

Hello! We are a team of students from Carnegie Mellon University, and we are working with the City of Monessen to develop a community-oriented plan to address vacant and abandoned properties. To ensure that this plan reflects the vision of the community, we are asking residents like yourself to respond to a brief survey about your neighborhood and life in Monessen. Your individual responses to this survey will be anonymous and will not be shared with anyone outside of our research team. The overall results of the survey will be shared with the Westmoreland County Redevelopment Authority and the City of Monessen.

We ask that you fill out and return this survey by **March 31st**. If you have any questions about the survey, you can contact Robert Lincoln at [rmilincol@andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:rmilincol@andrew.cmu.edu). Completed surveys can be returned to \_\_\_\_\_.

- 1) How would you rate your neighborhood or local community as a place to live? Circle the option closest to how you feel.

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Excellent                      Very Good                      Good                      Fair                      Poor

- 2) What amenities in Monessen do you use most often? Check all that apply.

- ☐ Community Center  
☐ Grocery Store  
☐ Library  
☐ Park  
☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

- 3) What amenities do you wish you had access to in Monessen?

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- 4) Overall, what do you love about living in your neighborhood?

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- 5) What do you want your neighborhood to look like in the future?

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- 6) Do you own the property you live in?

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

- 7) If the property you live in needs significant repairs (such as a roof replacement, foundation repair, electrical work, etc.), what are the barriers to having these repairs performed? Check all that apply.

- ☐ I don't have the financial resources.  
☐ I don't have the time.  
☐ The repairs aren't urgent.  
☐ I cannot find a qualified contractor to do the work.  
☐ My home does not need significant repairs.  
☐ My landlord refuses to make the repairs.  
☐ Other (please explain): \_\_\_\_\_

8) If so, what types of repairs need to be performed?

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9) If you rent, are you interested in purchasing a home in Monessen within the next five years?

- ☐ Yes, and I have the financial resources to do so.
- ☐ Yes, but I currently lack the financial resources to do so.
- ☐ No: please explain why \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Other (please explain): \_\_\_\_\_

10) Do you know of any abandoned and vacant property near where you live?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Other: please explain \_\_\_\_\_

11) If so, how does the presence of abandoned and vacant property near where you live affect your quality of life?

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12) If given the opportunity, which of the following would you be interested in? Check all that apply.

- ☐ Taking ownership of vacant property in exchange for rehabilitating it.
- ☐ Taking ownership of vacant land in exchange for maintaining it.
- ☐ Neither

These next questions will walk you through some scenarios and ask you to rank-order your preferences from 1 to 4 with 1 being your most-preferred and 4 being your least-preferred.

13) There is a vacant home standing on a residential street where many of the homes have been consistently maintained. Substantial investment would be needed to make this home safe and habitable. What do you believe should be done?

- \_\_\_ Redevelop the home as a single-family property.
- \_\_\_ Redevelop the home as a multifamily property (i.e., apartment building / duplex).
- \_\_\_ Demolish the home and allow a neighbor to take ownership of the lot.
- \_\_\_ Demolish the home and turn it into community use (garden, parklet, etc.).

14) Several vacant homes sit next to each other. The homes are falling apart, making it impossible to rehabilitate them. What do you believe should be done with the land?

- \_\_\_ Create a recreational space (e.g., basketball court, playground, skate park, etc.).
- \_\_\_ Create a park space such as a wooded parklet or dog park.
- \_\_\_ Create a community garden.
- \_\_\_ Sell the land for private development.

15) A vacant property standing downtown is falling apart, making it impossible to rehabilitate. What do you believe should be done with the land?

- \_\_\_ Create a recreational space (e.g., basketball court, playground, skate park, etc.).
- \_\_\_ Redevelop the building as a multifamily property (i.e., apartment building / duplex).
- \_\_\_ Use the lot for parking.
- \_\_\_ Sell the land for private commercial development.