



**CITY OF MOUNTLAKE TERRACE,
WA
2009**



3005 30th Street
Boulder, CO 80301
www.n-r-c.com • 303-444-7863



777 North Capitol Street NE, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20002
www.icma.org • 202-289-ICMA

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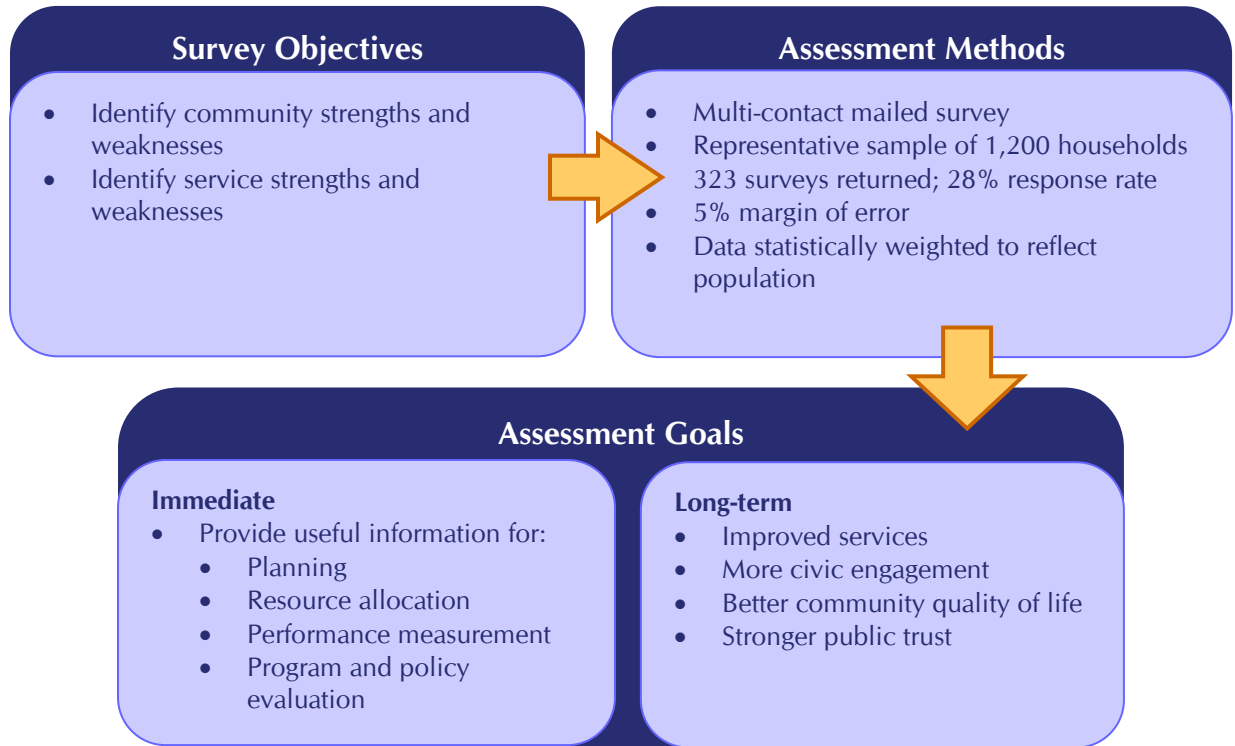
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SURVEY BACKGROUND

ABOUT THE NATIONAL CITIZEN SURVEY™

The National Citizen Survey™ (The NCS) is a collaborative effort between National Research Center, Inc. (NRC) and the International City/County Management Association (ICMA). The NCS was developed by NRC to provide a statistically valid survey of resident opinions about community and services provided by local government. The survey results may be used by staff, elected officials and other stakeholders for community planning and resource allocation, program improvement and policy making.

FIGURE 1: THE NATIONAL CITIZEN SURVEY™ METHODS AND GOALS



The NCS focuses on a series of community characteristics and local government services, as well as issues of public trust. Resident behaviors related to civic engagement in the community also were measured in the survey.

FIGURE 2: THE NATIONAL CITIZEN SURVEY™ FOCUS AREAS



The survey and its administration are standardized to assure high quality research methods and directly comparable results across The National Citizen Survey™ jurisdictions. Participating households are selected at random and the household member who responds is selected without bias. Multiple mailings give each household more than one chance to participate with self-addressed and postage-paid envelopes. Results are statistically weighted to reflect the proper demographic composition of the entire community. A total of 323 completed surveys were obtained, providing an overall response rate of 28%. Typically, response rates obtained on citizen surveys range from 25% to 40%.

The National Citizen Survey™ customized for the City of Mountlake Terrace was developed in close cooperation with local jurisdiction staff. Mountlake Terrace staff selected items from a menu of questions about services and community problems and provided the appropriate letterhead and signatures for mailings.

UNDERSTANDING THE RESULTS

As shown in Figure 2, this report is based around respondents' reports about eight larger categories: community quality, community design, public safety, environmental sustainability, recreation and wellness, community inclusiveness, civic engagement and public trust. Each section begins with residents' ratings of community characteristics and is followed by residents' ratings of service quality. For all evaluative questions, the percent of residents rating the service or community feature as "excellent" or "good" is presented. To see the full set of responses for each question on the survey, please see Appendix A: Complete Survey Frequencies.

Margin of Error

It is customary to describe the precision of estimates made from surveys by a "level of confidence" and accompanying "confidence interval" (or margin of error). A traditional confidence level, and the one used here, is 95%. The 95% confidence interval can be any size and quantifies the sampling error or imprecision of the estimates made from the survey results. The confidence interval for the City of Mountlake Terrace survey is no greater than plus or minus five percentage points around any given percent reported for the entire sample (323 completed surveys). A 95% confidence interval indicates that for every 100 random samples of this many residents, the population response to that question would be within the stated interval 95 times. For example, if 75% of residents rate a service as "excellent" or "good," then the 5% margin of error (for the 95% confidence interval) indicates that the range of likely responses for the entire jurisdiction is between 70% and 80%.

Comparing Survey Results

Certain kinds of services tend to be thought better of by residents in many communities across the country. For example, public safety services tend to be received better than transportation services by residents of most American communities. Where possible, the better comparison is not from one service to another in the City of Mountlake Terrace, but from City of Mountlake Terrace services to services like them provided by other jurisdictions.

Interpreting Comparisons to Previous Years

This report contains comparisons with prior years' results. In this report, we are comparing this year's data with existing data in the graphs. Differences between years can be considered "statistically significant" if they are greater than eight percentage points. Trend data for your jurisdiction represent important comparison data and should be examined for improvements or declines. Deviations from stable trends over time especially represent opportunities for understanding how local policies, programs or public information may have affected residents' opinions.

Benchmark Comparisons

NRC's database of comparative resident opinion is comprised of resident perspectives gathered in citizen surveys from approximately 500 jurisdictions whose residents evaluated local government services and gave their opinion about the quality of community life. The City of Mountlake Terrace chose to have comparisons made to the entire database. A benchmark comparison (the average rating from all the comparison jurisdictions where a similar question was asked) has been provided when a similar question on the City of Mountlake Terrace Survey was included in NRC's database and there were at least five jurisdictions in which the question was asked. For most questions compared to the entire dataset, there were more than 100 jurisdictions included in the benchmark comparison.

Where comparisons were available, the City of Mountlake Terrace results were noted as being “above” the benchmark, “below” the benchmark or “similar to” the benchmark. This evaluation of “above,” “below” or “similar to” comes from a statistical comparison of the City of Mountlake Terrace’s rating to the benchmark.

“Don’t Know” Responses and Rounding

On many of the questions in the survey respondents may answer “don’t know.” The proportion of respondents giving this reply is shown in the full set of responses included in Appendix A. However, these responses have been removed from the analyses presented in the body of the report. In other words, the tables and graphs display the responses from respondents who had an opinion about a specific item.

For some questions, respondents were permitted to select more than one answer. When the total exceeds 100% in a table for a multiple response question, it is because some respondents did select more than one response. When a table for a question that only permitted a single response does not total to exactly 100%, it is due to the customary practice of percentages being rounded to the nearest whole number.

For more information on understanding The NCS report, please see Appendix B: Survey Methodology.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report of the City of Mountlake Terrace survey provides the opinions of a representative sample of residents about community quality of life, service delivery, civic participation and unique issues of local interest. A periodic sounding of resident opinion offers staff, elected officials and other stakeholders an opportunity to identify challenges and to plan for and evaluate improvements and to sustain services and amenities for long-term success.

Most residents experience a good quality of life in the City of Mountlake Terrace and believe the City is a good place to live. The overall quality of life in the City of Mountlake Terrace was rated as “excellent” or “good” by 73% of respondents. Almost all report they plan on staying in the City of Mountlake Terrace for the next five years.

A variety of characteristics of the community was evaluated by those participating in the study. Among the characteristics receiving the most favorable ratings were ease of car travel in Mountlake Terrace and the amount of public parking. The two characteristics receiving the least positive ratings were ease of rail or subway travel and employment opportunities.

Ratings of community characteristics were compared to the benchmark database. Of the 29 characteristics for which comparisons were available, eight were above the benchmark comparison, seven were similar to the benchmark comparison and 14 were below.

Residents in the City of Mountlake Terrace were somewhat civically engaged. While only 20% had attended a meeting of local elected public officials or other local public meeting in the previous 12 months, 95% had provided help to a friend or neighbor. About one third had volunteered their time to some group or activity in the City of Mountlake Terrace, which was lower than the benchmark.

In general, survey respondents demonstrated trust in local government. A majority rated the overall direction being taken by the City of Mountlake Terrace as “good” or “excellent.” This was higher than the benchmark. Those residents who had interacted with an employee of the City of Mountlake Terrace in the previous 12 months gave high marks to those employees. Nearly all rated their overall impression of employees as “excellent” or “good.”

On average, residents gave favorable ratings to a majority of local government services. City services rated were able to be compared to the benchmark database. Of the 33 services for which comparisons were available, 19 were above the benchmark comparison, nine were similar to the benchmark comparison and five were below.

A Key Driver Analysis was conducted for the City of Mountlake Terrace which examined the relationships between ratings of each service and ratings of the City of Mountlake Terrace’s services overall. Those key driver services that correlated most strongly with residents’ perceptions about overall City service quality have been identified. By targeting improvements in key services, the City of Mountlake Terrace can focus on the services that have the greatest likelihood of influencing residents’ opinions about overall service quality. Services found to be influential in ratings of overall service quality from the Key Driver Analysis were:

- Street cleaning
- Traffic signal timing
- Traffic enforcement

COMMUNITY RATINGS

OVERALL COMMUNITY QUALITY

Overall quality of community life may be the single best indicator of success in providing the natural ambience, services and amenities that make for an attractive community. The National Citizen Survey™ contained many questions related to quality of community life in the City of Mountlake Terrace – not only direct questions about quality of life overall and in neighborhoods, but questions to measure residents’ commitment to the City of Mountlake Terrace. Residents were asked whether they planned to move soon or if they would recommend the City of Mountlake Terrace to others. Intentions to stay and willingness to make recommendations provide evidence that the City of Mountlake Terrace offers services and amenities that work.

Most of the City of Mountlake Terrace’s residents gave high ratings to their neighborhoods and the community as a place to live. Further, most reported they would recommend the community to others and plan to stay for the next five years.

FIGURE 3: RATINGS OF OVERALL COMMUNITY QUALITY BY YEAR

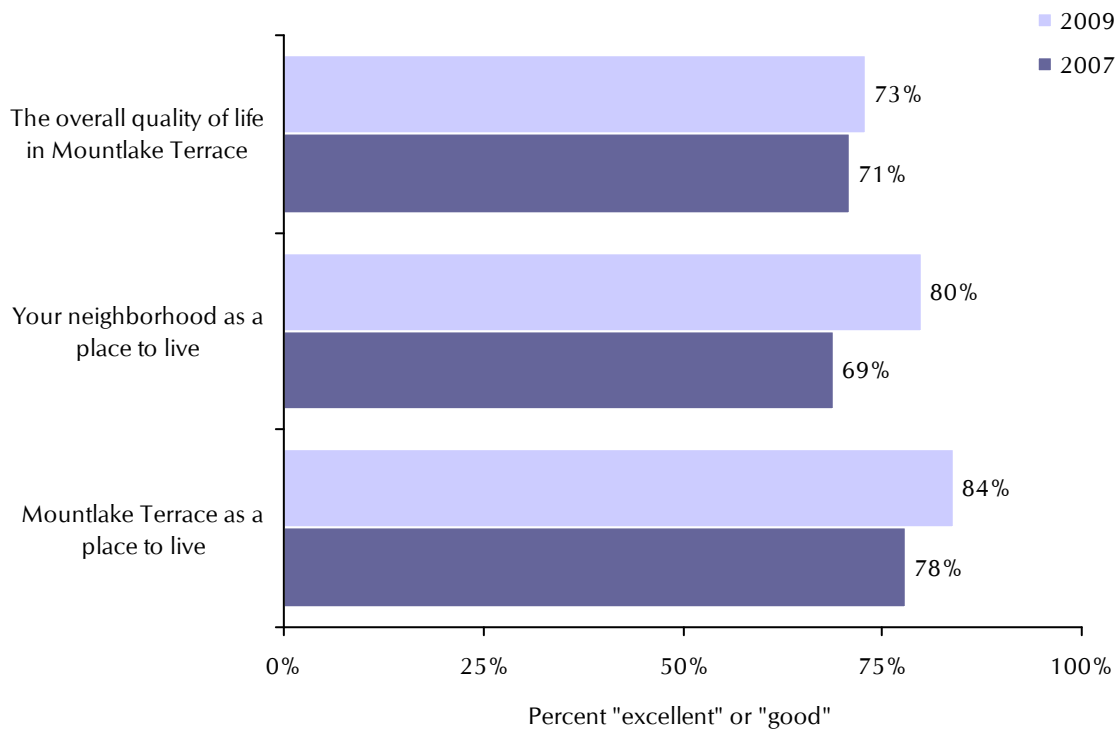
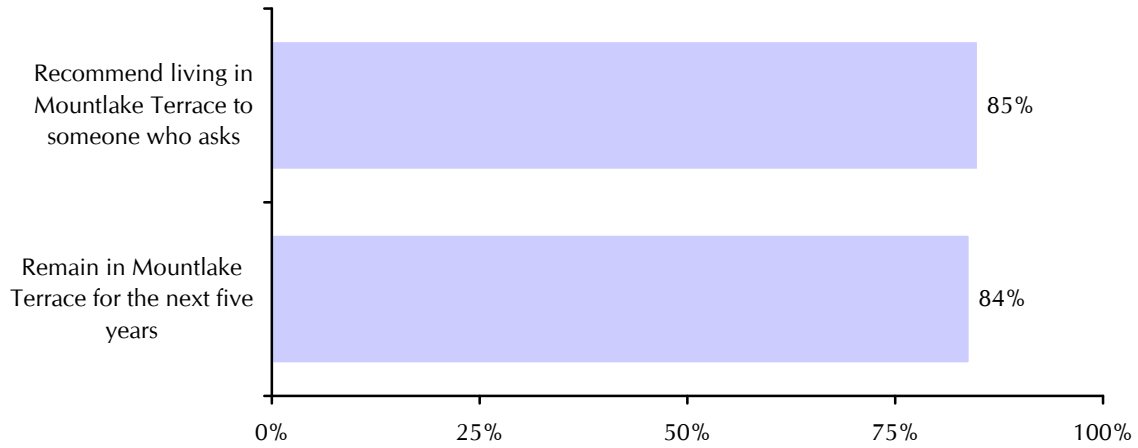


FIGURE 4: LIKELIHOOD OF REMAINING IN COMMUNITY AND RECOMMENDING COMMUNITY



Note: These questions were not asked in previous surveys.

Percent "somewhat" or "very" likely

FIGURE 5: OVERALL COMMUNITY QUALITY BENCHMARKS

| | Comparison to benchmark |
|---|-------------------------|
| Overall quality of life in Mountlake Terrace | Similar |
| Your neighborhood as place to live | Similar |
| Mountlake Terrace as a place to live | Similar |
| Remain in Mountlake Terrace for the next five years | Similar |
| Recommend living in Mountlake Terrace to someone who asks | Similar |

Overall community quality was compared to survey data from previous years. Trends from 2007 to 2009 were generally stable.

COMMUNITY DESIGN

Transportation

The ability to move easily throughout a community can greatly affect the quality of life of residents by diminishing time wasted in traffic congestion and by providing opportunities to travel quickly and safely by modes other than the automobile. High quality options for resident mobility not only require local government to remove barriers to flow but they require government programs and policies that create quality opportunities for all modes of travel.

Residents responding to the survey were given a list of seven aspects of mobility to rate on a scale of "excellent," "good," "fair" and "poor." Ease of car travel was given the most positive rating, followed by ease of walking in Mountlake Terrace. These ratings tended to be favorable when compared to the benchmark and had remained the same or improved since 2007.

FIGURE 6: RATINGS OF TRANSPORTATION IN COMMUNITY BY YEAR

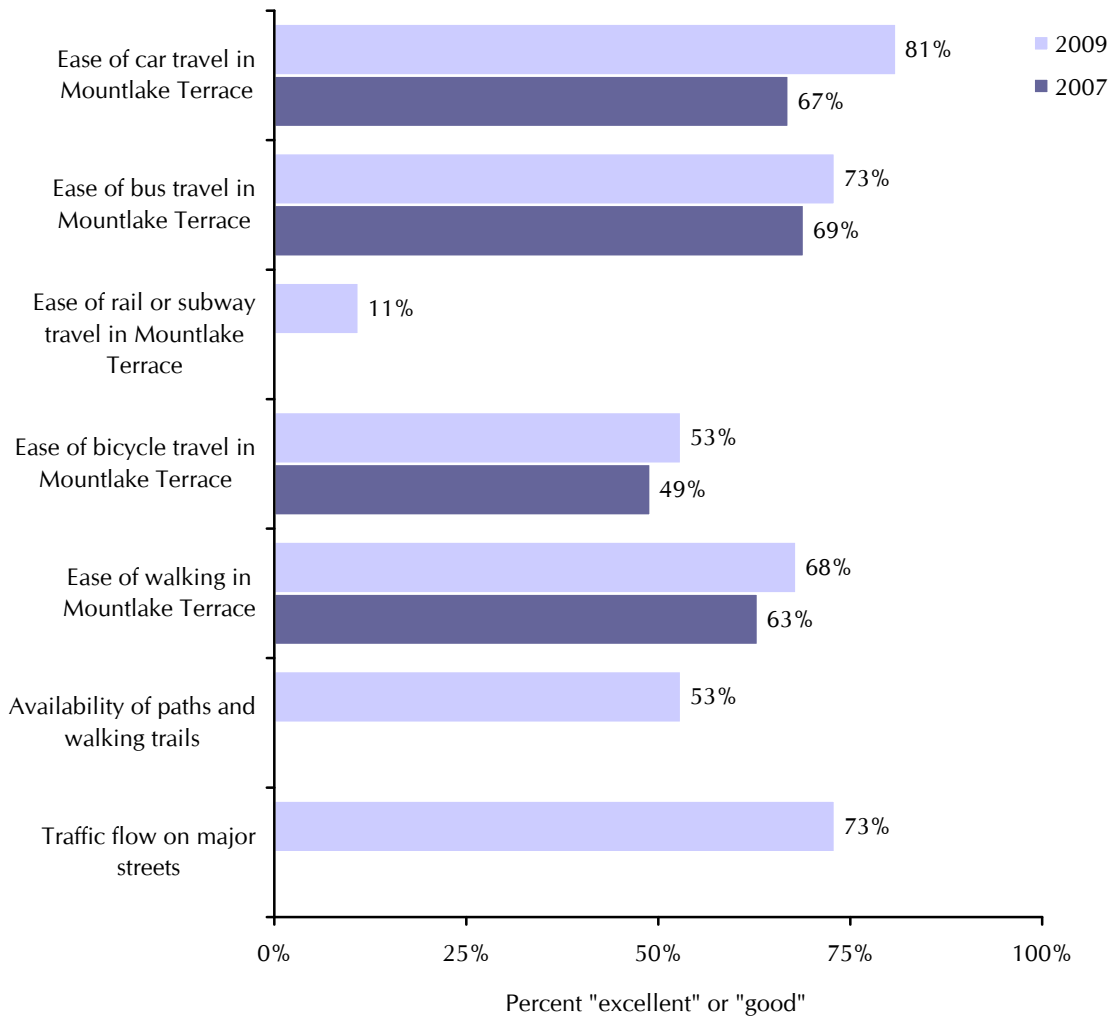


FIGURE 7: COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION BENCHMARKS

| | Comparison to benchmark |
|---|-------------------------|
| Ease of bus travel in Mountlake Terrace | Above |
| Ease of rail or subway travel by in Mountlake Terrace | Below |
| Ease of car travel in Mountlake Terrace | Above |
| Ease of walking in Mountlake Terrace | Above |
| Ease of bicycle travel in Mountlake Terrace | Above |
| Availability of paths and walking trails | Similar |
| Traffic flow on major streets | Above |

Eight transportation services were rated in Mountlake Terrace. As compared to most communities across America, ratings tended to be mostly positive. Five were above the benchmark, one was below the benchmark and two were similar to the benchmark.

FIGURE 8: RATINGS OF TRANSPORTATION AND PARKING SERVICES BY YEAR

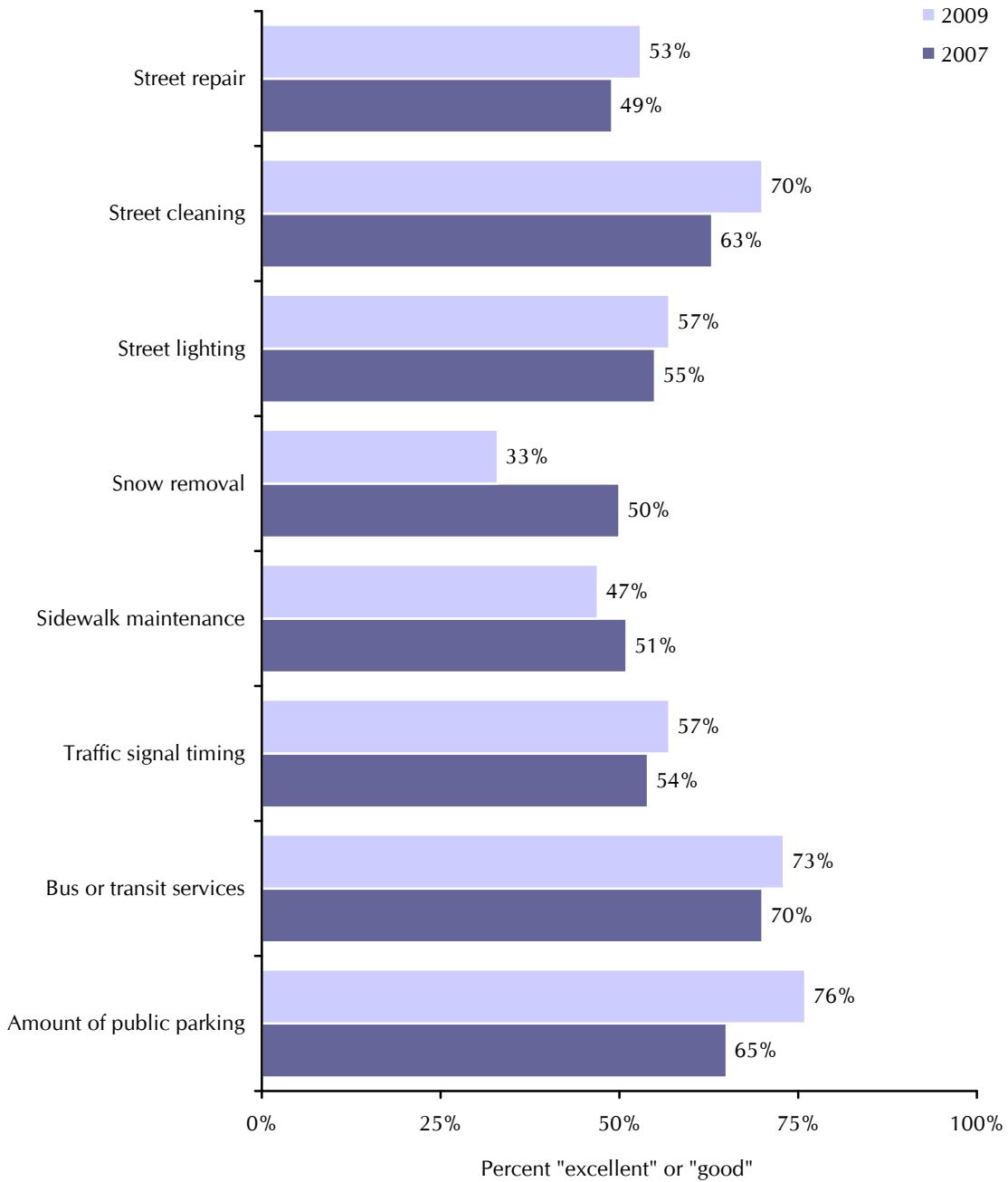


FIGURE 9: TRANSPORTATION AND PARKING SERVICES BENCHMARKS

| | Comparison to benchmark |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Street repair /maintenance | Above |
| Street cleaning | Above |
| Street lighting | Similar |
| Snow removal | Below |
| Sidewalk maintenance | Similar |
| Light timing | Above |
| Bus or transit services | Above |
| Amount of public parking | Above |

By measuring choice of travel mode over time, communities can monitor their success in providing attractive alternatives to the traditional mode of travel, the single-occupied automobile. When asked how they typically traveled to work, single-occupancy (SOV) travel was the overwhelming mode of use. However, 16% of work commute trips were made by transit, 1% by bicycle and 2% by foot.

FIGURE 10: FREQUENCY OF BUS USE IN LAST 12 MONTHS

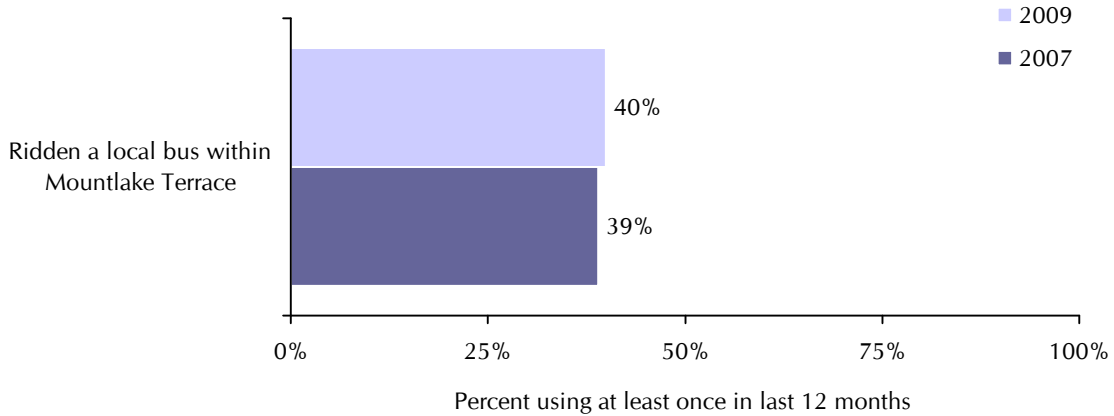
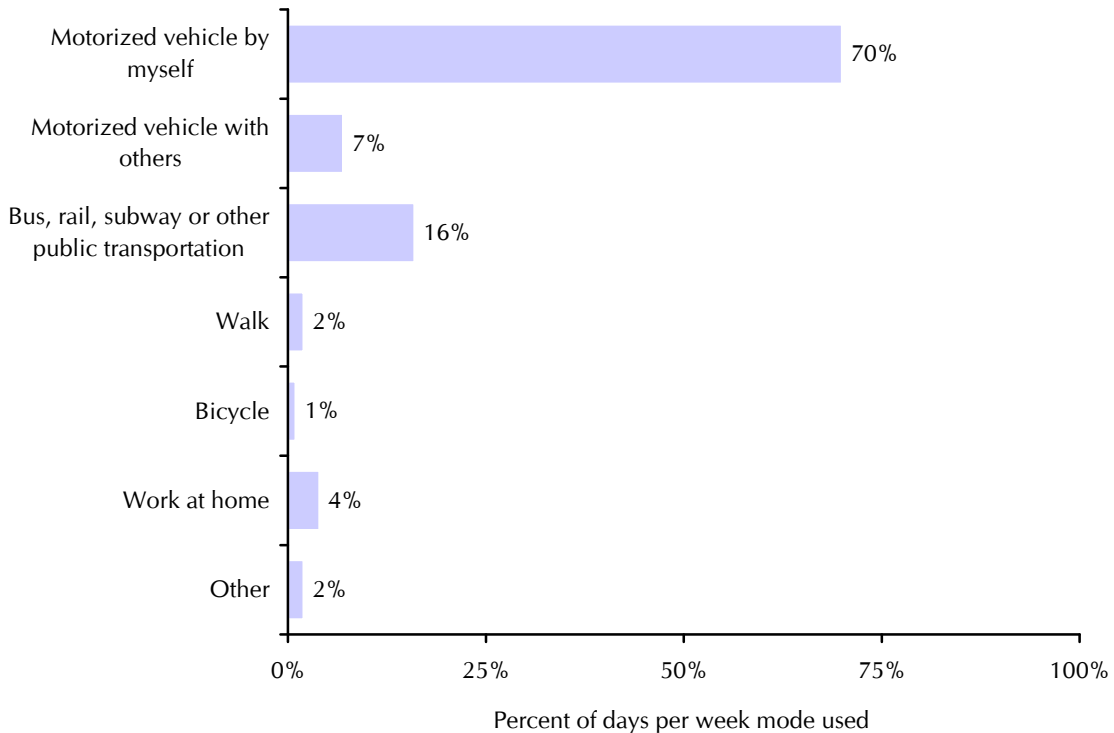


FIGURE 11: FREQUENCY OF BUS USE BENCHMARKS

| | Comparison to benchmark |
|---|-------------------------|
| Ridden a local bus within Mountlake Terrace | More |

FIGURE 12: MODE OF TRAVEL USED FOR WORK COMMUTE



Housing

Housing variety and affordability are not luxuries for any community. When there are too few options for housing style and affordability, the characteristics of a community tilt toward a single group, often of well-off residents. While this may seem attractive to a community, the absence of affordable townhomes, condominiums, mobile homes, single family detached homes and apartments means that in addition to losing the vibrancy of diverse thoughts and lifestyles, the community loses the service workers that sustain all communities – police officers, school teachers, house painters and electricians. These workers must live elsewhere and commute in at great personal cost and to the detriment of traffic flow and air quality. Furthermore lower income residents pay so much of their income to rent or mortgage that little remains to bolster their own quality of life or local business.

The survey of the City of Mountlake Terrace residents asked respondents to reflect on the availability of affordable housing as well as the variety of housing options. The availability of affordable housing was rated as “excellent” or “good” by 51% of respondents, while the variety of housing options was rated as “excellent” or “good” by 56% of respondents. The rating of perceived affordable housing availability was better in the City of Mountlake Terrace than the ratings, on average, in comparison jurisdictions.

FIGURE 13: RATINGS OF HOUSING IN COMMUNITY BY YEAR

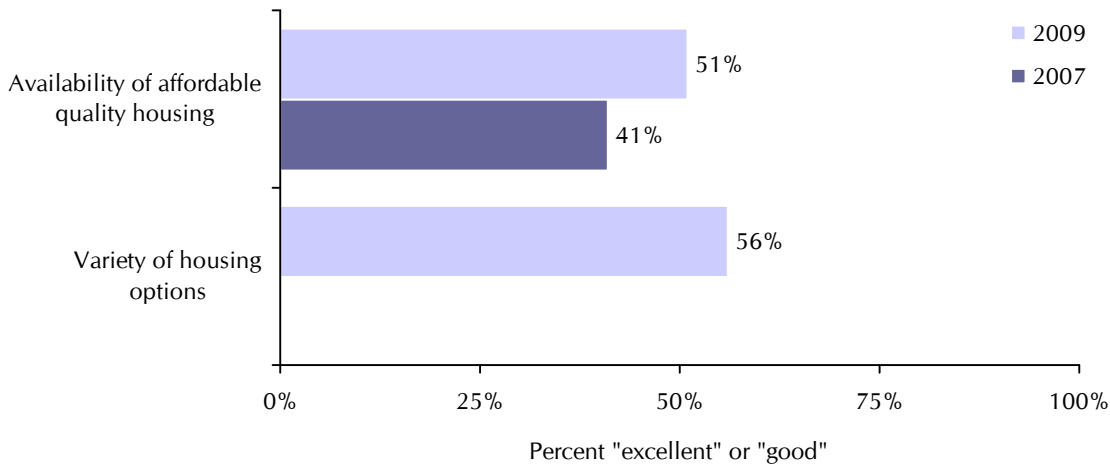
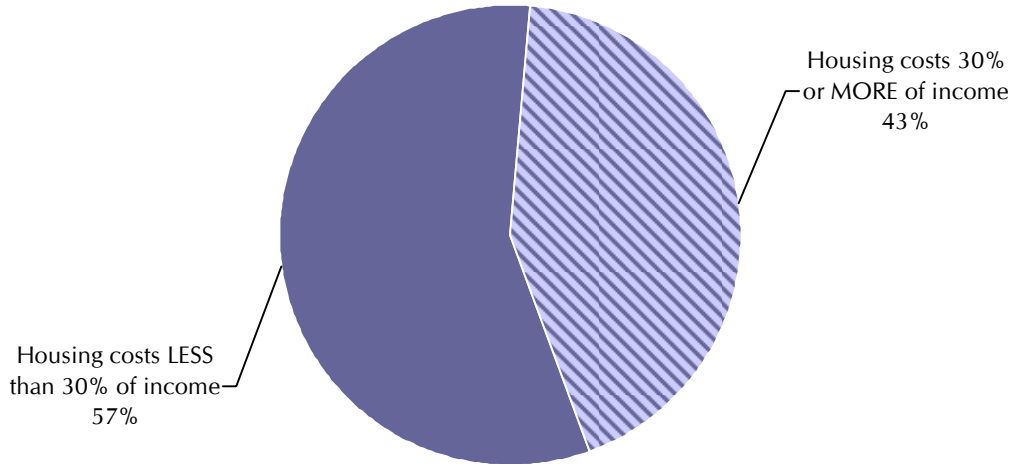


FIGURE 14: HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS BENCHMARKS

| | Comparison to benchmark |
|--|-------------------------|
| Availability of affordable quality housing | Above |
| Variety of housing options | Similar |

To augment the perceptions of affordable housing in Mountlake Terrace, the cost of housing as reported in the survey was compared to residents' reported monthly income to create a rough estimate of the proportion of residents of the City of Mountlake Terrace experiencing housing cost stress. About 43% of survey participants were found to pay housing costs of more than 30% of their monthly household income.

FIGURE 15: PROPORTION OF RESPONDENTS WHOSE HOUSING COSTS ARE "AFFORDABLE"



Note: This question was not asked in previous surveys.

FIGURE 16: HOUSING COSTS BENCHMARKS

| | Comparison to benchmark |
|---|-------------------------|
| Experiencing housing costs stress (housing costs 30% or more of income) | More |

Land Use and Zoning

Community development contributes to a feeling among residents and even visitors of the attention given to the speed of growth, the location of residences and businesses, the kind of housing that is appropriate for the community and the ease of access to commerce, green space and residences. Even the community's overall appearance often is attributed to the planning and enforcement functions of the local jurisdiction. Residents will appreciate an attractive, well-planned community. The NCS questionnaire asked residents to evaluate the quality of new development, the appearance of the City of Mountlake Terrace and the speed of population growth. Problems with the appearance of property were rated, and the quality of land use planning, zoning and code enforcement services were evaluated.

The overall appearance of Mountlake Terrace was rated as "excellent" or "good" by 44% of respondents and was lower than the benchmark. When rating to what extent run down buildings, weed lots or junk vehicles were a problem in the City of Mountlake Terrace, 16% thought they were a "major" or "moderate" problem. The service of land use, planning and zoning was rated similar to the benchmark, the services of code enforcement and animal control were rated below the benchmark.

FIGURE 17: RATINGS OF THE COMMUNITY'S "BUILT ENVIRONMENT" BY YEAR

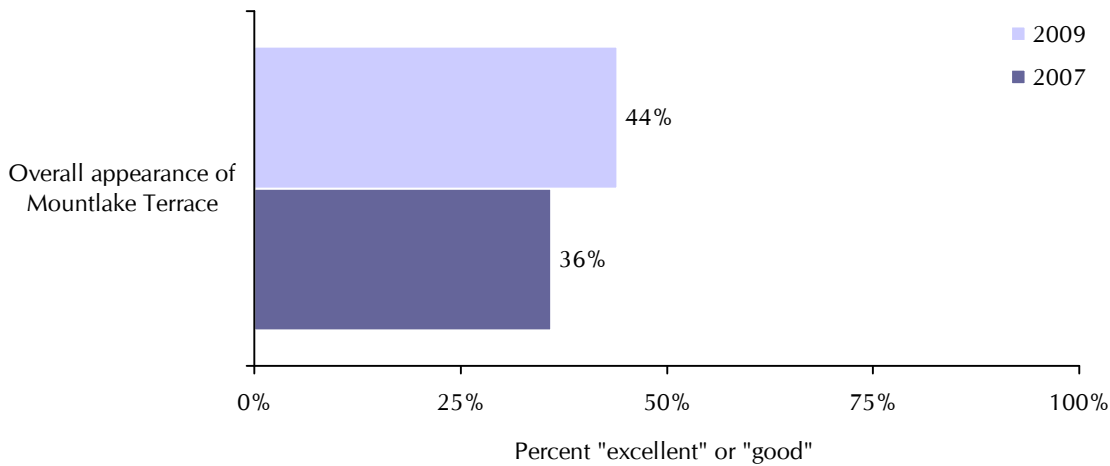


FIGURE 18: BUILT ENVIRONMENT BENCHMARKS

| | Comparison to benchmark |
|---|-------------------------|
| Overall appearance of Mountlake Terrace | Below |

FIGURE 19: RATINGS OF POPULATION GROWTH BY YEAR

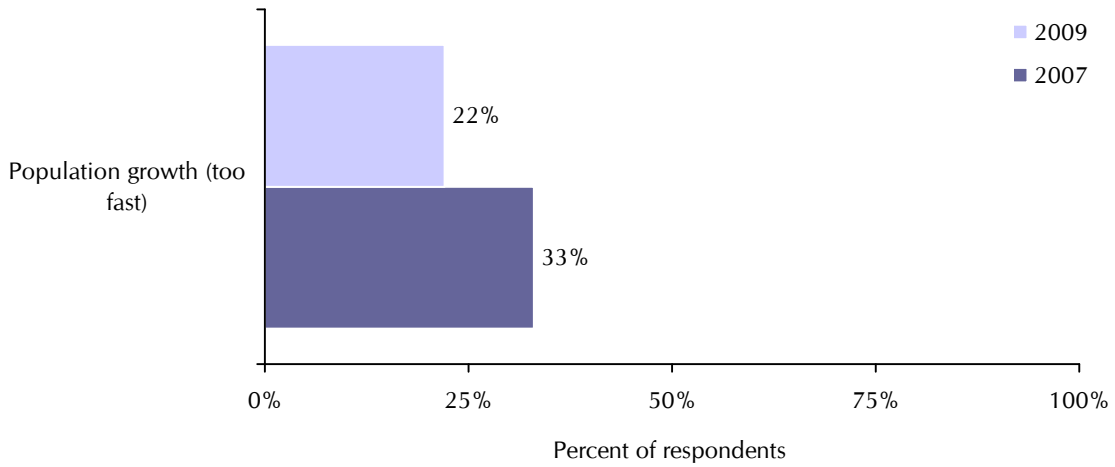


FIGURE 20: POPULATION GROWTH BENCHMARKS

| Comparison to benchmark | |
|------------------------------------|------|
| Population growth seen as too fast | Less |

FIGURE 21: RATINGS OF NUISANCE PROBLEMS BY YEAR

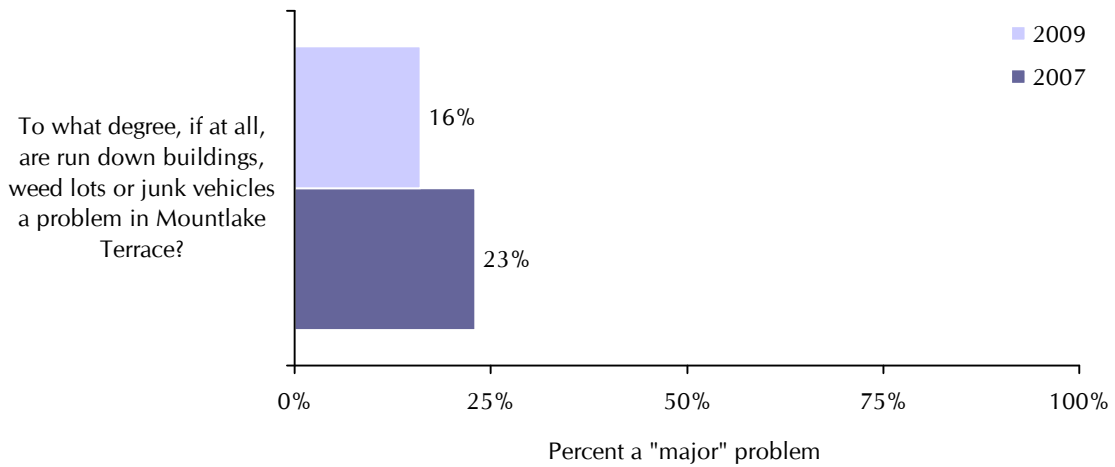


FIGURE 22: NUISANCE PROBLEMS BENCHMARKS

| Comparison to benchmark | |
|---|---------|
| Run down buildings, weed lots and junk vehicles are a "major" problem | Similar |

FIGURE 23: RATINGS OF PLANNING AND COMMUNITY CODE ENFORCEMENT SERVICES BY YEAR

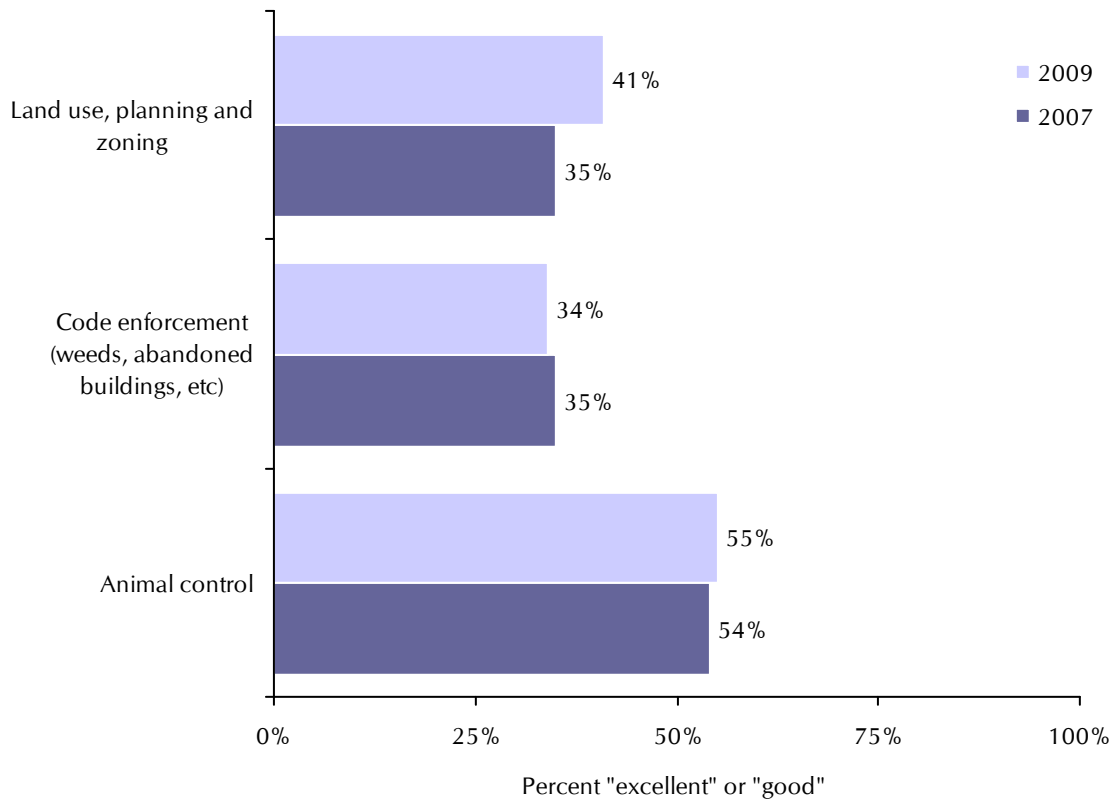


FIGURE 24: PLANNING AND COMMUNITY CODE ENFORCEMENT SERVICES BENCHMARKS

| | Comparison to benchmark |
|--|-------------------------|
| Land use, planning and zoning | Similar |
| Code enforcement (weeds, abandoned buildings, etc) | Below |
| Animal control | Below |

ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY

The health of the economy may color how residents perceive their environment and all the services that local government delivers. In particular, a strong or weak local economy will shape what residents think about job and shopping opportunities. Just as residents have an idea about the speed of local population growth, they have a sense of how fast job and shopping opportunities are growing.

Survey respondents were asked to rate a number of community features related to economic opportunity and growth. The most positively rated features were overall quality of business and service establishments in Mountlake Terrace and Mountlake Terrace as a place to work. Receiving the lowest rating was employment opportunities.

FIGURE 25: RATINGS OF ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY AND OPPORTUNITIES BY YEAR

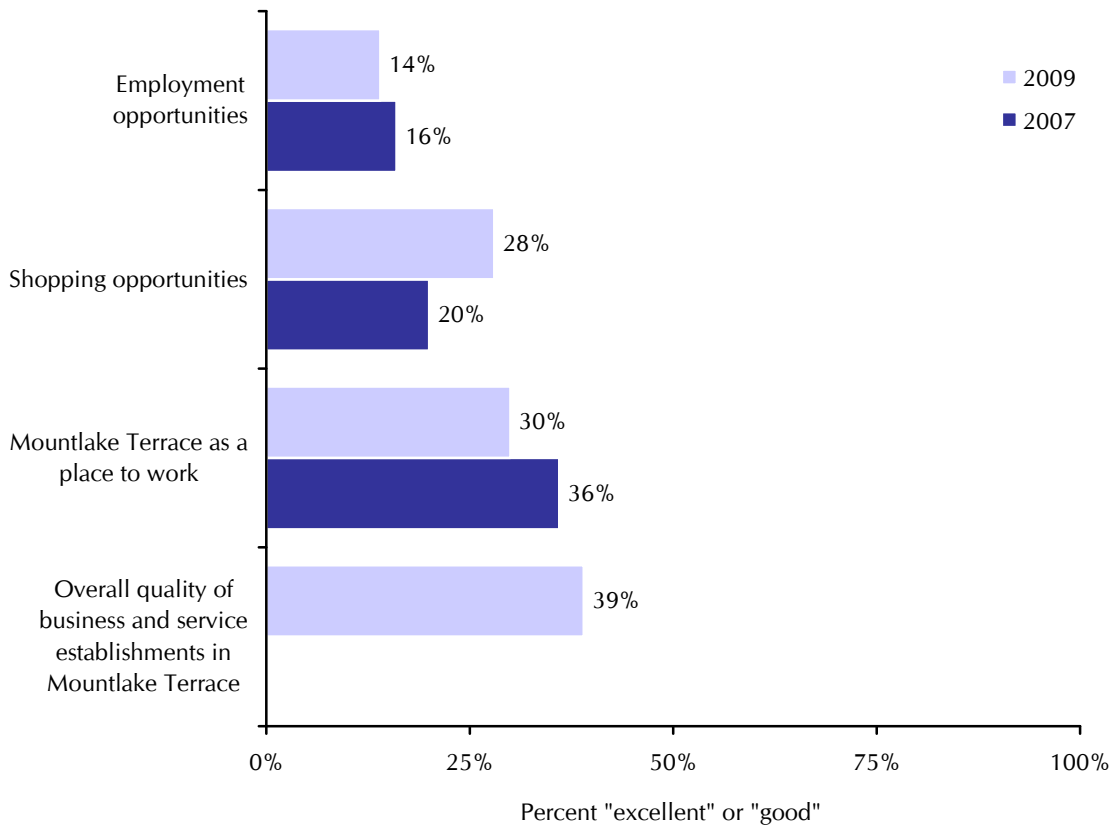


FIGURE 26: ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY AND OPPORTUNITIES BENCHMARKS

| | Comparison to benchmark |
|---|-------------------------|
| Employment opportunities | Below |
| Shopping opportunities | Below |
| Place to work | Below |
| Overall quality of business and service establishments in Mountlake Terrace | Below |

Residents were asked to evaluate the speed of jobs growth and retail growth on scale from “much too slow” to “much too fast.” When asked about the rate of job growth in Mountlake Terrace, 81% responded that it was “too slow,” while 63% reported retail growth as “too slow.” More residents in Mountlake Terrace compared to other jurisdictions believed that retail growth was too slow and more residents believed that job growth was too slow.

FIGURE 27: RATINGS OF RETAIL AND JOB GROWTH BY YEAR

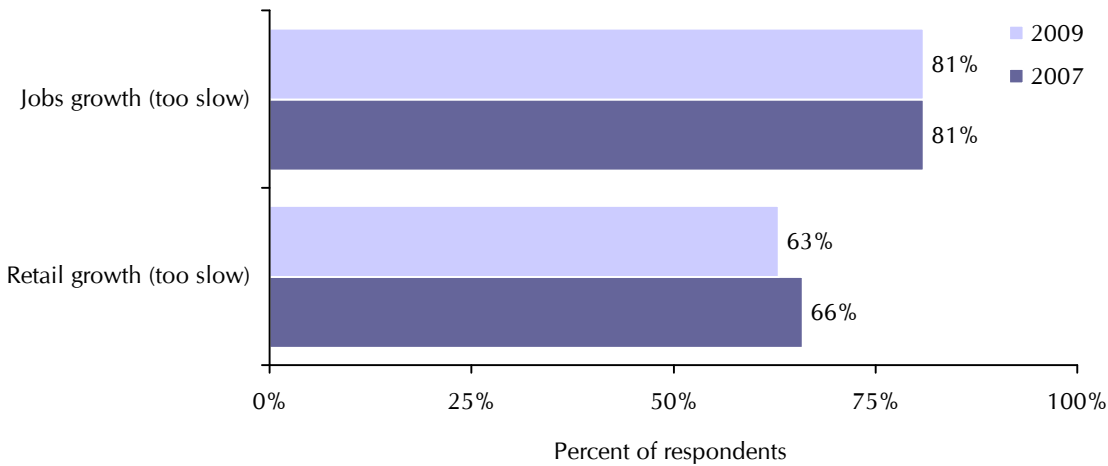


FIGURE 28: RETAIL AND JOB GROWTH BENCHMARKS

| | Comparison to benchmark |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Retail growth seen as too slow | More |
| Jobs growth seen as too slow | More |

FIGURE 29: RATINGS OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SERVICES BY YEAR

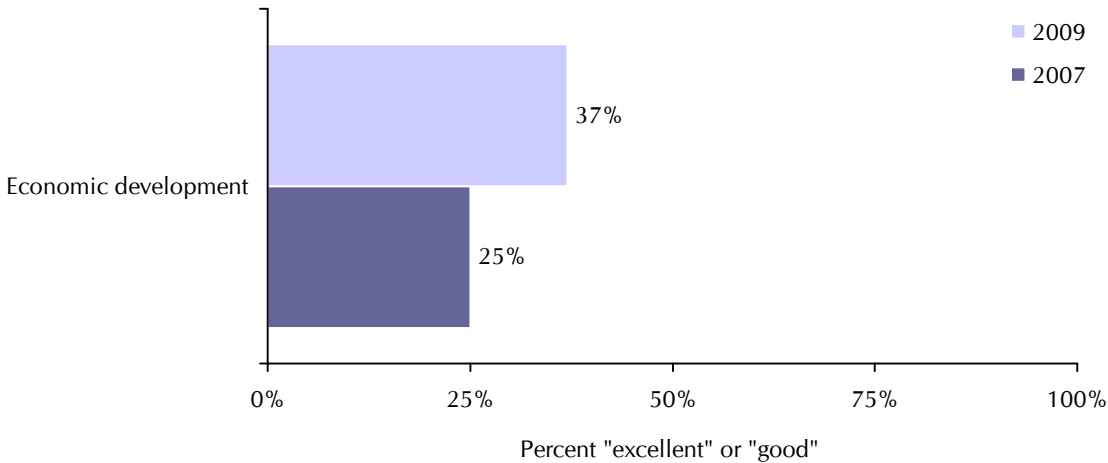


FIGURE 30: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SERVICES BENCHMARKS

| | Comparison to benchmark |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Economic development | Below |

Residents were asked to reflect on their economic prospects in the near term. Twenty percent of the City of Mountlake Terrace residents expected that the coming six months would have a “somewhat” or “very” positive impact on their family. The percent of residents with an optimistic outlook on their household income was the same as comparison jurisdictions.

FIGURE 31: RATINGS OF PERSONAL ECONOMIC FUTURE BY YEAR

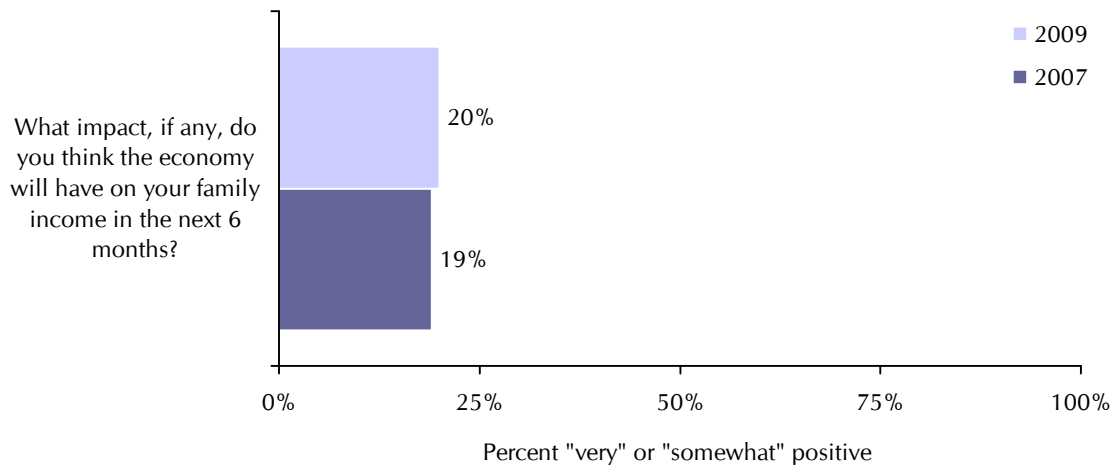


FIGURE 32: PERSONAL ECONOMIC FUTURE BENCHMARKS

| Comparison to benchmark | |
|--|---------|
| Positive impact of economy on household income | Similar |

PUBLIC SAFETY

Safety from violent or property crimes creates the cornerstone of an attractive community. No one wants to live in fear of crime, fire or natural hazards, and communities in which residents feel protected or unthreatened are communities that are more likely to show growth in population, commerce and property value.

Residents were asked to rate their feelings of safety from violent crimes, property crimes, fire and environmental dangers and to evaluate the local agencies whose main charge is to provide protection from these dangers. Most gave positive ratings of safety in the City Mountlake Terrace. About 71% percent of those completing the questionnaire said they felt “very” or “somewhat” safe from violent crimes and 79% felt “very” or “somewhat” safe from environmental hazards. Daytime sense of safety was better than nighttime safety.

FIGURE 33: RATINGS OF COMMUNITY AND PERSONAL PUBLIC SAFETY BY YEAR

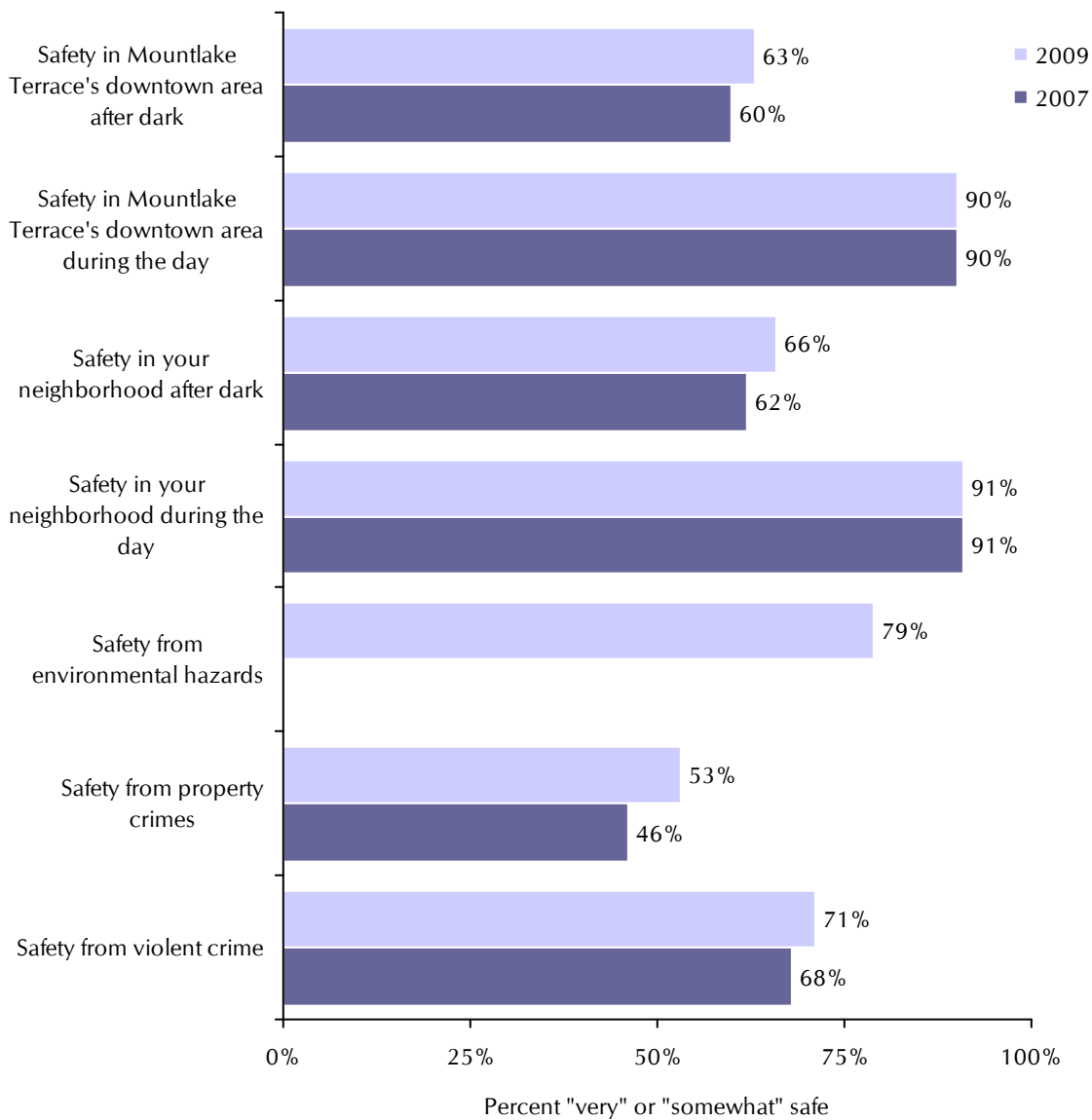


FIGURE 34: COMMUNITY AND PERSONAL PUBLIC SAFETY BENCHMARKS

| | Comparison to benchmark |
|--|-------------------------|
| Safety in your neighborhood during the day | Similar |
| Safety in your neighborhood after dark | Similar |
| Safety in Mountlake Terrace's downtown area during the day | Similar |
| Safety in Mountlake Terrace's downtown area after dark | Above |
| Safety from violent crime (e.g., rape, assault, robbery) | Similar |
| Safety from property crimes (e.g., burglary, theft) | Similar |
| Toxic waste or other environmental hazard(s) | Similar |

As assessed by the survey, 14% of respondents reported that someone in the household had been the victim of one or more crimes in the past year. Of those who had been the victim of a crime, 76% had reported it to police. Compared to other jurisdictions about the same percent of Mountlake Terrace residents had been victims of crime in the 12 months preceding the survey and about the same percent of Mountlake Terrace residents had reported their most recent crime victimization to the police.

FIGURE 35: CRIME VICTIMIZATION AND REPORTING BY YEAR

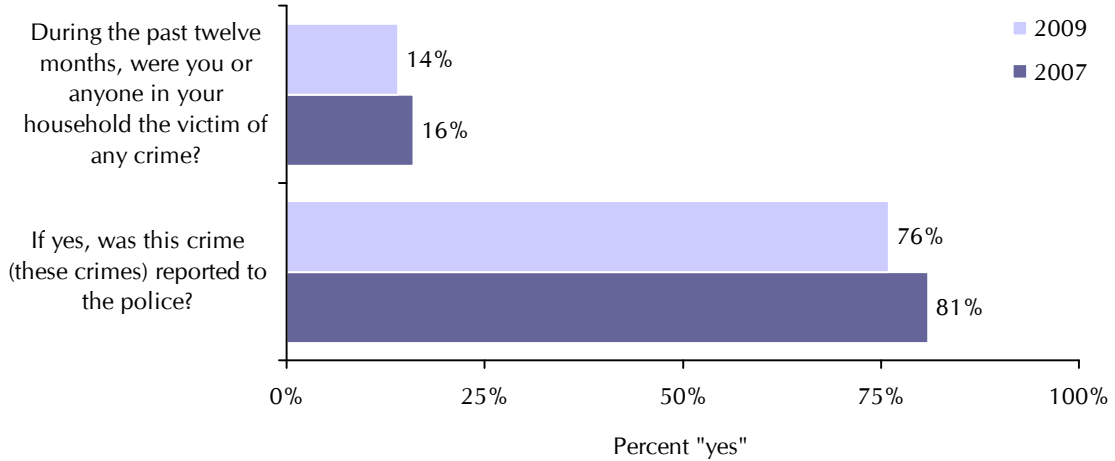


FIGURE 36: CRIME VICTIMIZATION AND REPORTING BENCHMARKS

| | Comparison to benchmark |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Victim of crime | Similar |
| Reported crimes | Similar |

Residents rated eight City public safety services; of these, seven were rated above the benchmark comparison and one was rated below the benchmark comparison. Ambulance or emergency medical services and fire services received the highest ratings, while traffic enforcement and emergency preparedness received the lowest ratings. Many of these service ratings improved over time.

FIGURE 37: RATINGS OF PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES BY YEAR

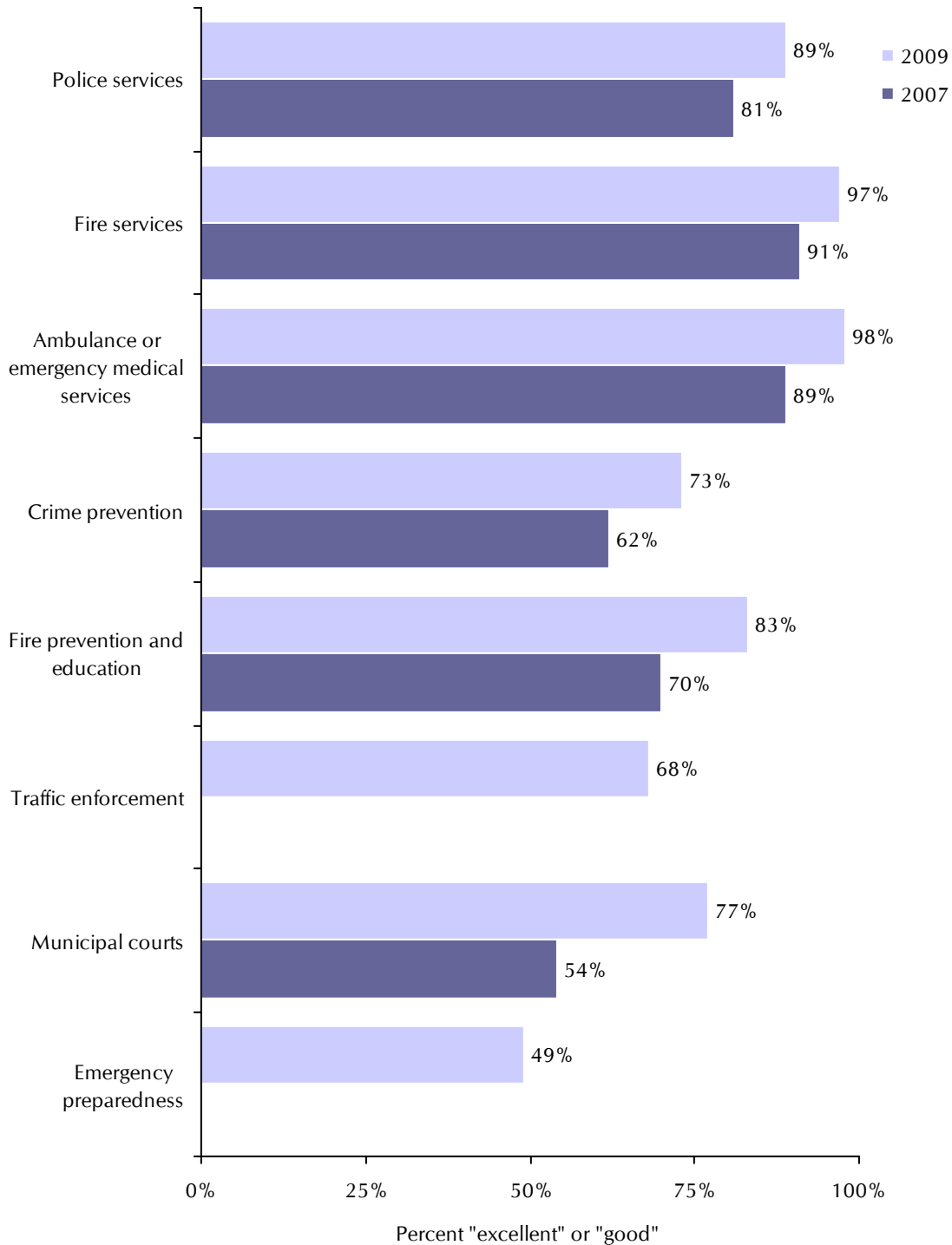


FIGURE 38: PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES BENCHMARKS

| | Comparison to benchmark |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Police services | Above |
| Fire services | Above |
| EMS/ambulance | Above |
| Crime prevention | Above |
| Fire prevention and education | Above |
| Traffic enforcement | Above |
| Courts | Above |
| Emergency preparedness | Below |

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Residents value the aesthetic qualities of their hometowns and appreciate features such as overall cleanliness and landscaping. In addition, the appearance and smell or taste of the air and water do not go unnoticed. These days, increasing attention is paid to proper treatment of the environment. At the same time that they are attending to community appearance and cleanliness, cities, counties, states and the nation are going “Green”. These strengthening environmental concerns extend to trash haul, recycling, sewer services, the delivery of power and water and preservation of open spaces. Treatment of the environment affects air and water quality and, generally, how habitable and inviting a place appears

Residents of the City of Mountlake Terrace were asked to evaluate their local environment and the services provided to ensure its quality. The overall quality of the natural environment was rated as “excellent” or “good” by 66% of survey respondents and it was similar to the benchmark.

FIGURE 39: RATINGS OF THE COMMUNITY'S NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

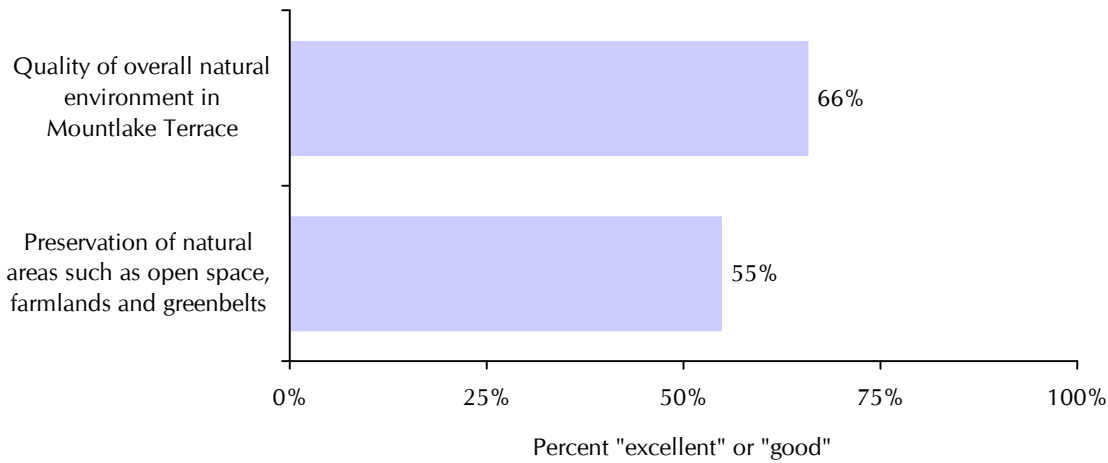


FIGURE 40: COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT BENCHMARKS

| | Comparison to benchmark |
|--|-------------------------|
| Quality of overall natural environment in Mountlake Terrace | Similar |
| Preservation of natural areas such as open space, farmlands and greenbelts | Similar |

Resident recycling was greater than recycling reported in comparison communities.

FIGURE 41: FREQUENCY OF RECYCLING IN LAST 12 MONTHS

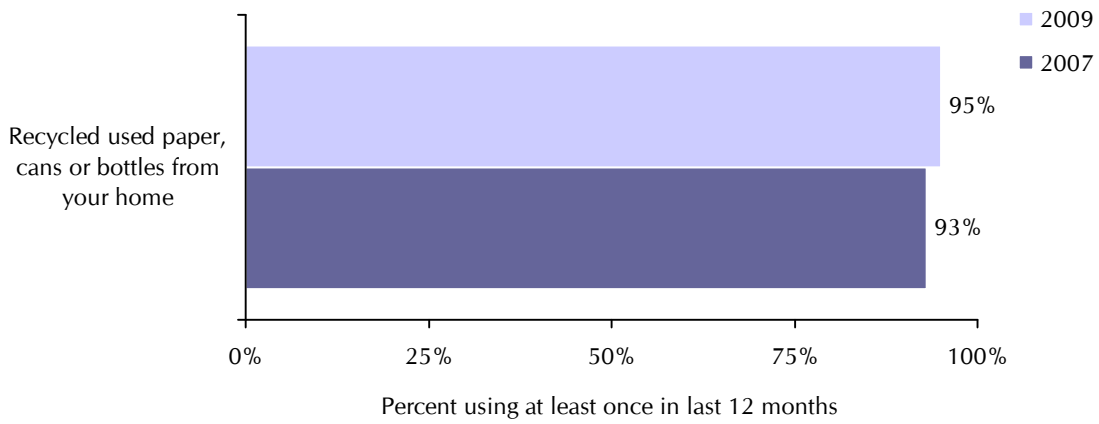


FIGURE 42: FREQUENCY OF RECYCLING BENCHMARKS

| | Comparison to benchmark |
|---|-------------------------|
| Recycled used paper, cans or bottles from your home | More |

Of the six utility services rated by those completing the questionnaire, four were higher than the benchmark comparison and two were similar to the benchmark comparison. These service ratings were similar to or higher when compared to the past survey.

FIGURE 43: RATINGS OF UTILITY SERVICES BY YEAR

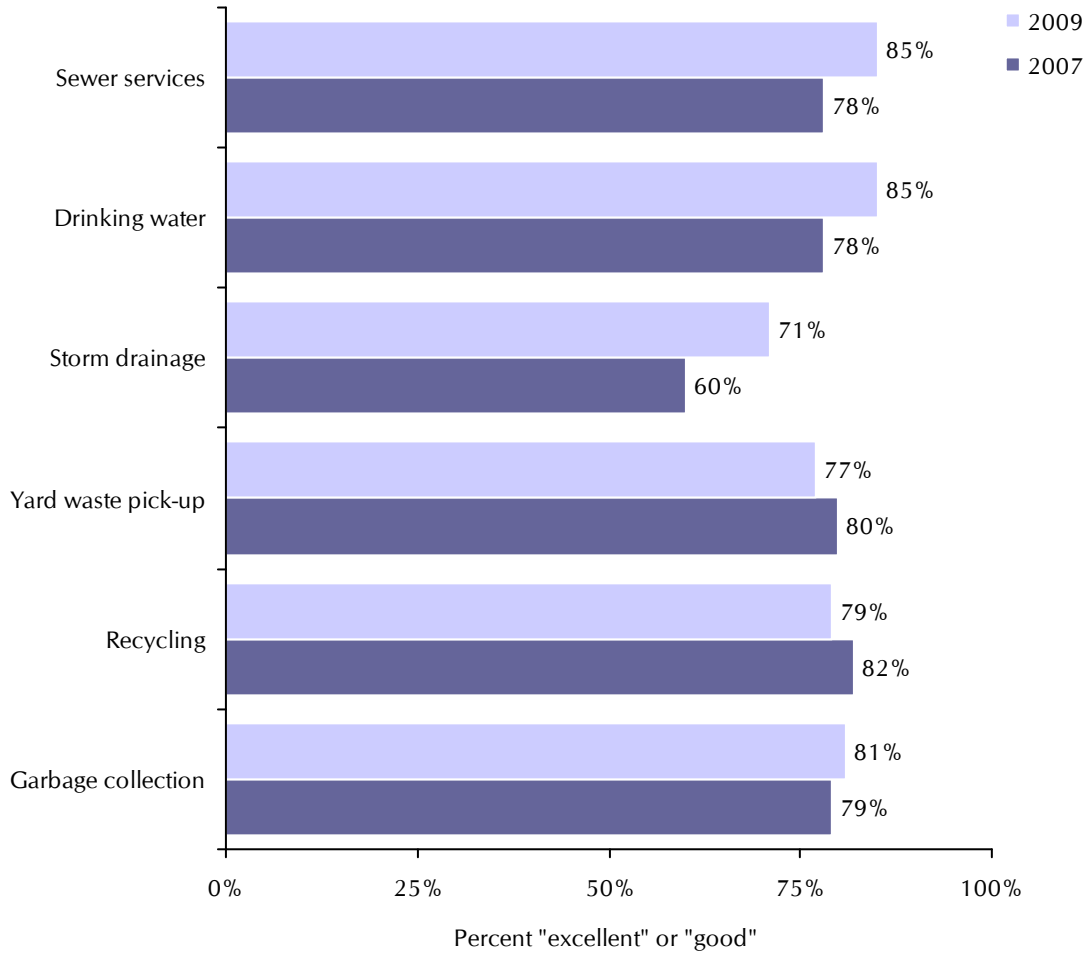


FIGURE 44: UTILITY SERVICES BENCHMARKS

| | Comparison to benchmark |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Sewer services | Above |
| Drinking water | Above |
| Storm drainage | Above |
| Yard waste pick-up | Similar |
| Recycling | Above |
| Garbage collection | Similar |

RECREATION AND WELLNESS

Parks and Recreation

Quality parks and recreation opportunities help to define a community as more than the grind of its business, traffic and hard work. Leisure activities vastly can improve the quality of life of residents, serving both to entertain and mobilize good health. The survey contained questions seeking residents' perspectives about opportunities and services related to the community's parks and recreation services.

Recreation opportunities in the City of Mountlake Terrace were rated somewhat positively as were services related to parks and recreation. Recreation programs or classes and recreation centers or facilities were rated higher than the benchmark and city parks were similar to the benchmark. Recreational opportunities received the lowest rating and were similar to the national benchmark. Parks and recreation ratings have varied over time.

Resident use of Mountlake Terrace parks and recreation facilities tells its own story about the attractiveness and accessibility of those services. The percent of residents that used Mountlake Terrace recreation centers was greater than the percent of users in comparison jurisdictions. However, recreation program use in Mountlake Terrace was lower than use in comparison jurisdictions.

FIGURE 45: RATINGS OF COMMUNITY RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES BY YEAR

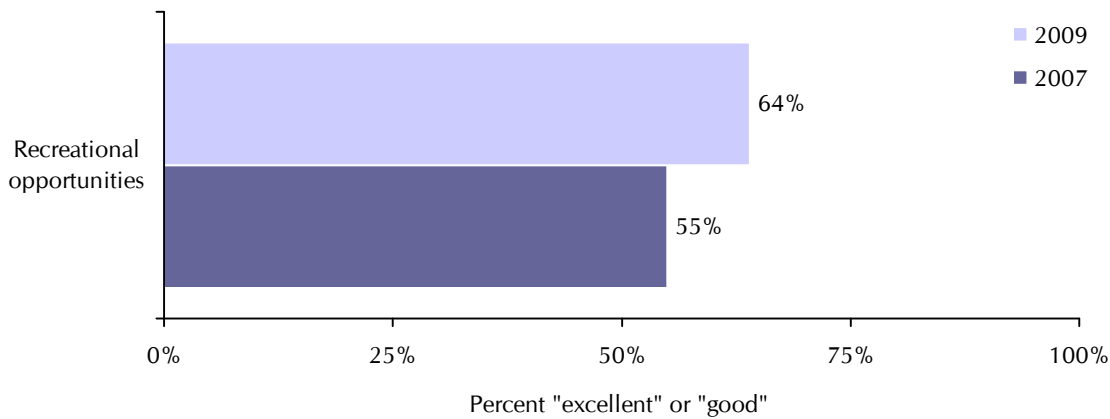


FIGURE 46: COMMUNITY RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES BENCHMARKS

| Comparison to benchmark | |
|--------------------------|---------|
| Recreation opportunities | Similar |

FIGURE 47: PARTICIPATION IN PARKS AND RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES BY YEAR

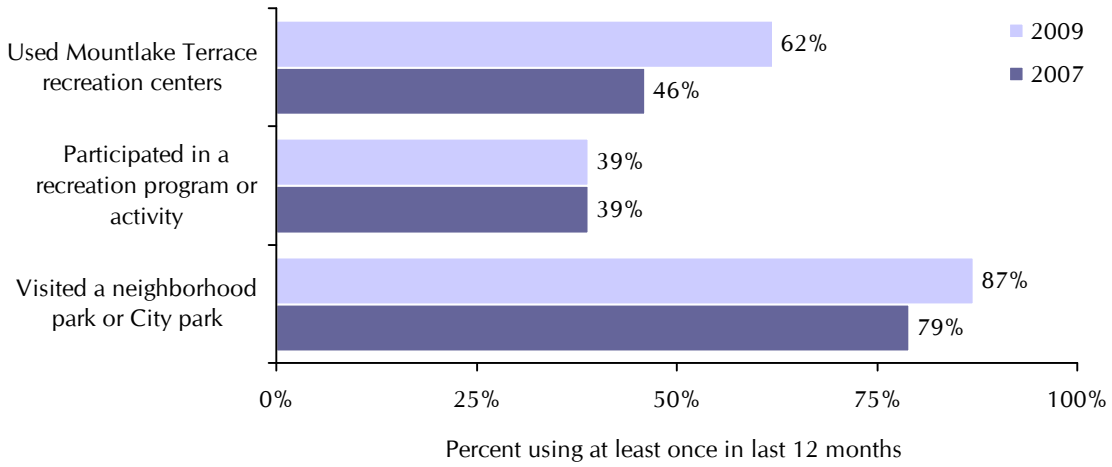


FIGURE 48: PARTICIPATION IN PARKS AND RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES BENCHMARKS

| | Comparison to benchmark |
|--|-------------------------|
| Used Mountlake Terrace recreation centers | More |
| Participated in a recreation program or activity | Less |
| Visited a neighborhood park or City park | Similar |

FIGURE 49: RATINGS OF PARKS AND RECREATION SERVICES BY YEAR

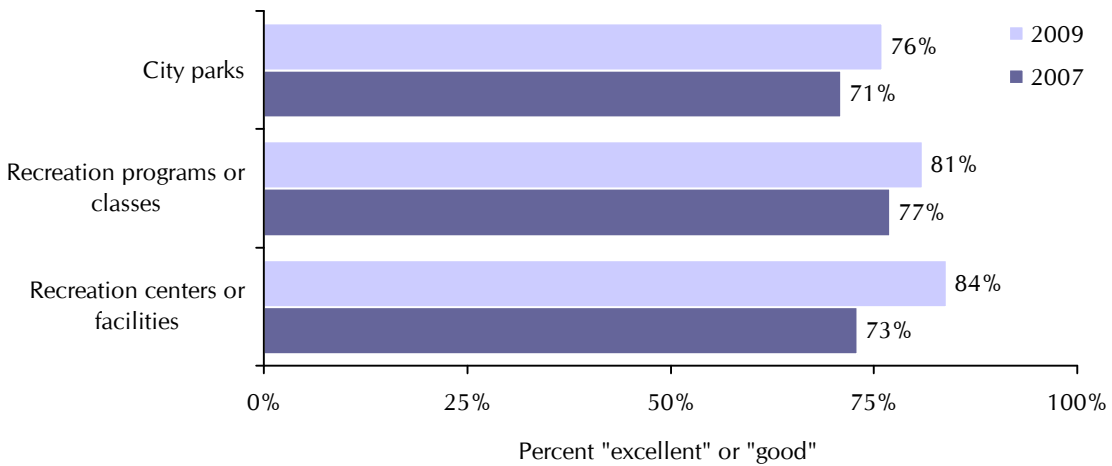


FIGURE 50: PARKS AND RECREATION SERVICES BENCHMARKS

| | Comparison to benchmark |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| City parks | Similar |
| Recreation programs or classes | Above |
| Recreation centers or facilities | Above |

Culture, Arts and Education

A full service community does not address only the life and safety of its residents. Like an individual who simply goes to the office and returns home, a community that pays attention only to the life sustaining basics becomes insular, dreary and uninspiring to business and individuals. In the case of communities without thriving culture, arts and education opportunities, the magnet that attracts those who might consider relocating there is vastly weakened. Cultural, artistic, social and educational services elevate the opportunities for personal growth among residents. In the survey, residents were asked about the quality of opportunities to participate in cultural and educational activities.

Opportunities to attend cultural activities were rated as “excellent” or “good” by 26% of respondents. Educational opportunities were rated as “excellent” or “good” by 39% of respondents. Compared to the benchmark data, educational opportunities were below the average of comparison jurisdictions, as was cultural activity opportunities.

About 74% of Mountlake Terrace residents used a City library at least once in the 12 months preceding the survey. This participation rate for library use was similar to comparison jurisdictions.

FIGURE 51: RATINGS OF CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES BY YEAR

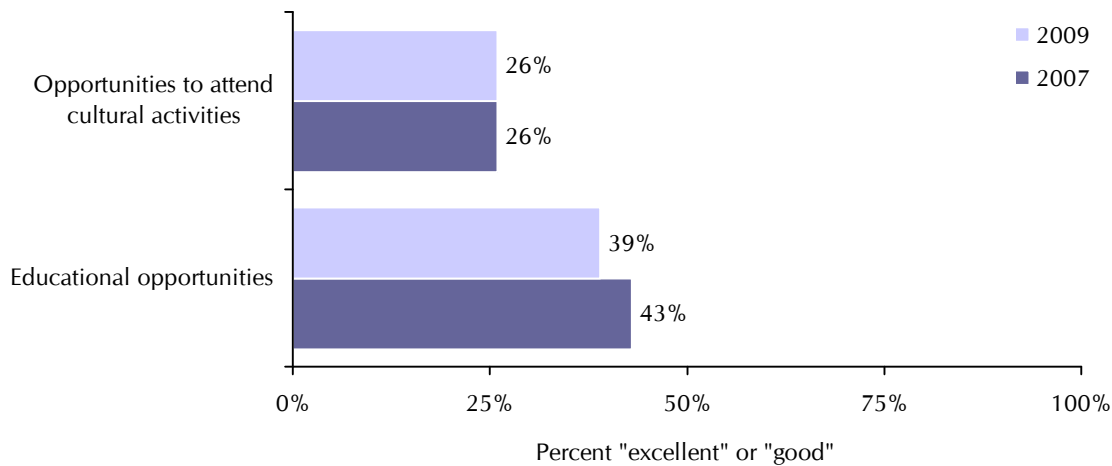


FIGURE 52: CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES BENCHMARKS

| | Comparison to benchmark |
|---|-------------------------|
| Opportunities to attend cultural activities | Below |
| Educational opportunities | Below |

FIGURE 53: PARTICIPATION IN CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES BY YEAR

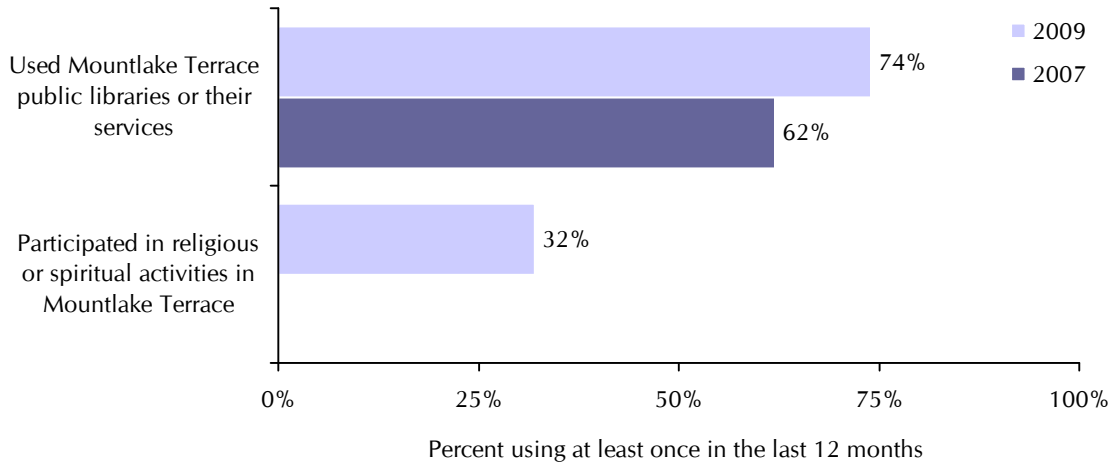


FIGURE 54: PARTICIPATION IN CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES BENCHMARKS

| | Comparison to benchmark |
|--|-------------------------|
| Used Mountlake Terrace public libraries or their services | Similar |
| Participated in religious or spiritual activities in Mountlake Terrace | Less |

FIGURE 55: PERCEPTION OF CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES BY YEAR

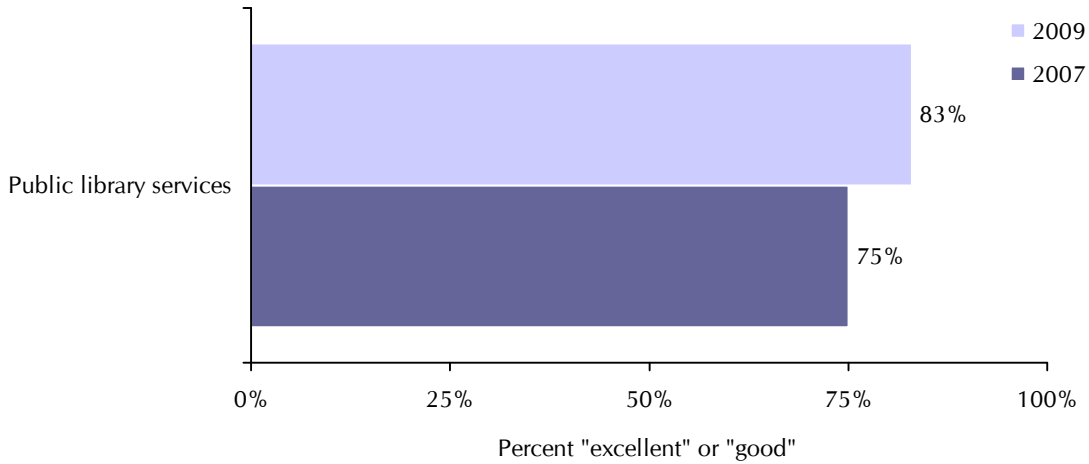


FIGURE 56: CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES BENCHMARKS

| | Comparison to benchmark |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Public library services | Similar |

Health and Wellness

Healthy residents have the wherewithal to contribute to the economy as volunteers or employees and they do not present a burden in cost and time to others. Although residents bear the primary responsibility for their good health, local government provides services that can foster that well being and that provide care when residents are ill.

Residents of the City of Mountlake Terrace were asked to rate the community’s health services as well as the availability of health care, high quality affordable food and preventative health care services. The availability of affordable quality food was rated most positively for the City of Mountlake Terrace, while the availability for affordable quality health care and preventative health services were rated less favorably by residents.

Among Mountlake Terrace residents, 39% rated affordable quality health care as “excellent” or “good.” Those ratings were below the ratings of comparison communities.

FIGURE 57: RATINGS OF COMMUNITY HEALTH AND WELLNESS ACCESS AND OPPORTUNITIES BY YEAR

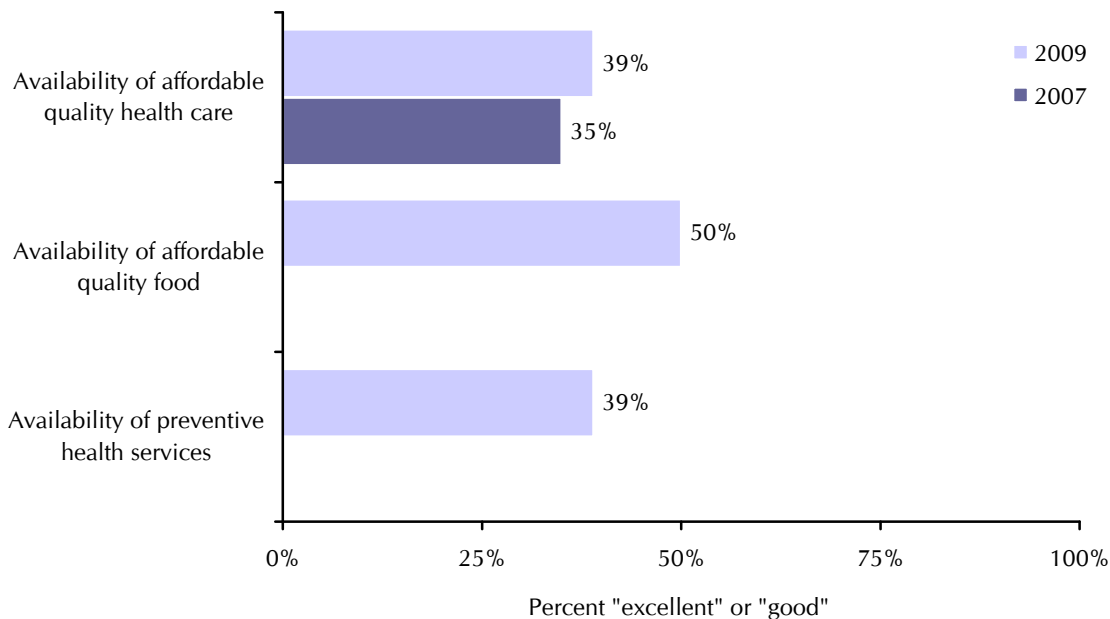


FIGURE 58: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND WELLNESS ACCESS AND OPPORTUNITIES BENCHMARKS

| | Comparison to benchmark |
|--|-------------------------|
| Availability of affordable quality health care | Below |
| Availability of affordable quality food | Below |
| Availability of preventive health services | Below |

COMMUNITY INCLUSIVENESS

Diverse communities that include among their residents a mix of races, ages, wealth, ideas and beliefs have the raw material for the most vibrant and creative society. However, the presence of these features alone does not ensure a high quality or desirable space. Surveyed residents were asked about the success of the mix: the sense of community, the openness of residents to people of diverse backgrounds and the attractiveness of the City of Mountlake Terrace as a place to raise children or to retire. They were also questioned about the quality of services delivered to various population subgroups, including older adults and youth. A community that succeeds in creating an inclusive environment for a variety of residents is a community that offers more to many.

A high percentage of residents rated the City of Mountlake Terrace as an “excellent” or “good” place to raise kids and a majority rated it as an excellent or good place to retire. Most residents felt that the local sense of community was “excellent” or “good.” A majority of survey respondents felt the City of Mountlake Terrace was open and accepting towards people of diverse backgrounds. Availability of affordable quality child care was rated the lowest by residents and was similar to the benchmark.

FIGURE 59: RATINGS OF COMMUNITY QUALITY AND INCLUSIVENESS BY YEAR

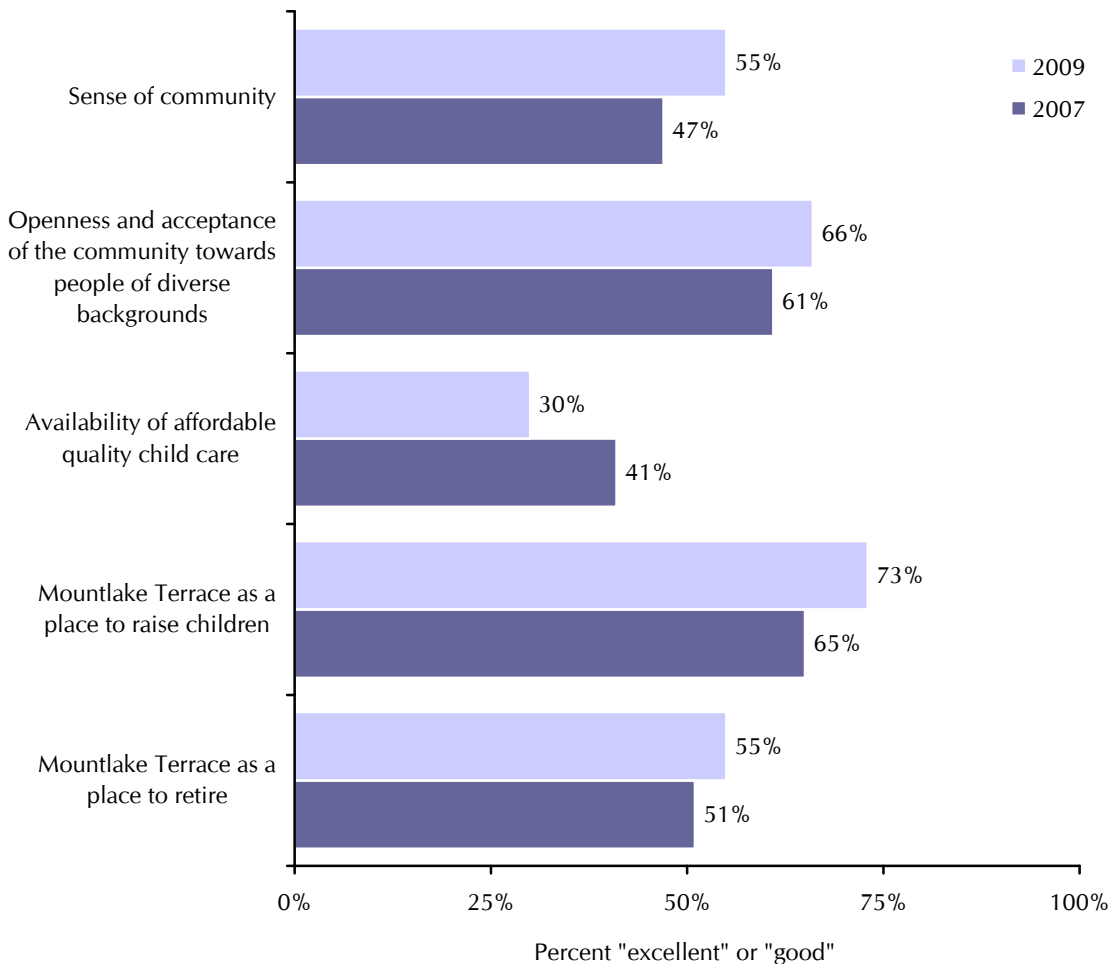


FIGURE 60: COMMUNITY QUALITY AND INCLUSIVENESS BENCHMARKS

| | Comparison to benchmark |
|---|-------------------------|
| Sense of community | Similar |
| Openness and acceptance of the community toward people of diverse backgrounds | Above |
| Availability of affordable quality child care | Similar |
| Mountlake Terrace as a place to raise kids | Similar |
| Mountlake Terrace as a place to retire | Below |

Services to more vulnerable populations (e.g., seniors or youth) ranged from 56% to 67% with ratings of “excellent” or “good.” Services to youth were above the benchmark, while services to seniors were the same.

FIGURE 61: RATINGS OF QUALITY OF SERVICES PROVIDED FOR POPULATION SUBGROUPS BY YEAR

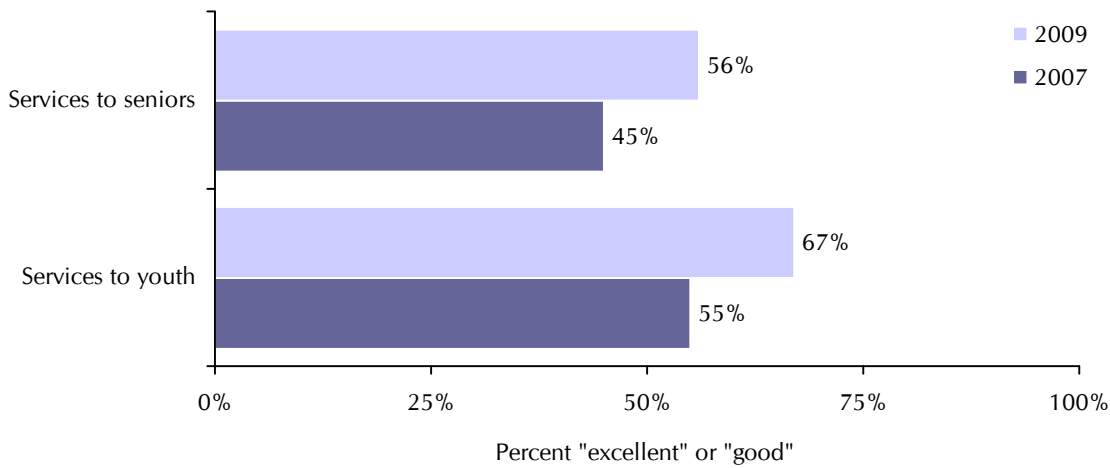


FIGURE 62: SERVICES PROVIDED FOR POPULATION SUBGROUPS BENCHMARKS

| | Comparison to benchmark |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Services to seniors | Similar |
| Services to youth | Above |

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Government leaders, elected or hired, cannot run a jurisdiction alone and a jurisdiction cannot run effectively if residents remain strangers with little to connect them. Elected officials and staff require the assistance of local residents whether that assistance comes in tacit approval or eager help; and commonality of purpose among the electorate facilitates policies and programs that appeal to most and causes discord among few. Furthermore, when neighbors help neighbors, the cost to the community to provide services to residents in need declines. When residents are civically engaged, they have taken the opportunity to participate in making the community more livable for all. The extent to which local government provides opportunities to become informed and engaged and the extent to which residents take those opportunities is an indicator of the connection between government and populace. By understanding your residents' level of connection to, knowledge of and participation in local government, the City can find better opportunities to communicate and educate citizens about its mission, services, accomplishments and plans. Communities with strong civic engagement may be more likely to see the benefits of programs intended to improve the quality of life of all residents and therefore would be more likely to support those new policies or programs.

Civic Activity

Respondents were asked about the perceived community volunteering opportunities and their participation as citizens of the City of Mountlake Terrace. Survey participants rated the volunteer opportunities in the City of Mountlake Terrace moderately. Opportunities to attend or participate in community matters were rated similarly.

The rating for opportunities to participate in community matters was similar to the benchmark while the rating for opportunities to volunteer was below.

FIGURE 63: RATINGS OF CIVIC ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

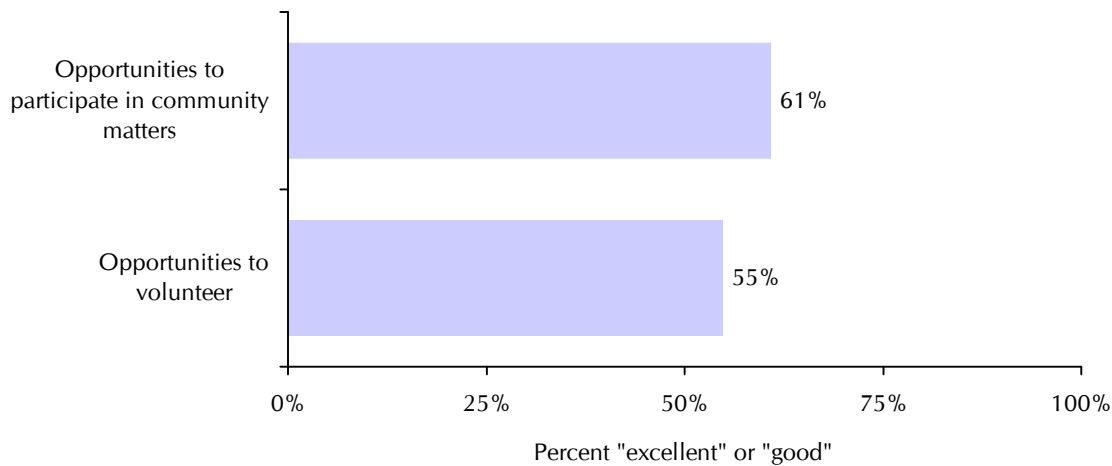


FIGURE 64: CIVIC ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES BENCHMARKS

| | Comparison to benchmark |
|---|-------------------------|
| Opportunities to participate in community matters | Similar |
| Opportunities to volunteer | Below |

Most of the participants in this survey had not attended a public meeting, volunteered time to a group or participated in a club in the 12 months prior to the survey, but the vast majority had helped a friend. The participation rates of these civic behaviors were compared to the rates in other jurisdictions. Those who had provided help to a friend or neighbor showed similar rates of involvement. Other behaviors showed lower rates of community engagement.

FIGURE 65: PARTICIPATION IN CIVIC ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES BY YEAR

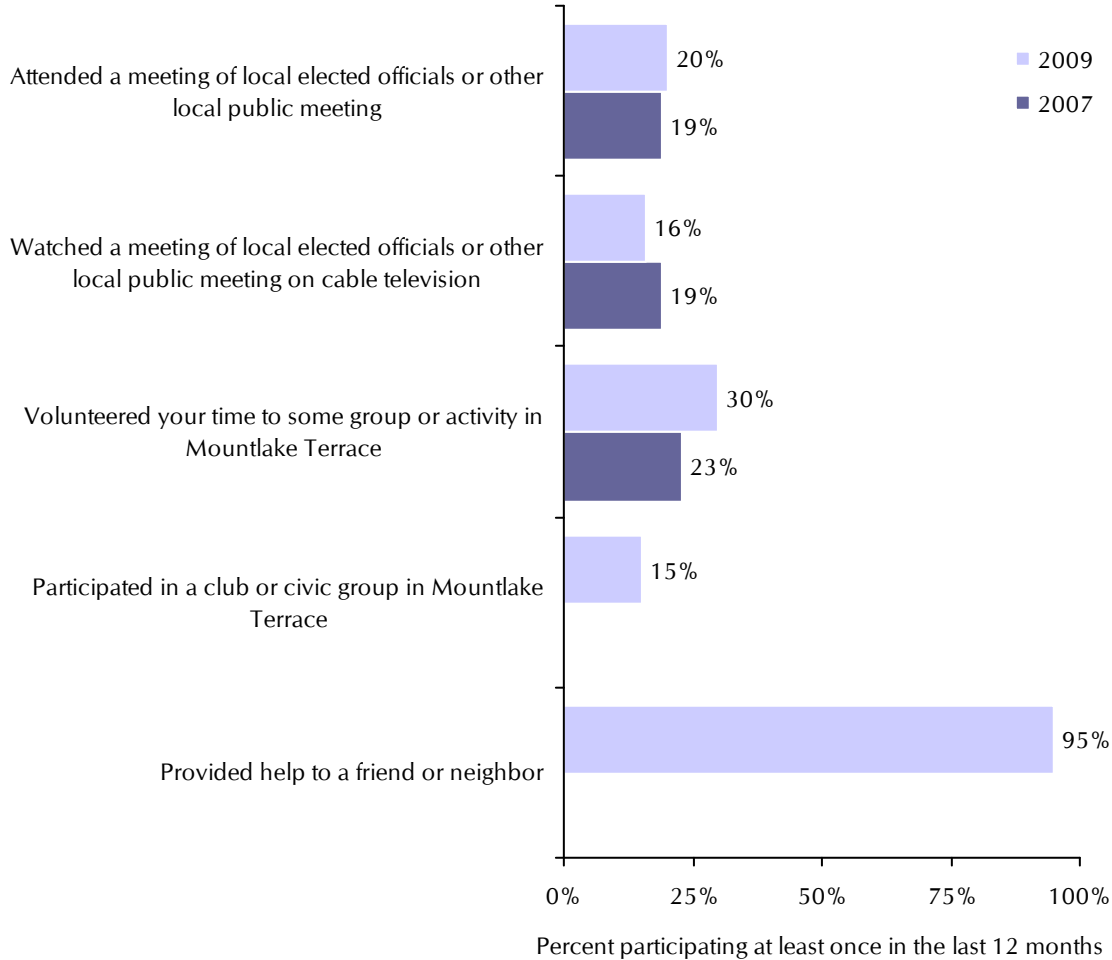
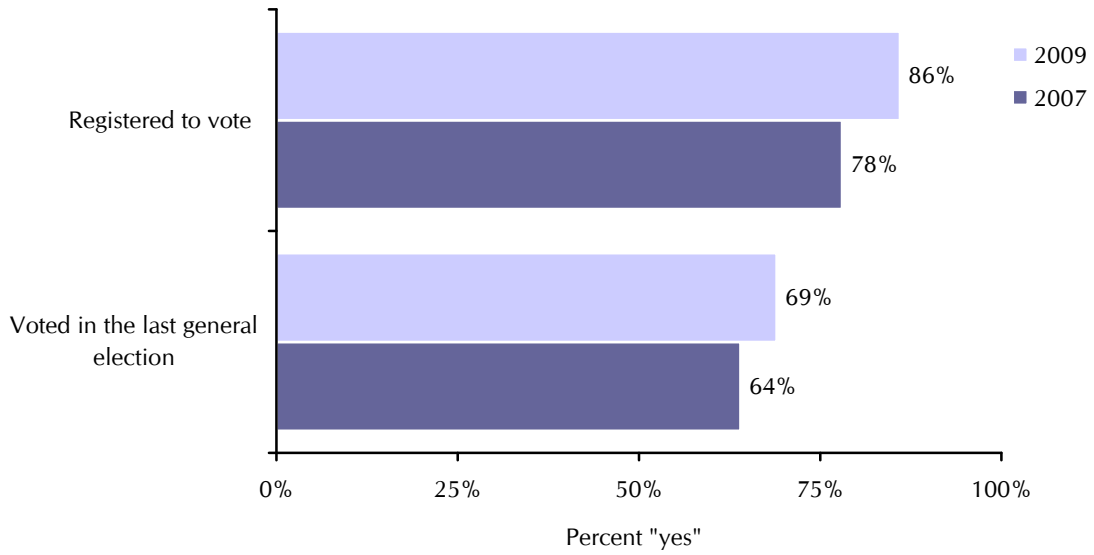


FIGURE 66: PARTICIPATION IN CIVIC ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES BENCHMARKS

| | Comparison to benchmark |
|--|-------------------------|
| Attended a meeting of local elected officials or other local public meeting | Less |
| Watched a meeting of local elected officials or other local public meeting on cable television | Less |
| Volunteered your time to some group or activity in Mountlake Terrace | Less |
| Participated in a club or civic group in Mountlake Terrace | Less |
| Provided help to a friend or neighbor | Similar |

City of Mountlake Terrace residents showed the largest amount of civic engagement in the area of electoral participation. Eighty-six percent reported they were registered to vote and 69% indicated they had voted in the last general election. This rate of self-reported voting was lower than that of comparison communities.

FIGURE 67: REPORTED VOTING BEHAVIOR BY YEAR



Note: In addition to the removal of “don’t know” responses, those who said “ineligible to vote” also have been omitted from this calculation. The full frequencies appear in Appendix A.

FIGURE 68: VOTING BEHAVIOR BENCHMARKS

| | Comparison to benchmark |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Registered to vote | Similar |
| Voted in last general election | Less |

Information and Awareness

Those completing the survey were asked about their use and perceptions of various information sources and local government media services. When asked whether they had visited the City of Mountlake Terrace Web site in the previous 12 months, 54% reported they had done so at least once. Public information services were rated favorably compared to benchmark data.

FIGURE 69: USE OF INFORMATION SOURCES BY YEAR

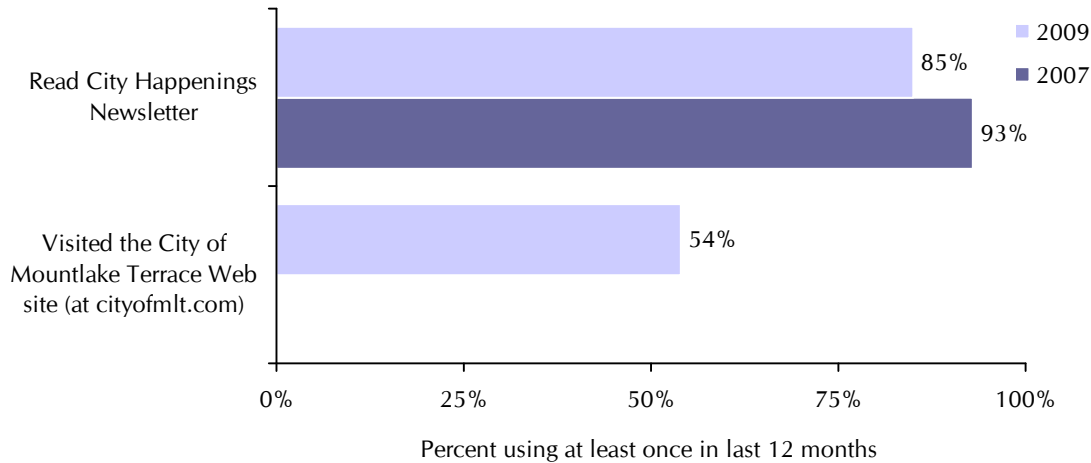


FIGURE 70: USE OF INFORMATION SOURCES BENCHMARKS

| | Comparison to benchmark |
|--|-------------------------|
| Read Mountlake Terrace Newsletter | More |
| Visited the City of Mountlake Terrace Web site | Less |

FIGURE 71: RATINGS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT MEDIA SERVICES AND INFORMATION DISSEMINATION BY YEAR

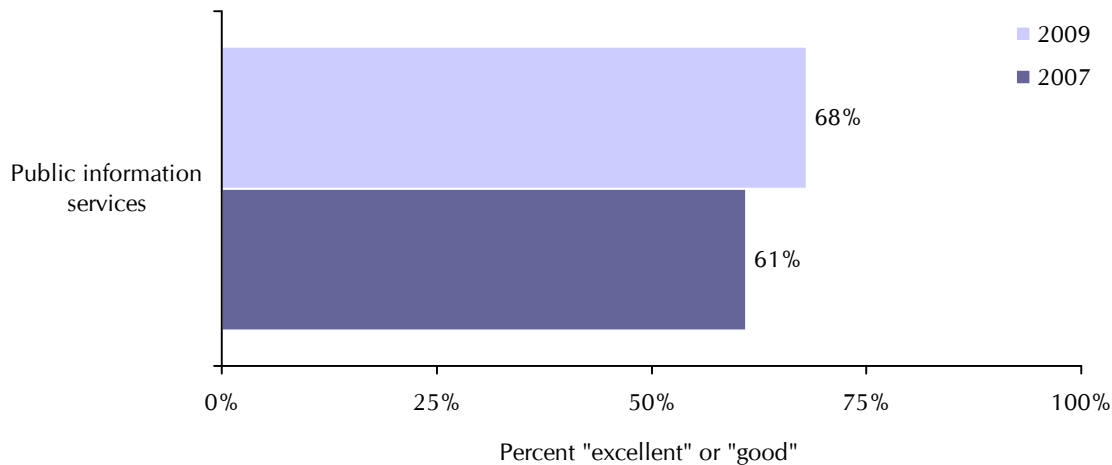


FIGURE 72: LOCAL GOVERNMENT MEDIA SERVICES AND INFORMATION DISSEMINATION BENCHMARKS

| | Comparison to benchmark |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Public information services | Above |

Social Engagement

Opportunities to participate in social events and activities were rated as “excellent” or “good” by 49% of respondents, while even more rated opportunities to participate in religious or spiritual events and activities as “excellent” or “good.”

FIGURE 73: RATINGS OF SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

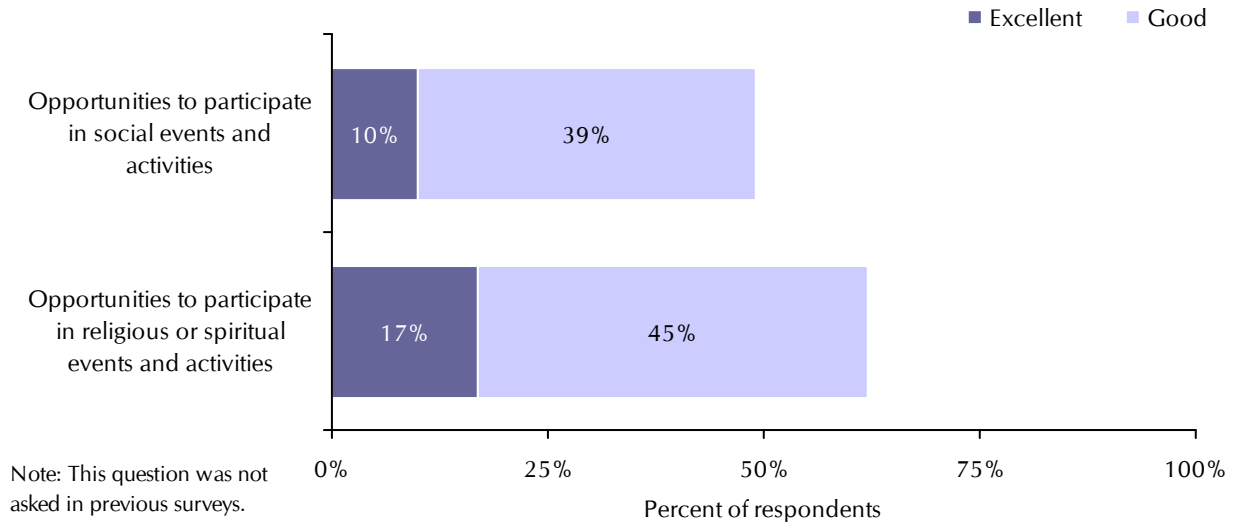
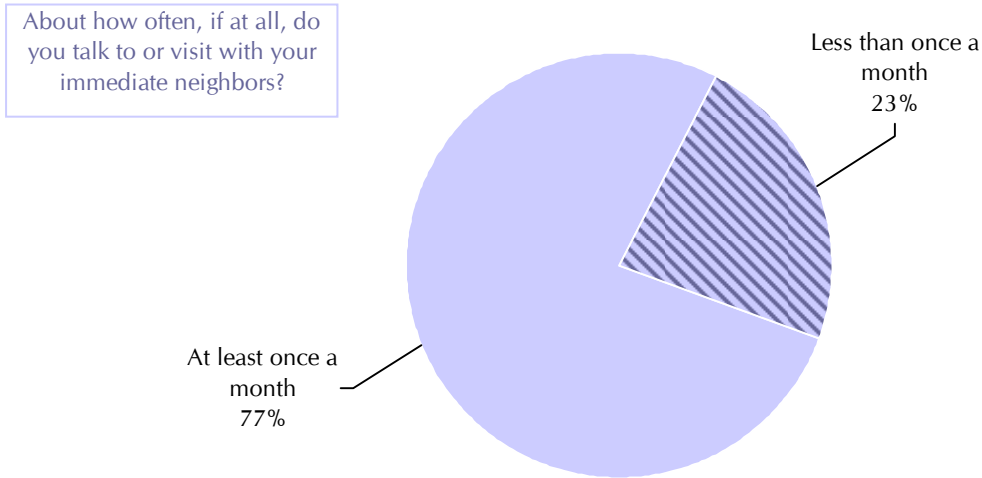


FIGURE 74: SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES BENCHMARKS

| | Comparison to benchmark |
|---|-------------------------|
| Opportunities to participate in social events and activities | Below |
| Opportunities to participate in religious or spiritual events | Below |

Residents in Mountlake Terrace reported a fair amount of neighborliness. More than 77% indicated talking or visiting with their neighbors once a month or more frequently. This amount of contact with neighbors was less than the amount of contact reported in other communities.

FIGURE 75: CONTACT WITH IMMEDIATE NEIGHBORS



Note: This question was not asked in previous surveys.

FIGURE 76: CONTACT WITH IMMEDIATE NEIGHBORS BENCHMARKS

| | Comparison to benchmark |
|--|-------------------------|
| Has contact with neighbors at least once per month | Less |

PUBLIC TRUST

When local government leaders are trusted, an environment of cooperation is more likely to surround all decisions they make. Cooperation leads to easier communication between leaders and residents and increases the likelihood that high value policies and programs will be implemented to improve the quality of life of the entire community. Trust can be measured in residents' opinions about the overall direction the City of Mountlake Terrace is taking, their perspectives about the service value their taxes purchase and the openness of government to citizen participation. In addition, resident opinion about services provided by the City of Mountlake Terrace could be compared to their opinion about services provided by the state and federal governments. If residents find nothing to admire in the services delivered by any level of government, their opinions about the City of Mountlake Terrace may be colored by their dislike of what all levels of government provide.

A majority of respondents felt that the value of services for taxes paid was "excellent" or "good." When asked to rate the job the City of Mountlake Terrace does at listening to citizens, about half rated it as "excellent" or "good." Of these five ratings, four were above the benchmark and one was below the benchmark.

FIGURE 77: PUBLIC TRUST RATINGS BY YEAR

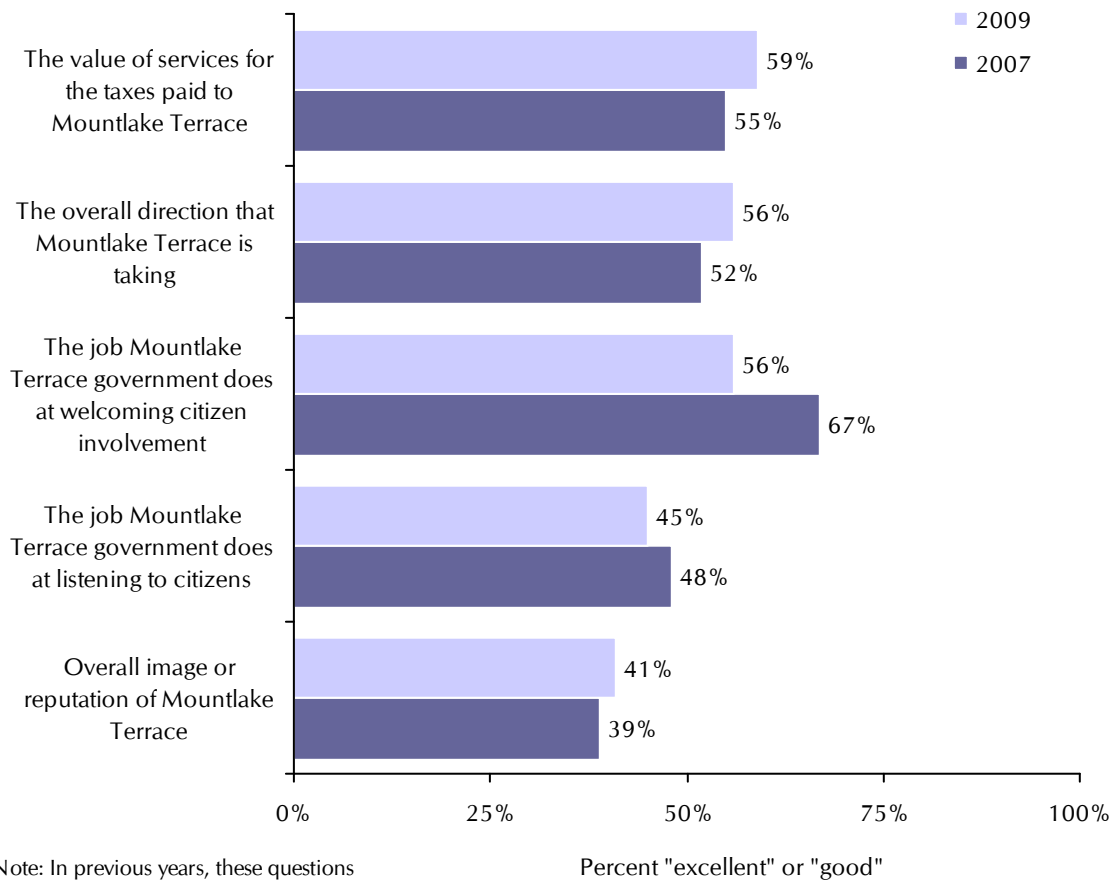


FIGURE 78: PUBLIC TRUST BENCHMARKS

| | Comparison to benchmark |
|--|-------------------------|
| Value of services for the taxes paid to Mountlake Terrace | Above |
| The overall direction that Mountlake Terrace is taking | Above |
| Job Mountlake Terrace government does at welcoming citizen involvement | Above |
| Job Mountlake Terrace government does at listening to citizens | Above |
| Overall image or reputation of Mountlake Terrace | Below |

On average, residents of the City of Mountlake Terrace gave the highest evaluations to their own local government and the lowest average rating to federal government. The overall quality of services delivered by the City of Mountlake Terrace was rated as “excellent” or “good” by 73% of survey participants. The City of Mountlake Terrace’s rating was similar to the benchmark when compared to other communities. Ratings of overall City services have remained stable over the last two years.

FIGURE 79: RATINGS OF SERVICES PROVIDED BY LOCAL, STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS BY YEAR

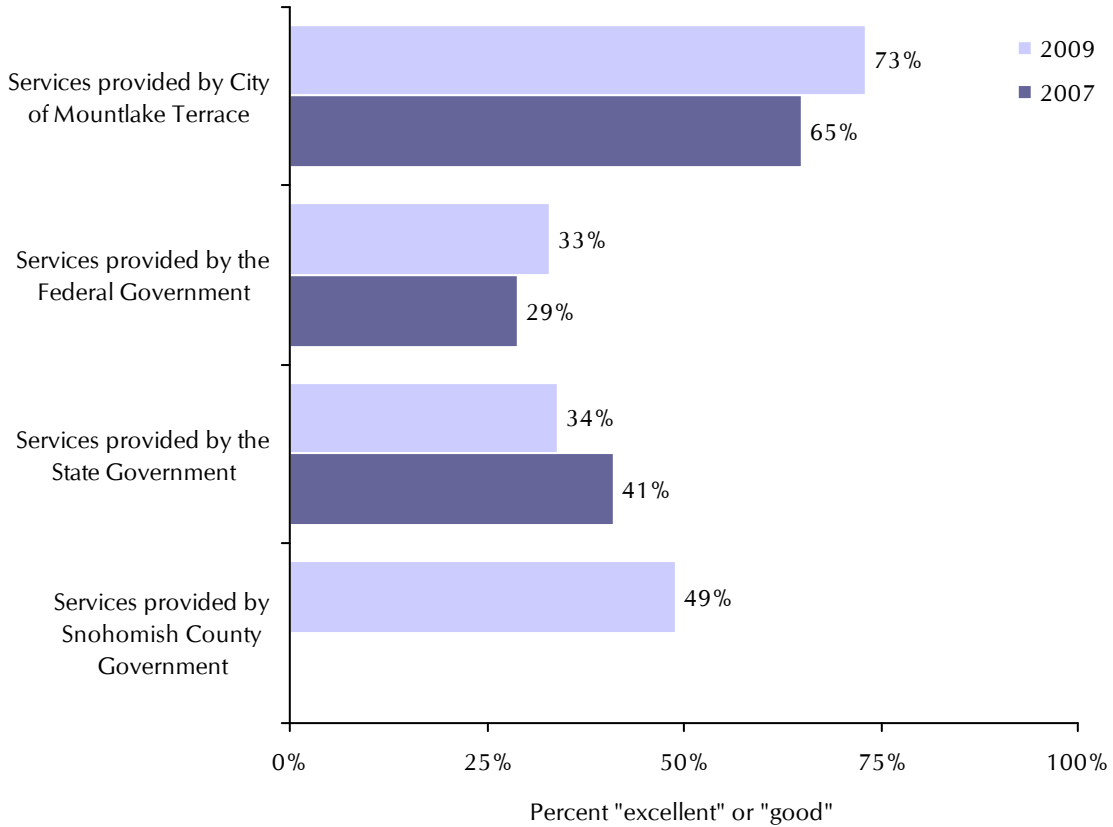


FIGURE 80: SERVICES PROVIDED BY LOCAL, STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS BENCHMARKS

| | Comparison to benchmark |
|--|-------------------------|
| Services provided by the City of Mountlake Terrace | Similar |
| Services provided by the Federal Government | Similar |
| Services provided by the State Government | Below |
| Services provided by Snohomish County Government | Similar |

City of Mountlake Terrace Employees

The employees of the City of Mountlake Terrace who interact with the public create the first impression that most residents have of the City of Mountlake Terrace. Front line staff who provide information, assist with bill paying, collect trash, create service schedules, fight fires and crime and even give traffic tickets are the collective face of the City of Mountlake Terrace. As such, it is important to know about residents' experience talking with that "face." When employees appear to be knowledgeable, responsive and courteous, residents are more likely to feel that any needs or problems may be solved through positive and productive interactions with the City of Mountlake Terrace staff.

Those completing the survey were asked if they had been in contact with a City employee either in-person or over the phone in the last 12 months; the 53% who reported that they had been in contact (a percent that is lower than the benchmark comparison) were then asked to indicate overall how satisfied they were with the employee in their most recent contact. City employees were rated highly; 80% of respondents rated their overall impression as "excellent" or "good." Employee ratings were higher than the benchmark and were similar to past survey years.

FIGURE 81: PROPORTION OF RESPONDENTS WHO HAD CONTACT WITH CITY EMPLOYEES IN PREVIOUS 12 MONTHS BY YEAR

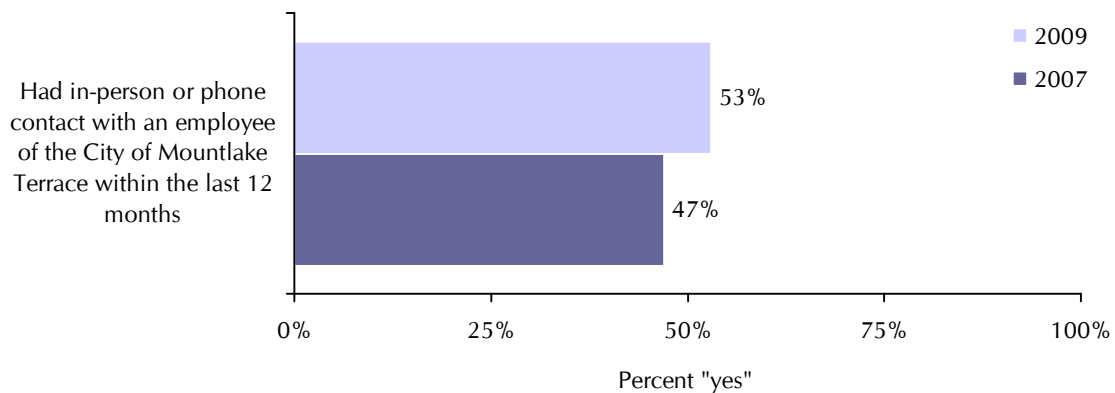


FIGURE 82: CONTACT WITH CITY EMPLOYEES BENCHMARKS

| | Comparison to benchmark |
|---|-------------------------|
| Had contact with City employee(s) in last 12 months | Less |

FIGURE 83: RATINGS OF CITY EMPLOYEES (AMONG THOSE WHO HAD CONTACT) BY YEAR

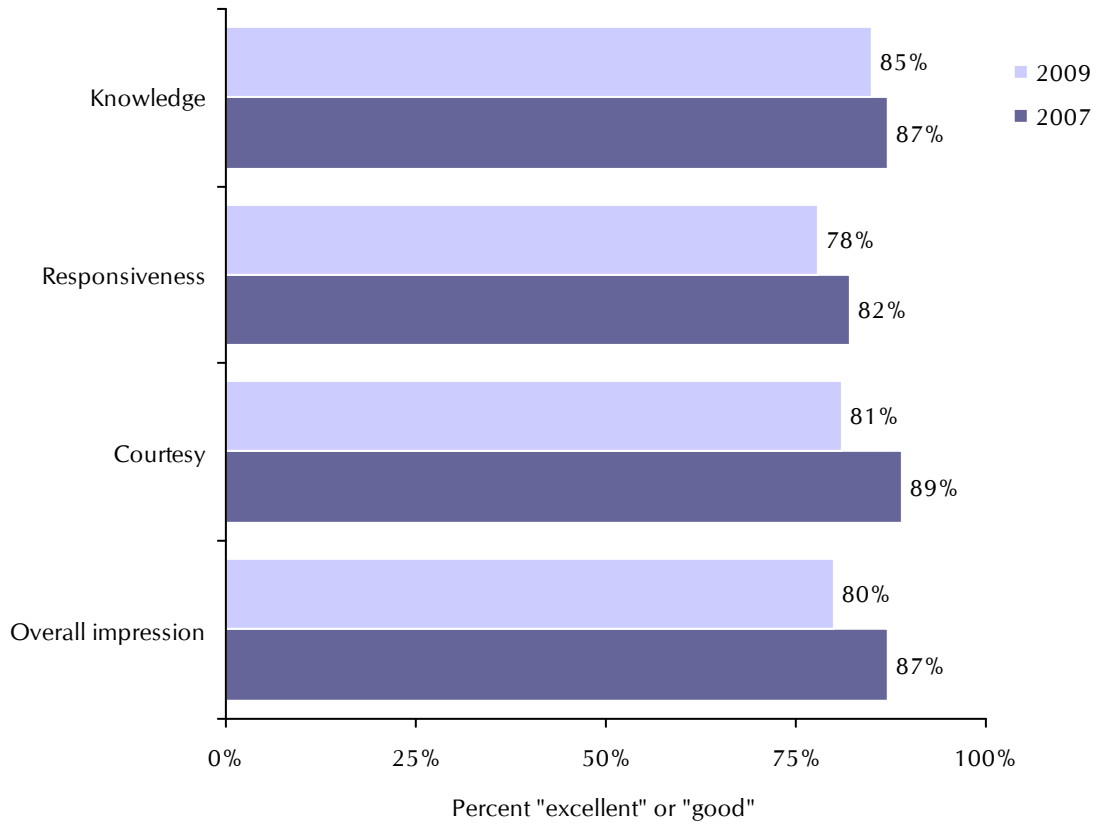


FIGURE 84: RATINGS OF CITY EMPLOYEES (AMONG THOSE WHO HAD CONTACT) BENCHMARKS

| | Comparison to benchmark |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| City employee knowledge | Above |
| City employee responsiveness | Above |
| City employee courteousness | Above |
| Overall impression | Above |

FROM DATA TO ACTION

RESIDENT PRIORITIES

Knowing where to focus limited resources to improve residents' opinions of local government requires information that targets the services that are most important to residents. However, when residents are asked what services are most important, they rarely stray beyond core services – those directed to save lives and improve safety.

In market research, identifying the most important characteristics of a transaction or product is called Key Driver Analysis. The key drivers that are identified from that analysis do not come from asking customers to self-report which service or product characteristic most influenced their decision to buy or return, but rather from statistical analyses of the predictors of their behavior. When customers are asked to name the most important characteristics of a good or service, responses often are expected or misleading – just as they can be in the context of a citizen survey. For example, air travelers often claim that safety is the primary consideration in their choice of an airline, yet key driver analysis reveals that frequent flier perks or in-flight entertainment predicts their buying decisions.

In local government core services – like fire protection – invariably land at the top of the list created when residents are asked about the most important local government services. And core services are important. But by using Key Driver Analysis, our approach digs deeper to identify the less obvious, but more influential services that are most related to residents' ratings of overall quality of local government services. Because services focused directly on life and safety remain essential to quality government, it is suggested that core services should remain the focus of continuous monitoring and improvement where necessary – but monitoring core services or asking residents to identify important services is not enough.

A Key Driver Analysis (KDA) was conducted for the City of Mountlake Terrace by examining the relationships between ratings of each service and ratings of the City of Mountlake Terrace's overall services. Those key driver services that correlated most highly with residents' perceptions about overall City service quality have been identified. By targeting improvements in key services, the City of Mountlake Terrace can focus on the services that have the greatest likelihood of influencing residents' opinions about overall service quality.

Services found to be most strongly correlated with ratings of overall service quality from the Mountlake Terrace Key Driver Analysis were:

- Street cleaning
- Traffic signal timing
- Traffic enforcement

CITY OF MOUNTLAKE TERRACE ACTION CHART

The 2009 City of Mountlake Terrace Action Chart™ on the following page combines three dimensions of performance:

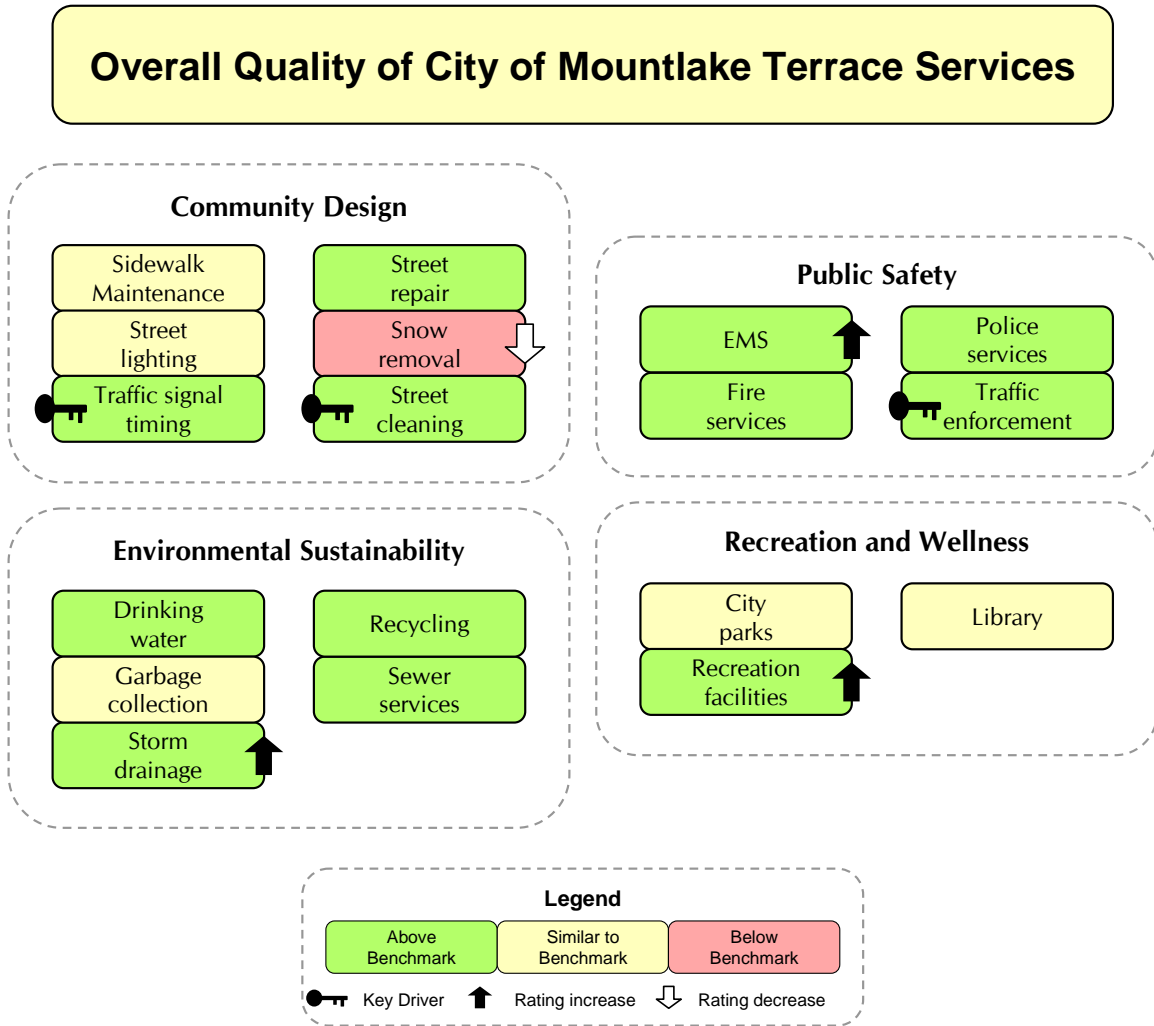
- Comparison to resident evaluations from other communities. When a comparison is available, the background color of each service box indicates whether the service is above the benchmark (green), similar to the benchmark (yellow) or below the benchmark (red).
- Identification of key services. A black key icon (🔑) next to a service box indicates that service is key (either core or key driver)
- Trendline icons (up and down arrows), indicating whether the current ratings are higher or lower than the previous survey.

Eighteen services were included in the KDA for the City of Mountlake Terrace. Of these, twelve were above the benchmark, one was below the benchmark and five were similar to the benchmark. Ratings for three services were trending up and one was trending down, while 14 remained similar to the previous survey. A key icon (🔑) indicates the three key drivers.

Considering all performance data included in the Action Chart, a jurisdiction typically will want to consider improvements to any key driver services that are trending down or that are not at least similar to the benchmark. In the case of Mountlake Terrace, no key drivers were below the benchmark or trending lower in the current survey. More detail about interpreting results can be found in the next section.

Services with a high percent of respondents answering “don’t know” were excluded from the analysis and were considered services that would be less influential. See Appendix A: Complete Survey Frequencies, Frequencies Including “Don’t Know” Responses for the percent “don’t know” for each service.

FIGURE 85: CITY OF MOUNTLAKE TERRACE ACTION CHART™



Using Your Action Chart™

The key drivers derived for the City of Mountlake Terrace provide a list of those services that are uniquely related to overall service quality. Those key drivers are marked with the symbol of a key in the action chart. Because key driver results are based on a relatively small number of responses, the relationships or correlations that define the key drivers are subject to more variability than is seen when key drivers are derived from a large national dataset of resident responses. To benefit the City of Mountlake Terrace, NRC lists the key drivers derived from tens of thousands of resident responses from across the country. This national list is updated periodically so that you can compare your key drivers to the key drivers from the entire NRC data set. Where your locally derived key drivers overlap national key drivers, it makes sense to focus even more strongly on your keys. Similarly, when your local key drivers overlap your core services, there is stronger argument to make for attending to your key drivers that overlap with core services. In the following table, we have listed your key drivers, core services and the national key drivers and we have indicated, with shaded rows, the City of Mountlake Terrace key drivers that overlap core services or the nationally derived keys.

FIGURE 86: KEY DRIVERS COMPARED

| Service | City of Mountlake Terrace Key Drivers | National Key Drivers | Core Services |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| Traffic Signal timing | ✓ | | |
| Sidewalk maintenance | | | |
| Snow removal | | | |
| Street cleaning | ✓ | | |
| Street lighting | | | |
| Street repair | | | ✓ |
| Drinking water | | | ✓ |
| Garbage collection | | | ✓ |
| Recycling | | | |
| Sewer | | | ✓ |
| Storm drainage | | | ✓ |
| EMS | | | ✓ |
| Fire | | | ✓ |
| Police services | | ✓ | ✓ |
| Traffic enforcement | ✓ | | |
| City parks | | | |
| Public library | | | |
| Recreation centers or facilities | | | |

**APPENDIX A: COMPLETE SURVEY
FREQUENCIES**

FREQUENCIES EXCLUDING “DON’T KNOW” RESPONSES

| Question 1: Quality of Life | | | | | |
|--|-----------|------|------|------|-------|
| Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Mountlake Terrace: | Excellent | Good | Fair | Poor | Total |
| Mountlake Terrace as a place to live | 20% | 65% | 15% | 0% | 100% |
| Your neighborhood as a place to live | 24% | 57% | 18% | 2% | 100% |
| Mountlake Terrace as a place to raise children | 21% | 51% | 26% | 2% | 100% |
| Mountlake Terrace as a place to work | 7% | 23% | 35% | 35% | 100% |
| Mountlake Terrace as a place to retire | 20% | 35% | 30% | 15% | 100% |
| The overall quality of life in Mountlake Terrace | 16% | 57% | 26% | 1% | 100% |

| Question 2: Community Characteristics | | | | | |
|---|-----------|------|------|------|-------|
| Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Mountlake Terrace as a whole: | Excellent | Good | Fair | Poor | Total |
| Sense of community | 11% | 44% | 39% | 7% | 100% |
| Openness and acceptance of the community towards people of diverse backgrounds | 16% | 50% | 30% | 4% | 100% |
| Overall appearance of Mountlake Terrace | 7% | 37% | 45% | 11% | 100% |
| Variety of housing options | 9% | 47% | 36% | 8% | 100% |
| Overall quality of business and service establishments in Mountlake Terrace | 6% | 32% | 44% | 17% | 100% |
| Shopping opportunities | 6% | 23% | 34% | 38% | 100% |
| Opportunities to attend cultural activities | 5% | 21% | 42% | 31% | 100% |
| Recreational opportunities | 16% | 48% | 27% | 9% | 100% |
| Employment opportunities | 1% | 13% | 37% | 48% | 100% |
| Educational opportunities | 8% | 31% | 48% | 14% | 100% |
| Opportunities to participate in social events and activities | 10% | 39% | 44% | 7% | 100% |
| Opportunities to participate in religious or spiritual events and activities | 17% | 45% | 35% | 3% | 100% |
| Opportunities to volunteer | 14% | 40% | 41% | 4% | 100% |
| Opportunities to participate in community matters | 16% | 45% | 35% | 4% | 100% |
| Ease of car travel in Mountlake Terrace | 24% | 57% | 14% | 5% | 100% |
| Ease of bus travel in Mountlake Terrace | 22% | 50% | 20% | 7% | 100% |
| Ease of rail or subway travel in Mountlake Terrace | 3% | 8% | 19% | 70% | 100% |
| Ease of bicycle travel in Mountlake Terrace | 14% | 39% | 38% | 8% | 100% |
| Ease of walking in Mountlake Terrace | 21% | 47% | 27% | 5% | 100% |
| Availability of paths and walking trails | 11% | 42% | 42% | 5% | 100% |
| Traffic flow on major streets | 10% | 63% | 25% | 2% | 100% |
| Amount of public parking | 15% | 62% | 19% | 5% | 100% |
| Availability of affordable quality housing | 9% | 42% | 38% | 10% | 100% |
| Availability of affordable quality child care | 5% | 25% | 51% | 19% | 100% |
| Availability of affordable quality health care | 7% | 32% | 42% | 20% | 100% |
| Availability of affordable quality food | 12% | 38% | 37% | 13% | 100% |
| Availability of preventive health services | 8% | 31% | 44% | 18% | 100% |
| Quality of overall natural environment in Mountlake Terrace | 17% | 49% | 31% | 3% | 100% |
| Overall image or reputation of Mountlake Terrace | 9% | 32% | 40% | 19% | 100% |

| Question 3: Growth | | | | | | |
|---|---------------|-------------------|--------------|-------------------|---------------|-------|
| Please rate the speed of growth in the following categories in Mountlake Terrace over the past 2 years: | Much too slow | Somewhat too slow | Right amount | Somewhat too fast | Much too fast | Total |
| Population growth | 2% | 5% | 71% | 20% | 2% | 100% |
| Retail growth (stores, restaurants, etc.) | 15% | 48% | 34% | 3% | 0% | 100% |
| Jobs growth | 34% | 47% | 18% | 1% | 0% | 100% |

| Question 4: Code Enforcement | |
|---|------------------------|
| To what degree, if at all, are run down buildings, weed lots or junk vehicles a problem in Mountlake Terrace? | Percent of respondents |
| Not a problem | 9% |
| Minor problem | 35% |
| Moderate problem | 40% |
| Major problem | 16% |
| Total | 100% |

| Question 5: Community Safety | | | | | | |
|--|-----------|---------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-------------|-------|
| Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel from the following in Mountlake Terrace: | Very safe | Somewhat safe | Neither safe nor unsafe | Somewhat unsafe | Very unsafe | Total |
| Violent crime (e.g., rape, assault, robbery) | 30% | 41% | 16% | 11% | 2% | 100% |
| Property crimes (e.g., burglary, theft) | 16% | 37% | 19% | 23% | 4% | 100% |
| Environmental hazards, including toxic waste | 38% | 40% | 18% | 3% | 0% | 100% |

| Question 6: Personal Safety | | | | | | |
|---|-----------|---------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-------------|-------|
| Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel: | Very safe | Somewhat safe | Neither safe nor unsafe | Somewhat unsafe | Very unsafe | Total |
| In your neighborhood during the day | 56% | 35% | 5% | 4% | 0% | 100% |
| In your neighborhood after dark | 23% | 43% | 17% | 15% | 2% | 100% |
| In Mountlake Terrace's downtown area during the day | 54% | 36% | 9% | 0% | 0% | 100% |
| In Mountlake Terrace's downtown area after dark | 19% | 44% | 17% | 18% | 2% | 100% |

| Question 7: Crime Victim | |
|--|------------------------|
| During the past twelve months, were you or anyone in your household the victim of any crime? | Percent of respondents |
| No | 86% |
| Yes | 14% |
| Total | 100% |

| Question 8: Crime Reporting | |
|---|------------------------|
| If yes, was this crime (these crimes) reported to the police? | Percent of respondents |
| No | 24% |
| Yes | 76% |
| Total | 100% |

| Question 9: Resident Behaviors | | | | | | |
|--|-------|---------------|---------------|----------------|--------------------|-------|
| In the last 12 months, about how many times, if ever, have you or other household members participated in the following activities in Mountlake Terrace? | Never | Once or twice | 3 to 12 times | 13 to 26 times | More than 26 times | Total |
| Used Mountlake Terrace public libraries or their services | 26% | 27% | 27% | 8% | 11% | 100% |
| Used Mountlake Terrace recreation centers | 38% | 25% | 18% | 9% | 10% | 100% |
| Participated in a recreation program or activity | 61% | 17% | 8% | 9% | 6% | 100% |
| Visited a neighborhood park or City park | 13% | 28% | 24% | 18% | 16% | 100% |
| Ridden a local bus within Mountlake Terrace | 60% | 15% | 8% | 4% | 13% | 100% |
| Attended a meeting of local elected officials or other local public meeting | 80% | 17% | 2% | 0% | 0% | 100% |
| Watched a meeting of local elected officials or other local public meeting on cable television | 84% | 12% | 2% | 0% | 2% | 100% |
| Read City Happenings Newsletter | 15% | 21% | 49% | 11% | 4% | 100% |
| Visited the City of Mountlake Terrace Web site (at cityofmlt.com) | 46% | 21% | 26% | 5% | 2% | 100% |
| Recycled used paper, cans or bottles from your home | 5% | 2% | 6% | 11% | 76% | 100% |
| Volunteered your time to some group or activity in Mountlake Terrace | 70% | 14% | 6% | 3% | 6% | 100% |
| Participated in religious or spiritual activities in Mountlake Terrace | 68% | 8% | 7% | 4% | 12% | 100% |
| Participated in a club or civic group in Mountlake Terrace | 85% | 8% | 3% | 1% | 2% | 100% |
| Provided help to a friend or neighbor | 5% | 35% | 32% | 13% | 15% | 100% |

| Question 10: Neighborliness | |
|---|------------------------|
| About how often, if at all, do you talk to or visit with your immediate neighbors (people who live in the 10 or 20 households that are closest to you)? | Percent of respondents |
| Just about everyday | 15% |
| Several times a week | 17% |
| Several times a month | 34% |
| Once a month | 11% |
| Several times a year | 17% |
| Once a year or less | 4% |
| Never | 2% |
| Total | 100% |

| Question 11: Service Quality | | | | | |
|--|-----------|------|------|------|-------|
| Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Mountlake Terrace: | Excellent | Good | Fair | Poor | Total |
| Police services | 42% | 48% | 9% | 2% | 100% |
| Fire services | 52% | 45% | 3% | 0% | 100% |
| Ambulance or emergency medical services | 56% | 42% | 2% | 0% | 100% |
| Crime prevention | 24% | 48% | 21% | 6% | 100% |
| Fire prevention and education | 26% | 57% | 16% | 1% | 100% |
| Municipal courts | 20% | 58% | 19% | 4% | 100% |
| Traffic enforcement | 20% | 48% | 24% | 8% | 100% |
| Street repair | 11% | 42% | 36% | 11% | 100% |
| Street cleaning | 23% | 48% | 24% | 6% | 100% |
| Street lighting | 11% | 46% | 32% | 11% | 100% |
| Snow removal | 8% | 25% | 40% | 27% | 100% |
| Sidewalk maintenance | 10% | 37% | 43% | 11% | 100% |
| Traffic signal timing | 9% | 47% | 30% | 13% | 100% |
| Bus or transit services | 22% | 51% | 21% | 6% | 100% |
| Garbage collection | 33% | 49% | 14% | 5% | 100% |
| Recycling | 32% | 47% | 10% | 11% | 100% |
| Yard waste pick-up | 29% | 48% | 13% | 10% | 100% |
| Storm drainage | 16% | 55% | 23% | 7% | 100% |
| Drinking water | 34% | 51% | 14% | 1% | 100% |
| Sewer services | 27% | 58% | 15% | 0% | 100% |
| City parks | 27% | 49% | 23% | 1% | 100% |
| Recreation programs or classes | 28% | 53% | 15% | 3% | 100% |
| Recreation centers or facilities | 26% | 58% | 12% | 4% | 100% |
| Land use, planning and zoning | 7% | 34% | 47% | 12% | 100% |
| Code enforcement (weeds, abandoned buildings, etc) | 7% | 27% | 45% | 21% | 100% |
| Animal control | 10% | 44% | 31% | 14% | 100% |
| Economic development | 8% | 29% | 40% | 23% | 100% |
| Services to seniors | 15% | 41% | 38% | 6% | 100% |
| Services to youth | 18% | 49% | 26% | 7% | 100% |
| Public library services | 28% | 55% | 17% | 0% | 100% |
| Public information services | 19% | 50% | 30% | 2% | 100% |
| Emergency preparedness (services that prepare the community for natural disasters or other emergency situations) | 15% | 34% | 36% | 15% | 100% |
| Preservation of natural areas such as open space, farmlands and greenbelts | 15% | 40% | 32% | 13% | 100% |

| Question 12: Government Services Overall | | | | | |
|--|-----------|------|------|------|-------|
| Overall, how would you rate the quality of the services provided by each of the following? | Excellent | Good | Fair | Poor | Total |
| The City of Mountlake Terrace | 18% | 55% | 25% | 2% | 100% |
| The Federal Government | 3% | 30% | 48% | 19% | 100% |
| The State Government | 3% | 31% | 46% | 20% | 100% |
| Snohomish County Government | 7% | 42% | 42% | 9% | 100% |

| Question 13: Contact with City Employees | |
|--|------------------------|
| Have you had any in-person or phone contact with an employee of the City of Mountlake Terrace within the last 12 months (including police, receptionists, planners or any others)? | Percent of respondents |
| No | 47% |
| Yes | 53% |
| Total | 100% |

| Question 14: City Employees | | | | | |
|---|-----------|------|------|------|-------|
| What was your impression of the employee(s) of the City of Mountlake Terrace in your most recent contact? | Excellent | Good | Fair | Poor | Total |
| Knowledge | 41% | 44% | 14% | 0% | 100% |
| Responsiveness | 43% | 35% | 16% | 6% | 100% |
| Courtesy | 53% | 28% | 13% | 6% | 100% |
| Overall impression | 42% | 39% | 14% | 5% | 100% |

| Question 15: Government Performance | | | | | |
|---|-----------|------|------|------|-------|
| Please rate the following categories of Mountlake Terrace government performance: | Excellent | Good | Fair | Poor | Total |
| The value of services for the taxes paid to Mountlake Terrace | 13% | 46% | 34% | 7% | 100% |
| The overall direction that Mountlake Terrace is taking | 10% | 47% | 37% | 7% | 100% |
| The job Mountlake Terrace government does at welcoming citizen involvement | 14% | 42% | 30% | 14% | 100% |
| The job Mountlake Terrace government does at listening to citizens | 13% | 32% | 36% | 18% | 100% |

| Question 16: Recommendation and Longevity | | | | | |
|---|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------|-------|
| Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to do each of the following: | Very likely | Somewhat likely | Somewhat unlikely | Very unlikely | Total |
| Recommend living in Mountlake Terrace to someone who asks | 37% | 48% | 11% | 4% | 100% |
| Remain in Mountlake Terrace for the next five years | 52% | 32% | 11% | 5% | 100% |

| Question 17: Impact of the Economy | |
|--|------------------------|
| What impact, if any, do you think the economy will have on your family income in the next 6 months? Do you think the impact will be: | Percent of respondents |
| Very positive | 7% |
| Somewhat positive | 12% |
| Neutral | 42% |
| Somewhat negative | 29% |
| Very negative | 11% |
| Total | 100% |

| Question D1: Employment Status | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Are you currently employed for pay? | Percent of respondents |
| No | 27% |
| Yes, full-time | 64% |
| Yes, part-time | 10% |
| Total | 100% |

| Question D2: Mode of Transportation Used for Commute | |
|--|---------------------------|
| During a typical week, how many days do you commute to work (for the longest distance of your commute) in each of the ways listed below? | Percent of days mode used |
| Motorized vehicle (e.g., car, truck, van, motorcycle, etc...) by myself | 70% |
| Motorized vehicle (e.g., car, truck, van, motorcycle, etc...) with other children or adults | 7% |
| Bus, rail, subway or other public transportation | 16% |
| Walk | 2% |
| Bicycle | 1% |
| Work at home | 4% |
| Other | 2% |

| Question D3: Length of Residency | |
|---|------------------------|
| How many years have you lived in Mountlake Terrace? | Percent of respondents |
| Less than 2 years | 12% |
| 2 to 5 years | 29% |
| 6 to 10 years | 16% |
| 11 to 20 years | 19% |
| More than 20 years | 24% |
| Total | 100% |

| Question D4: Housing Unit Type | |
|---|------------------------|
| Which best describes the building you live in? | Percent of respondents |
| One family house detached from any other houses | 61% |
| House attached to one or more houses (e.g., a duplex or townhome) | 9% |
| Building with two or more apartments or condominiums | 29% |
| Mobile home | 1% |
| Other | 1% |
| Total | 100% |

| Question D5: Housing Tenure (Rent/Own) | |
|---|------------------------|
| Is this house, apartment or mobile home... | Percent of respondents |
| Rented for cash or occupied without cash payment | 36% |
| Owned by you or someone in this house with a mortgage or free and clear | 64% |
| Total | 100% |

| Question D6: Monthly Housing Cost | |
|---|------------------------|
| About how much is your monthly housing cost for the place you live (including rent, mortgage payment, property tax, property insurance and homeowners' association (HOA) fees)? | Percent of respondents |
| Less than \$300 per month | 3% |
| \$300 to \$599 per month | 7% |
| \$600 to \$999 per month | 25% |
| \$1,000 to \$1,499 per month | 30% |
| \$1,500 to \$2,499 per month | 27% |
| \$2,500 or more per month | 8% |
| Total | 100% |

| Question D7: Presence of Children in Household | |
|---|------------------------|
| Do any children 17 or under live in your household? | Percent of respondents |
| No | 68% |
| Yes | 32% |
| Total | 100% |

| Question D8: Presence of Older Adults in Household | |
|--|------------------------|
| Are you or any other members of your household aged 65 or older? | Percent of respondents |
| No | 83% |
| Yes | 17% |
| Total | 100% |

| Question D9: Household Income | |
|--|------------------------|
| How much do you anticipate your household's total income before taxes will be for the current year? (Please include in your total income money from all sources for all persons living in your household.) | Percent of respondents |
| Less than \$24,999 | 10% |
| \$25,000 to \$49,999 | 36% |
| \$50,000 to \$99,999 | 44% |
| \$100,000 to \$149,000 | 8% |
| \$150,000 or more | 2% |
| Total | 100% |

| Question D10: Ethnicity | |
|--|------------------------|
| Are you Spanish, Hispanic or Latino? | Percent of respondents |
| No, not Spanish, Hispanic or Latino | 95% |
| Yes, I consider myself to be Spanish, Hispanic or Latino | 5% |
| Total | 100% |

| Question D11: Race | |
|---|------------------------|
| What is your race? (Mark one or more races to indicate what race(s) you consider yourself to be.) | Percent of respondents |
| American Indian or Alaskan Native | 6% |
| Asian, Asian Indian or Pacific Islander | 7% |
| Black or African American | 3% |
| White | 82% |
| Other | 7% |
| Total may exceed 100% as respondents could select more than one option | |

| Question D12: Age | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| In which category is your age? | Percent of respondents |
| 18 to 24 years | 5% |
| 25 to 34 years | 25% |
| 35 to 44 years | 19% |
| 45 to 54 years | 23% |
| 55 to 64 years | 14% |
| 65 to 74 years | 7% |
| 75 years or older | 8% |
| Total | 100% |

| Question D13: Gender | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| What is your sex? | Percent of respondents |
| Female | 53% |
| Male | 47% |
| Total | 100% |

| Question D14: Registered to Vote | |
|--|------------------------|
| Are you registered to vote in your jurisdiction? | Percent of respondents |
| No | 14% |
| Yes | 85% |
| Ineligible to vote | 1% |
| Total | 100% |

| Question D15: Voted in Last General Election | |
|--|------------------------|
| Many people don't have time to vote in elections. Did you vote in the last general election? | Percent of respondents |
| No | 30% |
| Yes | 67% |
| Ineligible to vote | 2% |
| Total | 100% |

FREQUENCIES INCLUDING “DON’T KNOW” RESPONSES

These tables contain the percentage of respondents for each response category as well as the “n” or total number of respondents for each category, next to the percentage.

| Question 1: Quality of Life | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------|----|------------|-----|-------|------|
| Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Mountlake Terrace: | Excellent | | Good | | Fair | | Poor | | Don't know | | Total | |
| | Mountlake Terrace as a place to live | 20% | 63 | 65% | 211 | 15% | 50 | 0% | 1 | 0% | 0 | 100% |
| Your neighborhood as a place to live | 24% | 77 | 57% | 184 | 18% | 58 | 2% | 6 | 0% | 0 | 100% | 325 |
| Mountlake Terrace as a place to raise children | 17% | 55 | 41% | 134 | 21% | 67 | 1% | 4 | 20% | 64 | 100% | 324 |
| Mountlake Terrace as a place to work | 4% | 13 | 13% | 41 | 19% | 63 | 19% | 62 | 45% | 144 | 100% | 323 |
| Mountlake Terrace as a place to retire | 14% | 44 | 23% | 76 | 20% | 65 | 10% | 33 | 32% | 104 | 100% | 322 |
| The overall quality of life in Mountlake Terrace | 16% | 51 | 57% | 184 | 26% | 83 | 1% | 4 | 1% | 2 | 100% | 325 |

| Question 2: Community Characteristics | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------------|-----|-------|------|
| Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Mountlake Terrace as a whole: | Excellent | | Good | | Fair | | Poor | | Don't know | | Total | |
| | Sense of community | 11% | 34 | 42% | 133 | 37% | 119 | 6% | 20 | 4% | 12 | 100% |
| Openness and acceptance of the community towards people of diverse backgrounds | 13% | 43 | 41% | 131 | 24% | 78 | 4% | 12 | 18% | 57 | 100% | 321 |
| Overall appearance of Mountlake Terrace | 7% | 22 | 37% | 118 | 44% | 142 | 11% | 36 | 1% | 4 | 100% | 321 |
| Variety of housing options | 8% | 26 | 43% | 137 | 33% | 106 | 8% | 24 | 7% | 24 | 100% | 317 |
| Overall quality of business and service establishments in Mountlake Terrace | 6% | 20 | 32% | 103 | 44% | 141 | 17% | 54 | 1% | 2 | 100% | 321 |
| Shopping opportunities | 6% | 18 | 22% | 70 | 33% | 105 | 37% | 118 | 2% | 5 | 100% | 317 |
| Opportunities to attend cultural activities | 4% | 13 | 16% | 49 | 32% | 100 | 23% | 73 | 25% | 80 | 100% | 315 |
| Recreational opportunities | 15% | 48 | 45% | 141 | 26% | 81 | 8% | 25 | 6% | 19 | 100% | 314 |
| Employment opportunities | 1% | 3 | 8% | 24 | 22% | 70 | 29% | 90 | 41% | 127 | 100% | 315 |
| Educational opportunities | 6% | 19 | 23% | 72 | 35% | 112 | 10% | 33 | 26% | 83 | 100% | 319 |
| Opportunities to participate in social events and activities | 8% | 26 | 33% | 105 | 37% | 118 | 6% | 19 | 16% | 50 | 100% | 319 |
| Opportunities to participate in religious or spiritual events and | 12% | 37 | 32% | 101 | 25% | 79 | 2% | 6 | 30% | 95 | 100% | 317 |

| Question 2: Community Characteristics | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Mountlake Terrace as a whole: | Excellent | | Good | | Fair | | Poor | | Don't know | | Total | |
| | % | Count | % | Count | % | Count | % | Count | % | Count | % | Count |
| activities | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Opportunities to volunteer | 9% | 30 | 26% | 84 | 27% | 86 | 3% | 8 | 35% | 112 | 100% | 319 |
| Opportunities to participate in community matters | 12% | 37 | 34% | 107 | 27% | 83 | 3% | 9 | 24% | 74 | 100% | 311 |
| Ease of car travel in Mountlake Terrace | 24% | 76 | 56% | 182 | 14% | 45 | 5% | 15 | 1% | 4 | 100% | 322 |
| Ease of bus travel in Mountlake Terrace | 16% | 50 | 35% | 111 | 14% | 44 | 5% | 16 | 30% | 94 | 100% | 315 |
| Ease of rail or subway travel in Mountlake Terrace | 1% | 4 | 3% | 11 | 8% | 26 | 31% | 93 | 56% | 169 | 100% | 303 |
| Ease of bicycle travel in Mountlake Terrace | 10% | 30 | 26% | 80 | 25% | 79 | 6% | 18 | 34% | 106 | 100% | 312 |
| Ease of walking in Mountlake Terrace | 19% | 61 | 44% | 139 | 25% | 78 | 5% | 16 | 7% | 21 | 100% | 315 |
| Availability of paths and walking trails | 10% | 32 | 37% | 118 | 36% | 116 | 4% | 14 | 12% | 39 | 100% | 319 |
| Traffic flow on major streets | 10% | 31 | 63% | 201 | 24% | 78 | 2% | 6 | 1% | 4 | 100% | 321 |
| Amount of public parking | 14% | 44 | 57% | 184 | 17% | 56 | 5% | 15 | 7% | 23 | 100% | 321 |
| Availability of affordable quality housing | 8% | 25 | 37% | 118 | 33% | 107 | 9% | 28 | 13% | 42 | 100% | 321 |
| Availability of affordable quality child care | 2% | 6 | 8% | 27 | 17% | 55 | 7% | 21 | 66% | 209 | 100% | 318 |
| Availability of affordable quality health care | 4% | 11 | 17% | 53 | 22% | 70 | 10% | 33 | 48% | 152 | 100% | 319 |
| Availability of affordable quality food | 11% | 36 | 36% | 116 | 35% | 112 | 13% | 41 | 5% | 15 | 100% | 320 |
| Availability of preventive health services | 4% | 13 | 17% | 51 | 23% | 72 | 9% | 29 | 46% | 142 | 100% | 306 |
| Quality of overall natural environment in Mountlake Terrace | 17% | 54 | 47% | 150 | 30% | 95 | 3% | 10 | 3% | 11 | 100% | 321 |
| Overall image or reputation of Mountlake Terrace | 9% | 29 | 31% | 99 | 39% | 123 | 19% | 60 | 1% | 3 | 100% | 315 |

| Question 3: Growth | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------|----|-------------------|-----|--------------|-----|-------------------|-----|---------------|----|------------|-----|-------|------|
| Please rate the speed of growth in the following categories in Mountlake Terrace over the past 2 years: | Much too slow | | Somewhat too slow | | Right amount | | Somewhat too fast | | Much too fast | | Don't know | | Total | |
| | Population growth | 1% | 4 | 4% | 12 | 49% | 160 | 14% | 45 | 1% | 4 | 30% | 98 | 100% |
| Retail growth (stores, restaurants, etc.) | 13% | 42 | 41% | 131 | 29% | 92 | 3% | 9 | 0% | 0 | 15% | 48 | 100% | 323 |
| Jobs growth | 18% | 57 | 24% | 78 | 9% | 30 | 1% | 2 | 0% | 0 | 48% | 154 | 100% | 320 |

| Question 4: Code Enforcement | | |
|---|------------------------|-------|
| To what degree, if at all, are run down buildings, weed lots or junk vehicles a problem in Mountlake Terrace? | Percent of respondents | Count |
| Not a problem | 8% | 25 |
| Minor problem | 32% | 101 |
| Moderate problem | 37% | 117 |
| Major problem | 15% | 46 |
| Don't know | 8% | 24 |
| Total | 100% | 314 |

| Question 5: Community Safety | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|-----|---------------|-----|-------------------------|-----|-----------------|-----|-------------|----|------------|----|-------|------|
| Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel from the following in Mountlake Terrace: | Very safe | | Somewhat safe | | Neither safe nor unsafe | | Somewhat unsafe | | Very unsafe | | Don't know | | Total | |
| | Violent crime (e.g., rape, assault, robbery) | 29% | 91 | 40% | 127 | 16% | 50 | 11% | 35 | 1% | 5 | 3% | 10 | 100% |
| Property crimes (e.g., burglary, theft) | 16% | 51 | 36% | 116 | 19% | 60 | 23% | 74 | 4% | 13 | 3% | 8 | 100% | 322 |
| Environmental hazards, including toxic waste | 31% | 100 | 33% | 105 | 14% | 46 | 3% | 9 | 0% | 1 | 19% | 61 | 100% | 321 |

| Question 6: Personal Safety | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|-----|---------------|-----|-------------------------|----|-----------------|----|-------------|----|------------|----|-------|------|
| Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel: | Very safe | | Somewhat safe | | Neither safe nor unsafe | | Somewhat unsafe | | Very unsafe | | Don't know | | Total | |
| | In your neighborhood during the day | 56% | 182 | 35% | 113 | 5% | 15 | 4% | 12 | 0% | 0 | 0% | 0 | 100% |
| In your neighborhood after dark | 23% | 74 | 43% | 136 | 17% | 55 | 15% | 47 | 2% | 5 | 1% | 2 | 100% | 320 |
| In Mountlake Terrace's downtown area during the day | 49% | 159 | 33% | 107 | 9% | 28 | 0% | 0 | 0% | 1 | 9% | 29 | 100% | 323 |
| In Mountlake Terrace's downtown area after dark | 15% | 49 | 36% | 117 | 14% | 46 | 15% | 47 | 2% | 5 | 18% | 58 | 100% | 322 |

| Question 7: Crime Victim | | |
|--|------------------------|-------|
| During the past twelve months, were you or anyone in your household the victim of any crime? | Percent of respondents | Count |
| No | 84% | 270 |
| Yes | 14% | 45 |
| Don't know | 1% | 4 |
| Total | 100% | 320 |

| Question 8: Crime Reporting | | |
|---|------------------------|-------|
| If yes, was this crime (these crimes) reported to the police? | Percent of respondents | Count |
| No | 24% | 11 |
| Yes | 76% | 34 |
| Don't know | 0% | 0 |
| Total | 100% | 45 |

| Question 9: Resident Behaviors | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-------|-------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|----------------|-------|--------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| In the last 12 months, about how many times, if ever, have you or other household members participated in the following activities in Mountlake Terrace? | Never | | Once or twice | | 3 to 12 times | | 13 to 26 times | | More than 26 times | | Total | |
| | % | Count | % | Count | % | Count | % | Count | % | Count | % | Count |
| Used Mountlake Terrace public libraries or their services | 26% | 81 | 27% | 87 | 27% | 87 | 8% | 27 | 11% | 36 | 100% | 317 |
| Used Mountlake Terrace recreation centers | 38% | 123 | 25% | 79 | 18% | 57 | 9% | 30 | 10% | 33 | 100% | 322 |
| Participated in a recreation program or activity | 61% | 190 | 17% | 53 | 8% | 25 | 9% | 27 | 6% | 19 | 100% | 314 |
| Visited a neighborhood park or City park | 13% | 41 | 28% | 88 | 24% | 75 | 18% | 56 | 16% | 51 | 100% | 310 |
| Ridden a local bus within Mountlake Terrace | 60% | 191 | 15% | 46 | 8% | 26 | 4% | 12 | 13% | 42 | 100% | 318 |
| Attended a meeting of local elected officials or other local public meeting | 80% | 257 | 17% | 56 | 2% | 5 | 0% | 1 | 0% | 0 | 100% | 319 |
| Watched a meeting of local elected officials or other local public meeting on cable television | 84% | 267 | 12% | 37 | 2% | 7 | 0% | 1 | 2% | 5 | 100% | 317 |
| Read City Happenings Newsletter | 15% | 46 | 21% | 66 | 49% | 153 | 11% | 34 | 4% | 13 | 100% | 312 |
| Visited the City of Mountlake Terrace Web site (at cityofmlt.com) | 46% | 141 | 21% | 66 | 26% | 79 | 5% | 17 | 2% | 6 | 100% | 309 |
| Recycled used paper, cans or bottles from your home | 5% | 14 | 2% | 7 | 6% | 20 | 11% | 34 | 76% | 239 | 100% | 314 |
| Volunteered your time to some group or activity in Mountlake Terrace | 70% | 217 | 14% | 44 | 6% | 18 | 3% | 10 | 6% | 19 | 100% | 308 |
| Participated in religious or spiritual activities in Mountlake Terrace | 68% | 218 | 8% | 25 | 7% | 24 | 4% | 13 | 12% | 39 | 100% | 320 |
| Participated in a club or civic group in Mountlake Terrace | 85% | 268 | 8% | 24 | 3% | 11 | 1% | 5 | 2% | 8 | 100% | 316 |
| Provided help to a friend or neighbor | 5% | 17 | 35% | 112 | 32% | 104 | 13% | 41 | 15% | 48 | 100% | 322 |

| Question 10: Neighborliness | | |
|---|------------------------|-------|
| About how often, if at all, do you talk to or visit with your immediate neighbors (people who live in the 10 or 20 households that are closest to you)? | Percent of respondents | Count |
| Just about everyday | 15% | 49 |
| Several times a week | 17% | 54 |
| Several times a month | 34% | 111 |
| Once a month | 11% | 36 |
| Several times a year | 17% | 54 |
| Once a year or less | 4% | 13 |
| Never | 2% | 6 |
| Total | 100% | 323 |

| Question 11: Service Quality | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------|----|------------|-----|-------|------|
| Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Mountlake Terrace: | Excellent | | Good | | Fair | | Poor | | Don't know | | Total | |
| | Police services | 37% | 119 | 43% | 136 | 8% | 25 | 2% | 5 | 11% | 34 | 100% |
| Fire services | 41% | 131 | 36% | 113 | 2% | 7 | 0% | 0 | 21% | 67 | 100% | 319 |
| Ambulance or emergency medical services | 40% | 127 | 30% | 96 | 1% | 4 | 0% | 0 | 29% | 91 | 100% | 318 |
| Crime prevention | 20% | 62 | 40% | 124 | 17% | 55 | 5% | 15 | 18% | 58 | 100% | 315 |
| Fire prevention and education | 15% | 47 | 33% | 103 | 9% | 29 | 1% | 3 | 42% | 132 | 100% | 313 |
| Municipal courts | 7% | 21 | 20% | 63 | 7% | 21 | 1% | 4 | 65% | 200 | 100% | 309 |
| Traffic enforcement | 16% | 49 | 37% | 115 | 19% | 58 | 6% | 18 | 23% | 71 | 100% | 311 |
| Street repair | 11% | 33 | 39% | 123 | 33% | 105 | 10% | 33 | 6% | 20 | 100% | 314 |
| Street cleaning | 20% | 65 | 43% | 136 | 22% | 68 | 5% | 16 | 10% | 31 | 100% | 316 |
| Street lighting | 11% | 34 | 46% | 144 | 32% | 101 | 10% | 33 | 1% | 4 | 100% | 315 |
| Snow removal | 7% | 23 | 22% | 70 | 36% | 113 | 24% | 75 | 11% | 34 | 100% | 315 |
| Sidewalk maintenance | 8% | 26 | 32% | 98 | 37% | 114 | 9% | 28 | 13% | 41 | 100% | 307 |
| Traffic signal timing | 9% | 27 | 44% | 139 | 28% | 90 | 12% | 38 | 6% | 20 | 100% | 315 |
| Bus or transit services | 14% | 43 | 32% | 99 | 13% | 41 | 4% | 11 | 38% | 119 | 100% | 313 |
| Garbage collection | 31% | 100 | 47% | 148 | 13% | 41 | 5% | 15 | 4% | 14 | 100% | 318 |

| Question 11: Service Quality | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------------|-----|-------|------|
| Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Mountlake Terrace: | Excellent | | Good | | Fair | | Poor | | Don't know | | Total | |
| | Recycling | 30% | 95 | 45% | 141 | 10% | 30 | 11% | 34 | 4% | 14 | 100% |
| Yard waste pick-up | 23% | 74 | 39% | 124 | 11% | 34 | 8% | 26 | 19% | 60 | 100% | 317 |
| Storm drainage | 13% | 41 | 45% | 144 | 18% | 59 | 5% | 17 | 18% | 57 | 100% | 317 |
| Drinking water | 33% | 105 | 49% | 154 | 13% | 42 | 1% | 3 | 4% | 11 | 100% | 315 |
| Sewer services | 23% | 71 | 48% | 153 | 12% | 39 | 0% | 0 | 17% | 53 | 100% | 315 |
| City parks | 25% | 78 | 44% | 140 | 21% | 66 | 1% | 4 | 9% | 28 | 100% | 316 |
| Recreation programs or classes | 19% | 58 | 35% | 110 | 10% | 32 | 2% | 7 | 34% | 105 | 100% | 313 |
| Recreation centers or facilities | 19% | 60 | 42% | 132 | 9% | 27 | 3% | 8 | 27% | 86 | 100% | 314 |
| Land use, planning and zoning | 4% | 13 | 21% | 64 | 28% | 88 | 7% | 23 | 39% | 122 | 100% | 311 |
| Code enforcement (weeds, abandoned buildings, etc) | 5% | 15 | 18% | 58 | 31% | 98 | 14% | 45 | 31% | 99 | 100% | 314 |
| Animal control | 7% | 22 | 29% | 93 | 21% | 65 | 10% | 30 | 34% | 107 | 100% | 317 |
| Economic development | 5% | 15 | 17% | 55 | 24% | 74 | 14% | 42 | 41% | 127 | 100% | 313 |
| Services to seniors | 5% | 17 | 14% | 45 | 13% | 42 | 2% | 6 | 65% | 204 | 100% | 314 |
| Services to youth | 7% | 23 | 21% | 65 | 11% | 35 | 3% | 9 | 57% | 179 | 100% | 312 |
| Public library services | 22% | 70 | 43% | 135 | 14% | 43 | 0% | 0 | 21% | 66 | 100% | 315 |
| Public information services | 12% | 38 | 32% | 99 | 19% | 60 | 1% | 4 | 36% | 112 | 100% | 312 |
| Emergency preparedness (services that prepare the community for natural disasters or other emergency situations) | 7% | 22 | 16% | 50 | 17% | 53 | 7% | 22 | 53% | 167 | 100% | 314 |
| Preservation of natural areas such as open space, farmlands and greenbelts | 10% | 31 | 27% | 83 | 21% | 66 | 9% | 28 | 33% | 101 | 100% | 309 |

| Question 12: Government Services Overall | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------|----|------------|----|-------|------|
| Overall, how would you rate the quality of the services provided by each of the following? | Excellent | | Good | | Fair | | Poor | | Don't know | | Total | |
| | The City of Mountlake Terrace | 17% | 52 | 51% | 160 | 23% | 72 | 2% | 7 | 8% | 24 | 100% |
| The Federal Government | 2% | 7 | 25% | 77 | 38% | 121 | 15% | 48 | 19% | 61 | 100% | 315 |
| The State Government | 3% | 8 | 25% | 80 | 38% | 121 | 17% | 53 | 17% | 52 | 100% | 315 |
| Snohomish County Government | 5% | 17 | 35% | 110 | 35% | 110 | 8% | 24 | 17% | 53 | 100% | 315 |

| Question 13: Contact with City Employees | | |
|--|------------------------|-------|
| Have you had any in-person or phone contact with an employee of the City of Mountlake Terrace within the last 12 months (including police, receptionists, planners or any others)? | Percent of respondents | Count |
| No | 47% | 149 |
| Yes | 53% | 170 |
| Total | 100% | 319 |

| Question 14: City Employees | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------|----|------------|----|-------|------|
| What was your impression of the employee(s) of the City of Mountlake Terrace in your most recent contact? | Excellent | | Good | | Fair | | Poor | | Don't know | | Total | |
| | Knowledge | 39% | 66 | 42% | 70 | 14% | 23 | 0% | 0 | 6% | 9 | 100% |
| Responsiveness | 43% | 72 | 35% | 59 | 16% | 27 | 6% | 10 | 0% | 0 | 100% | 169 |
| Courtesy | 53% | 89 | 28% | 47 | 12% | 21 | 6% | 10 | 1% | 1 | 100% | 169 |
| Overall impression | 42% | 71 | 39% | 65 | 14% | 24 | 5% | 9 | 0% | 0 | 100% | 169 |

| Question 15: Government Performance | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------|----|------------|-----|-------|------|
| Please rate the following categories of Mountlake Terrace government performance: | Excellent | | Good | | Fair | | Poor | | Don't know | | Total | |
| | The value of services for the taxes paid to Mountlake Terrace | 10% | 33 | 37% | 118 | 28% | 87 | 6% | 18 | 19% | 60 | 100% |
| The overall direction that Mountlake Terrace is taking | 8% | 26 | 39% | 123 | 30% | 97 | 6% | 19 | 17% | 54 | 100% | 318 |
| The job Mountlake Terrace government does at welcoming citizen involvement | 10% | 31 | 29% | 93 | 21% | 67 | 10% | 32 | 30% | 96 | 100% | 319 |
| The job Mountlake Terrace government does at listening to citizens | 8% | 27 | 20% | 65 | 23% | 73 | 12% | 37 | 37% | 118 | 100% | 320 |

| Question 16: Recommendation and Longevity | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|-----|-----------------|-----|-------------------|-----|---------------|----|------------|----|-------|------|
| Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to do each of the following: | Very likely | | Somewhat likely | | Somewhat unlikely | | Very unlikely | | Don't know | | Total | |
| | Recommend living in Mountlake Terrace to someone who asks | 37% | 116 | 47% | 149 | 11% | 34 | 4% | 12 | 2% | 6 | 100% |
| Remain in Mountlake Terrace for the next five years | 50% | 162 | 31% | 101 | 11% | 34 | 5% | 15 | 3% | 10 | 100% | 323 |

| Question 17: Impact of the Economy | | |
|--|------------------------|-------|
| What impact, if any, do you think the economy will have on your family income in the next 6 months? Do you think the impact will be: | Percent of respondents | Count |
| Very positive | 7% | 22 |
| Somewhat positive | 12% | 38 |
| Neutral | 42% | 136 |
| Somewhat negative | 29% | 95 |
| Very negative | 11% | 36 |
| Total | 100% | 325 |

| Question D1: Employment Status | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|-------|
| Are you currently employed for pay? | Percent of respondents | Count |
| No | 27% | 84 |
| Yes, full-time | 64% | 200 |
| Yes, part-time | 10% | 30 |
| Total | 100% | 314 |

| Question D2: Mode of Transportation Used for Commute | |
|--|---------------------------|
| During a typical week, how many days do you commute to work (for the longest distance of your commute) in each of the ways listed below? | Percent of days mode used |
| Motorized vehicle (e.g., car, truck, van, motorcycle, etc...) by myself | 70% |
| Motorized vehicle (e.g., car, truck, van, motorcycle, etc...) with other children or adults | 7% |
| Bus, rail, subway or other public transportation | 16% |
| Walk | 2% |
| Bicycle | 1% |
| Work at home | 4% |
| Other | 2% |

| Question D3: Length of Residency | | |
|---|------------------------|-------|
| How many years have you lived in Mountlake Terrace? | Percent of respondents | Count |
| Less than 2 years | 12% | 39 |
| 2 to 5 years | 29% | 93 |
| 6 to 10 years | 16% | 52 |
| 11 to 20 years | 19% | 60 |
| More than 20 years | 24% | 77 |
| Total | 100% | 321 |

| Question D4: Housing Unit Type | | |
|---|------------------------|-------|
| Which best describes the building you live in? | Percent of respondents | Count |
| One family house detached from any other houses | 61% | 194 |
| House attached to one or more houses (e.g., a duplex or townhome) | 9% | 28 |
| Building with two or more apartments or condominiums | 29% | 92 |
| Mobile home | 1% | 2 |
| Other | 1% | 4 |
| Total | 100% | 320 |

| Question D5: Housing Tenure (Rent/Own) | | |
|---|------------------------|-------|
| Is this house, apartment or mobile home... | Percent of respondents | Count |
| Rented for cash or occupied without cash payment | 36% | 115 |
| Owned by you or someone in this house with a mortgage or free and clear | 64% | 201 |
| Total | 100% | 316 |

| Question D6: Monthly Housing Cost | | |
|---|------------------------|-------|
| About how much is your monthly housing cost for the place you live (including rent, mortgage payment, property tax, property insurance and homeowners" association (HOA) fees)? | Percent of respondents | Count |
| Less than \$300 per month | 3% | 9 |
| \$300 to \$599 per month | 7% | 22 |
| \$600 to \$999 per month | 25% | 77 |
| \$1,000 to \$1,499 per month | 30% | 94 |
| \$1,500 to \$2,499 per month | 27% | 84 |
| \$2,500 or more per month | 8% | 23 |
| Total | 100% | 309 |

| Question D7: Presence of Children in Household | | |
|---|------------------------|-------|
| Do any children 17 or under live in your household? | Percent of respondents | Count |
| No | 68% | 219 |
| Yes | 32% | 103 |
| Total | 100% | 322 |

| Question D8: Presence of Older Adults in Household | | |
|--|------------------------|-------|
| Are you or any other members of your household aged 65 or older? | Percent of respondents | Count |
| No | 83% | 265 |
| Yes | 17% | 56 |
| Total | 100% | 321 |

| Question D9: Household Income | | |
|--|------------------------|-------|
| How much do you anticipate your household's total income before taxes will be for the current year? (Please include in your total income money from all sources for all persons living in your household.) | Percent of respondents | Count |
| Less than \$24,999 | 10% | 31 |
| \$25,000 to \$49,999 | 36% | 110 |
| \$50,000 to \$99,999 | 44% | 133 |
| \$100,000 to \$149,000 | 8% | 25 |
| \$150,000 or more | 2% | 6 |
| Total | 100% | 305 |

| Question D10: Ethnicity | | |
|--|------------------------|-------|
| Are you Spanish, Hispanic or Latino? | Percent of respondents | Count |
| No, not Spanish, Hispanic or Latino | 95% | 298 |
| Yes, I consider myself to be Spanish, Hispanic or Latino | 5% | 17 |
| Total | 100% | 314 |

| Question D11: Race | | |
|---|------------------------|-------|
| What is your race? (Mark one or more races to indicate what race(s) you consider yourself to be.) | Percent of respondents | Count |
| American Indian or Alaskan Native | 6% | 18 |
| Asian, Asian Indian or Pacific Islander | 7% | 24 |
| Black or African American | 3% | 9 |
| White | 82% | 262 |
| Other | 7% | 22 |
| Total may exceed 100% as respondents could select more than one option | | |

| Question D12: Age | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|-------|
| In which category is your age? | Percent of respondents | Count |
| 18 to 24 years | 5% | 16 |
| 25 to 34 years | 25% | 79 |
| 35 to 44 years | 19% | 61 |
| 45 to 54 years | 23% | 73 |
| 55 to 64 years | 14% | 44 |
| 65 to 74 years | 7% | 22 |
| 75 years or older | 8% | 25 |
| Total | 100% | 320 |

| Question D13: Gender | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|-------|
| What is your sex? | Percent of respondents | Count |
| Female | 53% | 167 |
| Male | 47% | 147 |
| Total | 100% | 314 |

| Question D14: Registered to Vote | | |
|--|------------------------|-------|
| Are you registered to vote in your jurisdiction? | Percent of respondents | Count |
| No | 14% | 44 |
| Yes | 84% | 268 |
| Ineligible to vote | 1% | 5 |
| Don't know | 1% | 3 |
| Total | 100% | 320 |

| Question D15: Voted in Last General Election | | |
|--|------------------------|-------|
| Many people don't have time to vote in elections. Did you vote in the last general election? | Percent of respondents | Count |
| No | 30% | 95 |
| Yes | 66% | 212 |
| Ineligible to vote | 2% | 7 |
| Don't know | 2% | 7 |
| Total | 100% | 321 |

APPENDIX B: SURVEY METHODOLOGY

The National Citizen Survey™ was developed to provide local jurisdictions an accurate, affordable and easy way to assess and interpret resident opinion about important community issues. While standardization of question wording and survey methods provide the rigor to assure valid results, each jurisdiction has enough flexibility to construct a customized version of The National Citizen Survey™ that asks residents about key local services and important local issues.

Results offer insight into residents' perspectives about local government performance and as such provide important benchmarks for jurisdictions working on performance measurement. The National Citizen Survey™ is designed to help with budget, land use and strategic planning as well as to communicate with local residents. The National Citizen Survey™ permits questions to test support for local policies and answers to its questions also speak to community trust and involvement in community-building activities as well as to resident demographic characteristics.

SURVEY VALIDITY

The question of survey validity has two parts: 1) how can a jurisdiction be confident that the results from those who completed the questionnaire are representative of the results that would have been obtained had the survey been administered to the entire population? and 2) how closely do the perspectives recorded on the survey reflect what residents really believe or do?

To answer the first question, the best survey research practices were used for the resources spent to ensure that the results from the survey respondents reflect the opinions of residents in the entire jurisdiction. These practices include:

- Using a mail-out/mail-back methodology, which typically gets a higher response rate than phone for the same dollars spent. A higher response rate lessens the worry that those who did not respond are different than those who did respond.
- Selecting households at random within the jurisdiction to receive the survey. A random selection ensures that the households selected to receive the survey are similar to the entire population. A non-random sample may only include households from one geographic area, or from households of only one type.
- Over-sampling multi-family housing units to improve response from hard-to-reach, lower income, or younger apartment dwellers.
- Selecting the respondent within the household using an unbiased sampling procedure; in this case, the "birthday method." The cover letter included an instruction requesting that the respondent in the household be the adult (18 years old or older) who most recently had a birthday, irrespective of year of birth.
- Contacting potential respondents three times to encourage response from people who may have different opinions or habits than those who would respond with only a single prompt.
- Soliciting response on jurisdiction letterhead signed by the highest ranking elected official or staff member, thus appealing to the recipients' sense of civic responsibility.
- Providing a self-addressed, postage-paid return envelope.
- Offering the survey in Spanish when appropriate and requested by City officials.
- Using the most recent available information about the characteristics of jurisdiction residents to weight the data to reflect the demographics of the population.

The answer to the second question about how closely the perspectives recorded on the survey reflect what residents really believe or do is more complex. Resident responses to surveys are influenced by a variety of factors. For questions about service quality, residents' expectations for

service quality play a role as well as the “objective” quality of the service provided, the way the resident perceives the entire community (that is, the context in which the service is provided), the scale on which the resident is asked to record his or her opinion and, of course, the opinion, itself, that a resident holds about the service. Similarly a resident’s report of certain behaviors is colored by what he or she believes is the socially desirable response (e.g., reporting tolerant behaviors toward “oppressed groups,” likelihood of voting a tax increase for services to poor people, use of alternative modes of travel to work besides the single occupancy vehicle), his or her memory of the actual behavior (if it is not a question speculating about future actions, like a vote), his or her confidence that he or she can be honest without suffering any negative consequences (thus the need for anonymity) as well as the actual behavior itself.

How closely survey results come to recording the way a person really feels or behaves often is measured by the coincidence of reported behavior with observed current behavior (e.g., driving habits), reported intentions to behave with observed future behavior (e.g., voting choices) or reported opinions about current community quality with objective characteristics of the community (e.g., feelings of safety correlated with rates of crime). There is a body of scientific literature that has investigated the relationship between reported behaviors and actual behaviors. Well-conducted surveys, by and large, do capture true respondent behaviors or intentions to act with great accuracy. Predictions of voting outcomes tend to be quite accurate using survey research, as do reported behaviors that are not about highly sensitive issues (e.g., family abuse or other illegal or morally sanctioned activities). For self-reports about highly sensitive issues, statistical adjustments can be made to correct for the respondents’ tendency to report what they think the “correct” response should be.

Research on the correlation of resident opinion about service quality and “objective” ratings of service quality tend to be ambiguous, some showing stronger relationships than others. NRC’s own research has demonstrated that residents who report the lowest ratings of street repair live in communities with objectively worse street conditions than those who report high ratings of street repair (based on road quality, delay in street repair, number of road repair employees). Similarly, the lowest rated fire services appear to be “objectively” worse than the highest rated fire services (expenditures per capita, response time, “professional” status of firefighters, breadth of services and training provided). Whether or not some research confirms the relationship between what residents think about a community and what can be seen “objectively” in a community, NRC has argued that resident opinion is a perspective that cannot be ignored by government administrators. NRC principals have written, “If you collect trash three times a day but residents think that your trash haul is lousy, you still have a problem.”

SURVEY SAMPLING

“Sampling” refers to the method by which survey recipients were chosen. All households within the City of Mountlake Terrace were eligible to participate in the survey; 1,200 were selected to receive the survey. These 1,200 households were randomly selected from a comprehensive list of all housing units within the City of Mountlake Terrace boundaries. The basis of the list of all housing units was a United States Postal Service listing of housing units within zip codes. Since some of the zip codes that serve the City of Mountlake Terrace households may also serve addresses that lie outside of the jurisdiction, the exact geographic location of each housing unit was compared to jurisdiction boundaries, using the most current municipal boundary file (updated on a quarterly basis), and addresses located outside of the City of Mountlake Terrace boundaries were removed from consideration.

To choose the 1,200 survey recipients, a systematic sampling method was applied to the list of households known to be within the City of Mountlake Terrace. Systematic sampling is a procedure whereby a complete list of all possible items is culled, selecting every Nth one until the appropriate amount of items is selected. Multi-family housing units were over sampled as residents of this type of housing typically respond at lower rates to surveys than do those in single-family housing units.

An individual within each household was selected using the birthday method. The birthday method selects a person within the household by asking the “person whose birthday has most recently passed” to complete the questionnaire. The underlying assumption in this method is that day of birth has no relationship to the way people respond to surveys. This instruction was contained in the cover letter accompanying the questionnaire.

SURVEY ADMINISTRATION

Selected households received three mailings, one week apart, beginning November 23, 2009. The first mailing was a prenotification postcard announcing the upcoming survey. The next mailing contained a letter from the mayor inviting the household to participate, a questionnaire and a postage-paid return envelope. The final mailing contained a reminder letter, another survey and a postage-paid return envelope. The second cover letter asked those who had not completed the survey to do so and those who have already done so to refrain from turning in another survey. Completed surveys were collected over the following five weeks.

SURVEY RESPONSE RATE AND CONFIDENCE INTERVALS

Of the 1,200 surveys mailed, 62 were returned because the housing unit was vacant or the postal service was unable to deliver the survey as addressed. Of the 1,138 households receiving the survey mailings, 323 completed the survey, providing a response rate of 28%. In general, response rates obtained on local government resident surveys range from 25% to 40%.

In theory, in 95 cases out of 100, the results based on the number of responses obtained will differ by no more than five percentage points in either direction from what would have been obtained had responses been collected from all City of Mountlake Terrace adults. This difference from the presumed population finding is referred to as the sampling error (or the “margin of error” or 95% confidence interval”). For subgroups of responses, the margin of sampling error is larger. In addition to sampling error, the practical difficulties of conducting any survey of the public may introduce other sources of error. For example, the failure of some of the selected adults to participate in the sample or the difficulty of including all sectors of the population, such as residents of some institutions or group residences, may lead to somewhat different results.

In addition to sampling error, other sources of error may affect any survey, including the non-response of residents with opinions different from survey responders that may affect sample findings. Though standardized on The NCS, on other surveys, differences in question wording, order, translation and data entry, as examples, can lead to somewhat varying results.

SURVEY PROCESSING (DATA ENTRY)

Completed surveys received by NRC were assigned a unique identification number. Additionally, each survey was reviewed and “cleaned” as necessary. For example, a question may have asked a respondent to pick two items out of a list of five, but the respondent checked three; NRC staff would choose randomly two of the three selected items to be coded in the dataset.

Once all surveys were assigned a unique identification number, they were entered into an electronic dataset. This dataset was subject to a data entry protocol of “key and verify,” in which survey data were entered twice into an electronic dataset and then compared. Discrepancies were evaluated against the original survey form and corrected. Range checks as well as other forms of quality control were also performed.

SURVEY DATA WEIGHTING

The demographic characteristics of the survey sample were compared to those found in the 2005-2007 American Community Survey Census estimates for adults in the City of Mountlake Terrace. Sample results were weighted using the population norms to reflect the appropriate percent of those residents. Other discrepancies between the whole population and the sample were also aided by the weighting due to the intercorrelation of many socioeconomic characteristics.

The variables used for weighting were housing tenure and gender age. This decision was based on:

- The disparity between the survey respondent characteristics and the population norms for these variables
- The saliency of these variables in detecting differences of opinion among subgroups
- The historical use of the variables and the desirability of consistently representing different groups over the years

The primary objective of weighting survey data is to make the survey sample reflective of the larger population of the community. This is done by: 1) reviewing the sample demographics and comparing them to the population norms from the most recent Census or other sources and 2) comparing the responses to different questions for demographic subgroups. The demographic characteristics that are least similar to the Census and yield the most different results are the best candidates for data weighting. A third criterion sometimes used is the importance that the community places on a specific variable. For example, if a jurisdiction feels that accurate race representation is key to staff and public acceptance of the study results, additional consideration will be given in the weighting process to adjusting the race variable.

A special software program using mathematical algorithms is used to calculate the appropriate weights. A limitation of data weighting is that only 2-3 demographic variables can be adjusted in a single study. Several different weighting “schemes” are tested to ensure the best fit for the data.

The process actually begins at the point of sampling. Knowing that residents in single family dwellings are more likely to respond to a mail survey, NRC oversamples residents of multi-family dwellings to ensure their proper representation in the sample data. Rather than giving all residents an equal chance of receiving the survey, this is systematic, stratified sampling, which gives each resident of the jurisdiction a known chance of receiving the survey (and apartment dwellers, for example, a greater chance than single family home dwellers). As a consequence, results must be weighted to recapture the proper representation of apartment dwellers.

The results of the weighting scheme are presented in the table on the following page.

| Mountlake Terrace Citizen Survey Weighting Table | | | |
|--|------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Characteristic | Population Norm ¹ | Unweighted Data | Weighted Data |
| Housing | | | |
| Rent home | 36% | 13% | 36% |
| Own home | 64% | 87% | 64% |
| Detached unit | 59% | 72% | 61% |
| Attached unit | 41% | 28% | 39% |
| Race and Ethnicity | | | |
| White alone, not Hispanic | 73% | 80% | 77% |
| Hispanic and/or other race | 27% | 20% | 23% |
| Sex and Age | | | |
| Female | 52% | 58% | 53% |
| Male | 48% | 42% | 47% |
| 18-34 years of age | 31% | 12% | 30% |
| 35-54 years of age | 44% | 39% | 42% |
| 55+ years of age | 25% | 49% | 28% |
| Females 18-34 | 17% | 5% | 17% |
| Females 35-54 | 20% | 24% | 20% |
| Females 55+ | 15% | 29% | 16% |
| Males 18-34 | 14% | 7% | 14% |
| Males 35-54 | 23% | 16% | 23% |
| Males 55+ | 10% | 19% | 11% |

¹ Source: 2005-2007 ACS

SURVEY DATA ANALYSIS AND REPORTING

The survey dataset was analyzed using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS). Frequency distributions were presented in the body of the report.

Use of the “Excellent, Good, Fair, Poor” Response Scale

The scale on which respondents are asked to record their opinions about service and community quality is “excellent,” “good,” “fair” or “poor” (EGFP). This scale has important advantages over other scale possibilities (very good to very bad; very satisfied to very dissatisfied; strongly agree to strongly disagree, as examples). EGFP is used by the plurality of jurisdictions conducting citizen surveys across the U.S. The advantage of familiarity was one that NRC did not want to dismiss when crafting The National Citizen Survey™ questionnaire, because elected officials, staff and residents already are acquainted with opinion surveys measured this way. EGFP also has the advantage of offering three positive options, rather than only two, over which a resident can offer an opinion. While symmetrical scales often are the right choice in other measurement tasks, NRC has found that ratings of almost every local government service in almost every jurisdiction tend, on average, to be positive (that is, above the scale midpoint). Therefore, to permit finer distinctions among positively rated services, EGFP offers three options across which to spread those ratings. EGFP is more neutral because it requires no positive statement of service quality to judge (as agree-disagree scales require) and, finally, EGFP intends to measure absolute quality of service delivery or community quality (unlike satisfaction scales which ignore residents’ perceptions of quality in favor of their report on the acceptability of the level of service offered).

“Don’t Know” Responses

On many of the questions in the survey respondents may answer “don’t know.” The proportion of respondents giving this reply is shown in the full set of responses included in Appendix A. However, these responses have been removed from the analyses presented in the body of the report. In other words, the tables and graphs display the responses from respondents who had an opinion about a specific item.

Benchmark Comparisons

NRC has been leading the strategic use of surveys for local governments since 1991, when the principals of the company wrote the first edition of what became the classic text on citizen surveying. In *Citizen Surveys: how to do them, how to use them, what they mean*, published by ICMA, not only were the principles for quality survey methods articulated, but both the idea of benchmark data for citizen opinion and the method for gathering benchmark data were pioneered. The argument for benchmarks was called “In Search of Standards.” “What has been missing from a local government’s analysis of its survey results is the context that school administrators can supply when they tell parents how an 80 percent score on the social studies test compares to test results from other school systems...”

NRC’s database of comparative resident opinion is comprised of resident perspectives gathered in citizen surveys from approximately 500 jurisdictions whose residents evaluated local government services. Conducted with typically no fewer than 400 residents in each jurisdiction, opinions are intended to represent over 30 million Americans. NRC has innovated a method for quantitatively integrating the results of surveys that conducted by NRC with those that others have conducted. The integration methods have been thoroughly described not only in the Citizen Surveys book, but also in *Public Administration Review, Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*. Scholars who

specialize in the analysis of citizen surveys regularly have relied on this work (e.g., Kelly, J. & Swindell, D. (2002). Service quality variation across urban space: First steps towards a model of citizen satisfaction. *Journal of Urban Affairs*, 24, 271-288.; Van Ryzin, G., Muzzio, D., Immerwahr, S., Gulick, L. & Martinez, E. (2004). Drivers and consequences of citizen satisfaction: An application of the American Customer Satisfaction Index Model to New York City, *Public Administration Review*, 64, 331- 341). The method described in those publications is refined regularly and statistically tested on a growing number of citizen surveys in NRC's proprietary databases. NRC's work on calculating national benchmarks for resident opinions about service delivery and quality of life won the Samuel C. May award for research excellence from the Western Governmental Research Association.

The Role of Comparisons

Benchmark comparisons are used for performance measurement. Jurisdictions use the comparative information to help interpret their own citizen survey results, to create or revise community plans, to evaluate the success of policy or budget decisions, to measure local government performance. Taking the pulse of the community has little meaning without knowing what pulse rate is too high and what is too low. When surveys of service satisfaction turn up "good" citizen evaluations, jurisdictions need to know how others rate their services to understand if "good" is good enough. Furthermore, in the absence of national or peer community comparisons, a jurisdiction is left with comparing its fire protection rating to its street maintenance rating. That comparison is unfair. Streets always lose to fire. More important and harder questions need to be asked; for example, how do residents' ratings of fire service compare to opinions about fire service in other communities?

A police department that provides the fastest and most efficient service—one that closes most of its cases, solves most of its crimes and keeps the crime rate low—still has a problem to fix if the residents in the community it intends to protect believe services are not very good compared to ratings given by residents to their own objectively "worse" departments. The benchmark data can help that police department – or any department – to understand how well citizens think it is doing. Without the comparative data, it would be like bowling in a tournament without knowing what the other teams are scoring. NRC recommends that citizen opinion be used in conjunction with other sources of data about budget, personnel and politics to help managers know how to respond to comparative results.

Jurisdictions in the benchmark database are distributed geographically across the country and range from small to large in population size. Most commonly, comparisons are made to the entire database. Comparisons may also be made to subsets of jurisdictions (for example, within a given region or population category). Despite the differences in jurisdiction characteristics, all are in the business of providing local government services to residents. Though individual jurisdiction circumstances, resources and practices vary, the objective in every community is to provide services that are so timely, tailored and effective that residents conclude the services are of the highest quality. High ratings in any jurisdiction, like SAT scores in any teen household, bring pride and a sense of accomplishment.

Comparison of Mountlake Terrace to the Benchmark Database

The City of Mountlake Terrace chose to have comparisons made to the entire database. A benchmark comparison (the average rating from all the comparison jurisdictions where a similar question was asked) has been provided when a similar question on the City of Mountlake Terrace Survey was included in NRC's database and there were at least five jurisdictions in which the

question was asked. For most questions compared to the entire dataset, there were more than 100 jurisdictions included in the benchmark comparison.

Where comparisons are available, Mountlake Terrace results are noted as being “above” the benchmark, “below” the benchmark or “similar to” the benchmark. This evaluation of “above,” “below” or “similar to” comes from a statistical comparison of Mountlake Terrace's rating to the benchmark (the rating from all the comparison jurisdictions where a similar question was asked).

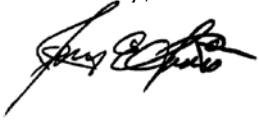
APPENDIX C: SURVEY MATERIALS

The following pages contain copies of the survey materials sent to randomly selected households within the City of Mountlake Terrace.

Dear Mountlake Terrace Resident,

Your household has been selected at random to participate in an anonymous citizen survey about the City of Mountlake Terrace. You will receive a copy of the survey next week in the mail with instructions for completing and returning it. Thank you in advance for helping us with this important project!

Sincerely,

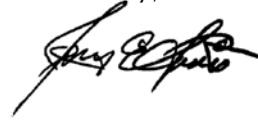


Jerry Smith
Mayor

Dear Mountlake Terrace Resident,

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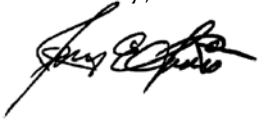


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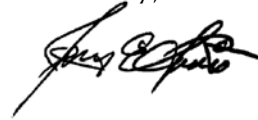


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Mayor

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Sincerely,



Jerry Smith
Mayor



6100 – 219th Street SW, Suite 200
Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043-2222

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US Postage
PAID
Boulder, CO
Permit NO. 94



6100 – 219th Street SW, Suite 200
Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043-2222

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6100 – 219th Street SW, Suite 200
Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043-2222

Presorted
First Class Mail
US Postage
PAID
Boulder, CO
Permit NO. 94

November 2009

Dear Mountlake Terrace Resident:

The City of Mountlake Terrace wants to know what you think about our community and municipal government. You have been randomly selected to participate in Mountlake Terrace's 2009 Citizen Survey.

Please take a few minutes to fill out the enclosed Citizen Survey. Your feedback will help the City set benchmarks for tracking the quality of services provided to residents. Your answers will help the City Council make decisions that affect our community. You should find the questions interesting and we will definitely find your answers useful. Please participate!

To get a representative sample of Mountlake Terrace residents, the adult (anyone 18 years or older) in your household who most recently had a birthday should complete this survey. Year of birth of the adult does not matter.

Please have the appropriate member of the household spend a few minutes to answer all the questions and return the survey in the enclosed postage-paid envelope. **Your responses will remain completely anonymous.**

Your participation in this survey is very important – especially since your household is one of only a small number of households being surveyed. If you have any questions about the Citizen Survey please call (425) 744-6224.

Please help us shape the future of Mountlake Terrace. Thank you for your time and participation.

Sincerely,



Jerry Smith
Mayor

November 2009

Dear Mountlake Terrace Resident:

About one week ago, you should have received a copy of the enclosed survey. **If you completed it and sent it back, we thank you for your time and ask you to discard this survey. Please do not respond twice.** If you have not had a chance to complete the survey, we would appreciate your response. The City of Mountlake Terrace wants to know what you think about our community and municipal government. You have been randomly selected to participate in the City of Mountlake Terrace's Citizen Survey.

Please take a few minutes to fill out the enclosed Citizen Survey. Your feedback will help the City set benchmarks for tracking the quality of services provided to residents. Your answers will help the City Council make decisions that affect our community. You should find the questions interesting and we will definitely find your answers useful. Please participate!

To get a representative sample of Mountlake Terrace residents, the adult (anyone 18 years or older) in your household who most recently had a birthday should complete this survey. Year of birth of the adult does not matter.

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Your participation in this survey is very important – especially since your household is one of only a small number of households being surveyed. If you have any questions about the Citizen Survey please call (425) 744-6224.

Please help us shape the future of Mountlake Terrace. Thank you for your time and participation.

Sincerely,



Jerry Smith
Mayor

The City of Mountlake Terrace 2009 Citizen Survey

Please complete this questionnaire if you are the adult (age 18 or older) in the household who most recently had a birthday. The adult's year of birth does not matter. Please select the response (by circling the number or checking the box) that most closely represents your opinion for each question. Your responses are anonymous and will be reported in group form only.

1. Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Mountlake Terrace:

| | <i>Excellent</i> | <i>Good</i> | <i>Fair</i> | <i>Poor</i> | <i>Don't know</i> |
|--|------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Mountlake Terrace as a place to live | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Your neighborhood as a place to live | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Mountlake Terrace as a place to raise children | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Mountlake Terrace as a place to work | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Mountlake Terrace as a place to retire | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| The overall quality of life in Mountlake Terrace | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

2. Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Mountlake Terrace as a whole:

| | <i>Excellent</i> | <i>Good</i> | <i>Fair</i> | <i>Poor</i> | <i>Don't know</i> |
|---|------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Sense of community..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Openness and acceptance of the community toward people of diverse backgrounds | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Overall appearance of Mountlake Terrace..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Variety of housing options | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Overall quality of business and service establishments in Mountlake Terrace..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Shopping opportunities | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Opportunities to attend cultural activities..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Recreational opportunities | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Employment opportunities | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Educational opportunities | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Opportunities to participate in social events and activities | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Opportunities to participate in religious or spiritual events and activities..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Opportunities to volunteer..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Opportunities to participate in community matters..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Ease of car travel in Mountlake Terrace..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Ease of bus travel in Mountlake Terrace | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Ease of rail or subway travel in Mountlake Terrace..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Ease of bicycle travel in Mountlake Terrace | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Ease of walking in Mountlake Terrace | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Availability of paths and walking trails | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Traffic flow on major streets..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Amount of public parking | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Availability of affordable quality housing | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Availability of affordable quality child care | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Availability of affordable quality health care | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Availability of affordable quality food | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Availability of preventative health services..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Quality of overall natural environment in Mountlake Terrace | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Overall image or reputation of Mountlake Terrace..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

3. Please rate the speed of growth in the following categories in Mountlake Terrace over the past 2 years:

| | <i>Much too slow</i> | <i>Somewhat too slow</i> | <i>Right amount</i> | <i>Somewhat too fast</i> | <i>Much too fast</i> | <i>Don't know</i> |
|--|----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Population growth | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| Retail growth (stores, restaurants, etc.)..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| Jobs growth..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |

4. To what degree, if at all, are run down buildings, weed lots or junk vehicles a problem in Mountlake Terrace?
 Not a problem Minor problem Moderate problem Major problem Don't know

5. Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel from the following in Mountlake Terrace:

| | Very safe | Somewhat safe | Neither safe nor unsafe | Somewhat unsafe | Very unsafe | Don't know |
|--|-----------|---------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-------------|------------|
| Violent crime (e.g., rape, assault, robbery) | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| Property crimes (e.g., burglary, theft)..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| Environmental hazards, including toxic waste..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |

6. Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel:

| | Very safe | Somewhat safe | Neither safe nor unsafe | Somewhat unsafe | Very unsafe | Don't know |
|--|-----------|---------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-------------|------------|
| In your neighborhood during the day..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| In your neighborhood after dark..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| In Mountlake Terrace's downtown area during the day .. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| In Mountlake Terrace's downtown area after dark..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |

7. During the past twelve months, were you or anyone in your household the victim of any crime?

- No → Go to Question 9 Yes → Go to Question 8 Don't know → Go to Question 9

8. If yes, was this crime (these crimes) reported to the police?

- No Yes Don't know

9. In the last 12 months, about how many times, if ever, have you or other household members participated in the following activities in Mountlake Terrace?

| | Never | Once or twice | 3 to 12 times | 13 to 26 times | More than 26 times |
|--|-------|---------------|---------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Used Mountlake Terrace public libraries or their services | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Used Mountlake Terrace recreation centers | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Participated in a recreation program or activity | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Visited a neighborhood park or City park..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Ridden a local bus within Mountlake Terrace | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Attended a meeting of local elected officials or other local public meeting | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Watched a meeting of local elected officials or other local public meeting on cable television | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Read <i>City Happenings</i> Newsletter..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Visited the City of Mountlake Terrace Web site (at cityofmlt.com) | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Recycled used paper, cans or bottles from your home..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Volunteered your time to some group or activity in Mountlake Terrace ... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Participated in religious or spiritual activities in Mountlake Terrace | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Participated in a club or civic group in Mountlake Terrace..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Provided help to a friend or neighbor | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

10. About how often, if at all, do you talk to or visit with your immediate neighbors (people who live in the 10 or 20 households that are closest to you)?

- Just about every day
 Several times a week
 Several times a month
 Once a month
 Several times a year
 Once a year or less
 Never

The City of Mountlake Terrace 2009 Citizen Survey

11. Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Mountlake Terrace:

| | <i>Excellent</i> | <i>Good</i> | <i>Fair</i> | <i>Poor</i> | <i>Don't know</i> |
|--|------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Police services | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Fire services | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Ambulance or emergency medical services..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Crime prevention | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Fire prevention and education | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Municipal courts | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Traffic enforcement..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Street repair | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Street cleaning | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Street lighting..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Snow removal..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Sidewalk maintenance | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Traffic signal timing | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Bus or transit services..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Garbage collection..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Recycling..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Yard waste pick-up | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Storm drainage..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Drinking water..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Sewer services | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| City parks..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Recreation programs or classes | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Recreation centers or facilities..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Land use, planning and zoning | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Code enforcement (weeds, abandoned buildings, etc) | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Animal control | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Economic development | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Services to seniors..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Services to youth..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Public library services | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Public information services | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Emergency preparedness (services that prepare the community for natural disasters or other emergency situations) | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Preservation of natural areas such as open space, farmlands and greenbelts..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

12. Overall, how would you rate the quality of the services provided by each of the following?

| | <i>Excellent</i> | <i>Good</i> | <i>Fair</i> | <i>Poor</i> | <i>Don't know</i> |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|
| The City of Mountlake Terrace | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| The Federal Government | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| The State Government | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Snohomish County Government..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

13. Have you had any in-person or phone contact with an employee of the City of Mountlake Terrace within the last 12 months (including police, receptionists, planners or any others)?

- No → Go to Question 15
 Yes → Go to Question 14

14. What was your impression of the employee(s) of the City of Mountlake Terrace in your most recent contact? (Rate each characteristic below.)

| | <i>Excellent</i> | <i>Good</i> | <i>Fair</i> | <i>Poor</i> | <i>Don't know</i> |
|-------------------------|------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Knowledge..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Responsiveness..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Courtesy..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Overall impression..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

15. Please rate the following categories of Mountlake Terrace government performance:

| | <i>Excellent</i> | <i>Good</i> | <i>Fair</i> | <i>Poor</i> | <i>Don't know</i> |
|---|------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|
| The value of services for the taxes paid to Mountlake Terrace..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| The overall direction that Mountlake Terrace is taking..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| The job Mountlake Terrace government does at welcoming citizen involvement..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| The job Mountlake Terrace government does at listening to citizens..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

16. Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to do each of the following:

| | <i>Very likely</i> | <i>Somewhat likely</i> | <i>Somewhat unlikely</i> | <i>Very unlikely</i> | <i>Don't know</i> |
|--|--------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Recommend living in Mountlake Terrace to someone who asks | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Remain in Mountlake Terrace for the next five years..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

17. What impact, if any, do you think the economy will have on your family income in the next 6 months? Do you think the impact will be:

- Very positive
 Somewhat positive
 Neutral
 Somewhat negative
 Very negative

The City of Mountlake Terrace 2009 Citizen Survey

Our last questions are about you and your household. Again, all of your responses to this survey are completely anonymous and will be reported in group form only.

D1. Are you currently employed for pay?

- No → Go to Question D3
- Yes, full time → Go to Question D2
- Yes, part time → Go to Question D2

D2. During a typical week, how many days do you commute to work (for the longest distance of your commute) in each of the ways listed below? (Enter the total number of days, using whole numbers.)

- Motorized vehicle (e.g., car, truck, van, motorcycle, etc...) by myself days
- Motorized vehicle (e.g., car, truck, van, motorcycle, etc...) with other children or adults days
- Bus, Rail, Subway or other public transportation days
- Walk days
- Bicycle days
- Work at home days
- Other days

D3. How many years have you lived in Mountlake Terrace?

- Less than 2 years 11-20 years
- 2-5 years More than 20 years
- 6-10 years

D4. Which best describes the building you live in?

- One family house detached from any other houses
- House attached to one or more houses (e.g., a duplex or townhome)
- Building with two or more apartments or condominiums
- Mobile home
- Other

D5. Is this house, apartment or mobile home...

- Rented for cash or occupied without cash payment?
- Owned by you or someone in this house with a mortgage or free and clear?

D6. About how much is your monthly housing cost for the place you live (including rent, mortgage payment, property tax, property insurance and homeowners' association (HOA) fees)?

- Less than \$300 per month
- \$300 to \$599 per month
- \$600 to \$999 per month
- \$1,000 to \$1,499 per month
- \$1,500 to \$2,499 per month
- \$2,500 or more per month

D7. Do any children 17 or under live in your household?

- No Yes

D8. Are you or any other members of your household aged 65 or older?

- No Yes

D9. How much do you anticipate your household's total income before taxes will be for the current year? (Please include in your total income money from all sources for all persons living in your household.)

- Less than \$24,999
- \$25,000 to \$49,999
- \$50,000 to \$99,999
- \$100,000 to \$149,999
- \$150,000 or more

Please respond to both question D10 and D11:

D10. Are you Spanish, Hispanic or Latino?

- No, not Spanish, Hispanic or Latino
- Yes, I consider myself to be Spanish, Hispanic or Latino

D11. What is your race? (Mark one or more races to indicate what race you consider yourself to be)

- American Indian or Alaskan Native
- Asian, Asian Indian or Pacific Islander
- Black or African American
- White
- Other

D12. In which category is your age?

- 18-24 years 55-64 years
- 25-34 years 65-74 years
- 35-44 years 75 years or older
- 45-54 years

D13. What is your sex?

- Female
- Male

D14. Are you registered to vote in your jurisdiction?

- No
- Yes
- Ineligible to vote
- Don't know

D15. Many people don't have time to vote in elections. Did you vote in the last general election?

- No
- Yes
- Ineligible to vote
- Don't know

Thank you for completing this survey. Please return the completed survey in the postage paid envelope to: National Research Center, Inc., PO Box 549, Belle Mead, NJ 08502



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