



DESIGN DOWNTOWN DENTON

Phase 2 Engagement Summary



Phase 2 Engagement Events & Activities

December

12/4 Downtown Visioning Workshop

62 attendees

12/5 Joint Committee Workshop

12/19 - 1/15 Online Survey

133 responses



62 attendees participated in a community workshop on Monday, December 4th at UNT CoLab in Downtown Denton. The workshop included a presentation of feedback heard from Dentonites during fall engagement events and surveys, the case for action moving forward, and the community priorities developed from community feedback and staff research.

Attendees engaged with five activities focused on community priorities, parks and open space, Quakertown Park amenities, parks and trails, and street design. These activities are described here, and the results are outlined in the remainder of the Phase 2 Engagement Summary.



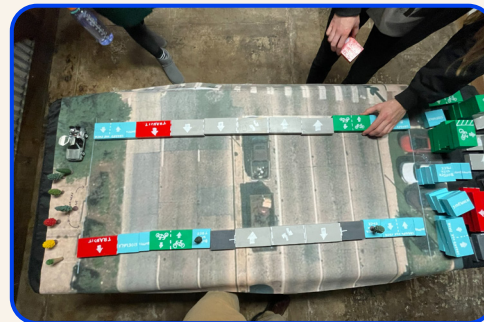
Community Priorities

Participants were given 10 marbles each to distribute between the eight community priorities based on their preference for which priorities are most important to address. This activity was recreated in the online survey. [Summary on Page 3](#)



Downtown Parks and Trails Network

Participants used pipe cleaners to trace routes between Downtown Denton destinations to possibly connect into the trail system. They also placed stickers on potential location(s) for a pocket park to build the network of green spaces Downtown. [Summary on Page 4](#)



Redesign Carroll Boulevard

Carroll Boulevard was identified in early research as a street that can be improved. Participants used blocks to decide where elements such as turn lanes and side walk buffers to be placed to improve the experience there. [Summary on Page 5](#)



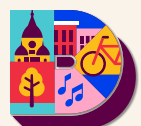
Parks, Open Space & Public Amenities

In five areas - Downtown Denton, Quakertown Park, The Square, East, West, and South of the Square - Participants placed stickers to show what amenities those areas need in their public spaces, such as a splash pad, playground, performance venue or restrooms. [Summary on Page 6](#)



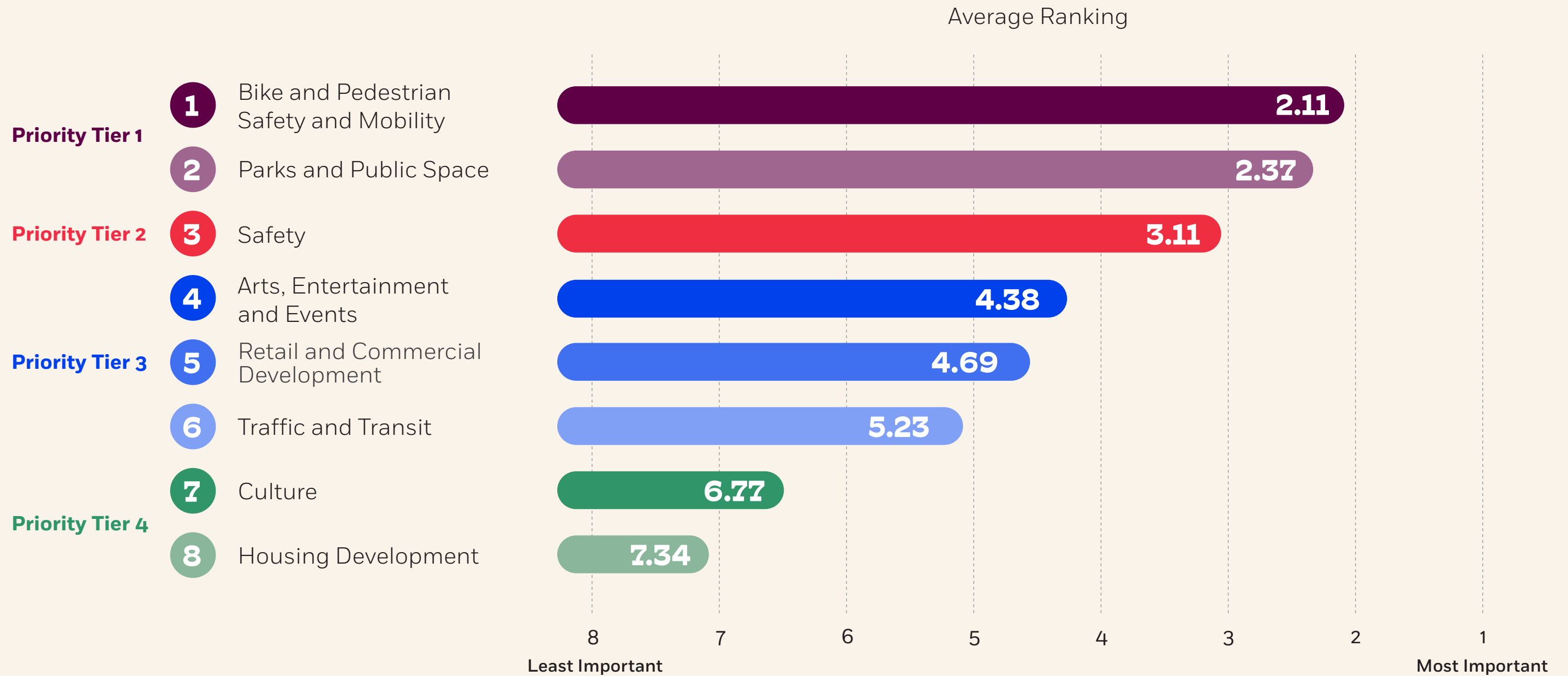
Imagine the Future of Quakertown Park

This survey included 14 amenity questions where participants placed a sticker on their preferred design for each amenity. Some were decisions between a more natural or built feature, while others were a choice between centralized or dispersed features. This activity was recreated in the online survey where respondents used a slider to choose their preferred amenity design. [Summary on Page 7](#)



Community Priorities

Participants in the Community Workshop, Joint Workshop and Online Survey shared how they would prioritize the Downtown community priorities. All results from this activity were then combined to produce the average rankings shown below:



Downtown Parks and Trails Network



In the Design Downtown Denton Green Connections activity, a map of Downtown was shown with the existing parks, public open-space, and city-owned vacant land highlighted. Based on the location of these spaces, we asked participants to connect them with green pipe-cleaners. The pipe-cleaners represent multi-mobility pathways and trails that knit together Downtown into a network of green, civic spaces. We know one of the main things Dentonites love about Downtown is its walkability; the green connections activity showed how participants would prioritize roadways for better mobility within the city.

Connection Points:

- IOOF Cemetery
- Quakertown Park
- University of North Texas
- Texas Women's University
- Carl Young Sr. Park
- Downtown Transit Center**
- The Square
- University Drive

Paths:

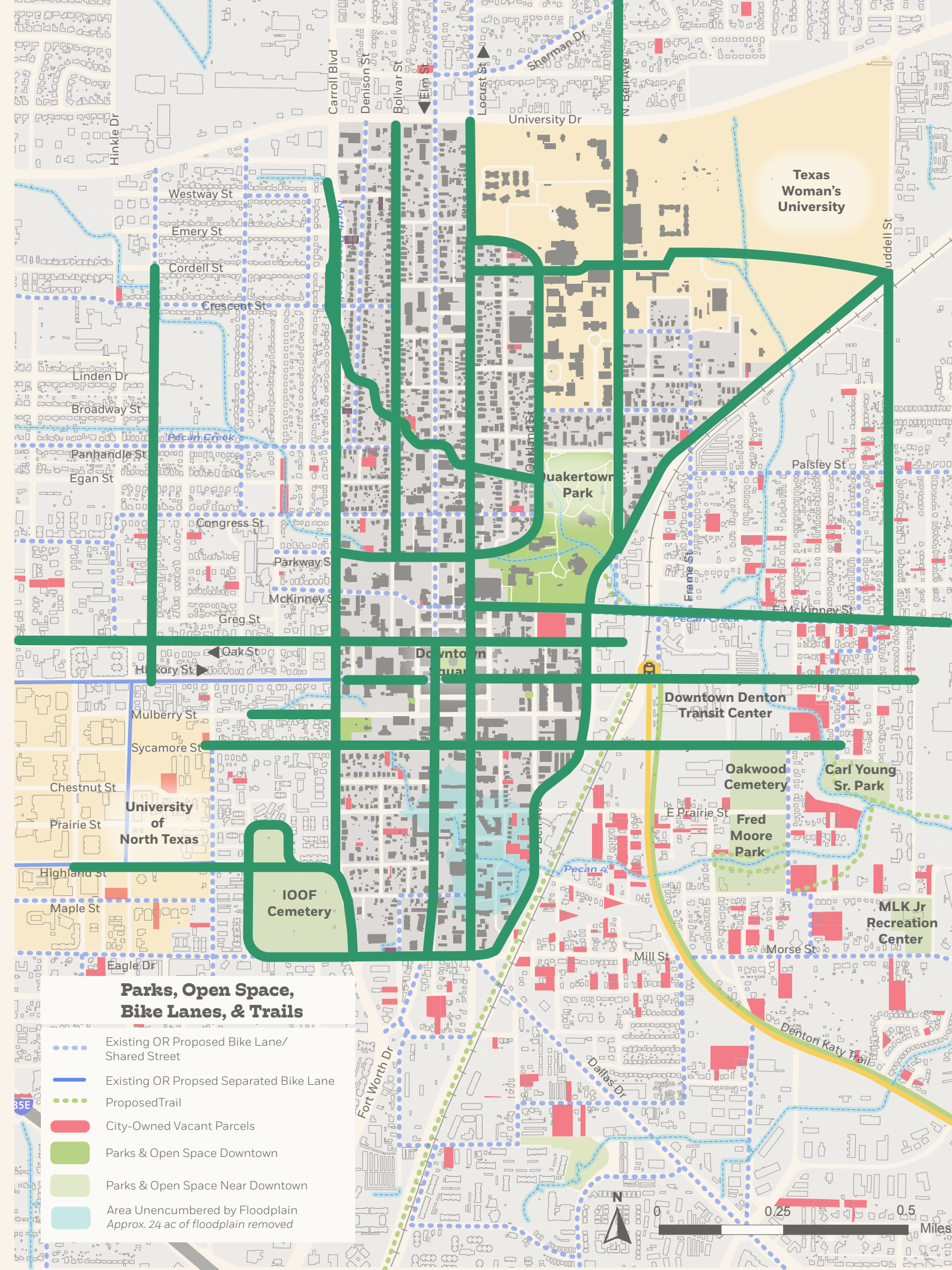
- Bell Ave
- Carroll Blvd
- Locust St**
- Fulton St
- Elm St
- Mingo Rd
- Oakland St
- Bolivar St
- Ruddell St
- Sycamore St
- Creek



Downtown Transit Center



Locust St



Redesign Carroll Boulevard

The Mend Team created an interactive activity that invited attendees to redesign Carroll Boulevard to better fit their travel needs. By participating in this activity, Design Workshop attendees not only provided feedback on how they would redesign Carroll Boulevard, but what their mobility priorities look like in Downtown Denton as a whole. The activity featured an aerial image of Carroll Boulevard, printed to a 1 inch : 2 feet scale, and participants were given a variety of wooden blocks that represented different street elements with which to assemble their ideal Carroll Boulevard cross-section across the aerial image. Street design elements included:

Car Elements



Thru lane: 10 ft (5 in)



Thru lane: 10 ft (5 in)



Parallel parking lane:
7 ft (3.5 in)



Angled parking lane:
14 ft (7 in)

Bike Elements



Bike lane with no buffer:
6 ft (3 in)



Bike lane with buffer:
7.5 ft (3.75 in)



Two-way cycletrack:
12 ft (6 in)

Pedestrian Elements



Sidewalk: 6 ft (3 in)



Sidewalk buffer with
tree: 5 ft (2.5 in)



Sidewalk buffer with no
tree: 5 ft (2.5 in)



Off-street multi-use path:
10 ft (5 in)

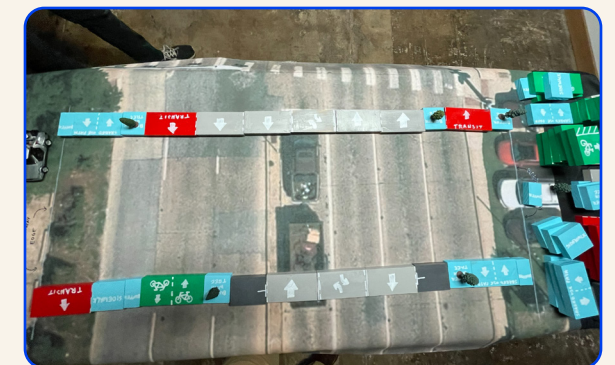
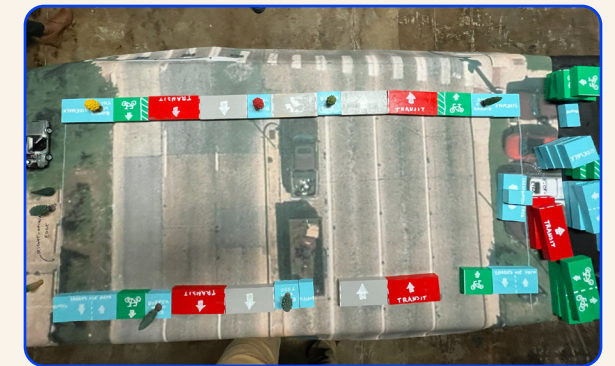
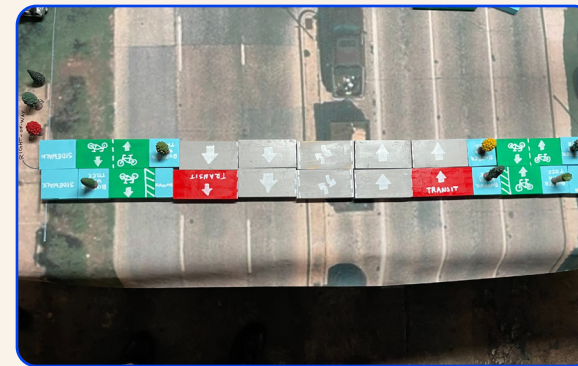
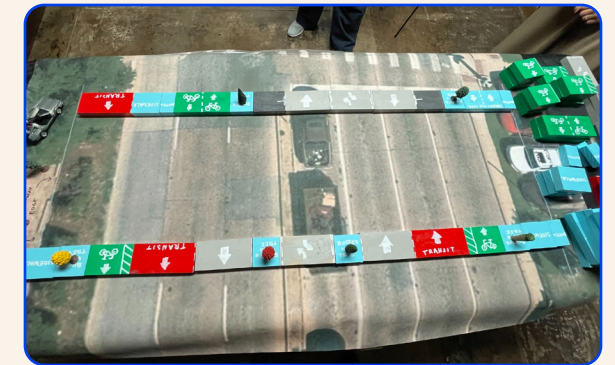
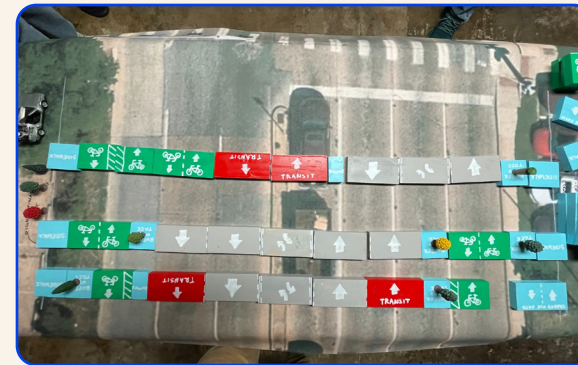
Transit Elements



Transit-supportive lane:
11 ft (5.5 in)

In general, participants typically designed complete streets with multimodal elements such as bike lanes, wider sidewalks, or transit lanes. Parking lanes and thru lanes were used least often by participants, while the bike elements, specifically the bike lanes, were used most often. Often, participants found that it was important to physically separate infrastructure for different modes, placing buffers either between bike lane and car lane or between the sidewalk and the street. When implementing sidewalk buffers, participants almost always opted for the buffer that could accommodate a street tree, citing the need for shade for pedestrians and the desire for more greenery along Denton's streets.

Sample Participant Designs



Parks and Public Space Activity

In the Parks and Public Space Activity, participants added up to five stickers to five areas of Downtown Denton to show what amenities are needed in those areas. Restrooms were identified as a strong need in and around the Square. Shade trees were also frequently proposed in areas outside of Quakertown Park.

Amenities

- Restrooms
- Public WiFi
- Shade Structure

- Gathering Pod
- Public Art & Lighting
- Historic Preservation & Storytelling
- Large Performance Venue
- Small Performance Venue
- Vendors/Market

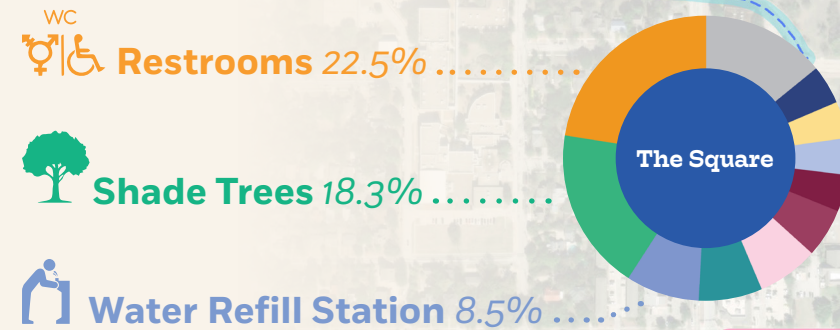
- Pollinator Garden
- Community Garden
- Shade Trees
- Rain Garden/Swale

- Water Feature
- Splash Pad
- Water Refill Station
- Pet Station

- Playground
- Bike Parking/Station
- Fitness Station
- Skate Park
- Dog Park

Remaining amenities

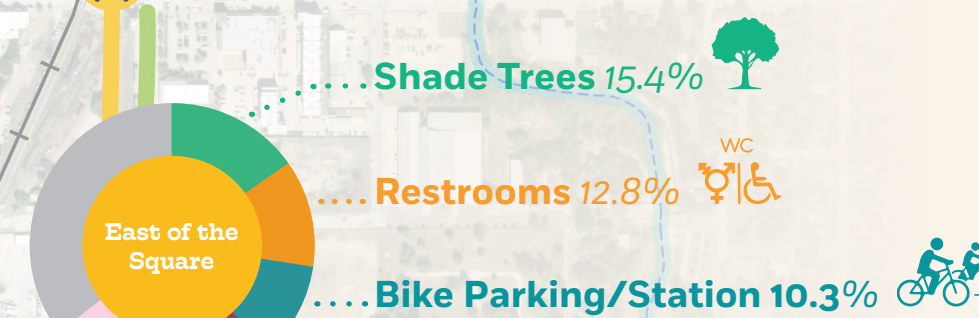
The SQUARE



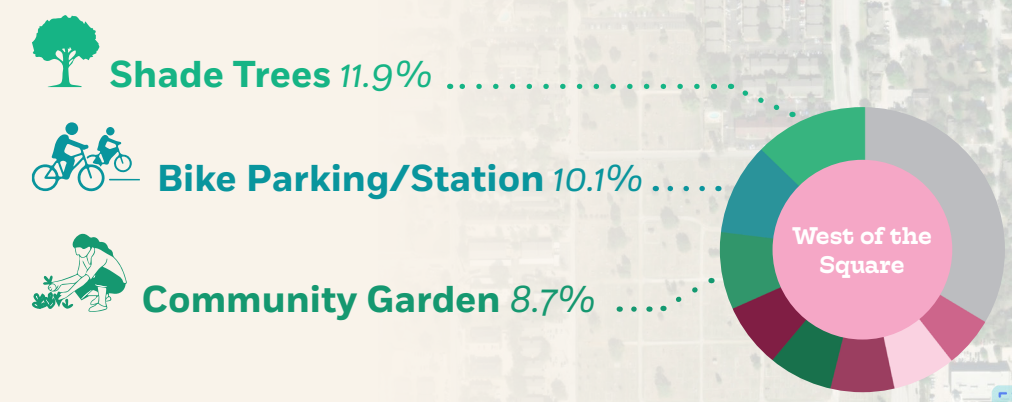
QUAKERTOWN PARK



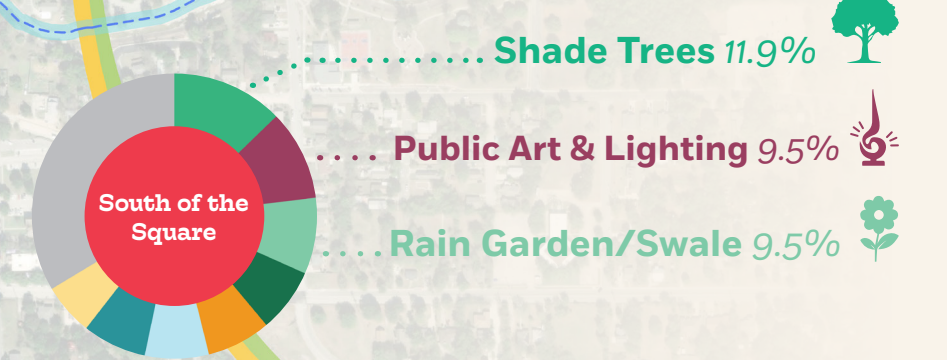
EAST of the Square



WEST of the Square



SOUTH of the Square



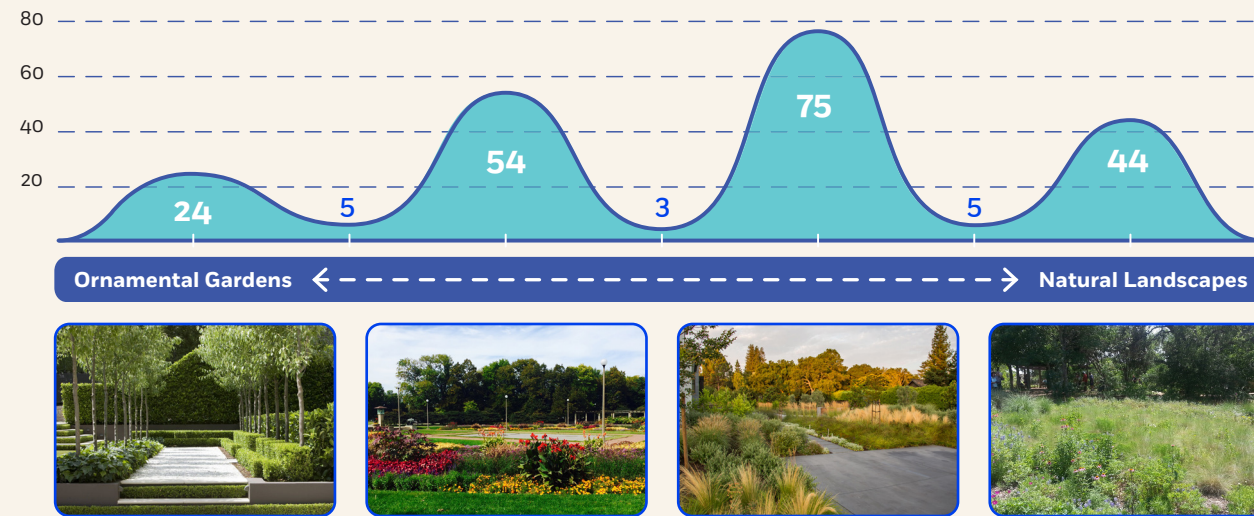
Imagine the Future of Quakertown Park



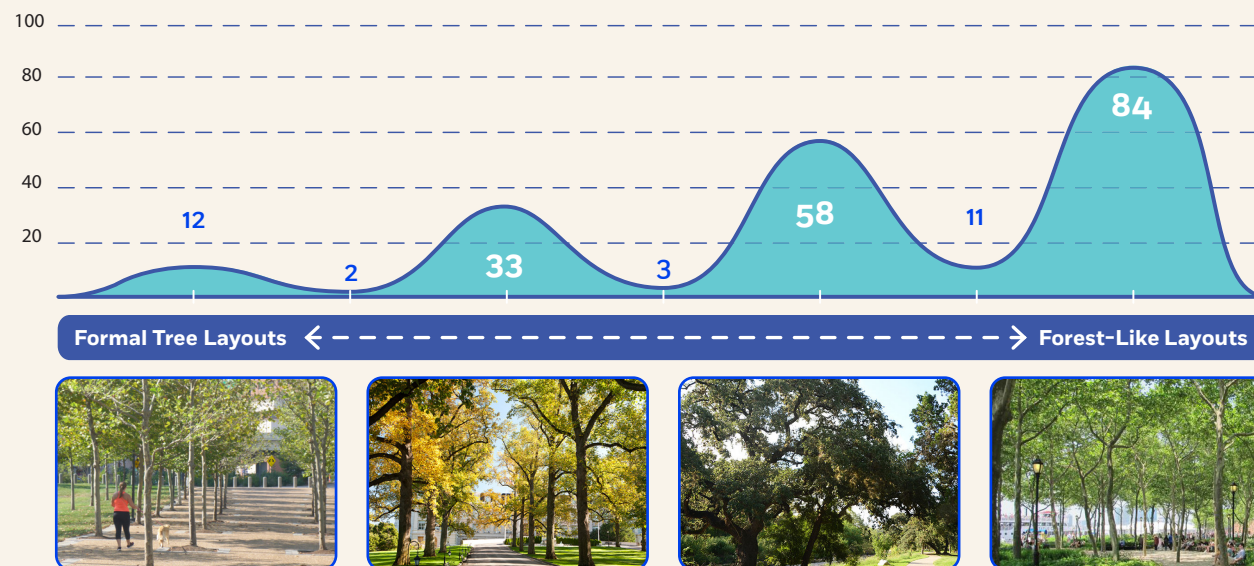
In the Imagine the Future of Quakertown Park survey, Dentonites shared their preferences regarding the design of amenities in a reconstruction of Quakertown Park by placing stickers on the image that best showed their preferred style.

Participants significantly preferred a natural amenity in four of the six questions that compared a more natural to a more formal amenity. They also typically preferred flexible space and dispersed features over the formal or centralized options.

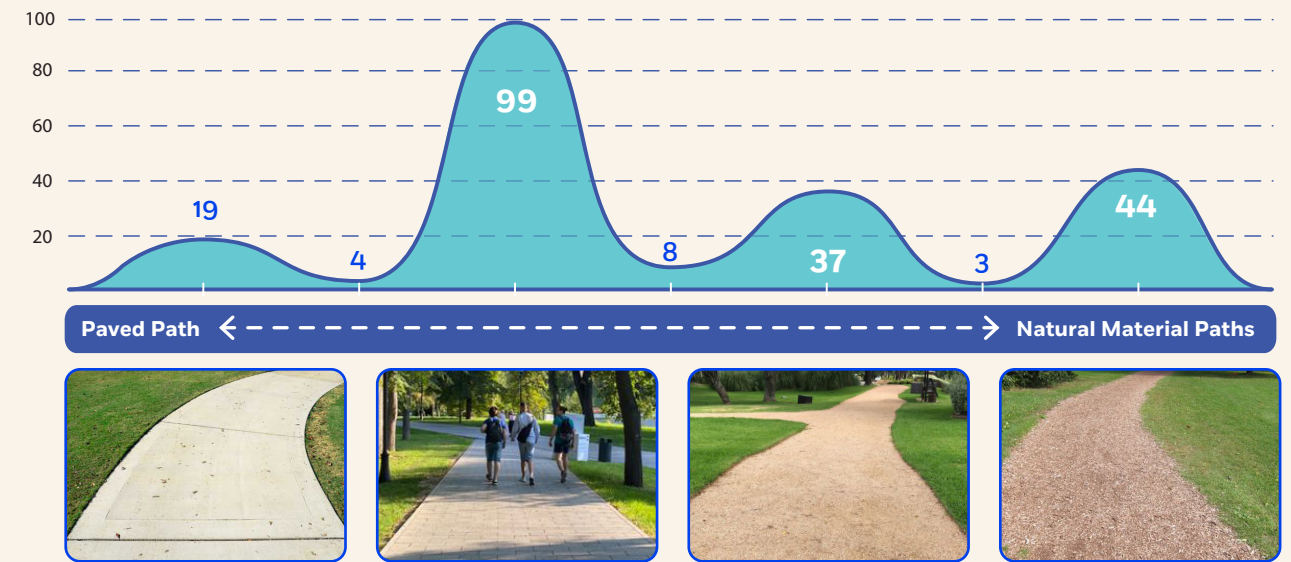
PLANTING STYLES



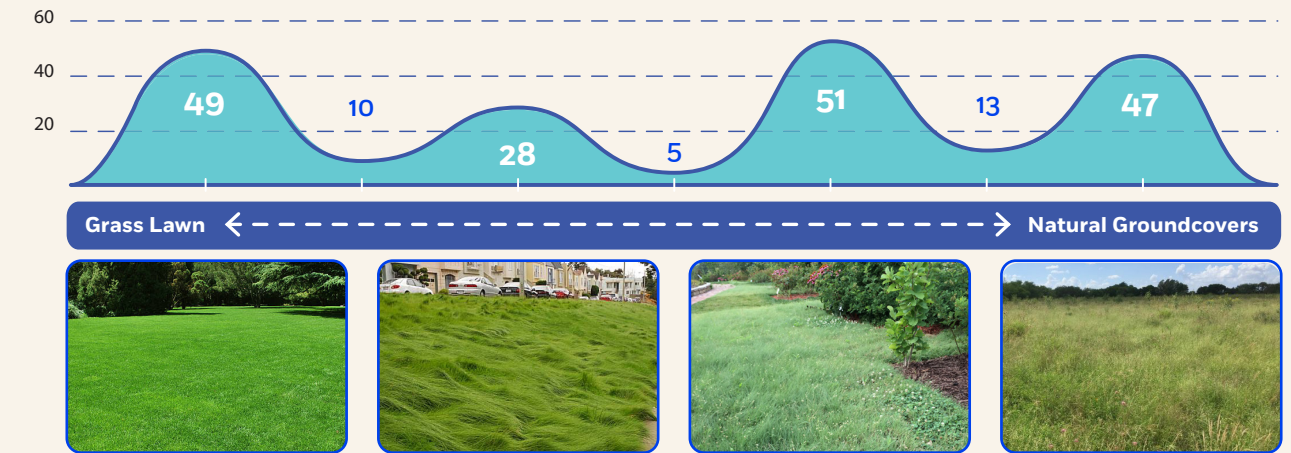
TREE LAYOUTS



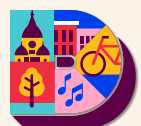
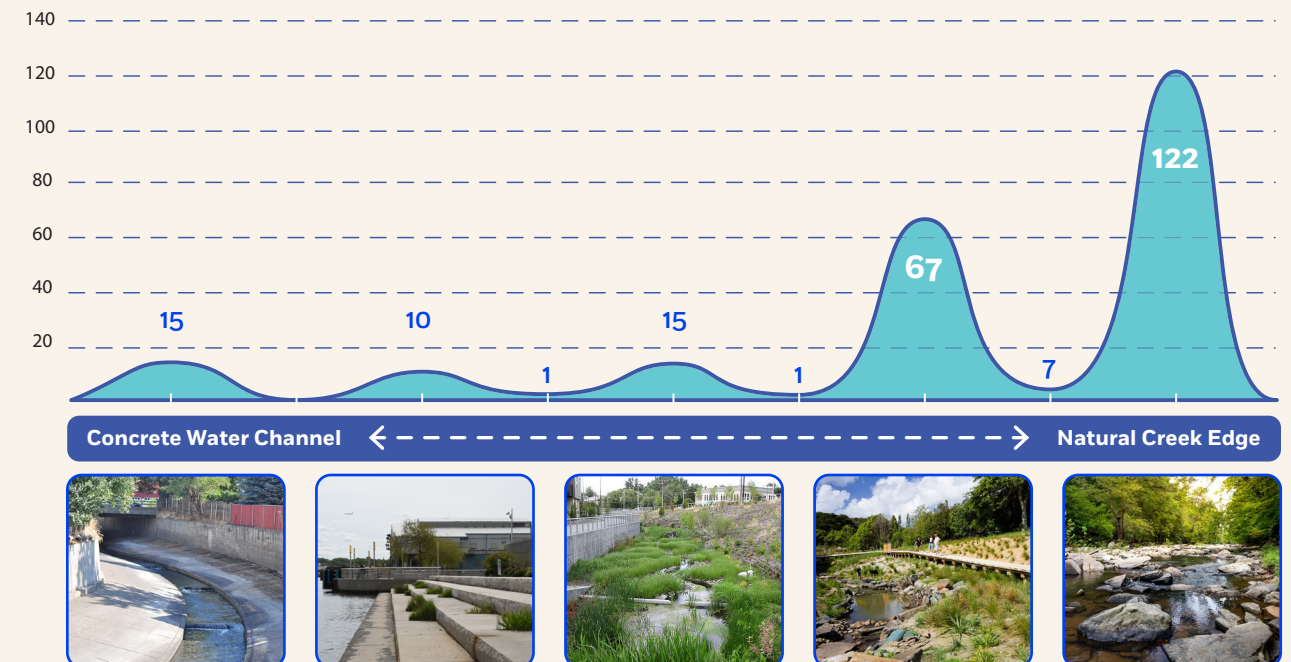
PATH MATERIALS



GROUNDCOVERS

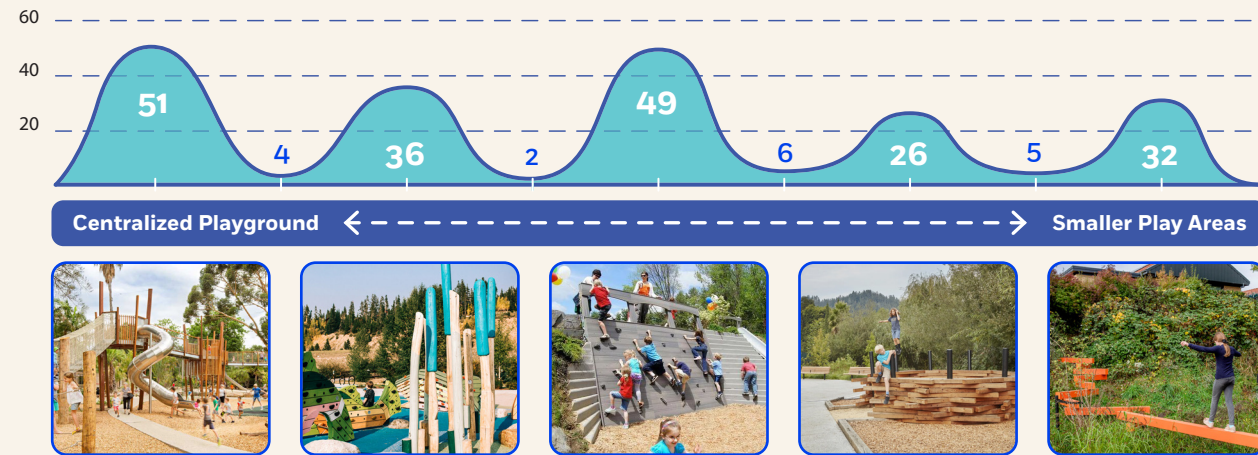


WATER EDGE

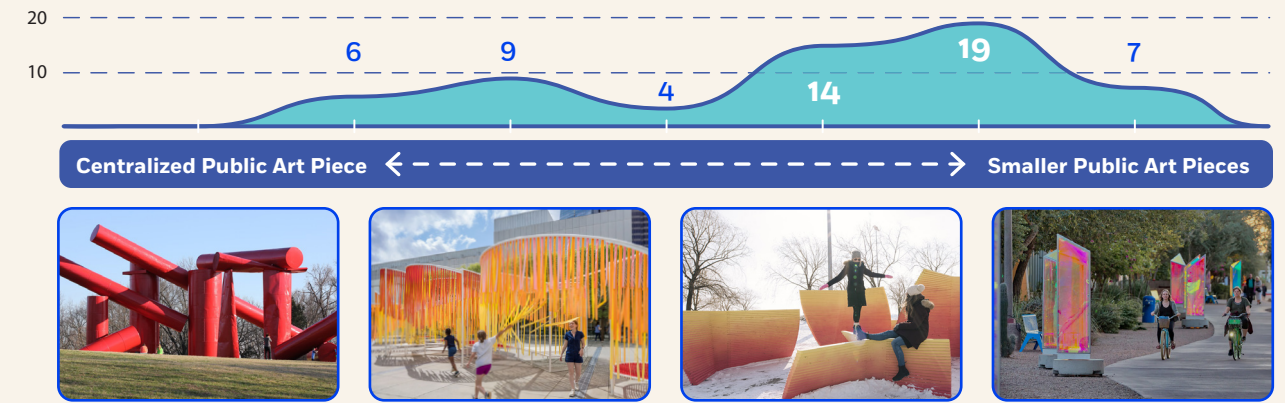


Imagine the Future of Quakertown Park

PLAY AREAS



PUBLIC ART*



*Art Piece question not included at Jazz Festival

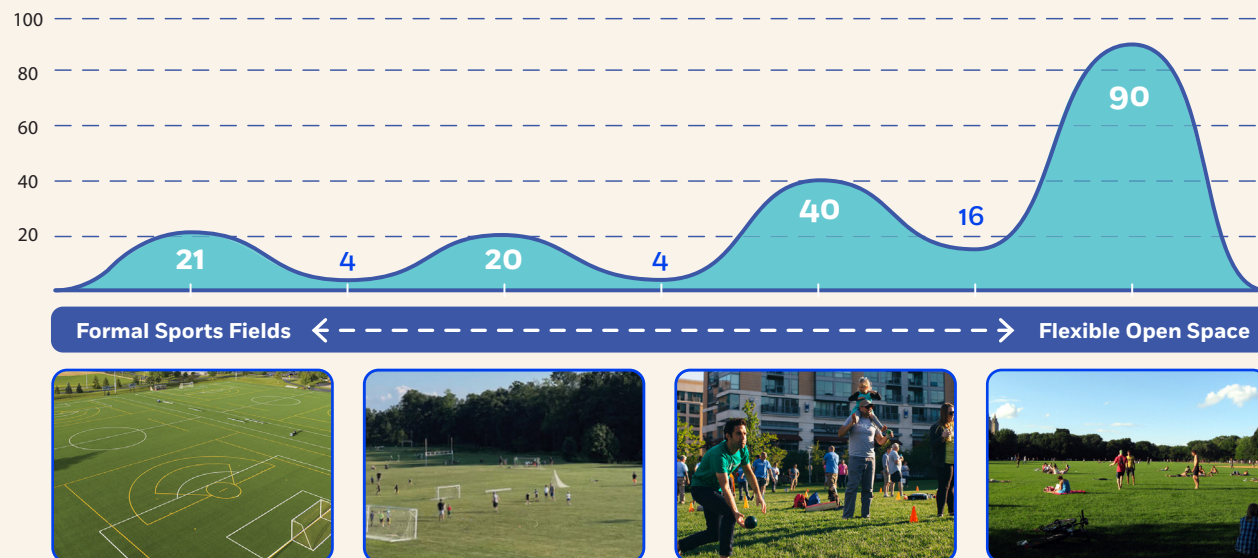
PROGRAM SPACE



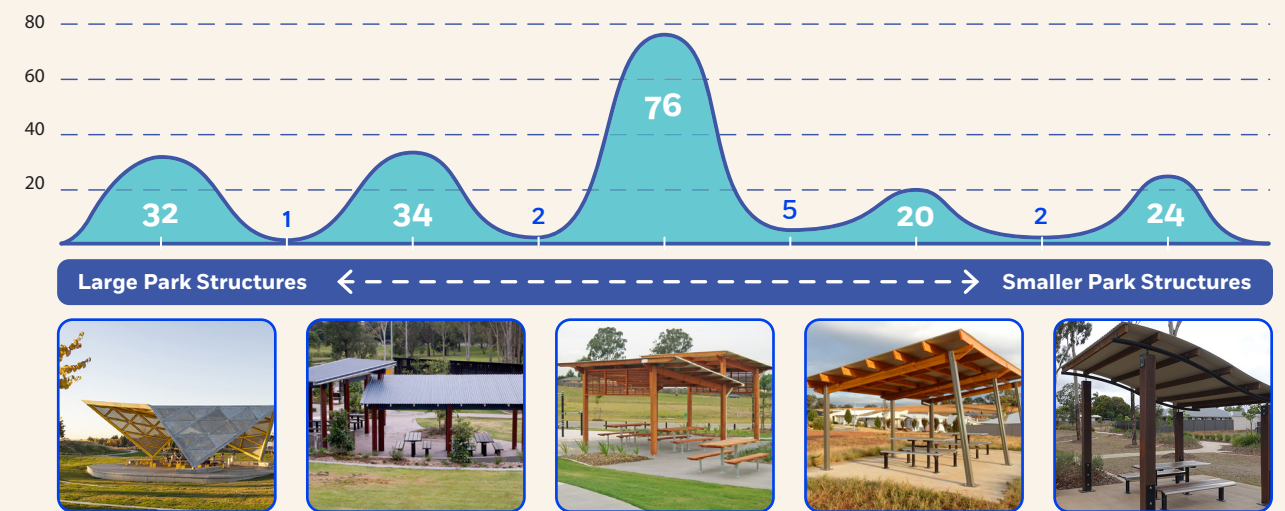
GATHERING SPACE



FIELDS



STRUCTURES



Quakertown Park Open Ended Surveys



Quakertown Park surveys and activities included open-ended questions for participants about how they use the City parks now and how they would like to see them improved. The comments were organized into common themes with events, shade trees, and open space being the most mentioned themes.

276 Total Comments/inputs

- 39 Events
- 34 Shade Trees
- 30 Open Space
- 28 Gathering Space
- 25 Programming and Activities
- 22 Bike/Ped Mobility
- 22 Playground
- 20 Lighting
- 17 Water Feature
- 16 Other
- 15 Green Space
- 14 Safety and Maintenance
- 13 Landscaping
- 13 Historic Preservation and Storytelling
- 12 Restrooms
- 11 Tables and Seating
- 9 Traffic and Transit
- 8 Splash Pad
- 7 Vendors/Market
- 6 Pollinator Gardens
- 5 Public Art
- 4 Fitness Stations
- 3 Bike Parking/Station
- 3 Community Garden
- 3 Water Refill Station
- 2 Accessibility
- 2 Retail and Development
- 2 Venue
- 1 Pet Station

How did you get to the park today? From Jazz Fest survey October 2023

73 Total Responses

| | | | |
|-------|----|--------------------------|----|
| Walk | 14 | Public Transit | 0 |
| Drive | 39 | Ride share/Uber/Lyft | 4 |
| Bike | 3 | Combination of the above | 13 |

What is missing from Quakertown Park?

47 Total Responses



Lighting
19 comments



Bike/Ped Mobility
5 comments



Restrooms
5 comments

“More events! More transportation (bike/ped) connections and surrounding density.”

Favorite memory from the park...

17 Total Responses



Events
15 comments

“Being a child and walking around Arts & Jazz. One of my happiest, most empowering and freest feeling times of childhood. My favorite weekend of the year.”

What would you want to see added, changed or improved in this park?

90 Total Responses



Water Feature
9 comments



Playground
7 comments



Pollinator Gardens
6 comments

“Playgrounds for different ages, splash pads, closer food options would keep family here”



Gathering Space
12 comments



Programming and Activities
7 comments



Vendors/Market
4 comments

“Coming to events, to relax, meeting new people, hosting my own parties like friend picnics, to be inspired.”

What do you think is most important?

126 Total Responses



Shade Trees
29 comments



Open Space
23 comments



Gathering Space
14 comments

“Beautiful trees, plants, etc. We love the park and library and festivals.”

I want this park to feel like...

14 Total Responses



Safety and Maintenance
4 comments



Open Space
4 comments



Events
2 comments

“Safe place to walk and play with family.”

