

The City of St. Johns Parks and Recreation Board would like to get your input on the proposed 2021-2025 Parks and Recreation Five Year Master Plan. The plan will be available for public viewing and comments from November 11 – December 18, 2020. A master plan approved by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources is required if the City wants to apply for grant funding from the DNR. Your comments will help with the development of the plan. Any comments will be included in the Master Plan and can be sent to bschafer@stjohnsmich.com.



City of St Johns

Five Year Recreation Master Plan

2021-2025



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INTRODUCTION

The City of St. Johns is a tight-knit community that is invested in and proud of its park system. The Parks and Recreation Board has worked with the community to assess need and to develop a plan of action for the next five years. This plan supports the goals of the Michigan DNR and is built around the guidelines of the City of St. Johns Parks and Recreation Mission Statement:

“Promote a broad, year-round range of quality indoor and outdoor recreational opportunities to City residents of all ages and physical and mental abilities and encourage inter-generational participation in activities.”

The City of St. Johns Parks and Recreation Board has provided multiple opportunities for the general public to participate in the development of this plan and feel that this plan will address current and future parks and recreation needs of the community, given the fiscal limitations of the City. The City of St. Johns Parks and Recreation Master Plan was prepared based on the guidelines set forth by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Recreation Division. This document provides the information necessary to help the City visualize its short-term and long-term parks and recreation goals.

This plan has been realized through a comprehensive planning process that addresses the parks and recreation needs of the City of St. Johns and the greater community, and in addition establishes priorities for recreation development.

The City of St. Johns Parks and Recreation Board is proud of the work they have accomplished alongside the community with regards to facility improvements and programs. Since 2000, the following improvements have been made to the facilities within the City, either with City tax dollars, grants, or donated material, labor, or money.

- Fantasy Forest Playground - City Park
- Performance Shell – City Park
- New Pavilion – City Park
- Handicapped viewing area – City Park
- Lest Thy Be Forgotten Memorial – City Park
- Main Pavilion Ceiling redone – City Park
- Jeep Track – Main Park
- Pavilion Improvement – Main Park
- Tennis/Basketball Court addition – City Park
- Jaycee Park Renovation
- Kibbee St. Park Renovation
- Rotary Gazebo – Rotary Park
- Farmers Market Pavilion – Rotary Park
- Water Spray Park – City Park
- New Pavilion – St. Johns Depot
- Land acquired for a trailhead park at Fred Meijer Clinton-Ionia-Shiawassee Trail

Since 2000, the offerings for recreational activity have also increased. The City has increased from offering approximately 20 programs annually to over 55 programs annually.

COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

When beginning the planning process, it is important to first examine the population characteristics of a community. The characteristics and trends of a community provide important indicators as to what future recreational needs should be and how planning will accommodate. These factors include a variety of social and physical

factors. Examinations of these characteristics and trends provide a firm rationale upon which future recreation decisions can be based.

Location

The City of St. Johns serves as the county seat for Clinton County, Michigan. It is located approximately eighteen miles north of Lansing. Its location and main thoroughfares, M-21 and US-27, allow St. Johns to be a hub to central Michigan. The total population within the City of St. Johns is 7,865, but the parks serve the Clinton County population of 75,382. (2010 Census)

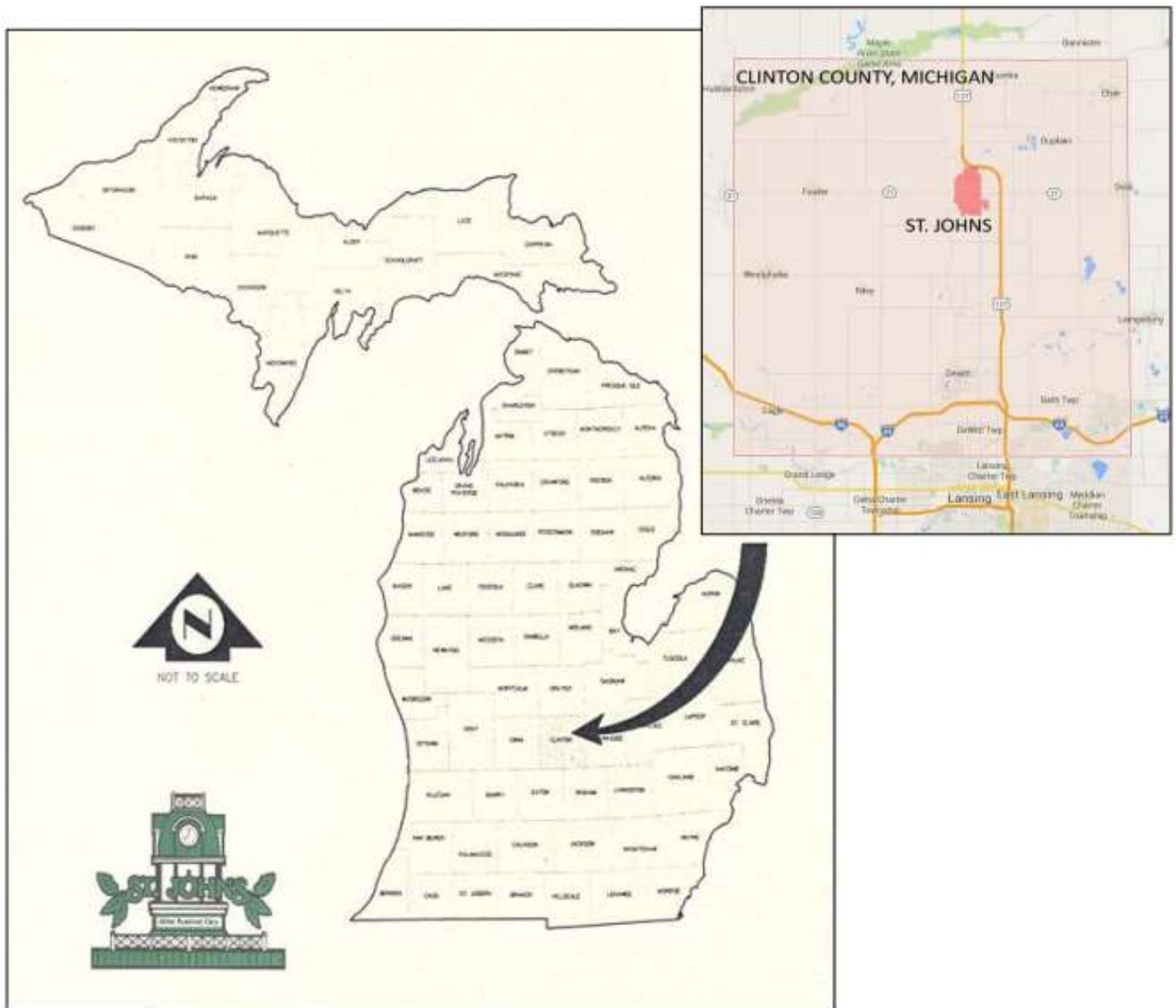


Figure 1: City of St. Johns Location

Population Age

Figure 2 displays the age classifications, in five-year increments, of area residents. The median age for the City is 37.2. The greatest percentage (60%) of the City of St. Johns population is under the age of 45. The distribution of the City of St. Johns population is more representative of an obelisk, than the typical pyramid with the young at the bottom. This depiction related that the age cohorts remain fairly high and equal, until age 45. At that point, the percentage of people in each age classification begins to taper off. This equates to a relatively high demand for family-oriented recreation. Over the next 20 years, the City of St. Johns is likely to experience a shift in demand with an increasing need for senior recreation activities. At this time, the board has recognized a lack of recreation opportunities for the teenage demographic and the senior citizen demographic.

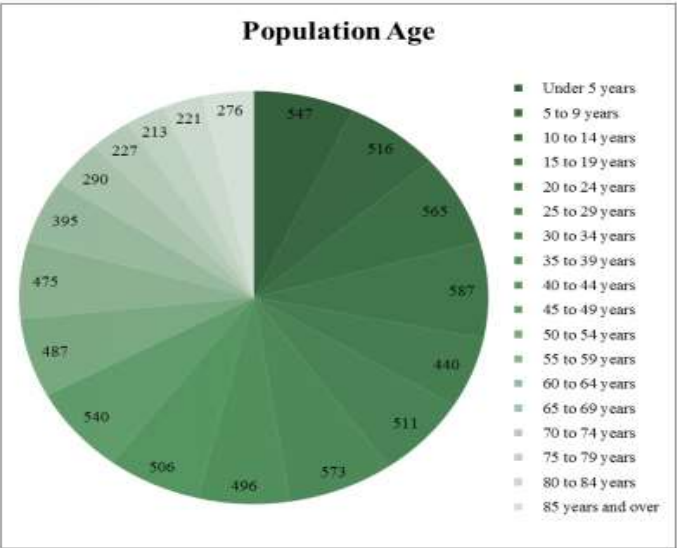


Figure 2: City of St. Johns Population and Age

Senior Citizens

20.6% of St. Johns residents are 60 years or older, leading to a relatively high demand for senior citizen activities and programs. Currently, senior citizen recreation programs are limited and the citizens are looking to expand these programs in the future. Many aspects of the City parks are accessible to seniors, and popular events like concerts in the park help fill recreational needs of this demographic.

Disability

It is the goal of the City of St. Johns to design future projects with the full range of human abilities in mind. The total percentage of citizens classified as disabled in St. Johns is 27.7%, slightly higher than the US average of 24.2%. It is clear that in any case, design that incorporates accessible features into recreation opportunities is preferable. Figure 3 compares the age distribution of disabled individuals in St. Johns vs. the United States. It

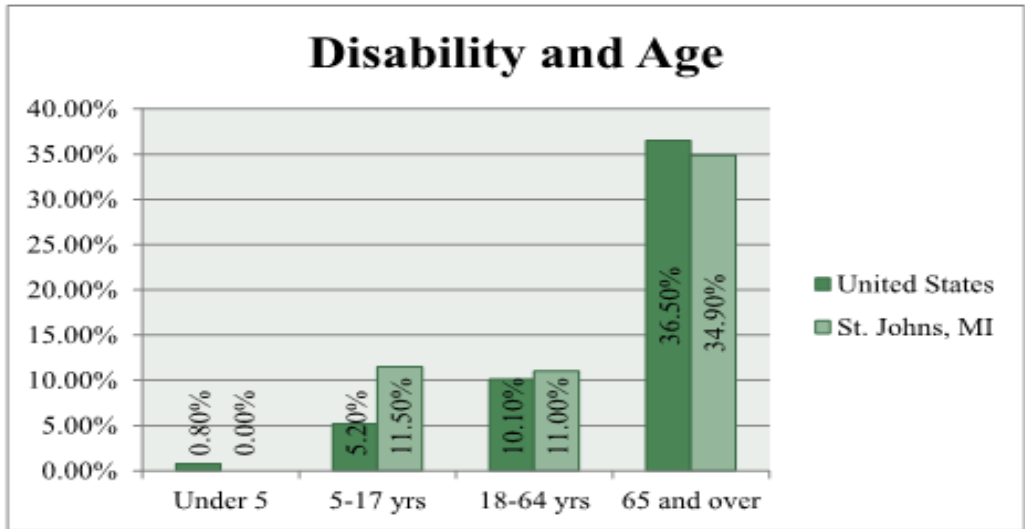


Figure 3: Disability and Age

is shown that St. Johns has almost double the average distribution of 5-17-year-olds with disabilities. It becomes especially critical to provide opportunities for this demographic in any future design project. The highest percentage of disabled individuals are 65 and over, consistent with the US average.

Figure 4, below, shows an estimate from the US Census exploring the distribution of different types of disability in the City of St. Johns as compared to the US. The largest group in both the City of St. Johns and the US are those with ambulatory disability, making the ease of navigating city parks a high priority. Whether this ambulatory disability requires a wheelchair or careful and easy foot placement, the circulation systems within the parks should be evaluated and streamlined wherever possible. Creative recreation opportunities should be developed to involve all disabled individuals. The percentage of individuals with cognitive disabilities is significantly higher in the City of St. Johns than the US (26.7% and 17.4%, respectively). The City may choose to apply special focus on additional improvements and developments in a way that facilitates use by those with differing mental and physical capabilities.

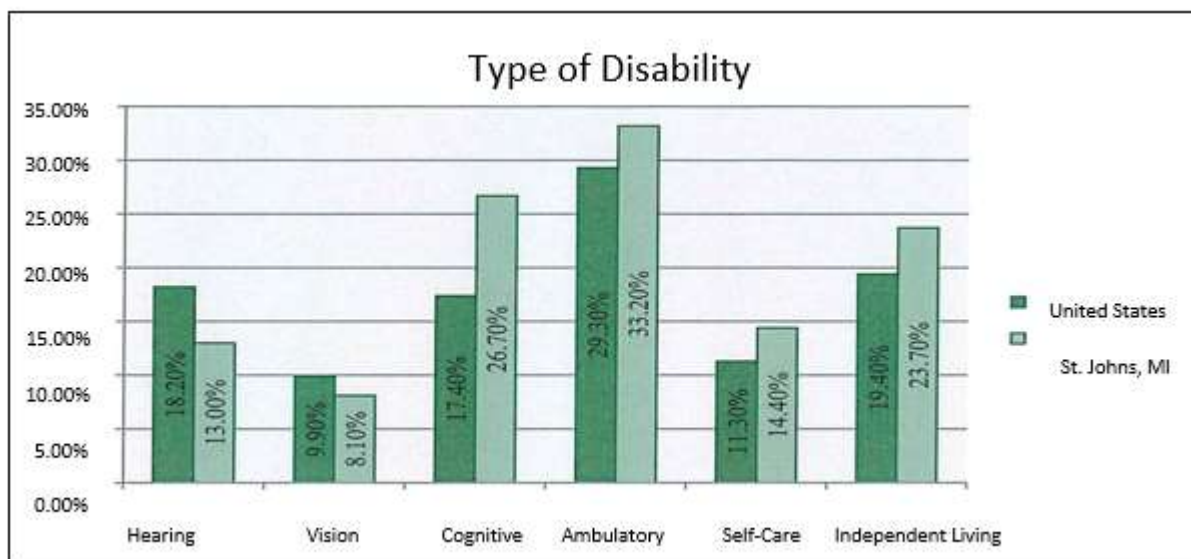


Figure 4: Type of Disability

ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

Roles of Commissions and Advisory Boards, Staff Description, and Organizational Chart

The City of St. Johns is a home rule city, with a commission/city manager form of government. Five City Commissioners are elected to overlapping four-year terms. The City Commission sets the policies and budgets for all City functions, including recreation. The Commission allocates funds for operations, maintenance, and capital improvements. The Commission also hires the City Manager and other City staff responsible for implementing the Commission's policies and for operating City departments. This Board of Commissioners is enabled by Act 1905 PA 157; Township Parks and Places of Recreation.

The City Manager is responsible for and oversees the day-to-day operations of the City. He/she advises and consults with the City Commission and implements their decisions. The Public Services Director reports to the City Manager. He/she is responsible for maintenance of the parks, including equipment and buildings. The City

Manager also oversees the Recreation Director. Recreation programs are administered by the Recreation Department. The Recreation Director supervises the Recreation Programmer, Pool Manager, and seasonal employees, and provides staff support to the Parks and Recreation Board.

The City of St. Johns has a seven-member Parks and Recreation Board. The City Commission established the Parks and Recreation Board in 1969 and follows policies and bylaws passed during their November 7, 2002 meeting. The City Commission appoints the members of the Board for staggered two-year terms. Members may be reappointed. There is no requirement for being appointed other than being City resident or owning a business within the city limits. The City Commission always likes to have a City Commissioner and a representative of the school district on the Board and the rest of the Commission is made up of civic leaders, educators, youth service professionals, business owners and recreation program participants.

The Parks and Recreation Board is an advisory board. It reviews the City's programs, facilities, budgets, special requests, and other items requested by the City Commission. The Board makes recommendations to the City Commission on programs and policies. The City Commission has the authority to commit funds, accept grants, and acquire land.

Annual Budgets 2020-2025

Annual Budgets 2020-2025

TABLE 1 City of St. Johns Projected Budget		
NAME	PARKS	RECREATION
2020-2021(Actual)	\$195,200	\$247,650
2021-2022	\$168,100	\$252,600
2022-2023	\$171,100	\$257,700
2023-2024	\$174,100	\$262,800
2024-2025	\$177,200	\$268,100

Current Funding Sources

Monies that make up the budget come from the City's general fund. The Parks Department budget, which funds repair and maintenance of City parks, has fluctuated over the years as larger improvements have been completed, but average \$188,200 for 2016-2020. The average for the next five years is expected to be around \$177,200. The Recreation Department budget, which funds recreation programming in the City parks and other facilities, has averaged \$122,400 over the last five years. The average for the next five years is expected to be around \$257,370.

Volunteers

Volunteers play a vital role in the City of St. Johns. Since 2000, volunteers have been the driving force behind major building projects in City Park. In 2000, a group of area residents raised over \$110,000 for a wooden play structure. In 2004, another group of committed residents raised over \$100,000 for a performance shell to replace an existing shell that was outdated and undersized. Recently, a group of citizens was able to raise over \$200,000 (including foundation grants) to replace the failing City Pool with a new spray park, complete in 2015. Community volunteers work on restoration and maintenance projects throughout the park system, including the historic rail cars at St. Johns Depot. Volunteers are also important for recreation programs, as they serve as coaches and supervision for many of the recreational programs.

Relationships: schools, public agencies, private organizations

The City Recreation Department has a good relationship with many of the other organizations in and around the city. There is a good working relationship between the school district and the City. Each uses the other's facilities for some of their programs. There is regular communication between the school and the City to improve the programs and resolve any problems. In the summer of 2010, the Recreation Department started to use the school district's indoor pool for swim lessons, open swim, and lap swim. Since the outdoor pool at the City Park closed in 2009, all aquatic recreation programs have taken place at the high school pool. The Parks and Recreation Board includes the Facilities Director for the school, and the City and school district have been working together to transfer the community education programs run by the school to the recreation department in order to save costs and eliminate duplication of services. This relationship expanded in the fall of 2019, when the City began renting the Wilson Center Gym to hold many recreation programs. The City added three classrooms to the rental of the gym to expand program offerings and began birthday party rentals. The City will look to expand programs offered at the Wilson Center, as well as increasing gym rental opportunities. The School Board and City Commission meet as needed to discuss issues of importance between the two. Upper management for the City and school staff meet more regularly to discuss mutual issues.

The City Recreation Department works with many other local organizations and individuals to offer expanded programs to area residents. The department works with the St. Johns Youth Baseball Organization by sharing facilities and equipment. Our adult exercise classes use local instructors to lead these programs. Over the years, the Recreation Department has worked with the Kiwanis Club, Jaycee Club, Rotary Club, various St. Johns High School teams/clubs, Chamber of Commerce, Clinton County RESA, Michigan Works – St. Johns, and numerous businesses in St. Johns.

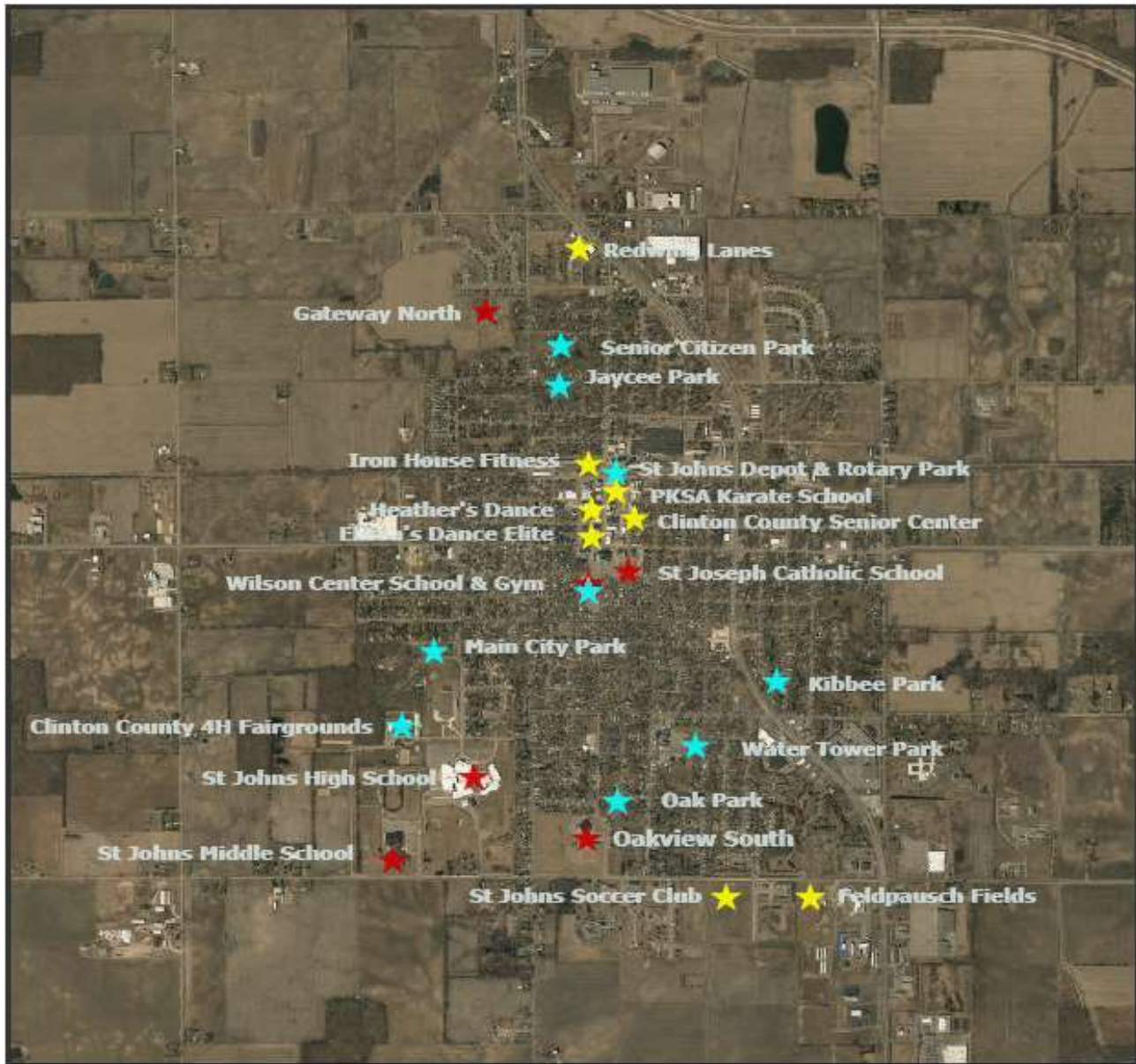
RECREATION INVENTORY

Methods

The recreation inventory began with a review of the City of St. Johns 2016-2020 Recreation Master Plan. Significant changes in the park system, such as the new spray park and other improvements, were recorded

and updated. A tour of all City park facilities was conducted, comparing the previous plan's inventory to the existing park facilities. The inventory was updated accordingly.

Location Map



Park Inventory

The parks and recreation facilities of the City of St. Johns were surveyed and classified into an inventory, which will be used as a basis for determining need for specific recreational facilities within the City. The inventory has been broken into multiple categories including regional, public, school, and private facilities. This list was compiled by using the previous Parks and Recreation Master Plan, other City resources, and the Clinton County 2015-2019 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan.

Regional Facilities

On a regional basis, the City of St. Johns is within 20 miles of several regional facilities (Table 2). These facilities mainly provide opportunities for recreational activities related to water. Sleepy Hollow State Park provides numerous recreation activities, including fishing, boating, hiking, cross-country skiing, camping, and swimming.

TABLE 2 City of St. Johns REGIONAL Public Recreational Facilities Inventory	
NAME	FACILITIES AVAILABLE
Looking Glass River	Boat Launch
Maple River	Boat Launch
Maple River State Game Area	Observation Deck
Grand River	Boat Launch
Muskrat Lake	Fishing, Boat Launch
Sleepy Hollow State Park	Fishing, Boating, Hiking, Cross-Country Skiing, Camping, and Swimming Beach
Francis Motz County Park	Sand Beach and Swimming Area, Beach house with 7 Unisex Restrooms, Paved Walkways and Parking Lot, Picnic Tables, Grills, Fishing Pier and a Covered Pavilion.
Clinton Lakes	272-acre property, fishing, hiking trails, nature watching. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Big Clinton Lake - 90-acre lake found within Clinton Lakes County Park • Little Clinton Lake - 12-acre lake found within Clinton Lakes County Park

Local Facilities

The following table is a comprehensive list of public and private recreational facilities within the City of St. Johns.

TABLE 3 City of St. Johns LOCAL Recreational Facilities Inventory	
NAME	FACILITIES AVAILABLE
Public Facilities	
Jaycee Park — Mini-Park An area for families to play and exercise	Playground Equipment Drinking Fountain Picnic Table Benches

Kibbee Street Park — Mini-Park An area for families to play and exercise	Playground Equipment Benches Drinking Fountain Picnic Table	Grill Basketball Hoop Bike Racks
Oak Street Park — Mini-Park	Playground Equipment Open Play Area	Picnic Table
Senior Citizen Park — Mini-Park Passive, relaxing recreation	Basketball Hoops (2) Tennis / Pickleball Courts (2) Benches Picnic Shelter	Restrooms Grills (2) Gliders (2)
St. Johns City Park — Large Urban Park	Tennis Courts (2) Performance Shell Picnic Pavilion Playground Picnic Shelters (4) Benches Picnic Tables Accessible Restrooms Trails (3) Youth Soccer Area Drinking Fountains Shuffleboard Court	Grills Full Basketball Court Basketball Court Softball Diamond (1) Flying Disc Golf Course Sand Volleyball Court Warming House Seasonal Skating Rink Sledding Hill Wooden Play Structure (Fantasy Forest) Water Spray Park
St. Johns Depot and Rotary Park	City festivals and events Picnic Pavilion Gazebo	Train Depot (Museum) Fred Meijer Clinton-Ionia-Shiawassee Trail Access
Water Tower Park	Basketball Court Playground Equipment	Picnic Area Drinking Fountains
4-H Fairgrounds (County Operated)	Smith Hall Peck Hall Animal Barns	Restrooms Arena (Indoor and Outdoor)
Public School Facilities		
Gateway North	Soccer Field Basketball Courts (2) Baseball Backstop Swing Sets (2)	Play Structures (2) Picnic Tables Gym
Junior High/ High School Complex	Baseball Diamonds (2) Practice Cages (4) Soccer Net (6 sets) Soccer Fields (6) Soccer/Football Field	Football Field Middle School Track Tennis Courts (10) Gyms (3)
Oakview South	Soccer Field Basketball Courts (2) Baseball Backstop Swing Set	Play Structures (2) Picnic Tables Gym Quiet Area

Wilson Center	Gym Playground	Auditorium Meeting Rooms
Private School Facilities		
First Baptist	Playground Gym	Soccer Field Benches
St. Joseph's Catholic School	Gym Basketball Hoop	Playground
St. Johns Lutheran Church	Gym Basketball Hoop	Playground
Private Facilities		
Baseball Park (Little League)	Baseball Diamonds (5)	Batting Cage
Clinton County Senior Center	Indoor Passive Recreation	Food Services
Clinton Memorial Physical Rehab. and Occupational Center	Exercise and Rehabilitation Center	
Iron House Fitness	Weight training, fitness	
PKSA Karate School	Karate and Fitness	
Redwing Bowling Lanes	Bowling Alley	
St Johns Soccer Club	Soccer Fields (5)	

In St. Johns, just as in many Michigan communities, the local schools provide a valuable resource of recreational facilities and programs to the community. For this reason, an inventory of the school facilities has been included in the inventory. Private recreational facilities, while generally pay-per use, provide an excellent source for recreational opportunities that help to alleviate the pressures on public facilities. An inventory of the private recreational facilities in the City of St. Johns was also included as part of the local facilities inventory.

Currently, the City of St. Johns owns several parks. There are five neighborhood parks and one Main City Park. The neighborhood parks contain facilities ranging from benches and grills, to playground equipment, and sports facilities. Table 4 lists each park's type, service area, accessibility, acres and features.

TABLE 4
CITY OF ST. JOHNS RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

	Main City Park	Jaycee Park	Kibbee Street Park	Water Tower Park	Oak Street Park	Senior Citizen Park	Rotary Park
Park Type*	LUP	MP	MP	MP	MP	MP	CP
Service Area**	SJA	NB	NB	NB	NB	NB	SJA
Accessibility Rating***	3	4	4	1	1	1	2
Acres	92.5	0.62	0.3	0.72	0.7	1.59	1.9
Ball Diamond	x						
Basketball	x		x	x			
Gazebo							x
Ice Rink	x						
Open Play Field	x						
Pavilion	5					x	x
Performance Shell	x						
Picnic Area	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Playground	x	x	x	x	x		
Grills	x	x	x			x	
Drinking Fountains	x	x	x	x			x
Restrooms	x					x	x
Sand Volleyball	x						
Sledding Hill	x						
Tennis Courts	x					x	
Trails /Paths	3						x

* Park Type	**Service Area	***Accessibility Rating
CP = Community Park	NB = Neighborhood	1 = none of the facilities/park area meets ADA guidelines
LUP = Large Urban Park	SJA = St. Johns Area	2 = some of the facilities/park area meets ADA guidelines
MP = Mini-Park		3 = most of the facilities/park area meets ADA guidelines
NP = Neighborhood Park		4 = the entire park meets ADA guidelines
		5 = the entire park was developed /renovated using the principals of universal design

Park Descriptions and Accessibility Assessment

The parks in St. Johns are continually evaluated for effectiveness, safety, and accessibility. Based on priorities set in prior recreation plans and community input, several projects targeting accessibility have been completed in recent years, including accessible picnic pavilions, upgraded restroom facilities, and improved parking and facility access. All present and future renovations are completed with the principles of universal design in mind.

Jaycee Park

Jaycee Park is a mini-park (0.62 acres) located at the corner of Ottawa Street and Gibbs Street. Designed as a space for families to play and exercise, this park features play equipment, grills, drinking fountains, benches, bike racks, and a picnic table. Renovated in 2009, the park has accessible sidewalks to all park features, as well as a new accessible drinking fountain and parking. Based on accessibility guidelines, the site would be ranked 4—the entire park meets accessibility guidelines.

Kibbee Street Park

Kibbee Street Park is a mini-park (0.30 acres) located on the corner of Kibbee Street and South Traver Street. Designed as a place for families to play and exercise, it features a half-court basketball hoop, play equipment, a picnic table, benches, and bike racks. Also renovated in 2009, the park has connective sidewalks to all major features and an accessible drinking fountain. Based on accessibility guidelines, the site would be ranked 4—the entire park meets accessibility guidelines.

Oak Street Park

Oak Street Park is a mini-park (0.7 acres) located along East Oak Street at its intersection with Wight Street. The park was converted from a small orchard to a community park in the 1970s. It has play equipment and a picnic table, as well as a large open grass area for free play. The park is less than ¼ mile from Oakview South Elementary School, which has a substantial play area in place. In its current condition, this park is underutilized, and not wishing to duplicate an existing resource, the park has undergone little renovation. The community may be ready to explore a new use for the site, such as a community garden, a dog park, or selling

it and using proceeds to improve other parks. Based on accessibility guidelines, the site would be ranked 1—none of the facility currently meets accessibility guidelines. Playground equipment was installed before US Consumer Product Safety Commission standards were established. They have no safety surfacing and no sidewalks. Playground does not meet barrier-free compliance.

Senior Citizen Park

Senior Citizen Park is a mini-park (1.59 acres) located at the corner of Ottawa Street and Gibbs Street, across the street from Jaycee Park. Designed for passive recreation, the park features a picnic shelter, tennis/pickleball courts, basketball hoops, glider playground equipment, benches, and restrooms. Based on accessibility guidelines, the site would be ranked 1—none of the facility currently meets accessibility guidelines. There are no sidewalks leading to any facility in this park, and the bathroom does not meet barrier-free compliance.

St. Johns City Park

The Main City Park is the largest park in the city (92.5 acres) and hosts the majority of the City's recreational activities and amenities. Categorized as a Large Urban Park, it serves not only the City of St. Johns but surrounding communities as well. The park has many athletic facilities, including a baseball/softball diamond, basketball courts, a disc golf course, shuffleboard court, sand volleyball court, tennis courts, and a youth soccer field. The park has several picnic shelters/pavilions and restroom facilities, some of which are accessible. Additionally, it has several play areas, including the community-funded "Fantasy Forest", a popular wooden play structure. It also has an accessible spray park with accessible bathroom/changing restrooms. Nature walking trails connect various aspects of the park and provide for passive recreation. A renovated performance shell provides for many activities in the warmer months, while a seasonal skating rink, warming house, and sledding hill provide winter recreation.

Based on accessibility guidelines, the site would be ranked 3—most of the facility currently meets accessibility guidelines. In the last 5 years, the main restrooms and pavilion have been renovated for universal accessibility. Within the park, there are paved walkways to all pavilions, the Performance Shell, and the Fantasy Forest play structure. The parking lot by the spray park was improved by adding a new surface with curb/gutter and sidewalk running along it. Wooded walking/jogging trails are not barrier free. Roads that run through the park are scheduled to be rehabbed in the near future.

St. Johns Depot and Rotary Park

Rotary Park is a community park (≈1.9 acres) located along the recently developed Fred Meijer Clinton-Ionia-Shiawassee Trail. The depot was purchased in 1998, with additional surrounding lands acquired in 2010. Adjacent to downtown, this renovated train depot hosts city events, rentals, and serves the trail users. The trailhead park with a restroom building, picnic tables, benches, wayfinding sign, accessible walkways, and new parking lot were completed in 2017. Improvements to Railroad Street will increase the parking capacity

around this park. Based on accessibility guidelines, the site would be ranked 2—some of the facility currently meets accessibility guidelines. This site is fully accessible.

Water Tower Park

Water Tower Park is a mini-park (0.72 acres) located at the corner of Elm Street and Swegles Street. The park has a half-court basketball hoop, picnic area, and playground equipment. The park land is leased from the adjacent hospital, which makes investment in improvements difficult to justify. Communication should be opened about purchasing this land or more permanently acquiring the property. Playground equipment was installed before US Consumer Product Safety Commission standards were established. Most do not have safety surfacing and there are no sidewalks. Playground does not meet barrier-free compliance. Based on accessibility guidelines, the site would be ranked 1— none of the facility currently meets accessibility guidelines.

Previous Grant Status Report

The City of St. Johns has received numerous grants from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources since 1972 (See Table 5).

Table 5				
Grant Assisted Projects				
Grant Number	Year	Project	Location	Status
26-00267	1972	St. Johns City Park	Main City Park	Closed
26-01023 Q3	1977	Main Park Restrooms	Main City Park	Closed
26-01060 w	1978	Northside Tennis Courts	Senior Citizen Park	Closed
BF89-359	1989	Veteran's Memorial Swimming Pool Renovation	Main City Park	Closed
26-01670	2006	Kibbee St Park and JC Park Renovations	Jaycee and Kibbee Parks	Closed
TF-09-169	2009	St. Johns Trailside Parkway Acquisition	Rotary Park	Closed
TF 14-0109	2014	St. Johns Trailside Park Renovation	Rotary Park	Closed
26-01741	2014	St. Johns City Park Improvements	Main City Park	Closed
TF- 16-0159	2016	Veterans Memorial Bathhouse Renovation	Main City Park	Closed

PLANNING PROCESS

The planning process began with a review of the 2016-2020 Five Year Parks and Recreation Plan that was adopted in February of 2016 by the members of the Parks and Recreation Board. The plan outlined the goals for the development of park and recreational opportunities within the City for five years.

Due to Covid-19 precautions, a teleconference call was held April 27, 2020 discussing the results of the previous Master Plan and general ideas for the new plan took place along with a tentative schedule via email for the Master Plan process. At this point, it was determined that a thorough and well-distributed survey would be vital to the success of the new Master Plan, and several revisions of the survey took place during the next month.

The survey was distributed to the community in July 2020 and responses were accepted through August 16, 2020. These responses were reviewed with the Parks and Recreation Board at a meeting on September 16, 2020. The main body of the Master Plan was also distributed for preliminary review by the board.

The meeting participants discussed objectives and a plan of action for the new Master Plan based on the survey feedback.

The survey feedback and meeting discussion were incorporated into an updated list of goals and objectives, which was then translated into an action plan for the City. This plan and the main body of the Master Plan were reviewed by the Parks and Recreation Board at a meeting on November 18, 2020. Changes from this meeting will be incorporated and the Master Plan will be posted for public review on TBD. Citizens will also be encouraged to comment through the City's website and social media presence. A paper copy will additionally be available for review and comment at the local library. Residents in the City's email database were sent notice by email. A public review meeting took place TBD. Newspaper notice for the public hearing was circulated on TBD and notice via email and social media was distributed. Comments from the public review period will be incorporated into the Master Plan prior to the meeting. After taking comments at this meeting, the Parks and Recreation Board will decide if the plan should be presented to the City Commission as edited after the community review period.

Changes based on this public hearing will be incorporated and the plan was presented to the St. Johns City Commission during a meeting on TBD. When approved, the Master Plan will be submitted to the State.

PUBLIC INPUT

Methods

Public input was the primary guide to developing this Master Plan. Several methods were used, including a community survey at the beginning of the process, a public posting of the plan for community review, and a community meeting near the end of plan development.

The community survey was developed based on the previous recreation plan's questions and responses. Several recreation plans, including the State of Michigan and Clinton County, were reviewed for applicable questions to incorporate into the survey. Special care was taken to process and incorporate any written feedback received during the last community survey. Developed online using Survey Monkey, the community survey was distributed using the City's website and social media presence, and sent to approximately 800 recipients in the City's email database. A press release was also sent out in a local newspaper giving residents options to take the survey. Community members could take the survey online or call the City Offices to have a paper copy mailed. An effort was made to reach as many citizens as possible. Overall, 242 people responded to the survey, roughly half them were from the city (119), representing approximately 3.6% of the population of the City of St. Johns. This group is believed to be representative of the city demographic as a whole. Survey responses are incorporated into the Action Program Rationale and a full copy of the survey and responses can be found in Appendix A: Survey and Results.

The plan was posted for community review on November 11, 2020. Citizens could contribute feedback in several ways, including through an online comment form, email, and phone.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

1. Provide safe, inclusive, community-based recreational opportunities that improve the overall quality of life for all St. Johns-area residents.

Parks provide a natural gathering place for the community as well as provide for free or low-cost recreational activities. Therefore, it is important to continue to provide and improve these facilities. Based on community input, the City will continue to provide and improve these facilities.

- Objective: Continue to improve and upgrade the City of St. Johns recreational and support facilities, based on community feedback, of which residents can be proud.
- Objective: Provide increased and better access to and through the City Parks and Trails System.
- Objective: Add passive and active programming based on community input and available financing.

2. Promote development of a non-motorized pathway system throughout the City to encourage interaction and participation, improve pedestrian safety, and strengthen non-motorized linkages between City parks and other recreational facilities.

Paths and trails are a high priority with the residents. St. Johns currently has few trails, but with the construction of the Fred Meijer CIS Trail, they have seen a rise in non-motorized activity in the city. Connecting the rail trail with the City Park and other points of interest is a high priority for the community. 80% of survey respondents place a high or moderate funding priority on increasing trail connectivity within the community.

- Objective: Expand non-motorized pathways in St. Johns, with focus on existing paths and points of interest.
- Objective: Evaluate options for safely moving pedestrian traffic across Old U.S. 27 to expand non-motorized park access from the east side of the highway.
- Objective: Pursue a partnership with Clinton County to connect the Fred Meijer CIS Trail to Motz Park and possibly other county resources.

3. Promote regional cooperation between the City of St. Johns, Clinton County, surrounding townships, the St. Johns School District, and other public and private organizations within the County to better provide comprehensive recreational opportunities to the residents of St. Johns and Clinton County.

It makes financial and practical sense to coordinate recreation within the city in a way that is aware and supportive of the surrounding areas. The City and School District have been working together for years providing shared recreation programs and facilities. Further collaboration with the County and other organizations will prove to be an important component in providing quality recreational programs and facilities to the St. Johns community.

- Objective: Continue to work with the existing partners to provide recreational programming and facilities.
- Objective: Continue to explore options for new and expanded partners, providing additional recreational opportunities.

4. Enhance the quality of local neighborhoods through establishment and maintenance of quality neighborhood parks conveniently located to all City residents.

Park facilities are among the most visible indicators of community identity and pride. Every park in the system, with the exception of the Senior Citizen Park, was shown to be the most important park to several responding households, with all parks being used by individuals on a bi-weekly basis or more frequently. The majority of respondents said clean and quality restrooms and playground areas were the most important features of a park.

- Objective: Continue to upgrade playground equipment and access, paying special attention to universal access.
- Objective: Keep parks safe and well-maintained.
- Objective: Investigate all appropriate methods to provide facilities and for facility improvements, including providing incentives to private developers, promoting donation of property and/or facilities, and the sale of unused/underused assets.

5. Provide universally accessible recreation opportunities designed with all community members in mind.

The City wishes to provide recreational activities for residents of all abilities. With ambulatory and cognitive disabilities shown to be higher than the national average, special care should be taken to actively incorporate facilities for these users.

- Objective: Partner with organizations that serve disabled individuals to better understand and provide for community needs.

- Objective: Make sure that all improvements and upgrades to park facilities, where feasible, are universally accessible.

6. Strengthen the role of the City of St. Johns as a regional provider/coordinator of recreational opportunities, and develop a plan that maximizes the impact of existing and future recreation providers.

Due to its centralized location and rural surroundings, the City is the major recreational provider for the central and northern part of the county. Many people from within and outside the City look to us for recreational programming, yet many are not aware of the programming we offer. Several survey respondents were unaware of multiple parks, recreation resources, and facilities.

- Objective: Expand current internet presence, including the City website, to provide information on facility locations, features, and recreation programs.
- Objective: Explore the possibility of creating a Recreation Authority with other municipal groups and recreation providers.
- Objective: Explore additional methods to improve community awareness of recreation programs and facilities.
- Objective: Encourage citizen involvement in the park system through volunteer programs, interpretive programs, and the decision-making process. Consider implementing regular online community surveys to monitor progress and gain input on specific recreation decisions.

7. Acquire property, as necessary, to meet the long-term recreational needs of City residents.

In the past, the City has purchased valuable parks and recreation land but has also sold land to other entities providing them with land to expand their facilities. Local officials must be conscious of the need to retain and acquire additional parkland.

- Objective: Retain existing parkland to meet recreational needs of the City.
- Objective: Encourage the use of open spaces for recreational purposes.
- Objective: Evaluate every opportunity to expand/improve the park system and take action where practical, this may include selling underused park land and using proceeds to improve or purchase other parks. Natural conservation should be considered in addition to facility expansion.

8. Promote healthy, active lifestyles through the St. Johns Parks and Recreation facilities and programs.

Considering national problems of obesity, heart health, diabetes, and other health issues, it is important to take into consideration the health impact of new and existing facilities and programs. Just over 67% of respondents participate in recreation programs offered by the department, yet 58% of survey respondents still feel that the improvement of health and fitness programming would have a positive impact on their satisfaction, and 75% currently use the parks for fitness and exercise. 66% feel that the development and improvement of trails within the park system would have a very positive impact on their satisfaction, and 11% cite “lack of trails” as a reason for not using the park system more frequently.

- Objective: Promote awareness of existing facilities and programs that support healthy lifestyles and choices.
- Objective: Provide additional health and fitness programming.
- Objective: Provide additional facilities and opportunities, including walking and biking trail systems, which foster healthy choices and lifestyles.
- Objective: Provide innovative recreation opportunities for all seasons that encourage active year-round lifestyles.

ACTION PROGRAM

ACTION PROGRAM

The action plan for the City of St. Johns Parks and Recreation Plan includes proposed action items including capital improvements, organization, and recreation programming changes. Priority rankings were based on survey responses, goals, and discussion within the Recreation Board. Project types consist of; Capital Improvements (C), which involve monetary investment in new facilities or equipment, Maintenance (M), which involve renovating and maintaining existing features, and Planning (P), which involve brainstorming ideas and generating community buy-in for new developments.

Figure5 City of St. Johns 2016-2020 Action Items				
Park	Project	Project Type	Related Goal	Priority
Jaycee Park	Landscaping	C		Low

	Pavilion	C		Low
Kibbee Street Park	Landscaping	C		Low
	Pavilion	C		Low
	Replace Existing Fencing	M		Low
Oak Street Park	Park Improvement Plan — explore alternative playground options (ex. nature playground)	P		Medium
Senior Citizen Park	Construct Parking Lot	C	1	Medium
	Construct Accessible Walk System	C	1	Medium
	Restroom Renovation	M	1	Medium
	Play Equipment — Install new swings	C	1	Medium
St. Johns City Park	Improve Sidewalk Circulation System	C	1, 4, 5,	High
	Renovate Bath House and Maintain Spray Park	M	1, 3	High
	Improve Trail System	M	1	High
	Renovate and Upgrade Fantasy Forest Play Structure	M	1	High
	Renovate Warming House	M	1, 4, 6, 8	Medium
	Expand and Improve Sledding Hill	C	1,4, 6, 8	Medium
	Landscaping Improvements	M		Medium
	Install Additional Playground Equipment	C	1, 8	Medium
	Main Pavilion Exterior Renovation	M		Medium
	Expand and Improve Sand Volleyball Court	C	1	Low
	Construct New Soccer Field	C	1	Low
	Improve Park Roads	M	1	Low
St. Johns Depot and Rotary Park	Park Improvement Plan (East Side)	P	1, 3, 8	Medium

	Playground Equipment	C	1, 3, 4, 6, 8	Medium
	Parking Lot Expansion	C		Low
	Senior Citizen Amenities	C		Low
Water Tower Park	Construct Accessible Walk System	C		Medium
	Land Acquisition (Purchase from Hospital)			Low
	Playground Equipment (remove and replace)	C		Low
	Park Improvement Plan		1, 3, 4, 8	Low
Other	Trail Connections — CIS Trail to Main Park		5, 6,	High
	Trail Connections — CIS Trail to Jaycee / Senior Citizens Park		1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8	Medium
	Trail Connections — CIS Trail to Kibbee Street Park (may include overpass at highway 27)		1, 2, 3,	Medium
	Implement Park Signage System	C	1, 3,	Medium
	Revise City Recreation Website	M	1, 3, 6	Medium
	Park Lighting & Safety Evaluation (All Parks)			Medium
	Fell Property Development Plan / Community Building		7, 8	Low
	Identify Location for Community Dog Park		1, 3, 4, 5, 8	High
	Identify Location for Community Skate Park		1, 3, 8	High

RATIONALE FOR ACTION PROGRAM

Jaycee Park

In line with Master Plan goals 1 and 4, park improvements such as landscaping installations and a picnic pavilion would strengthen the neighborhood park for the surrounding community. Jaycee Park was recently renovated with new playground equipment and a sidewalk circulation system. It meets most community needs at this time, making further improvements a relatively low priority.

Kibbee Street Park

Kibbee Street Park could see additional improvements in the future including landscaping installations, a picnic pavilion, and replacement of existing aged fencing. These improvements support goals 1 and 4 by strengthening the park and providing a safe environment. The park play equipment and sidewalk system was

recently renovated and currently meets the needs of the surrounding community, making further improvements a relatively low priority.

Oak Street Park

Oak Street Park has been underutilized in the past, partly due to its proximity to the local elementary school, which has an excellent traditional play structure. The Park Improvement Plan would encourage community input on alternative site uses, such as a nature-based playground, skate park, or dog park. In the interest of not duplicating existing resources, improvements with traditional playground equipment are not being pursued for the site. The site currently does not offer much to residents and has relatively low use numbers. Improvement to this park would meet goals 1 and 4. Priority for this project is moderate as the needs of the community are largely met by the nearby playground.

Senior Citizen Park

Senior Citizen Park is adjacent to Jaycee Park, and its facilities will service both parks' users. The park has existing restroom facilities that are in poor condition. Frequent vandalism on site causes some hesitation to replace these facilities until a vandal-proof solution can be found. There is strong support for improvement of restrooms in the community survey and these renovations would meet goals 1, 4 and 5. Until a solution that prevents vandalism can be found, the priority to upgrade these bathrooms is moderate. There is currently no walk system or parking lot on the site, and the addition of both these aspects would greatly increase the accessibility of the park (goal 5) while meeting goals 1 and 4 by providing a safer park. Additional play equipment, such as a new set of swings, would add variety to the site while meeting goals 1, 4 and 8. Both of these upgrades are a moderate priority for the city.

St. Johns City Park

The main city park is the largest park in St. Johns and is the most important park to 88% of the survey respondents. Recent improvements and additions include a spray park, upgraded restroom facilities, improvements to the sidewalk system and disc golf course have been completed in the last six years.

The circulation system within the park is lacking in several areas, both in paved and unpaved trails. Walking trails are some of the most used and most important features for survey respondents, and the improvement of both paved and unpaved systems would meet goals 1, 4, 5, 6, and 8. These improvements are placed as a high priority. Improving the road system and parking is slated to happen in 2020-21 fiscal year.

Winter activities were expressed to be important in the survey results, and renovations to the sledding hill and the warming house would support winter recreation in St. Johns. These renovations will include additional lighting at the sledding hill and the ice skating warming house. Improving these features is a moderate priority for the city and would meet goals 1, 4, 6, and 8.

The Fantasy Forest play area is one of the most unique and popular parts of the Main City Park. The wooden structure is beginning to show its age and renovations will soon be necessary. Over 84% of respondents said that Fantasy Forest updates would have a positive impact with their satisfaction of the City's recreation

facilities. The park is often crowded, especially at peak times, and expansion will be explored. Renovations to the Fantasy Forest will meet goals 1, 4 and 5 and is a high priority.

The play areas in the City Park are often crowded and interest was expressed in the survey in providing a separate playground area in addition to the Fantasy Forest. This additional playground equipment could help meet goals 1, 4, 5, and 8 and is a moderate priority.

Landscaping was listed as one of the most important features to survey respondents (34%) and landscape improvements within the park are a moderate priority. These improvements would meet goals 1 and 4.

The Main Pavilion is a very noticeable part of the main park and is beginning to show wear. Exterior renovation would meet goals 1 and 4 and is a moderate priority.

The park road system varies in quality and safety, some of it being unpaved. The improvement of these roads would benefit park users while meeting goals 1, 4 and 5. Improvement to the road system is being planned to happen in the 2020-21 fiscal year.

The sand volleyball court is used by many respondents and plays an important role in local league competitions. More than 50% of survey respondents feel the improvement of the court is important to their satisfaction with the City's recreation facilities. Also, there is currently no soccer field in the main city park, but 50% of respondents feel that the addition of a soccer field would have a positive effect on their satisfaction. A potential site for the soccer field would be where the current BMX Track is located. The expansion and improvement of the sand volleyball court and the addition of a soccer field would meet goals 1, 4 and 8 of the Master Plan and is a relatively low priority at this time.

St. Johns Depot and Rotary Park

The St. Johns Depot and Rotary Park is located along the Fred-Meijer CIS Trail and the construction of a trailhead park is underway. The park is a long, thin strip, and there are currently no plans for the east side of the site. Alternatives to explore for this area include play equipment, artifact display areas (to tie into the historic train depot), a dog park, a skate park, or a high ropes course. Amenities for senior citizens, such as glider swings and fitness stations, will also be explored and incorporated. A parking lot expansion may become necessary as the park expands, but is a relatively low priority in comparison with other site improvements. The level of community support or interest in each of the options would be collected in the Park Improvement Plan. This plan would be a critical step before further improvements can take place and is a moderate priority. The projects for this site have the potential to meet goals 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 8.

Water Tower Park

Water Tower Park presents a unique challenge within the City park system. The park land is owned by the adjacent hospital and is leased to the City (for only 1 dollar) on a yearly basis. Until the park land can be acquired, park improvements are difficult to justify as they may not belong to the City in the long term. Regardless, the improvement of the park is important to citizens and to the City. A park improvement plan,

featuring an accessible walk system and new playground equipment, could meet goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, and 8. This plan has a relatively low to moderate priority until the land can be permanently acquired. The possibility of acquiring the land or signing a longer lease in cooperation with the hospital should be explored as a part of this plan.

Wilson Center

In 2018, the City began renting the Wilson Center and multiple classrooms from the St. Johns Public School District for recreation programs. These programs have been received well by the community and the gym is being used for either recreation programs or private rentals almost every night from October – April. The City offers: Open gym pickleball, basketball, and volleyball; volleyball leagues, basketball clinics, yoga, Zumba, cardio drumming, Nerf battles, as well as private rentals and birthday parties. The school district is in the process of selling the building to a developer. Even though the developer has said they plan to continue to lease to the City, we are looking at it as a short-term use until something more formal is in place. The addition of the Wilson Center Gym as a long-term site would alleviate the need for a community center.

Trail Connections

The addition of non-motorized trail connections throughout the city relate directly to goal 2 and have been a priority for the City since the completion of the Fred Meijer CIS Trail. The desire for these trail systems have been expressed by the community survey. Providing a pedestrian connection from the CIS Trail to the Main City Park has the highest priority, as this is the park that has the most users and the most regional draw. Connection to Kibbee Street Park would involve getting pedestrians across highway 27, something the community has wanted to do for some time. Connecting to both Kibbee Street Park and Senior Citizens/Jaycee Park are moderate priorities for the community. These trail connections are consistent with goals 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 and 8.

Dog Park

The idea of a dog park has been discussed for years in St. Johns. 35% of survey respondents feel the addition of a dog park is a high priority in the park system. The demand for a park is present, but it must be located wisely with proper community guidance and input. Potential locations are at the BMX track in the main city park or at the Depot lot, but many other potential locations should be explored. The planning for and eventual creation of a dog park would meet goals 1, 3, 4, 5 and 8 and is a low priority.

Skate Park and High Ropes Course

A skate park has been discussed for years as a means to engage the teenage demographic in St. Johns. This proposed facility had mixed reviews in the community survey, with 10% feeling it is one of the most important features in a park. Another possible engagement solution is a high ropes course, which would require more long-term city involvement but is more supported by the community. 42% feel a high ropes course should have funding priority, while 42% feel a skate park should be funded. Either facility could be an exciting new addition to St. Johns and the surrounding region, and a community discussion should be opened. The planning

for and construction of a skate park or high ropes course would meet goals 1, 3, 4, 5, and 8 and is a low priority for the community.

Website Revisions and Park Signage System

The community survey has revealed that many park users have trouble finding information on St. Johns parks, and some do not know that certain parks exist within the system. In order to better promote park usage, several projects have been developed with a moderate priority. Revisions to the City website including a park map and facility list would provide information to the average user at a relatively low cost to the City. This could also be applied to recreational programs. A consistent park signage system would also help citizens locate parks and develop a sense of identity for neighborhood parks and for the St. Johns park system. This will become especially important for wayfinding as non-motorized trails are developed. The improvement of the website and park signage system meets goals 1, 3, 4, and 6 and are both a moderate priority to complete.

Lighting / Safety Evaluation

Poor night lighting was given as a top reason for not using the parks more often by 31% of respondents who felt there were limitations that keep them from using the park. Lighting has been updated in some areas of the Main City Park, but a further evaluation of the lighting and safety of all the parks may be warranted. This is a moderate priority for the city and would meet goals 1 and 4.

Recreation Programming

The majority of recreation program users feel that offering more health and fitness classes and swimming classes would have a positive impact on their satisfaction with the St. Johns Recreational Programming. Additional classes are limited by the availability of instructors and facilities, but the option to expand wherever possible should be explored. Amenities related to these classes, such as inflatable obstacles and fitness equipment, will also be pursued. This is a moderate priority for the City and would meet goals 1, 3, 5, 6, and 8.

Fell Property Development Plan / Community Building / Wilson Center

A community building has been discussed for years within the City of St. Johns and would have a very positive impact on recreation opportunities and programs offered. A proposed site for the community building is the Fell Property (adjacent to the Main City Park), which would have space for the facility and walking/skiing trails. Due to the large investment this would require, careful planning and proper funding sources must be in place before construction. The development of the community building is a relatively low priority due to financial reasons, but would meet goals 1, 2, 3, 5, 7 and 8 of the Master Plan. Below is a further description of what this community building could offer.

The community building would be used to house various community recreation needs, including multi-use courts, fitness center area, track, game-room/arcade, classroom/meeting room and multi-use room. Size of the building would be about 44,000 square feet and with costs projected to be approximately \$150 square foot for a total of 7 million dollars.

Fitness Center Area

The fitness center area would be located inside the track next to the multi-use courts in a 50x60 foot area. This area would be appropriate for young children to help them establish a healthy lifestyle, adults who accompany their children or simply wish to improve their health, and for older citizens who wish to exercise, but may have difficulties with the equipment found in traditional gyms. Equipment would be comprehensive and include the traditional equipment found in exercise facilities, as well as specialized and alternative forms of equipment to address the special needs of area residents. This type of exercise facility directly supports the Mission Statement of the Parks and Recreation Plan to support inter-generational recreational activities and address the recreation needs of all segments of the population.

Multi-use Courts

It is proposed that the two courts would be side by side 50 ft. x 94 ft. Courts could be used for basketball, indoor tennis and additional volleyball courts if needed. In making them multi-use, we would be able to accommodate three needs that were indicated in the survey.

Track

The proposed track would be a 4-lane track that would encircle the two multi-use courts and would be an eighth of a mile long. The track would provide for additional walking the jogging areas as indicated in the survey.

Multi-use Room

The multi-use room would be used for soccer, floor-hockey, half-court basketball, and volleyball. This multi-use room would house a soccer field/floor hockey, three half-court basketball courts, and three regulation size volleyball courts.

Game Room/Arcade

The game room would house various video games, and other tabletop games (i.e. air hockey, foosball, billiards) for people to play. This would satisfy the number two need from the results of the November 12, 2003 public planning meeting.

Class Room /Meeting Room

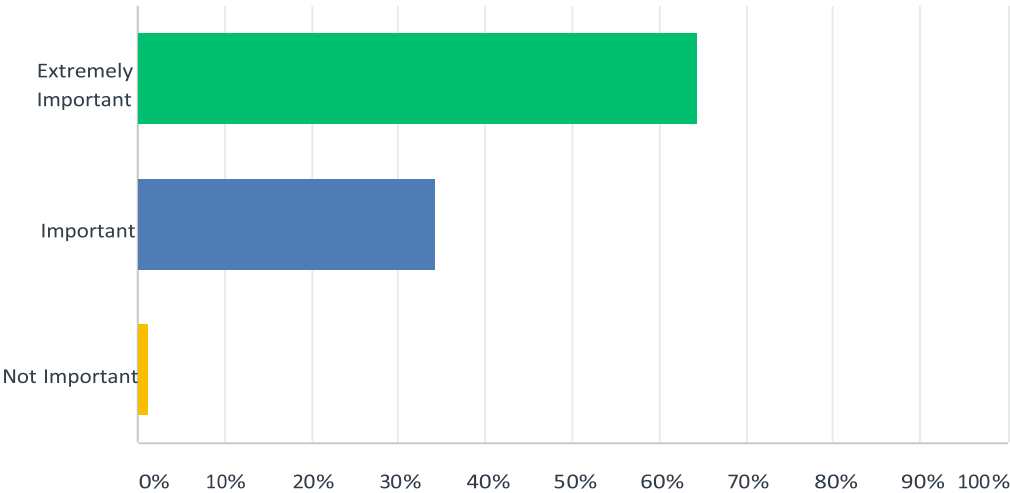
This room would be available for community meetings, provide space to hold community enrichment classes, and also be used as a room to hold birthday parties or other special events.

Appendices

Appendix A

Q1 Rate the overall importance of the City of St. Johns parks and recreational facilities, programs, and services.

Answered: 242 Skipped: 0

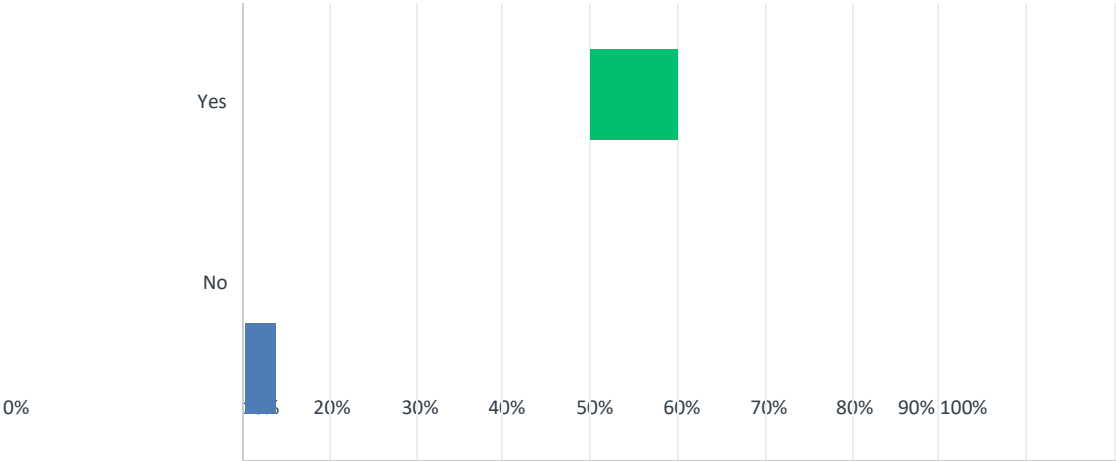


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Extremely Important	64.46%	156
Important	34.30%	83
Not Important	1.24%	3
TOTAL		242

Q2 I (or members of my household) use the City Park facilities.

Answered: 239

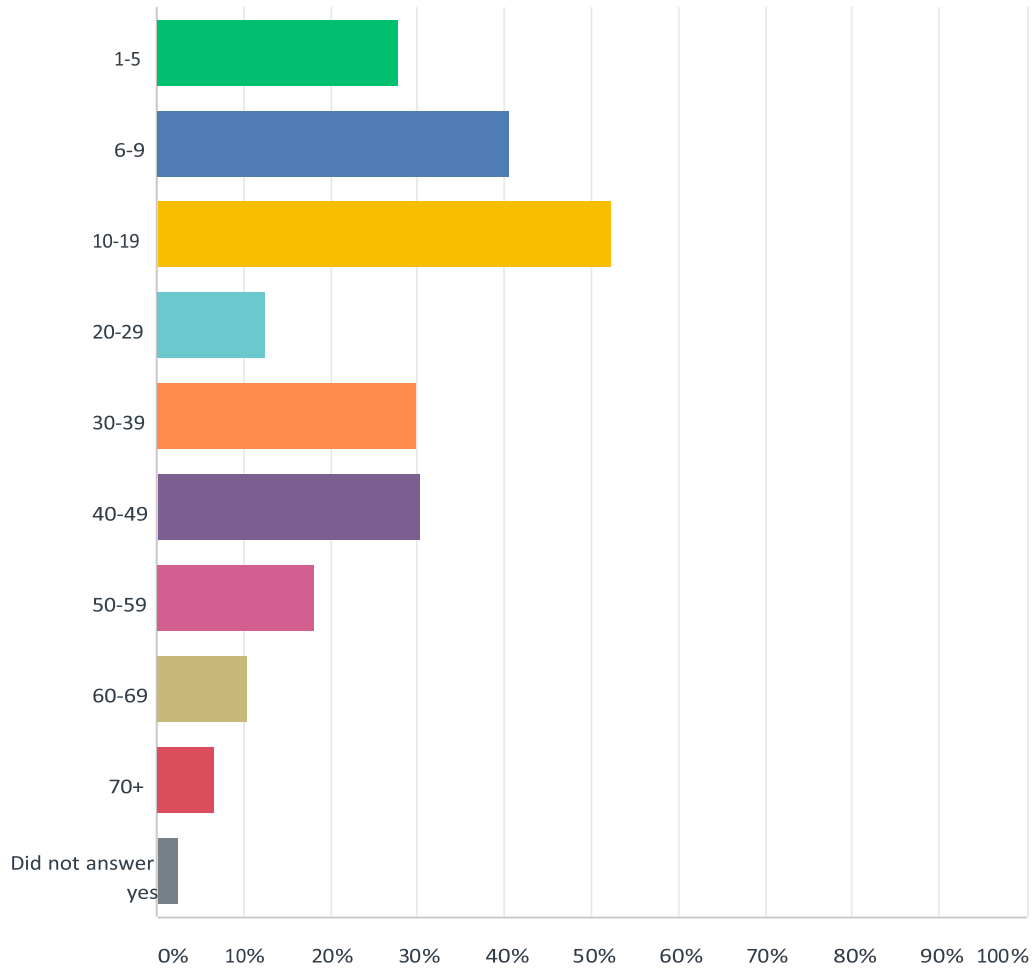
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ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES	
Yes		96.23%	230
No		3.77%	9
TOTAL			239

Q3 Please indicate the age(s) of the users.

Answered: 241 Skipped: 1

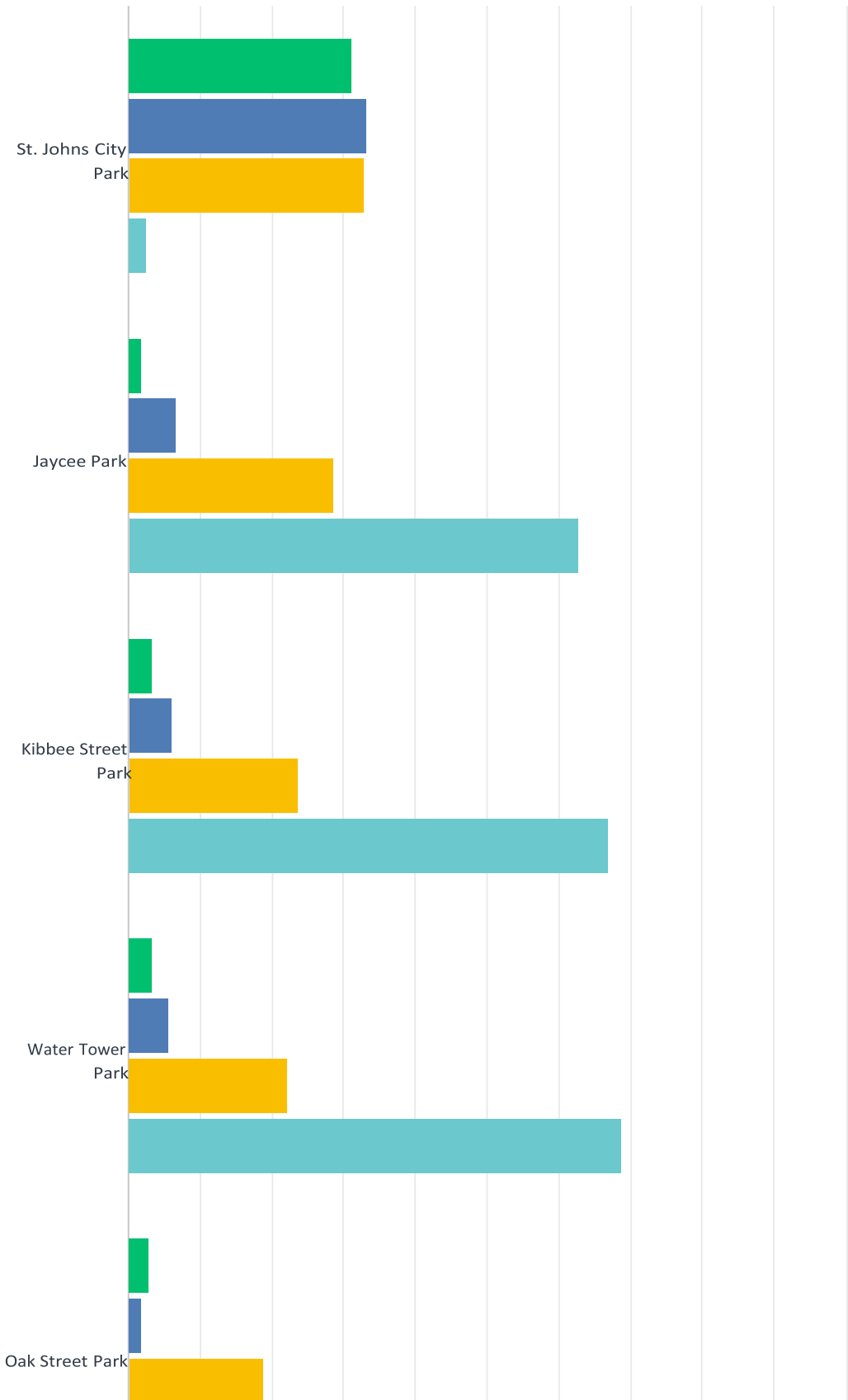


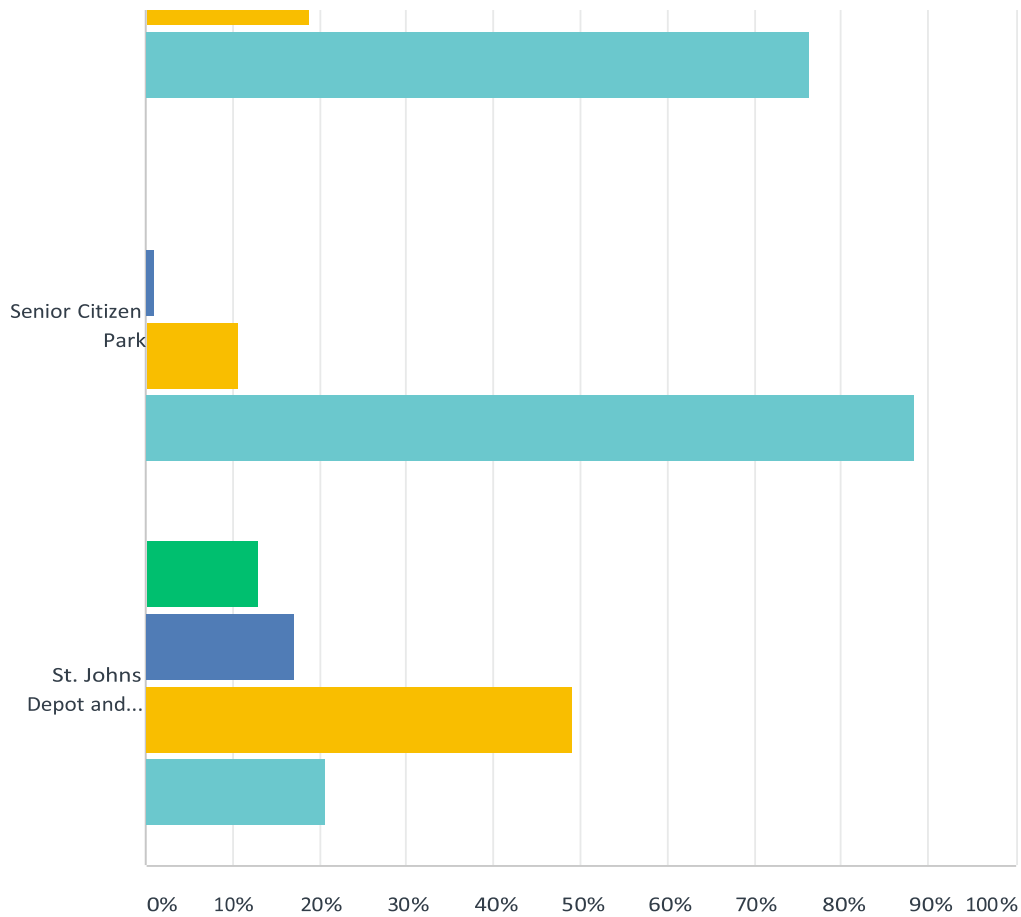
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
1-5	27.80%	67
6-9	40.66%	98
10-19	52.28%	126
20-29	12.45%	30
30-39	29.88%	72
40-49	30.29%	73
50-59	18.26%	44
60-69	10.37%	25

70+	6.64%	16
Did not answer yes	2.49%	6
Total Respondents: 241		

Q4 How frequently do you or members of your household use each park?

Answered: 241 Skipped: 1





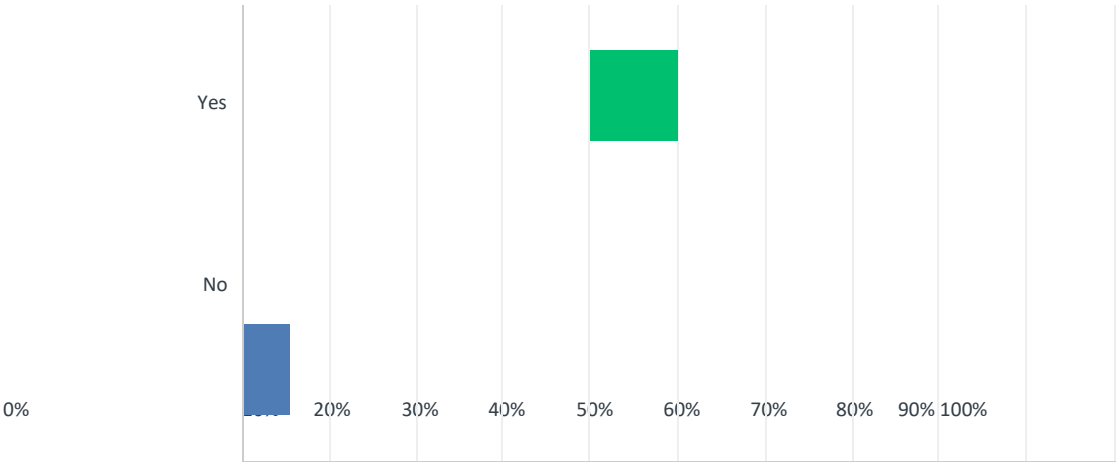
■ Twice a week or more
 ■ Twice a month
 ■ A few times a year
 ■ Never

	Twice a week or more	Twice a month	A few times a year	Never	Total	Weighted Average
St. Johns City Park	31.25% 75	33.33% 80	32.92% 79	2.50% 6	240	2.07
Jaycee Park	1.91% 4	6.70% 14	28.71% 60	62.68% 131	209	3.52
Kibbee Street Park	3.30% 7	6.13% 13	23.58% 50	66.98% 142	212	3.54
Water Tower Park	3.30% 7	5.66% 12	22.17% 47	68.87% 146	212	3.57
Oak Street Park	2.88% 6	1.92% 4	18.75% 39	76.44% 159	208	3.69
Senior Citizen Park	0.00% 0	0.97% 2	10.63% 22	88.41% 183	207	3.87
St. Johns Depot and Rotary Park	13.06% 29	17.12% 38	49.10% 109	20.72% 46	222	2.77

Q5 Are the City parks conveniently located for your use?

Answered: 240

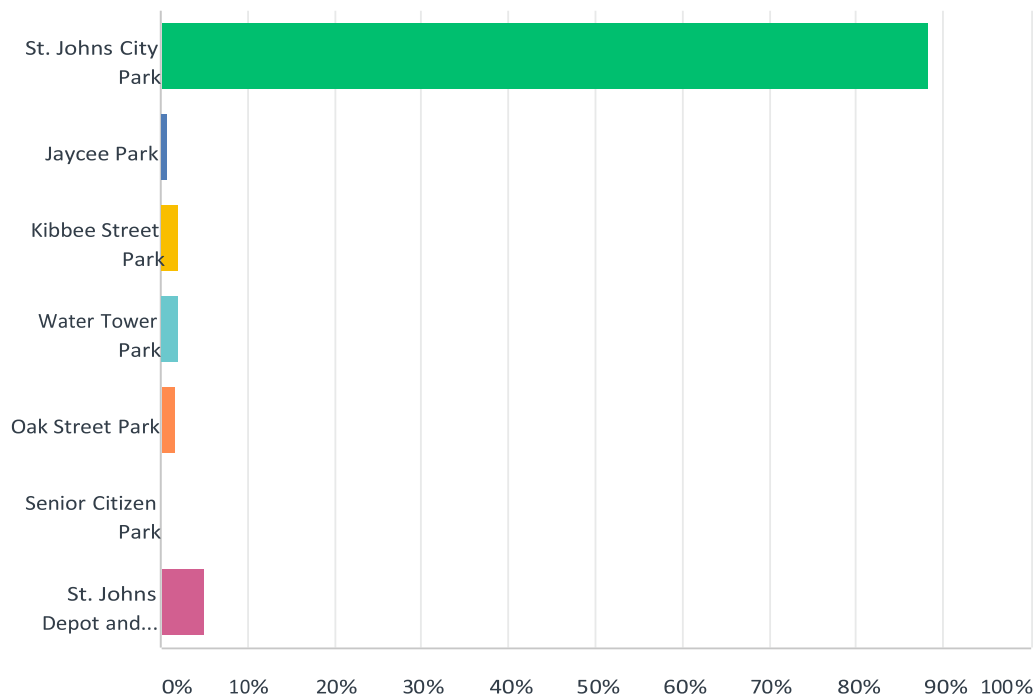
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ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES	
Yes		94.58%	227
No		5.42%	13
TOTAL			240

Q6 Please select the park you would consider most important to your family.

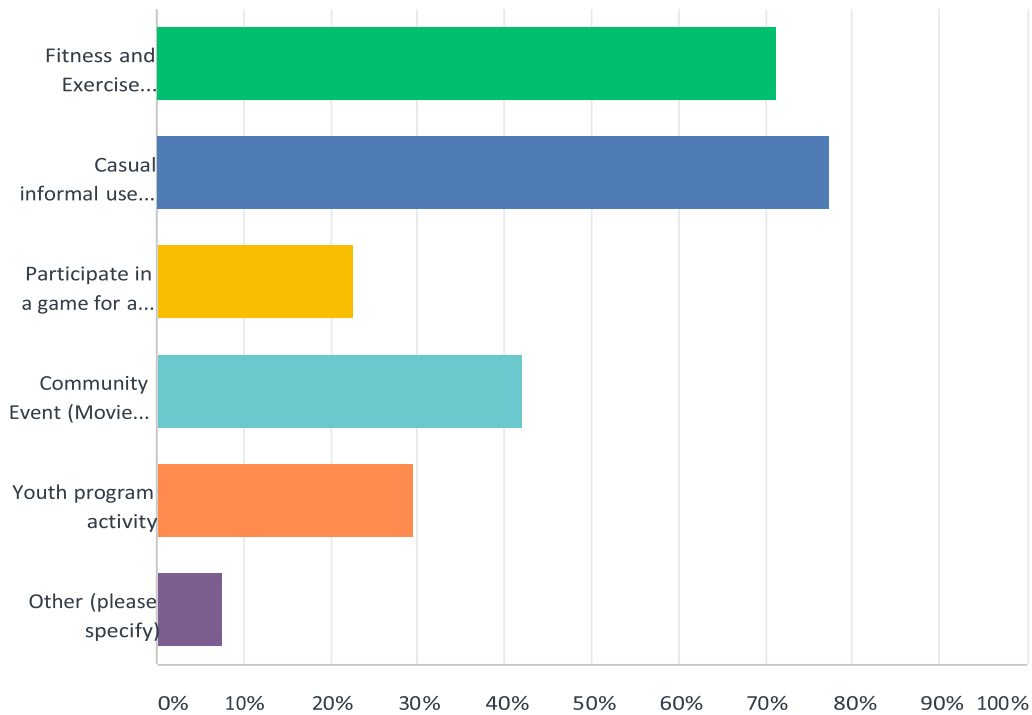
Answered: 237 Skipped: 5



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
St. Johns City Park	88.19%	209
Jaycee Park	0.84%	2
Kibbee Street Park	2.11%	5
Water Tower Park	2.11%	5
Oak Street Park	1.69%	4
Senior Citizen Park	0.00%	0
St. Johns Depot and Rotary Park	5.06%	12
TOTAL		237

Q7 Why did you visit a City of St. Johns park?

Answered: 240 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Fitness and Exercise (Walking, Biking etc)	71.25%	171
Casual informal use (picnic, playground)	77.50%	186
Participate in a game for a league	22.50%	54
Community Event (Movie, Concerts)	42.08%	101
Youth program activity	29.58%	71
Other (please specify)	7.50%	18
Total Respondents: 240		

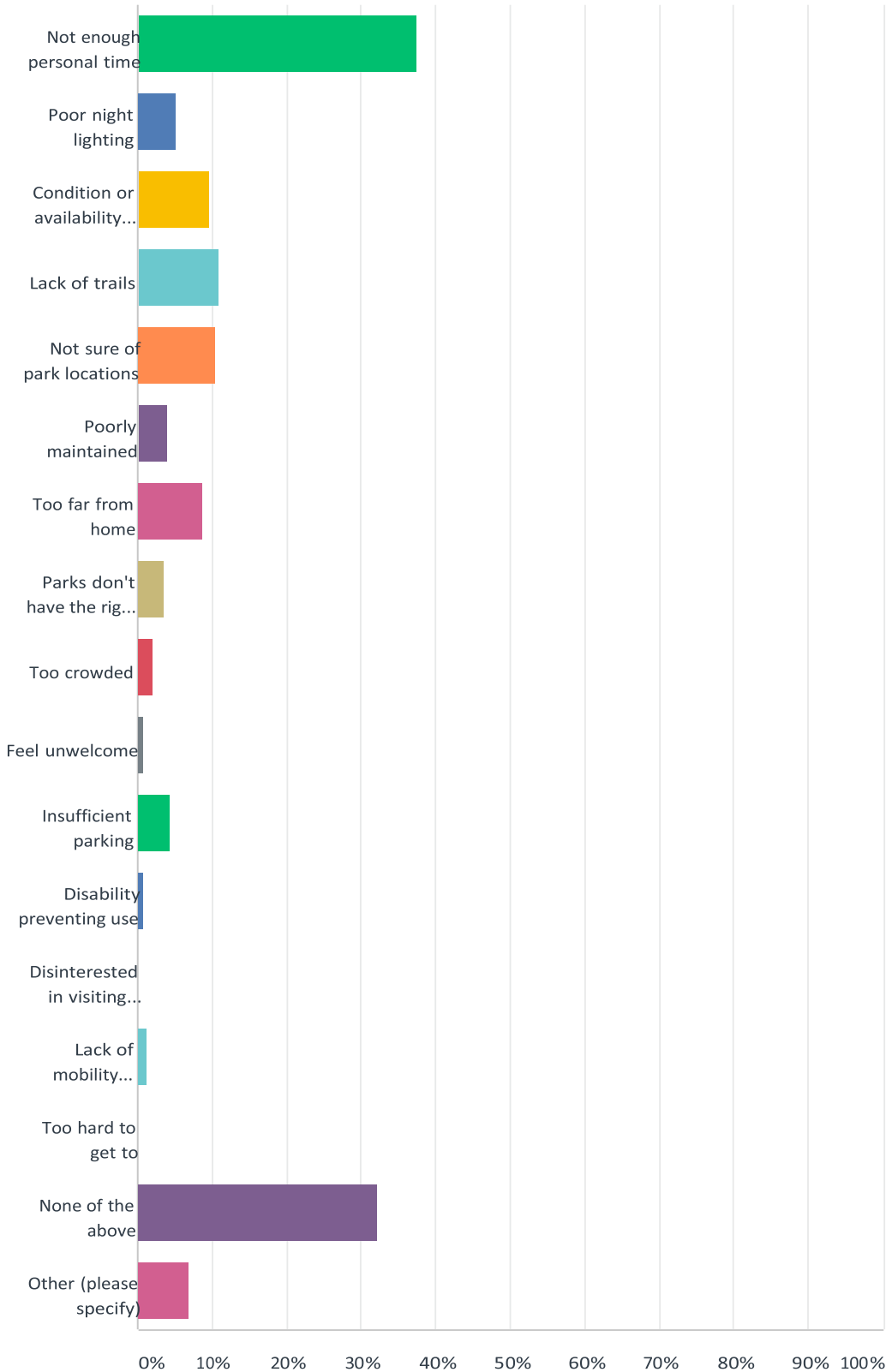
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Craft show	8/17/2020 7:13 AM
2	Basketball	8/12/2020 10:36 PM
3	I direct my leisure time to walking the trails and Quid Vidi	8/9/2020 11:35 AM
4	Yoga	8/8/2020 9:46 AM

5	reunions	8/7/2020 12:24 PM
6	Time with friends	8/3/2020 10:35 AM
7	Splash pad	7/23/2020 10:37 AM
8	volleyball/concerst in the park, biking	7/22/2020 10:22 PM
9	4H fair	7/22/2020 8:38 PM
10	Pickleball	7/22/2020 3:16 PM
11	Sledding/Ice Skating	7/22/2020 2:02 PM
12	Pickleball	7/22/2020 1:30 PM
13	open house	7/22/2020 11:48 AM
14	Enjoy the Splash Park when open and Fantasy Forest, plus B-ball when available and tennis courts	7/22/2020 11:48 AM
15	hockey/ice skating; batting practice	7/22/2020 11:34 AM
16	hammocking and gathering with friends	7/22/2020 11:23 AM
17	Pavilion rental for a b-day party.	7/21/2020 3:08 PM
18	Preschool graduation event	7/21/2020 3:02 PM

Q8 Which of the following factors, if any, do you feel limit your park use? (Please select any that apply)

Answered: 230

Skipped: 12



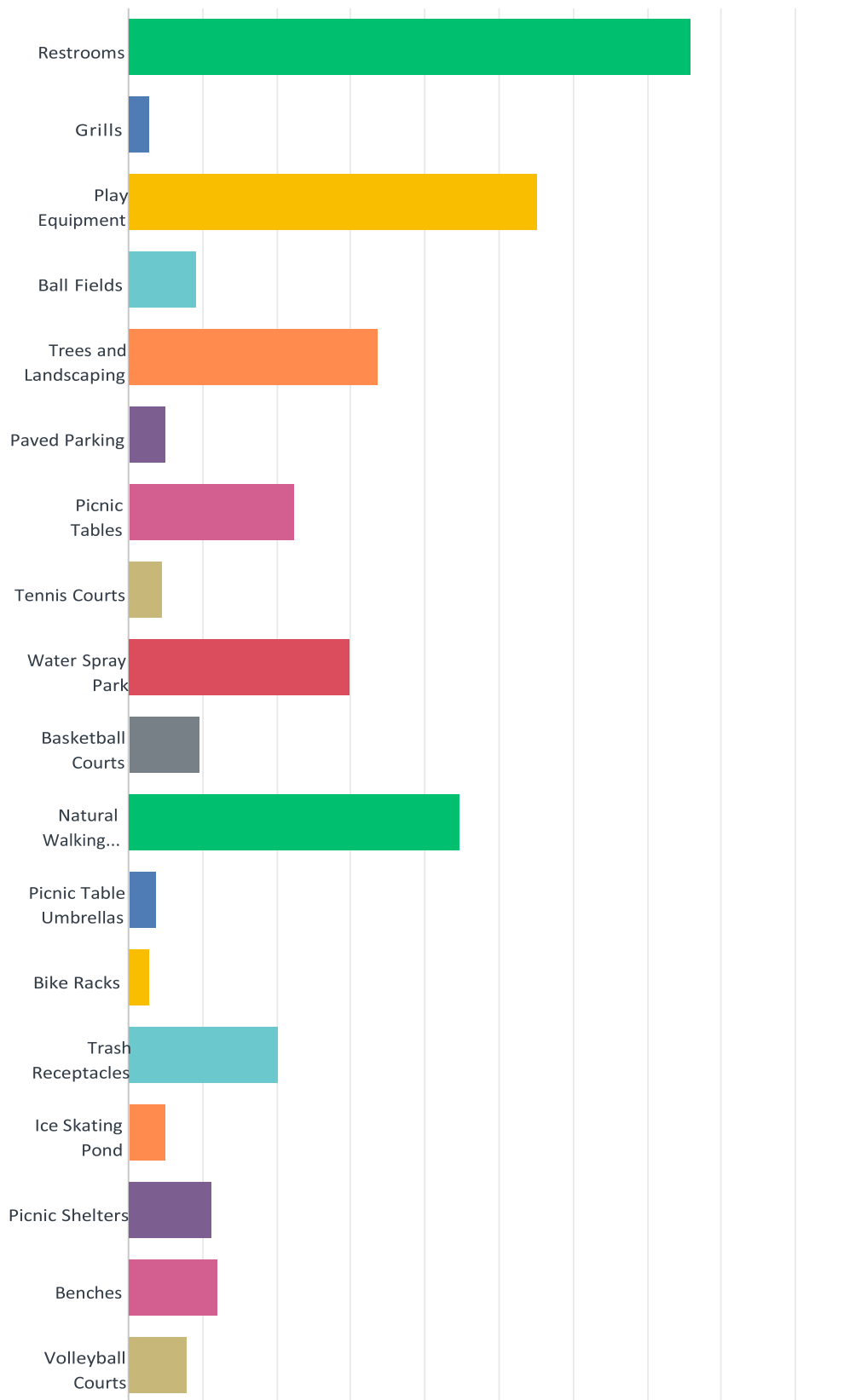
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Not enough personal time	37.39%	86
Poor night lighting	5.22%	12
Condition or availability of restrooms	9.57%	22
Lack of trails	10.87%	25
Not sure of park locations	10.43%	24
Poorly maintained	3.91%	9
Too far from home	8.70%	20
Parks don't have the right amenities	3.48%	8
Too crowded	2.17%	5
Feel unwelcome	0.87%	2
Insufficient parking	4.35%	10
Disability preventing use	0.87%	2
Disinterested in visiting park	0.00%	0
Lack of mobility accessibility	1.30%	3
Too hard to get to	0.00%	0
None of the above	32.17%	74
Other (please specify)	6.96%	16
Total Respondents: 230		

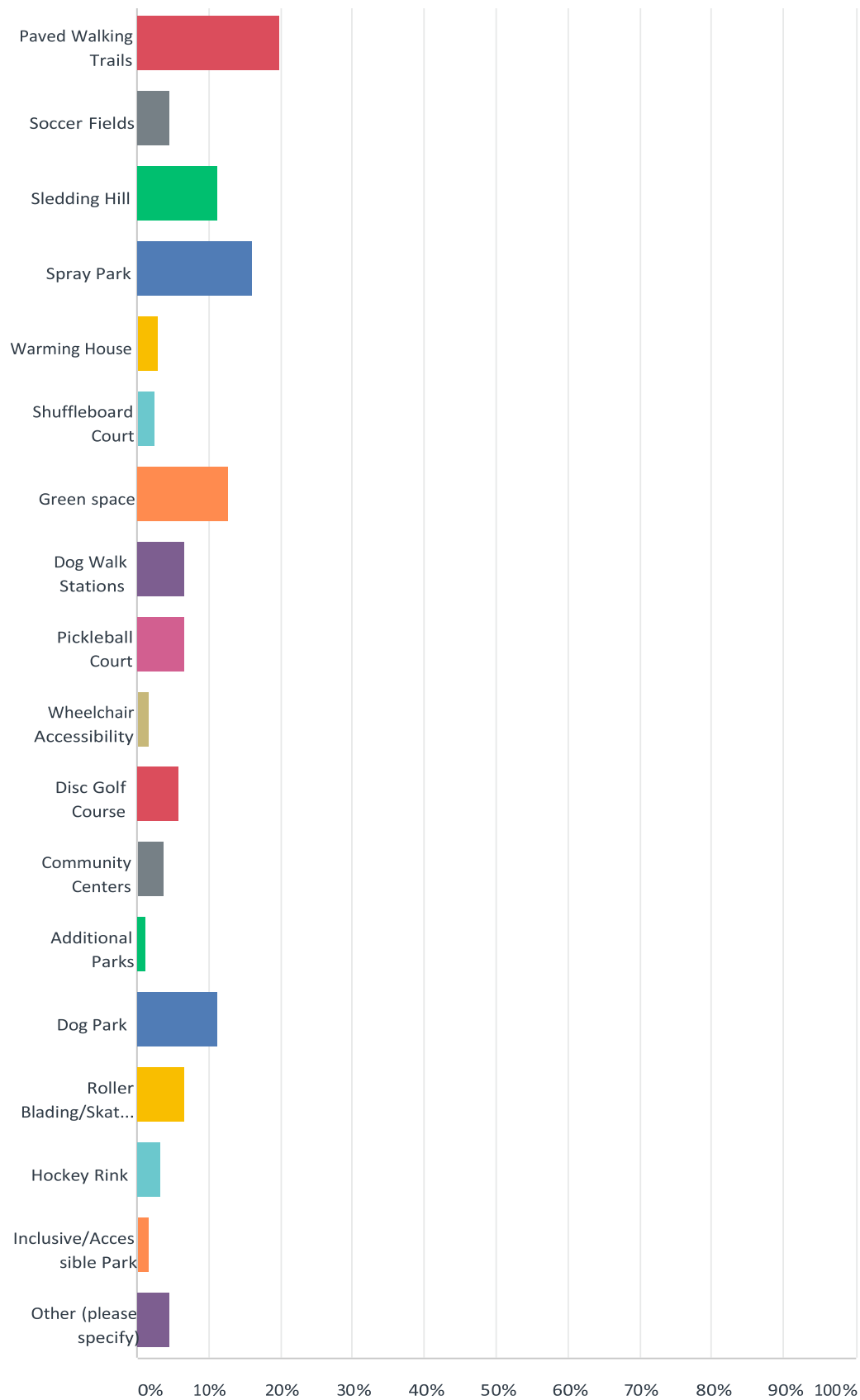
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Trails at City Park are not marked well and left me feeling lost instead of enjoying my walk	8/17/2020 9:26 AM
2	I live in Gratiot county	8/17/2020 7:13 AM
3	Lack of funding for better equipment	8/17/2020 12:14 AM
4	Covid	8/16/2020 8:46 PM
5	40 years here and I have never heard of these parks	8/9/2020 11:35 AM

6	Right now we are avoiding the park strictly due to Covid. If that wasn't a factor we would visit the park much more often for play dates.	8/3/2020 11:37 AM
7	Live in the country, if there were trails from the park to the rail trail I would use it more.	8/1/2020 10:03 AM
8	With me recently moving to St. Johns, there are parks here that I never heard of that I will be visiting. Thank you	7/23/2020 11:04 AM
9	High school students speeding through park	7/22/2020 3:09 PM
10	sometimes crowded during COVID, otherwise it would be ok!	7/22/2020 2:30 PM
11	Covid19	7/22/2020 1:39 PM
12	Covid.	7/22/2020 11:50 AM
13	We were playing tennis recently with our Grandsons at Main City Park. Teenagers playing Basketball were vulgar and loud, also dropped trash near Court. Very disturbing, so we left the Park.	7/22/2020 11:48 AM
14	Small thing—They put too much mulch on the City Park trails. It's hard to walk on. I still love the trails though!	7/22/2020 11:48 AM
15	St. Johns has some nice parks, but it is apparent when compared to cities we've visited that funding for parks/rec here is poor. Guess we all get what we pay for.	7/22/2020 11:34 AM
16	Very concerned at speed of traffic that goes through The park every single day. Kids are going to get hit.	7/21/2020 2:52 PM

Q9 Please select the four features you would consider to be the most important when visiting a park.

Answered: 241 Skipped: 1





ANSWER CHOICES

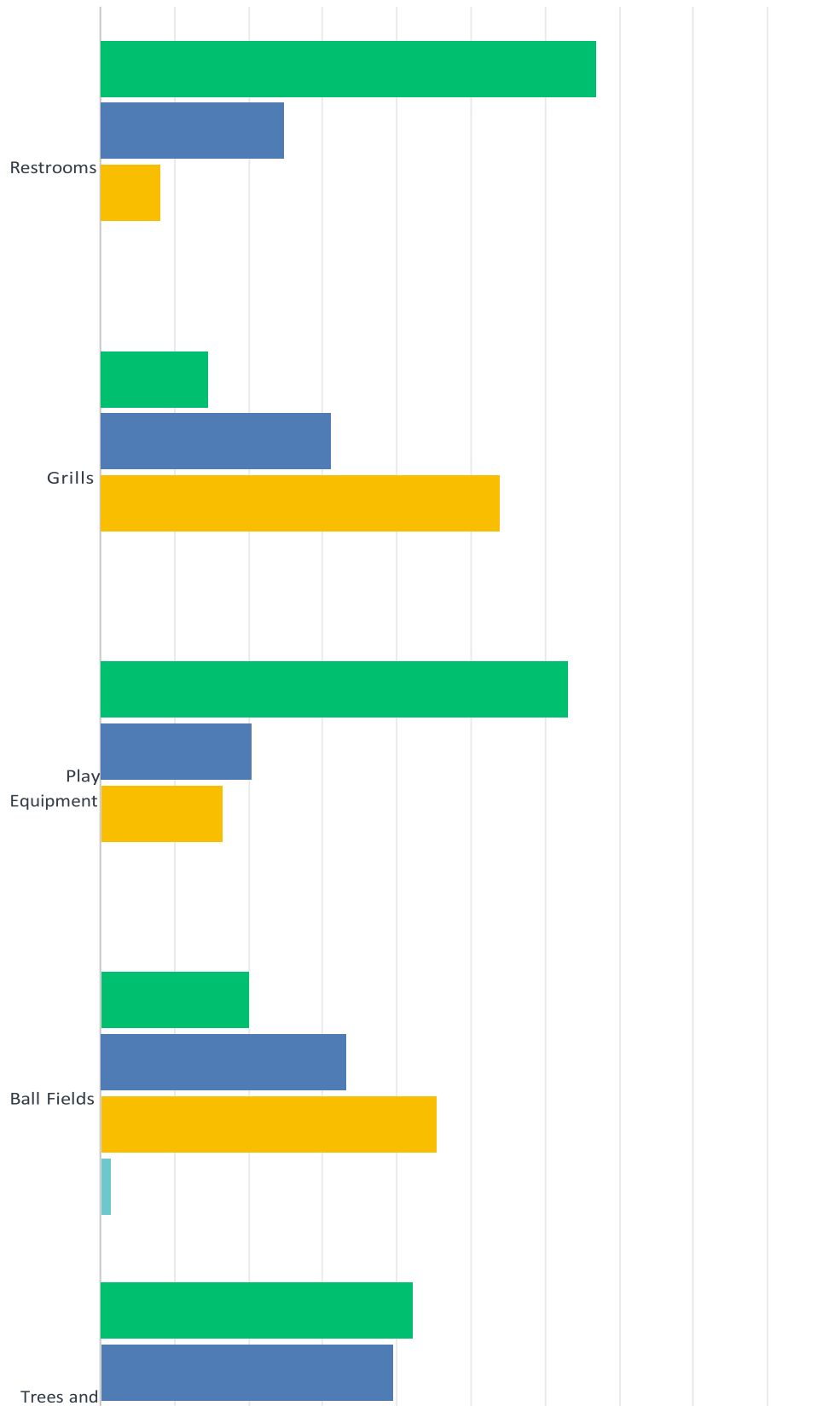
RESPONSES

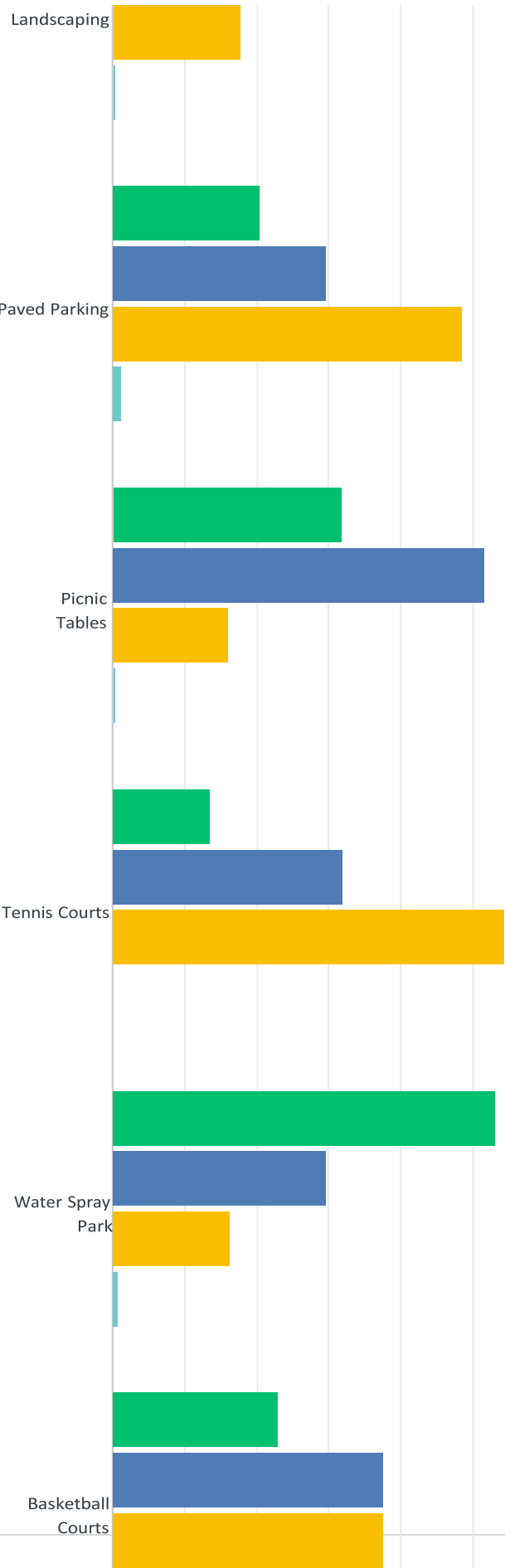
Restrooms	75.93%	183
Grills	2.90%	7
Play Equipment	55.19%	133
Ball Fields	9.13%	22
Trees and Landscaping	33.61%	81
Paved Parking	4.98%	12
Picnic Tables	22.41%	54
Tennis Courts	4.56%	11
Water Spray Park	29.88%	72
Basketball Courts	9.54%	23
Natural Walking Trails	44.81%	108
Picnic Table Umbrellas	3.73%	9
Bike Racks	2.90%	7
Trash Receptacles	20.33%	49
Ice Skating Pond	4.98%	12
Picnic Shelters	11.20%	27
Benches	12.03%	29
Volleyball Courts	7.88%	19
Paved Walking Trails	19.92%	48
Soccer Fields	4.56%	11
Sledding Hill	11.20%	27
Spray Park	16.18%	39
Warming House	2.90%	7
Shuffleboard Court	2.49%	6
Green space	12.86%	31

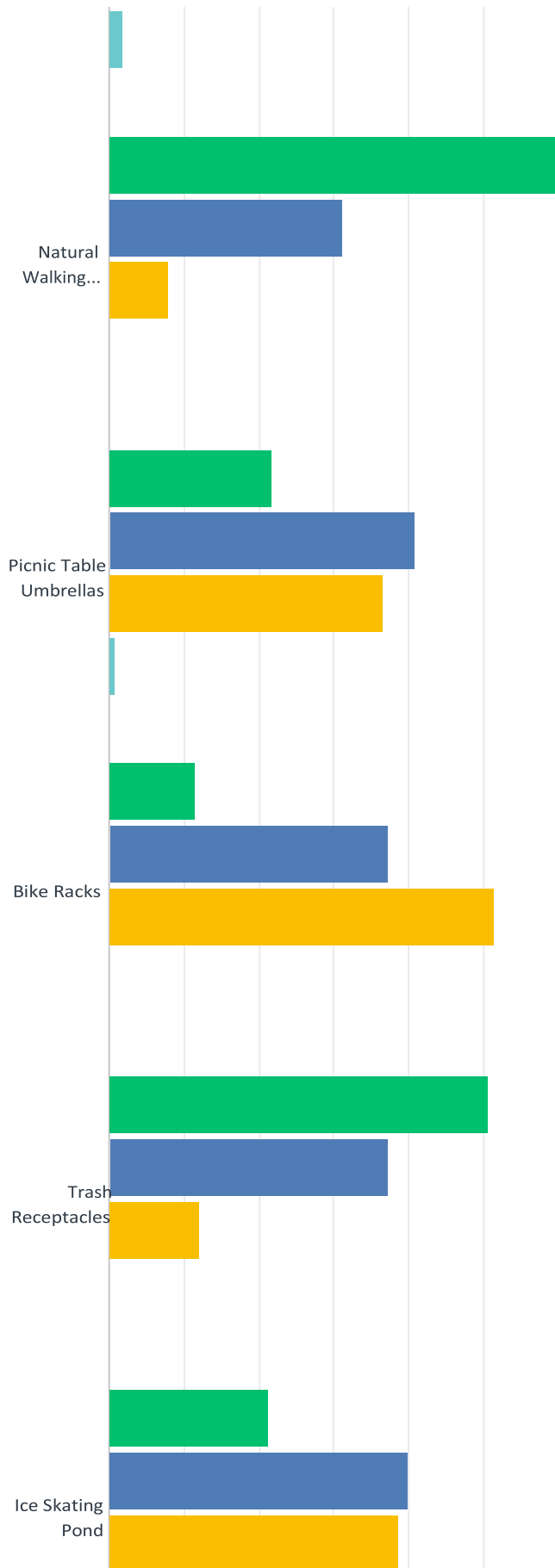
Dog Walk Stations	6.64%	16
Pickleball Court	6.64%	16
Wheelchair Accessibility	1.66%	4
Disc Golf Course	5.81%	14
Community Centers	3.73%	9
Additional Parks	1.24%	3
Dog Park	11.20%	27
Roller Blading/Skate Park	6.64%	16
Hockey Rink	3.32%	8
Inclusive/Accessible Park	1.66%	4
Other (please specify)	4.56%	11
Total Respondents: 241		
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Clean, functioning restrooms. WITH ROOM TO GET INTO AND OUT OF STALL (one stall is almost unusable at City Park due to size!!)	8/17/2020 9:26 AM
2	perhaps some decent parking - asphalt is a bonus	8/9/2020 11:35 AM
3	Water drinking stations	8/8/2020 9:46 AM
4	community events like concert in the park	8/3/2020 1:51 PM
5	Skatepark	8/3/2020 10:35 AM
6	Skate Park is the most important I feel at this time, because our community park has the other items listed. I would like to see tweens/teens have an area to congregate and be active. The spray park and play areas are nice but they are for younger kids, it would be nice to have something also available for older kids. In addition, the Fantasy Forest needs to be maintained and updated.	8/2/2020 11:48 AM
7	Clean	7/23/2020 10:37 AM
8	Pickleball courts	7/22/2020 3:16 PM
9	Would love a 'wall' for racketball, or wall ball (tennis and lacrosse)	7/22/2020 2:04 PM
10	Dog friendly/ facilities	7/22/2020 12:31 PM
11	recycling and trash options.	7/22/2020 8:16 AM

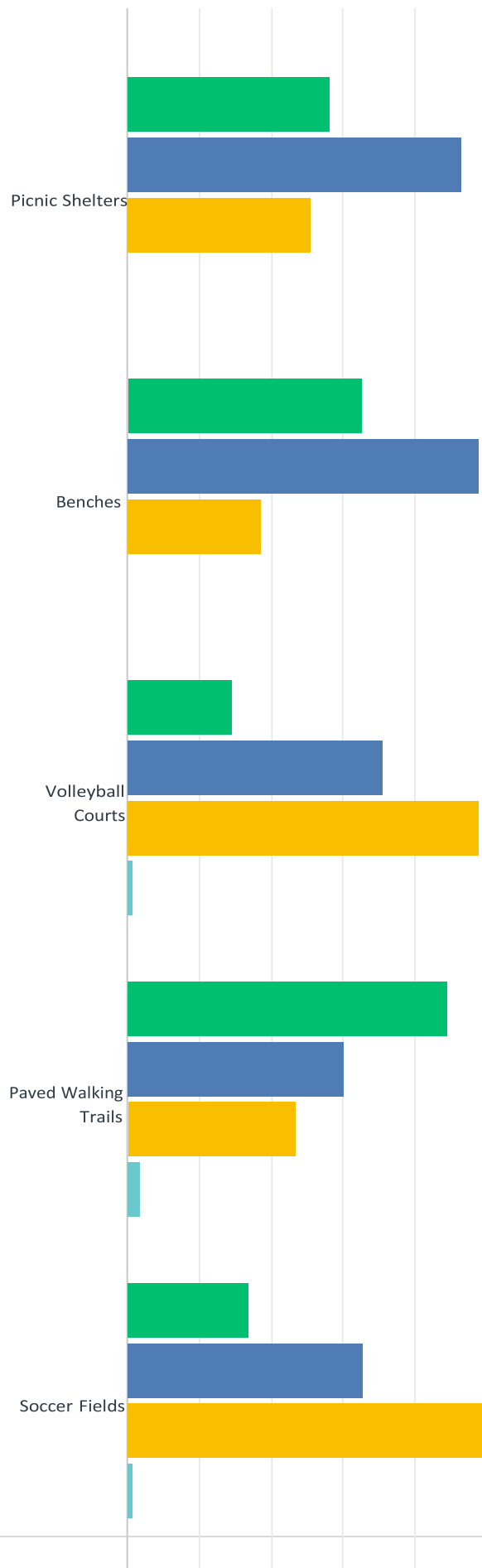
Q10 How would the improvement or addition of the following features impact your satisfaction with the City of St. Johns recreation facilities?

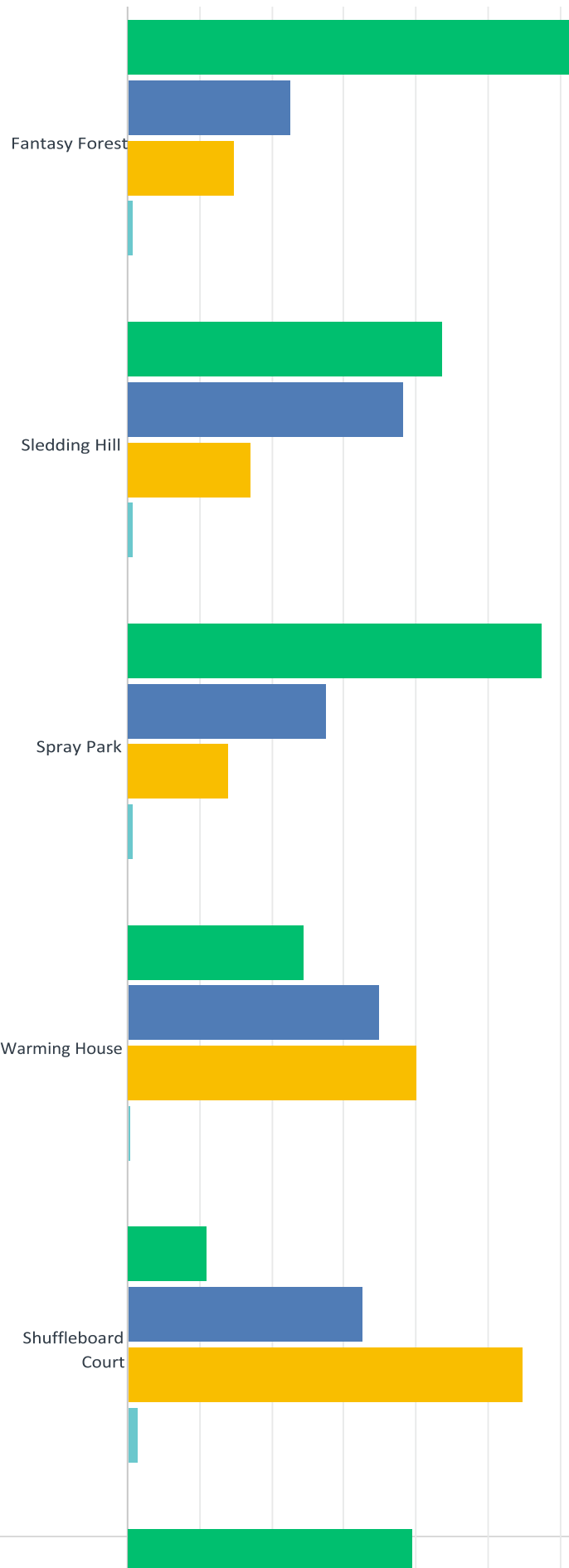
Answered: 237 Skipped: 5

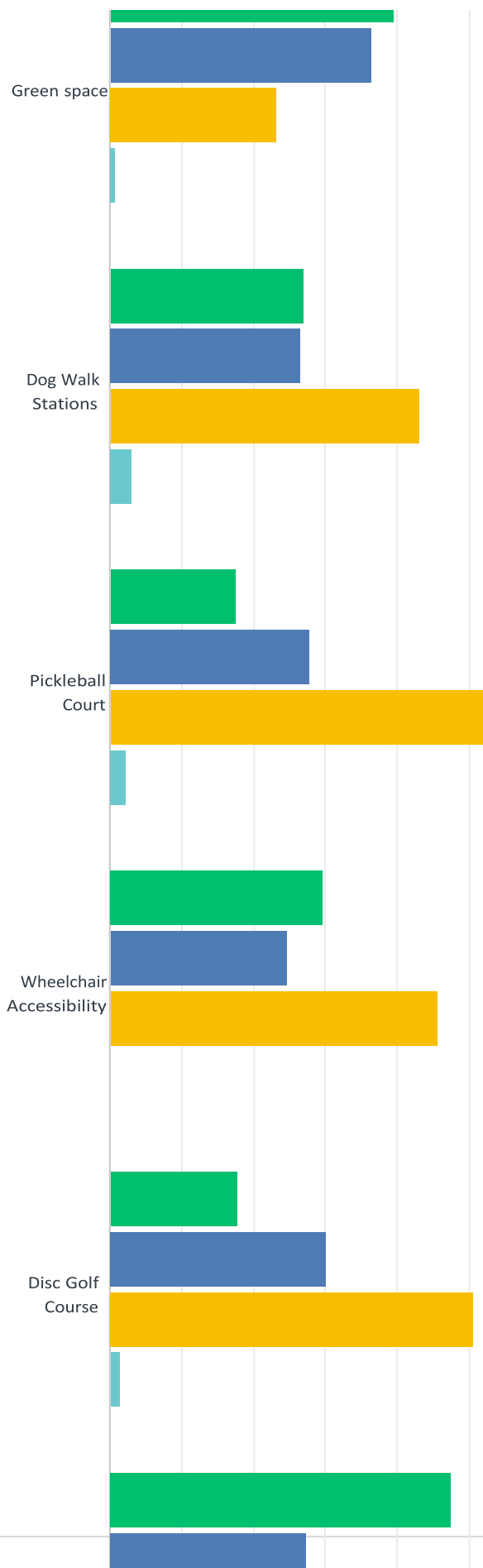


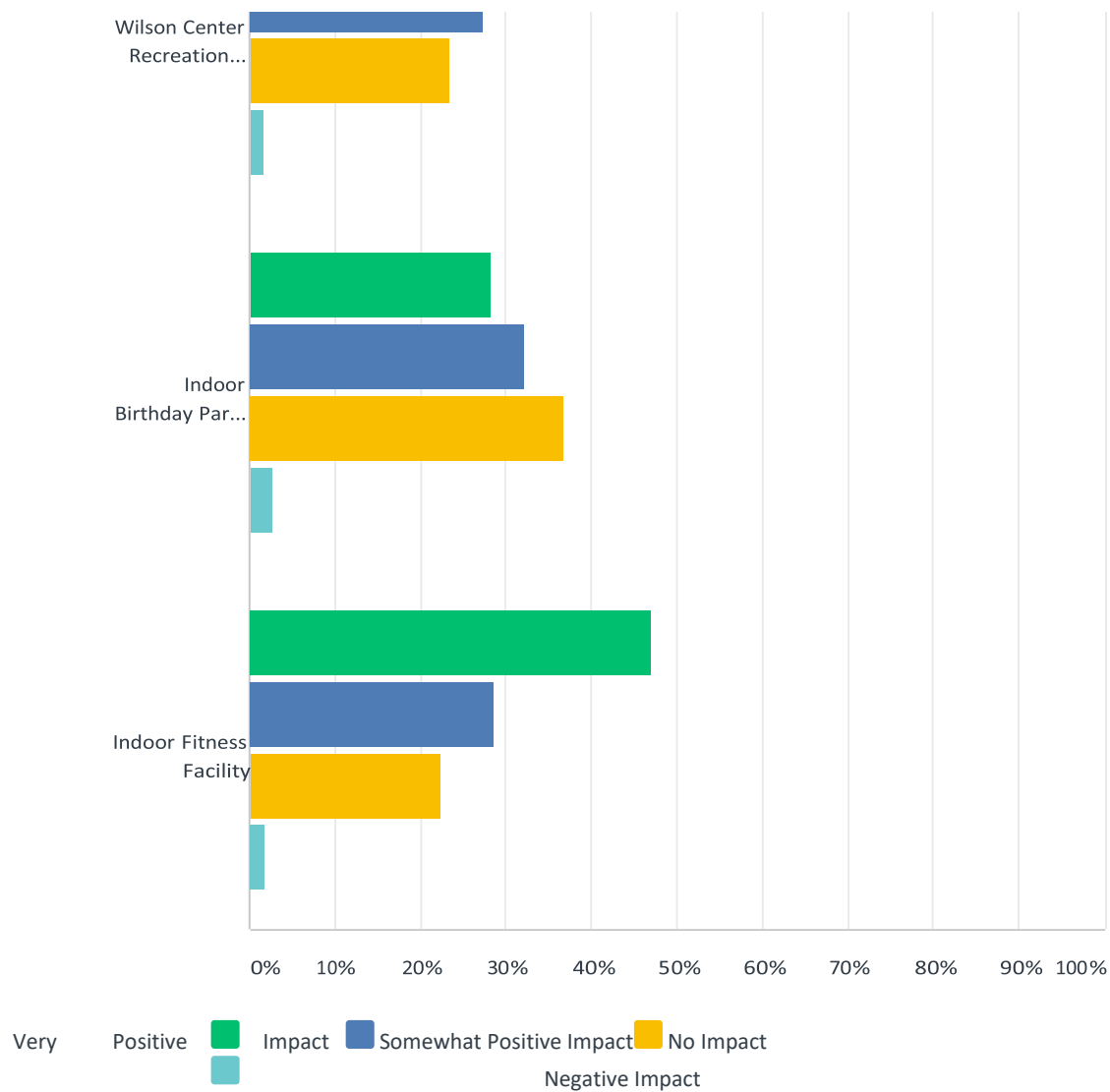












	VERY IMPACT	POSITIVE	SOMEWHAT IMPACT	POSITIVE	NO IMPACT	NEGATIVE IMPACT	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Restrooms	66.95% 156		24.89% 58		8.15% 19	0.00% 0	233	1.17
Grills	14.73% 33		31.25% 70		54.02% 121	0.00% 0	224	0.77
Play Equipment	63.11% 142		20.44% 46		16.44% 37	0.00% 0	225	1.04
Ball Fields	20.00% 44		33.18% 73		45.45% 100	1.36% 3	220	0.92
Trees and Landscaping	42.22% 95		39.56% 89		17.78% 40	0.44% 1	225	1.23
Paved Parking	20.44% 46		29.78% 67		48.44% 109	1.33% 3	225	0.85

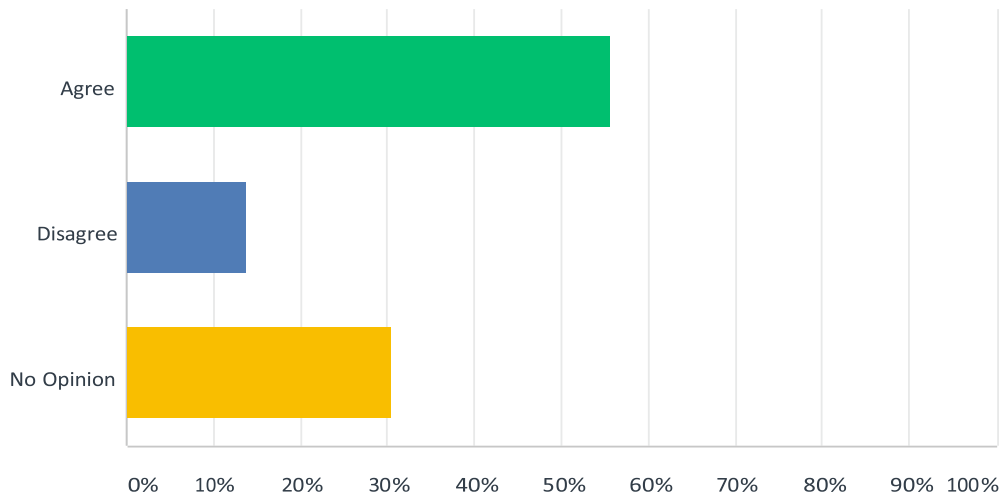
Picnic Tables	31.84% 71	51.57% 115	16.14% 36	0.45% 1	223	1.37
Tennis Courts	13.70% 30	31.96% 70	54.34% 119	0.00% 0	219	0.78
Water Spray Park	53.15% 118	29.73% 66	16.22% 36	0.90% 2	222	1.16
Basketball Courts	22.94% 50	37.61% 82	37.61% 82	1.83% 4	218	1.06
Natural Walking Trails	60.71% 136	31.25% 70	8.04% 18	0.00% 0	224	1.23
Picnic Table Umbrellas	21.72% 48	40.72% 90	36.65% 81	0.90% 2	221	1.07
Bike Racks	11.47% 25	37.16% 81	51.38% 112	0.00% 0	218	0.86
Trash Receptacles	50.67% 113	37.22% 83	12.11% 27	0.00% 0	223	1.25
Ice Skating Pond	21.36% 47	40.00% 88	38.64% 85	0.00% 0	220	1.01
Picnic Shelters	28.18% 62	46.36% 102	25.45% 56	0.00% 0	220	1.21
Benches	32.58% 72	48.87% 108	18.55% 41	0.00% 0	221	1.30
Volleyball Courts	14.61% 32	35.62% 78	48.86% 107	0.91% 2	219	0.89
Paved Walking Trails	44.59% 99	30.18% 67	23.42% 52	1.80% 4	222	1.12
Soccer Fields	16.89% 37	32.88% 72	49.32% 108	0.91% 2	219	0.86
Fantasy Forest	61.54% 136	22.62% 50	14.93% 33	0.90% 2	221	1.10
Sledding Hill	43.78% 95	38.25% 83	17.05% 37	0.92% 2	217	1.24
Spray Park	57.47% 127	27.60% 61	14.03% 31	0.90% 2	221	1.16
Warming House	24.43% 54	34.84% 77	40.27% 89	0.45% 1	221	0.96
Shuffleboard Court	11.06% 24	32.72% 71	54.84% 119	1.38% 3	217	0.82

Green space	39.55% 87	36.36% 80	23.18% 51	0.91% 2	220	1.16
Dog Walk Stations	27.06% 59	26.61% 58	43.12% 94	3.21% 7	218	0.93
Pickleball Court	17.49% 39	27.80% 62	52.47% 117	2.24% 5	223	0.82
Wheelchair Accessibility	29.68% 65	24.66% 54	45.66% 100	0.00% 0	219	0.79
Disc Golf Course	17.81% 39	30.14% 66	50.68% 111	1.37% 3	219	0.84
Wilson Center Recreation Facilities	47.58% 108	27.31% 62	23.35% 53	1.76% 4	227	1.09
Indoor Birthday Party Room	28.18% 62	32.27% 71	36.82% 81	2.73% 6	220	1.04
Indoor Fitness Facility	47.09% 105	28.70% 64	22.42% 50	1.79% 4	223	1.12

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Gym to rent or use-very positive impact	8/16/2020 10:13 PM
2	Like current park system but #1 addition would be more trails like on the Westside of the city park even if the just ran through City owned lands. Do not need to be paved.	8/9/2020 8:03 PM
3	Exercise stations on the trail like Portland has	8/3/2020 1:51 PM
4	The play ground fantasy forest needs MAJOR UPKEEP. Alot of the structure is extremely loose. Trees need to be trimmed. What is a limb falls on a. Child. The parking lot needs major help. Repaved.	8/3/2020 10:36 AM
5	Skatepark would be a heavy use item	8/3/2020 10:35 AM
6	A skate park would be also a positive impact if added, an enclosed dog play area would be a positive impact as well. Fantasy Forest needs to be updated and maintained better.	8/2/2020 11:48 AM
7	I would love to see a skatepark put in!	7/28/2020 10:16 AM
8	Our community desperately needs a skate park	7/27/2020 1:30 PM
9	Restrooms, even portapotties would be reallt great at the smaller neighborhood parks.	7/22/2020 11:28 AM
10	More availability of indoor recreation courses.	7/22/2020 8:16 AM

Q12 I think existing park areas need maintenance.

Answered: 239 Skipped: 3

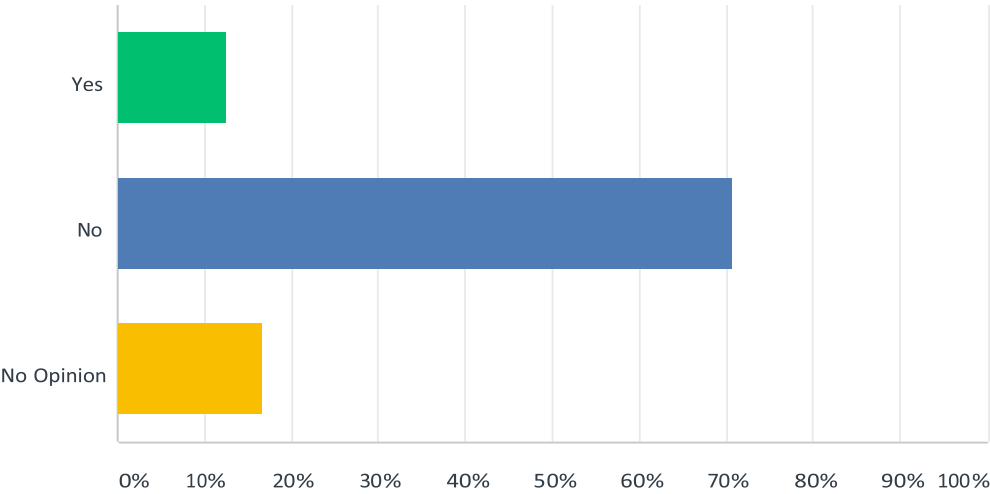


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Agree	55.65%	133
Disagree	13.81%	33
No Opinion	30.54%	73
TOTAL		239

#	COMMENTS	DATE
1	It depends on the park.	8/16/2020 10:13 PM
2	The smaller parks badly need to be updated. More accessibility equipment.	8/16/2020 7:10 PM
3	as stated earlier 40 years here and I barely know of their existence	8/9/2020 11:35 AM
4	I would select satisfied for this one, however, Fantasy Forest needs to be updated and better maintained.	8/2/2020 11:48 AM
5	Pretty good overall, but courts, volleyball, tennis, basketball & pickleball need to be updated. City park road needs to be paved with all the traffic it gets, especially during the Mint Festival and 4-H Fair	7/22/2020 10:22 PM
6	Wish there was additional night time for pickleball indoors. Like Sunday nights	7/22/2020 8:21 AM
7	Neutral	7/22/2020 8:16 AM

Q13 There are limitations to the City of St. Johns parks system that keeps you and/or your household members from using City parks and/or activities whenever you would like.

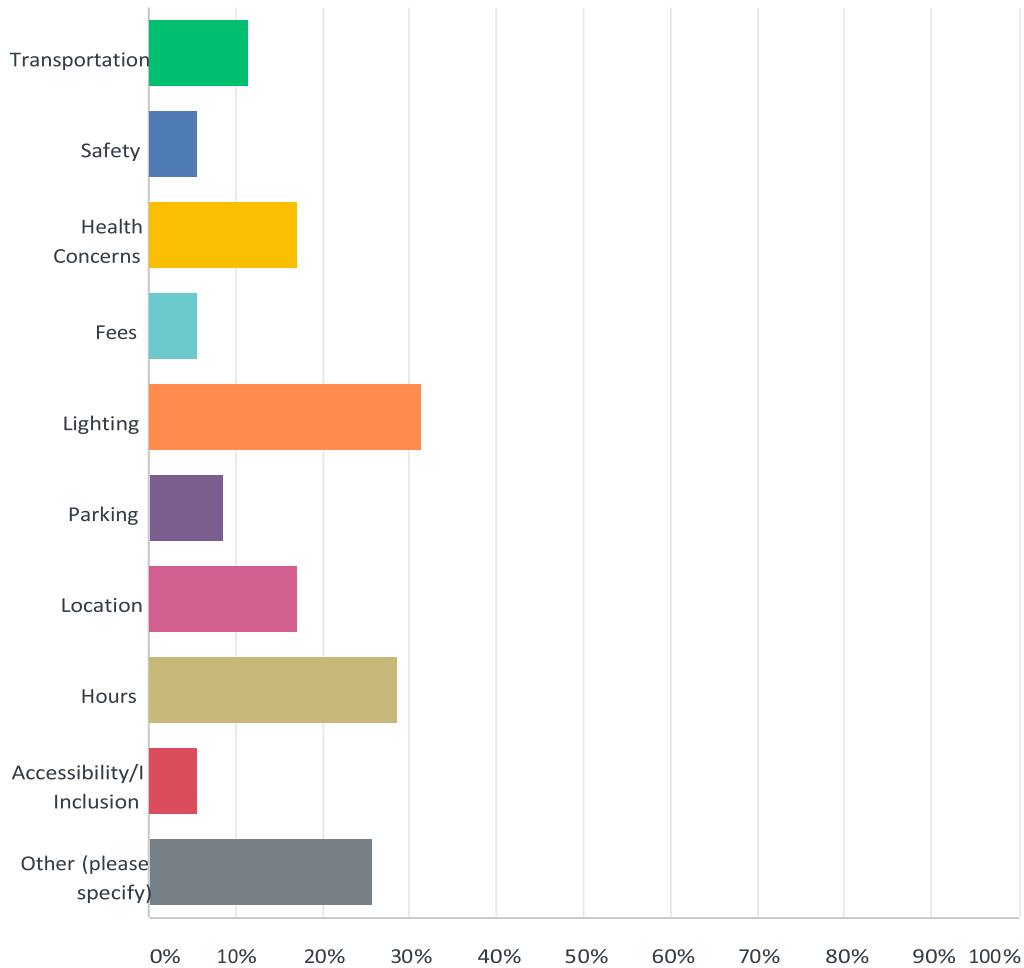
Answered: 239 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES	
Yes		12.55%	30
No		70.71%	169
No Opinion		16.74%	40
TOTAL			239

Q14 If yes, which of the following is/are the reason(s). (Check all of that apply.)

Answered: 35 Skipped: 207



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Transportation	11.43%	4
Safety	5.71%	2
Health Concerns	17.14%	6
Fees	5.71%	2
Lighting	31.43%	11
Parking	8.57%	3
Location	17.14%	6
Hours	28.57%	10
Accessibility/Inclusion	5.71%	2

Other (please specify)

25.71%

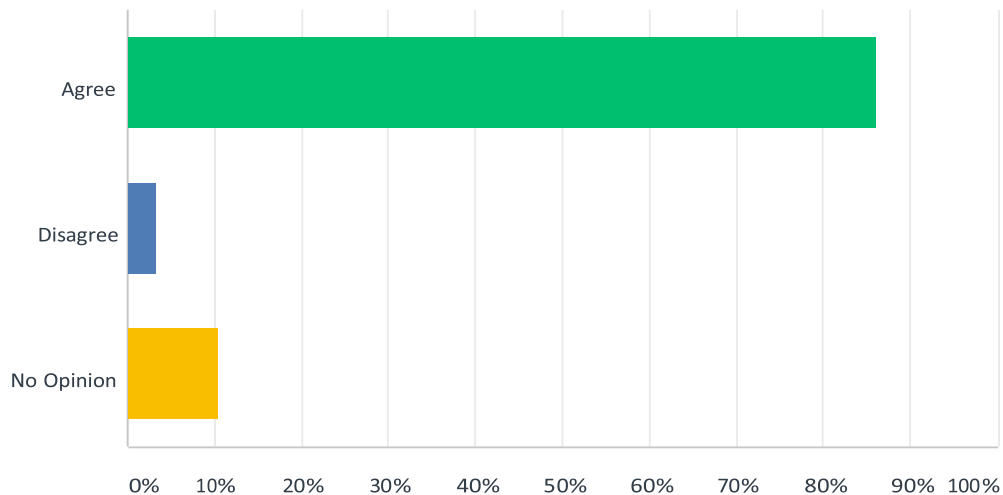
9

Total Respondents: 35

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Muddy at times	8/17/2020 6:58 AM
2	Knowledge of the location and amenities	7/22/2020 3:16 PM
3	Speeding kids	7/22/2020 3:09 PM
4	We live well outside the city limits. Use is primarily limited by opportunity to get to the parks.	7/22/2020 2:04 PM
5	The splash park and Fantasy Forest were not open in 2020!	7/22/2020 11:48 AM
6	Lack of Restrooms	7/22/2020 11:28 AM
7	We live out in the country	7/22/2020 11:05 AM
8	Poor playground equipment	7/22/2020 2:20 AM
9	Would like more walking/hiking trails	7/21/2020 5:25 PM

Q15 I find the City parks to be clean and well-maintained.

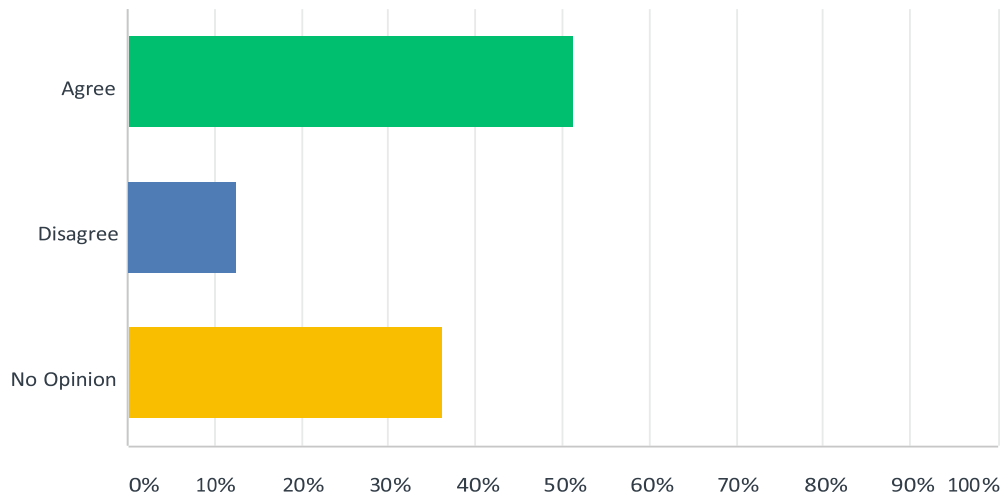
Answered: 239 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Agree	86.19%	206
Disagree	3.35%	8
No Opinion	10.46%	25
TOTAL		239

Q16 I feel the City should provide additional recreational facilities.

Answered: 238 Skipped: 4

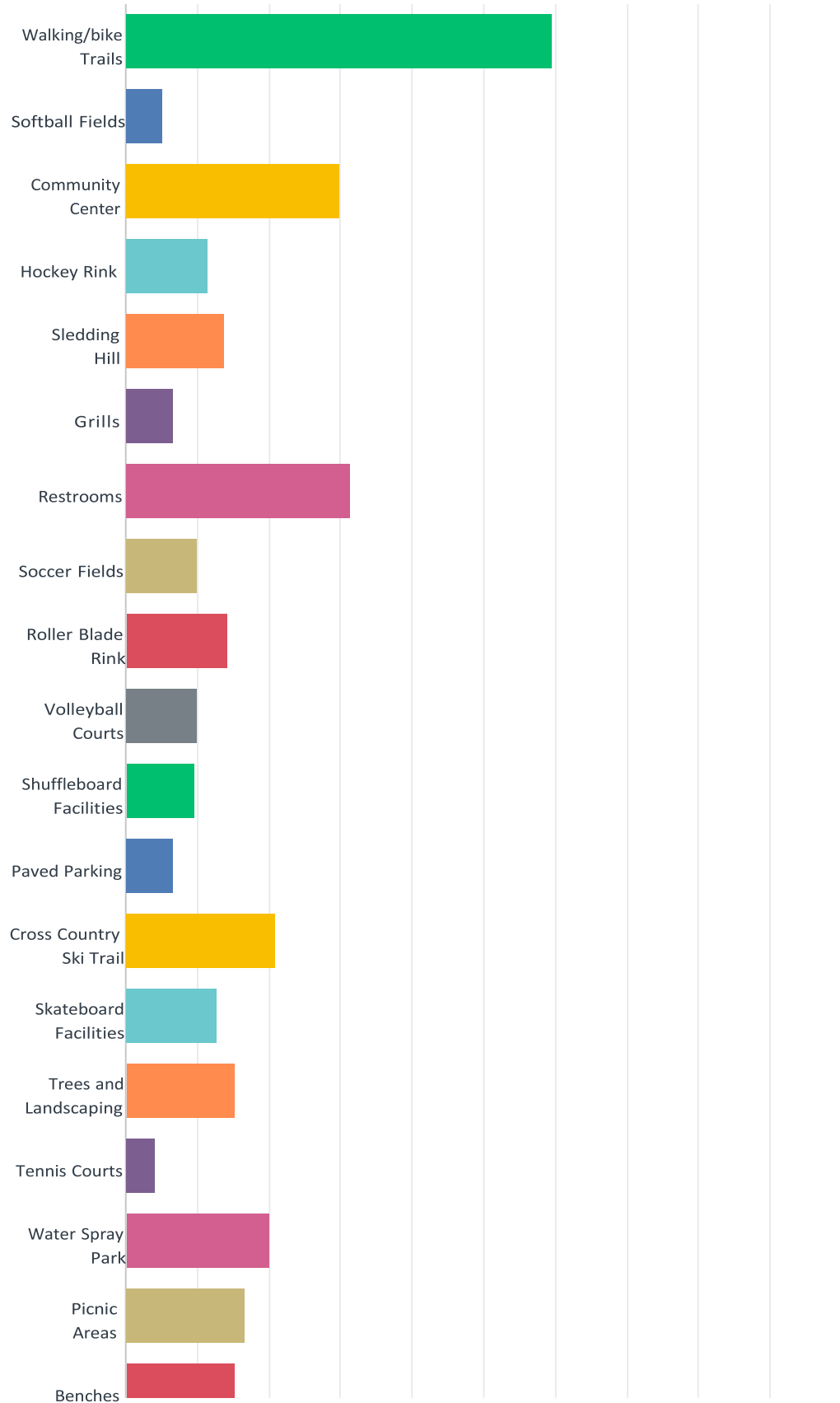


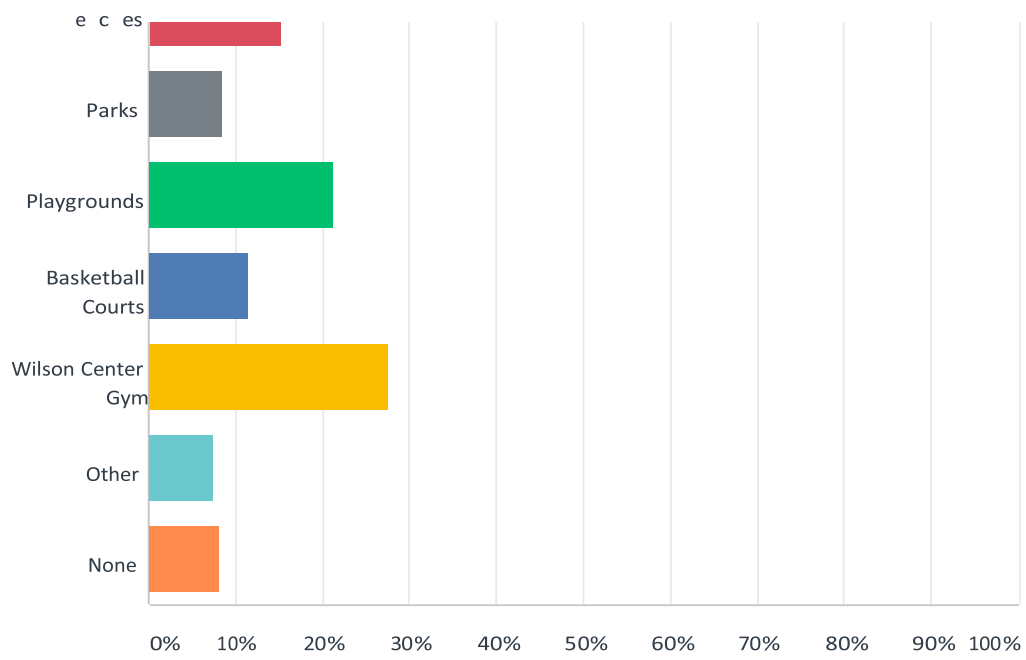
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Agree	51.26%	122
Disagree	12.61%	30
No Opinion	36.13%	86
TOTAL		238

Q17 The City should provide more of the following recreation facilities:

Answered: 210

Skipped: 32



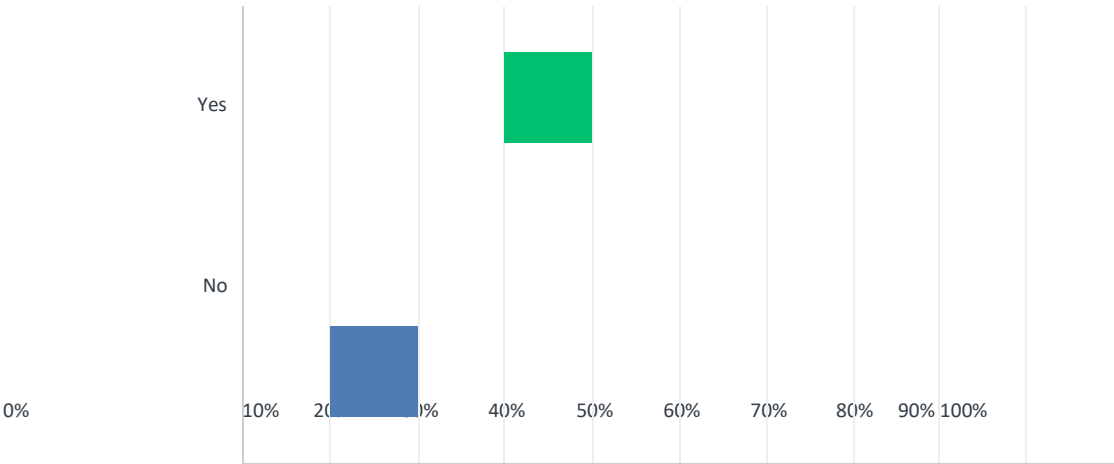


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Walking/bike Trails	59.52%	125
Softball Fields	5.24%	11
Community Center	30.00%	63
Hockey Rink	11.43%	24
Sledding Hill	13.81%	29
Grills	6.67%	14
Restrooms	31.43%	66
Soccer Fields	10.00%	21
Roller Blade Rink	14.29%	30
Volleyball Courts	10.00%	21
Shuffleboard Facilities	9.52%	20
Paved Parking	6.67%	14
Cross Country Ski Trail	20.95%	44
Skateboard Facilities	12.86%	27
Trees and Landscaping	15.24%	32
Tennis Courts	4.29%	9
Water Spray Park	20.00%	42
Picnic Areas	16.67%	35

Benches	15.24%	32
Parks	8.57%	18
Playgrounds	21.43%	45
Basketball Courts	11.43%	24
Wilson Center Gym	27.62%	58
Other	7.62%	16
None	8.10%	17
Total Respondents: 210		

Q18 I (or members of my household) participate in City Recreational Programs.

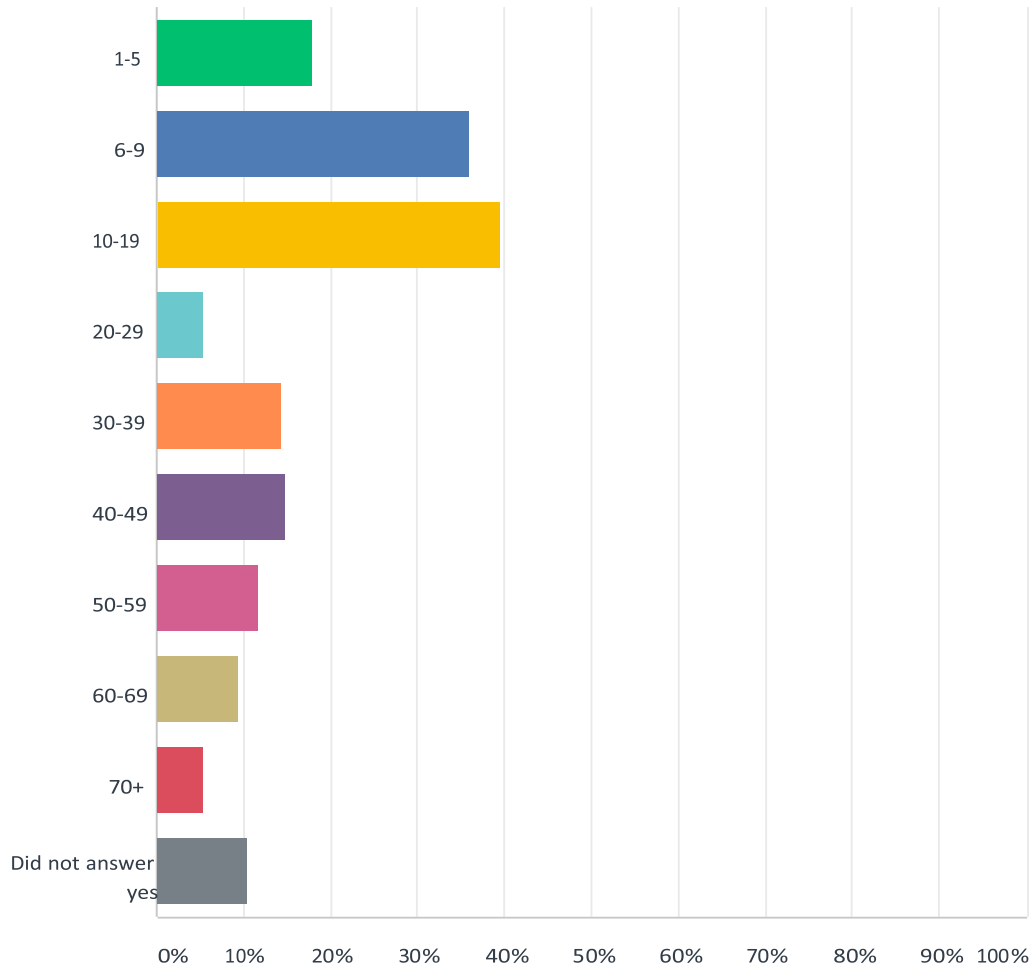
Answered: 241
 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	78.01%	188
No	21.99%	53
TOTAL		241

Q19 Please indicate the age(s) of the users.

Answered: 222 Skipped: 20



ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES	
1-5		18.02%	40
6-9		36.04%	80
10-19		39.64%	88
20-29		5.41%	12
30-39		14.41%	32
40-49		14.86%	33
50-59		11.71%	26
60-69		9.46%	21
70+		5.41%	12

Did not answer yes

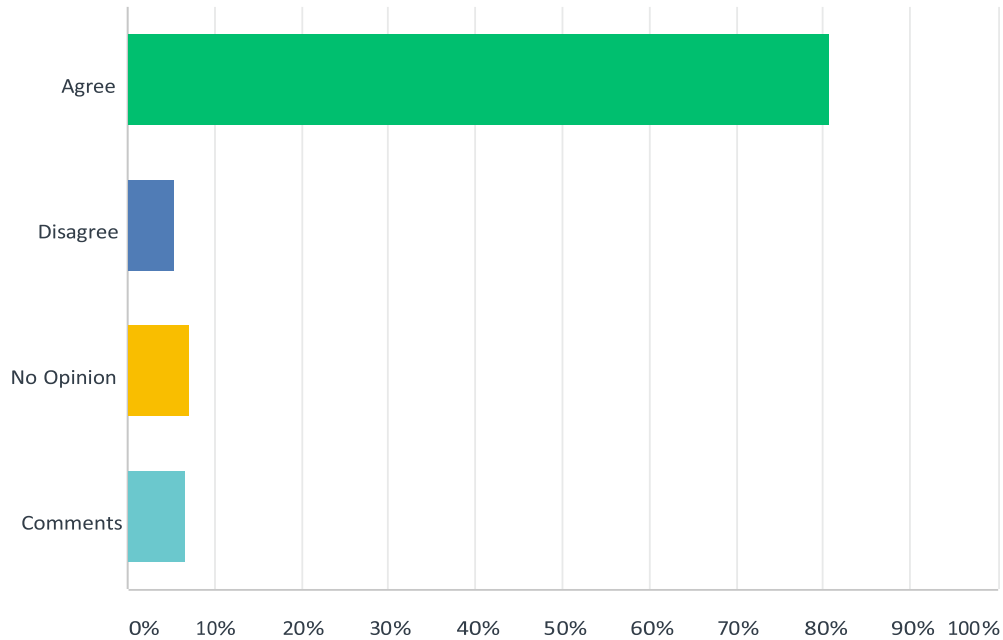
10.36%

23

Total Respondents: 222

Q20 The City provides a variety of recreational programs.

Answered: 238 Skipped: 4



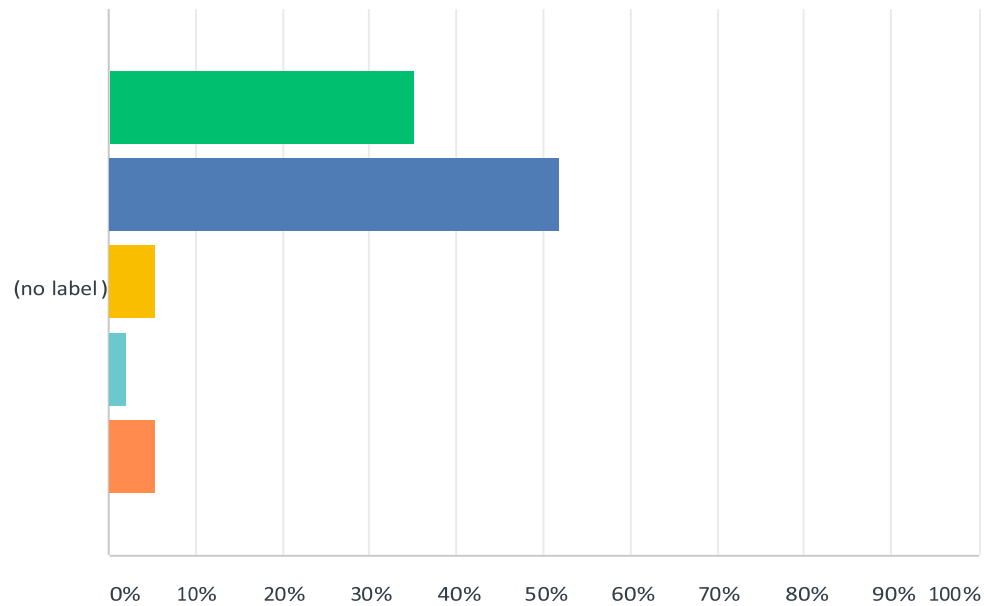
ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES	
Agree		80.67%	192
Disagree		5.46%	13
No Opinion		7.14%	17
Comments		6.72%	16
TOTAL			238

#	COMMENTS	DATE
1	Wish there were more options but glad we have something	8/17/2020 7:48 AM
2	Need more activites on more days!!!	8/16/2020 11:36 PM
3		8/16/2020 11:01 PM
4	Great new ones	8/16/2020 7:10 PM
5	Your guide says as much but haveneverparticipated	8/9/2020 11:35 AM

6	Love the adult yoga	8/8/2020 9:46 AM
7	The quality was so poor for the kids programs and the fees too high.	8/5/2020 8:04 AM
8	They are often full	8/3/2020 10:49 AM
9	They are limited, but I know that you try new programs and they don't get much support. People ask for new programs, but don't make time to support them.	7/23/2020 2:33 PM
10	Would like to see more Senior Citizens Information.	7/23/2020 11:04 AM
11	in a normal summer, yes	7/23/2020 9:50 AM
12	There needs to be more quality programs.	7/22/2020 11:48 AM
13	The most needed activity is a bike park!	7/22/2020 11:35 AM
14	I wish there were more adult programs	7/22/2020 11:28 AM
15	yes, a variety of programs are provided but are EXTREMELY limited and nearly impossible to participate in.	7/22/2020 8:16 AM
16	Much more now than a few years ago. I would love to see the ball diamonds used more.	7/21/2020 3:03 PM

Q21 How satisfied are you with current City Recreation Programs in St. Johns?

Answered: 239 Skipped: 3



Very Satisfied



Somewhat Satisfied



Somewhat Disatisfied



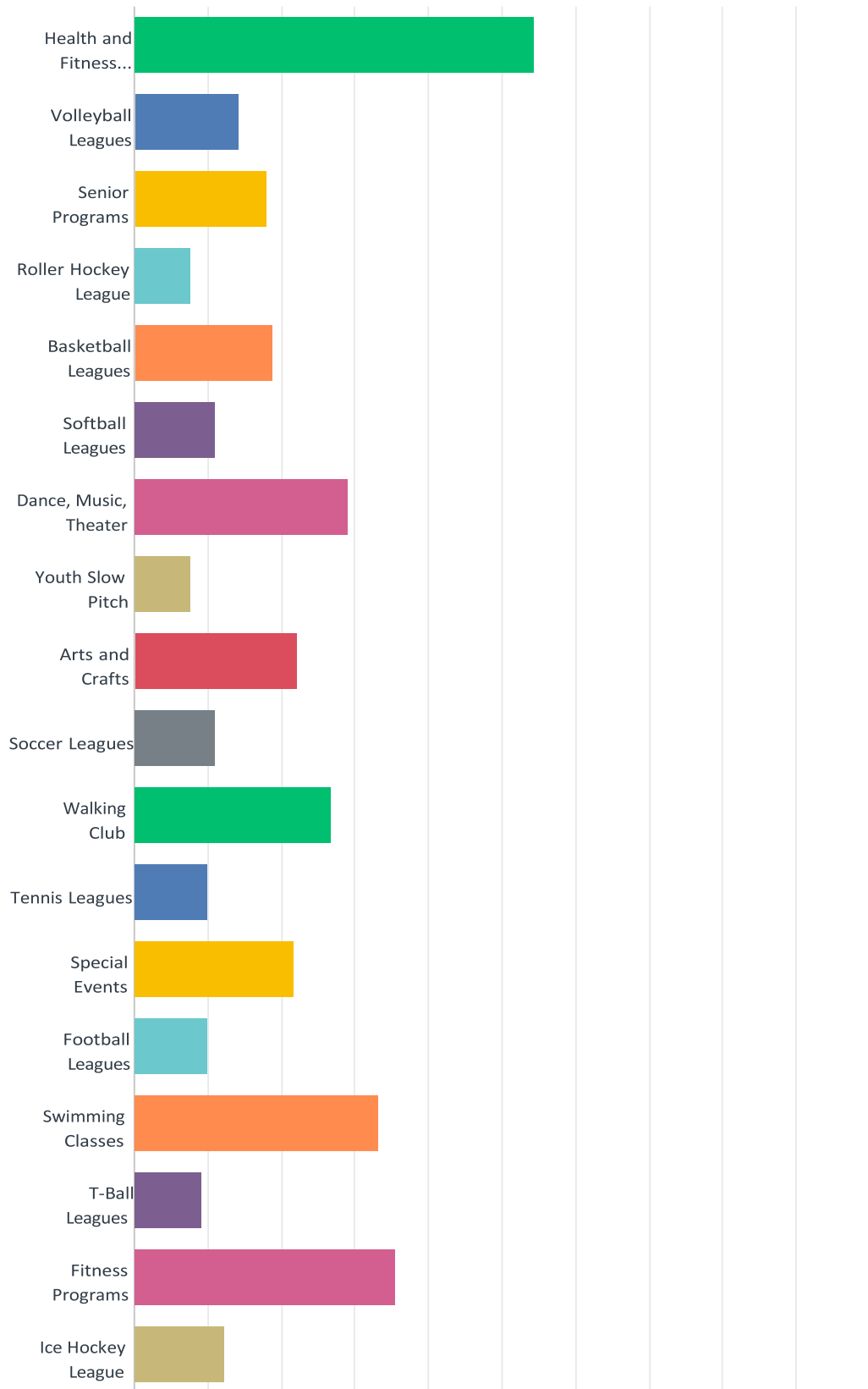
Very Disatisfied Does not apply

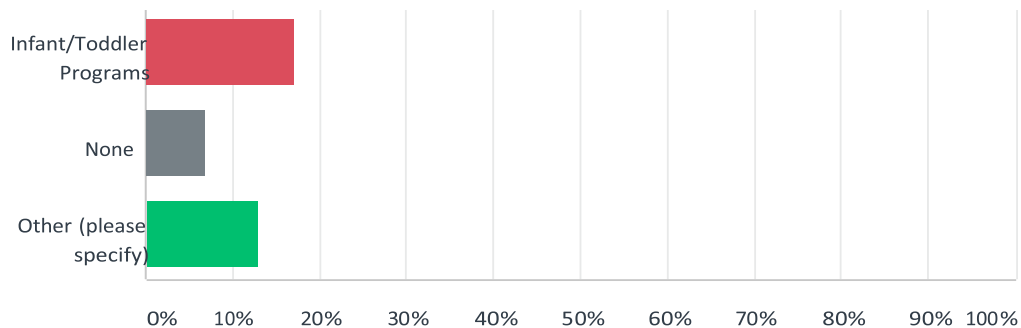
	VERY SATISFIED	SOMEWHAT SATISFIED	SOMEWHAT DISATISFIED	VERY DISATISFIED	DOES APPLY	NOT	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
(no label)	35.15%	51.88%	5.44%	2.09%	5.44%		239	1.91
	84	124	13	5	13			

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Hmm - If you do not use it you cannot have an opinion	8/9/2020 11:35 AM
2	I would like earlier swim times throughout the year 3:00-6:00	8/2/2020 11:48 AM
3	My dissatisfaction isn't due to your efforts, but to a lack of community engagement	7/23/2020 2:33 PM
4	Indoor recreation for winter. Need more pickleball.	7/23/2020 1:45 AM
5	would love more lap swim!	7/22/2020 1:26 PM
6	I wish there were more adult programs and not just sports. Adventure type camps, nature activities, art activities, etc etc.	7/22/2020 11:28 AM
7	PLEASE fix the water tower park! I have been asking for years, it's dismal and sad. Figure something out with the hospital. It's a great location and I took my kids there all the time before the slide and other equipment was removed. The other parks all have nice upgraded playgrounds and this great space is left to rot.	7/22/2020 2:20 AM

Q22 The City should provide more of the following recreation programs (select all that apply):

Answered: 217 Skipped: 25





ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Health and Fitness Classes	54.38%	118
Volleyball Leagues	14.29%	31
Senior Programs	17.97%	39
Roller Hockey League	7.83%	17
Basketball Leagues	18.89%	41
Softball Leagues	11.06%	24
Dance, Music, Theater	29.03%	63
Youth Slow Pitch	7.83%	17
Arts and Crafts	22.12%	48
Soccer Leagues	11.06%	24
Walking Club	26.73%	58
Tennis Leagues	10.14%	22
Special Events	21.66%	47
Football Leagues	10.14%	22
Swimming Classes	33.18%	72
T-Ball LeaguesOther	9.22%	20
Fitness Programs	35.48%	77
Ice Hockey League	12.44%	27
Infant/Toddler Programs	17.05%	37

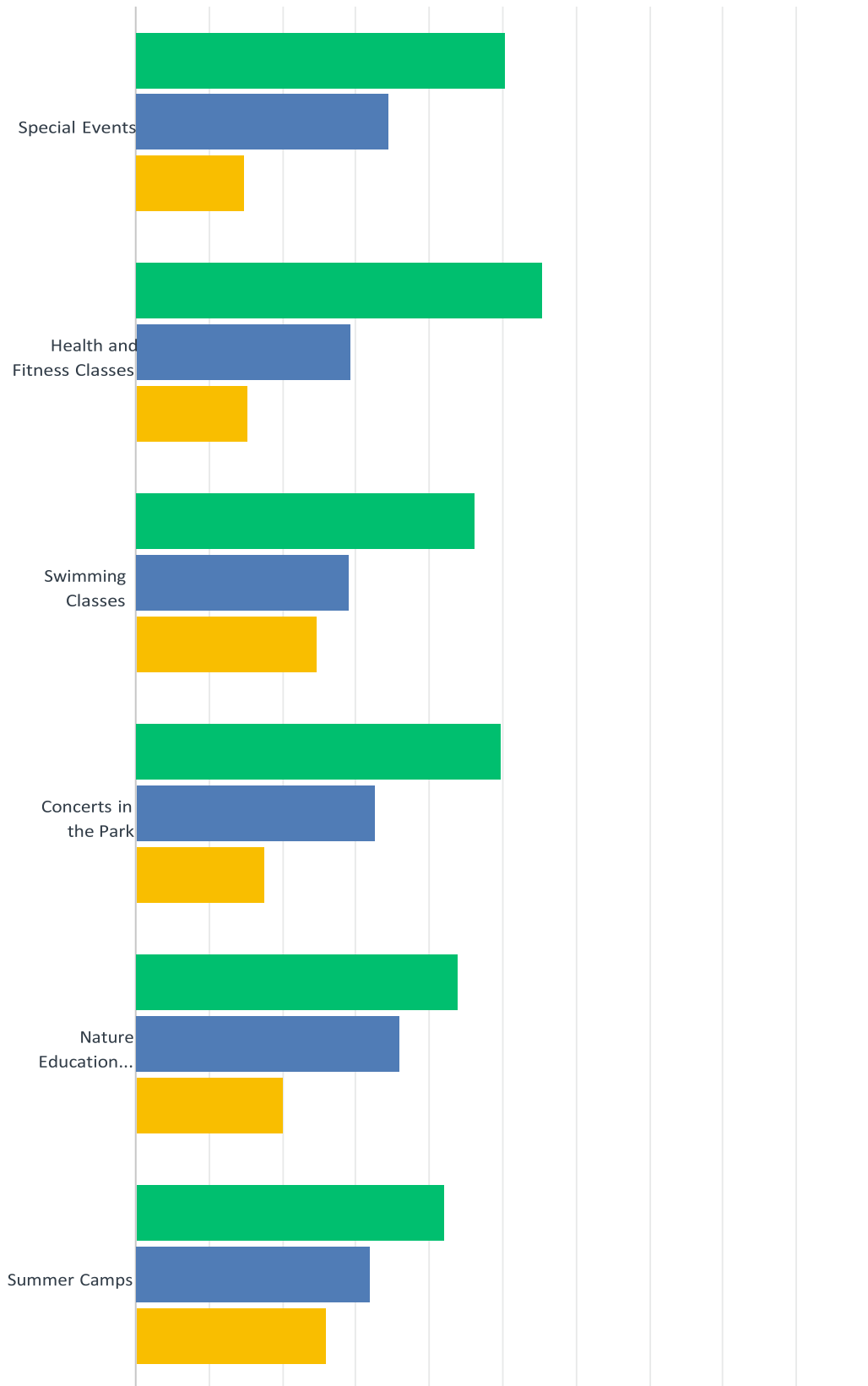
None	6.91%	15
Other (please specify)	12.90%	28
Total Respondents: 217		

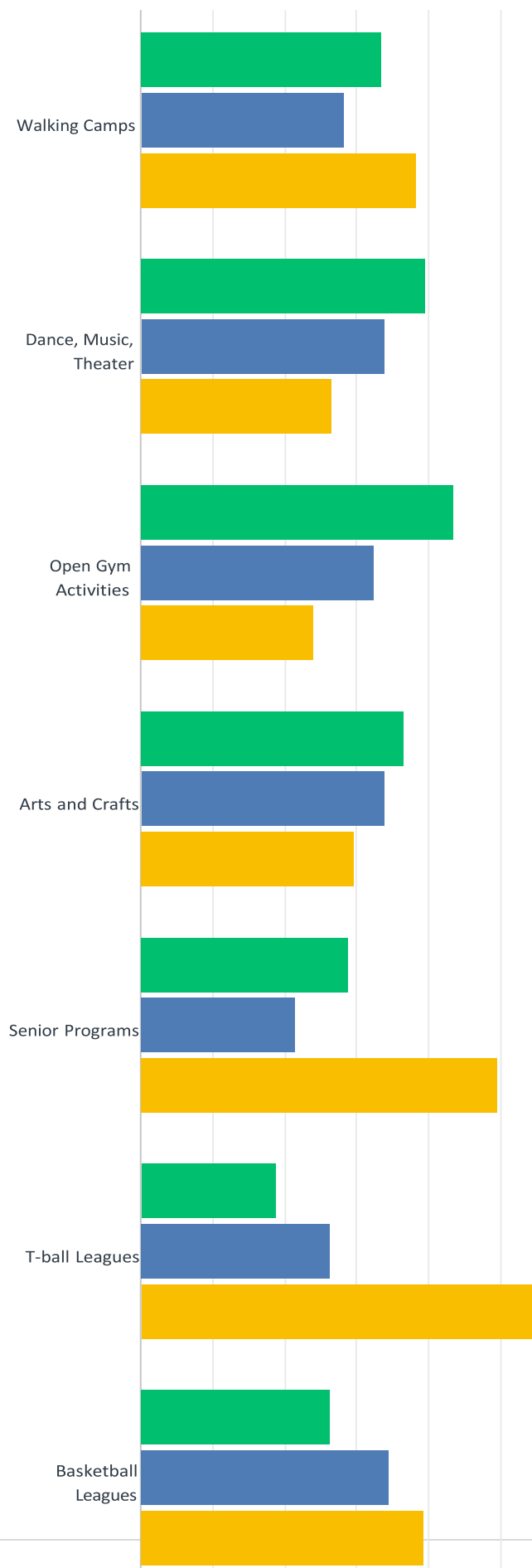
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Kick-N-Style Line Dance lessons with Susan Fhaner	8/17/2020 6:50 PM
2	Lap swimming	8/17/2020 12:25 PM
3	Gymnastics	8/17/2020 2:24 AM
4	Kickball	8/16/2020 10:13 PM
5	yoga	8/16/2020 8:50 PM
6	no opinion	8/9/2020 8:03 PM
7	Teen options	8/3/2020 10:35 AM
8	Special needs activities would be appreciated for adult children.	8/2/2020 11:48 AM
9	PICKLEBALL COURTS	7/25/2020 6:13 AM
10	Personal development classes	7/24/2020 11:00 AM
11	Fitness programs for seniors	7/23/2020 11:04 AM
12	Survival Skills	7/23/2020 1:45 AM
13	Pickleball outdoors	7/22/2020 10:22 PM
14	City should definitely improve skating rink area so children have something to do at the park in winter. The warming shelter needs a ton of work as does the rink area for children and adults to enjoy.	7/22/2020 9:38 PM
15	All activities added are a plus	7/22/2020 9:11 PM
16	Nerf for younger ages	7/22/2020 5:44 PM
17	Pickleball options indoor/outdoorb	7/22/2020 3:16 PM
18	Pickleball	7/22/2020 1:30 PM
19	nerf wars	7/22/2020 12:00 PM
20	The Northeast Section of City needs a neighborhood Park and playground.	7/22/2020 11:48 AM
21	Literary and poetry programs	7/22/2020 11:12 AM
22	Pickle ball times	7/22/2020 8:21 AM
23	Open swim	7/21/2020 5:25 PM

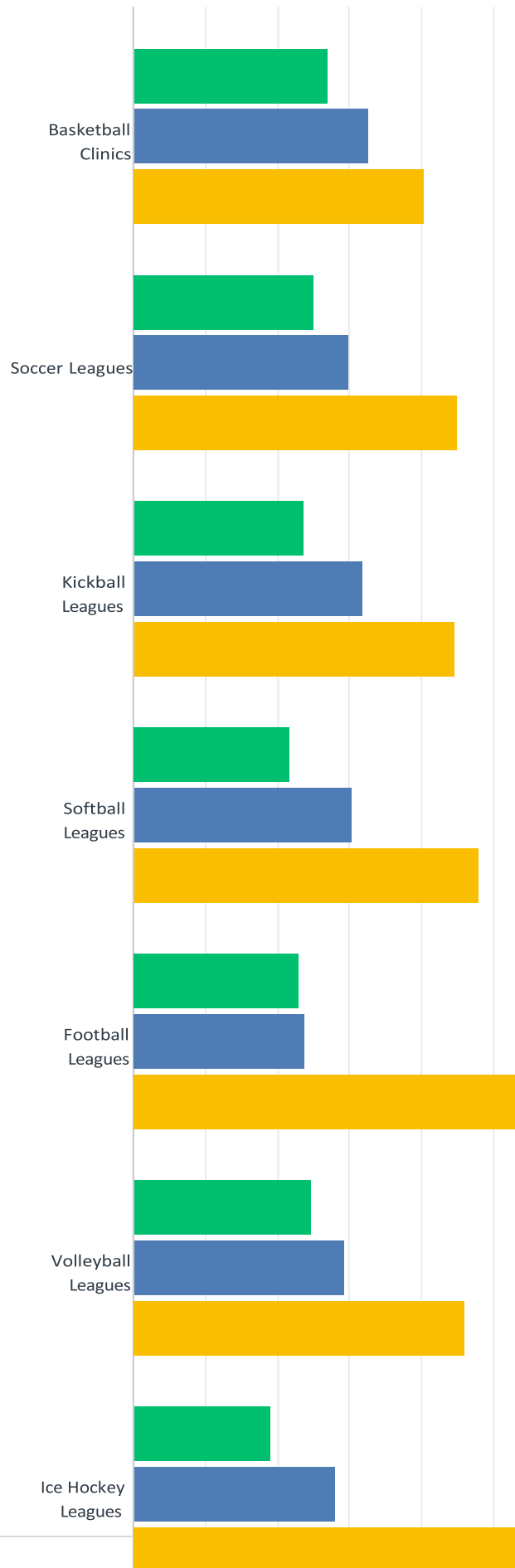
24	more adult swim options	7/21/2020 5:18 PM
25	Youth lacrosse	7/21/2020 4:11 PM
26	Pickle ball league? Classes/access to climbing wall in Wilson center	7/21/2020 3:51 PM
27	Kickball league	7/21/2020 3:09 PM
28	Multiple sport/fitness for teens who don't participate in organized school sports, but would like to participate for fun.	7/21/2020 2:52 PM

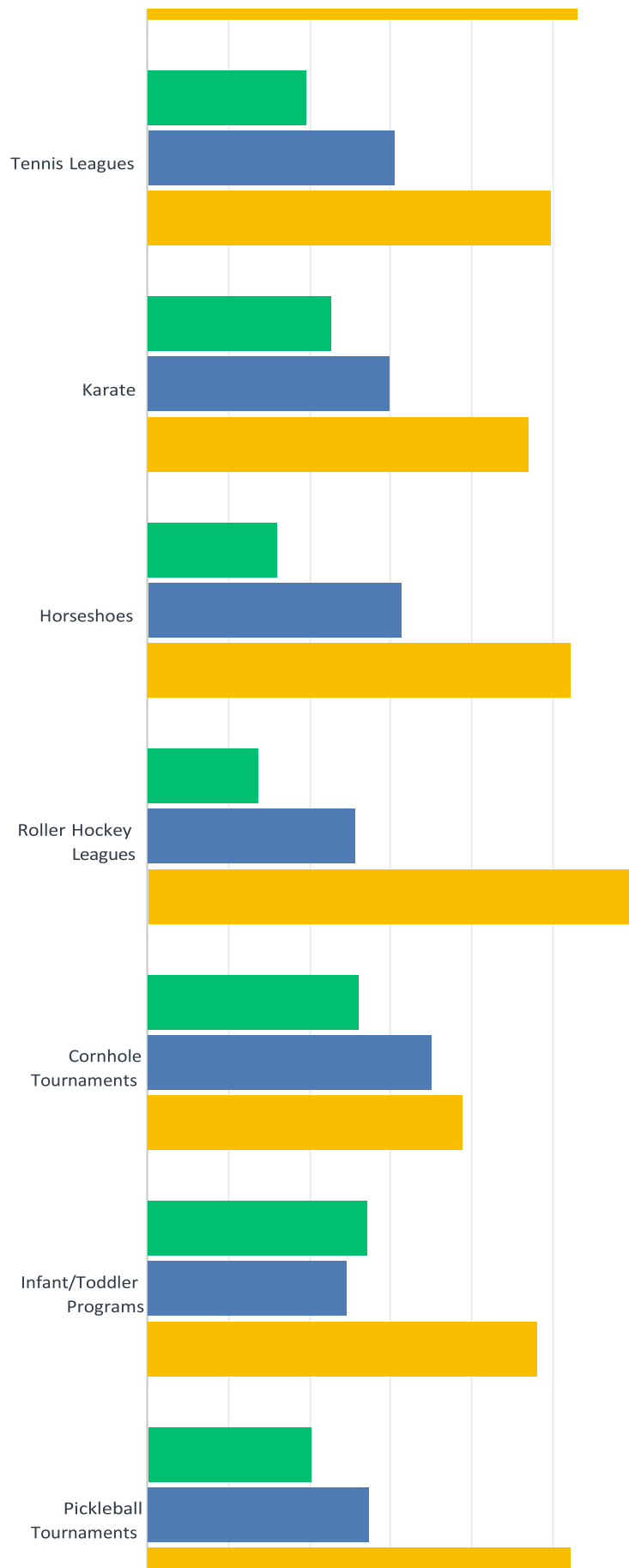
Q23 How would the improvement or addition of the following programs impact your interest in the City of St. Johns Recreational Programs?

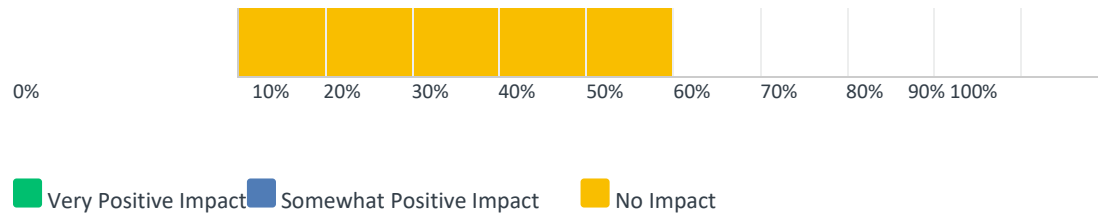
Answered: 230 Skipped: 12









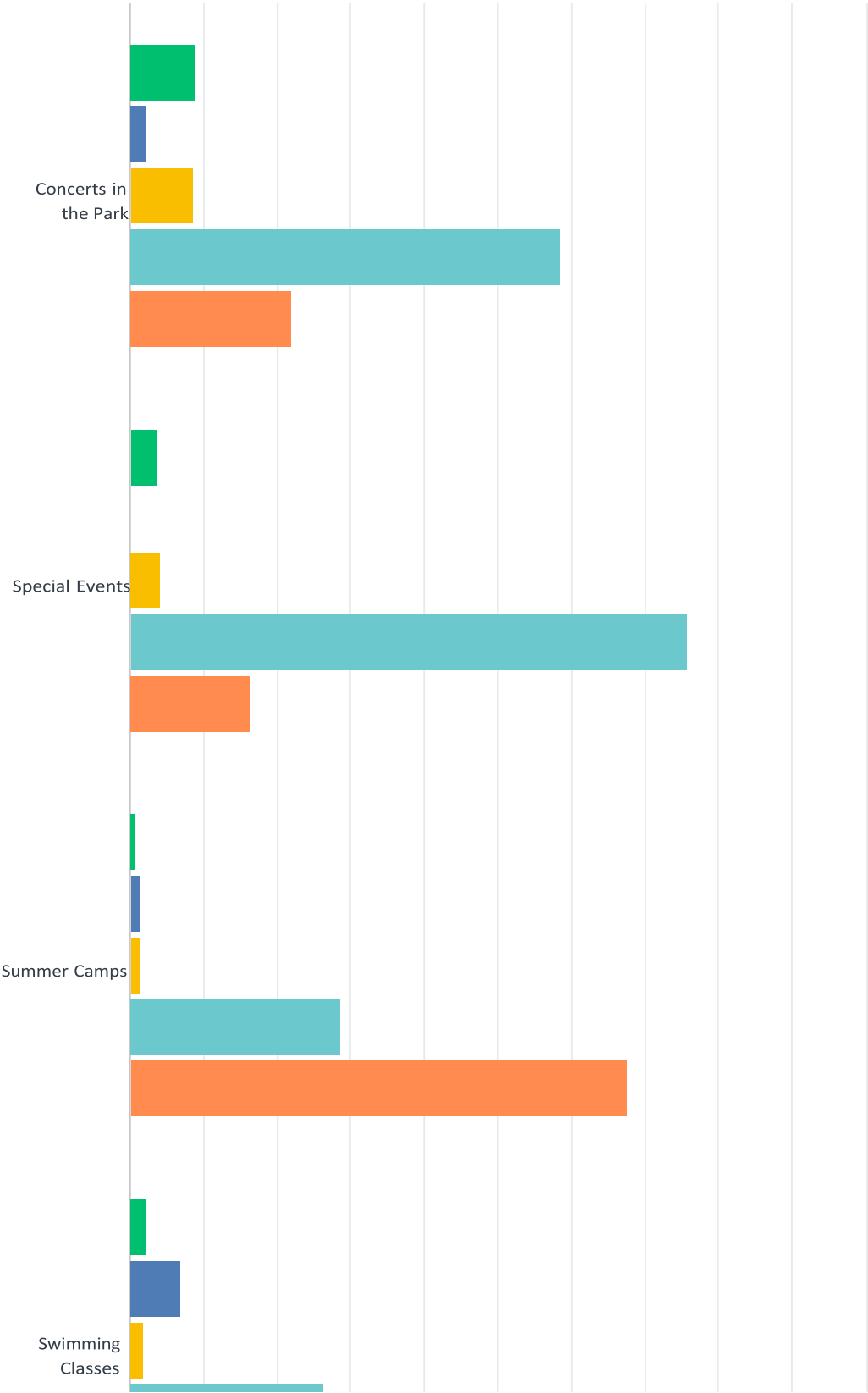


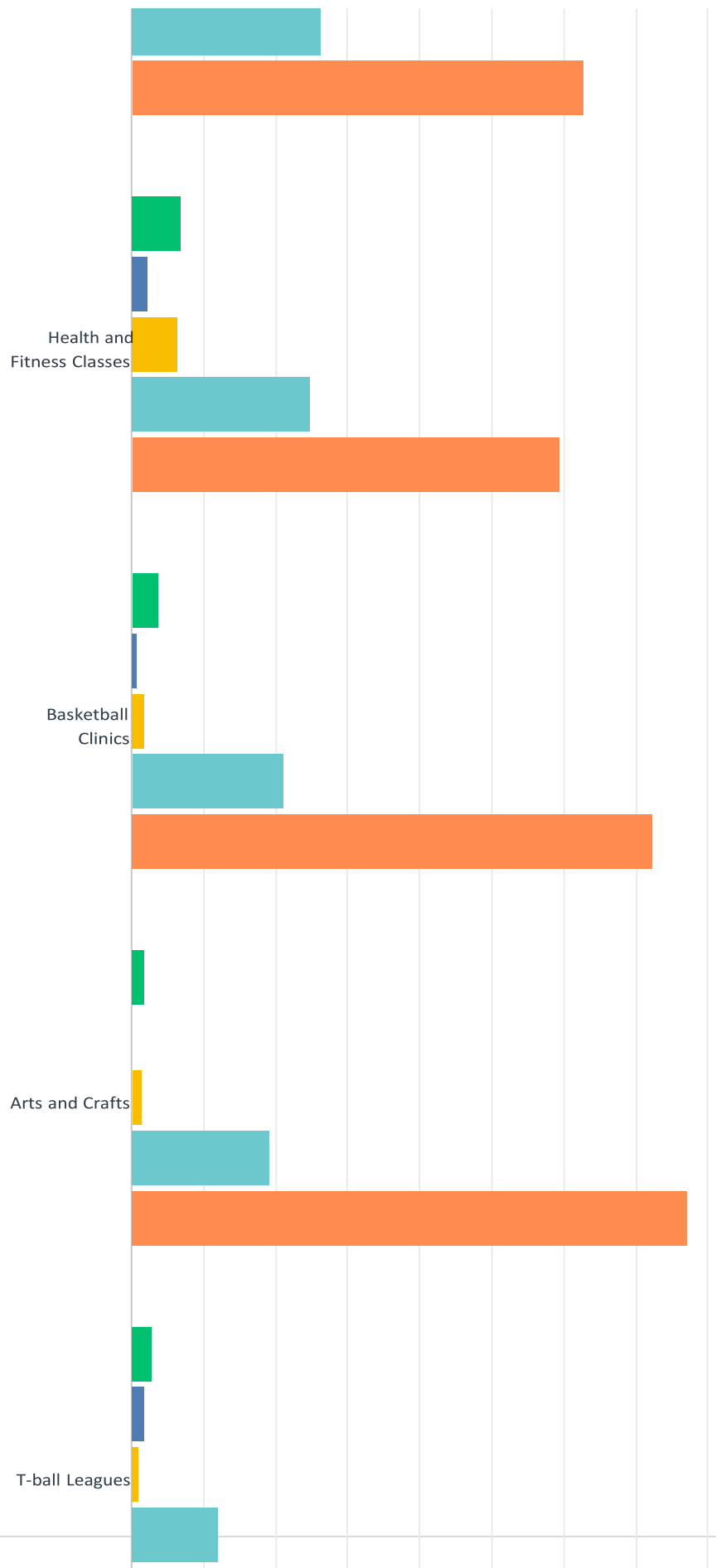
	VERY POSITIVE IMPACT	SOMEWHAT POSITIVE IMPACT	NO IMPACT	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Special Events	50.47% 108	34.58% 74	14.95% 32	214	1.64
Health and Fitness Classes	55.41% 123	29.28% 65	15.32% 34	222	1.60
Swimming Classes	46.19% 103	29.15% 65	24.66% 55	223	1.78
Concerts in the Park	49.77% 110	32.58% 72	17.65% 39	221	1.68
Nature Education Programs	43.84% 96	36.07% 79	20.09% 44	219	1.76
Summer Camps	42.01% 92	31.96% 70	26.03% 57	219	1.84
Walking Camps	33.49% 71	28.30% 60	38.21% 81	212	2.05
Dance, Music, Theater	39.53% 85	33.95% 73	26.51% 57	215	1.87
Open Gym Activities	43.52% 94	32.41% 70	24.07% 52	216	1.81
Arts and Crafts	36.57% 79	33.80% 73	29.63% 64	216	1.93
Senior Programs	28.97% 62	21.50% 46	49.53% 106	214	2.21
T-ball Leagues	18.87% 40	26.42% 56	54.72% 116	212	2.36
Basketball Leagues	26.32% 55	34.45% 72	39.23% 82	209	2.13
Basketball Clinics	27.01% 57	32.70% 69	40.28% 85	211	2.13
Soccer Leagues	25.12% 53	29.86% 63	45.02% 95	211	2.20
Kickball Leagues	23.70% 50	31.75% 67	44.55% 94	211	2.21
Softball Leagues	21.80% 46	30.33% 64	47.87% 101	211	2.26
Football Leagues	22.97% 48	23.92% 50	53.11% 111	209	2.30

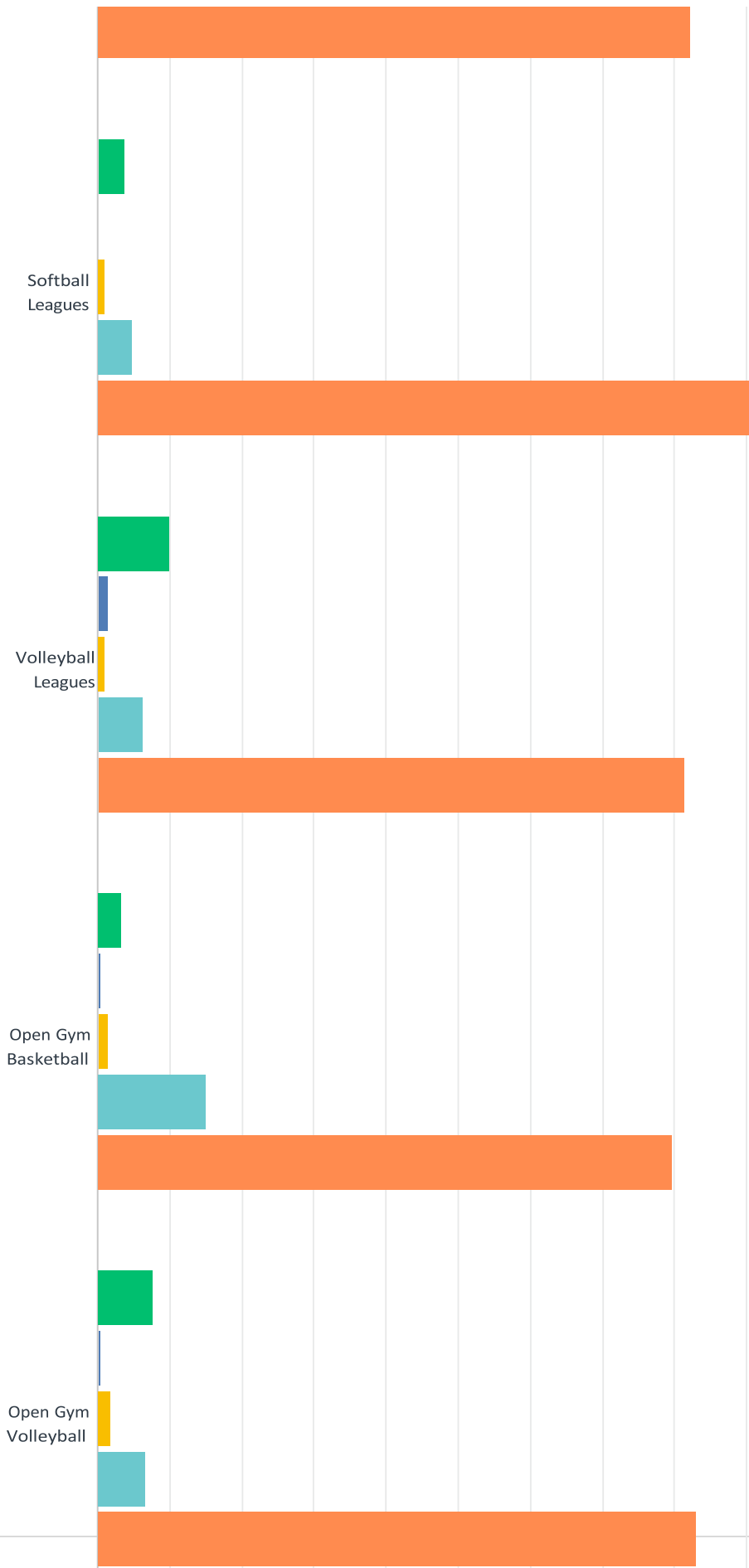
Volleyball Leagues	24.64% 52	29.38% 62	45.97% 97	211	2.21
Ice Hockey Leagues	18.96% 40	27.96% 59	53.08% 112	211	2.34
Tennis Leagues	19.62% 41	30.62% 64	49.76% 104	209	2.30
Karate	22.86% 48	30.00% 63	47.14% 99	210	2.24
Horseshoes	16.19% 34	31.43% 66	52.38% 110	210	2.36
Roller Hockey Leagues	13.81% 29	25.71% 54	60.48% 127	210	2.47
Cornhole Tournaments	26.07% 55	35.07% 74	38.86% 82	211	2.13
Infant/Toddler Programs	27.14% 57	24.76% 52	48.10% 101	210	2.21
Pickleball Tournaments	20.28% 43	27.36% 58	52.36% 111	212	2.32

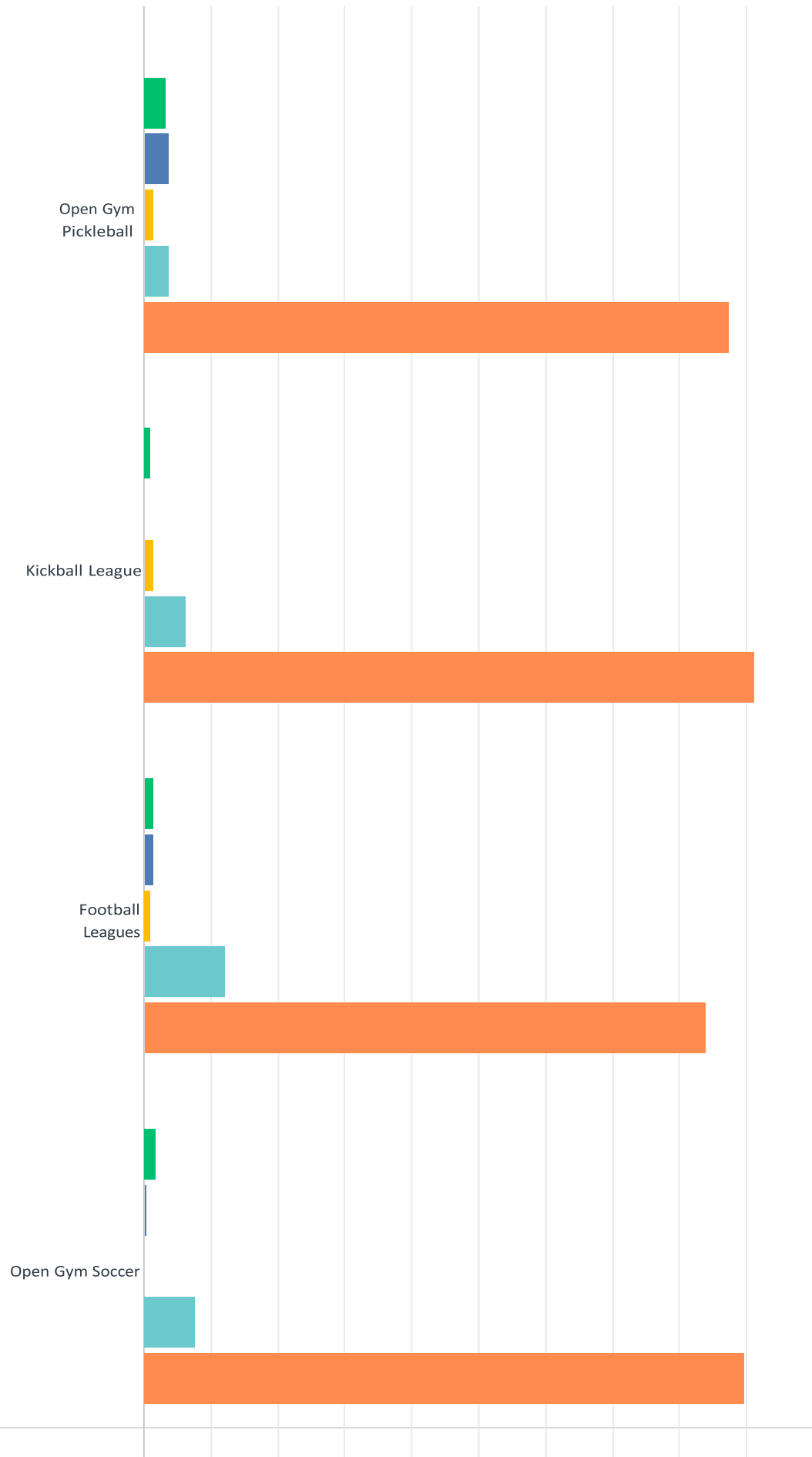
Q24 How frequently do you or your household participate in each City Recreational Program when offered?

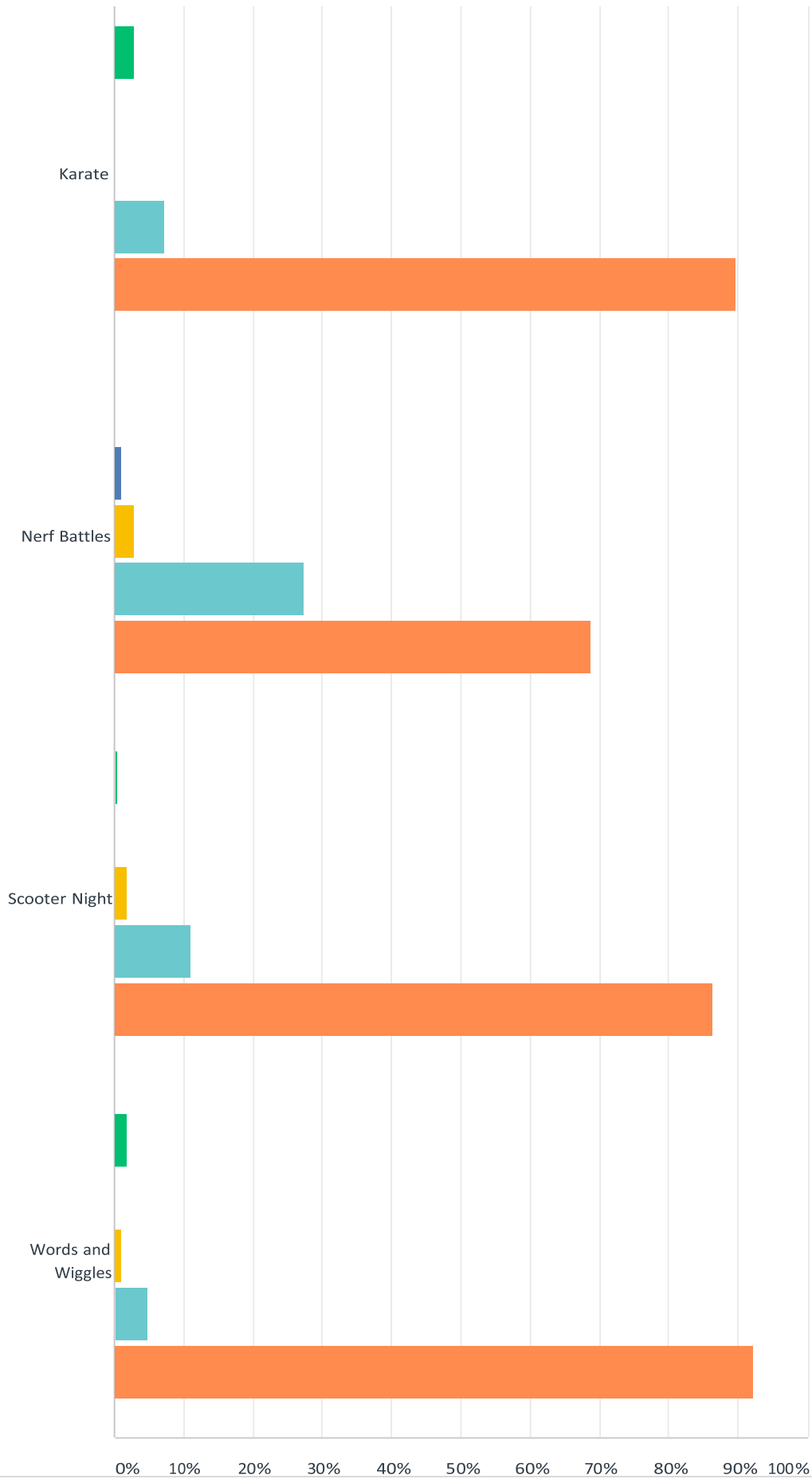
Answered: 228 Skipped: 14











Once a week



Twice a week

Twice a month

A few times a year

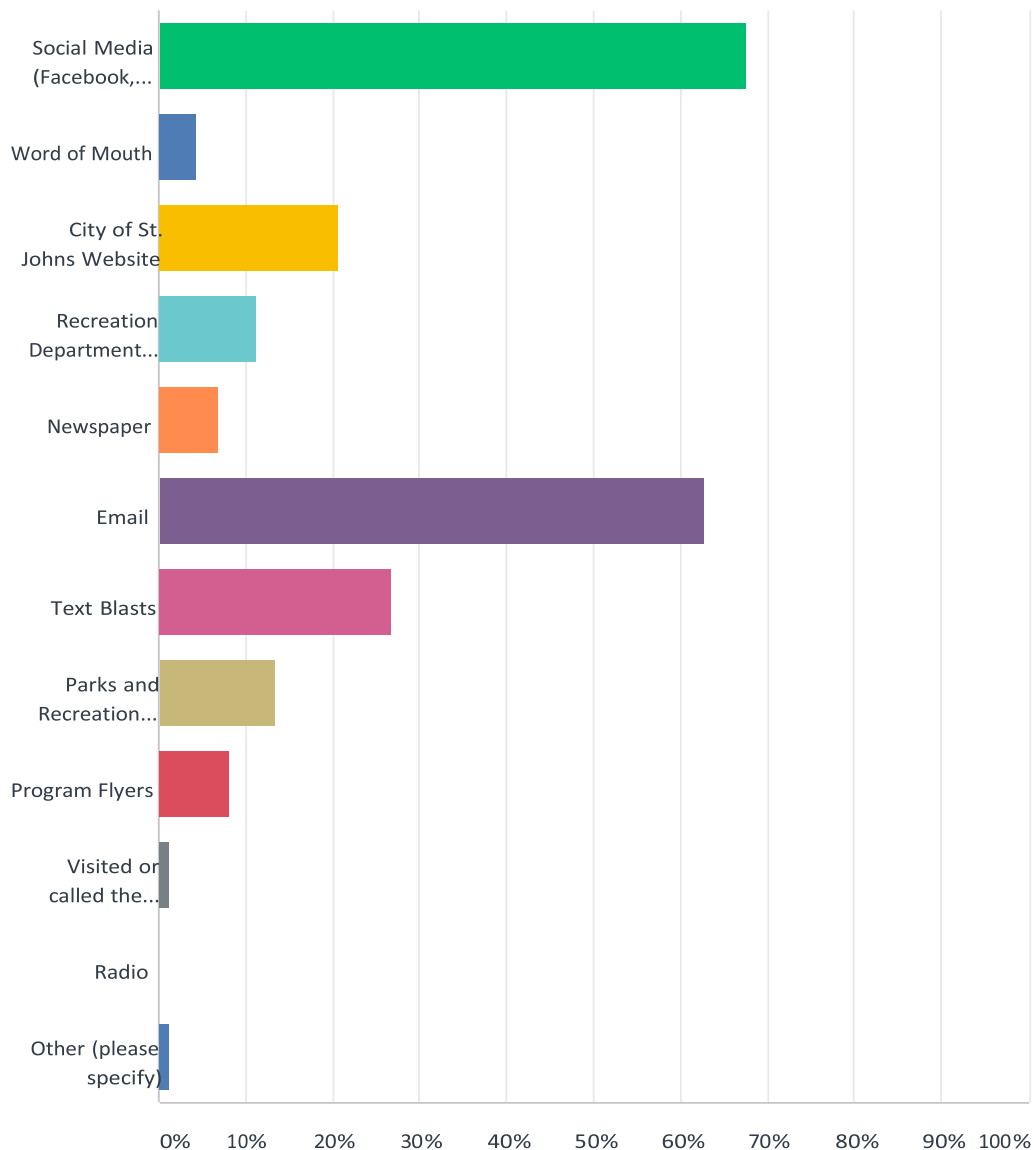
Never

	ONCE WEEK	A	TWICE A WEEK	A	TWICE A MONTH	A FEW YEAR	TIMES A	NEVER	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Concerts in the Park	20	8.93%	5	2.23%	8.48% 19	58.48% 131		21.88% 49	224	3.82
Special Events	8	3.72%	0	0.00%	4.19% 9	75.81% 163		16.28% 35	215	4.01
Summer Camps	2	0.93%	3	1.39%	1.39% 3	28.70% 62		67.59% 146	216	4.61
Swimming Classes	5	2.27%	15	6.82%	1.82% 4	26.36% 58		62.73% 138	220	4.40
Health and Fitness Classes	15	6.91%	5	2.30%	6.45% 14	24.88% 54		59.45% 129	217	4.28
Basketball Clinics	8	3.74%	2	0.93%	1.87% 4	21.03% 45		72.43% 155	214	4.57
Arts and Crafts	4	1.93%	0	0.00%	1.45% 3	19.32% 40		77.29% 160	207	4.70
T-ball Leagues	6	2.90%	4	1.93%	0.97% 2	12.08% 25		82.13% 170	207	4.69
Softball Leagues	8	3.86%	0	0.00%	0.97% 2	4.83% 10		90.34% 187	207	4.78
Volleyball Leagues	21	10.00%	3	1.43%	0.95% 2	6.19% 13		81.43% 171	210	4.48
Open Gym Basketball	7	3.38%	1	0.48%	1.45% 3	14.98% 31		79.71% 165	207	4.67
Open Gym Volleyball	16	7.73%	1	0.48%	1.93% 4	6.76% 14		83.09% 172	207	4.57
Open Gym Pickleball	7	3.38%	8	3.86%	1.45% 3	3.86% 8		87.44% 181	207	4.68
Kickball League	2	0.98%	0	0.00%	1.46% 3	6.34% 13		91.22% 187	205	4.87
Football Leagues	3	1.46%	3	1.46%	0.98% 2	12.20% 25		83.90% 172	205	4.76
Open Gym Soccer	4	1.95%	1	0.49%	0.00% 0	7.80% 16		89.76% 184	205	4.83
Karate	6	2.93%	0	0.00%	0.00% 0	7.32% 15		89.76% 184	205	4.81

Nerf Battles	0	0.00%	2	0.96%	6	2.88%	57	27.40%	143	68.75%	208	4.64
Scooter Night	1	0.48%	0	0.00%	4	1.93%	23	11.11%	179	86.47%	207	4.83
Words and Wiggles	4	1.96%	0	0.00%	2	0.98%	10	4.90%	188	92.16%	204	4.85

Q25 Please select the two best ways to let you know about recreational programs and events in the future.

Answered: 231 Skipped: 11

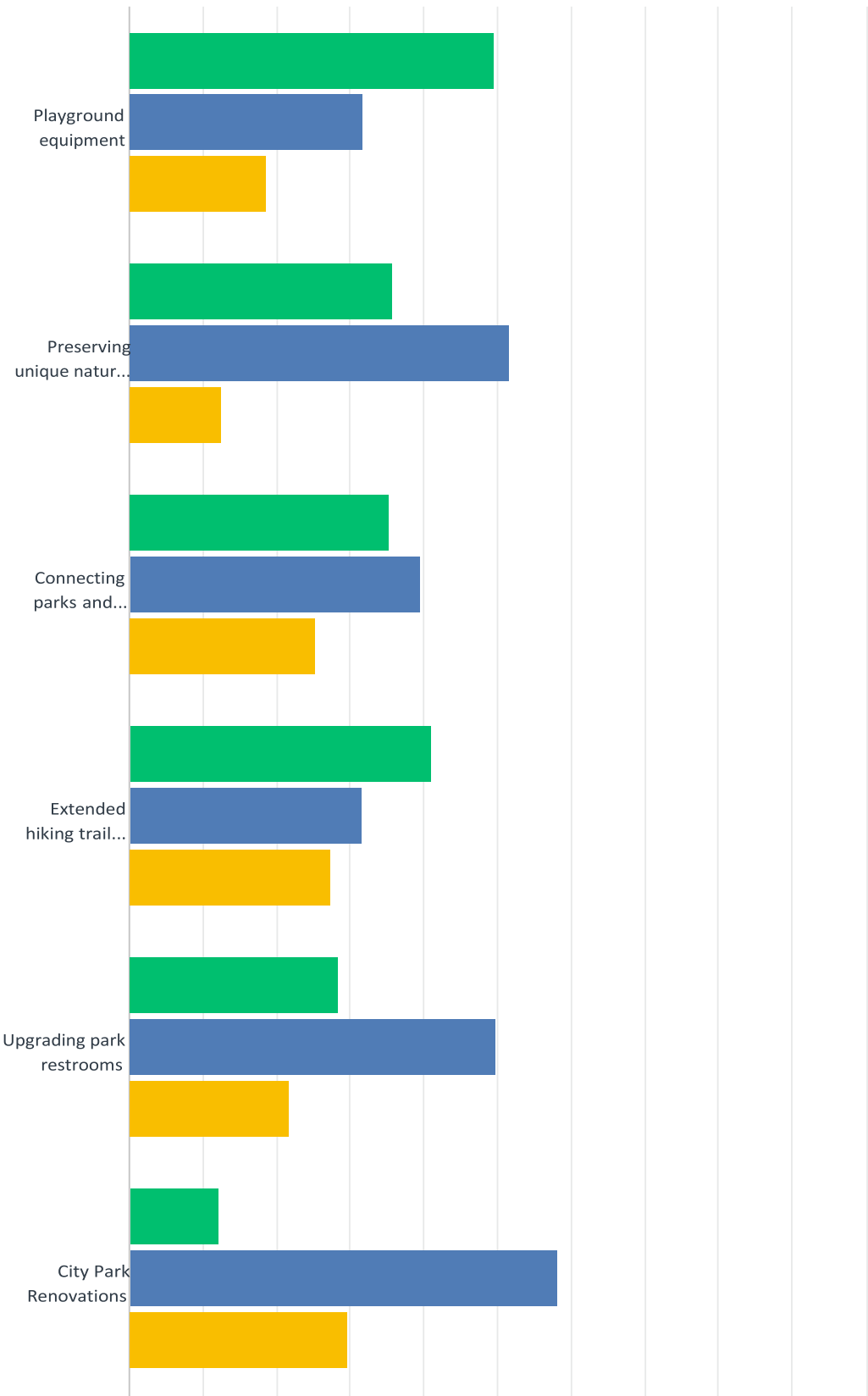


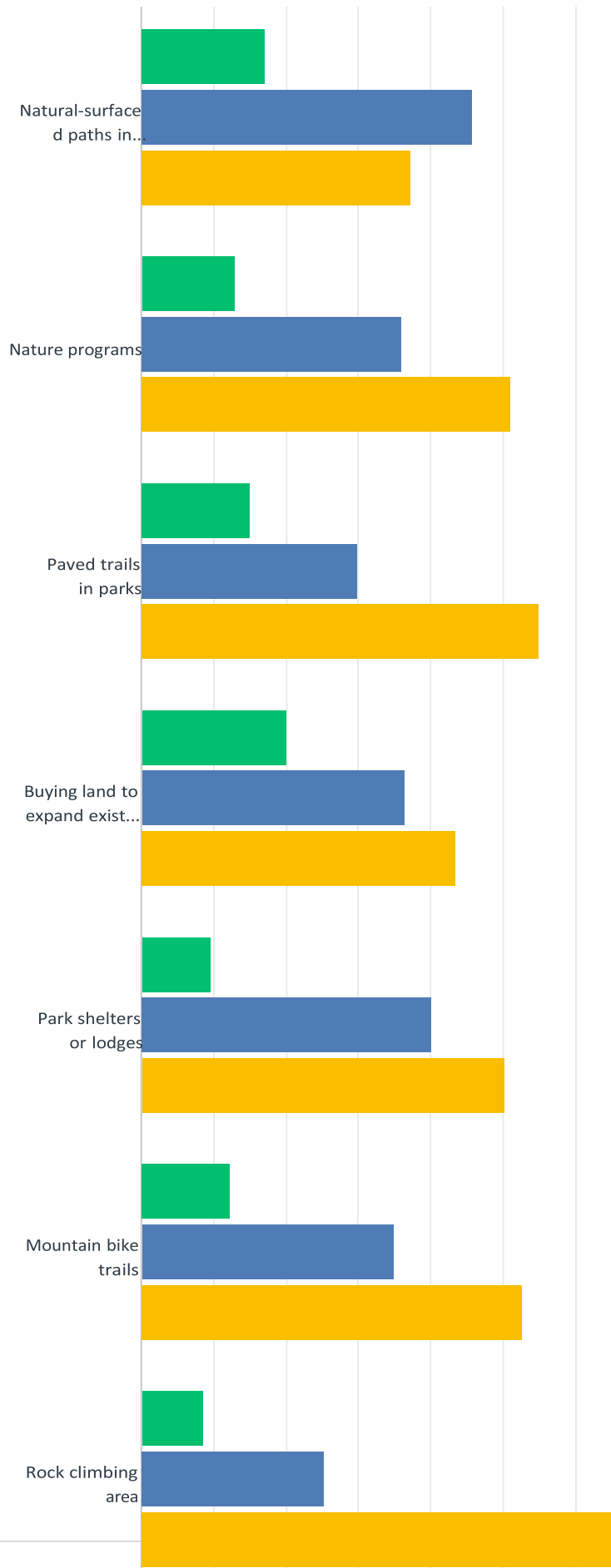
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Social Media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram)	67.53%	156

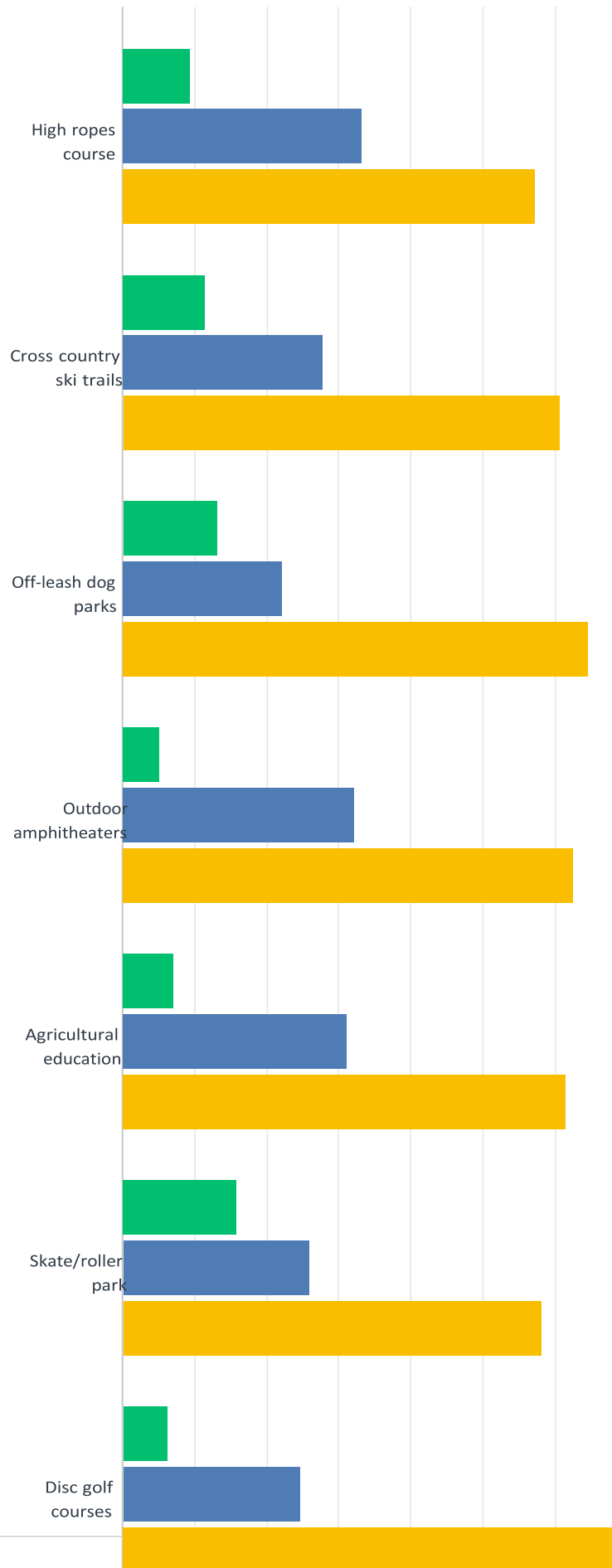
Word of Mouth	4.33%	10
City of St. Johns Website	20.78%	48
Recreation Department Registration Website	11.26%	26
Newspaper	6.93%	16
Email	62.77%	145
Text Blasts	26.84%	62
Parks and Recreation Seasonal Brochure	13.42%	31
Program Flyers	8.23%	19
Visited or called the City/Recreation Department Office	1.30%	3
Radio	0.00%	0
Other (please specify)	1.30%	3
Total Respondents: 231		
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	mail	8/9/2020 11:35 AM
2	So much info is on facebook that I either don't see events, or quickly forget them.	7/23/2020 2:33 PM
3	Website - #3	7/22/2020 12:31 PM

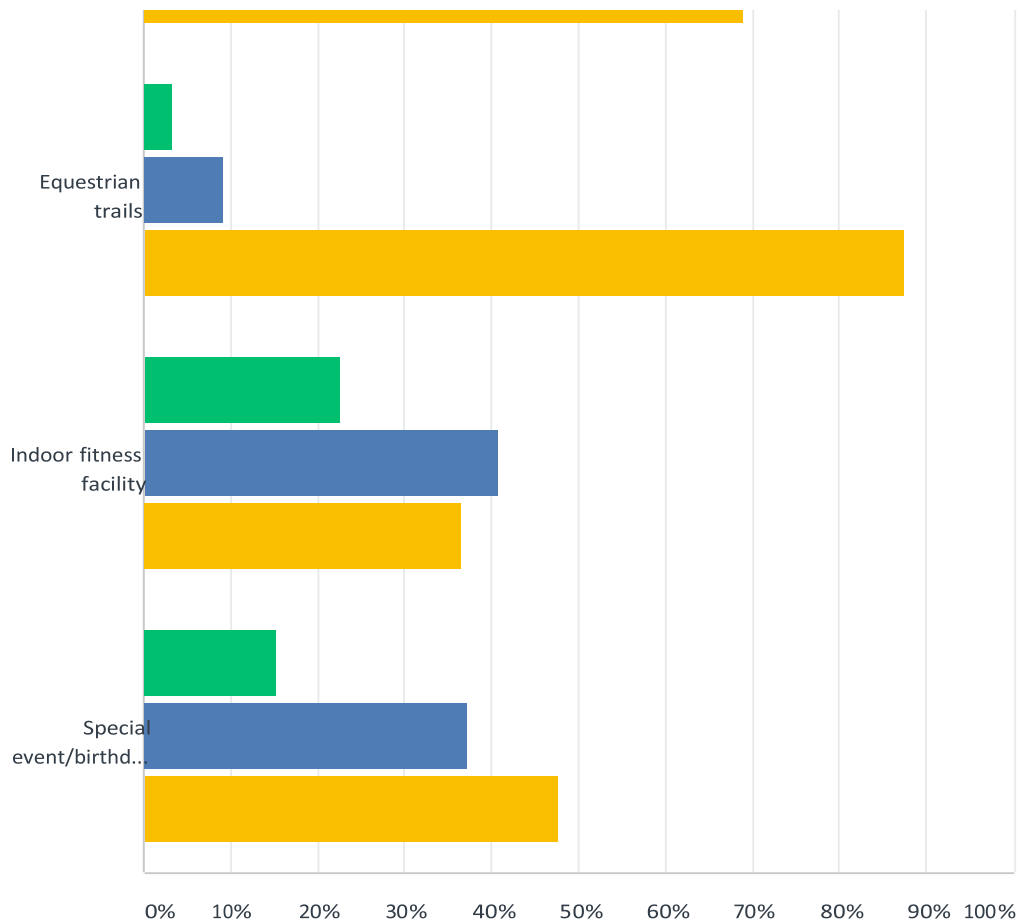
Q26 Recognizing that there is limited funding available, how would you prioritize the following areas?

Answered: 227 Skipped: 15









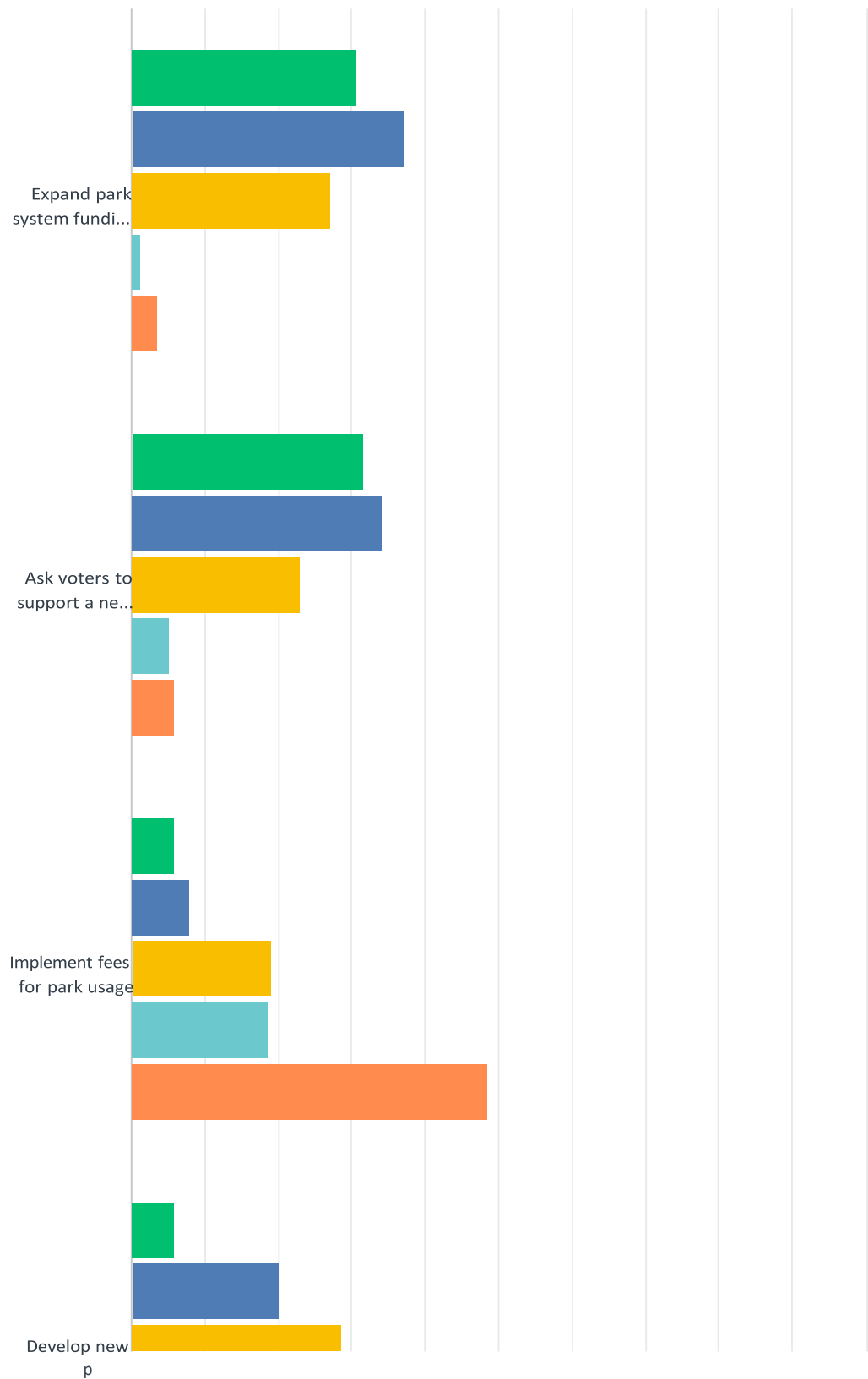
■ High priority
 ■ Moderate priority
 ■ Low priority

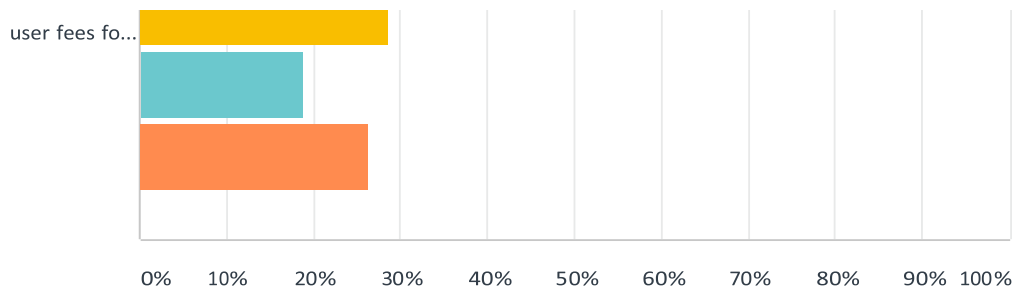
	HIGH PRIORITY	MODERATE PRIORITY	LOW PRIORITY	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Playground equipment	49.53% 106	31.78% 68	18.69% 40	214	1.69
Preserving unique natural areas	35.81% 77	51.63% 111	12.56% 27	215	1.77
Connecting parks and communities via trails	35.32% 77	39.45% 86	25.23% 55	218	1.90
Extended hiking trails (natural-surfaced trails more than 5 miles)	40.93% 88	31.63% 68	27.44% 59	215	1.87
Upgrading park restrooms	28.37% 61	49.77% 107	21.86% 47	215	1.93
City Park Renovations	12.09% 26	58.14% 125	29.77% 64	215	2.18
Natural-surfaced paths in parks	17.14% 36	45.71% 96	37.14% 78	210	2.20

Nature programs	27	12.98%	36.06% 75	50.96% 106	208	2.38
Paved trails in parks	31	14.98%	29.95% 62	55.07% 114	207	2.40
Buying land to expand existing parks	42	20.10%	36.36% 76	43.54% 91	209	2.23
Park shelters or lodges	20	9.57%	40.19% 84	50.24% 105	209	2.41
Mountain bike trails	26	12.44%	34.93% 73	52.63% 110	209	2.40
Rock climbing area	18	8.57%	25.24% 53	66.19% 139	210	2.58
High ropes course	20	9.48%	33.18% 70	57.35% 121	211	2.48
Cross country ski trails	24	11.48%	27.75% 58	60.77% 127	209	2.49
Off-leash dog parks	28	13.21%	22.17% 47	64.62% 137	212	2.51
Outdoor amphitheaters	11	5.21%	32.23% 68	62.56% 132	211	2.57
Agricultural education	15	7.21%	31.25% 65	61.54% 128	208	2.54
Skate/roller park	33	15.87%	25.96% 54	58.17% 121	208	2.42
Disc golf courses	13	6.28%	24.64% 51	69.08% 143	207	2.63
Equestrian trails	7	3.38%	9.18% 19	87.44% 181	207	2.84
Indoor fitness facility	48	22.54%	40.85% 87	36.62% 78	213	2.14
Special event/birthday rental facilities	32	15.24%	37.14% 78	47.62% 100	210	2.32

Q27 Please indicate your level of support for these potential sources of additional funding to improve the St. Johns parks, recreation programs, and trails.

Answered: 227 Skipped: 15

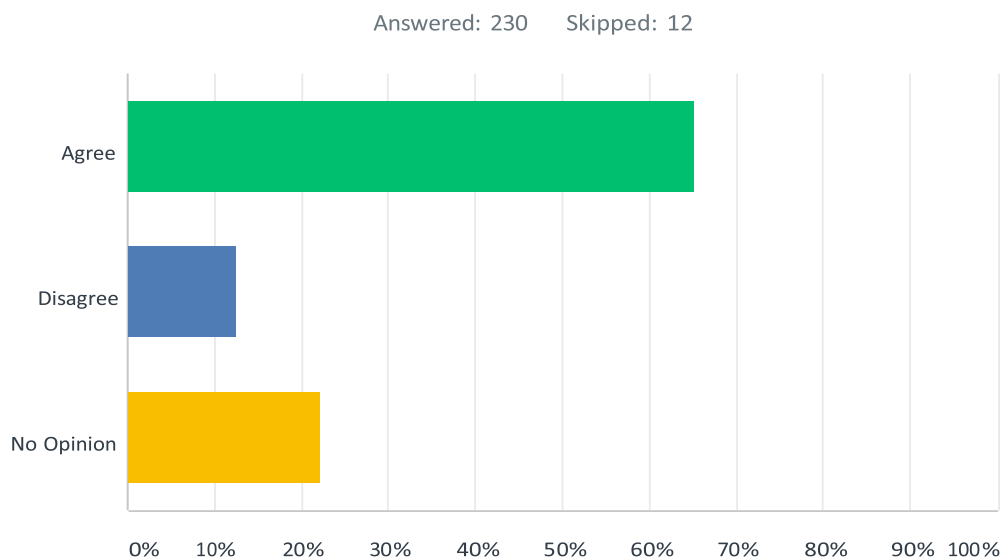




Strongly support Moderately support Neutral Moderately Oppose
Strongly Oppose

	STRONGLY SUPPORT	MODERATELY SUPPORT	NEUTRAL	MODERATELY OPPOSE	STRONGLY OPPOSE	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Expand park system funding from St. Johns' general tax base	69 30.67%	84 37.33%	61 27.11%	3 1.33%	8 3.56%	225	2.10
Ask voters to support a new millage for St. Johns Park and Trail system	71 31.56%	77 34.22%	52 23.11%	12 5.33%	13 5.78%	225	2.20
Implement fees for park usage	13 5.78%	18 8.00%	43 19.11%	42 18.67%	109 48.44%	225	3.96
Develop new user fees for activities that are currently free	13 5.83%	45 20.18%	64 28.70%	42 18.83%	59 26.46%	223	3.40

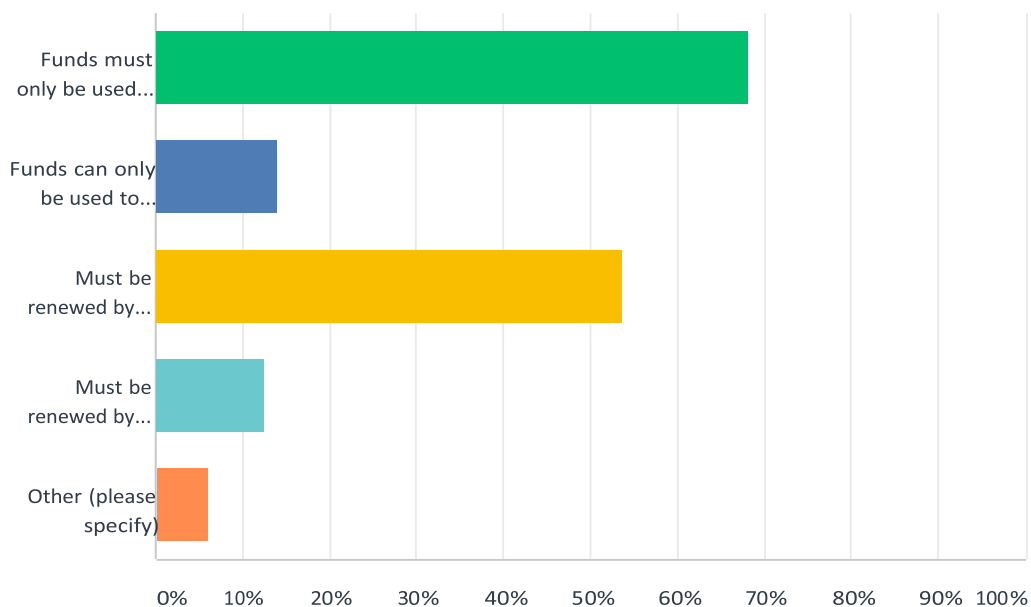
Q28 I would be willing to pay a millage for improved recreational facilities and programs.



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Agree	65.22%	150
Disagree	12.61%	29
No Opinion	22.17%	51
TOTAL		230

Q29 Under what conditions might you support a tax millage for the St. Johns Parks and Trails system?

Answered: 214 Skipped: 28

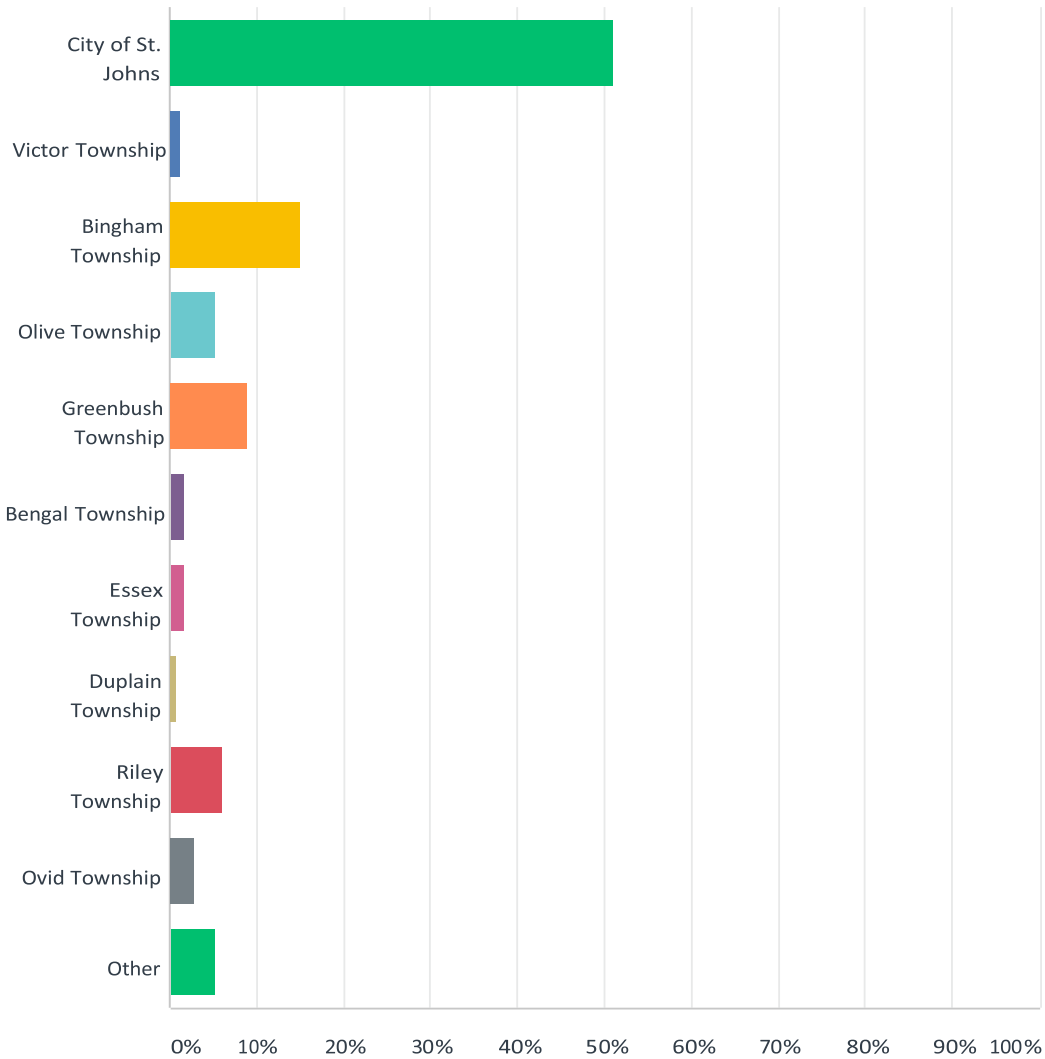


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Funds must only be used where needed to operate, expand, and improve the City park system	68.22%	146
Funds can only be used to acquire new land for City parks and trails	14.02%	30
Must be renewed by voters every 5 years	53.74%	115
Must be renewed by voters every 10 years	12.62%	27
Other (please specify)	6.07%	13
Total Respondents: 214		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Only if the surrounding areas are also taxed for usage, and not just city residents. They drive in and use the facility as well. It would also need to be a very, very small millage, renewed every 2 years.	8/17/2020 9:26 AM
2	Dog park	8/17/2020 12:06 AM
3	Upgrade the stuff that's there!!!	8/16/2020 11:36 PM
4	Do not support	8/16/2020 10:48 PM
5	I will never approve of any city mil until Mayer Hufnagel and Commissioner Rustman are removed. They both have a negative impact on the City of St, Johns.	8/16/2020 8:30 PM
6	I would support any type of millage for recreation and parks	8/16/2020 8:11 PM
7	I would support all conditions. Parks are vital for physical and social health!	8/3/2020 1:51 PM
8	I will always support the parks - these are necessary for our community and used by all.	8/2/2020 11:48 AM
9	OBVIOUSLY MY SUPPORT WOULD BE BASWED ON WHAT IMPROVEMENTS TO THE REC PROGRAM ARE PROPOSED, BUT IMRPOVEMENTS ARE A NECESSITY IF THIS COMMUNITY IS GOING TO GROW AND DRAW PEOPLE TO IT.	7/25/2020 6:13 AM
10	The millage increase amount ask must be low.	7/23/2020 6:03 PM
11	X	7/22/2020 11:54 AM
12	Programs need to be more available. limited programs to 16 people is too limiting (ie- yoga program this year)	7/22/2020 8:16 AM
13	I would not support this. Many activities are disorganized, advertised inadequately, then canceled.	7/21/2020 8:27 PM

Q30 Where do you live?

Answered: 233 Skipped: 9



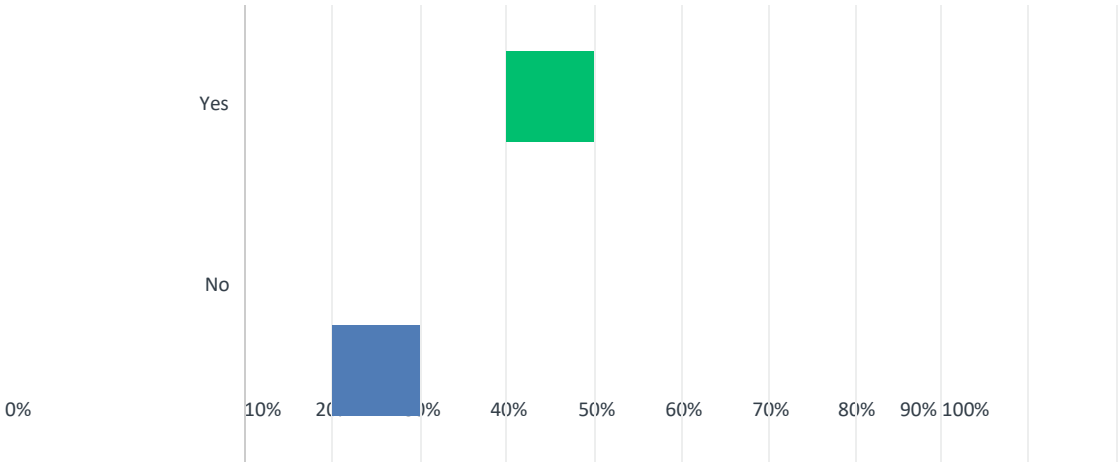
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
City of St. Johns	51.07%	119
Victor Township	1.29%	3
Bingham Township	15.02%	35
Olive Township	5.15%	12
Greenbush Township	9.01%	21
Bengal Township	1.72%	4
Essex Township	1.72%	4

Duplain Township	0.86%	2
Riley Township	6.01%	14
Ovid Township	3.00%	7
Other	5.15%	12
TOTAL		233

Q31 Do you currently have an account on the Recreation Department registration site? <https://stjohnsmi.myrec.com/info/default.aspx>

Answered: 187

Skipped: 55



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	66.84%	125
No	33.16%	62
TOTAL		187

- Appendix B
- Appendix C
- Appendix D
- Appendix E
- Appendix F
- Appendix G