



Community Survey Analysis



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Introduction

The survey was conducted between March and August of 2003. The survey was printed in The Booster and This Week Newspapers, as well as being available on the Clintonville Area Commission (CAC) website (<http://www.clintonvillecommission.org>). Four hundred forty-one (441) Clintonville residents responded to the survey. The respondents came from every CAC district, see below.

Respondents:	District:	Total Respondents:
	1.....	34
	2.....	90
	3.....	74
	4.....	79
	5.....	71
	6.....	75
	7.....	73
	8.....	47
	9.....	58

The number of respondents by district totals more than the total number of survey respondents. This is because the survey asked the respondent the street they live on. In some cases the street runs through two districts. In this case the respondent was counted in both districts.

The Clintonville Community Survey is a concerted effort to identify the needs and concerns of the community's residents. The resulting data will be used to formulate future policies and address those needs and concerns. The survey's conclusions are based on the *majority* of responses—those higher percentages of answers.

The survey focused on seven major areas. Each area contained a number of questions. The first area under inspection was Clintonville's demographics. This section made inquiries into the individual respondents' street, duration of residence, and age. The education section asked questions about locations of schools. Next, Clintonville's parks and green spaces were analyzed. Respondents were asked about the frequency of their visits at community parks, the Whetstone Recreation Center, and the Whetstone Library. This section also inquired about the community's interest in a community garden and the use and access of current bike trails. The fourth section of the survey involved respondents' transportation needs. Residents were asked about where they work and how they get there. The survey asked opinions on current and future city transit needs. The next section involved local businesses and commerce. Citizens were asked to identify the type and location of existing businesses they use. Additionally, residents were asked which businesses they would like more of in their community. The public safety section of the survey was used to analyze and identify safety issues and how they could be solved. Finally, the survey made inquiries about the types of services and businesses and how their quality affects their decision to stay or leave Clintonville. This section also

explored more specific questions such as the issuance of liquor licenses for neighborhood restaurants, parking issues, and other burning issues.

This report was developed with the assistance of the Clintonville Area Commission and the City of Columbus Neighborhood Services Division. The Clintonville Area Commission's intern Paul Coriell assisted in the analysis of the survey and preparation of this report.

Residence

Respondents to this survey are long-term residents of Clintonville. They tend to be older citizens who do not wish to move out of their neighborhoods. The largest age group responding is between fifty-one and sixty years old (44 percent see *Figure 1*). Most residents live there for up to five years, six to ten years, and over forty-one years, consecutively (*Figure 2*). Many respondents (74 percent) do not plan to move.

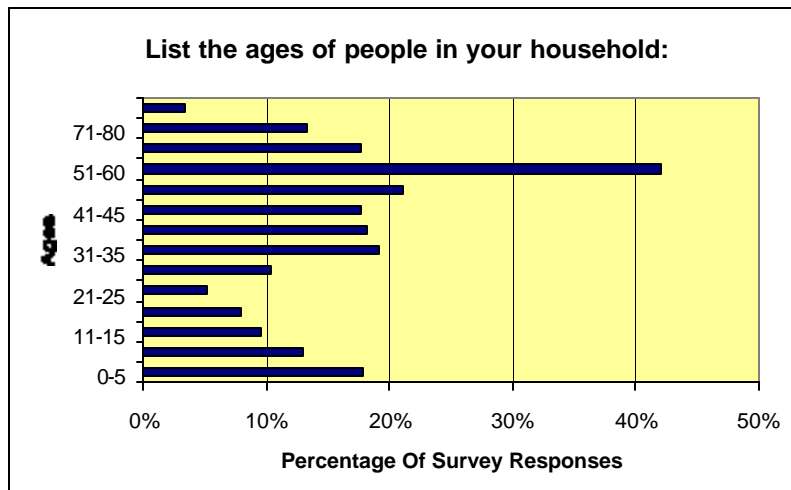


Figure 1. Age of Household Members

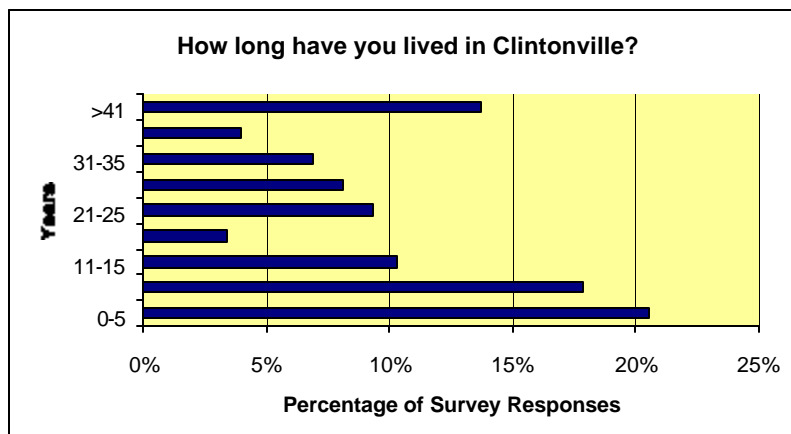


Figure 2. Length of Residence in Clintonville

Education

Of the 441 total survey respondents, 183 (42 percent) responded to the education questions, see Table 1. The lower number of respondents is due to the fact that the largest age group in Clintonville who filled out the survey was composed of people between the ages of 51 and 60 years old (44 percent), whose children have already reached adulthood. The majority of respondents reported their children attend school in the Clintonville area.

<i>Type of School Children Attend</i>		<i>School is in Clintonville</i>	
Columbus Public	35.8%	yes	73%
Parochial or Christian	23.5%	no	27%
Alternative Public	16.0%		
Other private	18.5%		
Home-schooled	6.2%		
No. of respondents:	81		

Table 1: Type of school the school age children (K-12) attend and whether it is located in Clintonville or not.

Parks and Green Space

Respondents visit Clintonville area parks on an occasional or weekly basis (35 percent and 36 percent, respectively). People visit the Whetstone Recreation center either occasionally (35 percent), for special events (30 percent), or never at all (21 percent), respectively. Most residents visit the Whetstone Library occasionally, weekly (37 percent and 35 percent, respectively), and monthly (27 percent). Forty-three percent of survey respondents are interested in a community garden. Finally, respondents are relatively split when it comes to bike path use. Fifty-three percent (53 percent) of the respondents use the bike path. Of those who use the bike path, 38 percent believe there is a need for improved access.



Figure 3: Many families utilize Clintonville's parks for their children's recreational needs.



Figure 4: Clintonville's Whetstone Park services the needs of residents and their children



Figure 5: The Park of Roses—located in Whetstone Park provides a visual beauty for Clintonville residents.



Figure 6: The Park of Roses offers a peaceful and beautiful setting for its residential visitors.



Figure 7: The Olentangy bike path caters to recreational users of Clintonville as well as the surrounding Columbus metropolitan area.

Transportation Needs

The residents of Clintonville work in various locations throughout the Columbus metropolitan area. Most Clintonville respondents work in other areas in Columbus. The second largest group works downtown, followed by Clintonville area workers, people working from their own homes, and workers employed at the Ohio State University (Figure 8).

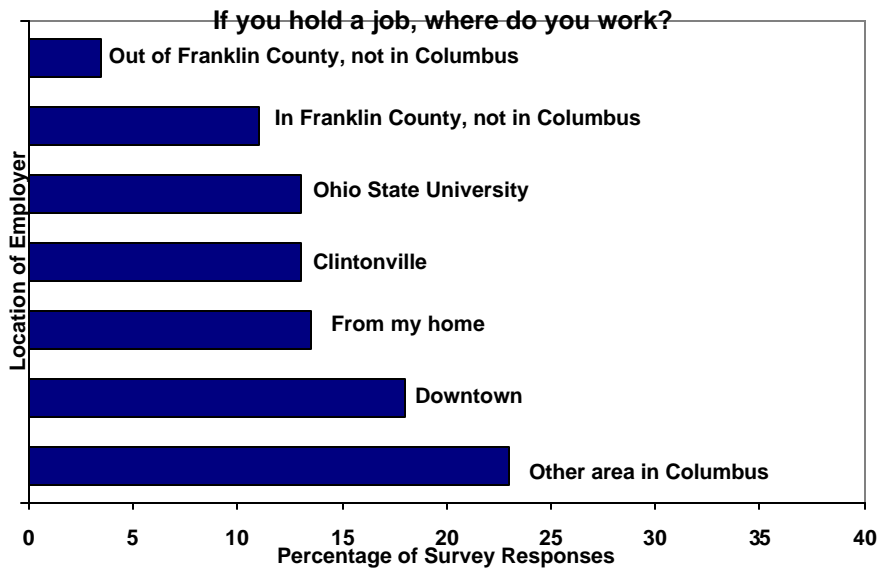


Figure 8: Location of Employer

The majority of the respondents reported that they drive alone in their cars to work. Seven percent ride the bus, 4 percent car pool, walk, 2 percent ride a bicycle, and 1 percent use some other form of transportation to get to work.

While most respondents don't ride the bus to work everyday, they ride public transportation (COTA) occasionally (36 percent) or for special events at the Ohio State University or downtown (34 percent), see Figure 10. The majority of survey respondents support the public financing of a light rail system for public transportation (54 percent). Those opposed to such a system (22 percent) revealed that the system would be very costly to plan, design, and build, wouldn't reach enough areas in Columbus, or simply wouldn't be used enough to support itself. Those respondents who were unsure of the implementation stated that they needed more information to make a responsible decision or that their answer to the survey question would depend on the system's upfront and construction costs.



Figure 9: Many Clintonville residents use the bike path



Figure 10: COTA buses travel frequently through the Clintonville area providing needed transportation for area residents.

Sixteen percent (16 percent) of respondents feel additional transportation options are warranted. Suggestions include better bike paths and routes development with an emphasis on its connection and relationship to pedestrian traffic, more and better parking alternatives, sidewalk repair and maintenance, and options which would assist senior citizens with their transportation needs (e.g., car and/or van pooling and grocery and product home delivery).

In regards to traffic problems, Clintonville's citizens are nearly equally split on their views. All of the survey's respondents felt that, either: 1) there are no significant traffic problems, 2) there are moderate traffic problems that should be monitored, but currently do not require action, and 3) there are significant traffic problems that require action (32 percent, 33 percent, and 32 percent, respectively). Ideas for improving traffic problems include more police traffic and speeding enforcement and monitoring (including traffic

calming, more speed bumps, and signage), and improving the High Street and Henderson Road intersection (turn lanes and road widening—to reduce congestion).

Local Businesses and Commerce

Upon analyzing the survey responses for questions about local business and commerce uses and interests, it was found that the largest number of respondents (29 percent) expressed an interest in encouraging the establishment of new restaurants in the Clintonville area. Residents also want more banks, bookstores, newsstands, doctors, and dentists. Most respondents use the banks, which are already located within the Clintonville area. Still others go outside the area to patronize insurance agencies, restaurants, and doctors and dentists.

Additional services included in the survey were groceries, convenience stores, dry cleaners, video stores, florists, hair care providers, hardware stores, automotive services, antique shops, services (such as accountants or attorneys), day care, education related businesses, and pharmacies. These services obtained a relatively low response rate (between 1 and 10 percent). That is a relatively low number of respondents either use these services within Clintonville, go outside the community to patronize them or would like more of them.

Finally, in regards to local business and commerce, residents were asked to choose from a list of characteristics that they thought were barriers to local businesses for their needs. The largest responses chose the types of services offered, parking, the appearance of storefronts, and products and services I need aren't close enough to each other, respectively (*Table 2*).

Transportation to and from the businesses	3%
Types of services offered	44%
Safety concerns (I don't feel safe going to local businesses)	5%
Appearance of storefronts	23%
Customer Services when attempting to use local businesses	6%
Products and services I need aren't close enough to each other	22%
Items/Services are more expensive	13%
Parking	36%
Businesses are not close enough to my job	5%
Other (please list)	14%

Table 2: Barriers to using local businesses.



Figure 11: Café Mozart is a new restaurant along Indianola Avenue.



Figure 12: Respondents reported that additional fine dining restaurants are needed in Clintonville.

Public Safety

Public safety is of great concern to any community, and Clintonville is certainly no exception. The highest areas of concern for survey respondents were theft and burglary, traffic speed, vandalism, graffiti, and snow removal, respectively (*Table 3*).

	<i>Requires more attention</i>	<i>Does not require more attention</i>
Traffic Speed:	74%	23%

Theft/Burglary:	56%	26%
Vandalism:	52%	27%
Graffiti:	50%	29%
Snow Removal:	40%	37%
Lack of Police Presence:	31%	41%
Street Lighting:	24%	46%
Code Enforcement:	21%	47%
Alley Trash:	20%	49%
Other:	16%	4%
Trash Pickup:	8%	62%

Table 3: Respondents that believe this safety issue requires attention



Figure 13: A police vehicle patrols Whetstone Park.

Most respondents believe there are some personal and/or property safety issues that require attention. Many residents feel that current levels of safety force activity address these concerns (51 percent). However, when asked how any safety concerns could be addressed, Clintonville citizens said that additional crime patrol is needed (34 percent).

	<i>Percent</i>
Additional crime patrol:	34%
Additional taxes:	15%
Home training:	20%
Other:	14%

Table 4: Solutions to safety problems

Other Concerns

The survey attempted to pin point additional areas of concern. Characteristics that affect the quality of life were studied, in order to determine whether they would influence the respondents' decision to stay or leave Clintonville. Reasons respondents "would stay" include Clintonville's quality parks and green spaces (79 percent) and to the quality of

the housing (77 percent). Other reasons respondents want to stay were transportation, local businesses, and community gathering places. Reasons respondents “would leave” Clintonville are public schools (18 percent). Finally, those qualities that have no effect on whether respondents would stay or leave Clintonville include: childcare (73 percent), senior and social services (64 percent), religious opportunities (56 percent), and public schools (54 percent).

A large number of respondents do not believe that parking is a problem (44 percent). Others believe that parking in commercial areas is a problem (29 percent). Some believe that parking is a problem both near businesses and in neighborhoods (17 percent). When respondents were asked how the problem should be solved, survey responses varied. Whereas 40 percent believe that small parking lots could be located in areas where there are identified parking problems, 28 percent feel that improving pedestrian access could solve parking problems (*Table 5*).

Respondents were asked whether they would support the issuances of liquor licenses in their neighborhood. According to this survey, 73 percent of all Clintonville residents support the issuing of individual liquor licenses to private businesses in their neighborhood.

	<i>Percent in favor of Solution</i>
Small parking lots in areas where there are identified parking problems:	40%
Stricter enforcement of parking requirements:	11%
Better use of parking spaces on High Street:	22%
Parking permits on a block-by-block basis:	9%
Designated visitor parking areas on each block:	10%
Limitations on the use of on-street parking to require greater use of alley garages:	21%
Consolidated parking areas, creating larger identified parking areas:	15%
Improve pedestrian access:	28%
Other:	12%

Table 5: Solutions for commercial or residential parking problems

Respondents were asked a series of questions about their views on the Clintonville Area Commission’s authority to review development proposals. The majority of the community supports the CAC’s authority for signs, historic preservation, and architectural review (*Table 6*). Currently the Clintonville Area Commission only has the power to review zoning. Finally, when asked about their satisfaction with the performance of the Clintonville Area Commission, residents were split between the “yes” and “not sure” responses. Of those responding, 40 percent said they are satisfied with the performance of their commissioner, 42 percent said they weren’t sure, and 9 percent said they were not satisfied with their commissioners’ performance.

	<i>Would support Review Authority</i>	<i>Would not support review authority</i>	<i>Not sure</i>
Signs:	71%	10%	13%
Architectural Review:	59%	20%	16%
Historical Preservation:	66%	11%	17%

Table 6: Support for CAC review authority



Figure 14: Brevoort park is one of many in Clintonville



Figure 15: Most respondents support the Clintonville Area Commission's authority for planning and architectural review.

Burning Issues: A Conclusion of Concerns for the Clintonville Area Commission Survey.

The last and final major question on the survey asked residents if there is a “burning issue” that they would like addressed. This question elicited a variety of responses. However, some issues prevailed, such as speeding through residential areas and crime (graffiti, burglary, etc.), were mentioned by many respondents. Parking issues were another concern. The Bethel Road/Morse connector issue is still a major concern. Respondents are concerned with attracting restaurants that serve alcohol. Finally, the Graceland shopping center remains as a prevalent concern to the respondents. Many people feel that this area needs to be redeveloped into a more attractive space.



Figure 16: A new dining location in Clintonville



Figure 17: The revitalization of the Graceland shopping mall area continues to be of major concern to many Clintonville residents.



Figure 18: Many Clintonville survey respondents wish to see Graceland shopping center redeveloped into a more user and customer friendly outdoor environment.



Figure 19: At the intersection of Indianola Avenue and Oakland Park Avenue city workers rebuild sidewalks—an area of concern for many Clintonville residents.



Figure 20: Clintonville survey respondents feel congestion and turning lanes at High Street and Henderson Road is a problem.



Figure 21: Clintonville contains many areas with potential for cultural and business development like this row of old storefronts on Indianola Avenue.