

01

What We Heard

DRAFT Phase 1 Public Survey + Stakeholder
Input Summary

City-Brooks Park

PUBLIC SURVEY RESULTS

Welcome to City-Brooks Park & Lakes Vision Plan

With 154 acres and a location just minutes from downtown Baton Rouge and the LSU campus, City-Brooks Park has the potential to become the region's central Park—an inclusive civic landscape that brings people together across neighborhoods and generations.

To realize this vision, City-Brooks Park is beginning a Master Plan process, and your ideas and experiences will help shape its future.

This survey has two parts:

- a short multiple-choice questionnaire, and
- an interactive map to collect your place-based feedback: <https://comap.sasaki.com/citybrookspark/>

It takes approximately 5 minutes to complete, and we thank you for your time and input.

1. What is your zip code?

2. Which best describes your relationship to City-Brooks Community Park?

Nearby Resident
 Student / faculty
 Work nearby
 Park visitor
 Other - Write In

3. Have you visited City-Brooks Park before?
 Yes
 No

**Part 1 Survey Questions –
1084 Responses!**

Welcome to City-Brooks Park & Lakes
Vision Plan Public Survey Part2!

As we consider what the future looks like in City-Brooks Park, we want to hear from you! Use this interactive tool to create a map that reflects your experiences in this place. Add points, lines, and shapes to tell us your own unique perspective. We'll aggregate these maps from all participants to discover patterns, challenges, and opportunities.

[Get Started](#)

Data Usage
Your responses are anonymous. We protect your privacy and all data is only used internally.

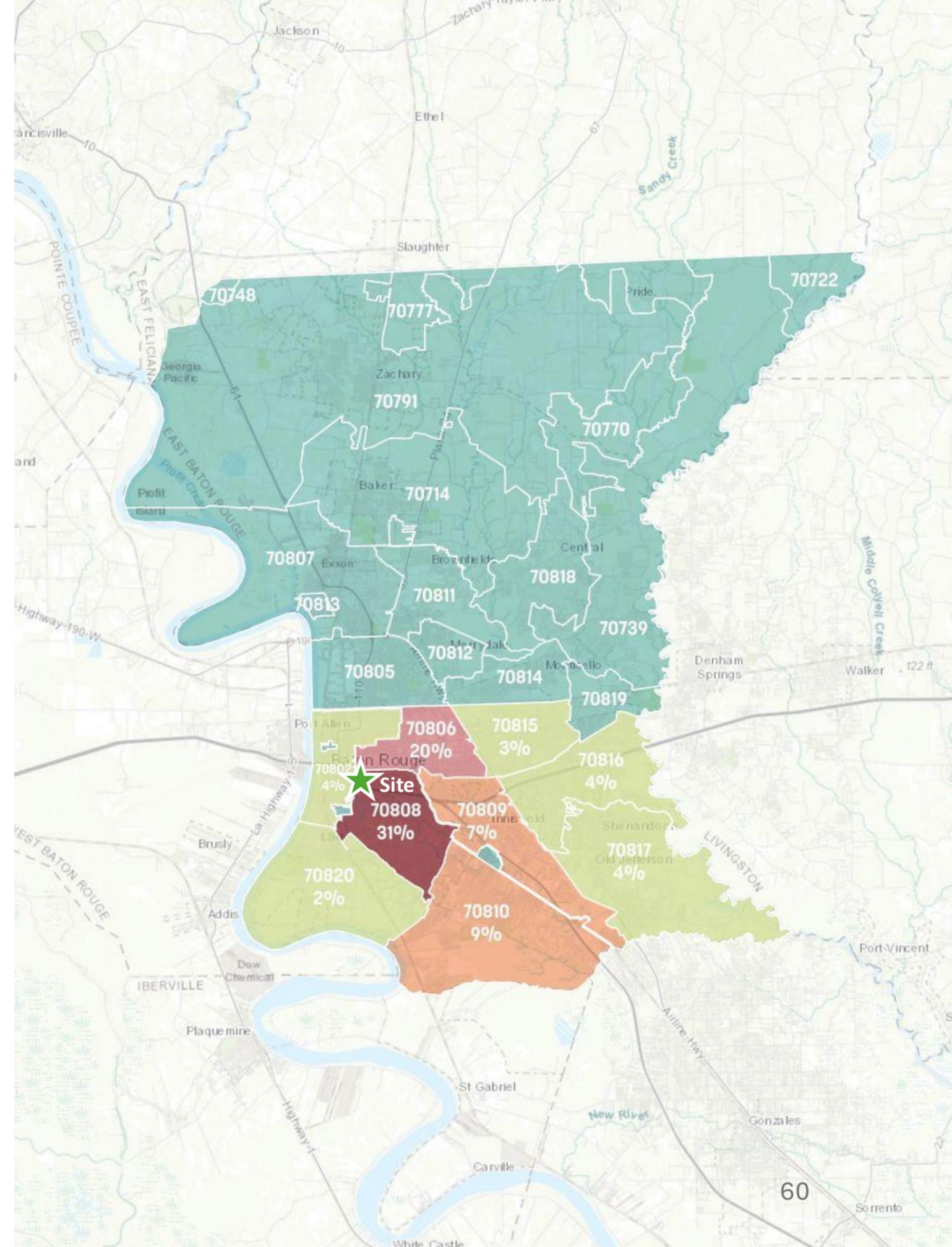
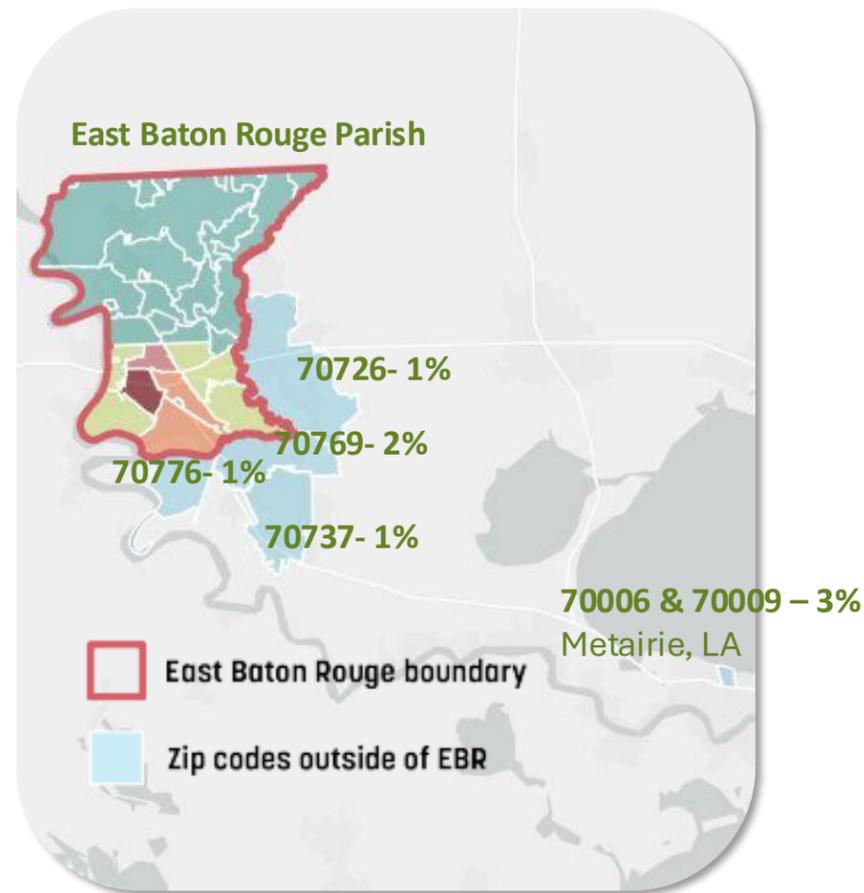
Instructions
Draw points, lines, or shapes using different categories to illustrate your experiences, and leave a comment or thumbs up if you'd like. You can move the map, zoom in and out, and change the map base to roadmap or satellite. After you've drawn points, lines, or shapes, you can edit or delete them by clicking on them again. Have fun!

[Send us feedback](#)

**Part 2 Mapping Tool –
120 Responses!**

What We Heard PUBLIC SURVEY DEMOGRAPHIC INFO

Geographic distribution: The east side of the site generated significantly more responses than the west side of the park. 953 responses were from in-parish residents. 131 were from out of parish responses.

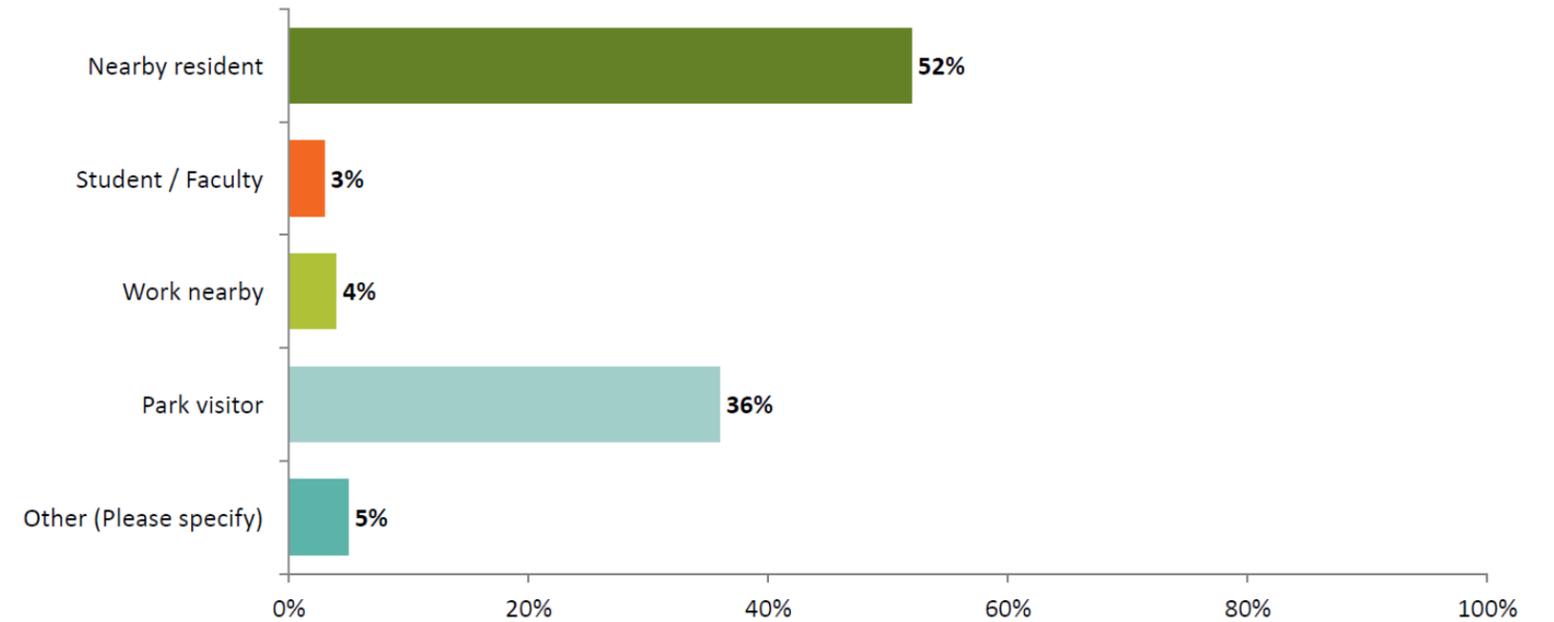


What We Heard PUBLIC SURVEY DEMOGRAPHIC INFO

Relationship to the park: 89% respondents are nearby residents or regular park visitors. Students and faculty represent a smaller share of participants. 96% of survey takers have visited the park, and 80% of them visited it monthly or more.

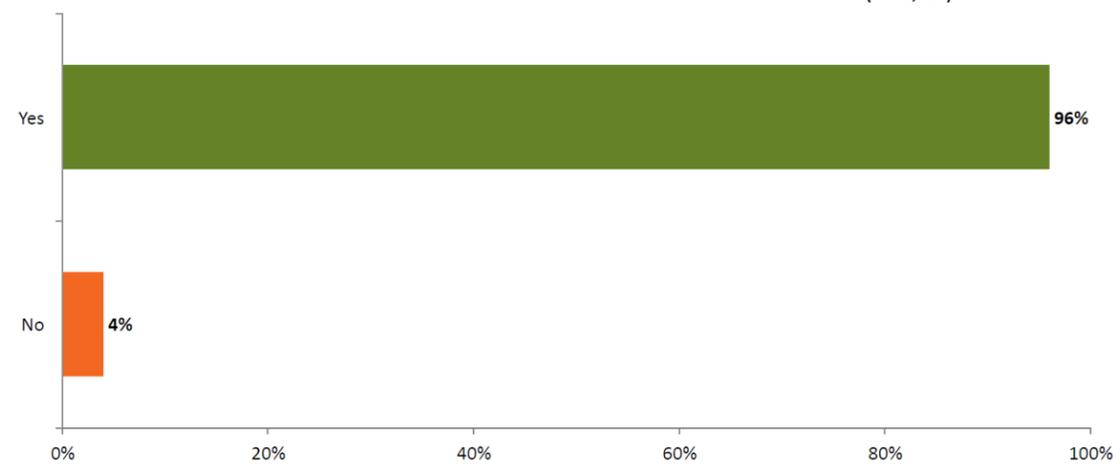
Which best describes your relationship to City-Brooks Community Park?

(N = 1,081)



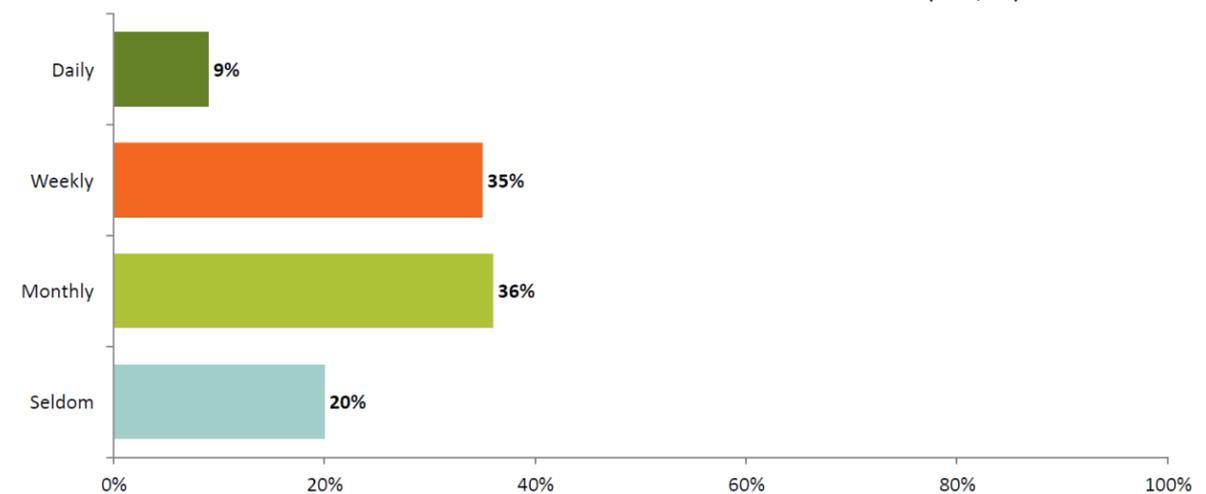
Have you visited City-Brooks Community Park?

(N = 1,084)



How often do you visit City-Brooks Community Park?

(N = 1,029)

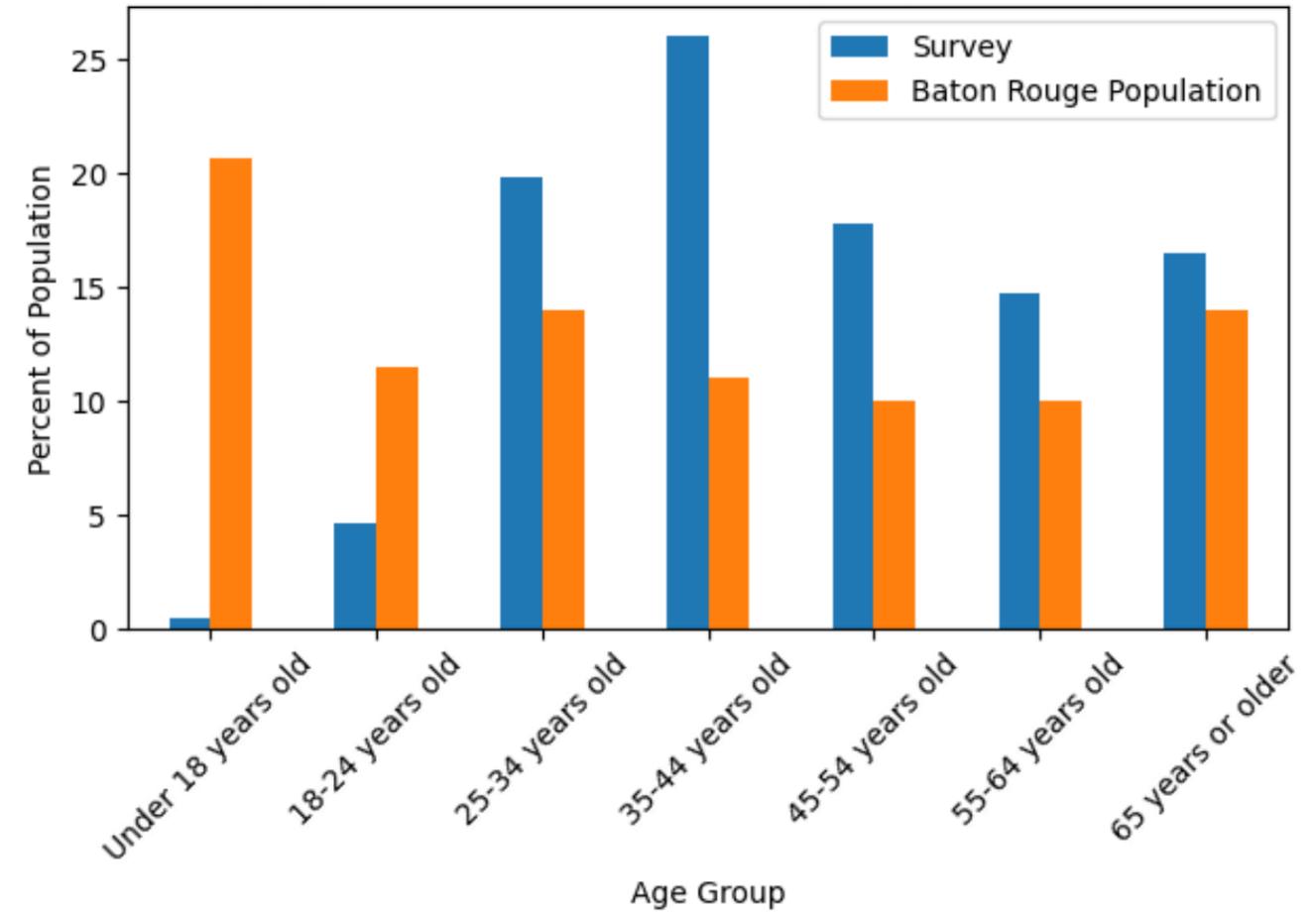


What We Heard PUBLIC SURVEY DEMOGRAPHIC INFO

Age representation: The age distribution of survey respondents **skews younger** than overall parish demographics.

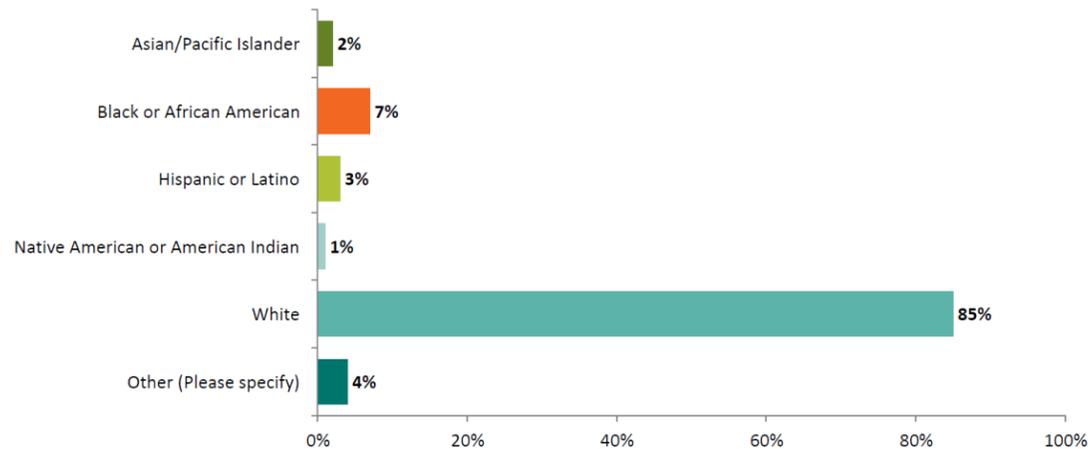
Income & race/ethnicity: Survey participants skew toward higher-income households and are predominantly White compared to overall parish demographics.

Survey Age Distribution vs Baton Rouge Population Distribution



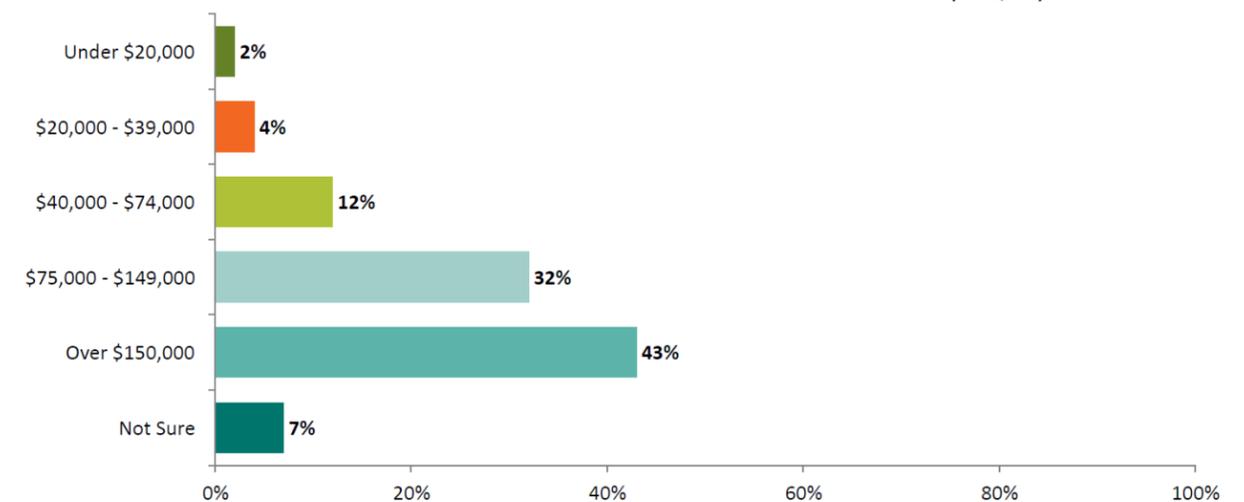
Race/Ethnicity:

(N = 1,034)



Household Income:

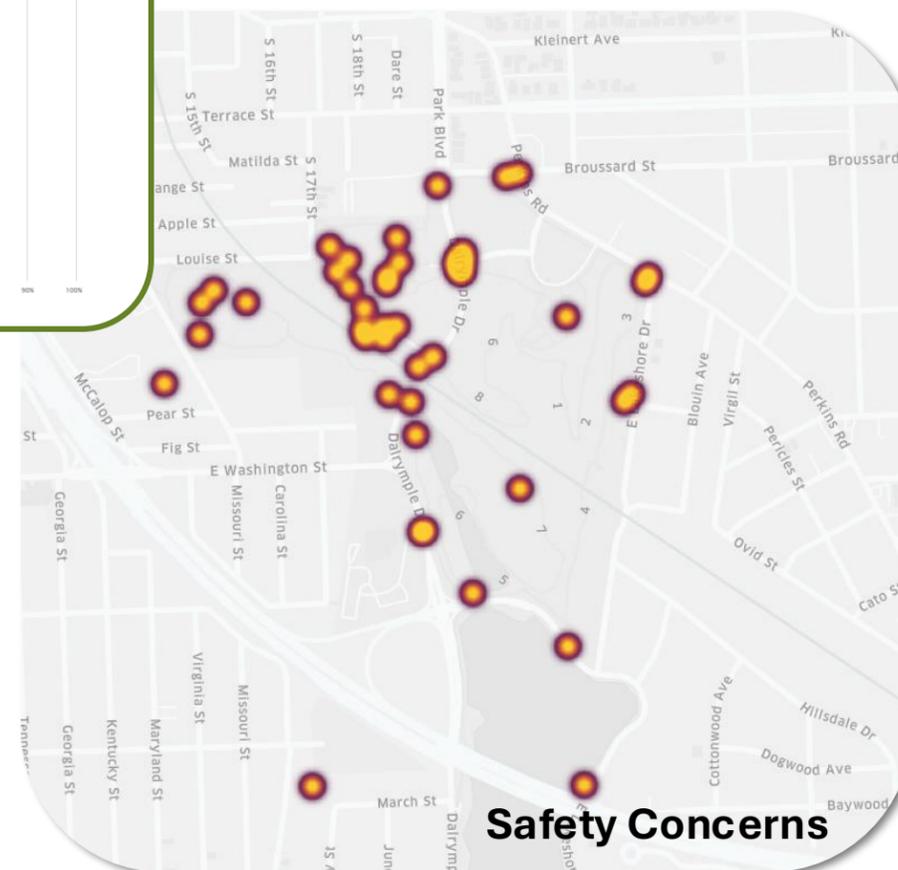
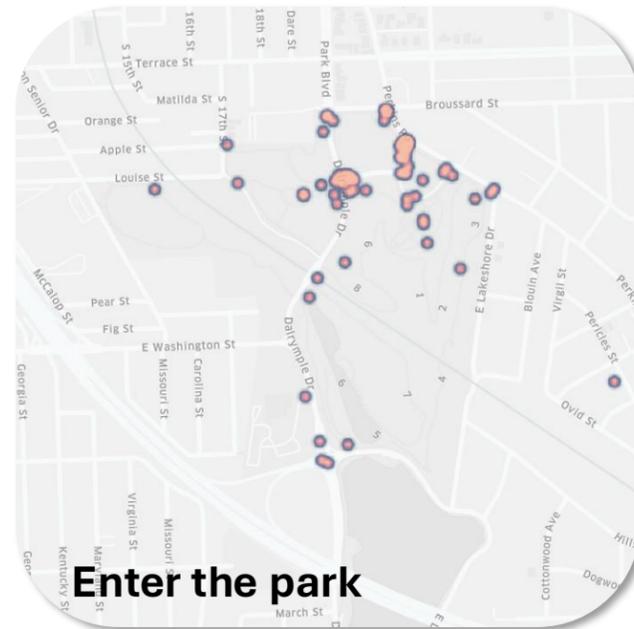
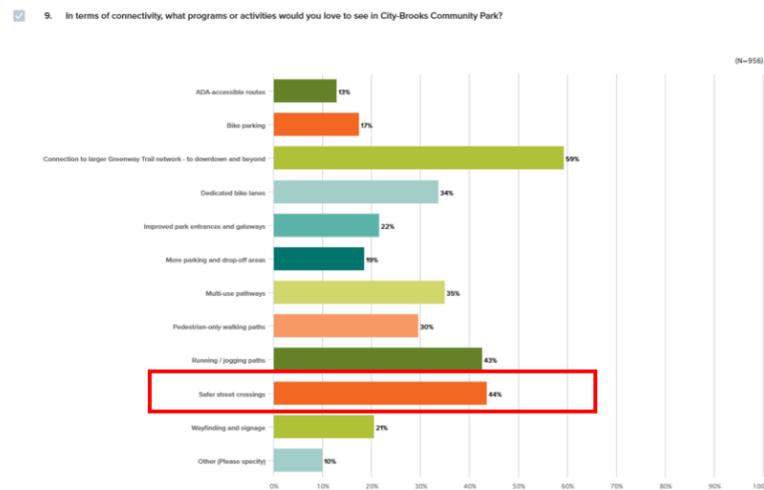
(N = 1,039)



What We Heard

ENGAGEMENT KEY FINDINGS

Safer street crossings at 44% in future connectivity desired uses.



“MORE SAFE CROSSINGS are needed. Especially at Park/Dalrymple and Magnolia Drive”

30+ Open comments called out dangerous crossings on Dalrymple

Safety Concerns Along Dalrymple

- Dalrymple is widely understood as a **major safety barrier**, especially between east/west destinations.
- The issue is not only **speeding traffic**, but also **limited visibility, poor crossings**, and nighttime discomfort.
- Many comments suggest Dalrymple should function less like a through-street and more like a **slow park edge / park street**.
- Safer crossings are especially important near Knock-Knock Children's Museum, the tennis center, dog park, and gallery/event areas.
- This finding supports a broader goal of making the park feel like **one connected place** rather than two separate sides.

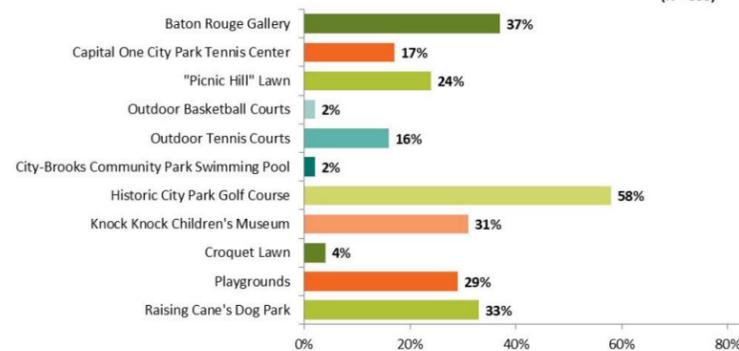
What We Heard

ENGAGEMENT KEY FINDINGS

Existing use range from Golf Course 58% (open year-round) to Brooks Swimming Pool 2% (Open during summer and on limited hours)

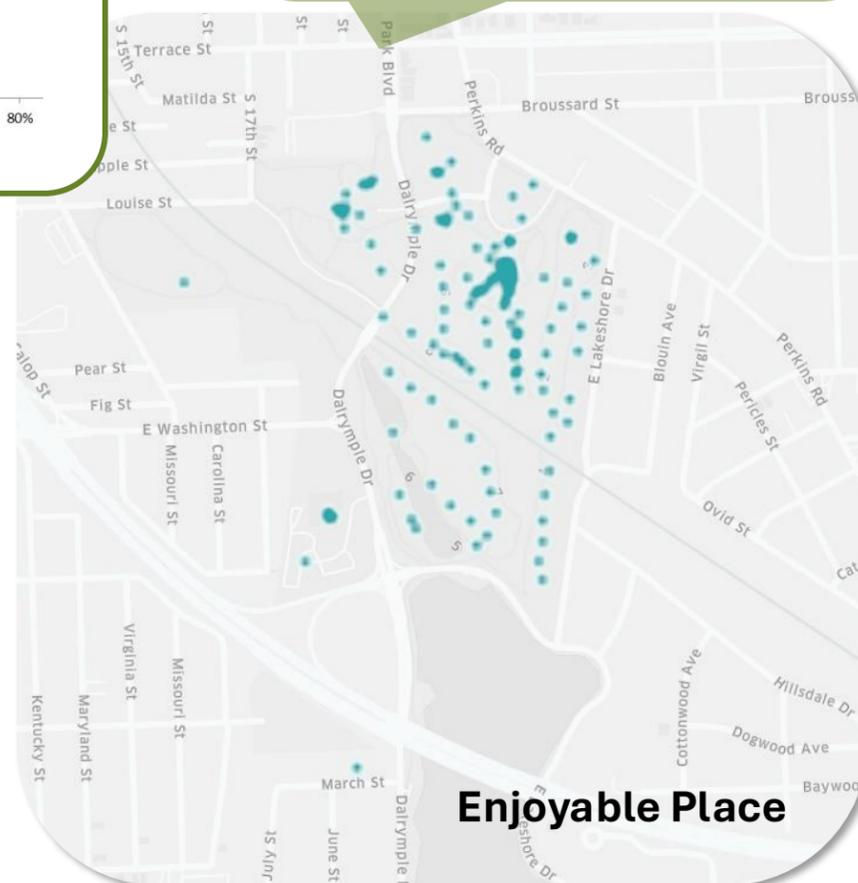
What brings you to City-Brooks Community Park? Select all that apply.

(N = 993)



"I mostly spend time on the edges but would love the opportunity to enter into the park more."

"I like the idea of the park being a destination place. Concerts, food trucks, farmers market, sporting activities all can share one area of the city."



Enjoyable Place

Existing Park Activity Is Unevenly Distributed

- Currently the park is popular across different uses, concentrated near BR gallery, tennis courts, the dog park and Knock Knock Children's Museum.
- These destinations function largely as **independent nodes rather than a connected park experience.**
- Some areas—particularly **Brooks Park** and parts of the golf landscape—see fewer everyday destinations and activities.
- Stakeholders noted that Brooks Park facilities need upgrades and that the west side should include **recreation uses** that serve nearby neighborhoods.

What We Heard

ENGAGEMENT KEY FINDINGS

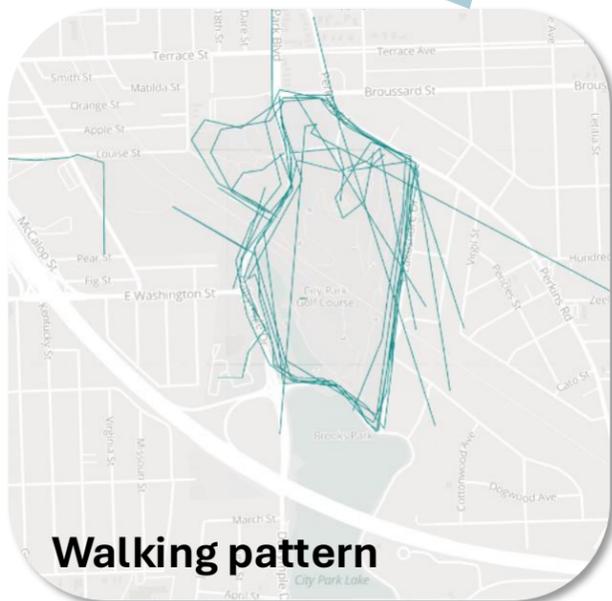
50+ Open comments directly called for connectivity improvements

“Create a clearly delineated full circuit bike and pedestrian path around the whole park.”

“Multiuse path needs improvement and should limit the need to share the roadway.”

“Needs connectivity to City Park Lake.”

“The stretch of road between the Dalrymple Dr entrance and the lakes is severely lacking in safe multi-use trails.”



Survey takers walk along the park, not within the park

59% – Connection to the larger greenway trail network

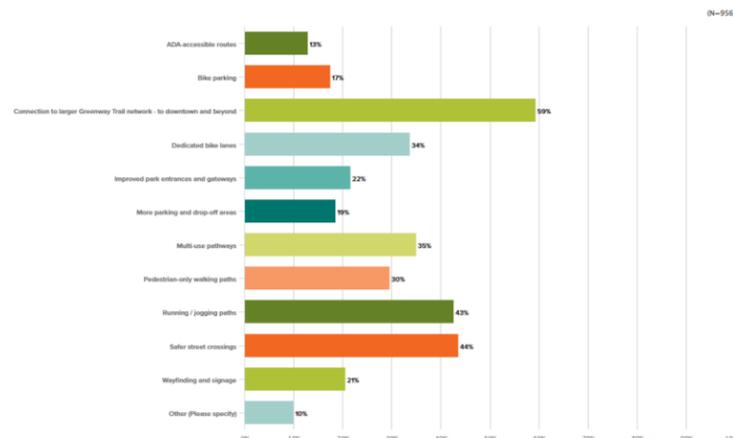
44% – Safer street crossings

43% – Running / jogging paths

35% – Multi-use pathways

34% – Dedicated bike lanes

9. In terms of connectivity, what programs or activities would you love to see in City-Brooks Community Park?



Ask for Better Everyday Walking and Biking Connections

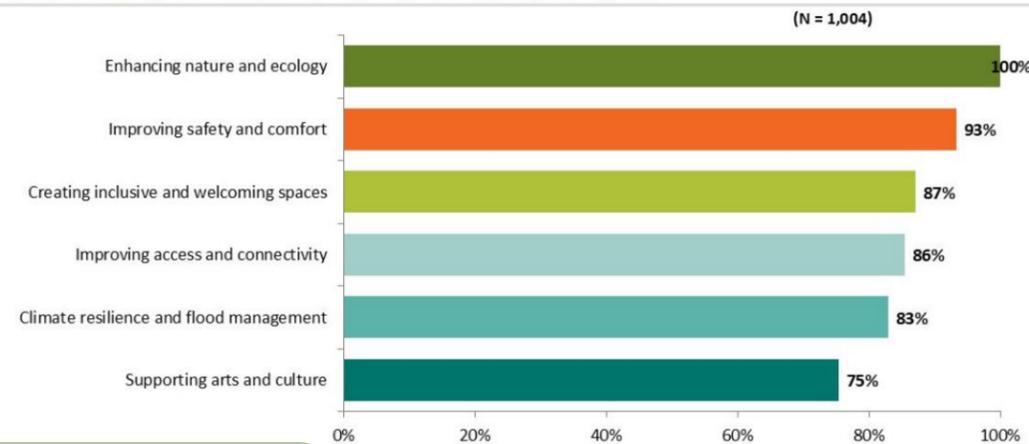
- Connectivity is one of the clearest, most **consistent priorities** across survey and workshops.
- People want both **regional connections** and **better local loops** within the park.
- Demand is not just for “more paths,” but for **separated, comfortable, continuous, and safer routes**.
- Key connection gaps include **east/west movement**, links to the **lakes and greenway system**, and safer access from **adjacent** neighborhoods.

What We Heard

ENGAGEMENT KEY FINDINGS

“The lakes are one of the most beautiful parts of the park.”

The Master Plan will be guided by several design principles. Which should be the highest priorities for City-Brooks Community Park? Rank the following, with 1 being the highest. (N = 1,004)



Enhancing Nature and Ecology is ranked #1 and supported by **100%** of survey takers in the design principle question

“Add pollinator gardens and native plants.”

“Preserve the beautiful tree canopy that makes the park special.”

“More trees and landscaping would improve the park experience.”

Desired Uses:

- 49% – Pollinator / butterfly gardens
- 36% – More trees and shade
- 36% – Nature trails with educational signage
- 36% – Restored natural waterways
- 23% – Flood protection / stormwater features

Desired Use	Percentage
ADA accessible routes	12%
Bike parking	17%
Connection to larger Greenway trail network, to downtown and beyond	58%
Dedicated bike lanes	34%
Improved park entrance and gateways	22%
More parking and drop-off areas	19%
Mult-use pathways	34%
Pedestrian only walking paths	30%
Recreation / playing paths	41%
Softer street crossings	34%
Wayfinding and signage	21%
Other (Please specify)	9%

Desire for Stronger Connections to Water and Ecology

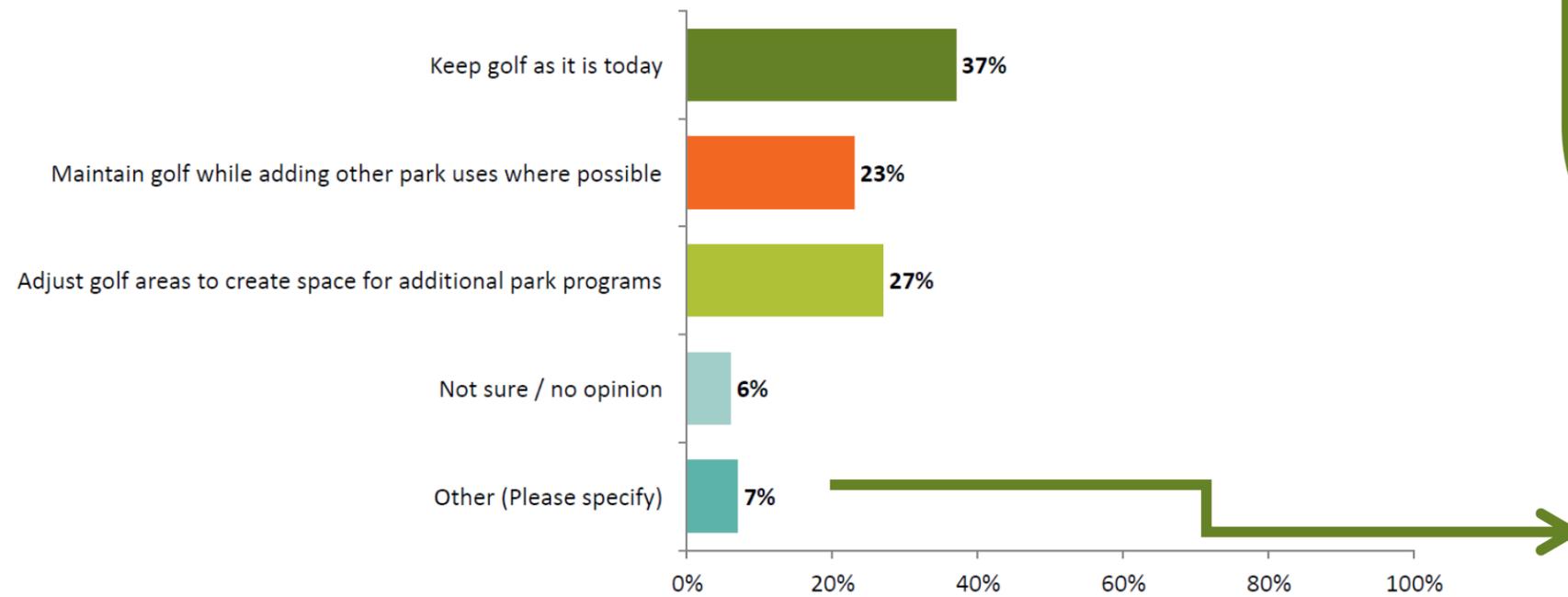
- The park is not only seen as recreational land, but also as part of a larger **water and ecological system**.
- Respondents want a **stronger relationship between the park and the City Park Lake**, both visually and physically.
- Ecological improvements should be **experiential**, not just infrastructural: trails, planting, habitat, shade, interpretation, and water access.
- The Knock Knock Children’s Museum highlighted opportunities to combine **stormwater management, nature play, and environmental education**.

What We Heard

ENGAGEMENT KEY FINDINGS

How should golf be balanced with other park uses at City-Brooks Community Park?

(N = 1,073)



Age	Keep	Adjust	Maintain + Add	Not sure	Other
Under 18	60%	20%	0%	20%	0%
18–24	36%	28%	26%	8%	2%
25–34	31%	32%	21%	7%	10%
35–44	30%	34%	20%	7%	10%
45–54	35%	29%	23%	3%	11%
55–64	43%	24%	23%	6%	4%
65+	50%	16%	22%	7%	5%

When this is viewed by age of respondent you can see that opinion is still fairly split across the three main categories.

What “to-do” with golf?

- We do not believe this is a **binary choice** around removing golf or not.
- Based on the feedback to-date we recommend **keeping golf as a program** on site but **shrinking the footprint**, adding new and complementary program, and increasing access.

Summary of the “Other” 7% Responses

There were **84** responses in the “Other” category just over 7%.

These comments generally fell into **three main themes**:

1. Remove the golf course entirely

A large portion of comments supported **eliminating golf and converting the space to broader public uses**, such as trails, open park space, sports facilities, or habitat.

2. Make the park more inclusive / multi-use

Some respondents suggested **reducing the golf footprint or relocating it** so the land can serve **more residents and activities**.

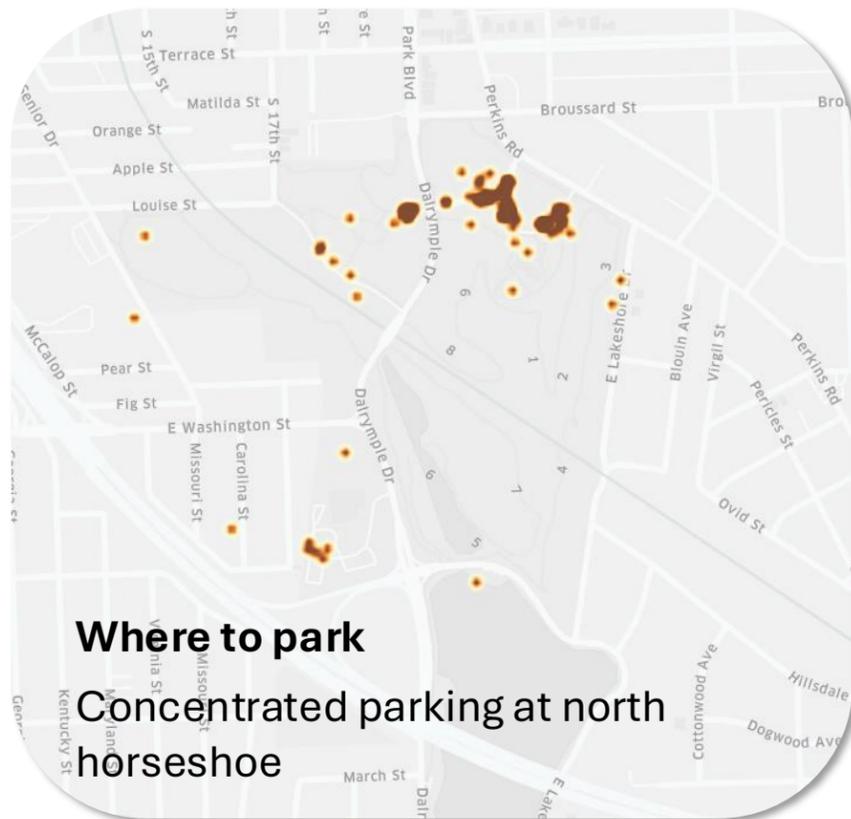
3. Improve or reconfigure the golf course

A smaller group suggested **modifying or upgrading the course**, such as:

- shorter course layouts
- driving ranges or practice facilities
- integrating entertainment or community programming.

What We Heard

ENGAGEMENT KEY FINDINGS



“Baton Rouge Gallery events always draw huge crowds and parking runs out.”

“I’m not sure how to create more parking without sacrificing green space...”

“The parking is really ok, it’s more about safe paths between parking and the activity...”

“Knock Knock Children’s Museum needs more parking.”

When visiting City-Brooks Community Park, how would you rate the following aspects of parking:



Top concern about parking is “**safety when walking to / from events**”

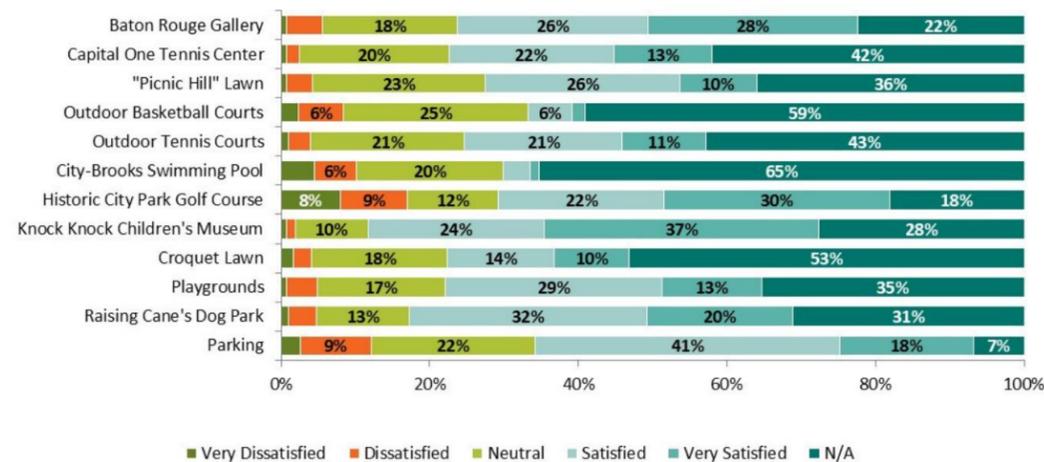
Parking Needs During Events

- Parking is a real concern, but mostly **during events and peak periods**, not necessarily at all times.
- The bigger issue may be how parking works: **visibility, lighting, crossings, distribution, and wayfinding**.
- Many comments support **overflow/event strategies** rather than permanent large parking expansion.
- There is a clear desire to protect green space and **avoid** letting parking become the dominant design driver.
- Parking, crossings, and walking routes should be **solved together**, not as separate issues.

What We Heard

ENGAGEMENT KEY FINDINGS

How would you rate the existing quality of the locations selected above?



Knock Knock Children's Museum - 37% very satisfied
Baton Rouge Gallery – 28% very satisfied
Golf – 30% very satisfied, 9% dissatisfied
Parking – 9% dissatisfied

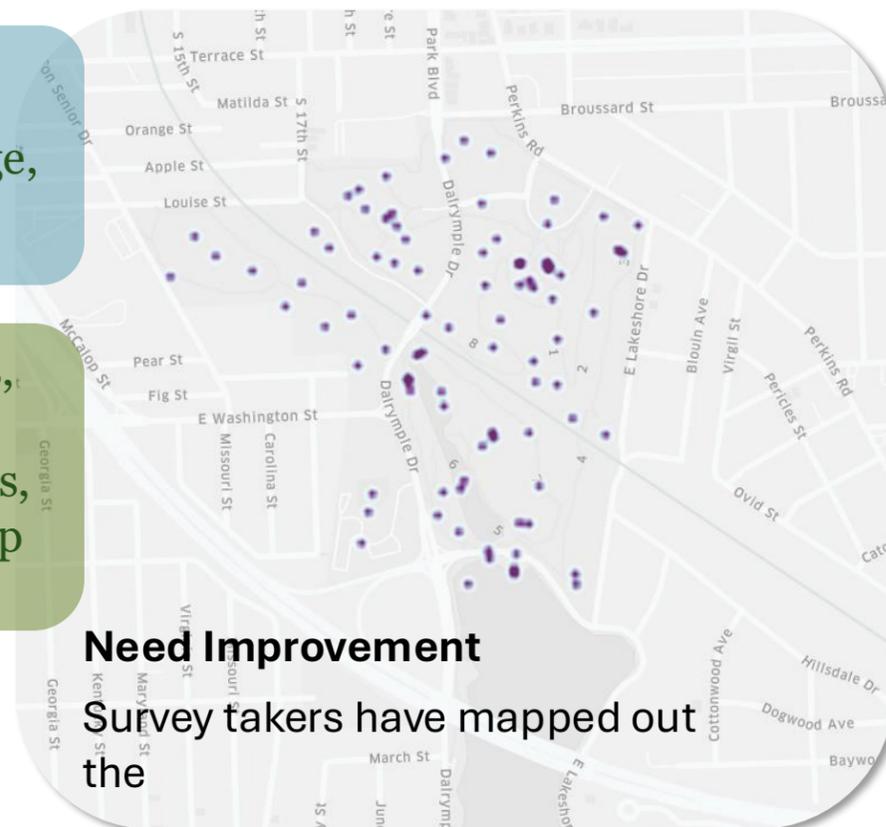
Requests for Amenities, Comfort, and Wayfinding

“More covered seating and tables.”

“Better street markings, signage, and lighting.”

“Water fountains, signage, street paving, bathrooms, and a place to stop and recharge.”

“More benches.”

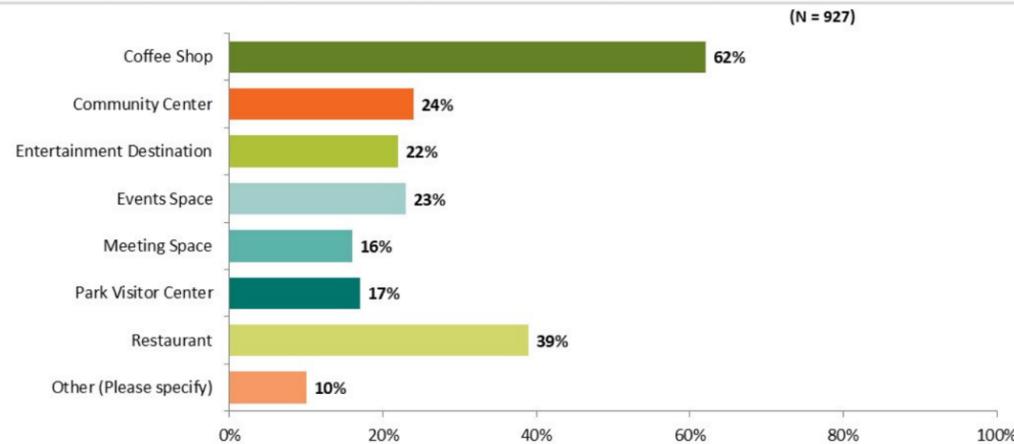


- Many requests are not about major new capital projects, but about the basics that make a park easy to use well.
- Needed amenities include **lighting, restrooms, water, seating, bike parking, community pavilion / market use, shade, clearer signage and wayfinding and maintenance improvements.**

What We Heard

ENGAGEMENT KEY FINDINGS

Part of the Master Planning effort includes reviewing potential uses for the existing City-Brooks Community Park Clubhouse. What sort of uses do you feel are missing from the community this space would be a good home for?



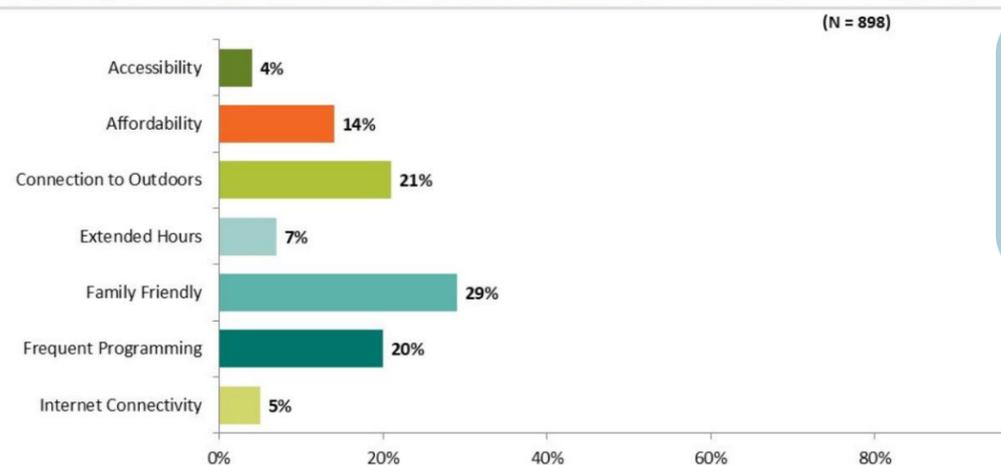
The top voted desired uses in the Clubhouse are **Coffee Shop (62%)** and **Restaurant (39%)**

“Perhaps an amphitheater or gathering space. A small café would be nice as well.”

“A coffee shop/grill for all park users... makes more sense.”

“I like it as a hilltop cafe. Maybe add a visitor information center.”

If this building were always open to the public, what would make you more likely to visit it regularly?



Socializing & Dining is the top choice (**43%**) when “imagine visiting the Clubhouse”

Family Friendly (29%) is the top choice to make people more likely to visit the Clubhouse

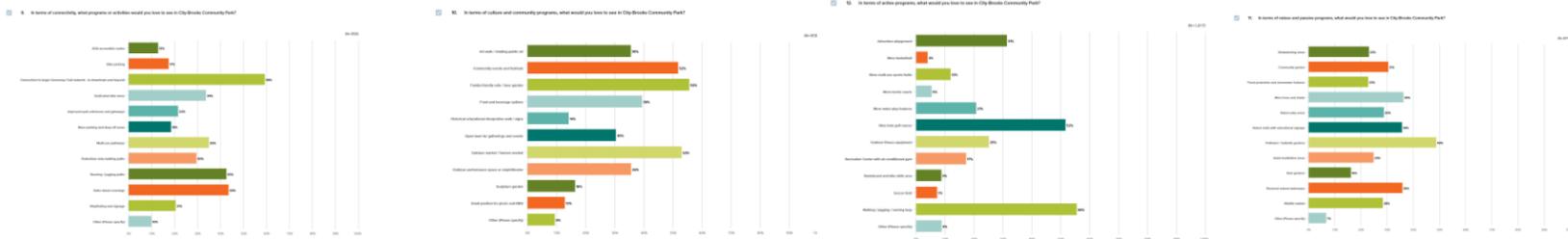
Desire for a More Publicly Accessible Clubhouse

- People strongly imagine it as a place to **linger, socialize, eat**, and connect to the outdoors.
- The strongest concepts are **café / restaurant / public gathering space**, not a single-purpose facility.
- **Family-friendliness** and regular programming matter more than formality.

What We Heard

ENGAGEMENT KEY FINDINGS

Question 9-12: What would you love to see in City-Brooks Community Park?



Q9 - Top 5 Connectivity Use:

- Connect to larger Greenway Trail network
- Running / jogging paths
- Safer street crossings
- Multi-use pathways
- Dedicated bike lanes

Q10 - Top 5 Culture / Community Use:

- Family-friendly café / beer garden
- Outdoor market / farmer's market
- Community events and festivals
- Food and beverage options
- Art walk / rotating public art
- Outdoor performance space / amphitheater

Q11 - Top 5 Nature / Passive Use:

- Pollinator / butterfly gardens
- Nature trails with educational signage
- Restored natural waterways
- More trees and shade
- Community garden

Q12 - Top 5 Active Use:

- Walking / jogging / running loop
- Nine-hole golf course
- Adventure playground
- Outdoor fitness equipment
- More water play features

Most Requested Future Programs

- People want the park to support everyday routines as much as destination activities.
- The survey suggests a future park that is active but not over-programmed, and social but still ecological.
- The uses here will be a reference point for the final park program list.

What We Heard

WHAT IS SASAKI'S SUMMARY OF WHAT THE ENGAGEMENT RESULTS TELL US?

1. Make City-Brooks Park a transformative regional landmark—defined by powerful programs, unforgettable spaces, + access for all.
2. Keep Golf as a use but adjust the footprint and improve it through operational and physical changes.
3. Focus on connectivity and access on all edges to make this truly part of the regional trail system.
4. Make the “Brooks-side” amazing, bringing back some of the past uses and vibrancy.
5. Connect the waterfront park to the water.
6. Celebrate the pastoral landscape for people to access but create moments of commerce, and activity. i.e. beer gardens with sunsets.
7. Dream big. Be bold. Then make it happen.