Congress Field

Neighborhood Plan



Adopted XX, 2022



Congress Field Neighborhood - Vision Statement

The Congress Field Neighborhood Association brings neighborhood residents together to create a strong, respectful, diverse, and inclusive community, to highlight our neighborhood assets, to address neighborhood concerns, and to improve local quality of life. Congress Field is a welcoming group of neighbors who help each other year-round.

A plan to enhance the quality of life in the Congress Field Neighborhood

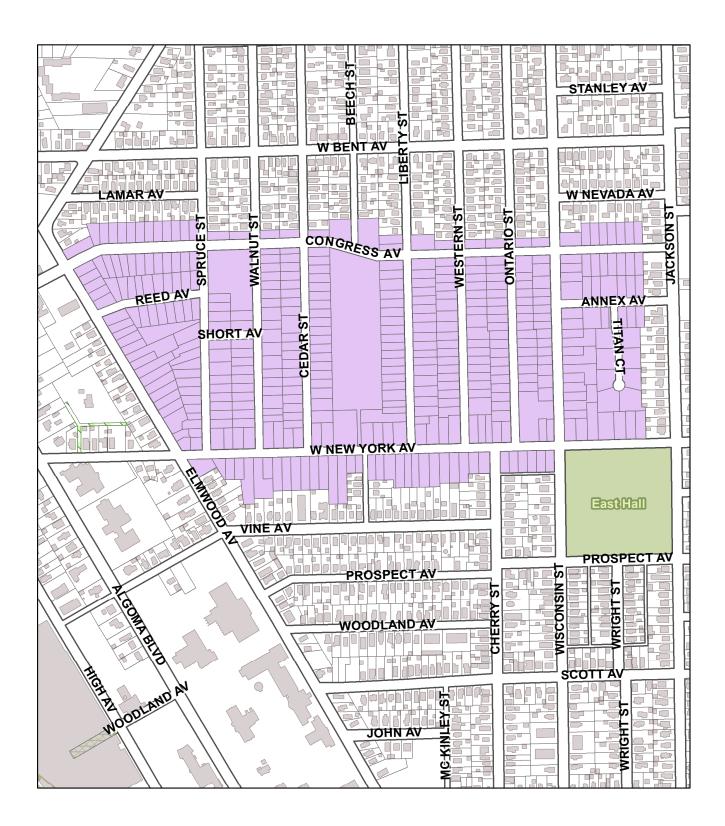
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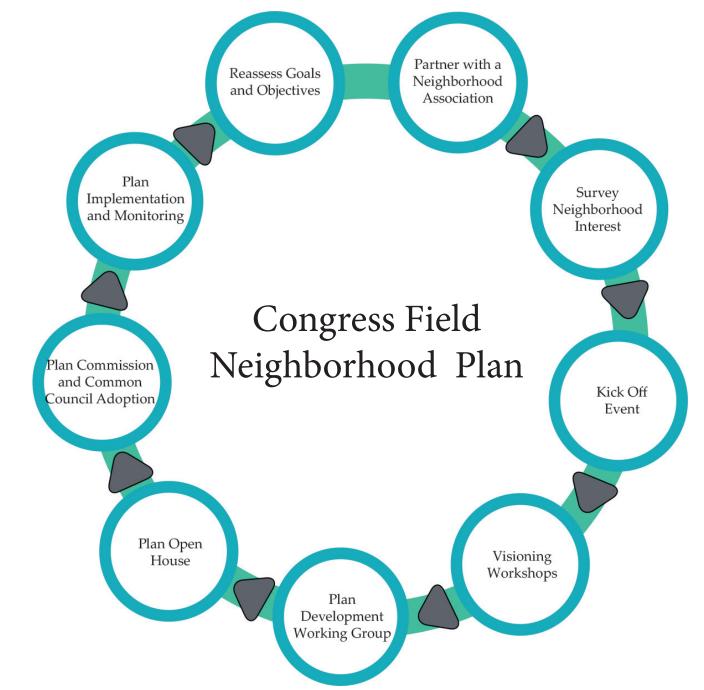


Congress Field Neighborhood

The Congress Field Neighborhood boundaries are: Both sides of Congress Avenue to the north, Elmwood Avenue to the west, both sides of New York Avenue to the south, and behind Jackson Street to the east.

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Neighborhood Planning Process

Neighborhood planning is a major element of the Healthy Neighborhood Initiative and established in the ONE Oshkosh Strategic Plan. The neighborhood planning process helps identify the needs of residents and creates plans that serve as frameworks to guide the neighborhoods over a long-term period. The Congress Field planning team created a list of needs, priorities, and goals for the Congress Field Neighborhood. This plan includes action items that the residents can employ to address their needs and fufill their goals. The Congress Field planning process was resident-led, ensuring that it had relevance to the neighborhood. The Common Council recognizes healthy neighborhoods as essential to the well-being of the City at large and as priorities. This plan seeks to address detriments to the neighborhood while enhancing positive elements that contribute to the quality of life for current and future residents. The four areas of focus are Image, Market, Physical Conditions, and Neighborhood Management. This Neighborhood Plan lists a set of strategies to address neighborhood needs in these categories. The page on the left includes the steps of the neighborhood planning process.

Executive Summary

The Congress Field Neighborhood includes all properties surrounding congress athletic field from Elmwood Avenue to Jackson Street. In March 2018, the City of Oshkosh recognized Congress Field as a neighborhood association. They served as the 15th recognized neighborhood association in the City of Oshkosh. Since 2018, the Congress Field Neighborhood Association (CFNA) has worked to improve quality of life in the neighborhood. While the neighborhood association is fairly new, they have strengthened their capacity through volunteerism. The neighborhood has worked closely with the City of Oshkosh, Greater Oshkosh Healthy Neighborhoods Incorporated, Oshkosh Police Department and the Oshkosh Area School District. In 2021, the Congress Field Planning Team was formed to conduct the planning process and improve the stability of the neighborhood.

This document was prepared for the CFNA to guide the efforts of the neighborhood, strengthen the neighborhood, and ensure the neighborhood's attractiveness to existing and new residents. The plan was created during an 12 month resident-led process and is intended to be used by the CFNA, City of Oshkosh, and other community partners to ensure the implementation of neighborhood improvements and projects that meet the needs of Congress Field residents.

The plan includes a history section, information on the neighborhood's demographics, and assets / opportunities determined during the planning process. This plan then focuses on four key areas: Image, Market, Physical Conditions, and Neighborhood Management. Each key area has a section that examines the area, current conditions pertinent to the area, and lists goals and action items that will help the neighborhood achieve the goals outlined in the plan.

Neighborhood planning involves key stakeholders - residents, businesses, and property owners. Congress Field leadership provided guidance and direction during the research and draft stages of this plan. Recommendations were presented at public input sessions where resident input was captured and later used to sculpt the final recommendations.

Introduction

The Congress Field Neighborhood has existed since 2018 as an active neighborhood association in the City of Oshkosh. Congress Field has become an involved association and leadership has worked with City Staff, Oshkosh Healthy Neighborhoods, and other partners on initiatives such as the Congress Field Neighborhood Plan, the Oshkosh Healthy Neighborhoods Alliance, the neighborhood tot lot project and more.

In 2020, City Planning staff approached the Congress Field Neighborhood about creating a plan for the neighborhood. The neighborhood was active and established at that point, and had a strong core leadership team. Neighborhood leadership believed that the neighborhood was ready to create a plan to guide the neighborhood's efforts long-term. The Congress Field Neighborhood agreed to work with City staff on the creation of a neighborhood plan.

The planning process began in early 2021, and continued throughout the year. Students from UW-Oshkosh assisted in gathering data on property conditions in the neighborhood. The neighborhood residents assisted by recruiting a leadership team that would partner with City staff throughout the planning process and work to create the plan.

The neighborhood worked with City staff to create a long-term vision for the neighborhood and originate content for the plan. City staff compiled data and drafted plan chapters. At each meeting, staff presented the work previously done to the neighborhood team. The neighborhood provided input to staff for each plan chapter. Staff then revised the chapters and incorporated resident input during the process. The dominant theme among residents was that the neighborhood has many assets but potential for improvement existed in regards to residential property maintainence, safety and improvements to the athletic field.

The Congress Field Neighborhood Plan, like all neighborhood plans, offers long-term guidance for the neighborhood over the next several years. It outlines a vision, and provides goals the neighborhood can strive towards in making the vision reality. Under each goal are multiple objectives and action items that the neighborhood can implement towards meeting each goal in the plan. The plans are recognized by the city Plan Commission and Common Council. The data on existing conditions compiled in the plan establishes a baseline detailing the neighborhood's status at the plan's creation. The action items in the plan are implementable by the neighborhood and partners and help the neighborhood improve upon its current conditions. The goal of City staff and the neighborhood leadership over the next five years is that this plan will guide the Congress Field Neighborhood as the neighborhood seeks to improve its quality of life and realize its long-term vision.

Neighborhood History

- The City of Oshkosh installed ten neighborhood street signs through out the neighborhood after the logo was developed.
- In 2020, Congress Field was selected to host Rock the Block Oshkosh. The event is a reoccuring annual event administered by Habitat for Humanity Oshkosh, City of Oshkosh and Oshkosh Healthy Neighborhoods. In the span of a few days, volunteers worked together to improve curb appeal by making repairs to residential properties. The Congress Field Neighborhood was nationally recognized for their efforts by winning the 2020 Neighborhood of the Year Award from Neighbohoods USA (NUSA).
- Neighborhood leadership had the vision to improve their public space by applying to the 2020 Great Neighborhoods Program. The neighborhood tot lot playground was replaced with new equipment for future generations to enjoy.
- The official neighborhood logo was developed in 2019 with funding offered by Oshkosh Healthy Neighborhoods. The colors match the branding guidelines established on the ONE Oshkosh Strategic Plan.
- New neighborhoods are recognized by City of Oshkosh Common Council. This certificate of recognition marks the occasion in 2018.
- Helen Geiger tending her garden at what was then 306 W. New York (now 1008) in 1943. The Geiger family owned the house from 1870 to roughly 1975. Over 100 years!



3



2



Photo from Rock the Block

olunteer work on an outdoor home project in the Congress Field neighborhood.

Rock the Block Oshkosh spruces up Congress Field

Habitat for Humanity of Oshkosh, with ne help of Oshkosh Healthy Neighboroods and the city, is coordinating staff, olunteers and resident labor in Rock the lock home repair projects.

This year's efforts are focused on the ongress Field Neighborhood Association between Jackson and Elmwood Avnues and Congress and New York aveues. Program staff received more than 50 pplications last fall from residents within te neighborhood to assist with exterir home repairs and lawn care. Included ere edging, lawn patching and seeding, the area of the property of the property

Normally the work would be scheduled

over the course of a week in spring. Program staff restructured the program with enhanced health precautions and rescheduled the work over two months this summer with small teams of volunteers.

So far, 18 homes on Congress Avenue, Annex Avenue, Wisconsin Street and Ontario Street have been "rocked" by more than 30 volunteers. The program resumes this month to complete any unfinished business while proceeding with projects at 12 homes on Western, Liberty, Cedar, Walnut and Spruce streets.

Rock the Block is a Habitat for Humanity International program focused on bringing people together to revitalize neighborhoods.

4



CONGRESS FIELD

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

6



5

CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

THIS CERTIFICATE IS IN APPRECIATION TO

Congress Field Neighborhood Association

For working in partnership with the City of Oshkosh in pursuit of Healthy Neighborhoods.

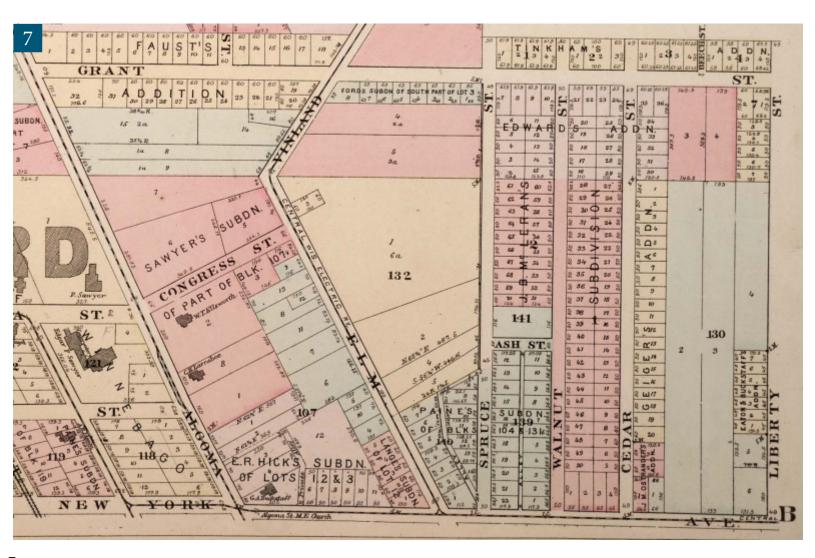
= STATE OF THE CITY | MARCH 19, 2018 =

Mark Rohloff, City Manager





- Early maps show the county fairgrounds and Paine Lumber Company. As the land was sold and developed, more streets were built. While some street names remain the same, many were known by different names. For more details on the street names and development see appendix F.
- The neighborhood has a history of locally owned stores that were mixed into the residential areas. These two images show a building that was torn down at 1300 Congress that was home to several businesses included a bicycle shop, beauty salon, grocer and delicatessen.
- 9 The former Pelz Grocery building still stands at 1351 Ontario Street.



Before



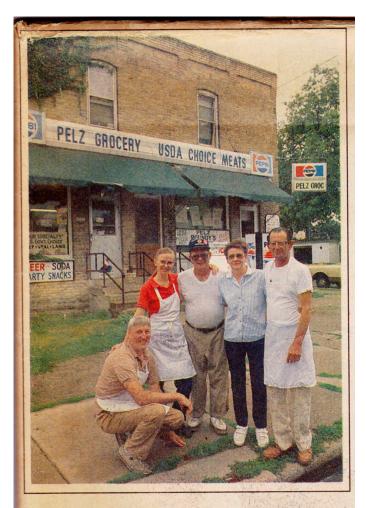
After



9







Northwestern photo by Carl Plotz

All in the family

Family ties contributed much to the 46-year history of Pelz Grocery, 1351 Ontario St. Current owner Louis Borden is the stepson of the founder, the late Julius Pelz. In front of the store are, from left, Ken Parsons, store manager and Borden's brother-in-law; employee Barbara Borden, daughter of the owner; Borden; Helen Borden, wife of the owner; and delivery man Dennis Hedtke.

Demographic Profile

Congress Field Population

Demographic information was obtained from the ESRI Community Analyst and includes information on housing, race, education, and employment. Data captured for the Congress Field planning process provides an overview of the neighborhood population. The demographics tell the story of the people that call the neighborhood home and allow us to understand their needs. These demographics enable comparisons between different years to see how the population has changed.

Population Count

According to the ESRI data, 1,069 people lived in the Congress Field neighborhood in 2021 and had a median age of 37 years old. ESRI estimates that by 2026 the population of the neighborhood will decrease to 1,063, which is a a very minimal decrease over the next 5 years. Less than 0.016% of the 66,816 residents in Oshkosh reside

in the Congress Field neighborhood, which is approximately 0.15 square miles of the city's total area.

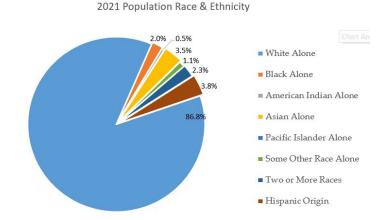
Key Characteristics

High Percentage of White Residents - The ESRI community profile data shows that as of 2021, 90.8% of the Congress Field residents were white, followed by 4.0% of Hispanic Origin, 3.7% Asian, 2.1% Black, 2.4% two or more races, 1.1% some other race, and 0.5% American Indian.

Income - The median household income of Congress Field residents is \$54,523. This is slightly over the median of \$50,892 for the City of Oshkosh.

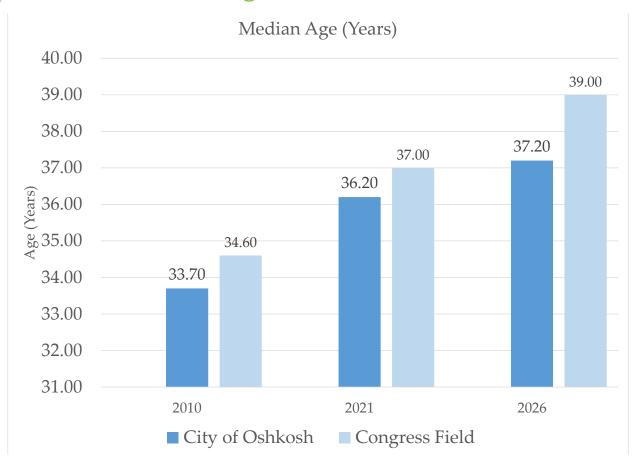
Education level - Approximately 21% of the Congress Field residents hold a Bachelor's degree and 9.2% have a Graduate/Professional degree.

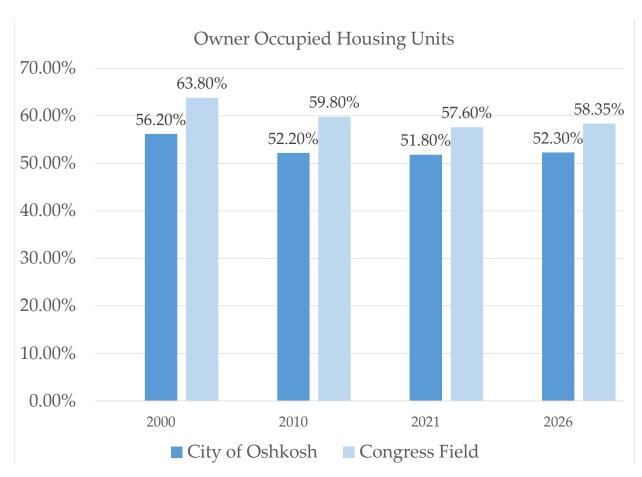
Approximately 25.6% of City of Oshkosh's population hold a Bachelor's degree or higher.

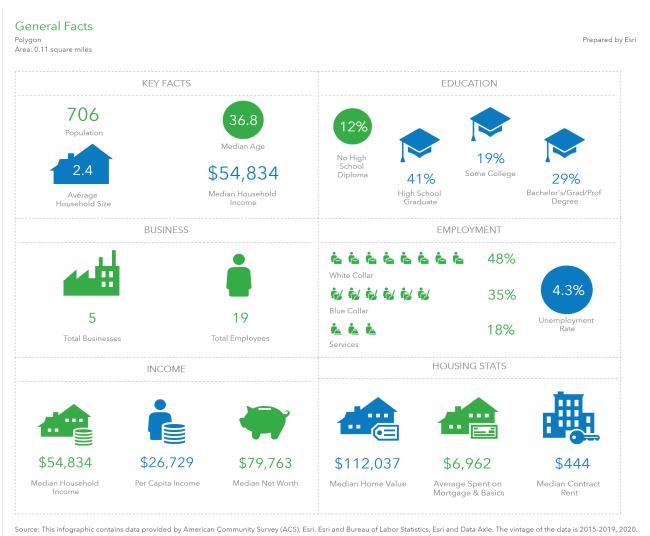




Population Tables & Figures









3 Visioning

During the planning process, Congress Field residents worked to identify several strengths of their neighborhood. A visioning session was held and residents noted several areas that they would consider strengths. The residents also highlighted areas where they believed their neighborhood could improve. The neighborhood identified assets and opportunities as part of the visioning process. These assets and opportunities helped the planning team determine the current state of the neighborhood. The current state provided a baseline that informed planning efforts and allowed the planning team to form goals and objectives to improve the neighborhood long term.

The Visioning session took place on April 26th, 2021, and was well attended by Congress Field residents. Residents worked with staff and each other to brainstorm potential mission and vision statements, long term outlooks for the neighborhood, assets and opportunities. After the session, City staff captured the information to include in the neighborhood plan and form goals, objectives, and action items. The assets and opportunities the planning team identified are listed on the following couple of pages.



Assets

- Tree canopy
- Congress Athletic Field
- Active community
- Non-traditional yard plantings
- Social events block parties
- Close knit blocks
- Proximity to amenities
- Good neighbors
- Quality houses
- Diverse ethnicity and ages
- Walking neighborhood
- Proximity to academic institutions
- Unique & diverse architecture
- Safe, low crime
- Feeling of safety
- Multi-modal transportation: Go-Transit
- Proximity to Downtown
- Engaged leadership
- Dog-Friendly
- Tot Lot

Opportunities

- Revitalize Congress Athletic Field
- Wisconsin Avenue reconstruction
- More events at American Legion building
- Residential City Loan Programs
- Increase property maintainence

Plan Development

The development of the Congress Field neighborhood plan began in early 2021 with the organizing of the neighborhood planning team. A neighborhood survey was developed in spring of 2021 and distributed. Data collection on the existing physical conditions of the parcels occurred during this time as well and was completed by April 2021. Analysis of survey results were completed in summer 2021.

In fall 2021, city staff and neighbohood residents met to start creating a plan for Congress Field. Residents began to identify what they valued most about the Congress Field neighborhood using the Assets and Opportunities exercise. Residents worked to answer the question of where they wanted to see their neighborhood go over the next 10 years. After this, residents worked collaboratively to develop a vision statement for Congress Field. Finally, residents had the opportunity to present these statements to the larger group and City staff then worked with them to develop a process for creating the neighborhood plan going forward.

Goals and Action items for the plan were developed from October 2021 - February 2022 at a series of neighborhood meetings where neighbors provided input to city staff. As each of the four main plan categories (Image, Market, Physical Conditions, and Neighborhood Management) were completed, city staff sought comments from the neighborhood group.







Neighborhood's Role

- Form a Neighborhood Planning Team that is representative of the neighborhood
- Work with City staff to develop meeting and workshop agendas and determine a regular meeting place
- Determine the plan's goals, objectives, and action items
- Take an active role in the implementation of the plan
- Help City staff with periodic updates to the plan

City Staff's Role

- Demographic, land use, and zoning data
- Research and analysis
- Maps
- Field Data
- Tools to identify, clarify, and prioritize issues
- Methods to determine goals, objectives, and action items
- Coordination with other departments and city services
- Assistance with plan implementation
- Final plan development or creation
- Aid in updating adopted plans



4 Image



The image of a neighborhood can be interpreted in different ways based on one's perception. The planning process examines image and what positive or negative factors strengthen and weaken the neighborhood's image. If the neighborhood has a strong positive image, this can contribute to positive perceptions in the minds of the neighborhood residents, community members, and visitors from outside Oshkosh. Perception of the neighborhood can impact how a resident participates in their community. For example, survey results revealed that 71% of participants would continue living in the neighborhood if they had a choice, this indicates that residents are satisfied with the Congress Field Neighborhood.

The University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh is located just south of the neighborhood, making student housing in Congress Field a suitable option due to proximity. The impact of rental housing on the neighborhood appeared in the survey comments several times and there appears to be a perceived correlation between rental properties and property maintenance. This perception may reflect reality and indicates an opportunity for improvement.

This chapter examines the neighborhood image and presents objectives and action items that the neighborhood can implement to improve the Congress Field Neighborhood image.

Goal: Establish and maintain a sense of place in the Congress Field Neighborhood.

Objective 1: Enhance and maintain the reputation of the Congress Field Neighborhood in the minds of residents and visitors.

Action 1: Create a marketing plan to promote the Congress Field Neighborhood as a neighborhood of choice.

Action 2: Partner with the GO-HNI to create a welcome packet. Develop a Welcome Committee to distribute the welcome packets to new residents as they move into the Congress Field Neighborhood.

Objective 2: Promote the Congress Field Neighborhood as a great place to live, work, and play.

Action 1: Promote the neighborhood at the Oshkosh Farmers Market and local events.

Action 2: Maintain and improve relationships between neighborhood residents and the Oshkosh Police Department and continue coordination to implement safety strategies.

Action 3: Organize and host neighborhood events (i.e. National/Neighborhood Night Out, clean up days, holidays, garages sale day).

Objective 3: Ensure that properties within the neighborhood are maintained.

Action 1: Collaborate with City of Oshkosh Community Development staff to create an education program on property maintenance.

Action 2: Distribute informational materials on available City programs for rehabbing and enhancing the curb appeal of properties.

Action 3: Partner with local real estate agents to share information on the neighborhood and available incentives for prospective residents.

Action 4: Create informational materials about the history and significance homes of the Congress Field Neighborhood.

Action 5: Encourage property owners to designate their properties as historic and participate in the historic plaque program.

Action 6: Reinforce effforts by the City of Oshkosh to educate rental tenants and new homeowners to help them transition into becoming a responsible community member. (e.g. trash cans, snow removal, lawn maintenance etc.)



The Congress Field Neighborhood features a major roadway, Congress Avenue, offering access to several points of interest. Congress Avenue runs east and west turning into Oshkosh Avenue after crossing the Fox River, which leads to Interstate 41.

Additionally, the Jackson Street corridor lies to the east offering access to downtown. New York Avenue lies on the south end of the neighborhood and is also a main corridor used to travel east and west on the north side of the Oshkosh. Just past New York Avenue is the UW-Oshkosh Campus and a mixture of campus housing and owner-occupied homes. The Congress Field Neighborhood is surrounded by several recognized neighborhoods associations including Bent Woods Neighborhood to the north, Historic Jackson Neighborhood to the east, and Sawyer Paine to the west.

Residents have access to recreation, educational resources, businesses and housing options.

The neighborhood prides itself on a significant number of long term residents, with 50% of them residing there for more than 10 years, and 71% of those residents are hoping to remain in the neighborhood. The neighborhood includes approximately 419 parcels occupied by various residents including students, families, and retirees.

Congress Field residents can enjoy the urban setting and its many amenities. The neighborhood is in close proximity to UW-Oshkosh, schools, the Fox River, and Downtown. In 2021, the average household income for the Congress Field Neighborhood was \$60,355 and the median home value was \$111,914. The median age of the neighborhood residents was 37 years old which was slightly higher than the City median age of 33.9 years for 2021. This may suggest that the majority of residents are between 25 and 54 years of age. The largest age group in 2021 was the 25-34 year olds with 20.5% of the neighborhood population.

Almost all of the properties in the neighborhood are residential, with the exception of the American Legion, a few hair salons, and two churches. Based on survey data participants would like to see an increase in residential property investment, specifically property maintenance. As of 2021, ESRI data indicated that about 60% of the housing units were owner occupied. Based on historic maps, the majority of the housing stock was developed prior to 1937.

The planning team identified opportunities to improve the residential market within the Congress Field Neighborhood. Some of these examples include:

- Involving UW-Oshkosh more in the neighborhood and its activities
- Encouraging additional investment in the houses to enhance their appearances and convey pride of place.
- Educating homeowners and potential homebuyers on financial incentives available for housing rehabilitation and purchasing of homes in the neighborhood.

The next page provides market data on the Congress Field Neighborhood compared to the City of Oshkosh as a whole.

Successful market efforts will want to do more than focus solely on the housing. They will need to encourage public and private investment by residents, businesses, and stakeholders. This Plan chapter includes strategies to increase investment in the neighborhood and ensure the neighborhood's continued viability and health long-term.

Goal: Encourage public/private partnerships within the Congress Field Neighborhood to enhance market conditions.

Objective 1: Promote reinvestment in the residential real estate market.

Action 1: Continue to market available homebuyer assistance programs to encourage homeownership (City, Habitat for Humanity-Oshkosh, ADVOCAP & Housing Authority).

Action 2: Identify key residential properties and encourage community partners to acquire and rehabilitate (Oshkosh Healthy Neighborhoods, Housing Authority, Habitat for Humanity-Oshkosh, City and local developers).

Action 3: Market available housing improvement programs to encourage owner and rental housing reinvestment, especially the Sold on Oshkosh Program.

Action 4: Explore developing a contest/award to recognize property owners that invest in their homes.

Action 5: Collaborate with local realtors and real estate firms to organize a neighborhood tour of homes or host an open house.

Action 7: Market available Historic Tax Credit programs to property owners in the neighborhood.

Objective 2: Encourage (re)development that enhances the residential and commercial real estate market.

Action 1: Create a neighborhood group that can reach out to property owners and landlords and assist in determining ways to maintain and enhance residential properties.

Action 2: Encourage residential real estate development of vacant land available in the neighborhood (Oshkosh Healthy Neighborhoods, Habitat for Humanity-Oshkosh, local developers).

Action 3: Collaborate with local commercial business owners to encourage reinvestment in curb appeal enhancements.

Action 4: Preserve residential housing options that are affordable to current and future residents.

Objective 3: Maintain access to a diverse set of local commercial, service, and retail uses.

Action 1: Promote neighborhood businesses and organizations at neighborhood events, in newsletters, and marketing materials.



Throughout the planning process there were many conversations regarding the condition of Wisconsin Street, which is scheduled for reconstruction in 2023 from New York Avenue to Murdock Aventue. Survey results reveal that residents feel that on-street parking is limited and speeding is a frequent issue. 80% of the respondents believe there is room for improvement regarding the condition of the streets and sidewalks.

During the planning process, public transportation was discussed as it pertained to students and adults. GO-Transit manages ten routes city-wide with one of them going directly through the neighborhood. Route 5 UWO/Westowne, Route 2 Main/Jackson and Route 3 FVTC/ New York serve the neighborhood. The Market Street bus station, located outside the neighborhood boundary, accommodates six of the ten routes. Bus trips originating in the Congress Field Neighborhood have access to the entire bus network via the Market Street bus station. Residents have expressed an interest in improving the experience of using GO-Transit in the neighborhood.

The City of Oshkosh Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan was adopted in 2019 and recommends strategies for improving bicycle and pedestrian transportation throughout the Oshkosh area. Congress Field residents indicated a strong desire for a safe, efficient and diverse transportation network within the neighborhood to support the active residents that live there. There are already bike routes implemented two major east-west streets, Irving Avenue and New York Avenue. North Main Street, located outside the neighborhood, offers a nearby north-south route. Nearby bike routes exist on High Avenue, Algoma Boulevard, Elmwood Avenue and the Wiouwash Trail is easily accessible via New York Avenue. Additional bicycle infrastructure is proposed on Wisconsin Street. The citywide bicycle facility recommendations map is located in Appendix D.

In the winter of 2021, the City of Oshkosh partnered with students from University of Wisconsin – Oshkosh to assist with neighborhood parcel observations. The students gathered original data from field research within the neighborhood boundaries. The results indicated potential for improvements that could enhance the conditions of paint/siding, porches and windows on residential buildings.

In August 2022, the Congress Field Neighborhood Association presented a grassroots-developed proposal (see Appendix G) at its annual meeting to address drainage concerns at and appearance of the association's namesake athletic fields between Congress and New York Avenues in the heart of the association's bounds. The Congress Fields have been owned and under the control of the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh/UW System Board of Regents for a very long time. The Congress Fields are a defining feature of the neighborhood; however, they remain little used. The aforementioned drainage issues have long plagued the parcels, leaving certain parts under water after rain events and during spring thaws. UW Oshkosh has no immediate or formal plans to developed or enhance the property.

While the Congress Fields property is not under the City of Oshkosh's control, the neighborhood association still believes it valuable to present its vision for the site as a better-draining, more publicly useful, vibrant neighborhood and community asset. The improvements spelled out and implied in the neighborhood association's conceptual proposal for the Congress Fields hint at a necessary future partnership, if not a transfer of ownership of the land, to realize the vision and to generate the necessary investment to open the space for a greater public use. That would seem to comform with the City of Oshkosh's Comprehensive Plan identification of the athletic fields parcels for better access, perhaps even recreation. The Congress Field Neighborhood Association's Core Team has shared its proposal within the neighborhood's bounds, and has discussed its vision with UW Oshkosh leadership. The Core Team stands as a willing partner in any future effort to reclaim and enhance the Congress Fields property to achieve a greater public enjoyment that the conceptual proposal envisions.

The objectives below were developed to ensure residents are informed of strategies available to improve the physical conditions of the neighborhood.

Goal: Attract public and private investment in the Congress Field Neighborhood to improve character of the area.

Objective 1: Ensure maintenance and enhancement of public and private spaces including the Congress Avenue Tot Lot, Congress Athletic Fields.

Action 1: Continue to coordinate maintenance and enhancements with the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh, Oshkosh Parks Department, and all other partners.

Action 2: Encourage private property owners and businesses to make enhancements to their properties.

Objective 2: Encourage well maintained multi-modal transportation facilities.

Action 1: Coordinate with the City of Oshkosh Department of Public Works to ensure neighborhood understanding of the current Capital Improvement Program and provide input prior to implementation.

Action 2: Work with the Department of Public Works to ensure residents are aware of future road reconstruction projects.

Action 3: Advocate implementation of facility recommendations based on the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan.

Action 4: Advocate for continued access to public transportation for diverse populations.

Objective 3: Pursue opportunities to enhance public spaces and infrastructure.

Action 1: Pursue opportunities to partner with the Public Arts and Beautification Committee or other groups working to beautify the neighborhood.

Action 2: Promote the development of public art and beautification projects.

Action 3: Utilize the Great Neighborhood Program as a potential funding source for public improvement projects.



The Congress Field Neighborhood has grown into a strong neighborhood since becoming recognized in 2018. In 2021 the neighborhood received the "Neighborhood of the Year" award through Neighborhoods USA (NUSA) for their commitment with the Rock the Block revitalization event. They have managed to form strong connections with neighbors through annual events. Leaders from the neighborhood maintain an active presence at monthly Healthy Neighborhoods Alliance meetings organized through GO-HNI. Additionally, they have supported and worked with other neighborhood leaders in the city.

Many factors can contribute towards retaining neighborhood residents in a community. Residents in the Oshkosh community recognize the benefits of community-building and engagement. The goal of establishing a strong sense of community is outlined in the City of Oshkosh Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan includes a section called "Strengthen Our Neighborhoods" which reflects the city's focus on community-building and engagement. Neighborhood associations provide a mediating role between neighborhood residents and city staff. They also coordinate and host community events and take on community service efforts.

Hosting neighborhood meetings allows residents to increase their awareness and voice opinions about goals and activities. Neighborhood leaders are connected with local stakeholders such as representatives at the Oshkosh Area School District and other organizations.

The leadership team has made substantial progress and hope to continue their efforts. Leadership goals could expand with the introduction of neighborhood block connectors. Block connectors work to ensure communication between area residents and neighborhood leadership while providing outreach and welcoming efforts for new residents. Connectors link people and assist in building the connections that ensure strong community-building. A group of block connectors can often reach more residents than the association leaders can by themselves.

The goal and objectives in this plan encourage the Congress Field neighborhood to take the next level in community engagement. Each objective includes a series of actions that explain how the neighborhood may work towards the objective. Some objectives and actions are entirely new and others encourage the neighborhood to capitalize on existing functions. In implementing the actions suggested in this chapter, Congress Field can remain at the forefront of community engagement efforts in Oshkosh.

Goal: Foster the ability of Congress Field residents to manage day to day neighborhood affairs.

Objective 1: Promote the development and retention of a core neighborhood leadership team in Congress Field.

- Action 1: Partner with GO-HNI to develop criteria for recruiting new neighborhood leaders.
- Action 2: Maintain a contact list of neighbors interested in participating in neighborhood efforts.
- Action 3: Develop a succession plan for the smooth transfer of leadership roles from one leader to the next upon stepping down.
- Action 4: Create an annual plan on how to allocate Community Building & Engagement Fund.

Objective 2: Scheduling and events

- Action 1: Continue to participate in Neighborhood Night Out.
- Action 2: Develop and standardize a date for an Annual Meeting.
- Action 3: Create a calendar of goals and activities for each year.
- Action 4: Continue to promote the neighborhood wide garage sale event.
- Action 5: Decide which event the neighborhood will support American Legion Halloween event
- Action 6: Maintain working relationships with adjacent neighborhood association and partner with them on events.
- Action 7: create and get volunteers event planning committee.

Objective 3: Outreach and Communications

- Action 1: Continue to share information on the neighborhood Facebook page and other social media.
- Action 2: Explore possibilities for creating a website.
- Action 3: Continue to support the Little Libraries within the neighborhood.

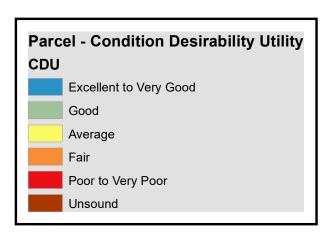
Appendix A Neighborhood Assessment

During the year long planning process, Planning Services Division staff began tracking neighborhood-wide assessment data to better understand existing conditions within the Congress Field Neighborhood. The neighborhood assessment is an important baseline inventory that will continue to be tracked to measure the success of programming in the neighborhood. Below are multiple maps showing available data on existing conditions within the Congress Field Neighborhood.

CDU by Parcel

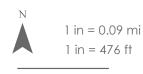
CDU stands for "Condition – Desirability – Utility". The code denotes a composite rating of the overall condition, desirability and usefulness of a property. A property's rating is established by the City Assessor Division and is one of the factors used to determine the assessed value of a property.





CDU

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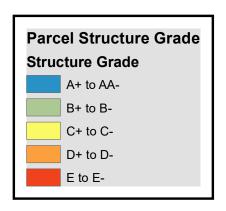
Prepared by: City of Oshkosh, WI

User: alexan

Grade by Parcel

Grade describes the cumulative effects of workmanship, the costliness of materials and the individuality of design used in constructing a home. The grade of a home rarely changes unless elements from the original construction are removed or deteriorate beyond repair. The grade is established by the City Assessor Division.

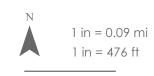




Grade

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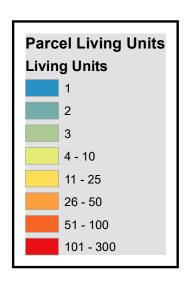
Prepared by: City of Oshkosh, WI

User: alexan

Number of Housing Units by Parcel

Homes located within the Congress Field neighborhood are predominately single and two family structures that contain one or two housing units per property which is consistent with the zoning and land use designation for the area.

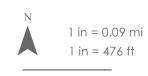




Living Units by Parcel

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Printing Date: 10/25/2021



Prepared by: City of Oshkosh, WI

User: alexan

Housing Style by Parcel

Housing styles in the Congress Field neighborhood are primarily classified as "Farmhouse O/S" which is used for homes that were built prior to 1920. More specifically there are examples of Queen Anne, Victorian, Ranch and Colonial architectural style.





Housing Style

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Printing Date: 10/25/2021

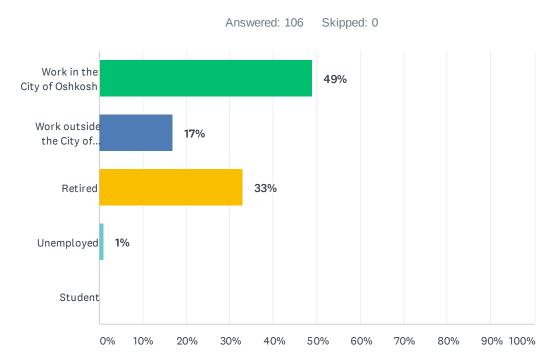
1 in = 0.09 mi 1 in = 476 ft City Oshkosh

Prepared by: City of Oshkosh, WI

User: alexan

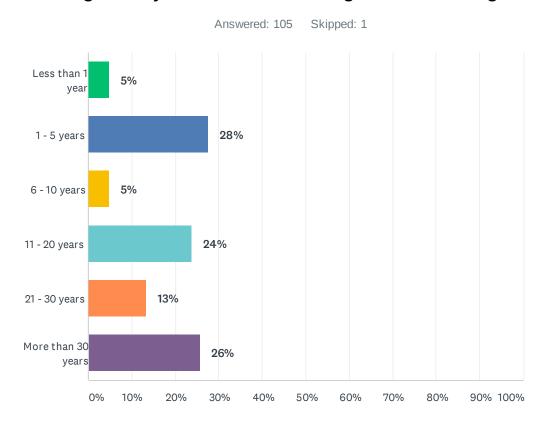
Appendix B Survey Data

Q1 Pick the following options that describes you:



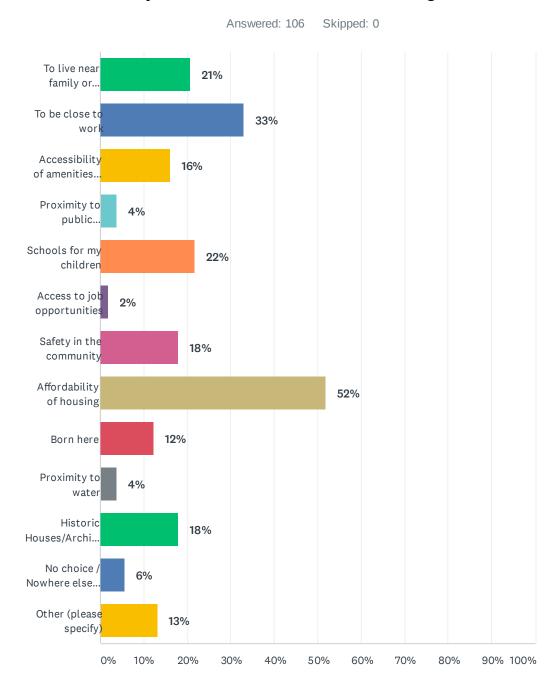
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Work in the City of Oshkosh	49% 5.	2
Work outside the City of Oshkosh	17%	8
Retired	33%	5
Unemployed	1%	1
Student	0%	0
TOTAL	10	6

Q2 How long have you lived in the Congress Field Neighborhood?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Less than 1 year	5% 5
1 - 5 years	28% 29
6 - 10 years	5% 5
11 - 20 years	24% 25
21 - 30 years	13% 14
More than 30 years	26% 27
TOTAL	105

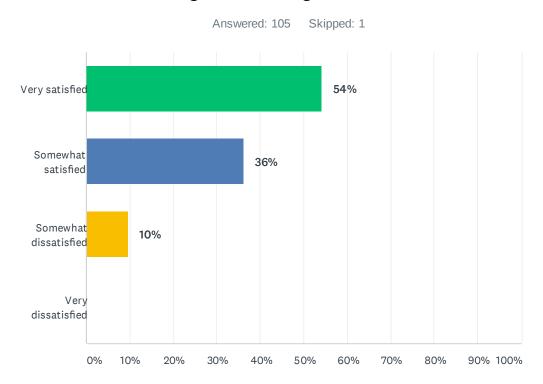
Q3 Pick the reasons you decided to live in this Neighborhood Association.



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	3
To live near family or friends	21%	22
To be close to work	33%	35
Accessibility of amenities, such as community centers and stores	16%	17
Proximity to public transportation	4%	4
Schools for my children	22%	23
Access to job opportunities	2%	2
Safety in the community	18%	19
Affordability of housing	52%	55
Born here	12%	13
Proximity to water	4%	4
Historic Houses/Architecture	18%	19
No choice / Nowhere else to go	6%	6
Other (please specify)	13%	14
Total Respondents: 106		

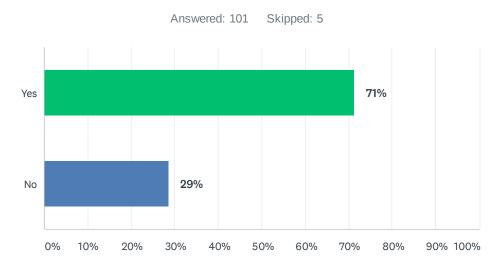
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	purchased home from family	4/12/2021 5:34 PM
2	great nhood, born and lived here for over 40 years.	4/12/2021 5:22 PM
3	bought a home	3/30/2021 8:55 AM
4	Friendly Neighbors	3/30/2021 8:26 AM
5	great starter homes	3/27/2021 6:58 PM
6	loved the home	3/27/2021 5:49 PM
7	just loved the house and now love the neighborhood	3/27/2021 5:21 PM
8	found house we liked	3/26/2021 10:12 AM
9	found a house we like	3/19/2021 3:45 PM
10	Purchased a home	3/19/2021 2:54 PM
11	the house we found and liked	3/18/2021 2:58 PM
12	A house with a solid foundation in a quiet neighborhood, smarty pants.	3/12/2021 10:36 PM
13	Happenstance	3/12/2021 7:28 PM
14	Loved the neighborhood	3/12/2021 6:46 PM

Q4 Overall, considering everything, how satisfied would you say you are living in this Neighborhood?



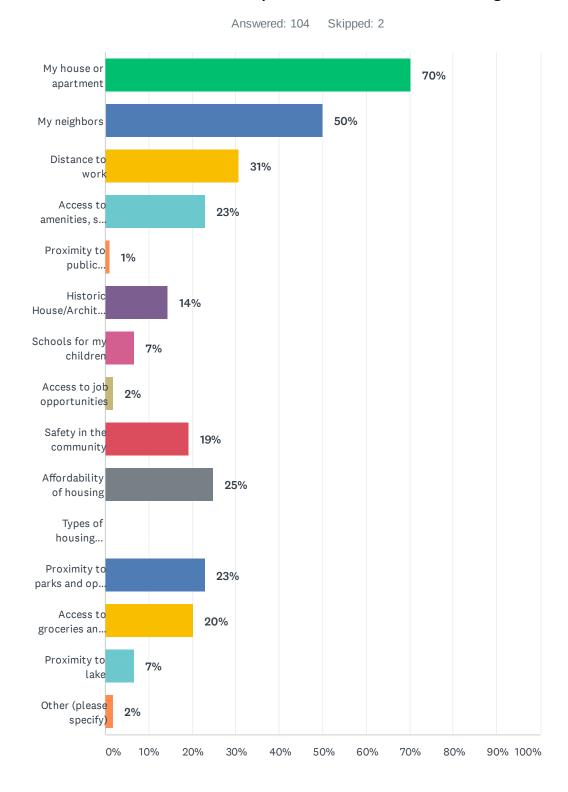
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very satisfied	54%	57
Somewhat satisfied	36%	38
Somewhat dissatisfied	10%	10
Very dissatisfied	0%	0
TOTAL		105

Q5 If you had the choice, would you continue to live in the Congress Field neighborhood?



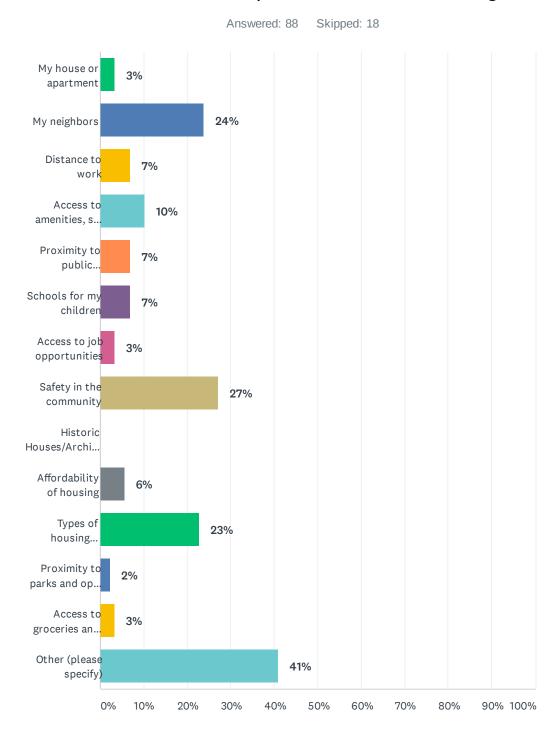
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	71%	72
No	29%	29
TOTAL		101

Q6 What are the things that you like best about living in this Neighborhood? Please choose up to three of the following characteristics.



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
My house or apartment	70%	73
My neighbors	50%	52
Distance to work	31%	32
Access to amenities, such as community centers and stores	23%	24
Proximity to public transportation	1%	1
Historic House/Architecture	14%	15
Schools for my children	7%	7
Access to job opportunities	2%	2
Safety in the community	19%	20
Affordability of housing	25%	26
Types of housing available	0%	0
Proximity to parks and open space	23%	24
Access to groceries and healthy food	20%	21
Proximity to lake	7%	7
Other (please specify)	2%	2
Total Respondents: 104		

Q7 What are the things that you like least about living in this Neighborhood? Please choose up to three of the following characteristics.

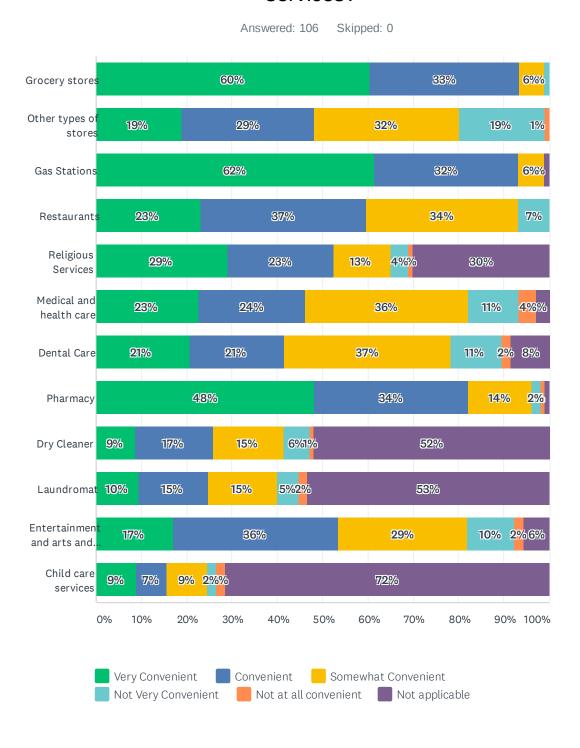


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
My house or apartment	3%	3
My neighbors	24%	21
Distance to work	7%	6
Access to amenities, such as community centers and stores	10%	9
Proximity to public transportation	7%	6
Schools for my children	7%	6
Access to job opportunities	3%	3
Safety in the community	27%	24
Historic Houses/Architecture	0%	0
Affordability of housing	6%	5
Types of housing available	23%	20
Proximity to parks and open space	2%	2
Access to groceries and healthy food	3%	3
Other (please specify)	41%	36
Total Respondents: 88		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	We have had damages done to our home and fence multiple times. Also we have heart gun shots on multiple instances.	4/22/2021 1:48 PM
2	the number of once owner occupied family homes that are now rotating poorly managed rentals.	4/22/2021 6:43 AM
3	rental property especially geared toward students are making it less appealing to own a home in the neighborhood own a home	4/21/2021 1:18 PM
4	Wisconsin Street road can get congested with traffic/parked cars.	4/21/2021 10:20 AM
5	Thieves and obvious drug dealers/traffic in the area	4/20/2021 1:45 PM
6	Traffic	4/16/2021 11:00 AM
7	halfway house on New York, as police	4/12/2021 5:34 PM
8	speeding and traffic	4/12/2021 5:17 PM
9	New large garages. Burning, people burning whatever in their backyards.	4/12/2021 5:06 PM
10	Police not helpful	3/30/2021 10:49 AM
11	Rental houses and upkeep of yards / noise	3/30/2021 10:33 AM
12	Rental houses and lack of upkeep.	3/30/2021 10:00 AM
13	Specific neighbors	3/30/2021 9:37 AM
14	Rental units	3/30/2021 9:22 AM
15	some neighbors are inconsiderate	3/30/2021 9:16 AM
16	none	3/30/2021 9:11 AM
17	none	3/30/2021 8:55 AM

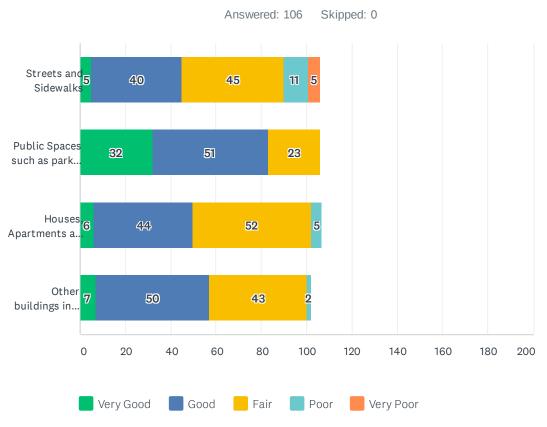
18	none	3/30/2021 8:29 AM
19	Wisconsin St is too busy	3/30/2021 8:26 AM
20	college too close, parking problems in fall	3/27/2021 6:44 PM
21	condition of streets and sewer sidewalk and drainage issue from congress field	3/27/2021 6:26 PM
22	a lot of housing being converted to student housing with land lord who don't keep up property clear sidewalks of snow deal with noise issues.	3/27/2021 6:09 PM
23	delay in trash can removal, proper storage of trash containers sometime days.	3/27/2021 5:49 PM
24	amount of rentals and parking rules	3/26/2021 10:05 AM
25	no one bothers me	3/25/2021 11:29 AM
26	Need more family owned homes here.	3/22/2021 8:51 PM
27	Condition of streets, unkept rental houses	3/22/2021 7:40 PM
28	Speeding	3/20/2021 10:39 AM
29	closer to crime	3/19/2021 5:02 PM
30	Rentals	3/19/2021 3:05 PM
31	Absent Landlords	3/19/2021 2:21 PM
32	Clean water to swim in that is not the public pool or ymca	3/19/2021 2:05 PM
33	Unkept rental properties	3/19/2021 1:38 PM
34	lots of traffic i didn't expect	3/18/2021 2:35 PM
35	speeding	3/18/2021 11:21 AM
36	reduction of owner-occupied homes	3/13/2021 7:42 AM

Q8 Thinking about things such as the distance from your home and the hours of operation, how convenient is it for you to use the following services?



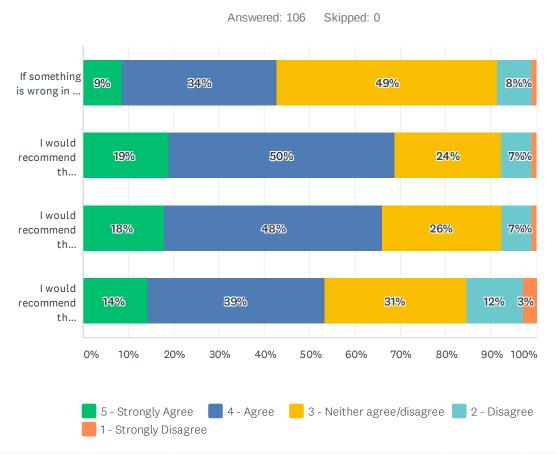
	VERY CONVENIENT	CONVENIENT	SOMEWHAT CONVENIENT	NOT VERY CONVENIENT	NOT AT ALL CONVENIENT	NOT APPLICABLE	TOTAL
Grocery stores	60% 64	33% 35	6% 6	1% 1	0% 0	0% 0	106
Other types of stores	19% 20	29% 31	32% 34	19% 20	1% 1	0% 0	106
Gas Stations	62% 64	32% 33	6% 6	0% 0	0% 0	1% 1	104
Restaurants	23% 24	37% 38	34% 35	7% 7	0% 0	0% 0	104
Religious Services	29% 30	23% 24	13% 13	4% 4	1% 1	30% 31	103
Medical and health care	23% 24	24% 25	36% 38	11% 12	4% 4	3%	106
Dental Care	21% 22	21% 22	37% 39	11% 12	2%	8%	106
Pharmacy	48% 51	34% 36	14% 15	2% 2	1%	1%	106
Dry Cleaner	9%	17% 18	15% 16	6%	1%	52% 54	104
Laundromat	10% 10	15% 16	15% 16	5% 5	2%	53% 56	105
Entertainment and arts and cultural events	17% 18	36% 38	29% 30	10% 11	2% 2	6% 6	105
Child care services	9%	7% 7	9%	2% 2	2%	72% 73	102

Q9 Please indicate how you would rate the physical condition of each of the following aspects of the Congress Field Neighborhood.



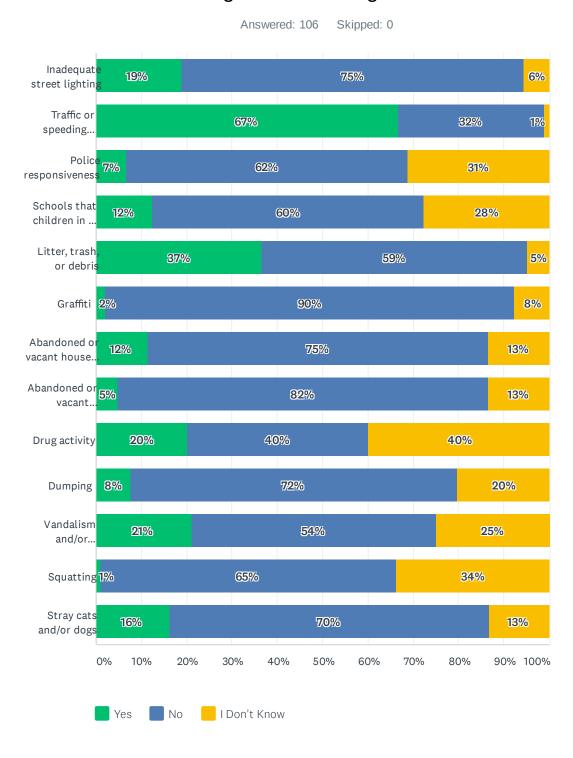
	VERY GOOD	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	VERY POOR	TOTAL RESPONDENTS
Streets and Sidewalks	5% 5	38% 40	42% 45	10% 11	5% 5	106
Public Spaces such as parks or playgrounds	30% 32	48% 51	22% 23	0%	0%	106
Houses, Apartments and condominiums	6% 6	42% 44	49% 52	5% 5	0% 0	106
Other buildings in the neighborhood	7% 7	49% 50	42% 43	2% 2	0%	102

Q10 Please select the response that best describes your feeling about each of the following statements.



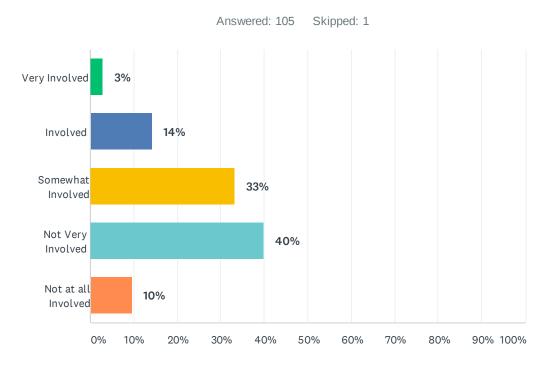
	5 - STRONGLY AGREE	4 - AGREE	3 - NEITHER AGREE/DISAGREE	2 - DISAGREE	1 - STRONGLY DISAGREE	TOTAL
If something is wrong in my neighborhood, I know that the people who live here will try to fix it.	9% 9	34% 36	49% 51	8% 8	1% 1	105
I would recommend this neighborhood to anyone as a good place to live.	19% 20	50% 53	24% 25	7% 7	1% 1	106
I would recommend this neighborhood to families with children as a good place to live.	18% 19	48% 51	26% 28	7% 7	1% 1	106
I would recommend this neighborhood to seniors as a good place to live.	14% 15	39% 41	31% 33	12% 13	3%	105

Q11 Please indicate whether or not you think the following are issues in the Congress Field Neighborhood.



	YES	NO	I DON'T KNOW	TOTAL
Inadequate street lighting	19%	75%	6%	
	20	80	6	106
Traffic or speeding vehicles	67%	32%	1%	
	70	34	1	105
Police responsiveness	7%	62%	31%	
	7	66	33	106
Schools that children in the neighborhood attend	12%	60%	28%	
	13	63	29	105
Litter, trash, or debris	37%	59%	5%	
	38	61	5	104
Graffiti	2%	90%	8%	
	2	94	8	104
Abandoned or vacant houses and/or apartments	12%	75%	13%	
	12	78	14	104
Abandoned or vacant non-residential buildings	5%	82%	13%	
	5	85	14	104
Drug activity	20%	40%	40%	
	21	42	42	105
Dumping	8%	72%	20%	
	8	75	21	104
Vandalism and/or break-ins	21%	54%	25%	
	22	56	26	104
Squatting	1%	65%	34%	
	1	68	35	104
Stray cats and/or dogs	16%	70%	13%	
	17	74	14	105

Q12 How involved would you say you are in addressing issues of importance in your neighborhood?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very Involved	3%	3
Involved	14%	15
Somewhat Involved	33%	35
Not Very Involved	40%	42
Not at all Involved	10%	10
Total Respondents: 105		

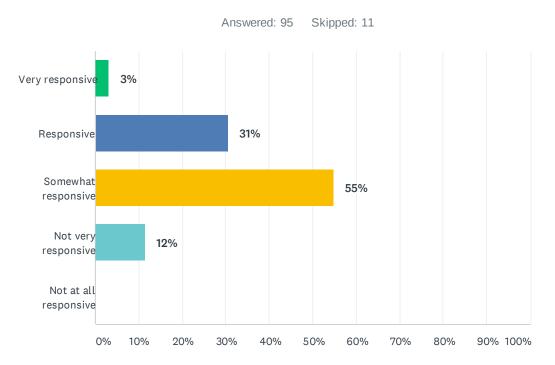
Q13 What do you think the people in this neighborhood could do to make it a better place to live?

Answered: 54 Skipped: 52

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Work together to create a community where people want to move to. A place where we know our neighbors and are willing to help when needed.	4/22/2021 1:48 PM
2	Landlords could do more to improve curb appeal of their rental properties along with a small number of owner occupied homes that could use some maintenance. The young lady driving the Lexus without plates up and down Cedar St. at 45 mph could slow down.	4/22/2021 6:43 AM
3	More and more places are flipping to rentals, and cater to students/student housing. Some landlords don't care about upkeep, or even lead in the homes. Students don't care because it's temporary for them, families that may have disadvantage, are not protected. Many homeowners, can't afford basic upkeep on their older homes, The neighborhood has deteriorated since first moving here.	4/21/2021 1:18 PM
4	social Block Party to get to know each other. Most people seem very friendly here.	4/21/2021 8:20 AM
5	safety / crime Neighborhood watch	4/20/2021 1:45 PM
6	maintenance Traffic & Parking; helping neighbors clean up their yards/garbage.	4/16/2021 11:25 AM
7	maintenance Maintain properties, plant and remain observant to their neighborhood.	4/16/2021 10:12 AM
3	maintenance curb appeal	4/12/2021 5:39 PM
9	social More trick or treat involvement. A lot of people don't participate but why? Sad for young kids.	4/12/2021 5:34 PM
LO	social Get to know neighbors.	4/12/2021 5:22 PM
11	maintenance Pick up their own trash. Police officers could try to at least care. Parking on the grass should be enforced for everyone, not only selective people.	3/30/2021 10:49 AM
12	social Get to know neighbors will help make it a better place.	3/30/2021 10:39 AM
13	maintenance Ask landlords to make sure rental property yards are kept clean, have less student rentals, create more parks for dogs, gardens. Have community list of helpful and affordable repair people.	3/30/2021 10:33 AM
14	maintenance Maintain property	3/30/2021 10:00 AM
L5	maintenance Clean up their yards, houses, and vehicles	3/30/2021 9:45 AM
16	maintenance I take walks outside throughout the year and Snow on sidewalks is not being cleared. The city should be enforcing this ordinance.	3/30/2021 9:32 AM
17	maintenance Take care of their yards better, lawns are many times left uncut, clean up trash around their homes.	3/30/2021 9:22 AM
18	maintenance Plant more trees and beatify congress field park	3/30/2021 9:16 AM
19	maintenance Blacktop parking lot of the church and beauty shop. Put trash cans behind enclosure.	3/30/2021 8:51 AM
20	social We (myself included) could be more neighborly and more interested in the people and things going on in our community.	3/30/2021 8:34 AM
21	social Have a block party to get to know the new neighbors in the neighborhood.	3/30/2021 8:26 AM
22	maintenance social Rally around a new use for Congress Fields themselves owned by UWO but wallowing.	3/29/2021 3:22 PM

23	maintenance Ask the city to fix the pot holes & heaved sidewalks.	3/29/2021 5:13 AM
24	very new to nhood and unsure	3/27/2021 6:58 PM
25	Influence the property owners who may rent to organizations who operate groups homes to not provide these homes for this purpose. When group homes are in the area it changes the whole dynamic of the nhood into a bad experience. For those of us living here and we have no recourse.	3/27/2021 6:20 PM
26	maintenance do better job clearing their sidewalks not pumping sum pump water across sidewalk.	3/27/2021 6:12 PM
27	safety / crime more home security like door video I have one.	3/27/2021 5:53 PM
28	maintenance take more pride in their yards.	3/27/2021 5:49 PM
29	social use their front porches and walk/run more. Start a social media group.	3/27/2021 5:44 PM
30	maintenance Take care of property basic painting upkeep curb appeal keeping sidewalks clear in winter trimming of tree and shrubs.	3/27/2021 5:28 PM
31	rental many have already moved try to make landlords responsible for their properties.	3/26/2021 10:12 AM
32	drugs work to keep drug dealers out of the area. the area itself is simply become a lower end area.	3/26/2021 9:55 AM
33	social Interact with current neighbors	3/25/2021 11:55 AM
34	social It is already very friendly.	3/25/2021 11:29 AM
35	Quit moving out to the west side.	3/22/2021 8:51 PM
36	maintenance social Get to know one another, take care of their property	3/22/2021 7:40 PM
37	social look out for each other	3/20/2021 10:39 AM
38	maintenance take holiday decorations down in a timely manor.	3/19/2021 5:07 PM
39	maintenance Property Maintenance	3/19/2021 4:03 PM
40	maintenance Property maintenance	3/19/2021 3:53 PM
41	social open mind your neighbor should not be a strange to you	3/19/2021 3:50 PM
42	rental Enforce rental maintenance to include lawn mowing and snow shoveling	3/19/2021 1:38 PM
43	maintenance rental College kids need to pick up after themselves	3/19/2021 12:38 PM
44	Keep their dogs from barking incessantly!!!	3/19/2021 9:25 AM
45	maintenance Fix wisconsin st. its terrible to drive on.	3/18/2021 2:47 PM
46	social meet eachother, get to know eachother	3/18/2021 2:35 PM
47	maintenance some neighbors need to fix up their house/porch general upkeep.	3/18/2021 2:24 PM
48	maintenance safety / crime Put signs up to stop speeding, maybe a police officer stationed on wisconsin st. pick up trash before it blows in someone elses yard.	3/18/2021 11:21 AM
49	Do something themselves instead of waiting for someone else to do it.	3/13/2021 7:42 AM
50	maintenance Housing improvements. Getting to know their neighbors.	3/13/2021 7:23 AM
51	Armed milita	3/13/2021 12:39 AM
52	drugs safety / crime Increase video surveillance & security lighting on exterior of homes. And narc on the college rentals selling drugs.	3/12/2021 10:36 PM
53	rental Hold landlords accountable for their tenants	3/12/2021 7:28 PM
54	maintenance Few houses need to clean up their yards	3/12/2021 6:46 PM

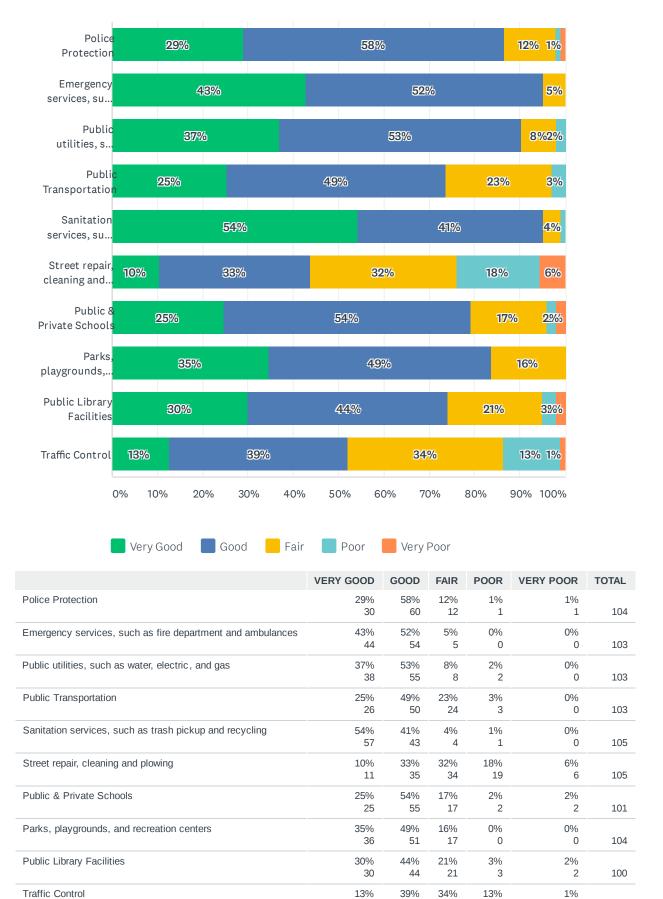
Q14 How responsive would you say local government is to the needs of the Congress Field Neighborhood?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very responsive	3%	3
Responsive	31%	29
Somewhat responsive	55%	52
Not very responsive	12%	11
Not at all responsive	0%	0
TOTAL		95

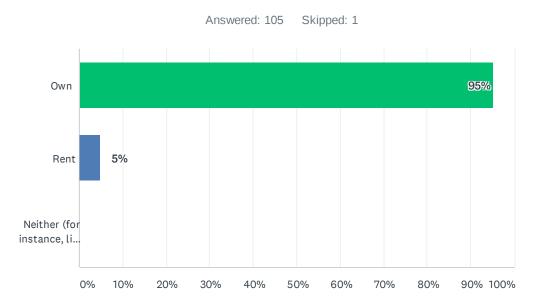
Q15 How would you rate the following public services in your neighborhood?





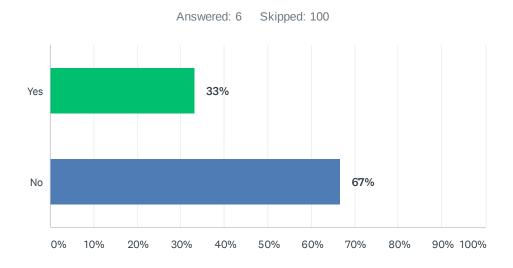
13%

Q16 Do you own or rent your home?



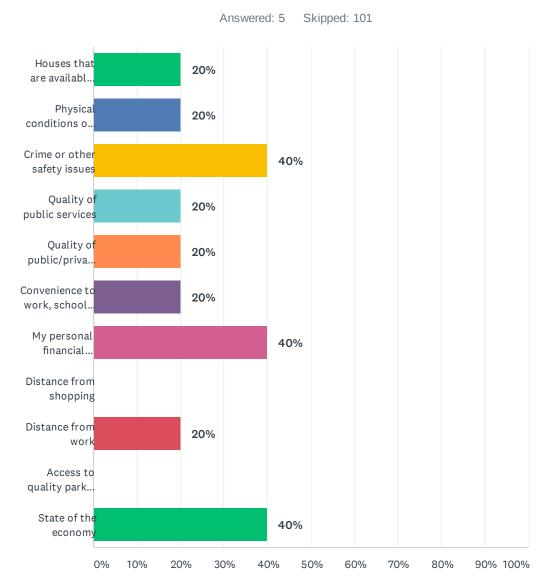
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Own	95%	100
Rent	5%	5
Neither (for instance, live with a friend or relative)	0%	0
TOTAL		105

Q17 If you do not own your home, would you like to buy a home in this neighborhood?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	33%	2
No	67%	4
TOTAL		6

Q18 If you would not buy a home in this neighborhood, what is the main reason why?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Houses that are available in the neighborhood	20%	1
Physical conditions of the neighborhood	20%	1
Crime or other safety issues	40%	2
Quality of public services	20%	1
Quality of public/private schools	20%	1
Convenience to work, school, or shopping	20%	1
My personal financial situation	40%	2
Distance from shopping	0%	0
Distance from work	20%	1
Access to quality parks or open spaces	0%	0
State of the economy	40%	2
Total Respondents: 5		

#

OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)

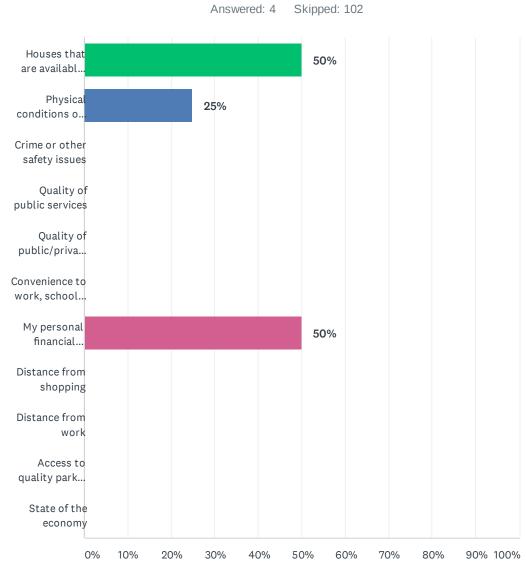
Would rather buy rural with some land

64

DATE

4/21/2021 8:20 AM

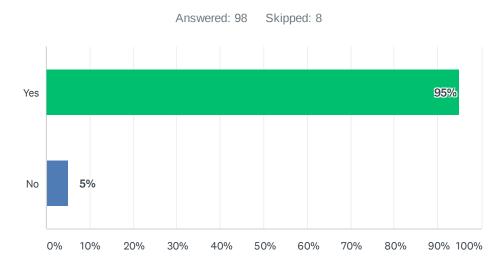
Q19 If you would buy a home in this neighborhood, what is the main reason you haven't yet bought one?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Houses that are available in the neighborhood	50%	2
Physical conditions of the neighborhood	25%	1
Crime or other safety issues	0%	0
Quality of public services	0%	0
Quality of public/private schools	0%	0
Convenience to work, school, or shopping	0%	0
My personal financial situation	50%	2
Distance from shopping	0%	0
Distance from work	0%	0
Access to quality parks or open spaces	0%	0
State of the economy	0%	0
Total Respondents: 4		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Not happening	3/30/2021 10:49 AM

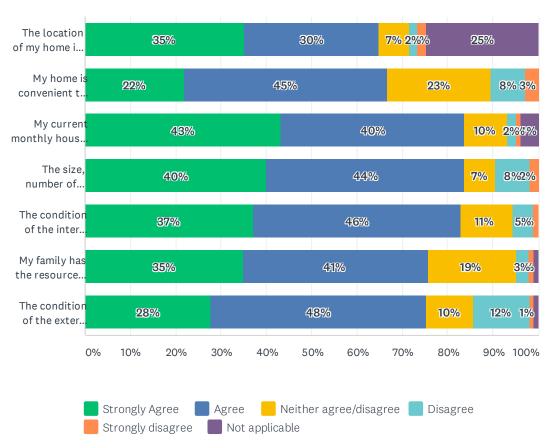
Q20 If your home is in need of maintenance or upgrades, would you be willing to invest in those projects?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	95%	93
No	5%	5
TOTAL		98

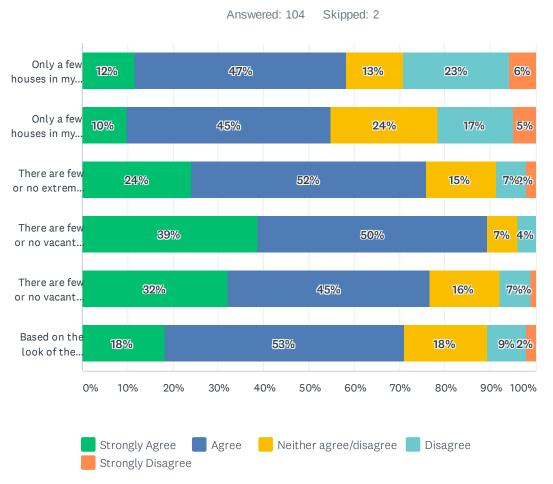
Q21 Attitudes about your home

Answered: 105 Skipped: 1



	STRONGLY AGREE	AGREE	NEITHER AGREE/DISAGREE	DISAGREE	STRONGLY DISAGREE	NOT APPLICABLE	TOTAL
The location of my home is convenient to where I work.	35% 37	30% 31	7% 7	2% 2	2% 2	25% 26	105
My home is convenient to where I like to do my shopping.	22% 23	45% 47	23% 24	8% 8	3%	0%	105
My current monthly housing cost is affordable for me or my family.	43% 45	40% 42	10% 10	2%	1% 1	4% 4	104
The size, number of bedrooms and other features of my home meet my needs and/or my family's	40% 42	44% 46	7% 7	8% 8	2% 2	0% 0	105
The condition of the interior of my home is satisfactory.	37% 39	46% 48	11% 12	5% 5	1% 1	0% 0	105
My family has the resources and skills needed to maintain our home.	35% 36	41% 42	19% 20	3% 3	1% 1	1% 1	103
The condition of the exterior of my home is satisfactory.	28% 29	48% 50	10% 11	12% 13	1% 1	1% 1	105

Q22 Think about the quality of housing in your neighborhood. Using the scale provided, please select the response that best describes your level of agreement for each of the following statements.



	STRONGLY AGREE	AGREE	NEITHER AGREE/DISAGREE	DISAGREE	STRONGLY DISAGREE	TOTAL
Only a few houses in my neighborhood are in need of minor home repair or maintenance (such as painting or yard work).	12% 12	47% 48	13% 13	23% 24	6% 6	103
Only a few houses in my neighborhood are	10%	45%	24%	17%	5%	
in need of major repair (such as foundation work or porch or window replacement).	10	46	24	17	5	102
There are few or no extremely dilapidated	24%	52%	15%	7%	2%	
houses in my neighborhood.	25	54	16	7	2	104
There are few or no vacant or boarded-up	39%	50%	7%	4%	0%	
houses in my neighborhood.	40	52	7	4	0	103
There are few or no vacant lots that should	32%	45%	16%	7%	1%	
be put to better use in my neighborhood.	33	46	16	7	1	103
Based on the look of the exterior of the	18%	53%	18%	9%	2%	
houses in my neighborhood, I would describe the housing quality as generally satisfactory or better.	19	55	19	9	2	104

Q23 Is there anything else you would like us to know about the Congress Field Neighborhood?

Answered: 30 Skipped: 76

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Please don't forget that some of us are on fixed incomes before initiating expensive (to us) projects	4/26/2021 10:03 AM
2	Increase of rentals, especially student rentals, leave it undesirable to purchase a home and decreases the home value of existing homeowners. Why would a first time home buyer with children want to live next to an ongoing house party, with beer cans decorating the front lawn. Why would you want to increase value of your home, knowing you would not get your rate of return, especially when your surrounding neighbors do not have the means or maybe not the desire do any home improvements??	4/21/2021 1:18 PM
3	Thanks for caring!	4/21/2021 8:20 AM
4	maintenance Sweet neighborhood that could always receive encouragement for improvement and watchfulness for one another's property	4/16/2021 10:12 AM
5	maintenance I understand halfway homes are essential but could the home/yard/driveway be fixed a bit?	4/12/2021 5:34 PM
6	maintenance Many on Liberty St. do not cut their lawns. Parking on both sides of the street and close driveways makes 2-ways traffic nearly impossible.	4/12/2021 5:28 PM
7	safety / crime Drunk driving accidents at night damaging personal property in 1300 block of Congress. We have small children walkers during the day. Semis routinely come down congress.	4/12/2021 5:17 PM
8	rental safety / crime It is becoming less of a family neighborhood and more of a college rental area. Speeding and reckless driving is a problem on Elmwood Ave.	3/30/2021 9:22 AM
9	maintenance We support a push to reconstruct streets that need it Wisconsin St. from Bent to New York is bad.	3/29/2021 3:22 PM
10	maintenance wisconsin st speeders seem dangerous for those who walk to the store. or need to cross to go to the park. I worry since we get around 2 accidents a month.	3/27/2021 6:44 PM
11	maintenance congress field to be specific, we updated the tot spot but there is an issue with the water collecting in the curb on the side of the field right where all of the kids cross. Also standing water issue in the field when it rains hard and in the spring, has been a problem for years.	3/27/2021 6:26 PM
12	safety / crime Do we have a neighborhood security system group that keeps up with what goes on in our nhood? More people should use the door bell feature one.	3/27/2021 5:53 PM
13	maintenance the trash containers are not out of sight on people leave on curb past deadline. The city could make a lot of \$ in fines on my block alone.	3/27/2021 5:49 PM
14	rental The close proximity of student rental housing is an issue, we need to support positive investors to make it better.	3/27/2021 5:44 PM
15	maintenance rental overall its a great nhood. The abundance of rentals is an issue in that not all landlords put the time and upkeep into the property. We were happy to raise our children in this nhood and would rec. it others. We have enjoyed our time here, but do not plan on buying another home here, not the best nhood for older individuals	3/27/2021 5:28 PM
16	maintenance rental landlords need to be held accountable for poor tenant behavior and lack of care for the property they own.	3/26/2021 10:12 AM
17	maintenance rental safety / crime the nhood just keeps declining as the years pass. in almost all aspects. Its unfortunate but true. Almost all the people wo are longer residents agree	3/26/2021 9:55 AM

on the point.

18	maintenance Wisconsin St is so terrible, and as one of the main streets that run through the neighborhood, it would be so nice to have it repaired.	3/22/2021 7:40 PM
19	safety / crime Traffic from Algoma and Congress intersection.	3/19/2021 4:48 PM
20	rental City does not enforce Landlord codes	3/19/2021 4:03 PM
21	rental College rentals that drive the home values down	3/19/2021 3:49 PM
22	Mixed bag neighborhood of those who care and those who don't.	3/19/2021 3:45 PM
23	Love our diverse and vibrant neighborhood	3/19/2021 12:38 PM
24	maintenance Can we get the University and the city to work cooperatively on drainage for the Congress Field? I think that would improve the neighborhood. The new tot lot is sensational. Thank you!	3/19/2021 9:25 AM
25	maintenance some houses are run down. They need repairs. Rock the Block was very good. Not enough neighbors participated.	3/18/2021 3:28 PM
26	safety / crime Jackson St needs more crosswalks other than NY and Murdock. Difficult to cross.	3/18/2021 2:24 PM
27	maintenance I'd like to see something happen with the Congress Field vacant lot so the entire neighborhood can use it.	3/13/2021 7:42 AM
28	maintenance It would be nice to redo Wisconsin St it's in rough shape	3/13/2021 7:23 AM
29	maintenance safety / crime Speeding & severely cracked sidewalks on Congress Ave.	3/12/2021 10:36 PM
30	We would like to see trash cans at the park.	3/12/2021 7:33 PM

Appendix C Transportation Resources

The Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan – adopted in 2019

Bicycle facilities exist on New York Avenue, High Avenue, Algoma Boulevard, Elmwood Avenue. The neighborhood is near the Wiouswash Trail which is a multi county trail that travels north from Oshkosh. The Wiouwash State Trail is named for Winnebago, Outagamie, Waupaca and Shawano counties. This trail, built on a former rail corridor, is maintained and operated by the four counties the trail traverses. Two sections of the trail are complete and are separated by a gap of about 30 miles. In Shawano County, the northern segment of the trail travels 19 miles between Birnamwood and Split Rock. The southern segment of the trail is open for 22 miles from Hortonville to Oshkosh.





GO-Transit Public Transportation System

Four GO-Transit bus routes are located near the Congress Field Neighborhood, including route 2, 3, 5, 10. All routes provide access to the Market Street Station. Routes 10 is in walking distance from the neighborhood, which travels to Neenah, Wi.



Appendix D Capital Improvement Program

Capital Improvement Program 2022- 2026

Identifies multiple streets within the Congress Field neighborhood proposed for reconstruction over the next five years. The attachments below indicate projects that are scheduled through 2024 for street improvements.



CIP_PROJECTS_2022_2026: 2023-WISCONSIN ST- CONCRETE			
TAG	Wisconsin St Reconstruction		
ТҮРЕ	Concrete		
YEAR	2023		
PAGE_NAME	2023-WISCONSIN ST-CONCRETE		
CIPVersion	2022-2026		
Description			

Appendix E Demographics



Community Profile

Congress Field Neighborhood Area: 0.15 square miles Prepared by Esri

Population Summary	
2000 Total Population	1,
2010 Total Population	1,
2021 Total Population	1,
2021 Group Quarters	
2026 Total Population	1,
2021-2026 Annual Rate	-0.1
2021 Total Daytime Population	
Workers	
Residents	
Household Summary	
2000 Households	
2000 Average Household Size	;
2010 Households	
2010 Average Household Size	
2021 Households	
2021 Average Household Size	
2026 Households	
2026 Average Household Size	
2021-2026 Annual Rate	-0.
2010 Families	
2010 Average Family Size	
2021 Families	
2021 Average Family Size	
2026 Families	
2026 Average Family Size	
2021-2026 Annual Rate	-0.
Housing Unit Summary	
2000 Housing Units	
Owner Occupied Housing Units	63
Renter Occupied Housing Units	33
Vacant Housing Units	2
2010 Housing Units	
Owner Occupied Housing Units	59
Renter Occupied Housing Units	34
Vacant Housing Units	ϵ
2021 Housing Units	
Owner Occupied Housing Units	57
Renter Occupied Housing Units	35
Vacant Housing Units	ϵ
2026 Housing Units	
Owner Occupied Housing Units	58
Renter Occupied Housing Units	34
Vacant Housing Units	7
Median Household Income	
2021	\$54
2026	\$60
Median Home Value	
2021	\$111
2026	\$136
Per Capita Income	
2021	\$27
2026	\$31
Median Age	
2010	
2021	
2026	

Data Note: Household population includes persons not residing in group quarters. Average Household Size is the household population divided by total households. Persons in families include the householder and persons related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. Per Capita Income represents the income received by all persons aged 15 years and over divided by the total population.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010 Summary File 1. Esri forecasts for 2021 and 2026 Esri converted Census 2000 data into 2010 geography.



Congress Field Neighborhood Area: 0.15 square miles

Prepared by Esri

2021 Households by Income	
Household Income Base	476
<\$15,000	9.7%
\$15,000 - \$24,999	11.6%
\$25,000 - \$34,999	11.6%
\$35,000 - \$49,999	10.5%
\$50,000 - \$74,999	25.6%
\$75,000 - \$99,999	14.1%
\$100,000 - \$149,999	15.1%
\$150,000 - \$199,999	2.1%
\$200,000+	0.0%
Average Household Income	\$60,355
2026 Households by Income	
Household Income Base	475
<\$15,000	8.0%
\$15,000 - \$24,999	9.7%
\$25,000 - \$34,999	9.1%
\$35,000 - \$49,999	9.5%
\$50,000 - \$74,999	25.7%
\$75,000 - \$99,999	16.0%
\$100,000 - \$149,999	19.2%
\$150,000 - \$199,999	2.9%
\$200,000+	0.0%
Average Household Income	\$69,099
2021 Owner Occupied Housing Units by Value	\$0 <i>5</i> ,0 <i>55</i>
Total	294
	2.4%
<\$50,000 \$50,000 \$00,000	37.1%
\$50,000 - \$99,999 #100,000 - #140,000	43.5%
\$100,000 - \$149,999	
\$150,000 - \$199,999	10.5%
\$200,000 - \$249,999	0.7%
\$250,000 - \$299,999	5.1%
\$300,000 - \$399,999	0.0%
\$400,000 - \$499,999	0.0%
\$500,000 - \$749,999	0.3%
\$750,000 - \$999,999	0.0%
\$1,000,000 - \$1,499,999	0.0%
\$1,500,000 - \$1,999,999	0.0%
\$2,000,000 +	0.0%
Average Home Value	\$119,369
2026 Owner Occupied Housing Units by Value	
Total	299
<\$50,000	2.0%
\$50,000 - \$99,999	21.4%
\$100,000 - \$149,999	36.1%
\$150,000 - \$199,999	16.4%
\$200,000 - \$249,999	1.7%
\$250,000 - \$299,999	20.7%
\$300,000 - \$399,999	0.0%
\$400,000 - \$499,999	0.3%
\$500,000 - \$749,999	1.3%
\$750,000 - \$999,999	0.0%
\$1,000,000 - \$1,499,999	0.0%
\$1,500,000 - \$1,999,999	0.0%
\$2,000,000 +	0.0%
Average Home Value	\$161,037

Data Note: Income represents the preceding year, expressed in current dollars. Household income includes wage and salary earnings, interest dividends, net rents, pensions, SSI and welfare payments, child support, and alimony. **Source:** U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010 Summary File 1. Esri forecasts for 2021 and 2026 Esri converted Census 2000 data into 2010 geography.



Congress Field Neighborhood Area: 0.15 square miles Prepared by Esri

2010 Population by Age	
Total	1,09
0 - 4	6.49
5 - 9	5.59
10 - 14	5.49
15 - 24	18.8
25 - 34	14.6
35 - 44	14.9
45 - 54	13.0
55 - 64	11.4
65 - 74	5.7°
75 - 84	2.9
75 - 84 85 +	1.6
18 +	79.29
2021 Population by Age	1.00
Total	1,06
0 - 4	5.50
5 - 9	5.80
10 - 14	5.6
15 - 24	9.7
25 - 34	20.5
35 - 44	13.4
45 - 54	13.79
55 - 64	11.49
65 - 74	9.4
75 - 84	3.89
85 +	1.29
18 +	80.49
2026 Population by Age	
Total	1,06
0 - 4	5.69
5 - 9	5.69
10 - 14	5.99
15 - 24	10.5
25 - 34	13.29
35 - 44	18.39
45 - 54	12.79
55 - 64	12.30
65 - 74	9.79
75 - 84	4.99
85 +	1.30
18 +	79.4
2010 Population by Sex	
Males	54
Females	55
2021 Population by Sex	
Males	53
Females	53
2026 Population by Sex	
Males	52
Females	53

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010 Summary File 1. Esri forecasts for 2021 and 2026 Esri converted Census 2000 data into 2010 geography.



Congress Field Neighborhood Area: 0.15 square miles

Prepared by Esri

Total	1,09
White Alone	93.89
Black Alone	93.89
American Indian Alone	0.49
Asian Alone	2.60
Pacific Islander Alone	0.00
Some Other Race Alone	0.60
Two or More Races	1.30
Hispanic Origin	2.50
Diversity Index	16.
021 Population by Race/Ethnicity	
Total	1,06
White Alone	90.89
Black Alone	2.10
American Indian Alone	0.59
Asian Alone	3.70
Pacific Islander Alone	0.0
Some Other Race Alone	0.99
Two or More Races	2.0
Hispanic Origin	3.30
Diversity Index	22
026 Population by Race/Ethnicity	
Total	1,06
White Alone	89.20
Black Alone	2.49
American Indian Alone	0.59
Asian Alone	4.30
Pacific Islander Alone	0.0
Some Other Race Alone	1.1
Two or More Races	2.4
Hispanic Origin	4.0
Diversity Index	26.
010 Population by Relationship and Household Type	
Total	1,09
In Households	100.09
In Family Households	74.29
Householder	24.59
Spouse	17.9
Child	26.29
Other relative	2.6
Nonrelative	2.9
In Nonfamily Households	25.8
In Group Quarters	0.0°
Institutionalized Population	0.09
mattationalized ropulation	0.0

Data Note: Persons of Hispanic Origin may be of any race. The Diversity Index measures the probability that two people from the same area will be from different race/ ethnic groups.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010 Summary File 1. Esri forecasts for 2021 and 2026 Esri converted Census 2000 data into 2010 geography.



Congress Field Neighborhood Area: 0.15 square miles

Prepared by Esri

Total	•
Less than 9th Grade	5.
9th - 12th Grade, No Diploma	5.
High School Graduate	31.
GED/Alternative Credential	7.
Some College, No Degree	13.
Associate Degree	6.
Bachelor's Degree	21.
Graduate/Professional Degree	9.
2021 Population 15+ by Marital Status	9.
Total	
Never Married	36
Married	46.
Widowed	6.
Divorced	10.
	10.
2021 Civilian Population 16+ in Labor Force	
Civilian Population 16+	0.5
Population 16+ Employed	96
Population 16+ Unemployment rate	3
Population 16-24 Employed	11
Population 16-24 Unemployment rate	5
Population 25-54 Employed	68
Population 25-54 Unemployment rate	4
Population 55-64 Employed	14
Population 55-64 Unemployment rate	0
Population 65+ Employed	5
Population 65+ Unemployment rate	0.
2021 Employed Population 16+ by Industry	
Total	
Agriculture/Mining	0
Construction	3
Manufacturing	17.
Wholesale Trade	4
Retail Trade	8
Transportation/Utilities	6
Information	3
Finance/Insurance/Real Estate	3
Services	45
Public Administration	7
2021 Employed Population 16+ by Occupation	
Total	
White Collar	42
Management/Business/Financial	9
Professional	12
Sales	8
Administrative Support	11
Services	23
Blue Collar	33.
Farming/Forestry/Fishing	0.
Construction/Extraction	1.
Installation/Maintenance/Repair	6
Production	10
Transportation/Material Moving	14.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010 Summary File 1. Esri forecasts for 2021 and 2026 Esri converted Census 2000 data into 2010 geography.



Congress Field Neighborhood Area: 0.15 square miles

Prepared by Esri

2010 Hausahalda hu Tuma	
2010 Households by Type	479
Total	33.2%
Households with 2 L Popula	66.8%
Households with 2+ People	55.7%
Family Households Husband-wife Families	40.7%
	17.3%
With Related Children	17.3%
Other Family (No Spouse Present)	
Other Family with Male Householder	3.8%
With Related Children Other Family with Female Householder	1.9% 11.3%
With Related Children	6.9%
Nonfamily Households	11.1%
Nonianily Households	11.1%
All Households with Children	26.5%
Multigenerational Households	1.3%
Multigenerational Households Unmarried Partner Households	8.4%
Male-female	7.9%
Same-sex	0.4%
2010 Households by Size	0.4%
Total	478
1 Person Household	33.3%
2 Person Household	34.1%
3 Person Household	15.1%
4 Person Household	11.5%
5 Person Household	4.4%
6 Person Household	0.4%
7 + Person Household	1.3%
2010 Households by Tenure and Mortgage Status	
Total	479
Owner Occupied	63.7%
Owned with a Mortgage/Loan	47.6%
Owned Free and Clear	15.9%
Renter Occupied	36.3%
2021 Affordability, Mortgage and Wealth	
Housing Affordability Index	207
Percent of Income for Mortgage	8.6%
Wealth Index	43
2010 Housing Units By Urban/ Rural Status	
Total Housing Units	510
Housing Units Inside Urbanized Area	100.0%
Housing Units Inside Urbanized Cluster	0.0%
Rural Housing Units	0.0%
2010 Population By Urban/ Rural Status	
Total Population	1,095
Population Inside Urbanized Area	100.0%
Population Inside Urbanized Cluster	0.0%
Rural Population	0.0%

Data Note: Households with children include any households with people under age 18, related or not. Multigenerational households are families with 3 or more parentchild relationships. Unmarried partner households are usually classified as nonfamily households unless there is another member of the household related to the householder. Multigenerational and unmarried partner households are reported only to the tract level. Esri estimated block group data, which is used to estimate polygons or non-standard geography.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010 Summary File 1. Esri forecasts for 2021 and 2026 Esri converted Census 2000 data into 2010 geography.



Congress Field Neighborhood Area: 0.15 square miles

Prepared by Esri

	Traditional Living (12
	Old and Newcomers (8
	Rustbelt Traditions (5)
021 Consumer Spending	
Apparel & Services: Total \$	\$684,82
Average Spent	\$1,438.7
Spending Potential Index	6
Education: Total \$	\$465,58
Average Spent	\$978.
Spending Potential Index	
Entertainment/Recreation: Total \$	\$1,056,2
Average Spent	\$2,219.
Spending Potential Index	
Food at Home: Total \$	\$1,739,6
Average Spent	\$3,654.
Spending Potential Index	
Food Away from Home: Total \$	\$1,180,7
Average Spent	\$2,480
Spending Potential Index	
Health Care: Total \$	\$2,103,9
Average Spent	\$4,420
Spending Potential Index	
HH Furnishings & Equipment: Total \$	\$708,5
Average Spent	\$1,488
Spending Potential Index	
Personal Care Products & Services: Total \$	\$288,0
Average Spent	\$605
Spending Potential Index	
Shelter: Total \$	\$6,069,9
Average Spent	\$12,752
Spending Potential Index	
Support Payments/Cash Contributions/Gifts in Kind: Total \$	\$702,4
Average Spent	\$1,475
Spending Potential Index	
Travel: Total \$	\$753,4
Average Spent	\$1,582
Spending Potential Index	
Vehicle Maintenance & Repairs: Total \$	\$371,6
Average Spent	\$780.
Spending Potential Index	

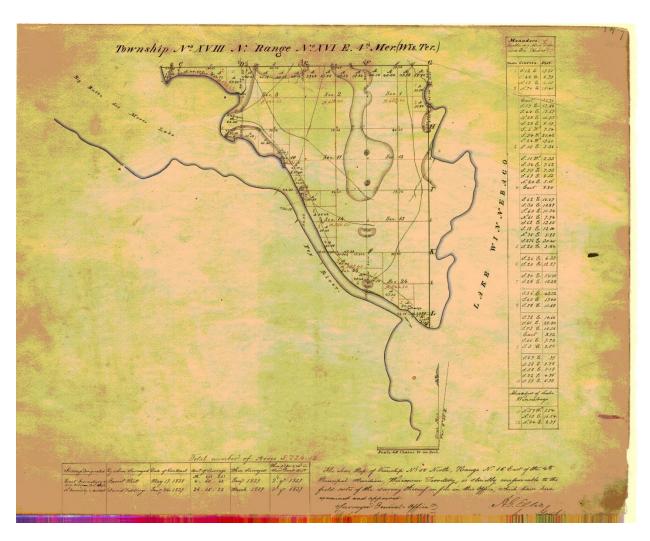
Data Note: Consumer spending shows the amount spent on a variety of goods and services by households that reside in the area. Expenditures are shown by broad budget categories that are not mutually exclusive. Consumer spending does not equal business revenue. Total and Average Amount Spent Per Household represent annual figures. The Spending Potential Index represents the amount spent in the area relative to a national average of 100.

Source: Consumer Spending data are derived from the 2018 and 2019 Consumer Expenditure Surveys, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Esri.

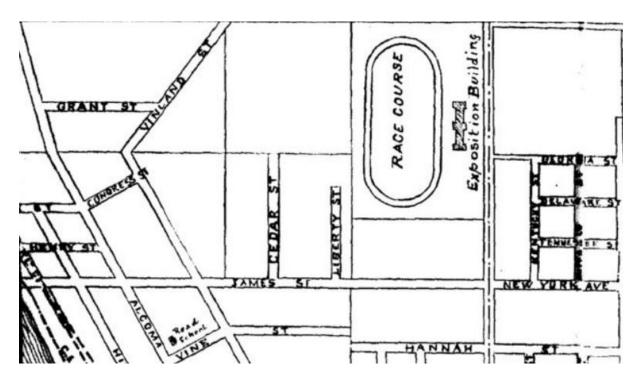
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2010 Summary File 1. Esri forecasts for 2021 and 2026 Esri converted Census 2000 data into 2010 geography.

Appendix F History

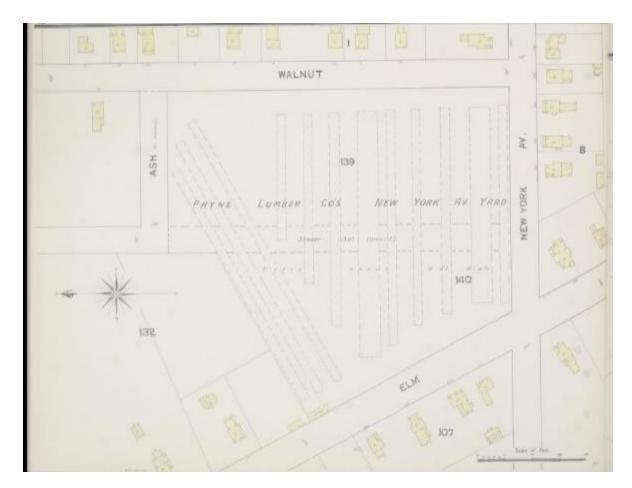
The Changing Face of Congress Field Neighborhood



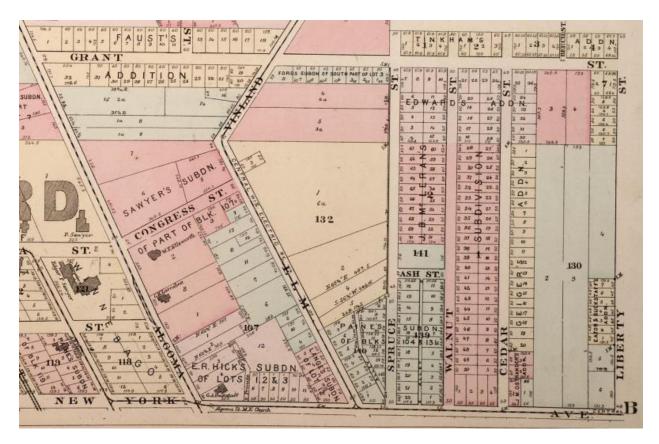
1839 survey: Congress Field Neighborhood is roughly section 14, between two marshes.



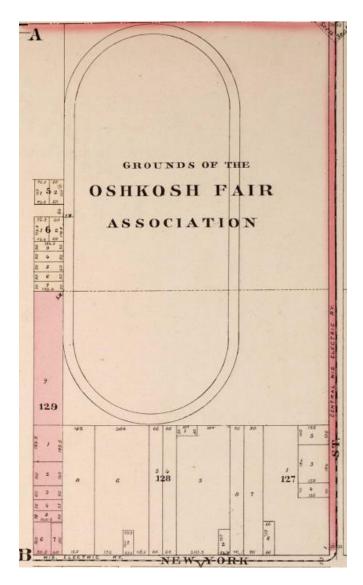
1884: Cedar and Liberty Streets were the only north-south streets. West New York Street was called James Street. There was a street railway on Jackson Street used to transport fair goers, the fairgrounds occupied the northeastern section of the neighborhood.



1890: Congress Avenue ended at Elm Street (now Elmwood Avenue). Grant Street (now Murdock Street) ran from Algoma Boulevard to Cedar Street. Ash Street (now Short Street) ran between an incomplete Spruce Street and Walnut Street. The area between Elm Street and Walnut Street was the Paine Lumber Company yard. The area between Liberty and Jackson Streets was open. East Hall Park is the former location of Alexian Brothers Hospital.



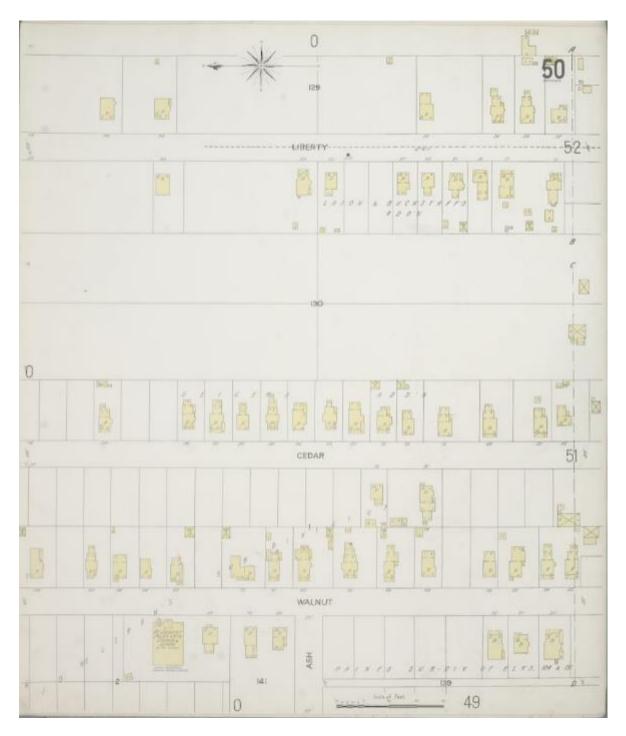
1895: Five years later, Paine had subdivided that corner of the lumberyard, and Congress Street still stopped at Elm Street.



The fairgrounds still occupied the eastern section of the neighborhood, and the Central Wisconsin Electric Railway ran along Jackson Street to get people there.



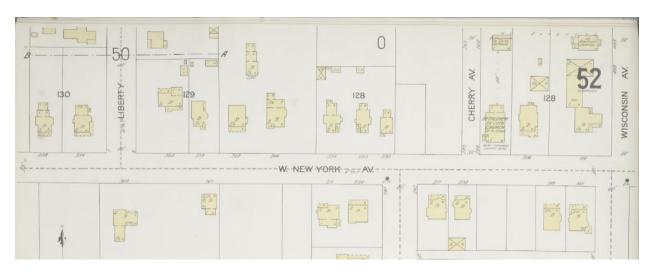
By 1903, the neighborhood had become more developed. The Paine Lumberyard area had been subdivided, and Spruce Street extended to meet New York Avenue.



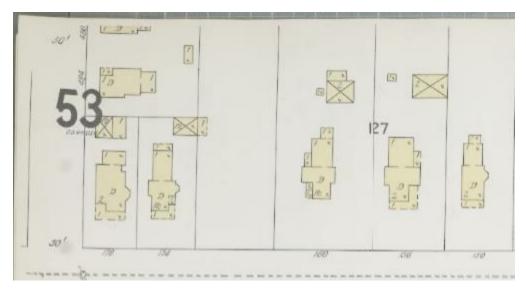
What we now know as Congress Field was bordered by Cedar and Liberty Streets on the west and east sides. The street railway ran from New York Avenue up Liberty Street.



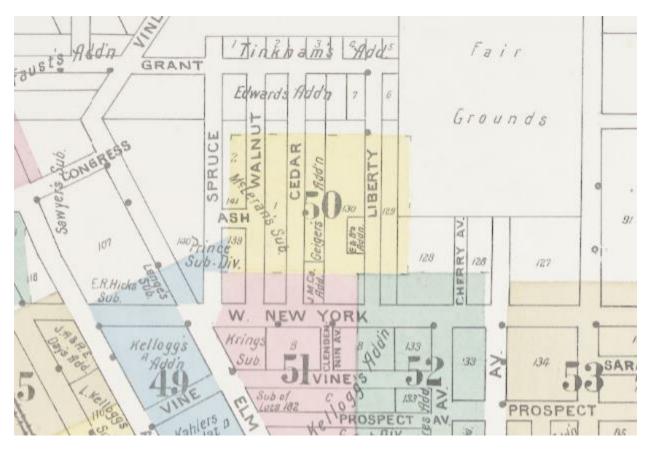
1903: Current Garfield Street was called Clendemin Avenue.



Western Street did not exist yet, and Ontario Street was called Cherry Avenue. Bethlehem Lutheran Church occupied the same location, along with an affiliated school. There was a First Baptist Church on Wisconsin Avenue.

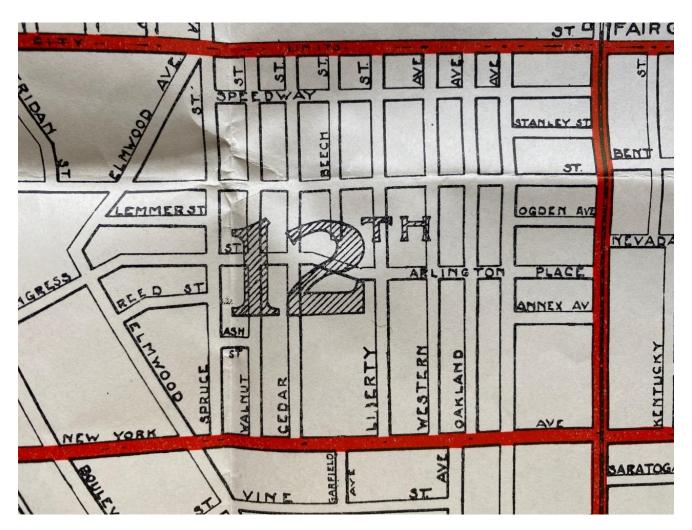


Corner of Wisconsin and New York



Bent Avenue was called Grant Street and extended to the fairgrounds. Spruce, Walnut, Cedar, and Liberty Streets ran between New York Avenue and Grant

Street. Cherry Avenue extended about halfway between New York and the fairgrounds.



1930s: Congress Street ran to about Liberty Street; east of that it was called Arlington Place. Elm Street had become Elmwood Street, Western Street was build, and the current Ontario Street was called Oakland Avenue.

Appendix G Congress Field Vision

Our Congress Field Vision The Congress Field Neighborhood

Congress Field is approximately 280 feet wide by 900 feet long, with a 20 foot wide access to New York Avenue on the south.

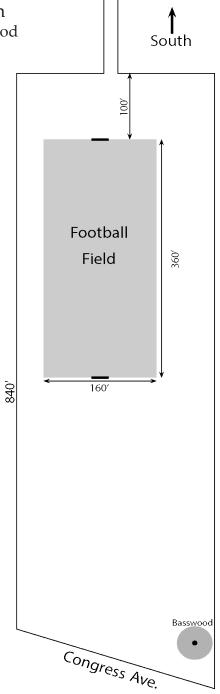
The southern half of the field is taken up by a football field, used during the late summer and early fall by the Oshkosh Eagles football club.

Otherwise, Congress Field is nearly completely unused. This is primarily due to its poor drainage: throughout the spring and early summer, it frequently has standing pools of water, especially on its northern half, near Congress Ave.

The standing water makes it difficult to keep the grass mowed, and breeds mosquitos. As such, the field in its current condition is more a liability to the neighborhood than it is an asset.

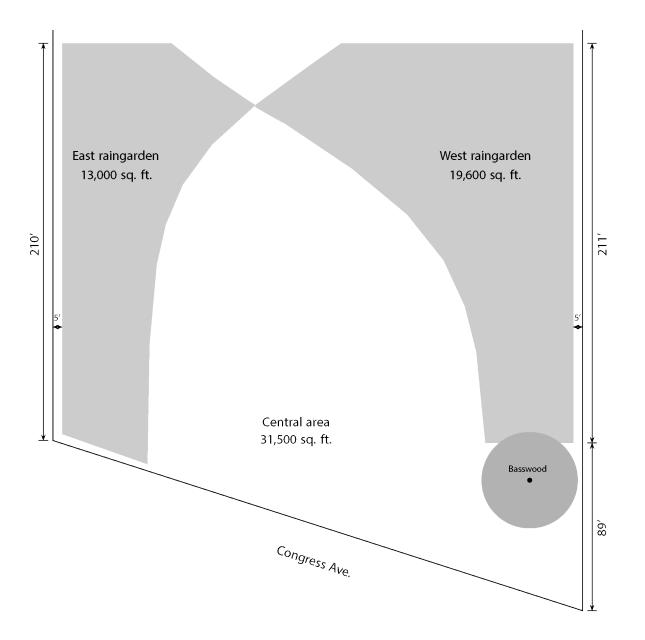
The field has one nice tree, a young basswood tree, and several large trees that are either dead or dying.

Increasing Congress Field's usefulness, and turning it into an asset for the neighborhood, must begin by addressing its drainage issues.



Phase 1: Resculpting the Terrain

The drainage issues can be addressed on-site by excavating two shallow rain gardens. The East one would be approx. 13,000 sq. ft. in area, the West one about 19,600 sq. ft. Removing the top 12" of topsoil (which, by my estimate, would still leave around 6" of topsoil in the rain gardens, easily sufficient for the proposed plantings) would provide roughly 1,200 cu. yds. of soil that could be used to raise the elevations of other areas of the field.



If half of that soil were spread over the central area, it would raise its average elevation by about 6.3". If the rest were spread over the football field, it would raise the field's average elevation by almost 3".

Phase 2: Drainage Lines

Drainage would be further improved by installing french drains from the football field to the rain gardens.

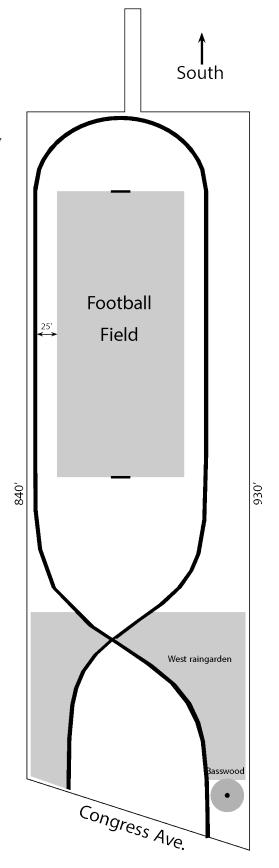
The drainpipes would be 4" in diameter, about 18" to 24" below grade, surrounded by gravel, and covered at the top with a 4" to 6" layer of crushed stone, to provide an easy walking surface. This would create 5' wide paths from Congress Ave. to the football field.

The two drains would each be about 850' long. Each would require the excavation of about 240 cu. yds. of soil. If the soil were spread over the football field, it would raise the field's average elevation another 2".

The drainpipes would terminate about 60' into the raingardens, where the water would discharge into the low areas during snow melt or heavy rains. The 5' wide gravel/crushed stone paths would continue to Congress Ave.

Along the Northern edge (i.e. closest to Congress Ave.) of the West raingarden, a new drainage line would begin, connecting to an existing stormwater drain in the Northwest corner of Congress field. This drainage line would have smaller drainpipes – perhaps 2" in diameter – to allow a gradual drainage of the rain gardens. This would prevent extended period of standing water, without burdening the storm water system during peak rainfalls.

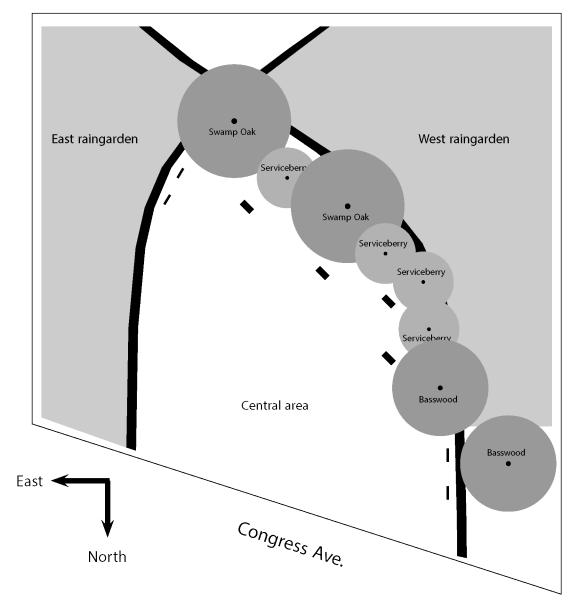
It is important that the relocated topsoil from both the drains and the rain gardens should only be spread in the areas between the drainage lines. The would ensure that we do not create any new runoff issues for the neighboring properties.



Phase 3: Landscaping

If the dirt moving were done in the Spring, the football field could be seeded in May. The grass should be fine to play on by August.

The Central area would be similarly seeded, to provide a park-like grassy area for play. Trees should be planted along its Southern and Western sides, 10' inside the paths, to provide shade throughout the afternoon and evening. A few large native species (swamp oak and more basswood) along with several smaller serviceberry trees would provide a nice, varied pattern.



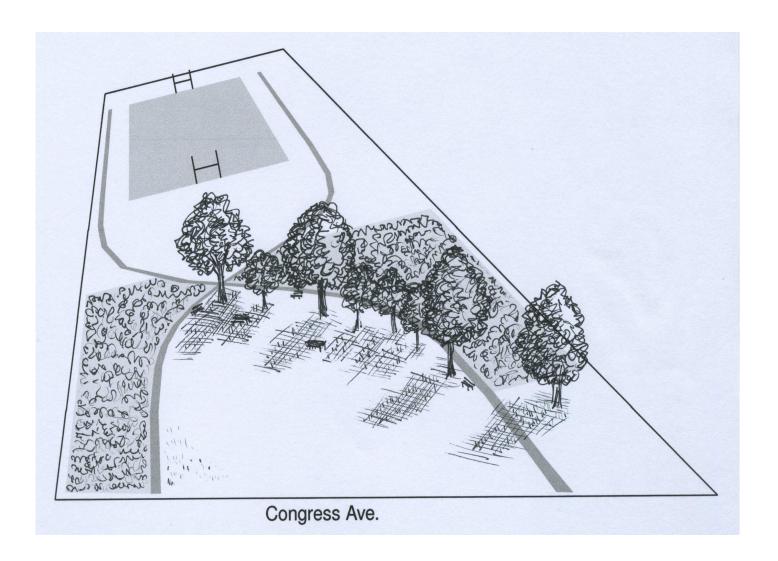
Park benches, picnic tables, and bike racks should be provided, in a meandering line to the North-east of the trees. Lighting should also be installed along the walking paths.

Phase 3: Landscaping

The raingardens should be planted with a variety of native plants that are well adapted to the occasional wet conditions the raingardens would have. Shorter (2' to 4' tall) species would be preferable.

The plantings might include:

- Bee balm
- Bergamot
- Blue Flag Iris
- Blue Lobelia
- Blue Vervain
- Common Bluestar
- Culver's root
- Golden Alexander
- Flat-topped Aster
- Marsh Marigold
- Cardinal flower New England Aster Various Sedges
- Penstemon
- Rough-stemmed Goldenrod
- Swamp Milkweed
- Trilobed Coneflower
- Turtlehead



Phase 4: Parking

It would be possible to create about eleven recessed parallel parking spaces along Congress Ave. The existing terrace between the curb and the sidewalk is about 8' wide, which should be enough to accommodate parallel parking without intruding into the park whatsoever. Recessed parallel parking would improve the safety of pedestrians crossing between the grassy central area and the tot lot across Congress Ave.

