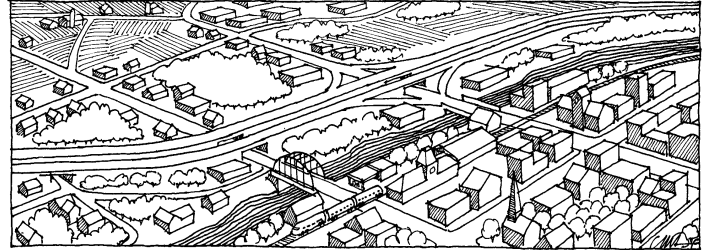


GETTING AROUND YOUR COMMUNITY: GUIDE TO COMMUNITY RESEARCH

Use the questions below as a guide for learning about getting around your unique community. The answers will be important later as you prepare your presentations about alternative fuels. Work in groups to discuss the questions and identify the ones you can't yet answer. (For some questions you'll need to speak with drivers in your families or other drivers you know.) Mark as much information as you can on a community map.

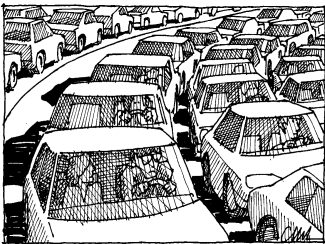
1. TRANSPORTATION IN YOUR COMMUNITY OR REGION

a. Describe your community or region. Is it urban, suburban, rural, or a cluster of small towns? Does it have a town center or a cluster of centralized neighborhoods where people can walk or easily bicycle? Did it develop along one or more highway routes?



b. Is there much traffic through or near your community because of tourists or the trucking of goods? If so, which roads do they usually travel?

c. Circle and label on a community map the places where you live, shop, play, and go to school. Where are the other major areas where people live, work, shop, play, and go to school? How do you travel between these areas? Can you walk? Is it possible to take a bus? Do you have to drive to get where you need to go?

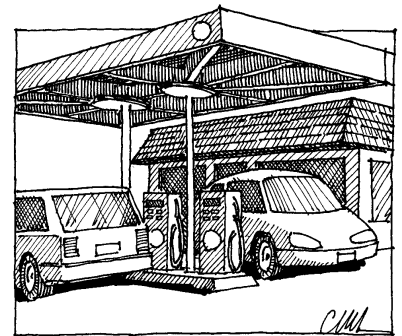


d. Where and when are the major areas of traffic congestion? Do any drivers in your family complain about traffic jams or stop-and-go traffic? How do they avoid driving in traffic?

2. FAMILY TRAVEL PATTERNS

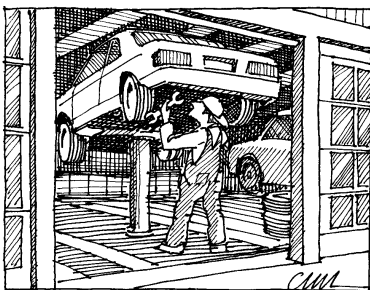
a. How do people in your family usually get to school or work? In which directions do people in your family generally commute (e.g., into town or out of town)? Which roads do they take? How far do they travel?

b. Where do members of your household shop or go for recreation? Where else do they normally travel throughout the week? How often do they go to those places? How far away are they?



3. FUELING AND DISTANCE TRAVELED

a. What's the average distance your family travels in one week? How many gallons of transportation fuel does your household use per week? How often does your family refuel its car or cars? How much money do members of your family spend each week on transportation fuel?



b. If you wanted to locate a successful gas station in your community, where would you site it? Why is it likely to be successful in that location?

4. VEHICLE CHARACTERISTICS

a. When choosing a vehicle, which of these characteristics are important to people in your household: cargo space, power, cost of maintenance and refueling, ability to drive long distances between refueling? How often do members of your household make use of these characteristics?

b. If your family has more than one car, are they used for different purposes? That is, is one used specifically for short trips around town and the other used for long-distance travel? Is one used for single commuters and one used as a family car? Must all cars have the same characteristics that you discussed in 4a?

c. How important is it that all the cars in your household use the same fuel?