



TENT CITY SURVEY RESULTS

1. Were you notified by the church or the organization that runs Tent City that Tent City was going to be in your neighborhood?

yes 18 (38%) no 29 (62%)

2. Did you receive notification that the church was hosting a meeting regarding Tent City?

yes 12 (26%) no 26 (55%) don't know or didn't answer: 9 (19%)

Did you attend the meeting? (If #2 was yes) yes: 3 no: 9

Comments:

1. Better notice about tent city would have been appreciated
2. Wouldn't have objected anyway
3. Out of town, otherwise would have attended
4. Would have been nice to know
5. Would have appreciated one
6. Don't remember
7. Don't know
8. Don't remember
9. The church had already decided to host the tent city – what would be the point?
10. The notification was on their billboard I was told, but I didn't personally see it. How would I know to look there?
11. We don't recall receiving such notification.

3. Did you have any positive experiences involving Tent City while it was in your neighborhood?

yes: 10 (21%) no: 26 (55%) neutral or no answer: 11 (24%)

Comments

1. Did not see much of people – only at bus stops...quiet
2. Tent city had little impact on neighborhood. Residents were respectful, property was clean.
3. Cleaning up the street around tent city.
4. Nice to see the folks in the neighborhood.
5. My neighborhood was cleaned of all aluminum cans.
6. No, but not negative either.
7. Yes, whenever I walked by residents said hello and were friendly.

8. There was much more pedestrian traffic on 175<sup>th</sup> to and from North City. They were friendly people.
9. I noticed that they would pick up litter on 5<sup>th</sup> Ave.
10. No complaints.
11. No. I tried to offer assistance through the church, but there was no one there both times I attempted.
12. Some concerns
13. Yes. They picked up garbage on 5<sup>th</sup> Ave NE – it was wonderful!
14. Our dog wandered over to them – they called us that she was (with) them.
15. Wish we had known about it as we could have offered some sort of assistance.
16. No positive but no negative – I barely noticed.
17. Yes – took them cookies, they were very appreciative.
18. I only noticed the tent city right before it was dismantled.

4. Can you tell us about any specific incident when Tent City was detrimental to the public health, safety or welfare?

yes: 8 (17%)      no: 31 (66%)      neutral or no answer: 8 (17%)

Comments:

1. Didn't know they were there!
2. No complaints.
3. No, unless you consider roaming late @ night leaving their vehicles left parked in front of your house the whole time they were there. My daughter was approached on 3 different occasions and being asked for money or food. the 3<sup>rd</sup> time I was able to follow the guy straight to tent city. When I went to talk to my husband about it, he said to just leave the situation alone & not (be) angry anyone. He has come home to several notes on our door for work with tent city as the location and who to ask for. We also kept getting asked if we wanted to give our extra set of tires & rims away. We store them in the side corner of our driveway. People also used my front lawn to drink and visit w/ others. When asked to leave they said that they couldn't drink where they were staying. I asked where and their said they belong to the tent city behind the church on the other corner. My husband was able to persuade them to find an different spot. Felt very unsafe and unsecured every time I left for work or when my daughter was home by herself (she is 15).
4. Numerous occasions of pan handling at Q.F.C. from residents of Tent City.
5. Noticed a couple of times the greenbelt was used for urinational purposes (saw men standing & urinating).
6. They were walking along our streets, up & down – made us uncomfortable.
7. Several people wandered the neighborhood, one person had a bright colored shirt that said "safety patrol" on and was throwing things (garbage & whatnot) and yelling. It was very disconcerting to our family. Another incident involved a man approaching my 9 yr. old daughter and said "I know where you live." Scary.
8. Saw tent city at church 125/130 NE – Lake City area. Looked bad.
9. Yes a young couple appeared to be drunk or on drugs at corner 175<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> NE.
10. Some garbage blew into our yard. \*Parental peace of mind\* Some were "hitting" on my daughters when they walked to the library. Some persons, obviously having business at the city, parked across the street, tossed trash in a recycle bin, one "hung out by the car" the other went up and then came back a short time later.

11. I had no idea they were there.
12. My car was broken into while they were here, but there is no way to know if tent city residents were responsible.

5. Can you tell us about any specific incident when Tent City was injurious to your property?

yes: 4 (9%)      no: 34 (72%)      neutral or no answer: 9 (19%)

Comments:

1. Was having a wedding reception but was unable to accommodate all my guest parking because I had a motor home & 2 cars left in front of my house.
2. They were in groups waiting at close-by bus stop next to our property all day long.
3. They were unusually noisy, leaving litter around on the street, walking late at night.

6. Did the neighborhood parking situation worsen while Tent City was there?

yes: 1 (2%)      no: 41 (87%)      neutral or no answer: 5 (11%)

7. Did you think that the visual appearance of Tent City was compatible with the neighborhood?"

yes: 23 (49%)      no: 16 (34%)      neutral or no answer: 8 (17%)

Comments

1. No. Tarps and chain link not compatible.
2. Can be improved.
3. No, but that didn't matter
4. Yes, I did see it.
5. Was fine, well hidden
6. Everything looked neat & clean at the location.
7. It was not noticeable.
8. No, but it was somewhat screened.
9. It does not fit in with the area but what area would it – at least it was hidden from the street somewhat.
10. They made it work while they were there.
11. Well hidden for this property behind greenbelt area.
12. Yes, because it was on a discrete property.
13. Not as all. It looked awful & made the neighborhood look like a slum. The visual appearance of both tent city & it's tenants all over the streets wandering, yelling, and approaching children they don't know...The whole neighborhood to a sub-standard level. One that I do not want to live in.
14. Didn't see.
15. Seemed OK.
16. They did a pretty good job of screening it off.
17. Yes – you didn't really notice because of the location.
18. We didn't realize that they're there at the Methodist Church.
19. No – but it was only visible on 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. going North – was partially hidden behind the church.

- 20. Didn't even see it.
- 21. I could not see it from my house.
- 22. It was so well hidden – I didn't know it was there.

8. Did Tent City produce noise, light or glare which adversely impacted surrounding properties?

yes: 4 (8%)      no: 37 (79%)      neutral or no answer: 6 (13%)

Comments

- 1. Saw more fences being built on 5<sup>th</sup> NE – So. of 175<sup>th</sup>.
- 2. No, just bothersome when they walked the streets at night.
- 3. Yes – firecrackers, some yelling.

9. Do you think Tent City is an appropriate use of the land on a temporary basis?

yes: 30 (64%)      no: 9 (19%)      neutral or no answer: 8 (17%)

Comments

- 1. Was ok but need to get a permanent area for the people.
- 2. Yes, there are not enough shelter beds in King County to accommodate the need for housing.
- 3. Yes – the area was pretty & private.
- 4. Didn't like Tent City being in a residential neighborhood.
- 5. Yes as long as its done on a rotational basis and not in any one spot once every 5 years.
- 6. Who's to say. I had no problems w/them. Everyone needs a place to stay. They had visual security & picked up after themselves.
- 7. There welcomed back in my book.
- 8. No! Not next to homes! undesirable
- 9. Possibly, as long as the inhabitants are law abiding.
- 10. No – do on Fircrest property as needed. Do at park 165<sup>th</sup> & 10 NE or 185 & Meridian by courthouse. Big open spaces.
- 11. Stays should be limited to a month, and no neighborhood should have to play host more than once every 5 years or so. Would not want it to become a frequent fixture as the camp looked straight down into our back yard.
- 12. It's OK.
- 13. Maybe
- 14. We think that's great the church allow them to use that land on a temporary basis.
- 15. Yes if there are no homes with children close by (as Bethel Lutheran is).

10. Any additional comments?

- 1. Everyone was quite & there was no use of drugs which was a real blessing. I live around the back of the church.
- 2. We need be notified, and we weren't.
- 3. It was well managed for the time one or 2 months.

4. How will we hear the results of this survey? (*note – this writer did not include name or address*).
5. Didn't like the Tent City people waiting in large groups at the Bus stops.
6. Next time do this on-line and save the \$.37 per envelope.
7. It worked because the residents of tent city understood and respected the community and their responsibilities. Also thanks to you for respecting the residents and asking for feedback. Keep it up, very important.
8. I think the members of the church should take a tent family in instead of having a tent city. That way they are doing something for the individual person or family and not making the neighbors that live very close to tent city has a bad thing to look at or be concerned about anything happening to their neighbors.
9. I thought it was done well.
10. Why are they not able to use the parks that are being closed down because of lack of maint? Or even empty warehouse that have been emptied for years and are no longer being used?
11. Don't bring them back please!! Make use, next time, of state owned property such as Fircrest or Sandpoint away from private residences & churches.
12. The looks of some of the people made us nervous.
13. Very little impact. All was fine.
14. Neighborhood residents should be notified in advance that the tent city would be there for a certain amount of time...and see what feedback on the front end is. Don't wait until after the fact, once neighbors have had bad experiences. If our input matters, ask on the front end... We are the neighborhood that this effects.. Shouldn't we gather & talk about our community?
15. Is Hamlin Park safe: I've have been under impression not safe without male companion.
16. I don't think having a tent city in our neighborhood makes for feeling secure – or proud of our property.
17. We didn't realize all this had taken place those 2 months.
18. I would like to be better informed of their pending arrival in the future. And they should not litter the street with food wrappers and cans.
19. Hope to see more churches participating in good deeds like this!
20. If the people act accordingly, I'm all for it.
21. All in all less disruptive than I was expecting. Thank you for following up. Our house is directly across from the driveway up to the main? check in tent? (lit most if not all of the night) which was not bothersome.
22. I was not notified that Tent City was coming (I don't think I was), but they were not a problem and were always very nice when they walked past my house.
23. I am not opposed to this at all. I do think it would be nice to be informed. I had heard rumors of an impending tent city, but I thought it would be at a closer church. I really would be interested next time in knowing.