

Public Input

Health & Safety

Q1 - Do you feel safe in your neighborhood? Why or why not? What could be improved?

At times, I feel safe, and at times, I don't due to the paraphernalia in the neighborhood. There are people at stop signs offering you weed and other paraphernalia in sandwich bags.
What are the evacuation plans for refinery incidents (i.e., explosions)? What do sirens mean? Need more communication/education.
Too many drug users and dealers in the area; like stray dogs. The neighborhood cleaning issues need to be enforced more strictly.
No, there is a lot of cigarette smoking and drunks. To improve it, we can put no smoking even in their rooms because the smoke goes into my room from the ceiling or under the door.
- evacuation route for neighborhood - buses for evacuation - Horn is not enough.
Somewhat.
Refineries: - safe because of emergency horns but not good access for emergency response - need more routes to evacuate, if needed - evacuation plans for persons not as mobile (elderly) - Is there a bus system that would know who/where people would need help being evacuated? - Horn notice is not enough; need emergency notification system. - Communicate emergency evacuation plan to citizens in the community; must make sure citizens understand how to implement the plan. - Refinery has plans on website with different horn sound meanings but are not widely known.
not safe; people are vulnerable to being taken advantage of at Chapparral (416 N. Chap.).
increase in homeless; squatters; not caring for lawn (Code enforcement issues need to be addressed.)
Hard to access Port St. because of cars blocking streets; parking on sidewalks.
Houses that harbor drug dealers.
Must avoid these areas because I feel unsafe and feel police do not respond to complaints.
Feel police almost "allow" illegal activity because of lack of response.
Living in crosswalk area makes people nervous.
Concerned about smelling chemicals from refineries.
Continued need for decrease in drug traffic/activity.

Health & Safety

Q2 How would you describe the responsiveness of emergency services (police, fire, EMS) in your neighborhood? What could be improved?

They are good to respond though the 911 number for ER is the best we have in Corpus Christi.
Good!
We need some new guards that are checking all the floors from top to bottom. We need guards that don't drink or smoke.
New fire station near Leopard; feel response time is good.
Feel police response time is good when needed.

Health & Safety

Q3 When you think of the health of your family living in this neighborhood, do you have any concerns? Why or why not? What could be improved?

Due to the refinery behind the neighborhood or on Nueces Bay, the windows shatter when their fires are burning real bright. You feel like your house is going to break. The smell, I believe, from the refinery causes health problems. When my son was little, I had to go to Driscoll Hospital for asthma attack.
Air and water - Transfer information to neighborhood (utility bill?) and understanding of what it means.
The oil and gas plants can be improved in the air control.
Wants to move because participant has a friend that had headaches but then went away when they moved.
Feels Washington Coles neighborhood is more exposed to chemicals that are a health concern.
Refineries need to be more concerned with chemical releases during times when winds change and blow into neighborhood.
Concerned about how often the water supply is tested for chemicals leaking into water and/or ground. Results should be communicated to neighborhood and <u>explained</u> . Idea to distribute info through water bill.
Sulfur smells concerning.
Potential testing ideas: residential testing; grant opportunities?

Health & Safety

Q4 Do you think the medical services available to your neighborhood are adequate? Why or why not? Could improvements be made?

Don't know if medical services available are adequate because I have never used them.
yes
different wind patterns; ground water affects water supply.
adequate access
Potential problem if people do not have transportation.
emergency response

Health & Safety

Q5 Other

A lot of people have asthma and other respiratory problems. I've heard cancer is another health problem related to the fumes from the refinery.
Sea Gulf Villa, 416 N. Chaparral St.
- Don't want to stay in Hillcrest because of bridge impacts - noise of construction and dust (health impacts/issues) - Worried about children playing outside - Want house to be purchased.
Need more incentives for black business owners.
Poor representation for historic places that were part of the neighborhood - beer hall, parties upstairs, etc.
Need speed bumps on Kennedy Ave. and Hulbirt. People are speeding through this area. (Begins at freeway on Kennedy. Hulbirt has just one stop sign.)

Mobility & Access

Q1 Do you feel you are currently served adequately by bus service? How could this be improved?

I don't use the bus, but I believe the bus services are used by this neighborhood like the rest of the neighborhoods and are adequate.

I do not personally use the bus system; however, I see buses running their schedule as normal.

RTA shuttle service is good.

Generally, good bus service - Will offer pick up service at residences for folks who need it.

Mobility & Access

Q2 Are there any locations in the neighborhood that could be improved to accommodate pedestrian and wheelchair access? If so, where are those improvements needed?

Yes. Don't know at this time.

Wheelchair access needs improvement.

Need more ADA access. Area needs to be kept clean.

Wheelchair access needs improvement.

Some areas could use improvement with cleanliness.

Mobility & Access

Q3 Are there any locations that need improved crosswalks or warning signals?

Yes. Don't know at this time.

Kennedy and Nueces/Port Ave.

Crosswalk by bus stop at Nueces and Winnebago. Crosswalks at Port Ave.

Could use crosswalks with pedestrian signals in high pedestrian traffic areas. Could use better lighting on Port Ave. High pedestrian traffic areas are at Winnebago/Port, crossing under I-37 on both Port and Nueces Bay.

Need to restripe crosswalks too.

Mobility & Access

Q4 Is there a need to slow down traffic through the neighborhood? If so, at what locations?

On neighborhood streets, there are children playing in the streets. I don't know exactly what streets.

just Port Ave.

- Broadway between Nueces Bay and Port Ave. - too fast.

- Port Ave. - too fast

- Traffic too fast on the access road of I-37 too.

Mobility & Access

Q5 Are there any links or connections between streets or sidewalks in your neighborhood that could be improved? Where are these locations?

Yes. Don't know at this time.

Mobility & Access

Q6 What could be done to improve your access to and from the neighborhood to other parts of Corpus Christi?

I think the access to my neighborhood is OK. To other parts of Corpus Christi, I use the freeway a lot to get to my neighborhood fast.
access to Crosstown
On some streets, there are too many cars parked to allow access - may cut off commuter access and emergency services. Need better parking enforcement.
Some other concerns from Port Street to others may be improved by the proposed Harbor Bridge project.

Mobility & Access

Q7 Other

Need more police presence and enforcement to clear up parts of the neighborhood.
Folks park on sidewalks, on grass, etc. causing access and safety issues.
Improve wheelchair ramps near Port and I-37.

Neighborhood & Housing

Q1 What do you like most about your neighborhood? What would you like to see change in the neighborhood?

The corruption of stealing, drive bys, and gang activity. Need a big change. I like the Port close by to see the ships pass by.
Home view, Port Harbor Bridge, old infrastructure Changes - improvement, build new, refurbish not just sidewalk, target young and old.
As for Hillcrest, like to see the housing become more up to date.
L.A. Hall - 1LA (local business)
Change is OK, but what will remain of the neighborhood?
People come to Northside from all over Corpus Christi to go to church.
Preservation of history (especially certain iconic buidlings) is important.
History in the names - Booker T. Washington, for example.
Need a laundromat, grocery stores, cleaners.
- Hillcrest - Participant likes the location. When it rains it doesn't flood. Potential to improve, build, re-build. Participant likes the view: Port and Harbor Bridge. - Changes: improvement to homes that are there plus additional housing, single family, apartments, senior living, targeting young and old
- 1954 - back then it was tranquil and clean, respectable. - Changes: dangerous; new improvements; safety.
Quiet. Historical. Beautiful view. Need improvements: parks, swings, city sewers, drainage needs to be fixed. Seldom has any plumbing been fixed. The roads have been fixed, curbs, etc. not just sidewalks; need a place for the kids.

Neighborhood & Housing

Q2 Where is your favorite place in the neighborhood? What are the key assets to your neighborhood? What do you think is missing from the neighborhood? Why?

There isn't a favorite place in the neighborhood except that I can go to the Port and see the ships pass by. I don't go to the parks.
Home, park view, historic nature Healthy environment (air, land) Need better lighting, fencing protection for cemetery
Hillcrest Park proud to see Citgo. It has helped to improve Dr. H.J. Williams Park.
Local churches are important - a way to increase participation in process.
<u>Walkability</u> is a huge asset.
Business owner - Staples and Antelope
My home. The parks. The view.
My home. Want lights up and fencing around the cemetery. Fix headstones at New Bayview Cemetery.
My home. My view of the bridge. Cemetery, but it needs addressing.
Missing from neighborhood: <u>Action</u> on the suggestions to adding improvements to the parks, cemetery, etc.
My church, Rev. Brown.

Neighborhood & Housing

Q3 Do you think there is adequate housing (amount, type) to fit the needs of residents in the neighborhood? Why? What type of housing would you like to see more of in the future? Single family, apartments, condos, senior living?

That would be nice to have nice housing and clean properties, parks free of people promoting paraphernalia and senior living.
Houses old, most need repairs. All types of housing needed. Need follow through, action to address.
No. Both single family, apartments, condos and senior.
City grants take too long to come through for home improvements - expedite the process. Improvements are needed throughout the neighborhoods.
Foundations are in disrepair. Habitat for Humanity has built nice, new homes with good foundations.
Older homes can feel refinery explosions. Rental properties not cared for in the same way as owner-occupied homes.
Houses themselves are an asset - they just need repairs. Many are family homes passed down for generations.
Citgo's "weatherization" program - new windows, doors - a way to appease people. Explosions shatter windows; stand in line at refinery for repairs. Need enough money to buy a new home somewhere else without a mortgage.
Older neighbors - settled; near the freeway Most of the homes are older and need repairs.
We need new housing - all of it - single homes, apartments, senior living. We need a lot of single family homes.

Neighborhood & Housing

Q4 What is your feeling regarding the current condition of homes in the neighborhood? What needs to be improved?

Repaired housing, including mine, I believe, we, the owners, are responsible for making sure our properties are taken care of.

Take down old and put up new.

Poor; need better up to date housing

Change: Do a clean-up of people and stuff.

Neighborhood & Housing

Q5 Are there any areas that are a flooding or drainage concern? If so, specifically where are those areas?

Don't know of any at this time, but I do know my house needs plumbing repairs, especially sewer drainage.

Not so much as to flooding than the city doing more to helping with the clean crews.

Neighborhood & Housing

Q6 Other

Economic Growth & Employment

Q1 Do you see a need for improving job opportunities in your neighborhood or would you prefer to promote a primarily residential setting? Why?

Job opportunities - I don't see any in the neighborhood, though we are surrounded by small stores and further down there is an HEB, Bealls, Frost Bank and gas stations.

Both. Residential and job opportunities. Need to prepare our young people; put in touch with available training.

Need both job opportunities in neighborhood and for people in the neighborhood.

This is a residential area. There used to be more businesses. A lot of businesses have been torn down. Hard for people to open new businesses because they might have to relocate.

We are going to have businesses regardless (refineries, warehouses, etc), but this should stay a residential area.

Corpus Christi is promoting tourism-related businesses.

Economic Growth & Employment

Q2 What are some potential opportunities to promote business or retail growth in the neighborhood? If so, where would the ideal location(s) be?

That's up to the business owners, if they see potential. But, I believe most businesses like to be where there's more economic growth or good jobs around.

Like to see nice, new buildings going up in neighborhood.

Currently, no businesses are moving in - not enough financial opportunities.

The stigma of "bad neighborhood" keeps some people away.

Police chief has helped to improve image and safety of the neighborhood.

They were supposed to build in Port St. area (restaurants, shops, etc) about eight years ago. What happened to that?

Employment opportunities would come along with business development.

No longer drive; would be nice to have a place to get groceries that I could walk to.

Local business owner - Don't want to see historic area go away.

When a business moves out of Hillcrest, nothing replaces it.

Hillcrest - We were told there would be retail on strip, but Citgo bought that property.
Yes...more business in the neighborhood would be good.
No cleaners or laundromat. HEB convenient only by car.
Winnebago and Port - yield light into the neighborhood across from What-A-Burger Stadium. Traffic is a concern. No pedestrian crossing button; no controlled crossing.
Citgo at Broadway and Nueces Bay - The building is beautiful.

Economic Growth & Employment

Q3 What professional or community services are successful in your neighborhood? Are additional services needed? Which ones?

None that I know of. I mean <u>real</u> business. Like I said before, there's a lot of paraphernalia, and I believe the law enforcements know about it, but nothing is being done.
Need a laundromat, grocery stores, cleaners.
LA Building
Unity Funeral Home
A need for business development, especially along Port Avenue - Been losing businesses there.

Economic Growth & Employment

Q4 What do you think is the neighborhood's greatest challenge to economic growth? How could this be improved?

Being more productive in the right way and positive. There's also a lot of homeless people. I have a lady come by and knock and ask for money, food, anything for cigarettes and beer.
Winnebago and Port flashing light - major traffic problem, especially during baseball games. Can't see trucks coming. Need crosswalks for the children/all pedestrians to cross the busy street.
New businesses don't see the monetary gain, therefore, there are no businesses coming in.
The label of the neighborhood ("bad") keeps businesses out.
People can't/don't walk at night to support area businesses.

Economic Growth & Employment

Q5 Other

They haven't received meeting notices.
The parks currently support drug/alcohol activity.

Other misc comments (no category)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - City needs to look at a plan for land use. As long as there are refineries next door, there will be the concern. Suggest buying Hillcrest out and encouraging light industrial. Get people out of this older area. - No existence for livability in the area. - Largely rental properties, 80%. - Turn Washington Coles into tourist area. - Need tax incentives for businesses. - Great city to raise kids. - Need more economic growth in downtown (Water St.). - About 60% of young kids leave Corpus Christi for opportunity.
UT Law Center said that "they can clear the titles in the neighborhood"
"Help us build up and not just tear down"
New construction is 1/3 cost of renovation.
Port Ave. dividing neighborhood traffic. Need improved crosswalks and safety improvements for bike/pedestrian at Port and Winnebago along hike and bike trail route; potentially, other points of crossing should be improved along Port Ave.

Main concern: Are there people interested in being property owners in the Hillcrest neighborhood?
Hillcrest needs peace of mind and protection.
"Big brother" is taking care of selves/their families, but "little brother" isn't protected. "Big brother" is TxDOT, city, refineries.
Hillcrest isn't going to win.
People being fined by city for code violations. Some people can't afford fines. City mowed their lawn, then charged them, and they couldn't pay.
Rich don't marry poor. The city or TxDOT isn't going to get with Hillcrest.
There is no future for Hillcrest.
For decades, there have been broken promises.
The neighborhood is too far gone.
The refineries have a buffer zone. What is a buffer zone? What does it mean?
Hillcrest doesn't have a voice. Hillcrest needs protection. They deserve peace of mind.
If Hillcrest had a voice, a person or people on a board, to help get Hillcrest what it needs - protection.
Case against refineries - A judge didn't make a ruling. Someone needs to re-evaluate.
Violations against Citgo (clean air act violations) but no compensation for individual victims (?).
If someone wants to buy their property, then they just want a fair price.
Everyone can be convinced/made happy with enough money. Even an elderly woman who says she wants to stay, can be convinced to leave if given money.
There are no schools, no businesses. How can the neighborhood be made better when it's like a dead flower that can't be brought back?
The city has already planned what is going to become of the neighborhood - condos and restaurants, not improving what is there - just wiping out what's there.
85% of people want to leave. You're never going to have 100% so 85% is basically the most you're going to have and is as good as 100%. Hillcrest association completed survey several years ago.
Hillcrest association became divided.
Several surveys have been done, breaking down if someone is a homeowner or renter and if they would move for the right price.
Everyone in Hillcrest should be bought out because the neighborhood is too far gone.
The city is demolishing houses at an accelerated rate, and by the time the bridge is being built and anything can be done for the neighborhood, it's going to be too late. Nothing will be left.
Code violations are being given to people, and repairs are being made to houses, and then, people are being charged for it - codes are too strict and it's happening more.
Disposal of chemical waste (maybe stormwater waste) at corner of Nueces Bay and Martin Luther King by refineries.