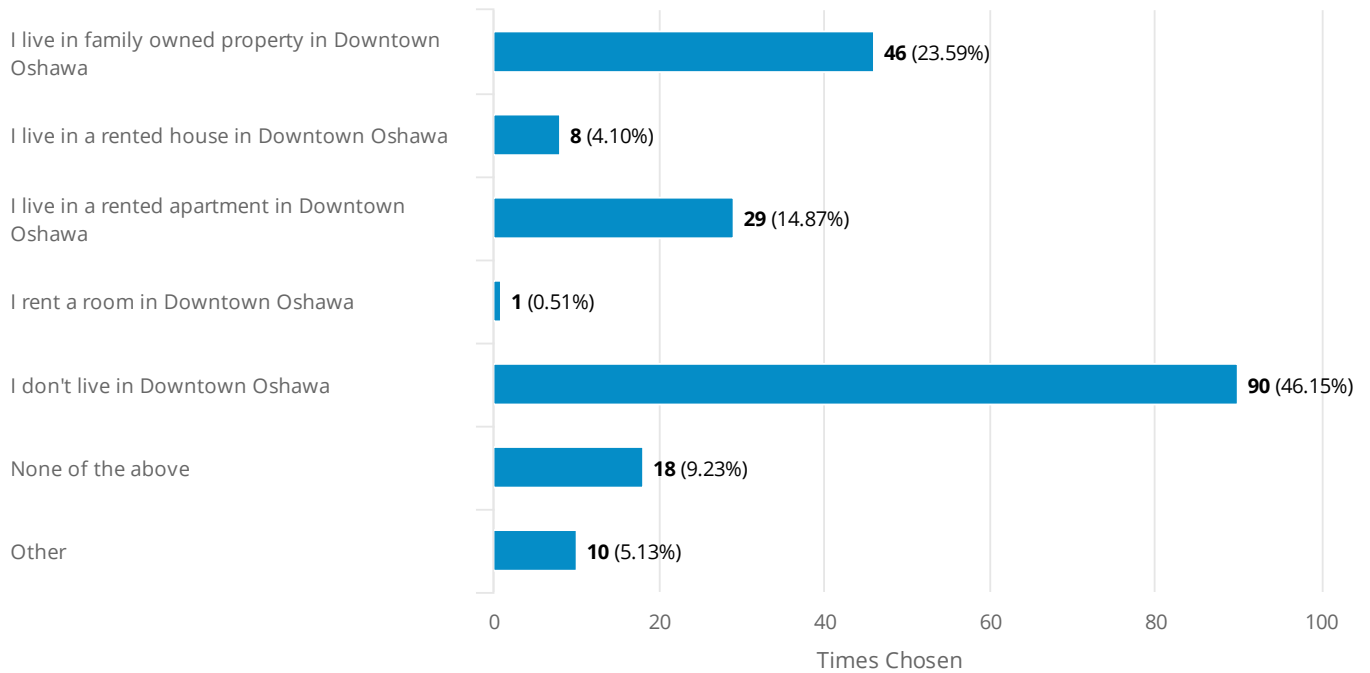


Oshawa Residents- Downtown Oshawa Report Card 2019

1. Which of the following applies to you?

Number of responses: 195



"Other" text answers:

- I live in north Oshawa
- I live in a rented house by the oshawa centre
- I work in downtown oshawa
- Rent in Courtice
- Live at Bloor and Simcoe own a condo
- I own/live in north Oshawa.
- I live in family owned house in north of oshawa

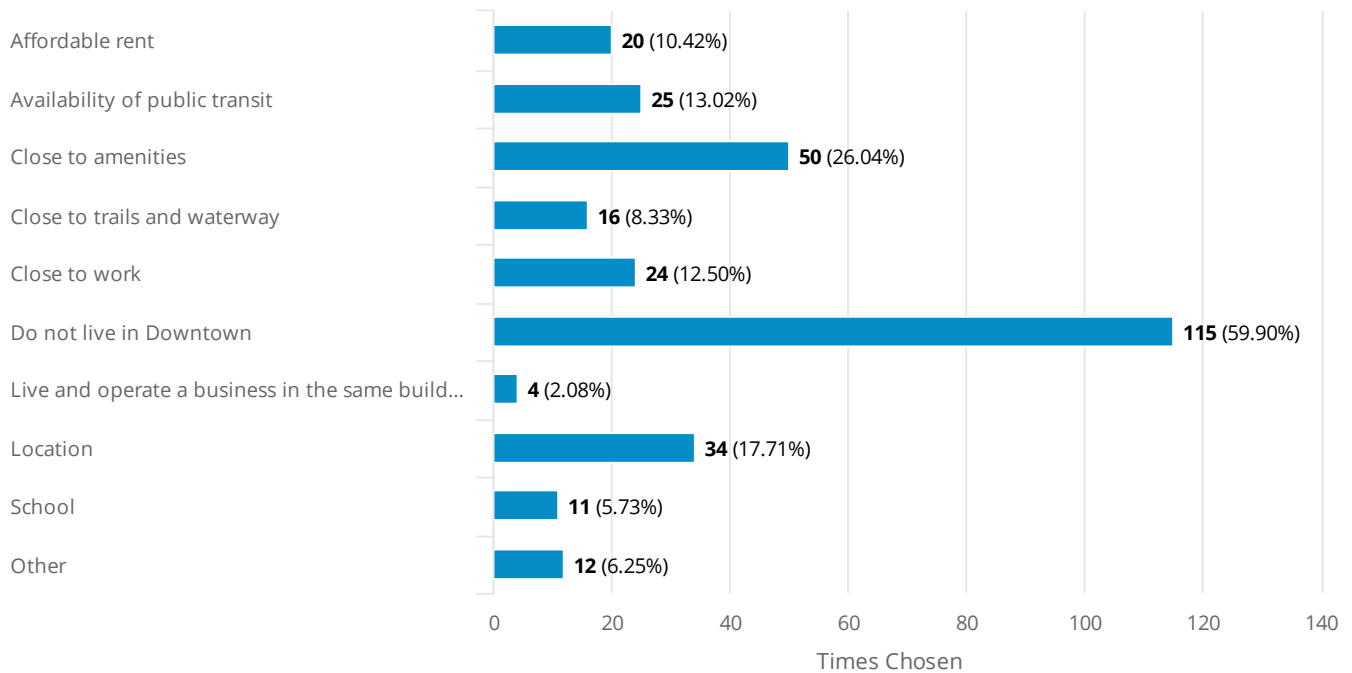
I live at adelaide and Harmony area

close to downtown

I live in family owned property in oshawa

2. Why do you choose to live in Downtown Oshawa? (If you do not live in Downtown, please check "Do not live in Downtown")

Number of responses: 192



"Other" text answers:

First available apartment when I moved to the city for work

Kept living here after graduating from UOIT.

My neighbourhood/street

I'm disabled so Taxi rides are cheap

Other

Family lives here

Other

affordable real estate

Available condo for sale

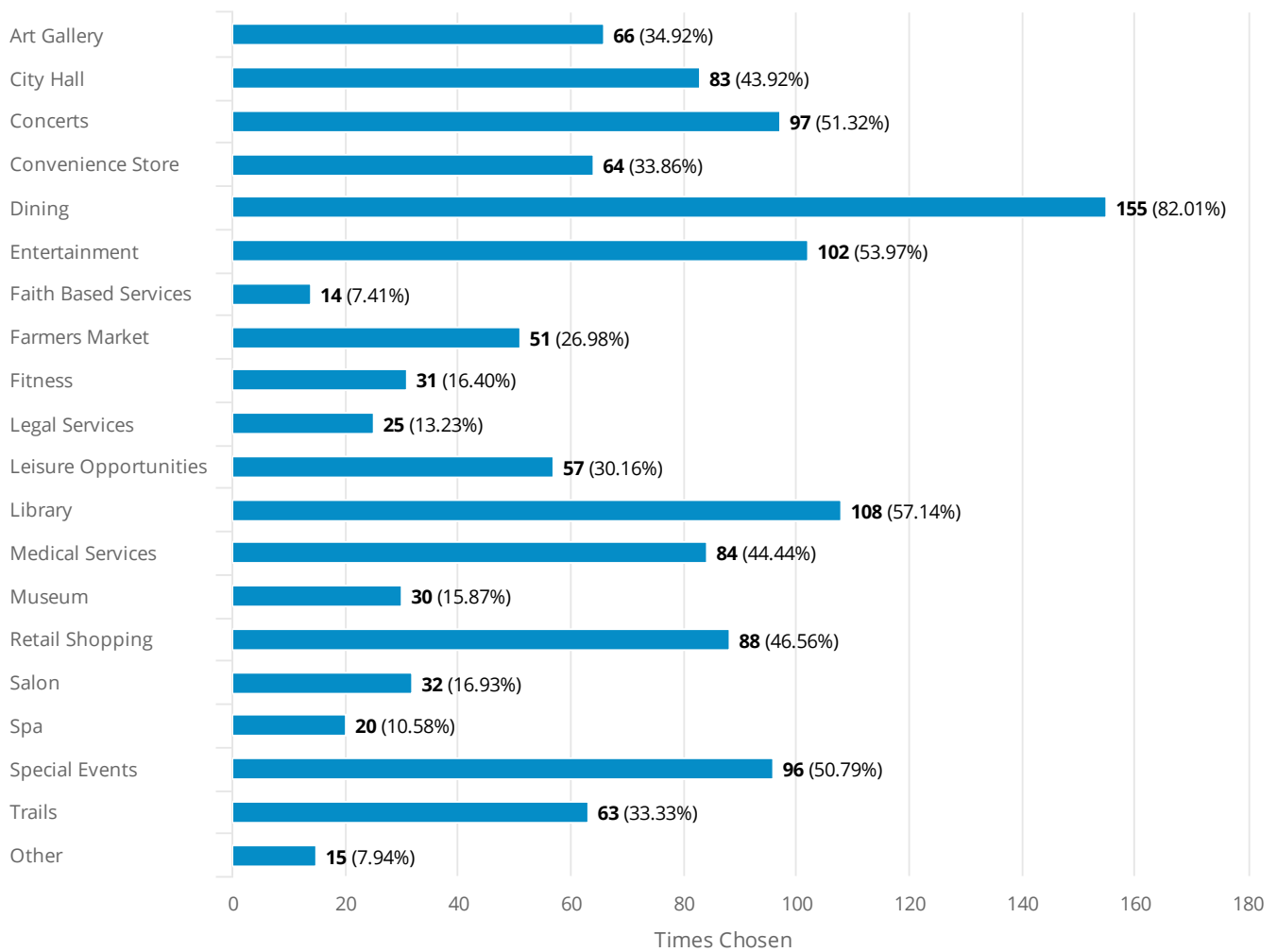
Access to GO train station

I want myself and my children to be a part of a downtown, urban cultural centre

Easy to walk since transit service is poor.

3. What amenities do you use in Downtown Oshawa?

Number of responses: 189



"Other" text answers:

Salvation Army Family services

Other

Social services and education

Nothing there...drugs everywhere

Other

Barber

none really

Bank

Bank

Cork and Bean

BANKING

Lake/jubilee pavilion

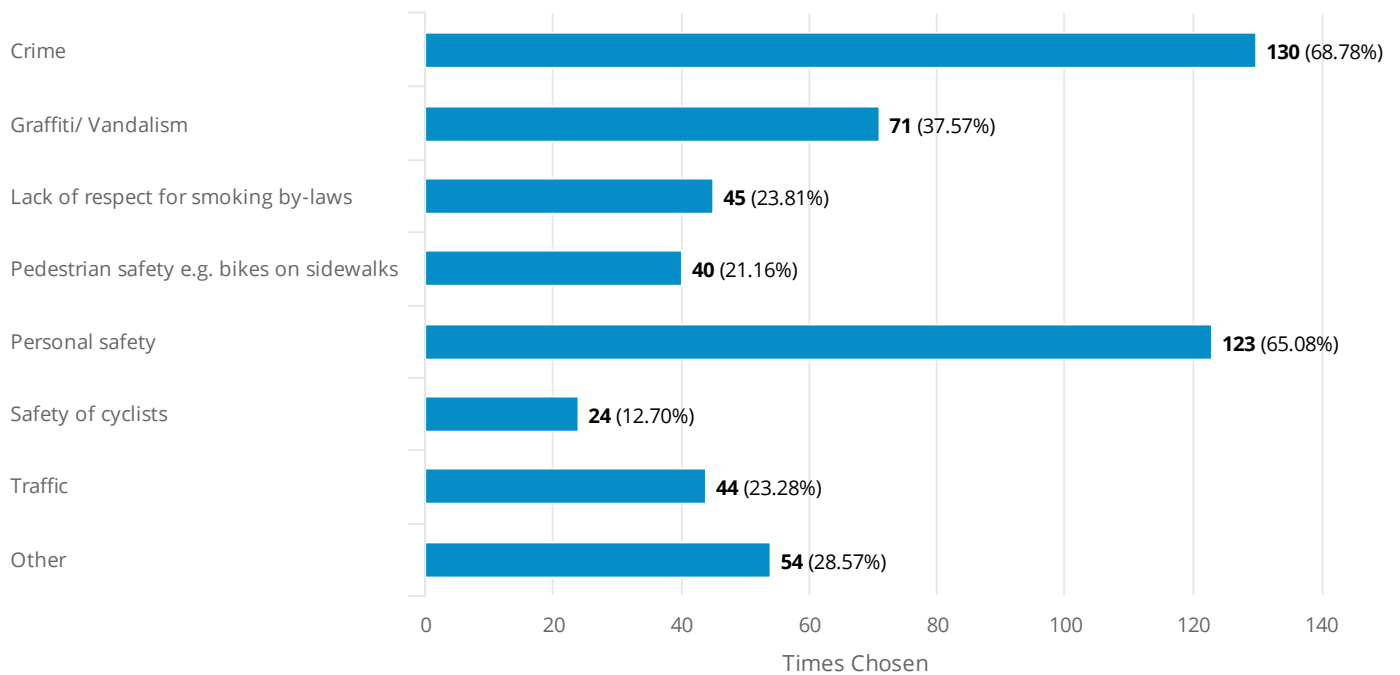
death services

Art Gallery!

bank

4. Do you have any concerns about living in Downtown Oshawa?

Number of responses: 189



"Other" text answers:

Drug use and users around the park

I don't live downtown anymore

Harassment by people

Increasing number of social services

Being cat-called and heckled by homeless persons

While I am not necessarily unsafe, I almost always encounter people behaving bizarrely when I am downtown. Yelling, talking to themselves, dirty, wearing inappropriate clothing. This makes me feel unsafe.

None or All. I'm not really worried but they all concern me somewhat. None are more significant than the others.

Oshawa homeless care

Drug use

Homeless Problem (ex. tent city)

homeless people not having any place to go, drug use on streets

drugs

Drug dealers/Low income/homeless prevalent all over downtown

Drug availability

Homelessness

Other

Bums

Safety concerns....drugs and homeless just hanging around...feel uncomfortable.

Other

drug use

Discarded needles

Wheelchair accessibility, sidewalks, curbs and streets in poor condition, potholes etc , snow not cleared from the sidewalks and curbs

I live outside of the downtown area

None

In general the lack of will from by-law to enforce generally anything downtown. Be it cyclists, smoking, the garbage on the streets in front of restaurants that sits out for days being picked at by animals.

Needles, safety of public areas

None

NA

Don't live downtown

reputation

Too many vagrants/beggars

Used drug paraphernalia

The amount of needles found downtown is scary.

Police not involving social services to help stop the cycle of poverty and addictions instead of perpetuate it.

drug addicts loitering on the streets.

Other

neighbours who keep reporting us about every tiny by-law, repeatedly and persistently

Scores of junkies everywhere

I don't go out as a pedestrian after dark. Not thrilled about the proximity of the methadone clinic to downtown.

The main park - memorial park - is saturated with intoxicated people. The amount of drug users and prostitutes who reside on the sidewalks of Simcoe St/Albert St is incredibly high. I am absolutely NOT fearful of these people however there are so many of them that entering into the main, downtown park seems uninviting. There is a feeling of sadness as most of the visitors to the park and the aforementioned streets are visibly high, drunk and almost all are smoking cigarettes continuously. It is not an inviting space for me to bring my young family and this saddens me somewhat as I would like to bring my children to the downtown core with excitement and confidence that what we will encounter will be safe, fun and even inspirational.

Clinics located there

Needles

homeless asking for money or cigarettes when out

Parking

Drug use.

Lack of affordable housing and shelters/homelessness, public drug use (no safe space for people to use drugs privately), area is over-policed, area needs more services for homeless and drug users

People living on the street, meth clinic, soup kitchen. Should be located out of downtown core.

Other

Too many vacant businesses. No foot traffic. Bring back the Christmas lights that crossed each street which made Our City a pleasant, inviting atmosphere.

No—I don't live downtown

Yes I do! How you treat your homeless population.

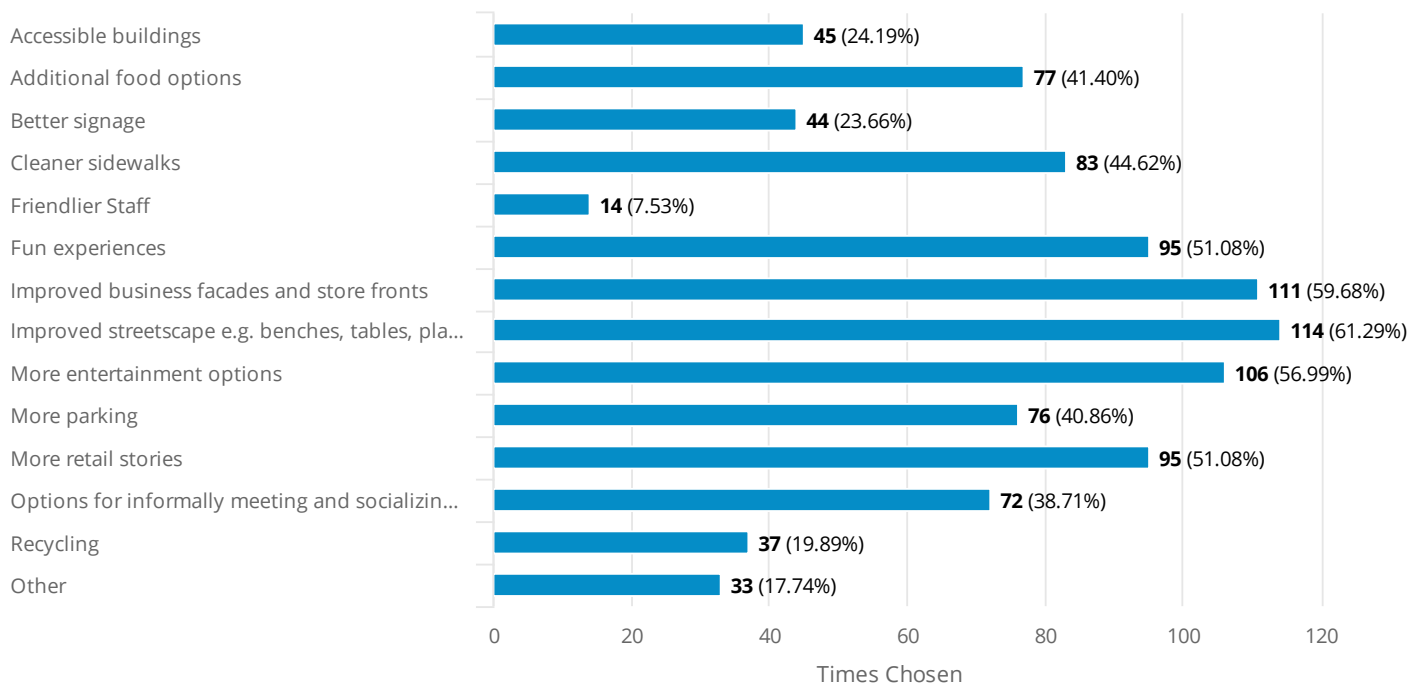
owners not keeping their property clean or in good repair and the city not using bylaws to insist on improvements , some place have inventive ways to get smokers to put the butts in containers in front of bars , our city businesses need to something in this regard . I saw an employee sweeping and cleaning the front area at La Quinta hotel one day I regret not going in to thank the management . I live in McLaughlin Sq. and love all the flowers the city puts out thru the summer , but next time you are walking, look down to the side walk ,about a hundred years of gum and cigs,

too many JUNKIES and Bad behaved females.

Homeless

5. What would improve a visitor's experience when visiting Downtown Oshawa?

Number of responses: 186



"Other" text answers:

Take the seats from memorial park. Decrease the issues

Easy dontation to Programs for homeless

All of the crack heads walking around and taking over the park 24/7!

Other

The quality of stores and restaurants is poor. Need free parking.

Taking care of the banners they look very tattered,keeping one theme of banners, there is way too many designs(keep it simple) Christmas decorations that look like daisies ,Clean up what there is before you move on to more things like pole wraps

People are harrassing ypu...not sure how to deal with that

free parking

If we could find a way to teach students to wait for the bus without blocking the entire sidewalk that would be good.

clean up the brutally obvious drug problems

Improve safety to many vagrants/beggars etc.

less traffic on King St. Remove one way system

less vagrancy

More affordable apartments and less gentrification

spaces rented out, homeless gone, meth clinic gone

Grocery and drug store

Remove all shelters and safe injection sites

Businesses to be open after 5 pm

Tim's

Initiatives for the opioid crisis in Oshawa

All of the above but with a creative flair. Pop-up stores? More music events (not just rock and roll), cleaner more welcoming storefronts are key. A more naturalized environment with more natural landscapes/flowers. Colourful signage. More bicycle parking. Coloured signage at children height to engage and entertain them (discovery art/signage) while perusing downtown. Coffee shops please. Starbucks would actually help downtown oshawa.

No drugs or vagrants

Architecture of downtown. Making it physically appealing

Safer

relocation of methadone clinic and St. Vincents kitchen

removal of homeless & removal of meth clinic

Compost!

Walkable space. More people living, working and spending downtown

better hours

How others are treated.

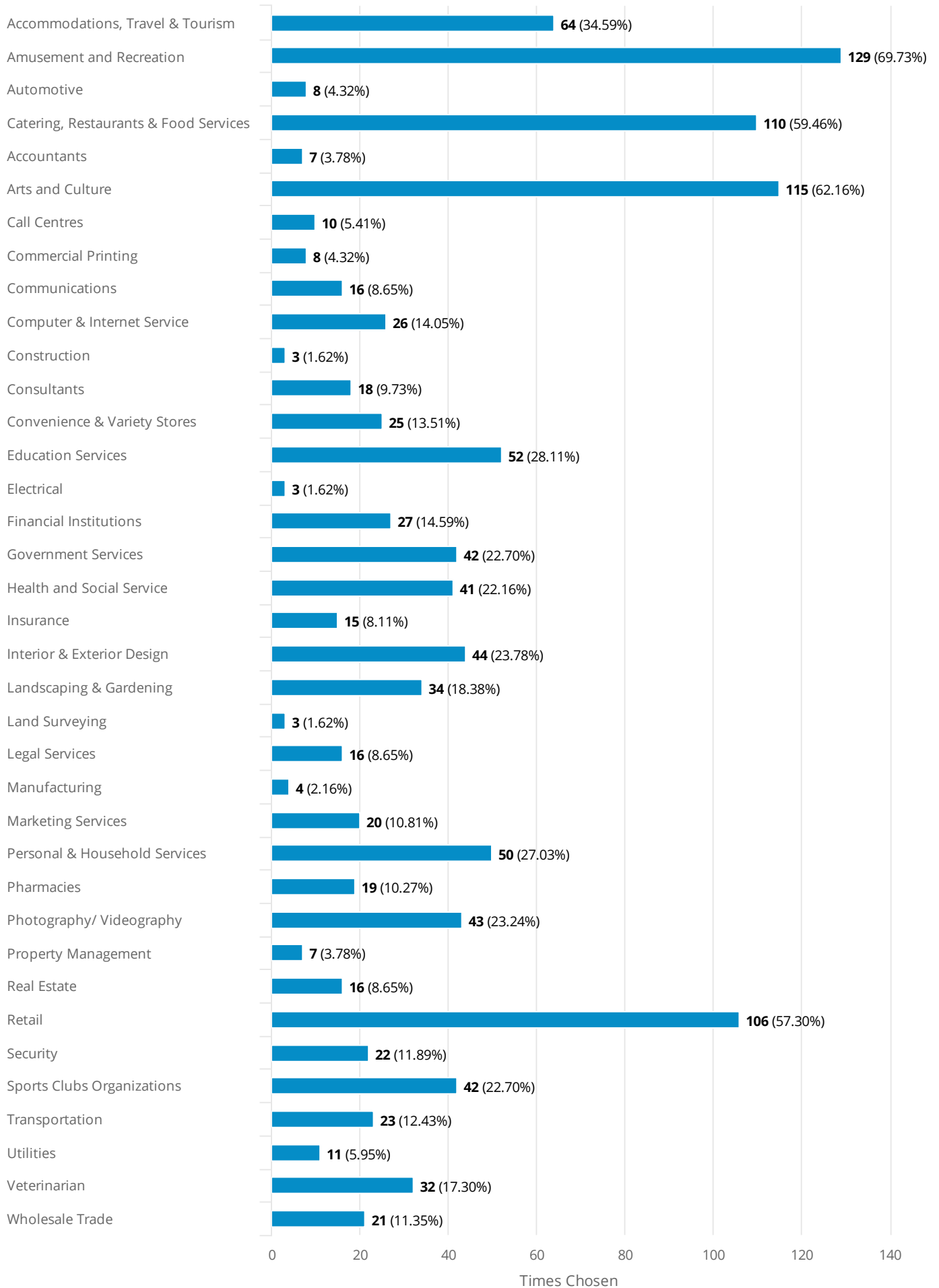
there is someone in the states that got sick of looking at gum all over the sidewalks . He invented a machine to get rid of it lets get up here

Remove Pan handlers, homeless, Junkies, Drug Dealers.

safer streets

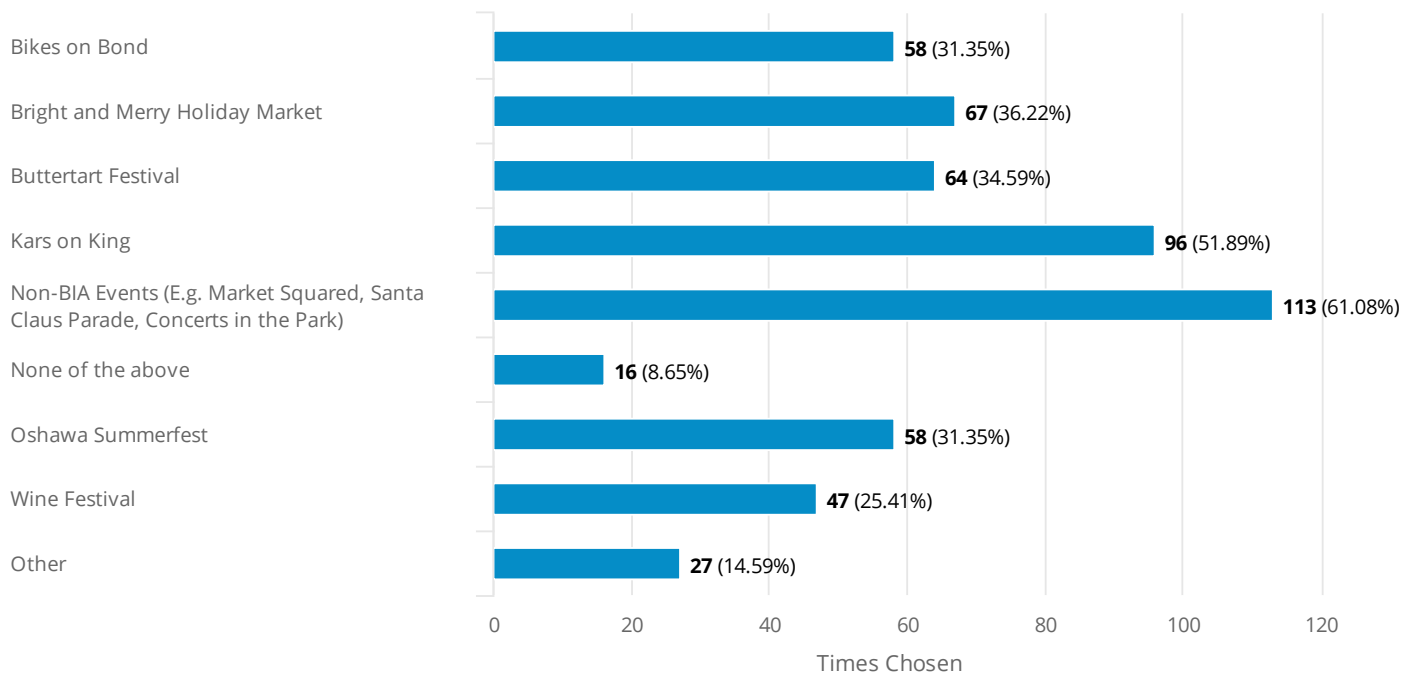
6. What types of businesses do you think would improve Downtown Oshawa?

Number of responses: 185



7. Please select your favourite Downtown Oshawa events.

Number of responses: 185



"Other" text answers:

Pioneer fest

Park is not a friendly space and it needs to be fixed!

Oshawa Rib Fest / Canada Day fireworks

Fiesta Week Parade and Concert

There should be an event for every season

Should be more Oshawa Citizens & Their Dogs events. Like WOOF STOCK. ETC. OR MORE DOG WALKING FUNDRAISING EVENTS DOWNTOWN! For a important cause in Oshawa!!

Show and Shine (weekly)

Spring into summer, Memorial park

Would like to see more weekend shutdowns of King st., maybe have bands playing, beer for sale, street artists, etc.

Concerts in the Park

Beerfest & Tribute center events

Durham Region Roller Derby

crossing point, Durham Craft Beer Fest

Beerfest

Touch a Truck

Events at the Regent Theatre

Used to love the old cars , but the last 4 years been really disappointing, have not been back!

I originally thought bikes on bond was for bicycles (I was pretty keen!) then found out it was for motorcycles. The former would be preferred! Oshawa Summerfest; brought the kids- the park was completely saturated with tobacco smoke! Young families were few and far between the regular park residents and those from the adjacent seniors home. Perhaps next year it is fenced off? I don't know what to say, but it was very disappointing despite I'm sure great intentions and lots of planning. I don't know how to improve this event per-say.... We did give it a shot.

Durham beer festival

events that are loud, like Bikes on Bond are disruptive to residents and should be moved to the lake or a park setting particularly as it has grown in participation.

Craft beer festival

Any event that brings people and vibrancy

Peony Festival

Bandshell events

Host Oshawa only music festival "Crossing Point " back to brick by brick park.

Beerfest

I think we should have a Genosh Party when the new building is opened it's been a lot of years waiting , to me it's a sign Oshawa just might be changing from a strictly GM town to something more

8. What types of businesses do you think would improve Downtown Oshawa?

Number of responses: 180

Text answers:

It's not the type of business, it just had to get less slum-like.

More clothes and gift shops to make it fun to peruse.

Anything that attracts the upscale buyers to the area: art, concerts, excellent restaurants.

Home decor, upscale clothing, gift shops, boutique dining

Retail, food and family entertainment.

Quality restaurants.
More higher end coffee
Fitness

Too many empty & old store fronts

more outdoor patios for dining in the summer

Technology

we have quite a variety of businesses downtown already, but more free family events and entertainment would bring residents and visitors to the downtown core

My girlfriend and I love the 'Cork and Bean'. A couple more coffee/beer shoppes like that would be great.

More outdoor patios would be great. Summer is when I stroll downtown the most, and also the time of year I do not want to sit inside and miss the beautiful weather.

I would like to see more:
Upscale type restaurants like Avanti's
Thrift stores
Craft brewers
(An) arcades

Better shopping

More craft stores

Sole proprietor niche stores selling professional handmade or unique items that would bring in shoppers like in Port Perry's downtown. I also think that Oshawa needs to take a hard look at where it's locating our social services and the impact on downtown businesses. I came from midtown Toronto 20 years ago and have watched business after business be negatively affected by the presence of social services and their clients. I think Oshawa should have a dedicated site where all social services are housed off the main strip of commerce in Oshawa. I am not against them but the current situation is favouring social services over commerce and that's bad for any city. Not many people want to go shopping and see people being violent, unstable or harassing. Also, I am absolutely against having a safe injection sites anywhere in the downtown area unless it is at Lakeridge or Pinewood treatment center.

some sort of entertainment like an arcade. or bingo hall

More/better retail options and more restaurants.

Coffee shops, retail, grocer

Retail, specifically: boutique shops, mid to high end retail

Retail

All great

Clean it up.

More food options

Diverse food options

I don't think any businesses would improve Downtown Oshawa as much as affordable housing/increased shelter spaces and a safe injection site.

A grocery store, I suppose?

Restaurants, Retail stores

Music Venue

Arts, organizational-a business dedicated to the youth of Oshawa.

Businesses that provide a bridge between the university and surrounding community.

More focus on helping each other as a community, mental health focus, entertainment, more free events

Clothing, Vintage, Lifestyle, Homeless shelter

More family based locations for families or business designed for children

Perhaps and affordable grocery store?

We need more professional services companies to move into the downtown core - tech companies, banks. Good paying jobs that bring in more working people into the core in the day. Those people then need restaurants and personal services during daytime hours.

People want to have a downtown they can spend their recreational time in - both families, young adults and seniors. There seem to be few options that attract people here at different times in the day. What about a children's play centre and coffee shop that attract young families during the week and kids birthday parties on weekends. Playing kids movies during the daytime at the Regent Theatre to bring more young families downtown. More places like the Cork and Bean that give people a place to meet, and connect - clean, fresh, fun.

I don't think we should move the public services out of the downtown core - the clinics, the shelters. But instead improve them and even make them look more inviting. A more welcoming/inviting and polished space that doesn't intimidate.

diverse businesses

More NICE retail spaces. So many empty or run down store fronts that could be great retail or dining opportunities. With the increase in nice housing options appearing in downtown Oshawa, there needs to be more places that make people want to stay around downtown Oshawa and feel safe.

Restaurants and entertainment to attract a younger energy of the students and young professionals living in the new apartment developments in the downtown area.

grocery store, clothing stores, gift stores

Upscale retail stores, high quality food and restaurant choices, performance venue, floral shops, live music in upscale bars.

Household accessories, more clothing stores, something fun for young children

Food, and drinks, and bars/patios

Graphic design and creative industry services

Billiards

Live music venues like we had with The Moustache Club.

Health food grocery store

Grocery stores, laundromats ,hardware stores, shoe shops,bakeries

Retail and restaurants.

Already answered

Retail, cafes, higher end bars, more places to go in the evening.

Family friendly stores, less drug paraphernalia stores, burger restaurant, laser tag, craft brewery

- TAPAS RESTAURANTS & Food businesses allowed 24 hr. Service & 24 hr delivery
- Rental electric scooters w/ more bike lanes in Oshawa.
- More Food Trucks licences given out!
- MORE DOG PATHS- Created similar to High Park trees & Pathways Rather than an open field.
- More Weekly Festivals Downtown during the warmer months!!
- More Programs for Citizens Disabled for transit as the Transit System for the Disabled is severely over booked for minimum 2 weeks ahead. For a person Disabled, planning ahead more than 2 weeks ahead of wanting to pick up necessary items & Necessary repetitive Dr. Appts.
- More Security!! ALWAYS Late night in the downtown district on weekends. It would be great to enjoy a late night show, and not be stuck in the middle of fights in the streets!!

More retail, clothing, att stores, restaurants

Retail, entertainment and restaurants/cafés

downtown needs a night life

Entertainment

Shopping options

Na

Lots of business already there, just need to give homeless people a place to go , a hot meal and some assistance for improvement so people won't be intimidated by the begging and such

Restaurants and retailers

Professional businesses that would fill up the expanse of vacant offices and storefronts.

Entertainment

Sleek looking, bright, airy, open stores.

A grocery store. preferably in the bottom of one of the new apartments they want to put up on Richmond.

I think the main one is removing the meth clinic.

an affordable homemade personal items shop

none at the moment they already are building new and more nicer places

Multi-functional theater (movies, plays, musical performances etc), bike rental or other tour rental companies, bakeries, DIY and design shops, retail stores for sporting goods, clothing, organic food etc

Concert venue(s), newer & cleaner parks, splash pad, social services to rehabilitate all the drug addicts and provide housing outside of the downtown core. Can't stress this enough-- Oshawa has a terrible reputation, and we purchased our home here solely on value, and optimism that the land is too valuable to remain in its current state. It MUST be cleaned up!

Anything catering to students.

They are downtown. Many of Oshawa's residents don't go downtown.

Not a safe injection site! If we have one of those there will be no businesses that will improve downtown Oshawa.

More music venues. The moustache club was an amazing gathering place, so something similar to that.

If want to attract a higher class of people need to offer high end stores like Bowmanville/Port Perry have. Lived in Oshawa my whole life as kids we were always at movies

Social services, live music venues, entertainment (e.g. movie theatre), variety of retail stores, restaurants/food vendors, book stores, education services

Theatres , larger retail stores, bakery

More local shops that would increase foot traffic. Speciality stores. Home decor, clothing etc.

Night clubs, grocery store, restaurants

Répertoire Theatre

Additional restaurant options, pleasant cafes (Cork and Bean was a good addition)

Clothing Women's and Mens, Shoe Stores and perhaps small boutique type stores.

Well we have quite a few homeless people in our downtown core so I think that we could have more to offer them in regards to mental health store fronts. If parking was free I think this would also help develop more store fronts , fine restaurants and store fronts that would generate families with easy parking, little boutiques to shop in, one of a kind (inventory),.

We live within walking distance is downtown Oshawa, but unfortunately we drive to Whitby or Bowmanville for dining (family and adult), coffee, icecream and most other leisure activities. The traffic is awful on King and the high amount of people using drugs, smoking, panhandling is very unappealing. We would like to be able to bring our young family downtown to eat, go for a walk, look in shops, sit on benches or in a small park. But we don't feel safe from traffic or other people. Unfortunately the issue is far more complex than just adding more events or business. Traffic needs to be calmed, reduced, or rerouted. The social issues need to be addressed. Having the organizations that support homeless people and those with addiction in the downtown core is always going to cause people to avoid downtown. So it depends on who you want to cater to; young families and those who want to spend their time and money in downtown Oshawa or those with social issues. I'm not saying that services should be taken away, quite the opposite. I'm saying what we are doing and where we are doing it isn't working. Perhaps looking at how other successful cities have dealt with these concerns is a way forward.

entertainment

A skate shop-roller skate

-Trendy food venues
-interior design/decor

not sure

I have lived in oshawa my whole life and worked downtown at the Canada Trust in the 80's. There was a time when you could do all your shopping downtown from groceries at the Loblaws to jewelry and fine gifts at Birks or Malcolm Adams , Gift House etc

There were also Zellers, Woolworths...Art Affairs

As a bank employee I heard from business clients that rents became too high and they gradually moved out , not replaced by anything similar. The only reason I go downtown now is to appreciate and enjoy all the floral displays

Destination businesses, specialty shops, like gift shops, record/cd stores, art/craft supplies, things you can't easily get at a mall.

Environmental organizations, tourism, outdoor activity outfitters

We desperately need a grocery store or a butcher shop! I shouldn't have to leave the downtown core to purchase regular food, such as meat or bread!

More retail businesses, and better hours for the existing businesses. Currently, if you have a job (which means you have money to spend at the businesses), you need to take a day off to enjoy many of the businesses that close at 5 pm!

gastropub/brewery, retail

Specialty shopping

More diverse choices of restaurants. Downtown Oshawa needs more than just coffee shops opening. More international food options as well as the Durham region is lacking in food diversity.

More entertainment.

electronic engineering businesses.

Anything that would draw more people.

art galleries, outdoor recreation, indoor recreation (e.g. NEBS)

More low cost shopping options and boutiques

not pawn shops, not pay day loans, not used cars. More restaurants, arts, and board game cafes

Upscale men's and women's clothing
Interior decor and gifts

Shoe store
Upscale coffee house

Art related venues, ie live theatre, art supply/art exhibits, fine dining, return to small caberet or dinner theatre or live musical acts.

More independent restaurants and retailers

Family restaurants, coffee shops,

More retail stores

Already checked it on a previous page

More entertainment like bars and clubs

Permanent Farmer's Marketplace, Grocery Store, Restaurants.

Grocery stores. Discount and higher end

An old school theater, like the Regency theater, however catering to big screen movies such as those in the cinplex and landmark theaters... or Broadway way style musicals and or plays. We have the Regency working beautifully within the University hours, as well as Tribute center. However, Broadway style Plays do not fit the Regency which does not do big screen movies. As for the buisness buildings? Perhaps upgrading to attract outside interest could work... Isn't it time Oshawa had a skyscraper style building in its downtown core, with mixed uses?

Retail shopping AND MOST importantly a small grocery venue. Many downtowners do not have a vehicle. This could also be supported by workers at the end of their day. How about the old Post office?

More festivals and fairs.

More food options and shopping stores

ARTS ARTS ARTS. In every city, it's almost a rule that as prices for rent go down, it attracts two types: the "rougher crowd" who are priced out everywhere else, and those loopy but fun artists types who create and liven up a space and make it all friendly and welcoming and fantastic....until the gentrification comes in and they move yet again. We have the Art Hive right at the corner of John an Simcoe, and it's FANTASTIC. What are

we doing leaving so many store fronts hauntingly open? Invite local artists to decorate them for free until someone wants to rent them! They can be vacant, but they don't have to look dingy until occupied.

Stores open past 6 pm.. Less meth clinics.

Nice restaurants and higher end shopping. No more college focused burger joints, terrible convenience stores and bargain stores.

Recreation and entertainment

dining , art and unique shops,

Already answered

Clothing
Gift stores

Restaurants, but more importantly, more green spaces!

Better retail stores and food options.

Bring in more events for all age groups from toddler to senior....especially seniors....there are many! Right now the businesses are being driven by the student population. Bring in stores that cater to seniors....like Bowmanville.

N/A

Definitely have more bars that would be appealing to the younger community, particularly university students. I would also recommend advocating to big-chain stores that might be interested in opening small boutiques in the downtown Oshawa area.

Indoor sports activity

We need a major grocery store in close proximity to the downtown. Some small retail stores, interesting stores for home decor, women's clothing...similar to Port Perry downtown, candy or chocolate store. Something that attracts people to walk around and browse the stores.

,

Small grocery store with fresh produce...save a trip to No Frills! Cafe with gifts/cards/antiques etc...especially close to tourist attractions such as the Automobile Museum...come for the cars but stay for food and a wee bit

of shopping.

I'm not sure

Cultural centres; upscale retail, diverse eateries

Please BRING CREATIVE PEOPLE TO OSHAWA. Entrepreneurs in Arts including digital arts, graphic design, animation. Designers of all types, we have the space and can provide affordable rent for; fashion designers. Baristas, coffee makers, hipsters!, brewers, young entrepreneurs! Musicians, passionate social workers, architects, etc.

More bars and cafe shops

Any that provide high quality jobs for local people with higher education degrees. Look at how Markham has grown - When I am looking for work, that is where I focus as they have more jobs for skilled, highly educated professionals

More retail and food

Small stores offering a variety of hand-crafted items that would attract local residents as well as tourists.

More small entrepreneurs who provide services or products that appeal to university students or young couples. Use downtown Kingston as an example of a vibrant downtown that appeals to many ages.

More diverse businesses that looks like Oshawa's new population.

More corporate businesses

Grocery Store

think its more the facade of some of these businesses....having lived in north Oshawa for many years and relocated to a condo downtown, there is a stigma to this area. Families don't want to be harassed by those who ask for money or cigarettes. Its perceived as not being safe. The feeling extends to Memorial Park. We need to focus on other events that are not car or motorcycle related.

N/A

There does seem to be a variety of store types. The only issue I face is that things close very early and often are closed all together on Sundays.

Higher end restaurants or lounges and security/police retail space

A variety of retail shops which sell a variety of original products so as to encourage more people to shop locally in Downtown Oshawa.

Cultural business preferably south Asian and schools and more family based business for young children

grocery/ retail

Cafe's, restaurants, boutique style retail, live music venues, Deli's and Butcher's. Ethnic food retail

Cafes, entertainment, fun things to do, things for kids especially, there's very little for kids to do in downtown Oshawa

High tech businesses like engineering or programming.

Parking! More retail. Abandoned buildings in general give a poor image for dt.

More restaurants, small cinema similar to Waterloo.

More trendy small businesses, more food options, nicer bars, options for entertainment, more social services to address homelessness and drug use

Trendy sweet shop

Boutiques and specialty shops

Art store that deals with all art and not just painting

More retail, with good prices.

Retail shops, restaurants and entertainment venues

Cute store front shops and restaurants. Live music. Similar to cork and bean.

Bakery, retail stores for browsing, theatre, coffee shops restaurants with outside seating. Ice cream shop. Entertainment. Jewelry shop. Places that are unique and different, from the big box stores

Love it

Fine dining restaurants

More food vendors, restaurants, food trucks etc.

Mcdonalds & Giant Tiger & BMO Bank

More local artists being able to set up a booth at community events without having to pay \$50-\$75 an event

Bakeries

Grocery stores

..

More UOIT facilities and affordable student residences to create more foot traffic. More people on the street makes people feel safer & part of a progressive community

We need affordable retail stores and convenience stores in the downtown core

Healthy, affordable food for the students. And I would love to see Spanky's Arcade again

finer dining - better restaurant amenities and trendier settings
coordinated and complimentary agencies - restaurant entertainment; concerts clubs;
relocate the marginalized agencies - pawn shop, money mart, methadone, soup kitchen etc.
more retail shopping -
upscale the neighborhood - convert flop houses by re-investing in buildings
food store to support the growing residential population
attract better tech service facilities - apple certified depot

Speciality shops, restaurants, historical sites/museum, aboriginal museum/cultural centre, shops that cater to our university population in downtown area,

No businesses will improve downtown Oshawa if you don't take care of the people. People are our business! Without people there are no sales. Without sales, there's no bottom line.

with so many apt. bldgs on the way we need services to get to and from the GO station . we need central place for online shopping parcels to be kept safely , Give owners some incentive to renovate their properties , when you walk past #40 king St you can smell the cig,, smoke even a smoker wouldn't want that . so maybe lots of persistent nudging to change people 's view of Oshawa , I can't even get a friend to come to the concerts in the park because of "scary people" hanging around . now my friend is being a diva but still it's how people think of Oshawa . I love the sound of Oshawa in the evening when toe people are headed home after game's or concerts . it means people are having fun and we need to find ways to get them down here when there isn't a game . We can't expect people to treat our city with respect if the leaders of the pack don't .

Grocery store

Dining and Entertainment BIZ.

No

not sure

Family friendly entertainment (crock a doodle etc.), outdoor activities (ice rink in winter),

mm

Consumption Treatment Services (CTS) site

One weekend HUGE garage sale with store items and downtown staff bringing home items and displaying them in the Avanti parking area in order to concentrate the displays. People can register their saleable items (not junk) with the organizer and split the proceeds for some worthy cause. Say 60/40 and bring in food plus street entertainers.

plus we need some street food vendors in the summer, along with more restaurants and cafes and building facade lighting.

9. What kind of events or ideas would you suggest for Downtown Oshawa?

Number of responses: 179

Text answers:

Cleaning up facades, attracting higher end businesses

Love the festivals.

-don't know

Jazzfest
Holiday Markets
Sidewalk sales
Better patios including rooftops
Genosh. Rooftop patio?

sports related events.

High quality entertainment
More concerts

We need to look at Downtown Bowmanville to make people want to come but also look at Downtown Toronto to make Oshawa more modern

more concerts and outdoor

Outdoor theatre

the Buskers festival, a Jazz Music festival

Outdoor art exhibits,
More concerts at memorial park,
More concerts at the Tribute Centre (that place is huge and great and it seems to lag behind its full potential),
One-day cultural events on Saturdays that combine music and food (see Toronto Harbour Front),

Nascar party

More festivals

Arts, culture and sports events to bring in people from outside the area also

flea market, sidewalk sale

More festivals/street events. Family oriented events, parades, etc.

Used bookstore in the downtown core, another band venue, more patio space,

Hold property owners accountable for the vacade and upkeep of their property.
Put a stop to quick cash/cheque cashing services.
Put a stop to anymore social services. Relocate drug "treatment" facilities elsewhere. Do not for a moment entertain the thought of putting a SIS anywhere near downtown.

Fun stuff

More concerts in the park with local talent the Standstills and Crownlands.

Movie in the park..

More stuff with the oshawa generals

Your events are great

None

Nature and outdoor-focused events; cultural events

Return of the BeerFest!

Not sure

No

Karaoke event

Regional Science Fair Competition.

Education and opportunities for homeless, art related activities, more modern music festivals

AA meetings and drug rehab events, eco friendly events, haunted walk, art in the park, NEW MURALS
(rbricer@gmail.com - young professional artist)

I would suggest to start monitoring high areas of crime such as Memorial Park that is well known for drugs and crime. I would enjoy attending an event at this park if it was maintained and if it becomes safe in the future. I would also highly recommend new events targeted for the high number of children living in the city and social events.

Artisan markets. Concerts. Utilize the Regent Theatre.

see previous box for ideas

.

Clean up of park spaces and better utilization of those spaces for events. At this point I do not feel safe walking in many of the park areas that are in and around downtown Oshawa. The Oshawa Creek Bike Trail is beautiful, but as of this past year my husband and I have stopped using it due to safety concerns. I don't have specific event ideas, but more events in the park areas would be great.

Find a way to allow pop-up shops in some of the vacant store fronts. It's an opportunity for small businesses to try their product or service in the downtown Oshawa climate and fills some of the vacant stores in the downtown core. Signage for this pop-up shops could be placed over the window in advance to build anticipation for pop-up shops as well as hide the vacancy of buildings.

encourage an automotive theme, linking the automotive museum, and Parkwood together.

Pedestrian historical walking tours, wine and food pairing events, live music.

Na

Art events or bands or other street festivals

More concerts, food festivals, family events, and events targeted to young adults

Expand bikes on bond. Add bike games and contests

Sidewalk Sale like Cobourg has/had.

Decreased street parking charges and/or expanding free parking times

Summer pop up stores to fill the empty storefronts, Christmas Market.

Kids corner maybe put on with the help of the City, that will bring families downtown.

Campus walking tour with the help of the University advertising outside of the city.....that can promote the comic book and gaming stores

Music festival, maybe with the help of the music store downtown....(connections and advice) a vinyl experience

Farmers market with flowers fresh eggs bread honey and not hidden behind a building, location location a well run event

Food pop up events e.g Nothing Cheezy cheese tasting and suppliers of cheese so they can sell

Downtown Digs an invitation to come downtown to visit vintage and new vendors....meet for crepes and coffee

Have festivals like other small places...ie. Bowmanville.

More markets/events to support small businesses

The concerts in the park are great, anything with a similar vibe. Family friendly events are always great.

More concerts where you can walk around with an alcoholic beverage to enjoy the surrounding and music

-More weekly food festivals during warm months!

-More Pet & Owner Events

-Clean up more of the old Store fronts.

Fall Festival downtown Christmas Market downtown

Street festival with food vendors, music and local businesses

more free events sponsored by the city, concerts, wrestling, x sports activities in the centre of town

Buskers, Byward market, lending libraries, artist spaces, empty storefronts as Meetup spaces

Events are great but the homeless junkies that live in the parks make it unappealing to attend the events.

Na

Lots of seniors in Oshawa (baby boomers) more outdoor social events that include entertainment and food

Farmers market, Christmas market, better advertised outdoor concerts on weekends.

Festival of Lights during the holiday season, more family friendly events that are put on by multiple business partners in the downtown area, strong focus on filling vacant office and storefront spaces

Entertainment

??

Shut down King St. on Saturday's for music/drinks/artists all summer. Give people a reason to come downtown instead of going elsewhere in the region.

More movie nights at the regent/memorial park.

A street concert.

a drag race

concerts,outdoor movies

Concerts, festivals, parades, celebrations.

Look to Pickering Esplanades as a good example. Farmers markets, art in the park festivals, rib fest, fairs, etc... Entice more young families to live here, and manage the drug culture.

Again, anything that students of today enjoy

More events that draw people out of the suburbs. Focus on getting the homeless off the streets & into housing units.

More farmers markets on the weekend.

I've been to Bikes on bond, kars on king , tree lighting, Memorial Day these have been great.

Live music festivals, book clubs, professional/personal development workshops, outdoor yoga, outdoor art festivals

Farmers market, street festival, food truck festival , something for the university

Bring back the beerfest. It was wonderfully put together and not too big.

Similar to Apple fest, maple fest

Open air Job Fair

Art show...food truck event

Come out and meet business owners and staff day, learn what our business is all about. Owners could have suggestion boxes on how to better serve their customers that spend time shopping, having a bite to eat, or sitting in a cafe for coffee. I would like to see more unity with business owners and residents of Oshawa, bike racks so residents can use the path, and be able to lock up our bikes and shop.

Please see my answer on question 8. Events don't get the people or volume you want downtown.

concerts

Outdoor festivals; fix the bike path that runs down alongside the creek near midtown mall. It's hard on roller skates

Cleaning up the vacant store fronts.

Love the wine festival just haven't had a chance to try it.

Sidewalk sales if there were any businesses to support them, the art walk was amazing when it happened and there was a food event I remember being extremely well attended where you purchased a 'ticket' to sample foods at participating restaurants when The Table was in business

Maybe something like Toronto has like the White Dinners - interesting themes. Or charity events. Flashmobs. Attempts at Guinness World Records. Stuff for kids.

Beer fest was great a few years back, river walks,

The events are great! People are becoming scared to come to them though, with the extreme vagrancy at Memorial Park and all over.

bring back the beer festival.

Girls night out Girls travel in groups of friends around the downtown core from businesses that I am to the party. Interested clients will receive a 15% discount maybe a glass of wine from retail establishment chill pub chill chill appetizers whatever they gave me chill establishment wants to offer for the girls night out.

More awareness of Fiesta week. I think a lot of the pavilions also could do a better job of being more welcoming through the rest of the year.

More events like Bowmanville does....closing off downtown for fun events (like applefest/maplefest)

- Feed the homeless, help them find employment and housing.
- Maybe have street food festival's like Toronto as well.

Jazz Festival, Fall Festival, Western Weekend

Kars on King is a fantastic use of the city. Anything "in-the-streets" like that -- multi-band music (like oakville's jazz fest), drive-in movie night, that sort of thing. I love the idea of converting the main streets into evening night life. Art competitions -- like what's that downtown toronto lights-at-night art thing every year?

More community events to bring together different tiers of social circumstances.

board games and beer nights, family events, animals?

Farmers market - increased times
Patios with musical entertainment

Similar to Toronto, "Taste of Oshawa"?

How about running / sporting races.

Concerts,

Family oriented

wine & food events, more music events outside, just look at what Bowmanville/Whitby does

Food festivals or music festivals at the lake

Events that are professionally done, not the amateur level events that have been going in Oshawa for years. Oshawa is not a small town and should stop doing the events that are at that level.

More and cheaper parking, walkability, bike parking. We are many years away from fast, accessible and frequent transit, then the parking won't be as important.

Community interaction within the university and colleges, as well as Broadway style plays/musicals or theatrical arts.

Perhaps signage as you enter Oshawa promoting downtown shopping. Also eliminating one way traffic on King and Bond. Bowmanville has a thriving pleasant downtown. Why not Oshawa?

More concerts and fundraisers.

Food festivals

free food sample fares - invite small starting out food businesses who want to demo their stuff. They're paying to do them in Costco; why not have them come for free? The music concerts and neighbourhood stuff are really nice. Keep it up <3

Community clean up. Drugs out of memorial park. Less meth clinics.

Sophisticated events (Jazz and other music festivals, food and wine shows). Move Ribfest and other similar events downtown.

Bring back Space Invaders, more concerts.

events that might promote retail and services. dine-around events. or shopping events and tours that ring people to different places to experience and possibly get special savings.
how about a historical tour with stops at local restaurants

No comment

Side walk sales
Festivals apple / fall or spring or summer

Nature-based events. More festivals with live music.

Good festivals. Kids Events

Events that include outdoor music and encourages walking.

N/A

Much more art focused events (i.e., painting, music, poetry, literature), reduced car and bike events, and events that really help other downtown cores really speak to the younger community, such as street art events and large craft beer tastings.

Music Festivals

sidewalk sales, close the main street for a food festival

More kid friendly, jazz weekend, closing street for events, food truck

Arts and Crafts show. Smaller version of One of a Kind type of thing.

I think we have lots of great events, parking and getting to the event can be a nightmare sometimes

Food festivals similar to those held in Toronto ie Greekfest on the Danforth
Jazz festivals similar to those held at the beach (Toronto)
Local musician concerts
Buskerfest

That's a tough one!

I would like to see a professional urban design firm hired to re-design downtown. It may take some time but worth the investment.

See this website: <https://deca.to/> This group literally REVITALIZED east York! (which actually has many physical similarities to Oshawa actually).

Have someone from DECA come in and inspire whoever is in charge of this project. Mock their existing projects, they would be thrilled to assist, surely :)

Tons of examples. Google what's being planned for in downtown Guelph and how much work went into that. A

collaboration between a design firm and a local masters program is what lead to the new plan. Again, took time and planning but it sounds amazing, inviting, inspirational!

Bars

family events, things for kids that are free or cheap

More summer festivals

A street fair on King Street for local shops to showcase their wares.

Outdoor walking display types.

Marketplace for smaller diverse food and arts vendors
Having karaoke bars, adult entertainment a central nightclub

Music festival

More Concerts at Memorial Park, Chili Fest, More Theater

We seem to be very slow in coming up with fresh ideas when you look around at other municipal communities. During the hockey season there should be more of an attempt to get hockey fans to stay downtown after the game and in fact before the game to have dinner. I attend the Toronto symphony and if you are a patron of certain restaurants, showing them your ticket gives you a 15% discount. The Generals I am sure would be happy to promote this kind of idea.

N/A

Bring back the craft beer festival! Free concerts or reasonably priced concerts

- Live out door concerts with larger name artists
- Local area tourist information
- Would love to see a pool room with the 6 by 12 snooker tables and training how to play and enjoy

I enjoy all the events which are held currently and there is enough variety to draw in more people. Possibly hold more of the markets etc in the evening so those of use who work 9-5 could enjoy them.

More playground and schools on king st e
Cultural festivals
Shopping Mall right on King St E to have mixed vibrant population

farmers market

Jazz festival, comedy festival, food based or ethnic festival ie: Italian Caribbean etc

Stuff for kids. Food truck festival. Weekend farmers market. Splash pad.

Some topics that can distinguish Oshawa and other cities.

Have never heard of many of the events listed in previous question, more marketing for current events might help. Food truck, wine/beer tastings, live music (don't feel safe bringing my kids to memorial park), home crafter markets, festivals like Apple/maple fest similar to what Bowmanville has as example.

Local craft beer festival. Close a street for a weekend farmers market.

More cultural events, block parties, food related events

Jazz fest, Art Festival, Learn about other cultures event

Bring the Durham film festival to downtown. Regent theatre could be used

More artsy festivals on Victoria

better hours...open later?

monthly weekend festivals all year long with weekly ones in the summer... doors open, beerfest, markets and music type events..

Food truck frenzies, live music, retail stores open later.

Local bands, jazz festival, maple syrup festival, apple fest, local art.

Kars on king

More performance-based events and festivals (not just rock music)

More street festivals. Something for families and children

Drumming circle, yoga in the park, self healing & healthy living outdoor gatherings, face painting for kids-Free

A few years ago market squared was bigger and more popular when it was in the courtyard of city hall on Thursday evening and local artists could set up free to try to make a few extra dollars to help out with their bills

Charity
Events for kids

Meet & greet

..

I've always loved Autofest/Kars on King . We need to host a music event right in the core. Close off the streets like Kars on King, with the same stage Setup. Spend some money on advertising these events. Crossing Point Festival lacked in advertisement this year. AI enquired to a few friends who didn't know anything about it this year. They are all involved in the music industry in some degree. Old fashioned posters (in easy to read fonts) and roadside signs/banners work, yes even in this age lol.

Farmers market was great when located downtown

Put our students to work. The future of education lies an experiential learning -- tap into that resource!
Maybe team up with the culture people at the city. Kirsten is cool

street party
street fest - retail street vendors
frosh week / pub crawl
battle of the bands
generals tail gate
movie night

Bring back beerfest, create an inviting atmosphere to area, new and interesting facades to the building, make area more pedestrian inviting , clean up area south of armouries(looks like a dump in the middle of town) ,historical (Oshawa) museum in downtown area,

Community Centres and more chid and youth focused programs between the hours of 6pm and 11pm. Maybe if we give them something to do during these hours, 6pm to 11pm crime rates might drop.

Just everyday crucial services that make people come down here then stay to eat . change the no parking fee to 5:00 if you have to come down here for 1/2 hour after work it's really annoying , at least on some of the side streets. Do something interesting with the auto museum. Does anyone really go in there? have food truck festival at Memorial , start sending more info out by email as reminders of what you can do here . with the weather getting hotter we need some shaded places at Memorial Park , the last concert I went to was really uncomfortable . I have to say the concerts in Bowmanville have much better entertainment and food for sale. What about a large or several smaller daycare facilities for all the people living in the new apts. and taking the GO . enough with the bike lanes !! I hardly see enough bikes to warrant car inconvenience . who rides a bike in the winter , the lanes should at least be seasonal.

?

Concerts

No

not sure

Food truck festival, carnival, applefest, maplefest,

//

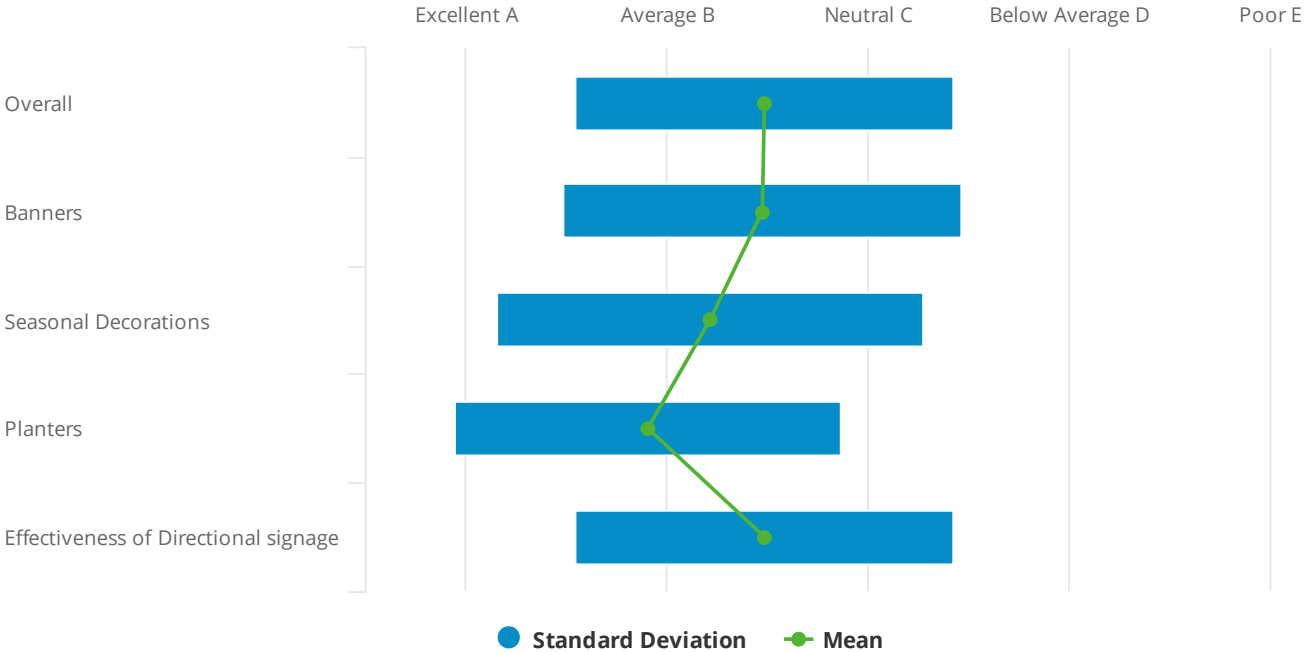
Food truck festival, more street closures, sidewalk markets, paired entertainment & dinner ticketed events

live blues or Jazz music played Thurs and Friday's downtown in the summer months at Centre and King and Avanti Parking lot alternating with Thurs at one lot and Friday at the other allowing for tables and chairs for lunch and extra food options.

Busker Festival

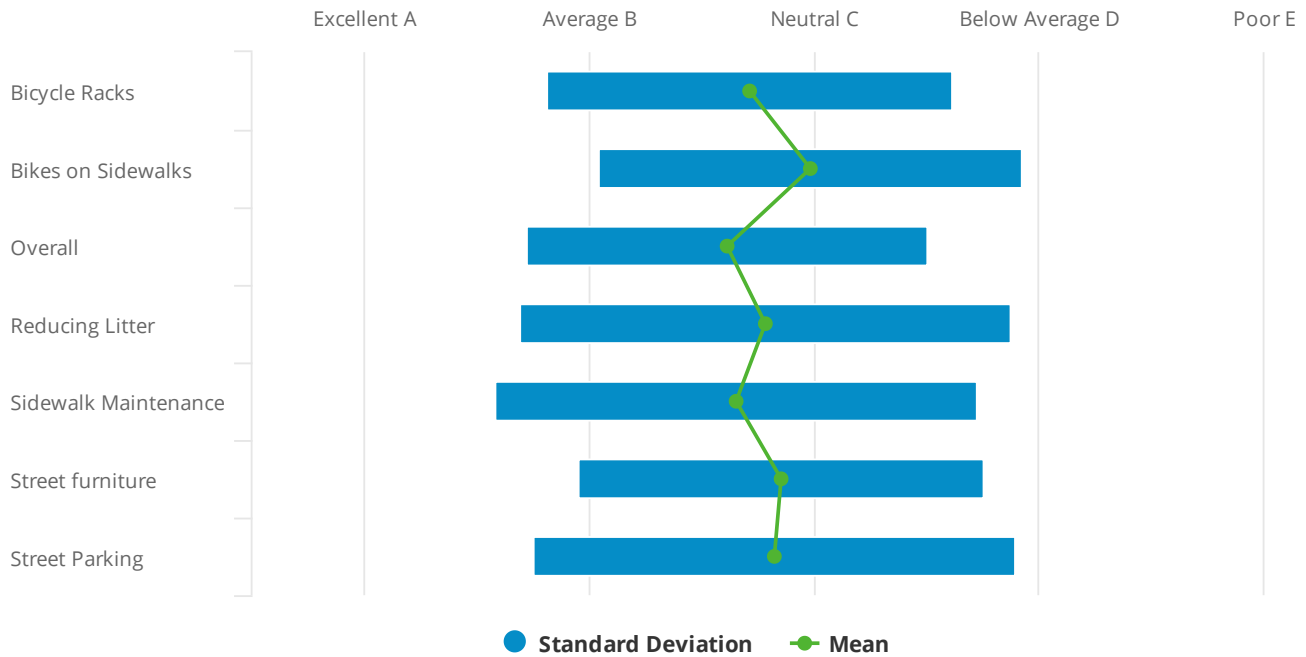
10. Beautification The BIA contributes to the attractiveness of the Downtown Oshawa area. Please let us know how we're doing in this area.

Number of responses: 178



11. Revitalization & Maintenance The BIA contributes to streetscape and improvement projects. Please let us know how we're doing in this area.

Number of responses: 176



12. Marketing & Promotion The BIA encourages residents to shop, eat, and play in the downtown Oshawa area. Please let us know how we're doing in this area.

Number of responses: 175

