



# Frequently Asked Questions

## 1.) How much territory should I try to represent?

Some neighborhoods have logical boundaries that are easy to recognize, while others require more judgment on the part of the Block Leader. In general, established Block Leaders have told us to target about 20-30 homes and hope for 5-10 initial responses. As block leaders become more established they may choose to expand their area, but the number of people and area you coordinate is always up to you.

## 2.) How do I get people interested and motivated to participate?

There are probably as many answers to this question as there are Block Leaders! One of the first things you can do is ask yourself why you were motivated to become a Block Leader. It may well be that many of the same reasons that engaged you will be the same ones that will motivate your neighbors.

You might want to begin your initial introduction to your neighbors by letting them know why you have chosen to become a Block Leader and the benefits of an active neighborhood.

## 3.) What is the first event I should host?

This depends on whether your neighborhood has already begun to work on a common issue. Most experienced block leaders report that a block party is the most casual way to get neighbors together since they're most likely held on a blocked-off city street. However, if you're immediate concern is to increase neighborhood safety, you may consider coordinating a Neighborhood Watch or emergency preparedness meeting.

## 4.) What should I do if only a few people respond?

If you have a few people respond, congratulate yourself on your efforts because this means you are on your way! Getting started is always the hardest part and once you have a few neighbors interested, they can help you get the ball rolling and help to energize you as you continue to connect with more neighbors.

## 5.) What tools can I use to show neighbors that I am a legitimate representative of the City?

There are several ways you can show your neighbors your official affiliation as a Block Leader. One is to obtain a Block Leader ID badge; another is to ask for a letter of introduction from the City. If you meet someone who is really wary, you can also provide him or her with Laura D. Lee's phone number (777-3331) for official confirmation of your affiliation with Cupertino.

## 6.) What assistance can I expect from City Staff or Officials?

Laura D. Lee, Community Relations Coordinator, is available to answer your questions, provide suggestions, or refer you to an experienced Block Leader who will be happy to mentor you. She can arrange for City Staff to copy your neighborhood forms, letters, and fliers, at no cost to you.

City officials, such as the Mayor and council members, are often available to attend your neighborhood meetings, upon request. Just ask!

We are delighted you are volunteering your skills, talent, and time for the Block Leader program.

Thank you for helping to connect your neighbors.