



# Public Engagement and Opportunity Analysis for the Village of Menands Comprehensive Plan



UNIVERSITY  
AT ALBANY  
State University of New York

*Prepared for  
Menands Business Breakfast  
May 23, 2018*

# First Steps Toward the Comprehensive Planning Process for the Village

A document to help guide the future growth and development of your community

- Land use potential
- Housing alternatives
- Recreation & open space
- Economic development



# Initial Coordination Efforts

- **Capital District Regional Planning Commission began coordinating with UAlbany MRP and Menands in 2017**
- **UAlbany assisted Menands with the application for a grant from Hudson River Valley Greenway (HRVG)**
- **Menands received the \$9,900 grant in November 2017 to put towards the comprehensive planning process**



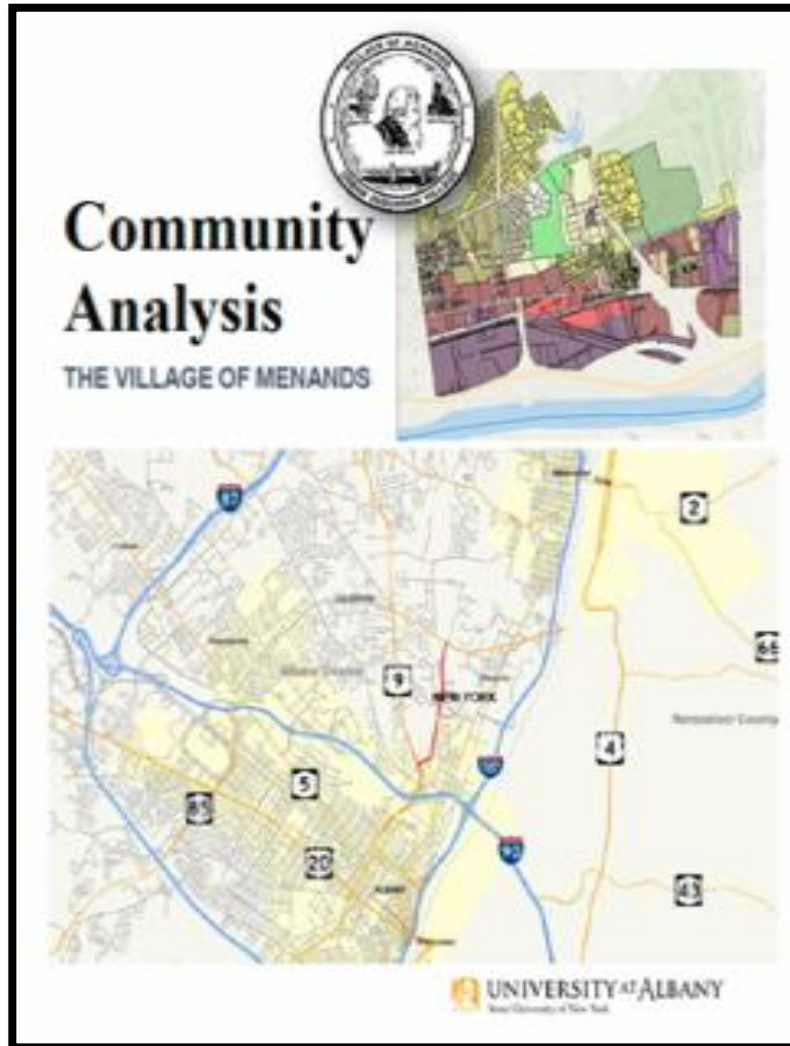
# Initial Coordination Efforts

- Menands passed a resolution to commit match funds for the HRVG grant, plus additional funds for the completion its first Comprehensive Plan. This project is funded in part by a grant from the Hudson River Valley Greenway.
- University students have contributed roughly 2,000 hours of work; including outreach, research, and analyses
- Village Trustees, Stakeholders, and Residents have provided input throughout the planning process



# **Timeline Overview - Fall 2017**

- Review and analysis of past plans and foundational/historical documents**
- Stakeholder interview sessions**
- Workshop event in October 2017**
- Public presentation in December 2017**



**Public presentation on community profile data in December 2017 presented information such as:**

- **Population**
- **Number of housing units**
  - **Owner-occupied**
  - **Renter-occupied**
- **Median housing value**
- **Employment**

# Inflow/Outflow Job Counts Menands, NY



## JOB COUNTS MAP LEGEND:

- 4,005 - Employed in Selection Area, Live Outside
- 1,674 - Live in Selection Area, Employed Outside
- 158 - Employed and Live in Selection Area

**\*Green overlay arrows do not indicate directionality of worker flow between home and employment locations**

**\*2015 U.S. Census On the Map Tool**  
<https://onthemap.ces.census.gov/>

# **Timeline Overview - Spring 2018**

- Stakeholder Interviews Summary**
- Public Engagement Efforts:**
  - Village website content**
  - Social media presence**
  - Menands Activities Report**
  - Menands Community Survey**
  - Two open house events**



# **Village Vision: Comprehensive Plan Village of Menands Community Survey**

**Period: March 10th to April 12th**  
**Response Rate: 330 Participants**


# Menands Community Survey

To gain public input early in the process to guide the later phases of research, public engagement, and drafting the comprehensive plan.

Survey questions covered:

- Demographics
- Housing Alternatives
- Transportation Features
- Economic Development
- Future of Menands Waterfront
- Village Vision

**Village Vision: Comprehensive Plan**  
**Village of Menands Community Survey**



**What is the purpose of this Community Survey?**  
The Village of Menands is developing a Comprehensive Plan with help from the University at Albany Graduate Planning Studio. A Comprehensive Plan is a guiding document for the growth and development of a municipality. This Community Survey seeks your opinions on important issues that may affect the future of Menands and will provide useful information for the Comprehensive Plan. We invite all residents and property owners in Menands to complete this survey. This survey takes 5 to 10 minutes of your time to complete. | **Survey responses are anonymous so please do not include your name on this form.**

For more information on the Comprehensive Plan or to complete the survey online, visit the Village website at: <http://villageofmenands.com>. Drop off your completed paper survey in person or mail your completed survey to Menands Village Hall, 280 Broadway, Menands, NY 12204 by **March 29, 2018**.

1. Please rate the following elements as they relate to the future of Menands.

	1 – Low Priority	2	3	4	5 - High Priority
a) Revitalization of industrial areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Reuse of vacant commercial buildings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Preservation of historic buildings and places	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Recreational facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Open space	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f) Access to waterfront	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g) Sustainable/green technology	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h) Community beautification projects	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

1A) Please include any additional comments here:

2. Please rate the need for the following housing types in Menands.

	1 – Low Priority	2	3	4	5 - High Priority
a) Condominiums (owner occupied)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Apartments (rental)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Single-family homes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Duplex/2-family homes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Active adult/senior living communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

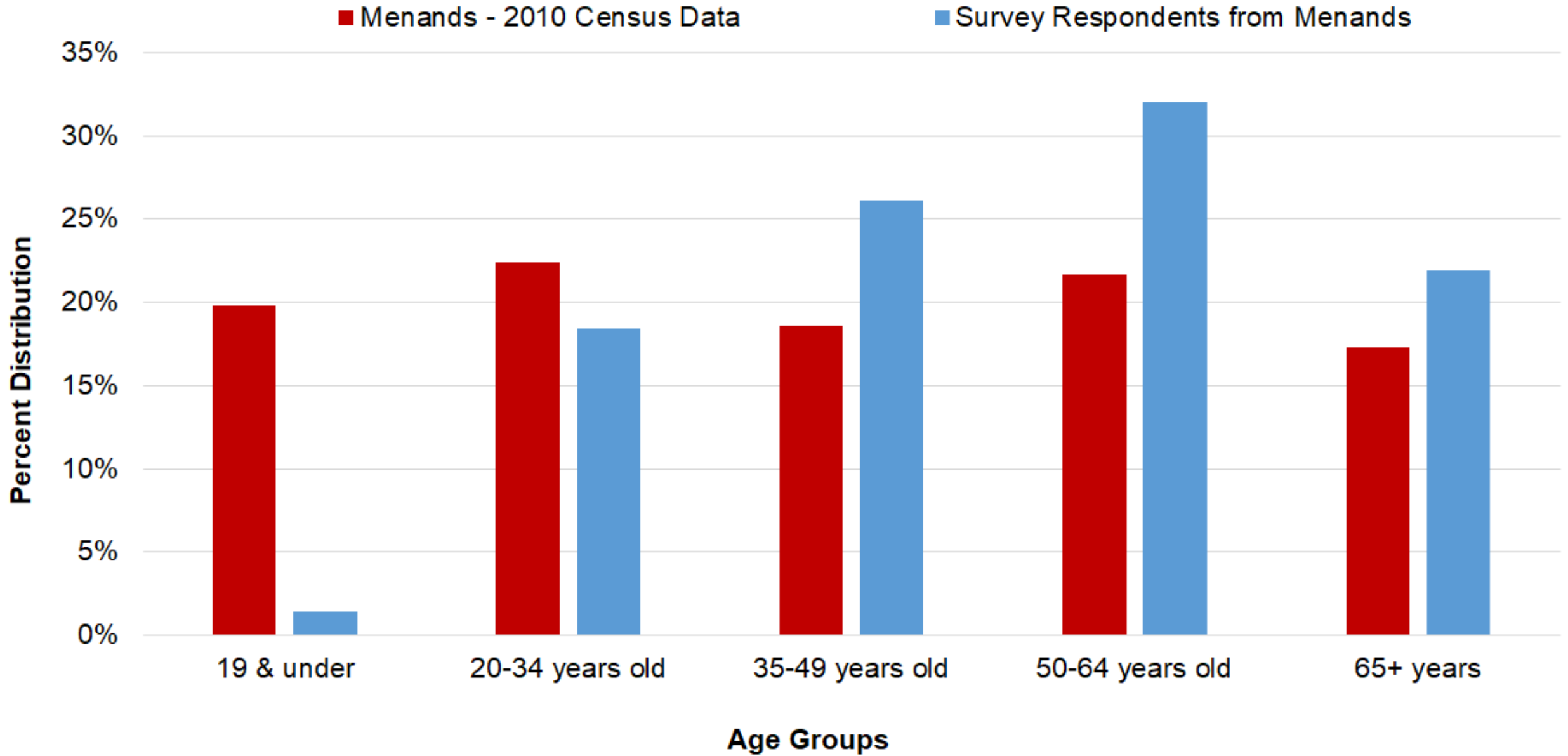
2A) Please include any additional comments here:

# Demographics of Survey Respondents

- **Age**
- **Length of Residency**
- **Status in Menands**
  - **Commercial Property Owner**
  - **Commercial Tenant**
  - **Residential Property Owner**
  - **Residential Tenant**
  - **Non-Resident Employee**
  - **Other**

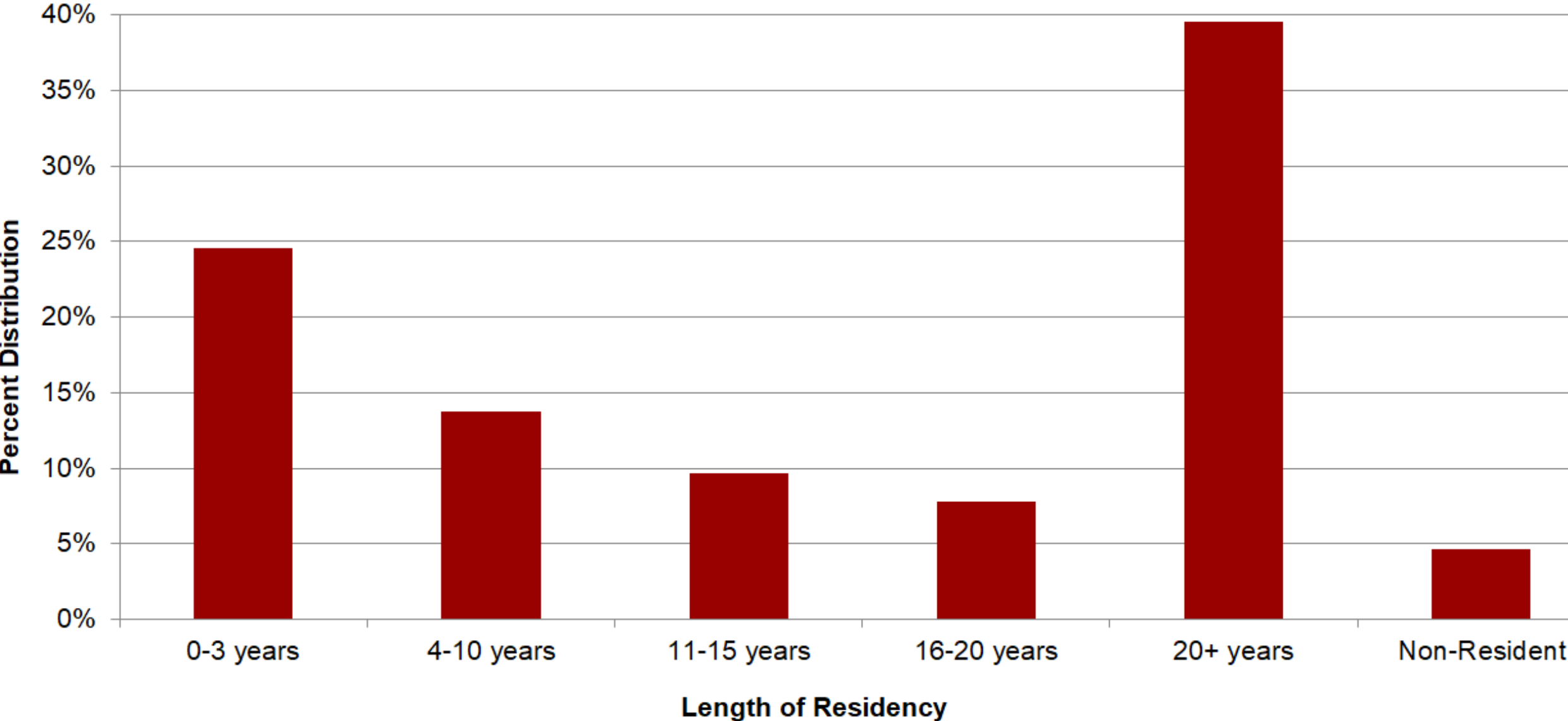
# **Age of the Survey Respondents**

## Age Comparison – Menands Population vs Survey Respondents



# **Length of Residency of the Survey Respondents**

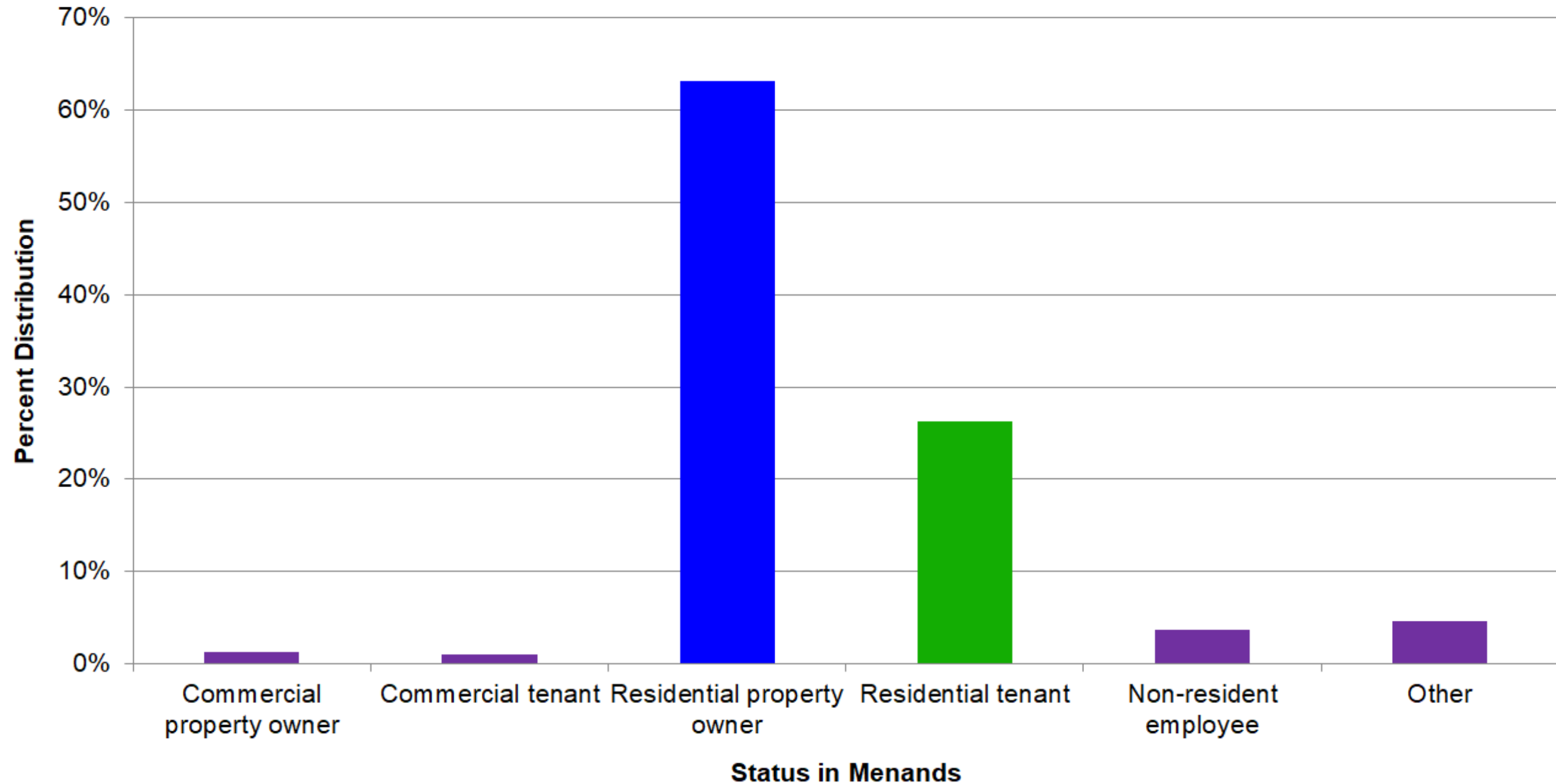
# Length of Residency of Survey Respondents



# **Status of the Survey Respondents in Menands**



## Status of Survey Respondents in Menands



# Survey Questions & Answers

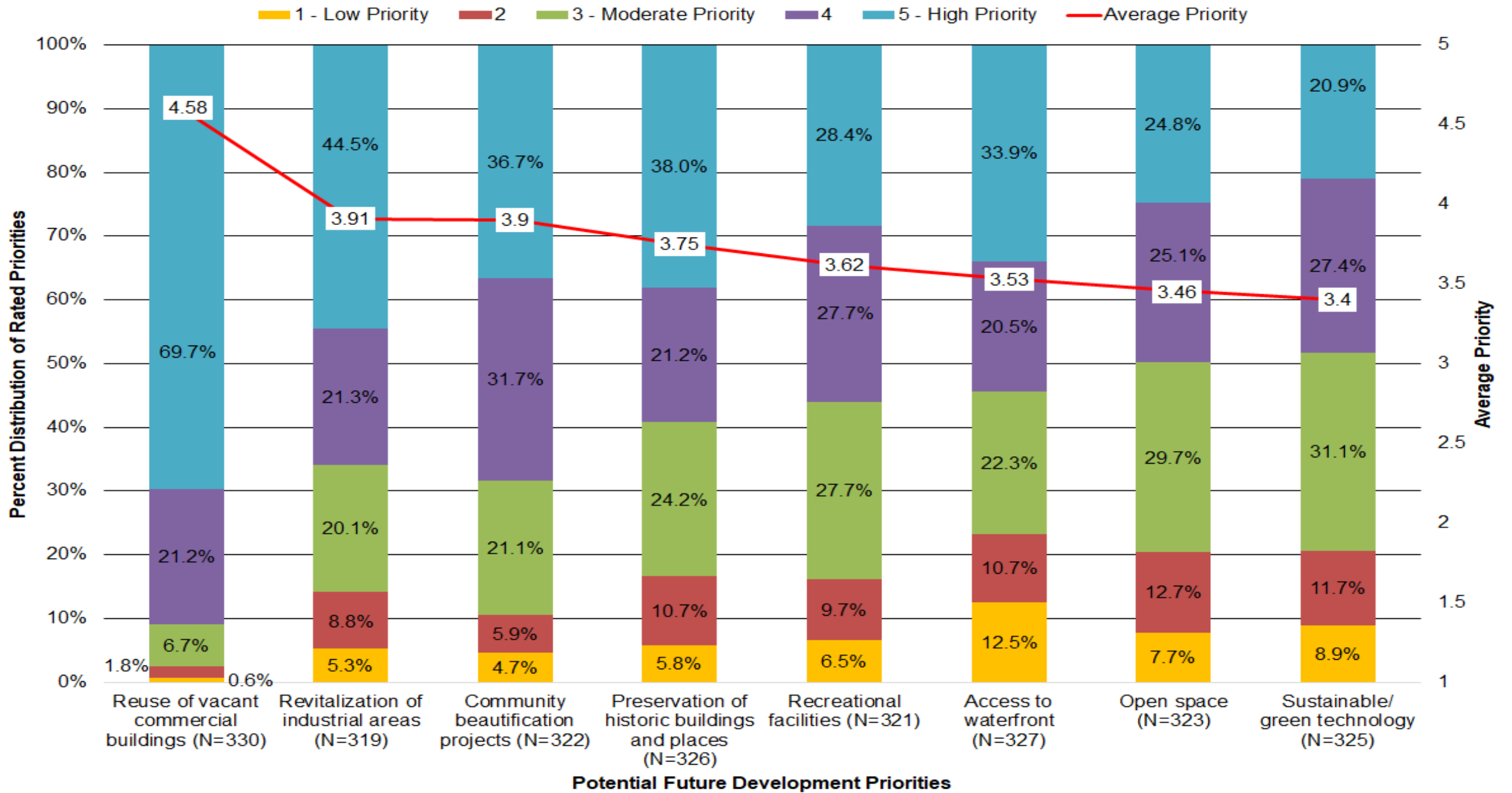
Questions asked "Please rate." Answers shown with Distribution of Ratings/Answer & Average Priority.

1-Low Priority       2       3       4       5-High Priority

Questions asked to "Check all that apply."  
Answers are shown with Percent Distribution.

# Potential Future Development Priorities

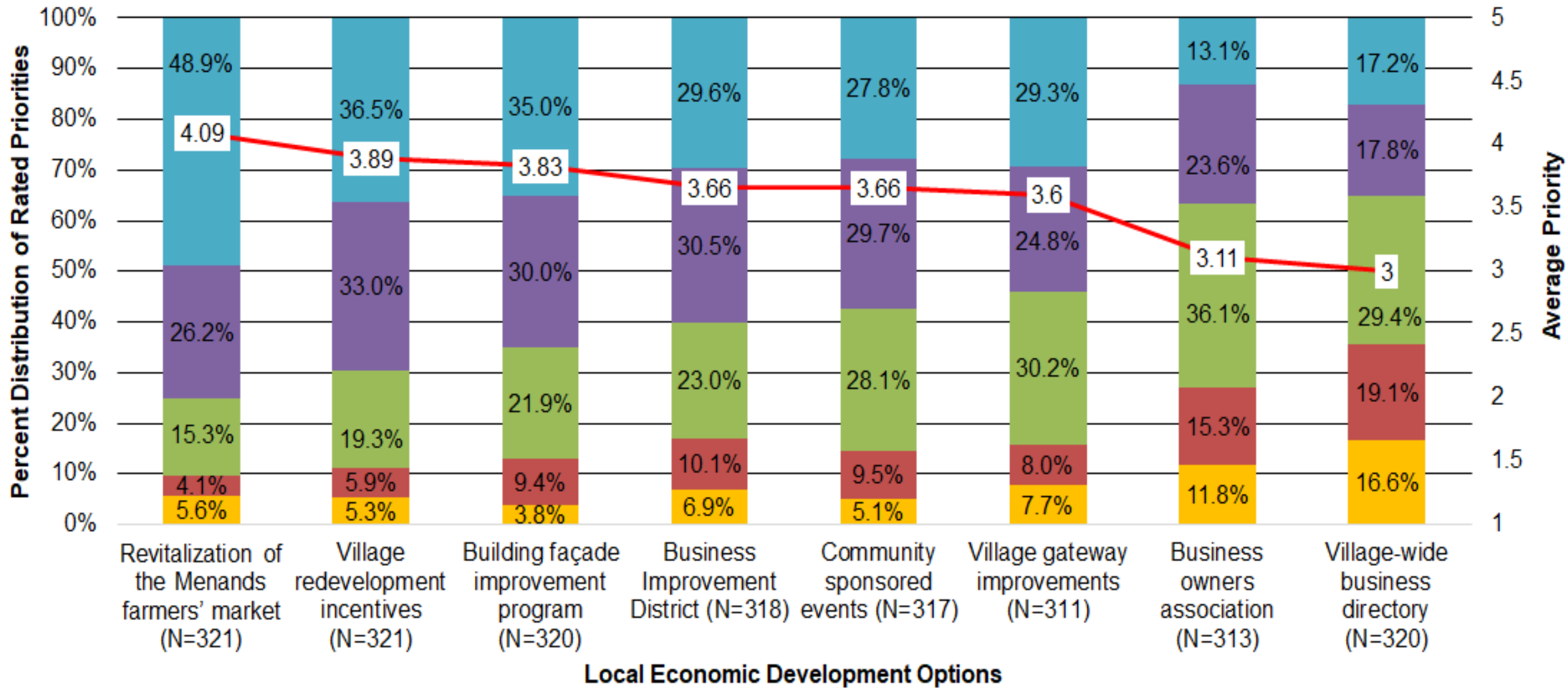
1) Please rate the following elements as they relate to the future of Menands.



# **Local Economic Development Options**

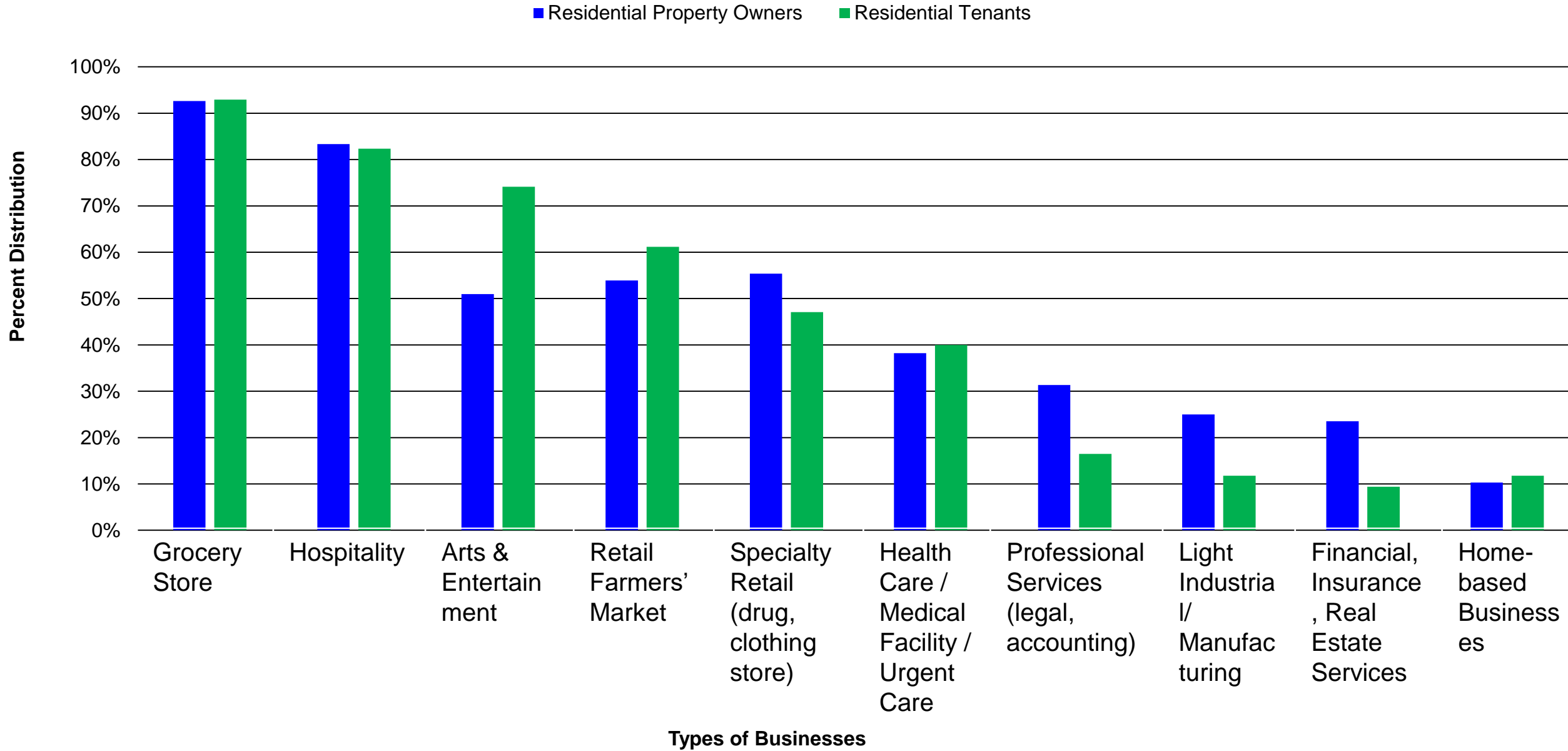
4) Please rate the following options for local economic development in Menands.

1 - Low Priority    2    3 - Moderate Priority    4    5 - High Priority    Average Priority



**“What types of businesses  
would you like to see  
more of in Menands?”**

5) What types of businesses would you like to see more of in Menands? (Check all that apply.)





# Key Survey Findings

## Community Amenities

- Sidewalks
- Waterfront Access/  
Open Space

## Housing Types

- Single-Family Homes
- Active Adult/Senior Living  
Communities

## Economic Development

- Food Access
- Hospitality Industry
- Redevelopment/

## Beautification

- Village Center Zone

# **Community Open House Events**

**Menands Village Hall - April 2, 2018**

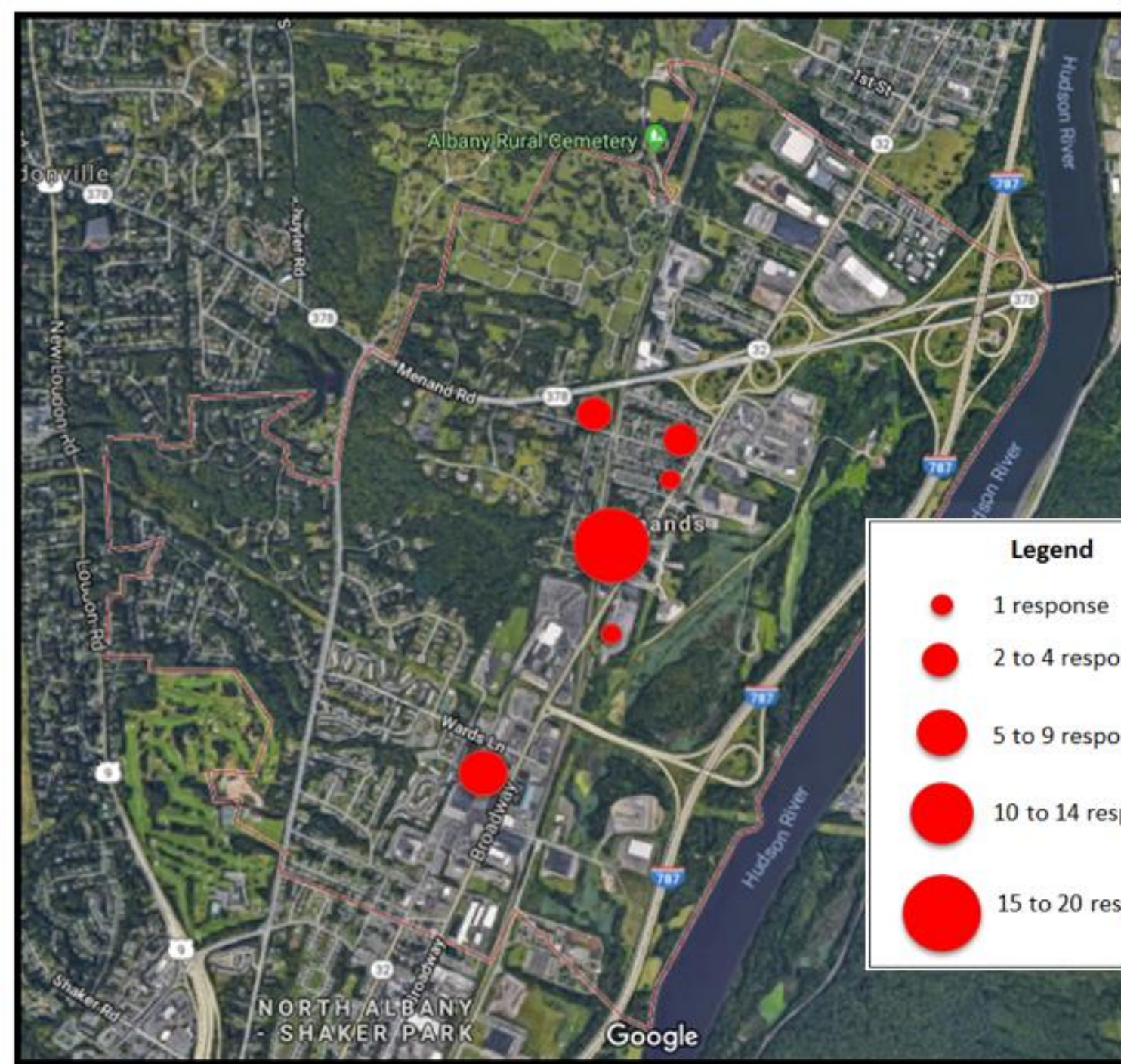
**Albany Lofts at One Broadway - April 11, 2018**

# Mapping Exercises at the Public Open House Events

- **Re-use of vacant commercial buildings**
- **Center of the village**
- **Sidewalk infrastructure**
- **Public amenities:**
  - **Community garden**
  - **Picnic area**
  - **Dog Park**
- **Landscape beautification**

# “Where do you think center of the Village should be?”

- 54% - Village Hall  
(Fire & Police Station)
- 26% - Mid-City Plaza  
(Broadway & Wards Lane)
- 8% - Ganser-Smith Park
- 6% - Intersection Broadway  
& Menands Road
- 3% - Village Admin Office  
(280 Broadway)
- 3% - Hudson-Mohawk  
Human Society



# Questions?

**For your future Comments:**

**Visit [www.villageofmenands.com](http://www.villageofmenands.com)  
to fill out the comments box on the  
"comprehensive plan" web page**