GARDENING FOR ELDERS

I like walking as it makes me feel more connected to the neighborhood.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

MORE PEOPLE OF COLOR ON COMMITTEES

I feel connected here, everyone knows me

CONCERTS

A VOLUNTEER GROUP TO HELP SENIORS

LIMITED EVENTS FOR FAMILIES

EVENTS THAT BRING NEIGHBORS TOGETHER

I REALLY LIKED THE BOSSEN BACK TO SCHOOL EVENT

CRAFT & ART CRAWL

COMMUNITY GARBAGE CLEAN UP

I LIKE EVENTS LIKE THE GREEN FAIR

NEIGHBORHOOD COMPOSTING
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COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT INTRO

Nokomis East Neighborhood Association created the Community Snapshot in order to work with the neighborhood in setting community goals. We talked to over two hundred residents throughout the Community Snapshot. During the Snapshot process we heard favorite reasons for living in Nokomis East, their concerns, ideas, and how connected they feel to the community. Residents also told us they enjoy being able to walk to local businesses, parks, and the lake.

WHAT ARE WE DOING WITH THIS INFORMATION?

The Community Snapshot is to be presented and submitted to NENA's Board of Directors to be considered before the Board begins their work on strategic planning for the organization and the next three years.
WHO DID WE TALK TO?

HOW DID WE REACH THEM?

COMMUNITY EVENTS: 59

COMMUNITY LEADER INTERVIEWS: 5

DOORKNOCKING: 19

ELEMENTARY DRAWINGS: 45

ONLINE SURVEYS: 99

THURSDAY THOUGHTS: 105

COMMUNITY FORUM AND ANNUAL MEETING: 90

Nokomis East Residents reached: 300+
WHO DID WE TALK TO?

& PEOPLE OF NOKOMIS EAST

Do you rent or own your home?
162 responses

Over 80 percent of the survey respondents are homeowners, compared to the 80 percent of homeowners in Nokomis East.

Which neighborhood do you live in?
162 responses

What is your age?
162 responses
COMMUNITY GOALS

In April, residents were presented with the summary of what we’ve heard in the form of four community values. This is summary of what’s important to Nokomis East residents, not necessarily new ideas of things we have. Throughout the report we will mention programs and initiatives that do already exist. This further supports the theme of residents enjoying the programs and initiatives are currently held in the community, or that residents hope to see more from these programs and initiatives (i.e., volunteering= more focus on volunteering).

OTHER TOPICS

Because we talked to so many residents for the Community Snapshot, we received a variety of responses. Not all of these responses were able to make it into the summary in the following pages of this report. The other noteworthy topics include Outreach & charity programs and crime. Finally, there were residents who reported that they had no ideas at all, or they like what they already have in the neighborhood.
We want more diverse representation in decision making roles. We feel connected to the neighborhood because of community events, the schools, our neighbors, involvement, and walkability.
Finally, 13% of the residents said they did not feel connected, either because they had not been living in Nokomis East for very long, or because they chose not to get connected in their neighborhoods.

Residents were asked if they feel connected to their community, and why or why not. 50% of the residents said they do feel connected to their community, and the most common reason given was their neighbors. Nokomis East members also told us they feel connected because of the schools, the local businesses, and being able to walk in the neighborhood to nearby features like the parks and the lake. Community members talked about how their neighbors were friendly, looked out for each other, and that they interacted with their neighbors at block parties and National Night Out.

Another 20% of residents said "somewhat", "mostly", "not as much as I would like", or "I'm feeling more and more connected."

Another 20% of residents said "somewhat", "mostly", "not as much as I would like", or "I'm feeling more and more connected."

Residents were asked what programs, services, and committees they would like to see more of. One small but mighty theme that emerged after this question was the want and need for "more diverse representation in decision making roles."

Another resident said "we should have more people of color on committees."

In response to the community value on page 7, one resident said "open board seat from a member from Bossen" and two residents wrote check marks in agreement.
We enjoy the businesses we already have and we want more shops to be a gathering space for neighbors. We would like more diverse and small businesses in Nokomis East.
LOCAL BUSINESSES

Throughout the Community Snapshot, we have asked residents what they want to see in their community? A common theme around local businesses emerged. In addition to the Snapshot surveys, residents also had the chance to share their ideas and feedback through our short online surveys called Thursday Thoughts. We summarized the responses into the community value about local businesses.

At the annual meeting many residents submitted to their feedback to the Community Value and submitted comments: "more support for diverse businesses" "more small businesses" and "welcome businesses that fit within the community. support business owners that live within the neighborhood."

"I think we have a really great balance and nothing comes to mind that we need 'more' of."

In the Thursday Thoughts residents were asked three questions about local businesses. First residents were asked which types of businesses they visit frequently. The most common answer choice was grocery stores; 93% of respondents said they visit grocery stores on a frequent basis. Next residents were asked how often they visit businesses in the area. Over 70% of respondents said they visit Nokomis East Businesses every week. One resident said they wish they had the option to choose every day.

"I love the updated library. And sassy spoon, Nokomis Shoe shop, paddlesculpt, Oxendales, Arlee Park and Al Vento. The more we play those up, the better."

Finally, residents were asked what type of business they would like to see more of in the neighborhood. The most common response was coffee shops. One resident did say "I think we have a really great balance and nothing comes to mind that we need 'more' of."
We want to work together to make our neighborhood to look beautiful, well-kept, and clean. We want more learning and volunteer opportunities to take care of gardens and green spaces.
NEIGHBORHOOD VIEWS, ENVIRONMENT

Many residents in the Nokomis East community shared their ideas and concerns about the environment. Residents talked about recycling, gardens, zero waste programs, grants for rain gardens, and seed trading. There was such a variety in answers about environmental programs that it is difficult to find consensus about what Nokomis East residents really care about and value.

At the beginning of every survey or doorknocking/event conversation, residents were asked what they like most about living in the Nokomis East neighborhood. Eighty percent of residents responded that the lake, creek, park, and other natural features are what makes Nokomis East great.

Residents also mentioned community gardening and neighborhood composting. An underlying theme is the want for community to form around the environment, green spaces and parks that the community members have in common.

"more trash cleanups periodically, not just once"

The following is the community value statement presented at the annual meeting.

We want more volunteer opportunities to work together to make our neighborhood look beautiful, well-kept, and clean. We want more learning and volunteer opportunities to take care of gardens ans green spaces.

Several residents responded to the statement that volunteer opportunities already exist. The community value was changed to further reflect the Nokomis East residents. At the annual meeting residents also said they wanted "more trash cleanups periodically, not just once".

"We need a volunteer group to help seniors, clean up projects, civic gardening projects."
We want more activities to meet neighbors, including programs for families, youth and seniors. We enjoy block parties, National Night Out, Parks, art/craft fair, outdoor movies, and volunteer opportunities.
SociaL, recreation

Nokomis East residents feel more connected to their community because of their neighbors. Many residents indicated that would feel more connected if they attended events in the neighborhood. Throughout the Community Snapshot residents have said they want more opportunities to meet other residents, including community events.

One resident said they would like to see a large block party that encompasses all four neighborhoods of Nokomis East.

Other residents wanted more program for new neighbors, and overall, events that bring neighbors together.

"I would like a way to meet more neighbors on my block."

Not only do residents want to see more community events, they also want to see a variety of events. Residents said they want to see more programs that are kid friendly and catered towards Seniors.

The responses about social and recreation were summarized and displayed at the annual meeting for resident review.

We want more activities to meet neighbors, and programs for families, youth and seniors through block parties, National Night Out, Parks, art/craft fair, outdoor movies, and volunteer opportunities.

Residents responded that events should be held for all families, not just families with children or seniors. The community value changed to the current statement on page 13 to be more accurately reflective of the neighborhood.
ASSETS OF NOKOMIS EAST

INDIVIDUALS

WHAT DO YOU CARE ABOUT? WHAT SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE DO YOU HAVE THAT THEY CAN SHARE WITH YOUR NEIGHBORS?

ASSOCIATIONS

CLUBS, GROUPS, ASSOCIATIONS: MOST OF THE WORK IS DONE AND LED BY VOLUNTEERS

INSTITUTIONS

ORGANIZATIONS LED BY PAID STAFF

PHYSICAL SPACE

THE LAND AND PHYSICAL FEATURES
ASSETS OF NOKOMIS EAST

INDIVIDUALS

BOARD MEMBERS
NENA STAFF
EVERY SINGLE NOKOMIS EAST RESIDENT

ASSOCIATIONS

CHURCHES
BLOCK CLUBS
LNCS PTA
MINNEHAHA FOODSHELF
NOKOMIS EAST NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

INSTITUTIONS

NOKOMIS LIBRARY
LAKE NOKOMIS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
HIAWATHA ACADEMIES
PARKS

PHYSICAL SPACE

LAND OF NOKOMIS EAST
LAKES, CREEK, FALLS
CLIMATE

Every resident is an asset to Nokomis East. They each have skills and knowledge they can share.
FUTURE RECOMMENDATIONS

PLAY INTO THE ASSETS OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Residents show that they feel connected to area assets, and few neighborhood problems were identified. In order to grow, the community should maximize what they already do well.

CREATE/STRENGTHEN PARTNERSHIPS AND NETWORKS

Leverage the expertise of other local nonprofits, faith organizations and government entities in order to most effectively serve residents.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SHOULD ...

- be ongoing
- be in person
- involve everyone