



MEMO

To: Recreation and Culture Standing Committee

From: Kari Kluge, Director of Recreation and Culture

Date: January 3rd, 2025

Subject: Westview Park Improvement Survey Results

To gather community input on potential improvements to Westview Park, City staff conducted a survey from November 22nd to December 6th. The survey was shared through social media and the City's website, inviting residents to share their preferences and suggestions. Please see the feedback collected during this period below:

Survey Questions

The community survey included the following questions:

1. How often do you visit Westview Park?
2. What activities do you typically enjoy at Westview Park? If you selected Other, please specify.
3. What type of structure would you like to see replace the old pavilion? (Please note, these are example photos of structure shapes. Final product/finishes may differ slightly.)
4. What additional amenities or features would improve your experience at Westview Park? If you selected Other, please specify.
5. Are there any specific accessibility improvements you'd like to see in the park? If Yes, please specify.
6. How important is maintaining the natural character of Westview Park to you?
7. Do you have suggestions for improving the summer concert series or making the park more event-friendly?
8. Do you have any other ideas or suggestions for enhancing Westview Park?

Key Findings from the Survey Results

1. Frequency of Visits

A significant portion of the community frequents Westview Park regularly:

- Weekly: 104 respondents
- Monthly: 116 respondents
- Rarely: 66 respondents

- Daily: 15 respondents

The results show the park is an integral part of community life, with most respondents visiting weekly or monthly.

2. Activities Enjoyed

Respondents highlighted various activities they enjoy, including:

- Walking/hiking nature trails
- Attending the Summer Concert Series
- Relaxing/picnicking
- Using the children's play area

These findings underscore the park's role in providing both recreational opportunities and a venue for community events.

3. Type/Shape of Shade Structure (based on the provided photos in the attached survey)

When asked to select their favorite design/photo option, the results were as follows:

- Option 5: 139 votes
- Option 1: 61 votes
- Option 4: 45 votes
- Option 3: 36 votes
- Option 2: 25 votes

4. Additional Amenities and features

Community suggestions for amenities included:

- More seating areas: 189 votes
- Improved playground equipment: 98 votes
- Enhanced trail signage or maps: 69 votes
- Public art installation: 69 votes
- Better lighting for safety: 124 votes
- A designated area for community events or small gatherings: 177 votes
- Other: 38 votes

Other themes of suggestions that were mentioned:

- Community event spaces
- Water stations
- Improved accessibility for wheelchairs and strollers

- Methods to mitigate geese presence in high-use areas

These suggestions point to a desire for enhanced usability and aesthetic appeal.

5. Accessibility Improvements

While 225 respondents had no specific suggestions, 52 highlighted the need for:

- Improved paths and trails for wheelchairs and strollers
- Accessible restrooms
- Special needs playground equipment

These responses reflect a call for inclusivity in park design.

6. Importance of Natural Character

Respondents ranked the importance of maintaining the park's natural features:

- Very important: 206 responses
- Somewhat important: 87 responses
- Not very important: 11 responses

Preserving the natural character of the park is a top priority for the community.

7. Event Improvements

To enhance the Summer Concert Series and other events, respondents suggested:

- Covered seating and stage areas
- Improved accessibility for attendees
- Additional events like outdoor movies and markets

8. General Suggestions

Recurring themes in open-ended feedback included:

- Improved restroom facilities
- Enhanced play equipment
- Better trail signage
- Controlling geese populations

Moving Forward

The survey results provide a clear roadmap for future improvements to Westview Park. Staff will prepare a detailed Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Westview Park Pavilion replacement, focusing on the inclusion of diverse shaded areas to address community needs. While Option 5 received the most votes due to its appealing design—featuring smaller individual shaded areas

over picnic tables—it is not ideal for hosting large events or gatherings, which were also highlighted as important by respondents. To address this, the RFP will include plans for a larger shaded structure to serve as a central hub for community events and gatherings. Additionally, a phased approach will be adopted to incorporate smaller, individual shaded structures in other parts of the park, offering private shaded seating options for visitors. This strategy will allow staff to seek funding assistance for both types of shade structures, ensuring a well-rounded and inclusive solution that meets the diverse needs of park users.

In Conclusion the survey findings will guide staff in preparing a detailed RFP for the project. Incorporating community preferences and addressing practical concerns will ensure Westview Park continues to serve as a vibrant and inclusive community space.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kl Kl', is positioned above the typed name.

Kari Kluge
Director of Recreation and Culture