

A VISION PLAN FOR PARKS I, II, & III

Shoal Creek Parks

DeKalb County
GEORGIA



FACILITATED AND PREPARED BY PARK PRIDE



Thirty-five acres of nature await discovery in Shoal Creek Park III.

Photo by Michael Hudgins

Acknowledgements

With a process spanning three parks and multiple neighborhoods, the list of those to thank is long indeed. First, thank you to **Victoria Anglin**, volunteer extraordinaire and resident for 20 years, who gave the project wings by formulating the visioning application and assembling a diverse steering committee representing all three parks. **Keicha Barnum**, neighbor to Shoal Creek Park I, who served as spokesperson for the dreams of young female skaters hoping for a skatepark of their own. **Mary Gude**, a resident of the community for 30 years, was invaluable in working with the area's schools. Twenty-six-year resident, **Rudy Hammitt**, kept his watchful eyes on both Shoal Creek Parks I & II and brought gentle light to a space needed for male camaraderie, fitness, and self-expression in a time when such places are scarce or discouraged. Also to **Wayne Powell** who has lived most of his life in Belvedere Park and has happily championed park projects in service to the community. **Stephanie Stephens** kept us organized and attentive to the community's needs and clear in our communications. **Carolyn Taggart**, whose unwavering commitment to the Little League in Shoal Creek Park I, has supplied endless hours of fun and recreation to generations throughout the area. Many other members of the community, including **Leigh Bonner**, **Marcia Bryan-Cornelison**, and **Noor Iqbal**, stepped up with ideas, expertise, and enthusiastically raised awareness of the visioning process.

We are also thankful for the continuing dedication of **Barbara Mobley**, who took Shoal Creek Park III under her wing. With perseverance and enthusiasm, Barbara inspired **Irina Arayjo** to also become involved in the visioning process. We're confident that with Barbara's leadership the renewed Friends of Shoal Creek Park III will guide this hidden gem to its full potential.

We also want to thank DeKalb County's elected officials and dedicated staff who played vital roles in this park visioning process. Super District 7 Commissioner, **Lorraine Cochran-Johnson** and District 3 Commissioner **Larry Johnson** lent their support. **Torrance Jones**, Project Manager for the Department of Recreation, Parks & Cultural Affairs attended meetings and helped ensure the vision plan aligned with DeKalb County's Parks Master Plan. We also thank the staff at **Porter Sanford III Performing Arts & Community Center** for graciously hosting two of our three public meetings.

We also appreciate the work of our summer intern, **Brooke Freeman**, from the University of Georgia's College of Environmental Design, who set out on many an adventure while documenting the existing conditions and aspirations of these three parks.

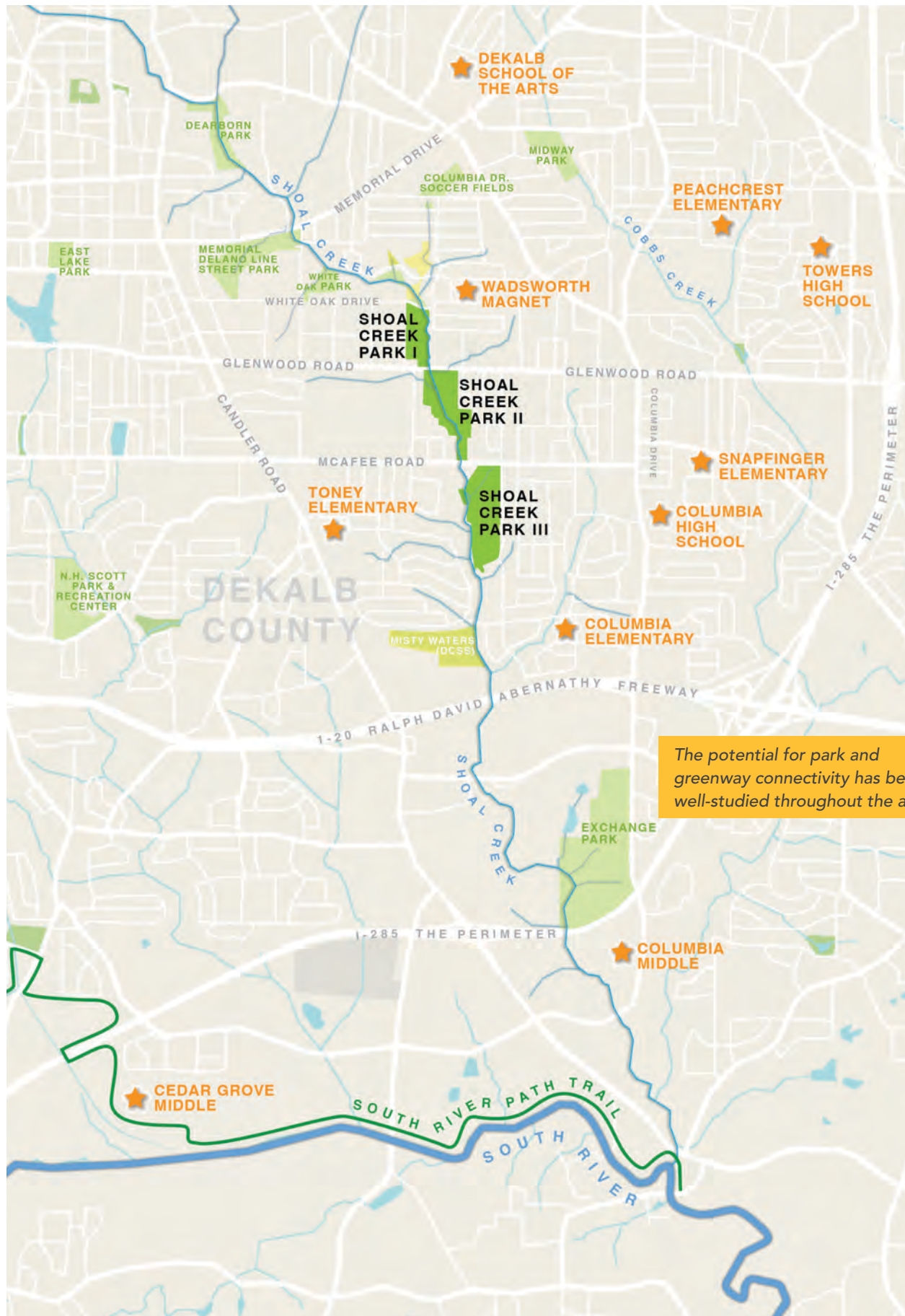
Sincerely,
The Park Pride Visioning Team
Andrew White, Director of Park Visioning
Teri Nye, Senior Designer, Park Visioning



Shoal Creek is a wonderful amenity for all to enjoy.

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In fall of 2021, the Friends groups of Shoal Creek Parks I, II, and III, applied for and were awarded a Park Pride Visioning grant to create a vision plan for all three parks. A visioning process began in May 2022 and concluded in December 2022. A Steering Committee of eleven community members led the effort, facilitated by Park Pride. The process followed the key steps below.

Executive Summary

1 Ask the Community

The Visioning team studied the existing conditions of the parks and their context via a **site analysis**, a review of historical records, and informal interviews.

An online **survey** was used to document the community's needs and desires for the park. Paper versions of the survey were distributed in each park and during events.

To provide a central location for information, community input, announcements, survey results, and the public review of concepts and plans, Park Pride designed a **website** to support the park visioning process.

2 Establish Guiding Principles

During the first public meeting participants engaged in live polling questions to establish their primary concerns and goals for the park. Based on this feedback plus survey data, the Steering Committee established **Guiding Principles** for the parks' future (see page 5).

3 Review and Feedback of Draft Concepts

Three **public meetings** were held. The first, on September 12, 2023, was held virtually. The second meeting, on October 17, 2023,

Park Name: Shoal Creek Park I, II, & III

Acreage: 85.3 acres total

Shoal Creek Park I - 17.97 acres

Shoal Creek Park II - 32.08 acres

Shoal Creek Park III - 35.25 acres

Year acquired: 1951-1957

Address: Decatur, GA 30032

Shoal Creek Park I, 3642 Glenwood Rd.

Shoal Creek Park II, 3643 Glenwood Rd.

Shoal Creek Park III, 3075 McAfee Rd.

Property Owner: DeKalb County, Dept. of Recreation, Parks, & Cultural Affairs

Commissioners: Larry Johnson (District 3), Lorraine Cochran-Johnson (Super District: 7)

and the third on November 14, 2023, were held in-person at the Porter Sanford III Performing Arts & Community Center. The first meeting established the Guiding Principles. The second meeting offered preliminary design concepts for review and comment. Polling questions during the meetings and post-meeting online surveys were used to encourage participation and feedback.

After each meeting, ideas and/or plans were displayed on the visioning website for a two-week **public comment** period.

4 Agree on a Final Vision Plan

Based on survey feedback, which illustrated primary community needs, and poll results, the preferred elements from each preliminary concept were incorporated into a **final plan**. This plan was then cross-checked with the Guiding Principles and reviewed by the community via a third public meeting and online survey. This document is available online at <https://parkpride.org/we-can-help/park-visioning/> and will also be archived at the Atlanta History Center.

Vision Plan Key Features, Priorities, and Cost Estimates

The vision plan emphasizes the following key features, listed in order of priority as determined by community polling following the final public meeting in November 2022.

**Costs are based on 2023 pricing for guidance only. All projects subject to approval by DeKalb County Department of Recreation, Parks & Cultural Affairs.*

Feature Priority, Shoal Creek Park I	Estimated cost (2023)*
1. Security measures	\$260,682
2. Invasive plant management	\$8,400
3. Drainage improvements	\$60,000
4. Multiuse trail (Shoal Creek Park I only)	\$1,169,384
5. Playground expansion/improvements	\$589,950
6. Skatepark	\$531,300
7. Seating	\$125,580
8. Pedestrian entrance from Amelia Avenue	\$178,020
9. South parking lot expansion	\$234,600
10. Miscellaneous projects	\$486,000
Total Investment	\$3,643,916

Feature Priority, Shoal Creek Park II	Estimated cost (2023)*
1. Security measures	\$182,988
2. Invasive plant management	\$201,600
3. Multiuse trail (Shoal Creek Park II only)	\$2,204,964
4. Drainage improvements	\$60,000
5. Community garden	\$10,350
6. Seating (including new mini-pavilions)	\$222,180
7. Waterfall trail (from multiuse trail)	\$39,813
8. Dog park	\$110,538
9. Pickleball courts & disc golf	\$89,700
10. Pedestrian entrance from Creekside Ct w/ wetland boardwalk	\$1,269,600
11. Repave parking lot with permeable pavers	\$494,109
Total Investment	\$4,885,842



Feature Priority, Shoal Creek Park III	Est. cost (2023)*
1. Security measures	\$160,494
2. Active area expansion (see plan)	\$979,110
3. Pavilion with restrooms	\$484,932
4. Multiuse trail (Shoal Crk Park III only)	\$1,205,844
5. Invasive plant management	\$252,000
6. Open views from McAfee Road	\$36,000
7. Community garden	\$10,350
8. Nature trails & wetland boardwalk	\$1,026,030
9. Creek access	\$86,250
10. Basketball courts	\$164,400
11. Pedestrian entrance, Glendale Ct.	\$47,790
12. Parking expansion w/loop	\$296,576
Total Investment	\$4,754,776

Guiding Principles

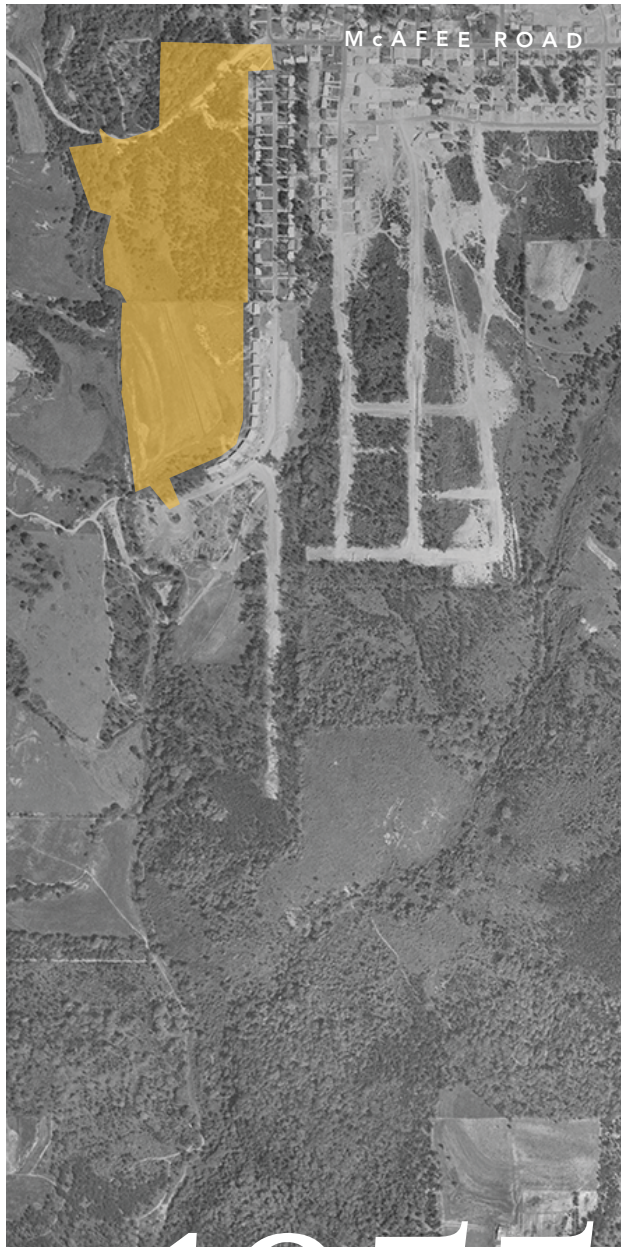
Provide a safe, inclusive, beautiful public space for outdoor recreation, quiet time in nature, and community gathering.

Partner with park rangers and community groups to develop culturally relevant programs and nurture a welcoming place for all.

Prioritize trail connections and well-marked entrances to provide safe access, visibility, and connectivity for residents and visitors

Promote maintenance practices and community involvement that will enhance natural ecosystems, control invasive plants, and maximize usable park space

*Change in just 13 years in
the area that would become
Shoal Creek Park III (orange
overlay)*



1955



1968

Context & History

Park Visioning

Park Pride is a local nonprofit organization whose mission is to engage communities to activate the power of parks. In service of this mission, Park Pride offers visioning services to community friends of park groups through a competitive application process. The visioning process is led by a licensed landscape architect.

Park vision plans are professionally produced long-term plans that provide a fund-raising and advocacy tool for the community. In some cases, vision plans go on to become legislated as master plans so that they can also be used as a guide for funding allocation by local government officials. The visioning staff at Park Pride facilitate a public engagement process for each selected park, and community feedback informs and guides the creation of the vision plan. The plan balances community input with applicable laws and regulations and accepted best practices to arrive at a realistic park plan that supports community desires and needs.

In fall of 2021, the Friends of Shoal Creek Park I applied for park visioning. An expanded visioning was offered if all three contiguous parks along Shoal Creek would participate. The trio of parks totalling 85 acres was awarded the visioning grant for 2022. This visioning process explores more practical access to the parks and connectivity between the parks for the growing population in the area and an expanded program of amenities.

Site Context

Context

Totalling 85 acres, Shoal Creek Parks I, II, and III span several communities. The northern-most, and smallest of the three at 18 acres, is Shoal Creek Park I with entrances off White Oak Drive and Glenwood Road. The neighborhoods of Belvedere Park and White Oak Hills are closest to this park. Southward between Glenwood Road and McAfee Road is Shoal Creek Park II, within the neighborhood of Candler-McAfee. This park has a total of 32 acres. The southern-most and largest park in the series is Shoal Creek Park III, which lies between McAfee Road and at Glendale Court. This 35-acre park has the potential to serve the neighborhoods of Toney Valley, Toney Garden, Green Forrest, Nichols Estate, McAfee Garden, and Casa Linda. Interstate 20 is just south of Shoal Creek Park III, and Interstate 285 ("the Perimeter") is east of the parks.

Numerous schools surround the Shoal Creek Parks including Wadsworth Magnet near Shoal Creek Park I, Toney Elementary and Columbia Elementary near Shoal Creek Park III. Additional public parks in the area include, to the north of Shoal Creek Park I, White Oak Park, Delano Line Park, and Columbia Drive Soccer Fields.

The area is primarily suburban residential with modest single-family homes and tree-lined streets. Retail hubs are concentrated on the arterial streets including Memorial Avenue, Candler Road, Glenwood Road, and Columbia Drive, with a few small



Wadsworth Magnet School is just one of the many schools in the area that would benefit from access to Shoal Creek for environmental science studies and field days.

businesses located in private homes. The Belvedere Plaza intersection is one of the largest commercial developments nearby, which includes grocery stores, big box retail, home goods, fast food chains, locally-owned dining options, and other personal and automotive services.

The nearest public library is DeKalb County's Scott Candler Library on Candler Road. The nearest United States Post Office is approximately four miles from the parks. Other cultural amenities in the vicinity are the Porter Sanford III Performing Arts & Community Center, numerous faith-based centers, and a YMCA on Memorial Drive.

Ecologically, the parks lie in the Shoal Creek watershed, a tributary of the South River, which then is a tributary of the Ocmulgee, then Altamaha, which continues to the

Atlantic Ocean. The parks are squarely in the Piedmont physiographic region of Georgia characterized by rolling hills, clay soils, and streams that are beginning to flatten out as they traverse across the Piedmont toward Georgia's Fall Line and Coastal Plain. Shoal Creek has a wide flood plain in areas that include the Shoal Creek Parks, which are prone to flooding and marsh-like conditions in certain areas. Development within the flood plain is limited to recreational uses that do not displace flood waters or otherwise increase the area needed for peak flows, while also allowing maximum infiltration. The use of the parks as natural "green" infrastructure, i.e., stormwater storage, mitigates flooding in adjacent neighborhoods especially with increased development pressures.

History

The land Shoal Creek Parks now reside on was once the land of the Muscogee Confederacy. Between 1805 and 1833, there was a series of eight land lotteries in which Muscogee and Cherokee land was stolen and raffled off to European colonists. The land where the Shoal Creek Parks are now located was allotted as part of these land lotteries. In 1836, the historic event that many know as the Trail of Tears displaced 20,000 Muscogee people from their homeland to Oklahoma.

DeKalb county was mostly agricultural through the first half of the twentieth century. Notably, there was a grist mill constructed on Shoal Creek where it crossed McAfee Road called Wadsworth Mill. Through several ownership changes, the mill was consistently operated by a man named Ragsdale. In 1950, the mill was converted into a private home by two Emory University professors. On private property next to Shoal Creek Park III, the mill building still stands.

In 1955, DeKalb County's first county-operated pool opened at Glenwood Hills Park, which is now Shoal Creek Park II. The site was once home to a Decatur sewage treatment plant that closed in 1951. A large concrete basin from the plant was used as the foundation for the pool. Public pools in Atlanta were eventually racially integrated in 1962 and 1963, with much protest from white communities, who often fled to private clubs for their recreation needs. Putting pressure on municipalities, this would lead to many of Atlanta's swimming pools getting filled in. A newspaper article from 1955 quotes Governor Marvin Griffin - "Segregated state parks or none". The pool at Shoal Creek Park II was likely filled in due to this reason.

Shoal Creek Park I (then Belvedere Park) was purchased with funds from the 1957 bond issue. Shoal Creek Park II (then Glenwood

Hills Park) was already publicly owned, having previously been the wastewater treatment plant. Shoal Creek Park III (then Glendale Park) was a gift from J. W. Toney, who developed the surrounding neighborhoods. One private lot was also purchased from Gloria McCleskey Coleman to provide an entrance to the park. In 1984, Belvedere Park, Glenwood Hills Park, and Glendale Park were collectively renamed Shoal Creek Parks I, II, and III.

In 1984, DeKalb County Parks Division produced new master plans for the Shoal Creek Parks. Notable features included a roller skating/biking track in Shoal Creek Park III, picnic areas and an additional playground in Shoal Creek Park II, and a pedestrian bridge over Glenwood Road.

After 20 years of failed bond referendums and flagging parks funding, citizens organized to promote the 1987 DeKalb parks bond referendum. The People for Parks group, coordinated by Peggy Lehmberg, raised awareness of park issues and raised money to support passage of the bond measure. The measure went on to pass, funding the rehabilitation of Shoal Creek Parks I and II, as well as the construction of Shoal Creek Park III, which opened in 1992.

The Woodland Indians (1000 BCE - 900 CE) were one of the first cultures to establish settlements in the southeast, growing sunflowers, beans, corn, and grain.²

Archeological evidence indicates that Paleo-Indians were widespread across the southeast by 12,000 BCE.¹

BCE = Before Common Era
CE = Common Era



Etowah Mounds concept © Herb Roe, 2016

The Mississippian (900 –1200 CE) and Lamar (1300 – 1650 CE) people built networks of towns along the Southeast's rivers. Remnants of their advanced mound building cultures can still be found at the Ocmulgee Mounds and Etowah Mounds sites. Rivers were sacred, integral parts of their lives. Stone fishing weirs and rock shelters can be found throughout the area today. The Lamar people are thought to have migrated from the Ocmulgee River to the **Chattahoochee** in 1650.⁵ Ultimately falling to disease, the surviving Lamar descendants became today's Muscogee Nation.³

12,000 BCE

1500 CE

1820

1860

1805 - 1833 LAND LOTTERIES

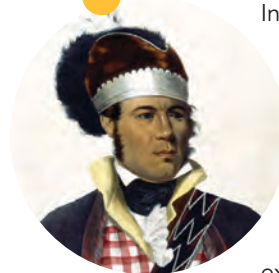


Size, shape, and quarry proximity of stone points or "arrow heads" reveal the time period in which they were made. The earlier "Clovis points" were made by nomadic hunters using large points to hunt megafauna. Hunters from later permanent settlements used locally quarried stones with shapes modified made to hunt smaller game.¹



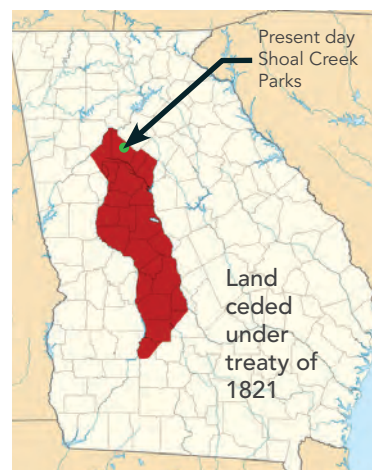
Hernando de Soto (c.1500 - 1542) was the first European to explore present day Georgia. He and his forces were instrumental in contributing to hostile relationships between many Native American tribes and Europeans.

Members of the expedition also spread disease. Because indigenous people lacked immunity to European diseases, several areas traversed by the expedition became depopulated by illnesses caused by contact with the Europeans.



In **1821**, William McIntosh (1775 - 1825) ceded 4,000,000 acres of Muscogee land (including present-day Atlanta) to Georgia in exchange for \$200,000 over fourteen years. McIntosh received a large sum of money and land as part of the deal.

This secession led directly to the forced removal of 20,000 Muscogee people to Oklahoma in 1836 and 1937, in an event referred to as the "Trail of Tears."



1. <https://www.nps.gov/ocmu/learn/historyculture/paleo-indian-culture.htm>
2. <https://www.nps.gov/ocmu/learn/historyculture/woodland-culture.htm>
3. <https://www.nps.gov/ocmu/learn/historyculture/lamar-culture.htm>
4. <https://www.nps.gov/ocmu/learn/historyculture/the-muscogee-nation.htm>
5. <http://nps.history.com/publications/chat/clr-sope-creek.pdf>

"Recreation Areas Near Belvedere."
The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, 11 Aug 1955



In **1955**, **Glenwood Pool** DeKalb's first county-operated swimming pool opened at Glenwood Hills Park (now Shoal Creek Park II). The large circular swimming pool was repurposed from the old Decatur sewage treatment plant that closed in 1951.

1955-1963 PARKS INTEGRATION

Politicians in Georgia reacted strongly against court orders to integrate public facilities. During this time, several public swimming pools in and around Atlanta were closed and filled in, including the pools at DeKalb Memorial Park, Lithonia Park, and Grant Park to name a few. The **Glenwood Pool** likely also closed as a reaction against integration.



CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED: Local dignitaries including (from left) County Commissioner Robert Lester, County Commissioner Sherry Schulman, Decatur Federal Savings and Loan president Robin Harris, former county commissioner Clark Harrison, Chief Executive Officer Manuel Maloot and People for Parks coordinator Peggy Lehmborg cut a ribbon at People for Parks headquarters to officially open a campaign to get the \$30 park bond issue passed.

"Park campaign officially underway." *The Atlanta Constitution*, 17 Sep 1987

Lehmborg, raised awareness of park issues and raised money to support passage of the bond measure.

After 20 years of failed bond referendums, citizens organized to promote the **1987 DeKalb parks bond referendum**. The **People for Parks** group, coordinated by **Peggy**

1900

1940

1960

1980

2022

CONTEXT & HISTORY

106	Belvedere (purchased under 1957 Bond Issue)	16.5
107	Glenwood Hills (owned before 1957 Bond Issue) (1964 Federal Open Space Funds)	27.1
109	Glendale (gift - one lot purchased to provide entrance under 1957 Bond Issue)	14.5

Park Plan for DeKalb County. July 1967. Department of Planning. Parks Department

All the Shoal Creek Parks were brought into parks inventory from **1951-1957**.

Shoal Creek Park I (then **Belvedere Park**) was purchased with funds from the 1957 parks bond.

Shoal Creek Park II (then **Glenwood Hills Park**) was already publicly owned, having previously been a wastewater treatment plant.

Shoal Creek Park III (then **Glendale Park**) was a gift from **J. W. Toney**, who developed the surrounding neighborhoods.

1950 DEKALB PARKS DEPARTMENT FORMED

In **1984 Belvedere Park**, **Glendale Park**, and **Glenwood Hills Parks** were collectively renamed as **Shoal Creek Park**. Master plans for each park were developed shortly afterward.



Shoal Creek Master Plan. 1984. DeKalb County Department of Recreation, Parks, & Cultural Affairs Archives.

An early plan (below) of **Belvedere Park** in **1961** shows that baseball has been the primary recreational focus of the park since its inception. There used to be two additional baseball fields north of White Oak Drive that were privately owned.

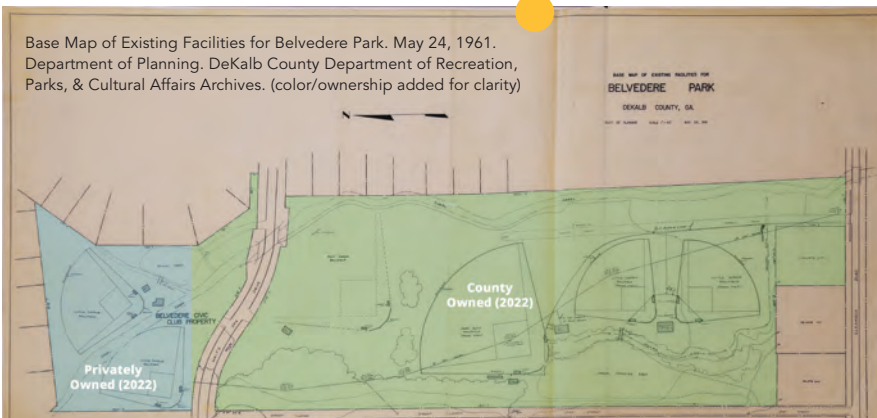


In **2022**, **Friends Groups from Shoal Creek Parks I, II, and III** applied for park visioning from **Park Pride** for all three parks.

Shoal Creek Park III opened to the public for the first time in **1992** after being developed with **People for Parks** bond funding. This master plan was adopted shortly afterward, showing nature trails and boardwalks in the forested areas (below).

Shoal Creek Park Phase III. June 1994. DeKalb County Department of Recreation, Parks, & Cultural Affairs archives.

Base Map of Existing Facilities for Belvedere Park. May 24, 1961. Department of Planning. DeKalb County Department of Recreation, Parks, & Cultural Affairs Archives. (color/ownership added for clarity)



Pavilion and Parking

There are two pavilions and a parking lot at the north end of Shoal Creek Park I



WHITE OAK DR

Shoal Creek "Beach"

is easily accessible in this area on the creek

**Playground**

There's a large playground area with swings and blue rubber safety surfacing

**Shoal Creek Park I****Baseball Fields**

Shoal Creek I has a four Little League baseball fields and a batting cage



A concession facility with restrooms and a large parking lot serve the south end of Shoal Creek Park I (above)



GLENWOOD ROAD

Parking and Restrooms

There is a large parking lot and a new restroom facility at Shoal Creek Park II

**Fitness Path and Playground**

The north end of Shoal Creek Park II has a paved fitness path/walking loop, and a playground with an aging rubber safety surface

**Shoal Creek Park II****Tennis and Basketball**

Shoal Creek II has two new basketball courts and four new tennis courts, all in excellent condition

**SHOAL CREEK PARKS**

Existing Conditions

DeKalb County, GA

85.3 Acres

McAFEE ROAD

Parking

Shoal Creek Park III has a small parking lot lined with boulders.

**Shoal Creek Park III****Basketball Court**

The court at Shoal Creek Park III is in need of resurfacing

**Foot Path**

Shoal Creek III has a beautiful wooded trail alongside the creek, maintenance is needed

**Pavilion & Playground**

The pavilion is in good condition and the playground is in the process of being replaced

**Glendale Court entrance**

has not been maintained and is not used by the neighborhood



A planning resource
created by Park Pride
June 2022

Existing Conditions

Collectively, Shoal Creek Parks I, II, and III total 85 acres bordering the banks of Shoal Creek. Each of the Shoal Creek Parks is different than the next, covering a broad range of passive and active recreation amenities and landscape types. Each of the parks has a unique relationship to the creek, with varying types of waterfront access and bank conditions.

Shoal Creek Park I

As the most developed of the three parks, Shoal Creek Park I comprises 17.04 acres of open land on the west bank of Shoal Creek between White Oak Drive to the north and Glenwood Road to the south. Its primary features are the four baseball fields and central clubhouse that host youth games, though there is also a playground, basketball court, and two pavilions clustered at the north end of the park. Paved walkways connect the major features and access points within the park.

Access and Parking

There are two vehicular entrances into Shoal Creek Park I, one at the north and one at the south ends, and one pedestrian entrance to the west. The entrance at the south end of the park, off Glenwood Road, provides the park's largest parking lot, with a total of 94 parking spaces. The lot itself is in fair to poor condition, with aging asphalt and a sinkhole forming in the center of the middle parking bay. The northern and western edges of the parking lot are lined with medium-sized boulders to exclude vehicular traffic from the park.

The second vehicular entrance, which includes a small parking lot with 21 spaces, is at the north end of the park off White Oak Drive. The perimeter of the lot has been lined with medium-sized boulders to

discourage vehicular traffic intruding into the unpaved sections of the park. A large boulder blocks the ADA entrance, excluding wheelchair users. The eastern side of the lot experiences moderate flooding during heavy rain events.

A third pedestrian entrance to the park comes from Eastwood Drive on the west side of the park. It leads park visitors down a lighted concrete walkway, where it intersects with the main park walking path. The plant life on the downhill side of the walkway is dominated by invasive plant species.

Two MARTA bus routes have stops near the north and south park entrances. The north side is served by bus route #823 that runs from the Decatur MARTA train station, and the south side is served by bus route #107 that runs between Georgia State and Indian Creek MARTA train stations.

Water standing for longer than 48 hours supports mosquito breeding and the accumulation of sediment on walkways.



Parking area for 21 vehicles, standing water is a problem



Pavilion with 3 ADA compatible tables, 2 trash cans

Possible pedestrian access from Amelia Avenue and existing access from Eastwood

SHOAL CREEK PARK I

17 acres

1 Needed connections to Shoal Creek Park II and extended trails along Shoal Creek to other area greenspaces

2 Areas prone to standing water and sedimentation

3 Remnants of pavement need to be removed and **hazardous conditions** immediately repaired



Concession stand with accessible tables and and restrooms



Maintenance and storage building

Potential trail connections to nearby parks via the stream corridor



"Beach" at Shoal Creek



Full court basketball



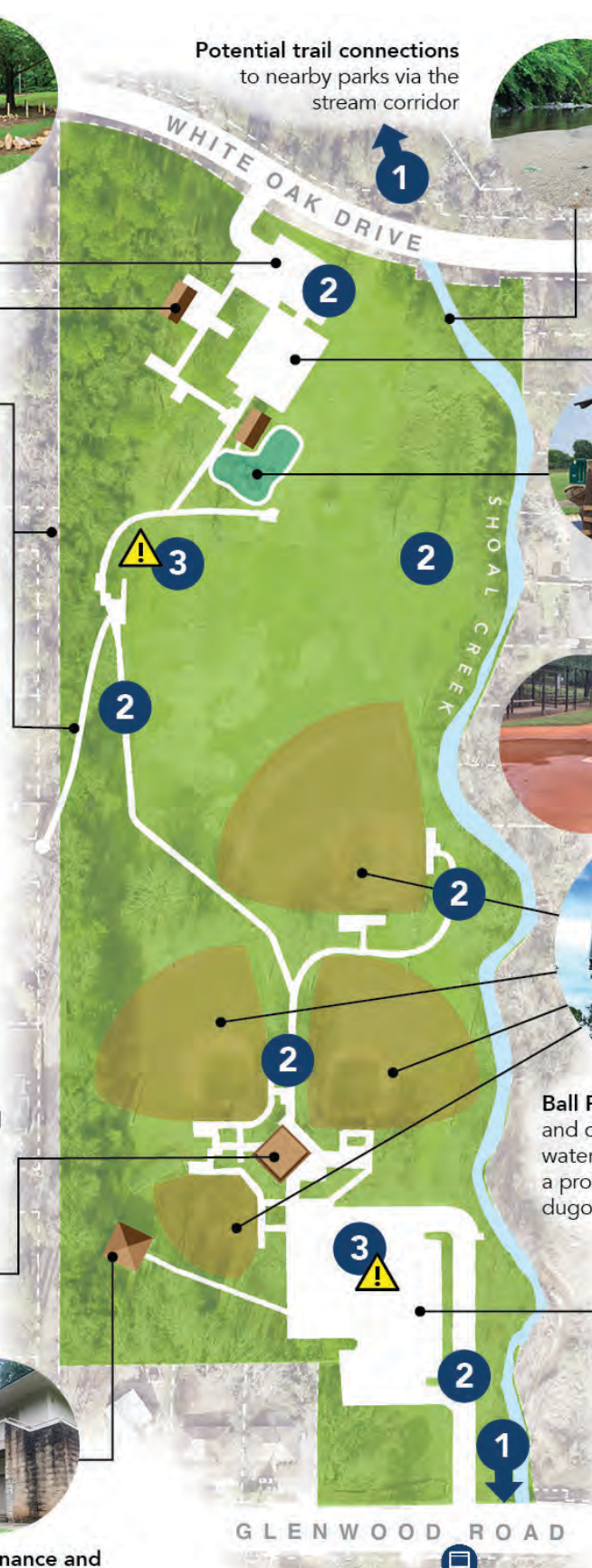
Playground and pavilion with 2 accessible tables, 2 grills, hot coal bin, and 4 trash cans



Ball Fields: Three baseball and one softball field, standing water and sedimentation is a problem on fields and in dugouts, fences need repair



Parking area for 94 vehicles, auxiliary parking is needed for events



GLENWOOD ROAD





Athletic Facilities

Shoal Creek I Park currently has four baseball fields and one basketball court. The baseball fields are in good condition, except for a few spots where the fencing warps at the bottom with enough space for a ball to escape. This happens notably at the back end of fields one and four and the backstop of field two. The basketball court has been recently refurbished, with freshly painted lines and clean hoops. Historically, baseball field 4 was oriented differently, and some paved remnants of the old field are still evident in the landscape.



Sidewalks

Shoal Creek I Park has a network of paved walkways to facilitate access to all the park's amenities. The pavement is showing its age through cracking in places. There is notable persistent flooding on the path at the bottom of the pedestrian path from Eastwood Drive and behind the eastern dugout of Field 4. This flooding results in sedimentation and persistent water on the path, creating hazardous slippery conditions as mud builds up with nowhere to go. Park users report that the path retains water for periods long enough to support tadpoles and mosquito larvae.



Above: sidewalks and parking areas are frequently blocked by standing water in the White Oak parking lot of Shoal Creek Park I for lengths of time sufficient to support tadpoles and mosquito larvae. A boulder also blocks ADA access and would better be replaced with bollards. Right: Hazardous holes are covered by pallets and broken pavement increases erosion and tripping hazards.





Playground

The playground at Shoal Creek I Park is relatively new and in good condition, with play equipment for different ages and a swing set, including an ADA-compliant swing. The safety surfacing is blue poured-in-place rubber, which is in fair condition, with sediment accumulation beneath the structures from frequent ponding water.

Pavilions

Shoal Creek I Park offers two pavilion spaces at the north end of the park. Both pavilions are open structures with gable roof lines and asphalt shingle roofs on concrete pads. The west pavilion is the larger of the two and has steel posts that support the roof. The area around the west pavilion is wooded, providing a more naturalistic setting. The east pavilion has wooden posts rather than steel and provides two freestanding grills. Its setting between the basketball court and playground is more open and provides a more active recreational setting.

Buildings

There is one large maintenance building by the parking lot. It is a two-story concrete block structure with a double bay garage at the bottom and a hipped roof. There are two sets of staircases leading from the side of the building up to entry points on the second level.

The concession stand building, located at a central hub between the baseball fields, is a two-story concrete block structure with a hipped roof. It has a concession window, restrooms, as well as rooms on the second floor for administration and storage.

Relationship to Shoal Creek

Much of Shoal Creek Park I is in the floodplain, meaning regular flood events are normal and unavoidable, especially during periods of heavy rain. However, there are key locations where the drainage infrastructure seems to be incomplete or inadequate to address even minor rain events from

affecting park usability. Several low points in the main park pathway seem to be prone to retaining water, even long after most other places have dried out. This presents usability and safety challenges, both from the slick sediment that accumulates there, and from the habitat it creates for mosquito larvae.

Uniquely among the parks, near the north end there is a small beach where visitors can access and enjoy Shoal Creek. However, most of the rest of the park's boundary with the creek is obscured with invasive vegetation and overgrowth, making the park's namesake feature difficult for most park users to see.

Right: high speeds and a lack of pedestrian protections make connections between Shoal Creek Parks I, II & III difficult at best and perilous with a family. Crosswalks and traffic-calming measures are needed.

Below: the concession and meeting facility at Shoal Creek Park I.





Shoal Creek Park II

Shoal Creek Park II contains the most diversity of uses and landscape types. At 32.08 acres, it is nearly twice as large as Shoal Creek Park I, though much of it remains undeveloped. Shoal Creek runs longitudinally through the center of the park from its northern border along Glenwood Road to its southern limit at McAfee Road. The park property also borders Creekside Court, but there are no access points in that area. Major features of the park include basketball and tennis courts, a large playground, two pavilions, a walking path, and a parking lot.

Access and Parking

Shoal Creek Park II has one point of entry serving both pedestrians and vehicles off Glenwood Road approximately 0.1 miles from the entrance of Shoal Creek Park I. The 325-foot driveway leads to a parking lot with 55 available spaces. The parking lot is in poor condition with deteriorating asphalt and faded painted lines, making it difficult to distinguish where one parking space ends and another begins.

The park is served by the #107 MARTA bus that runs between the Georgia State and Indian Creek MARTA train stations.

Circulation

The paved walkways in Shoal Creek Park II are in good condition with minimal cracking and heaving. There are several places on the west side of the tennis courts where the pathway widens into larger rectangular pads, though there are no furnishings or other amenities in these locations.

Athletic Facilities

Shoal Creek Park II has two basketball courts and four tennis courts along the northeastern boundary of the park. All these courts are in good condition, having recently been restored with fresh paint and equipment. A paved walking path encircles an open field, which is popular with walkers.

Pavilions

There are two new pavilions at Shoal Creek Park II, one on the upper side of the park next to the parking lot, and another down a set of stairs next to the playground.

The walking path at Shoal Creek Park II





Buildings

There is one restroom building with separate men's and women's facilities near the parking lot and the upper pavilion. It is a new structure and is in good condition. It is a prefabricated building with stone cladding on the bottom and clapboard on top painted in beige and green. Solar panels on the roof provide power to the structure.

Playground

The playground at Shoal Creek Park II is currently being replaced after a long period of deferred maintenance.

Relationship to Shoal Creek

Like Shoal Creek Park I, Shoal Creek Park II is almost completely within the floodplain, and flooding is a perennial occurrence in the park. Much of the beauty of the creek is obscured by vegetation along its banks. In the southern half of the park, the character of the creek changes, with several small waterfalls and shoals. There is currently no formal access to these scenic spots. The western side of the creek is dominated by a large wetland that stays wet year-round. This is an ecologically rich feature of the park, though there is no formal access offered.



SHOAL CREEK PARK III

35 acres

- 1** **Needed connection** to Shoal Creek Park II, private property does not allow a direct connection along creek and road crossing is hazardous
- 2** **Only 10% (3.6 acres)** of the park is currently available for recreation; invasive plants and dense overgrowth have taken over approximately 32 acres of the park; low-impact trails could offer access to forested areas and the creek
- 3** **Additional pedestrian entrances** could increase access to neighbors on all sides of the park



Trail to Glendale Court

An overgrown trail continues alongside the creek from the upper end of the park to an access point on Glendale Court.



Playground

The playground is scheduled for replacement.



Parking
15 spaces



Pavilion



Basketball Court

From McAfee Road, Shoal Creek Park III offers a small parking lot, a drinking fountain, a small pavilion, and a playground and basketball court in need of replacement/resurfacing.



Shoal Creek Park III

Shoal Creek Park III is the largest of the three parks at 35.25 acres. It is also the least developed of the three, with only a small percentage of the park developed for public use and large tracts of mature forested land. It extends from its northern boundary with McAfee Road to its southern extent at the end of Glendale Court, where it connects via a single-family lot owned by the county. Major features of the park include a small parking lot with access to a pavilion, playground, and basketball court. Informal trails also wind through the large forest next to the creek.

Access and Parking

There is one entrance to Shoal Creek Park III serving both vehicles and pedestrians. A small parking lot at the end of the driveway totals 15 parking spaces, and there is no paved sidewalk leading into the park to separate pedestrian from vehicular traffic. The pavement is in poor condition with deteriorating asphalt and faded parking space lines that no longer distinguish one space from another. There are no handicap accessible parking spaces available at Shoal Creek Park III. According to ADA standards, a lot with 15 spaces must provide at least one handicap accessible spot.

The park is served by the #24 MARTA bus that runs between the Edgewood/Candler Park and Indian Creek MARTA rail stations.

Circulation

The concrete paths in Shoal Creek Park III are in fair condition with some deterioration along the edges due to age. Informal unpaved trails lead through the wooded part of the park from the active zone along the eastern side of the creek.

Athletic Facilities

Shoal Creek Park III has one asphalt basketball court. In contrast to the courts at Shoal Creek Parks I and II, this court is in

poor condition with deteriorating pavement, faded lines, and torn hoop netting. Invasive plant overgrowth threatens to engulf the court.

Playground

The playground at Shoal Creek Park III is currently being replaced after a long period of deferred maintenance. The new equipment includes play structures for toddlers and another larger scale structure for children 5 to 12 years old. The playground includes swings, slides, and multiple climbing options. It also includes shade canopies over parts of the play equipment and over seating for care-givers

Pavilion

There is single pavilion at Shoal Creek Park III constructed with steel columns, with wooden rafters and asphalt shingle roof. The pavilion houses three long tables and is in fair condition. A nearby drinking fountain was not draining properly as of the time of this writing and contained actively breeding mosquito larvae. The former grill has been removed.

Below: a sink hole forming around a sewer line at the entrance to Shoal Creek Park III





Above: new playground equipment being installed at Shoal Creek Park III

Right: the picnic shelter at Shoal Creek Park III

Below: invasive species are on the verge of overtaking the basketball court



Relationship to Shoal Creek

Shoal Creek is not visible from the developed area of Shoal Creek Park III, but becomes an important feature of the park within the wooded area. Unlike the other two parks, Shoal Creek Park III is not contained entirely within the floodplain, with areas of drier upland forest surrounding the riparian wetlands.

Within the unmanaged areas of both Shoal Creek Park II and III, there is both a wide variety of native plants and, unfortunately, a wide variety of invasive exotic plants as well. Invasive plants are those that escape from neighboring yards (English ivy, wisteria, and privet) or roadside erosion control projects (Kudzu and Japanese stilt grass). These plants spread rapidly by producing abundant fruit and fast-growing vines or stems. They throw a blanket of sorts over native plants and don't allow the sun to reach underlying plants. Vines like kudzu and English ivy kill our canopy trees by adding extra weight and stress on the trees. The landscape becomes impenetrable to people too, limiting our access to the creek and blocking sightlines within the park. These effects are compounded when fewer people visit and maintenance is constricted to the "well-used" areas of the parks.

Top: Sensitive ferns (Osmunda sensibilis) are a frequently seen native fern along the creek.

Below: Shoal Creek is obscured by privet, kudzu, English ivy, and Japanese stilt grass.



Shoal Creek Park I



To avoid this, paved areas should be relocated above the floodway.

Shoal Creek Park II



EXISTING CHALLENGE: Floodways

Stream channel

The **stream channel** is the "normal" height of the water within a stream or river's banks.

Floodway

A **floodway** is the primary channel that carries flood waters during rain events. This area must remain clear of obstructions to allow for natural, regular flooding.

Floodplain

A **floodplain** includes the stream channel, the floodway, and floodway "fringe," which is important in storing flood waters.

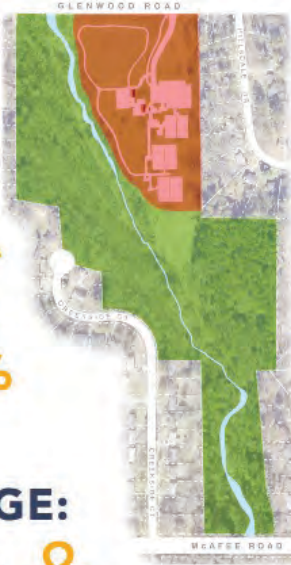


Shoal Creek Park I

~12 of
18 acres
utilized
67%

**Shoal Creek Park II**

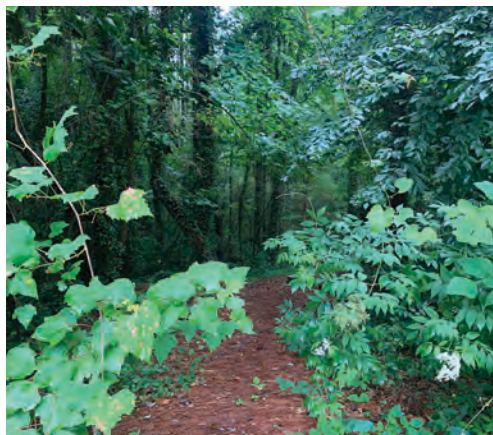
~9 acres
of 32
acres
utilized
28%

**Shoal Creek Park III**

~3.5
acres
of 35
acres
utilized
10%

**EXISTING CHALLENGE:****Overgrowth & Invasive Plants**

Hidden behind a wall of invasive exotic plants and dense overgrowth, Shoal Creek Park III (below and right) offers over 30 additional acres of woodland landscape and natural wetlands.





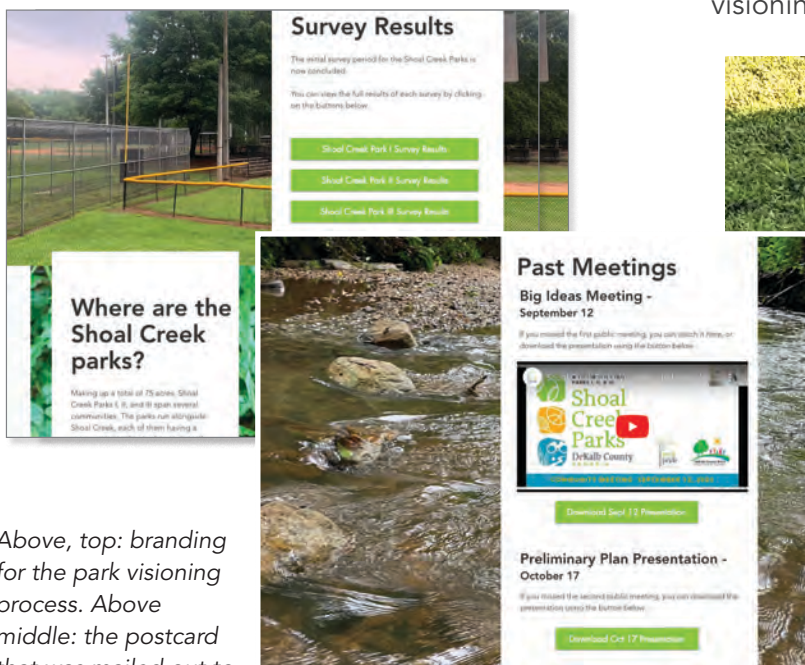
Steering Committee members (L to R), Wayne Powell, Rudy Hammitt, and Barbara Mobley examine the aerial photography of all three parks.

Community Engagement



Communications

To make the community aware of the park visioning process and opportunities for public input, Park Pride created visual branding that appeared on all public-facing communications. The DeKalb County Department of Recreation, Parks & Cultural Affairs (DRPCA) assisted in publicizing the visioning process by mailing postcards (*middle left*) to all homes within a 2.5 mile radius of the parks. An additional 200 postcards were distributed by the Steering Committee. Yard signs, social media, and emails were used to announce public virtual and in-person meetings and public input events. Additionally, Park Pride created a website (*below*) that housed visioning progress updates, inventory and analysis information, history, links to surveys and plans, meeting recordings, and community survey data. Management of the website was turned over to the Friends of Shoal Creek Parks upon completion of the visioning process to be continued if desired.



Above, top: branding for the park visioning process. Above middle: the postcard that was mailed out to every household. Above, bottom: pages from the website created for the park visioning process







Above: Yard signs posted at local events (National Night Out) and throughout the neighborhood immediate before public meetings.

Results from the community survey are shown on pages 28-39. Complete responses and comments are in Appendix A.

A VISION PLAN FOR PARKS I, II, & III


Shoal Creek Parks

DeKalb County
GEORGIA

SHOAL CREEK III SURVEY

Park Pride is engaged in partnership with **DeKalb County Dept of Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Affairs** to help the community create a "Vision Plan" for all three Shoal Creek Parks. To get started we'd like to learn how each park could best serve the community and what you hope it will offer





Visit the website by scanning this QR code with your phone or by visiting the link below. There you can also learn about our first public meeting on **September 12**. We look forward to working with you!

parkvisioning.wixsite.com/shoalcreekparks

S I, II, & III

Parks

Issues facing Shoal Creek Park II?

- ☐ Difficulty accessing the park
- ☐ Litter/Illegal dumping
- ☐ Not enough places to sit
- ☐ Overuse
- ☐ Safety and security
- ☐ Other _____

Which issues did you identify as most important? Please rank them from 1 (most important) to 5 (least important).

Issue	Rank
Difficulty accessing the park	
Litter/Illegal dumping	
Not enough places to sit	
Overuse	
Safety and security	
Other	

SURVEY

With **DeKalb County Department of Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Affairs** to help the community create a "Vision Plan" for all three Shoal Creek Parks. To get started we'd like to learn how each park could best serve the community and what you hope it will offer.

Each person in your household should complete one survey.

Please print name and address clearly.


Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

How did you hear about this survey?
☐ From a friend/family member
☐ From a local news outlet
☐ From a social media post
☐ From a flyer/poster
☐ Other _____



Visit the website by scanning this QR code with your phone or by visiting the link below. There you can also learn about our first public meeting on **September 12**. We look forward to working with you!

parkvisioning.wixsite.com/shoalcreekparks

What are the TOP 3 challenges facing Shoal Creek Park II? (select only three answers)

- ☐ Cars or motor bikes driving through the park
- ☐ Invasive plant overgrowth
- ☐ Maintenance issues
- ☐ Not enough to do
- ☐ Parking
- ☐ Standing water
- ☐ Difficulty accessing the park
- ☐ Litter/illegal dumping
- ☐ Not enough places to sit
- ☐ Overuse
- ☐ Safety and security
- ☐ Other _____

What are the TOP 5 amenities you would most like to see added or improved? (Select only five)

- ☐ Address deferred maintenance
- ☐ Art & cultural elements
- ☐ Community garden
- ☐ More/better trails
- ☐ More community events
- ☐ More parking spaces
- ☐ Off-leash dog play area
- ☐ Security cameras
- ☐ Other _____
- ☐ Address drainage/standing water
- ☐ Better access to/across the creek
- ☐ Improve existing sports facilities
- ☐ More lighting
- ☐ More places to sit
- ☐ Outdoor fitness equipment
- ☐ Security cameras
- ☐ Other sport _____

Tell us more about the challenges you identified above. Where or when do you notice these issues occurring?

Where _____

When _____

Additional Comments:

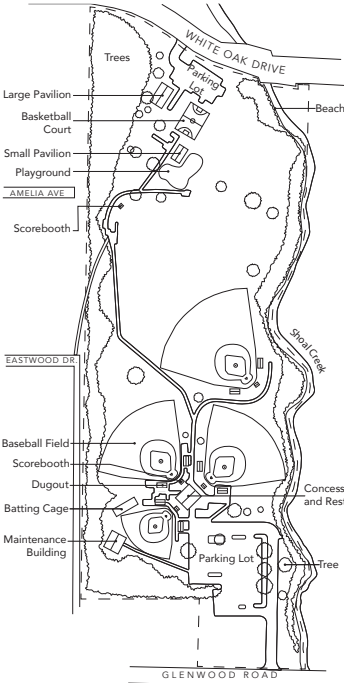
Additional Comments:

Additional Comments:

The QR code on the yard signs and postcards linked to the website created for the visioning process. Buttons on the website linked participants directly to the survey for each park.

Bonus Question!

Today, you're a park designer! Use this map to draw your dream plan for **Shoal Creek Park I**. Pretend you're flying above. What do you see? Play spaces? Trails? Skate parks? Draw in and label your ideas.



How do you get to this park? (check the one you would use most)

- ☐ Drive myself ☐ Bike/scooter/skateboard
☐ MARTA ☐ Ride with someone else
☐ Walk ☐ I don't go

What neighborhood do you live in?

How would you describe yourself?

- ☐ Adult
☐ Senior
☐ Teenager
☐ Young person (12 years or less)

Tell us about your household (grandchildren for example).

- ☐ Adults only
☐ Infant children
☐ Toddlers (2-4)
☐ School age children (5-12)
☐ Teenagers
☐ Dogs
☐ Three or more generations in the household
☐ Other: _____

Is there anything else you'd like us to know?

If you would like to receive e-mail notifications about the visioning process, kindly provide your name and e-mail below. **We do not sell or share your information with third parties. Please print clearly!**

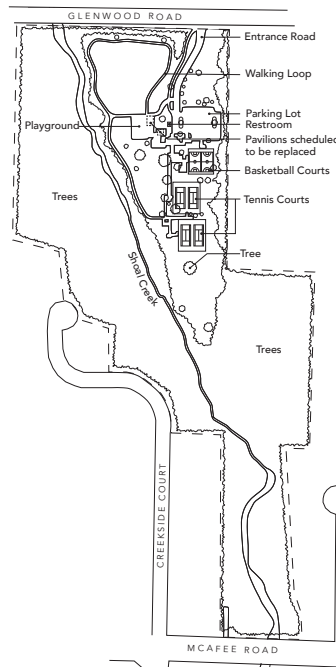
First _____

Last _____

Email _____

Bonus Question!

Today, you're a park designer! Use this map to draw your dream plan for **Shoal Creek Park II**. Pretend you're flying above. What do you see? Play spaces? Trails? Skate parks? Draw in and label your ideas.



How do you get to this park? (check the one you would use most)

- ☐ Drive myself ☐ Bike/scooter/skateboard
☐ MARTA ☐ Ride with someone else
☐ Walk ☐ I don't go

What neighborhood do you live in?

How would you describe yourself?

- ☐ Adult
☐ Senior
☐ Teenager
☐ Young person (12 years or less)

Tell us about your household. Include frequent visitors (grandchildren for example). Check all that apply.

- ☐ Adults only
☐ Infant children
☐ Toddlers (2-4)
☐ School age children (5-12)
☐ Teenagers
☐ Dogs
☐ Three or more generations in the household
☐ Other: _____

Is there anything else you'd like us to know?

If you would like to receive e-mail notifications about the visioning process, kindly provide your name and e-mail below. **We do not sell or share your information with third parties. Please print clearly!**

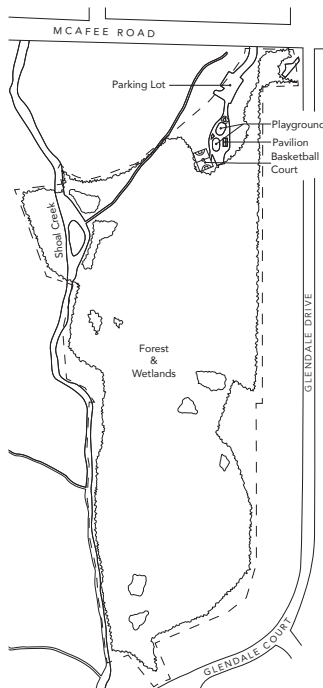
First _____

Last _____

Email _____

Bonus Question!

Today, you're a park designer! Use this map to draw your dream plan for **Shoal Creek Park III**. Pretend you're flying above. What do you see? Play spaces? Trails? Skate parks? Draw in and label your ideas.



How do you get to this park? (check the one you would use most)

- ☐ Drive myself ☐ Bike/scooter/skateboard
☐ MARTA ☐ Ride with someone else
☐ Walk ☐ I don't go

What neighborhood do you live in?

How would you describe yourself?

- ☐ Adult
☐ Senior
☐ Teenager
☐ Young person (12 years or less)

Tell us about your household. Include frequent visitors (grandchildren for example). Check all that apply.

- ☐ Adults only
☐ Infant children
☐ Toddlers (2-4)
☐ School age children (5-12)
☐ Teenagers
☐ Dogs
☐ Three or more generations in the household
☐ Other: _____

Is there anything else you'd like us to know?

If you would like to receive e-mail notifications about the visioning process, kindly provide your name and e-mail below. **We do not sell or share your information with third parties. Please print clearly!**

First _____

Last _____

Email _____

Survey back Each paper survey included a plan view diagram of the park where participants could sketch their ideas and suggestions.

COMMUNITY OPINION SURVEY RESULTS

Shoal Creek Park I

73

PEOPLE RESPONDED

All responses can be found in Appendix A.

Q1-SCPI: What do you like about Shoal Creek Park I, the way it is today?

“[Shoal Creek Park is a] well established park that has served the needs of the community as a recreational resource for over 4 decades. It continues to have an active Little League Baseball Association that is served by the park. Many thousands of children have learned some of the lessons of life by participating in team sports at this park. It has several pavilions that provide a sheltered meeting place for family and community activities.”

— Community member

“I love the big open field and the playground. Daily I will walk my dogs and let my son play on the playground, I really love it.”

— Community member

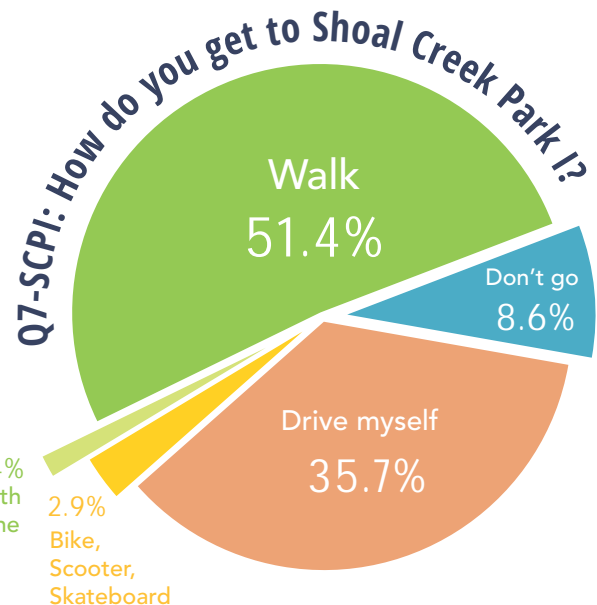
“I walk it with my dog daily. I love the new lighting. I notice the park ranger more this year than ever. Would like people to be fined for letting their dogs run loose”

— Community member

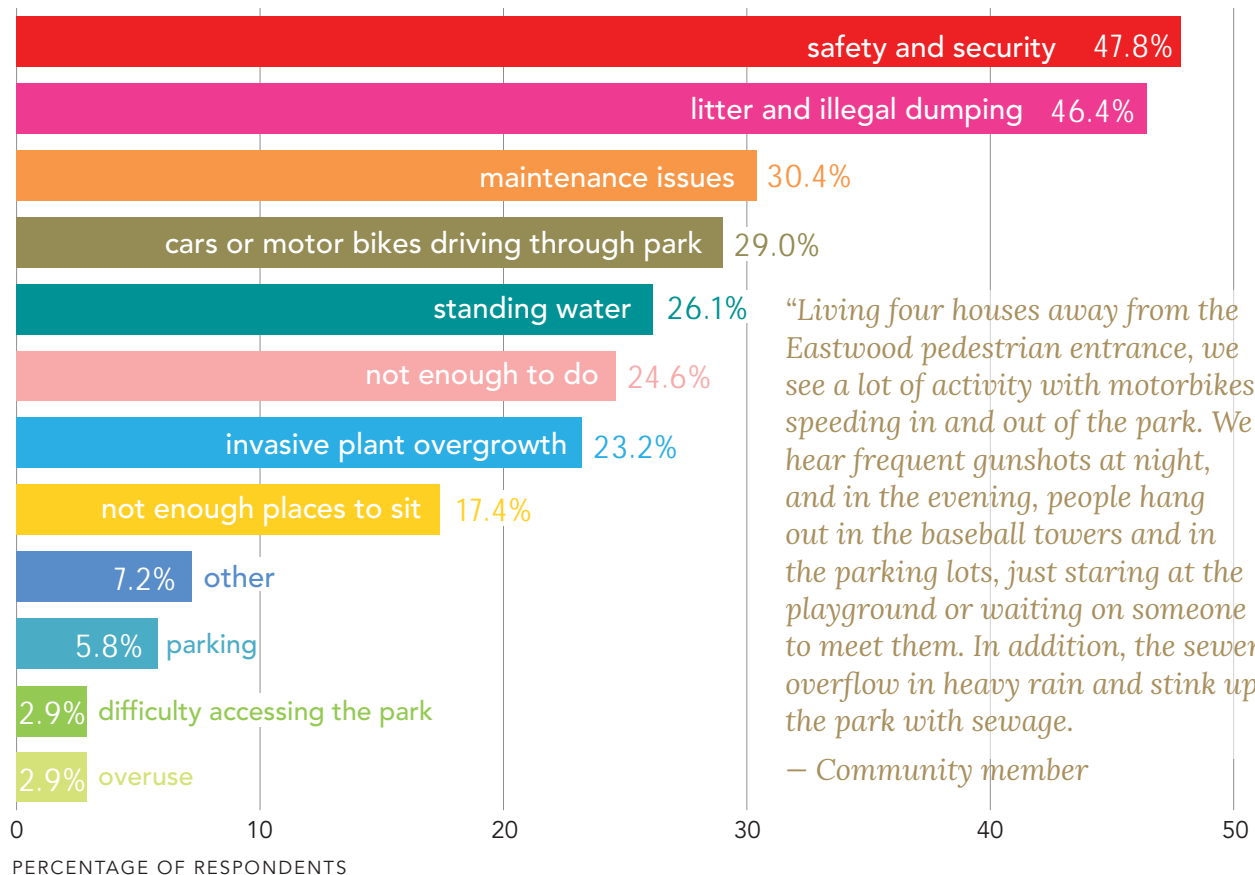
“Its a vibe.”

— Community member

Q2-SCPI: Why do you go to Shoal Creek Park I? (select all that apply)



Q3-SCPI: What are the TOP 3 challenges facing Shoal Creek Park I?



“Living four houses away from the Eastwood pedestrian entrance, we see a lot of activity with motorbikes speeding in and out of the park. We hear frequent gunshots at night, and in the evening, people hang out in the baseball towers and in the parking lots, just staring at the playground or waiting on someone to meet them. In addition, the sewers overflow in heavy rain and stink up the park with sewage.

— Community member

Q4-SCPI: Tell us more about the challenges you identified [in Question 3]. Where or when do you notice the issues occurring?

For a complete list of responses, see Appendix A

“The standing water creates a very unpleasant odor. Also, with respect to not enough to do, the playground is lacking and would benefit from a major upgrade/overhaul.”

— Community member

“Not that easy to sit or walk by creek. Could be a nicer trail. The overgrowth of invasive plants in area makes me worry about trees dying.”

— Community member

“Water drainage problem near the Glenwood Road entrance when it rains. water fountains not repaired or replaced. Sidewalk drainage problems.”

— Community member

“Cars or motor bikes driving through park: - I have seen Cars drive from the parking lot into the park and sit idling near the playground. Safety and security: - Occasional gun fire at night (around midnight) Does not connect to other parks or have protected routes for bicycles: - Would be nice if this park system could connect more easily to Decatur PATH

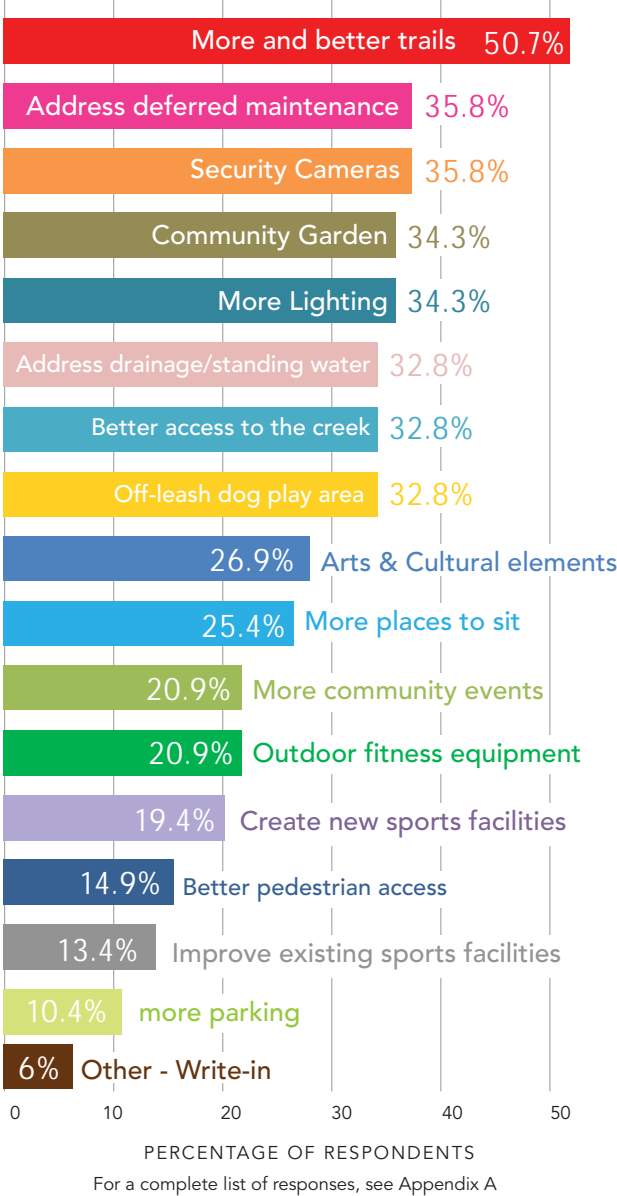
— Community member

It’s an eye sore and has the potential to be so great. There are no areas for dogs to play. No pet stations. No security, so there’s always people in cars there and you don’t know why. Not enough lighting at dusk”

— Community member

SHOAL CREEK PARK I – Community Opinion Survey Results, continued

Q5-SCPI: What are the TOP 5 amenities you would like to see added or improved at Shoal Creek Park I?



“Connection to Decatur Path, potentially following creek to Oldfield Rd & Memorial, through path at Dearborn Park.”

– Community member

“Shade over play area”

– Community member

Q6-SCPI: What ideas do you have for how Shoal Creek Park I can be improved? If you could change one thing, what would it be?

“The standing storm water problem must be eliminated by proper landscaping and drainage. This is the one thing that I would change. Also, improved traffic barriers to prevent dumping in the park and to prevent off-road vehicles from entering and damaging the park. Construct a PATH type multi-use trail the full length of the Park along the bank of Shoal Creek. This would give a better view of the creek to visitors and would help connect Shoal Creek Park 1 to Shoal Creek Park 2.”

– Community member

“Drainage problems resolved. Seating throughout the park for seniors as they walk.”

– Community member

“My biggest concern for the park is the playground area. This kids get bored easily with the current pre-schooler setup.”

– Community member

“Someone needs to remove the boulders blocking the handicap ramp in parking lot off white oak drive..”

– Community member

“I mostly want it to be cleaner.”

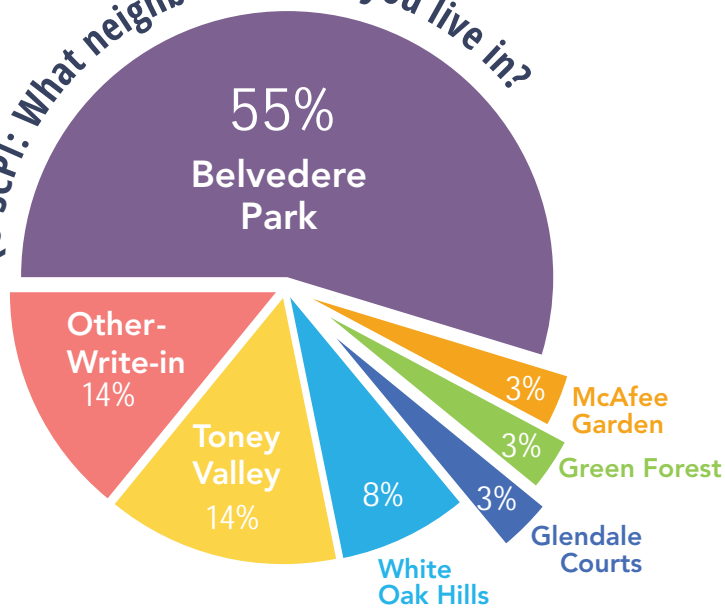
– Community member

“I would love for the standing water issue to be addressed but would love it more if it could be done like a rain garden. Introducing native plants and flowers that tolerate rain garden conditions. Not only would it help functionality but as beautification as well. Restorative landscaping and management could be worked into a community garden.”

– Community member

For a complete list of responses, see Appendix A

Q8-SCPI: What neighborhood do you live in?



For a complete list of responses, see Appendix A

Q10-SCPI:
Tell us about your household.
Include frequent visitors
(grandchildren for example).
Check all that apply.

Other - Write-in 1.5%

Three or more generations in the household 7.7%

Teenagers 7.7%

Infants 12.3%

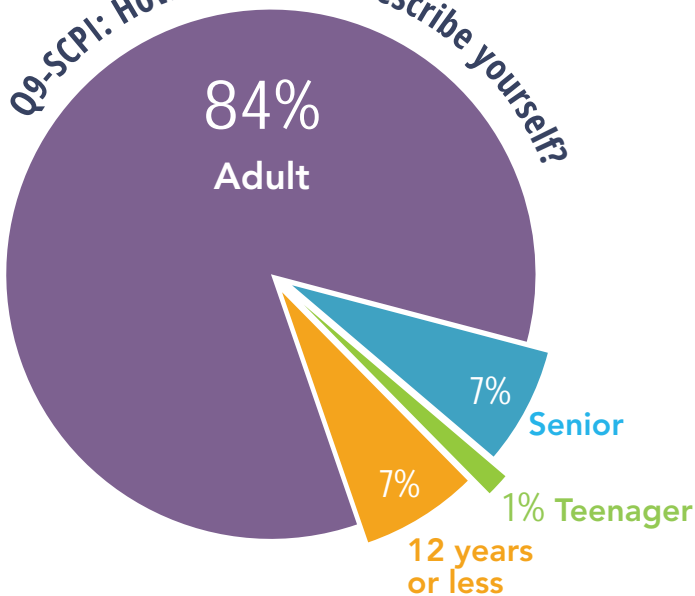
Young children (5-12) 16.9%

Toddlers (2-4) 18.5%

People with Dogs 43.1%

72.3% Adults only

Q9-SCPI: How would you describe yourself?



Q11-SCPI:
Is there anything else you'd like us to know about Shoal Creek Park I?

"More swings for kids and a regular baby swing"

— Community member

"The immediate neighbors would love to use this park, and would frequent it if it weren't used day and night by people sitting in their cars smoking weed and blaring music and doing deals during the day and night, and firing guns off all night (literally every night). There's no enforcement of rules and it feels so unsafe and unwelcoming. It could use some updates to feel fresh as well. Would love to see community events like a chili cookout of summer family neighborhood camp nights."

— Community member

"Two entries/exits to Glenwood Rd would be wonderful to relieve traffic during sporting events."

— Community member

"Needs a lot of attention."

— Community member

For a complete list of responses, see Appendix A

COMMUNITY OPINION SURVEY RESULTS

Shoal Creek Park II

42

PEOPLE RESPONDED

Q1-SCPII: What do you like about Shoal Creek Park II, the way it is today?

All 42 responses can be found in Appendix A.

"I like the restrooms that has been added (finally). I also enjoy the park's revision of the basketball court."

— Community member

"I like the sports facilities - tennis and basketball courts. I like that it has a walking loop. I like that it has a nice place for children to play. I like that it has some grills and sitting areas."

— Community member

"The park creates bonds that last forever."

— Community member

"Close proximity to my house, nice green space"

— Community member

"It's crime free. Like how the people interact. The sports and activities, tennis court, etc."

— Community member

"I like the restrooms that has been added (finally). I also enjoy the park's revision of the basketball court."

— Community member

Q2-SCPII: Why do you go to Shoal Creek Park II? (select all that apply)



PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS

For a complete list of responses, see Appendix A

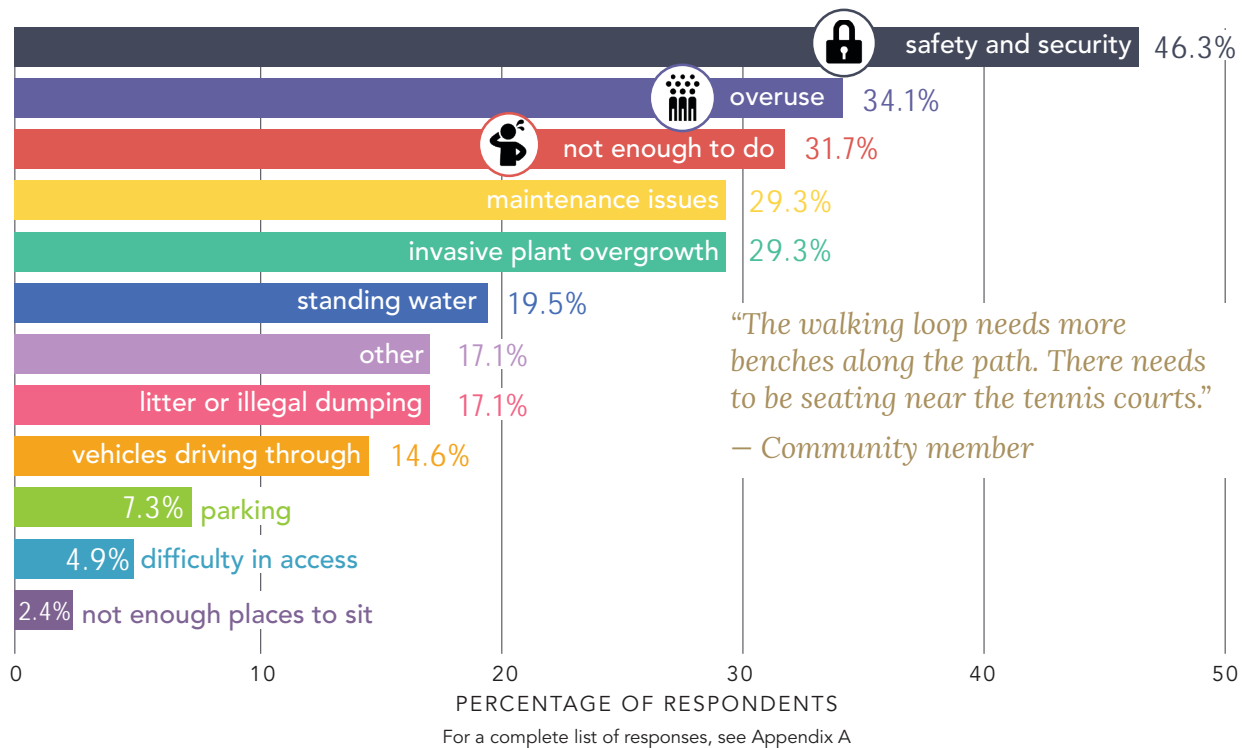
"The track around the playground"

— Community member

"Young people some times visit. People sometimes walk dogs there. Elderly people sometimes walk there. Young [people] try to roller skate there.. parking lot is [small] enough to limit large dangerous groups. There is less use since the county started using the property across the street as a dump site for pipes and dirt. There is less use since the wall and sign obstructed the view in trying to exit the park"

— Community member

Q3-SCPII: What are the TOP 3 challenges facing Shoal Creek Park II?



“The walking loop needs more benches along the path. There needs to be seating near the tennis courts.”

— Community member

Q4-SCPII: Tell us about the challenges you identified [in question 3]. Where or when do you notice issues occurring?

All responses can be found in Appendix A.

“[M]y #1 priority personally would be regarding the field area as every time it rains the sidewalk and field get so muddy it is unusable. would regularly go and hit some practice golf balls etc and utilize that field area as it is walking distance if it weren't for that.”

— Community member

“It just feels run down. The parking spot concrete is broken. The bathrooms are disgusting and unusable. I wish the over grown area in the back was more usable.”

— Community member

“Hear gunfire and see gangs. People are too scared to use the park. There is not a feeling of safety.”

— Community member

“No BBQ grill, pavilion for rental/reservations, no walking path with mile markers.”

— Community member

“There is nothing for children to do besides basketball. There should be more kid friendly out activates for them to engage in. An outdoor mud kitchen would be awesome for them or an outdoor classroom. The park it filled with litter daily and is not welcoming. The overgrown everything does not welcome you into the park. More signage to let you know what's available would be helpful too. More security to monitor the area would be helpful too.”

— Community member

“This park is constantly overlooked when it is time for clean-up.”

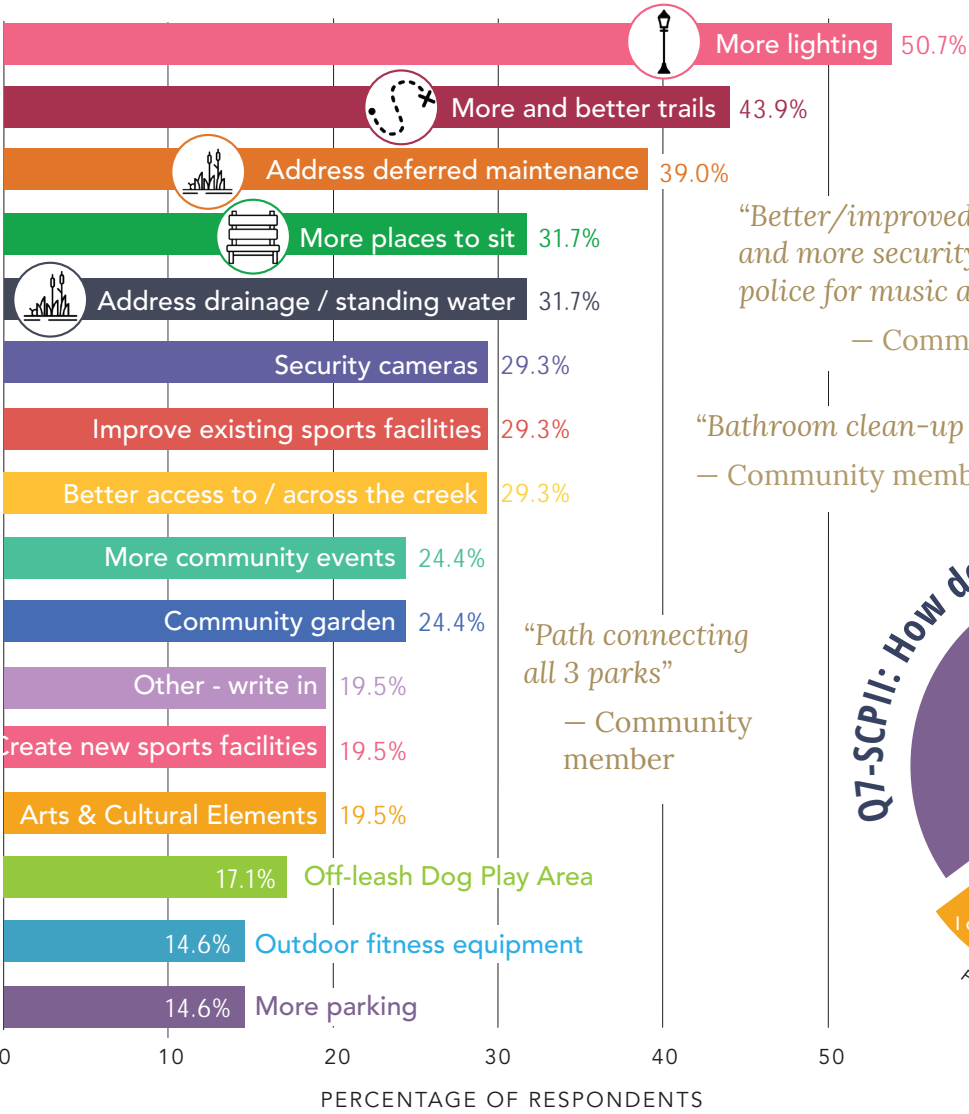
— Community member

“need to keep 4 wheelers off the grass”

— Community member

SHOAL CREEK PARK II – Community Opinion Survey Results, continued

Q5-SCPII: What are the TOP 5 amenities you would like to see added or improved at Shoal Creek Park II?



“Better/improved playground area and more security/rounding from police for music and drug use”
— Community member

“Bathroom clean-up more often”
— Community member

“Path connecting all 3 parks”
— Community member



Q6-SCPII: What ideas do you have for how Shoal Creek Park II can be improved? If you could change one thing, what would it be?

For a complete list of responses, see Appendix A

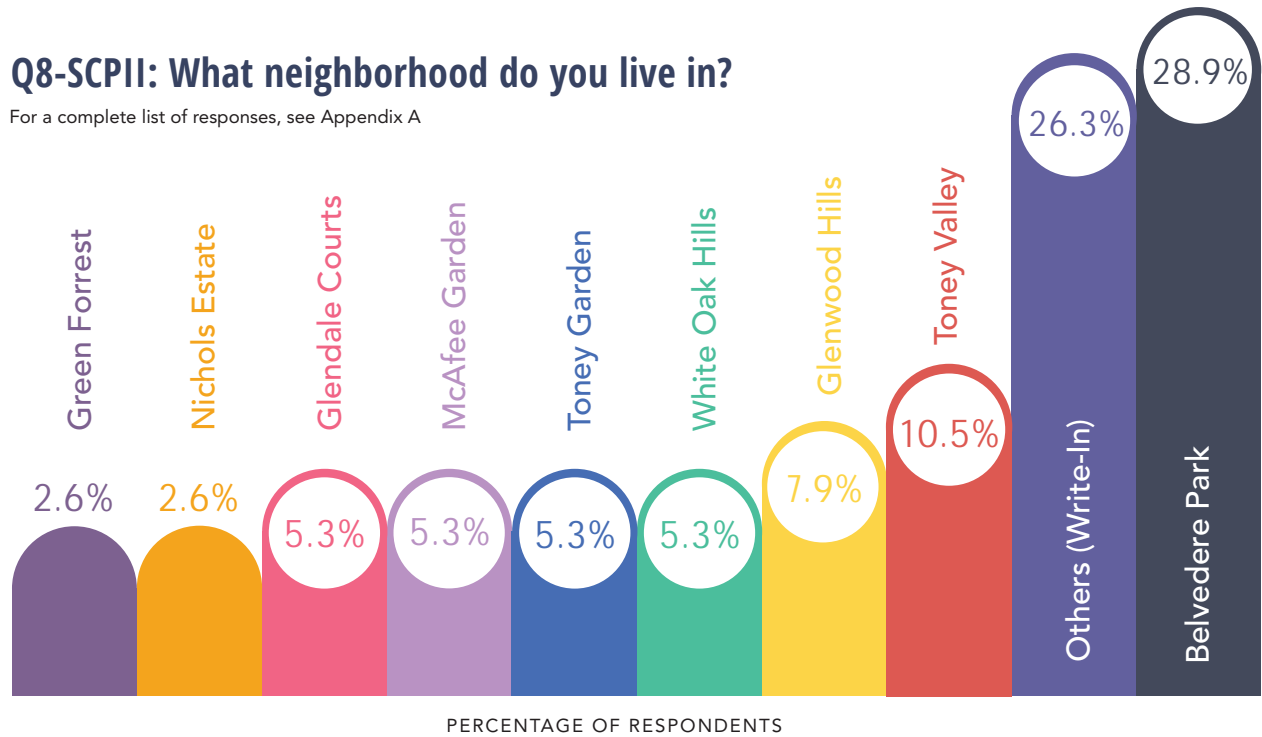
“There is a NEED for generational community involvement. I’d like to see movies at the park and people able to meet with food trucks and enjoy sitting outside.”
— Community member

“Ideas: improved playground, increased maintenance, stricter survey/monitoring with police for drug use and obscene music/inappropriate activities”
— Community member

“More of a police presence - a nice police presence!”
— Community member

Q8-SCPII: What neighborhood do you live in?

For a complete list of responses, see Appendix A



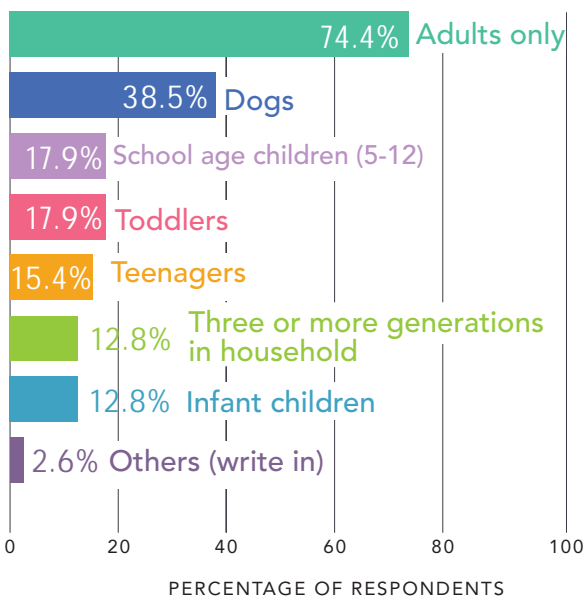
Q9-SCPII: How would you describe yourself?



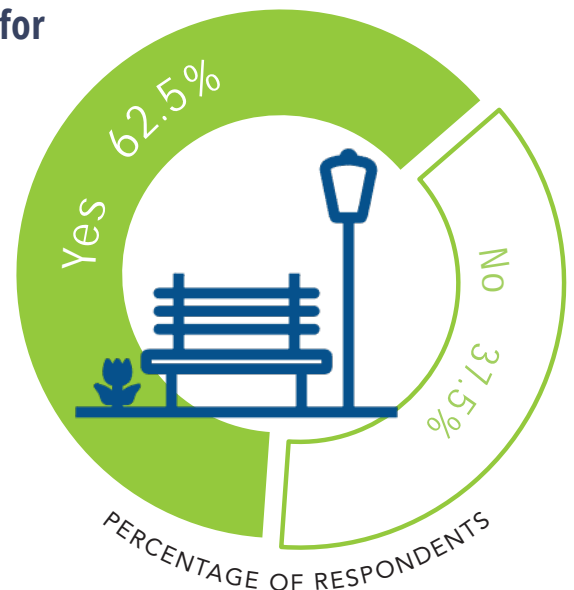
1 IN **10**
respondents are
senior residents

For a complete list of responses, see Appendix A

Q10-SCPII: Tell us about your household. Include frequent visitors (grandchildren for example).



Q12-SCPII: Would you like to be involved with the community Friends of Park group for this park?



COMMUNITY OPINION SURVEY RESULTS

Shoal Creek Park III

31

PEOPLE RESPONDED

Q1-SCPIII:

What do you like about Shoal Creek Park III, the way it is today?

All 31 responses can be found in Appendix A.

"I love the green space. Having trees and places to enjoy nature is great for the community. The pavilion is great for outdoor gatherings."

— Community member

"I like that the park is accessible and has a play area for children."

— Community member

"I love that it's tucked away and you'd have to be a part of the community to know that it's there."

— Community member

"Location and playground options"

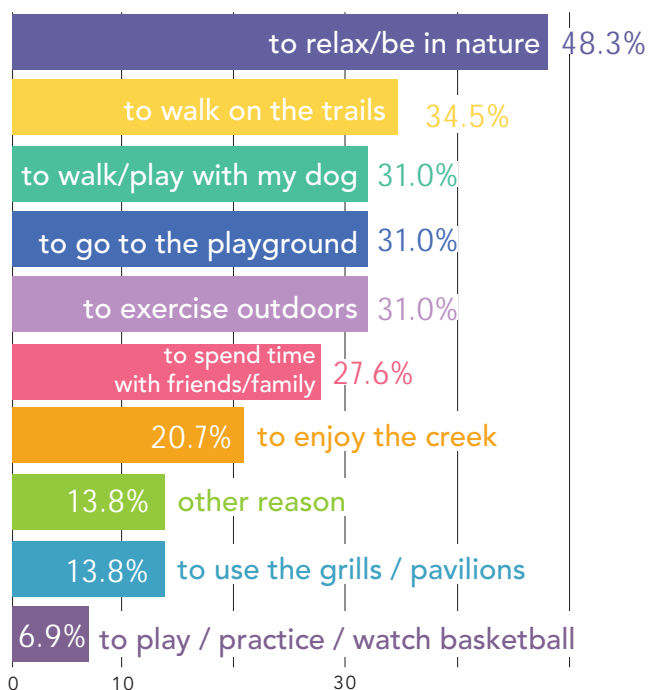
— Community member

"It is bigger and in walking distance of our home. It's a great size park."

— Community member

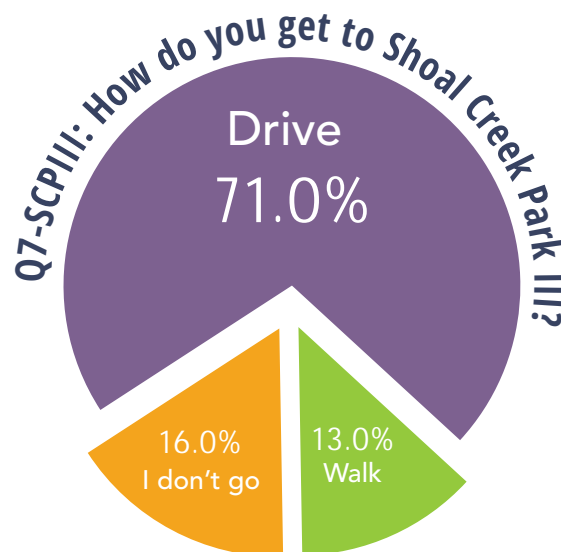
Q2-SCPIII:

Why do you go to Shoal Creek Park III? (select all that apply)

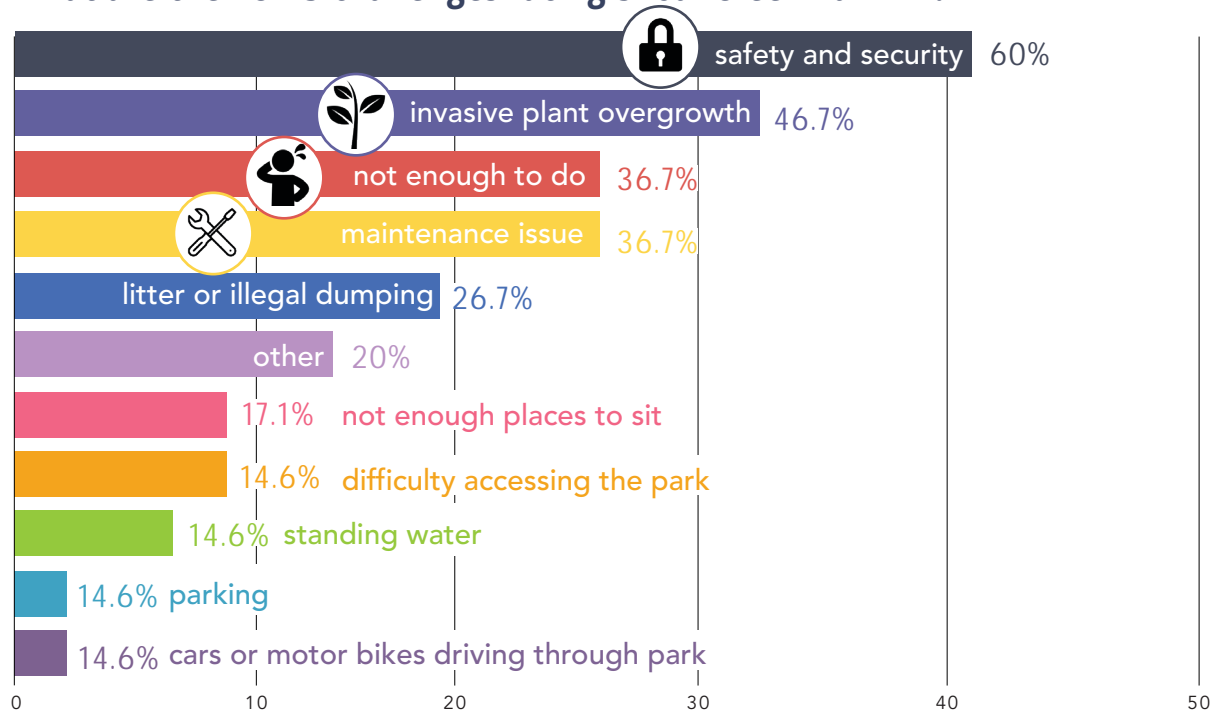


PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS

For a complete list of responses, see Appendix A



PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS

Q3-SCPIII:**What are the TOP 3 challenges facing Shoal Creek Park III?****Q4-SCPIII:****Tell us more about the challenges you identified [in Question 3]. Where or when do you notice the issues occurring?**

For a complete list of responses, see Appendix A

“...I have never really felt safe... Once during a Visioning Steering Committee... A vehicle entered the parking lot and immediately “burned” rubber leaving. Evidently, there were too many eyes present for the individual to conduct their activity.”

— Community member

“The amount of park accessible is so much smaller than the total acreage available. It’s difficult to see what’s available in the park from the street and looks very secluded which could cause safety concerns.”

— Community member

“Park is used primarily for drug deals, prostitution, and shots fired on a regular basis.”

— Community member

“There is significant overgrowth at the park which prevents use of the trails; the lighting is poor and needs adequate lighting that is consistently maintained with lighting replacement when needed; and the space needs to be updated to allow access for food trucks/concerts/movies on the green.”

— Community member

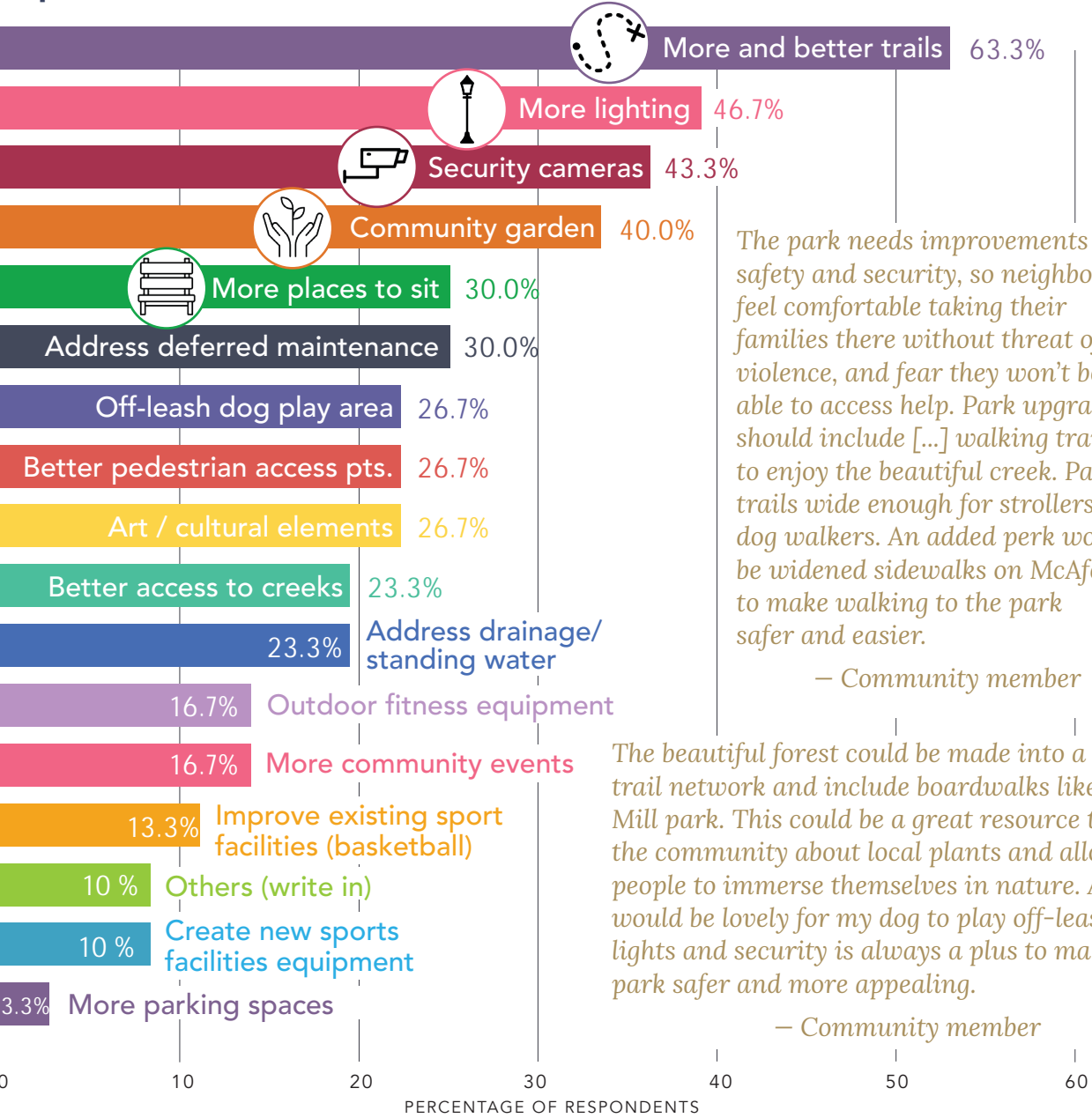
“Pavilion is a bit run down. Water fountains aren’t working, no power in pavilion. Lots of kudzo - makes it feel closed in while I like it not being too close to busy road - it feels a bit too isolated with the overgrown area. Most of the park is not even accessible.”

— Community member

SHOAL CREEK PARK III – Community Opinion Survey Results, continued

Q5-SCPIII: What are the TOP 5 amenities you would like to see added or improved at Shoal Creek Park III?

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



The park needs improvements to safety and security, so neighbors feel comfortable taking their families there without threat of violence, and fear they won't be able to access help. Park upgrades should include [...] walking trails to enjoy the beautiful creek. Paved trails wide enough for strollers and dog walkers. An added perk would be widened sidewalks on McAfee to make walking to the park safer and easier.

— Community member

The beautiful forest could be made into a lovely trail network and include boardwalks like in Mason Mill park. This could be a great resource to educate the community about local plants and allow for people to immerse themselves in nature. A dog park would be lovely for my dog to play off-leash. Added lights and security is always a plus to make the park safer and more appealing.

— Community member

Q6-SCPIII: What ideas do you have for how Shoal Creek Park III can be improved? If you could change one thing, what would it be?

For a complete list of responses, see Appendix A

Food truck accessibility, area to accommodate "Screen on the Green" events, overgrowth removed to ensure accessibility to trails

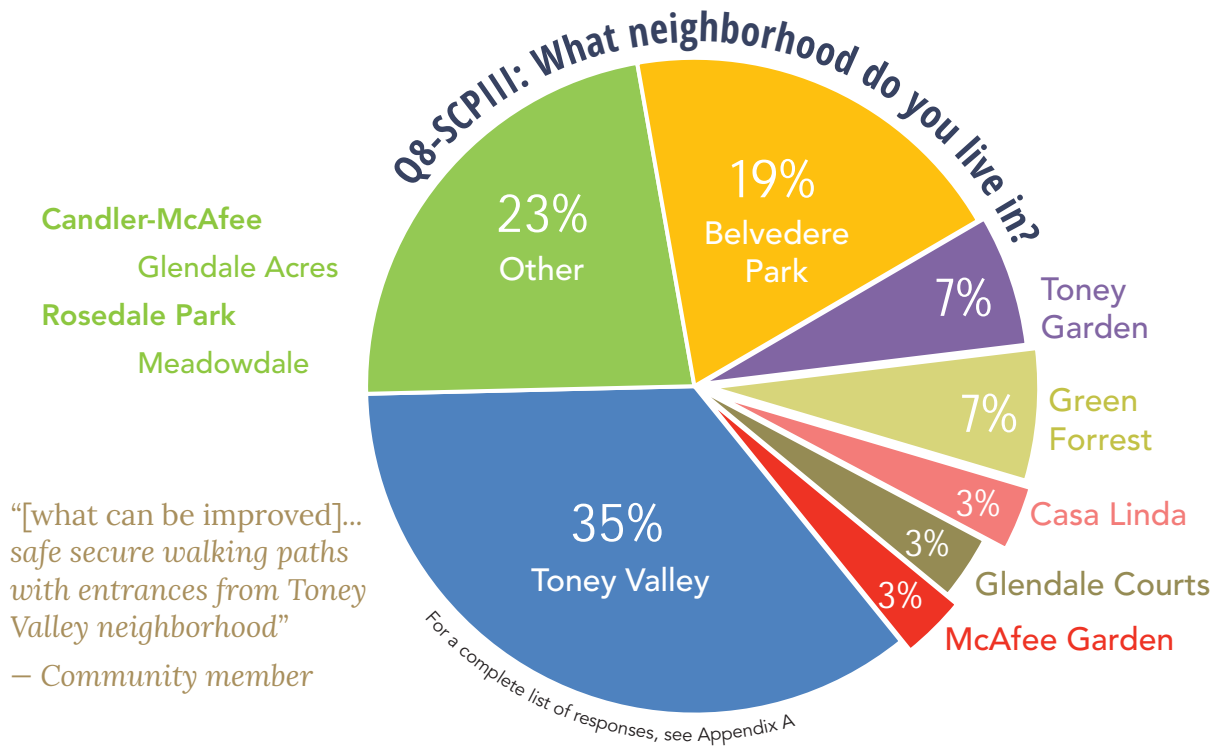
— Community member

Dog parks - small and large dog off-leash parks would be nice!

— Community member

New BBQ grills at pavilion, community garden for residents

— Community member

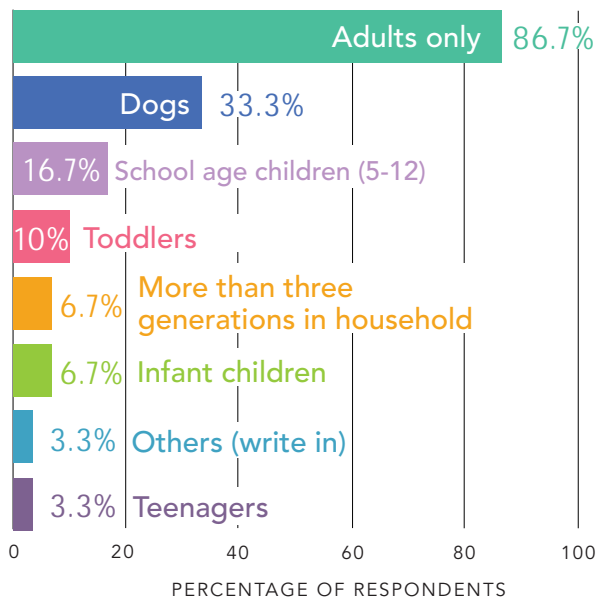


Q9-SCPIII: How would you describe yourself?

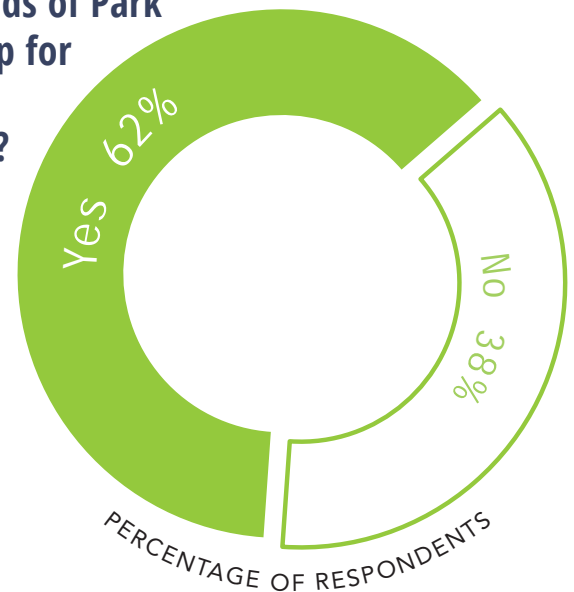


ALMOST **1** IN **9**
respondents are
senior residents

Q10-SCPIII: Tell us about your household. Include frequent visitors (grandchildren for example)



Q12-SCPIII: Would you like to be involved with the community Friends of Park group for this park?



Public Engagement

National Night Out

National Night Out, an annual campaign to promote closer ties between communities and law enforcement, provided an opportunity to launch the public meeting process. Along with members of the steering committee, Park Pride staff set up tables to distribute information at two simultaneous National Night Out events that occurred respectively in Shoal Creek Park I in Belvedere Park and Toney Elementary School near Shoal Creek Park III. These events, held on August 2, 2022, spread awareness of the visioning process among neighbors and allowed Park Pride to collect early feedback from community members.

Public Meetings

Each public meeting moves the visioning process along in stages: the first public meeting is a brainstorming session where 'Big Ideas' about the park are established. Participants decide what kind of park they need and want, and what functions are most important for the park to fulfill. Based on the feedback gathered in this meeting, plus survey data, a set of guiding principles is created. All future designs and elements must support these principles in order to be included in the final plan.

Public Meeting 1, Guiding Principles

The first park visioning meeting was held virtually on Monday, September 12, 2022, and opened with an outline of the visioning process, the definition of a vision plan, and its limitations. Next, the existing site conditions and the parks' history were reviewed. Community members participated in online polls and asked questions, giving the steering committee and the design team a better idea of the community's needs and wishes for the series of parks. The meeting was attended by approximately 40 community members, including Deputy Director of Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Affairs, Marvin Billups. The meeting was

recorded and published on the visioning website.

Polls conducted during the first meeting revealed the needs and desires of attendees. Full poll results can be reviewed in Appendix B. The answers to poll questions guided the steering committee to create four guiding principles that shaped the recommendations made throughout the process.

After the first public meeting, the visioning team goes back to the drawing board to come up with draft concepts. These concepts are first reviewed by the steering committee, then presented for review at the second public meeting.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Provide a safe, inclusive, beautiful public space for outdoor recreation, quiet time in nature, and community gathering.

Partner with park rangers and community groups to develop culturally relevant programs and nurture a welcoming place for all.

Prioritize trail connections and well-marked entrances to provide safe access, visibility, and connectivity for residents and visitors

Promote maintenance practices and community involvement that will enhance natural ecosystems, control invasive plants, and maximize usable park space



Steering committee member, Irina Arayjo, speaks with attendees of the National Night Out celebration at Toney Elementary School near Shoal Creek Park III

A VISION PLAN FOR PARKS I, II, & III

Shoal Creek Parks

DeKalb County
GEORGIA

You can also take this feedback survey by visiting the website below or by scanning this QR code with your phone.
This survey will close on **December 5**.
parkvisioning.wixsite.com/shoalcreekparks

PROJECT PRIORITY SURVEY

Presentation of Vision Plans November 14, 2022

SHOAL CREEK PARK I

Rank project priority from 1 (high) to 9 (lowest)

- ☐ Drainage improvements
- ☐ Invasive plant management
- ☐ Multi-use trail connecting all three Shoal Creek Parks
- ☐ Pedestrian entrance from Amelia Avenue
- ☐ Parking expansion in south lot by 40 parking spaces
- ☐ Playground improvements
- ☐ Seating (more benches, tables, and gathering areas)
- ☐ Security measures (lighting, cameras, call boxes, and other safety strategies)
- ☐ Skatepark

Add any additional thoughts and comments for any of the parks here.

SHOAL CREEK PARK II

Rank project priority from 1 (highest) to 14 (lowest)

- ☐ Auxiliary parking lot
- ☐ Community garden
- ☐ Dog park
- ☐ Drainage improvements
- ☐ Invasive plant management
- ☐ Multi-use trail connecting all three parks
- ☐ Repave parking lot with permeable pavers
- ☐ Pedestrian entrance at Creekside Court with wetland boardwalk
- ☐ Pickleball courts
- ☐ Playground improvements with splashpad option
- ☐ Security measures (lighting, cameras, call boxes, and other security strategies)
- ☐ Seating (new shelters, more seating near courts)
- ☐ Volleyball court restoration
- ☐ Waterfall trail

SHOAL CREEK PARK III

Rank project priority from 1 (highest) to 13 (lowest)

- ☐ Active area expansion to increase usable space and improve circulation
- ☐ Basketball courts (new full-size court and one kid-sized court)
- ☐ Community garden
- ☐ Creek access
- ☐ Invasive plant management
- ☐ Multi-use trail connecting all three Shoal Creek Parks
- ☐ Nature trail and wetland boardwalk
- ☐ Open views into the park from McAfee Road where possible
- ☐ Parking expansion with loop circulation and pervious pavement
- ☐ Pavilion (new) with restrooms and grill
- ☐ Pedestrian entrance on Glendale Court
- ☐ Playground improvements
- ☐ Security measures (lighting, cameras, call boxes, and other safety strategies)

The paper version of the project priority survey for the final vision plan.

Preliminary Plans

Public Meeting 2, Preliminary Plans

The second public meeting was held on October 17, 2022, in-person at the Porter Sanford III Performing Arts & Community Center. Twenty-five community members attended, along with Torrance Jones of DRPCA and a representative from Commissioner Larry Johnson's office. The guiding principles were presented along with preliminary concepts for each park. A feedback form (shown on page 48-49) was provided for participants to complete as they reviewed the concepts. The preliminary concepts were also made available on the visioning website.

Public comment on the draft guiding principles and preliminary plans was invited via a mass e-mail and an online survey, which was open until November 11, 2022. Public input was compiled (pg 49) and reviewed by the steering committee, and the comments were used to refine the plans.

Shoal Creek Park I Preliminary Concept

(opposite page)

- ◆ Expanded parking lot at south entrance
- ◆ Pedestrian access from Amelia Avenue
- ◆ Multiuse trail running north-south through the park and connecting all three Shoal Creek Parks
- ◆ Skatepark with programs for girls
- ◆ Hydrological study to improve drainage and restore floodplain

Shoal Creek Park II Preliminary Concept

(opposite page)

- ◆ New gated auxiliary parking lot in northwest corner of the park
- ◆ Pedestrian access and trails from Creekside Court
- ◆ Boardwalk trails through wetlands
- ◆ Dog park near main entrance
- ◆ Expanded playground with "splash 'n play" water feature
- ◆ Dedicated pickleball and sand volleyball court
- ◆ Hiking trails offering views of the creek and waterfalls
- ◆ Multiuse trail running north-south through the park and connecting all three Shoal Creek Parks

Shoal Creek Park III Preliminary Concept

(next page)

- ◆ Expand and reconfigure parking lot
- ◆ Reconfigure active area for greater usability and visibility
- ◆ Hiking trails and boardwalks offering access to the creek and forest
- ◆ Multiuse trail running north-south through the park and connecting all three Shoal Creek Parks
- ◆ Pedestrian access to the park from Glendale Court
- ◆ Full and junior-sized basketball courts to encourage parent-child play
- ◆ Community garden



A VISION PLAN FOR PARKS I, II, & III

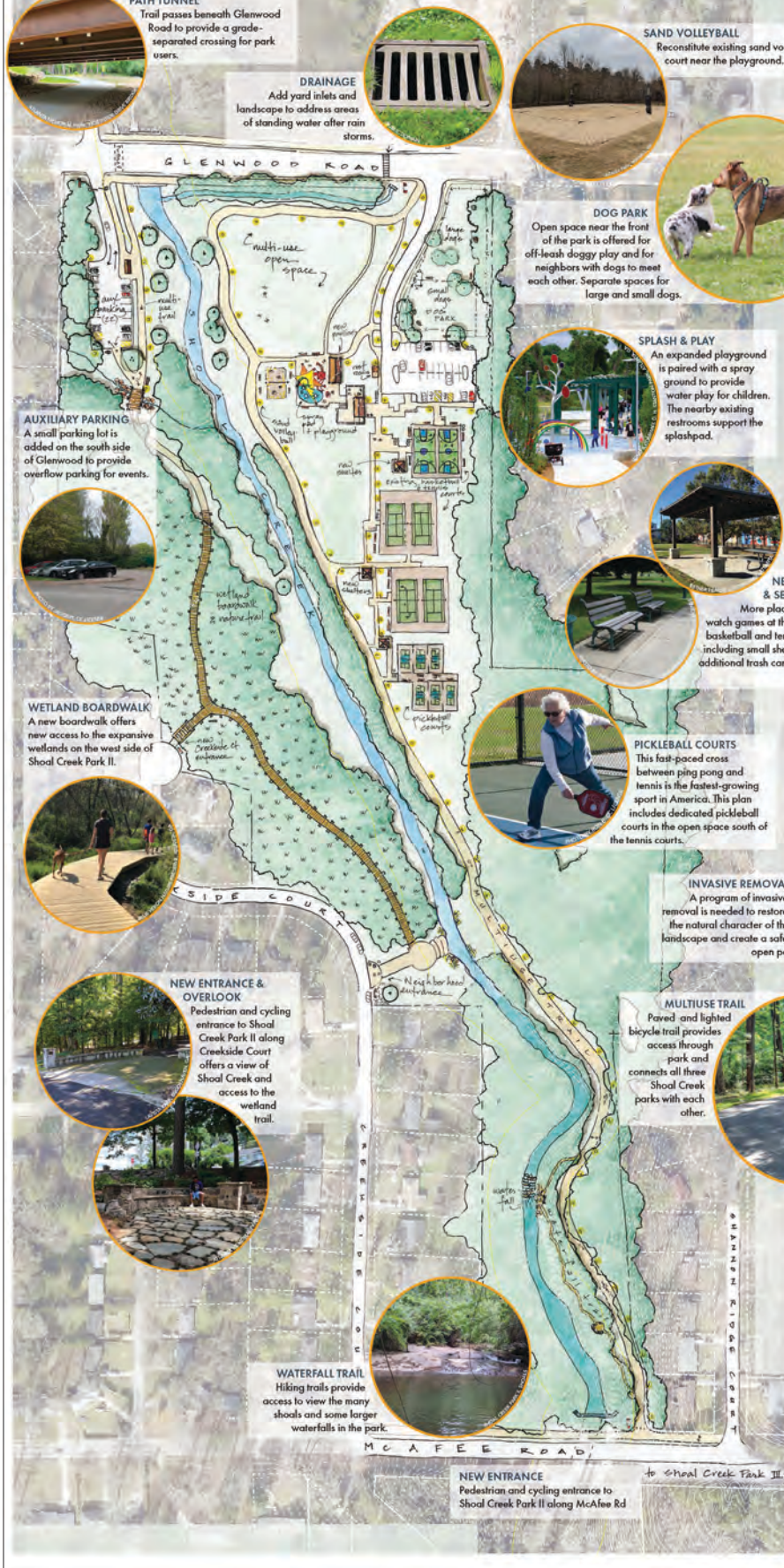
Shoal Creek Parks

DeKalb County
GEORGIA

Shoal Creek Park I
2921 White Oak Drive, Decatur, GA 30032

Facilitated by
parkpride

DRAFT
October 17, 2022



A VISION PLAN FOR PARKS I, II, & III

Shoal Creek Parks

DeKalb County
GEORGIA

Shoal Creek Park II
3543 Glenwood Rd, Decatur, GA 30032

Facilitated by
parkpride

DRAFT
October 17, 2022



ACTIVE AREA
Shoal Creek Park III comprises 35 acres, much of it is fragile wetlands and beautiful forest. A small area, 3.5 acres, is currently used for recreation. These facilities are due for renovation and reconfiguration to a form that make the best use of the sloped landscape.

PAVILION
A larger new pavilion placed to overlook the lawn area, playground, and basketball courts. On one side of the pavilion is a grilling area. On the other is space for a small community garden space and water tap.

TERRACED SLOPE
The existing slope is regraded slope to provide seating and gathering spaces, plus a hillside slide into the playground.

OPEN VIEWS
Better views into and out of the park's active area will be provided by removing overgrowth and invasive species. Piedmont forests naturally have open understories

CREEK ACCESS
Resilient access to Shoal Creek mimics the shoals themselves. Boulders and concrete steps slope gradually to the stream's edge, designed to allow water to flow over and past during flood events.

BIG AND SMALL BASKETBALL
A new full-size basketball court is accompanied by a junior-size court to encourage parent-child play

PEOPLE IN NATURE
A series of boardwalks and soft-surface trails in the upland areas provide ways for people to enjoy the peace and tranquility of a wetland without disturbance. Stone boulders are recommended as durable "benches" and erosion control along trails.

NATURE AT WORK
This park protects the floodplain of Shoal Creek, providing room for flood waters to expand and infiltrate back into the ground. Forested wetlands such as this provide habitat for plants and animals such as birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians, fish, insects, and more. Signage at stopping points provides education and information.

It's important that overgrowth and invasive species be controlled on a regular basis to ensure forest health and function as well as public safety.

NEIGHBORHOOD CONNECTION
Open and identify the entrance on Glendale Court for community connectivity



Shoal Creek Park III
3075 McAfee Rd, Decatur, GA 30032



Below and opposite page, the concept feedback forms provided during the second public meeting and presentation of the preliminary concept plans

A VISION PLAN FOR PARKS I, II, & III
Shoal Creek Parks
DeKalb County
GEORGIA

You can also take this feedback survey by visiting the website below or by scanning this QR code with your phone. This survey will close on **November 7**.
parkvisioning.wixsite.com/shoalcreekparks

Presentation of Preliminary Plans October 17, 2022

CONCEPT FEEDBACK

Select your preferences on the front and back of this page!

Feel free to make notes/draw on this page if you like!

How much do you agree with the following goals, or "guiding principles" for the parks?

1 Provide a safe, inclusive, beautiful public space for outdoor recreation, quiet time in nature, and community gathering.

☐ strongly disagree ☐ disagree ☐ neither agree nor disagree ☐ agree ☐ strongly agree

2 Partner with park rangers and community groups to develop culturally relevant programs and nurture a welcoming place for all.

☐ strongly disagree ☐ disagree ☐ neither agree nor disagree ☐ agree ☐ strongly agree

3 Prioritize trail connections and well-marked entrances to provide safe access, visibility, and connectivity for residents and visitors

☐ strongly disagree ☐ disagree ☐ neither agree nor disagree ☐ agree ☐ strongly agree

4 Promote maintenance practices and community involvement that will enhance natural ecosystems, control invasive plants, and maximize usable park space

☐ strongly disagree ☐ disagree ☐ neither agree nor disagree ☐ agree ☐ strongly agree

Please note any changes you'd like to make below.

SHOAL CREEK PARK I

Do you support the following proposed investments?



Expand south parking lot to increase available parking

☐ strongly oppose ☐ oppose ☐ neither support nor oppose ☐ support ☐ strongly support

Pedestrian park access from Amelia Avenue

☐ strongly oppose ☐ oppose ☐ neither support nor oppose ☐ support ☐ strongly support

Multiuse trail connecting all three Shoal Creek parks

☐ strongly oppose ☐ oppose ☐ neither support nor oppose ☐ support ☐ strongly support

Skate park with programs for girls

☐ strongly oppose ☐ oppose ☐ neither support nor oppose ☐ support ☐ strongly support


Study hydrology to improve drainage and restore floodplain ecology

☐ strongly oppose ☐ oppose ☐ neither support nor oppose ☐ support ☐ strongly support

Put additional thoughts and comments below.

Concept Plan Preference Survey & Feedback

..... SHOAL CREEK PARK II



Do you support the following proposed investments?

New parking lot on northwest corner as auxiliary event parking

Pedestrian park access and trails from Creekside Ct and wetland trails

Dog park near main park entrance

Expanded playground with "splash 'n play" water feature

Dedicated pickleball courts and sand volleyball court

Hiking trails and a multiuse trail connecting all three parks

strongly oppose

oppose

neither support nor oppose

support

strongly support

strongly oppose

oppose

neither support nor oppose

support

strongly support

strongly oppose

oppose

neither support nor oppose

support

strongly support

strongly oppose

oppose

neither support nor oppose

support

strongly support

strongly oppose

oppose

neither support nor oppose

support

strongly support

strongly oppose

oppose


neither support nor oppose

support

strongly support

Put additional thoughts and comments below.

..... SHOAL CREEK PARK III



Do you support the following proposed investments?

Expand and reconfigure parking lot

Reconfigure active area for greater usability and visibility

Hiking trails and a multiuse trail connecting all three parks

Pedestrian park access from Glendale Court

Full and junior-sized basketball courts to encourage parent-child play

Community garden

strongly oppose

oppose

neither support nor oppose

support

strongly support

strongly oppose

oppose

neither support nor oppose

support

strongly support

strongly oppose

oppose

neither support nor oppose

support

strongly support

strongly oppose

oppose

neither support nor oppose

support

strongly support

strongly oppose

oppose

neither support nor oppose

support

strongly support

strongly oppose

oppose

neither support nor oppose

support

strongly support

Put additional thoughts and comments below.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

For detailed feedback with comments, see Appendix C, page 107

Safe, Inclusive, Beautiful Space

63% Strongly Agree

27% Strongly Disagree

10% Agree

Partnerships for Programs

53% Strongly Agree

27% Strongly Disagree

17% Agree

3% Neither agree or disagree

Safety & Connectivity

59% Strongly Agree

28% Strongly Disagree

10% Agree

3% Neither agree or disagree

Maintenance & Stewardship

71% Strongly Agree

21% Strongly Disagree

7% Agree

SHOAL CREEK PARK I

Expand south parking lot

12% Strongly Support

27% Strongly Oppose

35% Support

27% Neither support or oppose

Pedestrian access at Amelia Ave

19% Strongly Support

23% Strongly Oppose

23% Support

35% Neither support or oppose

Multiuse trail

62% Strongly Support

27% Strongly Oppose

8% Support

4% Neither support or oppose

Skatepark

62% Strongly Support

27% Strongly Oppose

8% Support

4% Oppose

Drainage Improvements

44% Strongly Support

24% Strongly Oppose

24% Support

3% Neither support or oppose

SHOAL CREEK PARK II

Auxiliary event parking

15% Strongly Support

27% Strongly Oppose

27% Support

31% Neither support or oppose

Boardwalk from Creekside Ct.

39% Strongly support

27% Strongly Oppose

31% Support

4% Neither support or oppose

Dog Park

15% Strongly Support

27% Strongly Oppose

42% Support

15% Neither support or oppose

Expanded playground w/splashpad

62% Strongly Support

19% Strongly Oppose

39% Support

12% Oppose

12% Neither support or oppose

Pickleball + Volleyball

15% Strongly Support

19% Strongly Oppose

39% Support

27% Neither support or oppose

Connected Multiuse Trails

62% Strongly Support

27% Strongly Oppose

Support 12%

SHOAL CREEK PARK III

Parking improvements

26% Strongly Support

26% Strongly Oppose

26% Support

22% Neither support or oppose

Reconfigure Active Area

50% Strongly Support

Strongly Oppose 14%

21% Neither support or oppose

14% Support

Connected Multiuse Trail

57% Strongly Support

25% Strongly Oppose

4% Support

14% Neither support or oppose

Pedestrian Access from Glendale Ct

46% Strongly Support

25% Strongly Oppose

7% Support

21% Neither support or oppose

Multi-generational Basketball

48% Strongly Support

30% Support

11% Strongly Oppose

11% Neither support or oppose

Community Garden

50% Strongly Support

21% Strongly Oppose

11% Support

18% Neither support or oppose

PRELIMINARY PLANS

Public Meeting 3, Final Plan and Priorities

On November 14, 2022, eight community members gathered in-person again at the Porter Sanford III Performing Arts & Community Center for the final public meeting in the park visioning process. At this meeting, attendees reviewed the results from the preliminary concept survey and the final vision plans for each of the three parks. Due to a smaller number of attendees, this meeting became more of a discussion-based format, rather than a presentation style. Attendees were asked to rank their top priorities for the proposed projects in each park via a paper survey (below). As with previous meetings, the survey was also made available online through the website and advertised through a mass e-mail sent to everyone who had participated in the process so far. Community members had until December 5 to weigh-in on their top priorities, which are shown on page 63.

SHOAL CREEK PARK I

18 ACRES



SHOAL CREEK PARK II

32 ACRES



SHOAL CREEK PARK II

35 ACRES



A Connected System of Parks and Communities

Considering the Shoal Creek Parks as a connected system offers multiple benefits, including fewer trips by car to other parks, to other recreational facilities, and to other natural areas. Connectivity between the parks would increase health benefits for all ages and a reduce healthcare expenses over time. The parks collectively would also offer environmental benefits including stormwater management, wildlife habitat, and improved air and water quality. DeKalb County recognizes these benefits and calls for future plans that achieve such goals, a few of which are highlighted in the *DeKalb 2050 Unified Plan Comprehensive Transportation Plan*:

NORTH



GERALD R. FORD PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY
SOUTH FARM WALL DESIGN BY GANNETT CO.

Throughout all three parks that border Shoal Creek, the small stream's flood way is much wider and the underground waterable much higher than you might expect. This results in pools of water after rain or flood events. To work with natural hydrologic processes constructed wetlands can offer naturally low ground as spaces for water detention (temporary holding) and infiltration, replenishing the water table and stream at a slow rate that minimizes erosion and sedimentation.

A berm is a raised mound of earth used to separate spaces, in this case, to guide water away from the basketball court/playground and into the water detention area. Soil borrowed from the creation of the skatepark will balance cut and fill required in a floodplan.

Strategic placement of lighting and other security features like emergency call buttons and cameras, along with increased community use, and a higher standard of maintenance will increase perceptions of safety. On this plan, lights are suggested by yellow circles. Locations for cameras or emergency call boxes may also be considered.

There is good reason for the neighborhoods' desire to connect Shoal Creek Parks I, II & III. A multiuse trail connection would allow pedestrians to use all three parks as one without needing more parking and without dangerous at-grade crossings on Glenwood Road. But there are also costs and a great deal of engineering to consider with the options table.

PARKING LOT, MICHIGAN STATE

Reorganize paved areas between the basketball court, pavilions, and playground to eliminate unused concrete remnants. Add a grass-covered berm to reduce sedimentation and a more useful seawall to enclose the playground and provide seating for caregivers. Add a shade fabric over the play structures. Incorporate a hillside slide and boulder climb on the berm.

Create a skatepark that is open to all but offers female-skater-focused programming and events

**A new pedestrian
entrance at Amelia
Avenue**

Add yard inlets and landscape to address areas of standing water after rain storms. Areas with known drainage problems are marked with a

Shoal Creek Park is the most active of the three parks and covers the smallest area, only 16 acres. With its multiple baseball fields, tournaments, and other activities, visitors often overflow the park's parking lot. This plan calls for the expansion of parking into the area between the existing lot and Glenwood Road. Adding approximately 40 new parking spaces.

1. Consider a road diet to add traffic islands on Glenwood and McAfee to slow traffic and provide safe refuges for pedestrians and bikers crossing at grade. This has been done recently on Chamblee-Tucker Road in Tucker.

2. It may be possible to replace the culvert under Glenwood Road with a clear span bridge that allows passageway of the multiuse trail under traffic. This is the more expensive of the two options by far, and may require the acquisition of nearby land to be feasible.

PARK CONNECTIVITY

Although a signalized crosswalk currently connects Shoal Creek Parks I and II, Park Pride examined options for creating a safer park user experience crossing Glenwood Road. These options are explained on the vision plan for Shoal Creek Park I.

DRAINAGE
Add yard inlets and landscape to address areas of standing water after rain storms.

DOG PARK

Open space near the center of the park is offered for off-leash doggy play and for neighbors with dogs to meet each other. Separate spaces for large and small dogs.

PLAYGROUND

An expanded playground replaces the existing play equipment with updated features and newer amenities.

NEW SHELTERS & SEATING

More places to sit and watch games at the existing basketball and tennis courts, including small shelters and additional trash cans.

WETLAND BOARDWALK

A new boardwalk offers new access to the expansive wetlands on the west side of Shoal Creek Park II.

PICKLEBALL & DISC GOLF

Pickleball is a fast-paced cross between ping pong and tennis and is the fastest-growing sport in America. This plan suggests repurposing two tennis courts for use as pickleball courts. There is also enough space to create a disc golf course in the area east of the trail.

COMMUNITY GARDEN

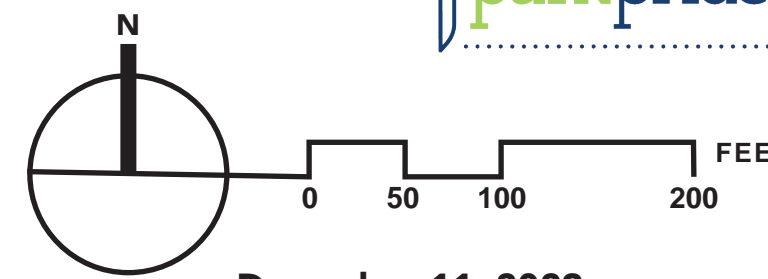
Survey responses indicate a desire for a shared community space for growing food.

NEW ENTRANCE & OVERLOOK

Pedestrian and cycling entrance to Shoal Creek Park II along Creekside Court offers a view of Shoal Creek and access to the wetland trail.

Shoal Creek Park II

3643 Glenwood Rd, Decatur, GA 30032



December 11, 2023



A VISION PLAN FOR PARKS I, II, & III

Shoal Creek Parks

DeKalb County
GEORGIA

INVASIVE REMOVAL

A program of invasive removal is needed to restore the natural character of the landscape and create a safer, open park.

MULTIUSE TRAIL

Paved and lighted bicycle trail provides access through park and connects all three Shoal Creek parks with each other.

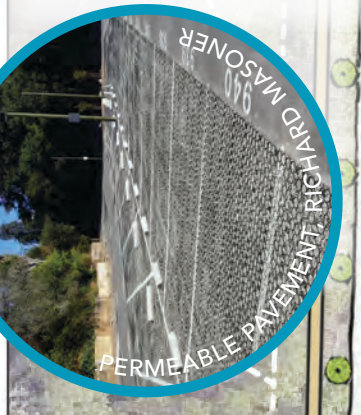
SAFETY & OPEN VIEWS

Strategic placement of lighting and other security features like emergency call buttons and cameras, along with increased maintenance use, and a higher standard of maintenance will increase perceptions of safety. On this plan, lights are suggested by yellow circles. Locations for cameras or emergency call boxes may also be considered.

PERMEABLE PAVING

Consider permeable pavement options when repaving parking lots in Shoal Creek Park II.

PARKING
This plan reconfigures the parking lot to increase the number of available spaces and provide loop circulation through the lot, rather than a dead end that can appear uninviting. Permeable pavement options should be considered when repaving.



ACTIVE AREA
Shoal Creek Park III comprises 36 acres, much of it is fragile wetlands and beautiful forest. A small area, 3.5 acres, is currently used for recreation. This plan reconfigures the active area with new walkways and features that make the best use of the sloped landscape.

LAND ACQUISITION
Two privately-held parcels northwest of the park would provide a strategic area of park expansion, which may suggest alternative entrance configurations and connectivity along Shoal Creek.

Proposed purchase of adjacent private parcels along Shoal Creek



BIG AND SMALL BASKETBALL
A new full-size basketball court is accompanied by a junior-size court to encourage parent-child play

CREEK ACCESS
Resilient access to Shoal Creek mimicks the shoals themselves. Boulders and concrete steps slope gradually to the stream's edge, designed to allow water to flow over and past during flood events.



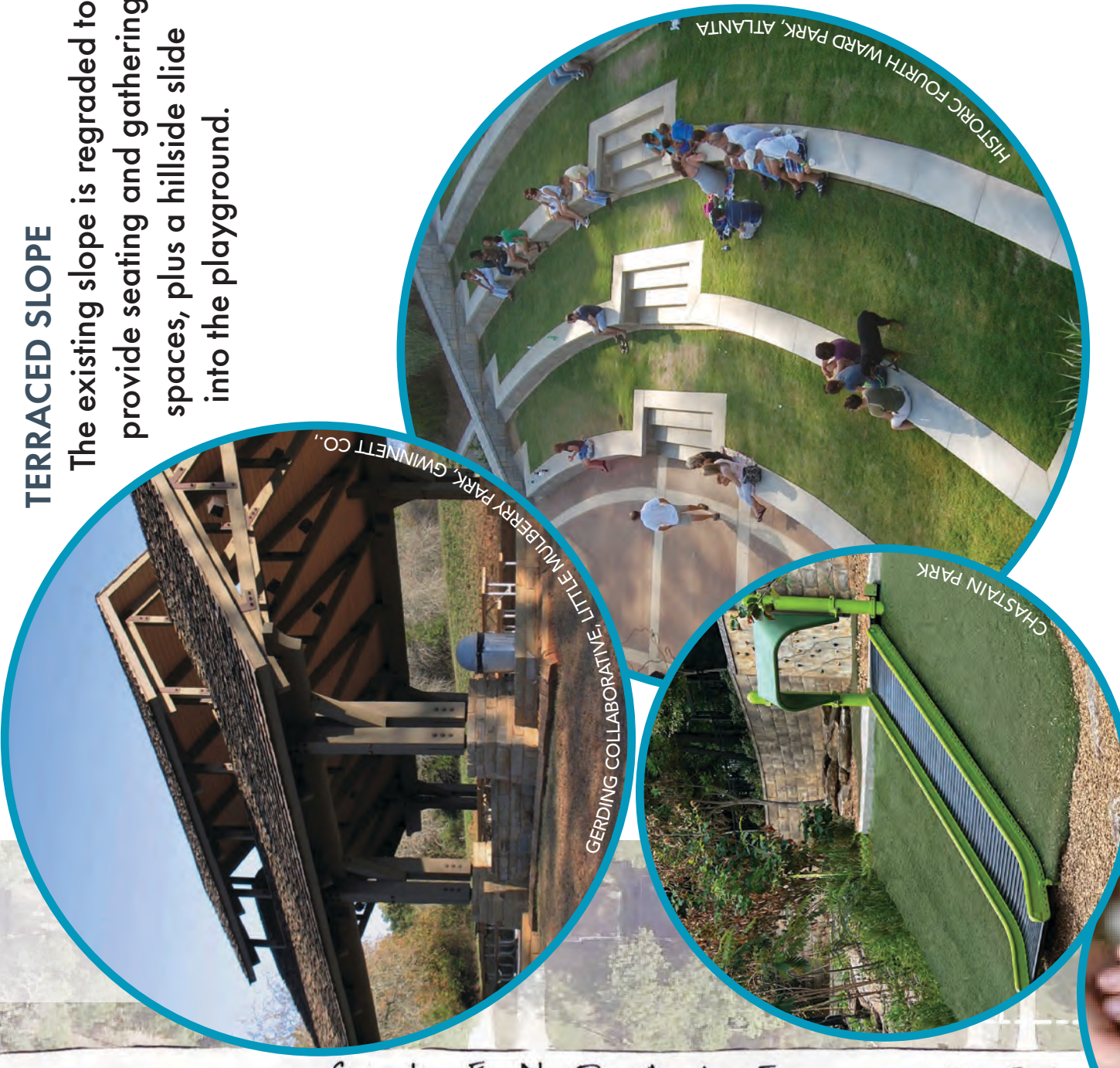
NATURE AT WORK
This park protects the floodplain of Shoal Creek, providing room for flood waters to expand and infiltrate back into the ground. Forested wetlands such as this provide habitat for plants and animals such as birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians, fish, insects, and more. Signage at stopping points provides education and information.

It's important that overgrowth and invasive species be controlled on a regular basis to ensure forest health and function as well as public safety.

Shoal Creek Park III
3075 McAfee Rd, Decatur, GA 30032

Facilitated by **parkpride**

December 11, 2023



PAVILION & GRILL
A larger new pavilion with built-in restrooms is placed to overlook the lawn area, playground, and basketball courts. On one side of the pavilion is a grilling area.

TERRACED SLOPE
The existing slope is regraded to provide seating and gathering spaces, plus a hillside slide into the playground.

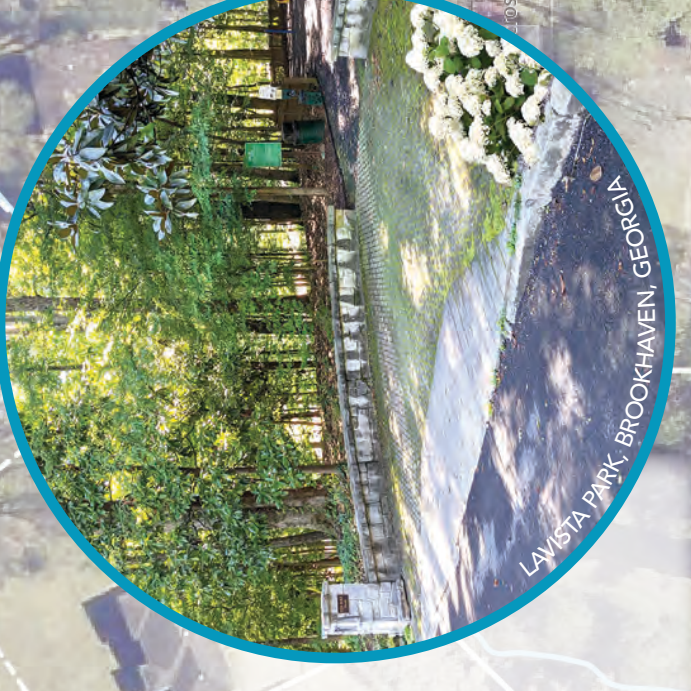
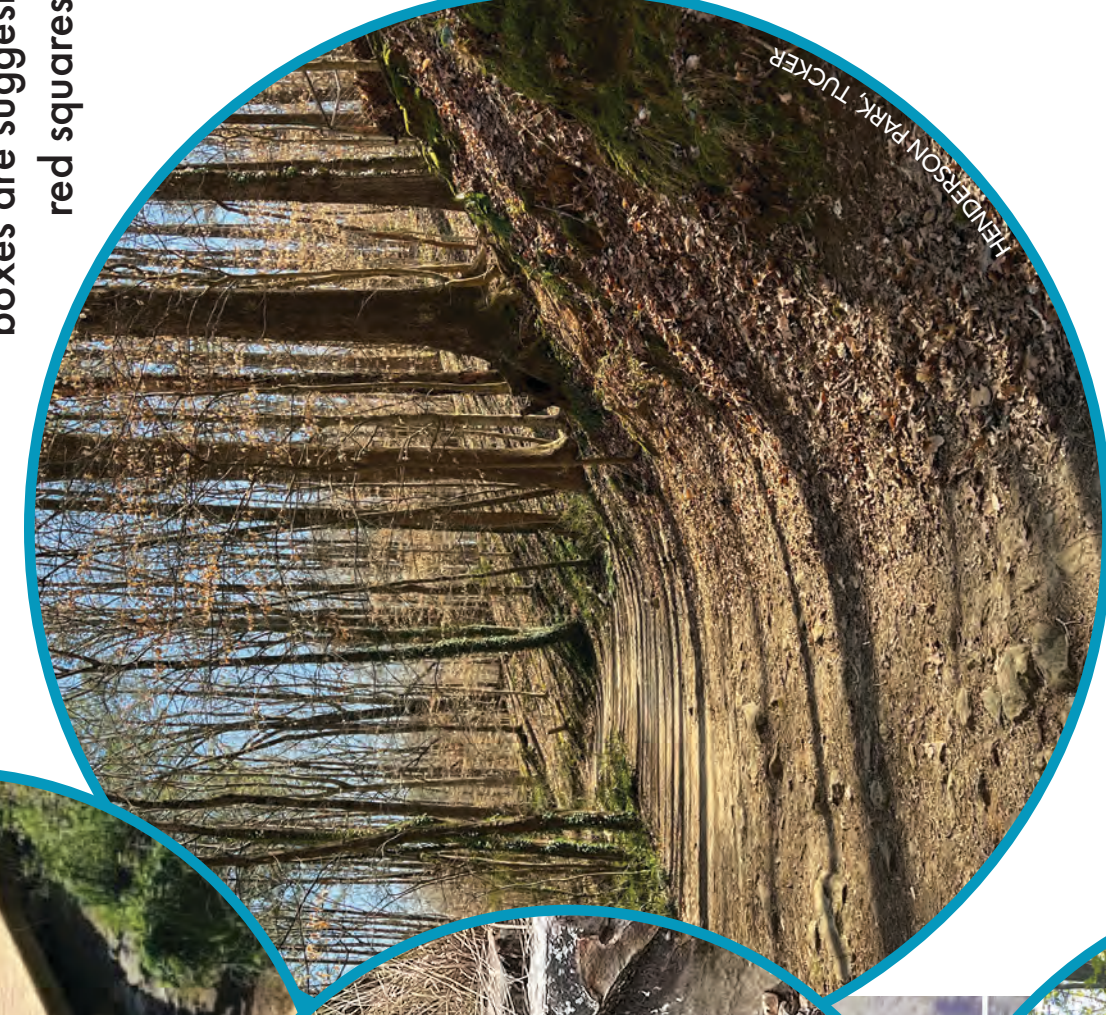
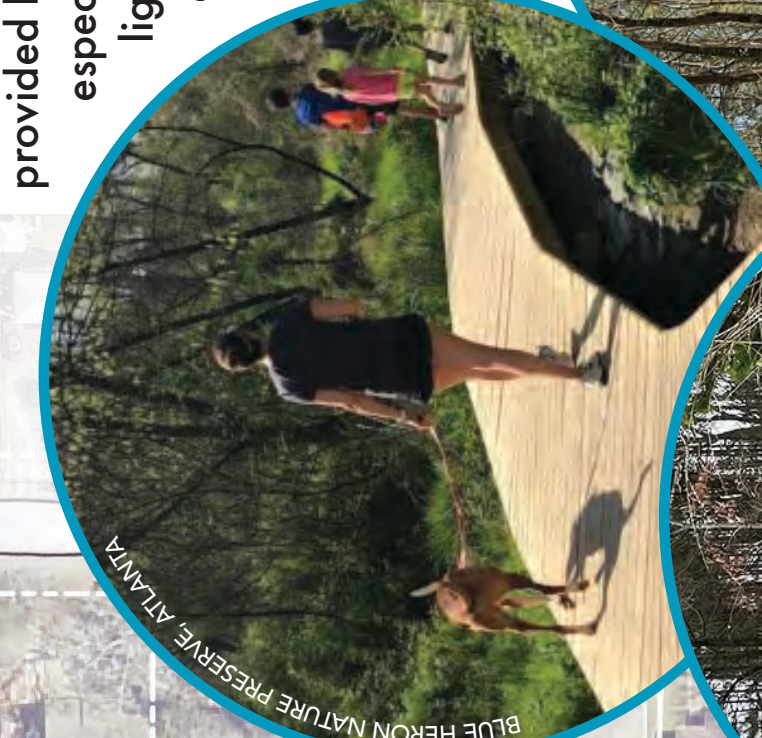


COMMUNITY GARDEN
One of the most requested features is a community garden, which is established by the community.



SAFETY & OPEN VIEWS

Security and safety were by far the most pressing issues identified by the community. Better visibility into and out of the park's active area will be provided by removing overgrowth and invasive species, especially along McAfee Road. Strategic placement of lighting and other security features like emergency call buttons and cameras, along with increased community use, and a higher standard of maintenance will increase perceptions of safety. On this plan, lights are suggested by yellow circles and cameras or emergency call boxes are suggested by red squares.



PEOPLE IN NATURE

A series of boardwalks in the wetland and soft-surface trails in the upland areas provide ways for people to enjoy the peace and tranquility of the forest without disturbance. Stone boulders are recommended as durable "benches" and erosion control along trails.

Shoal Creek Parks
DeKalb County GEORGIA

A VISION PLAN FOR PARKS I, II, & III



Baseball has been a primary use of Shoal Creek Park I for generations, and continues to be popular today!

Vision Plan

DRPCA Feedback and Final Steering Committee Meeting

On December 4, 2023, the steering committee reconvened via Zoom to review and discuss changes to the final vision plans requested by DeKalb County Department of Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Affairs (DRPCA). After the final public meeting, draft copies of this report were sent to the steering committee and DRPCA for a final round of comments. Comments issued from the county led to a series of revisions, which were approved by the steering committee and incorporated in this document. To avoid confusion, this document only includes the final vision plans with the requested changes incorporated.

Although each park has its own separate recommendations, there are several projects the three parks share. This chapter first lists the projects all three parks have in common and then divides into different sections for each park with unique projects for each listed in order of priority. Approximate costs (2023) for each project are included in the Projects & Budget section. Projects can be undertaken separately, in groups, or all at once depending on funding and neighborhood needs and interests.

All Three Parks

Security measures

At all three Shoal Creek Parks, enhanced security measures were the most requested feature. Personal safety and security in parks are complex issues, which are shaped by individual perceptions that may or may not align with actual risk. Design

can only partially address this issue by increasing visibility of a space to allow for greater formal and informal surveillance, by introducing a clear wayfinding program with clear entrances and signage, and by recommending facilities that will increase positive community use of park facilities. Park programming, community stewardship, municipal management, and enforcement strategies must also be part of a comprehensive approach to addressing both real and perceived threats in public park spaces. Principles associated with a well-researched concept called Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) can inform such an approach.

Lighting, open sightlines, well-marked entrances, and security cameras are all strategies that the vision plan recommends at each of the three parks. Although all the parks have existing lighting in their parking lots and along some pathways, additional lighting in strategic locations may increase visibility into the park for law enforcement at night. It is impractical and undesirable to light the entire park, and efforts to increase lighting should be made in coordination with experts for maximum impact. Likewise, security camera surveillance may be appropriate in those areas of the parks that are more subject to criminal acts (typically parking lots).

Opening sightlines into the parks from public right-of-way can also deter crime by increasing informal community surveillance of a place from passers-by and motor vehicles. Once inside the parks, a clear system of wayfinding and removing invasive vegetation alongside trails can have a similar effect in the parks' interiors.

Invasive plant management

Each of the Shoal Creek parks share the burden of invasive plant management that is common in the southeast. Once the common invasive exotic plants (English ivy, wisteria, privet, kudzu) become established along creeks, property edges, and forested interiors, they obstruct sightlines and choke out native plants and trees.

There is no quick fix to the pernicious problem of invasive plant management. It requires a sustained effort that combines municipal effort with volunteer support over the lifetime of the park. The most successful invasive removal efforts in Park Pride's experience are those in which the community schedules monthly invasive removal workdays over the course of years to systematically remove invasive plants section by section. It is slow work, but also deeply satisfying for community groups who are successfully tackling this common and widespread problem. These long-term volunteer strategies work best when combined with investments from municipal entities and paid labor, which can implement invasive removal in short-term bursts of effort that can clear larger areas more quickly.

Drainage improvements

All the parks share a close relationship with Shoal Creek and its floodplain. It is part of the natural function of riparian land to accept and temporarily store water during times of heavy rain and flooding. This is in fact desirable because in many cases the capacity provided by the park protects nearby homes and businesses from suffering flood damage.

However, there are places in each of the parks, in particular Shoal Creek Parks I and II, where drainage infrastructure is visibly damaged on the surface, or where areas of standing water conflict with pedestrian circulation. In cases where damage to subterranean infrastructure is apparent and visible on the surface, it can present

situations that are both unsafe and unsightly. At Shoal Creek Park I, for example, a manhole cover has been missing for some time, and is covered instead with wooden palette. In cases such as this, where damage is obvious, it should be repaired in a more permanent and structurally stable way. Likewise, where areas of standing water conflict with walkways, connecting a new yard inlet to the next nearest drainage structure can be a tidy way to drain the area more effectively.

Because a detailed analysis of drainage infrastructure is beyond the scope of this vision plan, it is recommended that a qualified engineering firm be engaged to conduct such a study to identify potential remedies to other issues such as undersized or damaged pipes that may be hidden underground.

Multise trail

Among the more popular features identified by the community is a multise trail connection between all three parks. Identified in the DeKalb 2050 Comprehensive Transportation Plan as "Shoal Creek Trail PATH, Phase 1 (Section 1)" the trail is classified as a "Tier 3," or long-term project that would cost approximately \$8.9M to complete the full five miles. The two-mile segment of the trail shown in this plan runs north to south starting at the north parking lot of Shoal Creek I. From there, it runs along the west side of the park and around the top of the south parking lot to intersect with Glenwood Road, a four-lane arterial street and truck route that carries significant traffic, often at speeds that exceed the posted speed limit.

Though the community expressed a preference for a grade-separated crossing under Glenwood Road, the culvert passing beneath the street is not suitable for trail purposes. Creating a trail crossing beneath the road would require a full redesign of Glenwood to achieve a clear span over the creek rather than a culvert. This would be a

very large and ambitious undertaking, but it may have additional flood capacity benefits. This plan cannot recommend this option due to the complexity and cost, but it is shown as an option so that the issue can be further studied and so that the community's preference for a grade-separated crossing is not lost. (Note that the cost estimate in the following chapter provides a line item for a feasibility study to redesign Glenwood Road to create a clear span.)

The recommended option is for the trail to travel eastward along Glenwood Road to the existing at-grade crossing, perhaps in combination with strategic traffic calming or road diet measures, to achieve a connection with the Shoal Creek Park II entrance. From there, the trail continues southward in closer proximity to the creek itself, maintaining 75-foot or greater distance wherever possible in observance of stream buffer requirements. At the south end of the park, the property narrows significantly, and grades become steeper. However, an old roadbed on the east side of the stream provides an obvious useable space for a multiuse trail to the park's southern boundary with McAfee Road.

Like Glenwood Road, the condition at McAfee Road also precludes a grade-separated crossing. Issues of property ownership on the south side of the road and large elevation differences between the creek and the road all make an at-grade crossing preferable. This plan recommends an at-grade crossing at the signalized intersection of McAfee Road and Shannon Ridge Court. From there, the trail can travel along the south shoulder of McAfee to the entrance of Shoal Creek Park III.

The trail continues along the entrance drive into Shoal Creek Park III and around the east side of the active area before swinging back westward and alongside the creek. It continues in parallel with the creek to the park's southern tip, where it turns eastward to intersect the southern entry onto Glendale Court.

The Shoal Creek Trail should include site furnishings, wayfinding signage, and vehicle exclusion measures along its length, and especially at points of entry onto the trail and intersections with streets. This plan further recommends trail designers take advantage of points of interest and landmarks along its length, including overlooks, historic information, and views of the creek wherever possible.

Seating

At each park, seating is currently available at many points of interest and activity—particularly at the baseball fields, playgrounds, and pavilions. However, more seating along sports courts (basketball and tennis), as well as along walking paths is recommended. At sports courts, bench seating can accommodate game spectators as well as provide a place for players to sit between games. Additional seating along walkways provides seniors and others with mobility challenges a place to rest if needed while on a walk or getting exercise. These benches should include supportive backs and armrests to assist with balance while sitting and rising.

Deferred maintenance

Observations of deferred maintenance were made at all three parks during the park visioning process. Although vision plans do not enumerate or list items that require maintenance, it is mentioned here because comments made through the surveys indicated a desire to address issues such as broken drinking fountains, cracked pavement, uprooted grills, broken play equipment, hazardous holes, blocked ADA access, and other indicators of vandalism, use, and wear. According to the principles of Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED), a high standard of maintenance can increase the perception of safety for park users, which may also increase use and enjoyment of the park as well as community volunteerism.



Shoal Creek Park I

Playground expansion

The playground at Shoal Creek Park I is relatively new and in good condition with the exception of the rubberized surface. Ponding water during rain events has caused sediment to accumulate beneath the play structures. The vision plan proposes a low earthen berm to redirect stormwater overflow onto the grassed field rather than onto the playground. The berm could also serve double duty as a play structure with an integrated hillside slide and opportunities for children to climb. There are many precedents for fabricated "hills" with slides (Lang Carson Park, Atlanta) and slides on natural slopes (Westside Park and the EcoCommons at Georgia Tech, Atlanta). By using earth "cut" from the construction of the skatepark (described below) and the creation of intentional bioswale areas between the creek and the berm, cut and fill can remain balanced within the floodplain.

Another addition to the playground is a granite seatwall (matching existing walls) around the west side of the playground. This wall provides a sense of enclosure to children, helps parents with both seating and observation, and separates the playground from the basketball court and skate park.

Skatepark

Among the ideas for new park amenities was the idea for a skatepark. The genesis of this idea came from a teenage girl who attended a visioning meeting. She explained the well-established popularity of skateboarding among girls in the area, but also the lack of a space not dominated by boys or men. Although a public park facility would not exclude boys and men, intentional programming could ensure that girls and women have dedicated skate times or days on a regular basis. Involving girls in the design stages also allows them to feel ownership in the space. Ideas include design and color-choice charrettes with local female skaters, a ribbon cutting featuring well-known female skaters, and regularly scheduled events featuring female skaters.

Amelia Avenue pedestrian entrance

A best practice of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) is to provide multiple options for egress. Entering a place that only has one constricted exit is commonly perceived as isolating and causes users to feel trapped. Although Shoal Creek Park I has an entrance on White Oak Drive, on Glenwood Avenue, and on Eastwood Drive, an additional pedestrian entrance on Amelia Avenue would provide even more access to residents and thus more eyes on and in the park. Key to this concept working is the opening of sightlines, i.e., the removal of overgrowth and low-hanging tree branches that impede surveillance of the park and provide perceived hiding places for potential dangers. By being able to see all areas around them, park users feel more secure.

Because of the slope between the end of Amelia and the park, this entrance would need to incorporate either stairs or a ramp. Lighting and signage at all entrances, as well as enforcement of park hours is also essential to park safety.

South parking lot expansion

Although the southern parking lot at Shoal Creek I is the largest by far of any of the Shoal Creek Parks, it fills to capacity when youth baseball season is in full swing, forcing families to park farther afield and walk to reach the park. There is land available for parking lot expansion to the south, which can accommodate an additional forty cars and relieve some of the demand placed on the existing parking lot. It is recommended that any parking lot expansion include a repair of the existing parking facilities, including resealing the asphalt and re-stripping spaces.

Basketball court pavilion

The community identified the need for a small pavilion adjacent to the basketball court. Currently, basketball players will use the pavilion adjacent to the playground, which is also being used by playground users. While not a serious conflict, the community felt it would be appropriate to furnish the ball players with their own pavilion closer to the court itself.

Vehicle exclusion

Community members also expressed some concern about the boulders deployed around the parking areas for vehicle exclusion purposes. Boulders are both effective and attractive along the parking lot edges that abut landscaping and turfed areas. However, bollards would provide a more finished look and would increase space allotted to pedestrians along edges that abut sidewalks and entrances. In some cases, boulders have been placed in the center of accessible walkways, which can impede pedestrian flow from the parking area to amenities inside the park, particularly for wheelchair users. ■

Shoal Creek Park II

Playground replacement

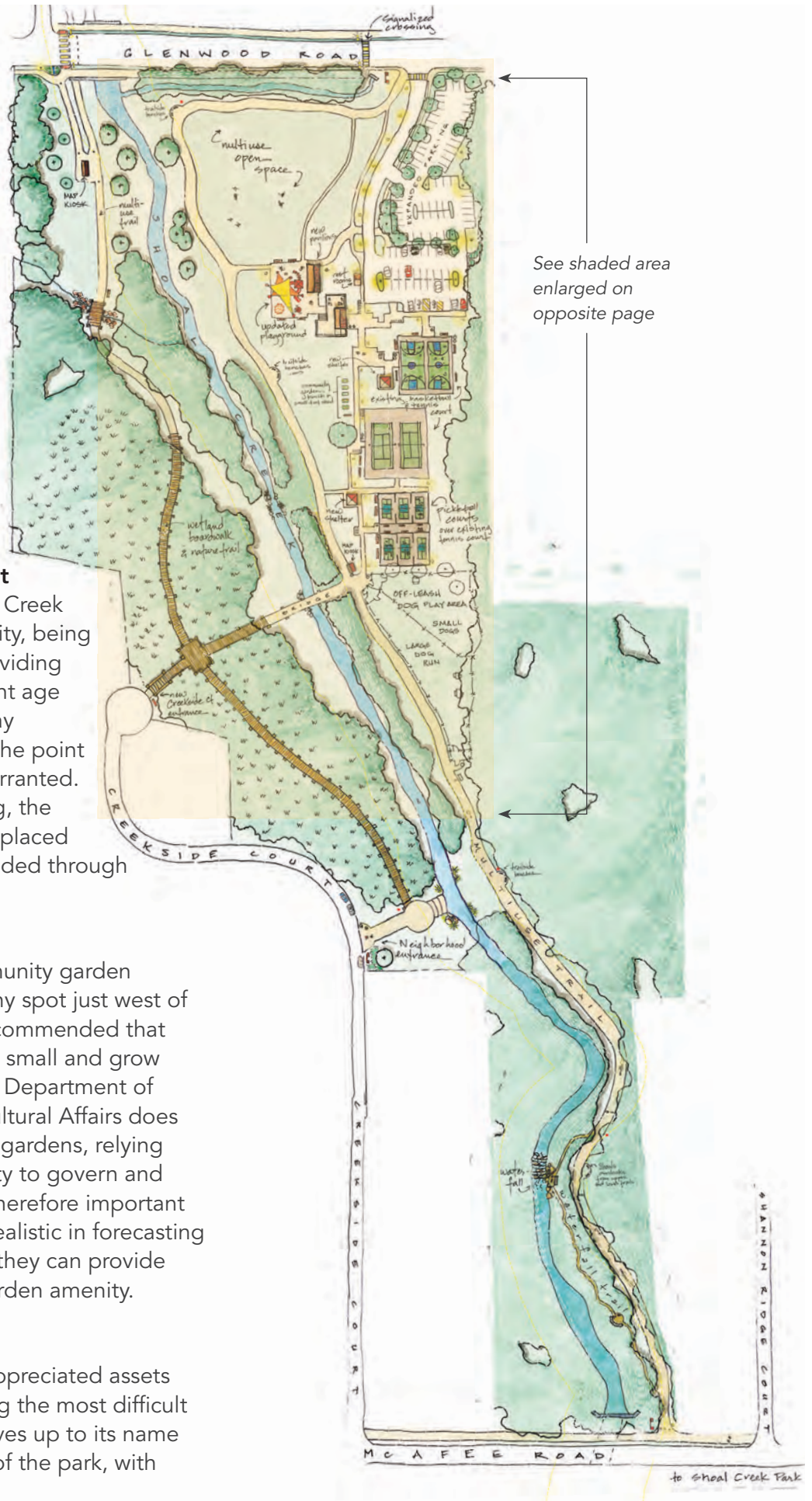
The playground at Shoal Creek Park II is a popular amenity, being of generous size and providing play elements for different age groups. However, the play equipment has aged to the point where replacement is warranted. At the time of this writing, the playground was being replaced with public funding provided through SPLOST bond dollars

Community garden

A small number of community garden plots are shown in a sunny spot just west of the tennis courts. It is recommended that community gardens start small and grow as demand dictates. The Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Affairs does not maintain community gardens, relying instead on the community to govern and steward the space. It is therefore important that the community be realistic in forecasting how much maintenance they can provide before constructing a garden amenity.

Waterfall trail

One of the most underappreciated assets of the park, is also among the most difficult to access. Shoal Creek lives up to its name in the southern reaches of the park, with



several small waterfalls and rapids, or shoals, plainly visible in the deeply wooded valley. The effect is quite picturesque and lovely to hear as the water bubbles along its course.

This plan proposes a natural surface trail leading to these features that connects both to McAfee Road and the northern part of the park. The plan shows this trail connecting to the larger Shoal Creek PATH Trail, but a hiking trail in this area could be constructed in advance of the larger, more expensive trail project. The trail should include benches and landmarks along the way, taking advantage of views and scenery whenever possible.

Dog park

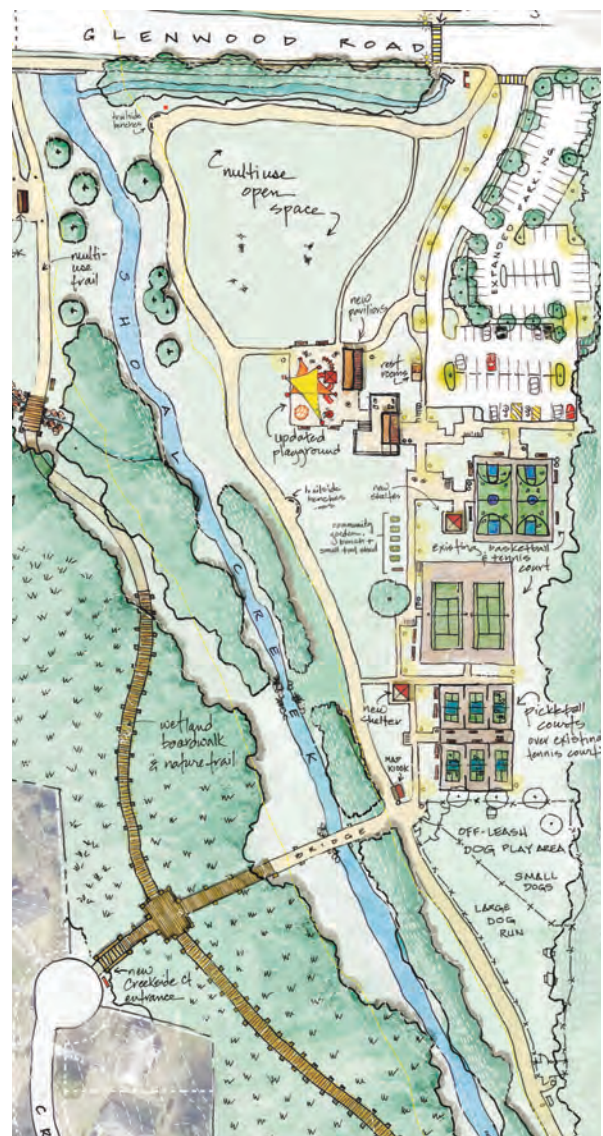
In each of the neighborhoods, the idea of an off-leash dog park was raised as an attractive option for local dog owners. Dog parks bring together dogs and doggy parents for socializing, much as playgrounds do for children and their parents. Upon examination of the parks, the most advantageous location for such an amenity appears to be the center of the park just south of the tennis courts, where a large open field exists. Dog parks are typically divided into two sections, one for small dogs and the other for large. These areas usually also include site furnishings like benches and drinking fountains, dog waste bags and containers, and may also have dog agility equipment.

Pickleball courts & disc golf

The basketball and tennis courts at Shoal Creek Park II were recently resurfaced and restriped with new nets and fencing. According to community members, however, the tennis courts see far less use than the basketball courts. One way to increase use of these amenities is to convert two of the four tennis courts for pickleball. This relatively new racquet sport has rapidly grown in popularity, and demand has outpaced supply as public sports facilities are expensive and slow to change. Shoal Creek Park II offers an opportunity to expand pickleball facilities in the county while also

maintaining tennis as a supported program at the park. In this plan, the southernmost two of the four tennis courts are repurposed completely as a pickleball facility with six individual courts. Due to concerns about noise generated from pickleball play, this option may need to be tabled and revisited once a minimum distance standard is adopted by the County.

Another increasingly popular sport with few facilities offered is disc golf. Shoal Creek Park II has ample open space and a variety of landscapes that could make for a challenging and fun 9 or 18-hole course. This plan does not make specific suggestions for course design but offers this idea to further activate the park.



Creekside Court pedestrian entrance with boardwalks

Among the ideas to increase park access is to connect the residents of Creekside Court to the park by making use of the park's boundary with the Creekside right-of-way. However, field investigations revealed this area to be completely covered with wetlands. These wetlands retain water even in the summer months without little rain, serving as flood control and wildlife habitat in the community.

However, rather than abandon the idea of opening the park for Creekside residents, this plan proposes a network of boardwalks and trails through the wetland as a recreational and educational feature that would bring park users in closer contact with these often-misunderstood landscapes and the wildlife that lives in them. Due to the sensitive nature of wetlands, boardwalks are recommended to be constructed in a "top down" manner so heavy machinery is kept out of the landscape. Because wetlands can also cause rot and wear to wood, concrete boardwalks may be a more appropriate option in this application. Though it is more expensive upfront, maintenance is greatly reduced due to concrete's resistance to vandalism, rot, and displacement.

It should also be mentioned here that the option of connecting the neighborhood to the east side of Shoal Creek via a bridge was examined and ultimately rejected due to the depth and width of the floodway in this area, which any bridge would need to clear.

Expand and repave parking lot

The existing parking lot at Shoal Creek Park II is ready for a refresh with repaired and resealed asphalt, new wheel stops, and fresh striping. Community members also expressed an interest in green technologies such as permeable pavement. Although Park Pride does not recommend permeable pavement in floodplain conditions, the parking lot is outside the floodplain in

this instance, and therefore would be an appropriate application.

As offerings at the park increase with the potential addition of pickleball, dog park, and disc golf facilities, parking capacity concerns led to an exploration of options for expanded parking. This plan recommends the expansion of the current parking facilities northward between the entrance drive and the property line where there is currently a large, relatively flat green space. ■

Shoal Creek Park III

Active area expansion

The most ambitious project shown in this plan is the reorganization of the active area in Shoal Creek Park III. This rearrangement reduces the amount of pavement to a walkway, which encircles the interior space. The eastern side of this walkway serves the playground, community garden, pavilion, and grill; and doubles as the multiuse trail connection. The western side of the walkway serves the open lawn and basketball courts, using stairs to traverse the grade difference. A series of seating terraces serves to join the "lower" play areas with the "upper" gathering areas for easy parental supervision of play. This spatial reconfiguration and expansion would require the demolition of the existing facilities and the construction of retaining walls.

Additionally, this plan identifies strategic acquisition of additional park land directly northwest of the existing boundary. This land may be used for improved park entrances and circulation, as well as enhanced connectivity between the parks along a future multiuse trail.

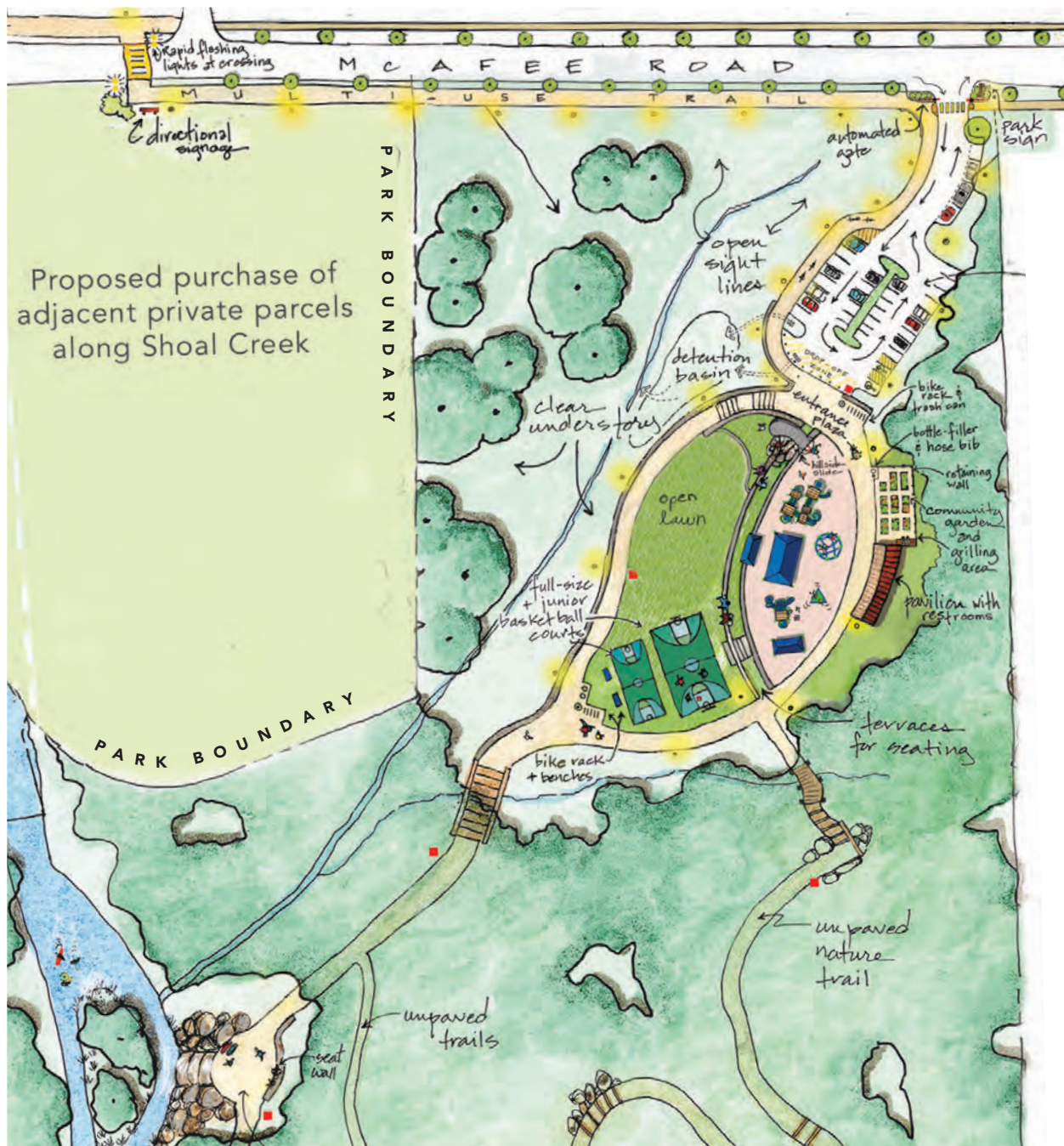


Pavilion with restrooms

This plan shows a renovation of the pavilion with the added feature of a built-in restroom facility. As the only Shoal Creek Park without restrooms, the community felt that usership of the park would increase if clean, well-stocked restrooms were available. It should be noted that there is currently no evidence of sewerage infrastructure in the park, which would need to be developed in concert with any restroom facilities.

Open views from McAfee Road

In the interest of increasing visibility between the park and McAfee Road, it is recommended that the forested county-owned land between McAfee Road and the parking/active areas of the park be cleared of invasive plant species and select understory trees and shrubs. The intention is to increase both formal and informal surveillance and foster community perceptions of safety.



Community garden

A small number of community garden plots are shown in a sunny spot north of the pavilion, but a more considered solar analysis of the park is recommended to select the spot that receives the most sun. It is further recommended that community gardens start small and grow as demand dictates. DRPCA does not maintain community gardens, relying instead on the community to govern and steward the space. It is therefore important that the community be realistic in forecasting how much maintenance they can provide before constructing a garden amenity. Regularly-scheduled garden clean-up days or educational programs can help spark and maintain interest over the long term.

Nature trails and wetland boardwalk

The greatest untapped potential at Shoal Creek Park III is the vast forested area in the park interior. A network of nature trails is recommended to open the forest to greater public access. In places, crib steps or switchbacks may be necessary to traverse changes in topography, and boardwalks may be needed to cross perennially wet areas. Because wetlands can also cause rot and wear to wood, concrete boardwalks may be a more appropriate option in this application. A detailed investigation will be needed to determine the best alignment for the trail that balances the trail experience with construction costs.

Creek access

Bringing greater awareness to Shoal Creek as the namesake of these parks means offering park visitors better access to this natural feature. In this plan we suggest facilitating access to the creek through a naturalistic treatment that mimics the shoals themselves using boulders and concrete steps. Creative uses of the creek may follow in the form of “blueway” trails and paddling when water levels allow.

Basketball courts

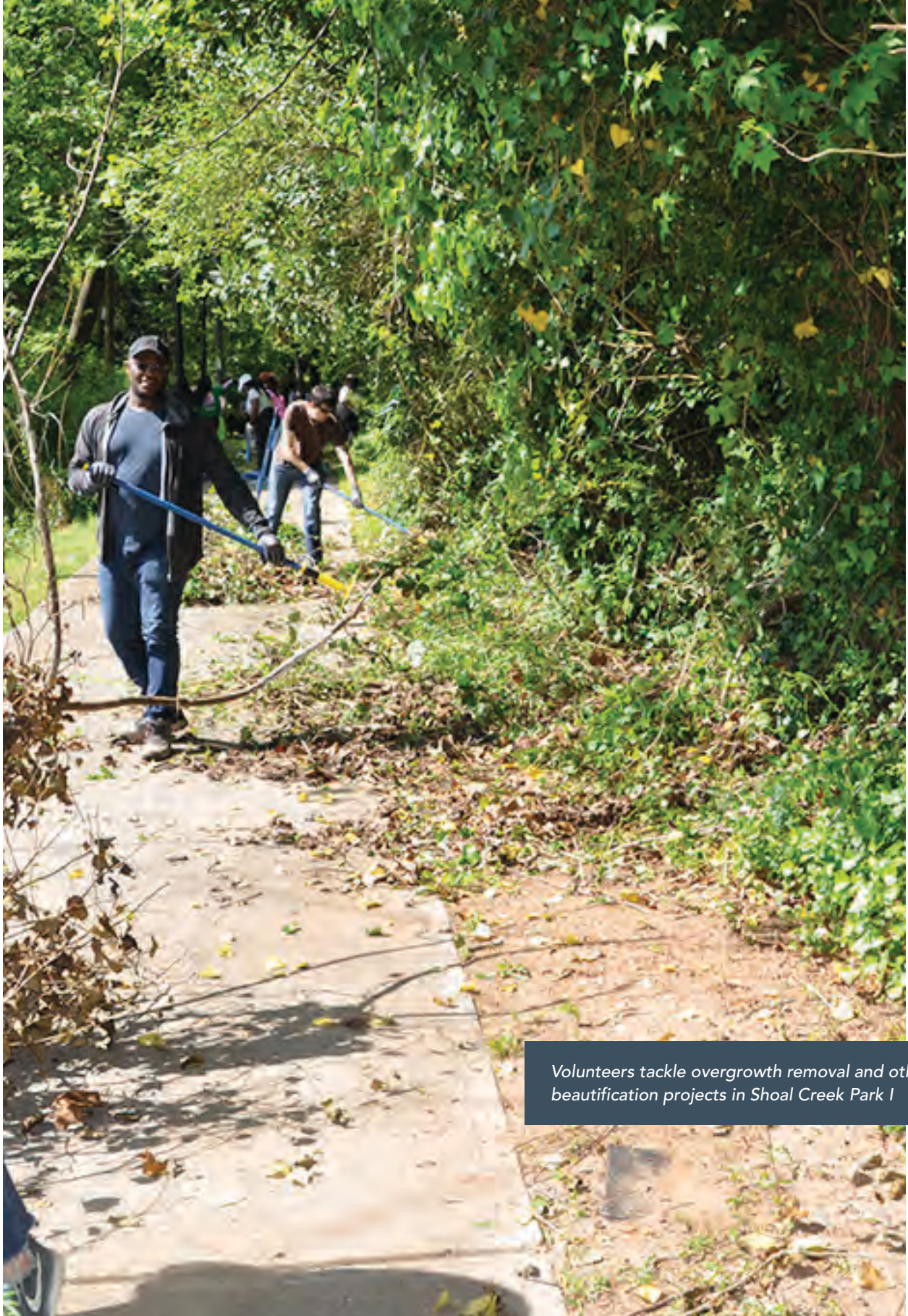
The basketball court at Shoal Creek Park III is refreshed in this plan with new surfacing, striping, and hoops. Additionally, a “junior-sized” basketball court is suggested adjacent to the full-sized court to encourage family play and teaching the sport to younger children.

Glendale Court pedestrian entrance

It is hoped that expansion of the trail system within the park will increase demand for direct community access at the south end of the park. The single-family parcel at 3050 Glendale Court was purchased to use as a park entrance under the 1957 DeKalb Parks Bond issue but has gone undeveloped since that time. This plan shows a paved entrance to the multiuse trail with site furnishings, signage, bollards, and wayfinding for bikes and pedestrians. Depending on phasing, natural surface trails may be developed in advance of the larger multiuse trail and would require a more understated entry at this location in anticipation of the larger project further in the future.

Parking expansion with loop circulation

This plan reconfigures the parking lot to increase the number of spaces and provide loop circulation through the lot, rather than a dead end that requires turning around to exit. It is hoped that a wider, more open entrance, with a dedicated, paved pedestrian/bike path alongside the vehicular entrance, will provide a more welcoming experience to park users and offer increased feelings of security and safety. The entrance provides a loading zone and ADA-compliant parking with safe access into the park. Bollards protect the park from non-service vehicles. ■



Volunteers tackle overgrowth removal and other beautification projects in Shoal Creek Park I

Projects & Budget

After the final public meeting, community members prioritized each project within the vision plan, via an online survey. The plan was divided into projects and ranked in order of importance to the each participant personally to reveal priorities. Full results can be viewed in Appendix D.

The vision plan may be completed all at once or it may be divided into phases. Projects could also be grouped.

Ultimately, the construction process will be contingent upon funding. Several funding possibilities are available, including Park Pride grants, funding from the DeKalb County Commissioners, the DRPCA budgets, and additional dollars identified by the community and/or other advocacy organizations. The park vision project for the Shoal Creek Parks will likely be completed with the support of multiple funding sources.

PROJECT PRIORITIES

Shoal Creek Park I	Shoal Creek Park II	Shoal Creek Park III
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Security measures 2 Invasive plant management 3 Drainage improvements 4 Multiuse trail 5 Playground improvements 6 Skatepark 7 Seating 8 Pedestrian entrance from Amelia Avenue 9 Parking expansion in south lot 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Security measures 2 Invasive plant management 3 Multiuse trail 4 Drainage improvements 5 Community garden 6 Seating 7 Waterfall trail 8 Dog park 9 Pickleball Courts 10 Pedestrian Entrance on Creekside Court 11 Repave and expand parking 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Security measures 2 Active area expansion 3 Pavilion with restrooms and grilling area 4 Multiuse trail 5 Invasive plant management 6 Open views into the park from McAfee Road 7 Community garden 8 Nature trails and wetland boardwalk 9 Creek access 10 Basketball courts 11 Pedestrian Entrance on Glendale Court 12 Parking improvements with loop circulation

Community members voted on project priorities during the final public meeting or via an online survey available for two weeks after then public meeting. Twenty-five people participated. Complete results are available in Appendix D.

Opinion of Probable Costs by Project (in order of priority), 2023

The budgets presented here are intended to provide a starting point for fund raising and advocacy efforts and were compiled without the benefit of detailed design, survey, geotechnical, and other site conditions, which may change significantly the cost of any project. Park Pride makes no guarantee or warranty as to their accuracy.

Abbreviations: DRPCA = DeKalb County Department of Recreation, Parks & Cultural Affairs; EA = Each; SF = Square feet; LF = Linear feet; ALLOW = Allowance; MI = Mile

SHOAL CREEK PARK I

SECURITY MEASURES					
Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
Lighting (additional)	ALLOW	1.00	\$90,000	\$90,000	Lighting already present in parking areas and other areas of heavy use. This budget may be used to increase lighting coverage in strategic areas, including along walkways and under shelters
Security cameras	EA	3.00	\$16,300	\$48,900	Security cameras and associated monitoring. Recommend for parking lots
Other security features	ALLOW	1	\$50,000	\$50,000	Potential projects include emergency call boxes or improved visibility into the park from the perimeter
Design & Engineering	15%			\$28,335	Typically 15% of total budget in design & engineering fees
Contingency	20%			\$43,447	Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$260,682	

INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT					
Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
Remove invasive plants along creek edge and park boundaries	ACRE	1	\$7,000	\$7,000	Selectively remove invasive plants in identified areas
Contingency	20%			\$1,400	Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$8,400	

SHOAL CREEK PARK I

DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS

Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
Engineers assessment	ALLOW	1	\$50,000	\$50,000	Initial assessment by engineering firm to determine scope of drainage work needed
Contingency	20%			\$10,000	Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$60,000	

MULTIUSE TRAIL (WITHIN SHOAL CREEK I ONLY)

Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
Grading/site prep	MI	0.60	\$400,000	\$240,000	Mobilization/tree removal/grubbing/rough grading
Erosion/Sediment Control	MI	0.60	\$50,000	\$30,000	Erosion control fencing/bales/creek protection
Concrete trail, 12' width	LF	3170	\$84	\$266,280	Includes material & labor
Curb ramps	EA	3	\$700	\$2,100	Ramps with detectible warnings
Retaining wall	SF	420	\$75	\$31,500	CMU wall with granite veneer & bluestone cap, assume average height of 36"
Bollards	EA	25	\$500	\$12,500	Black round steel bollards with high visibility markings
Benches	EA	5	\$3,000	\$15,000	Victor Stanley, black, on concrete pads
Waste receptacles	EA	5	\$2,000	\$10,000	Victor Stanley, black, on concrete pads
Bicycle racks	EA	20	\$300	\$6,000	Inverted "U", black
Trail map/signage	ALLOW	2	\$7,000	\$14,000	Wayfinding kiosk at north and south entry points
Topographic survey	EA	1	\$45,000	\$45,000	
Light poles	EA	25	\$7,000	\$175,000	OPTIONAL - if trail is open after dark
Design & Engineering	15%			\$127,107	Typically 15% of total budget in design & engineering fees
Contingency	20%			\$194,897	Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$1,169,384	

SHOAL CREEK PARK I

PLAYGROUND EXPANSION

Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
Demo/site prep	ALLOW	1	\$10,000	\$10,000	Allowance for mobilization & erosion/sediment control
Grading	ALLOW	1	\$50,000	\$50,000	Allowance for berm/hillside construction (must balance cut/fill in floodplain)
Playground equipment	ALLOW	1	\$200,000	\$200,000	Playground expansion including hillside slide. Price may vary greatly depending on type of equipment selected.
Playground installation	20%			\$40,000	Installation costs of playground calculated as a percentage of equipment costs
Playground surfacing (poured-in-place)	SF	3,500	\$15	\$52,500	Poured-in-place rubber in expansion areas
Stone wall perimeter	SF	400	\$75	\$30,000	CMU wall with granite veneer & bluestone cap, assume average height of 24 "
Artificial turf lawn	SF	3,000	\$15	\$45,000	Expanded use area adjacent to playground
Design & Engineering	15%			\$64,125	Typically 15% of total budget in design & engineering fees
Contingency	20%			\$98,325	Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$589,950	

SKATEPARK

Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
Demo/site prep	ALLOW	1	\$35,000	\$35,000	Erosion & sediment control/rough grading/tree protection
Skatepark	ALLOW	1	\$350,000	\$350,000	Includes pavement, challenge elements, walls, etc
Design & Engineering	15%			\$57,750	Typically 15% of total budget in design & engineering fees
Contingency	20%			\$88,550	Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$531,300	

SHOAL CREEK PARK I

SEATING

Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
Benches	EA	10	\$3,000	\$30,000	Install high-quality steel powder-coated benches on concrete pads in strategic locations
Waste receptacles	EA	16	\$2,000	\$32,000	Install high-quality steel powder-coated waste receptacles on concrete pads near each bench. Replace plastic bins at pavilions
Picnic tables	EA	4	\$5,000	\$20,000	Install high-quality picnic tables on concrete pads in the landscape around the pavilions and other areas
Stone seatwalls	SF	120	\$75	\$9,000	CMU wall with granite veneer & bluestone cap, assume 60 LF with an average height of 24"
Design & Engineering	15%			\$13,650	Typically 15% of total budget in design & engineering fees
Contingency	20%			\$20,930	Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$125,580	

PEDESTRIAN ENTRANCE FROM AMELIA AVENUE

Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
Demo/site prep	ALLOW	1	\$25,000	\$25,000	Erosion & sediment control/rough grading/tree protection
Repave/clean/repair end of Amelia Ave	ALLOW	1	\$12,000	\$12,000	Functionally address the end of Amelia Ave to ensure safe driveway access and exclude vehicles from trail
Expanded metal stairway	RISER	80	\$650	\$52,000	Shop fabricated, steel stringers, safety nosing on tread with pipe railing, 4' wide
Expanded metal landings	ALLOW	1	\$35,000	\$35,000	Allowance for landings between each flight of 9-10 risers
Benches	EA	1	\$3,000	\$3,000	Victor Stanley, black
Waste receptacles	EA	1	\$2,000	\$2,000	Victor Stanley, black
Design & Engineering	15%			\$19,350	Typically 15% of total budget in design & engineering fees
Contingency	20%			\$29,670	Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$178,020	

SHOAL CREEK PARK I

SOUTH PARKING LOT EXPANSION					
Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
Demo/site prep	ALLOW	1	\$45,000	\$45,000	Erosion & sediment control/rough grading/tree protection
Parking lot	ALLOW	1	\$125,000	\$125,000	Includes 6" stone, 3" asphalt, striping, parking bars, and signage. Forty spaces
Design & Engineering	15%			\$25,500	Typically 15% of total budget in design & engineering fees
Contingency	20%			\$39,100	Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$234,600	

MISCELLANEOUS PROJECTS					
Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
New pavilion near basketball court	EA	1	\$75,000	\$75,000	New pavilion with seating adjacent to basketball court
Replace boulders with bollards along sidewalks	EA	20	\$1,500	\$30,000	Replace boulders with bollards at parking lot edges with sidewalks and park entrances
Feasibility study for road diet on Glenwood Rd	ALLOW	1	\$150,000	\$150,000	
Feasibility study for trail connectivity passing underneath Glenwood Rd for a grade-separated trail connection	ALLOW	1	\$150,000	\$150,000	
Contingency	20%			\$81,000	Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$486,000	

GRAND TOTAL - SHOAL CREEK PARK I				\$3,643,916	
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SHOAL CREEK PARK II

SECURITY MEASURES

Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
Lighting (additional)	ALLOW	1.00	\$50,000	\$50,000	Lighting already present in parking areas and other areas of heavy use. This budget may be used to increase lighting coverage in strategic areas, including along walkways and under shelters
Security cameras	EA	2.00	\$16,300	\$32,600	Security cameras and associated monitoring. Recommend for parking lots
Other security features	ALLOW	1	\$50,000	\$50,000	Potential projects include emergency call boxes or improved visibility into the park from the perimeter
Design & Engineering	15%			\$19,890	Typically 15% of total budget in design & engineering fees
Contingency	20%			\$30,498	Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$182,988	

INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT

Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
Remove invasive plants along creek edges and park boundaries as well as the park interior, including wooded areas	ACRE	24	\$7,000	\$168,000	Selectively remove invasive plants in identified areas. May be augmented with volunteer labor.
Contingency	20%			\$33,600	Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$201,600	

SHOAL CREEK PARK II

MULTIUSE TRAIL (WITHIN SHOAL CREEK II ONLY)

Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
Grading/site prep	MI	0.70	\$400,000	\$280,000	Mobilization/grubbing/rough grading
Additional selective tree removal	ALLOW	1.00	\$100,000	\$100,000	Difficult to access areas
Erosion/Sediment Control	MI	0.70	\$50,000	\$35,000	Erosion control fencing/bales/creek protection
Concrete trail, 12' width	LF	3700	\$84	\$310,800	Includes material & labor
Curb ramps	EA	2	\$1,500	\$3,000	Ramps with detectible warnings
Bollards	EA	6	\$1,000	\$6,000	Black round steel bollards with high visibility markings
Benches	EA	10	\$3,000	\$30,000	Victor Stanley, black, on concrete pads
Waste receptacles	EA	5	\$2,000	\$10,000	Victor Stanley, black, on concrete pads
Bicycle racks	EA	30	\$300	\$9,000	Inverted "U", black
Trail map/signage	ALLOW	2	\$7,000	\$14,000	Wayfinding kiosk at north and south entry points
Bridge over Shoal Creek	ALLOW	1	\$750,000	\$750,000	Further study needed to determine accurate pricing
Topographic survey	EA	1	\$50,000	\$50,000	
Design & Engineering	15%			\$239,670	Typically 15% of total budget in design & engineering fees
Contingency	20%			\$367,494	Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$2,204,964	

DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS

Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
Engineers assessment	ALLOW	1	\$50,000	\$50,000	Initial assessment by engineering firm to determine scope of drainage work needed
Contingency	20%			\$10,000	Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$60,000	

SHOAL CREEK PARK II

COMMUNITY GARDEN

Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
Demo/site prep	ALLOW	1	\$5,000	\$5,000	Erosion & sediment control/rough grading/tree protection
Raised garden beds	EA	5	\$500	\$2,500	Beds may be built from donated materials and/or with volunteer labor
Design & Engineering	15%			\$1,125	Typically 15% of total budget in design & engineering fees
Contingency	20%			\$1,725	Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$10,350	

SEATING (INCLUDING NEW MINI-PAVILIONS)

Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
Benches	EA	10	\$3,000	\$30,000	Install high-quality steel powder-coated benches on concrete pads in strategic locations
Waste receptacles	EA	16	\$2,000	\$32,000	Install high-quality steel powder-coated waste receptacles on concrete pads near each bench. Replace plastic bins at pavilions
Picnic tables	EA	4	\$5,000	\$20,000	Install high-quality picnic tables on concrete pads in the landscape around the pavilions and other areas
Mini-pavilions	EA	2	\$35,000	\$70,000	New pre-fab small pavilions installed over existing concrete pads
Stone seatwalls	SF	120	\$75	\$9,000	CMU wall with granite veneer & bluestone cap, assume 60 LF with an average height of 24"
Design & Engineering	15%				Typically 15% of total budget in design & engineering fees
Contingency	20%				Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$222,180	

SHOAL CREEK PARK II

WATERFALL TRAIL (FROM MULTIUSE TRAIL)					
Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
Demo/site prep	ALLOW	1	\$10,000	\$10,000	Erosion & sediment control/rough grading/tree protection
Soft surface trails	LF	550	\$7	\$3,850	Natural surface hiking trail *Will need to be longer if constructed in advance of the multiuse trail
Overlook/Creekside seating areas	ALLOW	2	\$7,500	\$15,000	Rustic stone and timber seating areas along creek
Design & Engineering	15%			\$4,328	Typically 15% of total budget in design & engineering fees
Contingency	20%			\$6,636	Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$39,813	

DOG PARK					
Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
Demo/site prep	allow	1	\$15,000	\$15,000	Erosion & sediment control/rough grading/tree protection
Fencing	LF	1.050	\$12	\$12,600	Black vinyl-coated chain link
Plumbing	ALLOW	1	\$12,500	\$12,500	Water line for drinking fountains
Agility equipment	ALLOW	1	\$20,000	\$20,000	
Site furnishings	ALLOW	1	\$20,000	\$20,000	benches, waste receptacles, dog poo bags, drinking fountains
Design & Engineering	15%			\$12,015	Typically 15% of total budget in design & engineering fees
Contingency	20%			\$18,423	Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$110,538	

SHOAL CREEK PARK II

PICKLEBALL COURTS & DISC GOLF

Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
Convert two tennis courts to six pickleball courts	EA	2	\$7,500	\$15,000	Restripe and reset nets for exclusive pickleball use
Disc golf course	ALLOW	1	\$50,000	\$50,000	9 or 18-hole disc golf course
Design & Engineering	15%			\$9,750	Typically 15% of total budget in design & engineering fees
Contingency	20%			\$14,950	Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$89,700	

PEDESTRIAN ENTRANCE FROM CREEKSIDE COURT WITH WETLAND BOARDWALK

Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
Demo/site prep	ALLOW	1	\$45,000	\$45,000	Erosion & sediment control/rough grading/tree protection
Creekside seating areas	ALLOW	1	\$7,500	\$7,500	Rustic stone and timber seating area along creek
Boardwalk	LF	1000	\$820	\$820,000	Boardwalk over wetlands
Paved entrance and trail to creek	SF	4000	\$10	\$40,000	
Park signage	ALLOW	1	\$7,500	\$7,500	Allowance for standard park identification and rules signage
Design & Engineering	15%			\$138,000	Typically 15% of total budget in design & engineering fees
Contingency	20%			\$211,600	Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$1,269,600	

SHOAL CREEK PARK II

REPAVE AND EXPAND PARKING LOT WITH PERMEABLE PAVERS

Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
Demo/site prep	ALLOW	1	\$45,000	\$45,000	Erosion & sediment control/rough grading/tree protection
Restore asphalt drive and aisles	SF	13,830	\$5	\$69,150	Resurface driveway and aisles
Install pervious pavement in parking stalls	SF	5,670	\$20	\$113,400	Convert asphalt parking bays to pervious pavement system. Includes demo, excavation, new pavement install and striping
Expand parking lot	SPACE	58	\$2,250	\$130,500	Additional 58 spaces added to existing parking lot
Design & Engineering	15%			\$53,708	Typically 15% of total budget in design & engineering fees
Contingency	20%			\$82,352	Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$494,109	

GRAND TOTAL - SHOAL CREEK PARK II

\$4,885,842

SHOAL CREEK PARK III

SECURITY MEASURES

Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
Lighting (additional)	ALLOW	1.00	\$50,000	\$50,000	Lighting already present in parking areas and areas of heavy use. This budget may be used to increase lighting coverage in strategic areas, including along walkways and under shelters
Security cameras	EA	1.00	\$16,300	\$16,300	Security cameras/associated monitoring. Recommend for parking lots
Other security features	ALLOW	1	\$50,000	\$50,000	Potential projects include emergency call boxes or improved visibility into the park from the perimeter
Design & Engineering	15%			\$17,445	Typically 15% of total budget in design & engineering fees
Contingency	20%			\$26,749	Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$160,494	

ACTIVE AREA EXPANSION (THIS MUST TAKE PLACE ALONG WITH PLAYGROUND, PAVILION, AND BASKETBALL COURT IMPROVEMENTS)

Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
Demo/site prep	ALLOW	1	\$145,000	\$145,000	Allowance for grading & erosion/sediment control
Concrete work	SF	10,000	\$10	\$100,000	
Stone walls	SF	2,100	\$75	\$157,500	CMU wall w/ granite veneer & bluestone cap, avg ht. 24"
Stone columns at endpoints of stone wall	EA	8	\$750	\$6,000	30" height granite column with bluestone cap
Stairs (5-riser flights), concrete	EA	2	\$3,000	\$6,000	
Turf (sod)	SF	50,000	\$5	\$250,000	Bermuda sod with fine grading/temp irrigation
Site furnishings	ALLOW	1	\$45,000	\$45,000	Includes manufacture and installation
Design & Engineering	15%			\$106,425	Typically 15% of total budget in design & engineering fees
Contingency	20%			\$163,185	Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$979,110	

PROJECTS & BUDGET

SHOAL CREEK PARK III

PAVILION WITH RESTROOMS

Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
Demo/site prep	ALLOW	1	\$30,000	\$30,000	Allowance for grading & erosion/sediment control
Pavilion pre-fab structure with restrooms	ALLOW	1	\$185,000	\$185,000	Assume 40' x .20' rectangular shelter with clerestory & restrooms at far end
Pavilion installation	24%			\$44,400	Installation costs of pavilion calculated as a percentage of structure costs
Utility hookup (water, electric, sewerage)	ALLOW	1	\$75,000	\$75,000	Hook up utilities - likely will require new sewer line
Grills	ALLOW	1	\$3,000	\$3,000	Includes hot coal bin
Waste receptacles	EA	4	\$2,000	\$8,000	Victor Stanley, black
Tables/seating under pavilion	EA	2	\$3,000	\$6,000	
Design & Engineering	15%			\$52,710	Typically 15% of total budget in design & engineering fees
Contingency	20%			\$80,822	Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$484,932	

SHOAL CREEK PARK III

MULTIUSE TRAIL (WITHIN SHOAL CREEK III ONLY)

Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
Grading/site prep	MI	0.70	\$400,000	\$280,000	Mobilization/grubbing/rough grading
Additional selective tree removal	ALLOW	1.00	\$100,000	\$100,000	Difficult to access areas
Erosion/Sediment Control	MI	0.70	\$50,000	\$35,000	Erosion control fencing/bales/creek protection
Concrete trail, 12' width	LF	3700	\$84	\$310,800	Includes material & labor
Wooden bridge	EA	1	\$22,000	\$22,000	Cross small drainage draw
Curb ramps	EA	4	\$1,500	\$6,000	Ramps with detectible warnings
Bollards	EA	12	\$1,000	\$12,000	Black round steel bollards with high visibility markings
Benches	EA	10	\$3,000	\$30,000	Victor Stanley, black, on concrete pads
Waste receptacles	EA	5	\$2,000	\$10,000	Victor Stanley, black, on concrete pads
Bicycle racks	EA	30	\$300	\$9,000	Inverted "U" , black
Trail map/signage	ALLOW	2	\$7,000	\$14,000	Wayfinding kiosk at north and south entry points
Topographic survey	EA	1	\$45,000	\$45,000	
Design & Engineering	15%			\$131,070	Typically 15% of total budget in design & engineering fees
Contingency	20%			\$200,974	Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$1,205,844	

INVASIVE PLANT MANAGEMENT

Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
Remove invasive plants along creek edges and park boundaries as well as the park interior, including wooded areas	ACRE	30	\$7,000	\$210,000	Selectively remove invasive plants in identified areas. May be augmented with volunteer labor.
Contingency	20%			\$42,000	Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$252,000	

SHOAL CREEK PARK III

OPEN VIEWS FROM MCAFEE ROAD					
Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
Selective tree and understory removal & arborist work to limb up trees to open views	ACRE	3	\$10,000	\$30,000	Selectively remove invasive plants in identified areas. May be augmented with volunteer labor.
Contingency	20%			\$6,000	Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$36,000	

COMMUNITY GARDEN					
Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
Demo/site prep	ALLOW	1	\$5,000	\$5,000	Erosion & sediment control/rough grading/tree protection
Raised garden beds	EA			\$2,500	Beds may be built from donated materials and/or with volunteer labor
Design & Engineering	15%			\$1,125	Typically 15% of total budget in design & engineering fees
Contingency	20%			\$1,725	Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$10,350	

SHOAL CREEK PARK III

NATURE TRAILS & WETLAND BOARDWALK

Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
Demo/site prep	ALLOW	1	\$20,000	\$20,000	Erosion & sediment control/rough grading/tree protection
Soft surface trails	LF	2500	\$7	\$17,500	Natural surface hiking trail
Site furnishings	ALLOW	1	\$20,000	\$20,000	Allowance for benches, trash cans, signage, etc
Stone steps/timber crib steps	FLIGHT	6	\$5,000	\$30,000	Natural material steps where terrain is steep
Boardwalk over wetlands	LF	800	\$820	\$656,000	Boardwalk
Design & Engineering	15%			\$111,525	Typically 15% of total budget in design & engineering fees
Contingency	20%			\$171,005	Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$1,026,030	

CREEK ACCESS

Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
Demo/site prep	ALLOW	1	\$25,000	\$25,000	Erosion & sediment control/rough grading/tree protection
Creekside seating areas	ALLOW	1	\$7,500	\$7,500	Rustic stone and timber seating area along creek
Steps down to creek	ALLOW	1	\$30,000	\$30,000	
Design & Engineering	15%			\$9,375	Typically 15% of total budget in design & engineering fees
Contingency	20%			\$14,375	Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$86,250	

BASKETBALL COURTS

Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
Demo/site prep	ALLOW	1	\$10,000	\$10,000	Erosion & sediment control/rough grading/tree protection
Basketball Court	EA	2	\$60,000	\$120,000	Complete court with asphalt base, backstops, striping, etc
Design & Engineering	15%			\$19,500	Typically 15% of total budget in design & engineering fees
Contingency	20%			\$29,900	Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$169,400	

SHOAL CREEK PARK III

PEDESTRIAN ENTRANCE ON GLENDALE COURT

Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
Demo/site prep	ALLOW	1	\$15,000	\$15,000	Erosion & sediment control/rough grading/tree protection
Entrance plaza	SF	800	\$10	\$8,000	Concrete paved entrance plaza
Park signage	ALLOW	1	\$7,500	\$7,500	Allowance for standard park identification and rules signage
Site furnishings	ALLOW	1	\$15,000	\$15,000	Benches, waste receptacles, bike racks
Design & Engineering	15%			\$6,825	Typically 15% of total budget in design & engineering fees
Contingency	20%			\$10465	Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$47,790	

PARKING EXPANSION WITH LOOP CIRCULATION AND PERVIOUS PAVEMENT

Item	Unit	Qty	Cost/Unit	Extended Cost	Notes
Demo/site prep	ALLOW	1	\$45,000	\$45,000	Erosion & sediment control/rough grading/tree protection
Restore asphalt drive and aisles	SF	10,006	\$5	\$50,030	Resurface driveway and aisles
Install pervious pavement in parking stalls	SF	5,994	\$20	\$119,880	Convert asphalt parking bays to pervious pavement system. Includes demo, excavation, new pavement install and striping
Design & Engineering	15%			\$32,237	Typically 15% of total budget in design & engineering fees
Contingency	20%			\$49,429	Plan for a contingency budget of 20%
TOTAL				\$296,576	

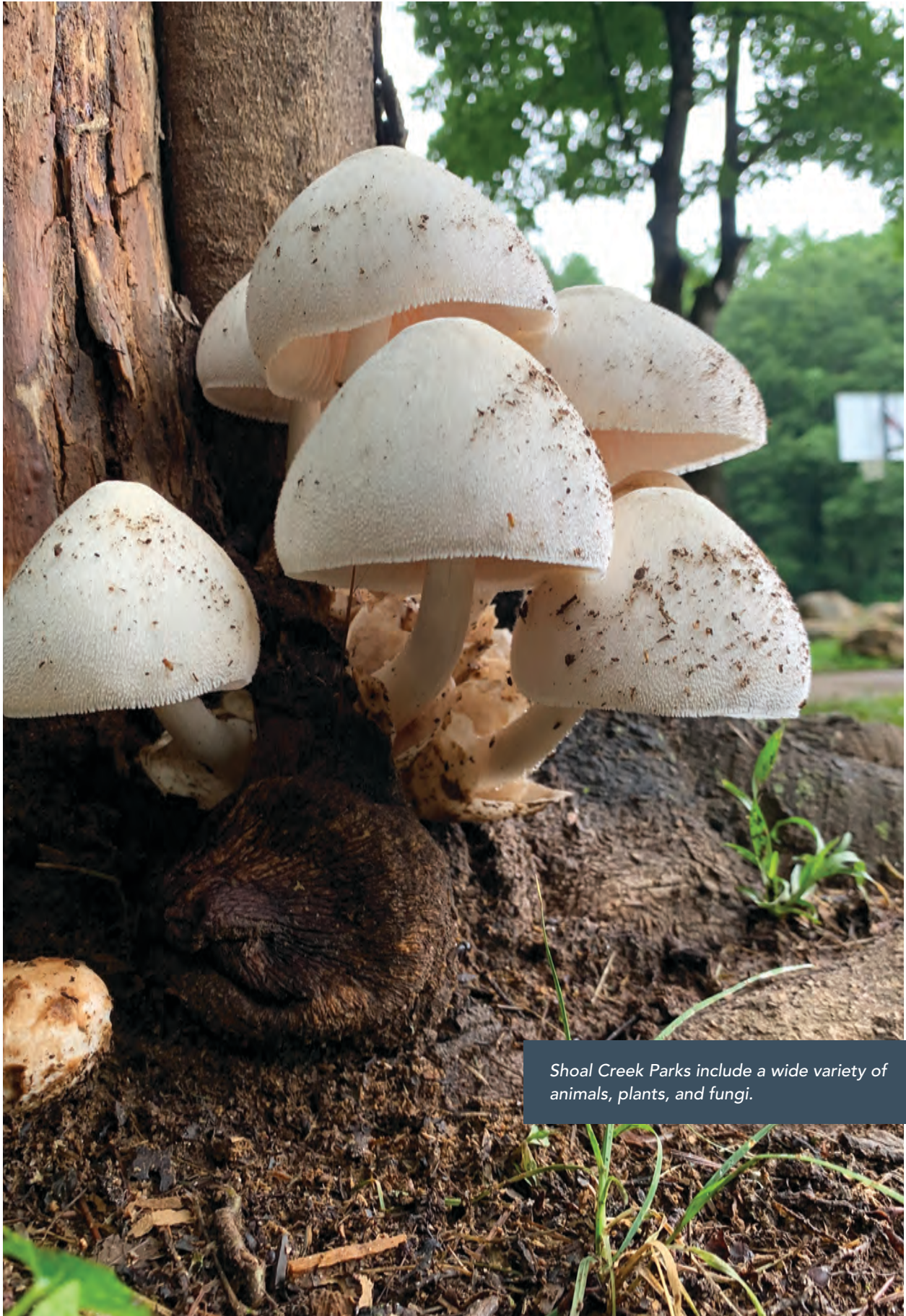
GRAND TOTAL - SHOAL CREEK PARK III

\$4,754,776

Appendices

SURVEY DATA

*Note: Any identifying information
of respondents has been redacted*



Shoal Creek Parks include a wide variety of animals, plants, and fungi.

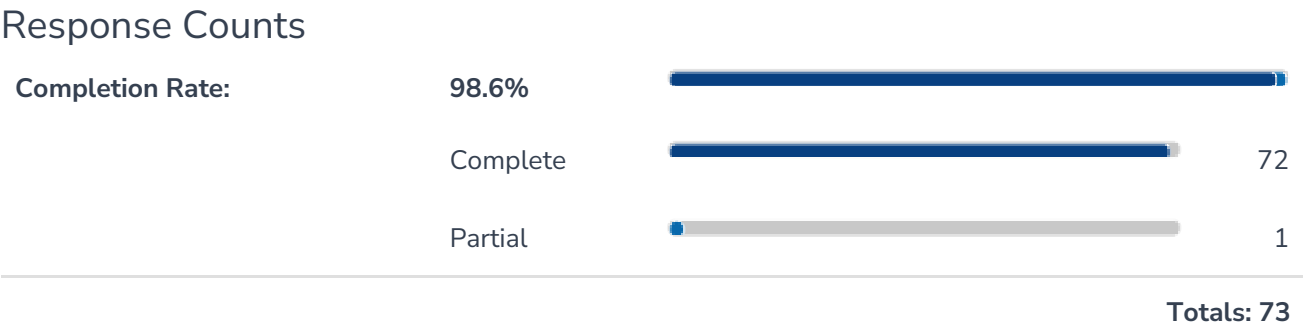
Appendix A

COMMUNITY SURVEY

OPENED JULY 24, 2022; CLOSED OCTOBER 12, 2022

Note: Any identifying information of respondents has been redacted

Report for Shoal Creek Park I - Community Survey



Identifying information has been removed from this report.

1. What do you like about Shoal Creek Park the way it is today?

ResponseID	Response
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1	A well established park that has served the needs of the community as a recreational resource for over 4 decades. It continues to have an active Little League Baseball Association that is served by the park. Many thousands of children have learned some of the lessons of life by participating in team sports at this park. It has several pavilions that provide a sheltered meeting place for family and community activities.
2	The forest and trees, the large open field for recreation, and the baseball league in the spring.
3	The open field for free play, dog walkers,
5	Plenty of open grass area for picnics, frisbee throwing, easter egg hunting... And a creek runs through it!
6	No comment
9	Newly redone Basketball courts.
10	I like the size of the park, basketball courts, pavilions, and playground.
11	The swings and the fact that you can cook on the grill there.
12	The swings and the fact that you can cook on the grill there.
13	I like that it is within walking distance from our house. The covered pavilions are also nice to allow for some shade and a place to gather or have a snack with your kids while at the playground.
14	I like the playground
15	I walk it with my dog daily. I love the new lighting. I notice the park ranger more this year than ever. Would like people to be fined for letting their dogs run loose
16	It's got a lot of space.
19	Green space, basketball court
21	The green space is beautiful. Most open space available on Glenwood currently.
22	There is a big field for sports
23	Convenient location
25	I like that it exists, is large, and is easy to access.

ResponseID	Response
26	The vast expanses of grass.
28	It is a great gathering place for the neighborhood, with the picnic shelters, play ground, and basketball courts.
29	The green space, even though bland it's expansive
30	Shady walking path on West boundary.
31	The Walking Path and entrance from Eastwood drive.
33	I like the activities I can do there.
34	The playgrounds and basketball courts are really nics
35	I like the baseball field, sporting spots, and that it seems to be a place people can gather
36	That o can walk to it once it's safe and has a safe playground for my kids and dog
38	Parking is decent
39	Location
40	The location and the amount of green space
41	It's a beautiful park! Lots of potential and wonderful!
45	I like the baseball fields.
46	It offers baseball to the community.
49	spacious and has potential
51	High crime area and not used as a park.
52	Kids have access to a baseball field for league games.
53	Lots of greenspace and playground
55	I like that it is quiet and relaxing. Tucked away.
57	Swings
58	Swings
61	That I grew up here and I will love to help and make it better.

ResponseID Response

62 My children have plenty of fun never any issues.

63 Its a vibe.

64 The new improvements are great. I like the playground.

65 Baseball field

66 I've only been a few times.

67 The playground, baseball fields, convenient entrance on Eastwood

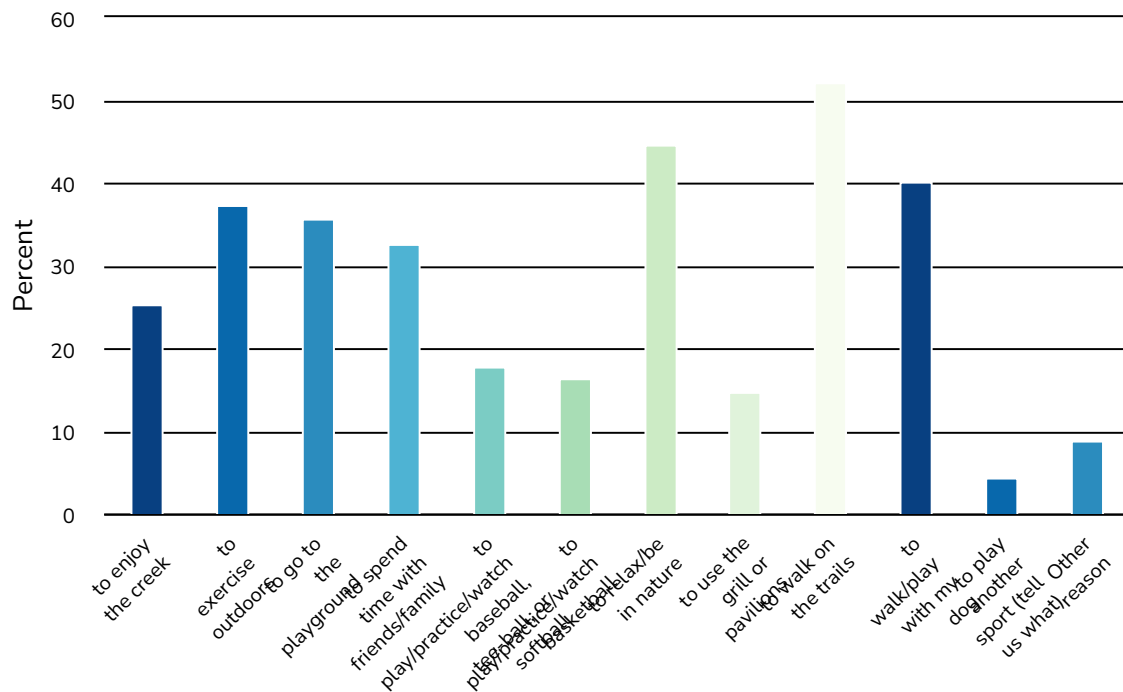
68 I love the big open field and the playground. Daily I will walk my dogs and let my son play on the playground, I really love it.

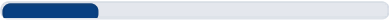
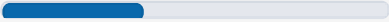
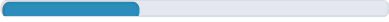
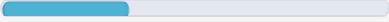
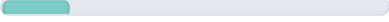
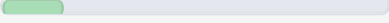
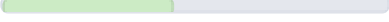
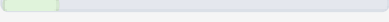

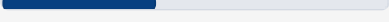
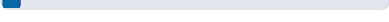
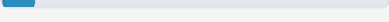
69 I like the large green space as well as the gathering areas such as the pavillions and playground.

71 N/a

72 Most activity areas useable & in fair condition.

2. Why do you go to Shoal Creek Park I? Check all that apply

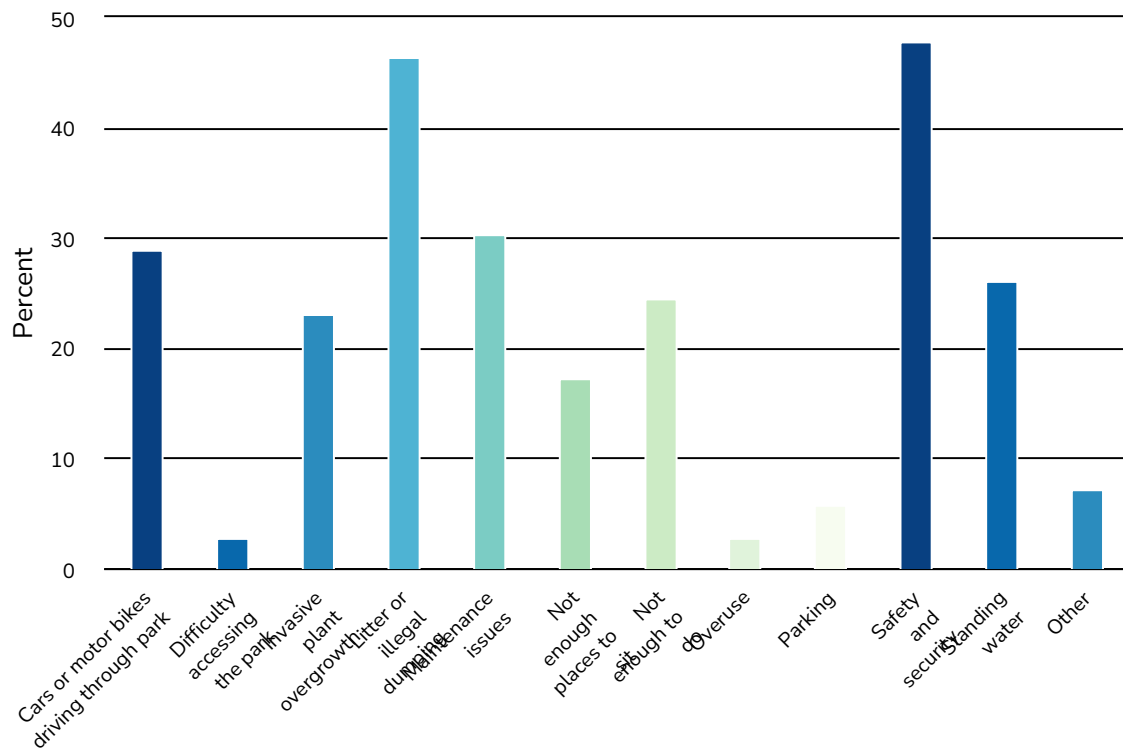


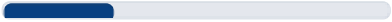
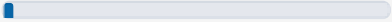
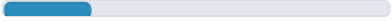
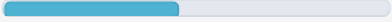
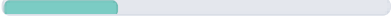
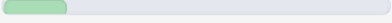
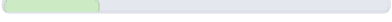
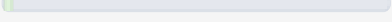
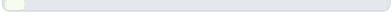

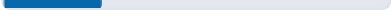
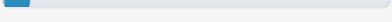
Value	Percent	Responses
to enjoy the creek	25.4% 	17
to exercise outdoors	37.3% 	25
to go to the playground	35.8% 	24
to spend time with friends/family	32.8% 	22
to play/practice/watch baseball, tee-ball, or softball	17.9% 	12
to play/practice/watch basketball	16.4% 	11
to relax/be in nature	44.8% 	30
to use the grill or pavilions	14.9% 	10
to walk on the trails	52.2% 	35
to walk/play with my dog	40.3% 	27
to play another sport (tell us what)	4.5% 	3
Other reason	9.0% 	6

to play another sport (tell us what)	Count
Rollerskating	1
tennis	1
Totals	2

Other reason	Count
Bird watching; Work with neighbors to improve the Park (Community Involvement Activity).	1
Candle Light vigils and balloon releases.	1
Events	1
I work with the DeKalb County Board of Health, and I have evaluated the parks by conducting walk audits to assess the physical environmental, infrastructure, and community design.	1
Relax and get a piece of mind.	1
join community events	1
Totals	6

3. What are the TOP 3 challenges facing Shoal Creek Park I?



Value	Percent	Responses
Cars or motor bikes driving through park	29.0% 	20
Difficulty accessing the park	2.9% 	2
Invasive plant overgrowth	23.2% 	16
Litter or illegal dumping	46.4% 	32
Maintenance issues	30.4% 	21
Not enough places to sit	17.4% 	12
Not enough to do	24.6% 	17
Overuse	2.9% 	2
Parking	5.8% 	4
Safety and security	47.8% 	33
Standing water	26.1% 	18
Other	7.2% 	5

Other	Count
Does not connect to other parks	1
Frequently used as outdoor shooting range	1
No safe walking path for strollers and dogs.	1
Not a path all the way around.	1
Playground is not safe or sustainable	1
Totals	5

4. Tell us more about the challenges you identified above. Where or when do you notice the issues occurring?

ResponseID	Response
1	During a community event on Saturday, July 23, we noticed that a large area of the newly installed turf has be damaged. The damage was caused by people on off-road vehicles dong "donuts" on the grass. The occurrences can happen at any time, but usually in the late afternoon and early evening. Also, there are almost weekly reports by neighbors of multiple gunshots in the park. This usually occurs in the evening and at night.
2	Living four houses away from the Eastwood pedestrian entrance, we see a lot of activity with motorbikes speeding in and out of the park. We hear frequent gunshots at night, and in the evening, people hang out in the baseball towers and in the parking lots, just staring at the playground or waiting on someone to meet them. In addition, the sewers overflow in heavy rain and stink up the park with sewage.
3	Water drainage problem near the Glenwood Road entrance when it rains. Water fountains not repaired or replaced. Sidewalk drainage problems.
5	Any time it rains, the concrete path floods. There is standing water there too which breeds mosquitoes. Plenty of invasive privet ivy, and nandina also growing.
6	The challenges are a daily occurrence. I work from home and hear motor bikes driving thru the park daily. I walked my dog the other day and one motorbike came down the trail with no care I was there. On the regular people park and loiter in the parking lot listening to loud music, and as result trash sends to accumulate. The park is not patrolled enough or under surveillance. Not a safe feeling going there.
9	Cars or motor bikes driving through park: - I have seen Cars drive from the parking lot into the park and sit idling near the playground. Safety and security: - Occasional gun fire at night (around midnight) Does not connect to other parks or have protected routes for bicycles: - Would be nice if this park system could connect more easily to Decatur PATH
10	Shaded places to sit around the playground for parents watching children. Places for spectators of basketball play and please to rest for players. Litter is usually after weekends and occasionally get dumping in the creek. Teenagers and Adult things to do in the park.
11	Like there are so many grow men at the park playing basketball when I go to the park with friends and or family and there is not enough to play with or in sometimes when I go to the park I see coyotes
12	Like there are so many grow men at the park playing basketball when I go to the park with friends and or family and there is not enough to play with or in sometimes when I go to the park I see coyotes
13	The standing water creates a very unpleasant odor. Also, with respect to not enough to do, the playground is lacking and would benefit from a major upgrade/overhaul.

ResponseID Response

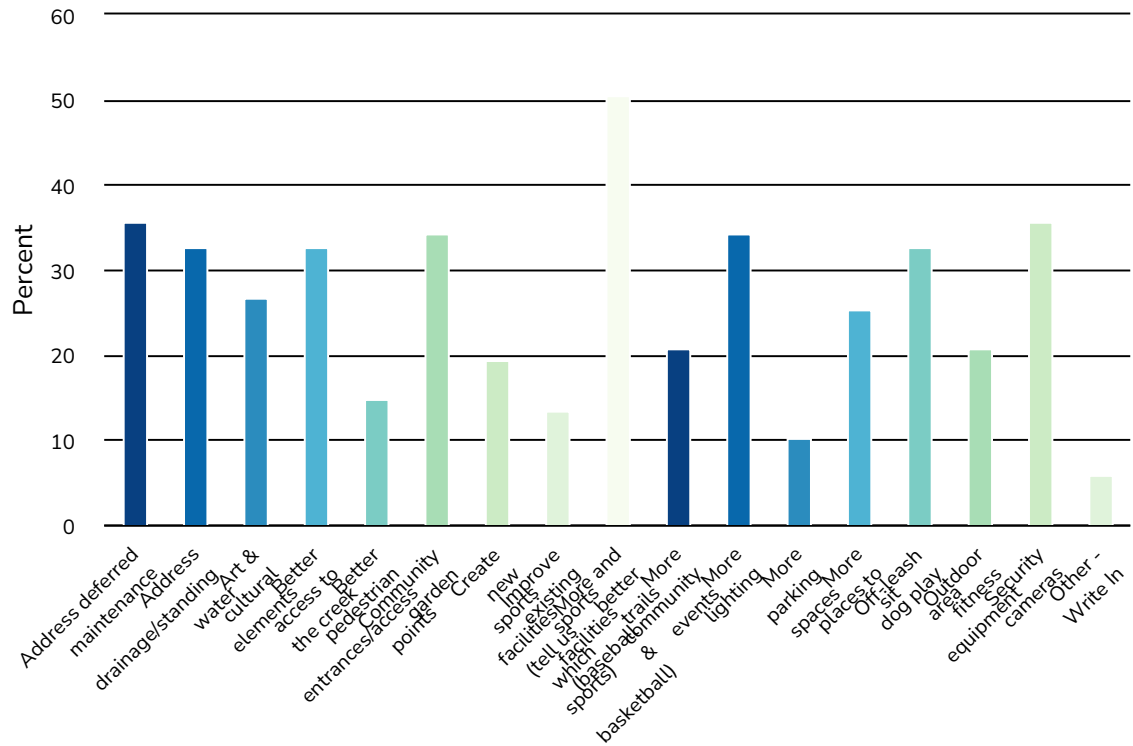
14	It can be scary going with my kids and there's people just in their cars or smoking. Sometimes there is so much litter and no one seems to clean it.
15	The kids drive motor bikes, the adults drive up to the pavilions which causes ruts which cause issues when it rains. Folks not cleaning up after bbqs. Should have to pay a refundable deposit to use.
16	The park just has a run down feeling. Even d during the day it feels dark. There's not a path all the way around and it gets muddy at times.
18	Even a slight rain takes half of the parking lot out. The ATVs are not getting any better
19	Gunfire, usually at night after 10 p.m. ATVs, motorbikes, and cars doing donuts usually happen a little before this.
21	The playground has been the same since I was a kid. Nothing currently preset to stimulate the youth at atll.
22	Guns being shot all the time. Safety is a concern for my family
23	notice some suspicious activities in the parking lot. not fully used because of security reasons.
25	These parks are incredibly unsafe especially as night begins to fall or early morning when many people would likely use it to jog or walk before work and school. It is used as an outdoor shooting range every single night (not exaggerating) and dumping ground for unwanted pets (often abandoned dogs roaming) and trash. There are often people sitting in their cars 24/7 doing drugs and smoking cigarettes, creating a general feel of discomfort. It is not qla welcoming park due to it's well known use as an adult hangout for drugs, sex and criminal activity use. I would like to see *any* rules enforced here. An overnight security guard at all the shoal creek parks for an extended time would help greatly, to re-establish that this unwanted and unwelcome behavior will not continue at these locations. I don't go to this park because it feels incredibly unsafe, especially early morning or evening and I grew up in this area, my parents grew up in this area. Instead I travel to Coan Park or Dearborn, or anywhere but the park in my own neighborhood. It would be a blessing if police would actually police this area and enforce laws. The stray bullets are going to kill someone, and it has been very regularly reported and brought up as a safety concern. In addition to safety, there's often trash thrown in the creek and left in the lots and play areas. This park has HUGE potential and the neighbors really want to use it, but it feels unsafe and not well cared for by those who are responsible for it.
26	These issues occur at all hours. Lots of gun and other dangerous activity. I love this park, but it feels unsafe.
27	Lack of security, I know its a public park but it seems there are no laws on park property.

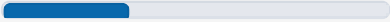
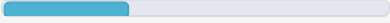
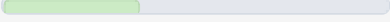
ResponseID Response

28	More often than not, late night gunshots in our neighborhood are coming from the direction of the park. The litter problem there is much better than it used to be, but it's definitely still a problem. And basically everywhere in our neighborhood has issues with invasive plant growth.
29	There is a lot of space but instead of gardens, art/sculptures, or walking trails it's just manicured grass with one trail going through the park
30	Not that easy to sit or walk by creek. Could be a nicer trail. The overgrowth of invasive plants in area makes me worry about trees dying.
31	The biggest issue is water drainage. Even in the parking area, water just sits.
33	Littering is rampant. The grounds are not maintained.
34	I see cars go over that large field often
35	General on or after weekends, cookouts, etc.
36	The playground cannot be played on due to the exposed nails and old wood. I went to the park when we first bought our house a year ago and never went again. We should be able to access this park from our neighborhood on Meadow lane and we can't because there's no active trail from the back of the neighborhood is overgrown and trail is blocked. It would be nice to have access from meadow lane into the park and creek and be able to SAFELY use the playground. It's old and not made of sustainable material it's just GROSS and sad. Too many drug deals and trash and mosquitoes are all over for dogs and kids to play due to water standing and no city help or maintenance. We drive 7-10 mins away to oakhurst or east lake when we have one right here.
37	I would like to walk my dog to this park but it is too scary. Maybe place cameras around?
38	Trash not picked up
40	It's an eye sore and has the potential to be so great. There are no areas for dogs to play. No pet stations. No security, so there's always people in cars there and you don't know why. Not enough lighting at dusk
41	Mud in quite a few places. Cars and trucks passing by me and my dogs while we were walking and made me feel unsafe.
45	I don't see anyone using the fields. Are they open or is this park closed?
46	After dark and during the day people seems to litter
49	late at night, people shooting off fireworks (or guns, who knows). litter after the weekend. people who have parties there on weekends blast music so loudly you can hear it 5 houses away why don't we have tennis courts?

ResponseID	Response
50	Near the playground towards the wooded side and in the small parking lot there is often standing water and litter.
52	If area not routinely serviced with maintenance and upkeep it's not an enjoyable experience.
55	The litter is usually everywhere, but mostly near the seated areas.
61	Not enough place to park.
62	Sometimes when they have family gatherings it usually only enough for that family. Maybe add more shelters.
64	At the park.
65	Need something for adults, a walking trail circling the park would be nice.
66	I park across the street.
67	There is a ton of english ivy and kudzu on the trees, which are near electric wires. I love the trees and want to preserve their health. I like the big open area, but maybe we can use part of it for something else - soccer field? Pond? Gardens? Or something else? And also leave some open area like it is. The standing water is around the sidewalk. Also there is a lot of leaves on the sidewalk in the fall, for most of the season - I wasn't sure if this is maintenance so I didn't check anything off for it.
68	I have had a friend be threatened by some kids on a motorbike. They went and sprayed dirt all over her with their bike. I also notice that there has been a lot of littering going on. We've asked park workers to help with this before.
69	The park has many waterlogged areas and washed out sidewalks which indicated poor drainage. Many nights gunshots can be heard from the park as well as during the day. There is not enough seating when you want to watch your kids on the playground or let your dog run in the large greenspace.
71	Daily—mostly evening
72	Park quality is fair (restroom closed for repairs, no working drinking fountains, poor maintenance with standing water and debris, the trail was covered by standing water, basketball goals missing rims, excessive litter & graffiti). No major safety concerns.

5. What are the TOP 5 amenities you would like to see added or improved at Shoal Creek Park I?



Value	Percent	Responses
Address deferred maintenance	35.8% 	24
Address drainage/standing water	32.8% 	22
Art & cultural elements	26.9% 	18
Better access to the creek	32.8% 	22
Better pedestrian entrances/access points	14.9% 	10
Community garden	34.3% 	23
Create new sports facilities (tell us which sports)	19.4% 	13
Improve existing sports facilities (baseball & basketball)	13.4% 	9
More and better trails	50.7% 	34
More community events	20.9% 	14
More lighting	34.3% 	23
More parking spaces	10.4% 	7
More places to sit	25.4% 	17
Off-leash dog play area	32.8% 	22
Outdoor fitness equipment	20.9% 	14
Security cameras	35.8% 	24
Other - Write In	6.0% 	4

Create new sports facilities (tell us which sports)	Count
Soccer	2
Volleyball and tennis	2
Pickle ball (tennis court)	1
Pickle ball court! Volleyball and a Pet area!	1
Rolling skating area	1
Skate park	1
Soccer	1
TENNIS	1
Tennis Courts	1
Would be great to convert some of the general park space into a field suitable for Soccer	1
tennis	1
Totals	13

Other - Write In	Count
Better Playground for our children with more options and more modern, artistic flare that represents the diversity present on Glenwood.	1
Pool and/or water features for recreation.	1
Spray or Splash Pad for Children	1
Tennis court	1
Totals	4

6. What ideas do you have for how Shoal Creek Park I can be improved? If you could change one thing, what would it be?

ResponseID	Response
1	The standing storm water problem must be eliminated by proper landscaping and drainage. This is the one thing that I would change. Also, improved traffic barriers to prevent dumping in the park and to prevent off-road vehicles from entering and damaging the park. Construct a PATH type multi-use trail the full length of the Park along the bank of Shoal Creek. This would give a better view of the creek to visitors and would help connect Shoal Creek Park 1 to Shoal Creek Park 2. Pedestrian access could be improved by installing a walkway connecting the Park to Amelia Avenue.
2	The first thing I would do is mitigate or eliminate the drainage and sewer issues. Then I would focus on security. I would strongly advocate for automated gates to the parking lots, with wrought iron, friendly-looking fences preventing any motorized access at night. I would like to see the gates programmed to close automatically at dusk, when the park is closed, with access codes issued for those who reserve the park for night events such as sports tournaments or community events. Similarly, I would like any pedestrian access to Eastwood or Amelia to have gates that are locked at night so we do not create easier access points for people who use the park after dusk for illegal activity and escape police by running onto our street. (We have had incidents in which a young man ran from a group of people chasing him in the park and was shot at by the pedestrian walkway when he tried escaping up our street. We also saw a young man evading police by going through the woods that end at Amelia and sneaking through our property.)
3	Drainage problems resolved. Seating throughout the park for seniors as they walk.
5	Extend the current trail to run along the creek and make a big loop. Add benches along the creek to enjoy wildlife.
6	Have it under surveillance so it can be observed what shady activities are happening there.
9	Connection to Decatur Path, potentially following creek to Oldfield Rd & Memorial, through path at Dearborn Park.
10	Shade over play area
12	I would change the spiny thing into a see saw or add a see saw
13	Improve and expand the playground equipment. Address the standing water issue. Add a skate park. (That's 3 lol)
14	I would change the lighting.
15	Benches to sit near the creek. Maybe fence it off. Upkeep of water fountain

ResponseID Response

16	I wish it had a path loop like II. Maybe if they could be connected. I would love to run there and be able to get a nice amount of loops in. I have to drive at least 15 minutes to a nice running path
18	A small outdoor theater for attracting festivals
19	Not sure of the solution, but the gunfire every so often is a major deterrent for current families to feel safe and for new families to feel welcomed. There's got to be a better way to monitor and prevent this. Never really helps to call the police, because the perpetrators are gone by the time they can show up. Some type of barrier to prevent vehicles from driving all over the place would be helpful. Better trash cans for the picnic pavilions would also be great.
21	My biggest concern for the park is the playground area. This kids get bored easily with the current pre schooler setup. A walking trail/track that surrounds the park would improve the aesthetics as well.
22	Safety
23	put more security cameras and put up sign to alert criminals
25	Security guards, security cameras, and actual enforcement of rules so the current activities there cease forever. Enforce that is in not a shooting range or drug/alcohol hangout for adults with no day jobs. Create a generally more welcoming environment. Hold annual chili cook-off here. Invite immediate neighbors to attend events. Clean up the creek and remove invasive species. Remove English ivy and kudzu from the trees instead of just mowing and letting it crawl up the trees, killing them and shortening their lives, causing a safety issue when they fall. Dog park would be awesome so we don't have to travel to downtown Decatur or East Atlanta.
26	If I could change one thing it would be increased safety. The park would get better utilization if it wasn't so scary.
28	If I can only change one thing, I choose cutting back on the late night gun shots/illegal activity.
29	I would add trails, even if small and more gardens, art, and plants to change up the scenery and expand the possibilities of small trails
30	Someone needs to remove the boulders blocking the handicap ramp in parking lot off white oak drive.
33	Clean up the park
36	Community events. Movie and food truck nights. A sustainable and weather proof playground for the new generation of children. Chess tables for the older generation to play on until evening. Benches to sit. A cleaner trail and access from the neighborhood of meadow lane. A community garden to the older generation and kids to learn.

ResponseID	Response
37	More security
38	Na
41	Off-leash dog parks - separate for large and small dogs!
44	I know it'd unreasonable to staff and stock but a concessions stand on the north side of the park would be cool.
45	Add a track for walking.
46	More security so we can feel safe walking our children and dogs
49	tennis/pickleball general improvement of those abandoned looking facilities close to Glenwood
50	I would love for the standing water issue to be addressed but would love it more if it could be done like a rain garden. Introducing native plants and flowers that tolerate rain garden conditions. Not only would it help functionality but as beautification as well. Restorative landscaping and management could be worked into a community garden.
51	Put native plants in the flood zones to decrease watershed
52	Send the same amount for upkeep as spent on parks in other areas of Dekalb.
53	A trail along the creek and safer access to shoal creek park 2
55	I mostly want it to be cleaner. The litter is my only problem.
57	A bathroom and water fountain.
58	A bathroom and water fountain.
60	We would like a water fountain.
61	The no littering policy.
62	More sheltering for family gatherings
63	Community Parties.
64	The basketball court can be improved to double hoops.
65	Recreational building for community events, BBQ grills at pavilion, skate park.
66	A safe two mile circular trail.

ResponseID Response

67 Taken better care of

68 I wish the standing water could be addressed. Anytime it rains there is standing water which leads to worse mosquitos. I also would love to see a paved trail go around the baseball fields connecting the whole park. A community garden or off leash dog park would be a wonderful way to use the open field.

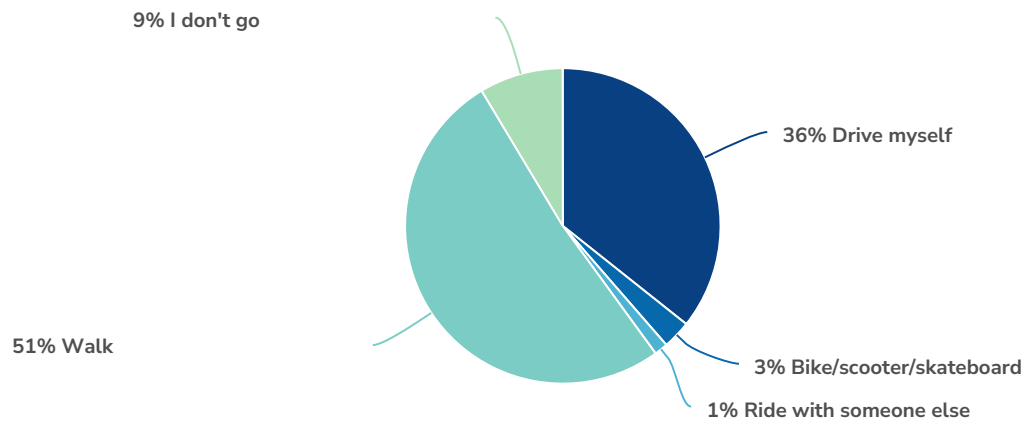
69 I would add a pool/water recreation area. Most pools nearby are closed or in disrepair. We shouldn't have to leave our area to enjoy this. Plus it's a great way to interact and get to know neighbors

70 Nice large rec center like Exchange

71 N/a

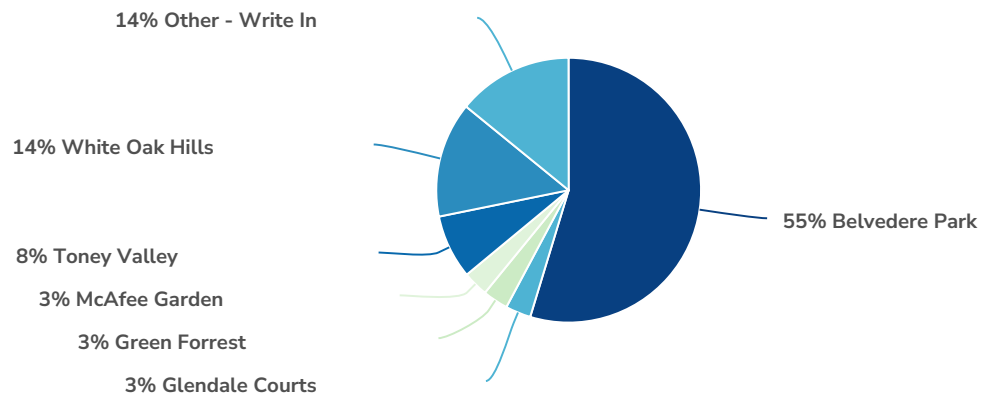
72 Most activity areas are useable & in fair condition; however, basketball goals need rims to make that activity area more appealing and divert the water off of the trail by maintaining drainage.

7. How do you get to Shoal Creek Park I? (select the one you use most)



Value	Percent	Responses
Drive myself	35.7% <div><div></div></div>	25
Bike/scooter/skateboard	2.9% <div><div></div></div>	2
Ride with someone else	1.4% <div><div></div></div>	1
Walk	51.4% <div><div></div></div>	36
I don't go	8.6% <div><div></div></div>	6
		Totals: 70

8. What neighborhood do you live in?

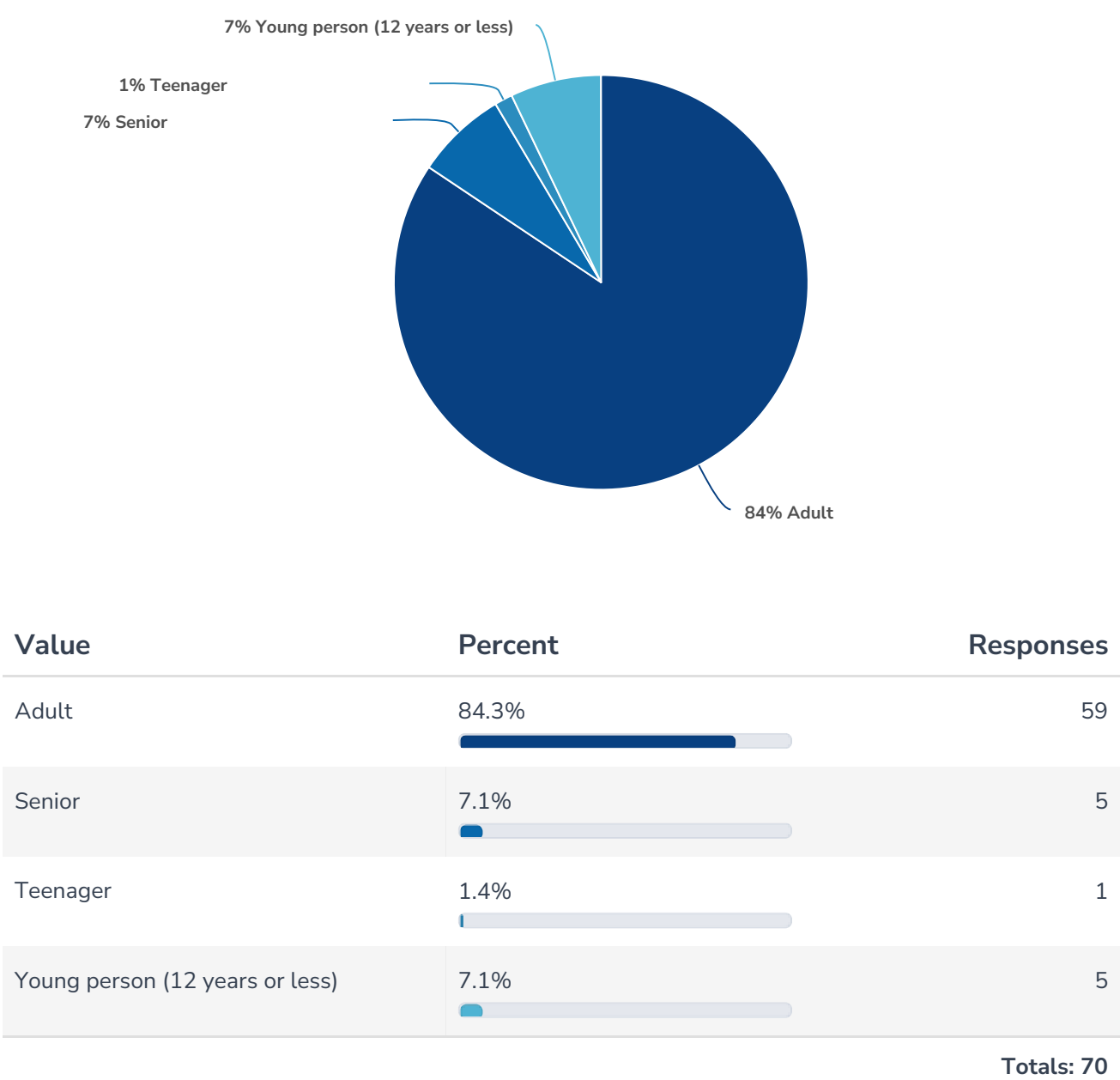


Value	Percent	Responses
Belvedere Park	54.7% <div><div></div></div>	35
Glendale Courts	3.1% <div><div></div></div>	2
Green Forrest	3.1% <div><div></div></div>	2
McAfee Garden	3.1% <div><div></div></div>	2
Toney Valley	7.8% <div><div></div></div>	5
White Oak Hills	14.1% <div><div></div></div>	9
Other - Write In	14.1% <div><div></div></div>	9

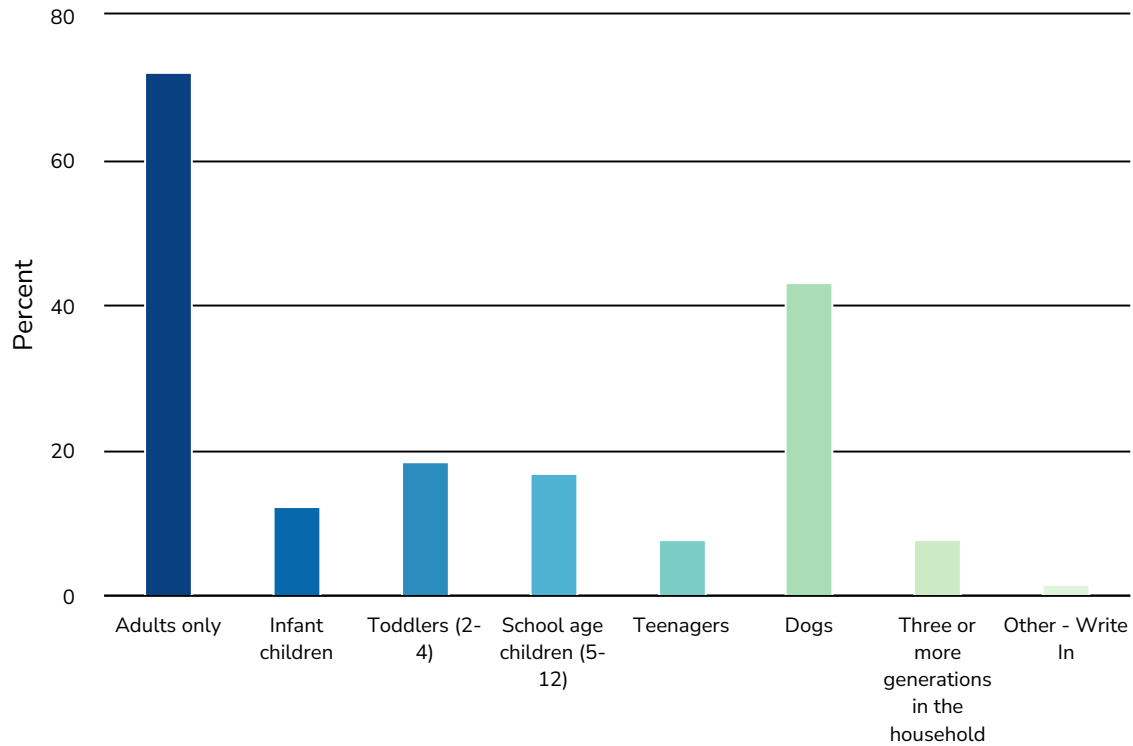
Totals: 64

Other - Write In	Count
Camperdown	1
East Lake	1
Easy Lake Terrace	1
I work at the DeKalb County Board of Health.	1
Meadowdale	1
Mountain Brook - off Glenwood	1
No idea we live behind the park on Meadow Lane.	1
Right behind the park	1
Sheffield	1
Totals	9

9. How would you describe yourself?



10. Tell us about your household. Include frequent visitors (grandchildren for example). Check all that apply.



Value	Percent	Responses
Adults only	72.3%	47
Infant children	12.3%	8
Toddlers (2-4)	18.5%	12
School age children (5-12)	16.9%	11
Teenagers	7.7%	5
Dogs	43.1%	28
Three or more generations in the household	7.7%	5
Other - Write In	1.5%	1

Other - Write In**Count**

Parents

1

Totals

1

11. Is there anything else you'd like us to know about Shoal Creek Park I?

ResponseID	Response
2	My husband and I love trees and would like the existing old growth trees to remain healthy by removing the invasives from the park. We also enjoy having the large, open field available for frisbee, walking, etc. We would love to see more trails and better creek access, while preserving the existing trees and open space, and adding security features.
5	Currently there is a huge boulder blocking the wheelchair access point on the White Oak Dr side. I realize that this is to prevent cars and motorcycles, but I doubt it's working and it DOES prevent wheelchair access.
6	Needs a lot of attention.
10	More swings for kids and a regular baby swing
12	Nothing else
13	Increase security patrols at night. Use all of the open space available at the park: Improve pavilions, install water station/fountain, add skate park, expand playground, add a fenced in dog run area.
19	The park has such a nice green space, and the recent updates to the pathway lights and basketball courts are wonderful.
21	No
25	The immediate neighbors would love to use this park, and would frequent it if it weren't used day and night by people sitting in their cars smoking weed and blaring music and doing deals during the day and night, and firing guns off all night (literally every night). There's no enforcement of rules and it feels so unsafe and unwelcoming. It could use some updates to feel fresh as well. Would love to see community events like a chili cookout of summer family neighborhood camp nights.
28	I love having a nice park within walking distance of home, and can't wait for it to be even better!
30	It's complicated but want to know connectivity plans for areas between Shoal Creek 1 and Delano Line Park.
34	No
35	We like it but improved trails and amenities would go a long way. It's very utilized and thing maitnanece would be huge even for litter
36	We'd like to have access from the back of the neighborhood.
41	We love it! And we can make it an awesome place for the entire community!

ResponseID Response

50 We love walking the neighborhood to the park and can't wait to help make it better for everyone.

52 Two entrys/exits to Glenwood Rd would be wonderful to relieve traffic during sporting events.

53 For the wet spots maybe plant native wetland plants.

62 The park is always clean.

65 When baseball not in season there should be other uses for the park, perhaps adult all year round softball option/league.

66 Add more graphics and pictures of the parks.

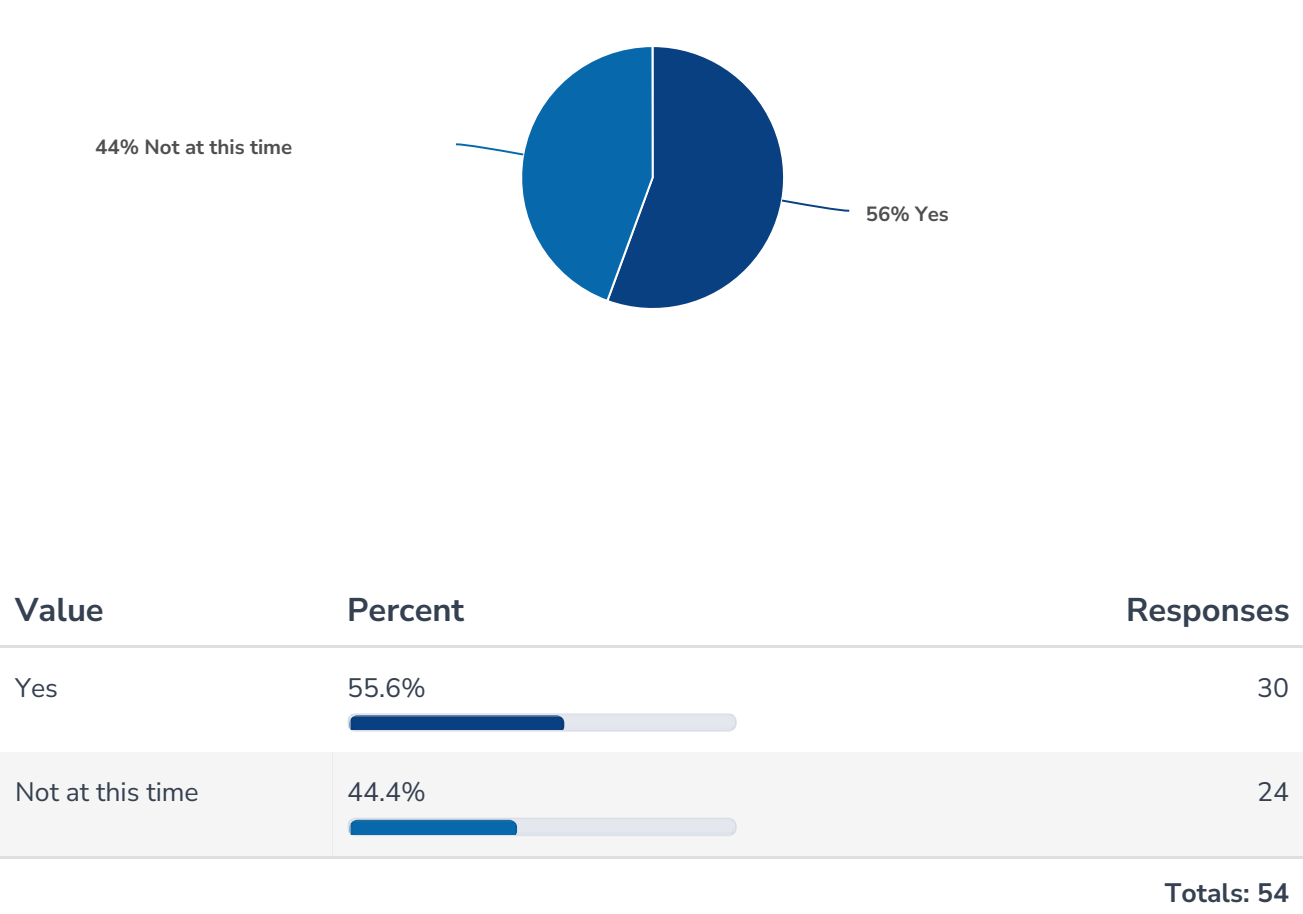
68 I think it is a great park, I enjoy it daily and would love to see the field which was once a baseball field I think utilized better. A community garden, dog park, or even tennis courts would be such a big improvement. Better walking trails would also be great.

69 Sometimes homeless sleep in the park which isn't safe for them. Sometimes ppl leave trash after celebrations or after gatherings.

71 N/a

72 N/A

13. Would you like to be involved with the community Friends of Park group for this park?



Report for Shoal Creek Park II - Community Survey

Response Counts

Completion Rate:	100%	<div></div>	
	Complete	<div></div>	42

Totals: 42

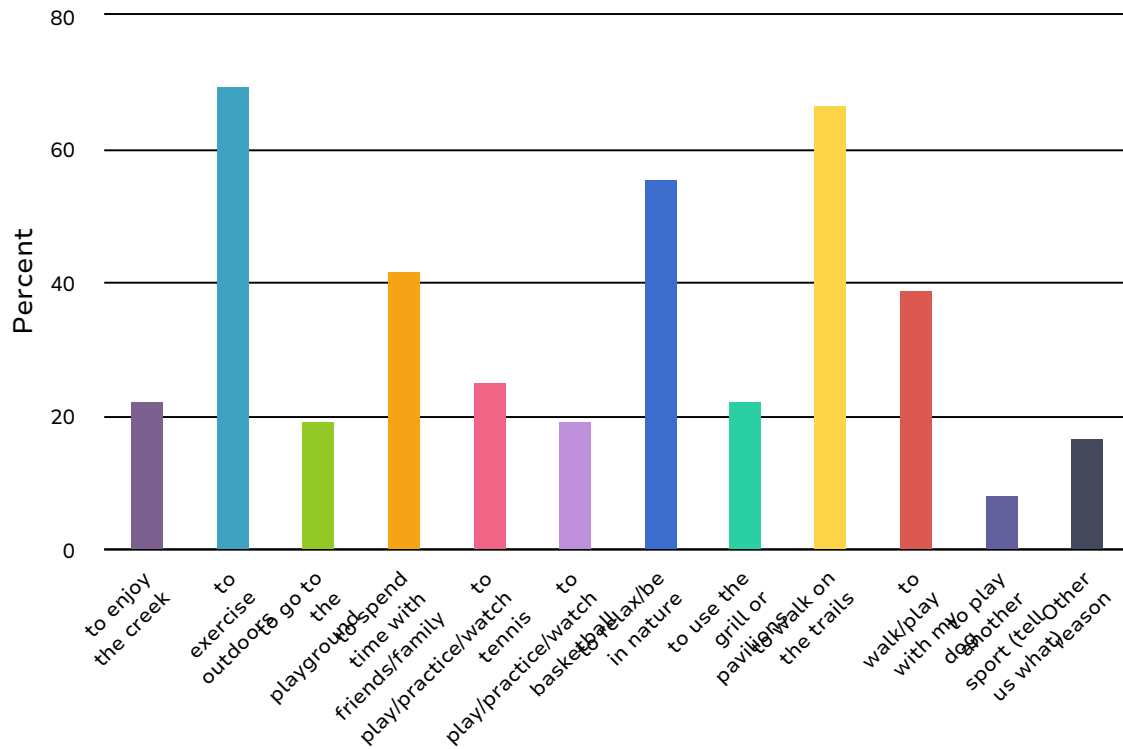
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






1. What do you like about Shoal Creek Park II the way it is today?

ResponseID	Response
2	The track around the playground
3	The path around the park
4	Large Greenspace. Large parking lot. Walking trail.
5	I personally don't like it at this time. It doesn't feel safe and it's too secluded. I do love the idea of having a park right down the street that families can go to and get outside. Can't wait until these changes happen.
6	That it is close in walking distance to my house and it is a big park with a basketball court.
7	Open landscape Current trail Plumbing and electrical available Option for high visibility Plenty of sun
9	nice new courts and bathroom facility.
11	The openness of the space, not many trees throughout. The multi purpose use; kids playground, basketball court & covered seating areas.
12	Gorgeous park and wonderful place to meet!
13	Gorgeous park and wonderful place to meet!
17	I like that there is a playground (although not nice of upkeep) and walkways
18	The tennis courts are a nice addition
19	Close proximity to my house, nice green space
21	Young people some times visit. People sometimes walk dogs there. Elderly people sometimes walk there. Young people try to roller skate there.. parking lot is smaa enough to limit large dangerous groups. There is less use since the county started using the property across the street as a dump site for pipes and dirt. There is less use since the wall and sign obstructed the view in trying to exit the park
24	I like the restrooms that has been added (finally). I also enjoy the park's revision of the basketball court.
27	Basketball court and tennis court.
29	The basketball courts,the pavilion,the people
30	Tennis courts that were added.

ResponseID	Response
31	The park creates bonds that last forever.
32	The people
33	Family and friends
34	It's crime free. Like how the people interact. The sports and activities, tennis court, etc
35	great place to chill and hang out
36	community, senior citizen, old neighbor
38	the cage is up good on the basketball court
39	I like the sports facilities - tennis and basketball courts. I like that it has a walking loop. I like that it has a nice place for children to play. I like that it has some grills and sitting areas.
40	Big open spaces
41	Park quality good. No major safety concerns.

2. Why do you go to Shoal Creek Park II? Check all that apply

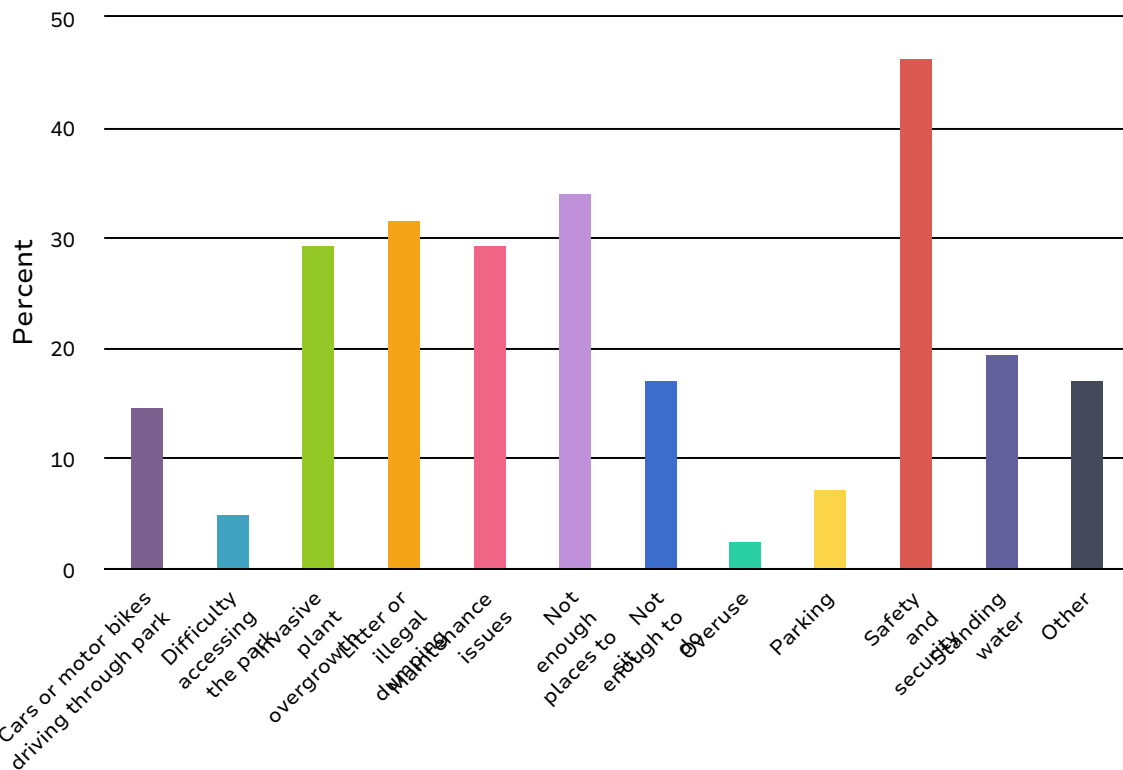














Value		Percent	Responses
to enjoy the creek		22.2%	8
to exercise outdoors		69.4%	25
to go to the playground		19.4%	7
to spend time with friends/family		41.7%	15
to play/practice/watch tennis		25.0%	9
to play/practice/watch basketball		19.4%	7
to relax/be in nature		55.6%	20
to use the grill or pavilions		22.2%	8
to walk on the trails		66.7%	24
to walk/play with my dog		38.9%	14
to play another sport (tell us what)		8.3%	3
Other reason		16.7%	6

to play another sport (tell us what)	Count
corn hole	1
Totals	1

Other reason	Count
I work with the DeKalb County Board of Health, and I have evaluated the parks by conducting walk audits to assess the physical environmental, infrastructure, and community design.	1
Participate in National Night Out.	1
To get children outside.	1
To pull kudzu off my finches and to repair my finches when vandels pull them down	1
clean up	1
enjoy	1
Totals	6

3. What are the TOP 3 challenges facing Shoal Creek Park II?



Value		Percent	Responses
Cars or motor bikes driving through park		14.6%	6
Difficulty accessing the park		4.9%	2
Invasive plant overgrowth		29.3%	12
Litter or illegal dumping		31.7%	13
Maintenance issues		29.3%	12
Not enough places to sit		34.1%	14
Not enough to do		17.1%	7
Overuse		2.4%	1
Parking		7.3%	3
Safety and security		46.3%	19
Standing water		19.5%	8
Other		17.1%	7

Other	Count
Gang activity	1
It is a drug park. Not safe to visit , rood in front not safe to drive past. As no visibility ln leaving park, the holes in in Glenwood Rd caused by the dump trucks across the street.	1
Only 1 entrance, no bike lanes	1
Seemingly only really good for having parties under the cabanas.	1
The walking loop needs more benches along the path. There needs to be seating near the tennis courts.	1
tennis Cts unuseable	1
Totals	6

4. Tell us more about the challenges you identified above. Where or when do you notice the issues occurring?

ResponseID	Response
3	It just feels run down. The parking spot concrete is broken. The bathrooms are disgusting and unusable. I wish the over grown area in the back was more usable.
5	There is nothing for children to do besides basketball. There should be more kid friendly out activates for them to engage in. An outdoor mud kitchen would be awesome for them or an outdoor classroom. The park it filled with litter daily and is not welcoming. The overgrown everything does not welcome you into the park. More signage to let you know what's available would be helpful too. More security to monitor the area would be helpful too.
6	My child cannot play in this park safely. The playground is outdated and not safe. She can't play on it. It needs to be revamped and the material needs to be sustainable for weather west and tear. The material needs to be non toxic. There are no swings, slides or anything and a new generation of families are now here with small children to play NO WHERE.
7	Occurs over night or in the late afternoon Do not feel safe with children or alone
9	my #1 priority personally would be regarding the field area as every time it rains the sidewalk and field get so muddy it is unusable. would regularly go and hit some practice golf balls etc and utilize that field area as it is walking distance if it weren't for that.
11	Standing water occurs in various areas & takes a while to dry up. There is always litter or garbage near the entrance & seating areas. It would be amazing to have our own public pool for the surrounding communities.
12	Sometimes I don't feel safe due to cars and trucks passing by!
13	Sometimes I don't feel safe due to cars and trucks passing by!
15	This is the closet tennis courts to my house but I rarely go there to play. The courts arent properly maintained. There are usually ppl there using the courts for anything except tennis. There is also usually a lot of ruckus going on at the other parts of the park.
16	Hear gunfire and see gangs. People are too scared to use the park. There is not a feeling of safety.

ResponseID Response

17	Evenings tend to be the worst for loud, obscene music being played which is hard to have my young children around. We used to love to go to the park in the evenings but it's become quiet obnoxious. The playground could be nice but it's not up kept with many broken pieces, graffiti, trash. The weekends are also challenging with the music and abundance of weed smoking- also hard to be around with young children especially. We usually have to leave very quickly.
18	The parking lot always seems to have has trash. There's also people drinking/loitering/illegal activities
19	Invasive plants (privet, kudzu) come back quickly when not properly Maintained & the standing water issue creates bug problems. These are consistent issues due to irregular maintenance.
21	I have witnessed two shootings, one attempted rape, a car burning, several recks,
23	Our house backs up to the park and there are often loud parties/djs making enjoying the park not enjoyable to visit for our family with small children. Additionally we've heard gunshots coming from the park at night in the past making it feel unsafe to visit. It's the closest park to us but we are always driving to other parts of town for safer feeling parks.
24	It's quite natural that the park will experience an over flow of traffic when an event takes place, in such instances parking is a nuisance. Seating also then becomes an issue.
27	Standing water on the walking trail, drainage system would be beneficial.
29	Most weekends there is not enough parking. They could install more picnic tables throughout entire park . Bathroom open hours need to be extended and more lighting for evening usage
30	No BBQ grill, pavilion for rental/reservations, no walking path with mile markers.
31	This park is constantly overlooked when it is time for clean-up.
32	not enough places to sit on the weekend
33	bathrooms
34	where we don't have places to sit now
35	need to keep 4 wheelers off the grass
36	improvement

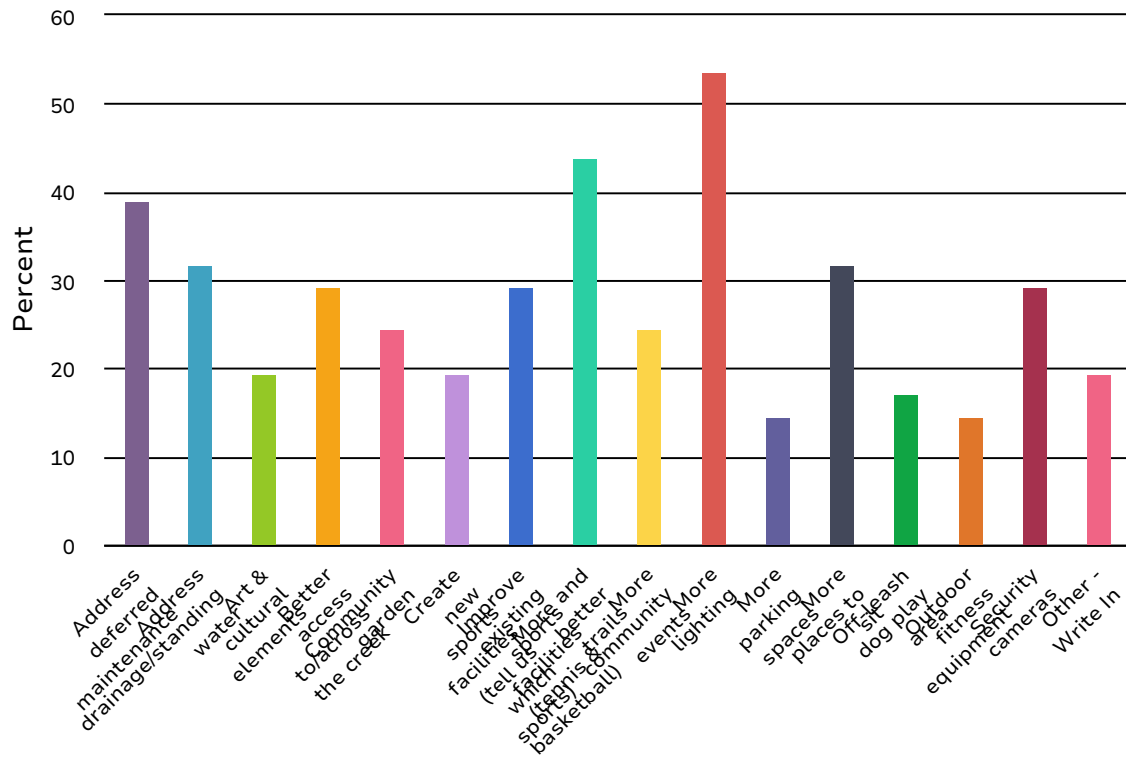
ResponseID Response

















40 I think improving the tennis court would be a big improvement.

41 Park quality is good (2 of 4 drinking fountains in need of repair, somewhat accessible - only 1 entrance, no bike lanes, basketball goals missing rim). No major safety concerns.

42 People have parties at the park and then leave their trash. You never see families and their children or people walking their dogs. It's always large groups of people being loud and taking up all the parking/seating. This park is being utilized more so by people who live outside the community than in it.

5. What are the TOP 5 amenities you would like to see added or improved at Shoal Creek Park II?



Value		Percent	Responses
Address deferred maintenance		39.0%	16
Address drainage/standing water		31.7%	13
Art & cultural elements		19.5%	8
Better access to/across the creek		29.3%	12
Community garden		24.4%	10
Create new sports facilities (tell us which sports)		19.5%	8
Improve existing sports facilities (tennis & basketball)		29.3%	12
More and better trails		43.9%	18
More community events		24.4%	10
More lighting		53.7%	22
More parking spaces		14.6%	6
More places to sit		31.7%	13
Off-leash dog play area		17.1%	7
Outdoor fitness equipment		14.6%	6
Security cameras		29.3%	12
Other - Write In		19.5%	8

Create new sports facilities (tell us which sports)	Count
Pickle ball and volleyball	2
Calisthenics	1
Pickleball lines on tennis court	1
Soccer	1
Swimming	1
pickle ball would be cool	1
Totals	7

Other - Write In	Count
Bathroom clean-up more often	1
Better/improved playground area and more security/rounding from police for music and drug use	1
Community center, especially if water drainage in open space can't be resolved	1
More grills and seating areas	1
Path connecting all 3 parks	1
Pool	1
Rec center	1
Totals	7

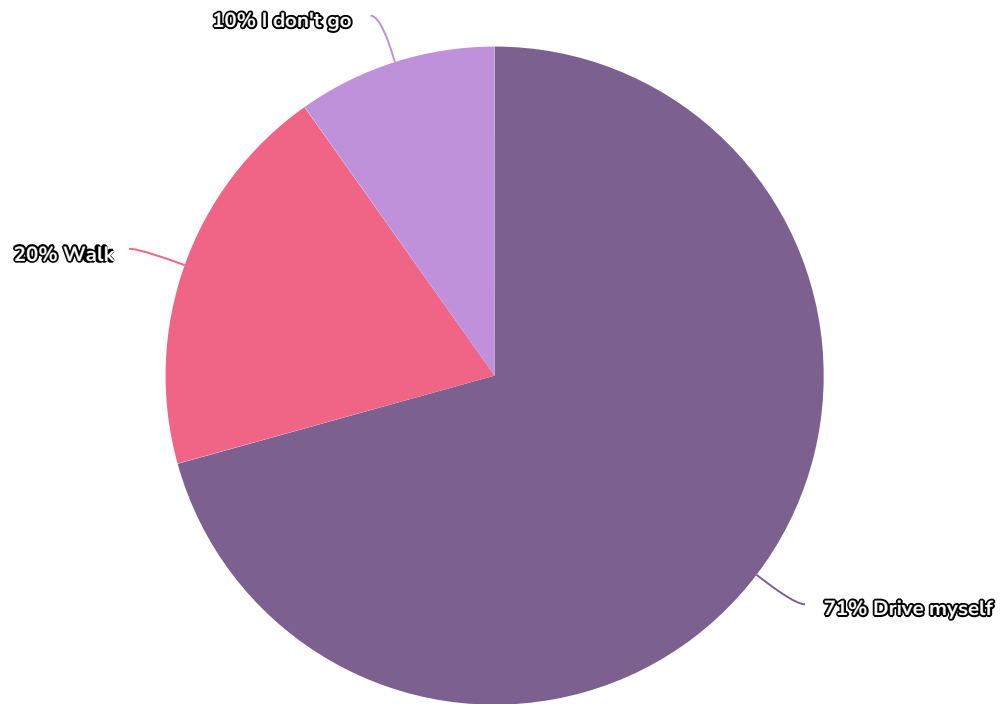
6. What ideas do you have for how Shoal Creek Park II can be improved?
If you could change one thing, what would it be?

ResponseID	Response
2	Fix the tennis courts. East lake parks courts are always full
3	Better facilities. Better bathrooms.
4	Construct a "PATH" type multi-use trail that extends the entire length of the Park. This trail would connect this park with Shoal Creek Parks 1 and 3. In addition, construct a walkway that provides pedestrian access to the park from Creekside Court and connects with the multi-use trail.
5	I think the park can improve by engaging with neighbors make them feel a part of the process to clean it up. If I could change one thing, it would be the design of the park.
6	There is a NEED for generational community involvement. I'd like to see movies at the park and people able to meet with food trucks and enjoy sitting out side. I'd like more family events for the new kids in the neighborhood they have nowhere to go and do ANYTHING around here. There's too many kids now and nowhere to go and be KIDS. I'd like to see them playin and BEING children. I'd like to see kids to adults with better trails from our neighborhood off Meadow lane to have a trail to walk to and from a community garden. I've lived here a year and no safe sidewalks or trails to the creek because nothing is maintained. It's sad and could be SUCH a beautiful neighborhood it's sad we have to get in our car and drive to Eastlake park or Oak hurst where there's stores and trails and kids playing and no our own neighborhood that's less then a 3 minute walk. We should be thriving and having events like they do.
7	Safety is paramount. The park is in need of monitoring and security measures. Everything else will follow suit. Nice to have is a community garden.
11	Make the creek more accessible & to walk along.
12	More of a police presence - a nice police presence!
13	More of a police presence - a nice police presence!
16	Rec center that offers music and art programs for youth and adults. Qi gong or Tai chi or yoga classes. Maybe open a swimming pool too. Is it possible to partner with YMCA?
17	Ideas: improved playground, increased maintenance, stricter survey/monitoring with police for drug use and obscene music/inappropriate activities

ResponseID Response

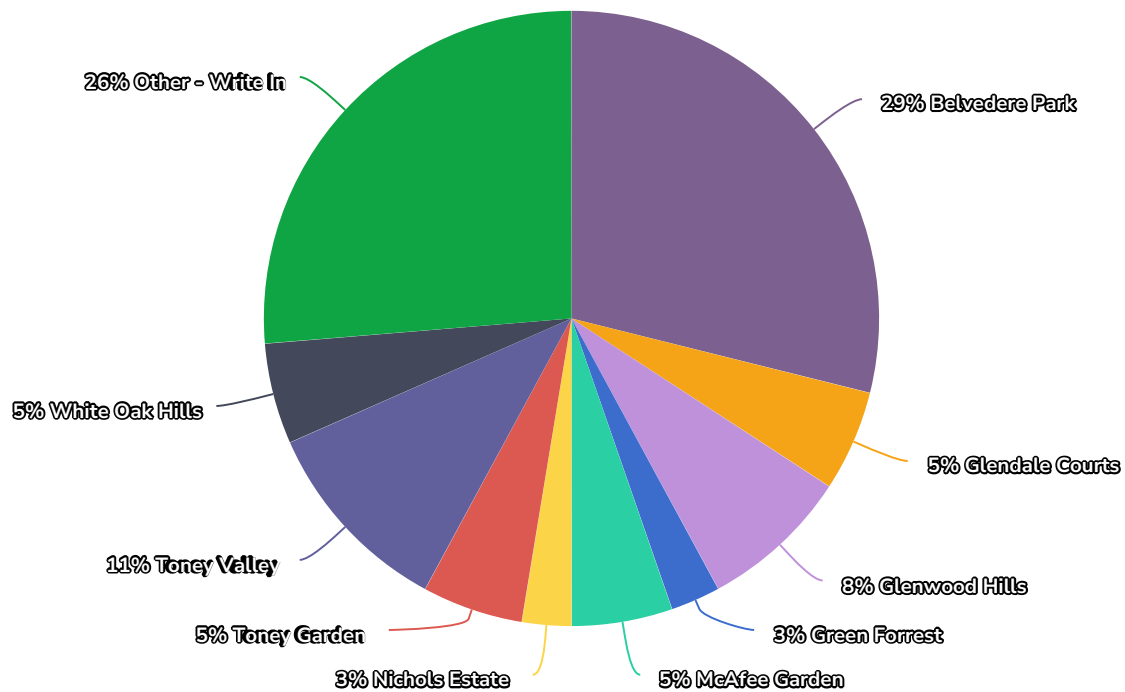
18	More security and community events
19	I really would like to feel safe as a young woman going to the park, which is more a cultural issue, but anything the parks can do to help.
21	The annual trimming of the kudzu is a joke. The park service planted it to cover up the beer cans tires and bodies. The creek is the most polluted waterway in the state. The area is a flood plain, across needs to be limited.. the redone entrance is dangerous, the pot holes, the dump trucks entering from a blind driveway is stupid, the park service has no interest in problems that the park has to the adjacent houses, unless they they get a lawyer.
23	Community led family/children events so that the park feels like its not just for loud parties or loitering/criminal activity.
24	The artistry
27	More shrubs, plants, trees at walking trail to beautify the park and possibly help resolve some of the drainage issues for open field/walking area. Also make good use of the open field space, add alternate sport use if drainage can't be resolved.
29	Lighting for night use
30	Take advantage of the open space at the walking loop, add soccer goals for league play. Solve the drainage problem at the walking loop.
31	More barbecue grills
32	Parking
34	maybe more seats benches
35	pavilions would be nice
36	being a nice and safe park and seeing old and new
38	cut the trees
40	Improve Tennis Facility and improve night time security
41	Most activity areas are useable & in fair condition; however, creating another entrance to the park, and fixing or repairing 2 of the drinking fountains that do not work would be good improvements.
42	I believe the park would be much improved if it were updated to be somewhere for parents, pet owners, and others to be able to safely take go for recreational time outdoors.

7. How do you get to Shoal Creek Park II? (select the one you use most)



Value		Percent	Responses
Drive myself	<div><div></div><div></div></div>	70.7%	29
Walk	<div><div></div><div></div></div>	19.5%	8
I don't go	<div><div></div><div></div></div>	9.8%	4
Totals: 41			

8. What neighborhood do you live in?

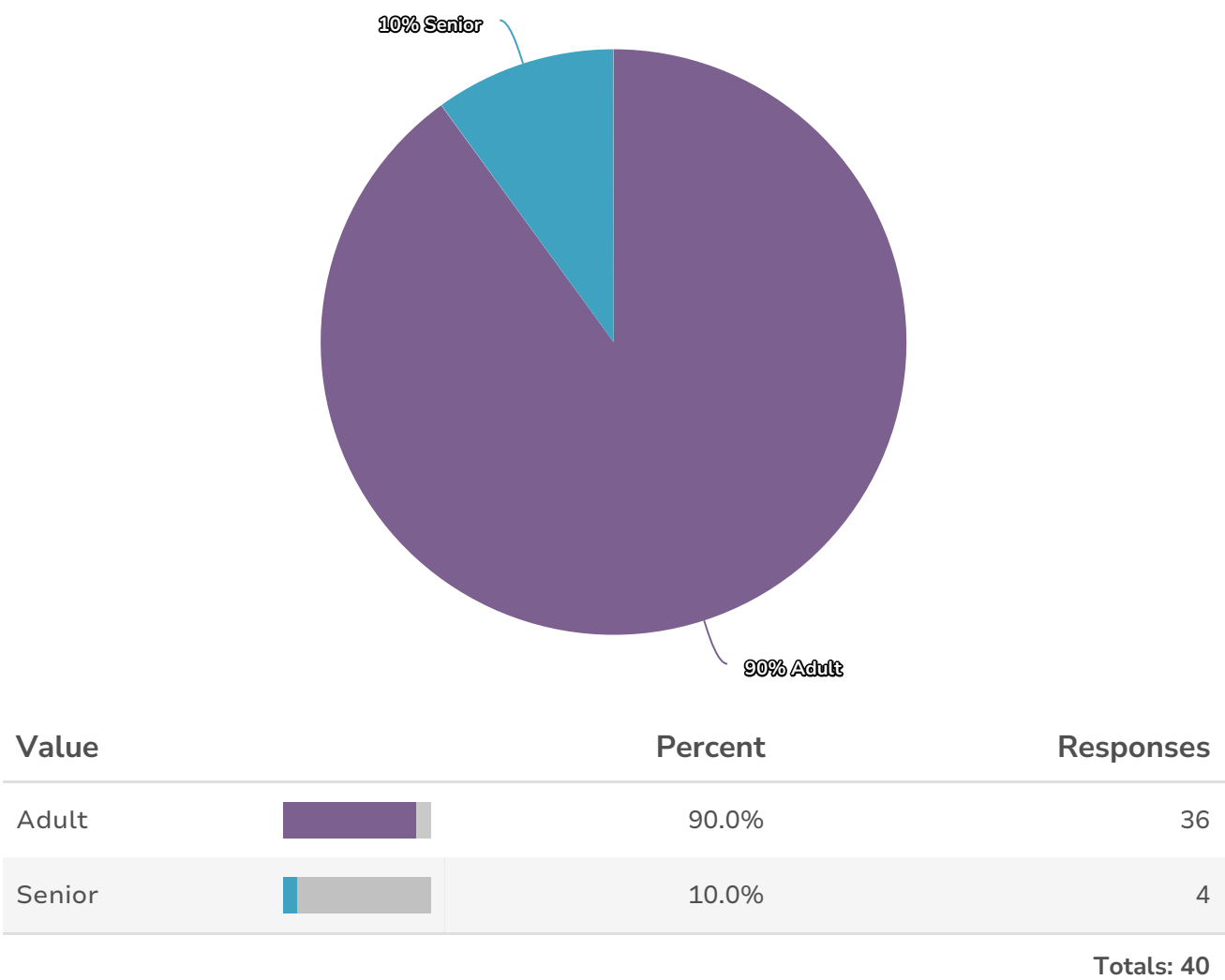


Value		Percent	Responses
Belvedere Park	<div><div style="width: 28.9%;"></div></div>	28.9%	11
Glendale Courts	<div><div style="width: 5.3%;"></div></div>	5.3%	2
Glenwood Hills	<div><div style="width: 7.9%;"></div></div>	7.9%	3
Green Forrest	<div><div style="width: 2.6%;"></div></div>	2.6%	1
McAfee Garden	<div><div style="width: 5.3%;"></div></div>	5.3%	2
Nichols Estate	<div><div style="width: 2.6%;"></div></div>	2.6%	1
Toney Garden	<div><div style="width: 5.3%;"></div></div>	5.3%	2
Toney Valley	<div><div style="width: 10.5%;"></div></div>	10.5%	4
White Oak Hills	<div><div style="width: 5.3%;"></div></div>	5.3%	2
Other - Write In	<div><div style="width: 26.3%;"></div></div>	26.3%	10

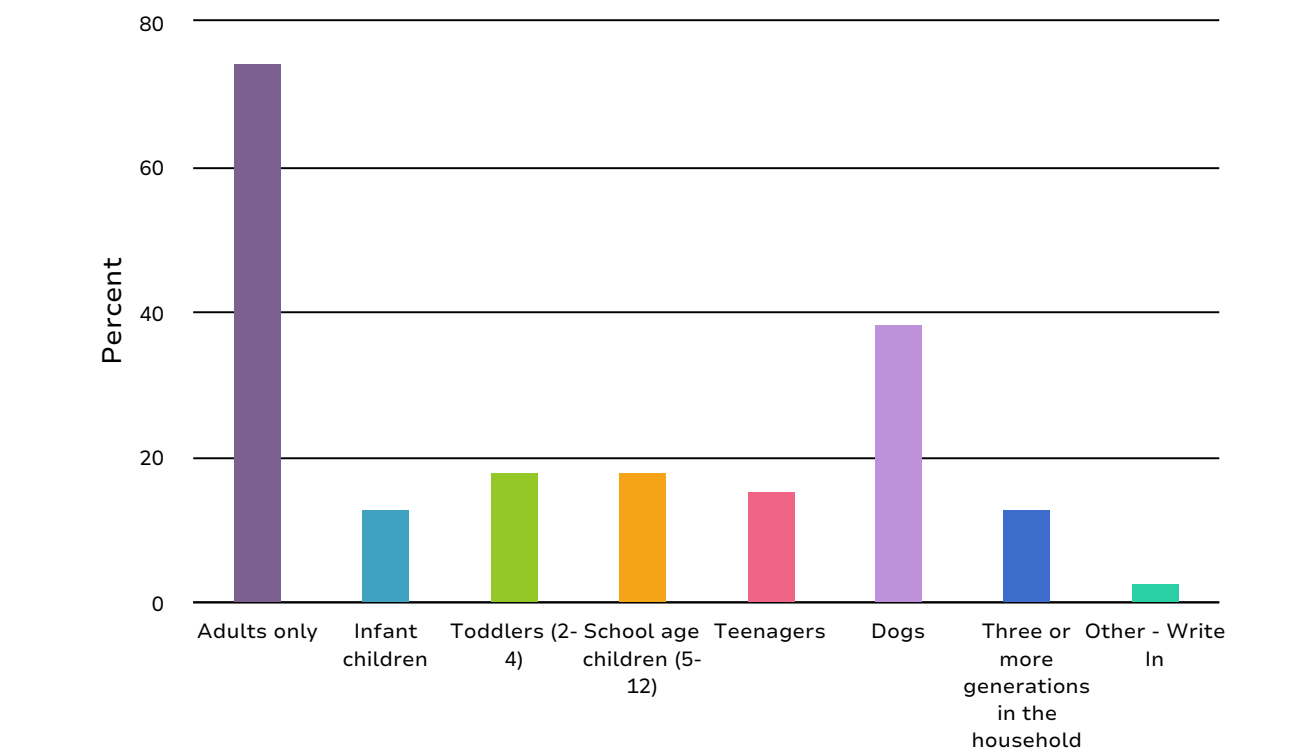
Totals: 38

Other - Write In	Count
DeKalb	1
Decatur/DeKalb	1
I have no idea I live on Meadow lane right behind the park.	1
I work for the DeKalb County Board of Health.	1
McAfee Road	1
Mcafee	1
Medowdale	1
Mountain brook	1
Old Victory Crossing	1
Rosewood Park	1
Totals	10

9. How would you describe yourself?



10. Tell us about your household. Include frequent visitors (grandchildren for example). Check all that apply.



Value		Percent	Responses
Adults only	<div><div></div></div>	74.4%	29
Infant children	<div><div></div></div>	12.8%	5
Toddlers (2-4)	<div><div></div></div>	17.9%	7
School age children (5-12)	<div><div></div></div>	17.9%	7
Teenagers	<div><div></div></div>	15.4%	6
Dogs	<div><div></div></div>	38.5%	15
Three or more generations in the household	<div><div></div></div>	12.8%	5
Other - Write In	<div><div></div></div>	2.6%	1

Other - Write In	Count
family visits often from out of town	1
Totals	1

11. Is there anything else you'd like us to know about Shoal Creek Park II?

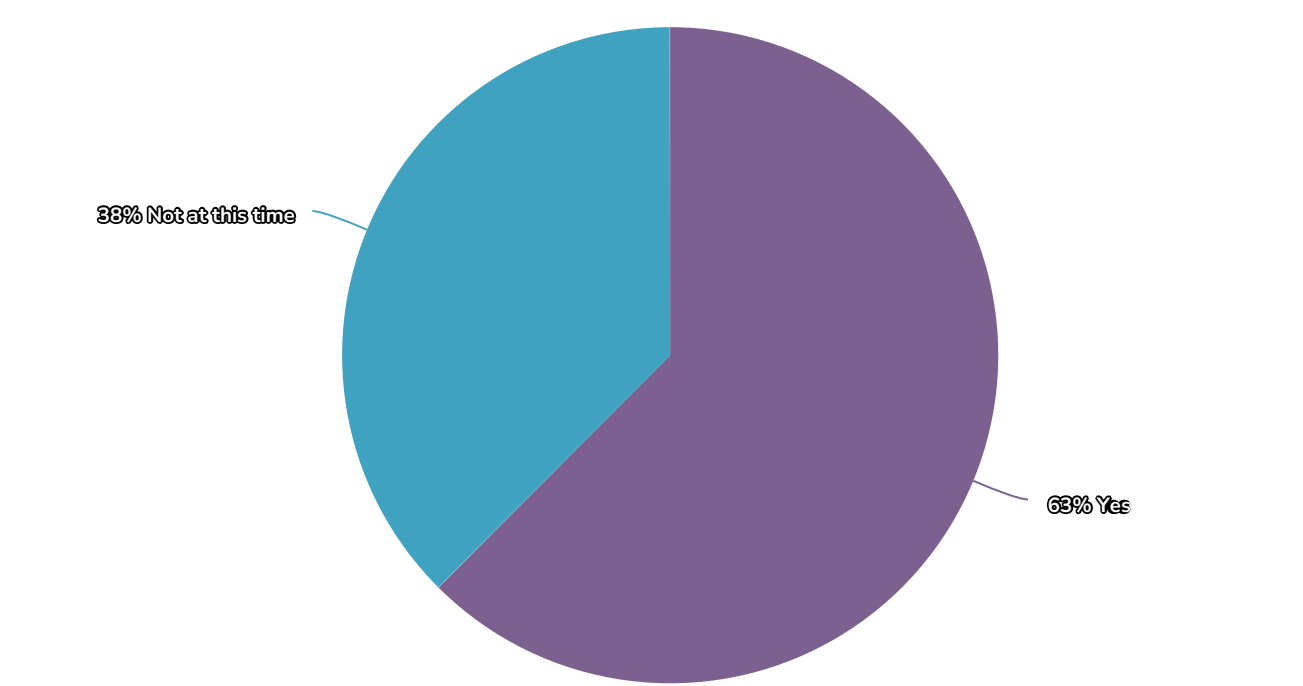
ResponseID	Response
3	I love the path around the park. Wish it could be extended a little more. I enjoy running there
5	I am from a city filled with beautiful parks and walking was a part of our community. I would love to see something in the park geared towards seniors as well. It will be a dream to have a beautiful area to meet neighbors and be outside.
6	How do we get this done asap so we can enjoy it with our children and job.
11	The parks are one of the reasons we moved to this neighborhood.
12	Awesome park!
13	Awesome park! I'd love it if we made some of that overgrown area into two separate dog parks - small and large off-leash!
16	It would be nice to make the creek accessible with some nice paved walking/biking trails. I don't see anyone use the tennis courts at all. Put a pool in that location instead.
17	I think it has great potential based on location and need in the community
21	I have rapidly sent messages about the kudzu and how it has destroyed the yards of the neighboring property's. What is being done? A fence is needed to protect us from vandalism. Because my safety is jeopardy. I need to know of any plans changes to the park..
24	It's a fantastic treasure here in Dekalb county!
27	Good lighting and wall for practice hitting at tennis courts would be great.
29	It is a very friendly and safe park unlike the reputation on internet
30	Change the walking path to circle the entire park adding fitness equipment, community garden and mile markers along the path.
31	They leave the bathrooms messed up for weeks
35	be happy, enjoy life
36	clean/security
38	put up the priveing

ResponseID	Response
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40	Road alongside eastwood on park side has a lot of trash thrown into the woods
----	---

41	N/A
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13. Would you like to be involved with the community Friends of Park group for this park?



Value		Percent	Responses
Yes	<div><div></div></div>	62.5%	20
Not at this time	<div><div></div></div>	37.5%	12

Totals: 32

Report for Shoal Creek Park III - Community Survey

Response Counts

Completion Rate:	100%	<div></div>	
	Complete	<div></div>	31

Totals: 31

Identifying information has been removed from this report.

1. What do you like about Shoal Creek Park III the way it is today?

ResponseID	Response
2	Location and playground options
3	The location; it's close to my neighborhood
4	The location
6	The nature trail through the Park.
7	Nothing. There are condoms everywhere. The benches, tables and pavilions are dirty. The children's equipment is in the direct sun and are impossible to play on in the summer. People also shot guns and there are gun shell casings everywhere.
8	It is bigger and in walking distance of our home. It's a great size park.
9	It's shady and close to my house
10	I love the green space. Having trees and places to enjoy nature is great for the community. The pavilion is great for outdoor gatherings.
11	close to neighborhood
12	Nothing
13	I love that it's tucked away and you'd have to be a part of the community to know that it's there.
14	Not much
15	Beautiful area! Wonderful place to meet neighbors!
16	Location! Location! Location!
17	Close to my house, off the main road
18	Open space, grills, parking, covered benches
20	It is near my home and not too crowded.
24	Pavilion and playground for children.
26	The lush greenspace
28	Large pavilion

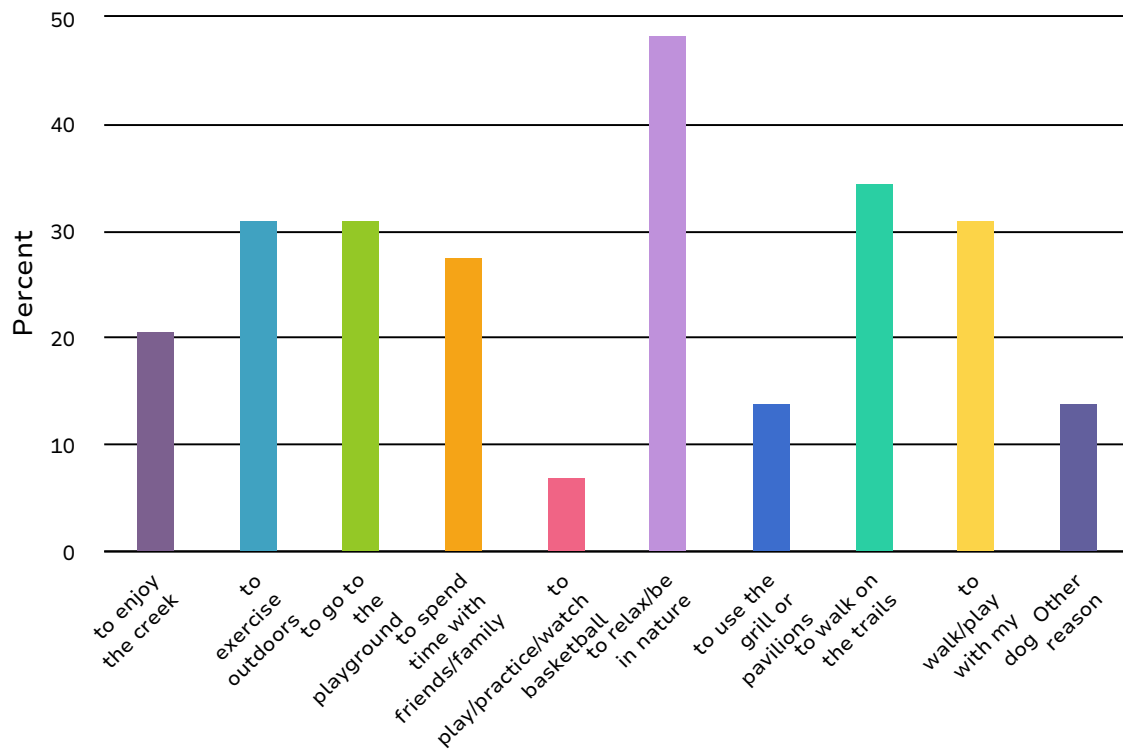
ResponseID	Response
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29	I like that the park is accessible and has a play area for children.
----	--

30	Most activity areas useable & in fair condition. No major safety concerns.
----	--

31	n/a
----	-----

2. Why do you go to Shoal Creek Park III? Check all that apply



Value		Percent	Responses
to enjoy the creek		20.7%	6
to exercise outdoors		31.0%	9
to go to the playground		31.0%	9
to spend time with friends/family		27.6%	8
to play/practice/watch basketball		6.9%	2
to relax/be in nature		48.3%	14
to use the grill or pavilions		13.8%	4
to walk on the trails		34.5%	10
to walk/play with my dog		31.0%	9
Other reason		13.8%	4

to play another sport (tell us what)

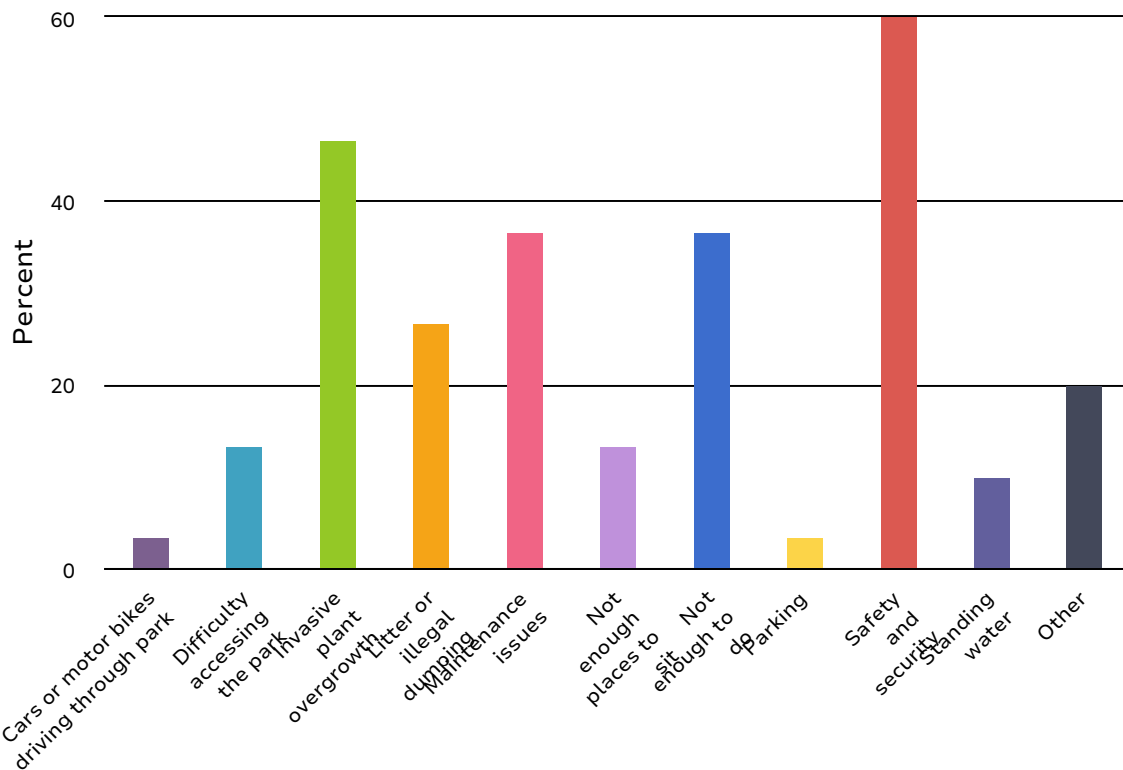
Count

Totals

0

Other reason	Count
Haven't been yet. I did t realize there was 3	1
I work with the DeKalb County Board of Health, and I have evaluated the parks by conducting walk audits to assess the physical environmental, infrastructure, and community design.	1
To conduct Audubon Bird Counts.	1
Totals	3

3. What are the TOP 3 challenges facing Shoal Creek Park III?



Value		Percent	Responses
Cars or motor bikes driving through park		3.3%	1
Difficulty accessing the park		13.3%	4
Invasive plant overgrowth		46.7%	14
Litter or illegal dumping		26.7%	8
Maintenance issues		36.7%	11
Not enough places to sit		13.3%	4
Not enough to do		36.7%	11
Parking		3.3%	1
Safety and security		60.0%	18
Standing water		10.0%	3
Other		20.0%	6

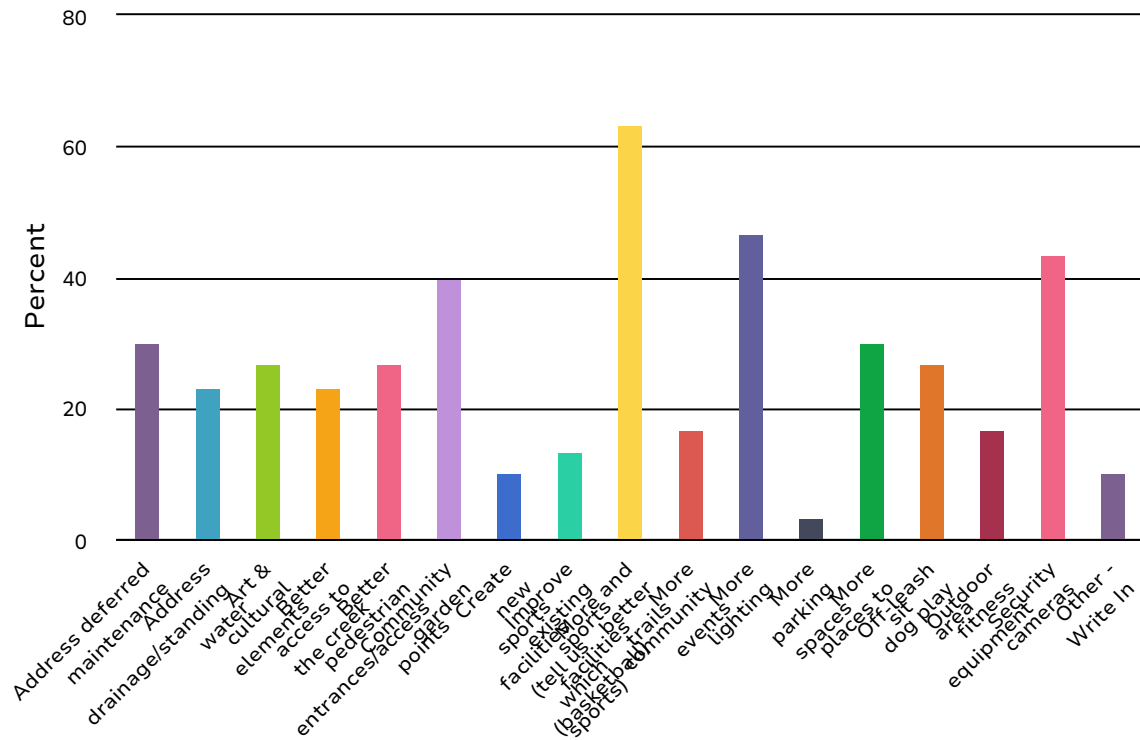
Other	Count
Appears too secluded, can't be easily seen from McAfee	1
Few activity areas	1
Llghting Always out! Safety Issue	1
Not connected to one and two	1
The basketball court is in disrepair	1
The play area equipment needs to be replaced. It also needs a walk route and exercise equipment along the walk. Benches along the walk would be need too so that senior citizens can feel comfortable walking and having intermittent places to rest.	1
Totals	6


















4. Tell us more about the challenges you identified above. Where or when do you notice the issues occurring?

ResponseID	Response
3	I went by the park today to take my dogs for a walk. There was trash in the parking lot and there was no waste bins nearby. I also saw broken bottles, so I didn't feel it was safe for me or my dogs. I didn't see any cars or people when I visited, which was around 6:30 pm.
4	There is significant overgrowth at the park which prevents use of the trails; the lighting is poor and needs adequate lighting that is consistently maintained with lighting replacement when needed; and the space needs to be updated to allow access for food trucks/concerts/movies on the green etc.
6	Whenever I have conducted an Audubon Bird Count, I have never really felt safe. It is very secluded. Once during a Visioning Steering Committee meeting there were many Committee members present with numerous vehicles. A vehicle entered the parking lot and immediately "burned" rubber leaving. Evidently, there were too many eyes present for the individual to conduct their activity.
7	There are condoms everywhere. The benches, tables and pavilions are dirty. The children's equipment is in the direct sun and are impossible to play on in the summer. People also shot guns and there are gun shell casings everywhere.
8	I took my 4 year old daughter and dog here when we bought our new house on Meadow lane and we never went back because there was dog poop on the playground. It needs to be kept clean an area JUST for dogs and not on the childrens playground. A lot of cars there selling drugs so we don't go during evening time.
10	The amount of park accessible is so much smaller than the total acreage available. It's difficult to see what's available in the park from the street and looks very secluded which could cause safety concerns. The park has so much potential.
11	There is very little in the park. Basically just few playground type structures and basketball court. Would love a walking trail in the neighborhood
12	Park is used primarily for drug deals, prostitution, and shots fired on a regular basis
13	Not enough to do: Unless I'm with my nephew, there isn't much for an adult to do. Security: Since it is tucked off (one of the perks), it can feel unsafe if I'm there by myself.
14	Trash everywhere including used needles on the ground

ResponseID	Response
15	Safety is an issue. A good police presence would help.
16	At Night!
17	Pavilion is a bit run down. Water fountains aren't working, no power in pavilion. Lots of kudzo - makes it feel closed in while i like it not being too close to busy road - it feels a bit too isolated with the overgrown area. Most of the park is not even accessible
18	People park in cars and do illegal activity. I've seen homeless sleeping in there
20	These issues have existed for several years. Until taking this survey, I did not realize there is creek access at the park - it would be nice to have a clearly marked, well-defined trail.
21	Need some good trails into the woods
24	If some of the trees and plant growth on McAfee at the entry could be removed for safety, appears to dangerous because it's hidden/view obstructed from McAfee Rd.
26	Always
28	The trees block visibility, presents safety concerns.
30	Park quality fair (no open restrooms or working drinking fountains, playground areas are outdated, basketball goals missing rims, no transit stops or bike lanes, and somewhat accessible with only one entrance). Shoal Creek III is less visible from the street. No major safety concerns.
31	The park is often dirty. Being so far off the road, it does not feel safe. If something were to happen inside the park, it would not be easy to flag down assistance. There is not enough for kids to do. There is not enough parking. There are no walking trails for walkers, strollers, and dogs.

5. What are the TOP 5 amenities you would like to see added or improved at Shoal Creek Park III?



Value		Percent	Responses
Address deferred maintenance		30.0%	9
Address drainage/standing water		23.3%	7
Art & cultural elements		26.7%	8
Better access to the creek		23.3%	7
Better pedestrian entrances/access points		26.7%	8
Community garden		40.0%	12
Create new sports facilities (tell us which sports)		10.0%	3
Improve existing sports facilities (basketball)		13.3%	4
More and better trails		63.3%	19
More community events		16.7%	5
More lighting		46.7%	14
More parking spaces		3.3%	1
More places to sit		30.0%	9
Off-leash dog play area		26.7%	8
Outdoor fitness equipment		16.7%	5
Security cameras		43.3%	13
Other - Write In		10.0%	3

Create new sports facilities (tell us which sports)	Count
Pickle ball and dog parks!	1
Skateboard park	1
Swimming	1
Totals	3

Other - Write In	Count
A better and safer playground for kids.	1
Connected to one and two	1
children's play equipment	1
Totals	3

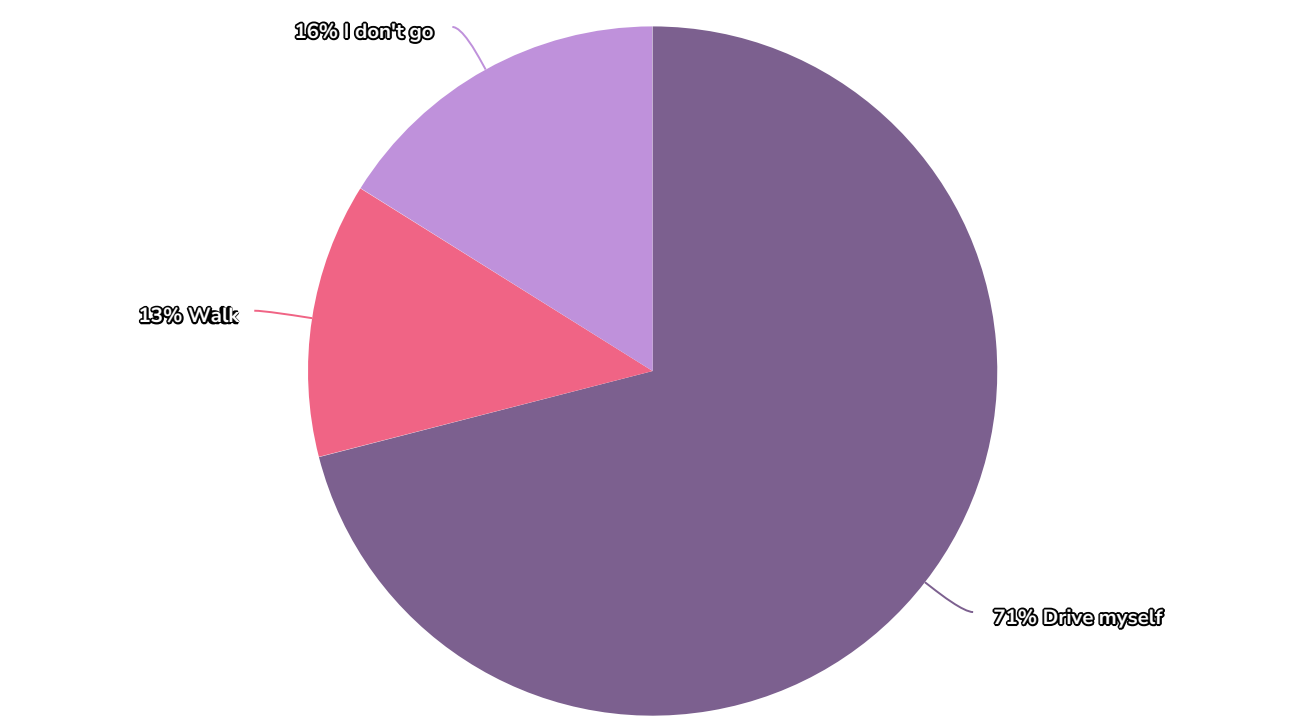
6. What ideas do you have for how Shoal Creek Park III can be improved? If you could change one thing, what would it be?

ResponseID	Response
3	Maintenance
4	Food truck accessibility, area to accommodate "Screen on the Green" events, overgrowth removed to ensure accessibility to trails
6	Construct a "PATH" type multi-use trail that extends the entire length of the Park. This trail would connect this park with Shoal Creek Park 2 and with Glendale Court at the southern end of the park.
8	I'd like more sport events here for the neighborhood to enjoy and events. Has a HUGE field yet no events held here to bring in revenue for the neighborhood or park. Could be utilized way better for sports events and recreation for the community to be involved. There is a new generation of toddlers and children and the park is never clean for them to use. A lot of drug deals in the back parking lot and water standing and bugs near the childrens playground. I'd like this to have usage like Oakhurst park where you can go and to from safely in the morning to evening and walking trails for people and dogs. Alot of dogs come to this park. Would love for our neighborhood to use it.
10	The beautiful forest could be made into a lovely trail network and include boardwalks like in Mason Mill park. This could be a great resource to educate the community about local plants and allow for people to immerse themselves in nature. A dog park would be lovely for my dog to play off-leash. Added lights and security is always a plus to make the park safer and more appealing.
11	clean up and expand
12	Better security. It's an ideal place to frequent, but not safe. People have unsolicited parties at the playground.
13	A community garden would be nice! I'd even love to be on that committee, as a gardener it'd be something I'd enjoy. A walking trail!
14	Playground is limited use for young ages, tons of teens hanging around doing drugs in the pavilion. Don't feel safe going here with my daughter
15	Dog parks - small and large dog off-leash parks would be nice!
17	safe secure walking paths with entrances from Toney Valley neighborhood
18	Cameras

ResponseID Response

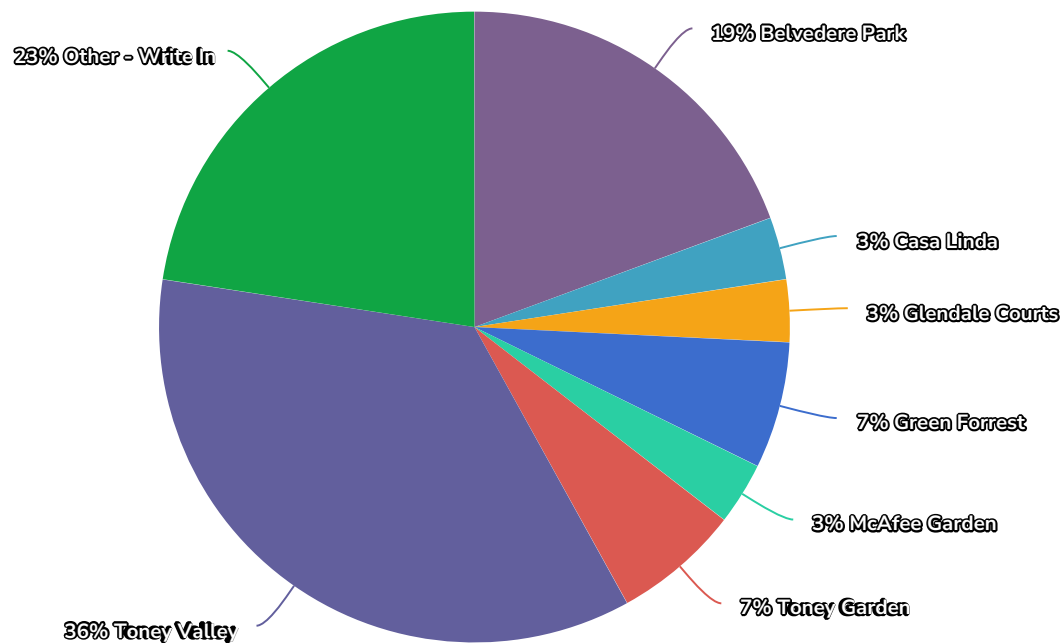
20	The uneven landscape seems to waste a lot of space that could be used for picnics, frisbees, soccer. Perhaps leveling out the landscape to allow for more useable space.
24	Community garden would be great for residents to use/access.
26	Major trail along the creek
28	New BBQ grills at pavilion, community garden for residents
29	New children's play equipment
30	Most activity areas are useable & in fair condition; however, basketball goals need rims to make that activity area more appealing, add open restrooms, and repair drinking fountains. Update the playground areas that are outdated and add another entrance to the park.
31	I would like to see this become a place everyone in the community could enjoy. It is not accessible for pedestrians, as speeders on McAfee make walking to the park too dangerous. Therefore, there needs to be more parking. The park needs regular maintenance, and there should be fines for those who leave litter in the park. The park needs improvements to safety and security, so neighbors feel comfortable taking their families there without threat of violence, and fear they won't be able to access help. Park upgrades should include better playgrounds and seating for parents watching their children. It should also include walking trails to enjoy the beautiful creek. Paved trails wide enough for strollers and dog walkers. An added perk would be widened sidewalks on McAfee to make walking to the park safer and easier.

7. How do you get to Shoal Creek Park III? (select the one you use most)



Value		Percent	Responses
Drive myself	<div><div></div><div></div></div>	71.0%	22
Walk	<div><div></div><div></div></div>	12.9%	4
I don't go	<div><div></div><div></div></div>	16.1%	5
Totals: 31			

8. What neighborhood do you live in?

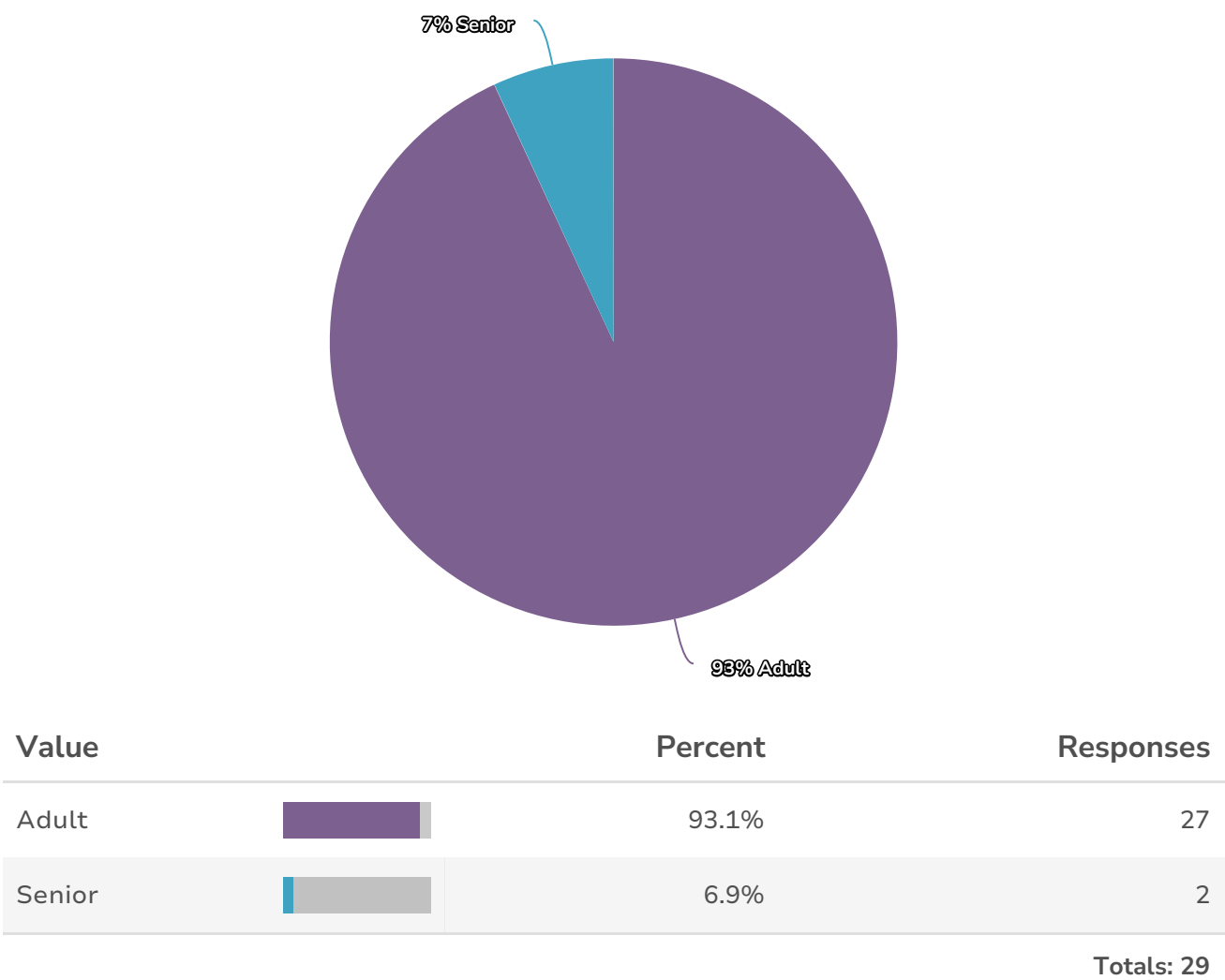


Value		Percent	Responses
Belvedere Park	<div><div></div></div>	19.4%	6
Casa Linda	<div><div></div></div>	3.2%	1
Glendale Courts	<div><div></div></div>	3.2%	1
Green Forrest	<div><div></div></div>	6.5%	2
McAfee Garden	<div><div></div></div>	3.2%	1
Toney Garden	<div><div></div></div>	6.5%	2
Toney Valley	<div><div></div></div>	35.5%	11
Other - Write In	<div><div></div></div>	22.6%	7

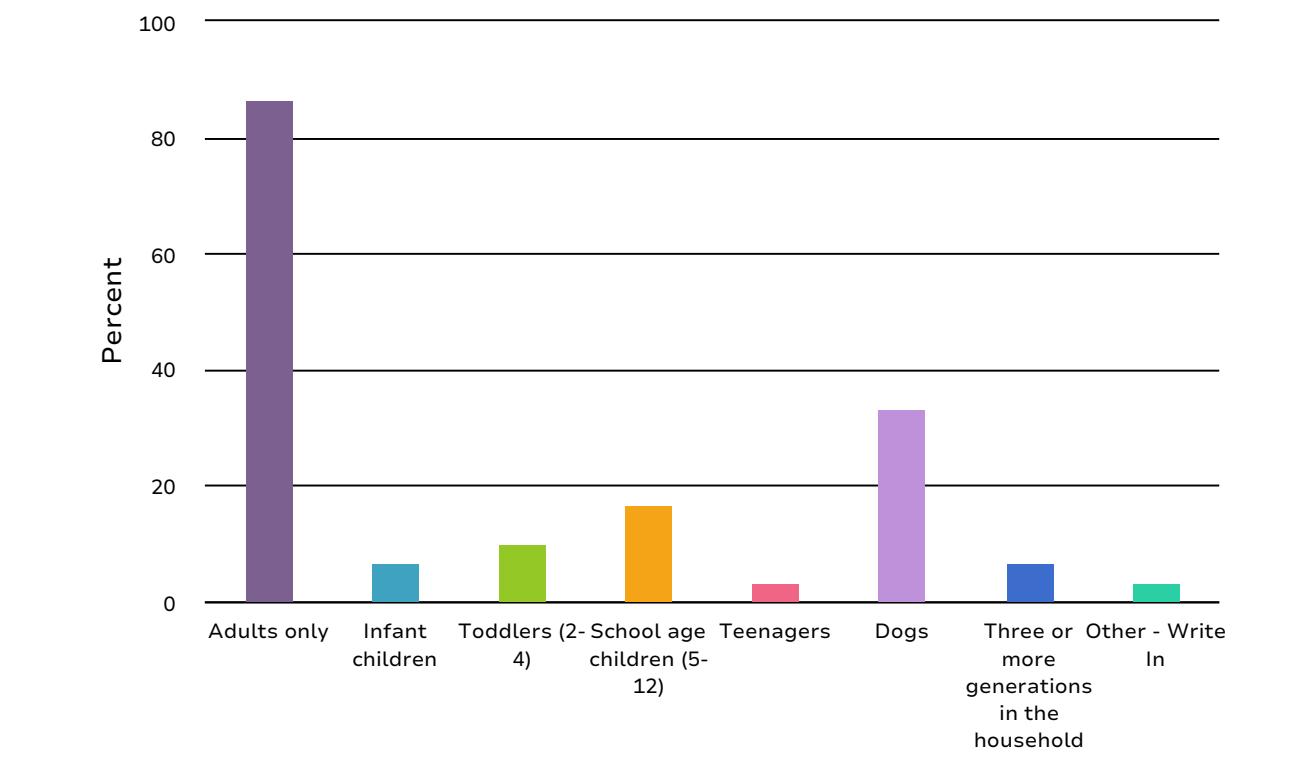
Totals: 31

Other - Write In	Count
Candler-McAfee	1
Glendale Acres	1
I love on meadow lane across the street	1
I work for the DeKalb County Board of Health.	1
Medowdale	1
Rosewood Park	1
We live on the land adjacent to the park; Wadsworth Mill.	1
Totals	7

9. How would you describe yourself?



10. Tell us about your household. Include frequent visitors (grandchildren for example). Check all that apply.



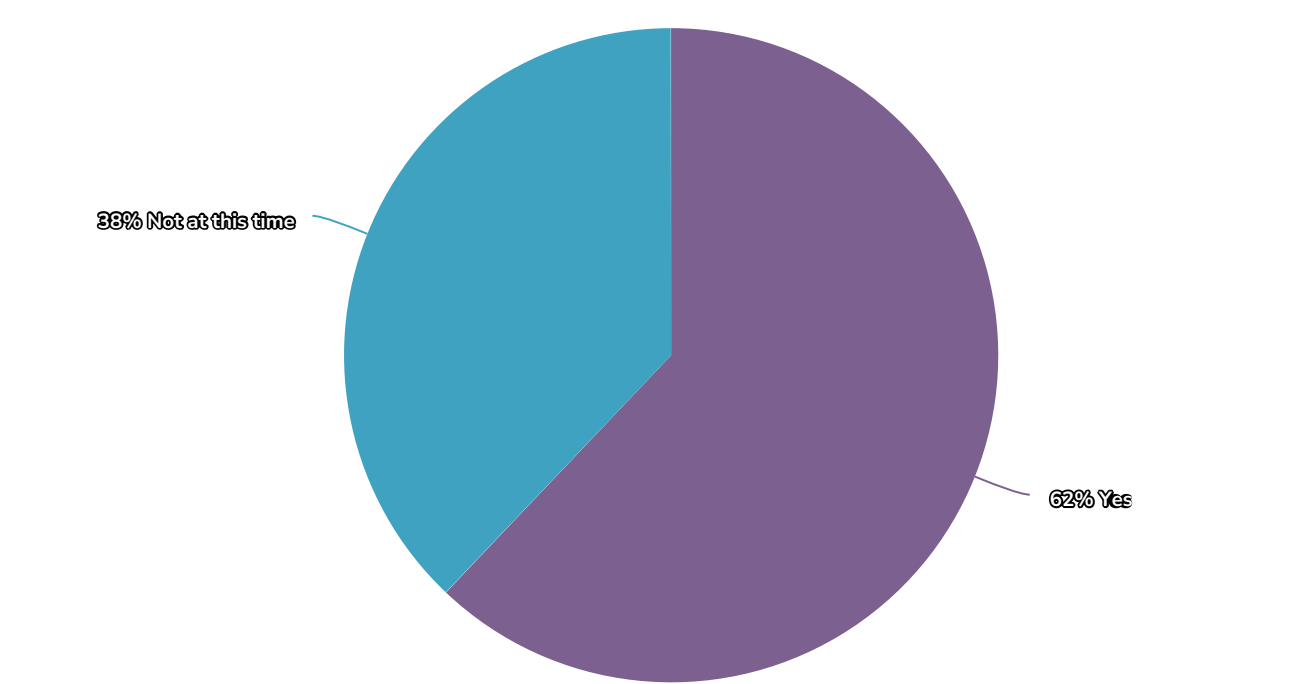
Value		Percent	Responses
Adults only	<div><div></div></div>	86.7%	26
Infant children	<div><div></div></div>	6.7%	2
Toddlers (2-4)	<div><div></div></div>	10.0%	3
School age children (5-12)	<div><div></div></div>	16.7%	5
Teenagers	<div><div></div></div>	3.3%	1
Dogs	<div><div></div></div>	33.3%	10
Three or more generations in the household	<div><div></div></div>	6.7%	2
Other - Write In	<div><div></div></div>	3.3%	1

Other - Write In	Count
Rabbit	1
Totals	1

11. Is there anything else you'd like us to know about Shoal Creek Park III?

ResponseID	Response
3	Why is it the most neglected (compared with I and II)?
4	N/A
8	We'd like to enjoy it sooner then later. A lot of new home owners and kids and we can't do anything around here. No events like food trucks outdoor movies like LA or events like Piedmont park we could be thriving!!!
10	What a lovely park with so much potential!
12	Unsafe. Gunshots fired frequently on weekends . People have illegal parties at the playground traffic blocks our neighborhood in
13	I'd love to be involved in this initiative!
15	We'd love an off leash dog park!
16	Are all Neighborhoods included in involvement? Or Only Toney Valley under Barbara Morbley? Where will my fund raising moneys go?
26	It needs to continue to be a semi passive park
27	i am not sure if i can make it to any of the meetings but want to make clear that if the park is considering expanding, the land adjacent is not for sale. i love having a park in the neighborhood but we also value our privacy.
28	Too secluded, low visibility from the street.
30	N/A
31	I don't go to Shoal Creek Parks. They don't feel safe to me and there are no amenities. I drive to City of Decatur to utilize their parks to walk. It's a shame that there are parks right down the street from me and I do not use them. Most times I find large groups of people having parties in the buildings, but they are loud, rowdy, and often leave trash. I wish these parks would become a point of pride in our area, versus an eye sore.

13. Would you like to be involved with the community Friends of Park group for this park?



Value		Percent	Responses
Yes	<div><div></div></div>	62.1%	18
Not at this time	<div><div></div></div>	37.9%	11

Totals: 29

Using one or two words, what would you add or change Shoal Creek Park III? You may answer up to 3 times.

LIVE POLL QUESTION 4



LIVE POLL QUESTION 5

If you could write a "mission statement" for all the Shoal Creek Parks, what would it be?
Answer as many times as you like.

Response

Provide a harmonious tranquil experience

Shoal creek parks are the heartbeat of the community that welcome all

To provide a secured natural environment
to connect our community

A good park has lots of walking paths that you can meander along and meet people in your community.

Drive utilization of parks - safe, easily accessible. Community driven activities

A space of natural beauty, outdoor recreation and community education and involvement

Develop Nature Trails to gain access to deep parts in parks.

*Provide a beautiful, secured and relaxed
natural environment for Belvedere Park
citizens*

For SCP3: The park should be welcoming to the community.

Scp connects neighborhoods to nature,
sports, and each other.

Community led, community monitored,
community utilized.

To provide a safe, inclusive, public space for outdoor recreation/sports, quiet time in nature, and community gathering.

Interconnected, safe spaces that highlight the environment's natural beauty while provide some modern amenities for communal activity.

Develop Multi-Use Trails connecting all 3 parks with all surrounding neighborhoods.

A park should be a sanctuary, which means that you should be able to go there and hang out without being threatened in any way.

Connecting surrounding neighborhoods
(Belvedere, Toney Valley, and McAfee)
through nature.

“where community is a priority.”

Develop a safe, secure and welcoming community center for outdoor activities for people and pets.

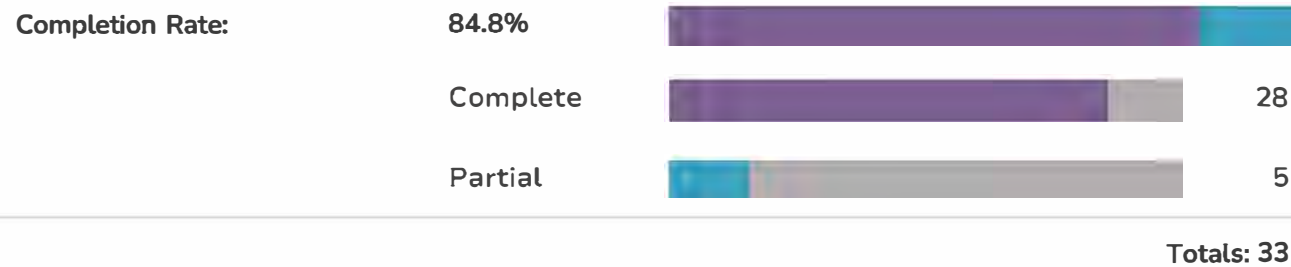
Appendix C

PREFERENCE SURVEY OF PRELIMINARY CONCEPT FOR SHOAL CREEK PARK 1, II & III
COLLECTED DURING PUBLIC MEETING 2, OCTOBER 17, 2022
AND ONLINE FROM OCTOBER 17 - NOVEMBER 1, 2022

Note: Any identifying information of respondents has been redacted

Report for Preliminary Concepts Feedback Survey

Response Counts

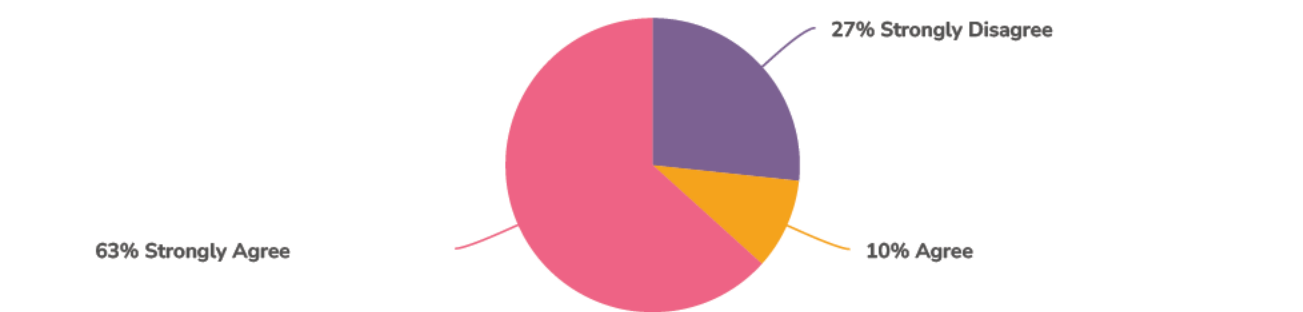


Identifying information has been removed from this report.

The following responses originated from the same IP address:

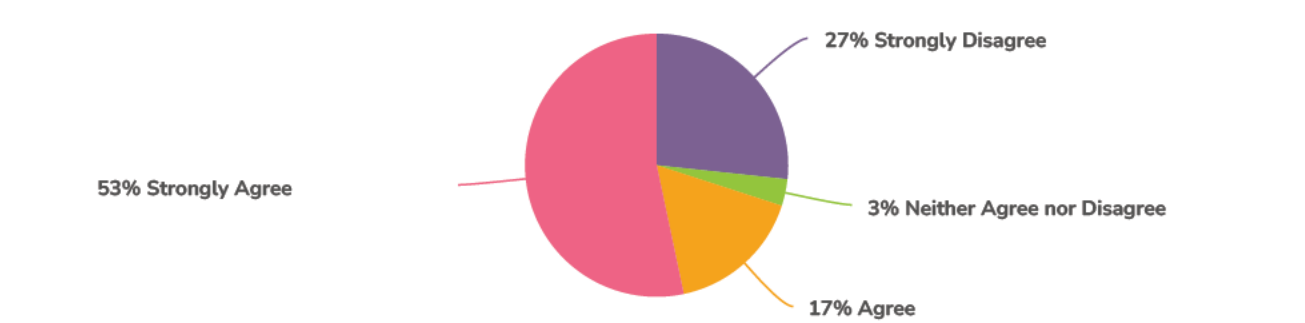
- 12
- 13
- 14
- 29
- 30
- 31
- 32

2. Provide a safe, inclusive, and beautiful public space for outdoor recreation, quiet time in nature, and community gathering.



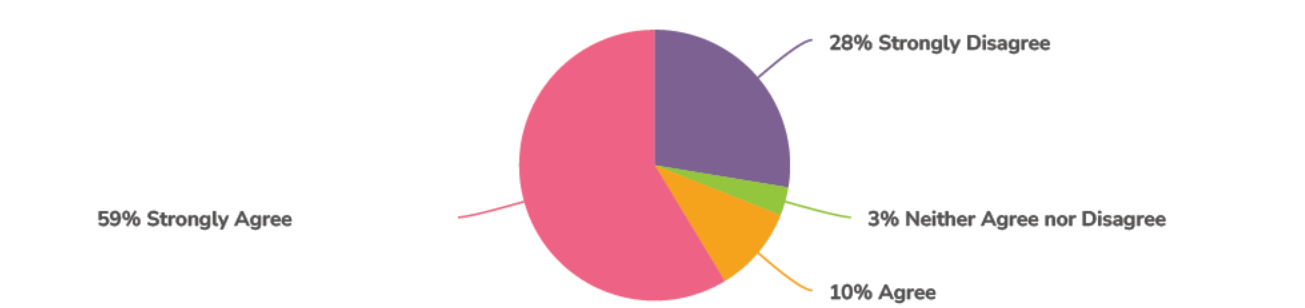
Value		Percent	Responses
Strongly Disagree	<div><div></div></div>	26.7%	8
Agree	<div><div></div></div>	10.0%	3
Strongly Agree	<div><div></div></div>	63.3%	19
Totals: 30			

3. Partner with park rangers and community groups to develop culturally relevant programs and nurture a welcoming place for all.



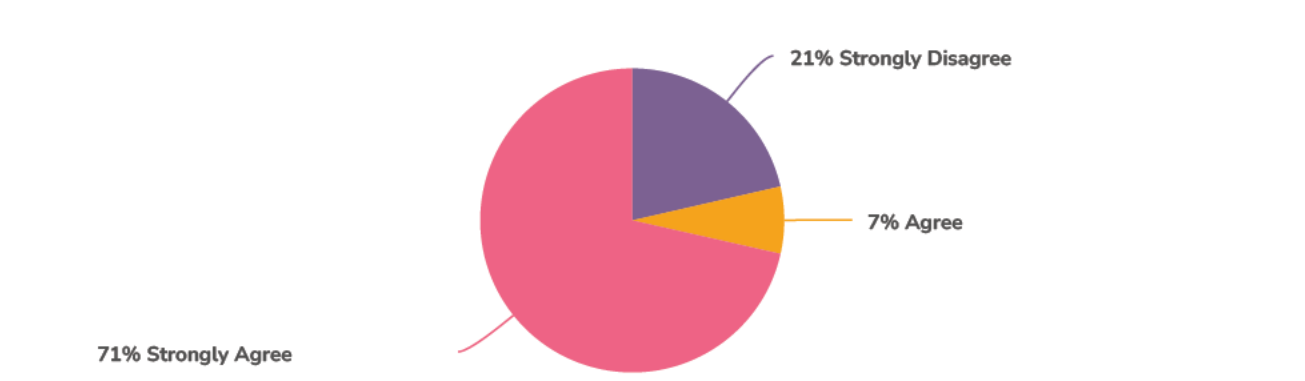
Value		Percent	Responses
Strongly Disagree	<div><div></div></div>	26.7%	8
Neither Agree nor Disagree	<div><div></div></div>	3.3%	1
Agree	<div><div></div></div>	16.7%	5
Strongly Agree	<div><div></div></div>	53.3%	16
Totals: 30			

4. Prioritize trail connections and well-marked entrances to provide safe access, visibility, and connectivity for residents and visitors.



Value		Percent	Responses
Strongly Disagree	<div><div></div></div>	27.6%	8
Neither Agree nor Disagree	<div><div></div></div>	3.4%	1
Agree	<div><div></div></div>	10.3%	3
Strongly Agree	<div><div></div></div>	58.6%	17
Totals: 29			

5. Promote maintenance practices and community involvement that will enhance natural ecosystems, control invasive plants, and maximize usable park space.



Value		Percent	Responses
Strongly Disagree	<div><div></div></div>	21.4%	6
Agree	<div><div></div></div>	7.1%	2
Strongly Agree	<div><div></div></div>	71.4%	20
Totals: 28			

6. Please note any changes you would like to make below.

ResponseID	Response
3	Please make sure the playground and splash pad have sustainable material so we don't have to worry about erosion and/or nails exposed.
5	i love the concept but worry that some of the plans may be encroaching on private property. i love the idea of people having access to a natural environment, but we also value our privacy. We are the owners of both [REDACTED] and the property that is adjacent to Shoal Creek Park III.
10	While most of the parks are in fair condition, there are quite a few improvements that can be made. These improvements include maintaining the grounds, repairing drinking fountains, making public restrooms available, and updating activity equipment and areas (basketball courts, playgrounds, etc.). Immediate improvements ● Replace mulch with poured rubber flooring in playground areas ● Replace outdated or worn playground equipment (i.e., splintered wood, warped/ melted equipment, etc.) ● Add missing rims to basketball goals ● Repair or install drinking fountains in parks where not in working condition or nonexistent ● Make public restrooms available where nonexistent or not in working condition Long-term improvements ● Improve walkability to parks by adding sidewalks and/or bike lanes leading to park where nonexistent ● Install street lighting near playground and parking lot areas where nonexistent or scarce
11	Prioritize removal of ivies that are killing the hardwoods.

ResponseID Response

12

1. Enable 300 cars or over 800 people access to Shoal Creek Park II for "Freak Nick like" events. The current parking only allows for 50 cars or approx 150 people that is enough. 2. The only purpose for the extensive trails is to "Credit Marta and the DOT with miles of roads being built". Any one walking those trails is in peril. 3. Reduces the park service cutting grass getting up laves, as it calls for their removal, not the Kudzu and weeds, ask them. They are considered natural plants, and they planted them to "cover up the beer cans, tires and bodies". 4. Shoal Creek is very polluted, "you have not posted any studies" the garden that was in use up stream, was shut down. To bring people in contact with it is "dangerous, and irresponsible". Not to bring up, the entire, park system is a flood plain that, spills sewage, ongoing. 5 West Nile Virus, before the pandemic people came door to door warning people. So you solved this problem, How? How are you going to protect, the children at the splash park? 6, Cars people party in the parking lot all day. every night, yes it is worst on the weekends, the new parking lot is going to be very popular. The home owners on the south side have no idea of what they in for. You aren't going to tell them.. 7. Dog parks, pass virus to dogs, no one that knows anything about dogs, is going there, so only the dangerous dog owners and people with no knowledge, will use it. It does give the park service, the excuse, for not doing the annual trimming of the kudzu." No access to the area. 8. The most asked for thing on your pole, is not even addressed, "Security." The park is a drug park, a hang out for criminals, a place to take beer, alcohol, and drugs, pick up carry out eat dump the trash in the parking lot. A place to set off fire woks, fire your gun into the woods. I saw people having sex in the tennis courts Thursday; a young man was found dead, at Shoal Creek Friday. And I don't look for this kind of thing. Unless you put up guard towers, none of this other stuff makes since. 9. I can substantiate, anything I have posted, and You are welcome to witness, the park, from my yard, which is invisible, to the park. 10. I would love to see, people using the park responsibly, more families using the gazebos for birthdays, things for kids to do, actually using one of the 8 tennis courts, NOT MORE LATE NIGHT, CRIMINAL, LOUDE, VULGAR, QUISTIBLE THINGS. 11. I have no interest in the other parks, I will do what I can, to block this responsible waste of money In Shoal Creek Park..

13

Your plan spends as much money as possible, The only people it helps is the criminals, that dominate the parks. the trails, additional roads, additional parking lots, make the area an event location. a place for thousands, to take over, as they have in the past. Does nothing for children except put them in danger, the water park in a west Nile virus infested area. dog park are you going to sell tickets to the fights or post warnings about pet getting sick. Does not address any thing that people are asking for, the parks are a dangerous place as described by your survey.

14

The Baseball area has not been used in years. The Public area is dangerous, sewage water, strange people sitting in cars, none of your plan is not practical or useful. connecting the parks, is insane, look at barricades set up in this park.

ResponseID Response

- | | |
|----|---|
| 20 | Could we partner with Trees Atlanta or other groups for forest restoration/invasive plant removal (esp. in Shoal Creek III) |
| 22 | There was strong survey support from adults. Will you/do you plan to capture more survey input from youth and young adults? Does/do your survey results match the demographic of indigenous residents of where these parks are? How important is indigenous survey youth input? |
| 29 | <p>The ideal park in DeKalb county in the eyes of the park service and most of the people that use the park is, a giant parking lot surrounding basket ball courts.. A place to park open your doors, play your music, drink, do drugs, through your trash out. Fine build that place somewhere else, not in an aria sounded by houses, where children young people, and seniors, visit. The definition of park , describes, trees, flowers, recreation, not a parking lot surrounded in kudzu. The currant plan to renovate the parks increases by over, 300 parking spaces, for moor drug activity, to reestablish, Freak Nick every weekend events. Why add moor tennis courts 'pickle ball courts are played on tennis courts, as then you refurbished, the courts last year, you replaced, some that less than two years old, look at your own satellite photos. They are seldom used for tennis. You have not informed anyone in the surrounding aria, that you, are running lighted paths, "raised above the kudzu", roads, and parking lots, behind there properties. None of the issues, asked for in your survey, have been addressed, they asked for safe place, for children to play, walk the dog, moor things for young people, removal of kudzu, no 4 wheelers, not extensive paths for them. Where ever, you have added things for children, you also added adult basket ball, and moor parking, not moor security. The full time ranger, will probably replace, the full time police officer at the unused for five years, baseball fields. The marsh arias, and natural arias, are the new planed fields of kudzu. Park pride, is helping the people, that put these parks, in deplorable condition, make money, make their jobs easier, and improve their political influence. Shoal creek I , is a dump site. Shoal creek II is a place to buy and sell drugs. Look up Freak Nick, what happens when 100 cars parked in the field across the street. Shoal creek III, Baseball field closed when Meadowbrook was built, as no longer needed, and due to sewage it is in the flood plane, not safe to enter. Play ground aria seldom used, due to drug activity, the paths are blocked with boulders, because of four wheelers, and pollution, the aria is a sewage,flood plain.</p> |

30

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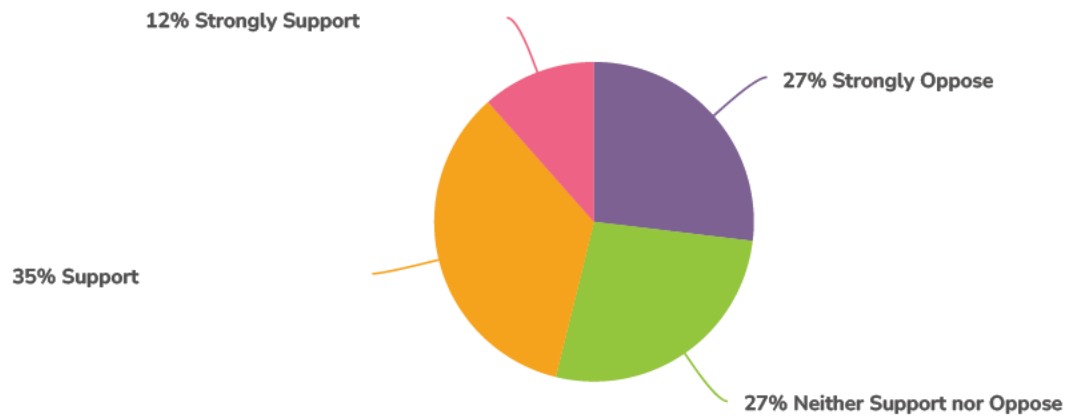
ResponseID**Response**





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ResponseID	Response
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34	Will the maintenance be provided by the county/city or is it depending on residents? I wasn't sure about the wording of "community involvement." I strongly agree that the county or city should be in charge of this, and that residents can offer help if they want to.
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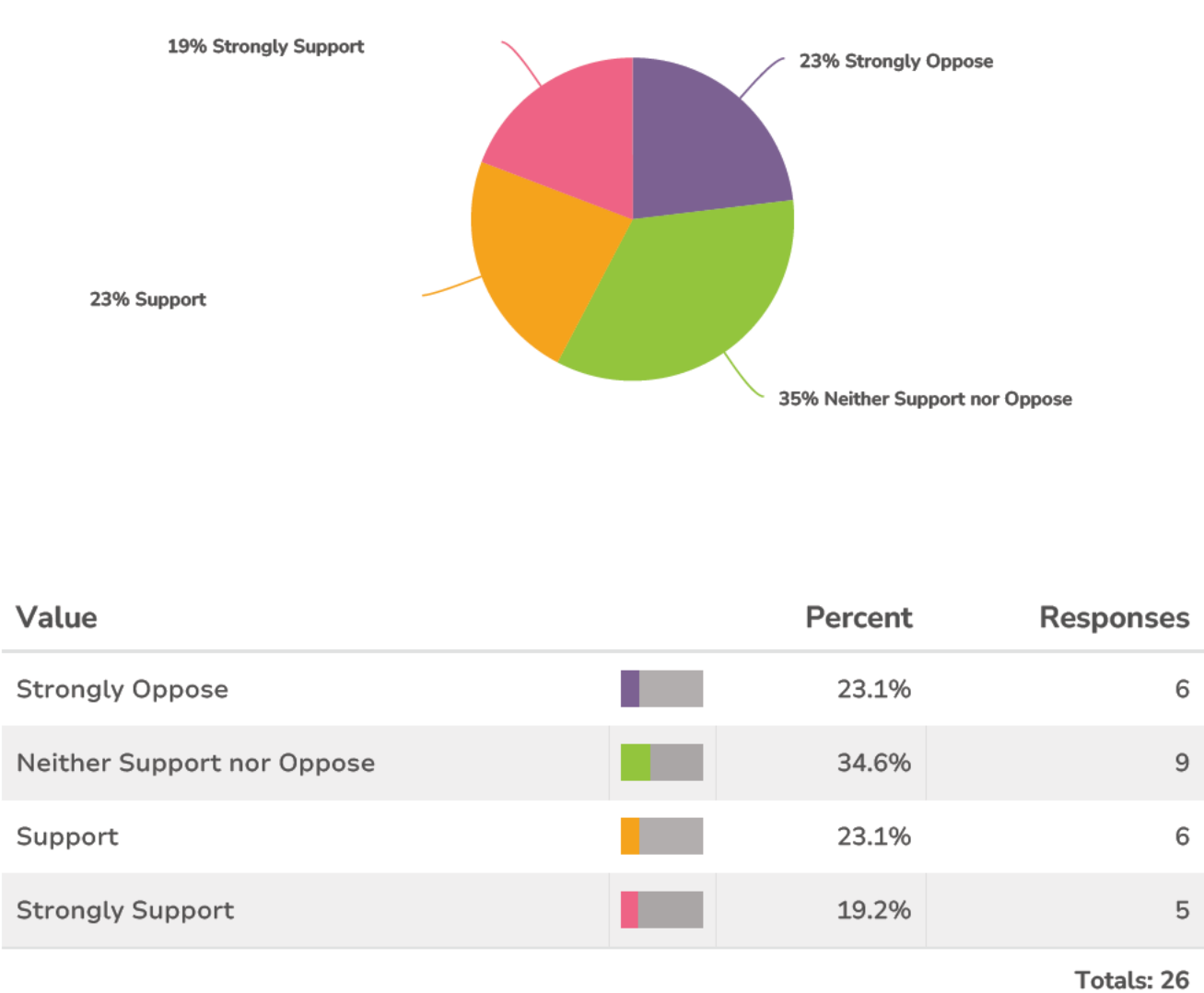
7. Expand south parking lot to increase available parking



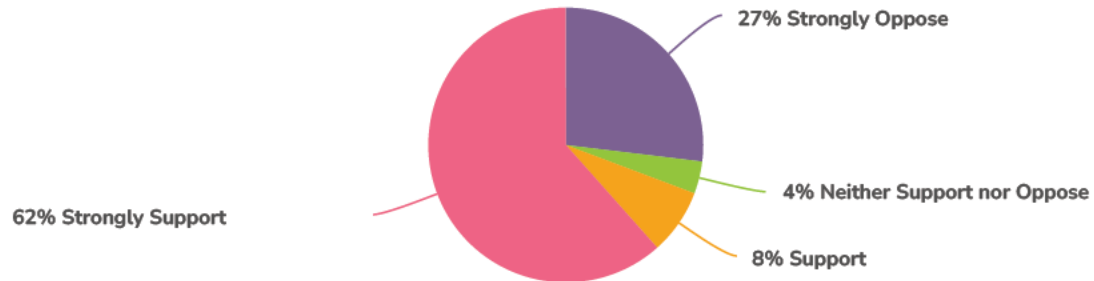
Value		Percent	Responses
Strongly Oppose		26.9%	7
Neither Support nor Oppose		26.9%	7
Support		34.6%	9
Strongly Support		11.5%	3





Totals: 26

8. Pedestrian park access from Amelia Avenue



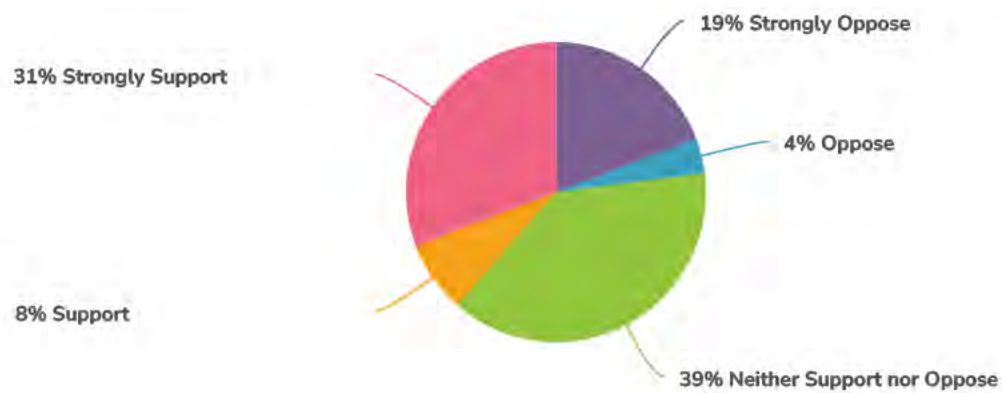
9. Multiuse trail connecting all three Shoal Creek Parks



Value		Percent	Responses
Strongly Oppose		26.9%	7
Neither Support nor Oppose		3.8%	1
Support		7.7%	2
Strongly Support		61.5%	16

Totals: 26

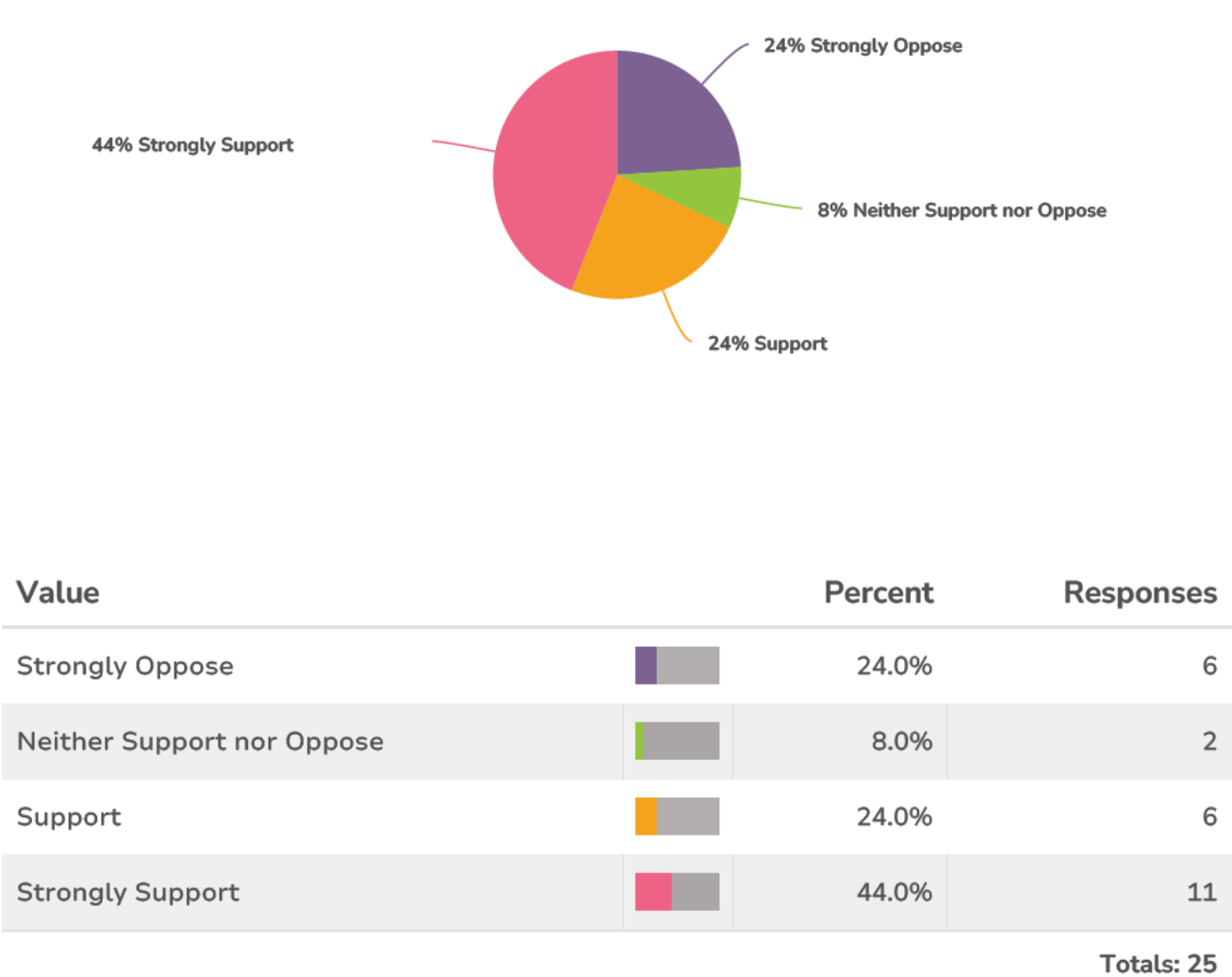
10. Skate park with programs for girls



Value		Percent	Responses
Strongly Oppose		19.2%	5
Oppose		3.8%	1
Neither Support nor Oppose		38.5%	10
Support		7.7%	2
Strongly Support		30.8%	8

Totals: 26

11. Study hydrology to improve drainage and restore floodplain ecology



12. Put additional thoughts and comments below.

ResponseID	Response
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3	I wish for safety reasons the park was more toward the front instead of the back just for children's or at least make sure it's well lit. There are predators still on EARTH. Trafficking etc. protect our children. Please make sure especially for the girls skate park. TONS OF LIGHT and protection for little girls.
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12	the creek is an open sewer, no one can be allowed near it, the park service has no plan to remove kudzu, they planted it. the trails creates an open corridor for criminals to enter your yards, and allows for 300 cars, access 24/7 or freeknick ongoing. the park service gets federal grants to maintain the creek, as a flood plain, they don't do it.. The plan is not researched, by anyone with any knowledge, of ant of the issues. The parks are mostly a hang out for criminals, dangerous for any one else.
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13	The baseball park has not been used in years, a police presence. is always there. The other side of the park is dangerous, some one was killed there, last week. the aria is a flood plain, which can not be changed, due to federal grants. the proposed berms proposed, will not be maintained, mood kudzu. The boulders are in place, to stop vehicles, from entering, why allow, multiple ways for cars to enter, with expanded trail entrances.
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14	Bridge million dollars, so moor people can sneak across the street at night. there is no foot traffic in this aria, no bus service. no one uses the ball field. and it is flooded with sewage, often. the skate park could be cheaply relocated to one of the 8 unused tennis courts in parkII. There is over 150 parking spaces in this park, the most people that use them never get out of the car why waste money on this. The aria is flooded with sewage on a regular basis, why create a health problem, with wetlands viewing on paths? This plan overall needs to be redone, as every aspect of it is expensive, dangerous, and does not meet the needs of the community.
----	--

20	I support girl-centered activities - unsure about skate park. I'm not sure what activities would appeal most to girls. If that's what's most appealing, then I support it.
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24	The girls-centric skate park is a fun idea but I'd rather see the basics get implemented: first well-constructed walking/hiking trails, proper drainage/erosion control/invasive plant control, and connecting all 3 parks is a huge priority in my view.
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29

The ideal park in DeKalb county in the eyes of the park service and most of the people that use the park is, a giant parking lot surrounding basket ball courts.. A place to park open your doors, play your music, drink, do drugs, through your trash out. Fine build that place somewhere else, not in an aria sounded by houses, where children young people, and seniors, visit. The definition of park , describes, trees, flowers, recreation, not a parking lot surrounded in kudzu. The currant plan to renovate the parks increases by over, 300 parking spaces, for moor drug activity, to reestablish, Freak Nick every weekend events. Why add moor tennis courts 'pickle ball courts are played on tennis courts, as then you refurbished, the courts last year, you replaced, some that less than two years old, look at your own satellite photos. They are seldom used for tennis. You have not informed anyone in the surrounding aria, that you, are running lighted paths, "raised above the kudzu", roads, and parking lots, behind there properties. None of the issues, asked for in your survey, have been addressed, they asked for safe place, for children to play, walk the dog, moor things for young people, removal of kudzu, no 4 wheelers, not extensive paths for them. Where ever, you have added things for children, you also added adult basket ball, and moor parking, not moor security. The full time ranger, will probably replace, the full time police officer at the unused for five years, baseball fields. The marsh arias, and natural arias, are the new planed fields of kudzu. Park pride, is helping the people, that put these parks, in deplorable condition, make money, make their jobs easier, and improve their political influence. Shoal creek I , is a dump site. Shoal creek II is a place to buy and sell drugs. Look up Freak Nick, what happens when 100 cars parked in the field across the street. Shoal creek III, Baseball field closed when Meadowbrook was built, as no longer needed, and due to sewage it is in the flood plane, not safe to enter. Play ground aria seldom used, due to drug activity, the paths are blocked with boulders, because of four wheelers, and pollution, the aria is a sewage,flood plain.

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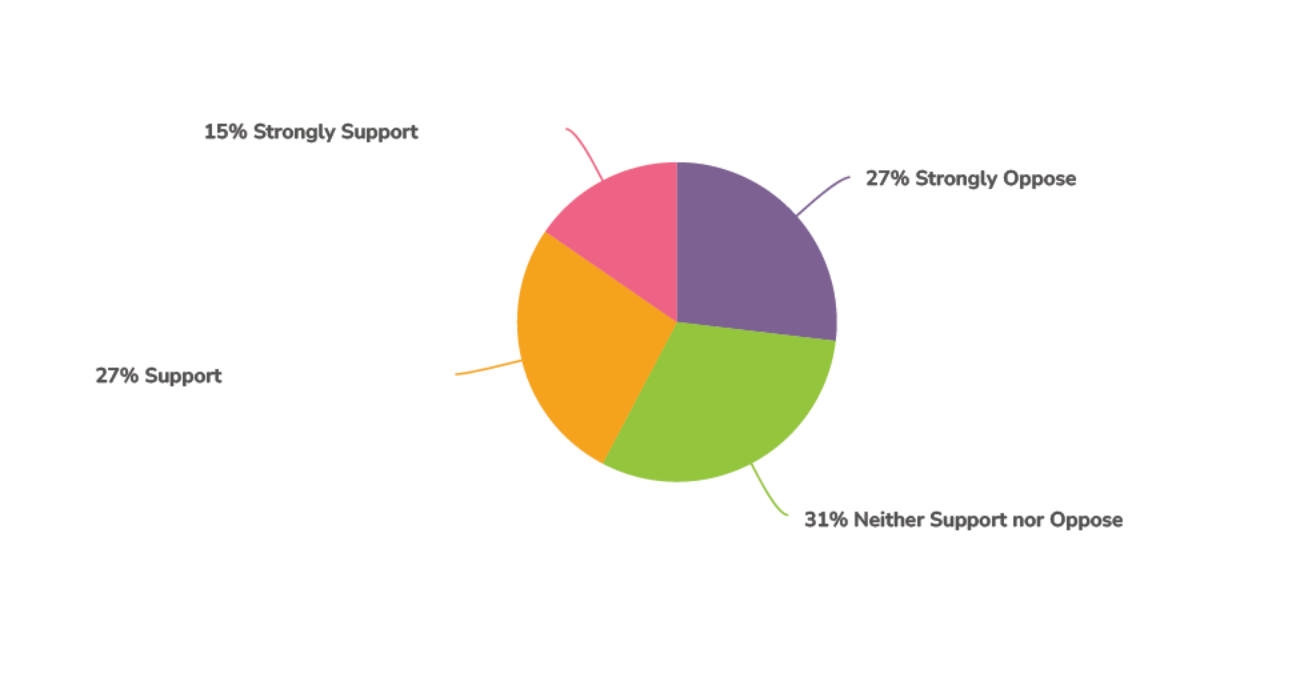
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ResponseID Response

- | | |
|----|--|
| 33 | The skate park is a great idea, but please keep in mind that skaters historically do not have an ideology that separates gender. If someone wants to skate this area, they will not consider who its intended use is for. |
| 34 | I think the skate park should be all inclusive and not specifically geared towards girls. The newer generations are becoming more tolerant of gender fluidity, and I think gendering anything that is for public use is a step towards someone feeling excluded. |

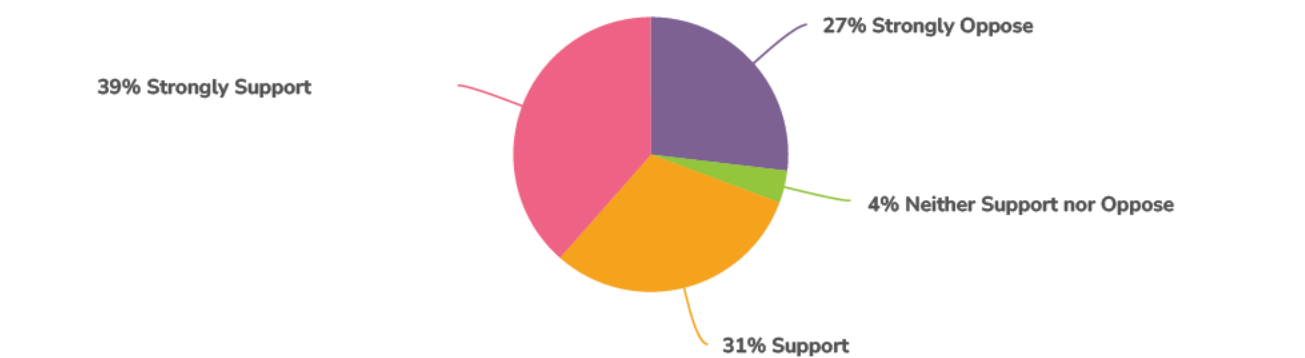
13. New parking lot on northwest corner as auxiliary event parking



Value		Percent	Responses
Strongly Oppose	<div><div></div></div>	26.9%	7
Neither Support nor Oppose	<div><div></div></div>	30.8%	8
Support	<div><div></div></div>	26.9%	7
Strongly Support	<div><div></div></div>	15.4%	4

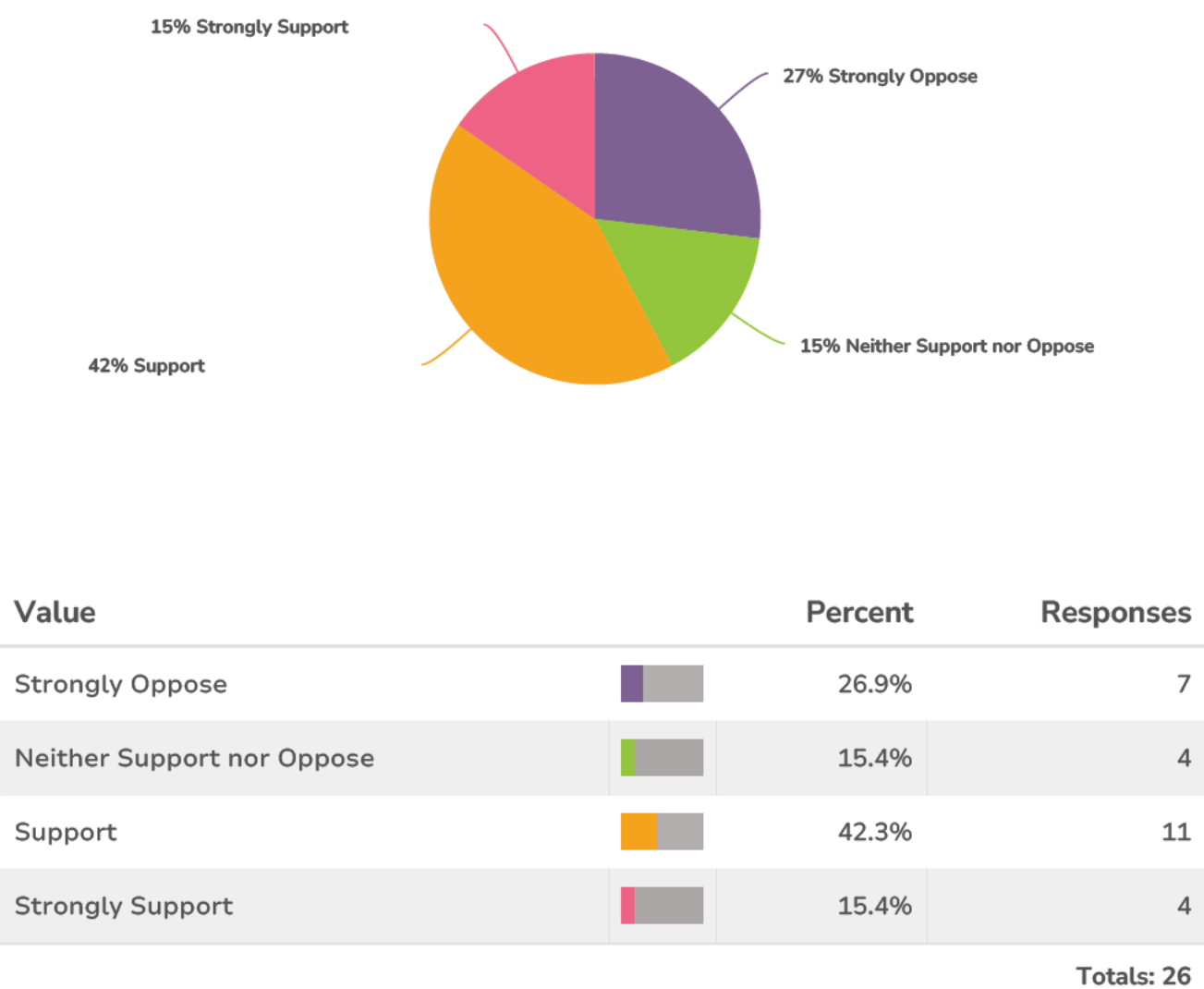
Totals: 26

14. Pedestrian park access and trails from Creekside Ct and wetland trails

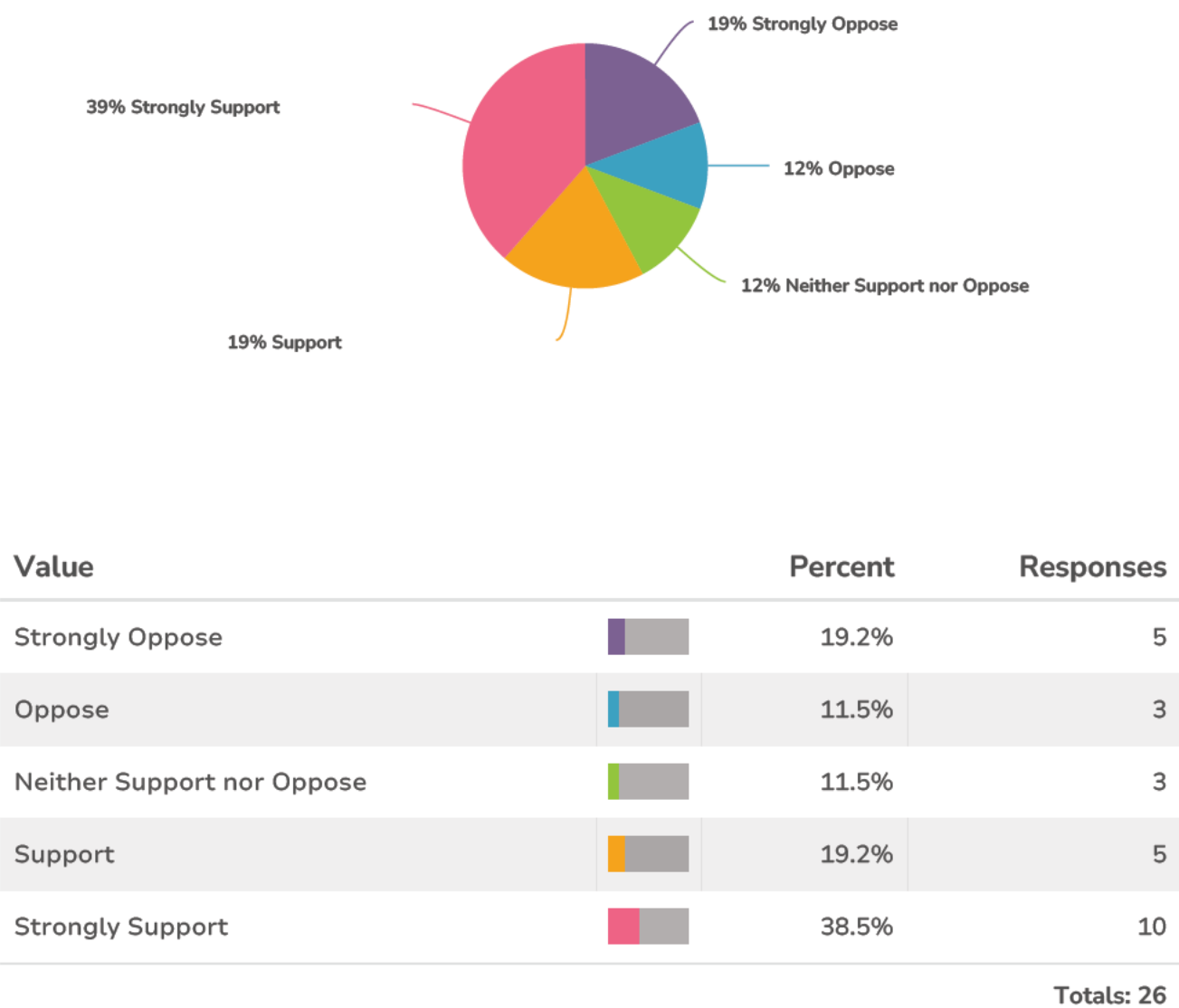


Value		Percent	Responses
Strongly Oppose	<div><div></div></div>	26.9%	7
Neither Support nor Oppose	<div><div></div></div>	3.8%	1
Support	<div><div></div></div>	30.8%	8
Strongly Support	<div><div></div></div>	38.5%	10
Totals: 26			

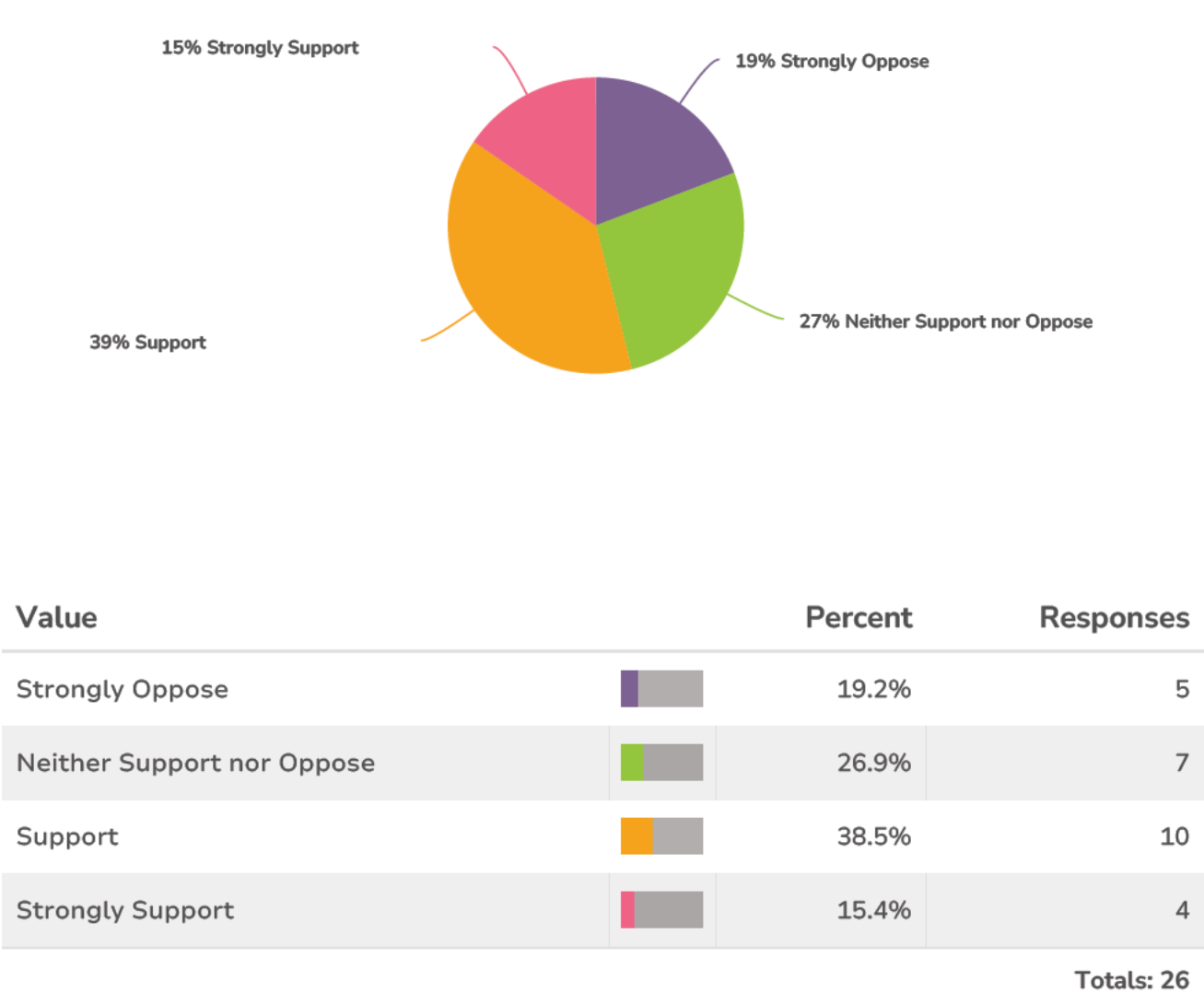
15. Dog park near main entrance



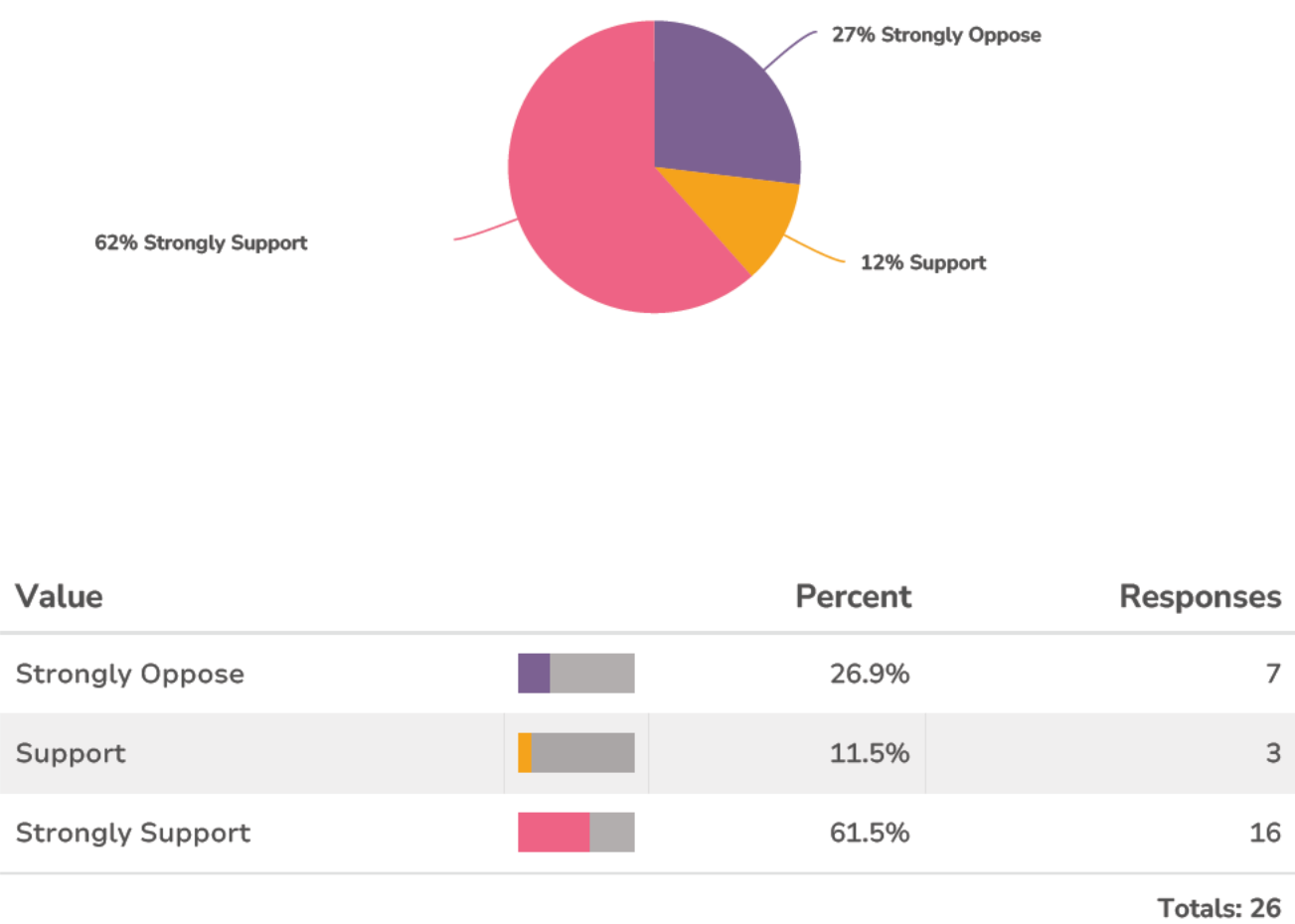
16. Expanded playground with "splash 'n play" water feature



17. Dedicated pickleball courts and sand volleyball court



18. Hiking trails and a multiuse trail connecting all three parks



19. Put additional thoughts and comments below.

ResponseID Response

3 LOVE LOVE LOVE for the kids!! I think there could be better usage versus a volleyball sand lot there really is not that kind of demographic over here. Rather have a space for all diversity and inclusion. More family friendly use.

11 Have been hoping for years to see trails back there

12 1. Enable 300 cars or over 800 people access to Shoal Creek Park II for "Freak Nick like" events. The current parking only allows for 50 cars or app 150 people that is enough. 2. The only purpose for the extensive trails is to "Credit Marta and the DOT with miles of roads being built". Any one walking those trails is in peril. 3. Reduces the park service cutting grass getting up laves, as it calls for their removal, not the Kudzu and weeds, ask them. They are considered natural plants, and they planted them to "cover up the beer cans, tires and bodies". 4. Shole Creek is very polluted, "you have not posted any studies" the garden that was in use up stream, was shut down. To bring people in contact with it is "dangerous, and irresponsible". Not to bring up, the entire, park system is a flood plain that, spills sewage, ongoing. 5 West Nile Virus, before the pandemic people came door to door warning people . So you solved this problem, How? How are you going to protect, the children at the splash park? 6, Cars people party in the parking lot all day. every night, yes it is worst on the weekends, the new parking lot is going to be very popular. The home owners on the south side have no idea of what they in for. You aren't going to tell them.. 7. Dog parks, pass virus to dogs, no one that knows anything about dogs, is going there, so only the dangerous dog owners and people with no knowledge, will use it. It does give the park service, the excuse, for not doing the anural trimming of the kudzu." No access to the aria. 8. The most asked for thing on your pole, is not even addressed, " Security." The park is a drug park, a hang out for criminals, a place to take beer, alcohol, and drugs, pick up carry out eat dump the trash in the parking lot. A place to set off fire woks, fire your gun into the woods. I saw people having sex in the tennis courts Thursday; a young man was found dead, at Shoal Creek Friday. And I don't look for this kind of thing. Unless you put up guard towers, none of this other stuff makes since. 9. I can substantiate, anything I have posted, and You are welcome to witness, the park, from my yard, which is invisible, to the park. 10. I would love to see, people using the park responsibly, moor families using the gazeboes for birthdays, things for kids to do, actually using one of the 8 tennis courts, NOT MOOR LATE NIGHT, CRIMINAL, LOUDE, VULGAR, QUISTIBLE THINGS. 11. I have no interest in the other parks, except the access of a thousand people, that will do events at PARK2 I will do what I can, to block this responsible waste of money In Shoal Creek Park..

ResponseID Response

13 Allowing over 300 parking places to a park that serves a place where people hang out in there cars, and do who knows what is stupid. Putting trails connecting the parks together, behind houses is dangerous for anyone stupid enough to walk there, it is very convent, for access to the criminals. The park service plan is to reduce grass ,trees, and plant moor kudzu, and concrete. Ther is nothing in the plan to improve security. the lighted trails, will help criminals, better access to our yard. Invasive plant removal, does not include kudzu or weeds, ask one of them. They consider them "naturally occurring' Trees grass, flowers are intrusive.. The path tunnel, will cost a million dollars, the only purpose it will serve will be to allow the over 150 parking spaces from across Glenwood to party at the now 24 hour club that is shole creek ll

14 There is nothing of use in this plan. It spends the maximum amount of money to put the community, in danger, every way possible, while creating a event location for thousands, giving these people who want to spend there spare time siting in there car, drinking and doing drugs a better place and moor access. It does not address any of serves responses. Dog park, stupid dangerous. additional parking expensive, will make the people on that side of the creeks life unbearable. additional lighted trails, great for some one who wants to rob you, not so good for the person being robbed. nothing done about the issues. people hanging out in the parking lot always, kudzu in the park, and in every ones back yard in the aria, No where for children to play, 8 un used tennis Corts, convert sone to children's basket ball, sone swings hop scotch, simple stuff, with benches and some awning. I understand the park service needs the kudzu, we in the aria don't need it, and can't keep it out of our yards. who ever made this plan ask the first person you come up and let him make it.

21 Will one-way parking be an issue?

29

The ideal park in DeKalb county in the eyes of the park service and most of the people that use the park is, a giant parking lot surrounding basket ball courts.. A place to park open your doors, play your music, drink, do drugs, through your trash out. Fine build that place somewhere else, not in an aria sounded by houses, where children young people, and seniors, visit. The definition of park , describes, trees, flowers, recreation, not a parking lot surrounded in kudzu. The currant plan to renovate the parks increases by over, 300 parking spaces, for moor drug activity, to reestablish, Freak Nick every weekend events. Why add moor tennis courts 'pickle ball courts are played on tennis courts, as then you refurbished, the courts last year, you replaced, some that less than two years old, look at your own satellite photos. They are seldom used for tennis. You have not informed anyone in the surrounding aria, that you, are running lighted paths, "raised above the kudzu", roads, and parking lots, behind there properties. None of the issues, asked for in your survey, have been addressed, they asked for safe place, for children to play, walk the dog, moor things for young people, removal of kudzu, no 4 wheelers, not extensive paths for them. Where ever, you have added things for children, you also added adult basket ball, and moor parking, not moor security. The full time ranger, will probably replace, the full time police officer at the unused for five years, baseball fields. The marsh arias, and natural arias, are the new planed fields of kudzu. Park pride, is helping the people, that put these parks, in deplorable condition, make money, make their jobs easier, and improve their political influence. Shoal creek I , is a dump site. Shoal creek II is a place to buy and sell drugs. Look up Freak Nick, what happens when 100 cars parked in the field across the street. Shoal creek III, Baseball field closed when Meadowbrook was built, as no longer needed, and due to sewage it is in the flood plane, not safe to enter. Play ground aria seldom used, due to drug activity, the paths are blocked with boulders, because of four wheelers, and pollution, the aria is a sewage,flood plain.

ResponseID Response

30

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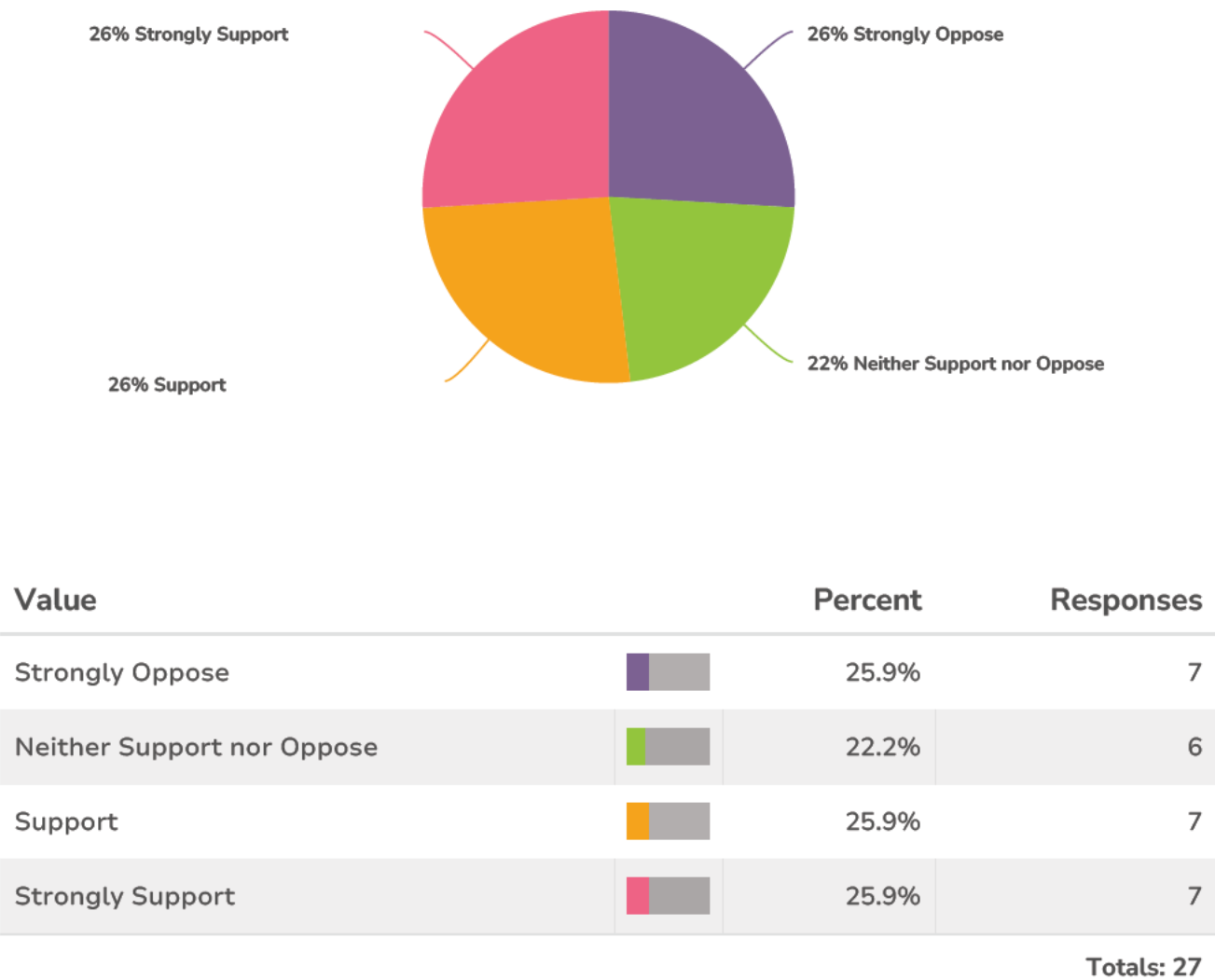
Response D**Response**

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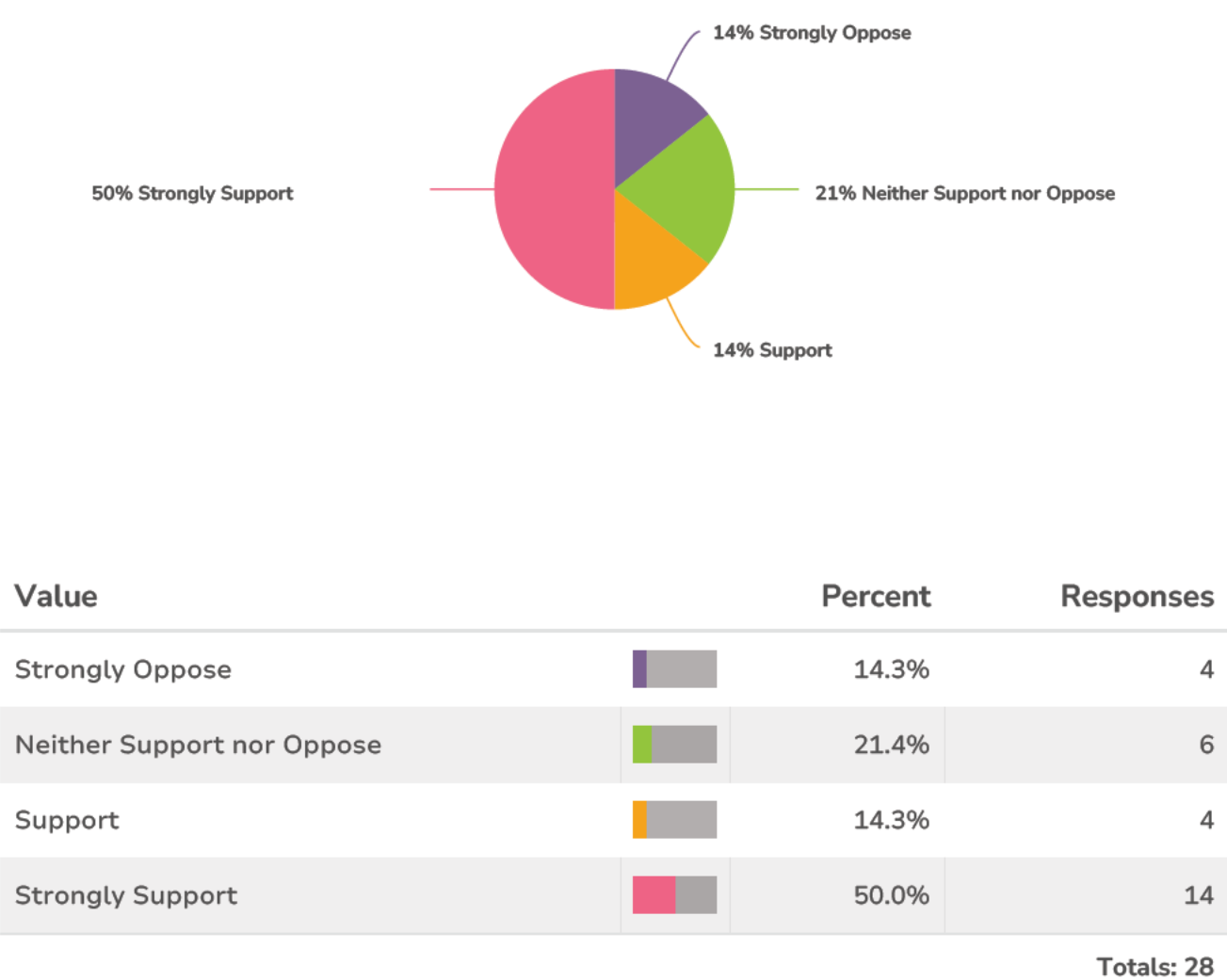
ResponseID	Response
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33	Pickle ball courts would be great to keep these players off of the tennis courts. I think an added, and cheaper idea, would be to include a 9 hole disc golf course on the multi-use trail.
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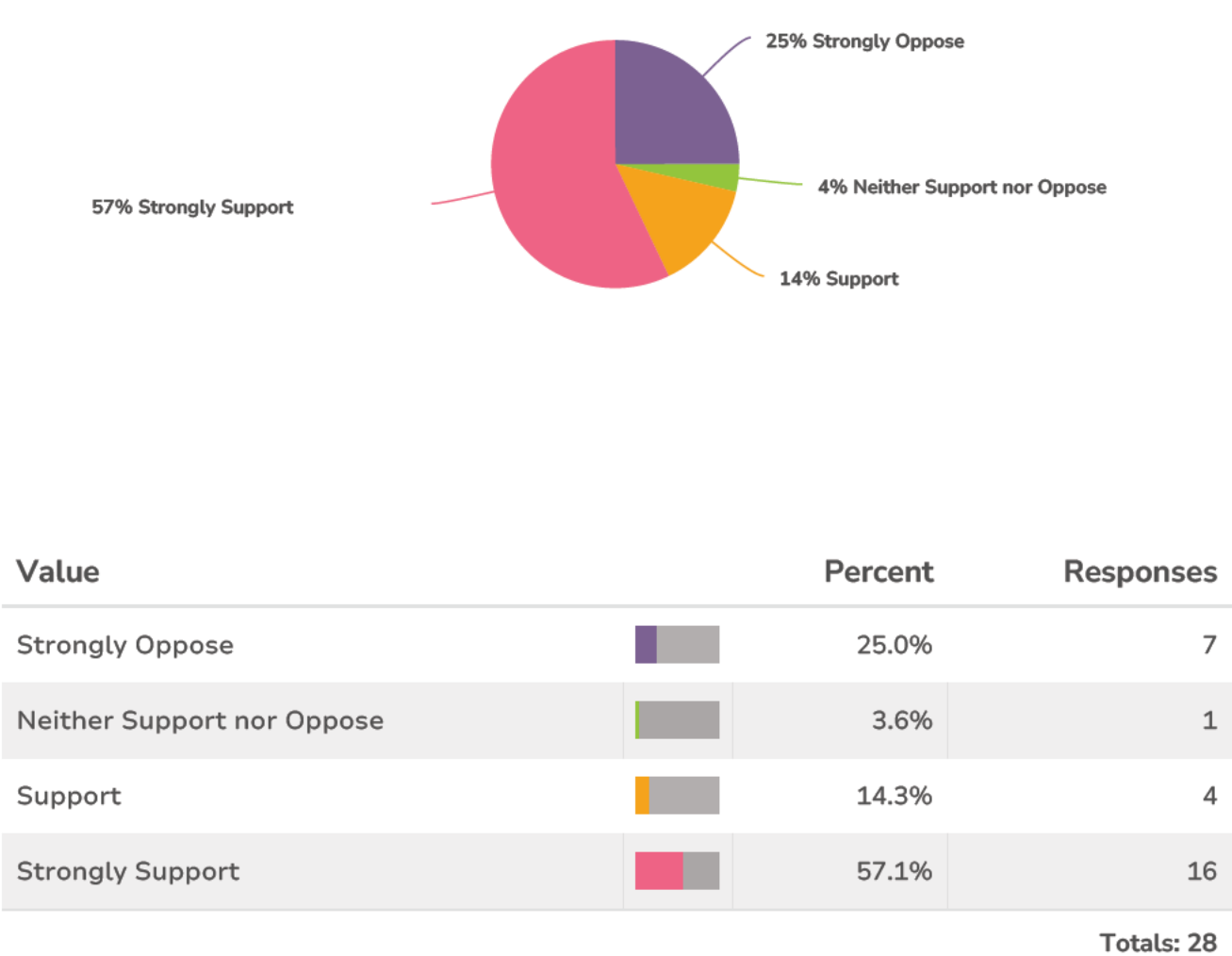
20. Expand and reconfigure parking lot



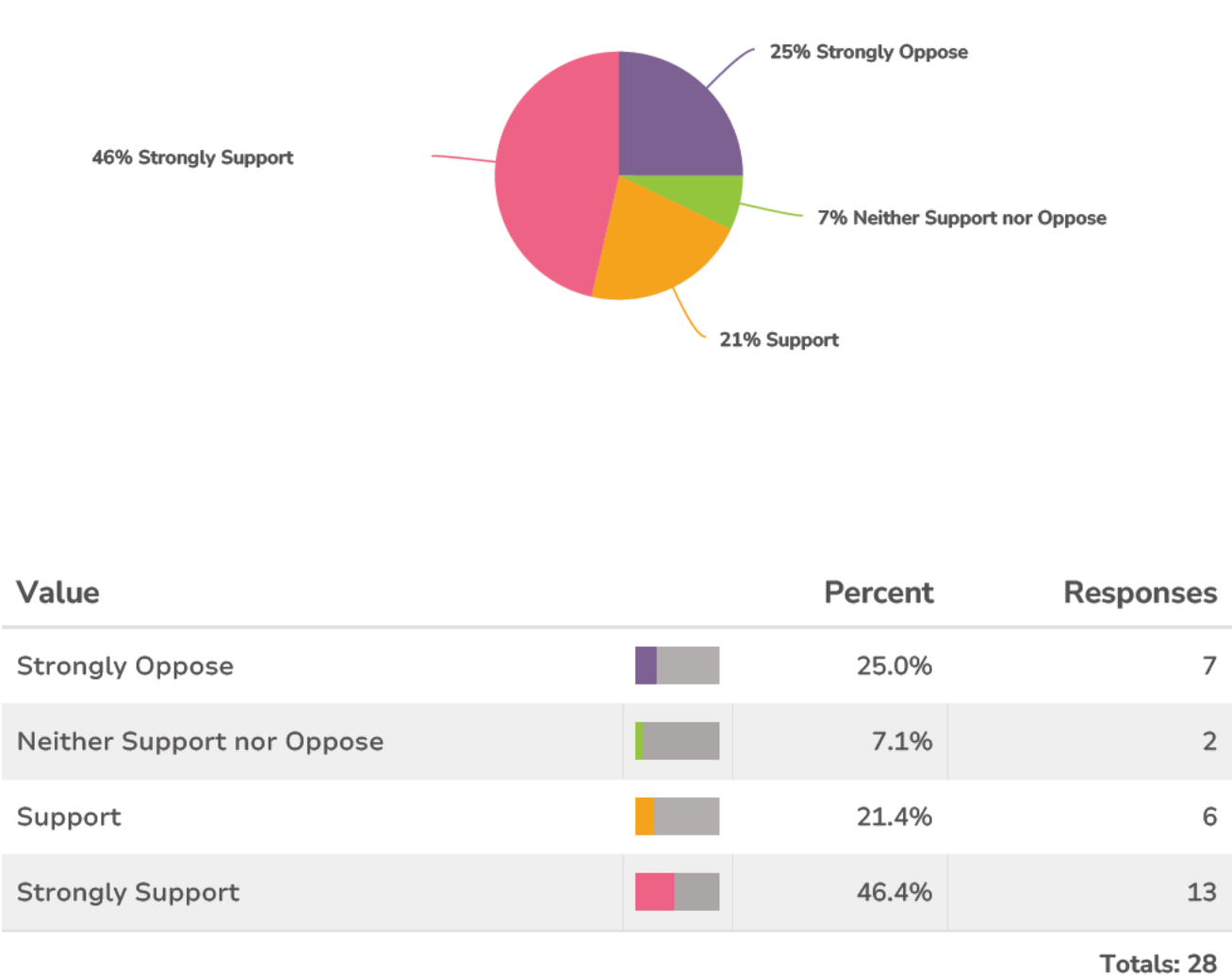
21. Reconfigure active area for greater usability and visibility



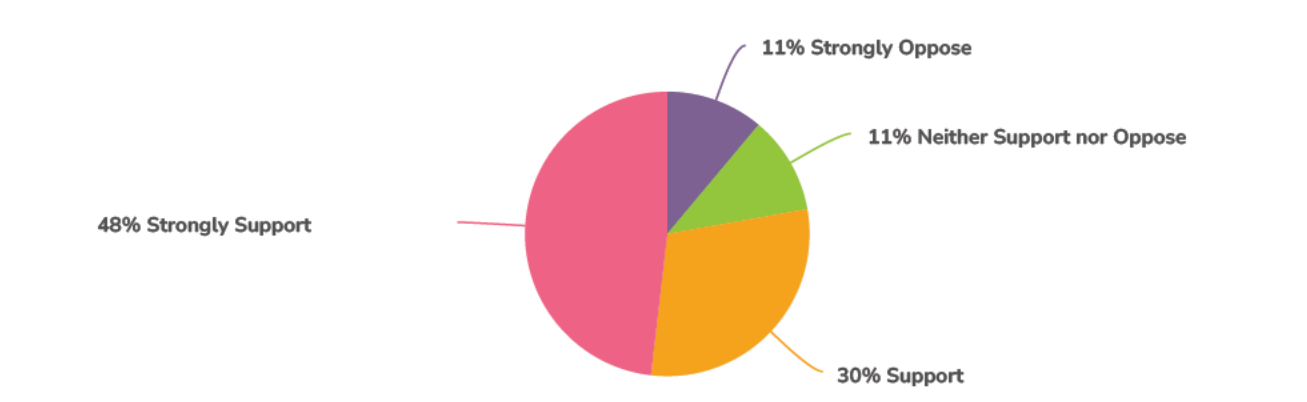
22. Hiking trails and a multiuse trail connecting all three parks



23. Pedestrian park access from Glendale Court

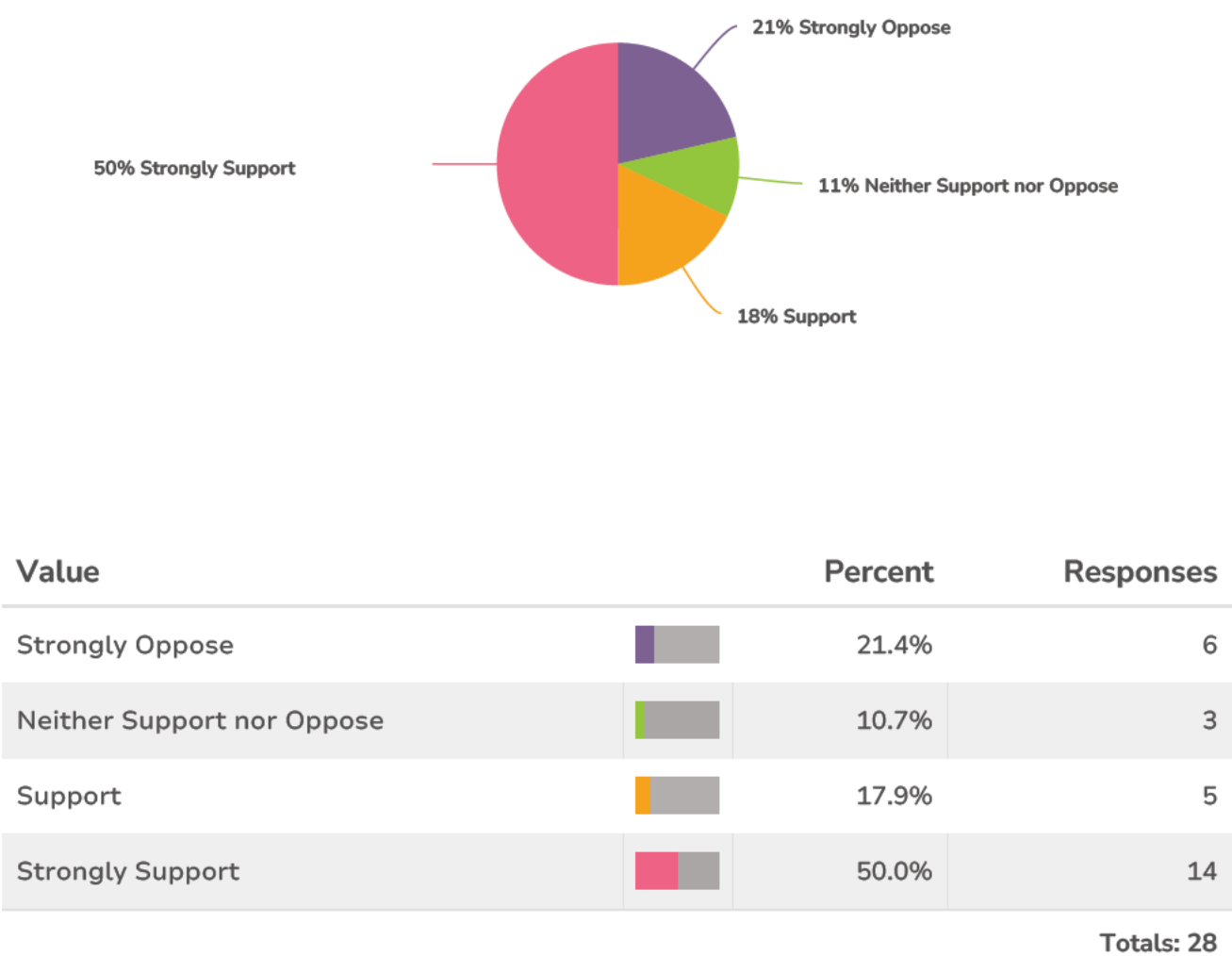


24. Full and junior-sized basketball courts to encourage parent-child play



Value		Percent	Responses
Strongly Oppose	<div><div></div></div>	11.1%	3
Neither Support nor Oppose	<div><div></div></div>	11.1%	3
Support	<div><div></div></div>	29.6%	8
Strongly Support	<div><div></div></div>	48.1%	13
Totals: 27			

25. Community garden



26. Put additional thoughts and comments below.

ResponseID	Response
5	i love the concept but worry that some of the plans may be encroaching on private property. i love the idea of people having access to a natural environment, but we also value our privacy. We are the owners of both Wadsworth Mill and the property that is adjacent to Shoal Creek Park III.
11	I live on Glendale Court and would LOVE access to the trails and would love to help with a garden!!!
12	the creek is sewer . the aria is a flood Plaine, for a sewer line. the trails, and connected parking, allows for events of at least a thousand people, KREEKNICK events, in your back yard, there is West Nile Virous, in the mosquitos. The parking lots are currently, used, as a hang out location, these people, are not using the parks.. None of this proposal address, impact to the houses around the park, you will be up all night, noise, gun shots, vandalism. Every house next to the parks, have had to abandon there back yards, to kudzu and vandals.
13	It looks to sketchy, never go there. access to the creek needs to be blocked due to west Nile virus, and the water is highly polluted. This park needs to be closed till water quality is tested, ongoing
14	place is to dangerous to enter, with out an escort.
20	Shoal Creek Park III has great potential and just needs the attention and resources to grow. Restrooms would be a great addition.
21	Restrooms are a must. Cameras?
24	Community gardens are great but there has to be motivation to keep them up. Overall, I like the variety of ideas for new park features or improvements because it will attract a variety of ages/families to visit and use the park. Huge benefit to the entire surrounding neighborhood(s).
28	Full disclosure - I represent a community organization that is near Shoal Creek Park III.

ResponseID Response

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ResponseID	Response
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32	Shoal creek I , is a dump site. ask any one in the aria. To my knowledge not used for any latiumite purpose, criminals do dump there cars there, and run through the woods, to excape, the plan makes it much better for them.
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33	Depending on the usability of the wetlands and forest, I think a 9 (or 18, depending on size) hole disc golf course would be a great addition to the multi-use trail.
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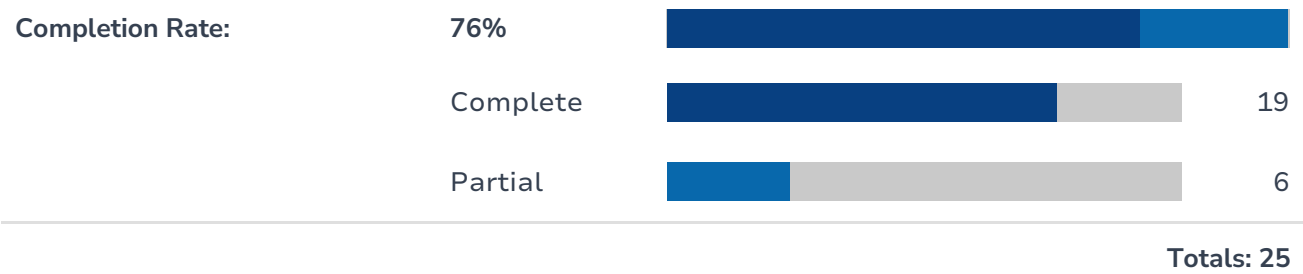
Appendix D

**ONLINE OPINION SURVEY, PRIORITIES FOR THE VISION PLAN
OPEN NOVEMBER 14 (PUBLIC MEETING 3) THROUGH DECEMBER 5, 2022**

Note: Any identifying information of respondents has been redacted

Report for Vision Plans Prioritization Survey

Response Counts

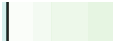




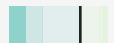






Identifying information has been removed from this report.

The following responses originated from the same IP address:

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- 13

1. Rank your priorities for Shoal Creek Park I from first to last.

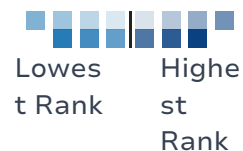
Item	Overall Rank	Rank Distribution	Score	No. of Rankings
Security measures (lighting, cameras, call boxes, and other safety strategies)	1		133	18
Invasive plant management	2		105	17
Drainage improvements	3		100	16
Multiuse trail connecting all three Shoal Creek Parks	4		93	18
Playground improvements	5		89	16
Skatepark	6		83	17
Seating (more benches, tables, gathering areas)	7		80	16
Pedestrian entrance from Amelia Avenue	8		52	16
Parking expansion in south lot by 40 parking spaces	9		33	16



Lowest Rank
Highest Rank

2. Rank your priorities for Shoal Creek Park II from first to last.

Item	Overall Rank	Rank Distribution	Score	No. of Rankings
Security measures (lighting, cameras, call boxes and other safety strategies)	1		220	19
Invasive plant management	2		175	18
Multiuse trail connecting all three Shoal Creek parks	3		172	18
Drainage improvements	4		172	18
Playground improvements with splashpad option	5		171	18
Community garden	6		147	17
Seating (new shelters, more seating near sports courts)	7		143	18
Waterfall trail	8		135	18
Dog park	9		127	18
Volleyball court restoration	10		113	18
Pickleball courts	11		101	17
Pedestrian entrance on Creekside Court with wetland boardwalk	12		98	17
Repave parking lot with permeable pavers	13		97	18
Auxiliary parking lot	14		47	15



3. Rank your priorities for Shoal Creek Park III from first to last.

Item	Overall Rank	Rank Distribution	Score	No. of Rankings
Security measures (lighting, cameras, call boxes and other safety strategies)	1		178	17
Active area expansion to increase usable space and improve circulation	2		160	17
Pavilion (new) with restrooms and grill	3		141	16
Multi-use trail connecting all three Shoal Creek parks	4		140	17
Invasive plant management	5		138	16
Open views into the park from McAfee Road where possible	6		130	16
Playground improvements	7		129	16
Community garden	8		112	16
Nature trails and wetland boardwalk	9		100	16
Creek access	10		89	16
Basketball courts (new full-size court and kid-sized court)	11		79	14
Pedestrian entrance on Glendale Court	12		65	15
Parking expansion with loop circulation and pervious pavement	13		58	15

Lowest Rank
Highest Rank

4. Put any additional thoughts and comments below.

ResponseID	Response
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1	It would be nice to be able to use the restrooms at Shoal Line Creek 1. They are currently locked.
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4	To connect the parks and 100 new parking spaces. Will recreate the FREEKNICK events of past every weekend. You have not informed the home owners that you are running four wheeler , and bugular, trails ,and parking lots whose only purpose, is drugs use and sales at there property line. Kudzu I contact the park service three times a year, so they trim it some,. They planted it to hide the beer cans, tires,and bodies, they have no plans of removing it. The natural arias, berms, raised trailers, dog park, etc.. are just an expansion, of the kudzu fields. The entire plan, is just ways For the park service, to remove plants and make there jobs easier. Nothing in this plan makes the arias safe, it does make it great for drug dealers. Mixing children play arias, with adult entrainment, is not what , any one ask for. The creek is a highly polluted sewage overflow, they propose, making it accessible, irresponsible is a understatement. There has been a reduction of criminal activity lately, in my opinion the park service, had communication with the criminal element. Call these people, finder out what there motivation is. I have. Spending millions of dollars, to create a moor dangerous, aria so the park service, job is easier, and get kick backs is crazy...
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5	Has any research been done, regarding pollution in the creek? Has anyone gone door to door informing homeowners, that trails ,roads, and parking lots are to run behind there property? Are you happy to have your children play, where people party in there cars? Why add parking spaces, to the base ball fields that have not been used in five years? Why spend millions of dollars, so people can walkthrough sewage, to cross the street, to create an event venue in a residential aria? Why block a busy and dangerous, roadway, with five blind driveways? Why are most of the comments not included in the server? Why new pickle ball courts, volley ball, where the 10 tennis courts aren't used now, and some converted ? Why not say remove kudzu instead of manage kudzu? Look up park in the dictionary, it describes a place with plants, trees, flowers, not a parking lot for drug activity. Why put children and adult active in the same arias? Who is held accountable, for the currant condition of the parks, the lack of stopping kudzu from taking over the surrounding aria? Look at the hillside of cans kudzu trash, that surround the park now and understand, they continue to manage it..
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ResponseID Response

6 REMOUE the kudzu. Do not add the trails. Fence in the polluted creek. Forget about making the aria an event venue for thousands. Separate children and adult arias. Do something about drug activity in the park. Don't connect, the parks, for safety the aria. Correct the drainage problems by raising the ground level. Assist the surroundings arias in repairing the damage, the park service has done, in planting intrusive plants. Create an all adult basketball park somewhere else, away from children and family's. Enforce noise, , hours of operation, drug enforcement, security in the parks. Create over site for the lack of maintenance in the parks, and look into the motivation of the people planting this, event venue.

9 Connecting the parks together, only gives better access to criminals. Spending millions of dollars to replace Glenwood with a bridge, so four wheelers have better access is insane. Walkways to give access to a sewer, is questionable. .Nothing in this plan removes the kudzu. Not used in five years, the baseball fields needs to become adult basketball, and party on your car arias, freeing up the other arias for children and families. Why with 20 akers of vacant land they plan on putting a unneeded parking lot in people's back yard? Building a place for thousands of people to party at this time in history, is odd. The plains were written by the people, that allowed the parks to get in the condition that they are in now, there need to be oversight.The 10 tennis courts are not used now, adding moor " pickel ball and volleyball" can be played on tennis courts, with minor changes, The only purpose is to eliminate, what grass remains to maintenance easier. Look at the surrounding aria, Kudzu planted to coverup trash, The bush hogging and poison didn't kill the kudzu, has killed five oak trees that cost the county thousands dollars to remove. Several Oak and a walnut tree are near dead., not to mention damage to property next to the parks.owners Simply put, the plan is to , Piave everything, make a drug park abetter drug park,, make there jobs easier, line there pockets, by spending as much money as possible, and pup is in moor danger.

10 The priorities listed are great. I am looking forward to seeing and being a part of the new changes. If and when any plans are implemented or in place, please keep us informed. Thank you for your work!

ResponseID Response

- 11 This plan is dangerous on a lot of levels, Freak nick was at this park, when, cars were allowed to park in the field across the street. West Nile, another dieses, are in the creek, The aria is a sewage flood plain. It is not safe now to visit due to drug activity, this plan will increase the drug activity. Putting children and adult arias is not a good idea. Unsupervised dog parks, why? Access into my yard, by lighted trail, bad idea. Access by four wheelers, bad idea. Parking lots roads, walkways, entrances from culdesac, that one of the home owners know about, why? Putting in moor tennis courts, there are 10 unused now. Kudzu has destroyed most of the parks and all of the surrounding aria yards ,manage means continue to trim it. None of the park service rules are enforced Now none of this plan, shows that they will be in the future.. The baseball field, has not been used in five years, will not be due to bringing a pouted flood plain, an no parent will allow there children in such a dangerous aria as there is a good ball field nearby. It needs to become the only and enforced adult basketball aria, and party in your car arias .This plan does create the possibility, of some one to make al ot of money from kick backs, and for the park service to not worry cutting the grass.
- 12 Infrastructure improvements and safety improvements should be considered first, in my opinion. As those are the improvements that would generate enough visitors to make the other amenities worth while.
- 13 Instead of wasting millions of dollars creating a DANGEIOUS event venue. In a residential aria, fix some Of the problems. Back hoes to remove two feet of kudzu and trash, around the perimeter of the park. Replacing it with finches. Soil, plants, mulch, Instead of adding moor places to park in your car and sell do drugs, drink or party,. Enforce the existing park rules, hours of operation, noise, no selling of anything,. Use that money for security gates, security guards, security measures. Trails over fields of kudzu behind homes, use that money to level the socker field, add appropriate plants, an exercise path, frisbee , bird feeders etc,. Separate adult arias, from children and family arias, by building the basketball, an party aria,'some where else", at the unused baseball complex or other. Fence in the creek, or put in sewage pipes, as it is a health risk, Use the money to build parks with oversight, instead of the mess the currant management, has created. ,
- 15 My property backs up to Shoal Creek II. My highest priority would be safety measures. We constantly hear gun fire, arguments and loud parties there. We have two toddlers and I would never consider taking them to this park with the safety issues and clientele that take up the park now. I'm also not sure why there's a needed additional parking lot for LL Baseball. I haven't seen a LL season happen there in the last 5 years. There is always a ton of parking available at I and II.
- 16 Connectivity is important with some recognition of connection to white oak park and path

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19	Easier access from Park 1 to Park 2 should be a priority. Glenwood has frequent speeders which makes crossing extremely dangerous.
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This document and materials created for this park visioning process are available online at <https://parkpride.org/we-can-help/park-visioning/>

These materials are also be archived at the Kenan Research Center, Atlanta History Center. Appointments can be made to view the materials at 404.814.4040 or by emailing reference@atlantahistorycenter.com.



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