



Analysis and next steps

Young Leaders Collaboration



May 17, 2023 | Sergio Almeida

Young Leaders' Issues Connect with Council "Cross-Cutting Regional Issues," but provide key additional ideas.

Affordability

- Linked to housing quality, cultural connection, safety and more
- Affordable housing choices result in lost opportunities for youth development
- Immigrants face unique challenges
- Region-wide, affects equity, public health, safety, well-being

Transportation Infrastructure

- Pedestrian and cyclists hurt
- Multimodal transportation options needed in suburb/ suburban edge
- Youth particularly affected because they don't drive
- Affects equity, safety, public health

Community Connection

- Need for social connection, belonging, being seen
- Small businesses vital
- Need "social infrastructure" to create connection
- Unique, important dimension of public health, wellbeing

Parks Essential

- Highly valued for community connection, mental health
- Litter and pollution a concern, prevents access.[O&M funding]
- Valued activities include environmental education, family connection, socializing
- Related to all cross-cutting issues

Land & Habitat Conservation

- Farmland protection highly valued, "once it's gone, it's gone."
- Habitat conservation in land use, Council construction work, transit stops
- Community gardens encouraged through land use policy
- Relates to all cross-cutting issues

Water

- Water recreation key to quality of life, but inequitable
- Water quality and accessibility mentioned as key to "important places" in youth lives
- Support policies to regulate and monitor water quality
- Relates to all cross-cutting issues

Next steps

Report

- Memo series details YLC engagement findings
- Connect with Council vision & values work
- Results widely shared
- Creates accountability



Continuity

- YLC is strategically early, findings shared often
- Process strengths and learnings incorporated into future engagement



Regional Development Guide

Quotes and perspectives included in:

- RDG context
- Online storytelling

