

# MILWAUKIE PARK DEVELOPMENT PROJECT: SCOTT PARK

## SUMMER 2022 OUTREACH SUMMARY



### Prepared for

City of Milwaukie



### Prepared by

JLA Public Involvement

August 2022

## Introduction

For the second phase of the City of Milwaukie’s Parks Engagement Project, the City conducted an online survey and in-person event for Scott Park in August 2022. At the in-person event, the City gave a presentation about the feedback from the May online survey and in-person event, shared the two concept plans created from that feedback, and had the opportunity to give feedback on the concept. The event and online survey were bilingual in English and Spanish.



## Overall Participation and Notification

The project team developed an **online survey** and hosted an **in-person event** to gather community feedback and share two concept plans for the park. The online survey was open from August 5 – August 18, 2022. There were **169 visitors** and **97 responses** to the online survey.

The in-person event, held on August 4<sup>th</sup>, had approximately 58 people in attendance, with 16 people signing-in at the event. Those who participated could visit a series of stations to provide input. The City also received **32 written surveys**.

The online survey and written survey had similar questions. A **total of 129 people responded to the survey** either online or in written form.

Community members were informed about the event through the following:

- Mailers were sent to addresses within a ½ mile radius of the park. A total, 1,816 post cards were mailed and an additional 300 were distributed at the Ledding Library, City offices, the Milwaukie Farmer’s Market, North Main Apartments, and other downtown locations.
- Social Media posts to Facebook pages.
- An article in the local Pilot newspaper introducing the parks project.
- Posts on the project website.

## Feedback Themes

**Nature, inclusion, and community** were the key themes from this round of outreach, with nature-related elements being the most popular type of elements people would like to see in the new park design.

Many users appreciate the current pond and the animals living there and wish to protect their habitat, and for some, that includes having a more peaceful or quiet park that supports a healthy habitat. Of those who requested a play structure, **many prefer “nature play”** to “structure play” or traditional playground design.



Architectural elements requested the most include the **pergola and stage**, and many participants liked that these elements offer large groups a chance to come together and engage. Many respondents mentioned that if these elements were included in the park, they need to be made accessible for users with mobility devices like wheelchairs.

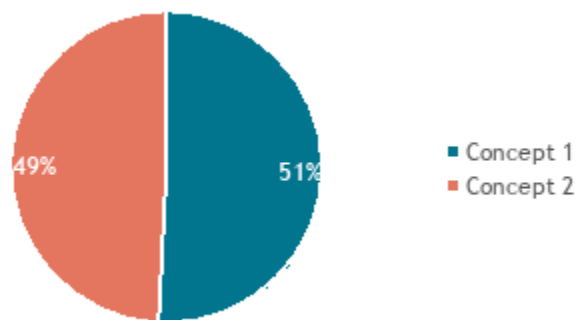
Overall, respondents would like Scott Park to be a welcoming space for all users and foster natural habitat.

## Combined Online and In-Person Survey Responses

Participants were given the opportunity to answer a series of questions related to what they like about the two Scott Park concept plans, challenges they have when visiting the park, and desired improvements. Feedback from both the online survey and in-person event (which included a feedback form and interactive activities) has been combined and is summarized below.

### 1. Which of the two concept plans best addresses community needs and feedback?

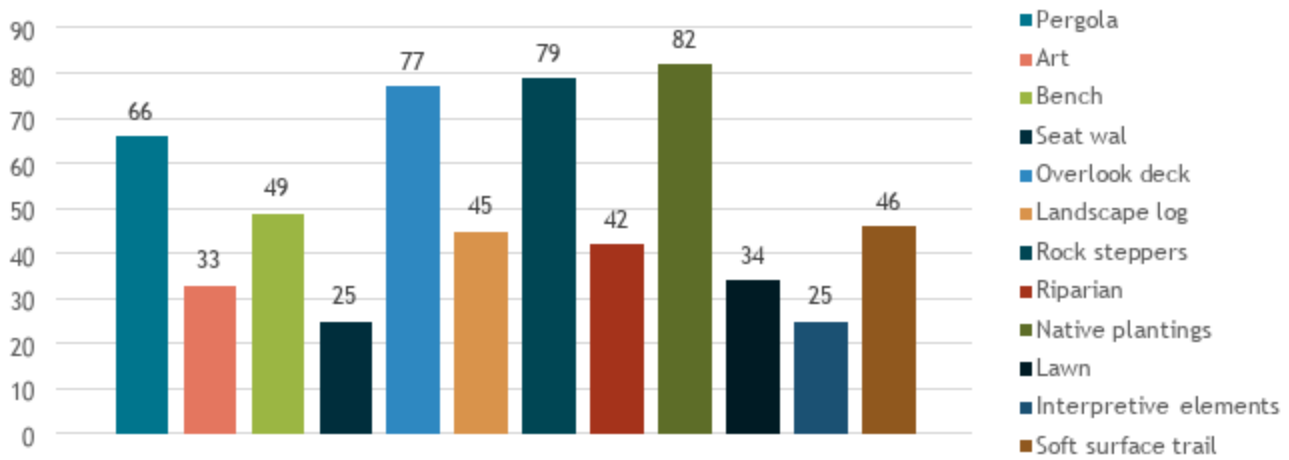
Preference between the two concept plans for was equally distributed, with **Concept 1** receiving just 2 more comments voicing support than Concept 2.



### 2. Circle your top 5 favorite elements for each concept. We might be able to combine the community's favorite elements in the final design for Scott Park!

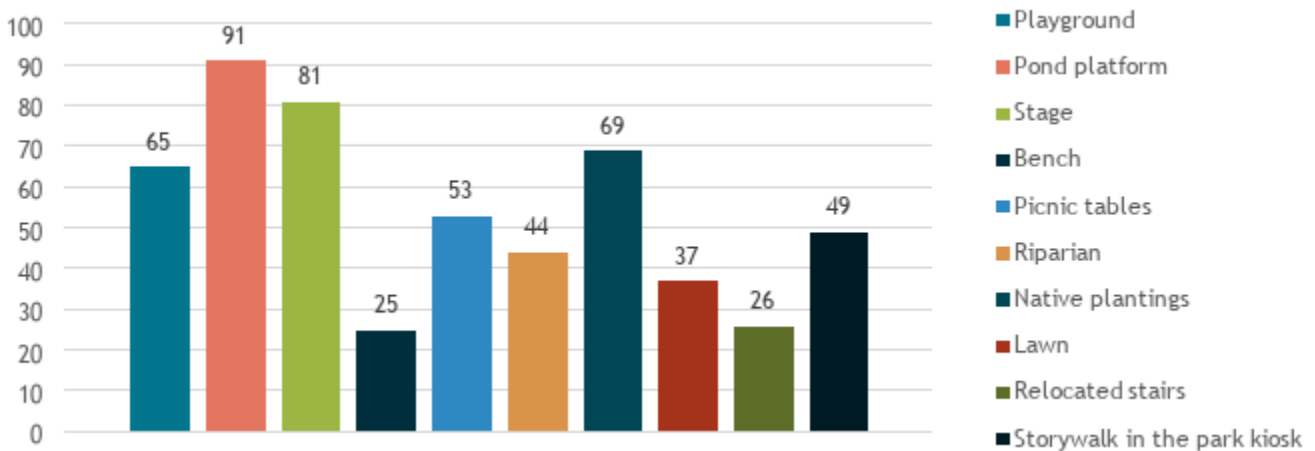
#### Favorite elements for Concept 1

For Concept 1, the preferred elements include **native plantings (82)**, **rock steppers (79)**, and the **overlook deck (77)**. The **pergola (66)** was also a popular element.



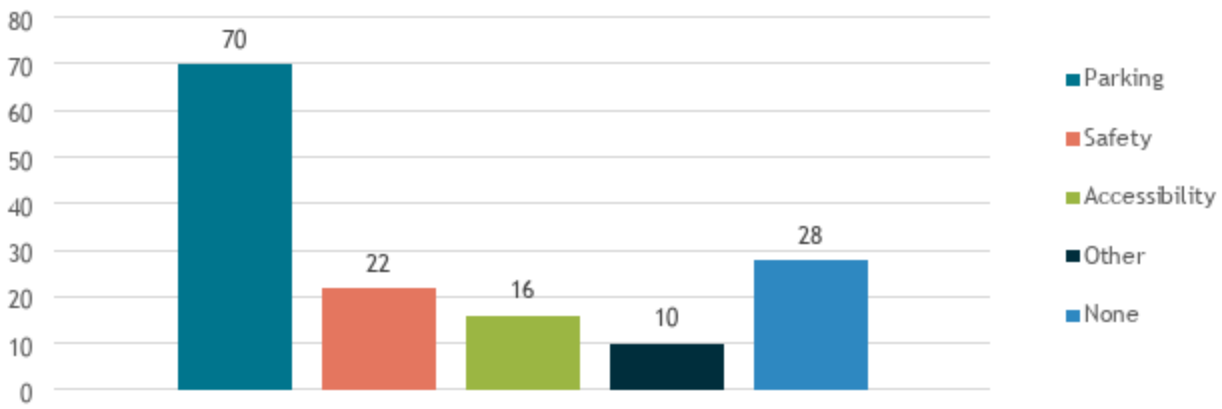
### Favorite elements for Concept 2

For Concept 2, the **pond platform (91)** and **stage (81)** were both selected by over 62% of respondents. The next two favorite choices include **native plantings (69)** and a **playground (65)**.



### 3. Do you see any challenges to visiting the park once it is constructed?

**Parking** was indicated as the biggest challenge to accessing the park. Of those who responded “other,” one brought up that **transportation safety** getting to and from the park make it challenging to visit Scott Park.

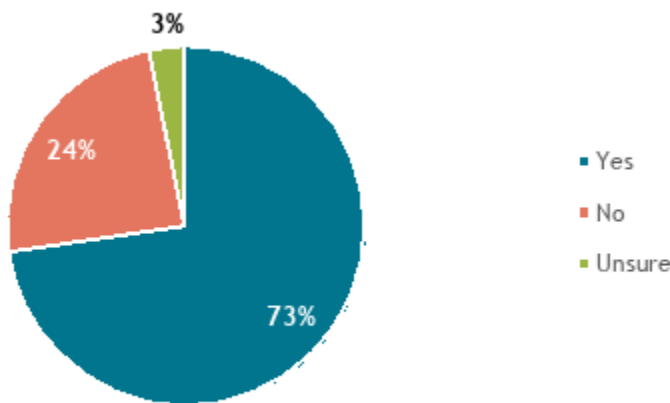


#### 4. Is there anything else we should consider for the Scott Park design?

Many participants shared their thoughts on what else should be considered for Scott Park. The most prominent theme was around issues of **nature**. Suggestions on this theme ranged from selecting a “nature play” style playground, incorporating the existing pond into the design and protecting the wildlife there while encouraging observation, to leaving the park as it currently exists. The preference of having trees available for **shade** was also prevalent. **ADA accessibility** was emphasized in many comments, as well as maintaining a strong relationship to the nearby **library**; these topics were echoed in comments about parking.

#### 5. Have you participated in Milwaukie planning events before? (i.e., surveys, online or in-person open house, etc.)

The majority of respondents (73%) said that they had participated in Milwaukie planning events before.

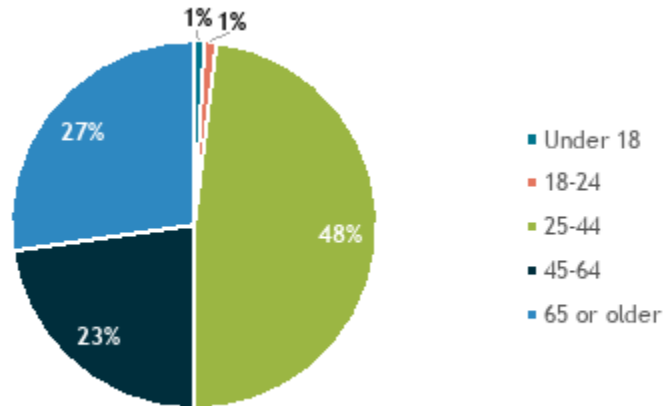


# DEMOGRAPHICS

There were optional demographic questions on both the written and online surveys. Below are the results from those who provided answers to these questions.

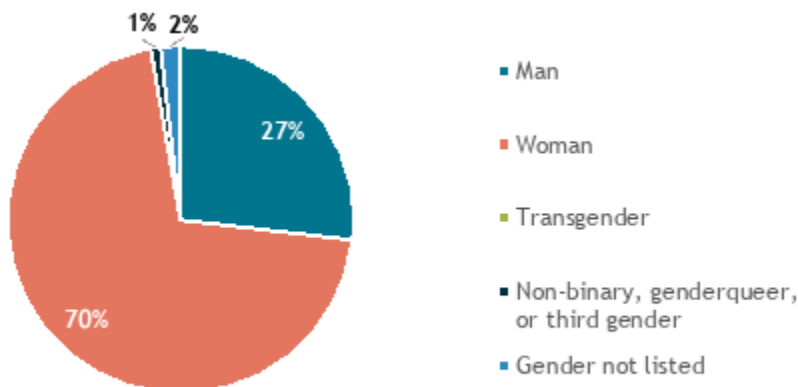
## Age

The majority of participants were in the age range **25 to 44 (48%)**, followed by the **65 or older (27%)**. The under 18 and 65 or older age demographics were underrepresented in survey participation compared to the city rates.



## Gender

The vast majority of respondents identify as **women (70%)** and about a quarter (27%) identify as men.



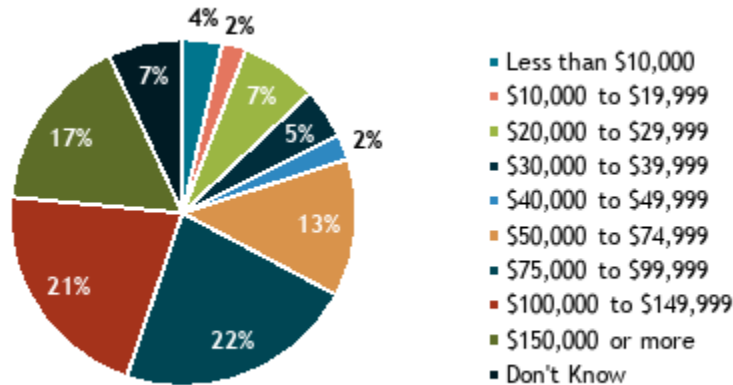
## Race/Ethnicity

The majority of respondents (104) indicated that they identify as white. There were five (5) Hispanic or Latino/a/x respondents, three (3) Black or African American, three (3) Asian or Asian American, one (1) Native American, American Indian, or Alaska Native, 1 Native Hawaiian or another Pacific Islander, and two (2) said

their race was not listed. City of Milwaukie has a Hispanic population of 10% (Higher in schools), this was underrepresented in the in participation.

## Income

The majority of people responding have an annual income of **\$50,000 or more (73%)**, with 17% of those being over \$150,000. About 20% of respondents have a total annual household income below \$50,000 or don't know. This is substantially higher income rates than the City at 62% over \$50,000.

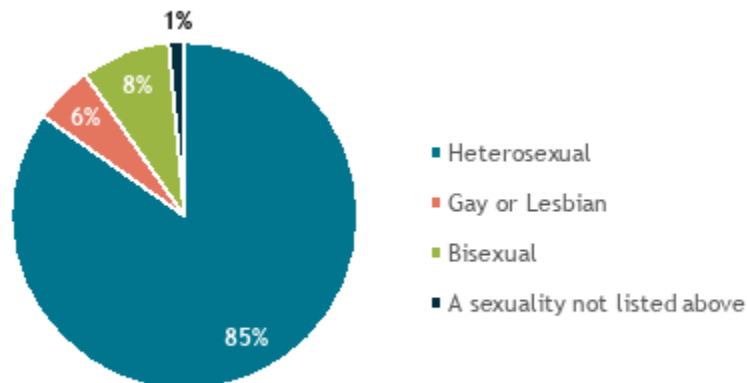


## Language

Of those responding **86 people indicated English** as their primary language. 1 person indicated ASL, 1 Spanish, 1 French.

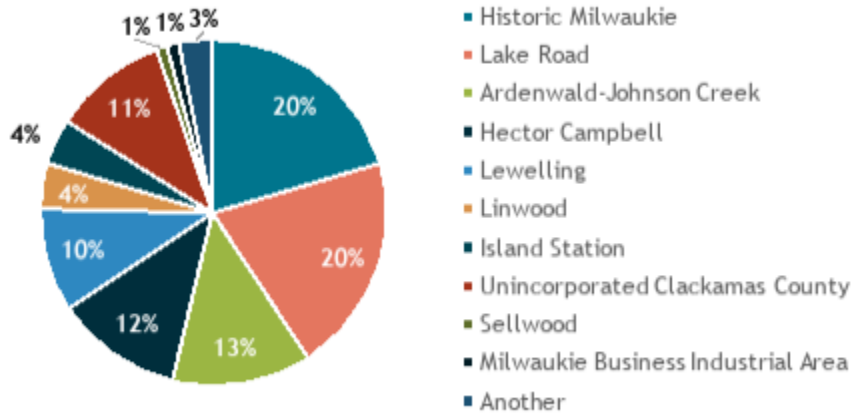
## Sexual Orientation

Most respondents identify as **heterosexual (85%)**, with some identifying as gay or lesbian (6%), and bisexual (8%). *Note: This question was only asked in the online survey.*



## Neighborhood

**Historic Milwaukie (21%)** and **Lake Road (20%)** neighborhoods were the most represented areas.



## What is your connection to Milwaukie?

The vast majority of respondents **live and/or own a home in Milwaukie**. Some work or own a business in the city. *Note: This question was only asked in the online survey.*