

Neighborhood Considerations

Buying a home involves buying into an entire community. It's important to make sure your new neighborhood suits your needs and preferences every bit as much as the house you decide to purchase. After all, most houses can be modified, but neighborhoods can't.

Your buyer's rep will be able to assist you in many important aspects of your purchase, like locating suitable properties, negotiating, and executing essential transaction details. Along the way, they'll be able to help answer your questions, with the exception of certain questions concerning neighborhoods.



That's because real estate professionals are required to abide by Fair Housing laws, which prohibit housing discrimination. Further, neighborhood preferences are highly subjective and personal. As a buyer, YOU need to decide if a neighborhood feels right for you. Your buyer's rep can point you to excellent resources for background research, but it's up to you to interpret that information.

When considering a neighborhood, here are some of the most important questions to ask yourself:

1. Schools

Are the public schools well regarded? What are the private school options?

2. Crime

Will I feel safe in this neighborhood?

3. Transportation

How easy is it to get around? Is there convenient access to highways and public transit? Are there problems with traffic, lack of parking, etc.?

4. Demographics

Who else lives here? Will I be able to develop friendships? Will I feel welcome?

5. Eating and shopping

What restaurants and stores are nearby?

6. Recreation

Are there parks and other facilities for sports, entertainment, etc.?

7. House of worship

Regardless of my faith, will I be able to find a new house of worship?
