City of Orlando Virginia/ Lake Highland Transportation and Land Use Study

Community Workshop #1: Identifying Community Values
Aug. 1, 2016 at Leu Gardens, City of Orlando

Tabulation of Surveys gathered from participants at the meeting
Prepared by Ruth Hamberg, sub consultant to Renaissance Planning Group (RPG).
Survey Questions with summary of responses, ranked. (11)= number of similar responses.

1. What makes the Virginia/ Lake Highland area a good place to live or work?
    1. Character – Quaint historic homes, scale, mixed uses, Old Orlando, lack of high rises, brick streets, small town feel, variety of local merchants. (30)
    2. Proximity – Access to everything, close to downtown and Winter Park, connected, centrally located, everything in walking distance. (18)
    3. Walk-ability – walkable, bike-able, grid streets, trails. (12)
    4. Nature – Lakes, tree canopy, gardens, beauty. (13)
    5. Social/ Community- Friendly, concerned neighbors who care. Local small businesses. Lots to do. Arts & culture. Hip and cool factor. Nightlife. Diversity. (11)
    6. Small Scale (10)
    7. Mixed use (8)

2. What do you most value about your neighborhood and community?
    1. Community – People care, friendly, cooperation, like minded, care about the neighborhood. (15)
    2. Character – Old Orlando, quaint historic buildings, topology, eclectic, brick streets, small scale. (11)
    3. Nature – lakes, trees, parks, beauty (10)
    4. Walkable – pedestrian friendly, outdoor active lifestyle (9) Bike friendly (4)
    5. Proximity – Close to everything, within walking/ biking distance, access. (8) Variety of small businesses close by. (6)

3. What are Virginia/ Lake Highland area's greatest assets and / resources?
    1. Natural beauty – lakes, trees, parks. (21)
    2. Proximity – Close to downtown, shops, accessibility. (13)
    3. Small Business – Locally owned, nearby, variety of shops, restaurants and bars, bustling Main Streets. (10)
    4. Character – traditional historic buildings, brick streets, intimate small scale (9)
    5. Vibrancy – diverse, culture, arts, young vibe, creative, edgy (8)
    6. Trail – Orlando Urban Trail, active lifestyle (5)

4. What improvements are most needed in the area now?
    1. Better bike/ ped infrastructure – Pedestrian sidewalks, wider sidewalks, connections, crosswalks, narrow lanes separated bike lanes, mid-block crossings near destinations, safety, safer biking on Virginia, pedestrian lighting. (24)

2. <u>Traffic Control</u> – speed control, slow down traffic, stop signs, too much traffic, dangerous, flow, accommodate Mills Park traffic, divert traffic to Princeton. (15)

3. <u>Parking Relief</u> - add alternative parking for businesses, parking garage on OUC property, more on and off street parking. (13)

4. <u>Public Transit</u> - accessibility for those who have trouble driving and cant bike/ walk, mini transit on Virginia, public private services, jitney to Colonial. (5)

5. <u>Street Trees</u> – restore tree canopy (4)

Idea: Path around Lake Formosa (2)

5. What do you hope your community will be like in 20 years?

1. <u>Same & Better</u>- Recognizable, same, retain unique flavor, small community feel, sense of community, more grown up version of what we have today, stable. (14)

2. <u>Destination</u> – Mix of uses, thriving bustling urban neighborhood, vibrant, eclectic, diverse people, night life and dining, Real Orlando experience, small businesses not big box, filled with successful businesses. (13)

3. <u>Walkable</u> – Pedestrian friendly, more walkable, Mills more ped-friendly, one of the most walkable and safe neighborhoods in Orlando, congruous network of bike and ped routes. (10)

4. <u>Bike Friendly</u> – access to bike lanes and transit, accessible, network. (4)

5. <u>Greener</u> – good environment, cleaner lakes (3)

6. Other comments.

See page 9.

40 surveys were returned at the meeting. The surveys were assigned numbers 1-40. Most people made more than one comment per question so all were listed.

A (?) means that the handwriting was a bit difficult to read and the interpreter had to guess the word. Answers to the questions on the survey are as follows:

Question 1	
Survey #	*Response*
1	Eclectic mix of housing and businesses walkability factor, scale of buildings and homes. Natural beauty.
2	Lively merchants (?) restaurants, etc.
3	See question #3
4	I've lived here since 1975. Always friendly and great community of concerned neighbors. Lots of local businesses that I've enjoyed for years.
5	Overall, cool area.
6	Older homes quaint community
7	The Main Street feel is great. These is a good mix of uses & scale that defines the neighborhood.
8	There's a ton of business and things to do in a short distance that are easy to get to without a car.
9	I have owned a business on Virginia for 22 years.
10	Good community and businesses
11	Relative to much of Metro-Orlando, it has excellent walkability and access to venues /

	activity centers. Proximity to Downtown and 3 Main Street districts is unbeatable. Orlando Urban Trail is MY highway.
12	Pedestrian friendly. Variety of merchants, lakes, trees, fun people. Beautiful homes, arts.
13	Easy going attitude. Close to everything.
14	Proximity to all the amenities that surround the neighborhood, i.e., downtown, Winter Park, Museums, lakes, gardens, dining, shopping, nightlife, etc. etc. etc.
15	Location
16	Proximity
17	Relaxed, down home neighborhood with cohesive proactive neighbors. Proximity to an (sic) major venues.
18	Small, local business, small scale development, trees!!! Nature, the park (?) on Lake Ivanhoe
19	Proximity to everything
20	Mix of Residential and commercial walkability and bike-ability and convenience
21	Walkability. Diversity of uses in a small area, some demographic diversity. Small local business. Beauty in trees. Lakes, gardens. Current scale of buildings
22	Diverse culture/ walkability
23	Numerous businesses near residential areas enabling walking or cycling to them. Relaxed vibe of people.
24	Close proximity to restaurants, cool places to hang out, exercise – all within walking and biking distance.
25	It is quaint, and so far quiet.
26	Walkability, character, mature trees, lake views, restaurants.
27	Mixed use, connected street grid, trails, mix of residential, eclectic character
28	The single family homes and lack of high rise of apts and condos
29	Beautiful, mixed use - sized of properties, styles.
30	Established neighborhood with many amenities w/in walking, biking , easy driving distance
31	Small town feel within a big city
32	- Close to downtown & to transportation corridors - Tree canopy - Old neighborhood environment - Usually quite (quiet?) - Lake Highland
33	Diversity – residential / small business (local) scale (2 story max)
34	Bars, restaurants and shops
35	Close to everything; schools, grocery parks, events, downtown
36	Quiet, quaint, lots of nature, centrally located up til now not heavily trafficked (?) and easily accessible
37	It is a great "local" community. Small business supporting each other in a fun creative environment
38	Great diversity. Central location. Close to downtown.
39	Access to services great retail, beautiful environment & neighbors
40	Quaint neighborhood, small scale residential & commercial, local, grid of streets,

	walkable, good connectivity, centrally located.
Question 2	
1	Diversity, scale, walkability, natural beauty
2	Local culture
3	See #3 (Walking neighborhood, lakes, small businesses, quaint historic buildings, brick streets)
4	Neighborhood values and many long term residents – concern for the lake & the environment as well.
5	Safety & good amenities & good services
6	[Blank]
7	The opportunity to experience what's in the neighborhood.
8	The sense of community that people care about their city and neighbors
9	[Blank] (business owner)
10	Friendly people
11	Access to food/drink (via walk/bike) and to Downtown. It's mix of land uses and building character/ topology makes for interesting atmosphere. The vt (?) it has a creative atmosphere and not cookie cutter.
12	[put in " ditto marks under their answer to question 1 which was: Pedestrian friendly variety of merchants, lakes, trees, fun people, beautiful homes, arts.]
13	Best of Winter Park & Orlando
14	Walking & biking lifestyle. More bike racks.
15	Sense of community.
16	Rising values.
17	The small businesses and neighbors that work together to maintain a solid community
18	Opportunities for outdoor activities, cycling, parks small scale
19	The People
20	Convenience & (relative) quiet
21	I can walk from my home at the corner of Eola Drive and Park Lake Street to Fresh Market, many lakes, my place of worship (Quaker Meeting House) and tons of wonderful, small restaurants etc. almost all under shade trees. My neighbors care about our neighborhood.
22	Walkability – could still improve
23	Like minded citizens who appreciate the needs of each other
24	Social well-being opportunities beautiful scenery
25	Neighbors care about each other
26	Walkability
27	Slow speeds, tree canopy, parks, mix of restaurants & retail, eclectic character
28	Ability to walk, bike to nearby restaurants & shopping easy access to main arteries
29	Neighbors, quiet, green – tree canopy, parks, lovely vendors, neighborhood field
30	Friendly neighbors & active community
31	Neighbors
32	• Good Neighbors, mostly stable • Young to old, new & long term • Good environment

	• Good City services
33	[arrow drawn between Q1 and Q2 indicating same answer, which was: diversity-residential/ small business (local) scale (2 story max)]
34	Bike –and walkability -- proximity to downtown and other neighborhoods where automobile is not a necessity.
35	The Quietness of Our Lk Formosa Neighborhood & Community
36	The quiet and is secluded yet close to everything. Feels like old Florida. Love the lake and the wildlife.
37	Feels like real Orlando. Not tourist environment but great environment.
38	All the different options that are available.
39	Access & walkability
40	local & small scale
Question 3	
1	Diversity, natural beauty & surroundings. Accessibility
2	Manager (?) traffic traditional buildings
3	Walking neighborhood, lakes, small businesses, quaint historic buildings, brick streets
4	Privately owned businesses, Our lakes, brick streets on many roads -
5	Neighborhoods & businesses
6	[blank]
7	Character Accessibility Scale
8	That although it's in the middle of the city, it feels very intimate & local
9	[blank]
10	Proximity to restaurants and local businesses
11	Orlando Urban Trail. Local Business Owners. Embrace of public art (murals, drains, dumpsters). Tree canopy. Lake Highland Park.
12	[blank]
13	Edgy young vibe, Art, food, shops, bars. Loch Haven Gaston Edwards Florida Hospital
14	Museums, Lakes, Theatre
15	Mixed Use
16	See #2 (rising values)
17	Central location and easy access, both on Foot and vehicular traffic
18	See #1 (small, local business, small scale development, trees!!! Nature, the pak (park?) on lake Ivanhoe)
19	Virginia Drive & it's (?its) Potential
20	[dashed line drawn from 3 to 1] Ivanhoe village Main St. Mills 50 Main St. Loch Haven Park venues, Gaston Edwards Park
21	Lakes, small local businesses, trees. Relaxed, yet caring (?) residential patches, influx of creative people in recent years.
22	Diverse culture
23	Access to bike trails and Sun Rail… a thriving Main Street committee.
24	Accessible food (restaurants), the lakes, r (?) exercise opportunities - present a relaxed vibrancy (vibrancy?) to the neighborhood

25	It was a quiet and exclusive area, not anymore
26	Lakes, trails, convenience
27	Small streets, tree canopy, Dinky Line, Gaston Edwards
28	Lake Highland Prep a neighborhood Assoc.
29	Lakes Green space
30	Hidden neighborhood, beautiful park on Lake Highland, bustling nearby community resources
31	Neighbors
32	<u>Usually</u> quiet Lake Highland Close to Transportation/ Shopping & Services
33	<u>LAKES</u> with public accessibility/ view/ parks for walking, playing , sunning, trees, natural
34	See #1 & #2 [1. Bars, restaurants and shops 2. Bike – and walkability—proximity to downtown and other neighborhood where automobile is <u>not</u> a necessity.]
35	Close to everything. Able to Walk everywhere, fell very safe
36	The Diversity, the traditional community and central location
37	Local business community
38	Restaurants, bar, shops. Endless places of fun places to go.
39	Lakefronts, unique merchants & entertainment
40	Centrally located. Easy to everything Neighborhood feel. Lakes, trees mix of uses
Question 4	
1	Pedestrian Safety Speed controls for vehicular traffic
2	Pedestrian mobility – sidewalks
3	Divert traffic to Princeton – alternative parking for businesses + make parking garage on part of OUC land
4	Traffic is getting crazy! Hard to walk around one lake with so much traffic -
5	The temporary crosswalk that is at Philadelphia & Virginia is not working. People associate the orange flags w/ construction, which is THE YARD site, but all cars blow through when someone is trying to walk across VA there.
6	Accommodate (drawing of arrow up, assuming that means "more") traffic on Virginia at Mills Park & future development.
7	Better Bike & Ped infrastructure
8	More bike lanes
9	Slowing down traffic!! Putting in either stop signs and speed bumps.
10	Parking relief
11	Boost/ Increase some sidewalk connections. More pedestrian-oriented street lighting. Transit along Virginia. Modified/ more structured on-street parking. Roundabout @ Lake Highland and Ferris. More bikeshare stations.
12	Alleviate traffic issues <u>Dangerous</u>!
13	Parking
14	Parking garages, off street parking.

15	Railroad tracks at Virginia between Mills & Orange
16	Less Government Involvement
17	Traffic control
18	Safer bike travel on Virginia, maybe a LR (light rail?) station? But only if the LR schedule improves, parking!!
19	Virgina Drive "Street Scape" Parking, Lights, signage, Trees & consistantcy (consistency?)
20	Improved ped & bike infrastructure
21	Accessibility for those who have trouble driving, biking or walking. As residents age, they could continue to live independently with better mini-route public/ private partnerships for transportation.
22	More & bigger sidewalks
23	Clear bike lanes. More crosswalks. Parking for the local lakes
24	Additional pedestrian connections
25	Traffic control. Parking on residential streets over crowded we are having to park on our lawns! Speed bumps!
26	Pedestrian safety
27	Wider sidewalks, street trees, narrow lanes separated bike lanes/ trail, on-street parking mid-block crossings near Hammered Lamb & Lucky Line
28	[blank]
29	Control traffic
30	Sidewalk, bike lane improvements
31	Traffic lights Brick road repair
32	Restore tree canopy Improve stree(t) surfaces Clean-up Lake Highland – nature
33	• Path around Fermosa (Formosa) • Virginia drive zoning & parking anchors to support growth of pedestrian corridor
34	Biking infrastructure!
35	A sidewalk along S. Lake Formosa (lakeside) to slow the traffic and provide public safety-Narrow S. Lake Formosa to do this.
36	Parking!!! Traffic flow Public transportation, accessibility to safe foot traffic
37	Don't mess up a great neighborhood
38	Parking
39	Parking availability improved sidewalks Bike Paths & walking trails
40	Bike lanes, sidewalks, street trees
Question 5	
1	Safe, pedestrian-friendly, eclectic, diverse beautiful
2	A lot better than it is now.
3	That Bungalows and other historic homes will still be left intact that the neighborhood will be a walking neighborhood that it will not be taken over by high rises such as the Yard, etc.
4	Walkable, bike friendly, small businesses, working city resources to help accomplish this
5	Less cars
6	[blank]

7	- Better connected - Diverse (housing, mix of uses, etx.) - still has unique sense of neighborhood/ community
8	I want it to be a place that's easy to manuver (maneuver) with a combination of public transportation & pedestrian/ bike traffic
11	[blank]
10	A destination for nightlife and dining.
11	More local food/ drink. Public artist space. Exemplary balance between single-family houses, [arrow drawn up meaning more?] residential density, improved bike (on-street) infrastructure.
12	Peaceful.
13	The same gentle College Park feeling
14	Thriving, bustling, urban neighborhood.
15	Recognizable
16	Somewhere else- retired
17	The Same!!!
18	Still small community feel
19	More of the same & better
20	Almost as nice as Park Avenue W.P. but much more hip.
21	Greener still. More walkable still. Vibrant. With great community spaces & accessibility for all ages.
22	Pretty much the same – more sidewalks
23	Still close but ever evolving with a diverse group of citizens.
24	[blank]
25	A small community, less traffic, less Bars!!
26	Arts & culture, character, unique
27	One of the most walkable and safe in Orlando with great parks & trails
28	Easier acces to mass transit - bus gitney [jitney] service to Colonial Drive, downtown, Winter Park (Village, Park Ave), Mills extremely pedestrian and bike friendly.
29	More home ownership - still lovely downtown community
30	Same great neighborhood, bustling businesses & activities – Like Park Ave. without the pretentiousness
31	Mainly small community charm, close knit neighbors
32	Stable Good environment Good Resale values Clean Lake
33	Continued diversity, Walkable, Character (not Big Box stores or Tall Towers).
34	A congruous network of bike and pedestrian routes – safe & comfortable!
35	I like the way it has always been. I welcome the changes as long as we get a sidewalk along S. Lk. Formosa Lakeside.
36	[blank]
37	More grown up version of what we have now
38	Filled with successful businesses!

39	A destination for those seeking a real Orlando experience
40	Maintain its unique flavor
Question 6	
4	I would love to see everything needed to not <u>HAVE</u> to get into our cars for many reasons -
11	I believe this area is already the best in Metro-Orlando, which is why I bought my house here just over a year ago.
18	Traffic is already terrible. What is the plan to accommodate the big apartments getting built?
21	Thank you for the outreach.
25	I am all for change, where there is Room!
26	Boardwalk/ sidewalk along Lake Formosa, turn into Park similar to Gaston Edwards Park
27	Do not design these as roads but as streets. This is not a car centric area but has many positive elements to be a great pedestrian street.
34	Thank you!
35	Thank you for coming & listening
39	Events around the lake