



Finding the Ideal Neighborhood

(from Towards Maximum Independence, San Diego, CA)

This list can be used to help you think about the neighborhood you would like to live in. Choosing a home of your own is about choosing the neighborhood you live in and choosing your own home or apartment in that neighborhood. You will want to drive around and see a lot of neighborhoods before you choose the one you want to live in.

1. Would you like to live in the same area you live in now?

2. Do you have any family or friends that you would like to live near? Where do they live?

3. What are your favorite places to go?

4. When you go out in the community how do you get around? Will you need to be near a bus stop or near a center of town so you can use public transportation?

5. Will your family, friends or the supported living agency be driving you to any of the places you like to go? What areas or neighborhoods are they coming from?

6. What is your weekly schedule for going out? For example do you go to a job everyday, or to a day program? Do you go to church or attend any other community groups or organizations? Where do you like to go and where do you need to go in the community?

7. Places I Go:

How I Will Get There:

8. Are there new places you want to go in the community?

9. Do you have any favorite places that you go to now like grocery stores, banks, parks, or recreational centers?

10. Would you like to live in a quiet neighborhood (for example with retired people and not much traffic) or a louder busy neighborhood with children.

11. Would you be happiest and safest living with neighbors close by or would it be better if you lived on a large lot away from neighbors.

12. What areas have you lived in before? What did you like about any of these neighborhoods? What didn't you like?

13. What are some other things you might want to consider when you choose a neighborhood?

14. Is housing affordable in the areas you would like to live? If the rent is high, do you want to consider having one or more housemates?

15. Does the neighborhood seem safe? If you take a bus would you feel comfortable waiting at the bus stop?

16. Have you talked to any of the neighbors? Are they friendly?