



**Minutes of Meeting  
CITIZENS' EFFICIENCY COMMISSION  
August 12, 2015**

**ATTENDANCE**

**Citizens' Efficiency Commissioners**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Larry Bomke	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Robert Plunk
<input type="checkbox"/>	Josh Collins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	J.D. Sudeth
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Karen Hasara	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Joan Walters
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mike Murphy	<input type="checkbox"/>	Robert Wesley
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jackie Newman		

**Others:**

Ashley Kirzinger, PhD.,-- University of Illinois at Springfield  
Dominic Vespa, Trustee, Riverton FPD  
Norm Sims – SSCRPC  
Jeff Fulgenzi - SSCRPC  
Gail Weiskopf- SSCRPC

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Joan Walters called the meeting of the Citizens' Efficiency Commission to order.

**II. ROLL CALL AND APPROVAL OF ABSENCES**

Chair Walters announced that commissioners Mr. Josh Collins and Mr. Robert Wesley were not in attendance for the meeting.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chair Walters asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the July 8, 2015, regular meeting. Mr. Mike Murphy moved to approve the amended minutes. Mr. Robert Plunk seconded the motion, and the amended minutes were approved.

**IV. INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chair Walters welcomed Mr. Dominic Vespa trustee on the Riverton Fire Department and introduced Dr. Ashley Kirzinger, from the University of Illinois.

**V. PRESENTATION: Dr. Ashley Kirzinger**

**The Results from the 2015 Sangamon County Citizen Survey**

Dr. Ashley Kirzinger, Director at University of Illinois, Springfield Survey Research Office part of the Center for State Policy and Leadership reported the survey is conducted every two years and is a quality of life survey of the citizens of Springfield. The scientific survey is a probability sampling. Dr. Kirzinger discussed the methodology and scope used to acquire a strong scientific



sample, the major findings, and the survey experiment within the instrument to best inform the Citizen's Efficiency Commission. Please see attached copy of the Citizen's Survey and presentation.

**VI. DISCUSSION OF TASKFORCE WORK PLANS**

Chair Walters asked the commissioner to report on each of their work plans.

**A. Regional Leadership Council as Strategic Partner - Higher Ed Institutions as Strategic Partner – Robert Plunk & Jackie Newman**

Mr. Plunk reported that the RLC had met on July 29<sup>th</sup>; about twelve cities and villages were in attendance and Brian McFadden from Sangamon County. Katie Hahn from Levi Ray & Shoup, Inc gave a proposal for a website for the council. Topics of discussion were aggregation presented by Mark Pruitt, the impact from gaming and motor fuel tax revenues being withheld by the state, and funds available for communities in the metropolitan planning organization (MPO) area that are less than 10,000 and are not included with the Springfield Area Transportation Plan.

After much discussion, the commissioners feel fellow mayors need to engage and advise Mayors who are not participating and recommend that Mayors send a representative to participate in the event Mayors have a conflict. Chair Walters noted the support the SSCRPC brings to the table and suggested the RLC needs full staffs support.

The next RLC meeting will be held Wednesday Oct 28<sup>th</sup>, 5:30-7:00 p.m. the location is to be announced.

Mr. Plunk noted that he had not contacted Brian Cuffle concerning speaking at a CEC meeting.

**B. Sewer Transfer Study - Chair Walters & Mike Murphy**

Chair Walters noted that she will be meeting with Mayor Jim Langfelder next week to discuss several issues including the sewer study.

Chair Walters commented on the Peoria meeting of the One Water Committee that she attended with Mr. Jeff Fulgenzi. It was a very persuasive meeting.

**C. Regional Policing Study – Karen Hasara & Sen. Larry Bomke**

Hon. Karen Hasara explained that the County had agreed to pay for the study to be completed by the International Chiefs of Police Association in Washington, DC. Assistance with data share will be key in this study; Mr. McFadden has spoken with the Sherriff Wes Barr. Hon. Hasara asks Chair Walters to speak with Mayor Langfelder and City Council to



explain the need for the City's cooperation and that the study will be targeted to assess opportunities for improved law enforcement service delivery in Sangamon County.

Hon. Hasara reported on the Sheriff's Strategy Plan meeting. The objective for the long range plan is delivery of services. The attendees were diverse, knowledgeable and informative.

**D. Developing Legislative Linkages - Karen Hasara & Sen. Larry Bomke**

Hon. Hasara reported that Governor Rauner Task Force next meeting would be Monday, August 24, from 10:00 to noon at the University of Illinois in Champaign.

**E. Developing Linkages with Townships - J.D. Sudeth & Mike Murphy**

Mr. J.D. Sudeth reported that he would invite Mr. Dick Treat and Mr. Marty Mau from the Township Association to the November CEC meeting.

Mr. Sudeth stated he passed the letter that Treasurer Tom Cavanagh sent to the Sangamon County Township officials' regarding the tax collection system the Treasurer manages, to the Farm Bureau while noting the Farm Bureau will be discussing the Tax Collection process at their next board meeting.

**F. Developing Linkages with Fire/EMS – Robert Plunk & Robert Wesley**

Guest Mr. Dominic Vespa trustee on the Riverton Fire Department reported on the Annual Conference of the Illinois Fire Protection Districts held in Peoria at the end of June. There is a new "Text in Laws" book which covers all the new laws.

Mr. Plunk reported the Fire/ EMS sub-committee of the Regional Leadership Council met in Chatham on July 15<sup>th</sup>. The discussion was about the criticism by the Fire Chiefs, in their opinion, the trustees lack a lot of training and understanding of what their responsibilities are and what is expected of the department generally. The relationship between the Fire Chiefs and trustees vary from district to district. Training for trustees is available but is not currently mandated or widely utilized.

**G. Create Network of Business Leaders - J.D. Sudeth & Josh Collins**

No report was given.

**VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Chair Walters discussed speakers for future meetings: September- Chief Ken Fustin Fire EMS discussion, October-Jim Cimarossa Law Enforcement discussion, change of meeting date in November to the 18<sup>th</sup>. November- Townships and Treasurer Cavanagh Collectors



and December has been saved for a Business Topic if needed. The January Retreat to be discussed at a later date.

**VIII. OTHER SPECIAL REPORTS**

**A. Staff Report**

No report was given.

**IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Chair Walters asked if there were any public comments.

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Walters asked if there were any further comments. There being none, she called for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Murphy motioned to adjourn. Mr. Sudeth seconded the motion. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gail Weiskopf  
Acting as Recording Secretary



**Attachment A**

# The Citizen

*A collaborative project between the  
Community Foundation for the Land of  
Lincoln, United Way of Central Illinois, and  
UIS' Center for State Policy & Leadership*

Presented by Dr. Ashley Kirzinger  
Director, Survey Research Office



<http://go.uis.edu/citizen>

# Presentation Outline

- Methodology and Scope
- Major Findings
- Consolidating v. Combining
- Insight for CEC's Recommendations

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# Scope

- 100 different questions on nine topical areas: education, health, culture & recreation, government & civic participation, social well-being, public safety, environment, infrastructure, and economy

<http://go.uis.edu/citizen>



# Methodology

- 576 completed telephone interviews
  - 32% completed by landline numbers
  - 68% completed by cell phones
- Overall response rate for the survey is 13.2%, the cooperation rate is 23.2%, and the margin of error is +/- 4.08 percentage points.
- Average interview lasted 33 minutes
- April 15-May 18, 2015

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# Sample reflects Population

- 52% Female
- 83% White/12% African-American
- 2% Hispanic/Latino(a)
- 33% of those over the age of 24, have a Bachelor's degree or higher
- 5% identify as LGBT
- 15% have a disability
- 51% are married
- 49% born in Sangamon County



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# Major Findings

- Tax Support
- Evaluations of local leaders
- Health status of citizens
- Personal economic situation
- Overall Sangamon County evaluations

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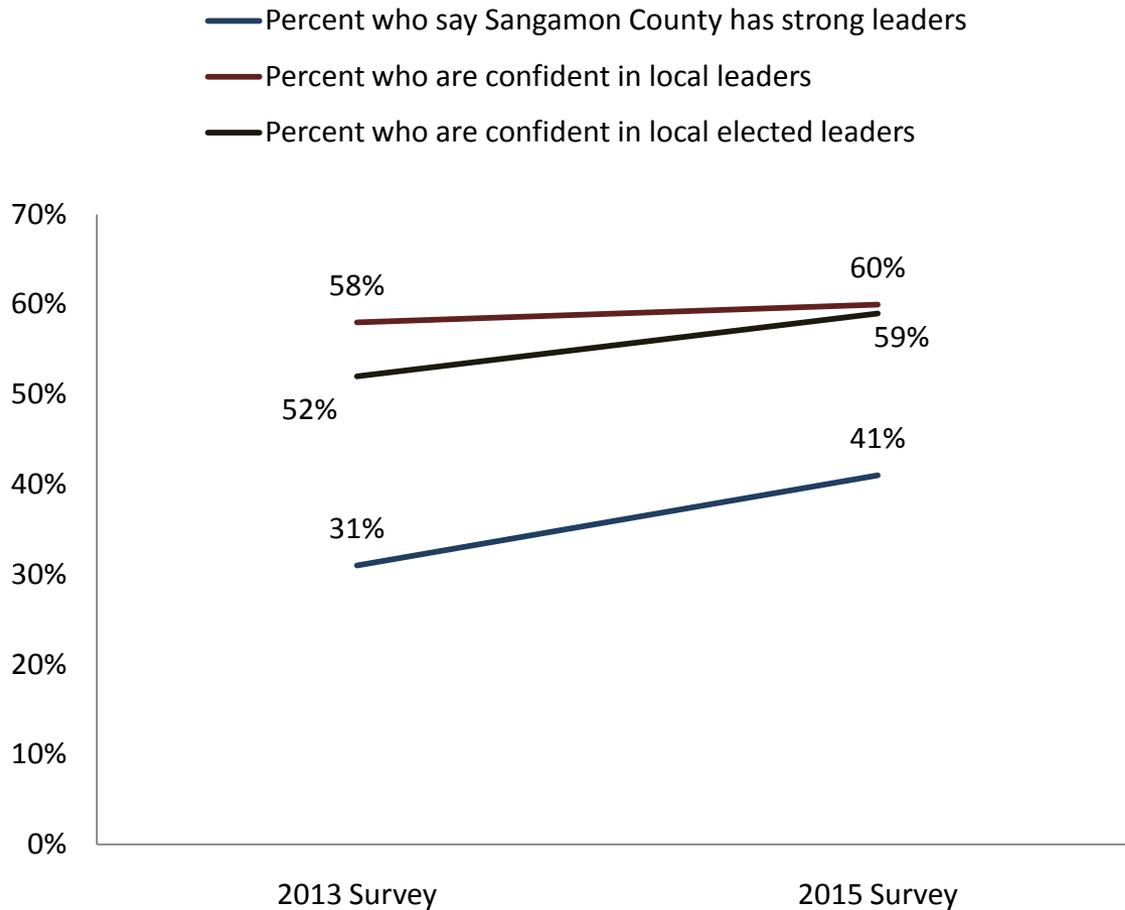


# Tax Support?

- Would you support an increase in property taxes, increase in local sales taxes, or not support any tax increase to support local schools?
- 22 percent support an increase in property taxes
- 39 percent support an increase in local sales taxes
- 39 percent do not support any tax increases.
  
- This is consistent with 28 percent who report that the biggest change they would like to see in their local school district is increased funding to schools.



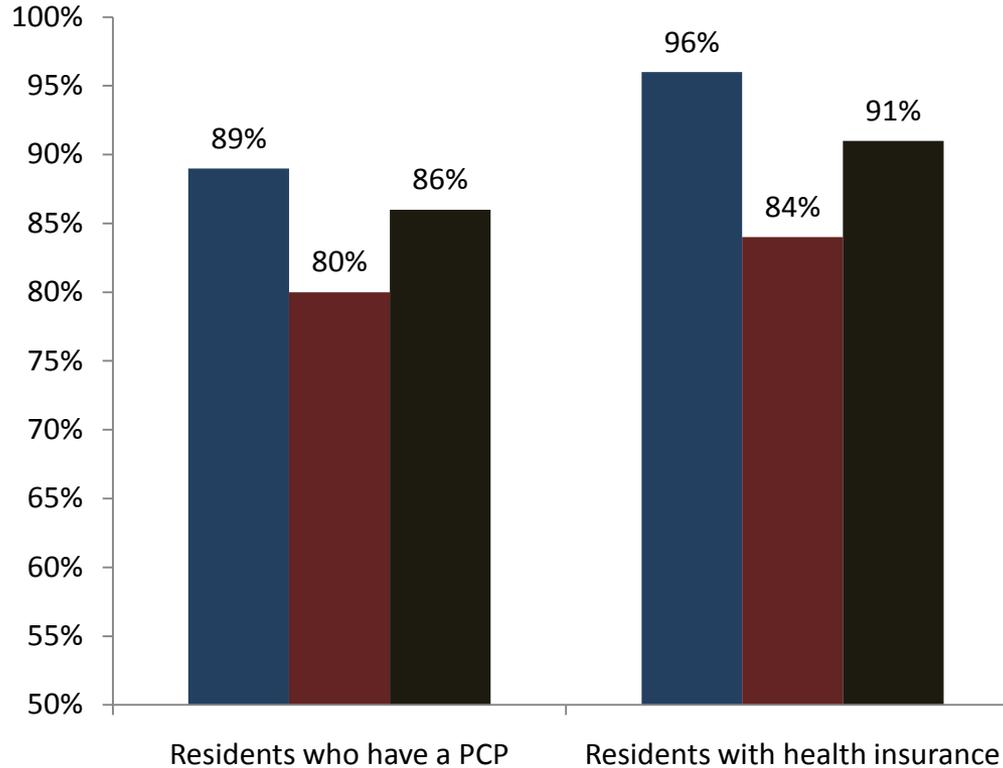
# Evaluations of local leadership



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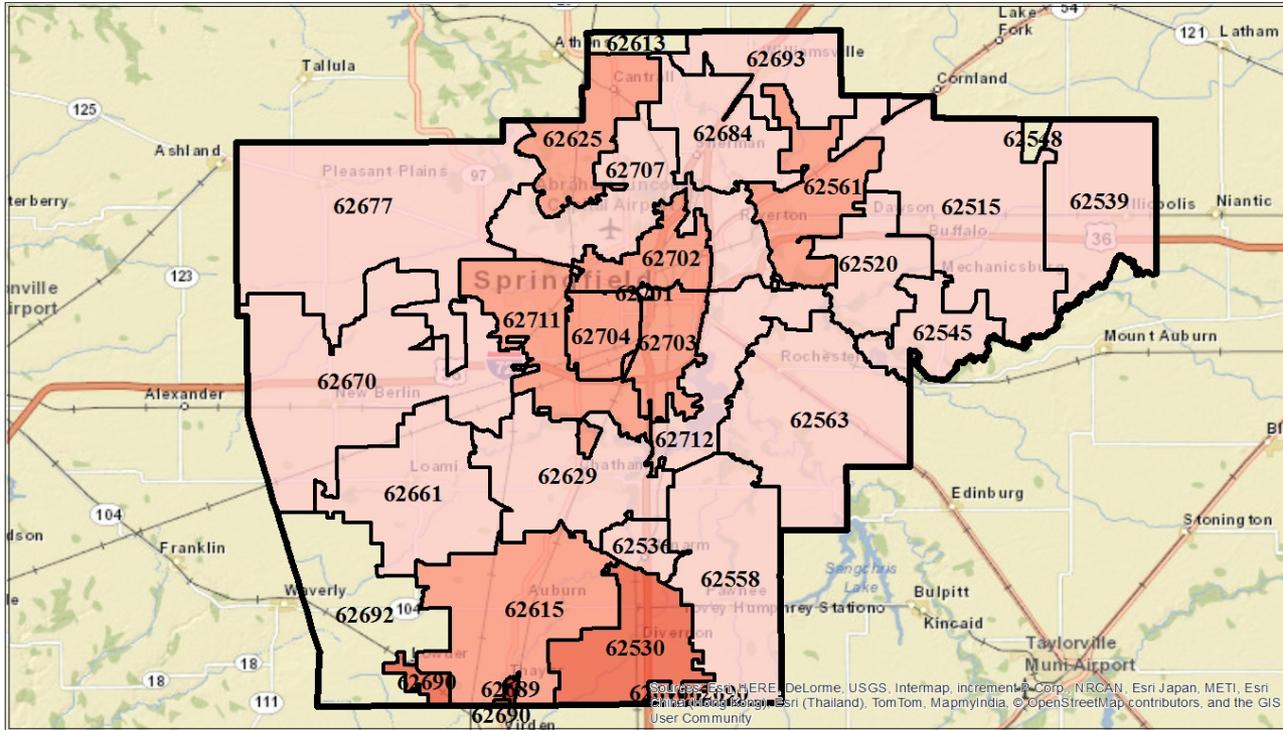
## Illinois' Changing Health Care System



- 2015 Sangamon County Citizen Survey
- 2013 Illinois BRFSS
- 2013 Sangamon Sangamon County Citizen Survey



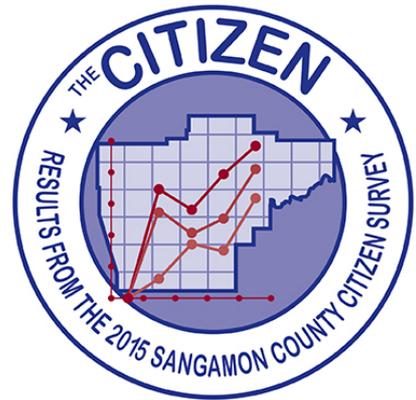
<http://go.uis.edu/citizen>



**Percent without Primary Care Provider (PCP)**

- 0% - 5%
- 6% - 17%
- 18% - 50%
- 51% - 100%

UNIVERSITY OF  
**ILLINOIS**  
SPRINGFIELD  
SURVEY RESEARCH OFFICE



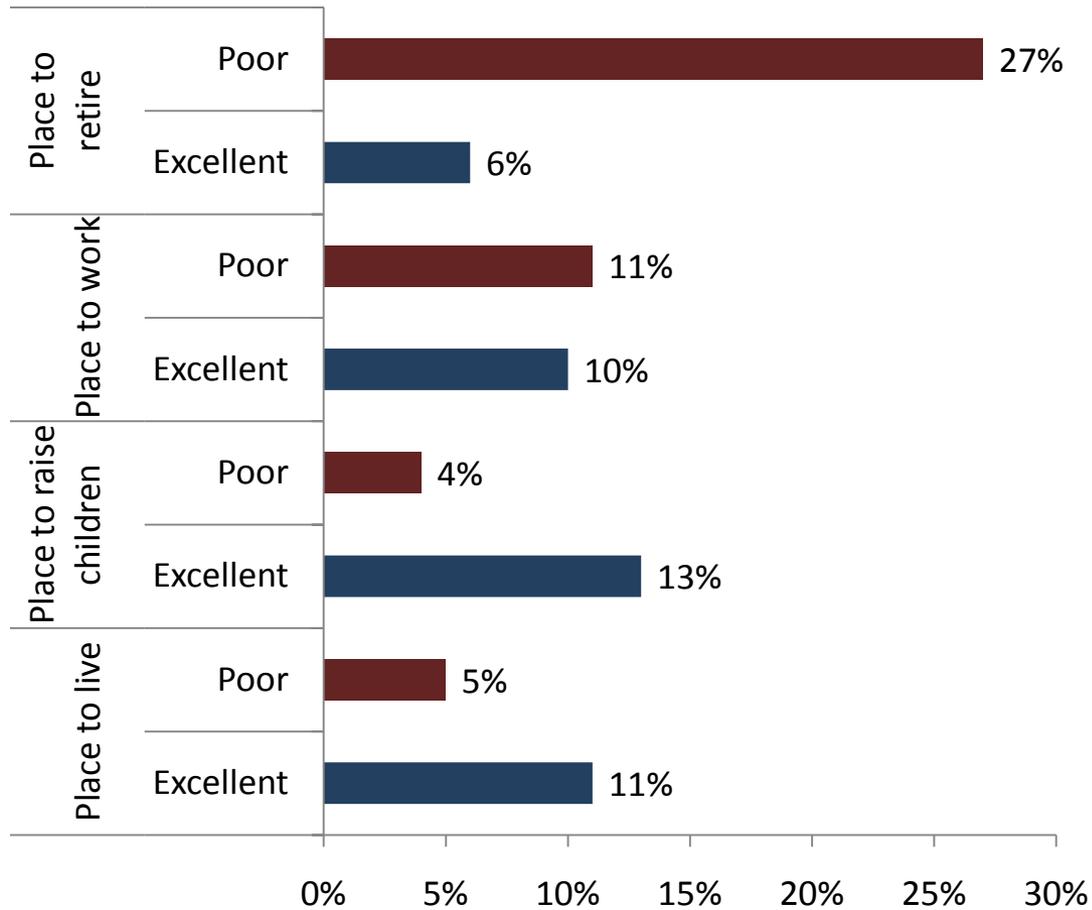
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# Personal economic conditions

- 4.7% of residents are unemployed and currently seeking employment.
- In 2013, 21% of employed residents reported they were underemployed in their current position. In 2015, it has decreased to 17%.
- Percent reporting their personal financial condition is “worse off” than it was 12 months ago has decreased from 21 percent in 2013 to 13 percent in 2015.
- No change in percent reporting that their personal finances are “better off.”



# Overall evaluations



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# Consolidating v. Combining

- 50% of sample got “combine”/ 50% got “consolidate”

	Local waste management services	Local government services
Support consolidation	33%	45%
Support combining	43%	51%

- Overall, using “combining” instead of “consolidating” results in more positive attitudes.



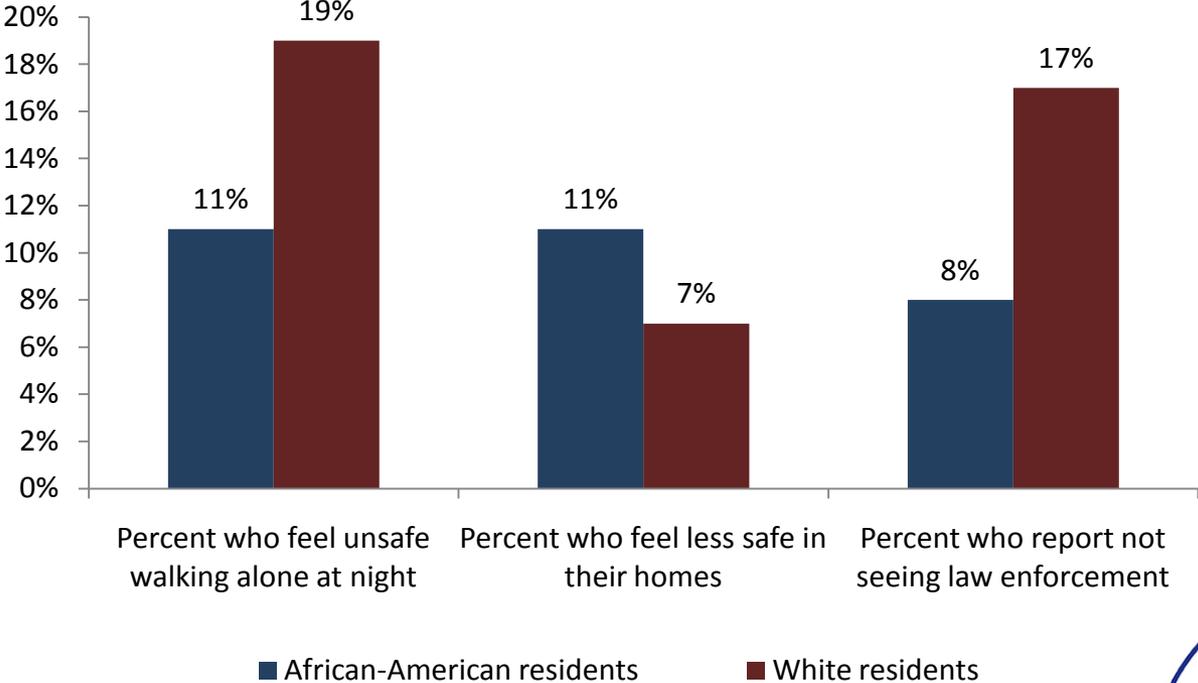
# Higher Education Recommendation

- 32% of residents have a bachelor's degree or advanced degree. Of those, 44% received it from a local college or university.
- 96% report that post-high schools institutions are important to the region.
- A higher percent (51% v. 36%) think that technical institutes, community colleges effectively prepare individuals for workforce compared to traditional higher education institutions.



# Law Enforcement Recommendations

### Perceptions of Public Safety



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# Recycling Recommendation

- 31% of residents think litter/improper trash disposal is a “big problem.”
- Residents living in 62703 are more likely to report that litter is a problem in their neighborhood/street.
- Only 11% of residents recycle at their home (national average is 58%).



# Transit-Pupil Transportation

- 54% of residents commute to work
  - Of those, less than 1 percent take a bus.
- 85.1% of residents report that they never take a SMTD bus.

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# CWLP Recommendation

- 75% support the creation of a citizen advisory board for CWLP.
- 13% oppose
- 12% don't know/refused

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# Where to find the report

<http://go.uis.edu/citizen>

Survey Research Office: (217) 206-6591

[sro@uis.edu](mailto:sro@uis.edu)

Dr. Ashley Kirzinger: (217) 206-7956

[akirz2@uis.edu](mailto:akirz2@uis.edu)

<http://go.uis.edu/citizen>

