

Community Safety Survey

Results and Findings

October, 2020



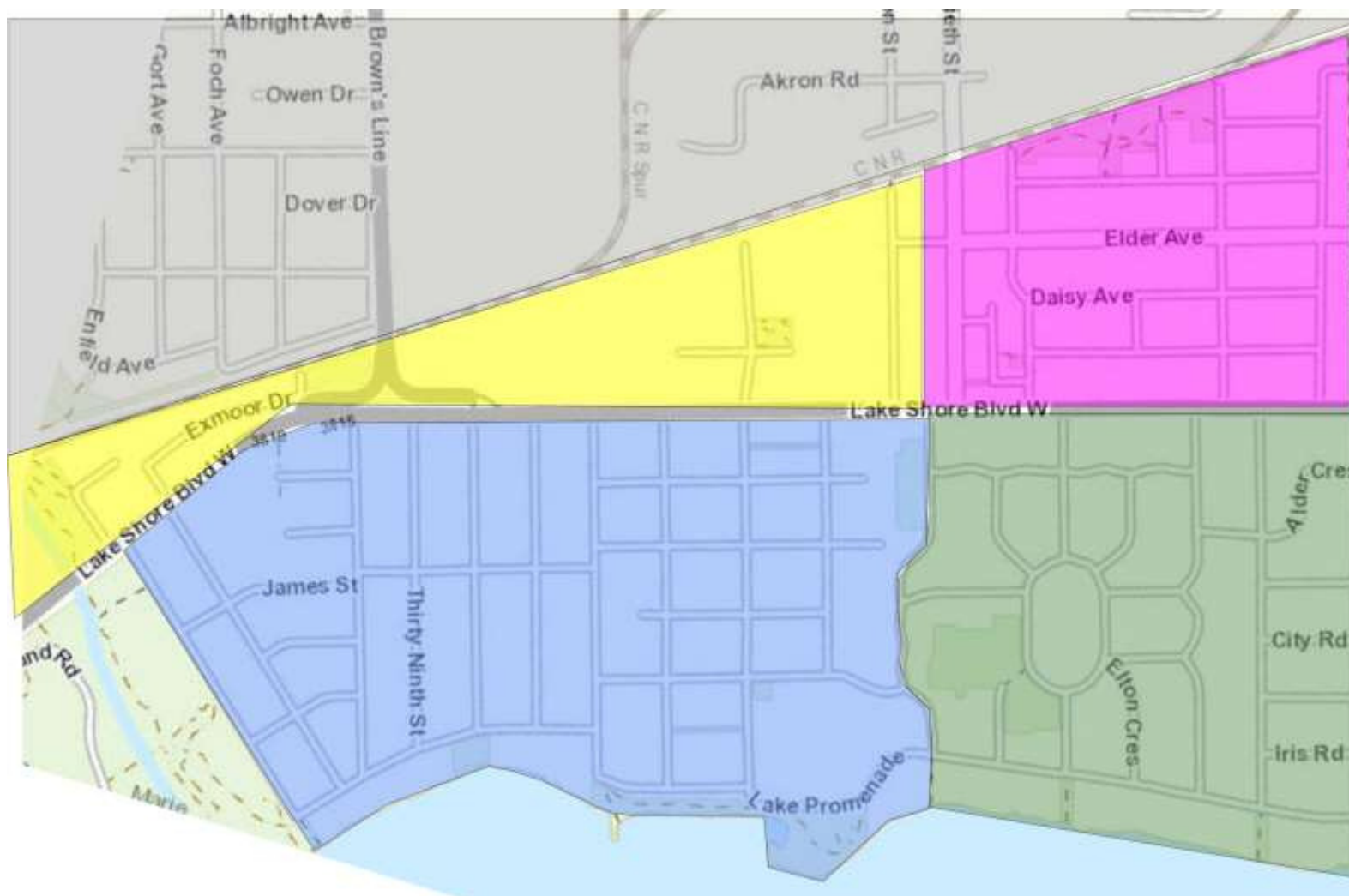
How We Did It (Methodology)

- **10-Question Survey**
 - 5 multiple-choice questions
 - 5 classification questions
- Sent out via email October 20, 2020

Classification

- **Long Branch Divided into 4 Quadrants**
 - N-S along Lakeshore Boulevard
 - E-W down Thirty First Street
- To determine if different issues/different priorities exist in one quadrant the others

Long Branch Neighbourhood

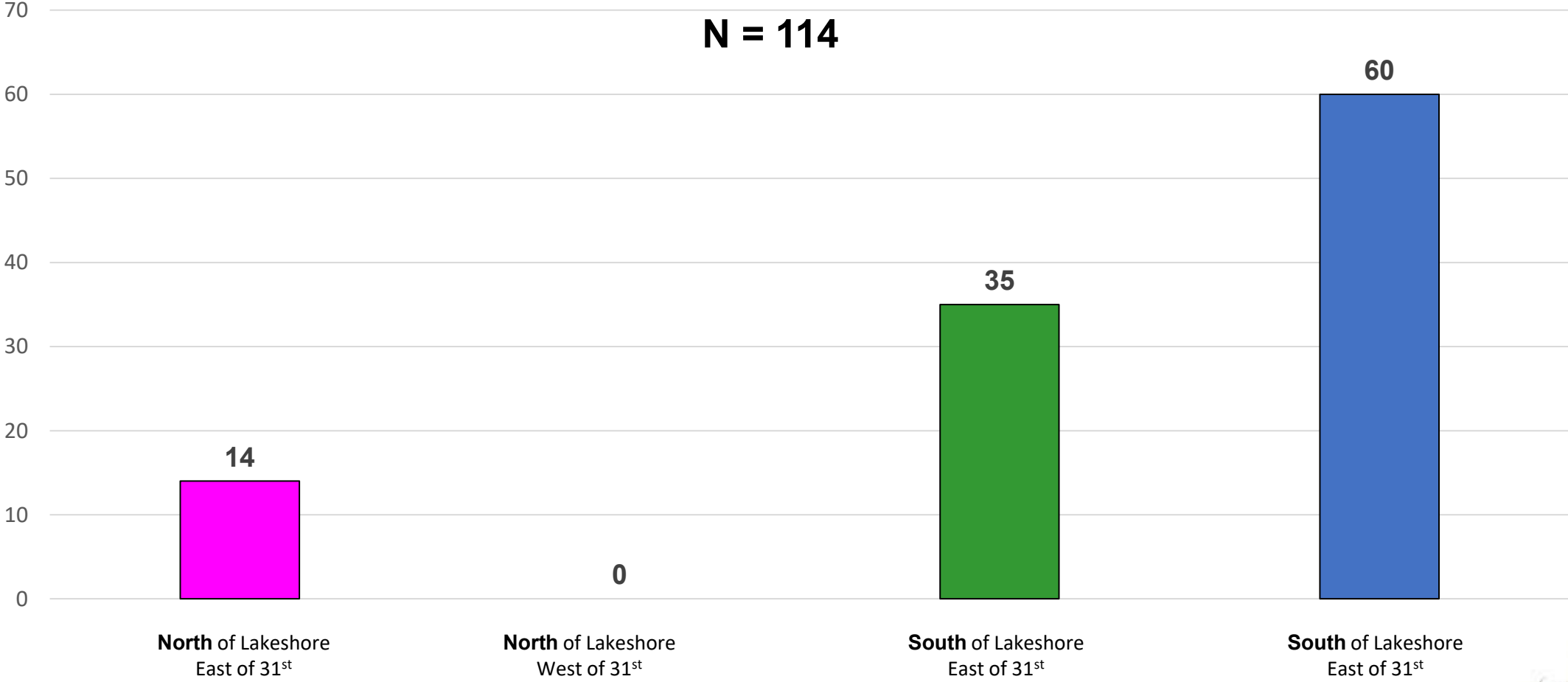


Classification

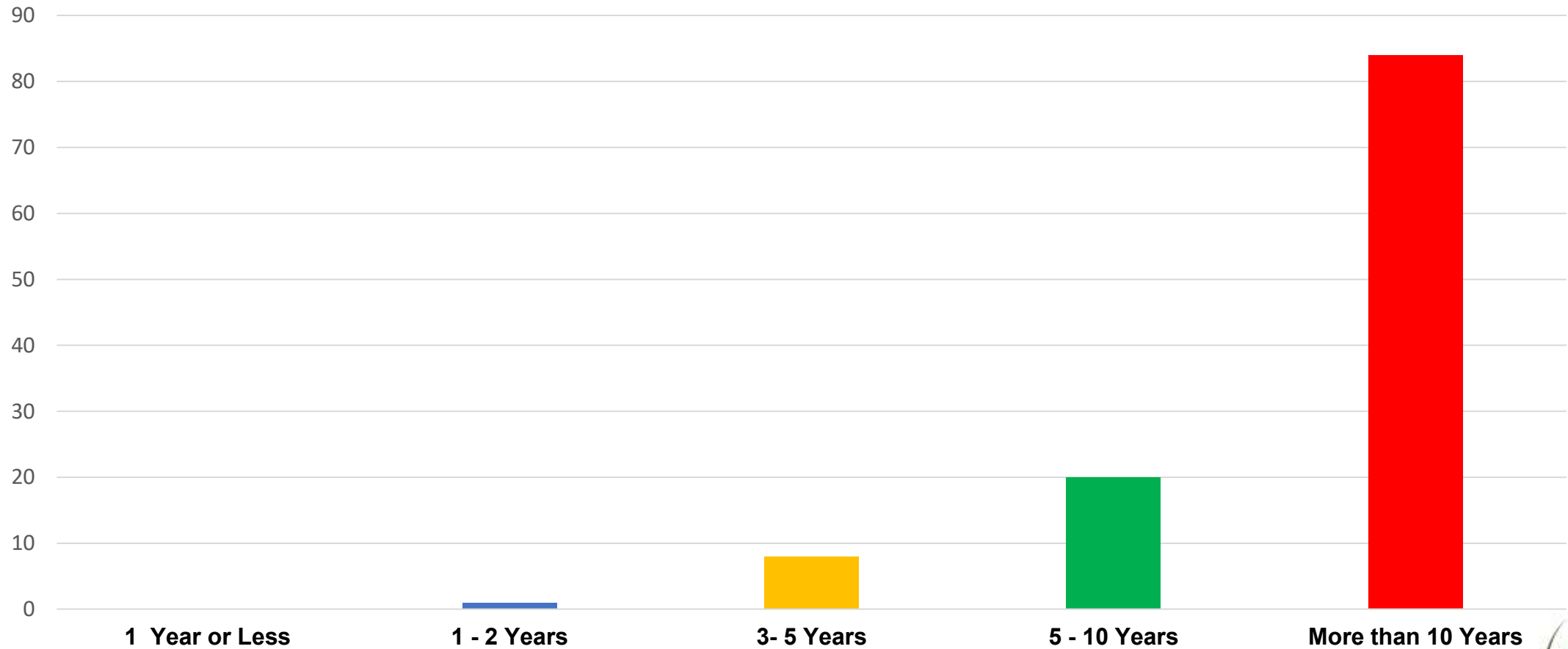
- **Different Dwelling Types**
 - Single Family Homes
 - Apartments/Condos
- To determine if different issues/different priorities exist in one type of dwelling versus the others

Who We Heard From

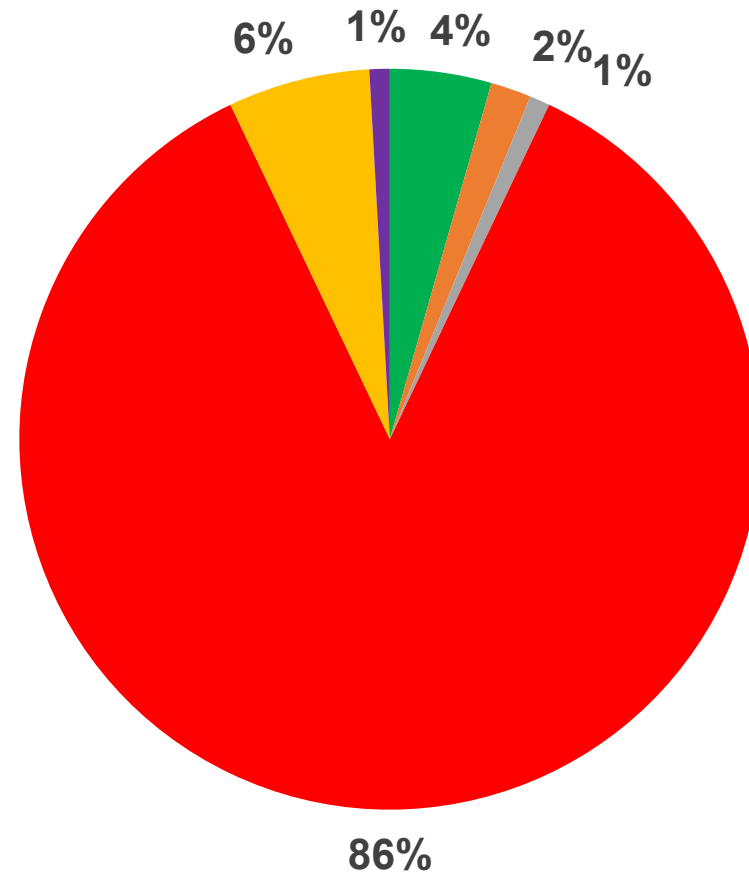
Area



Mostly Long-Time Residents

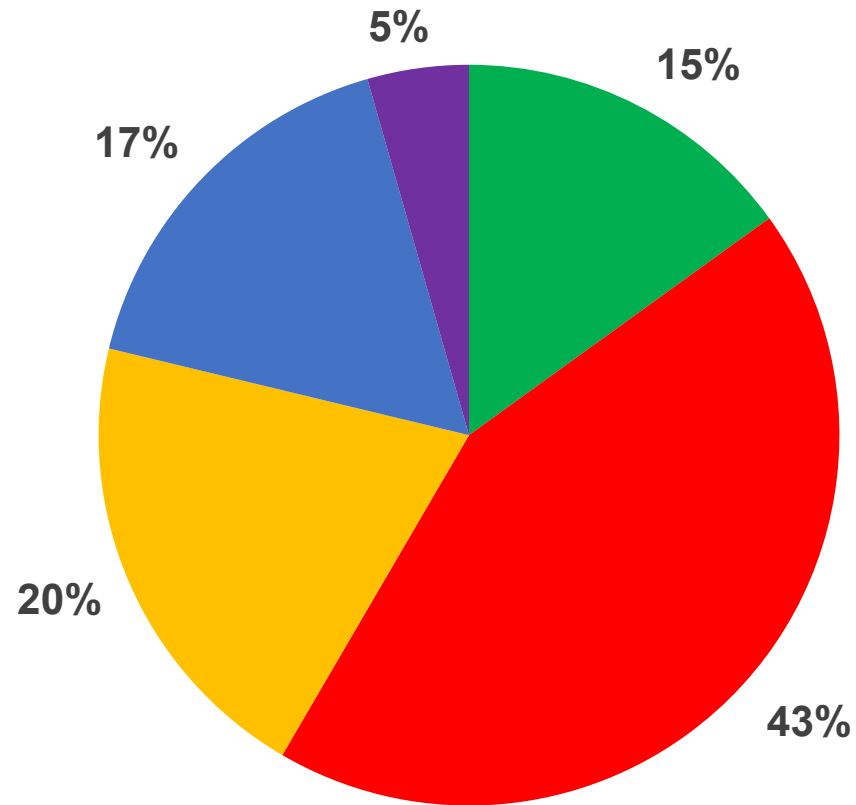


Mostly Homeowners



- Apt. 4+ Stories
- Apt - 2-3 Stories
- Triplex/Duplex
- Single Family house
- Townhouse
- Rental Suite

Different Household Sizes



- Singles
- Couples
- 3 Persons
- 4 Persons
- 5 or more Persons

Findings

Q1.

How Safe Do You Feel In Long Branch?



How Safe Do You Feel In Long Branch?

- Overall, Long Branch residents consider this to be a safe neighbourhood.
- Understandably, they feel safer during the day than after dark.
- Cyclists do ***NOT*** feel safe riding after dark



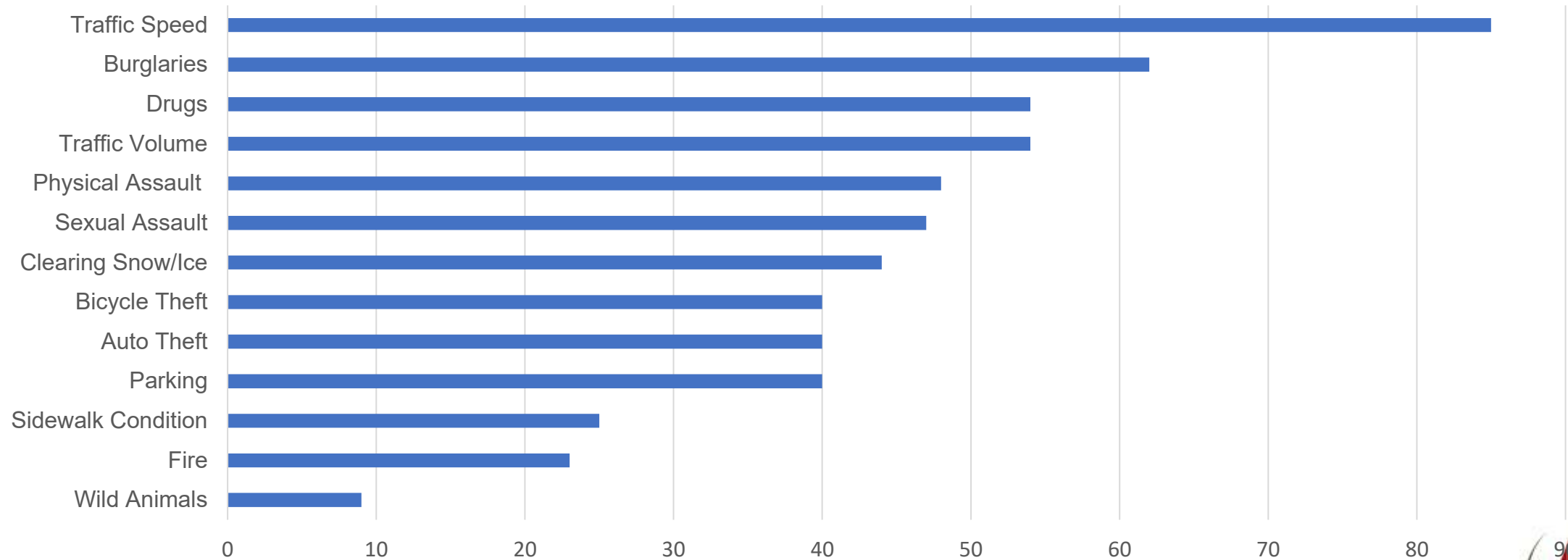
Q2.

What do you consider to be the issues that affect the safety of you and your family here in Long Branch?

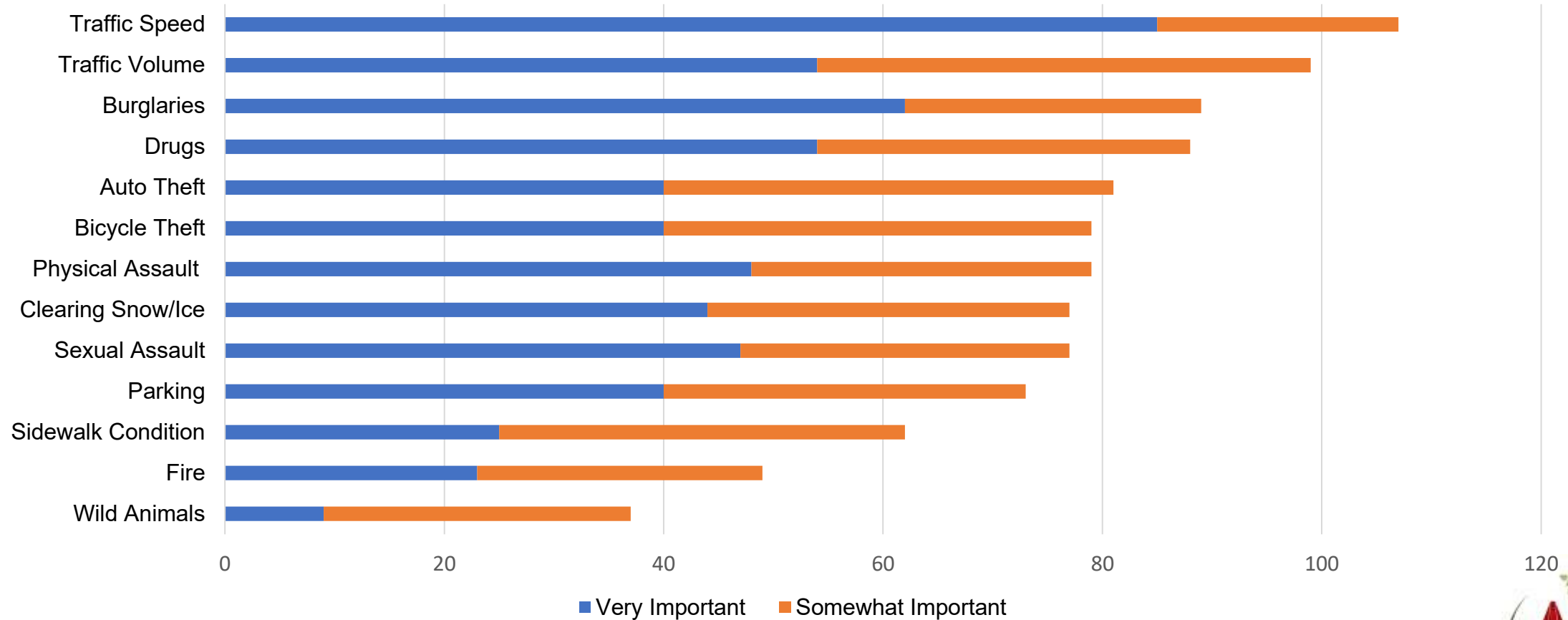


Complete Issues Ranking

Very Important



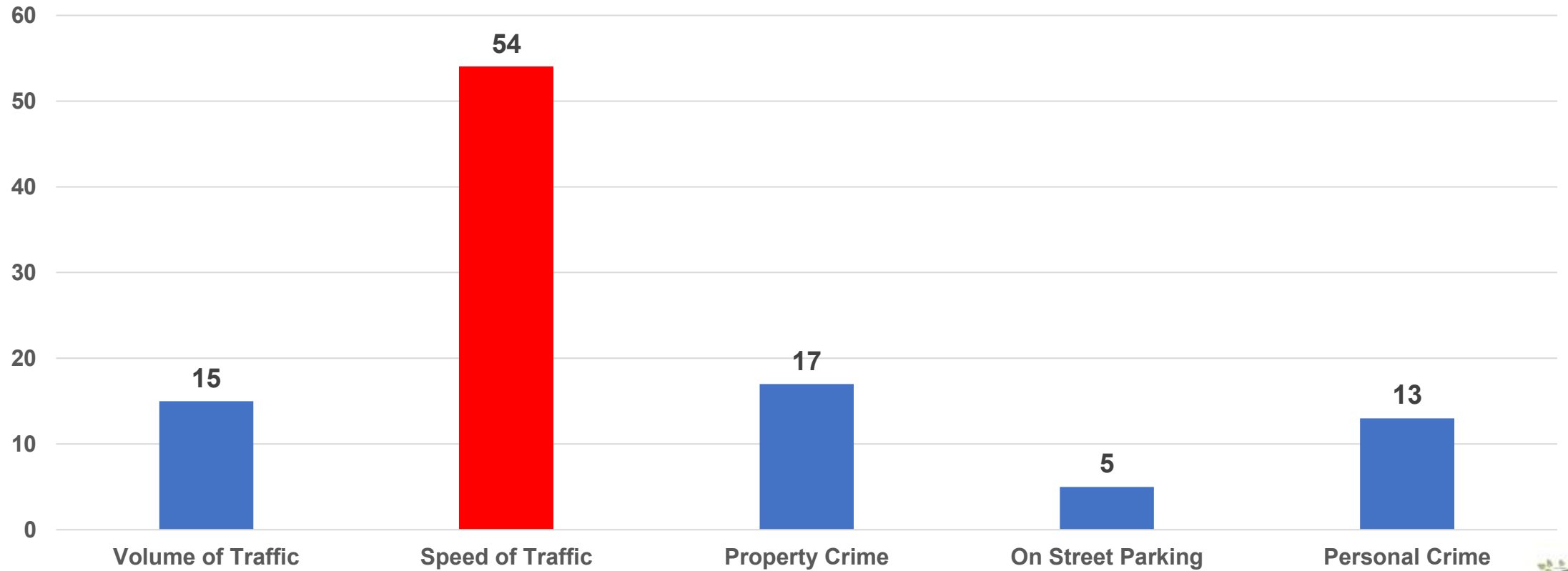
Complete Issues Ranking



Q3.

Please select the TOP 5 Issues in order of importance, with the most important to you being number 1.

Top Issues – Forced Ranking



In Your Own Words

- “All kinds of vehicles use 23 Street to see how fast they can race from one end to the other because it is a long stretch of road with no stop signs or speed bumps.”
- “Lake Prom is used as a shortcut to avoid the traffic lights on Lake Shore, so speed is an issue.”
- “On our particular street which runs from the Lakeshore to Lake Promenade without any stop signs some drivers go full speed from the top of the street to Lake Promenade at all hours of day and night.”



In Your Own Words

- “I bought a radar gun and I clock speeds. **Drivers sometimes reach speeds of 70km/h** even when there are kids walking on the sidewalks as they drive past. Drivers also fail to stop for stop signs.”
- “Cars - speed and volume and noise and racing has gotten 10x worse over the past 12 months”
- “Lake Promenade and many of the streets running North & South between 25 and 41 experience cars travelling at very high speeds. Especially the N&S streets that are straight. This can also include cyclists. **The Pilon [pylon] project made a huge difference. Please bring them back in a more permanent form as people were moving them to lawns and parkettes.**”



In Your Own Words

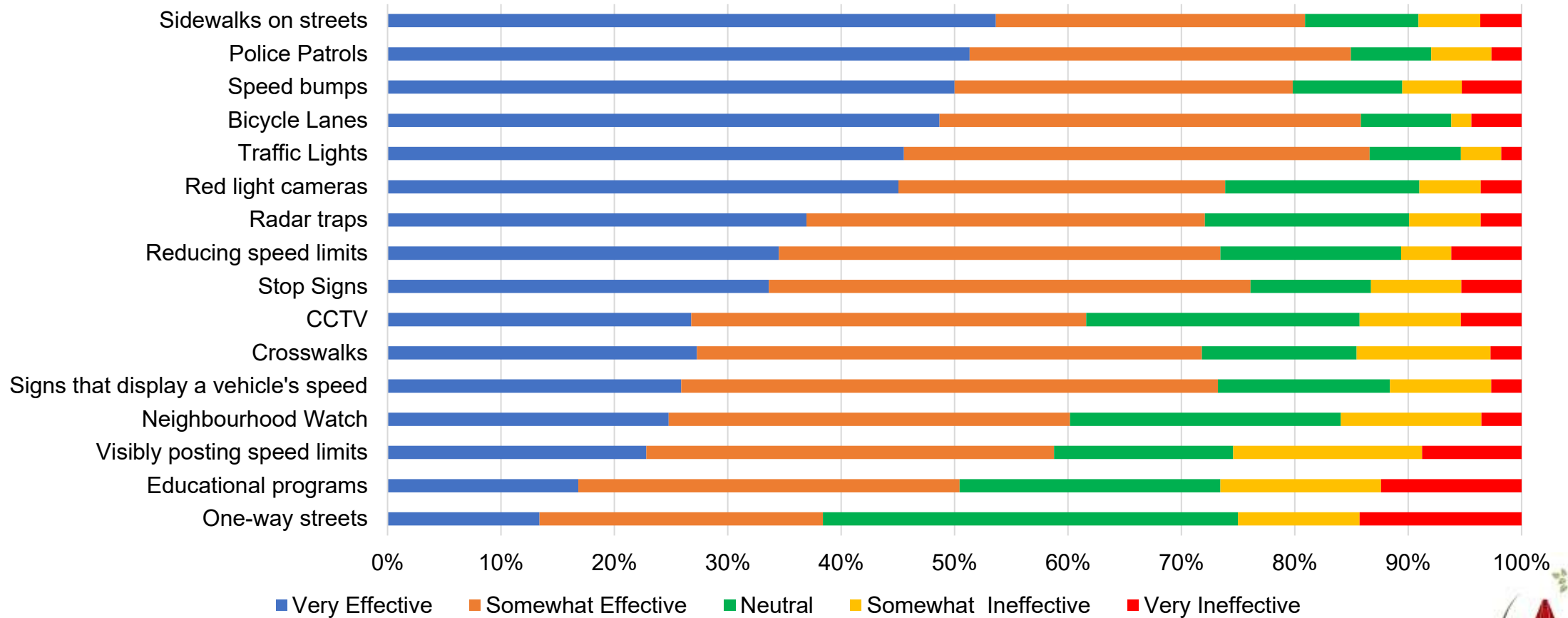
- “Living on Lake Promenade, many times it has been a challenge living my home due to traffic. There is a stop sign just around the corner, but many cars don't stop. Same thing for bikes. Cyclists just zoom by at high speed without even looking like it does not concern them.”
- “To me, traffic issues are highly important because I live on the section of Lake Prom where there are no sidewalks, and Lake Prom is used as a shortcut to avoid the traffic lights on Lake Shore, so speed is an issue. Parking on this section of the street impedes the safety of pedestrians, bicyclists, etc.”



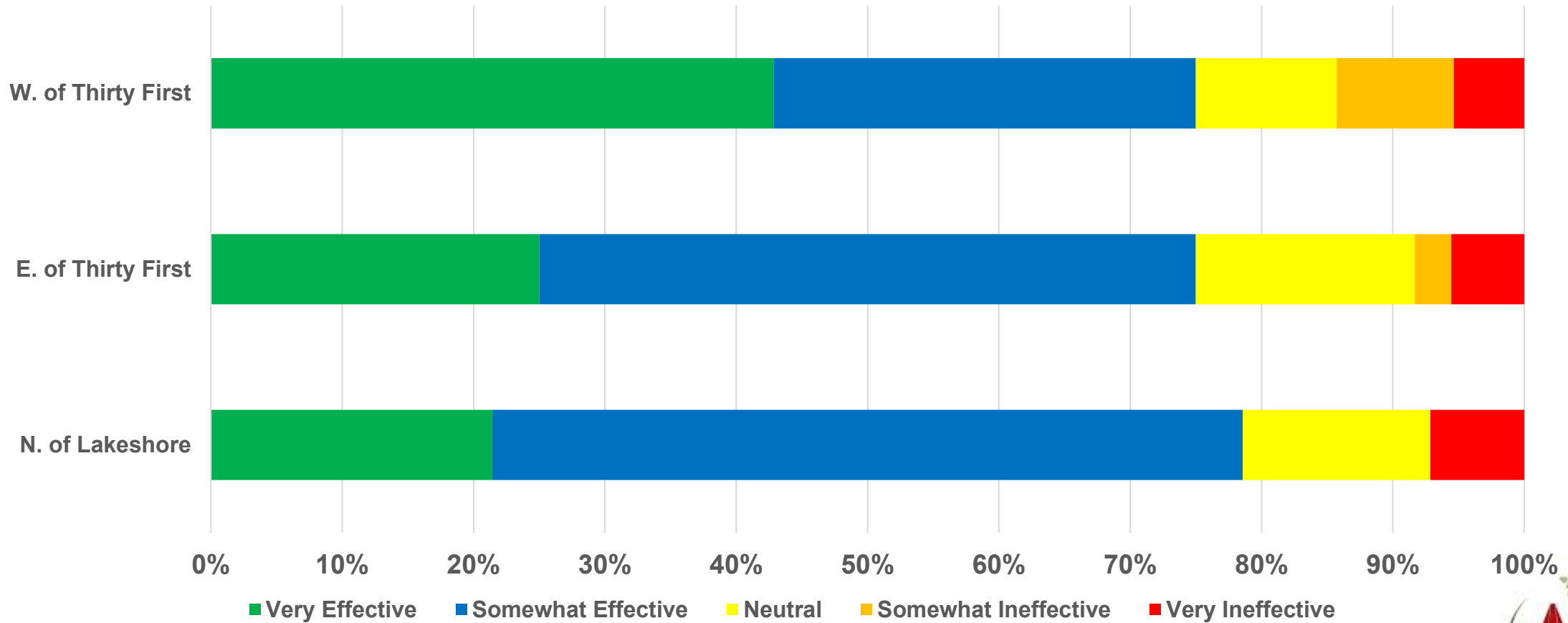
Q5.

How effective do you think the following are in increasing safety for you and your family?

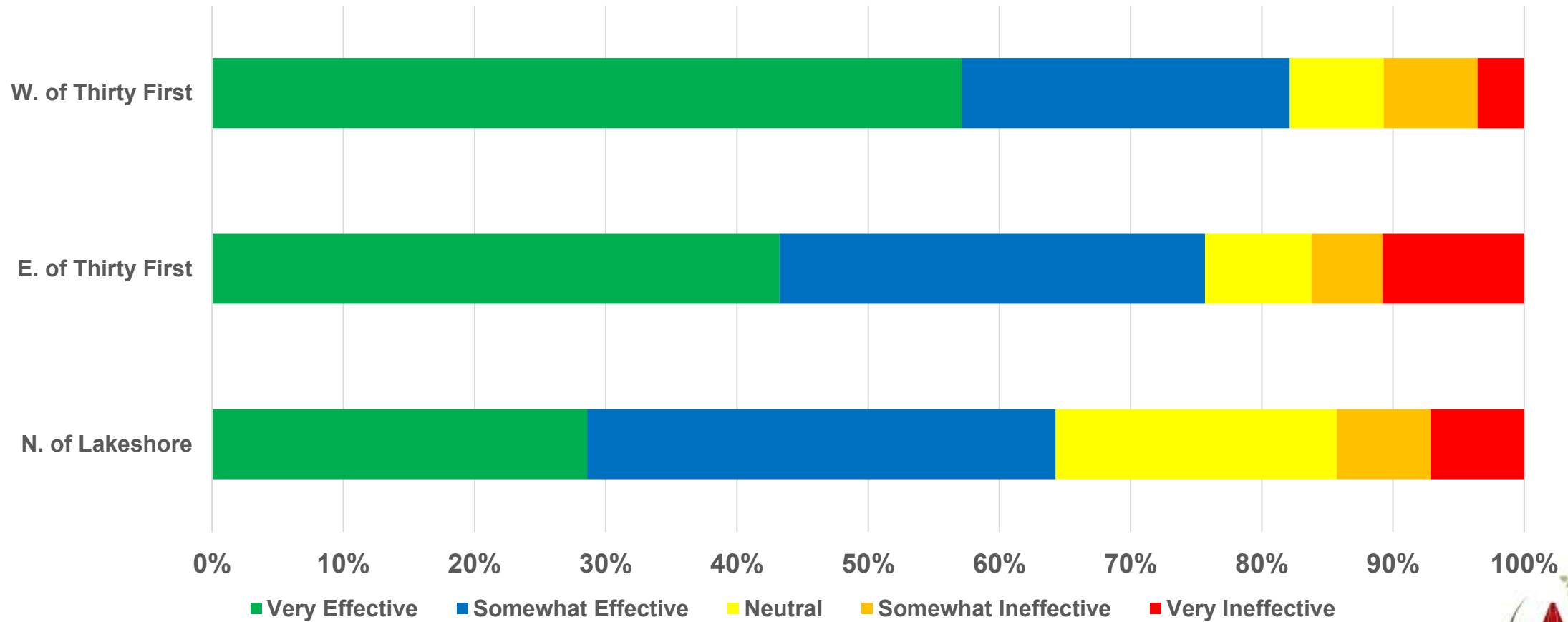
Effectiveness of Safety Measures



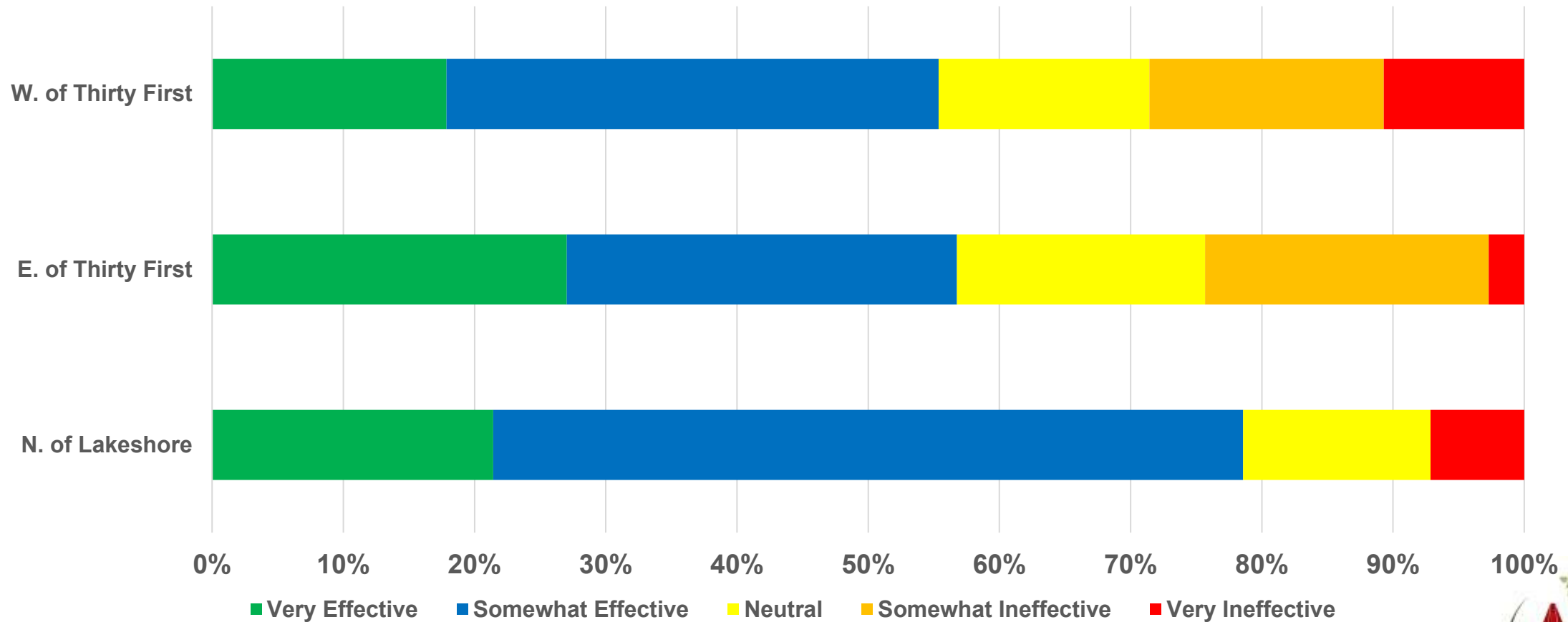
More Stop Signs



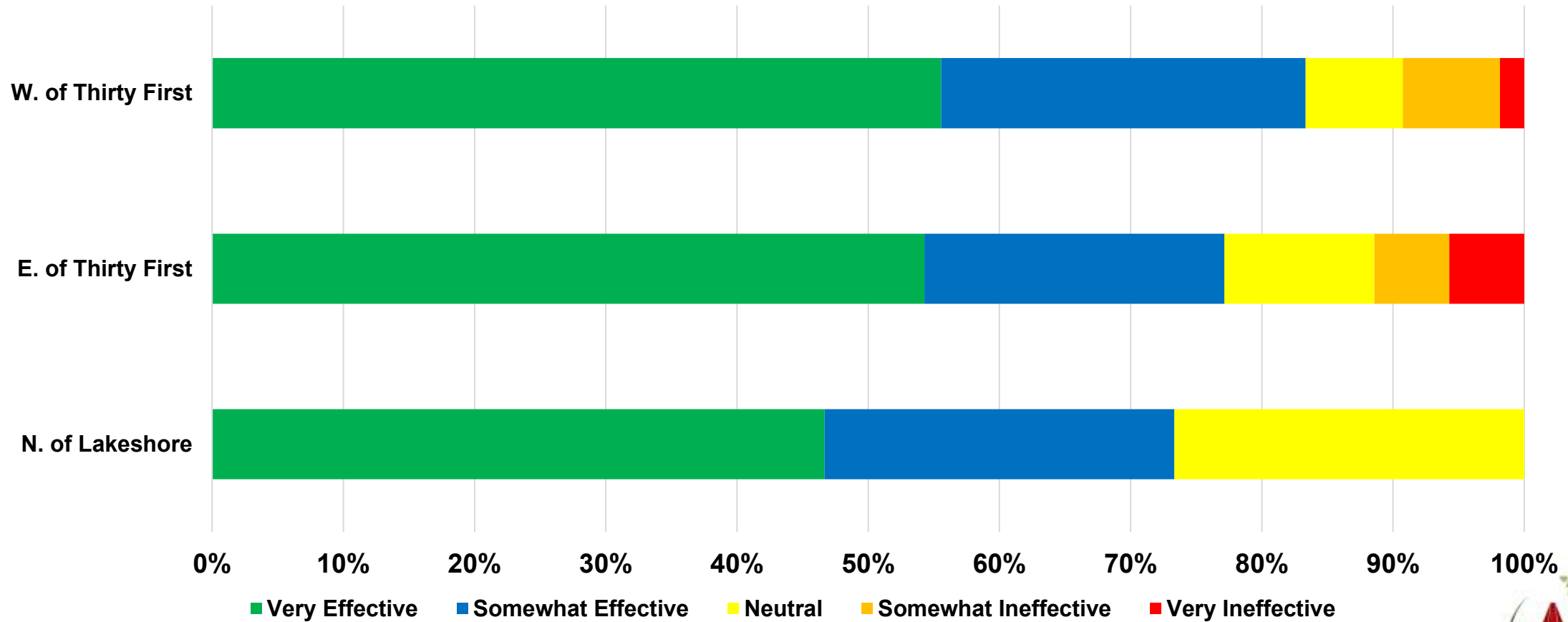
Speed Bumps Seen as Effective



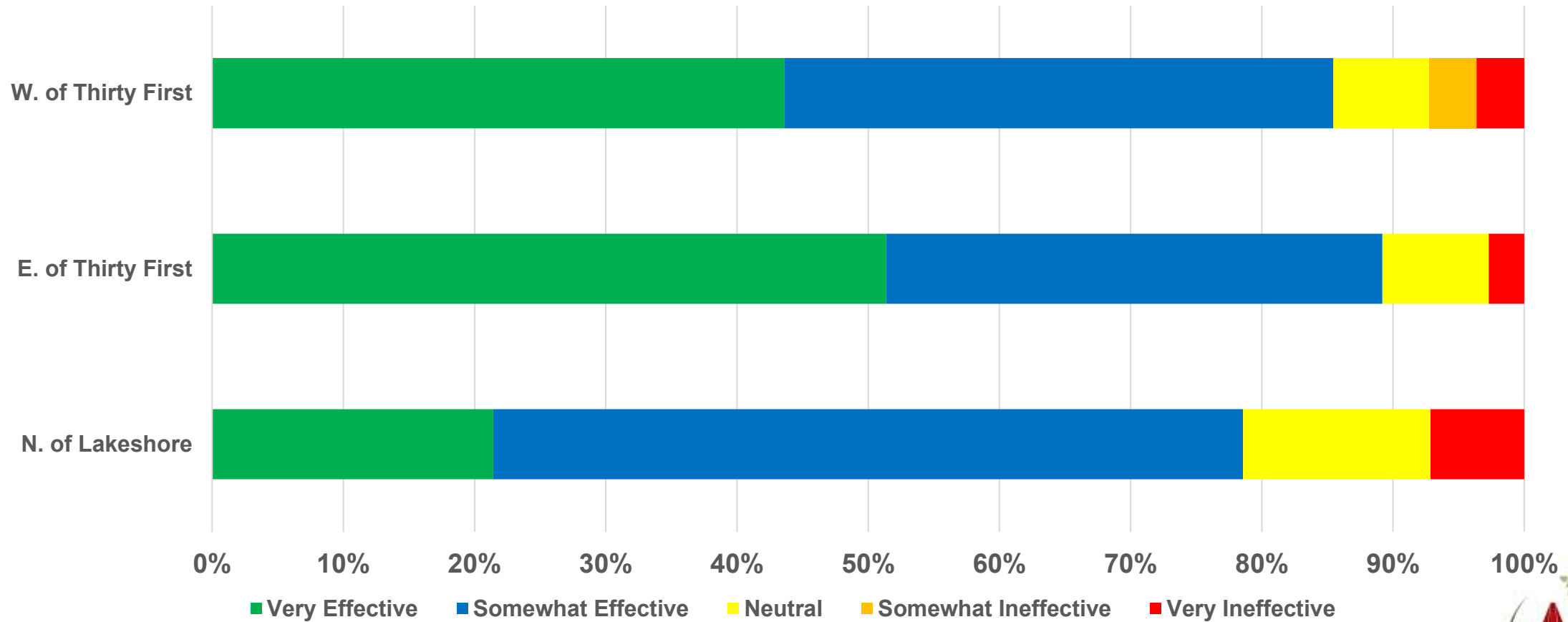
Posted Speed Limits Seen Only as Slightly Effective



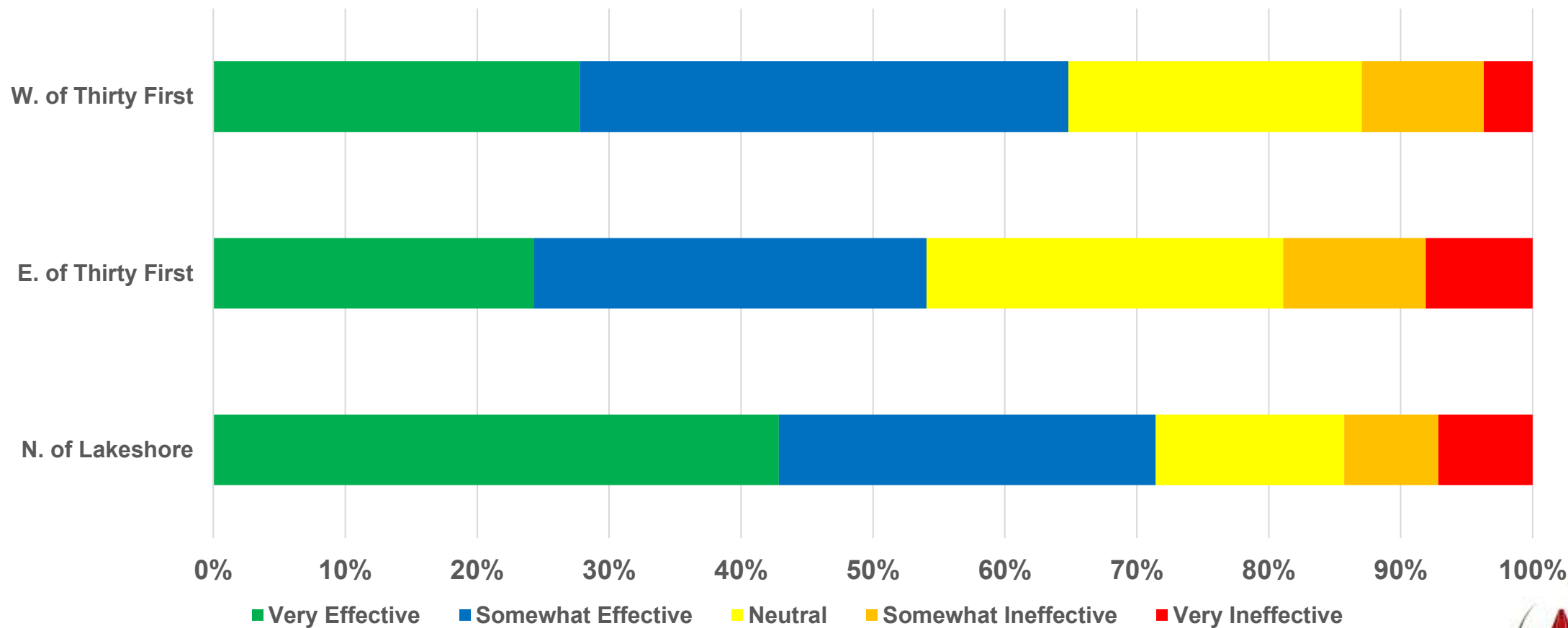
Sidewalks Improve Safety



Cycling Lanes



Closed-Circuit Video Surveillance



Issues by Area

East of Thirty First

1. Speeding
2. Property Crime
3. Volume of Traffic
4. On-Street Parking
5. Personal Crime

West of Thirty First

1. Speeding
2. Property Crime
3. Volume of Traffic
4. On-Street Parking
5. Personal Crime

Issues by Area

North of Lakeshore

1. Speeding
2. Property Crime
3. Personal Crime
4. Traffic Volume
5. On-Street Parking

South of Lakeshore

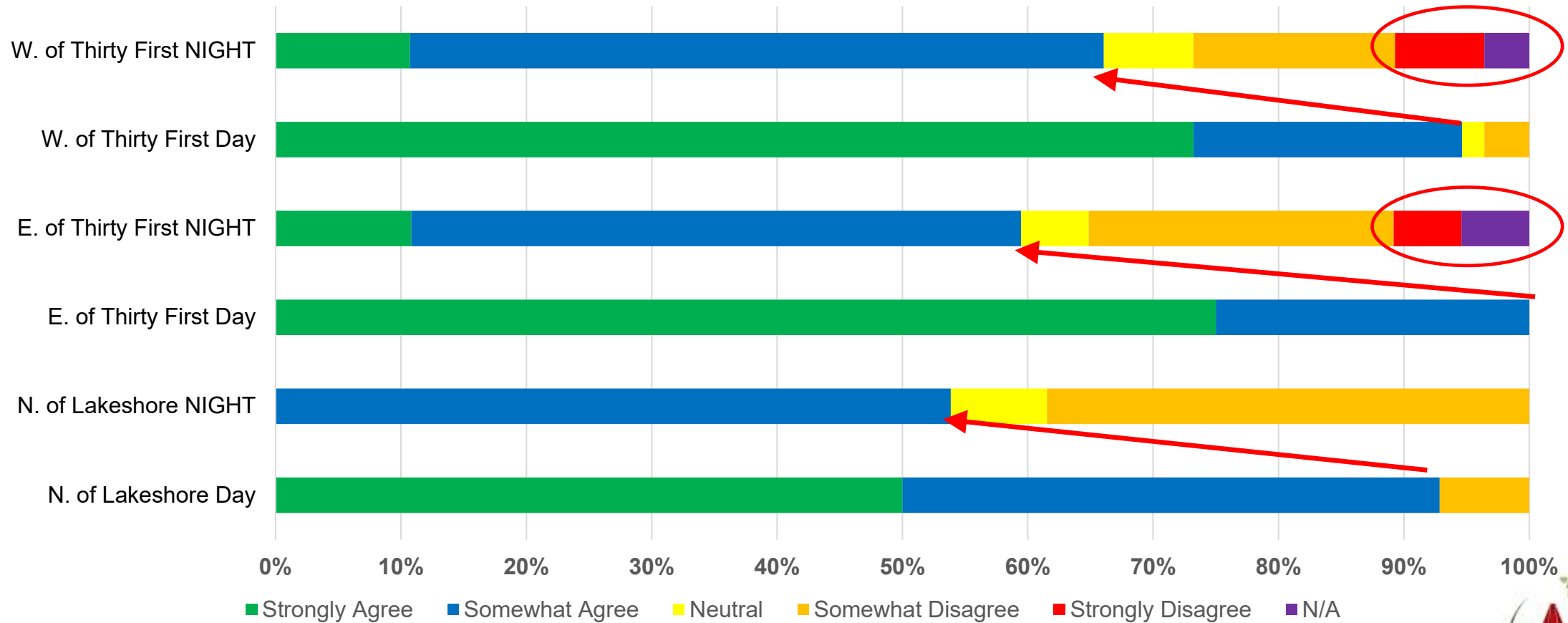
1. Speeding
2. Property Crime
3. Volume of Traffic
4. On-Street Parking
5. Personal Crime

Personal Safety – On the Streets

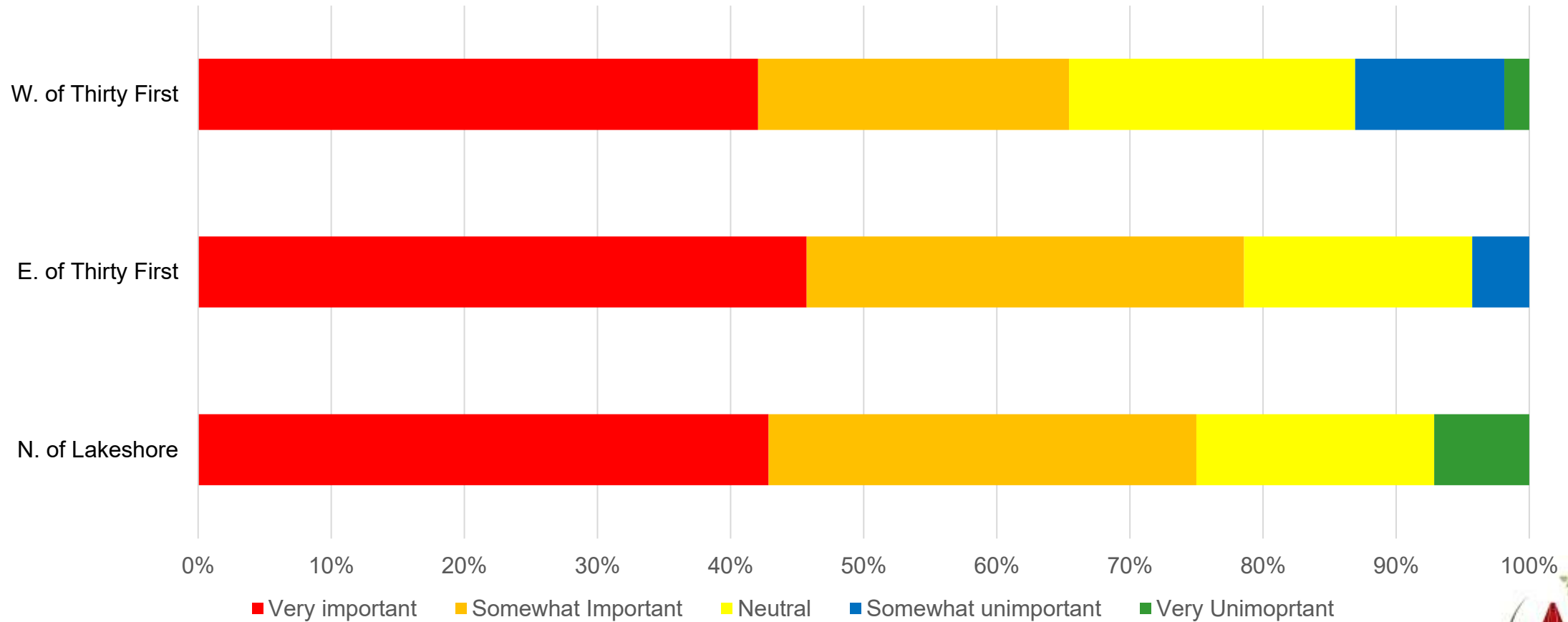
- Generally, Long Branch residents feel safe walking their streets during the day.
- However, they feel significantly less safe walking at night. This is not atypical.
- It appears, in some parts of Long Branch, some residents simply do not walk at night at all.
- A very similar pattern exists for cycling at night vs. day, only even more pronounced concern about cycling at night.



Personal Safety- Walking the Streets



Personal Crimes



Conclusions

Areas Have Different Priorities

- Each of the 3 areas we studied share the same concerns
- However, the priorities of those concerns varies from one area to another.

Speeding

- Speeding cars (and cycles) is the problem of greatest concern to residents throughout the neighbourhood.
- To address this, following seem to be the preferred solutions
 - **Implement traffic calming measures** such as speed bumps to slow down vehicles.
 - **Install more stop signs** at more intersections to avoid long stretches of roadway with no obstacles.
 - Separate cyclists from motorists using **dedicated cycling lanes**.
 - **Install more sidewalks** on streets that currently have none.

Property Crime

- Concerns exist about property crimes in the neighbourhood. These include:
 - Burglaries
 - Theft of bicycles
 - Auto Theft/Theft from cars
- Proposed solutions to this issue are
 - More and more **regular police patrols**
 - Programs to encourage **installation of home security cameras**
 - **Neighbourhood Watch**
 - **Educational Programs**



Traffic Volume

- Long Branch residents are concerned about the overall volume of traffic travelling through the neighbourhood.
- **We believe this relates more to cars using side streets in Long Branch** to avoid the lights along Lakeshore than to overall concerns about traffic volume or traffic volume on Lakeshore.
- We probably have no influence on traffic volume on Lakeshore.



On-Street Parking

- Concerns about on-street parking and its implications on safety tend to be stronger in the area West of Thirty First Street.
- This may be a result of the volume of weekend visitors to Marie Curtis Park, many of whom park illegally.
- Possible Solutions include:
 - Expanded parking at Marie Curtis Park
 - Seasonal shuttle service to MCP from the Long Branch Loop
 - Changing parking on Lakeshore Boulevard from angle parking to parallel.



Personal Crime

- We were surprised to see the number of concerns expressed about personal safety in Long Branch.
- While we heard personal accounts of assault among the responses, the survey was not designed to identify the possible *causes* for personal safety issues.
- Typically, addressing personal crime involves
 - Better street lighting
 - Education about how to avoid becoming a victim
 - Police patrols

What Can You Do?



We Need Help

- We need to form a committee of volunteers to work on implementing some of the solutions discussed in this presentation.
- Ideally, such a committee would include representatives from the following constituencies:
 - North of Lakeshore
 - East of Thirty First
 - West of Thirty First
 - Condo/Apartment dwellers
 - Cyclists

