

Appendix A – Promotional & Communications Materials

Winnipeg Recreation & Parks Strategies

Help shape the future of recreation & parks in Winnipeg!

The Recreation & Parks Strategies will provide 25-year frameworks to guide programs, services, and investments. We want to hear your feedback on the draft plans.

Surveys

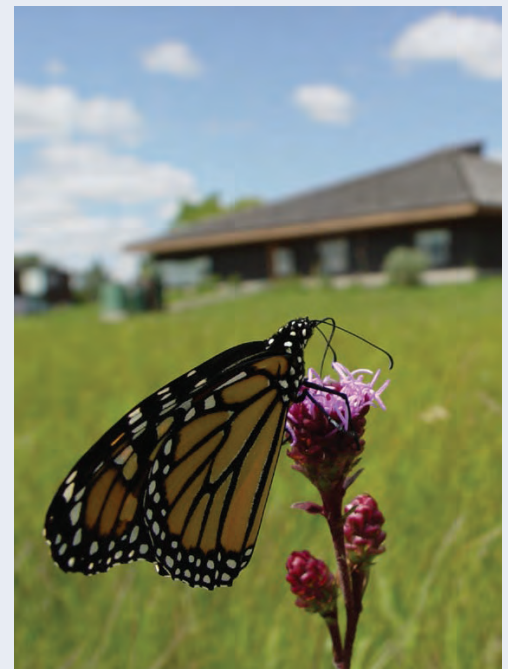
Surveys for both recreation and parks are online until April 23, 2021. Take one, the other, or both at winnipeg.ca/recandparks.

Online Workshops

Date:	Time:
Wednesday, March 24, 2021	6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, March 25, 2021	2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

These workshops will cover both recreation and parks topics and feedback. Register online.

Those without internet access are asked to call 204-944-9907 to register.



For questions or to arrange alternative formats or interpretation, please contact recandparks@winnipeg.ca or 204-944-9907 by March 19, 2021.

winnipeg.ca/recandparks



Stratégies pour les loisirs et les parcs de Winnipeg

Contribuez à façonner l'avenir des loisirs et des parcs à Winnipeg!

Les stratégies pour les loisirs et les parcs établiront des cadres sur 25 ans qui orienteront les programmes, les services et les investissements. Nous voulons connaître votre opinion sur l'ébauche des plans.

Ateliers en ligne

Date :

Le mercredi 24 mars 2021

Le jeudi 25 mars 2021

Heure :

De 18 h à 19 h 30

De 14 h à 15 h 30

Dans le cadre de ces ateliers, on pourra se renseigner et s'exprimer sur les loisirs et sur les parcs. Inscrivez-vous en ligne.

Les personnes qui n'ont pas accès à Internet peuvent inscrire aux ateliers en composant le 204-944-9907.

Sondages

Les sondages sur les loisirs et sur les parcs sont offerts en ligne jusqu'au 23 avril 2021.

Répondez à l'un des sondages, ou aux deux, à winnipeg.ca/loisirsetparcs.

Pour poser des questions ou obtenir un format différent ou des services d'interprétation, veuillez écrire à recandparks@winnipeg.ca ou composer le 204-944-9907 au plus tard le 19 mars 2021.

winnipeg.ca/loisirsetparcs



Online Ad

Text:

We want to hear from you! The City is creating 25-year plans for recreation and parks in Winnipeg. Phase 2 public engagement has begun. Provide your feedback now.

Image:**URL:**

WINNIPEG.CA/RECANDPARKS

Headline:

Winnipeg Recreation & Parks Strategies



INFORMATION - COMMUNIQUÉ

For Immediate Release
(Day of the week, Month, Date, Year)

Residents invited to provide feedback on draft Recreation & Parks Strategies

Winnipeg, MB – Winnipeggers can now weigh in on the proposed long-term plans for parks and recreation in our city.

Phase 2 of public engagement on Winnipeg's Recreation & Park Strategies begins today, and residents are invited to provide feedback on draft 25-year frameworks that will guide programs, services, policies, standards and procedures, and future investment in existing and new infrastructure for both recreation and parks.

This long-term vision is important, as the City faces some difficult challenges in maintaining its aging infrastructure and making new investments to meet future needs.

Much of Winnipeg's existing recreation and parks infrastructure is at or near the end of its useful lifecycle, and we need to find out where Winnipeggers want to see future investment. As Winnipeg continues to grow and change, the need to make strategic, forward-thinking decisions to ensure the City can deliver high-quality recreation and parks services is essential.

Residents can engage two ways: by participating in an online survey until April 23, 2021 and at one of two online workshops:

Date:	Wednesday, March 24, 2021	Thursday, March 25, 2021
Time:	6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Format:	Presentation followed by facilitated discussion	Presentation followed by facilitated discussion

For more information about the strategies, how to register for the workshops, and to access the online surveys, see: winnipeg.ca/recandparks.

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Media inquiries should be directed to the City of Winnipeg Media Inquiry Line at 204-986-6000 or via email at city-mediainquiry@winnipeg.ca.

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WINNIPEG RECREATION & PARKS STRATEGIES

*Stakeholder Conversation
Guide*

Prepared by the City of Winnipeg

Date: _____

Organization: _____

Winnipeg Recreation & Park Strategies

Stakeholder Conversation Guide

Welcome

The City is facing some difficult challenges in maintaining our existing, aging infrastructure and making new investments to meet future recreation and parks needs in Winnipeg. The Winnipeg Recreation & Parks Strategies will provide 25-year frameworks to help guide recreation and parks programs, services, policies, standards and procedures, and future investment in existing and new infrastructure.

In this second phase of engagement, we are seeking your feedback to confirm that the draft Recreation Strategy and draft Parks Strategy reflect the values and priorities identified in Phase 1, and to identify concerns with the strategies' respective directions. Your group's responses will help the project team finalize the draft strategies.

The draft Recreation Strategy [\[link\]](#) and the draft Parks Strategy [\[link\]](#) are available on the project webpage [\[link\]](#).

How to Use This Guide

This Stakeholder Conversation Guide will help you guide your organization through a discussion about the draft Winnipeg Recreation & Parks Strategies. With your organization:

1. Assign one person in your group as notetaker.
2. Review the topics below.
3. Select the topics that are of interest to your organization. **You can choose to discuss all of the topics or limit your discussion to only those you feel relevant to your organization.**
4. Discuss the questions for the topics you selected and record your group's responses in the PDF.
5. Return the document to recandparks@winnipeg.ca.

Recreation topics

- Collaboration & partnerships
- Indoor aquatic & recreation centres
- Community centres, neighbourhood recreation & leisure centres
- Arenas & indoor ice sheets
- Outdoor pools
- Spray pads & wading Pools

Parks topics

- Parkland
- Natural features
- Connections
- Amenities
- Regional parks

Please return this completed document to recandparks@winnipeg.ca by April 23, 2021 or call 204-944-9907 to make alternate arrangements. Thank you!

Winnipeg Recreation & Park Strategies

Stakeholder Conversation Guide



Recreation – collaboration & partnerships

The City of Winnipeg delivers recreation services that build healthy communities. We work independently, with partners, and through various agreements to give Winnipeggers the high-quality recreational experiences they want while also keeping in mind taxpayers' dollars. Partnerships are critical and allow us to stretch resources and find flexible, adaptable, and innovative ways to support the wellbeing of all residents.

The draft Recreation Strategy recommends the development of a criteria-based partnership framework that would allow us to evaluate potential partnerships and ensure any relationships we enter into benefit the City and provide value to residents. The partnership framework would articulate how and why the City works with other organizations to fulfill municipal recreation mandates. It would also better define any partnership parameters, including the clear articulation of goals, the roles and responsibilities of all parties, and an evaluation mechanism to assess quality and service outcomes.

Need more information before you discuss? [To learn more, visit 2.5.3 Partnerships and Agreements or 4.5 Capacity Building in the draft strategy!](#)

Do you currently collaborate or partner with the City of Winnipeg on recreation initiatives?

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, in what way do you collaborate?

Do you support the development of a partnership framework?

☐ Very supportive ☐ Supportive ☐ Neutral ☐ Unsupportive ☐ Very unsupportive

Why?

Do you have any concerns or further comments?

Winnipeg Recreation & Park Strategies

Stakeholder Conversation Guide



Recreation – indoor aquatic & recreation centres

Currently, 78 percent of all Winnipeggers live within 4 km of an indoor pool. The draft Recreation Strategy wants all Winnipeggers to live within 4 km of a multi-use, multi-generational recreation facility with an indoor pool by 2045. To achieve this, the draft Recreation Strategy recommends the City do the following.

- **Retain Pan Am Pool as a major competitive aquatic sports venue that provides unique and specialized amenities to support competitive and elite training and competitions for the entire city.**
- **Build regional recreation complexes that serve more expansive areas of the city and provide activities for the whole family.** Regional recreation complexes are large, multi-purpose, and intergenerational facilities with a mix of components: lap and leisure pools; multiple gymnasiums; walking tracks; fitness areas; arenas; various activity spaces; and multipurpose rooms. These would be located on major transportation routes and may also include a library. The goal is to improve service quality by providing more amenities and enhanced functionality while also being operationally efficient and fiscally sustainable. Implementing this may require the conversion or expansion of existing facilities and the construction of new facilities at new locations. As new regional recreation complexes become operational, they would replace existing, outdated facilities which could be decommissioned.
- **Retain existing community multi-use recreation centres that serve higher-needs geographic areas.** Community multi-use recreation centres are mid-sized facilities with an indoor pool, activity rooms, gymnasiums, and fitness areas. They are designed to provide diverse program opportunities for all ages and abilities. Libraries and arenas may also be co-located. The City would invest in renewing these facilities to improve their functionality and quality. Current examples of this facility type include Cindy Klassen Recreation Complex and Sergeant Tommy Prince Place.

Need more information before you discuss? [To learn more, visit 6. Indoor Aquatic & Recreation Centres Level of Service in the draft strategy!](#)

Do you support the approach proposed in the Recreation Strategy?

☐ Very supportive ☐ Supportive ☐ Neutral ☐ Unsupportive ☐ Very unsupportive

What do you like about the proposed approach?

Winnipeg Recreation & Park Strategies

Stakeholder Conversation Guide

Do you have any concerns?
Do you think anything is missing or hasn't been considered?

Winnipeg Recreation & Park Strategies

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Recreation – community centres, neighbourhood recreation & leisure centres

Winnipeg's community centres are a unique service model that encompass 81 City-owned locations that are organized, operated, and programmed by 63 independent non-profit volunteer boards. The community centre model has for decades played an important role in Winnipeg. The model continues to adapt and evolve to address changing community needs and shifts in volunteerism.

Many community centres are undersized, have limited physical accessibility, and lack the amenities to support the desired mix of community programs, and do not conform to current standards. For example, one of the most in-demand amenities is gymnasium space, which is not present at all community centres.

Winnipeg is well supplied with community centre locations. Currently, 94 percent of residents live within 2 km of a community centre. The average Winnipegger has access to four community centres within 2 km of their home.

The City provides additional neighbourhood recreation centres in higher needs geographic areas to increase access to recreation opportunities. These facilities are typically both City-owned and operated, but non-profit community organizations may also be involved in their operation.

For community centres, the draft Recreation Strategy:

- Aims for all Winnipeggers to live within 2 km of a community centre by 2045
- Encourages community centre amalgamations to optimize and reposition older and smaller centres into larger, more contemporary facilities that have modern programming spaces, more access to volunteers, and increased operating capacity
- Requires new community centres be designed as community-scale facilities that will serve a population of 15,000-30,000 and have a catchment area of 2-4 km
- Maintains a space to population target of 1:1.66 square feet per person
- Endorses updating the General Council of Winnipeg Community Centres Plan 2025 to enable grassroots planning that will guide the next generation of community centre investment
- Recommends reinstituting the Community Centre Investment Fund to leverage the transformation of older community centres into contemporary facilities through amalgamation and redevelopment

Need more information before you discuss? [To learn more, visit 7. Community Centres & Neighbourhood Recreation Centres Levels of Service in the draft strategy!](#)

Do you support the approach proposed in the Recreation Strategy?

☐ Very supportive ☐ Supportive ☐ Neutral ☐ Unsupportive ☐ Very unsupportive

What do you like most about this approach?

Winnipeg Recreation & Park Strategies

Stakeholder Conversation Guide

Do you have any concerns?
Do you think anything is missing or hasn't been considered?

To increase access to recreation opportunities and shorten travel distances, the City provides additional neighbourhood recreation and leisure centres in higher needs geographic areas. The City currently owns and operates eight neighbourhood recreation and leisure centres; non-profit community organizations may also be involved in programming and operations at these facilities.

For neighbourhood recreation and leisure centres, the draft Recreation Strategy recommends:

- Enabling inclusive and equitable services through focused investment in neighbourhood recreation and leisure centres that support higher needs geographic areas
- That neighbourhood recreation and leisure centres have a mix of multi-purpose programming and gathering spaces that support intergenerational use
- Addressing renewal needs to improve the physical accessibility, functionality, and quality of neighbourhood recreation and leisure centres
- Looking for opportunities to collaborate and partner with community stakeholders and school divisions to provide programming that maximizes the use of existing public facilities

Need more information before you discuss? [To learn more, visit 7. Community Centres & Neighbourhood Recreation Centres Levels of Service in the draft strategy!](#)

Do you support the approach proposed in the Recreation Strategy?
☐ Very supportive ☐ Supportive ☐ Neutral ☐ Unsupportive ☐ Very unsupportive
What do you like about the proposed approach?

Winnipeg Recreation & Park Strategies

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Do you have any concerns?
Do you think anything is missing or hasn't been considered?

Winnipeg Recreation & Park Strategies

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Recreation – arenas & indoor ice sheets

Arenas serve a broad cross-section of our community, supporting a variety of ice sports, public skating, and learn-to-skate programs. Winnipeggers currently have access to 45 indoor ice sheets, provided by a mix of public sector, non-profit, and private sector organizations.

Of the available indoor ice sheets, the City owns 34 but directly operates only 12. Community centres operate 20 of the 34, and minor hockey organizations operate two sheets via agreements. The average Winnipegger has access to three indoor ice sheets within 4 km of their home, and 94 percent of residents are within 4 km of an indoor ice sheet.

Few additional sheets will be required to handle the population growth forecasted for 2045. However, much of the City-owned inventory is outdated and in poor condition. These arenas require replacement with more contemporary facilities.

The draft Recreation Strategy:

- Aims for all Winnipeggers to live within 4 km of an indoor ice sheet by 2045
- Recommends City-operated arenas be replaced with more contemporary facilities that typically have multiple sheets of ice
 - New arena development should occur at multi-use locations that attract broader community use, provide greater accessibility, and support a diverse range of year-round activities
- Recommends the City continue to shift from an owner-operator role (direct provider) to that of a partner or indirect role
 - The City should continue to be the direct provider at Ab McDonald Memorial (formerly St. James Civic Centre Arena) and Sam Southern Arenas, which are already part of City-operated multipurpose centres
- Suggests the City continue to own and operate Charlie Gardiner Arena to ensure equitable access in the inner city and higher needs geographic areas
- Proposes the City issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) to explore partnership opportunities for the operation of existing City-operated arenas and to solicit proposals for the development of new multi-pad arenas

Need more information before you discuss? [To learn more, visit 8. Arenas & Indoor Ice Sheets Level of Service!](#)

Do you support the approach proposed in the Recreation Strategy?

☐ Very supportive ☐ Supportive ☐ Neutral ☐ Unsupportive ☐ Very unsupportive

What do you like about the proposed approach?

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Do you have any concerns?
Do you think anything is missing or hasn't been considered?

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Recreation – outdoor pools

Outdoor pools provide opportunities for fun, fitness, and instructional swimming. Spending the day at an outdoor pool is a great way to cool off and beat the summer heat. This is especially important for residents who have few opportunities to escape the heat. This opportunity to help residents cool-off is expected to become increasingly crucial as Winnipeg is forecasted to see the number of 30°C days increase from an average of 11 to 47 by 2050.

The City currently operates nine outdoor pools. Distribution varies widely, with several options in some areas of the city and none in others. Currently, only 43 percent of Winnipeggers are within 4 km of an outdoor pool. The average Winnipegger does not have access to an outdoor pool within 4 km of their home. Additionally, many outdoor pools are in poor condition and reaching the end of their useful life.

The Recreation Strategy recommends:

- Distributing outdoor pools more consistently across the city so all Winnipeggers are able to access an outdoor pool within 4 km by 2045
- Developing a network of larger destination outdoor pools that serve 4-6 km regions and supplementing them with smaller community pools to support higher needs geographic areas
- Improving the quality and functionality of outdoor pools by constructing new, universally accessible pools that provide more play and leisure value for all ages.
 - To be welcoming and fun, outdoor pools should support entire-family use with sloped entries, water play features, picnicking, and seating that offer sun and shade areas

Need more information before you discuss? [To learn more, visit 9. Outdoor Pools in the draft strategy!](#)

Do you support the approach proposed in the Recreation Strategy?

☐ Very supportive ☐ Supportive ☐ Neutral ☐ Unsupportive ☐ Very unsupportive

What aspects are most appealing?**Do you have any concerns?**

Winnipeg Recreation & Park Strategies

Stakeholder Conversation Guide

Do you think anything is missing or hasn't been considered?



Recreation – spray pads & wading pools

City of Winnipeg wading pools and spray pads are free to use and provide a popular, no-cost, family-friendly activity. Older, mature neighbourhoods contain 75 percent of the city's wading pools and approximately 40 percent of spray pads. Newer areas built between the 1950s and 2000s, have about 20 percent of wading pools and 50 percent of the spray pads.

Virtually all of Winnipeg's current inventory of 81 wading pools were built in the 1960s and 70s. They are typically small concrete basins that provide shallow, circulated water for younger children to play in. Wading pools are staffed by attendants and have to be filled and drained daily. The operating season for wading pools is limited to July and August. The average wading pool provides approximately 260 service hours per season.

The City has been constructing spray pads rather than wading pools since 2005. Spray pads are unstaffed amenities that spray water from various features activated by the user. With zero water depth and a flat surface, spray pads are universally accessible and eliminate drowning risks. Spray pads have a longer operating season, starting in late May and extending into September. They also have longer operating periods each day since they don't need to be filled daily and staffed during operation. The average spray pad provides 1,100 service hours per season.

Spray pads tend to appeal to children aged 0-10, which is a larger age range than wading pools. While wading pools were designed as neighbourhood-scale amenities, spray pads can be designed as larger community-scale amenities with more extensive play features. This provides capacity to serve larger areas and more residents. Currently, only 67 percent of Winnipeggers are within the targeted travel distance of 2 km to an existing spray pad or wading pool.

The draft Recreation Strategy recommends that:

- All Winnipeggers should have access to either a spray pad or wading pool within 2 km
- The City continues to shift from wading pools to spray pads as they provide more play value, better accessibility, an expanded season, and increased operating hours
- The City should construct larger community scale spray pads designed to serve residents living within 2 km
- To shorten travel distances within geographic areas of high poverty, the City should provide smaller neighbourhood scale spray pads that can support use by residents living within 1 km
- As new spray pads are constructed, older wading pools within the catchment area should be closed; the City should reinvest in those park sites to provide alternate recreation amenities

Need more information before you discuss? [To learn more, visit 10. Spray Pads & Wading Pools in the draft strategy!](#)

Winnipeg Recreation & Park Strategies

Stakeholder Conversation Guide

Do you support the approach proposed in the Recreation Strategy?

☐ Very supportive ☐ Supportive ☐ Neutral ☐ Unsupportive ☐ Very unsupportive

What do you like about the proposed approach?

Do you have any concerns?

Do you think anything is missing or hasn't been considered?

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Parks – parkland

Ensuring that all Winnipeggers have access to parkland is the primary priority of the Parks Strategy. Currently 93 percent of all Winnipeggers are within a 10-minute walk of parkland. The aim of the Parks Strategy is that all Winnipegger's will live within a 10-minute walk of public parkland by 2045.

To provide walkable parkland for all Winnipeggers, the draft Parks Strategy recommends that the City:

- Acquire new parkland in appropriate locations in response to increasing population
- Acquire new parkland in areas that are currently under-served
- Ensure public park lands sufficiently provide year-round access to key park services:
 - Outdoor play
 - Leisure and gathering
 - Outdoor sport
 - Nature experience
 - Trail-based recreation
- Formalize a parks classification system to distinguish a range of park types and scales to accommodate a variety of spaces, uses, and levels of intensity
- Prioritize improving level of service in areas of higher needs and Downtown

Do you support the approach proposed in the Parks Strategy?

☐ Very supportive ☐ Supportive ☐ Neutral ☐ Unsupportive ☐ Very unsupportive

What do you like about the proposed approach?

Do you have any concerns?

Do you think anything is missing or hasn't been considered?

Winnipeg Recreation & Park Strategies

Stakeholder Conversation Guide

Which implementation strategies related to *parkland* would have the greatest benefit(s) to your organization?

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Parks – natural features

Winnipeggers are considered to have moderate access to natural features (grade C* or higher natural areas and patches of urban forest greater than 0.5 ha). Currently 64 percent of Winnipeggers are within a 10-minute walking distance of natural features. The aim of the draft Parks Strategy is to increase that metric to 80 percent by 2045.

To support Winnipeg's natural features, the draft Parks Strategy recommends that the City:

- Increase the size or quantity of natural features in areas that are currently under-served
- Prioritize improving access to natural features based on community need
- Acquire and preserve parkland containing existing native vegetation
- Consider naturalization (the process of restoring native plants and landscapes) of park areas within an under-served community where acquisition of additional natural areas is not possible
- Provide interpretive opportunities for Winnipeggers to learn about natural processes
- Follow sustainable, low-impact design guidelines to provide effective stewardship of natural features
- Restore degraded natural ecosystems

* Visit the [Parks and Open Space webpage](#) for more information on habitat assessment and grading.

Do you support the approach proposed in the Parks Strategy?
☐ Very supportive ☐ Supportive ☐ Neutral ☐ Unsupportive ☐ Very unsupportive
What do you like about the proposed approach?
Do you have any concerns?
Do you think anything is missing or hasn't been considered?

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Which implementation strategies related to *parkland* would have the greatest benefit(s) to your organization?

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Parks – connections

Connections focuses on all modes of transportation that facilitate access to, through, and within parks, but with an emphasis on the active transportation networks that promote walking and cycling. This includes the pathways that provide access to amenities within parks and the broader transportation routes that lead to parks. As park sizes, intensity of activity, and service catchment increases, access by transit and vehicles become increasingly necessary. Most Winnipeg parks are considered well-connected within neighbourhoods by available pedestrian and cycling infrastructure. However, there are still parts of the city where walkable or bikeable access is restricted by physical and natural barriers (such as rivers, railways, and major roadway) or by gaps and incomplete networks.

To improve connections within Winnipeg's individual parks, the Parks Strategy recommends that the City:

- Provide safe and well-maintained pathway systems
- Improve wayfinding and signage
- Enhance year-round pedestrian access and use by snow clearing park paths and establishing cross-country ski trails
- Provide adequate parking facilities at high-use parks (community and regional parks)
- Explore innovative opportunities to provide digital information about parks

To improve connections to and between Winnipeg's parks system, the draft Parks Strategy recommends that the City:

- Prioritize new and improved connections to regional parks, and enhance and promote access to our signature parks and their high-quality amenities
- Seek opportunities to increase connection points to Winnipeg's waterways to enable greater access to nature and celebrate the importance of our river systems
- Promote and expand on the routes identified by the *Winnipeg Pedestrian and Cycling Strategies* to create better linkages to or through parks
- Strive to improve transit access to the parks system
- Invest in river access facilities that promote year-round use of Winnipeg's waterways

Do you support the approach proposed in the Parks Strategy?

☐ Very supportive ☐ Supportive ☐ Neutral ☐ Unsupportive ☐ Very unsupportive

What do you like about the proposed approach?

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Do you have any concerns?

Do you think anything is missing or hasn't been considered?

Which implementation strategies related to *parkland* would have the greatest benefit(s) to your organization?



Parks – amenities

Amenities are purpose-built components in parks, maintained to provide specific services and opportunities for park programming to the surrounding communities.

To improve the level of service of amenities within potential areas of need, the draft Parks Strategy recommends that the City:

- Ensure all Winnipeggers live within a 10-minute walk (600 m) of each of the three core amenities by 2045:
 - Playgrounds (currently 83 percent of Winnipeggers)
 - Picnic and gathering spaces (currently 98 percent of Winnipeggers)
 - Multi-use greenspaces (currently 27 percent of Winnipeggers)
- Ensure all Winnipeggers have access to secondary amenities consistently across the city, including:
 - Court sports and athletic fields
 - Outdoor skating areas and skateboard facilities
 - Off-leash dog areas
- Seek support from partner organizations to provide and/or maintain secondary amenities
- Seek to provide tertiary amenities, as resources permit or partnership arrangements help supplement, including:
 - Toboggan slides
 - Plazas and special event/performance venues
 - Public art/monuments
 - Viewing platforms and lookouts
 - Community gardens
 - Outdoor fitness equipment
 - Sand volleyball courts, cricket pitches, disc golf courses, and lawn bowling greens
 - Canoe and kayak launches
- Allow existing specialty amenities (such as: track and field amenities; speed skating ovals and bike tracks; archery ranges; radio-controlled racing areas; and ice climbing towers) to occur on parkland on a case-by-case basis, providing they continue to be managed and maintained by user groups or other external organizations
 - Conversion of existing lands or acquisition of new lands for these amenities will not be prioritized in the future
- Prioritize investment in core and secondary amenities
- Ensure less than 5 percent of park core and secondary amenities are in poor/very poor quality
- Consider removal of worn-out amenities in areas that currently have access to other amenities of a similar type
- Monitor existing use and assess demand through user data collection

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- Improve the level of service based on community need, with focus on higher needs areas and Downtown
- Ensure the complete lifecycle costs for operating and maintenance are considered before investing in new infrastructure

Do you support the approach proposed in the Parks Strategy?

☐ Very supportive ☐ Supportive ☐ Neutral ☐ Unsupportive ☐ Very unsupportive

What do you like about the proposed approach?

Do you have any concerns?

Do you think anything is missing or hasn't been considered?

Which implementation strategies related to *parkland* would have the greatest benefit(s) to your organization?

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Parks – regional parks

The draft Regional Park Investment Strategy standardizes the level of service for regional parks, defining the key amenities and functions they should provide. Each regional park has its own unique identity and sense of place, including their own civic and historic value. Their large size supports unique activities and expansive trail networks which cannot be found in smaller community or neighbourhood parks.

By prioritizing investment in regional parks to address existing service gaps and enhance their draw as destination sites, the draft Regional Parks Investment Strategy recommends the City:

- Strive to provide a regional park for every 100,000 Winnipeggers (currently 1:96,840)
- Strive to provide a regional sport park for every 250,000 Winnipeggers (currently 1:258,250)
- Emphasize and enhance amenities that best capture the unique character of each regional park
- Prioritize investment in improving existing amenities and other assets in regional parks before considering adding new amenities
- Improve connectivity to regional parks by championing completion of the active transportation network segments that bring the path network closer to the respective parks
- Operate and maintain regional parks at a higher, more consistent standard than other park classifications

Does your organization have an interest/connection with one or more regional parks?

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ Buhler Recreation Park | ☐ La Barriere Park |
| ☐ Crescent Drive Park | ☐ Little Mountain Park |
| ☐ John Blumberg Park | ☐ Maple Grove Park |
| ☐ Kilcona Park | ☐ St. Vital Park |
| ☐ Kildonan Park | ☐ Whittier / Lagimodière-Gaboury |
| ☐ King's Park | |

For each of the parks identified above, What do you think is most important to improve in this park? (You can copy and paste the below list within this box as many times as is required, noting atop the list which park you are commenting on.)

- ☐ Amenities (e.g. sports fields, playgrounds, washrooms)
- ☐ Natural restoration
- ☐ Wayfinding (e.g. signage, maps)
- ☐ Safety (e.g. lighting, emergency service access)
- ☐ General maintenance
- ☐ Other: _____

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Does your organization have an interest in partnering with the City to provide/maintain amenities within this park? If so, and you have commented on more than one park, please specify which park you would be interested in partnering on.

Parks Strategy Survey

Parks Strategy Phase 2 Survey

Welcome

In the first phase of engagement, we asked Winnipeggers about their leisure and recreation activities. We also asked residents to share their vision for the future of recreation and parks in Winnipeg. The input collected was used to inform the values, goals, and strategic objectives within the draft Parks Strategy.

We are now asking for your feedback to confirm that the draft Parks Strategy reflects Winnipeggers' values and priorities.

This survey will take approximately 25 minutes of your time and closes April 23, 2021.

Values

Survey Question #1:

Please indicate if you agree with the following statements:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Parks are important to my quality of life					
Parks contribute to my personal health and wellness					
Parks are a 'must-have' City of Winnipeg service					
Parks help me develop a sense of community and connections to others					
Parks help me develop a connection to nature					
I am satisfied with the availability of parks in Winnipeg					
Parks contribute to the local economy by attracting new residents and visitors and retaining existing ones					
Winnipeggers benefit from parks even if they do not use the parks services directly					

Goal: Active living

The draft Parks Strategy's first goal is to ensure Winnipeggers of all ages and abilities have opportunities for outdoor physical recreation, leisure, play, sport, and active transportation.

Survey Question #2

The draft Parks Strategy identifies five key services areas for parks. Please indicate how each of the services areas should be prioritized.

	High priority	Medium priority	Low priority	Not a priority at all
Outdoor play				

Leisure and gathering				
Outdoor sport				
Nature experiences				
Trail-based recreation				

Survey Question #3:

To reach the active living goal, the City could take a number of different steps.

What are the top three actions the City could take to increase your use and enjoyment of parks?

- ☐ Provide multi-use parks that offer a range of different amenities and uses
- ☐ Improve the overall condition of parks and park amenities
- ☐ Provide more supportive amenities such as lighting, bike racks, benches, and litter bins
- ☐ Ensure parks spaces and amenities are suitable to a wide range of ages and abilities
- ☐ Improve access to information about parks and increase promotion of parks and their services
- ☐ Make it easier to book park rental sites and athletic fields
- ☐ Reduce park rental fees
- ☐ Address potential safety concerns by improving sight-lines, path conditions, lighting quality, and repairing vandalism
- ☐ Offer more recreational programming in parks
- ☐ Provide opportunities for activities I can do on my own
- ☐ Provide opportunities for group activities
- ☐ Other: _____

Goal: Inclusion and access

The draft Parks Strategy's second goal is to provide access to parks that is not limited by physical, information and communication, or systemic barriers.

Survey Question #4:

The draft Parks Strategy recommends the City strive to ensure all Winnipeggers have access to quality parks.

Please indicate if you agree with the following statements that would be outcomes of the draft Parks Strategy.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
All Winnipeggers should have access to at least one park within a 10-minute walking distance					
It is important to have access to a wide range of park types and sizes to accommodate a variety of uses					
Parks and amenities should continue to be free of charge in all areas of Winnipeg					
Parks and amenities should be prioritized in higher needs areas of Winnipeg.					

Parks should provide important opportunities to strengthen relationships between different communities and cultural groups					
Parks should function in a way that encourages people who are new to Winnipeg to become engaged in our community					

Survey Question #5:

The draft Parks Strategy proposes the following actions to improve connections and trails to, through, and within parks. Please indicate how each of these actions should be prioritized.

	High priority	Medium priority	Low priority	Not a priority at all
Prioritize active transportation routes identified by the <i>Winnipeg Pedestrian and Cycling Strategies</i> that facilitate access to parks				
Maintain multi-use pathways in parks year-round				
Explore opportunities to improve transit access to parks				
Provide adequate parking facilities at high-use parks				
Promote the year-round use and enjoyment of waterways and riverbanks by facilitating public access				
Provide launching facilities for canoes, kayaks, or other non-motorized watercraft				
Improve physical and digital park wayfinding signage and resources				
Track trails for cross-country skiing				
Promote trails dedicated for snowshoeing and skijoring activities				
Provide designated trails around or through natural areas				

Survey Question #6:

The draft Parks Strategy proposes the following actions to ensure Winnipeggers have access to natural features. How would you prioritize these actions, where 1 indicates your highest priority and 7 indicates your lowest priority?

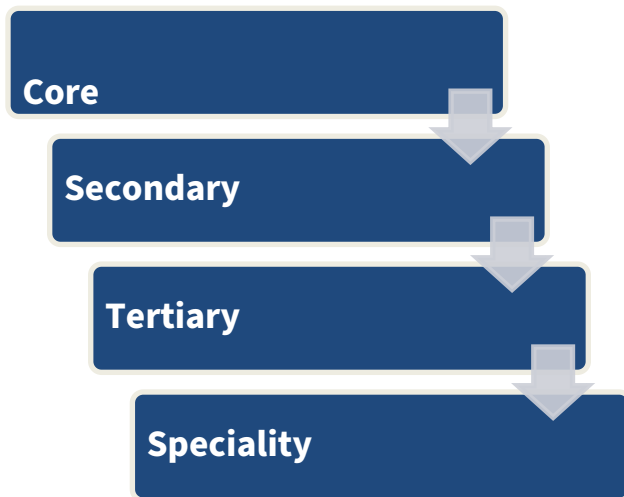
- ☐ Preserve, protect, and maintain existing natural areas in parks
- ☐ Enhance existing natural areas in parks
- ☐ Restore degraded natural areas in parks
- ☐ Acquire land containing natural features in parts of the city that currently lack access to natural areas
- ☐ Acquire land containing natural features wherever possible (even in areas already well-served by natural features)
- ☐ Naturalize parks where acquiring more natural areas is not possible

- ☐ Provide interpretive opportunities for Winnipeggers to learn about nature

Goal: Supportive environments

The draft Parks Strategy's fourth goal is to connect people to civic amenities, foster socialization, and participation, and help build strong, caring communities.

Park amenities must be prioritized as they are often costly to build and maintain. The draft Parks Strategy groups amenities into several categories.



Core: These are the top priority amenities for the City and will ensure all Winnipeggers will have access to at least one of each of these amenities (10 min walk or 600m). Proposed core amenities consist of:

- o Playgrounds
- o Picnic and gathering spaces
- o Multi-use greenspaces

Secondary: These add diverse functionality to the parks. The City will strive to ensure these amenities are provided consistently across the city. Proposed secondary amenities include:

- o Court sports and athletic fields
- o Outdoor ice-skating areas and skateboard parks
- o Off-leash dog areas

Tertiary: Additional unique elements that will be provided as resources permit. Proposed tertiary amenities include:

- o Toboggan slides
- o Plazas and special event/performance venues
- o Outdoor pools, spray pads and wading pools
- o Public art/monuments
- o Viewing platforms and lookouts

- o Community gardens
- o Fitness equipment
- o Beach volleyball, cricket, disc golf, and lawn bowling
- o Canoe and kayak launches

Specialty: Serve very specific functions and user groups. These amenities will not be prioritized by the City in the future. Proposed specialty amenities include:

- o Track and field amenities
- o Speed skating ovals and bike tracks
- o Archery ranges
- o Radio controlled racing areas
- o Ice climbing towers

Survey Question #7:

The draft Parks Strategy provides guidance for prioritizing investment in amenities as they are often costly to build and maintain. Please review the categories above and indicate if you agree with the following recommendations.

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Playgrounds, picnic and gathering spaces, and multi-use green spaces should be the highest priority for the City (core amenities)					
The City should prioritize Downtown areas when providing core amenities					
The City should prioritize providing secondary amenities consistently across Winnipeg					
The City should prioritize tertiary amenities only when resources allow					
The City should not prioritize specialty amenities and instead look to other organizations to help provide them					
The City should invest in areas where there are gaps in service before enhancing service in other areas					

Survey Question #8:

How would you prioritize the following secondary amenities? Please select up to three park amenities that you think should be a priority for investment.

- ☐ Tennis and pickleball courts
- ☐ Basketball courts
- ☐ Baseball/softball diamonds

- ☐ Rectangular athletic fields (i.e. soccer fields)
- ☐ Outdoor skating areas
- ☐ Skateboard parks/spots
- ☐ Off-leash dog areas
- ☐ None of these amenities should be a priority for investment

Survey Question #9:

Are there any other amenities you think should be included as a secondary amenity?

Goal: Capacity building

The Parks Strategies fifth goal is to ensure the parks system is sustainable, able to support growth, and adaptable to changing needs. This includes supporting existing and fostering new partnerships with community groups and private organizations.

Survey Question #10:

The draft Parks Strategy includes criteria to prioritize spending on new parks and amenities. Please indicate your priority for each of the criteria below.

A new park or amenity should be a priority over others if:

	High priority	Medium Priority	Low Priority	Not a priority at all
it is multi-use and meets the needs of many different activities, programs, and users				
it replaces an existing amenity that is outdated and/or at the end of its lifespan				
it provides a unique feature				
the cost to acquire and maintain it is lower than other options				
it is more environmentally sustainable				
it preserves, protects or enhances a natural feature				
external funding is available that would lower the cost (i.e. other levels of government or a private partner)				
it supports a more even geographic distribution of parks in Winnipeg				
it supports a growing community				
it supports a geographic area of higher poverty that is under-served in our community				
it is requested by a user group within the community				

Survey Question #11:

As our city grows and our parks infrastructure ages, we need to ensure our budgets are able to support these changes. Which of the following options would you support to ensure the long-term financial sustainability of our parks?

	Strongly Support	Support	Neutral	Oppose	Strongly Oppose
Increase property taxes					
Increase user fees for park space rentals					

Shift existing budgets from other City services					
Promote sponsorship opportunities for parks and their amenities					
Allow for increased park-compatible commercial activities in parks					
Allocate a portion of dog licensing fees to establishment and renewal of off-leash dog areas					
Have fewer parks and amenities so that the remaining parks are better maintained					
Maintain regional parks at a higher standard, while reducing the standard in community and neighbourhood parks					
None; I don't think parks needs any additional funding					

Survey Question #12:

The draft Parks Strategy includes opportunities for partnerships to support parks. Please choose the three partnership-related scenarios you think would best serve your community.

- ☐ Promote sponsorship opportunities for parks and their amenities
- ☐ Allow for increased park-compatible commercial activities in parks
- ☐ Champion volunteer efforts such as adopt-a-park and community stewardship of parks
- ☐ Support community-led urban agriculture to promote food security by allowing community gardening initiatives in parks
- ☐ Foster shared use opportunities with schools and other service organizations
- ☐ Collaborate with cultural groups, resident advisory groups, and other service groups to identify and develop culturally significant spaces in parks
- ☐ Partner with internet service providers and nearby businesses to offer free public Wi-Fi internet in high-traffic parks
- ☐ Continue to work with community centres and sporting organizations for shared use and maintenance of park space
- ☐ I don't think the City should partner with others to support parks

Regional Parks

The draft Regional Park Investment Strategy standardizes the level of service for regional parks, defining the key amenities and functions they should provide.

Each regional park has its own identity and sense of place. Their large size supports unique activities and expansive trail networks that cannot be found in smaller community or neighbourhood parks.

Survey Question #13:

Which regional parks do you visit? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Crescent Drive Park
- ☐ Kilcona Park
- ☐ Kildonan Park
- ☐ King's Park
- ☐ La Barriere Park
- ☐ Little Mountain Park
- ☐ St. Vital Park
- ☐ Whittier / Lagimodière-Gaboury Park

Regional Sport Parks

- ☐ Buhler Recreation Park
- ☐ John Blumberg Park
- ☐ Maple Grove Park
- ☐ I don't visit regional parks

Survey Question #14:

The Parks Strategy presents visions for each of the City's regional parks. We want to know whether you support the visions. Please respond to as many or as few as you like.

Matrix of drop down menus: [Very Supportive] [Supportive] [Neutral] [Unsupportive] [Very Unsupportive]

Buhler Recreation Park (Regional Sport Park)

Is a state-of-the-art sporting facility situated in, and catering to the residents in the east, but serving all of Winnipeg by providing a destination for **sport and recreation** leagues, as well as **competitive tournaments** in a **family-friendly** environment.

Crescent Drive Park

Is a **family oriented, four-season** park adjacent to the Crescent Drive Golf Course that offers picnicking, river access, and trails amongst the park's **natural forest**.

John Blumberg Park (Regional Sport Park)

Located just outside the City limits, is Winnipeg's westerly competitive **sport and recreation** destination, supporting **softball, soccer, and boating** along the Assiniboine River.

Kilcona Park

Is reclamation exemplified – it's transformation from a former landfill into Winnipeg's **largest ecologically restored park landscape**, benefits from the manmade hills and lakes to create a one of a kind character space that supports varied recreational opportunities, walking trails, and a large off-leash area.

Kildonan Park

Is Winnipeg's premiere **leisure and picnicking** destination, where people come from across the city to enjoy beautiful **formal gardens and river vistas**, wander amongst some of **Manitoba's oldest trees**, and visit unique destinations, including Canada's longest running outdoor theatre, **Rainbow Stage**.

King's Park

Is a prime passive recreation, leisure, and wellness destination that caters to picnickers, dog walkers, runners, and nature lovers with the serenity of its **riverside scenery, wetland areas, pagoda, and labyrinth**.

La Barriere Park

Includes an area of pristine **wilderness** just outside of the city as well as several sports amenities. The park offers opportunities for **immersion in nature**, and outdoor adventures such as **canoeing** on the La Salle River and walking along river bottom forest trails.

Little Mountain Park

Contains Winnipeg's **highest natural feature elevation**, a stunning **limestone ridge**, and provides respite and a relaxing environment for visitors at the edge of the city to wander through aspen **forests and meadows**, picnic along a **limestone quarry lake**, or investigate the **fossils** preserved in the park.

Maple Grove Park (Regional Sport Park)

Is an **active recreation** and **sports** league venue, accommodating a variety of **organized sports**.

St. Vital Park

Originally designed as a **traditional English landscaped** park, is a riverfront destination amidst a lush tree canopy bordered by the Red River. It is centered around a **duck pond and pavilion**, where people take part in **family-friendly recreation** activities in **all seasons**.

Whittier/Lagimodière-Gaboury Park (proposed amalgamation of existing parks)

Is one of Winnipeg's major **Francophone** and **Métis heritage** destinations and a **natural retreat** in the heart of the city at the confluence of the Red and Seine Rivers.

Survey Question #15:

Do you agree regional parks should be maintained to a higher standard than other parks?

(If yes -> question 16. If no, question 17)

- ☐ Yes. I am very supportive
- ☐ Yes. I am supportive
- ☐ No, I am unsupportive

- ☐ No, I am very unsupportive
- ☐ I'm unsure

Survey Question #16:

Why do you think regional parks should be maintained to a higher standard than other parks? (Check all that apply)

- ☐ I visit regional parks more than my local park
- ☐ I feel regional parks are not sufficiently maintained
- ☐ I enjoy the wide variety of amenities available at regional parks
- ☐ I feel regional parks are a landmark feature for Winnipeg
- ☐ Other: _____

Survey Question #17:

Why do you think regional parks should not be maintained to a higher standard than other parks? (Check all that apply)

- ☐ I visit my local park more often than a regional park
- ☐ I cannot easily access the regional parks
- ☐ I feel the regional parks are already sufficiently maintained
- ☐ I am not interested in the amenities available at regional parks
- ☐ I feel regional parks are too busy
- ☐ Other: _____

Survey Question #18:

Which regional park do you think is most important to prioritize for improvements?

- ☐ Buhler Recreation Park
- ☐ Crescent Drive Park
- ☐ John Blumberg Park
- ☐ Kilcona Park
- ☐ Kildonan Park
- ☐ King's Park
- ☐ La Barriere Park
- ☐ Little Mountain Park
- ☐ Maple Grove Park
- ☐ St. Vital Park
- ☐ Whittier / Lagimodière-Gaboury Park
- ☐ I don't think any regional parks need to be improved
- ☐ Unsure

Survey Question #19:

What do you think is most important to improve in this park? Select up to three.

- ☐ Core, secondary, or tertiary amenities (e.g. sports fields, playgrounds)
- ☐ Supportive amenities (e.g. washrooms)
- ☐ Natural habitat restoration
- ☐ Wayfinding (e.g. signage, maps)
- ☐ Safety (e.g. lighting, emergency service access)
- ☐ General maintenance
- ☐ Other: _____

Survey Question #20:

Is there anything else you would like to add?

Please tell us about yourself

How old are you?

- ☐ Under 18
- ☐ 18-29
- ☐ 30-39
- ☐ 40-49
- ☐ 50-59
- ☐ 60-69
- ☐ 70-79
- ☐ 80 or older

Do you have children (16 or under) living at home?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

What are the first three characters of your postal code?

___ _ _

Please self-identify as you feel comfortable

- ☐ A parent, guardian or caregiver of a dependent
- ☐ A person with physical or non-visible disabilities
- ☐ A recent newcomer to Winnipeg
- ☐ A person of colour, also referred to as a visible minority
- ☐ An Indigenous person (First Nation (status or non-status), Métis, or Inuit)
- ☐ A member of the LGBTQ2S community
- ☐ A man
- ☐ A woman
- ☐ Prefer not to say
- ☐ Other: _____

Please indicate your household income before taxes:

- Under \$24,999
- \$25,000 to \$49,999
- \$50,000 to \$74,999
- \$75,000 to \$99,999
- \$100,000 to \$124,999
- \$125,000 to \$149,999
- \$150,000 and over
- I prefer not to answer/I don't know

Recreation Strategy Survey

Recreation Strategy Phase 2 Survey

Welcome

In the first phase of engagement, we asked Winnipeggers about their leisure and recreation activities. We also asked residents to share their vision for the future of recreation and parks in Winnipeg. The input collected was used to inform the values, goals, and recommendations within the draft Recreation Strategy.

We are now asking for your feedback to confirm that the draft Recreation Strategy reflects Winnipeggers' values and priorities.

This survey will take approximately 20 minutes of your time and closes April 23, 2021.

Values

Survey Question #1:

Please indicate if you agree with the following statements:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Recreation opportunities provided through City of Winnipeg programs and facilities are important to my quality of life					
Recreation opportunities contribute to my personal health and wellness					
Recreation is a 'must-have' City of Winnipeg service					
Recreation opportunities help me develop a sense of community and connections to others					
I am satisfied with the availability of recreation opportunities currently offered in Winnipeg					
Recreation contributes to the local economy by attracting new residents and visitors and retaining existing ones					
City of Winnipeg recreation services benefit my community even if I don't use the services directly					

Goal: Active living

The draft Recreation Strategy's first goal is for Winnipeggers of all ages and abilities to have opportunities for physical recreation, leisure, play, sport, and active transportation.

Survey Question #2:

Within the last three years, have you participated in City of Winnipeg recreation programs or used City of Winnipeg recreation facilities?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Unsure

Survey Question #3:

To reach this goal, the City could take a number of different steps.

What are the top three actions the City could take to increase **your** participation in recreation opportunities?

- ☐ Provide facilities and programs that support activities that I can do on my own
☐ Provide more group programs and activities, suitable for a wide range of ages, so everyone in my household can participate together
☐ Provide multi-use facilities which have many different programs and activities happening at one location
☐ Offer more programs and activities outdoors in City parks
☐ Improve the condition of existing facilities
☐ Have more recreation location options
☐ Offer more participant spots in programs and activities
☐ Provide more entry-level programs and activities
☐ Improve the promotion of programs and activities
☐ Make it easier to sign-up for programs and activities
☐ Lower the cost of programs and activities
☐ Other: _____

Goal: Inclusion and access

The draft Recreation Strategy's second goal is that individual and community participation in recreation activities is not limited by physical, social, economic, or environmental barriers.

Survey Question #4:

The draft Recreation Strategy recommends the City strive to ensure all Winnipeggers have access to recreation. Please indicate if you agree with the following statements that would be outcomes of the draft strategy.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
The City should provide a wide range of programs and services that appeal to people of all ages and abilities					
The City should continue to partner with other organizations to provide recreation opportunities and access to facilities					
The City should provide free recreation programs in all areas of Winnipeg					
The City should focus on providing free recreation programs in higher needs areas of Winnipeg.					

Goal: Supportive Environments

Recreation services and facilities are designed to connect people to civic amenities, foster socialization and participation, and help build healthy, caring communities.

City programs and facilities should provide supportive and contemporary recreation services that improve our quality of life. However, funds are limited, so priorities are needed to guide decisions about facilities, spaces, and amenities for recreation activities.

Survey Question #5:

The draft Recreation Strategy groups recreation facilities into the categories listed below. How would you prioritize investment in our facilities? Please drag and drop to rank the facility categories below where 1 indicates the highest priority for investment and 6 indicates the lowest priority for investment.

- ☐ Indoor pools
- ☐ Outdoor pools
- ☐ Spray pads & wading pools
- ☐ Multi-use recreation & neighbourhood centres (e.g. Sgt. Tommy Prince Place)
- ☐ Community centres (e.g. Norwood Community Centre)
- ☐ Arenas & indoor ice sheets

Survey Question #6:

Most of our facilities are aging and require investment to continue to provide service. Most City-owned and operated recreation facilities and community centres (which are City-owned but operated by volunteer boards) require more maintenance than they currently receive. If we want to keep supporting our facilities and our amenities, we need to increase our maintenance budgets.

Which of the following options for increasing maintenance budgets would you support?

	Strongly Support	Support	Neutral	Oppose	Strongly Oppose
Increase property taxes					
Increase user fees for programs and entry fees to facilities					
Shift existing budgets from other City services					
Have fewer facilities so that the remaining facilities are properly maintained					
Maintain some facilities at a higher standard than others					
Unsure, I need more information.					

None, I don't agree with increasing maintenance budgets even if it means some facilities are in poor condition					
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Survey Question #7:

Where should we spend our yearly budget to make the biggest difference in providing quality recreation opportunities? Drag and drop to rank the following investment opportunities, where 1 indicates the most favourable investment and 5 indicates the least favorable investment.

- ☐ Maintain the facilities and amenities we have now
- ☐ Build new, larger facilities that provide more things for to do for all ages and phase out older, single-purpose facilities
- ☐ Build or maintain smaller facilities and amenities within individual communities
- ☐ Focus on investing in program development and providing new recreation programs
- ☐ Find a balance of all of these investment options
- ☐ Other: _____

Survey Question #8:

The draft Recreation Strategy includes criteria to prioritize spending on one recreation facility, space or amenity over another. For instance, in one year, there may be two new recreation facilities being considered, along with upgrades to three other facilities. Those five proposals would go through a criteria analysis to determine which options should be selected for investment.

Please indicate how you think the City should prioritize each of the criteria below.

A new or enhanced facility, space or amenity should be a priority for investment over others if:

	High priority	Medium priority	Low priority	Not a priority at all
the facility is multi-purpose and meets the needs of many different activities, programs, and users				
the facility replaces an existing facility or space that is outdated and/or at the end of its lifespan				
the facility provides a unique recreation opportunity not available elsewhere in Winnipeg				
the cost to build the facility is lower than other options				
the facility is more environmentally sustainable				
the cost to run the facility is lower than other options				
external funding is available that would lower the cost (i.e. other levels of government or a private partner)				
the facility supports a more even geographic distribution of recreation opportunities in Winnipeg				

the facility supports a geographic area of higher poverty that is under-served in our community				
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Goal: Capacity building

Another goal of the draft Recreation Strategy is for the recreation system to become sustainable and resilient by enabling collaboration and increasing community capacity. Volunteerism is a critical component of sport and recreation in Winnipeg. In particular, community centres are very dependent upon volunteers to operate community-based sports and recreation programs. However, with changes to our lifestyles, the ways that people volunteer are also changing.

Survey Question #9:

If the viability of recreation services or facilities depended upon volunteers, would you volunteer your time for any of the following? If 1-5 -> question 11. If 'none' -> question 12.

- ☐ A non-profit or charitable organization
- ☐ An organization that provides sport or recreation programs
- ☐ An organization that provides programming for seniors
- ☐ A daycare or school
- ☐ A community centre
- ☐ None

Survey Question #11:

Please select your top three motivations for volunteering:

- ☐ To support my community
- ☐ To support my family's activities
- ☐ To be valued and respected
- ☐ To meet new people
- ☐ To use my skills and abilities to 'give back'
- ☐ To increase my skills and experience
- ☐ To improve my resume
- ☐ To meet a requirement of my school, employer, or other agency
- ☐ To contribute to a cause that is important to me and valuable to the community

Survey Question #12:

What would limit or prevent you from volunteering:

- ☐ Work commitments
- ☐ Family commitments

- ☐ My health
- ☐ Lack of succession plan - I'm concerned that I will be 'stuck' and unable to transition the role to others in the future.
- ☐ Lack of transportation
- ☐ The volunteer time or responsibility is too large
- ☐ The volunteer opportunities available are not a good match for my skills or interests
- ☐ I have not found a cause or organization that I strongly support
- ☐ I am unaware of volunteer opportunities
- ☐ I prefer to donate financially
- ☐ Nothing limits or prevents me from volunteering
- ☐ Other

Survey Question #13:

The impact of COVID-19, including closures and restrictions, has resulted in changes to everyone's daily activities. For the following questions, please think about a typical year before COVID-19 restrictions.

In the year prior to COVID-19 restrictions, did you volunteer for any of the following? (Please check all that apply? *(if 'none' skip to question 16)*)

- ☐ A non-profit or charitable organization
- ☐ An organization that provides sport or recreation programs
- ☐ An organization that provides programming for seniors
- ☐ A daycare or school
- ☐ A community centre
- ☐ None
- ☐ Other: _____

Survey Question #14:

Please check all the statements that apply. My volunteer experiences include:

- ☐ Being part of a committee or board
- ☐ Organizing an event or program
- ☐ Teaching or coaching
- ☐ Refereeing or officiating
- ☐ Fundraising
- ☐ Collecting, serving, or delivering food
- ☐ Set-up, take-down, or supervision of an event

- ☐ Advocating for social causes
- ☐ Providing advice or mentorship
- ☐ Other: _____

Survey Question #15:

On average, how many hours do you volunteer?

- ☐ 1-5 hours per year
- ☐ 1-5 hours per month
- ☐ 1-5 hours per week
- ☐ 6-10 hours per week
- ☐ More than 10 hours per week

Survey Question #16:

Is there anything else you would like to add?

Please tell us about yourself

How old are you?

- ☐ Under 18
- ☐ 18-29
- ☐ 30-39
- ☐ 40-49
- ☐ 50-59
- ☐ 60-69
- ☐ 70-79
- ☐ 80 or older

Do you have children (16 or under) living at home?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

What are the first three characters of your postal code?

___ _ _

Please self-identify as you feel comfortable

- ☐ A parent, guardian or caregiver of a dependent
- ☐ A person with physical or non-visible disabilities
- ☐ A recent newcomer to Winnipeg
- ☐ A person of colour, also referred to as a visible minority
- ☐ An Indigenous person (First Nation (status or non-status), Métis, or Inuit
- ☐ A member of the LGBTQ2S community
- ☐ A man
- ☐ A woman
- ☐ Prefer not to say
- ☐ Other: _____

Please indicate your household income before taxes:

- Under \$24,999
- \$25,000 to \$49,999
- \$50,000 to \$74,999
- \$75,000 to \$99,999
- \$100,000 to \$124,999
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- \$150,000 and over
- I prefer not to answer/I don't know

Winnipeg Recreation & Parks Strategies



Online Workshop – March 2021

1



Workshop agenda

Welcome and introductions (5 min)

Overview of the Recreation & Parks Strategies (20 min)

Instructions for small group discussions (5 min)

Small group discussion (45 min)

Topic 1: How can the City better support you and your household in being active and healthy through recreation and parks? (15 min)

Topic 2: How do we balance preservation with the public use of our natural features? (15 min)

Topic 3: How would investing in regional parks and recreation complexes change your use? (15 min)

Report back to larger group (15 min)

Wrap-up (5 min)



2

Development of the Recreation & Parks Strategies



Why the strategies are important

Need for a strategic approach to service delivery which:

- Enables transformation of services and assets to meet current and future needs
- Responds to unprecedented growth
- Supports a changing city
- Fosters reconciliation
- Encourages collaboration and coordination
- Improves health and social equity
- Builds resilience



Background & context

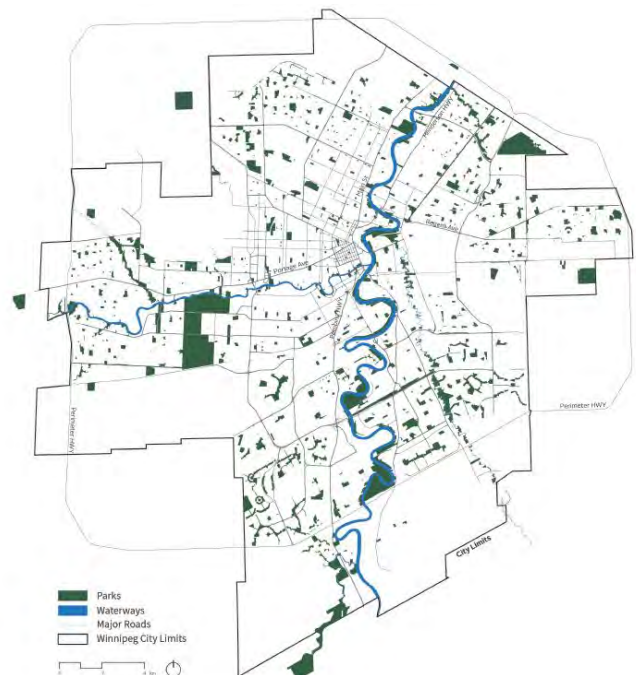
City of Winnipeg parks

Winnipeg has over 1,200 parks covering an area greater than 3,500 hectares

Park Classification	Count	Total Hectares*
City	1	163
Regional & regional sport	11	607
Community	216	1,102
Neighbourhood	454	363
Nature	43	462
Linkage	246	631

*plus buffers and fragments

1 hectare ~ size of football field





Background & context

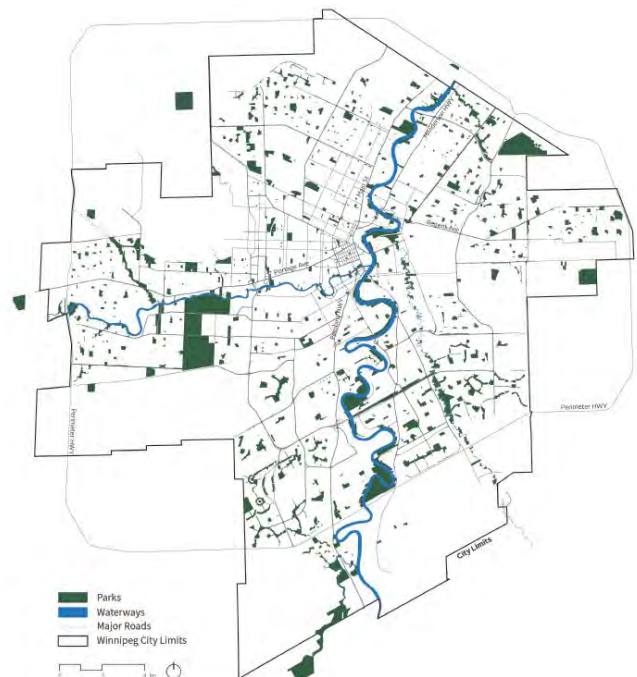
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Linkage	246	631

*plus buffers and fragments

1 hectare ~ size of football field





Parks system components

Parkland:

- City
- Regional & regional sport
- Community
- Neighbourhood
- Nature
- Linkage

Connections:

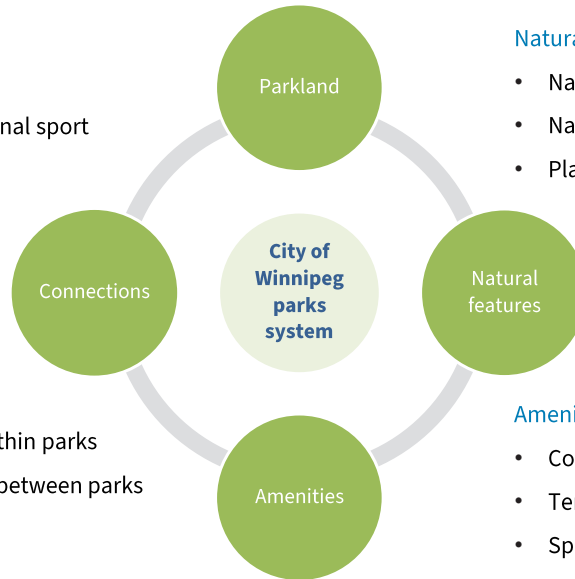
- Paths & trails within parks
- Multi-use paths between parks

Natural features:

- Natural areas
- Naturalized areas
- Planted stands of trees

Amenities:

- Core & secondary
- Tertiary
- Specialty
- Supportive



Existing City of Winnipeg recreation facilities

- 81 wading pools
- 21 spray pads
- 12 indoor pools
- 9 outdoor pools
- 34 indoor ice sheets
- 8 recreation & leisure centres
- 63 community centres operating:
 - 81 locations
 - 130+ outdoor rinks



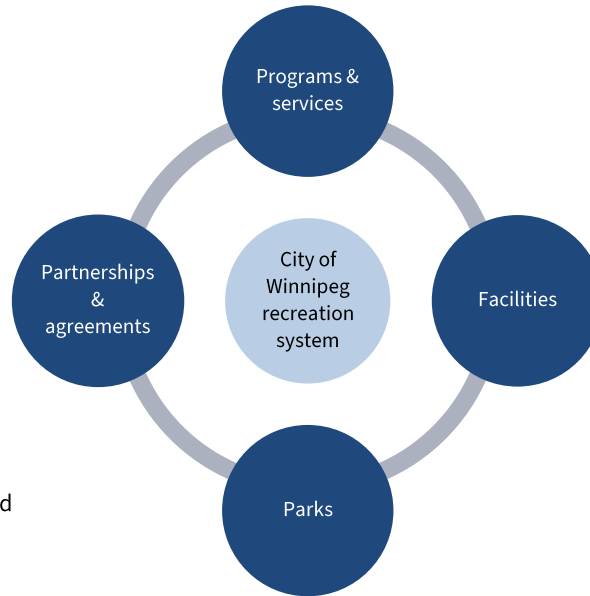
Recreation system components

Partnerships & agreements:

- Infrastructure programs & cost sharing agreements
- Grants
- Joint-use agreements
- Leases
- Loan guarantees
- Management & operating agreements
- Community centre model

Parks:

- Parks services, components, and amenities are addressed in the draft Parks Strategy



Programs & services:

- Physical literacy & skill development
- Fitness, active living & well-being
- Community sport
- Social inclusion & community connection
- Leadership development

Facilities:

- Aquatic & recreation centres
- Community centres & neighbourhood recreation centres
- Arenas & indoor ice sheets
- Outdoor pools
- Spray pads & wading pools



Phase 1 public engagement

Goal was to identify current use, challenges, opportunities, barriers to participation, and visions for the future.

Included:

- 9,400+ surveys submitted
- 11,700+ comments
- 188,000+ data points
- 3 open houses
- 2 stakeholder workshops

Phase 1 public engagement – What we heard

Quality & supply:

Increase the number and improve the quality of recreation facilities and parks

Natural preservation:

Restore and increase natural areas, maintain existing parks, and limit land development

Access & transportation:

Increase the ease of access to parks and amenities by various modes and create connections via active transportation routes

Services & programming:

Improve the operations of recreation and parks

Funding:

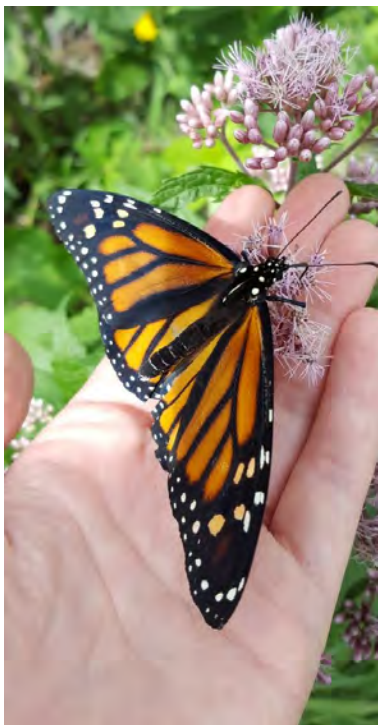
Invest in recreation and parks and provide funding for maintenance and operations

Community & inclusivity:

Ensure amenities are accessible, welcoming, and safe for everyone to gather

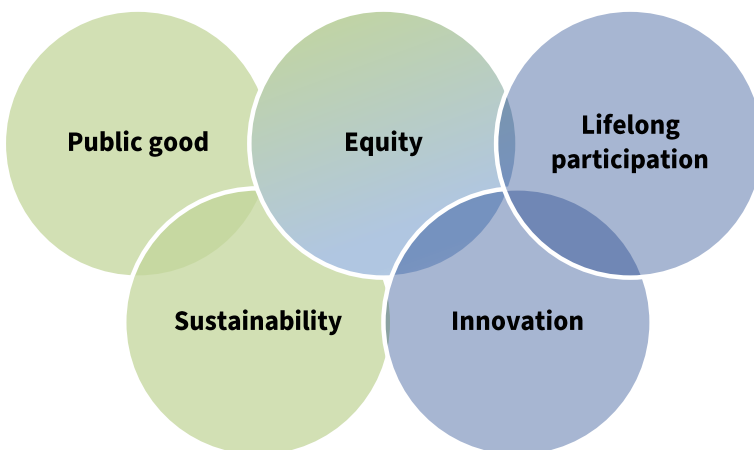


Key aspects of the strategies



Shared vision and values

Winnipeg's recreation and parks systems foster the wellbeing of individuals, communities, and natural environments by enabling all to engage in meaningful, accessible experiences and activities.



Shared goals



Active living

Winnipeggers of all ages and abilities have opportunities for physical recreation, leisure, play, sport, and active transportation.



Inclusion and access

Individual and community access and participation to recreation and parks is not limited by physical, social, economic, or environmental barriers.



Connecting people with nature

People connect with nature in their communities and have opportunities to learn and value ecological systems and the functions they provide.



Supportive environments

Recreation and parks spaces, services, and facilities work to connect people by fostering socialization and participation to build strong, caring communities.



Capacity building

The recreation and parks systems are sustainable, able to support growth, adapt to changing needs, enable collaboration, increase resilience and community capacity.

Parks service categories



Recreation facility hierarchy

Scale	Facility type	Example
City-wide	Major competitive aquatic sport venue	Pan Am Pool
Regional 2-6 km	Regional recreation complexes	Proposed East of the Red RecPlex
	District community centres	Dakota Community Centre
	Destination outdoor pools	Transcona Aquatic Park
Community 2-4 km	Community multi-use recreation centres	Sgt. Tommy Prince Place
	Community centres	Sturgeon Heights Community Centre
	Arenas & indoor ice sheets	Seven Oaks Arena
	Community outdoor pool	Freight House Outdoor Pool
	Community spray pads	Gateway Community Centre Spray Pad
Neighbourhood <2 km	Neighbourhood community centres	Ralph Brown Community Centre
	Neighbourhood recreation centres	Turtle Island Neighbourhood Centre
	Neighbourhood spray pads	Fort Rouge Park Spray Pad



Policies & levels of service

Policies are aligned to the goals of:

- Active living
- Inclusion & access
- Connecting people & nature
- Supportive environments
- Capacity building

Levels of service:

- Are defined by facility type or parks service
- Include current and target levels of service
- Strategies to achieve target levels of service



Implementation



Parks strategic objectives

- 1 Meeting community needs
- 2 Building partnerships
- 3 Adapting to change
- 4 Improving access
- 5 Formalizing service delivery approach

Parks Strategy – Policy & implementation recommendations

Parkland	Natural Features	Connections
• Ensure all Winnipeggers have access to parks within walking distance: • <i>Prioritize acquisition of new parkland in response to increasing population & community needs</i> • Ensure land designated for public parks is sufficient to provide all Winnipeggers ample year-round opportunities to key services: • <i>Create a cohesive, balanced park system by providing a range of park types, and scales to accommodate a variety of spaces, uses, and levels of intensity</i>	• Ensure all Winnipeggers have access to natural features within walking distance: • <i>Focus protection and preservation of existing natural areas, and continuous forest patches >0.5ha</i> • <i>Naturalize park areas, where appropriate, to address service gaps</i> • <i>Restore degraded habitats</i> • Provide interpretive opportunities to learn about natural processes • Update the <i>Ecologically Significant Lands Strategy & Policy</i>	• Provide linkages between parks and routes established in <i>Winnipeg Pedestrian and Cycling Strategies</i> • Facilitate year-round trail-based activity through pathway snow clearing and tracking of ski trails • Improve wayfinding: • <i>Implement a consistent signage and mapping identity across the parks system</i> • <i>Explore digital opportunities for remote site exploration, and on-site interpretation</i> • Expand the network of public riverbank lands for active transportation & recreation

Parks Strategy – Policy & implementation recommendations

Parkland
• Prioritize investments based on established hierarchy of amenity categories, and demonstrated community needs • Strive to align the provision of amenities to the park classification structure • Provide access to amenities in accordance with the target levels of service for provision, access, and quality: • <i>Distance from amenity</i> • <i>Amenity per defined population</i> • <i>Minimum percent amenities in poor condition</i>

Design
• Consider all park components (parkland, natural features, connections, and amenities), and key services in a holistic manner • Design parks to accommodate a multi-use space that can provide a variety of year-round recreational experiences • Ensure inclusive access to parks and their amenities by applying the principles of universal design • Design parks, and associated infrastructure with ecological principles in mind

Operations & Management
• Implement a robust, transparent, and defensible process to evaluate, prioritize, and promote parks • Ensure all capital expenditures are supported by a lifecycle assessment • Adhere to a standardized and transparent set of operating & maintenance requirements for each park classification • Explore the implementation of <i>Winnipeg's Climate Action Plan</i> recommendations for parks • Foster partnerships to support parks operations, and maintenance



Recreation Strategy prioritizes

- 1 Investing in flexible, multi-use, and inter-generational facilities
- 2 Facilities at four scales - neighbourhoods, communities, regions, and the entire city; travel distances are used to determine service areas
- 3 Collaboration and partnerships
- 4 Equity-based planning approach
- 5 Supporting and increasing climate resiliency
- 6 Optimizing facilities to ensure the system is sustainable

Recreation Strategy - Key implementation recommendations

Indoor Aquatic & Recreation Centres

- Develop new regional recreation complexes (that serve areas 4-6 km in size) to facilitate the transition from older, single-purpose pools to new multi-use facilities that support diverse use
- Focus renewal funds on community multi-use recreation centres that provide a variety of program opportunities for all ages
- Focus on improving both functionality and quality

Community Centres

- Fund an update of General Council of Winnipeg Community Centres Plan 2025 to facilitate the next generation of investment and optimization
- Reinstitute the Community Centre Investment Fund to leverage transformation of older centres to contemporary facilities through amalgamation and redevelopment of existing assets

Neighbourhood Recreation Centres

- Enable inclusive and equitable services through focused investment in neighbourhood facilities that support geographic areas of higher poverty
- Address renewal needs to improve both functionality and quality
- Look for collaboration and partnership opportunities to provide programming that maximize the use of existing public assets

Recreation Strategy - Implementation recommendations cont.

Arenas & Indoor Ice Sheets

- Continue to operate the Ab McDonald Memorial & Sam Southern arenas which are part of City-operated multi-use facilities
- Continue to operate the Charlie Gardiner Areana to support ease of access within the inner city and areas of higher poverty
- Issue a request for proposal to explore partnership opportunities for the operation of existing City-operated arenas and development of new multi-pad arenas

Outdoor Pools

- Provide a larger, destination outdoor pools serving regions of 4-6 km, supplemented by smaller community pools to support geographic areas of higher poverty
- Focus limited maintenance funds on existing outdoor pools that have no alternative facility within their catchment

Spray Pads & Wading Pools

- Shift from wading pools to spray pads which provide more play value, an expanded season and longer operating hours
- As new spray pads are constructed, close wading pools within the catchment area and reinvest in those park sites to provide alternate amenities



Small group discussion Topic #1

25

Question #1:

How should the City prioritize spending to make the biggest difference in supporting active and healthy lifestyles?

- What types of facilities, programs, and park amenities would encourage you to be active and healthy?
- Where should we spend our yearly budget to make the biggest difference?
 - Maintain the facilities and amenities we have now
 - Invest in new, larger facilities and phase out older, single-purpose facilities
 - Invest in or maintain smaller facilities and parks within individual communities
 - Focus on investing in program development and providing new recreation programs
 - Find a balance of all of these investment options
- What criteria would you use to prioritize investment in different facilities, programs, and park amenities?

- Multi-use with something for everyone? - Operate year-round? - Areas of high needs? - Opportunity for cost-sharing with partners	- Areas with few parks and recreation opportunities? - Low cost to build or develop? - Low cost to operate?
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26



Small group discussion Topic #2



Winnipeg's natural features

Natural features in parks include:

- *Natural areas with habitat quality of Grade C or above*
- *Continuous patches of planted forest stands >0.5 ha*
- Winnipeg has significantly more maintained than natural parkland compared other Cities
- 449 publicly accessible natural features are found within the parks system
- 64% of Winnipeggers are within walking distance (10 min or 600 m) of natural features (2045 target: 80%)
- Parks with new 'Nature Park' designation (*parks with greater than 80% coverage of natural area with habitat grade above C*)

Question #2:

The City proposes to naturalize areas of existing maintained parkland where gaps in naturalized area have been identified. How would this impact your use and enjoyment of parks?

- Does the City have enough natural spaces?
- What natural features should the City preserve or enhance?
- When thinking about your use of natural features in Winnipeg:
 - What do you enjoy the most about natural features?
 - What kinds of human impacts do you see in natural areas?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of limiting recreation and leisure in natural areas?
- Should areas under development preserve any, some or all, natural features present?



**Small group
discussion
Topic #3**



Winnipeg's regional parks

- Large and iconic destination parks (typically greater than 40 ha)
- Provide unique experiences
- Serve as gathering places for the City as a whole
- Typically characterized by a significant cultural or environmental feature
- Most are located along waterways or have a significant water element

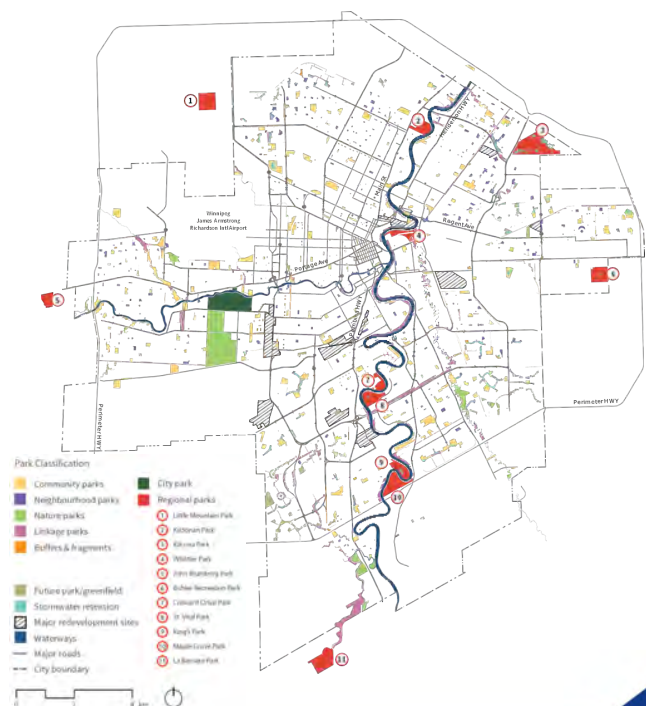
Winnipeg's regional parks

Regional parks

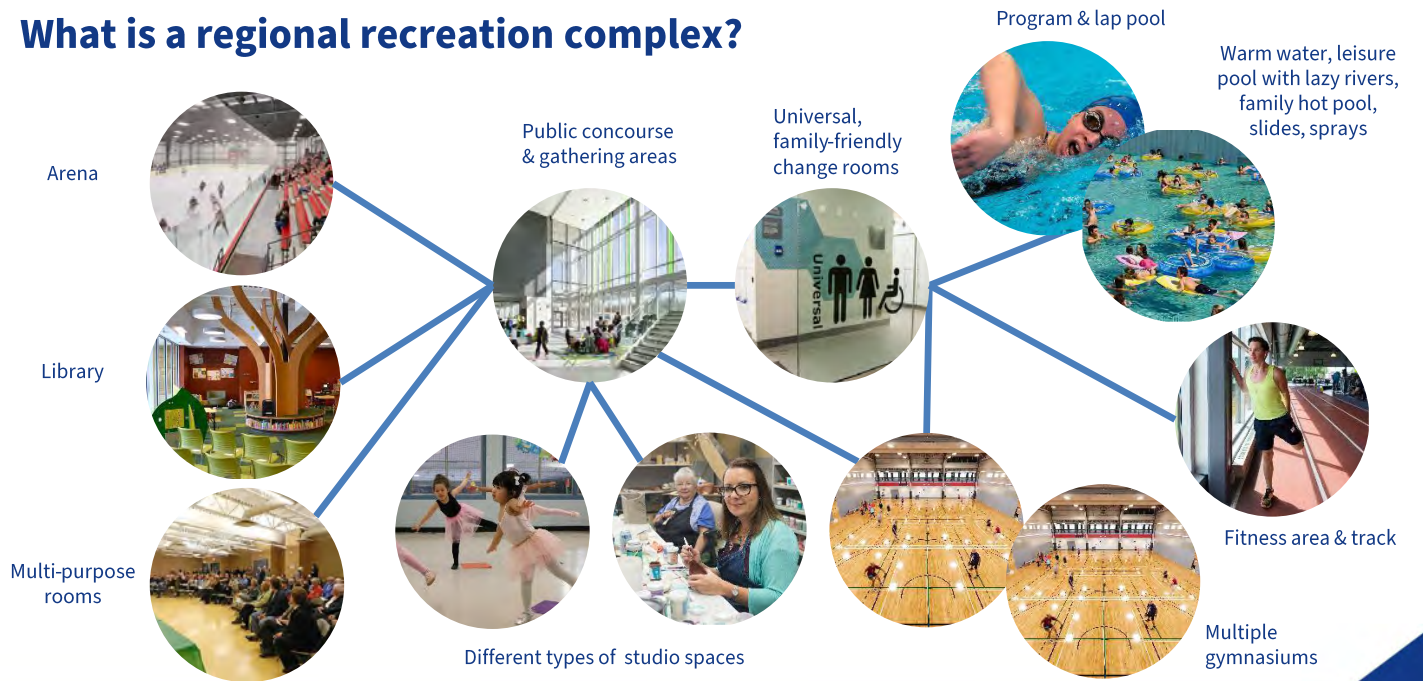
Crescent Drive Park
 Kilcona Park
 Kildonan Park
 King's Park
 LaBarriere Park
 Little Mountain Park
 St. Vital Park
 Whittier/Lagimodiere-Gaboury Historic Park

Regional sport parks

Buhler Recreation Park
 John Blumberg Park
 Maple Grove Park



What is a regional recreation complex?



Question #3:

How would your experiences with parks and recreation change if the City focused investment in regional parks and recreational complexes?

- In thinking about the parks and recreation facilities you currently use:
 - What do you like about **regional** parks and larger recreation centres?
 - What do you like about **local/neighbourhood** parks and recreation opportunities?
- What services would you still expect at small parks and recreation facilities?
- What services would you be okay with reducing at small parks and recreation facilities?
- Would your use **increase, decrease, or stay the same** if the City prioritized regional parks and recreation complexes? Why?



**Report
back**

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Take the surveys!**

winnipeg.ca/recandparks

Appendix B – Online Survey

Recreation

Overall Summary: Recreation

Recreation opportunities contribute to quality of life, health and well-being

- **Values:** Majority of respondents indicated recreation is a 'must-have' City of Winnipeg service; agreement that recreation is beneficial for the community, even if they do not use the service themselves
- **Participation:** Many comments indicating the condition of existing facilities, programming options and addition of multi-use facilities would increase participation in recreation
- **Access:** General agreement the City should be providing recreation opportunities in all areas of the city to provide local access, particularly important in low-income neighbourhoods
- **Programming:** Suggestion that programming be improved; a need to diversify options for people of all ages and abilities
- **Funding:** Many comments suggesting police budget should be directed to recreation and community services, suggestion to use partnerships with organizations to increase recreation opportunities

Overall Summary: Facilities

There should be a balance of maintaining existing facilities and building new, larger, multi-use facilities

- **Indoor pools and multi-centres:** Indoor pools and multi-use centres are the top priorities for facility investment
- **Maintenance budget:** Majority of respondents agree maintenance budgets need to increase to maintain quality facilities
- **Importance of local recreation opportunities:**
 - Local recreation facilities are especially important in low-income areas
 - Suggestion of recreation investment in low-income areas could help reduce crime rates
- **Multi-use centres:** Multi-use centres are valued as a facility to meet the needs of many activities and people; however, many comments indicate focusing the budget for local facilities over multi-centres should be the priority
- **Parks overlap:** Comments related to pickleball, disc golf, tennis and golf courses were found in the open-ended comments questions

Overall Summary: Volunteering

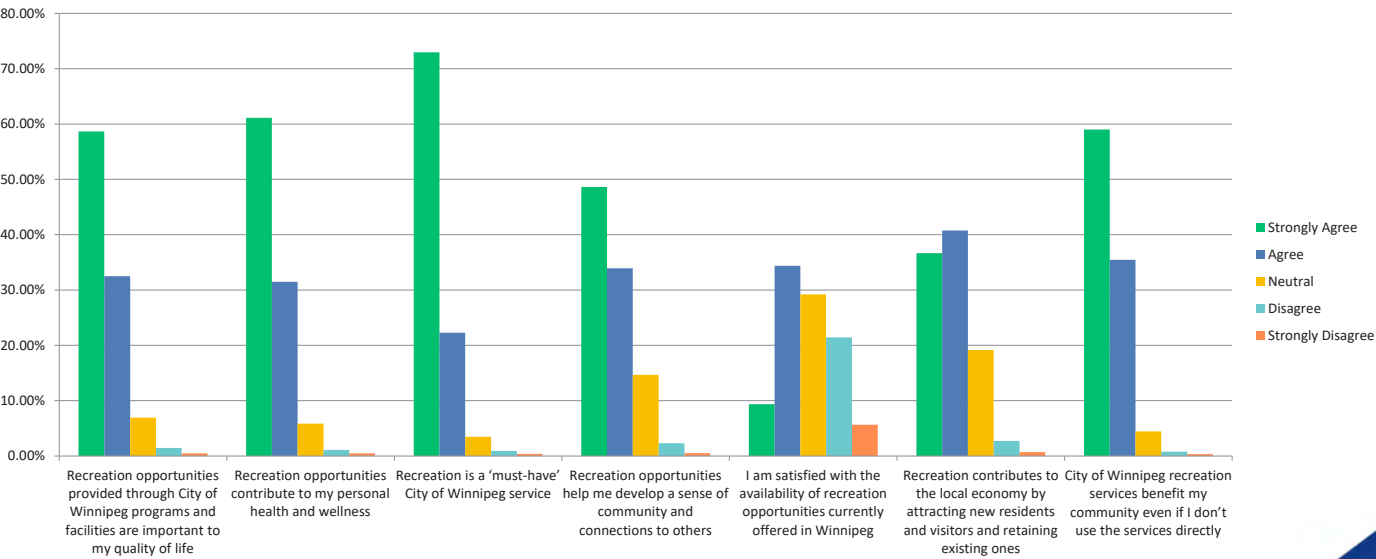
Volunteering helps the community, but many are restricted by other commitments

- **Volunteer motivations:** Majority of respondents' top motivation for volunteering is to support their community
- **Volunteer barriers:** People are too busy to volunteer due to work and family commitments, or they already volunteer at other organizations
- **Volunteer reliance:** Some comments indicating the City should be providing paid jobs rather than relying on volunteers; volunteering may take away a paid job from someone
- **Volunteer Management:** Feedback suggesting better volunteer training, supports and incentives would attract and retain more volunteers
- **Community centres:** Some comments feel the community centre model is dated and needs to be improved, related to issues with volunteer boards and management

Recreation and Facilities

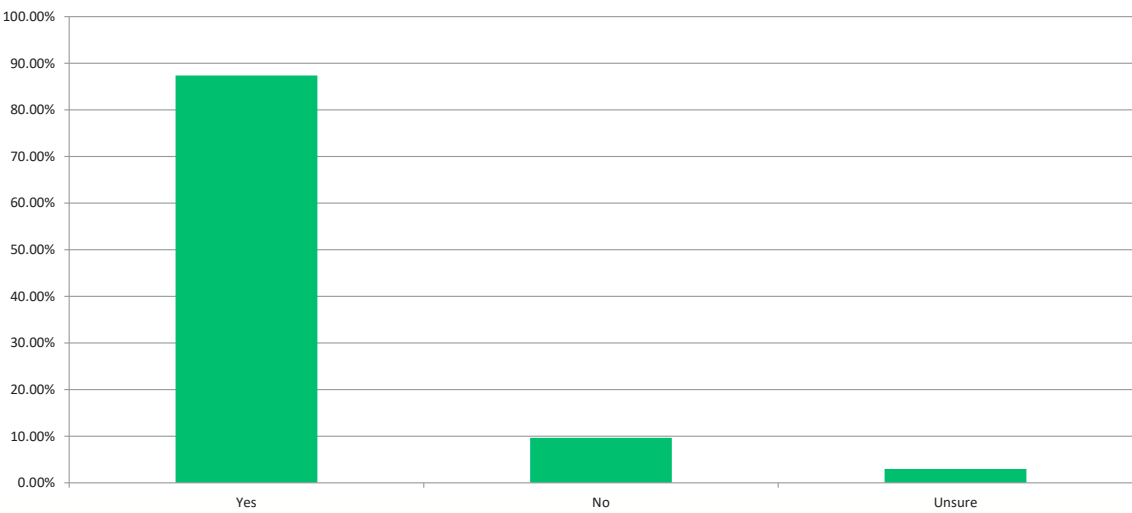
Question 1

Please indicate if you agree with the following statements:



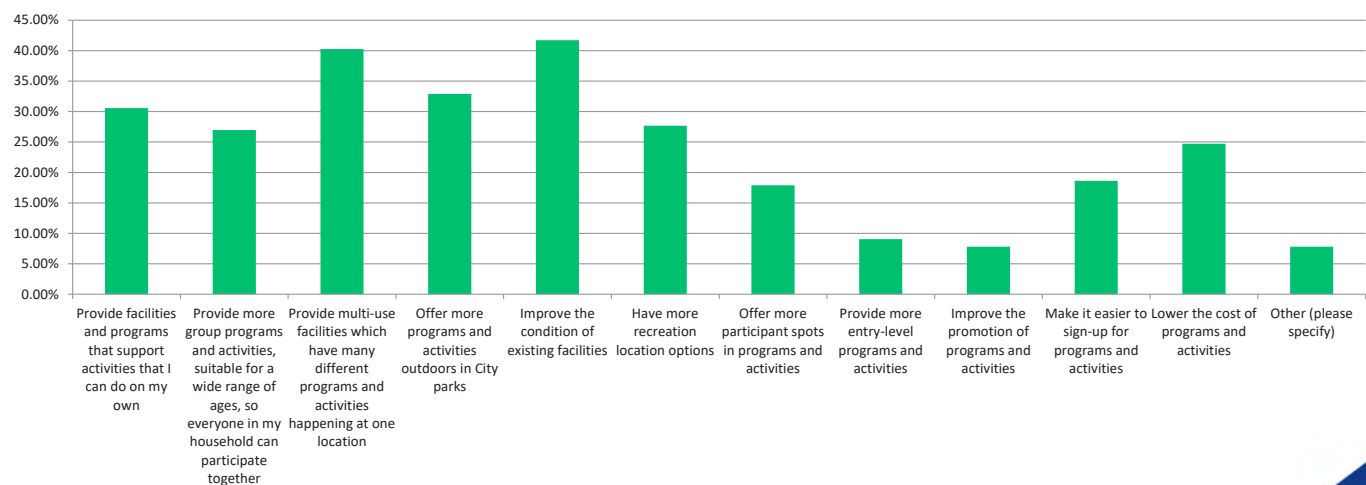
Question 2

Within the last three years, have you participated in City of Winnipeg recreation programs or used City of Winnipeg recreation facilities?



Question 3

To reach the active living goal, the City could take a number of different steps. What are the top three (3) actions the City could take to increase your participation in recreation opportunities?
(Check up to three)

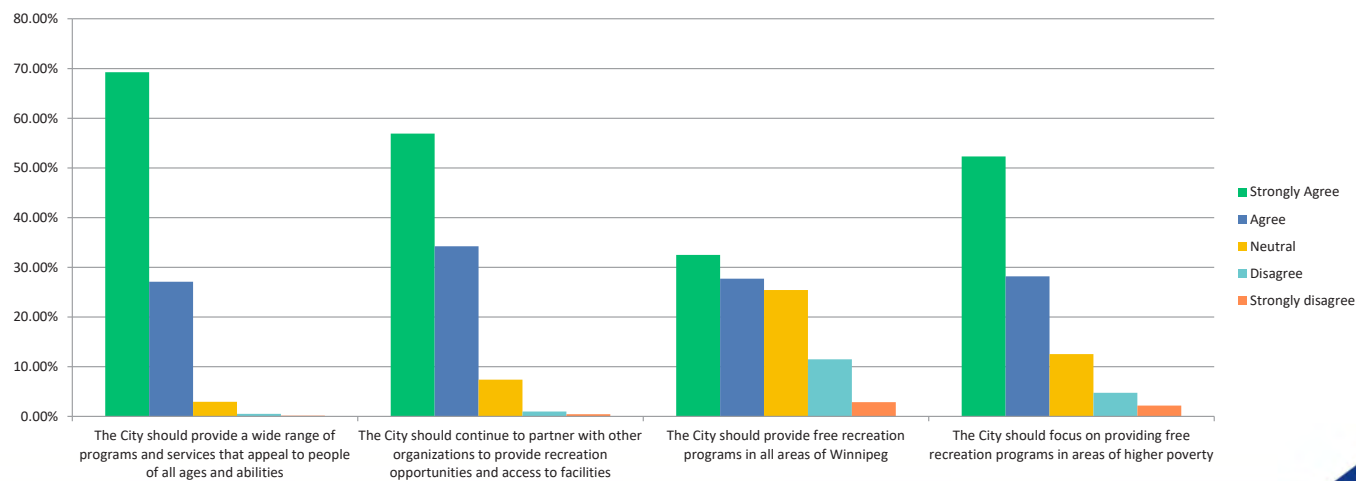


Question 3 – Top ‘Other’ Response Themes (367 comments)



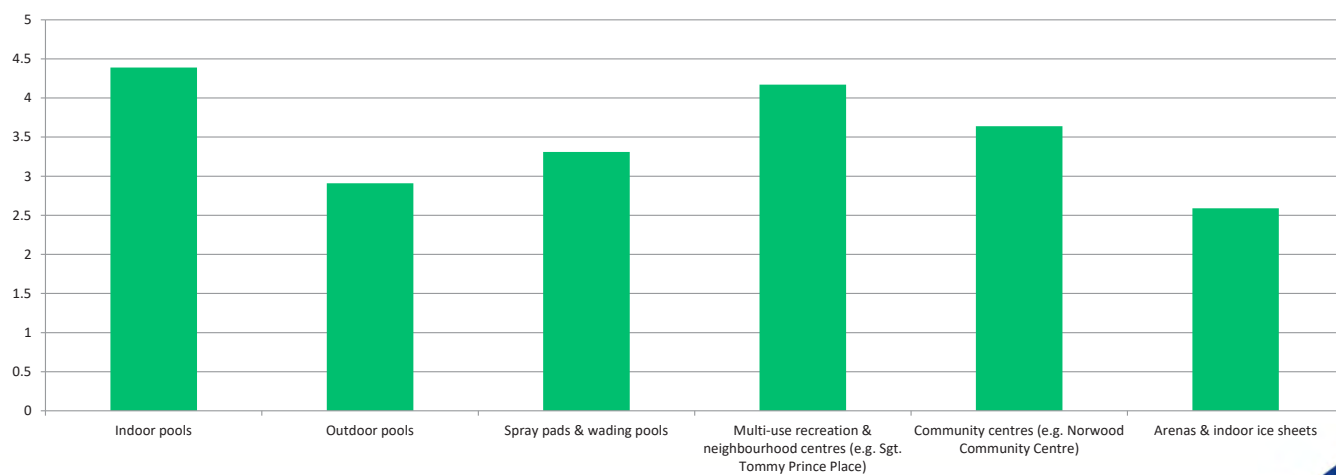
Question 4

The draft Recreation Strategy recommends the City strive to ensure all Winnipeggers have access to recreation. Please indicate if you agree with the following statements that would be outcomes of the draft strategy.



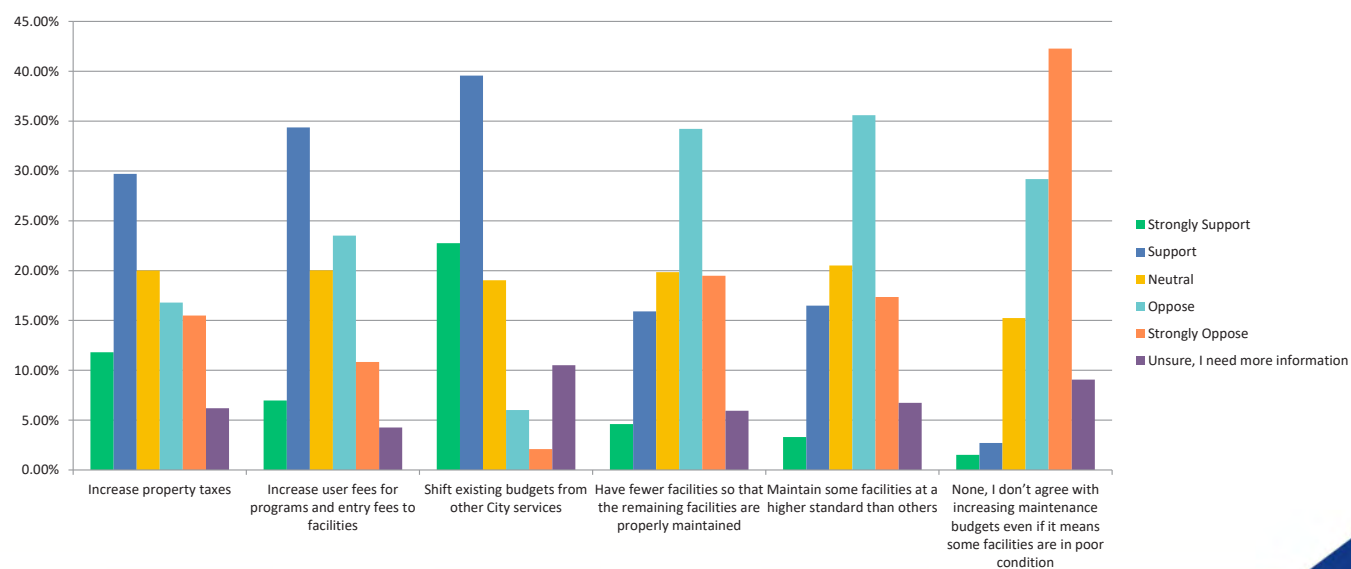
Question 5

The draft Recreation Strategy groups recreation facilities into the categories listed below. How would you prioritize investment in our facilities? Please drag and drop to rank the facility categories below where 1 indicates the highest priority for investment



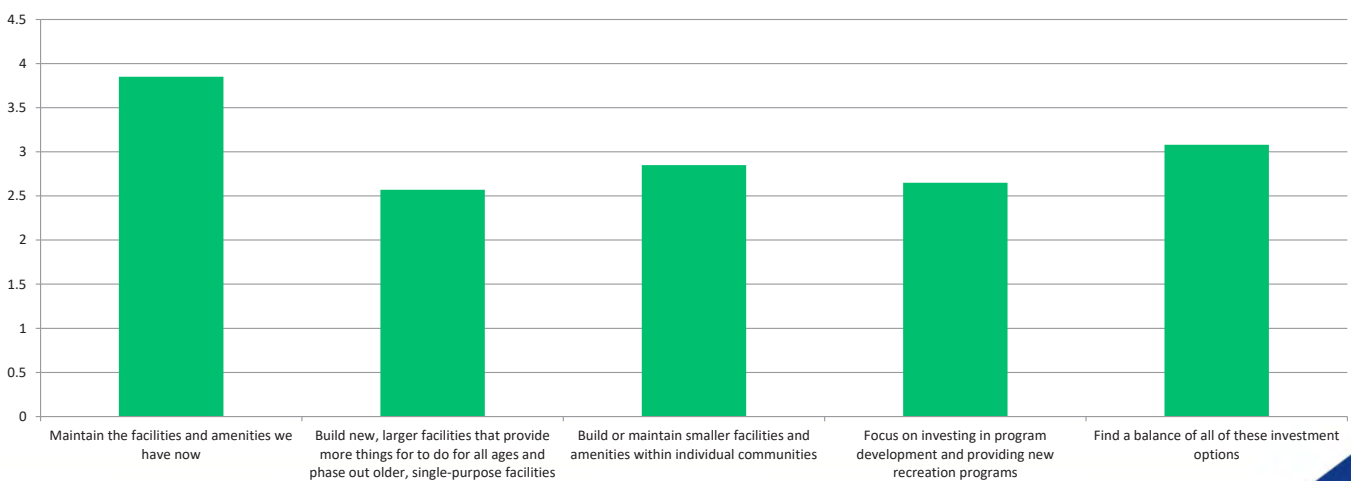
Question 6

Which of the following options for increasing maintenance budgets would you support?



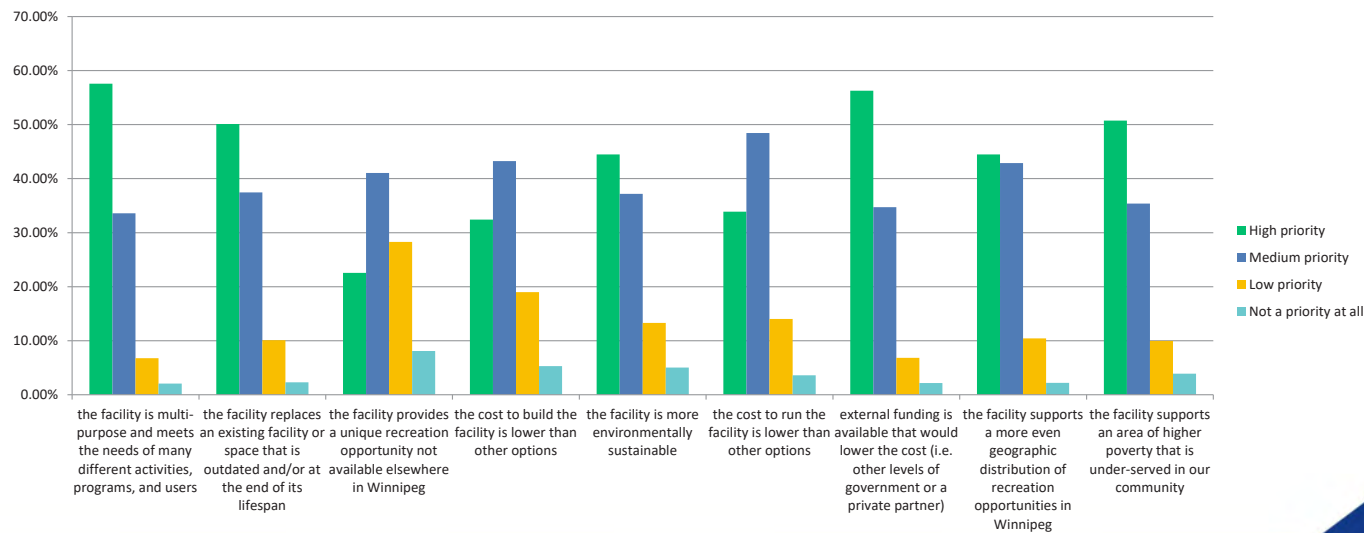
Question 7

Where should we spend our yearly budget to make the biggest difference in providing quality recreation opportunities? Drag and drop to rank the following investment opportunities, where 1 indicates the most favourable investment.



Question 8

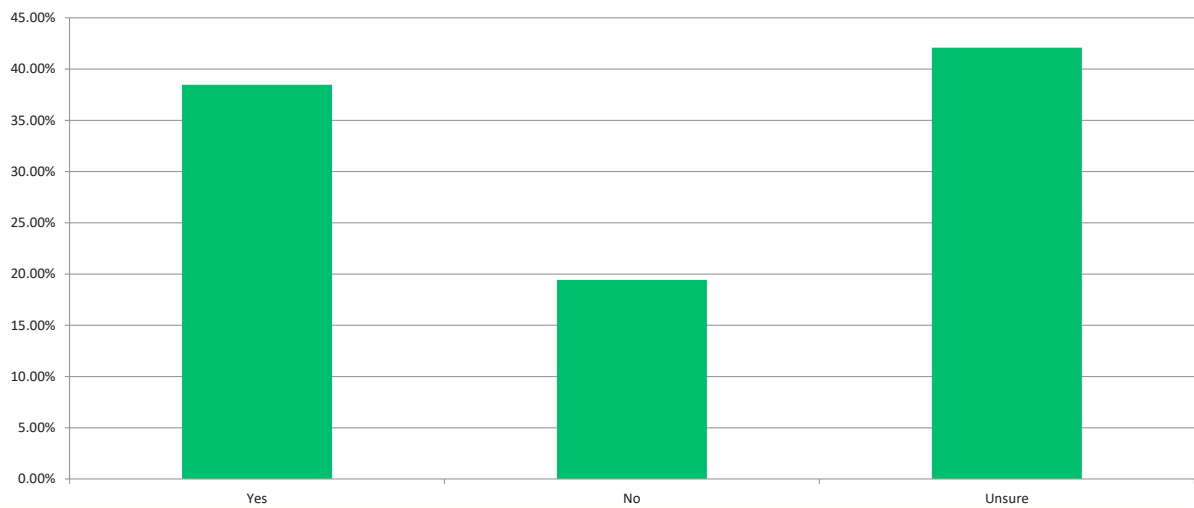
Please indicate how you think the City should prioritize each of the criteria below. A new or enhanced facility, space or amenity should be a priority for investment over others if:



Volunteering

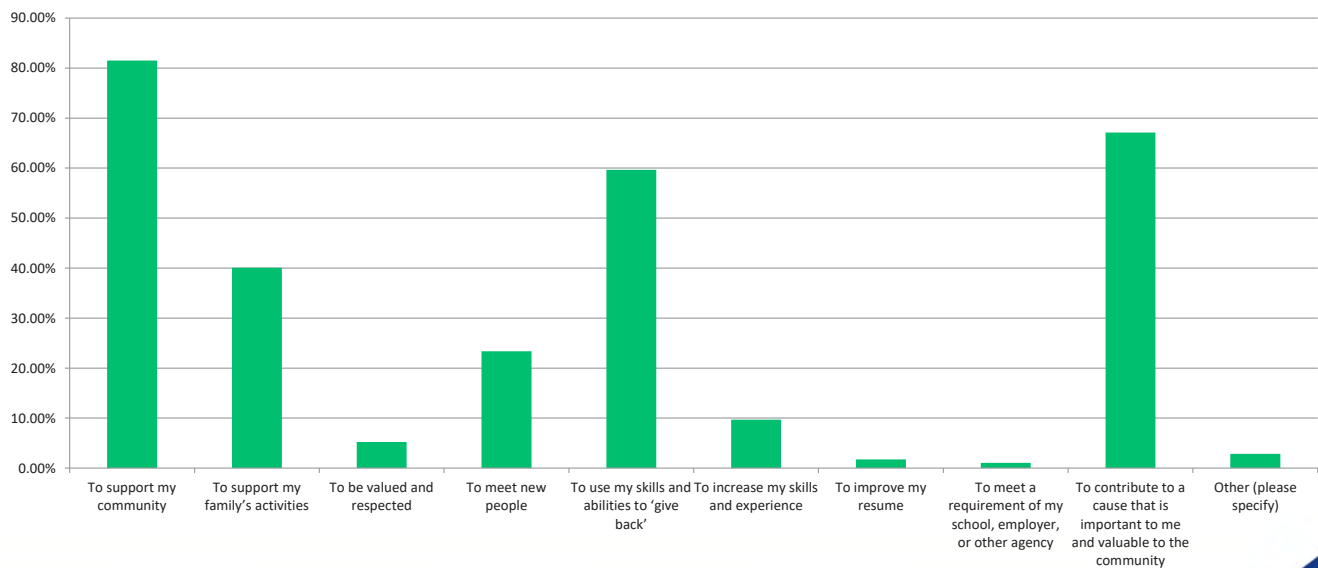
Question 9

If the viability of recreation services or facilities depended upon volunteers, would you volunteer your time?



Question 10

Please select your top three (3) motivations for volunteering: (Check up to three)



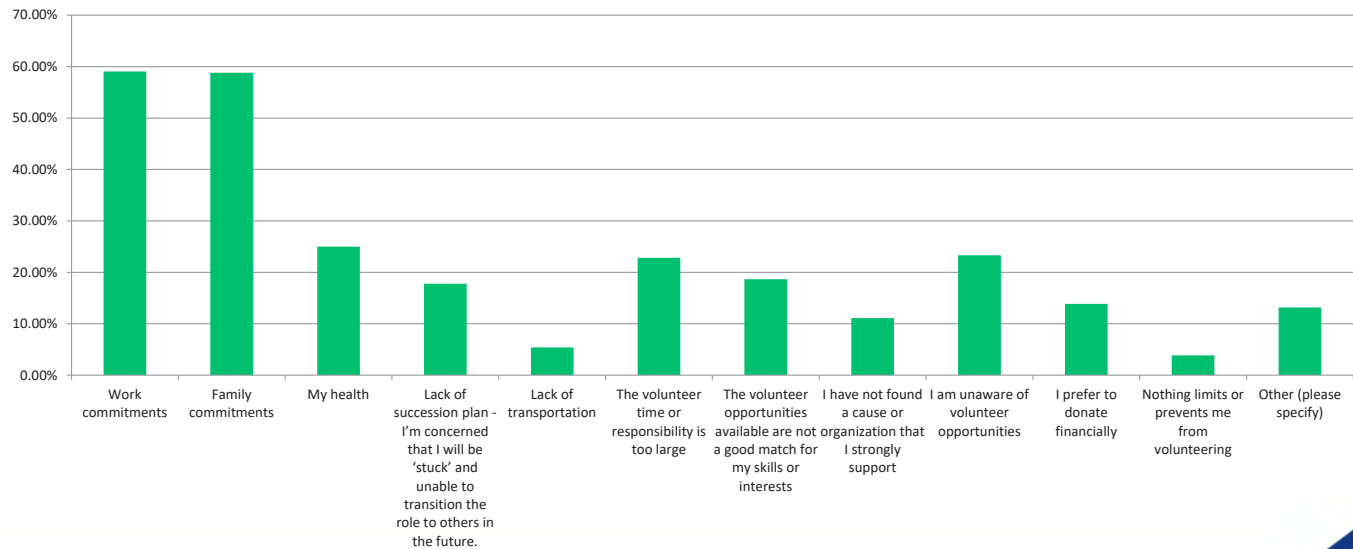
Question 10 – Top ‘Other’ Responses

2.84% of Q10 responses suggested other motivations for volunteering (43 comments)



Question 11

What would limit or prevent you from volunteering: (Check all that apply)



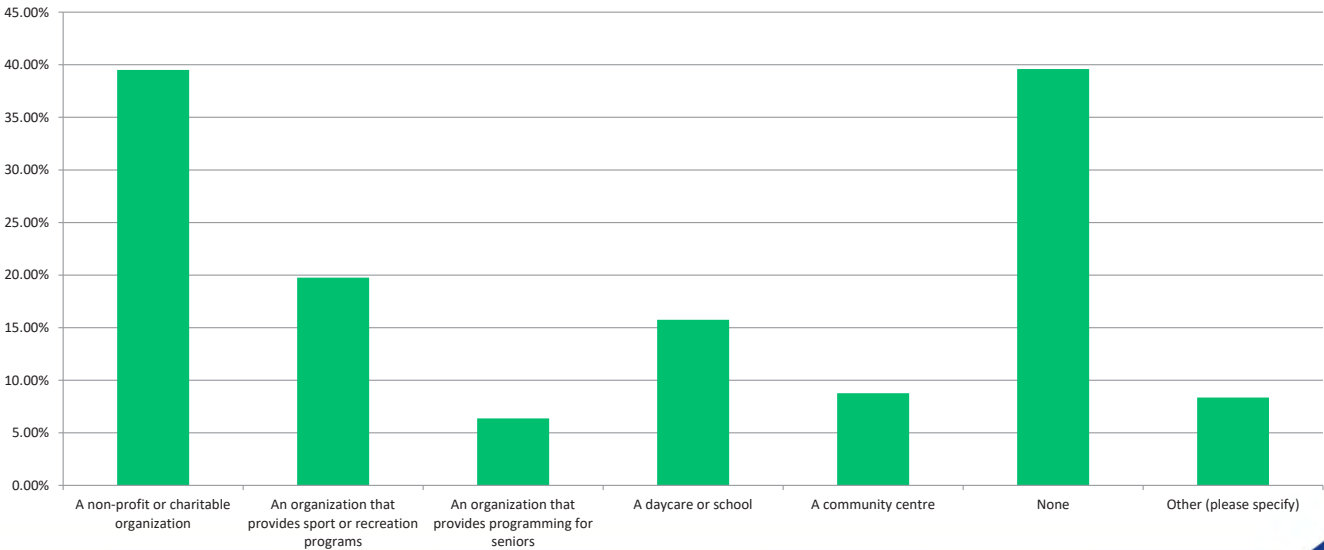
Question 11 – Top ‘Other’ Responses

13.6% of Q11 responses suggested other limitations for volunteering (318 comments)



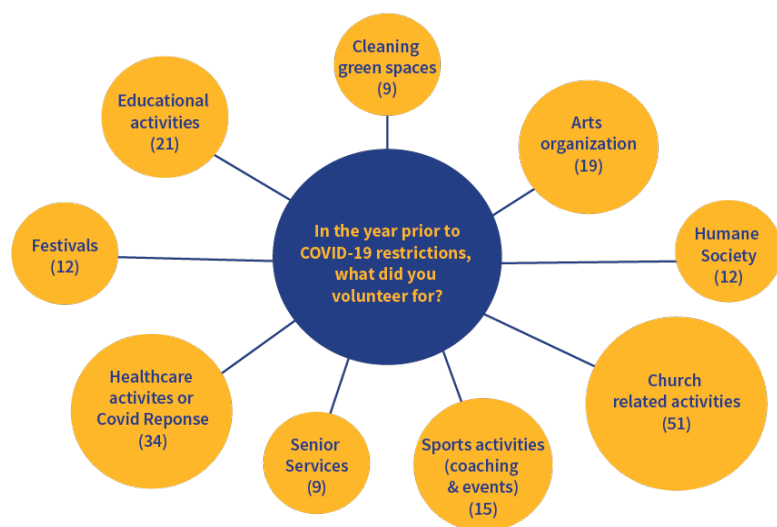
Question 12

In the year prior to COVID-19 restrictions, did you volunteer for any of the following?



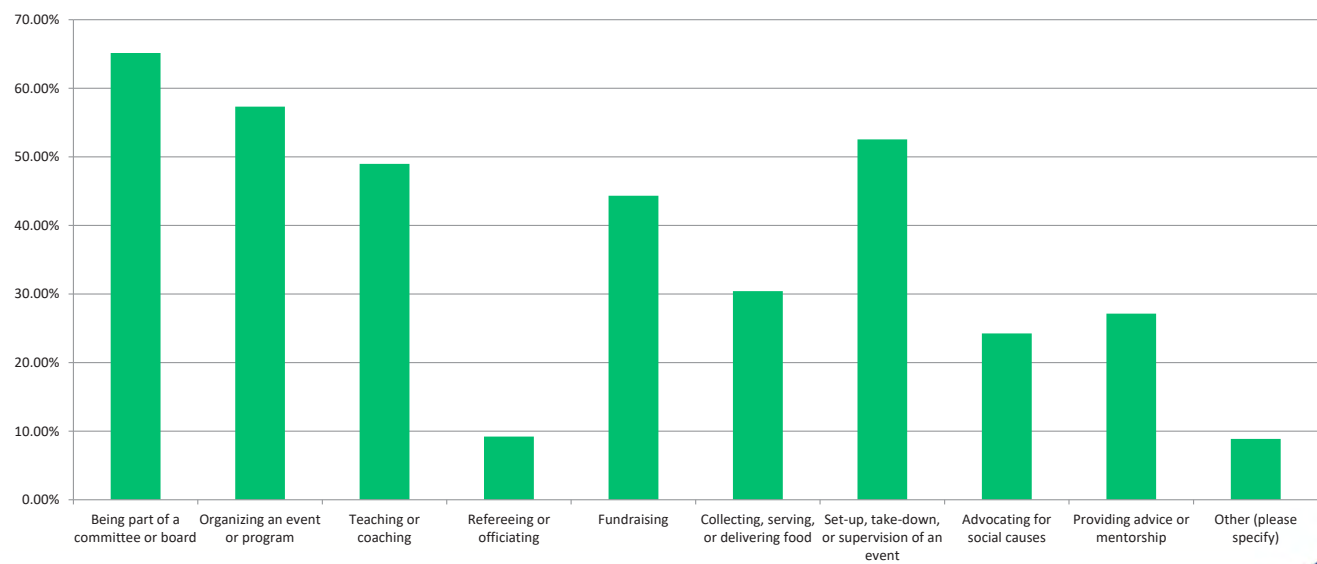
Question 12 – Top ‘Other’ Responses

8.4% of Q12 responses suggested additional volunteering in the year before COVID-19 (328 comments)



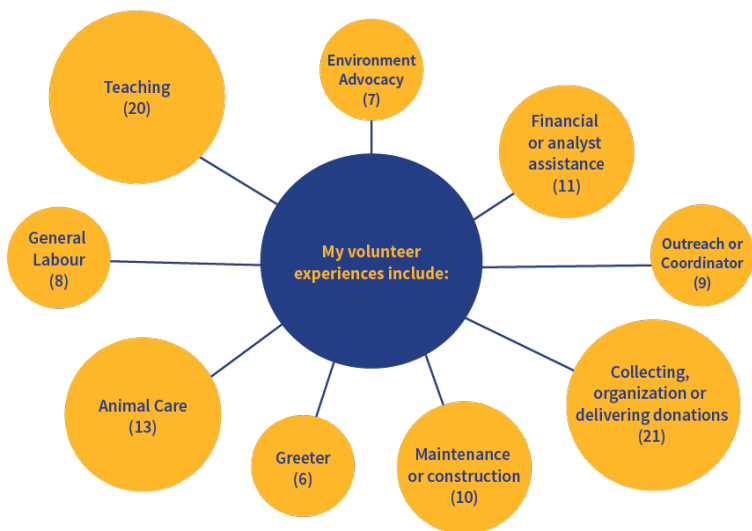
Question 13

My volunteer experiences include: (Check all that apply)



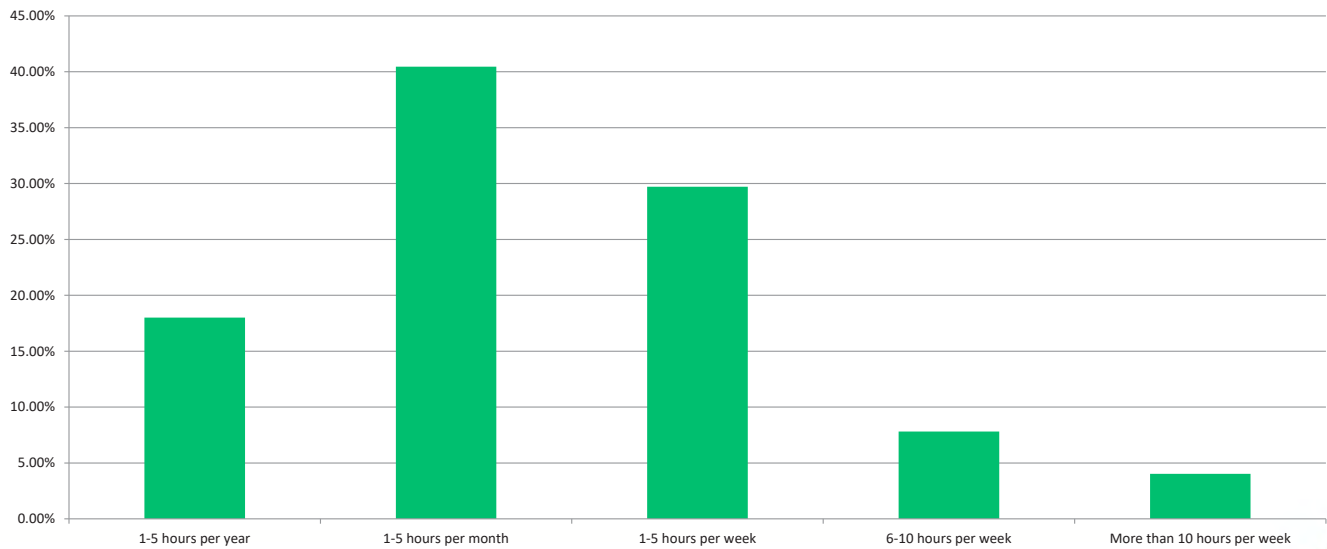
Question 13 – Top ‘Other’ Responses

8.9% of Q13 responses suggested additional volunteer experiences (196 comments)



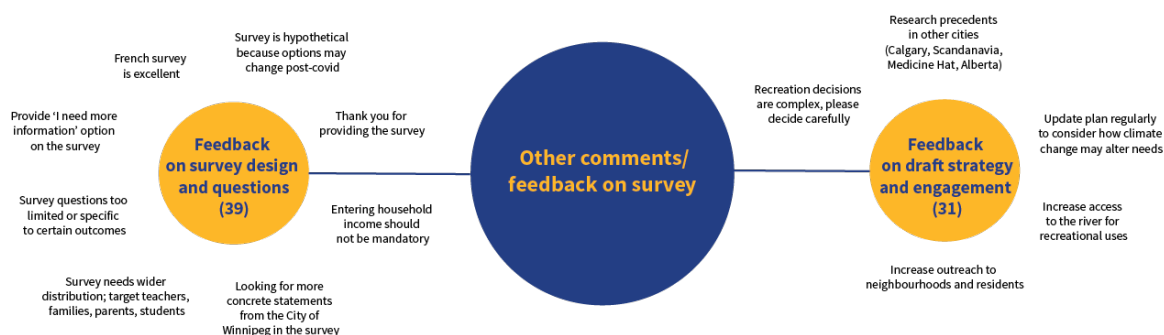
Question 14

On average, how many hours do you volunteer?



Question 15 – Anything else?

1256 total comments



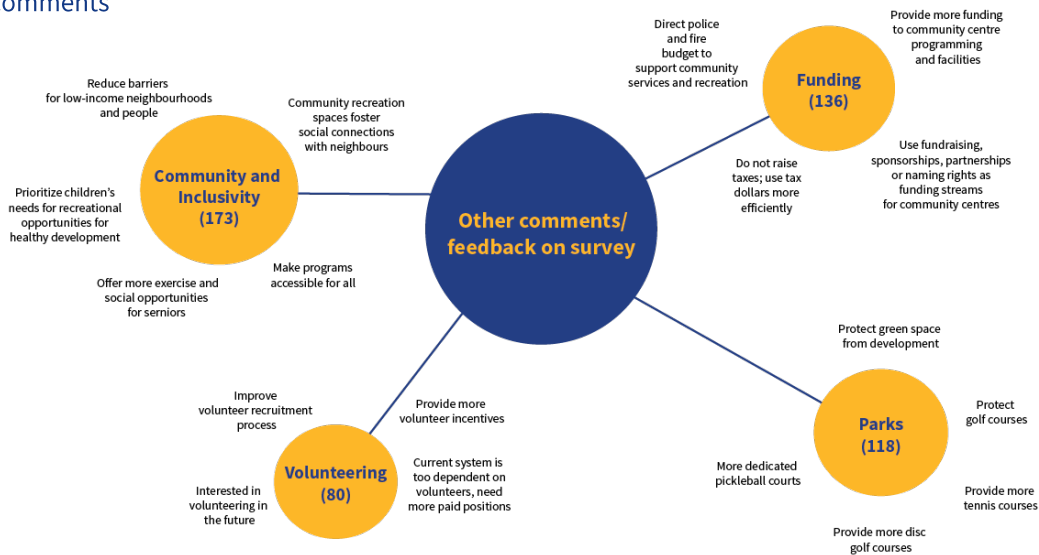
Question 15 – Anything else?

1256 total comments



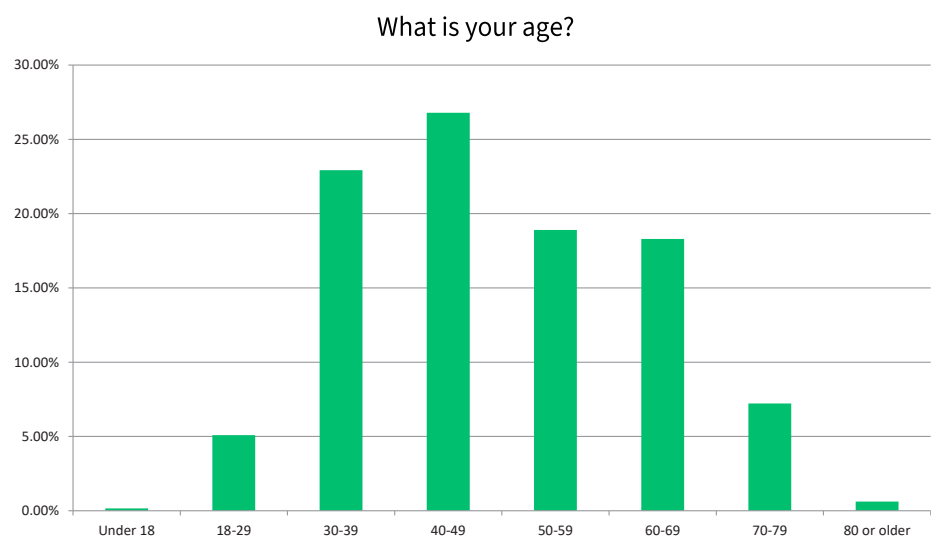
Question 15 – Anything else?

1256 total comments

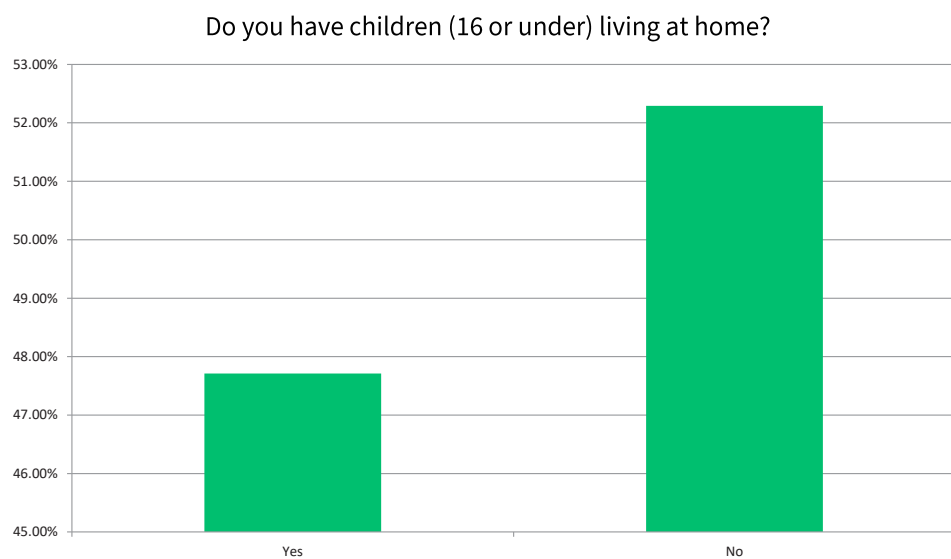


Demographics

Question 16

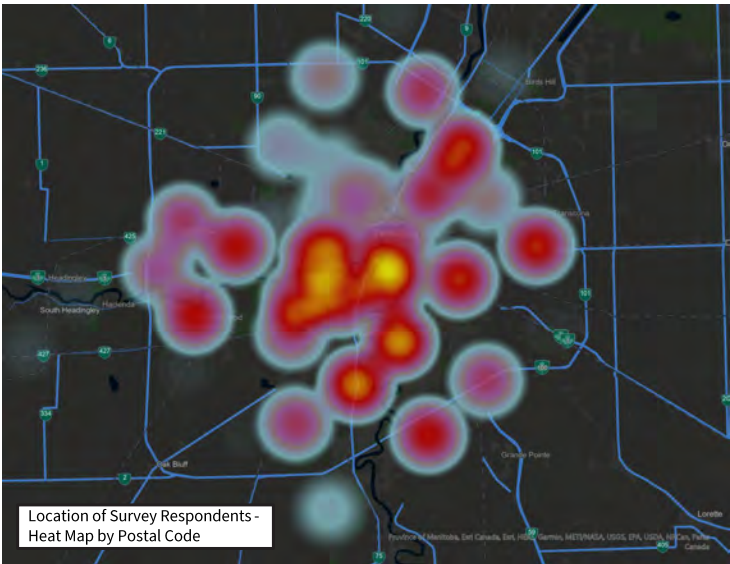


Question 17



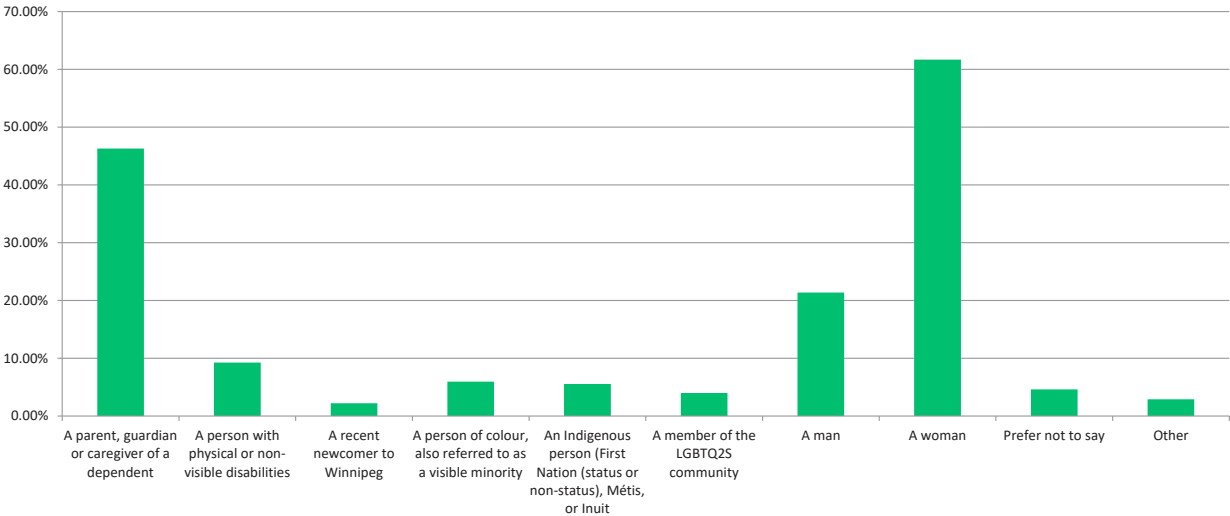
Question 18

Please provide the first three characters of your postal code.



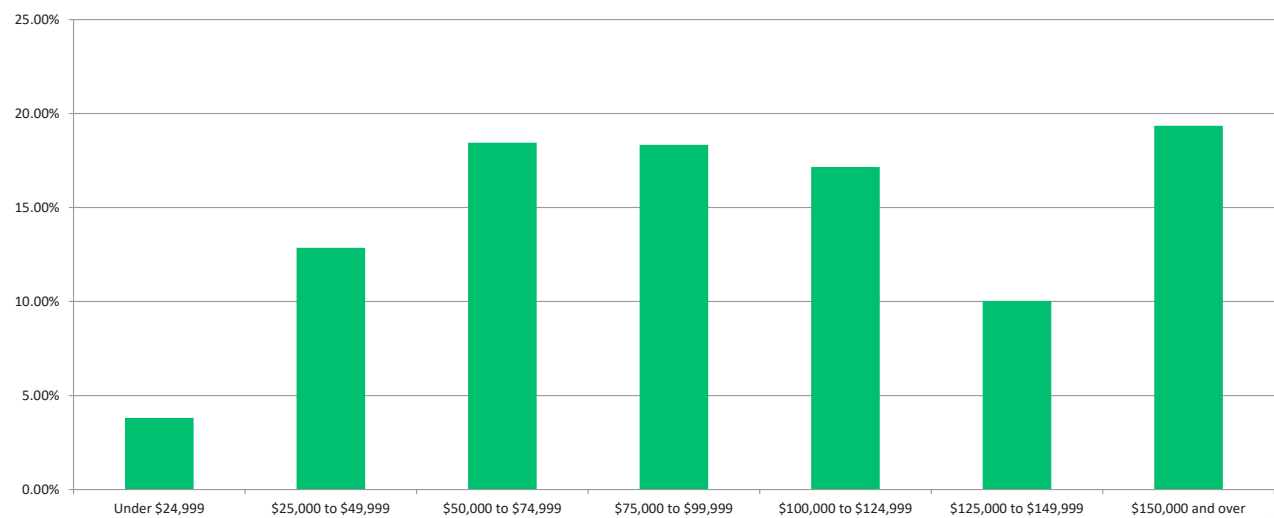
Question 19

Please self-identify as you feel comfortable.



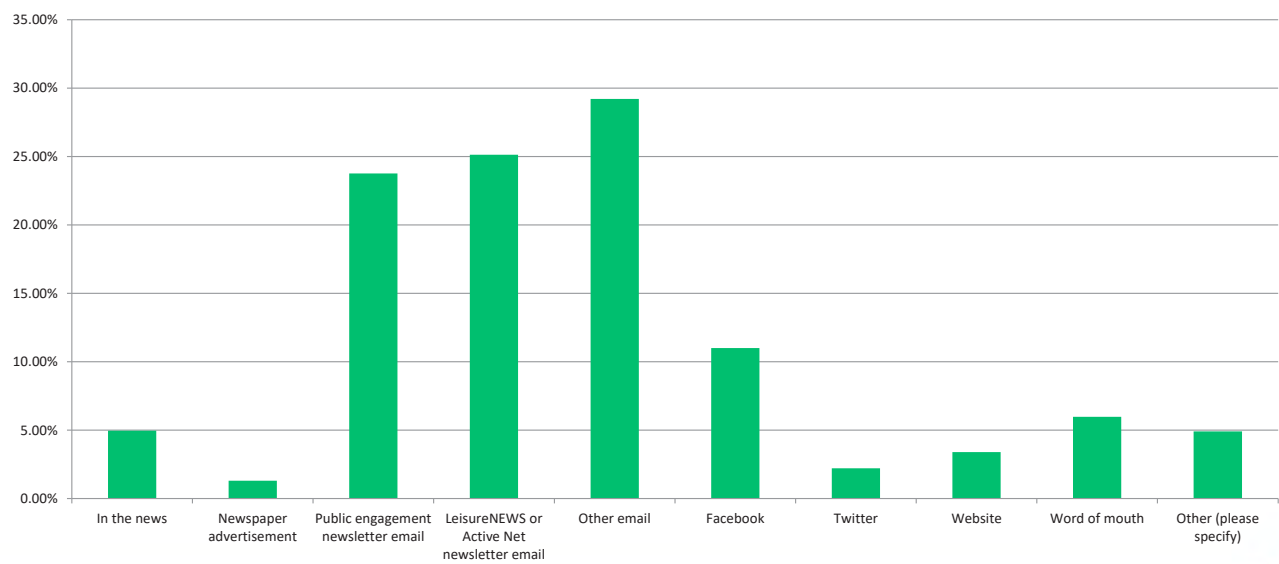
Question 20

Please indicate your household income before taxes:



Question 21

How did you hear about this project? (Check all that apply)



Parks

Overall Summary: Parks

Parks are a 'must have' Winnipeg Service

- **Value:** Many comments supporting the value of parks and how that value has increased during the pandemic (physical and mental health)
- **Funding:** Most agree that parks need more funding, mainly to maintain existing amenities, but there are some differing opinions on how to get more funding (taxes vs reducing other City service budgets)
- **Provision Catchment:** General agreement with 10 min walk to a park target, but some think it should be closer
- **Retaining Existing Parks:** Many explicitly requested that the City does not get rid of any parks or golf courses and some wanted to see more parks added to the system
- **New Development:** Some calls for greater park provision and standards for new developments

Overall Summary: Amenities

There should be various types of parks and amenities, based on the needs of communities

- **Natural Areas and Trails:** Natural areas and trails are the top mentioned priorities (some confusion as to why these were not included as 'amenities')
- **Water play:** Water play was one of the top suggested secondary amenity
- **Dog parks:** Dog parks are the most contentious amenity, with many conflicts cited
- **Multi-use:** Suggest more multi-functional spaces or adaptive use of existing amenities in different seasons
- **Core Amenities:** General agreement with core amenities prioritization, some disagreement on specific amenities within secondary amenities (20% suggested another secondary amenity)
- **Gaps in Service:** Generally agree that areas with gaps in service should be prioritized first, but must be aligned with other social support programs in communities

Overall Summary: Regional Parks

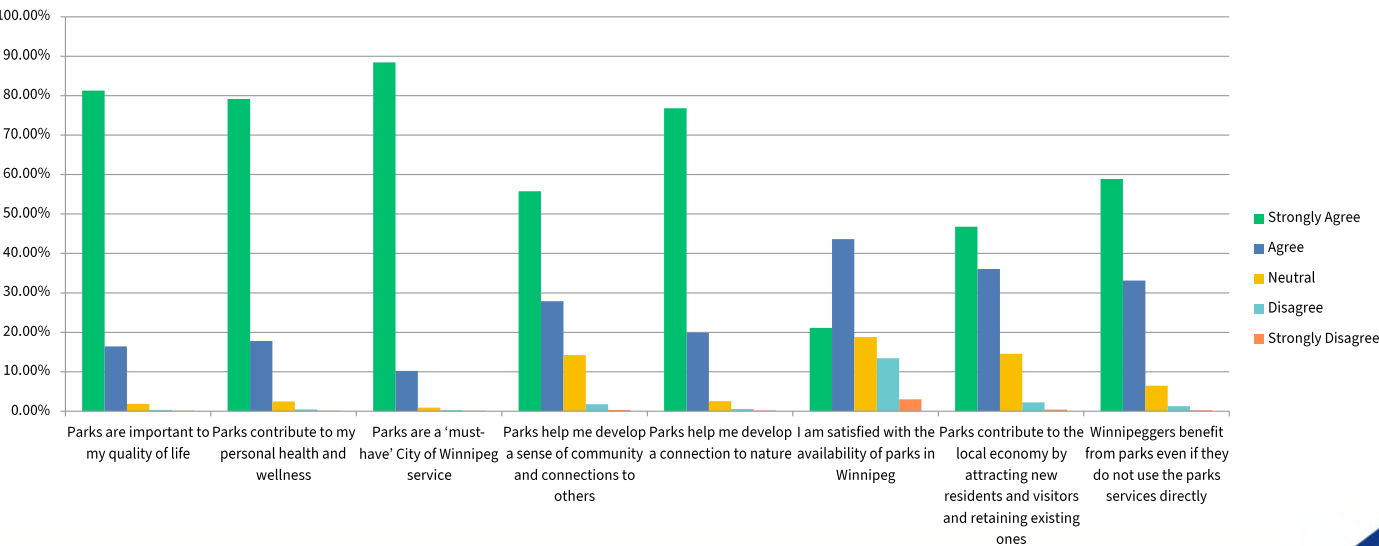
Regional Parks should be maintained to a higher standard, but not at the detriment of local parks

- **Prioritization:** Regional Parks, as signature parks, have more amenities and host more people, so they will require more maintenance
- **Importance of Local Parks:**
 - Local Parks are very important to communities and are more accessible to those without a car.
 - Local Parks may have fewer amenities, but these should be well maintained and parks made safer
- **Issues with Survey/ Potential Bias:** Some participants did not feel comfortable prioritizing between Regional Parks in the survey (not enough info/ don't visit all of them)
 - *Kildonan, St. Vital, and La Barrier were most visited by participants and most prioritized for improvements*

Parks and Amenities

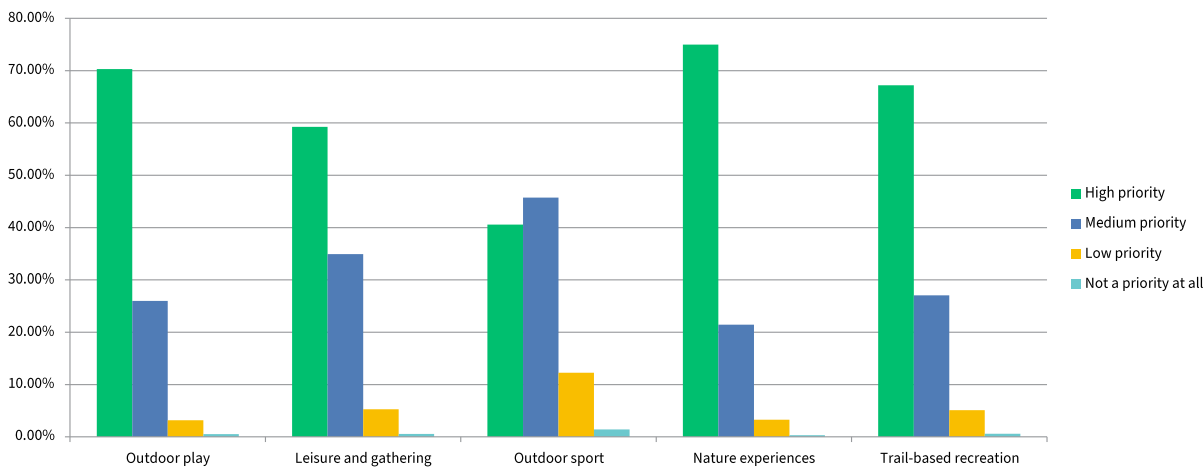
Question 1

Please indicate if you agree with the following statements:



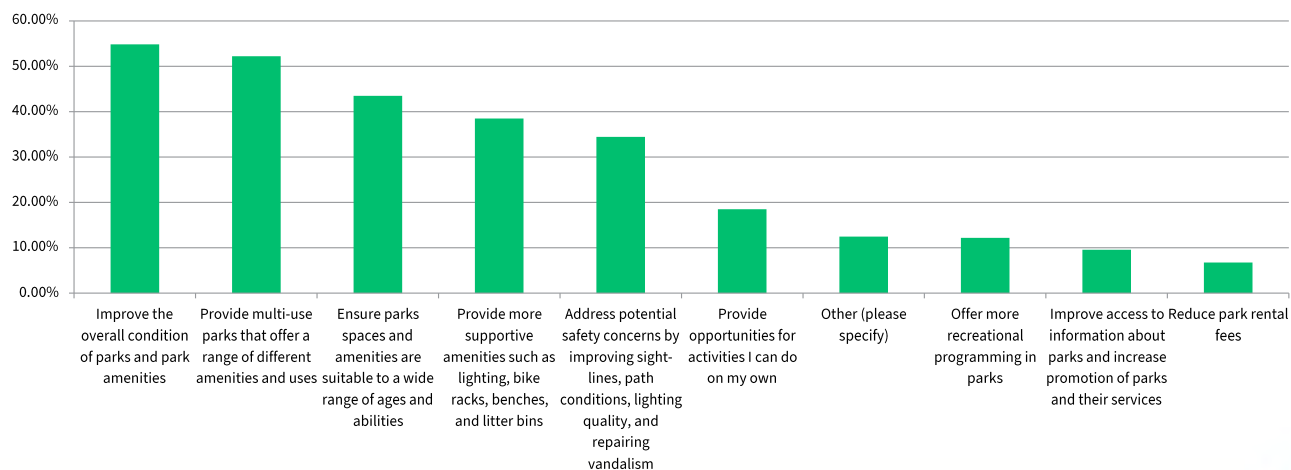
Question 2

The draft Parks Strategy identifies five key services areas for parks. Please indicate how each of the services areas should be prioritized.

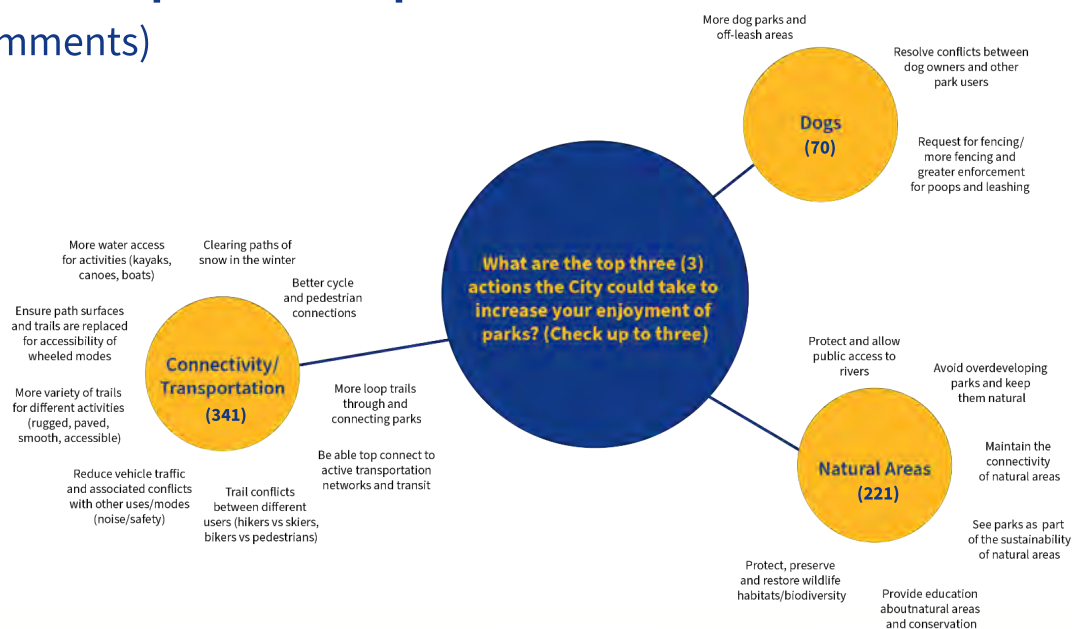


Question 3

To reach the active living goal, the City could take a number of different steps. What are the top three (3) actions the City could take to increase your enjoyment of parks? (Check up to three)

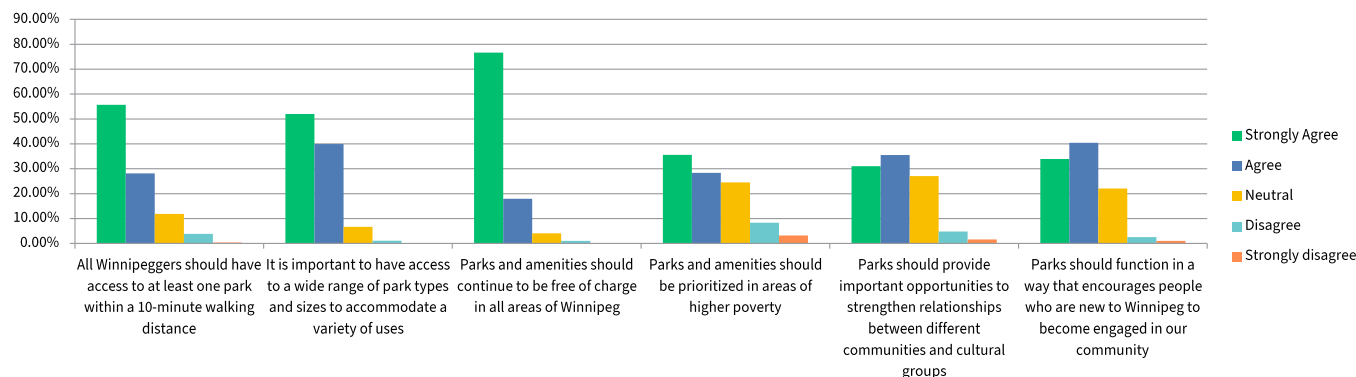


Question 3 – Top ‘Other’ Response Themes (548 comments)



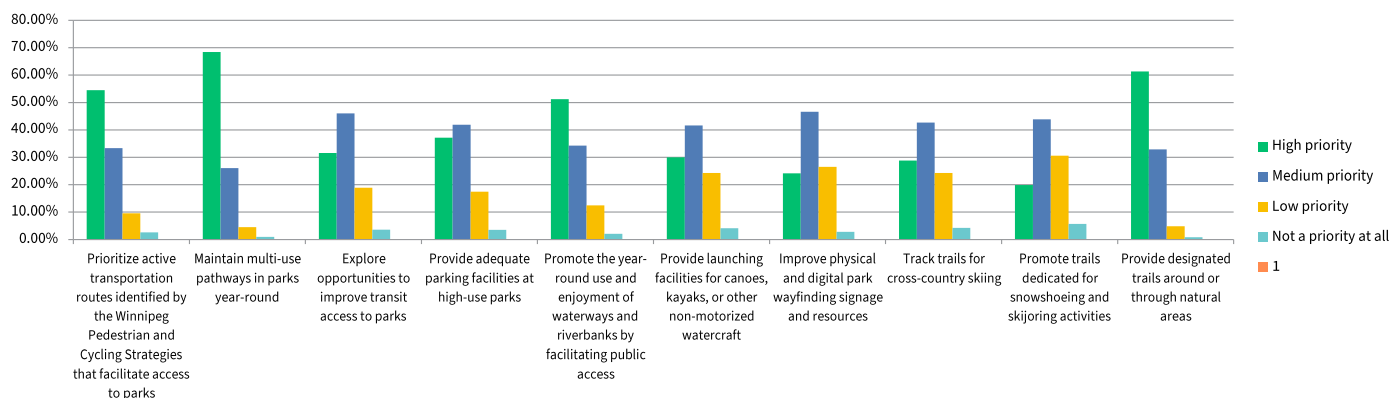
Question 4

The draft Parks Strategy recommends the City strive to ensure all Winnipeggers have access to quality parks. Please indicate if you agree with the following statements that would be outcomes of the draft Parks Strategy.



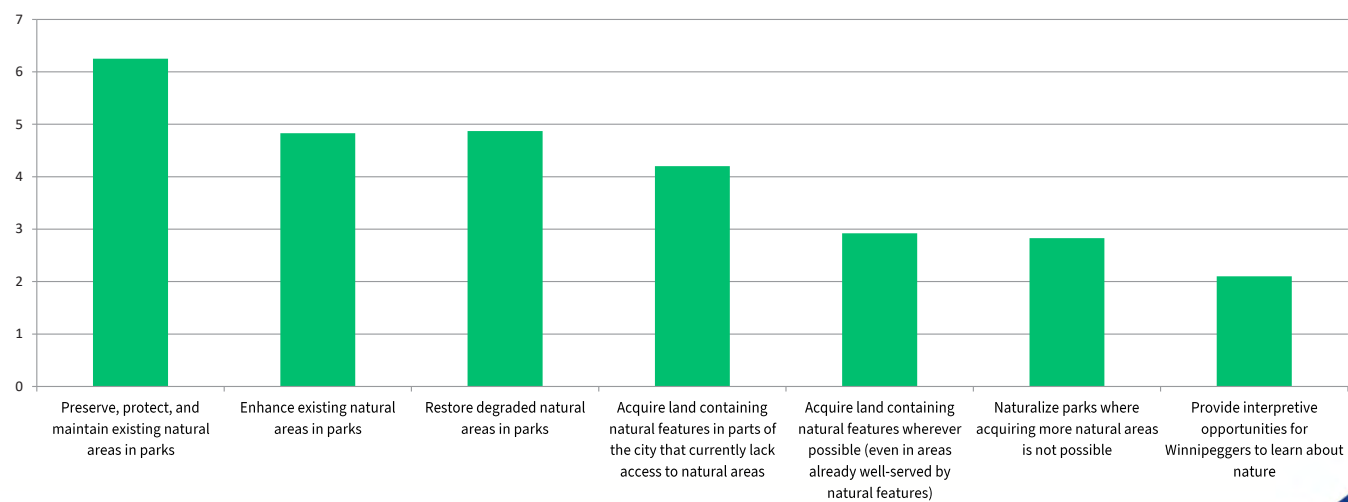
Question 5

The draft Parks Strategy proposes the following actions to improve connections and trails to, through, and within parks. Please indicate how each of these actions should be prioritized.



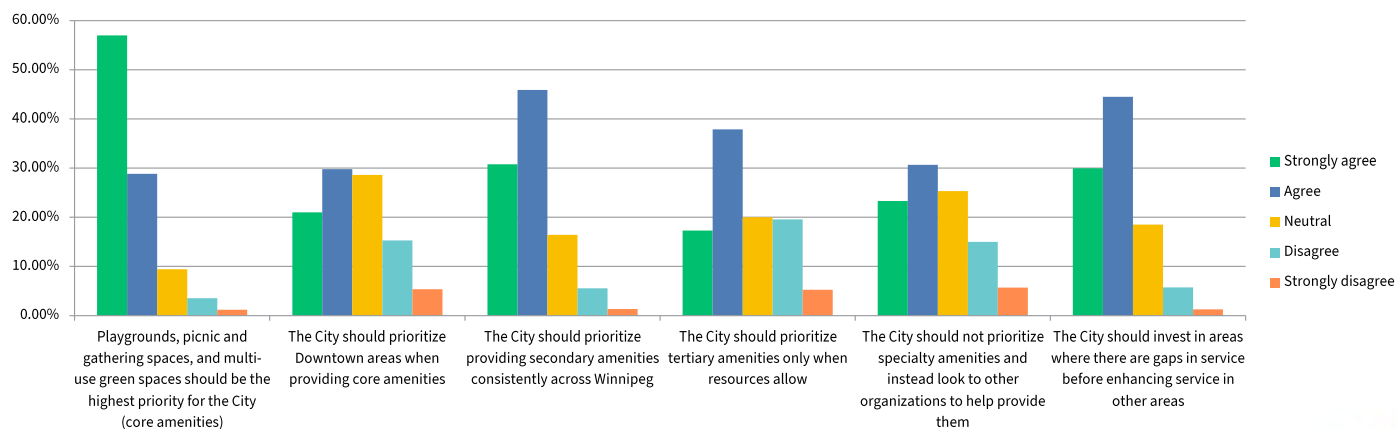
Question 6

The draft Parks Strategy proposes the following actions to ensure Winnipeggers have access to natural features. How would you prioritize these actions? Please drag and drop the facility categories below where 1 indicates your highest priority for



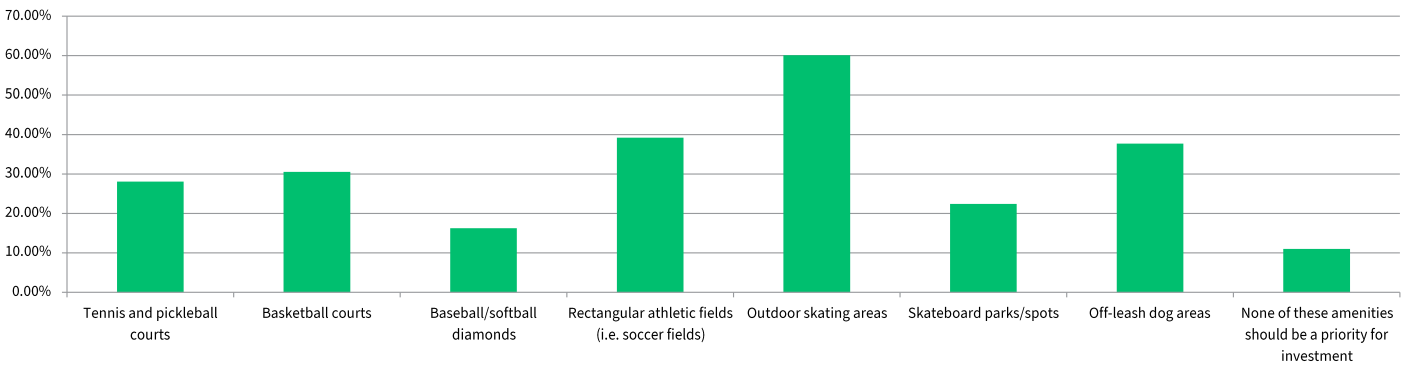
Question 7

The draft Parks Strategy provides guidance for prioritizing investment in amenities as they are often costly to build and maintain. Please review the categories above and indicate if you agree with the following recommendations.



Question 8

How would you prioritize the following secondary amenities? Please select up to three (3) park amenities that you think should be a priority for investment. (Check up to three)



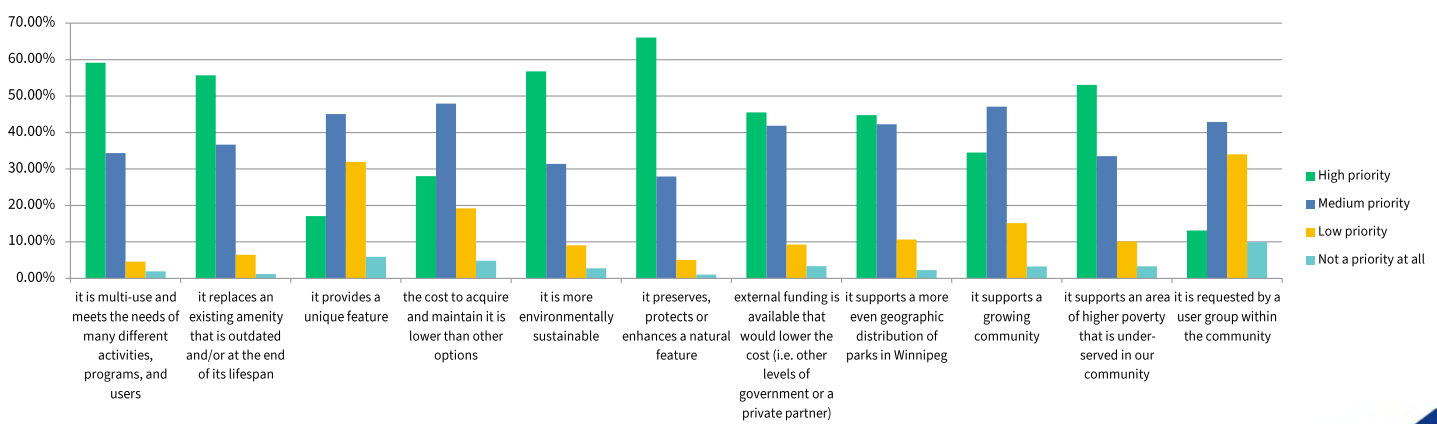
Question 8 – Are there any other amenities you think should be included as a secondary amenity?

19% of Q8 responses suggested additional secondary amenities (882 comments)



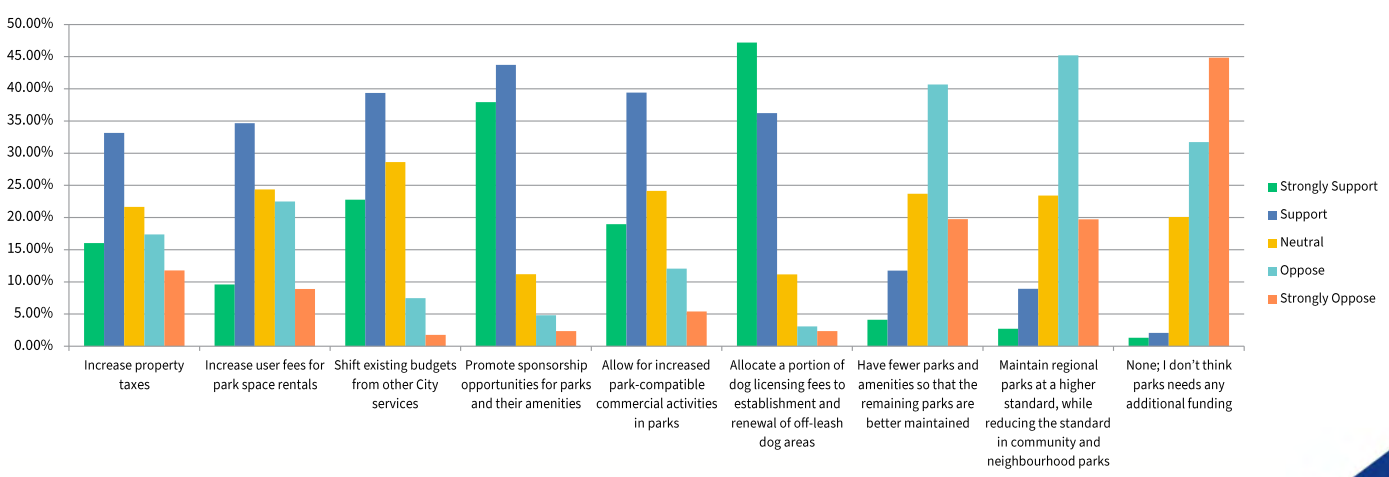
Question 9

The draft Parks Strategy includes criteria to prioritize spending on new parks and amenities. Please indicate your priority for each of the criteria below. A new park or amenity should be a priority over others if:



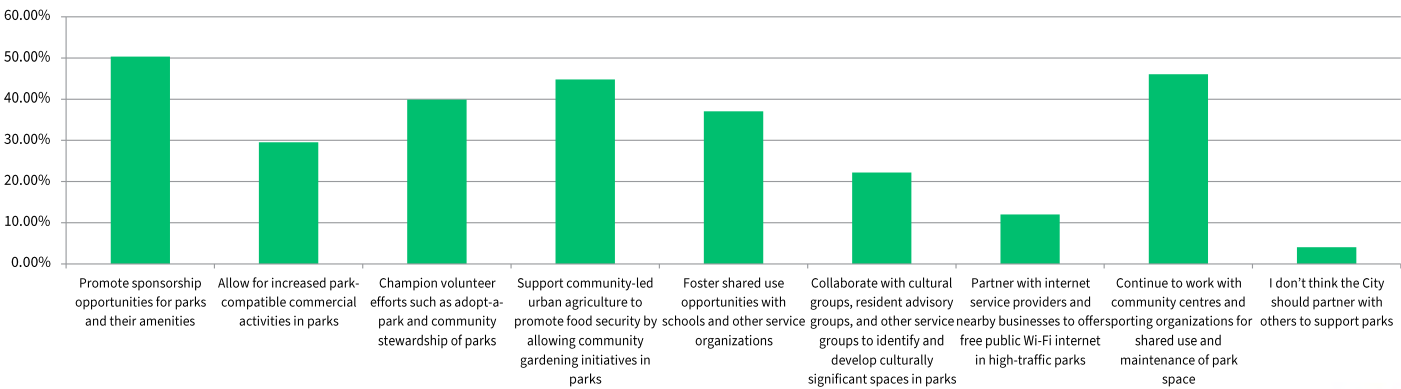
Question 10

As our city grows and our parks infrastructure ages, we need to ensure our budgets are able to support these changes. Which of the following options would you support to ensure the long-term financial sustainability of our parks?



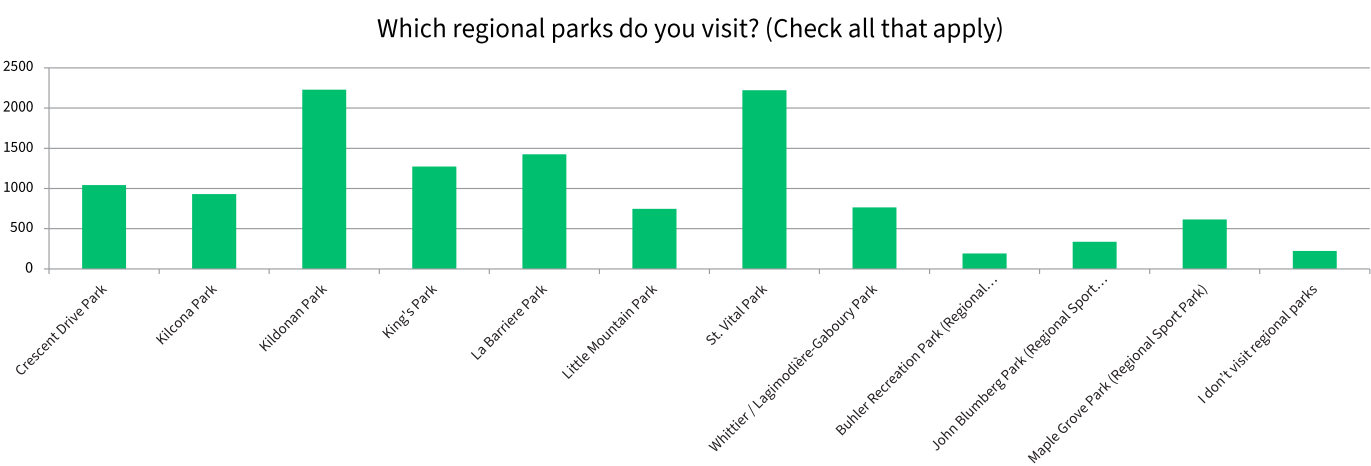
Question 11

The draft Parks Strategy includes opportunities for partnerships to support parks. Please choose the three (3) partnership-related scenarios you think would best serve your community.
(Check up to three)

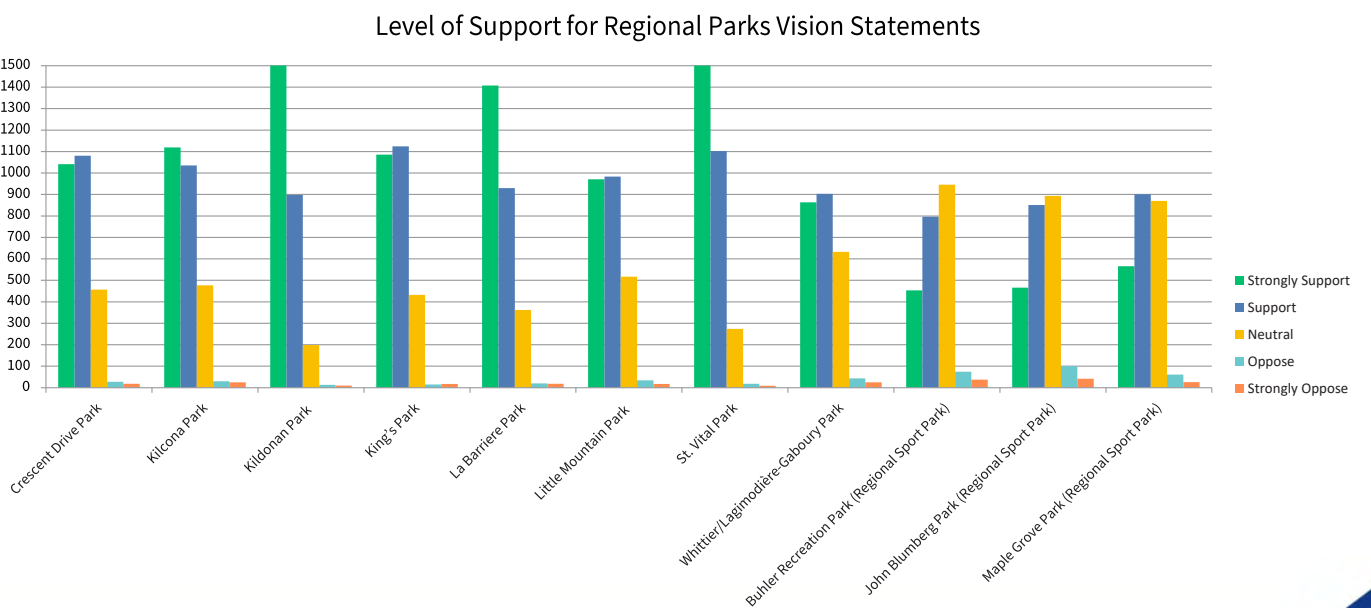


Regional Parks

Question 12

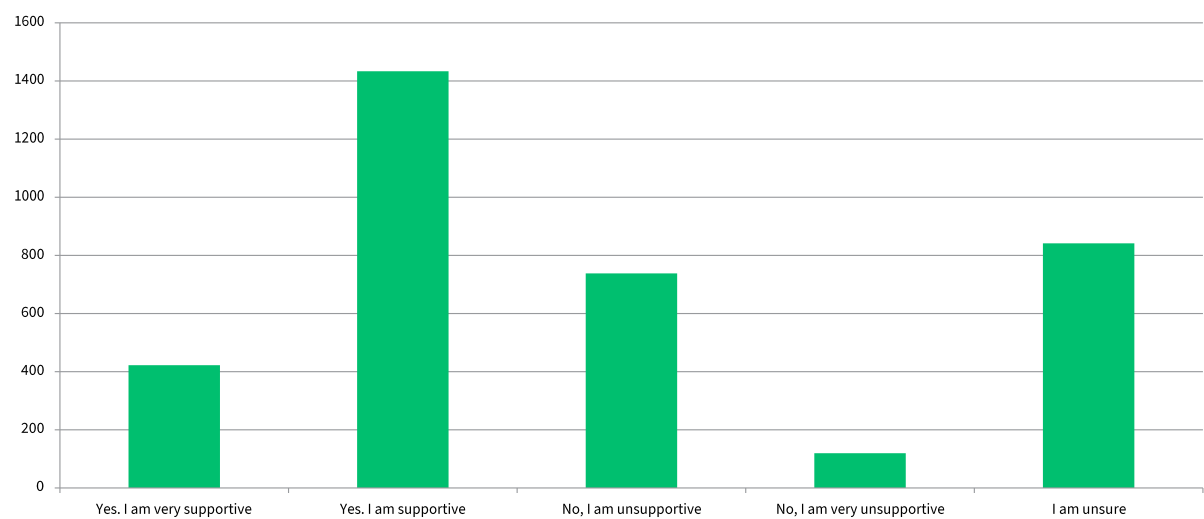


Question 13



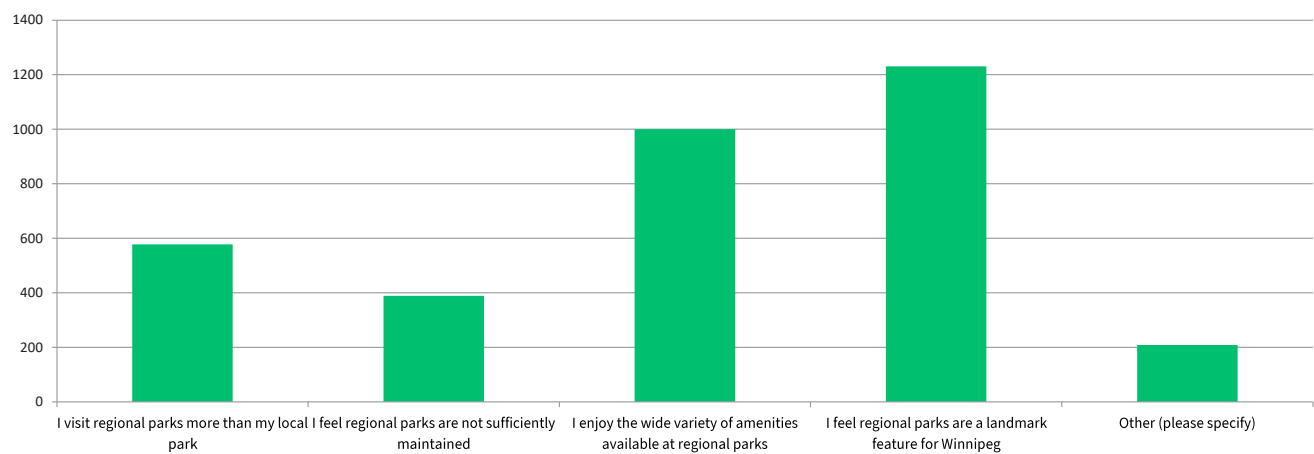
Question 14

Do you agree regional parks **should** be maintained to a higher standard than other parks?

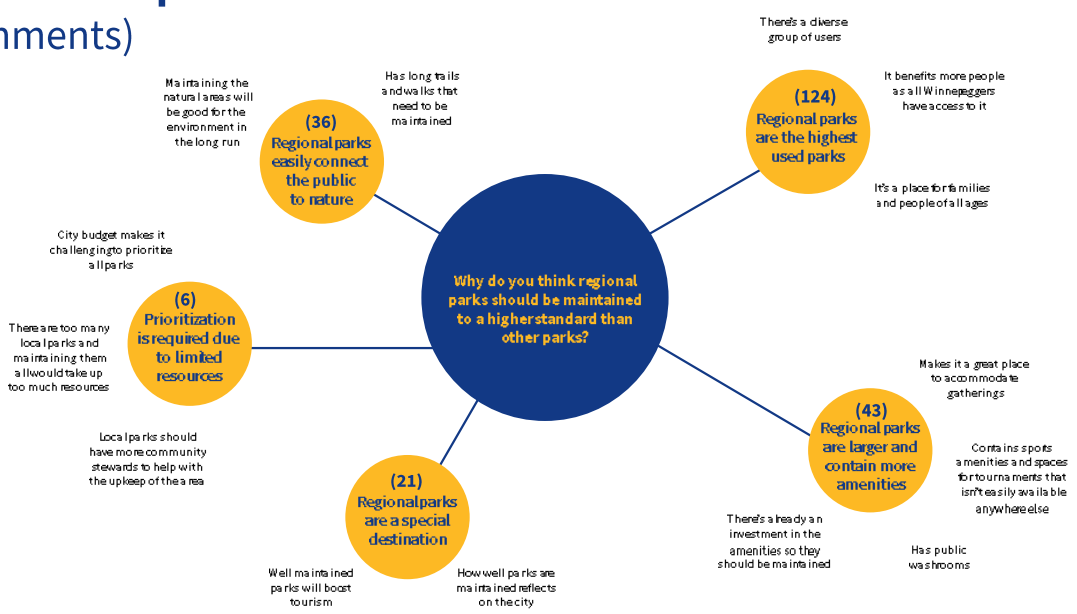


Question 15

Why do you think regional parks should be maintained to a higher standard than other parks?
(Check all that apply)

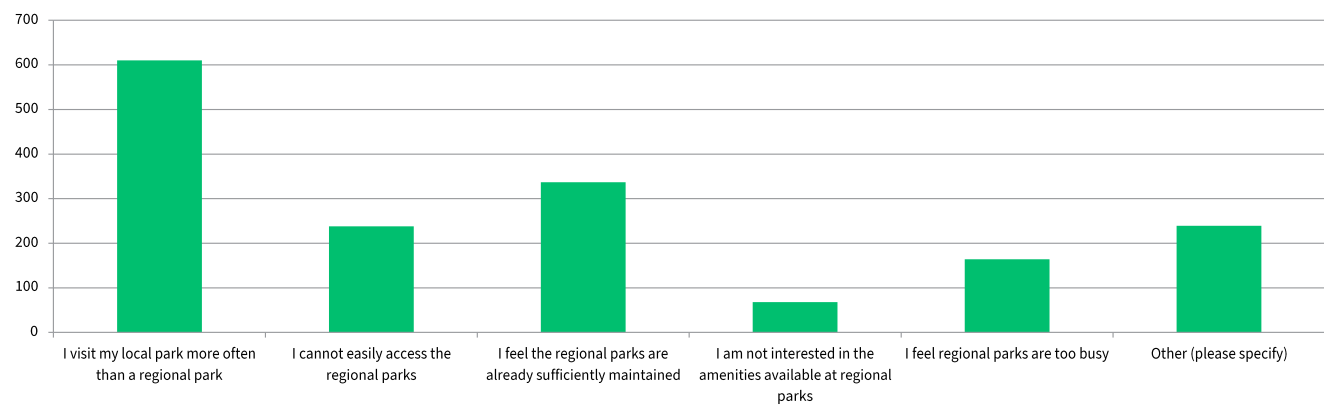


Question 15 – Top “Other” Themes (209 comments)



Question 16

Why do you think regional parks **should not** be maintained to a higher standard than other parks? (Check all that apply)

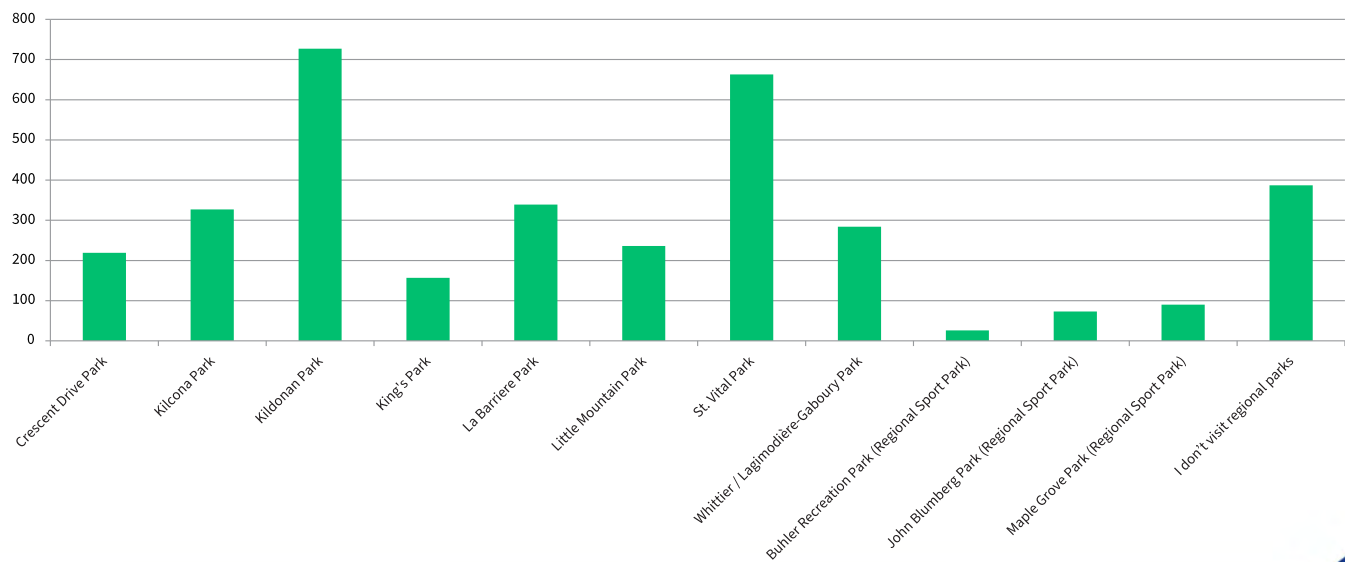


Question 16 – Top “Other” Themes (239 comments)

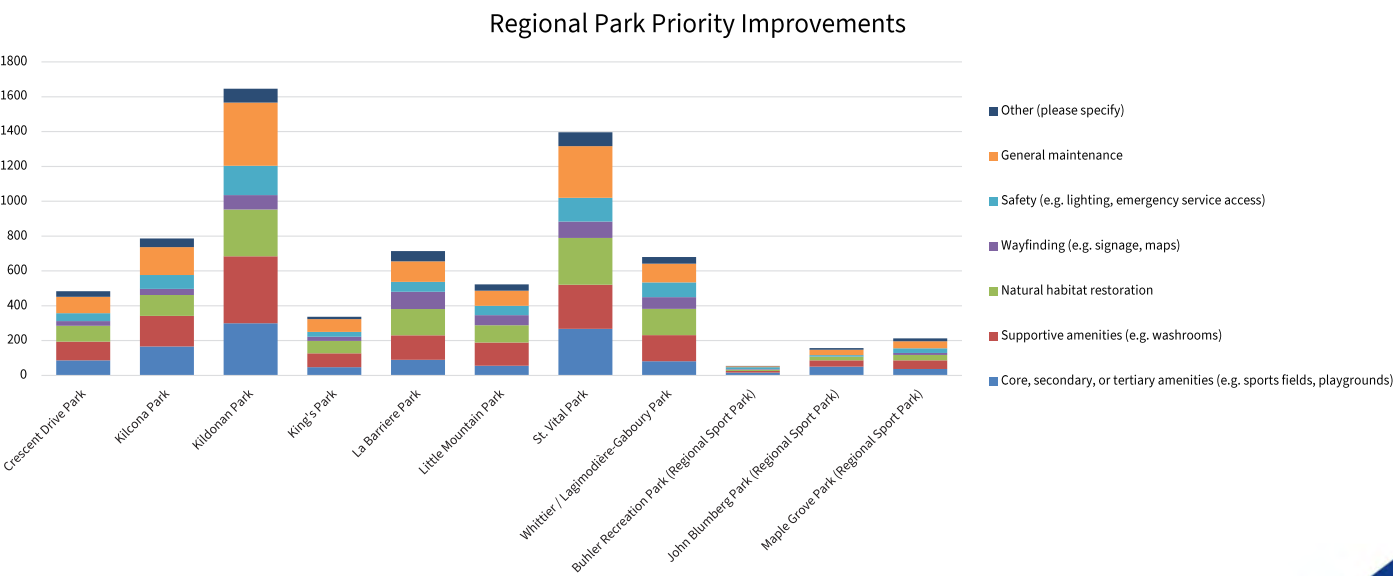


Question 17

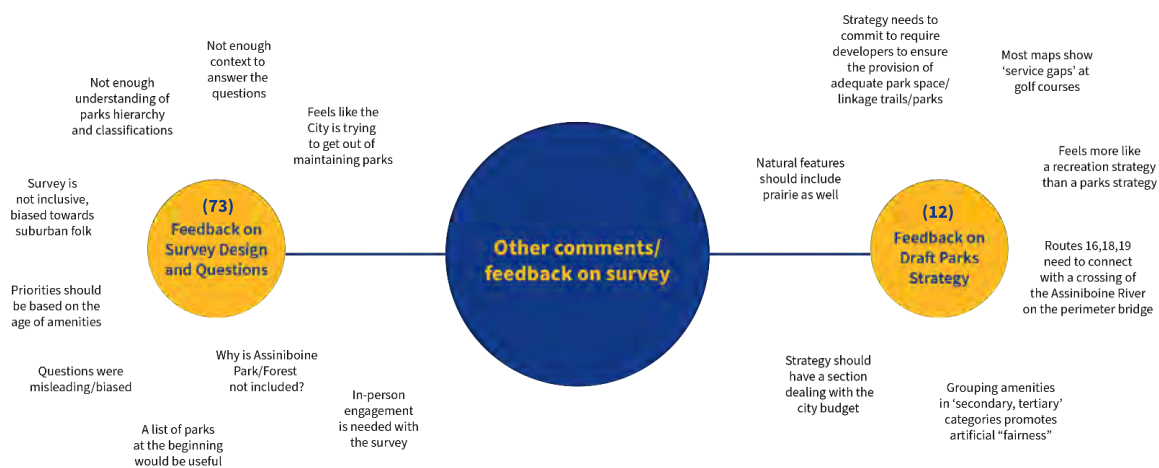
Which regional park do you think is most important to prioritize for improvements?



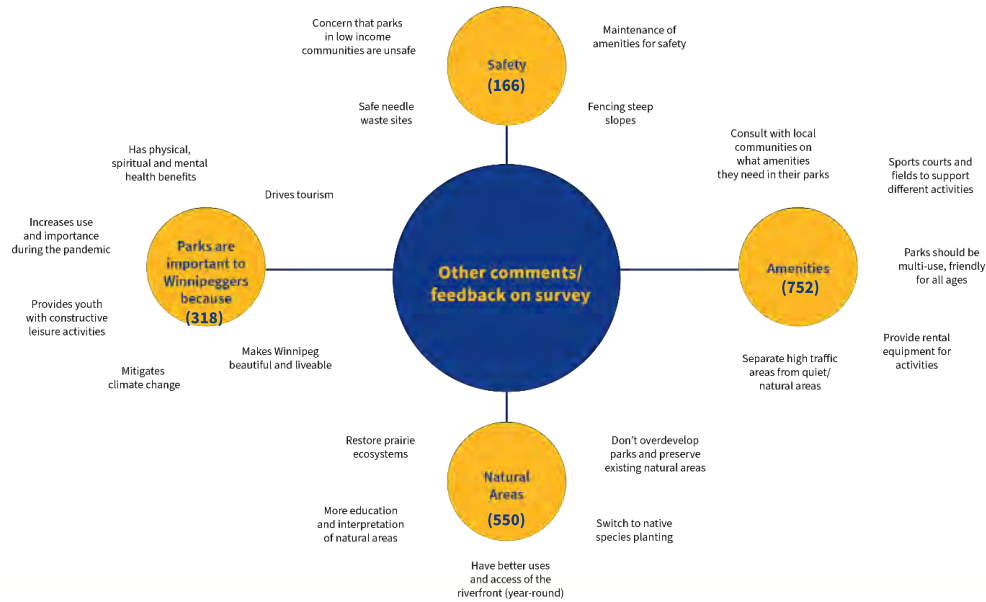
Question 18



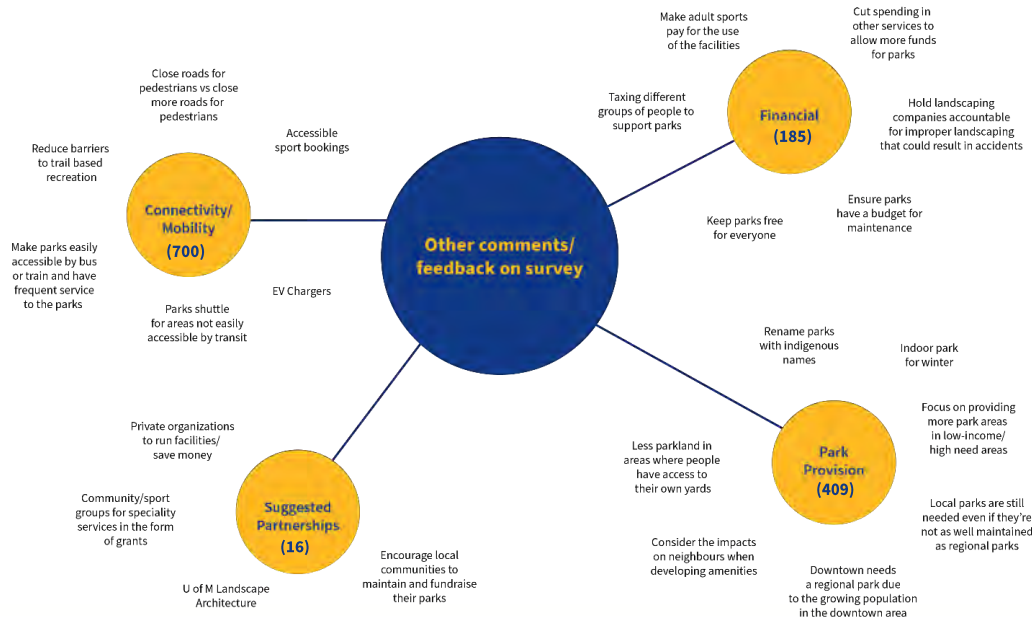
Question 19 – Anything else?



Question 19 – Anything else?

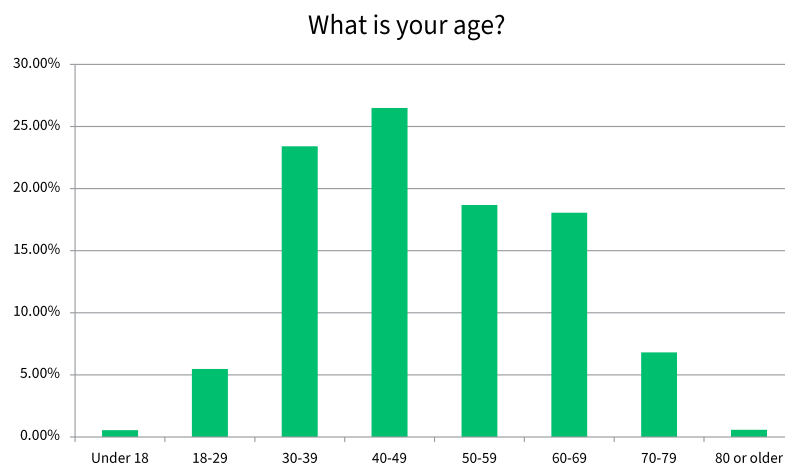


Question 19 – Anything else?

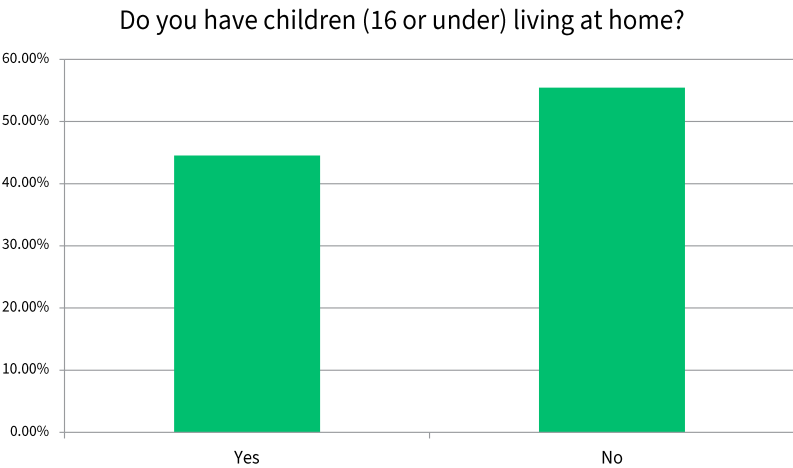


Demographics

Question 20

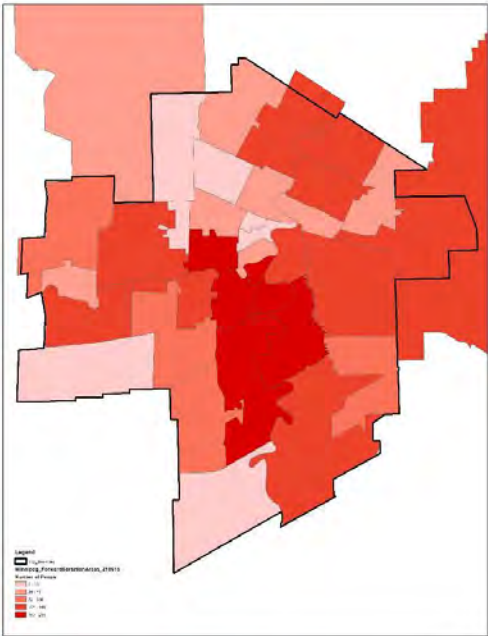


Question 21

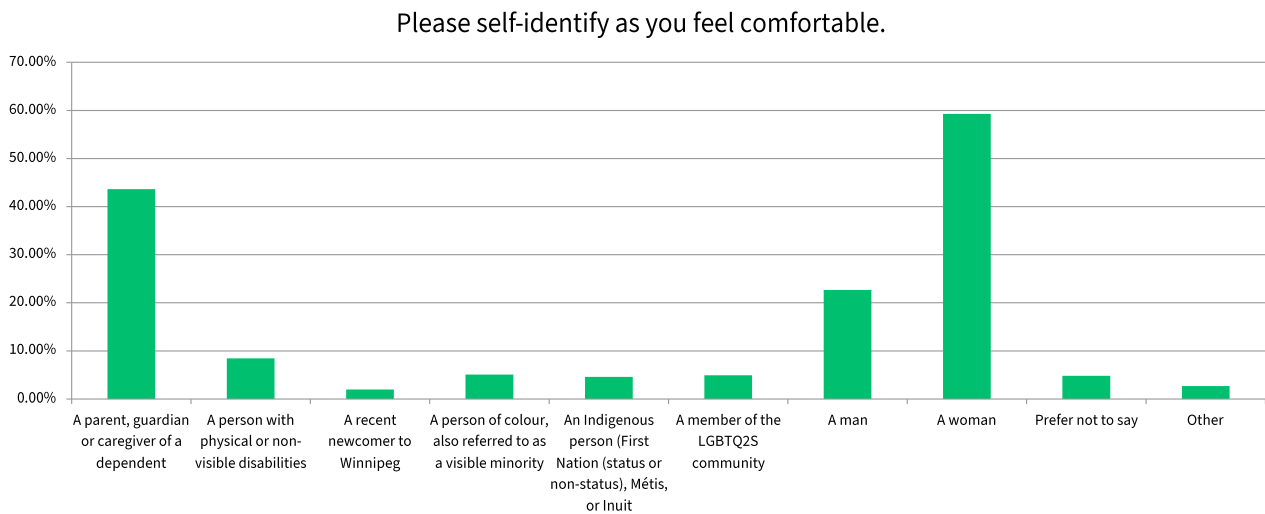


Question 22

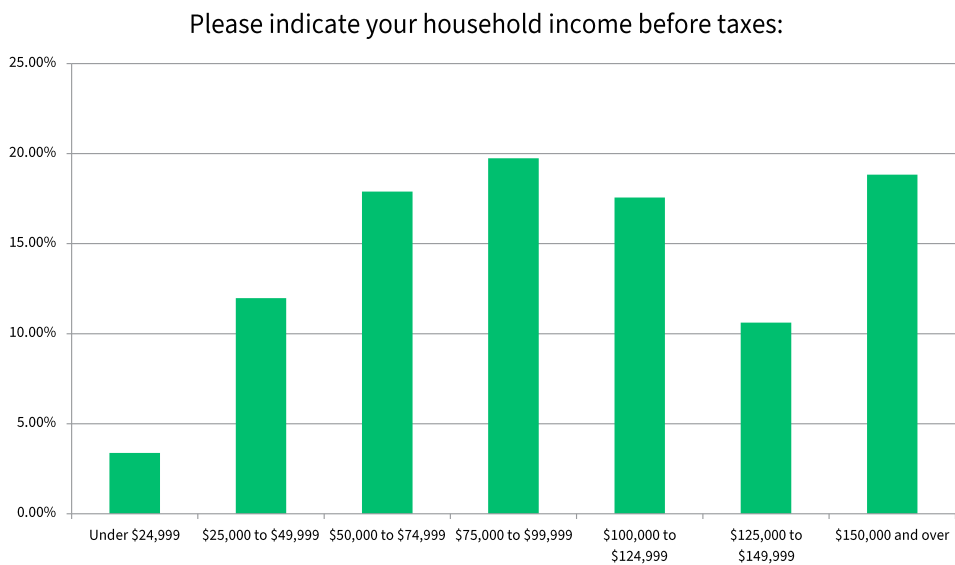
Please provide the first three characters of your postal code.



Question 23

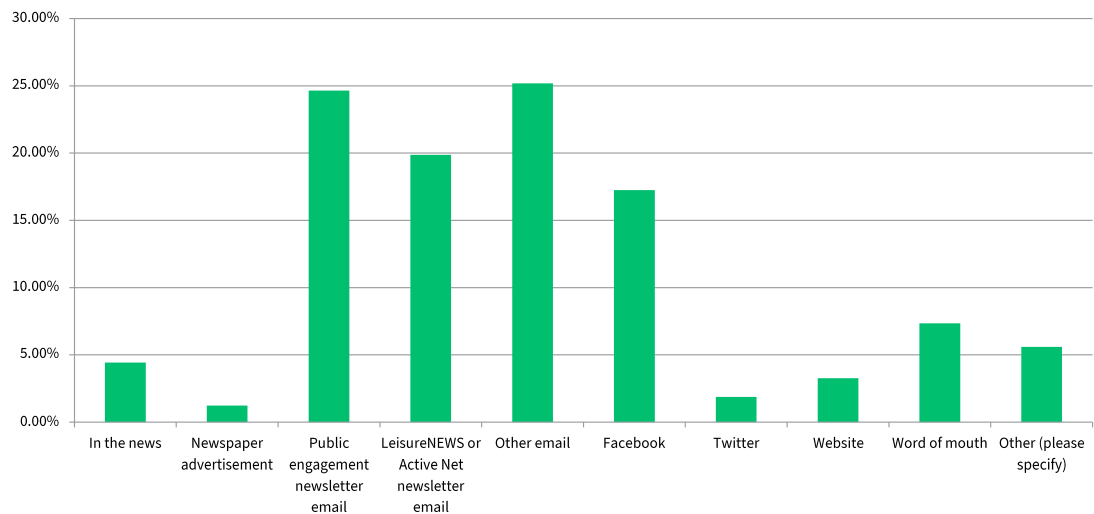


Question 24



Question 25

How did you hear about this project? (Check all that apply)



	Phase 1 Poster
<i>Phase 2 Engagement</i>	Phase 2 Newspaper Advertisement Phase 2 workshop presentation
<i>Strategy Documents</i>	<i>Draft Strategies Summary</i> <i>Draft Recreation Strategy</i> <i>Draft Parks Strategy</i>

VIDEOS

- **Add video**

ENGAGEMENT TYPE*

Select an engagement type. All engagement types are in the widget by default. Simply remove the other engagement types, and then save the widget.

- ☐ Inform – Get information or updates.
- ☐ Consult – Share feedback on pre-determined options.
- ☒ Involve – Ensure your input is heard to help us define early options.
- ☐ Collaborate – Develop and build options and solutions with us.
- ☐ Empower – Make the decision directly or on behalf of the City.

Appendix C – Stakeholder Interview Notes

Winnipeg Recreation & Parks Strategies – Phase II Stakeholder Interviews

1. How do the Strategies align with your organization's values, goals, priorities?	
1.1	Love the inclusion of travel time, social equity, income characteristics. Also, the background on Indigenous population and immigration highlights areas that our organization and constituent groups need to work on.
1.2	Good alignment with our organization's goals and values which include developing partnerships to increase access to sport and recreation activities for youth.
1.3	The Recreation Strategy is really good and there is good alignment with our organizational initiatives.
1.4	The Recreation Strategy provides a great vision.
1.5	Things are moving in a good direction – the City has been investing in initiatives and facilities over several years that are well-suited to the needs of our organization.
1.6	The Recreation Strategy provides the background and direction needed to shape our future work, including an update of our strategic/development plan.
1.7	We are preparing to update our strategic plan, and it should align with this Strategy. It's a good opportunity.
1.8	Establishing sufficient funds to support reinvestment and redevelopment of recreation facilities is very important and is critical to meeting the Strategy's goals but also our goals – it will transform what we can offer.
1.9	Also noted the commentary about volunteer recognition and stats about year-round recognition, which is very applicable to us.
1.10	Very pleased with what we read. It all makes sense from the perspective of our organization. very dependent on facilities – we do not have the capacity (on our own) to provide them, so we rely heavily on the City and Province otherwise, we'd have no program.
1.11	The Winnipeg Recreation Strategy has very good alignment to our values, goals, priorities, which are focused on reducing barriers to physical activity. The inclusion of the Sport for Life model and health and social equity within the Recreation Strategy is great, and it's easy to see the alignment. Absolutely.
1.12	Support the focus on intergenerational and integrated facilities. They're a YES.
1.13	The Recreation Strategy is a really good foundation for City Councillors and others in leadership roles. It will also be very helpful for our organization.
1.14	Good alignment to some things we're working on. One of the visions for our organization going forward is to increase the entry-level, developmental program and to introduce the sport at slightly earlier ages. Our sport is currently a late-entry sport, which many people only begin playing at ages 12 and up. The hope is to start introducing the sport at ages 10-12. Multiple reasons/benefits to this but one of the most significant reasons is encouraging girls to remain engaged in sport and benefit from healthy physical activity. There is a fair bit of data on how female participation in sport tends to drop off in teen years, so it's important to get girls involved earlier.
1.15	The Recreation Strategy is important - encourages us to soldier on.

1.16	The development of the multi-court fieldhouse at Dakota Community Centre has been an absolute blessing. Our organization is experiencing growth in the program, particularly growth in youth tournaments. The multiple courts at Dakota have been extremely important to support that growth. Developing more of these types of facilities is important to our organization to ensure there is capacity to support our growing participation.
1.17	The focus on lifelong participation aligns well with our organization – our adult sports leagues are extremely popular with hundreds of teams playing each season. It's great to see so many people remaining active, and involved in sport. They play all over the place, but there are a limited number of places/times available and the restrictions on accessing school gyms have made things even more difficult. The capacity of our recreation system to support adult participation is actually quite limited.
1.18	Like the alignment to Canadian Parks and Recreation Association (CPRA) Pathways to Well-being. CPRA recently asked our organization if we were using the framework and unfortunately we haven't been using it as much as we could or should.
1.19	Increasing participation in the Indigenous community is also a common goal – have been working with the Manitoba Aboriginal Sport & Recreation Council (MASRC) over the last 4 or 5 years on different initiatives.
1.20	We believe all recreation facilities and community centres need to be welcoming and age-friendly. The focus on intergenerational use of facilities aligns to our priorities.
1.21	We've also been focusing on social inclusion and supportive environments. Most people are looking to create and access social connections close to home. We feel that community centres can play a very vital role in this.
1.22	We cater to the needs of surrounding neighbourhoods and work with diverse groups including children, youth, seniors, and families. People that we serve may be Indigenous, new immigrants, or a wide variety of ethnic backgrounds. We also support people who may be marginalized, experiencing economic or systemic barriers. Many aspects of the Strategy align well to our operation and we were really happy to see them included.
1.23	The Recreation Strategy aligns well to our goals and priorities – one of which has been working in partnership with the City. We recognize that the City has many pressures and public needs that it must respond to. We are not the only priority but we are one piece of the puzzle. Everyone has to understand the need to work cooperatively and get along.
2. Aspects of the Strategy you support?	
2.1	Very happy to see the inclusion of health equity and the inclusion of geographic areas of higher poverty.
2.2	Very happy to see a holistic approach to health with emphasis on inclusion and access.
2.3	Supportive environments that are safe, welcoming, inclusive, and provide a sense of belonging are very important.
2.4	The facility model is right, and the mix of facilities is good.
2.5	While local access to some program and services are important, not all facilities and services can be provided at a neighbourhood level. Larger multi-use facilities, serving larger areas makes sense provided that public transportation options are readily available.
2.6	Localized centres that can respond to the specific needs of the community around them – it's vital to tailor the approach to each community as they may differ.

2.7	Supporting areas with high poverty levels by offering nutritional programs at recreation and community centres.
2.8	Focusing on leadership development and capacity building. Kids who come up through these programs, learn, build skills, gain employment and become ambassadors to their communities.
2.9	Love the statements on inclusion which is critical because of the effects of segregation that Indigenous Peoples have experienced. Believes it is important for programs, services and facilities to include people of all backgrounds – integration is valuable. As a society/community we need to look for ways to encourage connection and bringing people together and not doing things that are separate/parallel.
2.10	The Parks Strategy acknowledges the influence parks have on positive mental health and well-being.
2.11	Good background to help explain the approach. Captured everything well. Covered all the 'homework' bases - accessibility, climate change, etc.
2.12	Reviewed the partnership pieces, and there are no significant concerns.
2.13	Like the diagram on page 7 of the Recreation Strategy – use of circles – can encompass all of us! Happy it's not a pyramid!
2.14	Like the approach - a holistic view is important – not just about sport – also other activities that are cultural and creative.
2.15	Support the partnership model for arena development but also have some concerns.
2.16	Support the facility hierarchy of local, community, and regional scale facilities.
2.17	Believe larger multiplexes are the way to go. If people are driving, the impact of the extra distance required to reach a regional facility is nominal.
2.18	Supportive of different operating models as long as they respect the importance of public access to recreation programs and facilities – especially arenas.
2.19	Happy to see the inclusion of libraries – even if multi-use recreation facilities don't include full-size libraries, the inclusion of book lockers or smaller lending libraries could help to expand the reach of libraries.
2.20	Liked the format and the level of service tables in the Recreation Strategy.
2.21	The Parks Strategy includes a framework to measure and evaluate the effectiveness and success of its goals.
2.22	The Parks Strategy speaks to the need to acquire land for the creation and expansion of parks and natural spaces. An equity lens is applied to the prioritization of areas that are currently underserved and those of higher densities.
2.23	Support the development of twin-pad arena – they provide a bigger bang for the buck over building two single ice sheets. More cost-effective to build and better programming opportunities.
2.24	Do we have enough arenas? The number of sheets is not the biggest issue. The quality of the facilities is the larger challenge so we appreciate and support the approach taken in the Strategy.
2.25	The inclusion of libraries is also good – for all the traditional services libraries provide but also because many people need wi-fi access.

2.26	Support developing larger regional facilities with multiple courts and better quality recreation/competitive spaces (sufficient ceiling heights, appropriate flooring, viewing, changerooms, etc.) all under one roof. Tournaments are much more efficient to run, particularly with volunteers, when there are more games happening in one location.
2.27	Supportive of the alignment to CPRA Pathways to Well-being document including the goals and values.
2.28	Accessibility is a reoccurring theme in the Parks Strategy from the vision to the goals. - The Strategy outlines that there should be no limits to accessibility through physical, social, economic or systemic barriers. - The Strategy provides guidance on how to prioritize and equitably distribute limited resources. - The Strategy recognizes that “an increasing proportion of Winnipeggers identify as visible minorities, and almost a quarter of the population has immigrated to Canada from elsewhere, bringing with them new pastimes and ways of interacting in outdoor spaces”. - The Strategy also recognizes that many Indigenous families and communities continue to face barriers in accessing recreation and space for cultural practice - The Strategy aims to support reconciliation through “collaborative placemaking with indigenous communities”.
2.29	Supportive of efforts to reduce barriers to participation.
2.30	Supportive of the strategic priorities, including the equity-based planning approach and the focus on climate resilience.
2.31	Supportive of the commentary on reconciliation and the need to build stronger understanding and relationships between newcomers and Indigenous communities. How to approach this and implement it is really the question.
2.32	Appreciated the comparisons to other cities.
2.33	Overall, very supportive of the approach taken relative to community centres.
2.34	Happy to see recreation viewed as part of the social determinants of health.
2.35	The Parks Strategy acknowledges that parks are an important component of complete communities and help build strong caring communities. Winnipeg parks include both large destination parks and small local neighbourhood park spaces.
2.36	Documents are well-done with a lot of positive information in them.
2.37	Support the development of larger regional facilities. Manitoba has long been recognized as a 'hotspot' for certain sports but attracting inter-provincial or national events can be challenging. Facilities with multiple courts/rinks under one roof are increasingly necessary to attract those events.
2.38	Good support for the vision, values, operating principles, and goals.
2.39	The focus on low-income areas is important.
2.40	The inclusion of fitness training spaces in City recreation facilities is also beneficial – both for sports organizations but also individuals.
2.41	The Parks Strategy outlines that parks preserve environmentally sensitive areas, including some of the area’s prairie, meadow and forest landscapes. Areas in Winnipeg have been naturalized to further expand the natural elements in the

	city.
2.42	We are very supportive of regional multi-use complexes that serve larger geographic areas of the city. We have no concerns about who operates (City, non-profit, etc.). We are more concerned about the ability of our programs to access these facilities. We also recognize there is a need to work with other sports/programs to share space.
2.43	Support the focus on partnership and collaboration – advocacy from partners could help support investment in the recreation system.
2.44	The Parks Strategy notes that planning must include meaningful public and stakeholder engagement and has provided many opportunities for public consultation and engagement.
2.45	Support the development of larger regional centres but also feel smaller community-scale facilities with a decent gymnasium (such as some of the newer ones located at some community centres) could be well-suited for our developmental programs. A good example is the gym at Sturgeon Heights Community Centre – the gym is of sufficient size and quality to suit our developmental programs.
2.46	We support the development of larger, multi-court facilities – provide a bigger bang for the buck.
2.47	From the perspective of a user/sport, Dakota Community Centre is a model that stands out. It would be amazing to have ten facilities of this size across Winnipeg. However, before the investment in the multi-court fieldhouse, the gym was a glorified bingo hall. Our 1960's community centres have small, undersized halls and poor floor types. They just don't work well for our sport.
2.48	We support intergenerational facilities that promote shared-use – used by senior's programming during the day and might be a youth centre in the evenings, etc. Despite the current challenges, Bronx Park Community Centre is a great model for community centre facilities. The size is perfect, the mix of spaces is good, and the 'reach' into the community is correct.
2.49	The Parks Strategy acknowledges that parks and natural environments help mitigate the effects of climate change and urban heat islands, as well as urban air pollution.
2.50	Very supportive of the lifecycle focus – cheapest initial investment may not be the best investment over the long term.
2.51	Happy to see the approach of continuing with community-use agreements at schools. It makes recreation spaces more available, and permit costs are very affordable. What will the impact be of the school division changes currently proposed by the Province? Could be a significant change.
2.52	Very supportive of self-directed leisure, particularly the benefits of outdoor activities. Happy to see that aspect in the Strategy and would encourage the City to consider staffing supports that take advantage of opportunities to activate existing park spaces.
2.53	Support the focus on equity. The City needs to provide a base level of service everywhere across the city but then realign other existing resources to support marginalized populations.
2.54	Likes the inclusion of the CPRA goals and believes it could be a framework for board development and strategic planning at community centres. Need to facilitate these types of discussions at the board level.
2.55	The Parks Strategy includes a plan for safe and effective connections for people to access parks and travel between them, as well as a plan to build and improve paths within parks. • The Strategy acknowledges and supports active transportation, highlighting its contribution to active living. • Active transportation is prioritized as a way to access all levels of parks and through year-

	round trail-based recreation. The Strategy is set to align with the Pedestrian and Cycling Strategies and addresses the acquisition of new parkland to connect active transportation routes.
2.56	Really good job. The Recreation Strategy is very engaging and interesting. The pictures are wonderful and really like the 'pop-up' boxes that help break up the text.
2.57	Appreciate the language used in the Strategy that focuses on 'investment'. This is in keeping with other leading practices/documents that speak about the need to focus on 'investment' and the societal returns on those investments rather than framing everything as being about costs.
2.58	Support the focus on intergenerational programming and facilities. They are very important to building relationships and communities. This helps negate the effects of ageism.
2.59	The Recreation Strategy looks positive and reflects good ideas that you see in other places/cities.
2.60	The Recreation Strategy recognizes that parks and natural environments are important contributors to the health and well-being of residents and create both environmental and economic benefits.
2.61	Support the development of larger multi-use facilities. They make sense as it's important to keep facilities busy and well used at all times of the day so they are more cost-effective to operate. We also recognize that the cost to build facilities is actually the cheapest part – operating and maintaining them over the lifespan is much more.
3. Any areas of concern?	
3.1	No specific concerns with the Recreation Strategy itself but access and affordable facility rental costs are always something we focus on.
3.2	Lots of positive work has occurred, but the City needs to continue putting resources into marginalized communities in a more focused and pronounced manner. Beyond just this initiative, we see the City of Winnipeg as a whole recognizing this with other actions and this is positive.
3.3	Both City-operated recreation facilities and community centres would benefit from more representative staffing.
3.4	Despite the improvements in staffing and education within the recreation sector, some members of the community are simply not comfortable in City-operated or community centre programs/facilities. If people don't even feel welcome, that is a pretty big barrier. Equitable resourcing of marginalized communities will likely require reallocating resources, which may cause some push-back.
3.5	When developing facilities, the functional requirements need to be realistic, but we're also concerned that in many cases, the things really needed to be successful often end up being reduced or cut. Cutting to meet budget seems to be more of a Canadian approach, while Americans tend to take the opposite approach and find the additional funding necessary to reach the intended facility performance targets/goals.
3.6	The structure of Parks Strategy document is poor, too verbose, has some repetition and is too complex for normal consumption. Maps are obscure.
3.7	The focus on inclusion and supportive environments is good but we're concerned about how this is implemented/operationalized. It's hard to build consistency, which is really important for kids experiencing systemic barriers, when staff turn over and consistent, sustainable supports are not in place.

3.8	For a number of individuals/organizations that our organization works with, community centres are not seen as welcoming. They are built around hockey, baseball and soccer and may not reflect the needs/interests of many in the community. There is a long way to go in making them comfortable and welcoming spaces for all.
3.9	While understanding the challenges, in a perfect world, we would like to see Parks & Recreation reinstated as a department.
3.10	Evolution of volunteerism – are the staff and board at centre representative of the community? Is there a way to emphasize equity-based hiring practices and equity-based approaches to volunteer board development at community centres?
3.11	Plan to acquire parkland is absent in Parks Strategy. The World Health Organization recommended the availability of a minimum of 9 m ² of green space per individual with an ideal UGS (Urban Greenspace) value of 50 m ² per person. A reduction of square metres per person is indicted between 2020 and 2045 from 44 square metres to 30 -40 square metres per person
3.12	It's great to have an overarching strategy, but recreation programmers and community centres need to know more about who is in the community.
3.13	How do policies and priorities from the Strategy become operationalized at the program and facility level to support inclusion and diversity?
3.14	Community access is very important. For example, the City used to provide free passes- not sure if that will continue once facilities reopen after COVID restrictions.
3.15	Staff at both City-operated recreation facilities would benefit from more training including training in cultural awareness, anti-racism, violence prevention, and de-escalation. In some cases, accountability is also a concern.
3.16	Concerns that the 600 metre (10 minute walk) distance as a target for park access is not realistic for children and seniors
3.17	Accessing community centres has always been challenging. The process is often unclear or inconsistent. It is often difficult for individuals and organizations to navigate.
3.18	The Strategy is targeting an average condition rating of FAIR for most facility types. Why is this the target as opposed to GOOD?
3.19	How do we identify good vs poor recreation spaces? Is it based on their amenities? How do we measure functionality?
3.20	Unfortunately, many of the older gyms/halls at community centres are not great options for sports programs. They lack the height, space, and flooring needed.
3.21	Playing on rubber sports flooring that is simply overlaid on concrete is very hard on players. It causes short-term injuries and chronic, long-term damage to joints, etc. Unfortunately, many community centre gyms are constructed this way – they likely work well for social events and maybe some sports but aren't great for ours.
3.22	Although organizational capacity issues make this challenging with volunteer-run facilities, operators can make considerably more revenue from instructional models rather than simply renting space to other organizations.
3.23	How will community-driven projects link into the City's investment planning/budget process?

3.24	No areas of concern; the Recreation Strategy is very well done.
3.25	While the recommendation is to support arena twinning projects, the RFP process may be intimidating to many organizations with volunteer boards. What support can be provided to ensure these facilities are being built in areas of need, rather than in areas with politically savvy boards? Same for new/expanded centres.
3.26	The community centre model needs attention as the purpose/mandate/role is unclear and the service provided is inconsistent. In some cases, it feels like the community aspect of community centres has been lost.
3.27	Supportive of partnership models for arena development and operation but concerned about how facilities are run and the method of allocating access. Some run too much like a business and don't provide good access to the community. We recognize that these groups may have contributed funds and are carrying mortgages. However, government funding partners/owners should have a stronger voice/role in the ongoing operation. Need to find the right balance.
3.28	Concerned about community access. The Recreation Strategy doesn't say much about how facilities are used and accessed.
3.29	Overall impression – riding bicycles, skateboarding as pure recreational activity was not addressed; content was mostly with respect to connectivity and AT. People want to use loops but we don't have any unless they occur naturally within parks and there is not strategy/direction to create them. examples: fitness loops, nature loops, biking loops
3.30	The facility focus within the document may be confusing from the public's perspective. It is very important to have facilities, but the key is access and use. How do people access them?
3.31	We hear quite a bit from newcomer organizations and groups that support individuals struggling with low-income/poverty who still feel that the issues limiting access to recreation programs and facilities are not being sufficiently addressed. We would suggest addressing this within the Strategy. What does inclusive and equitable access mean for these organizations, how is it addressed and implemented?
3.32	Although it may not be intentional, the discussion of programs and services seems to refer more to active programming versus leisure, cultural and arts programming. These other types of programming are also important and beneficial.
3.33	Major Open Space description in the Parks Strategy is misleading. Added level of protection applies to only some of the land resulting in net loss of parkland.
3.34	Concerned that the community centre model isn't working as well as it could.
3.35	Recognizes that many facilities are in poor condition but setting the target to only maintain facilities at the level of FAIR for their average condition seems like a very low bar.
3.36	At present, most of our participants drive to access facilities, although that could change in the future. Because of that, the lack of sufficient facility parking is definitely something we notice.
3.37	New facilities built with government funding that are not operated by the City should include community access agreements that have clear parameters. Some examples do exist, but the parameters are not very clear, or the level of access is low/poor (could be a minimal amount of time, or it could be provided at times that are difficult for community/grassroots organizations to make effective use of).

3.38	Funding support to achieve the recommendations within the Recreation Strategy will be critical. We think there is actually good public support for increased investment in recreation. Different ways to achieve this - could be a property tax dedicated to recreation services/facilities or perhaps it's funding from the provincial PST cut that is redirected, etc.
3.39	Although many newcomers have some French or English, language can still be a challenge/barrier to participation.
3.40	Facility design affects use. Vital that facility development considers the sport perspective and technical requirements when they are planned and developed. There is a risk of facilities being white elephants if they are not designed in ways that meet the requirements of the sport.
3.41	Active transportation is important and needs to be addressed.
3.42	Continue with the community centre model but the General Council of Winnipeg Community Centres (GCWCC) needs to operate differently. Community Centres need to be more than just youth sports/after-school focused - only operating from 4:30 – 9:30 isn't enough/doesn't make sense. Perhaps a different funding structure is needed?
3.43	There are lots of good things going on, but people don't always know about them. Especially with community centres, there needs to be better ways of sharing/promoting programs and services.
3.44	Although there has been improvements, we're concerned that the City staff may not have the training and leadership skills required to address the needs of the community.
3.45	Times have changed, family dynamics have changed, and volunteer models have changed. It is a systemic problem that is not going away.
3.46	We are concerned that recreation facilities in Winnipeg are very outdated and need increased investment.
3.47	Inclusion and community capacity building are important but how are we evaluating success? We hope that participants in our programs model positive behaviour and exhibit leadership skills. They have a sense of ownership, are empowered to make change and co-create. There is a sense of connectedness. They are mentors to others. All of this is critical.
4. Are there opportunities or ideas that we haven't incorporated but should consider adding?	
4.1	In keeping with the goal of creating supportive environments – adding policies to create supportive food environments within recreation facilities, particularly in areas of higher poverty: • Intent is to increase access to healthy and culturally appropriate foods. • Often foods sold are high in fat or sugar, so working to increase the number of healthy foods that are sold at these facilities; working with vending companies and cafeterias. • Inclusion of less processed foods, more vegetable and fruit options, whole grains, more plant-based foods. • Making healthy choice the easy choice.

4.2	Suggest that you consider recommendations on: • Improvements in how programs and services are promoted and advertised. • Bilingual/multi-lingual promotion of programs/services. • An employment component that encourages representative staffing and summer employment opportunities for youth. Opportunity to establish a target number of opportunities every year? Suggest looking at some of the initiatives from Toronto. • Addition of a strong anti-racism statement/policy. • Incorporate cultural accommodation – could be a simple thing like a small room for prayer or other cultural needs such as women's only programs – there are some progressive examples and the City of Winnipeg is one - very proud that the City has offered women's only swims
4.3	Within the policy statements, perhaps a recommendation needs to be made to address the future of community centres that GWCWCC operates due to the ongoing inability to retain a board of directors.
4.4	The Parks Strategy should acknowledge the complexities of homelessness and related camping, resting, and living in public spaces from a solution-driven and compassionate place.
4.5	Are indoor rinks in bedroom communities worth mentioning?
4.6	Are there potential opportunities to encourage more farmer's markets on municipal land – perhaps at recreation or parks sites?
4.7	The Strategy is important, and the policy statements are key to having something to work towards and help with reporting back to the political levels. However, the Strategy is large. The City may need to develop additional overview/communication tools to assist in sharing and reporting. The ParticipAction Report Card might be a good example to look at.
4.8	You might also want to consider/reference the <i>Common Vision for Increasing Physical Activity and Reducing Sedentary Living in Canada: Let's Get Moving</i> document that was released in spring 2018. It is a cross-sectoral initiative led by the Public Health Agency of Canada. The document provides a framework for helping Canadians be more active. As part of implementing this initiative, an RFP was issued to select six projects for funding. Unfortunately, they've been put on hold due to COVID restrictions, etc.
4.9	Suggest looking at <i>The Active City Collective</i> which has the goal of making the Calgary region the most livable region in Canada. It was started by a couple of university professors that were trying to understand how Calgary could take advantage of the 'active economy.' They were surprised that many of the players/groups within the different sectors didn't know each other. Wonder if there is an opportunity for the City of Winnipeg to play a similar role in bringing different groups together within the Winnipeg context?
4.10	Suggest inclusion of language related to healthy food systems and its positive impact on the overall built environment within the Parks Strategy.
4.11	Feels that the City has not been able to keep up with its longstanding agreements/relationships with community organizations. Wonders if a more geographic-based (versus centralized) system would increase the capacity and supports for a community development approach, networks, and partnerships.
4.12	The draft Parks Strategy will be directed by City Planning Documents that are flawed in reference to Major Open Spaces (MOS) and do not include a Master Plan for Green Space nor a Biodiversity Plan. That presents a significant concern.
4.13	Concerns that Parks and Open Spaces Other Spaces (leased golf lands) are not included in the Parks Strategy

4.14	Suggestion to look at Plan H and the BC Healthy Built Environments Alliance, which is a voluntary alliance of organizations from a wide variety of sectors across BC providing leadership and action for healthier, more livable communities.
4.15	Need an enhanced 'winter activity lens' on parks, treating snow a special resource (ex. winter playstructures beyond toboggan slides; cross-country skiing plan)
4.16	We believe community centres need to do more direct programming but we're concerned they may not have the capacity. The City could explore the idea of 'recreation facilitators' which might be paid positions that are not direct programmers but help community centres establish/organize community-based recreation programming. Some smaller communities in Manitoba have successfully implemented this approach.
4.17	Establishing an implementation advisory group for 18 months could be very valuable. It would encourage stakeholder participation (build a bigger tent) and hopefully increase advocacy and support.
4.18	Parks planning can provide opportunities for urban agriculture. Protecting and providing urban land for agriculture, such as community gardens and markets, can increase the capacity of local food systems. Supporting the capacity of our local food infrastructure contributes to a food supply that is resilient to outside stressors.
4.19	Telling the story is very important. Our elected officials need to hear some of the success stories. Advocacy is important but made more difficult because there is no single department or one committee of Council for recreation and parks
4.20	Walking, biking, and other trail-based activities are some of the most popular recreational activities and are very good at supporting healthy lifestyles. These types of activities are not just about active-transportation or located just in parks. Lots of other motivations and benefits. The Parks Strategy touches on aspects of this but they aren't dealt with in the Recreation Strategy. Feels like a missed opportunity – perhaps there could be a recommendation to develop a Winnipeg Bike Strategy.
4.21	It can be difficult to find recreation program information, particularly programs offered in community centres. There needs to be one central means of accessing that information and helping to get people connected. Feels that the Leisure Guide needs a rethink/overhaul.
4.22	There is need for a Biodiversity Strategy to ensure access to nature.

4.23	Adding a recommendation that encourages community gardens at community centres and neighbourhood recreation and leisure centres: • Approach is not necessarily about creating large horticultural spaces which require different resources and larger amounts of land. More about smaller-scale options such as garden boxes outside of centres. • In disadvantaged neighbourhoods and areas with higher density, many people do not have access to yards and gardens. • At this scale, it's not about solving food security but instead supporting a mental health and wellness approach, providing recreational opportunities while also building social cohesion. • Within many cultures, including Indigenous Peoples, the land is sacred and food is spirit, and you cannot disconnect those two, so the concept of using land for food has a lot of depth. • Sees the opportunity to be really proactive, visionary, and creative rather than just reacting to requests – using a community development and partnership approach to increase community capacity. • A recent example of success include the Victory Garden developed at St. Vital Centennial Arena (an initiative by Councillor Mayes); which received great support and feedback from the community. • Recognizes there is a need for some dedicated human resources to be able to accomplish this well. Perhaps there is a need to identify a budget for a part-time person to create a sound strategy, which integrates within all departments? • Access to water a critical part of achieving this.
4.24	Recreation centres are destinations that people could/should be able to access by walking, running, biking, skiing, etc. Should give some thought to how people get to them – did they walk, bike, etc? Could collect data and codify a set of targets - help send a societal message about the benefits of choosing active transportation.
4.25	The Parks Strategy should commit to implementing Open Streets programs as a means of connecting people to parks, and providing additional park space.
4.26	The Provincial government has not shown much interest in sport/recreation. Believes sport needs to find ways to rely less on government funding to support facility development. Public-private partnerships might be an option. There are some successful examples of how this has occurred elsewhere in Canada.
4.27	Recognize that this already occurs at many locations but perhaps being more specific about including community kitchens at all community and neighbourhood centres. • Supports cooking and nutritional programs, community gatherings, and after-school programs. • Sharing of food supports community building and social cohesion, and learning to cook nutritious meals and can have numerous positive impacts on health and well-being.
5. Additional insights or comments?	
5.1	A political champion on City Council is essential. In Regina, the new mayor is the champion of their recreation plan. Although it took some time (4-years), they are now building a new recreation and aquatic facilities.
5.2	Ongoing communication will be key to building and maintaining support to implement many of the recommendations.
5.3	Communicating and working in partnership with other community organizations can help to increase success. Strong relationships allow challenges that arise to be effectively addressed.

5.4	We are happy to see that many of our comments and suggestions from the first phase of public engagement have been incorporated.
5.5	One of the challenges for gaining support and funding is that different levels of government have different responsibilities and don't always think holistic about health and well-being. So even though it is very cost-effective and there is only one tax-payer, realigning the conversation to focus on investing in recreation as a preventative health measure is difficult.
5.6	Measuring progress and demonstrating success is important. However, the return on investment in recreation in terms of overall health and wellness benefits can be difficult to measure and quantify.
5.7	We have had successes and failures in partnering with the City and other community organizations. The outcome of these partnerships often depends on the people on the ground who are driving the programs. Staff turnover is a huge challenge for building program continuity and trust.
5.8	We have long wondered why the City hasn't been developing larger multi-use facilities or campuses we see great value in the co-location of different amenities. Maples, Blumberg, Maplegrove, Pan Am Pool are all great examples. Also, the potential to have schools in the mix would be an advantage
5.9	There is also a strong community/social component of sport. It doesn't always need to be neighbourhood-based to support social and community connections. At some of the larger facilities, with lots of activity, you are bound to run into someone you know and stop to chat
5.10	If we don't have the marginalized populations involved, then the whole city fails to thrive. It is self-defeating not to provide these supports.
5.11	The development of the outdoor court amenities has also been a really valuable investment. They are very well-used and take some of the pressure off of indoor spaces.
5.12	Development of the Winnipeg Community Sport Policy was a great exercise and produced a really good strategy.
5.13	Our organization is very interested in convertible and shared space – an example being their current use of the turf field at U of W RecPlex. We have been in discussions with other sports/groups about working together to share available facility spaces.
5.14	We need to invest in people. Even as you try to bring people together, there will still be challenges to overcome.
5.15	COVID restrictions have added a fair bit of uncertainty to the sport. We are unsure what to expect in the future and are concerned about drop-off. Will the numbers rebound?
5.16	Important to meet people where they are rather than taking a 'build it and they will come' approach.
5.17	The City has too many silos – the left and right hand don't know what each is doing. All the public sector staff we connect with are great, but the process and systems are often broken. It can also be difficult for outside organizations to find the right connection points. We believe the City and residents would benefit from re-uniting parks and recreation into a single department.
5.18	Our sport is an early entry sport and it can be difficult to pick up the game later in life. It's certainly harder to reach higher levels of achievement with late entry to the sport. So, the lost year is a particular concern that may mean larger numbers of kids never start playing the game.
5.19	We have seen a decline in participation and are forecasting for continued decline going forward.
5.20	We are seeing 5-10% growth in participation numbers, with much of that growth occurring due to immigration.

5.21	Nice to see outdoor rinks and the river so busy this year. However, suspects that the unusually warm weather we experienced helped a lot. If it was a more typical winter, would as many people have accessed these spaces?
5.22	The provincial government doesn't seem to recognize sport as an actual sector with an essential societal role but rather just sees it as 'games.' Hopeful that Jeff Hnatiuk's new role within the provincial government may result in a shift.
5.23	We're familiar with the eight-court facility proposed by Maples Community Centre. An eight-court facility provides a big wow factor. However, we believe it would be preferable to have 2 or 3 Dakota-sized facilities with three courts each instead. The proposed Maples fieldhouse also has no other spaces – non-primetime/day-time use will be a challenge – would be tough to fill it up. Having multiple, multi-court facilities spread across the City is better than one single facility in terms of attracting people to the sport.
5.24	The Winnipeg Community Sport Policy still has a lot of merit. Resourcing to support it does not seem easy to obtain. Many of the original champions are no longer involved (most have retired). Both the City and Sport MB have seen resourcing at a management level decrease dramatically so that hasn't helped.
5.25	The UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration launches on World Environment Day (June 5, 2021) and aims to prevent, halt and reverse the degradation of ecosystems on every continent and in every ocean. It can help end poverty and combat climate change. https://www.decadeonrestoration.org/
5.26	Our organization doesn't have a particular focus on seniors, although it does have representation from this portion of the community. More seniors are staying active and are healthier than they have historically been in the past. There are lots of organizations providing activities for seniors. Seniors have proven quite adept at developing organizations that address their needs/interests. Developing partnerships with them is important. Differing needs/capacity issues sometimes make primetime use of facilities a challenge but facilitating day-time use of facilities by seniors can be an opportunity.
5.27	Although they are part of the solution to current challenges, Indigenous organizations don't have the resources to address all the needs. Neither do cities.
5.28	Need to promote a vision that people can buy-in to. The vision needs to be simple and clear so that everyone can see a bit of themselves within it.
5.29	Bronx Park Community Centre is an example of a good intergenerational facility concept. Although the relationship issues have been disappointing and require resolution, the City shouldn't discount the idea. The governance structure may need to be addressed differently.
5.30	Our programs offer a fairly affordable, low-cost activity that can help kids be active and keep them off the streets ; however, addressing parental uncertainty/distrust of governments, language, and culture can be barriers to attracting newcomer participants. These challenges impact all kids but definitely see the impact on female participation in sport. Working in partnership with schools and other organizations can be helpful in addressing these challenges.
5.31	The City needs to be proactive and intentional about increasing diversity in staffing and volunteer boards. There also needs to be increased support for staff - training and cultural awareness.
5.32	Community centre boundaries can occasionally cause some challenges.
5.33	Green spaces need to be placed at the heart of urban planning. https://www.decadeonrestoration.org/types-ecosystem-restoration/urban-areas

5.34	Our organization has also been trying to increase collaboration with the City and other organizations. We are looking at how to use existing networks to do this, including the WRHA networks, etc. The networks are out there but need to be activated with better linking of players – too many silos.
5.35	We have found that even though the program may be nearby, accessing services can still be difficult for people, particularly newcomers. Language was often a barrier and how these agencies/support services approached conversations may not have worked. Asking the families 'how they [service provider] could help' wasn't perceived as helpful. Families didn't know how the supports worked or what to ask for specifically. Trusted relationships and the communication approach was important – a one-way/one-day communication style does not work.
5.36	It's important to recognize barriers to positive change that you want to bring – perhaps there are smaller successes that you can scale up.
5.37	Winnipeg needs to be ready for the Government of Canada's adoption of the <i>United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples</i> . It's important to create a platform where Indigenous and non-Indigenous leaders work together – there are many questions that we have to answer with each other. We need to come together, have discussion, and build consensus as we move forward. It's the next phase of relationship building.
5.38	Development of outdoor courts at local, community centre level has been really successful. They have helped grow our programs and continue to provide opportunities for unstructured play, with low to zero barriers to participation.
5.39	The development of the outdoor beach volleyball courts at Sargent Park has also been a really valuable investment. They are very well-used for four months of the year.
5.41	The city needs to plant more trees – very concerned about the tree canopy.