



Highlights of the Oracle Area Survey November 2007



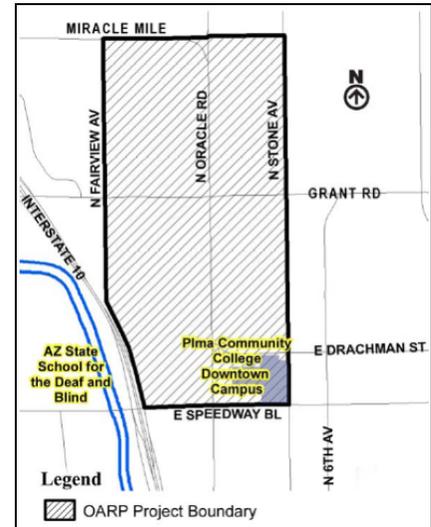
Department of
Urban Planning
and Design

A. Background.

On July 17, 2007, bilingual surveys were mailed to 4,482 property owners, residents and businesses within the Oracle Area Revitalization Plan (OARP) project area. The objective of the survey was to learn what people like about the place they live and/or work, and what they think it could be improved.

Surveys were designed so they could be returned pre-paid postage format, or in person, by fax and via internet. Also, survey respondents that provided a mailing address where entered in a raffle for prizes from businesses located in the OARP project area.

These questions were included in the survey, with a map showing the Oracle Area boundaries (OARP project area):



1. *The name of my neighborhood is:*
2. *OPTIONAL: My name is:*
My address is:
3. *What I like the most about the Oracle Area is:*
4. *What I like the least about the Oracle Area is:*
5. *My biggest concern about the Oracle Area is:*
6. *I am also concerned about:*
7. *What I would like to see in the Oracle Area in the future is:*
8. *I :*
 - am a residential property owner and also reside in the Oracle Area*
 - am a residential property owner in the Oracle Area, but residing somewhere else*
 - rent a home in the Oracle Area*
 - own and operate a business in the Oracle Area*
 - own a business site in the Oracle Area, and lease it to someone else*
 - work in a business located in the Oracle Area, and lease the property from someone else*
 - I do not live, work and own property in the Oracle Area, but I am filling this survey because:*

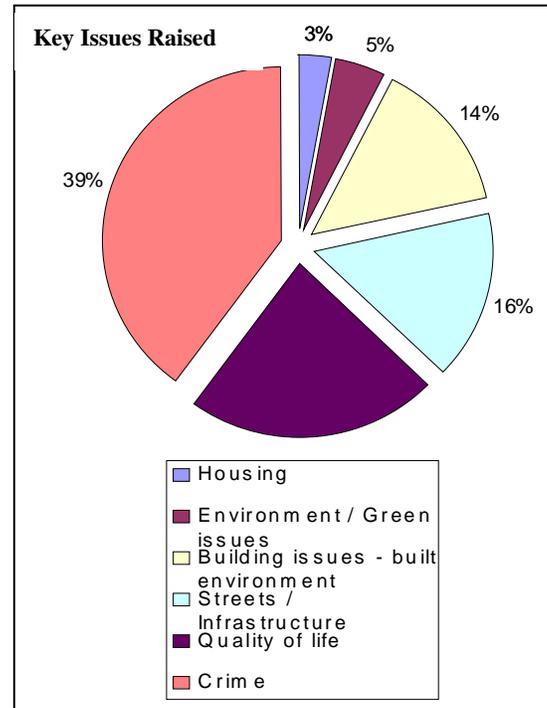
B. Results.

- 141 surveys were completed and returned.
- 9 surveys were returned in Spanish.
- All categories –homeowner, renter, business owner– were all represented.
- Several respondents wrote long, detailed responses and provided a wealth of information about the area.
- 72% of the respondents provided their names and mailing addresses.



- Issues respondents raised more often follow. There issues included both likes and dislikes:

- Crime – 39%*
- Quality of life – 23%*
- Streets / Infrastructure – 16%*
- Building Issues – Built Environment – 14%*
- Environment / Green Issues– 5%*
- Housing – 3%*



Crime.

Responses targeted prostitution, drug-related crimes, property crimes, graffiti, vandalism, sex offenders, aggressive panhandlers and insufficient police presence.

Quality of Life.

Responses related to quality of life were varied, encompassing both positives and negatives about the area. For example, an overwhelming number of survey respondents listed their proximity to schools, transit routes, downtown, and I-10 as the best part of living in the Oracle Area. On the other hand, feeling safe after dark, dealing with drugs and prostitution, and property crimes were identified as concerns within the area.

Streets/Infrastructure.

Respondents identified sidewalks, ADA accessibility, lighting, traffic control, bike paths, pedestrian crosswalks, bus stops and street aesthetics as elements to be improved in the area. Also, flooding on Mabel Street was mentioned.

Building Issues/Built Environment.

Respondents noted that there are many residential and commercial properties (occupied and vacant) in need of maintenance and renovation. Incompatibility of land uses and high crime activity in certain properties were also identified as a concern. Respondents commented positively about new businesses that are beginning to emerge.

Environment/Green Issues.

Respondents expressed a desire for more green space (e.g., parks, landscaping, streetscape), and green buildings. Some respondents mentioned deficiencies in the quality of the air in the area.

Housing.

Respondents noted a lack of quality affordable housing is lacking in the area, and identified the need for more investment on new housing, including middle-income housing, and the desire of keeping rents affordable. Respondents also raised the need for preservation of historic houses.

