

## **Westridge Civic Association Community Interest Survey**

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### ***Fellow Neighbors:***

Our subdivision and the surrounding area are undergoing a period of substantial change. The Westridge Civic Association (WCA) believes it is important for us to come together as a community to share our thoughts and ideas about the future of our subdivision. The goal is to understand the issues that are important to our community and to direct our efforts as a civic association accordingly. We ask you to take a few minutes of your time to complete the following survey so we may gather information about issues that are important to you.

The information you share with us in the community interest survey will be kept confidential. Answers from participating households will be pooled together and discussed at WCA meetings. We urge you to make constructive comments and suggestions. If you have any questions or need more information about the community interest survey, please feel free to contact your block captain or any of the civic association board members. Contact information for board members is provided in the monthly WCA newsletters.

Thank you for taking the time help build a better Westridge Civic Association.

### ***Returning Your Completed Community Interest Survey***

A manila envelope addressed to the WCA is included with your community interest survey. After completing your survey, please place it in the manila envelope provided and seal the envelope. On May 1st, leave the manila envelope out on your front porch before 1:00 PM for block captains to collect. If you are unable to leave the completed survey outside your front door on May 1st, you may also mail or hand deliver it to your block captain, to Jay Lewis at 3322 Elmridge Street or to any other civic association board members. We ask that all completed surveys be returned no later than May 5<sup>th</sup>.

**The community interest survey is structured as follows:**

**Section heading** \_\_\_\_\_ **B. New Home Construction and Remodeling Work**

**Topic**—1. **Number of Stories for Houses**

**Background information** \_\_\_\_\_ Current deed restrictions specify that homes cannot exceed 2.5 stories in height.

**Question(s)** A. I believe the current deed restriction on height of homes needs to be amended

Agree.....	1
Disagree .....	2
I don't know.....	3
I prefer not to answer.....	4

**Answers** *If Disagree, skip to 2A*

**Skip instructions**

**How to mark answers in the community interest survey:**

Please make an effort to mark an answer for each question (unless you are directed to skip the question in the instructions). You have the right to refuse to answer any question in the survey. If you choose not to answer a question, please mark the “I prefer not to answer” box.

There are 2 types of answers in the community interest survey, multiple choice and open ended.

**Please mark your answers in the following way:**

1) For multiple choice answers: mark an “X” in the box next to the answer choice.

A. Do you rent the home that you are currently living in?

Yes.....	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
No .....	2
I don't know.....	3
I prefer not to answer .....	4

←

2) For open ended answers: write your answers/ comments in the lines provided. If extra space is needed, please use the white space next to the space provided for your answer.

B. How would you like to see the current deed restriction amended?

Restrict placement of signs and debris in front yards

**Write additional  
comments in  
white space**

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**A. Household Information**

**1. Ownership**

A. Do you own the home that you are currently living in?

- Yes..... 1 *If Yes, skip to B1*
- No ..... 2
- I don't know..... 3
- I prefer not to answer ..... 4

B. Do you rent the home that you are currently living in?

- Yes..... 1
- No ..... 2
- I don't know..... 3
- I prefer not to answer ..... 4

**B. New Home Construction and Remodeling Work**

**1. Height of Houses**

Current deed restrictions state homes shall not “exceed 2.5 stories in height” but do not define the maximum physical height of homes.

A. I believe the current deed restriction on height of homes needs to be amended.

- Agree ..... 1
- Disagree..... 2 *If Disagree, skip to B2A*
- I don't know ..... 3
- I prefer not to answer ..... 4

B. How would you like to see the current deed restriction amended?

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**2. Building Materials**

Current deed restrictions state “all residences shall be constructed of at least 20% brick, brick veneer, stone, stone veneer, concrete or other masonry type of construction.”

A. I believe the current deed restriction on building materials needs to be amended.

- Agree ..... 1
- Disagree..... 2 *If Disagree, skip to B3A*
- I don't know ..... 3
- I prefer not to answer ..... 4

B. How would you like to see the current deed restriction amended?

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**3. Proportion of Lot Taken up by Whole House**

Other than the defined lot line setbacks, there are no deed restrictions for residential lots on the amount of space a home can occupy.

- A. I believe a deed restriction is needed for residential lots to state the amount of space a home can occupy.

Agree .....	1
Disagree.....	2
I don't know.....	3
I prefer not to answer .....	4

- B. Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**4. Elevation of Lot**

Many new homes in Westridge subdivision have increased pad heights from those originally constructed in the 1950's. A pad is the soil beneath a concrete foundation.

- A. I believe limits should be defined for pad heights of newly constructed homes.

Agree .....	1
Disagree.....	2
I don't know.....	3
I prefer not to answer .....	4

- B. Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**5. Drainage**

The WCA has received complaints about rainwater drainage problems due to runoff from adjacent properties. Installation of adequate drainage infrastructure such as gutters and French drains for remodeled and newly constructed homes would improve rainwater drainage problems.

- A. I believe a deed restriction requiring installation of adequate drainage infrastructure is needed for newly constructed and remodeled homes.

Agree .....	1
Disagree.....	2
I don't know.....	3
I prefer not to answer .....	4

- B. Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**C. Appearance and Maintenance of Property**

**1. Tree Management**

The Westridge subdivision currently enjoys a significant number of trees that provide shade and beauty to the neighborhood. Currently, there are no deed restrictions about tree management (protecting trees during construction, maintaining existing number of trees)

A. I believe a deed restriction about tree management is needed.

Agree .....	1	
Disagree .....	2	<i>If Disagree, go to C2A</i>
I don't know .....	3	
I prefer not to answer .....	4	

B. Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**2. Items in the Front Yard**

There have been concerns and complaints lodged with WCA regarding homes in the subdivision that are placing signs, construction materials and significant numbers of children's toys and the like in their front yards.

A. I believe a deed restriction about maintaining debris-free front yards is needed.

Agree .....	1	
Disagree .....	2	<i>If Disagree, go to C3A</i>
I don't know .....	3	
I prefer not to answer .....	4	

B. Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**3. Landscaping/Yard Maintenance**

Current deed restrictions only address the maintenance of grass and weeds on vacant lots.

A. I believe the current deed restriction about landscaping/ yard maintenance needs to be amended.

Agree .....	1	
Disagree .....	2	<i>If Disagree, skip to C4A</i>
I don't know .....	3	
I prefer not to answer .....	4	

B. How would you like to see the current deed restriction on landscaping/yard amended?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**4. Parking of Vehicles and Boats**

Current deed restrictions do not address the parking of vehicles, boats and trailers on residential lots.

A. I believe a deed restriction about the parking of vehicles, boats and trailers on residential lots is needed.

Agree .....	1	
Disagree .....	2	<i>If Disagree, go to C5A</i>
I don't know .....	3	
I prefer not to answer .....	4	

B. Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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5. Fences

Current deed restrictions only state that fences cannot be placed beyond the minimum setback lines. There are a variety of types and heights of fences, including some homes that have no fencing in the subdivision.

A. I believe the current deed restriction on fencing needs to be amended.

Agree .....	1
Disagree.....	2
I don't know.....	3
I prefer not to answer .....	4

*If Disagree, skip to C6A*

B. How would you like to see the current deed restriction amended?

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6. Sidewalks

The subdivision originally did not construct sidewalks throughout; however, newly constructed homes have included sidewalks.

A. I believe sidewalks in the subdivision are needed.

Agree .....	1
Disagree.....	2
I don't know.....	3
I prefer not to answer .....	4

B. Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

D. City Regulation Enforcement

1. Animal Waste

The WCA has received complaints about individuals not picking up after their dogs while walking in the subdivision. The City of Houston has an ordinance requiring pick up of fecal matter deposited by owned dogs on property which does not belong to the owner of the dog or where the owner has no consent to let his/her dog defecate.

A. I am concerned about pet owners not picking up their animal's waste.

Agree .....	1
Disagree.....	2
I don't know.....	3
I prefer not to answer .....	4

B. Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**2. Leash Law Enforcement**

The WCA has received complaints about dog owners not keeping their pets on leashes while walking in the subdivision. A City of Houston ordinance requires that dogs and cats must be on a leash when not otherwise restrained by a fence or other enclosure.

A. I am concerned about pet owners not leashing their pets while walking in the subdivision.

Agree .....	1
Disagree.....	2
I don't know.....	3
I prefer not to answer .....	4

B. Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**3. Solicitation**

The WCA has received complaints about door-to-door solicitation.

A. I am concerned about door-to-door solicitation in the subdivision.

Agree .....	1
Disagree.....	2
I don't know.....	3
I prefer not to answer .....	4

B. Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**4. Heavy Trash**

The WCA has received complaints about homes that are placing items in the front yard for heavy trash pickup days and weeks in advance of the next scheduled pickup date. The City of Houston ordinance dictates that heavy trash should be set out between the hours of 6:00 p.m. the Friday before, and 7:00 a.m. on the scheduled collection day.

A. I am concerned about heavy trash being placed out earlier than allowed by City ordinance.

Agree .....	1
Disagree.....	2
I don't know.....	3
I prefer not to answer .....	4

B. Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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**5. Speed Limits**

The Westridge Civic Association has received complaints about drivers exceeding the posted 30-MPH speed limit on the subdivision streets.

A. I am concerned about drivers exceeding the 30-MPH speed limit.

Agree .....	1
Disagree .....	2
I don't know .....	3
I prefer not to answer .....	4

B. Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**E. Civic Association Structure Changes**

**1. Security Patrol**

Payment of security patrol fees continues to be a challenge for the Civic Association. Less than 50% of households contributed to security patrol fees in 2004.

A. I believe a security patrol is needed in the subdivision.

Agree .....	1
Disagree .....	2
I don't know .....	3
I prefer not to answer .....	4

B. I am satisfied with the level of service provided by the security patrol plan.

Agree .....	1
Disagree .....	2
I don't know .....	3
I prefer not to answer .....	4

C. I would be willing to contribute an increased amount to ensure the continuation of this service.

Agree .....	1
Disagree .....	2
I don't know .....	3
I prefer not to answer .....	4

D. I would support making security patrol fees mandatory.

Agree .....	1
Disagree .....	2
I don't know .....	3
I prefer not to answer .....	4

E. Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

WCA Community Interest Survey

**2. Architectural Review Committee**

Many homes are being newly constructed or renovated in the Westridge subdivision. However, the WCA does not have an architectural review committee to ensure adherence to current deed restrictions.

A. I believe the WCA should establish an architectural review committee.

Agree .....	1
Disagree .....	2
I don't know .....	3
I prefer not to answer .....	4

B. Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**3. Newsletter**

The WCA newsletter is distributed once a month to all households in the subdivision.

A. Do you read the WCA newsletter?

Yes .....	1
No.....	2
I don't know .....	3
I prefer not to answer .....	4

Please tell us what you think about the WCA newsletter.

B. Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**4. Website**

The WCA has space available for a website which is under construction.

A. Would you visit the WCA website when it is ready?

Yes .....	1
No.....	2
I don't know .....	3
I prefer not to answer .....	4

Please tell us what you would like to see on the WCA website.

B. Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

WCA Community Interest Survey

**5. Association Dues**

Currently payment of association dues to the WCA is voluntary. Approximately 38% of households contributed dues in 2004.

A. I believe a deed restriction requiring mandatory association dues is needed.

Agree .....	1
Disagree .....	2
I don't know .....	3
I prefer not to answer .....	4

B. Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**6. WCA Meeting Preferences**

The WCA meets the second Tuesday of each month at 6:45 pm in the Linkwood Park Community Center. To build a stronger community organization which serves the needs of our community, we need to improve attendance and participation in the WCA.

Please tell us what day(s) and or time(s) would work best for you to attend a WCA meeting

Preferred day(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred time(s) \_\_\_\_\_

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This is the end of the Westridge Community Interest Survey. Thank you for your time and for helping us understand the opinions and needs of our community. If you have additional issues/comments you would like to add to your survey, please add them to the back of your survey or attach them on a separate piece of paper and include it in the return manila envelope. As a reminder, completed community interest surveys will be collected on May 1st by block captains or can be dropped off to Jay Lewis or any civic association board member by May 6<sup>th</sup>.