



Nonprofit and Government Partnerships

Addressing Specific Needs of the City of Lemon Grove through Nonprofit Collaboration

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Disclaimer

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About the Sage Project

The Sage Project is a partnership between San Diego State University (SDSU) and a local government in the San Diego region. Students, through their course work, engage in meaningful real-world projects and contribute to pressing social needs in a community in SDSU's service area. Students from across the University assist local governments with partner-directed projects that address their livability and sustainability goals. SDSU students and faculty connect with high-priority, high-need, highly interdisciplinary community projects, thereby generating interest and fresh ideas that create momentum and provide real service to the community. Each year, the Sage Project at SDSU engages hundreds of students from diverse disciplines who invest thousands of hours assisting communities in our region as they seek to build a more equitable and sustainable future. The Sage Project is part of the Educational Partnerships for Innovation in Communities (EPIC) Network and is based on the highly successful and award winning Sustainable City Year Program at the University of Oregon.

About Lemon Grove

The City of Lemon Grove is an intimate community of about 26,000 residents in southeast San Diego County. As a small municipality nested within an expansive metropolis, Lemon Grove faces the unique challenge of preserving its history and small town charm amidst a largely urban landscape. The city's small town attributes are not only attractive to residents and visitors, but they also allow for more feasible implementation of rapid and widespread sustainable practices. The City of Lemon Grove continues to gain momentum as a model of sustainability as it seeks innovate ways to address both community and global needs.

Executive Summary

The research in this report was created through a partnership between the City of Lemon Grove and the Sage Project at San Diego State University during the spring of 2017. This research was completed by students in an upper division Public Administration class, titled Nonprofit Organizations and Government. This work sought to understand how the City of Lemon Grove could best meet emerging needs of the growing population and diverse community within the city. The goals of the city included collecting data from individuals about their perceptions and preferences regarding such topics as safety, parks and recreation (including amenities and use), community gardens, public art and Lemon Grove's overall image.

This report details data that were collected through a survey of residents and non-residents of Lemon Grove. The data were analyzed to determine specific unmet or under-addressed needs of the city. Needs that were identified included: community gardens and increased nature in public spaces; parks and family-oriented play areas; community and youth events; safety concerns; senior resident social services; and homelessness.

The goal of this research was to identify viable partnerships between the City of Lemon Grove and local nonprofit organizations within the San Diego County area. Survey results, in conjunction with the specific needs expressed by the City of Lemon Grove, allowed us to assess the community needs and identify potential partners with a data-driven approach. Potential nonprofit partnerships were determined for each unmet or under-addressed need that was identified. The recommendations for nonprofit partnerships were those deemed to be most appropriate and beneficial for the City of Lemon Grove.

Keywords: nonprofit organizations, community needs, placemaking, senior residents, parks and recreation, homelessness

This report presents unique student proposals that were created to address the specific needs and goals of the City of Lemon Grove. This work was completed by students in an upper-division Public Administration class, titled Nonprofit Organizations and Government, at San Diego State University (SDSU) in collaboration with the Sage Project, Lemon Grove city staff, and Lemon Grove residents and non-residents. Survey data were collected and analyzed during the Spring 2017 semester to identify unmet or under-addressed needs in Lemon Grove and assess the viability of potential partnerships between local nonprofit organizations and the City of Lemon Grove.

Several aspects of multiple projects were addressed to meet the goals of the city. The scope of work for the projects included data collection from individuals in Lemon Grove about their perceptions and preferences regarding such topics as safety, parks (including amenities and use), community gardens, public art, and Lemon Grove's overall image.

Community Needs in Lemon Grove

In determining the needs of Lemon Grove, we considered the goals of the city in conjunction with survey data that were collected on three occasions. The survey that was used was designed in an honors course from Fall 2016, titled Happiness and Public Life (HONOR 113, section 10). The survey can be found, in its entirety, in Appendix A. For more information about this survey and a more complete discussion of the results of the survey, see the corresponding report (Hurt-Ben, 2017). Both residents and non-residents of Lemon Grove were asked to complete the survey. There were 229 total respondents and, of those respondents, 104 were Lemon Grove residents and 125 were non-residents. Our findings, outlined in the report below, suggest that a partnership with one or more local nonprofit organizations would be beneficial to meeting the needs of Lemon Grove. These findings are related to placemaking, parks and recreation, senior services, and homelessness.

Methodology

We collected public perception data for the City of Lemon Grove through the use of a 37-question survey. The survey included demographic information about each respondent related to sex, age range, ethnicity, and language use and multiple questions that determined Lemon Grove residency or non-residency. This distinction was important, as it allowed for examination of differences between resident and non-resident opinions and public perceptions. We also included questions that addressed safety, enhanced city services, public art and an arts district, community gardens, family-oriented play areas, community events, new biking, walking, and equestrian trails, and incorporation of more nature into public spaces.

The first survey collection occurred on Tuesday, November 8, 2016. The second collection date was Thursday, November 10, 2016, and the third survey data collection occurred on Monday, February 20, 2017. Survey collection took place between 4pm and

6pm at two locations: Lemon Grove Plaza near the intersection of Broadway and Lemon Grove Avenue, and at Sprouts Farmer’s Market on Lemon Grove Avenue. All participants were offered a \$5 Starbucks gift card upon completion of the survey.

Once data collection was completed, the data were analyzed to determine unmet or under-addressed needs of the city. This information then allowed for a thorough assessment of the viability of potential partnerships between local nonprofit organizations and the City of Lemon Grove.

Placemaking

Placemaking was outlined as a principal need by the City of Lemon Grove. This includes facilitating creative patterns of use for city spaces with special attention paid to the cultural and social identities that contribute to Lemon Grove and its continued evolution. We identified two areas of need related to placemaking—nature in public places and community events. The purpose of incorporating more nature into Lemon Grove is to create a more sustainable and engaged community, while simultaneously creating a more appealing and livable environment. Additionally, increasing community events within the city can help energize the downtown area with community member engagement and visitors from other cities.

Nature in Public Spaces

Our investigation indicated that survey respondents were interested in addressing nature in public spaces. Based on responses to a survey question related to interest in incorporation of more nature into public spaces using a 1–5 ranking scale, residents and non-residents were very interested in having more nature incorporated into the public spaces of Lemon Grove (results shown in Figure 1).

Additionally, when respondents were asked, “what natural features would you find most appealing?” most (107 out of 176 responses) indicated that they would like to see more trees, plants, and greenery (see Figure 2). These data collected for the incorporation of more nature into public places suggest that this is an interest of both residents and non-residents.

Figure 1: Community interest in incorporating more nature into public spaces, based on survey responses. 1 = not interested. 5 = very interested.

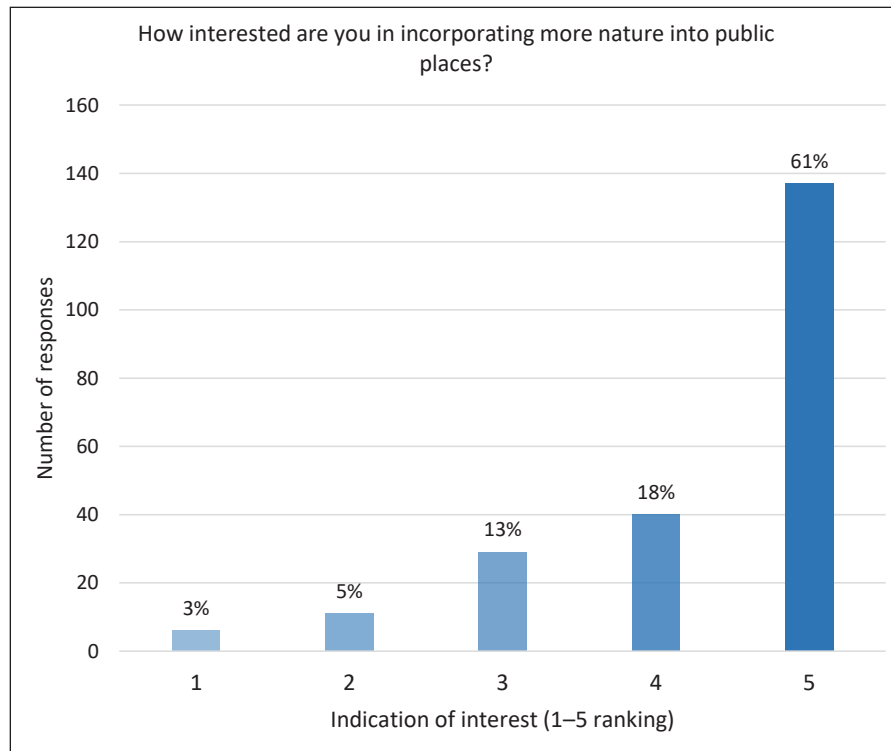
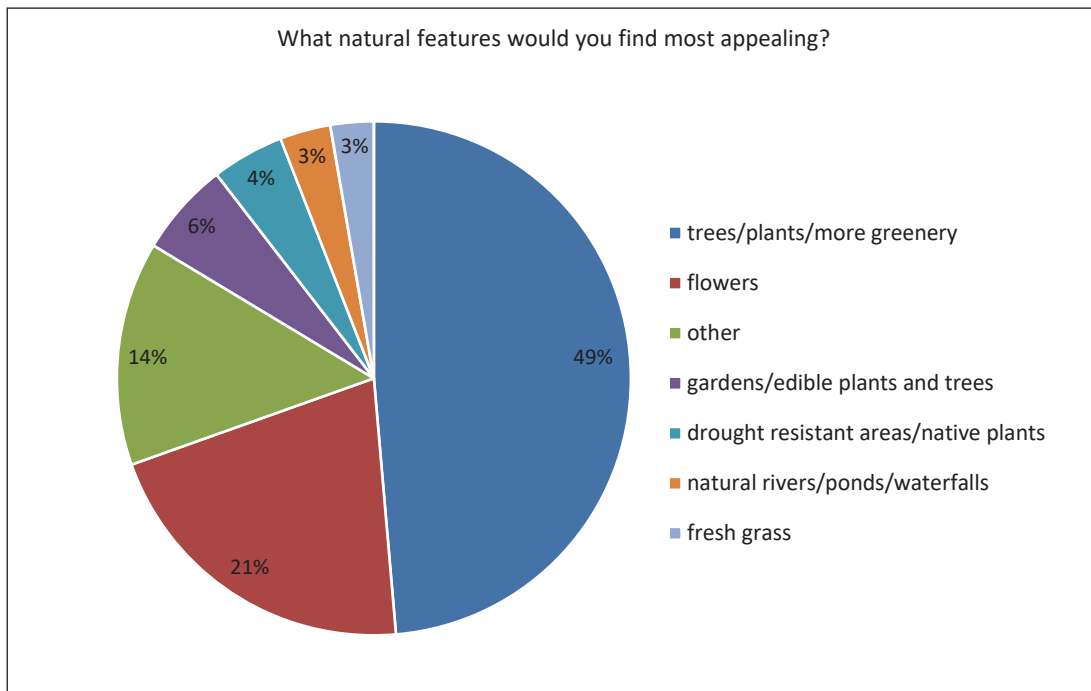


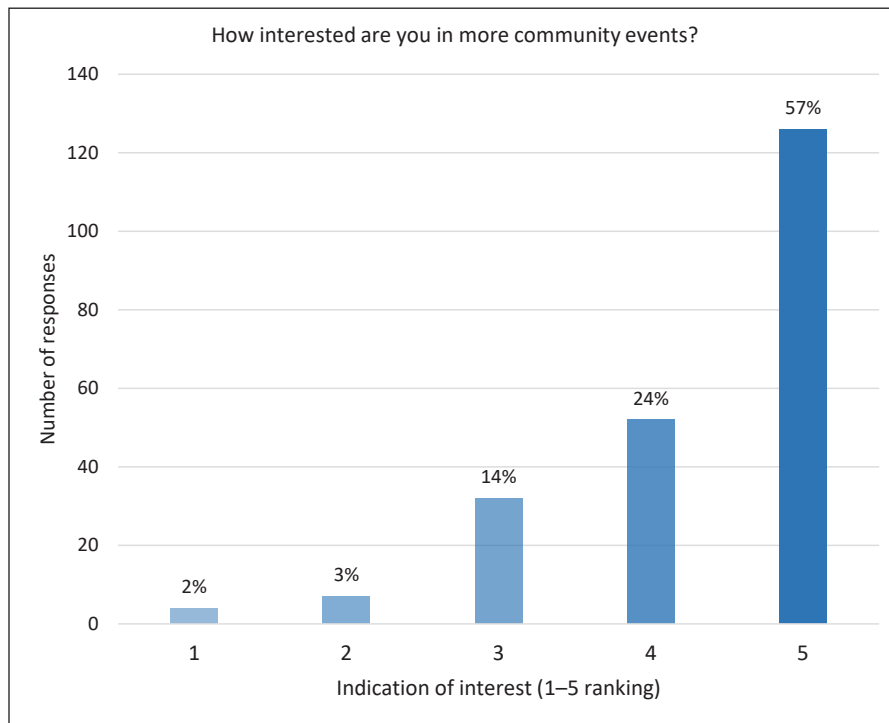
Figure 2: Most appealing natural features, based on survey responses. Values indicate percent responses per category out of total responses.



Community and Youth Events

The city also expressed an interest in addressing public art and community events. The survey queried respondents to rate their interest in community events. On a scale of 1–5, the average rating was 4.31 for interest in more community events in Lemon Grove, from 221 responses. (see Figure 3) This was the highest rating average of all the questions that used this scoring system.

Figure 3: Interest in more community events, based on survey responses. 1 = not interested. 5 = very interested.



The survey also addressed what kind of events respondents would find most appealing. There were multiple event ideas that were suggested repeatedly. Out of 92 responses, 21 suggested farmer’s markets, fairs, and festivals; an additional 21 suggested music-related events; and 9 other responses suggested youth-related activities.

The survey data indicated that 49.5% of respondents stated they go to another city in their free time instead of spending it in Lemon Grove. In addition, 57.5% of the respondents who are residents stated they leave Lemon Grove to engage in non-work events or activities in other cities several times a week. Increasing the amount of community events could help the City of Lemon Grove create an image that fosters community engagement, and providing more youth-targeted community events could result in more community involvement from younger residents.

Parks and Recreation

The City of Lemon Grove has identified particular issues within parks and recreation that they would like to address. These include assessing how city parks are being used and by whom, crime and disorder that the parks may experience, and how the local community perceives safety within the parks. The survey data showed that residents were interested in cleaning up parks and developing innovative ideas that would promote safety and economic and social sustainability within their community. Outlined below are some of the findings from the survey that addressed safety and park use within Lemon Grove.

Safety

Perceived safety within a city may have significant impacts. If an area is perceived as unsafe, no matter how safe it may be, this can deter people from visiting or living within that area or city. Therefore, safety, as well as perceptions of safety in Lemon Grove and its parks, is an important need to address.

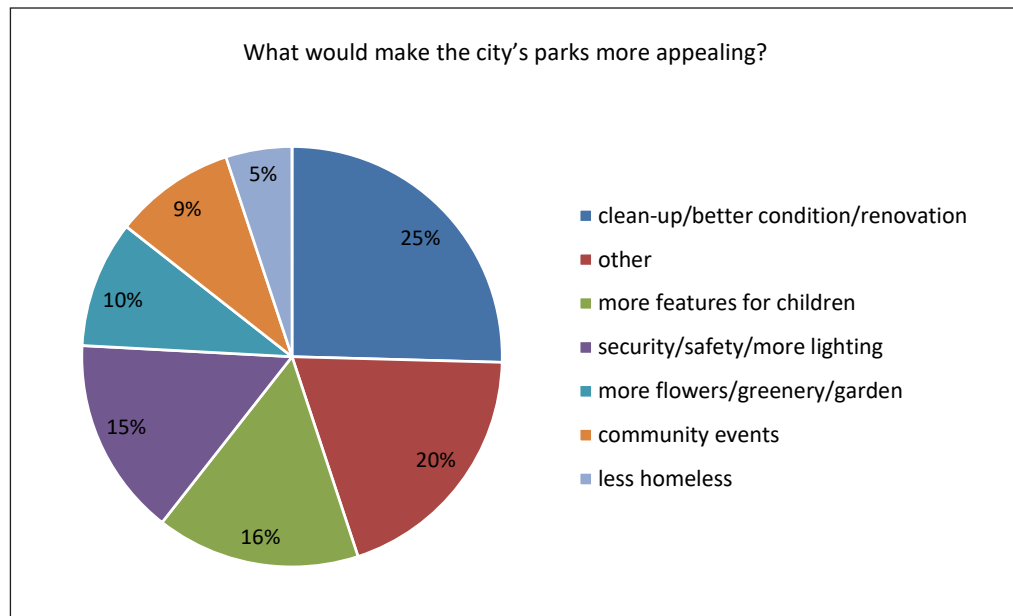
The survey data received from 2016 and 2017 demonstrate that Lemon Grove was perceived as a generally safe area. In 2016, 91% of respondents indicated that they felt safe in Lemon Grove, and in 2017, 90% of respondents indicated that they felt safe. Respondents felt that Lemon Grove was generally safe and rated it mostly in the 3-to-5 range on a five-point scale, with 1 being very unsafe and 5 being very safe. However, there were some outliers who rated safety in the city within the 1-to-2 range. Thus, the survey data did not specifically indicate that residents and non-residents feel the city is unsafe; however, safety can always be improved upon. Additionally, safety and park use go together. In the following section, we discuss park use and safety along with the survey findings.

Park Use

In addition to the safety of the city, those who live in Lemon Grove also indicated a desire to see the safety of the parks improve along with developments to the cleanliness and lighting of each park. One survey question addressed the issue of making the city's parks more appealing. There were 210 respondents for this question, 60 of whom stated that they would like to see an increase in the cleanliness of the parks, better conditions of the parks, and overall renovation of the parks and trails (see Figure 4). This amounts to more than 25% of respondents stating that cleanliness is important to make the city's parks more appealing. Additionally, 15%, or 36 out of the 210 respondents, indicated that security, safety, and more lighting were specific features that would make the city's park more appealing for them.



Figure 4: Improvements that would make parks more appealing, based on survey responses. Values indicate percent responses per category out of total responses.



Senior Residents

Aiding senior residents was not a theme specified at the outset as an unmet need by the City of Lemon Grove; however, “Lemon Grove is a slightly younger community than the county average. Approximately 35% of the population is under age 35 and 11% over age 65. It has been forecasted that by 2050 residents over age 65 will outnumber the youth by almost two to one” (Sage Presentation, 2016). Part of effective planning for the future of any city is to ensure that changes in population are addressed as well.

From the surveys that were administered, we found that, of the 229 individuals surveyed, 37 were aged 55 and older. Approximately half of these older adults were visiting Lemon Grove from other cities to shop at stores, visit family or friends, or to use the city’s amenities (school, park, etc.). Those who were residents of Lemon Grove indicated that they lived here due to affordability or family ties. Most residents stated that they enjoyed living in Lemon Grove because it is a small, diverse community with many convenient shopping areas.

Homelessness

Homeless outreach and resources for homeless individuals was a need identified by the City of Lemon Grove in their proposal to the Sage Project. The city seeks to determine the services that are most needed for the homeless population and establish effective solutions to solve the unsheltered homeless issue in the city. Our findings suggest that a significant and problematic aspect of this issue is the perception that people living and visiting the city have towards homelessness in the city. Homelessness

was not directly addressed in the surveys we administered; however, the topic arose in questions concerning safety, unfavorable features of the city, and what could be done to improve Lemon Grove.

Table 1: Survey responses related to homelessness.

Survey Question	# responses (homelessness)	Total # responses	% responses (homelessness)
What do you think would make the City's parks more appealing?	5	90	5.5%
If the City could offer some new or enhanced services, what types of services or activities would you find most useful or appealing?	4	47	8.5%
In your opinion, what are the most important steps Lemon Grove could take to improve safety?	7	42	16.6%
If you could set priorities for Lemon Grove's budget for improving the city, what would you spend money on, and why?	4	51	7.8%



Recommendations for Nonprofit and Government Collaborations

A primary goal of this project was to identify viable partnerships between the City of Lemon Grove and local nonprofit organizations within the San Diego County area. Nonprofit organizations provide considerable support for local governments that can be far-reaching. Nonprofit organizations are generally perceived as being more responsive to client needs, having higher performance and accountability, and serving as intermediaries. The following sections will include information about recommended nonprofit partnerships we found to be appropriate and potentially beneficial for the City of Lemon Grove.

Nature in Public Places

Findings from community surveys have led us to investigate possible collaboration with a nonprofit organization that would help develop nature in public spaces and build community awareness and engagement around green spaces. For this purpose, we identified Tree San Diego, which is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization. This nonprofit organization works to benefit the greater San Diego region, and they have previously partnered with the City of San Diego and the City of Chula Vista. Their mission is “to significantly impact the quantity of quality urban forest in San Diego county and beyond” (Tree San Diego, n.d.). Some of the activities that Tree San Diego has engaged in include: planting new trees, maintaining trees, educating residents to plant and care for trees, engaging residents in tree stewardship, providing job training, creating tree inventories and maps, and advocating to improve tree canopy and related green infrastructure.

What could the benefit of this partnership be for the City of Lemon Grove? Simply stated, urban forests improve public health and safety, they can provide economic opportunities and returns, and they aid in keeping our environment clean and healthy (California Urban Forests Council, 2017). These benefits are also congruous with the improvements identified by survey respondents in Lemon Grove. Thus, a partnership with Tree San Diego could simultaneously address needs identified by the city and those identified by its community members.

Community Gardens

In Lemon Grove, a community garden could educate and benefit residents by teaching them sustainable practices by using the resources available in the environment. Community gardens also offer new opportunities for neighbors to meet and congregate in local areas. According to Gardeners in Community Development (n.d.), “community gardening is recognized by many police departments as an effective community crime prevention strategy.” A few reasons for this include more residents being outdoors and working on the community garden, which means people are out watching the streets. When residents spend more time outside, they tend to form more neighborhood clubs and

organizations. The City of Lemon Grove would then benefit, in more areas than one, from the incorporation of community gardens. The feasibility of community gardens in Lemon Grove is discussed in greater detail in another report produced in partnership with the Sage Project and Lemon Grove (see Federman, 2017).

San Diego Roots Sustainable Food Project is a California 501(c)(3) nonprofit educational organization. This project is a growing network of citizens, farmers, chefs, gardeners, teachers, and students working to encourage the growth and consumption of regional food. The organization has two main programs, Wild Willow Farm and Education Center, which offers education in skills for sustainable farming, and Victory Gardens San Diego, which teaches urban agriculture skills. A partnership with San Diego Roots Sustainable Food Project would allow the residents of Lemon Grove to learn to grow a sustainable garden, with crops to match seasonal conditions and local climate. Implementing community gardens in Lemon Grove could aid the city in becoming a more sustainable community, simultaneously creating a more appealing environment to live, work, and play.

Community and Youth Events

The City of Lemon Grove has expressed a need for hosting more community events, especially those that are youth oriented. We identified two nonprofit organizations for potential partnership that foster youth events and programs. A Reason To Survive (ARTS) and the Autosuficiencia Juntada con Apoyo (AjA; Supporting Self-sufficiency) Project, are nonprofit organizations that can engage the youth of Lemon Grove and allow diverse members of the community to become more involved with youth engagement and activities. These two organizations work on projects that help the youth at a personal level and at the community level, which, in turn, could help make Lemon Grove more appealing to its residents and those who are visiting.

A Reason To Survive (ARTS)

The ARTS program is identified nationwide as a combination of branches of learning to foster development of creativity in young people. This nonprofit organization offers professional and casual artistic encounters to construct ambition, belief in oneself, and life skills for youth facing difficult situations. ARTS encourages and upholds arts programs that rejuvenate and motivate youth, building upon the values of creativity, flexibility, positivity and fun, strong relationships built on communication, resource responsibility, accountability, and commitment to the environment. The program also provides opportunities to create and innovate, develop strong and positive relationships, and establish self-confidence and self-esteem.

The Autosuficiencia Juntada con Apoyo (AjA) Project

The AjA Project uses photography as its key method to connect with youth and their communities. The organization also focuses on refugee and underprivileged communities. Their headquarters is located in San Diego, and it began operations in October 2000. Since its inception, it has grown to work with over 3,500 youth. The AjA Project's mission is "to provide photography-based programming to transform the lives of youth and communities" (AjA, Youth and Photography Transformation, 2017). The project encourages its participants to reflect on their photography, personal lives, and social landscapes.

AjA runs various programs that appeal to different youth communities. These programs include: Use Your Voice, which focuses on understanding and impacting the community in a class setting and Raise Your Voice, which encourages storytelling at the societal level through public art, offered with partnership-driven art. Partnering with the AjA Project and utilizing their Raise Your Voice Program could allow for a community focus and greater youth engagement.

Engaging the youth of Lemon Grove in community events could provide a better foundation for young residents to make their voices heard and contribute positively to their community. Arts programs, such as A Reason to Survive and the AjA Project, help to ensure that this type of engagement is applied and that youth ultimately become positive contributors to their communities and society.

Parks and Recreation

The survey data indicated that there is interest from the community to renovate the parks in Lemon Grove, and there are several viable improvements and possible local nonprofit organizations that the city could engage with to carry out these tasks. Our goal for Lemon Grove, in partnering with one of the nonprofit organizations listed below, is for the city to centralize the parks and to re-prioritize the community.

National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA)

The first proposed nonprofit organization is the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). This organization is dedicated to the advancement of public parks, recreation, and conservation. It works with local parks and recreation agencies to provide tools, resources, and technical assistance to improve access to healthy foods and increase opportunities for people to be physically active in their communities (NRPA, n.d.). This organization has various initiatives that are ultimately centered on improving parks and recreation within cities to encourage the wellbeing of surrounding communities.

NRPA has several initiatives that would assist with the recommendations made for park and recreation renovation. One initiative targets park improvements. "NRPA supports park improvements to ensure that people have inviting places to gather and enjoy the outdoors. These projects also increase opportunities for physical activity and active play, particularly in underserved communities" (NRPA, n.d.).

Another initiative that could benefit the the community of Lemon Grove is NRPA's Commit to Health campaign, which involves the application of out-of-school programs for children. These programs take place in local parks and recreation centers. They implement the use of Healthy Eating and Physical Activity (HEPA) standards for children grades K–12 by providing healthy foods and a physically active schedule. They also provide both children and parents with evidence-based education materials about nutrition and physical activities through pamphlets, newsletters, emails, or other means (NRPA, n.d.).

Circulate San Diego (CSD)

Another nonprofit organization we recommend is Circulate San Diego (CSD). With the mission to create excellent mobility choices and vibrant, healthy communities, CSD promotes public and active transportation and accommodates sustainable growth. CSD is also actively involved with public policy to achieve their stated goal. (CSD, n.d.).

CSD has three key areas of specialty that would benefit Lemon Grove in the event of a partnership. The first would be promotional efforts and event planning. CSD has much experience planning and promoting events and programs. The second initiative is "Innovative Community Outreach," which is similar to the first; however, it is emphasizes achieving community involvement in these events or programs. CSD has the resources and experience to give projects the high-profile community engagement approach needed to build support and public awareness (CSD, n.d.). Lastly, CSD can help the City of Lemon Grove receive funding for these projects through grant writing. According to their website, CSD has secured private foundation, local, state, and federal funding for municipalities throughout San Diego County and has experts in developing winning proposals in a competitive environment (CSD, n.d.).

Senior Residents

Every city could benefit from programs in place and ongoing engagement towards addressing the needs of senior residents. Most cities decide to contract out services for seniors to non-profit organizations. This is done to alleviate the burden of balancing out the numerous obligations that must be addressed and to utilize more efficient and cost-effective methods to serve senior residents at a level meeting their specific needs.

We reviewed the potential non-profit organizations that could partner with the city to address the various needs of its elderly population. Even if the nonprofit agencies are not specifically located within the boundaries of Lemon Grove, by their very nature they have the capability to foster interpersonal relationships with community members in a way that is not as readily achievable through a government entity.

We established subcategories to help identify those services that Lemon Grove currently offers to senior residents and those services that are missing and needed. These include art districts/public art, community gardens and nature, and human services. Focusing on these areas could aid in the development of improvements to the quality of life for older adults that reside in Lemon Grove.

Arts District and Public Art

The first area we addressed is the need for an arts district and public art. The data collected indicated that most senior residents were interested in the investment in public and district arts, with 65% of the senior respondents verifying some level of interest. Jacobs Center for Neighborhood Innovation is an organization, located in San Diego, that seeks to provide communities like Lemon Grove with services to artistic demands. Its mission is to create vibrant communities and cultural destinations, while strengthening the connection between people and place. Its services include jazz and other live music performances, art festivals, urban art/graffiti competitions, and live mural creation (Jacobs Center for Neighborhood Innovation, n.d.).

Human Services

The next area we examined were human services targeting senior residents. We believe it is essential that the senior residents of Lemon Grove have access to human services that support a higher quality of life. Assistance with ensuring basic needs are met, keeping residents physically active, and providing access to a variety of activities mentally and socially enriching activities allows senior residents to thrive and be active members of their community.

St. Vincent de Paul offers a Senior Day Program through St. Paul's Senior Services, which the city could adopt and tailor to suit the needs of the senior population in Lemon Grove. St. Paul's program provides a variety of enriching activities for older adults, including fitness walks, musical entertainment, arts and crafts, and outings to restaurants and cultural events. This partnership could help seniors to remain physically active and mentally stimulated and provide opportunities for social interaction in the community.

Utilizing a local, faith-based organization would allow Lemon Grove to utilize an in-house asset with a pre-existing stake in the community. These organizations provide services to the community on the premise of wanting to help others, and receiving city/government aid would allow such an organization to expand services and increase the number and frequency of community members served, especially in more vulnerable populations.

Community Gardens

Of the residents surveyed, 25 pre-retirees aged 55 to 65 and 16 post-retirees aged 65+ responded positively to potential implementation of community gardens in the city. The findings of the survey indicated that 97% of the pre-retiree and post-retiree respondents

demonstrated favorable interest to this proposed program, demonstrating that community gardens have great appeal to older adults in Lemon Grove. To address this strong interest, we recommend that the City of Lemon Grove consider a partnership with the San Diego Community Garden Network and Master Gardener Association of San Diego.

San Diego Community Garden Network is a nonprofit organization whose mission statement is to “help create, support and grow community gardens that enrich neighborhoods by enhancing food security, promoting a sustainable environment, and fostering community-based educational opportunities with the added benefit of community building” through gardening (San Diego Community Garden Network, n.d.).

Master Gardener Association of San Diego is another nonprofit organization whose mission is to provide counsel and to educate the public on starting and maintaining sustainable community gardens for the benefit of a local community. This nonprofit group offers training and educational services; such services could be tailored to senior residents to provide training in gardening and pest management.

We believe that engagement with these two organizations and utilization of their already-established networks and resources in community gardening could result in a low-cost alternative that helps alleviate the burden of developing programs and initiatives for senior residents.

Homelessness

Given budgetary constraints, we recommend two potential partnerships with local nonprofit organizations to address issues of homelessness. Father Joe’s Villages (FJV) and Alpha Square could aid the City of Lemon Grove in addressing its needs related to homelessness. FJV and Alpha Square work in tandem with the public and private sectors to fulfill their missions. From a governmental perspective, the role these organizations play in providing social services cannot be understated. Each organization began under different circumstances and operate in their own manner, yet both are received by local leadership in government as major players in addressing homelessness.

Father Joe’s Villages (FJV)

Father Joe’s Villages (FJV), derived from St. Vincent de Paul, provides wrap-around services to over 1,800 individuals daily. These include food, shelter, medical care, housing, plus additional services, such as counseling and job training. Perhaps most importantly, FJV offers tailored-to-client solutions to stem the cycle of homelessness.

FJV was one of the early progenitors of what is now called a continuum of care approach—one that has been widely endorsed by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) “as the preferred foundation upon which rehabilitative curricula are built” (FJV, n.d.). Like many successful and large nonprofit organizations, FJV has continuously adapted its core programs to the needs of its clients, leading to the one-stop shop approach it employs today under the auspices of the continuum of care.

Alpha Project

Alpha Project, another nonprofit organization based in San Diego, is a major human services provider. Founded in 1986, it serves over 4,000 people daily through a similar continuum of services, including housing. It seeks to end the cycle of homelessness through job training, empowerment, and enabling self-sufficiency. It has constructed close to 700 units of affordable housing but does not provide emergency beds to the homeless. Rather, it provides comprehensive programs that are tailored to each program participant. The most recent addition, Alpha Square, includes 203 studio apartments for homeless, low, and very-low income individuals in Downtown San Diego. Alpha Square includes on-site services, such as case management, financial support, and access to long-term treatment through Alpha Project's numerous programs and over a dozen community partners.

Conclusion

This report detailed the findings from a community survey that was administered to both residents and non-residents of Lemon Grove. The survey addressed specific goals outlined by the City of Lemon Grove, which included addressing the unmet needs of the community. The findings from the survey related to placemaking, parks and recreation, senior residents, and homelessness. Within these areas, we explored nature in public spaces, community and youth events, safety, park use, and human services for older adults and homeless residents. This report also included recommendations to help meet the needs of the residents and non-residents living in and visiting the City of Lemon Grove. Viable partnerships between Lemon Grove and local nonprofit organizations were identified and the report highlighted those partnerships deemed most appropriate and potentially beneficial to the City of Lemon Grove.

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