



Cooksville Community Action Plan

2025 - 2028

Prepared by:



In partnership with:





We believe that if everything we do
in our cities is great for an 8 year old
and an 80 year old, then it will be
better for all people.

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Land Acknowledgement



We acknowledge that the land on which we are situated is the traditional territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishinaabe, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee, the Huron-Wendat, and Petun First Nations. These lands are the site of Treaty 13 and the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant — an agreement forged between the Anishinaabe Nation and the Haudenosaunee Confederacy to peaceably share resources around the Great Lakes.

We are mindful of broken covenants, violations of human and treaty rights, and affirm the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. It is our responsibility to actively interrogate and challenge settler-colonial systems of oppression through our work. We are committed to strengthening our relationships with Indigenous Peoples and Lands.

Vision Statement

WE ENVISION COOKSVILLE to be a neighbourhood that is resilient and culturally responsive amid change, where well-being, belonging, and cultural connection are at the heart of daily life for all residents.

A neighbourhood where there are accessible community services and spaces that foster connections, and affordable housing options that help current residents thrive amid rapid neighbourhood changes.

A thriving community with good jobs and robust small businesses that are financially stable and where residents have access to a range of supports to help them improve their health and well-being including access to healthy food and mental health services.

Cooksville Background & Context

Cooksville is a neighbourhood undergoing rapid transformation. The Cooksville Community Action Plan, supported by the United Way of Greater Toronto, is a proactive investment in community planning and local capacity building that aims to address and respond to key challenges and opportunities in this unique and ever evolving community's built and social environments.

- Cooksville is one of Mississauga's most multicultural neighbourhoods. 65% of the population was born outside of Canada.
- The average income of Cooksville residents is lower than the average of Mississauga residents.
- Cooksville is undergoing significant development growth fueled by large scale transit infrastructure investments.

As part of the Cooksville Community Action Plan, 8 80 Cities worked closely with Indus Community Services, United Way of Greater Toronto, and the Cooksville Community Collaborative, to develop an engagement approach that would build upon and leverage existing local planning and engagement activities to date and target engagement to communities and stakeholders that reflect the diversity of the population especially those most vulnerable to the impacts of rapid urban transformation.

Our collective goal was to create a Cooksville Community Action Plan (CCAP) that would align with and directly respond and deliver on actions highlighted in locally developed neighbourhood-based frameworks, social charters, and ongoing community engagements and priority setting exercises. Additional partners may continue to join this work to help drive the CCAP's implementation forward and ensure a broad, inclusive base of support.





Action Area #1:

Community Space & Services



“We need more places to meet friends.”

As Cooksville undergoes significant changes with the construction of the Hurontario LRT and ongoing urban development in response to expected population growth and change in demographics, the importance of accessible community spaces and services has come to the forefront. Residents have highlighted the need for inclusive and adaptable spaces that foster connection, belonging, and well-being. There is a growing call for services that address local needs, such as recreational programs, mental health support, and spaces for cultural and social gatherings. Community members envision a future where Cooksville remains a welcoming and vibrant neighborhood, with equitable access to resources that create the conditions for residents to thrive together.

While it is a vibrant neighborhood with active community initiatives, its crime rate is reported to be higher than the Mississauga average, indicating room for improvement. Community safety efforts and collaborations among community groups

play a vital role in addressing these concerns and ensuring the area remains welcoming and secure for residents.

Over the past five years, Cooksville has seen some discussions relating to its community spaces and services, aiming to enhance the quality of life for its residents. The most significant one was the Cooksville Community Hub, which was a collaborative initiative involving multiple community-based, private, and municipal organizations. The vision for the Hub collaborative was to offer a range of activities, programs, and services, such as recreation, education, and community events, celebrating the area’s diversity and vibrancy. Some of the partners in this initiative include Indus Community Services, United Way of Greater Toronto, The Dam, Mississauga Public Library, Cooksville BIA, Heart Comonos, The City of Mississauga, TAS Impact, Process, Peel Police, CMHA Peel, T.L. Kennedy Secondary School, and The Region of Peel.

Objectives

What do you want to achieve over the next 3 years?

Improve access to permanent and temporary community spaces for Cooksville residents to enjoy low-cost or free recreational, cultural, and social programs and opportunities.

Make public spaces safer and foster the feeling of pride and belonging in Cooksville.

Actions & Timelines

What are the activities you will undertake to meet the identified objectives?

SHORT TO MEDIUM TERM (1-2 years)

- 1.1. Activate existing underused spaces or new development sites with temporary programming to improve health outcomes and social connection.

SHORT TERM (up to 1 year)

- 1.2. Conduct a space and services study to assess community and partner needs, service gaps & opportunities and space needs, including a mapping of community space and service assets.

SHORT TO MEDIUM TERM (1-2 years)

- 1.3. Create a Community Hub Plan based on the community space & services study, incorporating business cases and clear criteria to evaluate the feasibility of different hub options.

Interdependencies & Connections

What existing strategies, plans, or research are the actions aligned to?

- Vision Cooksville: Community Recommendation #2.3 - Encourage Publicly Accessible Private Open Spaces
- Future Directions: Recreation Plan 2024 - Recommendation #12 - Identify equity-deserving populations in Mississauga and work with representative groups to assess needed supports, gaps in service delivery and co-develop appropriate programs and services.
- Cooksville Sustainable Neighborhood Action Plan (SNAP)
- TAS Connecting Cooksville
- Vision Cooksville: Community Recommendation #3.2 - Create a Cooksville Community Facility
- Cooksville Hub Feasibility Assessment Initial Review
- City of Mississauga Future Directions: Recreation Plan – Recommendation # 7 to explore opportunities to increase access to multi-purpose program space in underserved communities by leveraging non-traditional spaces (e.g., condo developers, community service providers, private sector, etc.)

Potential Partners

Who may lead or support these efforts?

United Way Greater Toronto, Indus community Services, 8 80 Cities (TowerPOPS), Heart Comonos

United Way Greater Toronto, Indus community Services, Cooksville Community Collaborative, Community service organizations in and adjacent to Cooksville

United Way Greater Toronto, Indus community Services, CP Planning, PLASP Early ON, The DAM (Develop, Assist, Mentor), City of Mississauga Community and Neighbourhood Development, Credit Valley Conservation

Success Indicators

What are the expected results and key targets?

- TAS lot (67 Hillcrest Ave) activated with 200 residents engaged (8 80 TowerPOPS)
- 2-3 sites in Cooksville that are either underused or part of new developments are activated
- Cooksville residents express an increase in their sense of belonging and sense of community ownership in local spaces
- A plan to sustain the impact of temporary activations

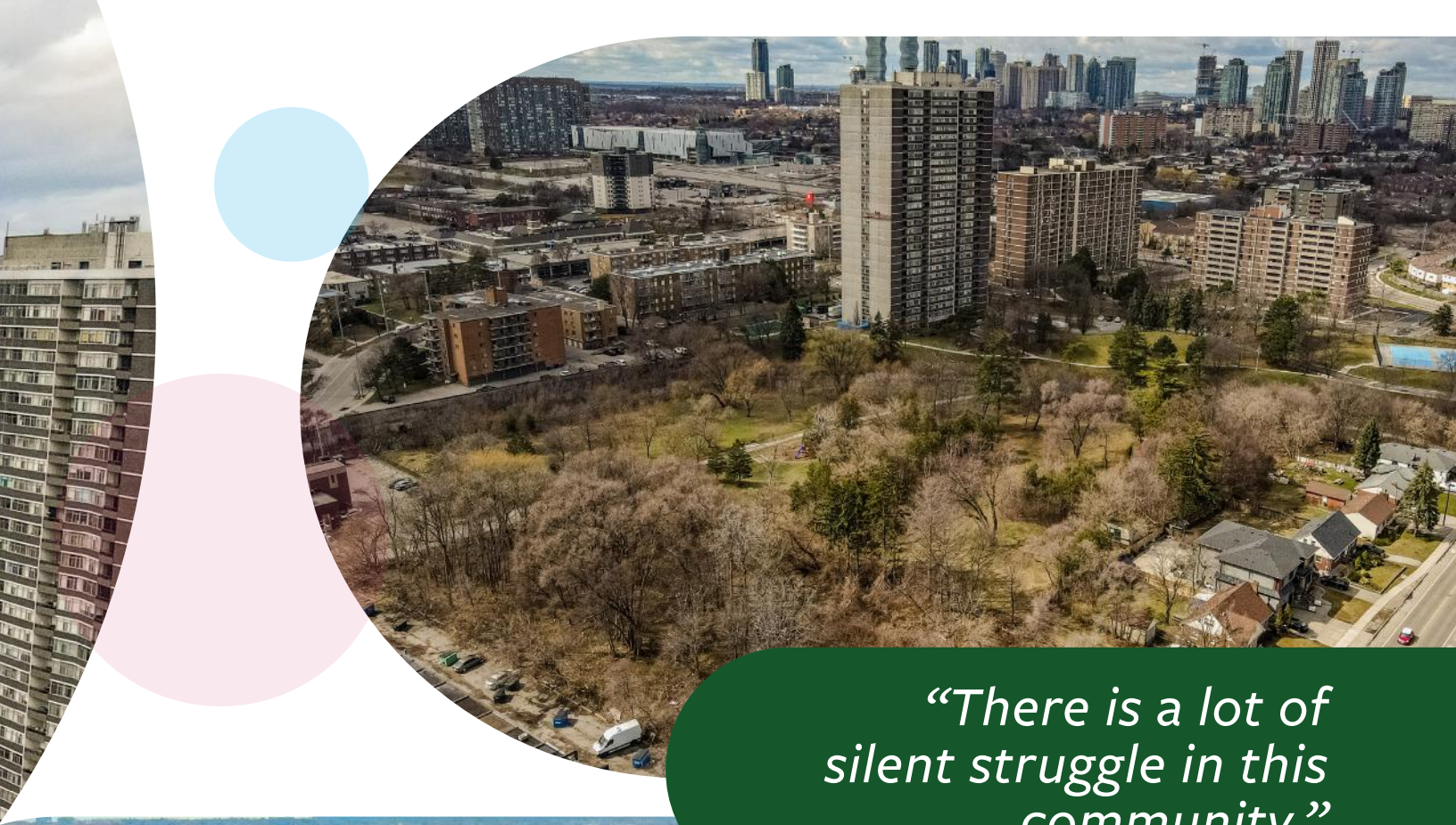
- An inventory of existing or planned spaces of non-profits and community centers, along with a clear understanding of current and anticipated community service and space needs and other recommendations for fostering a strong community service infrastructure in Cooksville
- Collaborate with 10 or more agencies to engage them in the space service study
- Identify the key space needs of organizations, including their requirements for size, location, accessibility, and functionality. Assess leasing issues such as lease terms, associated costs, and renewal options

- 5 to 10 community organizations or partners identified to be part of an action group to advance a community hub plan
- 1-2 possible community hub options identified based on the space and services study with associated cost implications
- A government relations agenda to engage all levels of government to secure buy-in and support for a Cooksville community hub
- A pre-development study is completed once a site is identified



Action Area #2:

Housing Stability



“There is a lot of silent struggle in this community.”



The construction of the Hurontario LRT, also known as the Hazel McCallion Line, and the rise in local development have brought forward important questions on how to protect existing housing and create new affordable housing in Cooksville. Through community interactions, residents have expressed their concerns about homelessness and how that is affecting the community. Overall, community members want the right to remain, grow, and thrive in Cooksville over the long term as the neighbourhood changes.

The City of Mississauga currently has the Growing Mississauga action plan in progress which aims to get more homes built by streamlining building approvals and making homes more affordable. The Province of Ontario set a goal of delivering 1.5 million homes over the next decade, which requires Mississauga’s housing target to be 120,000 new units. This means Mississauga will need about the same number of new homes in 10 years that the City was planning to deliver over 30 years.

Objectives

What do you want to achieve over the next 3 years?

Actions & Timelines

What are the activities you will undertake to meet the identified objectives?

Interdependencies & Connections

What existing strategies, plans, or research are the actions aligned to?

Address residential displacement and increase affordable housing options for current residents the feeling of pride and belonging in Cookville.

SHORT TERM (up to 1 year)

2.1. Build knowledge and awareness of residents and partners around community-based housing models (e.g., Community Land Trust) by incorporating cultural and equity focused considerations to evaluate community interest and financial viability of the models in Cookville.

- Vision Cookville: Community Recommendation #4.1 - Increase the Range of Housing Options Through New Development
- City of Mississauga's approach to encampments
- Growing Mississauga: An Action Plan for New Housing
- CP Planning – Exploring Community Land Trusts in Cookville report

SHORT TO MEDIUM TERM (1-2 years)

2.2. Build community knowledge around renovictions, eviction prevention and tenants' rights through resources and support to help tenants navigate their rights and housing options

- City of Mississauga's Renoviction By-Law Initiative

Potential Partners

Who may lead or support these efforts?

CP Planning (Community Land Trust), Services & Housing in the Province (SHIP), Canadian Mental Health Association Peel Dufferin (CMHA), Peel Alliance to End Homelessness PAEH, Regional of Peel - Housing Services Division

City of Mississauga (Renoviction By-Law Development), CP Planning, Cooksville Library/Open Window Hub, Services and Housing in the Province (SHIP), Peel Alliance to End Homelessness (PAEH), The Housing Help Centre, Canadian Mental Health Association Peel Dufferin (CMHA), Regional of Peel - Housing Services Division

Success Indicators

What are the expected results and key targets?

- Culturally responsive community engagement tools created
- At least 5-10 information and engagement sessions on community-based housing models and financing options conducted to determine whether the community-based housing models are financially viable specifically within the Cooksville context
- At least 75 residents and 30 partners participate in learning sessions

- 3-5 workshop sessions on renovictions, tenant rights and responsibilities in partnership with the Housing Support Network, local service providers, legal aid organizations, tenant advocacy groups and/or other relevant partners
- Develop a network of 50-100 peer ambassadors who can maintain and share community knowledge over the long term
- A tenant resource guide on renovictions and eviction prevention, reaching at least 200 households in Cooksville



Action Area #3:

Health, Well-being & Resilience



“There has been a lot of engagement in this community. What we need is action.”



As Cookeville evolves with increased urban development, the well-being of its residents remains a vital concern. Community members have emphasized the importance of accessible health and wellness services, including mental health resources, preventative care, and support for vulnerable populations. Many residents have expressed a desire for more public green spaces, recreational programs, and health-focused community initiatives to foster a healthier lifestyle. There is a collective aspiration to create a neighbourhood where physical, mental, and emotional well-being are prioritized, ensuring that all residents can lead fulfilling lives in a changing Cookeville. Community safety efforts and collaborations among community groups play a vital role in ensuring the area remains welcoming and secure for residents.

Objectives

What do you want to achieve over the next 3 years?

Enable better community access to support and services needed to maintain one's health and wellbeing.

Equip community with the awareness, tools and resources to respond to any future crisis, thereby building a resilient Cookville.

Actions & Timelines

What are the activities you will undertake to meet the identified objectives?

SHORT TERM (up to 1 year)

- 3.1. Develop a service coordination plan to enhance community access to neighbourhood-based supports such as mental health services, overdose support, nutritious food programs, financial literacy, housing supports, newcomer services, and more.

MEDIUM TERM (1-2 years)

- 3.2. Design a collaborative, neighbourhood-based food access initiative that builds long-term partnerships with local stakeholders (e.g. local businesses, developers, landlords, etc.)

MEDIUM TERM (1-2 years)

- 3.3. Equip community members and local stakeholders with the knowledge, tools, and skills to navigate various emergencies (e.g. floods, power outages, etc.) by leveraging and amplifying initiatives that advance neighbourhood resilience.

Interdependencies & Connections

What existing strategies, plans, or research are the actions aligned to?

- Cookville Sustainable Neighborhood Action Plan (SNAP) – Goal on Access to Fresh Food

- Cookville Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Plan (SNAP) – Goal 2 on Ready for Rain and Goal 5 on Climate Resilience and Local Leadership
- City of Mississauga Climate Change Action Plan: Action 19.5: Develop climate hubs to establish a centre for climate related training programs, information, tools, and networks

Potential Partners

Who may lead or support these efforts?

Indus Community Services, LAMP Community Health Services, Mental Health Association Peel Dufferin, (CMHA), PLASP Early ON, Services and Housing in the Province (SHIP), Trillium Health Partners (Ontario Health Team), Open Window Hub – Cooksville Library, Volunteer MBC, City of Mississauga Emergency Management & Environment Section (Resilience Hub)

Seva Food Bank , Credit Valley Conservation, Volunteer MBC, Heart Comonos, LAMP Community Health Services, Indus Community Services, City of Mississauga Emergency Management & Environment Section (Resilience Hub)

City of Mississauga Emergency Management & Environment Section (Resilience Hub), Volunteer MBC, Credit Valley Conservation, LAMP Community Health Services, Indus Community Services, PLASP Early ON, Faith Groups

Success Indicators

What are the expected results and key targets?

- A clear service coordination plan with considerations for a service referral system in the neighbourhood and training opportunities for organizations to put this into action
- Maintain a local directory of relevant services available within and adjacent to Cooksville
- An assessment of current state of service delivery and coordination in Cooksville and opportunities to enhance it, supported by tools such as a journey map of how clients currently access services

- Partnerships with 5-7 local stakeholders to support the neighbourhood-based food access initiative through collaborative service delivery, funding, space, or in-kind contributions.
- A local community-led food access initiative successfully piloted (e.g., a subsidized grocery market, food hub, or community garden) in partnership with local stakeholders, engaging 50 residents.

- A minimum of three local groups/spaces identified as pilots for City of Mississauga’s Resilience Hubs program, which includes the Resilience Hub Network
- Outreach with at least 200-300 residents about the Resilience Hubs program
- A minimum of three community disaster response workshops conducted, and engage with at least 50-100 residents and partners
- Support the organization of a minimum of two First Aid and CPR training sessions, engaging with at least 20 residents and partners



Action Area #4:

Economic Stability



“Improving the feelings of safety and security in the public spaces is a big priority for our business community.”



There is a strong push for economic opportunities, local business support, and infrastructure investment to build a stable and prosperous Cookville. The goal is to create a neighbourhood where financial security, business growth, and job creation enable all residents to thrive. While redevelopment attracts investment and boosts economic stability, its success depends on inclusive policies that prevent displacement and ensure long-term, shared prosperity.

Objectives

What do you want to achieve over the next 3 years?

Improve the support and capacity of local entrepreneurs and small-scale businesses the feeling of pride and belonging in Cooksville.

Actions & Timelines

What are the activities you will undertake to meet the identified objectives?

SHORT TERM (up to 1 year)

4.1. Conduct a point-in-time assessment of economic opportunities and needs in Cooksville with local stakeholders such as small businesses etc. considering anticipated neighbourhood changes.

MEDIUM TERM (1-2 years)

4.2. Pilot up to 3 platforms like targeted job recruitment fairs for community stakeholders like local businesses, Metrolinx, developers, etc. to support local hiring

Interdependencies & Connections

What existing strategies, plans, or research are the actions aligned to?

- Vision Cooksville: Community Recommendation #5.1 - Encourage Coordination Among Local Businesses

Potential Partners

Who may lead or support these efforts?

Cooksville BIA, United Way Greater Toronto, Local Businesses

United Way Greater Toronto, Peel Community Benefits Network, 8 80 Cities, The DAM (Develop, Assist, Mentor), MIAG Centre for Diverse Women and Families, Indus Community Services, Metrolinx, TAS Impact, Achev

Success Indicators

What are the expected results and key targets?

Immediate

- At least 10-15 small/medium businesses facing potential displacement are engaged in a needs and opportunity assessment
- A report outlining at least 1-3 recommendations to address emerging needs and leverage opportunities

- At least 2-3 platforms (e.g. targeted job fairs) piloted within Cooksville with local employers
- At least 5-10 Cooksville residents hired by local companies/stakeholders

Engagement Summary

Engagement Goals

To engage a diversity of stakeholders, community members, and local partners in Cooksville in the co-creation of a Community Action Plan that:

- Responds to and acknowledges the unique cultural context and emerging neighbourhood challenges and opportunities.
- Meaningfully engages residents in identifying and advancing key neighbourhood priorities.
- Identifies actions to drive impact at the local level to advance neighbourhood priorities.
- Strengthens relationships and identifies collaborative frameworks for implementation.
- Clearly articulates who will be responsible for the stewardship of key actions.
- Identifies targets and success indicators to guide impact evaluation.

Over the course of June 2024 to March 2025 8 80 Cities, in collaboration with United Way of Greater Toronto, and Indus Community Services executed a series of engagement activities sessions and methods to deliver on these goals. Community engagement took place through a participatory and community-centered approach.

We wanted to ensure that people could share their feedback in various ways, considering that everyone has different capacities, comfort levels and availability in taking part in a feedback/surveying process. This section outlines the methods of engagement used to gather community feedback and ideas on the CCAP. Engaging residents and partners will remain an ongoing process to continue sharing updates, building awareness, validating priorities, and supporting the implementation of the plan over time.

Engagement by the Numbers



What We Did

1 Review of Existing Neighbourhood Planning Documents

In April 2024 Indus Community Services conducted a Neighbourhood Scan and delivered a report to 8 80 Cities and the United Way that summarized key existing neighbourhood planning documents and highlighted key themes that had been already identified through extensive community consultations and engagements from both City of Mississauga and local community organizations and initiatives. This report was foundational to developing our CCAP engagement strategy as it highlighted a long list of key neighbourhood priorities that had been previously identified that we could leverage and further explore and validate through our CCAP engagements.

2 Surveys

Based on the themes and priorities identified in the Neighbourhood Scan 8 80 Cities developed two surveys to test and validate the key themes and priorities identified in previous engagements.

Resident Survey (Online and Paper): The resident survey was distributed at the Cooksville Community Festival in August 2024 with ice cream engagement incentives. We received a total of 46 responses from Cooksville residents.

Community Member Survey Results: At A Glance

AGE RANGE

42% 30 to 39 years old

GENDER

67% women

HOUSING SITUATION

56% renters 33% homeowners

RACIAL IDENTITY

43% South Asian or Indo-Caribbean

16% Black

14% White

CITIZENSHIP STATUS

38% Canadian Citizens (born outside of Canada)

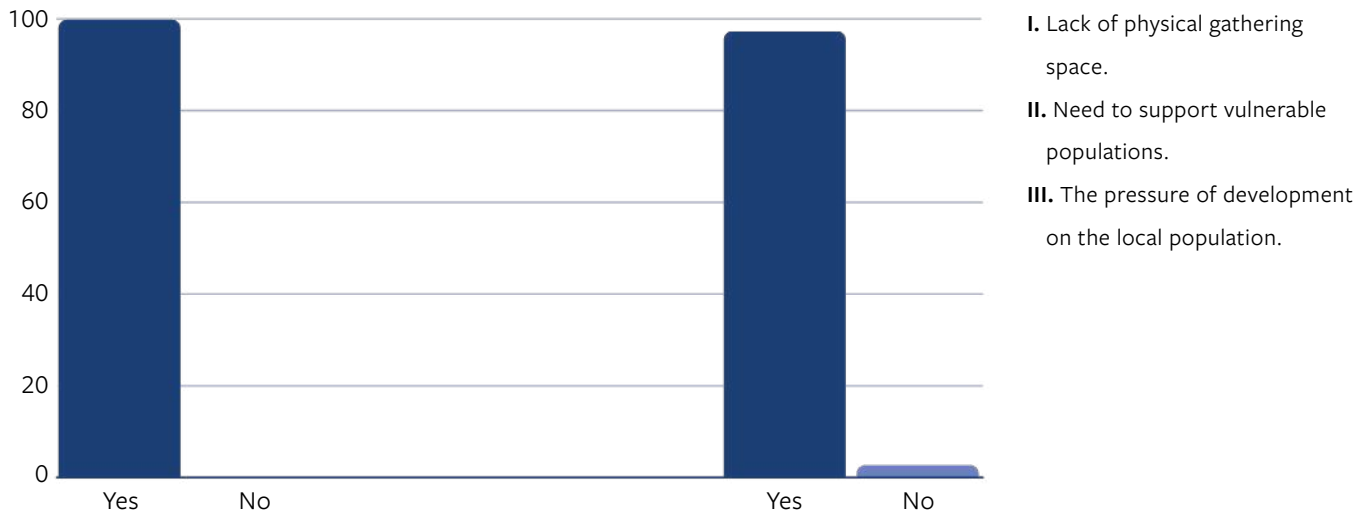
28% Canadian Citizens (born in of Canada)

Community Organization Survey (Online): The organizational survey was distributed online to members of the Cooksville Neighbourhood Solutions Table which comprises over 30 members of key community and institutional stakeholders that work in or provide service to Cooksville. This includes Indus Community Services, United Way, City of Mississauga (Parks and Recreation, Community Services, Economic Development) Heart Comonos, CP Planning, Credit Valley Conservation, LAMP Community Services, PLASP (EarlyON), The Dam. We received a total of 13 responses from Community Service Organizations.

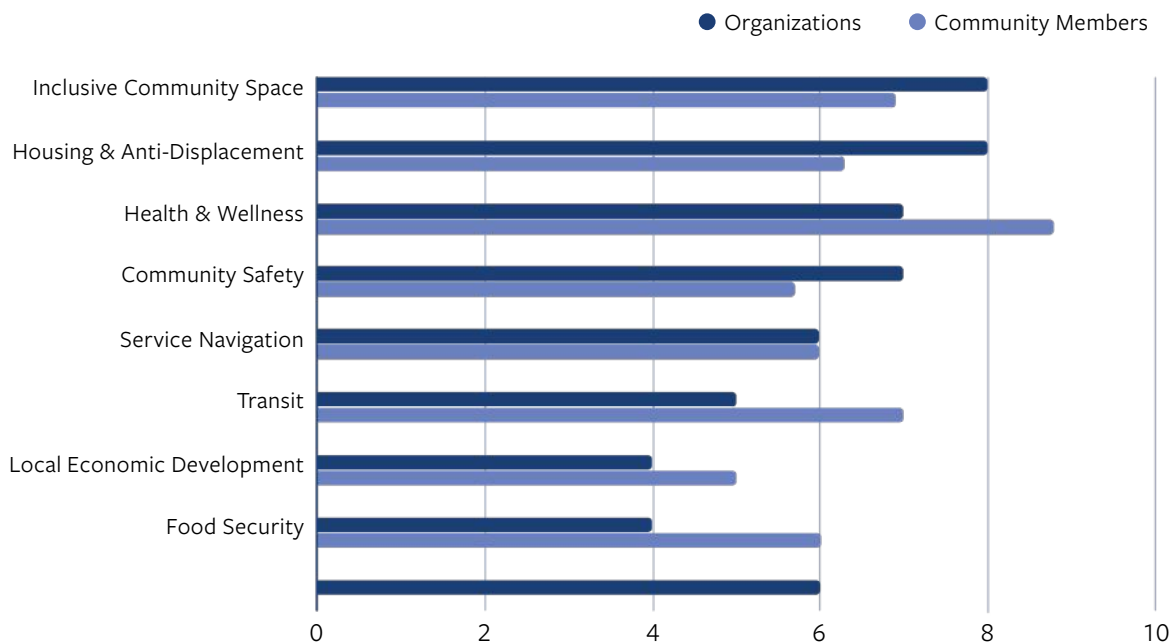
Key Results of Surveys:

Overall, the surveys validated many of the key themes and neighbourhood priorities that had been previously identified in the Neighbourhood Scan and provided additional detail on the areas where residents and community organizations aligned and areas where there was some discrepancy on priority for action. Most importantly the surveys gave us a sense that most priorities had been identified, and no key priorities were missing from the list. The surveys validated and signaled that the themes and priorities were on the right track. From this information the engagement team could feel confident moving on to identifying key actions under these priority or “action” areas.

Do you agree with the overarching themes?



Ranking Cooksville Community Priorities



Cooksville Voices: What are the key neighbourhood priorities?



3 Pop-ups

- A.** On August 17, 2024, a pop-up engagement station for the CCAP was held at the Indus Community Festival at 67 Hillcrest Parking lot. The engagement station drove residents to fill out the resident survey and engage in conversation with 8 80 Cities staff in person on site. The pop-up engagement event also helped unofficially “launch” the engagement for the CCAP and raise awareness of the community action planning process over the following 10 months. The survey helped validate neighbourhood priorities and identify key action areas. The pop up was successful in engaging young families and newcomers to Canada.
- B.** On Nov 30, 2024, 8 80 Cities staff set up another winter pop-up engagement station at the Heart Comonos Holiday event in the 67 Hillcrest Parking lot. Residents were encouraged to engage with simple engagement boards and share ideas for actions under the key action areas identified and validated through previous surveys and engagement sessions.
- C.** On December 9, 2024 and December 11, 2024, 8 80 Cities staff attended Heart Comonos Seniors fitness sessions to engage and hear more directly from seniors living in Cooksville. Through the demographic analysis of the survey data, we found that the surveys did not reach many older adults. By popping up at already scheduled sessions where we knew seniors would be, we were able to hear insights on neighbourhood priorities from this specific target group. The group shared the need for more places to socialize and be active for all ages. The participants also re-iterated the need for affordable housing solutions, and for space especially during the winter months for residents experiencing homelessness.

4 Focus Groups & Key Stakeholder Meetings

- A.** On September 6, 2024, 8 80 Cities hosted and facilitated an online focus group with key staff from City of Mississauga to better understand key areas of action identified in the Cooksville Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Plan to align priorities for action and complement existing resources and momentum. The focus of the conversation was also on identifying any other key city initiatives underway to leverage and the need to build strong partnerships with the local business improvement area.
- B.** On November 1, 2024, 8 80 Cities hosted an online focus group with key staff from CP Planning to understand and identify existing actions and priorities specifically focused on the theme of housing and anti-displacement strategies. CP planning shared existing community priority setting exercises they undertook in Cooksville. They shared that Community Land Trusts have emerged as a community priority for further action as a strategy for combatting displacement and improving access to affordable housing options for residents.
- C.** On Tuesday November 26, 2024, 8 80 Cities staff participated in Region of Peel Office of Climate Change and Energy Management meeting to share insights gathered so far in the engagement work in Cooksville and to identify potential synergies of areas of action that align with the region's strategic directions. Flood mitigation and climate risk came up as key themes that aligned with CCAP community priorities.

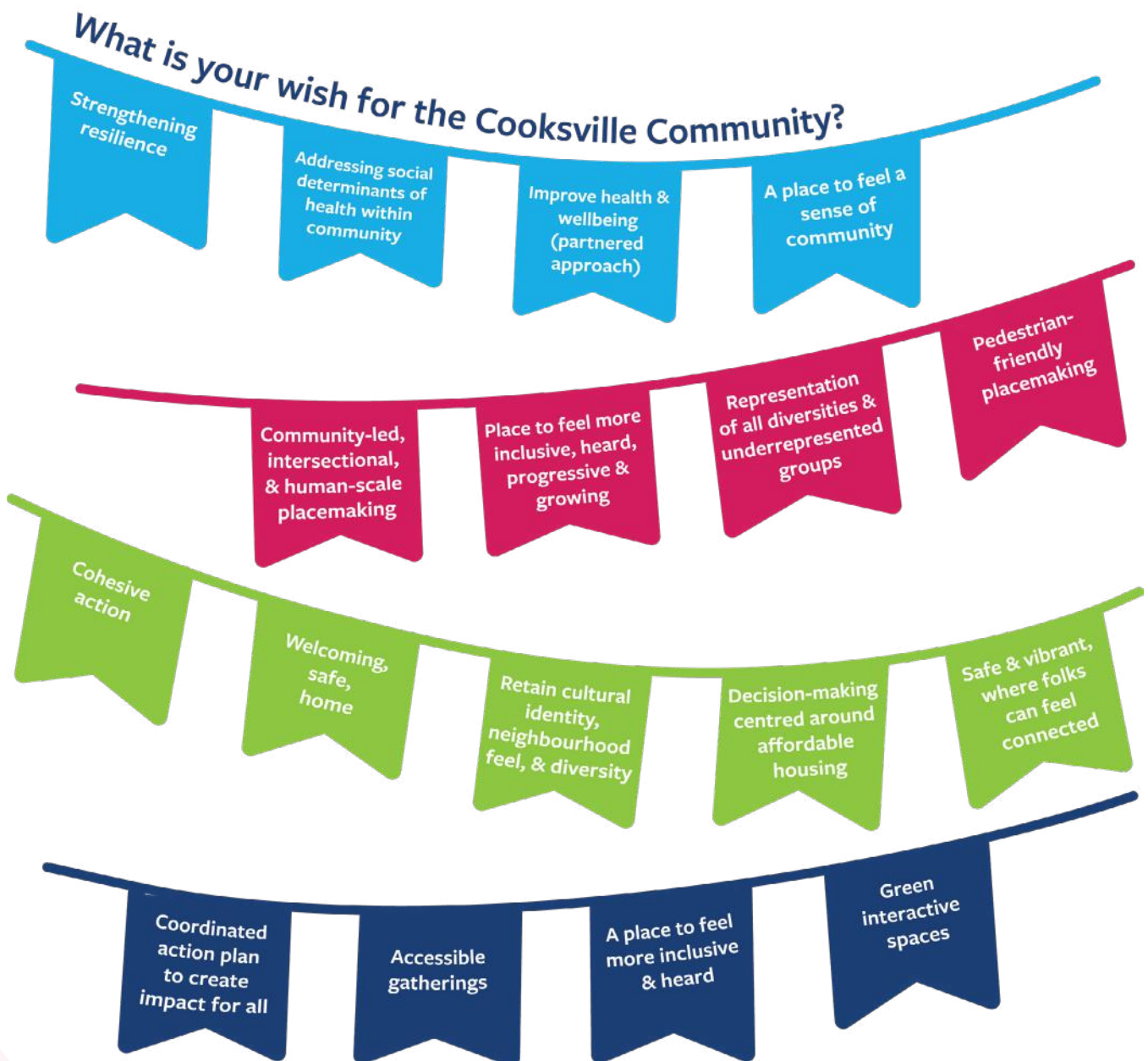
5 Interviews

- A.** On November 22, 2024, 8 80 Cities facilitated an online interview with Interim Executive Director of the Cooksville Business Improvement Area to understand existing local business priorities and challenges. The interview highlighted the rich network of diverse local businesses as a key asset to leverage and activate through the CCAP. It also highlighted the alignment of priorities from both business and residents on the need for actions that improve the public realm, beautify and green the streetscape, activate public spaces through community programming, and address community safety concerns in public spaces. Taste of Cooksville and the Four Corners Events are great examples of existing programs and events that the BIA supports and organizes that could be built upon under the community space and services action area.
- B.** On January 8, 2025, 8 80 Cities facilitated an online interview with staff from MIAG (The Centre for Diverse Women and Families) to better understand priorities and needs from the communities they serve, which are primarily vulnerable and marginalized communities with diverse needs. MIAG agreed and validated the community priorities and themes that were identified through the CCAP engagement but also added practical ideas and actions that addressed specific needs for vulnerable and marginalized residents within those broader priorities including: food banks, winter clothing supports, specific employment related supports, vision and dental care, mental health supports, harm reduction supports.

6 Stakeholder Workshops

A. On July 22, 2024, 8 80 Cities attended the first Cooksville Neighbourhood Solutions Table Meeting Co-Chaired by Indus Community Services and United Way of Greater Toronto. The Cooksville Neighbourhood Solutions Table was born out of the Cooksville Community Hub Network which had been previously established to support the development of a physical hub space in Cooksville and included several local stakeholders and community partners. The Cooksville Neighbourhood Solutions Table (CNST) was re-convened to re-engage partners and to expand its focus beyond community spaces and to address emerging neighbourhood priorities. Indus Community Services presented its Neighbourhood Scan report and collected feedback on the key priorities that emerged from that review.

At this workshop 8 80 Cities facilitated a visioning exercise and gathered important feedback to help craft the vision statement for the CCAP.



B. On September 23, 2024, 8 80 Cities attended the second Cooksville Neighbourhood Solutions Table meeting and facilitated a brainstorming workshop to identify key actions under three dominant themes (Housing Homelessness, Health and Well Being, Gathering Spaces) that emerged and surfaced from community conversations and surveys from July-August. Three working groups generated a list of existing assets, ideas, objectives and potential actions under these themes.

“We need a physical hub for people to come together.”

C. On November 18, 2024, 8 80 Cities attended the second Cooksville Neighbourhood Solutions Table meeting and facilitated a brainstorming workshop to identify key actions under two additional themes that were surfacing through community conversations, pop ups, and interviews. The themes explored were Community Safety and Local Economic Development. Two working groups generated existing assets, ideas, objectives, and potential actions under these themes. The stakeholder table also shared feedback on the Health and Wellness, Inclusive Community Space, and Housing and Homelessness action areas, providing additional detail and review as the actions and timelines under as they continued to get refined and take shape.

“We need to leverage our assets and networks and share the lists and resources we have already collected and compiled.”

D. On January 20, 2025 8 80 Cities attended the third Cooksville Neighbourhood Solutions Table meeting and facilitated an action planning workshop with

the key stakeholders in the room. 8 80 Cities staff reported back the assets, ideas, and actions generated under 5 Action Areas which had been renamed to Housing Stability, Economic Stability, Community Space and Services, Health and Well Being, Community Safety. Staff divided CNST into breakout groups to discuss each priority, actions, organizations to be involved, short-, medium-, and long-term measures of success. This was the culminating workshop that would inform the draft CCAP.

E. On March 3, 2025, 8 80 Cities attended the fourth Cooksville Neighbourhood Solutions Table meeting and presented a draft CCAP for feedback to the stakeholder table. Stakeholder shared feedback on condensing action areas to make it clearer and more feasible for implementation and to prioritize actions where organizations could champion and steward actions. This final stage of feedback was critical to producing the final ACTION AREAS identified in the CCAP.



Community Space and Services



Housing Stability



Health, Well-being & Resilience



Economic Stability

What We Heard: **More actions NOW!**

Cooksville is a resilient community where residents and local organizations share an aspiration and ambition to create a neighbourhood where everyone belongs and enjoys a good quality of life. This community has been historically underserved with amenities and community spaces and is facing unprecedented challenges in housing and economic stability for its most vulnerable residents amidst rapid growth and transformation. The Cooksville community is home to many unique strengths and assets that will be critical to the implementation of the CCAP. These include individual, physical, community, cultural, and institutional assets. From the rich mosaic of celebrated multicultural communities to its gorgeous trails, parks, and ravines, and diversity of local retail and commercial enterprises Cooksville is positioned to thrive amidst change but action now is critical to chart a course that responds to the diverse strengths and needs of this community. The Cooksville Community Action Plan will continue to be informed by and implemented alongside Cooksville residents and partners.

Thank you to the many residents, local community organizations, service providers and partners for your time, energy, insights, and passion to co-design this Cooksville Community Action Plan. This project was funded by United Way Greater Toronto.

A special thanks to the Cooksville Community Collaborative, co-chaired by Indus Community Services and United Way Greater Toronto, for championing this work and bringing the plan to life in Cooksville.

