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# Initial Engagement Summary

**Engagement Timeline** 

Public Engagement Overview

**Emerging Feedback** 

Additional Emerging Feedback

Methodology



# **BMT Project Timeline**

Public enagement in the Vision for the BMT helps to inform Task Force decision-making throughout the process.

Public engagement throughout the project helps to inform the Task Force, Advisory Groups, and Planning Team.

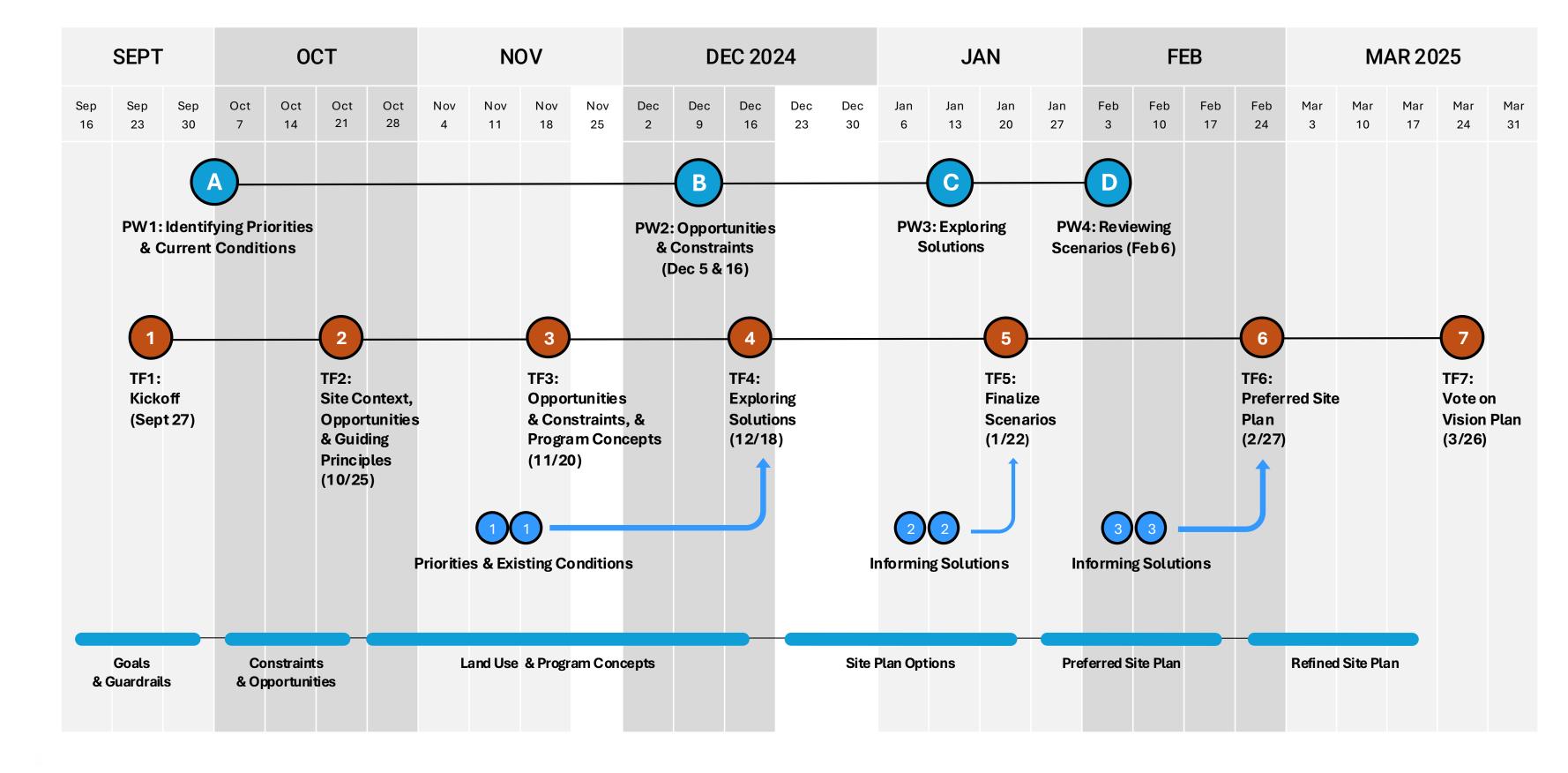
Public

**Public Workshops** 

Task Force Meetings

**Advisory Groups** 

Planning Team Activity





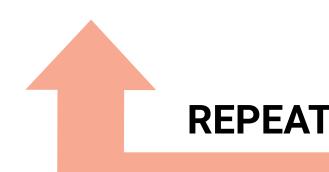
# Methodology

Community feedback is collected at each stage of the planning process, informing the BMT Task Force in their decision-making.

### **PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT**



Engage the public to understand community priorities.



### **FEEDBACK SYNTHESIS**



Develop and implement a process for documenting and organizing all comments from engagement.

# FINDINGS INFORM TASK FORCE MEETING



Share a feedback summary with the Task Force to inform their decision-making.

### **PUBLIC SHAREOUT**



Synthesize feedback in a clear, accessible format to share publicly.



# **Public Engagement Overview**

A range of virtual and in-person engagement opportunities have been available in the planning process to-date.

Through November 22nd, this process has included:

- 1 drop-in information session
- 1 virtual information session
- 6 tabling sessions at various community events such as NYCHA Family Day and Atlantic Antic
- 2 sessions of Public Workshop #1
- 11 drop-in feedback sessions
- 6 Advisory Group Meetings
- 4 Advisory Group and Public Site Tours
- 40 hours of Red Hook outreach by Green City Force youth, including door knocking at Red Hook Houses and flyering at local businesses and community spaces
- And, additional presentations at community meetings such as the Community Board 6, 76th Precinct, and Cobble Hill Association





<sup>\*</sup>Tabling events as of 11/22/24

<sup>\*\*</sup>BMT Feedback Sessions as of 11/22/24

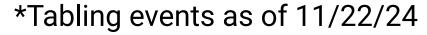
# **Public Engagement Overview**

A number of community members have engaged in the planning process to-date.

# And has engaged:

- 2,000+ community members across all engagement types
- 450 virtual introductory information session attendees
- 295 tabling event participants\*
- 280 public workshop attendees
- 91 drop-in feedback attendees\*\*
- 810 survey respondents
- 84 site tour attendees
- 60 Advisory Group Oganizations





<sup>\*\*</sup>BMT Feedback Sessions as of 11/22/24



# **Emerging Feedback through October 2024**

In reviewing all public feedback to-date, the following themes are emerging:

## **Public Parks and Open Space**

Enthusiasm and desire for increased park space, recreational amenities and waterfront access

# **Climate Resiliency and Sustainability**

Concern over how the Vision for BMT will address or impact air quality, flooding, and overall climate resiliency of the area

## **Transportation Options and Connections**

Strong desire for increased public transportation access (ferries, train, shuttles, bus) and bike/pedestrian infrastructure

### **Reduce Truck Traffic**

Major concerns around truck and vehicle traffic from BQE creating major safety hazards, streets already overburdened, coordinate with BQE study

### **Housing and Affordable Housing**

Strong opposition to luxury high-rises, and a desire to increase affordable housing and to prioritize and fund repairs at existing local public housing (Red Hook Houses)

### **Industrial and Maritime Growth**

Tension between desire to preserve the working waterfront and providing additional non-maritime uses; importance of health and safety of workers and nearby residents

### **Retail/Shopping/Entertainment**

Desire to maintain and strengthen small, local businesses in the area; mixed feedback on cruise industry with some concerns around negative traffic impacts

### **Job Training**

Interest in educational programming, space to support maritime training, prioritizing local community members for employment opportunities at BMT



# Additional Emerging Feedback through October 2024

Some community members also shared feedback on the planning process.

### **Coordination with relevant area plans**

Importance of coordinating the BMT plan with relevant area plans, such as BQE Vision, Red Hook Coastal Resiliency Plan, and the DOT Red Hook Truck and Traffic Study

# **Clarity around timeline**

Some confusion around timeline, how long this planning process will take, and what decisions the public can influence

### Desire for structured discussion

Some desire for more structured learning and discussion at next public workshop



# B. Public Workshop #1

Public Workshop #1 - At a Glance

Printed Materials for Information Sharing

**Printed Materials for Discussion** 

**Share Your Priorities Boards** 

Questions for Advisory Groups Boards

Findings by Theme



# Public Workshop #1 - At a Glance

The first round of public engagement included two public workshop sessions to introduce the process, share key details about BMT, and collect feedback around community priorities, challenges, and opportunities.

## **Workshop sessions**

- Miccio Center
   Saturday, September 28th | 11am to 2pm 200 attendees
- Sacred Hearts & St. Stephen Monday, October 7th | 6 to 8pm 80 attendees

### **Activities**

- Share your Priorities
- Questions for the Advisory Groups
- Mapping Feedback

### Language access

 Spanish and Mandarin interpretation available at both sessions











# **Printed Materials for Information Sharing**

At the public workshops, 16 information boards provided an overview of the process, background and context, and key details about each of the piers.

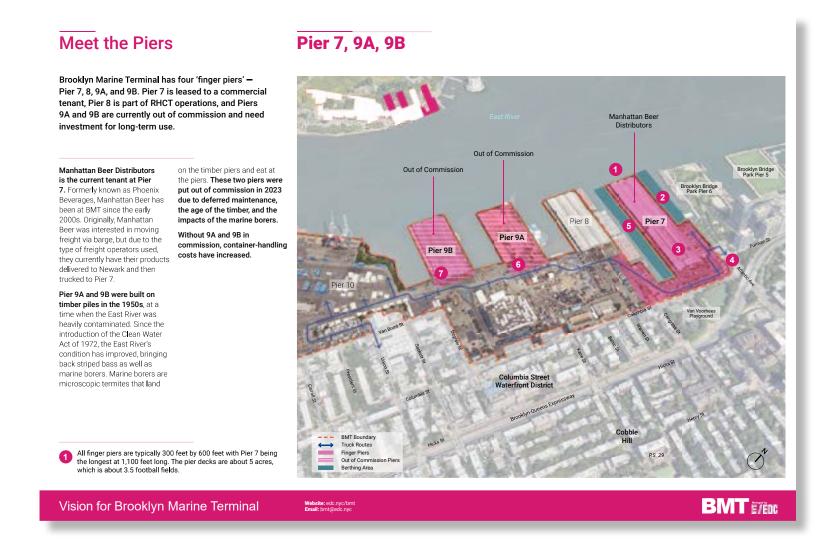






Scan or click on this QR code to download all the boards from Public Workshop #1!





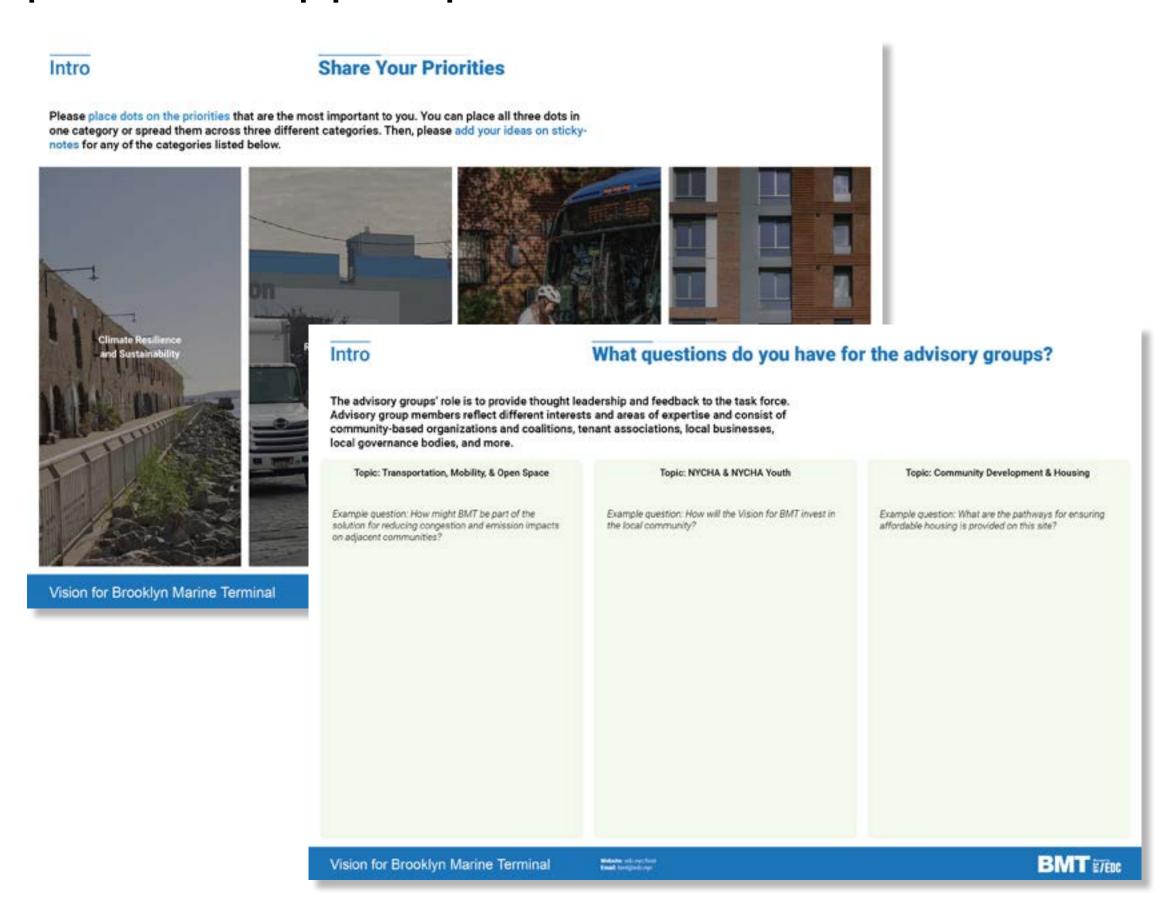
Meet the Piers boards (6)

+1 Maritime Terms board

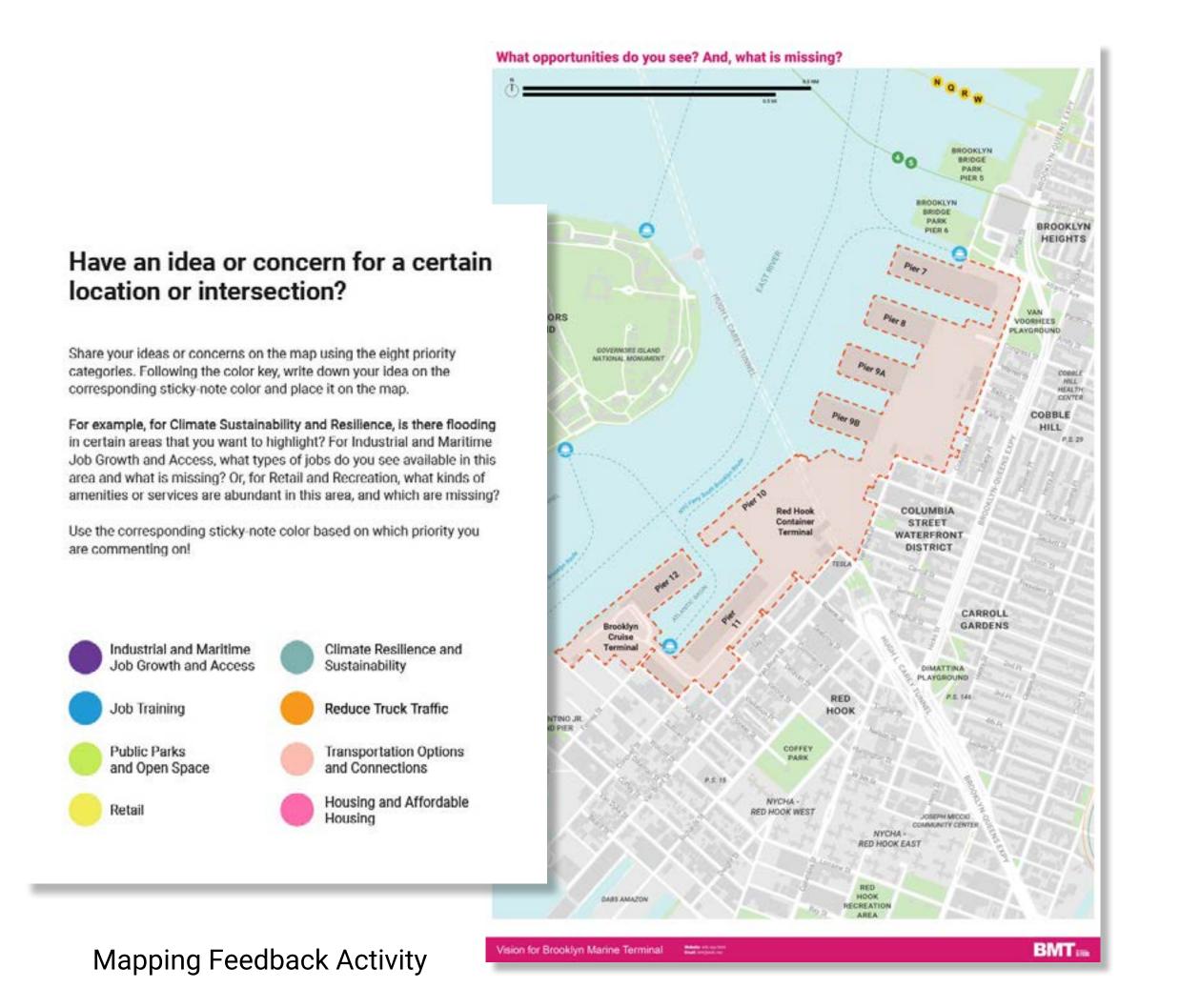


# **Printed Materials for Discussion**

Four feedback boards and one mapping activity collected input from public workshop participants.



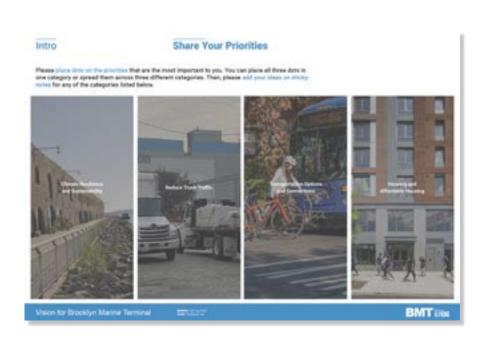
Share Your Priorities boards (2) and Questions for Advisory Groups boards (2)

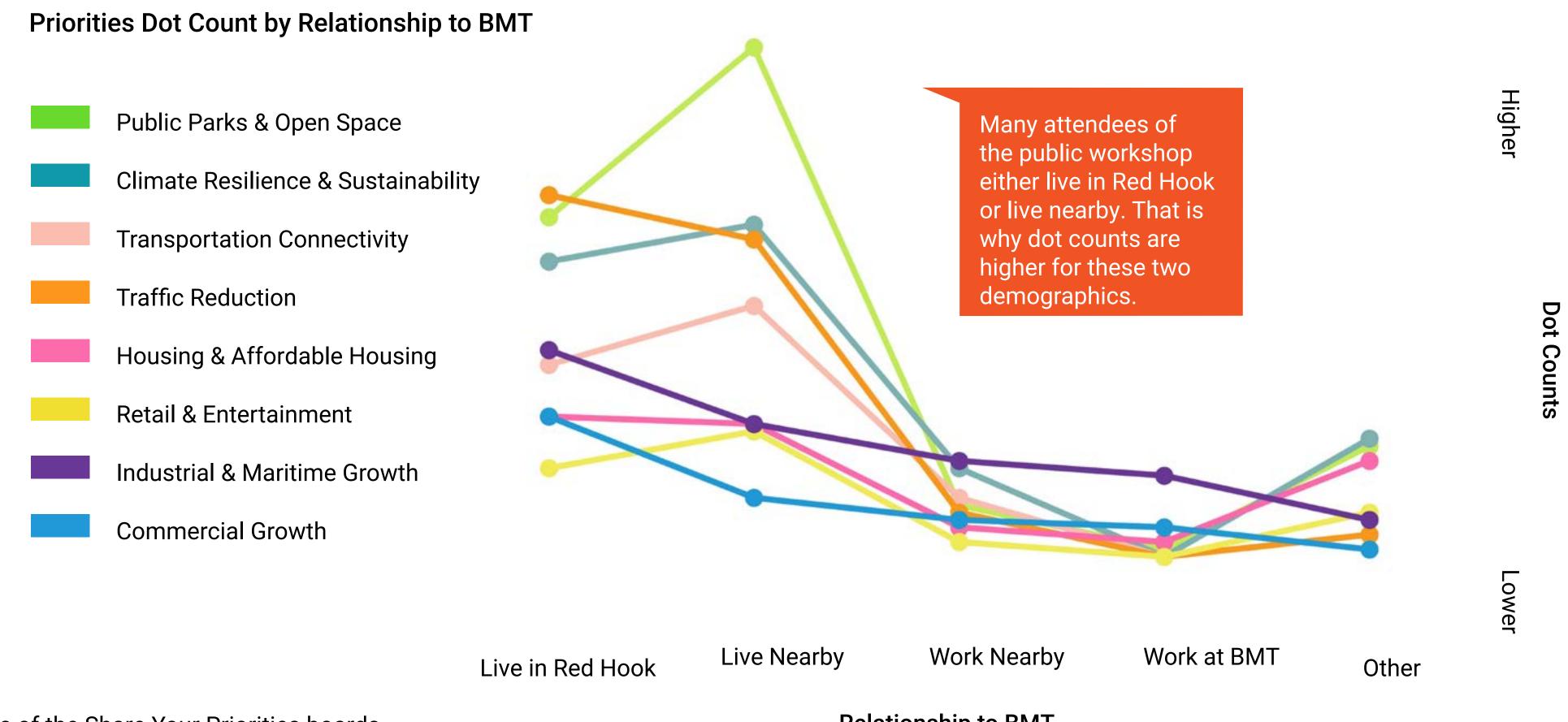




# **Share Your Priorities Boards**

Top priorities varied by workshop attendee's relationship to BMT. Both attendees who live in Red Hook and nearby had some combination of Traffic Reduction, Public Parks & Open Space, and Climate Resilience & Sustainability in their top three priorities.





Relationship to BMT

Pictures of the Share Your Priorities boards are shown in the Appendix.

# **Public Parks and Open Space**

# **Emerging Feedback:**

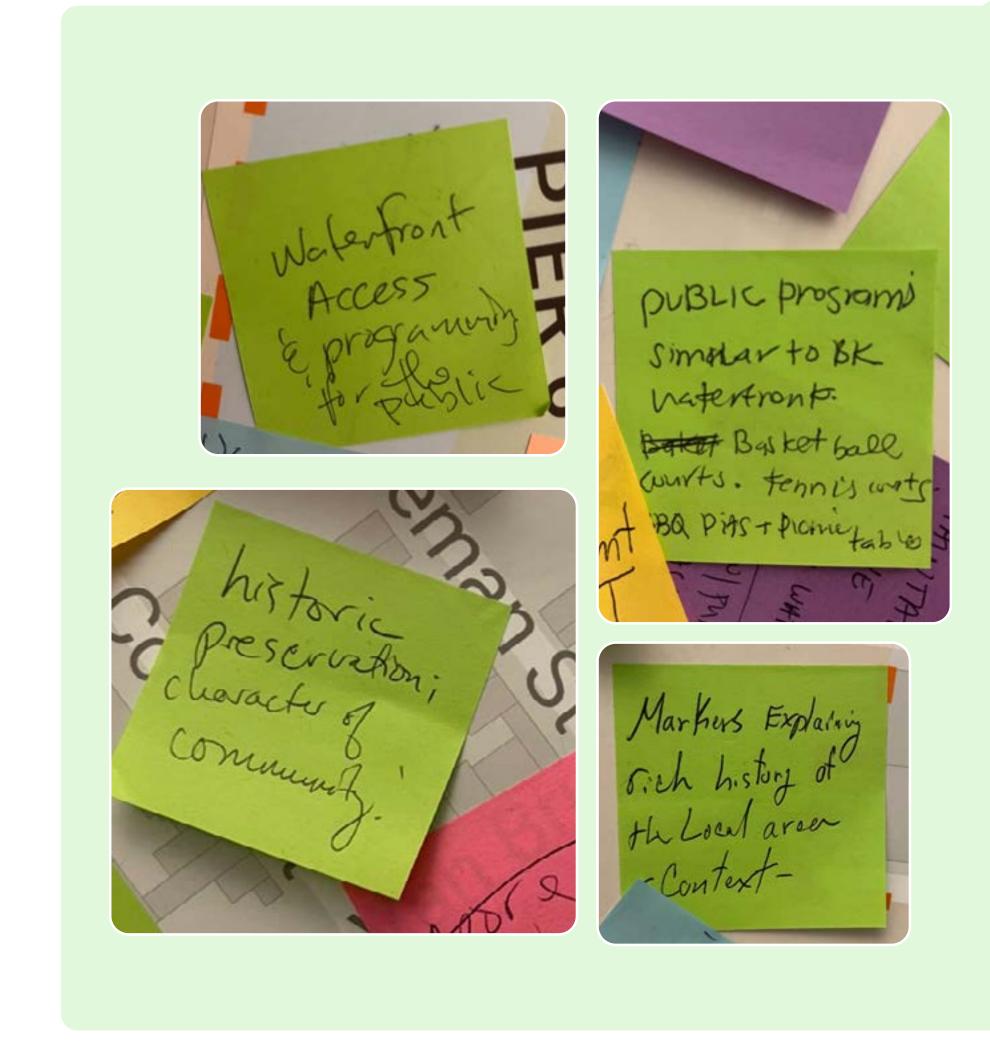
Enthusiasm and desire for increased park space, recreational amenities, and waterfront access

## Participants also noted:

- Parks and open space as high priority— one of the most frequently mentioned priorities among workshop attendees.
- Many ideas for specific amenties, ranging from sports fields, playgrounds, libraries, cultural heritage instutions, landmarks/signage, and more

# Additional quotes from sticky-notes:

"Waterfront accessibility and historic preservation"





# Climate Resiliency and Sustainability

# **Emerging Theme:**

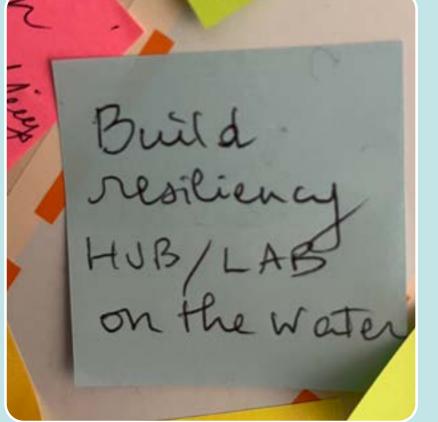
Concern over industrial air pollution, flood protection, and overall resiliency plan for the area

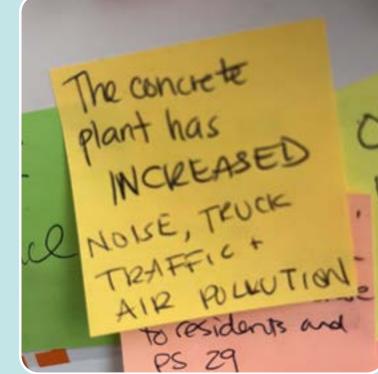
### Participants also noted:

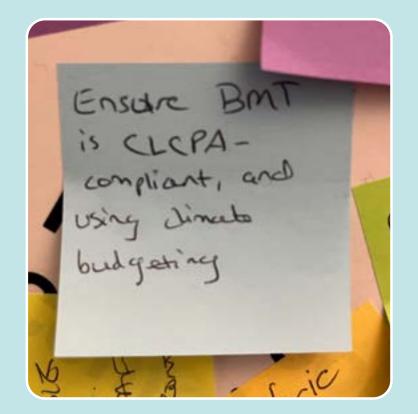
- Heavy pollution from truck traffic and dust from the concrete mixing plant
- Strong emphasis on following best practices/measures around waterfront resiliency
- Green workforce opportunities are desired

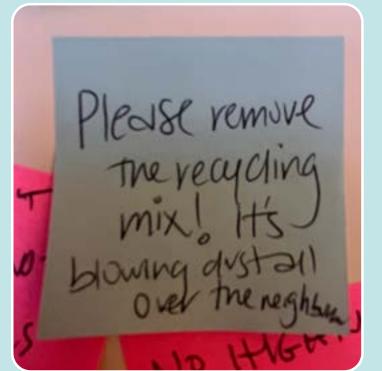
## Additional quotes from sticky-notes:

- "Whatever you build, have a plan to manage flooding, surge + stormwater"
- "What is good for fish + aquatic life?"













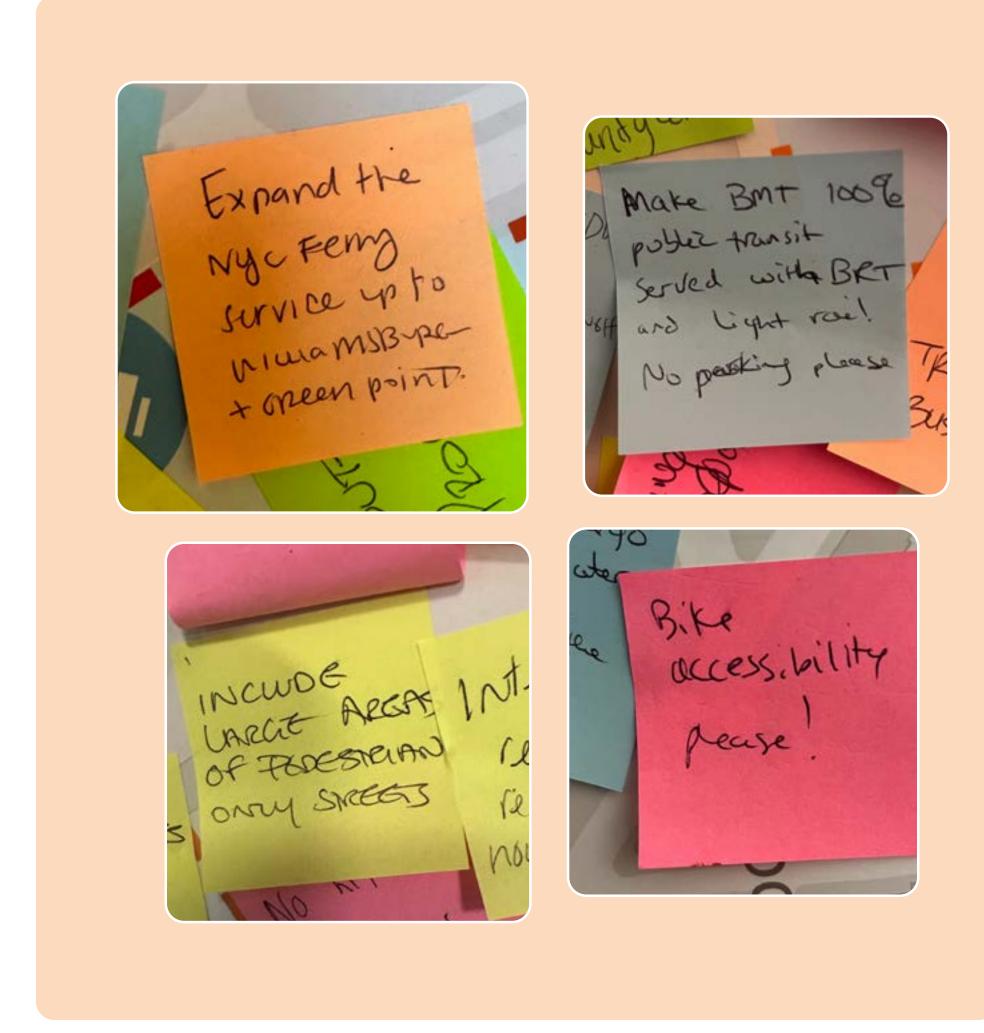
# **Transportation Options and Connections**

# **Emerging Theme:**

Strong desire for increased public transportation access (ferries, train, shuttles, bus) and bike/pedestrian infrastructure

# Participants also noted:

- There are few transportation options in the area, and BMT should address this gap, especially if BMT includes housing
- More bike and pedestrian connectivity is desired particularly to other areas in Brooklyn
- Importance of coordinating with relevant area plans like BQE Vision, Red Hook Coastal Resiliency Plan, and the DOT Red Hook Truck and Traffic Study







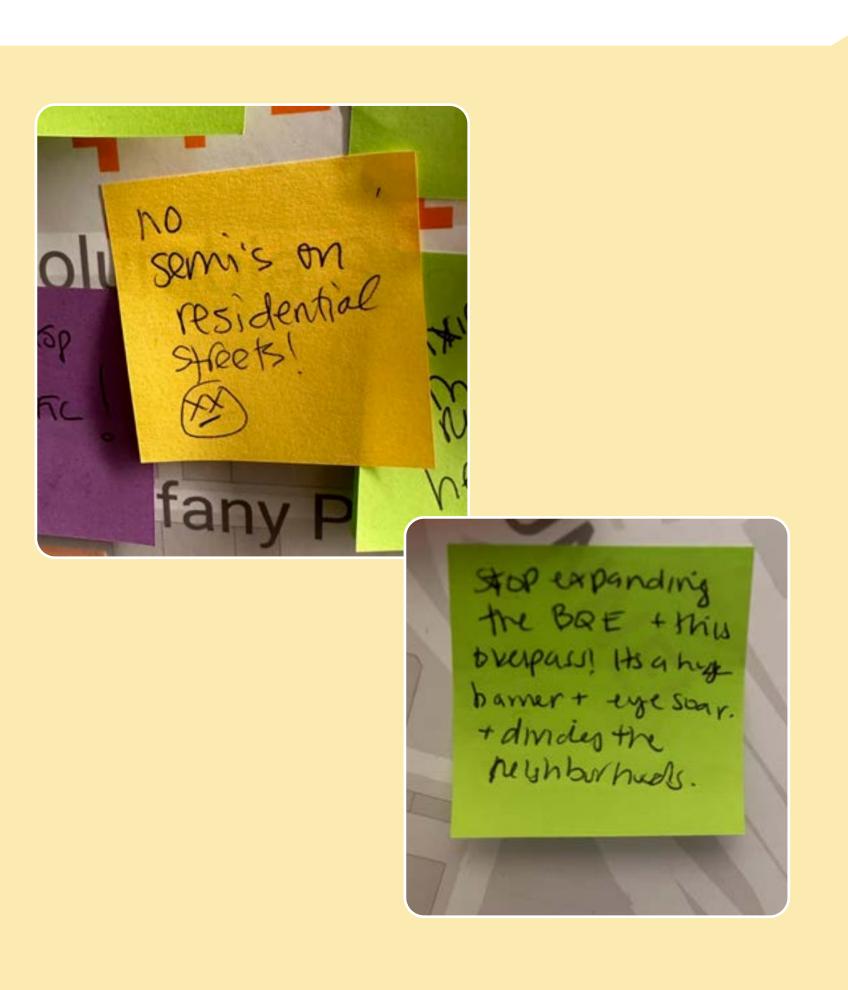
# Reduce the Impact of Truck Traffic

### **Emerging Theme:**

Major concerns around truck and vehicle traffic from BQE creating major safety hazards, streets already overburdened, coordinate with BQE study

## Participants also noted:

- Transition from BQE into neighborhood streets needs better design, planning, and coordination from the City
- Suggestions around closing various BQE exits/entrances at various times of day
- Concerns around trucks on specific streets like Van Brunt and Atlantic Ave
- Several unsafe turns, such as at Degraw St. & Columbia St. and at Van Brunt St. & Degraw St.







# Housing and Affordable Housing

### **Emerging Theme:**

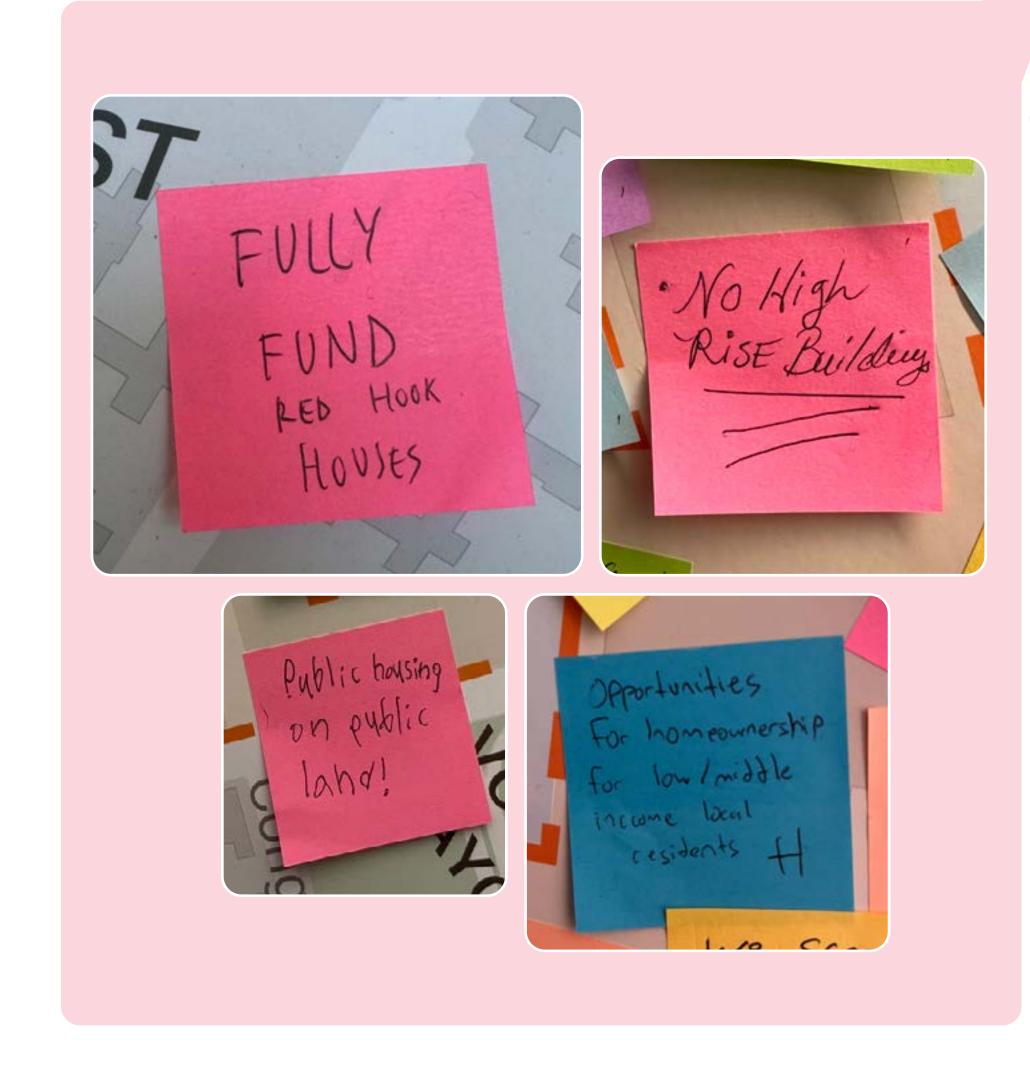
Strong opposition to luxury high-rises and a desire for increased funding for existing public housing at Red Hook Houses and additional affordable housing

## Participants also noted:

Desire to cap the height of buildings at BMT

## Additional quotes from sticky-notes:

- "Need mixed use and affordable housing."
- "No more housing in flood zone"
- "No transfer of property to developers, long-term leases only"







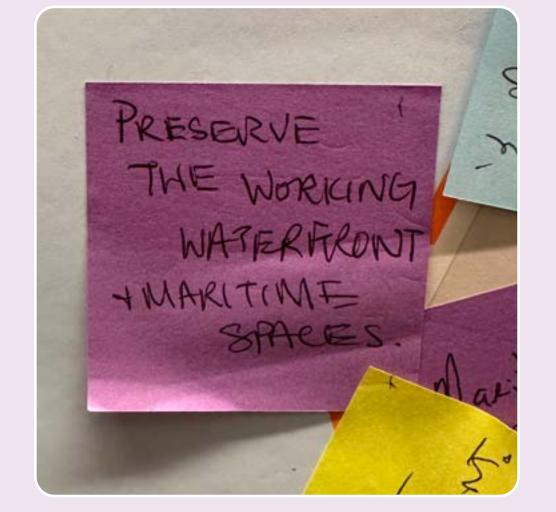
# **Industrial and Maritime Growth**

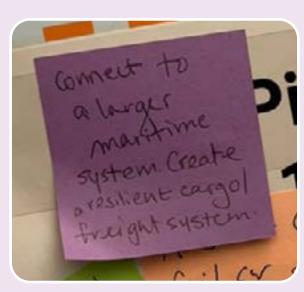
### **Emerging Theme:**

Tension between desire to preserve the working waterfront and providing additional non-maritime uses; importance of health and safety of workers and nearby residents

## Participants also noted:

- Interest in maritime jobs for the local community and maritime education for local youth
- Reducing industry-related truck traffic and creating safer streets for families as high priority
- Desire to restore and increase public access to docks and water
- Some overnight noise complaints, though generally people felt maritime, open space, and housing can co-exist if designed well











# Retail/Shopping/Entertainment

# **Emerging Theme:**

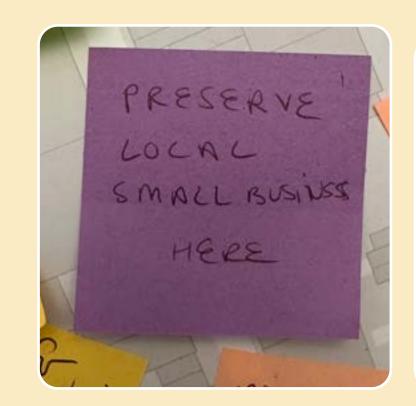
Desire to maintain small, local businesses in the area, mixed feelings over cruise industry

# Participants also noted:

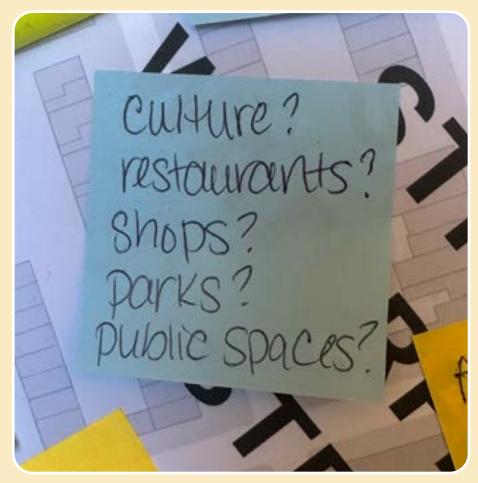
Desire for small, local businesses that complement existing uses

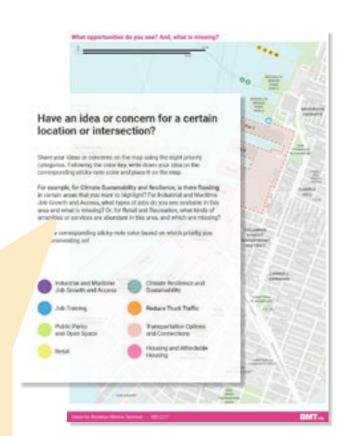
# Additional quotes from sticky-notes:

"We are a pharmacy and food desert"











# **Job Training**

# **Emerging Theme:**

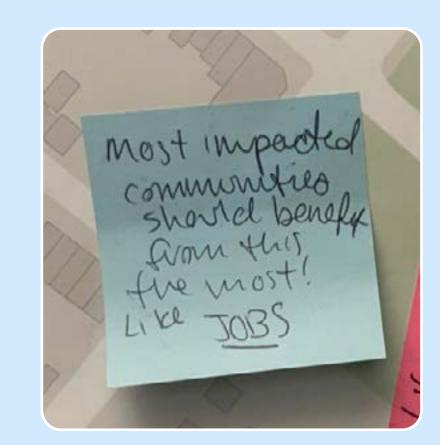
Interest in educational programming, space to support maritime training, prioritizing local community members for employment opportunities at BMT

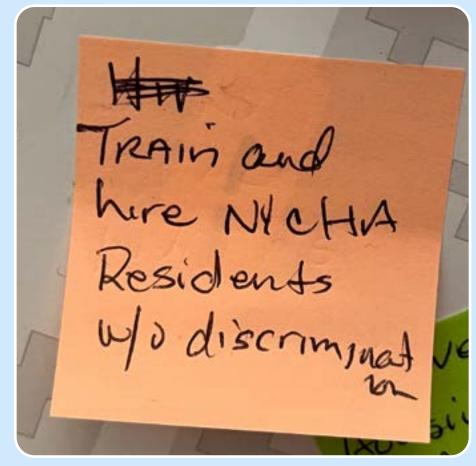
# Participants also noted:

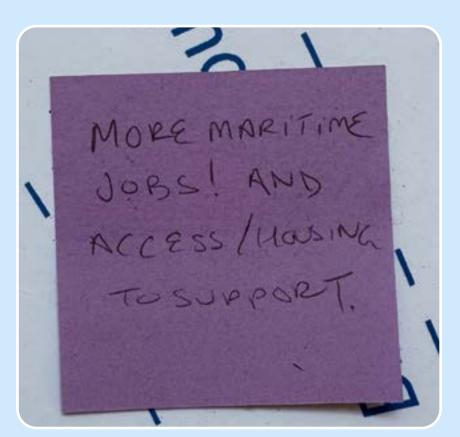
- Desire for job training opportunities for youth and residents of the area, especially for communities most impacted by this plan
- Interest in green and climate-forward career opportunities

# Additional quotes from sticky-notes:

"Urgently need skill training for specialized jobs"











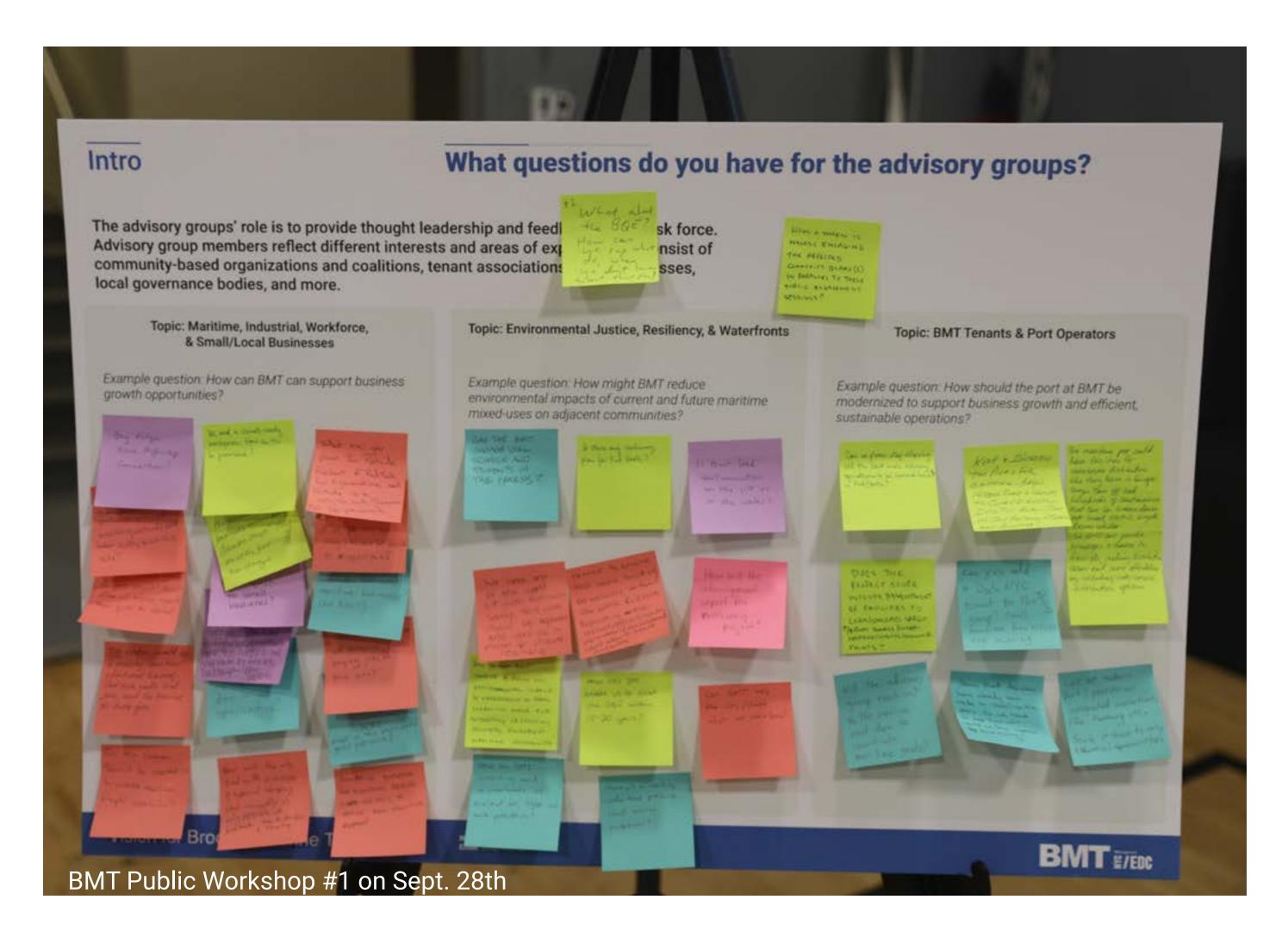
# **Questions for Advisory Groups Boards**

Public workshop attendees shared their questions for the six advisory groups formed as part of this planning process.

For example, some attendees asked:

- "How do you propose to deal with the increased truck traffic on already over burdened streets?"
- "How might BMT contribute to alternative transportation solutions to reduce violent traffic deaths and provide safer routes for biking, etc."
- "How is this project prioritizing NYCHA tenant access to maritime jobs and educational opportunities?"

Pictures of all Questions for the Advisory Groups boards are shown in the Appendix.







# Survey - At a Glance

The first round of public engagement also included a community survey to collect initial feedback around community priorities, engagement considerations, and any additional reflections.

# **Key details**

- 810 total respondents
- Opened Wednesday, September 18th
- Closed Monday, October 21st
- The survey was available in English, Spanish, and Mandarin.

## Representation

Less than 7% of survey respondents earn 75k or less in household income compared to around 35% in neighborhoods surrounding BMT.\*

Around 7% of respondents identified as Hispanic and 4% as Black, compared the demographic breakdown of 20% Hispanic and 12% Black in surrounding neighborhoods.\*\*

Neighborhood Tabulation Area of 'Carroll Gardens-Cobble Hill-Gowanus-Red Hook' is used here to understand surrounding area demographics.

### \EDC

### A Vision for Brooklyn Marine Terminal - Initial Community Survey

In May 2024, Mayor Adams and Governor Hochul announced that New York State will transfer the ownership of the Brooklyn Marine Terminal to the City. Brooklyn Marine Terminal (BMT) is the active port just south of Brooklyn Bridge Park, that stretches from Atlantic Avenue at the Columbia Waterfront District down through the Red Hook Cruise Terminal to Wolcott Street in Red Hook. The City is embarking on a public engagement process to develop a vision for BMT's future use and improvement. To learn more, please visit: <a href="https://edc.nyc/project/brooklyn-marine-terminal">https://edc.nyc/project/brooklyn-marine-terminal</a>

We invite you to share your initial thoughts and ideas about the future of the BMT with us as we begin the public engagement process. There will be many ways to stay involved as this project continues, and we encourage you to share your email to stay informed about upcoming public meetings, engagement events, and more opportunities to share your ideas.

This survey is anonymous, and your email will only be used to add you to the project email list.

### Brooklyn Marine Terminal Map



Vision for BMT Community Survey



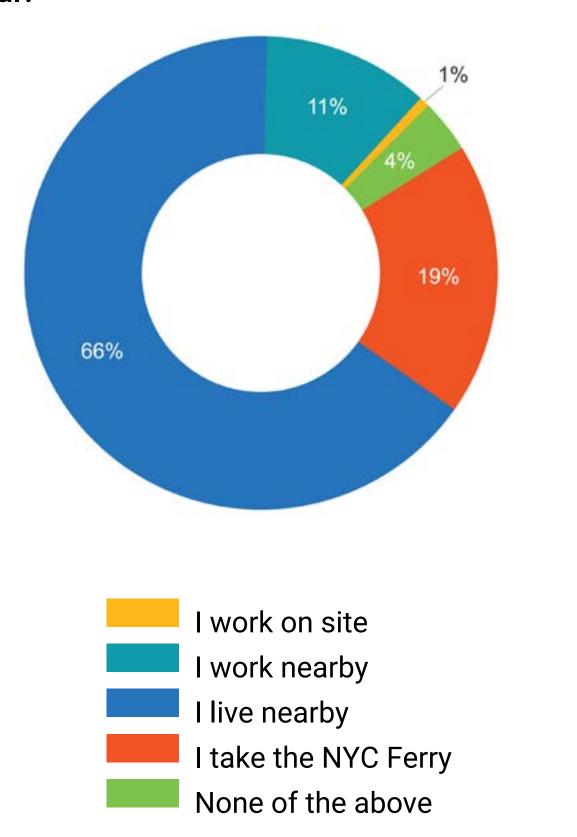
<sup>\*</sup>American Community Survey, 2018-2022

<sup>\*\*</sup>Decennial Census, 2020

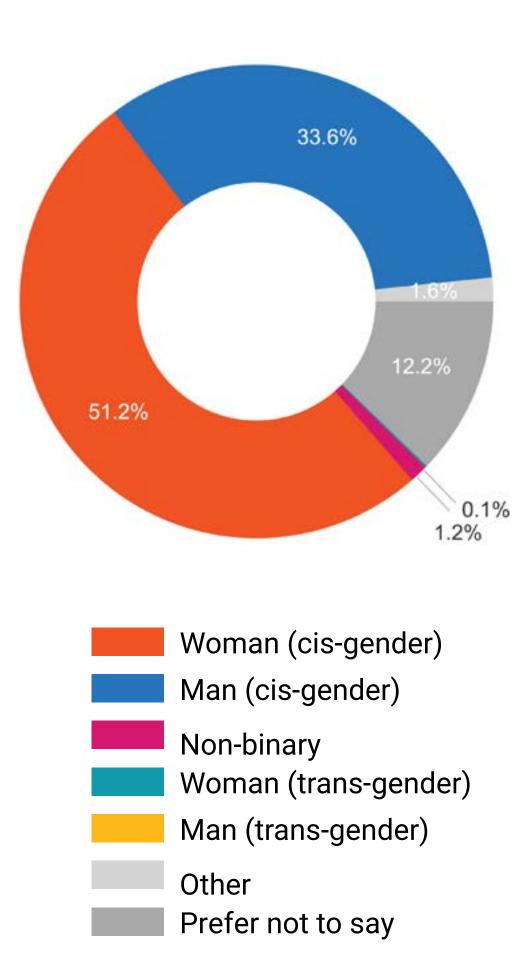
# **Survey Respondents**

61% of survey respondents identify as White, 51% as women, and 66% live near BMT.

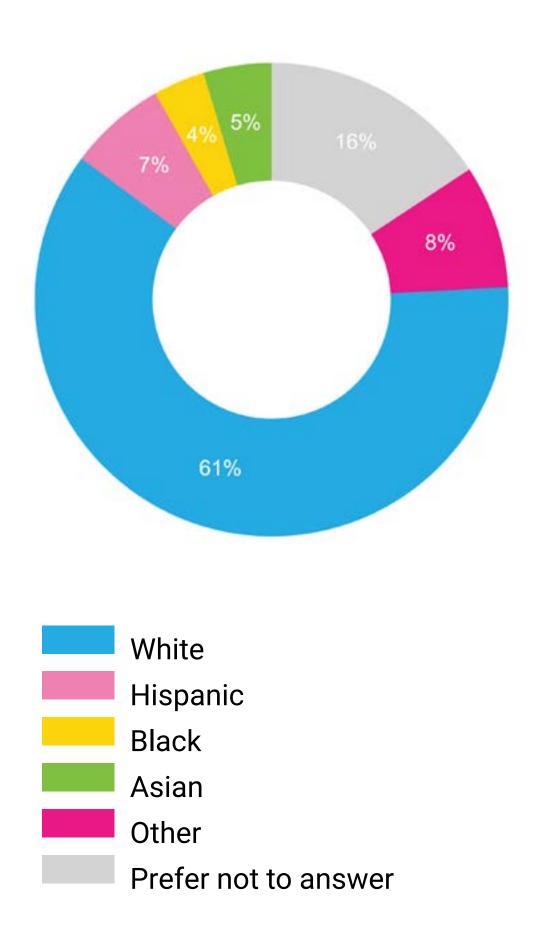
What is your relationship to the Brooklyn Marine Terminal?



What is your gender identity?



How do you identify in terms of race and identity?

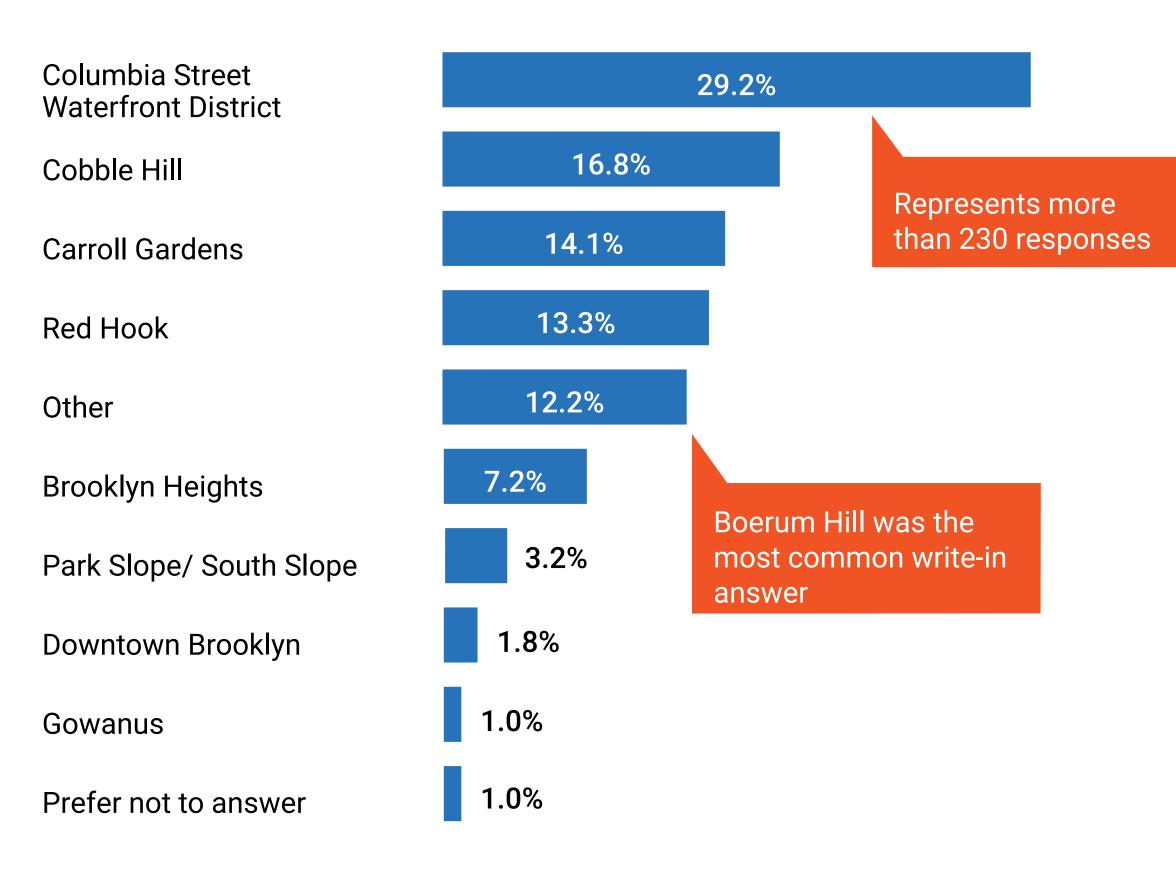




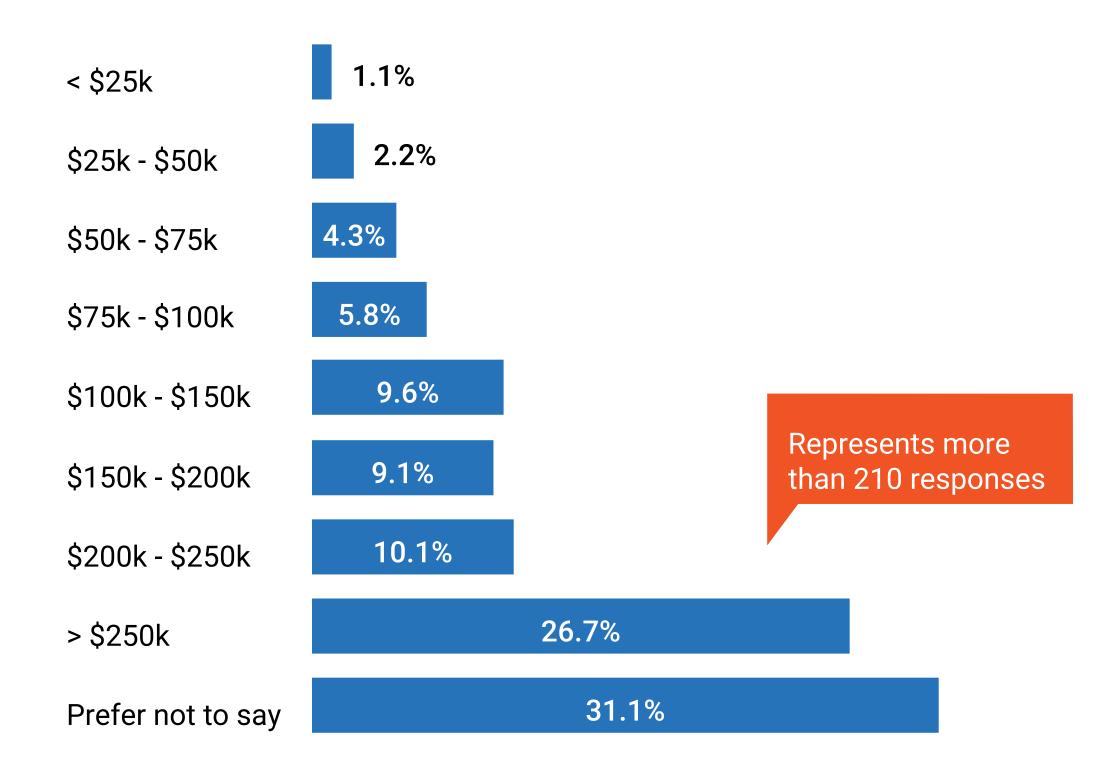
# **Survey Respondents**

29% of survey respondents live in Columbia Street Waterfront District, 17% in Cobble Hill, and 14% in Carroll Gardens. 37% of survey respondents have an household income of over \$200k and 31% chose not to disclose this information.

### What neighborhood do you live in?



### What is your household income?

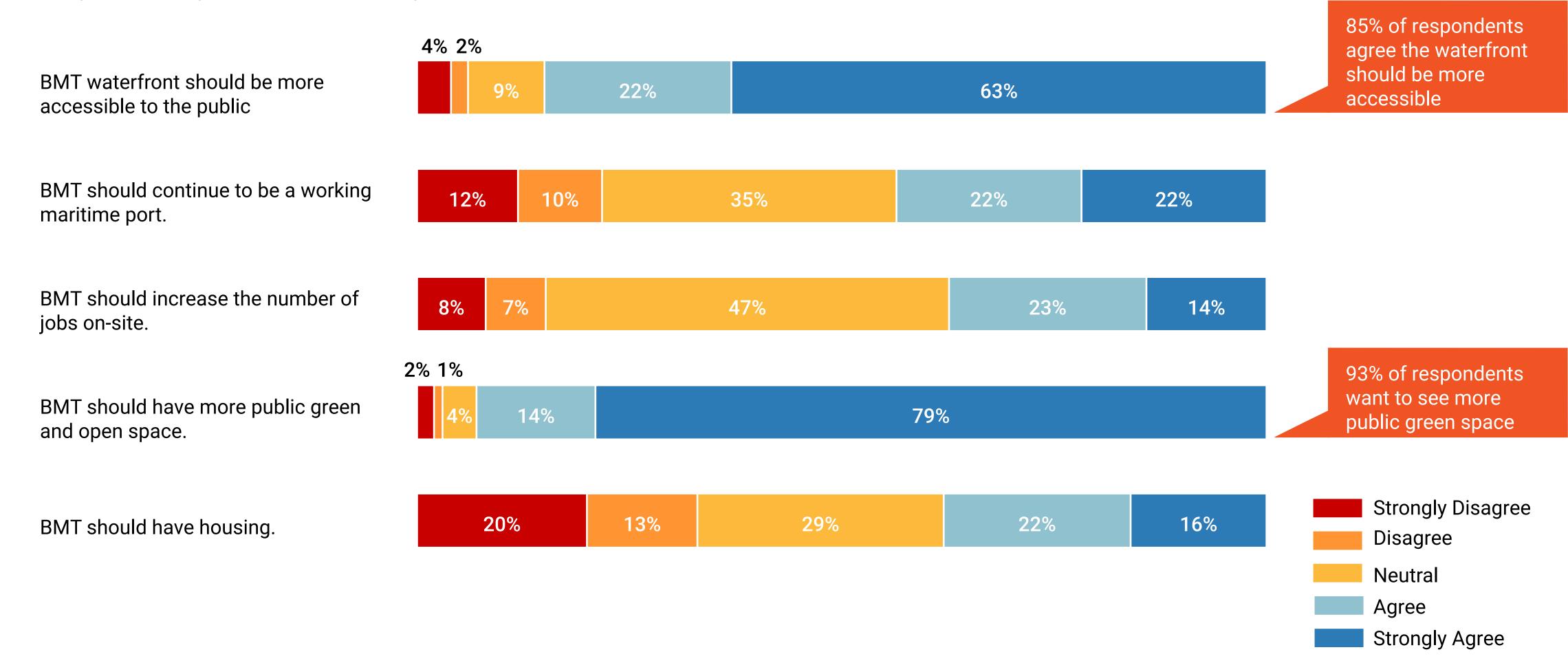




# **Survey Findings**

The survey showed strongest agreement on access to the waterfront and public green and open space and less agreement around housing, martime functions, and jobs.

How Much Do You Agree or Disagree with the Following Statements?

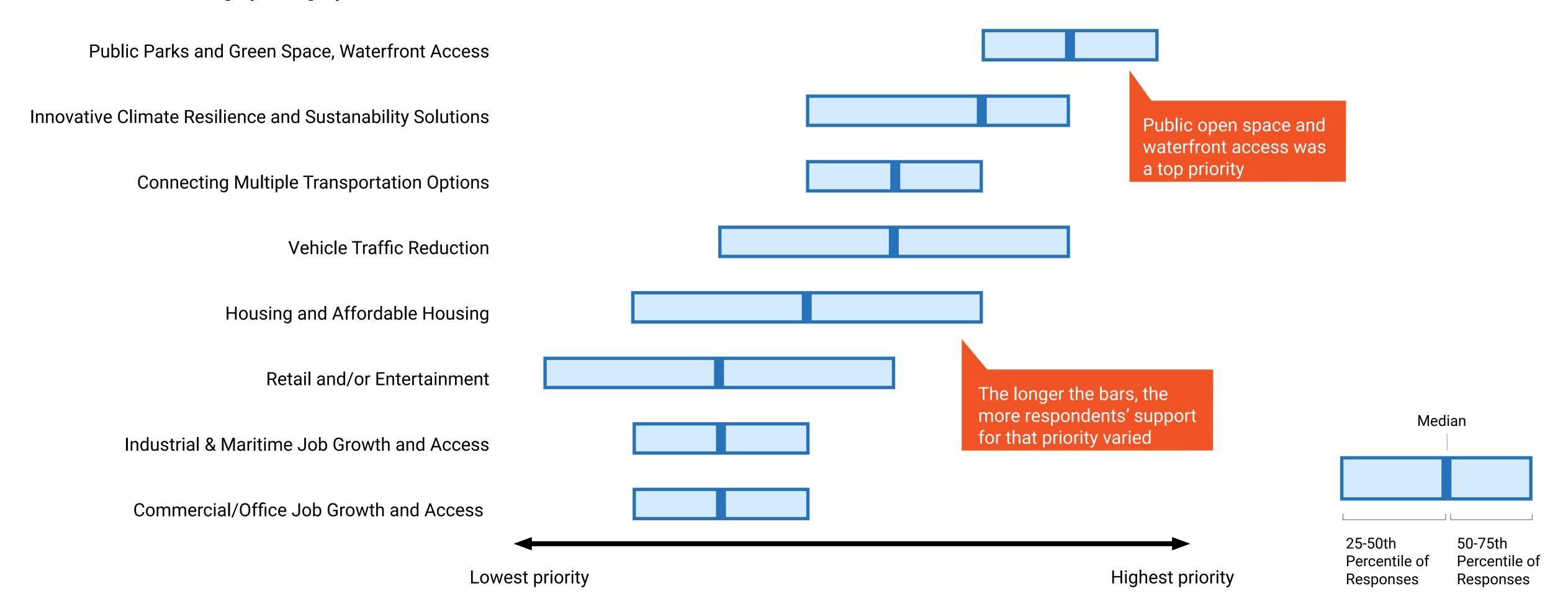




# **Survey Findings**

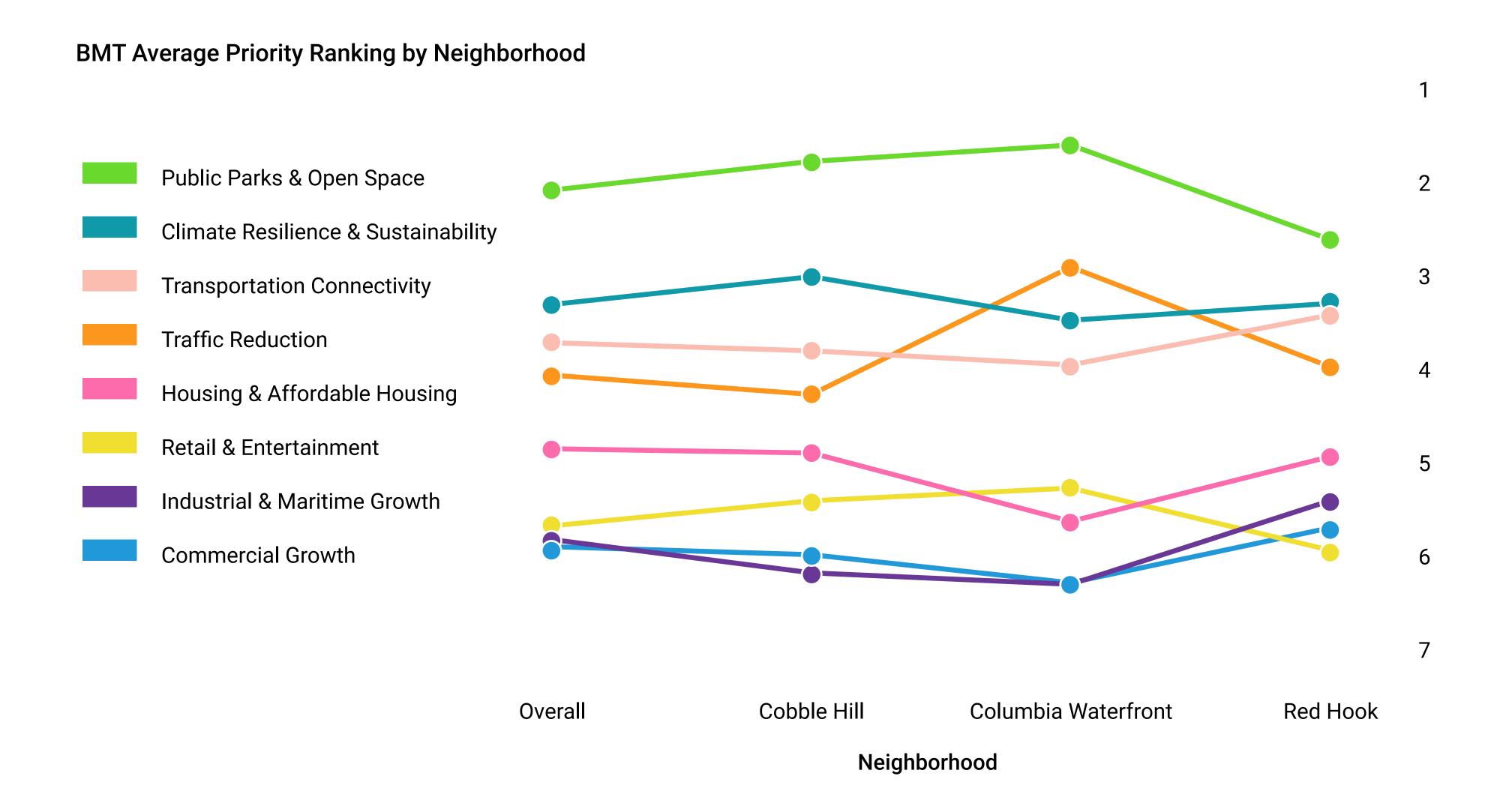
The top three priorities included public parks and green space, climate resilience, and connecting transportation options.

### **BMT Priorities Ranking by Category**



# **Survey Findings - Neighborhood Breakdown**

Public parks & open space was the top priority among the neighborhoods listed below.





# **Example Survey Quotes**

Survey respondents also shared specific ideas and concerns for consideration in the planning process.

"This feel likes a once in 100 year opportunity to develop the future of the area. Therefore I'd like to see a holistic discussion about the other infrastructure issues that exist nearby."

"I think it's crucial that BMT continues to be a working waterfront while providing greater access to public and increasing jobs and affordable housing."

"Provide **training opportunities** to local residents to ensure their inclusion in new job opportunities."

"Please combine this project with the BQE project that needs to happen.
One flows right into the other and they really do share many things in common specifically around traffic/too many cars on the road/air pollutoin/environmental concerns."

"I'm proud to live in this neighborhood and hope that the area will continue to serve as a working waterfront. Please work to involve the existing community wherever possible. It's one of the few remaining affordable options in South Brooklyn."

"The process is much too fast!
We can't possibly come up with a vision for such a massive site in four months. What is the hurry?
Why not take a longer time to create a vision for the site.

"Climate resiliency shouldn't be it's own "request." It comes off as a bit glib to make residents have to choose between these things, when this redevelopment should include ALL of the above."

"It's 120+ acres of land –the idea that you can figure out what the public, and the communities around it, want in four months is just not remotely plausible."





# **Next Steps**

Opportunities to engage in the planning process continue throughout the duration of this project.

# **Upcoming Public Workshops**

Register for the following workshops by visiting the EDC website via the QR code:

- Public workshop #2 Virtual | December 5th | 6:00-8:00pm
- Public Workshop #2 | December 16th | 6:00-8:00pm

# Representation

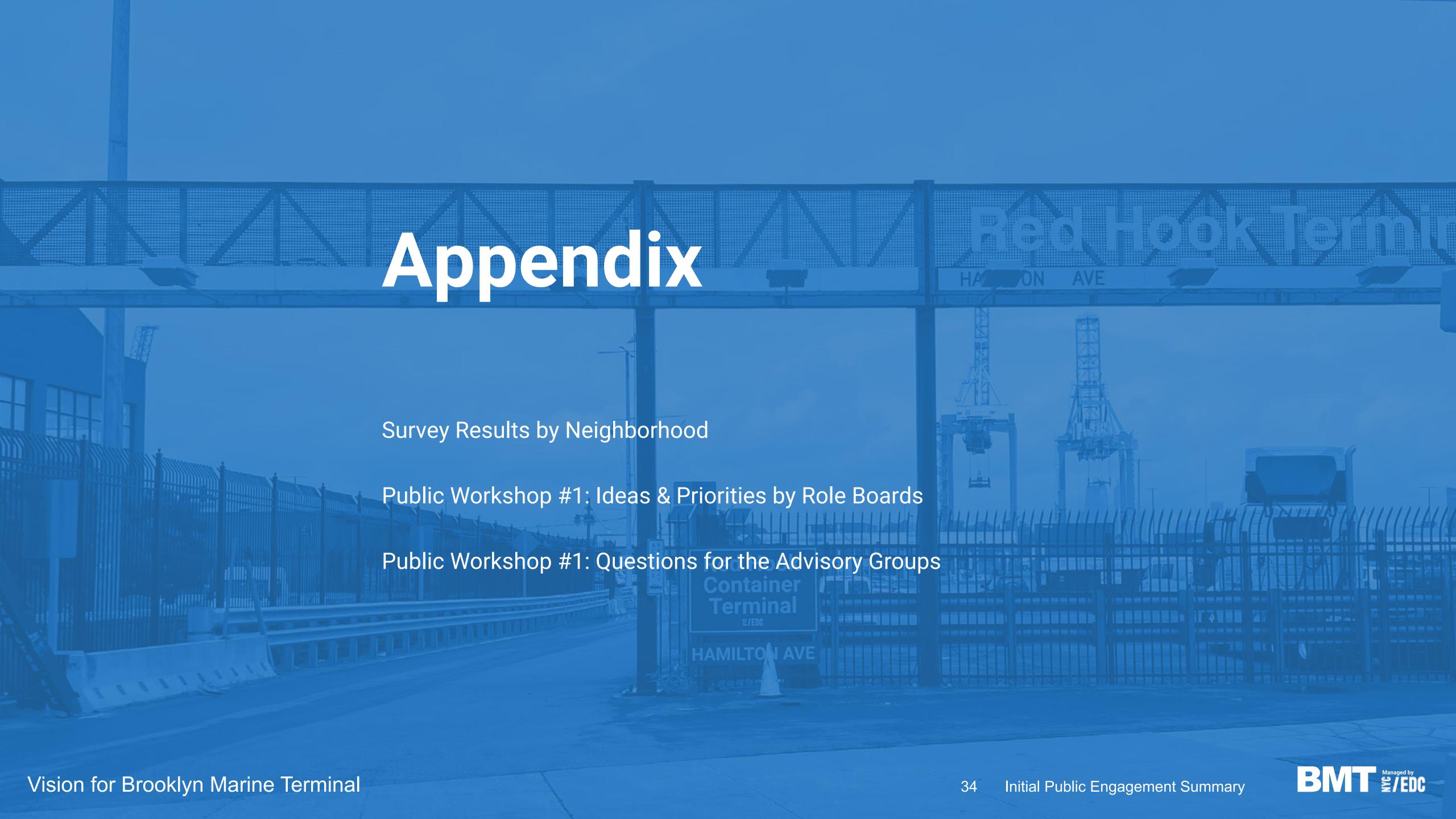
The planning process is aiming to increase representation from lower income families and non-English speakers in feedback collected. The following engagement is planned for the coming months:

- NYCHA tenants site tour
- NYCHA adult focus group
- NYCHA youth focus group
- Spanish-language focus group
- Mandarin-language focus group

Scan this QR code to visit the Vision for Brooklyn Marine Terminal website!



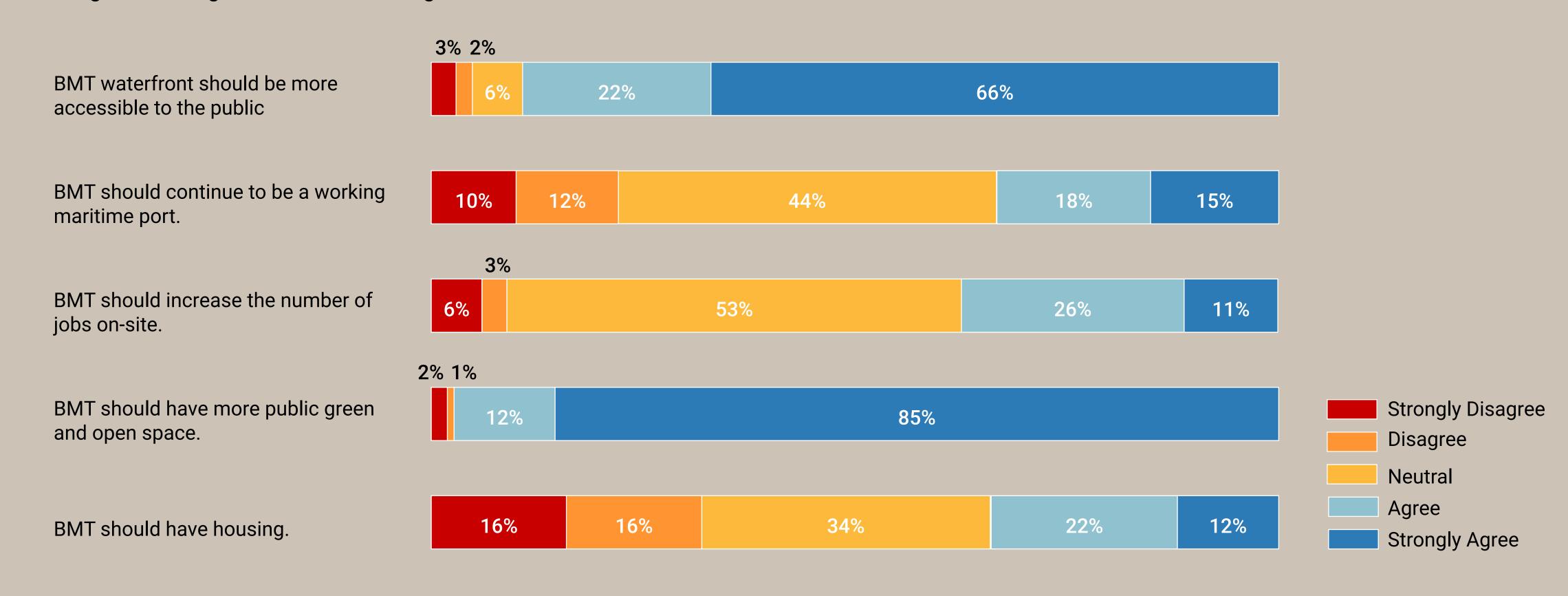




# Survey: Neighborhood Breakdown

# Cobble Hill

How Much Do You Agree or Disagree with the Following Statements?

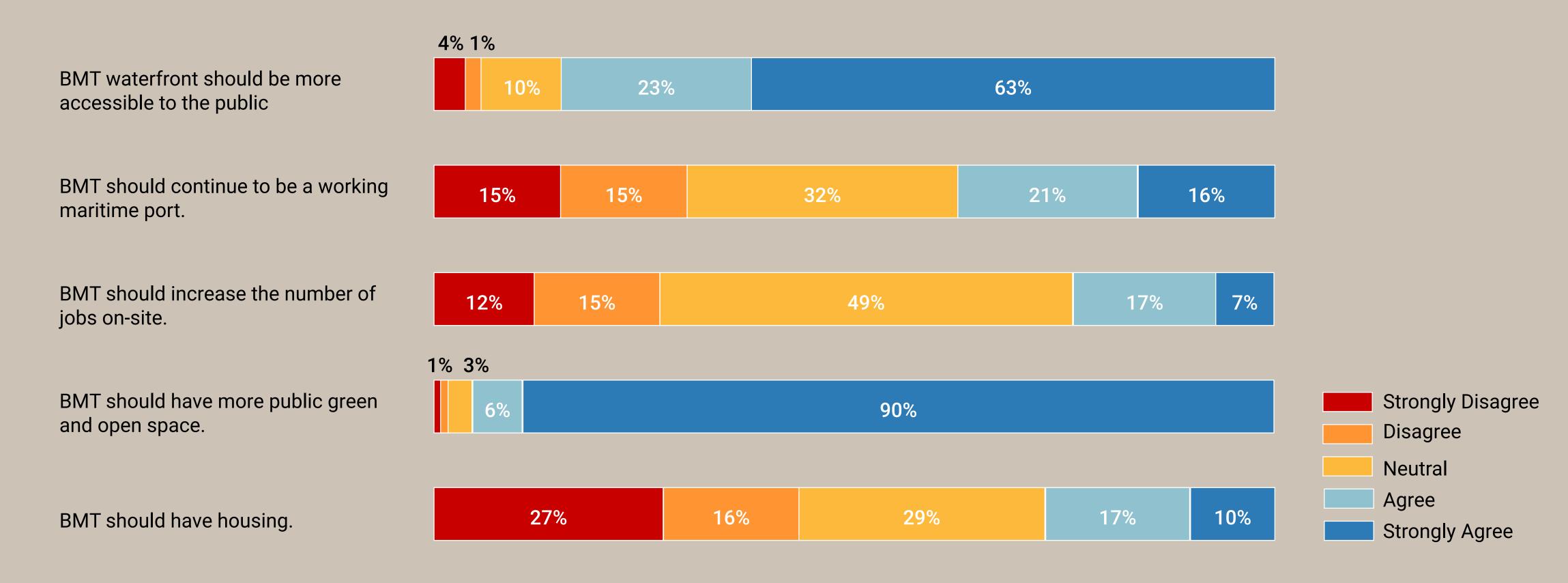




# Survey: Neighborhood Breakdown

# Columbia Street Waterfront District

How Much Do You Agree or Disagree with the Following Statements?

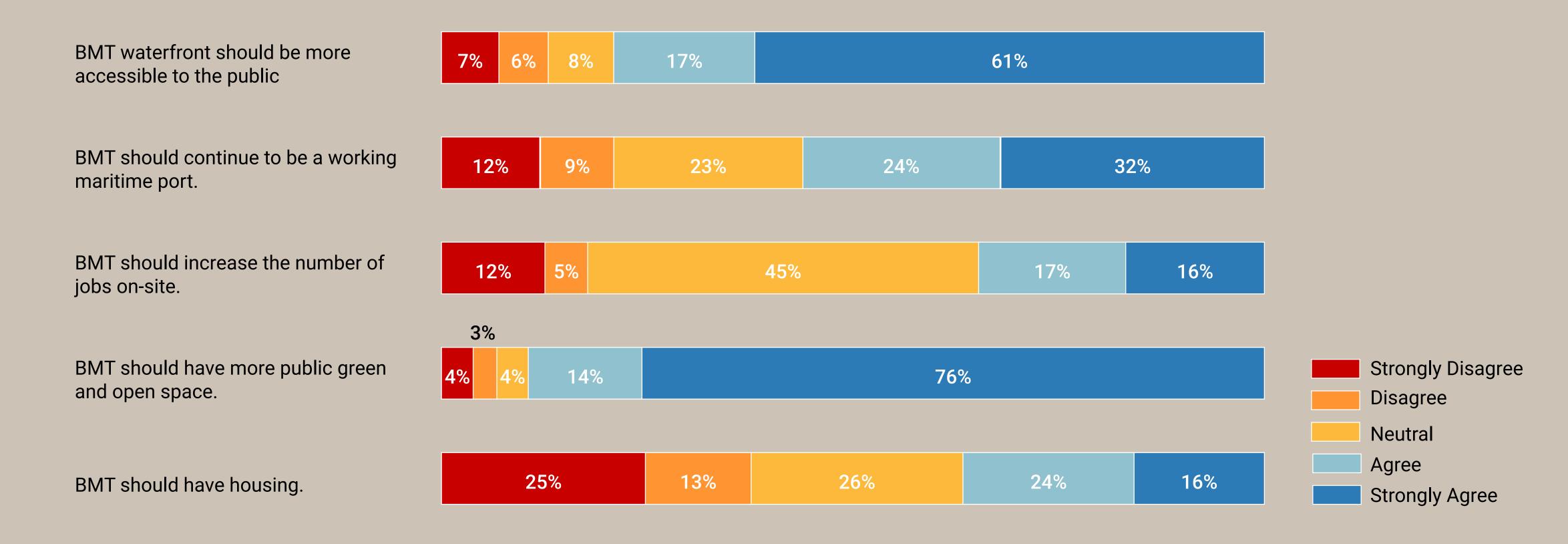




# Survey: Neighborhood Breakdown

#### Red Hook

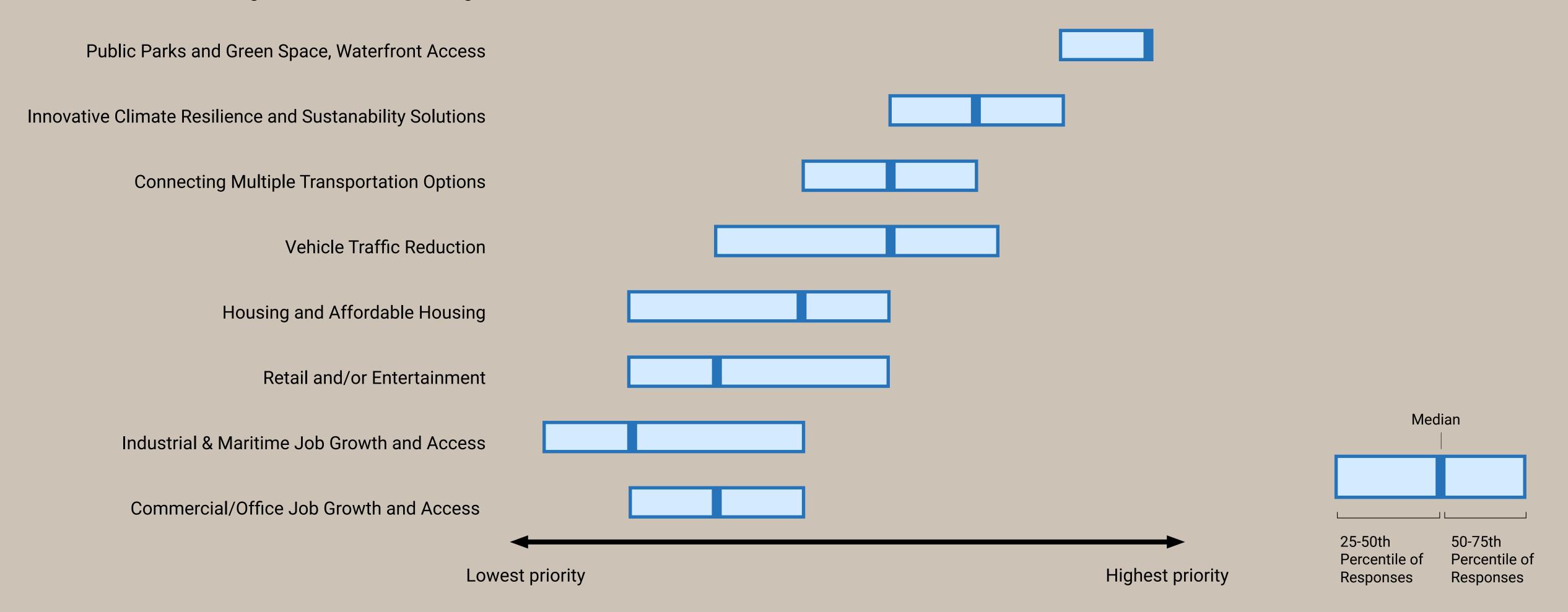
How Much Do You Agree or Disagree with the Following Statements?





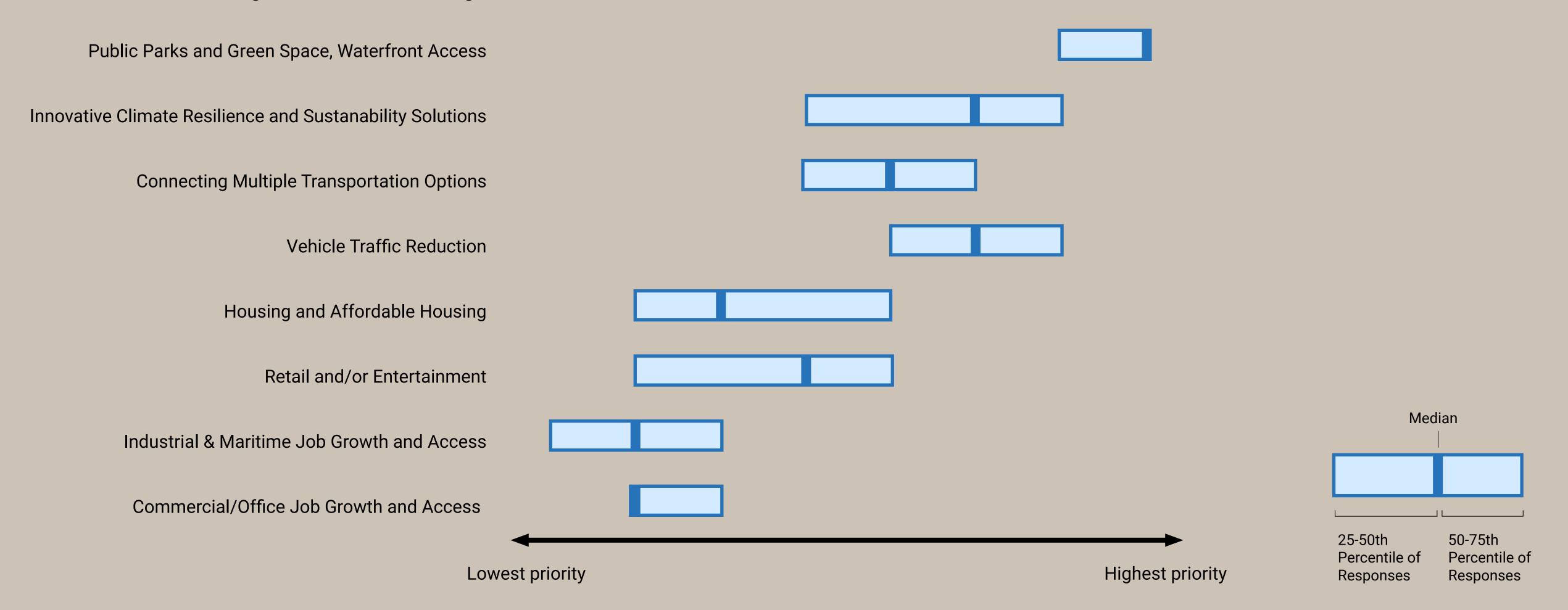
# Survey: Neighborhood Breakdown Cobble Hill

#### Please Rank the Following BMT Priorities from Highest to Lowest



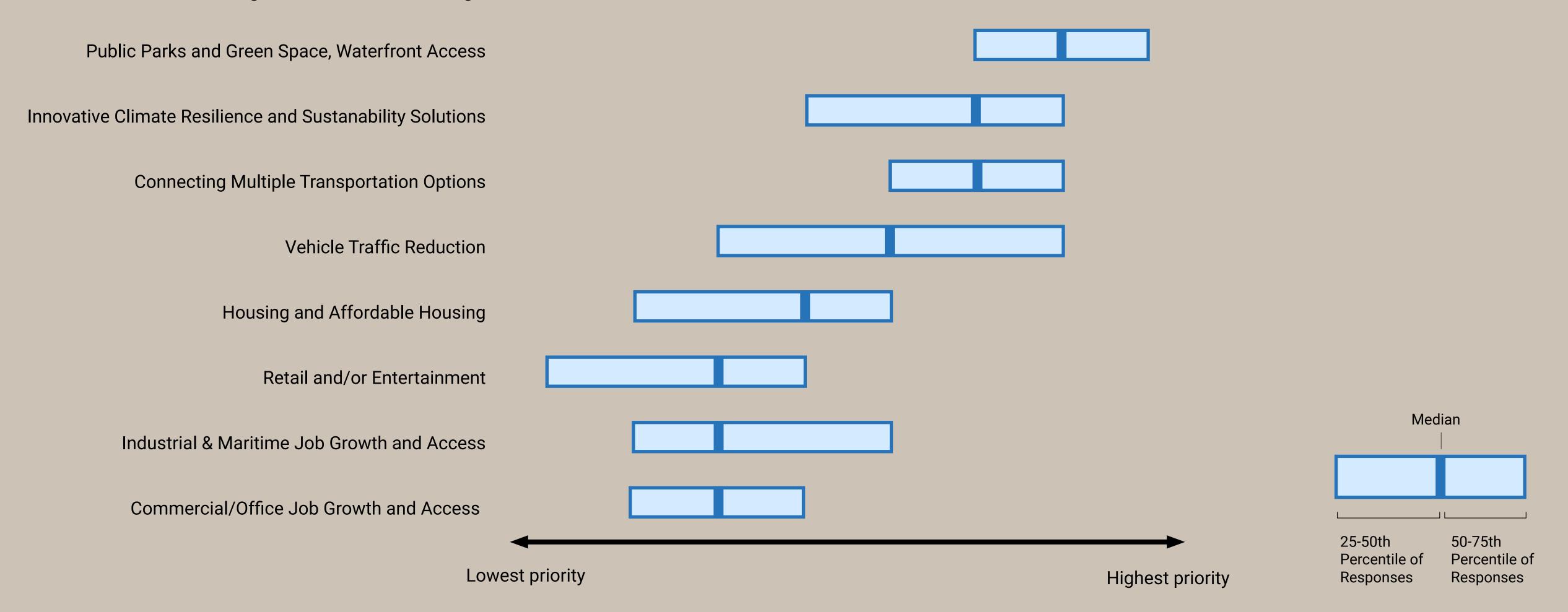
# Survey: Neighborhood Breakdown Columbia Street Waterfront District

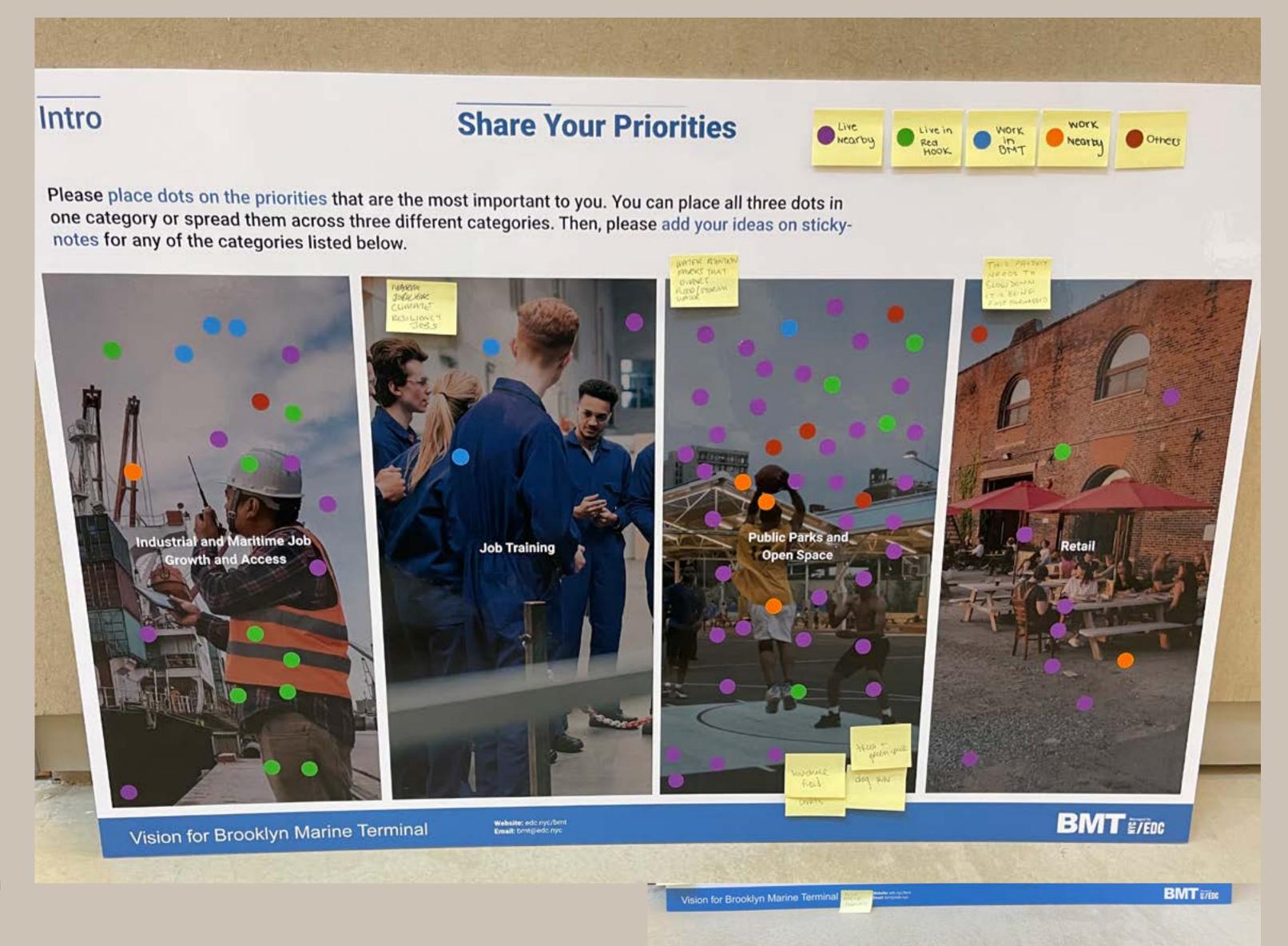
Please Rank the Following BMT Priorities from Highest to Lowest

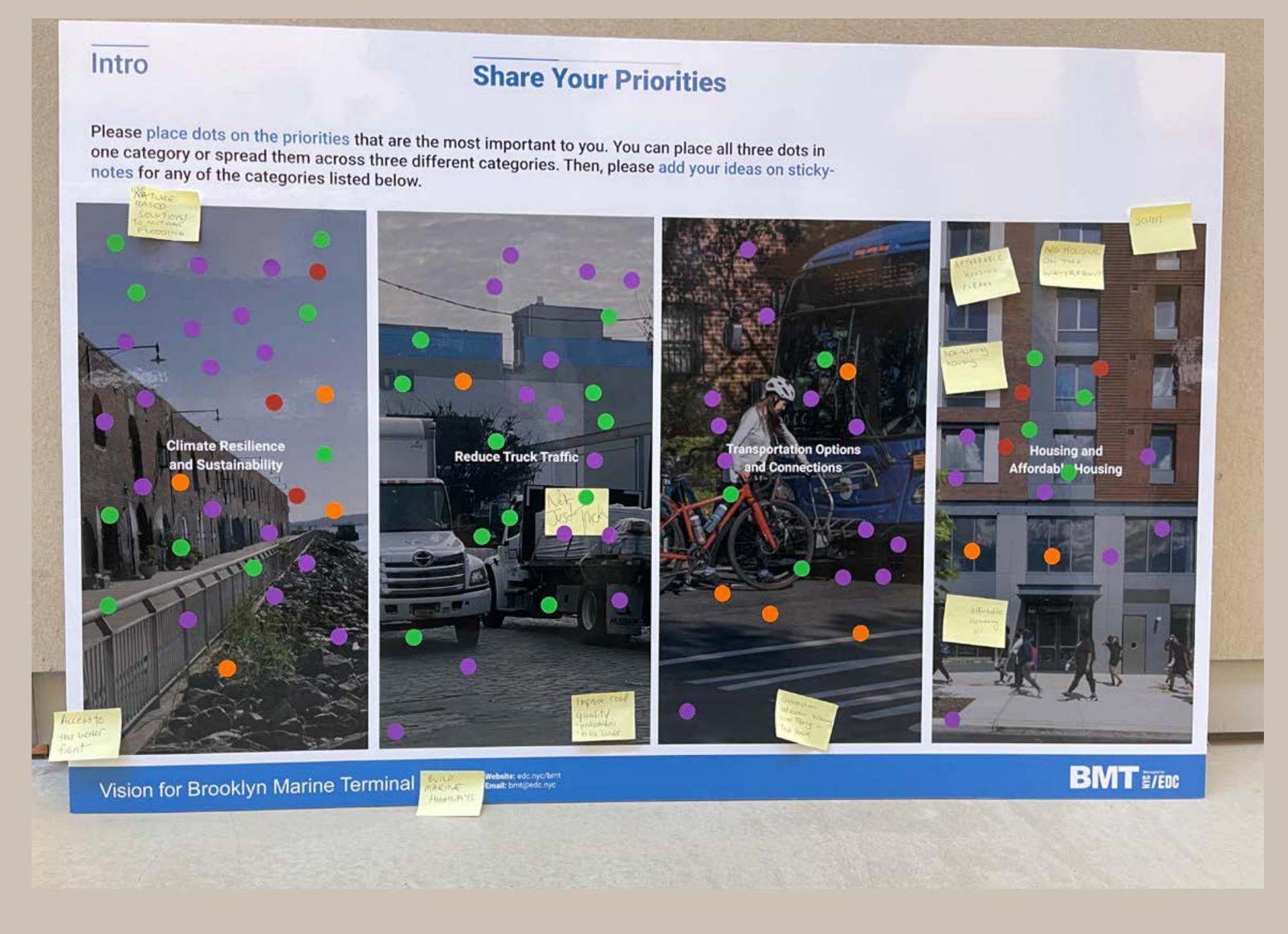


# Survey: Neighborhood Breakdown Red Hook

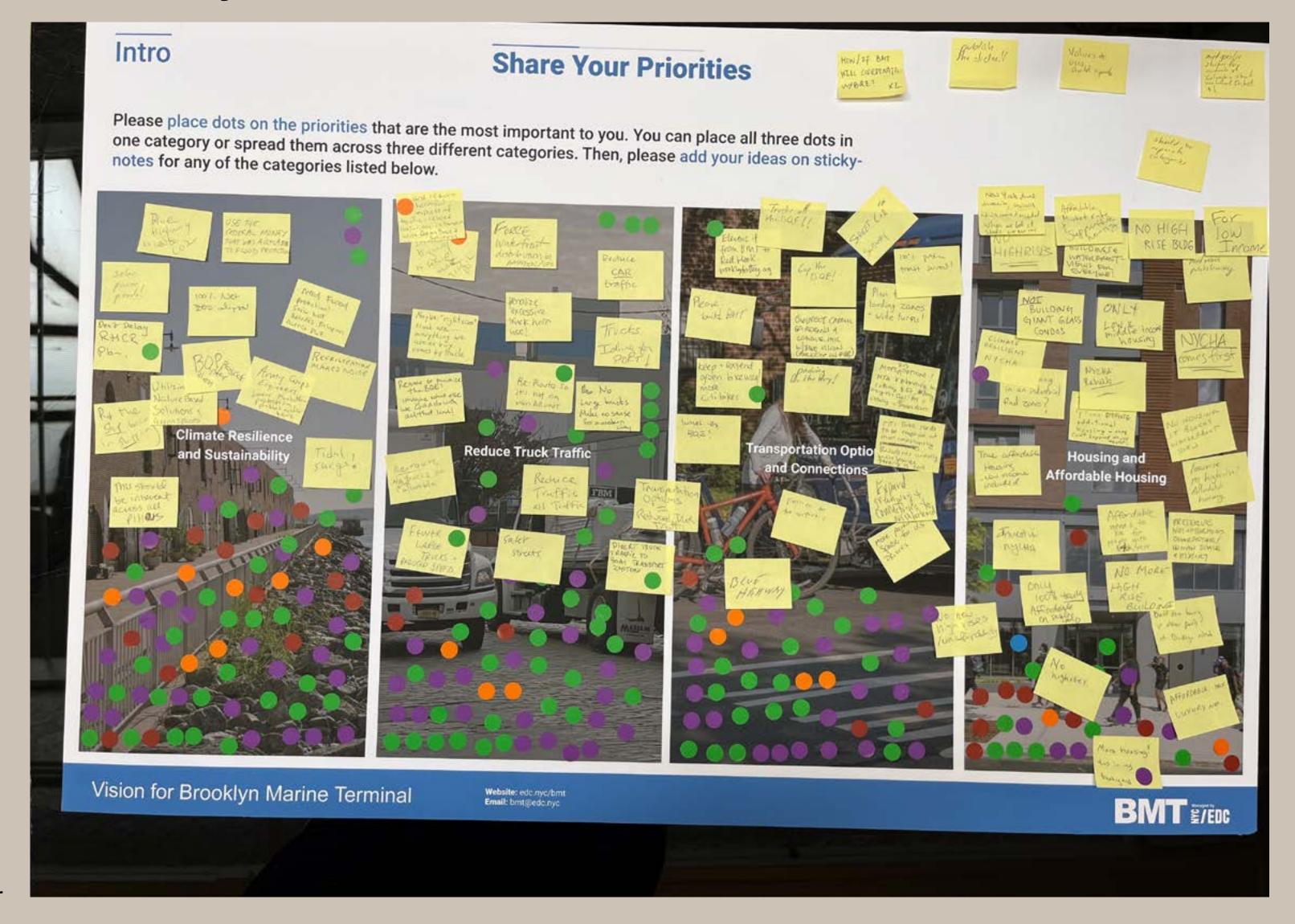
#### Please Rank the Following BMT Priorities from Highest to Lowest



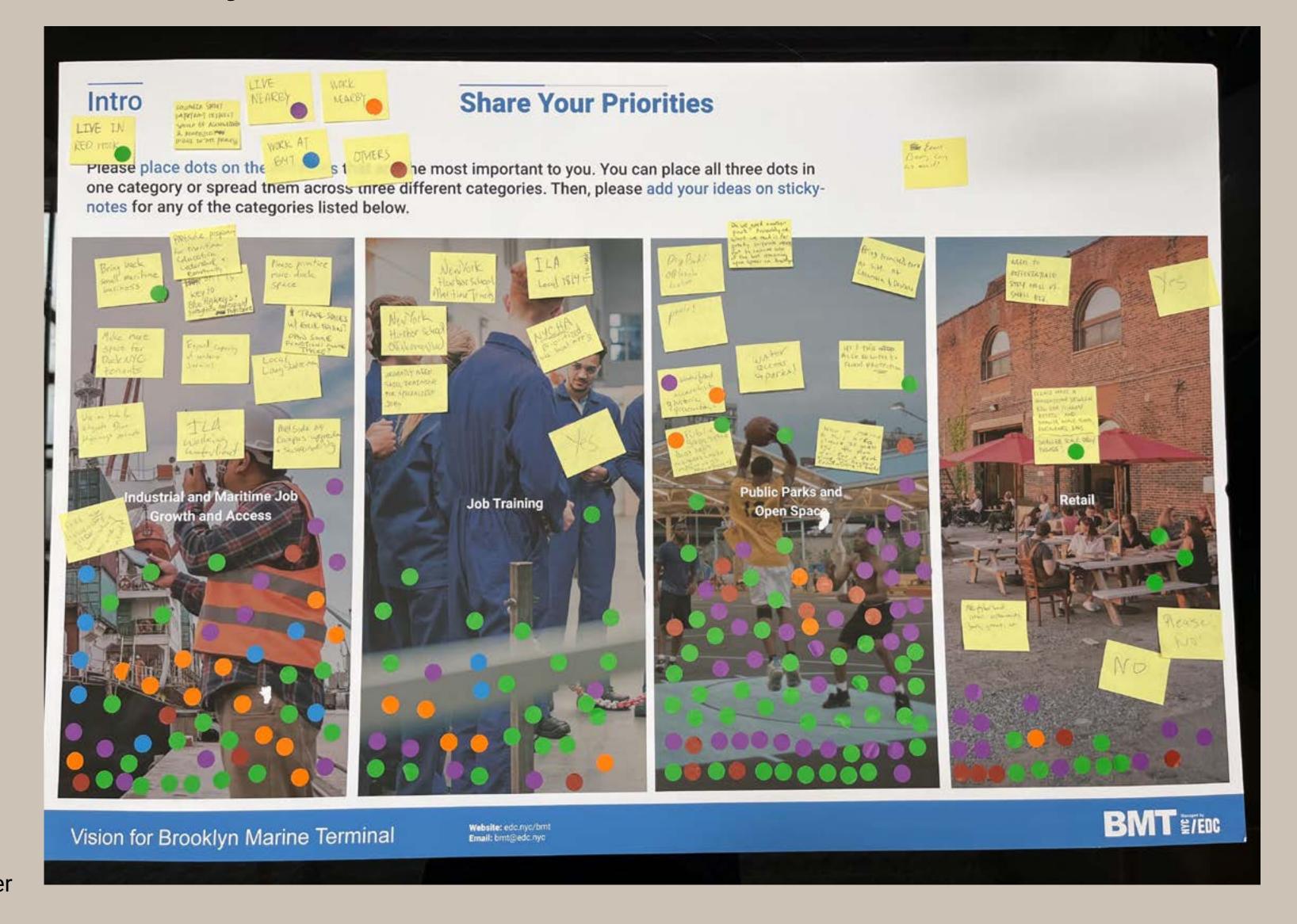




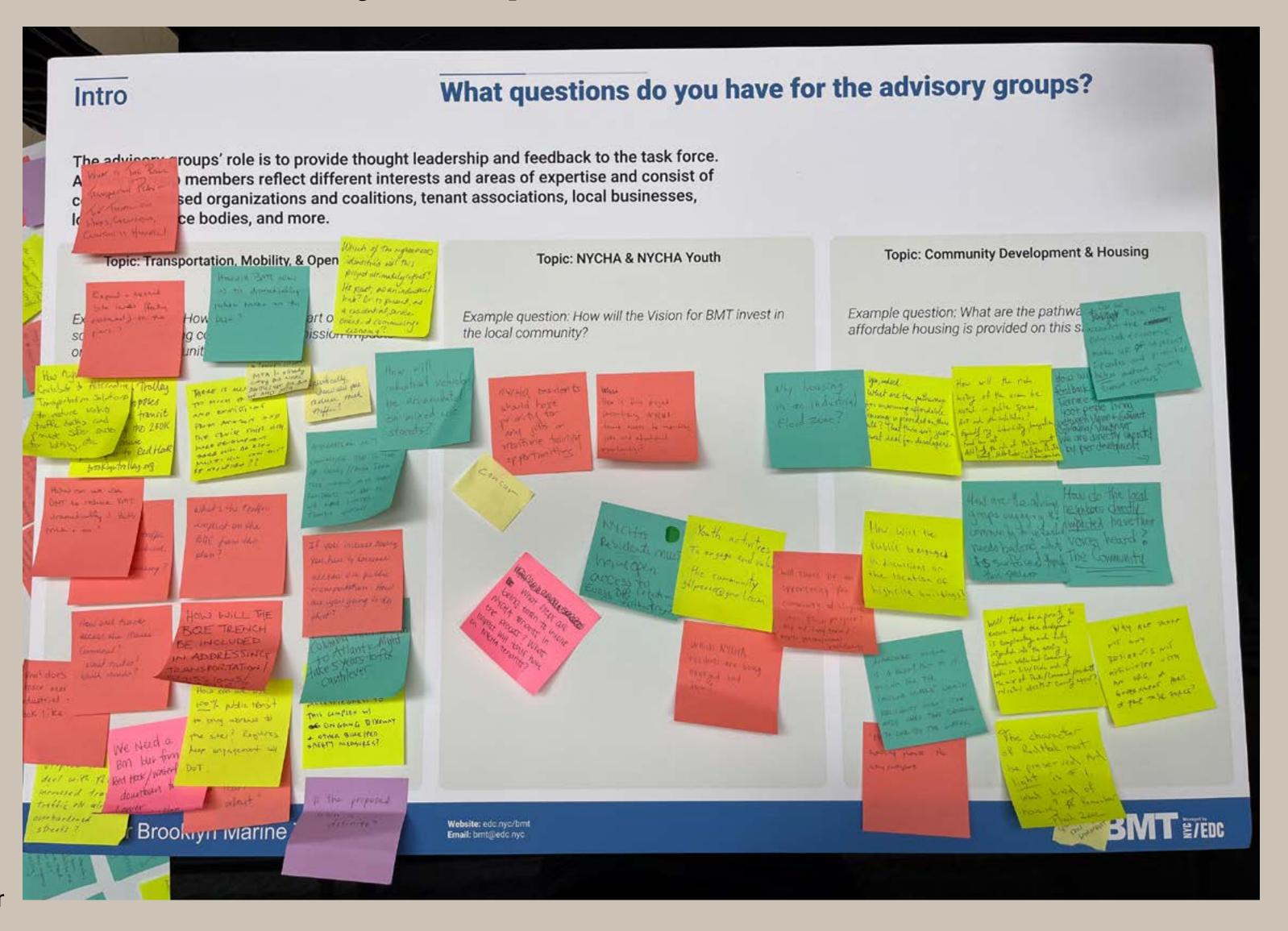




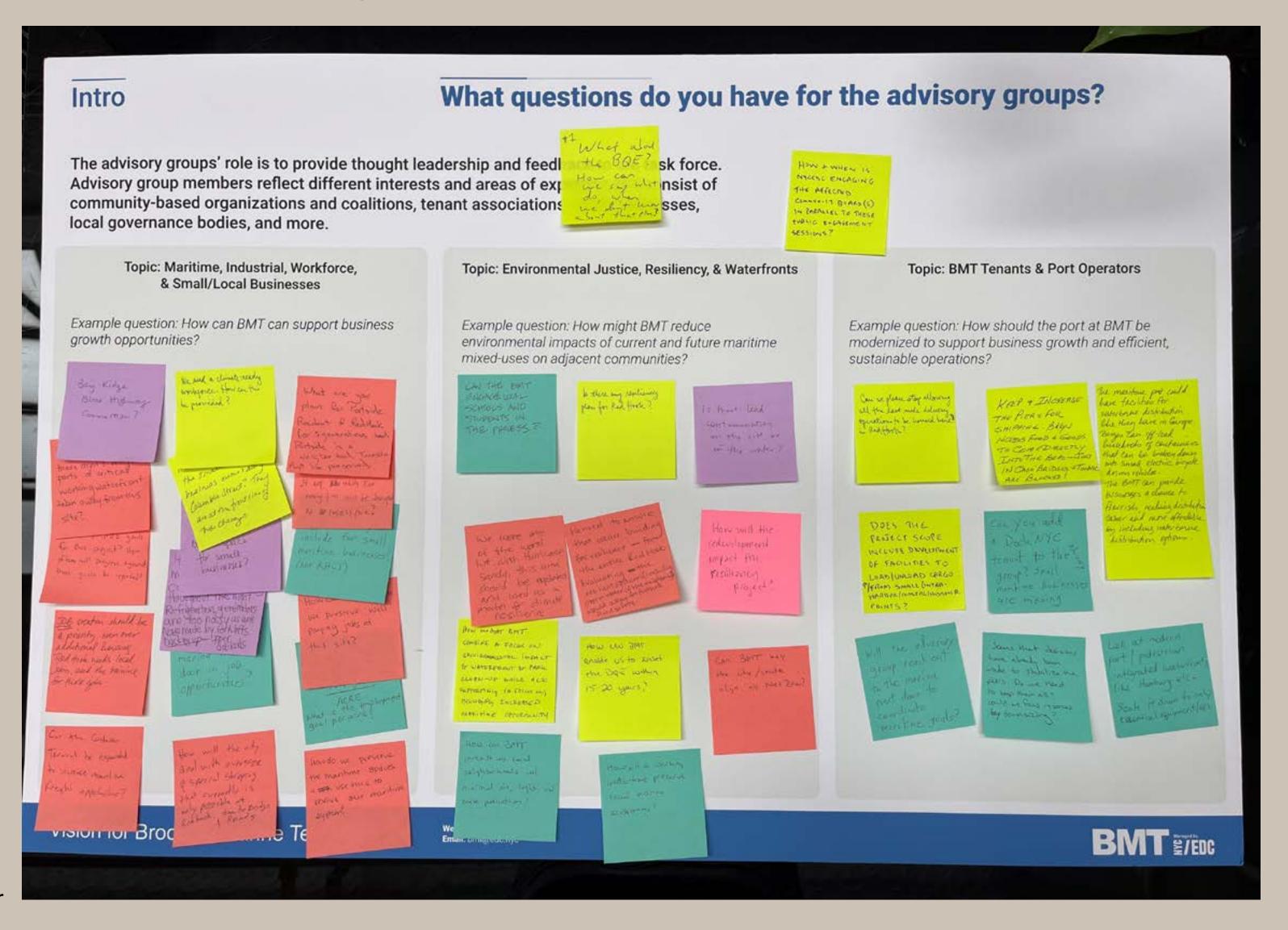




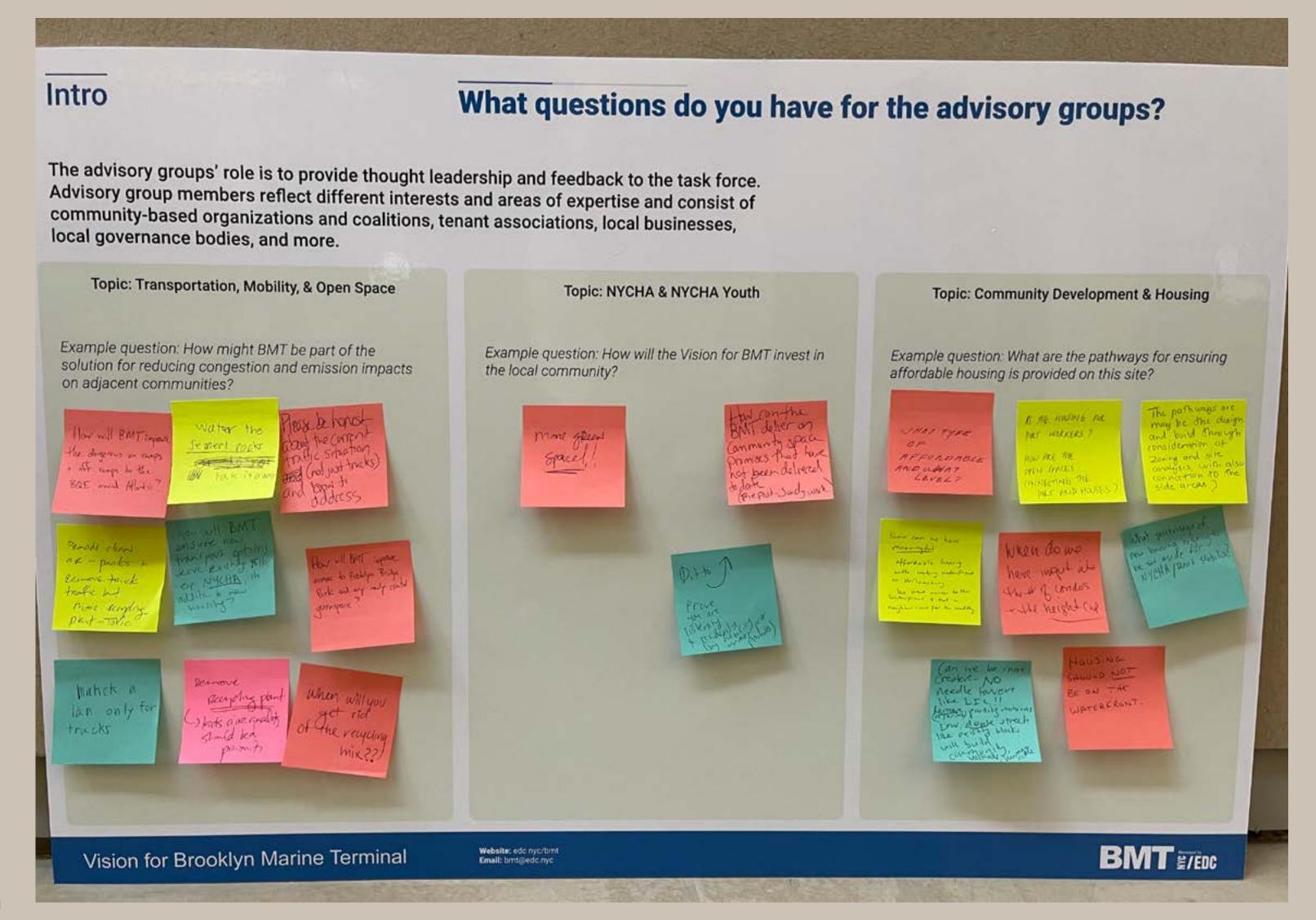


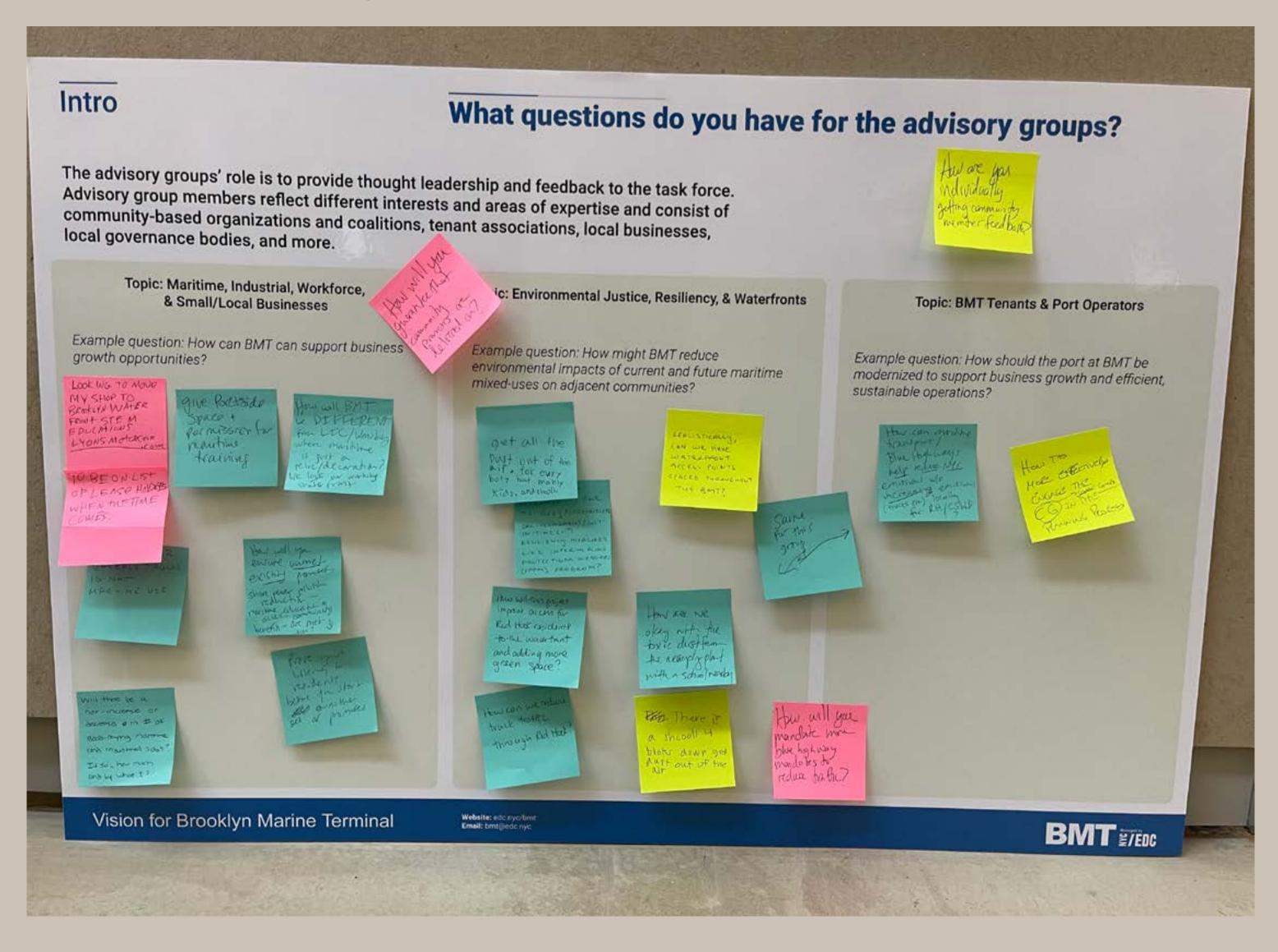














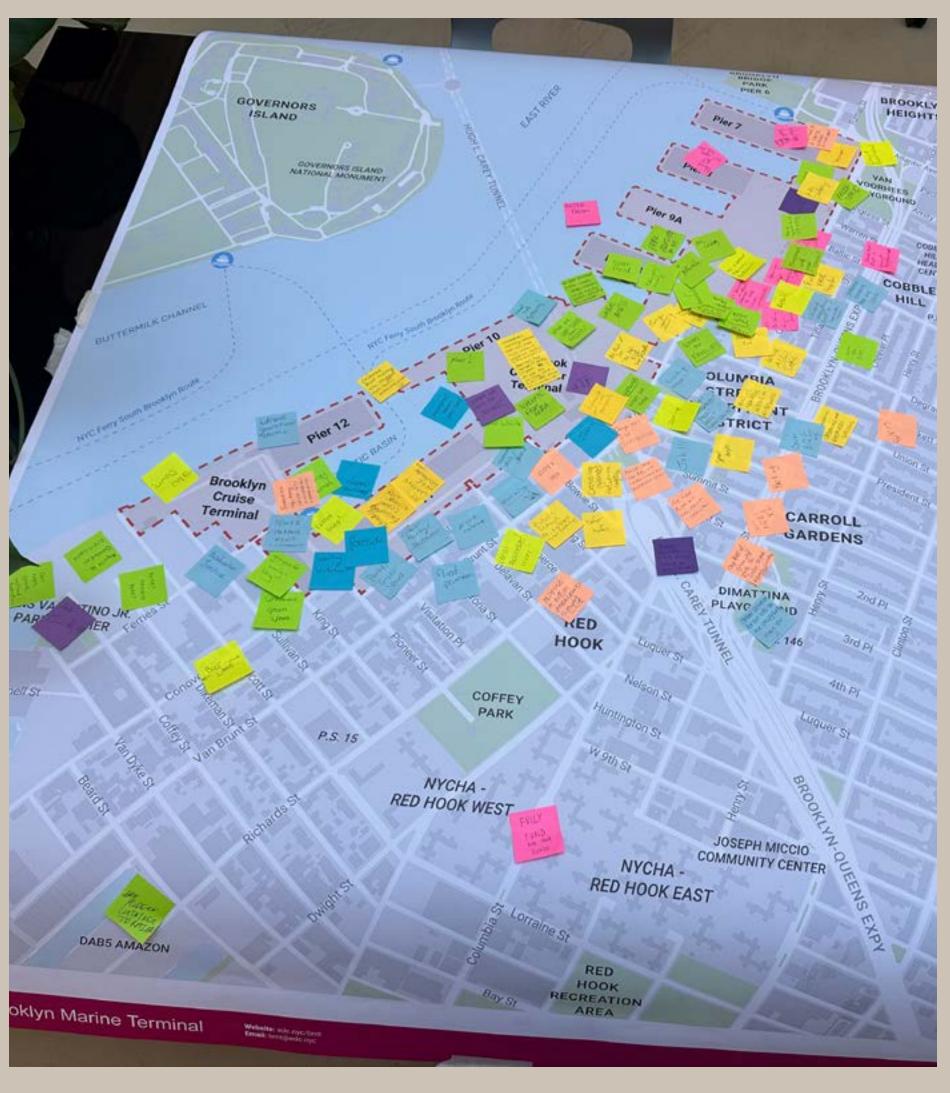
# Public Workshop #1: Mapping Feedback Activity





# Public Workshop #1: Mapping Feedback Activity





10/07/2024 -Sacred Hearts & St. Stephen Catholic Church

