Hardy Recreation Center

Community Survey Meeting

May 8,2018

BRAILSFORD & DUNLAVEY

DPR DC DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

DGS THE DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES

Agenda

1. DPR Mission and Vision
2. Hardy Park Layout
3. Survey Demographics
4. Hardy Park Usage
5. Recommendations
6. Wrap Up

DPR's Mission and Vision

Mission

"DPR's mission is to promote health and wellness; conserve the natural environment; and provide universal access to parks and recreation services."

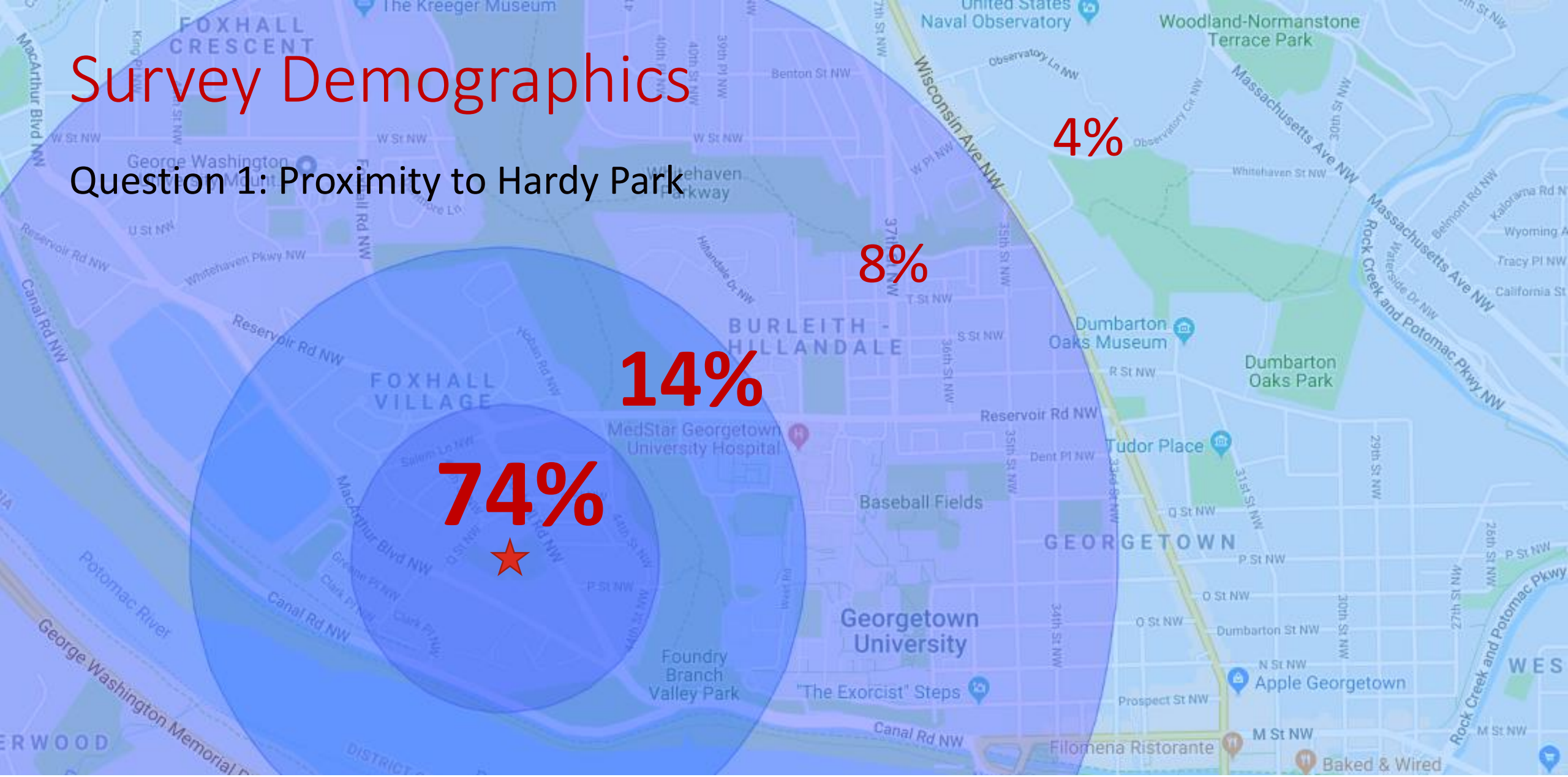
DPR Vision

MOVE – provide all residents affordable, enjoyable opportunities for physical fitness and recreation;
GROW – support personal development among residents through self enrichment activities; and
BE GREEN – promote practices that connect residents to their local environment.

Hardy Park Layout

Survey Demographics

Question 1: Proximity to Hardy Park



Hardy Park Usage

Question 2: How often do you visit Hardy Park?

50% - High Impact Users

- Visit daily or multiples times per week.

32% - Medium Impact Users

- Visit once a week or month.

18% - Low Impact Users

- Visit a few times a year or never.

Hardy Park Usage

Households with younger children visit Hardy Park more often than households with older or no children.

% of High and Medium Impact Users	Households by Children Age Group
94%	Ages 2 to 4 years old
90%	Under 24 months
90%	Ages 5 to 7 years old
88%	Ages 8 to 13 years old
77%	Ages 14 to years old
72%	No children
46%	Ages 18 and up

Hardy Park Usage

Respondents over 50 years old are more likely to be Low Impact Users.

Age Group	Low Impact Users Per Age Group
Ages 50 and up	**28%**
Ages 25 to 34	14%
Ages 35 to 49	13%

What is/are the main factor(s) driving higher Low Impact usage rates among respondents over 50?

Hardy Park Usage

With younger families having a higher park usage rate, renovating the playground promotes DPR's MOVE vision.

Question 7 - 104 Answered, 84 Skipped.

What Is Keeping Respondents Away from Hardy Park?	Mentions
Old, inadequate playground equipment and amenities.	**26**
Dogs off leash/Not picking up after dogs.	**19**
Lack of dog run/restrictions on dogs.	**18**
Lack of splash pad for Spring/Summer usage.	8
Lack of recreation center space/programming for kids.	7
Lack of adult activities or seating areas.	5
Lack of fitness equipment or exercise classes.	4
Playing field conditions.	4
Proximity and convenience.	4
Non-residents occupying spaces.	3
Quality of basketball hoops.	2

Hardy Park Usage

If you don't use Hardy Park as much as you would like, what keeps you from using it?

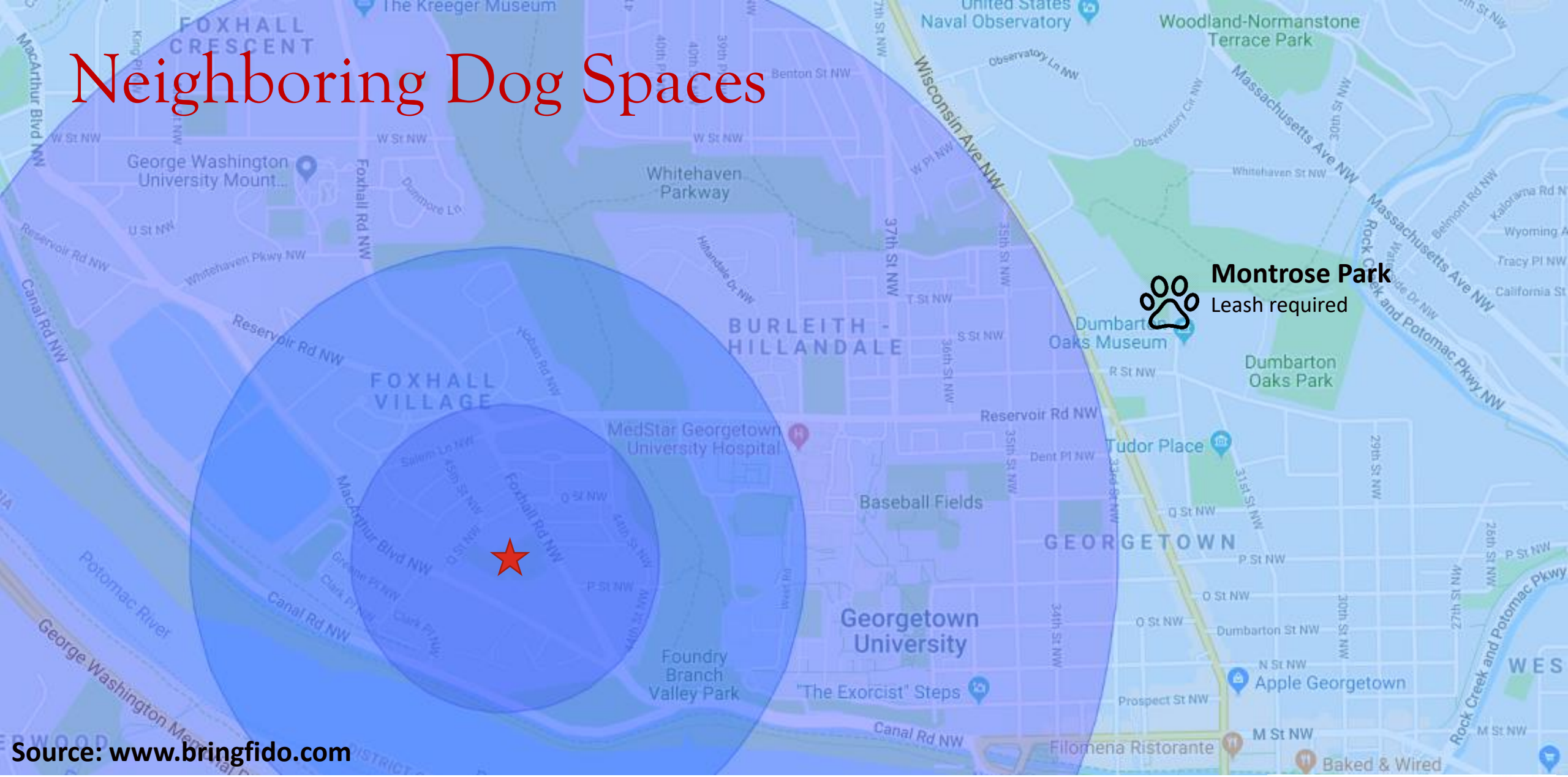
Question 7 - 104 Answered, 84 Skipped.

> *"Worry about **dog issues**. I have [a dog] but worry about upsetting people if I let him run in the park."*

> *"**More after-school programs**, we end up going to a park in Chevy Chase DC but would love to have a local offering"*

> *"There is **no worthwhile programming** (or space) at the Recreation Center for adults or children. Until recently the courts were in disrepair. Kids are not excited about play equipment. Super shady in playground."*

Neighboring Dog Spaces



Source: www.bringfido.com

Hardy Park Usage

Hardy Park thrives in promoting DPR's BE GREEN vision of connecting residents to their local environment.

Question 9 - 161 Answered, 27 Skipped.

What do you like MOST about Hardy Park as it is now?	Mentions
1. Spacious, green space	**56**
2. Big trees, shaded space	**39**
3. Proximity	**30**
4. Playground	**27**
5. Sense of community	**21**
6. Amenities (tennis and basketball courts, soccer field)	15
7. Quiet space for kids to play	9
8. Sandbox	8
9. Pet friendly/space for dogs to play	7
10. Recreation center	7
11. Community garden	4
12. Not too overdeveloped (vs. Palisades or Volta Parks)	3

Hardy Park Usage

What do you like MOST about Hardy Park as it is now?

Question 9 - 161 Answered, 27 Skipped.

*"It is **open space** in a crowded and densifying city.."*

*"I really like that it's **not TOO overdeveloped** but still has enough amenities for you to spend a few hours. I hope to keep that balance."*

*"I like the **shaded, natural** kids playing area and **community atmosphere**."*

Hardy Park Usage

Upgrading existing equipment and fields along with addressing a space for dogs will provide a more *enjoyable opportunity* for physical fitness and recreation.

Question 10 - 155 Answered, 33 Skipped.

What do you like LEAST about Hardy Park as it is now?	Mentions
1. Lack of dog run/dog rule enforcement	**39**
2. Condition of playground	**37**
3. Condition of clubhouse	**24**
4. Condition of playing fields	**21**
5. No splash pad/water play	12
6. Garbage/lack of proper disposal or recycling	9
7. Lack of classes available/no fitness courses	7
8. Too much sand in the playground	6
9. Lack of seating /picnic tables	5
10. Functioning water fountains	5
11. Condition of bathrooms	3
12. Non-residents using space	3

Hardy Park Usage

What do you like LEAST about Hardy Park as it is now?

Question 10 - 155 Answered, 33 Skipped.

*"Playing fields are poorly designed and **not well maintained**."*

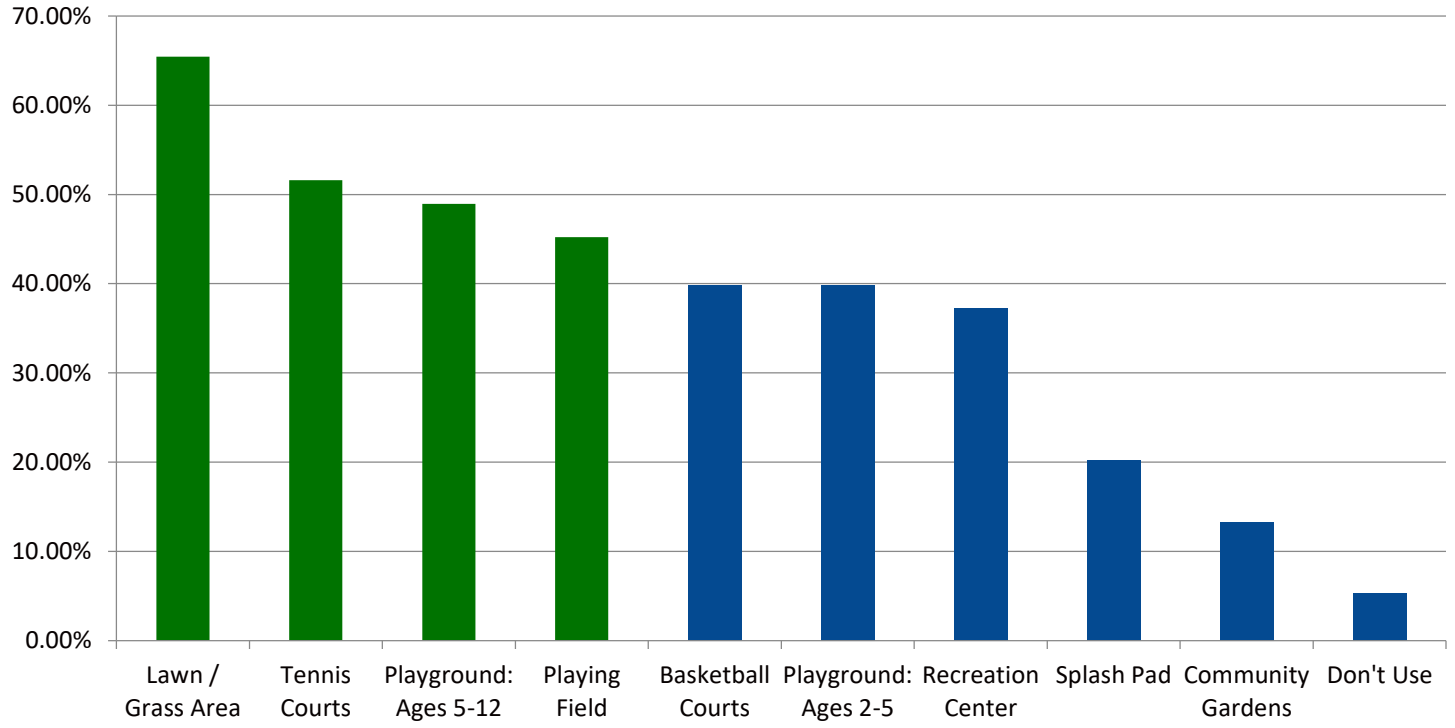
*"**Playground needs upgrade**; circulation is not good overall; **recreation center is too small** to be worthwhile."*

*"Dogs always get kicked off the field when there are so many dog owners around and **NO dog space**."*

Hardy Park Usage

What amenities do you and/or your family members use at Hardy Park?

Question 6 - 179 Answered, 9 Skipped.



Hardy Park Usage

All respondents make use of Hardy Park's *green space*; however, having *children and age impact equipment and facility usage*.

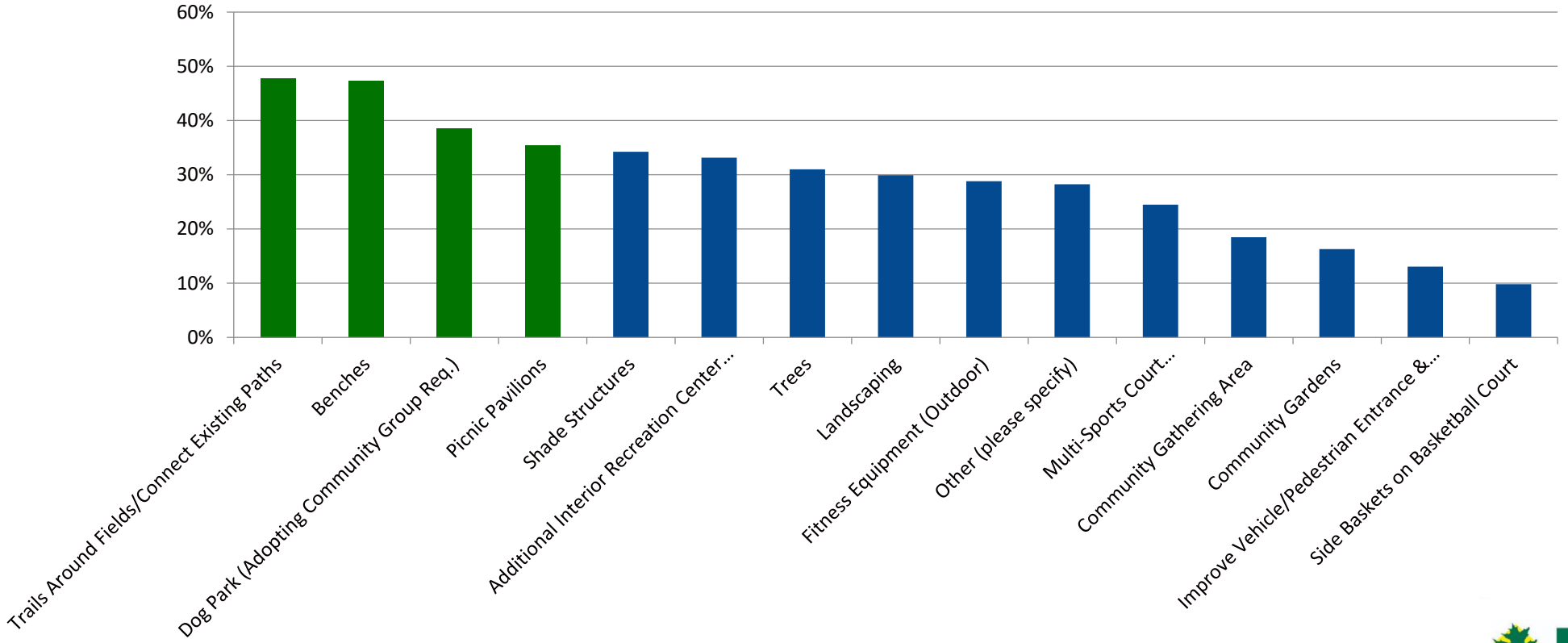
Question 6 - 179 Answered, 9 Skipped.

Ages 25 to 34	Ages 35 to 49	Ages 50+
• Lawn/Grass Area • **Playground Ages 2 to 5** • Playing Fields	• **Playground Ages 5 to 12** • Lawn/Grass Area • Playing Fields	• Lawn/Grass Area • **Tennis Courts** • **Recreation Center**

Hardy Park Usage

What additional amenities should the new Hardy Park provide?

Question 11 - 184 Answered, 4 Skipped.



Hardy Park Usage

Respondents envision a *green space* fit with community trails for *exercise* and benches for *social gatherings*.

Question 11 - 184 Answered, 4 Skipped.

Ages 25 to 34	Ages 35 to 49	Ages 50+
• **Trails** • Dog Park • Picnic Pavilion • **Benches** • Fitness Equipment	• **Benches** • **Trails** • Shaded Structure • Interior Rec Programming • Picnic Pavilion	• **Benches** • **Trails** • Dog Park • Shaded Structure • Landscaping

Hardy Park Usage

Would you be in favor of expanding the recreation center to add additional program space?

Question 12 - 178 Answered, 10 Skipped.

71% - Yes

*"**Expand programming**, including but not limited to yoga, dance, exercise classes, art, barre."*

*"It can only have one event at a time. Would better serve the community if there is a **more robust space for programming**."*

Hardy Park Usage

Would you be in favor of expanding the recreation center to add additional program space?

Question 12 - 178 Answered, 10 Skipped.

29% - No

*"**Fields** and **playgrounds** are **more valuable**."*

*"**Once the outdoor space is better utilized**, it would make sense to look at improving the rec center."*

*"We have **many places for programs in the MANY schools** in our neighborhoods as well as 2 public libraries. "*

Hardy Park Usage

What type of theme would you like to see for the playground?

Question 15 - 180 Answered, 8 Skipped.

70% - Natural

Hardy Park Usage

What type of surfacing would you prefer in the playground?

Question 16 - 170 Answered, 18 Skipped.

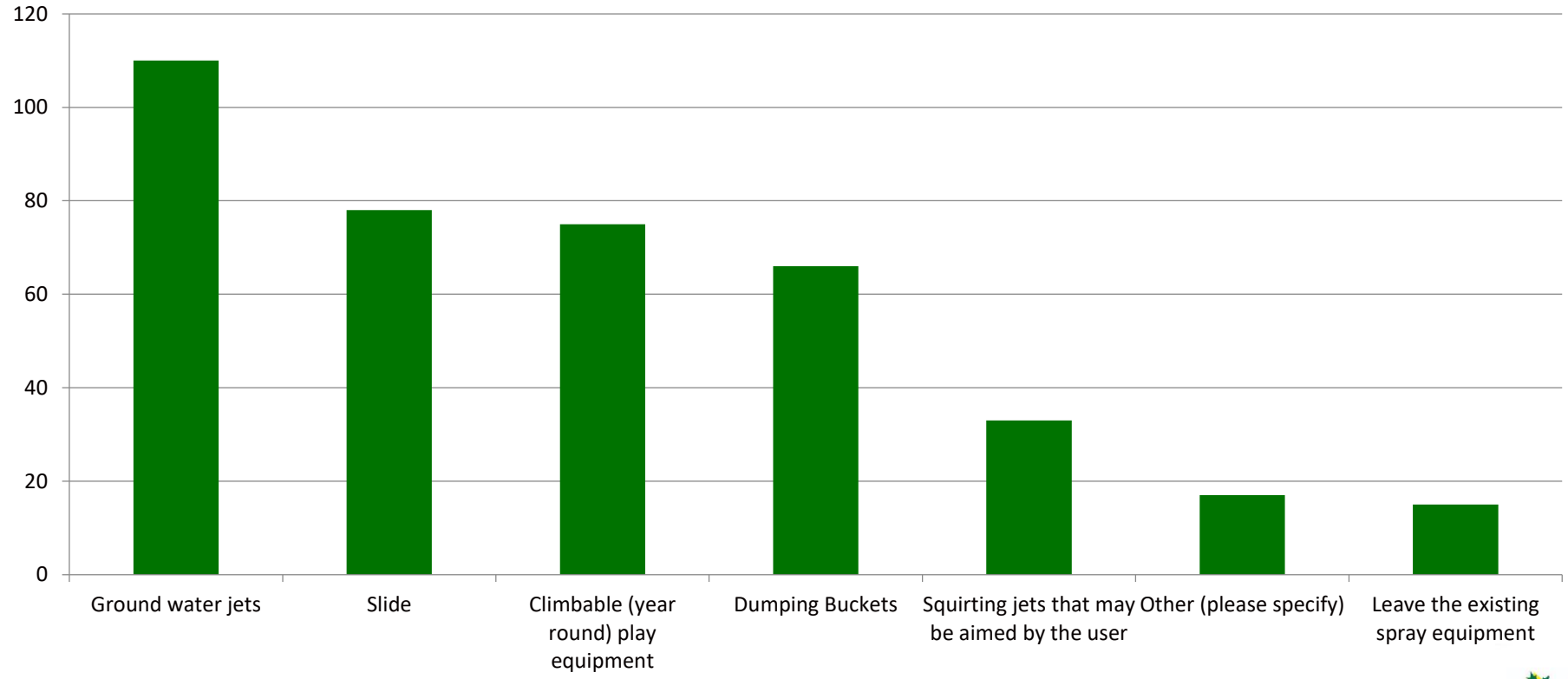
42% - Engineered Wood Fiber (Mulch/Wood Chips) – Similar to Existing

34% - Poured-in-Place Rubber

Hardy Park Usage

What pieces of equipment would you like to see in the Splash Park?

Question 18 - 179 Answered, 9 Skipped.



Hardy Park Usage

What type of theme would you like to see for the Splash Pad?

Question 18 - 179 Answered, 9 Skipped.

43% - Natural

33% - Match the Playground

Hardy Park Usage

What type of landscape improvements would you like to see in the park?

Question 19 - 176 Answered, 12 Skipped.

Ages 25 to 34	Ages 35 to 49	Ages 50+
• **Lawn/Grass Fields** • **Trees** • Native Plants	• Butterfly Gardens • **Trees** • **Lawn/Grass Fields**	• Butterfly Garden • **Lawn/Grass Fields** • **Trees**

Recommendations

To promote ***DPR's mission*** and ***vision*** at Hardy Park and maximize community engagement, the following recommendations are made:

1. Upgrade playground equipment for children of all ages.
2. Conserve natural grass fields while incorporating trails and gardens to promote health and wellness.
3. Build a dog run to attract Low Impact users and alleviate the concerns of young families.
4. Expand the recreation center to allow for multiple events/programs at one time.
5. Upgrade the splash pad to incorporate additional equipment.

Next Steps and Questions?

Thank you!