

YOUTH COMMUNITY PERCEPTIONS

TEAM REPORT



COMMUNITY _____ DATE _____

Team Members:

Pre-visit web search: How easy was it to get information on the community you were visiting? Did it accurately reflect what you saw? Did you have difficulties obtaining information on the community through a web search?

I. THE "FIVE-MINUTE" IMPRESSION

After taking a five-minute ride or walk through the community without stopping, the following reactions were noted.

The following observations were noted when entering the community from major entrances (signs, streetscapes, buildings, etc.)



2. DOWNTOWN BUSINESS AREA

Describe the infrastructure (for example could you access wifi, what is the state of the buildings, signage, streets, etc.)

Explain what type of businesses you observed and give a description of the variety and quality of merchandise displayed.

Describe the customer service received when you entered those retail businesses. (Were you greeted? Did you have to ask for assistance? Did you feel welcome?)

What public amenities were available (drinking fountains, benches, public restrooms, etc.)

Comment on any pleasant appearances of public grounds or streets.

If you rode with someone or used your bike, did you have difficulty finding parking? Could you access multiple services from where you parked?

3. OTHER RETAIL SHOPPING AREAS

Describe other retail shopping areas. Were the areas attractive and easy to access?

4. INDUSTRIAL PARKS/COMMERCIAL AREAS

Is there a defined area where businesses could easily locate/expand? If so, name and describe the businesses observed.

5. HEALTH CARE SERVICES

Comment on the availability of hospitals and emergency medical services.

Comment on the availability of physicians, dentists, optometrists, public health and other healthcare providers.

What long-term care services, assisted living or nursing facilities exist in the community?

6. HOUSING

What is housing like? Are there houses for sale? Describe the types of housing available. Are houses taken care of or are there many run down houses?

Were there places for rent? Describe the types of rentals available (apartments, duplexes, houses)?

7. SCHOOLS

Do the following schools appear to be adequate in size or do you see the use of temporary classrooms? Are the buildings and grounds well-maintained?

Pre-school/kindergarten/Head Start facilities

Elementary/secondary schools

Describe the information found on the school website. Was it user friendly and had information for both families and visitors?

8. CHILDCARE

List daycare or childcare services you observed.

9. FAITH/RELIGION

Name the churches and describe the physical appearances of the churches in the community. Did you observe any evidence of church-sponsored community services?

10. CIVIC

List the organizations and clubs you saw evidence of in the community.

Did you see any evidence of work done by local civic organizations? (Park benches, shelters, memorials, etc.)

11. PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE

Comment in general on the streets, street signage, sidewalks, parking, lighting, restrooms, landscaping, and streetscapes in areas other than downtown.

Comment on city/town hall (How were you received? Was there information about the town available?)

Police/fire protection:

Library:

City parks (walking tracks, ballparks, playgrounds, sportsplex)

12. RECREATION/TOURISM

Is the community well-known for any particular attraction or event? Do they have a community slogan that capitalizes on that asset?

Did you see any indication of significant events taking place in the community that would be of interest to both visitors and residents? If so, name them.

Elaborate on any significant natural or manmade features that have the potential of drawing people to the community.

Is there an obvious visitor's center, chamber of commerce office, main street office, or other facility that serves the needs of visitors? Comment on the staff, facilities, signage, visibility, etc.

List any restaurants, specialty shops or attractions that you enjoyed.

13. WRAP-UP

What are the most positive things you observed about the community?

What are the biggest obstacles/challenges facing this community?

Thank you for participating as a member of the Youth Community Perceptions observation team! **Once your team has compiled one set of comments, please return them via e-mail to your local 4-H Agent or K-State Research and Extension Office.**



K-STATE
Research and Extension

Community Vitality
Youth Community Perceptions

K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



Youth Community Perceptions is made possible in part by a grant from the Alpha Rho chapter of Epsilon Sigma Phi.

Youth Community Perceptions is a collaboration between K-State Research and Extension Community Vitality and Kansas 4-H.