



**A Few Minutes of Your Time Will Help Make the City of Austin a
Better Place to Live, Work and Play!**

Dear Austin Area Resident:

Your response to the enclosed survey is extremely important...

You received this survey because you are a resident of the City of Austin or its extraterritorial planning jurisdiction. The City of Austin is conducting a comprehensive long range plan for our community. A cornerstone of the planning effort is citizen input and involvement, including the enclosed citizen survey. Your household was one of a limited number selected at random to receive this survey, therefore, it is very important that you participate.

We appreciate your time...

We realize that this survey will take approximately 10 minutes to complete, but each question is important. The time you invest in completing this survey will aid the City of Austin in taking a resident-driven approach to making decisions that will enrich the future of our community and positively affect the lives of its residents.

Please complete and return your survey within the next two weeks...

We have selected ETC Institute, an independent consulting company, as our partner to administer this survey. They will compile the data received and present the results to the City. **Your responses will remain confidential.** Please return your completed survey in the enclosed postage-paid envelope addressed to ETC Institute, 725 W. Frontier Circle, Olathe, KS 66061.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Matt Dugan with the City of Austin at 974-7665. The survey is a tool that will benefit all residents. Please take this opportunity to let your voice be heard!

Sincerely,

Marc A. Ott
City Manager

Si usted tiene preguntas or no habla ingles, por favor llame al 1-888-801-5368 y habla con Terry Gracias.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this important survey. Please circle the response that most closely matches your opinion. **YOUR RESPONSES ARE CONFIDENTIAL.** When you are finished, please return your survey in the postage-paid envelope addressed to ETC Institute, 725 W. Frontier Circle, Olathe, KS 66061.

1. Using a scale of “5 to “1” where “5” is a Major Strength and “1” is a Major Weakness please rate each of the following aspects of life in the City of Austin.

How would you rate the following	Major Strength	Strength	Neutral	Weakness	Major Weakness
A. Availability of arts, music and cultural amenities	5	4	3	2	1
B. Ethnic and cultural diversity of the community	5	4	3	2	1
C. Family friendly community	5	4	3	2	1
D. Availability of natural resources	5	4	3	2	1
E. Quality of local businesses	5	4	3	2	1
F. Character of neighborhoods	5	4	3	2	1
G. Quality of public education in primary & secondary schools	5	4	3	2	1
H. Availability of parks and open space	5	4	3	2	1
I. Employment opportunities	5	4	3	2	1
J. Historic characteristics of Austin	5	4	3	2	1
K. Level of taxation	5	4	3	2	1
L. The State Capital	5	4	3	2	1
M. Places of Worship	5	4	3	2	1
N. Cost of living	5	4	3	2	1
O. The University of Texas	5	4	3	2	1
P. Unique local identity	5	4	3	2	1
Q. Opportunities for community involvement	5	4	3	2	1
R. Attention to environmental issues	5	4	3	2	1
S. Downtown	5	4	3	2	1
T. Quality of health and human services	5	4	3	2	1
U. Quality of public transportation	5	4	3	2	1
V. Population growth	5	4	3	2	1
W. Air quality	5	4	3	2	1
X. Existing roadway network	5	4	3	2	1
Y. Other: _____	5	4	3	2	1

2. Which FOUR of the items listed above in Question #1 do you feel are MOST IMPORTANT to be MAJOR STRENGTHS in the City of Austin? [Using the letters above in Question #1, please write in the letters below for your 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th choices, or circle 'NONE'.]

1st: _____ 2nd: _____ 3rd: _____ 4th: _____ NONE

3. Since you have lived in the City of Austin, do you generally think the quality of life is better, has stayed the same, or is worse?

_____ (1) Better _____ (3) Worse
 _____ (2) Stayed the same _____ (4) Not sure

4. Following is a list of “facilities and amenities” in Austin that may be close to where you live. For each of the following facilities or amenities, please indicate if it is “Very Important”, “Somewhat Important”, “Not Sure, or “Not Important” that you live close to the facility or amenity. (Circle the corresponding number)

How important is it to live near	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Sure	Not Important
A. Good schools	1	2	3	4
B. Shopping areas	1	2	3	4
C. Public transportation routes	1	2	3	4
D. Parks, sports, and recreation facilities	1	2	3	4
E. Fire stations	1	2	3	4
F. Hospitals and medical facilities	1	2	3	4
G. Colleges and Universities	1	2	3	4
H. Sidewalks, biking and hiking trails	1	2	3	4
I. Banks and financial institutions	1	2	3	4
J. Place of employment	1	2	3	4
K. Major city streets	1	2	3	4
L. Highways	1	2	3	4
M. Police stations	1	2	3	4
N. Arts, music and cultural facilities	1	2	3	4
O. Grocery stores	1	2	3	4
P. Dine-in restaurants	1	2	3	4
Q. Libraries	1	2	3	4
R. Places of worship	1	2	3	4
S. Community gardens	1	2	3	4
T. Child care centers	1	2	3	4
U. Other: _____	1	2	3	4

5. From the list above, which **THREE** of the facilities or amenities do you think are **MOST IMPORTANT** for you to live near? [Write the letters for your top three choices below using the list in Q4 above.]

1st choice _____

2nd choice _____

3rd choice _____

NONE

6. From the following list, please check the **THREE (3)** areas you would most support growth and development occurring.

____ (1) Downtown

____ (2) Centers outside of Downtown

____ (3) Along roadway corridors

____ (4) In suburban areas

____ (5) Near public transportation stations, stops, and routes

____ (6) Other: _____

____ (7) None

7. Several components of the City’s transportation system are listed below. Please rate your overall satisfaction with each component of the City’s transportation system on a scale of 5 to 1 where 5 means “Very Satisfied” and 1 means “Very Dissatisfied.”

<u>How satisfied are you with:</u>	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	Don't Know
(A) Ease of travel by car on freeways.....	5	4	3	2	1	9
(B) Ease of travel by car on major streets	5	4	3	2	1	9
(C) Ease of travel by car on neighborhood streets....	5	4	3	2	1	9
(D) Ease of walking throughout Austin.....	5	4	3	2	1	9
(E) Ease of bicycling throughout Austin.....	5	4	3	2	1	9
(F) Quality of public transportation (bus service).....	5	4	3	2	1	9
(G) Ease of north/south travel in Austin	5	4	3	2	1	9
(H) Ease of east/west travel in Austin	5	4	3	2	1	9
(I) Ease of travel from home to downtown Austin....	5	4	3	2	1	9
(J) Existing walking and hiking system throughout Austin.....	5	4	3	2	1	9
(K) Existing bicycle system throughout Austin.....	5	4	3	2	1	9
(L) Other: _____.....	5	4	3	2	1	9

8. Which THREE of these transportation issues do you think should receive the most emphasis from city leaders over the next TWO years? [Write in the letters below using the letters from the list in Question 7 above.]

 1st 2nd 3rd

9. If \$100 were available for the City of Austin to fund TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS how would you allocate the funds among the categories of funding listed below? [Please be sure your total adds up to \$100.]

- \$_____ Improvements to freeways
- \$_____ Improvements to major streets throughout Austin
- \$_____ Improvements to neighborhood streets
- \$_____ Improvements to public transportation, bus service
- \$_____ Improvements to public transportation, rail service
- \$_____ Improvements to walking and biking systems
- \$_____ Other: _____

\$ 100 TOTAL

10. Several ideas for the future of the City of Austin are listed below. Using a scale from "5" to "1" where "5" means "Strongly AGREE" and "1" means "Strongly DISAGREE," please indicate your level of agreement with the following:

The City of Austin's Future Should Include the Following:	<i>Strongly Agree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>
A. Affordable housing	5	4	3	2	1
B. Quality public schools	5	4	3	2	1
C. Adequate water supply	5	4	3	2	1
D. Unique local identity maintained	5	4	3	2	1
E. Health and human services available to all residents	5	4	3	2	1
F. More open space and parks	5	4	3	2	1
G. More recreation and sports facilities	5	4	3	2	1
H. Affordable tax rate	5	4	3	2	1
I. Historic and cultural resources preserved	5	4	3	2	1
J. Climate protection	5	4	3	2	1
K. High paying jobs/employment opportunities	5	4	3	2	1
L. Environmental and natural resources protection	5	4	3	2	1
M. Increased investment in deteriorating infrastructure	5	4	3	2	1
N. Crime reduction	5	4	3	2	1
O. Strong economy maintained	5	4	3	2	1
P. Homelessness addressed	5	4	3	2	1
Q. Energy conservation	5	4	3	2	1
R. Clean rivers, creeks, and springs	5	4	3	2	1
S. Increased local food production	5	4	3	2	1
T. Culturally diverse neighborhoods	5	4	3	2	1
U. Libraries and community centers are places for lifelong learning	5	4	3	2	1
V. More arts, music, and cultural amenities	5	4	3	2	1
W. Reduced traffic congestion	5	4	3	2	1
X. Improved public transportation	5	4	3	2	1
Y. Improved bicycle and walking system	5	4	3	2	1
1. Streetcar	5	4	3	2	1
2. More toll roads	5	4	3	2	1
3. High speed rail	5	4	3	2	1
4. Added freeway capacity	5	4	3	2	1
5. Other: _____	5	4	3	2	1

11. Which four of the statements from the list in Question #10 do you feel BEST represent YOUR VISION for the FUTURE of the City of Austin? [Using the letters and/or numbers above in Question #10, please write in the letters/numbers below for your 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th choices, or circle 'NONE'.]

1st: _____ 2nd: _____ 3rd: _____ 4th: _____ NONE

12. If \$100 were available for the City of Austin to fund capital improvement initiatives how would you allocate the revenues among the categories of funding listed below? [Please be sure your total adds up to \$100.]

\$_____ Improve the transportation system

\$_____ Develop parks and recreation facilities (i.e. trails, athletic fields, pools, etc.)

\$_____ Acquire open space

\$_____ Repair and restore deteriorating infrastructure

\$_____ Develop public safety facilities (i.e. police and fire)

\$_____ Develop community facilities (i.e. libraries, arts, music, etc.)

\$_____ Develop health and human service facilities (i.e. community health centers, homeless shelters, etc.)

\$_____ Other

\$ 100 TOTAL

DEMOGRAPHICS: The following information will help us better understand the needs of our community.

13. How long have you lived in Austin?

____(1) 0-2 years

____(4) 11-20 years

____(2) 3-5 years

____(5) 21 years or more

____(3) 6-10 years

14. How many persons living in your household (counting yourself), are?

Under age 10 _____

Ages 25-34 _____

Ages 55-64 _____

Ages 10-19 _____

Ages 35-44 _____

Ages 65-74 _____

Ages 20-24 _____

Ages 45-54 _____

Ages 75+ _____

15. What is your age?

____(1) 18-24 years

____(4) 55-64 years

____(2) 25-29 years

____(5) 65-74 years

____(2) 30-44 years

____(6) 75+ years

____(3) 45-54 years

16. Do you own or rent your home?

____(1) Own

____(2) Rent

17. What is your highest level of education?

____(1) Less than high school

____(4) Bachelor's degree

____(2) High school graduate or equivalent

____(5) Graduate work

____(3) Some college/Associates degree

18. Would you say your total annual household income is:

____(1) Under \$25,000

____(4) \$75,000 to \$99,999

____(2) \$25,000 to \$49,999

____(5) \$100,000 to \$149,999

____(3) \$50,000 to \$74,999

____(6) \$150,000 or more

19. Are you or members of your household of Hispanic or Latin ancestry?

____ (1) Yes

____ (2) No

20. Which of the following best describes your race? (check all that apply)

____ (1) African American/Black

____ (4) Asian/Pacific Islander

____ (2) White

____ (5) Other: _____

____ (3) Native American

21. What is your zip code? _____

22. Your gender: ____ (1) Male ____ (2) Female

23. Please share any additional comments you feel are important to this study.

The City of Austin thanks you for your time!

Please Return Your Completed Survey in the Enclosed Postage Paid Envelope Addressed to:
ETC Institute, 725 W. Frontier Circle, Olathe, KS 66061

Your response will remain Completely Confidential.
The address information on the sticker to the right will
ONLY be used to help identify areas with special interests.