

Bridgewater Community Development Strategy & Downtown

Revitalization Study Community Workshop: Polling Results

Workshop held on 9/22/11 6pm, at Cole-Yeaton Senior Center, Wally Kruger Way

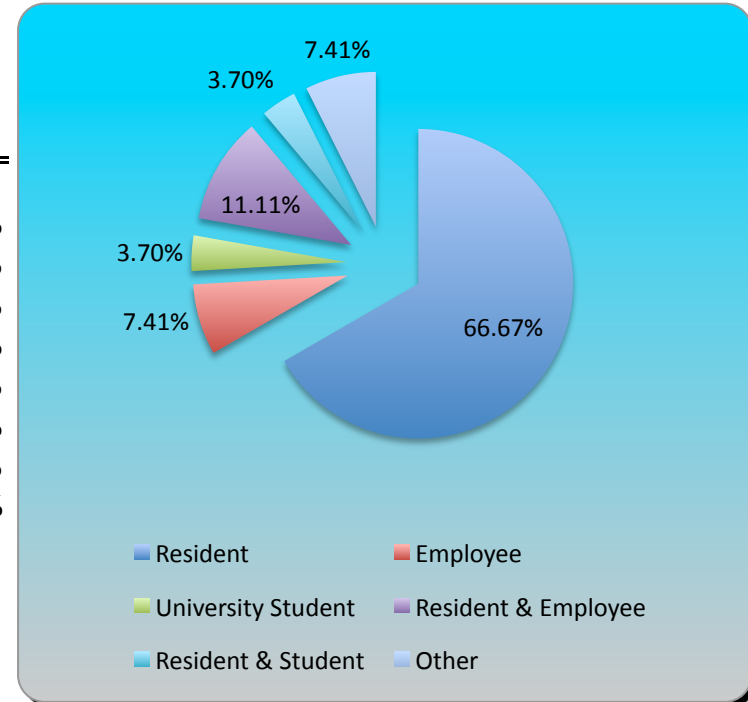
Sponsored by the Bridgewater Community Development Advisory Committee

Session Name: workshop polling results 092211.tpz

Created: 9/23/11 9:35 AM by JM Goldson community preservation + planning

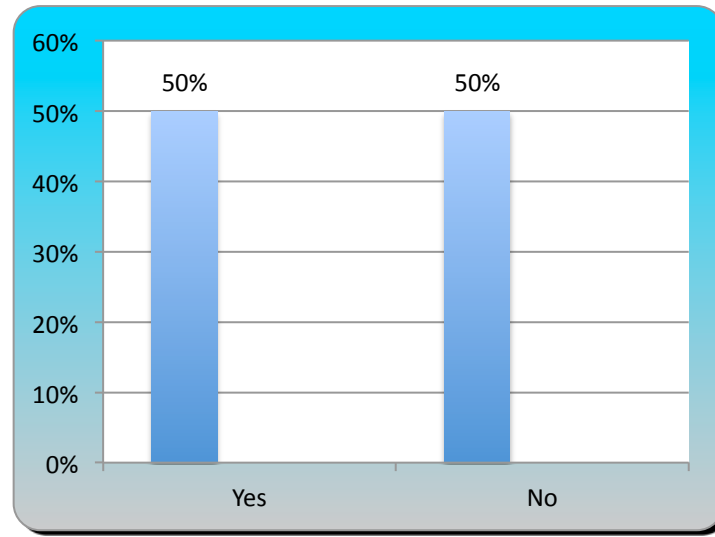
1.) Which best represents your connection to Bridgewater?

	Responses	
Resident	18	66.67%
Employee	2	7.41%
University Student	1	3.70%
Resident & Employee	3	11.11%
Resident & Student	1	3.70%
All of the Above	0	0%
Other	2	7.41%
Totals	27	100%



**2.) Do you currently serve as a town official,
employee, or a board/committee member?**

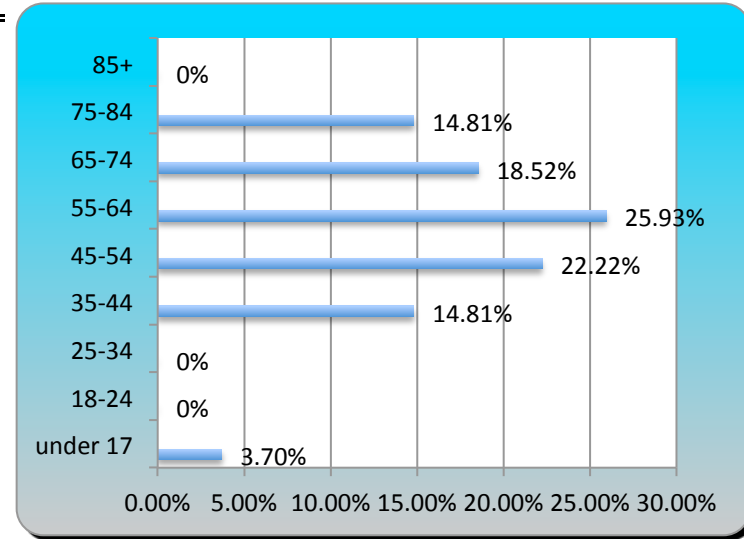
	Responses	
Yes	13	50%
No	13	50%
Totals	26	100%



3.) *How old are you?

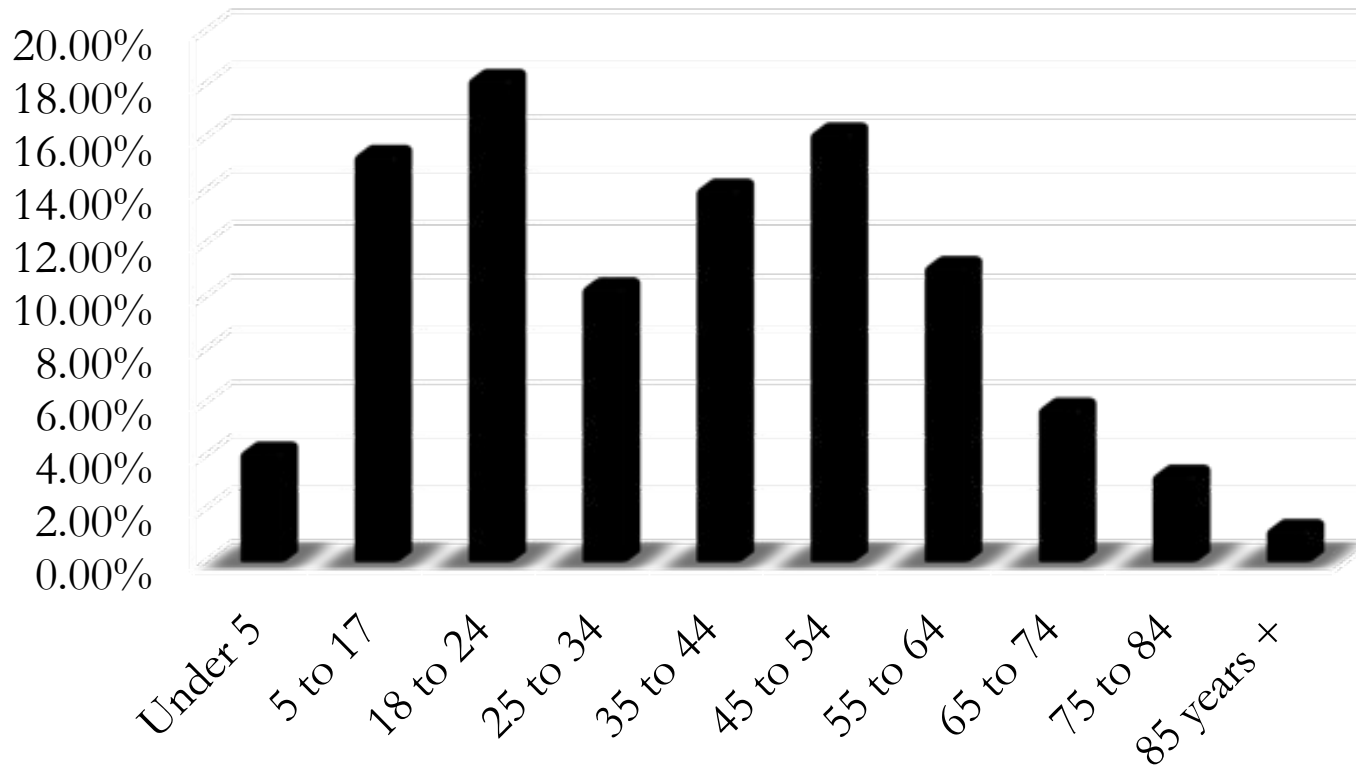
Responses

under 17	1	3.70%
18-24	0	0%
25-34	0	0%
35-44	4	14.81%
45-54	6	22.22%
55-64	7	25.93%
65-74	5	18.52%
75-84	4	14.81%
85+	0	0%
Totals	27	100%



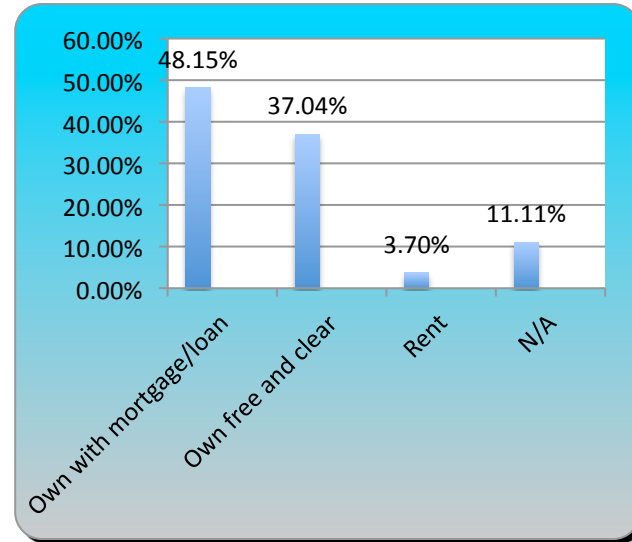
**2010 U.S. CENSUS AGE STATS FOR
BRIDGEWATER**

**Age as % of Total Bridgewater
2010 Population**



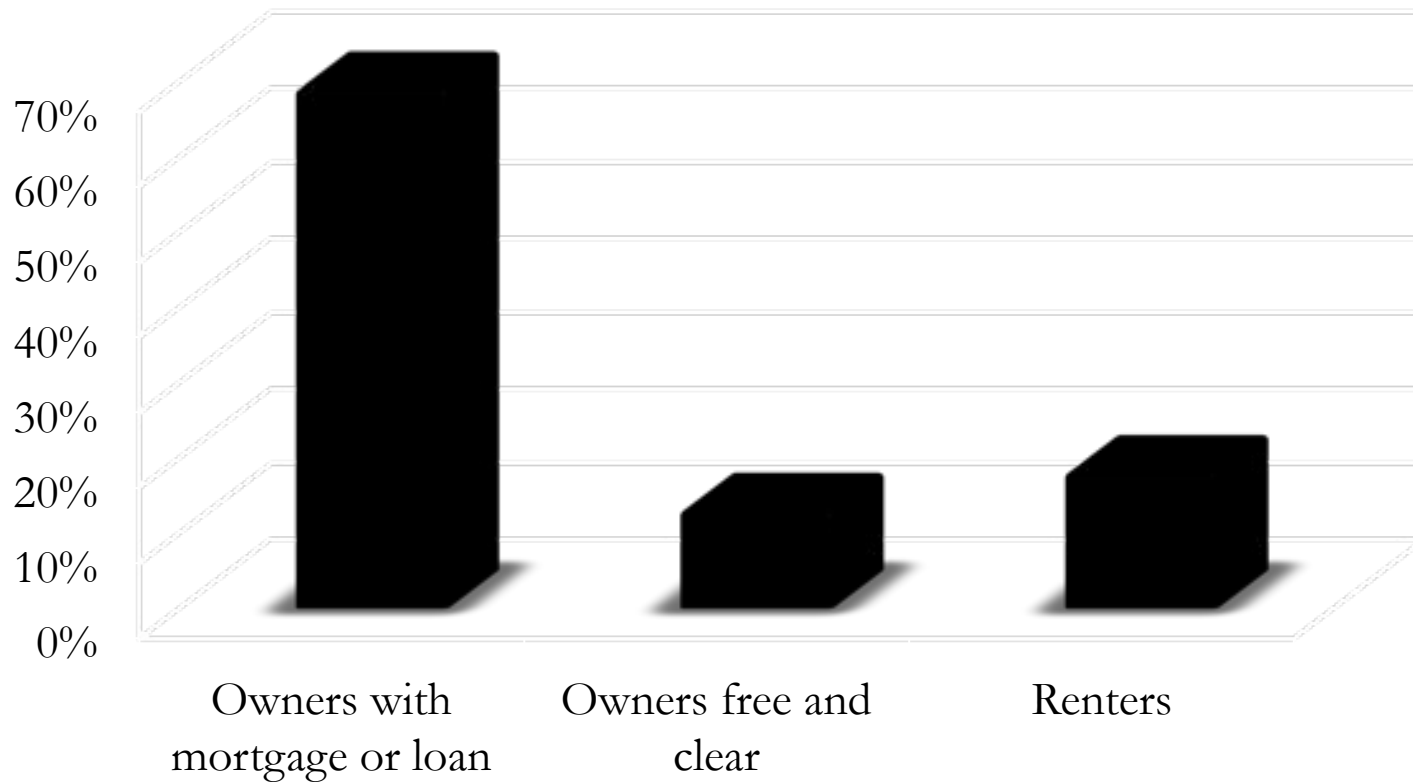
4.) *Do you own or rent your home? Responses

Own with mortgage/loan	13	48.15%
Own free and clear	10	37.04%
Rent	1	3.70%
N/A	3	11.11%
Totals	27	100%



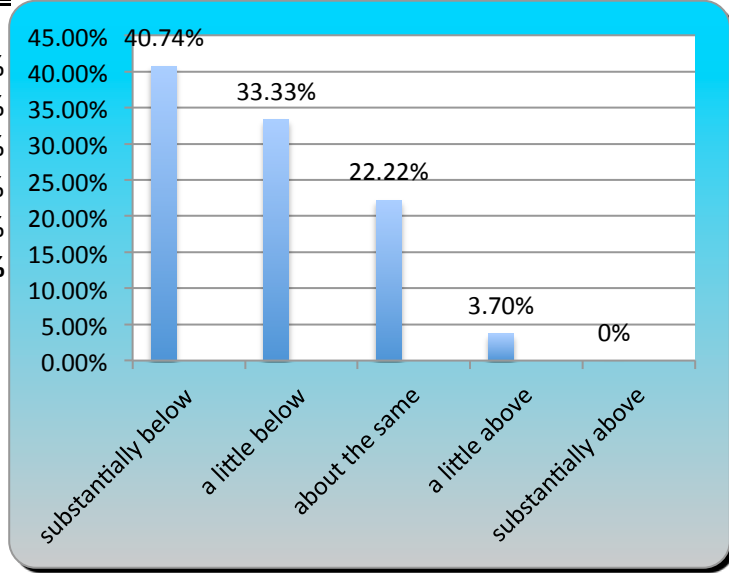
**2010 U.S. CENSUS TENURE STATS
FOR BRIDGEWATER**

**Tenure of Population as % of Total Bridgewater
2010 Population**



5.) *Based on OCPC's analysis, the town could support about 290,500 s.f. of commercial space. How close do you think actual downtown commercial space is to this figure?

	Responses	
substantially below	11	40.74%
a little below	9	33.33%
about the same	6	22.22%
a little above	1	3.70%
substantially above	0	0%
Totals	27	100%



**OCPC'S ESTIMATE OF EXISTING
DOWNTOWN COMMERCIAL SPACE**

284,700 s.f.

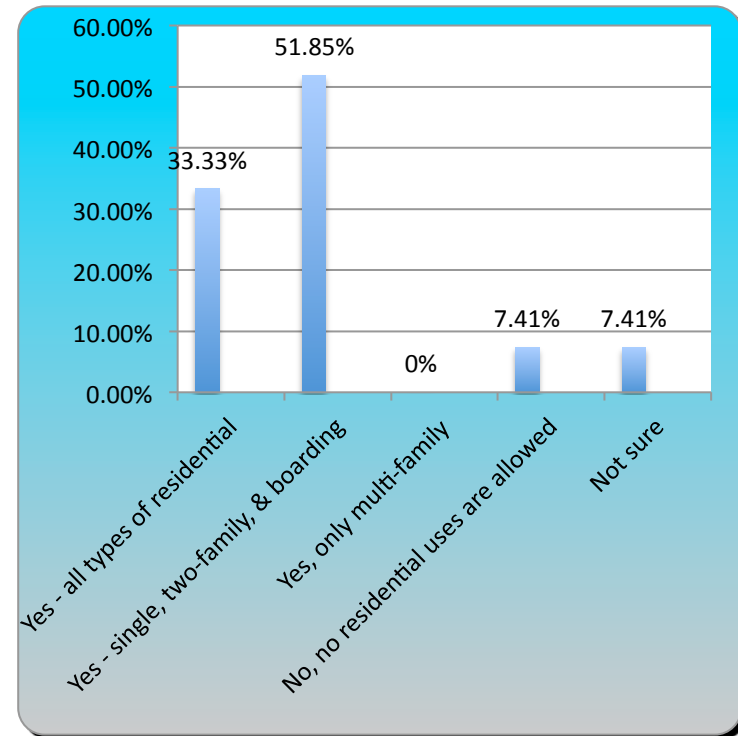
Marginally less (about 5,700s.f.) than Bridgewater could support

Conclusion:

Downtown has close to the recommended amount of commercial space; much more could not be supported.

6.) **Does current Bridgewater Zoning Bylaw allow residential uses in the Central Business District?

	Responses	
Yes - all types of residential	9	33.33%
Yes - single, two-family, & boarding houses	14	51.85%
Yes, only multi-family	0	0%
No, no residential uses are allowed	2	7.41%
Not sure	2	7.41%
Totals	27	100%



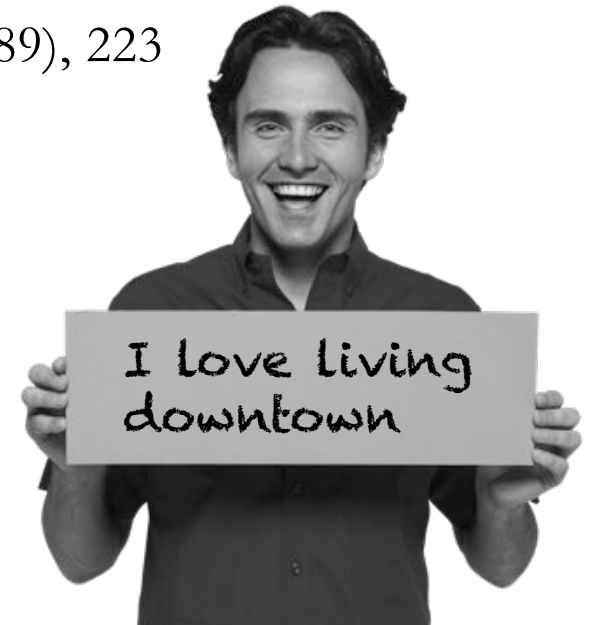
**BRIDGEWATER'S CURRENT CBD
ZONING**

Residential Dwelling Type	Permitted
Single Family	Yes, by special permit
Two-Family	Yes, by special permit
Attached Single-Family	No
3+ Multi-Family	No
Boarding House (not more than 3 persons)	Yes, by special permit

DOWNTOWN IS PEOPLE

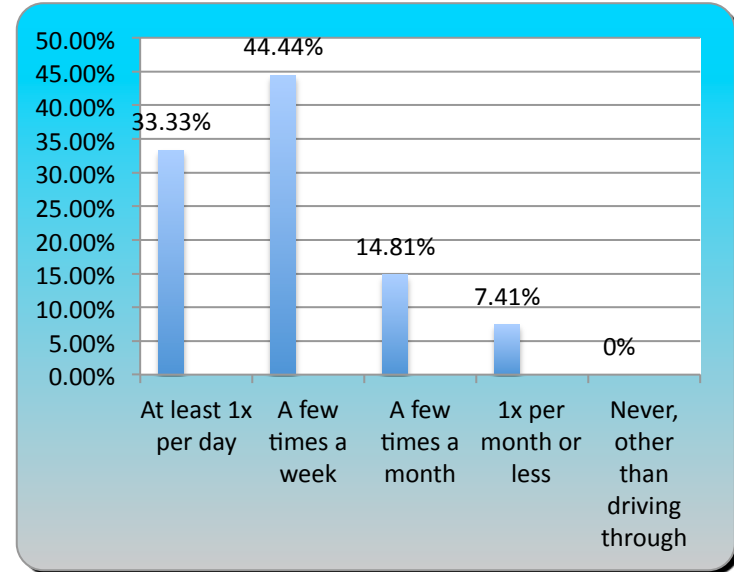
“There really was a timeless logic to the historical pattern of development that produced a street-level store with residents above . . . The downtown resident is one of the most valuable and unappreciated assets [downtowns] have lost during decades of decline.”

The Living City by Roberta Brandes Gratz (1989), 223



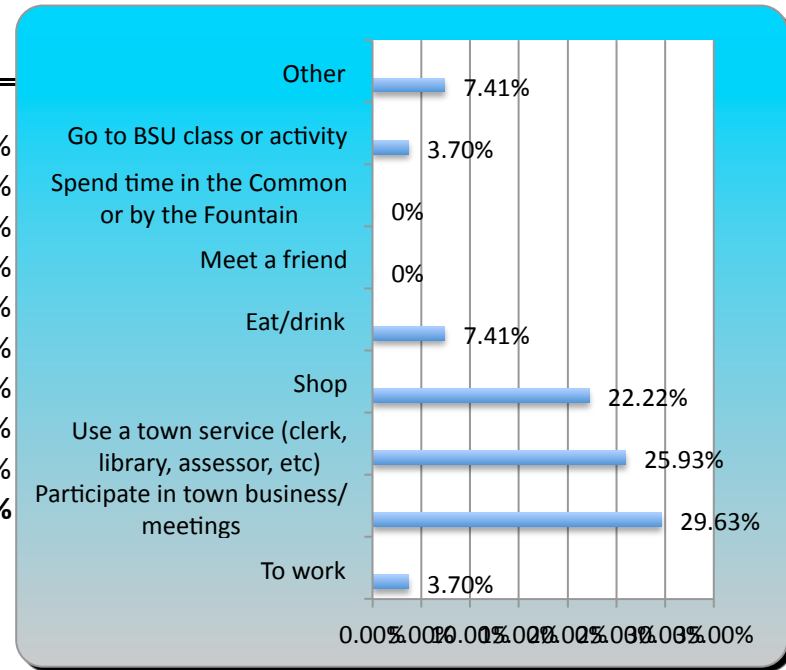
7.) How often, on average, do you go downtown?

	Responses	
At least 1x per day	9	33.33%
A few times a week	12	44.44%
A few times a month	4	14.81%
1x per month or less	2	7.41%
Never, other than driving through	0	0%
Totals	27	100%



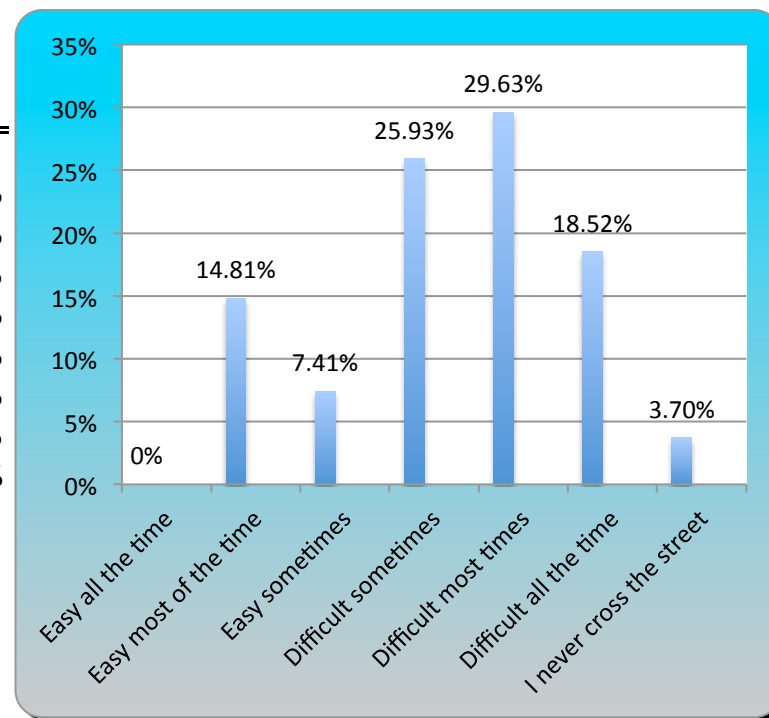
8.) For what purpose do you most often go downtown?

	Responses	
To work	1	3.70%
Participate in town business/meetings	8	29.63%
Use a town service (clerk, library, assessor, etc)	7	25.93%
Shop	6	22.22%
Eat/drink	2	7.41%
Meet a friend	0	0%
Spend time in the Common or by the Fountain	0	0%
Go to BSU class or activity	1	3.70%
Other	2	7.41%
Totals	27	100%



9.) *Based on your personal experience as a pedestrian, how hard or easy is it to cross streets downtown?

	Responses	
Easy all the time	0	0%
Easy most of the time	4	14.81%
Easy sometimes	2	7.41%
Difficult sometimes	7	25.93%
Difficult most times	8	29.63%
Difficult all the time	5	18.52%
I never cross the street	1	3.70%
Totals	27	100%

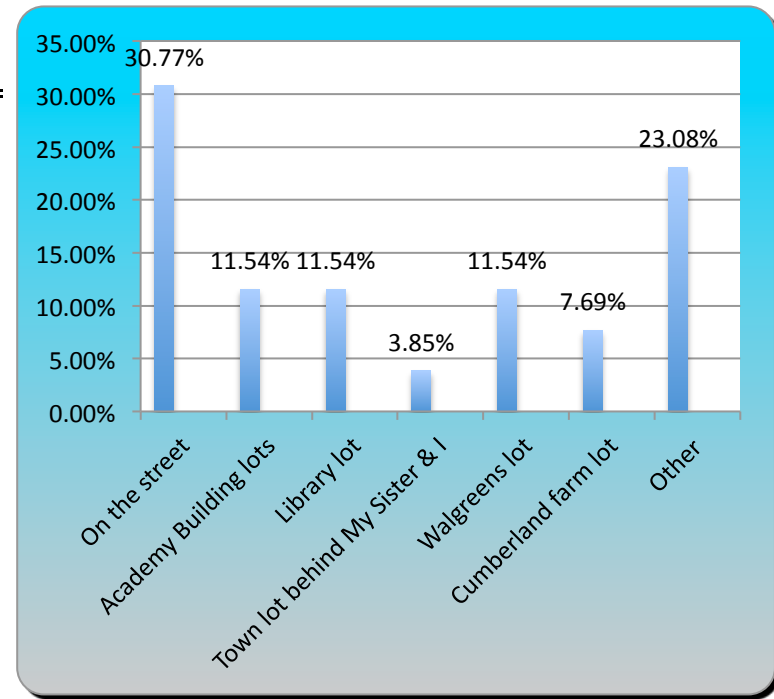


**DOWNTOWN IS 192ND TOP CRASH
LOCATION IN STATE
OUT OF 45,980 (SOURCE: MASS DOT)**



10.) When you drive downtown, where do you most often park your car?

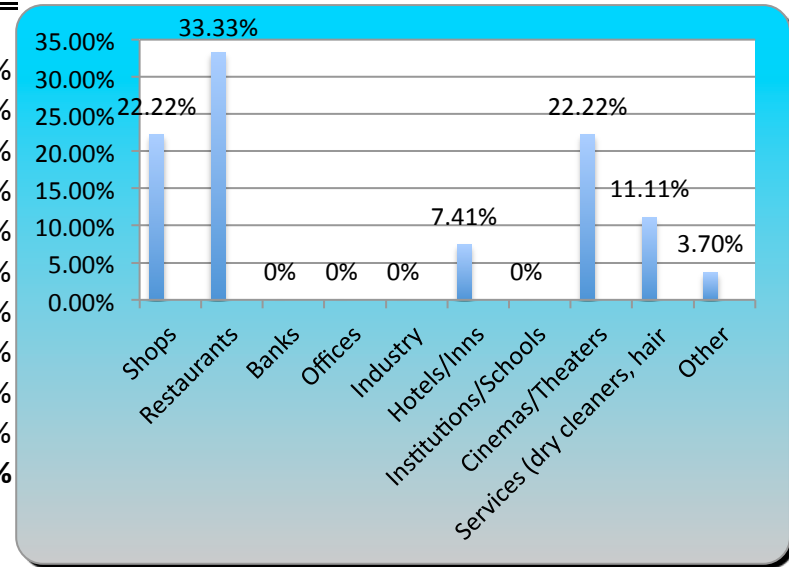
	Responses	
On the street	8	30.77%
Academy Building lots	3	11.54%
Library lot	3	11.54%
Town lot behind My Sister & I	1	3.85%
Walgreens lot	3	11.54%
Cumberland farm lot	2	7.69%
Other	6	23.08%
Totals	26	100%



11.) Which of the the following types of uses do you think downtown needs more of? This is your first of two choices.

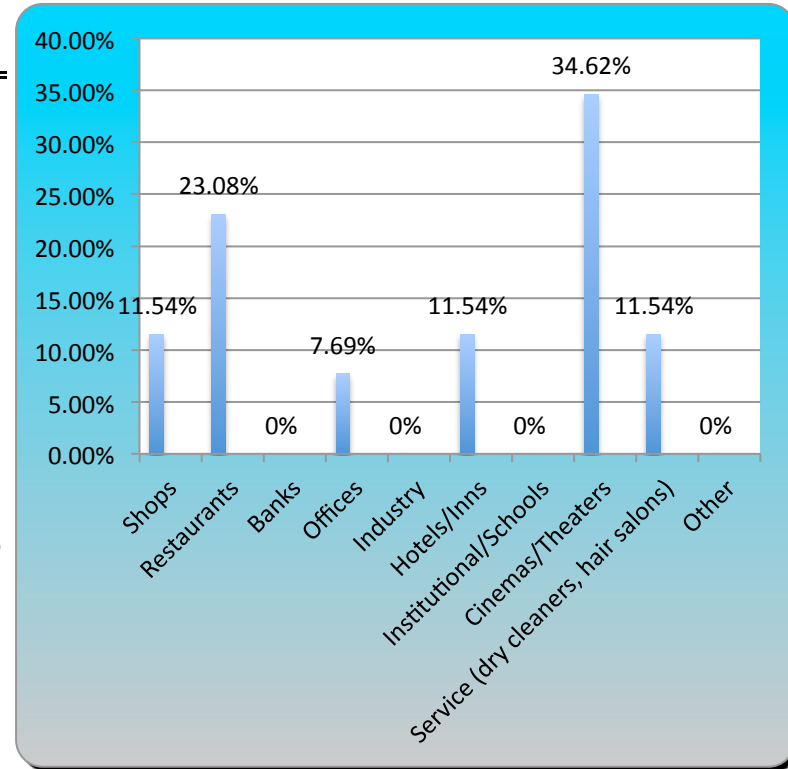
Responses

Shops	6	22.22%
Restaurants	9	33.33%
Banks	0	0%
Offices	0	0%
Industry	0	0%
Hotels/Inns	2	7.41%
Institutions/Schools	0	0%
Cinemas/Theaters	6	22.22%
Services (dry cleaners, hair salons)	3	11.11%
Other	1	3.70%
Totals	27	100%



12.) Which use would you pick as your second choice?

	Responses	
Shops	3	11.54%
Restaurants	6	23.08%
Banks	0	0%
Offices	2	7.69%
Industry	0	0%
Hotels/Inns	3	11.54%
Institutional/Schools	0	0%
Cinemas/Theaters	9	34.62%
Service (dry cleaners, hair salons)	3	11.54%
Other	0	0%
Totals	26	100%



13.) Which statement about downtown is most true to your opinion?

	Responses	
It's perfect just the way it is - doesn't need any	0	0%
Looks a bit rundown - could use some physical	0	0%
Needs major facelift (infrastructure,	1	3.70%
Businesses are struggling - need help to	0	0%
The main problem is parking - solve that and	5	18.52%
Needs holistic approach - major facelift,	20	74.07%
Let's give up on downtown - I'd rather shop at	1	3.70%
Other	0	0%
Totals	27	100%

