



Inclusive Cities Community Feedback Results

May 15, 2018

Circles @ Holland Heights Christian Reformed Church

Q1: What does an “inclusive neighborhood” feel and look like for you? Please describe.

Diverse range of events; ex., mothers, fathers, kids, teens, families, etc.

Multicultural events

Cultural diversity (2)

More targeted diversity downtown

Pro-active policies from the city that prioritize and reward minority-led businesses and ventures

More cultural lessons, learning, language services, “saviness of identity”, appreciation

Inclusive: Differences are celebrated

Inclusive: The community supports and defends each other

Inclusive: Safe

Inclusive: All traditions are valued

Inclusive: The voice of the community is heard and represented in leadership

Inclusive: Fathers share food and community, wisdom together; BBQ event

Inclusive: the community is supported with resources to clean and repair

Common areas for gathering (2)

Valued gifts

Better transportation options for shoppers

Walkable services or solid transportation options, timely and regular

Better transportation options

Public transportation stops

Public transportation accessibility

Close to public transportation

Easy access to mass transit

Variety of levels of housing near each other

Diverse housing

Affordable housing (2)

Mixed income housing

Various income groups

Different types of housing

Housing that is safe and affordable

Just cause eviction laws
Regulations against rent inflation
Variety of home types (houses, apartments, townhouses)
Strong landlord tenant relations
Empower people to take pride in their homes/neighborhoods
Community resources committee
Safety, be who I am
Safety
Sense of belonging
Look and feel like more interaction (front porch conversations) friendly
Neighborly
Welcoming (3)
Accepting of newcomers (2)
Going out of the way to make neighbors welcome
Homogeneous, inclusive
Like a big family
Group clean-up efforts, trash, big dumpster in complex
Neighborhood policing
Sharing skills, help when needed; tools
More opportunities for launching small businesses
Affordable and well kept up laundry facilities
Respectful
A circles group
People know each other
People help each other out
Friendly
Clean and safe
Cook-outs
Fences/privacy
Buildings and yards kept up
Empty
Develop communication within the neighborhood
Accessible information on community efforts
Communal sense of responsibility for all children
Youth community activities
More teen outreach programs
Economic awareness
Financial diversity
Work, school, kids, drugs, bullying
Get SME, get help
Communal sense of responsibility for all children

Varying age groups (6)
Close to schools, stores, banks
Close to amenities, stores, etc.
Sense of community pride
Starting a club of people doing things together
Listening
Neighborhood schools
Community activities
Shopping and sharing opportunities
Low noise and yet opportunity to party!
Various religious affiliations
Tolerance and difference
Activities to involve everyone
Multi-generational
Different races
Age and race diverse
Different ethnic groups
Colors and different looks
Friendly and open
Green space, parks, play equipment
Walkways and bike paths
Good lighting and sidewalks
Say so in trees/bushes cut down
Birds, bees and squirrels
Neighbors sharing resources
Neighbors on porches talking
Neighbors outside talking and enjoying each other's company
Neighborhood activities
Neighbors sharing food (block party, intercultural food exchange)
Ability to have pets
Ability to paint walls
Trees, nature opportunity
Color, flowers, paint decorations
Equal opportunity (not quantity) for special needs people
All needs met for all residents
Friends and new friends living in harmony
Variety of people, activities, services

Q.2. Actionable items we can do today?

GOVERNMENT

City wide repair efforts: potholes, street lights, guidelines, signs
City actively works to get diverse voices on committees, etc.
Explore City Council, Commissions, committees for areas of interest and passion
Extend Max bus routes and hours
Invite City Council member here
Neighborhood town halls
Let's address rent inflation
Lobby City Council to require new housing development to include affordable housing units
Council member have (well-promoted) neighborhood meetings

COMMUNICATION

Diverse Business Directory
Make a small business directory: getting info about hobbyists, small business in Holland together in one directory to bring more awareness in local businesses
More write-ups in the newspaper on what is available (like your function, I never heard of it) to help youth and others. Who do I contact?
More advertising for community program availability
Flyers, ads, about community involvement and discussion

HOW WE LEARN

Drug awareness info in school: ex, DARE, Project Charlie
Starting this type of community/parent input within the 5 OCSN pilot schools (Ottawa Community Schools Network)
Training to equip a person interested in reaching out in their neighborhood
Space/time for difficult conversations about racial bias (etc)

PUBLIC INTERACTION

Neighborhood picnics
More community day passes
Community BBQ and conversations
Plant a tree or garden
Set up cultural coffees, round table discussions about different cultures
Join a group: Lighthouse, interfaith, international relations
Invite my neighbor over for a meal
Put out a bird feeder
Sponsor community neighborhood trash pick-up walks
Community gardens
Step outside your comfort zone
Say hello to 10 people every day
Meet one new neighbor
Difficult topic panel discussions
More individuals (parents) involved in their children's lives – know what they are doing