

WHERE THE BOYS ARE *And The Girls Too*

As seen in "The Gab" September 2023 Issue

THE URBAN PIONEERS OF THE LGBT COMMUNITY IN DALLAS

In the heart of Texas, a vibrant and stylish community is leaving its mark on the real estate landscape of Dallas. The LGBT community, known for its unique sense of style and a knack for transforming spaces into welcoming havens, is taking the city's housing market by storm. From the established neighborhoods to the up-and-coming districts, these urban pioneers are reshaping the concept of home ownership and leaving their unmistakable mark.

OAK LAWN AND OAK CLIFF: A TALE OF DIVERSITY AND ACCEPTANCE

When it comes to the LGBT community's homebuying preferences, two neighborhoods in Dallas stand out: Oak Lawn and Oak Cliff. Ask anyone familiar with the city's pulse, and these names are likely to be mentioned in the same breath. Oak Lawn, often dubbed the heart of Dallas's gay community, has been a historic haven for LGBT residents. Its charming streets, lined with diverse architecture and a welcoming atmosphere, have attracted a significant proportion of the community.

According to the 2022 census, Oak Lawn continues to be a hub for LGBT households, with over 77% identifying as such. While this number is slightly lower than the 2021 figure of 83%, it still underscores the neighborhood's enduring appeal. Oak Cliff, on the other hand, boasts 39% gay households, making it another destination of choice for the community. Within these neighborhoods, several areas have become particularly popular among LGBT residents. Beckley Club, Stevens Park, Kessler Park, Kiest Park, Winnetka Heights, Wynnewood

Village, Oak Park, Kidd Springs, and Beckley Club have all carved out spaces that reflect the community's aesthetic sensibilities and its dedication to maintaining their homes with style and care.

DIVERSE ZIP CODES AND EMERGING HOTSPOTS

Beyond Oak Lawn and Oak Cliff, the Dallas LGBT community is establishing its presence in various zip codes, each with its unique character and potential. One notable area is 75229, where approximately 33% of households identify as gay. This zone encompasses charming subdivisions like Midway Hollow and the Disney Streets, which have garnered attention for their architectural character and welcoming community atmosphere. In 75227, near White Rock Lake, another zip code is making waves in the LGBT homebuyer scene. Despite its



surprising location, 75227 is home to communities like Buckner Terrace, The Enclave at Grove Hill, and the promising Tennison Village area. The 2022 census indicates that around 27% of households here are part of the LGBT community.

MAPPING THE HEART: OAK LAWN'S ENDURING ALLURE

Oak Lawn remains the epicenter of the LGBT community in Dallas, and its significance is underscored by maps that highlight the strength of gay households during election years. While the LGBT community thrives in various pockets of Dallas, Oak Lawn's historical role in providing a safe and inclusive space has solidified its place in the hearts of the community members. Yet, as Oak Lawn evolves and available home sites dwindle, many LGBT homebuyers are exploring new construction options in other parts of the city. Simultaneously, there's growing interest in single-family homes located in different neighborhoods. This diversification of preferences speaks to the community's adaptability and its desire to make a home wherever it feels welcomed.

EMERGING TRENDS AND FUTURE PROSPECTS

As Dallas continues to flourish and evolve, several emerging neighborhoods are piquing the interest of the LGBT community. The spotlight is turning toward areas like Midtown, Farmers Branch, Casa View, Piedmont, Parkdale, Royal Lane near Central Expressway, and Queen City. These districts are drawing attention for their potential, affordability, and the promise of becoming the next safe havens for the LGBT urban pioneers. In conclusion, Dallas is witnessing a captivating transformation in its real estate landscape, thanks to the dynamic presence of the LGBT community. With its penchant for style and commitment to maintaining beautiful homes, this community is reshaping the perception of homeownership in the city. From established neighborhoods like Oak Lawn and Oak Cliff to emerging districts, the LGBT community's impact is undeniable. As urban pioneers, they are leaving their indelible mark on the map of Dallas, turning houses into homes and neighborhoods into vibrant havens of diversity and acceptance. 🌟

