

**Needs Assessment**

**for a**

**New Senior Center in Oak Ridge**

**January, 2012**

*PREPARED FOR THE*

**City of Oak Ridge**

*BY*

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## **PURPOSE AND METHODOLOGY**

The City of Oak Ridge contracted with the College of Social Work's Center for Applied Research (CARE) to conduct a study of Oak Ridge residents to determine the need and support for a new senior center. A telephone survey instrument was constructed to measure residents' opinions about the overall quality of life in Oak Ridge as well as the need and level of support for building a new center. A secondary focus of the survey was to learn the extent that residents utilize facilities provided by the city and participate in activities sponsored by the city. A copy of the survey instrument may be found in the Appendix.

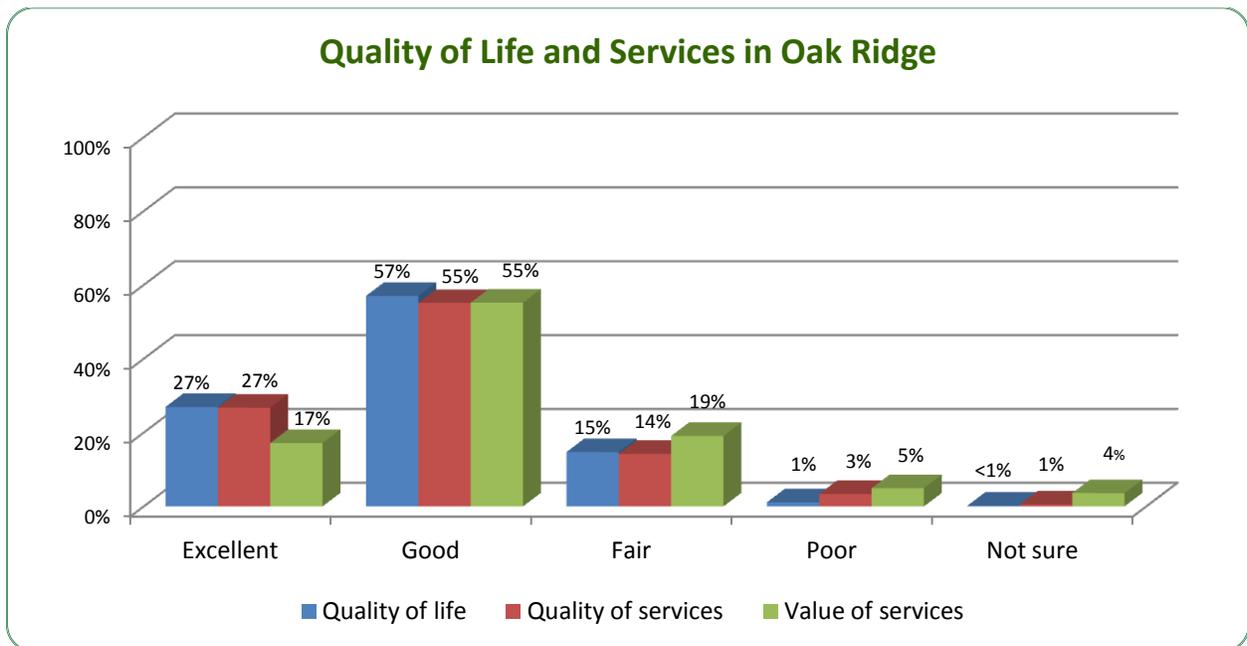
A telephone survey was conducted between November 1, 2011 and November 16, 2011 with 600 Oak Ridge residents. The survey was conducted utilizing a random digit dial (RDD) sample of telephone numbers purchased from Survey Sampling, Inc. In addition to providing telephone numbers, Survey Sampling, Inc. provided addresses that could be matched to telephone numbers. An advance letter was mailed to households to introduce the study in advance of the telephone call to improve response rates. A copy of the advance letter can be found in the Appendix to this report. The cooperation rate for this survey was 74.1% and the response rate was 38.9% utilizing the Response Rate 4 calculations provided by the American Association of Public Opinion Research (AAPOR). The sample size for this survey results in a +/- 3.96 margin of error at the 95% confidence interval.

The decreasing presence of households with land lines is problematic for survey researchers because those households who continue to have land lines are typically older. As an attempt to increase participation among younger residents, each household was asked if someone between the ages of 18 and 25 was a member of the household and a call back was set to interview that person. Despite these efforts, the younger demographic was underrepresented in this sample therefore a weight was calculated for each record to adjust for selection bias and non-response bias. A post-stratification weight was assigned to match sample characteristics to population characteristics provided by the U.S. Census Bureau's 2010 Census Report. Sample characteristics used for calculations of these weights were age and gender. All results reported and discussed in this report are based upon weighted data however the demographic data reported in Table 12 found in the Appendix are unweighted frequencies.

## QUALITY OF LIFE IN OAK RIDGE

Residents of Oak Ridge were given an opportunity to reflect on the overall quality of life in Oak Ridge as well as the services provided by the city. Overall, residents rate the quality of life and the services offered by the city positively. Eight of ten respondents indicate the overall quality of life and services offered by the city are either good or excellent. While the value of the services offered is not rated as positively as the overall quality of life and the services provided, a majority continue to report the services offered from a cost standpoint is either good or excellent. These overall positive feelings about life in Oak Ridge and the services offered is widespread however those residents under the age of 50 are slightly less positive than older residents. Only 21.5% of those under the age of 50 feel that the quality of services offered is excellent whereas 31.9% of those who are 50 and over rate the services as excellent. (For more details, please refer to Table 1 found in the Appendix.).

***Eight out of ten residents report the overall quality of life in Oak Ridge and services offered by the city are good or excellent.***



**Figure 1: Ratings of Quality of Life in Oak Ridge**

## PROBLEMS IN OAK RIDGE

City officials are also interested in receiving feedback from city residents about the problems they feel the city is currently facing. A list of problems that other communities are facing was constructed to be read to survey participants. Each respondent was read the list and asked to indicate whether they feel

***Public transportation and shopping are reported to be major problems by approximately one-half of survey respondents.***

this is currently a problem in Oak Ridge. The list of potential problems was randomized for each respondent to avoid the introduction of bias from question ordering. Respondents were given the option of selecting if the issue was not a problem, a minor problem, a moderate problem, or a major problem in Oak Ridge. Two areas identified as the most serious problems in Oak Ridge are the availability of shopping

and public transportation with almost of all respondents reporting these to be a major problem. While the opinion that public transportation is a major problem is expressed consistently across all groups of residents, opinions on the severity of other problems vary among groups. For instance, women and those residents who are 50 and over are more likely to express the availability of shopping as a major problem than are men and those under the age of 50. While not viewed as a major problem, those 40 and over are significantly more likely than their younger counterparts to indicate the variety of restaurants in Oak Ridge is a major problem. (For more details, please refer to Table 2 found in the Appendix.)

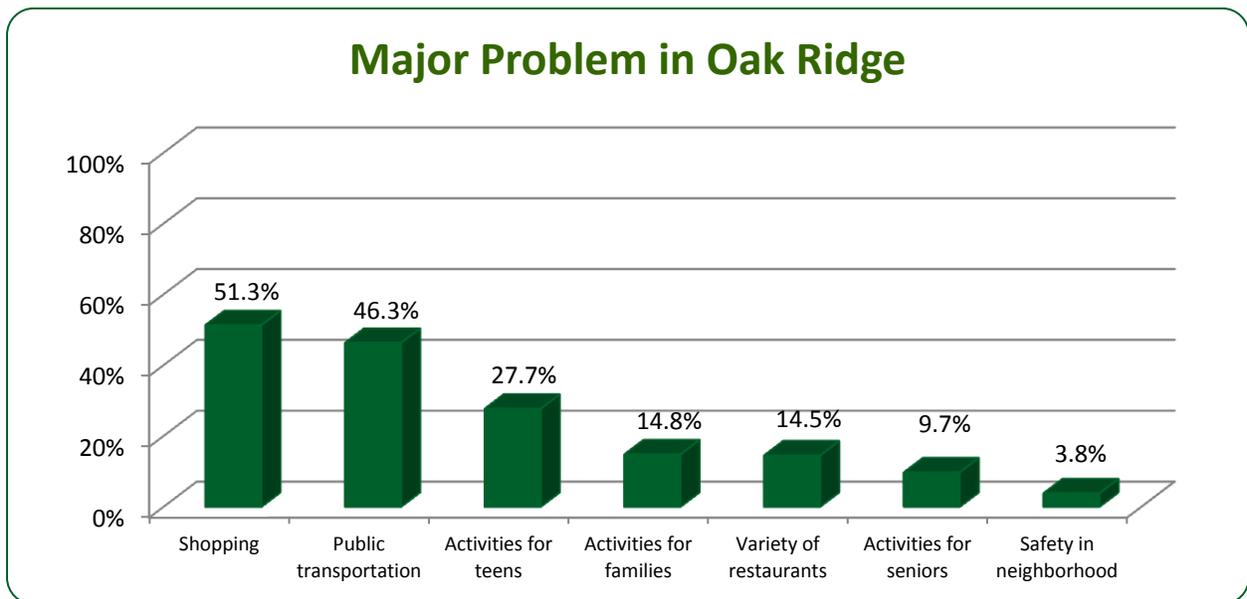


Figure 2: Is .... not a problem, a minor problem, a moderate problem, or a major problem in Oak Ridge?

Respondents are more likely to be unsure about whether the availability of activities for teens and for seniors is a problem in Oak Ridge. Approximately 1 in 4 respondents report they are not sure whether availability of activities for teens and seniors is a problem. As might be expected, younger respondents are more likely to have an opinion about activities for teens being a problem whereas those respondents who are 50 and over are more likely to voice an opinion on activities for seniors being a problem.

## USE OF SERVICES AND PARTICIPATION IN CITY SPONSORED ACTIVITIES

The residents of Oak Ridge have access to a number of amenities and activities sponsored by the city. Survey respondents were provided with a list of these and asked to indicate if someone in their household had utilized the service or attended the activity in the past year. Seven out of 10 respondents indicate that someone in their household utilized the city parks, the public library and the Civic Center in the past year. The public library is widely used by all groups in Oak Ridge but there is variation in who uses other facilities. For instance, households with respondents 40 and over are generally less likely to use other facilities provided by the city and households of respondents under the age of 40 are significantly more likely to use outdoor facilities such as the municipal pool, the tennis courts, city parks, and athletic fields than older households. Additionally, male respondents are more likely than female participants to report that their households use the parks, walking trails, and athletic fields. (For more details, please refer to Table 3 found in the Appendix.)

***Seven out of ten households report utilizing city parks, public library, and Civic Center; and participating in special events sponsored by the city in the past year.***

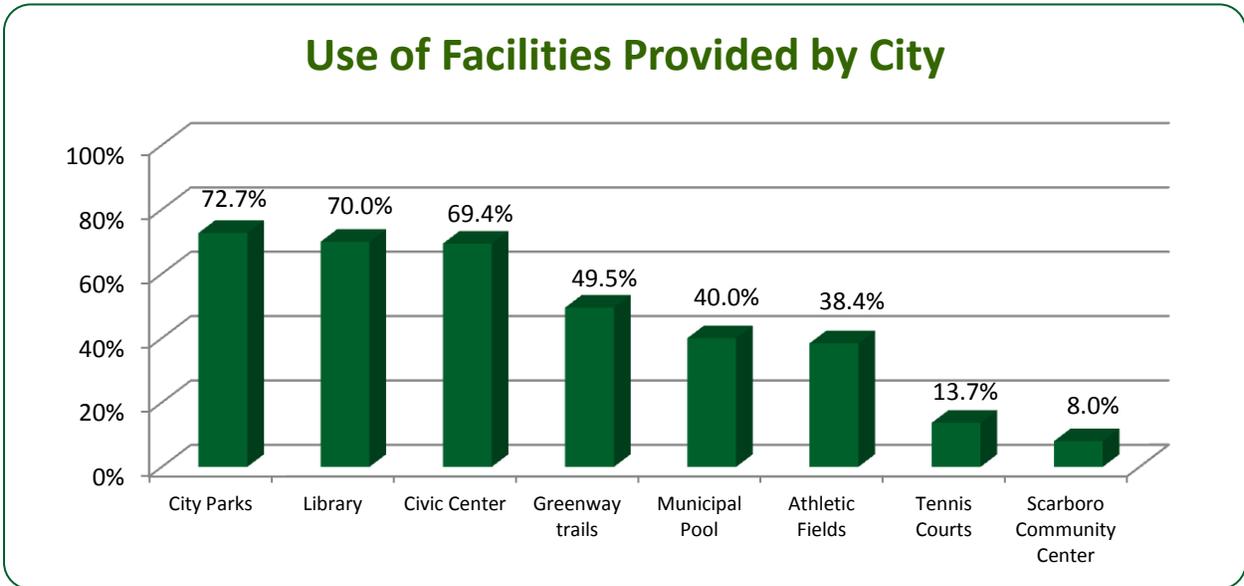


Figure 3: Did you or anyone in your household use ... in the past year?

Those participating in the survey were also given the opportunity to report if anyone in their household had participated in the many activities sponsored by the city during the past year. Overwhelmingly, the most frequently attended activities, regardless of age or gender, are special events such as the Secret City Festival. With the exception of the senior programs, those under the age of 40 are more likely to participate in city sponsored activities than older residents.

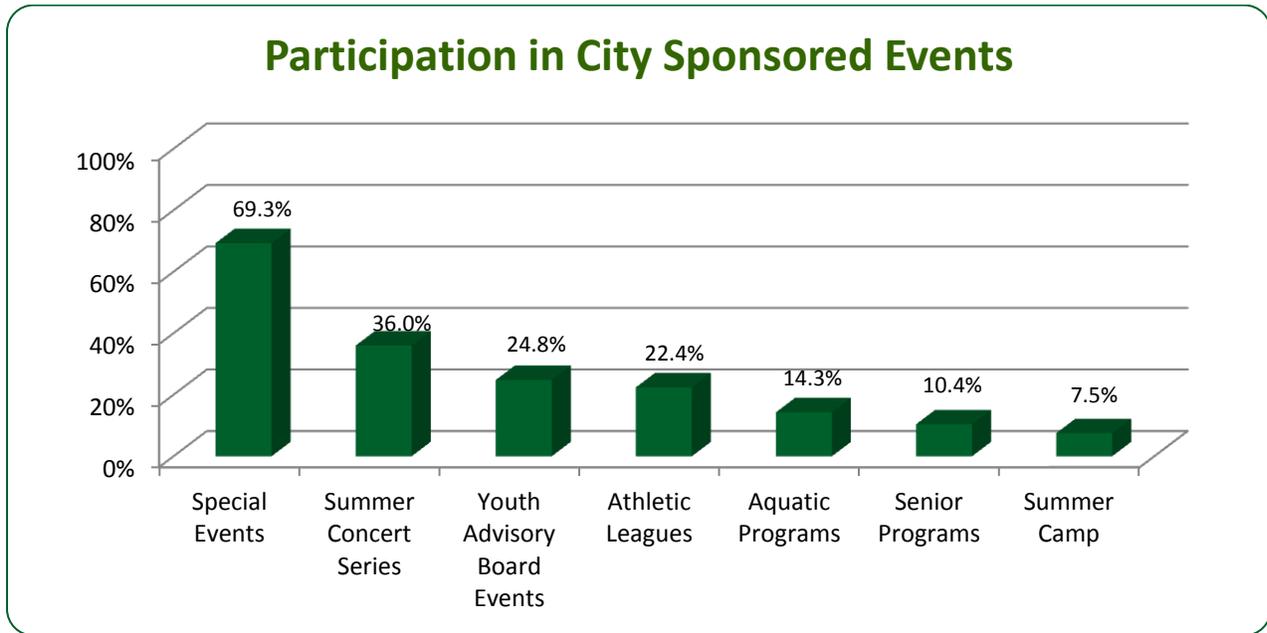


Figure 4: Did you or anyone in household participate in the past year?

## CURRENT SENIOR CENTER

The use of the current senior center and the level of support for a new senior center are central to the purpose of this study. All respondents, regardless of age, were asked if they had attended any activities

***Exercise, other types of classes, and meetings are most frequently attended at the Senior Center.***

at the senior center in the past 12 months. One in ten over the age of 50 reported they participated in activities at the senior center but no one under the age of 40 has participated. Two of the most frequently given reasons for not participating are not being old enough to attend and being too busy. Regardless of their current use, 36.1% of those under 40 and 47.5% of those 40 and over indicate they

intend to use the senior center in the future. While a variety of activities are currently offered at the senior center, exercise classes and other classes are the activities most frequently attended by those who visit the center. (For more details, please refer to Tables 4, 5 and 6 found in the Appendix.)

## NEW SENIOR CENTER

Everyone who participated in the telephone survey was asked to voice their opinion on whether or not a new senior center should be built in Oak Ridge and to provide the reason for their opinion. Almost half of the respondents, 49.0%, indicate they would either somewhat or strongly support building a new facility with 31.9% indicating they strongly support it. Of those remaining, 29.8% are either unsure or neutral and 21.2% are somewhat or strongly opposed to a new center. This split in opinion is fairly consistent across all age groups with those under 40 being the least likely to voice strong opposition. Those who express the strongest opposition to building a new center are those who voted in the last election. This distinction between those who vote and those who do not vote is also a function of age. Those respondents who are 40 and over are considerably more likely to vote than those under 40. (Please refer to Table 7 found in the Appendix for a full reporting of the breakdown of opinion on a new center.)

***Half of survey respondents support a new senior center with the strongest opposition among those who voted in the last city election.***

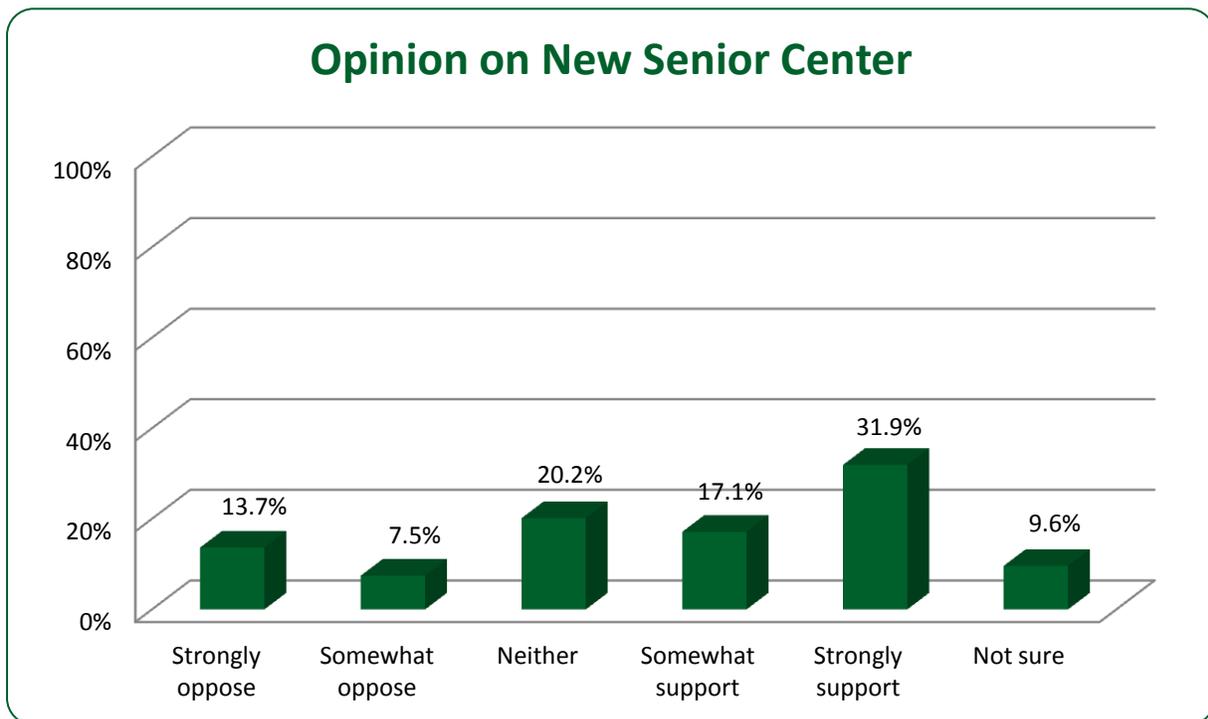


Figure 5: Do you support or oppose building a new senior center?

A wide range of reasons were given for supporting and for opposing a new senior center but a number of themes emerge for both stances. Themes that emerge from those who support a new senior center stemmed from recognition that seniors are a large population in Oak Ridge and the current center is not

***Current center is outdated and seniors deserve a new center.***

adequate to serve the needs of seniors. Almost half of those who offer a reason for their support believe that the current center is outdated and needs improvements to its infrastructure. “Seniors deserve a new center” is a sentiment shared by approximately 1 in 3 of the overall respondents. Those under the age of 50 are slightly more likely than those 50 and over to offer this reason which suggests that younger residents recognize the need for a new center but may not be aware of the condition of the existing center since they do not participate in activities there. Other themes that surface are that a new senior center would benefit the community as a whole and that it is a good investment for future seniors. About one-half of respondents under the age of 50, as reported earlier, report that they will use a senior center in the future and may see this as an opportunity to build a facility that they would enjoy using. (Please refer to Table 13 in the Appendix for a full list of unedited comments.)

The two main themes that came from the comments offered by those who oppose a new center are fiscal concerns and the belief that the current facility is adequate thus believing a new center is not needed. The fiscal concerns that the city cannot afford to build a new facility stem from slightly different sources in that some fear their taxes will increase while others feel other needs have a higher priority and that money is better spent elsewhere. Some people were not specific in what these priorities should be or where the money would be better spent but others articulated that a higher budget priority should be given to youth and education. Those respondents who are 50 and over were somewhat more likely to cite concern about a tax increase than younger respondents. Younger respondents were the most likely group to specify that youth and education should be given a higher priority over a new senior center. (Please refer to table 14 in the Appendix for a full list of unedited comments.)

***Money is better spent on other things and we don't have the money right now.***

Regardless of whether they oppose or support a new senior center, participants were asked to voice their preference on the site of a new center if one is built. Overall, the location of the current center on Emory Valley Road is the most popular site but a separate facility next to the Civic Center is a very close second, as seen in Figure 6 on the following page. This order of preference is consistent across all age groups however it is interesting to note that the choice of building a separate facility next to the Civic Center is the site most frequently chosen by those who support building a new facility. (Please see Tables 10 and 11 in the Appendix for more details.)

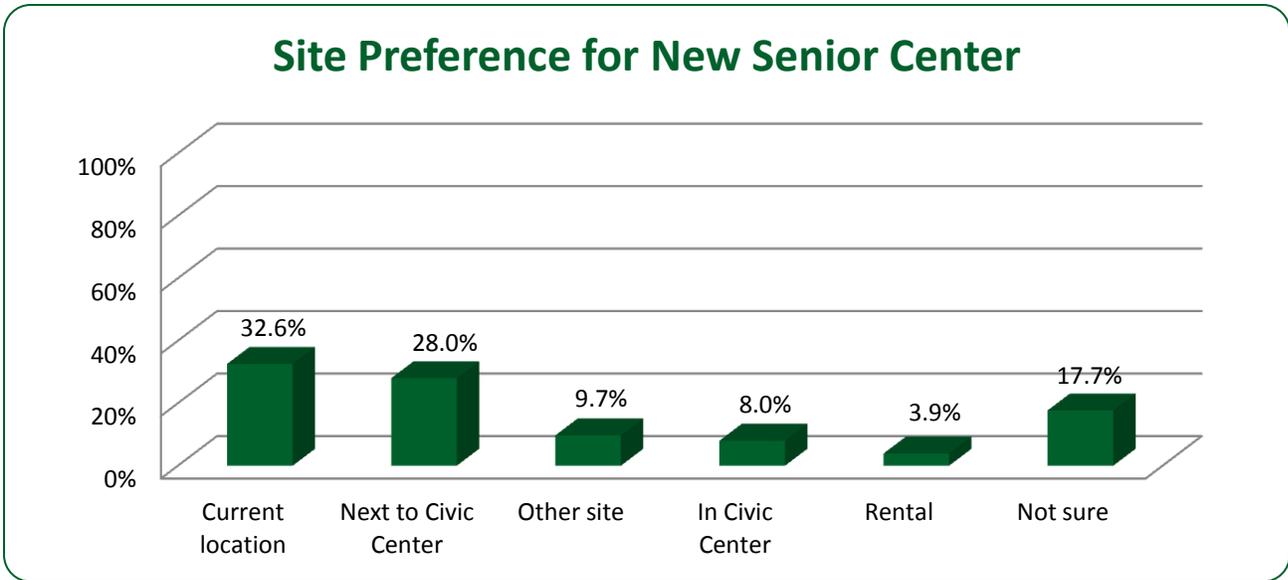


Figure 6: If a new senior center is built, which site do you prefer?

## CONCLUSION

The residents of Oak Ridge generally have a positive view of life in Oak Ridge and provided comments to suggest that they are very proud of their city. However, like many small cities across the nation, Oak Ridge is faced with an aging population and is experiencing a struggle between serving the elderly population and providing services that will attract younger families to maintain the vitality of the community. This struggle to balance present and future needs is particularly difficult in periods of economic downturn when residents may be less able to absorb tax increases that may be needed to undertake large capital expenditures. This struggle is apparent from the comments and reasons given for their positions on a new center however more residents who participated in this research support rather than oppose building a new senior center. The preferences expressed for a new site are almost equally split between the current location and a separate facility next to the Civic Center but those who support building a new center are more likely to prefer building next to the Civic Center.

# APPENDIX

**Table 1: Quality of Life and Services in Oak Ridge**

	<b>Excellent</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Fair</b>	<b>Poor</b>	<b>Not sure/Refusal</b>
<b>Overall, how would you rate the general quality of life in Oak Ridge?</b>					
<b>Overall</b>	<b>26.9%</b>	<b>57.0%</b>	<b>14.7%</b>	<b>1.1%</b>	<b>.2%</b>
Male	27.0%	55.8%	15.4%	1.5%	.4%
Female	26.7%	58.1%	14.3%	.9%	.0%
Under 40	21.9%	59.6%	18.6%	.0%	.0%
40 and over	29.3%	55.7%	13.1%	1.7%	.2%
Under 50	21.5%	59.9%	18.7%	.0%	.0%
50 and over	31.9%	54.3%	11.2%	2.2%	.3%
<b>Overall, how would you rate the quality of services the City of Oak Ridge provides?</b>					
<b>Overall</b>	<b>26.8%</b>	<b>55.1%</b>	<b>14.2%</b>	<b>3.4%</b>	<b>.5%</b>
Male	29.3%	53.0%	15.0%	2.3%	.4%
Female	24.5%	57.0%	13.6%	4.2%	.6%
Under 40	17.4%	60.3%	19.6%	2.7%	.0%
40 and over	30.9%	52.7%	11.8%	3.9%	.7%
Under 50	20.1%	59.2%	18.7%	2.1%	.0%
50 and over	32.9%	51.4%	10.2%	4.5%	.9%
<b>From a cost standpoint, how would you rate the value of your city services?</b>					
<b>Overall</b>	<b>17.2%</b>	<b>55.2%</b>	<b>19.1%</b>	<b>4.9%</b>	<b>3.6%</b>
Male	14.6%	54.7%	20.6%	5.6%	4.5%
Female	19.1%	55.6%	17.9%	4.3%	3.0%
Under 40	12.6%	62.3%	16.9%	5.5%	2.7%
40 and over	19.3%	51.9%	20.0%	4.6%	4.1%
Under 50	15.8%	56.0%	20.1%	5.6%	2.5%
50 and over	18.5%	54.3%	18.2%	4.5%	4.5%

**Table 2: Is ... not a problem, minor problem, moderate problem, or a major problem in Oak Ridge?**

	<b>Not a problem</b>	<b>Minor Problem</b>	<b>Moderate Problem</b>	<b>Major Problem</b>	<b>Not sure/Refusal</b>
<b>Personal safety in my neighborhood</b>					
<b>Overall</b>	<b>62.6%</b>	<b>19.8%</b>	<b>13.8%</b>	<b>3.8%</b>	<b>.0%</b>
Male	65.9%	19.1%	11.6%	3.4%	.0%
Female	60.0%	20.3%	15.8%	3.9%	.0%
Under 40	69.9%	13.7%	15.3%	1.1%	.0%
40 and over	59.3%	22.5%	13.3%	4.9%	.0%
Under 50	67.3%	16.5%	14.1%	2.1%	.0%
50 and over	58.3%	22.8%	13.8%	5.1%	.0%
<b>Availability of activities for teens</b>					
<b>Overall</b>	<b>13.5%</b>	<b>16.7%</b>	<b>21.0%</b>	<b>27.7%</b>	<b>21.1%</b>
Male	17.3%	19.5%	17.2%	25.8%	20.2%
Female	10.6%	14.3%	24.0%	29.5%	21.6%
Under 40	13.2%	26.4%	20.9%	27.4%	12.1%
40 and over	13.5%	12.4%	21.0%	28.0%	25.1%
Under 50	15.1%	21.5%	22.9%	28.5%	12.0%
50 and over	12.1%	12.5%	19.2%	27.2%	29.1%
<b>Availability of activities for senior citizens</b>					
<b>Overall</b>	<b>34.1%</b>	<b>17.5%</b>	<b>13.0%</b>	<b>9.7%</b>	<b>25.7%</b>
Male	37.1%	18.4%	13.1%	6.7%	24.7%
Female	31.8%	17.0%	13.0%	12.1%	26.1%
Under 40	32.2%	21.3%	1.7%	4.9%	39.9%
40 and over	34.8%	15.9%	18.1%	11.9%	19.3%
Under 50	30.7%	17.7%	7.4%	8.5%	35.7%
50 and over	37.1%	17.6%	17.9%	10.9%	16.6%
<b>Availability of public transportation</b>					
<b>Overall</b>	<b>12.9%</b>	<b>16.0%</b>	<b>15.2%</b>	<b>46.3%</b>	<b>9.6%</b>
Male	14.7%	21.1%	12.4%	42.0%	9.8%
Female	11.9%	11.9%	17.3%	49.8%	9.1%
Under 40	9.8%	18.6%	15.3%	43.2%	13.1%
40 and over	14.3%	15.0%	15.0%	47.7%	8.0%
Under 50	11.6%	17.6%	17.6%	42.3%	10.9%
50 and over	14.1%	14.4%	13.1%	50.0%	8.3%

Table 2 (con't): Is ... not a problem, minor problem, moderate problem, or a major problem in Oak Ridge?

	<b>Not a problem</b>	<b>Minor Problem</b>	<b>Moderate Problem</b>	<b>Major Problem</b>	<b>Not sure/Refusal</b>
<b>Availability of activities for families</b>					
<b>Overall</b>	<b>29.8%</b>	<b>25.3%</b>	<b>23.9%</b>	<b>14.8%</b>	<b>6.2%</b>
Male	33.6%	27.6%	19.4%	13.4%	6.0%
Female	26.7%	23.4%	27.7%	15.8%	6.4%
Under 40	26.2%	40.4%	17.5%	14.8%	1.1%
40 and over	31.5%	18.6%	26.6%	15.0%	8.3%
Under 50	25.0%	32.4%	23.9%	16.9%	1.8%
50 and over	34.5%	18.8%	23.6%	12.8%	10.2%
<b>Variety of restaurants</b>					
<b>Overall</b>	<b>44.1%</b>	<b>19.7%</b>	<b>20.9%</b>	<b>14.5%</b>	<b>.8%</b>
Male	46.0%	22.5%	16.9%	14.6%	.0%
Female	42.3%	17.5%	24.2%	14.5%	1.5%
Under 40	49.7%	19.1%	22.4%	8.8%	.0%
40 and over	41.5%	19.8%	20.3%	17.1%	1.3%
Under 50	47.0%	18.0%	22.3%	12.4%	.4%
50 and over	41.2%	21.4%	19.8%	16.3%	1.3%
<b>Availability of shopping</b>					
<b>Overall</b>	<b>16.8%</b>	<b>12.6%</b>	<b>19.0%</b>	<b>51.3%</b>	<b>.3%</b>
Male	20.7%	16.2%	19.9%	43.2%	.0%
Female	13.6%	9.7%	18.2%	57.9%	.6%
Under 40	18.7%	18.1%	20.3%	42.9%	.0%
40 and over	15.9%	10.1%	18.4%	55.1%	.5%
Under 50	18.3%	14.1%	18.7%	48.9%	.0%
50 and over	15.3%	11.2%	19.5%	53.4%	.6%

**Table 3: Have you or anyone in your household used/participated in ..... during the past year?**

	<b>Overall</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Under 40</b>	<b>40 and over</b>	<b>Under 50</b>	<b>50 and over</b>
<b>FACILITIES</b>							
<b>Oak Ridge City Parks</b>	72.7%	75.9%	70.0%	81.9%	68.6%	82.0%	64.2%
<b>Oak Ridge Public Library</b>	70.0%	68.9%	70.8%	72.1%	69.2%	73.9%	66.7%
<b>Civic Center</b>	69.4%	65.8%	72.3%	77.6%	65.9%	75.4%	63.9%
<b>Greenway trails</b>	49.5%	56.9%	43.5%	58.5%	45.5%	57.7%	42.0%
<b>Oak Ridge Municipal Pool</b>	40.0%	35.6%	43.6%	60.7%	30.9%	55.8%	25.9%
<b>Athletic Field</b>	38.4%	44.7%	33.1%	54.6%	31.2%	51.4%	26.6%
<b>Tennis Courts</b>	13.7%	13.9%	13.7%	24.6%	9.0%	21.5%	6.7%
<b>Scarboro Community Center</b>	8.0%	7.9%	8.2%	13.1%	5.8%	10.2%	5.8%
<b>ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>Overall</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Under 40</b>	<b>40 and over</b>	<b>Under 50</b>	<b>50 and over</b>
<b>Special Events such as Secret City Festival</b>	69.3%	70.0%	68.7%	68.3%	69.7%	71.8%	67.0%
<b>Summer Concert Series</b>	36.0%	39.3%	33.1%	25.7%	40.6%	29.3%	41.9%
<b>Youth Advisory Board Events</b>	24.8%	26.2%	23.6%	36.1%	19.6%	33.1%	17.3%
<b>Athletic Leagues</b>	22.4%	23.6%	21.5%	33.5%	17.4%	30.0%	15.3%
<b>Aquatic Programs</b>	14.3%	13.5%	14.9%	22.4%	10.9%	20.8%	8.6%
<b>Senior Programs</b>	10.4%	9.0%	11.8%	4.4%	13.1%	4.2%	16.0%
<b>Summer Camp</b>	7.5%	9.4%	5.8%	13.2%	4.8%	13.4%	2.2%

**Table 4: Use of Senior Center**

	<b>Overall</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Under 40</b>	<b>40 and over</b>	<b>Under 50</b>	<b>50 and over</b>
<b>USE OF SENIOR CENTER</b>							
<b>Currently</b>	7.0%	6.4%	7.6%	.0%	10.1%	1.8%	11.8%
<b>Future</b>	44.0%	37.6%	49.1%	36.1%	47.5%	39.1%	48.4%

**Table 5: Participation at the Senior Center in past year**

<b>ACTIVITY</b>	
Exercise Classes	22.4%
Meetings and classes	21.5%
Card games/Bridge	15.1%
Bingo	11.7%
Pool/Billiards	11.3%
Crafts	8.0%
Computer Lab	6.0%
Christmas Party	3.1%
Wood carving	1.3%
Other	31.5%

**Table 6: Reasons for not participating at the Senior Center**

<b>REASON</b>	
Not old enough to use the center	50.4%
Too busy	24.4%
Not familiar with programs offered	8.3%
Programs of interest not offered	7.3%
Health issues	5.2%
Not aware of center	4.5%
None of my friends attend	2.1%
Unattractive facilities	1.8%
Transportation issues	1.4%
Hours not convenient	1.3%
No interest in attending	1.3%
Social life satisfied in other places	1.0%
Location	.4%
Other	3.4%

**Table 7: Would you support or oppose building a new Senior Center?**

	<b>Strongly Oppose</b>	<b>Somewhat Oppose</b>	<b>Neither Oppose or Support</b>	<b>Somewhat Support</b>	<b>Strongly Support</b>	<b>Not sure / Refusal</b>
<b>Overall</b>	<b>13.7%</b>	<b>7.5%</b>	<b>20.2%</b>	<b>17.1%</b>	<b>31.9%</b>	<b>9.6%</b>
Male	14.3%	7.1%	16.5%	17.3%	33.5%	11.3%
Female	13.2%	7.7%	23.1%	16.9%	30.8%	8.3%
Under 40	6.6%	7.1%	23.1%	16.5%	34.1%	12.6%
40 and over	16.8%	7.5%	18.7%	17.5%	31.1%	8.3%
Under 50	10.6%	7.8%	20.2%	16.7%	33.7%	11.0%
50 and over	16.7%	7.1%	19.9%	17.4%	30.2%	8.7%
Registered to vote	15.0%	7.3%	19.8%	16.5%	33.2%	8.3%
Not registered	4.5%	9.1%	16.7%	24.2%	24.2%	21.2%
Voted in last city election	18.9%	8.4%	20.3%	17.2%	28.8%	6.4%
Did not vote in last city election	7.8%	5.4%	18.1%	15.1%	42.2%	11.4%

**Table 8: Reason for supporting new Senior Center**

	<b>Current center outdated</b>	<b>Seniors deserve new center</b>	<b>Large population of seniors</b>	<b>Benefit whole community</b>	<b>Investment for future seniors</b>
<b>Overall</b>	<b>42.3%</b>	<b>35.6%</b>	<b>22.2%</b>	<b>5.8%</b>	<b>4.6%</b>
Male	41.6%	35.6%	21.8%	6.2%	4.6%
Female	42.9%	35.7%	22.5%	5.4%	4.5%
Under 40	28.0%	40.7%	22.8%	6.7%	8.0%
40 and over	48.8%	33.3%	21.9%	5.4%	3.0%
Under 50	30.4%	40.6%	24.5%	5.2%	6.0%
50 and over	53.6%	30.9%	19.9%	6.3%	3.2%
Registered to vote	42.5%	33.5%	23.3%	5.2%	4.6%
Not registered	41.7%	56.5%	.0%	13.3%	11.6%
Voted in last city election	46.7%	28.1%	26.4%	4.3%	4.9%
Did not vote in last city election	35.2%	42.2%	18.8%	6.8%	4.5%

**Table 9: Reason for opposing new Senior Center**

	<b>Money better spent elsewhere</b>	<b>Cost/Budget concerns</b>	<b>Current facility is adequate</b>	<b>Education and youth higher priority</b>	<b>Use existing buildings</b>	<b>Not needed</b>	<b>Raise taxes</b>	<b>Current one underutilized</b>
<b>Overall</b>	31.9%	20.3%	18.9%	17.2%	8.7%	8.1%	5.1%	4.5%
Male	32.2%	22.2%	23.9%	10.7%	6.8%	10.6%	6.9%	5.0%
Female	31.6%	18.8%	14.6%	22.6%	10.4%	6.0%	3.6%	4.1%
Under 40	11.1%	.0%	30.1%	38.3%	.0%	20.6%	.0%	.0%
40 and over	37.5%	25.8%	15.9%	11.5%	11.1%	4.7%	6.5%	5.7%
Under 50	45.4%	2.8%	17.1%	24.5%	6.0%	10.2%	2.8%	.0%
50 and over	21.9%	33.4%	20.2%	11.8%	10.7%	6.5%	6.8%	7.8%
Registered to vote	29.9%	22.1%	15.6%	18.1%	9.5%	8.8%	5.5%	4.9%
Not registered	54.1%	.0%	56.1%	6.6%	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%
Voted in last city election	32.4%	25.9%	9.6%	20.4%	9.0%	7.4%	4.8%	6.0%
Did not vote in last city election	19.0%	5.4%	42.1%	8.1%	11.6%	15.0%	8.7%	.0%

**Table 10: Preferred site for new Senior Center**

	<b>Current location on Emory Valley Road</b>	<b>Separate but next to the Civic Center</b>	<b>Some other site</b>	<b>In the Civic Center</b>	<b>Rental in a local church or office building</b>	<b>Not Sure / Refusal</b>
<b>Overall</b>	32.6%	28.0%	9.7%	8.0%	3.9%	17.7%
Male	34.1%	26.2%	10.5%	8.6%	3.4%	17.2%
Female	31.5%	29.4%	9.2%	7.3%	4.3%	18.3%
Under 40	39.9%	24.0%	2.2%	9.3%	2.7%	21.9%
40 and over	29.5%	29.8%	13.2%	7.6%	4.4%	15.6%
Under 50	35.8%	28.4%	5.3%	7.1%	3.9%	19.5%
50 and over	29.8%	28.2%	13.6%	8.7%	3.9%	15.9%
Registered to vote	33.5%	28.7%	10.4%	7.7%	4.0%	15.8%
Not registered	22.1%	23.5%	5.9%	11.8%	2.9%	33.9%
Voted in last city election	32.5%	31.3%	11.6%	7.2%	4.1%	13.4%
Did not vote in last city election	36.7%	22.3%	7.8%	9.0%	4.2%	19.9%

**Table 11: Preferred site by position for building new Senior Center**

	<b>Current location on Emory Valley Road</b>	<b>Separate but next to the Civic Center</b>	<b>Some other site</b>	<b>In the Civic Center</b>	<b>Rental in a local church or office building</b>	<b>Not Sure / Refusal</b>
<b>Overall</b>	<b>32.6%</b>	<b>28.0%</b>	<b>9.7%</b>	<b>8.0%</b>	<b>3.9%</b>	<b>17.7%</b>
<b>Strongly oppose</b>	36.1%	12.0%	10.8%	15.7%	7.2%	18.1%
<b>Somewhat oppose</b>	38.6%	20.5%	6.8%	11.4%	6.8%	15.9%
<b>Neither oppose or support</b>	30.5%	19.5%	6.8%	11.9%	5.1%	26.3%
<b>Somewhat support</b>	29.4%	35.3%	11.8%	4.9%	0.0%	18.6%
<b>Strongly support</b>	35.8%	40.0%	11.6%	3.2%	3.2%	6.3%
<b>Not sure / Refusal</b>	22.8%	22.8%	5.3%	7.0%	3.5%	38.6%

**Table 12: Respondent Characteristics**

<b>GENDER</b>	
Male	44.9%
Female	55.1%
<b>AGE</b>	
Under 40	10.3%
40 – 49	12.6%
50 and over	76.1%
<b>RACE/ETHNICITY</b>	
American Indian	1.2%
Asian/Pacific Islander	1.7%
Black/African American	6.5%
Hispanic	.7%
White/Caucasian	90.3%
Other	.8%
<b>EDUCATION</b>	
Less than high school	2.7%
High school diploma or GED	15.7%
Technical school or certification	3.3%
Some college	16.6%
Associate degree	8.9%
Bachelor degree	25.6%
Graduate or professional degree	26.9%
<b>EMPLOYMENT STATUS</b>	
Full time	33.3%
Part time	10.2%
Unemployed	7.4%
Retired	44.6%
Receiving disability	4.2%
<b>INCOME</b>	
Less than \$15,000	5.9%
\$15,000 - \$30,000	12.2%
\$30,001 - \$50,000	19.2%
\$50,001 - \$75,000	18.6%
Over \$75,000	33.1%
Not sure	4.0%
Refusal	7.0%
<b>TYPE OF RESIDENCE</b>	
House	88.0%
Condo	2.8%
Apartment	8.4%
Other	.8%

**Table 12 (con't.): Respondent Characteristics**

<b>DRIVING STATUS</b>	
Valid license and drive	94.5%
Valid license and not drive	4.2%
Never had license	1.3%
<b>RESIDENCY</b>	
Average length of time living in Oak Ridge	31.7 years
<b>REGISTERED TO VOTE</b>	
Yes	92.0%
No	7.5%
Not sure	.3%
Refusal	.2%
<b>VOTED IN LAST CITY ELECTION</b>	
Yes	75.3%
No	22.5%
Not sure	2.2%

**Table 13: What are your reasons for supporting a new senior center?**

- 60% of the people in Oak Ridge are seniors. They need a place.
- A larger one; the current one is too small.
- A lot of people take part in senior activities. Need a good building, not an old dilapidated one.
- A lot of retirees in town.
- A need for this for some who need the social outlet.
- A new center if it not at an astronomical price; if so renovate the old one.
- A new center was promised and money was raised for it but it was never built, and there are a lot of seniors in Oak Ridge.
- A new senior center would be safer.
- A newer facility means better technology, more room for activities inside and out.
- A nice thing for the seniors to have.
- As people get into their 70's they still have a lot going on and they need education and time with friends. They put their lives into this city and are dying fast. They don't seem to have anybody. A hand up and not a hand out for our seniors.
- Attract a wider spectrum of people to live in the city.
- Attract more seniors in the community; the seniors are the backbone of the community and they get the short end of the stick.
- Be closer & be more handicapped accessible. Need to advertise more.
- Be more room, better organization, growing senior population.
- Because of the population in Oak Ridge and they deserve it.
- Because there are lots of seniors who use it.
- Because we need a safe place to go and to something to do; a small room to read the morning paper and periodicals.
- Because we want to support the senior population of the city.
- Because we will need an expansion in the future; if we need one in the future we need to start planning for it today.
- Been in the center and does not meet the needs of the seniors. There is a large population of seniors that need a lot more.
- Bigger center.
- Bigger place for people to go to. Need a bigger place to do activities.
- Building is old; no parking.
- Building is run down; needs to be updated.
- Building is worn out.
- Building needs repair, can't have dances at the senior center.
- By anticipating the need we can go ahead and build it for more activities.
- Community support.
- Cost effective.
- Create more jobs.
- Current center is old and run down.
- Current center is old drab center.
- Current center is unacceptable.
- Current location is not good.
- Current location not good.
- Current one is aging. Local population would support it.
- Demographics of town. A lot of seniors support schools.

- Due to the large population of senior citizens, I think a new center would be beneficial to the overall community.
- Everybody wants their own building if they could get it. More peace of mind and be separate from other companies.
- Fearful that the seniors will be phased out and not have a place to relate to the history of Oak Ridge.
- Feel like they had a better center in the past before it was replaced.
- Feel they need a better facility since they were removed from the old center.
- Friends that do attend they say it's time for change at the center.
- Give activities for seniors.
- Gives seniors a chance to mingle with people and have activities to participate in.
- Good to socialize.
- Great need to support the seniors.
- Have enough seniors that need the activities.
- Have to share the building and this is difficult. The building is older and needs repairs. Needs to have more rooms so that more things can go on at one time.
- Hope to use it in the future.
- I am gonna be old one day.
- I have family who have used it and the activities are not educational. With a new venue, it would challenge the mind
- I have friends who do use the center and it needs to be replaced.
- I have friends who go and really truly enjoy it.
- I live close by the current one is greatly utilized and feel that for those who use it they should have a better facility.
- I might need to use it soon and it would be nice to have a new one.
- I think access will be helped for the handicapped.
- I think if we had a new one, people would participate and would like to see a pool installed, nice exercise room with equipment.
- I think seniors shy away from the old and starting afresh would draw more participants.
- I think that it would better for them. Better equipped.
- I think the more exercise we can get is the best. We need room for these activities. I feel more people would participate if there was room. A lot of our residents go to Clinton to swim etc. They have a heated pool etc, and wonderful exercise programs.
- I think the need for one has been identified.
- I think the one we have is kinda shoddy.
- I think the other is not made for them; second rate. Needs room for community and benefit the whole community.
- I think the present center is inadequate. It's a roof over their heads, but that's about it.
- I think the seniors should contribute to the funds for a new center-like a yearly membership. The younger crowd should be exempt from as the seniors were exempt from the new schools.
- I think they need one.
- I would like to use it.
- I've heard a lot of complaints about the old one.
- If everyone had some place that was more modern and more attractive more would participate.
- If it is an issue that is being raised then the old one is ill equipped and outdated. Put importance on all ages of people.

- If they can come up with the funding.
- I'm tired of Oak Ridge being considered a cesspool.
- In consideration of this being an old town and our senior citizens.
- In the future there will be more older people so they need a bigger place to accommodate them.
- It depends on how much will be spent, and if it will actually be used.
- It doesn't seem as if the city council supports the senior community. I think they need to build a new building or take over and renovate an existing building.
- It gives seniors something to do
- It is always great to give back to the seniors that have given to us.
- It is an old, old dilapidated building.
- It needs a new one; the building we are in is old and dirty.
- It needs to be updated and pleasant environment; more in the center of town with better access.
- It needs to be updated for senior use.
- It should be more centrally located.
- It was never intended to be a senior center so a new one is needed to accommodate seniors.
- It would be a good place for events. Need a place accessible with walkers & wheel chairs. Need entertainment. Wild Cat Den was a good place.
- It would be beneficial to a lot of people in our area.
- It would give more options for seniors without membership & money.
- It's a disgrace for a community such as Oak Ridge to have such a pathetic place like they have now.
- It's a growing demographic (seniors).
- It's a ministry for seniors.
- It's too small.
- Just because things get old; it is good to have some new life.
- Keep the seniors young and looking forward to something so they won't give up on life
- Like it more for the teens first but the population is older so they need something. They need and deserve it.
- Location. Current building is very old and depressing.
- Lots of Oak Ridge citizens that need an outlet.
- Lots of seniors in Oak Ridge.
- Lots of seniors in Oak Ridge.
- Lots of seniors in the area.
- Lots of seniors in the city.
- Low cost, increased access.
- Main reason is Oak Ridge is becoming a more and more senior center place. I strongly support it.
- Main reason is when I was younger my father was heavily involved in the old center and then they moved them and I think they deserve a new one. The older center was told it wasn't in good enough shape and then they now have a younger group using it.
- Mainly because I know that older people tend to get forgotten.
- Make the seniors happy.
- Many think it's called for and the city known for not providing services or a place for seniors.
- More activities can be offered.
- More activities for seniors and more seniors will attend.

- More activities for seniors.
- More activities for the seniors.
- More activities in it.
- More convenient;, give seniors a boost; new nice surroundings.
- More investments are needed in the community.
- More participation if they had a better meeting place.
- More population in the area.
- More seniors in area.
- More seniors in the city.
- More seniors in the city; the building needs to be upgraded.
- More seniors than young people. Need a nice place. Current building is old, out of date.
- More things for elders to do.
- Need a new building.
- Need more space and activities.
- Needs to be more centrally located. We are grandparents and want to be a part of a group of mixed ages of people
- Needs to be updated.
- Needs to be updated.
- Needs updating.
- New activities for the seniors. Nothing here for seniors or for youth from 13 thru 25. City just wants our tax dollars and then to be left alone.
- New programs and entertainment.
- Nicer facility and may offer more activities.
- No running water in one of the bathrooms, building is old.
- Not a lot of support for the older people; would like to see more transportation in general.
- Not fun things to do in old one. Needs a decent pool.
- Oak Ridge has and will increasingly have a senior group. They need a center just as the teen have a center. Helps keep and attract that segment of the population.
- Oak Ridge is a senior community, support for the seniors is important to Oak Ridge
- Oak Ridge is an older city with a lot of things that need rebuilding.
- Oak Ridge is growing in seniors and they need to make accommodations for them.
- Oak Ridge needs improvement.
- Offers a new place for new and upcoming seniors.
- Old facility cannot be kept up and maintained. A new facility would be less costly to operate. Doesn't meet code. It wasn't designed for a senior center.
- Old people need something to do.
- One big reason it needs to be safer; they need larger rooms for bigger events; new bathrooms.
- One was supposed to have been built before and they changed their minds.
- Only because hears seniors complain a lot and they apparently need something better.
- Only if they could do it without taxes going up.
- Only know the age of our city appears to be getting older.
- Only know what I read in the paper; current one probably doesn't meet the standards.
- Others can have it to use.
- Our population is mostly seniors so we need it.
- Probably needs to be replaced.
- Quite a large number of seniors in Oak Ridge; there is a need for one.

- Really don't have one now. A lot of seniors in Oak Ridge need it. Vital service for seniors who deserve it.
- Senior center is very old with plumbing and other problems.
- Senior population growing in Oak Ridge area.
- Seniors are more active.
- Seniors are people too. They need a lot of activities that match their needs.
- Seniors are the largest group of people and we're becoming seniors quickly now.
- Seniors need activities and a nice place to be. By in large seniors are left on their own. The center now is small and old they need a new one for our aging citizens.
- So seniors will always have a place to go.
- So the seniors can have a place to go.
- Something attractive, more acceptable, new and clean would be much better than the old one.
- The amount of seniors in the city is great and they need a place.
- The building is getting way too old.
- The building is in disrepair.
- The building is now decrepit and creepy and very few activities offered
- The building is old.
- The building is run down.
- The building looks outdated.
- The building that they are using is old and out of date. Cheaper to build than to update. They need a safe & clean facility. They deserve it for building our city.
- The center is inadequate and very outdated.
- The center is too small.
- The center would be better than the one the seniors are in now.
- The current building is old and not attractive; no air conditioner; has asbestos tile; very institutional. I don't like it all. A lot of other groups are there which makes it crowded.
- The current center doesn't meet the needs of the seniors.
- The current center is a dump.
- The current one is too small.
- The current place that is available is an old, old building and they just have a room or so. They need a new place to be.
- The facility is aged, small. Could meet needs of more if larger.
- The facility they have now is really old.
- The location and how you get in it. It needs repairs.
- The location.
- The needs of seniors.
- The old building is inadequate.
- The old building isn't user friendly.
- The old center is in very bad shape.
- The old is not big enough.
- The old one is a disaster; it doesn't meet code; can't offer anything.
- The old one is inadequate.
- The old one is not a nice facility; is antiquated.
- The old one is not adequate.
- The old one isn't adequate.

- The one now is not acceptable - crowded, bathrooms are not pleasant, just not convenient, arrangement not good at all.
- The one now is not big enough.
- The one now is not welcoming, clean or nice.
- The one now is small and outdated.
- The one that is there has no heat or air; the building is old. We need a place to call our own separate from young people.
- The one there is not going to be there much longer; is going to be torn down. It is old; rooms not laid out very well for meetings or exercise.
- The one they have now is dilapidated.
- The one they have now is old and decrepit; our seniors deserve better than what they have
- The one they have now is old and not a good atmosphere. People are not happy and comfortable there.
- The one they have now is old and ugly.
- The one they have now is old and very cliquish because it is so small. We need a wider range of programs to fit our needs.
- The one they have now is old. Need something to have fellowship, meet people.
- The one they have now is outdated. I would use it if it were improved. We need more space.
- The one they have now is very old.
- The one they have now is very small.
- The one they have now was built in the 1940's. It is in disrepair.
- The one we have now is an old building and it needs updating.
- The only place the seniors have to go.
- The other one is dated; not very modern.
- The population is going that way. It would be really good
- The senior center does not have enough activities. They should have what they want.
- The senior population is growing and center is not that large. If bigger could offer a bigger variety of things to do.
- The seniors deserve it. There aren't as many activities for seniors as younger people.
- The seniors need a nice building; they deserve a nice place to go.
- The seniors need extra activities so they won't have major problems.
- The seniors need something to do to keep them active.
- The young people have nothing to do in Oak Ridge, they go to Knoxville. Big center need for both older and younger people in Oak Ridge.
- There are a lot of seniors here and they are involved in Oak Ridge.
- There are a lot of seniors here who would use it, the older one is old.
- There are a lot of seniors in Oak Ridge. Pool is small for all the seniors.
- There are a lot of seniors in the community.
- There are lots of seniors in the city.
- There are more old people in Oak Ridge.
- There are so many senior citizens in this town but the building is not adequate; no air conditioning in parts of it.
- There are so many seniors that have been here from day one; need more social activities.
- There are a lot of seniors in Oak Ridge.

- There should be dancing so seniors don't have to travel to go dancing. Lounge area with refreshments and nicer rooms for meetings. It's discouraging to go to our senior center because it is not a pleasant place to go.
- There will be more older people.
- There's a large senior population for which the center could meet needs now and in the future. Could be more economical as far as the heating issue in a newer building.
- There's never been an adequate one in the first place. Oak Ridge is predominately senior and it is more necessary because of that.
- They are cramped for space at the current center.
- They deserve it.
- They had a convenient spot (Wild Cat Den) and then moved them. It is crowded, no equipment or funding.
- They need a new building; it's a hundred years old it needs to increase the amount of things offered.
- They need better amenities.
- They need it.
- They need it.
- They need it; the old one is depressing.
- They need more and more activities for them.
- They need more modern facilities.
- They need something to do.
- They need to be taken care of.
- They need to upgrade to attract more seniors and accommodate those seniors that already attend.
- They said 8 yrs ago they were going to do it but didn't; spent the money on something else and current building is in disrepair.
- Think they deserve a nice place. They've been bounced around.
- This one is small and there is no parking.
- This one is very old and we have a habit of losing them.
- To have a place to go and help people.
- To have it centrally located and facilities updated.
- To help have more activities for seniors.
- To improve the old one.
- Upgrade is needed.
- We can have more activities.
- We could have many more activities, more people attending.
- We don't do enough for the seniors.
- We have an aging community and we are in need of one.
- We have enough old people.
- We need the space; many retirees.
- We really need one.

- Well it depends where location is and if I can get there with public transportation being so bad.
- We've needed one for over 20 years; been told we would have one; money allotted but did not materialize. Feel like the red headed step child.
- When old center was at the wild den it was centrally located; they need a more modern building.
- Would give elderly people a place convenient to go from any side of town.

**Table 13: What are your reasons for opposing a new senior center?**

- Another reason to waste money.
- Basically it (Oak Ridge) caters to the older people already. They need to have programs for the youth.
- Because of the debt that it would create; not enough people who would participate.
- Better reasons to use the money.
- Better ways to spend money in Oak Ridge without raising taxes.
- Can't afford a new center.
- Can't see it's necessary. Too expensive.
- City does not need to spend money better
- City is too far in debt and doesn't need their taxes raised.
- Civic Center would be better than building a new one.
- Don't think they are many Oak Ridge residents who use it for the money or cost.
- Don't think they need one
- Don't feel the city needs to spend money on a new center.
- Don't see the need for a senior center in the city; it's not worth the trouble.
- Don't think it's needed.
- Don't think the building needs to be rebuilt, just upgraded.
- Don't want the city taxes to go up.
- Don't want to use tax dollars.
- Economic reasons.
- Expenditure is ridiculous for so few seniors.
- Feel like there are too many centers in the city.
- Feels the city needs other important activities in the city.
- Funds need to be used for other things like schools.
- I don't think it's utilized that much. Seems like a small group of people are the only ones that do use it. I know several seniors that don't use it, that are friends; the money could be used better.
- I don't think the city has the money to spend right now and I know several senior citizens that do not use it now.
- I don't want to pay for that in taxes. I am still paying for the high school.
- I don't want to spend tax dollars on anything right now.
- I have used it before with the dance club. Other citizens from other towns used it more. I don't think we need a new one.
- I oppose it because of the way they are going to get the money.
- I oppose the tax payers paying for a new center.
- I think nothing is wrong with the one we have.
- I think the location at the Wild Cat Den is okay. Believes the current one has enough space.
- I think we need funds spent towards younger people; more family activities instead of focused on just seniors.
- I think what they have is plenty.
- I think what we already have is fine.
- If it raises taxes no center needs to be built.
- If there's already one, they don't need another one.
- It costs too much. Taxes will go up and it is not necessary.
- It costs too much. They can hold events at the Civic Center.

- It is alright where it is.
- It is not a good financial idea.
- It is the wrong time due to the economy. The taxes are high enough. They need to concentrate more on industry in Oak Ridge. There is nothing available for our younger people to go to when they graduate high school.
- It would be fiscally irresponsible.
- It's a cost that we cannot afford.
- It's a financial decision, not a service decision.
- Money could be used for more beneficial things in the city.
- Money could better spent going to the kids. No problem with the seniors, they have everything.
- Money reasons.
- More that could be done than that.
- Most seniors that attend are from other areas or cities.
- Mostly financial reasons.
- My local newspaper indicates that there is a lot of concentration for providing the needs for our senior citizens.
- Need to get other things done first. Increase income before spending money.
- Need to work on education first.
- No need; there are plenty of buildings.
- Not enough people use it.
- Not enough seniors in the city; money could be used towards other things in the city.
- Not familiar with the need of it.
- Not needed.
- Not too many people attend the center.
- Oak Ridge already gears toward seniors; we need to offer more things to draw younger people.
- Oak Ridge doesn't have the money.
- Oak Ridge doesn't need to spend the money; all they'll do is go up in taxes again.
- Oak Ridge is in debt because of high school. Our credit card is maxed out.
- Oak Ridge needs other things. As far as a new center, buildings are already here and vacant. We need places for younger people.
- Oppose if an older building used & remodeled. Some building that is centrally located.
- Other things are needed in the community.
- Other things are needed more than this; it is underutilized as it is.
- Other things are needed more.
- Other things are needed. The money needs to be spent on other things.
- Other things we need first.
- Our money is needed in other areas, the seniors are better off than the average citizen.
- Paying for the high school.
- Primarily because the money needs to be spent on our youth, especially our teenagers; they are more important.
- Schools are more important.
- Should be focusing on our youth; Center concentrates on seniors only.
- Should be used for all ages.
- Sure it would require tax money and already pay high taxes.
- Tax dollars need to not be involved.
- Taxes are too outrageous as it is.

- The center is adequate now.
- The center is fine the way it is.
- The center they have now is adequate.
- The center they have now is sufficient.
- The city does not have the funds for a new center.
- The city doesn't have the funds for a new center.
- The city has other major concerns.
- The city shouldn't have to provide entertainment for its seniors.
- The city spends too much money on everything. Hard for the retired to live in Oak Ridge.
- The current one is okay.
- The current one is sufficient. Too expensive. Other buildings available.
- The existing one is fine.
- The lack of funding and wide variety of activities in community for seniors.
- The money should go to other productive things.
- The next generation won't use it and people don't use it now.
- The old one is just fine.
- The old one is not used as much.
- The one they have is fine.
- The one they have is fine; concentrate more on other needs.
- The one they have is good enough.
- The seniors already have a lot of activities whereas other age groups do not.
- There are a lot of empty buildings they could use.
- There are other things that are needed; we need to draw other people in.
- There is a facility available to them. The seniors have benefited from things all through the years from our tax dollars. We need to concentrate on our young.
- There is a lot of empty spaces in Oak Ridge.
- There is a senior center now.
- There is not enough money; we need young people in this town.
- They already have an adequate building.
- They could use another building.
- They have made no effort on their own to raise money. Using public funds is not constitutional.
- They need to set priorities and a pre-school would be better.
- Think seniors have a lot of say in Oak Ridge. They opposed the Target's store. They have a lot to say about everything.
- Think the center is fine where it is.
- Think the city needs to do things that the people really need.
- Think we have adequate facilities.
- Think we should forget seniors and make it for everyone.
- This one is sufficient; location is close.
- Too expensive.
- Too expensive; do not need.
- Too few seniors would use it; we need other things worse.
- Use some of the empty structures in Oak Ridge.
- Vote upon by citizens and voted down. No money to support it.
- Waste of money at this time.
- Waste of money.

- We do not have the money.
- We have a much higher need to build a new preschool. We don't have the money to do both and we need a new preschool more than we need a senior center. We can't afford a new senior center at this time.
- We have an existing one. Some people think that is adequate. Need a case of it being inadequate.
- We have one now that is now okay and the city cannot afford more debt.
- We have several vacant buildings that could be used and should revisit using an existing building.
- We need money directed in other areas, but for the younger seniors it would be okay. My biggest complaint about Oak Ridge is no shopping and no restaurants.
- When the city has referendums to bring new things to our town, like shopping, the seniors have opposed this. Why should we put our eggs in this basket when there is no tax base?

**Table 14: What programs or activities would you like to see offered at the Senior Center?**

- A band to play music
- A heated pool
- A person that is not well known but that would speak at the center about what they do or what they have done.
- A snack bar and meeting rooms
- Activities for kids
- Aerobics
- Anything that would keep seniors active, have friends, & be a part of the community
- Aquatic program, exercise
- Aquatic programs
- Art class, exercise program, cooking class
- Art, music programs
- Athletic
- Ballroom dancing, yoga, tai chi
- Better transportation to center during the days to take us to the store or for rides.
- Bingo , social activities
- Bingo and classes
- Bowling
- Bridge
- Bridge
- Bridge
- Bridge club
- Bridge, card games, bingo
- Bridge, potluck lunches
- Bridge, square dancing, swimming, cards , bingo
- Camaraderie, lunches
- Card games
- Card games
- Card games
- Cards, a pool
- Cards, bridge, volunteer work in the community to help the elders in their homes, help young mothers, reading for the children
- Cards, dancing, swimming, seminars from safety org. such as police or fire dept., BINGO
- Cards, mahjong, something involving music like a sing along or participatory music, horseshoes
- Career center use
- Celebrate & talk about the history of Oak Ridge
- Classes about interesting things, such as art, music, psychology.
- Classes such as crafts, music, and exercise classes
- Computer activities, woodworking shop
- Computer classes
- Computer classes

- Computer courses
- Computers
- Concerts, bingo, dinner, movies
- Counseling activities
- Craft classes
- Crafting, lectures on different subjects
- Crafts
- Crocheting, more advertisement, knitting, exercise for elders and the disabled.
- Dance
- Dance classes for different kinds of dance, workshops on making & writing music, painting
- Dances
- Dancing
- Dancing
- Dancing
- Dancing
- Dancing
- Dancing
- Dancing and learning to dance
- Dancing classes
- Dancing, aquatic programs, arts , crafts, play cards, old movies
- Dancing, bingo
- Dancing, bridge, lectures and small concerts.
- Dancing, lectures
- Dancing, travel, aerobics
- Day trips, computer classes, lectures on bird watching, card games
- Defensive driving courses, coordinate bus services, provide jobs
- Different types of continuing programs, dances, get togethers
- Drama classes
- Drivers Ed class, games
- Education
- Educational, historical
- Everything - exercise, trips, activities
- Exercise
- Exercise class, a pool table, a ping pong table, a swimming pool
- Exercise classes, computer classes, health classes - diabetic, hypertension, etc.
- Exercise events with trainers, meet to make some decisions about improvements
- Exercise groups, travel, social activities
- Exercise Program, Meetings of Interest to Senior Citizens
- Exercise programs
- Exercise programs
- Exercise programs like yoga and pilates
- Exercise programs, things that can keep you in shape mentally and physically
- Exercise, activities, field trips

- Exercise, art lessons, dance
- Exercise, bridge, dancing
- Exercise, entertainment
- Exercise, group meetings, bridge, music
- Exercise, medical programs
- Exercise, swimming
- Exercise, tai chi
- Exercise, yoga, discussion groups
- Exercising, games, and sightseeing tours.
- Field trips to different places
- Fitness
- Fitness for women and men approaching
- Food programs
- Games, billiards
- Gardening, crafts, financial, public council meetings for questions
- Go to the marina where the seniors have dinner, a band and a program-talent show.
- Gym with a stage available, air and heat needed, more room for classrooms for speakers, kitchenette, joint activities for males & females as well as separate activities, good access to building
- Have movies, community events, games, travel, meals together, a chance to communicate
- Health program
- Health wellness, education, organized events
- Health an wellness classes
- I think they should have bridge clubs and square dances.
- I would like to see Bingo offered and decorations for the Holidays
- Indoor Exercise, an updated building would be nice, better kitchen facilities.
- Interactive educational programs, entertainment
- Interest groups, garden club, have a small fee for the civic center
- Knitting classes, Cross stitch classes, Gardening classes.
- Lectures
- Lunch program, a place for games, activities, and dances
- Card games
- Meal service, computer access, recreational activities, exercise facilities, game rooms for cards and bridge
- Meals on Wheels, crafts, cards, different interest groups, games, pool
- Meals, dancing, cards, or games
- More activities
- More board games
- More children's activities
- More cultural activities and programs
- More dance acts
- More educational programs
- More exercise programs, more health lectures

- More exercise programs, special events, ( speakers ) information
- More family oriented programs
- More financial training for people who are about to retire, financial training for elderly people and understanding insurance.
- More for families and young people
- More learning things
- More of an exercise program, health education
- More outside speakers, some computer instruction, air conditioning, and knitting instruction
- More speakers on a variety of subjects, physical activity or yoga, travel
- More summer programs
- More travel, lunches and dinners served at a fee
- More volunteer outreach
- Motivational speakers
- Music
- Music
- Music lessons, concerts and listening too.
- Music Opportunities, Band, etc.
- Needlepoint, crochet, music
- Oracle program - classes
- Oracle programs
- Organize outings to local events, theater, restaurants, or out of town events.
- Outdoor programs
- Parkinson's meetings
- Physical activities, mingle parties where people can make friends, political events, dances
- Ping pong
- Planning for retirement seminars, square dancing, cards and pool, table games, activities that get seniors together because it is an aging community
- Play bridge
- Playing bingo, games , crafts
- Pool, bingo, crafts, food
- Pool, cards, bridge, tai-chi,
- Pool, cards, games, computers
- Program that would help them understand insurance so that they could choose, also prescription availability
- Quilting and crafts
- Reading room
- Recreation, and company
- Road trips
- Senior birthday parties
- Senior daycare, card games, hiking club, bridge club, social dinners
- Senior mentoring
- Sewing
- Short trips for seniors, craft workshops

- Social activities such as dinners, bridge, motion pictures
- Social programs
- Some kind of exercise, entertainment
- Something for younger seniors
- Square dancing
- Square dancing
- Support groups
- Swimming
- Swimming
- Swimming
- Tai chi, other athletic things that seniors could participate in.
- Tai chi, road trips, reading clubs
- Theatre, dance groups, painters, dining services
- Training for courses, fun activities
- Travel
- Travel trips, dinners
- Trips, a variety of activities
- Wildlife and outdoors

**Table 15: What types of activities or hobbies do you currently do in your leisure time?**

- Academics and belong to a health club
- Active in the elks lodge
- Activities with my children, horse riding, ice skating, sound company
- Adult Education for Roane State - ORICL, dine out, musical opportunities
- Always working
- Antiquing, Restoring an old boat, grandchildren
- Art, hiking, biking,
- Art, music
- Art, walking, exercise
- Attend concerts, day bus trips, into church, reading
- Attend grandkids ballgames
- Attend ORICL classes, church activities, book clubs, movies
- Ballroom dancing, banjo playing, traveling
- Basketball, football, drawing, and writing music
- Basketball, video games, and family events.
- Bicycle, golf, soccer, participate in the Oak Ridge playhouse
- Bicycling
- Bicycling, computers, music activities
- Bike riding, white water rafting
- Bike, hike , run, musical activities, sporting events, school events
- Bike, run, swim, crafts, read
- Bike, take kids to swim or library, gym
- Biking, fishing
- Biking, tennis, soccer, attend art festivals, music events
- Boating, fishing
- Boating, fishing
- Book club, volunteer work with church, and friends
- Bowl, golf, read, exercise, tai chi
- Bowl, run
- Bowling
- Bowling and fishing
- Bowling, golfing, church, read books, and the playhouse
- Boy scouting, camping, shopping
- Bridge
- Bridge, attend classes, travel
- Bridge, birthday club
- Bridge, book club, walk
- Bridge, book group, ORICL studies
- Bridge, corresponding, yard work, indoor plants
- Bridge, movies, walk
- Busy all the time, vacation



- Calligraphy, study Latin, exercise, talk to friends, clean a lot, piano, watch Comcast TV, music, study accounting
- Camping, hiking
- Caregiver, babysitter ,church functions
- Carving
- Chaplin for police station, yard work, church activities
- Charitable work
- Church activities: choir, senior activities, help with Bible school, UMW and the memorial gardens.
- Church, family activities
- Church, house work, yard work, reading
- Classes at ORICL, sings, gardens, travels. Both of us are teachers.
- Club for seniors, bridge
- Coin collecting, cards, church
- Collect models, read, shop, computer
- Collect stamps, read
- Community planning events for the city
- Computer
- Computer
- Computer clubs, educational programs
- Computer related activities and music related activities
- Computer related items, photography, hiking
- Computer Work - 2nd Life, biking, singing, Pet Rescue Group, other professional group type work
- Computer, read, outdoor activities, i.e. walking
- Computers
- Computers, boating
- Computers, crafts
- Computers, road trips, hang out with friends
- Construction projects, rebuild old cars
- Continued learning, ceramics, dogs, kids
- Crafting, bike riding
- Crafts, exercise, walking
- Crafts, out with friends, suppers at the church, grandchildren
- Crochet, cook, chase children
- Crochet, read, watch TV (certain programs)
- Crocheting
- Crocheting, reading
- Cross stitch
- Cross stitch, read, trying to learn to knit and crochet, gardening
- Cub Scouts
- Cycling, reading
- Dance ballet, walk

- Dance, hiking
- Dancing, computers
- Dine out, watch TV
- Disc golf, fish, hike, and kayaking
- Disc golf, go to the Rush Fitness Center
- Discovering and exploring new caves
- Education, reading, pets technology, and music
- Elks Lodge
- Enjoy lake walks
- Entertainment
- Entertainment goes on all the time at the assisted living facility I live in.
- Exercise
- Exercise
- Exercise
- Exercise
- Exercise and reading
- Exercise at the civic center, activities with friends, picnics and such
- Exercise class, walking, hiking, playing cards
- Exercise, bingo
- Exercise, church
- Exercise, church functions, Oak Ridge Women's Club, bridge, and yard work
- Exercise, cycling
- Exercise, family things, swim, go to parks
- Exercise, grandchildren
- Exercise, read
- Exercise, run, walk, bike
- Exercise, swim at aquatic center, nothing beats the Oak Ridge Pool
- Family outings, Boys Scouts
- Film football games and practices, walk, work on cars
- Fish
- Fish & talk to other seniors
- Fish and golf
- Fish, boat, home repairs
- Fish, family horse riding, movies, shop
- Fish, golf, travel locally
- Fish, golf, yard work, work part time
- Fish, ride motorcycles
- Fishing
- Fishing, exercise, and attend church activities
- Fishing, gardening
- Fishing, hiking, walking
- Fishing, jogging
- Fishing, picnics , war reenactments

- Fishing, sports
- Fishing, woodworking
- Fitness center workouts, bowl
- Flower gardening, decorating and meeting people.
- Fly
- Fool around with computer, bake, golf
- Football practice with my son, mowing, walking by the lake or downtown
- Four wheeling, camping
- Garden
- Garden, camp, fish, read
- Garden, camp, use the gym, shop
- Garden, hike, read, travel
- Garden, read
- Garden, read
- Gardening
- Gardening and going to school
- Gardening, antique sales, tennis, travel
- Gardening, bird watching, hiking
- Gardening, farming
- Gardening, growing flowers and vegetables
- Gardening, listen to music
- Gardening, read, church work
- Gardening, reading, writing
- Gardening, school tutoring, volunteer at the museum of science and energy and the food pantry.
- Gardening, volunteer in different organizations, and travel
- Gardening, walking, church activities, volunteer activities
- Gardening, hiking
- Genealogy
- Go to lake in the summer, walking dogs
- Go to my church
- Go to the gym, body building activities with family, sports
- Go to the library, walk around the little trail by the civic center.
- Go to the pool every day, visit the nursing home and church activities.
- Go to the Rush for exercise, golf, read, wife knits, plays Bridge
- Goes to church, dinners and things like that
- Golf
- Golf
- Golf, basketball, disc golf, flea markets and yard sales, some hiking
- Golf, bowling, walking
- Golf, build computers
- Golf, fishing
- Golf, movies, reading, volunteer work, hiking, and biking

- Golf, read
- Golf, research on Constitution
- Golf, shopping
- Golf, snow ski, water ski, run
- Golf, softball
- Golf, tennis, skiing
- Golf, walking
- Golf, yard work
- Golfing
- Golfing, walking, exercise, and working
- Grandchildren
- Grandkids, fishing, walking
- Gym, crafts, read
- Gym, walk, watch meetings
- Hang out with friends, practice the viola, play chess, volunteer at the medical center, drive around, read.
- Hike, camp in the woods, volunteer
- Hike, camp, swim, garden, bike ride around city, crochet, books
- Hike, cook, sports
- Hike, fish
- Hike, fish, mow yards, and garden
- Hike, gardening, yard work, movies, plays
- Hike, play bridge
- Hike, swim, exercise
- Hiking
- Hiking on greenways, swimming, lakes, parks, playgrounds
- Hiking, bike riding
- Hiking, biking, art work
- Hiking, camping, reading, jogging
- Hiking, canoeing, shopping, housework
- Hiking, computer, and reading
- Hiking, cooking, reading
- Hiking, fishing
- Hiking, going to the park
- Hiking, listening to music
- Hiking, music, photography
- Hiking, ORICL classes
- Hiking, read, travel
- Hiking, swimming, biking
- Hiking, walking
- Hiking, walking, shopping, and traveling
- Hunt, build hot rods
- Hunt, fish, woodworking, Lions Club, Remote Area Medical

- Hunt, Fish, Yard Work, Active outside
- Hunting, water sports, lake activities, home improvement, gardening
- Husband and i take short visits to Cades Cove, crossword puzzles, grandchildren come here, family goes to the beach once a year, Jehovah's Witness' preaching door to door, and goes to the fitness center.
- Husband plays golf, uses the Library, walks, bowling
- I exercise with videos, swimming, parks and hikes, white water kayak, use the lakes, walking in the park
- I go to the gym several times a week. I belong to an organization that has 30,000 members and I arrange speakers for the meetings
- I go to the Rush
- I help and am very active in church the library
- I like to get on the computer on ancestors.com, reading murder mysteries, watch jeopardy
- I love to play chess
- In the yard, watch birds
- Interacting with family
- Inventing, helping elderly with mowing and yard work, personal training
- Involved in my church, in a program in my church called Willing Workers, participate in the Scarboro Community Center.
- Involved in Oak Ridge Kennel Club, and teach confirmation for dogs, involved in the dog fair at the kennel club, and the Oak Ridge Humane Society
- Jewelry making, hikes, nature,
- Jigsaw puzzles, gardening, fishing, reading, crafts, dog events
- Jog
- Jogging, biking, swimming, photography, yoga
- Jogging, hiking
- Jogging, swimming
- Jogging, Zumba
- Kayak, run, swim, garden, walking, wildflower walks at UT
- Knit and sew along with gardening
- Knit, read, cards, seminars, gardening, travel
- Knit, running, biking, hiking
- Knit, walk, shop
- Knitting
- Knitting , sewing , crafts , photography
- Knitting, crafts
- Like to look for arrow heads, hunt, fish, canoe and hike.
- Line dancing
- Local non-profits, church activities, reading , walking, animals , going to out to eat
- Make bracelets, crafts
- Make greeting cards, scrapbook, plays the organ.
- Model railroading
- Most activities in church

- Music Ministry for Seniors, active in church in music, AAW, Aerobics at Covenant Health, avid Reader
- Music, reading, gardening
- My grandchildren
- NASCAR fan, puzzles, mind stimulating things
- Needlework, games, antiques, reading
- Oak Ridge Art Center , I am a potter and participate in Art Shows
- Opera, playhouse, walk
- ORICL classes at Roane State
- ORICL classes, trips, public service
- ORICL meetings, reading, stamp collecting, internet, household finances
- ORICL, Book clubs
- Outdoor activities with pets, gardening, exercising, dining out
- Outdoor activities, hiking, fishing
- Outdoor activities, sports
- Outdoor sports, walking, gardening, biking, and hiking
- Paint and handcrafts, walk
- Paint, music, bake, garden
- Painting
- Painting and pottery, physical fitness, biking
- Painting, reading, drawing, crafts
- Parks, library
- Participates in the Playhouse, band concerts, opera concerts, plays bridge, reads
- Photography
- Photography, cross stitch, research on pc
- Photography, Draw and Paint, Scale Models, Movie Making
- Photography, garden
- Photography, hiking around town, disc golf, outdoor activities
- Photography, music, participate in shooting competitions, sponsor younger people, mathematics, bike, travel, tinker and read.
- Photography, outdoor activities with my child, attend special events
- Photography, reading, ceramics
- Photography, walk, and hike
- Piano, voice, reading, water aerobics
- Pick up aluminum cans & junk, paint ceramics
- Place on Watts Bar Lake, lots of family activities
- Play bridge, church, read
- Play bridge, work at church, visit the shut-ins, play Facebook, read a lot, and travel.
- Play cards, pc
- Play golf
- Play golf, athletics
- Play in two bands, participate in garden club, gardening, takes a course at Roane State every 2 years.

- Play musical instruments, sing
- Play on the computer
- Play softball, Goes to Zumba, shopping at the mall, goes to Knoxville for most of her activities.
- Play tennis, go to parks
- Play tennis, hike, read, and write
- Play tennis, hiking
- Play tennis, hiking, hang out with friends.
- Play video games
- Play video games, guitar
- Play with computer programs, exercises, and church
- Play with grandchildren, gardening
- Play with my Wii and play with my dog
- Politics
- Pool, golf
- Puzzles, crochet, sew, plays pool
- Quilt, garden, read
- Race sail boats, listening to classical music in Oak Ridge and Knoxville
- Race, hunt, fish
- Read
- Read a lot and walking
- Read a lot, needle point and i swim in the summer, have pool in backyard.
- Read a lot, workout, crafts like quilting
- Read books
- Read my bible, walk, help seniors
- Read on my kindle
- Read, bike, cards, walking
- Read, camp, golf
- Read, chess
- Read, church, library, grandkid activities, wood crafts
- Read, computer
- Read, crochet, and enjoy the great grandchildren
- Read, crochet, knit, embroidery, needle point
- Read, cycle, and music
- Read, drive, take walks, exercise - keep in shape
- Read, enjoy the lakes, gardening, anything outdoors

- Read, exercise
- Read, garden, and go to exercise classes in Clinton. I also spend a lot of time in church.
- Read, garden, hike, lots of outdoor activities, social and political issues, Civil Rights
- Read, history programs, TV, outdoors
- Read, tai chi
- Read, knit, gym
- Read, knit, weave, Appalachian arts, garden
- Read, listen to music, play video games, and draw
- Read, lots of Sewing, church activities, public meetings, fitness.
- Read, martial arts, computers
- Read, play with the grandchildren
- Read, scrapbooking, crafts, music
- Read, sew, church & church activities
- Read, socializing with friends and family, traveling
- Read, study, play frisbee, socialize with friends
- Read, walk
- Read, walk
- Read, walk, eating
- Read, walk, swimming
- Read, walking
- Read, walking
- Read, watch movies, time with friends & family, crafts
- Read, watch Turner Classic movies a lot, Forensics, Animal Planet
- Read, watch TV
- Read, watch TV
- Read, work in the yard, enjoys grilling and outdoor activities.
- Read, work in the yard, walking
- Read, write, paint and genealogy. Husband bikes. This household has a child with special needs, does not think this is addressed enough; thinks there should be more activities for this population. Perhaps the library could offer a book club for this population.
- Read, write, watch TV, socialize with friends, read magazines
- Reading
- Reading, active at school
- Reading, computers, and family time
- Reading, computers, TV, gardening, sewing, and cooking
- Reading, cooking, and walking
- Reading, counting cross stitch, and jigsaw puzzles. Belong to the First Baptist Church.
- Reading, crafts, hiking
- Reading, crafts, yard work
- Reading, cross stitch, activities with granddaughter, walking, long drives.
- Reading, gardening, outdoor activities, card clubs , exercise groups, clubs
- Reading, gardening, shopping, cooking, movies
- Reading, gardening, walking

- Reading, hiking, and music
- Reading, knitting, and exercises.
- Reading, photography, ORICL classes, and internet
- Reading, photography, travel, hiking
- Reading, quilting, hiking
- Reading, sewing, and quilting when i get a chance to do it.
- Reading, sewing, music, theater
- Reading, Some Sports, Hiking, and Camping
- Reading, walk dogs
- Reading, walking
- Reading, walking
- Reading, walking, movies
- Reading, watch TV, crafts
- Reading, workouts, scrapbooking
- Reading, yard work, being with family
- Recording for the blind (Learning Alley), tutoring for GED, helps wife at the church and investment club.
- Renovating houses, fishing, jet skiing
- Retired 15 years but read a great deal and on the computer
- Ride a motorized bike
- Ride Bikes, Take child to the park.
- Ride different types of sports vehicles
- Ride motorcycles, hiking, and cooking
- Rowing, go to Hall Ridge for mountain biking, cinema, bowling alley, sports field for ultimate frisbee.
- Run, bike
- Run, hike, travel
- Run, Play pool
- Run, read, exercise, shopping
- Running, reading
- Running, reading, walking
- Scrapbook crafts
- Scrapbooking, cooking, fitness
- Scuba diver, hiker, crafts with children & places to take them.
- Several programs for senior citizens, church activities, exercise at my church, read, flower garden
- Sew
- Sew, enjoy yard work
- Sew, skiing, walking
- Sewing, exercise group, I love my book and I have great-grandchildren and grandchildren too.
- Sewing, read, travel,
- Sewing, reading, walking, swimming, woodworking
- Shoot guns

- Shooting range
- Shooting sports, fish
- Shop in Knoxville and eat in Knoxville
- Shop, send cards, eat out, visit friends
- Shopping and work outside
- Shopping, exercise, reading, children activities w/her children.
- Sleep
- Snow ski, walk, travel
- Socialize with friends
- Softball, bowling
- Some gardening, knitting, reading
- Spending family time together, dining out
- Sports
- Sports - watching, water sports
- Sports activities, plays, church functions, and hiking
- Sports events, movies
- Sports, golf , art, music, gardening
- Sports, tennis, parks, fields, trails
- Sports, workout
- Study group, walk, read, movies
- Study history
- Swim
- Swim
- Swim and Walks
- Swim, boat, fish, read, garden, boxes for soldiers
- Swim, hike, bike, and gardening
- Swim, workout at the rush, yard work, walk, and ride my bike
- Swimming, reading, solitaire at Oak Ridge pre-school
- Swimming, spend time at the park
- Tai chi, physical workout at the rush and walking the trails.
- Take care of grandbabies, crafts , sewing, cooking, gardening
- Take care of sick mother, Cares for financial needs of son, girlfriend and her children, watches TV, children do some church activities.
- Taking courses at the University of Tennessee
- Tennis
- Tennis , gardening, reading , walking, socialization, church activities, participate in activities with some organizations
- Tennis, bridge leagues,
- Tennis, golf
- Tennis, read, play the piano, attend church, and watch television
- Tennis, ride bikes, hike
- Tennis, sailing
- Tennis, walk, read

- Theater, secret city film festival,
- Time with kids
- Tinkering in the workshop, drive tractor & work in fields
- Trail running, mountain biking, visiting the park with my children
- Travel
- Travel
- Travel
- Travel & walking
- Travel, attend ballgames of my grandchildren, read, visit relatives. I love football.
- Travel, camp, woodworking
- Travel, hunt, fish, boating
- Travel, My wife likes to shop
- Travel, read
- Travel, read, walk
- Travel, reading, music
- Travel, spend time at the lake
- Travel, Volunteer Work at Church , Use computer social activities
- Travel, water sports, involved in children's life, church activities, civic events, reading
- Traveling
- Trout fishing, hiking
- Tutor at the elementary school, garden, church, hike
- Use internet a lot, read, watch TV, workout at the Rush, use Oak Ridge library to read periodicals and newspapers, ORICL - teach a class there and take classes, play bridge
- Used to dance with seniors, involved in church
- Vegetable gardening, fixing homes, teaching them
- Video games, golf, on-line games, hunting, fishing
- Volunteer at the hospital & recording for the blind
- Volunteer work
- Volunteer work, reading, walks along the river, movies, and restaurants but often outside Oak Ridge.
- Volunteer, ORICL classes
- Walk
- Walk
- Walk ,read
- Walk on streets, family vacations, events or sports
- Walk, bike
- Walk, bike riding, and church, also like to row
- Walk, camp
- Walk, computer, reading
- Walk, computers
- Walk, crochet, knit
- Walk, dog care
- Walk, garden

- Walk, go to church
- Walk, go to wellness center, go to the movies
- Walk, hike, family time
- Walk, National Fitness Center, go to the Playhouse, some concerts, grandchildren, swimming, City Parks, Greenway Trails
- Walk, play with grandkids, go to the park
- Walk, read
- Walk, read
- Walk, read, travel
- Walk, read, TV
- Walk, ride bike, walk dog, sporting events
- Walk, sing, act, read, hike
- Walk, take medicine, & sit.
- Walk, yard work
- Walk, yard work, church
- Walking
- Walking
- Walking , landscaping
- Walking and hiking, swimming, ride bikes
- Walking on the greenway. Courses on the Roane State campus. Travel outside of Oak Ridge have grandchildren throughout the country and in the area
- Walking on trails
- Walking, bingo, crafts
- Walking, hiking
- Walking, jogging, swimming
- Walking, music, church and related, travel
- Walking, playing cards
- Walking, reading,
- Walking, reading, gardening
- Walking, running, biking, reading
- Walking, shopping
- Walking, shopping, movies
- Walking, window shopping
- Walking, yard work
- Watch movies
- Watch TV and collect dolphins
- Watch television
- Watch TV & read
- Watch TV , READ
- Watch TV, but not too much at all
- Watch TV, high school football games
- Watch TV, watch movies, and the news
- Water activities, read, movies , city parks, greenway trails, cycling

- We camp a lot
- Weaver, grandchildren
- Weaving
- Weight lifting, reading, play sports
- Woodwork
- Woodwork
- Woodworking, biking, photography, reading, gardening
- Woodworking, gardening, and art programs
- Woodworking, kayaking, and lots of reading
- Woodworking, photography, computers
- Work in the yard with my flowers, computers, love my TV, take care of my dogs.
- Work on cars, play guitar, hiking, recreational shooting
- Work outside the home, reading, gardening
- Working in the yard, enjoy seeing the races (pleased to see that has been successful)
- Write novels, roller skate, workout, take care of animals
- Write, riding, music, art.
- Yard work, walk, drive sports car in town, watch construction, eat at luncheons, union committee @ high school and Wild Cat Den, football & softball
- Yard work, water sports, exercise
- Yard work, swim
- Yard work
- Yard work
- Yard work, exercise
- Yard work, house work, walk, and attend church



**College of Social Work  
Office of Research and Public Service  
Center for Applied Research and Evaluation**

600 Henley Street, Suite 209  
Knoxville, TN 37996-4123  
Phone: (865) 974-2819

Dear [NAME] Household:

I am sending this letter to let you know that in the next few days you will receive a telephone call from the Center for Applied Research and Evaluation at the University of Tennessee asking a member of your household to participate in an important research project by completing a telephone interview with one of its staff members.

The City of Oak Ridge would like to hear from its residents about how they use the facilities and services that the city provides. This information will help the city to plan and develop programs that best serve the needs of your community and the purpose of this telephone interview is to help them determine these needs. The interviewer will be asking your opinion on the quality of services provided by the city; future needs of the community; and your level of participation in different types of activities. If you wish to know more about the survey, please call me at the Center for Applied Research and Evaluation at 974-2730.

The interview will only take about ten minutes and the information you provide will be very valuable in the planning process. It is important that we talk to people like you so that we know your needs and the needs of people like you.

It is only with the generous help of you and others in your community that our research can be successful. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Linda M. Daugherty  
Assistant Director

Hello, I am calling from the Center for Applied Research and Evaluation at the University of Tennessee for the City of Oak Ridge. We have been asked by the City to assess the needs of your community. We need your household's help to do that. All of the answers provided are confidential. It is very important that we hear from younger people as well as older residents. Is there anyone in your household who is between the ages of 18 and 25? [IF SOMEONE IN THIS AGE GROUP LIVES IN THE HOUSEHOLD BUT IS NOT AVAILABLE, SCHEDULE A CALL BACK.]

Sometimes it is easier for us to speak with females but it is important that we speak to males as well. For statistical purposes, I would like to speak with the youngest male in your household who is 18 or older in your household. Is that person available?

First, do you live inside the city limits of Oak Ridge?

1. Yes
2. No [TERMINATE CALL AND CODE AS OVER QUOTA]

CODE RESPONDENT GENDER FROM VOICE

1. Male
2. Female

I would like to begin by asking your age. How old were you on your last birthday?  
\_\_\_\_\_ [ENTER YEARS]

### **Quality of Life and Services**

Overall, how would you rate the general quality of life in Oak Ridge? Would you say it is excellent, good, fair or poor?

1. Excellent
2. Good
3. Fair
4. Poor
5. Don't know
6. Refusal

Overall, how would you rate the quality of services the City of Oak Ridge provides?

1. Excellent
2. Good
3. Fair
4. Poor
5. Don't know
6. Refusal

From a cost standpoint, how would you rate the value of your city Services?

1. Excellent
2. Good
3. Fair
4. Poor
5. Don't know
6. Refusal

Now I am going to read to you a short list of problems that some cities are currently experiencing. I would like for you to tell me if you feel that these are problems that Oak Ridge is currently facing. For each one I read, I would like for you to tell me if you think it is not a problem, a minor problem, a moderate problem, or a major problem in Oak Ridge. [THIS SERIES OF QUESTIONS WILL BE RANDOMIZED]

Personal safety in my neighborhood.

1. Not a problem
2. Minor problem
3. Moderate problem
4. Major problem
5. Don't know
6. Refusal

Availability of activities for teens.

1. Not a problem
2. Minor problem
3. Moderate problem
4. Major problem
5. Don't know
6. Refusal

Availability of activities for senior citizens.

1. Not a problem
2. Minor problem
3. Moderate problem
4. Major problem
5. Don't know
6. Refusal

Availability of public transportation.

1. Not a problem
2. Minor problem
3. Moderate problem
4. Major problem
5. Don't know
6. Refusal

Availability of activities for families.

1. Not a problem
2. Minor problem
3. Moderate problem
4. Major problem
5. Don't know
6. Refusal

Variety of restaurants.

1. Not a problem
2. Minor problem
3. Moderate problem
4. Major problem
5. Don't know
6. Refusal

Availability of shopping.

1. Not a problem
2. Minor problem
3. Moderate problem
4. Major problem
5. Don't know
6. Refusal

## **Use of Facilities and Participation in City Sponsored Activities**

Now I am going to read you a short list of services that the City of Oak Ridge provides for its citizens. For each one I read, please tell me if you or someone in your household has used it in the past 12 months.

[THIS LIST IS RANDOMIZED]

Oak Ridge Public Library.

1. Yes
2. No
3. Don't know
4. Refusal

Greenway trails.

1. Yes
2. No
3. Don't know
4. Refusal

Oak Ridge Municipal Pool.

1. Yes
2. No
3. Don't know
4. Refusal

Civic Center.

1. Yes
2. No
3. Don't know
4. Refusal

Tennis Courts.

1. Yes
2. No
3. Don't know
4. Refusal

Athletic Fields.

1. Yes
2. No
3. Don't know
4. Refusal

Scarboro Community Center.

1. Yes
2. No
3. Don't know
4. Refusal

Oak Ridge City Parks.

1. Yes
2. No
3. Don't know
4. Refusal

The City of Oak Ridge also sponsors a number of activities throughout the year. I am going to read a list of some of these activities and I would like for you to tell me if you or anyone living in your household participated in these in the past year. [LIST WILL BE RANDOMIZED]

Athletic Leagues.

1. Yes
2. No
3. Don't know
4. Refusal

Summer Camp.

1. Yes
2. No
3. Don't know
4. Refusal

Youth Advisory Board Events such as Graduation Celebration, Disc Golf Tournament, Breakfast with Santa and Battle of the Bands.

1. Yes
2. No
3. Don't know
4. Refusal

Senior Programs.

1. Yes
2. No
3. Don't know
4. Refusal

Aquatic Programs.

1. Yes
2. No
3. Don't know
4. Refusal

Summer Concert Series

1. Yes
2. No
3. Don't know
4. Refusal

Special Events such as Secret City Festival, Halloween Party, Egg Hunt, Holiday Tree Lighting or Share Day

1. Yes
2. No
3. Don't know
4. Refusal

### **Senior Center**

Now I would like to ask you a few questions about Oak Ridge's Senior Center. Have you participated in any activities offered at the Senior Center in the past 12 months?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Don't Know
4. Refusal

If yes.... In what activities did you participate? [CHOOSE ALL THAT ARE MENTIONED]

1. Pool/Billiards
2. Exercise Classes
3. Christmas Party
4. Computer Lab
5. ETHRA food program
6. Wood carving
7. Bingo
8. Crafts
9. Other
10. Don't know
11. Refusal

If no .... Why have you not participated in any activities? [CHOOSE ALL THAT ARE MENTIONED]

1. Not old enough to use the center
2. Lack of transportation or any mention of transportation
3. Health issues
4. Center doesn't offer any programs that I am interested in
5. Facilities are not attractive
6. Too busy
7. None of my friends attend
8. Not aware of center
9. Not familiar with programs offered
10. Center's hours not convenient for my schedule
11. Other
12. Don't know
13. Refusal

Do you anticipate using the Senior Center's facilities in the future?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Don't know
4. Refusal

What programs or activities would you like to see offered at the Senior Center? [RECORD VERBATIM]

What types of activities or hobbies do you currently do in your leisure time? [RECORD VERBATIM]

Some people believe that a new Senior Center is needed while others believe the current Senior Center meets the needs of the seniors in Oak Ridge. I would like to know if you support or oppose building a new Senior Center in Oak Ridge..... Do you strongly or somewhat [support/oppose] this?

1. Strongly Oppose
2. Somewhat Oppose
3. Neither
4. Somewhat Support
5. Strongly Support
6. Don't know
7. Refusal

I would like to hear your reasons for [supporting/opposing] building a new center. [RECORD VERBATIM]

If a senior center is built, a number of sites have considered. If a new center were to be built, which of these sites would you prefer?

1. Current location on Emory Valley Road
2. Separate but next to the Civic Center
3. In the Civic Center
4. Rental in a local church or office building
5. Other (name \_\_\_\_\_)
6. Don't know
7. Refusal

### **Demographics**

Now I have just a few more questions so that we can compare your answers to those of others. Please remember that all of the information you provide to me is confidential.

What is your zip code? \_\_\_\_\_

How many people, over the age of 18, live in your household?  
\_\_\_\_\_ [ENTER NUMBER]

Are you employed full time, part time, retired, or are you not employed right now?

1. Full time
2. Part time
3. Unemployed
4. Retired
5. Receiving disability
6. Don't know
7. Refused

Do you live in a house, a condo, an apartment, a mobile home, or some other place?

1. House
2. Condo
3. Apartment → Skip
4. Mobile Home
5. Other → Skip
6. Refused → Skip

Do you own this or do you rent?

1. Own
2. Rent
3. Refused

How long have you lived in Oak Ridge? \_\_\_\_\_ [ENTER NUMBER OF YEARS; IF LESS THAN A YEAR ROUND UP TO 1 YEAR]

Which of the following best describes your driving and transportation needs? I have a valid driver's license and currently drive; I had a valid driver's license in the past but I no longer drive, or I have never had a valid driver's license?

1. I have a valid driver's license and currently drive → Skip
2. I had a valid driver's license in the past but I no longer drive
3. I have never had a valid driver's license
4. Don't know → Skip
5. Refusal → Skip

Who do you rely upon when you need to go somewhere such as shopping, doctor's appointments, or to conduct other business?

[CHECK ALL THAT APPLY]

1. Spouse
2. Child
3. Other family member
4. Friend or neighbor
5. Public transportation
6. Social service agency like ETHRA
7. Other
8. None of the above / I don't go out
9. Refusal
10. NO MORE CHOICE

Are you currently registered to vote?

1. Yes
2. No - SKIP
3. Don't know - SKIP
4. Refused - SKIP

Did you vote in the last election that chose city council members?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Don't know
4. Refused

What is the highest level of education you have completed? Is it ...  
[READ LIST]

1. Less than high school
2. High school diploma or GED
3. Technical school or certification
4. Some college
5. Associate degree (same as two-year degree)
6. Bachelor's degree
7. Graduate or professional degree
8. Don't know
9. Refused

I am going to ask about your ethnicity and race. I will read a list of choices. You may choose one or more. Are you . .

[READ LIST; CHECK ALL THAT APPLY]

1. American Indian
2. Asian or Pacific Islander
3. Black or African or African American
4. Hispanic
5. White or Caucasian
6. Other
7. Don't know
8. Refused

Counting income from all sources, including earnings from all jobs, unemployment insurance, pensions, welfare, and so on, and counting income for everyone living in your home, which of the following range did your household income fall into last year?

1. Less than \$15,000
2. \$15,000 - \$30,000
3. \$30,001 - \$50,000
4. \$50,001 - \$75,000
5. Over \$75,000
6. Don't know
7. Refused

Thank you very much for your time today. I appreciate your willingness to participate in this important project for the City.