

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

## What is APF's Overall Park Planning Process?

Process guides Adopt-A-Park groups through visioning and creating an adopted Park Concept Plan

### Process:

- Year-long process
- Form Park Design Committee
- Conduct Site Inventory and Analysis
- Community Outreach including three public meetings
- Primary Outcome: Adopted Park Concept Plan by City of Austin

### Awarded:

- Once a year to neighborhood, school or pocket parks only
- Spring Application date
- Grand Meadow Neighborhood Park is the 2022-2023 recipient

## Who is involved?

| Parks and Recreation  | Austin Parks Foundation  | Park Design Committee   | Community   |
|---|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land owner</li> <li>• Ensure process complies with COA standards</li> <li>• Final decision</li> <li>• Maintenance</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leading effort: community engagement and design</li> <li>• Support parks in Austin</li> <li>• Main point of contact during process</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Official Adopt-A-Park Group</li> <li>• Stewardship of the park</li> <li>• Outreach for community engagement</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participation in public process to voice preferences in future park development</li> </ul> |

## What is a neighborhood park?

- Backbone of Austin's park system
- Respond to demographic and cultural characteristics of neighborhoods
- Provide basic recreational opportunities close to home
- Ideally, all citizens have easy access to a neighborhood park within one-mile of their residences
- 2-30 acres in size
- Traditional recreation opportunities such as playgrounds, basketball and tennis courts, open play areas, and picnic tables
- Less traditional recreation opportunities such as wildflowers, native plants, less intensive maintenance techniques
- Does not typically include: splash pads and pools

## What is the project timeline?

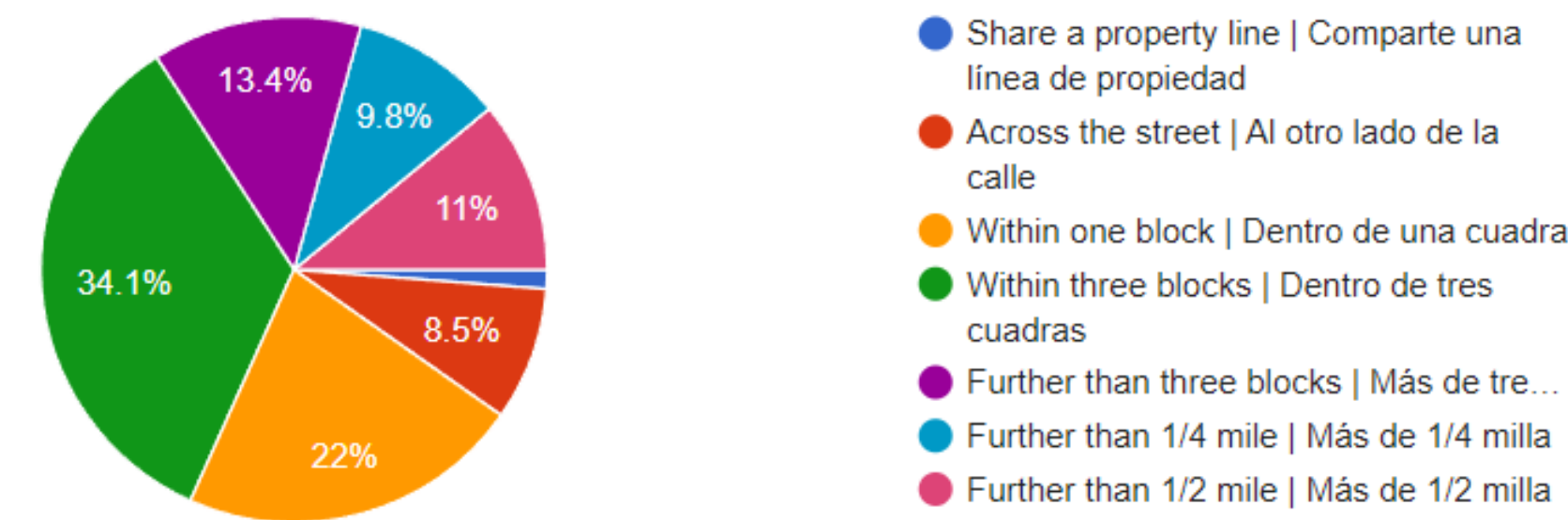
- March 7, 2023 - Community Meeting #1  
Input on Park Amenities, open online survey
- May 2023 - Community Meeting #2  
On-site meeting for preliminary layout options for public comment / input on phasing and layout, open online survey
- July 2023 - Community Meeting #3  
Final draft plan for comment
- Early Fall - COA PARD for official review and adoption

scan for more project info:

# WHAT WE HEARD COMMUNITY SURVEY #1

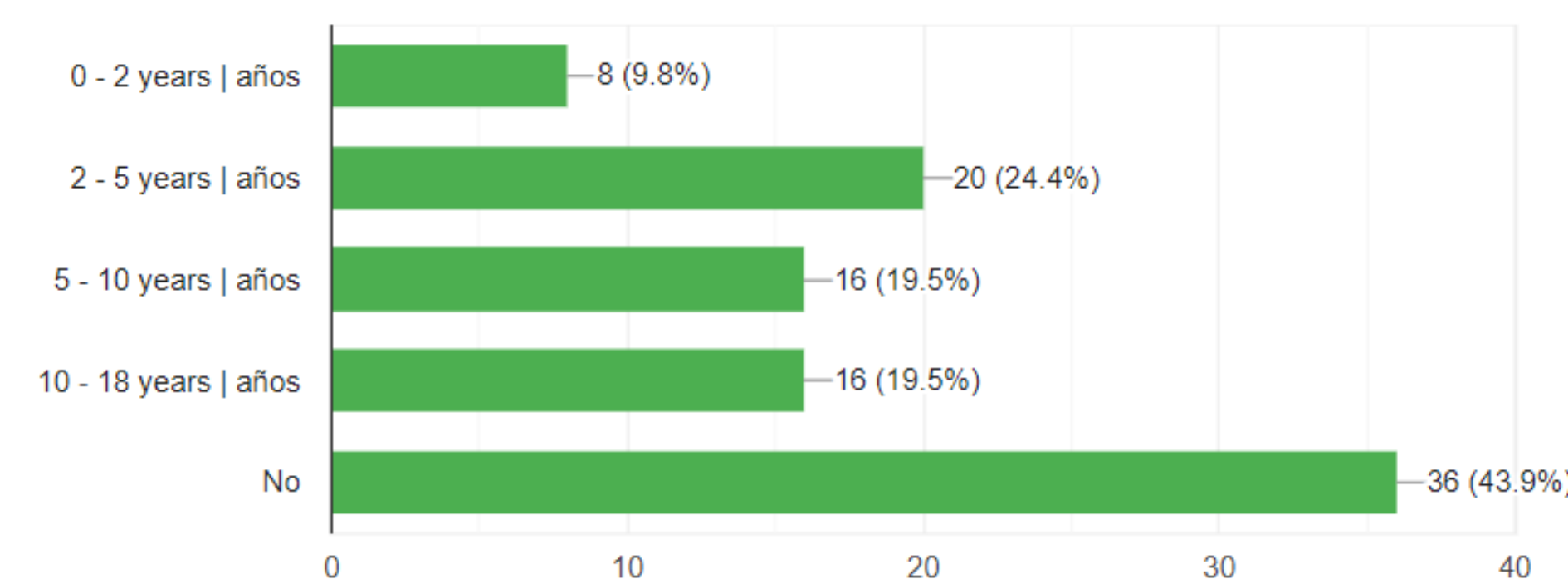
## Where do you live in relation to the park?

65% of respondents live within three blocks of Grand Meadow Park.



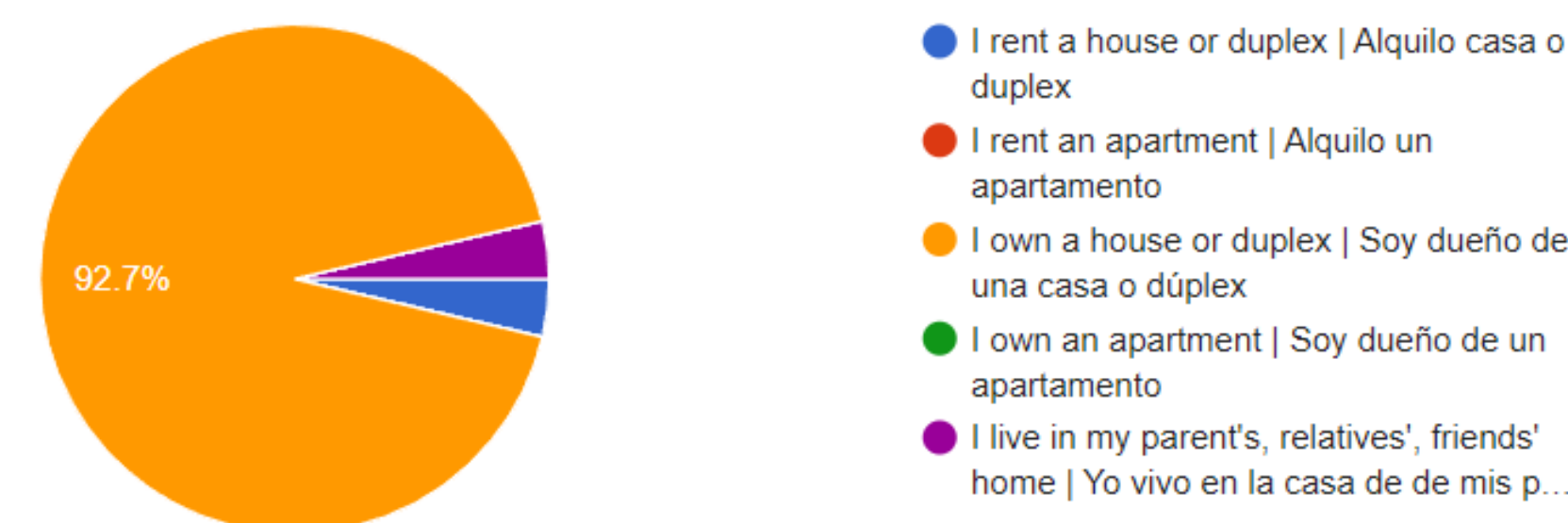
## Does your household have children? If so, how old?

Over 50% of respondents have children in their household.



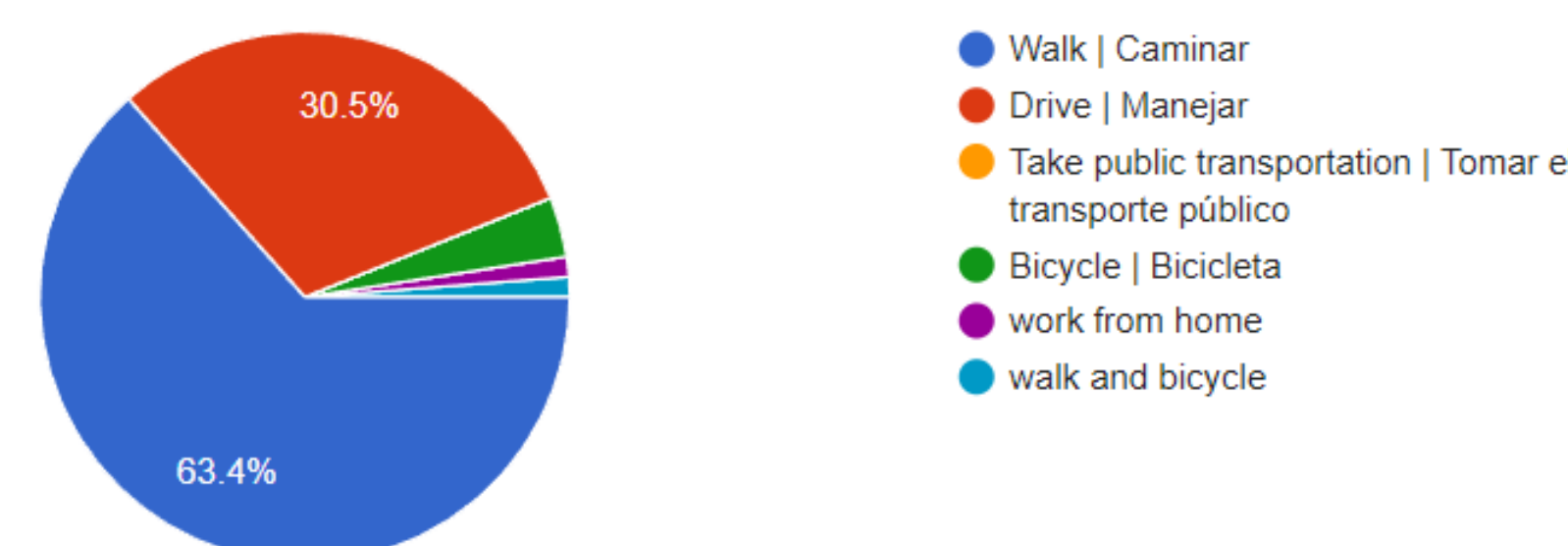
## Please describe where you currently live?

Over 90% of respondents own homes nearby.



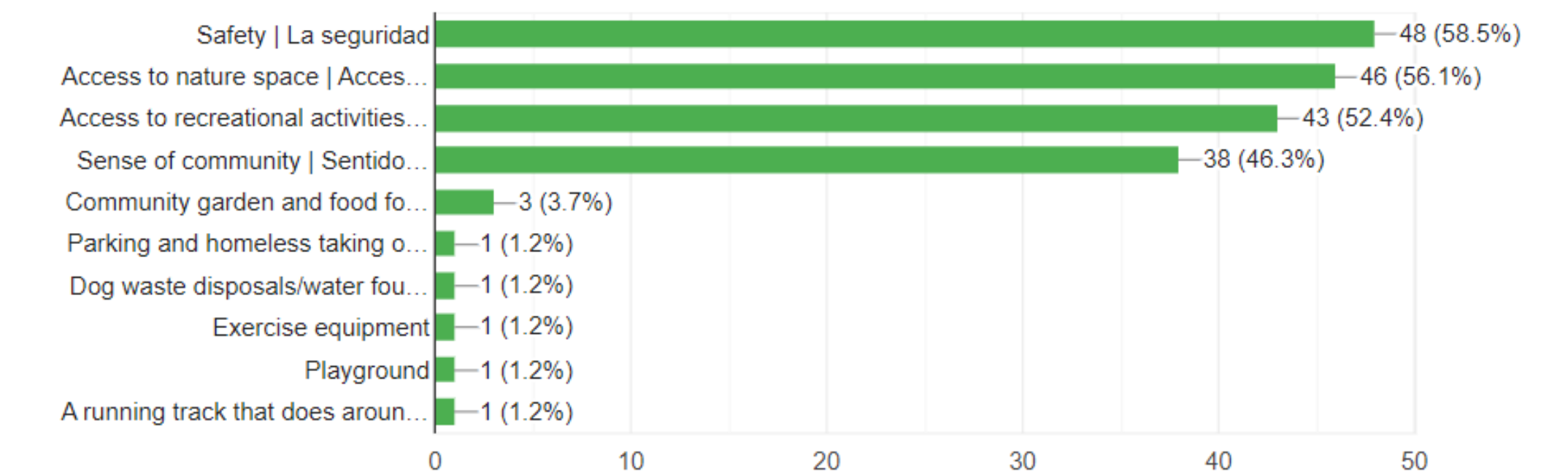
## How do you get to the park?

30% of respondents drive to the park, the remaining 70% walk, bike, or take public transit.



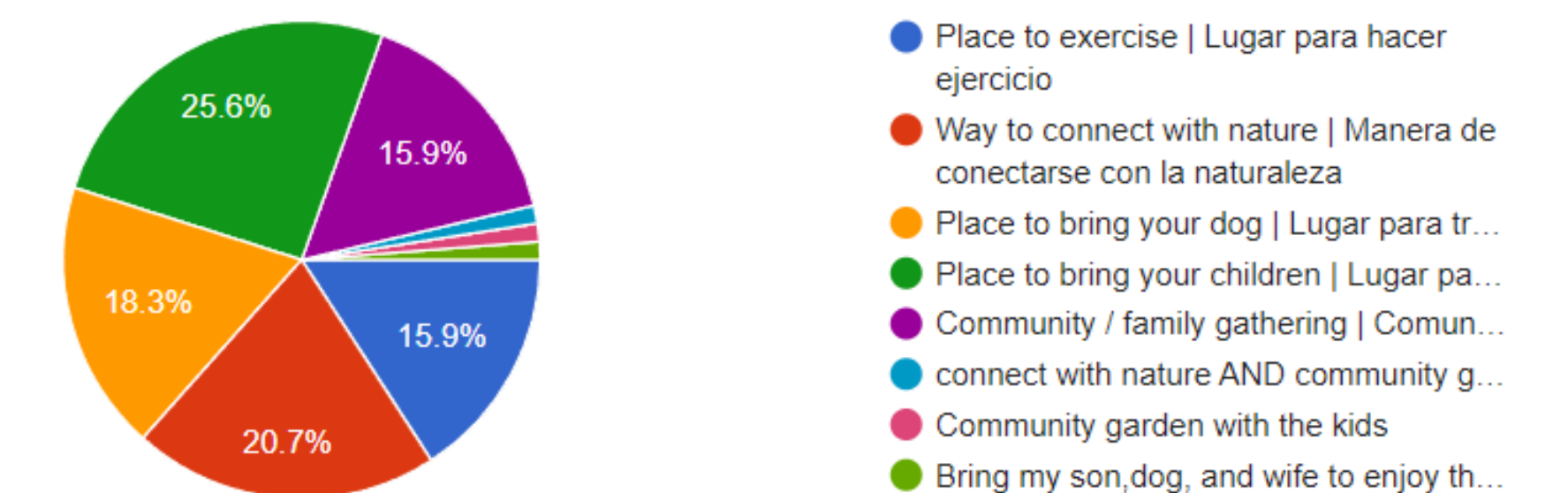
## Which value is most important to you for the future park?

Safety, access to nature, and access to recreational activities were all top priorities.



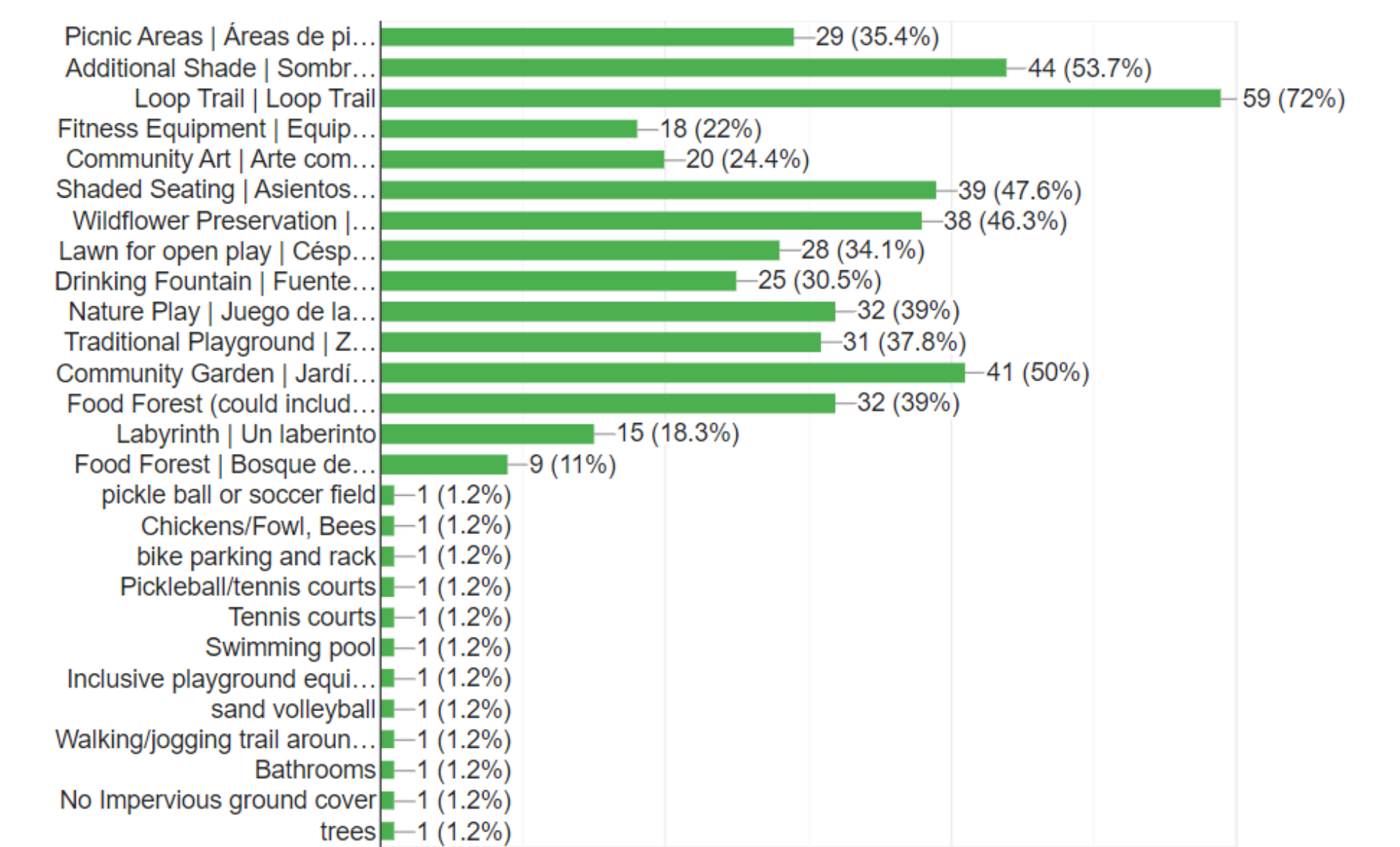
## What is the primary reason you think you will use Grand Meadow Park in the future?

Responses were split fairly evenly between a place to bring children or dogs, a place to exercise, connect with nature, and gather with family & community.



## Which park elements would you most like to see included in the park?

The most popular park elements included a loop trail, additional shade, and wildflower preservation. A food forest and community garden were also popular responses.





# LAYOUT PLAN #1

This layout is intentionally informal and low-maintenance, showcasing the park's existing natural resources by preserving large swaths of wildflowers. A 1/3 mile decomposed granite loop trail invites visitors to meander through the wildflower meadows while discovering strategically placed pockets of exercise equipment, picnic areas, community art installations, and educational signage.

The park's central feature is a large picnic pavilion, serving as a community hub that connects the community garden, food forest, and nature play area, bringing people of all ages together. Additionally, the park features a partially-fenced, informal play lawn designed to provide children with a safe and stimulating environment that fosters exploration and creativity.

## FEATURES



**A PAVILION**  
including lighting, picnic tables, teaching area



**B COMMUNITY GARDEN**  
including individual and community plots, water access, tool storage



**C FOOD FOREST**  
managed by community garden group, variety of edible plants



**D WILDFLOWER MEADOW**  
preserve and enhance large swaths of existing meadow



**E 1/3 MILE LOOP TRAIL**  
5' wide, decomposed granite



**F OPEN LAWN SPACE**  
cleared area for exploratory play, including logs and rocks



**G NATURE PLAY**  
including natural play elements such as logs, berms and boulders



**H COMMUNITY ART**  
TBD



**I EXERCISE EQUIPMENT**  
to match playground equipment



**J PICNIC AREAS**  
including picnic tables, trash and recycling, grills



**K EXISTING STREET PARKING**  
along Alum Rock Dr. and in adjacent neighborhood



**L BEE HIVES**  
managed on-site, must meet all PARD Standards for safety



give your feedback:

0' 20' 40' 80' N  
scale: 1"=40'

## GRAND MEADOW NEIGHBORHOOD PARK

Layout Plan #1

MAY 20, 2023





# LAYOUT PLAN #2

This layout maximizes Grand Meadow Park's nearly 10-acres to create a lively hub for recreational activity. A 1/2 mile loop encircles the park by connecting the existing sidewalks along Thaxton Rd, Panadero Dr., and Alum Rock Dr..

A central path within the park connects various zones of activity. One side of the park clusters the food forest and community garden, along with a small parking lot and pavilion. Another area groups a traditional playground, basketball and pickleball courts, exercise equipment, picnic pavilion, and a large play field. A fenced dog park is set apart from the other activities to give furry friends a safe place to play. The park is also fenced around the perimeter to protect visitors from nearby traffic.

Existing wildflower meadows are strategically preserved throughout the park, providing a beautiful natural backdrop for all activities while also serving as a buffer between the park and nearby roads.

## FEATURES



**A PAVILION**  
including lighting, picnic tables, teaching area



**B COMMUNITY GARDEN**  
including individual and community plots, water access, tool storage



**C FOOD FOREST**  
managed by community garden group, variety of edible plants



**D WILDFLOWER MEADOW**  
preserve and enhance pockets of existing meadow



**E CONCRETE TRAIL**  
5' wide, concrete



**F PLAY FIELD**  
traditional play field for informal sports and free play, well maintained



**G TRADITIONAL PLAY**  
typical play equipment for all ages



**H EXERCISE EQUIPMENT**  
to match play equipment



**I PICKLEBALL COURTS**  
including striping and nets



**J BASKETBALL COURT**  
including striping and goals



**K PARKING LOT**  
for approximately 20 cars



**L DOG PARK**  
fully fenced, with waste stations, small dog area, water access



give your feedback:

0' 20' 40' 80' N  
scale: 1"=40'

## GRAND MEADOW NEIGHBORHOOD PARK Layout Plan #2

MAY 20, 2023

