What we are finding in the work so far?

Community Conversations are measured through Civic Health Framework (2015 Nebraska Civic Health Index):

**Social Connectedness**: Interacting with family and friends, trusting neighbors, and doing favors for neighbors all contribute to social connectedness.

**Confidence in Institutions**: Trust in institutions maintains the legitimacy of political systems, helps to shape change, and hold entities accountable. Trust in public schools, corporations, and the media build confidence in institutions.

**Community Engagement**: Activities like volunteering, charitable giving, working with neighbors, attending public meetings, belonging to groups, and taking group leadership roles promote community engagement.

*Doors to date: 1,506*

*Completed surveys: 331*
Social Connectedness
(1-6 scale, 1=Every Day to 6=Never)
1-Every day, 37 percent
2-Few times a week, 17 percent
3-Few times a month, 5 percent
4-Every month, 2 percent
5-Less often, 12 percent
6-Never, 27 percent

Confidence in institutions
(1-5 scale, 1=excellent to 5=very poorly)
1- Excellent, 26 percent
2- Fairly well, 16 percent
3- OK, 24 percent
4- Fairly poorly, 11 percent
5- Very poorly, 24 percent

Community Engagement
Word of mouth, 59 percent
Social media, 15 percent
Other, 10 percent
Newspaper, 9 percent
Email lists, 3 percent
Bulletins, 3 percent

What are neighborhood residents’ concerns?

Public services, 28 percent

Residents report that they feel public utilities are unresponsive. Some residents do not know who to contact and when they do contact a department they do not receive any follow-up.
Some residents indicated that bus service is unreliable (buses late or early) and the hours do not meet their demands. Residents request better seating at bus stops (especially for elderly and disabled).

Safety, 26 percent

Residents requested better lighting in neighborhoods to feel safer. Roundabouts are a concern for a lot of residents. Some streets in neighborhoods are too busy and youth and adults do not feel comfortable crossing busy intersections. Vehicles speed and often do not observe traffic laws.

Other (not including housing, civic participation, quality of life, jobs and income, health care, or education), 19 percent

Residents are concerned with lack of green space and community space in neighborhoods. Trash in the neighborhoods is also a concern for residents. Residents requesting more neighborhood beautification projects and neighborhood events. Some residents feel there is no neighborhood identity/pride.

Housing, 11 percent

Residents associate rental units (single-family and multiplexes) with high crime in neighborhoods. Residents have also indicated that renters in area to not keep up properties.

Tensions between more established residents and those who rent was a common theme surrounding housing.

Civic participation, 9 percent
Quality of life, 5 percent
Jobs and income, 2 percent
Health care, 1 percent
Education, 1 percent
What do residents like most about their neighborhoods?

Quality of life, 67 percent
Residents have indicated that they love the diversity in the neighborhoods. Residents with different cultures and backgrounds make the neighborhoods more vibrant. Residents also indicate that they like to be connected to their neighbors and value neighborhood inclusion.

Other (not including public services, safety, civic participation, housing, education, jobs and income, or health care), 13 percent
Residents like proximity to local shops and other resources such as community centers or hubs. They appreciate the accessibility and close proximity.

Public services, 6 percent
Residents like bike lanes and appropriate zoning that makes neighborhoods safer for children. Some residents have had positive interactions with public service departments.

Safety, 6 percent
Some residents have indicated they like the quietness in the neighborhoods.

Civic participation, 4 percent
Housing, 3 percent
Education, 2 percent
Jobs and income, 0 percent
Health care, 0 percent

What’s next?

The second round of canvassing begins in spring 2018. CIL staff will knock on 10,000 doors by the end of 2018 and 30,000 doors by 2020.

Several CIL community organizers have indicated the need for an Arabic and or Kurdish-speaking individual that can help with outreach to native speakers. Other language needs include speakers of Vietnamese and Karen translators.