

Appendix 10: Summary of Public Feedback

- Community Conversation #1, October 25, 2018: Summary of Results
- Community Conversation #2, January 30, 2019: Summary of Results
- Question of the Month Results: January 2019
- Question of the Month Results: March 2019
- Community Survey and Interactive Map Results: Snapshot Summary, January 2019
- Summer 2019 Visitor Survey Results
- August 2019 Back to School Night Results

**Cordova Comprehensive Plan Update:
Community Conversation #1, October 25, 2018**

Summary of Results



Activity #1 – Headline Exercise: What is your Future Cordova?

Description of Activity: Participants were asked to write a newspaper headline or lead for a radio story for a publication or broadcast that captures a future vision for Cordova and what the community has achieved within a 10-year time frame.

Headlines/Story Leads

- Cordova is Top 10 in the West: most livable, energy efficient, low violent crime, #1 school
- Cordova has the 5th largest seafood port, a model for sustainable fisheries
- New/clean harbor – element of smart waterfront
- Best tech and infrastructure in the U.S.
- Most resilient community – what will we do next?
- Revitalize Eyak language with 10 fluent Native speakers
- Successful hospital brings back birthing Center
- ¾ of Cordova High School students (juniors) received an AA Degree
- Cordova: leading the way in renewable energy
- Cordova is in the top 10 ports for commercial fish landing
- Cordova in the top 10 for value-added seafood production
- Cordova gets new, affordable housing
- Cordova restaurants stay open all winter long
- Cordova survives extreme weather due to community preparedness
- Record tourism at Child's Glacier
- Cordova is a Blue-Ribbon School multiple years in a row
- Small scale tourism augments fisheries

Headlines/Story Leads

- Sustainable fisheries model for the world
- Multigenerational town continues to grow with sustainable fisheries, small businesses, outdoor opportunities and affordable housing
- Cordova's beautiful working waterfront showcases the balance with small businesses and public natural space
- Cordova, Alaska is the model of health: lowest substance abuse, record graduation rates
- Community establishes climate change readiness plan
- Babies born in Cordova medical facilities again
- Cordova reaches zero waste and 100% renewable energy
- Remote coastal community's gardens provide sustainable food source
- Cordova reimagines city-center landscape; enhances green space and non-motorized pathways
- Cordova opens full service shipyard and renovated harbor
- PWS College expands to multi-dimensional vocation institution
- Cordova voted Alaska's friendliest place for businesses and families
- Cordova trailblazes alternative energy sources, making dams obsolete
- Cordova School District voted most innovative in the world

- Cordova is top notch in emergency planning and preparedness
- Little town is completely renewable energy driven
- Cordova is Alaska's best kept secret
- Cordova successfully harvesting diversified power
- Cordova graduates are prepared for life
- Daily ferry service helps sustain the Local Economy
- Ecotourism destination #1 in Alaska
- Cordova has a self-sustaining and diversified economy
- Salmon supports Cordova
- Cordova is energy independent
- Cordova restores access to Child's Glacier
- AVTEC takes over former public safety building
- Cordova celebrates food independence
- Cordova solves bear problem: community leads Alaska's solution to urban bear encounters
- Cordova is STILL Alaska's safest community
- Cordova, a center of learning
- Infamous Coho replaced with luxury hotel
- Cordova's recycling program rivals any city in the state
- Cordova prepared and able to recover, "They Were Ready"

Activity #2 – What are our potential priorities? What projects or strategies will help us achieve our goals?

Description of Activity: Participants were asked to review a list of potential priorities and share their feedback and additional ideas. The original list in black; **additional recommendations and edits in blue.**

- Replace and expand harbor and waterfront infrastructure **and full-service yard**
- Advocate for consistent, reliable **transportation** (ferry service, **commercial flights**)
- Provide affordable and quality healthcare and housing
- Expand Cordova Center use, revenue generation
- Revitalize main street and uptown; create incentives to renovate and reuse vacant buildings
- Continue strategic marketing and support visitor industry
- Incentivize small business development
- Explore Prince William Sound borough formation – **not supported x 3**
- Improve pedestrian routes, including additional sidewalks and a covered walkway next to the Cordova Center
- Conduct community education on local government processes
- Renovate or** construct a new public safety building
- Expand business counseling and training
- Establish long-term maintenance and replacement plans and budgets for community facilities, **equipment and streets; add as requirement for any new development**

Additions

- Bring back birthing clinic
- Expand economic diversity
- Vocational program support and availability
- Restore access to Child's Glacier; repair and expand Copper River Highway
- Attract appropriately sized ecotourism operators and support businesses
- Densify downtown core with multi-use buildings
- Address child care shortages
- Build apartments
- More opportunities on Forest Service land and State land, such as firewood
- Hospital that is financially self-sustaining
- Expand North and South Fill and shipyard
- Walkway on Adam's Street – Coast Guard housing
- More bear resistant trash cans and dumpsters to reduce human-wildlife conflicts in town
- Outreach to cannery workers to connect them with the community
- Establish waterfront park
- Increase local food production: high tunnel gardens, container farms
- Handicap access from Cordova Center to Railroad Avenue entrance
- Establish bike paths to Whitshed, airport, Orca
- Maintain viewsheds
- Work with partners (Native Village of Eyak, Eyak Corporation, Chugach Corporation, US Forest Service) to identify suitable building areas
- Identify suitable building areas; work with city, with landowners to produce and develop more affordable opportunities
- Affordable, quality, self-sustaining health care AND affordable housing
- Sustain commercial air access
- More ecotourism operators
- Child Glacier access
- Main street revitalization
- Diversify and expand commercial fisheries, take better advantage of existing infrastructure

Description of Activity: For activities #3, #4 and #5, participants were asked to review a list of potential accomplishments (since 2008 Comp Plan completion), values and challenges, and were asked to share any additional ideas and then select their “Top 5”.

Activity #3 – What have we accomplished since we last updated our plan in 2008?

(original list in black, **additions/notes in blue**)

Accomplishment	# of Votes Received
Upcoming relocation and \$18 million expansion of the Prince William Sound Science Center	26
Completion of the Cordova Center	25
Improvements to trails and recreation sites	25
Increase in emergency preparedness planning	21
Improvement to community drinking water infrastructure	21
Communication and technology expansion, including new fiber optic lines and cell coverage	21
Addition of new travel lift	20
Establishment of the Salmon Jam – Copper River Wild Salmon Festival	19
Completion of school remodel in 2012	18
Road paving projects: Southfill, Adams Street, others	18
Improvements and upgrades at fish processing plants	16
Development of Native Village of Eyak’s Ilanka Community Health Center	16
Expansion of medical capabilities at the hospital	13

Additions

- Some improvements in disaster preparation
- Harborside Pizza grand opening
- New life in local festivals, increasing tourist attendance
- Pioneer Red Dragon Renovation
- CRWSP grants for new culverts helping sustain and improve salmon life
- Ski hill
- Disc golf course
- Cordova buildings are pretty
- Iceworm Festival is AWESOME

- New sidewalks, pavement and drainage
- Mt. Eyak ski area, new track road and cabin
- Growth of Cordova Family Resource Center
- Empowered business owners have updated/renovated facilities
- Expansion and revitalization of fishing
- Marketing of Copper River brand
- CTC Fiber Optic Cable
- Expanded recycling
- Sidewalks/roadworks (paved in harbor)
- Nirvana Park
- Renovation of High School gym
- Went from 28th to 13th largest commercial fishery in the US

Activity #4 – Values: what is important to Cordova residents? What do we value most about our community?

(original list in black, additions/notes in blue)

Value	# of Votes Received
Sense of community, small-town feel	28
Safe, family-friendly, quality schools	27
Access to subsistence fishing, hunting, gathering	25
Beautiful landscapes and views, clean air and water	25
Creative, artistic, well-educated, resourceful, entrepreneurial residents	22
Ready access to outdoor recreation, natural resources	22
Active volunteers, commitment/service to community	21
Support for local businesses	21
Diversity of the community, especially in summer months	16
Access to health care	14

Additions

- Substantial commercial fisheries
- Safe community
- We love Cordova
- Resource independence (food, electricity, fuel)
- We are problem solvers
- Mt. Eyak
- Generosity
- Subsistence hunting/fishing
- Natural beauty
- Public sector employment
- Safety
- Fishing family – lifestyle
- Native Alaskan culture
- Cultural diversity/worldly
- Eco friendly

Activity #5 – What are our biggest challenges and potential areas for improvement?

(original list in black, additions/notes in blue)

Challenge	# of Votes Received
High cost of living	22
Aged harbor, lack of waterfront infrastructure	19
Lack of affordable, quality housing	18
Undiversified economy, overdependence on one industry	17
Volunteer fatigue	17
Limited wintertime employment opportunities	13
Small workforce, limited training and certification options	12
Maintenance and sustainability of public facilities	12
Lack of access, ability to effectively move goods and people	11
Limited land base and options for growth	9
Limited affordable, appropriate commercial space	8
Limited tourism infrastructure and activities	8

Additions

- Need sidewalk/bike path on Copper River Highway and Whitshed
- Limited land
- Public access to waterfront
- Substance abuse and mental health issues
- Lack of enforcement of zones i.e. commercial stuff everywhere, junk yards. Instill property pride.
- Fire Hall
- Need a true retail district
- Profitable hospital
- Traffic/pedestrian congestion during sportfishing season
- Reliance on state ferry/barge for food
- Maintaining and sustaining private businesses
- More notable “hometown brands” (e.g., successful local businesses)
- Summer housing
- Too salmon centric (no diversity of fisheries)

Cordova Comprehensive Plan Update: Community Conversation #2, January 30, 2019

Summary of Results



Activity #1: Discuss Map and Survey Results: What is missing?

Description of activity: *Participants were asked to review the snapshot of the interactive map and community survey results; the room was split into small groups and each group identified topics, project and strategies they felt were missing.*

View the Snapshot here: http://cordovacomplan.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Cordova-Comp-Plan_Snapshot_January2019.pdf

Housing

- Expand water service.
- Revitalize existing housing.
- Create more affordable, strategically located and accessible housing.
- Increase the amount of seasonal housing.

Economic Development

- Fiber optic construction.
- Establish more festivals and events to bring residents together and attract visitors to town, including Filipino Independence Day and a Pacific Rim festival.

Health + Environment

- Identify a new location and relocate the public safety building. One potential suggested site: the intersection of Lefevre and the Copper River Highway.
- Increase medical support services for older residents to stay in Cordova as they age.

Transportation and Maritime

- South Fill expansion needs to consider Shorebird Treaty and shorebird habitat.
- Need weir maintenance at Six Mile.
- Combine the ferry and air service strategy into one strategy: “Secure more consistent, reliable ferry and air service.”
- Improve and increase water-based freight services.

Activity #2: Strategy Discussion

Description of Activity: *Participants were divided into small groups. Each group identified a priority strategy and brainstormed responses to the following questions: How can we be successful with this strategy? What are important next steps?*

Brainstorm: Small Business Incentives

- Consider tax abatements and tax relief for new businesses.
- Establish revolving loan programs. For example, local government could help cover costs of important infrastructure at low interest rates.
- Establish a co-op loan program.
- Focus small business incentives on specific industries that are needed in the community, and in locations that align with the Cordova Comprehensive Plan.

Brainstorm: Improve Air Service and Freight

- Summary of the challenge:
 - The loss of half freight/half passenger service from Alaska Airlines has hurt cargo deliveries.
 - There are only three Alaska Airlines freight planes for all of Alaska.
 - Under the current administration, ferry service may further decline, increasing the importance of air service.
- Cordova and other remote communities need to put pressure on Alaska Airlines for better freight service.
- Are there other smaller, Ravn-type airlines that could serve the community?
- There are not many coastal representatives in Juneau. How can we increase representation?
- Small businesses will struggle to operate and sustain themselves without consistent transportation.

Brainstorm: Revitalize Housing (two groups covered this topic)

- Expand affordable housing in strategic locations that are accessible/walkable to reduce the need for parking and vehicle use. Incentivize efficient, smaller units such as studios and one bedrooms.
- For older residents and those with mobility challenges, consider accessibility and safety. Some of the neighborhoods are too hilly to walk safely. Apartment buildings may need elevators for older residents.
- Increase the availability of seasonal housing.
- Establish property tax abatement program to revitalize Main Street and help make housing and redevelopment projects more financially feasible.
 - The program could also include local hire or supply requirements.
 - The City could offer a year of abatement for every housing unit created.
- Potential locations for new housing:
 - Main Street (would increase accessibility and reduce need for parking)
 - Consider rezoning South Fill to allow for higher density housing near the harbor, such as apartments.
 - Buildings that could be renovated to provide housing:
 - Old gingerbread house
 - The Alaskan

- Salvation Army Building
- Old Coho
- other vacant properties
- Reach out to Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) or a private developer to inquire about creating a larger housing project. What options exist to do a multi-story mixed use development with 1st floor commercial and two floors of residential?
- Encourage residents to add accessory dwelling units to their properties to increase density and housing options.

Brainstorm: Improve Parking and Transportation

- If the public safety building gets moved, could that be turned into additional parking?
- Cordova needs more efficient walkways/connectivity and more sidewalks.
- Consider creating a Complete Streets policy for Cordova.
- Establish more handicap accessible sidewalks and construct easier/less steep trails for more accessible recreation.
- Add more boardwalks around town.

Brainstorm: Repair and Expand (not Replace) Harbor

- Apply for a Tier 1 grant.
- The Cordova City Council has authorized putting a bond issue on the ballot in March; public education will be important to build support (\$5 million for the state grant, \$5 million for bond measure).
 - Provide information about how many new slips will be created as a result of repairs (some are unused now due to damage).
 - Promote the connection between an increase in slip fees, and improved harbor maintenance.
 - Provide education: what will \$10 million bring for the new harbor? How much more will be needed to complete the job?
 - Consider dedicating a portion of slip fee increase to future maintenance.

Activity #3: How can we create more jobs?

Description of Activity: Participants were divided into small groups. Starting with the initial survey responses on the Snapshot handout, each group brainstormed how Cordova can create more year-round jobs.

View the Snapshot here: http://cordovacomplan.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Cordova-Comp-Plan_Snapshot_January2019.pdf

Expand Fisheries

- Encourage year-round processing to keep people in town. The infrastructure is here already.
- Some Cordova fishermen participate in year-round fisheries that are harvested in Prince William Sound but must deliver their catch to Whittier or Kodiak for processing. Are there opportunities to do more processing here?
- One of the challenges is dealing with the cost of outfall from low-value fish. Are there creative ways to address this?
- Potential fish for year-round processing include Pacific cod, pollock, flatfish.
- Expand value-added processing.
 - Promote the DEC-approved commercial kitchen in the Cordova Center.
 - Encourage residents to do more jarring, canning out of season.
 - Expand out of town marketing and sales.
- Advocate to UAF to continue funding Cordova's SeaGrant position.
- Encourage the Science Center to expand relevant industry research such as testing shellfish.

Improve Local Hire, Training and Career Growth

- Increase opportunities for residents to develop trade skills that are needed in Cordova through vocational training. Many of Cordova's tradespeople will retire soon and younger people will need to fill those roles.
- Establish training programs; recruit tradesmen to teach courses in Cordova for needed trades such as welding, mechanics, electricians, plumbers, HVAC, carpenters. If the public safety building is relocated, the building could be repurposed into a training space like AVTEC.
- Encourage large local employers to create more entry level roles and offer in-house training to make it easier for locals with limited experience to have more economic mobility and career growth. This includes the Forest Service, the City, non-profits, etc.
- Encourage major employers to better market employment opportunities in the off season. Some residents may opt to stay year-round if they realize there are so many jobs available.
- "We don't need to grow our summertime population, but we do need to keep more people here in the off season. Even an increase of 200 or 300 in the winter would make a big difference. I don't think we want our summertime population to grow any more -that would put a strain on our resources like parking and housing."

Expand Existing and Emerging Industries

- Tourism
 - Expand small-scale tourism such as heliskiing in the winter, fishery charters in summer.
- Agriculture
 - Expand the production of local produce.
 - Create high tunnel greenhouses at 5-mile loop to support year-round production of produce.
 - Native Village of Eyak may have explored this – follow up to see what happened and what was learned.
- Encourage new businesses in town such as a microbrewery or kombucha maker.

Support Entrepreneurship

- Establish a business incubator.
- Expand regional branding and promote local crafts; establish a “Made in Cordova” brand.
- Establish a Maker Place:
 - This should include tools, space and equipment such as woodworking tools and a kiln.
 - Arts and crafts can promote community building and help mental health.
 - Identify potential donors of space/land, such as the old high school.
 - Potential collaborators include Native Village of Eyak, Eyak Corporation, Rasmussen, Murdoch Charity Trust, etc.

Increase and Promote Cordova’s Quality of Life

- Promote Cordova as a great place for telecommuters; strong communication connectivity, high quality of life.
- Advertise Cordova at Universities to young graduates who want an active lifestyle.
- Could Cordova host a call center?
- Need more year-round restaurants. Residents may be more willing to stay year-round if things do not shut down in the off-season.
- Support Cordova’s aging residents and attract additional seniors by expanding the array of support services such as personal health aides, in home care and assisted living.
- Pursue upgrades at the ski hill, such as snowmakers and a new motor for the lift. In order to promote ski tourism, there needs to be reliable snow throughout the winter.

Address the High Cost of Living

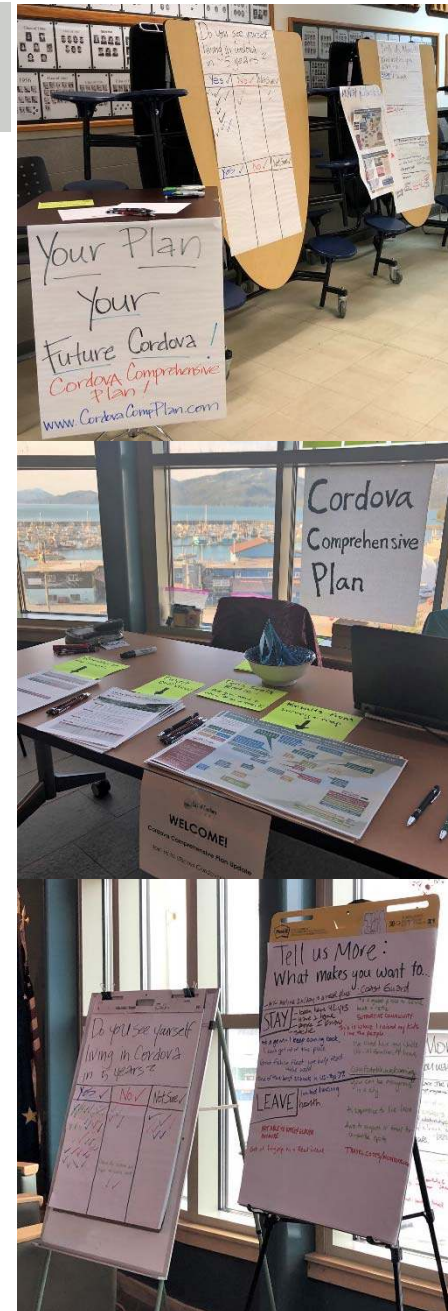
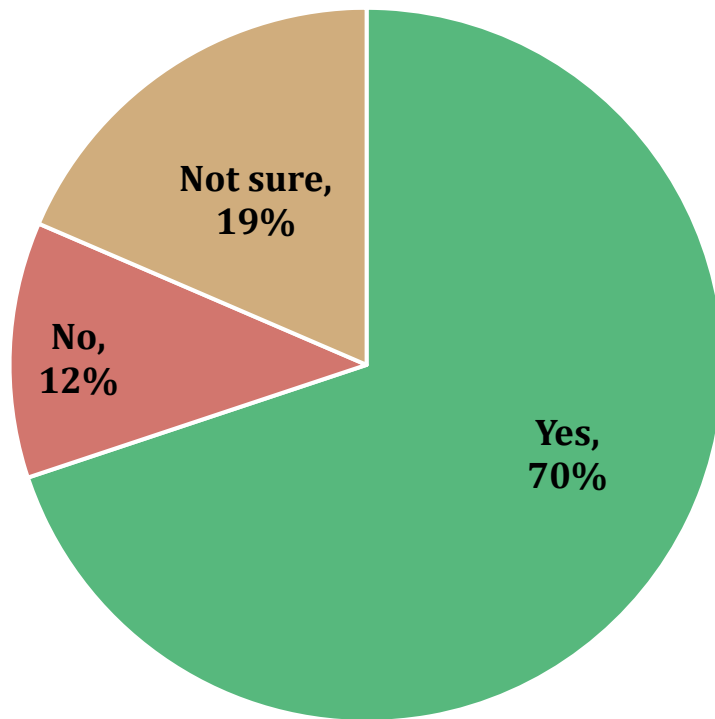
- The cost of housing limits new job growth. Over the coming years we are losing approximately 30 housing units due to older buildings being demolished, which will make the problem worse.
- Local businesses are having a hard time getting people to stay (restaurants, businesses) and have to close because they can’t find qualified staff. Many staff leave due to cost of living; it’s hard to live in Cordova if you have a lower-paying job.
- Address freight costs to address high business costs.

Cordova Comprehensive Plan Update

Question of the Month Results: January 2019

A total of 259 residents responded to the January Question of the Month, either electronically or in-person during the Iceworm Festival.

Do you see yourself living in Cordova in five years?



What makes you want to stay?

The following word cloud was generated using combined comments to this question. The size of a word in the cloud is based on the frequency each word was mentioned in survey responses; largest words were mentioned most frequently.¹ Representative quotes are shown on the right.



“Cordova is the greatest town I’ve ever lived in. It’s beautiful and quirky and amazing...Nothing beats Cordova!”

"I live in Cordova because it is exactly the place I want to live, great work/life balance, out the door adventure, quality rural lifestyle with a splash of cosmopolitan perspective."

"I can't get rid of this place. It sticks with you."

"It's my home. I love the feeling of community and having my family here. This has been my family's home for generations."

"We have a great fishing fleet. We help feed the world."

“Youth grow up feeling loved. It’s beautiful here.”

"The beautiful natural surroundings. In just a 5-minute drive we are in one of the most beautiful places in the world. Our livelihood is here, as long as we fish commercially it is preferable to live in Cordova."

“The people, outdoor opportunities, community spirit, cultural events, activities for kids, security, Mt Eccles Elementary, Net Loft, the food, and summer.”

"The people and the lack of people."

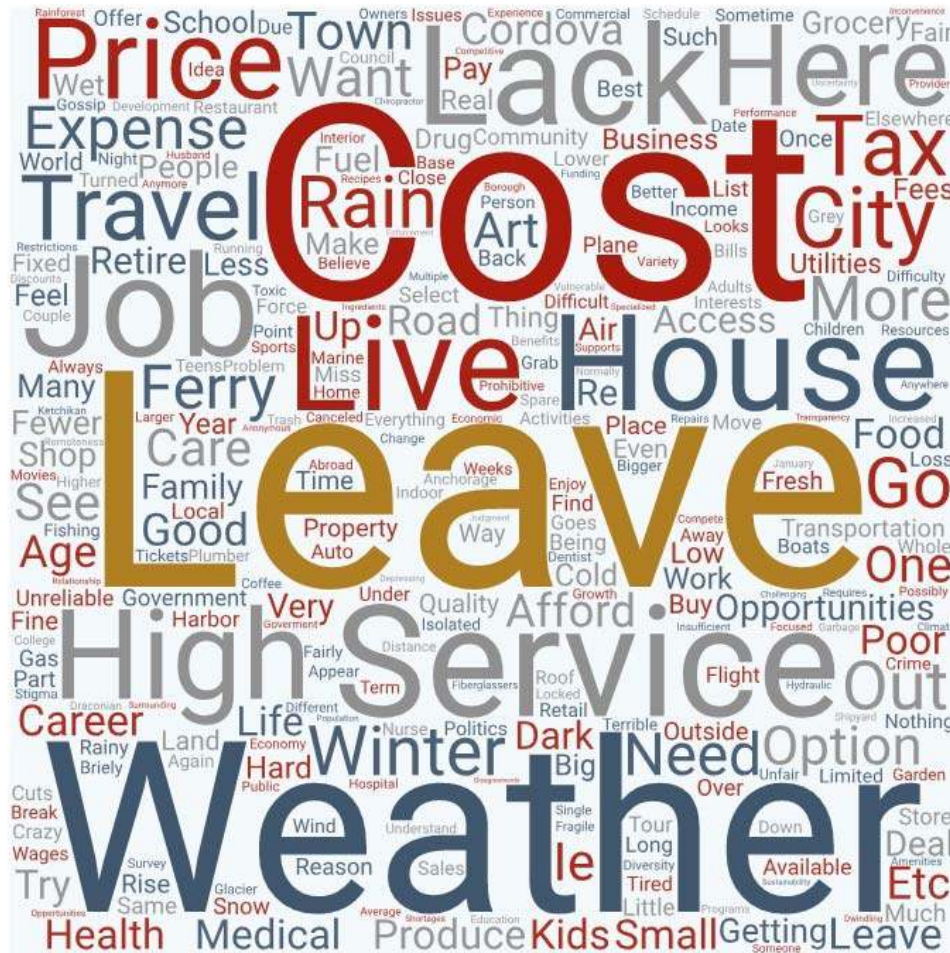
"I've been here fifty years, what's another five?"

“Community is supportive of education, school and teachers.”

¹ Word clouds were generated using Word Cloud Art: <https://wordart.com>

What makes you want to leave?

The following word cloud was generated using combined comments to this question. The size of a word in the cloud is based on the frequency each word was mentioned in survey responses; largest words were mentioned most frequently.² Representative quotes are shown on the right.



“High cost of ferry and flight travel. High cost of food and unreliable service so sometimes there is no fresh produce.”

“The weather, opponents to business development, lack of winter fisheries, inability to find qualified workers in winter.”

“Loss of our road, ferry, and air service, lack of restaurants, lack of small businesses to shop at, retail businesses closing.”

"If I had to pick a reason to leave it would be access to a variety of medical services as I get older."

"It is so expensive to leave town. We miss our families and want to see the world, but it is very cost prohibitive."

"Lack of decent, affordable housing. Limited options for buying and renting. Housing is a real problem here."

"We are a retired couple on a fixed income, the cost of living and health care may force us to make a move."

“The climate and the darkness in winter.”

"I will leave for school. I've lived here my whole life and I want to experience other things."

"If it turned into Ketchikan I would leave -I'm not interested in big tour boats."

² Word clouds were generated using Word Cloud Art: <https://wordart.com>

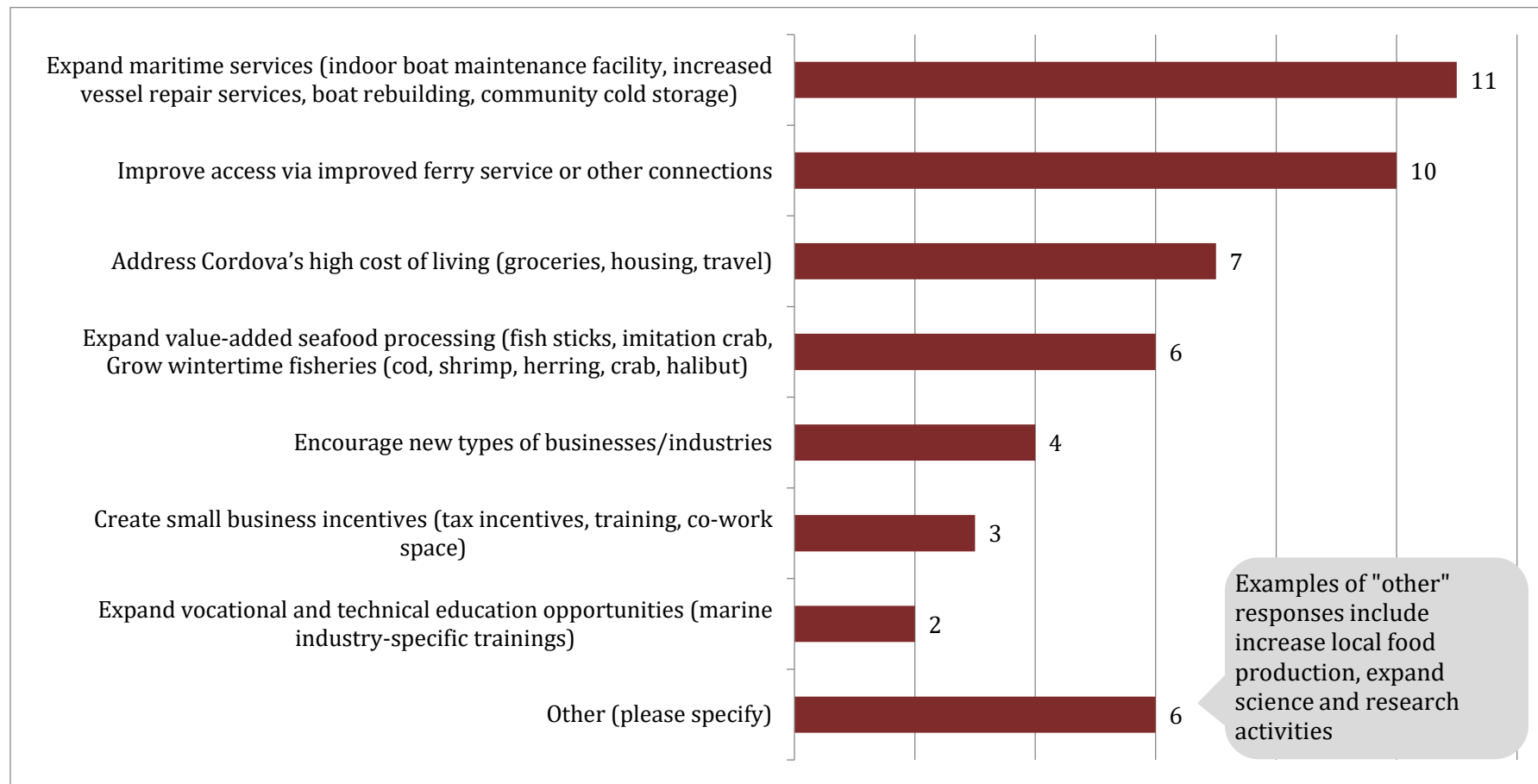
Cordova Comprehensive Plan Update

Question of the Month Results: March 2019

A total of 49 residents responded to the March Question of the Month.

Which potential idea do you think would bring the most economic benefit to Cordova residents?

"economic benefit" was defined to mean more year-round jobs, more business, increased revenue to support community priorities



After selecting a choice, respondents were asked two follow-up questions. Themes and representative quotes for the top choices are below.

Economic development idea	Response themes	Quotes: What is the most important action the community can take to successfully implement the idea?	Quotes: How will you contribute to the success of the idea?
<i>Expand maritime services</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repair, improve the harbor and boat yard • Incentivize fishermen to move to Cordova and encourage owners to use local services • Develop deep water accessible real estate • Create, develop additional waterfront land 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Get that harbor in shape. Support the industry that has sustained us.” • “Encouraging boat owners to utilize Cordova’s diverse maritime skillsets.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “I will promote the maritime resources Cordova has while fishing in other communities.” • “Pay my taxes and vote for marine related / harbor updates.”
<i>Improve access via improved ferry service or other connections</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate for better service • Participate in the SE Conference Reform Initiative • Build a road • Explore creation of an independent ferry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Advocate at all levels of state government.” • “Explore other possible transportation options with private industry.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Write to the legislature.” • “Facilitate and negotiate with other Prince William Sound communities.”
<i>Address Cordova’s high cost of living</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower cargo and shipping costs • Encourage more businesses and competition • Address high housing costs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Encourage other businesses to come into Cordova. Costs are high because there is no competition.” • “Look into land, grants, incentives and housing partnerships like what Petersburg did.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “I will continue to purchase locally as much as possible.” • “I just bought a house and we rent a room for a relatively affordable price.”
<i>Expand value-added seafood processing</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand wintertime fisheries • Create more waterfront real estate • Strengthen relationship with local processors • Advocate for continued ADF&G funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “We need more waterfront real estate available: North Fill.” • “Keep the pressure on ADF&G to keep this office open and fully staffed and fully funded.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “My husband would be interested in winter fisheries if they are close to home.” • “Support land management by the city.”
<i>Other</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tax incentives, business support, marketing for small businesses, business incubator • Establish volunteer days • Leverage the Cordova Chamber, Science Center, PWS Community College and other organizations to address priorities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Provide tax incentives and affordable business space so entrepreneurs and start-up companies can establish a sustainable future.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Making my business beautiful and my product affordable, proactively helping others to do the same. Buying local!” • Serve on Chamber Economic Development Committee, write grants.

Cordova Comp Plan Update Survey + Map Results, Jan 2019: What you have to say

A summary of most repeated and supported themes, strategies and project ideas from the comment map and survey

Close to 600 Responses Received!

- **268 comments** on the interactive project comment map (*this side*).
- Another **327 responses** to the survey (*flipside*).

Recreation

Transportation

Economic
Development

Maritime

Housing

Health +
Environment



City of Cordova
ALASKA

Project Website

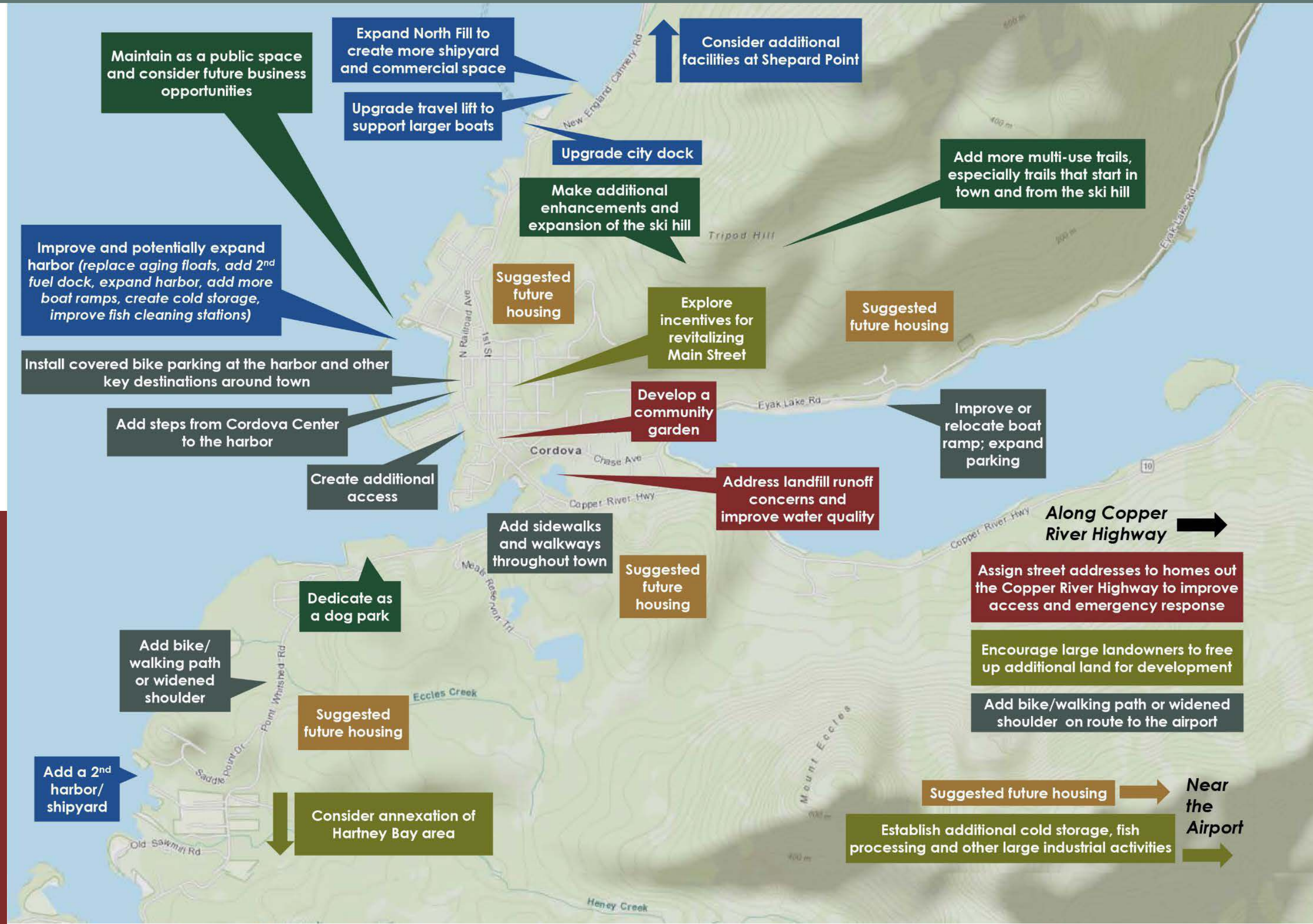
Visit the project website for more information and to sign up for updates:

www.CordovaCompPlan.com

Project Contacts

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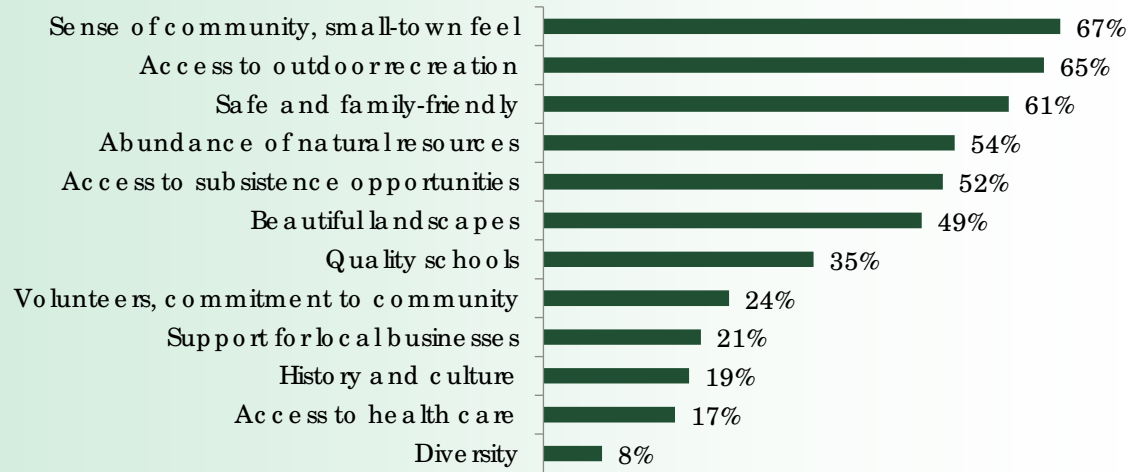
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Cordova Comp Plan Update Survey + Map Results, Jan 2019: What you have to say

A summary of most repeated and supported themes, strategies and project ideas from the comment map and survey

What do you most value about Cordova?

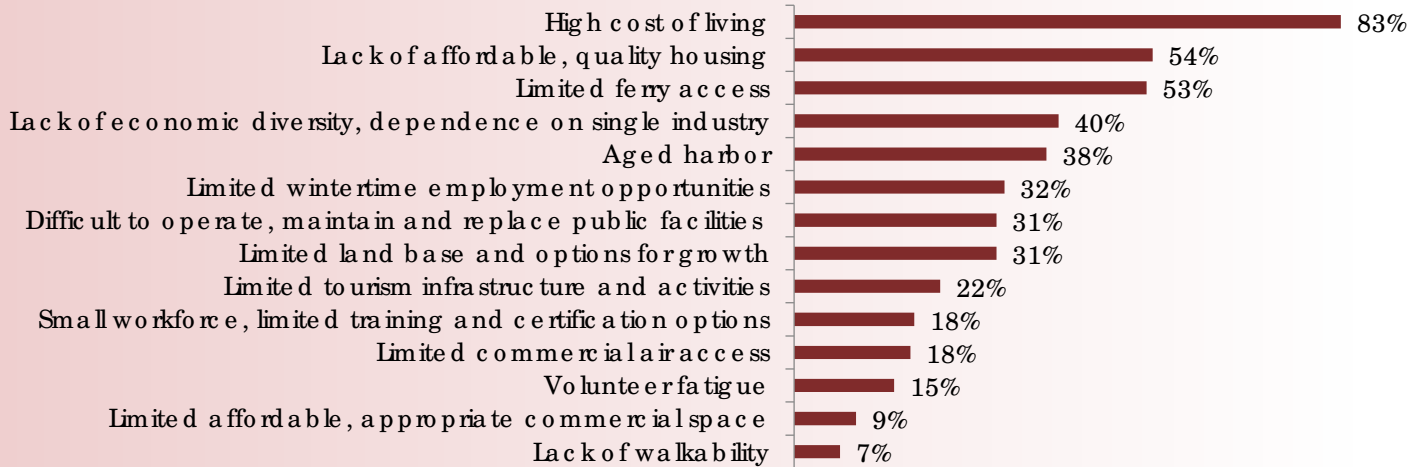


"Cordova is a wonderful community because it is small, because of the strong fishing economy, and because of the vibrant people who would not fit in anywhere else."

How can Cordova create year-round jobs? Your ideas:

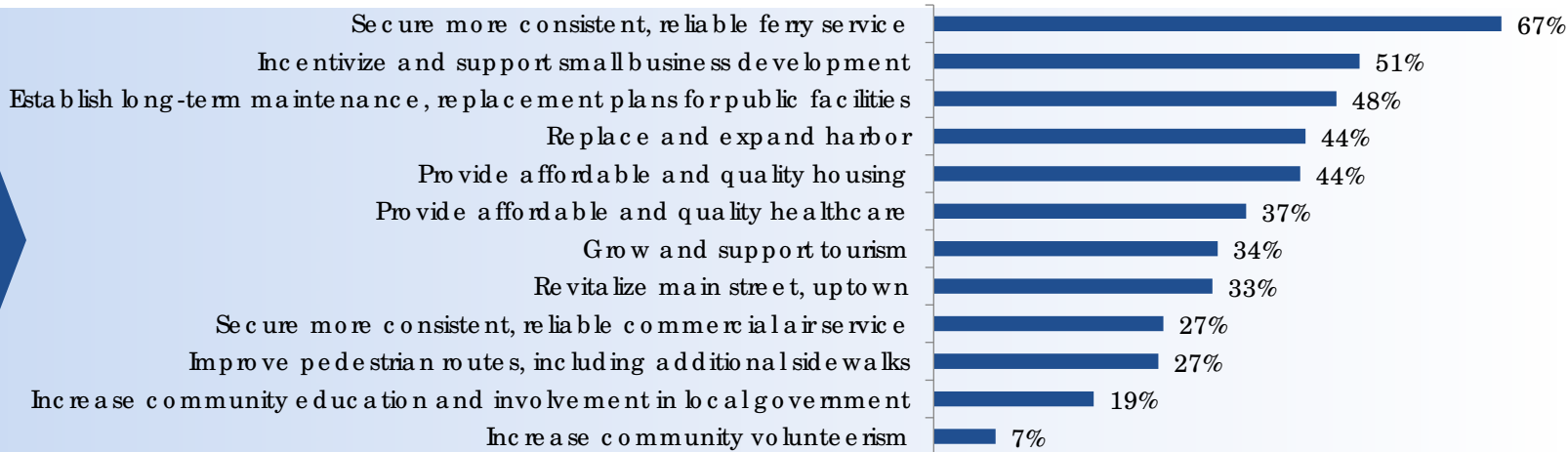
- ❖ Diversify the economy (agriculture, aquaculture, more small-scale tourism, timber)
- ❖ Expand maritime services (indoor boat maintenance facility, increased vessel repair services, boat rebuilding, community cold storage)
- ❖ Expand value-added seafood processing (fish sticks, imitation crab, smokehouse)
- ❖ Grow wintertime fisheries (cod, shrimp, herring, crab, halibut)
- ❖ Expand vocational and technical education opportunities (marine industry-specific trainings)
- ❖ Create small business incentives (tax incentives, training, co-work space)
- ❖ Improve access via improved ferry service or other connections
- ❖ Address Cordova's high cost of living (groceries, housing, travel)

What are Cordova's biggest challenges?



"I love this town and hate the thought of having to leave but it costs so much to live here ...now that I'm retired I have to leave."

What are the most important projects, strategies we should focus on over the next 5 years?



"Cordova is difficult to get to which is one of the reasons why many people live here. It is off the beaten path, in a beautiful place...But with this comes additional challenges. When the ferry or airlines cannot support the needs of the community, people may begin to look for opportunities elsewhere."

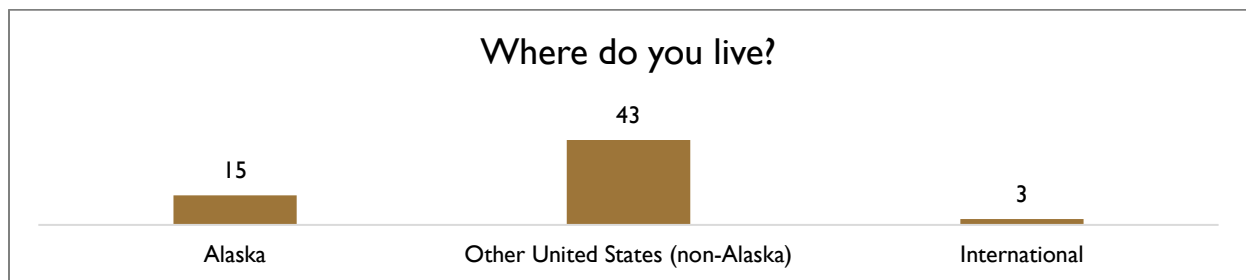
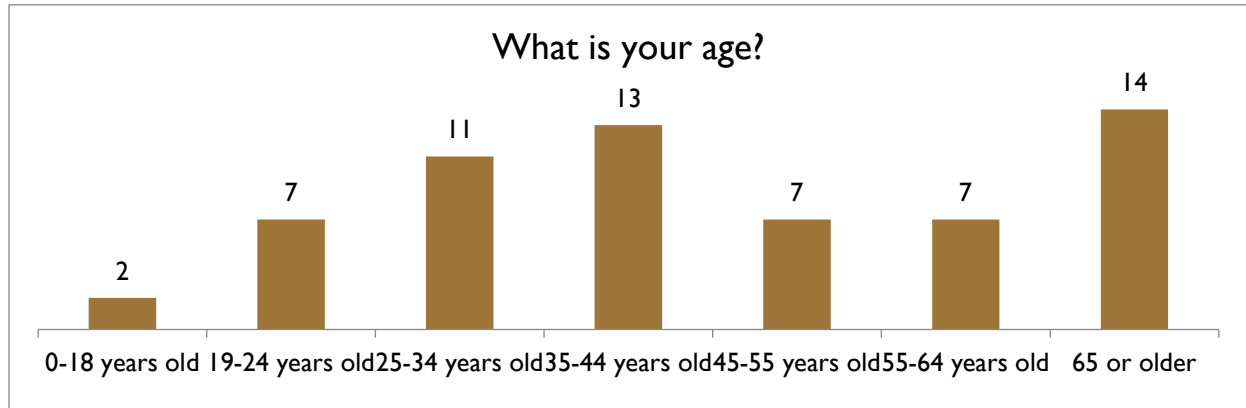
What other ideas and concerns were shared in the survey?

- ❖ Create more senior housing options
- ❖ Limit infill of tidelands to protect fish and bird habitat
- ❖ Clean up streets and encourage property owners to tidy lots
- ❖ Consider supplementing city revenues with sources other than property tax
- ❖ Explore ways to consolidate healthcare delivery between the City and the Native Village of Eyak
- ❖ Improve recycling and trash management, including better bear management

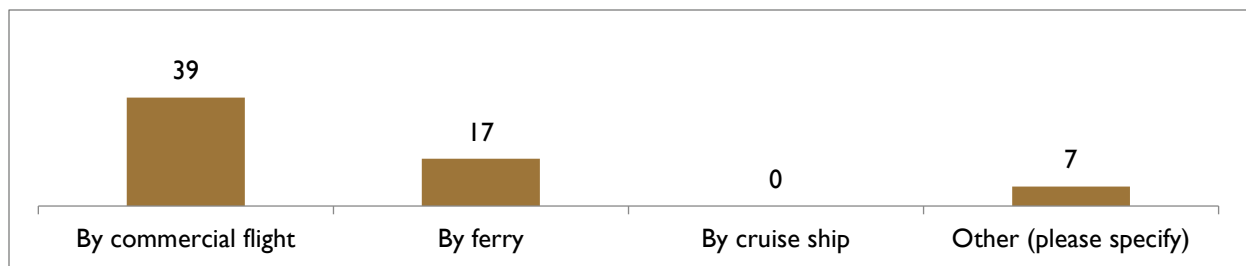
Cordova Visitor Survey: Summer 2019 Results

Who responded to the survey?

The survey was distributed in hard copy at hotels around Cordova, was available online, promoted on the project website and advertised at community events. Sixty-three people responded to the visitor survey, which was open between June and September 2019.

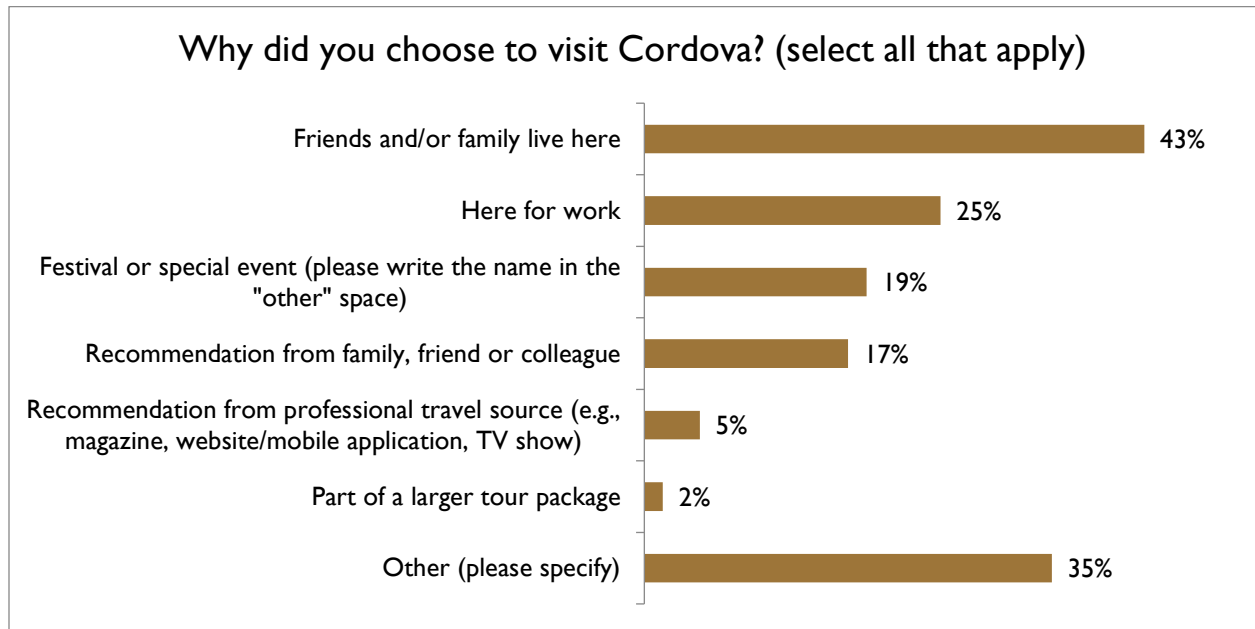


Results to the question, “How did you arrive in Cordova?”



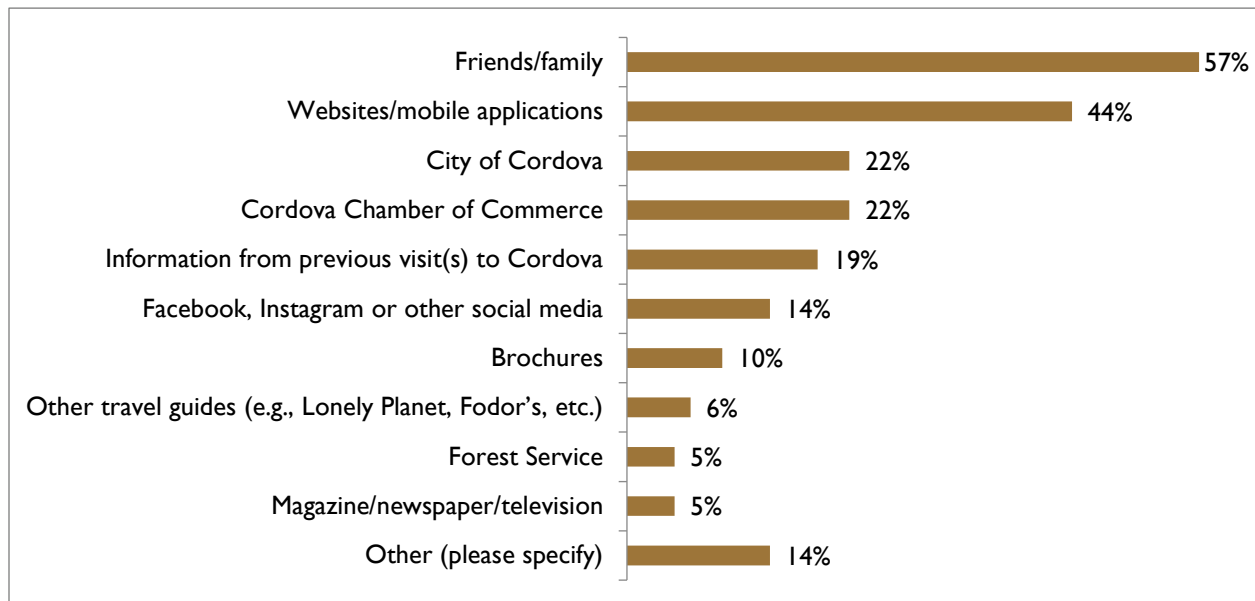
“Other” top responses included by boat (5)

Results to the question, “Why did you choose to visit Cordova? (select all that apply)”



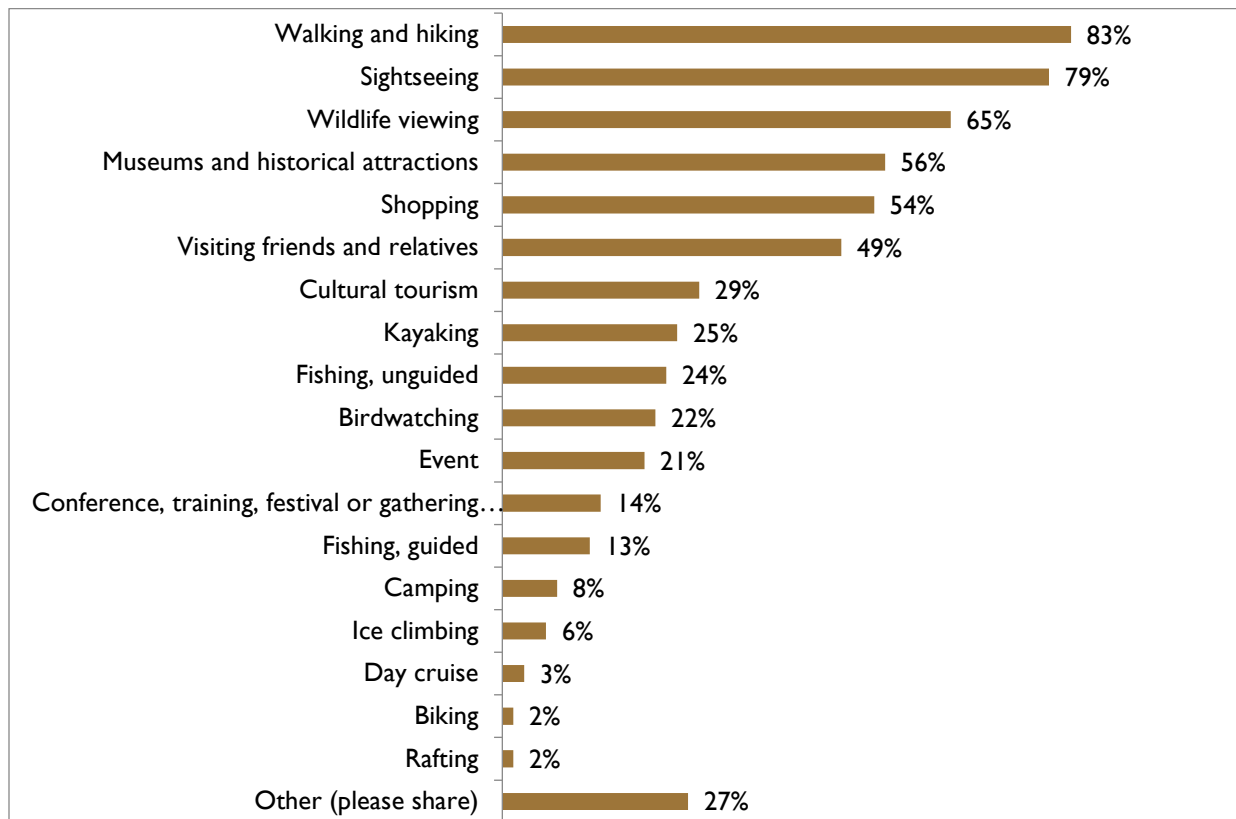
“Other” responses included Salmon Jam, internet search, bucket list, Fungus Festival, recommendation from commercial fishing friends

Results to the question, “What sources did you use to plan your trip to Cordova? (select all that apply)”



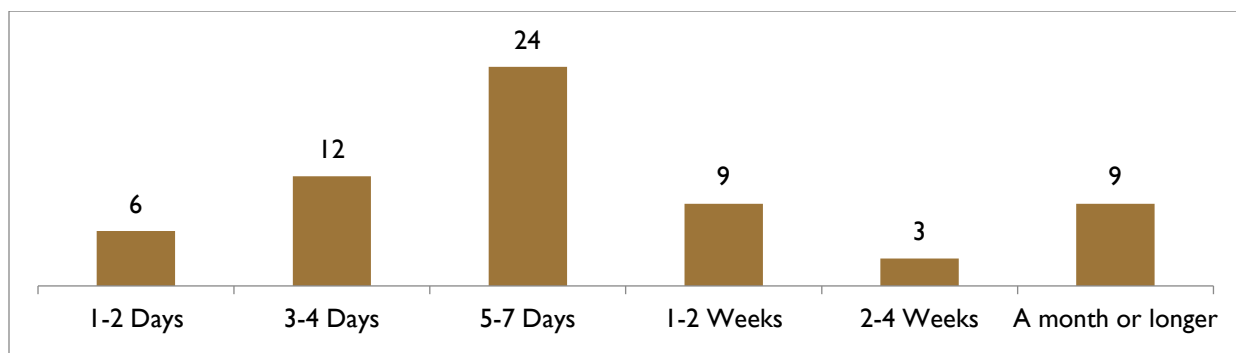
“Other” responses included no planning required (tour or classroom package), ferry system, Salmon Jam website, walking around

Results to the question, “What did you do/are you planning to do on your visit? (select all that apply)”

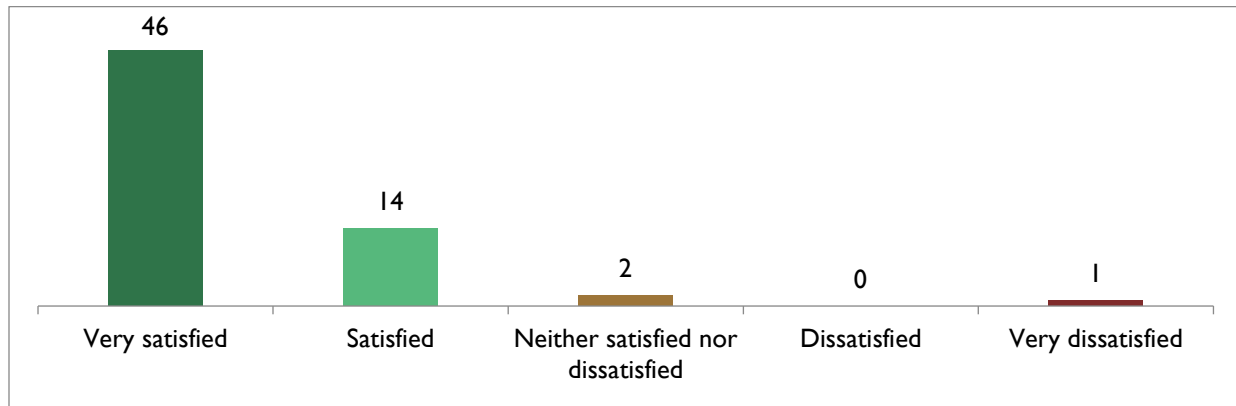


“Other” responses include Salmon Jam, work, research, Fungus Fair

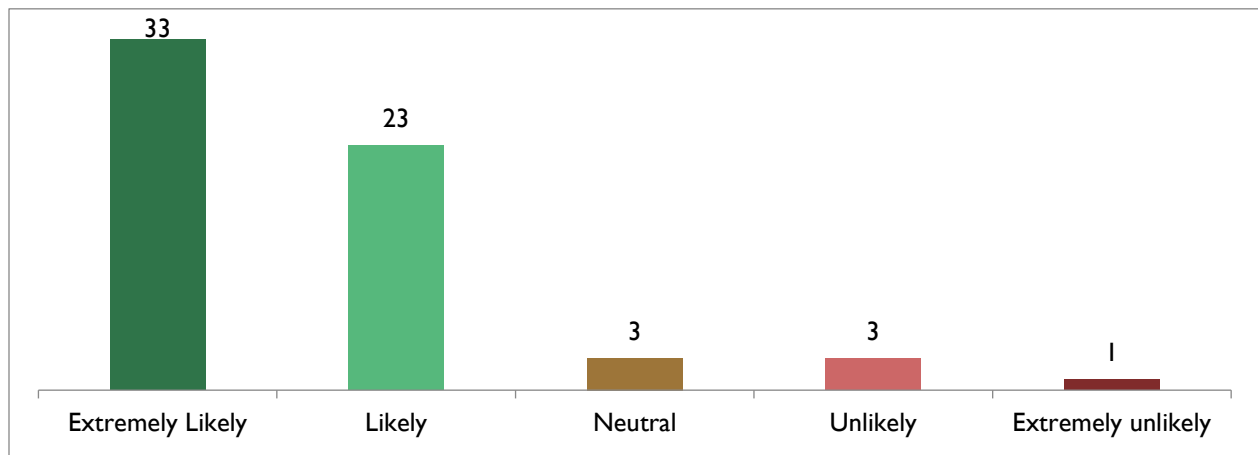
Results to the question, “How many days did you spend/are you planning to spend in Cordova?”



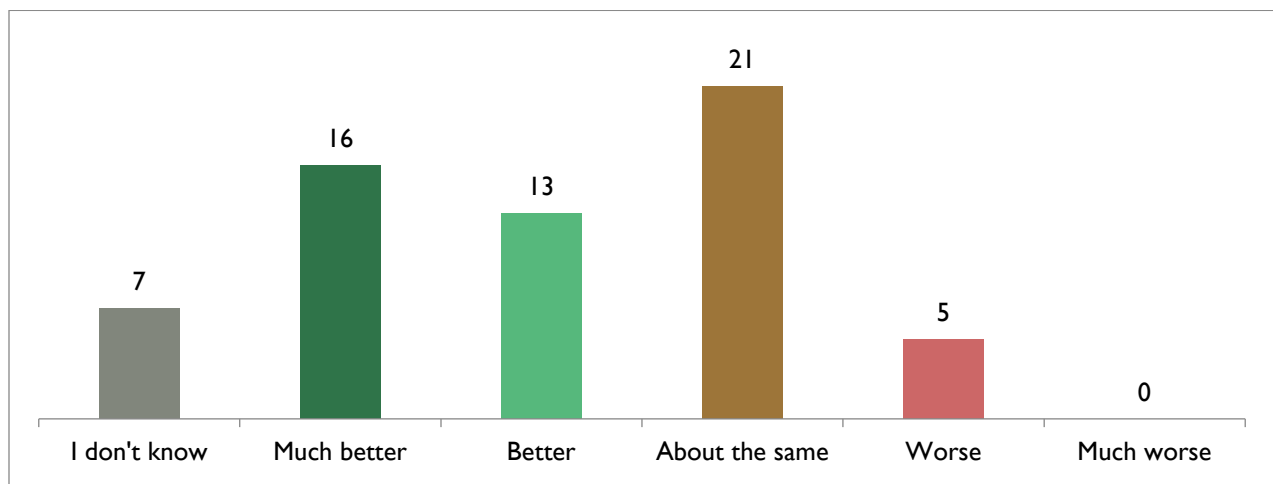
Results to the question, “How would you rate your overall satisfaction with your Cordova trip?”



Results to the question, “How likely are you to return to Cordova?”



Results to the question, “How does Cordova compare with other destinations in terms of value for the money of your trip?”



Cordova Comprehensive Plan Update: Student Feedback from Back to School Night, Fall 2019

What do you like to do in your free time? (responses with stars were repeated)

- Walk around town (**)
- Hang out with friends (*)
- Be lazy
- Crafts: knitting/sewing
- Exercise
- Four-wheeling
- Go out the road
- Hiking
- Jetski
- Kayak
- Politics
- Swim

What do you like most about Cordova? (responses with stars were repeated)

- Hiking (**)
- Outdoor activities (*)
- Fish, fishing (*)
- The community
- Inclusivity
- People
- Lakes
- The view

If you could change one thing about Cordova, what would it be? (responses with stars were repeated)

- Better transportation: reliable ferry (****)
- Build a road to the outside (*)
- More shops (*)
- Climate change
- Diversity in economy
- Fix up buildings
- More stuff to do