

Neighborhood Reinvestment Program

BENEFITS

Throughout the implementation of the Neighborhood Reinvestment Program, there has been consistent and positive feedback from neighborhood groups to the Pima County staff and to the members of the Board of Supervisors. To quantify the benefits that neighbors are deriving from the Neighborhood Reinvestment projects, it was decided in June, 2003, to conduct a survey of the Neighborhood Reinvestment participants. Surveys were completed by 75% of the neighborhoods. The estimated total population of the neighborhoods that received Neighborhood Reinvestment money is 99,030.

As staff analyzed the data, we were pleased at the strong, positive responses the neighbors gave to the survey questions. Some of the results follow:

- 90% responded that all ages benefit from the improvement
- 68% responded that more than 50% of the neighborhood residents use the amenity
- 94% rated the cooperation level on the project as 5 or better on a scale of 10 (excellent) (36% gave the neighborhood cooperation a 10)
- 91% estimated that 50% or more of the neighborhood households used the improvement.
- 86% of the neighborhoods held open meetings for discussion and voting
- 90% of the neighborhoods worked closely with City of Tucson staff
- 100% of the neighborhoods worked closely with Pima County staff

The following are some of the comments given for the question, "What was the primary reason the project was needed?"

- Too few sidewalks; traffic a major problem (Keeling)
- No where in the neighborhood to play; people having to cross busy streets; death of boy 8 years old; kids in danger from having to play in the streets (Balboa Heights)
- Speeding a major problem in the neighborhood (Wakefield)
- Neighborhood was very dark and criminal activity would take place (Silvercroft)
- To provide a facility with amenities so neighbors have a place to picnic; to beautify the immediate area; to improve safety (Rose)

NEIGHBORHOOD REINVESTMENT PROJECT SURVEY RESULTS
ALL PROJECTS

*1. Type of Improvements:

5 - STREET/MEDIAN LIGHTING

4 - SPEED HUMPS/TABLES

2 - BUS STOP BENCHES/SHELTERS

9 - PARK IMPROVEMENTS/ADDITIONS
(BENCHES, RAMADAS, ETC.)

5 - PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT

2 - LIGHTING FOR EXISTING
COURTS OR BASEBALL FIELDS

2 - WATER HARVESTING SYSTEM

6 - WALKWAY/PARKPATH

1 - COMMUNITY GARDEN

1 - RESTORATION/PRESERVATION/
RECONSTRUCTION OF EXISTING
STRUCTURES/LANDMARKS

9 - SIDEWALKS AND/OR CURBS

3 - TRAFFIC CIRCLES

2 - PARK CONSTRUCTION

3 - PUBLIC ARTWORK

2 - BASKETBALL/VOLLEYBALL
COURTS

1 - SKATE PARK

4 - DRINKING FOUNTAINS

2 - SIGNAGE

11 - LANDSCAPING

2 - OTHER (Specify)

- park walkway lighting
(Balboa Heights)
- irrigation path lighting
(Rose)
- sidewalk access ramps
and irrigation system (El
Cortez)
- parkpath lighting (Barrio
Blue Moon)

EXAMPLES OF HOW THESE GROUPS BENEFIT:

ALL AGES – “Elementary school kids can walk safely to school; junior high kids using the crossings make it safer; adults can walk and jog in neighborhood safely.” (Keeling)

“Provides play area for kids and an area for families to picnic and adults to walk and jog.” (Balboa Heights)

“Speeding has been reduced which makes it safe for residents of all ages.” (Wakefield)

“Children can play while older residents can walk or jog on the paths. Families can have picnics at the park.” (Amphi)

“Everyone of all ages can go outside at night and feel safer.” (Silvercroft)

“People of all ages utilize the improvements.” (Rose)

“It will make the neighborhood safer for everyone.” (Dunbar Spring)

“Everyone has more pride in the neighborhood.” (Elvira)

“It makes it easier for residents to walk on sidewalks instead of dirt pathways, and safer by not having to walk on the street.” (Miracle Manor)

“Kids got something they desperately needed – playground equipment, and the elderly got a walking path. The basketball court is a big hit, as well as the playground. Charter schools are bringing the kids in to play now at the park.” (Bravo Park Lane)

“When the skate park is complete, lights will deter people from selling and buying drugs in the park. It will also give the seniors someplace to go and enjoy themselves, and the kids will have their own skate park.” (Santa Rita Park)

Exercise and recreation time together; reunions; birthday parties; children play on equipment; older siblings ride bikes on hills and pathways; touch football games and softball games played by older teens and families; stage provides a setting for concerts and performances. (Fairgrounds)

Keeps everyone off the street. (Corbett)

Provides someplace other than the street for people to walk. (Las Vistas)