

St. John/Coronado Hills Initial Survey Results

The following information has been compiled based on both the on-line and hard-copy surveys (both English and Spanish). This information reflects exact answers to the survey questions and provides the open-ended answers to the questions where applicable.

Q1

In the St. John/Coronado Hills Combined Neighborhood Planning area, where do you live, own property, or work? Please check all that apply.		
Answer Options	Response Frequency	Response Count
St. John	53.6%	60
Coronado Hills	42.9%	48
Do not live, work, or own property in either planning area.	3.6%	4
<i>answered question</i>		115

Q2

Please check all that apply. In the St. John/Coronado Hills Combined Neighborhood Planning Area you:		
Answer Options	Response Frequency	Response Count
Own a house or condominium	43.5%	50
Rent a house or apartment	16.5%	19
Own a business	2.6%	3
Have a place of employment	12.2%	14
Own property other than your house or condominium and live in the planning area	3.5%	4
Own property but do not live in the planning area	7.8%	9
Other (please specify)		3
<i>answered question</i>		115

Q3

For how long do you plan to live in the St. John/Coronado Hills Neighborhood?		
Answer Options	Response Frequency	Response Count
6-12 months	2.7%	3
More than 1 year to 3 years	18.2%	20
More than 3 years to 5 years	6.4%	7
More than 5 years	45.5%	50
Do not know	27.3%	30
<i>answered question</i>		110

Q4

What five (5) characteristics of your neighborhood do you like the most?		
Answer Options	Response Frequency	Response Count
Mature trees	44.4%	44
Sense of community	25.3%	25
Neighborhood character	29.3%	29
Housing styles	6.1%	6
Neighborhood parks	4.0%	4
Diversity of residents	40.4%	40
Close to schools	31.3%	31
Close to workplace	31.3%	31
Good access to public transportation	27.3%	27
Affordable housing	27.3%	27
Your neighbors	32.3%	32
Convenient access to stores and shops	40.4%	40
Close to parks/public recreation	12.1%	12
Easy to get around the neighborhood	25.3%	25
Sidewalks	9.1%	9
Landscaping in people's yards	1.4%	2
Quiet neighborhood	2.0%	25
Close to freeways	54.5%	54
None	9.1%	9
Other (please specify)		12
<i>answered question</i>		99

Q5

What five (5) things would you like to change in the neighborhood?		
Answer Options	Response Frequency	Response Count
Increase the amount of affordable housing	23.8%	24
Reduce the amount of cut-through traffic on residential streets	18.8%	19
Reduce the amount of commercial parking in residential areas	11.9%	12
Reduce the amount of cars parked in front yards	35.6%	36
Add more sidewalks	32.7%	33
Increase bus services	9.9%	10
Traffic Noise	22.8%	23
Increase the number of convenient shops and services	19.8%	20
Increase public safety with an overall reduction in criminal activity	85.1%	86
Reduce Businesses encroaching into residential areas	18.8%	19
Enhance the appearance of commercial properties	40.6%	41
Enhance the appearance of commercial corridors	15.8%	16
Enhance the appearance of residential properties	62.4%	63
Provide better street connectivity and access to major roads	9.9%	10
Prevent flooding	1.0%	1
Increase the amount of public park space	18.8%	19
Improve conditions in existing parks	21.8%	22
Provide a range of transportation options	15.8%	16

Increase the diversity of residents	9.9%	10
None	2.0%	2
Other (please specify)		13
<i>answered question</i>		101

Q6

Which areas, if any, present challenges to you living in St. John/Coronado Hills Combined Neighborhood Planning Area? (Please check all that apply).		
Answer Options	Response Frequency	Response Count
Access to public amenities (parks, libraries, recreational areas, etc.)	12.4%	12
School/Daycare	11.3%	11
Affordability	10.3%	10
Safety	72.2%	70
Mobility	8.2%	8
No answer	19.6%	19
Other (please specify)		10
<i>answered question</i>		97

Q7

Are there areas of historical significance in St. John/Coronado Hills Combined Neighborhood Planning Area?		
Answer Options	Response Frequency	Response Count
Yes	28.6%	30
No	22.9%	24
No opinion	48.6%	51
<i>answered question</i>		105

Q8

Please provide specific information for any areas of historical significance in the St. John/Coronado Hills Combined Neighborhood Planning Area.	
Answer Options	Response Count
	23
<i>answered question</i>	
	23

History

- There are historical areas in St. John, such as Black's memorial church, Buttermilk Park, Mary McCloud Bethune Avenue, Phyllis Wheatley Avenue, A.K. Black Medical Center, Atkinson Road
- Threadgills restaurant
- Old community center
- St. John Regular Baptist Temple building
- Reagan High School
- Older homes; 7512 Providence, the old wood frame house
- Old windmill in butter creek park (replace/restore this windmill)

- Mr. Bartee's store, the ole Gas Station that was on the ole Atkinson Lane, the first black beauty shop (owned by Mrs. Alberta Powell and the first black elementary school St. John elementary
- Markers of addresses you find on school grounds
- The Baptist association behind St. John apartments,
- St. John's Baptist Association encampment, park in rear of encampment.
- The Atkinson Rd. used to go to Cameron Rd. to IH35. The nickname for Atkinson Rd. was Bordeaux Lane because of the rows of Bordeaux trees, also before we were annexed to the City of Austin all mailboxes were on Atkinson Rd.
- The lack of knowledge of different meanings of history by a lot of people
- Recognize and retain historical character & preserve (keep track of history and the changes that have happened)
- I would like too see names of the first settlers that broke ground out here any pictures that we can get to hang in the hallways of the past to the present movers an shakers that helped make this neighborhood

Q9

Thinking about the neighborhood in which you live, do you feel safe?		
Answer Options	Response Frequency	Response Count
Yes	46.2%	48
No	44.2%	46
No opinion	9.6%	10
<i>answered question</i>		104

Q10

In what ways do you feel the safety could be improved? (Please check all that apply)		
Answer Options	Response Frequency	Response Count
More lighting or lighting in better locations	72.7%	32
More safety or police patrols	90.9%	40
Better sightlines from building windows	9.1%	4
More activities that bring people out	43.2%	19
More people around after dark	20.5%	9
No opinion	0.0%	0
Other (please specify)		16
<i>answered question</i>		44

Q11

What are the most important land use issues affecting your neighborhood? Please choose three (3) of the following.		
Answer Options	Response Frequency	Response Count
Inappropriate zoning adjacent to residential areas	29.3%	27
Lack of affordable housing	23.9%	22
New development out of scale with existing buildings	17.4%	16
Preserving the built character of the neighborhood	35.9%	33
Want more neighborhood serving businesses	23.9%	22
Lack of housing options	12.0%	11
Too much vacant land	18.5%	17
Abundance of affordable housing	15.2%	14
Inappropriate types of businesses	19.6%	18
New parks	22.8%	21
Improving existing parks	29.3%	27
Too much strip retail development	17.4%	16
Nearby shopping opportunities	12.0%	11
No Opinion	8.7%	8
Other (please specify)		7
<i>answered question</i>		92

Q12

What are the most important localized transportation issues affecting your neighborhood? Please choose three (3) of the following.		
Answer Options	Response Frequency	Response Count
Lack of sidewalks	38.5%	35
Sidewalks in poor condition (overgrown, cracked, etc)	29.7%	27
Not enough crosswalks	13.2%	12
Infrequent bus service	14.3%	13
Blind corners	14.3%	13
Lack of bicycle lanes	28.6%	26
Cut-through traffic	27.5%	25
Lack of bicycle trails	18.7%	17
Dangerous intersections for motorists	22.0%	20
Unsafe crosswalks	20.9%	19
Lack of walking/hiking trails	36.3%	33
None	15.4%	14
Other (please specify)		13
<i>answered question</i>		91

Transportation

- We need more speed bumps
- Add speed bumps to through streets in the St. John area (except St. Johns Ave)
- Add one speed bump or less per block on non through streets
- Increase safety for pedestrians

- We need speed bumps because the cut-through traffic on Bennett is really bad; other locations include: end of Coronado Hills before turn off to Old Town Drive, Bennet and Blessing
- Speed limit too high on Berkman
- Speeding/ especially on St. John's Ave.
- More traffic stops/enforcement
- Turning lanes and a raised median with trees and two headed street lights
- Cars parked all over
- Inappropriate parking on streets
- Inefficient bus service to many areas of the city
- Narrow streets,
- Not enough transportation for seniors
- Concern for traffic increase from Mueller area thru neighborhood when Berkman extends to Manor

Q13

How often do you travel outside of your immediate neighborhood (within a 5 to 10-minute walk) to meet your day-to-day shopping needs (including groceries, pharmacy, services, such as dry cleaning, etc.)?		
Answer Options	Response Frequency	Response Count
Every day	41.7%	40
2-4 times a week	30.2%	29
Once a week	6.3%	6
Twice a month	2.1%	2
Rarely	7.3%	7
Never	12.5%	12
<i>answered question</i>		96

Q14

Please indicate why you travel outside of your immediate neighborhood. (Please check all that apply)		
Answer Options	Response Frequency	Response Count
Availability of products and services	59.4%	57
Affordability of products and services	22.9%	22
Range of services or products	59.4%	57
Personal Preference	54.2%	52
Not applicable	12.5%	12
Other (please specify)		14
<i>answered question</i>		96

Q15

Thinking about last week, please select your primary means of travel to and from areas outside of St.John/Coronado Hills. Please check one (1).		
Answer Options	Response Frequency	Response Count
Walk	3.1%	3
Bike	1.0%	1
Transit	3.1%	3
Automobile	85.4%	82
Carpool	0.0%	0
Not applicable	7.3%	7
Other (please specify)		3
<i>answered question</i>		96

Q16

What is your favorite recreational space in St.John/Coronado Hills? Please check one (1).		
Answer Options	Response Frequency	Response Count
Buttermilk Branch Park	7.5%	8
St. John Park	4.7%	5
Virginia Brown Recreation Center	3.7%	4
I do not have a favorite	64.5%	69
Other (please specify)		9
<i>answered question</i>		107

Q17

How often do you visit the recreational spaces in St.John/Coronado Hills? Please check one (1).		
Answer Options	Response Frequency	Response Count
Every day	4.4%	4
2-4 times a week	7.7%	7
Once a week	7.7%	7
Twice a month	5.5%	5
Rarely	26.4%	24
Never	48.4%	44
<i>answered question</i>		91

Q18

Do you feel the current recreational space meets the needs of the following user groups? Please select your answer in each row:				
Answer Options	Yes	No	No Opinion	Response Count
Children and Families	14	33	38	81
Teenagers	10	35	40	81
Seniors	13	35	37	82
Special needs/persons with disabilities	4	37	45	83
Pet owners	13	30	41	81

Q19

If a nearby park, greenbelt, or recreational area was to be developed or improved, what would your top priority be? Please check one (1)		
Answer Options	Response Frequency	Response Count
Preserve/Improve existing parks, greenbelts and recreational areas	27.9%	24
Preserve/Reestablish Natural Areas	8.1%	7
Hike & Bike Trails	16.3%	14
Maintenance	18.6%	16
Landscaping/Beautification	24.4%	21
No improvements needed	2.3%	2
<i>answered question</i>		86

Parks, Trees & Environment

- I would like to see nicer parks and have one park dedicated to AK Black with a plaque with a short history about St. John and AK Black
- Lots of creativity possible with existing parks
- I feel that there has been a take over from the Parks & Rec. department because a multi-purpose center has been put in our community. 27 families had to be displaced, yet the community cannot have conference room B for 2-3 meetings a month because Parks & Rec. has decided to have Karate Classes there
- Dog parks/swimming areas
- We need a park

Q20

Is flooding a problem in your neighborhood?		
Answer Options	Response Frequency	Response Count
Yes	9.7%	9
No	61.3%	57
No comment	28.0%	26
<i>answered question</i>		93

Q21

Please list the address of any specific property you know has flooded.	
Answer Options	Response Count
	4
<i>answered question</i>	
	4

Q22

Choose five of the following choices that will describe how your neighborhood will be in 10 years from today.		
Answer Options	Response Frequency	Response Count
A pedestrian and bike friendly neighborhood with tree-lined streets and sidewalks	40.2%	33
A well-maintained neighborhood appearance	62.2%	51
Neighborhood serving businesses	18.3%	15
Quiet, safe, and well-lit residential streets where children can walk and play safely	65.9%	54
Clean and safe commercial corridors	23.2%	19
Local parks, trails, and other public green spaces	43.9%	36
Entertainment, cultural, and recreational facilities and amenities	20.7%	17
Mixed-use development along major roads and corridors	19.5%	16
Public gathering places such as plazas, parks, and civic facilities like libraries and recreational centers	40.2%	33
A mix of housing types, transportation options, services, and facilities for a variety of ages and social and economic groups	39.0%	32
Preservation of character of existing residential neighborhoods	20.7%	17
Opportunities for affordable rental housing	23.2%	19
Opportunities for home ownership	41.5%	34
Redevelopment and enhancement of existing commercial corridors and under-utilized properties	19.5%	16
Protect and preserve environmental features	13.4%	11
Other (please specify)		5
<i>answered question</i>		82

Q23

Which of the following topics related to Neighborhood Planning are you interested in learning more about? Please choose three (3) of the following:		
Answer Options	Response Frequency	Response Count
Sense of Place/Historic Preservation	8.3%	7
Community Health (access to healthy foods; walkable neighborhood)	29.8%	25
Transportation	15.5%	13
Land use and development	53.6%	45
Housing	31.0%	26
Parks	16.7%	14
Trees	13.1%	11
The environment	9.5%	8
Community Life	29.8%	25
Public Safety	59.5%	50
Climate Change and Sustainability	4.8%	4
Neighborhood Character and Design	23.8%	20
Other (please specify)		2
<i>answered question</i>		84

Open Ended comments from initial survey organized into Plan Topics:

Land Use

- Central Austin location
- A closer decent grocery store where you don't have to cross highway
- Eliminate commercial/individual vendors on residential streets
- Zoning change
- There is no safe shopping complex nearby
- Have more say in land use on 183 and 290

Housing

- Increase the percentage of owner-occupied housing
- Increase the amount of affordable housing with rules: a) no multi-families living in one address. B) no extra cars. C) No parking on the grass. D) Be responsible in caring for the up-keep of your residence

Neighborhood Design

- New development out of scale with existing buildings. I feel that the mega-mansions could be posing a fire hazard. If the mega-mansions are built closer to regular house, and it catches on fire the flames can easily drop down on the regular size house
- Preserving the build & character of the neighborhood by living by example of what you notice of the lifestyle of the people that have lived there a long time
- Reagan stadium parking lot is very ugly

Community Life/Public Safety

- Animal-friendly
- the personality of the community has changed for the worse
- Sense of safety
- Eliminate the panhandlers and day labor guys who loiter
- clean up the neighborhood (esp. Reagan Hill area), St. John's area also
- That I am not made extinct in my own neighborhood
- Eliminate commercial/individual vendors on residential streets
- Crime, particularly drugs and prostitutes
- Commercial development-area crime
- Maintaining residential properties
- More thorough background checks for renters
- Get more police presence
- Radisson Hotel on Fiskville (safety and security)
- Business and apartment complex across the street from Radisson Hotel is an eye sore and a den for criminal activity
- Employ the unemployed and raising housing pricing
- The apartment complexes on Duval (2) are unsafe (drugs, panhandling, stealing, etc.)
- Safety could be improved by placing security cameras around the Old Town neighborhood and/or improving fencing around the perimeter of the property. HOA fees were increased recently, and perhaps these funds could be used to improve security. It is not apparent if these funds are being used in any other

ways to improve the property, so I wish the board would consider improving security

- I have block parties at my house, so do I need to get a permit to have music?
- The area is unclean and I don't feel safe because there are too many people just standing around
- provide good quality of work when working in our area
- easy help to improve businesses and start new businesses
- make it a nicer neighborhood to live in so people who manage their lives successfully will want to live here
- neighborhood watch program

Other

- Base property taxes on something other than market value. As we are seeing, market value of homes becomes inflated