TO ALL SANTA CLARA COUNTY RESIDENTS:
In case you missed it, we’re all GETTING OLDER!

We can’t stop aging, but we can have a better quality of life as we age. That’s why it’s important to know what YOU think the most important issues are for seniors as well as how the County can be more helpful to seniors.

The aging issue is a global phenomenon, and the World Health Organization is addressing this trend through a new program known as Age Friendly. Santa Clara County is working hard to be designated the first Age Friendly county in the nation by 2017.

We need your help.
Whether you’re young, senior, or somewhere in between, please visit AgeFriendlySiliconValley.org for the countywide survey to inform each of our cities of your ideas on the needs and challenges of older citizens. You can take the survey in English, Spanish, Chinese or Vietnamese.

2016 Santa Clara County Age Friendly Survey: Key Findings

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Overview

• Survey Methodology

• Key Findings from the Survey
Survey Methodology

- Survey in 4 languages: English, Spanish, Chinese and Vietnamese

- Outreach done through:
  - Advertisement in SJ Mercury News
  - Cities age-friendly task forces
  - Meals on Wheels
  - Community centers and events
  - Mobile home parks
  - Low income senior housing
  - LGBT Community

- Survey dates: May 2016 – October 2016

- 37 focus groups were also conducted

- Participation was from all 15 cities in Santa Clara County
Survey Demographics

• Gender: Male (29%), Female (71%)
• Average age of respondents: 71 years
• 65% of respondents have lived in the county for 25 years or more

Racial Breakdown of Respondents

Source: 2016 Santa Clara County Age-Friendly Survey
KEY SURVEY FINDINGS
Your Community

• 80% of adults reported their city as excellent or very good for people to live as they age.

• Two-thirds of respondents (66%) said it was extremely or very important to remain in their city as they age.
Housing

- The majority of respondents reported living in a single family home (72%), followed by an apartment (11%).

- The top types of modifications that older adults would make to their homes to enable them to stay there as they age are:
  - Bathroom modifications
  - Installing a medical emergency response system
Outdoor Spaces & Buildings

- The top three items that respondents reported it are extremely or very important to have are:
  
  - **Sidewalks** that are in good condition, free from obstruction and are safe for pedestrian use and accessible for wheelchairs or other assistive mobility devices (91%)
  
  - **Well-maintained public buildings and facilities** that are accessible to people of different physical abilities (89%)
  
  - **Separate pathways** for bicyclists and pedestrians (87%)
Transportation & Streets

• The main methods for getting around:
  • 91% drive
  • 61% walk

• Extremely or very important to have:
  • Well-lit, safe streets and intersections for users (95%)
  • Well-maintained streets (93%)
  • Easy to read traffic signs (93%)
Health & Wellness

• 69% report their health as being excellent or very good compared to most people their age
• 84% report engaging in some form of physical exercise from several times a week to everyday
Social Participation, Inclusion & Education Opportunities

• The top three items that respondents reported are extremely or very important to have are:
  • Activities that are affordable to all residents (85%)
  • Accurate and widely publicized information about social activities (81%)
  • Activities that offer senior discounts (79%)
Job Opportunities

• Nearly two-thirds (65%) of respondents are retired, not working at all.

• 41% of respondents who were currently working reported that were extremely or very likely to continue to work for as long as possible, rather than choosing to retire and no longer work for pay.
Community Information

Top 3 resources use for information about services for older adults:

• Local senior center (85%)

• Internet (79%)

• Doctor or other health care professional (71%)
THANK YOU!