



2040 Comprehensive Plan Update Advisory Committee Agenda
Wednesday, February 7, 2018
5:30 – 7:30 PM
Hopkins Fire Station – Conference Room

- 1. Arrival & Dinner (5:00 – 5:30)**
 - Table discussions
- 2. Process Update – Jason Lindahl, City Planner**
 - Advisory Committee Member Presentation - Matthew Miller
- 3. Transportation – Mike Waltman, Bolton & Menk**
 - Complete Street Follow-Up
- 4. Social Environment – Haila Maze, Bolton & Menk**
 - Overview of Social Environment Briefing Book
 - Group Activity & Discussion
- 5. Next Steps – Haila Maze, Bolton & Menk**
 - What big ideas are coming up that we should include?
 - Next Steps for Housing Subgroup
 - Joint Meeting with City Council and Planning & Zoning Commission

Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 9, 2018
Implementation Strategies

Comprehensive Plan Social Environment Briefing Book

2/1/18 DRAFT



Overview

Purpose

The purpose of this briefing book is to provide background information and data to inform the development of social environment related policy as part of the Cultivate Hopkins comprehensive plan update. Sections in this book include:

- What we've heard – findings from comprehensive plan outreach to date
- Social environment framework – overview of social environment topics
- Existing conditions – information, data, and maps related to existing conditions in Hopkins
- Existing goals and policies – developed by the City related to social environment
- Best practices – ideas for how this is addressed elsewhere

The planning process provides an opportunity to explore existing conditions and trends, and to evaluate policy options that align with city goals and objectives. The intent is a comprehensive policy framework that will guide implementation for at least the next ten years (until the next comp plan update).

Main Ideas

- **Quality of life.** Overall, most residents of Hopkins feel good about their community. They enjoy a high quality of life and find most of what they need socially here.
- **Community assets.** Assets enjoyed by the community include the schools, park and recreation system, and overall walkability. Most improvements suggested are incremental improvements to existing facilities and places, rather than completely new things.
- **Sense of community.** There is a fairly strong sense of connection to community, especially at the neighborhood level.
- **Concerns remain.** However, there is a measurable percentage of people who disagree with these assessments, and identify a range of areas where they would like to see improvements.
- **Diversity matters.** The results from the surveys summarized here show that people's perspectives often vary greatly based on their own life experiences and identities.

Trends and Challenges

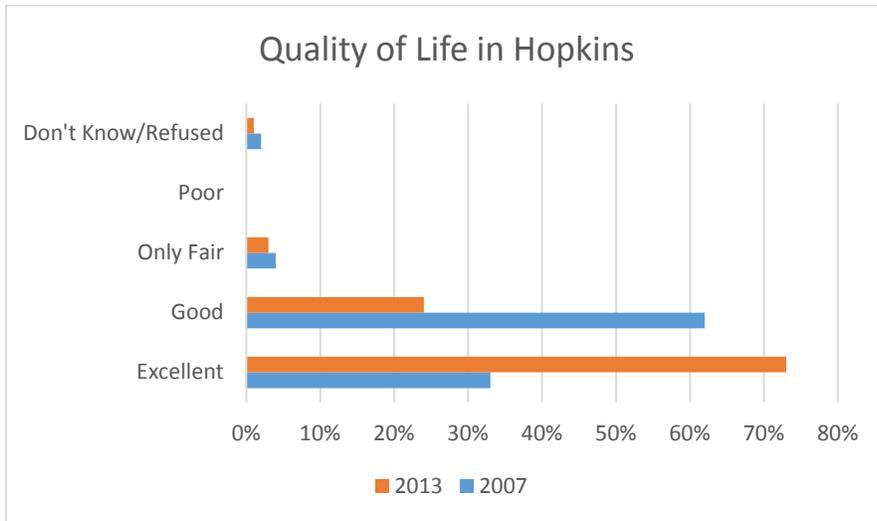
- **Changing demographics.** The changing composition of the population in Hopkins has significant implications. Particularly in terms of the social environment, this involves ensuring residents feel welcome, connected, involved, and heard in the community. There is also the importance of building a sense of ownership among new residents, so that they become invested in the community and its future. The aging of the overall population in the region will continue to have implications on range of topics.
- **Racial/ethnic disparities.** Historic disparities in outcomes for different racial and ethnic groups have persisted over time. While there have been some improvements, there are still disparities in a number of areas, including income, poverty, homeownership, health care, and unemployment. A number of people also report discrimination based on their race or ethnicity. At times, this will require deliberate and targeted action to address.
- **Changes in technology that impact how people relate to one another.** As shown among school children, the spread of smartphones and other online technology has contributed to major differences in how and where people connect with others. There are both risks and opportunities inherent in this change.
- **Convenience and access.** In addition to technological change, modern life is busier and fuller than ever – with multiple demands on everyone’s time. Survey data show that one of the biggest barriers to more participation in activities is simply lacking the time to do so.
- **Holistic approach to wellness.** Bringing public health and planning together provides an opportunity to take a holistic look at how the community contributes (or detracts from) human well-being. The recommended concept of “health in all policies” suggests that a plan should consider impacts on health and wellness across all topics in the plan.
- **High turnover of residents.** The relatively high percentage of rental properties in Hopkins means that the overall population turns over more frequently than in some other cities. This is characteristic of rental units, since they are often the housing of choice for people at transition points in their lives. In Hopkins, this poses a challenge for connecting with people and helping them to feel welcomed and included in city functions and events.
- **Emergency preparedness and resilience.** With climate change and other global dynamics, the likelihood of a major incident (natural or human-made) has been increasing. Developing a resilient city that is responsive to this is important. Particularly important will be identifying vulnerable populations that will be disproportionately impacted and may need additional assistance during and after an incident.

What We've Heard

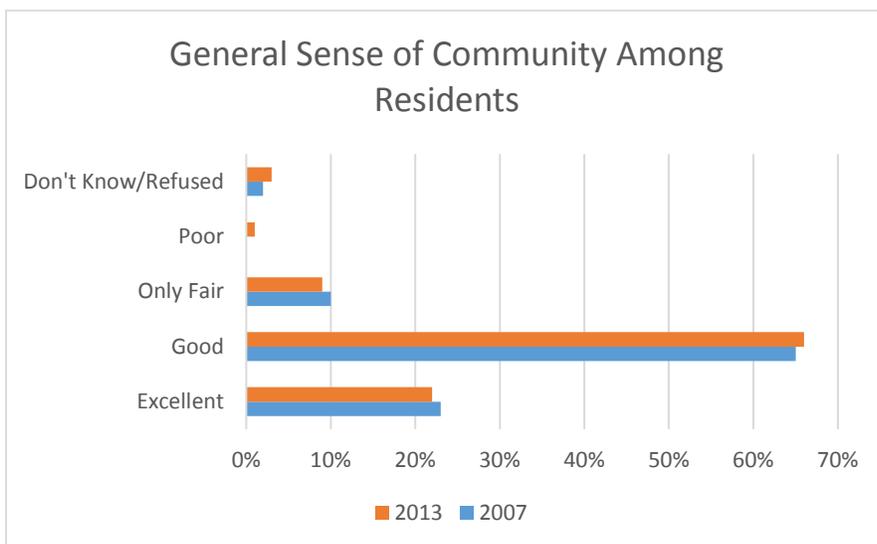
City of Hopkins Survey

The City of Hopkins periodically completes a community survey, covering a range of topics. Results relevant to the social environment from the most recent (2013) survey are summarized below.

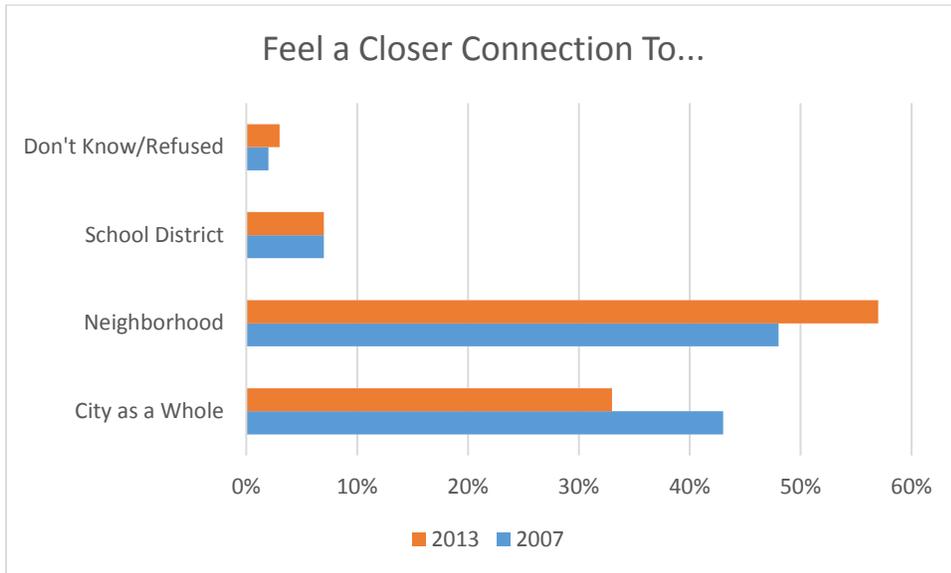
In response to a question about overall quality of life in Hopkins, 95% rated it excellent or good. It's notable that the percent rating it excellent more than doubled between 2007 and 2013 – increasing from 33% to 73%.



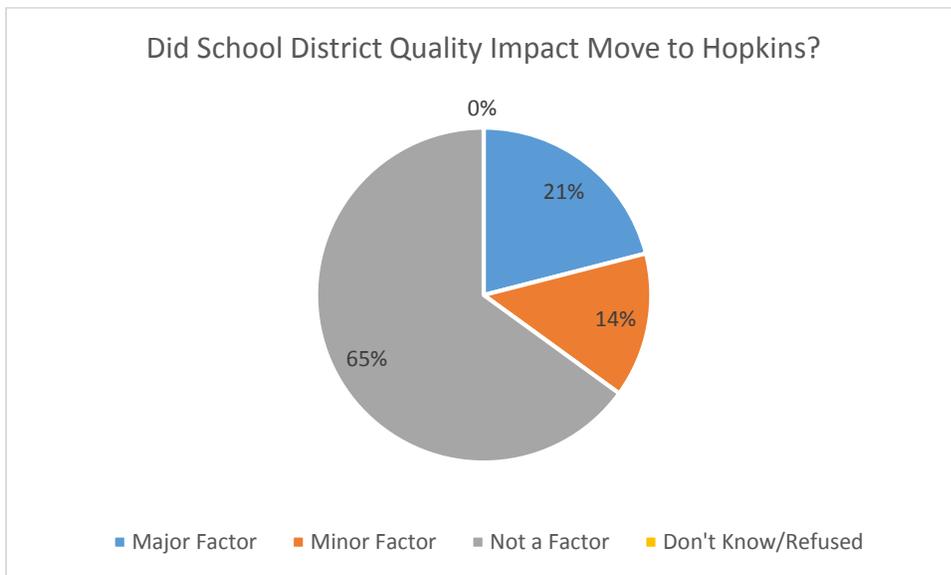
Likewise, 88% of people rated the general sense of community among residents as excellent or good. In contrast to the quality of life statistics, these remained largely unchanged from 2007 to 2013.



Respondents were more likely to say that they felt a closer connection to their neighborhood than to the city as a whole. This distinction increased from 2007 to 2013.

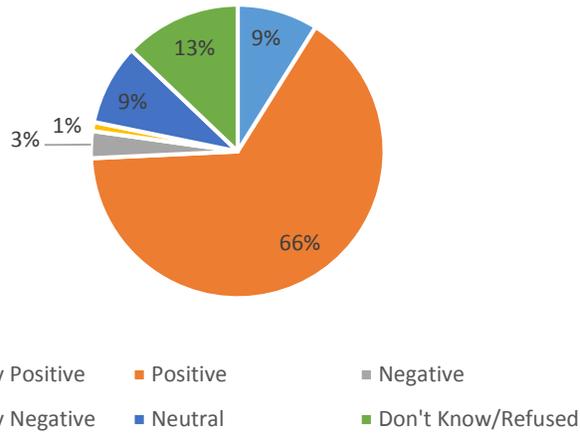


One factor that frequently impacts location decisions is the perceived quality of the **school district**. In Hopkins, the majority of respondents indicated that it was not a factor for them, though 35% said it was at least a minor factor in their decision.



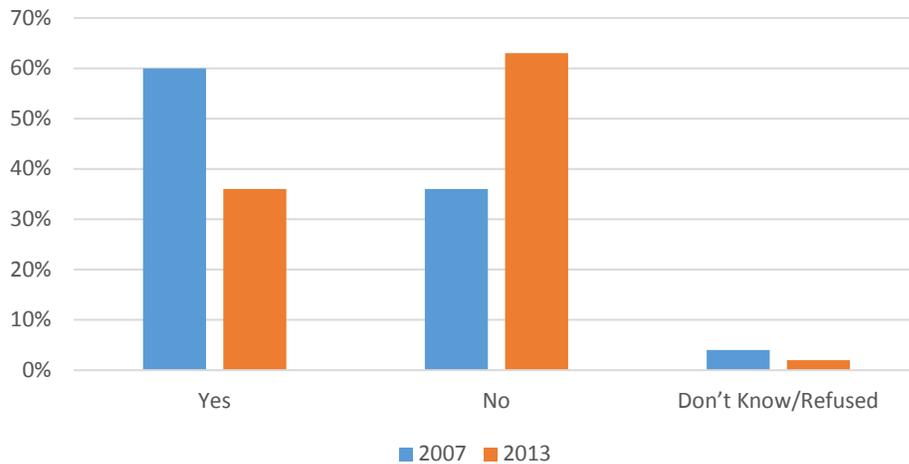
The perception of school district quality is also known to influence property values. In Hopkins, 75% of survey respondents said the school district's impact on property values was either strongly positive or positive.

Impact of Schools on Property Values

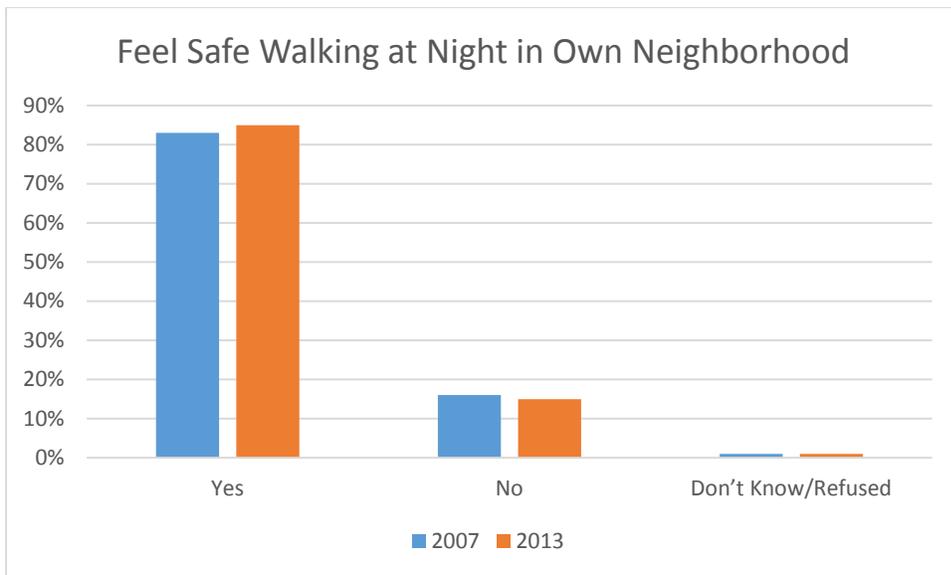


Perception of safety is also an important contributor to a community, and impacts the extent to which people engage in community activities. Around 36% of respondents indicated that there were areas in Hopkins they would not feel safe walking alone at night. This is major improvement from 2007, when it was 60%.

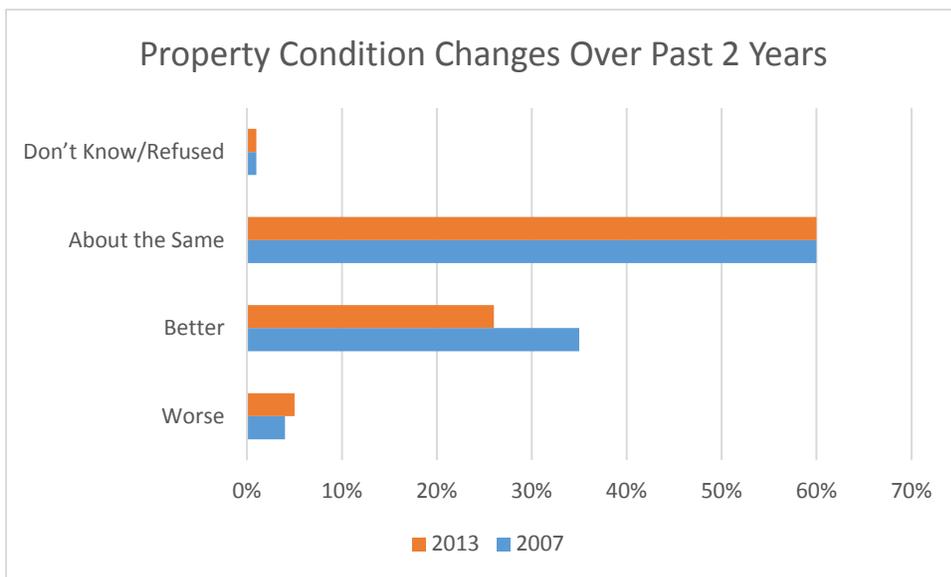
Unsafe Places to Walk at Night in Hopkins



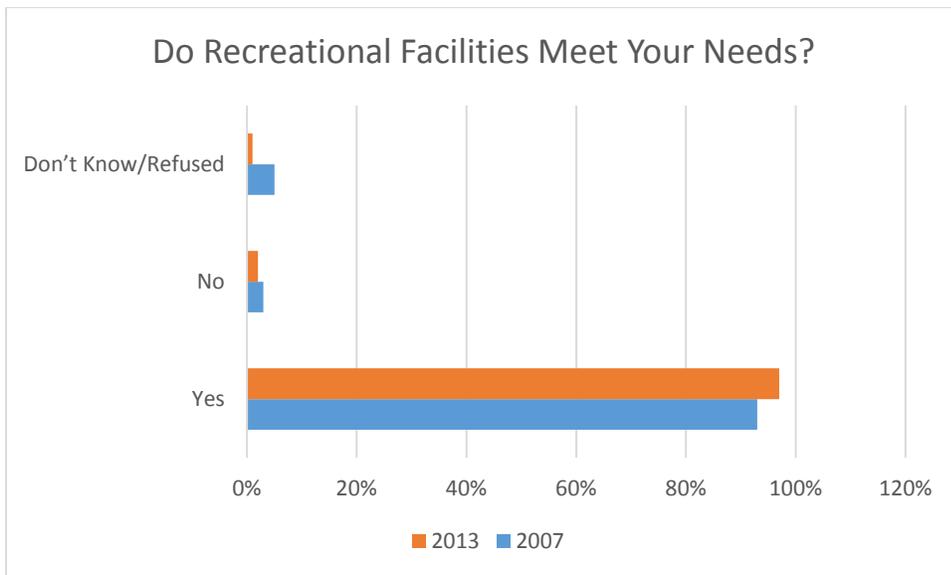
By contrast, most people feel safe walking in their own neighborhood. In 2013, 85% said they felt safe in their immediate neighborhood walking alone at night – largely unchanged since 2007.



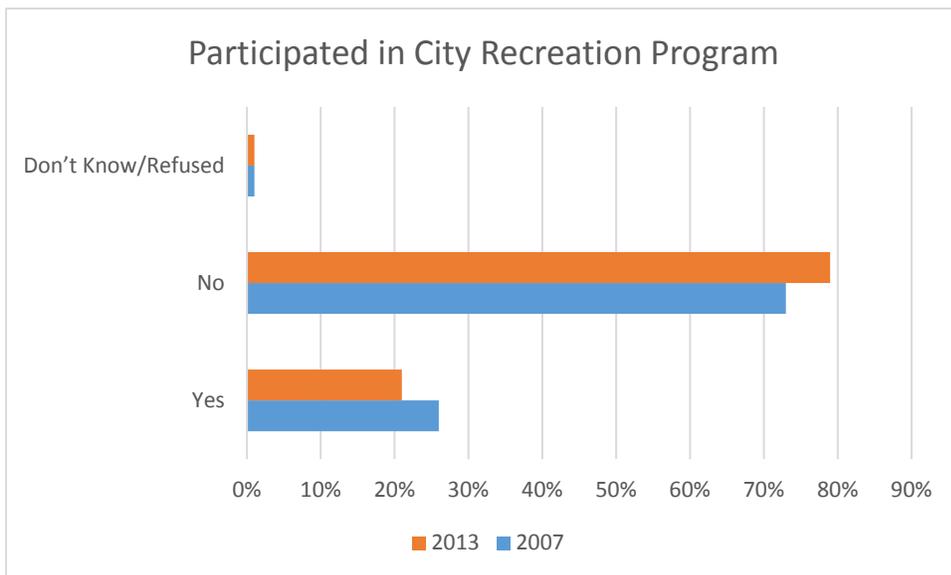
Property condition is also an indicator of quality of life. Poor property condition indicates disinvestment in community, and may lower property values. Over the past two years as of the date of the survey, 95% thought that property conditions had stayed the same or better. For those that said worse (4%), the top reasons were rundown houses, messy yards, vacant houses, and rundown apartments.



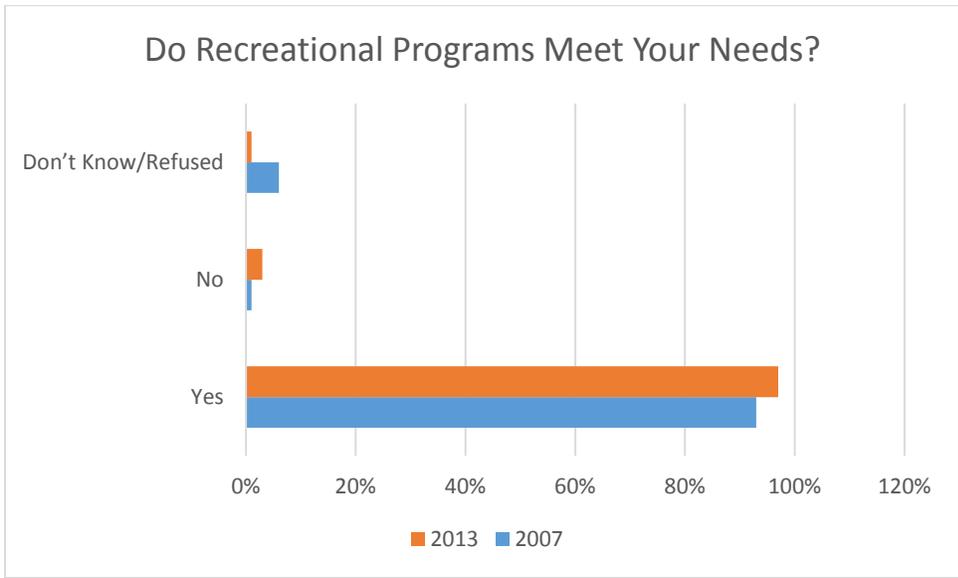
Recreational facilities are an important quality of life contributor. In Hopkins, the vast majority of people (97%) are satisfied in general with existing recreational facilities. For those that thought improvements to existing ones were needed, the most common requests were upgrading playground equipment (44%), dealing with loitering teens (17%), addressing poor maintenance (13%), and improving trails (11%). The most common requests for new facilities were for a community center (30%), access for people with disabilities (20%), and an indoor pool (20%).



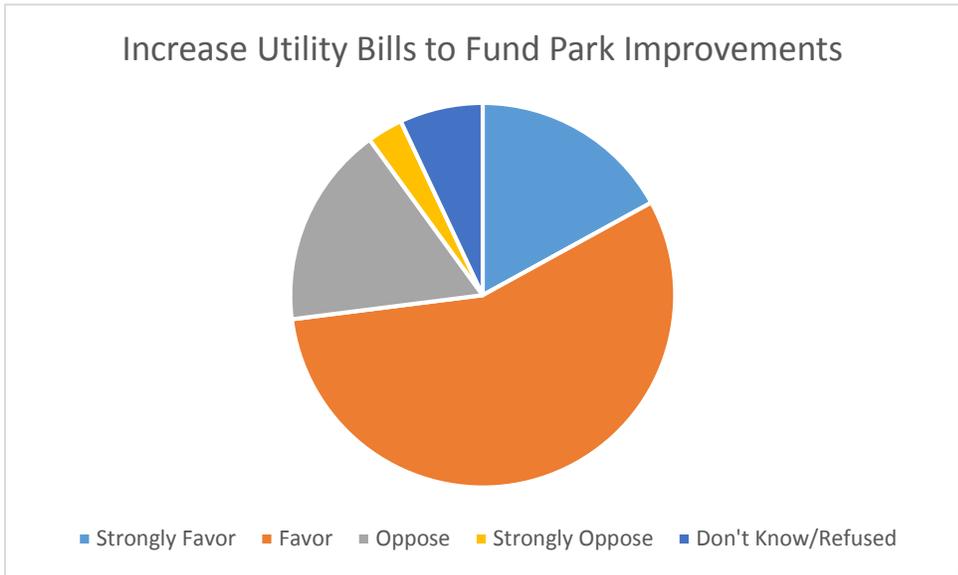
Around 21% of respondents said they have participated in a City park and recreation program. The most common ones cited were youth sports (34%), swimming lessons (17%), adult sports (15%), and summer programs (11%). Almost all (98%) were satisfied with their experience.



Almost all respondents (97%) thought that the current mix of City park and recreation programming met their needs. The most common ones identified as lacking were programs for seniors (27%), preschoolers (18%), youth sports (18%), and people with disabilities (18%). Around 76% of people said they didn't leave the city for park and recreation facilities. For those that did, the most common ones were trails (8%), lakes and boating (5%), and community center (4%).



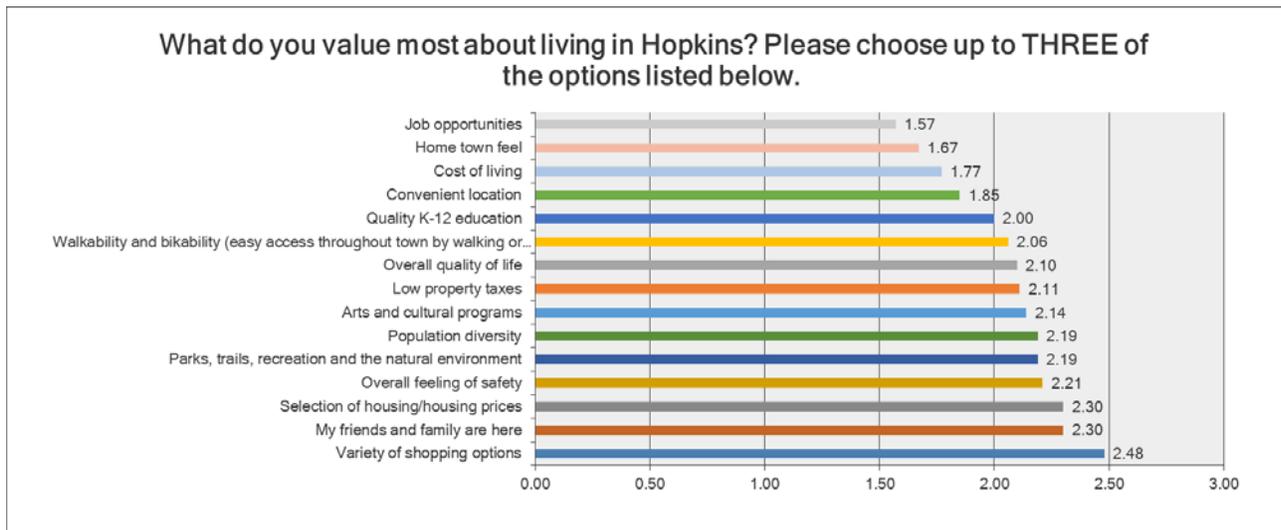
A majority of people (73%) either strongly favor or favor in response to the statement “Would you favor or oppose the City increasing both your gas and electric utility bills by 50 cents a month and dedicating the money for future park system improvements?”



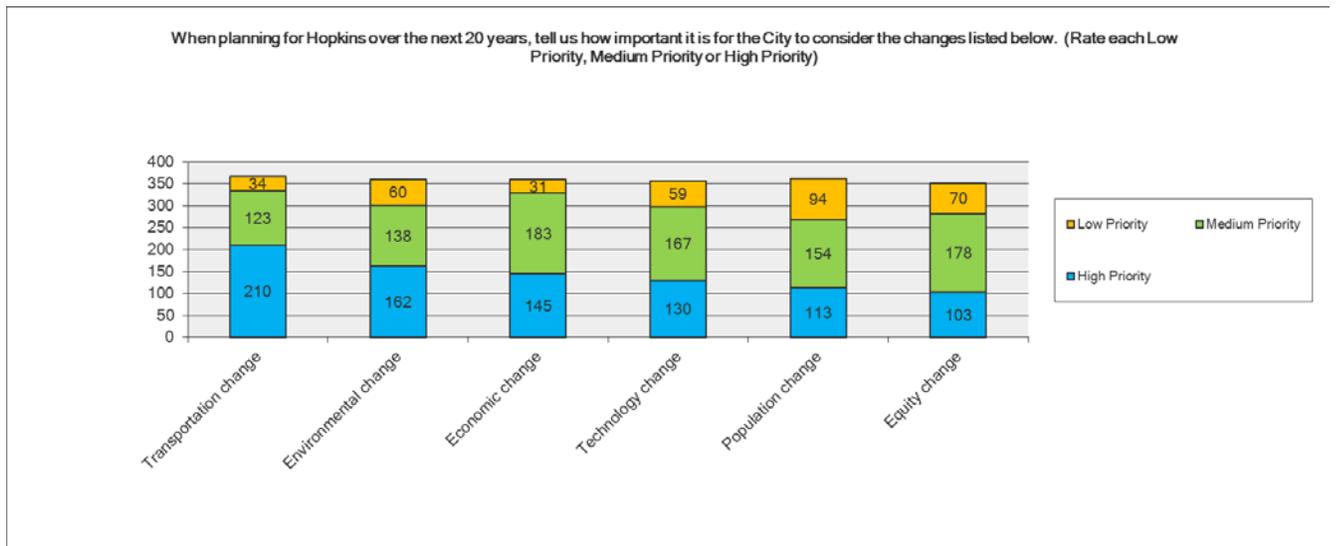
Cultivate Hopkins Survey

In 2016-2017 the City conducted a survey as part of the Cultivate Hopkins process. Relevant responses are summarized below.

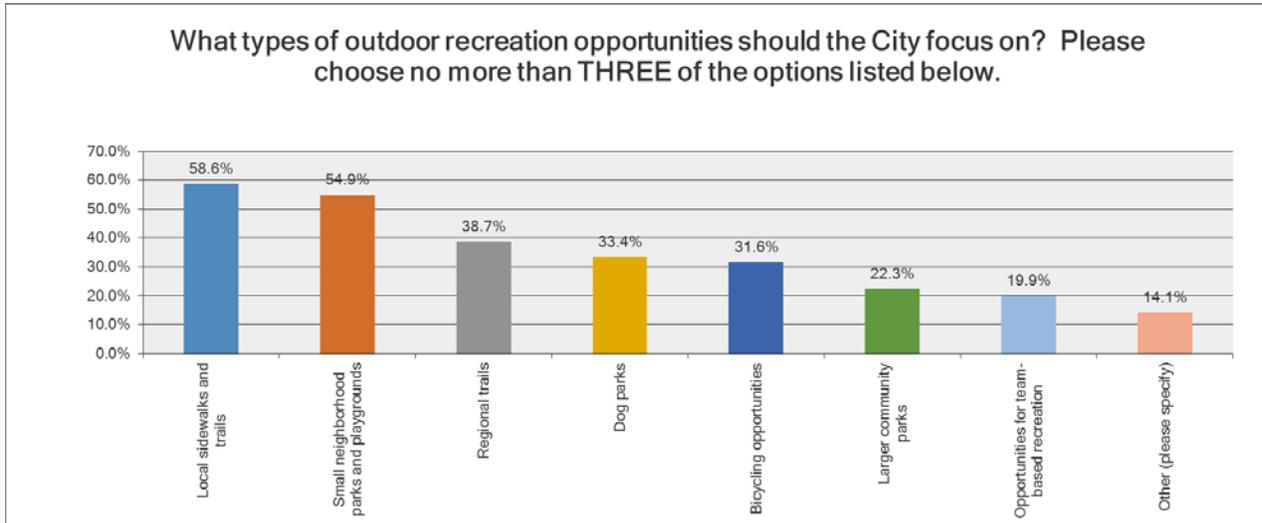
In response to a question about what people valued most about living in Hopkins, “overall quality of life” ranked about in the middle of the pack. The statement “hometown feel” ranked higher. Also showing up on the rankings are population diversity, feeling of safety, and presence of family and friends.



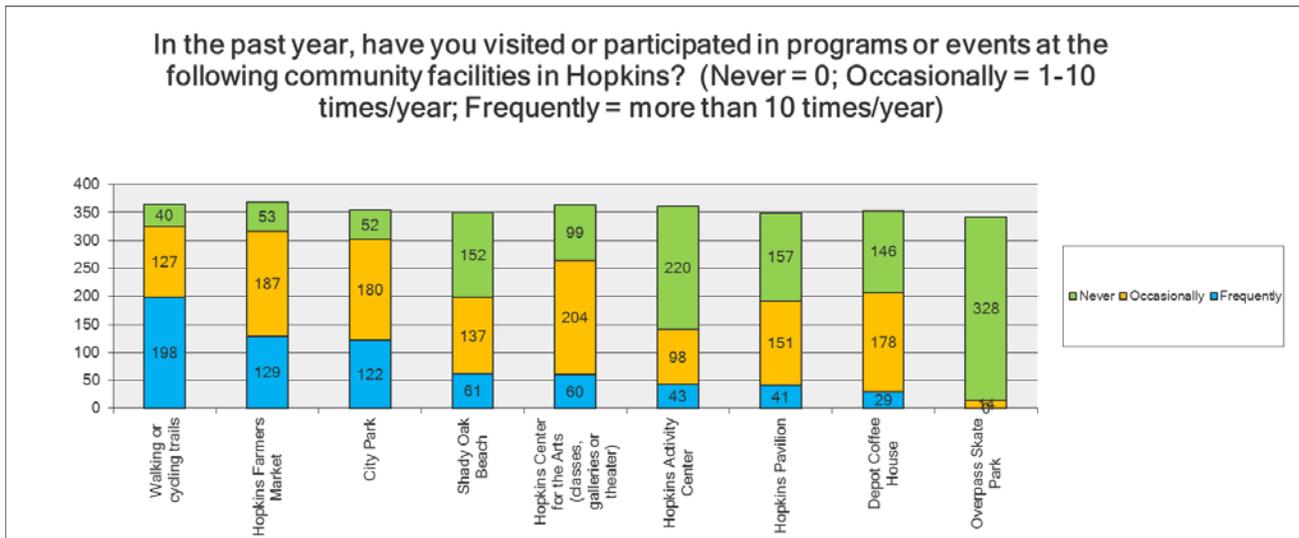
While not a top-ranked category, a majority of respondents still thought that addressing population and equity changes were at least a medium or higher priority.



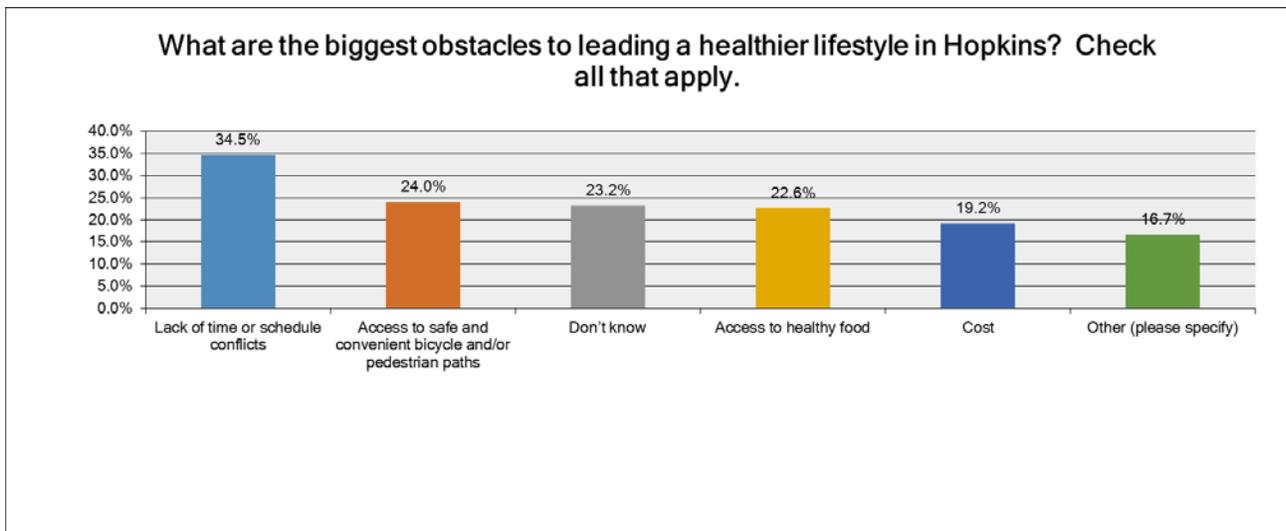
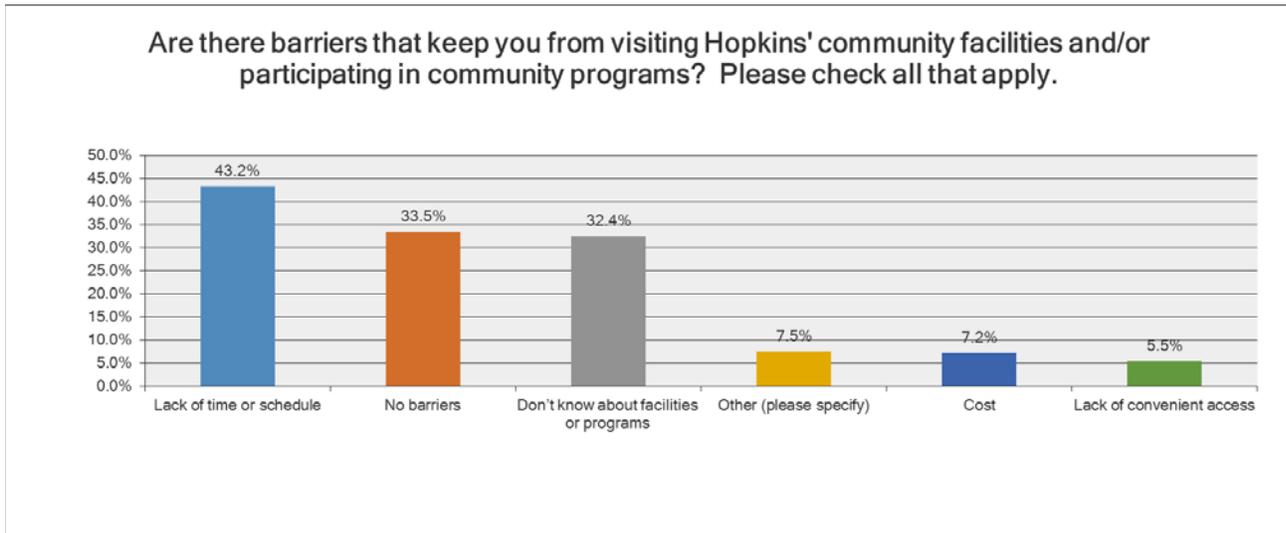
When asked which types of outdoor recreation opportunities the City should focus on, the top ones were local sidewalks and trails (59%), small neighborhood parks and playgrounds (55%), and regional trails (39%). When asked for other ideas, people suggested pool/splash pad/aquatics, dog park, team sports facilities such as pickleball and cricket, and winter sledding.



When asked about what programs or facilities they had visited or participated in, the most common ones chosen were walking or cycling trails, Hopkins Farmers Market, and city parks.



The most cited barrier for those that didn't participate was lack of time or schedule (43%). Similarly, this was also the most cited barrier to leading a healthier lifestyle in Hopkins (35%).

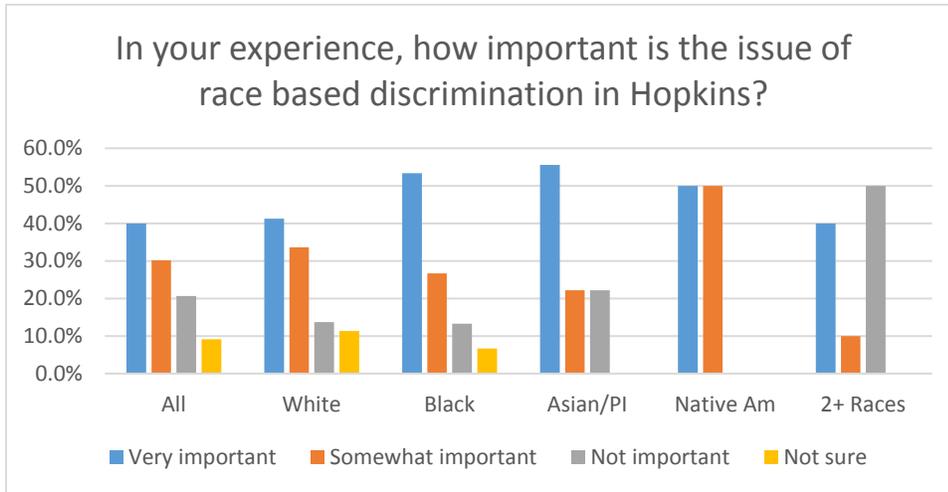


Hopkins Race and Equity Survey

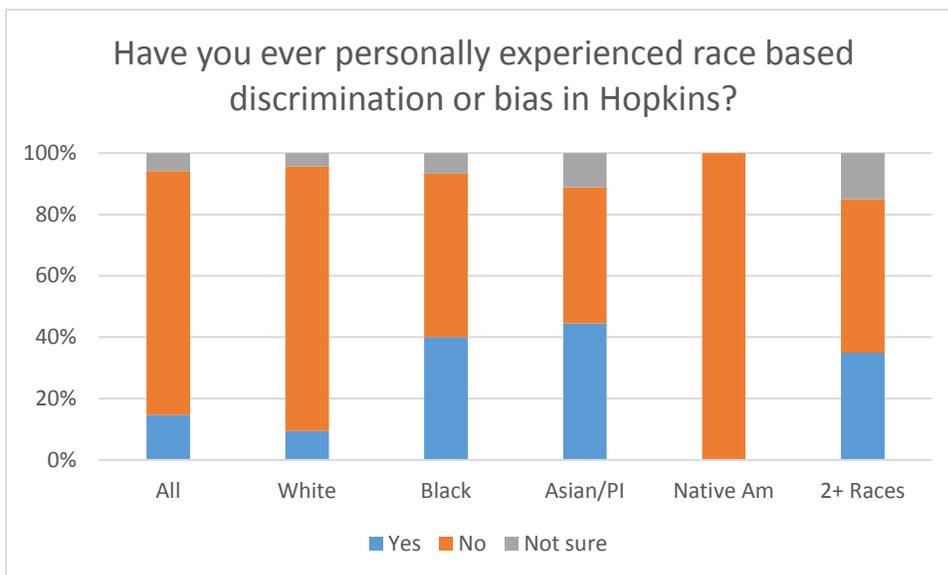
In January 2018, the City of Hopkins distributed an online survey with questions related to race and equity. A total of 296 responses were received. Respondents were 73% white, 79% Hopkins residents, and 36% male. Charts summarizing results are provided below.

Race Based Discrimination

Over 70% of residents indicated that race based discrimination is an issue in Hopkins. Black/African American, Asian/Pacific Islander, and Native American respondents were more likely to say it was a priority compared to others. People identifying with 2+ races were the exception to the pattern.

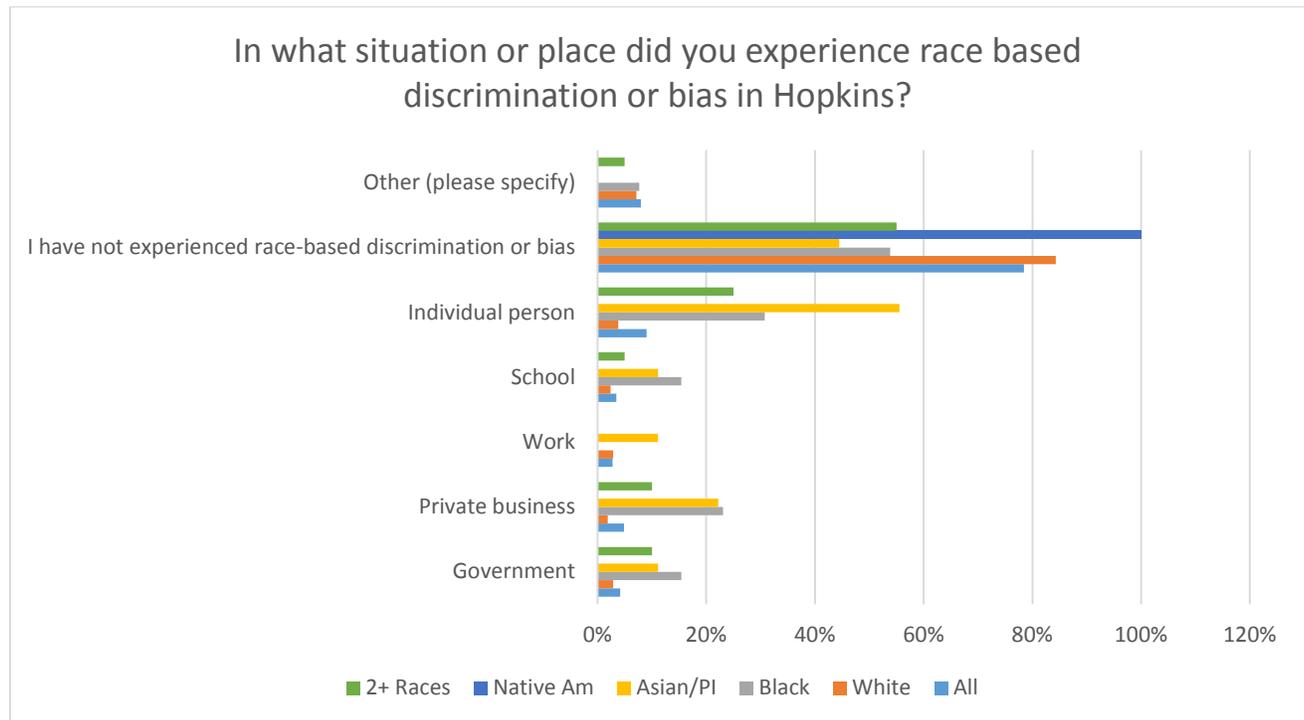


While a majority of respondents said that they had not experienced race based discrimination or bias, the percentage varied significantly by group. While just 9% of white respondents said they had experienced this, Black/African American and Asian/Pacific Islanders were over four times more likely to agree with the statement.



Context of Discrimination

When asked about in what situation or place they experienced racial discrimination, the most common response (besides not having experienced it) was from individuals, followed by private business.



In response to an open-ended question about what other places people experienced race based discrimination or bias, responses included

- Various situations in the community, interacting with people
- A few incidents in the schools
- Situations where people (particularly White people) felt others saw them as racist
- Situations where people targeted due to their race

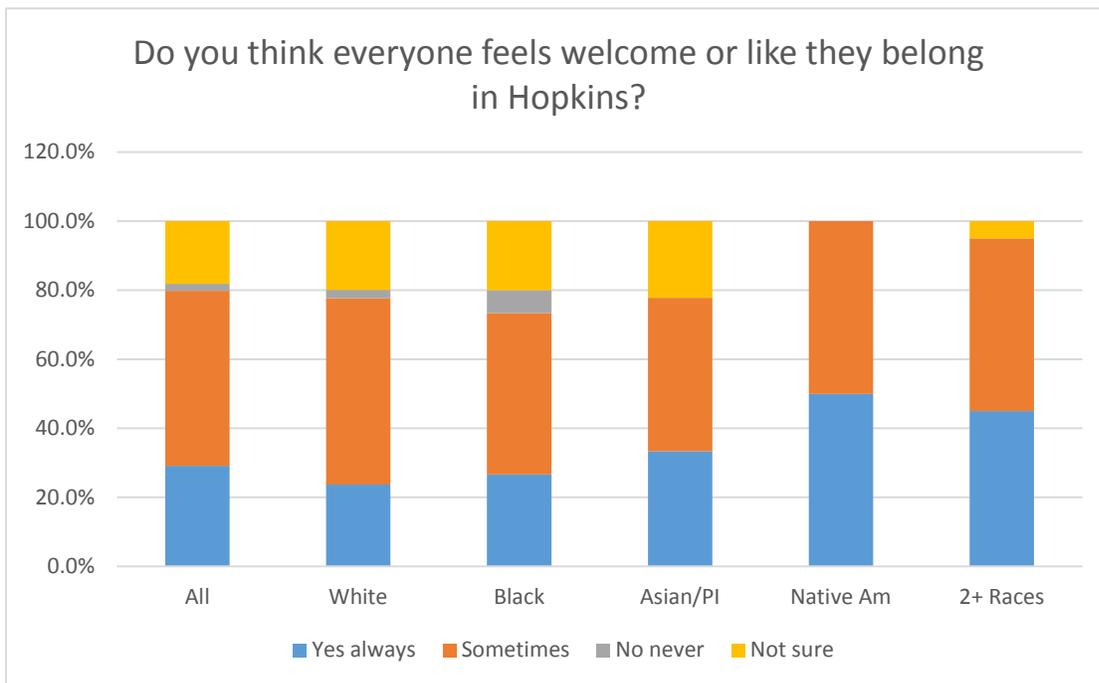
The survey asked the open ended question “Please briefly describe your experience and its outcome? Looking back, is there anything you wished had turned out differently?” A brief summary of responses follows:

- A number of people expressed concern about the police, and the perception that they treat people differently based on their race. Most related to being treated suspiciously, or pulled over more frequently when driving.
- A wide range of incidents were reported out in the community. These ranged from people hearing racial slurs and comments, to conversations where there was racial subtext to conversations on other topics.
- School issues were reported as well, ranging from potentially race-based bullying to the fact that there appeared to be some de facto segregation among schools and classes.

- Business and workplace issues included hostility among coworkers and differential treatment of customers
- Housing issues expressed concern about preference by race in terms of housing placements
- Some people showed an interest in having more in depth conversations, while others thought bringing it up would just exacerbate issues
- Consistent with the previous question, a number of people noted that they had no story to tell because they hadn't experienced it

Feeling Welcome

In response to a question about whether you think everyone feels welcome in Hopkins, White respondents were less likely than others to say yes, and Black/African American respondents were more likely than others to say no. From comments in other sections, the White response seems in part to reflect that some people were aware that they weren't the main target for exclusion, and thought they lacked the knowledge to speak on behalf of others.



This was followed by an open ended question “Which spaces, places or faces (people) within Hopkins make people feel welcome or like they belong in this community? Please briefly describe these and why you feel that way.” A summary of responses follows:

- Schools were frequently cited as welcoming places. Respondents cited the diverse student body, and the inclusive atmosphere created by teachers and staff.
- A number of optimistic people basically said “everywhere” in Hopkins was welcoming
- Businesses – particularly on Mainstreet and Downtown in general – were cited as places that welcomed others. The diverse range of ethnic restaurants and shops was noted especially.
- Community spaces and places were repeatedly noted. In particular, the library, arts center and theater, churches, farmers markets, and various community events
- Governmental facilities were mentioned, including city hall, the post office, and the police department
- Parks and trails were mentioned as places used by a diverse range of people
- A number of people expressed a general positive sentiment towards the value of diversity in the community

As a counter to this, the survey also asked the open ended question “Which spaces, places or faces (people) within Hopkins make people feel unwelcome or like they don’t belong in this community? Please briefly describe these and why you feel that way.”

- A number of respondents mentioned housing, though with a wide range of approaches. Some found housing unwelcoming because it was becoming increasingly unaffordable and therefore exclusionary. On the other hand, others were intimidated by the dynamic in some low income housing developments with a large non-white population
- Many of the comments were focused more on human behavior than on a specific place. Many referenced some recent comments by a mayoral candidate and that person’s supporters. Some expressed concern about new residents and their impact.
- The Blake Road corridor and associated development was mentioned a few times
- Some of the same businesses mentioned as welcoming in the question above were called out here as being less welcoming. Part of this was due to negative experiences of individuals, other just people noting that the customers/visitors in certain places were not very diverse.
- Community spaces and events were cited generally, but mostly just reflecting the same concern above that they weren’t always attended by diverse people
- Police and government both received some concerned comments, particularly noting differential treatment by race
- Schools were mentioned, though there were far fewer comments here than in the welcoming section above

Social Environment Framework

Quality of Life

Public Services and Facilities

- **Public Safety** – Prevent and reduce crime and increase perceptions of safety through interagency collaboration and with residents as empowered partners
- **Emergency Management** (*see Environment*) – Reduce harm to people and property by utilizing collaborative approaches to increase capability and capacity to respond to emergency incidents
- **Social Services** – Use partnerships to ensure that residents are connected with necessary services to meet health, economic, and practical needs
- **Property Standards** (*see Land Use and Housing*) – Maintain property standards and enforcement to ensure that neighborhoods and buildings remain safe and livable
- **Facilities and Infrastructure** (*see Transportation and Environment*) – Provide and maintain adequate facilities and infrastructure to meet community needs
- **Parks and Recreation** (*see Parks*) – Maintain a system of parks, trails, facilities, and recreational programs that meet the needs and preferences of all residents.

Education and Employment

- **Libraries** – Support the presence of a public library system that provides a range of reading materials and related resources free of charge to the public
- **Schools and Education Opportunities** – Support the presence of an educational system that meets the needs of school children, job seekers, and lifelong learners
- **Economic Opportunity** (*see Economic Development*) – Support economic opportunity for all residents through access to jobs and access to financial resources

Public Health

- **Healthy Food and Clean Water** – Ensure that adults and children of all income levels have physical and economic access to fresh and healthful food and clean water, and have opportunities to learn about nutritious eating and food safety
- **Access to Healthcare** – Support the provision of high quality local health systems that are accessible and responsive to community needs
- **Active Living and Physical Activity** (*see Transportation and Land Use*) – Enable adults and kids to maintain healthy, active lifestyles by integrating physical activity into their daily routines
- **Environmental Health** (*see Environment*) – Work in partnership to restore and maintain a clean and healthy environment, with particular attention to impacts on vulnerable populations

Sense of Community

Community Connections

- **Community Building, Social Connectedness, and Belonging** – Support a local community context where people have opportunities to connect with others through a variety of means, to strengthen a sense of community and enhance people’s lives
- **Community Involvement and Participation** – Facilitate inclusive civic engagement through the empowerment of all community members to participate in local decision-making
- **Place Making and Public Gathering Spaces** (*see Land Use and Parks*) – Maintain a system of places which strengthen community livability and support social interaction and recreation

Equity and Inclusiveness

- **Equity and Diversity** – Celebrate, respect, and represent the diverse social and cultural backgrounds of the community and its members, and seek to address any disparities in outcomes
- **Special Populations** – Specifically address the needs of youth, seniors, people with disabilities, and other populations with special needs

Culture and Identity

- **Arts and Culture** – Provide a broad range of arts and cultural resources and activities that encourage community member participation, creative self-expression, and community revitalization
- **Historic Preservation** – Preserve important elements of Hopkins’ history and culture for future generations through preservation, restoration, and interpretation

Existing Conditions: Quality of Life

Public Services and Facilities

Police

The Hopkins Police Department consists of 30 licensed, full-time Peace Officers, and 14 dedicated support staff who are committed to working with residents and the business community to improve the quality of life in the community.

The Police Department is responsible for patrol, investigations, outreach and crime prevention in Hopkins. The department provides one investigator to the SW Hennepin Drug Task Force, a multi-jurisdictional unit that conducts investigations of illegal drug activity, and takes part in the SWAT (Special Weapons And Tactics) team, a five-city consortium that trains and responds to high-risk events. It is also part of the Joint Community Police Partnership.

The Hopkins Police Station is located in City Hall at 1010 1st Street South.

Looking at crime statistics over a recent five year period, the total number of offenses for both violent and non-violent crime have trended downwards – with some exceptions in specific categories.

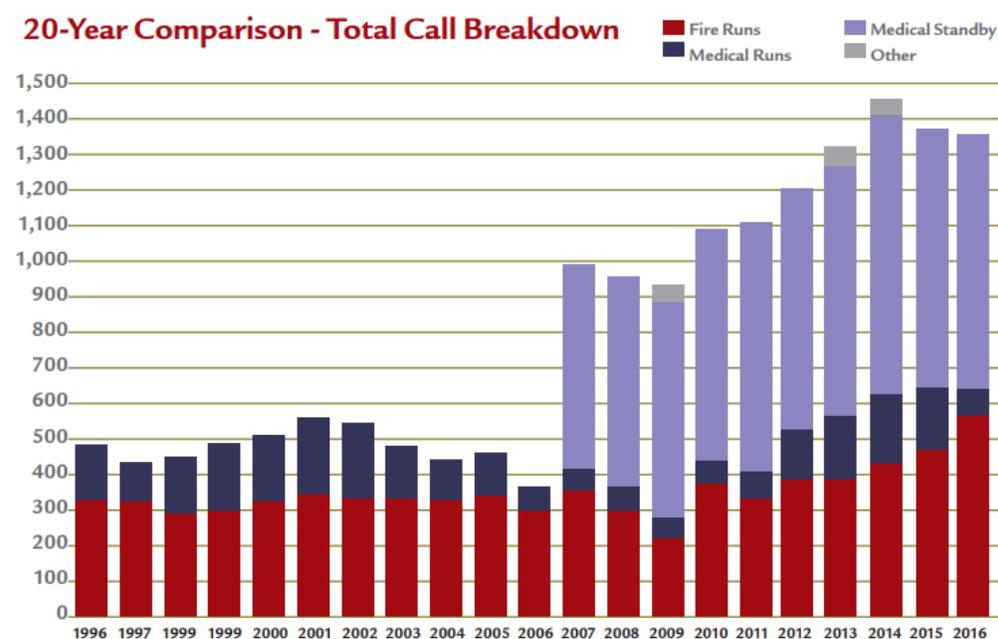
Hopkins Crime Statistics

Crime	Major Crimes				
	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Part 1 Offenses					
Homicide	0	0	1	0	0
Rape	12	12	8	5	10
Robbery	15	10	12	10	14
Aggravated Assault	24	27	20	20	20
Burglary	65	65	95	75	87
Larceny-Theft	336	291	358	376	334
Auto Theft	18	32	33	38	44
Arson	6	6	2	0	0
Part 1 Total	476	443	526	524	509
Part 2 Offenses					
Assault	125	141	130	116	128
Forgery / Counterfeiting	12	23	22	25	22
Fraud	91	91	80	70	56
Embezzlement	0	0	0	0	0
Stolen Property	7	8	12	8	14
Vandalism	139	154	183	179	176
Weapons	10	6	9	5	6
Prostitution	0	0	2	2	2
Criminal Sexual Conduct	15	4	11	11	8
Narcotics	102	96	97	111	158
Gambling	0	0	0	0	1
Family/Children	7	4	6	5	7
DUI (all codes)	103	113	98	66	122
Liquor Violations	11	21	20	49	56
Disorderly Conduct	61	33	40	56	63
Other Offenses (except traffic)	132	174	131	127	195
Part 2 Total	815	868	841	830	1,014
Total Crimes	1,291	1,311	1,370	1,354	1,523

Fire

The Hopkins Fire Department provides fire and emergency response services citywide. They respond to fires and fire threats, medical calls and crashes, and assistance with police calls when additional equipment is needed. In addition to fire and medical calls, the Hopkins Fire Department provides weather stand-by at the fire station and responds to incidents resulting from severe weather. It also responds to missing persons and hazmat incidents, including gas spills, leaks and carbon monoxide alarms. It also provides education and prevention services, including a wide range of community events, and participates in emergency management preparation initiatives.

Fire calls have fluctuated over the past 20 years – with some recent increases in total number of fire related calls. In 2007, the overall call number increased substantially when the Fire Department took on an expanded role in assisting with medical calls.



Emergency Management

The Fire Department works with the Police Department, Hennepin County Emergency Management, and others public safety agencies in the region and state to prepare for and respond to emergencies. The City maintains an Emergency Operations Plan that meets state and federal requirements. Potential threats that are addressed may include dam breakage, extreme heat, fires, flooding, hazardous materials spills, infectious disease outbreaks, thunderstorms, tornadoes and winter storms, acts of terrorism or other human-made disasters. Residents of Hopkins are notified of a crisis through the City's Code Red Emergency Notification System.

In Hopkins, they are assisted by the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). The CERT Program consists of a group of volunteers who have been trained to assist with basic disaster response such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization and disaster medical operations. Participation requires 24 hours of instruction and basic eligibility requirements, including Hopkins residency.

Social Services

Hennepin County’s Human Services and Public Health Department’s (HSPHD) West Suburban regional human services center is located at 1011 1st Street South in Hopkins. Like all the other regional human service centers, this center provides access to the full range of financial, social, and public health services Hennepin County offers, including medical, emergency, child care and food assistance, child support, and homeless services. It is open during business hours on weekdays, and attracts people from throughout the western suburbs. Ways in which these centers assist people include:

- Apply for food support
- Apply for Medical Assistance
- Address homelessness
- Deal with utility shut-offs, evictions and other emergencies
- Get support for seniors in their homes
- Learn about early childhood programs
- Support people with disabilities
- Improve mental health or chemical health

The West Suburban center has an onsite partnership with ResourceWest. ResourceWest is a nonprofit agency that serves low-income families and individuals living in the west metro. Their mission is to provide services that help stabilize families and ultimately help build healthier communities. Services include:

- Information and Referral Service
- Social Services Program (Licensed Social Worker) – Spanish and Somali speaking to provide more in-depth support.
- Assistance with Resumes and Online Job Applications
- Back-to-School (School Supply Drive)
- Winter Warm Wear (Winter Outer Wear Clothing Drive)
- Toy Chest (Holiday Gift Drive)
- Free Fax, Copier, and Phone Use (With some guidelines)



ResourceWest also provides referrals and connections through a variety of partners. Partners include the City of Hopkins, Hopkins Public Schools, Hennepin County, Intercongregation Communities Association, HousingLink, Community Action Partnership of Suburban Hennepin, Reach and Restore, and various other local and statewide organizations. ResourceWest notes that Hopkins city staff, police, and fire departments all regularly refer residents to them.

Furthermore, Resource West hosts a couple additional organizations:

- Prepare+Prosper – provides assistance with tax preparation and other financial services
- Portico Navigator – provides assistance with eligibility and enrollment in affordable health care coverage

Property Standards

Property standards in Hopkins are enforced through the Inspections Department, a division of the Community Services Department. Responsibilities include:

- **Building Inspections.** The Building Code Inspection program inspects all new or remodeled buildings to ensure they meet state building code. This includes plan review, permit issuance, inspection of construction phases and issuance of certificate of occupancy.
- **Fire Inspections.** The Fire Code Inspection program inspects existing buildings periodically to ensure they are maintained in accordance with the safety standards of the state fire code. A percentage of commercial and large multiple residential buildings are inspected yearly.
- **Mechanical and Plumbing Inspections.** The Heating and Plumbing Code Inspection program inspects new and remodeled buildings for heating and plumbing compliance.
- **Property Maintenance Inspections.** Inspects all existing buildings periodically to ensure they are maintained within the city housing code. Rental properties are inspected a minimum of once every three years and homes being sold are inspected as part of the truth-in-housing program.
- **Environmental Health Inspections.** Inspections are contracted out to a health inspector to make regular inspections of restaurants, food establishments and public pools.

Facilities and Infrastructure

The Public Works Department in Hopkins is responsible for maintaining the City's infrastructure, buildings, equipment and open space, and for providing services to meet other essential needs of the City. This is managed through six divisions:

- **Building & Equipment Services.** Maintains and repairs all City buildings, City vehicles, and equipment.
- **Engineering.** The division is responsible for assuring the City's infrastructure development and construction projects exceed the highest standards and meet all regulations. It also acts as the primary liaison to consultants involved with construction projects.
- **Parks & Forestry.** Maintains all areas of developed parks and grounds adjacent to public buildings and right-of-ways, including seeding, fertilizing and mowing of grass. Other areas of responsibilities include maintenance of all athletic fields, playgrounds, Shady Oak Beach, trails, open skating and hockey rinks, and trash removal from all parks.
- **Refuse & Recycling.** Provides weekly automated refuse collection for residents, as well as recycling coordination for contract collection and recycling awareness campaigns. It also provides bulk item pickup for larger items on a call-in basis (plus two drop off events per year), yard waste and leaf collection weekly mid-April through November, and brush pick up on a call-in basis throughout the year (plus free events).
- **Streets & Traffic.** Provides maintenance and snow and ice removal for 55 miles of streets, 30 miles of alleys and 10 parking lots (including the parking ramp). Maintenance includes activities such as sweeping, patching, seal coating and curb repair. The division also repairs street lighting, City traffic signs and signals, and sidewalks.
- **Water & Utilities.** Maintains the City's water system. Provides maintenance and repairs to the City's sanitary sewer lift station system, sewers, and manholes. Maintains all storm sewer lines and storm inlets to assure adequate run-off, and monitors creeks and ditches to control storm water, weeds, and pollution.

Recreation and Parks

Since 1967, the Cities of Hopkins and Minnetonka have jointly planned and provided community recreation for their residents. A Joint Recreation Board, consisting of Hopkins and Minnetonka residents, directs recreation programming and services. Of the net cost required to operate the joint recreation program, the City of Hopkins is responsible for 33 percent and the City of Minnetonka pays 66 percent. Current recreational offerings include:

- Community Events
- Preschool Programs
- Youth Programs
- Teen Programs
- Adult Athletics and Programs
- Senior Services
- Williston Fitness Center (in Minnetonka)
- Fitness
- Tennis
- Aquatics
- Ice Skating

Youth classes are offered in several areas of interest including tennis, golf, swimming, ball skills, and arts & crafts. Youth sports leagues are offered in basketball and soccer. Adult classes are offered in several areas of interest, and team sports are offered in soccer, softball, basketball, volleyball, hockey, broomball and football.

Joint Recreation provides 14 supervised outdoor ice rinks throughout Hopkins & Minnetonka. Each site is staffed with rink attendants from mid-December through mid-February dependent on weather conditions.

Hopkins-specific facilities include:

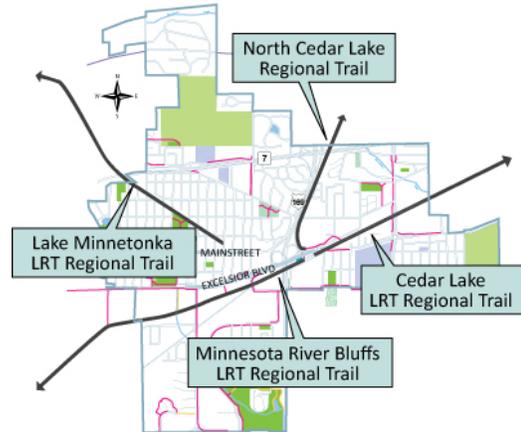
- The City of Hopkins owns Overpass Skate Park, which provides skateboarders, bikers, and inline skaters age 10 or older with a safe, fun and challenging place to improve their skills.
- The Hopkins Pavilion is an arena used for a multitude of activities including ice skating, broomball, soccer, lacrosse, inline skating, rugby, baseball, softball, concerts, company picnics and other community and private events.
- The Hopkins Activity Center is a gathering place for older adults to participate in organized as well as unorganized recreational, social, educational, nutritional, fitness, and volunteer activities.



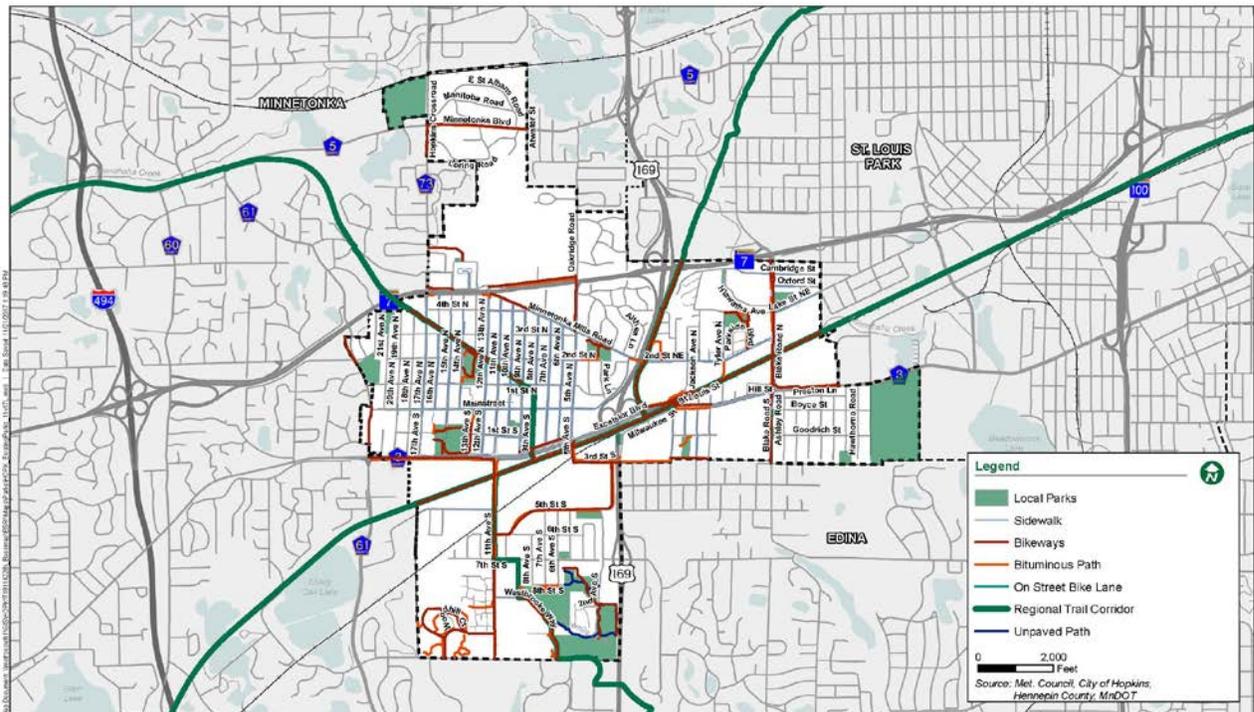
The City of Hopkins Public Works Department maintains 19 parks and nature areas in Hopkins. Locations and details on amenities for each are provided in the following map and table.

Hopkins is also the site of trailheads for four Three Rivers Park regional trails:

- The Minnesota River Bluffs LRT Regional Trail is a limestone trail that heads southwest west from Hopkins to Chanhassen on an old railroad route.
- The Cedar Lake LRT Regional Trail is a popular, wide, paved trail that heads east from Hopkins to Minneapolis, along the former railroad lines of the Great Northern Railway and the Minneapolis and St. Louis Railway.
- The North Cedar Lake Regional Trail is a paved trail that runs northwest from Hopkins to Minneapolis.
- The Lake Minnetonka LRT Regional Trail is a limestone path that runs west from Hopkins to the Carver Park Reserve in Victoria.



Hennepin Parks operates the trails for spring, summer, and fall usage. With generally flat grades, they are ideal for recreational bicycling, walking, and running.



Hopkins Park System Inventory																									
Park Name	Size (Acres)	Park Type	Play Areas	Ball Fields	Open Field	Picnic Area	Outdoor Open Space	Picnic Shelter	Basketball Courts	Tennis Courts	Soccer Fields	Outdoor Hockey Rink	Sledding Hill	Restrooms	Volleyball	Football Field	Indoor Ice Arena	Canoe Launch	Golf Course	Archery Range	Community Garden	Track & Field	Skateboard Park	Swimming Beach	Horseshoes
Alice Smith Elementary	9.82	School - Park	*	*	*																				
Blake School	47.94	School - Park		*	*					*	*						*					*			
Buffer Park	2.39	Neighborhood Park		*	*								*												
Burnes Park	6.32	Neighborhood Park	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*				*											*
Central Park	12.32	Community Park	*	*		*	*	*		*	*	*			*		*								
Cottageville Park	1.27	Neighborhood Park	*		*				*																
Downtown Park	0.46	Neighborhood Park				*																			
Eisenhower Elementary Community Center	24.97	School - Park	*	*	*					*	*					*									
Elmo Park	0.94	Neighborhood Park	*						*																
Harley Hopkins Park	2.89	Neighborhood Park		*	*		*					*													
Hiawatha Oaks	1.83	Natural Resource Area																							
Hilltop Park	2.61	Neighborhood Park	*	*	*	*	*						*												
Interlachen Park	2.16	Neighborhood Park	*	*			*		*			*													
Maetzold Field	10.1	Community Park	*	*				*			*			*		*									
Minnehaha Creek Preserve	35.14	Special Use Facility																*							
Oak Ridge Golf Course	153.02	Special Use Facility																	*						
Oakes Park	4.91	Neighborhood Park	*	*		*	*	*		*		*	*	*											
Park Valley Playground	1.14	Neighborhood Park	*		*			*	*																
Shady Oak Nature Area	6.03	Special Use Facility																							
Shady Oak Beach	5.44	Community Park	*			*									*		*								*
Skateboard Park	0.66	Special Use Facility																					*		
Stein Park Preserve	33.34	Natural Resource Area																							
Valley Park	32.93	Community Park	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*					*	*				
TOTAL	398.63		13	12	10	7	7	6	6	5	5	5	4	4	3	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

Education and Employment

Library

According to the Hennepin County Library website, library service in Hopkins community was first established in 1912 by the Women's Improvement League, in space set aside in City Hall. The library was moved first to the historic Dow House in 1948 and then to a vacant restaurant in 1963. The library opened in its current location on 11th Avenue North in 1968. It has since been renovated in 2002 and 2015. Currently, the library features art at the library, computers and technology, homework help tutoring for K-12 students, collections of books in different languages, and meeting rooms.



Schools

The City of Hopkins is served by the Hopkins School District. With an enrollment of around 7,200 students, it serves the entirety of the city. In addition, it serves students in portions of Minnetonka, Golden Valley, Eden Prairie, Edina, Plymouth, and St. Louis Park.

The district includes six elementary schools, one magnet Chinese immersion school, two junior high schools and one high school. All but three of these schools are located outside of Hopkins.

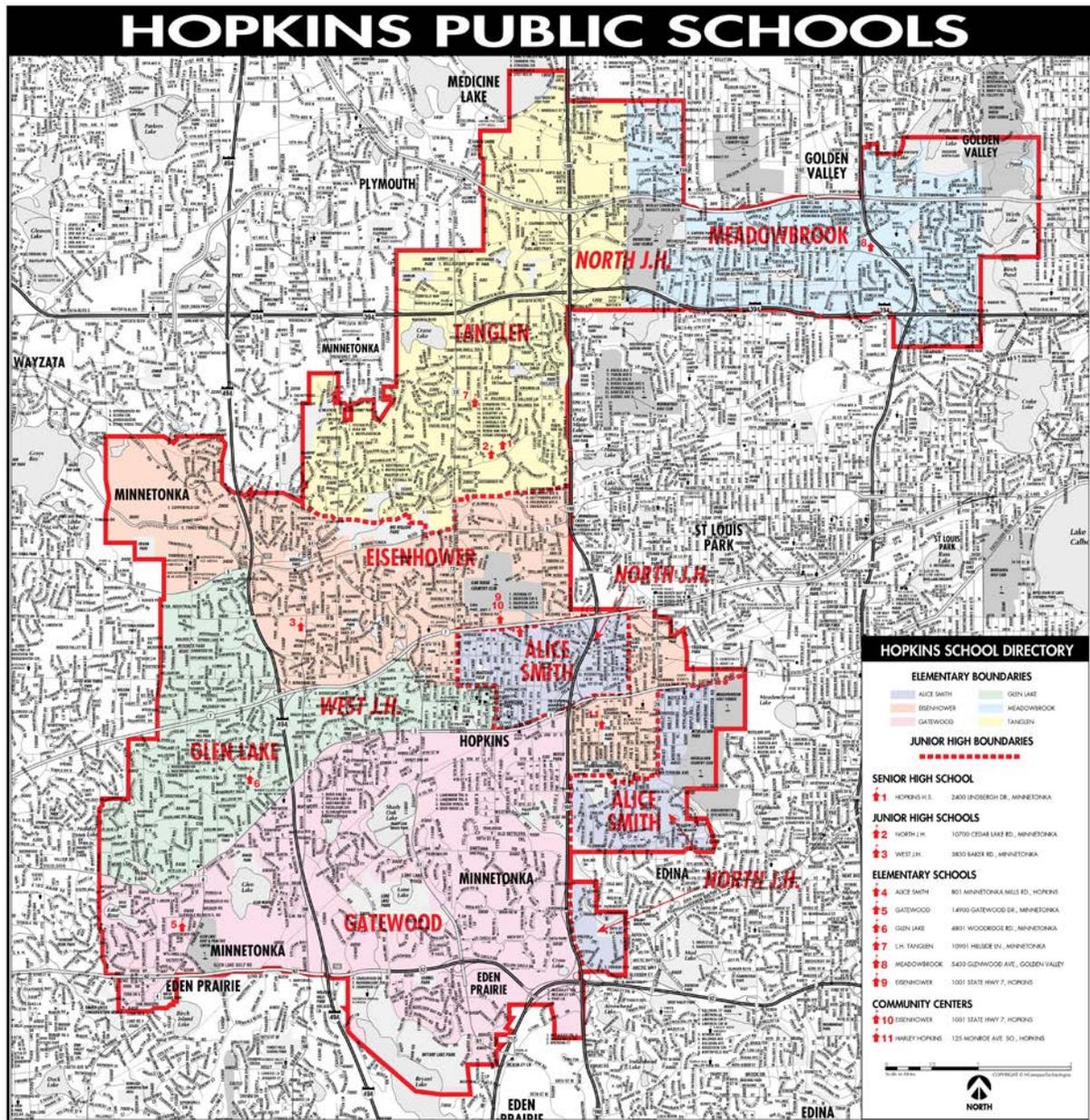
- Alice Smith Elementary, 801 Minnetonka Mills Road, Hopkins
- Eisenhower Elementary, 1001 Highway 7, Hopkins
- Gatewood Elementary, 14900 Gatewood Drive, Minnetonka
- Glen Lake Elementary, 4801 Woodridge Road, Minnetonka
- L.H. Tanglen Elementary, 10901 Hillside Lane, Minnetonka
- Meadowbrook Elementary, 5430 Glenwood Avenue, Golden Valley
- XinXing Academy, 1001 Highway 7, Hopkins
- Hopkins North Junior High, 10700 Cedar Lake Road, Minnetonka
- Hopkins West Junior High, 3830 Baker Road, Minnetonka
- Hopkins High School, 2400 Lindbergh Drive, Minnetonka

In addition, the school district offers early childhood and preschool programs, adult and child community education programs, and various programs for people with disabilities.

The city also has several private schools, including:

- St. John's Catholic School, 1503 Boyce Street, Hopkins

- The Blake School, 110 Blake Road South, Hopkins

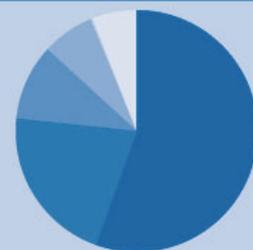


DEMOGRAPHICS

- 9% of students speak a language other than English as their first language
- 14% of students qualify for special education services
- 37% of students qualify for Free and Reduced Price Lunch

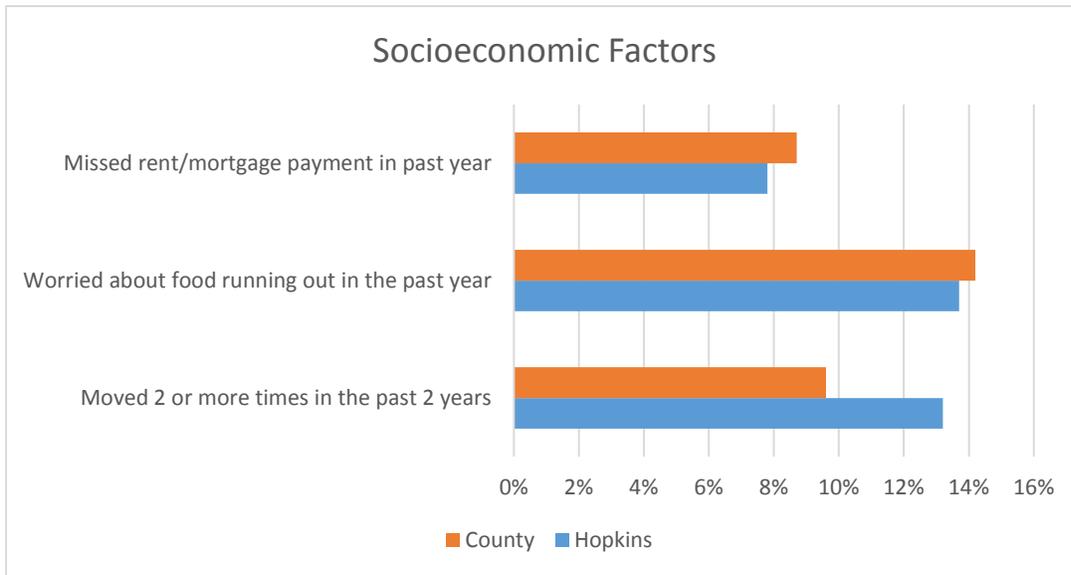
OUR STUDENT POPULATION

- 55% White
- 21% Black
- 10% Hispanic
- 7% Asian/Pacific Islander
- 6% Two Or More Races
- 1% American Indian



Economic Opportunity

Socioeconomic factors are stresses on a number of area residents. According to the SHAPE survey, over 12% worried about running out of money for food sometime in the previous year. A similar percentage dealt with either frequent moves or missing rent/mortgage payments.

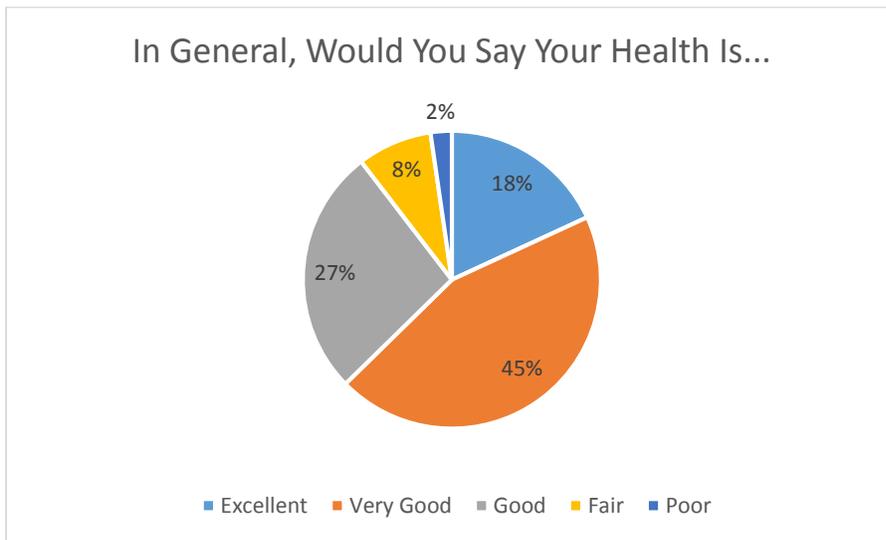


Public Health

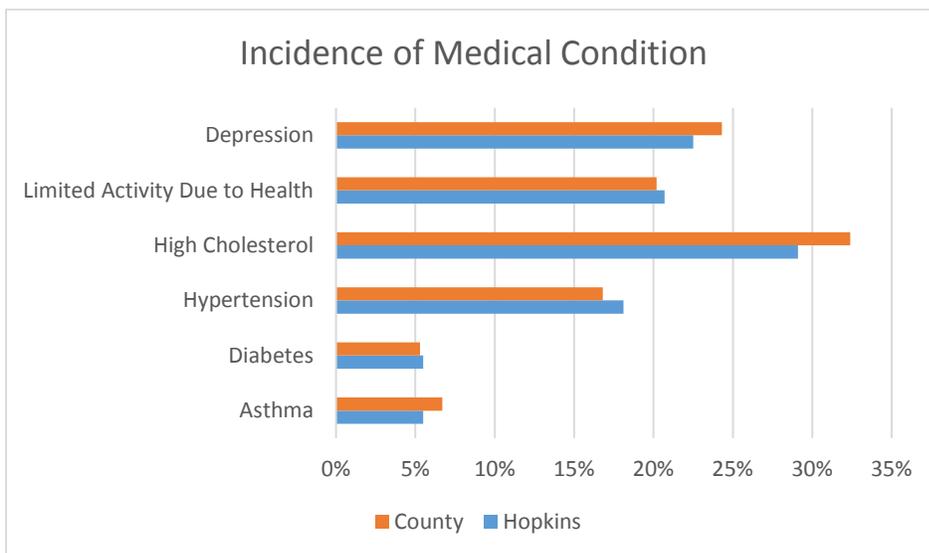
Overall Health

The Adult Survey of the Health of All Populations and the Environment (SHAPE) survey is administered in Minnesota every four years since 1998. This anonymous survey asks questions about health, diet, exercise, lifestyle, and access to health care. The Hennepin County SHAPE study reports Hopkins in a group called Western Suburbs – Inner Ring, which combines results from Hopkins and St. Louis Park. This information is mostly from the 2010 SHAPE, the most recent available with this level of detail.

Most of the adult respondents (90%) classified their health as “good” or better. Only about 2% indicated they were in poor health.

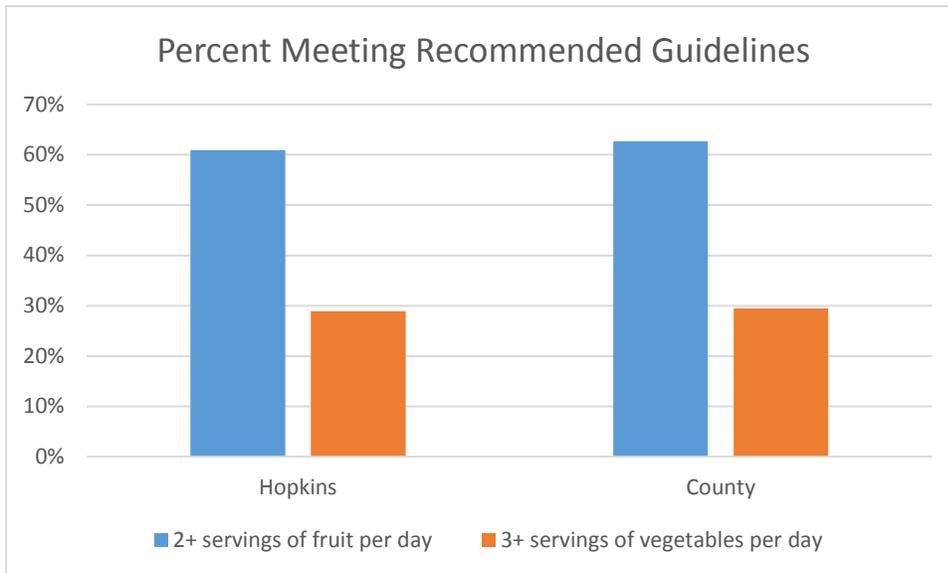


The incidence rates of various common medical conditions in Hopkins adults were similar to countywide averages.

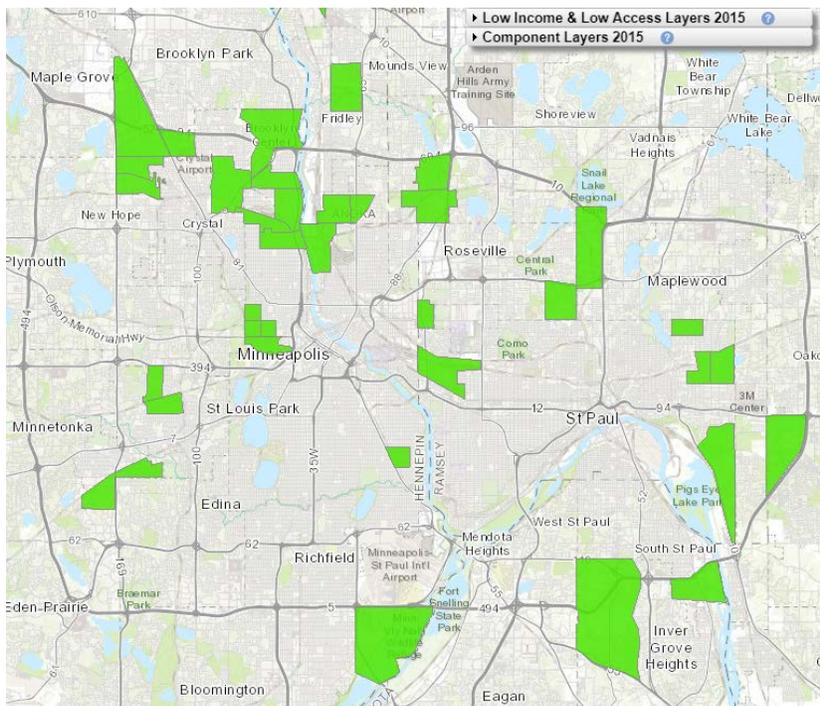


Healthy Food and Clean Water

According to the SHAPE survey, in terms of nutrition guidelines, there is some room for improvement. The majority of adults met the standard for fruit consumption, but not for vegetables. However, it was not significantly worse than the county as a whole.



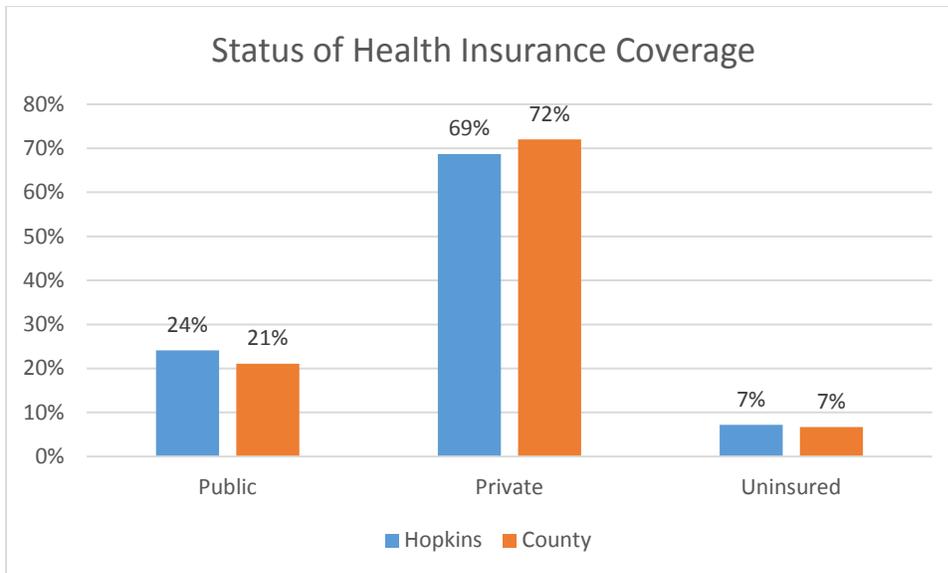
In 2015, the United States Department of Agriculture did an analysis to determine location of food deserts – defined as areas where a significant number of low income residents live without proximity to a major grocery store. In urban areas, that is defined as living more than one mile from a major store (10 miles in rural areas). The Census tract south of the railroad tracks in Hopkins was defined as a food desert by these criteria.



In terms of access to clean water, the City's public water supply system has always remained in full compliance with all state and federal drinking water regulations. Water samples are routinely collected and analyzed by City staff for chemical composition and bacterial contamination by the Minnesota Department of Health as required under the Minnesota Public Water Supply Program and the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Act.

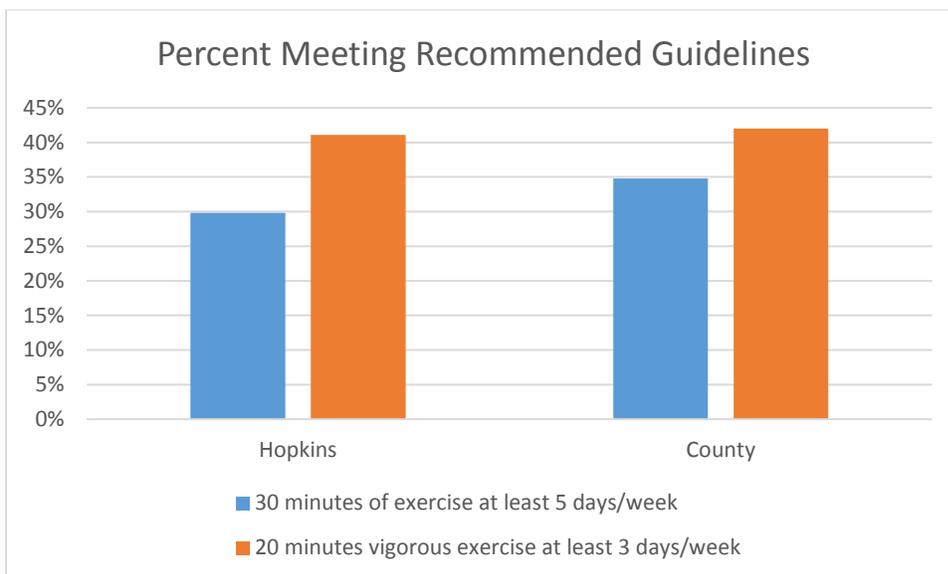
Access to Healthcare

According to the SHAPE survey, around 7% of adults indicated that they did not have health insurance. This has declined in recent years due to presence of national affordable health care coverage programs.

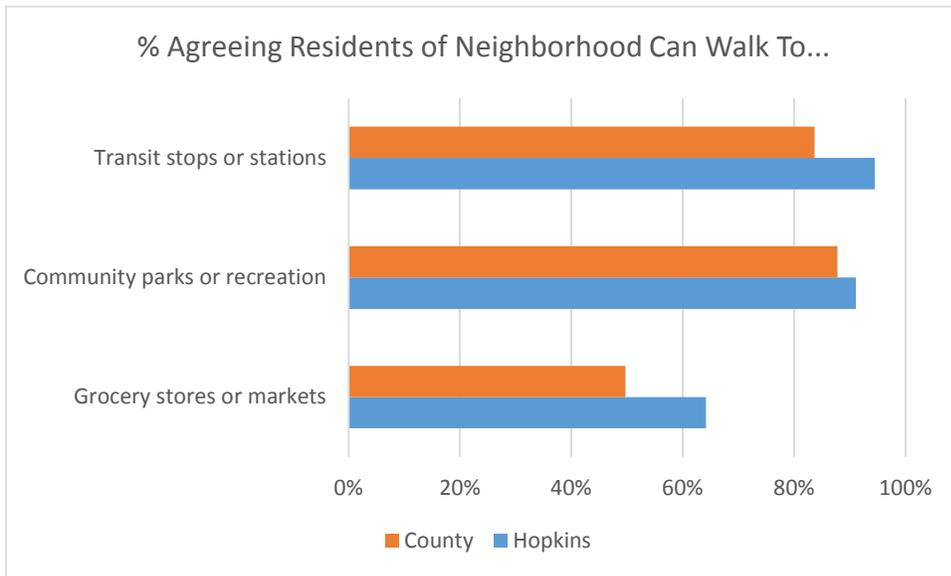


Active Living and Physical Activity

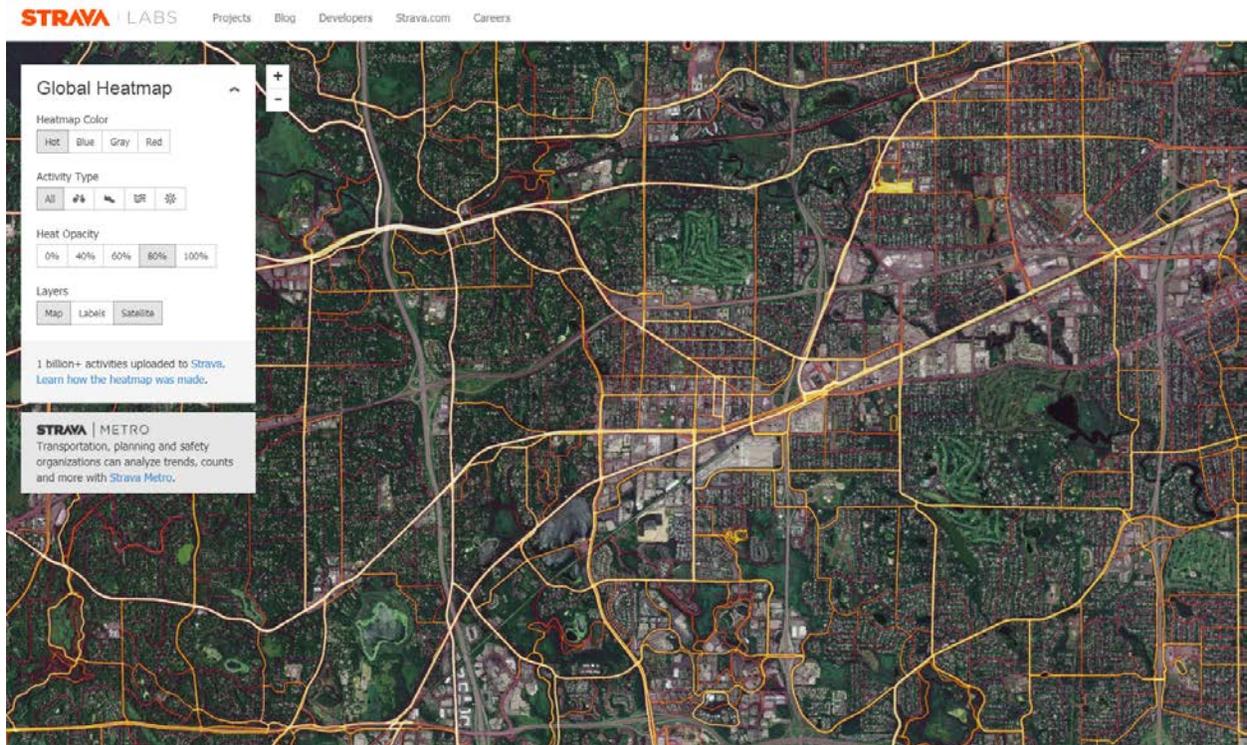
According to the SHAPE survey, the majority of adult respondents did not meet recommended activity guidelines for exercise on a weekly basis. Hopkins responses were slightly worse than countywide.



However, most residents agree that they live in reasonably walkable areas, with a majority indicating walkability to grocery stores, parks, and transit. Rates are higher than Hennepin County as a whole.



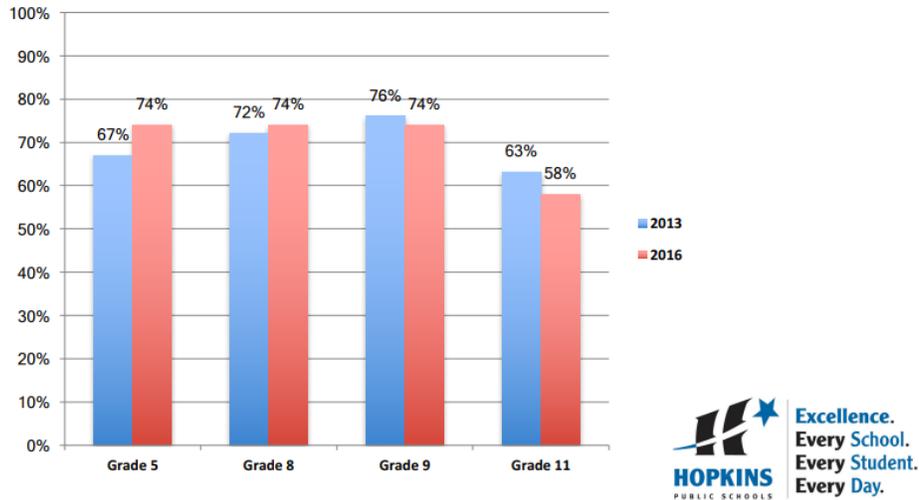
A measure of physical activity levels provided by activity tracker Strava shows that Hopkins is a regional hub for bicycle and pedestrian routes. The heat map below (with white being the “hottest”) shows the pattern of travel, particularly on regional trail connections and Downtown streets.



In contrast with adults, most Hopkins students surveyed in the Minnesota Study Survey (MSS) report being physically active, though the rate declines as students get older, perhaps due to competing demands on their time.

Physical Activity

Hopkins Students Reporting Being Physically Active for AT LEAST 60 MINUTES PER DAY on 3 or More Days in the Past 7 Days, 2013 and 2016

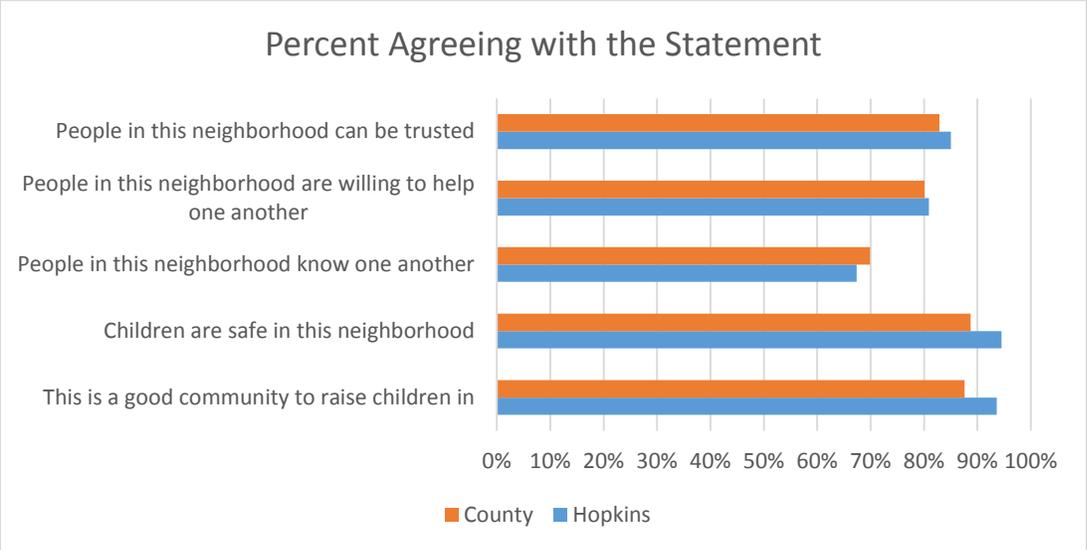


Existing Conditions: Sense of Community

Community Connections

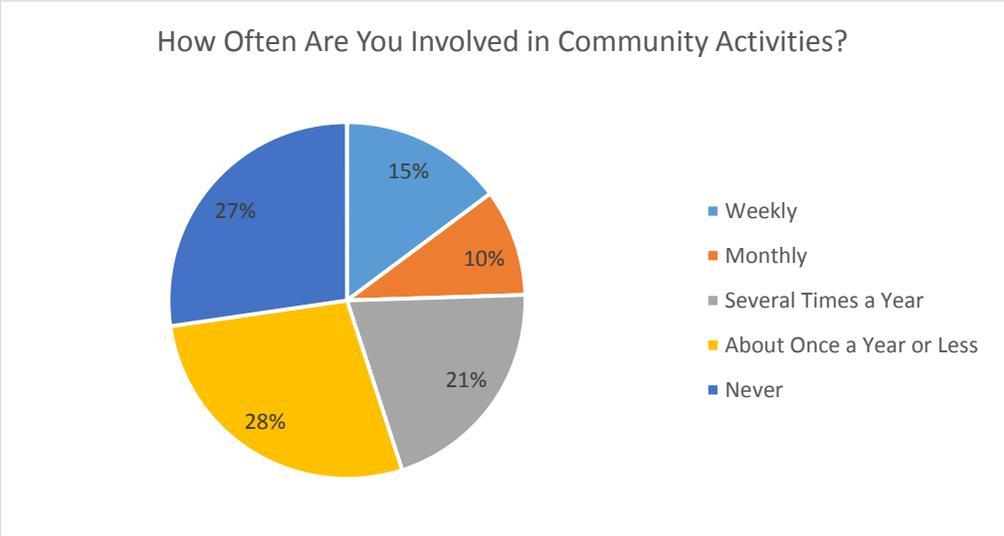
Social Connectedness and Belonging

According to the SHAPE survey, people largely have positive associations with their neighborhoods, with the majority indicating that neighborhoods are trustworthy and helpful, and that it is a good place to raise children. Conversely, about 13% agreed that people in their neighborhood were afraid to go outside at night due to violence, and 6% thought that gangs were a serious issue in their neighborhood.



Community Involvement and Participation

According to the SHAPE survey, around half of the Hopkins respondents indicated that they had some regular participation in community activities, while the other half did not.



Public Spaces

There are a variety of public spaces in Hopkins that can be rented for public and private community events. Spaces managed by the City of Hopkins are included in the table below.

Name of Space	Building/ Location	Capacity	Availability	Suggested Uses
Freight Room	The Depot Coffee House	95-95	Year-round	Birthday Parties, Private Concerts, Graduation Parties, Baby Showers, Wedding Reception
Jaycees Studio	Hopkins Center for the Arts	128-200	Year-round	Reception, Meeting, Open House, Training Session, Luncheon, Memorial Service
Indoor Turf Field	Hopkins Pavilion	30-300	March - mid-May	Baseball/softball practices, Rugby, Soccer, Lacrosse, Football Practices, Birthday Parties
Indoor Ice Arena	Hopkins Pavilion	30-300	September - February	Ice Skating, Birthday Party, Fundraiser, Hockey Practice
Dry Floor Pavilion	Hopkins Pavilion	100-500	mid-May - August	Antique Sale, Flea Market, Large Events, Trade Show
Conference Room	Hopkins Pavilion	10-Aug	Year-round	Meeting
Room 201/Room 202	Hopkins Pavilion	20-35	Year-round	Meeting, Class, Small Party
Multipurpose Room (Room 203A&B)	Hopkins Pavilion	50-90	Year-round	Meeting, Class, Small Banquet
Room 203A	Hopkins Pavilion	20-Aug	Year-round	Meeting, Class, Small Party
Room 203B	Hopkins Pavilion	30-70	Year-round	Meeting, Class, Small Banquet
Conference Room	Hopkins Center for the Arts	13-Oct	Year-round	Meeting, Small Class, Birthday Party
Community Room	Hopkins Center for the Arts	72-90	Year-round	Reception, Presentation, Meeting, Wedding/Baby Shower, Luncheon, Anniversary Party
Dance Studio	Hopkins Center for the Arts	20-Jun	Year-round	Dance Class, Private Practice, Rehearsal

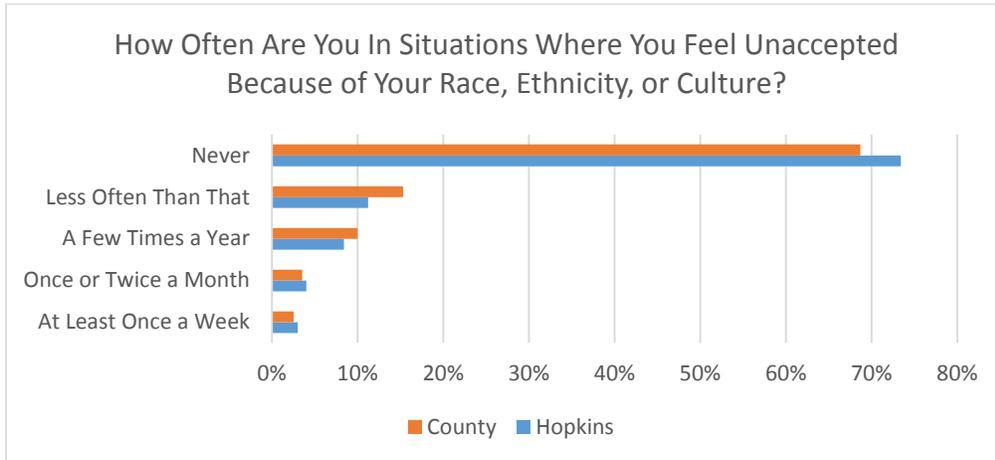
Name of Space	Building/ Location	Capacity	Availability	Suggested Uses
Theater	Hopkins Center for the Arts	150-715	Year-round	Recital, Performance, Training Session, Awards Ceremony, Lecture, Sales Presentation
Arts Classroom	Hopkins Center for the Arts	24-Dec	Year-round	Arts/Craft Class
Gym - full	Hopkins Activity Center	60-200	Year-round	Basketball, Volleyball, Wedding/Anniversary/Birthday/Retirement Events, Meetings, Dinners, Dances
Gym - north	Hopkins Activity Center	20-100	Year-round	Pickleball, Anniversary/Birthday/Retirement Events, Meetings, Dinners, Dance, Fitness Activities
Gym - south	Hopkins Activity Center	20-100	Year-round	Pickleball, Anniversary/Birthday/Retirement Events, Meetings, Dinners, Dance, Fitness Activities
Computer Lab	Hopkins Activity Center	8-Feb	Year-round	Computer Training, Small Meeting
Harmony Hill	Hopkins Activity Center	30-Apr	Year-round	Crafts and Art Activities, Meeting, Training
Library	Hopkins Activity Center	8-Feb	Year-round	Study, Small Meeting
Raspberry North	Hopkins Activity Center	Aug-32	Year-round	Small Reception/Party/Luncheon Events, Classroom, Training, Meeting
Raspberry South	Hopkins Activity Center	12-Apr	Year-round	Classroom, Training, Meeting
Picnic Shelter	Burnes Park	25-60	May - September	Family Reunion, Picnic, Company Gathering, Neighborhood Party
Picnic Shelter	Central Park	25-60	May - September	Family Reunion, Picnic, Company Gathering, Neighborhood Party
Picnic Shelter	Valley Park	25-60	May - September	Family Reunion, Picnic, Company Gathering, Neighborhood Party

Equity and Inclusiveness

Equity and Diversity

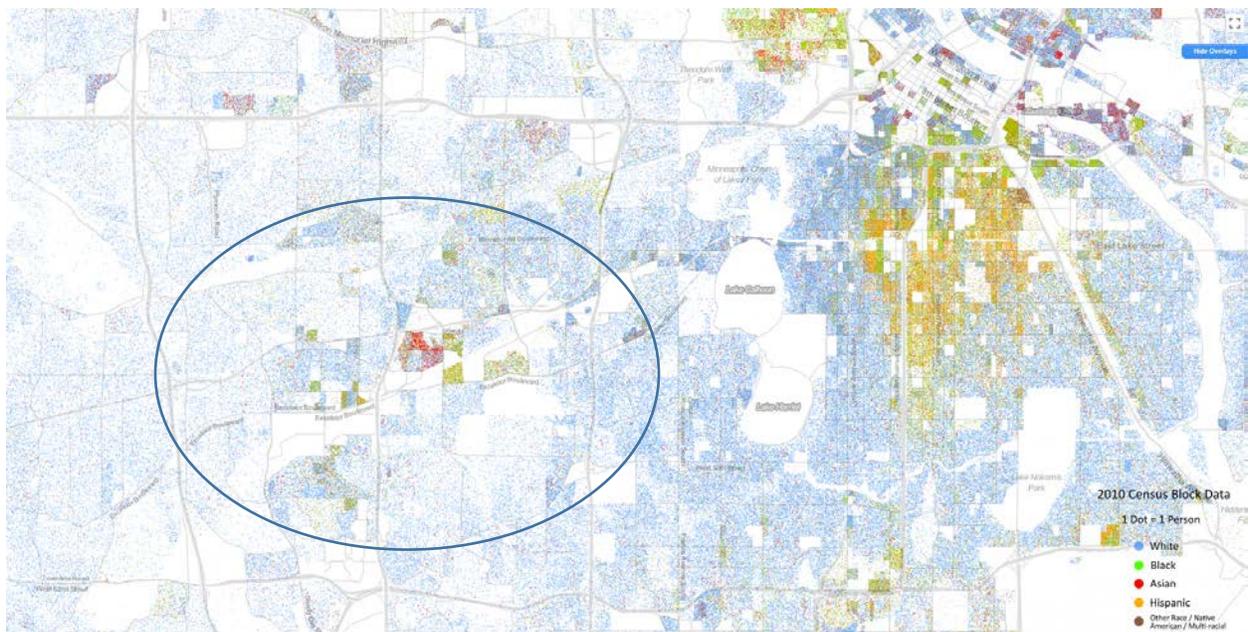
Discrimination

Around 15% of respondents indicated that they could recall at least a few times over the past year where they felt unaccepted due to their race, ethnicity, or culture. This is not dissimilar than the proportions in the Hopkins race and equity survey.



Racial Segregation

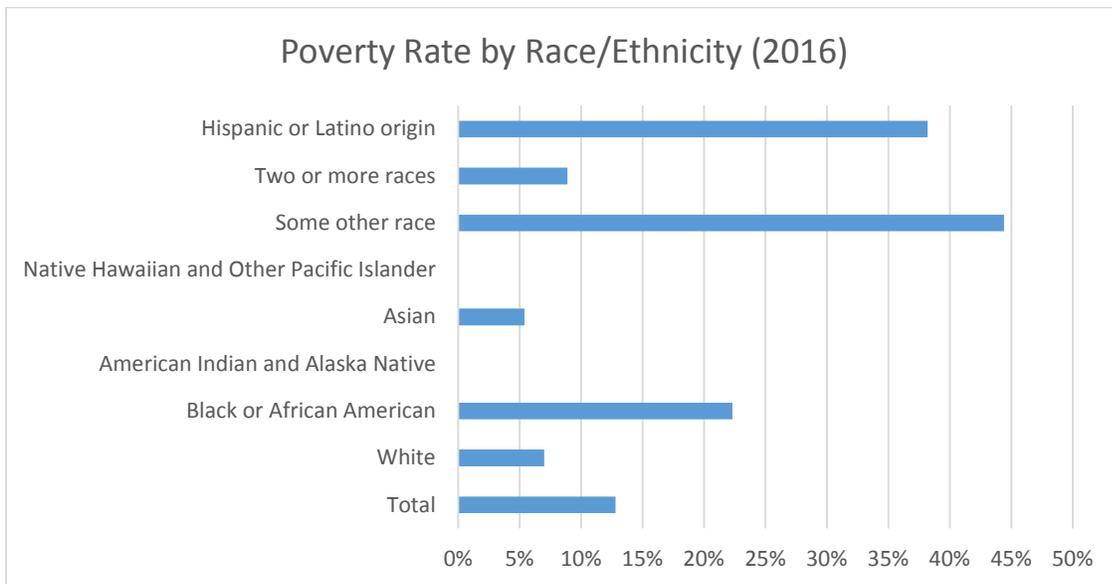
The University of Virginia has created a racial dot map that shows a snapshot of everyone living in the United States in 2010 at the level of a Census block. Each person is represented by a dot, classified by their race. Patterns in Hopkins (like in most of the country) show some distinct clustering patterns by block for non-white residents. This largely reflects the fact that these residents live disproportionately in large apartment buildings located in these blocks. Patterns like this show up throughout the region and the nation as a whole.



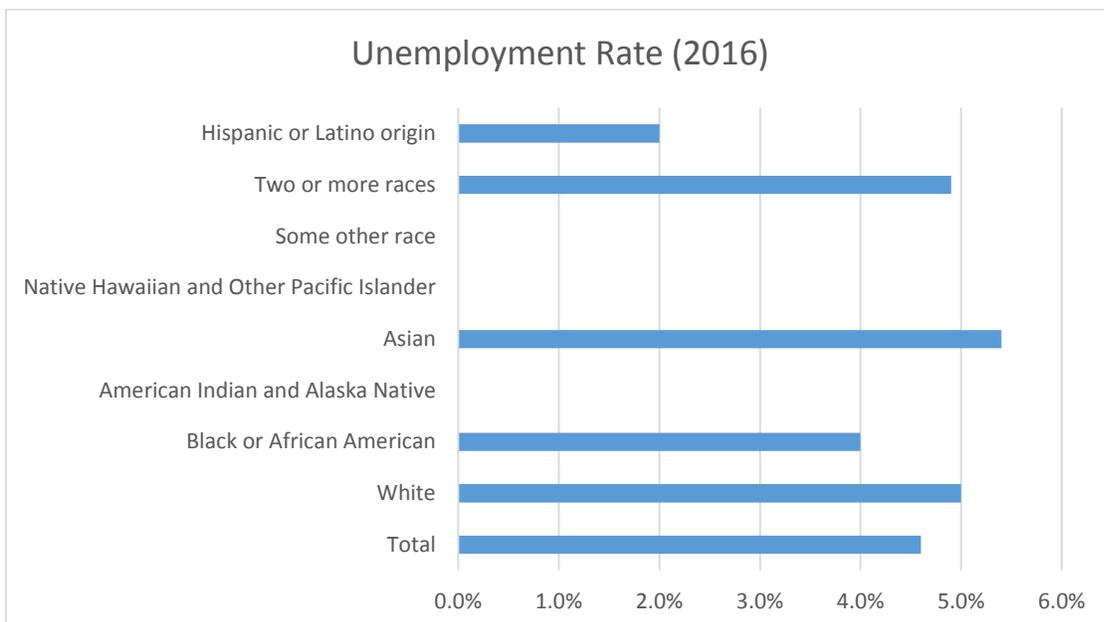
Racial/Ethnic Disparities

There are substantial disparities in the well-being of Hopkins residents by race and ethnicity. This is consistent with broader regional and national trends. Some of the measurements of this are provided below.

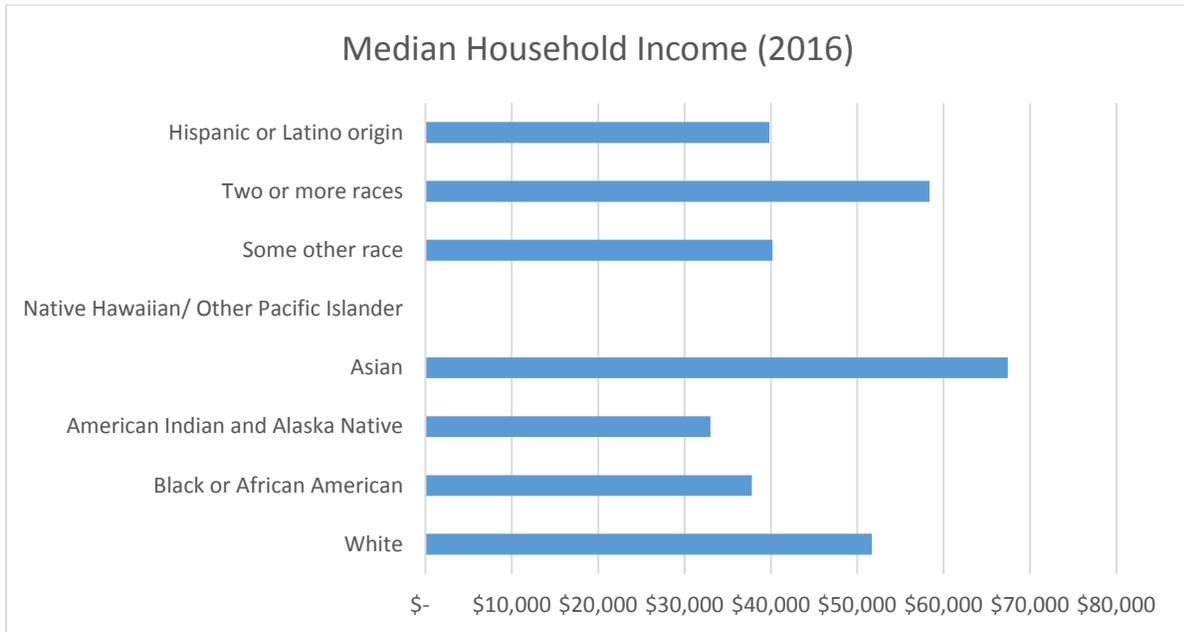
The poverty rate varies greatly by race and ethnicity. The rate for Black/African American residents is nearly twice the overall average, while the rate for Hispanic/Latino residents is nearly three times. The population of American Indian/Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Island is too small to establish much of a pattern.



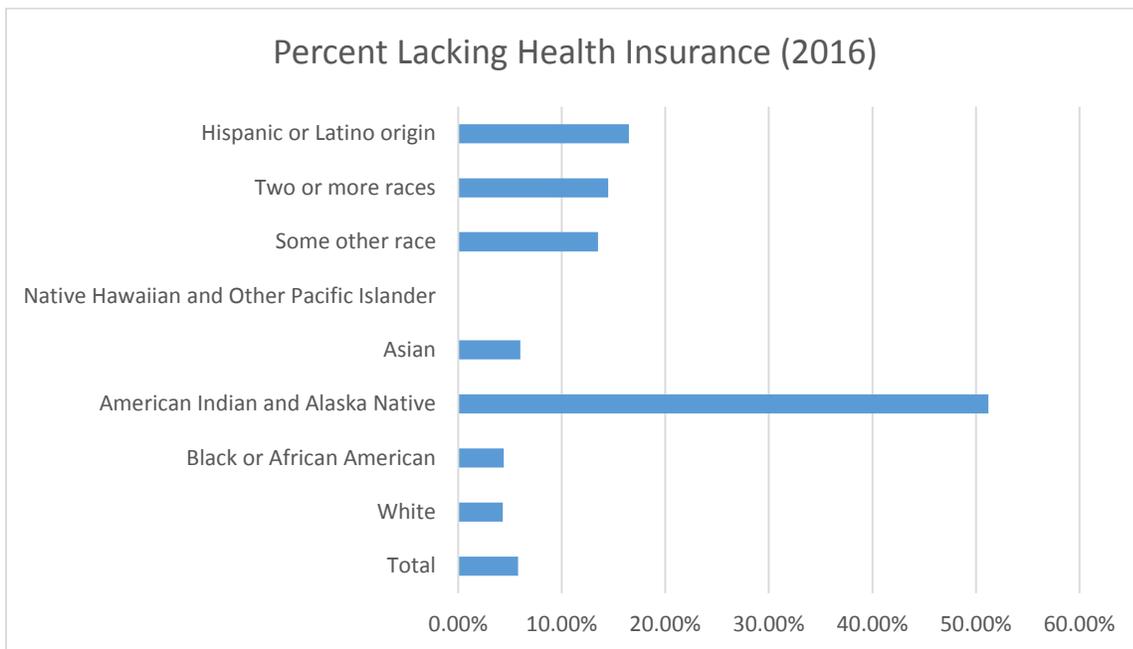
It does not appear that the level of employment fully explains these disparities. While there are some differences in unemployment rate, that do not correspond closely to poverty rates.



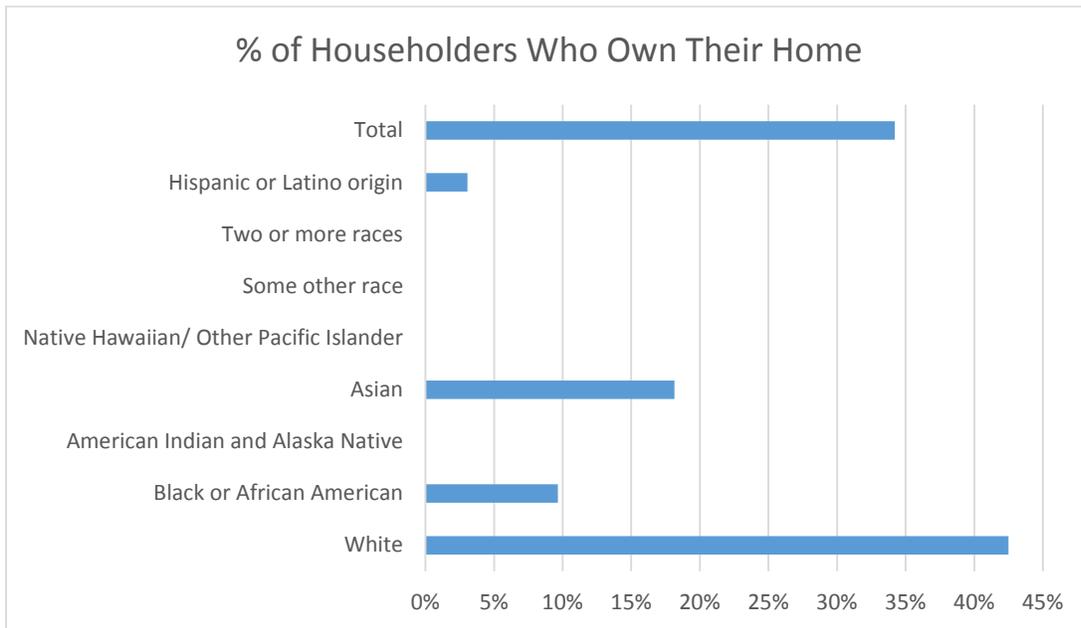
There are disparities by race and ethnicity which logically are similar to poverty rate statistics, with the lowest incomes for American Indian/Alaska Native, Black/African American, and Hispanic/Latino.



There also are some differentials regarding health insurance coverage. The rate is by far the highest with the Native American population, although the small population size means that the number has a fairly high potential margin of error.



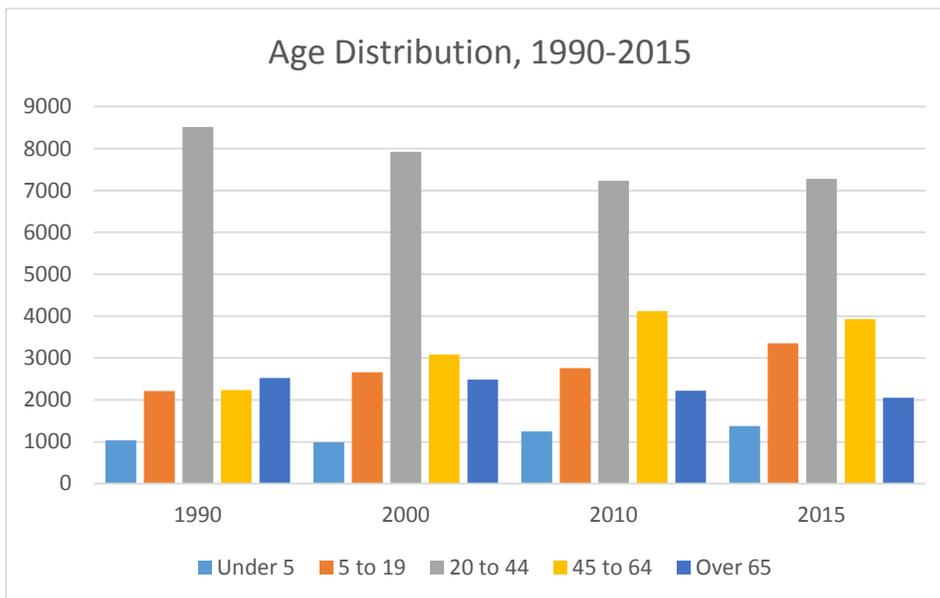
Homeownership varies greatly by race/ethnicity. The rate for white householders is far higher than for any other group.



Special Populations

Youth and Seniors

Youth and seniors are often identified as having unique needs in the community, with programs and interventions tailored to their requirements and preferences. In Hopkins, according to the Census, the population of children has been increasing over time, while the population of seniors has been decreasing. Between 1990 and 2015, the percentage of people under 20 years has gone from 20% to 26%, while the percentage of people over 65 has gone from 15% to 11%. However, this is countered by overall national trends of an aging population.

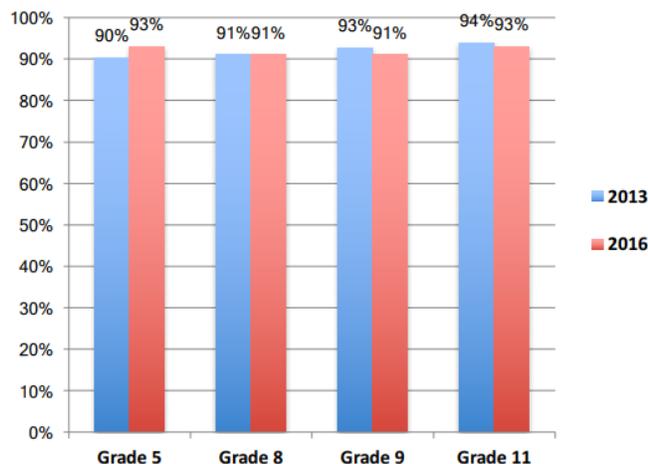


There is some additional information available about the needs and preferences of youth through the school system. The Minnesota Study Survey (MSS) is a tool used to assess the general well-being of our state's youth. The MSS is administered every three years to Minnesota students (most recently in 2016) and covers a broad array of topics, including academics, school and community, safety, substance use, mental health, and more. The survey is confidential, anonymous, and voluntary. The statistics provided in this section are compiled at the district level for the Hopkins School District.

Most of the students in the Hopkins School District (>90%) report that they care about doing well in school all of the time or most of the time. This is a measure of engagement and involvement in the school community. Most also agreed that teachers seemed to care about students.

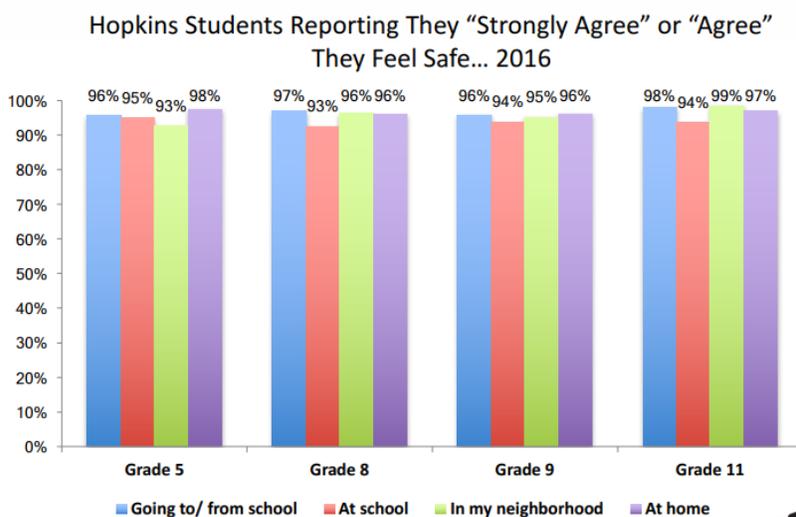
How often do you care about doing well in school?

“All of the time” or “Most of the time”,
Hopkins 2013 and 2016



Hopkins students also mostly (>90%) feel safe in their daily lives – going to and from school, at school, in their neighborhood, and at home. This actually increased several percentage points for all age groups between 2013 and 2016.

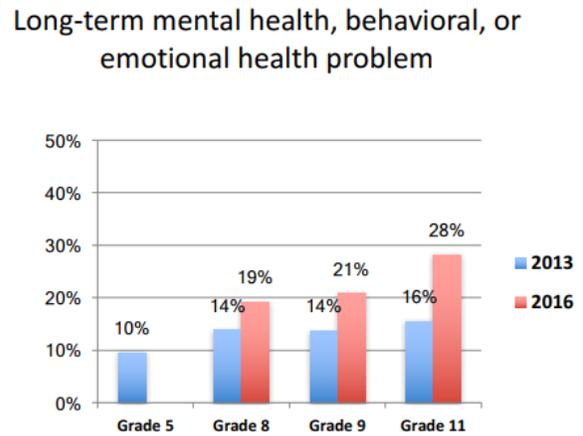
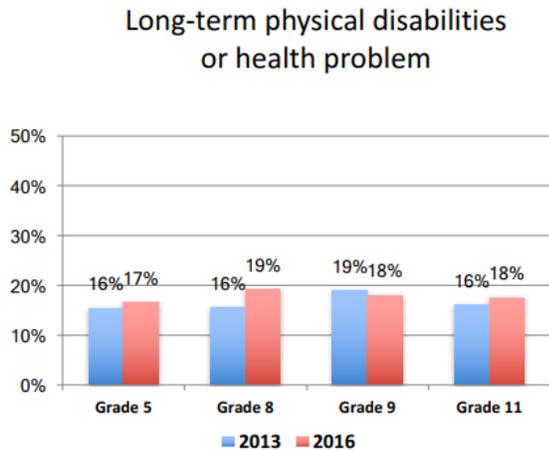
Safety



One critical area of focus is mental health. There is a notable trend, echoing national trends. The rate of physically risky behavior has declined steadily in recent years. Compared to past years, today’s youth are less likely to drink alcohol, smoke cigarettes, use marijuana, or engage in sexual intercourse. The rate of decline has been steady and noticeable. For example: in 2001, 22% of 9th graders had used alcohol in the previous 30 days – but by 2016, it was only 7%.

However, on the other end, reports of mental health issues have increased. For instance, between 2013 and 2016, the percentage of 11th graders indicating long-term mental health problems increased from 16% to 28%. The survey notes that female students are more likely across the board to report mental health issues than males.

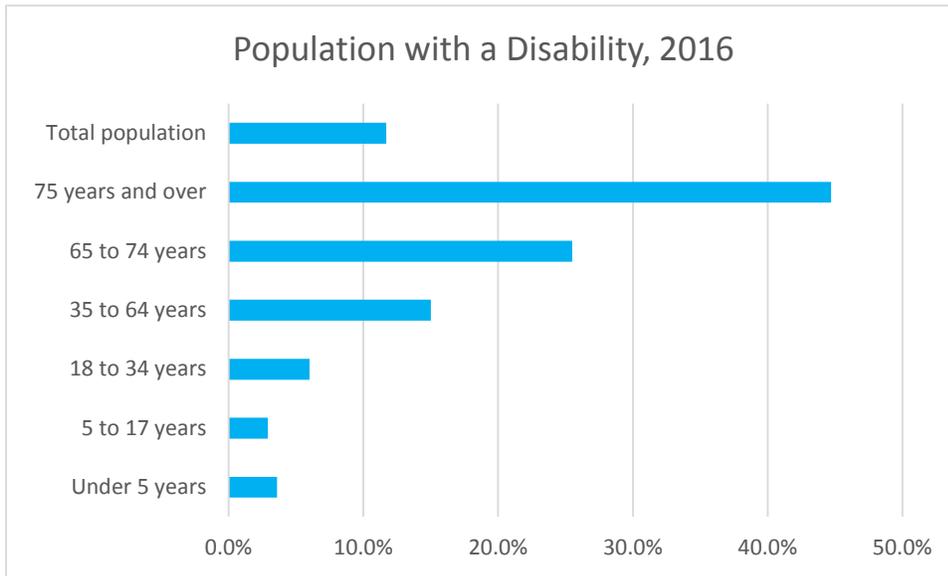
Long-term physical or mental health problems, lasting 6 months or more Hopkins 2016



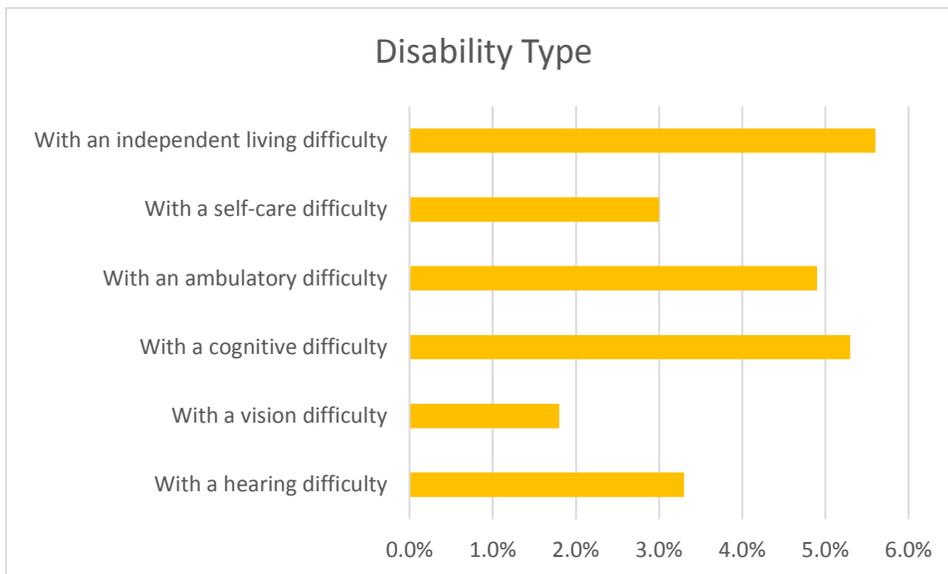
This dynamic – less physical health risk but more mental health risk – has been investigated elsewhere as a national trend. One contributing factor that has been identified is the more widespread use of smartphones and other similar technology among students. Students are spending less time going out with peers (and thereby engaging in risky behavior) and more time engaging with them virtually. The mental health aspect may be the result of the corresponding social isolation, combined with cyberbullying and other online interactions. The full story is likely more complicated, but the trend is noticeable enough that it bears monitoring. Clearly, the school district will play a key role in working with students – but the community also bears a responsibility for creating a supportive environment for its youth.

People with Disabilities

According to the Census, around 11.7% of the population has a disability. This varies significantly by age, as shown on the chart below. It also varies by race, but that appears to be primarily age-linked (the White population is the oldest group, and also the one with the highest rate of disability).



The type of disability varies as well. The most common is difficulty with independent living, while vision difficulty is less common. The percentages sum to more than 11.7% of the population because a number of people have multiple disabilities. Categories do vary a lot by age – for instance, over a quarter of the 75+ population has ambulatory and/or independent living difficulties.



Culture and Identity

Arts and Culture

The Hopkins Center for the Arts opened in November 1997, and is a focal point for arts, culture and entertainment in Hopkins and surrounding communities. It is located in downtown Hopkins on Mainstreet.

The Hopkins Center for the Arts builds community through the arts by fostering creative expression, and providing artistic and educational opportunities for people of all ages. The Hopkins Center for the Arts presents a series of concerts and exhibitions as well as other events during the year. Stages Theatre Company entertains thousands of children and families through their plays and runs an extensive educational program. The Hopkins School District holds adult community education classes in arts and wellness as well as special events/exhibitions/performance at the Center. Any remaining time is rented to outside groups – arts groups, businesses, civic organizations and families.

Facility amenities include:

- 715-seat theater
- Visual arts gallery
- Multipurpose spaces for rehearsals, community activities and small performances
- Arts classroom
- Dance studio
- Kitchen facilities for serving catered food

Hopkins Artstreet is an ongoing program established in 2010 to showcase original art works in an accessible setting. A collaboration among the City of Hopkins, the Hopkins Business & Civic Association and the Friends of the Hopkins Center for the Arts, this project is part of a long-term vision for incorporating public art into Hopkins and enriching the lives of its residents and visitors.



Historic Preservation

City History

The land where Hopkins was established was originally Dakota Sioux territory. It is situated along a trail established by indigenous people that follows the high ground along the path of the Minnesota River, connecting Lake Calhoun/Bde Maka Ska and Shakopee. The land was opened for European settlement after treaties of the Traverse des Sioux (with the Sisseton and Wahpeton bands) and Mendota (with the Mdewakanton and Wahpekute bands) in 1851. However, terms were disputed, and there were a number of skirmishes between indigenous people and European settlers continued for years.

The first European settlers of the territory that was to become Hopkins arrived in 1852, in the form of Yankee and Bohemian farmers. Railroad connections were first established in the late 1860's. By the late 1880's, three railroad companies had constructed in lines and depots that served residents and industry, including eventually the establishment of streetcar lines. The town itself originated in 1887 with the building of the Minneapolis Threshing Machine Company, later called Minneapolis Moline, which became the town's first major employer. At one time, Minneapolis Moline employed a majority of the Hopkins residents. The West Minneapolis Land Company was also founded in 1887, in order to build housing for Minneapolis Moline factory workers.

In the early years, this settlement was a part of the Richfield and Minneapolis townships. In 1893, a group of 41 residents petitioned the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners, asking that the village be formed. Following an election, the community was incorporated as the village of West Minneapolis. Originally comprised of three square miles, it has been expanded by annexation to its current size of approximately four square miles. The population at the time of its incorporation was 1,105.

In 1928, the name of the village was changed to Hopkins for Harley H. Hopkins, one of the first homesteaders and the community's first postmaster, who made an arrangement with the railroad to name the railroad depot Hopkins. The first mayor was Harley Hopkins' son, Chester L. Hopkins. The Village of Hopkins adopted its City charter on December 2, 1947, effectively becoming the City of Hopkins.

Postwar development changed the city's traditional downtown, as travel and shopping patterns became increasingly auto oriented – and Hopkins became integrated into a larger metropolitan region. This has had significant implications particularly for the older areas on Hopkins, which have undergone multiple revitalization and renewal efforts from the 1970's onward. Urban renewal included clearing of older building and construction of new commercial and residential developments, including a number of apartment buildings. Largely built out for decades, Hopkins' growth and changes continues to come from reinvestment and redevelopment in established places.

As the city has continued to reinvent itself for changing times, it has remained a vibrant community. Increased diversity of new residents in recent years have brought in more stories and perspectives, including personal histories.

Historic Properties

Since 1972, the Hopkins Historical Society has been dedicated to preserving the history of the Hopkins community. They are a resource center of over 10,000 photographs depicting historical Hopkins including county fairs, the Raspberry Festival, schools and economic development. The Historical Society is also fortunate to have inherited, collected and preserved many Hopkins artifacts dating back to 1856

and local newspapers from the mid-1920's. The Historical Society is a nonprofit organization that is supported by its members.

The Historical Society oversees the Hopkins History Center, which is located in the Hopkins Activity Center. It is in the process of fundraising to move to its new location in the former Albert Pike Masonic Lodge building at 907 Mainstreet. The museum serves as a resource for people researching family history or local Hopkins stories. The lodge itself has recently been the subject of a historic study to establish its eligibility.



The Historical Society also runs the Historic Homes Program. Recognizing that there are many old homes and neighborhoods in Hopkins, this program recognizes exemplary homes 75 years and older by awarding a proclamation and a plaque.

Despite extensive work on documenting the City's history, there are presently no properties in Hopkins on the National Register of Historic Places. However, The Southwest Light Rail Transit planning process provided an opportunity to look at the potential historic eligibility of number of properties within the area impacted by the project. In Hopkins, this covered a substantial swath of the older areas of the community, including Downtown. This process, a required element of the environmental review process, evaluated properties to see if they met National Register criteria. In Hopkins, this effort surveyed a total of 143 properties. Of those surveyed, several properties and a potential historic district were selected for further review. Some of the properties evaluated are included below.

Depot Coffee House (9451 Excelsior Blvd)

The Depot Coffee House building is 110 years old, built in 1903. Originally, it was a Minneapolis & St. Louis train depot built to serve a growing community during time when railroads were prominent. It was also the only brick depot present in Hopkins at the time.

According to the documentation: "Located within the industrial corridor but also a substantial brick building, the M&StL depot in Hopkins conveys the symbiotic relationship between the railroad and the community.

The M&StL Depot was built in 1903 and is directly associated with Hopkins' growth during the 1900s and 1910s. During the first two decades of the twentieth century, Hopkins transformed from a village to a city with a distinct industrial corridor and downtown commercial district." The Depot Coffee House building was determined to be eligible for the National Register.



Hopkins City Hall (1010 First Street South)

Hopkins City Hall is 48 years old. The first part of the building was completed in November 1964, with additions in 1990 and 2003. According to the documentation: "Hopkins City Hall plays an important role in providing a needed level of service to its citizens and was built in response to the explosive growth experienced by Hopkins in the 1950s and 1960s. While there are other postwar buildings in the downtown area, the city hall building is the best local representation of this growth. Hopkins City Hall retains integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association because the building reflects mid-twentieth century design aesthetics and conveys the city's progress during this period." City Hall was determined to be eligible for the National Register.



Hopkins Downtown Commercial Historic District (800 to 1000 block of Mainstreet)

Buildings in this district range from six to 119 years old, constructed between 1893 and 2006. According to the documentation, "During the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, downtown Hopkins served as the commercial center for local residents and residents of the surrounding agricultural communities who traveled to Hopkins to buy goods and services...The Hopkins Downtown Commercial Historic District retains its commercial nature and represents this early period of commerce and settlement in Hopkins. Although the district is surrounded by modern commercial development, it retains a strong sense of time and place." The Hopkins Downtown Commercial Historic District was determined to be eligible for the National Register.



Minneapolis Moline Co. (11111 to 11119 Excelsior Boulevard)

The Minneapolis Moline building is about 61 years old. The original brick building was built in 1951, with several additions between 1962 and 1998. The building was the former home of Minneapolis Moline, a farm implement company with deep roots in Hopkins as a descendant of the Minneapolis Threshing Machine Co., which began operations in Hopkins in the late 1880s. According to the documentation, "The 1951 building was associated with Minneapolis Moline Company for 11 years before it was purchased by Napco Industries. However, it post-dates the heyday of the Minneapolis Moline Company, from its merger in 1929 through the postwar era; therefore, it does not reflect the significance of the company. In addition, most of the key industrial buildings, structures, and objects associated with Minneapolis Moline have been demolished and there is nothing remaining of the original pre-World War II industrial complex." The Minneapolis Moline was determined to not be eligible for the National Register.



Existing Goals and Policies

Existing Comprehensive Plan Policies

- Involve and inform residents, employees, and business owners (Overall)
- Park and recreation system that supports community identity and serves as a gathering place (Park)
- Promote active living and a healthier community through parks and recreational opportunities (Park)
- Park and recreation system that satisfies a diverse population (Park)

City Council Goals and Strategic Plan

The City Council formally adopted its current goals and strategic plan in 2017. The following elements relate to the economic environment:

Goal I – Preserve the Home Town Feel of Hopkins

- Strategy 3: Provide Accessible and Friendly City Services
 - Improve service delivery through e-commerce
 - Promote interactive park, trails and facilities directory on website.
- Strategy 4: Embrace and Strengthen Partnerships
 - Support History Center transition to Mainstreet
 - Continue to grow partnerships with:
 - Joint recreation in Minnetonka
 - Hennepin County
 - Hopkins School District
 - Watershed districts
 - Met Council
 - Three Rivers Park District
 - Surrounding cities
 - Faith and community-based organizations

Goal III – Take it To Them

- Strategy 1: Involve Diverse Populations
 - Promote cultural celebrations
 - Explore methods to involve Multicultural Advisory Committee in community building
 - Seek out diversity on boards and commissions
- Strategy 2: Engage the Rental Community of Hopkins

- Intentionally engage rental communities
- Strategy 3: Inspire Community and Citizen Engagement
 - Encourage volunteerism and expand volunteer opportunities.
 - Conduct community meetings at alternative locations
 - Educate the community in the area of emergency preparedness
 - Identify opportunities to partner with youth, schools, businesses and faith-based organizations
 - Promote opportunities to raise awareness and understanding of race, equity and diversity
 - Creatively engage and market the community using technology and unique platforms

Best Practices

Sustainable Comprehensive Plan Standards

Sustaining Places was developed by the American Planning Association as an overall framework for addressing community sustainability through the comprehensive planning process. The following elements from this framework address topics specific to the social environment.

Interwoven Equity

- 4.1 Provide a range of housing types.
- 4.2 Plan for a jobs/housing balance.
- 4.3 Plan for the physical, environmental, and economic improvement of at-risk, distressed, and disadvantaged neighborhoods.
- 4.4 Plan for improved health and safety for at-risk populations.
- 4.5 Provide accessible, quality public services, facilities, and health care to minority and low-income populations.
- 4.6 Upgrade infrastructure and facilities in older and substandard areas.
- 4.7 Plan for workforce diversity and development.
- 4.8 Protect vulnerable populations from natural hazards.
- 4.9 Promote environmental justice.

Healthy Community

- 5.1 Reduce exposure to toxins and pollutants in the natural and built environments.
- 5.2 Plan for increased public safety through reduction of crime and injuries.
- 5.3 Plan for the mitigation and redevelopment of brownfields for productive uses.
- 5.4 Plan for physical activity and healthy lifestyles.
- 5.5 Provide accessible parks, recreation facilities, greenways, and open space near all neighborhoods.
- 5.6 Plan for access to healthy, locally grown foods for all neighborhoods.
- 5.7 Plan for equitable access to health care providers, schools, public safety facilities, and arts and cultural facilities.

Responsible Regionalism

- 6.5 Promote regional cooperation and sharing of resources.

STAR Communities

The STAR framework, which integrates economic, environmental, and social aspects of sustainability, provides communities with a menu-based system to customize their approach based on local conditions and priorities. Communities can pursue the most important or relevant objectives, addressing regional

variability and differing priorities along the way. Elements relevant to the social environment are provided below.

Arts and Culture

Purpose

Provide a broad range of arts and cultural resources and activities that encourage community member participation, creative self-expression, and community revitalization

Outcomes

- Creative Industries
- Attendance and Participation

Community Cohesion

Purpose

Promote socially cohesive neighborhoods where residents are connected, have a sense of place, and feel committed to their community

Outcomes

- Accessibility of Community Venues and Facilities
- Volunteerism
- Cohesion and Connectedness

Educational Opportunity and Attainment

Purpose

Achieve equitable attainment of a quality education for individuals from birth to adulthood

Outcomes

- Reading proficiency
- Reading proficiency equity
- Graduation rate
- Graduation rate equity

Historic Preservation

Purpose

Preserve and reuse historic structures and sites to retain local, regional, and national history and heritage, and reinforce community character

Outcomes

- Local historic district(s)

- Preserved structures and sites
- Economic impact

Social and Cultural Diversity

Purpose

Celebrate, respect, and represent the diverse social and cultural backgrounds of the community and its members

Outcomes

- Diverse Local Government Hiring
- Social and Cultural Events

Aging in the Community

Purpose

Encourage active aging by optimizing opportunities for health, participation, and security in order to enhance quality of life as people age

Outcomes

- Successful Aging
- Senior Satisfaction Survey
- Overcoming Challenges to Aging

Civic Engagement

Purpose

Facilitate inclusive civic engagement through the empowerment of all community members to participate in local decision-making

Outcomes

- Voter Turnout Rate
- Sense of Empowerment
- Diverse Community Representation

Civil and Human Rights

Purpose

Respect, protect, and fulfill the civil and human rights of all members of the community

Outcomes

- Resolution of Complaints

Environmental Justice

Purpose

Ensure no neighborhoods or populations are overburdened by environmental pollution

Outcomes

- Reduce Risk and Exposure

Equitable Services and Access

Purpose

Establish equitable spatial access to foundational community assets within and between neighborhoods and populations

Outcomes

- Equitable Access and Proximity

Human Services

Purpose

Ensure that essential human services are readily available for the most vulnerable community members

Outcomes

- Homelessness Services
- Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services
- Child and Adult/Elderly Abuse and Neglect Services

Poverty Prevention and Alleviation

Purpose

Alleviate the impacts of poverty, prevent people from falling into poverty, and proactively enable those who are living in poverty to obtain greater, lasting economic stability and security

Outcomes

- Poverty Reduction
- Equitable Poverty Reduction

Active Living

Purpose

Enable adults and kids to maintain healthy, active lifestyles by integrating physical activity into their daily routines

Outcomes

- Active Adults
- Active Kids

Community Health

Purpose

Achieve positive health outcomes and minimize health risk factors associated with behaviors and poor indoor air quality in schools and homes

Outcomes

- Health Outcomes
- Health Behaviors
- Indoor Air Quality in Schools
- Indoor Air Quality Complaints to Enforcement Agency

Emergency Management and Response

Purpose

Reduce harm to humans and property by utilizing collaborative approaches to increase capability and capacity to respond to emergency incidents

Outcomes

- Superior Fire Protection
- Fire and Police Accreditation
- Community Emergency Management

Food Access and Nutrition

Purpose

Ensure that adults and children of all income levels have physical and economic access to fresh and healthful food and have opportunities to learn about nutritious eating and food safety

Outcomes

- Food Security and Assistance
- Access to Healthful Food
- School Nutrition

Health Systems

Purpose

Provide high quality local health systems that are accessible and responsive to community needs

Outcomes

- Clinical Care
- Quality of Local Hospital Systems
- High Performing Health Department

Hazard Mitigation

Purpose

Reduce or eliminate the long-term risk to life and property from existing hazard events through an on-going process that occurs before, during, and after disasters

Outcomes

- Location Specific Hazards
- Full Community Hazards

Safe Communities

Purpose

Prevent and reduce crime and increase perceptions of safety through interagency collaboration and with residents as empowered partners

Outcomes

- Crime Rates
- School Violence