



# VOICES OF THE CHINATOWN COMMUNITY



TALK ANY KINE *festival*

**Final Report**

**The ARTS at Marks Garage** (*Marks*) is the key community project of the **Hawai'i Alliance for Arts Education**. This collaborative gallery, performance and office space for businesses and nonprofit organizations is acting as an arts incubator for start-up ventures, original new material and experimental programming. *Marks* builds community and awareness for visual and performing with the additional mission to transform this downtown neighborhood with the positive impact of culture and the arts. Community advocacy and arts education programs involve close alliance with local businesses, public housing agencies, social service agencies, and city and state governments. With these partners *Marks* is initiating arts education projects in the housing projects and community arts projects throughout the neighborhood.

## **Background**

The grassroots community voice is critical in the shaping of a neighborhood in transition. The voices that would not have otherwise been heard needed to be collected so that they can be shared in the Mayor's Chinatown Summit on June 22, 2006. The Talk Any Kine (TAK) Festival was designed as an informal community feedback and brainstorming session for those who live, work and play in the Chinatown area. To provide more attractions, this festival also offered live entertainment, art projects for the children, and free food. In organizing the festival, *Marks* collaborated with many important stakeholders in the community to help design and implement the event. These planning participants include:

- **River of Life Mission**
- **EAH A Nonprofit Housing Corporation**
- **Weed and Seed**
- **Honolulu Culture and Art District**
- **Nu'uaniu Merchants Association**
- **Fort St Business Improvement District**
- **Pacific Gateway Center**
- **Chinatown Merchants Association**
- **New Life Church**
- **City and County of Honolulu**
- **Empower O'ahu**

- **Gallery, restaurant and business owners**
- **Representatives of the residents at Kukui Tower and Kekaulike Housing**

With 70 volunteers to assist with logistics, they basically gave the participants the opportunity to “speak out” and share their concerns and recommendations on issues such as **Getting Around Chinatown, Homelessness, Affordable Rental Housing, Better Business Environment** and **Safer Neighborhoods**; these were issues brought up most frequently in past community meetings. Interpretive materials were provided for public information at this lively and colorful event designed to capture people’s attention and imagination. It was arts focused with lots of visuals and English as a Second Language (ESL) friendly with several translators on hand.



**Smith-Beretania Park**

**March 18, 2006 @ 1-5 pm**

## **SUMMARY**

### **Topics presented:**

Homelessness  
Getting Around Chinatown  
Affordable Rental Housing  
Safer Neighborhood  
Better Business Environment

### **Approximately 350 people attended the event:**

**55% residents both live & work**  
**22% have business**  
**22% visitors**

**Around 70 people volunteered during the event, including university & high school students**

### **Top 5 suggested solutions to widely known problems:**

1. Provide 24-hour restrooms – no more urine smell on sidewalks
2. Address traffic safety for pedestrians – many crosswalks are dangerous (especially for students and the elders); pedestrian lights not working properly and cars not stopping on red
3. Continue to address the drug dealing issues in the neighborhood – police not only giving parking tickets, but also enforcing the important laws, such as loitering, peeing, traffic, sleeping in doorways, etc.
4. Revamp the metered parking – more time and electronic payment with a card option
5. Give some sort of incentive to landowners to take care of their buildings

### **Frequently mentioned items:**

Homelessness – 82 times  
Drugs – 55 times  
Crosswalks – 37 times



## What do you think would help with the homeless problem?

Suggestion	Total
Provide low-income temporary boarding house	72
<b>Provide 24-hour public restrooms</b>	<b>80</b>
Move mentally-ill to rural area	36

## Community comments:

1. "Find a home for the homeless—Drive out the drug dealers and prostitutes"
2. "Don't confuse the mainland VAGRANTS with the true HOMELESS. Those guys (gals) should be returned to the mainland. Open homeless shelter on Sand Island—away from Downtown problem areas. Still too much vagrancy, drugs and crime in Downtown area." "No portapotties—will be a stinky mess."
3. "Situating agencies in an area that is safe, secure and designated to maintain quality and health for them. Why mix apples and oranges? We need programs to REHABILITATE, NOT SHELTER THEIR LIFESTYLE!!!"
4. "Homeless are here to stay. Why? They have services, food and shelter in the area. So rather than try to move and remove the homeless, we must learn to live and work in the same area. Like better policing."
5. "As a society we have not decided to truly deal with homelessness. We need to be willing to spend time and resources to tackle this problem." "Cut off welfare services."
6. "Relocated those homeless people to Rural Area, as when they have shelter, they can look for jobs and have income to start of new life and take care of themselves."
7. "More restroom with monitor to help keep it clean."
8. Aala Park – "Instead of 'flushing/sweeping' our homeless beach to beach, we need more employers to hire homeless, perhaps setting a significant tax break for doing so. Also, jobs that pay more than minimum wage for more than 10 hours a week."
9. "Chinatown already is a vibrant, late-night community. I'd like to see activities where homeless can be an active part of community, such as helping to monitor .... Stands, restrooms, trash pick-up. Where there's movement & activity, there's energy. Where there's closed up sites & 'keep out' signs, there's fear & stagnation. Maybe some of the night monkeys in Hong Kong can be a model."
10. "Keep fund for low-income housing."
11. "We need more bike stands on Pauahi St. and Maunakea St."
12. "More evening facilities for the homeless."
13. "Implement more programs providing free meals especially community-based and non-profit such 'food not bombs' (just for example). A lot of food/produce from local grocery stores get thrown away but are still very edible – if these local grocers would donate to such a program, more homeless would be fed."
14. "Put restrooms in all city garages."
15. "Have homeless live on a stretch of beach with bathroom facilities and showers."
16. "Free phones to call home."
17. "Patrolling police officers inside park 24/7."
18. "Have the church become active in supervising activities for the fellas that sleep in Chinatown – clean sidewalk & park etc. Be active – instead of supervising the collection box. You're not helping enough in Chinatown."
19. "Low-income boarding house – these people need a place to stay!"
20. "New or more organized bathrooms – teach people how to use and respect their land."
21. "No rent! Only maintenance fees or initiatives arrangements."
22. "If River Mission feeds the homeless, they should clean up Chinatown or area nearby. Many sit on the mall all day with friends, smoking & laughing with friends."
23. "Shallow and ignorant people should NOT have a say in the well-being of the homeless. God bless the real people!"
24. "Refer to mentally-ill designated individuals as displaced person, not as mentally-ill. Such a designation is invalid and not allowed."
25. "Homeless people can be used as volunteers for rec centers & restrooms – we know who dirties the place. People should support the River of Life Mission organization. Just go and experience the patience of the Holy Spirit."
26. "Should needy people be compelled to practice or recognize any particular philosophy to be fed?"
27. "Relocate River of Life Mission out of Chinatown."
28. "Help homeless get into homes."



## **Creating pedestrian friendly neighborhood – map survey (137 maps)**

### **Top 5 items that need immediate improvements:**

- **SIDEWALK (41)** – uneven and dangerous, smelly, and unsafe (too much drug activities)
- **CROSSWALKS (37)** – dangerous, especially on some intersections on Beretania St., because cars would not stop on red
- **RUBBISH BINS (27)** – rubbish can still be found on sidewalks and streets
- **LIGHTING (25)** – too many areas are too dark; not safe
- **PARKING/PARKING METERS (19)** – need more time and too expensive

<b>Issues and locations</b>	<b>Votes</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Traffic</b>		
Motorists running red lights	6	<b>11</b>
on Beretania-Maunakea	3	
on Beretania-Nu'uanu	1	
on River St.	1	
Need to improve traffic flow	6	<b>18</b>
on Kukui (between Maunakea & Nu'uanu)	1	
on Maunakea St.	2	
on King St. (AM/PM)	2	
on Beretania St. (late PM)	2	
on Beretania St. (between Nu'uanu & Maunakea)	1	
on Beretania-Maunakea	3	
need to be more bike friendly	1	
<b>Neighborhood infrastructure</b>		
Need better sidewalk (clean & safe & pedestrian friendly)	17	<b>41</b>
on Pauahi-River-Hotel	2	
on Pauahi-Smith	2	
along Maunakea St.	3	
along Kukui St.	1	
on Beretania St.	2	
on Fort St. Mall	2	
on Hotel St. (too many homeless)	5	
on Beretania-Maunakea	2	
on Hotel-Maunakea (vendors extended beyond 18")	1	
on Nu'uanu-Kukui (ramps should be wider)	1	
on King St.	1	
along River St. (remove shopping carts)	2	
Need better lighting	9	<b>25</b>
on River-Beretania	1	
on Kukui-Nu'uanu	2	
on Beretania-Smith	1	
on Bethel-Nu'uanu	1	
on Bishop St.	1	
on Hotel St. (between Nu'uanu & Smith)	3	
on Bethel St. (between Beretania & Hotel)	1	
on Maunakea St. (between Pauahi & Beretania)	1	
on Beretania St.	2	
on Fort St. Mall	2	
in parks	1	
Need better crosswalk	19	<b>35</b>
on Pauahi-Nu'uanu	1	
on Kukui-Maunakea	1	
on Pauahi-Smith	1	
on Beretania-River	1	
on Beretania-Nu'uanu (dangerous for strollers)	4	
on Beretania-Maunakea	5	
on Hotel St. (too narrow)	1	
on Vineyard (not close enough; hard to cross)	1	

on Nu'uanu-Chaplain Ln.	1	
Need more rubbish cans	18	
on N Pauahi (between Maunakea & Smith)	1	<b>27</b>
on Maunakea St.	2	
on Beretania St.	3	
on Fort St. Mall	2	
on Hotel St.	2	
Parking		
More parking meters & less expensive	19	<b>20</b>
Need more parking on high-rise (cater to residents & visitors)	1	
<b>Landscape</b>		
Need improvement	4	<b>7</b>
in Smith-Beretania Park	1	
on King St. (between Kekaulike & Nu'uanu)	1	
in Fort St. Mall	1	
<b>Safety</b>		
Too much drug activities	2	<b>11</b>
on Hotel St.	1	
on N Pauahi (between River & Maunakea)	3	
on Kekaulike Mall	1	
at Club Pauahi	1	
on River-Nimitz	1	
store sells drugs on Pauahi-River	1	
in Kamalii Park	1	
Too many "dangerous" people on public space or streets (not safe for kids)	13	
Prostitutes behind Safeway in Kukui	3	
<b>Public space</b>		
Good parks: Smith-Beretania,	2	
Need more	12	<b>14</b>
On one of the piers on Nimitz (across from Palomino restaurant)	2	
Need improvement (cleaner & safer)	1	<b>2</b>
Fort St. Mall	1	
Need public swimming pool	1	
Need organized sports and other useful activities (e.g. tai chi, sports tournaments, etc.)	1	
<b>Bus stop</b>		
Need more on Kukui St.	1	
Need improvement (cleaner & safer)	7	<b>11</b>
on Hotel St.	1	
on Smith St. (too crowded)	1	
on King St.	1	
no smoking	1	
<b>Signage</b>		
Need better signage	4	<b>6</b>
on bus stops (need clearer directions)	1	
"Left turn on green only" (Nu'uanu-Pauahi intersection)	1	

<b>Miscellaneous</b>		
Close Chinatown to traffic – make all Chinatown a mall to walk	3	
Need more trees and benches	2	
Need free trolley to cruise around Chinatown	1	
Homeless on sidewalk		
corner of Nu‘uanu & Beretania	1	
On Pauahi (between Fort St. Mall & Bethel)	1	
Get people to volunteer for public cleanup	1	
Need drinking fountain	1	
Lots of break-ins at resident parking lots	1	
Business on Nu‘uanu Ave. not affordable and not open late enough	1	



**Are there enough trash bins in the neighborhood?**

**NO = 46**      YES = 21

**Are there enough trees in the neighborhood?**

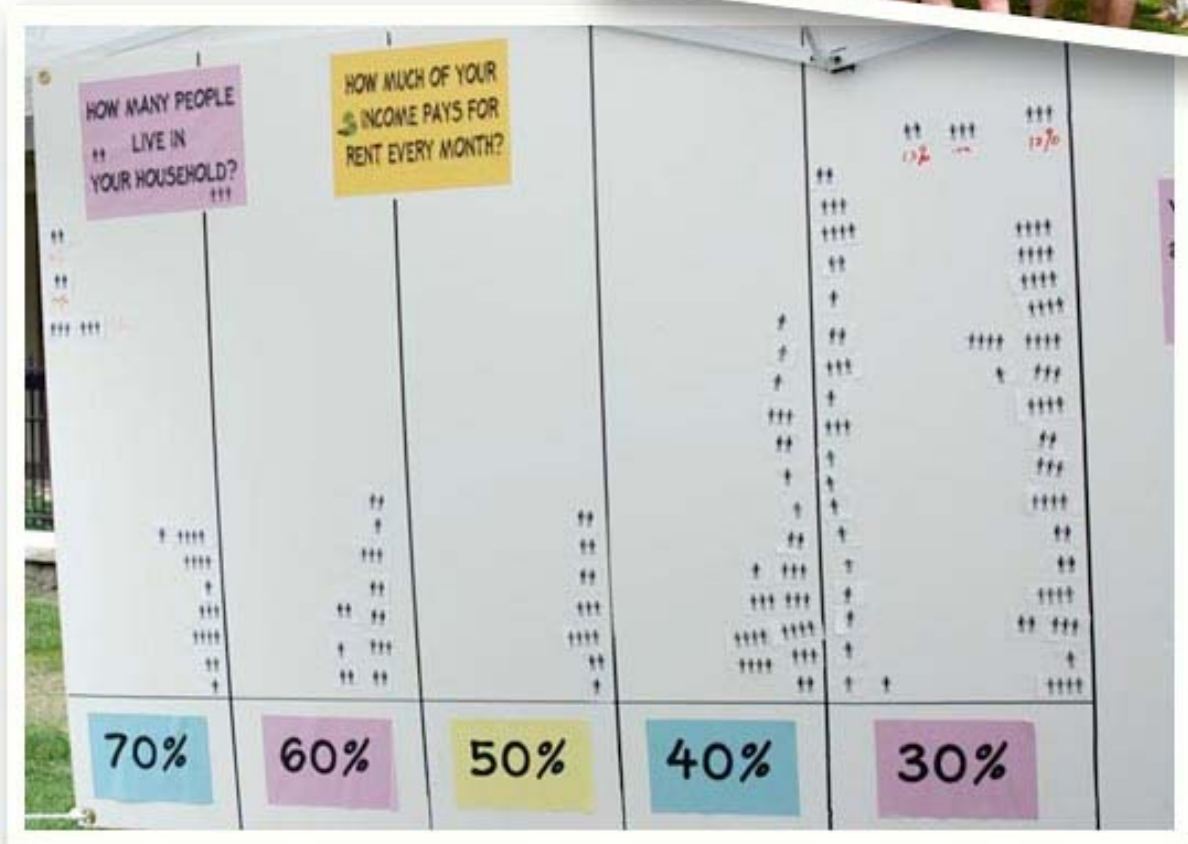
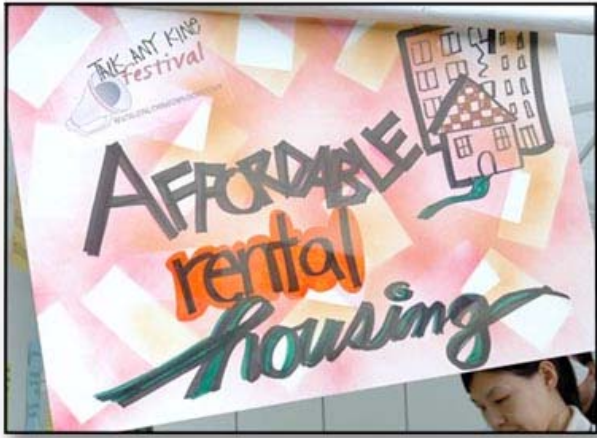
**NO = 39**      YES = 24

**Is parking enough in Chinatown/Downtown area?**

**NO = 64**      YES = 19

## Community comments:

1. "(All of Chinatown) King Street should be free of all traffic."
2. "Traffic problem on King Street in the morning, on Beretania in the afternoon."
3. "Put a little more lighting."
4. "More public space. More public seating and cafes on Fort Street."
5. "Traffic flow—too many one ways, difficult to understand traffic flows."
6. "Need more bus stops. Chinatown too crowded."
7. "Not enough lighting on Kekaulike Street. Too much traffic on Maunakea Street. More parking meters on Maunakea Street."
8. "More lighting around Chinatown."
9. "Cars don't always use signals when turning—children don't know when to cross."
10. "More parking in Chinatown."
11. "More ADA compliant curbs for safe wheelchair accessibility for our elderly and disabled."
12. "Wrong translations for signs—Maunakea and King St. (Mauka/Ewa sign). In Chinese: South wrong translation, supposed to be north."
13. "Cars don't let pedestrians cross in cross-walks on Nu'uauu."
14. "Children fearful of homeless people."
15. "Homeless sleeping on sidewalk. Drug people bothering everybody and are dangerous."
16. "Need more police foot patrols along River Street. Real problem with homeless obstructing sidewalk."
17. "Too many trees ruin the view of historic buildings. Undermine walls of old buildings—a hazard!"
18. "Smelly sidewalks."
19. "Unoccupied business building on Nu'uauu (Across Marks Garage) and urine smelling entrance."
20. "Trees are too high, cut it half."
21. "Better signage needed for parking. Clean up River. Public space at Harbor (picnic area?). Water access in Harbor."
22. "Bus route signages are confusing."
23. "More bike racks."
24. "A lot of homeless in parks, children are afraid."
25. "Afraid to go the park at night to play."
26. "Street pavement by Nu'uauu and N. Kukui Street needs to be fixed—big dip."
27. "Homeless coming back to A'ala Park."
28. "Not enough lighting on Hotel Street in the evening."
29. "Agree," written next to #28.
30. "Ditto," written next to #29.
31. "Fix the sidewalk holes."
32. "Why can't the fire department restrict the use of sirens to "day" time hours. WHY do you wake me up at 1-2-3-4 AM? Same with ambulances! Use a little care for those folks who are trying to sleep next to the fire station! Kukui Plaza! PLEASE Please enough noise in the downtown area!"



## How much of your income pays for rent every month?

(83 voters)

- 50% pays 30% of their income
- 20% pays 40% of their income
- 12% pays 60% of their income



***For Chinatown residents***

**What do you like about the housing you live in now? (+)**

**Top 3 positive things:**

1. 98% = distance to shops/market
2. 97% = access to city bus
3. 90% = general location

**What don't you like/what would you change? (-)**

**Top 3 negative things:**

1. 60% = safety (not safe)
2. 19% = price (too high)
3. 10% = general location



***Some say ... there is no more room for affordable rental housing in Chinatown.***

**Do you think unused 2<sup>nd</sup> floor space in Chinatown should be affordable rental units?**

NO = 11

YES = 99

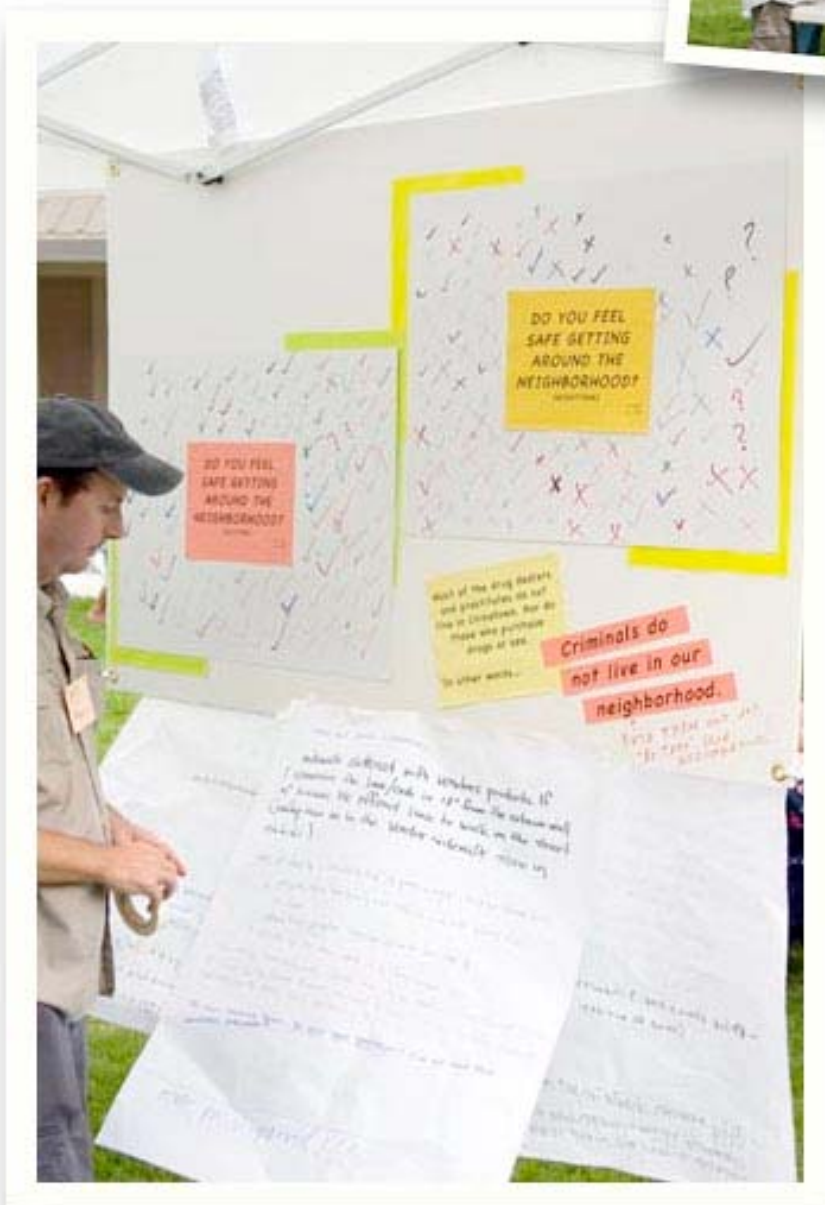
**If not Chinatown, where would you live?**

**Top 3 alternative locations:**

1. Downtown
2. Liliha
3. Kaka`ako

## Community comments:

1. "More low income combined housing of one for individuals, central area kitchen bathroom and recreation, transportation for medical vocational training and work. Social worker on staff. Secured environment (safety)."
2. "More affordable housing, lower business rent."
3. "Not enough affordable housing. Lower the rent."
4. "Two senior citizens or disabilities live in the same apartment."
5. "Dearth of affordable housing."
6. "Rents for apartments need to be reasonable."
7. "Public bathroom needed."
8. "See more police officers walking at night. More lights on the street where city events happen."
9. "Follow through their commitment, eg. Improve environment. Need more churches."
10. "Police could help more, they only look at the traffic, they need to walk around more. More low-income housing."
11. "How do we going eat when paying 90% to rent?"
12. "Sidewalk light brighter. Too many advertisement and banner in Chinatown."
13. "Not safe in Chinatown. Chinatown is too dirty."
14. "Police do not respond when called about drug dealers, etc. If they don't want to do the jobs, quit! Area too dirty, urine smell everywhere. Bus stops filthy. What happened to all the SRO rooms that used to be in Chinatown? Many street people could afford to rent a room for a couple of hundred dollars, but NOT apartment for \$2,000."
15. "Lower taxes—lower police pay, doing nothing—don't degrade community into the ghetto—get the Board of Health off their backsides."
16. "Make Chinatown safer."
17. "Get more officers to work grave. Rotate the senior officers to do grave work."
18. "No more homeless. Law that not allow homeless here. Homeless leads to more crime."
19. "People or homeless are sleeping in the bus stop. Also please mayor do not let the homeless people hanging in the park when children are playing."
20. "More affordable housing to seniors."
21. "More public restroom. More trash can."
22. "Find a way to help the homeless get back on their feet—invent a program."
23. "Clean up Chinatown; get the drugs out; relocate the homeless people."
24. "Run the drug dealers out of Chinatown."
25. "Clean up Chinatown (increase sanitary)."
26. "Accessibility to Food Bank and River of Life Mission make it convenient."
27. "Help homeless people to get affordable housing; do not try to criminalize homelessness."
28. "Elect Chinatown leader (Mayor)!"
29. "More homeless off the streets (sleep & toilets)."
30. "Fix up and renovate more. Be diligent with prostitution and drug dealing. Get rid of other crime such as gambling."
31. "Keep current affordable housing affordable!" – Kauluwela I & II
32. "Keep current affordable housing – N Beretania – Kukui Tower. Control prostitution!"
33. "Legalize prostitution."
34. "Get more control over drugs."
35. "Firm: affordable housing to help those senior citizens."
36. "Give the homeless six months to one year to prove themselves."
37. "Hale Pauahi parking promised to refund the extra-increased amount to us. Still haven't seen the money."
38. "Simplify the permit process for (building) renovation."
39. "Feeling not safe when there are people sleeping around the street."



**Do you feel safe getting around the neighborhood (DAYTIME)?**

(116 voters)

NO = 7

**YES = 107**

UNDECIDED = 2

**Do you feel safe getting around the neighborhood (NIGHTTIME)?**

(116 voters)

**NO = 63**

YES = 49

UNDECIDED = 4



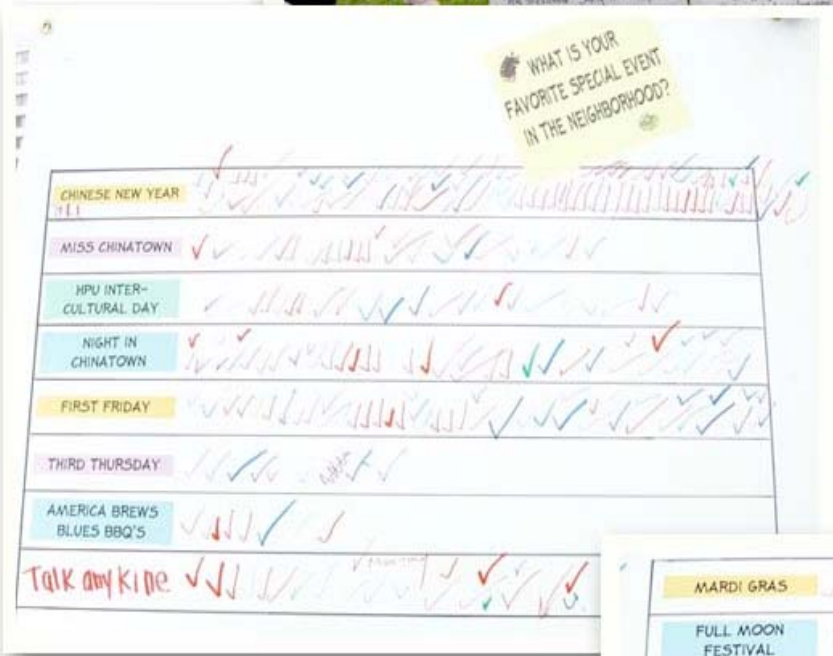
## What are the things we can do to make the neighborhood nicer and cleaner?

Fix Broken Windows	6
<b>Pick up Trash/Recycle</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Paint Out Graffiti</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>Paint Old Buildings</b>	<b>47</b>
Plant Flowers, Trees, and Shrubs	21
Other Ideas:	
• Demolish Buildings	
• Too much homeless on playground	
• More things for the kids	
• Renovate old buildings	
• Send mainland vagrants to mainland	
• Move out prostitution	

## Community comments:

1. "Need more security for children in playgrounds."
2. "I have no problems with security."
3. Twelve year old child: "I'm afraid of the homeless people in the doorways."
4. "At the night time too much drug dealers! Around in N Pauahi and Maunakea Street."
5. "Fewer homeless people camping in front of businesses and on the sidewalks, more police patrols would create a better business environment."
6. "Homeless people could do work around the area. All day long, smoking, give them a broom. They have too much time on their hands."
7. "Police force please give up their guns, cell phones, pagers, cars, computers and clocks. Thank you."
8. "Specific policing targeting drug trade in Downtown."
9. "More intense showing of Weed & Seeds from other areas and walking with Chinatown group. It would show more strength and I will say I really like seeing the officers on foot. It is impressive and encouraging for our travel industry, and most of our local businesses as our own that frequent this area."
10. "Need to cut the 'hash' and fulfill commitments to environmental improvement—sidewalks, lighting, Chinatown, bus stops need cleaning, lighting and covering."
11. Thirteen year-old girl: "I feel safe."
12. "Exposure of young children to drug dealings—omit this kind."
13. "Get rid of drug dealer punks, drug addicts and prostitution! We don't want or need you!"
14. "Get more of the downtown/Chinatown residents to take a more active part in the daily life by taking part in the citizens patrol, manning cameras in Chinatown, paint out graffiti."
15. "Bring more offices and businesses."
16. "Police don't do their job; when I call 9-1-1, then came and argue—refuse to come to you ... you have to go to them (to the station)."
17. "Legalize prostitution and help homeless and drug addicted. Ignoring/punishing people with problems doesn't help anyone or eliminate the problem."
18. "Why can't homeless people help cleanup—get paid—they would have some money, make them happy."
19. "Too many homeless sleep in the park; spitting and peeing in front of children. Please build more swings or other facilities for children to play."
20. "We need a dog park and dog friendly condos."
21. "Homeless people need incentive—break cycle of begging."
22. "Too many homeless/street people."
23. "Why did you take out the tree near Indigos?"
24. "Too many homeless."
25. "Drug dealers think they rule the street and yell at me."
26. "Move out homeless and prostitution."
27. "Sidewalk cluttered with vendors products. If I remember, the law/code is 18" from the exterior wall of business. We often have to walk on the street (safety issue as in the vendor sidewalk issue in Waikiki)."
28. "A'ala Park, remodeled two years ago—now homeless people are hanging out there, not safe for children. Homeless people smoke/drink in the park."
29. "Get rid of pipe store, get rid of drug people too. Too many homeless and drug user, drug dealer sitting around, spitting or *shishi* on the street. Mayor, you need to make Chinatown a safety community not only for the people but especially for the children."

30. "Too much homeless people, too much trafficking!!! Can we have these individuals elsewhere?!!"
31. "Safer bike routes (paths, lanes)
32. "More bike cops."
33. "More police patrol."
34. "Too many aimless people at Fort Street Mall—they sometimes are loud."
35. Ten year old: "I see fights at night."
36. Mother: "Drugs and fighting (in Manikia Parking behind lei shop). Need more police—when police come they hide behind cars, police can't see them but we can see them from our window." "Someone should help the lady who yells at midnight." "Can we do something about cigarette smoke at the bus stops"
37. "Police should give three chances and then they (criminals) should be arrested."
38. "Get rid of bad businesses (X Video, Foreign video) Club Pauahi."
39. "City agencies should inspect and fine commercial property owners who allow their properties to decay and attract criminal elements."
40. "Still too many problems in downtown area. Too many mainland vagrants are cluttering up the parks, doorways, etc. Send them back to the mainland states, (these are not homeless). Still too much drug dealing in Kamali'i Park. Also on Fort Street Mall. Paint over graffiti immediately! Still some in Kamali'i Park that is months old! Graffiti at bus stops—paint it out! Clean bus stops. Many are filthy and unusable (stink-urine). Bums off the bus stops! Why are so many old folks in wheel chairs being dumped on Fort Street Mall everyday? Need more street lights/sidewalk lights at night! Open a shelter on Sand Island to deal with homeless."
41. "Concentrate on low income or affordable rentals and/or mental health! Too much talk, no action, movement."
42. "We need much more accessible parking that is convenient."
43. "Have police focus less on parking and more on inappropriate behavior, sch as criminal activity like drugs being used out in the open."
44. "Community members need to get involved need to care when there is drug deals." "Are old signs a danger (Fort Street, Hotel Street) on abandoned buildings—rusted, full of water can fall."
45. "Too many advertising flyers on windows/doors, looks messy."
46. "Don't feel safe at night, too many people in doorways...probably harmless...but"
47. "I'm never afraid...I was once homeless too."
48. "I've witnessed drug transactions in most areas in Chinatown like Fort Street Mall, Bethel, Smith, Maunakea."
49. "We spend a lot of time on street ... sometimes you see more drug activity than normal."
50. "We need rec centers for children with restrooms and water fountains (games, balls)."
51. "Homeless volunteers for rec centers and restroom."
52. "Too many thugs, dangerous characters roaming the street, drug sales!"
53. School administrator: "Need ways to keep kids safe to and from school. Mentally ill homeless frighten the children/gang activity."



**What is your favorite special event in the neighborhood?**

**Top 6 events:**

- 1. Chinese New Year**
- 2. Open Market (Fort St Mall)**

- 3. First Friday**
- 4. Night in Chinatown**
- 5. Full Moon Festival**
- 6. St. Patrick's Day**





***Some say ... the government should give tax breaks or other financial incentives for landowners to fix up their building.***

**What do you think?**

**90%** agree

**10%** disagree

**Community comments:**

1. "New businesses are going well."
2. "Roaches near restaurants."
3. "More loft housing."
4. "Too many absentee landlords."
5. "Most use restaurants, flower shops, Cultural plaza. Surprised that there IS enough parking for businesses."

6. "Keep streets/businesses cleaner."
7. "Too many liquor stores."
8. "Military should be allowed to come downtown." "Tax breaks for mom and pops businesses. "Rec centers for kids (with computers)."
9. "More police foot patrols throughout all of Chinatown—to ask homeless to move along—difficult for businesses, landlords, to rent, spruce up homeless right out front."
10. "Landlords not fixing their buildings. Government should give tax breaks and monitor building improvements. Both sides win."
11. "Kids being involved in a useful way in the community i.e. business mentoring."
12. "Too much homeless drugs, need more lighting at night (people don't feel safe at night). Training homeless to work. Looks ugly to tourists and business to see drugs and homeless. Someone we know was mugged."
13. "Homeless people are not the problem—it's homelessness that is the problem. Put people before profits."
14. "Agree" (written next to #13)
15. "Businesses should not block the sidewalk."
16. "Provide restrooms for everyone."
17. "Businesses encroach on sidewalks and walking areas."
18. "Hard to find parking. Stink where people urinate and you smell it walking by."
19. "Loading zones are sometimes occupied by regular parking." "Have Night in Chinatown again."
20. "Businesses shouldn't block sidewalk, like Maunakea Market."
21. "Businesses should be responsible to the community they do business in, (sell porn attracts bad elements)."
22. "Lots of shoppers are afraid of drug users, people shouting and using bad language. Still too many homeless around Chinatown, not good for business."
23. "Try to get more businesses open at night (after 6 pm) to attract people/families like Macy's and Ross'. Good for kids to experience downtown at night. Like to walk around downtown instead of going in cars out of neighborhood."
24. "Keep Kukui Gardens affordable. The residents are part of what made Weed and Seed successful. Now that the neighborhood is a nicer place to live, let's not evict the ones who made it nice!"
25. "Keep chains out: McDonald's, Starbucks, etc. Unique businesses make the place."
26. "Drugs are the number one problem especially after 6 pm. Prostitution around this area. Nice to attract business and tourist but there are human and animal feces on the sidewalk. Hope for a place for homeless people to live (like those living in A'ala Park need a home).
27. "Agree" (written next to #26)
28. "Make park safe for children from drug dealers selling drugs by bus stop, park, parking meter. Rent so expensive. Safety: need more police visibility and Pauahi and especially River Street, infested by drugs."
29. "Homeless people in S-B Park, Dodgy, even after 4 pm."
30. "Homeless sometimes pee in park in front of kids and camp on the playground equipment in the morning."
31. "Agree" (written next to #30)
32. "Businesses and institutions may help to clean the street and aid those who are homeless."

33. "Need to get homeless people off the streets/out of doorways. Disagree—business owners are fixing buildings."
34. "Bringing in newer businesses that are acceptable (like art galleries). More upscale development like Indigo. Businesses with potential to employ a certain number of individuals (spillover effect). Improves downtown economy: office space, eating places, Ba-Le..."
35. "Heart of Honolulu."
36. "Too many homeless camping. Drug dealers think they own the street. Get 'em out."
37. "Open your hearts to your highlight comments and focus on complete improvements."
38. "Hold a monthly meeting like this, nice, attractive. Next month add something on to benefit everybody."
39. "Drug needles in park, kids might step on. More public toilets (business people won't let in. Assign homeless to clean toilets. Work to be proud of their own toilet. Feed lunch or dinner for working."
40. "Charge 1% interest to business owners for improvements. Who are willing to fix."
41. "Too many mainland vagrants. A'ala park over run. Need anti-loitering law. 'disgusted with police,' 'quit if you don't want too [sic] your job.'"
42. "Costs a lot of money to be in business here: 1) Rent 2) Many products come from mainland (shipping costs) 3)cost of doing business, advertising, buying expensive supplies. Small business associations—get more together, open up doors more."
43. "No drugs, prostitutes, homeless."
44. "Agree" (written next to #43)
45. "What happen to law enforcement? Where are they? I see, a lot of them patrolling but concentrating on parking tickets (meters). You need to allocate funds for other community programs. Get more monies to pay officers, to do what you say is, 'there the finest.' (HPD) Then use them to do patrol and move them out!!!"
46. "Ditto"
47. "Vendors utilizing more than 18 inches out into the sidewalk. Safety issue. (Buses etc., crowded, older people on the sidewalk)"
48. "A lot of drugs (pipe store for illegal drugs). Government should put attention to drugs for the sake of the children. Parents are concerned. Safety at parks for children, dirty urine from homeless."
49. "Close more streets for pedestrian malls. Bike parking/paths/lanes for bikes. Better signage for bikes, yielding for bikes and peds."
50. "People coming out of driveways/turning at intersections don't yield for pedestrians. Make police go on bikes so they understand better."
51. "Homeless making *doodoo* and *shi-shi* all over the place."
52. "Buy vegetables in Chinatown."
53. "Things are changing for the better. Let's keep it up!!"
54. "More public restrooms (even portables)."
55. "Streets are dirty—need to drive out drug dealers and prostitutes."
56. "low deaths [?]/incentives for housing or rent/more activity, police/police don't ticket on Maunakea to River/more police/fine landowners who do not fix buildings."
57. "Park problems for residents with special events, e.g. Chinese New Year, KK Mall[?]"



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Historic District of Honolulu / Old Downtown	17
New Urban Neighborhood; mix of different themes / business / activities	27

**Community Comments:**

- Praz the Lord
- City of state should subsidize studio space for workin artist spurrin new creations and business reflecting our time and place
- Chinatown will always be “downtown” (Kristin)
- This is Chinatown Red Big Hand Red hand fattest! Moo! Please me!
- Stop the Crime (Noel Henry)
- Legalize Prostitution
- So many historic buildings! (Emily)
- Chinatowns are what makes America good.
- No Drug Dealers! No drug addicts. No prostitution. No safe clubs or bars to hide illegal activities. CLEAN IT UP!
- Anela needs help
- In this word is fun
- It’s becoming a new place.
- Chinatown is where culture, arts, and entertainment meet.
- I always thought of this neighborhood as Chinatown since I was a kid. (Nina)
- Call it what it is
- The ARTS at Marks Rocks!!! (Katrina)