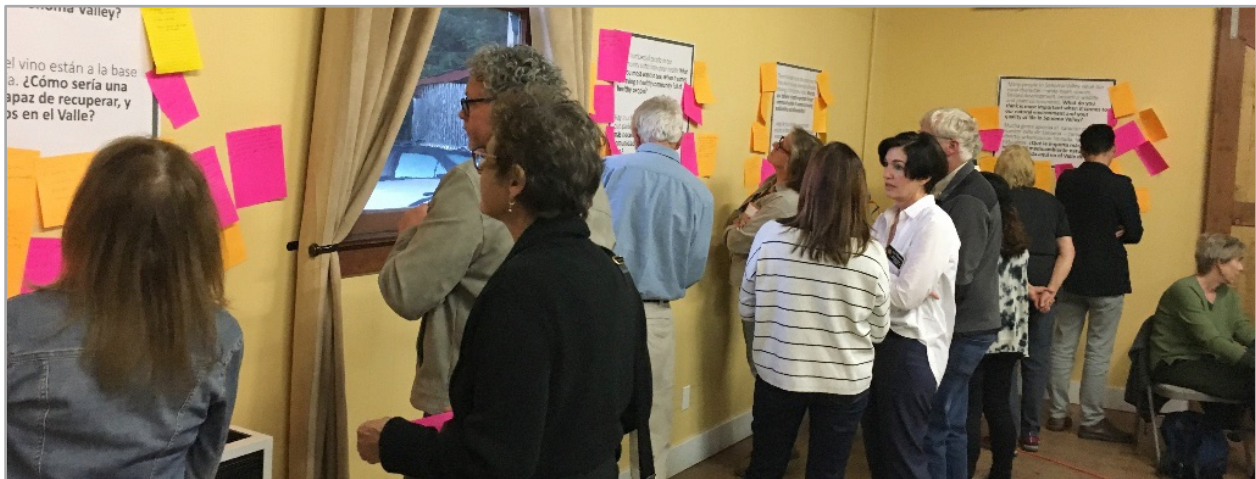




The Voices of Sonoma Valley

Results of Sustainable Sonoma's Listening Sessions, 2018
Executive summary



Sustainable Sonoma is a forum where a diverse group of Sonoma Valley people—businesses, environment, social justice, nonprofits, and government—take action on solutions to our community's biggest challenges.

Before choosing which compelling issues to act on together, Sustainable Sonoma conducted listening sessions across the community to understand what people most want to see in the future of Sonoma Valley. Over 1600 comments were recorded by about 350 people at in-person meetings and online at 20 Sustainable Sonoma listening sessions between March and October 2018.

The opinion expressed most often, twice as often as the next most common opinion, was that Sonoma Valley should have more affordable housing of many types and prices. People want to see a wider variety of housing options, that can be afforded by people who work in the Valley, at all income levels. The next most commonly expressed comment was that the Valley needs more and better public transportation, from buses to trolleys. In third place were three priorities with roughly equal weight: more options for bicycling, the need to protect our open space and rural character, and the importance of a fair community that provides access and opportunity for all.

Sustainable Sonoma cautions that the listening sessions collected qualitative information that reflects only a partial snapshot of our community's opinions. The Sustainable Sonoma Council will consider the findings of the listening sessions, together with other information about Sonoma Valley and their own knowledge, to select compelling issues to act on, together, over the next year.

A report on Sustainable Sonoma's listening sessions and their findings is available [here](#).