

Livable Communities for All Ages Survey Ideas For discussion

America is aging. Today roughly 37 million Americans age 65 and older represent more than 12 percent of the country's total population. By the year 2030 the number of Americans in this age group will nearly double, accounting for one-fifth of the population. Due to the overwhelming desire of older Americans to age in place in their own homes, communities will face unprecedented challenges to providing the services and infrastructure that this population will demand. Yet if communities are resourceful, innovative and prudent, these challenges will be eclipsed by the enormous share of social and human capital that will be made available by the largest, healthiest, best educated and most affluent generation of older adults in American history.

There are many factors that contribute to making a community livable for all ages such as a strong community plan, affordable housing, a strong network of health and supportive services, low crime, good transportation access and opportunities for civic engagement.

The Visioneering Older Adult Alliance, through a grant funded by National Association of Area Agencies on Aging and Metlife is surveying and educating the community on the importance of livable communities and aging in place. The Older Adult Alliance is interested in hearing from you! Please take the time to provide your input and help us promote livable communities for all ages.

Demographic Information:

1. My age is:

18-30 31-45 46-53 54 and under 55-60 61-65
66-70 71-75 76-80 81+

2. I am:

Male Female

3. I am:

Married
 Single, divorced
 Single, never married
 Single, have a significant other
 Widowed

4. I live in:

City/Urban Country/Rural

5. My Ethnic background is:

African American
 Asian
 Caucasian
 Hispanic/Latino
 Native American

Other _____

6. I live in:

Butler Harvey Sedgwick Sumner Other

7. My home is:

Single Family Apartment Condominium
Duplex Mobile Multi-family

8. My home's age is:

1 – 10 years 11-20 years 21 - 30
31 – 40 years 41 – 50 years 51 + years

9. Zip Code _____

Community Planning and Zoning:

1. Cities and communities in the Wichita Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA – including Butler, Harvey, Sedgwick and Sumner,) are adequately planning for an influx of older adults and an environment that supports all ages and physical abilities. Examples - strong community plan, multiple housing options, a strong network of health and supportive services, safe neighborhoods, social and entertainment opportunities, good transportation access and opportunities for civic engagement.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

Comments:

To age in place successfully, people need to have safe and easy access to services, amenities, and support networks. Please respond to the following questions from your perspective.

Do you live within walking distance of a health facility (clinic, hospital, doctor's offices)?

Yes How Far? _____ No

Do you live within walking distance of a grocery store or food market?

Yes No

Do you live within walking distance of a bank, credit union or ATM?

Yes No

Do you live within walking distance of a restaurant?

Yes No

Do you live within walking distance of entertainment (movies, shopping, museums...?)

Yes No

Do you live within walking distance of your place of worship if applicable?

Yes No N/A

Do you live within walking distance of a social meeting place (senior centers, club, faith based group, coffee shop, recreation center...)?

Yes No

Comments:

3. Zoning codes can allow housing in a mixed use community setting (for example integrating homes with shops, schools, businesses and community centers to create a desirable, safe and livable community for all). **My community/neighborhood supports mixed uses.**

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

Comments:

4. My city and county zoning codes are flexible enough for mixed use development.

Yes No Don't Know

Comments:

Transportation:

To live independently, individuals typically need access to goods and services they need. In most communities, that means owning and driving a car. A person's physical and functional abilities impact their transportation options. The physical environment can compound difficulties for example poor signage and road design can confuse and endanger drivers of all ages and physical abilities.

1. My community/neighborhood has adequate transit options for individuals of all ages and physical abilities (bus, taxi, car, trains/shuttles or other transportation services.)

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

Comments

2. My community/neighborhood is designed to accommodate bicycles and pedestrians (bike lanes/bike racks, sidewalks, crosswalks, signage, lighting...)

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

Comments

Housing:

Health and mobility problems can make it difficult to safely move about one's home, perform repairs and maintain a yard. According to Universal Design standards, construction or renovation for housing should include basic design elements such as ground floor bathroom and laundry, wider doorways, level thresholds, lever door handles and one entry that is step free.

1. If you were disabled or injured and required a wheel chair, would your home be able to accommodate the change in your mobility?

Yes No Don't Know

Comments:

If homes are made friendly to people of all ages and physical abilities through Universal Design standards then older adults/individuals can remain active in their community and avoid or delay moving to nursing homes or residential care facilities.

2. Would you be interested in renovating your current home or buying a home that meets Universal Design standards now or in the future?

Yes No

Comments:

3. The Visioneering Older Adult Alliance efforts to promote livable communities for all ages are worthwhile and should be continued.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

Comments:

You are invited to join the Visioneering Older Adult Alliance as we develop strategies and plan for more a more livable community. The Older Adult Alliance meets once a month on the second Tuesday from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. at the Wichita Chamber of Commerce.

Please give us information on how to reach you:

Name: _____

Agency: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____