 acres of land, etc. This event, location address, etc. are below:

What: New Williamston Senior Center Open House
When: Saturday, December 7, 2024 from 12:00-4:00 p.m.
Where: New Williamston Senior Center
500 Williamston Center Road
Williamston, MI 48895
Contact: Executive Director Julie Rudd
Current Phone Number: 517-655-5173
E-Mail Address: williamstonseniorctr@gmail.com
Website: <https://www.williamstonseniorcenter.org>
Weekday Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9:00am-3:00pm

Take care,
Beth Bechtel

Tim Schmitt

From: Christian & Beth Ann Bechtel [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, November 7, 2024 11:22 AM
To: SCC Taskforce; Board
Subject: FYI Williamston Senior Center Open House & 2 Questions

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Meridian Township Senior Center Task Force Members and Board Members,

I have some information to share and 2 questions. First, I will ask my 2 questions. Could some or all of the Meridian Township Senior Center Task Force Members and Board Members attend this upcoming December 7, 2024 Open House at the new Williamston Area Senior Center (WASC) location? See online newsletter weblink #3 and details below. In addition, Could the Meridian Township Senior Center Task Force Members and Board Members also arrange a private informational tour of this new Williamston Area Senior Center (WASC) location with their WASC Executive Director Julie Rudd? Again, see Julie's contact details below.

Second, here is the FYI. Per WASC Executive Director Julie Rudd, this new location for the Williamston Area Senior Center (WASC) is a 8,500 sq. ft. building with 7 acres of land with purchase price of \$1,015,000, which is funded from the **current** Ingham County Elder Services Millage (\$750,000) and Williamston Area Senior Center (WASC) raised donations/saving account (\$375,000).

In addition, per WASC Executive Director Julie Rudd, their renovations will occur in phases over time as donations come in, and their plan is to be in this new location by the end of 2024 after their initial renovation. Also, please note per Julie, their Senior Center hours are Monday thru Thursday from 9am-3pm with potential to **Rent** their new facility location out on weekends. See weblinks below:

1. **Williamston Senior Center at Ingham County Board of Commissioners Meeting (04-10-2024)**
<https://www.fox47news.com/neighborhoods/east-lansing-okemos/williamston-senior-center-receives-funds-to-grow>

2. **Ingham County Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes (04-09-2024) (pages 26-37) (WASC Resolution Passes 8-4-3)**
[https://docs.ingham.org/4.9.2024%20BOC%20Minutes%20-%20Final%20\(Approved\).pdf](https://docs.ingham.org/4.9.2024%20BOC%20Minutes%20-%20Final%20(Approved).pdf)

Also, FYI, here below is that online weblink for the newly posted bi-monthly newsletter for the Williamston Senior Center which publicly announces their upcoming Open House at their new location on Saturday, December 7, 2024 from 12-4 p.m. Again, see below details and this newsletter weblink, **specifically pages 3, 4, and 7** detailing their upcoming December 7, 2024 Open House.

3. **Williamston Senior Center Online Bi-Monthly Newsletter for November-December 2024 (pages 3, 4, & 7)**
https://www.williamstonseniorcenter.org/files/ugd/616466_5cd0c3ce09cb4af98dbbdf2992d223.pdf

What: New Williamston Senior Center Open House
When: Saturday, December 7, 2024 from 12:00-4:00 p.m.
Where: New Williamston Senior Center

500 Williamston Center Road

Williamston, MI 48895

Contact: Executive Director Julie Rudd

Current Phone Number: 517-655-5173

E-Mail Address: williamstonseniorctr@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.williamstonseniorcenter.org>

Weekday Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9:00am-3:00pm

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Beth Bechtel

Haslett, Michigan

Tim Schmitt

From: Okelly, Barbara Ann [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2024 8:33 PM
To: SCC Taskforce
Cc: Tim Schmitt; Courtney Wisinski; Margaret Frisch; cherie.wisdom@okemosk12.net; [REDACTED]; Christian & Beth Ann Bechtel
Subject: Needs assessment for seniors
Attachments: SC Needs Assessment Survey 11-2024.xlsx

Greetings, SCC Task Force--

The Advisory Board of the Meridian Senior Center is developing a survey for our current members and for participants in other activities for seniors sponsored by the Township. A DRAFT is attached. I'm currently working on adapting it for on-line completion using Google Forms. It's our belief that we need to get a handle on the expected uses of the space to determine what kinds of spaces are needed and what their size should be.

Meanwhile, if the Task Force, township staff, or Progressive would like to use all or part of it, modified however, for a more general needs assessment of seniors not currently participating in township sponsored activities and/or the broader community, I explicitly don't have it copyrighted—please feel free to use, adopt, adapt, etd.!

Barb

Barbara O'Kelly (she/her)



Planning the new Senior or Senior/Community Center

We need your help to design a new Senior Center or combined Senior and Community Center! First, we need to know what activities you currently participate in (at the current Senior Center or elsewhere), then what you'd like to see in the new Center, and how often you're likely to use the new Center. We're also asking for some information about you so we can make sure to consider the opinions of the diverse members of the Meridian Township community. The surveys are numbered so that we can send reminders, but all data will be anonymous and only used in groups. If you have questions, please contact XXXXXXXXX at 517-XXXXXXX or email XXXXXXXX. Please return your survey [by email?] [Text?] [Mail?] to XXXXXXXX by [Date]. Thanks for your help!

Please fill in the circle for "No" or "Yes" for your current participation in each activity, and for each "Yes," how often and where.	Do you or others in your household do this?		If yes, how often?					If yes, where?			
	No	Yes-->	Weekly or more	Several times a month	Once or twice a month	A few times a year	1-2 times/year	Meridian Senior Center	Maridian Parks	YMCA	Other--where?-->
Group fitness/wellness classes											
Balance & core	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->
Jazzercise	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->
Mall walking	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->
Meditation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->
Mindfulness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->
Outdoor walking	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->
Strength class	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->
Tabata	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->
Tai Chi	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->
Yoga	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->
Individual fitness/wellness activities											
Fitness equipment room	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->
Library	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->
Massage	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->
Reflexology	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->
Reiki	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->

Planning the new Senior or Senior/Community Center

Please fill in the circle for "No" or "Yes" for your current participation in each activity, and for each "Yes," how often and where.	Do you or others in your household do this?		If yes, how often?					If yes, where?			
	No	Yes-->	Weekly or more	Several times a month	Once or twice a month	A few times a year	1-2 times/year	Meridian Senior Center	Maridian Parks	YMCA	Other--where?-->
Group activities/classes											
Association meetings (<15)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->
Committee meetings (<15)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->
Bingo	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->
Book Club	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->
Collaborative coloring	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->
Crafts	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->
Current affairs discussion	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->
Jigsaw puzzle	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->
Luncheons	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->
Movies	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->
Travel discussion group	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->
Watching TV	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->

Please fill in the circle for "No" or "Yes" for your current participation in each activity, and for each "Yes," how often and where.	Do you or others in your household do this?		If yes, how often?					If yes, where?			
	No	Yes-->	Weekly or more	Several times a month	Once or twice a month	A few times a year	1-2 times/year	Meridian Senior Center	Maridian Parks	YMCA	Other--where?-->
Indoor Activities/Sports											
Basketball	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->
Billiards	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->
Pickleball	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->
Swimming	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->
Table tennis	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->
Volleyball	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->

Please fill in the circle for "No" or "Yes" for your current participation in each activity.	Do you or others in your household do this?		If yes, how often?					If yes, where?			
	No	Yes-->	Weekly or more	Several times a month	Once or twice a month	A few times a year	1-2 times/year	Meridian Senior Center	Maridian Parks	YMCA	Other--where?-->

Planning the new Senior or Senior/Community Center

and for each "Yes," how often and where.	Do you or others in your household do this?		If yes, how often?					If yes, where?			
	No	Yes-->	Weekly or more	Several times a month	Once or twice a month	A few times a year	1-2 times/year	Meridian Senior Center	Maridian Parks	YMCA	Other--where?-->
Card games											
Bridge	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> --> _____
Euchre	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> --> _____
Hand Knee Foot	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> --> _____
Mah Jongg	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> --> _____

Please fill in the circle for "No" or "Yes" for your current participation in each activity, and for each "Yes," how often and where.	Do you or others in your household do this?		If yes, how often?					If yes, where?			
	No	Yes-->	Weekly or more	Several times a month	Once or twice a month	A few times a year	1-2 times/year	Meridian Senior Center	Maridian Parks	YMCA	Other--where?-->
Outdoor sports/activities											
Baseball	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> --> _____
Kickball	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> --> _____
P & R Fitness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> --> _____
Playmakers Running Club	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> --> _____
Soccer	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> --> _____
Softball	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> --> _____
Basketball	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> --> _____
Pickleball	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> --> _____
Swimming	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> --> _____
Toddler Activities											
Sporties for Shorties	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> --> _____
T-Ball	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> --> _____

Now, what would you like to see in a new Senior or Senior/Community Center, and how often would you use it?
 The costs of activities currently offered by the township are shown for reference.

Planning the new Senior or Senior/Community Center

Please fill in the circle for "No" or "Yes" for each activity, and for those you would do, let us know how often.	Current member cost*	Would you or others in your household do this?		If yes, how often?				
		No	Yes-->	Weekly or more	Several times a month	Once or twice a month	A few times a year	1-2 times/year
Group fitness/wellness classes								
Balance & core		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Jazzercise	\$3-6	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mall walking	Free	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Meditation		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mindfulness		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Outdoor walking		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Strength class	Free	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tabata	Free	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tai Chi	Free	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Yoga	\$5-7	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Zumba		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please fill in the circle for "No" or "Yes" for each activity, and for those you would do, let us know how often.	Current member cost*	Would you or others in your household do this?		If yes, how often?				
		No	Yes-->	Weekly or more	Several times a month	Once or twice a month	A few times a year	1-2 times/year
Individual fitness/wellness activities								
Fitness equipment room	Free	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Library	Free	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Massage	\$15	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Reflexology	\$15	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Reiki	\$35	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

* Current membership in the Meridian Senior Center is \$25 per year

Please fill in the circle for "No" or "Yes" for each activity, and	Current member cost*	Would you or others in your household do this?		If yes, how often?				
		No	Yes-->	Weekly or more	Several times a month	Once or twice a month	A few times a year	1-2 times/year

Planning the new Senior or Senior/Community Center

Please fill in the circle for "No" or "Yes" for each activity, and for those you would do, let us know how often.	Current member cost*	Would you or others in your household do this?		If yes, how often?				
		No	Yes-->	Weekly or more	Several times a month	Once or twice a month	A few times a year	1-2 times/year
Group activities/classes								
Association meetings (<15)		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Committee meetings (<15)		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Bingo	Free	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Book Club	Free	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Collaborative coloring	Free	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Crafts	\$10	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Current affairs discussion	Free	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Day trips	\$15-80	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Jigsaw puzzle	Free	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Luncheons	\$5-7	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Movies	Free	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Travel discussion group	Free	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Watching TV	Free	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please fill in the circle for "No" or "Yes" for each activity, and for those you would do, let us know how often.	Current member cost*	Would you or others in your household do this?		If yes, how often?				
		No	Yes-->	Weekly or more	Several times a month	Once or twice a month	A few times a year	1-2 times/year
Indoor Activities/Sports								
Basketball		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Billiards	Free	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pickleball		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Swimming		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Table tennis	Free	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Volleyball		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

* Current membership in the Meridian Senior Center is \$25 per year

Please fill in the circle for "No" or "Yes" for each activity, and for those you would do, let us know how often.	Current member cost*	Would you or others in your household do this?		If yes, how often?				
		No	Yes-->	Weekly or more	Several times a month	Once or twice a month	A few times a year	1-2 times/year

Planning the new Senior or Senior/Community Center

or Yes for each activity, and for those you would do, let us know how often.	Current member cost*	No	Yes-->	Weekly or more	Several times a month	Once or twice a month	A few times a year	1-2 times/year
Card games								
Bridge	Free	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Euchre	Free	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hand Knee Foot	Free	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mah Jongg	Free	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please fill in the circle for "No" or "Yes" for each activity, and for those you would do, let us know how often.	Current member cost*	Would you or others in your household do this?		If yes, how often?				
		No	Yes-->	Weekly or more	Several times a month	Once or twice a month	A few times a year	1-2 times/year
Outdoor sports/activities								
Baseball		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Kickball		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
P & R Fitness		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Playmakers Running Club		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Soccer		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Softball		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Basketball		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pickleball		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Swimming		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Toddler Activities								
Sporties for Shorties		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
T-Ball		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> -->	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

* Current membership in the Meridian Senior Center is \$25 per year

Finally, a little about you!

Where do you live?	Haslett <input type="radio"/>	Okemos <input type="radio"/>	East Lansing <input type="radio"/>		
What's your gender?	Female <input type="radio"/>	Male <input type="radio"/>			
What age group are you in?	Under 25 <input type="radio"/>	25-40 <input type="radio"/>	40-55 <input type="radio"/>	55-70 <input type="radio"/>	70+ <input type="radio"/>

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!



To: Senior/Community Center Task Force

From: Timothy R. Schmitt, *AICP*, Interim Township Manager and Community Planning and Development Director

Date: November 15, 2024

Re: Senior/Community Center Task Force Meeting – Needs Assessment

At the October meeting, it was determined to move forward with a Needs Assessment, using the Township's current consultant, Progressive, who did a great deal of work with the original Senior Community Center Task Force. Progressive will be at our November meeting to work through a couple of group exercises to gain alignment on the goals of this task force specific to the project and then review the program; i.e. what is needed in the facility and how many people, etc., etc.

Our intention is then to have Progressive lead a similar conversation with the senior community in early December. They will then work to combine the information and come back to the Task Force in early 2025 with conceptual layouts to move forward with. For the purposes of this discussion, Staff has attached the presentation from our consultants on the recent Community Survey. The Senior Community Center information is found on pages 46-51 specifically, but there are references throughout. This information is being provided to help fuel the conversation moving forward.

We look forward to discussing the facility needs over the coming weeks and giving our consultant direction on how to move forward.



A PRIME COMMUNITY
meridian.mi.us

Meridian Township Resident Survey and Priority Assessment

October 2024

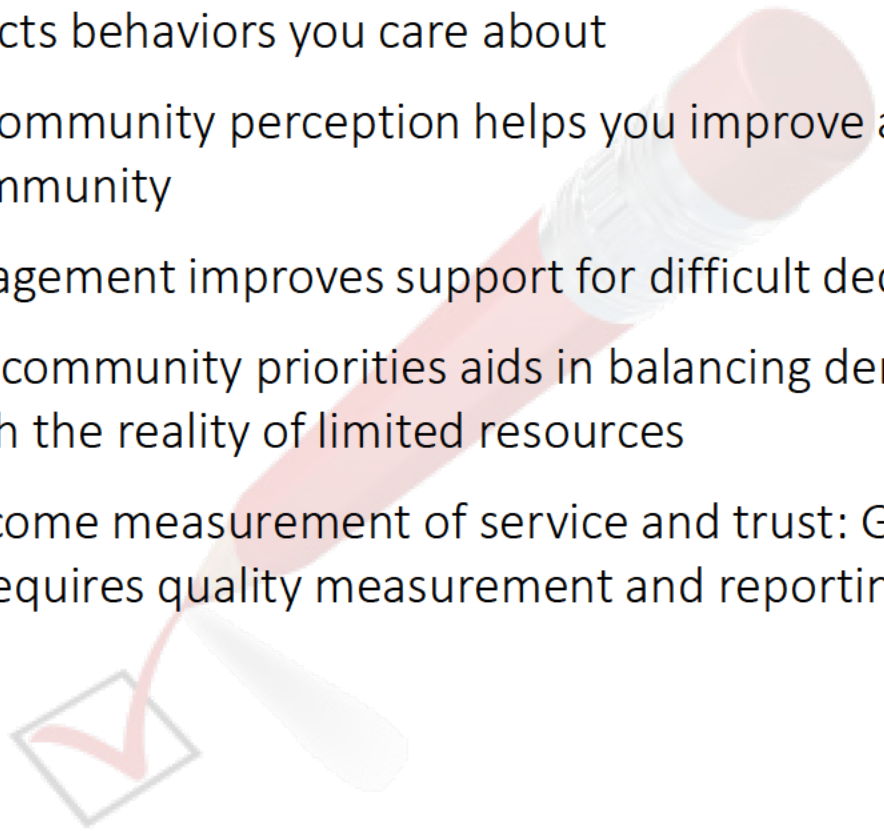


Background on Cobalt Community Research

- 501c3 not for profit research coalition
- Mission to provide research and education
- Developed to meet the research needs of schools, local governments, and nonprofit organizations

Measuring Where You Are: Why Research Matters

- Understanding community values and priorities helps you plan and communicate more effectively about community decisions
- Perception impacts behaviors you care about
- Understanding community perception helps you improve and promote the community
- Community engagement improves support for difficult decisions
- Reliable data on community priorities aids in balancing demands of vocal groups with the reality of limited resources
- Bottom line outcome measurement of service and trust: Good administration requires quality measurement and reporting



Study Goals

- Support budget, strategic planning, and policy decisions
- Compare results to 2021 baseline service measures
- Determine if the presumed service experiences are accurate
- Identify which aspects of community provide the greatest leverage on residents' overall satisfaction and outcomes such as remaining in the community and recommending the community to others

Bottom Line

- The Township outperforms the Cobalt benchmarks with an overall satisfaction score of 78. This score has remained stable although benchmarks fell
- There are several areas where improvement can have significant impact on engagement

2024 Drivers:

Township services
Public works
Facilities and grounds
Parks and recreation
Transportation infrastructure

2021 Drivers:

Township services
Community image
Public works
Police services
Transportation infrastructure

Bottom Line

- What they like most: feel safe, living near MSU, good schools
- What to improve: more development of downtown areas, better roads, more bike infrastructure, improved access for disabled, community center/pool
- Which cultural events: more music festivals with diverse performers; more quality dining establishments
- Services to see online: permit submission, rental inspections, code enforcement, generally prefer online than in person
- Zoning uses in Meridian Mall: indoor recreation, public facilities, research/development facilities, residential housing
- A better place for business: develop a better downtown area, poor access/parking, lower taxes
- Potential amenities to enhanced/added in the future: more green spaces/trails, community center/pool, improved access for those with disabilities
- Over 70 percent believe a community center is beneficial and would use it, and about 50% are willing to close a funding gap with a millage.

Methodology

- Random sample of 2,000 voters provided by the Township
- Conducted using two mailings in July and August 2024. Responses either online or via postage-paid envelope.
- Valid response from 392 residents, providing a solid margin of error of +/- 4.9 percent
 - **Note:** National surveys with a margin of error +/- 5% require a sample of 384 responses to reflect a population of 330,000,000
- Results were weighted based on ethnicity to correspond with Census data and the 2021 report
- In addition, the survey was open to residents who were not part of the random sample. There were 70 residents who chose to do so, increasing the total response to 462.
 - **Note:** Non sample responses were not included in the statistics presented in this summary report, but they are reflected on the bottom line of the crosstab reports

Preserving Voice: Looking Into Detail

Distribution Questions Count of Sample: 392 (+/- 4.9%)

		Use of parks and pathways					How do you prefer to receive information from the Township?									
		Never	1-5 times a year	6-10 times a year	11-20 times a year	20+ times a year	Email	Township website	Meridian Happenings/digital newsletter	Prime Meridian Magazine	Utility bill insert	Township social media (Facebook, Instagram)	Nextdoor	Meridian Township YouTube channel	Text message	HOMTV cable channel
2021 Overall		14%	25%	13%	13%	33%	56%	35%	24%	37%	24%	18%	19%	4%	8%	7%
2024 Overall		15%	30%	13%	14%	24%	60%	37%	25%	31%	25%	16%	16%	4%	17%	5%
Residency	One year or less*	9%	45%	-	-	36%	100%	55%	18%	18%	9%	18%	-	-	36%	-
	1-5 years	8%	27%	17%	13%	28%	59%	38%	25%	31%	20%	20%	9%	-	13%	-
	6-10 years	12%	24%	10%	22%	29%	56%	32%	17%	37%	20%	17%	5%	5%	15%	10%
	More than 10 years	16%	30%	14%	13%	23%	58%	37%	27%	30%	27%	16%	19%	5%	18%	6%
Own/Rent	Own	12%	29%	15%	14%	26%	60%	38%	27%	30%	27%	17%	17%	4%	18%	5%
	Rent/lease	26%	26%	13%	11%	21%	53%	24%	21%	34%	11%	16%	3%	3%	8%	5%
Employed in Township	Yes	9%	20%	20%	16%	32%	64%	36%	29%	21%	27%	18%	14%	9%	20%	5%
	No, a different community	5%	28%	11%	18%	31%	66%	41%	30%	30%	26%	25%	16%	5%	16%	5%
	I am not currently employed*	47%	13%	7%	7%	13%	40%	20%	20%	33%	13%	7%	-	-	20%	-
	I am retired	21%	36%	14%	10%	18%	54%	36%	21%	36%	23%	11%	16%	1%	16%	6%

↑
Checked Scores
that Vary by
Demographics

↑
Consistent Scores
Regardless of
Demographics

Results



Overall Community Satisfaction with Meridian Township

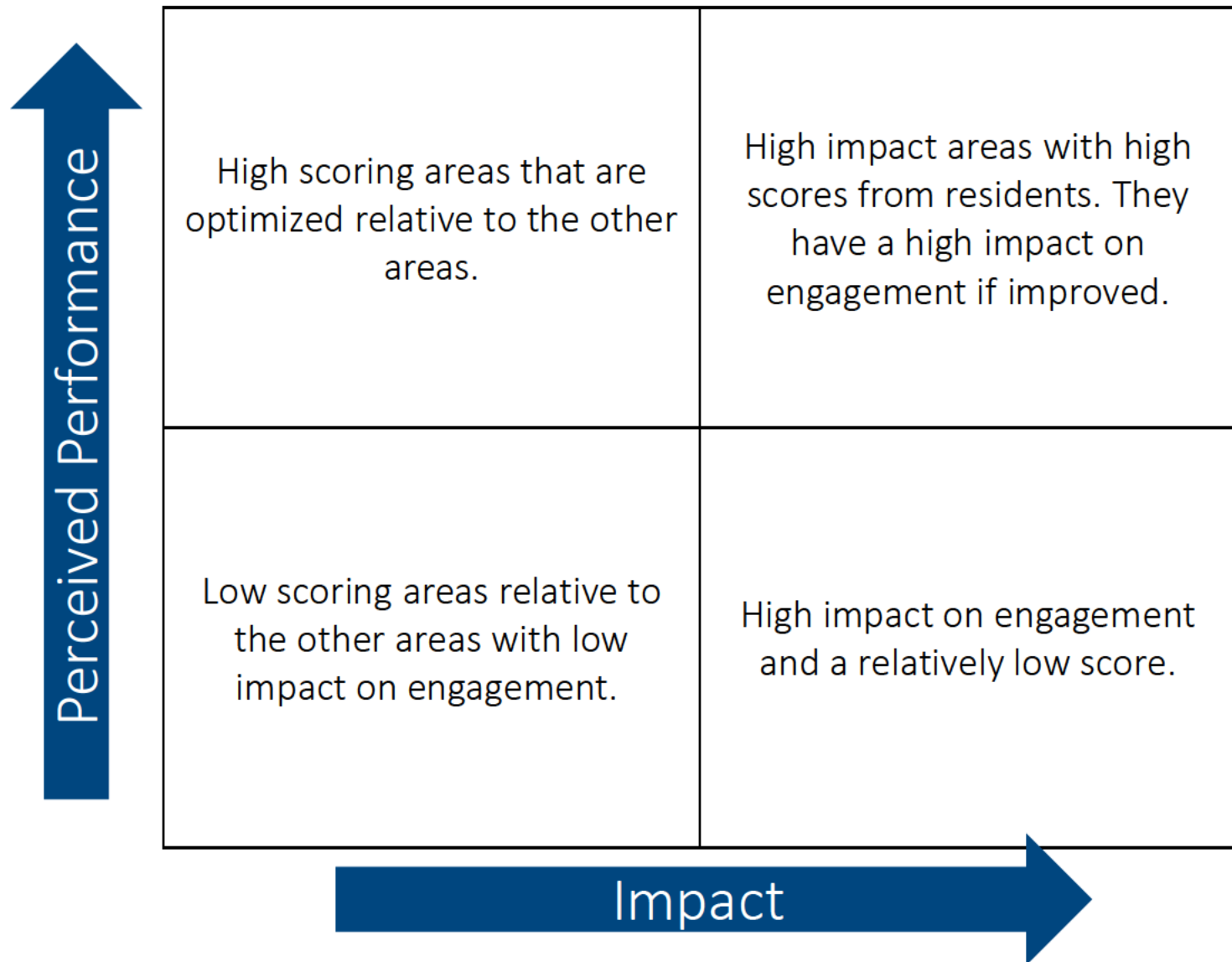
- 6-point scale: 4.8 (4.9 in 2021)
- **100-point ACSI scale: 78** (78 in 2021)

- National ACSI: 60 (67 in 2021)
- National ACSI (pop 25k-100k): 61 (69 in 2021)

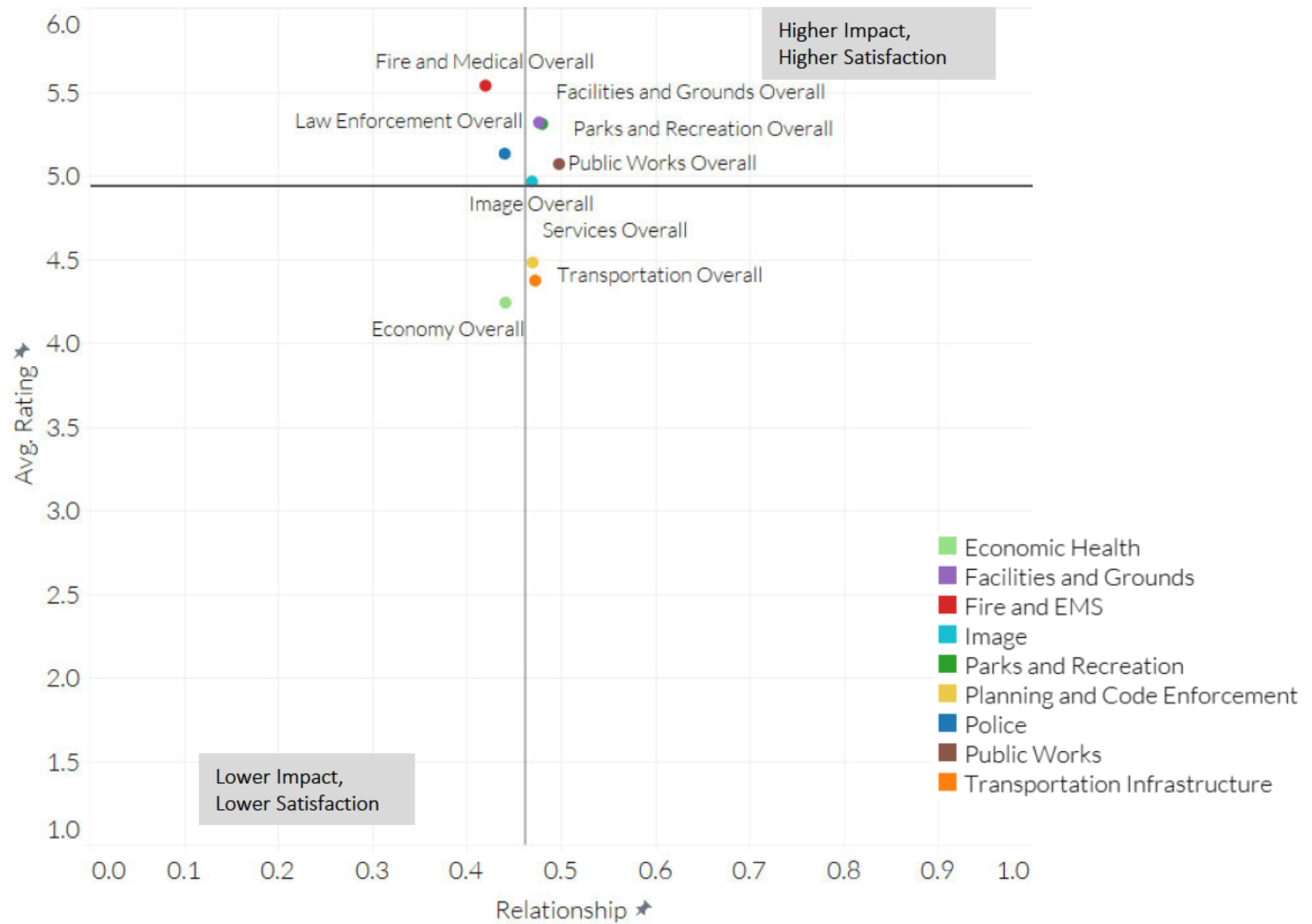
- Midwest ACSI: 61 (66 in 2021)
- Midwest ACSI (pop 25k-100k): 64 (74 in 2021)

- Michigan ACSI: 61 (67 in 2021)
- Michigan ACSI (pop 25k-100k): 62 (64 in 2021)

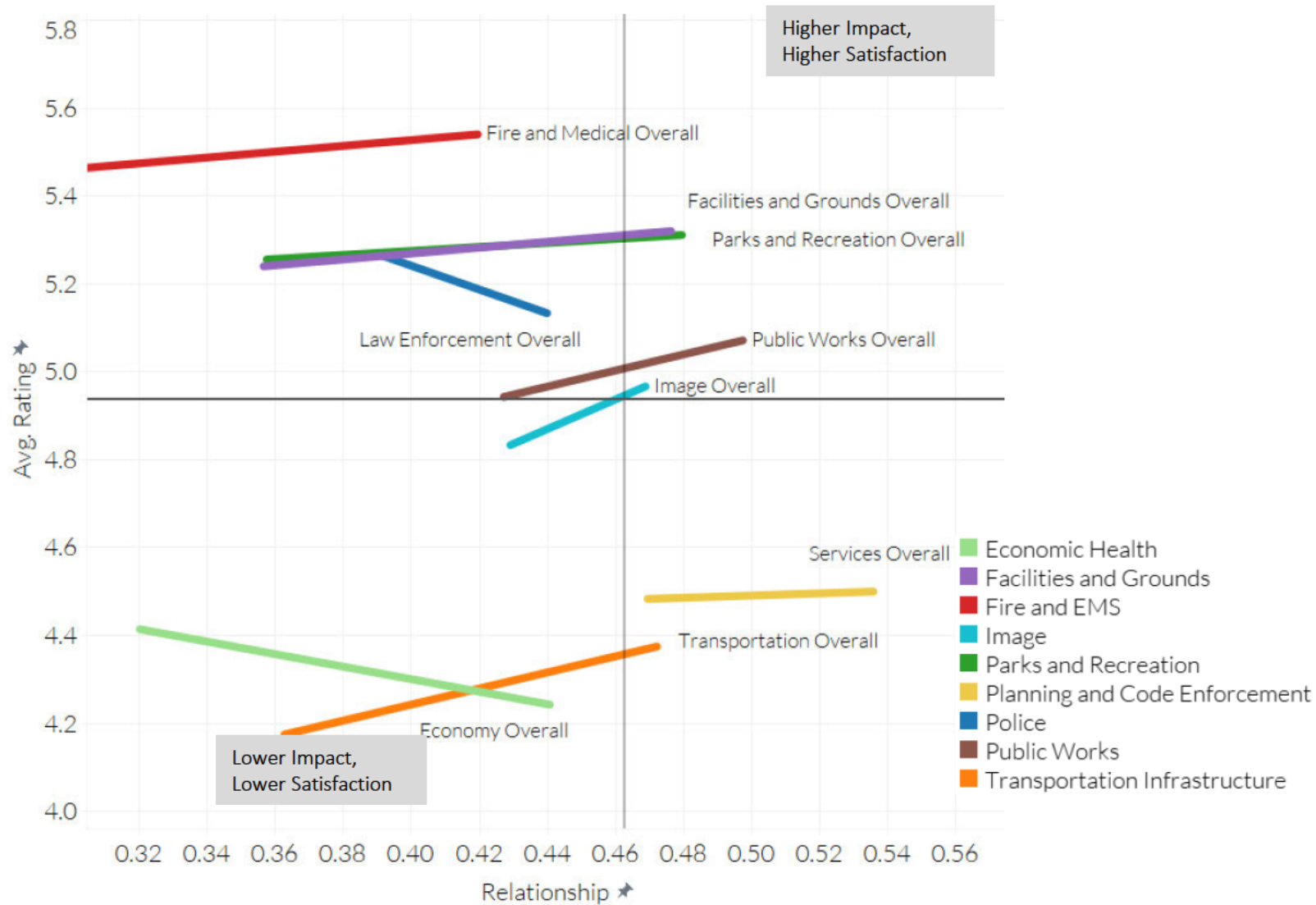
Community Questions – Long-term Drivers



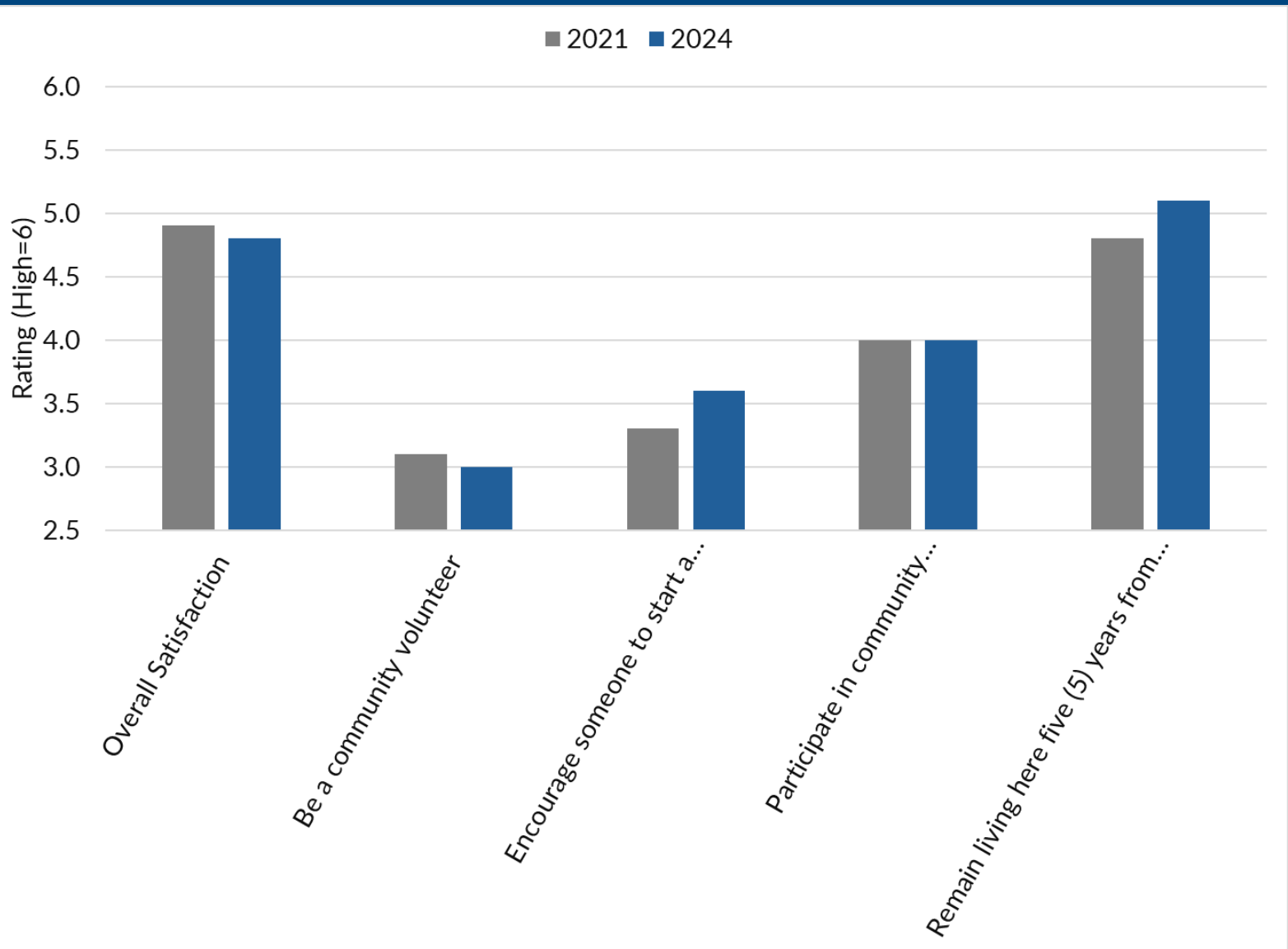
Drivers of Satisfaction and Behavior: Strategic Priorities



Drivers of Satisfaction and Behavior: Strategic Priorities



Overall Outcomes



Word Cloud:

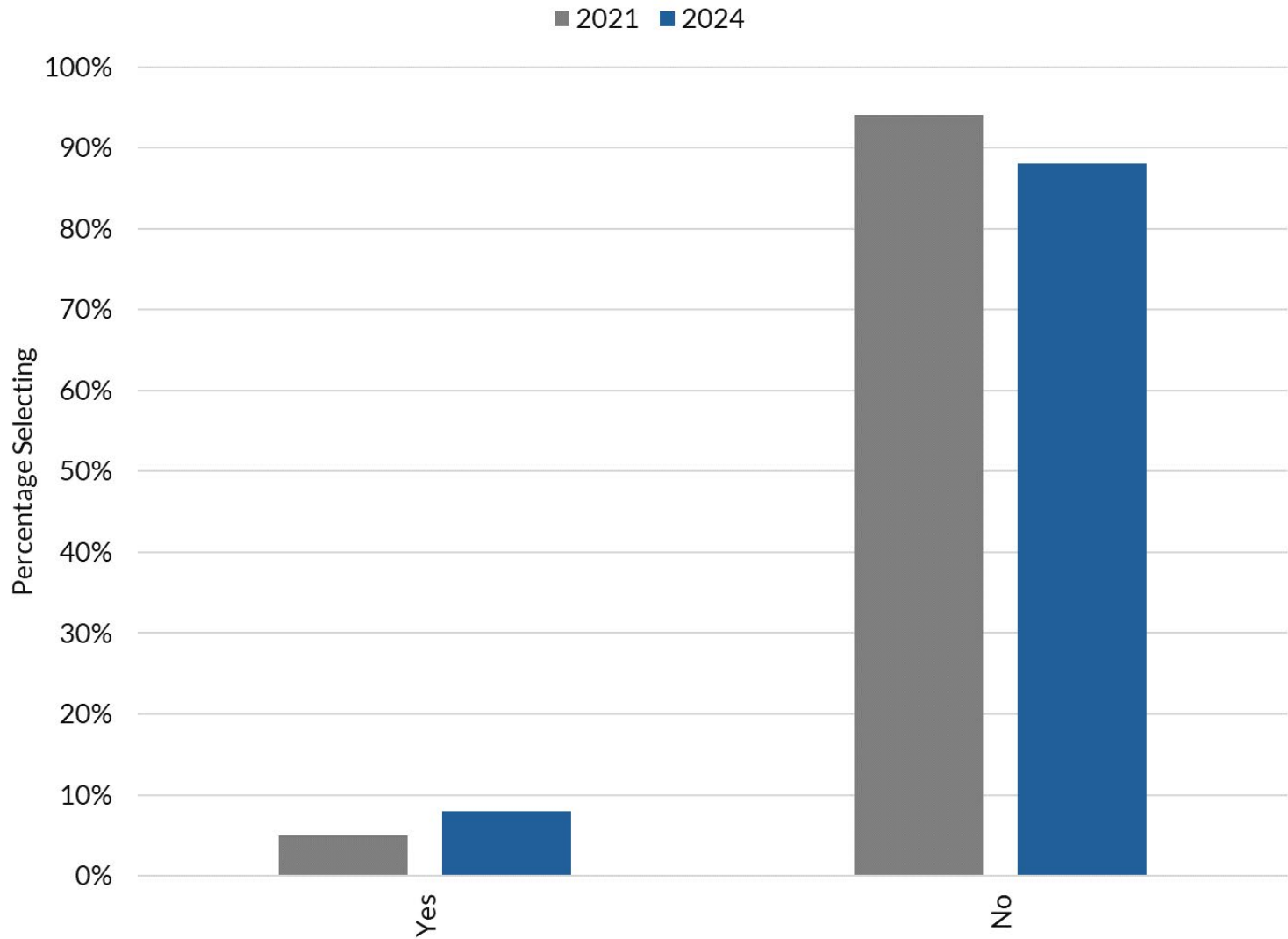
Which specific barriers keep you from participating more in the areas above or remaining here five years from now?

Top Themes:

1. **Time** : Residents reported that they don't have a lot of spare or free time.
2. **Age**: Most residents who completed the survey are elderly and have trouble getting around.
3. **Busy**: Residents are often busy with working or raising their families.



Do you own or operate a business in Meridian Township?



Word Cloud:

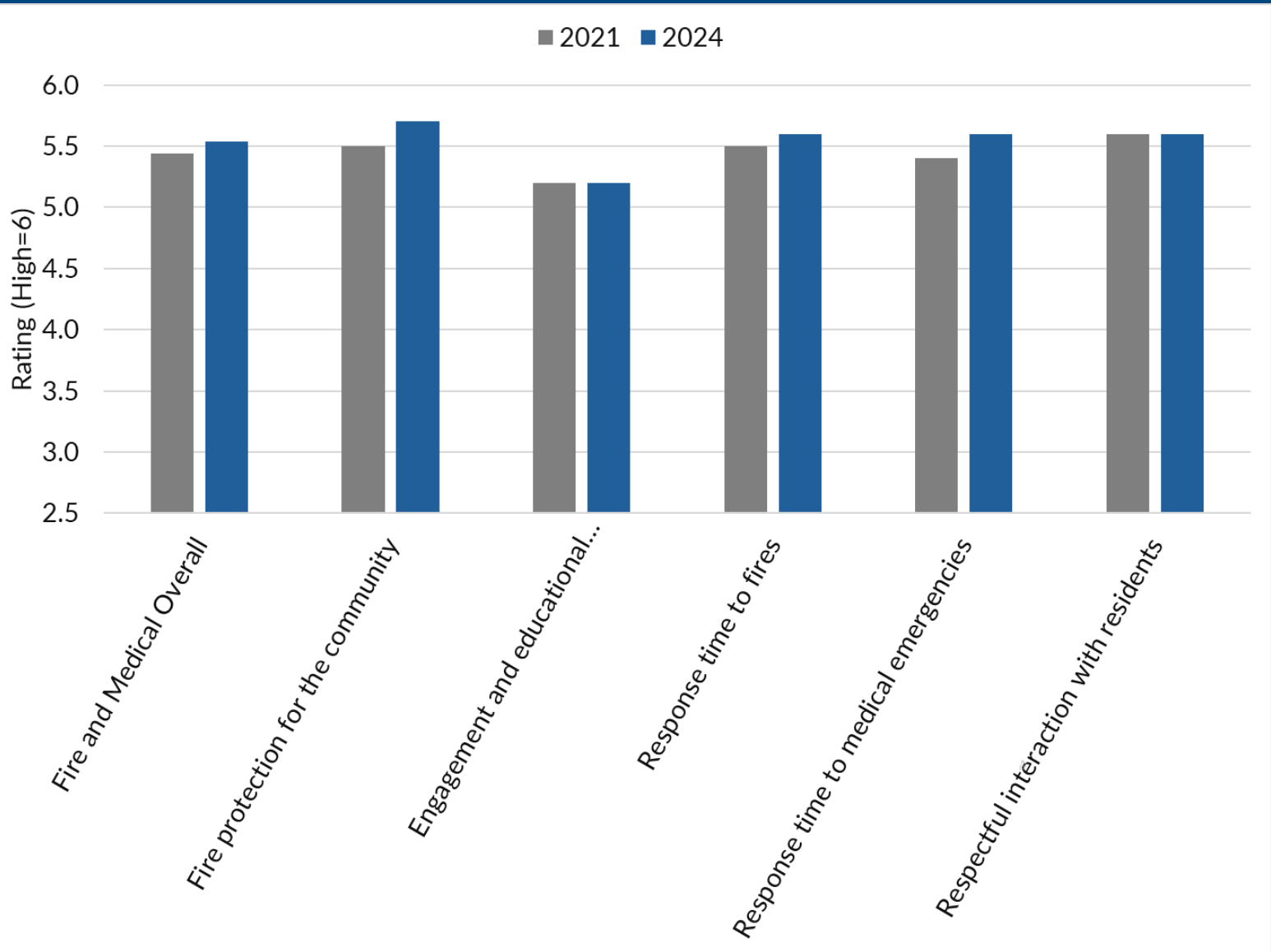
What would make Meridian Township a better place for small businesses?

Top Themes:

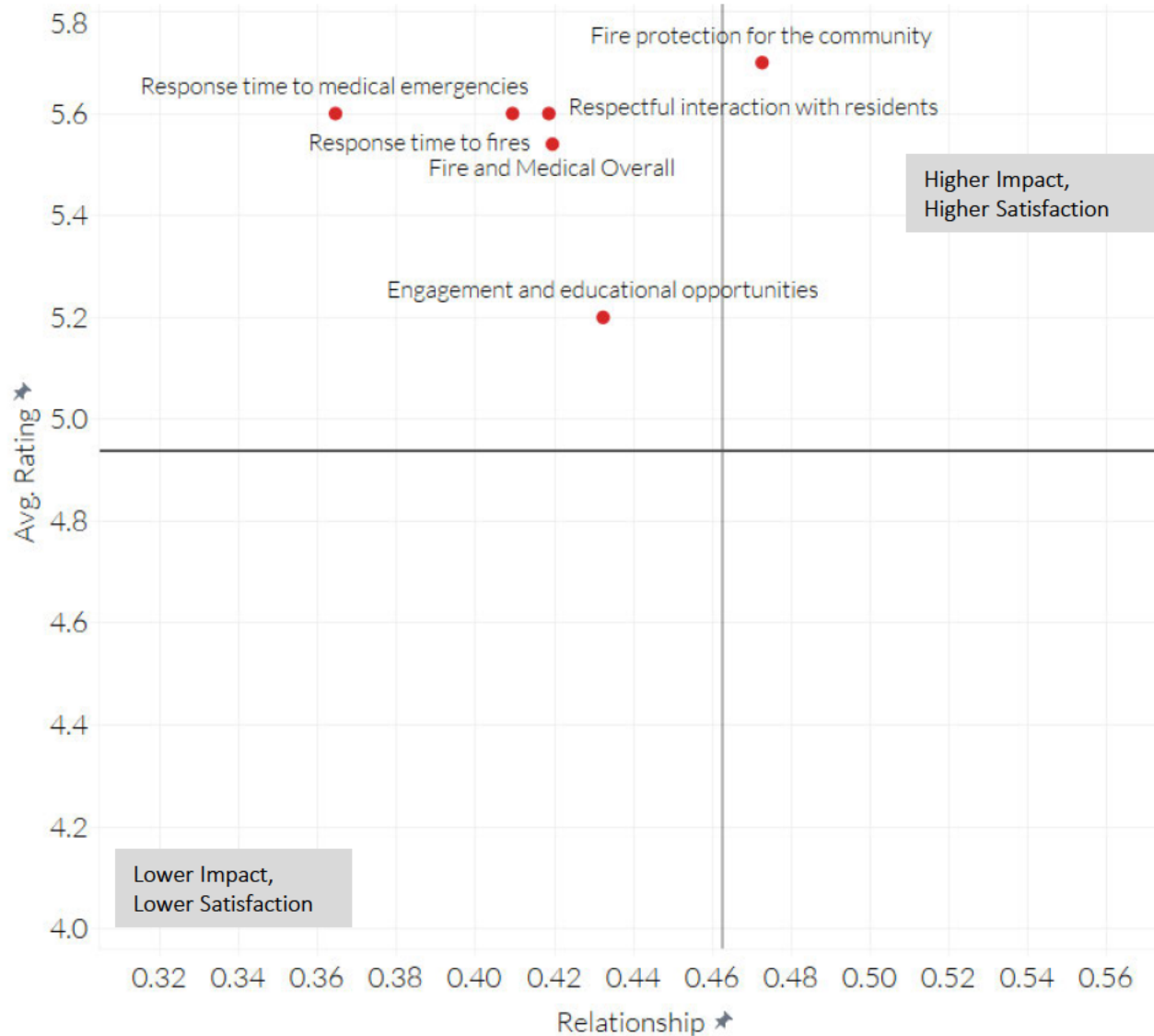
1. **Develop:** All residents would like to have the "downtown" area developed into something better than its current state. A focus on small businesses to draw people in.
2. **Access:** Residents have noticed a lack on parking for small businesses and would like easier access to a developed downtown.
3. **Tax:** Respondents noted that the current taxes are too high, and it is forcing them to move out of the area or close their businesses. They can't compete with big box stores.



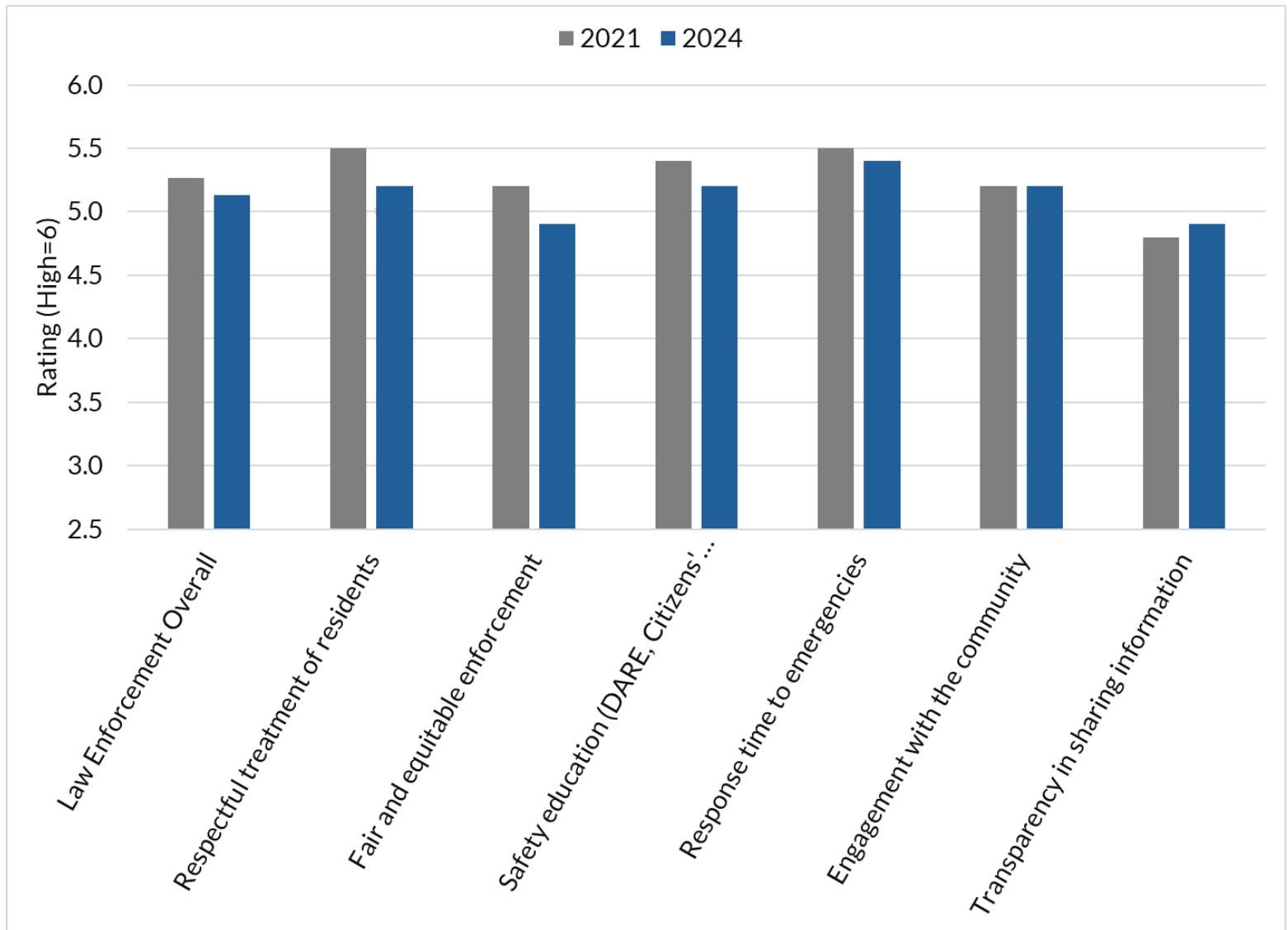
Fire and Emergency Medical Services



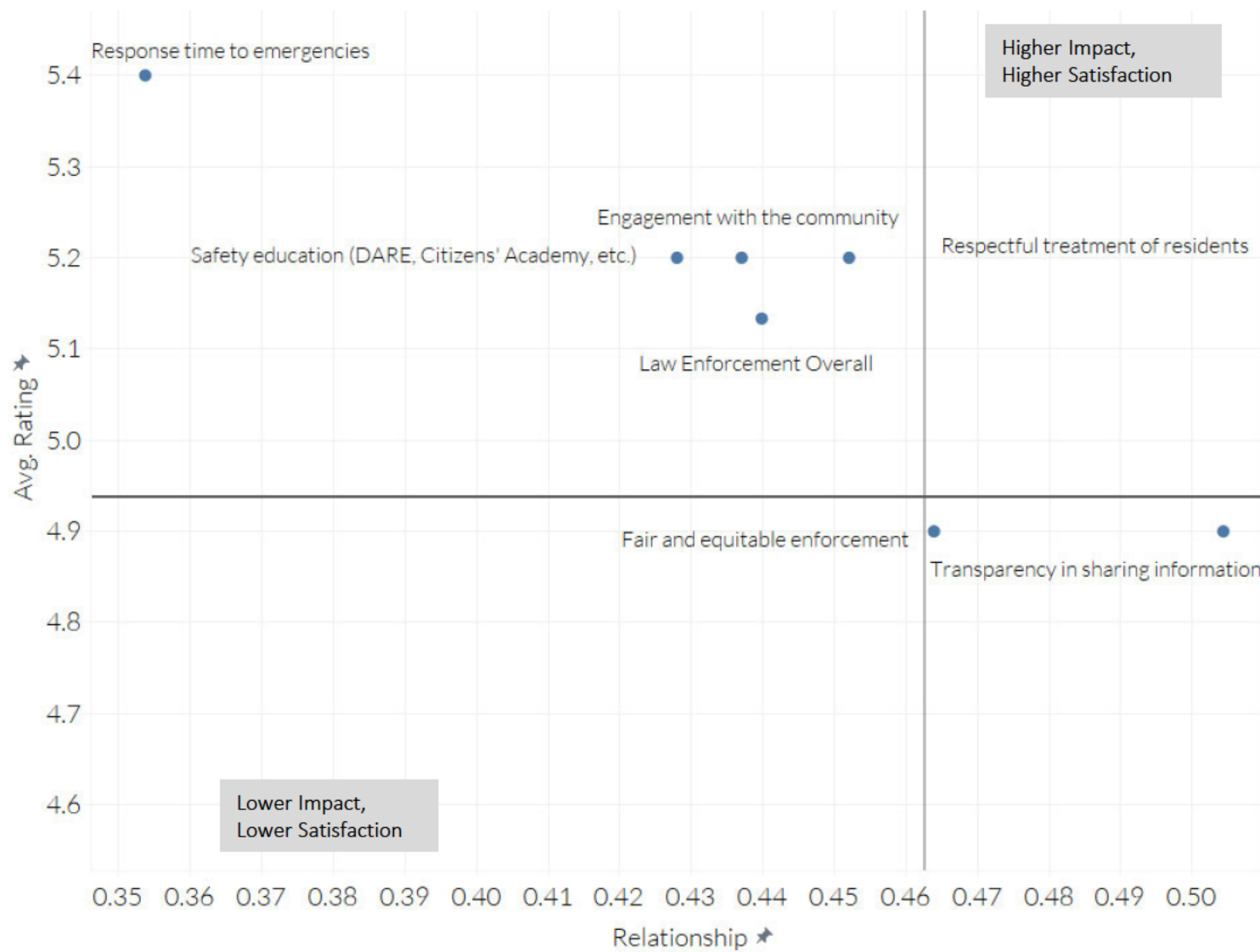
Fire and Emergency Medical Services



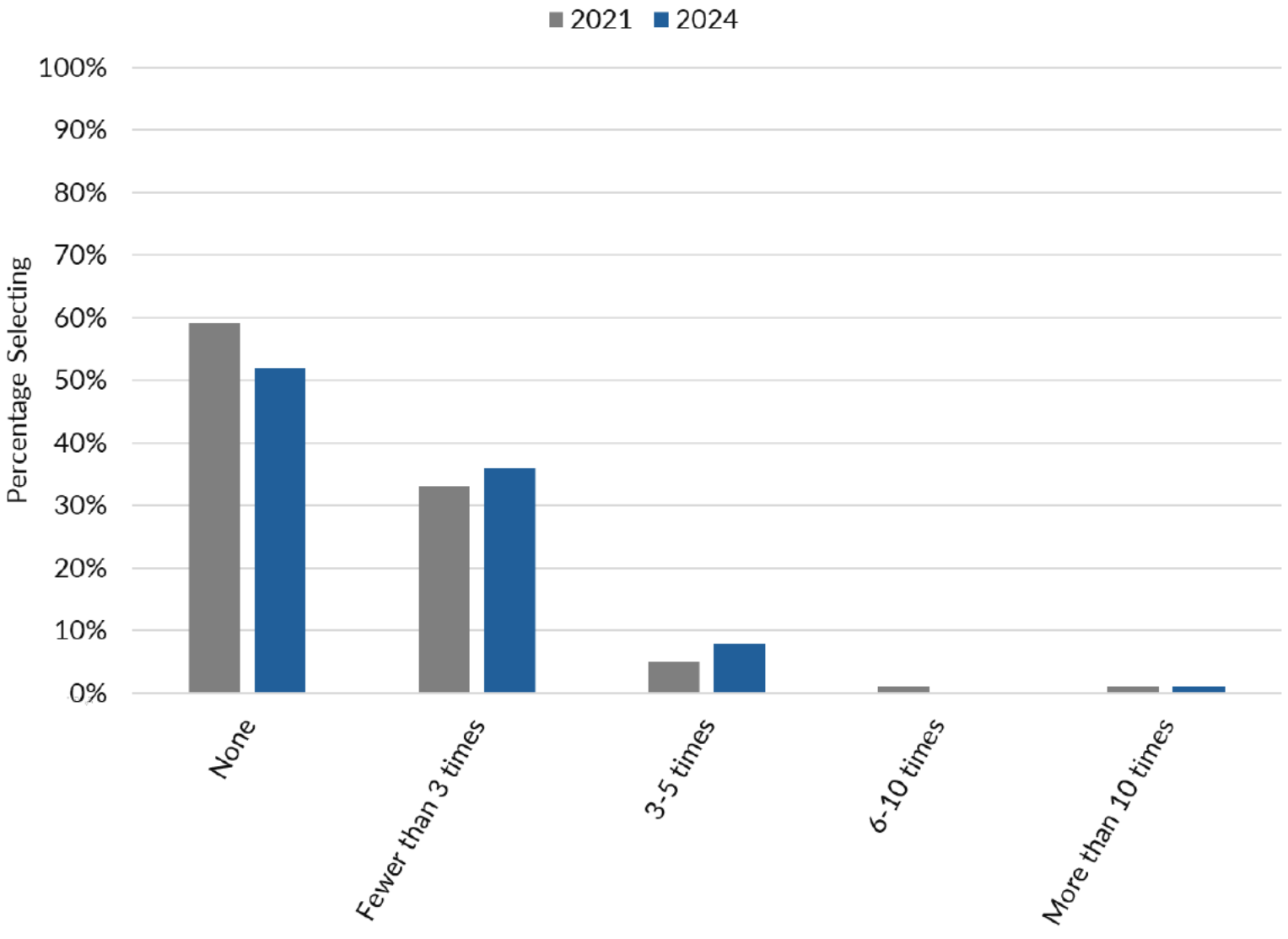
Law Enforcement



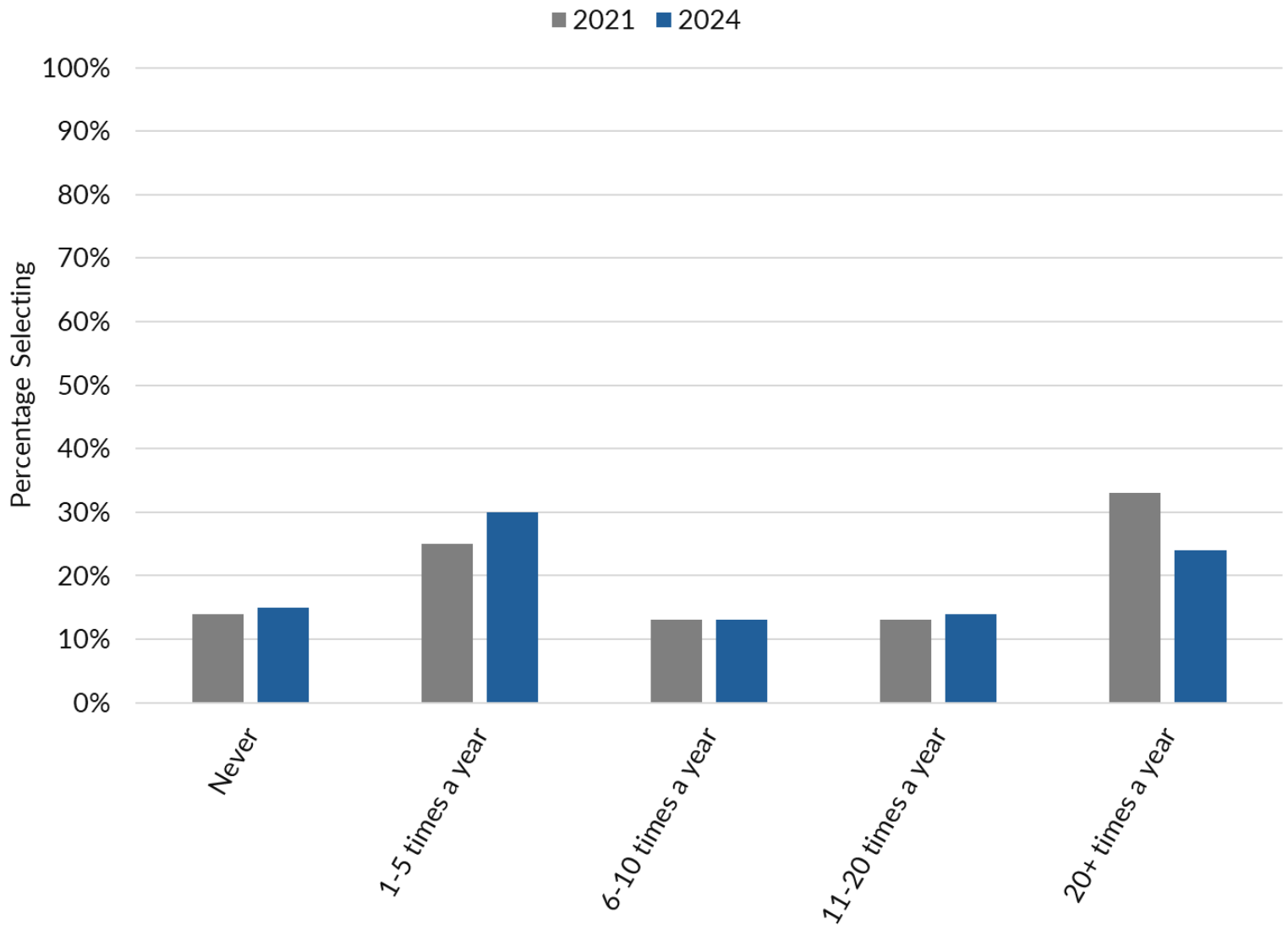
Law Enforcement



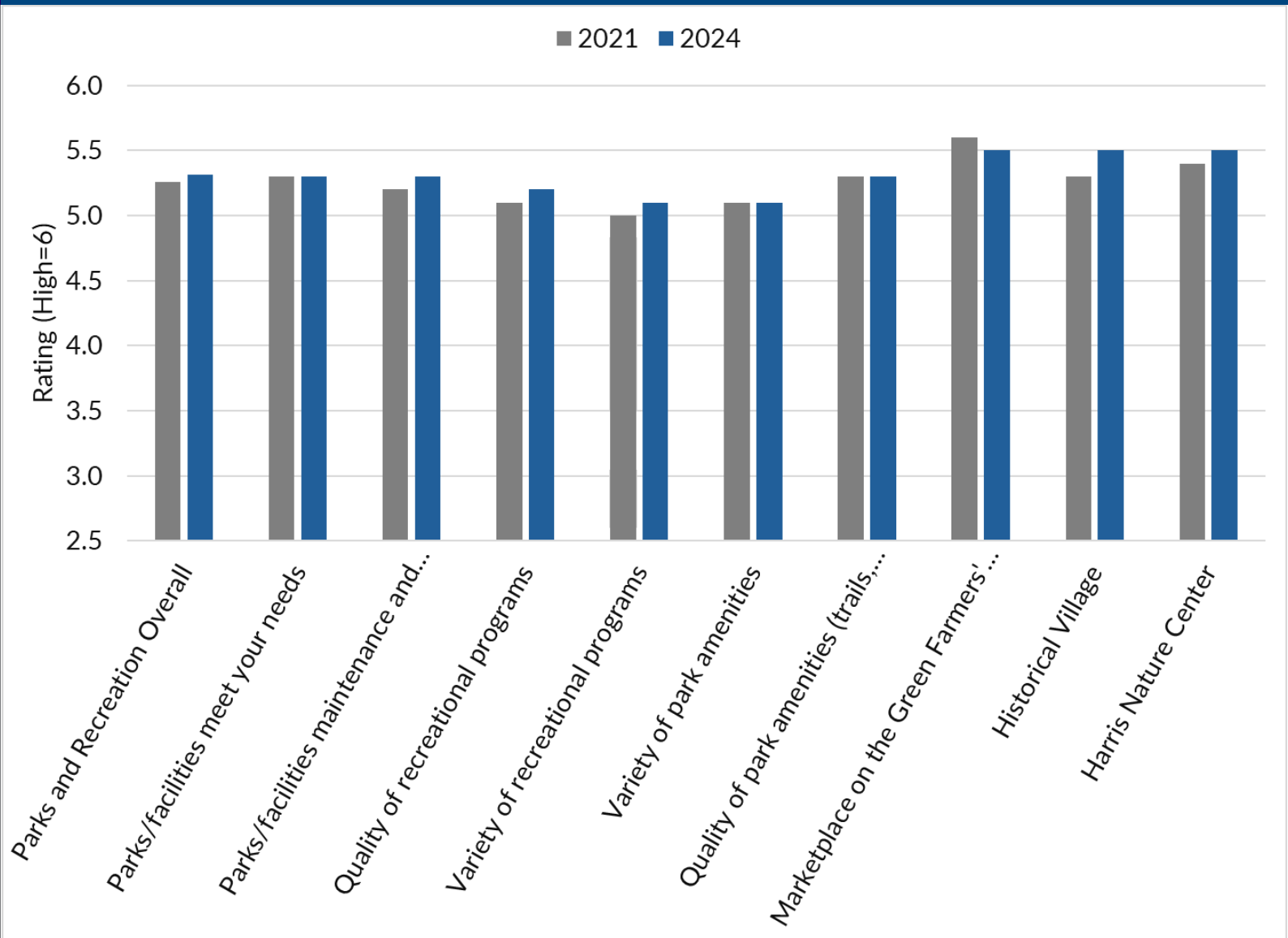
In the past year, how much contact have you had with the Meridian Township Police Department



How many times have you use the parks and pathways?



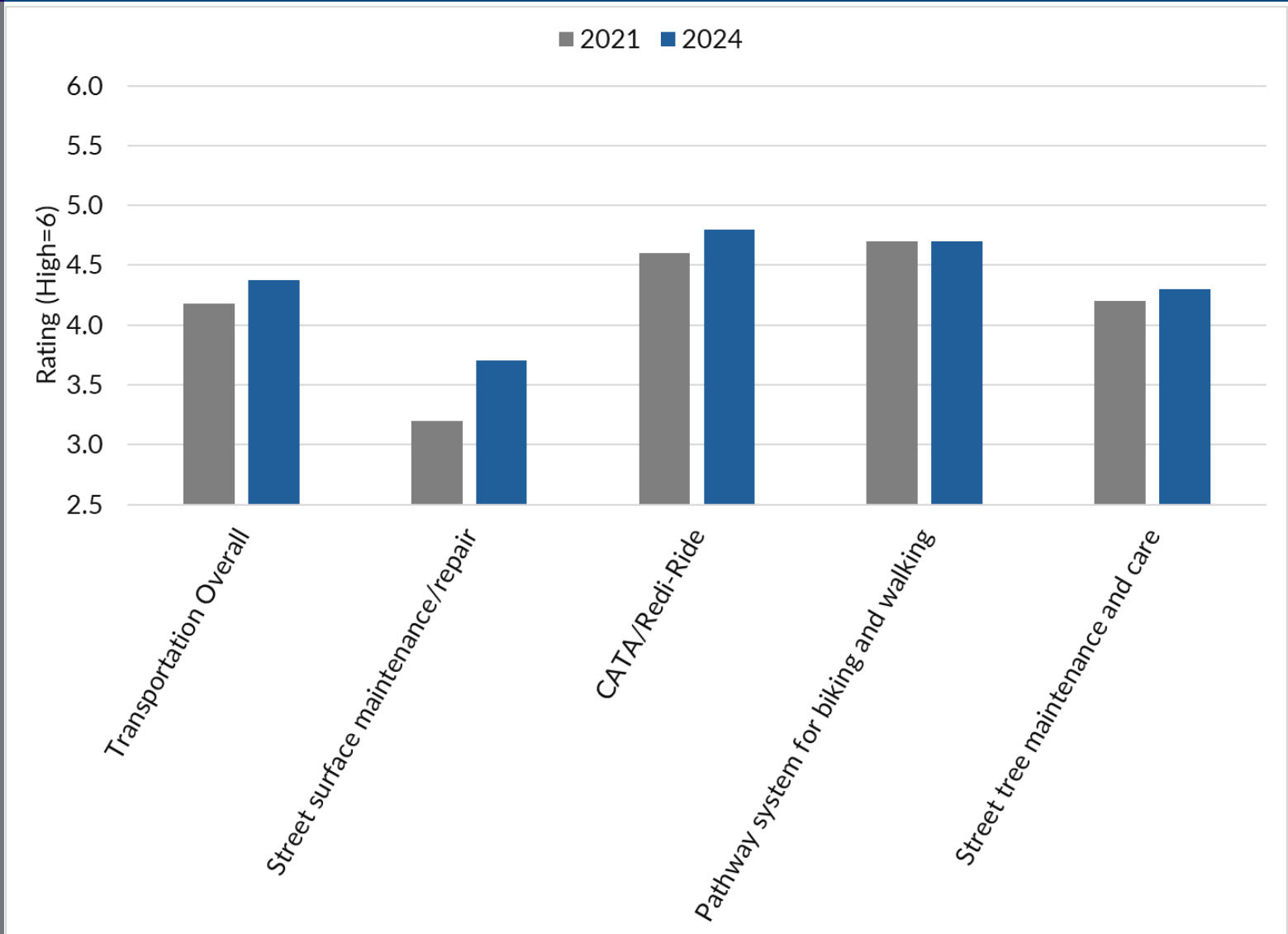
Parks and Recreation Facilities and Programs



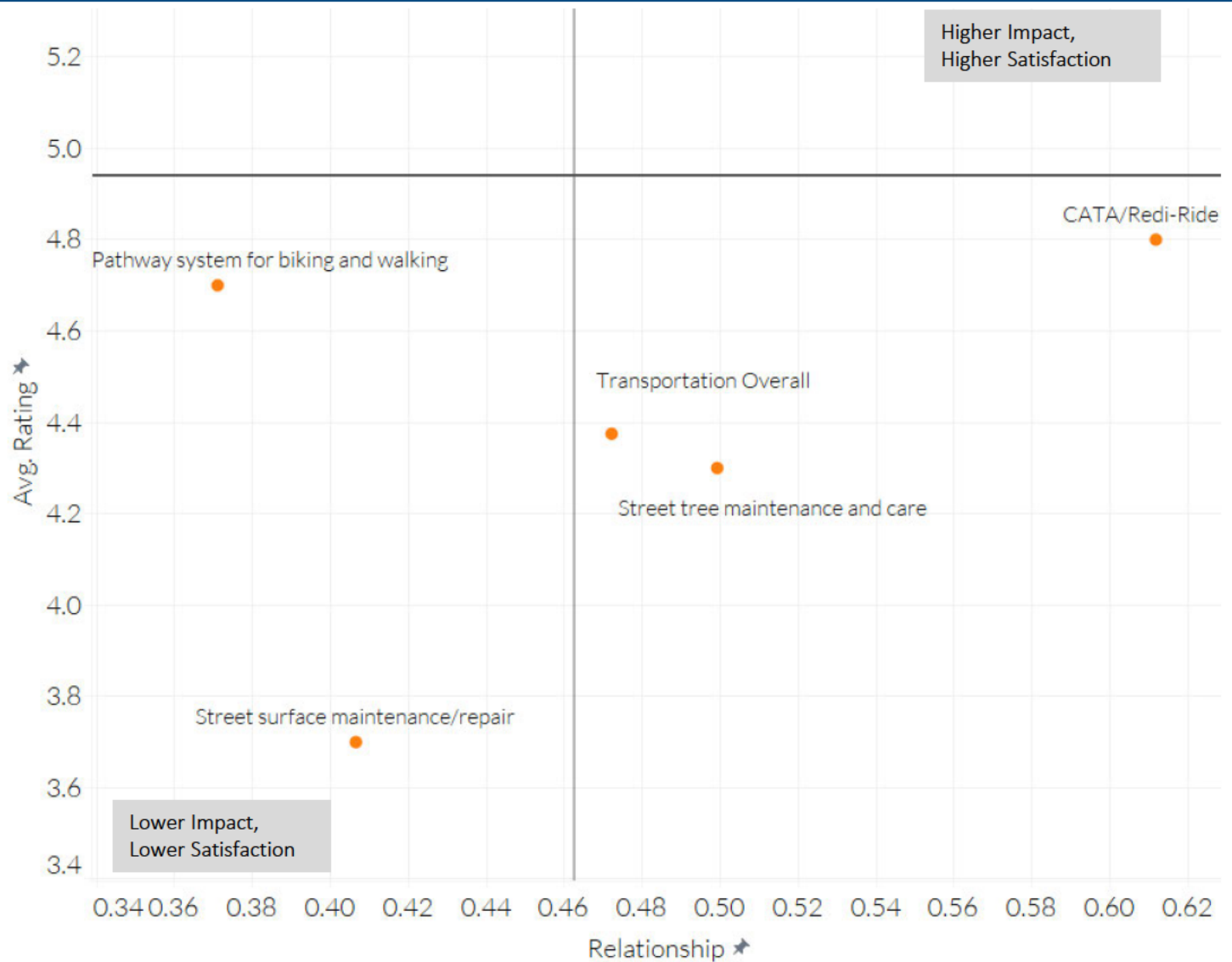
Parks and Recreation Facilities and Programs



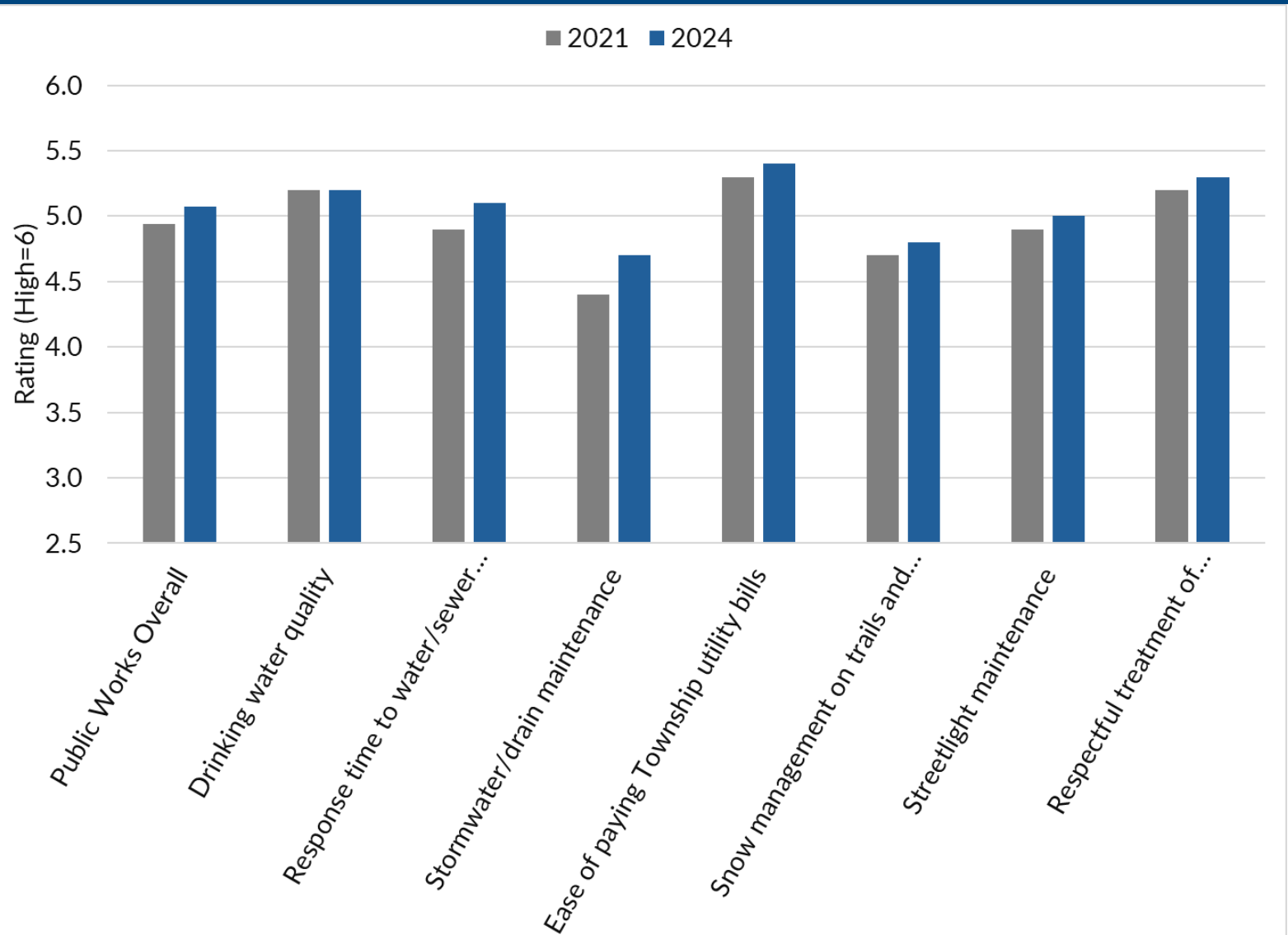
Transportation Infrastructure



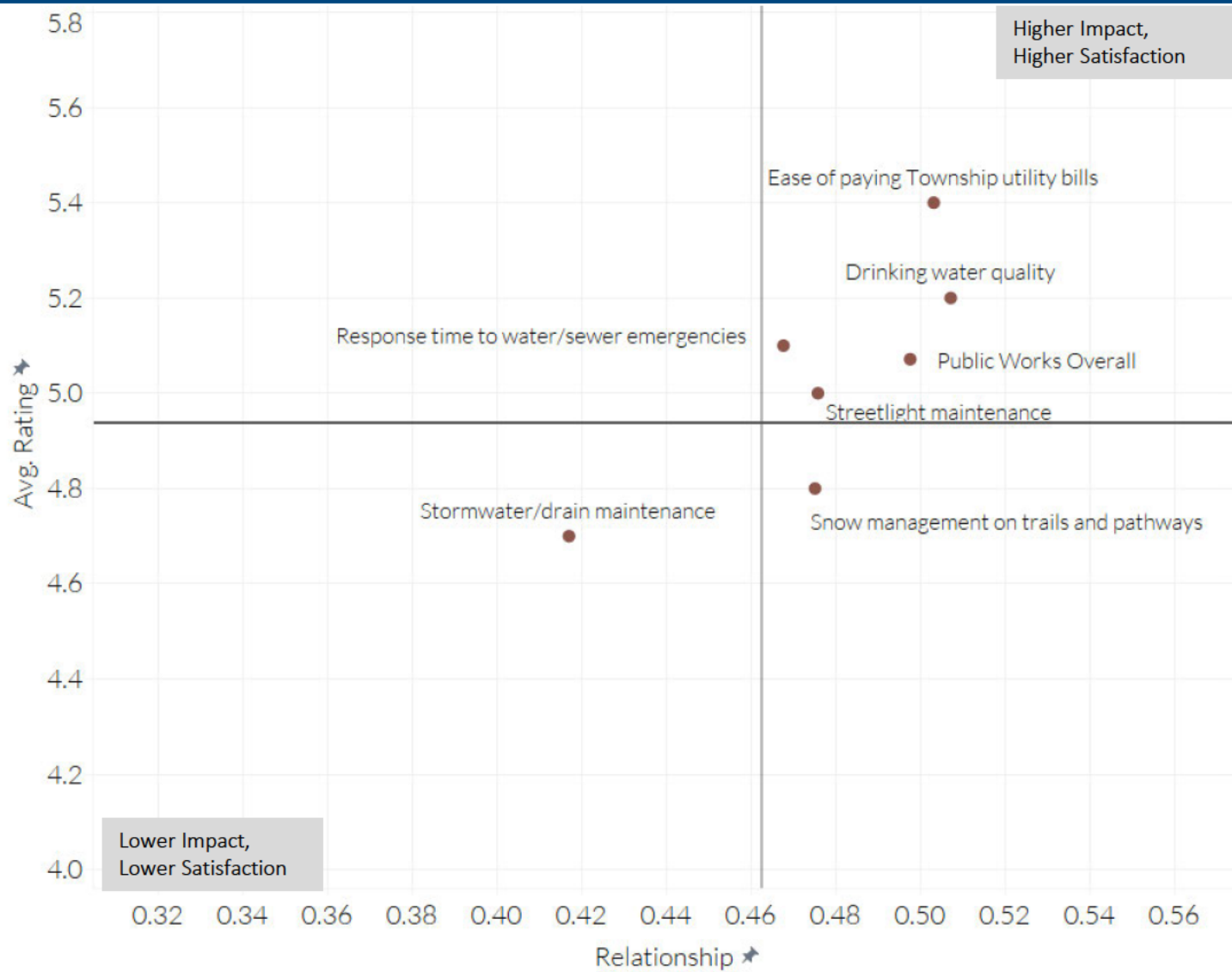
Transportation Infrastructure



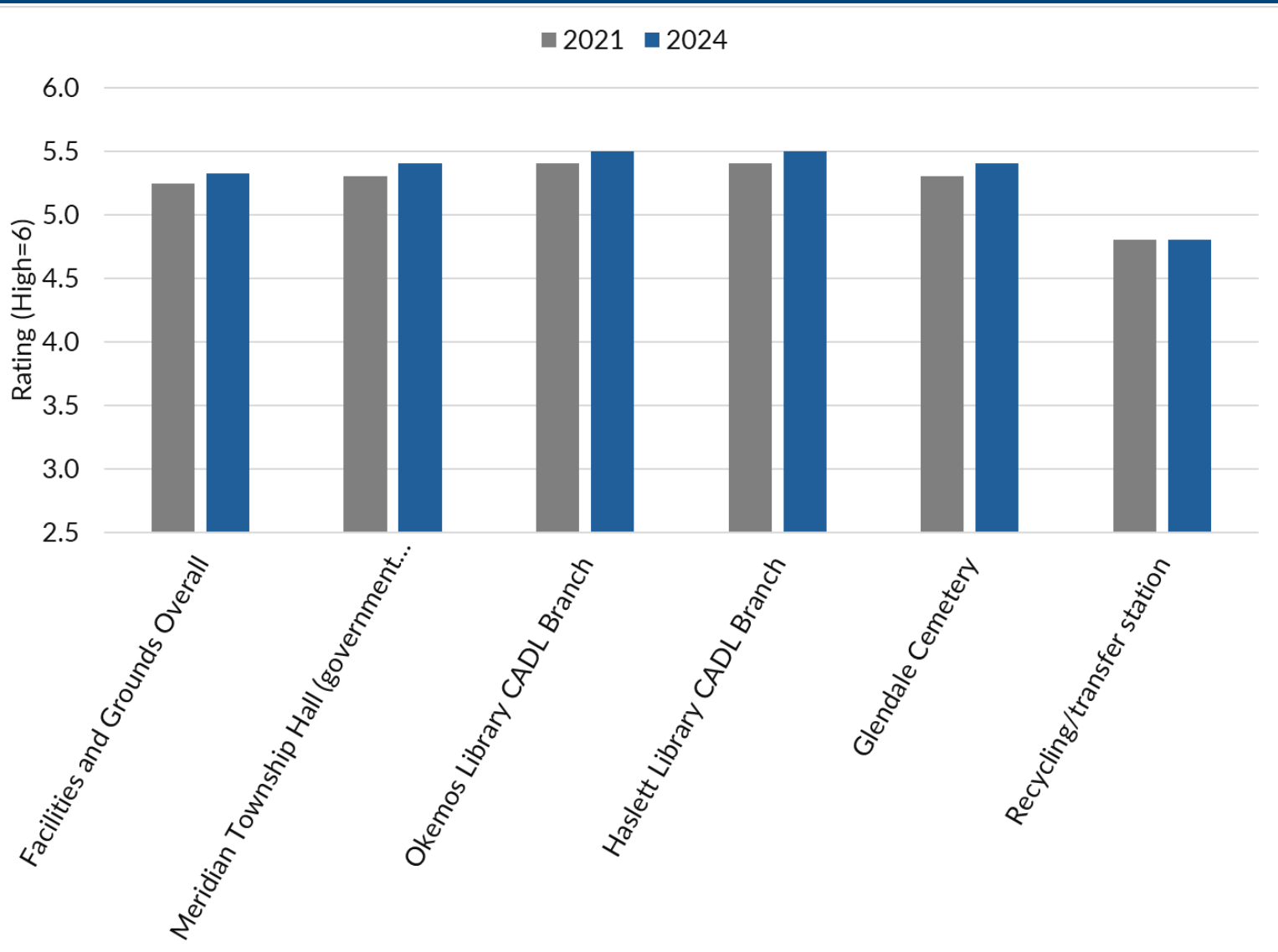
Meridian Township Public Works Services



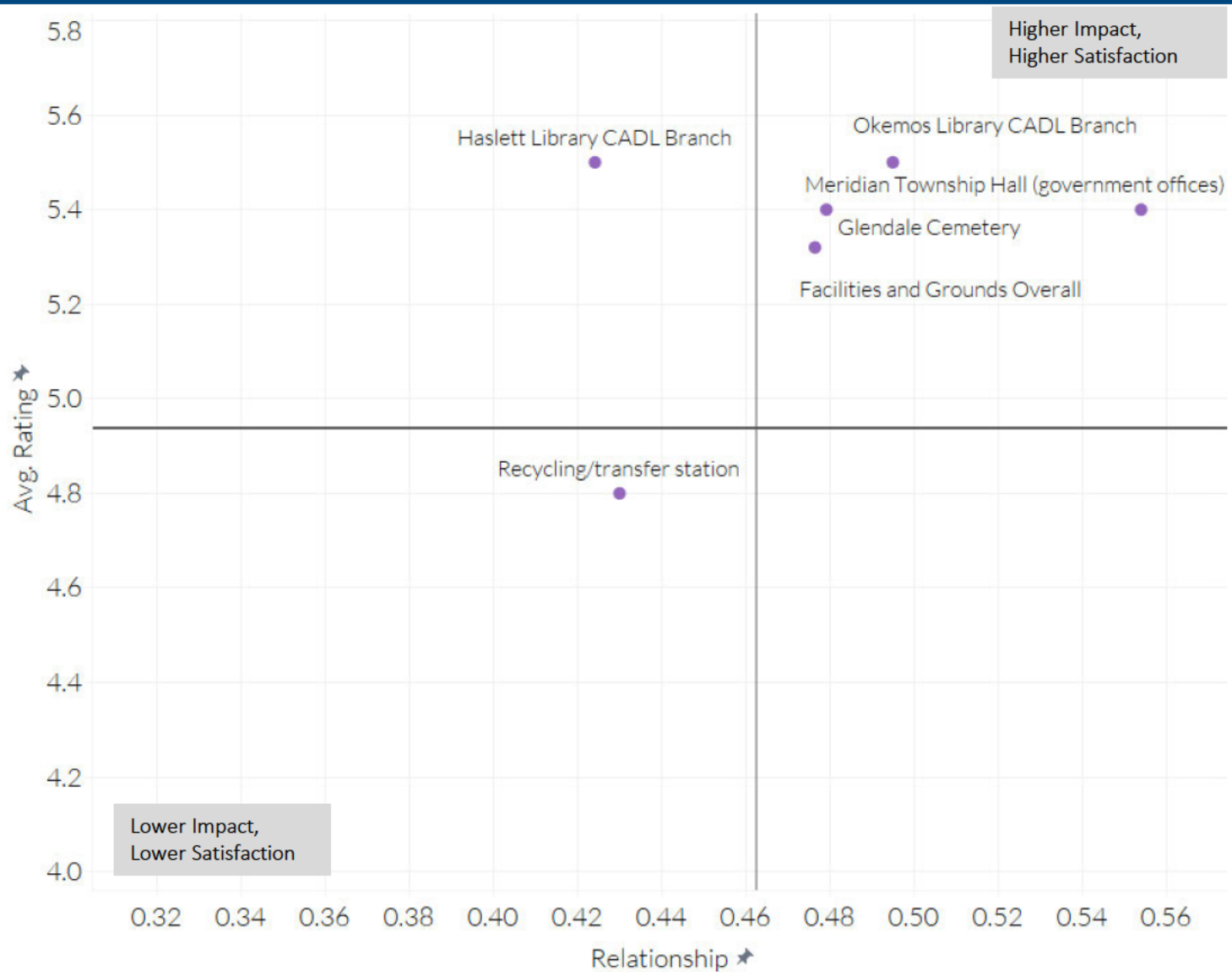
Meridian Township Public Works Services



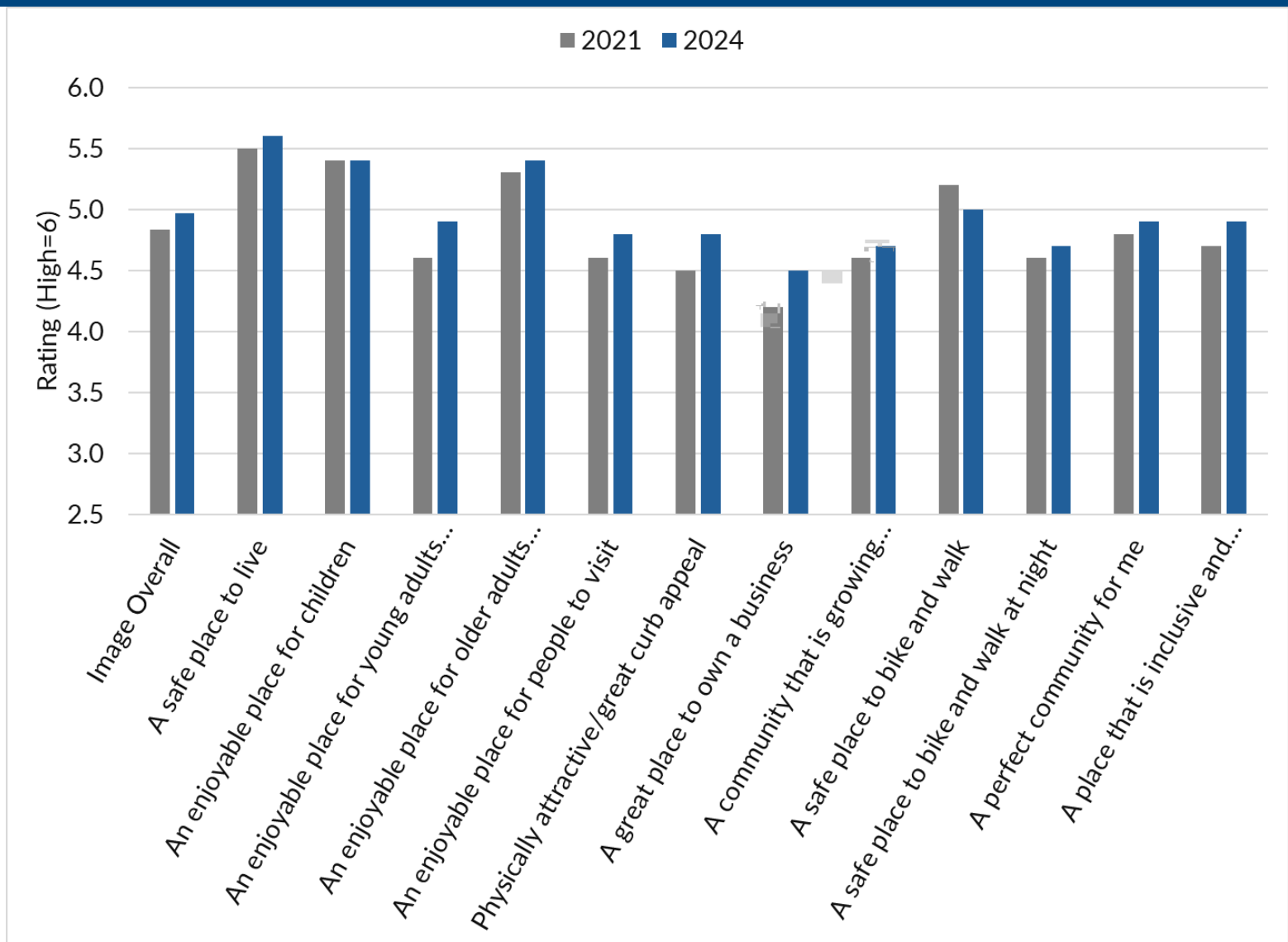
Meridian Township Facilities and Grounds



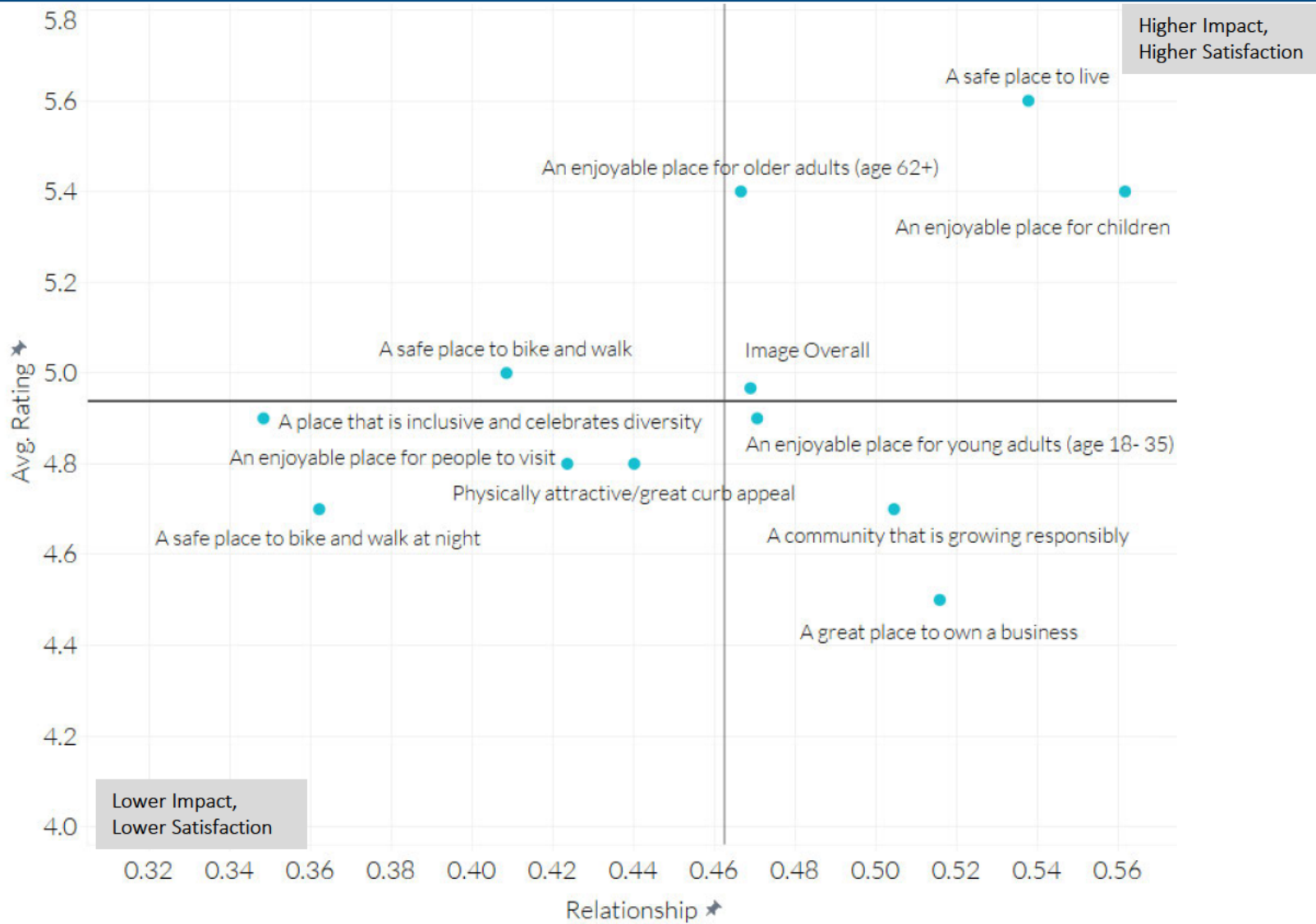
Meridian Township Facilities and Grounds



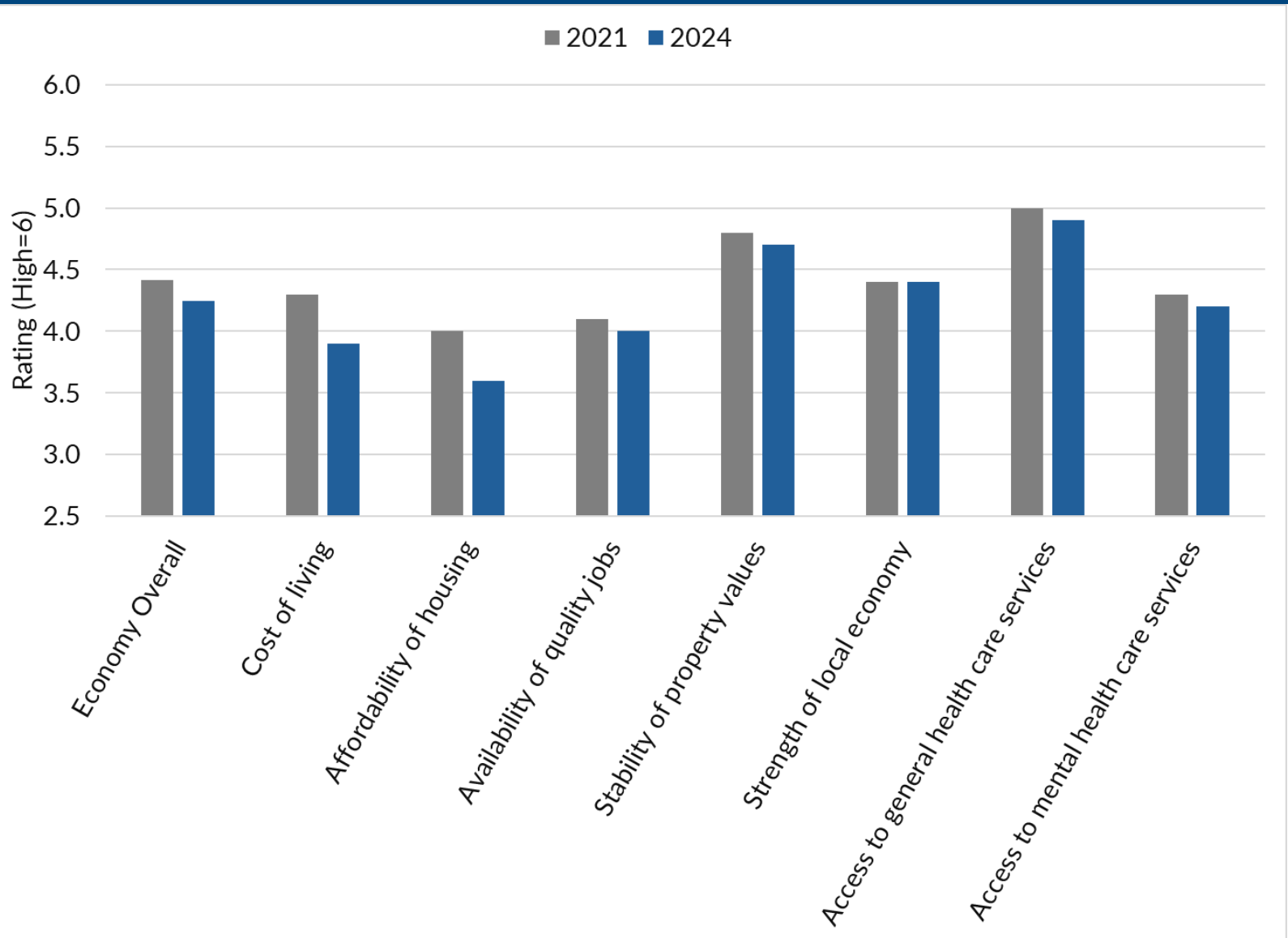
Community Image



Community Image



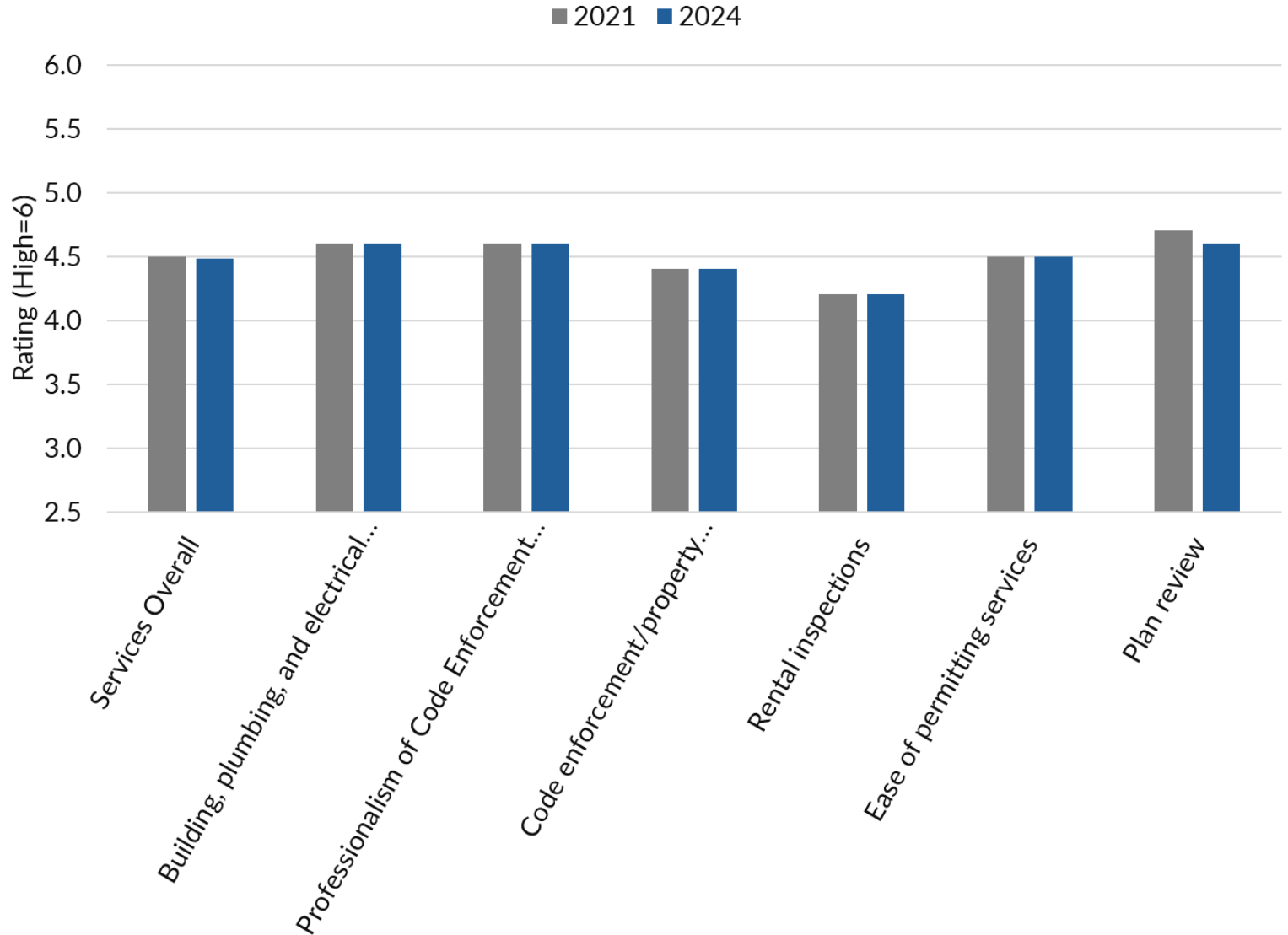
Economic Health



Economic Health



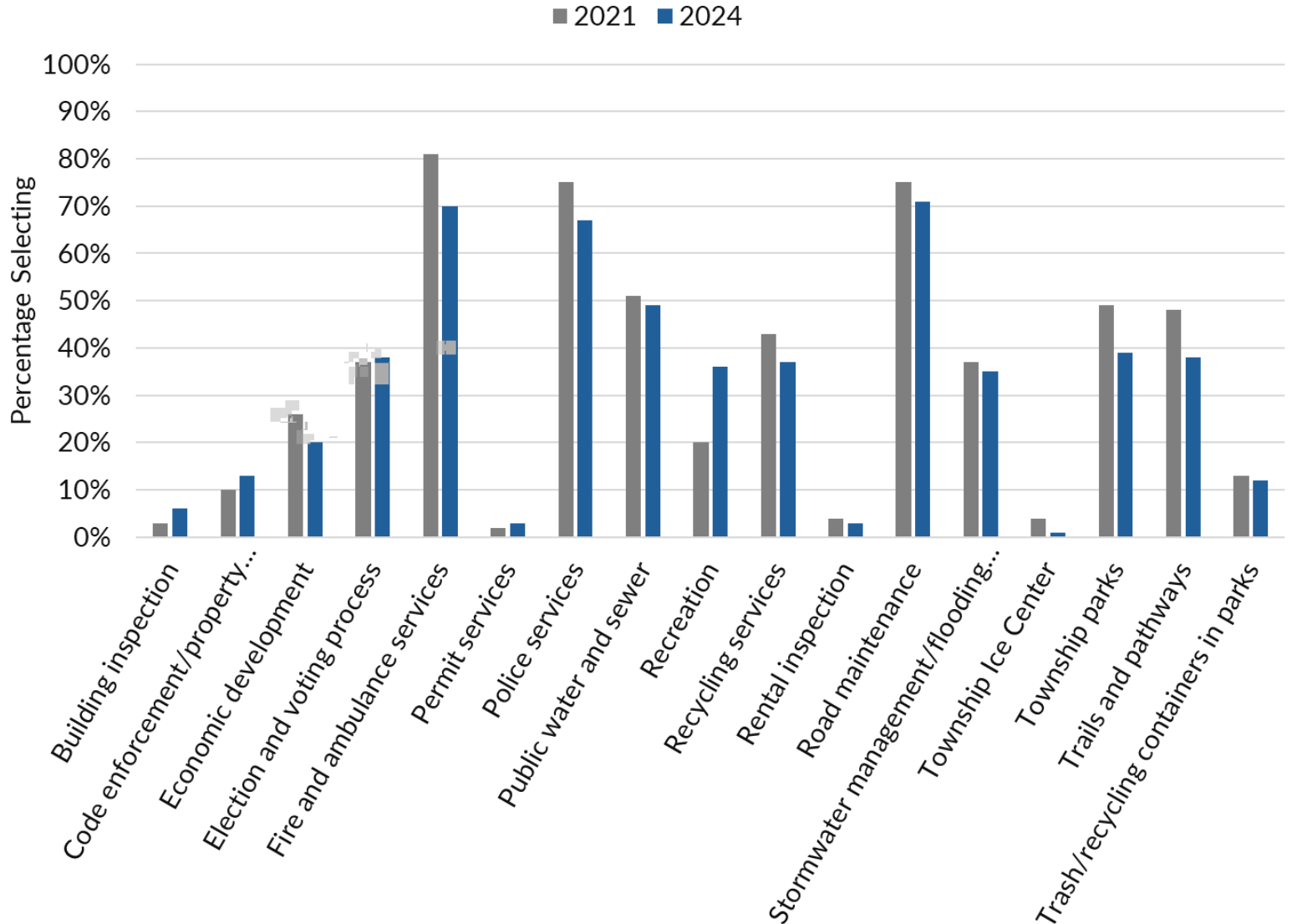
Township Planning and Code Enforcement Services



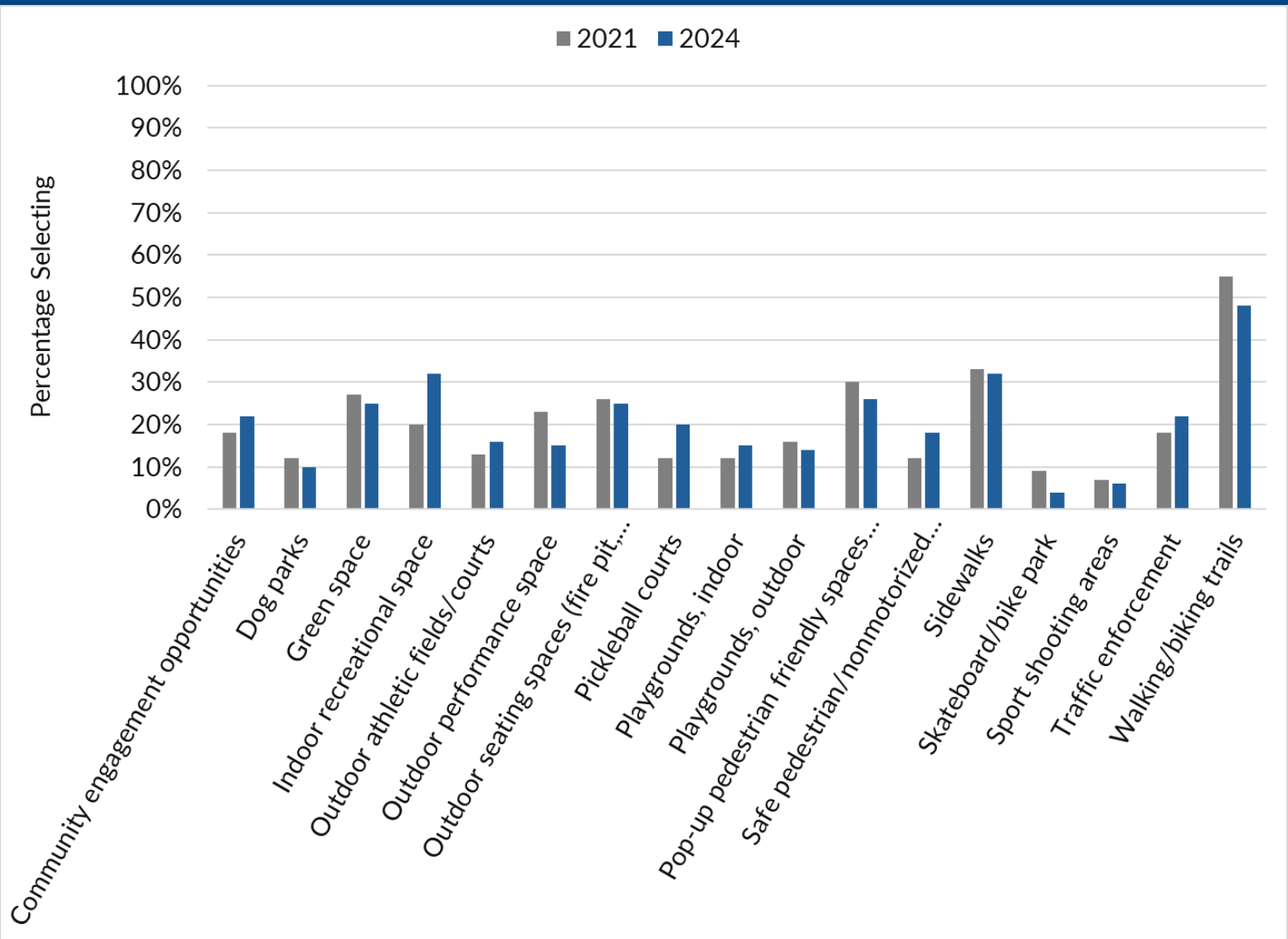
Township Services



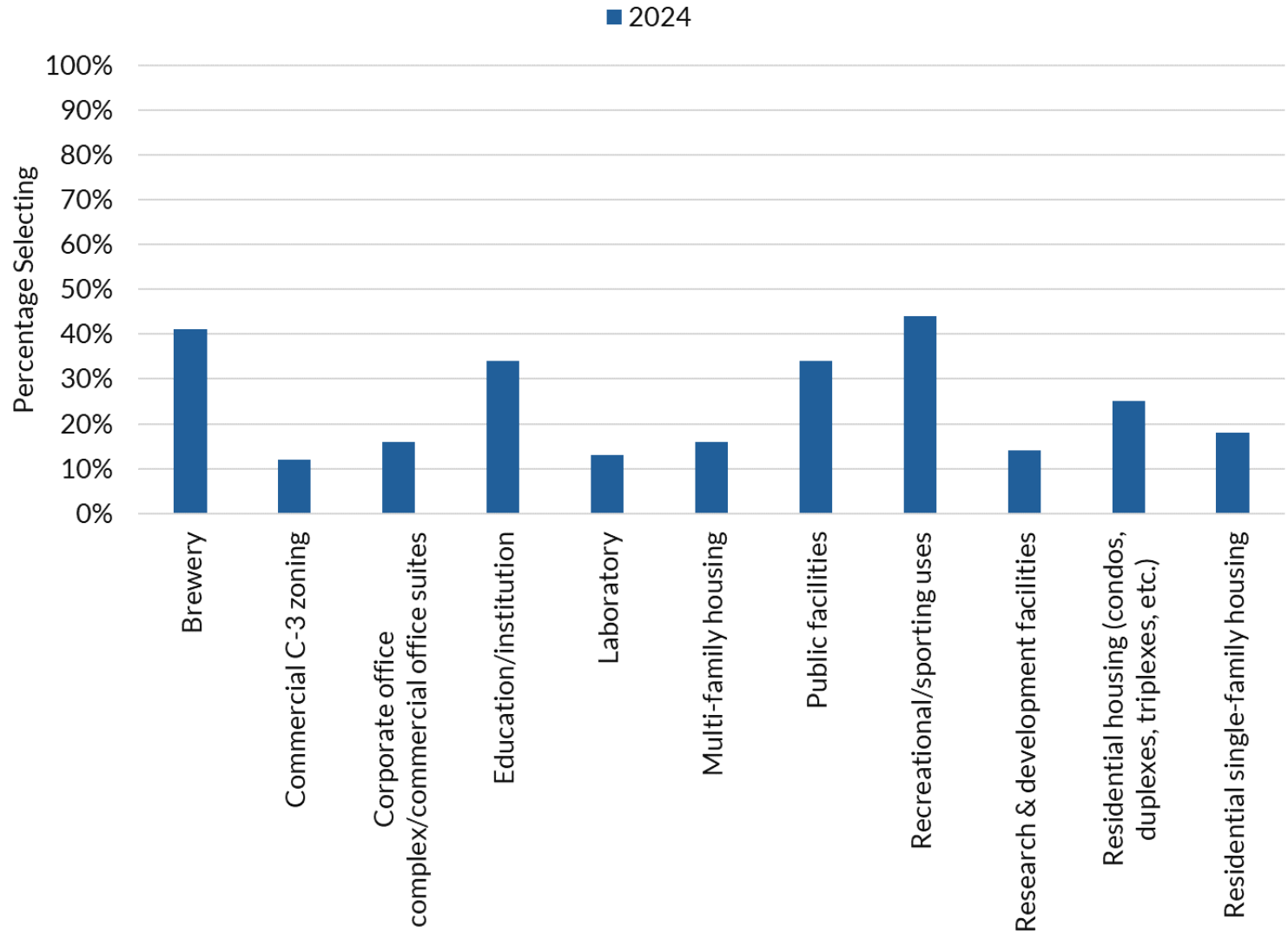
Which Township services are most important to your household?



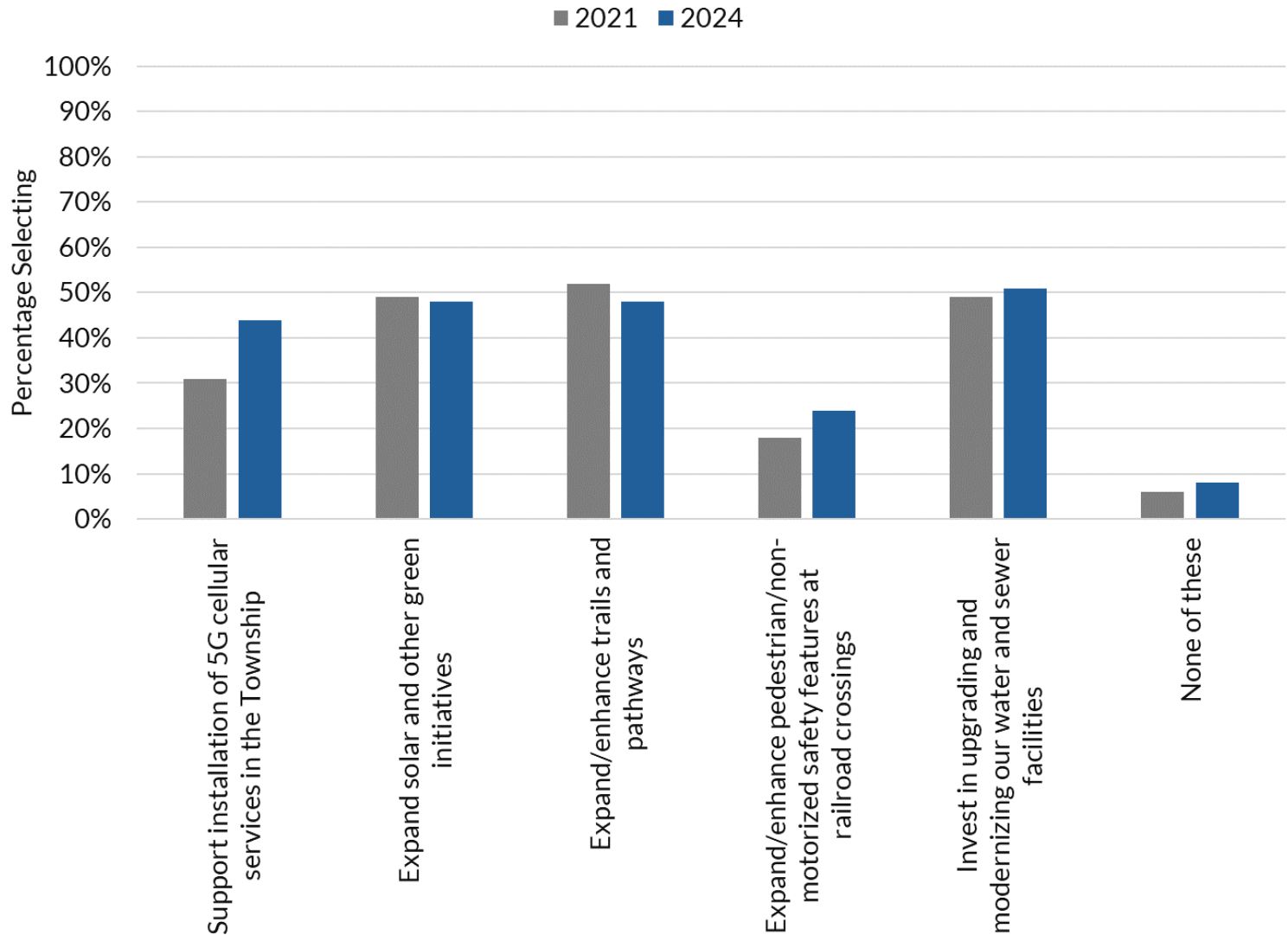
Which community amenities would you like to see added or enhanced in the future?



Which of the following zoning uses would you prefer to see in the Meridian Mall?



Which of the following potential future community improvements should the Township pursue?



Word Cloud:

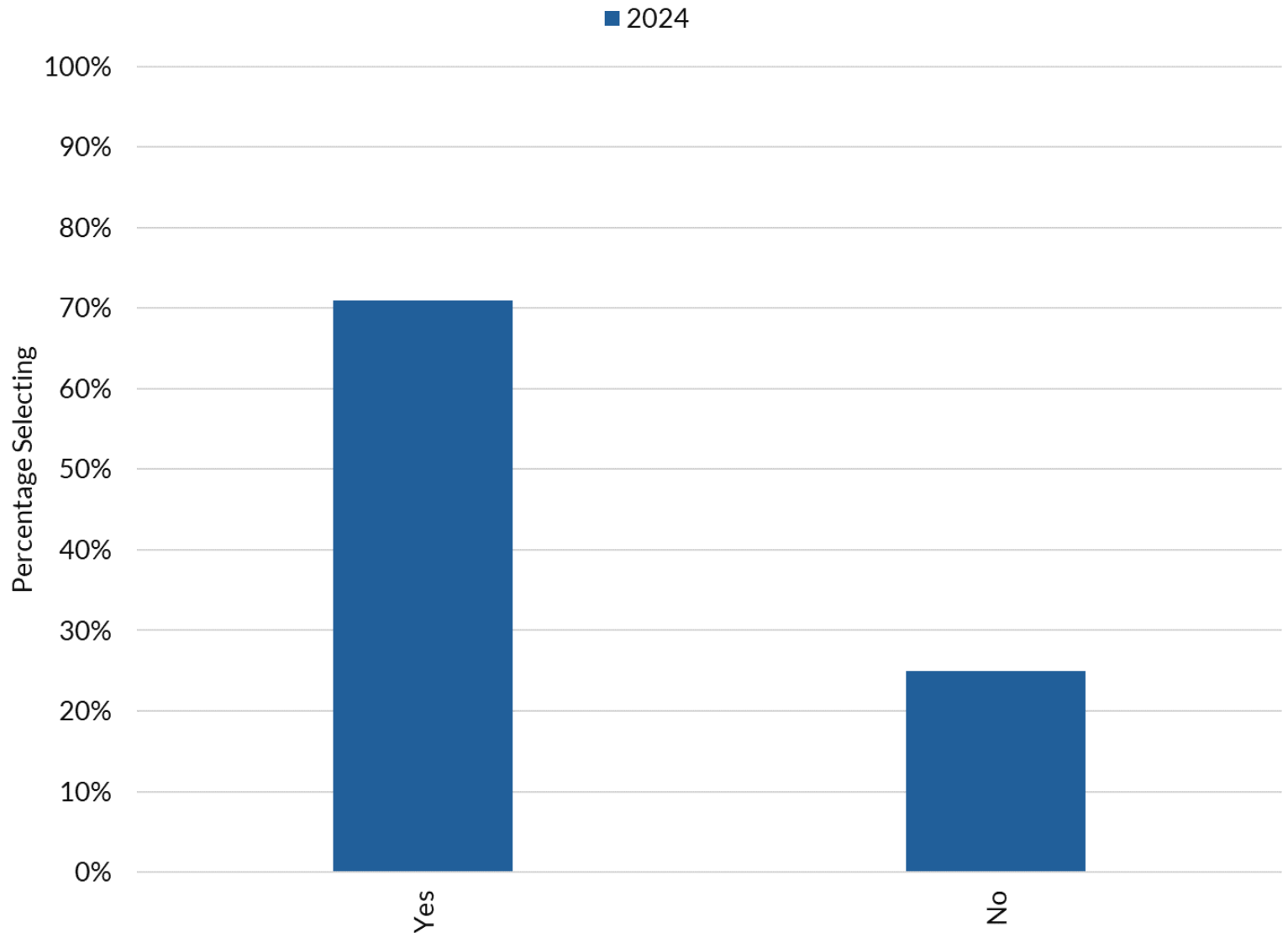
What other community amenities would you like to see considered for the future?

Top Themes:

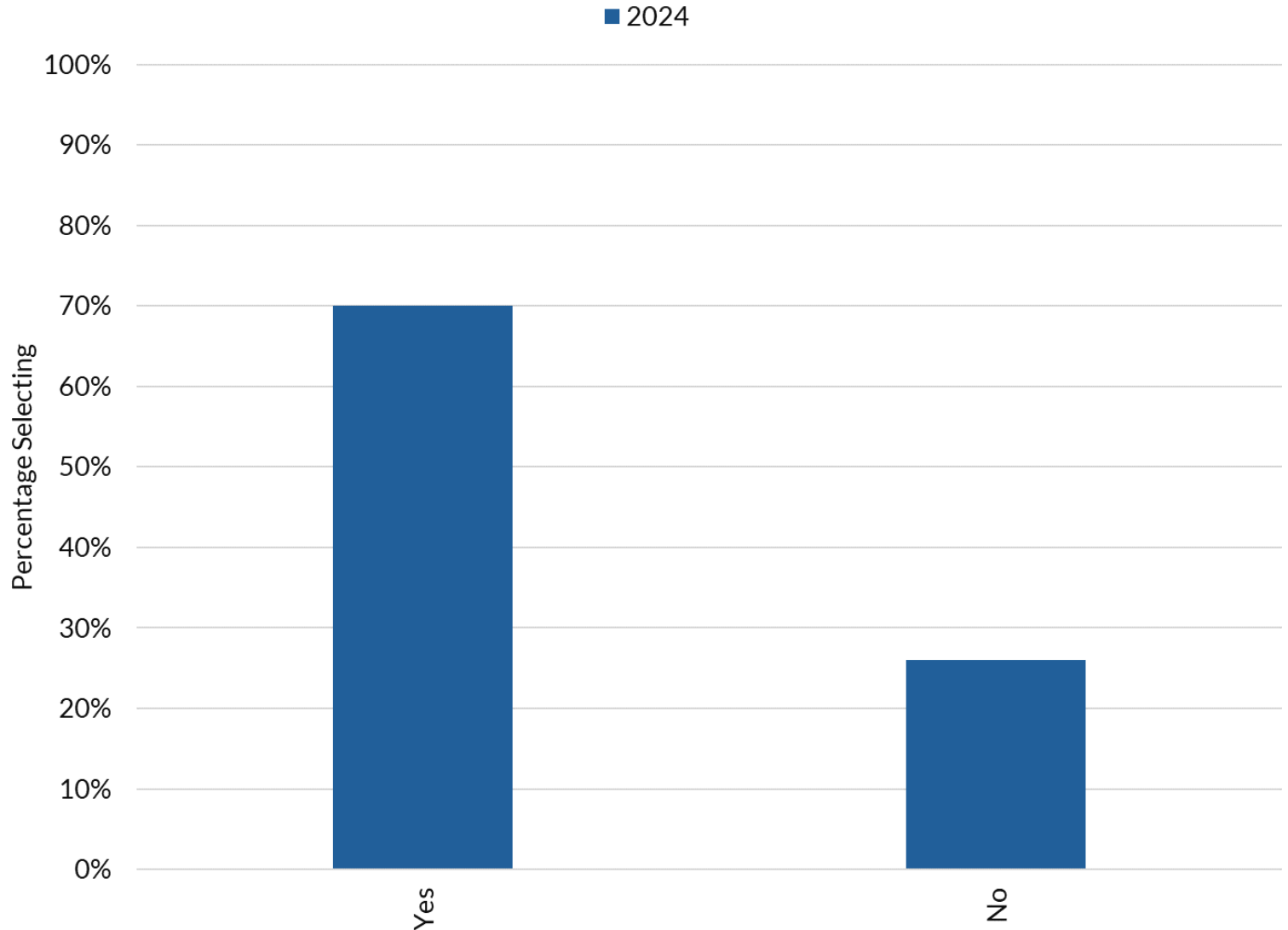
1. **Park:** Residents would like to see more green spaces for trails/hiking and biking.
2. **Community:** Residents mentioned community pool and center for the youth and senior population in the Township.
3. **Senior:** Seniors reported that they don't have easy access to getting around the area. They would like to have a center.



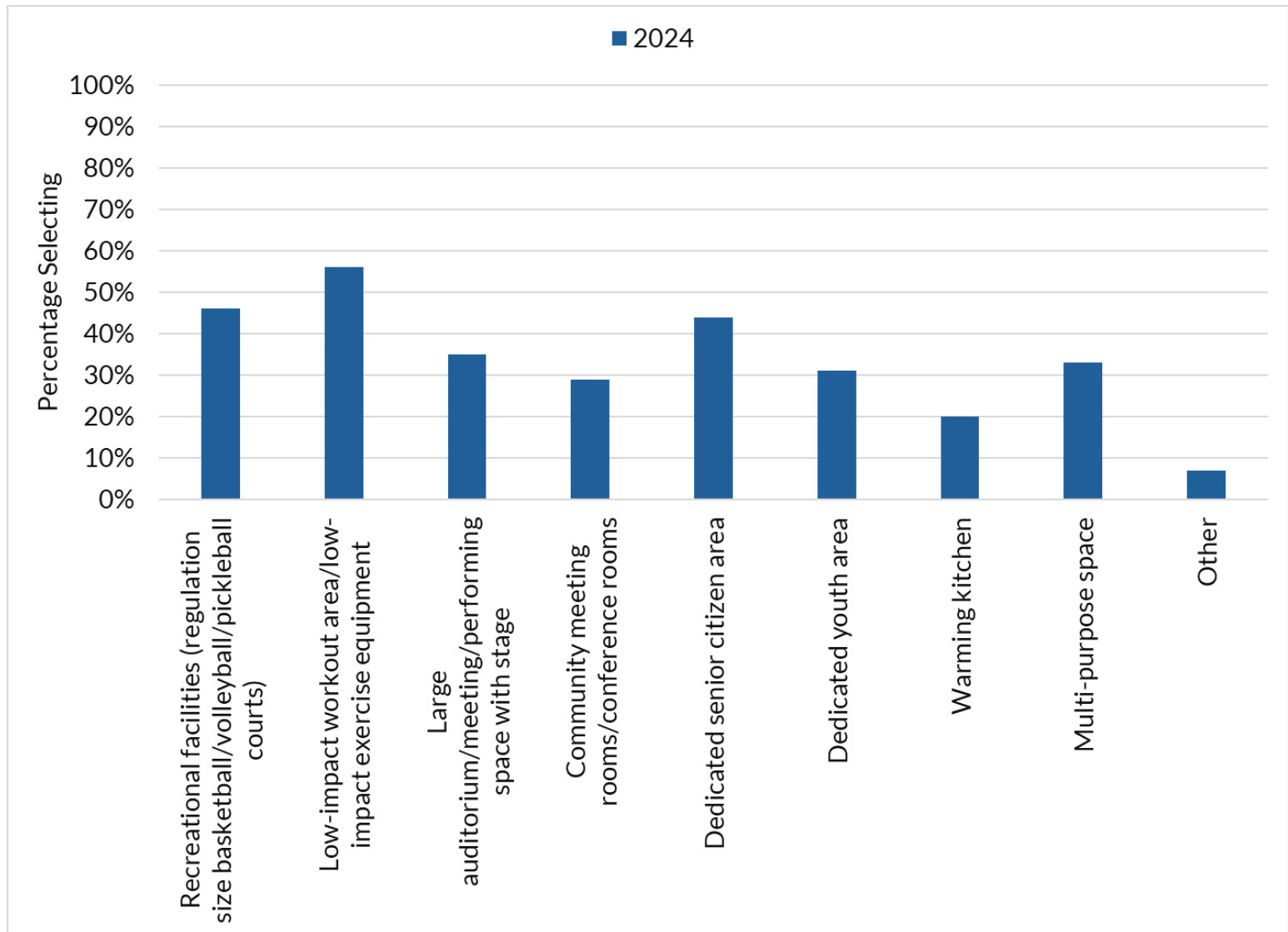
Do you feel Meridian Township would benefit from the addition of a multi-generational community & senior center, re-purposing the Younkers building in the Meridian Mall?



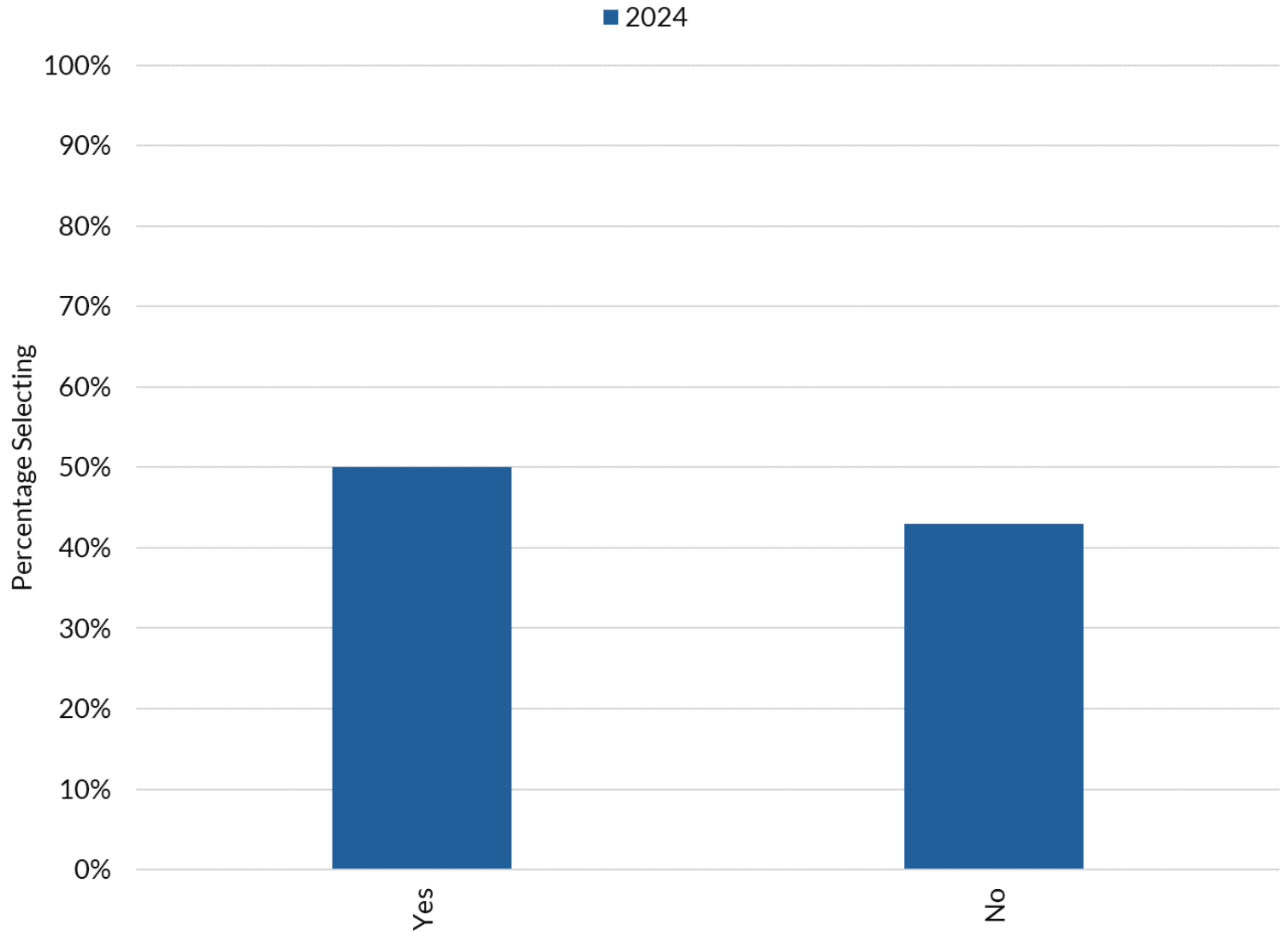
Would you (and your family, if applicable) use a community & senior center if the programs and services met your needs?



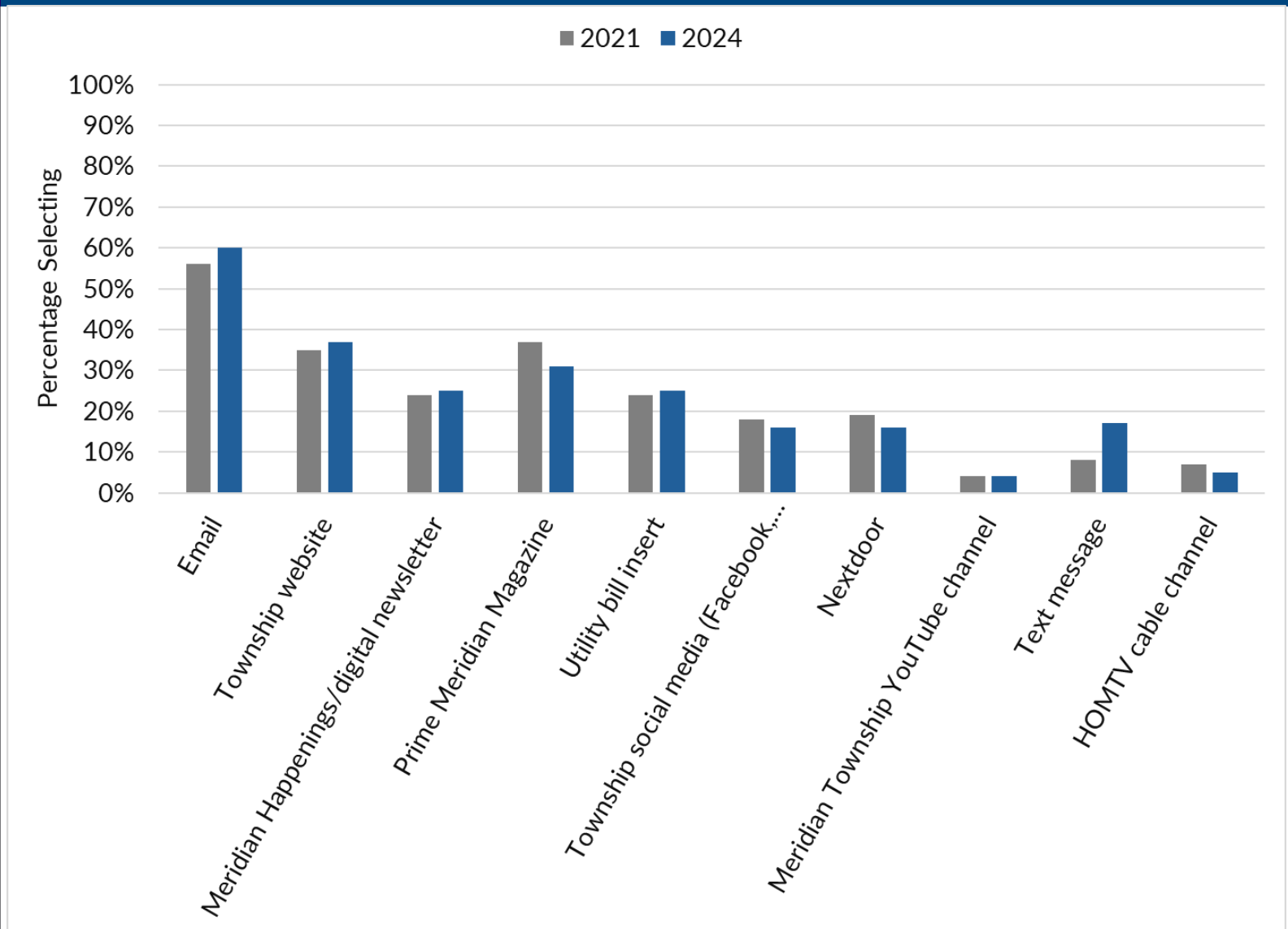
What features would you like to see in a community & senior center?



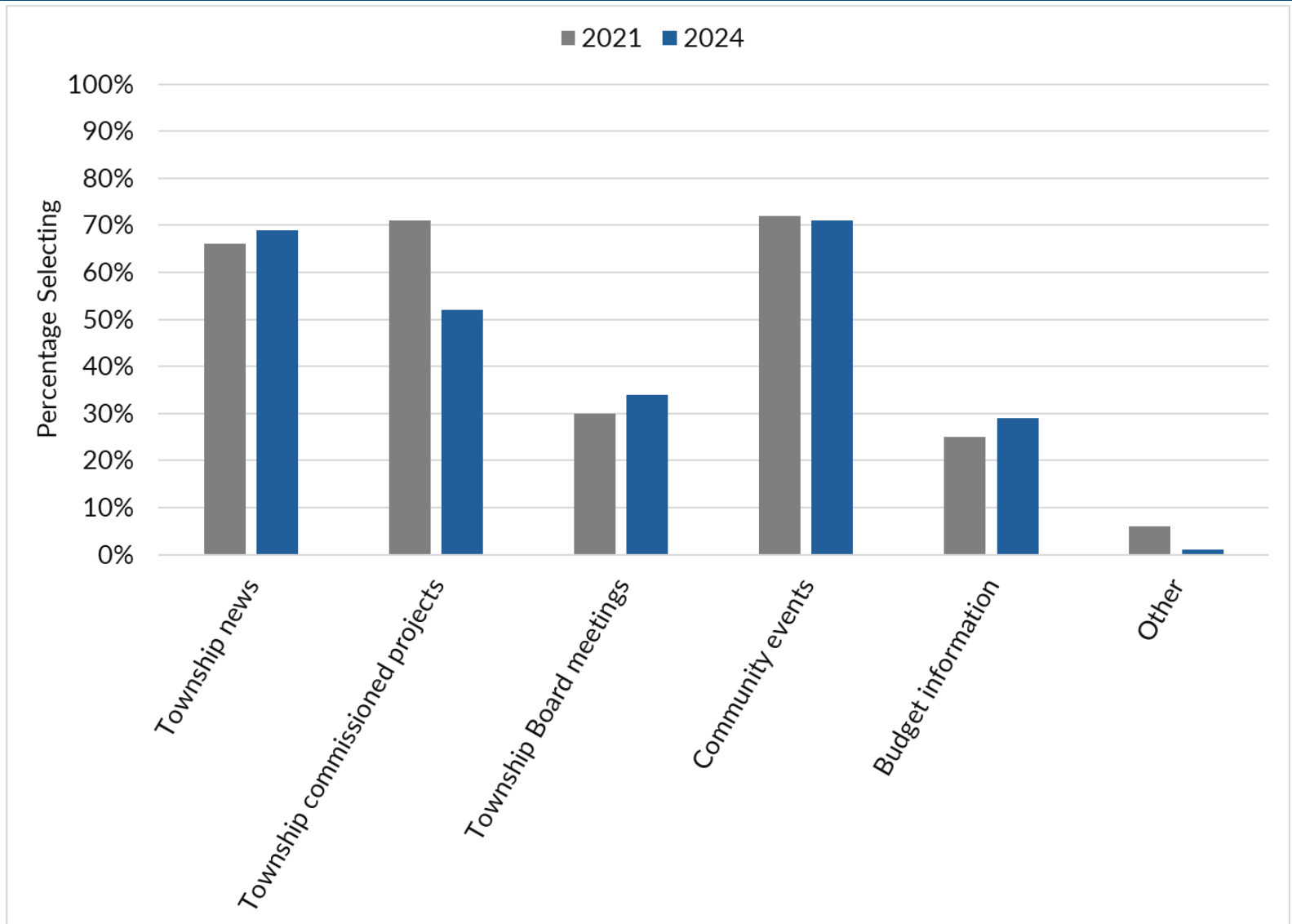
Would you be in support of a local millage to fill the gap in financing?



How do you prefer to receive information from the Township?



What types of information would you prefer to receive?



Word Cloud:

Which languages are spoken in your home?



Questions



To: Senior/Community Center Task Force

From: Timothy R. Schmitt, *AICP*, Interim Township Manager and Community Planning and Development Director

Date: November 15, 2024

Re: Senior/Community Center Task Force Meeting – March 2025 Meeting

As was noted at a previous meeting, our current March meeting for the Task Force is scheduled during Spring Break, which will not work for most people. After reviewing the likely schedules for the other Boards and Commissions, Staff would offer the following alternatives for rescheduling the March meeting:

- Move the Senior Community Center Task Force meeting to **Tuesday, March 11th**.
- Move the Senior Community Center Task Force meeting to **Wednesday, March 19th**.

There are potential other options if we move the day of the week, but the 19th fits best into the calendar, if we go to a non-Tuesday. We look forward to discussing this with the Task Force.

