Housing Summit

On Saturday, June 6th at A. L. Davis Park in Central City, HousingNOLA held a Housing Summit for New Orleans residents. It was a festive environment filled with snowballs, barbecue, music, and information tables staffed by NOLA housing agencies. People of all ages and backgrounds were invited to share their perspectives on the current housing situation in New Orleans. Participants were able to weigh in on what makes their neighborhoods great and not-so-great, and how all of us (city government, housing advocates, and residents) can make it better. A week later, a Latino Housing Fair took place to ask Spanish-speaking residents the same questions about their positive and negative experiences with housing in New Orleans.

A survey of Housing Summit participants presents a range of opinions on how New Orleanians perceive their neighborhood. The information included in the survey allowed for people to express their feelings mostly through open-ended questions that allowed the residents to use their own words. The challenge presented by the survey is that the vast majority of respondents chose not to include the neighborhood that they live in so it is difficult to tie the information that was gathered to a particular location. Instead, it is necessary to view the responses as a statement about living in neighborhoods across the city. Of the 199 survey responses, 59 included information on the neighborhoods they live in.

![Neighborhoods Represented at the HousingNOLA Summit](image-url)

Overwhelmingly, respondents like their neighborhoods and they largely credit their friends and family in the area for their high level of satisfaction. They also enjoy the ease with which they can walk to the store, the absence of heavy traffic, and the close proximity to amenities like parks and schools. Those who are dissatisfied with their neighborhoods frequently cite problems with crime and violence. “Those who are dissatisfied also offer examples of blighted properties and poor sidewalks, reflecting a deep concern with the degradation of the built environment.”
Housing Summit Survey Question #1

Are you satisfied with your neighborhood?

- No
- Somewhat
- Yes
- (blank)

Housing Summit Survey Question #2

Do you see yourself living there in the next 5-10 years?

- Maybe
- No
- Yes