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The City of O'Fallon, Illinois

Report of Open-ended Question 2007



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SURVEY BACKGROUND

About The National Citizen Survey™

The National Citizen Survey™ (The NCS™) is a collaborative effort between National Research Center, Inc. (NRC) and the International City and County Management Association (ICMA).

The National Citizen Survey™ was developed to provide local jurisdictions an accurate, affordable and easy way to assess and interpret resident opinion about important community issues. While standardization of question wording and survey methods provide the rigor to assure valid results, each jurisdiction has enough flexibility to construct a customized version of The National Citizen Survey™ that asks residents about key local services and important local issues.

Results offer insight into residents' perspectives about local government performance and as such provide important benchmarks for jurisdictions working on performance measurement. The National Citizen Survey™ is designed to help with budget, land use and strategic planning as well as to communicate with local residents. The National Citizen Survey™ permits questions to test support for local policies and answers to its questions also speak to community trust and involvement in community-building activities as well as to resident demographic characteristics.

The survey and its administration are standardized to assure high quality survey methods and comparable results across The National Citizen Survey™ jurisdictions. Participating households are selected at random and the household member who responds is selected without bias. Multiple mailings give each household more than one chance to participate with self-addressed and postage paid envelopes. Results are statistically weighted to reflect the proper demographic composition of the entire community.

The National Citizen Survey™ customized for this jurisdiction was developed in close cooperation with local jurisdiction staff. The City of O'Fallon staff selected items from a menu of questions about services and community problems; they defined the jurisdiction boundaries we used for sampling; and they provided the appropriate letterhead and signatures for mailings. City of O'Fallon staff also determined local interest in a variety of add-on options for The National Citizen Survey™ Basic Service.

One of the add-on options that O'Fallon chose to include was an open-ended policy question.

About Closed-ended and Open-ended Questions:

Questions can either be asked in a closed-ended or open-ended manner. A closed-ended question is one where a set of response options is listed on the survey. Those taking the survey respond to each option listed. Open-ended questions have no answer choices from which respondents select their response. Instead, respondents must “create” their own answers and state them in their own words. The verbatim responses are categorized by topic area using codes. An "other" category is used for responses falling outside the coded categories. In general, a code is assigned when at least 5-10% of responses will fit the code.

Advantages of an open-ended question include:

- Responses are not prompted, allowing respondents to provide answers that are not anticipated or well known.
- This type of question tends to capture response options that come to mind most quickly.
- The final result can be richer, since verbatim responses are included in an appendix, giving you and others a chance to “hear” the voice of respondents in their own words.
- There is a smaller risk of missing important dimensions.

UNDERSTANDING THE RESULTS

Verbatims

Respondents were asked to record their opinions about O'Fallon in the following question:

- What are the top three reasons that you live in O'Fallon?

The verbatim responses were categorized by topic area and those topics are reported in the following table with the percent of responses given in each category. Because some comments from residents covered more than a single topic, each topic mentioned by a resident was categorized and counted for the table below. Appendix A includes a full set of verbatim responses. Those verbatim responses are grouped by the first topic listed in each comment whenever a respondent mentioned more than a single topic. Verbatim comments that contain more than one topic nevertheless appear only once in Appendix A (in the category of the first topic listed), however the analysis in the table below counts each of the topic areas given by all respondents regardless where those topics appeared in the comment.

Results from the open-ended question is best understood by reviewing the table of frequencies that summarize responses as well as the actual verbatim responses themselves.

Question #16e: What are the top three reasons that you live in O'Fallon?

	Percent of Respondents
Schools	45%
Proximity to St. Louis/location	41%
Safety	25%
Sense of community/nice neighborhoods/church	23%
Close to work	21%
Proximity to Scott Air Force Base	19%
Family	19%
Cost of housing/living	16%
Quiet/Clean	14%
Small town feel and size	13%
Other	10%

Total may exceed 100% as respondents could select more than one category.

APPENDIX A: VERBATIM RESPONSES

- Scott AFB-medical, commissary, PX, auto hobby shop, golf course. Single high school-only one bldg. For entire towns youth. Easy access to major city (St. Louis) & airport.
- Proximity to Scott AFB and St. Louis. Gifted program in schools. Band program as it was under Vince Cosmano.
- Schools. Neighborhood used to be quiet. Shopping - access to mall & restaurants.
- The job-Scott AFB. Close to St. Louis. Overall nice community.
- Location near Scott AFB & shopping. Schools. Community & family services.
- Scott AFB. OTHS.
- Military, civilian job. Schools. Accessibility to school/church/work/shopping/parks.
- Proximity to Scott Air Force Base. Schools (originally-children now grown). Small town close to St. Louis.
- Near Scott AFB. Small town feel but near large city. Trees.
- Proximity to Scott. Find a great opportunity quickly.
- Close to Scott AFB-good jobs. Small town feel. Accepted diversity.
- My husband works at Scott. Schools. Somewhat quiet.
- Close to Scott AFB. Pleasant people. Has become my home.
- It was close to Scott Air Force Base. I like the area.
- Scott AFB. Housing. Good political leadership so far.
- Proximity to Scott AFB. Rural atmosphere. Longevity (been here 21 years).
- Close to Scott AFB. Good schools. Hate to move.
- Close to work (Scott AFB). Good schools. Safety & quality of housing.
- Proximity to Scott AFB. Feeling of openness and community. Availability of housing and friendliness of neighbors.
- Proximity to Scott AFB. Midwest atmosphere. Safety.
- Close proximity to Scott AFB. Excellent schools. Quiet/small community.
- Close to Scott AFB. Close to St. Clare Church. Community atmosphere.
- Proximity to Scott AFB. Ease of getting to St. Louis. Small town appeal.
- Central location to Scott AFB & Fairview Heights. Close to I-64. Friendly community.
- Closeness to Scott AFB. Shopping. Affordable housing.
- Base. Schools. Church.
- Proximity to Scott AFB. O'Fallon schools. Price of home.
- Husbands military move required it. I researched the school systems and found O'Fallon THS. to be the best. We don't have a third reason!

- Scott AFB nearby. Easy access to health care. Affordable housing.
- Scott AFB. Community orientation. Availability of various spt & activities in St. Louis metro area.
- Work at Scott AFB. Schools. Close to shopping.
- Proximity to work (SAFB). Schools. Size of town.
- Access to Scott AFB. Access to St. Louis. City identity (before growth toward another suburb).
- Military move. Like the location. A good place to raise a family.
- Proximity to Scott AFB. Pace of life. Schools.
- SAFB-close to work. Schools. Small but close to larger cities as well.
- Close to Scott AFB. Housing. Small town atmosphere.
- Retired military. Facilities at Scott AFB (commissary, PX, medical) are accessible. Close to the cultural events of the larger city of St. Louis. When we moved to O'Fallon 13 years ago, we enjoyed the small town atmosphere of O'Fallon! That atmosphere is quickly diminishing.
- Wife works at Scott. Too involved to move. Close to Saint Louis.
- Work at SAFB.
- Retired from Scott AFB. Schools.
- Proximity to Scott AFB. Available housing in 1972. Schools (grade & high school).
- It's not a bad place to live. Close to Scott.
- Close to Scott AFB. Close to 64. Over all a clean city.
- Scott district. Property value. Proximity to St. Louis.
- Close to Scott AFB (military retiree). Close to St. Louis (sports, fox). Local church I attend.
- Close to base.
- Close to Scott AFB. Good public schools (although we've found there is much room for improvement). Low crime - small town environment.
- Proximity to Scott AFB. Access to catholic school. Nice, well maintained safe & friendly neighborhood.
- Scott AFB. Public school system. Retirement.
- Close to Scott AFB. Can get to west metro & St. Louis fairly quickly. Residential areas are quiet.
- Stationed at Scott AFB, ease of commute, housing value. Good schools, friendly neighbors. Small town atmosphere with quick access to big city attractions.
- Military facility. Employment. Geographical position w/St. Louis.
- Proximity to Scott AFB. Used to be schools. Relatively safe.
- Military. Job. Location.
- Close to Scott AFB. Schools. Somewhat low crime.

- Scott AFB. School system (however, overcrowded!). Location of other towns.
- My wife is stationed at Scott AFB. We located a rental property that met our requirements in O'Fallon.
- Location-proximity to St. Louis. Small town feel with metropolitan outlook. Quality and quantity of housing choices.
- Access to freeway (interstate) and Scott AFB. School district. Less hectic environment.
- I'm from NYC. My life is fro St. Louis close to shopping without traffic. When I moved here 30 years ago, it was a small town. Schools.
- Near the city. I bought my sisters old house. I live by a park & I don't live in a subdivision.
- Convenient to other towns.
- Good house & location for dollar cost. Schools.
- Location-convenient to interstate & shopping. Hometown (close to family & friends). Real estate values-although taxes are too high!
- Reasonable commute to my job in Saint Louis. Short distance to other family members in the region. My church community (St. Nicholas).
- Location - ease of commute to Saint Louis. Nice place to live (nice people). Close to shopping.
- Convenience. Clean.
- Close to St. Louis for work and entertainment. Relatively crime free. Stable economic environment-real estate values hold up/increase.
- Close to Saint Louis but not in Saint Louis. Close to agriculture-outdoors. Lots of shopping.
- Good access to highways-close to St. Louis. Teachers in schools seem to care about the kids. Friendly people & neighbors.
- Location. Crime rate (low), clean city.
- Proximity to St. Louis. Quality of schools when we moved here. Impression that O'Fallon is a nice place to live.
- Been here 27 years. Convenience to shopping, restaurants, etc. Family nearby.
- Very nice city. Being close to so many businesses and places that I use & need.
- Close to St. Louis. Smaller town feel. Lots of conveniences.
- Location. Location. Location.
- Convenience. We live off n. Greenmount.
- Location. Why don't you ask what is wrong with O'Fallon. Pro business, big spending government that cares. Nothing about the citizens.
- We like the area because it is convenient to everything. O'Fallon is a quiet friendly community. O'Fallon is a very well maintained community.
- Easy access to i-64. Good public school system. Good police and fire services.

- Location. Schools. Good city plan.
- Location.
- Suburban area. Well kept. Closeness to shopping areas & health facilities.
- Location. Quietness. Sense of community.
- Centralized access to all facilities for personal needs.
- Close access to i64. Close to Scott AFB. Cheaper than Mascoutah as far as water and electricity are concerned other than that I would prefer Mascoutah.
- Moved here to enjoy the farmland & woods with close proximity to St. Louis, however, farmland & woods have disappeared to be replaced by traffic jams and numerous business complexes with signs "office/retail space for lease", and much trash (fast food containers & plastic shopping bags have replaced the beautiful green space). Looking to relocate further east on north or move to Missouri!
- Location. Small town feel. I'm comfortable here & content.
- Accessibility to St. Louis. Accessibility to Scott AFB. Too much effort to move.
- Access to Saint Louis. Own business in town. Family here.
- Location.
- Good community with good location. Close to interstate. Good police & fire departments. Children and grandchildren live here. It has been home for 37 years.
- Location & convenience to interstates. Close to everything-shopping, movies, etc. Smaller town feel.
- Location. Nice area & schools (from what I've heard). The diversity of affordable housing.
- Access to public services, library, park, etc. Mid level housing availability (good). Proximity to interstate, shopping, etc.
- Close to schools. Close to air force base. Close to church.
- Proximity to everything. Employment. Close to Saint Louis.
- Location to St. Louis. Housing costs. Friendly atmosphere.
- Close to St. Louis & the interstate it is generally quiet in my neighborhood. It is close to my work location.
- Close to Saint Louis - airport, etc. Close to shopping (Fairview). Close to Mid American Airport.
- Location to Saint Louis. Was a rural (semi) community. Like our home.
- Close proximity to highway. School system. Small town atmosphere.
- Location, location, location.
- Access to services. Small town feel. Community activities.
- Easy access to Saint Louis entertainment. Friendly people. Excellent schools.
- Location, overall size of the city, safety. Shopping centers are very poor (limited) this side of north Greenmount. Traffic is very poor as well (heavy).

- Highway access. Close to Fairview businesses. Atmosphere.
- Proximity to St. Louis recreation facilities. Proximity to family. Proximity to Scott AFB retiree services.
- Location. It has a lot to offer. Schools.
- Location to shopping and the other communities. It still feels like a small town (at the moment). I feel safe.
- Owned home here prior to city annex. Location with respect to Saint Louis, Belleville, Scott location with respect to job.
- Everything is close, shopping and any store you need and a clean place to live.
- My friends live here. I like the area & people. Economically good.
- Church. Neighbors. Safe.
- Friendly people, close to family-1/2 way in between both. Close to work.
- My friends live here. It is not a big town.
- Respectable community with good police and fire protection. Good schools. Good health services.
- Downhome feel. Excellent schools. Grew up here & just love it & family is here too.
- Church. Good neighbors. Convenient.
- Community. Location. Cleanliness.
- Thought it was a good place to live. Nice neighborhood.
- Church. YMCA. House.
- Good reputation of OTHS. Quiet streets. Easy access to bike trail.
- Close to church.
- Community feel and spirit. Schools. Location.
- Best community in the area. Family/friends live here. Safety (with too much section 8 housing).
- Parks. Community. Close to shops and work.
- Friendly people. Diversity. Good schools.
- Quality of living. Close to shopping/recreation/dining. Close to Scott (ret military).
- Same as when I got married 75 years ago. Friendly people, nice place.
- I have lived in O'Fallon since November 1988. Living in O'Fallon has been a pleasant experience. It is a good community, a friendly community. Community services are good.
- Better community. Fire & police upholding their protection/enforcing all laws, school academics-higher standard for better educational purposes.
- Friendly community. Great schools. Overall quality of life.
- Nice residential areas. Good schools. Access to St. Louis.

- Community. Academics. Recreation.
- Small town values. Friendly community. Affordable (used to be).
- Small hometown feeling (which might be changing soon). School system. Safety.
- I originally moved to O'Fallon for its small town appeal, but that has changed for the worse. One of the main reasons I chose to move to O'Fallon was for its schools but too crowded now. It was a friendly little town when I moved here, but it feels like East St. Louis. There are a lot of thugs in school now with kids getting bullied, drugs being used and gangs starting to take over the area. Not much has been done about it. My sons don't go out as much as they used to. They don't feel safe.
- Small town feel though it's getting larger. Convenience of shopping & restaurants. Strong school districts.
- Nice, small town with access to many things. Good housing. Catholic school.
- Pace of living, lack of congestion, quietness (except for airport), safety, ease of access to travel.
- Small town w/access to big city. Friendly. Family oriented.
- It was a nice small community. We are moving too much too fast.
- It was a small town that does not flood and is industry smoke free. It has all the necessities of survival. Life here is no rat race, it is enjoyable.
- Small town atmosphere. Close proximity to St. Louis & interstate. Feeling of safety.
- Small town feel. Location-easy access to St. Louis. Schools-initially.
- We moved here because it was a small peaceful township. We will move if we can ever get ahead financially--state, county and city taxes and fees are keeping us down.
- Small town atmosphere. Close to everything I need. Was a quiet neighborhood.
- The town was smaller when moved here. Good schools. Housing was cheaper.
- Small town. Low crime. Clean.
- Schools. Safety. Location.
- Schools. Safety. Small town atmosphere.
- There is only one, child still in school in the area. Your encouragement of continued growth has taken what was a nice small town and ruined it.
- Great schools and wonderful people. Good local government. Many churches and good local clubs.
- Schools, neighborhood, local to community.
- Schools. Housing. Close to St. Louis.
- School system. Newer housing. Developing area.

- Schools. Less congestion than in Missouri. More house for the money until taxes increased so much!
- Schools, safety, shopping.
- Schools for kids. Quietness. Atmosphere.
- Schools. Location. Catholic church.
- Schools. Relative closeness to St. Louis. Good family neighborhoods.
- School system. Large, diverse city with a small town feel. Proximity to work.
- School system. Safe for children. Born & raised.
- Schools. Community. Convenience to shopping & transportation.
- OTHS, family, quiet neighborhood without commercial intrusion.
- Moved in because of schools. Will move out because of taxes.
- Schools. Job. Access to St. Louis.
- Education/school opportunities for 3 children. Low to non-existent crime rate. Sense of caring and friendly community.
- Good schools. Shopping. Low crime.
- Schools. Access to Scott AFB. Quality of life.
- School system. Low crime rate. Accessibility to shopping & I64 (highways).
- School district. Close to base.
- Good schools, churches and sense of belonging. Family and social friends. Relative small town involvement.
- Schools. Safety. Convenience.
- Schools. Proximity to work. Proximity to shopping, medical care, Scott AFB.
- Schools-quality. Desired homes. Proximity to schools.
- The city provides excellent schools and provides a sound, safe living environment.
- Schools. Location. Neighborhood.
- Schools/learning (however, this reason is starting to change). Community is safe. City not too large (this is changing as well).
- Schools, good neighborhoods, low crime rate.
- Quality of schools. Quality of housing and the location of the city to downtown St. Louis.
- Schools. Small town atmosphere.
- The schools (not sure about this anymore). Close to us40/64. Close to St. Louis.
- Good schools. Good neighborhoods. Rural feeling.
- Schools. Proximity to St. Louis. Small city (when I moved here, but now the city is growing too much too fast).
- Schools. Safety. Access to downtown Saint Louis and shopping. Restaurants in the O'Fallon community.
- Supposedly great school district. Good housing. Close to base.

- I have lived here since 1944-love my city. The schools are excellent. My kids are PhDs, a product! Community participation by citizens. I have coached, worked to make it better.
- Good schools. My husband grew up in O'Fallon. First bank. The only thing I would like to say about the government these days is the rich people keep getting richer, the poor people getting poorer! I don't think it is a bit fair either! You all need to let the poor have more money because we have bills too! Also, my husband is without work for 7 weeks. She needs work but nobody will hire me so you all need to help with that cause. He is 40 year old. 2 kids. No medical insurance. Lose home. Help!
- School system. Housing. Near highway.
- Schools. Small town feel/big city accessibility.
- Great school. Safe environment. Good neighborhoods.
- Good schools, easy access to nearby businesses and Saint Louis, nearby relatives.
- Schools, low crime, close to work.
- Schools. Convenient location.
- Schools. Fulford construction company developments. Interstate 64.
- Schools. Safety. Schools.
- Schools. Location to work. Recommendations from previous residents.
- Schools for our children. Public safety. Close to employer and family members.
- School district. Safety.
- Moved here 25 years ago for the schools for town children, via Scott AFB. Found good jobs, great church, love our home, and grandchildren live close by. O'Fallon is convenient to St. Louis.
- Good schools. Close to St. Louis. Close to job.
- School district. Less crime. Upper class.
- Were schools & safety.
- Schools. Location. Community.
- Schools. Born & raised in O'Fallon.
- School system. Proximity to downtown St. Louis. Property value.
- Schools. Appreciation of homes. Proximity to work.
- Good schools.
- School. Neighborhood. Community.
- Schools. Quiet community. Safe community.
- O'Fallon high school. Low crime. Nice clean community.
- It was the schools. Not so much anymore, overcrowded.
- Good school. Less crime. Safe place.
- Schools. Proximity to Scott AFB. Neighborhood-not clear cut farm field.

- Schools. Close to work. Small town atmosphere.
- Schools. Small town. Was stationed at Scott AFB when purchased.
- Schools. Location. Convenience of shopping.
- OTHS.
- Schools. Close to base. Resale value.
- Education, schools, library. Proximity to Scott. Town size and appearance.
- Schools. Area. Close to everything.
- Proximity to Scott AFB. Small town appeal. Accessibility (walking) to local stores on main street (need more!).
- Good schools. Low crime. Nice quiet living.
- Good schools. Well-maintained city. Relatively safe environment.
- Schools. Access to shopping. Food.
- Like the schools. Like the area. Lack of crime.
- Good schools. Close to Scott AFB. Nice place to live.
- Schools. Neighborhoods. Vicinity to work.
- Good schools, a clean and safe place and the people here are friendly.
- OTHS graduate. Family. Proximity to St. Louis.
- Schools. Approximate closeness to Scott AFB. Small town atmosphere.
- Schools. Safety. Close to Scott AFB.
- School.
- Schools. Growth of city. Beautiful neighborhoods. New family sports park!
- Schools. Quality of life. Proximity to large city.
- St. Clare school/church/O'Fallon high school. Close to major highways/St. Louis/metro east. Overall nice town.
- Schools. Quiet. Safe.
- Schools. Church. Work.
- Schools-good thing we got a new school board at central. The close neighbors we have are good neighbors. My job is close.
- I like the education of schools. It's a nice town. Sometimes quiet.
- School, close to work, safe.
- Schools, church, excellent location to raise a family.
- School system. Access to interstate. Access to retail.
- School. Family environment. Safety.
- Good schools. Small town environment (which is getting taken over by growth). Proximity to Scott AFB.
- Schools. Close to Scott AFB. Resale values of homes.
- Safety. Reputation. Location.

- School, safety, peaceful neighborhood.
- Safety. Small town/country like feel. Schools.
- Quality of safe (safe, clean, access to various service). Access to Scott AFB. Proximity to major highways.
- Safety. Quietness. Stability.
- Low crimes! Low drugs! Very helpful community.
- Low crime. Close to city but still like small town feel. Close to work.
- I feel safer than other cities. It is close to most everything.
- Low crime. Close to everything. Nice place to live.
- Overall low crime rate. Good location-close to work and stores. Nice looking town.
- Good safe place to live. Convenient to healthcare and shopping. Close to Saint Louis and big city culture, etc.
- Safety/security. Lifestyle. Schools.
- Longevity. Safe community. Excellent schools. Taxes too high.
- Safety. Good community & neighborhoods. Good schools.
- Police services. Community. Location.
- Schools. Smaller town near larger community. Mostly nice neighborhoods.
- It is home. I grew up here. Never had a reason to move. I am alive.
- Husbands family lives in area. Price of home & location. Neighborhood is quiet.
- Close to family. Like to live in medium sized town.
- Born and raised here. Great schools. Access to major city. One reason used to be the small hometown feeling, but that is gone. It is time to suppress growth in O'Fallon. Getting way too big, too fast!
- Family history. Good schools. Property value.
- I moved here because my mom and dad lived here. They are both deceased now. I like a small town close to a large city. We used to be that small town. I liked the school system.
- Born & raised here.
- Family ties. Family ties. Family ties.
- Have family that also lives here - want to be near my family. Familiar with area because I (not my spouse) grew up here.
- Born & raised in O'Fallon for 18 years. Affordable apartment. Easy access to i64 (work in mo.).
- My daughter lives in O'Fallon and she cares for me. I only have one reason to live in O'Fallon.
- Close to family. School reputation. Close to St. Louis.
- I grew up here. Quality of schools for my son is awesome. Close to my job.

- Family. Good public schools. Access to Saint Louis.
- Wife's family is from Illinois.
- O'Fallon is my hometown and when my husband passed away I came back here to live, glad I did. I am pleased with the growth of O'Fallon and how things are handled here...people, the mayor and the city officials do a good job.
- I was born and raised here, lived here all but 8 years of my life. Good schools. Don't have a third and am currently thinking of relocating to a smaller town.
- Spouse won't move. Childs college in close proximity.
- Family roots. School system. Close to St. Louis.
- My roots are here. Friends. Relatively safe environment.
- I was born and raised here. I wanted my sons to go to school here. I work in O'Fallon.
- Life long resident. Like the city very much but taxes and utilities are out of control.
- Wifes family. Close to work. Can not afford to move.
- Lived here all my life. Most of my family lives here. I work in O'Fallon.
- Born in this area.
- Family here. Schools. Convenience/location.
- Good place to raise kids. I work here. Convenience.
- We attended school here & our children. Our roots are here. The sense of community, but it's beginning to fade.
- Grew up here. Quiet. Pretty.
- Our roots are here, friends & family. Quality schools. Close to my work.
- Close to family member. Good moderate housing available. Nice friendly people.
- Family. Own my home. Friends.
- Our children, grandchildren live here. St. Clair Catholic Church. Our neighbors.
- Family. Small town atmosphere. Fairly safe area.
- Moved here with parents. Family & friends. No minority problems.
- After 1st retirement in 1975, children (3) voted to live in O'Fallon. Reasonable distance to work in St. Louis. Small community with good schools.
- Family originated here. Schools. Close proximity to work, school, shopping.
- Family. This area is growing too fast, asking for too many taxes, not appropriating those taxes to where the tax payers want them and trying way too hard to be high tech big city instead of the small quaint town we once loved.
- Spouse retired out of Seymour Johnson AFB NC & was offered jobs here at Scott AFB. Close to home and families (TN). Good community.
- Close to family. Schools. Pleasant place to live/close to St. Louis.

- Had 2 daughters living in O'Fallon. Moved into the senior apartments on Weber rd. Convenient to stores, drugstores, etc.
- Close to family. Small town country feeling. Quietness.
- Moved here after marriage. Live in 55 and over senior apartments.
- Grew up here. Not much crime. Overall, most people here care about the appearance of their homes.
- We came back to O'Fallon to be close to family & have stayed for 9 years. I have a job with dist 90, which I love. I appreciate all the efforts to preserve "green space", the parks are all wonderful, recreation opportunities are wonderful & youth programs are great!
- Family.
- Lifelong residents -roots. Proximity to Saint Louis. Sense of belonging- church-it is good to be called by your name in business dealings.
- Only one family. No other reason.
- I was born and raised here. Family lives here. Good place to live.
- Born and raised here. Now to look after elderly parent. Think you should start looking at ordinance-re boats & trailers. Some areas starting to look like marinas and trailer parks.
- Children reside here. Previously lived here for 20 yrs. Retired here because we enjoy O'Fallon.
- My daughter and her family live here. Near the Scott AFB. Have lived here since 1954 off and on.
- To be close to my family (children and grandchildren reside here). Feel safe in my neighborhood. Closeness to St. Louis attractions-sports, symphony, etc.
- Family. Excitement of a growing community. Safety.
- I grew up here. Good schools. Family.
- My family lives here. I am a senior citizen and it suits me. I am content here.
- Family. Safety. Access to shopping, entertainment, work, etc.
- Family. Diverse community. Safety.
- Life long resident. Schools. Safety-law enforcement.
- Have lived here on and off for 40 yrs. The town is clean, and no matter where you live your 5 min. Away from everything.
- Peaceful. Security. House.
- Quiet. Good housing. Safety.
- Quietness - cleanliness, feel safe in O'Fallon.
- Because it's very clean in my area. Because I have very good police service. Because it's quiet.
- Quiet community. Adequate services, shopping, library.

- It is a nice-appearing, progressive community. We have many friends in O'Fallon. Home value retention is excellent.
- Cleanliness. Safety. Access to Scott AFB.
- Peace & quiet. Less traffic than city. Good schools.
- Appearance. Commute to work. Lack of crime/gangs.
- Reasonably nice area/quiet. Close to shopping and all kinds. Several dining choices/theater.
- Cleanliness of city. Family in area. Library/park services (resources available).
- Clean city. Good fire & police protection. Friendly people.
- 7 years ago when we moved here, our area was quiet. Close to family. The drive to work was 20 mins.-not anymore.
- Clean. Safe. Emergency services.
- Clean, quiet, friendly.
- Quiet setting away from city. Schools. Away from family.
- Quiet. Clean. Close to everything.
- Work is in O'Fallon. Schools. Community.
- Close to work. Close to base. Good reputation.
- Close to work. Good schools. Good neighborhood.
- Close to work, shopping, downtown Saint Louis.
- Job
- Job here. Old friends here. Access to St. Louis. Unbelievable taxes. Assessments totally different on every house in every neighborhood. Too many neighborhoods started with no infrastructure or roads. Shiloh did fine. Overall disappointed with O'Fallon. Too many new homes but no nice shopping areas such as Shiloh. We have that ugly area by ace hardware!
- East access to work. Nice community. Easy access to St. Louis metro area.
- Work, schools.
- Close to my work. Clean & safe.
- Close to work. Found a house that we liked that was affordable. Good chance for property to increase in value.
- Close to work. Close to St. Louis (but not too close). Nice area, parks & people seem generally friendly.
- Occupation. Education. Proximity to St. Louis.
- My employment brought me here.
- Close to work. Safe. Close to interstate.
- Work. Schools. Housing market.
- Equal distance between work & parents. Close to work. Safe environment.
- Work. Family & friends. Retirement from US Air Force.

- Job, close to St. Louis.
- Near my place of employment. Near Scott AFB. The neighborhood seemed nice.
- Close proximity to work. Excellent schools-disappointed they are overcrowded. O'Fallon still has that small town feel, yet has access to the surrounding community i.e. St. Louis, St. Clair square, etc. When we want.
- Proximity to jobs & St. Louis. Educational advantages for children. Property value of home and land.
- My job. My job. My job.
- Close to work. Close to St. Louis. Good quality of life.
- Job location. Rumor of school reputation.
- Two of three persons in home work in O'Fallon. Close to shopping. Better neighborhood than previous residence.
- Proximity to job. Good neighborhood. Good price for home.
- Close to work. Close to library. Close to store, post office, bank.
- Work in Fairview Heights. Family lives here.
- Business, neighbors, close to Saint Louis, police protection (great dept), fire dept (great).
- Close to employment.
- Close to work. Close to family. Not ready to move yet.
- Vicinity to work. Schools. Newer housing.
- Close to job. Cost of house. Close to interstate.
- To live near my husbands business. Schools. Neighborhood.
- Good rise in property values. Schools. Close to work (Scott AFB).
- Home prices less than St. Louis, with larger lots. We found a nice neighborhood. School system had a good reputation, but the OTHS doesn't deserve it.
- A house was available at a decent price 55 years ago. I live one block east of old Collinsville rd.
- The place where I live. The peacefulness. Security.
- I could no longer keep up my former property. My son & family live in O'Fallon. I found rental property near my son.
- Apartments.
- Seniors housing. Seniors programs. Friendly.
- Affordable rent. Growing safe community. Easy shopping access.
- Home value. Schools. Access to both work and recreation.
- Own home. Retired here. Comfortable.
- Moved here in 1973 and my home is paid for. Cost of moving & buying another house. Familiarity to the Midwest.
- Housing value, clean friendly neighborhoods, accessibility to St. Louis.

- My home is in a small subdivision. Access to i-64. Shopping.
- Housing. Cleanliness. Safety.
- I own a house. My job. I can't afford to move.
- House paid for. Near job.
- Lived here 30 years-own home. Close to work. Family.
- Ease of resale of house. Good reputation among military community. Close to childrens school.
- Property value. Schools (now declining). Location.
- In 1987 housing was affordable. No longer! In 1987 taxes were low. 2 1/2 times now and going up each year! In 1987 good neighborhood. Still is.
- Still own a home here (area 2). Kids and step kids all live here. Access to Saint Louis.
- Bought a home close to workplace. Raised my family here.
- Can not afford to move. Scott, but this is no longer a good reason, PX prices are too high, no medical, etc. We voted against Mid America Airport, at least twice. It was ago anyway. I don't think this administration cares!
- You have large numbers of children-friendly parks. You did not need to alter Rock Springs Park to encourage kids on bikes and roller blades. It used to be a nice, peaceful park for adults and their dogs. Why not leave it that way? Its a nice city but had I know the costs of living here, I would have chosen otherwise. Many of my neighbors are coming to the same conclusion & are planning to move to other communities.
- Because of taxes on everything, we will be leaving O'Fallon. "Elite" thinking of mayor and aldermen-there is no concern for middle class or seniors!!
- We moved here 15 years ago when it was a nice small town. Now the traffic is terrible and growth is unchecked. The city council is a rubber stamp for developers.
- Not too small. Good proximity to conveniences. Love my subdivision.
- Can't afford to move. Family lives in area. My boys will be going to the high school this year.
- Lived here when retired from military.
- I am ready to leave because taxes are high, city officials arrogant. They spend millions on a sports complex (without our vote) and refuse to fix the sewers. And the round-about will be a disaster. Please put a light in.
- I wanted to take just a moment of your time to bring to your attention some problems that I feel need to be addressed and the survey did not bring too light. Problem #1-school districts: after living in O'Fallon for 4 years, I am still amazed that the high school is a completely different school district than the other schools in the area. I have children in elementary school and in high school. The problem is that often times the school districts do not coordinate

their days off often my younger elementary children are off school, while the high school is in school. My husband and I work full time and often depend on our high school child to watch over the younger children. I do not understand why the districts can not come together and work on a school schedule, so to avoid this problem. Problem #2-trains: when we moved to O'Fallon we had intended on staying, however after dealing with the trains that come through O'Fallon, we have decided to move. I believe that the trains need to be re-routed out of town, or at least minimize the train activity through town. We can not open our windows at night, because of the noise of the trains when they come through town. The trains have sat on the tracks, blocking traffic for several hours at a time. Couples with the noise of the planes for Scott Air Force Base, the level of noise is unbelievable. I feel that fixing the train problem that we all have to deal with on a daily bases should have been addressed prior to building another park. Problem #3-household water bill: I have lived in a lot of different places before, and I can tell you that O'Fallon charges the most I have ever paid for water/sewer. Thank you for your time!

- We live in Shiloh. Land with trees. Close to 64. Dierberg's plaza very close.
- I actually live in Shiloh. This form was mailed to my home address in the village of Shiloh, but we like to help O'Fallon!
- Moved here before the stupid rate of growth. Haven't left....yet!
- Can't afford to move. High school. Proximity to Scott AFB.
- I like O'Fallon. My farm is in O'Fallon Township so I have to stay put in O'Fallon rural area.
- Wanted to leave California a lot. Smaller size of city. Convenience of schools.
- I'm disappointed in the way O'Fallon has massive developmental projects without apparent planning. All the development could have been thematically designed as communities. Look at Washington DC and Virginia. Keyword "planning".
- Good government. Safety as a citizen. Pleasant city to live in.
- We have always wanted to live here. Job opportunity brought us to O'Fallon. Excellent schools.
- Live in Shiloh. Bought home here as a young couple. Stayed and raised children. Became part of community.
- Live in Shiloh, mailing address O'Fallon.