

# *Neighborhood Snapshot*

## *German Paristown*



Jerry E. Abramson  
Mayor



Louisville  
Metro Council

2007

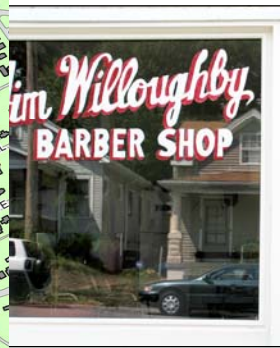
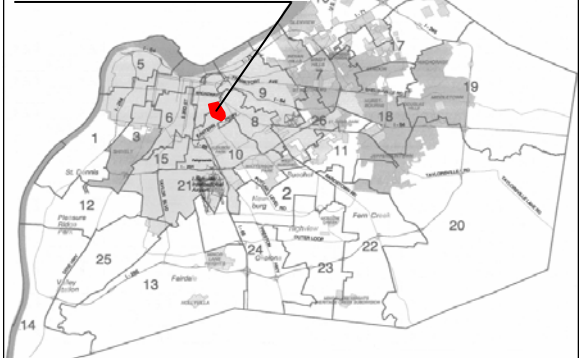
## Neighborhood Snapshot

The German Paristown neighborhood is located in central Metro Louisville.

The boundaries for German Paristown are generally Breckenridge Avenue on the north, over to Barret Avenue on the east, then Goss Avenue to the south and almost to Logan in the west.

Surrounding neighborhoods are Shelby Park, Schnitzelburg and Original Highlands.

### German Paristown



## Neighborhood Highlights

- **Neighborhood size** - .68 square miles (438 acres) approximately
- **Metro Council District 4**, Councilman - David Tandy, **Metro Council District 10**, Councilman - Jim King
- **Adjacent Neighborhood Schools** - Shelby Elementary School, Jefferson County Traditional Middle School, Brown High School
- **Civic Groups** - Amvets on Swan & Goss
- **TARC** - Bus routes #21,25,43
- **Distance from Metro Louisville Central Business District** - less than 3 miles
- **History** - Germantown was settled as small farms and butcher shops by German immigrants in the 1870s. It was nicknamed 'Frogtown' because the adjacent Beargrass Creek frequently flooded this swampy area. This area was subdivided and developed heavily during the 1890s, when the largest collection of shotgun houses in the city of Louisville was built. In 1907, a bridge was built across Beargrass Creek which allowed French Catholic settlers north of the creek, in an area called Paristown, to attend church in Germantown. This led to the eventual consolidation of the two communities.



Prepared by:

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# German Paristown - Facts and Statistics at a Glance

## Population Highlights

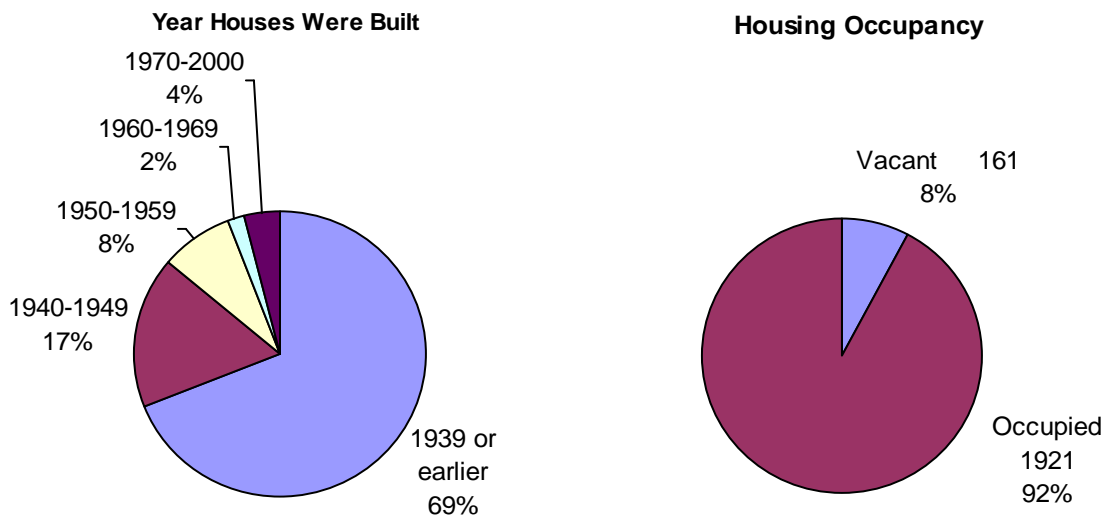
	<u>German Paristown</u>	<u>Louisville Metro</u>	<u>Metro Statistical Area*</u>
<b>Total population</b>	4,165	693,604	1,025,598
<b>Race</b>			
White	3,940 (95 %)	563,462 (77.3 %)	849,362 (82.8 %)
Black	176 ( 4 %)	130,153 (18.8 %)	141,623 (13.8 %)
American Indian	7 (<1%)	1,625 ( 0.2 %)	2,633 ( 0.3 %)
Asian	18 ( 0 %)	9,043 ( 1.3 %)	10,227 ( 1.0 %)
Other race	4 ( 0 %)	4,308 ( 0.6 %)	5,756 ( 0.6 %)
Two or more races	20 ( 0 %)	11,741 ( 1.7 %)	15,694 ( 1.5 %)
<b>School enrollment</b>			
Elementary/Middle (1-8)	555	77,351	116,361
High School (9-12)	128	37,969	56,902
<b>Commuting to work</b>	<b>2413</b>	<b>329,091</b>	<b>492,821</b>
Car, truck, alone	1911 ( 79 %)	265,977 (80.8 %)	404,166 (82.0 %)
Carpool	249 ( 10 %)	36,332 (11.0 %)	53,769 (10.9 %)
Public transportation	121 ( 5 %)	10,096 ( 3.1 %)	10,898 ( 2.2 %)
Walk	78 ( 3 %)	6,556 ( 2.0 %)	8,485 ( 1.7 %)
Bicycle	6 ( 0 %)	737 ( 0.2 %)	924 ( 0.2 %)
Work at home	48 ( 2 %)	7,348 ( 2.2 %)	11,587 ( 2.4 %)
<b>Occupation</b>	<b>1894</b>	<b>334,938</b>	<b>501,258</b>
Mgmt, professional	436 ( 23 % )	110,677 (33.0 %)	156,307 (31.2 %)
Service occupations	341 ( 18 % )	47,317 (14.1 %)	69,713 (13.9 %)
Sales and office	681 ( 36 % )	95,673 (28.6 %)	139,756 (27.9 %)
Construction, etc.	224 ( 12 % )	28,105 ( 8.4 %)	46,067 ( 9.2 %)
Production and transportation	212 ( 11 % )	52,620 (15.7 %)	88,144 (17.6 %)
<b>Median household income</b> <i>(in 1999 dollars)</i>	\$ 26,785	\$ 49,161	\$ 40,821
<b>Poverty Status</b>	625 ( 15 % )	84,143 (12.1%)	109,575 (10.7 %)

## Housing Highlights

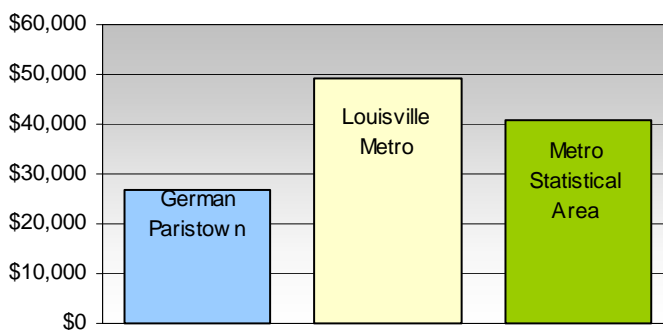
	<u>German Paristown</u>	<u>Louisville Metro</u>	<u>Metro Statistical Area*</u>
<b>Total housing units</b>	2,082	305,835	438,235
<b>Occupied housing units</b>	1,921 (92 %)	287,012 (93.8 %)	412,050 (94.0 %)
<b>Vacant housing units</b>	161 ( 8 %)	18,823 ( 6.2 %)	26,185 ( 6.0 %)
<b>Median home value</b>	\$ 63,333	\$ 103,000	\$ 102,300
<b>Owner-occupied</b>	1,182 (62 %)	186,358 (65.0 %)	282,466 (68.6 %)
<b>Renter-occupied</b>	739 (38 %)	100,654 (35.0 %)	129,584 (31.4 %)
<b>Year structure built</b>			
1995 – 2000	0 ( 0 % )	23,272 ( 7.6 %)	43,187 ( 9.9 %)
1990 – 1994	25 ( 1 % )	16,065 ( 5.3 %)	29,527 ( 6.8 %)
1980 – 1989	14 (0.6 %)	26,369 ( 8.6 %)	45,334 (10.3 %)
1970 – 1979	41 ( 2 % )	53,928 (17.6 %)	81,702 (18.6 %)
1960 – 1969	40 ( 2 % )	56,326 (18.4 %)	72,875 (16.6 %)
1950 – 1959	171 ( 8 % )	54,813 (17.9 %)	68,367 (15.6 %)
1940 – 1949	354 ( 17 % )	28,392 ( 9.3 %)	36,608 ( 8.4 %)
1939 or earlier	1,437 (69 %)	46,670 (15.3 %)	60,635 (13.8 %)
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,082 100 %</b>	<b>305,835</b>	<b>438,235</b>

Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2000 Census <http://factfinder.census.gov/> \*Geographic and population area of Jefferson County and its surrounding counties.  
Census Tract 63 Block Group 1 Blocks 1003-1017, Block Group 2; CT 69, BG 1,2 Blocks 2000,2002,2003 BG 3; CT 83, BG 3. Block 3005

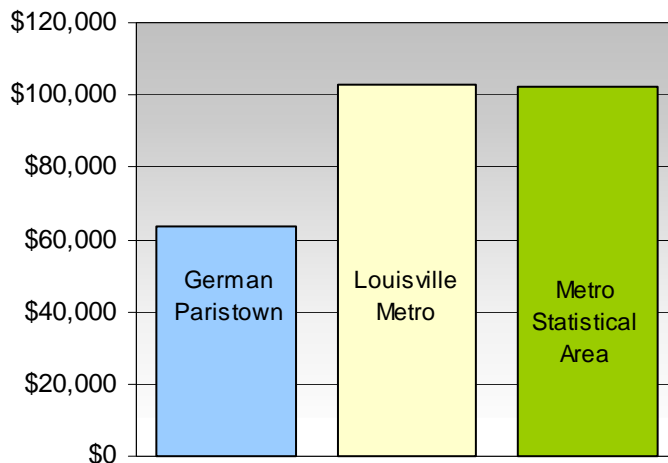
## Neighborhood



**Median Household Income**



**Median Home Value**



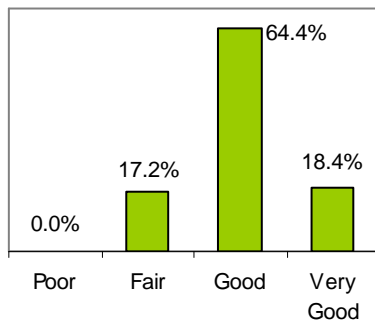
# German Paristown - Survey Results

## Survey Highlights

The following results highlight responses from 62 residents who participated in the Neighborhood Assessment Survey. Of the survey participants, 48% have lived in the German

Paristown neighborhood for 1-4 years, 25% for 5-15 years and 27% for more than 15 years. Participants ranged from 20 to more than 70 years of age.

**Overall, how would you rate the quality of life in the German Paristown neighborhood?**



**You most strongly agree with the following statements:**

1. I think this neighborhood is a good place for me to live.
2. I feel at home in my neighborhood.
3. During the past year I have been notified or have seen posters or flyers for neighborhood get-togethers, festivals, etc.
4. If I really needed them to, one of my neighbors would provide some small immediate help, such as a ride to the doctor's office or loaning me \$10.00.

**You most strongly disagree with the following statements:**

1. I regularly provide services such as transportation or running errands for an elderly relative or friend who lives outside my house but in my neighborhood.
2. My neighborhood is free of crime such as drug dealing, prostitution and/or gang activities.
3. My neighbors and I have met to do something about a neighborhood problem or to organize a neighborhood improvement project.

**The following are the top three reasons you continue to live in your neighborhood:**

1. The housing in this neighborhood is affordable.
2. I have easy access to grocery stores and other retail services.
3. It is close to where I work.

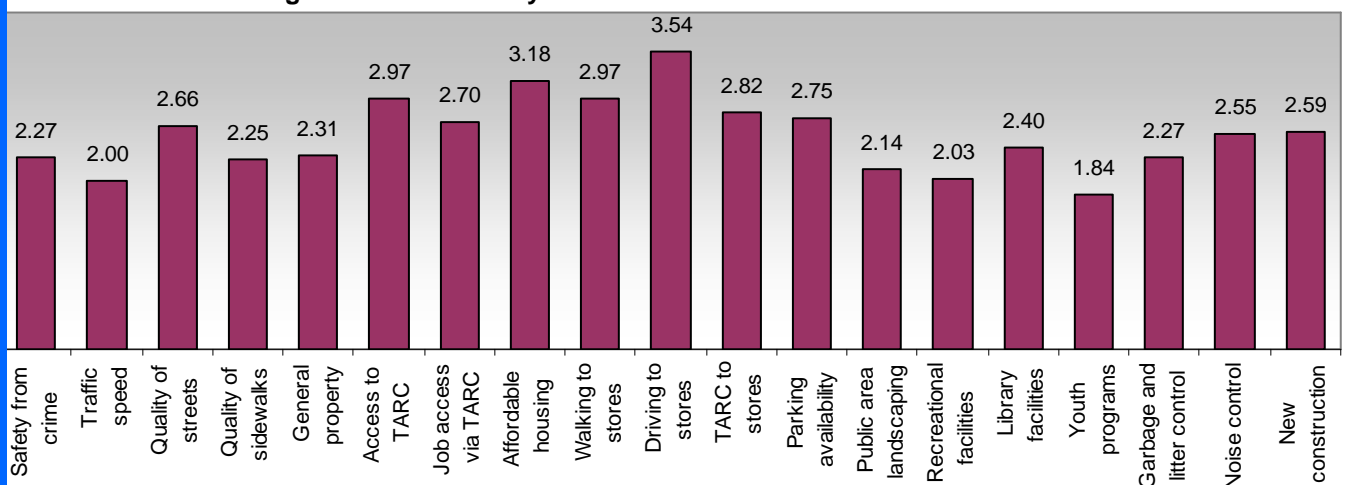
**The following are the top three reasons that might make you consider moving away from the neighborhood:**

1. I don't feel safe here.
2. The neighborhood is dirty and unattractive.
3. It is too far from grocery stores and other retail services.

**You would regularly use the following new establishments added to your neighborhood:**

1. Sit-down restaurant (coffee shop, café also)
2. Specialty retail shop (clothing, antiques, book store, grocer)
3. Health clinic

**Rate the following aspects of life in the German Paristown neighborhood**  
**Rating scale: 4.0 = Very Good 3.0 = Good 2.0 = Fair 1.0 = Poor**



For a complete copy of the survey results, contact the Louisville Metro Department of Neighborhoods at 574-3380.

# Summary

## Resident Survey and Public Workshop

Residents of the German Paristown neighborhood submitted responses to the Quality-of-Life Survey, the major results of which are shown on the “Survey Results” page of this snapshot. Additionally, an energetic and enthusiastic group of twenty-four neighbors attended a resident workshop on August 20th, 2007. The meeting brought together residents, Lisa Franklin Gray, Neighborhood Liaison from the Louisville Metro Department of Neighborhoods, Councilman Jim King, and planners and workshop facilitators from the non-profit Center For Neighborhoods.

The primary result of this public workshop and the residents’ energies is the Action Matrix.\* In addition to being a “to-do” list of neighborhood improvement projects, this document outlines sustainable partnerships between the German Paristown neighborhood and all the identified entities, such as Louisville Metro agencies and private business organizations. Their combined efforts will continue to help each other realize their common goals of a healthy and prosperous neighborhood with an ever-improving quality of life.

*\* Action Matrix: table of projects, partners and implementation schedule for neighborhood goals.*

German Paristown neighborhood residents who took part in the Quality-of-Life Survey and Public Workshop and who gave generously of their time and ideas include:

Priscilla Allen  
Olivia Bourke  
Laura Byrd  
Marie Coma  
Aron Conaway  
Davy Coombs  
Bruce Ewing  
April F  
Erin Ferguson  
Jerry Fielden  
Norma Fry  
Stephen George  
Eric Gould

Luke Groce  
Jessica Howington  
Greg Impellizzeri  
Paul Impellizzeri  
Nathan Ivey  
Anna Jenkins  
Hallie Jones  
Jim King  
Gordon Lowe  
Judy Magre  
Steve Magre  
Jim Masterson  
Vino Mazzei

Elizabeth Matera  
Marcella Moore  
Amanda O’Bryan  
Connie Polk  
Chris Redhage  
Helena Redmon  
Erin Riedel  
Karen Sheets  
Melanie Smith  
Linda Stettenbenz  
Pam Swisher  
Andria Tanner  
Lillian Underwood



Workshop participants worked together throughout the evening to introduce themselves and make new friends, to locate their homes within the context of the German Paristown neighborhood boundaries and to brainstorm future approaches and partnerships for the successful completion of identified improvement initiatives.

## Thanks

In addition to the dedicated German Paristown neighborhood residents who participated in the Neighborhood Assessment Project, “Thanks” are extended to:

**The German Paristown Neighborhood Association** (for local coordination of the assessment process)  
**Louisville Metro Department of Neighborhoods** (for sponsorship, leadership and guidance)

Time Frame	Neighborhood Projects	Partnership Projects	
<p><b>1 Year or Less</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Create a “Network of Caring Neighbors” (with focus on families, youth and elderly)</li> <li>◆ Make existing and new residents feel welcome</li> <li>◆ Ensure the neighborhood is pedestrian and front-porch friendly</li> <li>◆ Develop Neighborhood gardens</li> <li>◆ Clean up the neighborhood streets of litter/graffiti</li> <li>◆ Strengthen relationships with adjacent neighborhoods</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Increase the number of “engaged” neighbors                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- local churches</li> <li>- Schnitzelburg Neighborhood Association</li> <li>- Paristown Pointe residents</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ Develop Neighborhood gardens                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- local merchants (Ace Hardware, Dages Paint, Home Depot)</li> <li>- Brightside</li> <li>- Metro United Way</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ Clean up the neighborhood street litter/graffiti</li> <li>◆ Decrease crime/burglaries</li> <li>◆ Eliminate speeding on neighborhood streets</li> <li>◆ Install street trees everywhere possible</li> <li>◆ Remove abandoned vehicles from streets and alleys</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Work with IPL to identify, cite and correct zoning and land use infractions</li> <li>◆ Strengthen relationship with Louisville Metro Police</li> <li>◆ Strengthen relationship with Metro Department of Inspections, Permits and Licences</li> <li>◆ Improve control of neglected and barking dogs</li> </ul>
<p><b>1 - 3 Years</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Increase the ethnic diversity of residents and businesses</li> <li>◆ Make Shotgun Fest an annual event</li> <li>◆ Create a fruit and vegetable co-op</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Increase the amount of public art in the community</li> <li>◆ Create a fruit and vegetable co-op</li> <li>◆ Encourage new businesses to locate here (ethnic &amp;/or 24-hour restaurants, theatre, new Antique Mall tenants, corner organic markets)</li> <li>◆ Inventory, prioritize and repair sidewalks and curb ramps throughout the neighborhood (especially Oak Street and Kentucky Street)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Eliminate dilapidated and/or abandoned housing</li> <li>◆ Improve relationships with and civic engagement of residential tenants and absentee landlords</li> <li>◆ Strengthen the neighborhood’s churches</li> </ul>
<p><b>3 - 5 Years</b></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Support/encourage “Light Rail” development</li> <li>◆ Make German Paristown drug-free</li> <li>◆ Provide Wi-Fi for everyone</li> <li>◆ Create a welcoming and beautiful neighborhood “gateway” at Swan and Oak Streets</li> </ul>	