
MEMORANDUM

TO: PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
FROM: JONATHAN SCHILK, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT, PARKS/DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT DIV.
VIA: LAINE POTTER, MANAGER PARKS/DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT DIVISION
VIA: NICOLE OLIVER, DIRECTOR, PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
SUBJECT: MAPLEWOOD MCLEOD PARK MASTER PLAN APPROVAL/RECOMMENDATION
DATE: OCTOBER 12, 2022

Parks and Recreation policy PAR 04.00.01 established the requirement for a master plan for each park and guidelines for the preparation and adoption of Park Master Plans.

With an eye towards this objective staff submits this park master plan of Maplewood Mcleod Park for review and final recommendation by the Advisory Board for future approval and adoption by the City Council.

Included in your Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting packet are:

- Park Master Plan Policy and Procedure
- Maplewood Mcleod Park Master Plan Facts/Goals summary, listing park characteristics, funding sources, proposed facilities, public outreach dates, scheduling, etc.
- Executive summary
- Park Master Plan
- Park Master Plan report

Preparation and Adoption of Park Master Plans

Reference Number PAR 04.00.01

Purpose

To establish guidelines for development and adoption of Park Master Plans.

Scope

Each proposed park shall have a master plan. Master plans are prioritized pending available resources.

Definitions

City - City of Bellingham Parks and Recreation Department

Park Board - is the City of Bellingham Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Park - includes geographically contiguous parcels designated for a specific use and managed by the Parks and Recreation Department.

Master Plan - is a document developed with public input that guides the development and use of Parks.

Policy/Conditions

1. Timeframe for Developing a Master Plan

In consultation with the Mayor, the Parks and Recreation Department Director shall determine the timeframe for developing a new master plan or amending an existing master plan. The decision shall be based on a variety of factors including, but not limited to, funding, department workload, and City priorities.

2. City Solicits Public Input

City staff shall present park master plan options at a public meeting for input.

The views of citizens, civic and service clubs, governmental agencies and other groups, organizations and community interests shall be solicited at a public meeting.

3. Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Shall Provide Final Recommendation

City staff shall present park master plan options to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board shall vote on a final recommended plan.

4. City Council Approves Final Master Plan

The final master plan shall be submitted to City Council for adoption.

5. City Uses Same Process for Changes

Park master plans may be amended.

Major park changes will be adopted using the same procedure for approval of initial master plan.

Determination on whether a change is major or minor shall be at the sole discretion of the Parks and Recreation Director.

Maplewood Mcleod Park Master Plan Executive Summary



Area:	7 acres
Purchase:	Three parcels purchased in 2008 & 2010 for \$481,000 total
Purchase Funding:	Greenways Levy
Designation:	Neighborhood Park
Neighborhood:	Birchwood
Zone:	Public 7
Context:	Single family development, multi residential 800' as the bird flies
Roads:	Maplewood and Cherrywood Avenues and Mcleod Road
Schools:	Shuksan, Birchwood, Alderwood
Wetland/buffers:	~5 ac
Project Funding:	\$100k (2022 PIF), \$195k (2023 PIF), \$200k (2024 REET2), \$1.3mm (2024 PIF)

Proposed facilities/improvements/uses:

Small lighted park shelter – non-reservable
Playground for pre-school and school ages
Youth activity area for teens and young adults
Stabilize/top dress existing ravine trail
4' Trail: ~720' 4' Forest trail loop
8' Trail: Cherrywood to park core
Walkways connecting park facilities and trails
Park entrances: Maplewood, Mcleod, and Cherrywood Avenue
Widen existing Maplewood driveway/trail to 10'
Maplewood and Mcleod street frontage improvements: sidewalk, curb/gutter, bike lane, concrete panel repair
Pocket parking on Maplewood Ave. near driveway
Interpretation and or outdoor classroom
Food forest/edible landscape
Picnicking
Park name sign, kiosk, parks rules, you are here, parking related wayfinding
Park furnishings: benches, tables, bike racks, litter receptacles, dog waste stations, drinking fountain
Critical area buffer mitigation planting, fence, signage
ADA parking area off Cherrywood Ave.
Flexible-use lawn area
Site clean up/debris removal

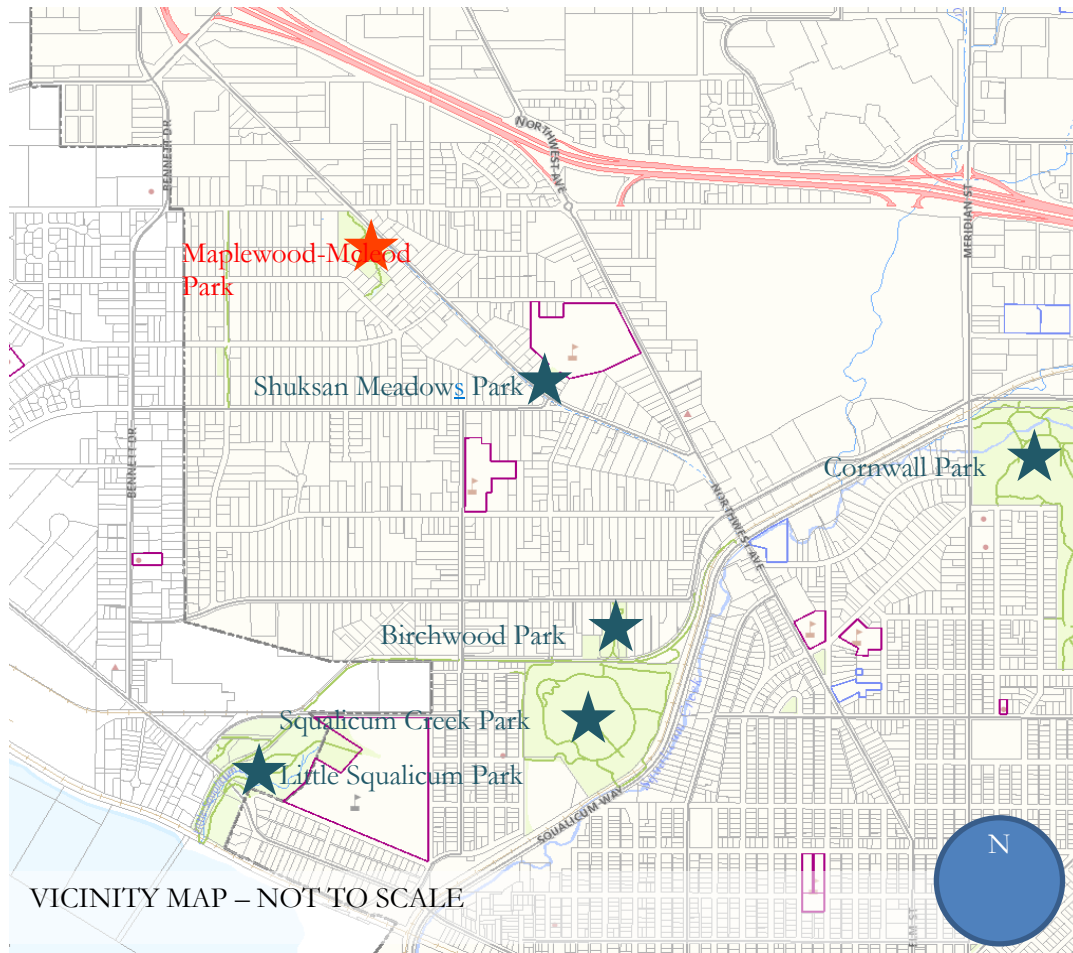
Public Outreach:

Park committee meeting 1	4/21/22
Park committee meeting 2	5/20/22
Park committee meeting 3	7/25/22
Park committee meeting 4	9/6/22
Birchwood Neighborhood Association meeting	9/27/22
Birchwood Neighborhood Association meeting	3/8/22
Engage Bellingham outreach	6/10/22 to 6/26/22
Birchwood Neighborhood International Market	6/17/22
Park Advisory Board/GAC site walk	5/17/22

Additional public engagement opportunities will be provided during Phase 1 design

Project Schedule:

Park Board Review/Recommendation for Approval	10/12/22
City Council Adoption	10/24/22 or 11/7/22
Phase 1 Design	November 2022 – July 2023
Phase 1 Permitting	2023
Phase 1 Construction	2024



The 2020 Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan (PRO Plan), Section 5.1.2 contains general recommendations for neighborhood park development and Maplewood Mcleod Park specific recommendations. Specific PRO Plan programming recommendations include: parking, trail, ½ court basketball court, shelter, restroom, and a ½ skate park.

In 2022, the Parks and Recreation Department convened a 7-member park committee consisting of representatives from the Birchwood Neighborhood Association, interested neighbors, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, and park staff. Four park committee meetings were held between April and September 2022. In addition, Parks and Recreation hosted one Engage Bellingham event in June 2022 to obtain public input and comments. The public was informed of the Engage Bellingham event via press release, social media, signs posted on site, mailers to residents within 500’ of the park boundary, and city website project page.

During the park committee meetings and the Engage Bellingham sessions, other community desires were voiced, such as: recreational opportunities for teens and young adults that would facilitate award of grant applications for after school and other youth programming, also known as “Youth Activity Area.” Design ideas for the youth activity area facility are discussed in the master plan report. Other neighborhood wants include wind protection for the shelter, extension of Maplewood Avenue street improvements to the southeast to meet the existing Maplewood sidewalk terminus, mid-block crossing at the Maplewood Avenue driveway entrance, a food forest to address the food sustainability in the Birchwood Neighborhood, designated on

street parking along Maplewood Avenue, involvement of learning centers such as Bellingham High School, Intergenerational High School, and local children in the design of the proposed playground and youth activity area. The scope of the proposed street frontage improvements and mid-block crossing are details to be coordinated with City of Bellingham Public Works.

The Master Plan balances the programmatic requirements of Parks and Recreation, addresses the needs of the community, and includes many desires of the surrounding neighborhoods. The Master Plan includes facilities listed in the attached Maplewood Mcleod Park Master Plan Facts/Goals fact sheet and detailed in the Master Plan report.

The total estimated cost to construct the Master Plan ranges between \$2,283,045 and \$2,922,640, which includes site preparation and grading costs, utilities, permits, street frontage improvements and other facilities described in the report.

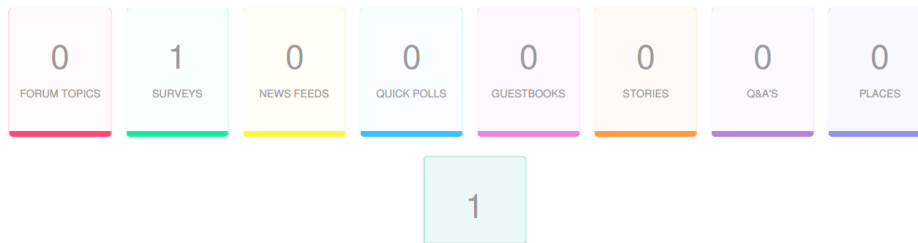
Maplewood Mcleod Park – Engage Bellingham Detail

Detail of Engage Bellingham Public outreach:
 The Engage Bellingham outreach resulted in 1,400 site visits, 223 engaged visitors, 452 informed visitors and 925 aware visitors, as follows:

ENGAGED		223 ENGAGED PARTICIPANTS			
		Registered	Unverified	Anonymous	(%)
INFORMED	Contributed on Forums	0	0	0	Maplewood/Mcleod Park Ma.. 223 (24.1%)
	Participated in Surveys	79	0	0	
	Contributed to Newsfeeds	0	0	0	
	Participated in Quick Polls	0	0	0	
AWARE	Posted on Guestbooks	0	0	0	
	Contributed to Stories	0	0	0	
	Asked Questions	0	0	0	
	Placed Pins on Places	0	0	0	
	Contributed to Ideas	26	16	119	
				* A single engaged participant can perform multiple actions	
ENGAGED		452 INFORMED PARTICIPANTS			
		Participants			(%)
INFORMED	Viewed a video	0			Maplewood/Mcleod Park Ma.. 452 (48.9%)
	Viewed a photo	32			
	Downloaded a document	144			
AWARE	Visited the Key Dates page	0			
	Visited an FAQ list Page	0			
	Visited Instagram Page	0			
	Visited Multiple Project Pages	285			
	Contributed to a tool (engaged)	223			
				* A single informed participant can perform multiple actions	
ENGAGED		925 AWARE PARTICIPANTS			
		Participants			
INFORMED	Visited at least one Page	925			Maplewood/Mcleod Park Ma.. 925
AWARE					
				* Aware user could have also performed an Informed or Engaged Action	* Total list of unique visitors to the project

Engage Bellingham : Summary Report for 28 May 2022 to 26 June 2022

ENGAGEMENT TOOLS SUMMARY

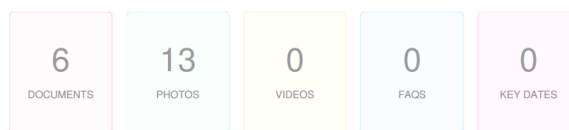


SURVEYS SUMMARY	TOP 3 SURVEYS BASED ON CONTRIBUTORS
1 Surveys	<p>79</p> <p>Contributors to</p> <p>Take the public survey here!</p>
79 Contributors	
79 Submissions	

IDEAS SUMMARY	TOP 3 IDEAS BASED ON CONTRIBUTORS
1 Ideas	<p>161</p> <p>Contributed to</p> <p>Submit park name ideas and vote for others here</p>
161 Contributors	
298 Contributions	

Engage Bellingham : Summary Report for 28 May 2022 to 26 June 2022

INFORMATION WIDGET SUMMARY



DOCUMENTS	TOP 3 DOCUMENTS BASED ON DOWNLOADS		
6 Documents	135	108	50
144 Visitors	Downloads	Downloads	Downloads
324 Downloads	OPTION A Maplewood Mcleod Park.pdf	OPTION B Maplewood Mcleod Park.pdf	20220608_Summary of options.pdf

PHOTOS	TOP 3 PHOTOS BASED ON VIEWS		
13 Photos	27	7	7
32 Visitors	Views	Views	Views
71 Views	Wetland B streamway seen from bridge crossing	Old driveway alignment into the park	Intersection of Maplewood and Mcleod Avenue

Take the public survey here!

SURVEY RESPONSE REPORT

28 May 2022 - 26 June 2022

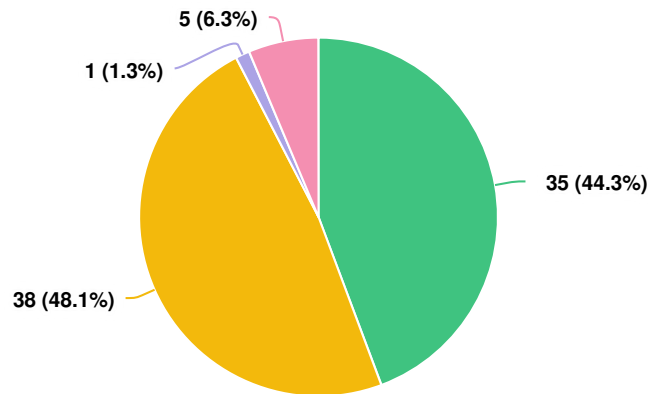
PROJECT NAME:

Maplewood/Mcleod Park Master Plan



SURVEY QUESTIONS

Q1 Do you live in the Birchwood Neighborhood?

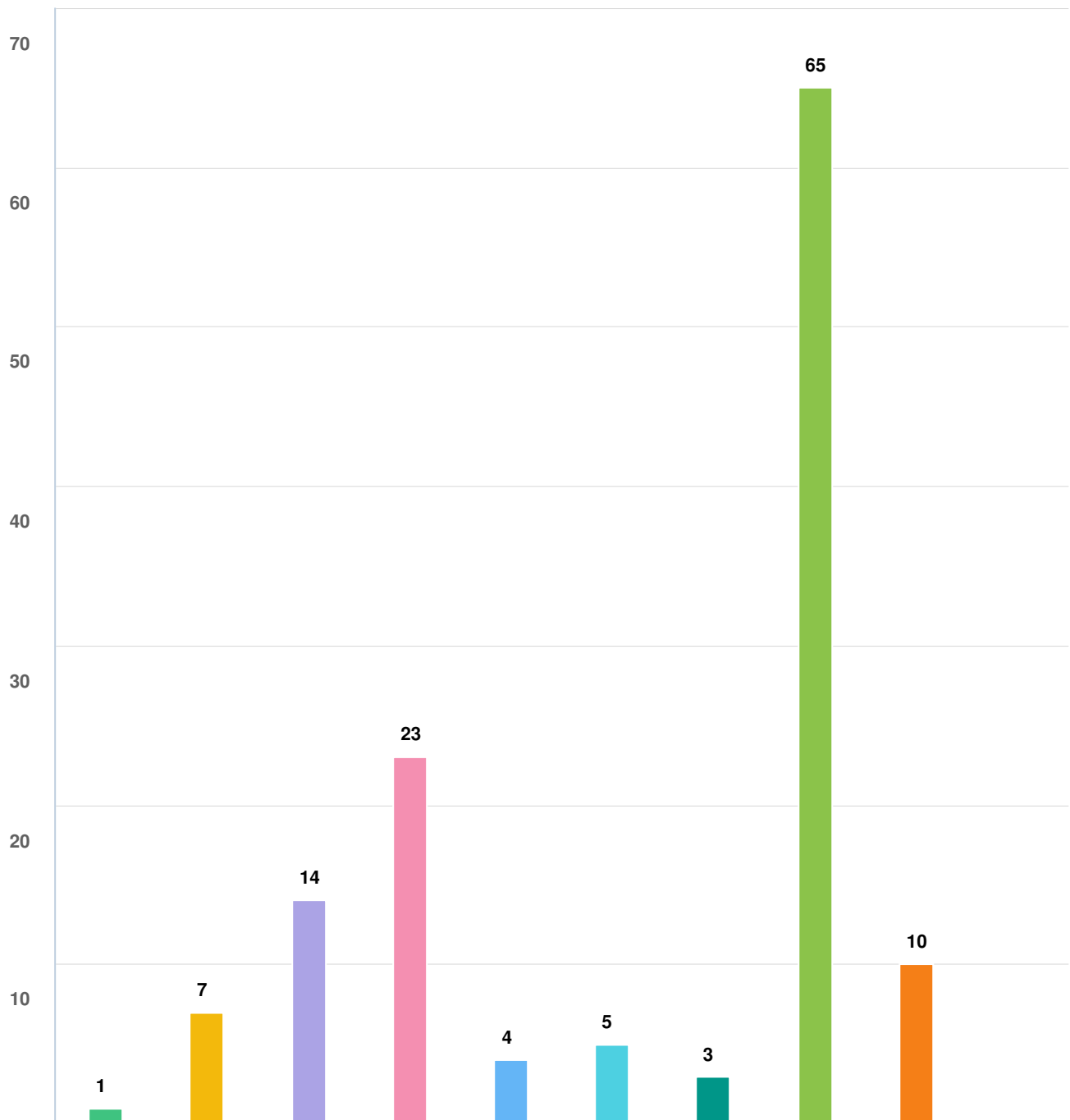


Question options

- Yes
- No
- Don't know
- Prefer to not say

Mandatory Question (79 response(s))
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q2 Select the age groups in your household.

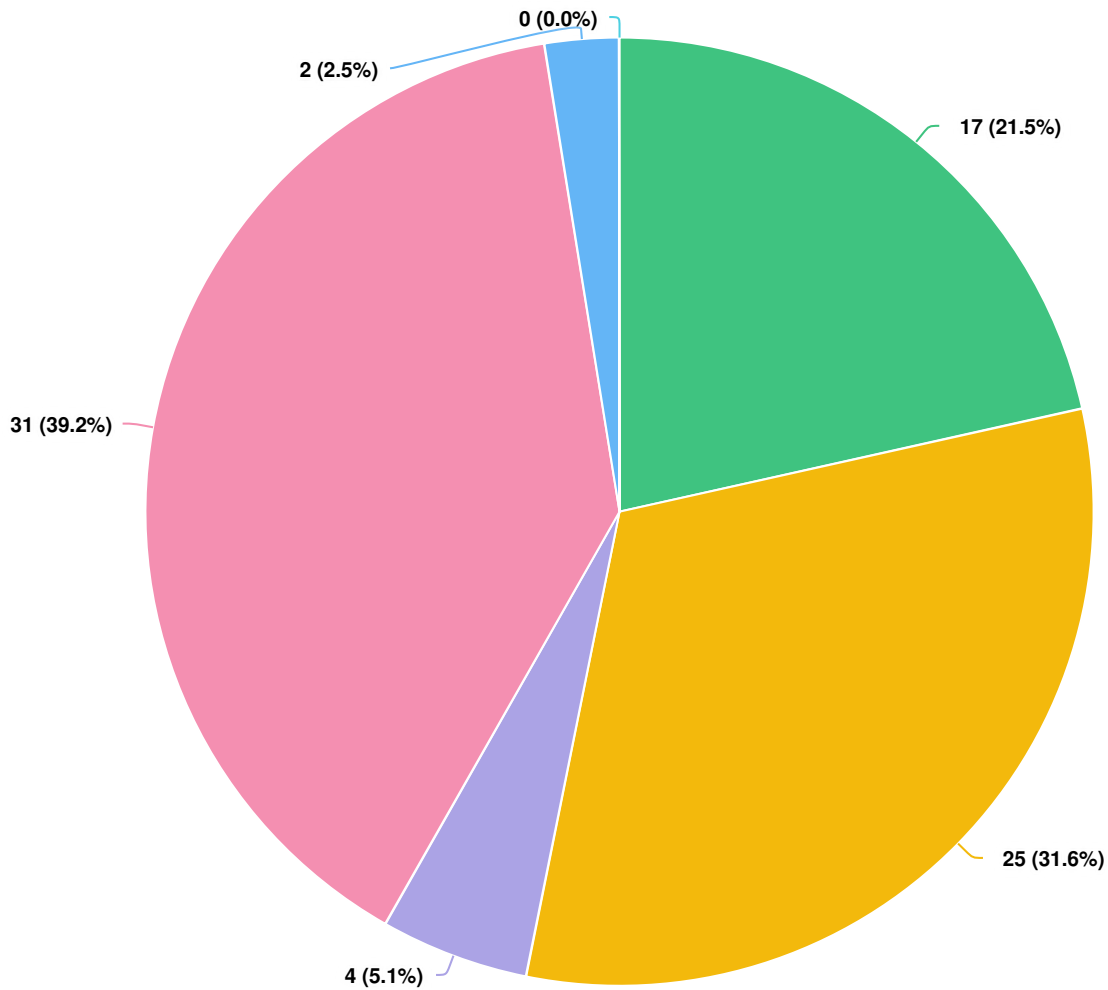


Question options

- Infant (to 1 year)
- Toddler (1-2 years)
- Preschool (2-5 years)
- School age (5-12 years)
- Inbe-teen (12-13 years)
- Early Teen (13-16 years)
- Young adult (18-26 years)
- Adult (26-65)
- Senior (65 up)
- Teen (16-18 years)

Optional question (79 response(s), 0 skipped)
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q3 How often do you visit parks located in the Birchwood neighborhood?

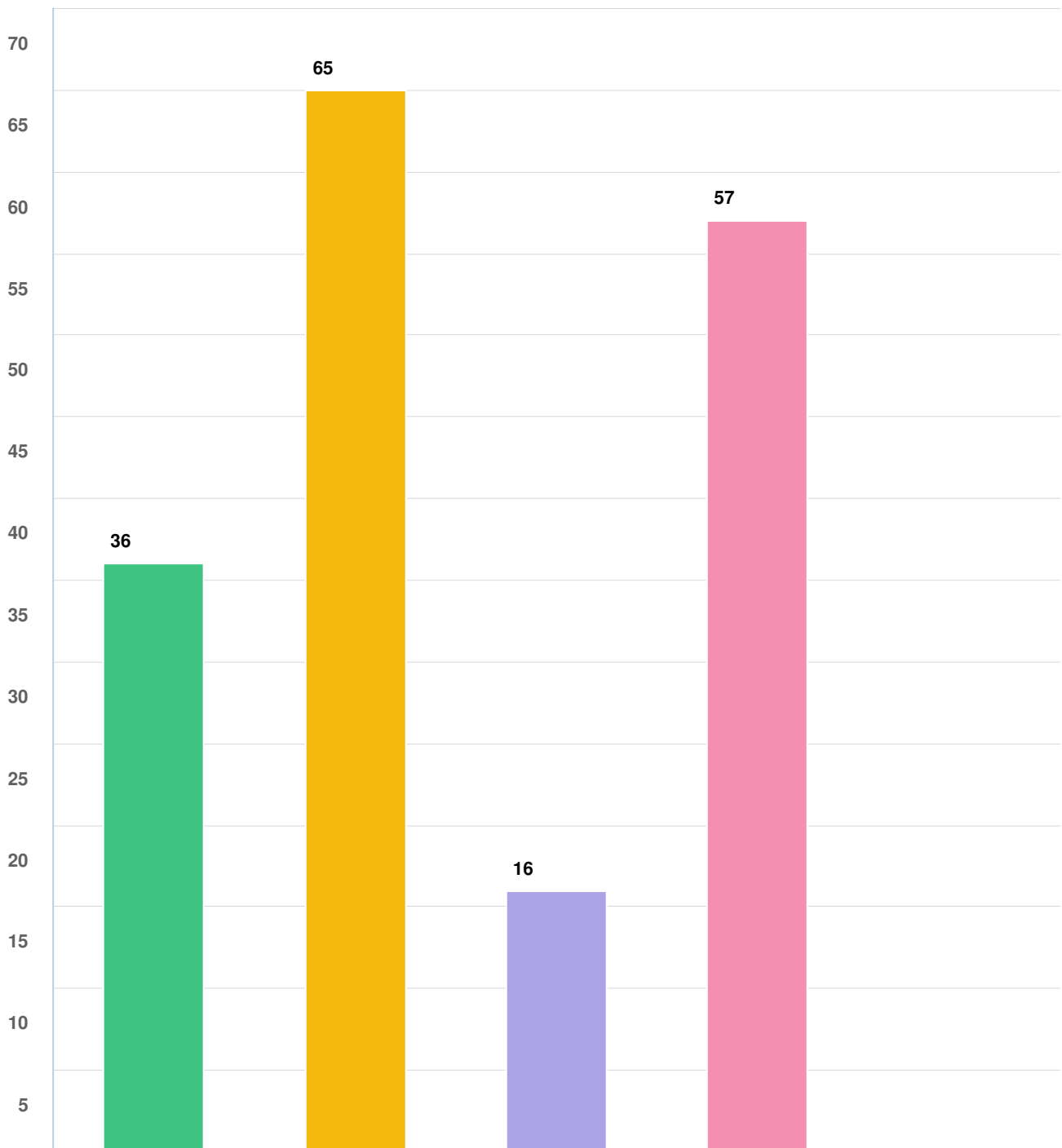


Question options

- Once a week
- Multiple times a week
- Once a month
- Variably, no pattern
- Other (please specify)
- I don't go to City parks

Optional question (79 response(s), 0 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q4 Which parks in the Birchwood Neighborhood do you normally go to?

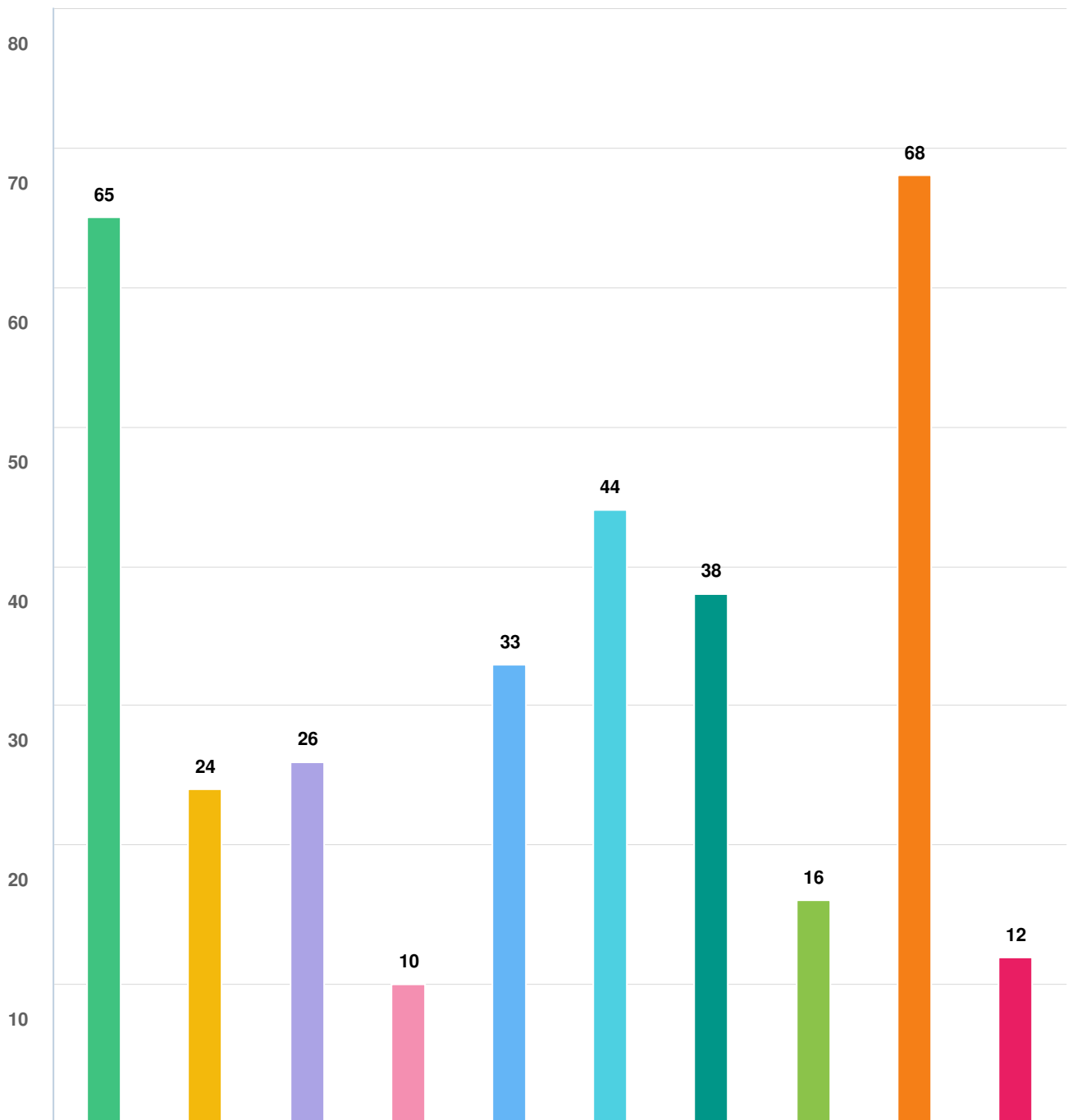


Question options

- Birchwood Park
- Squalicum Creek park
- Shuksan Meadows Park
- Neighborhood and/or community parks outside the Birchwood Neighborhood
- I don't go to City parks

Optional question (78 response(s), 1 skipped)
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q5 What kinds of things attract you to City parks? Check all that apply.

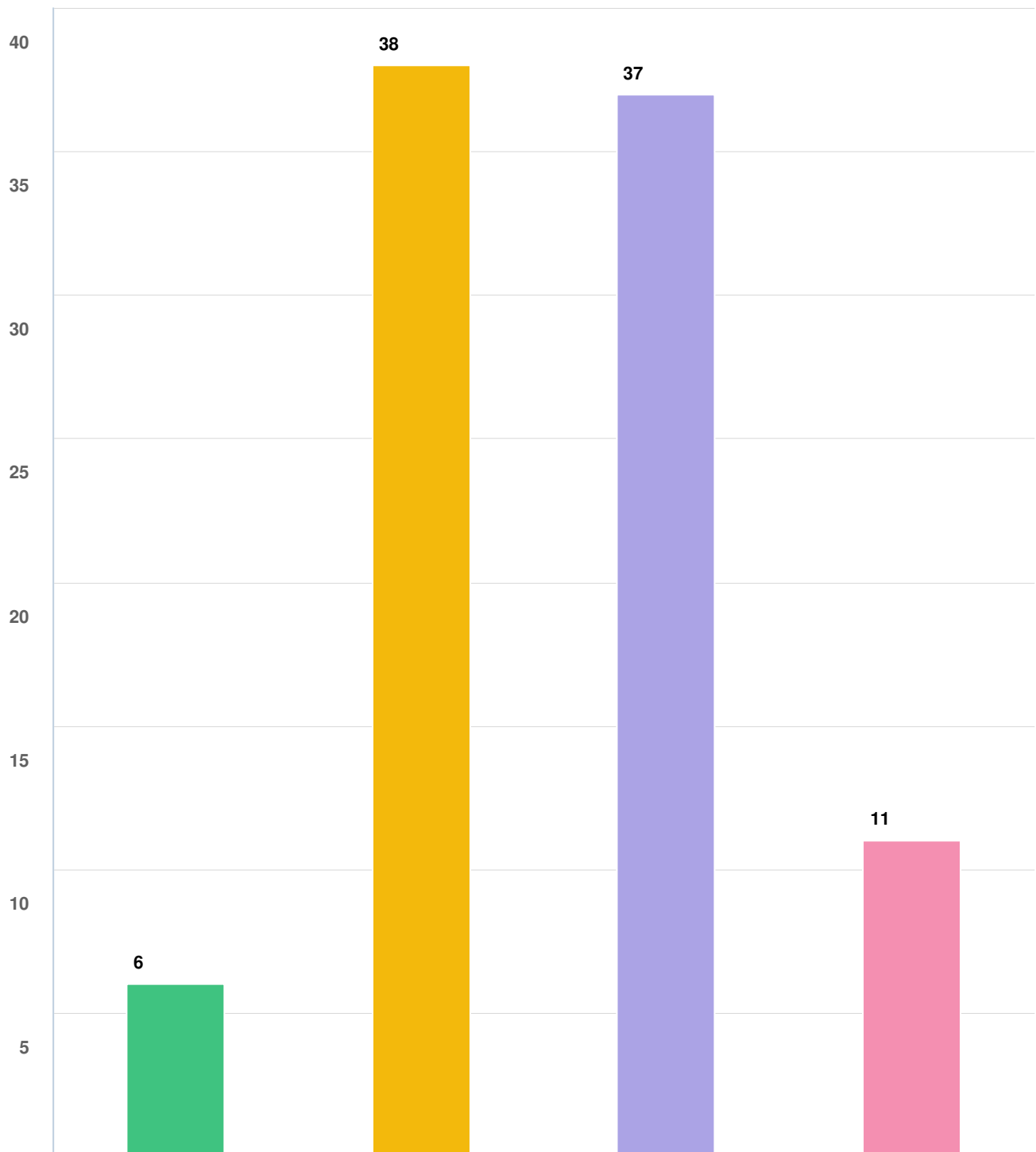


Question options

- Being in nature
- Meeting people and socializing
- Picnic shelter/picnicking
- Recreation programs
- Playgrounds
- Peaceful quiet or solitude
- Exercise
- Sport courts or athletic facilities
- Trails
- Other (please specify)

Optional question (79 response(s), 0 skipped)
 Question type: Checkbox Question

Q6 How long do you normally stay during your visit to a city park?

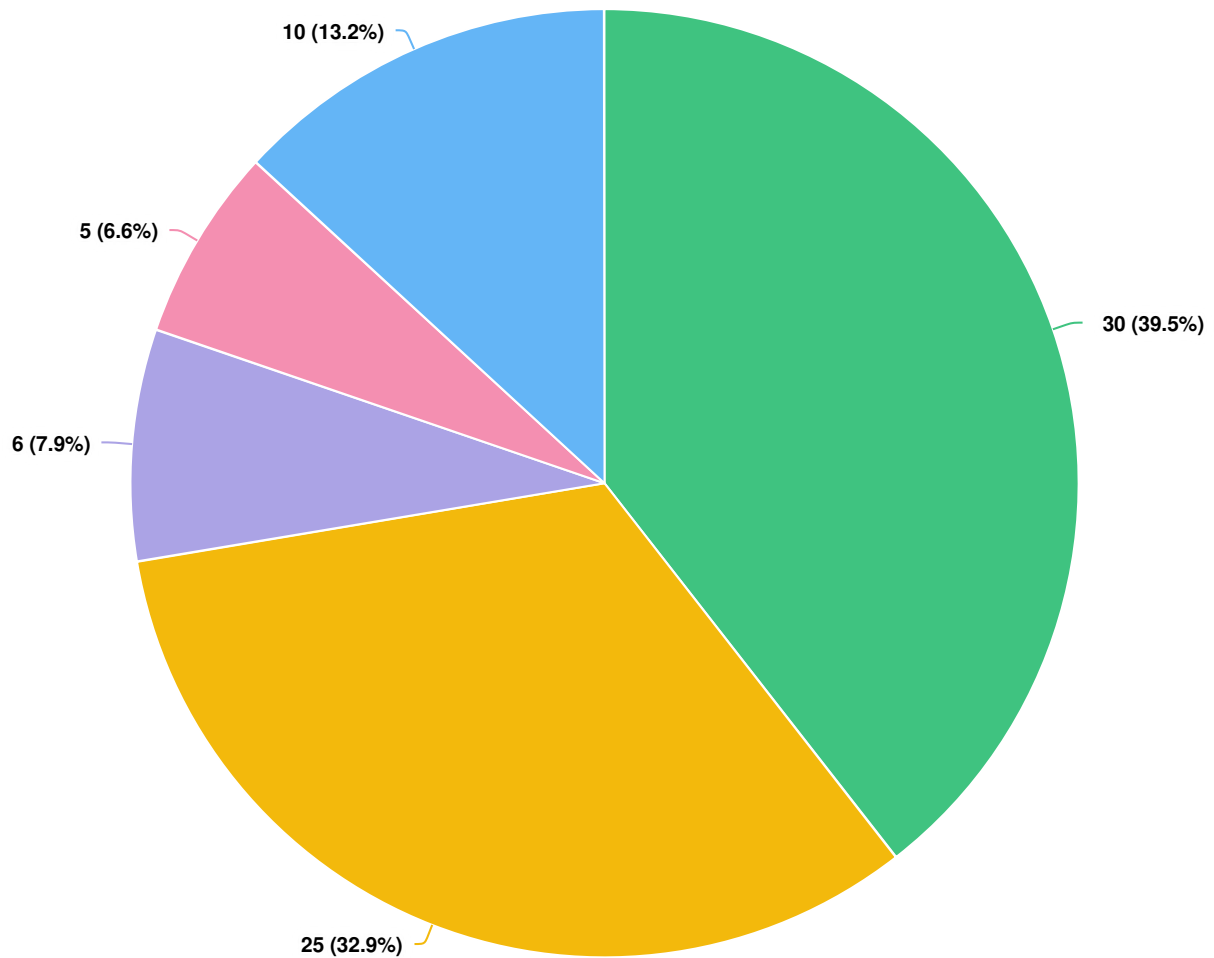


Question options

- less than 30 minutes
- 30 minutes - 60 minutes
- 60 minutes - 90 minutes
- More than 90 minutes

Optional question (79 response(s), 0 skipped)
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q7 This page features two different Park Master Plan Options (A and B). Which option do you prefer?

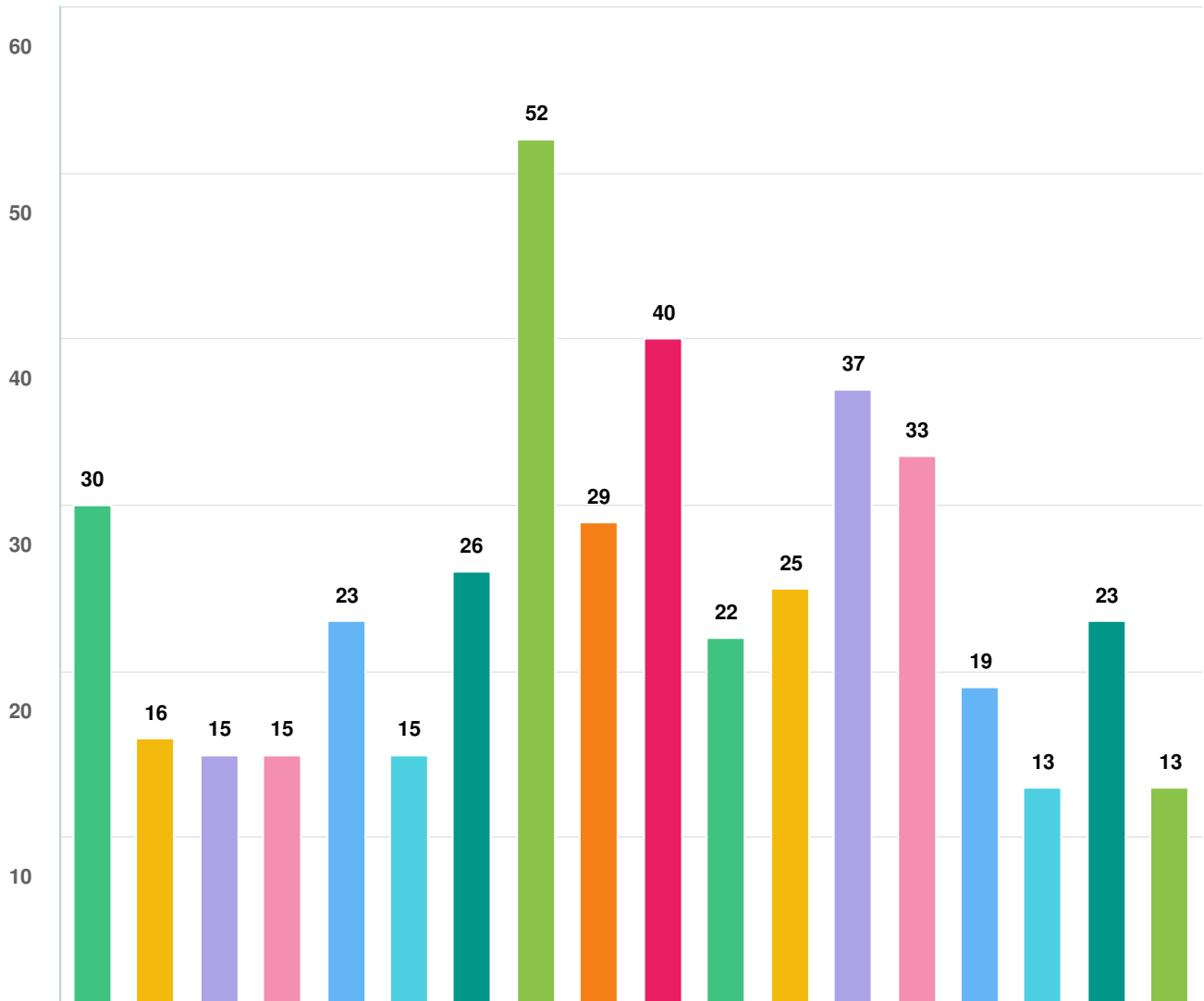


Question options

- Option A
- Option B
- Both Options
- Neither option
- Undecided

Optional question (76 response(s), 3 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q8 What do you like most about Option A? Check all that apply.

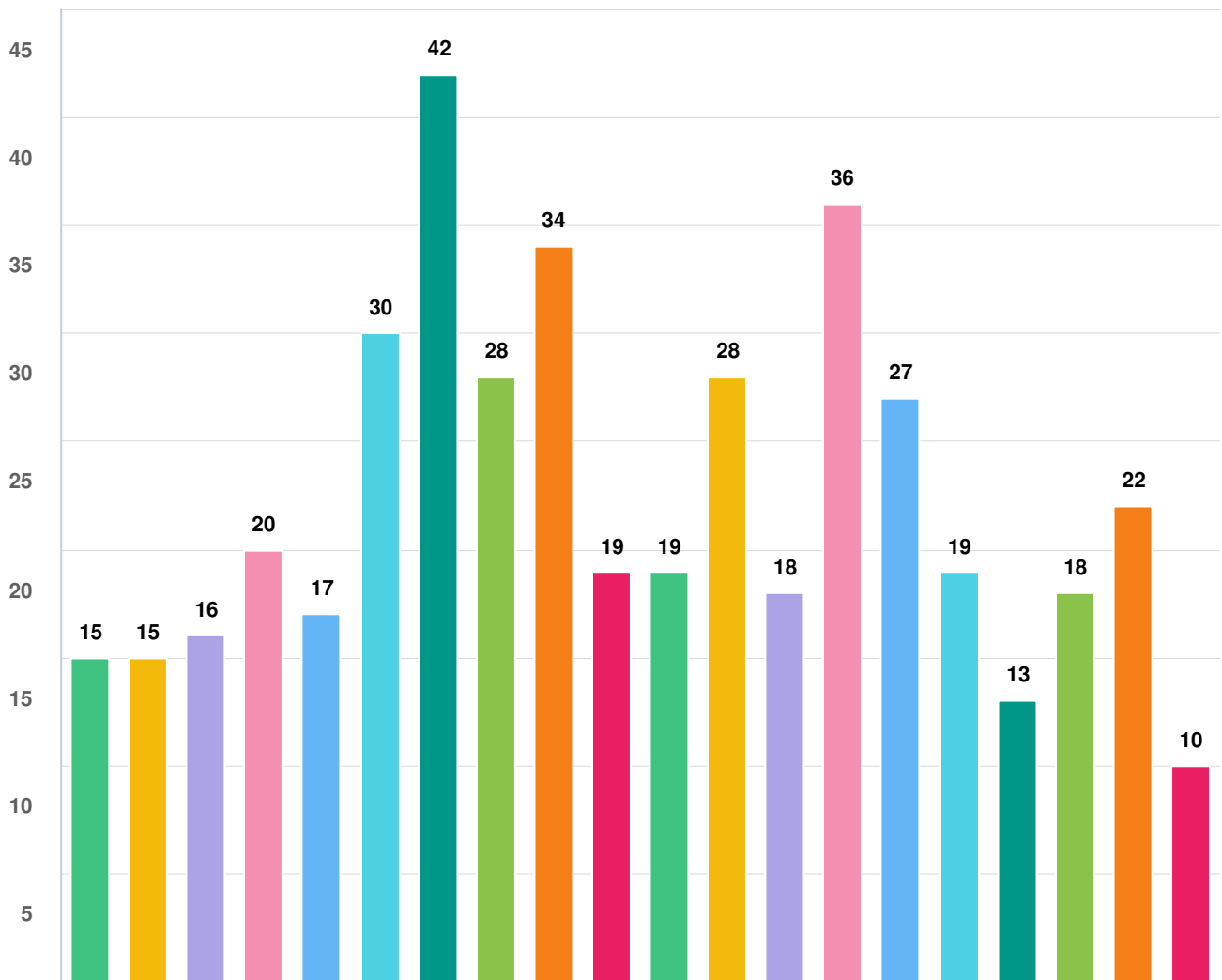


Question options

- Overall site fit - the amount and type of proposed facilities seem to fit the site well
- Overall location of proposed site features
- Overall spatial relationship of proposed site features
- The degree of park development given park programming listed in the PRO plan
- Meets the perceived recreational needs of the neighborhood
- Picnic shelter
- Playground
- Forest trail loop
- Youth activity area (can include a skate feature, climbing wall, hang out area, or other facility appealing to tweens, teens and young adults).
- Food forest/edible landscape
- Picnicking opportunities outside the shelter
- The amount and location of open lawn area for passive and open-ended uses
- Wetland creation
- Existing foot path stabilization
- ADA accessible parking spot on Cherrywood Avenue
- Adult/youth exercise area
- Meditation nook
- Kiosk for parks signs and neighborhood notices

Optional question (73 response(s), 6 skipped)
 Question type: Checkbox Question

Q9 What do you like most about Option B? Check all that apply.

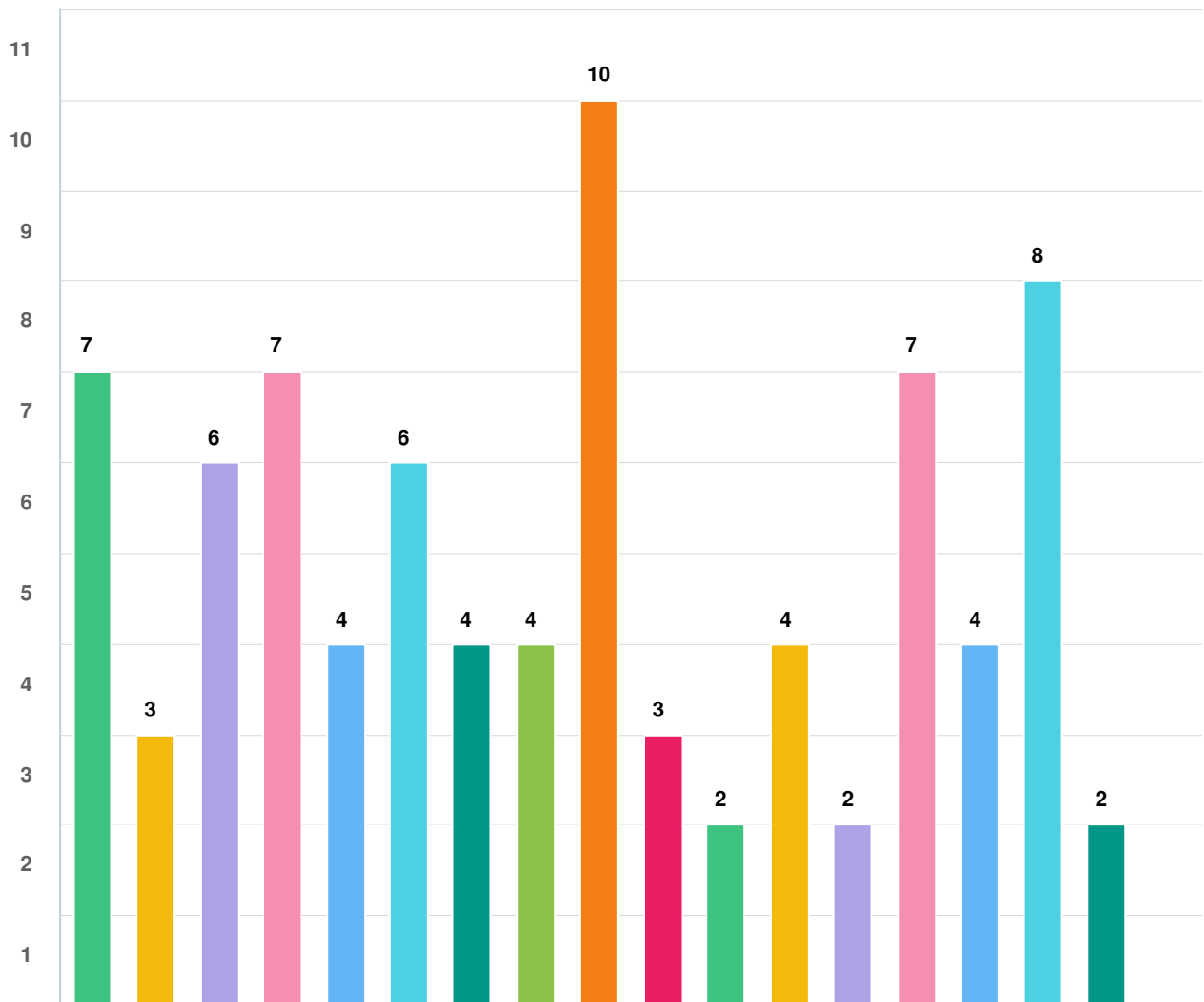


Question options

- Overall site fit - the amount and type of proposed site facilities seem to fit the site well
- Overall location of site features
- Overall spatial relationship of proposed site features
- Meets the perceived recreational needs of the neighborhood
- Picnic shelter
- Playground
- Forest loop trail and outdoor classroom
- Youth activity area (can include a skate feature, climbing wall, hang out area, or other facility appealing to tweens, teens and young adults).
- Food forest/edible landscape
- Picnicking opportunities outside the shelter
- The amount and location of open lawn area for passive and open ended uses
- Wetland construction
- Parking area
- Restroom facility
- Reserving some of the Potts Pond near Cherrywood Ave. as a landscape feature
- 1/2 court basketball court
- Wider gravel trail from Cherrywood Ave.
- Paved driveway and sidewalk and parking lot off Maplewood Ave.
- Meditation nook
- Kiosk for park signs and neighborhood notices

*Optional question (69 response(s), 10 skipped)
 Question type: Checkbox Question*

Q10 What do you like least about Option A? Check all that apply.

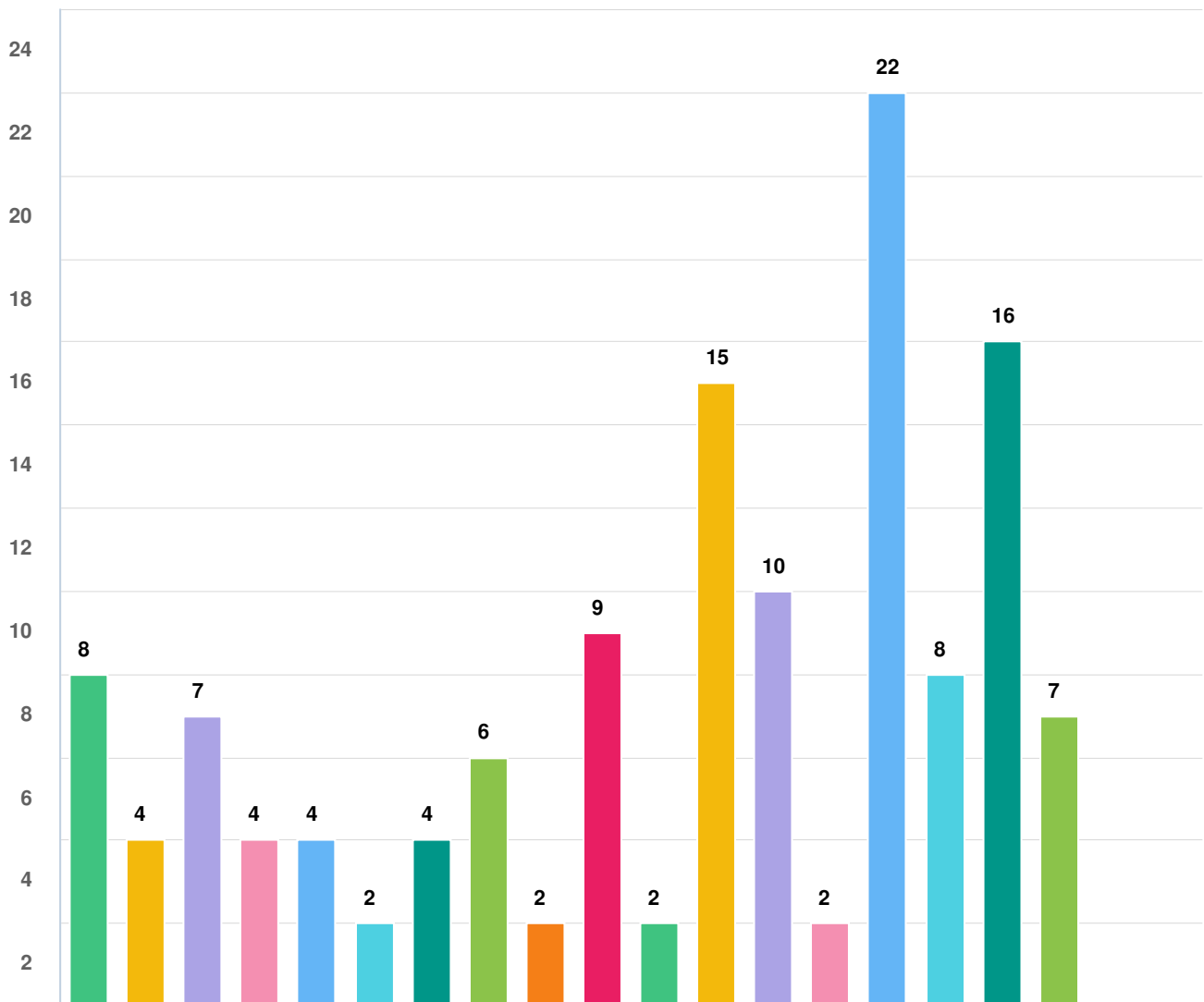


Question options

- Overall site fit - the amount and type of proposed facilities
- Overall location of proposed site features
- Overall spatial relationship of proposed site features
- The degree of park development given park programming listed in the PRO plan
- Meets the perceived recreational needs of the neighborhood
- Picnic shelter
- Playground
- Forest trail loop
- Youth activity area (can include a skate feature, climbing wall, hang out area, or other facility appealing to tweens, teens and young adults).
- Food forest/edible landscape
- Picnicking opportunities outside the shelter
- The amount and location of open lawn area for passive and open-ended uses
- Wetland creation
- ADA accessible parking spot on Cherrywood Avenue
- Adult/youth exercise area
- Meditation nook
- Kiosk for parks signs and neighborhood notices
- Existing foot path stabilization

Optional question (44 response(s), 35 skipped)
 Question type: Checkbox Question

Q11 What do you like least about Option B? Check all that apply.



Question options

- Overall site fit - the amount and type of proposed site facilities seem to fit the site well
- Overall location of site features
- Overall spatial relationship of proposed site features
- Meets the perceived recreational needs of the neighborhood
- Picnic shelter
- Playground
- Forest loop trail and outdoor classroom
- Youth activity area (can include a skate feature, climbing wall, hang out area, or other facility appealing to tweens, teens and young adults).
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- 1/2 court basketball court
- Wider gravel trail from Cherrywood Ave.
- Paved driveway and sidewalk and parking lot off Maplewood Ave.
- Meditation nook
- Picnicking opportunities outside the shelter
- Kiosk for park signs and neighborhood notices

Optional question (49 response(s), 30 skipped)
 Question type: Checkbox Question

Q12 Any other comments about Options A and B?

6/13/2022 09:27 AM

Given the dramatic interest/increase in Pickleball locally, regionally and nationally (AARP article) for all age groups, can you add at least one multiple use court or lines on the basketball court?

6/13/2022 10:07 AM

I think Option B is a lot nicer. A small Parking lot would be nice and I like the basketball court.

6/13/2022 10:26 AM

Birchwood neighborhood is currently experiencing a problem with increased homeless camping/drug use/aggressive homeless persons related to the location of new Methadone Clinic on Northwest Ave. I recommend a focused effort working with the clinic to reduce impacts on neighborhood such as scary encounters/drug use/camping in this park. I would be concerned that an enclosed building such as restroom be installed until after some solution is fixing the existing crime/drug increase. Otherwise, my concern is the neighbors won't be able to use the new development. The current state with trail has some camps but otherwise not concentrated drug/crime activity. Also, any part of development here, such as parking could quickly become a crime attractant. In the last couple of years, there is an increase in broken down cars dumped/camping on Maplewood. Before the pandemic, it seemed like Birchwood Neighborhood was really heading in a positive direction, example: International Market. The Methadone Clinic and immediate effects on our neighborhood is seriously causing a huge concern and some business owners have considered moving out of the area, discussed at May neighborhood mtg. City of Bellingham very much needs to provide immediate focused attention and solutions to this issue. If you ask neighbors and their children, you can learn children are walking to school past drug use activity and passed out people. This is not safe. Also crime has increased significantly. Moving onto the park for future vision: Option A is terrific. I very much hesitate with interior parking lot and other hidden features in Option B because of existing increasing crime. Programatically, a serious effort to mitigate noxious weeds is needed at this location and should be included in each development phase.

6/13/2022 10:19 AM

The more features the better. Our neighborhood badly needs this resource, the northern birchwood neighborhood has nothing like this!

6/13/2022 10:25 AM

Please add additional pickleball courts. The painted lines at the basketball court at Birchwood Park are great. It's a fun park to play

pickleball at, but the parking is too limited and the porta-potty is always gross. I love playing in an open park setting where we can interact with other park users.

6/13/2022 10:48 AM

Can you please utilize the open space and add a disc golf course? They are popular, cost-effective, easy to maintain, and can utilize the existing open areas as they are with minimal effort (maybe clearing a few trees here and there). Also, the city needs more pickleball courts. It is a popular sport, requires far less space than tennis, and is inclusive of all abilities and ages.

6/13/2022 11:11 AM

Option B is bad

6/13/2022 12:03 PM

Please add a skatepark to the youth area, specifically a small cement halfpipe with metal coping.

6/13/2022 12:20 PM

It would be great to incorporate a skate park and pump track

6/13/2022 12:24 PM

I have limited time to review this on my handheld device so apologies. I'm not seeing a big difference between A or B. Both are great.

6/13/2022 01:54 PM

They are both great!

6/13/2022 02:26 PM

As Birchwood residents and frequent park goers, we are excited about some of the potential developments associated with the Maplewood/McLeod Park planning effort. However, we also have some pretty serious concerns about several potential park features, including expansion of parking areas (beyond ADA sites), covered picnic areas, restrooms, and the Forest Loop trail. These concerns stem from observed conditions at other neighborhood parks where City staff appear to have difficulty maintaining a safe environment for children and adults. City staff are likely aware of the unpermitted camping, illegal dumping, human waste/sanitary issues, and drug use that occurs frequently at other area parks (especially Birchwood Park and Shukson Meadows Parks). While these safety issues stem from larger societal problems beyond the control of the Parks and Rec Department, we want to make sure that in the excitement of planning for new park facilities, the City adequately address some of the unintended, but entirely foreseeable, consequences of park

development. We look forward to further engagement with the City in the park planning process.

6/13/2022 05:45 PM

Don't like that there isn't a restroom facility in Option A.

6/13/2022 05:30 PM

the parking makes it accessible for those who don't live there to meet with friends and make less impact on neighbors

6/13/2022 05:41 PM

Option b appears to have more defined opportunities for recreation and includes elements for older kids/teens which I feel is a missing component in some of our existing parks

6/13/2022 06:35 PM

Please leave the park as natural as possible.

6/13/2022 07:27 PM

Neither has an accessible playground but B's is so much worse than A's. Yes, the disabled people in town would like a FULLY ACCESSIBLE PLAYGROUND. We also like ADA parking and restrooms. Please don't continue to keep disabled community members as afterthoughts in park planning. We deserve to enjoy parks just as much as non-disabled people do and enjoy ALL the amenities, not just some.

6/13/2022 07:36 PM

no to the parking lot. no to the restroom. keep it a neighborhood park

6/13/2022 10:53 PM

I am not usually a big fan of more pavement, but I believe that providing parking will bring more people to the park. I am in favor of a lot of activity and use as this will help the park feel safer with more eyes keeping watch. I think this will also help residents nearby in multi family housing that may not have large covered areas for hosting for birthdays celebrations and other activities. I do prefer option B, but A would be a great runner up. Great job Bellingham Parks! ♥

6/14/2022 01:12 AM

Restrooms are necessary at parks. Kids pee so frequently. Having to leave the park after only 30 minutes because a child needs the bathroom almost makes it not worth going to the park at all.

Ideally, the park would balance conserving wetlands, trees, etc with

6/14/2022 09:03 AM

the desires of the humans who'd visit it. Would I like a restroom. Yes, but not enough to want to drastically increase the impermeable surface at the park and the destroying of wetlands and other natural spaces.

6/14/2022 09:53 AM

We need onsite parking. Some people that do not qualify for an ADA placard still have mobility challenges and need to drive to the site. There is no on-street parking around the site. Unless you propose on-street parking (several spots), we need on site parking for families and equitable access. All neighborhood & community parks in the city have either onsite or on-street parking. Option B is preferred because it appears to maximize recreational opportunities on site. Teens need a place to go and the basketball court is a great option. There are no parks in this area and we need more opportunities for neighborhood families and adults.

6/14/2022 01:04 PM

I like the larger playground in Option B.

6/14/2022 01:32 PM

I feel sadly that the parking and bathroom will foster drug use and transient activity. There are many other places to play basketball in town and I don't think it is needed.

6/14/2022 02:03 PM

Can the teen hangout be located closer to the children's playground?

6/14/2022 02:14 PM

There are many pros and cons to both plans -- either way we will see a huge benefit to the community with these upgrades. Thank you for your work on this!

6/14/2022 04:35 PM

Having a picnic shelter with a view of the playground is really important for parents.

6/14/2022 06:10 PM

Option A is the right idea. This park should be kept more on the wild-side and should NOT encourage people to drive there. There are other parks in the vicinity that provide plenty of parking. This park is a wonderful, quiet respite for local residents.

6/15/2022 07:30 AM

Restrooms should be included in all new park plans, especially one of this size. Option A is better but why no restroom facilities?

6/25/2022 07:27 PM

I am an adjacent neighbor to this park. While I'm very excited to see the space developed and recognize the need of a new park in the Birchwood neighborhood, I have concerns regarding design elements in both plans. These concerns mainly relate to the development of certain types of infrastructure, in an isolated location not visible from a main road, that have the potential to invite nefarious activity. To my understanding, City of Bellingham Parks does not have features such as restrooms, parking lots, picnic shelters, and trails so near neighbors in isolated locations. These features are not appropriate on this landscape. The Birchwood neighborhood needs more park space. There are children and adults alike that will benefit from the development of this property, but the development needs to be appropriate to the location. While I write this response, a group of individuals has been camping within the park boundary for over two weeks. I've heard them using fireworks and seen evidence of other illicit activities. This activity present risks to public safety, risks that have the potential and likelihood to amplify once more development occurs on the property. Recent examples of similar activity at Shuksan Meadows Park and the installation of a barb wire fence, surrounding the City Parks Maintenance facility at Squalicum Creek Park, illustrate both a pattern of such activity in the neighborhood and a recognition on the part of Parks Department of the risks to property that results from such activity. My request is an appropriate plan, fitting the landscape, be put forth that takes into account the fact this facility is surrounded on three sides by homes and is not visible from the road. Neither Option A nor Option B meet this criteria. Please contact me directly to discuss these concerns further.

6/15/2022 10:50 AM

Basketball court, skate/bike feature, playground are really important. Parking is a nice feature and should be provided, however, it can bring in "camping" vehicles. The space for a park is huge, no need to shrink it and go minimal.

6/15/2022 01:46 PM

If you have picnic spots you should have bathrooms. Adult exercise equipment or maybe something that would encourage more outdoor exercise/crossfit/yoga classes to happen here. Picnic shelter that would double as stage for summer concerts. I'd love to see a more organic natural play area with logs and big rocks leaving more to the imagination than the standard fare.

6/15/2022 02:40 PM

Love the Food Forest / Edible Landscape plan.

I like the ideas of edible landscaping, picnicking areas, and I find the

6/15/2022 04:09 PM

playground in option B to be more interesting than just a round playground area. I feel like there is definitely a need for parking spots and a small paved parking lot would make this park more accessible. I dislike the half basketball court, and would prefer a more natural, quiet setting.

6/16/2022 10:53 AM

Prefer B. Not sure Bb court or shelter would be used much. I dislike the parking near cherrywood in plan A. I like retaining as much of the water features as possible

6/17/2022 06:35 AM

This park may be too small, and not the right topography, but our family would love to see more baseball fields! Northwest baseball fields have been completely abandoned and besides Civic it's hard to find baseball fields in Bham.

6/17/2022 12:30 PM

Please leave the pond alone, it is beautiful as is. I live on the property that the pond used to belong to, which is along the southeast side of the proposed entrance from Cherrywood. There is no clear delineation between the park and my home. I am nervous about this. I would love to talk to someone in more detail about this.

6/19/2022 01:04 AM

This isn't your land to develop. Land Back Now

6/19/2022 01:01 PM

I live across the street and just south of the property on W Maplewood Ave. My observations of the site and the primary modes of recreation of the local area suggest that the existing site characteristics (e.g. sloped topography, forested wetlands, trails) and needs of the neighborhood (e.g. walking, running, cycling, dog-walking) are well suited to a relatively low level of development. Option A appeals to me because it seems that it would best suit the needs of the current users of the area, as well as attracting new ones, by enhancing opportunities for enjoying the scenic beauty of the site while creating minimal impacts to a wetland ecosystem located on public property - a unique situation in the Birchwood neighborhood. Additionally, Option A is appealing because of the lower overall costs for development and maintenance that it would entail compared with Option B. While Option B might create more opportunities for those whose recreational needs result in less inclination to use the site in its existing condition, in my opinion, Option A is more in keeping with the bucolic character of Birchwood than Option B and, overall, is the more desirable and practical choice.

6/20/2022 10:23 AM

I prefer Option A with the addition of a restroom. I live near this area and would like to maintain the wildlife aspect; the deer, raccoons, etc. use this area and the sound of frogs from the pond is a neighborhood ambience/fixture. With the increasing amount of developments, it's important to maintain areas for the wildlife. This area provides an opportunity for exploration and education in appreciation of our wild areas. Although parking is handy, it does encourage use from outside the neighborhood. There needs to be a balance between encouraging enough use to provide a presence in the park for safety and too much access for less than desirable use. There has been homeless persons using this area and I'm curious how this will be mitigated. Additionally, there has been increased graffiti in the neighborhood, so there is that element as well.

6/21/2022 12:44 PM

I feel Option A is a much better fit to the site conditions. The amount of impervious (or other) pavement in Option B sacrifices too much of the very small overall area this park has. The basketball court is not appropriate to a small wooded, natural park in my opinion. I walk through this area regularly and would like to see as much of the natural landscape retained as possible. However, as you must already know the area is infested with invasive species (bamboo and ivy) that will need to be cleared out. Also I wish you would incorporate the idea of reserving some of Potts Pond into Option A. Thank you for giving us this opportunity to comment.

6/20/2022 08:25 PM

Option A is my choice because it has the lesser impact to the existing park and doesn't add pavement. The wetland and trees should be preserved. In the description the designers consider the wetland a 'burden'. Any increase in noise to the quiet neighborhood would be a detriment.

6/21/2022 12:22 AM

The new sidewalk along Maplewood Avenue (arterial street) should be a setback sidewalk with grass and street trees between the sidewalk and street curb consistent with comprehensive plan policy CD-2. The street trees visually establish the edge of the park which will make the park appear larger. The street trees will calm traffic next to the park and add to pedestrian safety and comfort, and improve the street appeal of the area which improves property values.

6/21/2022 04:42 AM

My neighbors and I love using this trail for walking our dogs and for a taking break into nature. We tend to call this space "the Meadow". It is a sanctuary for our local animal residents as well. I personally don't see the need to develop it too much. We need garbage cans mostly. Thank you!

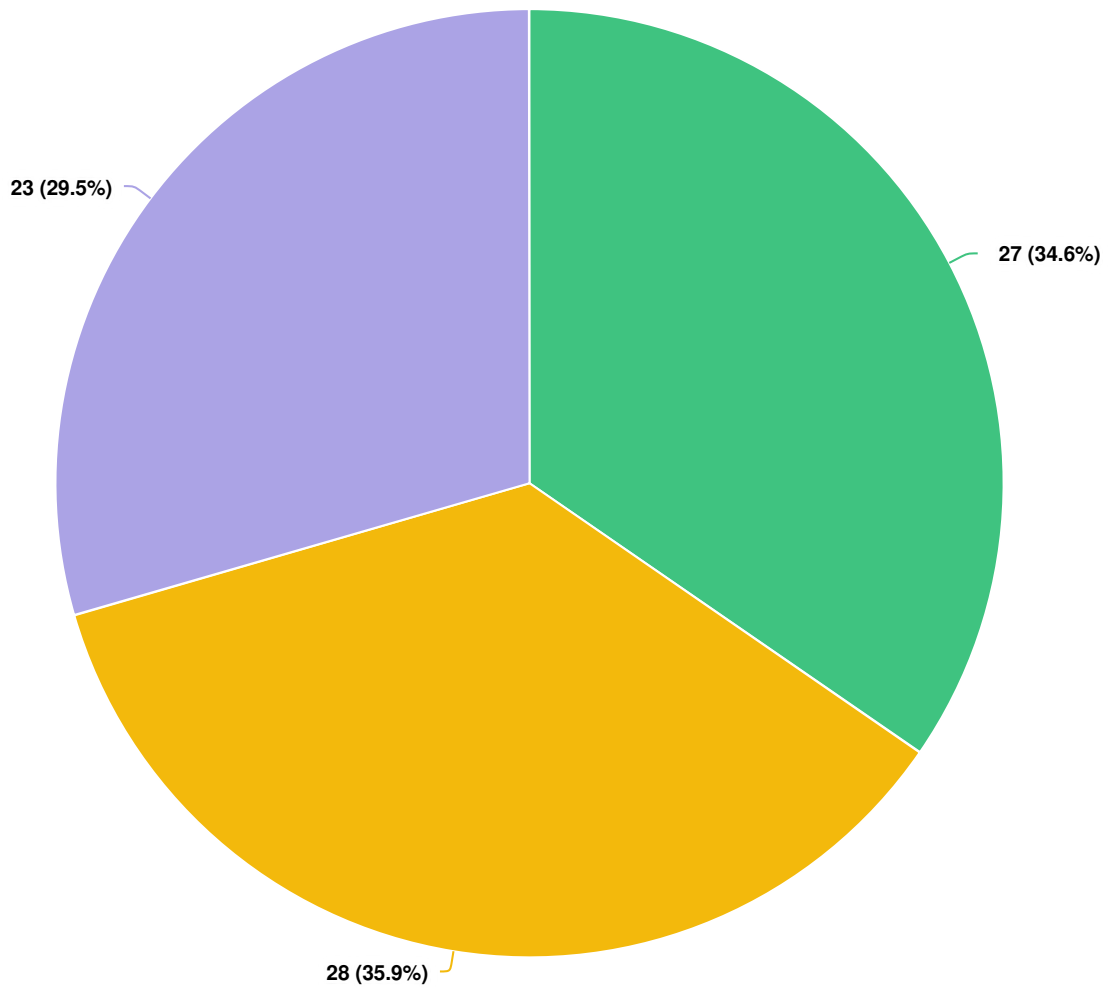
6/26/2022 07:15 PM

Option A appeals to me because it utilizes the site's natural topography and positive features. I am also more apt to choose the less development-heavy option. I am a 36-year old female who enjoys serenity, the option for physical activity/exercise and preservation of natural features and beauty.

Optional question (45 response(s), 34 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Q13 | Should a half court basketball court, as recommended in the PRO Plan, be included in this park master plan?

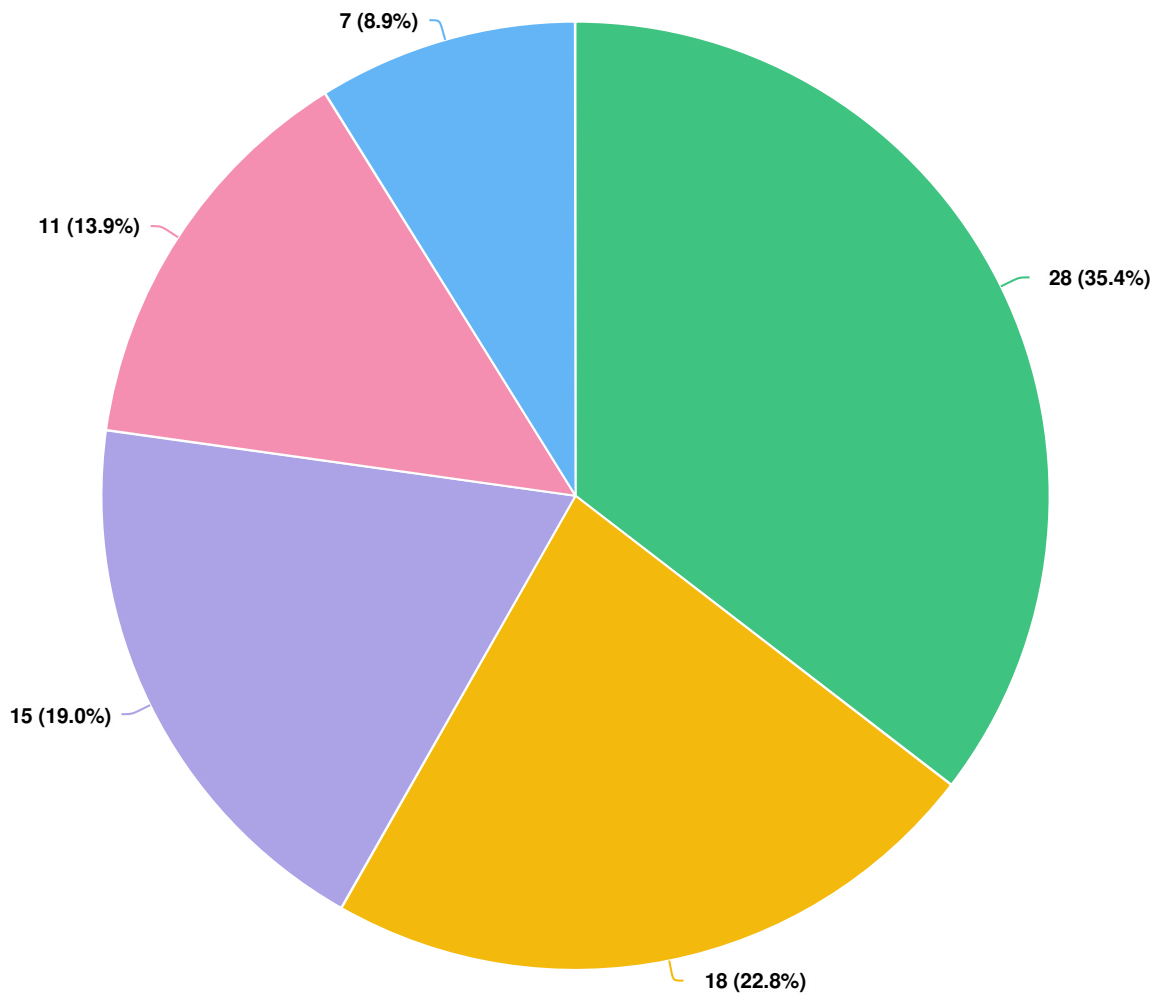


Question options

- Yes
- No
- Not sure / no preference

Optional question (78 response(s), 1 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q14 | A food forest/edible landscape planting has been requested for this park. A food forest is not a community garden nor pea patch, but rather a variety of fruit and nut bearing trees and shrubs, and herbs that are available to the neighborhood. How i...



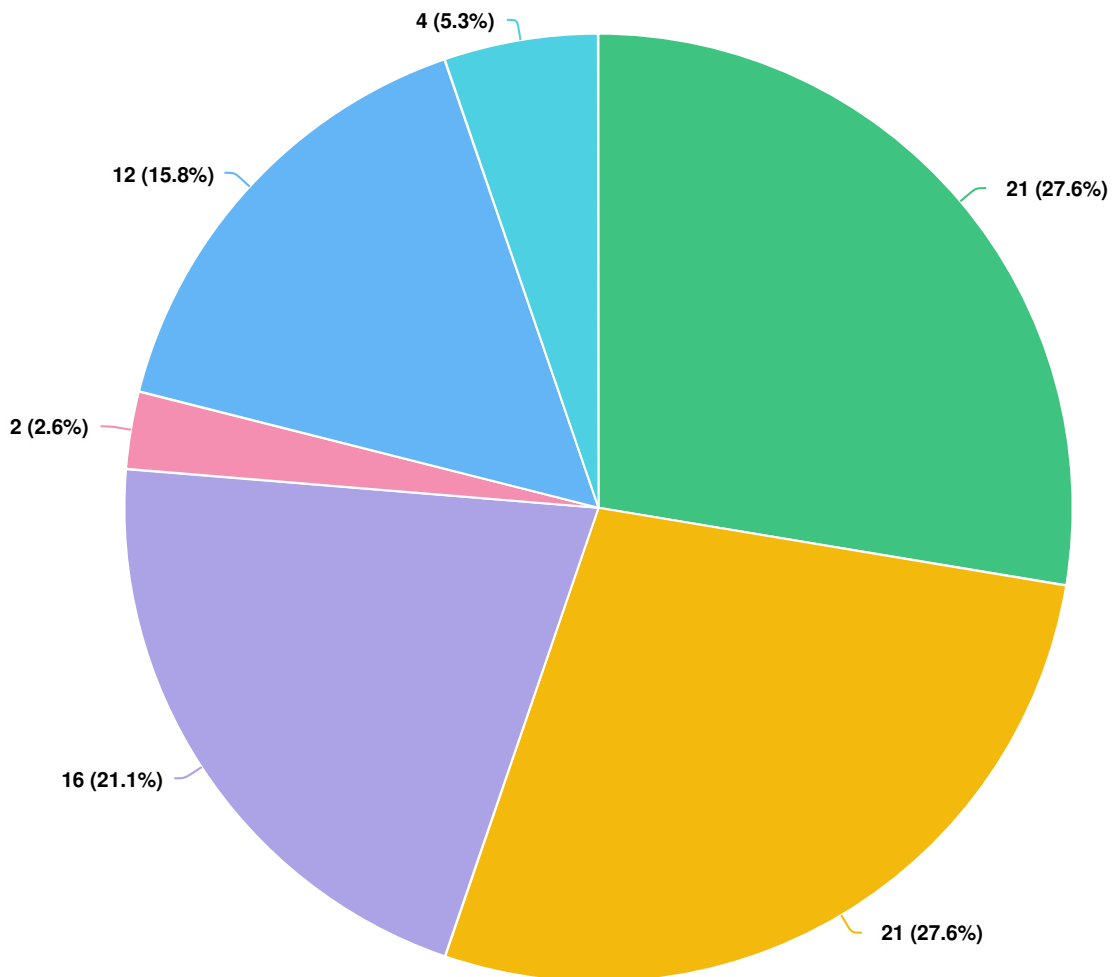
Question options

- Very important
- Somewhat important
- Neither important nor unimportant
- Not terribly important
- Unimportant

Optional question (79 response(s), 0 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q15 | Who should be responsible for maintaining a food forest and edible landscape?

Maintenance includes pruning, watering, disease and infestation control, harvest and wind fall clean up?



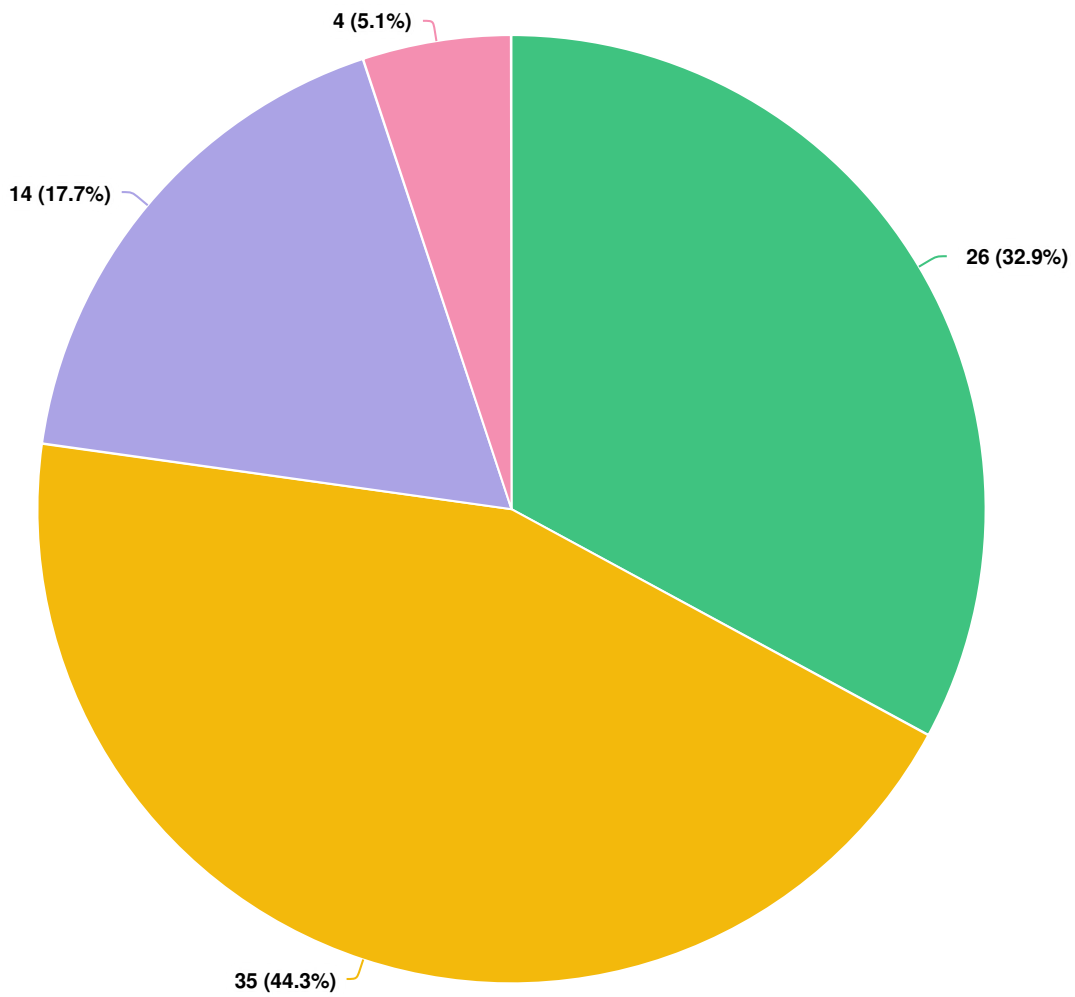
Question options

- Bellingham Parks and Recreation employees
- Volunteers
- Third party (non profit, community organization, etc.)
- No one
- No opinion
- Other (please specify)

Optional question (76 response(s), 3 skipped)

Question type: Radio Button Question

Q16 Do you think the parking area shown in Option B is necessary?

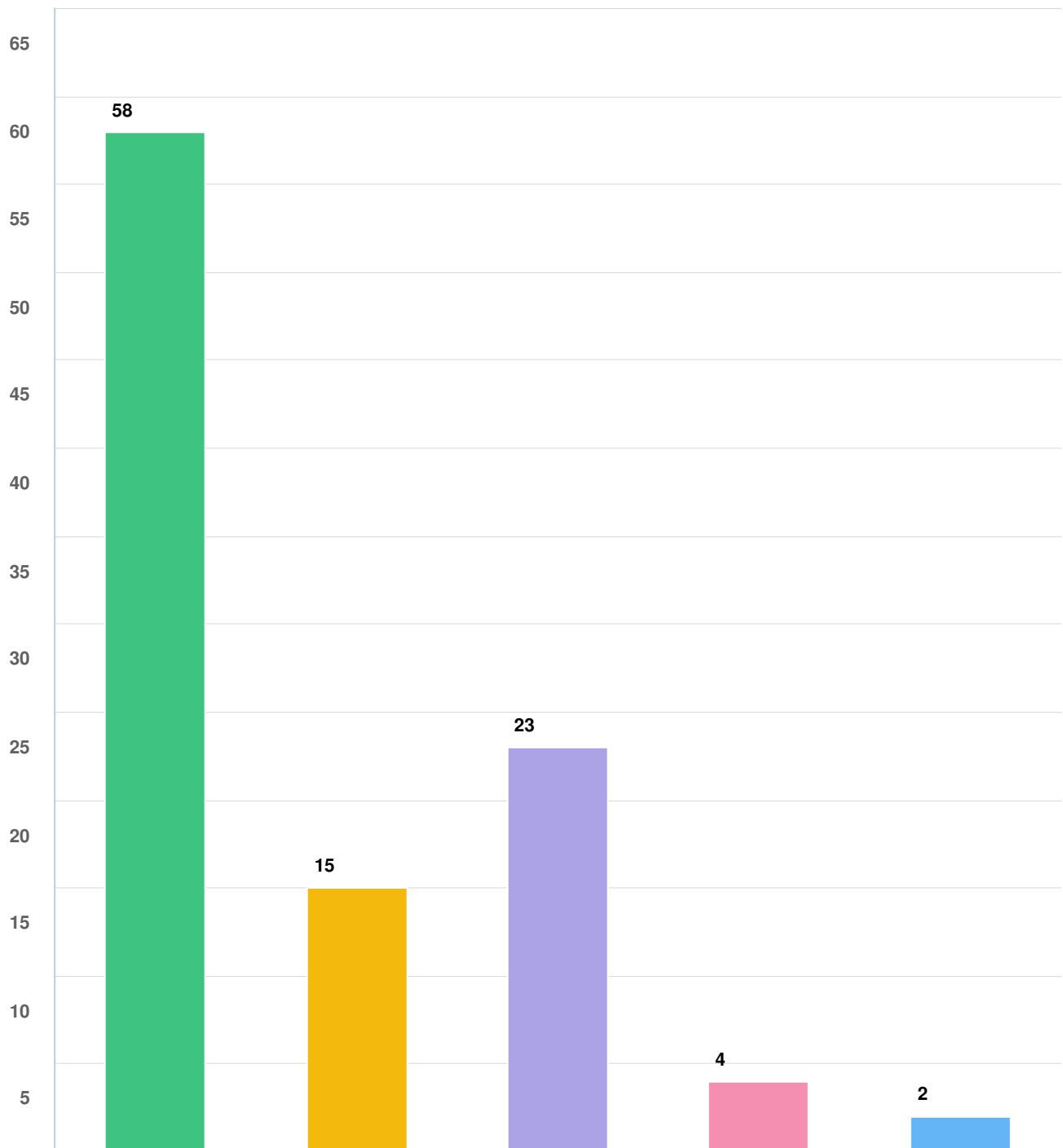


Question options

- Yes
- No
- Don't know
- Other (please specify)

Optional question (79 response(s), 0 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q17 What should be the primary use of the proposed forest trail loop? Check all that apply.

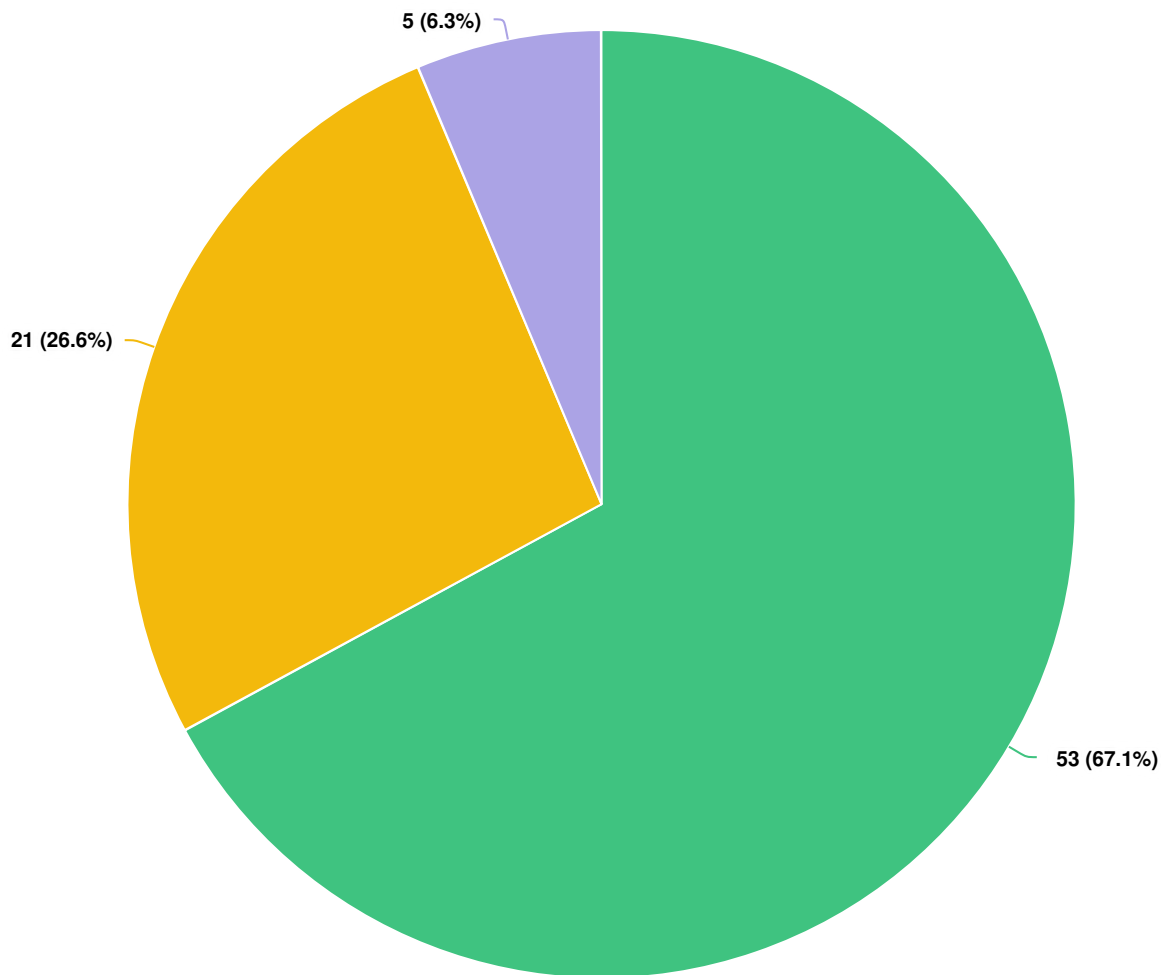


Question options

- Passive and contemplative (strolling, enjoying nature, interpretation, seating)
- Outdoor classroom
- Active, e.g. bike loop
- Don't know
- No opinion

Optional question (77 response(s), 2 skipped)
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q18 Option B includes a restroom. Should there be a restroom in this park?

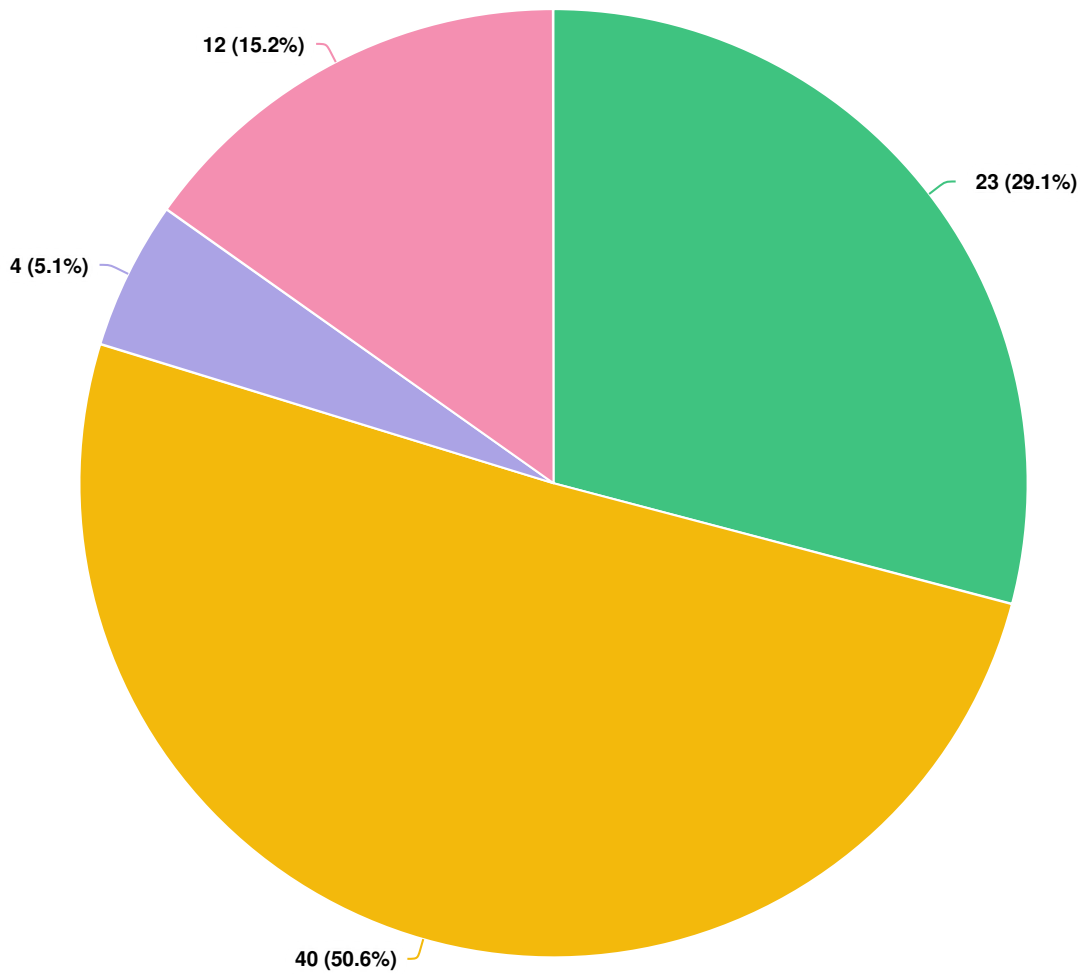


Question options

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

Optional question (79 response(s), 0 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q19 Should adult exercise equipment be included in this park? Examples of adult exercise equipment are shown below.

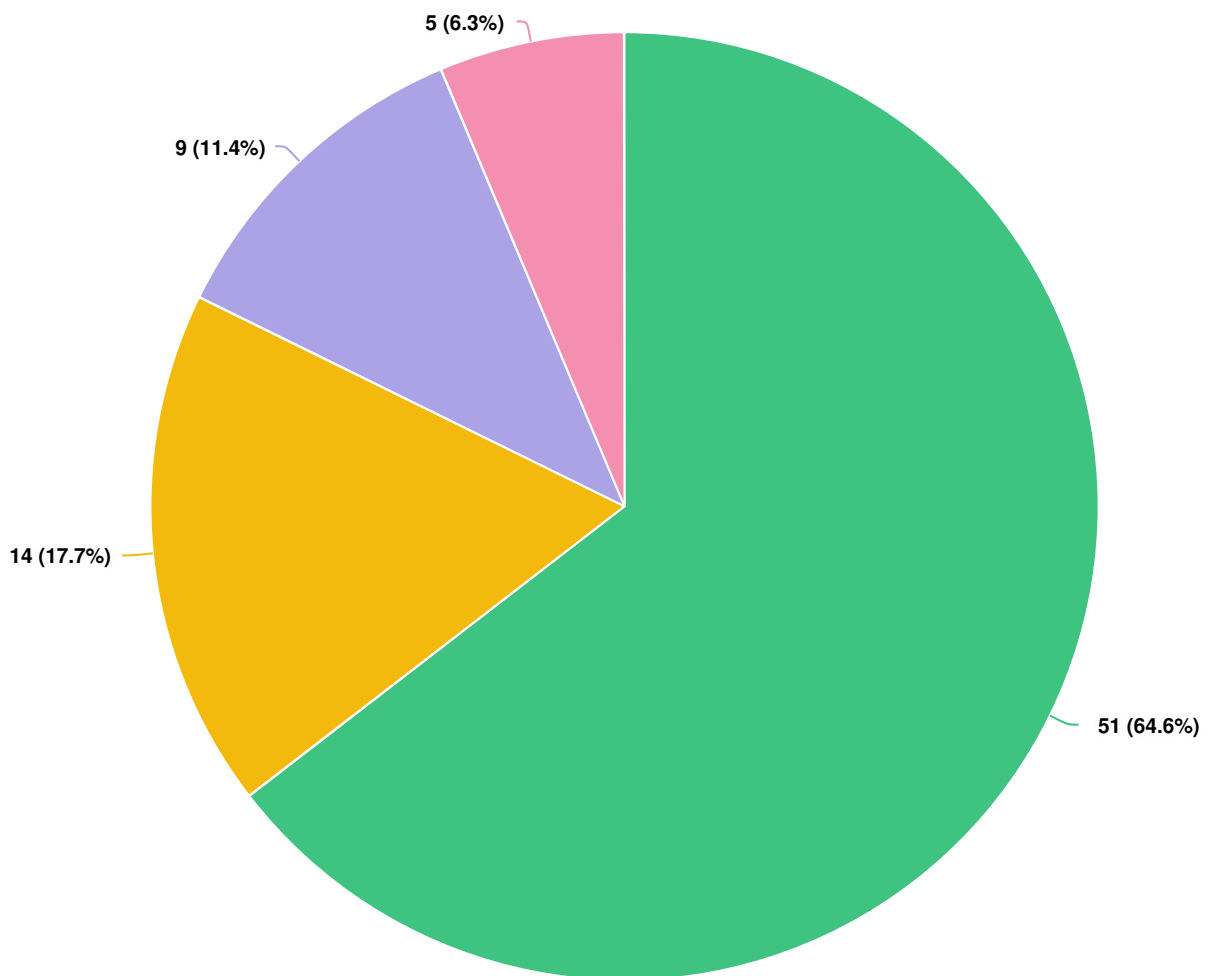


Question options

● Yes ● No ● Don't know ● No opinion

Optional question (79 response(s), 0 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q20 Should there be a youth activity area that is appealing to tween, teens and young adults in this park? A youth activity area may include one or more of the following recreational amenities: skate feature, climbing wall, hang out area, etc.



Question options

- Yes
- No
- Not sure
- No opinion

Optional question (79 response(s), 0 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q21 | A playground is planned for this park for tots and school age kids to 12 years. Please describe any must-have playground equipment in Maplewood Mcleod Park?

- 6/13/2022 09:15 AM Swings and slides are always essential!
- 6/13/2022 09:36 AM Areas that encourage a variety of movement types, and which could ideally be used by tweens, teens, and adults when younger children are not present.
- 6/13/2022 10:07 AM I like the idea of doing something like what they have in Lynden. We don't have any playground equipment like Lynden City park does and I think kids love that park.
- 6/13/2022 10:26 AM Climber. No covered areas (to deter homeless camping)
- 6/13/2022 10:48 AM No opinion
- 6/13/2022 11:11 AM slides and swings
- 6/13/2022 12:20 PM swings
- 6/13/2022 01:54 PM Nature play would be an appropriate and exciting addition!
- 6/13/2022 05:45 PM Traditional and nature play
- 6/13/2022 07:27 PM FULLY ACCESSIBLE!!!!!! None of the choices are. Our disabled community members deserve better.
- 6/13/2022 07:36 PM make it far different from near by shukan meadows playground
- Covered play equipment or play area, climbing structures and/or

Take the public survey here! : Survey Report for 28 May 2022 to 26 June 2022

6/13/2022 10:53 PM large rocks for bouldering, swings, large play structures with multiple slides, zip lines, equipment that allows for spinning while hanging from hands (not sure of name), lots of monkey bars, large durable music chimes. The more fun things to play on the better!

6/13/2022 10:59 PM Adaptive equipment for special needs. Swings. No wood chips under the playground!!!

6/14/2022 01:12 AM Would love to see a 2 person swing, but perhaps like a porch swing. Heck even adults would love a porch swing. I would love to see 1 or 2 super unique features. Something that no other park in town has. Like a super tall climbing tower with a really tall slide or a rope swing. I would love to see a half bucket swing with a buckle for toddlers to have more independence in their swing usage.

6/14/2022 09:40 AM None

6/14/2022 09:53 AM Swings, playhouse, slides

6/14/2022 10:34 AM Woodland oriented. Have a look at the playground area at Whatcom Hills Waldorf School.

6/14/2022 01:04 PM Slide, climbing areas, spinner/merry-go-round type structure like at Squaticum Creek Park

6/14/2022 01:32 PM swings and things to climb on

6/14/2022 02:14 PM No opinion.

6/14/2022 03:02 PM Anything that spins, slide, and adaptive inclusive equipment.

6/14/2022 04:48 PM Plenty of activity, movement, spinning, upper body use

Natural features (logs, boulders, forts), slides, swings, anything

Take the public survey here! : Survey Report for 28 May 2022 to 26 June 2022

6/14/2022 08:15 PM original from other parks in town. Stay away from the boring panels with games on them (kids really don't use them). I love a good digging area (like a sandbox). Check out My son thinks you should have a candy machine (ha ha!)

6/25/2022 07:27 PM Any of the features below would be great

6/15/2022 10:50 AM swings, monkey bars

6/15/2022 01:46 PM Big logs, boulders, rope bridge, zipline - organic playground

6/15/2022 04:09 PM A slide, something to climb on, and swings.

6/17/2022 11:33 AM | swings, slides, jungle gym

6/18/2022 02:50 PM Slides, swings, climbing area, merry go round

6/18/2022 08:28 PM Swings and climbing structures.

6/19/2022 01:04 AM no

6/21/2022 12:44 PM I would prefer this part to be more devoted to nature, it's not big enough for a lot of play equipment.

6/21/2022 12:22 AM Swings, slides, parkor obstacle course

6/21/2022 04:42 AM I think a minimal playground be sweet. Just don't need a ton of traffic brought to this park. It is a simple neighborhood nature oasis.

6/21/2022 10:10 PM Swings, climbing structures

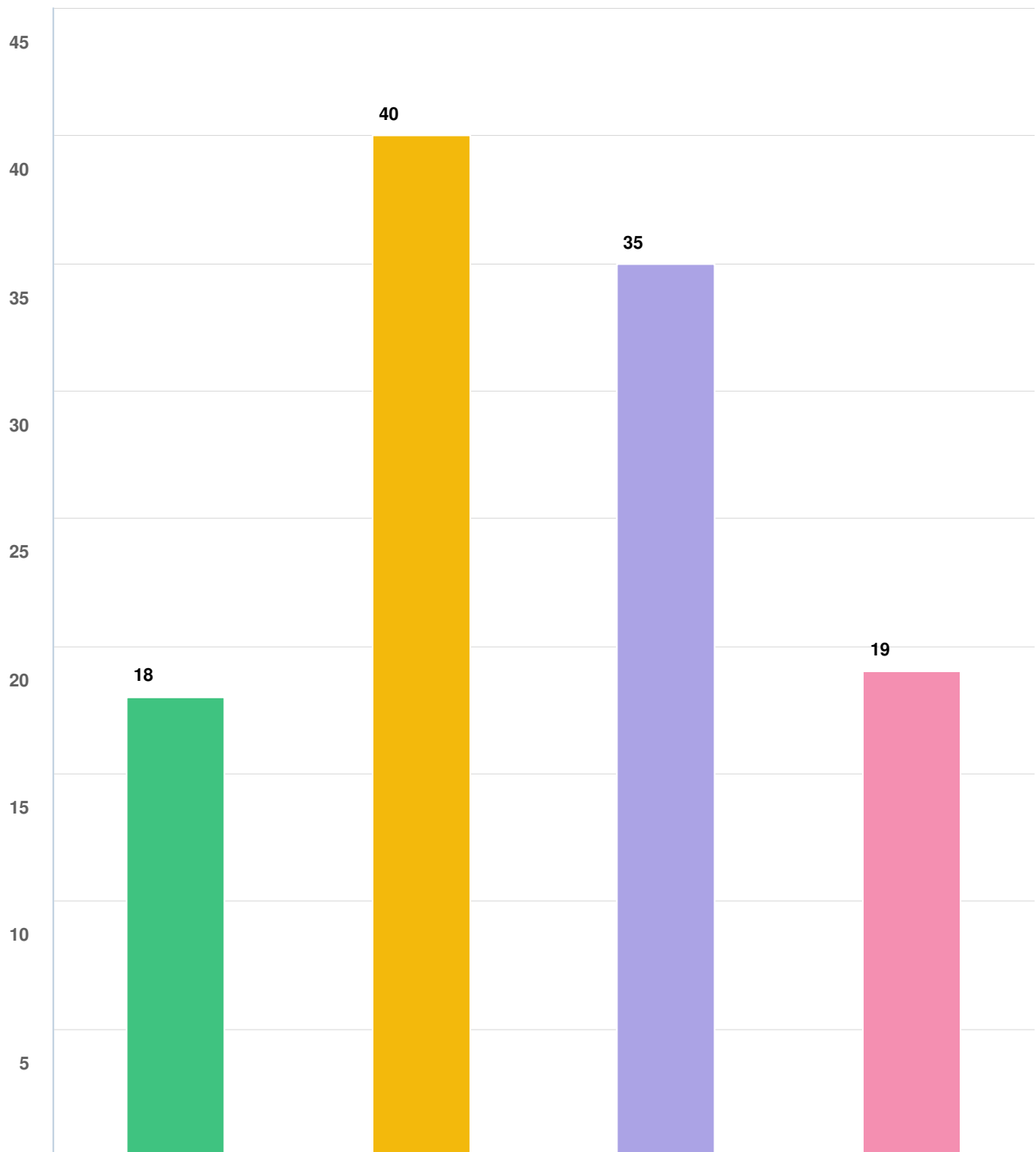
Sturdy Melodic Musical instruments. Wheelchair accessible swing.
Variety in textures.

6/24/2022 11:58 PM

Optional question (36 response(s), 43 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Q22 Please select your favorite type of playground structures

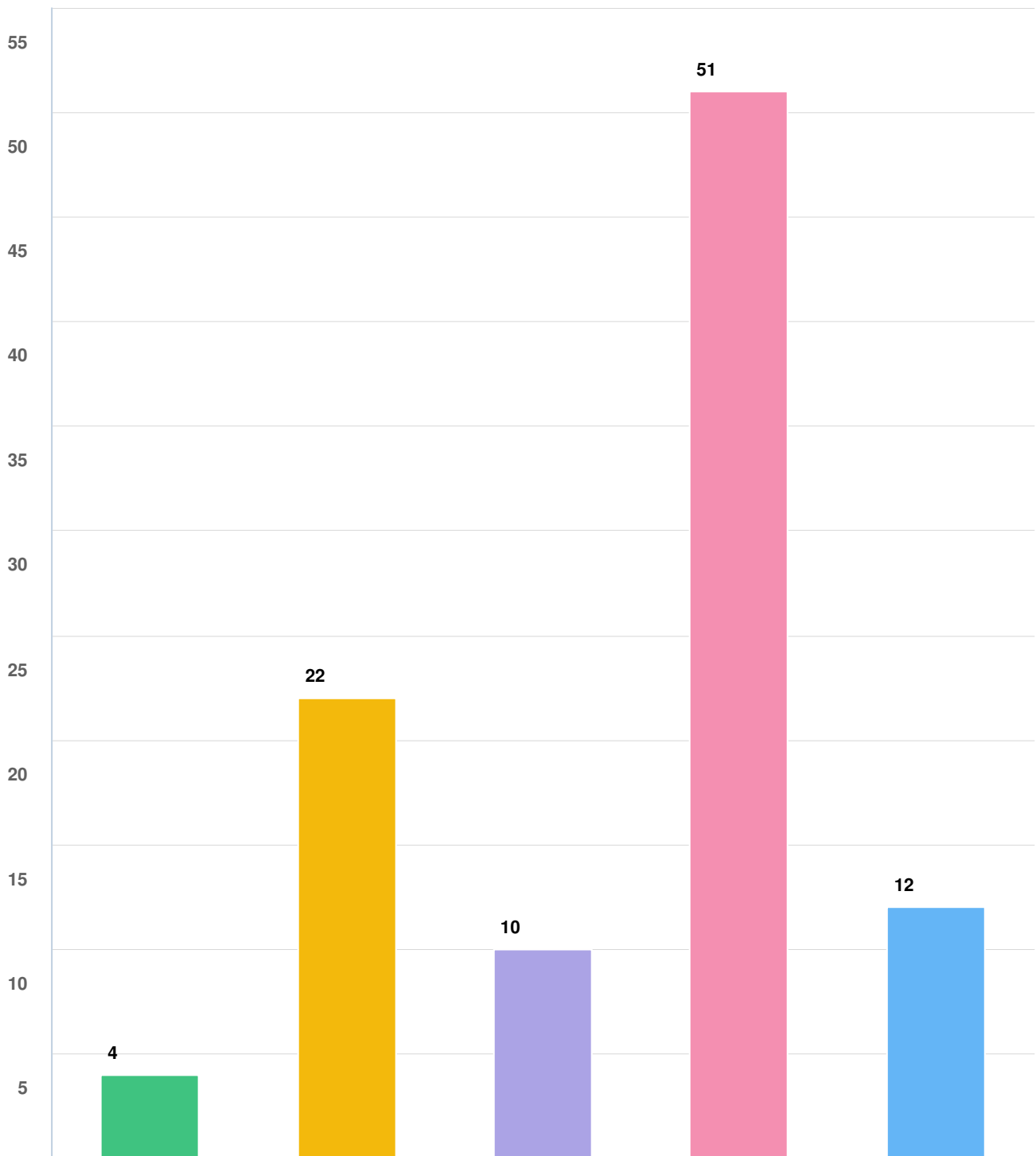


Question options

- Traditional
- Nature play
- Open ended
- Net climbers

Optional question (72 response(s), 7 skipped)
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q23 Select any of the playground themes listed below that that appeal to you.

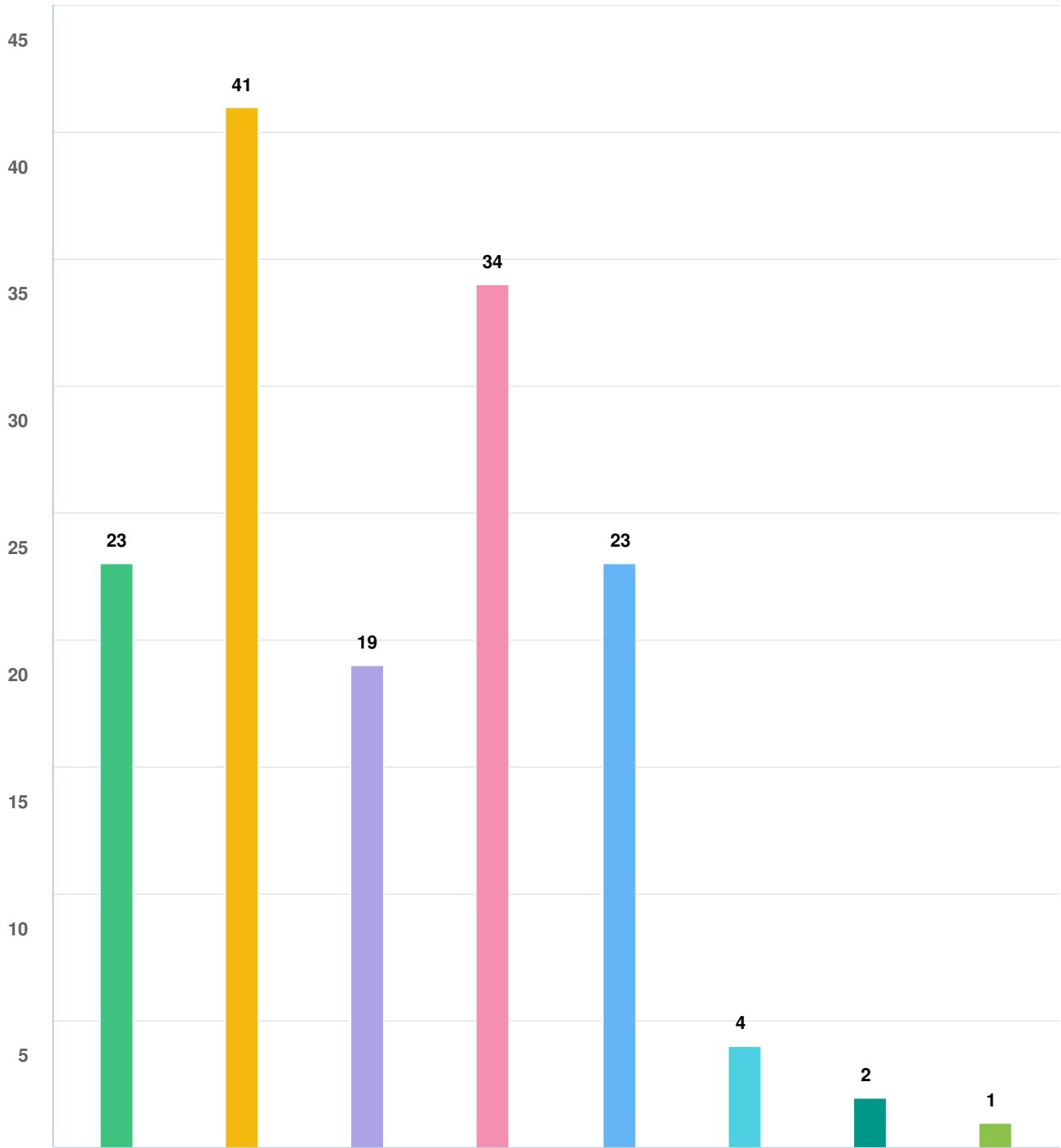


Question options

- Medieval
- Mystical
- Farm
- Woodland
- Theme not important

*Optional question (70 response(s), 9 skipped)
Question type: Checkbox Question*

Q24 The climbers shown below are just a few of the many kinds of climbers that are available. Please select your favorite climbers to help us understand the kind of climbing experience that is most desired.

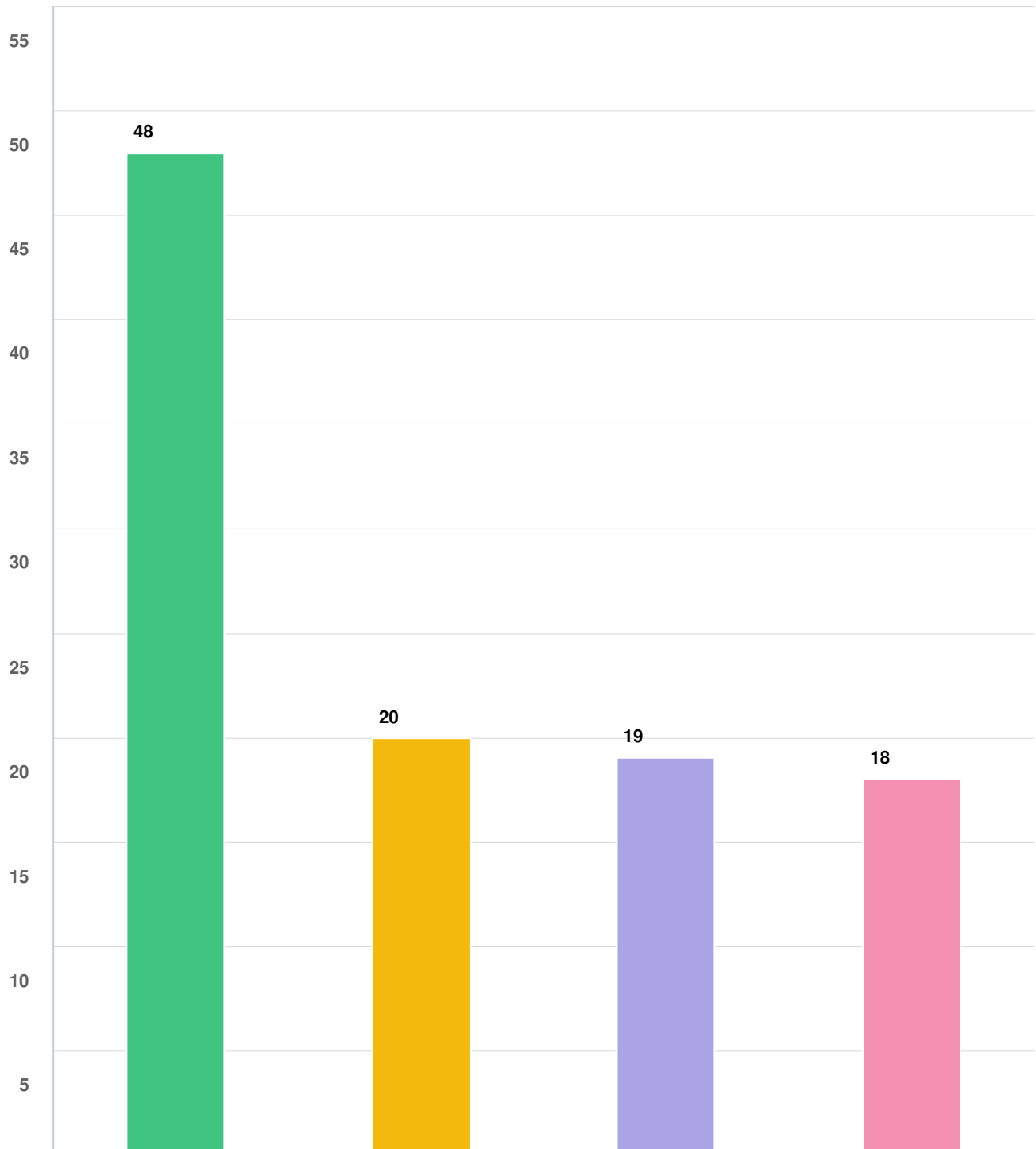


Question options

- Dome climber
- Rock climber
- Net climber
- Log climber
- Traverse climber
- Block climber
- Coil climber
- Arch climber

Optional question (70 response(s), 9 skipped)
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q25 Swings are planned for this park, and there are several kinds. Please select your favorite type of swings to help us understand the kind of swinging experience is most desired.

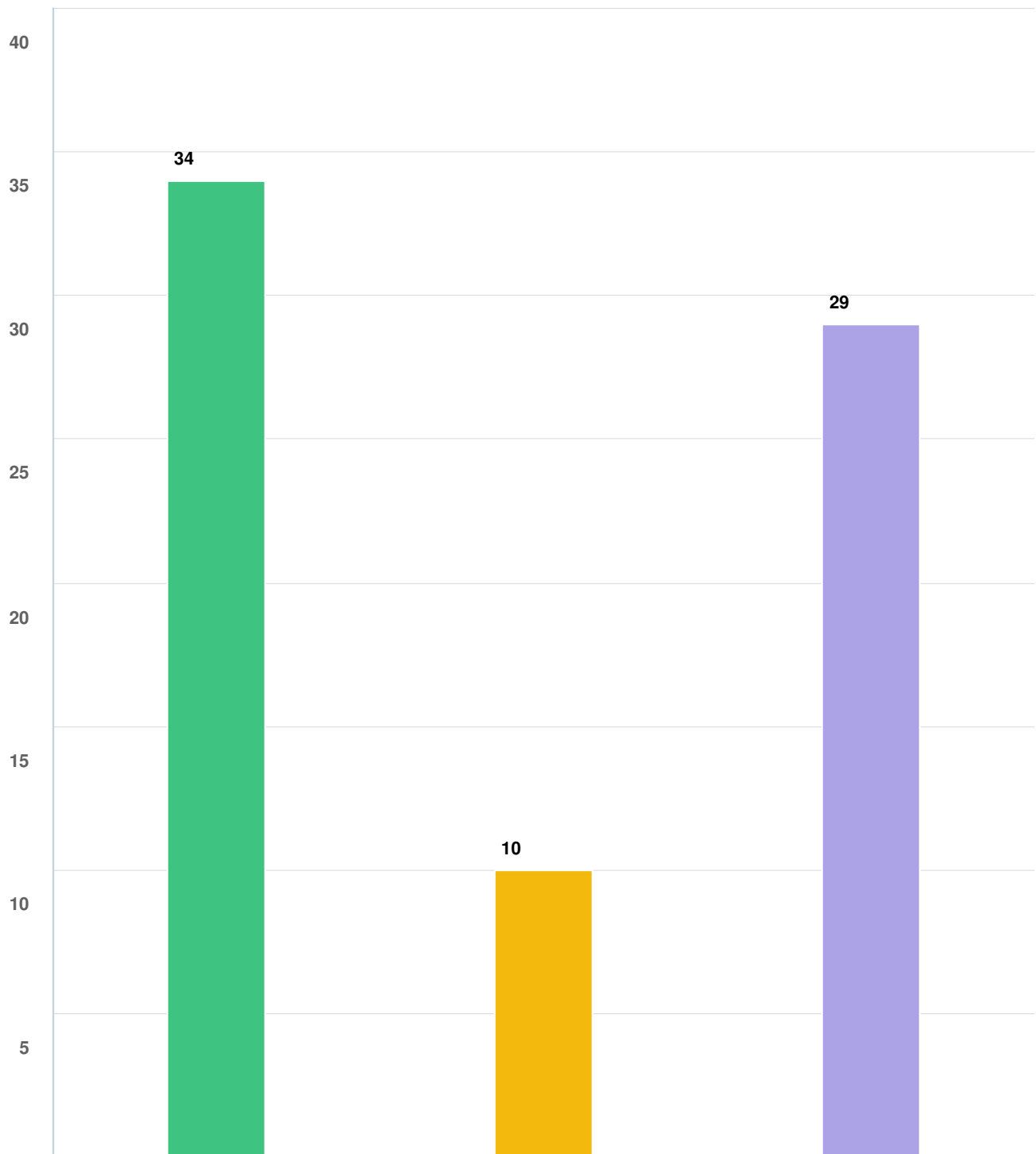


Question options

- To-fro swings
- Disc swings
- Tire swing
- Buddy swing

Optional question (68 response(s), 11 skipped)
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q26 Upper body equipment helps build strong muscles in kids and some even say it's fun!
Please select your favorite upper body playground equipment.

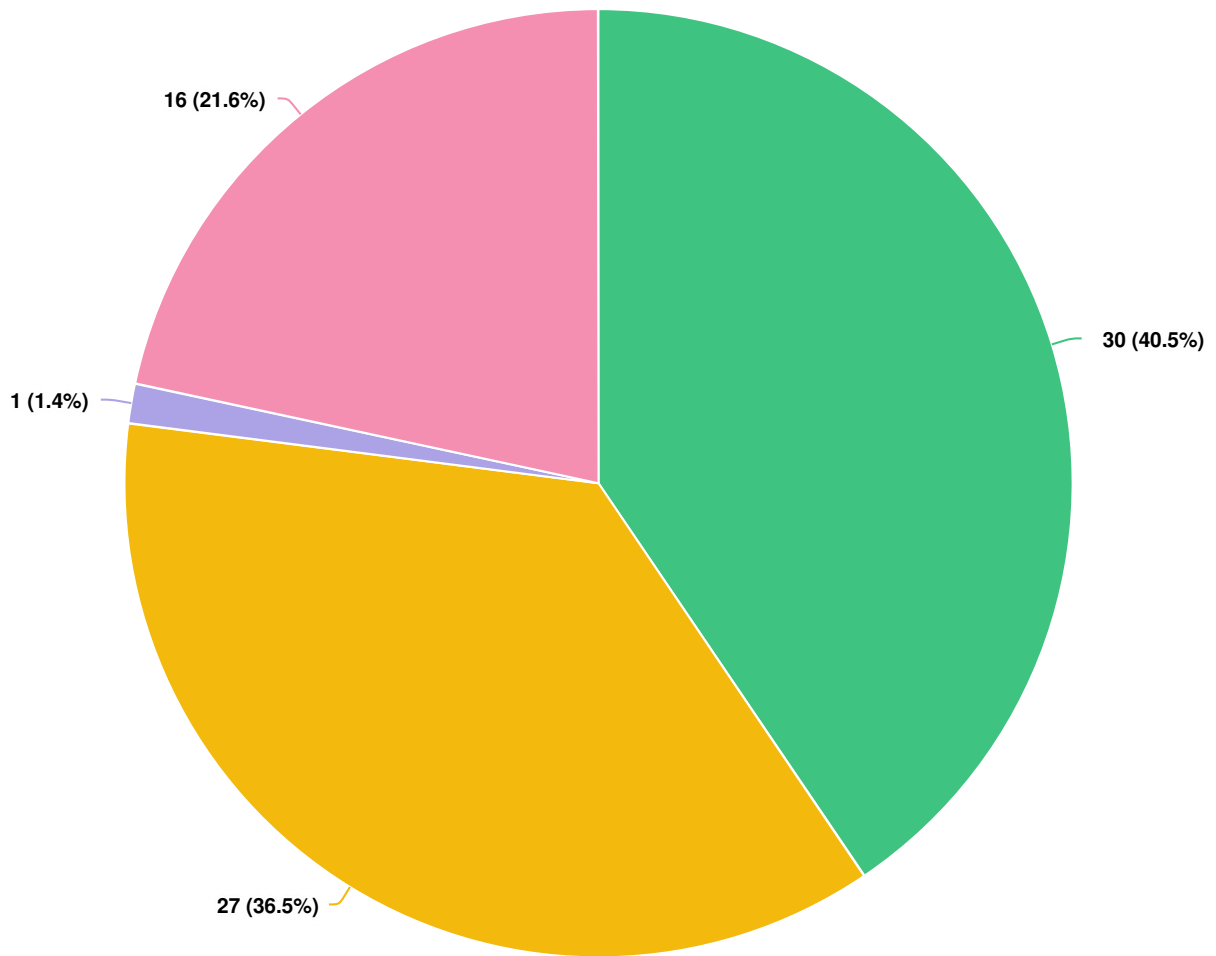


Question options

- Overhead ladder
- Sky wheels
- Track ride

Optional question (63 response(s), 16 skipped)
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q27 Do you like musical instruments such as drums, bells, horns, and xylophones in a playground?

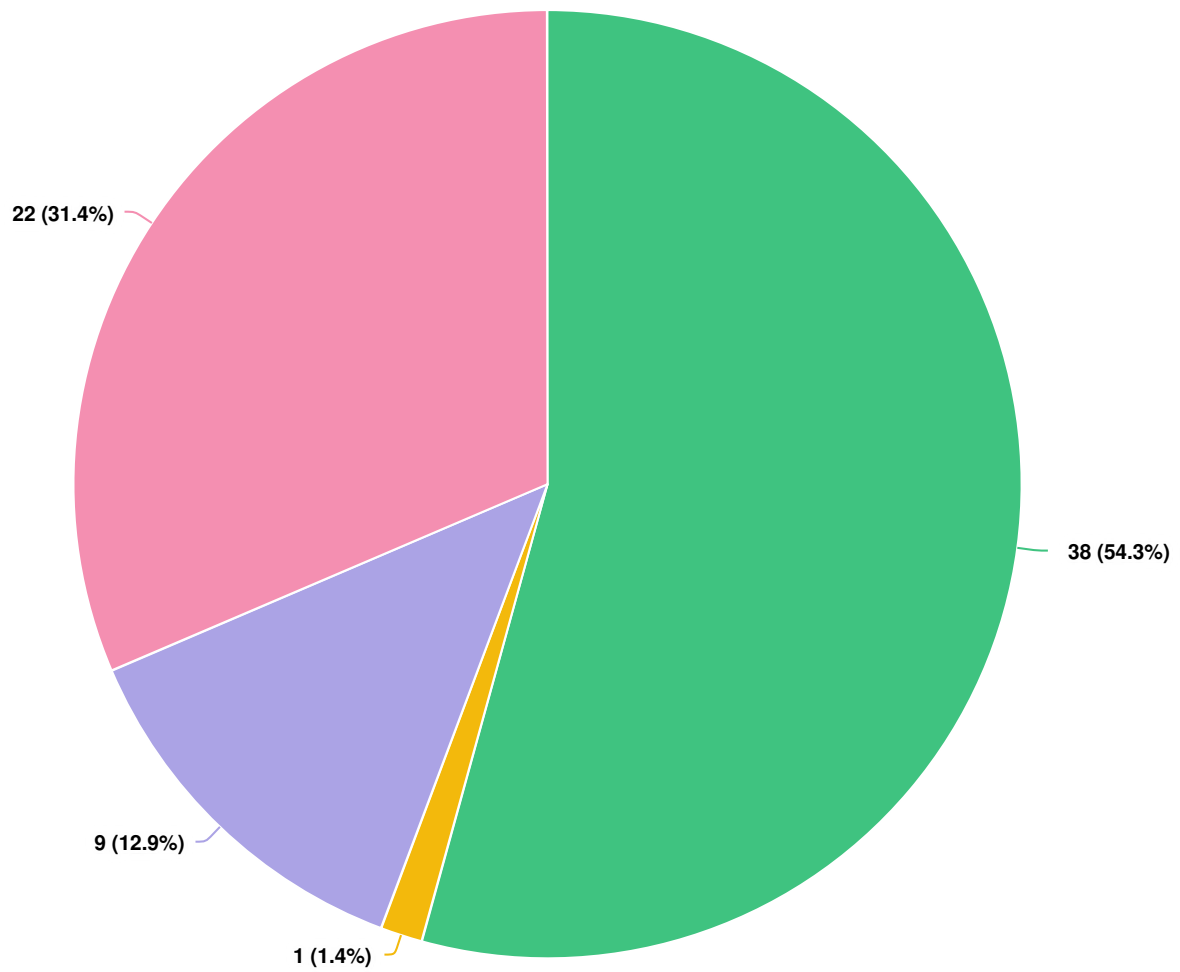


Question options

- Yes
- No
- I don't know
- No preference

Optional question (74 response(s), 5 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q28 What's your preference for Teeter-totters and See-saws?

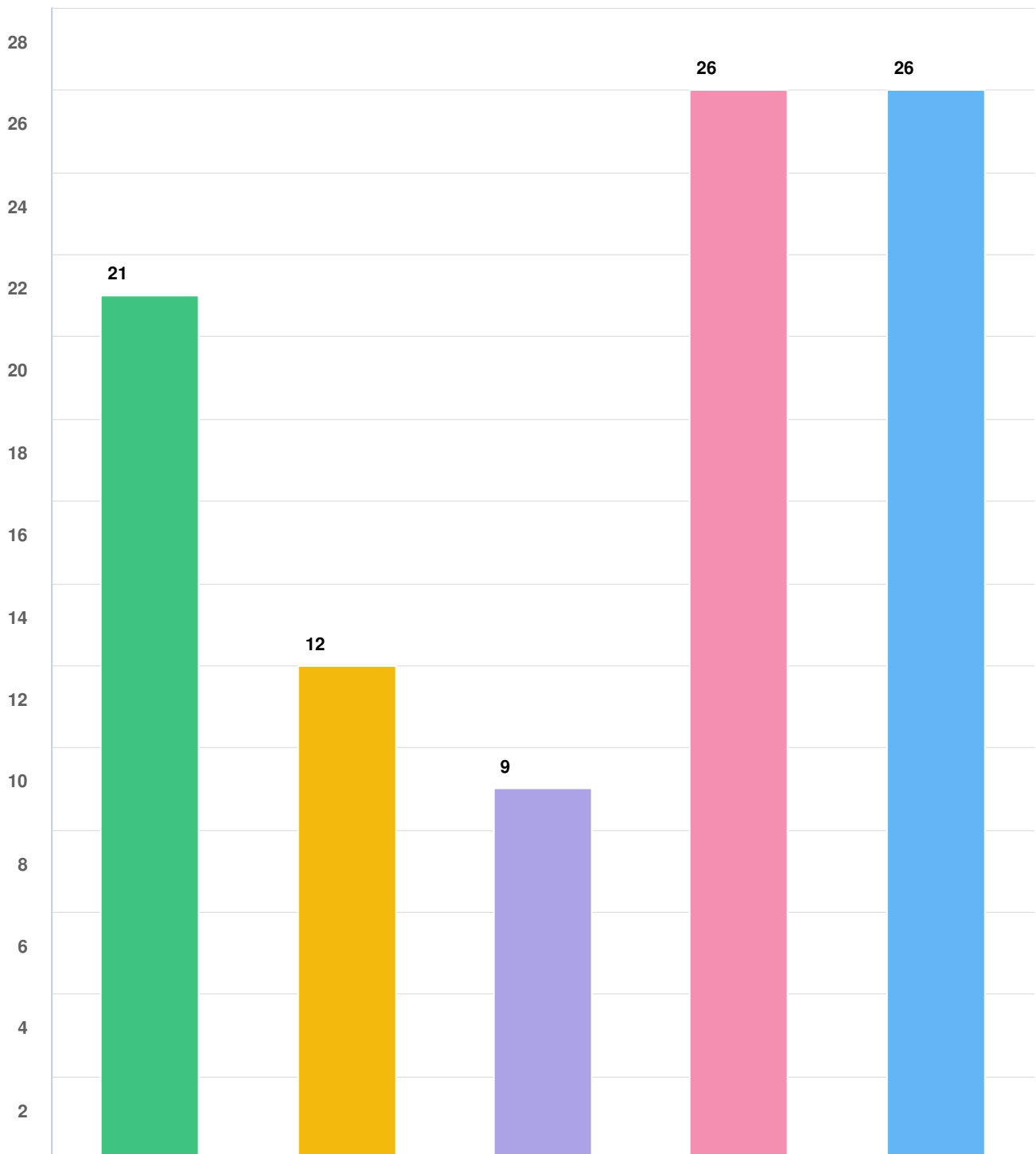


Question options

- Love them
- Dislike them
- Uninspired by them
- No preference

Optional question (70 response(s), 9 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q29 Please select your favorite spinners and other rotating equipment.

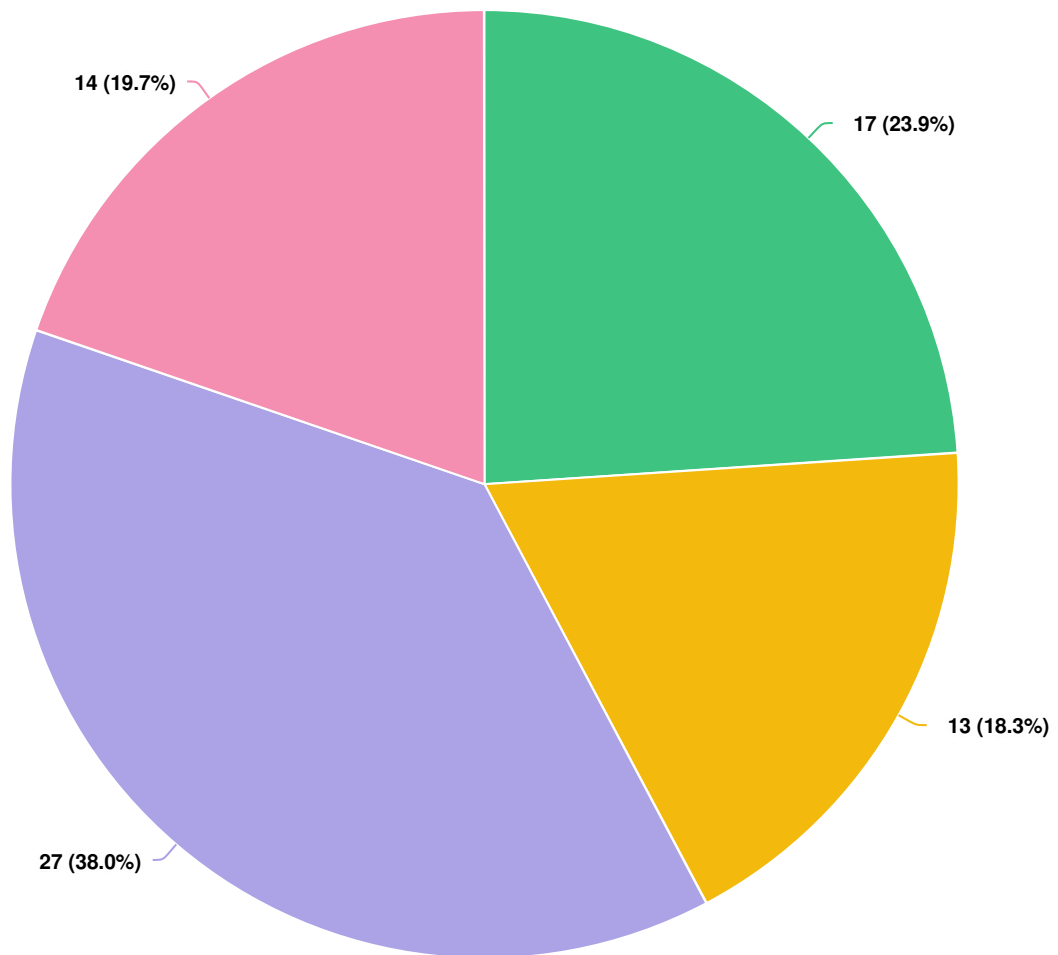


Question options

- Cone spinner
- Stand up spinner
- Sit down spinner
- Group spinner
- Merry go round

*Optional question (65 response(s), 14 skipped)
Question type: Checkbox Question*

Q30 Do you like spring toys?

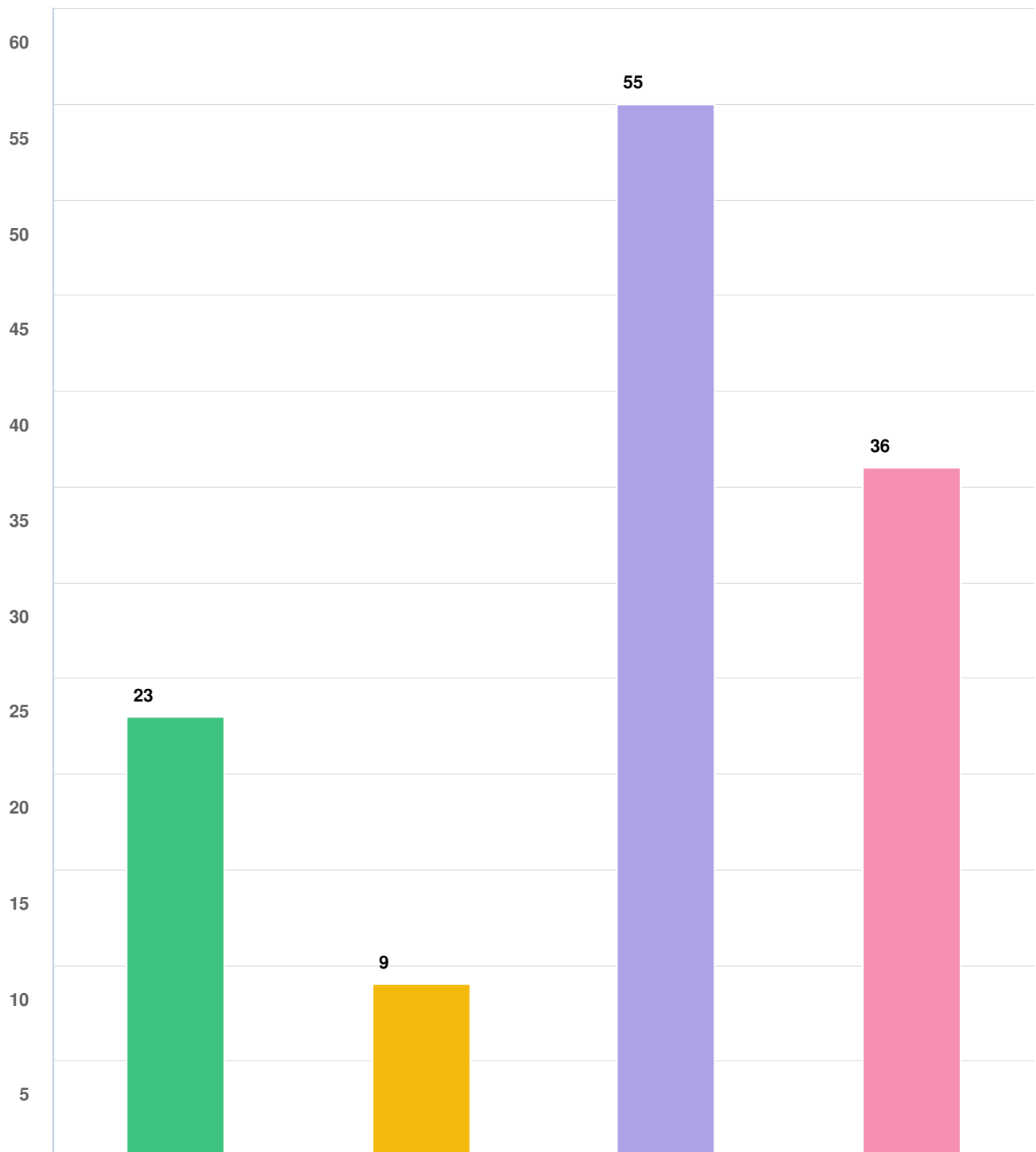


Question options

- Yes!
- Somewhat
- Neutral
- Dislike

Optional question (71 response(s), 8 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q31 What kind of balancing equipment do you like? Please select your favorites.

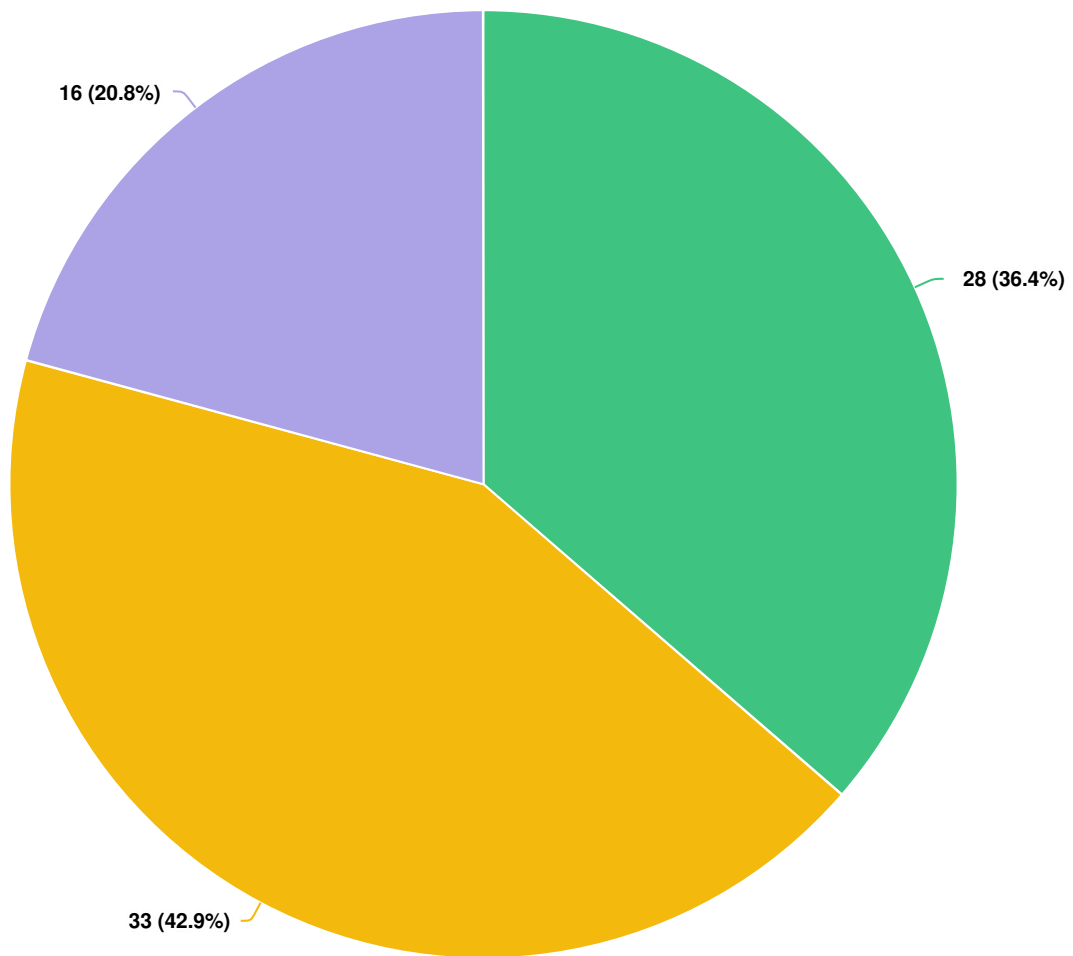


Question options

- Balance beam
- Bounce button
- Rope bridge
- Log crossing

*Optional question (70 response(s), 9 skipped)
Question type: Checkbox Question*

Q32 | A zipline is a cable that runs between two support structures with a seat suspended below the cable, by means of a moving trolley. The zipline at Squalicum Creek Park is about 95 feet long and, for reference, a zipline of that size would take up ab...



Question options

- Yes
- No
- Don't know / no preference

Optional question (77 response(s), 2 skipped)
Question type: Radio Button Question