

Overall Impression

‘First Impression’ - ‘Lasting
Impression’



Blind Date

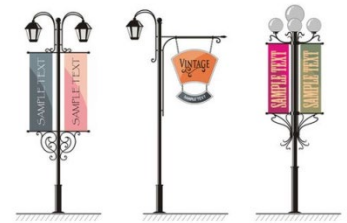


Your Home

- Why did you move to the community you live in?
- Why do you love your community?
- Why do you live in the neighborhood you do?
- What would you change if you were in charge?
- Has your first impression of your community lasted?

APPEARANCE

- Appearance/Condition of Gateways & Focal Points (Town Square, monuments, statues, etc.)
- Appearance of graphic elements (appropriate use and placement): consistency and tastefulness in signage, use of banners and murals, murals protected & maintained, theme use in graphic elements, etc.
- Weeds & Trees
- Vandalism & Graffiti



CONDITION/MAINTENANCE

- Public open spaces, including: medians, boulevard strips, streets, sidewalks, walking & biking trails, curbs, ditches, road shoulders, unattended/vacant lots, parks, etc.
- Hardscape, including: signs, lamp posts, flagpoles, monuments, benches, fences, bike racks, playground equipment, garbage/recycling/cigarette butt/dog waste containers, dumpsters fenced, bus stops, etc.
- Buildings, businesses, homes, schools, yards, industrial properties, etc.
- Certified playground equipment inspector on staff who inspects playground equipment on a regular basis and keeps a written record of playground equipment inspections and actions taken for remediation



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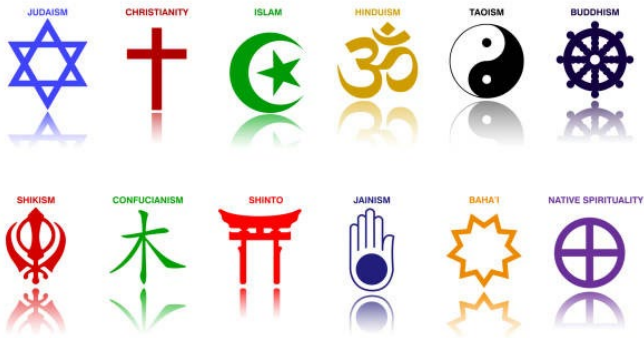
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COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION:

- Anti-litter campaigns ('Make a Difference Day', 'Keep America Beautiful', 'Pitch In', 'Community Pride Day', etc.)
- Cleanup programs, including: spring cleanup, leaf/limb/Christmas tree pickup, large item pickup, etc.
- Involvement from all sectors and ages: schools, scouts, seniors, businesses, Chamber of Commerce, etc.
- Organizations working to improve the quality of life: In Bloom Committee, Beautification Committee, Tree Committee, Environmental Committee, Sustainability Committee, Friends of the Parks, service clubs, etc: consider organization's size, participation, scope, actions, resilience, demographics, sectors, etc.
- Volunteer recognition: programs, newspaper, signage, by city council, etc.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ICON SET
 Editable Continuous Line Series



OPPORTUNITIES

- City budget for parks, trees, beautification, monuments, hardscapes, etc.
- Grants/Financial assistance for improving properties for businesses and residents
- Groups (service clubs, businesses, churches, community organizations, neighbors helping neighbors, high school students, etc.) offering services to help seniors and others maintain their properties at 'no or low' cost
- Best/Most Improved/Neatest: Yard, Business, Property, Neighborhood recognition or competition: door hangers, postcards, newspaper, signage, by city council, etc.
- Yard/Home makeovers
- 'Adopt a Spot' programs



NPS Main Street Facade
Improvement Grant
Preserving valuable historic
resources and spurring economic
growth in rural communities.

ORDINANCES

- Review the city's by-laws ***with your own eyes*** related to: visual pollution, signage (including notices, posters, & 'temporary' signs), vacant lots, mowing, weeds, derelict buildings, unsightly vehicles, pets & pet waste, noise pollution, etc.
- Policy for reporting and enforcing violations of ordinances
- By-law/Peace Officer

What Makes a Great Place ?

WHAT MAKES A GREAT PLACE?

