

**Mayor**

John Keis

**Council Members**

Tom Fischer

Michael McGraw

Rick Montour

Christian Torkelson



**The City of Little Canada**

515 Little Canada Road E.  
Little Canada, MN 55117

**Regular Meeting of the  
Little Canada City Council**

*Wednesday, July 11 2018 - 7:30 pm*

City Center Council Chambers

**AGENDA**

1. CALL TO ORDER - Workshop Meeting - 6:00 P.m.
2. Roll Call
3. Workshop Topics
  - A. Workshop - Review Community Survey Questions

Documents:

[WORKSHOP - REVIEW DRAFT COMMUNITY SURVEY.PDF](#)

4. Adjourn

*This agenda is subject to change by additions and deletions.*



## STAFF REPORT

TO: Mayor Keis and Members of City Council

FROM: Heidi Heller, City Clerk

DATE: July 6, 2018

RE: Review Draft Community Survey Questions

The Council discussed topics and questions for a community survey at the April 11 Workshop. Based on that discussion, Peter Leatherman from The Morris Leatherman Company has put together a draft of questions for Council review. Mr. Leatherman will be at the Workshop on July 11. The Council should discuss questions and decide on how to proceed with a survey.

The North Suburban Communications Commission did a viewership survey in 2011, and below are some of their questions that the Council could consider.

6. Information about cable TV programming is available from a variety of different sources. Which one source of information do you use most often to find information about programming on cable TV channels? [DO NOT READ. CHECK ONE].

- TV SECTION OF NEWSPAPER
- "TV GUIDE" MAGAZINE
- COMCAST'S ON-SCREEN PROGRAM GUIDE
- COMCAST'S "CHANNEL GUIDE" MAGAZINE
- THE INTERNET
- CHANNEL SURFING
- OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_
- DON'T KNOW

19. C-T-V North Suburbs delivers local government, sports and community programming on Comcast channels 14, 15, and 16; local educational programming on channels 18, 19 and 20; non-local programming on channel 21; and NASA TV on channel 98. Have you ever watched a program on a C-T-V channel?

- YES
- NO (GO TO QUESTION 38)
- DON'T KNOW / DON'T REMEMBER (GO TO QUESTION 38)

20. How often do you watch local government, sports and community programming on channels 14, 15, and 16?

- DAILY
- AT LEAST ONCE / WEEK
- 1 - 3 TIMES / MONTH
- LESS THAN ONCE / MONTH
- NEVER
- DON'T KNOW/DON'T REMEMBER

I am going to mention a few programs that are regularly shown on the C-T-V channels. Please tell me if you have ever watched the program. If you haven't heard of a program or haven't watched it, just say so. Let's start with: [ROTATE ORDER] IF YES TO HAVE WATCHED, ASK: How regularly do you watch this program?

NEVER    LESS THAN MONTHLY    1-3 TIMES PER MONTH    AT LEAST WEEKLY    DON'T KNOW

- 25. City Council Meetings .....
- 26. Ramsey County Board Meetings.....
- 27. Tale of Ten Cities.....
- 28. Local Sports (football, baseball, hockey, etc.).....
- 29. Disability Viewpoints.....
- 30. North Suburban Beat .....
- 31. N-E-T Lifeline Mass.....
- 32. Education Conversations (from MN Dept. of Education) ..
- 33. School Board Meetings.....

38. How important do you think it is to have local cable TV channels that feature programs about area residents, organizations, schools, government, events and issues? Is this very important, important, not very important, or not important at all?

- VERY IMPORTANT
- IMPORTANT
- NOT VERY IMPORTANT
- NOT IMPORTANT AT ALL
- DON'T KNOW

I'm now going to read a brief list of types of programs that are shown – or could be shown – on the local community channels. After each one, please tell me if you would be interested in watching this type of programming on a scale of "1" to "5", with "5" being "Very Interested" and "1" being "Not Interested At All". Let's start with: [ROTATE ORDER]

- 39. Community festivals, neighborhood events.....
- 40. C-T-V channels in high definition from Comcast.....
- 41. Ethnic and cultural programs.....
- 42. Informational programs about services and activities of local organizations and clubs....
- 43. Live concerts and other performances.....
- 44. Local church services and spiritual programs.....
- 45. Local news and information.....
- 46. Local sports and recreational activities.....
- 47. Programs about local history, arts and artists.....
- 48. Political programs.....

THE MORRIS LEATHERMAN COMPANY  
3128 Dean Court  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55416

LITTLE CANADA RESIDENTIAL  
QUALITY OF LIFE STUDY  
PRELIMINARY MAY 2018

Hello, I'm \_\_\_\_\_ of Decision Resources, Ltd., a nationwide polling firm located in Minneapolis. We've been retained by the City of Little Canada to speak with a random sample of residents about issues facing the city. This survey is being taken because the City is interested in your opinions and suggestions. I want to assure you that all individual responses will be held strictly confidential; only summaries of the entire sample will be reported. (DO NOT PAUSE)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Approximately how many years have you lived in the City of Little Canada?                       | LESS THAN TWO YEARS.....1<br>TWO TO FIVE YEARS.....2<br>SIX TO TEN YEARS.....3<br>ELEVEN - TWENTY YRS.....4<br>OVER TWENTY YEARS.....5<br>DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....6 |
| 2. As things stand now, how long in the future do you expect to live in Little Canada?             | LESS THAN TWO YEARS.....1<br>TWO TO FIVE YEARS.....2<br>SIX TO TEN YEARS.....3<br>OVER TEN YEARS.....4<br>DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....5                                 |
| 3. How would you rate the quality of life in Little Canada -- excellent, good, only fair, or poor? | EXCELLENT.....1<br>GOOD.....2<br>ONLY FAIR.....3<br>POOR.....4<br>DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....5   |
| 4. What do you like most about living in Little Canada?  |  |

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5. In general, what do you think is the most serious issue facing the community today?

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|----|---|--|
| 6. | All in all, do you think things in Little Canada are generally headed in the right direction, or do you feel things are off on the wrong track?   | RIGHT DIRECTION.....1<br>WRONG TRACK.....2<br>DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....3   |
| 7. | How would you rate the sense of community identity among residents in Little Canada -- would you say it is very strong, somewhat strong, not too strong, or not at all strong?  | VERY STRONG.....1<br>SOMEWHAT STRONG.....2<br>NOT TOO STRONG.....3<br>NOT AT ALL STRONG.....4<br>DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....5    |
| 8. | Please tell me which of the following do you feel the closest connection to -- the City of Little Canada as a whole, your neighborhood, your School District or something else? (IF "SOMETHING ELSE," ASK:) What would that be? | CITY OF LITTLE CANADA...1<br>NEIGHBORHOOD.....2<br>SCHOOL DISTRICT.....3<br>SOMETHING ELSE.....4<br>DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....5 |

Switching focus....

I would like to read you a list of characteristics of a community. For each one, please tell me if you think Little Canada currently has too many or too much, too few or too little, or about the right amount.

	MANY /MCH	FEW/ LITT	ABT RGHT	DK/ REFD
9. affordable rental apartments?	1	2	3	4
10. luxury rental apartments?				
11. higher cost housing oppor- tunities?	1	2	3	4
12. condominiums and townhouses?	1	2	3	4
13. starter homes?	1	2	3	4
14. assisted living for seniors?	1	2	3	4
15. nursing homes?	1	2	3	4
16. one level housing for seniors maintained by an association?	1	2	3	4
17. service and retail establish- ments?	1	2	3	4
18. entertainment establishments?	1	2	3	4
19. dining establishments?	1	2	3	4

20. How would you rate redevelopment in Little Canada -- excellent, good, only fair, or poor?
- |                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| EXCELLENT.....          | 1 |
| GOOD.....               | 2 |
| ONLY FAIR.....          | 3 |
| POOR.....               | 4 |
| DON'T KNOW/REFUSED..... | 5 |

IF A RATING IS GIVEN, ASK:

21. Why do you feel that way?

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22. Do you support or oppose the continued redevelopment in Little Canada? (IF "YES," ASK:) Do you feel strongly that way?
- |                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| STRONGLY SUPPORT.....   | 1 |
| SUPPORT.....            | 2 |
| OPPOSE.....             | 3 |
| STRONGLY OPPOSE.....    | 4 |
| DON'T KNOW/REFUSED..... | 5 |

IF "OPPOSE" OR "STRONGLY OPPOSE," ASK:

23. Why do you feel that way?

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24. Are there any types of development or redevelopment you would like to see in Little Canada? (IF "YES," ASK:) What are they?

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25. Are there any types of development or redevelopment you would strongly oppose?

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As the City of Little Canada continues redevelopment....

- |     |   |  |
|-----|---|--|
| 26. | Do you support or oppose the City providing financial incentives to attract specific types of development? (WAIT FOR RESPONSE) Do you feel strongly that way? | STRONGLY SUPPORT.....1<br>SUPPORT.....2<br>OPPOSE.....3<br>STRONGLY OPPOSE.....4<br>DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....5 |
|-----|---|--|

Moving on...

The City has taken a more active role in enforcing housing and property maintenance codes. While the City does not patrol neighborhoods, the City does respond and investigate citizen complaints.

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|-----|--|--|
| 27. | Do you support or oppose the City taking a more active approach to property maintenance and code enforcement? (WAIT FOR RESPONSE) Do you feel strongly that way? | STRONGLY SUPPORT.....1<br>SUPPORT.....2<br>OPPOSE.....3<br>STRONGLY OPPOSE.....4<br>DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....5 |
| 28. | How would you rate the general condition and appearance of properties in your neighborhood -- excellent, good, only fair, or poor?                               | EXCELLENT.....1<br>GOOD.....2<br>ONLY FAIR.....3<br>POOR.....4<br>DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....5                   |

IF "ONLY FAIR" OR "POOR," ASK:

29. Why did you rate it as (only fair/poor)?
- 
- 

For each of the following, please tell me whether the City is too tough, about right, or not tough enough in enforcing city codes on the nuisances.

	TOO TOU	ABO RIG	NOT TOU	DK/ REF
30. Junk cars?	1	2	3	4
31. Storage and parking of vehicles, boats and trailers?	1	2	3	4
32. Yard maintenance?	1	2	3	4
33. Exterior home maintenance?	1	2	3	4
34. On-street parking?	1	2	3	4
35. Storage of garbage, recycling and composting cans?	1	2	3	4
36. Temporary signs?	1	2	3	4

Changing topics....

I would like to read you a list of a few city services. For each one, please tell me whether you would rate the quality of the service as excellent, good, only fair, or poor? (ROTATE)

	EXCL	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	DK/R
37. Traffic enforcement?	1	2	3	4	5
38. Police protection?	1	2	3	4	5
39. Fire response?	1	2	3	4	5
40. Wildlife management of deer and geese?	1	2	3	4	5
41. Domestic animal control?	1	2	3	4	5
42. Maintenance and upkeep of parks and trails?	1	2	3	4	5
43. Storm water drainage and flood control?	1	2	3	4	5
44. Street lighting?	1	2	3	4	5
45. Recreation programs for children?	1	2	3	4	5
46. Recreation programs for adults?	1	2	3	4	5
47. Garbage and recycling collection?	1	2	3	4	5
48. Building Inspections?	1	2	3	4	5
49. Code enforcement?	1	2	3	4	5
50. Property maintenance?	1	2	3	4	5
51. Canadian Days celebration?	1	2	3	4	5

For the next three services, please consider only city streets, not county roads, state highways, nor freeways.

	EXCL	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	DK/R
52. City street repair and maintenance, such as seal coating and crack filling?	1	2	3	4	5
53. Street sweeping?	1	2	3	4	5
54. Snow plowing of streets?	1	2	3	4	5
55. Snow plowing of sidewalks?	1	2	3	4	5
56. Snow plowing of trails?	1	2	3	4	5

Now, I would like to re-read you that list of city services. For each one, please tell me if you consider it be an essential city service, a very important city service, a somewhat important city service, or not a very important service at all. (ROTATE)



	ESS	VRI	SMI	NVI	DKR
57. Traffic enforcement?	1	2	3	4	5
58. Police protection?	1	2	3	4	5
59. Fire response?	1	2	3	4	5
60. Wildlife management of deer and geese?	1	2	3	4	5
61. Domestic animal control?	1	2	3	4	5
62. Maintenance and upkeep of parks and trails?	1	2	3	4	5
63. Storm water drainage and flood control?	1	2	3	4	5
64. Street lighting?	1	2	3	4	5
65. Recreation programs for children?	1	2	3	4	5
66. Recreation programs for adults?	1	2	3	4	5
67. Garbage and recycling collection?	1	2	3	4	5
68. Building Inspections?	1	2	3	4	5
69. Code enforcement?	1	2	3	4	5
70. Property maintenance?	1	2	3	4	5
71. Canadian Days celebration?	1	2	3	4	5
72. City street repair and maintenance, such as seal coating and crack filling?	1	2	3	4	5
73. Street sweeping?	1	2	3	4	5
74. Snow plowing of streets?	1	2	3	4	5
75. Snow plowing of sidewalks?	1	2	3	4	5
76. Snow plowing of trails?	1	2	3	4	5

77. Would you favor or oppose an increase in YOUR city property tax if it were needed to maintain city services at their current level?

FAVOR.....1  
 OPPOSE.....2  
 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....3

IF "OPPOSE," ASK:

78. What services would you be willing to see cut?

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79. And, would you favor or oppose an increase in YOUR city property tax if it were used to improve and enhance current city services?

FAVOR.....1  
 OPPOSE.....2  
 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....3

IF "FAVOR," ASK:

80. What services would you like to see improved or enhanced?

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- 81. Would you favor or oppose cuts in city services if they would reduce your current CITY property taxes (WAIT FOR RESPONSE) Do you feel strongly that way?
  - STRONGLY FAVOR.....1
  - FAVOR.....2
  - OPPOSE.....3
  - STRONGLY OPPOSE.....4
  - DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....5
  
- 82. In comparison with nearby areas, do you feel that the property taxes in Little Canada are very high, somewhat high, about average, somewhat low, or very low?
  - VERY HIGH.....1
  - SOMEWHAT HIGH.....2
  - ABOUT AVERAGE.....3
  - SOMEWHAT LOW.....4
  - VERY LOW.....5
  - DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....6
  
- 83. When you consider the city property taxes you pay and the quality of city services you receive, would you rate the general value of city services as excellent, good, only fair, or poor?
  - EXCELLENT.....1
  - GOOD.....2
  - ONLY FAIR.....3
  - POOR.....4
  - DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....5

Turning to the issue of public safety in the community....

- 84. Are there any areas in Little Canada where you would be afraid to walk alone at night?
  - YES.....1
  - NO.....2
  - DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....3

IF "YES," ASK:

85. What area particularly concerns you?

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I would like to read you a short list of public safety concerns.

86. Please tell me which one you consider to be the greatest concern in Little Canada? If you feel that none of these problems are serious in Little Canada, just say so.

GREAT

Violent crime.....01  
 Traffic speeding.....02  
 Drugs.....03  
 Youth crimes and vandalism.....04  
 Identity theft.....05  
 Business crimes, such as shop-  
 lifting and check fraud.....06  
 Residential crimes, such as  
 burglary, and theft.....07  
 ALL EQUALLY.....08  
 NONE OF THE ABOVE.....09  
 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....10

87. Do you feel crime in Little Canada has increased, decreased, or remained about the same during the past five years? INCREASED.....1  
 DECREASED.....2  
 REMAINED ABOUT SAME.....3  
 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....4
88. How would you rate the amount of patrolling the Sheriff's Department does in your neighborhood -- would you say they do too much, about the right amount, or not enough? TOO MUCH.....1  
 ABOUT RIGHT AMOUNT.....2  
 NOT ENOUGH.....3  
 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....4

Let's discuss recreational opportunities in the community....

89. Do you feel that the current mix of recreational or sports facilities meets the needs of members of your household? YES.....1  
 NO.....2  
 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....3
90. Does the current mix of city-sponsored recreational programs meet the needs of members of your household? YES.....1  
 NO.....2  
 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....3

IF "NO," ASK:

91. What type of recreational programs are missing?

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92.	How often do you or members of your household use trails in the City -- frequently, occasionally, rarely or never?	FREQUENTLY.....1 OCCASIONALLY.....2 RARELY.....3 NEVER.....4 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....5
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I would now like to read you a list of parks and recreation projects the City of Little Canada could undertake. For each one, please tell me if you strongly support a property tax increase for it, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose a property tax increase for it. (ROTATE)

	STS	SMS	SMO	STO	DKR
93.	Provide signage within the park and trail system for "wayfinding" and monument identification.				
	1	2	3	4	5
94.	Complete connections between existing trails throughout the city.				
	1	2	3	4	5
95.	Acquisition of land to connect city trails with neighboring communities by constructing trail crossings over Interstates 35E and 694 and Highway 36.				
	1	2	3	4	5
96.	Improvements to Pioneer Park, including additional picnic shelters, enhancing the playground, a splash pad, additional parking and renovating Central Shelter.				
	1	2	3	4	5
97.	Improvements to Spooner Park, including a new playground, additional parking and brush and tree removal.				
	1	2	3	4	5
98.	Construction of meeting room space for community and school district use.				
	1	2	3	4	5
99.	Construction of outdoor community gathering space for festivals and community events?				
	1	2	3	4	5

Suppose the City of Little Canada proposed a parks and recreation bond referendum which you considered to be a reasonable approach.

100. How much would you be willing to see your property taxes increase to fund this construction? Let's say, would you be willing to see your monthly property taxes increase by \$____? (CHOOSE RANDOM STARTING POINT; MOVE UP OR DOWN DEPENDING ON RESPONSE) How about \$____ per month?	NOTHING.....1 \$_.00.....2 \$_.00.....3 \$_.00.....4 \$_.00.....5 \$_.00.....6 \$_.00.....7 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....8
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Changing topics....

101. How would you rate the City's overall performance in communicating key local issues to residents in its publications, website, mailings, and on cable television -- excellent, good, only fair, or poor?	EXCELLENT.....1 GOOD.....2 ONLY FAIR.....3 POOR.....4 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....5
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102. Do you think the City does a good job of seeking input from residents?	YES.....1 NO.....2 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....3
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103. Other than voting, do you feel that if you wanted to, you could have a say about the way the City of Little Canada runs things?	YES.....1 NO.....2 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....3
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104. What is your primary source of information about Little Canada City Government and its activities? (DO NOT READ LIST)	DON'T KNOW/REFUSED....00 NONE.....01 CITY NEWSLETTER.....02 LOCAL NEWSPAPER.....03 CABLE TELEVISION.....04 CITY WEBSITE.....05 WORD OF MOUTH.....06 SOCIAL MEDIA.....07
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105. How would you prefer to receive information about City Government and its activities? (DO NOT READ LIST)	DON'T KNOW/REFUSED....00 NONE.....01 CITY NEWSLETTER.....02 LOCAL NEWSPAPER.....03 CABLE TELEVISION.....04 CITY WEBSITE.....05 WORD OF MOUTH.....06 MEETINGS.....07 SOCIAL MEDIA.....08
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114. How would you rate the ease of navigating the site and finding the information you sought -- excellent, good, only fair or poor?

EXCELLENT.....	1
GOOD.....	2
ONLY FAIR.....	3
POOR.....	4
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....	5

I would like to ask you about social media sources. For each one, tell me if you currently use that source of information; then for each you use, tell me if you would be likely or unlikely to use it to receive information from the City of Little Canada.

	NOT USE	USE LIK	USE NOT	DK/ REF
115. Podcasts?	1	2	3	4
116. Blogs?	1	2	3	4
117. Facebook?	1	2	3	4
118. Twitter?	1	2	3	4
119. NextDoor?	1	2	3	4

Now, just a few more questions for demographic purposes....

120. What is your age, please?

18-24.....	1
25-34.....	2
35-44.....	3
45-54.....	4
55-64.....	5
65 AND OVER.....	6
REFUSED.....	7

Could you tell me how many people in each of the following age groups live in your household. Let's start oldest to youngest...

121. First, persons over 65?

NONE.....	0
ONE.....	1
TWO OR MORE.....	2

122. Other adults, ages 18 to 64?

NONE.....	0
ONE.....	1
TWO.....	2
THREE OR MORE.....	3

123. School-aged children and pre-schoolers?

NONE.....	0
ONE.....	1
TWO.....	2
THREE OR MORE.....	3

124. Do you rent or own your present residence?	OWN.....1 RENT.....2 REFUSED.....3
125. What is the highest level of formal education you completed?	LESS THAN HS GRADUATE...1 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE....2 VO-TECH/TECH COLLEGE...3 SOME COLLEGE.....4 COLLEGE GRADUATE.....5 POST GRADUATE.....6 REFUSED.....7
126. Do you or any member of this household own or manage a business in the City of Little Canada?	YES.....1 NO.....2 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....3
127. Do you or any member of this household work at a job located in Little Canada?	YES.....1 NO.....2 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....3
128. Which of the following categories represents your ethnicity -- White, African-American, Hispanic-Latino, Asian-Pacific Islander, Native American, or something else? (IF "SOMETHING ELSE," ASK:) What would that be?	WHITE.....1 AFRICAN-AMERICAN.....2 HISPANIC-LATINO.....3 ASIAN-PACIFIC ISLANDER..4 NATIVE AMERICAN.....5 SOMETHING ELSE.....6 MIXED/BI-RACIAL.....7 DON'T KNOW.....8 REFUSED.....1%
129. Finally, thinking about your household finances, how would you describe your financial situation, would you say that -- A) Your monthly expenses are exceeding your income; B) You are meeting your monthly expenses but are putting aside little or no savings; C) You are managing comfortably while putting some money aside; D) Managing very well?	STATEMENT A.....1 STATEMENT B.....2 STATEMENT C.....3 STATEMENT D.....4 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....5
130. Gender	MALE.....1 FEMALE.....2

Thank you for your time. Good-bye.



131. Quadrant

QUADRANT NE.....	1
QUADRANT NW.....	2
QUADRANT SE.....	3
QUADRANT SW.....	4