

# Cesar Chavez Robert Street Development Planning Community Engagement Survey - 2011

**Question 1. Tell us about you: (Check all that apply.)**

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
I am a resident of the West Side neighborhood.	81.7%	76
I own a business in the West Side neighborhood.	4.3%	4
I am a frequent customer in the District del Sol Commercial Corridor.	24.7%	23
Other (please specify)	11.8%	11
	<b>answered question</b>	<b>93</b>
	<b>skipped question</b>	<b>7</b>

**Other:** Volunteer Services for the West Side neighborhood  
 Live a couple of blocks from West Side and frequent the area often.  
 Member of Cinco Planning and vendor to REDA  
 I work in District del Sol  
 I like to play games  
 semi-frequent customer --am trying to get to use it more often.  
 Former Board Member at REDA  
 Work with a nonprofit on West Side  
 I am a resident of South St. Paul  
 Volunteer  
 I am an executive at a business in District del Sol

**Question 2. What goods and services do you currently shop for in District del Sol?(Check all that apply.)**

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
groceries	57.7%	56
clothing	11.3%	11
hardware	6.2%	6
restaurants	81.4%	79
hair salon	10.3%	10
laundry/dry cleaning	7.2%	7
gifts	16.5%	16
entertainment	17.5%	17
fitness center	6.2%	6
bank	16.5%	16
drugstore	11.3%	11
auto parts	14.4%	14
Other (please specify)		19
	<b>answered question</b>	<b>97</b>
	<b>skipped question</b>	<b>3</b>

**Other:** auto repair (5), Neighborhood House (3), bakery (2), liquor, coffee shop

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**Question 3. What goods and services must you find outside the immediate neighborhood? (Check all that apply.)**

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
groceries	60.0%	54
clothing	67.8%	61
hardware	51.1%	46
restaurants	25.6%	23
hair salon	27.8%	25
laundry/dry cleaning	28.9%	26
gifts	37.8%	34
entertainment	57.8%	52
fitness center	37.8%	34
bank	51.1%	46
drugstore	53.3%	48
auto parts	25.6%	23
Why?		40
	<b>answered question</b>	<b>90</b>
	<b>skipped question</b>	<b>10</b>

**Why?** Not enough variety

Organic food unavailable, showboat entertainment seasonal

Everything is more affordable on Robert St. in West St. Paul

Business clothing is not readily available

The area is dirty and unappealing.

few or none available locally

West side is very limited to the services & quality i.e. prices,varieties,

Selection

There is no entertainment in this area.

Expanded selection of groceries and hardware.

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**Question 4. What types of retail services would you prefer to have in District del Sol? (Number in order of priority 1-5. 1 is the highest priority.)**

Answer Options	1	2	3	4	5	Response Count
groceries	27	12	16	7	17	79
clothing	5	9	15	10	22	61
hardware	8	17	10	7	12	54
restaurants	26	16	11	5	11	69
hair salon	7	8	8	13	13	49
laundry/dry cleaning	8	15	8	11	12	54
gifts	6	14	16	10	15	61
entertainment	20	22	12	7	14	75
fitness center	12	16	15	6	10	59
bank	14	11	16	8	14	63
drugstore	17	13	17	10	12	69
auto parts	10	8	6	7	11	42
Other (please specify)						21
						<b>answered question 100</b>
						<b>skipped question 0</b>

**Other:** Auto care, activities for youth, daycare, dance studio, boutiques, galleries, grocery store with more variety, coffee shop, health food co-op, farmers market, restaurants with more variety, entertainmet venues

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**Question 5. What types of housing are needed in District del Sol?(Number in order of priority 1-5. 1 is the highest priority.)**

Answer Options	1	2	3	4	5	Response Count
housing for families with children	42	15	10	6	9	82
housing for elders/seniors	14	22	20	6	7	69
housing for single adults	15	19	18	11	6	69
housing for artists	13	20	16	4	15	68
needs(please specify follow by the number	6	16	13	13	12	60
Other (please specify)						10
						<b>answered question 93</b>
						<b>skipped question 7</b>

**Other:** What is "artist" housing?

I don't think we need any of these. This is a business district.  
 More apartments to attract college students and working young adults.  
 Housing for families with children. With OWNERSHIP not rental!  
 For stability... not special interest, welfare housing...  
 Autism

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**Question 6. How do you travel to District del Sol?(Choose one for each type of transportation.)**

Answer Options	frequently	seldom	never	Response Count
Drive	70	15	3	88
Walk	40	25	13	78
Bus	9	23	37	69
Bike	16	28	27	71
Other	7	4	18	29
Other (please specify)				1
		<i>answered question</i>		<b>95</b>
		<i>skipped question</i>		<b>5</b>

**Other:** Scoot

**Question 7. What physical changes to District del Sol would promote biking?**

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
dedicated bike lanes	60.0%	57
dedicated bike parking	47.4%	45
bike boulevards/green ways	66.3%	63
Other (please specify)	21.1%	20
	<i>answered question</i>	<b>95</b>
	<i>skipped question</i>	<b>5</b>

**Other:** Ways to bike from the top of the bluff to the base of the bluff.

Educate the community on the benefits of biking

Designated path from the river road bike route into the heart of del sol

A gas voucher or tax credit or store discount based on cycling distance monitors

Biking and bike infrastructure is important, but don't go overboard.

The corner of Robert St. and Caesar Chavez is scary!

Bike path on streets don't cut it.

Traffic calming, control red crossing

Coffee shop

**Question 8. If you drive, are you able to find a parking space within a comfortable walking distance of your**

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
always	40.0%	36
frequently	24.4%	22
sometimes	28.9%	26
seldom	6.7%	6
	<i>answered question</i>	<b>90</b>
	<i>skipped question</i>	<b>10</b>

## Cesar Chavez Robert Street Development Planning Community Engagement Survey - 2011

### Question 9. How do you feel as a pedestrian crossing Cesar Chavez St?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
no problem crossing the street	26.5%	26
a little tense crossing the street	54.1%	53
very tense crossing the street	21.4%	21
Please describe in your own words:		37
	<b>answered question</b>	<b>98</b>
	<b>skipped question</b>	<b>2</b>

**Describe:** No cross walk anywhere between Wabasha and Robert.  
 It's a little tense in a car, I can imagine pedestrians to be very tense.  
 Scared to Death  
 Never sure if cars will stop  
 Concerned about kids crossing alone  
 I'd like to see the footbridge.

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### Question 10. How do you feel as a pedestrian crossing Robert St?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
no problem crossing the street	23.5%	23
a little tense crossing the street	53.1%	52
very tense crossing the street	25.5%	25
Please describe in your own words:		32
	<b>answered question</b>	<b>98</b>
	<b>skipped question</b>	<b>2</b>

**Describe:** People zoom down the Viaduct at 40+ miles per hour  
 Crossing lights change too fast  
 People coming in all direction  
 BETTER LIGHING NEON SIGNS

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# Cesar Chavez Robert Street Development Planning

## Community Engagement Survey - 2011

Question 11. What improvements do you think are important in Parque Castillo? (Number in order of priority 1-5. 1 is the highest priority.)

Answer Options	1	2	3	4	5	Response Count
parking	13	10	10	6	14	53
bandshell	12	10	15	8	14	59
community gathering place	20	18	12	6	14	70
play equipment serving ages 0-5	13	15	14	6	13	61
play equipment serving ages 6-12	14	13	15	7	17	66
water feature (i.e. fountain or splash pad)	15	10	18	9	23	75
more picnic tables	15	9	12	14	16	66
public restrooms	14	16	15	4	21	70
food carts or concession stand	11	9	21	13	16	70
public art installation	11	11	20	8	20	70
community garden space	22	8	12	10	17	69
Comments or other ideas:						25
					<i>answered question</i>	<b>90</b>
					<i>skipped question</i>	<b>10</b>

### Comments:

Art is wonderful but for the family based demographic less interest than say a splash pond.

The Gym because it helps us to be healthy.

The park's close proximity to a liquor store does not lend it to alot of these things. More patrols would be necessary to ensure that any new facilities were not misused, defaced, etc.

All of the above are important but not necessarily best uses for Parque de Castillo. I'd like to see a hard surface on the east end of the park with that and part of the street on the north side closed for a farmer's market on weekends. Opinion (obviously): La Placita would be better off as outdoor garden dining for a restaurant, or built-in as a new, two-story retail/residential. Move its current community building functions to Parque Castillo--a further reason to add a hard (attractive brick) surface to the east end of the park.

River's Edge Academy is interested in collaborating to start and maintain a community garden!

I don't really use the park.

I have no opinion about the park - but I like public art as it gives our neighborhood character.

Do not add any extra roads--already surrounded by 2 roads--having a 3rd would cut it off

Safety!! mechanisms Grills!!

No community garden space please.

NOT parking

security

public art installation - with winter interest

Never go there

A nice garden area would make it look great and more welcoming to people.

People don't recognize this park

Public movies

street for emergency vehivle access to increased safety

community garden space - some for veggio growing; fruit trees possibly & ornamentals & natives

Put in a fountain that picks up on Mexican theme. Let John N. to fund it - he loves the west side. :)

Better maintenance of the existing features, flower beds, and lawn.

# Cesar Chavez Robert Street Development Planning

## Community Engagement Survey - 2011

**Question 12. Are there improvements you'd like to see more of in District del Sol's public spaces?  
(Number in order of priority 1-5. 1 is the highest priority.)**

Answer Options	1	2	3	4	5	Response Count
trash cans	18	16	14	8	15	71
public art	17	13	14	15	17	76
benches	14	14	20	12	13	73
bus shelters	9	13	15	11	7	55
street lights	19	15	6	12	13	65
street food vendors	12	16	18	6	13	65
outdoor eating spots	17	22	8	17	10	74
flower gardens	19	19	11	10	22	81
hanging flower baskets	10	9	20	8	12	59
community food gardens	20	22	6	6	11	65
Comments or other ideas						16
					<i>answered question</i>	<b>98</b>
					<i>skipped question</i>	<b>2</b>

### Comments:

it is awesome

Again, the neighborhood is dirty and unappealing. Cleaning it up should be the first step.

Please remember when business grows communities grow. Do grow gardens (WSCo is waiting their time doing that) Grow BUSINESS!!

Anything that would change the tone from one of neglect and therefore one that's open to abuse, to one of a shared responsibility for a bright and working community would be an improvement. Vacant buildings and open parks without lighting or use do not make for a vibrant community but attract similar situations with people who neglect.

Flowers, flowers, flowers. More screening of business dumpsters.

No more bizarre and hideous, random wood, chain-link or

I love the idea of having more outdoor street vendors. I also love the public art

that REDA and others have helped to establish in district del sol. I would love

to see more, but what has been done looks to see more, but what has been done looks really nice.

The streetscapes along Cesar Chavez and Robert are horrible. Everything is designed at the scale of autos--virtually nothing at human scale. More trees and vegetation, public art, etc. to separate

pedestrians from cars and create pedestrian spaces from cars and create more of a human scale will help!

Bus shelter on Robert/E.Isabel is a traffic hazard (cannot see through advertisements).

NO trash cans and community food gardens please.

Use El Rio's fields for skating rinks in winter

Having more eating spots outside would help promote. People to sit outside and enjoy the area.

Fix sidewalks

recycling!

I would like to see a place for teens to hang out & have fun, like a club or teen space

community oriented artwork incorporated in lamp posts / benches / etc.

Community food gardens are great, but not on Cesar Chavez or Robert Street.

I'd say, concentrate on attracting viable, needed businesses, described above.

## **Cesar Chavez Robert Street Development Planning Community Engagement Survey - 2011**

A restaurant with a sidewalk cafe would be fantastic. The Boca's patio does a fantastic business.

Get the viable businesses, then the trash cans and bus stops will be needed and will follow. Street food vendors would be ok for around El Burrito and the park, if it is designed and created to bring folks into the area.

Businesses should come first. Lets fill those empty store fronts. To do that, we need small businesses that are practical and viable, along with a couple of anchor businesses, as described above.

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