

Healthy Places Walkability Study Barack Recreation Center/Vassor Village Mini-Pride

Columbus Public Health Healthy Places program is conducting walkability studies in the 2007 Neighborhood Pride areas. The goals of the walkability study are to increase neighborhood residents walking in their neighborhood and to identify destination places that are within walking distance. This will be done by walking with neighborhood residents to 1) identify positive places to walk in their neighborhood; 2) inventory barriers to pedestrians and bikers; and 3) identify neighborhood destinations.

Synopsis

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Date | Wednesday, July 18, 2007 |
| Community Participation | 1 |
| Distance Walked | 1.0 mile |
| Weather | Sunny and warm |

Neighborhood Findings

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| Surveys completed | 1 |
| Findings of interest | Neighborhood can walk to many daily destinations such as the grocery store, a convenience store and a neighborhood rec center with a pool. |
| Most important aspects of walking (ranked in order of priority) | Feeling safe; sidewalks; trails or multi-use paths; access to parks; nice things to look at; destinations |

Overall Comments

- The 13th Precinct is the largest; there have been 2 murders in 2 weeks right near the Rec Center.
- Morrill Ave has many duplexes and absentee landlords; there is a higher percentage of renters versus homeowners overall.
- Morrill specifically has rats due to vacant housing (mostly rentals on that street).
- Gang activity is centered on Markison (mostly rentals on that street).
- Techneglas is a redevelopment opportunity.

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- No sidewalks in the alleys or on 18th and 17th (it appears the east/west streets do not have sidewalks).
- Safety-need to be cautious at night, during the day it is fine.
- Cars speed and there are a lot of children in the neighborhood.
- Sheldon is a brick street the neighborhood wants to preserve. It is part of the City's rehab program.
- People feel safe walking on Parsons.
- There is a crosswalk at Parsons and Sheldon to access the Kroger.
- The neighborhood has a new fire station, a new elementary school and a Dairy Queen.
- Pedestrians and cyclists do not obey traffic lights.
- The neighborhood has great housing stock, overall people take care of their homes, the trouble spots are near the pockets of vacant housing.



Route walked

This report will be used to create walking maps through the neighborhood. The mile measured routes will highlight neighborhood features, safe paths and destinations. The report will also be forwarded to City of Columbus departments that can assist neighborhoods in addressing their needs.

The mission of the Healthy Places program is to enhance healthy and active living by establishing development policies and practices to reduce negative health impacts and by creating places that foster physical activity as a part of everyday life. For more information, please contact Christine Godward, Healthy Places Coordinator at 645-5318 or CLGodward@columbus.gov

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Pictures from 7/18/07 Walk (Explanation of pictures below)



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Picture Explanation

| | |
|----|---|
| 1 | Barack Recreation Center playground |
| 2 | Barack Recreation Center pool |
| 3 | View of pool and Lincoln Park |
| 4 | Pool |
| 5 | Barack Recreation Center |
| 6 | Same as above |
| 7 | Barack Recreation Center is located in Lincoln Park |
| 8 | Sidewalk cuts the park in half; sidewalk use to lead from elementary school to Ann Street but a new school was built and the old school site will be returned to park |
| 9 | New Lincoln Park Elementary School |
| 10 | 18 th Street looking west, no sidewalks on the east-west streets in this neighborhood |
| 11 | 18 th Street looking east |
| 12 | Former Techneglas site, a large site in the neighborhood with redevelopment potential |
| 13 | Southwood Ave, looking west from 18 th Street |
| 14 | The neighborhood has good housing stock, NE corner of Southwood Ave and 18 th Street |
| 15 | Sheldon Ave and 18 th Street, NW corner |
| 16 | Sheldon Ave is a brick street, the neighborhood would like to preserve the brick |
| 17 | Sheldon Ave |
| 18 | Sheldon Ave also has good housing stock and neighbors houses are well kept |
| 19 | Intersection of Sheldon Ave and Parsons Ave; crossing Parsons Ave to local grocery store; intersection has crosswalks and pedestrian signals. |
| 20 | Intersection of Sheldon Ave and Parsons Ave, crossing Sheldon Ave, intersection has pedestrian signals but not crosswalks. |
| 21 | Local grocery store |
| 22 | Local grocery store |
| 23 | Sheldon Ave housing stock |
| 24 | Sheldon Ave abandoned house |
| 25 | Sheldon Ave house proud neighbors |
| 26 | Sheldon Ave |
| 27 | Great tree cover on Jenkins |
| 28 | Lincoln Park Elementary School |
| 29 | Markison Ave, high proportion of renters |
| 30 | Ann Street across from Barack Recreation Center, house proud neighbors |