



TOWN OF HINTON Administrative Report

DIRECTION REQUEST REQUEST FOR DECISION INFORMATION ITEM

DATE Committee of the Whole Meeting, of September 25, 2023
SUBMITTED BY: Heather Waye, Parks, Recreation, and Culture Manager
PRESENTED BY: Jordan Panasiuk, Chief Administrative Officer
RE: ERITH PARK DESIGN ENGAGEMENT

Recommended Action

That Committee accepts the Erith Park Design Engagement Report for information.

Background

Following the [Erith Park Lands and All Wheel Park Update Report](#) presented by Administration at the March 14, 2023 Committee of the Whole Meeting the following motion was passed:

COW-230314.02 “That Committee accepts the update on the Hinton All Wheel Park Association proposal for Erith Park and directs Administration to seek public input on a future redesign of Erith Park.”

In response to this motion, Administration prepared a public engagement survey that was available to residents of Hinton from August 10 – September 12, 2023. Survey respondents were advised that the survey’s purpose was to gauge responsiveness related to key features associated with both Neighborhood Parks and Community Parks as outlined in the [Parks, Open Spaces, and Trails Master Plan \(POST\)](#), which would be used to inform the first design iterations for the park space.

Survey respondents were also made aware that at least one additional public engagement session will be undertaken through the design phase, where respondents will have the opportunity to provide feedback on draft designs for the park.

Analysis

The purpose of this report is to provide Committee with an overview of the feedback received from Hintonites regarding the redesign of Erith Park. The information derived from the survey will inform the 2024 budget deliberations, as Administration prepares a case for planning and design allocations within the Parks, Recreation, and Culture Service Branch.

The survey consisted of 22 questions (plus two demographics questions), categorized into two main sections: current park features, and future features. When considering the survey results, particularly the completion rate, it’s worth noting that this survey employed conditional-based questions, meaning that not all questions were presented to every respondent. Instead, questions were generated based on the responses to previous questions.

For example, if a respondent indicated that they did not want a picnic area in the park, they would not be asked the subsequent question(s) related to the design of the picnic area. This methodology allows for more detailed extrapolation of data to inform the design phase.

Survey results have been summarized below for Committee’s review, while survey results in their entirety can be viewed in Attachment 1 to this report.

Written by: Heather Waye, Parks, Recreation & Culture Manager

Erith Park Design Engagement

Erith Park Design Engagement Results Summary:

Survey duration: August 10 – September 12, 2023.

Number of respondents: 902

Completion Rate: 75%

Note: It is likely that the completion rate is reflective of the conditional nature of the survey questions; indicating that not all respondents answered all the questions.

Park Usage & Current Park Features

58% of respondents use the playground at Erith Park.

21% of respondents use the baseball diamonds at Erith Park.

52% of respondents use the green space at Erith Park.

43% of respondents use the outdoor rink surface during non winter months (basketball, ball hockey)

64% of respondents use the outdoor rink during the winter months.

Of the 64% of respondents who indicated that they use the ice surface at Erith Park during the winter months 67% would be in favor of relocating the ice surface to another location within the “Hill” area to prolong the longevity of the ice in winter months, as its current location presents melting challenges associated with direct afternoon sun.

While 33% of respondents who use the outdoor rink indicated that they would not be in favour of relocating the ice surface, 82% of these same respondents would be in favor of constructing a structure that would reduce direct sunlight to the surface of the ice.

Respondents who indicated that they do not use the ice surface were not asked whether they preferred to relocate the ice surface or construct a shade. However, it should be noted that through Hinton Listens and other communication with residents Administration understands that the bright lights and the noise associated with pucks and basketballs at the outdoor rink space has caused disruption of the peace for some adjacent residents.

Future Park Features

65% of respondents believe the Town should invest in both the redesign and beautification of Erith Park, of those responses, 21% prefer beautification only, and 35% are less concerned with beautification, desiring a reimagined multi use space.

19% of respondents indicated opposition to investing in either the beautification or redesign of Erith Park, of which, nearly 11% opposing both.

Of the respondents who were interested in any form of redesign and beautification at Erith Park:

93% of respondents indicated that future Erith Park designs should include a picnic area, and 81% of those respondents agreed that the picnic area should be designed to include both covered and uncovered sitting areas.

89% indicated that future park designs should include an upgrade to the washroom facilities to include flushable toilets similar to those at Gordon Moore Park.

75% of respondents would like to see pathways for running, biking, strollers, and walking incorporated throughout the park.

68% of respondents were in favour of including spray features and parking solutions within future park designs.

68% of respondents were also in favour of initial park designs including a low-grade plaza style wheeled park with integrated seating and natural components. It should be noted that this amenity aligns with the vision for the space put forward by the Hinton Wheeled Park Association.

63% of respondents believe the park footprint could be reimagined to include a pavilion space for outdoor community gatherings or events.

54% of respondents expressed interest in seeing an amphitheatre/stage for outdoor community events being incorporated into park designs.

51% of respondents believe that future designs should consider including space for vendors (farmers markets, food trucks, etc.)

50.08% of respondents were in favour of a community garden being included in future park designs.

Implications of Decision

By accepting this report for information, Administration will undertake further investigation and costing based on all the survey results and will prepare OBC. Further engagement on costed park designs will occur in 2024 upon the approval of planning dollars. Proposed construction of the park will be brought forward for Council consideration through the 2025 budget preparations.

Financial Implications

N/A

Level of Service Implications

None associated with accepting this report for information. Future information associated Erith Park design will highlight any level of service implications/changes.

Communications/Public Engagement Implications

An additional round of engagement on the costed park design options can be conducted in 2024 pending Council approval of the upcoming park design Operating Business Case to be presented through 2024 budget deliberations.

Risk/Liability Implications

None associated with accepting this report for information.

Legislative Implications

N/A

Options / Alternatives

1. That Committee accepts the Erith Park Design Engagement Report for information.
2. That Committee direct Administration to return the Erith Park Design Engagement Report to a future Committee Meeting for further discussion.

Attachment(s)

1. Erith Park Public Engagement Results – Summer 2023 Survey

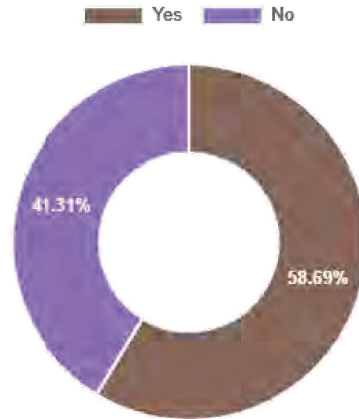
Erith Park Survey



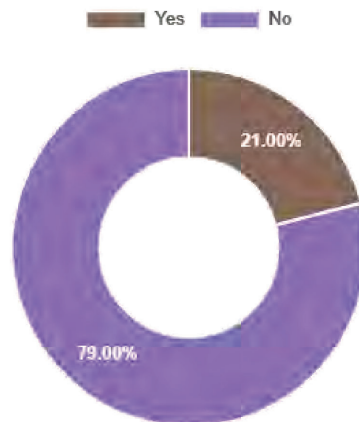
The Erith Park Engagement Survey was open from August 10, 2023 to September 12, 2023 and had 902 respondents start the survey with 672 respondents completing all questions, resulting in a 75% completion rate.

Current Features

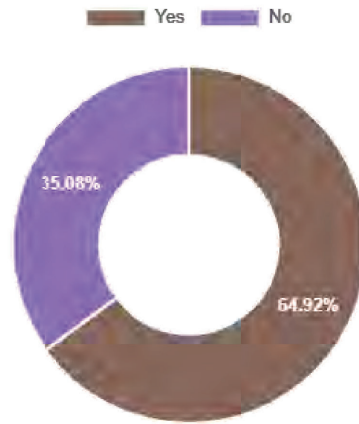
Do you or your family members use the playground structure at Erith Park?



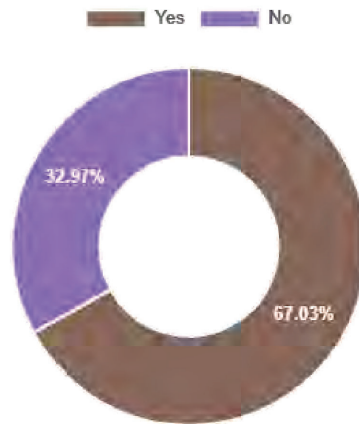
Do you or your family members use the baseball diamond at Erith Park?



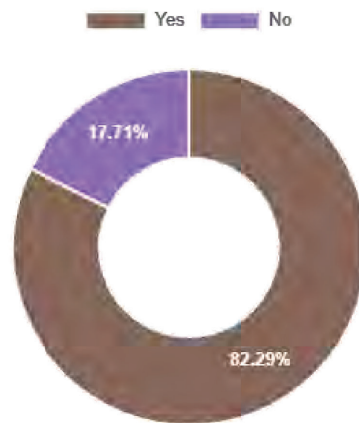
Do you or your family members use the outdoor rink at Erith Park for hockey/skating during winter months?



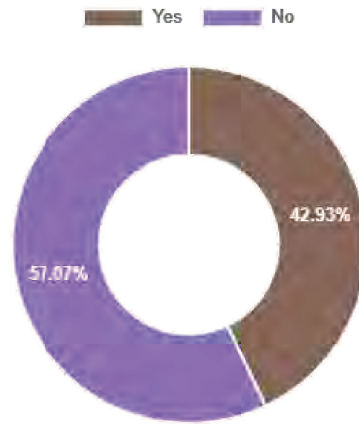
Are you in support of relocating the ice surface to a more suitable location within the "Hill" area of Hinton?



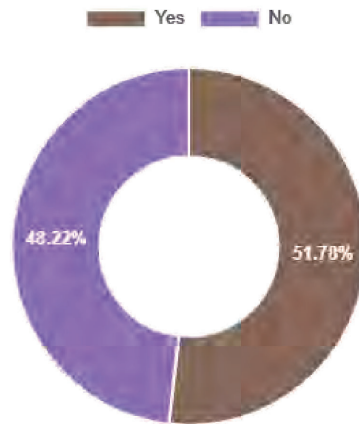
Are you in support of adding a structure that will reduce direct sunlight on the ice?



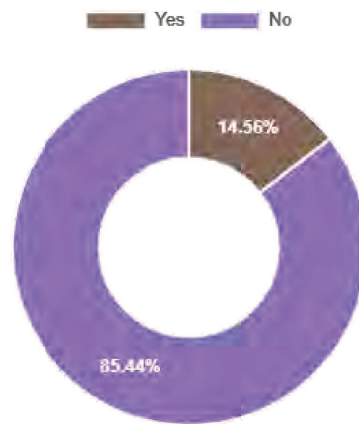
Do you or your family members use the outdoor rink surface for other purposes in non-winter months?



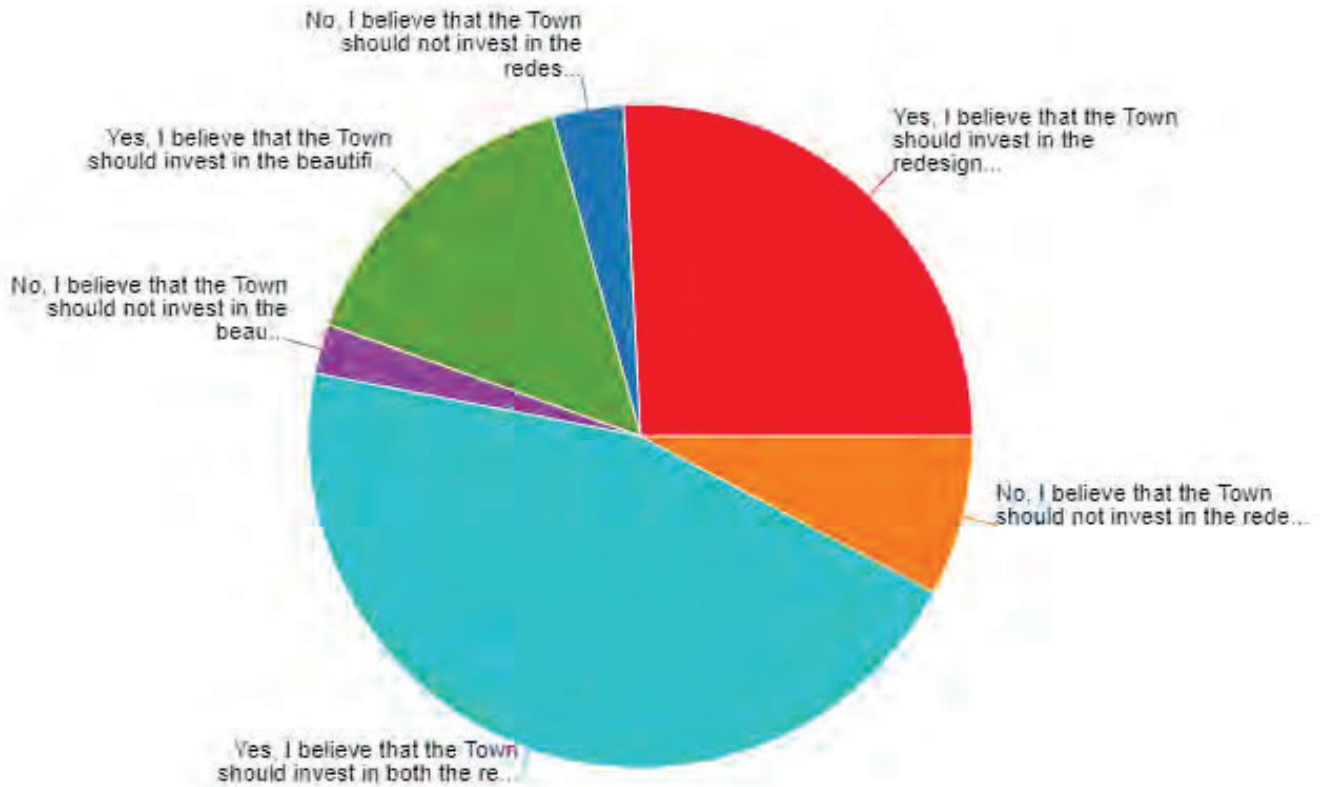
Do you or your family members use the green space at Erith Park for gathering, picnics, play, etc?



Do you use Erith Park as a space for your business or place of employment (day home or daycare excursions, fitness programming, school excursions, etc.)?

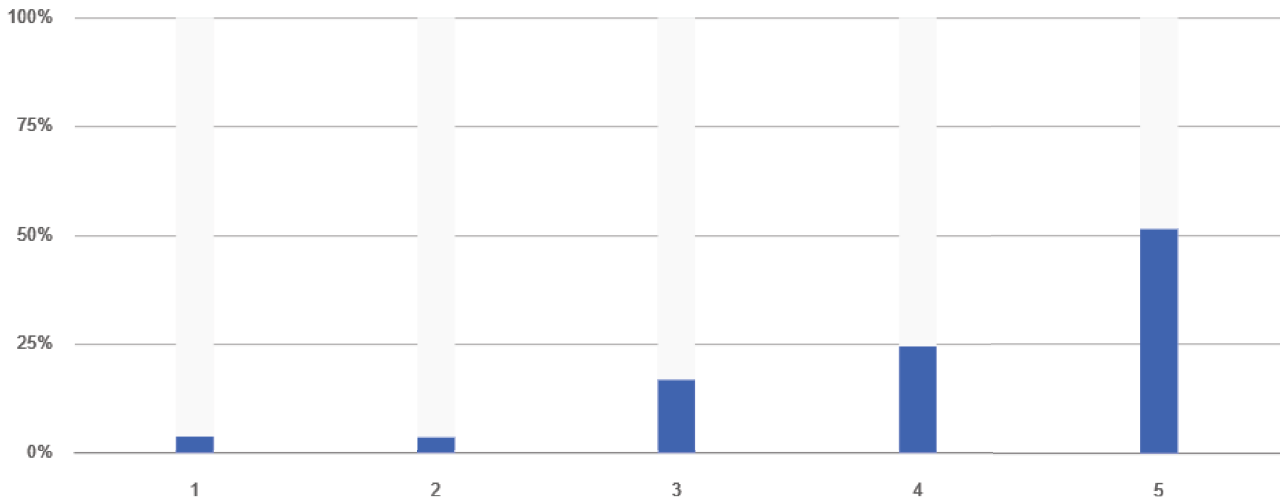


Future Development



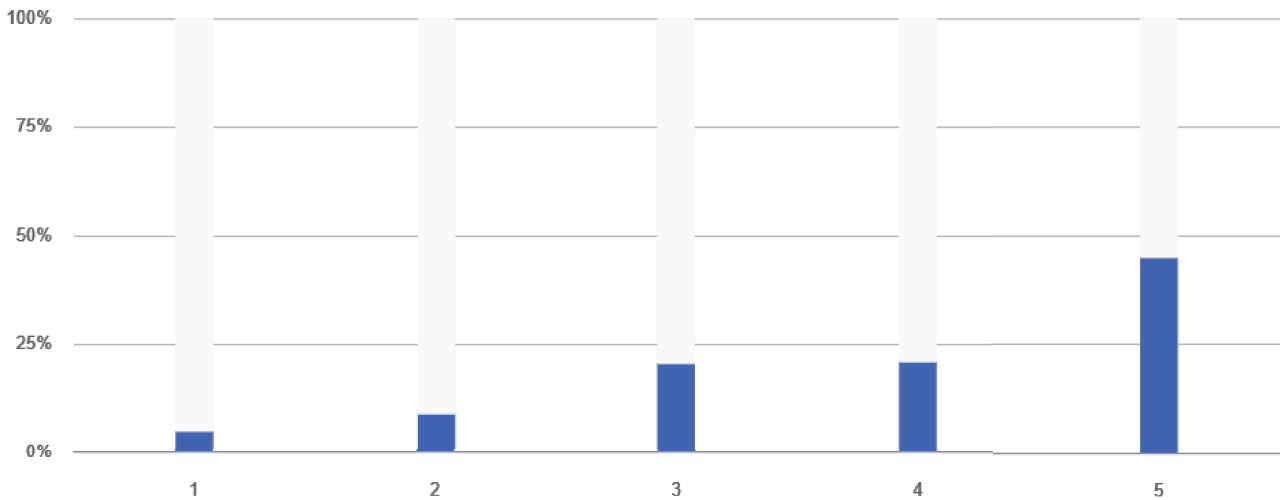
ANSWER OPTION	%
Yes, I believe that the Town should invest in the redesign and redevelopment of Erith Park	35.90%
No, I believe that the Town should not invest in the redesign and redevelopment of Erith Park	4.82%
Yes, I believe that the Town should invest in the beautification of Erith Park	21.20%
No, I believe that the Town should not invest in the beautification of Erith Park	3.37%
Yes, I believe that the Town should invest in both the redesign and redevelopment AND the beautification of Erith Park	62.89%
No, I believe that the Town should not invest in the redesign and redevelopment OR the beautification of Erith Park	10.84%

How important is it to you that accessibility and inclusivity be included in park design?



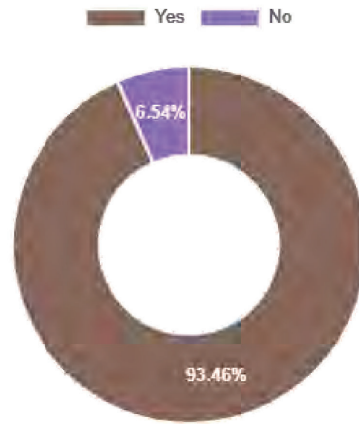
On a scale of 1 to 5, 1 being least important and 5 being most important

How important is it to you that sustainable features be implemented into the park design? Sustainable features may include: eco-friendly and recycled materials, rain gardens, permeable pavement paths, and bioswales for stormwater run-off, solar powered LED lighting solutions etc.

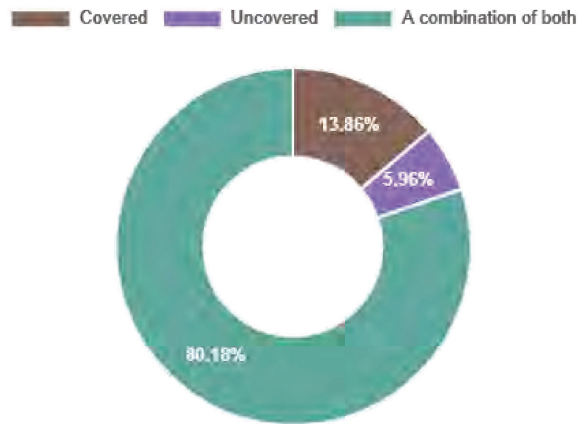


On a scale of 1 to 5, 1 being least important and 5 being most important

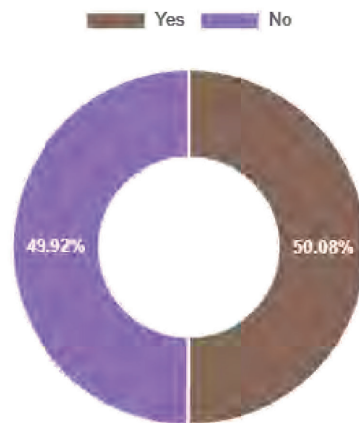
Should the initial park designs include a picnic area?



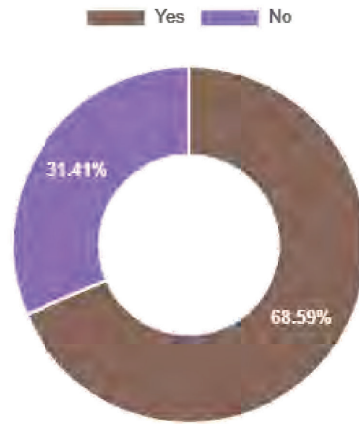
Should the picnic area be...



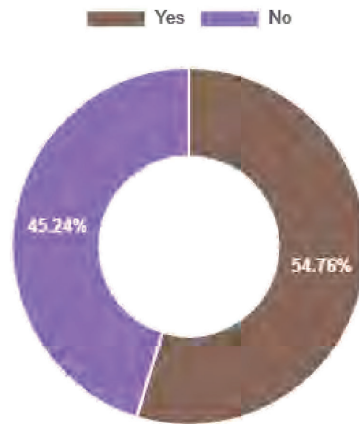
Should the initial park designs include a community garden space?



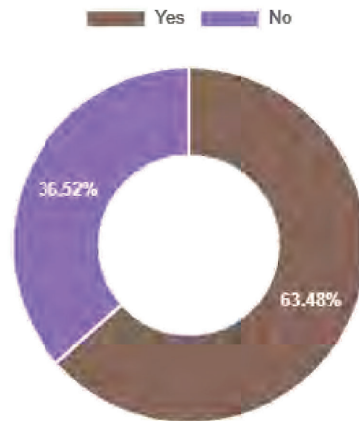
Should the initial park designs include spray features similar to those located at Gordon Moore Park?



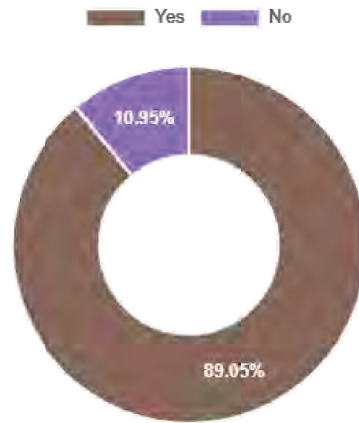
Should the initial park designs include an amphitheatre/stage for outdoor community events?



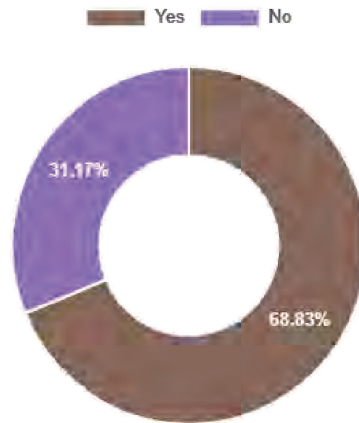
Should the initial park designs include a pavilion space for outdoor community gathering or events?



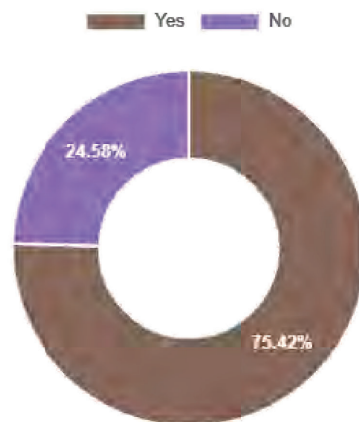
Should the initial park designs include upgraded washroom facilities (flushable) similar to those at Gordon Moore Park?



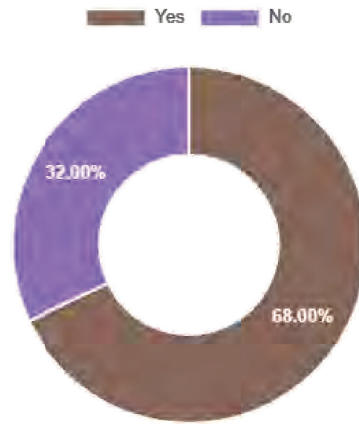
Should the initial park designs include a low-grade plaza style wheeled park with integrated seating and natural components? Photos below provided as reference example only.



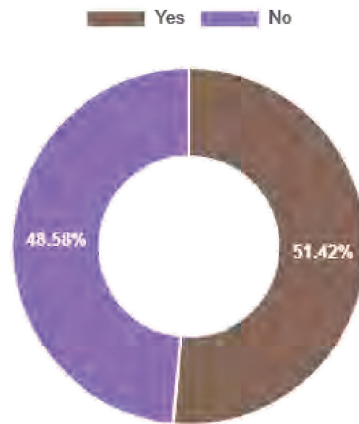
Should the initial park designs include pathways for running, biking, walking, and strollers etc.?



Should the initial park designs include parking solutions?

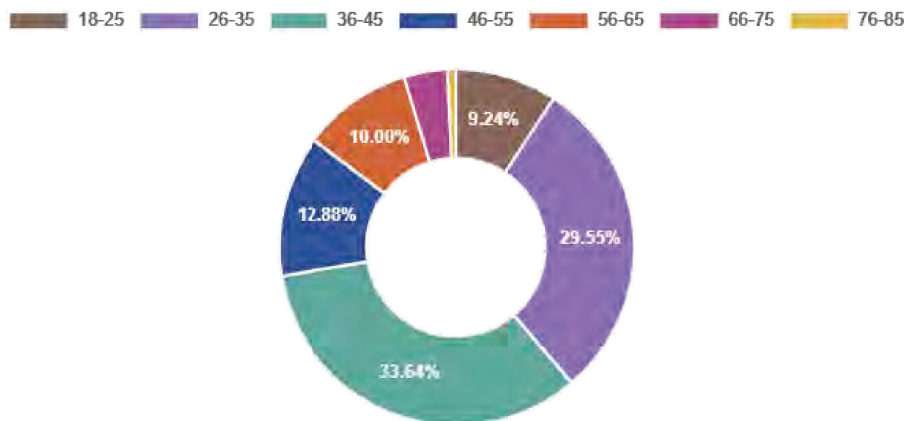


Should the initial park designs include space for vendors (farmer's markets, food trucks)?



Demographics

What is your age?



Please choose the option that best describes you

