

YOUTH COMMISSION BUDGET SUMMIT

January 26, 2025
1:30 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER & ORDERS OF THE DAY

A. ROLL CALL

II. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. JANUARY 26, 2025, BUDGET AGENDA

B. JANUARY 21, 2024, BUDGET MEETING MINUTES

III. PUBLIC RECORD

IV. OPEN FORUM

(1 MINUTE OF SPEAKING TIME IS AVAILABLE)

2_m 00_s



V. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

YOUTH BUDGET PRIORITIES SUMMIT

SAN JOSÉ YOUTH COMMISSION

JANUARY 26, 2025





TODAY'S AGENDA

1:30 - 1:40 PM	Welcome & Introduction from Vice Mayor Kamei
1:40 - 2:00 PM	Presentation of Youth Priority Survey Results
2:00 - 2:15 PM	Refreshment Break & Gather in Priority Breakout Groups
2:15 - 4:00 PM	Priority Group Breakout Session
4:00 - 4:30 PM	Priority Group Peer Presentations
4:30 - 5:00 PM	Community Conversation with Councilmember Cohen
5:00 - 5:30 PM	Vote & Evaluation



COMMISSIONER KUCHAREWSKI

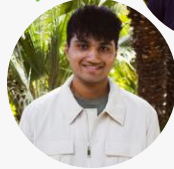


COMMISSIONER MISHRA
District 1



Citywide

COMMISSIONER
MASCARENHAS
District 10, Chair



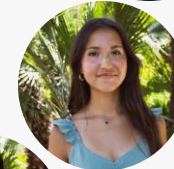
COMMISSIONER
PRADEEPKUMAR
District 2, Outreach

COMMISSIONER SINGH
District 9



COMMISSIONER SANCHEZ
District 3

COMMISSIONER
GONZALES-MUÑIZ
District 8



COMMISSIONER ARROYO
District 4

COMMISSIONER VU
District 7



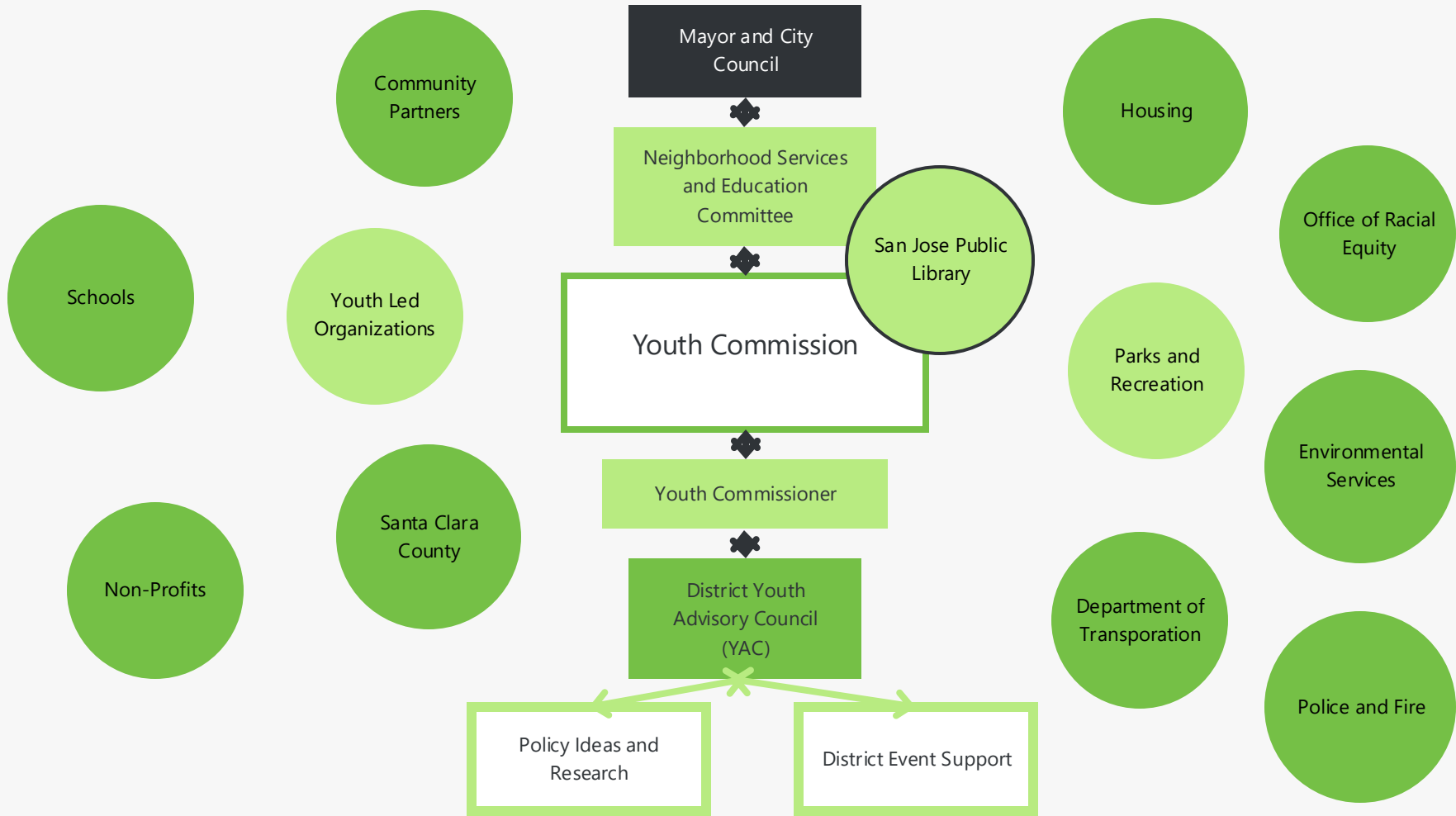
COMMISSIONER LIEU
District 5, Vice Chair

COMMISSIONER BANSAL
District 6, Communications



Youth Commission

CITY OF SAN JOSE



WHAT DOES THE YOUTH COMMISSION DO?

Established over 50 years ago as the official advisory group to the Mayor and City Council, the Youth Commission represents approximately 248,000 San Jose youth under age 19, empowering young people to be civically engaged through local and city-wide initiatives while promoting available resources, providing equitable access and support to marginalized youth communities, and developing policy recommendations that address youth needs.

Policy Recommendations



Host Events



Lead YACs



YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCILS

These councils provide valuable input and insights on policies and programs directly impacting young people.

From July 2023 to April 2024, Youth Commission and Youth Advisory Council members volunteered a combined **2,282** service hours in dedication to Youth Commission activities and events.



16

The average number of hours spent by 54 Youth Advisory Council members in Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8 & 10 were spent on activities such as attending YAC meetings, supporting district events, and doing policy research.

128

The average number of hours spent by the 11 Youth Commissioners on activities such as attending general meetings, coordinating YAC meetings, conducting community outreach, and crafting policy recommendations.



Work Plan 2024-2025

The work plan for the fiscal year 2024-2025 was written so that the Youth Commission's voices would be heard through advisory comments and recommendations on youth priorities.

Through youth-focused outreach and their lived experiences, the Commission identified priorities such as safe and inclusive opportunities for young people to act on environmental change and exploring topics of safety and support services available to all.



Explore and understand gender-based violence resources and services.



To foster environmental literacy and youth stewardship to create a more sustainable San José.



Evaluate and study College and Career Pathways and literacy opportunities in San José.

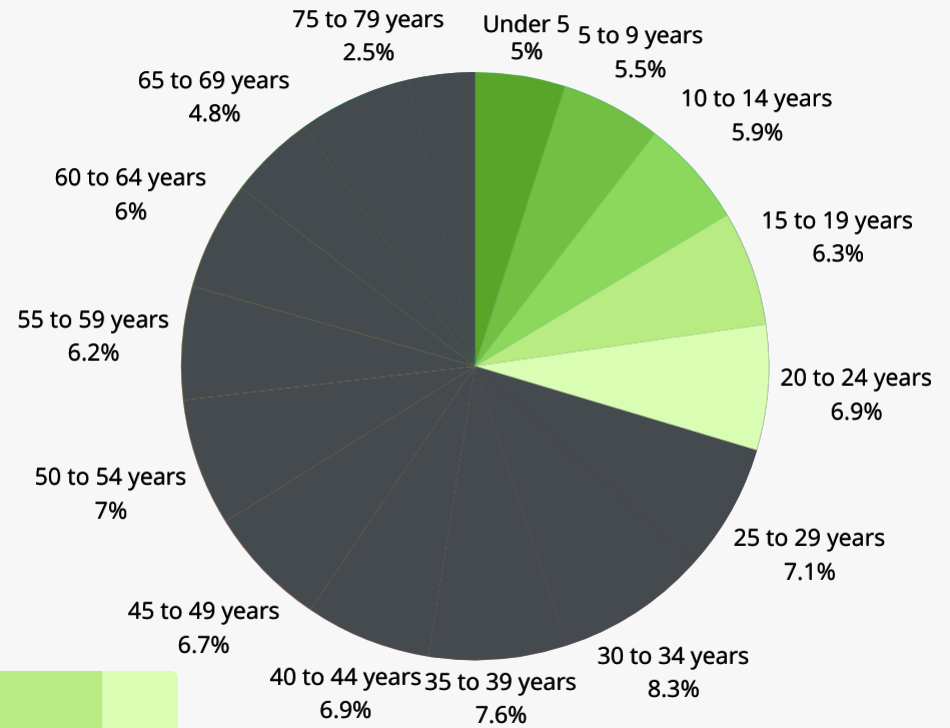
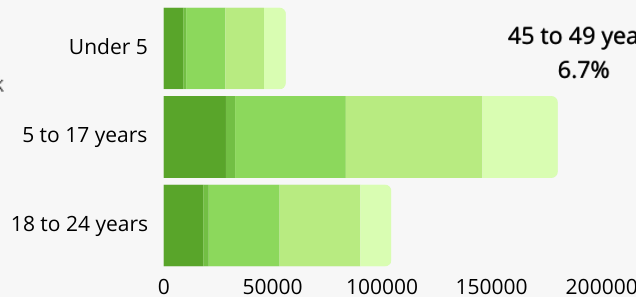


Establish and implement the San José Youth Commission Innovation Committee.

Youth in San José

San José is the most populous city in Santa Clara County, with children, youth, and young adults under age 24 accounting for nearly 30% of its almost one million residents. Of these, 37.5% are Asian, 31% are Latino/x, 24.4% are White, 3% have Black/African ancestry, and 4.1% identify as another race or ethnicity. Approximately 40% of residents are foreign-born, and 50% speak a language other than English.

- White
- African American or Black
- Asian or Pacific Islander
- Hispanic or Latino
- Two or More Races



Child, Youth, and Young Adult Populations



Youth in San José

While San José is one of the wealthiest cities in the country, many families are struggling financially in the region. 8.2% of San José residents under the age of 18 are below the federal poverty level, compared to 7.4% of the overall population of the city. For families with children under the age of 18, 6.5% live below the poverty level.

Youth and Poverty Levels

	Total Population	Below Poverty Level
Under 5	47,067	10.4% (4,915)
5 to 17	146,563	8% (11,723)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2021 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates



ANNUAL YOUTH PRIORITIES SURVEY RESULTS

JANUARY 26, 2025



SURVEY

The Annual Youth Priorities Survey helps to inform the Youth Commission's work plan and advocate for youth priorities during budget considerations.

- Ran from October 28 - December 9, 2024
- 32 questions
 - None of the questions required a response
- **463** total participants
 - 82% completion rate



Outreach Channels

Flyer: 209 responses
Email: 72 responses
Social Media: 182 responses

Participation

We incentivized participation with the option to enter a drawing for Apple AirPods.



DEMOGRAPHICS



- 54% identify as a woman
- 39% identify as a man
- 9% consider themselves low-income
- **14%** have struggled with their mental health



- 56% are in high school
- 23% are in middle school
- **93%** agree that education is important to achieve future goals



- 51% identify as Asian or Pacific Islander, including Vietnamese
- 26% identify as Hispanic or Latino
- 10% identify as White



- 55% speak English at home
- 14% speak Spanish at home
- 9% speak Indian languages at home
- 7% speak Vietnamese at home
- 7% speak Mandarin or Cantonese at home

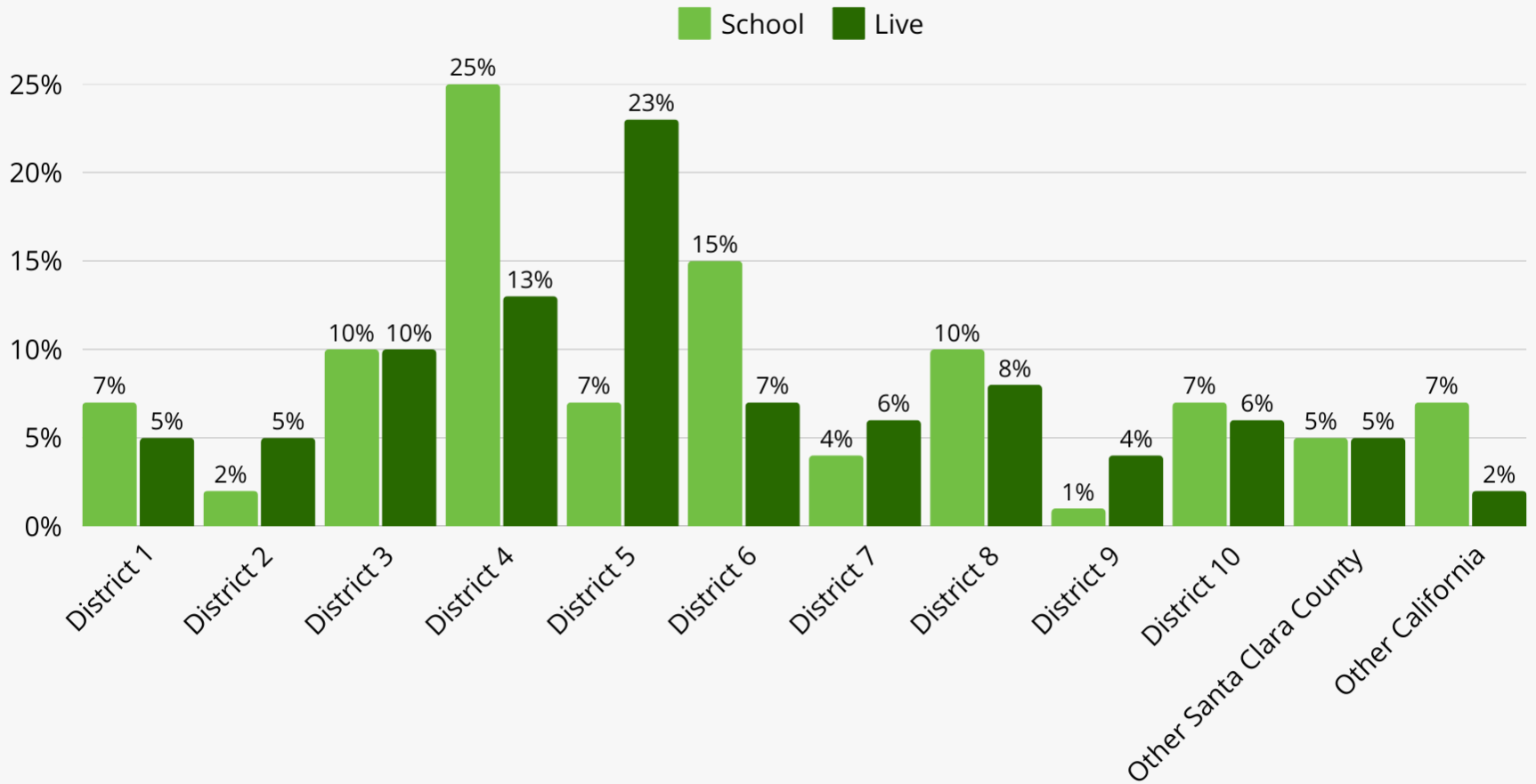


- 11% identify as part of the LGBTQIA+ community.
- 3% identify as non-binary or transgender.

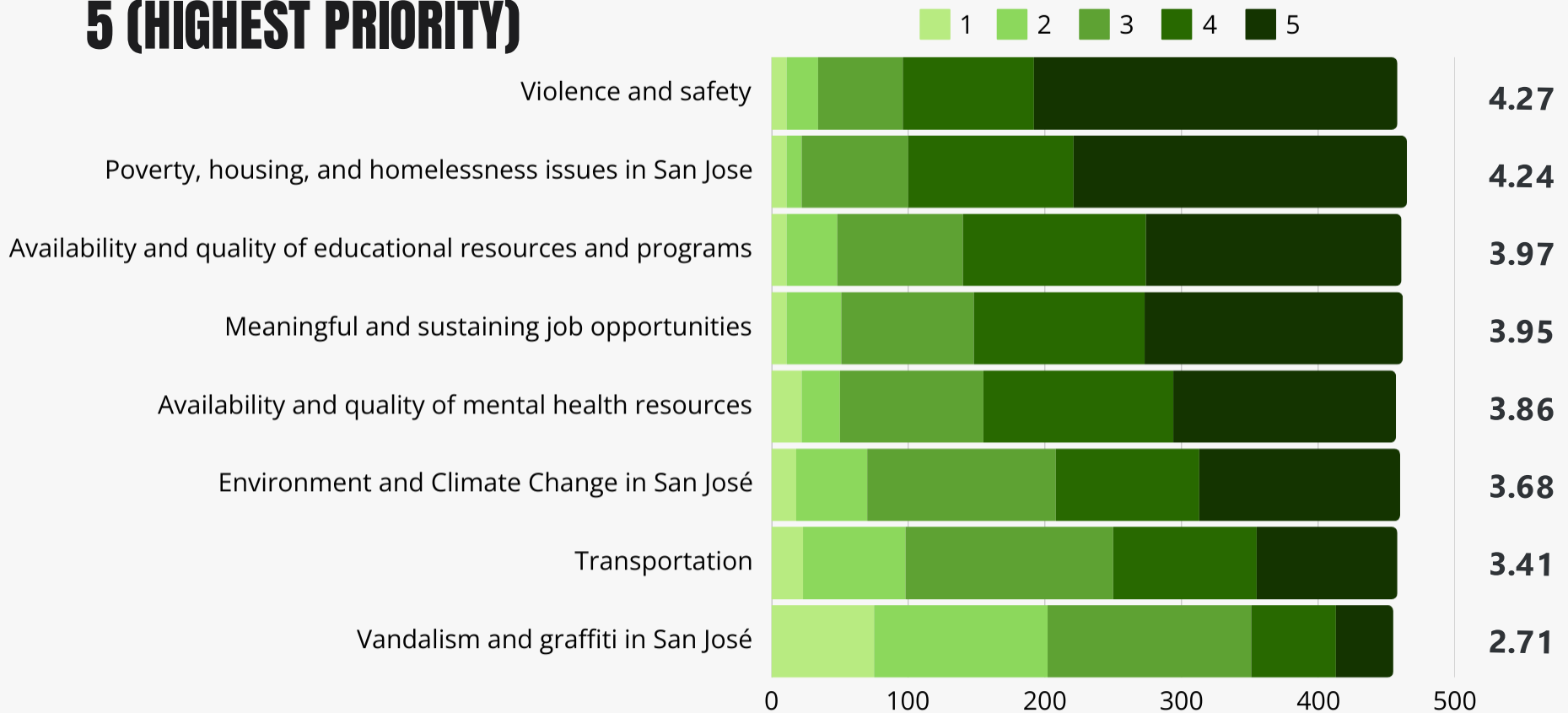


- **21%** are part of the first generation in the US
- 6% were born outside of the US
- 9% would be the first in their family to go to college

WHERE DO YOU CURRENTLY GO TO SCHOOL AND LIVE?

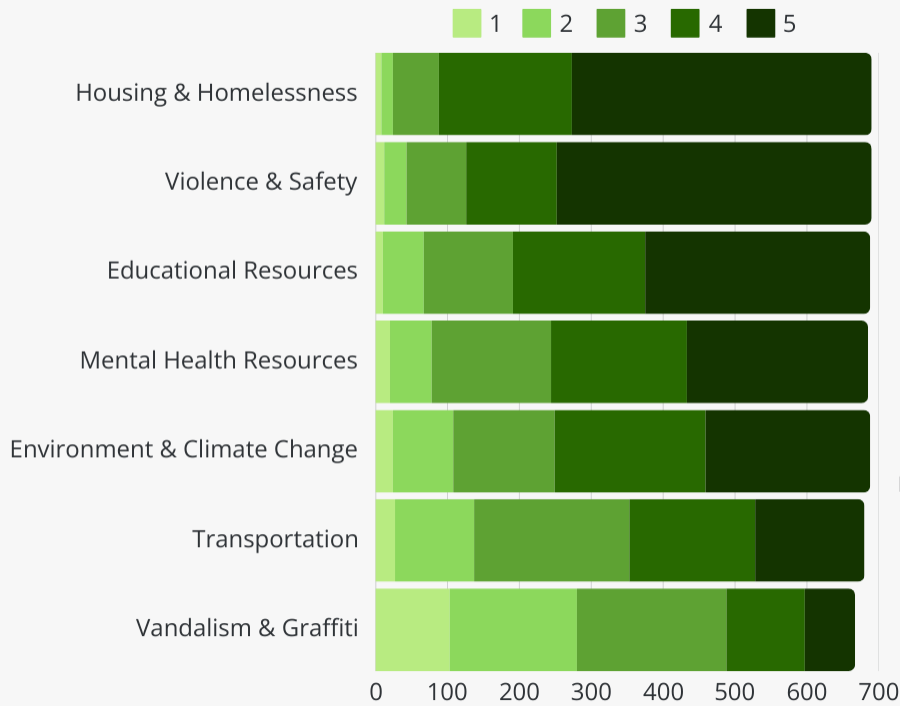


IMPORTANCE OF ISSUES ON A SCALE OF 1 (LOWEST PRIORITY) TO 5 (HIGHEST PRIORITY)

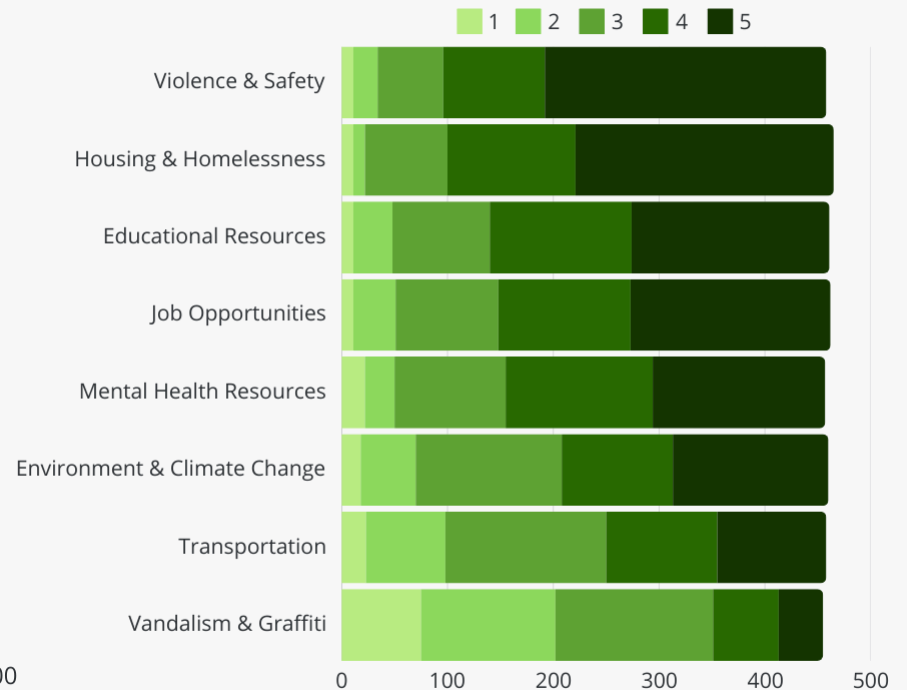


COMPARISION TO LAST YEAR

2023-2024



2024-2025



Advocate for better bike lanes, street lighting, and safer crosswalks.

Creating more programs like sjcccs, proper harm reduction education, more funding for schools and arts programs ending the war on drugs.

First, understanding our community is crucial when addressing these issues. The need to bring communities together and be more involved whether it be through workshops and panels would be beneficial to get our input about these issues. After this we can work with the community and ask what they want to see get done.

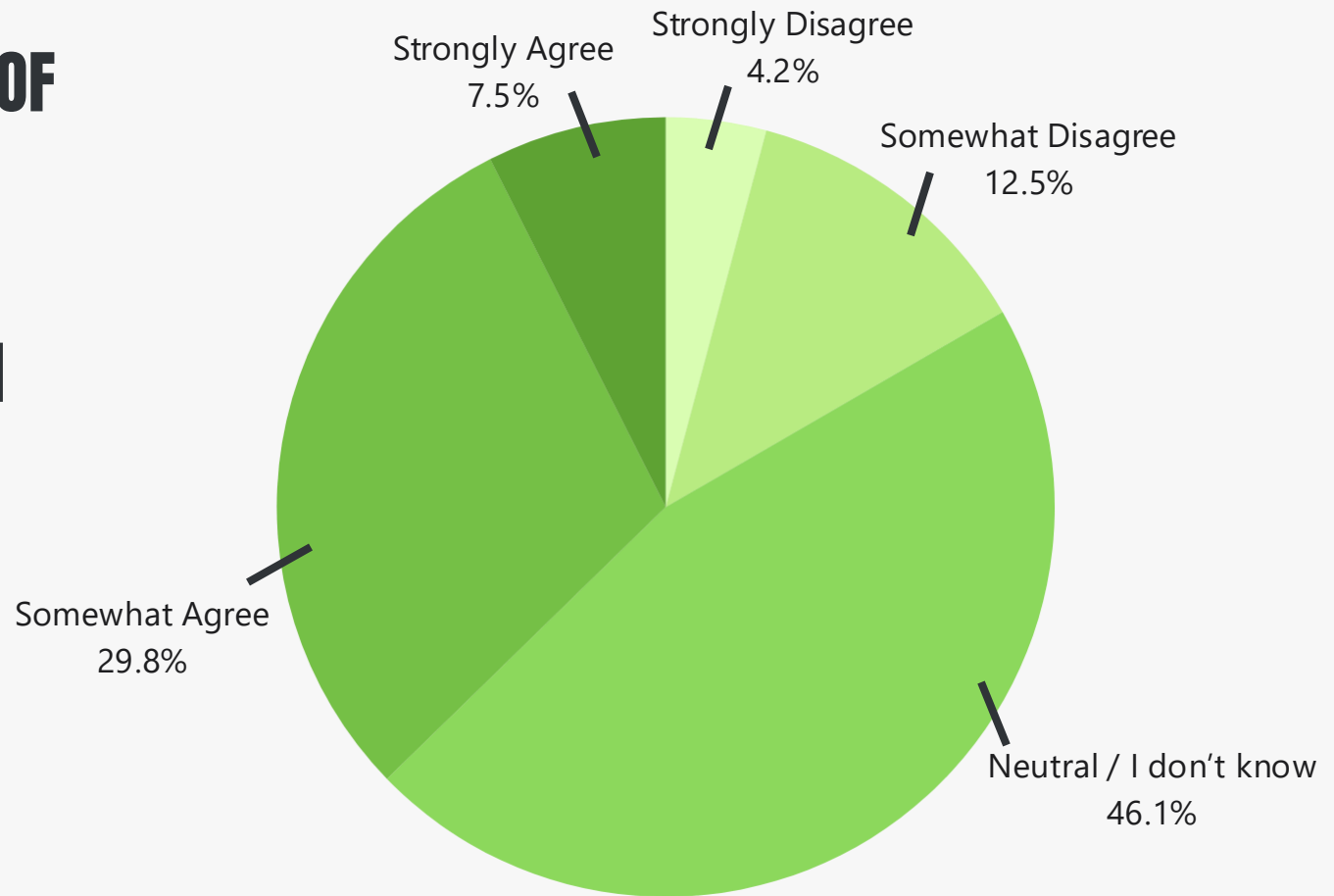
Installing mental health resources in schools across San Jose and highlighting their abilities and availability to students could be helpful.

Create more shelters with mental health and job-training services attached.

I think that school districts should take a much more proactive role in limiting sexual violence and sexual assault and contact between victims and perpetrators. In terms of transportation, VTA absolutely needs more investment and expansion, as well as more mixed-use zoning. Parking lots could be moved underground while infrastructure is redesigned to be more walkable. I also think that planting more native species and even doing things like encouraging home gardens and shifting towards greener architecture in a similar fashion to Singapore would be nice—our skyscrapers' facades could be their own little vertical gardens.

Third spaces and other problems that require more creation of physical spaces will need to have budget allocated to it, meaning San Jose needs to raise more money and/or reallocate funds...

THE LOCAL CITY OF SAN JOSÉ GOVERNMENT REFLECTS YOUTH PRIORITIES.



**THE LOCAL CITY OF
SAN JOSÉ
GOVERNMENT
REFLECTS YOUTH
PRIORITIES.**

Comparison With Last Year's Responses

	2023-2024	2024-2025	% Change
Strongly Agree	4.9%	7.5%	+2.6%
Somewhat Agree	25.1%	29.8%	+4.7%
Neutral / I don't know	51.5%	46.1%	-5%
Somewhat Disagree	12.2%	12.5%	+0.3%
Strongly Disagree	6.4%	4.2%	-2.2%

I do not know much about my community reflecting youth priorities, but I do like the many volunteer options for teens available at my library :D

Although D4YAC and other youth organizations are well represented in the community, it is still not severely prominent.

I don't think I know enough to answer this, but when I look up at graffiti being regularly covered up on the highway bridges and then I look down and see homeless tents I feel like their priorities are off. But then again one is more of a long term fixing process than the other.

I do think the City is responsive to some youth concerns, but I remain pessimistic about the ability of youth to get much done in regards of actually swaying policymakers' opinions. Simply put, youth don't have votes and as such they don't have a voice. I'm sure that of the many valid suggestions that are filtered through YACs and policy inquiries only a select few are implemented, and mainly politically expedient ones. Unless voting infrastructure is made more accessible to young people youth will continue to lack any political capital besides a small ability to push for or against certain policy here and there.

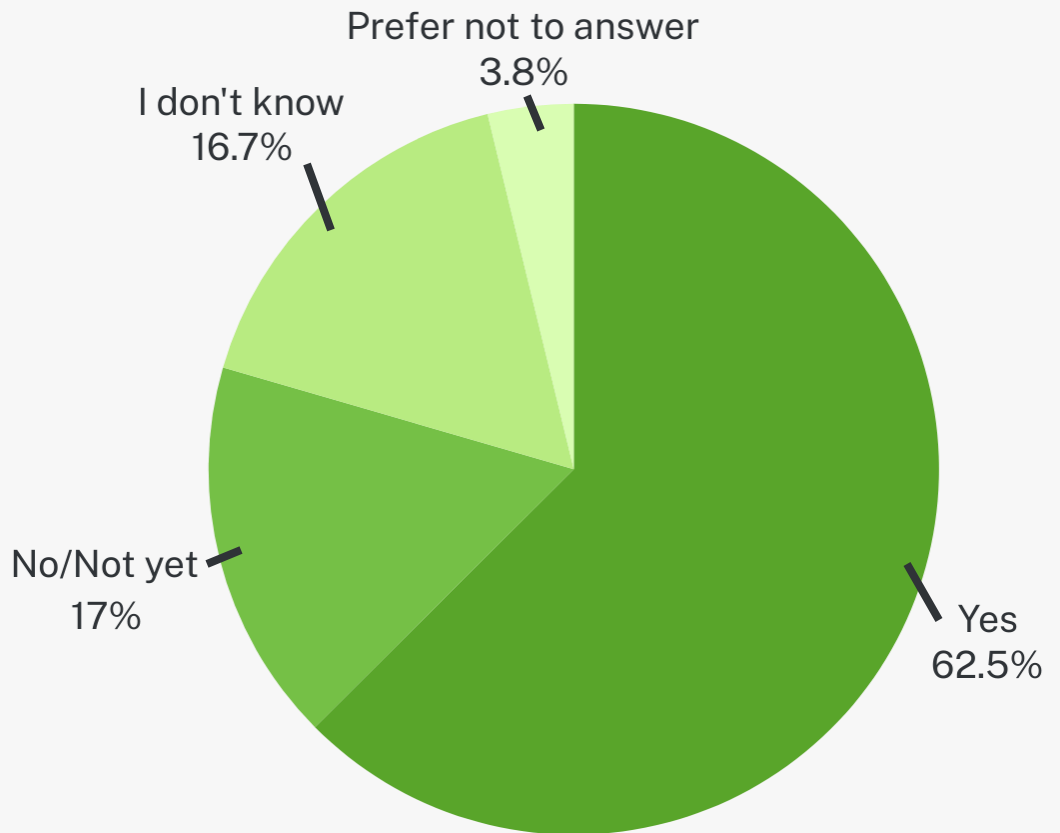
I know many youth climate groups who constantly reach out to the city but never even get a response

i think it does reflect youth priorities to an extent, however, many youth just dont know what the city council does (lack of info)

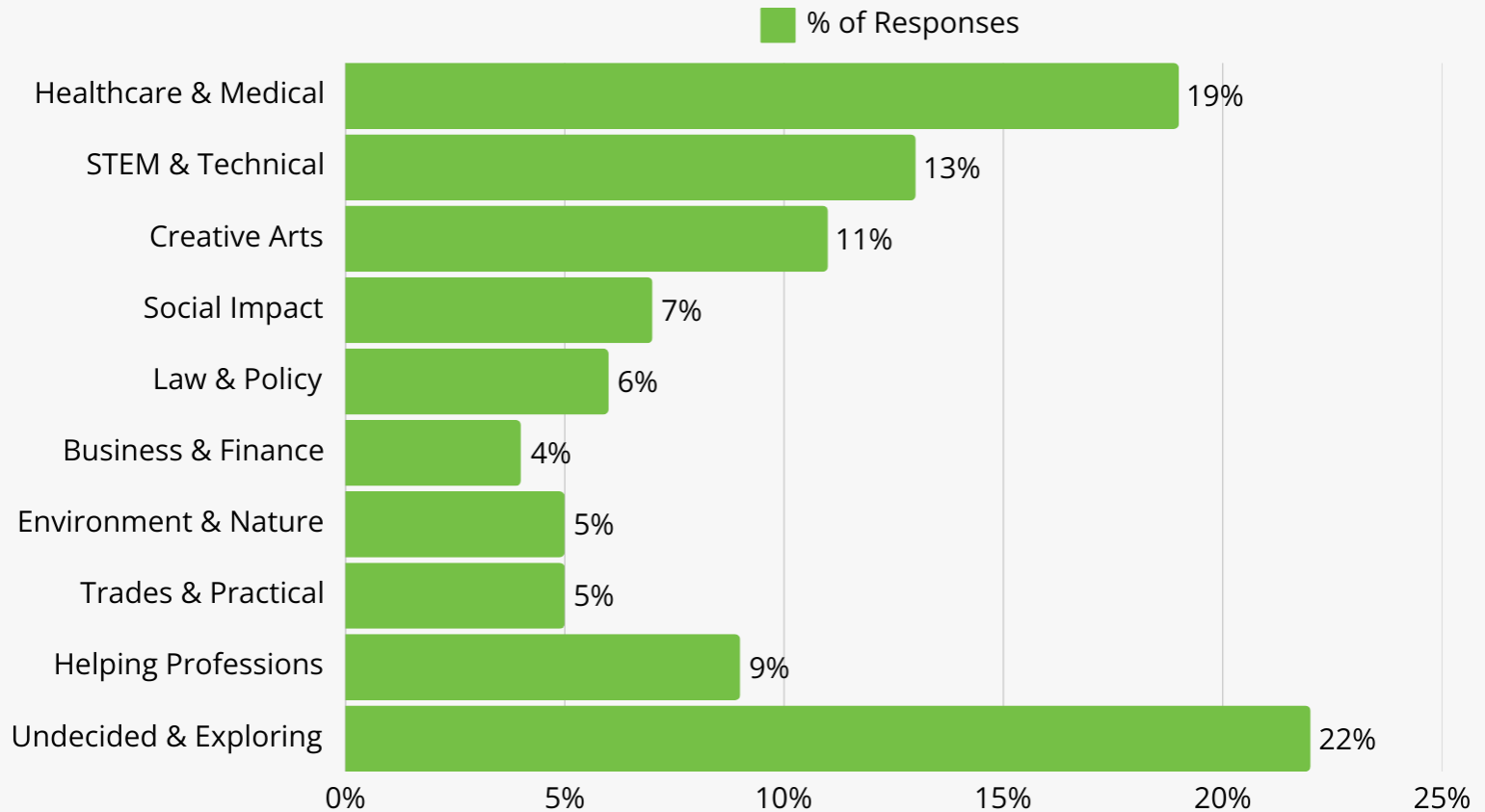
I feel like the local City if San Jose government does try it's best to reflect youth priorities, however there are still things that can be changed to be better.

I think it does in some ways, but it fails to connect with what the local youth are facing in todays society

DO YOU HAVE A DREAM JOB OR CAREER YOU'D LIKE TO PURSUE?



IF YOU HAVE A DREAM JOB, WHAT IS IT, AND WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO YOU?



voice acting, cuz i like doing stuff like that and they can make lots of money

At first thought, I've always believed my career should benefit others, and the first way I thought of was becoming a doctor. And currently, I'm really interested into science, so I pursue becoming an anesthesiologist.

Journalism. Right now, the media is very polarized, just like the country. People are spitting out facts that aren't backed up, videos that are cut out important context and make our world leaders look incompetent or frail. This is not the type of journalism I want to see. I want to see journalism that lays down all the facts, that gives people insight into a subject, and that isn't purposely distorting someone because they don't agree with them.

I want to be a nurse and it's important to me because I get to help others

Librarian.

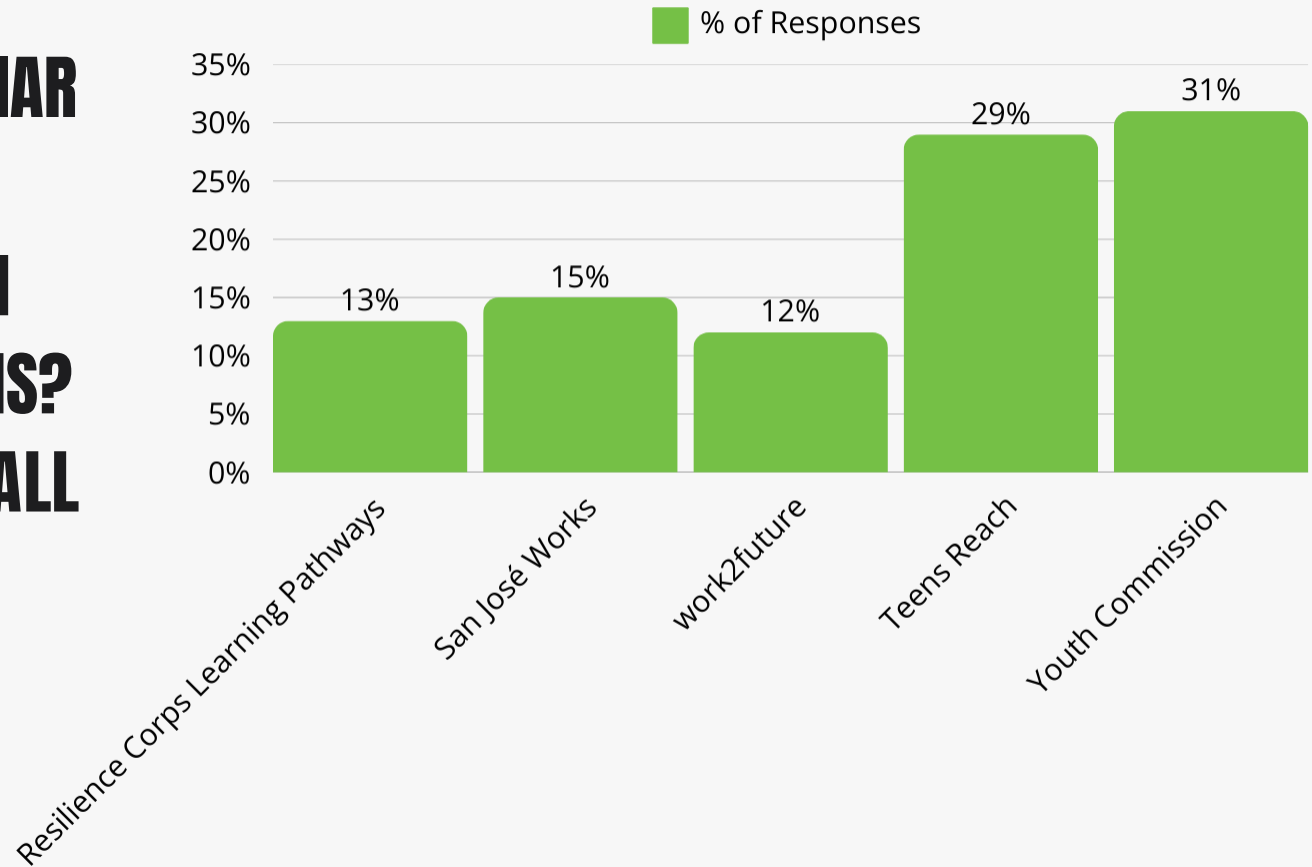
I am interested in going back to school for an arborist degree. My ideal job has been park interpretation where I can inspire individuals to care about the environment and their natural spaces. Another ideal job would be a job in community forestry as an arborist. This is important to me because I have noticed the lack of canopy cover in my community, East Side San Jose. With better canopy cover we can reduce the heat island effect and make our neighborhoods better spaces to recreate.

I would like to either be a singer or a therapist. To me, singing is basically like a form of therapy and to just rewind and take care of yourself. I would like to help people struggling with their mental health in any way I can. Whether that is listening to their problems or writing music people around the world can relate to

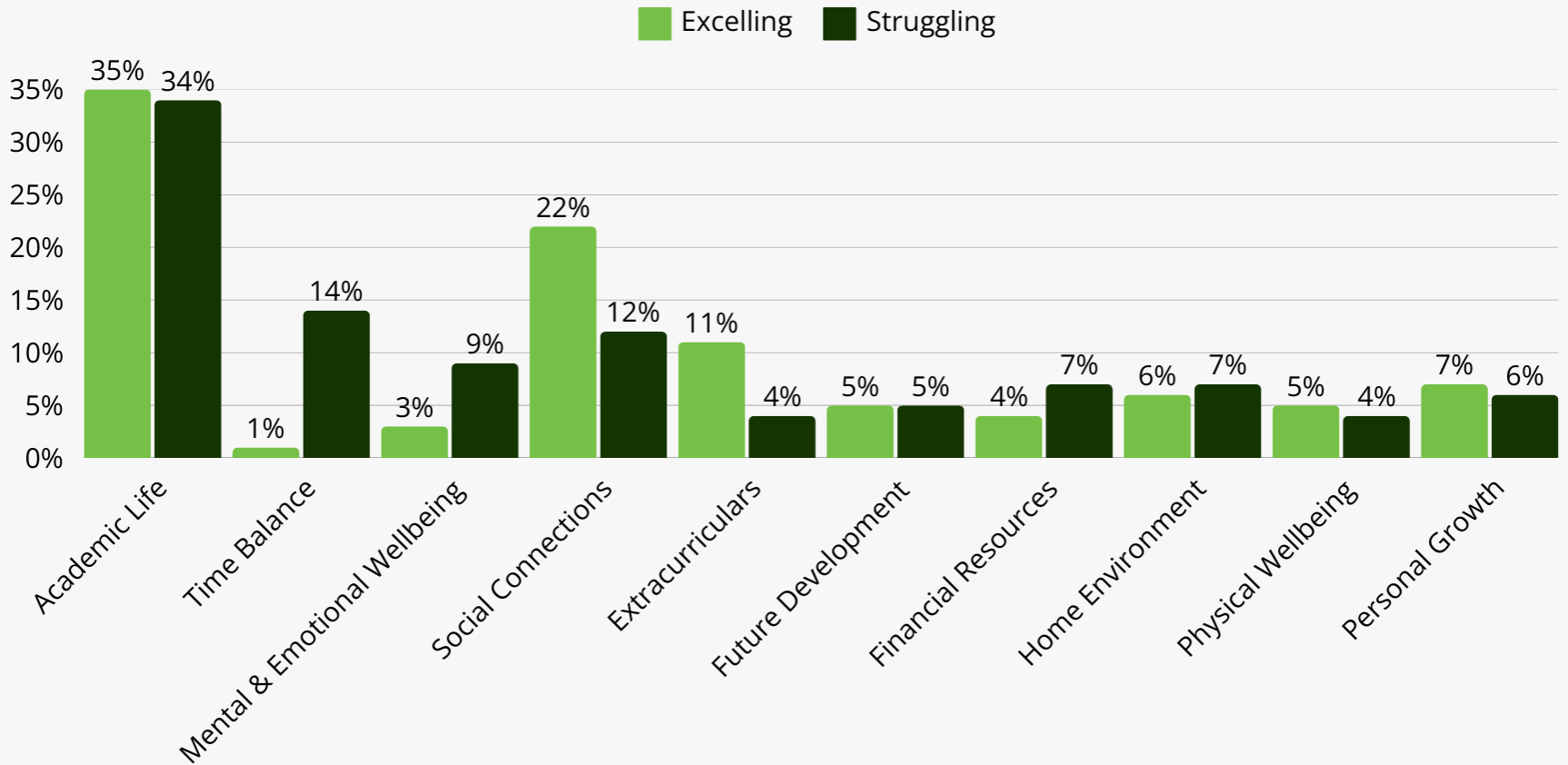
My dream job is an engineer. I haven't decided what kind of engineer but I'm thinking about mechanical engineer. It's important to me because it's what my dad's job is and he does a lot of work to get the money we need to live our normal lives.

My dream job is to become a lawyer and to do something in policy because I want to be able to level the playing field for those who don't receive the same opportunities.

**ARE YOU FAMILIAR
WITH THE
FOLLOWING SAN
JOSÉ PROGRAMS?
PLEASE CHECK ALL
THAT APPLY.**



WHAT ARE YOU EXCELLING OR STRUGGLING WITH THIS YEAR?





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BREAKOUT GROUPS

Goal: To identify the problems within your specific topic area and determine one or two key **ACTIONABLE ITEMS** to solve these problems.

These will be presented in a 3-5 minute presentation to the full group at 4-4:30 pm in your preferred format.

In these presentations, your goal is to convince the group about why your specific issue matters and why they should vote (and allocate budget) for your solution.

Each group should develop 1-2 questions about their problem/solution to ask the Councilmember.



Career Development

Outreach, District 2 - Neyha Pradeepkumar
District 1 - Aanya Mishra
District 9 - Agam Singh

Educational Resources

Chair, District 10 - Nolan Mascarenhas
District 7 - Peter Vu

Environmental Action

Vice Chair, District 5 - Andrew Lieu
District 3 - Edwin Sanchez

Mental Health Resources

District 4 - Genesis Arroyo
District 8 - Aldojoell Gonzalez-

Violence & Safety

Communications, District 6 - Amiya Bansal
Citywide - Marian Kucharewski

GROUP EXPECTATIONS

1. Everyone participates, and no one dominates
2. There are no “right answers”- be respectful and let everyone share their ideas
3. Keep an open mind
4. Stay on topic
5. It’s okay to disagree
6. Respond to others the way you want to be responded to
7. Have fun





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UPCOMING EVENTS

- Mon, Jan 27: Youth Commission Meeting
- Mon, Feb 24: Youth Commission Meeting
- Sat, Mar 8: D1 Adopt-a-Drain Clean Up
- Sat, Mar 15: Creative Futures Fair
- Wed, Mar 19: Joint LEC + YC Meeting
- TBD: Tree Planting @Mt. Pleasant Park
- TBD: LeadHERShip Luncheon

PARTICIPATION EVALUATION



<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2425yacsurvey>

WEBSITE

www.sjpl.org/YouthCommission

EMAIL ADDRESS

youthcommission@sanjoseca.gov

Thank you!



**Youth
Commission**
CITY OF SAN JOSE

VI. ADJOURNMENT