



Emerald Ribbon Action Plan

Phase 2 Community Engagement Summary

April 2024

Agency Landscape + Planning

Siglo Group

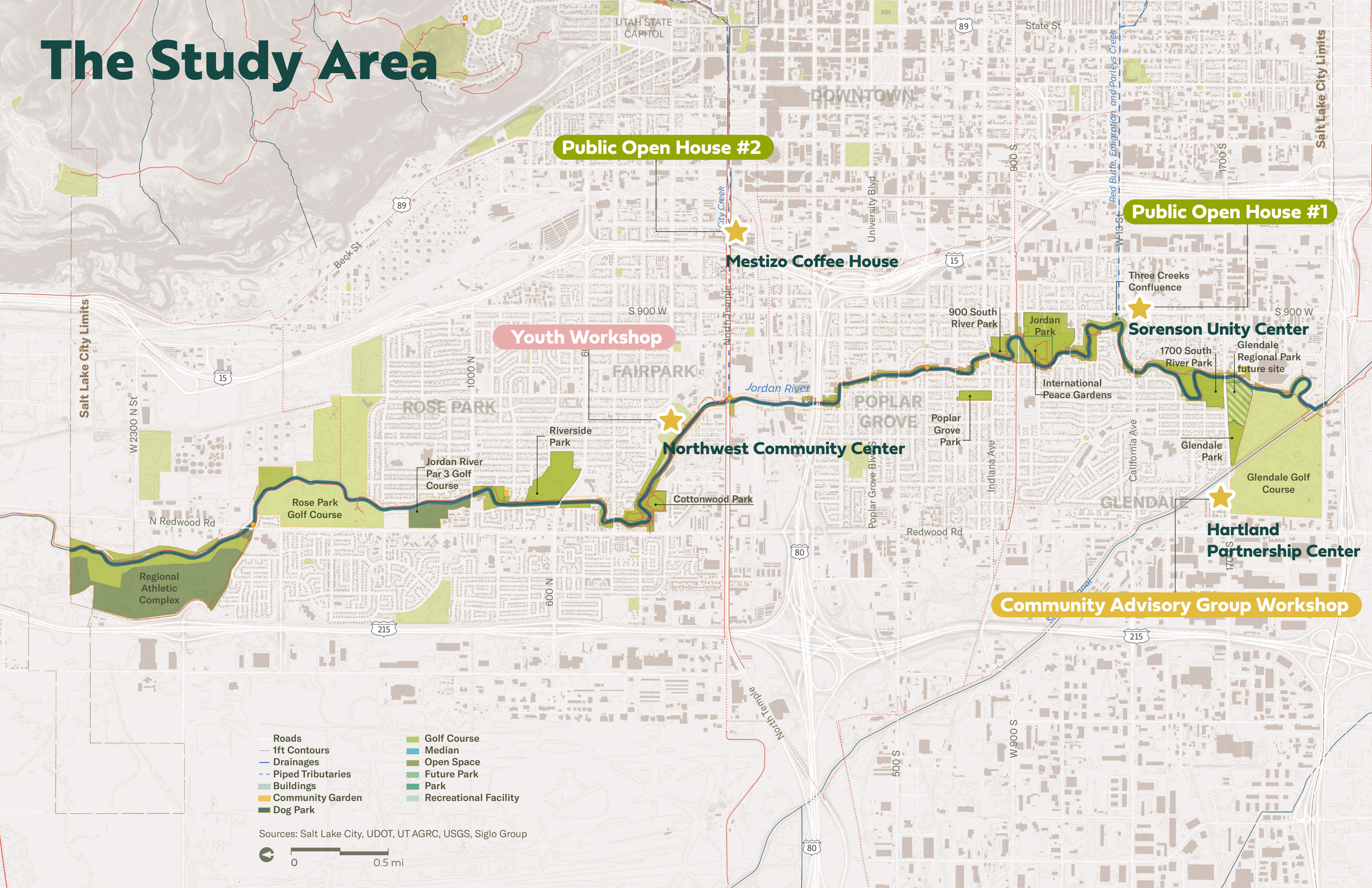
University Neighborhood Partners



Project Overview

Where we are in the
process

The Study Area



Public Open House #2

Public Open House #1

Youth Workshop

Community Advisory Group Workshop

- Roads
- 1ft Contours
- Drainages
- Piped Tributaries
- Buildings
- Community Garden
- Dog Park
- Golf Course
- Median
- Open Space
- Future Park
- Park
- Recreational Facility

Sources: Salt Lake City, UDOT, UTAGRC, USGS, Siglo Group

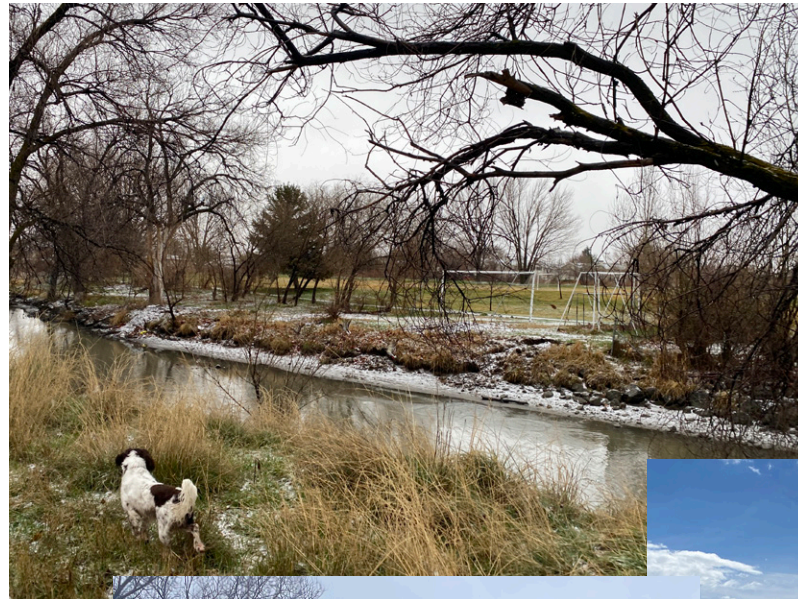


Where we are



Where we've been

Another round of site visits and field work!



Key areas along the Jordan River Corridor



Walking in snowy, windy, and sunny days!



How you've shared

Salt Lake City and, especially, the West Side, have engaged in many different ways to shape the Action Plan.



YOUTH WORKSHOP



ADVISORY GROUPS



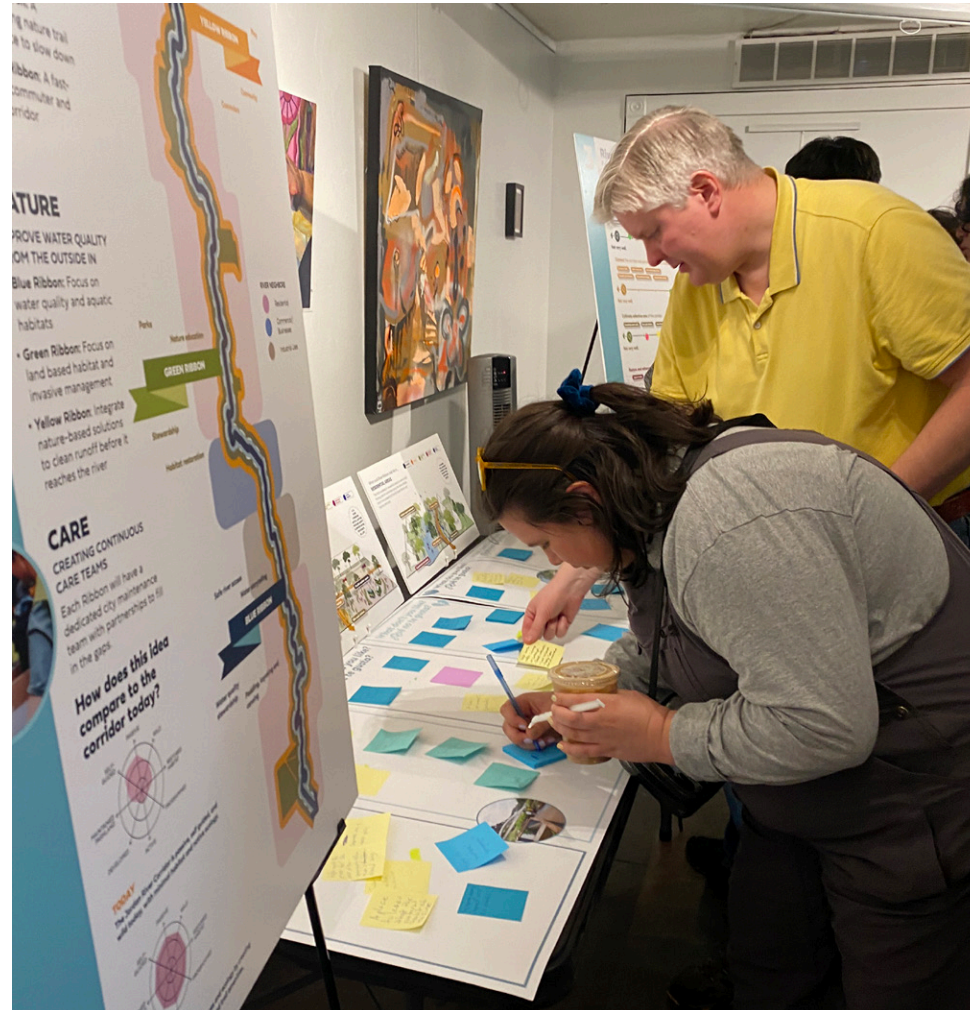
PUBLIC OPEN HOUSES

Community members and stakeholders provided feedback in 3 different ways:



EVALUATING THE CONCEPT

Participants voted on how well they think the design concept aligns with each of the guiding principles using dots.



SHARING THOUGHTS

Participants shared thoughts on what they like or don't like about the design concept after reviewing potential improvements in various places.



MAPPING KEY OPPORTUNITIES

During Community Advisory Group and Technical Advisory Group, Stakeholders identified key opportunity areas along the Jordan River.

You shared thousands of votes and ideas for the future of the Jordan River

25+
collage designs



500+
post-it comments

2900+
online comments



4
Hotline Hits

1250+
votes on board

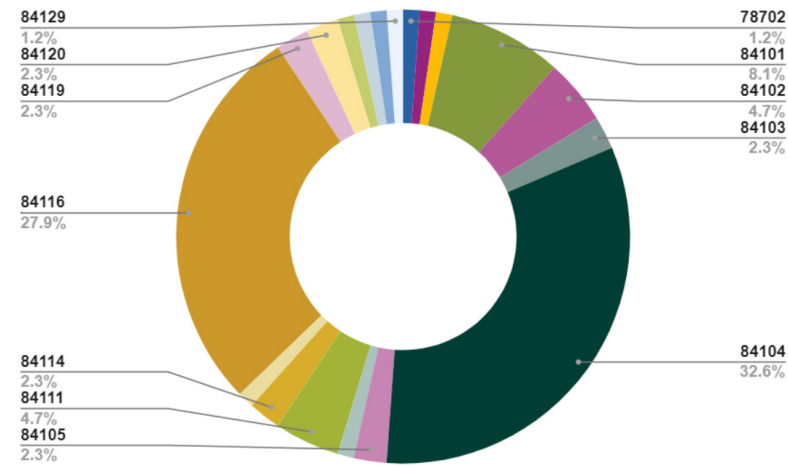


1160+
online votes

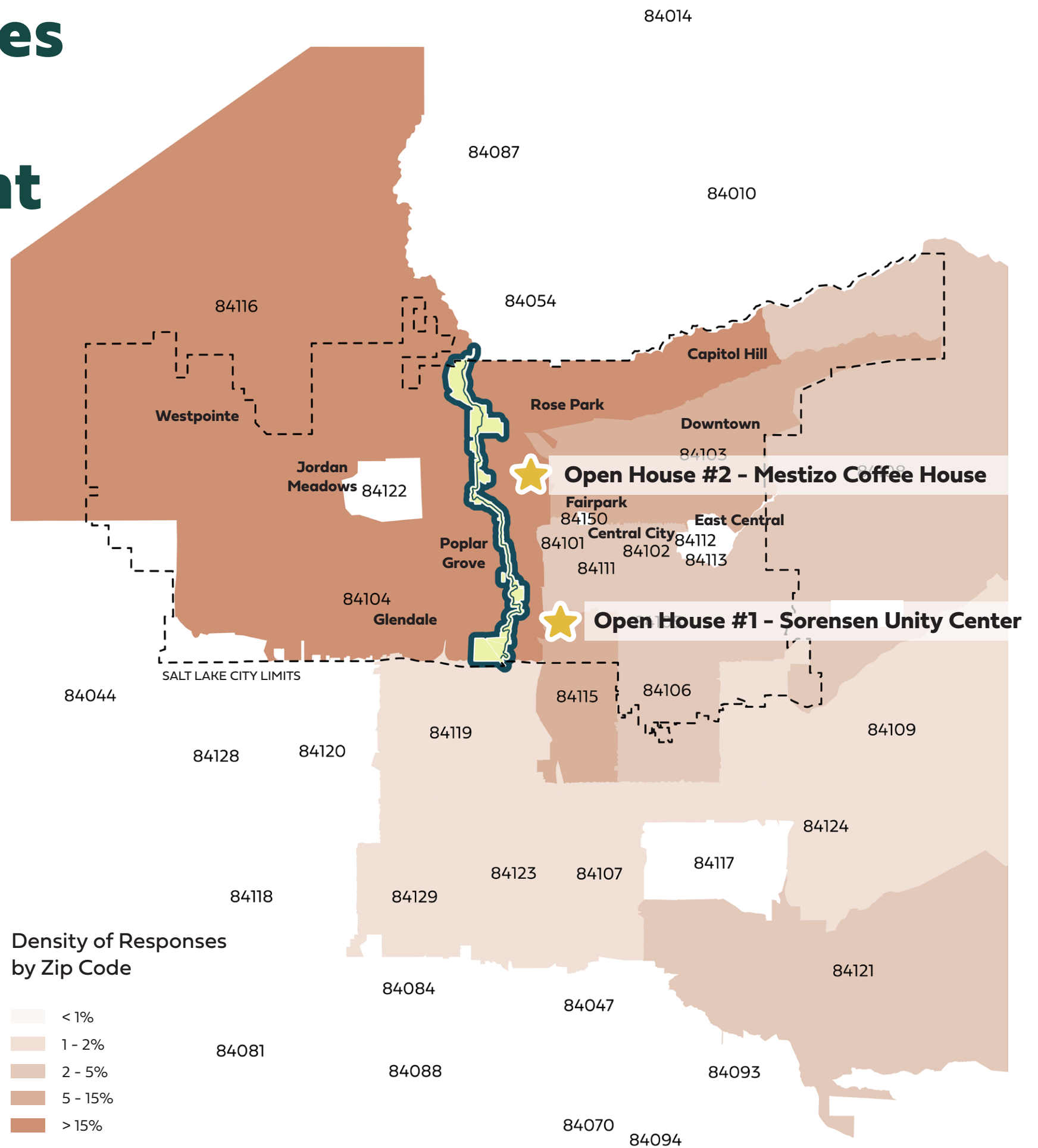
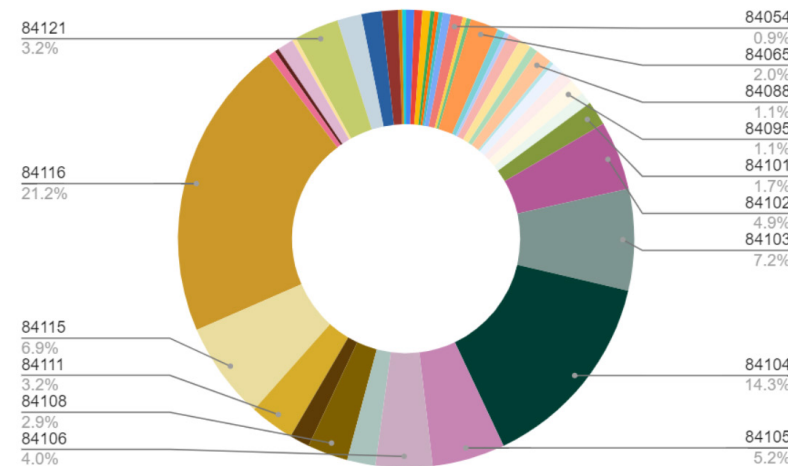
Public Workshop attendees and survey respondents represented a vast amount of communities around and outside of Salt Lake City.*

**based on zip codes provided on both public workshops and online survey responses*

Public Workshop Attendees



Online Survey Respondents



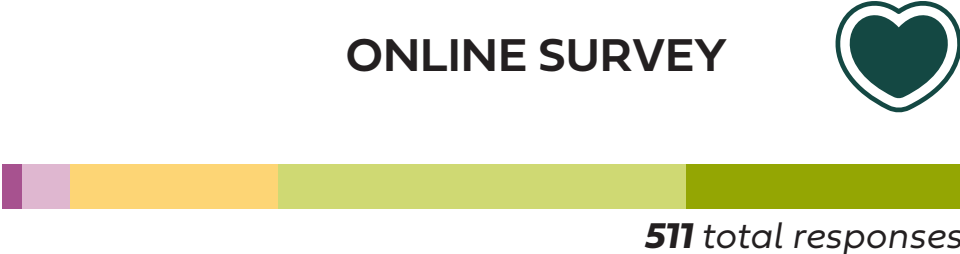
What We Learned

Key Takeaways

Overall response to 3 design concepts

Concept #1 is most well-loved among all!

CONCEPT #1: MEANDERING MOMENTS



CONCEPT #2: DYNAMIC DISTRICTS



CONCEPT #3: RIVER RIBBONS



Not Very Well



Moderately well



Fairly Well



Very Well



*reflecting the total number of votes received from both public meetings, CAG, and TAG

Key takeaways based on community feedback

Data collected from both Sorenson and Mestizo Public Meetings, Community Advisory Group, and Technical Advisory Group conducted in March 2024

CARE FOR NATURE

People **prioritize care for nature** to promote enjoyment for humans while preserving wildlife habitats.

ENHANCED TRAIL SYSTEM

People would love to see a trail system with **enhanced connectivity, safety, and experience** along the river corridor.

ACTIVATION IN A HEALTHY WAY

People **encourage activation of the river** and celebration of diverse neighborhoods in a **thoughtful and sustainable** way.

PERCEPTIONS OF INSECURITY

People **feel unsafe along the corridor** due to physical conditions as well as the presence of the unhoused community.

CARE FOR NATURE

People prioritize care for nature to promote enjoyment for humans while preserving wildlife habitats.

Nature Experience

Embrace the love for nature experiences, such as nature play and walks, to enrich the connection with the natural environment

Interaction with the River

Seek increased opportunities to interact with the river, accompanied by efforts to enhance water quality

Ecological Restoration

Strengthen efforts towards habitat restoration, river health, and providing space for wildlife to thrive

Environmental Stewardship

Implement educational opportunities along the river to promote environmental awareness

"Fairpark section should have an educational section. sees a lot at tourists and visitors. needs activation."

- Mestizo Public Meeting

*"Space for wetlands + wildlife. Natural environment."
- Sorenson Public Meeting*

ENHANCED TRAIL SYSTEM

People would love to see a trail system with enhanced connectivity, safety, and experience along the river corridor.

Connectivity

Enhance access to the river with themed gateways and painted crossings for improved water visibility, while providing multi-use paths and additional paths to foster greater connectivity

"Create a program for a small business trail, i.e., ice cream, tacos, clothes shops, sandwiches, beer, small art."

- Technical Advisory Group

"I like the idea of providing more waste bins and benches for greater access."

- Mestizo Public Meeting

Safety

Prioritize trail users over cars and enhance safety throughout the trail system, which includes constructing more and wider bridges, safer crossings, etc.

"Like multi-use cycle and scooter path, because transportation on bikes will be easier, faster, and safer."

- Mestizo Public Meeting

"Trail intersections are a great way to support access to the other side of the road. Having lights to support pedestrians would help."

- Mestizo Public Meeting

Experience

Enrich the trail experience by offering diverse destinations along the river, increasing trail amenities, and implementing regular maintenance to ensure a pleasant journey for community members

ACTIVATION IN A HEALTHY WAY

People encourage activation of the river and celebration of diverse neighborhoods in a thoughtful and sustainable way.

Cultural celebrations

Activate the space to encourage cultural celebrations, including festival spaces, community murals, etc.

Varying level of activation

Implement varying levels of activation across different sections to promote river health

"Keeping heavy impact use to parks."

- Mestizo Public Meeting

Water recreation

Expand opportunities for river interaction by adding boat launches and facilitating activities such as kayaking and fishing.

Riverfront destinations

Establish multiple destinations along the river to bolster local businesses and attract both residents and visitors

"Boat rentals is a great idea to provide dynamic interaction with the water and create a destination for families/festivals"

- Sorenson Public Meeting

PERCEPTIONS OF UNSAFETY

People feel unsafe along the corridor due to physical conditions as well as the presence of the unhoused community.

Priority of trail users

People worry about dangerous intersections and hope to prioritize safety of trail users at intersections

"Homeless + lack of lights, camps + trash make me feel unsafe to be on the trail for too long alone as a woman"
- Sorenson Public Meeting

"Need public restrooms at all parks along trail, poop bag station, waste bins, support the unhoused"
- Sorenson Public Meeting

Additional lighting

Inadequate lighting increase perceptions of insecurity along the river banks

Strategies towards the unhoused community

Community members share concerns about the presence of unhoused population and encourage different strategies to support them

What We Learned

Concept Specific Findings

MEANDERING MOMENTS

Evaluating the concept

Celebrate the rich ecological and cultural diversity of the corridor.

Connect the corridor into surrounding streets, trails, and waterways.

Cultivate collective care of the corridor.

Restore and enhance the river ecosystem as a peaceful refuge.

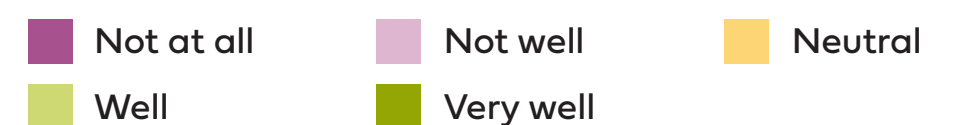


Activate the corridor to create a safe, vibrant, destination.

IN-PERSON FEEDBACK



ONLINE SURVEY



Most loved ideas

AMENITIES FOR NATURE EXPERIENCE

- nature play
- nature walks
- scenic overlooks

ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION

- space for wetlands
- native plantings
- habitat restoration

"Love the restoration focus, love the nature parks + bringing people to nature."
- CAG

"I appreciate plans to use wetlands to improve water quality."
- Sorenson Public Meeting

BETTER TRAIL SYSTEM

- more trail amenities - trash, benches
- "gateways" where trail users arrive/depart to surface streets

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

- nature education
- nature programs over outdoor classrooms

"There are plenty of built playgrounds, nature is its own playground."
- Online Survey Respondent

Concerns



People worry amenities will be under maintained or misused

"Signage is great - what happens when they are inevitably covered with graffiti or broken?"
- Mestizo Public Meeting

"My concern is that over time and with future limited funding that these structures will deteriorate and become eye sores."
- Online Survey Respondent

Public safety issues are a barrier to any activation potential

"I like the 'more' access to the river idea. but lighting & safety will be needed to support this access. "
- Mestizo Public Meeting

"Homeless in several sections - keeping it more natural may encourage continued safety concerns."
- Sorenson Public Meeting

A restoration-focused solution still needs to address safety at crossings

"Should prioritize safety & continuity. Prioritize trail users over cars."
- Mestizo Public Meeting

"Make sure intersections are safe by implying cars to slow down."
- Mestizo Public Meeting

Many prefer creating space for wildlife instead of over-developing for people

"I believe the trail should be as little intrusive as possible. Protecting areas for vegetation and wildlife should be paramount."
- Online Survey Respondent

"Viewing platforms seem expensive and unnecessary."
- Online Survey Respondent

"Want to preserve natural state of area. Less concerned about looking around area from platform."
- Online Survey Respondent

Evaluating the concept

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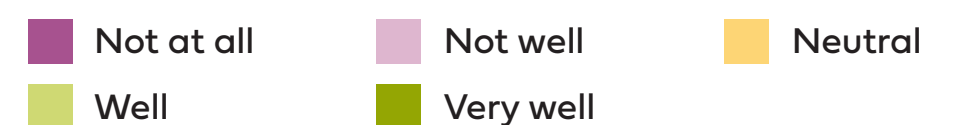
Activate the corridor to create a safe, vibrant, destination.



IN-PERSON FEEDBACK



ONLINE SURVEY



Most loved ideas

COMMUNITY SPACE

gathering/
festival spaces

public art

community gardens

community murals

INTERACTION WITH WATER

more water visibility

boat launch

"Boat launch is a great idea. Dynamic interaction with the water and a destination for families/festivals."
- Sorenson Public Meeting

BETTER TRAIL SYSTEM

more trash cans +
recycling

"Painted crossings or gateways would be great to develop community ownership"
- TAG

district gateways

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

space for small business

kayak and canoe
rental

"Create a program for a small business trail. The trail lacks destination, i.e., ice cream, tacos, clothes shops, sandwiches, beer, small art, etc. "
- TAG

Controversial ideas

COOLING AMENITIES VS. ECOLOGICAL ACCESS

"Yes to splash pads & anything that helps people stay cool in the summer. We don't have splash pad & we need more water activities."

- Mestizo Public Meeting

splash pads

"Don't like splash pads + adding more concrete to the corridor instead of focusing on ecology access."

- Mestizo Public Meeting

"Splash pads feel like an expensive and maintenance unfriendly option."

- Online Survey Respondent

SAFETY VS. RESTORATION

"Increased lighting. This will help the community be safer."

- Mestizo Public Meeting

increased lighting

"Lighting affects wildlife migrations."

- Mestizo Public Meeting

"Trail intersections are a great way to support access to the other side of the road. Having lights to support pedestrians would help"

- TAG

"Worry about the light pollution there is already too much light it is."

- CAG

"More lighting along the river in the more natural areas would disrupt the habitat"

- Online Survey Respondent

2

DYNAMIC DISTRICTS

Concerns



ECOLOGICAL IMPACT

"Dynamic nature of ecology along river not quite captured."
- CAG

"Increasing access to the stream will heavily impact the vegetation - make it challenging to restore and maintain. Create intentional +durable access."
- TAG

SAFETY

"Safer crossings to give trail priority over cars."
- Mestizo Public Meeting

"Prioritize safety and trail users at intersections. The most annoying part of using the trail is stopping for cars frequently."
- Mestizo Public Meeting

MAINTENANCE/REGULATION

"Different design standards would be difficult for maintenance."
- Mestizo Public Meeting

"All facilities that the city would need to maintain should be standardized or meet current standards so it's not expensive to replace."
- Mestizo Public Meeting

" Things need to be lasting and graceful. I hate the idea of having an exciting look that becomes ragged over the years."
- Online Survey Respondent

GENTRIFICATION

"Will this concept protect current west side community? worried about development and gentrification."
- Mestizo Public Meeting

Evaluating the concept

Celebrate the rich ecological and cultural diversity of the corridor.

Connect the corridor into surrounding streets, trails, and waterways.



Cultivate collective care of the corridor.

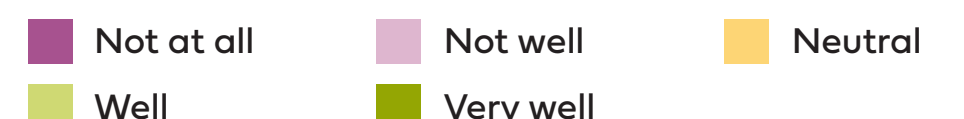
Restore and enhance the river ecosystem as a peaceful refuge.

Activate the corridor to create a safe, vibrant, destination.

IN-PERSON FEEDBACK



ONLINE SURVEY



3

RIVER RIBBONS

Most loved ideas



MOBILITY/CONNECTIVITY

more and wider pedestrian bridges

"More pedestrians bridges - commuting back forth"
- CAG

bike repair

"Love bike repair stations and usage of commuter corridor"
- CAG

INTERACTION WITH WATER

accessible boat launches

fishing opportunities

NATURAL RESTORATION

expanded and restored riverbanks

"Love extending and restoring banks. More restoration overall - the river is already home to wildlife but we should make expanded banks."
- Mestizo Public Meeting

meandering nature walks

INCLUSION

way finding signage in multiple languages

Controversial ideas

SEPARATE AND ADDITIONAL PATHWAYS

Mobility + Safety

"Like multi-use cycle and scooter path, because transportation on bikes will be easier, faster, and safer."

- Mestizo Public Meeting

"Considering different experiences of the trail."

- Sorenson Public Meeting

"Really appreciate the separated pedestrian path from the cycle path"

- Online Survey Respondent

LIGHTING & ACTIVATION

"Me gusta que esta muy alumbrado - I like that it is very lit."

- CAG

"The overlooks seem like they would help calm traffic."

- Mestizo Public Meeting

separate fast-paced bike lanes + walk paths

trail on both sides

playful lighting

scenic overlooks

Space + Feasibility

"Multiple bike lanes are permanent - loss of all that natural open space + wetlands."

- Sorenson Public Meeting

"I feel like there are too many paths. You don't need commuter stuff on both sides of the river"

- Online Survey Respondent

"The extra light is a bird corridor (way about light pollution)."

- CAG

"Overlook @ crossing look large - may affect river ecology - may also be limited by permitting USACE?"

- TAG

"May not have enough space for the yellow foot/commuter bike corridor. Instead create a parallel neighborhood byway (like Emery St, for example) that periodically parallels the river and includes a family-oriented trail."

- TAG

"I think this is a challenging concept given the constraints of private property and even constrained uses of public lands (golf & soccerfields)."

- TAG

"Lights on water seems counter to ecological restoration."

- Mestizo Public Meeting



NEIGHBORS SUPPORT MAINTENANCE

*"Concerned about neighbors successfully collaboration with municipalities."
- Mestizo Public Meeting*

*"Don't put burden on residents maintain trail."
- Mestizo Public Meeting*

*"I don't like the idea of 'neighbors support with maintenance' only because some neighbors do not take care of their yards. Do you think we should have a backup plan to support neighbors who are supposed to assist with maintenance?"
- Mestizo Public Meeting*

ENCROACHMENT

*"Be more clear about to handle residential + commercial encroachments."
- TAG*

*"Encroachments need to be resolved to get more land for nature paths."
- TAG*

MAINTENANCE

*"Concern about three different maintenance groups being able to work together consistently."
- Mestizo Public Meeting*

*"With all concepts, how will they prevent litter and vandalism?"
- Mestizo Public Meeting*

*"More pathways for bikes will need upkeep. Meandering nature walks will likely not be maintained."
- Online Survey Respondent*

What's Next?

Looking Ahead to 2024!

How you've shared

Thank you to the community members and stakeholders who have taken the time to share feedback!

476

Online Survey Responses

**by the time of 04/03*

8

Hotline Hits

25

Community Advisory Group Members

30

Technical Advisory Group Members

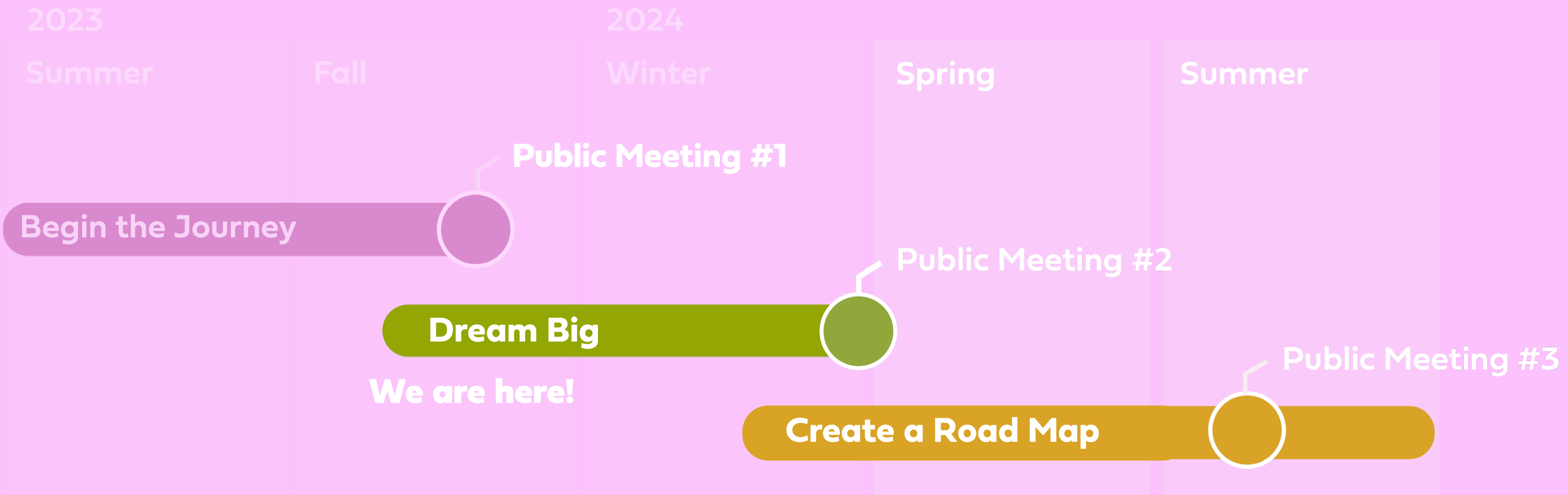
90+

Participants in public workshops*

Your input on the design concepts will help us create a road map for the future of the Jordan River!

**number of attendees during the week of 03/11*

Your dreams and ideas for the future of the corridor will inform new concepts that will be shared in the summer.



And there is still time to provide feedback! Text or call the hotline at (801) 615-2707 and visit emeraldribbonplan.org to stay in the loop about future ways to engage.