

## Appendix II: Community Survey Instrument

### Highland Park Community Plan Survey

August 2002

#### Introduction

The Highland Park community planning process needs your input! It will take about 10 minutes to take this survey. We greatly appreciate the time you put into this.

Please answer this survey to help Highland Park retain and enhance its vitality. This is an effort to learn as much about the physical and social assets of our community as possible.

The Highland Park community planning process views resident leadership as a necessary ingredient in our neighborhood revitalization strategy. Please help lead our process.

We need your feedback on what community issues should be addressed. We also would like to know about any reservations you may have about participating in the planning process.

This survey is brought to you by the Highland Park Community Development Corporation and Carnegie Mellon University's Community Connections project. Some of the questions here will be used by Community Connections for research helpful to the community planning process. By filling out this survey, you indicate you understand you are participating in the Highland Park Community planning process as well as Community Connections' research efforts.

Your response to this questionnaire is voluntary, and if you choose to stop responding, that's fine. Should you choose to respond, **your answers will be confidential**. Your identity will not be shared with anyone outside of the community planning process and Community Connections.

You may fill out this survey by hand, using this paper copy, or you may access the survey on-line. We strongly encourage you to fill out the on-line version of the survey if at all possible.

TO TAKE THE SURVEY ON-LINE, GO TO:

**<http://www.highlandparkcommunity.com>**

AND CLICK ON "HIGHLAND PARK SURVEY"

If you choose to fill out the paper version of the survey, you may return the completed copy to Enrico's Tazza D'Oro (1125 N. Highland Ave.) or Sandy's Deli (925 Mellon St.).

## Community Overview

1. Are you:

Male

Female

2. What is your age?

18-25

26-35

36-45

46-55

56-65

66-75

76+

3. Are you a resident of Highland Park?

Yes

No

If "NO", which neighborhood do you live in? \_\_\_\_\_

4. How many adults live in your household? (Please include yourself) \_\_\_\_\_

How many children live in your household? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Do you (or your family)

own your home?

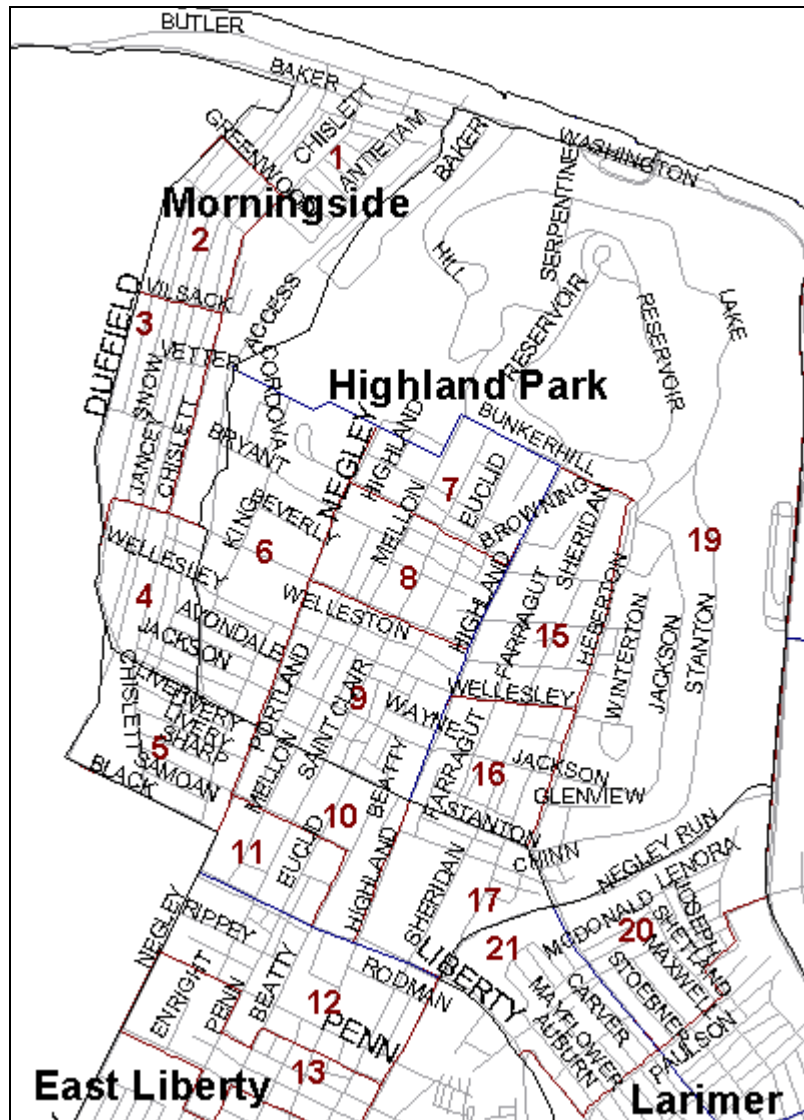
rent your home?

have other living arrangements?

6. How many years have you lived in Highland Park (or nearby if you are not currently a resident)? \_\_\_\_\_ years

7. It would be helpful for us to know whether people in different parts of Highland Park have different concerns. Different parts of Highland Park and surrounding communities are numbered on the map below. Please find where you live, and indicate the area number in which your home is located.

Enter the number for where you live (see map): \_\_\_\_\_



8. Do you work in Highland Park?

\_\_\_\_ Yes

\_\_\_\_ No

If “yes”, how many years have you worked in Highland Park? \_\_\_\_\_ years

9. Please complete the following statement:

I feel that Highland Park is a \_\_\_\_\_ place to live (or work).

Poor

Excellent

0

1

2

3

4

5

6

10. The following is a list of neighborhood issues that may or may not apply to Highland Park. Please check the most important issues that you feel should be addressed in planning for the future of the community. Please indicate up to four choices, and choose at least one.

\_\_\_\_ Education/quality of schools

\_\_\_\_ Condition of infrastructure (streets, sidewalks, parks, etc.)

\_\_\_\_ Availability/condition of housing

\_\_\_\_ Quality of City services

\_\_\_\_ Transportation

\_\_\_\_ Physical appearance of neighborhood

\_\_\_\_ Youth development

\_\_\_\_ Employment/access to jobs

\_\_\_\_ Recreation programming

\_\_\_\_ Access to healthcare

\_\_\_\_ Elderly services

\_\_\_\_ Drug abuse prevention

\_\_\_\_ Public safety

\_\_\_\_ Other (please specify)

\_\_\_\_\_

11. What do you like most about living in Highland Park?  
Please indicate up to four choices, and choose at least one.

- |                                                         |                                                             |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Close to family/friends        | <input type="checkbox"/> Close to employment                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Close to place of worship      | <input type="checkbox"/> Close to shopping/services         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Close to public transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood's physical appearance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational opportunities     | <input type="checkbox"/> Quality of schools                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Quality of housing             | <input type="checkbox"/> Close to doctor/hospital           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Affordability                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Friendliness of neighborhood       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Safety of neighborhood         | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please describe)            |
- 

12. What do you think are the biggest problems with living in Highland Park?  
Please indicate up to four choices, and choose at least one.

- |                                                             |                                                             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Far from family/friends            | <input type="checkbox"/> Far from employment                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Far from place of worship          | <input type="checkbox"/> Far from shopping/services         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Far from public transportation     | <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood's physical appearance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of recreational opportunities | <input type="checkbox"/> Quality of schools                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Quality of housing                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Far from doctor/hospital           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Not affordable                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of safety of neighborhood     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Unfriendliness of neighborhood     | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please describe)            |
- 

13. How important are Highland Park's problems to you?  
(Please select a number on the scale)

Not important		Moderately important				Very important	
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	

14. How motivated are you to do something about Highland Park's problems?  
(Please select a number on the scale)

Not motivated		Moderately motivated				Very motivated	
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	

15. Where was the last place you lived before you moved to your current neighborhood?  
(Please select one of the following choices)

- East End neighborhood (other than Highland Park)
- West End
- North Side
- South Side
- Downtown (Including Hill District and Strip District)
- Suburbs within Allegheny County
- Other county within Western PA
- Outside of Western PA
- I have always lived in Highland Park

16. Are you currently considering moving out of Highland Park?                      Yes                      No  
If "yes", why? \_\_\_\_\_

17. Please circle one of the numbers below to complete the following statement:  
I am \_\_\_\_\_ with the condition of Highland Park.

Very unhappy                      Neither                      Very happy  
                         -3           -2           -1           0           1           2           3

18. The condition of Highland Park is now \_\_\_\_\_ than five years ago.  
(Please circle a number on the scale)

Much worse                      Neither                      Much better  
                         -3           -2           -1           0           1           2           3

19. I am \_\_\_\_\_ with the city's services to Highland Park.

Very dissatisfied                      Neither                      Very satisfied  
                         -3           -2           -1           0           1           2           3

20. Please circle one of the numbers below to indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statement:

I feel at home in Highland Park.

Strongly Disagree			Neither			Strongly Agree
-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3

21. In general, how would you describe the quality of your relationships with your neighbors? (Please circle a number on the scale)

Very Unfriendly			Neither			Very Friendly
-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3

22. How often do you borrow things from or lend things to your neighbors (for example, a cup of sugar, tools, etc.?)

Never			Sometimes			Often
0	1	2	3	4	5	6

23. Do you ever help (or are you helped by) your neighbors with small tasks (for example, babysitting, shopping, home repair, etc.)?

Never			Sometimes			Often
0	1	2	3	4	5	6

24. Can you call on your neighbors for help in an emergency? (Please select one)

Yes

No

25. How safe do you feel walking in your neighborhood at night? (Please select a number on the scale)

Very safe			Neither			Very unsafe
-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3

26. There is \_\_\_\_\_ crime in my neighborhood.

No crime						A lot of crime
0	1	2	3	4	5	6

## Community Amenities

1. How often do you shop in Highland Park? (Please select one)

- Hardly ever
- Every couple of months
- Every couple of weeks
- Every week
- Every day

If you answered “Every couple of months” or “Hardly ever”, why don’t you shop in Highland Park more often? (Please select one)

- Inconvenient hours
- Poor selection
- Poor service
- Fear of crime or disorderly behavior
- Undesirable atmosphere
- Lack of convenient parking

2. Please indicate those neighborhoods in which you usually shop:  
(You may select more than one)

- Highland Park
- East Liberty
- Shadyside
- Waterworks area
- Squirrel Hill
- Downtown
- Waterfront
- Shopping Mall (e.g. Monroeville Mall, Ross Park Mall, etc...)
- Other (please describe): \_\_\_\_\_



3. How often do you go for entertainment (visit restaurants, coffee shops, bars) in Highland Park? (Please select one)

- Hardly ever
- Every couple of months
- Every couple of weeks
- Every week
- Every day

4. Which neighborhoods do you usually go to for entertainment? (Check all that apply)

- Highland Park
- East Liberty
- Shadyside
- Waterworks
- Downtown (including the Strip District)
- Squirrel Hill
- Waterfront
- Shopping Mall (e.g. Monroeville Mall, Ross Park Mall, etc...)
- Other (please describe): \_\_\_\_\_

5. Do you or any household members attend primary or secondary school?

- Yes
- No

6. Do you or any household members attend school in Highland Park?

- Yes
- No

If "no", where do you or any household members attend school? \_\_\_\_\_

7. How many school-age children are in your household? (Please give a number)

\_\_\_\_\_

If you answered "0" or "none", please skip to question # 11.

8. How many of the school-age children in your household attend private or parochial school? (Please give a number)

\_\_\_\_\_

9. How many of the school-age children in your household attend the local public school in your neighborhood? (Please give a number)

\_\_\_\_\_

10. How many of the school-age children in your household attend another public school other than your local one (such as a magnet program)? (Please give a number)

\_\_\_\_\_

11. Do you use recreational facilities in Highland Park? (Please select one)

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes

\_\_\_\_\_ No

If you answered "No", where do you use recreational facilities?

\_\_\_\_\_

12. Do you attend religious services in Highland Park?

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes

\_\_\_\_\_ No

If you answered "No", where do you attend religious services?

\_\_\_\_\_

13. Do you use public transportation regularly?

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes

\_\_\_\_\_ No

14. Do you have a car?

Yes

No

15. Do you use taxi or jitney services regularly?

Yes

No

16. Do you use other transportation services?

Yes

No

17. What services do you think are missing in Highland Park?

(Choose none, one, or more)

Day care

Grocery

Dry cleaning / laundry

Post office

State (liquor) store

Professional offices (dentist, doctor, accountant...)

Hair care

Gas station

Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

18. Have you attended any of the Highland Park Community Plan meetings in the last six months?

Yes

No

19. Do you plan to attend any of the Highland Park Community Plan meetings in the next six months?

Yes

No

## Demographics

In the next few questions, please help us to compare your responses to others taking the survey by telling us a little bit about yourself.

1. How would you describe your ethnicity? (Please select one)

African-American / Black  
 Caucasian / White  
 Hispanic  
 Asian  
 Bi-racial / Multiple Ethnicities  
 Other

2. What is the highest level of education you have completed? (Please select one)

Prefer Not To Answer  
 Elementary School  
 Junior High School  
 Some High School  
 High School Graduate  
 Some College  
 College Graduate  
 Some Graduate school  
 Graduate Degree (Masters, PhD, etc...)

3. What best describes your employment status?

Prefer not to answer  
 Work full-time  
 Work part-time  
 Student  
 Homemaker  
 Retired  
 Unemployed, seeking work  
 Not employed -- other

## Community Ties

It is also important for our efforts to get a better idea of how strong ties are in the neighborhood--between people and between people and community associations. The following questions should help clarify this.

Please **circle a number** on each scale to indicate how true you think the statement is:

1. People in my community care about community problems.

Not true Very true  
0    1    2    3    4    5    6

2. People in my community can be trusted.

Not true Very true  
0    1    2    3    4    5    6

3. People in my community are willing to talk reasonably with each other.

Not true Very true  
0    1    2    3    4    5    6

4. People in my community are willing to work together on common problems.

Not true Very true  
0    1    2    3    4    5    6

5. Officials can be trusted to solve community problems on their own.

Not true Very true  
0    1    2    3    4    5    6

6. Below, put a check next to any groups in which you have taken part in any sort of activity in the past 6 months.

**(Please select only those groups that meet in or very near Highland Park)**

- Church, temple, or other place of worship
- Adult sports or outdoor organization
- Youth organization like youth sports leagues
- Veteran's group
- Parent's organization (like the PTA or PTO) or other school group
- Neighborhood association (crime watch, block, homeowner or tenant)
- Clubs or organizations for older people
- Charity or social welfare organization
- Labor union
- Professional, trade, or business association
- Service clubs or fraternal organizations (Lions, women's club, etc.)
- Ethnic, nationality or civil rights organizations
- Public interest groups, political clubs, or party committees
- Hobby, investment or garden club or societies
- Any other kinds of clubs or organizations

7. In how many of the groups you just selected do people or leaders ever discuss community issues such as crime or housing?

(Please give a number, and write 0 if none.)

\_\_\_\_\_

8. Of the groups you selected, how many took any local action for social or political reform in the past 12 months?

(Please give a number, and write 0 if none.)

\_\_\_\_\_

9. Think of up to five of your closest friends. How many of these friends live in Highland Park? (Please give a number from 0-5.)

\_\_\_\_\_

10. Of these closest friends, how many talk with you about Highland Park community issues such as crime or housing? (Please give a number from 0-5.)

\_\_\_\_\_

11. My friends are very diverse (define “diverse” as you like)

Not true							Very true
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	

### Community Concerns

It will also be helpful for our efforts to get some idea of reasons why people might or might not participate in more political community planning efforts. The following few questions address this.

Please **circle a number** on the scale below each statement to indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with the statement.

1. I am a really busy person.

Strongly Disagree			Neither			Strongly Agree
-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3

2. People's political views are private matters.

Strongly Disagree			Neither			Strongly Agree
-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3

3. I do not take it personally when someone disagrees with my political views.

Strongly Disagree			Neither			Strongly Agree
-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3

4. Sometimes people need to act politically even if the actions cannot succeed. (Political actions include voting, letter writing, going to meetings, protest, and so forth.)

Strongly Disagree			Neither			Strongly Agree
-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3

5. People with different political views cannot rationally discuss politics.

Strongly Disagree			Neither			Strongly Agree
-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3

6. I have a lot of free time.

Strongly Disagree			Neither			Strongly Agree
-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3

7. When someone disagrees with my political views, I feel they are attacking me personally.

Strongly Disagree			Neither			Strongly Agree
-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3

8. Responsibilities can call for political action even when the action will not succeed.

Strongly Disagree			Neither			Strongly Agree
-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3

9. My political views are my own business.

Strongly Disagree			Neither			Strongly Agree
-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3

10. Political discussions between people with different political views can be productive.

Strongly Disagree			Neither			Strongly Agree
-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3

11. Are there any additional topics, issues or general information about Highland Park's future that you would like to share with the planning team? Please share them with us below:

Thank you so much for taking the time to respond to this neighborhood survey!