Technique: Interviews & Questions

Resident Survey Sample Questions

PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS ABOUT HOW YOU USE THE PARK:

1. How long have you lived in this neighborhood?
2. On average, how often do you use the park in good weather?
3. When you use the park, what are you most likely to do there?
4. What areas in the park do you use most?
5. What entrance do you usually use?
6. What days do you usually use the park? (Circle one)
   Weekdays Weekends Both
7. What times do you usually use the park? (Circle one)
   Early morning Lunchtime Afternoon Evening All
8. How many hours do you usually stay?
9. Please rate the park by the following issues:

Flowers and landscaping	Good	Average	Poor	Don't know
Condition of restrooms	Good	Average	Poor	Don't know
Condition of drinking fountains	Good	Average	Poor	Don't know
Condition of playground	Good	Average	Poor	Don't know
Condition of benches	Good	Average	Poor	Don't know
Lighting	Good	Average	Poor	Don't know
Safety	Good	Average	Poor	Don't know

10. What do you like best about the park?
11. What would make the park more enjoyable for you?

WE NEED SOME INFORMATION ABOUT YOU IN ORDER TO GET A BETTER IDEA OF WHO MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN USING THE PARK:

12. Sex: (circle one) Female Male
13. Age: _____
14. Think about what you do especially well: Is there anything you would be willing to teach others, if you had the opportunity?
15. Name any skills you would like to learn, if possible:
    _____
16. If you would like to get involved or volunteer some time, may we contact you in the future?

Technique: Trace Measures

Identifying Traces

When people use a place, they leave traces: physical evidence and erosion traces. Physical evidence includes objects people leave behind, such as soda cans and other trash. Litter that accumulates during a specific time (e.g., lunch hour) can indicate the degree to which a plaza is used during that time. Erosion traces are signs of wear, both obvious and hidden, found on the surfaces of the ground, walls, furniture, handrails, etc. A path worn across a lawn is evidence many people have taken a shortcut along that route. Worn steps, handrails polished smooth, and paint worn off walls all indicate patterns of use. Identifying traces is a good way to understand activities that are not readily apparent through observations. It should be done early on, and is particularly useful in suggesting hypotheses about a place.