

WELCOME

Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park Vision Plan
Community Meeting #1 – What We've Heard
May 4, 2021





This session is being recorded and will be posted on the project website



We ask all participants to please keep your mics muted during the presentation.



We want to hear from you! Go to pollev.com/AustinParks512 to answer our questions during the presentation.



Should you have questions/comments, please use the chat feature to share.



The meeting facilitator will provide an opportunity for you to share your questions & comments.

Zoom Housekeeping



- Project Team
- Poll Everywhere
- Park Background
- Park Vision Plan
- Pool Update
- Dam Update
- What We've Heard
- Next Steps
- Poll Everywhere
- Comments & Questions
- How to Stay Involved



Meeting Agenda



In Today's Meeting:

Darcy Nuffer

Landscape Architect / Project Contact
City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department

Drew Carman

Director of Park Planning and Design/ Project Manager
RVI Planning and Landscape Architecture

Nhasala Manandhar

Designer
RVI Planning and Landscape Architecture

Patrick Beyer – Aquatic Facilities Renovation

Landscape Architect / Project Manager
City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department

Annabell Ulary – Dam Improvements

Engineer / Project Manager
City of Austin Watershed Protection Department

Other Team Members:

Rifeline - Public Involvement Consultant

Hicks & Company - Environmental Consultants

Jose I. Guerra, Inc. - Civil Engineering Consultants

Cotera + Reed Architects - Architectural Consultants

Altura Solutions - Accessibility Consultant

Vision Plan Team



The Austin Parks and Recreation Department is working with the community to create a new vision for Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park

The purpose of this Vision Plan for this 31 Acre Park is to:

- Engage the community in creating a vision of the Park's future.
- Create a plan to guide phased implementation of the vision.



Project Introduction



- **Limitations on certain types of improvements within floodplain**
- **Access points and circulation**
- **Limited sense of arrival**
- **Fragmented park areas**
- **Accessibility**
- **Pond water quality**
- **Trail network connectivity**



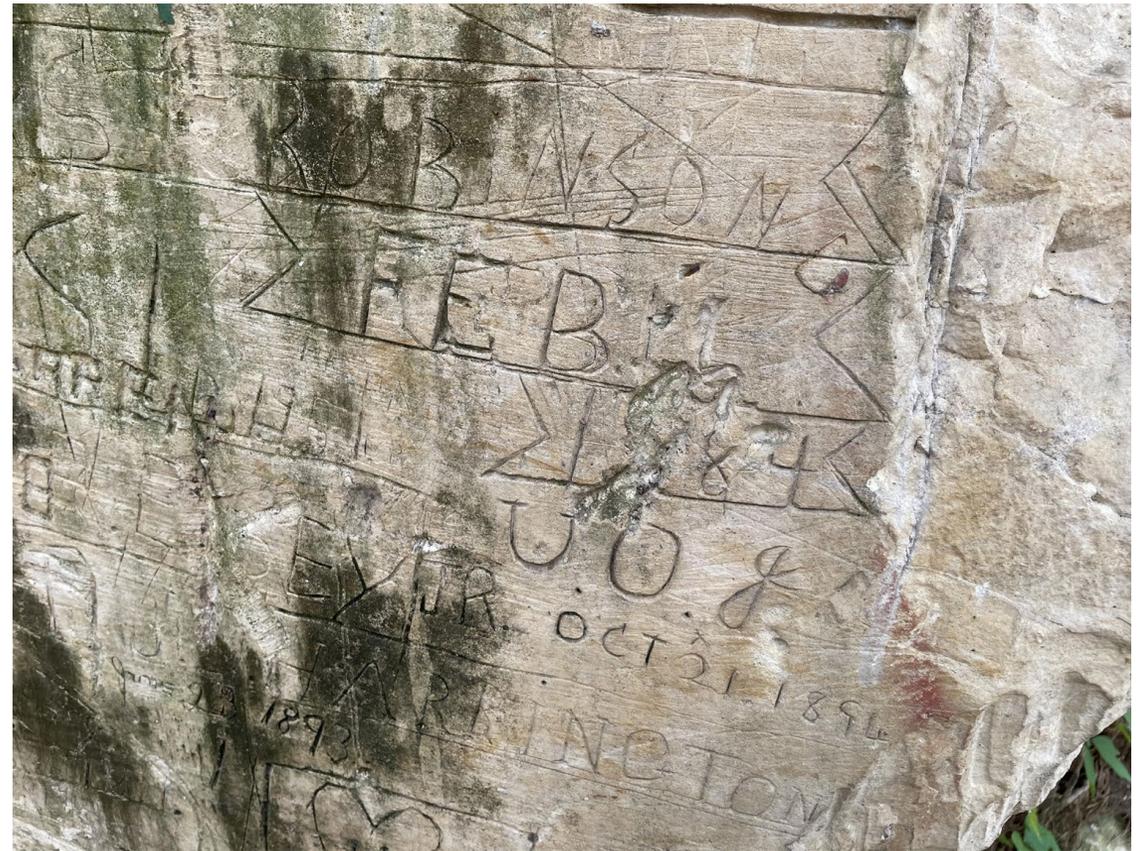
Site Constraints



Originally part of a 3,000-acre tract owned by Texas Land Grant recipient George Washington Davis for his service at the Battle of San Jacinto, the land was home to a quarry that provided stones for the second Texas Capitol.

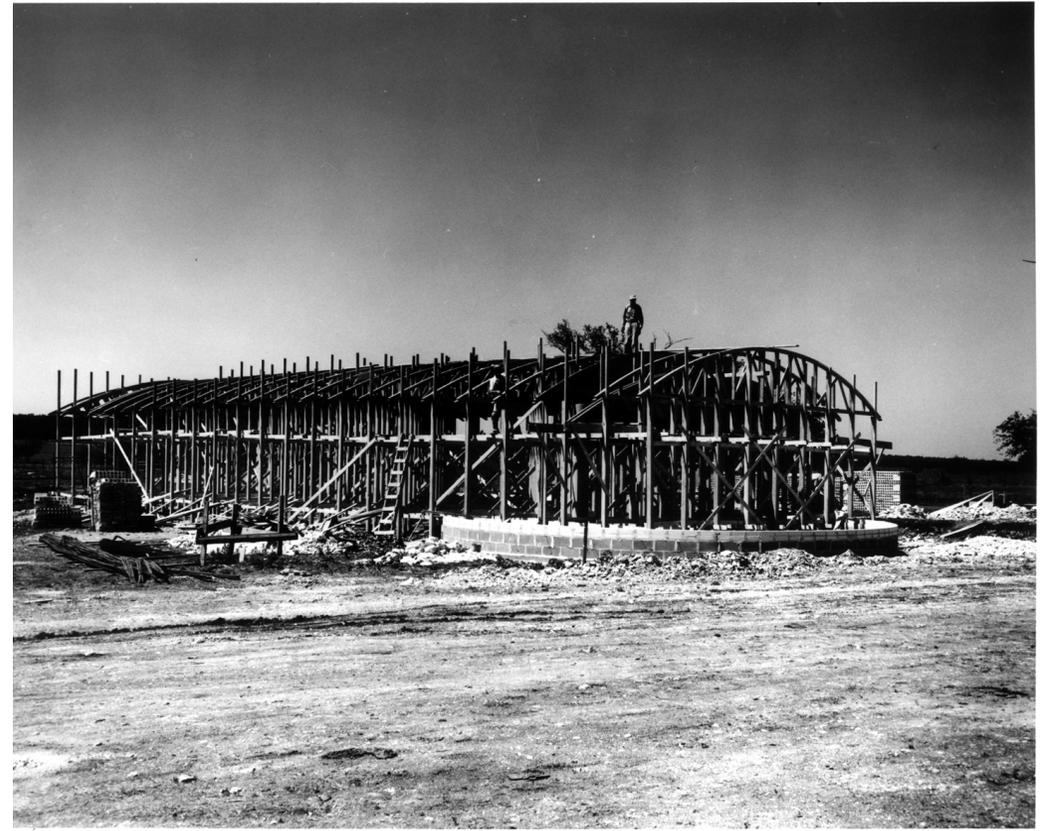
Park Background





Park Background





On July 14, 1955, the Austin City Council authorized the \$46,000 purchase of 30 acres in Northwest Austin as a site for a proposed recreation park.

Park Background





In its first month of operation in August 1956, attendance at the new \$192,000 Olympic-size pool eclipsed that of Barton Springs.

Park Background

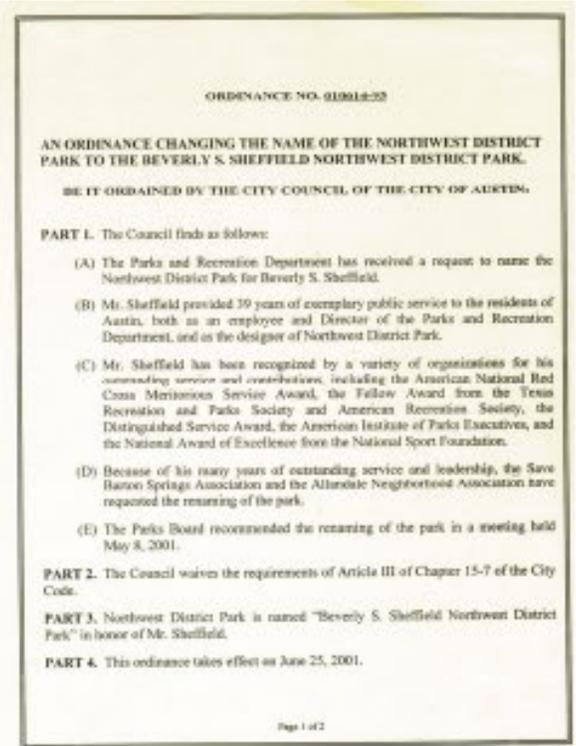
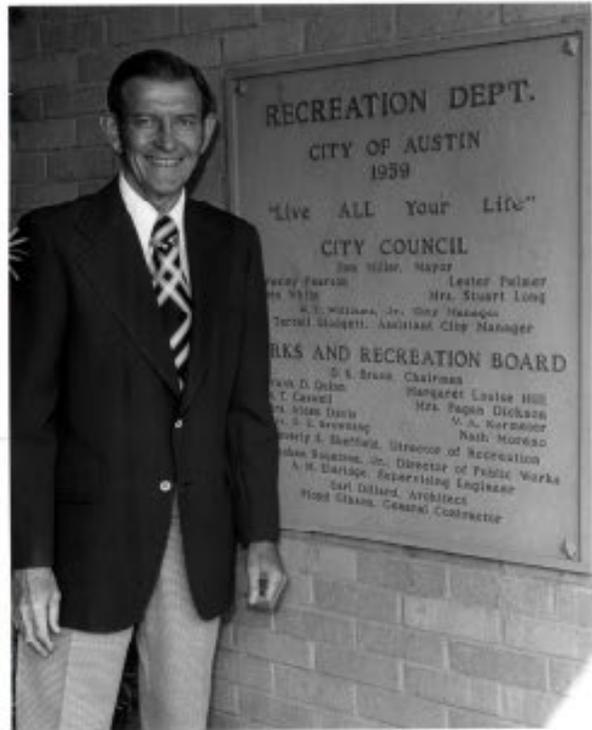




In 1986 Northwest Park was established as a detention facility to help with flood control efforts and much of the park was excavated so that it now stands several feet below its original height.

Park Background





On June 25th of 2001 Northwest District Park was renamed Beverly S. Sheffield District Park in honor of his 40-plus year career in Austin's Parks and Recreation Department that began in 1934 as a playground/activity leader and lifeguard and culminated in a 30-year stint as Director of Austin's Park and Recreation Department.

Park Background





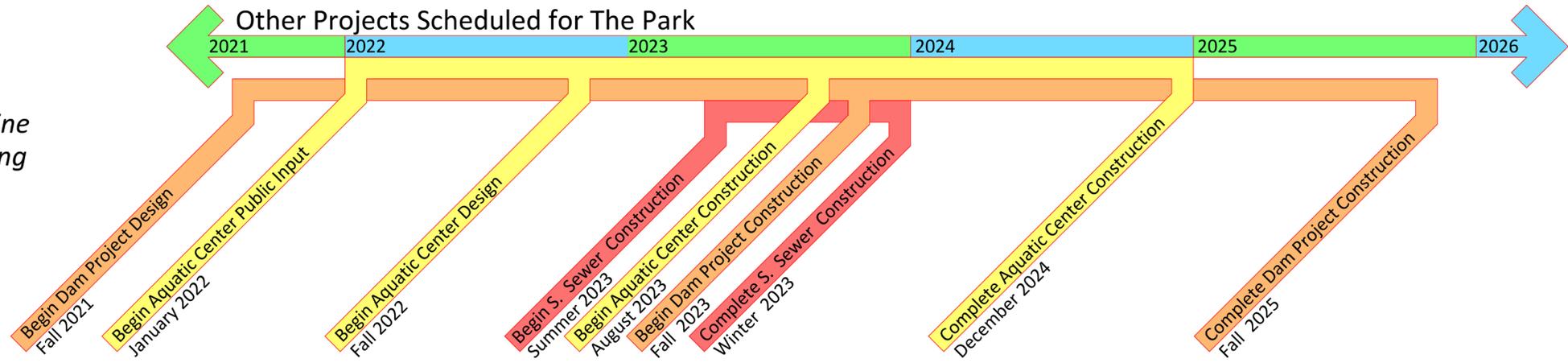
*Note:
This is an estimated timeline
based on current scheduling
and is subject to change.*

Vision Plan Steps





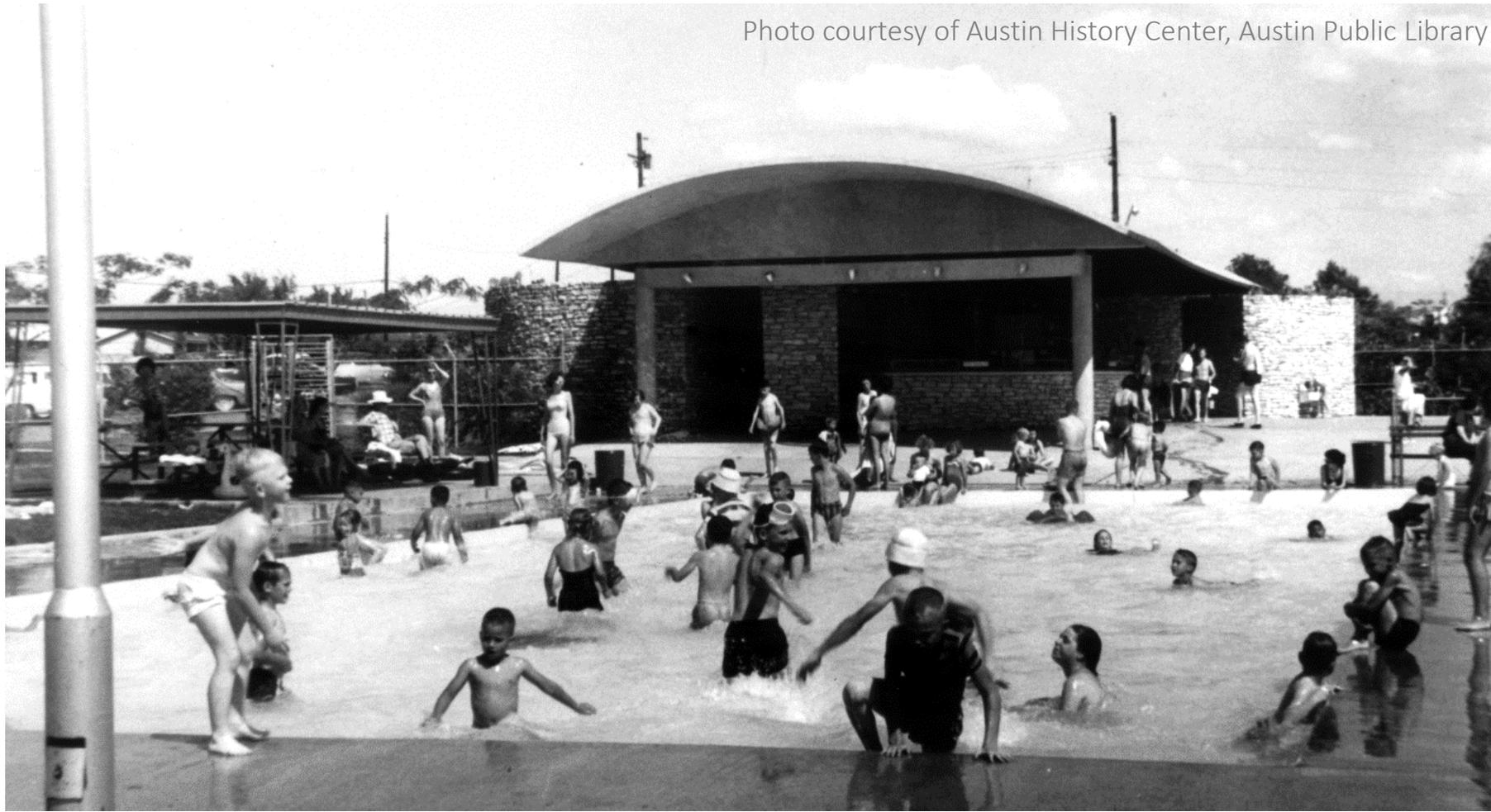
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Other Projects Scheduled for the Park



Photo courtesy of Austin History Center, Austin Public Library



The Aquatic Center Renovation



Pool Recommendations

- Upgrade the pool to serve as a Regional 50- Meter Aquatic Center
- Replace the main pool tank, but maintain its general configuration
- Add a slide, climbing wall, or other fun activities
- Replace the pool deck and filtration system

Site Recommendations

- Provide new utility connections
- Install stormwater system and detention

Building Recommendations

- Major renovation of existing facility
- Total renovation of Men's and Women's restroom
- Construction new building for concessions, office and family restrooms

The Aquatic Center Scope Overview





- Shoal Creek
- - - Top of Dam
- Inflow Spillway
- ←○ Outfall Pipe
- Auxiliary Spillway

The Dam & Regional Detention Facility: How it Works

Dam Safety

- Regulated requirements for structural stability
 - Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
 - City of Austin Drainage Criteria Manual

Dam Maintenance

- Items that don't currently impact the stability of the dam

Park Drainage and Water Quality

- Coordinated with PARD Vision Plan
- Has no impact on the structural stability of the dam

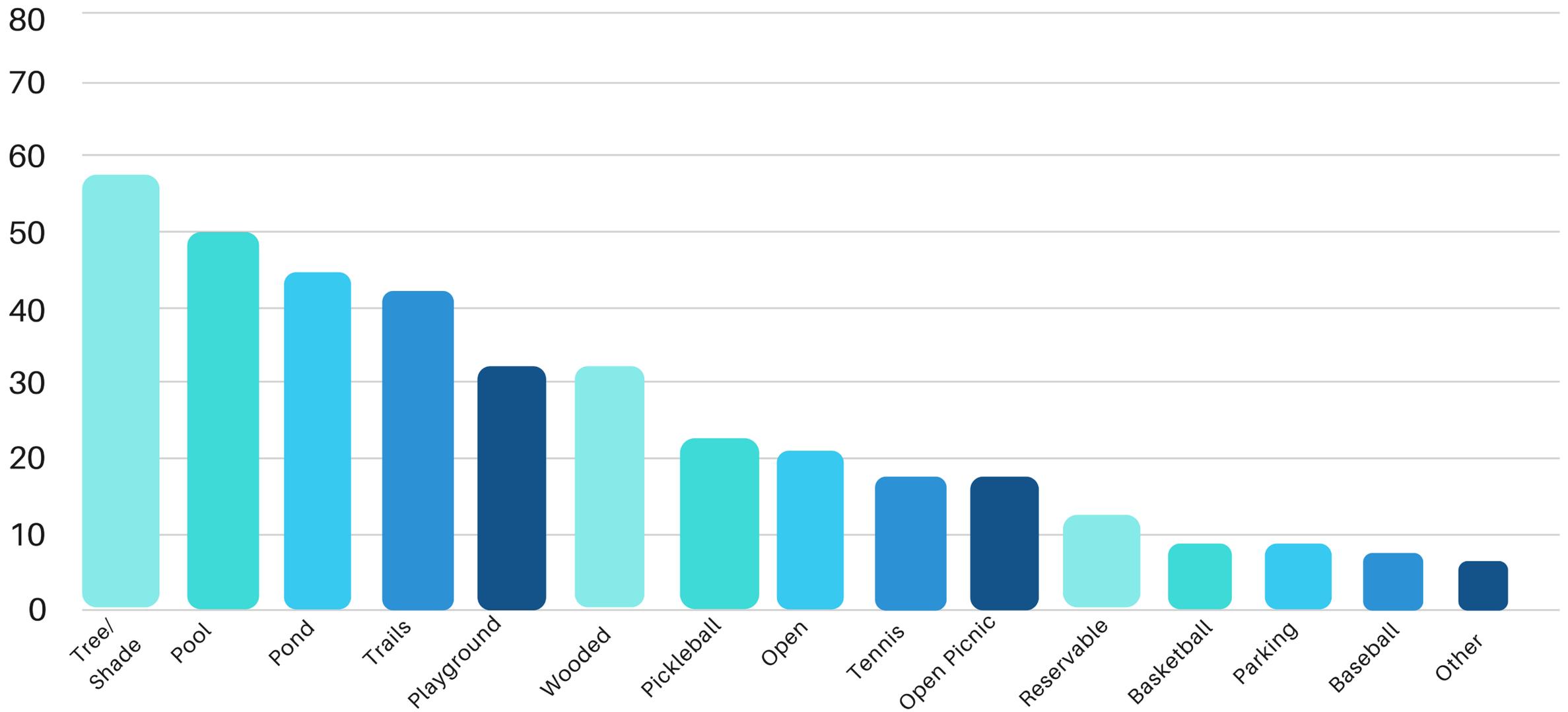
The Dam & Regional Detention Facility Scope Overview





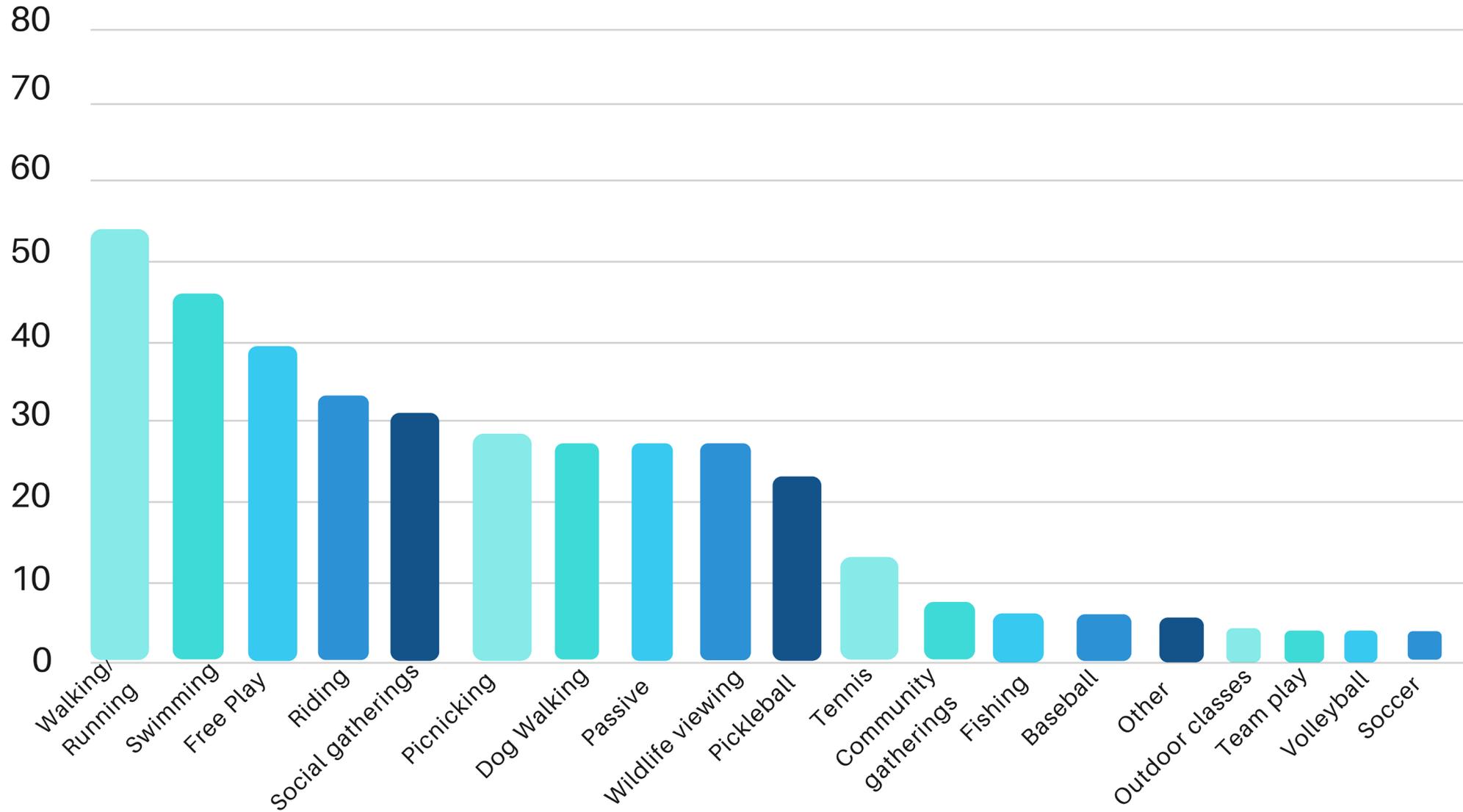
What We Have Heard So Far





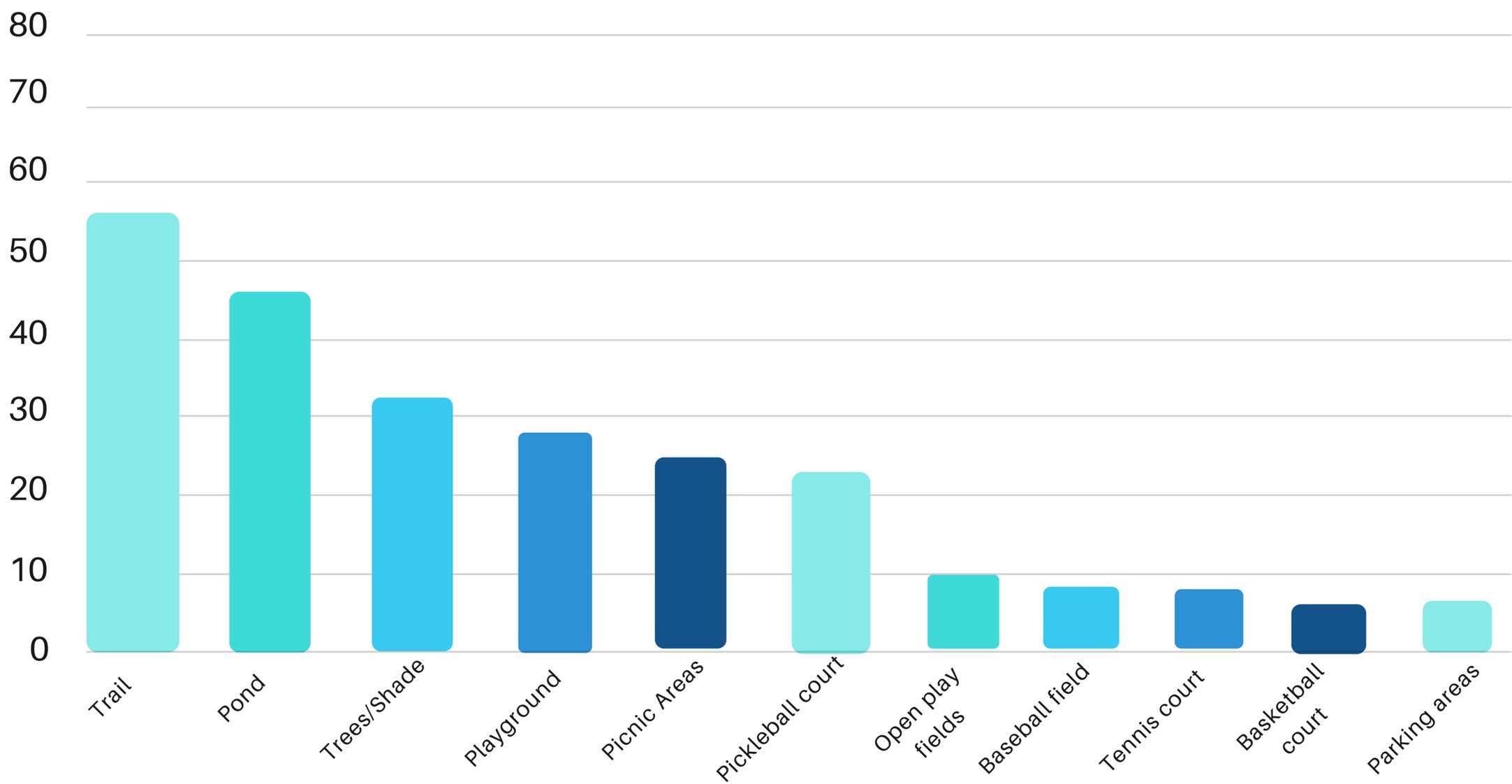
Online Survey Results – Favorite Amenities





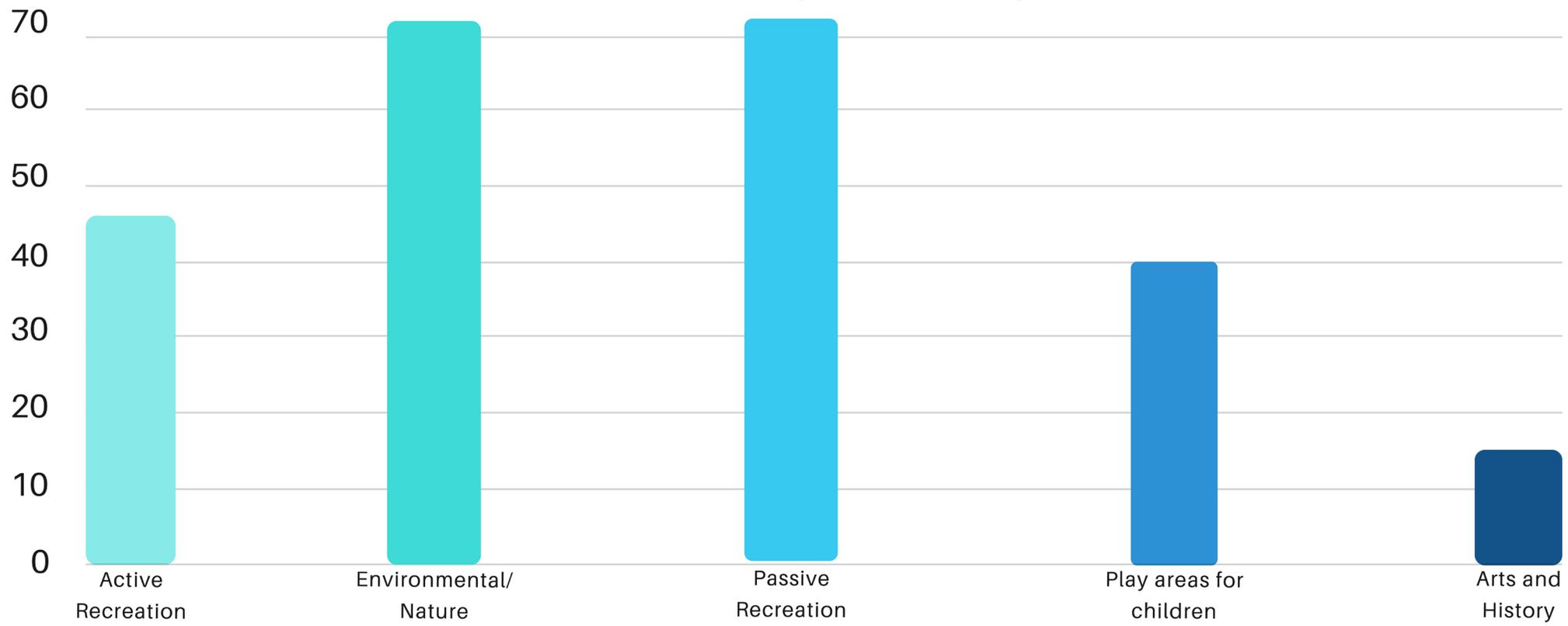
Online Survey Results – Favorite Activities





Online Survey Results – Amenities We Want to Improve





Online Survey Results – Activities We Want To Expand



Recreation, Activities & Schools

- Increase large open play field areas.
- Accessible connections between activity areas & parking.
- Parking is disjointed and excessive.
- Waste disposal is problematic.

Neighborhood Groups

- Provide clear wayfinding, interpretive and regulatory signage.
- Improve trails but don't make them all concrete.
- Provide a large covered area.
- Accessible community message board.

Nature and Environment

- Preserve and enhance the pond habitat.
- Provide interpretive signage / information.
- Maximize biodiversity.
- Provide more seating along trails.

Small Group Meetings – Key Items Discussed



Enhance and preserve park natural amenities

- Preserve and enhance shade within the park
- Improve and maintain the duck pond
- Add more native habitat areas

Enhance and increase recreational amenities (active and passive)

- Support walkers and bikers with adequate trail networks
- Add seating for passive recreational opportunities
- Incorporate more open-ended active uses of the park
- Support existing active recreation uses (baseball, tennis, pickleball, pool)

Increase park connectivity and park identity

- Better connect the park to the neighborhood and nearby recreational amenities
- Enhance signage and wayfinding
- Create opportunities to learn about the park and its history

Balance park amenities with other City infrastructure needs

- Coordinate dam rehabilitation requirements with community needs
- Provide space within the vision plan for pool modernization
- Plan for sewer line replacement project

Planning Values to Guide the Vision Plan – *(so far)*



Define Our Goals

- Based on survey results, small group meetings and today's meeting.

Review Concepts

- Present two to three concept plans for review by the community.
- Identify the strengths and weaknesses of each plan.

Finalize the Vision

- Prepare a Vision Plan for the Park for review by the community.

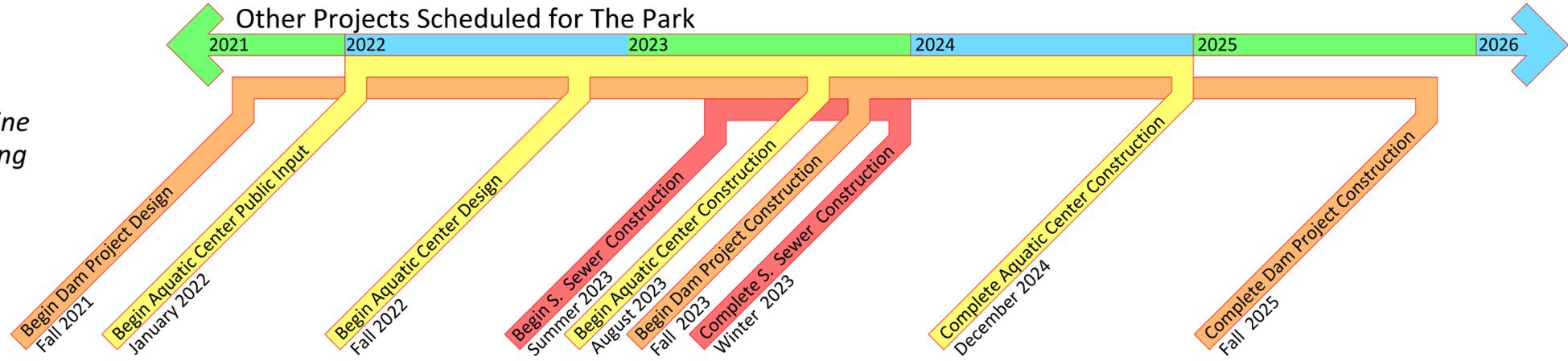
Next Steps





Phase the Work & Fund the Projects

*Note:
This is an estimated timeline based on current scheduling and is subject to change.*



Next Steps



Pause to set up Poll Everywhere

**PollEv.com/austinparks512, or
Text AUSTINPARKS512 to 22333**

When Questions are activated, respond at **PollEv.com/austinparks512, or
Text AUSTINPARKS512 to 22333** once to join

Poll Everywhere



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Text **AUSTINPARKS512** to **22333**





Comments & Questions - Use the chat or raise your hand feature to ask questions and provide comments.



Two More Community Meetings

- June 15, 2021 – Proposed Concepts
- August 3, 2021 – Review the Draft Vision Plan

Speak Up Austin!

- Share your stories about the Park online:
<https://www.speakupaustin.org/sheffieldnwpark>

Contact the City

- Park Vision Plan – **Darcy Nuffer** - darcy.nuffer@austintexas.gov
- Aquatic Center Renovation – **Patrick Beyer** - patrick.beyer@austintexas.gov
- Dam Renovation Project – **Annabell Ulary** - annabell.ulary@austintexas.gov

Thank You For Being Involved in Your Park – We Want to Hear From You!

