

Survey Facts

321 Surveys completed by SH neighbors / 85% of surveys were completed via Internet

- 79.5% homeowners
- 17.45% home renters
- 2.8% business proprietors

Years in SH

- 8.41% lived in SH less than 1 year
- 22.12% 1-5 years
- 13.40% 6-10 years
- 55.14% 10 yrs or more

Household experience with crime

- 33.46% in the past 11 months
- 50% in the past 1- 5 years
- 36.9% in the past 6-10 yrs
- 37.1% in the past 10 yrs or more

Crimes (only 72.7% reported crimes to TPD)

- 24.69% Property burglary
- 18.83% Car vandalism
- 7.82% Property vandalism
- 4.4% Car theft

The top issue participants want addressed in the next 5 years is crime

- 14.65% crime reduction
- 13.52% improved infrastructure
- 9.31% Property beautification and cleanup
- 8.34% More police patrolling*
- 8.28% events that foster community building

*Police patrolling was identified by participants as a crime reduction effort

An increase in crime rate may cause relocation

- 20.43% Job relocation
- 19.13% Crime Rates

More prevention is needed

- 68.64% of households experiencing crime did not have a house/car alarm
- 68.39% (abbreviated survey) do not have residence number on the back of their home

Community Building Events

- 17.27% join Neighborhood Watch Group
- 13.91% attend neighborhood meetings
- 10.79% organize block parties
- 8.63% join SHNA committees
- 8.63% coordinate special meeting & greet events

Quality of Life Satisfaction (long version)

- 49.62% very satisfied – no crimes in 11 months
- 42.86% satisfied – no crimes in 11 months
- 5.26% neutral
- 2.26% dissatisfied
- 0% very dissatisfied

Based on survey responses, crime reduction is important to residents in SH. Many do not understand the importance of reporting, and the prevention efforts they can implement. Secondary research indicates that for communities to reduce crime, they have to implement prevention tactics and foster a sense of community.

Recommendations

Awareness Campaign: using SH newsletters, mailings, and website, a crime awareness campaign needs to be implemented. It should highlight crime trends, prevention strategies (residence number painting, alarms, removal of valuable items from vehicles), and neighborhood watch group implementation information.

Neighborhood Watch Groups (NWG): Studies completed in the UK demonstrate that NWG are effective. SH needs more NWG captains. Providing captains toolkits that include fact-sheets, testimonials, crime reporting protocols, may facilitate the administrative process.

Community Fostering Events: Secondary research demonstrates that community fostering events deter crime. SH residents support these events. A residence number painting campaign (front/back) can enhance SH crime prevention and foster community. "One Can a Week" neighbor led effort, "Meet and Greet Picnics" can also accomplish this.

Next Steps

- Full survey findings report to be held in September at the Hardesty Center
- The recommendations outlined need leadership and volunteer support. Possible teams of six people including a leader: Awareness Campaign, NWG Tool Kit Creators, Fall Himmel Park Meet and Greet, "One Can a Week," and Residence Number Painting.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A. INTRODUCTION

During the summer of 2008, a group of Sam Hughes neighbors gathered to discuss crime prevention strategies and discovered that the majority had been a victim of a crime. These discussions were the genesis of the Quality of Life Survey. The results of the research completed for the execution of this survey and the final report demonstrate the following:

B. EVALUATION PROCESS

Over the duration of this project, the team completed the following activities:

- Participated in crime prevention meetings that yielded insight regarding crime perceptions and suggested solutions
- Created two survey versions to validate or refute assumptions
- Engaged the participation of over 40 volunteer neighbors to distribute survey information
- Distributed 47 hardcopies of the survey for non- internet users
- Attended five Sam Hughes Neighborhood Association meetings to gain support and provide updates to the board
- Collected and analyzed survey data
- Examined domestic and international crime prevention models
- Researched information regarding the effectiveness of neighborhood watch groups and other efforts
- Completed analysis and formulated recommendations

C. RESULTS

- Crime reduction is a priority among survey participants.
- An increase in crime is the second reason for potential relocation out of the SH neighborhood
- Almost a third of the survey participants are not reporting crimes to the Tucson Police Department
- Survey participants are willing to engage in crime prevention efforts
- More information and outreach is needed to help develop awareness and provide preventative information
- SHN can implement a number of proven initiatives to reduce crime
- A third of the survey participants ***have experienced*** a crime incident in the last 11 months.
- Survey results indicate that 80% of the participants support the creation of a Strategic Plan to address quality of life issues in the neighborhood.