

Community engAGEment for Age-Friendly Environments



engAGE
in community

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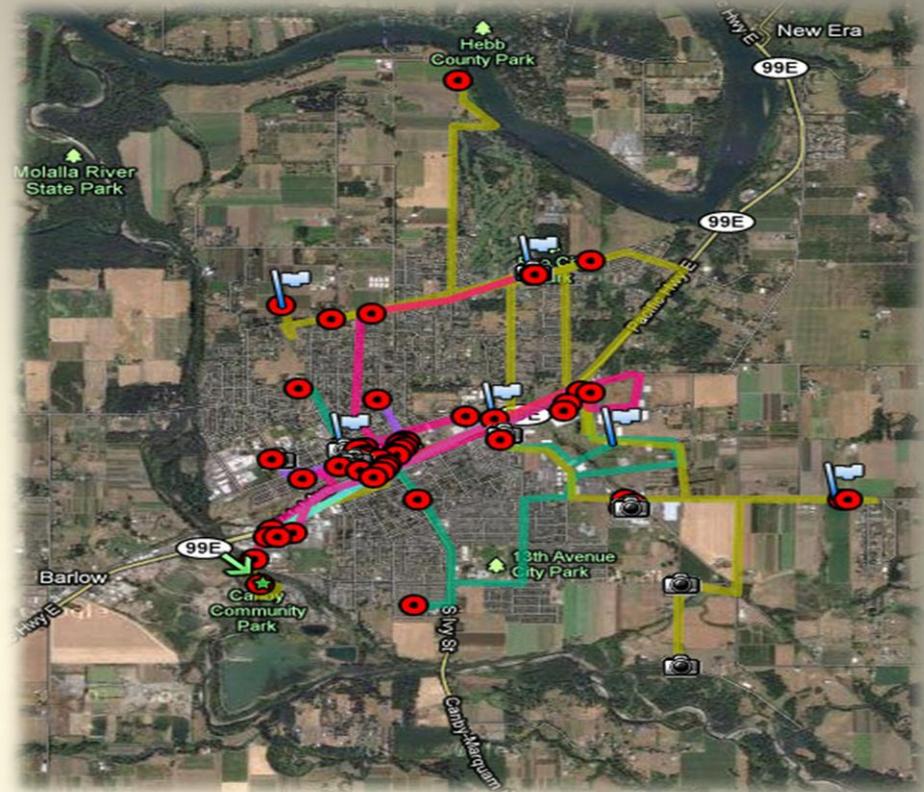
*Presented for the Oregon Public Health Association Annual
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Our road map...

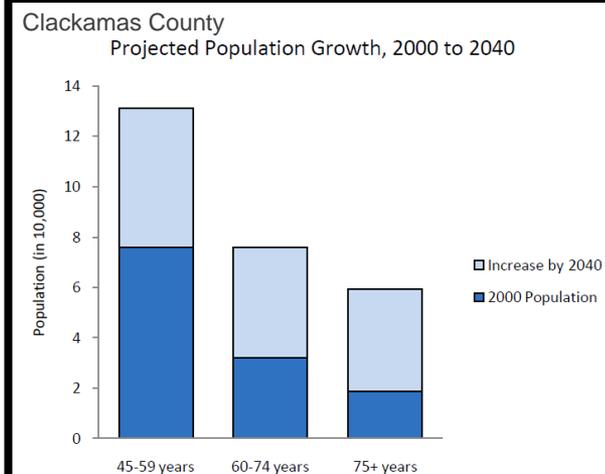
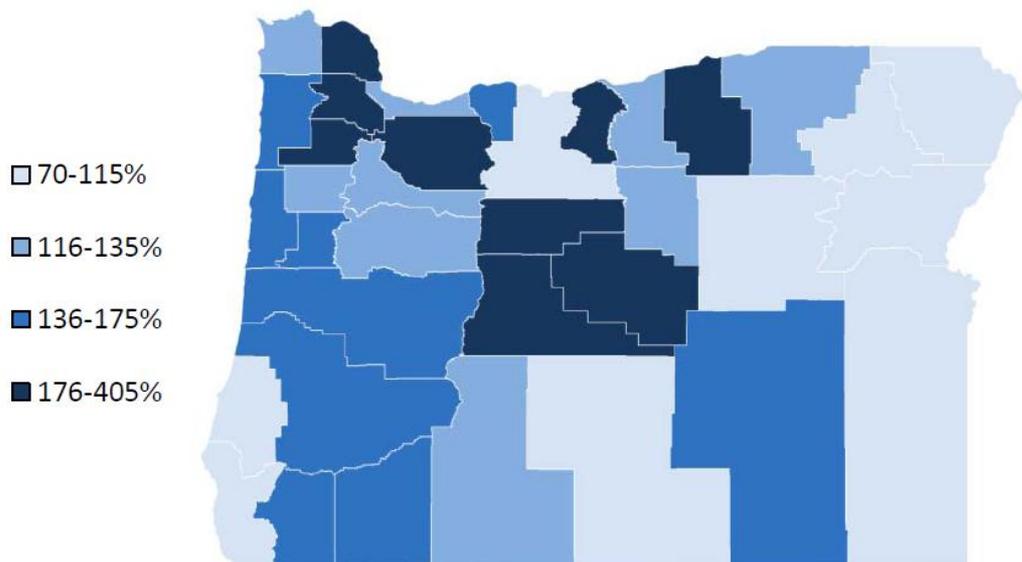
- Learn of a new technology for community engagement around issues of health and place.
- Explore differences between people's perceptions of community attributes and their experience of the attributes that influence people's experience of their local physical, social, and service environments as either supporting or hindering place-based aging.





Our nation is aging... Oregon is no exception!

Figure 1: Projected percent increase of adults 75 years and older for the state of Oregon from 2000 to 2040, data from the Office of Economic Analysis.

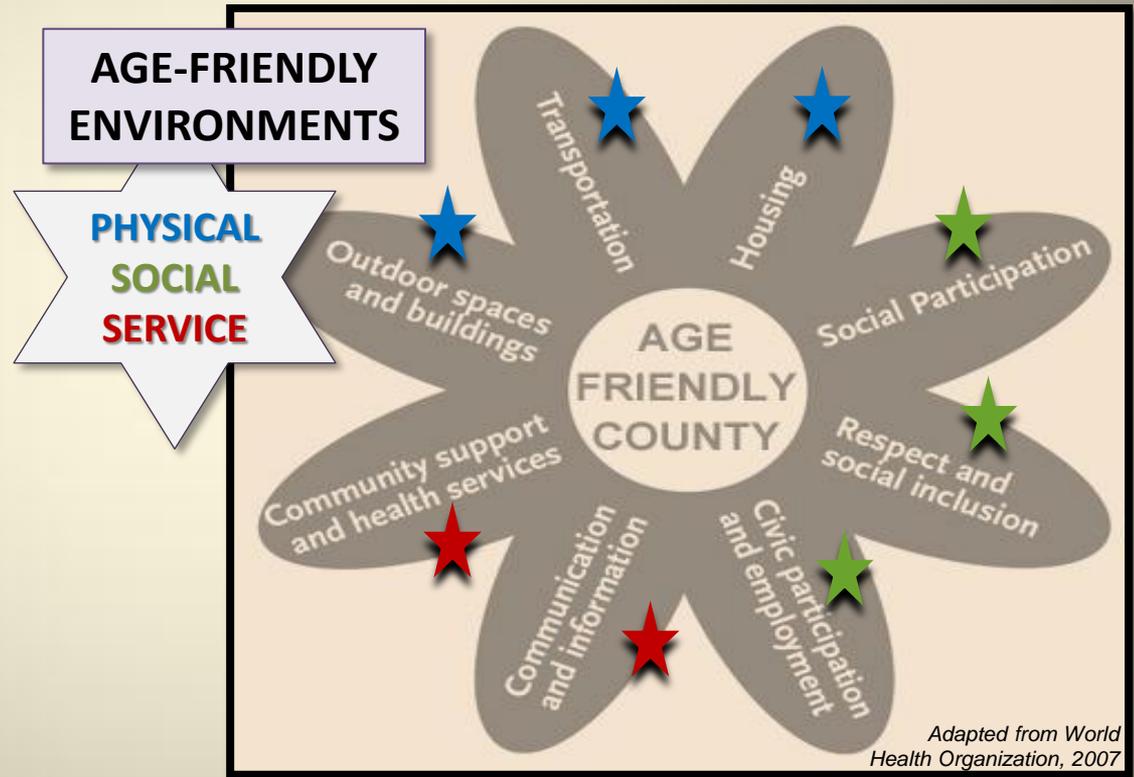


Healthy Aging in Oregon Counties, 2009



...a partnership to create more 'Age-Friendly' communities in Clackamas County!

Age-friendly places support *all* people's choices that enhance their health and well-being and allow participation in *all* aspects of community life





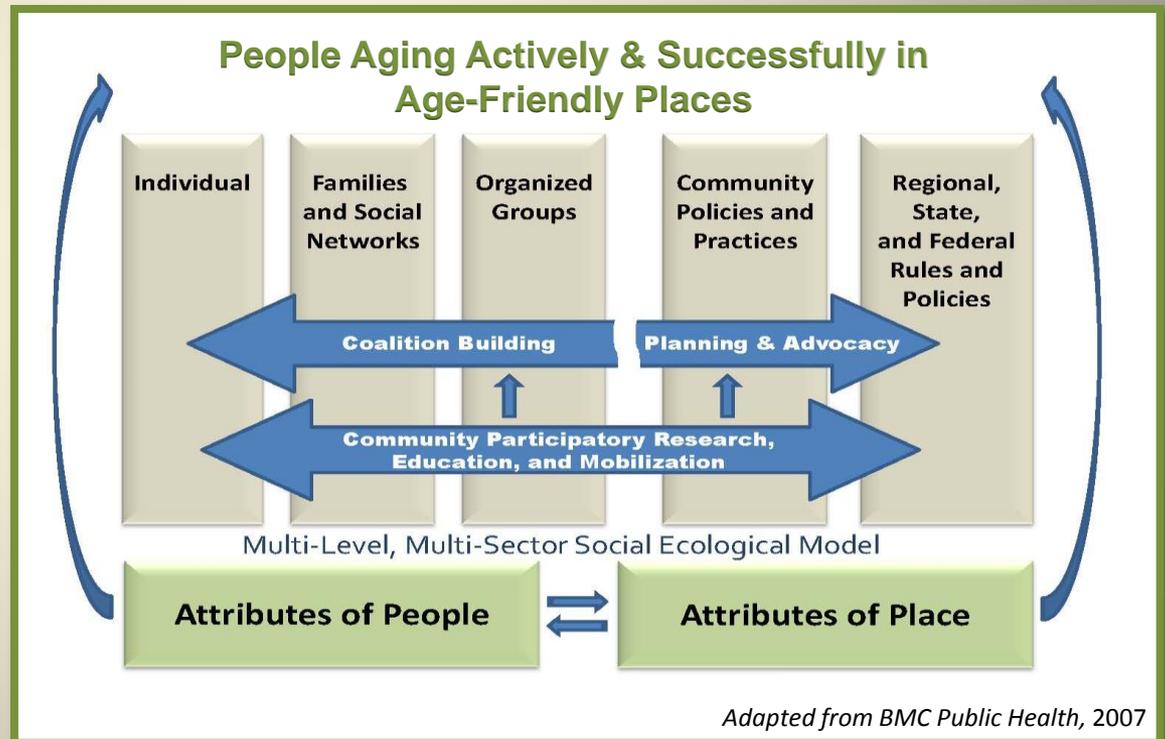
Partner with people across local communities to determine what supports residents need and want in order to age healthfully, actively and successfully in their place of choice...

➤ **In-person interviews** with clients of adult community/senior centers (n=134)

➤ **In-person interviews** with Latino elders and families (n=74)

➤ **Telephone-delivered survey** of randomly selected County households (n=397)

➤ **Community attribute mapping** using MAPPS (Mapping Attributes: Participatory Photographic Surveys) (n=3)





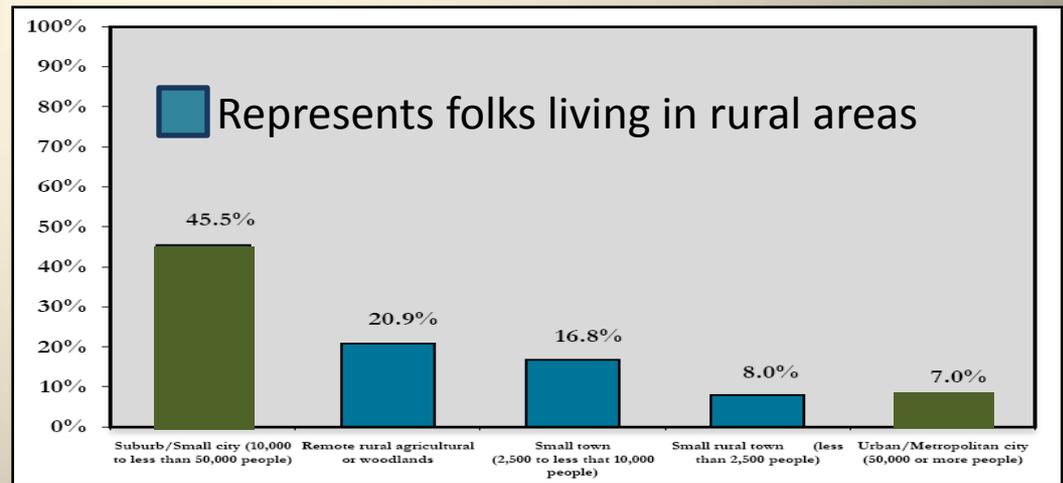
Survey Research

Telephone survey of Clackamas County adults (n=387) conducted in Jan 2011



Survey research conducted by PSU's Survey Research Lab for the engAGE in Community project.

- **General health** was good (46.8%) or excellent (34.6%)
- **City or town closest to their home:** Milwaukie (15.5%), Oregon City (13.4%) and Lake Oswego (11.1%) most common locations.
- **Rural residents** represented 45.7% of those surveyed





People's Perceptions of Attributes and Importance of Attributes

- **Community** - geographic place where the person lives
- **Community attribute** areas:
 - Transportation and mobility
 - Housing
 - Accessibility of outdoor spaces/buildings
 - Respect and inclusion
 - Social participation
 - Civic involvement
 - Communication and information
 - Community support and health services

Telephone survey of Clackamas County adults (n=387) conducted in Winter 2011

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| Age | 34.4% 42.4% | 50-64 years 65 years or older |
| Gender | 38% 62% | Male Female |
| Race | 93.5% | White |
| Household Size | 18.1% 45.2% 15.5% | 1 person 2 people 3 people |
| Annual Household Income | 21.7% 11.9% 17.3% .7% | <\$35,000 \$35,000 to <\$50,000 \$50,000 to <\$75,000 \$75,000 to <\$100,000 |

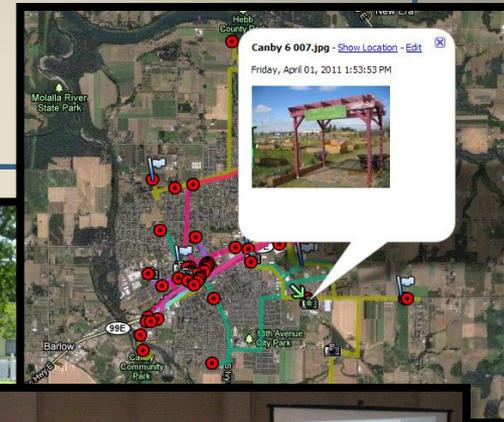
Mapping Attributes: Participatory Photographic Surveys (MAPPS)

MAPPS is a strategy that uses a UNIQUE tool - participatory photo mapping

- ✓ *explore people's experience of health and place*
- ✓ *communicate their experiences to decision-makers*

Plan: support the creation of age-friendly environments in neighborhoods and communities all across Clackamas County

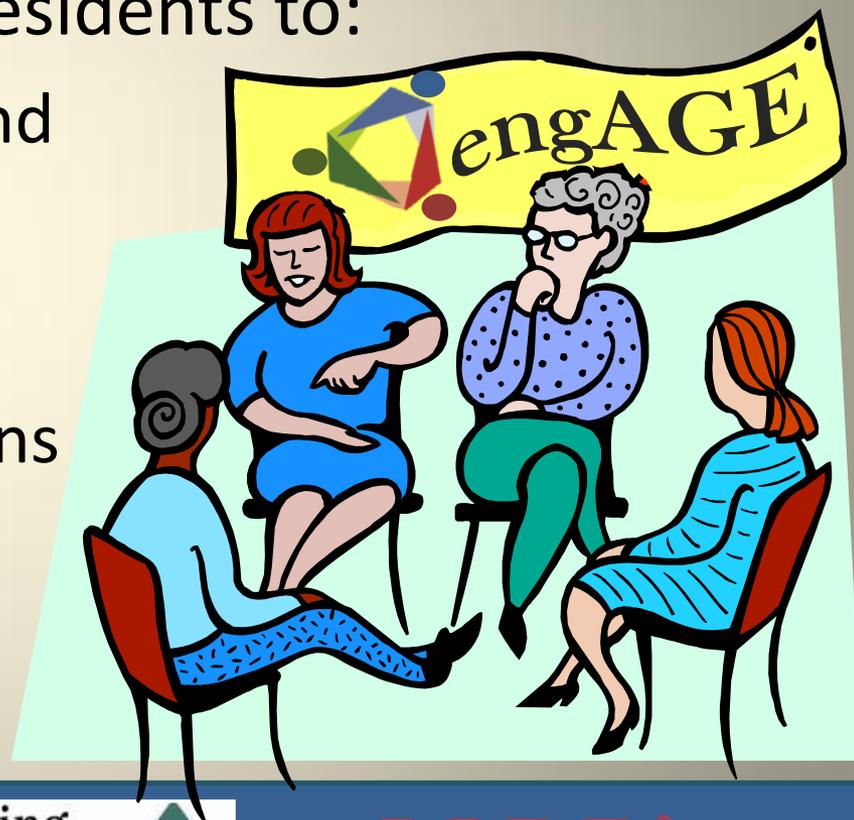
Goal: *engage* local residents and *partner* with communities to develop collaborations and design projects to improve healthy aging options for **ALL** Clackamas County people and places



engAGE MAPPS

Mobilizes and engages local residents to:

- Assess community features and address diverse perspectives
- Plan and present information
- **Identify and implement** actions
- Track efforts and outcomes



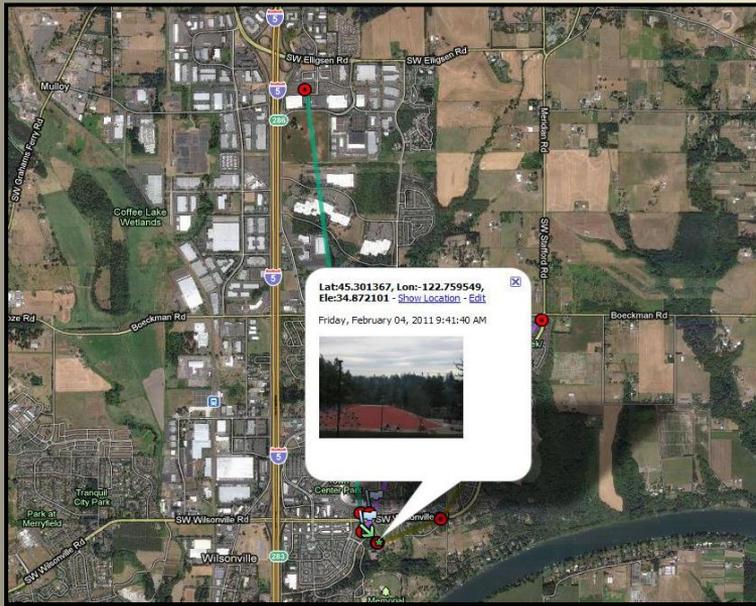


Why engAGE MAPPS?

-  **Engages people** in processes that are grounded in *their lived experience of place*
-  **Generate and transfer knowledge** about how the attributes of people interact with attributes of place to inform and influence health behavior and outcomes
-  **Knowledge** generated from the perspectives of people who are often unheard, and that is personally, socially, and geographically grounded, *will shape community actions and policies* that are holistic, sustainable, and just.



Mapping Community Attributes



MAPPS was developed and facilitated by OSU's Extension Family & Community Health for the engAGE in Community project.

MAPPS Communities:

Hoodland (December 2010)

Wilsonville (March 2011)

Canby (April 2011)

Oregon City (Fall 2011)*

Damascus (Fall 2011)*

N.Clackamas (Winter 2012)*

MAPPS Volunteers: 38 women and men who reside in their respective participating community

MAPPS Community Conversations: Over 150 participants commented on the physical, social, and service attributes of their community place.

** Scheduled for MAPPS community engagement processes*

Physical Environment

The physical environment is an important determinant of people's health, enhances physical well-being and quality of life, accommodates individuality and independence, fosters social interaction and enables people to conduct their daily activities.



Transportation Supports

Good transportation - responsive, free and supported by the businesses - never been on it but it's free. Why haven't a lot of people been on it. Still driving a car. Change is not easy. Older people won't try it. Feeling of giving up. Whole dynamic that's almost invisible.



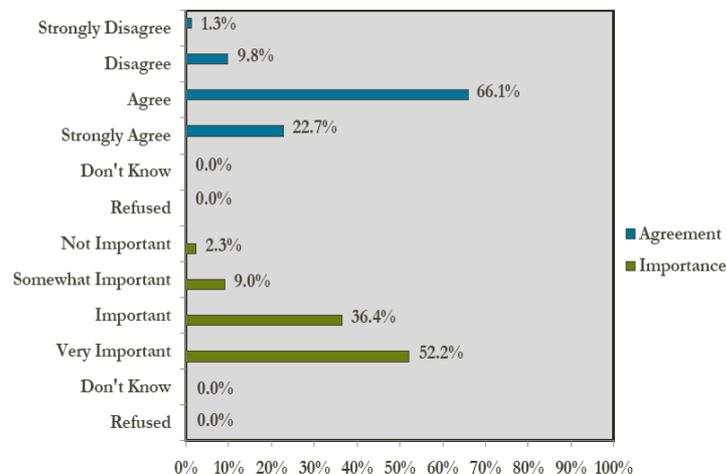
Transportation Barriers

"Boundaries, transportation, getting from one place to another...works if you are in a car. Not friendly for people on bikes, foot, or skateboards, wheel chairs, jogging...it's dangerous. No cross walks, stop signs not clearly marked. This intersection is a problem, city serves up to it but not beyond. Traffic is very congested and busy. We do need better transportation. I don't drive anymore..."

"There are no seats or shelters at the bus locations, and it's hard on older people you have to stand there for a long time."



Figure 6: Frequency of Agreement and Importance Ratings for the Statement: *Roads are Adequately Marked with Visible Signs* (N=387)





Public Transportation vs. Reliance on Personal Vehicles

56% of Clackamas County residents who responded to a telephone survey mostly agreed that there is adequate public transportation in their local community.



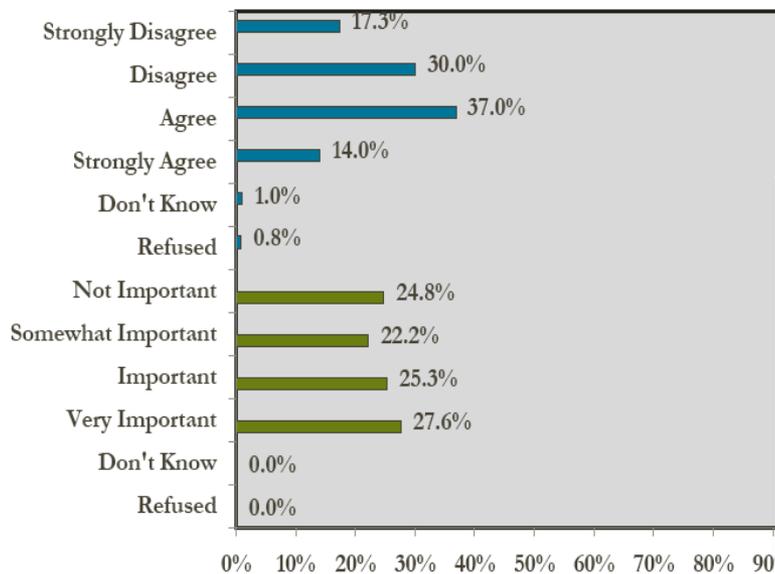
Residents of remote or small rural towns were more likely to report that having adequate public transportation in their community was 'not important' (38.4%) in comparison to small city (29.2%) or sub/urban city (23.6%) residents.

| Agreement by town size | Remote or small rural town | Small town 2500 to less than 10,000 | Suburban or urban city |
|------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Strongly Disagree | 27.7 | 15.4 | 3.0 |
| Disagree | 30.4 | 18.5 | 29.6 |
| Agree | 27.7 | 38.5 | 46.3 |
| Strongly Agree | 11.6 | 23.1 | 16.3 |
| Don't Know | 2.7 | 4.6 | 4.4 |

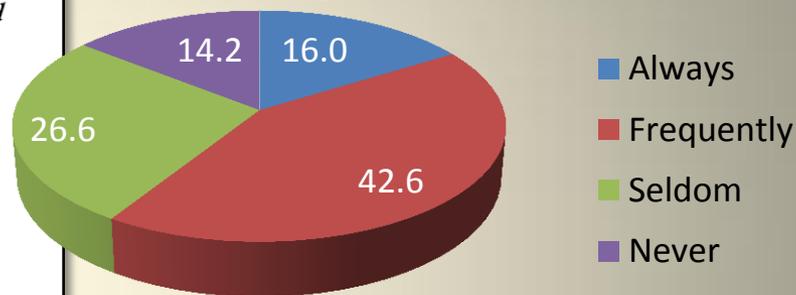
Almost all respondents (96.1%) either 'never' or 'seldom' use public transportation, preferring to use a car (37.4%) or because of inconvenience to home or destination (39.6%).

Active Transportation Walkable/Bikeable

Figure 4: Frequency of Agreement and Importance Ratings for the Statement: *My Community Is Walkable with Sidewalks and Paths that Are Maintained* (N=387)



Frequency of Walking Around
Neighborhood



| Reasons for not walking around neighborhood | Percent of 40% |
|---|----------------|
| No sidewalks | 20.9% |
| Community not conducive (too far, rural, no where to walk to, etc.) | 18.4% |
| Physically can't or have a hard time walking | 16.5% |
| Do not feel safe | 15.8% |
| Do not have time | 10.8% |

Housing

“A range of housing options are available that meet a variety of abilities and lifestyles.”

Over 65% of those responding to the telephone survey *agreed* (53%) or *strongly agreed* (13%) with the statement.



Housing Supports



Housing Barriers

“A range of housing options are available that meet a variety of abilities and lifestyles”

Nearly half (45%) of those responding to the telephone survey rated the availability of a range of housing options as *not important* (22%) or *somewhat important* (23%)!



Assisted living provides all varieties, levels of care. You can transfer from different housing. There are long waiting lists though. You have to be pretty well off. Some may get stipends, but they are difficult to get.

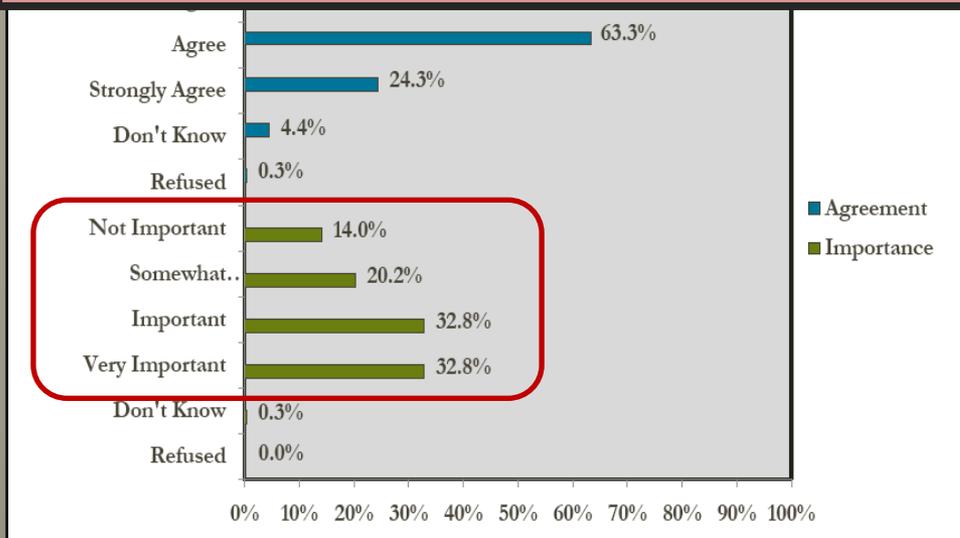


Affordable housing is very necessary here. Absence of enough housing is a barrier. We lost an affordable mobile home park a few years ago and that adversely impacted the livability of the community for a lot of people; that was the tip of the ice berg and not even to mention the boomer prediction and unsure of city plans for affordable, accessible housing.



Accessibility of Outdoor Spaces and Buildings

Over 87% agreed that public building are accessible to people with different abilities





Social Environment

Older persons want to do more than simply continue to reside in their communities—they want to be able to contribute to, and benefit from, and feel included in community life.



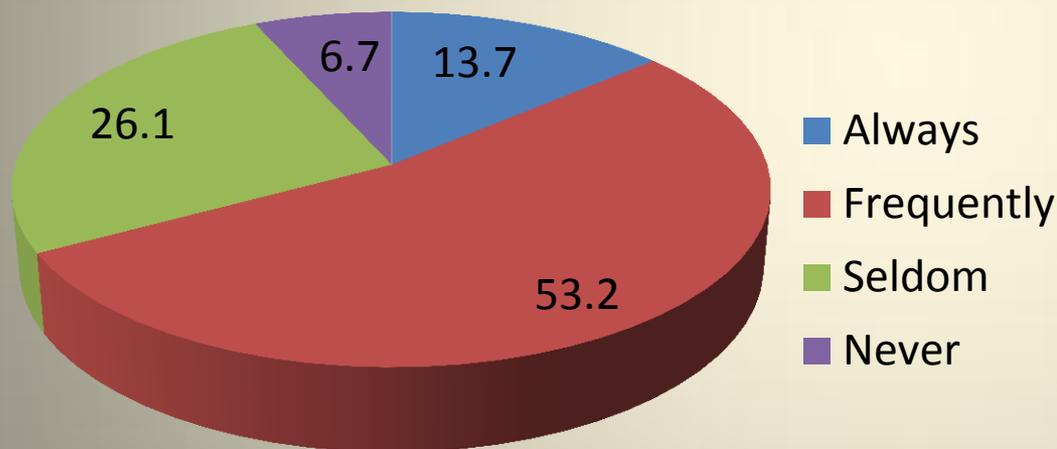


Supports for Social Participation, Respect & Inclusion, and Civic Engagement

| Community Attribute | Strongly Disagree/ Disagree | Agree | Strongly Agree | Important | Very Important |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------|----------------|-----------|----------------|
| Respect, kindness, and courtesy | 10.4% | 64.3% | 23.3% | 30.7% | 59.2% |
| Inclusion in community life | 13.2% | 63.0% | 16.0% | 33.6% | 46.3% |
| Input on public issues | 16.3% | 55.6% | 11.9% | 33.1% | 42.9% |
| Range of events and activities | 19.1% | 58.7% | 16.3% | 32.8% | 36.4% |
| Educational classes | 11.4% | 62.0% | 22.0% | 35.7% | 37.7% |
| Volunteer opportunities | 7.0% | 64.9% | 19.6% | 30.7% | 37.7% |

Social Participation

Participation in Social Activities



Reported by respondents (n=386) to telephone survey

| Reasons for not participating in social activities | Percent of those (n=127) reporting 'seldom' or 'never' |
|--|--|
| Not interested | 29.9% |
| Have no time | 29.1% |
| Do other activities | 8.7% |
| Age and health | 6.3% |
| Don't know of any activities | 5.5% |



Whether or not people are able to age in their community depends upon a number of factors, including the availability of information, support and services, including professional services, such as medical and personal care, that meet the varying needs and abilities of older residents.



Over 60% agreed that information about local events, programs and services, health care and health services is available and very important to community livability.

Over 30% of rural residents 'strongly disagreed' or 'disagreed' that health care, including mental health services are available in their community.





Community engAGEment: Creating Age-Friendly Communities for ALL...

- How do we better engAGE people among diverse groups and across circumstances to assure that
 - *all residents have access to opportunities for meeting basic needs and advancing their health, well-being, and quality of life?*
- Considering current conditions and climate, how do we ensure that
 - *the benefits and burdens of growth and change are fairly shared among our communities?*
- Framed within differing beliefs and value systems, how can we guarantee that
 - *all residents and communities are fully involved as equal partners and have a voice in public decision-making?*

Answers