



# Survey of Community Attitudes with Residents in Shaker Heights

February 2018

18-3174

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# Survey Methodology and Purpose

This report presents the findings of a survey completed with 500 residents of Shaker Heights conducted by TRIAD Research Group between February 21 and 28, 2018. The sample consisted of residents with both landline and cell phone numbers. The calls were distributed across the city based on the adult population in 2010 by census tract. About a fifth of the 500 interviews (18%) were completed with cell phone only households. The survey has a margin of error of no more than +/-4.5% at the 95% confidence level.

The main purpose of the survey was to provide the city with information to aid in attracting and keeping residents in Shaker Heights. Some of the topics examined include ...

- Things they like best about living in Shaker Heights and what challenges, if any, the city is facing
- How long they have lived in Shaker and the most important reasons for them when it comes to living in Shaker Heights
- If they have recently moved to Shaker, what attracted them to Shaker and other cities they considered before choosing Shaker
- If they are considering moving in the next 5 to 10 years, their preference for staying Shaker and if not, why they would prefer another location and
- Interest in the city exploring some different ways to reduce taxes or avoiding a tax increase.

Survey respondents were distributed across the city by census tract in proportion to the total adult population in each census tract. For purposes of analysis, we divided the City into four regions:

- Northeast region includes census tracts 1832 and 1833.
- West region consists of census tracts 1831, 1834.01, 1834.02 and 1836.03.
- Central region includes census tracts 1835.01 and 1835.02.
- South region consists of census tracts 1836.04, 1836.05 and 1836.06.

Tables giving the breakdown of the results by important demographic groups follow the report.

## Key Findings

**Three main things come to residents' minds when thinking about what they like best about living in Shaker Heights.** These included that Shaker is an attractive city (27%), the quality of the schools (21%) and its location or proximity to downtown, school, work, parks and shopping,(21%).

Several other things they like best were also mentioned with some frequency, including that Shaker is diverse (16%), the neighborhoods or sense of community (16%), the people (11%), and it's safe (11%).

Many of these items were also ranked top in importance of reasons for living in Shaker. The five items rated highest in importance were:

- Safety and low crime (79% very important)
- The public schools (73%)
- The neighborhoods or sense of community (72%)
- Natural beauty of the city (71%) and
- Ethnic or cultural diversity (71%).

While the importance ratings varied somewhat by how many years residents have lived in Shaker, safety was highly rated by all residents. The city of Shaker Heights must maintain a low crime rate and make community members feel safe to keep and attract residents.

Nearly 90% of residents feel very (27%) somewhat (60%) informed about what is going on the city. This is a good rating but could be improved by increasing the percent very informed.

Residents get their information about the city from a number of sources. But residents who said they are **very** informed are more likely to rely on city sources, specifically city emails and the city website while those less well informed are more likely to get their information from word-of-mouth sources, such as family friends and neighbors.

The City should try to increase the number of residents who sign up for their emails as well as encourage residents to check the city's website for information.

## Key Findings - Continued

**While just a tenth of all residents (10%) have lived in Shaker for five year or less, 19% said they have lived in the current home for five years or less.** Clearly some people have moved within Shaker Heights. In fact, 41% of residents said they have owned or rented in two or more different homes in Shaker. Over half (58%) have lived in just one home in Shaker.

Of those who have lived in their current home for 5 years or less, a third (32%) moved within Shaker. But others moved from the city of Cleveland (23%), University Heights (4%), Cleveland Heights (3%) and other Cuyahoga County citie, including Rocky River, Westlake, Solon, Euclid, Beachwood, South Euclid, Mayfield Heights and Warrensville Heights. Others moved to Shaker from outside the county (5%), outside Ohio (12% ) or outside the country (6%).

Other area cities new residents considered included Beachwood (26%), Cleveland Heights (15%), Cleveland (11%), and Solon (7%) as well as Pepper Pike (n=5), Lakewood (n=5), Euclid (n=4), Garfield Heights (n=2), Twinsburg, Lyndhurst, Chagrin Falls, Moreland Hills, South Euclid, Bedford, Warrensville Heights (one each).

The location, schools and housing were new residents' main reasons for choosing to move to Shaker.

**A third of all respondents (31%) indicated that they might move in the next 5 to 10 years.** And while this percent was higher among residents aged 18 to 34 (70%), renters (45%) and those who are single (43%), between a fourth and a third of all subgroups said they might move in the next 5 to 10 years.

The size of their home, either too big or too small (37%) and the cost of living in Shaker (36%) were the two main reasons cited for possibly moving in the future.

While 26% of those who might move would like to stay in Shaker, 35% plan to move someplace else in the Greater Cleveland area. Their main reason to moving to another city in the area was financial with about half saying taxes are too high in Shaker, want to lower their tax rate (48%) and 13% saying they want a lower cost of living, get more for your money elsewhere.

## Key Findings - Continued

### There were several other important findings in the survey.

- A majority of residents (58%) are very satisfied with the housing options available in Shaker, but over a third are somewhat satisfied (30%) or not very satisfied (8%). When those somewhat or not very satisfied were asked what types of housing are needed in Shaker, a fourth of them want something more affordable, less expensive (24%). Others specifically said condos, townhomes, or apartments (27%), housing for seniors (12%), ranches (8%) as well as newer, modern homes (13%).
- Over half (53%) think the quality of the Shaker Heights City Schools is better than the ratings the state gives the district. Just 13% think the ratings are accurate while 6% said the schools are worse than the ratings indicate. A fourth (27%) don't know. Importantly, 72% of parents with children in the Shaker Schools think the quality is better than the state ratings indicate.
- Awareness that the federal government recently limited the federal tax deduction for state and local taxes to \$10,000 a year was fairly high (71%). At this time, just 18% would be less likely to stay and live in Shaker because of the tax limit of the deduction for state and local taxes. There wasn't much difference between those who aware of the new federal limit on tax deductions (20% less likely) and those who weren't aware of this (15%). This new limit did have a negative impact on 32% of those who might move.

**There is considerable support for the city fully exploring four different ways to possibly reduce taxes or avoid a tax increase.** Support was highest for looking into merging municipal courts (76%). About two-thirds also think the city should explore the other three ideas, but a fourth did not think these ideas should be pursued. They were:

- Combine the Shaker Heights Municipal Court with other municipals courts (76/16)
- Join the county library system assuming the county would continue to operate the Moreland Library and maintain the same services offered now (70/22)
- Merge Shaker's fire department with high quality city fire departments (64/28) and
- Find ways to share services between the Shaker Schools and school districts (63/26).

# Shaker Heights Residents

- Years Lived in Shaker Heights
- Things Like Best about Shaker & Challenges Facing the City
- Reasons for Living in Shaker
- State Ratings for the Schools
- How Informed about Shaker

## Many residents have lived in Shaker Heights for more than 20 years.

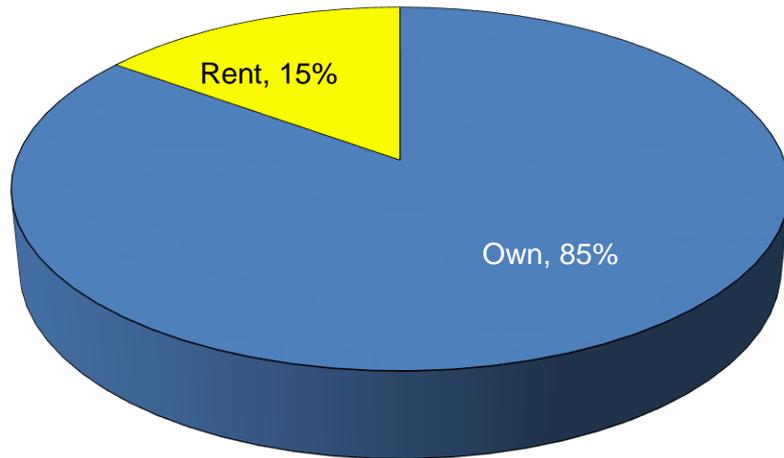
Q3 HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN SHAKER HEIGHTS			
	All Respondents		
	2002 %	2007 %	2018 %
Less than 5 years	21	30	10
6 to 10 years	14	15	16
11 to 20 years	19	20	26
More than 20 years	47	35	48

Survey respondents varied by age, race, income and marital status, and also by the number of years they have lived in Shaker Heights. Almost half of those surveyed (48%) said they have lived in Shaker Heights for more than 20 years. A fourth (26%) have lived in the city for 11 to 20 years. The remaining fourth have lived in Shaker for 6 to 10 years (16%) or 5 years or less (10%). The percentage of residents of five years or less is much lower than we saw in 2007.

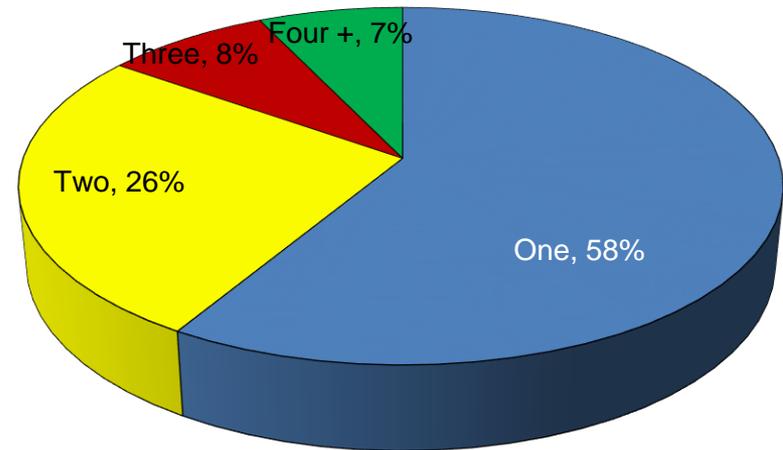
- This varied by age. That is, 40% of 18 to 34 year olds have lived in Shaker for 5 years or less. Many of the 35 to 49 year olds have lived in the city 6 to 10 years (25%) or 11 to 20 years (42%). Half of 50 to 64 year olds (50%) have lived their for more than 20 years as have 82% of residents aged 65 and over.
- Also, 64% of those who live in the southern part of Shaker have been there more than 20 years while the rest of Shaker looked more similar to respondents overall.
- A fifth of renters (20%) have lived in Shaker for five years or less, but over half (51%) have lived there 11 years or more.

## Most residents own their current home and over half have owned or rented only one residence in Shaker.

### Q7 OWN OR RENT YOUR HOME



### Q6 NUMBER OF HOMES OWNED/RENTED IN SHAKER



Overall, 85% of respondents said they own their home in Shaker while 15% rent.

In addition, while 58% have owned or rented only one home in Shaker, more than two-fifths (42%) have lived in more than one home in Shaker. More specifically, 26% have lived in two different homes in Shaker, 8% have lived in three different homes and 7% have owned or rented four or more. This suggests that a significant percentage of Shaker residents want to stay in Shaker for much of their life.

- Two-fifths of respondents who have lived in Shaker for more than 20 years (41%) have lived in just one home, but a third (32%) have lived in two homes in Shaker while 26% have lived in three or more homes in Shaker.

## **A variety of different things came to mind as what they like best about living in Shaker Heights.**

In an open-ended question, respondents were asked to tell us what they like best about living in Shaker Heights and many gave more than one response. Three things were mentioned by over a fifth each of residents. They were:

- Attractive, pretty, beautiful houses, well-kept, clean, green, lots of trees, nice environment (27%)
- Good schools, good education (21%) and
- Close to/proximity to downtown, school, work, parks, shopping, good location, convenient to many places (21%).

Several other things were mentioned by between nearly a tenth and a fifth of respondents. They included:

- Diverse, integrated community (16%)
- Sense of community, good neighborhoods (16%)
- The people, neighbors, people are friendly, look out for each other (11%)
- Safe, good police department (11%)
- Good parks, areas to walk, walkable (8%)
- Good place to live, like the community, culture, way of life, feel at home (8%) and
- Good city services, good trash pick-up (7%).

A number of reasons were given by less than 5% of respondents. They were:

- Access to public transportation, the rapid (3%)
- My home (2%)
- The library (1%)
- Good, responsive government, well run (1%)
- Family-oriented (1%) and
- Offer lots of activities (1%).

From these top-of-mind responses, the attractiveness of the city, location and schools are all important reasons for living in the city.

## **The number one challenge facing the city mentioned by residents was taxes (29%).**

Respondents were also asked if they could think of any challenges facing the city and three-fourths of respondents mentioned something. There were 24% who could not think of any challenges facing the city.

Leading the list was high taxes, which was mentioned by 29% of all respondents. Along with this, 11% said maintaining or expanding the tax base, attracting businesses, lack of a tax base or businesses is a challenge and 5% said the city needs money, state cutting funds, maintaining services without raising taxes, budget issues, leading through transition.

Also mentioned by 12% as a challenge was maintaining or improving the schools, schools are declining.

All other responses trailed, but a number of them related to the city changing or aging. These issues included:

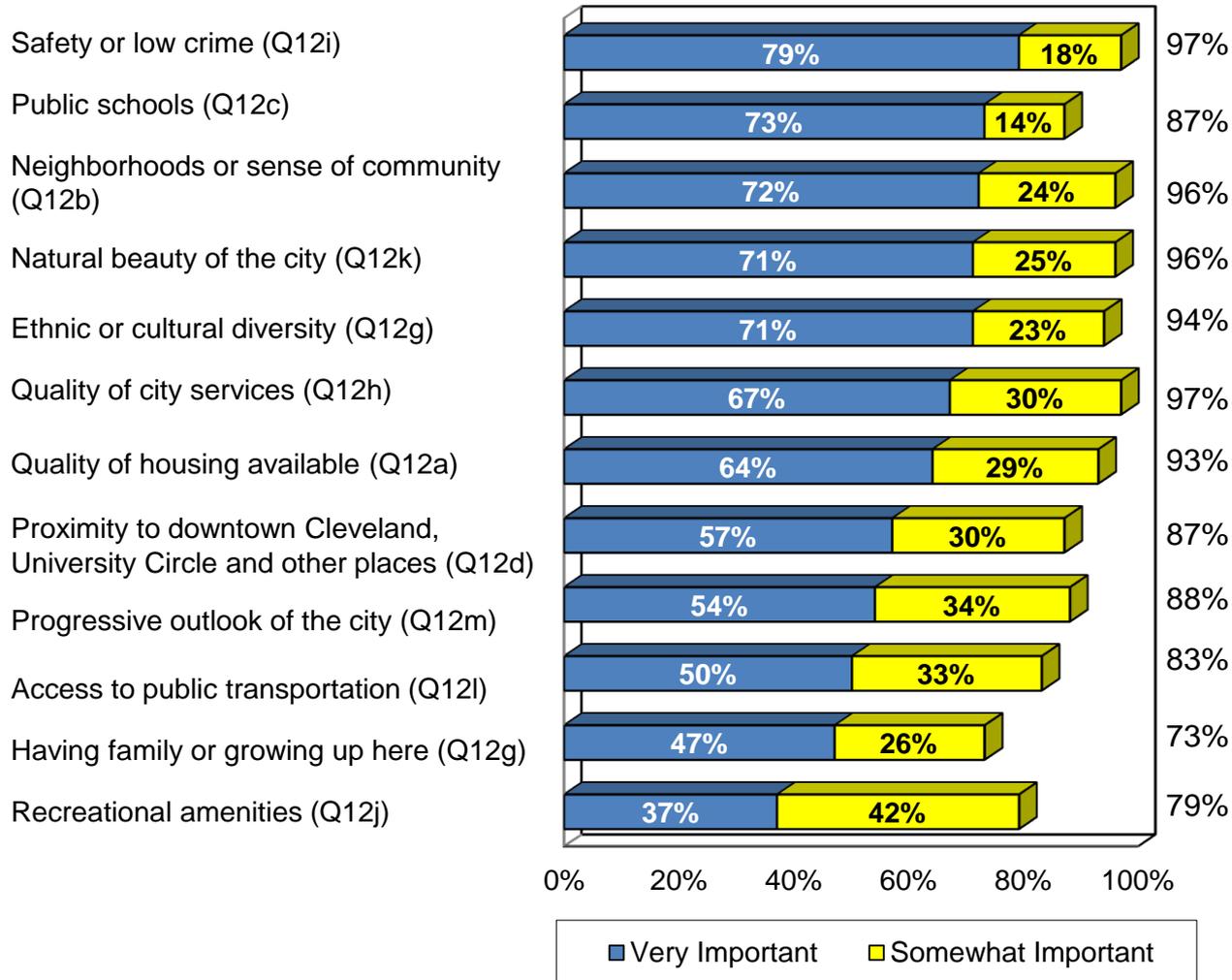
- Crime is increasing (6%)
- Aging housing stock, maintaining housing stock (4%)
- Population changing, getting old, Section 8 housing, need to attract new residents/younger people (4%)
- Dealing with a diverse population, too poor, too segregated, income differences, racial tensions (3%)
- Maintaining property values, community standards (2%)
- Aging infrastructure, sewer problems (2%) and
- Lots of houses for sale (1%).

Other challenges cited by respondents were:

- Roads are bad, need repaired (5%)
- VanAken construction, construction in general (2%)
- Library issue – keep library independent, at high level, operated by someone else (2%) and
- Need a rec center, activities for children/seniors (1%).

**There were five reasons in which about three-fourths or more rated as very important reasons for living in Shaker Heights.**

### Q12 IMPORTANCE OF REASONS FOR LIVING IN SHAKER



Looking at the percent saying **very important**, there were five items in which about three-fourths rated as very important to them when it comes to living in Shaker Heights. They were:

- Safety or low crime (79% very important)
- Public schools (73%)
- Neighborhoods or sense of community (72%)
- Natural beauty of the city (71%) and
- Ethnic or cultural diversity (71%).

About two-thirds of respondents also rated the quality of city services (67%) and quality of housing (64%) as very important reasons for living in Shaker.

Half or more rated four of the five remaining reasons as very important. They were:

- Proximity to downtown Cleveland, University Circle and other places (57%)
- Progressive outlook of the city (54%)
- Access to public transportation (50%) and
- Having family or growing up here (47%).

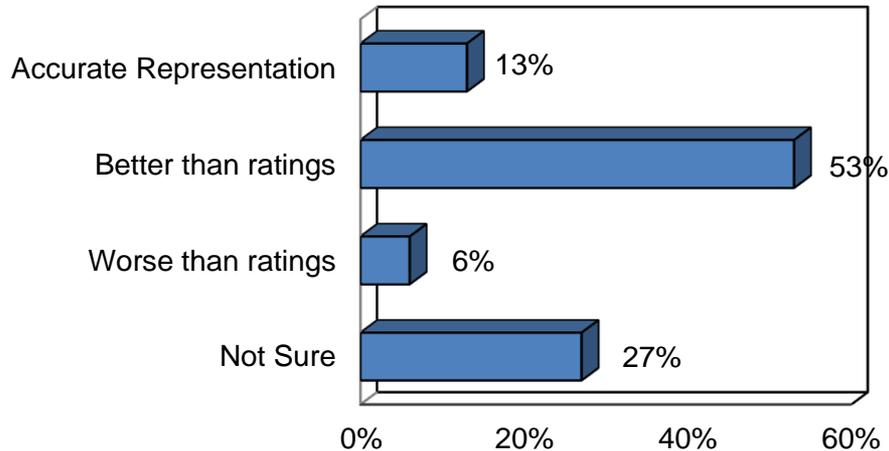
Rated somewhat lower in importance was *recreational amenities* with just 37% rating this very important while 42% said this is somewhat important to them.

- The top rated reasons for residents of five years or less were safety (69%), quality of city services (62%), ethnic diversity (61%), and the public schools (61%).
- The reasons rated highest in importance among residents of 6 to 10 years were safety (86%), neighborhoods/sense of community (73%), natural beauty (71%), proximity to downtown, University Circle and other places (70%) and the schools (69%).
- The schools (86%) and neighborhoods (82%) were rated highest in importance for 11 to 20 year residents while 80% of residents of more than 20 years said safety is very important to them.

To keep and attract residents, the city must maintain safety and keep crime low.

## Over half think the Shaker Schools are better than the state ratings indicate.

### Q19 SHAKER SCHOOLS COMPARED TO THE STATE RATINGS

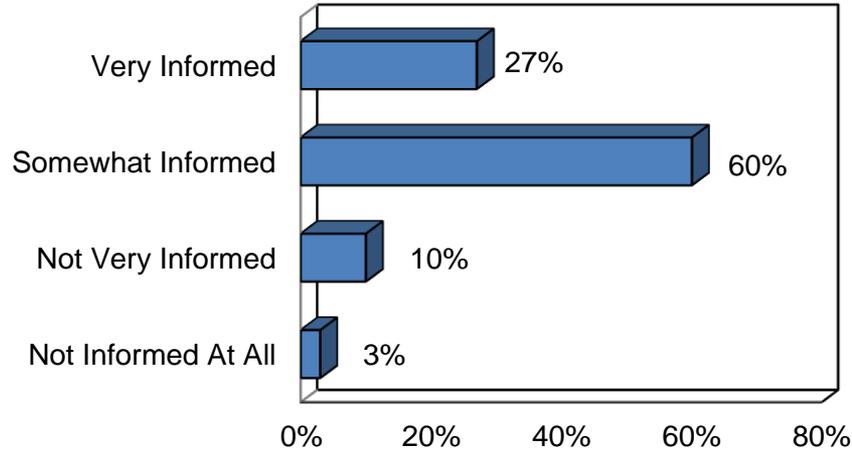


Respondents were asked if they think the ratings the state gives the Shaker Schools accurately represent the quality of education in the schools or if the schools are better or worse than the state ratings. Over half (53%) think the Shaker Schools are better than the state ratings for the schools. Just 13% think the ratings are an accurate representation of school quality while only 6% think the schools are worse than the ratings indicate. A fourth (27%) don't know.

- Nearly three-fourths of those who have children in the Shaker Schools (72%) think the schools are better than the state ratings indicate.
- Over a third of those who don't have school-aged children (35%) or have children in private or parochial schools (46%) aren't sure if the state ratings are accurate or not.
- A plurality or more of all subgroups think the Shaker Schools are better than the state ratings.

## Most residents feel at least somewhat well informed about what is going on in Shaker Heights.

### Q1 HOW WELL INFORMED ABOUT SHAKER HEIGHTS

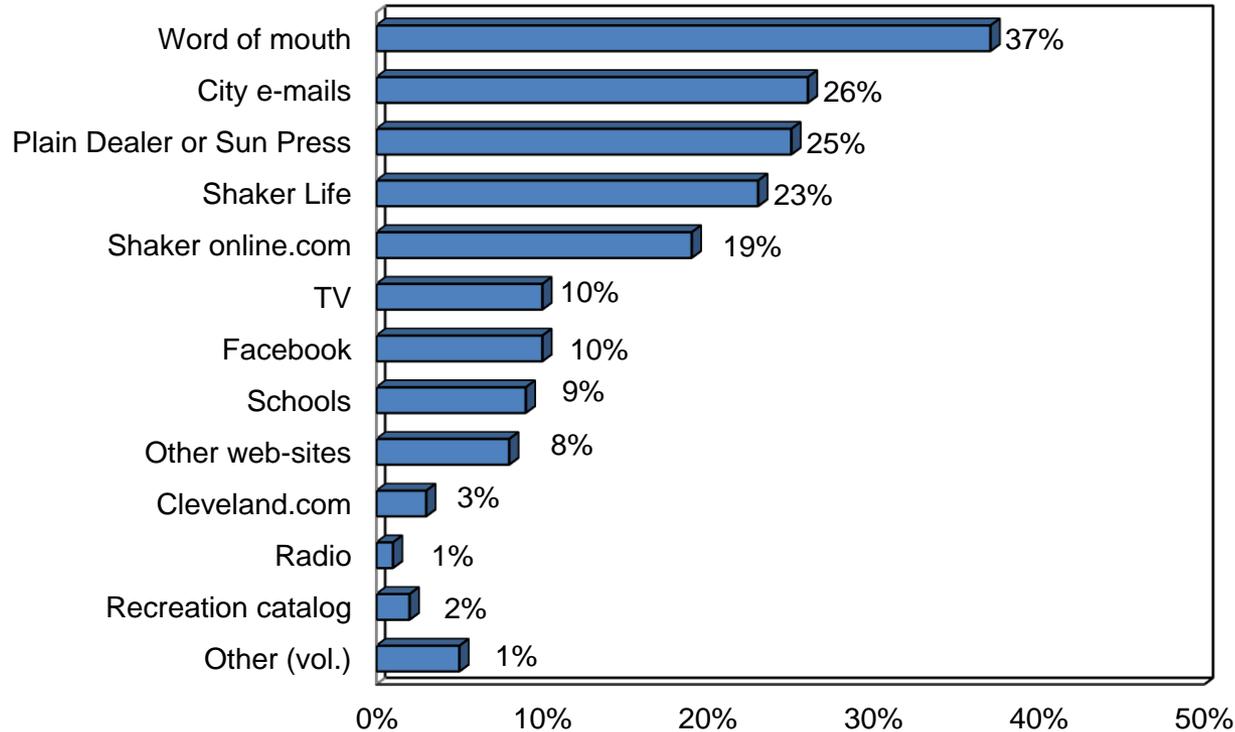


A fourth (27%) feel very informed about what is going on the city while most (60%) feel somewhat informed. Just 13% are not very well informed about Shaker Heights. This is a good rating, but it could be improved by increasing the percent very informed.

- There was little significant demographic variation on this.
- At most, residents of five years or less (73%) and renters (79%) were slightly less likely to say they are very or somewhat informed about Shaker.

## Residents rely on various sources to find out what is going in Shaker.

### Q2 TOP TWO SOURCES OF INFORMATION ABOUT SHAKER



Interestingly, over a third (37%) rely word of mouth sources, such as friends, relatives and neighbors as one of their two main sources of information about what is going on in Shaker. A fourth (25%) mentioned the Plain Dealer or Sun Press.

Some residents get their information directly from a city source for information, including city e-mails (26%), Shaker Life magazine (23%) and the city's web-site (19%).

All other sources were mentioned by a tenth or less of respondents. Only a couple of people mentioned Twitter or Instagram. A few respondents said they get their information from flyers or newsletter (n=9) and three respondents each mentioned community meetings and city phone messages. Two people mentioned the Shaker Heights Patch while one each said the police blotter, Nextdoor.com and Cleveland Magazine.

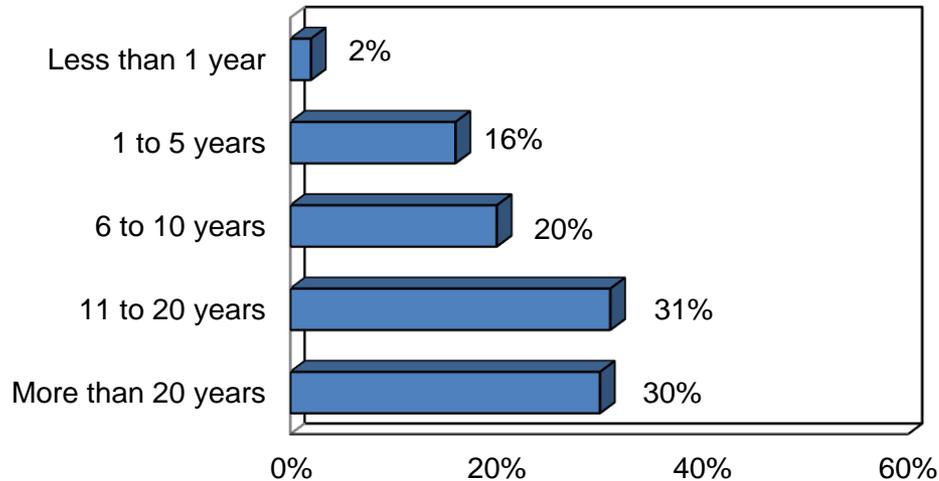
- Importantly, those who are very informed about what is going in Shaker are more likely to get their information from city emails or the city website.
- About half of those who are less well informed rely on word-of-mouth sources for their information. Many of those who are informed also get information from family, friends or neighbors.

# New Residents & Possibly Moving

- Years Lived in Current Home
- Previous City Lived In and Other Cities Considered
- Reasons for Choosing Shaker
- Chances of Moving, Why and Where Would They Move
- Satisfaction with Housing Options
- Impact of Tax Deduction Limit

**About a sixth (18%) of residents have lived in their current home for five years or less.**

### Q8 YEARS LIVED IN CURRENT HOME IN SHAKER HEIGHTS

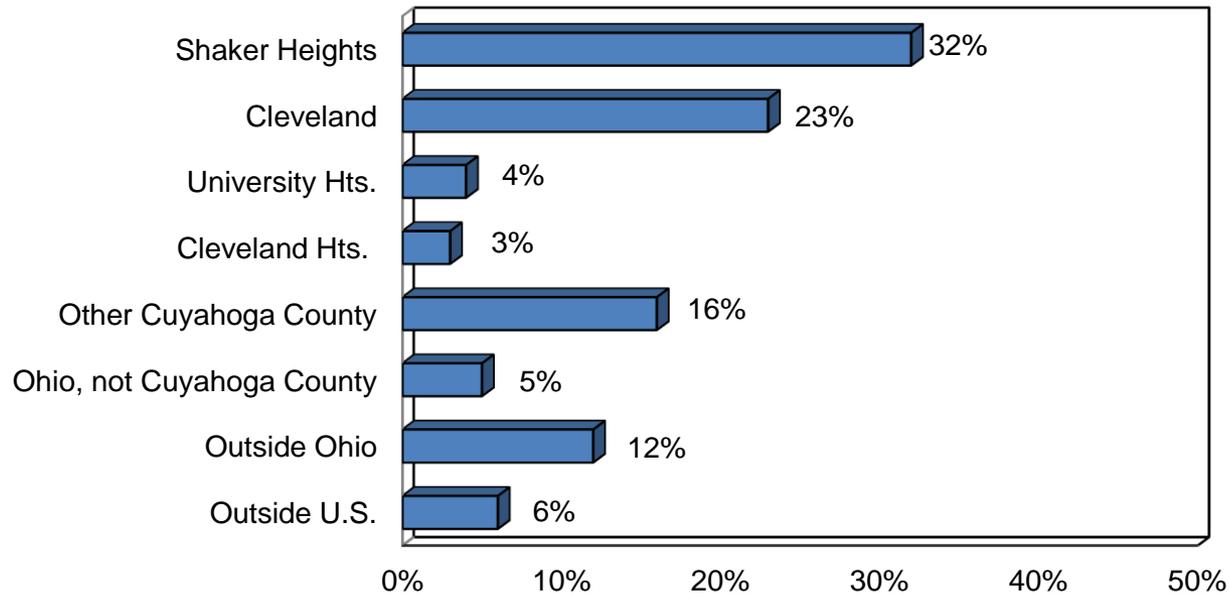


While 2% have lived in their current home in Shaker less than one year, 16% have lived in their current home between 1 and 5 years. A fifth (20%) have been at their current residence between 6 and 10 years. The majority (61%) have lived in their current home 11 years or more.

- Groups more likely to have lived in their current home for 5 years or less include 18 to 34 year olds (60%) and 35 to 49 year olds (26%), renters (48%), those with incomes of less than \$60,000 (34%) or \$60,000 to \$100,000 (21%) and African-Americans (25%).

**A third of those who have lived in their current home five years or less moved from another home in Shaker (32%).**

**Q9 CITY LIVED IN BEFORE CURRENT HOME  
(Of those who have lived current home 5 years or less)**



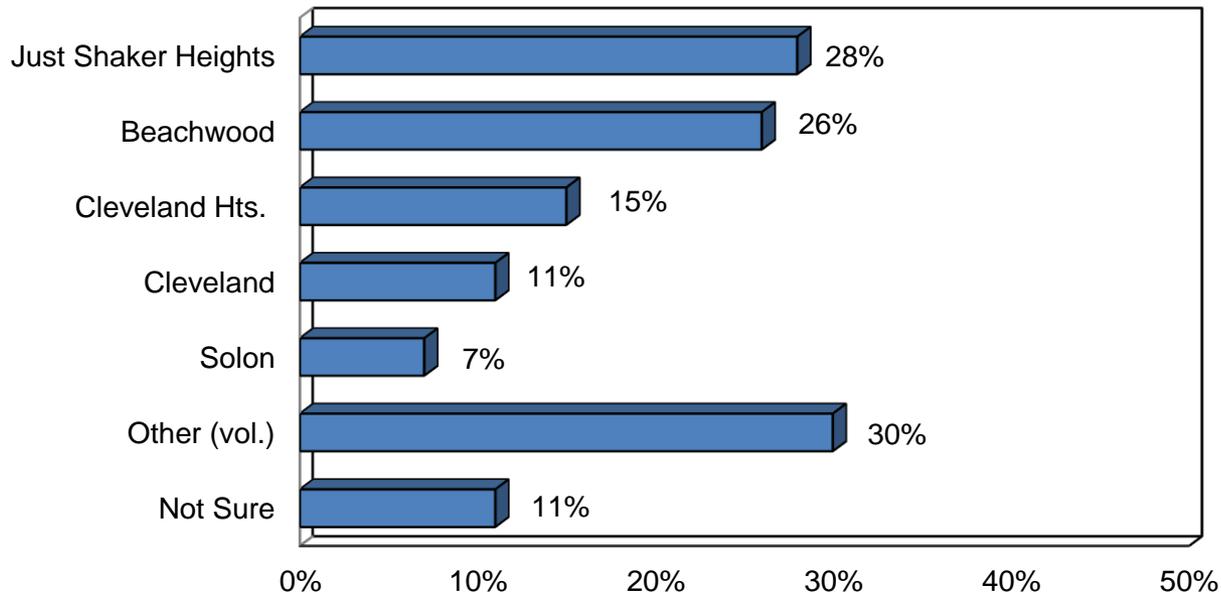
But many new residents came from other places. About a fourth moved from Cleveland (23%) while 4% moved from University Heights and 3% came from Cleveland Heights.

A variety of other cities in Cuyahoga County were mentioned by 16% of new residents. They included Rocky River (n=4), Solon (n=3), Euclid (n=2) Westlake (n=2) and one each from Beachwood, South Euclid, Mayfield Heights and Warrensville Heights.

About a fourth of those new to their current home in Shaker moved from other places in Ohio (5%), outside Ohio (12%), or outside the U.S (6%).

## A fourth of them (28%) only considered locating in Shaker Heights.

### Q10 OTHER CITIES CONSIDERED MOVING TO (Of those who have lived current home 5 years or less)



Beachwood (26%), Cleveland Heights (15%) and Solon (7%) seem to be the biggest suburban competitors for Shaker. No one mentioned University Heights. There were also 11% who said they considered moving to Cleveland.

In the 'other' category were Pepper Pike (n=5), Lakewood (n=5), Euclid (n=4), Garfield Heights (n=2) and one respondent each mentioned Twinsburg, Lyndhurst, Chagrin Falls, Moreland Hills, South Euclid, Bedford, Warrensville Heights as well as New York City, Chicago, San Diego and Miami.

## **Various reasons were mentioned as reasons for choosing to live in Shaker by those who moved there within the last five years.**

Only respondents who have lived in Shaker Heights for five years or less were asked to give one or two reasons why they chose Shaker as place to live. Thus, those who moved from one to another home in Shaker were not asked this question.

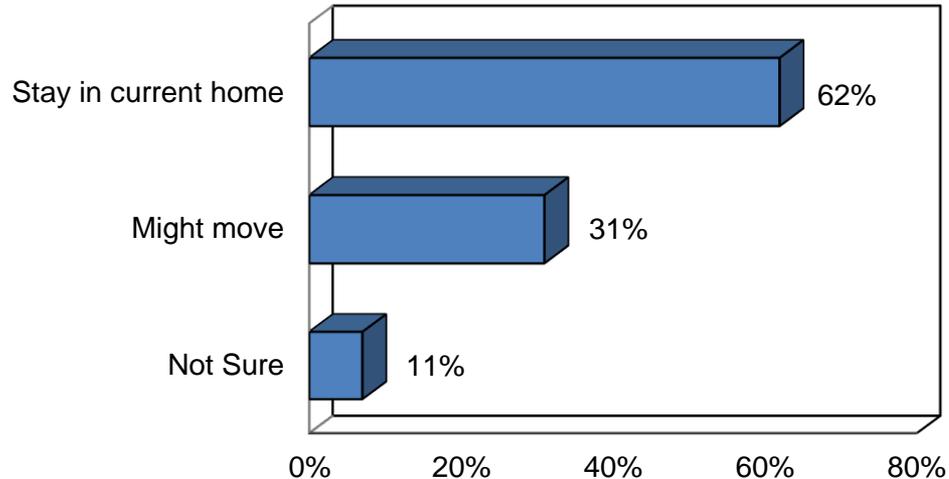
The top reasons cited by these 50 new residents related to the location, schools and housing.

- Good location, close to Cleveland, the Clinic, to work (n=12)
- Like the schools, good schools/education (n=9)
- Liked the house (n=8)
- Liked the housing, neighborhoods, pretty city (n=8)
- Closer to family (n=4) and
- Access to public transportation (n=3).

Two respondents each said it's safe, has good police (n=2) and it's diverse (n=2).

**About a third of residents (31%) think they might move in the next 5 to 10 years.**

**Q13 PLAN TO STAY IN CURRENT HOME OR MIGHT MOVE  
IN THE NEXT 5 TO 10 YEARS**



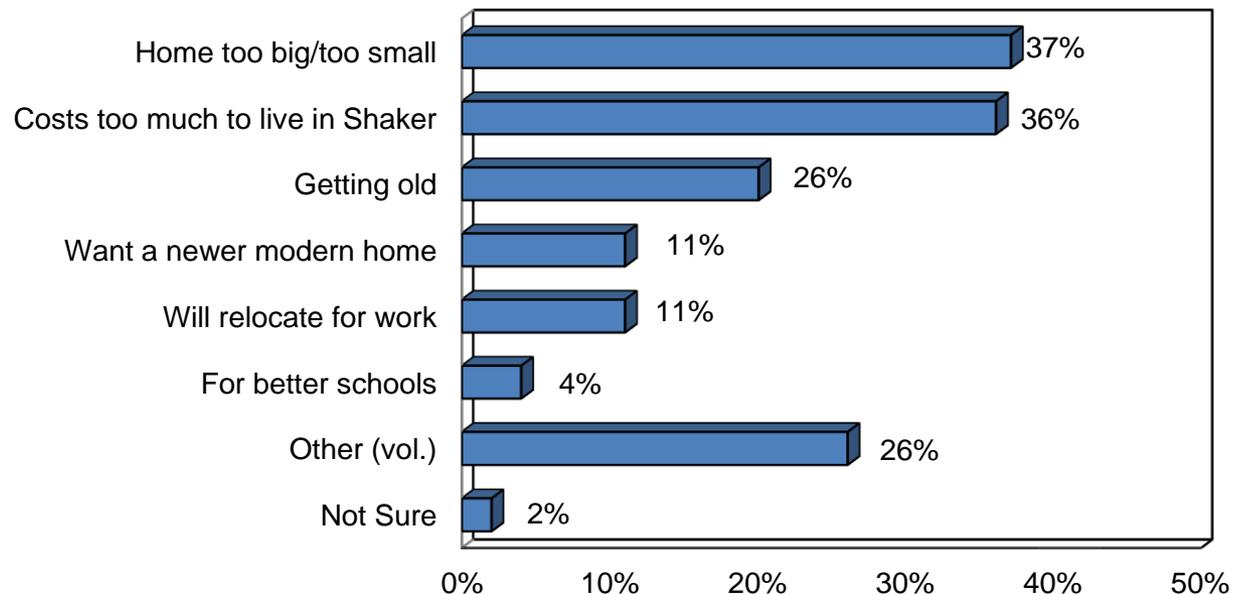
A majority of residents (62%) plan to stay in their current home for the next five to 10 years while a third (31%) think they might move. The remaining 11% aren't sure if they will stay or more in the five to 10 years.

In addition, using multi-variate analysis and looking at the importance of reasons for living in Shaker, a key difference between these two groups is that those who plan to stay in Shaker were more likely to rate the natural beauty of the city as very important to them than those who might move.

- Those who might move were more likely to be under age 35 (70%), currently rent (45%) and be single (43%), but between a fourth and a third of all subgroups said they might move in the next five to 10 years.

## Several reasons were given by those who might move in the next 5 to 10 years.

### Q14 REASONS MIGHT MOVE IN THE NEXT 5 to 10 YEARS (Of those who might move)

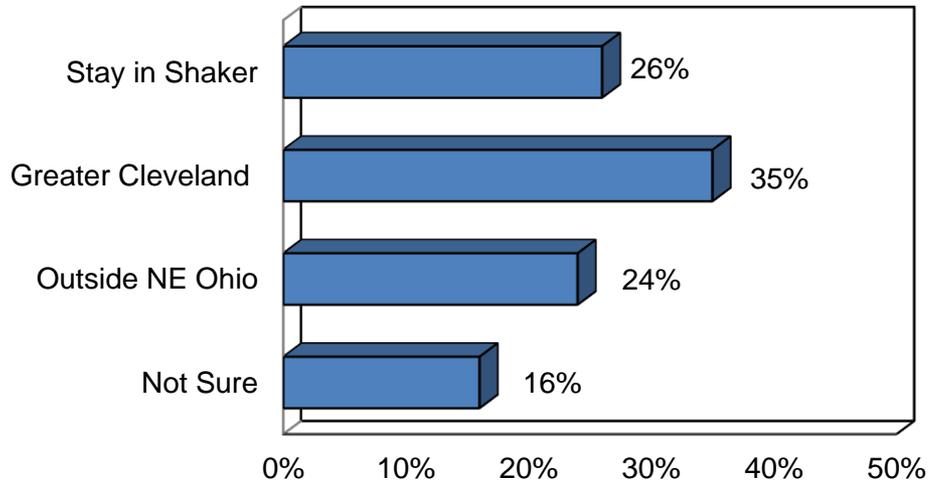


Over a third said they might move because it costs too much to live in Shaker (36%). Another 37% said that their house is too big or too small, while along with this 26% said they are getting old and 11% want a newer, more modern home. Just 4% cited the schools as a reasons for possibly moving. There were 11% who said they will relocate due to work.

Among the other reasons given were want a warmer climate (n=8), get closer to family/friends (n=8), crime is getting worse/ city declining (n=6), want to buy a house/live on own/have more space (n=6), rental property not well maintained (n=6), to make a change (n=4), school district wastes too much money (n=2), and have experienced racism (n=1).

## Some of those who might move would like to stay in Shaker.

### Q15 WHERE MIGHT MOVE TO (Of those who might move in next 5 to 10 years)



A fourth of those who might move would like to stay in Shaker (26%). This is 8% of all respondents. Over a third (35% or 11% of all respondents) would prefer to move elsewhere in the Greater Cleveland area. A fourth (24% or 7% of all respondents) would move outside the area.

- Over half of those who would prefer move to another city in Greater Cleveland said they plan to move because it costs too much live in Shaker (60%).
- Many of those who would like to stay in Shaker said their house is too big or too small (46%) or they are getting old (23%).

## **Taxes was the main reason for wanting to move from Shaker to someplace else within the Greater Cleveland area.**

Those respondents who might move in the next five years and would move to someplace in Greater Cleveland (n=54) rather than stay in Shaker were asked why.

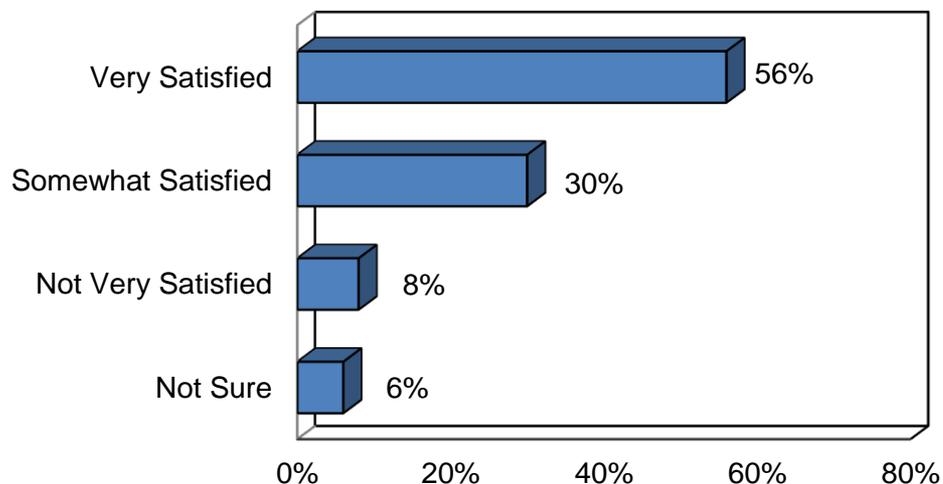
About half of those who preferred another city in the area said taxes are too high in Shaker, they want to lower their tax rate (48%).

A number of other reasons were given by between one and seven of these respondents. They included:

- Lower cost of living, less expensive, get more for your money elsewhere (n=7)
- Want a newer, more modern home, looking for other housing options (n=5)
- Lack of senior housing (n=3)
- Land/lots too small in Shaker (n=3)
- Like other places better (n=3)
- Schools have gone downhill (n=2)
- Not as safe, crime rate increasing (n=2)
- Not happy with city government (n=2)
- To be closer to family (n=2)
- Better transportation (n=1)
- Not diverse, African-American enough (n=1)
- Does not live up to billing (n=1).

## Over half are very satisfied with the housing options available in Shaker.

### Q17 SATISFACTION WITH THE HOUSING OPTIONS AVAILABLE IN SHAKER



While 56% are very satisfied with the different types of housing options available in Shaker Heights, 30% are just somewhat satisfied. Just 8% are not very satisfied.

- Those who plan to stay in their current home were more likely to be very satisfied with the types of housing available in Shaker (64%) than those who might move (41%). Half of them (50%) are only somewhat satisfied or not very satisfied with the housing options.
- Also, over half of those who might move but would like to stay in Shaker are very satisfied with the options (55%), but just 34% of those who plan to move to another city in Greater Cleveland are very satisfied.
- Residents in the West (50%) and South (47%) were somewhat less likely to be very satisfied with the housing options in Shaker.
- The percent very satisfied was also under half among 18 to 34 year olds (20%), those who are single (29%), renters (39%), residents of less than five years (46%), African-Americans (45%), and those with incomes under \$150,000 (48%).

## Many want more affordable housing choices.

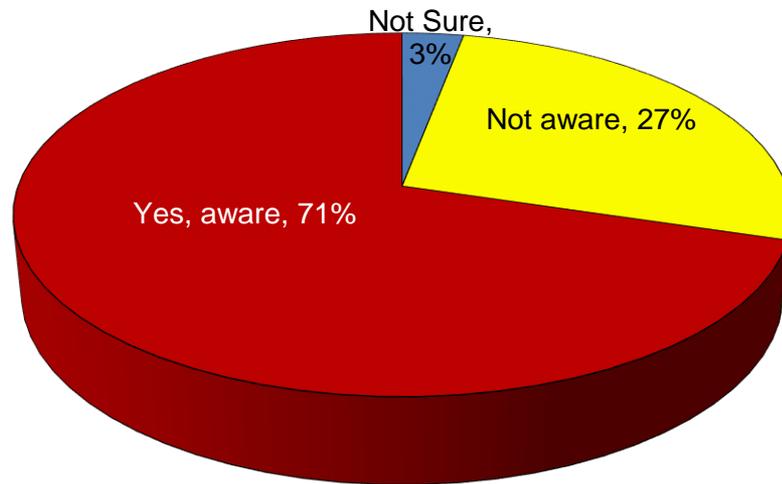
Respondents who are somewhat or not very satisfied with the housing options in Shaker (n=189) were asked to name the types of housing they think are needed in Shaker.

Among the top responses were more affordable/less expensive options, condos, and housing for seniors or those looking to downsize. The list of the specific responses included:

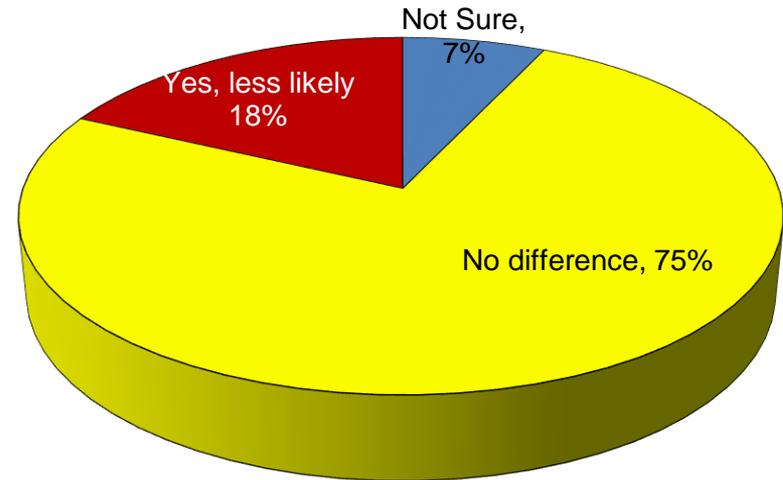
- More affordable, less expensive options, houses, condos, apartments (24%)
- Condos, townhomes, high rises (21%)
- Newer, modern homes (13%)
- Housing for seniors, apartments, condos (12%)
- Ranches, 1<sup>st</sup> floor master bedroom (8%)
- Apartments (6%)
- Single family homes (5%)
- For people who are downsizing (4%)
- Mid-priced, moderately priced homes (3%)
- All types (11%) and
- Not sure (3%).

**Most are aware that the federal government has limited state and local tax deductions to \$10,000 a year, but only 18% are less likely to stay in Shaker because of this.**

**Q20 AWARE DEDUCTION FOR TAXES LIMITED TO \$10,000 A YEAR**



**Q21 LESS LIKELY TO STAY IN SHAKER BECAUSE OF LIMIT ON DEDUCTIONS**



Overall, 71% of respondents said they are aware that the federal government recently limited the federal tax deduction for state and local taxes to \$10,000 a year. But just 18% said they would be less likely to stay and live in Shaker because of the tax limit of the deduction for state and local taxes.

- There wasn't much difference in impact between those who were aware of the new federal limit on tax deductions (20% less likely to stay in Shaker) and those who weren't aware of the change (15%).
- But a third of those who might move (32%) said they are less likely to stay in Shaker because of the \$10,000 limit on deductions for taxes compared to 10% of those who plan to stay in Shaker.
- Also, 21% of residents with incomes of \$150,000 or more were said they would be less likely to stay in Shaker because of the new limit compared to 15% of those with incomes of \$150,000 or less.

# Interest in Ways to Reduce Taxes or Avoid A Tax Increase

- Combine Municipal Courts
- Merge Fire Departments
- Join the County Library System
- Share Services Between School Districts

# A majority of residents would like the city to explore four different ways to reduce taxes or avoid tax increases.

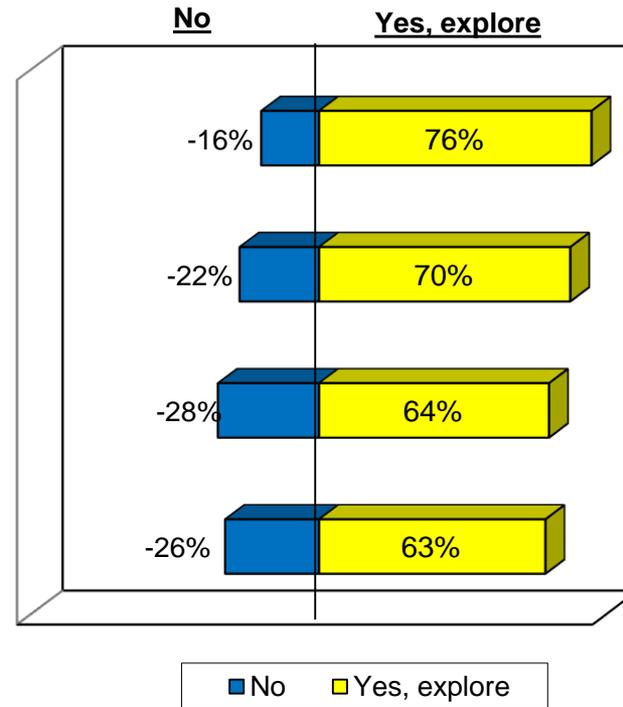
## Q22 LIKE TO SEE CITY FULLY EXPLORE EACH OPTION TO REDUCE TAXES OR AVOID A TAX INCREASE

Combine Shaker Municipal Court with other municipal courts which would reduce duplication of services and serve a larger population (Q22a)

Join the county library system assuming it would continue to operate Shaker's Moreland Library and maintain the same high quality of library and other services we have now (Q22c)

Merge Shaker's fire department with one or more other communities that provide high quality fire and EMS services (Q22b)

Find ways to share some services between the Shaker School District and other high quality schools districts (Q22d)



Three-fourths of residents (76%) would like the city to fully explore the possibility of combining the Shaker Heights Municipal Court with other municipals courts if it might reduce taxes and/or avoid a tax increase, while only 16% were not interested in this.

Two-thirds or more of all subgroups said the city should look into combining the municipal courts. It was slightly lower among residents in the South region (66%), African-American residents (64%) and those with incomes of less than \$100,000 (67%).

About two-thirds think the city should look into the three other ways of possibly reducing taxes or avoid in a tax increase while about a fourth did not think the city should pursue these options. They were:

- Join the county library system assuming the county would continue to operate the Moreland Library and maintain the same services offered now (70/22)
- Merge Shaker's fire department with high quality city fire departments (64/28) and
- Find ways to share services between the Shaker Schools and other school districts (63/26).

Over half of all subgroups were in favor of the city exploring these three options.

- Support for the city exploring joining the county library system was highest among 35 to 49 year olds (78/15; yes/no) and lower among senior citizens (65/24), residents of more than 20 years (65/27) and those with incomes between \$60,000 and \$150,000 (65/29).
- Just over half of residents in the South region (55/37), African-American residents (55/37), those with incomes of less than \$150,000 (59/34), females (58/30) and residents of more than 20 years (56/35) think the city should examine merging with another fire department.
- There was little difference in support for the city looking into ways to share services between the Shaker Schools and other school districts between those with children in the Shaker Schools (60%) and those who don't have school-aged children (65%).