

PROJECT MEMO



TO: Jeff Grover
Parks & Recreation Director
City of Fircrest

DATE: February 28, 2024

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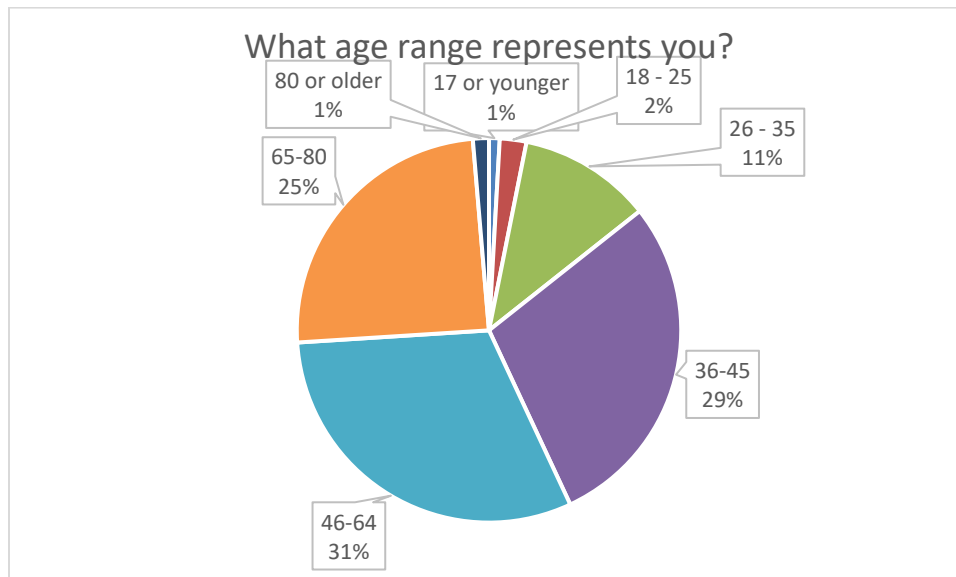
PROJECT NO.: 2230272
PROJECT NAME: Whittier Park Master Plan

SUBJECT: Community Survey Summary

Fircrest Community Survey Summary

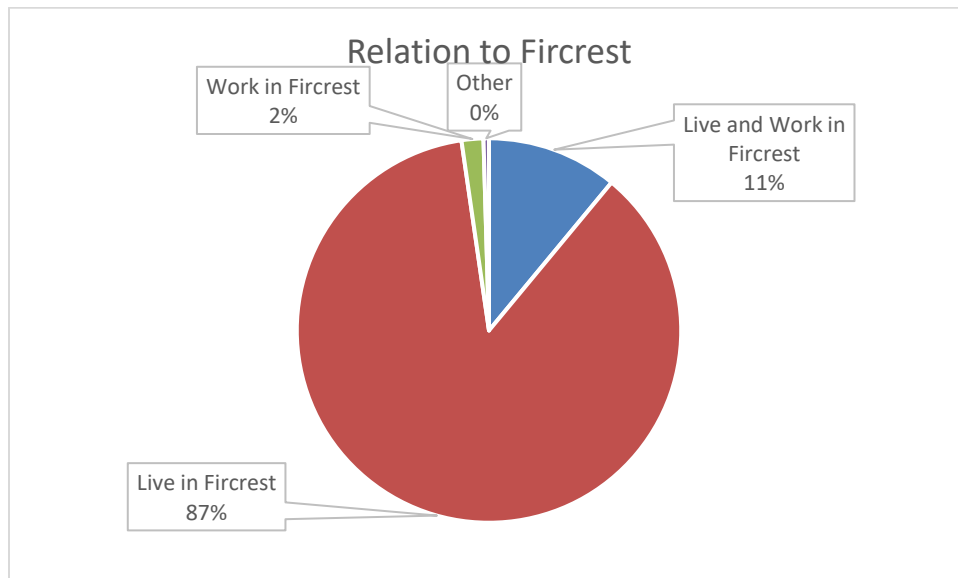
As a part of the Whittier Park Master Plan Project, the City of Fircrest's consultants, AHBL, developed a Community Survey. The survey consisted of three main groups of questions: background, existing Whittier Park use, and community impressions. The following is a summary of responses and a compilation of written feedback.

Respondent Age Range

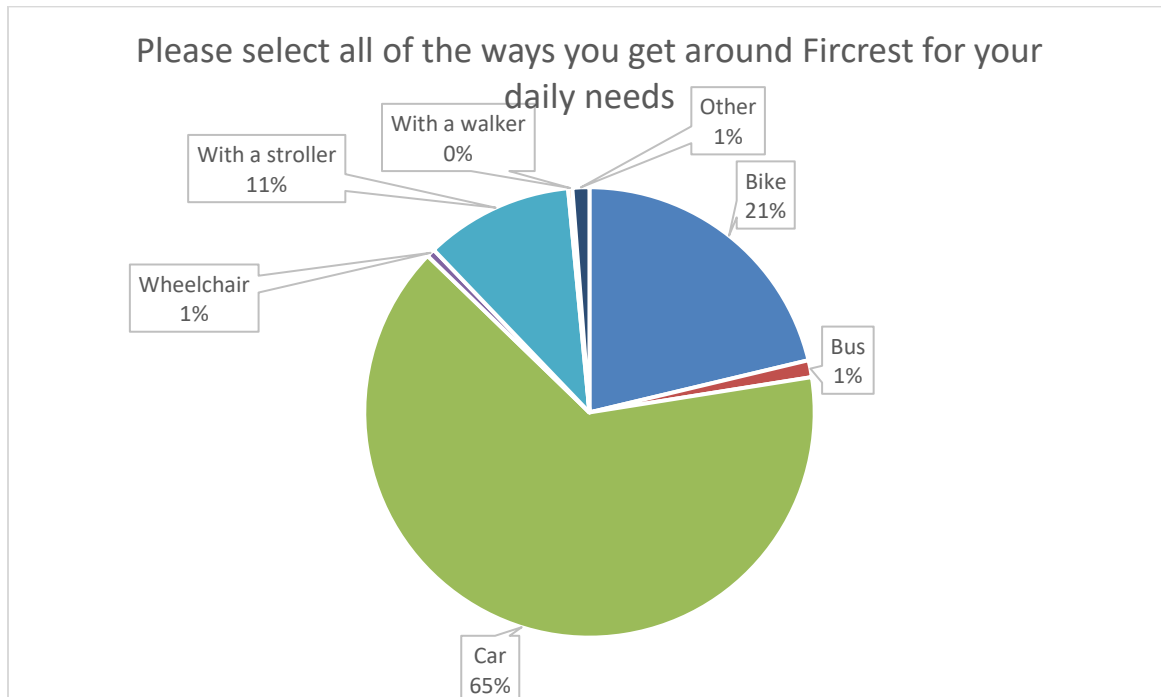




Respondent Relation to Fircrest

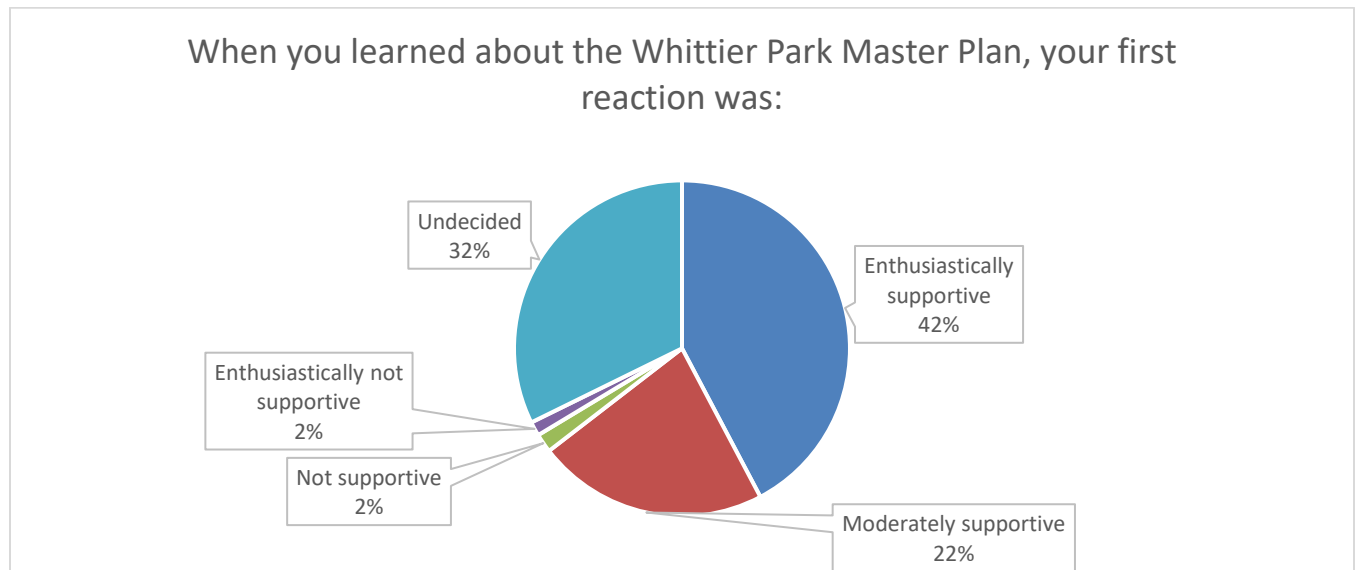


Respondent Transportation Types

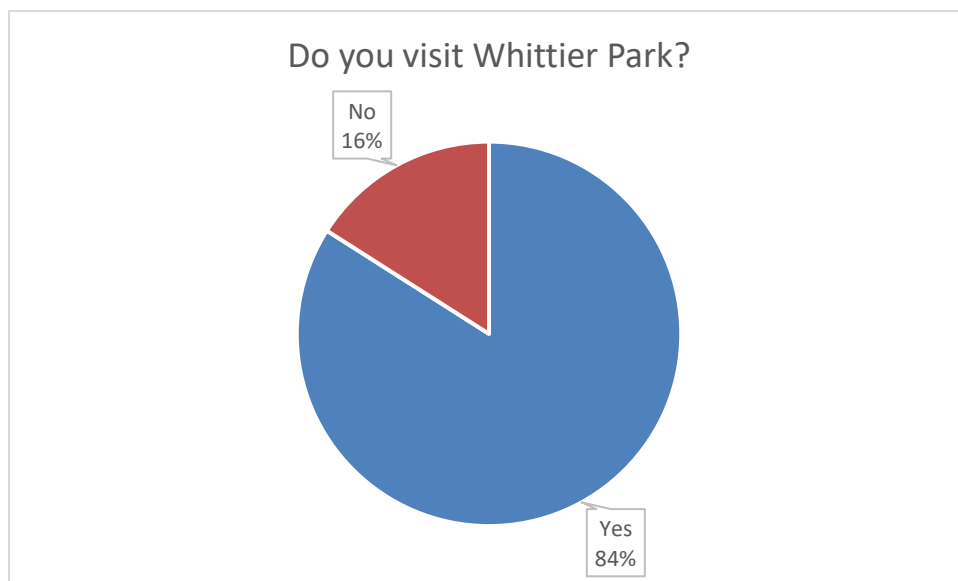


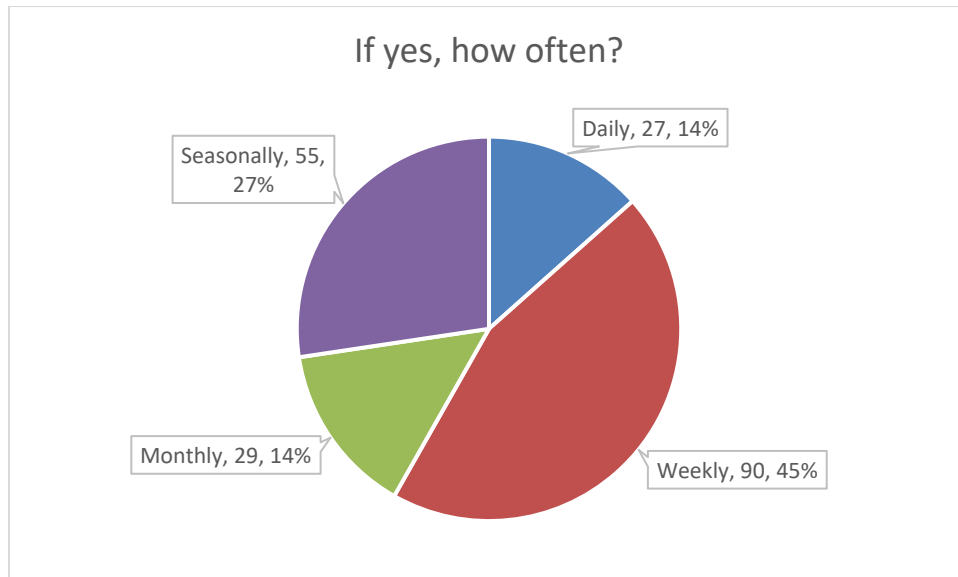


Whittier Park Master Plan Support

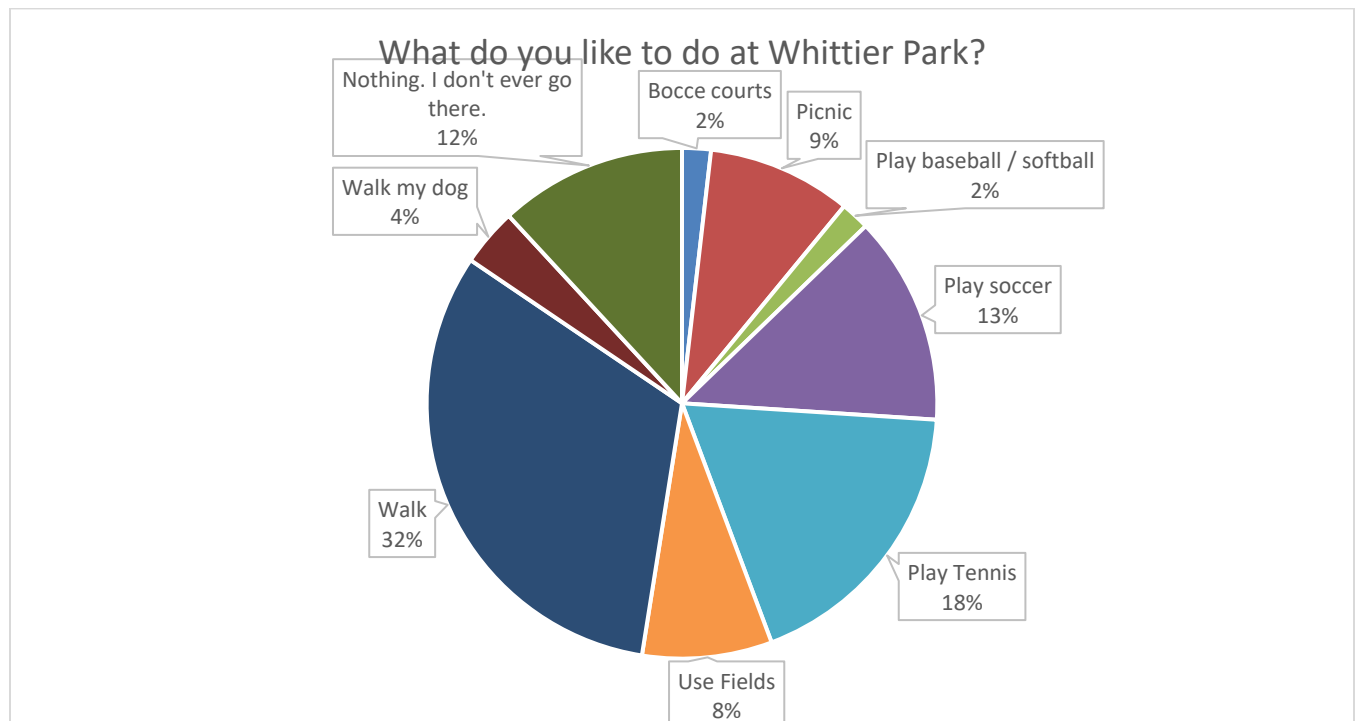


Whittier Park Current Visitation



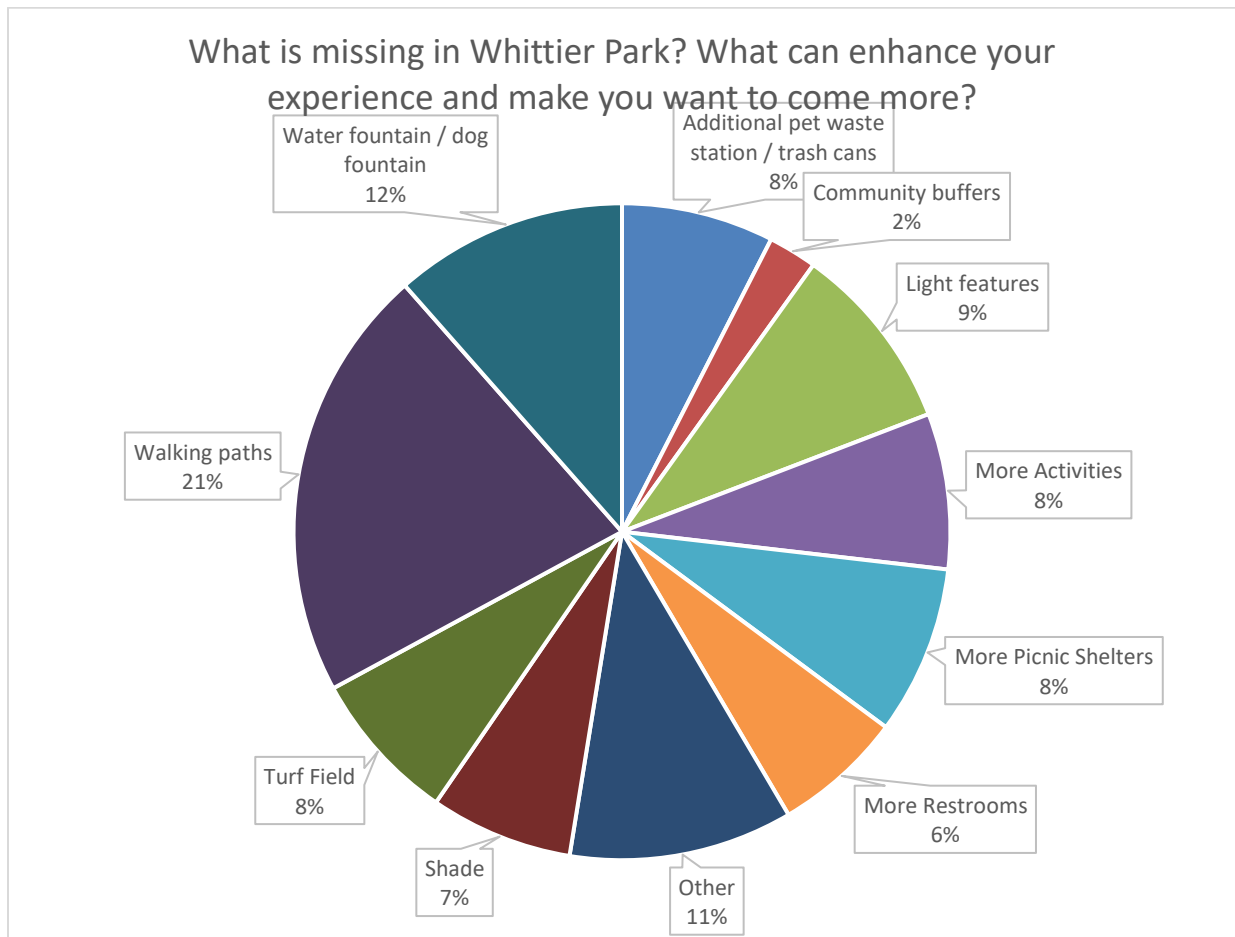


Whittier Park Current Visitation



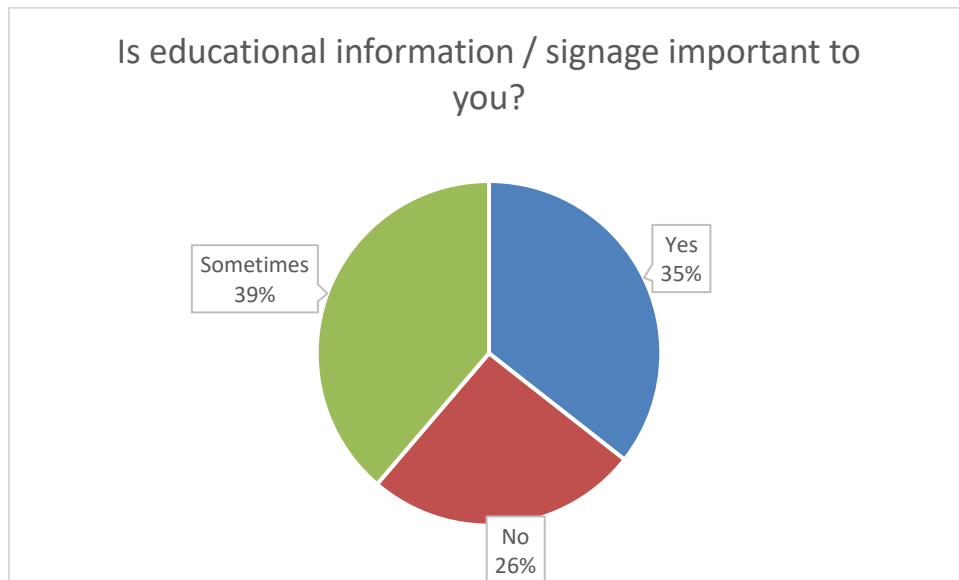


What elements are missing in Whittier Park?

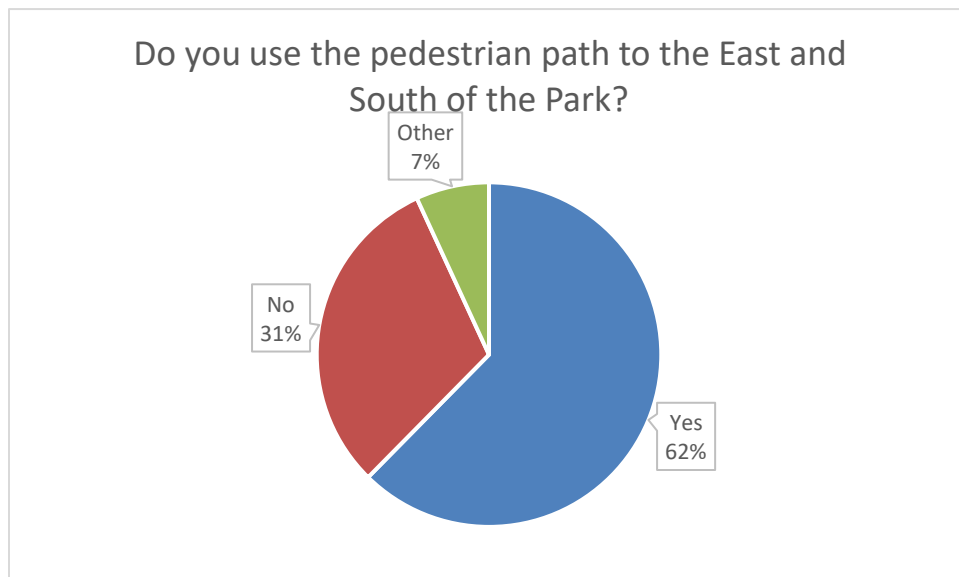




Educational Information

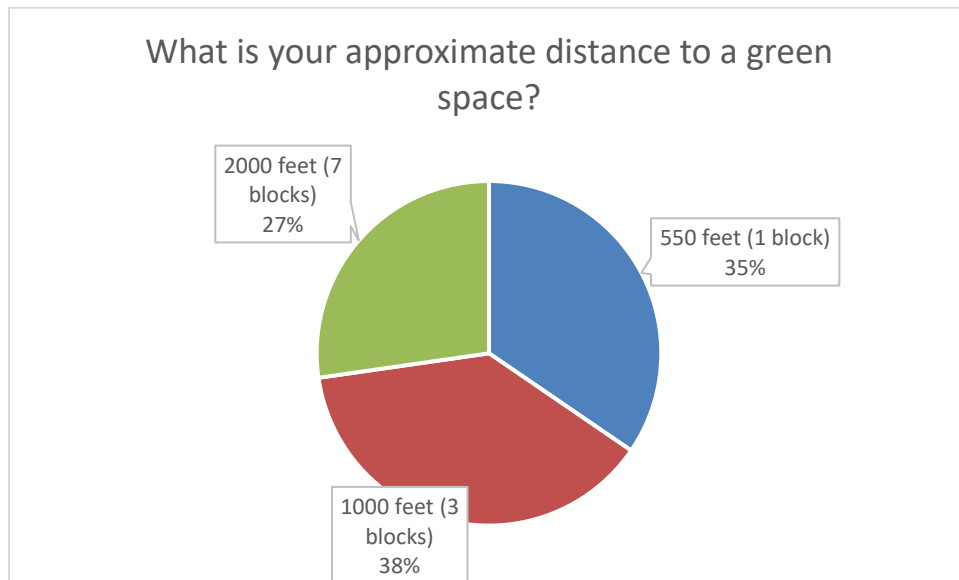


Existing Pathways

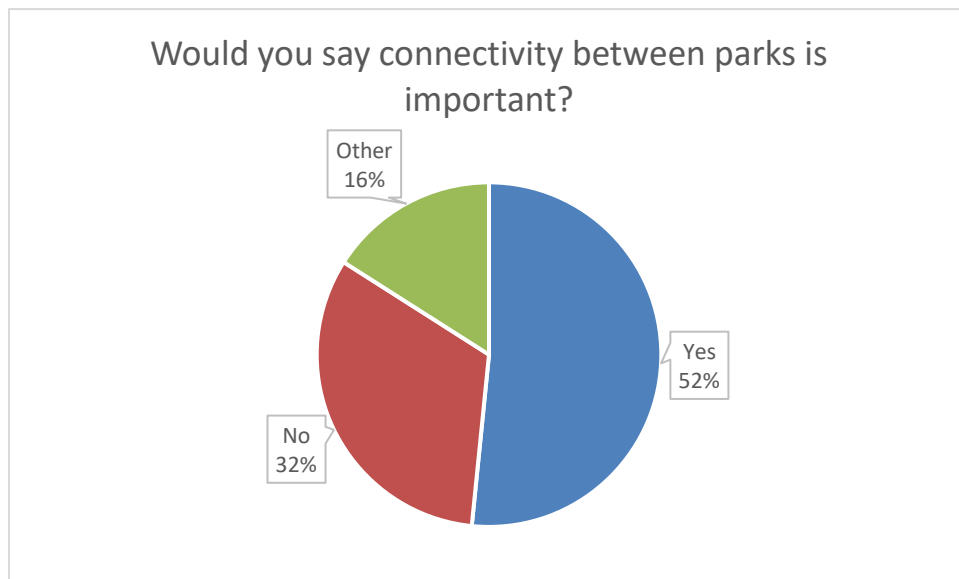




Green Space Proximity

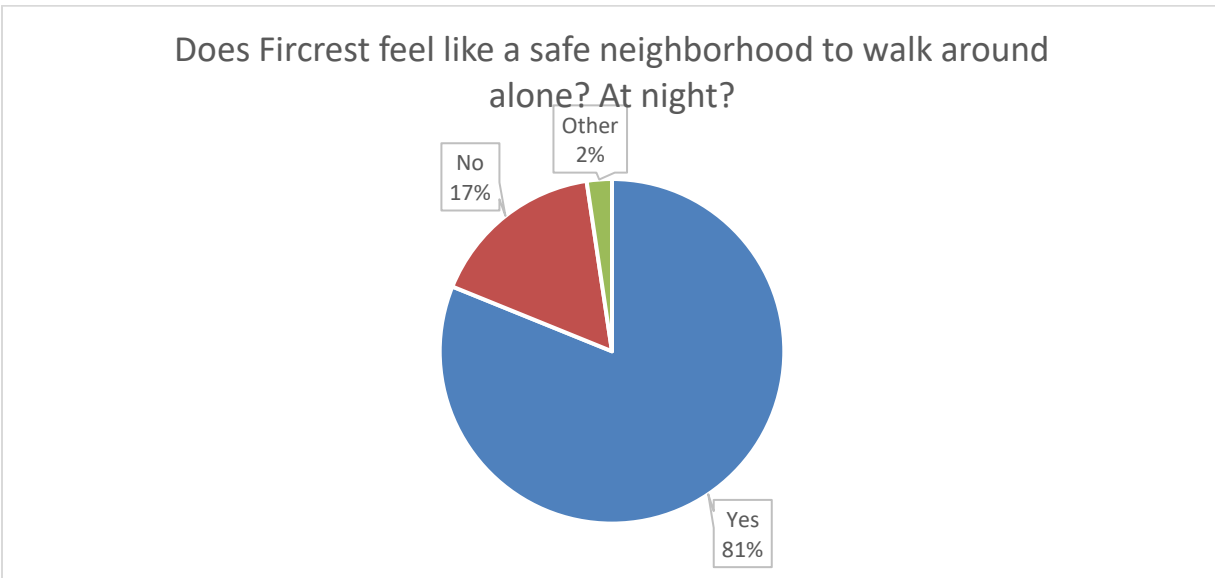


Park Connectivity





Night Safety



Additional Comments

- We really appreciate our new neighborhood here in Fircrest! We look forward to being a part of the community.
- Please create a long bike path that is paved and for walking.
- Great family time!
- We absolutely love having Fircrest park for community events and feel that Whittier park would benefit from multi use fields, sports courts and trail systems for outdoor activities. Drainage will solidify year round use for the community.
- Community events
- Excited for this!!
- I also love my memories of Fircrest fundays, fishing in the old pool and the tree lighting
- I'm not a big fan for a dog park for my dog however I think it might help for the people who continue to crowd the park with their dogs off leash
- Please add a dog park to Whittier Park. It doesn't need to be huge. An agility course would be fantastic!
- I would like for Whittier to remain multi-functional and "comfortable" for both passive and active recreation. That is, when sports aren't happening it should still be a good place to throw a frisbee. Too many parks feel too full or too programmed to just play.
- What this town needs is a monorail.
- There is a weird pushback against adding things like a dog park or community garden, both things that are meant to bring people together. I'd like to hear why it is better to just keep property the city owns vacant or under utilized instead of adding another attractive feature.
- This may be self evident, but the most critical task for Whittier park seems to be fixing the drainage issue on the east side. It's a swamp most of the year, and prohibits many activities in that field. Referencing the question about the Whittier Park Plan, I have seen nothing other than that a planning meeting is going on to create a plan. The communication about planning meetings is sufficient. Thank you.
- Used to walk more regularly to Whittier and visit Fircrest parks more frequently.
- Wish there were more activities/events for adults. They need to be better advertised/announced.
- Do not allow Whittier to swap our precious land



- Also need to address people keeping dogs on leashes. Too many people let them run unleashed at the park and it's incredibly annoying. Fields are for the kids not your dog.
- In general I think Fircrest parks are awesome, but I'm excited to see some new opportunities at Whittier Park.
- Someone needs to address all the homeless in Fircrest it's becoming scary and is problematic
- Considering adding a dog park on the vacant land next to the tot lot, or dedicated pickleball courts.
- I would like to see a small playground that the siblings of soccer/baseball players could play on while waiting on the sidelines. I would also like the (drainage?) channels filled in between the tennis courts since it is a tripping hazard.
- I like the serenity of the park and its open space. Please no land swap. (we don't need a school to be built in the park.) It would spoil the open space and view.
- Thank you so much for encouraging community input and great communication!
- Please consider offering alternatives to typical team sports and tennis, many children and adults would love other options close to home. Seeing kids out exercising while riding their scooters on a mini ramp or a 40 year old getting off their butt to ride a ramp would be a fantastic option. Pump tracks for mountain bikes/box bikes/ skateboards can be fairly compact and offer a fantastic opportunity for bicycle skill building and exercise. I will include a link to YouTube below that covers the new pump track Marysville has recently installed after a campaign by a local young man.
https://youtu.be/lwxqjMzE92c?si=xPQbrAKr_Mwy_-p2
- Updating facilities in Whittier park would be nice. But, don't add too much. The open space is what I love.
- My biggest concern around the parks is that people driving do not pay attention to the speed limit. I believe the corner of Conta Costa and Electron need a stop sign. Tacoma public schools and Fircrest need to have express the speed limit around the neighborhoods. I live on on Forrest Park Dr and it seems that they need to speed to able get up the hill and not bother to brake until Conta Costa. More stop signs like Ramsdell and Conta Costa or speed bumps or mounds.
- I think Fircrest is a fabulous town. We've lived here 30 years and have been very pleased with all aspects of living here.
- I love being there with friends and family
- Thank you for considering an upgrade at Whittier Park. I've lived here for 24 years and it's always been neglected and in disrepair.
- I am excited to have Whittier updated because we live very close and my kids love to use the field to play and we play Fircrest soccer and tball
- I am glad that this space is going to be able to see it's potential and be a full part of the Fircrest community spaces.
- Fix the dog issue please
- Masco park needs an upgrade. Take out dead trees. Plant more native plants. Make it a destination park. Make it restful and attractive
- New to community
- Thank you for providing also a paper copy of the survey for those that do not have access to the internet/a computer and/or don't have the ability/knowledge of computers.
- Did we mention a more visible police force?
- Why is there no option for "White Race"
- Thank you for this initiative! An investment in the young families of Fircrest and children is much appreciated.
- We received a brochure in the mail from Fircrest Parks and Recreation, which talks about the next public meeting on December 14, Saturday at 6:30 PM. To begin with December 14 is a Thursday. Scheduling meetings for the public at this time of the year in advance of Christmas is problematic for people to be able to attend, certainly a Saturday meeting is almost to people we don't want you to attend, because you're likely going to be doing something else. Even if the correct day is Thursday, conflict will inevitably arise. This public meeting is important and should be taking place after the first of the year .
- Fircrest needs to deal with the homeless problem that surrounds us. We should be humane and compassionate but firm. More policing, especially at night.



- Input is great, but sometimes specific questions lead one down a specific pathway as compared to open dialog... I see need for some guidelines though.
- It would be great if all dog owners were more responsible about picking up after their dogs. It's hard to understand the thoughts behind leaving a pile for someone to step in.
- We need to plant more native plants to attract native pollinators. We need to protect out tree canopy in the parks and in our neighborhoods.
- I sometimes shoot baskets at Whittier Park if nice outside.
- What is the status of the land purchase for a new park at the end of Drake and Farallone? The far end of Fircrest is quite a hike to the nearest park. This whole neighborhood would benefit from that
- I support all of the work that happens to keep our parks clean, safe, and relevant to the needs of the community.
- Need more police patrolling at night. Need to spend more money on public safety instead of park improvements at this time.
- This is the 2nd survey. Hope no more.
- Please no skateboard area on dog park.
- The park is often soggy
- Concerned about cost rise of taxes needs to be done piece one step at a time. get bunds & pay off each step before next unlike pool/community project
- It made me sad when they built over & didnt replace a place for kids to skate, there are so many places kids are not allowed to skate and then, Fircrest got rid of the place they could
- We need more practice and game facilities for sports other than soccer in our community. Youth soccer is taking over every park and open space in the entire greater Tacoma area. It's time our community has a balanced approach to who is able to reserve and utilize game a practice facilities. It would also be wonderful to expand our offerings.
- I & other neighbors would like to see 1-2 a week set for just locals to use pool. Too crowded w/ families out of area, long lines. Workout stations around park. Would allow young & old opportunity for better strength, balance, overall well being. Ninja warrior course, rope course etc. Seen many parks with
- A nice off leash dog park would be good for everyone. Not just pet owners
- Thanks for caring for our neighborhood!
- I love that I was able to raise my kids and grandkids here in Fircrest
- Parks get me out much more
- Please remove the unused horseshoe pits at Fircrest Park. The stakes could cause an injury to kids running
- overbuild, dream big, build for the future!
- I use the Rec CTR 3 days/week