



boston planning &  
development agency

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# Article 80 Modernization Community Survey Response Summary



# Summary

As part of efforts to improve the Article 80 community engagement process, the Boston Planning & Development Agency conducted a survey to assess interest and comfort levels among residents of Boston's diverse neighborhoods regarding participation.

The survey was distributed in multiple languages and across various zip codes, garnering a total of 1,422 submissions, which included 1,035 field submissions, 193 digital submissions, and 153 uncategorized submissions.

The use of varied engagement strategies enabled the survey to access a wide range of populations, resulting in the collection of rich and diverse feedback.

The availability of the survey in multiple languages likely contributed to a higher response rate from communities where English is not the primary language. The survey was available in six languages: English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Simplified Chinese, Russian, and Brazilian Portuguese, ensuring inclusivity and enabling broader participation.

A substantial majority of respondents (85.8%) expressed interest in shaping and learning about new development projects in their neighborhoods, underscoring their engagement and willingness to participate in planning processes.

The respondents included a diverse mix of genders, ages, and racial backgrounds, with significant representation from Hispanic communities, ensuring a broad spectrum of viewpoints and opinions.



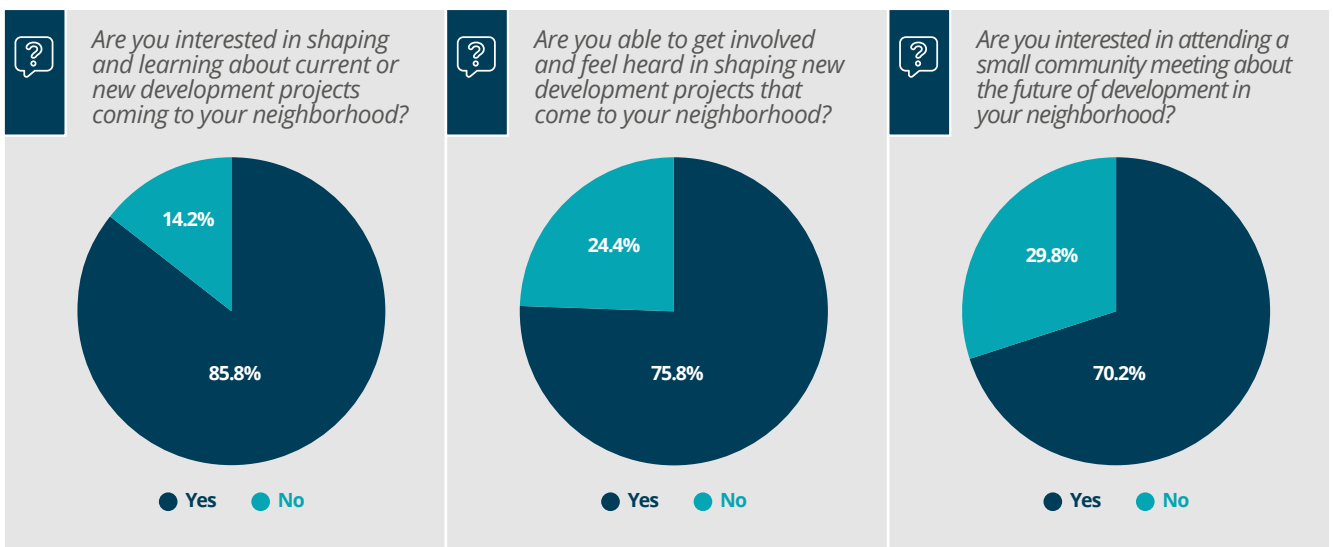
Survey respondents' ages ranged from 20 to 46 years old, indicating successful engagement with a demographic that is typically active in community and work life. This group can provide valuable insights into the current and future needs of the community, such as infrastructure, education, and local services, which are crucial for effective urban planning and emphasize long-term growth and stability for communities, benefiting future generations.

Many respondents showed keen interest in learning more about the Boston Planning & Development Agency's role in development, which offers an exciting opportunity for fostering greater community involvement in BPDA's future projects.

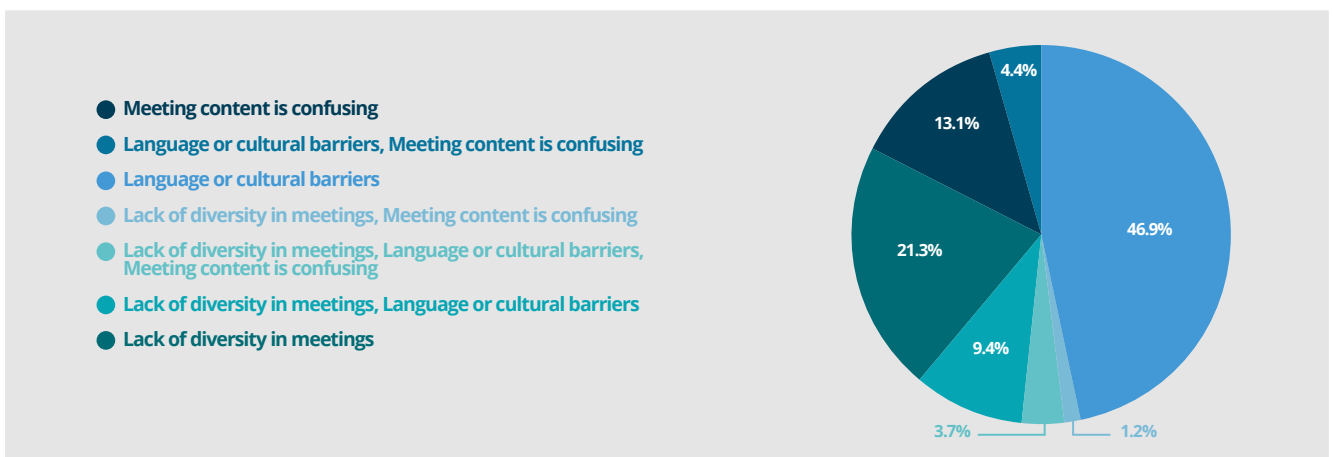
# Key Findings

## Interest in shaping and learning about new development projects

Most respondents showed interest in learning more about the Boston Planning & Development Agency's (BPDA) role in shaping development projects.



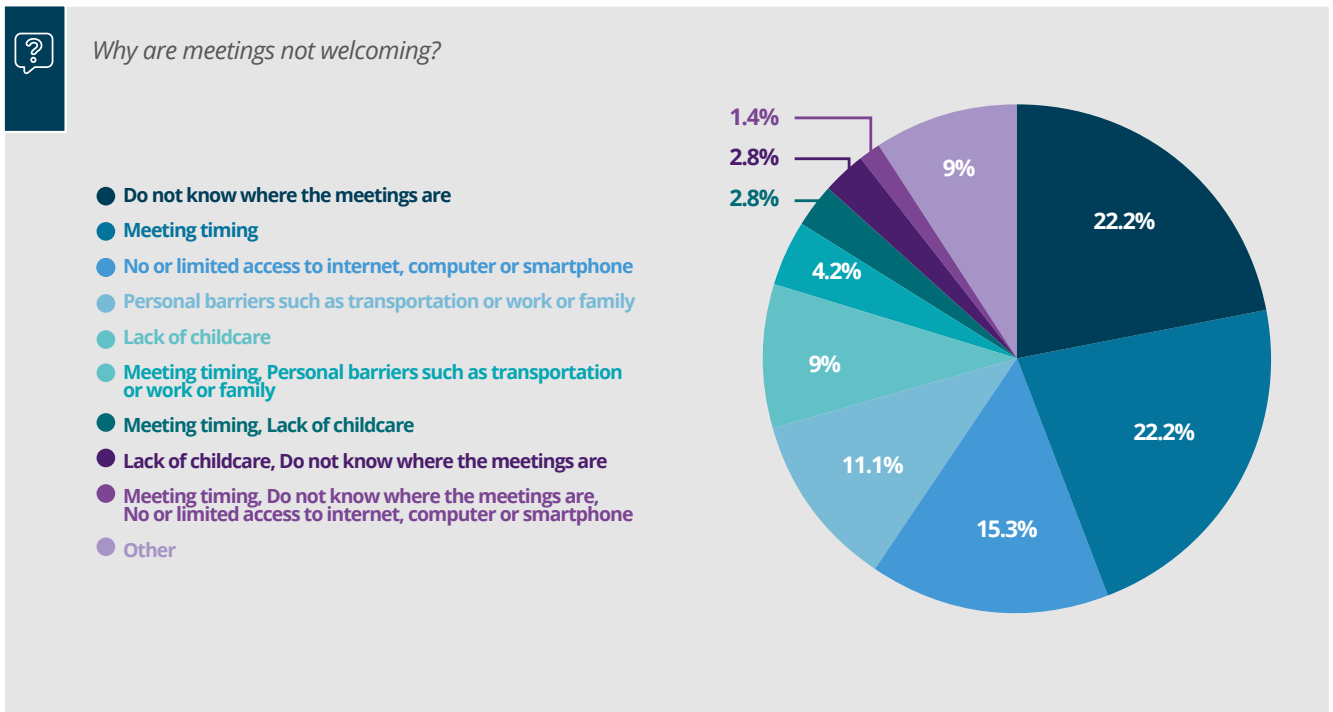
Survey respondents highlighted opportunities for enhancing participation, suggesting increased accessibility, more welcoming meetings, and expanded avenues for making a meaningful impact.



# Key Findings

## Barriers to participation

Respondents mentioned various reasons for meetings not being accessible, including timing, location, and language barriers.

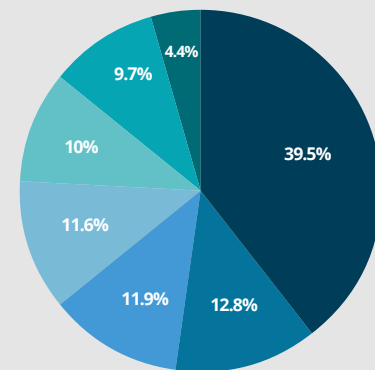


Nearly a quarter of respondents reported feeling unable to get involved or heard in shaping new development projects



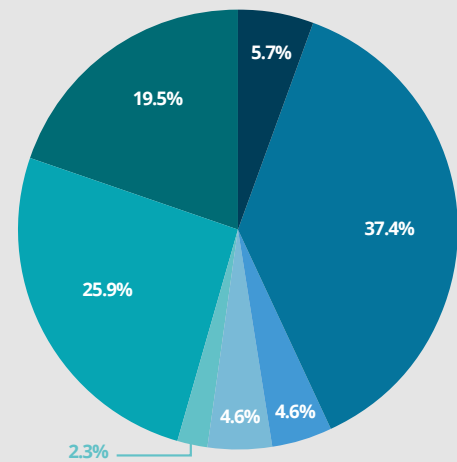
*What most prevents your participation in development projects?*

- Do not have the time
- Meetings provide limited opportunity to make an impact
- Meetings are not welcoming
- Not interested in development projects
- Meetings are not accessible
- Negative prior experience
- Other



*Why do meetings provide limited opportunity to make an impact?*

- The meetings are not effective, Do not like how the meetings are organized
- The meetings are not effective
- Do not think people will listen to me, The meetings are not effective, Do not like how the meetings are organized
- Do not think people will listen to me, The meetings are not effective
- Do not think people will listen to me, Do not like how the meetings are organized
- Do not think people will listen to me
- Do not like how the meetings are organized



# Survey Demographics

- The survey received responses from 39 unique zip codes throughout Massachusetts.
  - Approximately 56.41% of these zip codes are located within the Greater Boston area.
  - The remaining 43.59% of the zip codes are situated elsewhere within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
- Respondents varied in age, with a range from 20 to 46 years old.
- The survey reached 1,396 respondents and showcased a wide range of gender identities.
- The survey participants represented a broad spectrum of ethnic and racial backgrounds.
- The survey included responses from both renters and homeowners.

