

# That's Life . . . In Albany

## What Do You Think?

The Neighborhood Resource Center and Council of Albany Neighborhood Associations (CANA) seek your help in identifying and evaluating the various factors that contribute to the quality of life in our community.

CANA is a federation of neighborhood associations that is concerned with improving the quality of residential living within the City of Albany. This questionnaire is the most effective way of learning your views about what is good and what else needs improvement.

Please use one survey per person.

This is the second annual survey and its results will be made available to the public as well as the mayor and city officials to enable them to take action on issues at a neighborhood level.

Please fill in the appropriate circle that best represents your opinion in both SECTIONS 1 & 2. We also ask that you fill out SECTION 3 that enables us to determine the general location of your neighborhood and basic demographic details while protecting your anonymity.

**Please Turn**

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Fold on this line, tape closed at bottom and place stamp to mail

Place 34  
cent stamp  
here to mail

**To:**

**CANA-CEQL Survey  
c/o David Phaff  
5 North Pine Avenue  
Albany, NY 12203-1711**

Please tape sheet here ↓ Do not staple or glue.

**SECTION 1** - Please circle the number to the right that indicates your response.

**How do you feel about these things  
in your neighborhood or in the city?**

Serious Problem    Minor Problem    Not a Problem    No Opinion

1. Abandoned buildings_____	3	2	1	0
2. Abandoned or unregistered motor vehicles or trailers _____	3	2	1	0
3. Abandoned shopping carts _____	3	2	1	0
4. Adequacy of the building code _____	3	2	1	0
5. Animal feces not picked up_____	3	2	1	0
6. Availability of downtown shopping _____	3	2	1	0
7. Bars operating at late hours _____	3	2	1	0
8. Business property maintenance_____	3	2	1	0
9. Commercial development in residential neighborhoods_____	3	2	1	0
10. Dogs not under owner's control _____	3	2	1	0
11. Drug dealers / drug houses _____	3	2	1	0
12. Excessive noise from car radios_____	3	2	1	0
13. Excessive noise from parties, patios, etc. _____	3	2	1	0
14. Favoring commercial over residential interests _____	3	2	1	0
15. Gangs _____	3	2	1	0
16. Garage and sidewalk sales_____	3	2	1	0
17. Garbage rules not followed _____	3	2	1	0
18. Graffiti_____	3	2	1	0
19. Group homes _____	3	2	1	0
20. Illegal businesses (e.g. car repair shop) _____	3	2	1	0
21. Illegal home occupations _____	3	2	1	0
22. Illegal parking lots _____	3	2	1	0
23. Improper lighting on private property _____	3	2	1	0
24. Lack of a master plan for city development _____	3	2	1	0
25. Lack of trees & shrubs as visual screen to lots/yards _____	3	2	1	0
26. Loitering _____	3	2	1	0
27. Meaningful penalties for code violators _____	3	2	1	0
28. Motor vehicles ignoring speed limits & traffic signals _____	3	2	1	0
29. Non-compliant parking lots (e.g. not screened) _____	3	2	1	0
30. Notices posted on utility poles, etc. _____	3	2	1	0
31. Occupancy in violation of zoning _____	3	2	1	0
32. Panhandling _____	3	2	1	0
33. Parked cars blocking cross walks, hydrants, driveways _____	3	2	1	0
34. Parking in your neighborhood_____	3	2	1	0
35. Parking on sidewalks, lawns_____	3	2	1	0
36. Quality of bus service _____	3	2	1	0
37. Quality of taxi cab service _____	3	2	1	0
38. Racial profiling _____	3	2	1	0
39. Residential rental property maintenance_____	3	2	1	0
40. Scavengers going through your trash _____	3	2	1	0
41. School safety _____	3	2	1	0
42. Sidewalk conditions for pedestrians _____	3	2	1	0
43. Sidewalk shoveling in winter _____	3	2	1	0
44. Trash/garbage on street/sidewalk_____	3	2	1	0
45. Trash/garbage in yard(s) _____	3	2	1	0
46. Unattended children, latchkey environment _____	3	2	1	0
47. Unlocked entrances to multi-family dwellings _____	3	2	1	0

## SECTION 2 - Please circle the number to the right that indicates your response.

### How do you feel the City of Albany is doing in the following areas?

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	No Opinion
48. Adequacy of parking regulations _____	4	3	2	1	0
49. Availability of citizen guide to building/housing codes _____	4	3	2	1	0
50. Awareness of cultural activities _____	4	3	2	1	0
51. Correcting zoning violations _____	4	3	2	1	0
52. Dealing with repeat code violators _____	4	3	2	1	0
53. Enforcing anti-grouper law _____	4	3	2	1	0
54. Enforcing building/housing codes _____	4	3	2	1	0
55. Enforcing parking regulations _____	4	3	2	1	0
56. Keeping parks safe _____	4	3	2	1	0
57. Keeping your neighborhood safe _____	4	3	2	1	0
58. Keeping your street clean _____	4	3	2	1	0
59. Library services _____	4	3	2	1	0
60. Making the city pedestrian friendly _____	4	3	2	1	0
61. Neighborhood revitalization over commercial development _____	4	3	2	1	0
62. Overall city cleanliness _____	4	3	2	1	0
63. Police response times to 911 calls _____	4	3	2	1	0
64. Police response times to non-emergency calls _____	4	3	2	1	0
65. Preserving/protecting city heritage _____	4	3	2	1	0
66. Preserving/protecting residential neighborhood character _____	4	3	2	1	0
67. Protecting and preserving historic sites/excavations _____	4	3	2	1	0
68. Protecting existing housing _____	4	3	2	1	0
69. Public schools and education _____	4	3	2	1	0
70. Responding to building/housing complaints _____	4	3	2	1	0
71. Response time to emergency medical calls _____	4	3	2	1	0
72. Revitalizing downtown _____	4	3	2	1	0
73. Sidewalk and street repair _____	4	3	2	1	0
74. Street lighting _____	4	3	2	1	0
75. Walking neighborhood police patrols _____	4	3	2	1	0

Of all the issues in **SECTION 1 and SECTION 2**, list up to ten that are *most important to you* by placing their numbers (1-75) in the space below. They do not need to be in any particular order.

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## For Your Information . . .

You may be surprised to learn that every single questionnaire is read and that your concerns as well as comments are taken very seriously. City officials have credited the survey with providing them with valuable information in focusing their efforts on specific quality of life issues as well as changing policy, enforcement and organizational issues.

**Please go to  
SECTION 3**

**SECTION 3** – Please try to provide this information so we can count your response while protecting your identity. Without this information, your answers will not be as effective.

☛ Please provide your Zip +4 Code                                       -                                   

**To get this number** - You may call the US Postal Service at 452-2499 or 1-800-836-8777 to get this information by simply giving them your address.

☛ Please indicate which group your age appears in

- |                                       |                                       |                                       |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under 17 (1) | <input type="checkbox"/> 26 to 40 (3) | <input type="checkbox"/> 56 to 70 (5) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 18 to 25 (2) | <input type="checkbox"/> 41 to 55 (4) | <input type="checkbox"/> Over 70 (6)  |

☛ Gender

- |                                   |                                     |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Male (1) | <input type="checkbox"/> Female (2) |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|

☛ Do you or your family own or rent your home?

- |                                   |                                  |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rent (1) | <input type="checkbox"/> Own (2) |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|

☛ Do you have cable tv? ☐ Yes (1)    ☐ No (2)

Have you ever seen a monthly CANA meeting on television? ☐ Yes (1)    ☐ No (2)

Look at any of your “junk mail” and it should indicate your complete 9-digit zip code.

**This 9-digit number DOES NOT identify your house. It only indicates the delivery route that your address is on.**

Each resident in the City of Albany should submit one survey.

Extra copies are available at all Stewart’s Shops and Albany Public Libraries.

We welcome your comments in the space below. And yes, someone actually reads every one!

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Please return this sheet before May 21<sup>st</sup> to any Stewart’s Shop, Albany Public Library or neighborhood association or you may mail it after folding according to the instructions on the front and affixing 34 cents postage. Additional copies are available at all Albany Public Library branches and Stewart’s Shops in the City of Albany.

A special thanks to . . . .

The Albany Times Union, The Albany Public Library, Stewart’s Shops, The Neighborhood Resource Center, The Office of Institutional Research at The University at Albany and The Albany Housing Authority for their cooperation and assistance in making this survey possible.

# Thank you for your cooperation.

Please watch for the results to be announced this fall. For more information, please contact your local neighborhood association or call the Neighborhood resource Center or CANA at (518) 462-5636.