

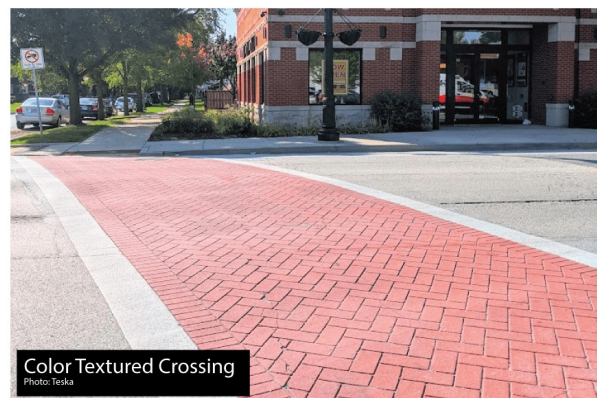


Placemaking Poll

April 6th – May 18th, 2022



emerging
priorities



350+
responses



340+
comments



Corridor Identity + Vibrancy

Preferred Applications of Art + Color

1. **Murals** (60% · 214 Votes)
2. **Vibrant Street Furniture** (30% · 106 Votes)
3. **Gateway Art** (28% · 99 Votes)
4. **Facades & Awnings** (27% · 94 Votes)



Note: percentages reflect the percent of total respondents who chose the image. Respondents could select up to two images.

ART + COLOR: SAMPLE OF COMMUNITY COMMENTS

“Vibrant street furniture could tie-together a sense of intentional community.”

“Any kind of art that represents our unique neighborhood.”

“Art should be led by, or inclusive of, hyper-local as well as local artists!”

“Maintenance is key to all public art proposals, especially murals in underpasses, because they decay so rapidly.”

“This is all nice but not as important as making the corridor safe for pedestrians, cyclists, and transit users.”

“A lot of the awnings and storefronts on Devon are sad looking. More color and character, please!”

“I chose murals because it's an easy way to feature people of color in a way that everyone can understand.”

“I can imagine complimenting vibrant street furniture accents with natural themes; the urban environment and nature working together as a unit.”

KEY THEMES: LOCAL ARTISTS, VIBRANCY, MAINTENANCE, GREENERY, CELEBRATE DIVERSITY, INTEGRATE NATURE

Creating a Sense of Place

Popular Lighting Choices

1. **Overhead + Festoon** (54% · 191 Votes)
2. **Sculptural + Artistic** (33% · 116 Votes)
3. **Whimsical + Festive** (28% · 99 Votes)
4. **Vertical beams + bollards** (23% · 81 Votes)

Respondents could select up to 2 images



LIGHTING: SAMPLE OF COMMUNITY COMMENTS

“I can appreciate the enclosure overhead lighting creates much like the canopy of a forest.”

“There is something so cozy and wonderful about string/festoon lights!

“First, do no harm! Create settings for interaction and art, but not eyesores.”

“...it should be soft so as to minimize additional light pollution”

“Pedestrian level lighting would be inviting and can contribute to tying together the commercial district as a destination.”

“Whatever is installed needs to be low maintenance and of a quality that it doesn’t look worn out too soon.”

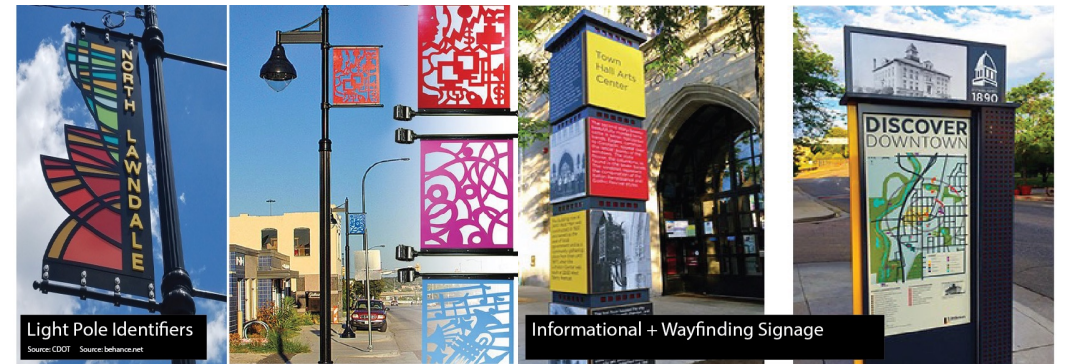
“I would only choose an eco-sensitive lamp. I would prefer a decorative light, provided they aren't left on all day!”

KEY THEMES: COZY, CANOPY, SUSTAINABLE, LOW LIGHT POLLUTION

Corridor Signage

Preferred Signage Along the Corridor

1. **Business Blade Signage** (57% · 203 Votes)
2. **Light Pole Identifiers** (42% · 150 Votes)
3. **Informational + Wayfinding** (41% · 146 Votes)



Respondents could select up to 3 images

SIGNAGE: SAMPLE OF COMMUNITY COMMENTS

“I love Blade signage on independently owned businesses. It provides a cozy inviting feel.”

“Signage oriented to pedestrians or cyclists would be good.”

“Devon needs more colorful, consistent branding.”

“I think what's needed most are things that call attention to the businesses, primarily for attracting Loyola students. Secondarily for people who use Devon for commuting – they're usually not thinking of stopping.”

“It’s helpful to both businesses and pedestrians to have directional signs.”

“How do we offer incentives to attract independent businesses and restaurants?”

“Careful here, keep it simple.”

KEY THEMES: FUNCTIONAL, USEFUL, CONSISTENT, INDEPENDENT, SUPPORT BUSINESSES AND WAYFINDING

Activate Devon

What types of events would you like MOST on Devon?

1. **Seasonal Craft fairs & holiday maker markets** (53% · 186 Votes)
2. **Experiential art, music and dance events** (51% · 181 Votes)
3. **Events that celebrate diversity / culture / LBGTQ+** (50% · 178 Votes)
4. **Food and culinary demonstration and tasting events** (45% · 161 Votes)
5. **Shop small crawls / business block parties** (41% · 144 Votes)



Respondents could select up to 3 choices

EVENTS: SAMPLE OF COMMUNITY COMMENTS

“There is so much diversity, I’d love to see those cultures uplifted and highlighted.”

“...master classes, lectures, history talks...”

“Diverse arts events such as Pivot Arts are good, with their partnership with Loyola.”

“Whatever will draw more businesses to open on Devon.”

“Couldn't narrow it down, these all sound great!”

“Whatever they are, keep them small...and intimate gathering not massive ones.”

“There's a lot of competition for these types of experiences – I don't think we can duplicate the shopping experience of Andersonville or there Glenwood farmers market.”

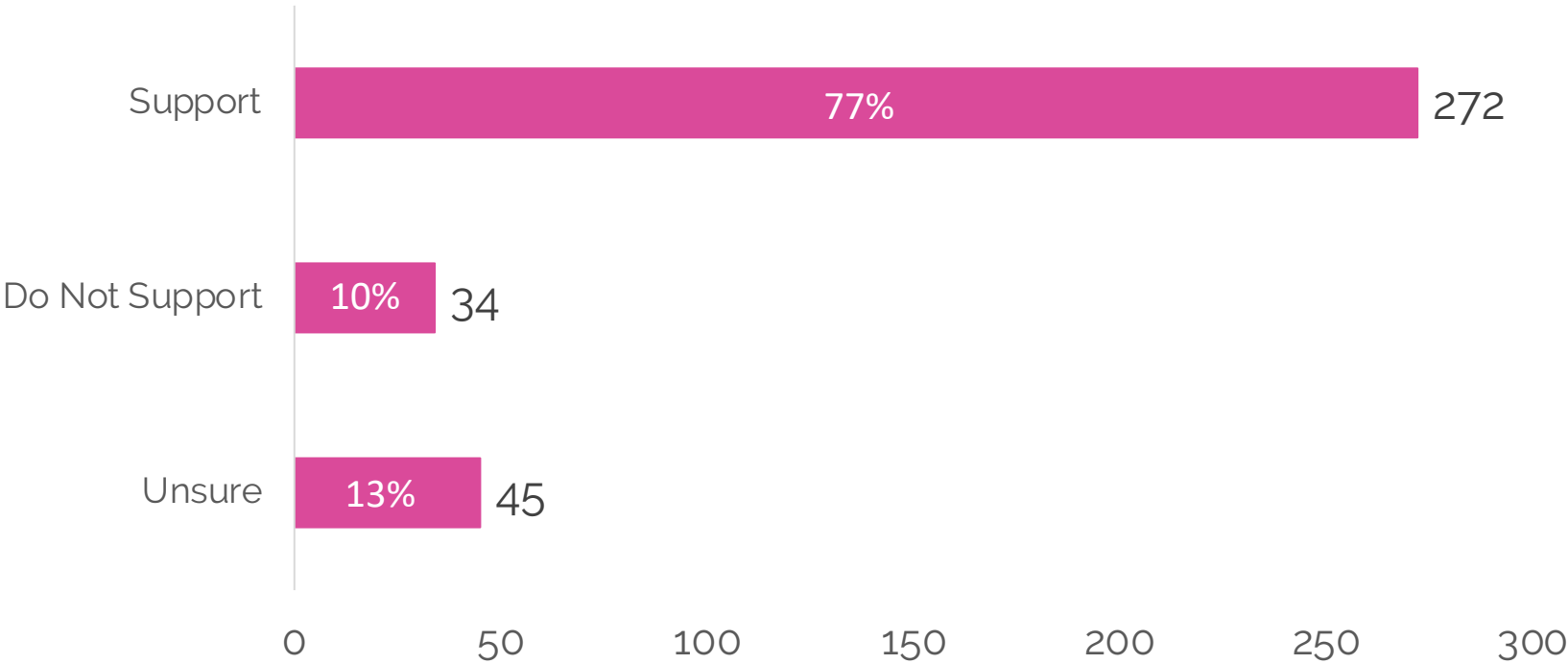
“Every street event would be a celebration of neighborhood diversity. Focus of events should be more specific than ‘celebrate ethnic diversity’.”

Reclaiming Space

Support for Permanent Pedestrian Amenities

(bumpouts, parklets, mini-pedestrian plazas)

How likely are you to support removing some parking spaces to create additional permanent pedestrian amenities such as bumpouts, parklets, and mini pedestrian plazas?



PEDESTRIAN AMENITIES: SAMPLE OF COMMUNITY COMMENTS

“In order to make Devon functional for pedestrians something needs to change. Currently you often can’t walk or run down the street as is, let alone create space for other activities.”

“... context is important. The types of businesses right around a specific parklet might suggest which configuration makes the most sense.”

“I could do landscaped bumpouts. the sidewalks aren't all that wide to accommodate a lot of seating and , like it or not, we all do car travel so that the businesses need to have available parking...”

“Making chicago a more walkable city will always be more valuable than parking!”

“Strongly support prioritizing the pedestrian experience over parking.”

“Prioritize accessibility with more flexible furniture.”

“This area has a huge pedestrian population with the senior housing, Loyola and nearby residential streets. As of now, it isn't very pedestrian friendly at all, and definitely should be.”

“Reducing traffic is critical for a vibrant walking community.”

KEY THEMES: CONTEXT, PROTECTION FROM TRAFFIC, EASE OF MOVEMENT, ACCESSIBILITY, LOYOLA, WALKABILITY

Reclaiming Space

Highest-Ranked Parklet Concepts

1. **Mix of High-Low Top Seating** (51% · 179 Votes)
2. **Picnic Style with Wall Accents** (50% · 177 Votes)
3. **Modular Benches** (49% · 175 Votes)
4. **Movable Café Tables + Chairs** (39% · 138 Votes)



Respondents were asked to choose top three choices

PARKLETS: SAMPLE OF COMMUNITY COMMENTS

“Context is important.”

“The design should add consistency to the experience on Devon.”

“I highly encourage integrating greenery into public seating areas.”

“It is important to me that architectural choices when it comes to seating are not anti-homeless. The houseless are our neighbors too.”

“Comfortable and practical.”

“Need to have barrier that block diner from fast moving traffic on Devon.”

“It's nice to have people sitting outside but it's a little noisy on Devon for outdoor seating. I think it would need something for a little privacy and a feeling of being protected from the traffic. Also the parklets should be tied to the store/restaurant beside it – don't do them unless the businesses want them.”

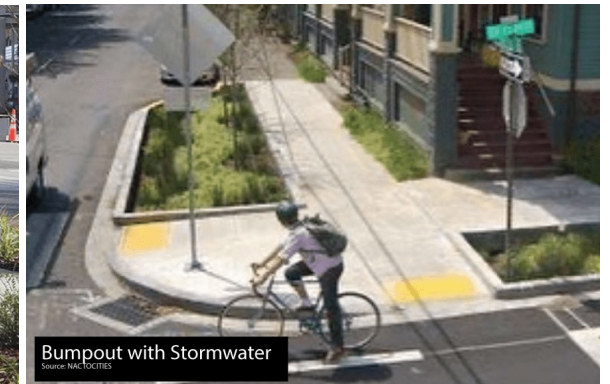
“Parklets are a great idea for building community. Let the function dominate, not loud colors.”

KEY THEMES: COMFORT, CONTEXT, FUNCTIONALITY, CONSISTENCY, NO ANTI-HOMELESS ARCHITECTURE

Reclaiming Space

Highest-Ranked Bumpout Concepts

1. **Tree Landscaping** (49% · 172 Votes)
2. **Bike Parking + Seating** (35% · 123 Votes)
3. **Stormwater** (29% · 103 Votes)



Respondents were asked to choose top two choices

BUMPOUTS: SAMPLE OF COMMUNITY COMMENTS

“Anything with greenery and functional infrastructure, recycling, postboxes, waste containers. Less decorative and more functional design.”

“I like bumpouts but they need to work with the existing drainage patterns and street drains. Seating would be good, but at places where cars naturally stop or slow down: at traffic lights and stop signs. I think trees in bump outs will hide pedestrians from drivers at corners where cars won't stop.”

“Bumpouts are great and should be encouraged, but it's important to design carefully to avoid putting cyclists into the path of cars.”

“Protected intersections for bicyclists would be great to see too.”

“I think the most important thing is TRASH PICK-UP... Landscaping doesn't matter at all if it's filled with weeds & trash!”

“I prefer the safest option for pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists based on thorough research and long-term sustainability.”

“Local plantings designed for storm water... Beyond that, bumpout style should be appropriate to specific locations.”

“It would be great to have a tree and a trash can. There are barely any trash cans on Devon.”

KEY THEMES: FUNCTIONAL, PRACTICAL, SAFE, MAINTENANCE

Greenery + Landscaping

Preferred Landscaping Treatments

1. **Landscaping + Seating** (63% · 224 Votes)
2. **Street Trees in Grate** (60% · 214 Votes)
3. **Potted Planters** (25% · 89 Votes)
4. **Hanging Planters** (22% · 78 Votes)

Respondents were asked to choose top two choices



LANDSCAPING: SAMPLE OF COMMUNITY COMMENTS

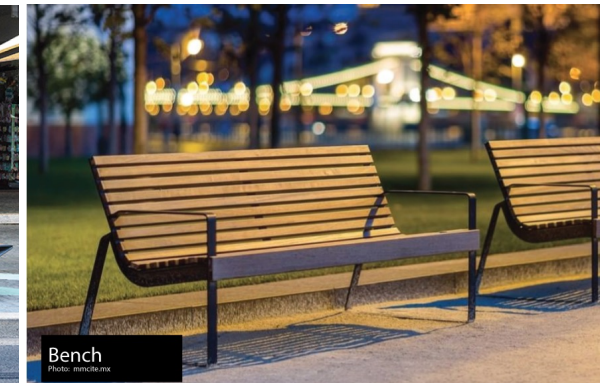
- “All the plants are good but they should be sustainable choices, especially native plants and/or pollinator gardens.”
- “Everything that softens the urban environment is money well spent.”
- “If there were a more creative way to include trees I would love that! I love streets with lots of tree shade while walking.”
- “Be careful to not narrow sidewalks by using oversized planters.”
- “I like the landscaping paired with seating! People tend to sit on the SSA planters along Broadway near bus stops and squish the plants. Let's acknowledge that tendency, realizing that we aren't going to change people's habits, and make both things work together.”
- “Potted planters take up too much space.”
- “Who would be responsible for the maintenance of planters? Trees are essential!”
- “Everything that softens the urban environment is money well spent.”

KEY THEMES: SHADE, TREES, MAINTENANCE, LIMITED SPACE, SUSTAINABLE

Stay A While

Preferred Seating Options

1. **Iconic** (44% · 157 Votes)
2. **Modular** (42% · 150 Votes)
3. **Traditional** (41% · 144 Votes)



Respondents were asked to choose top two choices

SEATING: SAMPLE OF COMMUNITY COMMENTS

“The design should add consistency to the experience on Devon. It's such a mix of building types as it is.”

“I liked the playful ideas but I more prefer a back to the seat”

“If we do benches, I prefer them in bright colors.”

“Please avoid hostile architecture. Ensure plentiful handicap accessible seating.”

“A comfortable bench should have back support and shade.”

“I favor seating that is comfortable. I do not favor seating that is designed to keep poor people from resting on it.”

“The more seating the better. Whatever design would maximize the number of seating options, I'm for it.”

“Don't create something ugly in place of nothing. Form follows function--seating that isn't comfortable won't work.”

“Fat inclusive seating is a must.”

“It is important to me that architectural choices when it comes to seating are not anti-homeless. The houseless are our neighbors too.”

KEY THEMES: COMFORT (HAS A BACK, NOT TOO LOW) SHADE, VIBRANCY, FORM, FUNCTION, ANTI-HOMELESS, ACCESSIBLE

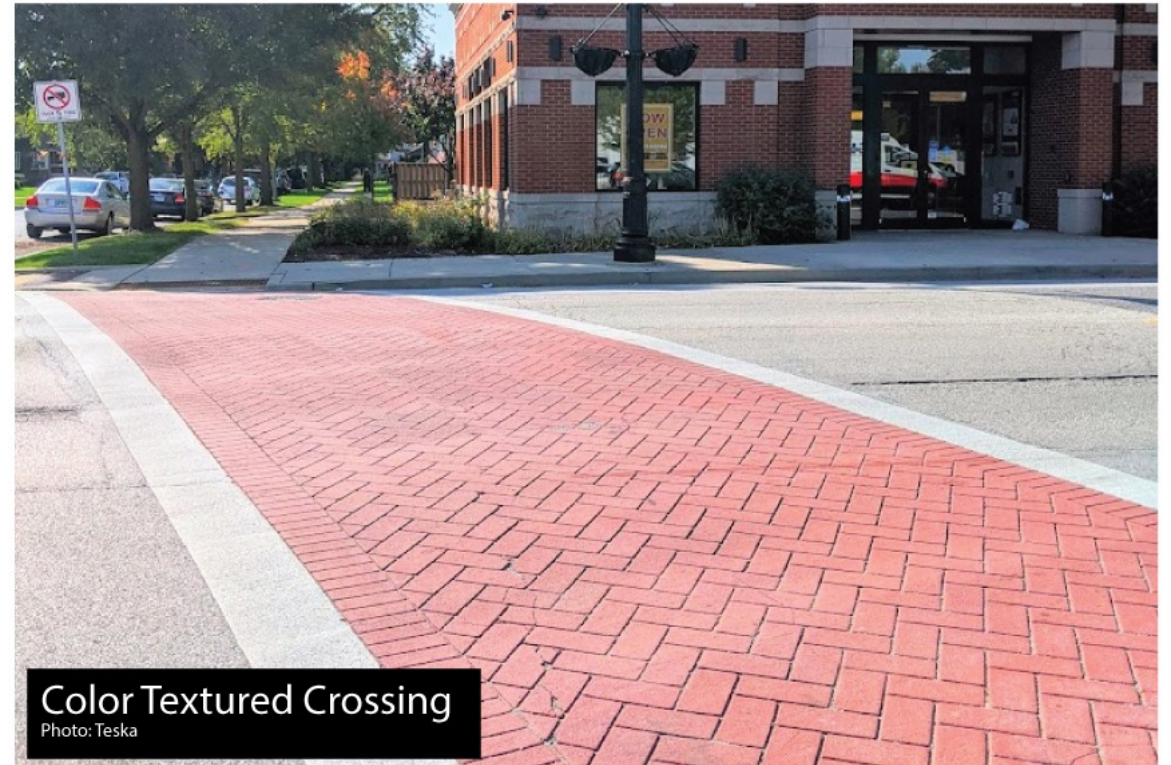
Pedestrian Safety

Preferred Pedestrian Crossing Treatments

1. **Color Textured Crossing** (52% · 183 Votes)
2. **Decorative Crossing** (40% · 141 Votes)
3. **Painted Crossing** (38% · 134 Votes)



Respondents were asked to choose top two choices



PEDESTRIAN SAFETY: SAMPLE OF COMMUNITY COMMENTS

- “The painted or decorated crossings and intersections should be designed as a cohesive look, colors bold and bright!”
- “The treatment with the highest potential to withstand Chicago winters would be my first choice.”
- “Prefer raised crosswalks that encourage cars to slow down/yield to pedestrians”
- “Painted intersections, while beautiful and creative, unless they are maintained, do not last.”
- “Color is fine but make sure it's not distracting/unclear what purpose it serves.”
- “Crosswalks crossing side-streets should be raised and should match the material of the sidewalk (which can change e.g. to a brick texture). This helps to establish the space as belonging to pedestrians and makes cars the visitors.”
- “Raised and textured intersections are great for pedestrian and bike safety.”

KEY THEMES: DURABLE, PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLIST SAFETY, SLOW TRAFFIC, RAISED INTERSECTIONS, VISIBLE

Bicycle Safety

Preferred Bicycle Lanes

1. **Protected** (55% · 193 Votes)
2. **Painted** (43% · 151 Votes)
3. **Raised** (34% · 120 Votes)



Respondents were asked to choose top two choices

CYCLING: SAMPLE OF COMMUNITY COMMENTS

“I feel like the bike lane is regularly used by cars and is not clearly marked.”

“It has potential to be even better. It's not my favorite street to ride on, as cars usually want to move pretty quickly.”

“In daylight I feel comfortable, otherwise, somewhat wary. Cycling is my main mode of transit.”

“it would be nice to have a more clearly designated bike lane. I generally feel safe, but there are stretches or turns that can be difficult/don't feel safe.”

“I avoid Devon... [the street] is too narrow and I worry about being “doored” from on-street parking.”

“Don’t ride a bike but as a driver, I like bikers safely away from me.”

“There just not enough space as designed to have traffic, bikes and parking on both sides of the street for the full length.”

“Some of the new bike lanes/traffic intersections, like the one at Rosemont and Clark, are hazardous. If a taller vehicle is parked at the last spot before the intersection, it blocks the view of turning drivers. Try to avoid this type of situation.”

KEY THEMES: SAFETY, BETTER MARKINGS, SLOW TRAFFIC, UNSAFE STRETCHES, LIMITED SPACE, BLOCKED VIEWS