

Fairmount Neighborhood: Survey Research Results

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Mark A. Glaser
Hugo Wall School of Public Affairs

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Director: Misty Bruckner



WICHITA STATE
UNIVERSITY

The Perfect Storm

A number of forces are converging metaphorically referred to as the Perfect Storm

- **Global Economy: Innovation, Change & Redistribution of resources**
- **Structural unemployment**
- **Industry...Increasingly Narrow pathway to the middle class**
- **Concentration of wealth...large & growing underclass**
- **Growing Pluralism, Division & Political Instability**
- **Growing national debt....limited capacity to respond to a crisis like 2008**
- **Fiscal challenges**
 - **Deteriorating Infrastructure**
 - **Withdrawal of Safety Net: Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, etc.**

-Placed Based Economic Development Model

-Innovation Campus or Not: Historic Connections

Historic Connections: WSU & Fairmount

What will it take to create a “Community of Choice”?

**....Is Fairmount a place where people choose to live,
work and play?**

- **Do Neighbors feel Connected/Responsible....”Defended Space”?**
- **Community Development: Will Neighbors work together to make improvements**

Neighborhood-Based Intersector Collaborative Network

Section 1. Commitment to Fairmount

Community of Choice:

Commitment to Socio-geographic Space

Collaboration between Neighbors

94%....willing to work with their neighbors to make the neighborhood a better place to live

86%....Neighbors are Willing to Work with me

Social Support Systems

78%...Friends in the Neighborhood

38%...Family in the Neighborhood

General Assessments of Quality of Life

86%...Good Place to Live

73%...Good Place to Raise a Family

Part 1. Neighborhood Attachment

Section 2. Public Safety

Community of Choice: Defended Space

85%...If I saw a stranger hanging around a neighbor's home I would contact my neighbor or the police

76%...trust their Neighbors do the same

Community of Choice: Citizen-Police Collaboration

94% ...most police officers are good people doing a difficult job.

93%.....I'm willing to work with the police to prevent or solve crimes.

94%support Law Enforcement Training Center on the WSU Campus

Victimization

33%....Property Crime...My home has been **burglarized or I have had **property stolen** or **vandalized** in the past 3 years**

29%...Crime Against Persons...Someone living in this house has personally been a victim of crime in the neighborhood in the past 3 years

Part 1. Neighborhood Attachment

Section 3. Issues of Race

Division reduces the capacity of community.....Division based on race is particularly destructive

Community of Choice: Embrace Diversity

90%...People of different races get along in the neighborhood.

98%...I'm willing to work with people of different races to make the neighborhood a better place to live

89%...Most people living in the neighborhood are willing to work with people of different races to make the neighborhood a better place to live

82%...Neighborhood police officers treat everyone the same regardless of race

African-Americans (74.4%) and Hispanics (76.0%) are the least likely to report that neighborhood police officers treat everyone the same regardless of race.

Potentially a model for the broader community

Part 1. Neighborhood Attachment

Section 4. Selected Concerns and Needs

Neighborhood Concerns

52.3%...Too many people don't take care of their property

36.1%...Illegal drugs are a big problem

Neighborhood Needs

89.8%...Additional Neighborhood Lighting

77.9%...Additional Cameras in the Neighborhood

Part 2. Needs Assessment

Section 1. Economic Inclusion

Community of Choice: Economic Inclusion

Employment Related Needs

(39%)...Unemployed and need a job (someone living in the residence)

(48%)...Employed but need a better job

Era of Change: Continuous... Product Innovation, Changes in Production, Retraining/Education

- **Affiliation- WSU & Wichita Area Technical College (WATC)**
...continuum of education/continuous job training

(68%)...Interested in developing new skills to improve employment opportunity

(43%) Need better public transportation to get to work

(20%) Need assistance Learning to Speak English (Social/Economic Inclusion)

(50%)...Hispanic households

Part 2. Needs Assessment
Section 2. Intergenerational & Social Equity

Community of Choice: Invest in the Future & Create Opportunity

ROI ...Invest in Children of Fairmount

Failure to Invest ...Places the Future At-Risk

Disadvantaged children....Start Behind....Stay Behind

(29%) Children who need assistance with homework

(63%) Children Attend USD 259

“Whole Child” Approach to Development

(43%) Children who need better recreational Opportunities

(86%) Children Attend USD 259

Part 2. Needs Assessment

Section 3/4. Health Related & Basic Needs

Community of Choice: Quality of Life

someone living at the residence

(40%) Unmet Dental care Needs

(30%) Unmet Eye care

(28%) Unmet Medical care

(24%) Unmet Prescription drugs

(23%) Unmet Mental health care

(37%) WSU student living at the residence

(17%) Handicap Not Being Addressed

(27%) WSU student living at the residence

(24%) Not Getting Enough to Eat

(21%) Clothing Needs Not Being Met

Part 3. Support for WSU Development Model

Section 1. Support for Investment

Community of Choice: Support for Investment

Destination Place

(90%) Recreation and Fitness Center –Someone living at the residence *would be interested in a recreational and physical fitness center* in the neighborhood or on campus. **Three-Fourths** of those **65 or older** support investment in a recreation and physical fitness center.

(77%) Restaurants –Someone living at the residence is likely to be a *customer of new restaurants on campus*.

(93%) Grocery Store –Someone living at the residence *would shop at a new grocery store in the neighborhood or on campus*.

PLACED BASED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MODEL:

A Destination Place

Part 3. Support for WSU Development Model

Section 2. Strengthening Historic Connections

Community of Choice: Perceptions of Positive Impact

(94%)...changes taking place at WSU are making the neighborhood a better place to live. Support does not tend to vary significantly based on the demographics.

(93%)...changes taking place at WSU are making Wichita a better place to live.

(90%)...university-neighborhood connections make the area a better place to live.

Retention

(57%)...expect to be living in the neighborhood 3 years from now

(77%)....expect to be living in the area 3 years from now

Intersector Collaborative Networks: Systems Solutions

- **Systems Solutions based on wellbeing of community**
 - **Define the Problem** from a **community** rather than an **organizational** perspective and systematically address **all components** of the **problem**
 - **Optimize** the use of resources based on **community** **Not organization**
 - **Assign responsibility** based on **organization capacity** and **mission**
 - **Protect the Autonomy** of **Community Organizations**
 - **Recognize Opportunity costs**
- **Change the Nature of Discussion: Less about Self-Interest....more about Public Good & Community Wellbeing**