

**City of Rochester Parks and Recreation
Planning Survey 2021
Summary of Results**

September 2021



Table of Contents

Key Findings.....	2
Quality of the Rochester Parks & Recreation System	5
Frequency of Using Rochester Parks & Recreation System Amenities	6
Participation in Rochester Parks & Recreation System Programs	7
Use of and Support for Funding Parks & Recreation System Offerings	8
Familiarity with Park System Plan.....	11
Preference for Park System Plan and Funding.....	12
Preference for Investments in New Parks and Facilities Versus Maintenance of Existing System	13
Appendix A: Frequency of Responses to All Questions	14
Random Sample Mailed Survey Responses.....	14
Open Participation Survey Responses.....	29
Comparison of Random Sample Survey Responses to Open Participation Survey Responses.....	46
Appendix B: Verbatim Responses to Survey Items Answered in Respondents' Own Words	54
Random Sample Mailed Survey Responses.....	54
Open Participation Survey Responses.....	64
Appendix C: Selected Survey Responses by Respondent Characteristics	105
Random Sample Mailed Survey Responses.....	105
Open Participation Survey Responses.....	154
Appendix D: Survey Methodology.....	205
Appendix E: Survey Materials	208

Key Findings

Survey Background

- In 2015-2016, the City of Rochester developed a Parks and Recreation Master Plan to help guide future improvements to make sure the facilities, programs, and amenities offered meet community needs, and to make sure that improvements were economically sustainable over next 20 years. In 2021, the City of Rochester, MN contracted with Polco's National Research Center (NRC) to conduct a survey of residents to ensure the goals, policies and strategies of the Plan developed in 2016 still meet the community's needs.
- To ensure a results were representative of the entire population; 5,500 households were randomly selected to receive an invitation to complete the survey; 732 did for a 13% response rate.
- The demographic profile of survey respondents was compared to that of the entire community and statistical adjustments made to ensure the results are representative of the entire community.
- **The body of this report and this summary are based on the weighted results from this statistically valid random sample survey.**
- In addition to the random sample survey, all residents were invited to participate in an open participation survey widely publicized by the City. A total of 1,444 completed surveys were obtained through this method.
- More information about the survey methods can be found in *Appendix D*. The frequencies of responses to every survey question can be found in *Appendix A* while breakdowns of survey results by respondent characteristics can be found in *Appendix C*.

Familiarity with the 2015-2016 Park System Plan was low.

- Over half of respondents reported they were not at all familiar with the Park System Plan that was developed in 2015-2016. Only 13% were very or somewhat familiar with it.

Residents view the Rochester Parks & Recreation system favorably.

- The quality of parks and of playgrounds were each given positive evaluations by 8 in 10 respondents.
- Indoor recreation facilities and recreation programs were given high marks by about two-thirds of respondents.
- Overall feelings of safety was rated excellent or good by 80% of respondents, as was overall cleanliness.
- Other aspects of the Parks & Recreation system were evaluated and each aspect was considered excellent or good by more than two-thirds of respondents.

The offerings of the Rochester Parks & Recreation system are widely used.

- Only a handful of respondents (6%) reported having never used a Rochester Parks & Recreation system amenity in the last 2 years. About two-thirds said they used them once a week or more.
- More than half of respondent households (54%) had participated in one or more recreation programs in the past two years. Among those who had participated in a recreation program, the most common were golf (17%), swimming (16%) and 125 Live (12%).
- Over 8 in 10 households said they use community/regional parks, paved trails, and general open space/natural space.
- Offerings serving more specialty specific recreational needs were used by fewer households, but no offering was used by fewer than 1 in 10 households responding to the survey.

Residents supported the City investing in its Parks & Recreation offerings.

- Half or more of respondents felt the City of should invest in 26 of the 31 Parks & Recreation System offerings listed on the survey. And even the 5 offerings for which fewer than half of respondents thought an investment should be made, at least 40% desired investment.
- The amenities identified by the greatest proportion of respondents (80% or more) as needing investment were:
 - Community/regional parks
 - Quarry Hill Nature Center
 - Paved trails
 - Neighborhood parks (within ½ mile of home)
 - General open space/natural space
 - Natural areas
- In general, those offerings which the greatest proportion of households reported using tended to be those where investment was most supported.

When asked what type of investment overall they wanted to see in the Rochester Parks & Recreation System, over half of residents indicated the level investment desired was to make the system at least the best in the Midwest.

- Over 8 in 10 respondents (83%) preferred at least a modest investment in the Rochester Parks & Recreation System, and half wanted significant or additional investment to make the system the best in the Midwest or the State of Minnesota.

Most residents preferred a balance between the trade-off of investments in new parks and facilities versus maintenance and enhancements to the current parks and recreation system.

- When asked about the trade-off between investments in new parks and facilities versus maintenance and enhancements to the current parks and recreation system, a majority of respondents (60%) preferred a balance between the two.
- Among those who gave a preference to one or the other, more preferred taking care of the existing system (35%) than making large investments in parks and facilities (5%).

Some differences were observed between the statistically valid random sample survey results, and the open participation survey results.

- While many of the evaluative ratings of aspects of the Rochester Parks & Recreation system were similar, where there were differences, open participation survey respondents gave less positive ratings than did the random sample survey respondents. These included playground maintenance, quality of indoor recreation facilities, amount of recreation programs, variety of recreation programs and quality of recreation programs (between 5% and 16% fewer open participation respondents gave positive ratings compared to random sample survey participants).
- Open participation survey respondents were less likely to have reported that any member of their household had golfed in the past 2 years (12%) than the random sample survey respondents (17%).
- However, open participation survey respondent household members were more likely to have used mountain biking trails, natural areas, outdoor pools, pickleball courts, public art and splash pads than random sample survey respondent households.
- For some offerings, open participation survey respondents were less likely than random sample survey respondents to feel the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in adult athletic fields, basketball courts, golf courses, the Graham Arena, Mayo Field or the National Volleyball Center compared to random sample survey participants.
- Open participation survey respondents were somewhat more likely to feel the City should make a significant investment in the Rochester park system to make it the Best in the Midwest (24%) compared to random sample survey participants (14%).
- Details of the differences between the results from the two survey efforts can be found in the section “*Comparison of Random Sample Survey Responses to Open Participation Survey Responses*” on page 46 in *Appendix A*.

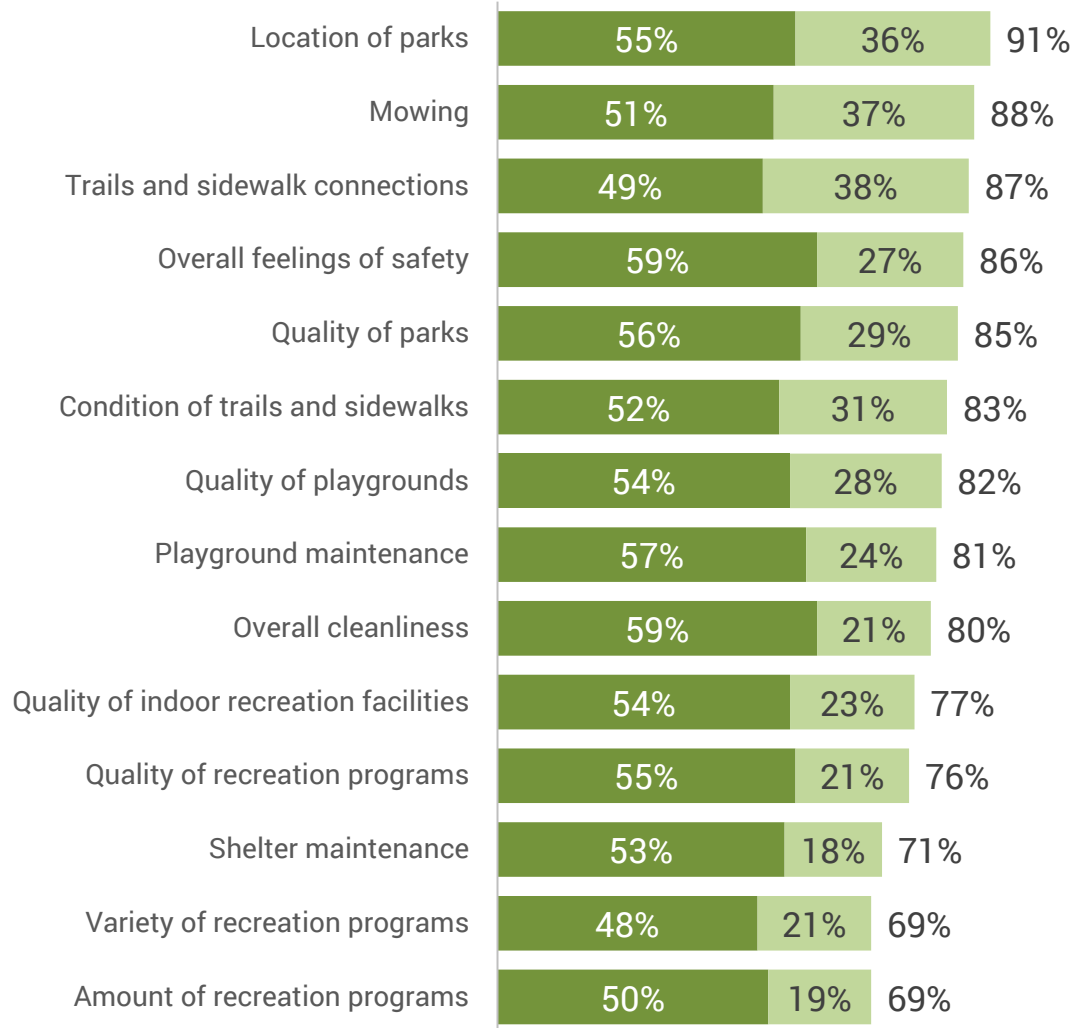
Quality of the Rochester Parks & Recreation System

The Rochester Parks & Recreation system was viewed very favorably, with more than two-thirds of respondents rating each aspect as excellent or good.

The quality of parks and of playgrounds were each given positive evaluations by 8 in 10 respondents. The quality of indoor recreation facilities and recreation programs were each considered excellent or good by three-quarters of respondents.

Overall feelings of safety was rated excellent or good by 80% of respondents, as was overall cleanliness.

*Please rate the quality of each of the following aspects of the Rochester Parks & Recreation system.
(Percent rating excellent or good)*

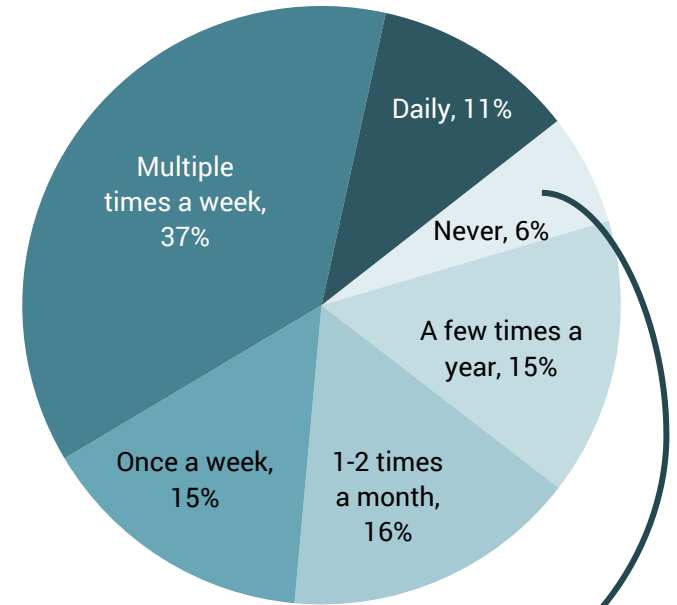


Frequency of Using Rochester Parks & Recreation System Amenities

Only a handful of respondents (6%) reported having never used a Rochester Parks & Recreation system amenity in the last 2 years. About two-thirds said they used them once a week or more.

Among those who had not used a park, trail, recreation facility or program, the most common reason given for not having used these amenities was a lack of interest. Lack of time was the next most commonly cited barrier.

In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program?



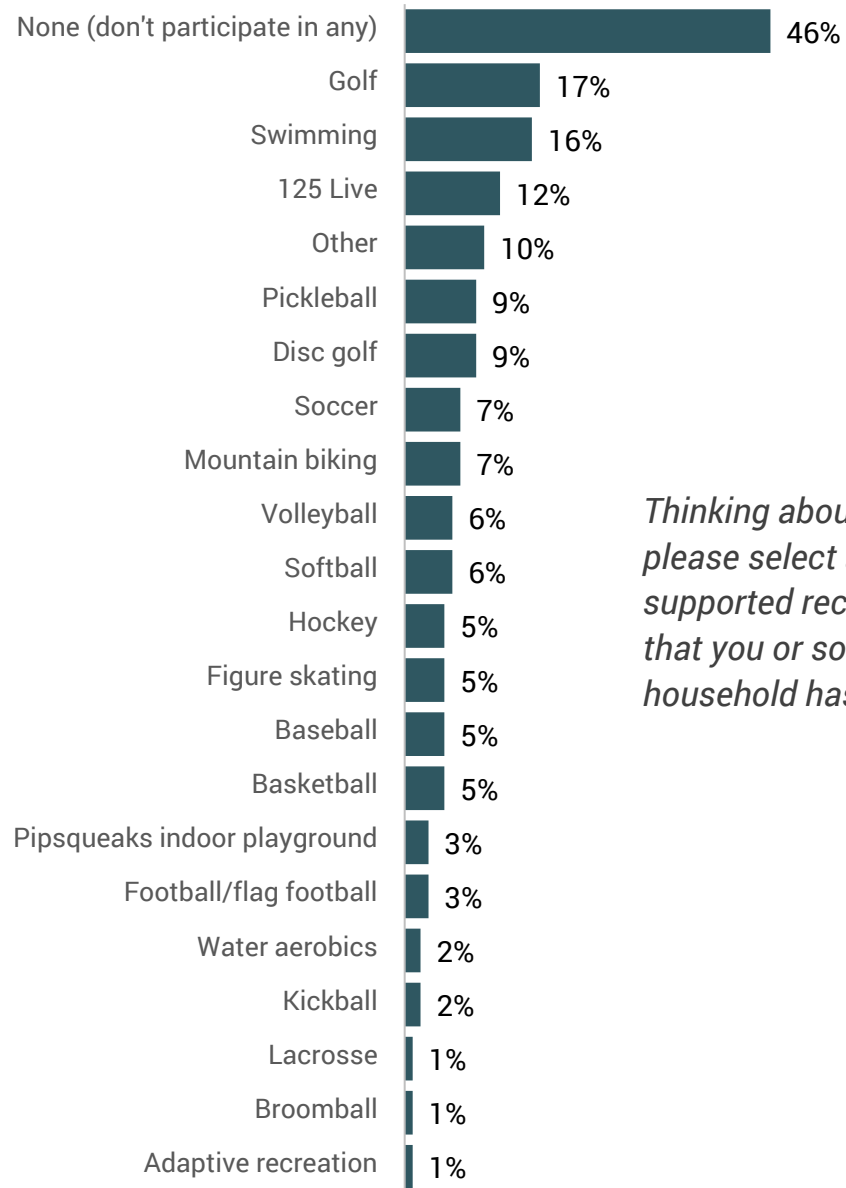
If your household has NOT used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program, please share why. Total may exceed 100% as respondents could select more than one reason.	Percent of respondents who had NOT used
No interest	53%
No time	23%
A physical, mental, or emotional condition	10%
Distance from home	8%
Lack of amenities/programs that meet my household's needs	6%
Safety concerns	5%
Lack of transportation	2%
Lack of welcome and inclusive space	1%
Cost/ too expensive	0%
Physical barrier (major roadway, geography, elevation, river, etc.)	0%
Other	12%



Participation in Rochester Parks & Recreation System Programs

When asked in what recreation programs their households had participated in the past two years, just under half (44%) of respondents reported having participated in none of them.

Among those who had participated in a recreation program, the most common were golf (17%), swimming (16%) and 125 Live (12%).



Thinking about the last 2 years, please select all City-provided or supported recreation programs that you or someone in your household has participated in.



Use of and Support for Funding Parks & Recreation System Offerings

Respondents were asked whether their household had used a variety of specific Rochester Parks and Recreation offerings, and if they felt each needed additional investment or not.

The chart to the right shows the percent of households reporting they use each offering. Over 8 in 10 household said they use community/regional parks, paved trails, and general open space/natural space.

Offerings serving more specialty specific recreational needs were used by fewer households, but no offering was used by fewer than 1 in 10 households responding to the survey.



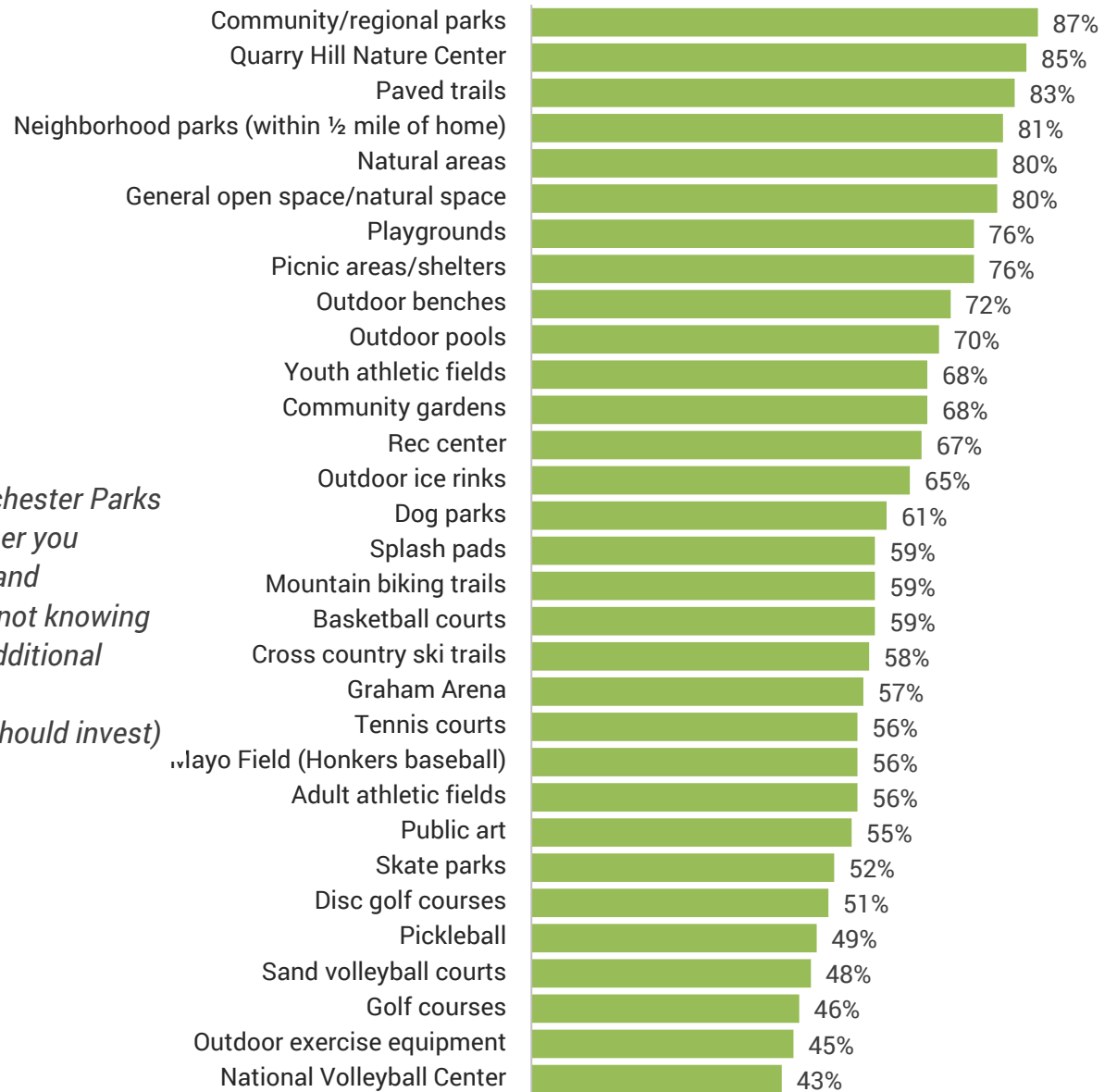
For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, please indicate whether your household uses each. (Percent responding "yes")



Use of and Support for Funding Parks & Recreation System Offerings

Half or more of respondents felt the City of Rochester should invest in 26 of the 31 Parks & Recreation System offerings listed on the survey. And even the 5 offerings for which fewer than half of respondents thought an investment should be made, at least 40% desired investment.

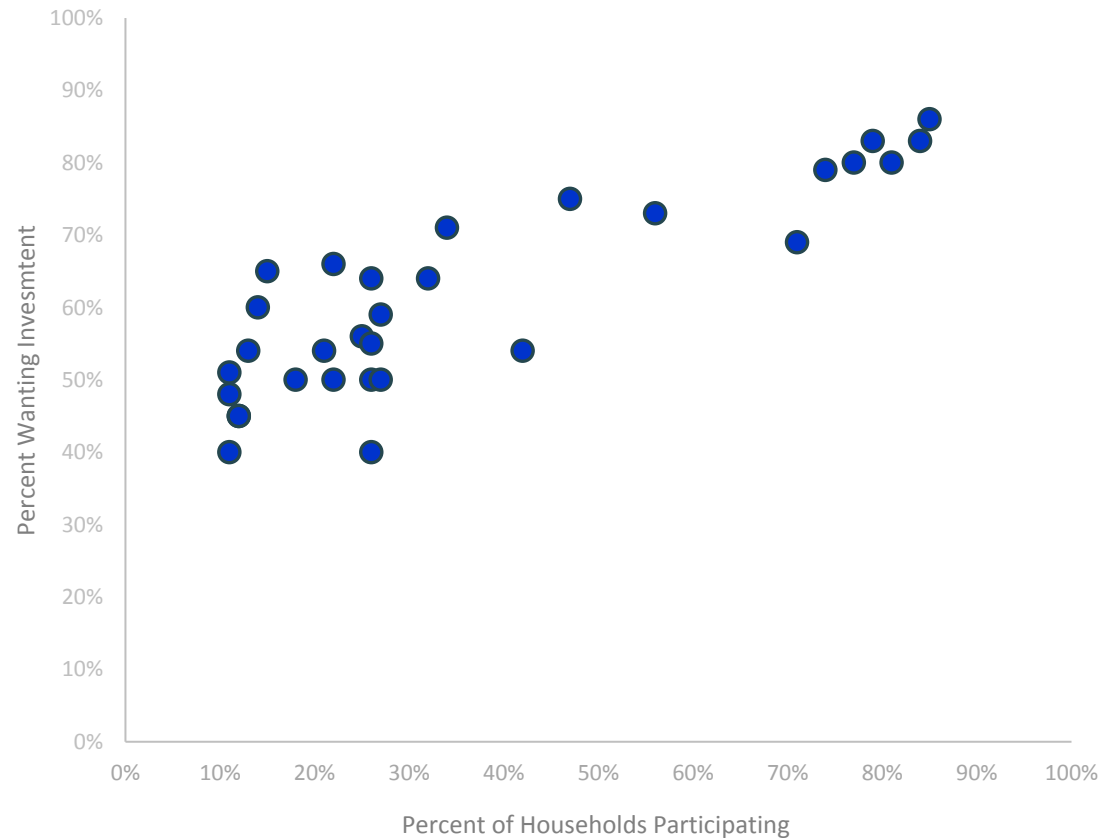
*For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed:
(Percent responding “yes” the City should invest)*



Use of and Support for Funding Parks & Recreation System Offerings

The chart to the right plots the proportion of households reporting using each parks and recreation system offering with the proportion that believe the City should invest in each. The plot is shown to demonstrate that there was a small but not perfect correlation between use of an offering and support for investment in it.

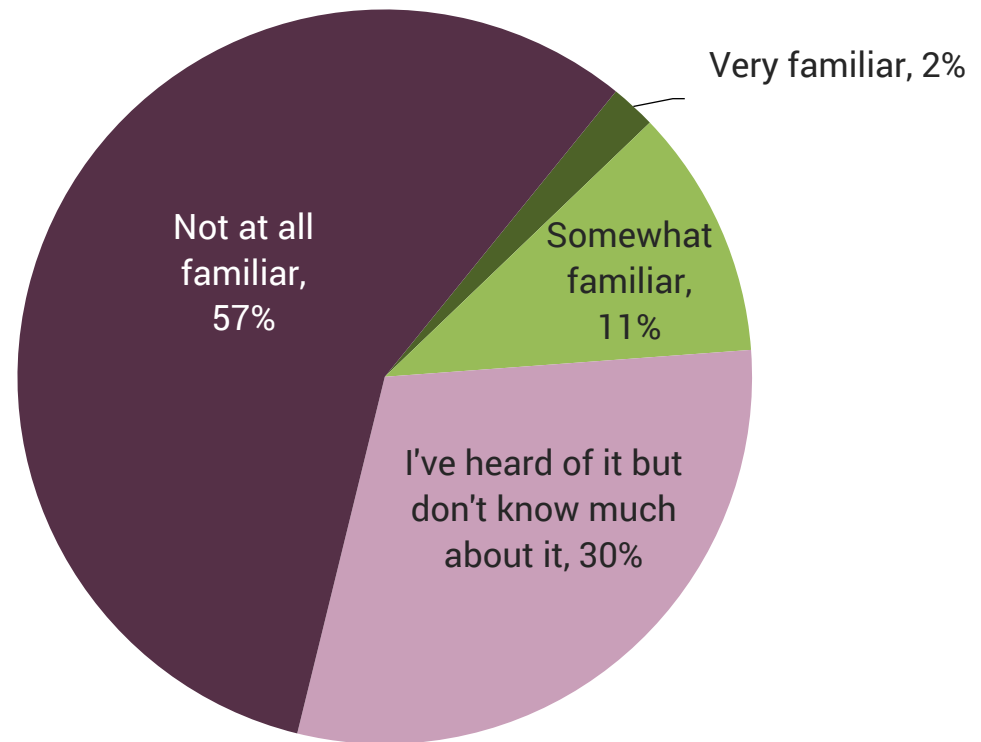
For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, please indicate whether your household uses each, and whether you believe the City should invest in each.



Familiarity with Park System Plan

Over half of respondents reported they were not at all familiar with the Park System Plan that was developed in 2015-2016. Only 13% were very or somewhat familiar with it.

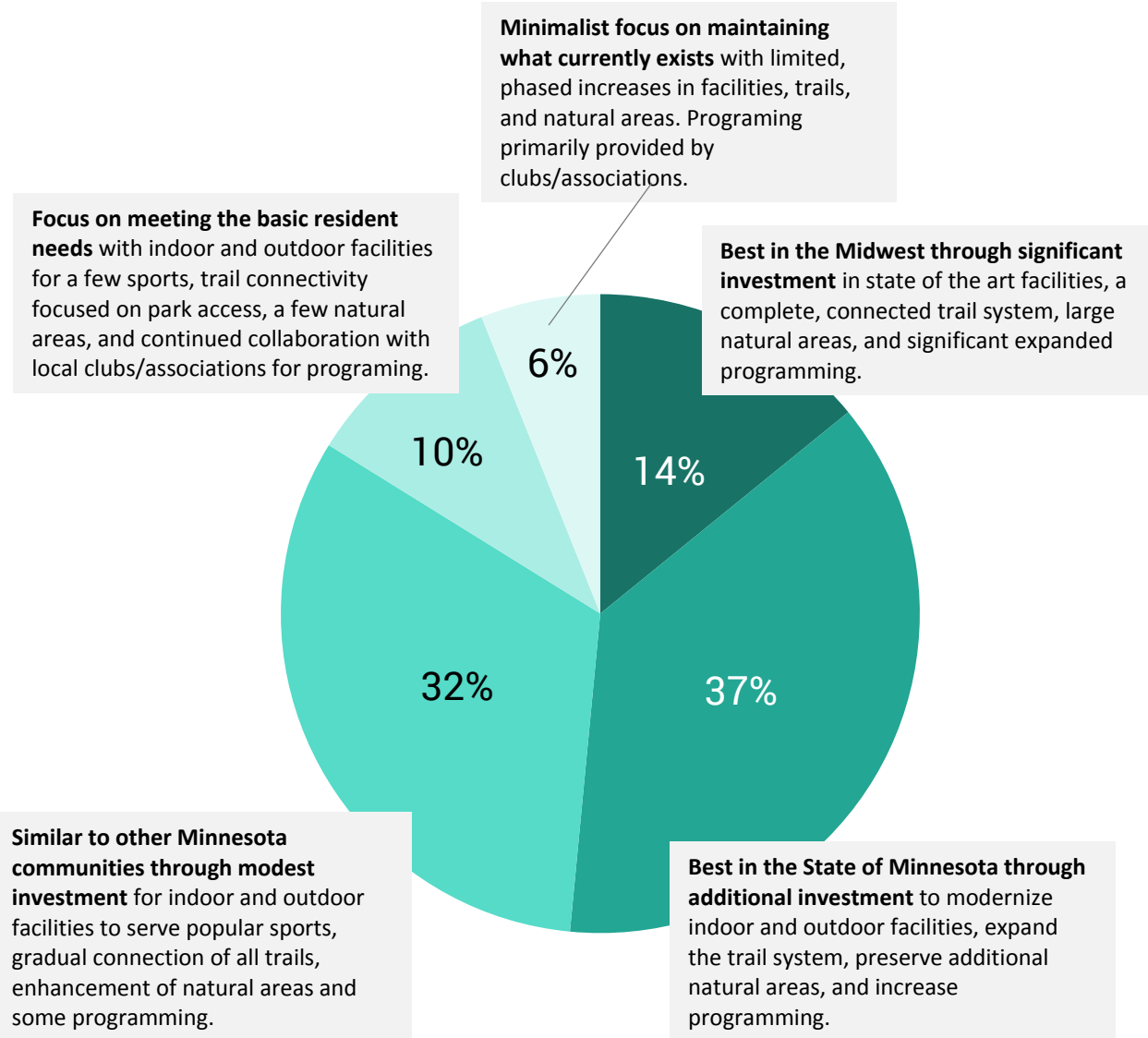
How familiar, if at all, are you with the Park System Plan that was developed in 2015-2016?



Preference for Park System Plan and Funding

Over 8 in 10 (83%) of respondents preferred at least a modest investment in the Rochester Parks & Recreation System, and half wanted significant or additional investment to make the system the best in the Midwest or the State of Minnesota.

Which ONE of the following statements best describes the type of park system and level of investment you desire for Rochester?



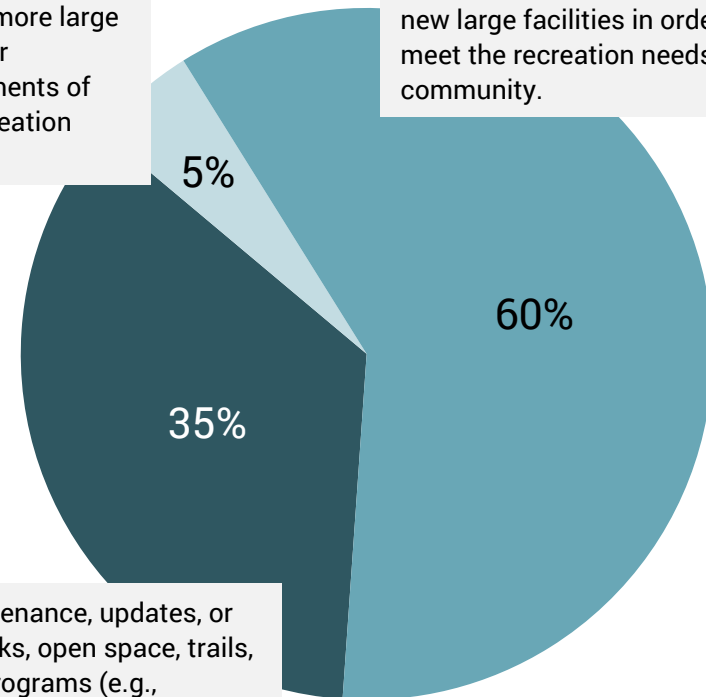
Preference for Investments in New Parks and Facilities Versus Maintenance of Existing System

When asked about the trade-off between investments in new parks and facilities versus maintenance and enhancements to the current parks and recreation system, most respondents (60%) preferred a balance between the two. Among those who gave a preference to one or the other, more preferred taking care of the existing system (35%) than making large investments in parks and facilities (5%).

Which ONE of the following statements do you agree most with in terms of the City's current Parks and Recreation system?

I would prefer large investments in regional parks, build out of neighborhood parks, and more large facilities instead of greater maintenance or enhancements of the current parks and recreation system.

I would prefer a balance between greater maintenance and enhancements to the current parks and recreation system and investing in new regional and neighborhood parks and new large facilities in order to equitably meet the recreation needs of the entire community.



I would prefer better maintenance, updates, or expansions of existing parks, open space, trails, facilities, and recreation programs (e.g., enhanced accessibility, more bathrooms, additional playground equipment, more programs, etc.) rather than investments in new regional parks and new large facilities.



Appendix A: Frequency of Responses to All Questions

Random Sample Mailed Survey Responses

The full set of responses for each closed-ended question (a question in which a respondent chooses their response from a prefilled set of options) are displayed in the tables in this appendix. Some questions included a “don’t know” response option. For these questions, two sets of tables are provided in this appendix: the first with the “don’t know” responses excluded, to show the proportion of respondents with an opinion giving a response and the second with the “don’t know” responses included, to allow examination of the magnitude of unfamiliarity with certain items. Each table displays the proportion of respondents and number of respondents who gave each response. Verbatim responses are found in *Appendix B: Verbatim Responses to Survey Items Answered in Respondents’ Own Words*.

Table 1: Question 1 without "don't know" responses

Please rate the quality of each of the following aspects of the Rochester Parks & Recreation system.	Poor		Fair		Good		Excellent		Total	
	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N
Overall feelings of safety in City parks and recreation facilities	2%	N=16	11%	N=78	59%	N=401	27%	N=185	100%	N=681
Overall cleanliness of City parks and recreation facilities	3%	N=18	17%	N=117	59%	N=400	21%	N=144	100%	N=679
Location of parks	1%	N=6	8%	N=57	55%	N=373	36%	N=241	100%	N=677
Quality of parks	3%	N=19	13%	N=84	56%	N=376	29%	N=192	100%	N=672
Mowing	2%	N=10	10%	N=62	51%	N=326	37%	N=239	100%	N=637
Quality of playgrounds	3%	N=14	15%	N=81	54%	N=285	28%	N=147	100%	N=527
Playground maintenance	3%	N=15	16%	N=79	57%	N=276	24%	N=117	100%	N=487
Shelter maintenance	7%	N=34	22%	N=108	53%	N=260	18%	N=88	100%	N=490
Trails and sidewalk connections	3%	N=20	10%	N=65	49%	N=325	38%	N=249	100%	N=660
Condition of trails and sidewalks	3%	N=18	14%	N=92	52%	N=337	31%	N=203	100%	N=650
Quality of indoor recreation facilities	5%	N=16	18%	N=57	54%	N=169	23%	N=71	100%	N=313
Amount of recreation programs	7%	N=26	24%	N=87	50%	N=183	19%	N=71	100%	N=367
Variety of recreation programs	8%	N=31	22%	N=80	48%	N=177	21%	N=77	100%	N=365
Quality of recreation programs	5%	N=16	19%	N=63	55%	N=187	21%	N=72	100%	N=337

Table 2: Question 1 with "don't know" responses

Please rate the quality of each of the following aspects of the Rochester Parks & Recreation system.	Poor		Fair		Good		Excellent		Don't know		Total	
	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N
Overall feelings of safety in City parks and recreation facilities	2%	N=16	11%	N=78	56%	N=401	26%	N=185	6%	N=41	100%	N=722
Overall cleanliness of City parks and recreation facilities	3%	N=18	16%	N=117	55%	N=400	20%	N=144	6%	N=41	100%	N=721
Location of parks	1%	N=6	8%	N=57	52%	N=373	34%	N=241	5%	N=37	100%	N=713
Quality of parks	3%	N=19	12%	N=84	53%	N=376	27%	N=192	6%	N=43	100%	N=715
Mowing	1%	N=10	9%	N=62	45%	N=326	33%	N=239	12%	N=84	100%	N=721
Quality of playgrounds	2%	N=14	11%	N=81	40%	N=285	21%	N=147	27%	N=191	100%	N=719
Playground maintenance	2%	N=15	11%	N=79	38%	N=276	16%	N=117	33%	N=237	100%	N=724
Shelter maintenance	5%	N=34	15%	N=108	36%	N=260	12%	N=88	31%	N=224	100%	N=715
Trails and sidewalk connections	3%	N=20	9%	N=65	45%	N=325	35%	N=249	8%	N=61	100%	N=720
Condition of trails and sidewalks	2%	N=18	13%	N=92	47%	N=337	28%	N=203	9%	N=68	100%	N=718
Quality of indoor recreation facilities	2%	N=16	8%	N=57	24%	N=169	10%	N=71	56%	N=400	100%	N=713
Amount of recreation programs	4%	N=26	12%	N=87	26%	N=183	10%	N=71	49%	N=351	100%	N=718
Variety of recreation programs	4%	N=31	11%	N=80	24%	N=177	11%	N=77	50%	N=358	100%	N=723
Quality of recreation programs	2%	N=16	9%	N=63	26%	N=187	10%	N=72	53%	N=383	100%	N=720

Table 3: Question 2

In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program?	Percent	Number
Never	6%	N=46
A few times a year	15%	N=108
1-2 times a month	16%	N=115
Once a week	15%	N=109
Multiple times a week	37%	N=269
Daily	11%	N=80
Total	100%	N=727

Table 4: Question 3

If your household has NOT used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program, please share why (check all that apply). Total may exceed 100% as respondents could select more than one option. This question was only asked of respondents who had never used a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program. Respondents were given the opportunity to write-in an other response; these responses can be found in <i>Appendix B: Verbatim Responses to Survey Items Answered in Respondents' Own Words.</i>	Percent	Number
No interest	53%	N=24
No time	23%	N=10
Cost/ too expensive	0%	N=0
Safety concerns	5%	N=2
Lack of transportation	2%	N=1
Distance from home	8%	N=4
A physical, mental, or emotional condition	10%	N=5
Physical barrier (major roadway, geography, elevation, river, etc.)	0%	N=0
Lack of welcome and inclusive space	1%	N=1
Lack of amenities/programs that meet my household's needs	6%	N=3
Other	12%	N=5

Table 5: Question 4

Thinking about the last 2 years, please select all City-provided or supported recreation programs that you or someone in your household has participated in. Total may exceed 100% as respondents could select more than one option. Respondents were given the opportunity to write-in an other response; these responses can be found in <i>Appendix B: Verbatim Responses to Survey Items Answered in Respondents' Own Words.</i>	Percent	Number
We don't participate in City recreation programs	46%	N=325
125 Live	12%	N=84
Adaptive recreation	1%	N=8
Basketball	5%	N=37
Baseball	5%	N=35
Broomball	1%	N=7
Disc golf	9%	N=60
Figure skating	5%	N=38
Football/flag football	3%	N=24
Golf	17%	N=121
Hockey	5%	N=34
Kickball	2%	N=15
Lacrosse	1%	N=6
Mountain biking	7%	N=51
Pipsqueaks indoor playground	3%	N=21
Pickleball	9%	N=60
Soccer	7%	N=52
Softball	6%	N=45
Swimming	16%	N=110
Volleyball	6%	N=43
Water aerobics	2%	N=15
Other	10%	N=67

Table 6: Question 5 - Participation

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed:	No		Yes		Total	
Adult athletic fields	80%	N=585	20%	N=147	100%	N=732
Basketball courts	88%	N=644	12%	N=88	100%	N=732
Community gardens	87%	N=639	13%	N=93	100%	N=732
Community/regional parks (i.e. Silver Lake or Quarry Hill)	18%	N=129	82%	N=603	100%	N=732
Cross country ski trails	77%	N=562	23%	N=170	100%	N=732
Disc golf courses	83%	N=605	17%	N=127	100%	N=732
Dog parks	75%	N=551	25%	N=181	100%	N=732
General open space/natural space	21%	N=153	79%	N=579	100%	N=732
Golf courses	71%	N=523	29%	N=209	100%	N=732
Graham Arena	73%	N=533	27%	N=199	100%	N=732
Mayo Field (Honkers baseball)	72%	N=524	28%	N=208	100%	N=732
Mountain biking trails	80%	N=588	20%	N=144	100%	N=732
Natural areas	27%	N=195	73%	N=537	100%	N=732
National Volleyball Center	88%	N=647	12%	N=85	100%	N=732
Neighborhood parks (within ½ mile of home)	24%	N=177	76%	N=555	100%	N=732
Outdoor exercise equipment	88%	N=648	12%	N=84	100%	N=732
Outdoor benches	31%	N=224	69%	N=508	100%	N=732
Outdoor pools	74%	N=542	26%	N=190	100%	N=732
Outdoor ice rinks	76%	N=554	24%	N=178	100%	N=732
Picnic areas/shelters	46%	N=338	54%	N=394	100%	N=732
Playgrounds	57%	N=420	43%	N=312	100%	N=732
Pickleball	88%	N=647	12%	N=85	100%	N=732
Public art	65%	N=474	35%	N=258	100%	N=732
Quarry Hill Nature Center	24%	N=176	76%	N=556	100%	N=732

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed:	No		Yes		Total	
Rec center	70%	N=510	30%	N=222	100%	N=732
Sand volleyball courts	86%	N=628	14%	N=104	100%	N=732
Skate parks	91%	N=669	9%	N=63	100%	N=732
Splash pads	90%	N=656	10%	N=76	100%	N=732
Paved trails	19%	N=136	81%	N=596	100%	N=732
Tennis courts	80%	N=585	20%	N=147	100%	N=732
Youth athletic fields	79%	N=580	21%	N=152	100%	N=732

Table 7: Question 5 - Funding

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed:						
	No		Yes		Total	
Adult athletic fields	44%	N=311	56%	N=393	100%	N=704
Basketball courts	41%	N=289	59%	N=415	100%	N=704
Community gardens	32%	N=224	68%	N=481	100%	N=704
Community/regional parks (i.e. Silver Lake or Quarry Hill)	13%	N=93	87%	N=611	100%	N=704
Cross country ski trails	42%	N=297	58%	N=407	100%	N=704
Disc golf courses	49%	N=348	51%	N=356	100%	N=704
Dog parks	39%	N=277	61%	N=427	100%	N=704
General open space/natural space	20%	N=140	80%	N=565	100%	N=704
Golf courses	54%	N=378	46%	N=327	100%	N=704
Graham Arena	43%	N=305	57%	N=399	100%	N=704
Mayo Field (Honkers baseball)	44%	N=307	56%	N=397	100%	N=704
Mountain biking trails	41%	N=291	59%	N=413	100%	N=704
Natural areas	20%	N=140	80%	N=564	100%	N=704
National Volleyball Center	57%	N=398	43%	N=306	100%	N=704
Neighborhood parks (within ½ mile of home)	19%	N=131	81%	N=573	100%	N=704
Outdoor exercise equipment	55%	N=386	45%	N=319	100%	N=704
Outdoor benches	28%	N=199	72%	N=505	100%	N=704
Outdoor pools	30%	N=210	70%	N=495	100%	N=704
Outdoor ice rinks	35%	N=243	65%	N=461	100%	N=704
Picnic areas/shelters	24%	N=171	76%	N=533	100%	N=704
Playgrounds	24%	N=167	76%	N=537	100%	N=704
Pickleball	51%	N=360	49%	N=345	100%	N=704
Public art	45%	N=319	55%	N=386	100%	N=704
Quarry Hill Nature Center	15%	N=106	85%	N=598	100%	N=704

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed:	No		Yes		Total	
Rec center	33%	N=232	67%	N=472	100%	N=704
Sand volleyball courts	52%	N=365	48%	N=339	100%	N=704
Skate parks	48%	N=336	52%	N=368	100%	N=704
Splash pads	41%	N=291	59%	N=413	100%	N=704
Paved trails	17%	N=116	83%	N=588	100%	N=704
Tennis courts	44%	N=307	56%	N=398	100%	N=704
Youth athletic fields	32%	N=222	68%	N=482	100%	N=704

Table 8: Question 6

How familiar, if at all, are you with the Park System Plan that was developed in 2015-2016?	Percent	Number
Very familiar	2%	N=18
Somewhat familiar	11%	N=82
I've heard of it but don't know much about it	30%	N=215
Not at all familiar	57%	N=412
Total	100%	N=727

Table 9: Question 7

Which ONE of the following statements best describes the type of park system and level of investment you desire for Rochester?	Percent	Number
Best in the Midwest through significant investment in state of the art facilities, a complete, connected trail system, large natural areas, and significant expanded programming.	14%	N=104
Best in the State of Minnesota through additional investment to modernize indoor and outdoor facilities, expand the trail system, preserve additional natural areas, and increase programming.	37%	N=264
Similar to other Minnesota communities through modest investment for indoor and outdoor facilities to serve popular sports, gradual connection of all trails, enhancement of natural areas and some programming.	32%	N=233
Focus on meeting the basic resident needs with indoor and outdoor facilities for a few sports, trail connectivity focused on park access, a few natural areas, and continued collaboration with local clubs/associations for programming.	10%	N=74
Minimalist focus on maintaining what currently exists with limited, phased increases in facilities, trails, and natural areas. Programming primarily provided by clubs/associations.	6%	N=45
Total	100%	N=719

Table 10: Question 8

Which ONE of the following statements do you agree most with in terms of the City's current Parks and Recreation system?	Percent	Number
I would prefer better maintenance, updates, or expansions of existing parks, open space, trails, facilities, and recreation programs (e.g., enhanced accessibility, more bathrooms, additional playground equipment, more programs, etc.) rather than investments in new regional parks and new large facilities.	35%	N=250
I would prefer large investments in regional parks, build out of neighborhood parks, and more large facilities instead of greater maintenance or enhancements of the current parks and recreation system.	5%	N=35
I would prefer a balance between greater maintenance and enhancements to the current parks and recreation system and investing in new regional and neighborhood parks and new large facilities in order to equitably meet the recreation needs of the entire community.	60%	N=424
Total	100%	N=709

Table 11: Question 9

Do you own or rent your home?	Percent	Number
Own	72%	N=519
Rent	28%	N=206
Total	100%	N=725

Table 12: Question 10

Do you have a physical, mental, or emotional condition that limits and/or shapes your participation in work and society?	Percent	Number
Yes	12%	N=89
No	88%	N=629
Total	100%	N=719

Table 13: Question 11

How much do you anticipate your household's total income before taxes will be for the current year? (Please include in your total income money from all sources for all persons living in your household.)	Percent	Number
Up to \$9,999	1%	N=10
\$10,000 to \$24,999	6%	N=39
\$25,000 to \$49,999	13%	N=88
\$50,000 to \$74,999	19%	N=130
\$75,000 to \$99,999	21%	N=142
\$100,000 to \$149,999	18%	N=123
\$150,000 to \$199,999	10%	N=66
\$200,000 to \$249,999	4%	N=25
\$250,000 or more	7%	N=48
Total	100%	N=672

Table 14: Question 12

Is English your first language?	Percent	Number
Yes	93%	N=666
No	7%	N=53
Total	100%	N=720

Table 15: Question 13

Which best describes your country of origin, regardless of current nationality?	Percent	Number
My country of origin is the USA	91%	N=652
I am originally from another country	9%	N=63
Total	100%	N=715

Table 16: Question 14

What is your race and/or ethnicity? Total may exceed 100% as respondents could select more than one option.	Percent	Number
American Indian or Alaskan Native	1%	N=10
Arabic or Middle Eastern	0%	N=3
Asian, Asian Indian or Pacific Islander	6%	N=42
Black, African American or African immigrant	3%	N=20
Spanish, Hispanic or Latino/a	4%	N=30
White	86%	N=605
Other	4%	N=27

Table 17: Question 15

What is your religious or spiritual identity?	Percent	Number
Agnostic / Atheist	9%	N=60
Buddhist	2%	N=12
Christian	64%	N=441
Hindu	1%	N=4
Jewish	0%	N=3
Muslim	1%	N=7
Sikh	0%	N=0
Spiritual, but no religious affiliation	10%	N=67
No affiliation	11%	N=76
Other	3%	N=23
Total	100%	N=693

Table 18: Question 16

In which category is your age?	Percent	Number
18-24 years	6%	N=40
25-34 years	25%	N=180
35-44 years	17%	N=120
45-54 years	16%	N=113
55-64 years	13%	N=90
65-74 years	14%	N=96
75 years or older	10%	N=71
Total	100%	N=711

Table 19: Question 17

What is your current gender identity?	Percent	Number
Female	51%	N=355
Genderqueer/gender non-conforming	0%	N=2
Male	48%	N=336
Trans male/trans man	0%	N=0
Trans female/trans woman	0%	N=0
Different/other identity	0%	N=3
Total	100%	N=696

Table 20: Question 18

Which term best describes your sexual orientation?	Percent	Number
Asexual	6%	N=36
Bisexual	1%	N=8
Gay	2%	N=10
Heterosexual/ straight	85%	N=564
Lesbian	1%	N=4
Queer	0%	N=2
Questioning	1%	N=5
I prefer to self identify	5%	N=31
Total	100%	N=661

Table 21: Question 19

What is your 5-digit zip code?	Percent	Number
55901	46%	N=333
55902	21%	N=151
55904	17%	N=126
55905	0%	N=2
55906	15%	N=109
Other zip code	0%	N=1
Don't know	0%	N=3
Total	100%	N=724

Table 22: Ward

Ward	Percent	Number
Ward 1	18%	N=127
Ward 2	19%	N=136
Ward 3	13%	N=94
Ward 4	13%	N=93
Ward 5	20%	N=141
Ward 6	17%	N=123
Total	100%	N=714

Open Participation Survey Responses

The full set of responses for each closed-ended question (a question in which a respondent chooses their response from a prefilled set of options) are displayed in the tables in this appendix. Some questions included a “don’t know” response option. For these questions, two sets of tables are provided in this appendix: the first with the “don’t know” responses excluded, to show the proportion of respondents with an opinion giving a response and the second with the “don’t know” responses included, to allow examination of the magnitude of unfamiliarity with certain items. Each table displays the proportion of respondents and number of respondents who gave each response. Verbatim responses are found in *Appendix B: Verbatim Responses to Survey Items Answered in Respondents’ Own Words*.

Table 23: Question 1 without “don’t know” responses

Please rate the quality of each of the following aspects of the Rochester Parks & Recreation system.	Poor		Fair		Good		Excellent		Total	
	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N
Overall feelings of safety in City parks and recreation facilities	2%	N=31	12%	N=162	54%	N=749	33%	N=454	100%	N=1397
Overall cleanliness of City parks and recreation facilities	3%	N=39	19%	N=262	52%	N=724	26%	N=359	100%	N=1383
Location of parks	2%	N=28	11%	N=159	52%	N=728	34%	N=476	100%	N=1391
Quality of parks	3%	N=39	14%	N=186	56%	N=755	27%	N=366	100%	N=1347
Mowing	2%	N=25	9%	N=119	48%	N=625	41%	N=532	100%	N=1301
Quality of playgrounds	5%	N=51	17%	N=194	50%	N=560	28%	N=319	100%	N=1124
Playground maintenance	4%	N=40	21%	N=215	49%	N=506	26%	N=262	100%	N=1022
Shelter maintenance	6%	N=66	26%	N=266	53%	N=538	14%	N=146	100%	N=1016
Trails and sidewalk connections	2%	N=31	15%	N=196	50%	N=649	33%	N=431	100%	N=1308
Condition of trails and sidewalks	2%	N=22	18%	N=235	54%	N=702	27%	N=351	100%	N=1310
Quality of indoor recreation facilities	9%	N=73	30%	N=229	40%	N=311	21%	N=160	100%	N=773
Amount of recreation programs	12%	N=102	29%	N=238	45%	N=377	14%	N=113	100%	N=830
Variety of recreation programs	13%	N=111	26%	N=216	45%	N=377	15%	N=126	100%	N=829
Quality of recreation programs	6%	N=46	24%	N=172	50%	N=365	19%	N=140	100%	N=724

Table 24: Question 1 with "don't know" responses

Please rate the quality of each of the following aspects of the Rochester Parks & Recreation system.	Poor		Fair		Good		Excellent		Don't know		Total	
	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N
Overall feelings of safety in City parks and recreation facilities	2%	N=31	11%	N=162	51%	N=749	31%	N=454	4%	N=60	100%	N=1457
Overall cleanliness of City parks and recreation facilities	3%	N=39	18%	N=262	50%	N=724	25%	N=359	4%	N=56	100%	N=1440
Location of parks	2%	N=28	11%	N=159	50%	N=728	33%	N=476	4%	N=55	100%	N=1446
Quality of parks	3%	N=39	13%	N=186	53%	N=755	26%	N=366	5%	N=78	100%	N=1426
Mowing	2%	N=25	8%	N=119	44%	N=625	37%	N=532	9%	N=133	100%	N=1434
Quality of playgrounds	4%	N=51	13%	N=194	39%	N=560	22%	N=319	22%	N=320	100%	N=1444
Playground maintenance	3%	N=40	15%	N=215	35%	N=506	18%	N=262	29%	N=421	100%	N=1443
Shelter maintenance	5%	N=66	19%	N=266	38%	N=538	10%	N=146	29%	N=408	100%	N=1424
Trails and sidewalk connections	2%	N=31	14%	N=196	46%	N=649	30%	N=431	8%	N=113	100%	N=1421
Condition of trails and sidewalks	2%	N=22	17%	N=235	49%	N=702	25%	N=351	8%	N=112	100%	N=1422
Quality of indoor recreation facilities	5%	N=73	16%	N=229	22%	N=311	11%	N=160	47%	N=672	100%	N=1445
Amount of recreation programs	7%	N=102	17%	N=238	26%	N=377	8%	N=113	42%	N=608	100%	N=1439
Variety of recreation programs	8%	N=111	15%	N=216	26%	N=377	9%	N=126	43%	N=614	100%	N=1444
Quality of recreation programs	3%	N=46	12%	N=172	25%	N=365	10%	N=140	49%	N=709	100%	N=1433

Table 25: Question 2

In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program?	Percent	Number
Never	6%	N=81
A few times a year	14%	N=210
1-2 times a month	15%	N=218
Once a week	15%	N=218
Multiple times a week	38%	N=561
Daily	12%	N=176
Total	100%	N=1463

Table 26: Question 3

<p>If your household has NOT used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program, please share why (check all that apply). Total may exceed 100% as respondents could select more than one option. This question was only asked of respondents who had never used a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program. Respondents were given the opportunity to write-in an other response; these responses can be found in <i>Appendix B: Verbatim Responses to Survey Items Answered in Respondents' Own Words.</i></p>	Percent	Number
No interest	56%	N=45
No time	30%	N=24
Cost/ too expensive	0%	N=0
Safety concerns	3%	N=3
Lack of transportation	23%	N=18
Distance from home	38%	N=31
A physical, mental, or emotional condition	23%	N=18
Physical barrier (major roadway, geography, elevation, river, etc.)	0%	N=0
Lack of welcome and inclusive space	10%	N=8
Lack of amenities/programs that meet my household's needs	0%	N=0
Other	47%	N=38

Table 27: Question 4

<p>Thinking about the last 2 years, please select all City-provided or supported recreation programs that you or someone in your household has participated in. Total may exceed 100% as respondents could select more than one option. Respondents were given the opportunity to write-in an other response; these responses can be found in <i>Appendix B: Verbatim Responses to Survey Items Answered in Respondents' Own Words.</i></p>	<p>Percent</p>	<p>Number</p>
We don't participate in City recreation programs	43%	N=616
125 Live	10%	N=146
Adaptive recreation	2%	N=25
Basketball	5%	N=66
Baseball	4%	N=51
Broomball	1%	N=11
Disc golf	11%	N=157
Figure skating	4%	N=54
Football/flag football	3%	N=45
Golf	11%	N=160
Hockey	4%	N=60
Kickball	2%	N=27
Lacrosse	1%	N=14
Mountain biking	11%	N=157
Pipsqueaks indoor playground	2%	N=29
Pickleball	7%	N=107
Soccer	7%	N=97
Softball	4%	N=62
Swimming	20%	N=290
Volleyball	5%	N=74
Water aerobics	1%	N=19
Other	8%	N=111

Table 28: Question 5 - Participation

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed:	No		Yes		Total	
Adult athletic fields	78%	N=1136	22%	N=327	100%	N=1463
Basketball courts	87%	N=1268	13%	N=195	100%	N=1463
Community gardens	84%	N=1229	16%	N=235	100%	N=1463
Community/regional parks (i.e. Silver Lake or Quarry Hill)	14%	N=200	86%	N=1263	100%	N=1463
Cross country ski trails	73%	N=1065	27%	N=398	100%	N=1463
Disc golf courses	82%	N=1200	18%	N=264	100%	N=1463
Dog parks	73%	N=1061	27%	N=402	100%	N=1463
General open space/natural space	18%	N=260	82%	N=1203	100%	N=1463
Golf courses	77%	N=1123	23%	N=340	100%	N=1463
Graham Arena	72%	N=1051	28%	N=412	100%	N=1463
Mayo Field (Honkers baseball)	76%	N=1111	24%	N=352	100%	N=1463
Mountain biking trails	74%	N=1078	26%	N=386	100%	N=1463
Natural areas	20%	N=299	80%	N=1165	100%	N=1463
National Volleyball Center	90%	N=1315	10%	N=149	100%	N=1463
Neighborhood parks (within ½ mile of home)	27%	N=401	73%	N=1062	100%	N=1463
Outdoor exercise equipment	87%	N=1280	13%	N=183	100%	N=1463
Outdoor benches	28%	N=406	72%	N=1058	100%	N=1463
Outdoor pools	62%	N=912	38%	N=552	100%	N=1463
Outdoor ice rinks	72%	N=1055	28%	N=408	100%	N=1463
Picnic areas/shelters	43%	N=631	57%	N=832	100%	N=1463
Playgrounds	52%	N=767	48%	N=696	100%	N=1463
Pickleball	88%	N=1291	12%	N=173	100%	N=1463
Public art	53%	N=779	47%	N=684	100%	N=1463

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed:						
	No		Yes		Total	
Quarry Hill Nature Center	20%	N=291	80%	N=1173	100%	N=1463
Rec center	68%	N=991	32%	N=472	100%	N=1463
Sand volleyball courts	89%	N=1302	11%	N=161	100%	N=1463
Skate parks	88%	N=1285	12%	N=178	100%	N=1463
Splash pads	85%	N=1237	15%	N=226	100%	N=1463
Paved trails	15%	N=219	85%	N=1244	100%	N=1463
Tennis courts	78%	N=1146	22%	N=317	100%	N=1463
Youth athletic fields	79%	N=1162	21%	N=301	100%	N=1463

Table 29: Question 5 - Funding

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed:	No		Yes		Total	
Adult athletic fields	52%	N=746	48%	N=701	100%	N=1447
Basketball courts	47%	N=678	53%	N=769	100%	N=1447
Community gardens	36%	N=515	64%	N=931	100%	N=1447
Community/regional parks (i.e. Silver Lake or Quarry Hill)	14%	N=197	86%	N=1250	100%	N=1447
Cross country ski trails	46%	N=661	54%	N=786	100%	N=1447
Disc golf courses	50%	N=729	50%	N=718	100%	N=1447
Dog parks	41%	N=600	59%	N=847	100%	N=1447
General open space/natural space	19%	N=271	81%	N=1175	100%	N=1447
Golf courses	63%	N=910	37%	N=537	100%	N=1447
Graham Arena	52%	N=757	48%	N=690	100%	N=1447
Mayo Field (Honkers baseball)	53%	N=764	47%	N=683	100%	N=1447
Mountain biking trails	45%	N=644	55%	N=803	100%	N=1447
Natural areas	19%	N=271	81%	N=1176	100%	N=1447
National Volleyball Center	61%	N=885	39%	N=562	100%	N=1447
Neighborhood parks (within ½ mile of home)	21%	N=302	79%	N=1145	100%	N=1447
Outdoor exercise equipment	55%	N=791	45%	N=656	100%	N=1447
Outdoor benches	31%	N=441	69%	N=1006	100%	N=1447
Outdoor pools	28%	N=402	72%	N=1045	100%	N=1447
Outdoor ice rinks	35%	N=514	65%	N=933	100%	N=1447
Picnic areas/shelters	27%	N=393	73%	N=1054	100%	N=1447
Playgrounds	24%	N=353	76%	N=1093	100%	N=1447
Pickleball	52%	N=747	48%	N=700	100%	N=1447
Public art	46%	N=664	54%	N=783	100%	N=1447

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed:	No		Yes		Total	
	Quarry Hill Nature Center	17%	N=249	83%	N=1198	100%
Rec center	37%	N=533	63%	N=914	100%	N=1447
Sand volleyball courts	56%	N=808	44%	N=639	100%	N=1447
Skate parks	49%	N=709	51%	N=738	100%	N=1447
Splash pads	39%	N=570	61%	N=876	100%	N=1447
Paved trails	16%	N=234	84%	N=1212	100%	N=1447
Tennis courts	47%	N=686	53%	N=761	100%	N=1447
Youth athletic fields	35%	N=514	65%	N=933	100%	N=1447

Table 30: Question 6

How familiar, if at all, are you with the Park System Plan that was developed in 2015-2016?	Percent	Number
Very familiar	3%	N=42
Somewhat familiar	13%	N=181
I've heard of it but don't know much about it	29%	N=427
Not at all familiar	55%	N=800
Total	100%	N=1450

Table 31: Question 7

Which ONE of the following statements best describes the type of park system and level of investment you desire for Rochester?	Percent	Number
Best in the Midwest through significant investment in state of the art facilities, a complete, connected trail system, large natural areas, and significant expanded programming.	25%	N=355
Best in the State of Minnesota through additional investment to modernize indoor and outdoor facilities, expand the trail system, preserve additional natural areas, and increase programming.	40%	N=573
Similar to other Minnesota communities through modest investment for indoor and outdoor facilities to serve popular sports, gradual connection of all trails, enhancement of natural areas and some programming.	28%	N=399
Focus on meeting the basic resident needs with indoor and outdoor facilities for a few sports, trail connectivity focused on park access, a few natural areas, and continued collaboration with local clubs/associations for programing.	6%	N=83
Minimalist focus on maintaining what currently exists with limited, phased increases in facilities, trails, and natural areas. Programing primarily provided by clubs/associations.	3%	N=37
Total	100%	N=1448

Table 32: Question 8

Which ONE of the following statements do you agree most with in terms of the City's current Parks and Recreation system?	Percent	Number
I would prefer better maintenance, updates, or expansions of existing parks, open space, trails, facilities, and recreation programs (e.g., enhanced accessibility, more bathrooms, additional playground equipment, more programs, etc.) rather than investments in new regional parks and new large facilities.	30%	N=429
I would prefer large investments in regional parks, build out of neighborhood parks, and more large facilities instead of greater maintenance or enhancements of the current parks and recreation system.	10%	N=141
I would prefer a balance between greater maintenance and enhancements to the current parks and recreation system and investing in new regional and neighborhood parks and new large facilities in order to equitably meet the recreation needs of the entire community.	61%	N=876
Total	100%	N=1447

Table 33: Question 9

Do you own or rent your home?	Percent	Number
Own	72%	N=1035
Rent	28%	N=408
Total	100%	N=1444

Table 34: Question 10

Do you have a physical, mental, or emotional condition that limits and/or shapes your participation in work and society?	Percent	Number
Yes	15%	N=210
No	85%	N=1234
Total	100%	N=1445

Table 35: Question 11

How much do you anticipate your household's total income before taxes will be for the current year? (Please include in your total income money from all sources for all persons living in your household.)	Percent	Number
Up to \$9,999	1%	N=18
\$10,000 to \$24,999	4%	N=51
\$25,000 to \$49,999	14%	N=185
\$50,000 to \$74,999	20%	N=258
\$75,000 to \$99,999	15%	N=194
\$100,000 to \$149,999	25%	N=329
\$150,000 to \$199,999	11%	N=146
\$200,000 to \$249,999	4%	N=54
\$250,000 or more	6%	N=86
Total	100%	N=1320

Table 36: Question 12

Is English your first language?	Percent	Number
Yes	95%	N=1367
No	5%	N=68
Total	100%	N=1436

Table 37: Question 13

Which best describes your country of origin, regardless of current nationality?	Percent	Number
My country of origin is the USA	94%	N=1351
I am originally from another country	6%	N=85
Total	100%	N=1436

Table 38: Question 14

What is your race and/or ethnicity?	Percent	Number
Total may exceed 100% as respondents could select more than one option.		
American Indian or Alaskan Native	2%	N=32
Arabic or Middle Eastern	1%	N=8
Asian, Asian Indian or Pacific Islander	4%	N=60
Black, African American or African immigrant	2%	N=26
Spanish, Hispanic or Latino/a	5%	N=72
White	86%	N=1201
Other	6%	N=80

Table 39: Question 15

What is your religious or spiritual identity?	Percent	Number
Agnostic / Atheist	14%	N=191
Buddhist	2%	N=25
Christian	55%	N=757
Hindu	0%	N=4
Jewish	0%	N=4
Muslim	1%	N=8
Sikh	0%	N=0
Spiritual, but no religious affiliation	8%	N=113
No affiliation	16%	N=219
Other	4%	N=61
Total	100%	N=1382

Table 40: Question 16

In which category is your age?	Percent	Number
18-24 years	9%	N=123
25-34 years	23%	N=329
35-44 years	21%	N=294
45-54 years	14%	N=192
55-64 years	18%	N=254
65-74 years	11%	N=156
75 years or older	5%	N=71
Total	100%	N=1419

Table 41: Question 17

What is your current gender identity?	Percent	Number
Female	52%	N=727
Genderqueer/gender non-conforming	1%	N=7
Male	47%	N=652
Trans male/trans man	0%	N=4
Trans female/trans woman	0%	N=2
Different/other identity	1%	N=8
Total	100%	N=1401

Table 42: Question 18

Which term best describes your sexual orientation?	Percent	Number
Asexual	5%	N=63
Bisexual	3%	N=42
Gay	1%	N=10
Heterosexual/ straight	82%	N=1090
Lesbian	1%	N=10
Queer	1%	N=18
Questioning	2%	N=22
I prefer to self identify	6%	N=74
Total	100%	N=1328

Table 43: Question 19

What is your 5-digit zip code?	Percent	Number
55901	45%	N=646
55902	17%	N=248
55904	13%	N=187
55905	0%	N=1
55906	16%	N=226
Other zip code	8%	N=109
Don't know	1%	N=16
Total	100%	N=1433

Table 44: Ward

Ward	Percent	Number
Ward 1	15%	N=197
Ward 2	18%	N=237
Ward 3	15%	N=193
Ward 4	12%	N=163
Ward 5	22%	N=280
Ward 6	18%	N=232
Total	100%	N=1303

Table 45: Question 21

How did you hear about this survey? (Select all that apply). Total may exceed 100% as respondents could select more than one option. This question was only asked of respondents to the open participation survey	Percent	Number
The City's website	3%	N=46
The City's social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.)	18%	N=267
Received an email from the City	20%	N=290
In a City newsletter or utility bill	1%	N=17
Received a postcard or letter from the City	1%	N=15
Nextdoor	1%	N=14
In my Facebook feed	30%	N=430
Saw it on a video of a public meeting or at a meeting I attended	0%	N=1
Saw it on the City's cable channel	2%	N=29
Saw it in a newspaper article or ad (hard copy or online)	3%	N=48
Saw a flyer or poster about it	0%	N=1
Heard about it from a family member, friend or neighborhood	8%	N=119
Heard about it from a business or social organization in my community	8%	N=111
Polco's weekly email	5%	N=72
Polco social media post	0%	N=5
On my Polco feed	3%	N=37
Other	10%	N=143

Comparison of Random Sample Survey Responses to Open Participation Survey Responses

Survey Question	Random Sample	Open Participation	Difference	
Please rate the quality of each of the following aspects of the Rochester Parks & Recreation system. (Percent excellent or good)	Overall feelings of safety in City parks and recreation facilities	86%	85%	-1%
	Overall cleanliness of City parks and recreation facilities	80%	78%	-2%
	Location of parks	91%	86%	-5%
	Quality of parks	85%	83%	-1%
	Mowing	89%	89%	0%
	Quality of playgrounds	82%	78%	-4%
	Playground maintenance	81%	75%	-5%
	Shelter maintenance	71%	68%	-3%
	Trails and sidewalk connections	87%	83%	-4%
	Condition of trails and sidewalks	83%	80%	-3%
	Quality of indoor recreation facilities	77%	61%	-16%
	Amount of recreation programs	69%	59%	-10%
	Variety of recreation programs	70%	61%	-9%
	Quality of recreation programs	77%	68%	-9%
Percent a few times a year or more	In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program?	94%	94%	1%
Percent daily	In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program?	11%	12%	1%
If your household has NOT used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program, please share why (check all that apply). Note: This question was only asked of those who had "never" used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program in the past 2 years.	No interest	53%	55%	1%
	No time	23%	4%	-19%
	Cost/ too expensive	0%	0%	0%
	Safety concerns	5%	6%	1%
	Lack of transportation	2%	1%	0%
	Distance from home	8%	10%	1%
	A physical, mental, or emotional condition	10%	1%	-9%
	Physical barrier (major roadway, geography, elevation, river, etc.)	0%	0%	0%
	Lack of welcome and inclusive space	1%	17%	16%
	Lack of amenities/programs that meet my household's needs	6%	0%	-6%
Other	11%	43%	32%	

Survey Question	Random Sample	Open Participation	Difference
We don't participate in City recreation programs	46%	43%	-4%
125 Live	12%	11%	-1%
Adaptive recreation	1%	2%	1%
Basketball	5%	5%	0%
Baseball	5%	4%	-1%
Broomball	1%	1%	0%
Disc golf	9%	11%	2%
Figure skatingpp	5%	4%	-1%
Football/flag football	3%	3%	0%
Golf	17%	12%	-6%
Hockey	5%	4%	0%
Kickball	2%	2%	0%
Lacrosse	1%	1%	0%
Mountain biking	7%	12%	4%
Pipsqueaks indoor playground	3%	2%	-1%
Pickleball	8%	8%	-1%
Soccer	7%	7%	0%
Softball	6%	5%	-2%
Swimming	16%	21%	5%
Volleyball	6%	5%	-1%
Water aerobics	2%	1%	-1%
Other	9%	7%	-3%

Thinking about the last 2 years, please select all City-provided or supported recreation programs that you or someone in your household has participated in.

Survey Question	Random Sample	Open Participation	Difference
Adult athletic fields	20%	23%	3%
Basketball courts	12%	14%	2%
Community gardens	13%	16%	3%
Community/regional parks (i.e. Silver Lake or Quarry Hill)	82%	87%	4%
Cross country ski trails	23%	27%	4%
Disc golf courses	17%	18%	1%
Dog parks	25%	28%	3%
General open space/natural space	79%	82%	3%
Golf courses	29%	24%	-5%
Graham Arena	27%	27%	-1%
Mayo Field (Honkers baseball)	28%	25%	-4%
Mountain biking trails	20%	27%	7%
Natural areas	73%	79%	6%
National Volleyball Center	12%	10%	-1%
Neighborhood parks (within ½ mile of home)	76%	73%	-3%
Outdoor exercise equipment	12%	13%	1%
Outdoor benches	69%	71%	2%
Outdoor pools	26%	38%	12%
Outdoor ice rinks	24%	27%	3%
Picnic areas/shelters	54%	57%	3%
Playgrounds	43%	49%	6%
Pickleball	12%	11%	0%
Public art	35%	45%	10%
Quarry Hill Nature Center	76%	81%	5%
Rec center	30%	33%	3%
Sand volleyball courts	14%	11%	-3%
Skate parks	9%	13%	4%
Splash pads	10%	16%	6%
Paved trails	81%	85%	3%
Tennis courts	20%	22%	2%
Youth athletic fields	21%	22%	1%

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed:
Percent "yes" household participates

Survey Question		Random Sample	Open Participation	Difference
For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: Percent "yes" the City should invest	Adult athletic fields	56%	48%	-8%
	Basketball courts	59%	52%	-7%
	Community gardens	68%	63%	-5%
	Community/regional parks (i.e. Silver Lake or Quarry Hill)	87%	86%	0%
	Cross country ski trails	58%	54%	-3%
	Disc golf courses	50%	50%	-1%
	Dog parks	61%	58%	-3%
	General open space/natural space	80%	80%	0%
	Golf courses	46%	37%	-10%
	Graham Arena	57%	47%	-10%
	Mayo Field (Honkers baseball)	56%	46%	-10%
	Mountain biking trails	59%	55%	-3%
	Natural areas	80%	80%	0%
	National Volleyball Center	43%	38%	-6%
	Neighborhood parks (within ½ mile of home)	81%	78%	-3%
	Outdoor exercise equipment	45%	44%	-1%
	Outdoor benches	72%	68%	-3%
	Outdoor pools	70%	71%	1%
	Outdoor ice rinks	65%	63%	-2%
	Picnic areas/shelters	76%	72%	-4%
	Playgrounds	76%	75%	-2%
	Pickleball	49%	48%	-1%
	Public art	55%	53%	-2%
	Quarry Hill Nature Center	85%	83%	-2%
	Rec center	67%	62%	-5%
	Sand volleyball courts	48%	43%	-5%
	Skate parks	52%	50%	-2%
	Splash pads	59%	60%	1%
	Paved trails	83%	83%	-1%
	Tennis courts	56%	53%	-4%
Youth athletic fields	68%	65%	-3%	
Percent very or somewhat familiar	How familiar, if at all, are you with the Park System Plan that was developed in 2015-2016?	14%	15%	1%

Survey Question		Random Sample	Open Participation	Difference
In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program?	Never	6%	6%	-1%
	A few times a year	15%	15%	0%
	1-2 times a month	16%	15%	-1%
	Once a week	15%	15%	0%
	Multiple times a week	37%	38%	1%
	Daily	11%	12%	1%
How familiar, if at all, are you with the Park System Plan that was developed in 2015-2016?	Very familiar	2%	3%	0%
	Somewhat familiar	11%	12%	1%
	I've heard of it but don't know much about it	30%	29%	0%
	Not at all familiar	57%	55%	-1%
Which ONE of the following statements best describes the type of park system and level of investment you desire for Rochester?	Best in the Midwest through significant investment in state of the art facilities, a complete, connected trail system, large natural areas, and significant expanded programming.	14%	24%	9%
	Best in the State of Minnesota through additional investment to modernize indoor and outdoor facilities, expand the trail system, preserve additional natural areas, and increase programming.	37%	38%	1%
	Similar to other Minnesota communities through modest investment for indoor and outdoor facilities to serve popular sports, gradual connection of all trails, enhancement of natural areas and some programming.	32%	29%	-3%
	Focus on meeting the basic resident needs with indoor and outdoor facilities for a few sports, trail connectivity focused on park access, a few natural areas, and continued collaboration with local clubs/associations for programming.	10%	7%	-4%
	Minimalist focus on maintaining what currently exists with limited, phased increases in facilities, trails, and natural areas. Programming primarily provided by clubs/associations.	6%	3%	-4%

Survey Question		Random Sample	Open Participation	Difference
Which ONE of the following statements do you agree most with in terms of the City's current Parks and Recreation system?	I would prefer better maintenance, updates, or expansions of existing parks, open space, trails, facilities, and recreation programs (e.g., enhanced accessibility, more bathrooms, additional playground equipment, more programs, etc.) rather than investments in new regional parks and new large facilities.	35%	30%	-5%
	I would prefer large investments in regional parks, build out of neighborhood parks, and more large facilities instead of greater maintenance or enhancements of the current parks and recreation system.	5%	8%	3%
	I would prefer a balance between greater maintenance and enhancements to the current parks and recreation system and investing in new regional and neighborhood parks and new large facilities in order to equitably meet the recreation needs of the entire community.	60%	62%	2%
Do you own or rent your home?	Own	72%	72%	0%
	Rent	28%	28%	0%
Do you have a physical, mental, or emotional condition that limits and/or shapes your participation in work and society?	Yes	12%	13%	1%
	No	88%	87%	-1%
How much do you anticipate your household's total income before taxes will be for the current year? (Please include in your total income money from all sources for all persons living in your household.)	Up to \$9,999	1%	1%	0%
	\$10,000 to \$24,999	6%	3%	-3%
	\$25,000 to \$49,999	13%	14%	1%
	\$50,000 to \$74,999	19%	18%	-2%
	\$75,000 to \$99,999	21%	15%	-6%
	\$100,000 to \$149,999	18%	27%	8%
	\$150,000 to \$199,999	10%	11%	1%
	\$200,000 to \$249,999	4%	4%	0%
Is English your first language?	\$250,000 or more	7%	7%	-1%
	Yes	93%	95%	2%
Which best describes your country of origin, regardless of current nationality?	No	7%	5%	-2%
	My country of origin is the USA	91%	94%	2%
Race/ethnicity	I am originally from another country	9%	6%	-2%
	White alone, not Hispanic	82%	82%	0%
	Hispanic and/or other race	18%	18%	0%

Survey Question		Random Sample	Open Participation	Difference
What is your religious or spiritual identity?	Agnostic / Atheist	9%	14%	5%
	Buddhist	2%	2%	0%
	Christian	64%	54%	-9%
	Hindu	1%	0%	0%
	Jewish	0%	0%	0%
	Muslim	1%	1%	0%
	Sikh	0%	0%	0%
	Spiritual, but no religious affiliation	10%	8%	-1%
	No affiliation	11%	16%	5%
	Other	3%	5%	1%
Age	18-34	31%	32%	1%
	35-54	33%	35%	2%
	55+	36%	34%	-3%
What is your current gender identity?	Female	51%	52%	1%
	Genderqueer/gender non-conforming	0%	1%	0%
	Male	48%	47%	-2%
	Trans male/trans man	0%	0%	0%
	Trans female/trans woman	0%	0%	0%
	Different/other identity	0%	1%	0%
Which term best describes your sexual orientation?	Asexual	6%	6%	0%
	Bisexual	1%	3%	2%
	Gay	2%	1%	-1%
	Heterosexual/Straight	85%	83%	-3%
	Lesbian	1%	1%	0%
	Queer	0%	1%	1%
	Questioning	1%	0%	0%
	I prefer to self identify	5%	5%	1%
What is your 5-digit zip code?	55901	46%	46%	0%
	55902	21%	18%	-3%
	55904	17%	14%	-4%
	55905	0%	0%	0%
	55906	15%	17%	2%
	Other zip code	0%	5%	5%

Survey Question		Random Sample	Open Participation	Difference
Ward	Ward 1	18%	14%	-4%
	Ward 2	19%	17%	-2%
	Ward 3	13%	13%	0%
	Ward 4	13%	11%	-2%
	Ward 5	20%	19%	-1%
	Ward 6	17%	17%	0%
	Don't know	0%	8%	8%

Appendix B: Verbatim Responses to Survey Items Answered in Respondents' Own Words

The following pages contain the respondents' verbatim responses as written on the survey or entered in the online survey form, and have not been edited for spelling or grammar. Responses are shown alphabetically.

Random Sample Mailed Survey Responses

If your household has NOT used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program, please share why (“Other” responses)

- Bathroom always closed.
- COVID 19 CONCERNS & AGE.
- COVID.
- COVID.
- Homeless causing problems.
- I am living in a nursing home and have physical limitations
- I have lived in Rochester less than 3 months.
- I'm in my 90+s.
- Living [?] [?] [?].
- My old age & pandemic.
- My wife and I are a distance from the parks we are seniors 78 & 82 years old. Use seldom.
- Not home often.
- NOT SURE.
- Our age..
- Safety goals only.
- TOO OLD.
- We are alone & travels a lot & spend winters gone a lot.
- WE WILL BE USING MOST OF THE ABOVE WHEN WE MOVE TO ROCH.

Thinking about the last 2 years, please select all City-provided or supported recreation programs that you or someone in your household has participated in. (“Other” responses)

- Again we do not do this but used them much more when our children were growing up now serve with grandchildren.
- Age - 85+ both of us.
- Bike Trails
- bike trails
- Bike/hiking trails.
- biking
- Biking and hiking trails
- Biking on trails walking on trails.
- BIKING.
- Community ed.
- Community education excursions and classes
- Community garden and dog parks.
- Community gardens
- Cross Country Skiing
- Cross-country ski trails at Essex, Eastwood
- Curling
- Curling.
- Dodgeball at the volleyball center
- Fishing.
- Geocaching
- Haven't new to town, didn't know about them.
- hiking
- Hiking/walking trails.
- Horseshoes.
- I just walk in the park.
- If by programs you mean those run by parks staff, then none. If by facilities, we use trails, tennis, horseshoes. and the golf course to cross country ski on.
- Just trails.
- Just walks.
- Mayowood trail
- None.
- Nordic skiing
- Nordic skiing.
- Public gymnastics facility and wrestling facility

- Quarry hill I love Quarry hill.
- Quarry Hill, Hiking, Biking
- Quarry hill.
- Retired - used many of these services in the past.
- Skate boarding.
- Skating.
- Tennis at Kutzky Park
- Tennis Center at Kutzky Park
- Tennis courts, fishing piers, ice fishing on foster and chester etc. Archery fields.
- Tennis -Kutzky park programming and soldiers field courts
- Tennis snow shoe cross counting ski.
- Tennis, biking, bocce ball
- Tennis.
- Tennis.
- Tennis.
- Tennis.
- TENNIS.
- There is only disc golf available in the south east area.
- To old use to.
- trail access
- trails
- Trails
- Walking & visiting the parks pickwased.
- Walking on trails
- WALKING TRAIL.
- walking trails
- WALKING TRAILS.
- Walking trails.
- Walking.
- Walking.
- Walking.
- Walking.
- XC skiing.

Thinking about the future of the Rochester Parks and Recreation System, do you have any other suggestions for improvements or how funding should be spent?

- use a creative-fundraiser techniques to help encourage citizens to donate to a park project . For example- the city needs funds for a much needed new outdoor pool. Get creative and you may be surprised how much money people would donate!! Think about the soldiers field track and how the community rallied behind it - same could be done for other projects
- (1) From the NE area, there needs to be a pedestrian crossing bridge to Quarry Hill over Cty 22 from Century Valley Road.(2) Shooting of guns in the Gorden-Yeager WMA should be illegal. This area should be annexed to Quarry Hill. This area is very near residential areas, the college, and youth sports complex .
- . It will help break youth from electronics and develop their social skills which they are losing Although I do not use that often, I believe the system is important for youth development and preservation of green spots in the city
- A state of the art Aquatics center should be built for everyone in and around the city to enjoy as well as a regional park with fishing, biking, walking, picnic areas, and lots of open natural space to go explore.
- A town the size of Rochester should have a pool in each quadrant. The majority of small towns around Rochester have pools that are significantly nicer than Rochester's two pools that are embarrassingly outdated. Multiple splash pads should also be planned. Mini golf and more family oriented things. Also would be nice if Quarry Hill visitor center would reopen.
- A waterpark similar or better than the one in Kasson More winter activities in general Better groomed ski and snow plowed walk/run trails More activities like mini golf, batting cages, yard games that can be played by community members with doors that shut in winter so we have something to do year round! Places for young adults to meet and hang out year round other than bars (see idea above) Puzzle, cribbage, scavenger hunt contests More programming for teens that are not interested in sports Thursdays downtown/farmer's market/community gathers more often and especially in the winter when we're bored!
- Add more pickleball courts instead of tennis courts or convert some tennis to pickleball
- Additional focus on hiking and keeping current paved trails free of geese
- Although overall balance is preferred, maintenance needs to be up to date completed on all existing facilities
- As I indicated above, I'd like to see more investment in enabling casual activities for those people who are sedentary. Activities like walking, casual hiking, nature exploration, canoeing, etc, all give sedentary people a better experience than organized sports or formal programs.
- As someone who enjoys nature and exercise, I would love to see more options for walking/hiking/running in a natural setting. Natural spaces with grass/dirt trail systems (e.g., Quarry Hill, Gamehaven, Indian Heights) not only offer a relaxed setting for those looking to escape', it preserves natural habitat for wildlife and pollinators.

- Based on number of people currently using the few available courts, and the expanding popularity of the sport, several more public pickleball courts are needed for a city our size.
- better advertising so we know what programs are available. fliers at the farmer's market would be great!
- Better clean up of dead limbs on side lines of neighborhood parks
- Better equipment for children. Check out parks in other states and the playgrounds in Rochester are not very entertaining. We love visiting Paco Sanchez park in Denver as it keeps age ranges 3 to 16 and older entertained on the equipment. Other cities have outdoor exercise equipment around the playground so adults can work out while supervising. The playgrounds in Rochester just aren't as great as other cities.
- better navigation on trails. Better the community gardens and make them known what they are and how to access.
- Better parks for the toddler ages, better splash pads/water activities, and more variety of activities at the parks
- Bigger is not always better.
- Bike train to connect SW neighborhoods to the rest of the system, sustain Quarry Hill Center, maintain XC ski trails
- Blacktop the road at Northern hills golf course. At Hadley creek fix or get a new token machine so you don't have to drive to the club house and try to find a place to park to get a token
- bring trash cans back to local parks
- Build a Central Park with no bikes allowed (except small children) for FAMILIES. SOMETHING to DO "downtown"...like a beautiful pond/park/trails/farmers' market/affordable! food Options for all ages...a place to go and walk, relax, have a picnic, fish, play...MN! activities....and in the winter an ice world...with beautiful lights and SKATING...figure only..NO Hockey (takes over ...plenty!!of hockey options around town already)Why not pool resources and work WITH Olmsted County on this?!!
- clean paths occasionally of goose droppings
- Clean up existing parks
- Clean your parks better. Foster Arends park is disgusting there is literally trash everywhere.
- Clean, safe spaces for the community
- Cleanliness of some bathrooms could be improved.
- Commercial and voluntary support but Do Not increase taxes.
- Continue the advance the trail system connectivity. The outdoor pools are extremely important-I would be disappointed to see us go to all splash pads. I love those...but kids need to swim too.
- Continue to fund 125 LIVE as the number of people 65+ is expected to double by 2032
- Continue to value and maintain golf courses as an integral part of the Rochester Park system
- Continue with the walking and bike trails. Maybe more rest area.
- Dear God in heaven, quit wasting money on purchasing and upkeep of Dog Parks. I think it is ridiculous we would place money in this area when there are a lack of quality things for people. Our pools based on the size of Rochester are pathetic. My children are grown, but there is a lack of quality recreational opportunities other than organized sports.
- Decrease the costs.
- Do weed control on playgrounds, parks, soccer fields etc. The soccer field near Willow Creek Golf Course and the playground near Lone Pine Dr SW are always eye-sores due to weeds.
- Dog park
- Dog Park Security and monitoring include a small dog, puppy, senior dog area away from active dogs.
- Dog Parks in town, preferably along the trail system - maybe at the Kutzky ball diamond or Cooke park
- Each neighborhood should have a dog park and community garden. These things not only draw people outside but encourage neighbors to meet and promote community engagement. Trash and recycling facilities need to be available at parks to keep them clean, even with the expense this incurs. People will not use parks as often without trash and recycling facilities. Water fill stations should be more widely available in our parks for reasons of health and equity but also to encourage sustainability with reusable water containers.
- Education of users in civil behavior, respectful and responsible care of facilities and natural environment. Assure safety and access to all ages and abilities.
- Ensure that environmental impact is considered in all decision-making. I wish there were more trees along trails/paved paths. I find it is way to hot down here in Rochester most of the summer to enjoy them. You need more shaded areas.
- Existing neighborhood parks seem to be being ignored. Get creative with sponsorship from neighborhoods or businesses. It doesn't all need to come from the city budget. The pool situation is disheartening. Neighboring towns 1/10 of Rochesters size have better facilities. 1 splash pad is also not enough for a town of 115k + visitors.
- Expansion of Pickleball facilities, outdoor and indoors, for the fastest growing sport in America.

- Fix paved trail in Essex Park that is underwater a lot of the time. It is a mud hole a large amount of time.
- Focus on improving neighborhood parks which are falling apart, have broken equipment. We use these frequently and it seems they are built and left without maintenance. We really enjoy the trails and activities at Quarry hill.
- For as big as Rochester is, I'm amazed at the lack of all outdoor and indoor facilities for pickleball. I travel to communities much smaller than this and their facilities far exceed what this city has. The sport is growing. I'd love to see it reflected in more outdoor courts as well as a dedicated indoor facility to facilitate more activity in the winter. Come on Rochester! Get with the program!
- **GARBAGE CANS BACK IN ALL PARKS**
- Garbage cans in parks
- Garbage cans!!!! Tired of seeing trash all over the parks and trails.
- globally recognized mountain bike trail system like Bentonville, AR.
- Gray paved trail system in town keep adding. Consolidation of out door courts. Get away from building court and let it deteriorate over years. Build maintain and people will use it more often and for longer. Pickleball courts are maxing out. More people are starting to play but her Rochester they have limited access to get courts. Cities like Eau Claire and eden prairie are seeing huge increases in people playing and bringing people to their communities. A lot of potential for Rochester. To become leader in pickle ball with better facility. Bring people to roch to spend money.
- Handicap accessibility
- Have a lower cost for shelter reservations and have the least expensive ones available for 2 hour reservation (instead of 1 hour).
- have more mobility options, the bikes, scooters
- Honestly, some should go toward cleaning up garbage and clearing the trash bins. In Cascade park, the garbages by the beach smell so bad I avoid even walking past and people leave a lot of trash around.
- honkers, golf, rec center etc are established and can find their own funding
- Honor the Blue
- I am new to pickleball - current courts in only fair condition and grossly overcrowded.
- I believe the park system is important to a good quality of life for our communities. I hope you will do as much as you can to maintain and improve it. On Nextdoor, I often hear complaints about neighboring parks, which have noise, alcohol, drugs, refuse, especially at night, affecting the neighboring residents. I hope you can fix that. I use my local park daily or more often, but seldom have the opportunity of using others because I run

a small business out of my home. When I have used the bike trails, for example, I enjoy it immensely. I would use the facilities more often if that were possible. The series of questions about how and where to invest I do not feel qualified to answer, because I have not used so many facilities, but there is no option called "don't know" or another similar option. Not knowing, I would choose investing over not investing, so my answers reflect that. One Request: PLEASE RESTORE THE TRASH CANS IN THE PARKS. PACK AND TAKE IS NOT WORKING.

- I don't see any sense in adding new things if the Park and Recreation System can't properly maintain what they now have. Rochester needs more green canopy, yet they can't keep the trees trimmed. they presently have. Home owners call to have trees trimmed and are told we will put you on the list. Some home owners have waited three years to get trees trimmed and have been told if you trim your own or hire someone to trim your trees you will be fined. To date they have cut back on the areas they mow, including areas where home owners live near a green space they were told would be maintained. Half mowing areas and not around trees makes for sloppy looking areas in our city. It seems if it is Soldiers Field or around Mayo it gets mowed every other day. Other areas of the city are half maintained or not maintained at all. Enforcement of laws requiring home owners to maintain and mow their property is not followed through. When you call Parks and Recreation to speak with anyone other than the sectaries they are very rude and not truthful. Money for pet projects of some members on the Park and Rec Board never seems to be a problem.
- I love the paved trail system and would like to see it expanded. Would prefer to see more trails and greater connectivity between trails, but overall, I have been impressed with the trail system.
- I recently have been at MLK park a couple of times and think it is a very nice park. And I wonder for such a nice park why it doesn't have a bathroom. I see smaller parks with less amneties that have indoor bathrooms and MLK park has portapoties. I am also all about making what already exists great and maintaining that before building new things. I use the trail systems and some parks. Keep those things going great and add to them if we can before branching out to new parks.
- I ride the trails on bicycle a lot. I would like to see better OFF ROAD trails (beside the road is fine), particularly NE where they seem to be missing, and if possible thru downtown. It is difficult to get thru downtown safely. Recent bike lane additions between parked cars and sidewalk are great, but need policing to keep people from blocking them. (Why people can't read the painted lines is beyond me). It would be good to have better connections between various sections that seem isolated. Some paths are quite smooth, others are annoyingly rough with periodic cracks in the asphalt almost like cement expansion lines. They can be quite deep. I

would like to see these fixed. I'd be willing to help catalog paths if desired.
mstich12@gmail.com

- I think it is important to preserve trees in every park and I think the City could do a better job of planting and pruning trees in parks.
- I think the biggest need is one quality public family pool. It is crazy to me that a city Rochester's size doesn't have a FEW splash pads and one big, fun pool. We drive to kasson and stewartville for the pool.
- I think the park board has to stop trying to make things into what they're not. Cascade lake is a waste of money. Better to give up on the idea of a swimmable lake in Olmsted county and get better pools or sand bottom chlorinated pool. Also cascade lake is too out of the way in an ugly part of town. Using soldiers field and silver lake as the premier parks would be better. Definitely need restrooms, better pavilions. Like small owatonna has. Also need a better more creative skating rink than all the little oval rinks. A rink at Chester woods or on the Zumbro would be hugely popular with a nice warming chalet. Again like owatonna has, on the straight river. Also, Rochester needs a play structure like elm creek park reserve or French regional park, in the metro area's three-rivers park district. Huge play area. Sand bottom swimming area that's chlorinated. Walking trails, camping. A facility like gale woods farm would be awesome. Anything approaching the 3 rivers park district would be something to aspire to. Our parks seem underfunded, outdated and unimaginative.
- I think there is a huge need for basketball courts in our community. There are only a few parks with basketball hoops currently and they are not even full-size courts. Basketball is a popular sport that I enjoy playing with my family and friends. I am surprised that a large park like Soldier Field does not have basketball courts as it is a staple to any American Park. My family also enjoys biking and we love the bike paths and trails throughout Rochester. I think it would be great to continue expanding these and making the trail system even greater.
- I think there should be more recreation activities. There are very few recreation activities in Rochester, which is quite disappointing. If the city really wants to attract more people to Rochester and have them settle in and feel content, it would help to consider adding more recreation activities as part of the Destination Medical Center plan.
- I use the bike trails every day. Rochester has awesome biking trails. I notice some are not well kept, ie along circle drive from valley high to 19th street. I would like to see better control of the wild mustard that is so close to the trail, it would be disastrous if you were forced off the trail even on the edge. Some better connections from southeast to northwest.
- I would like expansion of pool programming to include evening lap swimming (or adult/teen water polo :)). Our family frequented the outdoor pools in the past and thought they were an asset to the

community. However, the bad behavior at the pools and lack of respect led us to find other areas to swim this year. I would prefer to have paid open swimming and free swimming lessons (not free open swim).

- I would like more funding spent on improving and connecting trail systems.
- I would like more regular cleaning of shelters and pathways where geese poop.
- I would like to see a large indoor facility for young/young adult children similar to the indoor Edinburgh area in the twin cities
- I would like to see development of the river area in the downtown area, especially in the Mayo Civic Center area, and the future development of a "River walk" along the former AMPI KMart district, including a pedestrian tunnel connecting it to Soldiers field district. The concept should be similar to New York's Hyline Park, without the need for elevation. Like New York's Hyline, It should have an arboretum type concept with unique garden areas as well as small gathering areas. Trails throughout the city should be bordered by polinator friendly natural landscaping so that mowing is reduced.
- I would like to see sidewalks all the way up North Broadway (both sides). I would invest were the people are. A lot of people run/walk around Silver Lake. I am amazed at how few people are "outside" and the playgrounds are empty, I don't know how to change that, but would like to see it changed. Recently, on a trip to Traverse City, Michigan we stopped at a place called "The Little Fleet." A wonderful community gathering place with food trucks/live music. Something like that would be nice.
- I would like to see the improvement in the locker room at the Rec Center.
- I would like to see the Rochester Parks and Recreation mail out a catalog or flyer explaining what kind of activities, facilities, etc. are available through its department. I received this kind of newsletter seasonally in another city in Minnesota.. I would prefer a catalog like we get for community education, but to save costs, It could even be just a flyer referring people to a developed website that explains this information.
- I would really like to see ski trails and man-made snow at Gamehaven. I did a ski marathon last year, and I had to drive to Hyland Park in Bloomington almost every weekend in the winter just to find a place with skiable trails.
- I'd like a big indoor badminton court. I REALLY WANT IT, AND SO DO A BUNCH OF OTHERS I HAVE SPOKEN TO. All capital letters for emphasis.
- If pools too expensive and high liability, splash pads great alternative. Also, kids can play there without parents. Skatepark is so awesome! My son just leaves if weirdos come. It's open enough that I think safe.

Playgrounds within walking distance to all neighborhoods important.
 Open spaces important for EVERYONE! Important for mental health.
 Bike paths that can be used instead of cars so fun and great for families.

- Improve access to Silver Lake Bike Trail so you don't have to cross Broadway.
- Improved golf clubhouse facilities could provide additional functionality and revenue if they had better eating and gathering facilities. Many weddings occur at golf courses, but our city facilities are not sufficient enough to host such events and thus are missing out on potential revenue.
- Improvement in public safety. Main reason we do not go to certain parks/playgrounds alone for with grandchildren is fear of criminal activity, threat to safety. Periodic but irregular timed patrol of parks and playgrounds.
- Include senior citizen needs and handicapped needs.
- Increase outdoor and indoor pickleball courts so people can continue to exercise and stay healthy and continue to build lasting relationships with others.
- Invest in developing the wide open empty field east of Century Hills Park. Few ideas Spacious Walking Trails Gorgeous Picnic Area Fenced in Dog Park Fountain-Lit Pond Outdoor Gazebo with Fireplace Interchangeable Sport Courts
- Invest in the public swimming pools at Soldier's and Silver Lake Park. They are underfunded. Finish the facility upgrades and Kutzsky.
- Keep Soldiers Field Golf as it is a true asset to Rochester residents and visitors.
- Keep the current economy in mind when putting the budget together. Spend responsibly.
- keep the outdoor pools open for everyone. take care of pot wholes on bike trails. put more waste baskets for garbage (they disappear during the height of the pandemic. More surveillance at night in parks like for ex. Whitters park
- Keep the system as is and maintain it. Our taxes are too high. I don't agree with the land grab of private property. I don't agree with your survey using the word "investment" when you really mean "taxation" to provide "such and such." I don't like having only three statements above for what I agree most with in terms of the City's current Park and Rec system. I believe you are following the Event 201 or UN 2030 Agenda which I totally disagree with. I will not answer the questions below because they are irrelevant to you doing your job. Dividing us up into these categories is a unnecessary for the validity of this survey.
- Keep up maintenance and security.

- Landscaping! I don't know when or why Rochester stopped mowing certain areas on streets or around city buildings, letting the weeds and wild flowers go crazy. It looks like a mess and rundown, especially when it's a park or the new City Development Offices.
- Less mowing, more planting of native prairie species. The money saved on mowing invest in pollinator plants, trees. Love trees, add more to areas with less such as lower income areas.
- Look at the Title Town park by Lambeau in Green Bay as a model. It is fantastic.
- Low cost programs for adolescents
- Maintain as much natural areas as possible. I believe you are all doing a fine job with the funds you have.
- Maintain or open more port-a-potty's at public parks & at IBM outdoor space to encourage people to stay longer (then they don't have to worry about finding a bathroom elsewhere).
- Maintain walking paths so we don't have to step around overgrown weeds that are harmful.
- Maintain what we already have. Manage activities so people are not sleeping or smoking in the facilities.
- Maintain what we have.
- Maintenance of existing locations should always be met and improved upon before considering building new facilities or locations.
- Make amazing splash pads and large creative parks, like we've seen in other states (e.g., Utah).
- Many of the facilities who charge, should continue and take a portion to help maintain, as in the Rec center, or Volleyball facility. I am in the schools, and know that Quarry Hill is greatly used, and loved.
- Money should be spent to make our pools a place I want my children to be at. We go out of town to swim due to the better facilities in surrounding communities. A great pool can be used by all ages and abilities. Our current parks and natural areas are what make Rochester special. We don't need more places for sports but need to maintain our parks and trails while improving the pools.
- More indoor parks for kids of all ages in winter. Splash pad and better pools for families to use.
- More investment in historically excluded areas - SE Rochester, Eastside
- more natural areas -- great shortage of these -- expansion of Northern Heights Park, for example
- more pickleball corts
- More pickleball courts
- more pickleball courts

- More pollinator friendly "grasses" that need less mowing
- More prairie areas. If Rochester chooses not to mow in larger areas, plant prairie flower seed in ditches/parks. Also, more trees along boulevards.
- More public pools or maintenance/expansion of existing public pool facilities
- more public pools, splash pads (the surrounding communities have better pools than we have in the city of Rochester)
- More trash cans.
- More user friendly, more picnic tables, grills and benches.
- More youth programming at low or no cost to middle/low income families. Private associations are too expensive for many working and single income families. Broad range of options including youth archery, fishing, and naturalist programs. More basketball and tennis courts.
- mountain biking, bmx, and skateboard facilities should be a priority.
- Move homeless shelter out of Silver Lake Park. Wasted/underutilized space at Fuad Mansour Sports Complex. Youth soccer allowed to reserve most of the field space in town and then leave it idle. Multi-use indoor sports complex at the old Seneca foods site.
- My interest right now is in Pickleball and with grandchildren playgrounds, splashpads and neighborhood parks.
- My wife and I were introduced to Pickleball in Florida in 2017. We've been playing it ever since even though we still also play tennis. We REALLY NEED many more Pickleball courts in Rochester!
- My wife and I would most love to see additional spaces like Quarry Hill Nature Center -- large nature preserve type spaces to give Rochester families access to natural settings.
- n/a
- Natural beauty feels more sustainable and better for the environment rather than spending money on human-made art installations. We need updated outdoor pools that offer more programming like Orcas expanded to this summer with lap-swim only times, yoga, etc I don't however believe that free swim is a good idea to continue due to all the harassment of staff, safety issues, and other costs incurred this summer. It would be amazing to have a public indoor/outdoor aquatic facility!
- Need to get back to working with and collaborating with Rochester Public Schools, Olmsted County and Private (MAYO CLINIC) on shared facilities and LONG RANGE PLANNING that benefit the entire Rochester Community (ball fields softball and baseball 90' fields, parks, green space lacrosse and soccer, gymnasiums) As this city becomes landlocked, in certain areas, turf on green space will allow a more extensive use. Mayo Clinic needs to buy into this community instead of boasting globally, their

- is no investment in health living by this institution within the entire City. Sanford Health
- Need to resolve the big problem of geese and duck excrement on the trails and grounds at Cascade and Silver Lake. This problem is a health risk, detracts from the beauty of the parks, and is a deterrent to use the paved trails
- nice large swimming pools/splash pad/wave pool-indoors for year round. the pools and amenities rochester has for a city our size is really embarrassing
- no
- No
- no
- No
- no
- no
- No
- No, thank you for all you do!
- None
- none
- none
- not at this time
- Not really! The parks that I visit in NW Rochester are wonderful I'm not sure what else needs funding. thank you for this survey!
- On facilities or courts/parks that would make Rochester/Med City stand out. Chicago has millennium park, if we can do 1/3 of the size of that playground for kids, that would make Rochester a better place to raise a family and visit.
- One of the things that sets Rochester above most communities is the equality across all segments of our community. We are best served as a community if we maintain our assets equally across all areas of the city and continue to include effective green spaces (Parks, Gardens, Playgrounds and Indoor Facilities, as all data represents that cities with investment in open community based and shared green spaces are more attractive to positive growth and helps reduce urban blight and crime. Rochester is unique in leading with a diverse populace and maintaining a reasonable degree of uniformity across all neighborhoods. The Budget and community may be best served by the acquisition of green space in new development area but not immediately developed and investing in lower income neighborhoods that need improvement and maintenance to service those residence of Lower Income Housing. Develop the parks in the newer neighborhood Green spaces only after those neighborhoods have grown to

50% completed residential development. NOTICE: ALL Questions After Question 12 regarding class and identity demographics are Inappropriate for a Parks and Recreation and other City of Rochester surveys and only contribute to the invasion of personal privacy of Rochester citizens and corrupting the data by politicizing the meta data.

- Outdoor and indoor water parks!!
- Outdoor water park
- Overall I love the parks system.
- Parks must be dog friendly.
- Parks should be maintained, accessibility features, water park or additional water features, continue to collaborate with others.
- People would like to participate but do not have the funding to buy fishing equipment, skates, etc. Introduce children to activities that will become part of their future. A Teach and Reteach program.
- Pickleball is exploding in Rochester. Time to convert abandoned tennis courts to pickleball courts
- Pickleball need has outgrown available facilities tremendously, therefore funding should be spent on pickleball first.
- Pickleball seems to be growing fast. I would play more but there is almost always competition for courts during the times that I can play
- Please add a full shelter with bathrooms and drinking fountains to Martin Luther King Jr Park.
- Please continue maintaining ice ricks in the winter months! We frequent them and know lots of other who do also.
- please do not raise our taxes any more
- Please invest in parks for the elderly with activities and equipment to enhance the health of the elderly.
- please replace the garbage bins along the Elton hills run trail for dog owners to drop dog bags, and please empty them regularly.
- Please replace trash cans in parks! This is a needed service, and when people can't find a place to throw something away, they are more likely to litter.
- Programming for people with special needs if almost non existent due to no facilities. MAke 125 Ive into a community Center and have the city take it over.
- Provide safer bike lanes and trails.
- Put garbage cans in the parks. Have bathrooms at parks.
- Put the garbage cans back!!
- Requiring a reservation to swim at an outdoor pool has certainly discouraged attendance.

- Rochester is far behind other local communities in its support of pickleball. Pickleball is far more popular in Rochester than tennis among people of all ages. Park & Rec shows no interest in providing enough outdoor courts to meet the growing demand and there are no indoor courts at all. Shameful.
- Rochester needs additional outdoor pickleball courts to meet the demand of this accessible and growing sport.
- Rochester needs an indoor/outdoor aquatic center.
- Rochester needs to invest in facilities and parks which are available to people of all ages and economic levels. -Several neighborhood tennis courts are covered with outdoor mats that ruin the game-We need more pickleball courts. The current courts are often congested with people of all ages from young families to senior citizens. Its affordable, easy to learn, and is an easy form of exercise for all ages and levels. -Spend less money on golf. This is an expensive sport which benefits few people and doesn't provide much exercise.-Build a new indoor community rec & meeting facility (or facilities) which is affordable for everyone. We have visited so many communities (small towns and large cities) which have really nice facilities that are either free or have extremely low monthly costs. It should include a new indoor swimming pool with good hours for public, community meeting spaces, a large exercise area, and a LARGE gym area that can be divided up for indoor sports such as pickleball, basketball, volleyball, etc.
- Safer, better connected bike paths
- Save the dam. Return Silver Lake to its glory days. Make it the best urban park in the midwest.
- Seeing so many visitors using the trails for walking and biking, we need to street sweep the GOOSE droppings. The visitors do not need to see the GRAFFITI. More signage for cyclists to remember to share the paths.
- Silver Lake needs to stay. The dam does not to be removed. Also truth in actual costs used to maintain structures, not skewed facts used to push ones agenda.
- Since golf is important to me, I would not approve changes at Soldiers Field Golf Course that have been discussed...like removing 9 holes to make a walking park. Soldiers Field is perfect the way it is. 18 holes on a shorter course are needed for Seniors and Visitors and people who enjoy walking while playing golf.
- Soldiers Field golf course is a city treasure. Unique to have such green space in heart of the city. Keep funding this jewel.
- Spend money on keeping assets in good repair with the goal to keep as many of those assets/amenities free to the public. Maintain a regular schedule of maintaining and repaving the trail system (some sections are too bumpy to bike comfortably). Use funds to keep basketball courts up

and running - it's free exercise and socialization for so many. Parks are one of the only spaces where people can come together without the expectation that they have to spend money. Finally, prioritize spending funds on maintenance that serves people and their health first - e.g. a running track with a surface best for running, not for food trucks.

- Stop the drug deals happening in parks, because of that activity I do not think parks are safe.
- Sustainability & promoting the climate would be how I hope the Parks & Rec department aims to improve given how things are headed. A greater emphasis on planting trees around the city would be wonderful!
- The city needs a better pool for kids.
- The programs/facilities provided should be well rounded addressing, based on need/usage/interest, the desires of the community. The decisions to spend or implement should be based on these facts not just on who is the loudest or has the most people at a meeting. It would also be helpful if those who make these decisions were knowledgeable of current trends as well as those that are trending (i.e. pickleball)
- The tennis center at Kutzky Park is always full when I am there in the late afternoon for programming. Allotting funds to finish the project there and maybe expand the parking lot would be a worthy investment.
- The trails are used by young and old. Numerous citizens use these trails! Better maintenance by trimming trees etc that are in the way of walkers, bikers & runners. Maintenance of old benches & more benches. Clean up under bridges where trails go under. Do you realize how many people use these trails!!
- The variety of trails, outdoor facilities, sporting fields is excellent. Expansion is probably not needed, but maintenance and moderate upgrades to keep in excellent day to day condition is how I would spend the funds.
- The wealth of green space and trail connectivity is our favorite part of this city, and we look forward to watching how you will continue to improve it in the future.
- There is a need for more attention and maintenance of the older neighborhood parks, which need updated equipment and attention to safety.
- These are broad areas and one size doesn't fit all. Rec center has beautiful pools and terrible locker rooms, for example. Hours offered also poor. Dog parks are awful (muddy) and overused. Douglas trail is gorgeous. Fix what we have and connect more SW (Scenic Oaks) homes to the existing trails. Don't make more facilities, but improve what is here already. We need bigger dog parks and more of them.

- Trail maintenance providing YEAR ROUND trash can service and a few benches. In my Elton Hills neighborhood trash receptacles were removed before COVID and never returned. Trash and dog waste litter the trail. Its disgusting!
- Trails to connect the city.
- Trash cans. Graham Park. Soldiers Field. Connect the trails to downtown. Bike paths on streets. Make the core neighborhoods feel more like parks (i.e. Historic SW is lovely and green and has a waste disposal for dog poop....Slatterly park is a concrete jungle of weeds and waaaay to fast traffic on 3rd)
- Usage studies should help determine the spending priorities.
- We have had issues obtaining parks for youth sports that aren't quite a popular, like soccer, which gets the vast majority of the park space. I feel a better more equitable allocation of fields would benefit more kids and help expand the number of sports available.
- We have hundreds of people signing up to play pickleball and need 6 more courts.
- We have only lived here for 18 months. We visited frequently (5-6 times a year for 8 years). With Covid, it was hard to answer these questions without having the opportunity to use many of the facilities.
- We live in Scenic Oaks. I would love to see bike trails that connect our neighborhood (and other SW neighborhoods) with the current trails or add a new trail out here. However, my biggest complaint/suggestion is that Rochester needs a large, state of the art pool center with slides and fun for the kids - even if that means having only 1 public pool. I just don't understand how a city of 100,000 can't support something like this when Stewartville, Kasson, etc. can. Kids need a low cost place to play in the summer.
- We live where Crescent Park is right behind our home. My husband used to spend any extra time at the park with many other local kids (since 1962). It needs to have basketball hoops (at least one) put back in. More play equipment needs to be added. The main open area that would be great for games (kick ball, flag football, tag, etc.) was ruined with the planting of trees right in the middle of play area! Fortunately, those trees did not make it through last winter. They need to be pulled out and NOT replaced. Think of kids use of the parks before planting trees. This park is a true kid's park!! Too small for much else.
- We love the dog park. And would love it even more if it had water!
- We moved from a city where the Parks Dept. provided inexpensive tennis and golf and swimming lessons for kids which is how my children learned these lifelong sports, and I would like to see some of that here.
- We need 24 more pickleball courts to meet demand.

- We NEED a water park with slides and other activities at least as good as Stewartville's or other neighboring small towns and optimally like Bunker Hills in Coon Rapids. For the size of our city and the number of guests we have, it is embarrassing to have to send children to a small neighboring town to enjoy the water if we cannot afford the RAC.
- We need more outdoor basketball courts. These basketball courts must be full size with complete markings. I'm specifically referring to Kutzky park and Soldier Field which are immediately adjacent to a number of communities that could benefit. I would say that this is a critical area in which Rochester is lacking relative to its peers. This should be the first area of investment. Secondly, I would continue to build out the excellent bike paths which are a source of joy to our community and something that I take great pride in.
- We need more pickleball courts. Also fix the technology for registration for the rec center.
- We need more public pools. We don't even use the current public pools because they are too crowded.
- We need outside exercise equipment. I visited Wausau, WI and was blown away by their outside exercise equipment on the riverwalk area. They also had a gas fire pit for people to stop and use along the riverwalk. That city is smaller than Rochester, MN and have outdone us. I would think that Med City would want to promote more physical healthy exercise equipment that is state of the art. You should check it out. It is very cool stuff in Wausau, WI with soft landing pads in case people fall while getting injured. The equipment can likely be used more than half of the months outdoor.
- We need to have something for everyone.
- We need to improve our maintenance of our inner city parks. They have been ignored in recent years in order to spend time and money on newer parks.
- We really need to step up our outdoor pool facilities as well as some of the neighborhood parks.
- We support heavy investment to make our city parks more accessible to all. We hope the park system can have a big vision to match the growth of the city. We utilize city parks and trails multiple times daily for commuting, exercise and recreation. They greatly enhance our health and quality of life.
- we use paved trails extensively and would like to see further expansion, safety bumpers for bike lanes.
- We would love to see a segment of trail connecting our neighborhood and surrounding new developments to the Rochester Trail system. Currently, we aren't able to access any trail without driving. If a segment of trail was installed from the corner of HWY 14 and East Circle Dr, to the Youth Fastpitch Softball Complex in SE Rochester, our neighborhood would have access to the entire Rochester trail system.
- Well I guess it sounds obvious but minimize money spent on little used facilities/activities ...discontinue them and allocate money to more popular ones....rather than building grandiose new facilities take care and maintain/improve what we have...
- We're losing a lot of adult trees in the city and in the parks. I think the number of trees planted should be expanded. Also mowed areas could be replaced with native state or wildflower planting in most city parks. I don't see a justification for so much mowed grass.
- West parking lot at 125 Live should NOT be used as a music venue.
- Would love to see improvements in the REC center
- would wanna know the funding numbers but seems to be done pretty well. lot to consider !
- Younger people are well represented by parks & rec, but one age group that is not are older people, age 60+ (they need more than walking trails). Please consider applying more resources to pickleball for them, in fact more and more young players are joining pickleball all the time, so its growth helps many age groups.
- Zip Line

Open Participation Survey Responses

If your household has NOT used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program, please share why (“Other” responses)

- Covid
- It is not maintained.
- Lack of knowledge about them is the biggest factor; I know there are parks, I know there are trails. I only hear of people going cycling which is NOT an activity I do. What other activities or programs are there? Where are they advertised? If only advertised on local TV channels or radio, is there a place online to find out about them? Can I sign up for notifications to my phone or email? I care for two disabled persons, so are they wheelchair or walker accessible? Are there places to sit? Are there restrooms available? I work in Rochester but don't live there, so I'm unlikely to go to Rochester on the weekends unless there's an activity that interests me or my family.
- No features that make me want to go to a park here. Water features, gardens. Silver lake has gone downhill with the over growth of weeds/plants around the lake. It is not safe. And now has tents pop up for homeless to live which brings drugs, used needles, human waste.
- Safety concerns. The closest trails would be the trails between Marion Rd and Mayo High School and there are too many sketchy people that use them..

Thinking about the last 2 years, please select all City-provided or supported recreation programs that you or someone in your household has participated in. (“Other” responses)

- Bicycling and curling
- bike & walking trails
- bike and walking trails, restrooms at shelters, picnic areas
- Bike trails
- Bike trails
- Bike trails
- Biking
- Biking other than mountain biking, recreational ice skating other than figure skating programs
- Biking the trails in town
- Biking walking in parks
- CC Skiing, hiking
- Community Ed gymnastics
- Community Ed youth and adult prgorams
- Community Education sports (for my children)
- Cross country ski
- Cross Country Skiing
- Cross Country skiing
- Cross country skiing
- Cross Country Skiing
- Cross country skiing, hiking, bike riding
- Cross Country Skiing, Bike Trail Riding, Hiking
- Cross country skiing, canoeing , tennis
- Cross country skiing, snow shoeing
- Cross-country skiing through community ed (for kids), Gaga Ball (through Community Ed)
- Curling
- Curling
- Curling
- curling
- Curling
- Curling
- Curling at Rec center
- Curling; distance running on the trails
- Disc golf tournaments
- diving
- Dodgeball
- Dog parks
- Frisbee golf, tennis
- Golf courses
- Gym
- hike/bike trails
- Hiking
- Hiking
- Hiking
- Hiking, bike & running trails.
- Horseshoe in Slatterly Park. Please maintain these pits.
- How could you forget tennis?
- Ice Oval at Soldier's Field
- ice skating
- Just trails
- Kids park stuff, walking, geocaching
- library, quarry hill, many different parks, tennis courts
- Miracle league
- nature center programs
- None
- None
- None. But apparently the City only provides athletic recreation.

- Nordic ski
- Nordic ski trails
- Nordic skiing
- nordieskiing
- nothing as things have been shut down to much
- open ice skating
- Paved Trail biking
- Playgrounds, dog parks, track?(soldiers field)
- Quarry Hill
- Quarry Hill Nature Center and Cross Country Skiing.
- Quarry Hill Love it!
- Rec leagues - dodgeball
- Recreational biking
- Rowing
- Running
- Silver Lake Pool, Cascade Lake, Foster Arend Lake
- Skate Park

- Skiing
- Skiing
- Soldiers Field Track
- Soldier's Field track
- Soldiers field track, cross country ski trails
- Soldiers field track.
- Swimming
- Swimming at pools and lakes
- Tennis
- Tennis
- Tennis
- Tennis
- Tennis
- Tennis
- Tennis courts
- Tennis on city parks tennis courts
- Tennis-Rochester Tennis League
- The pools
- Trail running
- Trail walking

- Trail walking
- Trail walks
- Trails
- Trails at Eastwood park - running and XC skiing
- Ultimate
- use trails daily, cross country ski regularly
- Walking
- walking and parties
- Walking and picking up trash that no one else picks up at the parks.
- Walking Trails
- Walking Trails
- Walking trails
- Walking, hiking, biking in parks
- walking/biking
- X country ski
- x-sKIING

Thinking about the future of the Rochester Parks and Recreation System, do you have any other suggestions for improvements or how funding should be spent?

- Businesses are closing up shop and the city and county are worried about parks. I think everyone needs to rethink the priorities regarding our tax dollars.
- #1 Build an aquatic center, similar to Mankato Spring Lake Aquatic Center; Rochester is lacking a single toddler-sized slide at any of the pools, need water structures for young kids to play with at the pools, shade and more seating at the pools; #2 Further build out bike trails including the trail from Foster Arends to HyVee 37th Street; #3 Indoor playground similar to Edinburgh Park in Edina for more active winter indoor movement for kids
- *Dog parks need upgrades. More mulch in southeast dog park and better water stations with spray hoses and better waste disposal systems. *Rec Center Pool locker rooms and the long hallway need upgrades/remodeling. Also need family locker rooms. * Silver Lake/Soldiers Field Pools: Please build 2 new pools and DO NOT combine a splash pad with a regular pool. kids quickly outgrow zero depth pools/splash pads. Regular swim pools with varying depth is healthier for kids and adults alike. Swimming laps, treading water, diving for pennies and other swim games provides endless entertainment and a great workout. Also, swim lessons and swim meets can be held if there are lanes. *Please look at smaller towns around Rochester.....their pools are awesome. Rochester pools are an embarrassment. * consider a matching fundraiser to get the necessary funds for 2 new state-of-the-art pools! *Please Listen to the swimming community for ideas; ie Rochester Swim Club and city team coaches. *This issue is similar to the Save the Track effort and that turned out great because the City listened.
- .
- 1) Please invest in cross country ski trails. XC Skiing is a great way for people to get outside and utilize the park system during the winter months. 2) Some of the bike trails in the city have open cracks (seam lines) that cause jarring when riding on them. Thank you for the recent repair on the cascade creek bike trail between silver lake dam and Kutzky Park. 3) There are a couple areas where homeless people have set up "camp" along the bike trail system. They are creating a trash issue, possible fire problem due to the campfires they burn and a general safety concern. Locations I have seen this at are; Cooke Park where bike path goes under railroad bridge, Kutzky Park where cascade creek goes under 16th ave NW bridge, and sometimes in the area around the bike trail bridge just downstream of Elton Hills drive.
- 1)Eliminate S.L. pool. The cost to operate divided by number of people who use it is absurd.2)Focus more resources on preventive mtce. Take care of what you already own. It appears to me that facilities are built and then neglected as another new facility is built. Case in point - Cooke park pickleball courts.
- 1. Build an aquatic center. North Mankato has a great example of what we should have in this town. Other smaller towns around us have better dimming options and a town our size should have multiple better options. 2. Continued investment in paved trails 3. Indoor playground type options for smaller kids.
- 1-2 Pools like nearby Kasson and Stewartville, increase number of splash pads throughout the city, more offerings of Rec classes and community education offerings (for our 4yo, they filled up within 1-2 hrs), increased natural water activities (using streams, lakes, rivers). I believe Rochester has a lot of potential to enhance and utilize the natural resources that we have. Although I'm disappointed in the lack of natural water that is available. Therefore would suggest utilizing the natural waterways that are available and making them more attractable/usable by residents. I would like to see parks that have more shade. For example the castle park and the three links park are both great, but they lack shade. for winter activities, there are limited places for ski lessons- wondering if more skate skiing or cross country ski lessons would be possible. Funding for start up businesses offering recreation and outfitting. Any possibility of connecting with REI for outings closer to Rochester?
- A big, awesome splash pad would be a great addition to Rochester. Less money spent on hockey/ice/graham arena. Add a natural playground like the one at Oxbow.
- A city of this size, and we have no indoor multi level climbing playground for young children during very hot or bitter cold weather. Children need a comfortable safe area to burn off energy when cooped up indoors for extended periods. The twin cities metro has many of these indoor playgrounds, but Rochester has failed to provide even one equivalent facility. Any new park spending should be focused on this new desperately needed playspace for our young children.
- A complete, well maintained connected trail system (trail by Smetka was in horrible repair.. I think it's in queue to be fixed but it should have never gotten so bad). Repair and maintenance of playground equipment. Bear creek is missing a swing and the music game/toy on the play structure is broken. Slide is cracked at the top on the preschool play structure at

Eastwood park. Trash is sometimes a problem. Smokers are a major problem.

- A focus should be directed at investing in areas that result in Rochester becoming the home for large sporting tournaments and events, which ultimately benefits the entire city through increase revenue and healthy activities for our residents.
- A good running track
- A lot of our cities budget overlooks people who aren't working in the downtown area
- A more significant investment in mountain biking would be a good addition to the parks system (ie pump track, skills park, professional built downhill trail). Many surrounding areas such as La Crosse WI (oratrails.org), Decorah IA, Twin Cities, Cuyuna Lakes, and Duluth have made purposeful investments in mountain biking and attracted tourism dollars by becoming regional destinations. In Rochester, we've taken an opposite stance. As a primary example, in the Gamehaven master plan, the vision was sold based on mountain biking, trail running, and cross country skiing. Local interest in the activities, including the HS mountain bike team, was cited. The justification for disc golf was rather vague and referenced a national trend and user suggestion. However, to date it appears that all the money has been spent on disc golf (an afterthought in early planning), often at the detriment of the mountain biker maintained shared use trails. Multiple tees are positioned such that they pose a potential safety hazard to users exiting wooded areas. I would like to see a better commitment from Parks and Rec to work amongst all user groups to truly make Gamehaven a region park.
- A reduction in outdoor pool options seems to allow the wealthy kids with RAC access the opportunity to learn to swim, limiting access for poorer kids.
- A town our size needs at least two, lifeguard staffed outdoor pools that remain open as long as possible.
- A water park and slide with competition pools would bring in revenue.
- A water park would be awesome
- Acquiring the IBM park land, for the city would be amazing. A neat large park in town would be very nice, more bathrooms at parks, build up some areas for fishing, improve pools, put garbage cans back out
- Add 9 holes to Slattery Park disc golf course and MLK disc golf course. Consider upgrading the baskets at both parks and use the old baskets to create new park courses.
- Add a NEW State of the art outdoor POOL!
- Add disc golf courses
- Add more indoor and outdoor pickleball courts please

- Add more to Chester wooda
- Add or return toilets to parks. Eliminate geese. Don't take funds instead of land at the time of new development. Stop spending so much on golf and youth sports.
- Add pickleball courts at Cook Park.
- Add places to put cigarette butts. Contact Deb Las with the John Adams Butt Kickers. They are ready to help!
- Add splash pads! Adding outdoor sporting courts (racquetball, pickleball)
- Adding more disc golf options. We commute to the area for disc golf and frankly, Stewartsville's course is better than any public course in all of Rochester.
- Additional bike and cross country ski trails
- Additional biking, hiking and cross country ski trails. Improved, bigger outdoor (and maybe indoor) aquatic system/pool. More natural areas like Quarry Hill & Essex park. Question: What is the purpose of all the unnecessary questions about race, country of origin, gender, sexual identity, etc. (none of which has anything at all to do with parks and recreation or the stated intent of the survey)??
- Additional mountain bike trails and neighborhood parks
- All of my answers I put no for above for the different areas of improvement I only put no because I think those areas are really good right now. I don't want to lose any of it or drop any services that are currently going to them. I think it would be great to get a splash pad in the community that is not within the pool. Also Silver Lake pool could do for a remodel, but with affordability in mind. I know a lot of people who drive out to the smaller towns to pay to swim at their pools, not sure of the exact reasons as we used the public pools a lot this year and thought they were great! I am not sure how much they were before this year but I am hopeful we will use them again next summer as well. Thanks for the opportunity to hear from the community! I hope you gain some insight!
- All the trails!
- Although I am an Iowa resident, I travel to (or through) the SE Minnesota area several times per year for disc golf, camping, hiking, and other recreation. People like me will visit more often (and spend more money) in the Rochester area with increased parks investment.
- Always consider the needs of the 60 plus folks as well.
- An all-purpose center (similar to the RCTC fieldhouse-Cannon Falls) for indoor walking, exercise, basketball for public use.
- An aquatic center that Rochester residents can be proud of, indoor and outdoor facility for year round enjoyment.

- An outdoor pool/ waterpark that will draw in not only outside visitors but allow our teenage youth 13-17 yrs. to have a place to go to socialize. We are not providing enough recreation Options for our Community youth 13-17yrs that don't play sports!
- Another pickle ball court in town and a waterpark. Keep silver lake pool! Kill weeds! Get rid of the weeds at silver lake! Looks like a home for snakes and rats.
- Aquatic center
- Aquatic center! Not a splash pad!
- Aquatics center. Large pool
- Are the facilities equally available to and used by all people regardless of race, ethnicity, and income?
- As a frequent user of the Rochester pools, indoor and outdoor, I would like to see an outdoor modern water park AND 50 meter competition pool be build within Rochester.
- As a medical city that we brand ourselves to be, nature is one of the best medicines there is, so I only find it natural to strive being the best at offering nature escapes and opportunities to be outside.
- As a parent with two children in competitive youth soccer, our soccer complexes are definitely lacking in comparison to other communities. Even in basic things such as a decent restroom facility at both Watson and Fuad all we have are port a potties
- As developers gobble and over build the land, set aside more mandatory parks space in those new places. Include water parks and skating rinks in those plans to better serve the entire community. N.W. Rochester is a long way from both pools, for instance. I do not live there. S. E, doesn't have much either. I don't live in either place, but better balance is needed city-wide.
- As was proven by the huge amount of use of the 2 public pools in Rochester, I think the city should invest in these facilities to make them as nice or even better than the pools in the surrounding communities. Both kids and adults NEED to learn the lifesaving skill of swimming. As a volunteer for the free swimming lessons that were offered this summer, these pools are a critical need for our community. With the continued prevalence of COVID, swimming is a safe outdoor, as well as indoor, activity. As for the Rec Center, it is in dire need of improved locker room space, separate pool entrance, gym space and meeting space.
- At least maintain the historic structures at Quarry Hill Nature Center. And we need a pool or aquatic center at Silver Lake Park, not splash pads.
- At the Rec Center, there is a big need to upgrade to the aquatic locker rooms, a designated aquatic entrance, family restrooms & locker rooms for the warm water pool (swimming lessons).
- Automatic walk signals at pedestrian paths and downtown would improve walkability to parks and rec facilities
- Being in the Midwest we need something open to the public to do in the winter. The Rec Center hours are difficult to work around due to all their programs. A large indoor playground, pool that is open to the public and not closed for swim team all the time, indoor gyms that can flex for various sports would be great. Not everyone can afford the monthly membership of the RAC which seems to be the only place in town that has all these things for the winter.
- Better access - some parts are too isolated. Marked boundaries indicating what is private property and what is public property.
- Better indoor and outdoor waterparks for family's year round.
- better information on what is available in city/region of parks, facilities, etc
- Better local swimming pool for the summer and more shaded playgrounds.
- better maintained functional swimming pools - indoors and outdoors
- Better maintenance (such as plowing) of paved trails for year round use
- Better maintenance of andd modifications to bike trails. For example resurface ones that have deteriorated and creaked so much that they are hard on bike and rider. Also modify some so they are not so susceptible to repeated flood damage like one in Essex park is and one from hy vee to foster ahrends park,
- Better mountain bike trails and Nordic ski trails
- Better multi-modal connected pathways (think Minneapolis Greenway and Hiawatha Trail and the Luce Line Trail) and for the love of god get the damn geese under control and/or out of the parks. Sometimes it seems like this entire town is covered in goose poop. 30 vocal ***** shouldn't keep the rest of us from having clean parks free of those freshwater Seagulls.
- Better outdoor hockey rink maintenance in the winter
- better outdoor pools
- Better outdoor pools/aquatic center
- Better pool at Silver Lake. Water park at Silver lakelots of room to build. Great location.
- Better pools
- Better pools please! Please smooth bike trails holes . Create another straight long bike trail like douglas trail
- Better pools!!
- Better pools!! We have such a hard time swimming and often go outside of Rochester to surrounding pools. I would rather spend my dollars in my community. Upgrade the Silver Lake pool instead of turning it into a splash pad! A zero entry area, a diving board, and slides! I'm tired of

driving to Kasson to get the aquatic center experience that my young family needs.

- Better roads
- Better weed control and mowing is needed at most parks
- Better/more community pools and their facilities like neighboring communities (Kasson)
- Better/more indoor rinks, splash pad, golf course improvements
- Better/more youth educational courses. Offer affordable courses for kids to learn golf/tennis/baseball - not run by private businesses (like RTC for tennis, for example). Offer swimming lessons at the RAC for kids. Have more indoor/outdoor facilities - can have community concerts, groups could rent out to host events, etc.
- Bigger is better
- bike trail connections to Gamehaven and eastwood for mountain biking would be great. The old rail line to gamehaven would be wonderful to use
- Bike trail connectivity and signage. Mountain bike skills parks, cross country ski areas, lap swim access year round for youth (without a requirement of participating in Rochester Swim club)
- BRING BACK THE ***** TRASH CANS YOU TOOK FROM US!!!!!!!
- Bring back the garbage cans to the city parks!
- Bring back the garbage cans!
- Bring back trash cans at neighborhood parks, keep investing in art on the trails and cross country ski trails, Winter activities are essential for recruiting people and for quality of life in a state with long winters.
- Bring back trash receptacles and make sure portable bathrooms are available. I live on a neighborhood park and have seen dramatic increases in trash left behind or blowing into my yard after the decision to pull them in 2020.
- Bring garage cans back to neighborhood parks
- Bring/return trash bin in every park
- Build a new outdoor pool at Silver Lake
- Build a new water park at Silver Lake .
- Build a swimming pool that equals that of Kasson-Mantorville.
- build an outdoor pickleball facility with a roof
- Build an aquatic center for Rochester. With the middle school pools closing, offer swimming lessons for 10-12 yr olds at low/no cost in the summer. Improve locker rooms and pool entrance at rec center. Add lights to youth Ryba baseball fields. Another park like quarry hill
- Build more Pickleball Courts
- Build one new large aquatic complex at Soldiers Field. Put a large splash pad at Silver Lake instead of existing pool. Build an overpass/underpass on bike trail across Broadway near Silver Lake route (near Riverbend). Too dangerous to cross the road there. Build new lakeside route around Silver Lake.
- Build us an eagles nest playground!!!!!! Give us indoor mini golf, laser tag, and huge multi level indoor play area that has a large park like setting like the Edinborough Park like Edina has!
- Building additional basketball courts
- building to have things for preteen to teenagers to do in the community, family things to do here locally
- BUY THE PARK AT IBM, MAKE IT PUBLIC, IMPROVE THE DISC GOLF COURSE
- Can go wrong with disc golf courses and maintenance
- Cascade Lake Park enhancements sooner rather than later. Otherwise focus on neighborhood parks.
- Catch the vandals who keep messing up White Oak park
- Certainly, more clearing of the trail system to make it WIDELY available year round. Dedicated curling ice.
- City needs more pickleball courts.
- City swimming pools fail in comparison to the smaller cities around us, therefore many Rochester residents choose to drive and spend their money elsewhere. The indoor sports facilities need to be a priority, when sports like baseball, softball, soccer (others?) cannot grow and compete with other nearby cities because of lack of indoor facilities to practice during our long winter season that is a problem. We need more options other than RCTC dome
- Clean and update the existing parks. Provide more and better equipment and shelters at the parks. Have more local parks that may be smaller but closely situated in neighborhoods.
- Cleaning up all the goose ****!!!
- Close Silver Lake pool; it is a money pit. No new golf courses or other expensive niche projects that only a small percentage of people will use. Focus on preserving natural areas for citizens to enjoy. Put trash cans back in all the parks!
- Close tennis courts that never get used, but maintain those that do.
- Community Events/Music
- Community gardens, water features.
- Complete the disc golf course at Game Haven. We have been waiting all summer for the completion and our family is very excited to utilize the park.

- Completely upgrade Mayo Field. This baseball field could be a crown jewel in this town. It's a disgrace right now. The playing field is wonderful but the stadium and supporting infrastructure are an embarrassment for a town such as Rochester.
- Completion of cascade lake park enhancements.
- Connect neighborhoods to trails safely
- Connecting bike trails to multiple parts of town, particularly south side of town and Gamehaven would be beneficial.
- Connection of trails is important. Something small would be better sign placement in neighborhoods for parks. Many parks seem as though they're hidden only for immediate neighbors. Our discovery of some parks occurred only because it was a youth sports practice site.
- Consider disability access to play areas, rest rooms, etc as this helps everyone. In addition, miracle field needs resurfacing.
- consider that Rochester's aging population will be growing and will be higher than other age groups
- Continue to allow park and recreation facilities to offer meaningful opportunities that give people resources that engage them in wholistic, positive ways, adding to the happiness and safety of our people and our city.
- Continue to build neighborhood parks as the home building expands though out the city.
- Continue to develop and create community spaces that are free to use. Add elements of healthy lifestyle, such as playgrounds that offer exercise equipment and trails that offer yoga pose stations or benches with a view for mindfulness. Too many of the programs offered are too expensive and and feel exclusive vs. inclusive.
- Continue to improve and expand the resources around one of the fastest growing recreational sports, disc golf.
- Continue to improve paved and biking trails
- Continue to invest in new DiscGolf courses and update the existing ones.
- Continue with Gamehaven. Think of Three Rivers Parks in MSP (hyland nordic ski venue). Could then generate revenue by charging admission fees.
- continued snow removal on trails in the winter
- Continued support for open summer pools. Swim lessons are important. Increase mtb opportunities.
- Continuing the work and enhancements around Gamehaven and Eastwood mountain bike and cross-country ski trails.
- Could groups adopt neighborhood parks to help with maintenance and upkeep?
- Covid-19 brought out the need for greater investment in our city parks. I would like to see the city built on the appreciation that residents now have for the parks, and further develop the parks, particularly for winter activities, where the need to get outdoor is more pressing.
- Create an arboretum at Soldiers field that can be enjoyed year round. Flowers and plants can bring healing and enjoyment to patients, families and area residents. I think it is something DMC needs to add.
- Creating an aquatic center like Kasson and Stewartville have. We go swimming multiple times per week and have never been to a public Rochester pool due to the quality.
- Creating more natural play areas instead of artificial playgrounds.
- Cross country ski trails and mountain bike trails. Fat bike winter trails. snowmaking.
- Curling club! It's popular but has trouble retaining members due to lack of space and inconvenient hours.
- curling facilities
- Curling facility, maybe tied to golf course
- Curling needs to be a city offering, and the pool/splash pad setup is extremely disappointing.
- Curling. There are 2 parks by southern woods neighborhood. I have to walk on 11th Ave sw to get to park at southern hills the road is 45 mph and not safe to walk with children at all. The trail needs to be connected.
- Current pools are very poor. Create a single, new modern pool setup. Residents shouldnt need to travel to Kasson for a quality pool.
- Currently pball is dominated by RAPA. If you're a beginner you get 1-5 pm or an unsafe space at 125 (seriously go look at it , it's a law suit waiting to happen). Open up the gyms and allow pball for those of us who just want to have fun and get moving
- Dedicated bike trails have the dual function of commuter, and recreation, while being safer than shared street bike options. (Families taking kids for a ride can enjoy dedicated trails much more.)One idea for a dedicated trail - Douglas trail to Gamehaven. From the Douglas trail, follow the train tracks along 7th St NE, past Cooke park, then curve south onto the Spur line that heads past the Kmart site (and it's new development) and fairgrounds to Gamehaven.Maybe it's 10 years before the spur line is not used, but put in place the zoningto anticipatethis trail all the way through downtown (Cooke Park to the fairgrounds).It would be great if this trail put a pedestrian/ bike bridge over 12th St SE (from the fairgrounds to Sunnyside). Great for commuters from SE into downtown. Would need to anticipate the bridge, and secure the land now.)
- dedicated building or ice arena for curling

- Dedicated curling center
- Dedicated curling ice and more groomed ski trails
- Dedicated Curling Ice, more indoor swimming opportunities
- Definite need for outdoor activities and facilities to be expanded and maintained. Mountain bike trails with facilities and more Pickle ball courts as it is also growing in popularity
- Definitely more shelters in more parks - that would encourage more usage. Also, cohesive care - it's obvious that we used to care about parks in the past a lot more than we do now. Many parks look sad and old.
- Demographics show an aging population outdoor yoga and tia chi classes would be excellent
- Designated Aquatic entrance at rec center, family restrooms, locker rooms for warm pool
- Designing more helpful signage for trails. For instance I still cannot find the Essex park trails
- Developing a river walk culture (restaurants, kayaking, feeding wildlife) along downtown could be a wonderful improvement in individuals and families considering making Rochester home.
- Development of splash pads!
- Disc Golf and natural areas like quarry hill
- Disc golf could use some upgrades but game haven could change that!
- Disc golf has grown 700% in the past 2 years. Need a few more courses here!
- Disc golf improvements and natural spaces mixing with modern lifestyles to have both growing communities and natural/park spaces for the future.
- Disc golf is a very accessible sport. Perhaps converting some of the Soldiers Field gold course to disc golf? Painting lines for Pickleball on existing tennis courts (like at Goose Egg) expands availability of this sport. We miss trash cans.
- Disc golf is cheap and relatively low maintenance.
- Disc golf is growing every day. Please keep investing in that.
- Disc golf. Add tee pads at IBM for the back 9
- Do not expand until your budget can handle existing facilities.
- Do not kill geese eggs.
- Do not replace the Silver Lake Pool with a splash pad, children need to learn how to swim and a splash pad doesn't provide recreation for adults. We also need to reduce the size of Soldiers Field Golf Course or remove it. It is prime area that could be used to serve a more diverse population of Rochester versus just older white people who enjoy golf. When the Parks Master plan was created, I believe Parks Administration purposely avoided

advertising the community feedback sessions to people outside of the pro-golf community and therefore the feedback skewed more in favor of maintaining the course as-is. Having Parks and Tec administrators who are older white men keeps a diverse perspective away from parks planning. The Parks Board is more diverse, but the administration doesn't take their feedback seriously. One person at the top of the administration has been solely responsible for holding back progress. It is time to move forward into the future and create a parks system for ALL.

- Do what is right for climate change and the animals and build a park system that would make people realize how important this earth is AND also find ways to provide free entertainment for all kids.
- Don't close the SL pool
- Don't forget about existing structures because with continued expansion it seems like we keep building new parks but don't have the funding for up keep. Fix the Slatterly Park playground.
- Easier access to parks. No one should have to drive 1/4 mile to access a park because it is too dangerous to cross a road. Increase connections to existing trails.
- Eliminate county fair from Rochester completely Too many city owned golf courses!! 1 or 2 would be sufficient making the rest privately owned.
- Eliminate golf course at Soldiers field and maximize space for community gatherings. Bandshell, fountains, gathering space for festivals. Could be a better use of space for wider population.
- Encourage recreation investment. For example, kayak rentals at Cascade Lake.
- Enhanced maintenance of current public spaces especially new public spaces downtown.
- Enhancing and adding more natural spaces, NOT spraying chemicals on green spaces, giving kids an expanded skate park.
- Enlist neighborhood associations to assist with development of neighborhood parks.
- Ensure land set aside for parks as city expands. Coordinate with non profit groups to provide youth and adult sports that require green spaces within the city.
- Equally between the wards.
- Essex park needs more care. The bridge at the base of the hill in the park is dangerous as is the sand that is always across the pavement for both walkers and bikers. Also the paved trails need work and expansion. It is a shame that the erosion and flooding had to destroy all the beautiful oaks along the creek curve before finally adding some rock, too late. Also, no benches, swings?? Silver Lake Park is an embarrassment when I think of all the visitors coming to town and needing natural beauty and peace. Seems

like trails and parks in the south part of the city definitely get more money and maintenance. Should take a look at Centennial Lakes park in Edina to get ideas for Silver Lake Park-nice year round!

- Every larger park should have a nice-sized covered pavilion with some picnic tables and bathroom facilities. And a fun playground area for children. Hire very part-time retired folks or Senior citizens for Spring, Summer and Fall to keep the facilities clean and safe. Have a few pretty flower pots that they are responsible for maintaining by the pavilion, also. Their salaries should be kept low- (minimum wage). Make the public very aware by promoting that these facilities can be rented out for a low hourly sum. (\$15.00 -\$20.00 for each hour used). I'm a Senior citizen and would take great pride and be honored to have a part-time job like this!
- EW needs a new clubhouse. Golf should not need to pay for itself since other adult recreation activities are not held to that standard. Big new sites like Cascade lake and Gamehaven should be completed and maintained at a high level., so they don't become another Silver Lake. The trail system is heavily used and should be state of the art. Maintenance of the road median flowers shouldn't be Parks responsibility. Use sentenced to serve inmates like the county parks do.
- Examine existing homes, developments, which were created with out any community park, safe road way shoulder, or ANY connectivity to Rochester community, paths, trails, besides freeway. We can see Mayo Clinic, RCTC, the legacy trail and yet the roads surrounding hundreds of residents have gravel shoulders and speed limits of 50mph+. Bike paths, safe shoulders, accessible parks for all through more parks and more connectivity. Also - growing up in Winona having been a lifetime swimmer I find the fact that I drive to Winona to lap swim in our public pool there shocking considering Rochester is home of Mayo Clinic with supposed commitment to health. Tennis is expensive and not accessible as the open courts and backboards I self taught on, swimming is as well and isolated children is fueling an already a generation struggling with social skills due to isolation. Access to recreation shouldn't be so economically divided.
- Expand a Golf Clubhouse or attach an Event Center to a Golf Course to house Curling during the winter allowing income from Golf Course properties year round. Curling will bring people into Rochester during the Winter benefiting restaurants, hotels, etc...Rochester is the largest city in Minnesota that does not have a dedicated Curling facility. Curling is an activity for all ages and abilities.
- Expand and improve the mountain biking trail systems in the area similar to Cuyuna and Duluth MN. Those areas attract visitors from all over the midwest due to their world-class mountain biking trails. Bring in respected trail builders/contractors (such as Rock Solid Trail Contracting) that are

known for building high-quality trails that people want to ride and will travel to Rochester to do so. Look at how investment into the trail systems in Cuyuna has completely transformed the entire community to see just how much revenue the sport can bring into the city of Rochester.

- Expand bike trail system, plant more trees
- Expand the silver lake skatepark and create a community garden in the space near it.
- Expansion of Pickleball courts
- Explain the funding methodology per sport. Why do some sports receive more investment even if those sports do not generate revenue (golf) or show declining participation. Not every neighborhood needs park land.
- Family friendly things like roller rink, disabled families and adults can have fun doing on a tight budget.
- Fill out the neighborhood parks (we live almost 1 mile to the closest park).
- Finish Gamehaven Disc Golf Course.
- Fishing clubs, Kayaking groups, more fishing piers, more loop trails, Waterpark, preserve/expand natural outdoor areas (cascade lake is beautiful)
- Fix Rex center pool, locker rooms, and don't get rid of any outdoor pools. Fix them!!
- Fix the current outdoor pools. Rather than taking out the pool, and putting in a splash pad-which would limit the age of participants.
- Focus on mountain biking
- Focus on native plants, integrated pest management & overall sustainability
- Focus. and prioritize
- Focused efforts. So not try to do it all and do it poorly because there is not the funding to do it right
- For a city of its size, it's embarrassing to see the lack of investment in pools and aquatic facilities in Rochester.
- For a community with the Mayo Clinic that is focused on health care, I am very disappointed in the bathroom facilities in our parks. A few are pretty nice then others are closed when you need them or look like they did in the 1970's. If we want people to use the parks, they need to be able to safely go to the bathroom. Particularly Silver Lake park West side. Here is where people can rent paddle boats and other equipment, but it is scary to go the bathroom as the shelter bathrooms are often closed and all that is available is a port-a-potty in really bad shape. I think of people who are here to go to the Mayo Clinic and go out for a break from difficult medical situations and find this. My other main suggestions is really improve the Recreation Center. It helped when the latest expansion happened, but sadly this

facility does not get needed attention. I know of an air system in the building that has not worked for two years and yet it does not get funded for fixing. I believe there is not enough staff to keep the building maintained as it should be.

- For the size of our city, we are really lacking in activities for youth. A better skatepark, outdoor pools with more activities/slides, splashpads, etc. More organized programs/events to bring awareness and funding to the public areas would be wonderful, as well.
- For the so-called Med City and the alleged focus on health, I find it abominable that paved trails are not plowed in the winter for those of us that like to walk every day. Throughout the snow months is a significant time those trails are underutilized for lack of adequate maintenance. So, winter maintenance of the great trail system we already have would be an excellent start!
- For years I have been extremely frustrated with how little the general public can access use of the Rec Center pool, and how it is monopolized by private swim clubs (which make tons of money) and 125 LIVE (which has private membership), while the public seems to be an afterthought. There are not frequent enough or long enough times for general public use for lap swimming, and the times that are offered are very crowded. The public wants to use the facility but Parks and Rec/Rec Center makes it very difficult while catering to the private clubs. I keep hearing it's about money but it seems like Rochester could do a better job funding it FOR THE PUBLIC'S USE as its first priority. Same for the outdoor pools and dedicated lap swimming access. And why wasn't this survey emailed to current Rec Center members/Parks and Rec registrants??? I found out about it by accident.
- Free outdoor racquetball courts. Free outdoor pickle ball courts. Utilize the unused parking lot space at Nachreiner park. Put the ice rink back at Nachreiner park in the winter!!
- free public splash pad. Upgrade "water park" facilities at Soldiers Field
- Fully fund and expand the pools! One pool is not enough for this size town. It's sad that a city the size of Kasson has us beat by a mile with their pool.
- Fund updates or new pools
- Funding should be spent where the lower income community needs it. Growing up it was cheap to play youth sports now it seems extremely expensive. Also like to see investments where volunteer groups are already working. There needs to be more collaboration and work with RASC. They put in a lot of effort to trail building and maintenance.
- Garbage cans
- Generally speaking the parks are nice, but we would like a few small parks in the NW neighborhoods. Right now, you have to drive to Essex park and

the new dog park. A park or two in walking distance of Bandel Hills/Overland Drive/North of 55th St would be great!

- Get a splash pad but DO NOT get rid of either pool. You need to have both and for the size of Rochester, you need to have at least 2 pools if not one more.
- Get all the bike trails connected! They are close but there are still many gaps where I am nervous to ride with my younger children because we have to go on open roads. We would use the local trails more if they all connected by bike paths.
- get out of the golf business and specific sports that are not used by the majority of people (say at least 25%).....listen to the whole community and not just the rich and loud speakers
- Get out of the Golf course business
- Get rid of downtown golf courses and keep swimming pools open
- Get rid of the geese so people can enjoy the parks and beaches. Cascade beach and silver lake are failures due to excessive goose poop
- Get rid of the pack in pack out trash system bring back trash cans in parks
- get the new splash pad made ASAP
- Give the citizens what they want rather than telling the citizens what they should want.
- Given the limited number of indoor recreational spaces and our long winters, I feel more investment should be made in the rec center. Especially the pool and diving well. I would also love to see the golf course at soldiers field maintained and kept as an open space for use all winter long, for skiing, snowshoeing and dog walking
- Go to the city of New Hope, MN and take a look at their community and outdoor pool facility. I was very impressed. I would also take a look at surrounding small towns to see their outdoor facilities. I believe it would be beneficial to continue to not charge for admittance to the outdoor pools. Attendance was fantastic and that is money well spent by not charging.
- Grass maintenance and cutting. As a youth Rec. coach I have been to fields where the grass is overrun by weeds, tall grass, and unplayable. (North Park, NW Rochester)
- Greater investment in children and practice fields/space. Outdoor fields are limited/overcrowded. Add more and better fields to new schools that are being built.
- Greater outdoor pool options. A full sized waterpark like Kasson, with outdoor lap pool to serve all ages, teaching youth how to swim and keeping adults fit. I can't believe Rochester doesn't have anything like this.
- Greater transparency in how funding is being used
- Handball courts

- Handicap assessable is a must.
- Handicap parking closer for events like concerts at Mayo park
- Have a designated handicapped accessible playground
- Have volunteer groups add/maintain flowerbeds. Like garden clubs. Have more splash pads with art in the park to encourage children & families to get out. Make it an outdoor community again, mile markets on trails, pet clean up stations and more trash/garbage cans. Add a basket ball hoop in a neighborhood park, and maybe a tennis court or things like tetherball. My children didn't even know what it was. Add a painted 4 square so families can get back outside together. A painted hop scotch too. Bring back the things we loved as children.....add more splash pads and picnic tables to encourage gathering.
- Helping to keep kids busy with indoor or outdoor activities
- High quality mountain bike trails
- Honestly, we'd use a nice water park! I completely disagree with the splash pad option. Both soldiers field and silver lake should be upgraded. Rochester should be a desired place to go.
- Hope you keep the outdoor pools open. Much needed in Rochester - especially opportunity for free swimming lessons.
- I am curious why Indian Heights Park was not included on your sampling of City Parks. I live nearby and it is a tremendous resource - particularly so since work on clearing invasive species has improved the native flora and fauna that can thrive there if given a chance.
- I am excited about the upcoming splash pad. I would like to see another option for a pool once the silver lake pool is closed
- I am sad that I, my adult child and grandchildren all go to the Stewartville pool. We truly need a new pool in Rochester. I think we do a nice job with neighborhood parks, but would love to have basketball added for the kids that are a little bit too old for the playground equipment.
- I appreciate your inclusion of community members input.
- I believe a better outdoor pool would help the community. So many families go to small towns around us, because their outdoor pool complexes are far superior to ours.
- I believe that a fully connected trail system around the entire city of Rochester and it's parks should be a number one priority. With the aim that these paths would be separate from any vehicle traffic. In this way safety of travel for family bike trips and individual running and biking would be increased. It could also open up options from competitive marathons and distance training. It would also be nice to see partnerships that would bring options for concession stands at the larger parks something like a drink spot and or ice cream break.
- I believe that groups using the facilities should contribute to the funding of the facilities/ updates.
- I believe that silver lake pool should not be replaced by a splash pad. It should be replaced with a modern water park, where children can learn to swim. Other communities like Kasson, Stewartville, and St. Charles all have water parks that serve their communities and I feel that Rochester should also have a water park to serve our diverse community. I feel that by putting a splash pad in place of some sort of pool or water park is not beneficial to our community. With so many lakes in Minnesota, I feel that it is important for every child to know how to swim, and children can't learn how to swim in a splash pad. Another topic I would like to cover is the Rec Center facility, specifically the aquatic areas. Although the pool is very nice, there is still loads of room for improvement in other areas. I am a swimmer with the rochester swim club and I am at that pool every single day. The locker rooms, both the men's and the women's, could use improvements. The showers in both locker rooms are barely holding together. There are exposed pipes instead of a real ceiling, and the floors could use upgrading. Another upgrade that could be useful is at any of the pools is a family locker room. I used to come swimming with my dad and sisters, and we would be scared to go and change by ourselves because there was no place for families to change. My last suggestion is about a designated aquatic center entrance. There is a clear and understandable entrance to the ice rinks and hockey stadium in the Rec Center, but the aquatic center is hard and confusing to locate. I have been to so many swim meets at the Rec Center and seen kids wandering around because they don't know how to find the pool. The closest door that we have to an aquatic entrance is always locked and never open to being used. The only other way to access the pool is through an entrance that can be hard to find. On top of that, by going through that entrance you still have to go down a flight of stairs to access that pool, and I feel like that could pose a lot of problems to someone who is not able to go up or down stairs, and wants to access the pool. A clear and designated aquatic entrance could solve these problems. Thank you for your time and consideration.
- I believe we should have two pools but if we only have one it should be a large aquatic park. I believe too much money is being spent on regional parks and our community parks are being neglected (some are very rusted and dangerous). I don't believe money is being spent evenly between the wards! My opinion park and rec department is all about politics...this who yell the loudest get the updating. I would like to see Mayo Field updated because the Honkers and other teams have put in their time in this outdated field.
- I believe with the current and future growth expectations of Pickleball the city has fallen way short of providing enough Pickleball courts and have neglected maintaining the existing 6 courts at Cooke Park. I feel working

with the current Pickleball association- land currently used for youth baseball, could be used for the expansion of another 6 Pickleball Courts. Right now the association is approaching 500 members and is growing at a conservative annual rate of about 150 members. I drive by neighborhood tennis courts and see very little tennis being played. 25 years ago the Park and Rec saw the foresight of the growing demand for soccer fields and adequately filled that need and should use the same approach to one of the fastest growing sports, that being Pickleball.

- I definitely feel that the Silver Lake pool should be improved and continued as a swimming pool, not made into a splash pad. Local children need to learn to swim to be safe around water. Although I am way too old to enjoy a pool now, all 3 of our children learned to swim there many years ago and current children need the same opportunity.
- I do not like the bike trails on the streets.
- I don't see bike trails on roads being busied much. Seems like it's been a huge waste of \$\$\$. I feel the trails should be away from roads where it is safer.
- I feel like trail maintenance, likely because it is not solely the responsibility of one division is spotty. More consistent conditions would be preferred. I love the trails, I just don't want to get parsnip boils on a run!
- I feel SE needs improvements (not just NW)
- I feel that summer outdoor facilities specifically splash pads are essential for families. It's unacceptable that we still don't have one until next year. How can we claim to be family friendly when something families have been asking for still can't be accommodated. It's ridiculous. We have been hearing it's in the plan for almost a decade. Shading for existing parks is also critical for existing parks
- I feel that the outdoor pools need to be expanded and modernized. We need a pool area that is fun inviting and has the ability for accommodating swim lessons, recreational swim teams and even outdoor swim meets. I feel the the Recreation center pool needs better locker room accommodations for swimmers an entrance to the pool area that is separate from the main entrance and more guest bathroom facilities for families visiting the Rec center for swim meets. The warm pool needs its own set of locker rooms with bathrooms and a separate entrance.
- I have had the opportunity to play pickleball in many communities in Minnesota and throughout the country. The courts in Rochester are without a doubt the worst I have played on. In the years I have been playing, there has been very little maintenance done on them. Many days we have long wait times to play. We have had many visiting players this summer comment on the the fact that a city the size of Rochester has such poor facilities. There's plenty of room to expand the courts and parking at Cooke. When I first started playing, it was mostly retired people. Now

those people are still playing, but so are their kids and grandkids! The sport is only going to grow bigger. Rochester, let's grow with it!

- I heard that Silver Lake Pool is going to be turned into a splash pad. While I understand the reasoning behind this, I must address that taking away a Rochester pool has some significant downsides. By reducing swim-able areas in Rochester, less people will be able to learn how to swim, a crucial skill in Minnesota. Additionally, this change will cater more to younger kids, who already have plenty of recreational activities within the city. Older children (13-16) do not have as many options, and preserving this pool is a way to provide this demographic with a safe place to gather with friends.
- I like solutions where all the funding doesn't have to come from the government. The cross country ski trails that are maintained by a private club, yet in government parks are an excellent example.
- I like the little exercise trail behind the Mayo SouthEast clinic (I don't know who "owns" it. I wish there were more of these around, especially at the traditional neighborhood parks. Is there a listing of the locations of all the parks and what amenities they have?
- I live in the Apple Hill neighborhood, close to Zumbro South Park. However, in the neighborhood, there is not a safe way to travel to the park without driving. 20th street to Mayowood road is dangerous to walk or bike next to. It would be great if we could get to the park by walking/biking.
- I love our bike paths and walking paths all around Rochester, but once you have to enter the city, bike lanes are confusing, ignored by many car drivers, and sometimes suddenly disappear. Please make biking in the city safer.
- I love our park and trail system and would use it more if there were better signage and information on the web. The city park info on the city web site is poor at best. The signage for parking for example at Game Haven Reservoir is nonexistent. Thank you!
- I love the improvement of bike trail and connection to all groceries store. Maybe provide a heated space in strategic location (like bus stop) for winter/all year round bicyclist.
- I love the parks but sadly there isn't a decent one within 1/2 mile of my home. We live on an extremely busy street (also an emergency route) that appears non-residential to many so it seems as if we are "forgotten". A city park that is more accessible to our neighborhood would be nice.
- I love the parks, and how different they all are. So just, they are so nice to go to everyday.

- I most enjoy open green space that can be used for a variety of purposes. There also needs to be more inclusive and affordable programming for adults that works a variety of skill levels.
- I oppose replacing the Silver Lake pool with a splash pad. I think splash pads are good for very young kids but don't serve older kids or adults well (unless they have very young kids. Also they do not teach kids how to swim which is an important skill to learn for safety. Also, the REC center pools are excellent but the other associated pool facilities are not comparable to the pools.. The pool locker rooms desperately need to be upgraded. Family locker rooms would be great too as it can be challenging/awkward to change a 3 or 4 year old girl in the locker room when a 17 year old boy is changing and naked right next to her.
- I prefer the natural areas in the parks. I would like to see less aggressive mowing in and around these areas, especially along paved trails and fence lines. Natural plants should be allowed to grow closer to the trails than the current 20' distance. I also do not equate development with improvement. I think is money well spent on maintenance and upkeep of current facilities.
- I recognize the cost, but feel trash & recycling receptacles (and regular collection) at parks will help users pick up after themselves and properly dispose of their waste and recycling.
- I recommend a paved trail connecting 7th street NW with cascade lake park trail.
- I remember reading that once the new Longfellow ES is completed the old one will be torn down and replaced with a softball field. To me, softball is a dying sport. Don't get me wrong I LOVE softball. Been playing it for close to 40 years but really it is NOT the activity it use to be. Find a new outdoor engagement use for that area. SE needs something to draw interest to this part of town. How about a splash pad, Pickle Ball, Rock climbing wall (I know.. liability), Foot golf somewhere. I love McQuillan ball field.. jog thru EVERY morning but softball is a dying sport. Not what it was back in the day. Be innovative. How about an outdoor workout area... one you jog thru to do exercises at stations. Just not ANOTHER softball, soccer, baseball field!
- I see a huge opportunity for many of the neighborhood parks - just need better trail system and updated equipment at many of them!! Would also LOVE to see a facility ("park building") in each quadrant where community can rent space, attend community ed classes, etc. Schools should not bear the brunt of these community activities.
- I strongly believe a city our size needs splash pads in every quadrant. We need at LEAST one fully accessible disabled child friendly playground for kids who are in wheelchairs to be able to play. Our city pools are really unfortunately crappy for a town this size. They were packed this summer because there should be one in every quadrant as well.
- I think all parks should participate in no mow may.
- I think better pool and beach options.
- I think it would be great if Rochester had an amazing pool (slides, lazy river, tubes, etc.). So many surrounding towns have better pools than we do. We are a very big city, we should have a great pool.
- I think it would be neat to see some of the less used grass space be transitioned to native environmental landscapes or engineered landscapes that help with erosion protection and water management. I think it could also be neat if paved trails included more education signage when passing by large trees or notable habitats.
- I think it's ridiculous that we need to drive to kasson and stewartville to go the pool to enjoy the day compared to the subpar options in Rochester. We are a bigger community with a lesser option then so many of the small surrounding towns. I also find that even when Rochetser puts a new park in they are always choosing dates options compared to the parks you see all over the suburbs of the twin cities. Rochester parks are totally out dated and an embarrassment for a town that claims to be a destination.
- I think our opportunities here are great. This is an amazing city. We have so much good stuff that I think we can improve and maintain without spreading ourselves too thin. That said, the new stuff has been amazing!
- I think planning for our changes in our climate will be vital to sustainable park systems. Planning green space that will be adaptable to changing needs/weather patterns.
- I think Rochester needs modern outdoor swimming facilities. Kids need the opportunity to learn how to swim. Updated locker rooms and facilities that support a swimming facility would be really valuable to me.
- I think Rochester needs some large playgrounds that are accessible to all. I love our neighborhood parks but for the size of our city, we need some larger/updated parks. We also need some splash pad at parks. I also think that the city does a nice job with outdoor areas. I love the idea of pip squeaks playground but it could use some cleaning and more ongoing cleanliness.
- I think Rochester offers a great variety of parks and recreation facilities, classes, opportunities within our community mostly. I do think we are lacking Pickleball courts as the sport is growing and it's often difficult to find an open court. I do NOT think the Rec center needs more renovations at this time, let's keep costs down. Currently, the Swim Club is not equitably accessible, the fees are very high and swim lessons are difficult to get into...this is all fine, there are other swim lesson options in the City, my

point is, they are a private organization, why should the City provide the state-of-the-art facilities they are requesting through tax dollars?

- I think Rochester Parks and Rec does a good job of maintaining the facilities that we have. I'm excited about the expansion of the facilities and MTB trails at Gamehaven. We definitely need more pickleball courts in Rochester as soon as possible. I would love to see the courts at Cooke Park expanded and the existing courts resurfaced (they need it). Pickleball is a social sport, so having more courts in the same location where people can interact and meet is more attractive than having courts located at multiple locations across the city.
- I think the Park and Recreation department should re-focus away from the current priority of athletic activities and put more resources into supporting the inherent value of the cultural and natural resources that are in its care. In my opinion, the jewels of our park system are the Plummer House and its gardens, Silver Lake Park, and the trails at Mayowood. These places are unique to Rochester and, each in their own way, are joyful, intriguing, and calming.
- I think the parks and rec system in Rochester is excellent. It adds significantly to the quality of life and gives the residents something to be proud of. I'd like to see our current system maintained mostly "as-is" rather than to see a bunch of new facilities added and have us get over extended.
- I think the Silver Lake swimming pool should be kept and-or improved. A city this size needs more than one municipal swimming pool.
- I think we have great access and great parks. We are blessed.
- I think we need safer connections between bike trails, especially regarding second street and cascade lakes trails. I think we need to focus on dedicated mountain bike trails. Game Haven was just cut up for disc golf. Flying discs while mountain biking is unsafe. I don't feel like bicycling is really taken seriously for commuters and high caliber cyclists. If possible, a dog park in southwest Rochester!
- I think we should seek to maintain green space and not get carried away with development. It's frustrating to see pavement everywhere.
- I think you should ask the garbage haulers to adopt the parks in the neighborhoods they serve to take care of the trash. Solve that problem.
- I want a Japanese Garden for Rochester, MN.
- I want Silver Lake to just get foundational updates. Do not change to splash pad. I go there for adult swimming.
- I was just made aware of a conversation regarding repurposing the driving range at Hadley Creek for residential development. I am concerned that we forget the importance of not only providing spaces for recreation, but also learning programs like First Tee. One of the best investments of time and money for our family has been First Tee. First Tee has been

instrumental not only for golf instruction, but a sense of community and core values (<https://firsttee.org/impact/nine-core-values/>). My daughter joined the HS golf team this spring and came face to face with the need to draw on the 9 core values she learned in First Tee. The confidence she had in growing up learning and seeing these core values modeled by instructors and repeated through the last few years allowed her to respectfully but firmly hold other teams accountable on the course for their score and behavior. But in reality, this isn't just limited to golf course etiquette-when learned and lived, these values flow over in to life and make our community better because our youth are at their best. I understand the financial push and pull of making Rochester the best it can be for all. I am thankful for the opportunity to express myself through a survey like this.

- I was not aware that the Honkers Stadium was part of P&R but that area definitely needs some work
- I was thrilled that pools were open and free to public along with lessons. I am a very strong supporter of Quarry Hill and their programs. Silver Lake really needs addressing. Would love to see an interactive park there like what Rapid City SD has. Bring in large Dinosaurs for photo opportunities and to climb on or a storybook themed park. Bring trash cans back to parks to keep them clean of trash. Probably not right place for this but so enjoy free admission to Chester Woods. We use it a lot and have seen people really enjoying it. Allows some that wouldn't be able to go otherwise. Like idea of neighborhood splash pads.
- I wasn't aware of most of the options listed above, but they are things I would love to do with my family and (as an educator) my school community. I've been a resident for over a decade. Perhaps some funding could be used to build awareness of what we have access to so it's better used?
- I would appreciate less No-Mow portions in parks, as a homeowner, and more frequent mowing to keep down weeds & varmint control.
- I would be in favor of reinvesting in our outdoor pools. Making them state of the art, investing in our youth. Please do not make the Silver Lake pool into a splash pad.
- I would like paved trail maintenance to equal the requirements for Rochester's Property owners. City is good at requiring city residents to conform to ADA requirements for private sidewalks but I never see marking on city sidewalks and trails to meet the same ADA requirements. Sidewalk access is also dismal. In addition, repair and maintenance plus installation fail to comply with recognized engineering principals. Particularly regarding joint repair and tree roots. The edges in particular are rarely dressed. I have seen a number of injuries and falls on the Bear Creek-Pinewood section of city trails. In addition, repairs are not done in a timely manner. Foster Arends access under 37th St was out for almost 2

years. Foster Arends trail in particular was a hazard and restricted utilization of the park without multiple busy street crossings. One step in the right direction may be to have the city council, Park and Rec and Public Works management actually inspect and ride the trails under their purview. In a related matter. I could not find a link to this survey on the city website. I tried a search on the city portal, went to Park and Rec section of website and looked under survey's, it appeared that section had not been updated in years. I have found time and again that relevant current information is not available on the city website. In addition, I called the City Clerk and the person from that office did not have a clue and referred me to Park and Rec depart that had nobody available.

- I would like to see a better pool(s) for Rochester.
- I would like to see a nice water park in the Silver Lake park. Surrounding communities much smaller gave accomplished this task. A splash pad there is not enough.
- I would like to see more funding put towards bike trail systems and mountain biking trails.
- I would like to see more investment in mountain biking. It's a popular and growing sport that can attract people to the area, and historically Rochester has not done a very good job of supporting it. Most of the improvements in recent years are a result of volunteer efforts, but that can only go so far.
- I would like to see more/better shelters. In the COVID era, people are going to need more places to meet outdoors.
- I would like to see Silver Lake pool continue as a public pool and not a Splash pad.
- I would like to see Silver Lake Pool improved. Our pools in Rochester are no where near comparable to surrounding areas (Kasson, Stewartville, Owatonna). It should be more of a water park atmosphere.
- I would like to see the bike system integrated even better than it is now. Arrive to make it possible to get from anywhere to anywhere safely by bike.
- I would like to see the new park at Lake Zumbro be easy to use from the lake and not be weedy and ugly like Silver Lake is. It would be nice to have the ski show back there again and have picnicking, boating and swimming from docks when possible too.
- I would like to see what we have done well. Then if able expand.
- I would love if the area would invest in Disc Golf. I would come down multiple times yearly if there were more Disc Golf opportunities in the area.
- I would love to see an All-Abilities type of playground/park that could be comparable to what Mankato and LaCrosse have built in the past 10 years.

If you haven't been to LA Crosse to see their new playground, you need too. Absolutely amazing!

- I would love to see kids sports not be privatized. In Wisconsin as a kid, for park and rec sports, it was about \$10 per kid to play and so many kids from all backgrounds could play and try whatever sport they wanted to try. My daughter played 8U softball and it costs \$175 (minus \$100 if we volunteered for 2 hours). That is really not affordable for many families.
- I would love to see more Disc Golf offerings! Other small towns in Minnesota and the country benefit greatly from top notch Disc Golf courses as large tournaments draw hundreds from around the state to compete and watch. Clearwater, MN and East Bethel, MN are 2 great examples. With the course at Gamehaven being installed and the potential for more (abandoned Meadow Lakes golf course) Rochester could join the list of Disc Golf destinations!
- I would prefer maintenance of what exists along with needed upgrades to what already exists in an equitable fashion across the city. There are a number of locations where the bike paths are not connected to the rest of the trails and getting those connected would also be of benefit.
- I would prefer money be spent on facilities that are used most. I noticed the the soccer fields and dog parks are very popular. While other facilities are empty or occupied by sketchy people not actually using them for the intended purpose.
- I would really like to see an indoor/outdoor pickleball center, to serve the 500+ pickleball players in Rochester throughout the year.
- I would really like to see more pickleball courts added. Rochester Area Pickleball Association has over 400 and we have only 6 pickleball courts. Pickleball is a growing sport and Rochester should support it. We have many drop-in players who come to Rochester for Mayo Clinic services. It is nice to be able to offer them some recreation while they are here. Additionally, the 6 courts that we do have are badly in need of repair.
- I would really like to see some investment in the silver lake park. The plans that have been presented with a new pedestrian bridge and new path on the north side of the lake looked fabulous. I hope you go ahead and implement that plan.
- I would suggest investing in the Silverlake Skate Park like Rochester said they would so many years ago.... Some of the ramps are completely broken and have dangerous exposed metal edges. It is also getting too crowded where children are colliding with other riders. It needs to be expanded to support the growing community.
- I would very much like Silver Lake Park Pool to be retained in a pool status for in pool fun and lap swims. The play spaces with play equipment for children need to be in neighborhoods where parents and grandparents can

readily get to. The same tax dollars that support the arts and environment should be able to be used for parks for everyone to enjoy.

- I, personally, am most passionate about mountain biking and as it's such a steadily growing sport would love to see more trails dedicated to the sport.
- I'd like to see a process for the community parks where neighborhoods can help "customize" them. Multiple people have talked about grant opportunities where they could get the funding to create something cool for their park, but they don't know how to make it happen.
- Identify a large acreage area to develop fishing and boating. Flooding current quarries or expanding Chester Woods, etc.
- Identify up and coming sports that offer different opportunities than what we currently have yet are still accessible.
- if major investment is considered, then something new that would draw people to town other than the clinic or the current sport tournaments. something that residents might also enjoy. i.e. indoor waterpark
- I'm excited about a few things: new splash pads coming, mountain bike trails, new city trails. Parks would be more fun with more diverse playground equipment and playgrounds for older kids. Our playgrounds are all cookie-cutter and boring except for the Silver Lake playground. I'd love to see quality playgrounds like Bloomington's Hyland play area and Chicago's Maggie Daley park.
- Improve / expand access and connectedness of neighborhoods and existing parks for non-car users (e.g., joggers, bicyclists, public transit)
- Improve conditions of trails which are utilized by many groups; development of Gamehaven park; better trail around Silver Lake by North Broadway; connection under North Broadway bridge for walking path; bike path along 65h street to new school
- Improve disc golf courses
- Improve or replace the Silver Lake Pool
- Improve playground at Quarry Hill on 9th street. Quarry Hill trails. Improve Silver Lake pool.
- Improve signs for parks. Most seem hidden with neighborhoods only aware of their locations
- Improve silver lake pool but keep it a pool. Splash pads are worthless for anyone over 5 years old.
- Improve Silver Lake Pool into something similar to what Kasson and Stewarville have. Not a splash pad.
- Improve Silver Lake pool to be an aquatic center with more slides and other water features
- Improve soldier's field golf course

- improve the Silver Lake outdoor swimming pool and the Soldier's Field swimming pool
- Improve the Silver Lake pool and KEEP IT OPEN as a pool. Add a splash pad there or elsewhere in Rochester. Improve locker-room facilities at all pools including the REC Center. Also add a designated pool entrance at the REC Center.
- Improve the trail pavement surfaces. Given extreme summer use, the traffic takes a toll. This would improve safety for runners, walkers and bikers.
- Improved disc golf related facilities
- Improved playgrounds, better natural spaces, maintenance and restrooms, and outdoor water features (like splash pads and pools). Bulldoze the police memorial and put a memorial to Black people murdered by police. Improve memorials and add information about indigenous land.
- Improved quality and quantity of baskets at local disc golf courses, and more splash pads!
- Improvement of Rochester skate parks
- improvements and more accessibility to pools for teaching swimming lessons. Also, a water park would help bring people to Rochester and offer more family opportunities that don't exist today (especially when there are large multi-day tournaments in town - swim meets, volleyball, softball).
- Improvements in swimming pools and youth baseball facilities are a must for the community. Rochester is drastically lacking in this space and families are utilizing many recreation programs and facilities in outside communities to participate in these sports
- Improvements to disc golf courses (i.e. more holes, new baskets, bathroom facility at parks.
- Improving children's facilities²
- Improving the pool facilities and adding additional splash pads
- In the Hart Farms (SW) part of Rochester, we would love to see a trail that connects to the trail to the north by Mayowood.
- In the proposal to get rid of both pools, I would suggest that a splash pad and pool combination be created. I love the idea of a splash pad for my little kids, but also love the idea of an accessible pool for the kids as they get older and to complete swimming lessons in.
- In town water park and splash pads
- Inclusive utilization of the parks and recreational activities.
- Increase amount of pickle ball, put more in parks that may just have tennis now. These are/will be heavily used and the current system doesn't allow new people to the sport. Cooke courts are too competitive for newbies

- Increase mountain biking and hiking trails. Remove disc course in Gamehaven. It creates too many blind spots and dangerous turns for hikers. If not removing disc course please reevaluate location of tees so they do not put hikers in danger with blind corners if hiking the 2 mile hiking trail backwards. Maybe don't put all sports into one park?
- Increase staffing at golf courses to improve grounds, maintain and be compete either to promote business, ie finding.
- Indoor and outdoor state of the art pickleball courts. Make it a Midwest Mecca. PB will only continue to grow. Continue the investments in the city golf courses that we have. Both of these items can be utilized by all ages but also give the older population access to activities consistent with an overall healthy community.
- indoor year around pickleball facility, and also lights at the 7th street PB courts.
- Instead of pouring money into fixing the outdoor pools that have a history of losing money, put that money towards investing in an indoor public pool that is open year round. Cheyenne, Wyoming is a much smaller city than Rochester and they have an incredible public indoor pool. (<https://cheyennerec.org/>). The one in our Rec Center is nice, but it is in no way "kid friendly." We never swim in Rochester due to the conditions of the outdoor pools and the lack of a kid friendly pool in the Rec Center.
- Interest in pickleball is growing exponentially - the current courts (6) at Cooke Park have large cracks, lack lighting and are in need of resurfacing. On any given morning the courts are full and many people waiting to play. For a community the size of Rochester additional courts are needed. Connecting those courts to the current courts at Cooke Park would be preferential so all players wanting to find partners can go to one location. An indoor pickleball pavilion would be preferential to accommodate players year round. By adding additional courts and lights, the Rochester Pickleball Club could host tournaments and bring in added revenue to the park system and city. I have recently visited Janesville WI (population ~60,000) where 6 courts were added in 2018 with a combination of support from the City, the pickleball club and donors. Maybe Rochester could learn from that community.
- Invest and support the mountain biking community. The changes at gamehaven is concerning to the mountain biking riders. Thousands of hours are spent by non city staff maintaining the trails.
- Invest heavily into expanding the mountain bike trails as opposed to building more indoor facilities. The money will go much farther building outdoor areas/trails that many people from all over will travel to and enjoy than it will building expensive facilities that only a small select group of people will ever use. Create trails that both welcome and encourage beginners as well as those that challenge experts. The sport of mountain biking is growing exponentially lately and there are many people eager for new and exciting places to visit and ride.
- Invest in a new water park/pool. Don't get rid of another pool a city this size needs more than one pool.
- Invest in aquatic center. Add splash pad or 2. Replace some park playgrounds with new equipment as they age.
- Invest in aquatic centers with full size pools! The two pools for a city this size is not comparable to other metros. Rochester is the biggest city in SE MN but we are outshined by outskirt town pools!
- Invest in dedicated space for curling. Create a larger, comprehensive pool/splash pad complex for families. Continue to build out bike paths that connect to all areas of the city.
- Invest in mountain bike trails
- Invest in mountain biking cover trailers and skill parks
- Invest in our kids. We have little kids programs, tiny splash pads but put way more \$ into golf courses not many use. I am dissatisfied with the lack of investment into a community center while other areas like shoreview, Woodbury, Maplewood have much nicer parks and community centers and are much smaller than we are.
- Invest in outdoor pools/water parks vs splash pads.
- Invest in Quality Youth Accessible Sports to keep Kids out of gang/Drug activity!
- Invest in regional parks and work on better connections to existing and future parks. Everyone should have a ten minute walk to a park or open space with trails.
- Invest in regional parks and work on better connections to existing and future parks. Everyone should have a ten minute walk to a park or open space with trails.
- Invest in swimming pools
- Investing in the arts is always a good idea. Rochester and the surrounding area has a plethora of amazing artists with great ideas. I would also like to see more cultural art. It would bring awareness to the beautiful and diverse community we are blessed to have.
- Investment in activities that engage the entire family, biking and hiking trails, pickleball courts, etc.
- It has been a frustration of mine for years that we don't have a water park. Programs like SACC and other childcare programs will drive more than an hour to go to facilities like the water park in Apple valley whereas we could be receiving those costs back into our community. I've never understood how we are the third largest city in the state but don't have a water park and such.

- It is a disgrace that a city the size of Rochester does not have a FULL SIZE WATER PARK. That communities 1/10th the size have better outdoor pools than Rochester. Or cities such as Waterloo, IA (a city half the size of Rochester) can have a water park that is rated one of the best in the country! Splash pads are for toddlers, what are children aged 6 and older supposed to do? And teenagers in the summer? A large Indoor/Outdoor water park (then add in something like a Dave/Buster's to keep people occupied outside of swimming for cold days and winter) could bring in revenue AND then Rochester could truly be a destination medical center.
- It is about priorities. We reap what we sow! Yes public property will get damaged. There will always be those who do not respect "free" but the answer is better management NOT to give up and walk away. It is only as we continue to invest in the community that we will all grow in understanding and respect for the value of this sort of investment. Rochester should be a leader in all this. We are in the, not just national but, international spotlight and there should be no dark corners where we have dropped the ball! I remember taking (Australian) relatives to the playground at Silver Lake a few years ago. I had NEVER been SO embarrassed as I was when I saw the state of disrepair that park had been allowed to fall into! I was there recently and was pleased to note it's exponential improvement. There is just not excuse for my first experience! NOT in Rochester, MN. Let's walk our talk!
- It is critical for the growth and vibrancy of our community that think big and expand our Parks and Recreation System. Our city founders gave us Soldiers Field, Silver Lake etc., Now many of the new development seems to be allowed to get away with creating a so called "park" complete with swing set on an unusable acre of land. The City should buy land for future major parks rather than allowing it to be sold as lots for more exclusive housing developments. The land at the end of Mayowood Road SW would be a great addition as a park, preserve the beauty of the area for ever but is about to be lost forever.
- It is ridiculous that a city of Rochester's size has only 6 poorly maintained pickleball courts. It is difficult to get on the courts at times after work when many of us are able to play.
- IT no fun to be in nature and see pills of trash. Trash cans use to be frequent along the trails now there is none where I walk. I feel there should be some type of keeping up (maintenance) that would include picking up garbage and more trash cans.
- It occurs to me that the park department does a excellent job. So grateful!
- It should be spent to improve the current parks and update it, maintenance is highly required in most of the parks in Rochester. all the swings make a terrible sound whenever used. nobody seems to clean around the playground and everything looks really old.
- It would be amazing if the disc golf course at gamehaven would get finished. It has a beautiful scenery and layout that was designed by one of the best professional disc golfers in the country. A championship level course is what this town needs. The other courses are serviceable, but seeing the possibilities at gamehaven leaves a lot to be desired.
- It would be nice to have restrooms at parks. At the Watson soccer fields the rest room facility is always locked.
- It would be nice to see development focused on families, youth and adult programming, and winter programming (e.g. cross country skiing programs, etc). Mountain biking growth would be wonderful too.
- It would be nice to see silver lake pool rebuild include both a pool and splash pad space
- It would be so great to keep improve silver lake pool or create an improved pool/aquatic center in it's place. Most of the small towns around Rochester have better pools than us. We even drive to apple Valley to use their aquatic center.
- It would be wonderful if there was a more robust indoor event center that could have multiple uses throughout the year like an indoor water park, indoor basketball courts etc
- It's appalling that a community our size cannot manage to have any public recycling. Also, significantly reduced garbage cans in parks and trail systems. Covid can only be an excuse for so long. Additionally, personally I think the department is incredibly inefficient. Would love to see "the good old boys" network dissolved it's time to move on to bigger and better things embracing transparency.
- It's nice that trash cans were added back. I think a focus on maintaining what we have should be prioritized over expansion.
- I've lived here 4 years and have never heard of half the activities offered. I think advertising needs to improve. How can we enjoy these opportunities if we don't even know about them.
- I've noticed a lot of forested land around Rochester's bike trails has been thinned / cleared and while I don't know if the money came from the Park department, if it did it should / could have been spent more wisely on other park direct related items.
- I've noticed a lot of improvements in 2020-2021. I like what the city has done
- I've seen news stories where they have put in playground-like equipment for adults, I think a space like that would be good
- I've used the public golf courses weekly for the past ten years. I love soldiers, Eastwood, northern and Hadley creek, but these facilities are outdated and way behind modern golf course amenities. No online tee times, poor maintenance of the courses (bunkers not maintained, fairways

not mowed enough, greens in bad shape). I don't understand why the restaurants are separate from the golf course operations. The restaurants struggle and are never open. We just need simple amenities like drinks and hot dogs/brats. Other public golf courses are doing this why can't the public courses figure it out? Northern has a new clubhouse but a broken road to get into the facility, a gravel parking lot for the driving range, and a massive water problem on holes 1 and 2 due to development of the land behind the course. Eastwood's facilities are outdated, soldiers has nothing to offer in the clubhouse and staff that don't know much about what's going on. I'd like to see the golf courses succeed but feel the city courses are making a lot of mistakes. I'd recommend just looking at what successful golf courses in the twin cities are doing and copy them. It's not complicated. The city is losing money by not investing in better golf courses. There is a lot of revenue lost due to northern's front 9 being closed due to water, or no one selling drinks/food, or not taking tee times online, not taking care of the course etc. You need to invest some money to make money. Otherwise the city should sell the courses and let private companies do it

- Keep a pool at silver lake
- Keep all the parks usable - Silver Lake is unusable
- Keep both outdoor public pools open and build more.
- Keep both pools! Hire park workers that actually work! I see so many old men just sitting around daily instead of keeping our parks maintained. Greater police presence at parks and in parking lots. If people want splash pad then build it in a different location, not at silver lake. Please keep both of these pools!!!
- Keep both Silver Lake and Soldiers Field Pools!!
- Keep building out cascade park, a splash pad seems logical there. Also, work on management of the goose population, through continued egg addling and expanding to a limited hunting season. Goose poop is a real problem.
- Keep community pools open
- Keep connecting trail systems for various forms of transportation (walking, running, biking)
- Keep developing Cascade Lake area. Beautiful start with beach and playground/picnic/landscaping=green area!!
- Keep improving what we have, with a focus on the quality of the experiences available. Ensure at least one public pool is open for recreation and lap swimming, fully connect our trails, and keep up the good work!
- Keep our pool open.

- Keep pools free, turn one into a nice aquatic center, improve skate park, nice splash pads through out town, get neighborhood input before altering current playgrounds, more neighborhood ice rinks(north park please!)
- Keep public pools open. Add an additional splash pad or more. We love the park and wading pool options available in Minneapolis especially wading pool with splash pad features. These should not replace the two public pools.
- Keep Silver Lake as a pool
- Keep silver lake park/aquatic center
- Keep Silver Lake Pool - so happy to be back at it this year. Love the size and depth
- Keep Silver Lake pool a swim pool. Not some splash park.
- Keep silver lake pool please
- Keep silver lake pool versus more splash pads
- Keep Silver Lake Pool! Kids need to learn how to swim, and a pool is needed for that!
- Keep Silver Lake pool! Make Silver Lake more aesthetically appealing. I would love to see a dedicated Rose Garden (like Duluth has) or something similar where residents AND visitors can sit, relax, and reflect. (possibly/ideally located in the heart of the city). Please add lighting all along the trail system Many people commute in all weather and all seasons via the trail system often times in low light or in the dark.
- Keep Silver Lake pool. Add more to it like Soldiers Field.
- Keep silver lake pool. Splash pads are fine but kids need to learn how to swim.
- Keep silver lake pool. We need pools for kids to swim in not splash pads
- Keep Soldiers Field as an 18 hole golf course
- Keep Soldiers Field golf course as is.
- Keep swimming facility at/near Silver Lake. Children can't learn to swim at a splash pad and we have too few lakes as an alternative.
- Keep the out door swimming pools and work at keeping the parks and playground equipment clean and safe.
- Keep the park sidewalk on 2nd st in the manor clear in the winter, there was a dispute that caused it go un shoveled for years, add better playground equipment to the manor parks, star Judd used to have much more, the current set is a joke. Oh and fire Nigbur, he's a putz that has to be wasting govt/taxpayer money.
- Keep the pools open or add another pool
- Keep the pools open. Have parks for older children. Have a couple splash pads

- Keep the pools! They need a little love but they should be kept and not replaced
- Keep the pools.. kids need to learn how to swim.. we live in Minnesota
- Keep the silver lake pool
- Keep the silver lake pool
- Keep the Silver Lake pool and DO NOT turn it into a splash pad!
- Keep the swimming pools open so children learn the vital survival skill: how to survive falling into water and not drown!
- Keep the swimming pools operational
- Keep thr outdoor pools. Just update them to fit the tines. Money should be used for swimming. It is a safety skill everyone needs to know and keeping thr facilities up to date helps with the safety
- Keep up with the bike trails better. New asphalt when they get bumpy, wider bridges over river for crossing by each other. Keep up the equipment that is there for blowing up tires, etc.
- Keeping both outdoor pools open is very important for our community. According to the CDC there are almost 4000 people in the US who die from drowning each year, and a few more than 8000 who suffer non-lethal drownings. I am one of those non-lethal drowning statistics. I wouldn't be here to write this if it weren't for a bystander proficient in CPR, and determined to make sure I didn't become a statistic in the other category.I was very comfortable in the water because my parents made sure all of their kids knew how to swim. We spent hours submerged in our local public pool where we took lessons, strengthened our skills, and had fun. While knowing how to swim doesn't guarantee you'll never drown, not knowing how to swim will make surviving a drowning incident much less likely. Life is full of risks. Knowing how to swim can help reduce a risk. Not everyone can afford their own pool or membership at a club. Having a public option is important for not only learning to swim, but also for practicing the skills they've learned. EVERYONE should have those opportunities.
- Keeping our parks clean, looking nice, and safe.
- Keeping the spaces we have now clean and functional!
- Keeping walking paths Essex, etc groomed in the winter
- Kill the geese
- Kutzky Park residents are unable to use city-owned tennis courts in a city park unless they are members of the the RTC or pay a \$10 fee. I would love to see 1-2 of the courts available for public use without reservation and payment.
- Lands rich in diversity and natural elements belong to the public and should be preserved for public space, ie. shorelines, hillsides, woodlands

- and diverse native prairie. It would be nice to see more park or trail connections from NE to SW and NW to SE
- Large indoor water park and entertainment center for families, larger new swimming pool with slides, etc
 - Large outdoor public water park and splash pad.
 - large splash pads and or waterpark like other near by communities. Adaptive parks/ playgrounds. Larger adaptive rec program
 - Larger pools in more areas!
 - Less mowing, more bike racks! NO MORE SPRAYING!!!
 - LGBTQ Community center, Additional splash pad at Silver Lake park (and other parks) instead of taking away a pool, Roller Skating facilities, (French) language classes offered at the community center
 - Lighted cross country ski trail
 - Live across from Judd Park. We feel there needs to be some upgrades with regard to the sledding operation. Please consider a better fencing system near the road, perhaps a parking lot, and easier access (stairs or dedicated pathways) up the hill. It seems safety of people parking and the neighborhood is dagnerous and chaotic at peak times currently.
 - Longer Hours and Days for Silver Lake Pool. Do NOT lock Foster Arendts and Cascade Lake....other cities do not put locked fences around their swimming areas!!! Keep outdoor pools open sooner and longer. Silver Lake Pool has been every day we have been there (4-5x per week this summer)
 - Look at best in class for families - Central Park or Maple Grove, Inver Grove Heights aquatic center, Edina Edinborough Park, splash pads, etc.
 - Looking forward to a city the size of Rochester to actually have a competitive disc golf course that will match the likes of the twin cities
 - Looking forward to splash pads added to our community
 - Love to take the family to the parks located by disc golf courses
 - Maintain and create Dedicated mountain bike trails.
 - Maintain and educate what we already have. Expand more for better quality of life. Besides Mayo Clinic, Rochester lacks recreational value. Often times, I hear travelers and locals state that Rochester lacks much parks and recreational. And the parks that we do have, have poorly managed facilities that are either broken, not cleaned, and hard to access for the disabled. I believe this has improved greatly but we have a long way to go. Rochester is becoming a hustle and bustle town, not a happy/grateful town.
 - Maintain current parks and trails. Invest in the cultural features of Indian Heights Park.
 - Maintain golf courses at current size. A significant number of residents and visitors benefit.

- Maintain paved paths, re-asphalt ones like especially between West River Parkway over the bridge to the rec center. That section is horribly bumpy.
- Maintain the current pickleball courts better, build more pickleball courts and build a splash park.
- Maintain the existing park facilities. It is sad and a shame to see the Plummer House water tower and landscape in such bad repair.
- Maintain what we already have before expanding.
- Maintaining and upgrading the city pools
- Maintenance is an issue. Parks can be very nice then the shelters and restrooms are disgusting (Essex) and why are there no trash bins or doggie bag stations at most Rochester parks?
- Maintenance of existing facilities
- Make access equitable and aligned with needs of all residents. Continue to invest in silent sports such as mtn biking, skiing, etc. The success of Crosby/Ironton is a model to study.
- Make information about canoeing/kayaking/SUP locations available and add area to access water.
- Make more parks like the one at Cascade Lake. Also, how does one join a group to play pickle ball?
- Make sure all facilities are accessible and that there are charging stations for electric bikes and phones.
- Make the parks east to access and attractive. Parks that are beautiful and inviting are safe parks because of increased use and dedicated community.
- Making all facilities and programs more accessible and affordable to the diverse community in Rochester
- Making every Park and facility both inclusive and accessible. One is an philosophical issue, the other is a physical issue.
- Making programming lessons like swimming, tennis, track & field, and ice skating affordable and bigger so that children across the city can participate and learn. It is prohibitively expensive, take ice skating lessons as an example, when basics are only being learned.
- Making sure all families have access to quality parks and facilities.
- Making sure people with disabilities have services and accessible bathrooms at sites. Upkeep on current facilities like miracle field.
- Manor Park needs a new and expanded playground. Similar to the one by silver lake pool.
- Many families drive to kasson, stewartville, and pine Island for outdoor waterproof. Rochester options do not compare. A simple splash pad does not compete nor compare to the water park systems that surrounding communities have. Also need to upgrade the indoor facility of the rec center that supports many activities for the entire community from skating

- to hockey to swim. Locker rooms and access door to swim pools would be great improvements to make these state-of-the-art!
- Many more splash pads and obstacle course type areas for kids. Also more swimming and climbing classes
- Many neighborhood parks are in bad shape, lack seating or shade, and have limited equipment for all ages of children. I'd like to see those parks cleaned up, mini shelters or trees added, more comfortable seating, and safe equipment. While rubber mulch lasts, it burns little feet so hot days mean empty playgrounds in NW Rochester. Wealthier neighborhoods have nicer parks as well, which seems imbalanced. I'd also love a city forest or woods space. The city allows so many trees to come down for dense housing and it impacts sound pollution and light pollution, making some areas unpleasant to live.
- Many of the parks, like quarry hill, have no benches or picnic tables. Fix it
- Mayo field really needs attention. It's so great to have the Honkers in Rochester but it really hurts attendance and enjoyment due to the facilities that need updating and serious maintenance.
- Mommy and me (baby/infant) swim programs!!!
- Money needs to be spent on improving trail connectivity and especially trail user safety at busy road crossings.
- Monthly inspections of playgrounds
- More activities for children: splash pads, parks, etc. specifically SW Rochester is lacking.
- More adaptive rec everywhere.
- More and better mountain biking trails. The Eastwood trails are full of loss of gravel and roots - ei. not that good. I often drive to Austin to MTB simply because I don't like the conditions of the Eastwood trails (and I live less than 2 miles from the Eastwood park). If you want to know what good trails look like visit Austin. Or even better, visit the Kiwanis Park MTB trail's in Mankato - they are unbelievable. Kiwanis Park in Mankato has many miles of well-groomed trails for all skill levels, a MTB jump park and a bike skills park. We should seek to replicate what they have. in Mankato.
- More and bigger outdoor skating rinks. More outdoor tennis courts with several locations in the city. The ones you have now are poorly maintained(other than Kutzy Field..which you have to pay and make a reservation.) Hard for kids to ride their bikes to Kutzy Field. Need many more outdoor swimming pools with diving boards.
- More bike trails would be awesome...or connecting more
- More city pools
- More city pools water parks, skate parks, tennis courts, play grounds and climbing parks, roller and ice rinks indoor outdoor

- More complete trash container coverage on trails and dog poop bag dispensers at all trail entries.
- More connections to paths - no good way to connect south of 52 to city's paths. More pickle ball courts
- More connectivity to existing trails.
- More creative programming to reach out to more ages and abilities throughout the community
- More disc golf courses
- More disc golf courses
- More disc golf courses!!
- More disc golf courses, please!
- More disc golf, connect the bike trails in town more trash cans..
- More disc golf. The sport has been booming throughout the last two years, and there is serious money in it potentially for Rochester.
- More enticing disc golf courses to bring people from around the country
- More extensive development of the distance within the trail systems for hiking/running, xcountry skiing, and single track mountain biking. It is frustrating to try to train for ultra distances for running, the Birkie, or mountain biking when it's nearly impossible to get more than 3-6 miles of continuous maintained trail. A person literally needs to travel north to achieve longer training. That is quite disappointing.
- More full court basketball courts are needed with lights for playing in the dark
- More garbage cans
- More general maintenance - I hate to see litter in our beautiful creeks and rivers, or invasive plants taking over. We need trash cans and crews to pick up litter more often. I would also love to see our waterways get healthier, particular downtown.
- More in to trails for hiking, and or a water park!
- More indoor and outdoor pools
- More indoor gardens like St Paul Como conservatory. Many downtown trails are poorly maintained. Keep entry fees and participation fees low to keep things accessible to all. Use tax money or grants or donations for funding.
- More investment in mountain biking trails and paved trails
- More investment in updating and improving neighborhood parks, particularly playground equipment.
- More lit tennis courts. Fine pickleballers for chalking tennis courts.
- More money should be allocated to the golf course budget. You will gain it back in revenue. Cutting money from the golf courses is going to hurt you in the long run.
- More mountain bike trails
- more mountain biking trails and maintenance on the ones we have.
- More mountain biking trails on the north side of town!
- More mountain biking trails, better playgrounds for children
- More mountain biking trails.
- More mountain biking, a good mtb skills park with progressive drops, table top jumps, and skinnies
- More natural playscape type parks
- More natural spaces example maintaining existing trails, less expensive basketball, outdoor courts
- More non-pool water activity (splash pad). More covered areas at neighborhood parks
- More off street bike trails with snow removal in winter for major pathways. Less on street bike trails as they are not as safe for young children to bike. Clean up graffiti on playground equipment. Create an easy way where residents can report when maintenance is needed at playgrounds.
- More opportunities to rent exercise equipment (cross country skis, paddle boards, kayaks, discs for disc golf, etc)
- More options for younger kids, indoor playground
- More outdoor exercise equipment for adults, such as pull up bars, fitness courses, etc. we're all too fat
- More outdoor pickleball courts.
- More outdoor water pools and water programs: water polo, synchronized swimming. Rec center needs upgrade the locker rooms, entrance, family restrooms, locker rooms for the warm water pool. New Gymnastics programs like rhythmic gymnastics.
- More paved biking trails
- More Pickle all courts as the number of people using them keeps increasing.
- More pickle ball courts
- More pickle ball courts
- More pickle ball courts
- More pickle ball courts; Finish bike trail from Marion Rd to Chester Woods
- More pickle ball options that are not monopolized by one group- public courts! Fix more of exiting tennis courts, get rid of the mud scrapers that are on them- bad news! Maybe turn some into pickle ball courts. The ones at cook park are nice but are not public courts even though they are on

public land, 95% of reasonable hours to play are reserved by one group. Not sure a private group should profit from selling add space at a public park facility???

- More pickleball courts. Some designated only for novice players.
- More pickleball courts
- More pickleball courts
- More pickleball courts
- More Pickleball courts and make the hours accessible to all. (The RAPA members have a monopoly on the best hours). There seems to be many scarcely used tennis courts where Pickleball lines could be added easily for outdoor play.
- More Pickleball courts are needed to accommodate the growing sport
- More pickleball courts!!!!
- More pickleball courts, both indoor and outdoor
- more pickleball opportunities, more disc golf, more sand volleyball opportunities, bike trails, increase safe walking paths, more for elderly
- More pickleball parks. Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in the world and the pickleball community continues to grow by leaps and bounds.
- More picnic tables and trash cans are needed in some parks such as the little park adjacent (across the bridge) to the Mayo Civic Center.
- More police and/or security measures taken. Also dogs on leashes would enhance my feeling of safety in the parks. Maybe signs up to encourage dogs to be on leashes.
- More pool access to support swimming and fun because Cascade Lake and Forster Arends have issues that keep them close or not used.
- More pools for my kids to swim in! Tired of traveling to outlying communities to swim!
- More pools making a roller rink
- More pools. More places/programs like quarry hill (see Milwaukee urban ecology programs). More ice rinks, pools, small unique outdoor gardens. Keep up the awesome parks and recs programming. Research the needs and interests of minority communities. More cultural programming.
- More public events
- More public pools! I grew up in a Midwest suburb of 75k people with 6 public pools. All kids, regardless of income, visited public pools in the summer.
- More small neighborhood parks with swings/slides etc.
- More small scale parks in neighborhoods
- More spending for mountain biking trails.
- More splash pads and basketball courts at neighborhood parks

- More splash pads and disc golf
- More splash pads and indoor playgrounds for families twin cities areas have some pretty awesome splash pads and indoor playgrounds that my family frequents.
- More staff for better maintenance
- More stuff to do in the summer time like mini golf, more places to swim, dance clubs (at least one), more concerts focused around young adults, etc
-
- More swimming options
- More tennis courts and basketball courts and pickleball courts in NW please. We love everything you do! Keep up the awesome job!
- More tennis courts, bring back garbage cans, get a neat pool and splash pad
- More trail maintenance, repave some trail sections that badly need repaving
- MORE TRASH CANS ! If you guys don't want to empty them, get the haulers to do it !!!
- More trash cans!
- More trees and better care and ecologically sustainable management of natural spaces.
- More trees throughout the city
- More upkeep of pools
- More, but smaller, trash receptacles to help keep the parks and trails litter (and dog poop) free.
- More, safe dog parks now that so many of us have more dogs! Esp. on the SW side.
- Most Critical: Replace Silver lake Pool with an Water Park/Aquatic Center. Do not build any splash pads as they are a waste of money.
- Mountain bike and Nordic skiing.
- Mountain bike trails at Northern Heights Park, the other mountain bike trails are far from my house. 2nd option is make a good bike route from North Broadway to Gamehaven. Pickleball should be more accessible to all people to play for free.
- Mountain bike trails, water park
- mountain biking and nordic skiing are ever growing activities in Rochester and are increasing in popularity - up keep and funding for exsisting and additional trails would be a great use of funds
- Mountain biking and trail running are severely lacking and deserves funding.
- Mountain biking is booming, more trails would be awesome!!

- Mountain biking trails!
- Mow the lawns better; trails and bike paths are over grown. Mow them weekly or every 10 days.
- Mtb trails. Far behind other, much smaller communities. Splash pads and grow zollman zoo with entry fee or membership
- Multiple splash pads, improved pools, better paved trails for biking (some of us prefer trails instead of on the road)
- My selfish desire would be for the two hockey rinks in the Rec Center to receive some improvements.
- N/a
- N/A
- Natural forested areas as well as improved pools and pool access are most important.
- Natural green space is the most valuable asset to our community
- Nature based school
- Need a new pool at Silver Lake AND Soldiers Field. These locations utilize two very different populations. Both are needed to support our local swimming lessons (private and free community), local swim club, community groups, and public swim. Need a pool for learn to swim but also fun items like climbing wall, slides, splash pads, etc. CANNOT have only splash pads-that only serves little kids!!!!Also need locker room improvements at the Rec Center for the pool area. You have a state of the art pool but lousy locker rooms and no family locker rooms for the swimming lessons in the warm water pool. 125 has the locker rooms that are attached to the warm water pool that are nice but no one can use them except those members. Rochester is a city of health and wellness-lets get with the times and make these facilities work for everyone!
- Need facilities where children can learn to swim year round. Locker rooms at REC center need to be updated with option for parents of young children.
- Need more mountain bike trails!!
- Need more mtb and skate ski trails!!
- Need to open more parks where all the apartments are going up. Infrastructure.
- Neighborhood parks are a treasure keep investing in them as well as indoor playgrounds and splash oad
- New aquatic center
- New Miracle League field pavement
- New outdoor pool facility
- New swimming pool

- New types of activities - as Mayo keeps growing, so does Rochester. That is going to bring in new people and other needs.
- Nice facilities. Everything is so outdated and an embarrassment. Have less facilities but higher quality.
- No
- No
- No
- no
- No
- No
- No
- No
- No
- No
- No
- No
- No more trails added. Diversify offerings.
- No new taxes should be used. Partner with local organizations and users to fund investment / maintenance needed.
- No spending increases. Keep things maintained and in working order. We're not reinventing the wheel here.
- No splash pads
- No splash pads...we need an aquatic center or another pool I'm town. Our pools are laughable...especially compared to neighboring communities
- NO SPLASHPAD at silver! We need a place to get kids to swim not a place for people to trash and only get used by the small population of people who would use it versus a large pool.
- No wood chips for the playground.
- No!
- None
- none
- None
- None
- Nordic ski trials and more mountain bike trials.
- Not at this time.
- not right now
- NOT SPLASH PADS. For gods sake, we need SWIMMING POOLS
- On building a better pool facility and improve the playgrounds

- One of the reasons we moved to Rochester included the expansive park system opportunities for our family - we enjoy time in nature/trails/maintained nature areas, as well as structured play areas like playgrounds/sports fields/pools/etc. It is something I am happy to have our money go toward and is a major selling point for other families moving to the area. It provides a way for all to enjoy these outdoor opportunities during times that work for them, and usually at a small cost. It is a rich growing opportunity for all ages to have such a wonderful park and trail system here in Rochester, with different spaces offering unique experiences. We SO appreciate it. And since there are so many parks, it usually isn't packed and having to deal with crowds of people also enjoying the system isn't usually an issue. That makes it even more enjoyable! :)
- One simple and immediate thing would be to mark all tennis courts for both Pickleball and tennis. People can set up their own Pickleball nets on a tennis court in their neighborhood.
- Ongoing accessible features and programs
- Open gamehaven for disc golf
- Our existing parks need habitat restoration, removing invasive species and re-introducing native plants. Toilet facilities are important year round, should be available in every park, multiple in larger parks. Should be clean and well maintained on a regular basis.
- Our family gravitates to parks with mature trees. We love the playscape at Cascade Lake, but we often go elsewhere due to the lack of shade. MORE TREES, PLEASE! :o)
- Our last questions are about you
- Our outdoor swimming options for our young people is really lacking. for the size of our community.
- Our park system is sadly lacking. Austin, MN, a much smaller community - compare our offerings to Todd Park and the Hormel Nature Center. Nice facilities for various sports is nice and should be maintained, but we need larger green spaces. Not everyone participates in sports or rides bikes all over the city. Most of us don't. And the carry-your-own-trash-out policy is ridiculous. This isn't the BWCA where such a policy is critical. Here, it's just cheap and uninviting for our residents and guests.
- Our pickleball courts do not meet the need and use of the current population. Expanding the number of courts is needed.
- Our pools are not even best in county.
- Our pools are not even best in county.
- Outdoor (and at least one indoor) soccer field that Minnesota Rush (previously RYSA) doesn't own or control. Also, a second youth soccer club is needed desperately for families that don't like the MN Rush program. The old non-profit Euro Football Club was so amazing and had more

successful teams that Rush until Rush talked them into merging. This was a big mistake and turned into a youth soccer monopoly when parents used to have a choice between programs that were managed completely differently. Currently, MANY youth soccer players are leaving Rochester to drive to the Cities several times a week to play for clubs there. And less soccer players will play at the previous SoccerWorld because Rush now owns it. They also hog most of the RCTC dome rental. I am speaking for many area soccer families of all income levels and backgrounds when I say this: Please invest in an affordable indoor soccer option during the winter months so that children and adults can play soccer without having to hand more money over to Neil Cassidy and Kevin Lowery!!!!

- Outdoor Aquatic Center with family friendly options as well as outdoor competition pool
- Outdoor equipment, play areas, and biking trails not with other things like disc golf or walking trails, they overlap, not good
- Outdoor exercise equipment in Essex Park, and expanded access to mountain biking trails.
- Outdoor handball courts! Before covid my husband was working on getting people together weekly to play handball outdoors on the bang board at the tennis courts. The ground surface and the wall just aren't right for handball but they made it work because they love the sport!
- Outdoor pools
- Outdoor pools should be prioritized
- Outdoor racquet courts and more pickleball courts not controlled by a club
- Overall the park system in Rochester is excellent. Continue to maintain the parks well. I enjoy disc golf and am looking forward to the opening of Game Haven. The more the trail system is connected and thought of as a transportation system to get around Rochester would help.
- Overhead trail connector walking/bike ramp over highway 52, so access to the trails by Soldier Field is safer and easier. Also invest in the Mountain Bike trails.
- Paved bike trail access to every neighborhood. Partner with curling club of Rochester for facilities.
- Paved trails
- Peaceful areas that feel away from society. (for example.. Cascade park is great but its right next to the highway so all you hear are the cars)
- Pickleball
- Pickleball courts are needed
- Pickleball courts as a top priority. Never can get on them because they're always being used. We have had to use tennis courts as a substitute which isn't that great

- Pickleball courts get lots of use and it is a fast-growing sport. Please build more courts.
- PICKLEBALL COURTS!!
- Pickleball has become a hugely popular sport for many age groups. The current 6 courts at Cooke Park are no where near enough to meet the growing demand of this sport. Since the master plan was written 6 years ago, the sport of Pickleball has exploded. Many towns much smaller than Rochester have 12-court Pickleball complexes that allow them to bring in tournaments, and meet the needs of their Pickleball community. Rochester desperately needs more Pickleball courts in one central complex. Rochester Area Pickleball Association has over 400 members alone and only 6 courts. RAPA can be a partner in this. Please make Pickleball a priority in your Park and Rec plans.
- Pickleball has exploded in Rochester and has outgrown the facility at Cook Park. A new facility is needed for all season participants. Pickleball tournaments are attracting visitors from all over the country and can represent big economical gains for the city. Since I've started playing here at Cook park I've met numerous Mayo patients and patient family members who have searched out our parks and recreation facilities and have participated in using them while here in our city. Tournaments are being set up in surrounding communities bringing in, "out of city revenues" for these cities. Rochester needs a facility that can compete for these events. Cook park's Pickleball facility needs to double in size if not triple in size with a dome covering, (or some type of large indoor facility) and added parking, all with the intentions of inviting year round participation. The Rochester area pickleball association has over 500 members, and has opened the eyes of area businesses wanting to get involved. An improved Rochester facility is desperately needed.
- Pickleball is a very fast growing sport. We really need more courts at Cook Park to satisfy the demand for play among the Rochester community. It would be the best to have the additional courts at the same location enabling more people to play at the same time. Often when playing, you play a 10 minute game and then sit and wait with the 24 others for a court to be open to have a chance to play again. We really need more indoor Pickleball facilities as well. Once the weather changes there are few options to play indoors.
- Pickleball is growing in popularity all over the country and has both young and old participants. Rochester is way behind most Minnesota communities in providing pickleball facilities. Places like St Cloud, Detroit Lakes, Mankato, Owatonna, Winona have better pickleball facilities than Rochester. And just about every twin cities suburb has better facilities. Our current outdoor pickleball facility is one of the most highly utilized Park and Rec facilities. Indoor facilities for pickleball are poor and

crowded and that has discouraged winter participation. Please consider improving both indoor and outdoor pickleball facilities in Rochester. A city our size should have at least 18 outdoor courts and 8 indoor courts. Instead, we have 6 and 3 (sometimes....pickleball frequently loses out to hockey or swimming needs at the current rec center facility).

- Pickleball is one of the fastest growing sports in the country. We could use more indoor and outdoor courts. Cities a quarter of our size have more courts than Rochester. If so, place them next to each other so we can host local tournaments.
- Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in America We have over 500 members in our non-for profit organization RAPA (Rochester Area Pickleball Association) and I'm sure hundreds or more families that are learning and enjoying the sport yet we have a limited winter resources to play and only six outdoor courts that have not been maintained and are not going to be in playable shape for next summer due to lack of maintenance and upkeep. The goal of the 2016 master plan was to paint pickle ball lines on the majority of tennis courts across Rochester that never happened. The courts are in abysmal condition to paint lines for Pickleball anyway. 7 days a week there is overwhelming crowds at the 6 courts. Winter play is so limited. REC center offers 3 courts. The needs of the Pickleball community are not being met. Rochester residents are driving to Winona and Owatonna for more available times to play in the winter. Tennis and Pickleball can jointly coexist in harmony. I play tennis and Pickleball but prefer the social aspect of Pickleball. Thanks for the opportunity to voice this- greatly appreciated!
- Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in the country and Rochester is way behind communities of similar size. With membership in RAPA approaching 600, we only have 6 courts. This is woefully short. Tennis is on the decline. I believe with minimal investment, several of the tennis courts could be converted to Pickleball courts.
- Pickleball needs an indoor court facility for winter months and added outdoor courts for the summer. This is a very popular sport that appeals to the older generation whose budgets are limited and economical options to participate in group fitness activities year round are often overlooked in the community.
- Pickleball!!! Everywhere else in MN is doing this. Seriously the inter generational future
- Plan for the future. When a new program/park is created, have a budget to maintain it. Don't just build something new and let it fall into ruin after a couple of years.
- Please add additional pickleball courts.
- Please add another playground to Cascade Lake park (maybe by the Lacrosse field). More playground equipment for older kids - middle school

aged kids. The current playground is intended for 12 yr olds and younger. Perhaps paddleboats/canoe/kayak rentals at cascade. It would be nice to build a foot bridge from the Lacrosse field to the main bike/walk path of cascade lake park. Maybe invest in a floating pool at Cascade, similar to what they have in Europe etc. please keep silver lake and soldiers field pools. Not everyone can afford a membership at the RAC. Pools are for everyone. Splash pads are more geared towards elementary school aged kids. Rochester should look and see if we can have a park similar to Dallas, Tx's Klyde Warren Park. Lots of green space, food truck vendors, and scheduled programs for all ages. Oh yeah, there is a Treehouse and a small water feature area. This concept would be great somewhere downtown, perhaps Mayo Park and the green space near the Civic center. It could also attract more folks to downtown..library and art center. Also, please do not remove the metal slide at Cooke Park. Thank you!

- Please bring back the trash cans at the parks where they were taken away. We miss the trash cans immensely.
- please bring back the trash cans to the local parks. They help to keep the parks clean. Thank you
- Please bring the garbage cans back to the parks
- Please collect trash again ASAP
- Please do not get rid of silver lake pool we need an aquatic center in this town. Can't believe there is not one already!
- Please do something to make the riverfront area through downtown more appealing. The sidewalks, bike paths, and any open space along the river near many attractions (art center, library, parks, etc.) are disgusting, covered in bird poop, and look at a shallow, smelly mud creek most of the year. It would be nice if the Zumbro was diverted completely and the existing riverbed filled in with recreational and open space for everyone to enjoy. Currently it's an eyesore that repels residents and visitors, but it would be great to revitalize such a central corridor into useful space.
- Please ensure that the facilities are clean, and up to date, and more outdoor exercise equipment. Early opening of the outdoor public restrooms. We appreciate everything you do for our community.
- Please find a way to add more pickle ball line markings on existing tennis courts throughout neighborhood parks.
- Please fund improvements to the skate park including a pump track and bike park jump line. Kids dream of leaving Rochester for places with better outdoor offerings aside from the standard team sports. The usage of the skatepark alone should justify improvements. Every days large numbers of people are there, can't say the same thing for the ball fields that are rarely used yet cost thousands in upkeep.

- Please improve the city's pools! We gave up on the Rochester pools years ago and spend our money every summer in Kasson and Stewartville instead - their facilities are SO much nicer!
- Please include additional programming for Adaptive Rec for individuals over 18
- Please increase funding for a multisport indoor complex. We are a largely populated town (for MN standards) and have worse indoor facilities than smaller towns in all of MN. Please allocate funding for pickleball courts as we have 6 outdoor courts for 100k people. Please ensure proper maintenance of the pickleball and tennis courts around town. The REC center is subpar and outdated. It needs to be updated and expanded and continue to be affordable. The Rochester Athletic Club is not an affordable option for most people in Rochester. Please invest in the health and wellness of your citizens through creating venues for year round sports and recreation.
- Please invest in more open and wild spaces. Mountain bike, fat bike, and hiking trails. Paved trails are nice but we need more areas with dirt type recreation. I'm not a big fan of cutting down tons of trees to build more paved trails or ski trails. It would be nice to be able to hike and mountain bike along the river!
- Please invest in outdoor pools so the facilities are nice and clean. Please also consider adding water slides (like Kasson) and making the pools a little bigger. Thanks for all you do! We love having a neighborhood park and outdoor spaces to enjoy!
- Please invest in the paved trail system plus additional mountain bike trails at more parks
- Please just buy the IBM park and maintain/ improve it. I'm not sure who owns it now but i rember talks of selling it so the area could be leveled for new developments. This park is one of the nicest in town with a great centralised location. It has very active disc golfers, picnickers, tennis and volleyball players, as well as popular walking/biking trails. I think this could be the nicest park int the area with proper maintenance and perhaps a small investment in its facilities.
- Please keep funding the outdoor pools, golf courses, youth and adult outdoor fields/spaces.
- Please keep natural parks natural (minimal development). Overall larger general use parks. Schmidt park was a perfect example of this (before the school was built.) Please don't build more bathrooms unless they are maintained/monitored daily. Otherwise they end up dirty, out of date, and unsafe. -- Otherwise great job! We have an excellent park/trail system with a large variety of park styles!
- Please keep Silver Lake pool open. It is the best place for children and adults to swim. Also, please expand hours and days to keep Foster Arend

pond and Cascade Lake open. In fact, why do our lakes/beaches need locked fences? Finally, please more regularly clean goose poop off the beaches so they are sanitary places to swim and play. Thank you.

- Please keep the Silver Lake pool open! A city the size of Rochester should have at least two pools
- Please maintain the paved bicycle trails better. Many trails need to have side brush cut back from the trail more often and many of the asphalt trailways are breaking down and becoming filled with holes and cracks.
- Please maintain/plow more (all) of the bike trails in the winter!
- Please make it easier/safer to cross Valleyhigh Drive in order to access Cascade Trail.
- Please make the Recreation Center more accessible. Like hockey, swim also needs a dedicated entrance (not just for meets). The locker rooms need updates (i.e. functioning and more private shower stalls, updated plumbing in sinks, to name a couple areas).
- Please please please develop a Waterpark similar to several smaller towns around us. Silver lake would be perfect and that way you are still offering swimming lessons to the public as well as entertainment that is very needed for the families in our area. Also, the Rec Center is in desperate need of a remodel for the locker rooms/restroom facilities. The warmer pool area needs a family restroom, there is none! Which is ridiculous with all the lessons being given there and no where to change with parents of the opposite sex.
- Please replace the awful picnic table in the park by 125 live. Please wish picnic tables occasionally, please provide trash receptacles
- Please support growing sports that people can do throughout their lives, and that draw people to the area. We need a strong park and Rec system to appeal to people who are looking at our community as a possible home. I checked I don Live in Rochester because I am just north of of ward 3, but have a Rochester address and live and work in this community.
- Please, fix broken stone foundation supporting Boulder w plaque In St Mary park. That is a safety hazard. Fine people for littering in parks, or at least put up signs. It's gross! Please, plant more trees and more native plants that benefit pollinators and are drought /heavy rain tolerant (milk weed, cone flowers). Most importantly, please improve pedestrian and bike safety getting to and out of parks. Have seen several near miss accidents for children playing near st Mary's park, Edison park, and soldiers park. Need totally separate bike lanes -not like 4th st (not totally separate/protected) but like Europe- since cars aren't paying attention &/or do not see kiddos.
- Please, please invest in additional aquatic options for Rochester. Whether that be indoor or outdoor pools...we need amenities to help our children

learn to swim. The current number of facilities and amenities does not cover the demand. We need pools before splash pads. A large aquatic center needs to be top of the list! It's multi-generational and meets so many needs.

- Police the parks better. Lots of vagrants and homeless who bother folk for drugs/money. Undesirables are rampant in the Martin Luther King park formally known as East park. Cannot take my kids there when there is 30 people drinking, smoking, fighting, dealing drugs and blasting music at 3 pm in the basketball court there. Slatterly Park is the same. IBM Park is alright though.
- Policing of parking lots at night where potential illegal activities occur.
- Pool improvements and more investment in the Rec Center pool area. We need more pools, not less.
- Pool instead of splash pad
- Pool we need to keep the pools open splash pads do not teach kids to swim and are not the same level engagement. Pools are a must.
- Pool! Better pools!
- Pool, water park.
- Pools
- pools and splash pad expansion. continued work on playgrounds and a full adaptive special needs areas
- Pools are an absolute necessity!! Our neighboring, smaller towns are doing better than Rochester!
- Pools are so important so kids from all economic backgrounds can learn to swim.
- Pools are very important, please keep them open. Add onto trails so there is not a need for bike lanes on the roads.
- Pools!!!! Our kids love to swim and it is a great way to get out in the community, exercise, and have fun! Splash pads are not as productive. Keep Silver Lake pool open!
- Preserve natural spaces as well as creating activity spaces. This benefits us all. Quarry Hill is a great example, green space with some activity spots within the park. Don't just mow down and create fields for sports, but create a balance.
- Prioritize best in Midwest trail system first, then outdoor natural areas and outdoor recreation. new facilities would be a distant third. Do not prioritize expansion of programming - leave that to clubs and associations.
- Prioritize completion of Cascade Lake Park area with the original bandshell, seating and facilities to support music such as the current "Down by the Riverside" series. Some parks have just grassy areas that have no amenities other than open space and these should be improved

upon to be more attractive to use. West River Park is one such example that I lived 0.5mi from for years and never saw it have any meaningful use.

- programming that appeals to more people (encourage clubs to host events that are open to the community, some that may not be solely athletic in nature), make sure restroom facilities are equitable for the disabled and non-gender conforming, invest in an advertising campaign to let people know what parks/facilities/programs are out there, how to access them (and which ones are accessible,) etc.
- Promote community food gardens. Watch for activity after dusk
- Protection of natural spaces. And more community education on conservation and natural resources in our area.
- provide garbage cans with trash removal please
- Provide opportunities for rich people to donate and give naming rights.
- Provide trash haul out, restroom facilities, splash pad , as an addition, not instead of pool replacement. Not enough outdoor pools in Rochester for summer as it is. Went out of town for swimming lessons for grandkids!
- Public pool access is essential -- especially as this community privatizes so much of our access to pools and exercise facilities. We have been to Silver Lake Pool daily this summer and my 6 and 3 year olds have evolved into swimmers with access to this great facility. Please continue to maintain a pool in this location that has several depths for beginner, intermediate, and advanced swimmers. We also love the Rochester bike trails -- the sheer mileage of connected, trailed protected from cars and traffic are amazing and should be preserved. Trails, pools, and neighborhood parks are also equitable access to nature and exercise. Finally, the county and regional parks in Rochester/Olmsted are true jewels in our crown. Quarry Hill, Silver Lake, Chester Woods, etc all make Rochester not only a destination medical center but also a destination recreational center.
- Public pools should be inexpensive. safe. well maintained - in our hot summers, youth need a fun, cooling, place to play. Water activities should not be exclusively for people of means. Such an important kid summer outlet!
- Public pools should be inexpensive. safe. well maintained - in our hot summers, youth need a fun, cooling, place to play. Water activities should not be exclusively for people of means. Such an important kid summer outlet!
- Publicly funded mountain biking trails
- Pump track, more mountain bike trails
- Purchasing IBM disc golf course for more consistent mowing schedule, or generally more disc golf areas. I would also like to have more warming huts during the winter when I am playing broomball and boot hockey on the outdoor rinks.

- put back trash cans in all parks, I have to pick up bags full of litter every time I take my children to a park and food trash attracts all kinds of insects and rodents making the parks more dingy and less safe
- Put garbage cans back in parks!
- Put money into the outdoor pools
- Put some damn \$\$\$ in Mayo Field. Mayo Field is used more than just Honkers Baseball....Wake up!!!!!!!
- Puzzled why rochester can't figure out funding for a decent aquatic facility when kasson and Stewartville can. Also, allowing dogs anywhere at least I. Some of the regional parks. Oh and bring back the trash cans at every park. Rochester does not seem to have a "can-do" attitude.
- Quarry hill is a gem, make sure it stays that way. Winter activities ie skating and skiing are wonderful. Love our trail system. Cascade lake park is so great. You can't go wrong investing in our connection to nature.
- Quit spending so much money on bike paths that a very small percentage of people use.
- Reach out to various clubs such as RASC, RRC, Boys&Girls Club, etc to see how the park system can better serve their needs - these clubs through their reach/membership can activate use of the various indoor and outdoor spaces, and provide an increased diversity of programming that is set in public parks. This helps provide a greater outdoor park experience to the public that doesn't require membership in a gym or multi-use facility like the Rochester Athletic Club. Offering a partnership, facility share, or even funding support to club programs, in exchange for a commitment from the club(s) to offer programs for disadvantaged youth, for example, special needs or the elderly, could help activate our outdoor spaces.
- Real splash pads, not just a sprinkler head on a pole. Zip lines and other playground equipment for older kids
- Rec Center- has beautiful competition pool but terrible locker rooms and no family bathrooms. In that same building you have 125 Live-beautiful facility but have to be a member. That should be part of the Rec Center. Make the Rec Center an actual Recreation Center where everyone can enjoy the amenities, not just the members on one side. Outdoor pools- complete overhaul of both. Both are great locations and needed for families to access. A town this size deserves better than this, keep these kids busy to keep them out of trouble. But everything cannot be a cost or you keep certain demographics out.
- Rec center is highly used and valuable asset that needs improvement. A robust high quality park system is a must to attract you people and families to our community, which we need.

- Recommend more strategic planning for acquisition of property for new regional parks on the edges of town.
- reduce parks department overhead, spend funds wisely, put trash containers back in local parks. get homeless out of parks
- Reduce size of Soldiers Field golf course and open at least half of the current space for public use. More bike trails with better interfaces to bike lanes and improved bike signals throughout the city.
- re-model Silver Lake pool to be similar to Soldiers Field. Maybe add items like a lazy river, lily pad walk or more Aquatic center items for multigenerational families to enjoy.
- Removal of Silver Lake Dam so that bike trails can be built under the Broadway Av bridge by the dam.
- Repair Silver Lake Pool, and keep it a pool.
- Repair/replace old broken parks that are frequently used by neighborhood children. Would love to see more nature parks especially in the quarry hill area.
- Repave some older bike paths / trails. Continue to expand trail system.
- Repaving bike/walking paths. have them wider for both bikers and walkers to coexist with a little more safety esp in area's where both are popular. This is something that all people are able to use at all ages and ability. No special talent is required (ie volleyball, baseball, etc). Especially as we promote getting around without cars.
- Replace deteriorating playground equipment at Allendale park and remedy the drainage issue in the open field and entry at Allendale park.
- Replace outdoor pools with lap pool and water park. Update rec center swimming restrooms and family restrooms. Increase parking at Rec Center.
- Replace silver lake pool with a modern water park like Stewartville.
- Replace silver lake pool with a new state of the art pool, update soldiers field pool to a state of the art pool and water park, invest in quarry hill nature center more, repair all paved trails and walkways to ensure smooth paths all around city, build solid tall fencing around all community gardens with secured entries, buy open land on 55th street nw near 18th Ave nw and convert to large natural area - so needed and would help with water management for a large and growing part of the city on NW side.
- Replace silver lake pool and create a splash pad
- Replace trash bins at parks and build splash pads for kids. Elton hills park needs an update
- Restoration
- Restore garbage cans to the parks
- Retire silver lake pool. It has exceeded it's life expectancy
- Return the paid for and approved pavers honoring "M. Jean Kolb" and "Her Husband" to the base of the trees that the families paid for and were approved by P&R in Soldiers Field.
- Return trash receptacles!
- Revamp silver lake pool. Rochester must have more than 1 pool with its size and they should be much bigger. Kids need to learn to swim. Splash pads are all also badly needed in addition to (NOt instead of) pools
- Rochester has an amazing trail system for biking and running. There are no water fountains on any of the trails. This should change.
- Rochester has an enormous number of small community parks, which is great. But there are no regional type parks (large in size, lots of pavilions, etc) which has been disappointing. A large park like that could be home to several of the amenities listed in this survey (disc golf, ice rink, pavilions, splash pad, etc) and be a notable destination and draw to the city.
- Rochester has the systems in place, how can we best utilize what we have to make our Parks & Rec system an attraction to the city? I'd like to see Silver Lake become a "hot ticket item" -- possibly shut down Silver Lake Drive and create a unique park experience (green space, food truck options, games...life size chess, checkers, etc.) in order to draw people to the location Similarly, Rochester is lucky to have the Zumbro River running through the town. What can be done to encourage use/make it a central focus of the town (parallel trails are a great start but is there more that can increase the draw?)The trail system is a phenomenal way to connect most of the city...but it isn't in great condition for non-walkers/runners (bikers, rollerbladers, etc.)...instead of pouring tar, which minimally improves, is there a more permanent form of maintenance?
- Rochester is far behind in number of Pickleball courts. If expanded the courts need to be sufficient enough to handle tournament play, i.e. one location. This brings visitors and visitor \$\$ to the community. I am not opposed to a second location for more courts also.
- Rochester needs a nice outdoor waterpark complex. It's embarrassing that Kasson and Stewartville have better pools than Rochester. They also need to do a better job of mowing along the city trails (specifically along East Circle Drive (east of the old Shopko) and West Circle Drive where the weeds get so tall in the summer, it becomes buggy and scary to run on in the dark. We also need better lighting on many of the trails so it is safe to run on in the dark. We need a trail connecting the Fire Station and Century HS on Viola Rd as well as the Century Hills neighborhood to Cty Rd 9, so it would go south on East Circle Drive to County Rd 9. Parks need to be better maintained with increased mowing and weeding. The Century Hills park needs new soccer goals. Also, it would be helpful if the bathrooms in all of the parks were open and available for longer periods of time. (including the one at Watson park). When these are not open, there

needs to be porta potties available. Mayowood trail needs a porta pottie. Not sure if Parks and Rec maintain ditches and grassy medians, but I think if Rochester is going to be Destination Medical Center, we could do a better job of beautifying our city by mowing and weeding these common areas.

- Rochester needs a better outdoor aquatic center.
- Rochester needs a community aquatic center similar to other surrounding towns. The Silver Lake Pool should not be made into a splash pad, and instead used for an upgraded aquatic center that all ages could use (0 depth entry, swim lanes, slides, etc).
- Rochester needs a decent outdoor pool or aquatic center (not splash pads) where people of all ages can enjoy. More indoor recreational spaces for the winter time as well.
- Rochester needs an outdoor aquatic center
- Rochester needs better pools.
- Rochester needs more Pickleball courts!! Indoor and outdoor courts, please!
- Rochester needs to have at least two public pools for summer recreation.
- Rochester needs to invest in an aquatic center that is equal to or better than the aquatic center located in the surrounding communities of Kasson, St. Charles and Stewartville. These communities provide affordable swimming lessons at those facility for their communities during the summer. Families from Rochester should be provided the same opportunity.
- Rochester needs to outdoor swimming pools including a water park at Silver Lake Park. Splash pads are a waste of money.
- Rochester Parks & Rec needs to invest in more pickleball courts in the city (both outside and indoors). The interest and fast paced growth of adults, ages 30-85, wanting to play pickleball in Rochester is being noted by the Rochester Area Pickleball association. The growth that Rochester is experiencing in the sport mirrors the national growth in the sport. Our RAPA membership is growing but unfortunately the fact that there are only 6 outdoor courts in the city is a handicap to growing our organization, to our current membership and all Rochester citizens. In addition, we frequently have visitors interested in playing the sport as they travel to the clinic for appointments or treatment of a spouse/family member. We welcome these visitors as good ambassadors of our great city but often this means our own members play fewer games. As the city and Mayo work together with the DMC initiative, this should be seriously looked at and invested in!!!
- Rochester parks are incredibly important and should be a focus for future investment and improvement. I would love to see basketball courts at most public parks. More dog friendly spaces around town with fenced in areas

and water/clean up stations. Trails that connect parks to each other and to other areas of the city would allow for greater accessibility without needing to drive, opening up access to more residents. Outdoor spaces go hand in hand with both personal and public health and Rochester should be a leader in this area.

- Rochester's commitment to pickleball has been anemic to date. It's the fastest growing sport in America - but has been seemingly ignored in this community. The 2016 Masterplan had absolutely nothing regarding pickleball. Further, there is absolutely zero winter play places available for dedicated pickleball in Rochester, despite a rapidly growing active pickleball community of over 500 RAPA members to date. Other communities with far less constituents have far better courts and more of them. When is Rochester going to step up to the plate and provide the greater pickleball community with well-maintained places to play. To date, we have Cook Park - that was hastily built in 2016 - and is failing rapidly due to shoddy construction. To say that we're frustrated is an understatement. Paul Widman has been aware of this situation for years and has done nothing. We need a voice - and action.
- Running water at the north dog park.
- Safety items first (fix broken items at parks for kids), maintain bike trails and not invest in bike trails within existing roadways.
- Save our Pools, what we have left is terrible. To give us only one pool would be a mess. You've seen the need of the pool this summer.
- Secure storage sheds for community groups that do maintenance in various parks.
- Security/staffing at pools
- Several New pool/aquatic center similar to Kasson
- Significant enhancement and expansion of mountain biking trails will likely bring visitors and business to Rochester. This has been the case for many towns across the country.
- Silver lake doesn't need splash pad need a pool with aquatic center
- Silver lake needs a modern waterpark not just a pad. Soldiers field needs a pool expansion
- Silver lake needs a POOL or aquatic center for kids and adults to SWIM. Not a splash pad. Add splash pads to existing parks rather than eliminate a pool. All smaller neighboring towns have much nicer pools than Rochester. Kids can't learn swimming and water safety at a splash pad.
- Silver lake needs major improvement. Could easily be the best park in town yet it's full of goose poop and trash from homeless people living there.
- Silver Lake needs to be a pool, not a splash pad.

- Silver Lake Pool needs to be updated. Rochester residents deserve a pool that meets the needs of the residents, where kids can learn to swim. Rochester needs a splash pad, but not at the expense of losing the resource of having a public pool. Rochester really needs to have an indoor public swimming pool with a zero-depth entry pool, where kids and families can swim year round. The Rec Center needs improvements to the bathrooms and locker rooms, including the addition of family bathrooms, and changing rooms for the warm pool where swim lessons take place.
- Silver lake pool should be preserved as an outdoor pool with lap lanes. Extended hours. Hard to get there by 5:00 after work hours.
- Silver lake pool!! Keep pool. We don't need splash pad. People need a place to swim for exercise!
- Simple and hints like well placed benches plants and greenery can make a big difference.
- Splash pads and swimming pools
- Snow making on ski trails
- Soccer is becoming a major sport in the United States. We have fields in Rochester but become limited to play on or train on because of some soccer clubs (MN RUSH). We need fields in NW Rochester area that could continue and support the youth and adult players. The NW area is growing rapidly.
- Softball fields are not kept up the way they should be. Lights bulbs are out and outdated. When fields sit empty they should be used so that there aren't late games. Kickball should be played on the lower / not kept up fields. Field 3 has the new lights and should be used for softball not kickball. Chalk should be done at the start of the 6:15 games. I believe if the fields are maintained better, chalk being used and lights fixed it would be a better overall experience. Find new umpers.
- Some funding should be invest in maintaining Solders Field track.
- Sometimes in evening places on trails seem kind of sketchy and unsafe. Example Cooke Park trail under railroad tracks. There is a bunch of junk and garbage and people that hang out in the woods right off the trail. It is very unsettling walking alone in this area. Please try and make the park areas safer and also have more lighting. Thanks!
- Spend money on Disc Golf courses.
- Spend money on our parks and recreation system. This city has natural beauty but without improvements to the existing parks and rec systems and maintenance the city will become ugly. Spend money so they have every resource available to make it happen.
- Spent on the commitment to the Disc goldCourse.
- Splash pad
- Splash Pad and Aquatics center with affordable fees
- splash pad and better community pool
- Splash pad at Cascade and elsewhere. Trash cans returned.
- Splash pad please.
- Splash pad, more indoor areas for kids like quarry hill. Winters are long here, and kids need some space to play!
- splash pads
- Splash pads (but not to replace a pool!!), playgrounds need updating (consider adaptive playground for kids with disabilities), public pool - silver lake - needs updating - but we need it for kids to learn to swim, rec center needs locker rooms for family for warm pool and aquatic entrance
- Splash pads and other free activities
- Splash pads are horrible. We need real pools. Kasson and Stewartville put us to shame.
- Splash pads instead of pools.
- Splash pads! Updating old playgrounds and neighborhood parks and having adequate restrooms and tables available.
- Splash pads, free to use. At least 2 should be supported in Rochester, near large parks already in place. Do not remove either pool to add these features.
- Start by connecting the trail system to outer subdivisions, particularly in the SW, instead of programs and new facilities. New connecting trails and neighborhood parks should always be first priority with a focus on native habitat and interactions with nature.
- State of the art outdoor pool so that residents do not need to leave the city for better pool facilities
- Stop building new facilities and tackle deferred maintenance.
- Stop leasing park land for 99 years to politically motivated groups, such as the se MN law enforcement memorial. More investment in trail maintenance. Sell the golf courses.
- STOP MAKING BIKE TRAILS AND BIKE LANES!!!! The golf courses are pretty much the only thing making money for the city for it's park and rec system. Start focusing things that are making money and put more money back into the things that are actually making money. The park and rec department needs to get out of the art game also. Leave that up to some other board. We are so far behind the times of what our cities operating expenses should be and it really shows through the leadership of the park and rec.
- Stop overfunding spaces near Mayo Clinic and downtown and the detriment of other areas. This is creating obvious gentrification.

- Stop the centralized planning and rollout of the park and trail system. Why is the majority of the neighborhood parks and trails located near newer, higher end subdivision? And please put the trash receptacles back in the parks. if you need additional funding, get rid of a couple division head positions. All they do is have meetings and develop silly plans that are not based on reality.
- Stop trying to fix the silver lake pool and instead completely redo it with modernized facilities and attractions. The pools currently are embarrassing for a city of this size.
- Stop with the bike lanes
- Strategically make very small neighborhood parks rely on community support and upkeep. Focus development on priority parks throughout city with a balance for supporting the city residential use and investment in park offerings that draw outside (soccer complex for regional tournaments,). Leverage use of school facilities.
- Sustainability... don't build out without a plan for future funding to maintain the facilities.
- Swimming Pool with diving boards, slides, water climbing walls
- Swimming pools
- Swimming pools
- Take better care of what you have, before adding more and then telling us you don't have enough staff to care for them! Also, you need to provide more passive recreation such as beautiful plantings like Mayo Clinic does . "Flowers always make people better, happier and more helpful; they are sunshine, food and medicine for the soul" Luther Burbank To me flowers are happiness! Plant more of them. Instead of drastically increasing the tree canopy, take better care of what you have such as proper trimming of them Also, cleanliness in our parks needs to improve, especially with more trash receptacles.....such a simple solution. Graffiti needs to be addressed quicker, as does the alcohol and drug use in our parks. Why use our parks if they are not safe?Do we need to go back to park rangers/police?? Sounds like a good plan. I wouldn't send my children to a park where the druggies are hanging out. Some park ball fields aren't even being used... lights removed...why??
- Take care of trails- mow by them so we can walk on them without weeds in our faces, clean off rocks off the trails, have trashes available for public use in parks , need many more pickleball courts
- the bike pumps are difficult to use for standard hook ups, maybe provide standard pumps; quarry hill west path is hazardously bumpy from the parking lot down the hill; other pet parks like a leashed cat park where dogs and cars aren't allowed... I know.... it's silly... hard to find a place to walk my adventurous cats.
- The city of Rochester had fewer Pickelball courts than any city of its size in the country I have visited or know of. Many towns of much smaller size have more facilities. Pickelball is the fastest growing sport in the country and we are not keeping up with the demand
- The current Park and Rec Master Plan replaces the Silver Lake Pool with a "Splash Pad". The Pool should be replaced by a modern water park, where children can learn to swim, that serves the diverse Rochester community and provides the same kind of facility that Kasson, Stewartville, St. Charles and other communities enjoy. Rec Center needs improvements including upgrades to the aquatic locker rooms, a designated aquatic entrance, family restrooms, and locker rooms for the warm water pool that serves swimming lessons.
- The current Park and Rec Master Plan replaces the Silver Lake Pool with a "Splash Pad". The Pool should be replaced by a modern water park, where children can learn to SWIM, that serves the diverse SE Rochester community and provides the same kind of facility that Kasson, Stewartville, St. Charles and other communities enjoy.The Rec center needs upgrades to the aquatic locker rooms, a designated aquatic entrance, family restrooms & locker rooms for the warm water pool (swimming lessons).
- The current Park and Rec Master Plan replaces the Silver Lake Pool with a "Splash Pad". The Pool should be replaced by a modern water park, where children can learn to SWIM, that serves the diverse SE Rochester community and provides the same kind of facility that Kasson, Stewartville, St. Charles and other communities enjoy. The state of the aquatic locker rooms is dismal and needs an upgrade. There should be a designated aquatic entrance, family restrooms & locker rooms for the warm water pool (swimming lessons).
- The current state of the buildings and their restroom/change rooms and the maintenance of them is some of the worst I have seen. I think that it is a disgrace.
- The dog parks are EXTREMELY busy, which is great! They're used hard for some of the most strenuous play of any park in town. You will win if you invest more in the cleanliness of these parks. They are nice, but starting to get bad. Dead trees in the Northwest park. Uneven woodchips and gross grass in the Southeast. Professional signage about dog poo removal and better policing of the waste. More dumping and removal of the dumpsters. MORE MAINTENANCE
- The garbage cans should be returned to city parks as well as the porta potties. The problem parks need more foot patrols to keep the vandals in check. The penalties for vandalism should be strictly enforced or even increased.
- The Harborage has no playground/park area for the kids!!!

- The kids needs access to a more robust outdoor pool area. It does not make sense to me that Stewartville and Kasson would have better recreational pools than Rochester when they are smaller towns. The recreation center's pool locker rooms are also in need of a renovation.
- The maintenance of and replacement of current playground equipment should be at the top of the list. Multiple area playgrounds have equipment that is broken, damaged, or unusable due to age and use. Fix the playgrounds we have so people will buy into expanding playgrounds throughout the city. Find a way to leverage grants and available funds to maintain, expand, and grow the mountain bike trails. Mountain bike trails can be used year round for bikes and could be transitioned to snowshoeing or cross country skiing in the winter. If we as a community can do this we could draw more people to the trails and those users will boost the economy. This is a long term goal and will need a plan that I think Rochester can do. Look at the trails in cities an hour or two away from Rochester and the amount of use they garner. Splash pads for younger citizens. The city has a large enough footprint to garner two or more splash pads. The only one I know of, at north gate park, is very basic and dated. Updating that parks and building a couple more would give citizens a free resource to enjoy summer, without going to one of the city pools where young children may-not have the ability to stay long enough to justify paying to play. Update or replace the silver lake pool. Having two pools in the city is very nice and with a population over 100,000 is something the city should have. Is there an option to build a new pool where the city is planning population expansion? Is there a way to raise funds from the building of new houses in that area of the city? Bring back garbage cans at the parks. I frequent parks with my small children and have seen the messes left behind because garbage cans are not easily accessible.
- The new Cascade Lake park has a good variety of options for children and adults.
- The outdoor pools in Rochester are overall terrible. Does not make sense that surrounding communities that are 1/10th of the size of Rochester have better pools then we do. The Splash pad should be Rochester's Park&Rec main priority.
- The parks are just fine
- The paved bike trail system has two serious flaws: 1. There are seams along many trails that cause constant "bump". There would not seem that hard to fix. The trails that are running through the wooded areas often have 2 inch "drop-offs" on each or one side. Anyone could "fall off" the trail and crash. Do we need law suits to solve this or can the City simply bring them up to standard?
- The Pool at Silver Lake should be replaced by a modern water park, where children can learn to SWIM, that serves the diverse SE Rochester community and provides the same kind of facility that Kasson, Stewartville, St. Charles and other communities enjoy.
- The Pool should be replaced by a modern water park, where children can learn to SWIM, that serves the diverse SE Rochester community and provides the same kind of facility that Kasson, Stewartville, St. Charles and other communities enjoy.
- The Pool should be replaced by a modern water park, where children can learn to SWIM, that serves the diverse SE Rochester community and provides the same kind of facility that Kasson, Stewartville, St. Charles and other communities enjoy. upgrades to the aquatic locker rooms, a designated aquatic entrance, family restrooms & locker rooms for the warm water pool (swimming lessons).
- The pools have been a hot topic lately. While splash pads are fun for little kids across all demographics, they do not allow the teaching of water safety and swimming, which are life-saving skills. They can also only be used by a small sector of the population, while pools allow a wider range of community members to use them. This summer has shown the need of pools in our community, and the importance of offering swimming and water-safety lessons in a way that is accessible to all in our community.
- The pools need major updating. Don't get rid of the pools.
- The primary focus should be on existing infrastructure to ensure it is at the best possible quality and cleanliness before any new investment is made.
- The public pools in a community of this size are a disgrace. Every small community around Rochester has a far better pool. I shouldn't have to drive to a community of 2000 people so that my kids can go to a decent pool.
- The quality of older neighborhood park's is embarrassing compared to any other community we visit both smaller and larger. Very little recreational opportunities for families - it made or move here very difficult and unfavorable 6 years ago. We found it such a stark deficit it would send other young families to buy a home in a different community.
- The rec center has stupid rules for the COVID-19 problem they can learn from graham how to do it
- The Rec Center is in dire need of an update. There is not nearly enough space for the potential it has. Also the locker rooms and bathrooms are extremely outdated and actually uncomfortable to be in. There needs to be a better space for family changing rooms as well and unisex bathrooms. Rochester really should add a professional women's football league, a summer softball ball league for women similar to Honkers, More Masters programs such as Masters Swimming. Rochester for its size is not great at offering recreation opportunities. They really should be a leader for physical and mental health with Mayo Clinic being in town. They should be working with areas such as Byron, Stewart like, Mankato, Albert

Lea, Austin, pine Island etc to make Southern Minnesota an epicenter for overall Physical health and wellness. We need to offer more programs for singles, people with kids, couples without kids and individuals of different ethnicity. We need more recreation activities centered towards other ethnicists as well such as cricket etc.

- The REC Center is in need of some major updating. The locker rooms are gross and rather small; especially when there are lessons and swim practices happening at the same time. There are minimal showers and it's general feeling is not positive. When we visit community centers in similar sized cities, the REC Center pales in comparison and is embarrassing.
- the rec center needs improvement, we need better changing facilities for the pool area, we also need a family changing room option and we need to separate the pool area from the ice rink area
- The rec center needs major improvements, especially the locker rooms. More neighborhood playgrounds.
- The Rec Center swimming locker rooms need improvement. I would like to see some splash pads added into local parks, but not at the expense of the outdoor pools. I would like to see our pools improved to match the quality of the smaller communities around Rochester.
- The short connector bike trail on 11th Ave SE (west side of Slattery Park, between 10th and 10 1/2 Sts) is in terrible repair -- the worst paved section I routinely encounter anywhere in Rochester. Also, more porta-potties along the trail network would be nice. During the 2020 pandemic season, it seemed that trash bins were overflowing with take-out packaging, since outdoor spaces were one of the limited places to visit, and take-out was the norm. In the absence of a dumpster, the dumpster pad at Cook Park was being used as an open dump. Restroom facilities were closed, even in high use parks. Given that we may be going back into similar conditions shortly, please allow for this increased use.
- The silver lake pool needs a splash pad adequate for teaching kids how to swim
- The silver lake pool should be renovated to include a complete immunity accessible water park and not turned into a splash pad. We need to expand opportunities within the community for quality programming for children to learn to swim.
- The Silver Lake should be replaced by a modern water park, where children can learn to SWIM, that serves the diverse SE Rochester community and provides the same kind of facility that Kasson, Stewartville, St. Charles and other communities enjoy.
- The skatepark is in dire need of maintenance. The metal ramps are cracked, tearing, and pose a safety risk. The metal on the ramps should be updated with either new metal or cement, and a cement kidney bowl should be added for variety and for the older skateboarders.

- The Skatepark is in need of maintenance. It needs to be updated.
- The two most important to us are expanded bike trails/connectivity and large outdoor natural areas to hike.
- The very first thing I noticed when moving to Rochester from the Twin Cities was how awful our parks and facilities are. Our outdoor skating rinks are truly the worst I've ever seen. And it's only gotten worse. Prioritize money based on the best ROI and where the largest number of people are impacted - i.e. quit dumping money on bike trails very few people use.
- The youth of Rochester need more free, safe places and activities to do that would allow them to recreate outdoors and stay out of trouble. Disc golf courses are a great solution to both of these problems.
- There are several issues that need to be addressed. 1) we need to replace Silver Lake with a BETTER pool and water park. A splash pad will NOT work in this community that needs more access to water. We have a thriving swim team, swim lessons, and a need for water recreation activity during the summer. Please research this!! There are so many great examples of water park/pool facilities through the state and country. Every year we buy a family pass to the Stewartville pool, go several times a year to the Kasson pool, and we are members of the RAC. I would love to purchase a family pass to a Rochester water park and would even donate money to this project. 2. There needs to be a family locker room at the Rec Center. Trying to change multiple children, including children of the opposite sex, is near impossible with the lack of facilities. 3. Can you please look at connecting the Apple Hill area to the bike path? There are no sidewalks or bike paths on 20th street S.W. and it is so dangerous. Everyday I see a child/family/adult foster care resident walking or biking on that hilly road with cars barely missing them and think what is it going to take to make this safe?! Please look into this before someone is killed!
- There are some things, like public art and outdoor pools that I cannot express enough how much of a waste of money I think they are. A new public outdoor pool might be worth some money and maintenance, but Silver Lake Pool needs to go, and the public art is a complete waste.
- There is a huge need for another public swimming pool. Please keep silver lake as a swimming pool & find an alternate location for a splash pad. Also, the northwest corner of Rochester has no public swimming pools. They have need for an additional public pool.
- There is nowhere to take a dog here in Rochester. The "dog parks" here are laughable compared to other communities in MN. The county parks don't allow dogs. There is no where you can take a dog to swim other than the mud hole that masquerades as a dog park south east. Compared to other communities in the state Rochester is way, way behind.
- There is too much emphasis on sports - that said it would be nice to have a decent baseball stadium. The one where the Honkers place is in terrible

condition. It would be nice to have more venues for music for example could the parks department take over the chateau theater? I'm also concerned that surveys like this don't capture all information I hope you're talking to some of the diverse community groups that would represent populations not likely to answer an online survey like this

- There is water park in Eagan and Appley Valley. I would love for Rochester to invest in one of those. Either revamped silver lake completely or investing in something like this in a different location within the city of Rochester.
- There needs to be consideration of accessibility to ALL residents, including underrepresented populations and those with mobility concerns. Please consider that the nicer parks are not accessible by bike or foot for some areas of Rochester. Further, the "grandfathering" of access to parks needs to end. Small and underrepresented groups do NOT have equal access to facilities, including ice time and outdoor fields.
- There should always be a primary focus on maintenance. Cascade lake is beautiful but would very easily turn into a disaster if maintenance is not made a priority.
- There should be a trash can at every park. Some of the parks play ground equipment needs to be updated
- Think about safety and maintaining that in many areas of the city. Making sure equipment is up to code and maintained is important. Make sure there are people to keep the areas clean. Garbage bins that get emptied is a huge thing that has changed in recent memory. We lost a lot of garbage bins and it created a lot of excess trash around parks.
- This city needs a nice aquatic center. No reason little towns around us have them
- This community needs to offer better parks and services for the whole family and families with young children. I am very excited about the splash pad and would love to see a community indoor pool with facilities for families for long winter months.. This would include water features, zero entry etc. Families are willing to pay nominal fees for such activities and there is a huge need in this community. We need better parks with play equipment for children in the 8-12 years range. The new equipment at Silver lake with adult equipment is awesome, it is just a shame that there is so much goose poop. I don't want my 2 year old playing where she is always into poop and chance for illness. I hope Rochester considers adding more of this type of equipment to other area parks.
- This is a health driven town, we should have state of the art facilities. We have hotels that go unused on weekends. If we have better facilities for year round use we can host and support large scale tournaments, etc. In addition we need to have facilities for our residents. Families should not have to travel to other communities for summer pool fun. Tremendous

success with the open pools this summer. Build a great facility and have a dome over in the winter for year round use. Partner with community members to provide safe and affordable use of the pool. There should be 3-3 outdoor leagues for basketball and soccer leagues for kids during the summer on local courts and fields. We are fortunate to live in this great community and there are so many ways to make it better for all who live here and will come to call Rochester home in the future.

- This is one of the top draws/highlights of Rochester. Our parks bring joy, promote healthy living, facilitate community, and enhance civic pride.
- This town needs things for its children and young visitors to do. Adults have plenty of choices. Kids have quarry hill and oxbow along with aging sad pools. Embarrassing that smaller communities and every suburb in the twin cities have wave pools and aquatic centers and the third largest city in the state has next to nothing.
- To keep silver lake pool open as a public pool
- Trail markers on the trails at parks like Root River Park. Advertising about rentals for skates/snow shoes/outdoor fitness equipment.
- Trash cans along the trail system and in the parks. Dog poop stations with bag dispensers. These are basic amenities that I see in all other cities in MN.
- Trash pick up is big. I see so much trash on my walks that no one picks up. There are also not enough trash cans on the trails. This is how to improve the trails and parks. I have saved pictures of the trash I have picked up in the parks and trails. I fear because it is a company town that this will not change. We should be talking about trash pick up all year long. Once a year does not count.
- Trash receptacles returned to previous locations.
- Trash removal and fun pools
- Trash/Recycle Services, Smaller neighborhood dog parks (walkable), smaller splash pads, upkeep on Silver Lake Pool
- Try to be inclusive to the entire community and focus on youth opportunities like basketball courts connected bike trails ect
- Try to model the parks on the 3 rivers park district. Modern facilities a variety of activities for physical and mental health. Need more wooded trails. Utilize northern heights woods etc. need better play equipment bathroom facilities water park and a sand bottom chlorinated pool like elm creek. Also a large play structure like elm creek or French park in metro. Our trails are nice. Everything else is unimaginative and dated.
- Two to four outdoor racquetball courts would be an awesome draw for southern MN.

- Up date Foster Arends swimming bathrooms. Don't invest anymore in the new swimming lake as it is a shallow muddy goose poo invested pond. It is also not very accessible to blue collar families.
- Update all disc golf courses
- update current parks to get used more, many are empty so much of the time, add simple pickleball courts to existing tennis courts (possibly add adjustable nets), fix the court surfaces, fix broken hoops, etc, make Silver Lake Pool a better community pool, add skating rinks or curling rinks to neighborhood parks in the winter. Why is it such a fight with Parks and Rec to partner with social sports like curling and pickleball, when the community numbers show that they want these? Its such a shame that a community of our size can't be more creative to get our current parks used more. Use what we have to improve usage. A park with aged baseball backstop and overgrown field, badly cracked tennis courts, broken basketball hoops, and only a decent jungle gym doesn't cut it for the quality of city Rochester thinks it is.
- Update our pools and beaches!
- Update our pools!
- Update pools and play areas
- Update silver lake pool into a water park, with a good pool where kids can learn to swim.
- Update soldiers field pool
- Update the outdoor pool/swimming options. Rochester's outdoor pools need a serious update. My family goes to surrounding communities when it comes to summer swimming.
- Update/improve outdoor swimming pools (Silver Lake AND Soldiers Field) - possibly even build another pool. Quality facilities are necessary to provide AFFORDABLE lessons to everyone in the community. Splash pads provide nothing besides temporary relief from heat - lessons provide a LIFETIME of important skills for water safety. Rochester parks and rec should be a leader in this region for providing swim facilities rather than force its residents to other communities for lessons and entertainment (i.e. aquatic center with multiple slides etc.). Even rural towns like Fairmont have aquatic centers that provide lessons as well as "entertainment". Rochester NEEDS a family friendly water facility.
- Updated city pools and more offerings for youth athletics. I'd love to see our city pools rival those in surrounding communities or even the Twin Cities.
- Updated playground equipment and a splash pad are at the top of our list, given our children's ages, along with daytime programming. So much of Rochester's recreational activities are only available in the evenings, which makes very long and late days for the younger kids who want to participate

- in them. Perhaps updating and expanding one pool and closing the other may also be a good allocation of funds.
- Updated water parks
- Upgrade and add equal equipment and equal sports options including ice rinks, skate park and pools for neighborhoods with lower income children with green space for play, picnics and getting together with family and friends that is accessible by walking, biking etc.
- Upgrade and change what you have. For example I live by Elmcroft park. Every year the same thing. Bb courts get used by many outside the neighborhood. Neighbors get feed up with swearing, speeding fighting and some takes down hoops. Now we have space that can not be used. How many years (roughly 10) should this go on? If it is not working put something else there.
- Upgrade the aquatic locker room at rec center. A designated entrance for aquatics. A locker room for the warm water pool.
- Upgrades to the outdoor pools and neighborhood parks
- upgrading equipment and maintenance of trails is critical for us.
- Using pay for play is a poor model for funding is not scalable or expandable to every facet of the park system. For example RAPA with Pickle Ball courts and RASC for Gamehaven. While these are self-funded groups their expectation and execution is that in exchange for their money, they get priority over others for use of the facilities. This is not equitable to everyone in Rochester and creates a level of elitism and draws a distinct line between the *haves* and the *have nots*.
- Visit any city of Rochester's size in the region and you'll realize how poor our park system is currently. Game Haven development should be a priority. The city needs to expand its collaboration with local groups like RASC to build out common resources that benefit both groups and in turn all the citizens of the city. Work more closely to increase local engagement and build better uses. Stop putting in bike lanes next to where a bike path already exists, this only leads to animosity directed at bikers when they are on the road. We prefer the bike path anyway.
- Wait to mow over blooming wild flowers until the blooms have died. I have observed aggressive mowing of wild flowers at their peak destroying natural beauty.
- Walking/biking trails around parks and residential neighborhoods
- Water for the garden plot - Zumbro Gardens
- Water park
- Water park
- Water park
- Water park for the community.

- Water park, not splash pads will accommodate a wider age range and generate more interest from the community and revenue for the city in the long run.
- Waterpark
- Waterpark like other communities at silver lake!!!!
- We are in desperate need of more pickle ball courts at more than just one location in Rochester. I think there needs to be a better balance of open play times versus what the pickle ball association has been allotted.
- We are in desperate need of very nice water parks!
- We are VERY excited about the potential for Snow Making for Cross Country Ski Trails and expanded trails.
- We desperately need a large aquatic center- both indoor and outdoor facilities- I think community members would pay a membership fee for such a venue
- We desperately need fields that attract tournaments and allow for better practicing options. Also, one dome for the whole community is the only indoor option. This is pathetic. Graham Park needs to accommodate more than just hockey. Lacrosse is a growing sport in this community and the only field ever available is universal. It's an embarrassment. Additionally, Soldiers Field Pool needs to be revamped to include a splash park AND an updated pool with slide, etc. On a very positive note, Cascade Park is awesome! Well done. More work like this will add such positivity to our community.
- We desperately need updated and additional public swimming pools for the youth of our community. These should not be free facilities but should also remain affordable to the general public and accessible.
- We do not need a splash pad at silver Lake. The pools need to be run by the city not college aged swimmers who are home from college. They need to be organized and well advertised. The outdoor pool is a must keep as the school district shuts down the middle school pools, eliminating pool space for club and HS swim teams and lessons.
- We don't always feel safe at city parks. Quarry Hill is a wonderful place. Please continue to enhance it!
- We don't need a splash pad at silver lake.
- We have an amazing number of parks - over 100. Invest in them to improve neighborhoods
- We have six individual pickleball courts, there is constantly a wait on any given night, more and more people are playing the sport, young and old.
- we have some facilities that were once beautiful and modern. They have been mistreated and ignored while funding goes to new facilities with far less usage than anticipated. we could focus on Youth...kids that want to

- be active and in positive activities should be encouraged to do so, they should have facilities available to them, that are also safe and healthy. Does not all of our society profit from the younger generations being positive and healthy. Youth sports are expensive and thus non inclusive. much of the cost due to the RENT required for kids to use spaces. Encouraging physical and mentally healthy young people helps ensure a healthier and more positive society of adults and elderly in the future. ie. the Rec center and 125, not enough updates for the main pool, kids and families trying to support swimming are treated like 3rd hand citizens vs. 125. (too bad the adults trying to do a healthy lifestyle don't prefer to mentor and encourage kids to do the same!) The REC center pool was improved, but they left an old air system in there (which is now being improved...thank you. clean air is important) the locker rooms for hockey are updated and fairly nice. Too bad the kids who swim all year and all the visiting teams (including college teams) have shoddy locker rooms available to them. MN has only 2 full size indoor pools, shouldn't Rochester want to use that to your advantage? Swim meets can bring thousands of people to town...think hotels, dining, shopping. REVENUE.
- We have young kids, and splash pads are super for both the kids, and the parents watching.
 - We live near Sekapp orchard with no city park access. See Stonebridge neighborhood. Streets include Bridgeview drive SE, Sunndale, and others. We have no park for any kids to walk to. Closest park is across all 4 lanes of highway 14
 - We love the outdoor pools and would love to see an investment in that area.
 - We must have multiple quality outdoor pools/aquatic centers. Splash pads are not and should not be considered as a replacement for pools, but rather an added amenity in smaller parks. We still need the soldiers field pool AND the silver lake pool (and honestly, those two aren't enough!). It's pathetic that a city the size of Rochester has such poor public aquatics.
 - We need a better outdoor pool. More specifically, a facility for Leisure in competitive swimming that also has a couple of waterslides, a lazy river, a splash pad for a younger children quality area where people can sit lay out in sun and a quality concession area please refer to the waterpark in Apple Valley. Stewartville and Cason have a nice water parks why have Rochester residence go spend their money there when we should have a nice facility to make money for the city and have other outlined cities come to us to spend their money at a really nice water park
 - We NEED a better pool, such as Kasson's.
 - We need a bigger public pool or waterpark! Maybe even an indoor roller skating rink

- We need a curling club! The cities supports almost all other sports but curling. Even much smaller towns have a curling club. The ice rental at the TEC center is expensive and we do not have convenient and affordable ice.
- We need a decent swimming pool that all the surrounding towns have no problem developing!
- We need a good public pool! We have a large community but no well maintained pool for families. We have to travel to smaller local towns to get which seems silly. Would love a new pool!!!
- We need a large indoor playground and structural facility for the winter time! Think indoor playground very similar to the playground at the RAC but open to the public for a few but no membership needed. Huge aquatic center. Splash pad!!! Pubic wading pools.
- We need a large outdoor pool at Silver Lake Park. The events of the summer of 2021 clearly show that there is support for it. Further, the skills gained (including water safety), socialization of children and others using it, aerobic benefits, and sheer enjoyment cannot be met by any other facility. I am strongly in support of maintaining or enhancing the functionality of the Silver Lake Park pool.
- We need a modern water park to replace the Silver Lake Pool, not a splash pad. More people need to know how to swim and we need to keep swimming an available option for NE and SE Rochester residents. One outdoor public pool isn't going to cut it for the population of Rochester. Keep residents (and revenue) in Rochester by creating a water park that can rival Kasson or Stewartville or St. Charles. Quite honestly, if those communities can support a water park, what is Rochester's excuse? Serve more of the population!!
- We need a new swimming pool/aquatic center.
- We need a nice community pool area like Stewartville
- We need a pool
- We Need a POOL / Aquatic Center at Silver Lake Park, not splash pads
- We Need a POOL / Aquatic Center at Silver Lake Park, not splash pads.
- We Need a POOL / Aquatic Center at Silver Lake Park, not splash pads.
- We need a pool aquatic park at silver lake,,not a splash pad only!
- we need a POOL at silver lake not a splash pad, 2 or more pools is necessary in a city the size of rochester
- We need a pool/aquatic center at Silver Lake Park!!
- We need a pool/aquatic center not simply splash pads. We shouldn't have to leave Rochester for a good outdoor pool experience
- We need a splash pad!!!
- We need a state of the art water park at Silver Lake not splash pads.
- We need a water park with a pool where kids can learn to swim. All of the smaller communities around us have this and it is ridiculous that Rochester doesn't have this!Also, for goodness sake, bring back the trash cans!
- We NEED a watermark or another pool. It's pathetic how we have one small pool to offer our kids. I'd love some more park equipment and pool areas (indoor and outdoor that can utilized all year) similar to some of the cities'. There are some really cool parks and pool areas.
- We need a waterpark or updating our pools in order to accommodate the community in Rochester!
- We need an aquatic center and pools NOT just splash pads. Splash pads are only good for young ages.
- We need an aquatic center like most of the smaller communities in our area. If smaller towns can maintain them there is no reason why Rochester can't only maintain one, but make one thrive. We also need some kind of indoor playground. Maybe in the rec center Minnesota winters are long and we need indoor play areas for our kids and adults! They are everywhere in the twin cities and Rochester could benefit greatly with one. We need to invest in the families in this community. There are many families who travel here as well and there are very few options for families.
- We need an aquatic center. No more splash pads.
- We need an indoor pickleball facility, and more outdoor courts
- We need an outdoor pool / aquatic facility to accommodate our population. We should not expect people to drive to other cities to go for a swim.
- We need an outdoor water park at least equivalent to what Stewartville and other surrounding small towns offer. Not many residents and visitors can afford the RAC.
- We need another set of Pickleball courts. This sport is growing every year and Rochester is lagging behind other communities.
- We need better and easy accessible pools
- We need better pools! A town this size of Rochester should have pools that are in good quality, multiple types of entertainment (slides, splash pads, etc) and enough for the size of Rochester. Surrounding smaller towns (Kasson, St. Charles, Stewartville, Owatonna) have far superior spaces.
- We need better swimming pools and a splash pad for younger kids. Having a "family membership" option for the summer makes it comparable to surrounding communities. A second skate park or one aimed at younger skateboarders would be nice. Adaptive rec options have diminished over the years such as offering martial arts. More adaptive rec teen activities and/or respite option would help families.

- We need more activities for you such as public open gym and parts with basketball courts and roller skates, and increase of safety.
- We NEED more Dog parks. How about one in NE by Quarry Hill?
- We need more indoor play spaces for children. An investment of at least one large indoor play space for a children of a range of ages, is very needed here. We also need markedly more, and improved, pool facilities in Rochester. An indoor public pool would also be very useful.
- We need more large green areas, such as Quarry Hill, with hiking trails.
- We need more pickleball courts because the existing ones are too crowded
- We need more pickleball courts outdoor and indoors. Some of the shelters are being overtaken with homeless people. The shelters that are get very dirty and people do not feel safe!
- We need more Pickleball courts! It is the fastest growing sport in the country, something all ages can participate in, a resource for visitors to our community, and our local membership is growing rapidly.
- We NEED more pickleball courts! Little attention / funding is being directed to this very popular activity!
- We need more trash receptacles in parks and on trails
- We need our pools
- We need pickleball courts. This sport is booming and we have fewer courts in Rochester than in very small town of Perham MN
- We need pools not splash pads!
- We need pools. It's pathetic. Update playgrounds on the SE.
- We need swimming pools for all, not just the rich in the community. We need to keep the rec center pool as one of the best in the state to attract swim meets. (They bring money into the community.) Could the City look at buying the heron Rookery as a nature preserve?
- We need to invest in an outdoor pool and not converting pools into splash pads. We need to have a community pool of the caliber of Kasson and Stewartville. We need to invest in the pool and skating facilities at the REC center to improve locker rooms (showers are disgusting) and entrances. We need to make more public outdoor tennis and pickle ball courts. They would be used way more than sand volleyball. Our sand volleyball court is always empty in scenic oaks and a tennis court would be fantastic!!!
- We NEED to KEEP SILVER LAKE POOL!!!
- We need to keep silver lake pool. Soldiers field pool is not big enough for being the only outdoor pool area for kids.
- We need to PRESERVE AND UPDATE our current facilities instead of destroying more land and wrecking the nature we have for BIGGER places. The REC center could be expanded to the North and get rid of that horrible train wreck next to it if larger facilities are needed. The current pools we

have to be enlarged, updated, and given new life. DO NOT take out a pool for a splash pad! This is CRAZY! Splash pads are only good for kids 9 and under. Pools serve a much LARGER population. If updated to be outstanding compared to the surrounding smaller communities, you would reap MASSIVE rewards. Put a splash pad in somewhere where some stupid building that is sitting empty at. Then...add some grass and trees., if you want add in another skate park, RC park, roller blade/skates park, etc!!!! Help to preserve our Earth instead of continuing to destroy it. Set an example of how we CAN keep people happy while coexisting with natural resources and preserving our world. DO NOT get rid of another pool!!! We actually could use another pool - there are plenty of open buildings another indoor pool could be built at (SHOP-KO SOUTH!!!). I have so many ideas for this town that would quit the destruction of land and reuse/rebuild the junk that is sitting empty and help to stop the destruction of human and animal habitats.

- We really need a dog park in the downtown/kutzky area. Tons of Mayo visitors and our family have to drive to either the north or south end of rochester to go to the dog park. Put one in Cooke park!! No one ever uses those soccer fields!
- We really need splash pads! We also really need improved pools. I've stopped using our city's pools because they are so poor. Even Byron's pool is better for us because it is clean and well-maintained (even if it's small).
- We should definitely have splash pads and better pools considering the size of the community. It's crazy that smaller towns have such Bette facilities.
- We should first aim to enhance and maintain what we have. The paved trails have been marginally maintained since their development in the 90's and are in poor shape. Many of the playgrounds and parks are in need of significant capital to update (Essex, others, though its encouraging to see the update of playgrounds through out the city (Youngs, Silver Lake)). I would greatly like to see more natural parks within the city. We have Quarry Hill, otherwise one has to drive to get to natural paths (Chester, Oxbow, Gamehaven, or Root River). There is much natural city land that could be developed into natural trail areas within town, enhancing the city's appeal to those outside the region.
- We should stick to the Park's plan of replacing Silver Lake Pool with an aquatic feature and centralize the pool/aquatic center at Soldier's field.
- We use the bike trail weekly and appreciate how well it's maintained but noticed some major bumps in some areas. The splash pad is a great addition to the Lincolnshire park, I hope it is still in the plans to open next summer. By not having garbage cans there is a lot more trash being left at the playgrounds.
- We want splash pads in addition to 2 pools
- We would like an aquatic facility on par with what they have in Kasson.

- We would love to see silver lake pool stay and be updated or redone to meet more needs of families who are trying to teach their children to swim.
- When any addition to the Park System is discussed, the ongoing maintenance of that addition needs to be costed over twenty years.
- When I first moved to Rochester in the 1990's I was delighted by the interconnected bike trail system. For me it was the city's best feature and I've used it weekly if not daily. However the city has grown and there are many parts of the city that can't easily be reached by the trail system. Also, many of the park trails are in dire need of re-surfacing. What I would most like to see are partnerships with Olmsted County and neighboring communities to create trail links to Oxbow Park, the Great River Ridge State Trail, and other nearby attractions that would help put Rochester on the map as a destination for recreational biking. A frustration that my family has had is with the very limited lap swim hours at the Rec Center. It seems that priority has been given to the swim clubs instead of the community.
- When you include large facilities (which I don't like) with parks (which I like), I agree with additional parks but feel there are too many recreational or too expensive to access facilities.
- Why have the remaining old tennis courts at Kutzky Park not been rebuilt yet? Why leave the job unfinished?
- With the growing interest in the sport of Pickleball, there are not enough courts to meet the demand.
- Work toward balanced investments to meet the needs of the many different users of the facilities (i.e. youth, senior, parks, etc.) I think you do a good job of this already but would hate to see us spend all the money on pools for example while not addressing needs in other areas such as maintaining trails, golf or playgrounds. A tough balance. Appreciate all the work you do and the efforts to seek community input.
- Workout stations every 10th of a mile or so along the Douglas trail
- Would like more disc golf courses in the city. They are unobtrusive to those not using them and are a nice draw to bring people into the parks and keep folks active.
- Would love improvements to the public pools so we could compete with neighboring communities.
- Would love to see another disc golf course in a city park! Essex Park perhaps??
- Would love to see more money invested into the current mountain biking trails, along with investing in more trail systems in the future
- Would prefer majority of spending/effort be put into connecting and expanding our trail system. This would substantially enhance the areas of transportation, leisure and safety
- Yes. The community needs a much better swimming pool. The silver lake pool needs to be upgraded to a water park facility similar to what much smaller surrounding communities already have. This pool needs to be made to meet the needs of the whole Rochester community including all of the underserved. All children need and deserve the chance to learn to swim. The free swim this summer has emphasized that Rochester has a large need that is not being currently met
- You absolutely need to put garbage cans back in the parks! It was so unintelligent to remove garbage cans from parks, or now people just resort to littering. If you provide trash receptacles people will use them otherwise trash just blows around.
- you have already built more than you can adequately maintain. Stop fulfilling every dream of every type of recreation and sport and concentrate on what meets the broadest community needs.
- You must do better to improve what we have before building new.
- You need more outdoor basketball courts in NW. it's impossible to just shoot hoops here. Also you need some track for community use, not the dirt ring in downtown which you can barely call a track.
- You need to invest in our outdoor pools. Many children learn to swim there every summer. Building a facility that could host meets and provide recreation for our community is not a want but a need. Additionally, we live on the SE side of town. It isn't difficult to see what parks get funding and areas of town that receive attention. You need to do a better job of spreading the funds and proving equitable playgrounds throughout our city.
- You should look into Parks and Rec of Owatonna, MN. Their park systems are fantastic. I'd love to see a natural playground park space. More splash pads- this should be a huge investment. With so many families moving to the area at an ongoing basis, a fantastic park system would keep people in Rochester rather than looking at smaller surrounding communities. Compared to Owatonna, MN where we last lived, Rochester has vast room for improvement. With such a high income tax base, it seems like a larger percentage of tax dollars could be allocated to play spaces of the growing families of Rochester.
- Youth fields, rinks, etc would draw tourneys and revenue. Current fields and rinks are subpar compared to statewide

Appendix C: Selected Survey Responses by Respondent Characteristics

Random Sample Mailed Survey Responses

Understanding the Tables

The tables in this appendix contain the crosstabulations of the survey questions by various respondent demographic characteristics. Chi-square or ANOVA tests of significance were applied to these breakdowns of survey questions. A “p-value” of 0.05 or less indicates that there is less than a 5% probability that differences observed between groups are due to chance; or in other words, a greater than 95% probability that the differences observed in the selected categories of the sample represent “real” differences among those populations. As subgroups vary in size and each group (and each comparison to another group) has a unique margin of error, statistical testing is used to determine whether differences between subgroups are statistically significant.

Each column in the following tables is labeled with a letter for each subgroup being compared. The letters start over with “A” for each different characteristic. (For example, see Table 46 on the next page where Rent and Own are marked with A and B, Female and Male also marked with A and B, 18-34 years old, 35-54 years old, and 55+ years old are marked with A, B and C.)

For each pair of subgroup ratings within a characteristic within a row that has a statistically significant difference, an uppercase letter denoting significance is shown in the cell with the larger column proportion. The letter denotes the subgroup with the smaller column proportion from which it is statistically different. Subgroups that have no uppercase letter denotation in their column and that are also not referred to in any other column were not statistically different.

For example, in Table 46 on the next page, residents who are age 55+ (Column C) were statistically significantly more likely rate the quality of indoor recreation facilities as excellent or good (81%) compared to those 18-34 years old. This is denoted with an “A” in the cell for those age 55+. However, in the cells for those age 18-34 and 35-54, no other letters are shown, so these ratings were not different from each other. In addition, there was no letter “B” in the cell for those age 55+, so differences between those age 35-54 and those age 55+ were not statistically significant.

Random Sample Mailed Survey Responses

Select Survey Results by Housing Tenure, Respondent Sex, Respondent Age	106
Select Survey Results by Respondent Race/Ethnicity, Country of Origin, First Language and Sexual Orientation	115
Select Survey Results by Respondent Disability Status and Familiarity with Park System Plan	126
Select Survey Results by Respondent Annual Household Income	136
Select Survey Results by Ward of Residence	145

Open Participation Survey Responses

Select Survey Results by Housing Tenure, Respondent Sex, Respondent Age	154
Select Survey Results by Respondent Race/Ethnicity, Country of Origin, First Language and Sexual Orientation	163
Select Survey Results by Respondent Disability Status and Familiarity with Park System Plan	176
Select Survey Results by Respondent Annual Household Income	187
Select Survey Results by Ward of Residence	197

Select Survey Results by Housing Tenure, Respondent Sex, Respondent Age

Table 46: Quality of The Rochester Parks & Recreation System by Respondent Age, Sex and Housing Tenure

Please rate the quality of each of the following aspects of the Rochester Parks & Recreation system. (Percent excellent or good)	Rent (A)	Own (B)	Female (A)	Male (B)	18-34 (A)	35-54 (B)	55+ (C)	Overall (A)
Overall feelings of safety in City parks and recreation facilities	90%	84%	86%	87%	90% C	85%	83%	86%
Overall cleanliness of City parks and recreation facilities	80%	80%	81%	79%	78%	80%	82%	80%
Location of parks	92%	90%	92%	91%	89%	89%	93%	91%
Quality of parks	88%	83%	88% B	82%	84%	83%	87%	85%
Mowing	90%	88%	90%	88%	87%	87%	91%	89%
Quality of playgrounds	84%	81%	82%	83%	78%	78%	90% A B	82%
Playground maintenance	83%	81%	82%	82%	79%	81%	83%	81%
Shelter maintenance	72%	71%	72%	73%	67%	72%	74%	71%
Trails and sidewalk connections	88%	86%	88%	88%	82%	90% A	89% A	87%
Condition of trails and sidewalks	79%	84%	87% B	80%	80%	86%	83%	83%
Quality of indoor recreation facilities	76%	77%	81% B	71%	67%	79%	81% A	77%
Amount of recreation programs	64%	70%	71%	68%	62%	68%	76% A	69%
Variety of recreation programs	64%	71%	70%	70%	62%	68%	77% A	70%
Quality of recreation programs	73%	77%	80%	75%	70%	79%	79%	77%

Table 47: Frequency of Using Rochester Parks & Recreation System Amenities by Respondent Age, Sex and Housing Tenure

In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program? (Percent used at least a few times a year)	Rent (A)	Own (B)	Female (A)	Male (B)	18-34 (A)	35-54 (B)	55+ (C)	Overall (A)
In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program?	90%	95% A	94%	93%	97% C	97% C	88%	94%

Table 48: Daily Usage of Rochester Parks & Recreation System Amenities by Respondent Age, Sex and Housing Tenure

In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program? (Percent used daily)	Rent (A)	Own (B)	Female (A)	Male (B)	18-34 (A)	35-54 (B)	55+ (C)	Overall (A)
In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program?	11%	11%	11%	11%	15% C	12%	7%	11%

Table 49: Usage of Rochester Parks & Recreation System Programs by Respondent Age, Sex and Housing Tenure

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	Rent (A)	Own (B)	Female (A)	Male (B)	18-34 (A)	35-54 (B)	55+ (C)	Overall (A)
Adult athletic fields	15%	22% A	16%	24% A	28% C	24% C	10%	20%
Basketball courts	16%	11%	10%	14%	19% C	13% C	6%	12%
Community gardens	16%	11%	11%	13%	15%	14%	9%	13%
Community/regional parks (i.e. Silver Lake or Quarry Hill)	76%	85% A	87% B	77%	88% C	91% C	70%	82%
Cross country ski trails	16%	26% A	26%	20%	21%	33% A C	15%	23%
Disc golf courses	15%	18%	16%	20%	26% C	21% C	8%	17%
Dog parks	18%	28% A	27%	22%	29% C	28% C	18%	25%
General open space/natural space	81%	79%	82% B	75%	89% C	85% C	67%	79%
Golf courses	17%	33% A	25%	32%	21%	32% A	32% A	29%
Graham Arena	19%	30% A	31% B	24%	25%	31%	27%	27%
Mayo Field (Honkers baseball)	19%	32% A	29%	28%	24%	34% A	27%	28%
Mountain biking trails	21%	19%	18%	22%	27% C	24% C	10%	20%
Natural areas	73%	74%	78% B	68%	85% C	79% C	59%	73%

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	Rent (A)	Own (B)	Female (A)	Male (B)	18-34 (A)	35-54 (B)	55+ (C)	Overall (A)
National Volleyball Center	8%	13%	15% B	8%	15% C	14% C	7%	12%
Neighborhood parks (within ½ mile of home)	67%	79% A	77%	73%	80% C	84% C	65%	76%
Outdoor exercise equipment	14%	11%	12%	11%	14% C	14% C	7%	12%
Outdoor benches	68%	70%	76% B	61%	76% C	72% C	62%	69%
Outdoor pools	14%	31% A	32% B	20%	25% C	39% A C	15%	26%
Outdoor ice rinks	18%	27% A	29% B	20%	30% C	36% C	10%	24%
Picnic areas/shelters	50%	55%	54%	52%	55%	55%	51%	54%
Playgrounds	26%	49% A	47% B	39%	41%	57% A C	33%	43%
Pickleball	6%	14% A	13%	10%	7%	11%	16% A	12%
Public art	33%	36%	43% B	28%	40% C	36%	30%	35%
Quarry Hill Nature Center	68%	79% A	81% B	71%	80% C	83% C	67%	76%
Rec center	16%	36% A	33%	28%	23%	40% A C	28%	30%
Sand volleyball courts	16%	14%	17% B	11%	28% B C	13% C	4%	14%
Skate parks	9%	9%	9%	9%	7%	13% A C	7%	9%

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	Rent (A)	Own (B)	Female (A)	Male (B)	18-34 (A)	35-54 (B)	55+ (C)	Overall (A)
Splash pads	7%	12% A	14% B	8%	16% C	12% C	5%	10%
Paved trails	72%	85% A	86% B	76%	88% C	85% C	73%	81%
Tennis courts	15%	22% A	24% B	17%	25% C	28% C	10%	20%
Youth athletic fields	10%	25% A	22%	20%	14%	35% A C	14%	21%

Table 50: Funding for Rochester Parks & Recreation System Programs by Respondent Age, Sex and Housing Tenure

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	Rent (A)	Own (B)	Female (A)	Male (B)	18-34 (A)	35-54 (B)	55+ (C)	Overall (A)
Adult athletic fields	58%	55%	59%	53%	56%	53%	59%	56%
Basketball courts	64%	57%	62%	56%	60%	55%	62%	59%
Community gardens	77% B	65%	74% B	63%	69%	69%	67%	68%
Community/regional parks (i.e. Silver Lake or Quarry Hill)	85%	87%	93% B	81%	86%	91% C	84%	87%
Cross country ski trails	58%	58%	65% B	49%	52%	57%	63% A	58%
Disc golf courses	50%	50%	52%	48%	50%	49%	52%	51%
Dog parks	65%	59%	64%	58%	61%	62%	61%	61%
General open space/natural space	83%	79%	84% B	77%	81%	82%	79%	80%
Golf courses	44%	47%	45%	46%	39%	43%	57% A B	46%
Graham Arena	52%	59%	61% B	51%	46%	57% A	66% A	57%
Mayo Field (Honkers baseball)	61%	55%	60%	53%	48%	52%	67% A B	56%
Mountain biking trails	64%	57%	61%	56%	56%	62%	58%	59%
Natural areas	83%	79%	83%	78%	80%	83%	79%	80%
National Volleyball Center	45%	43%	48% B	38%	44%	37%	50% B	43%
Neighborhood parks (within ½ mile of home)	78%	83%	89% B	74%	84%	83%	80%	81%
Outdoor exercise equipment	47%	45%	49%	42%	44%	49%	44%	45%

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	Rent (A)	Own (B)	Female (A)	Male (B)	18-34 (A)	35-54 (B)	55+ (C)	Overall (A)
Outdoor benches	74%	71%	78% B	66%	70%	69%	77% B	72%
Outdoor pools	63%	73% A	78% B	62%	60%	77% A	73% A	70%
Outdoor ice rinks	61%	67%	73% B	56%	60%	67%	69% A	65%
Picnic areas/shelters	75%	76%	79% B	72%	76%	71%	81% B	76%
Playgrounds	69%	79% A	82% B	71%	71%	78%	81% A	76%
Pickleball	44%	51%	52%	44%	39%	50% A	58% A	49%
Public art	62% B	52%	61% B	49%	57%	56%	52%	55%
Quarry Hill Nature Center	84%	86%	90% B	80%	86%	87%	82%	85%
Rec center	63%	69%	72% B	62%	62%	69%	70% A	67%
Sand volleyball courts	49%	48%	53% B	42%	50%	47%	48%	48%
Skate parks	49%	54%	55%	49%	44%	55% A	57% A	52%
Splash pads	51%	62% A	69% B	47%	55%	67% A C	55%	59%
Paved trails	79%	85% A	89% B	77%	85%	82%	84%	83%
Tennis courts	54%	58%	60%	53%	55%	58%	58%	56%

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	Rent (A)	Own (B)	Female (A)	Male (B)	18-34 (A)	35-54 (B)	55+ (C)	Overall (A)
Youth athletic fields	61%	72% A	72% B	65%	64%	69%	72%	68%

Table 51: Familiarity with Park System Plan by Respondent Age, Sex and Housing Tenure

How familiar, if at all, are you with the Park System Plan that was developed in 2015-2016? (Percent very or somewhat familiar)	Rent (A)	Own (B)	Female (A)	Male (B)	18-34 (A)	35-54 (B)	55+ (C)	Overall (A)
How familiar, if at all, are you with the Park System Plan that was developed in 2015-2016?	12%	15%	11%	17% A	10%	17% A	15%	14%

Table 52: Preference for Park System Plan and Funding by Respondent Age, Sex and Housing Tenure

Which ONE of the following statements best describes the type of park system and level of investment you desire for Rochester?	Rent (A)	Own (B)	Female (A)	Male (B)	18-34 (A)	35-54 (B)	55+ (C)	Overall (A)
Best in the Midwest through significant investment in state of the art facilities, a complete, connected trail system, large natural areas, and significant expanded programming.	13%	15%	13%	16%	15%	19% C	9%	14%
Best in the State of Minnesota through additional investment to modernize indoor and outdoor facilities, expand the trail system, preserve additional natural areas, and increase programming.	48% B	32%	36%	40%	50% B C	35%	29%	37%
Similar to other Minnesota communities through modest investment for indoor and outdoor facilities to serve popular sports, gradual connection of all trails, enhancement of natural areas and some programming.	24%	35% A	37% B	26%	27%	30%	39% A	32%
Focus on meeting the basic resident needs with indoor and outdoor facilities for a few sports, trail connectivity focused on park access, a few natural areas, and continued collaboration with local clubs/associations for programming.	9%	11%	10%	11%	4%	11% A	14% A	10%
Minimalist focus on maintaining what currently exists with limited, phased increases in facilities, trails, and natural areas. Programming primarily provided by clubs/associations.	6%	6%	4%	8% A	4%	5%	8%	6%

Table 53: Current Parks and Recreation System Preferences by Respondent Age, Sex and Housing Tenure

Which ONE of the following statements do you agree most with in terms of the City's current Parks and Recreation system?	Rent (A)	Own (B)	Female (A)	Male (B)	18-34 (A)	35-54 (B)	55+ (C)	Overall (A)
I would prefer better maintenance, updates, or expansions of existing parks, open space, trails, facilities, and recreation programs (e.g., enhanced accessibility, more bathrooms, additional playground equipment, more programs, etc.) rather than investments in new regional parks and new large facilities.	39%	33%	35%	35%	38%	32%	35%	35%
I would prefer large investments in regional parks, build out of neighborhood parks, and more large facilities instead of greater maintenance or enhancements of the current parks and recreation system.	3%	6%	4%	6%	4%	7%	3%	5%
I would prefer a balance between greater maintenance and enhancements to the current parks and recreation system and investing in new regional and neighborhood parks and new large facilities in order to equitably meet the recreation needs of the entire community.	58%	61%	62%	60%	57%	61%	62%	60%

Select Survey Results by Respondent Race/Ethnicity, Country of Origin, First Language and Sexual Orientation

Table 54: Quality of The Rochester Parks & Recreation System by Respondent Race/Ethnicity, Country of Origin, First Language and Sexual Orientation

Please rate the quality of each of the following aspects of the Rochester Parks & Recreation system. (Percent excellent or good)	White alone, not Hispanic	Hispanic and/or other race	My country of origin is the USA	I am originally from another country	English	Other language	Heterosexual/straight	Identify another way	Overall
	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)
Overall feelings of safety in City parks and recreation facilities	86%	89%	86%	98% A	85%	98% A	87%	90%	86%
Overall cleanliness of City parks and recreation facilities	80%	81%	80%	89%	79%	93% A	82%	80%	80%
Location of parks	92% B	84%	92% B	84%	92% B	76%	92% B	85%	91%
Quality of parks	87% B	74%	85%	87%	85%	75%	86%	84%	85%
Mowing	89%	85%	88%	93%	89%	87%	90%	87%	89%
Quality of playgrounds	84% B	74%	83%	77%	84% B	61%	84%	76%	82%
Playground maintenance	82%	79%	81%	84%	81%	75%	83%	78%	81%
Shelter maintenance	73%	68%	72%	75%	71%	74%	74%	63%	71%
Trails and sidewalk connections	87%	89%	88%	80%	87%	86%	89%	82%	87%
Condition of trails and sidewalks	84%	81%	84%	79%	84% B	71%	85%	83%	83%
Quality of indoor recreation facilities	78%	67%	77%	74%	78%	58%	79%	69%	77%
Amount of recreation programs	72% B	51%	71% B	47%	70% B	40%	71%	61%	69%
Variety of recreation programs	72% B	56%	71% B	51%	71% B	45%	72%	64%	70%
Quality of recreation programs	79% B	64%	77%	71%	77%	56%	81%	69%	77%

Table 55: Frequency of Using Rochester Parks & Recreation System Amenities by Respondent Race/Ethnicity, Country of Origin, First Language and Sexual Orientation

In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program? (Percent used at least a few times a year)	White alone, not Hispanic	Hispanic and/or other race	My country of origin is the USA	I am originally from another country	English	Other language	Heterosexual/straight	Identify another way	Overall
	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)
In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program?	94%	92%	94% B	87%	94%	91%	94%	89%	94%

Table 56: Daily Usage of Rochester Parks & Recreation System Amenities by Respondent Race/Ethnicity, Country of Origin, First Language and Sexual Orientation

In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program? (Percent used daily)	White alone, not Hispanic (A)	Hispanic and/or other race (B)	My country of origin is the USA (A)	I am originally from another country (B)	English (A)	Other language (B)	Heterosexual/straight (A)	Identify another way (B)	Overall (A)
In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program?	10%	17% A	11%	8%	11%	9%	12%	10%	11%

Table 57: Usage of Rochester Parks & Recreation System Programs by Respondent Race/Ethnicity, Country of Origin, First Language and Sexual Orientation

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	White alone, not Hispanic	Hispanic and/or other race	My country of origin is the USA	I am originally from another country	English	Other language	Heterosexual/straight	Identify another way	Overall
	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)
Adult athletic fields	17%	32% A	21%	14%	20%	13%	19%	27%	20%
Basketball courts	10%	22% A	11%	17%	11%	23% A	12%	15%	12%
Community gardens	9%	26% A	11%	30% A	11%	29% A	11%	19% A	13%
Community/regional parks (i.e. Silver Lake or Quarry Hill)	82%	84%	83%	77%	83%	78%	84%	76%	82%
Cross country ski trails	23%	23%	24%	18%	24% B	12%	24%	21%	23%
Disc golf courses	18%	18%	18%	11%	18%	8%	18%	17%	17%
Dog parks	25%	20%	26% B	12%	26% B	10%	23%	31%	25%
General open space/natural space	78%	84%	79%	82%	78%	89%	80%	71%	79%
Golf courses	31% B	18%	31% B	8%	30% B	14%	29%	24%	29%
Graham Arena	29%	23%	28% B	16%	28% B	14%	27%	31%	27%

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	White alone, not Hispanic	Hispanic and/or other race	My country of origin is the USA	I am originally from another country	English	Other language	Heterosexual/straight	Identify another way	Overall
	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)
Mayo Field (Honkers baseball)	30%	23%	31% B	7%	30% B	6%	29%	29%	28%
Mountain biking trails	20%	22%	20%	11%	20%	13%	19%	24%	20%
Natural areas	73%	76%	74%	64%	73%	71%	75%	69%	73%
National Volleyball Center	11%	13%	12%	4%	12%	9%	12%	15%	12%
Neighborhood parks (within ½ mile of home)	75%	77%	75%	74%	75%	83%	78% B	65%	76%
Outdoor exercise equipment	11%	12%	12%	6%	12%	9%	10%	16%	12%
Outdoor benches	68%	76%	68%	78%	68%	84% A	70%	63%	69%
Outdoor pools	27%	24%	27%	17%	26%	21%	27%	24%	26%
Outdoor ice rinks	25%	23%	25%	17%	25%	14%	24%	29%	24%
Picnic areas/shelters	53%	56%	53%	54%	54%	51%	54%	49%	54%
Playgrounds	41%	50%	43%	45%	42%	52%	44%	38%	43%
Pickleball	12%	9%	12%	7%	12%	8%	11%	17%	12%
Public art	34%	39%	35%	39%	35%	40%	36%	35%	35%
Quarry Hill Nature Center	77%	71%	77%	67%	77% B	64%	77%	74%	76%
Rec center	30%	30%	31%	20%	31%	23%	31%	30%	30%
Sand volleyball courts	13%	21% A	14%	11%	14%	14%	13%	22% A	14%
Skate parks	8%	12%	9%	9%	8%	11%	9%	9%	9%

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	White alone, not Hispanic (A)	Hispanic and/or other race (B)	My country of origin is the USA (A)	I am originally from another country (B)	English (A)	Other language (B)	Heterosexual/straight (A)	Identify another way (B)	Overall (A)
Splash pads	11%	10%	11% B	3%	11%	6%	11%	10%	10%
Paved trails	83% B	73%	84% B	57%	83% B	59%	84% B	68%	81%
Tennis courts	19%	27% A	20%	24%	20%	23%	20%	25%	20%
Youth athletic fields	20%	23%	22%	14%	21%	17%	22%	18%	21%

Table 58: Funding for Rochester Parks & Recreation System Programs by Respondent Race/Ethnicity, Country of Origin, First Language and Sexual Orientation

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	White alone, not Hispanic	Hispanic and/or other race	My country of origin is the USA	I am originally from another country	English	Other language	Heterosexual/straight	Identify another way	Overall
	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)
Adult athletic fields	56%	56%	55%	69% A	55%	65%	57%	54%	56%
Basketball courts	60%	55%	59%	65%	59%	66%	60%	54%	59%
Community gardens	69%	67%	68%	76%	68%	73%	69%	71%	68%
Community/regional parks (i.e. Silver Lake or Quarry Hill)	88% B	80%	87%	85%	87%	85%	88%	87%	87%
Cross country ski trails	59%	53%	56%	71% A	57%	70%	57%	59%	58%
Disc golf courses	51%	49%	49%	57%	51%	53%	51%	47%	51%
Dog parks	61%	59%	60%	66%	60%	69%	61%	63%	61%
General open space/natural space	81%	80%	80%	83%	80%	87%	81%	79%	80%
Golf courses	48%	41%	46%	50%	46%	49%	46%	45%	46%
Graham Arena	58%	52%	56%	65%	56%	64%	57%	52%	57%
Mayo Field (Honkers baseball)	57%	52%	55%	67%	56%	65%	56%	56%	56%
Mountain biking trails	59%	58%	57%	73% A	57%	79% A	57%	66%	59%
Natural areas	81%	80%	81%	81%	80%	87%	81%	79%	80%

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	White alone, not Hispanic	Hispanic and/or other race	My country of origin is the USA	I am originally from another country	English	Other language	Heterosexual/straight	Identify another way	Overall
	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)
National Volleyball Center	42%	50%	41%	67% A	42%	73% A	43%	45%	43%
Neighborhood parks (within ½ mile of home)	83%	78%	82%	78%	81%	83%	83%	78%	81%
Outdoor exercise equipment	44%	53%	43%	70% A	44%	74% A	46%	39%	45%
Outdoor benches	73%	68%	71%	79%	71%	82%	73%	67%	72%
Outdoor pools	72% B	60%	71% B	59%	71%	63%	71%	66%	70%
Outdoor ice rinks	68% B	54%	65%	67%	66%	65%	66%	63%	65%
Picnic areas/shelters	77%	71%	76%	72%	76%	77%	76%	73%	76%
Playgrounds	79% B	67%	77%	76%	76%	80%	78% B	69%	76%
Pickleball	50%	43%	49%	45%	49%	49%	48%	48%	49%
Public art	56%	53%	54%	61%	54%	62%	55%	56%	55%
Quarry Hill Nature Center	85%	84%	85%	78%	85%	77%	86%	84%	85%
Rec center	68%	64%	67%	63%	67%	67%	69% B	57%	67%
Sand volleyball courts	48%	50%	47%	60%	47%	66% A	48%	50%	48%
Skate parks	53%	47%	52%	55%	52%	62%	52%	52%	52%

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	White alone, not Hispanic (A)	Hispanic and/or other race (B)	My country of origin is the USA (A)	I am originally from another country (B)	English (A)	Other language (B)	Heterosexual/straight (A)	Identify another way (B)	Overall (A)
Splash pads	60%	53%	59%	54%	59%	55%	60%	52%	59%
Paved trails	86% B	75%	85% B	72%	84%	74%	84%	78%	83%
Tennis courts	57%	54%	56%	66%	56%	67%	58%	52%	56%
Youth athletic fields	69%	65%	68%	70%	68%	72%	70%	63%	68%

Table 59: Familiarity with Park System Plan by Respondent Race/Ethnicity, Country of Origin, First Language and Sexual Orientation

How familiar, if at all, are you with the Park System Plan that was developed in 2015-2016? (Percent very or somewhat familiar)	White alone, not Hispanic (A)	Hispanic and/or other race (B)	My country of origin is the USA (A)	I am originally from another country (B)	English (A)	Other language (B)	Heterosexual/straight (A)	Identify another way (B)	Overall (A)
How familiar, if at all, are you with the Park System Plan that was developed in 2015-2016?	14%	15%	13%	17%	13%	21%	11%	28% A	14%

Table 60: Preference for Park System Plan and Funding by Respondent Race/Ethnicity, Country of Origin, First Language and Sexual Orientation

Which ONE of the following statements best describes the type of park system and level of investment you desire for Rochester?	White alone, not Hispanic	Hispanic and/or other race	My country of origin is the USA	I am originally from another country	English	Other language	Heterosexual/straight	Identify another way	Overall
	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)
Best in the Midwest through significant investment in state of the art facilities, a complete, connected trail system, large natural areas, and significant expanded programming.	14%	16%	13%	22%	13%	23%	15%	14%	14%
Best in the State of Minnesota through additional investment to modernize indoor and outdoor facilities, expand the trail system, preserve additional natural areas, and increase programming.	38%	37%	38%	27%	38%	28%	40%	31%	37%
Similar to other Minnesota communities through modest investment for indoor and outdoor facilities to serve popular sports, gradual connection of all trails, enhancement of natural areas and some programming.	34% B	22%	34% B	19%	34% B	16%	33%	29%	32%
Focus on meeting the basic resident needs with indoor and outdoor facilities for a few sports, trail connectivity focused on park access, a few natural areas, and continued collaboration with local clubs/associations for programming.	9%	15% A	9%	23% A	9%	23% A	9%	11%	10%
Minimalist focus on maintaining what currently exists with limited, phased increases in facilities, trails, and natural areas. Programming primarily provided by clubs/associations.	6%	9%	5%	9%	6%	9%	4%	14% A	6%

Table 61: Current Parks and Recreation System Preferences by Respondent Race/Ethnicity, Country of Origin, First Language and Sexual Orientation

Which ONE of the following statements do you agree most with in terms of the City's current Parks and Recreation system?	White alone, not Hispanic	Hispanic and/or other race	My country of origin is the USA	I am originally from another country	English	Other language	Heterosexual/straight	Identify another way	Overall
	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)
I would prefer better maintenance, updates, or expansions of existing parks, open space, trails, facilities, and recreation programs (e.g., enhanced accessibility, more bathrooms, additional playground equipment, more programs, etc.) rather than investments in new regional parks and new large facilities.	34%	41%	34%	40%	35%	29%	33%	39%	35%
I would prefer large investments in regional parks, build out of neighborhood parks, and more large facilities instead of greater maintenance or enhancements of the current parks and recreation system.	4%	9% A	5%	8%	4%	16% A	5%	7%	5%
I would prefer a balance between greater maintenance and enhancements to the current parks and recreation system and investing in new regional and neighborhood parks and new large facilities in order to equitably meet the recreation needs of the entire community.	62% B	50%	61%	52%	60%	55%	62%	55%	60%

Select Survey Results by Respondent Disability Status and Familiarity with Park System Plan

Table 62: Quality of The Rochester Parks & Recreation System by Respondent Disability Status and Familiarity with Park System Plan

Please rate the quality of each of the following aspects of the Rochester Parks & Recreation system. (Percent excellent or good)	HAVE a physical, mental, or emotional condition (A)	NO physical, mental, emotional condition (B)	Very or somewhat familiar (A)	I've heard of it but don't know much about it (B)	Not at all familiar (C)	Overall (A)
Overall feelings of safety in City parks and recreation facilities	89%	85%	85%	82%	88% B	86%
Overall cleanliness of City parks and recreation facilities	84%	80%	76%	79%	82%	80%
Location of parks	93%	90%	87%	92%	91%	91%
Quality of parks	90%	84%	77%	85%	87% A	85%
Mowing	91%	88%	85%	85%	92% B	89%
Quality of playgrounds	86%	81%	84%	78%	84%	82%
Playground maintenance	83%	81%	84%	75%	84% B	81%
Shelter maintenance	78%	70%	70%	66%	75%	71%
Trails and sidewalk connections	81%	88%	84%	88%	87%	87%
Condition of trails and sidewalks	78%	83%	76%	82%	86% A	83%
Quality of indoor recreation facilities	68%	77%	74%	75%	79%	77%
Amount of recreation programs	72%	68%	80% B C	66%	67%	69%
Variety of recreation programs	71%	69%	81% C	71%	64%	70%
Quality of recreation programs	79%	76%	82%	76%	75%	77%

Table 63: Frequency of Using Rochester Parks & Recreation System Amenities by Respondent Disability Status and Familiarity with Park System Plan

In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program? (Percent used at least a few times a year)	HAVE a physical, mental, or emotional condition (A)	NO physical, mental, emotional condition (B)	Very or somewhat familiar (A)	I've heard of it but don't know much about it (B)	Not at all familiar (C)	Overall (A)
In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program?	81%	95% A	99% C	96% C	91%	94%

Table 64: Daily Usage of Rochester Parks & Recreation System Amenities by Respondent Disability Status and Familiarity with Park System Plan

In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program? (Percent used daily)	HAVE a physical, mental, or emotional condition (A)	NO physical, mental, emotional condition (B)	Very or somewhat familiar (A)	I've heard of it but don't know much about it (B)	Not at all familiar (C)	Overall (A)
In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program?	6%	12%	19% B C	11%	9%	11%

Table 65: Usage of Rochester Parks & Recreation System Programs by Respondent Disability Status and Familiarity with Park System Plan

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	HAVE a physical, mental, or emotional condition (A)	NO physical, mental, emotional condition (B)	Very or somewhat familiar (A)	I've heard of it but don't know much about it (B)	Not at all familiar (C)	Overall (A)
Adult athletic fields	12%	21% A	31% B C	19%	17%	20%
Basketball courts	8%	13%	15%	13%	10%	12%
Community gardens	18%	12%	18%	14%	11%	13%
Community/regional parks (i.e. Silver Lake or Quarry Hill)	64%	85% A	86%	88% C	78%	82%
Cross country ski trails	6%	26% A	25%	22%	23%	23%
Disc golf courses	8%	19% A	20%	17%	16%	17%
Dog parks	19%	25%	34% C	25%	21%	25%
General open space/natural space	67%	81% A	88% C	81%	76%	79%
Golf courses	11%	31% A	39% C	33% C	24%	29%
Graham Arena	26%	27%	31%	32% C	24%	27%
Mayo Field (Honkers baseball)	22%	30%	43% C	34% C	22%	28%
Mountain biking trails	7%	22% A	26% C	21%	17%	20%
Natural areas	56%	76% A	74%	75%	72%	73%

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	HAVE a physical, mental, or emotional condition (A)	NO physical, mental, emotional condition (B)	Very or somewhat familiar (A)	I've heard of it but don't know much about it (B)	Not at all familiar (C)	Overall (A)
National Volleyball Center	8%	12%	23% B C	9%	10%	12%
Neighborhood parks (within ½ mile of home)	67%	77%	85% C	81% C	71%	76%
Outdoor exercise equipment	15%	11%	13%	13%	10%	12%
Outdoor benches	71%	69%	74%	71%	67%	69%
Outdoor pools	17%	27% A	31%	30%	23%	26%
Outdoor ice rinks	10%	27% A	26%	29%	22%	24%
Picnic areas/shelters	54%	53%	68% C	62% C	46%	54%
Playgrounds	31%	44% A	47%	48% C	39%	43%
Pickleball	3%	13% A	14%	13%	10%	12%
Public art	32%	36%	43% C	39%	32%	35%
Quarry Hill Nature Center	56%	79% A	81%	77%	74%	76%
Rec center	17%	32% A	43% C	33%	26%	30%
Sand volleyball courts	8%	15%	18%	13%	14%	14%
Skate parks	11%	8%	10%	12% C	7%	9%
Splash pads	6%	11%	10%	12%	10%	10%

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	HAVE a physical, mental, or emotional condition (A)	NO physical, mental, emotional condition (B)	Very or somewhat familiar (A)	I've heard of it but don't know much about it (B)	Not at all familiar (C)	Overall (A)
Paved trails	53%	86% A	86%	82%	80%	81%
Tennis courts	10%	22% A	23%	21%	19%	20%
Youth athletic fields	15%	22%	31% C	23%	18%	21%

Table 66: Funding for Rochester Parks & Recreation System Programs by Respondent Disability Status and Familiarity with Park System Plan

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	HAVE a physical, mental, or emotional condition (A)	NO physical, mental, emotional condition (B)	Very or somewhat familiar (A)	I've heard of it but don't know much about it (B)	Not at all familiar (C)	Overall (A)
Adult athletic fields	65%	55%	66% C	57%	53%	56%
Basketball courts	63%	58%	63%	62%	56%	59%
Community gardens	74%	68%	67%	67%	69%	68%
Community/regional parks (i.e. Silver Lake or Quarry Hill)	84%	87%	89%	87%	86%	87%
Cross country ski trails	57%	58%	64%	59%	55%	58%
Disc golf courses	59%	49%	54%	49%	50%	51%
Dog parks	63%	60%	63%	58%	61%	61%
General open space/natural space	79%	81%	81%	78%	81%	80%
Golf courses	49%	46%	60% B C	45%	43%	46%
Graham Arena	64%	56%	62%	61%	53%	57%
Mayo Field (Honkers baseball)	53%	57%	62%	59%	53%	56%
Mountain biking trails	64%	58%	70% B C	56%	57%	59%
Natural areas	76%	81%	84%	76%	81%	80%
National Volleyball Center	50%	43%	52%	42%	42%	43%
Neighborhood parks (within ½ mile of home)	74%	83%	80%	82%	82%	81%
Outdoor exercise equipment	52%	44%	48%	45%	44%	45%
Outdoor benches	72%	72%	73%	72%	71%	72%
Outdoor pools	65%	71%	80% C	73%	66%	70%

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	HAVE a physical, mental, or emotional condition (A)	NO physical, mental, emotional condition (B)	Very or somewhat familiar (A)	I've heard of it but don't know much about it (B)	Not at all familiar (C)	Overall (A)
Outdoor ice rinks	64%	66%	73%	64%	64%	65%
Picnic areas/shelters	70%	77%	77%	74%	76%	76%
Playgrounds	69%	77%	82%	75%	76%	76%
Pickleball	49%	49%	60%	53%	44%	49%
			C	C		
Public art	64%	53%	64%	54%	53%	55%
Quarry Hill Nature Center	80%	86%	82%	86%	85%	85%
Rec center	65%	67%	71%	65%	67%	67%
Sand volleyball courts	53%	47%	53%	44%	49%	48%
Skate parks	56%	52%	59%	54%	50%	52%
Splash pads	56%	59%	60%	58%	59%	59%
Paved trails	75%	85%	82%	83%	84%	83%
		A				
Tennis courts	60%	56%	60%	62%	53%	56%
				C		
Youth athletic fields	67%	69%	79%	68%	66%	68%
			C			

Table 67: Familiarity with Park System Plan by Respondent Disability Status and Familiarity with Park System Plan

How familiar, if at all, are you with the Park System Plan that was developed in 2015-2016? (Percent very or somewhat familiar)	HAVE a physical, mental, or emotional condition (A)	NO physical, mental, emotional condition (B)	Very or somewhat familiar (A)	I've heard of it but don't know much about it (B)	Not at all familiar (C)	Overall (A)
How familiar, if at all, are you with the Park System Plan that was developed in 2015-2016?	10%	14%	100%	0%	0%	14%

Table 68: Preference for Park System Plan and Funding by Respondent Disability Status and Familiarity with Park System Plan

Which ONE of the following statements best describes the type of park system and level of investment you desire for Rochester?	HAVE a physical, mental, or emotional condition (A)	NO physical, mental, emotional condition (B)	Very or somewhat familiar (A)	I've heard of it but don't know much about it (B)	Not at all familiar (C)	Overall (A)
Best in the Midwest through significant investment in state of the art facilities, a complete, connected trail system, large natural areas, and significant expanded programming.	12%	15%	19%	16%	13%	14%
Best in the State of Minnesota through additional investment to modernize indoor and outdoor facilities, expand the trail system, preserve additional natural areas, and increase programming.	36%	37%	31%	39%	37%	37%
Similar to other Minnesota communities through modest investment for indoor and outdoor facilities to serve popular sports, gradual connection of all trails, enhancement of natural areas and some programming.	27%	33%	26%	32%	34%	32%
Focus on meeting the basic resident needs with indoor and outdoor facilities for a few sports, trail connectivity focused on park access, a few natural areas, and continued collaboration with local clubs/associations for programming.	17% B	9%	12%	7%	12%	10%
Minimalist focus on maintaining what currently exists with limited, phased increases in facilities, trails, and natural areas. Programming primarily provided by clubs/associations.	9%	6%	13% C	7%	5%	6%

Table 69: Current Parks and Recreation System Preferences by Respondent Disability Status and Familiarity with Park System Plan

Which ONE of the following statements do you agree most with in terms of the City's current Parks and Recreation system?	HAVE a physical, mental, or emotional condition (A)	NO physical, mental, emotional condition (B)	Very or somewhat familiar (A)	I've heard of it but don't know much about it (B)	Not at all familiar (C)	Overall (A)
I would prefer better maintenance, updates, or expansions of existing parks, open space, trails, facilities, and recreation programs (e.g., enhanced accessibility, more bathrooms, additional playground equipment, more programs, etc.) rather than investments in new regional parks and new large facilities.	40%	35%	38%	37%	34%	35%
I would prefer large investments in regional parks, build out of neighborhood parks, and more large facilities instead of greater maintenance or enhancements of the current parks and recreation system.	7%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%
I would prefer a balance between greater maintenance and enhancements to the current parks and recreation system and investing in new regional and neighborhood parks and new large facilities in order to equitably meet the recreation needs of the entire community.	53%	61%	57%	57%	62%	60%

Select Survey Results by Respondent Annual Household Income

Table 70: Quality of The Rochester Parks & Recreation System by Respondent Annual Household Income

Please rate the quality of each of the following aspects of the Rochester Parks & Recreation system. (Percent excellent or good)	Less than \$25,000 (A)	\$25,000 to \$49,999 (B)	\$50,000 to \$74,999 (C)	\$75,000 to \$99,999 (D)	\$100,000 to \$149,999 (E)	\$150,000 or more (F)	Overall (A)
Overall feelings of safety in City parks and recreation facilities	87%	82%	80%	89% C	89% C	89% C	86%
Overall cleanliness of City parks and recreation facilities	78%	84%	81%	79%	75%	85%	80%
Location of parks	78%	88%	93% A	91% A	92% A	93% A	91%
Quality of parks	87%	88%	85%	82%	79%	87%	85%
Mowing	84%	88%	87%	94%	87%	88%	89%
Quality of playgrounds	73%	81%	87% D	75%	80%	90% A D	82%
Playground maintenance	70%	80%	84%	79%	83%	85%	81%
Shelter maintenance	63%	74%	73%	64%	76%	78% D	71%
Trails and sidewalk connections	81%	85%	90%	89%	84%	88%	87%
Condition of trails and sidewalks	80%	78%	86%	82%	79%	91% B D E	83%
Quality of indoor recreation facilities	59%	75%	82% A	73%	81% A	75%	77%
Amount of recreation programs	70%	72%	66%	56%	76% D	75% D	69%
Variety of recreation programs	60%	66%	74% D	57%	70%	79% D	70%
Quality of recreation programs	59%	70%	78%	67%	87% A D	84% A D	77%

Table 71: Frequency of Using Rochester Parks & Recreation System Amenities by Respondent Annual Household Income

In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program? (Percent used at least a few times a year)	Less than \$25,000 (A)	\$25,000 to \$49,999 (B)	\$50,000 to \$74,999 (C)	\$75,000 to \$99,999 (D)	\$100,000 to \$149,999 (E)	\$150,000 or more (F)	Overall (A)
In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program?	88%	90%	90%	95% A C	100% A B C	99% A B C	94%

Table 72: Daily Usage of Rochester Parks & Recreation System Amenities by Respondent Annual Household Income

In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program? (Percent used daily)	Less than \$25,000 (A)	\$25,000 to \$49,999 (B)	\$50,000 to \$74,999 (C)	\$75,000 to \$99,999 (D)	\$100,000 to \$149,999 (E)	\$150,000 or more (F)	Overall (A)
In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program?	1%	9%	16% A D	7%	14% A	13% A	11%

Table 73: Usage of Rochester Parks & Recreation System Programs by Respondent Annual Household Income

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	Less than \$25,000 (A)	\$25,000 to \$49,999 (B)	\$50,000 to \$74,999 (C)	\$75,000 to \$99,999 (D)	\$100,000 to \$149,999 (E)	\$150,000 or more (F)	Overall (A)
Adult athletic fields	1%	15%	22% A	22% A	20% A	26% A B	20%
Basketball courts	9%	15%	13%	12%	13%	11%	12%
Community gardens	21% E	18% E	13%	11%	7%	12%	13%
Community/regional parks (i.e. Silver Lake or Quarry Hill)	66%	66%	78% B	89% A B C	91% A B C	93% A B C	82%
Cross country ski trails	14%	8%	25% B	18%	33% A B D	31% A B D	23%
Disc golf courses	13%	11%	17%	16%	25% B	20%	17%
Dog parks	30% C	17%	11%	32% B C	32% B C	25% C	25%
General open space/natural space	78%	71%	73%	84% B C	87% B C	83% B C	79%
Golf courses	10%	21%	23%	29% A	32% A	45% A B C D E	29%
Graham Arena	32%	22%	23%	32%	30%	31%	27%
Mayo Field (Honkers baseball)	14%	19%	24%	31% A B	34% A B	39% A B C	28%
Mountain biking trails	21%	22%	14%	15%	30% C D	21%	20%
Natural areas	69%	59%	68%	80% B C	84% A B C	76% B	73%

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	Less than \$25,000 (A)	\$25,000 to \$49,999 (B)	\$50,000 to \$74,999 (C)	\$75,000 to \$99,999 (D)	\$100,000 to \$149,999 (E)	\$150,000 or more (F)	Overall (A)
National Volleyball Center	6%	8%	7%	12%	17% C	17% A B C	12%
Neighborhood parks (within ½ mile of home)	60%	65%	75% A	73%	85% A B D	84% A B D	76%
Outdoor exercise equipment	27% B C D E F	13%	10%	9%	12%	9%	12%
Outdoor benches	69%	64%	68%	69%	73%	75%	69%
Outdoor pools	12%	24%	25%	25%	38% A B C D F	27% A	26%
Outdoor ice rinks	9%	21%	20%	21%	32% A C D	37% A B C D	24%
Picnic areas/shelters	44%	46%	60%	56%	53%	54%	54%
Playgrounds	31%	40%	36%	46%	51% A C	51% A C	43%
Pickleball	0%	10%	10%	8%	16% A	19% A B C D	12%
Public art	25%	42%	30%	35%	37%	41%	35%
Quarry Hill Nature Center	66%	65%	74%	72%	87% A B C D	84% A B C D	76%
Rec center	21%	27%	30%	30%	36% A	36% A	30%
Sand volleyball courts	17%	17% D	17% D	6%	17% D	15% D	14%
Skate parks	15%	14% F	9%	8%	10%	6%	9%

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	Less than \$25,000 (A)	\$25,000 to \$49,999 (B)	\$50,000 to \$74,999 (C)	\$75,000 to \$99,999 (D)	\$100,000 to \$149,999 (E)	\$150,000 or more (F)	Overall (A)
Splash pads	5%	17% A C D	7%	8%	16% A C D	12%	10%
Paved trails	47%	76% A	79% A	87% A B	92% A B C	90% A B C	81%
Tennis courts	11%	19%	24% D	12%	21%	30% A B D	20%
Youth athletic fields	1%	18% A	26% A	19% A	26% A	24% A	21%

Table 74: Funding for Rochester Parks & Recreation System Programs by Respondent Annual Household Income

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	Less than \$25,000 (A)	\$25,000 to \$49,999 (B)	\$50,000 to \$74,999 (C)	\$75,000 to \$99,999 (D)	\$100,000 to \$149,999 (E)	\$150,000 or more (F)	Overall (A)
Adult athletic fields	48%	59%	54%	58%	52%	59%	56%
Basketball courts	55%	58%	55%	62%	59%	59%	59%
Community gardens	75%	67%	70%	67%	69%	68%	68%
Community/regional parks (i.e. Silver Lake or Quarry Hill)	78%	75%	89% B	90% A B	91% A B	91% A B	87%
Cross country ski trails	59%	53%	53%	62%	55%	63%	58%
Disc golf courses	53%	46%	46%	52%	55%	48%	51%
Dog parks	63%	65% C	51%	63% C	57%	66% C	61%
General open space/natural space	80%	81%	76%	84%	78%	83%	80%
Golf courses	46%	43%	45%	45%	42%	51%	46%
Graham Arena	55%	53%	47%	62% C	59%	60% C	57%
Mayo Field (Honkers baseball)	55%	57%	53%	61% E	47%	60% E	56%
Mountain biking trails	72% C F	56%	55%	56%	65%	56%	59%
Natural areas	77%	78%	83%	81%	83%	79%	80%
National Volleyball Center	53% C	50%	36%	43%	44%	40%	43%
Neighborhood parks (within ½ mile of home)	64%	79% A	79% A	84% A	91% A B C	84% A	81%
Outdoor exercise equipment	58% C	43%	38%	48%	48%	44%	45%

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	Less than \$25,000 (A)	\$25,000 to \$49,999 (B)	\$50,000 to \$74,999 (C)	\$75,000 to \$99,999 (D)	\$100,000 to \$149,999 (E)	\$150,000 or more (F)	Overall (A)
Outdoor benches	63%	74%	71%	75%	70%	73%	72%
Outdoor pools	51%	65%	64%	76% A C	83% A B C F	69% A	70%
Outdoor ice rinks	50%	65%	56%	73% A C	71% A C	67% A	65%
Picnic areas/shelters	64%	78%	76%	76%	79% A	75%	76%
Playgrounds	59%	72%	73% A	78% A	87% A B C	79% A	76%
Pickleball	41%	43%	40%	46%	57% C	56% C	49%
Public art	59%	58%	53%	50%	53%	60%	55%
Quarry Hill Nature Center	74%	77%	84%	86% A	90% A B	89% A B	85%
Rec center	52%	65%	67%	68% A	69% A	73% A	67%
Sand volleyball courts	47%	52%	41%	49%	51%	47%	48%
Skate parks	43%	54%	50%	54%	57%	49%	52%
Splash pads	41%	51%	46%	67% A B C	67% A B C	65% A B C	59%
Paved trails	63%	81% A	76% A	89% A C	90% A C	88% A C	83%
Tennis courts	47%	55%	51%	58%	60%	62%	56%
Youth athletic fields	54%	60%	68%	72% A	73% A	72% A	68%

Table 75: Familiarity with Park System Plan by Respondent Annual Household Income

How familiar, if at all, are you with the Park System Plan that was developed in 2015-2016? (Percent very or somewhat familiar)	Less than \$25,000 (A)	\$25,000 to \$49,999 (B)	\$50,000 to \$74,999 (C)	\$75,000 to \$99,999 (D)	\$100,000 to \$149,999 (E)	\$150,000 or more (F)	Overall (A)
How familiar, if at all, are you with the Park System Plan that was developed in 2015-2016?	20%	13%	12%	14%	16%	12%	14%

Table 76: Preference for Park System Plan and Funding by Respondent Annual Household Income

Which ONE of the following statements best describes the type of park system and level of investment you desire for Rochester?	Less than \$25,000 (A)	\$25,000 to \$49,999 (B)	\$50,000 to \$74,999 (C)	\$75,000 to \$99,999 (D)	\$100,000 to \$149,999 (E)	\$150,000 or more (F)	Overall (A)
Best in the Midwest through significant investment in state of the art facilities, a complete, connected trail system, large natural areas, and significant expanded programming.	9%	10%	14%	12%	14%	24%	14%
Best in the State of Minnesota through additional investment to modernize indoor and outdoor facilities, expand the trail system, preserve additional natural areas, and increase programming.	27%	28%	41%	41%	52% B F	30%	37%
Similar to other Minnesota communities through modest investment for indoor and outdoor facilities to serve popular sports, gradual connection of all trails, enhancement of natural areas and some programming.	22%	40%	31%	35%	25%	35%	32%
Focus on meeting the basic resident needs with indoor and outdoor facilities for a few sports, trail connectivity focused on park access, a few natural areas, and continued collaboration with local clubs/associations for programming.	20%	9%	13%	7%	7%	9%	10%
Minimalist focus on maintaining what currently exists with limited, phased increases in facilities, trails, and natural areas. Programming primarily provided by clubs/associations.	22% C D E F	13% C F	2%	6%	3%	2%	6%

Table 77: Current Parks and Recreation System Preferences by Respondent Annual Household Income

Which ONE of the following statements do you agree most with in terms of the City's current Parks and Recreation system?	Less than \$25,000 (A)	\$25,000 to \$49,999 (B)	\$50,000 to \$74,999 (C)	\$75,000 to \$99,999 (D)	\$100,000 to \$149,999 (E)	\$150,000 or more (F)	Overall (A)
I would prefer better maintenance, updates, or expansions of existing parks, open space, trails, facilities, and recreation programs (e.g., enhanced accessibility, more bathrooms, additional playground equipment, more programs, etc.) rather than investments in new regional parks and new large facilities.	48%	30%	41%	35%	27%	34%	35%
I would prefer large investments in regional parks, build out of neighborhood parks, and more large facilities instead of greater maintenance or enhancements of the current parks and recreation system.	12% C	3%	1%	5%	8%	5%	5%
I would prefer a balance between greater maintenance and enhancements to the current parks and recreation system and investing in new regional and neighborhood parks and new large facilities in order to equitably meet the recreation needs of the entire community.	39%	67% A	58%	60%	65%	61%	60%

Select Survey Results by Ward of Residence

Table 78: Quality of The Rochester Parks & Recreation System by Ward of Residency

Please rate the quality of each of the following aspects of the Rochester Parks & Recreation system. (Percent excellent or good)	Ward 1 (A)	Ward 2 (B)	Ward 3 (C)	Ward 4 (D)	Ward 5 (E)	Ward 6 (F)	Overall (A)
Overall feelings of safety in City parks and recreation facilities	84%	91%	85%	83%	89%	83%	86%
Overall cleanliness of City parks and recreation facilities	77%	85%	77%	79%	79%	82%	80%
Location of parks	91%	95%	88%	87%	93%	87%	91%
Quality of parks	82%	93% D F A C E F	78%	86%	84%	83%	85%
Mowing	89%	90%	86%	92%	89%	87%	89%
Quality of playgrounds	73%	92% A C	80%	81%	83%	83%	82%
Playground maintenance	73%	89% A C	71%	84%	83%	82%	81%
Shelter maintenance	68%	78%	68%	67%	74%	73%	71%
Trails and sidewalk connections	82%	90%	90%	84%	90%	84%	87%
Condition of trails and sidewalks	81%	85%	82%	82%	85%	82%	83%
Quality of indoor recreation facilities	68%	84% A	75%	85%	75%	84% A	77%
Amount of recreation programs	75%	81% E	67%	75%	60%	73%	69%
Variety of recreation programs	74%	81% E	68%	70%	62%	71%	70%
Quality of recreation programs	72%	88% A E	79%	83%	69%	83% E	77%

Table 79: Frequency of Using Rochester Parks & Recreation System Amenities by Ward of Residency

In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program? (Percent used at least a few times a year)	Ward 1 (A)	Ward 2 (B)	Ward 3 (C)	Ward 4 (D)	Ward 5 (E)	Ward 6 (F)	Overall (A)
In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program?	92%	95%	93%	96%	95%	91%	94%

Table 80: Daily Usage of Rochester Parks & Recreation System Amenities by Ward of Residency

In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program? (Percent used daily)	Ward 1 (A)	Ward 2 (B)	Ward 3 (C)	Ward 4 (D)	Ward 5 (E)	Ward 6 (F)	Overall (A)
In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program?	10%	10%	12%	9%	14%	12%	11%

Table 81: Usage of Rochester Parks & Recreation System Programs by Ward of Residency

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	Ward 1 (A)	Ward 2 (B)	Ward 3 (C)	Ward 4 (D)	Ward 5 (E)	Ward 6 (F)	Overall (A)
Adult athletic fields	18%	21%	16%	17%	29% A C D F	17%	20%
Basketball courts	12%	13%	11%	5%	19% D F	10%	12%
Community gardens	16% C	17% C	7%	13%	9%	14%	13%
Community/regional parks (i.e. Silver Lake or Quarry Hill)	80%	85% F	89% F	79%	86% F	75%	82%
Cross country ski trails	18%	33% A D F	24%	14%	27% D	18%	23%
Disc golf courses	18%	16%	20%	18%	18%	16%	17%
Dog parks	33% B D	22%	27% D	14%	25% D	24%	25%
General open space/natural space	77%	83%	80%	83%	77%	79%	79%
Golf courses	33%	32%	27%	23%	29%	24%	29%
Graham Arena	38% B F	22%	26%	26%	28%	25%	27%
Mayo Field (Honkers baseball)	31%	21%	28%	30%	31%	32% B	28%
Mountain biking trails	23% D	24% D	17%	12%	20%	18%	20%
Natural areas	68%	78%	70%	70%	79%	73%	73%
National Volleyball Center	11%	12%	11%	8%	15%	10%	12%
Neighborhood parks (within ½ mile of home)	65%	82% A	80% A	76%	81% A	72%	76%
Outdoor exercise equipment	19% B C D F	9%	5%	9%	16% C	9%	12%

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	Ward 1 (A)	Ward 2 (B)	Ward 3 (C)	Ward 4 (D)	Ward 5 (E)	Ward 6 (F)	Overall (A)
Outdoor benches	67%	77%	75%	68%	67%	67%	69%
Outdoor pools	31% D	22%	26%	17%	32% D	27%	26%
Outdoor ice rinks	29% C	28% C	14%	18%	32% C D F	20%	24%
Picnic areas/shelters	50%	57%	52%	49%	55%	58%	54%
Playgrounds	48% D	42%	42%	34%	48% D	40%	43%
Pickleball	11%	8%	6%	10%	12%	9%	12%
Public art	31%	48% A C D F	28%	28%	39%	35%	35%
Quarry Hill Nature Center	74%	78%	74%	70%	84% D F	71%	76%
Rec center	35% D	30% D	27% D	10%	40% C D F	27% D	30%
Sand volleyball courts	14%	17% C	8%	17%	16%	13%	14%
Skate parks	8%	12% F	7%	8%	11% F	4%	9%
Splash pads	14% D	9%	13%	5%	9%	12%	10%
Paved trails	83% D	82% D	86% D	69%	83% D	83% D	81%
Tennis courts	13%	23% A	14%	20%	29% A C F	16%	20%
Youth athletic fields	27% D	19% D	23% D	8%	24% D	23% D	21%

Table 82: Funding for Rochester Parks & Recreation System Programs by Ward of Residency

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	Ward 1 (A)	Ward 2 (B)	Ward 3 (C)	Ward 4 (D)	Ward 5 (E)	Ward 6 (F)	Overall (A)
Adult athletic fields	53%	65% C	42%	56%	57% C	59% C	56%
Basketball courts	62% C	66% C	45%	59%	59% C	60% C	59%
Community gardens	72%	72%	64%	67%	70%	66%	68%
Community/regional parks (i.e. Silver Lake or Quarry Hill)	86%	88%	84%	87%	91%	87%	87%
Cross country ski trails	60%	65% C	50%	55%	60%	53%	58%
Disc golf courses	61% C D E F	56% C	39%	47%	48%	47%	51%
Dog parks	67%	61%	56%	63%	59%	60%	61%
General open space/natural space	87% C D F	87% C D F	73%	73%	85% C D	76%	80%
Golf courses	56% C D	52% C D	34%	38%	47%	47% C	46%
Graham Arena	67% C E	57%	49%	58%	54%	54%	57%
Mayo Field (Honkers baseball)	63% C	60% C	41%	61% C	53%	59% C	56%
Mountain biking trails	62%	60%	55%	60%	59%	54%	59%
Natural areas	86% F	81%	77%	75%	86% D F	74%	80%
National Volleyball Center	47% C	42%	32%	46%	40%	51% C	43%
Neighborhood parks (within ½ mile of home)	83%	87% C D	75%	76%	85% C	80%	81%

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	Ward 1 (A)	Ward 2 (B)	Ward 3 (C)	Ward 4 (D)	Ward 5 (E)	Ward 6 (F)	Overall (A)
Outdoor exercise equipment	54% B C	41%	38%	48%	45%	45%	45%
Outdoor benches	78% C D	73%	65%	65%	74%	70%	72%
Outdoor pools	79% D F	68%	68%	63%	72%	66%	70%
Outdoor ice rinks	73% C D F	72% C D	58%	57%	68%	60%	65%
Picnic areas/shelters	81% D	76%	71%	68%	82% C D	73%	76%
Playgrounds	85% C D F	77%	73%	70%	80% F	69%	76%
Pickleball	51% C	52% C	37%	43%	52% C	46%	49%
Public art	56%	60% C	46%	53%	58%	54%	55%
Quarry Hill Nature Center	86%	89% D	81%	77%	94% C D F	80%	85%
Rec center	71% D	72% D	62%	56%	75% C D F	61%	67%
Sand volleyball courts	51% C	52% C	34%	53% C	48% C	51% C	48%
Skate parks	60% D	52%	49%	43%	56%	51%	52%
Splash pads	69% C D F	61%	48%	49%	62% C D	56%	59%
Paved trails	84%	84%	89% D	77%	86%	81%	83%

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	Ward 1 (A)	Ward 2 (B)	Ward 3 (C)	Ward 4 (D)	Ward 5 (E)	Ward 6 (F)	Overall (A)
Tennis courts	61% C	64% C D	46%	49%	58%	58%	56%
Youth athletic fields	73% D	72% D	65%	56%	73% D	66%	68%

Table 83: Familiarity with Park System Plan by Ward of Residency

How familiar, if at all, are you with the Park System Plan that was developed in 2015-2016? (Percent very or somewhat familiar)	Ward 1 (A)	Ward 2 (B)	Ward 3 (C)	Ward 4 (D)	Ward 5 (E)	Ward 6 (F)	Overall (A)
How familiar, if at all, are you with the Park System Plan that was developed in 2015-2016?	13%	12%	14%	17%	18%	10%	14%

Table 84: Preference for Park System Plan and Funding by Ward of Residency

Which ONE of the following statements best describes the type of park system and level of investment you desire for Rochester?	Ward 1 (A)	Ward 2 (B)	Ward 3 (C)	Ward 4 (D)	Ward 5 (E)	Ward 6 (F)	Overall (A)
Best in the Midwest through significant investment in state of the art facilities, a complete, connected trail system, large natural areas, and significant expanded programming.	18%	11%	13%	15%	15%	11%	14%
Best in the State of Minnesota through additional investment to modernize indoor and outdoor facilities, expand the trail system, preserve additional natural areas, and increase programming.	25%	47% A	37%	32%	38%	39%	37%
Similar to other Minnesota communities through modest investment for indoor and outdoor facilities to serve popular sports, gradual connection of all trails, enhancement of natural areas and some programming.	34%	31%	32%	26%	37%	36%	32%
Focus on meeting the basic resident needs with indoor and outdoor facilities for a few sports, trail connectivity focused on park access, a few natural areas, and continued collaboration with local clubs/associations for programming.	11%	8%	13%	16%	7%	9%	10%
Minimalist focus on maintaining what currently exists with limited, phased increases in facilities, trails, and natural areas. Programming primarily provided by clubs/associations.	12%	3%	5%	11%	3%	5%	6%

Table 85: Current Parks and Recreation System Preferences by Ward of Residency

Which ONE of the following statements do you agree most with in terms of the City's current Parks and Recreation system?	Ward 1 (A)	Ward 2 (B)	Ward 3 (C)	Ward 4 (D)	Ward 5 (E)	Ward 6 (F)	Overall (A)
I would prefer better maintenance, updates, or expansions of existing parks, open space, trails, facilities, and recreation programs (e.g., enhanced accessibility, more bathrooms, additional playground equipment, more programs, etc.) rather than investments in new regional parks and new large facilities.	43%	35%	36%	35%	34%	32%	35%
I would prefer large investments in regional parks, build out of neighborhood parks, and more large facilities instead of greater maintenance or enhancements of the current parks and recreation system.	8%	3%	5%	5%	5%	2%	5%
I would prefer a balance between greater maintenance and enhancements to the current parks and recreation system and investing in new regional and neighborhood parks and new large facilities in order to equitably meet the recreation needs of the entire community.	49%	62%	59%	60%	61%	66%	60%

Open Participation Survey Responses

Select Survey Results by Housing Tenure, Respondent Sex, Respondent Age

Table 86: Quality of The Rochester Parks & Recreation System by Respondent Age, Sex and Housing Tenure

Please rate the quality of each of the following aspects of the Rochester Parks & Recreation system. (Percent excellent or good)	Rent (A)	Own (B)	Female (A)	Male (B)	18-34 (A)	35-54 (B)	55+ (C)	Overall (A)
Overall feelings of safety in City parks and recreation facilities	91% B	84%	86%	87%	90% C	86%	83%	86%
Overall cleanliness of City parks and recreation facilities	83% B	76%	80%	78%	77%	79%	79%	78%
Location of parks	82%	89% A	87%	87%	85%	86%	89%	87%
Quality of parks	82%	84%	85%	83%	81%	83%	86%	83%
Mowing	89%	89%	91% B	87%	89%	88%	90%	89%
Quality of playgrounds	78%	79%	79%	78%	74%	78%	83% A	78%
Playground maintenance	68%	78% A	77%	75%	71%	75%	80% A	75%
Shelter maintenance	62%	70% A	68%	67%	55%	71% A	76% A	67%
Trails and sidewalk connections	83%	83%	84%	82%	79%	82%	88% A B	83%
Condition of trails and sidewalks	78%	82%	82%	79%	76%	84% A	82% A	80%
Quality of indoor recreation facilities	48%	66% A	57%	67% A	56%	60%	67% A	61%
Amount of recreation programs	53%	61% A	54%	66% A	50%	59% A	67% A	59%
Variety of recreation programs	59%	61%	58%	66% A	56%	61%	64%	61%
Quality of recreation programs	70%	70%	71%	70%	73% C	73% C	63%	70%

Table 87: Frequency of Using Rochester Parks & Recreation System Amenities by Respondent Age, Sex and Housing Tenure

In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program? (Percent used at least a few times a year)	Rent (A)	Own (B)	Female (A)	Male (B)	18-34 (A)	35-54 (B)	55+ (C)	Overall (A)
In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program?	100% B	92%	94%	94%	100% B C	91%	92%	94%

Table 88: Daily Usage of Rochester Parks & Recreation System Amenities by Respondent Age, Sex and Housing Tenure

In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program? (Percent used daily)	Rent (A)	Own (B)	Female (A)	Male (B)	18-34 (A)	35-54 (B)	55+ (C)	Overall (A)
In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program?	17% B	10%	12%	11%	15% B C	11%	10%	12%

Table 89: Usage of Rochester Parks & Recreation System Programs by Respondent Age, Sex and Housing Tenure

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	Rent (A)	Own (B)	Female (A)	Male (B)	18-34 (A)	35-54 (B)	55+ (C)	Overall (A)
Adult athletic fields	27% B	20%	17%	27% A	33% B C	23% C	11%	22%
Basketball courts	19% B	11%	9%	18% A	22% B C	14% C	5%	13%
Community gardens	29% B	11%	16%	16%	23% B C	12%	13%	16%
Community/regional parks (i.e. Silver Lake or Quarry Hill)	92% B	84%	91% B	80%	94% B C	86% C	78%	86%
Cross country ski trails	25%	28%	26%	26%	25%	28%	27%	27%
Disc golf courses	27% B	14%	9%	26% A	31% B C	16% C	8%	18%
Dog parks	38% B	24%	23%	32% A	41% B C	23%	20%	27%
General open space/natural space	87% B	80%	88% B	76%	88% B C	82% C	76%	82%
Golf courses	20%	24%	17%	29% A	26% C	22%	21%	23%
Graham Arena	23%	31% A	32% B	23%	28%	30%	26%	28%
Mayo Field (Honkers baseball)	17%	27% A	22%	25%	24%	28% C	20%	24%
Mountain biking trails	35% B	23%	20%	33% A	31% C	29% C	19%	26%
Natural areas	88% B	76%	84% B	75%	86% B C	77%	76%	80%

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	Rent (A)	Own (B)	Female (A)	Male (B)	18-34 (A)	35-54 (B)	55+ (C)	Overall (A)
National Volleyball Center	6%	12% A	9%	10%	10%	13% C	7%	10%
Neighborhood parks (within ½ mile of home)	76%	71%	74%	70%	77% C	75% C	65%	73%
Outdoor exercise equipment	14%	12%	13%	12%	12%	15% C	11%	13%
Outdoor benches	80% B	69%	78% B	66%	79% C	78% C	60%	72%
Outdoor pools	34%	39%	43% B	30%	41% C	52% A C	20%	38%
Outdoor ice rinks	28%	28%	27%	28%	33% C	36% C	15%	28%
Picnic areas/shelters	72% B	51%	59%	55%	61% C	58%	52%	57%
Playgrounds	37%	52% A	53% B	41%	49% C	62% A C	31%	48%
Pickleball	12%	12%	7%	15% A	10%	9%	16% A B	12%
Public art	57% B	43%	52% B	43%	50%	46%	45%	47%
Quarry Hill Nature Center	87% B	78%	84% B	76%	85% C	83% C	74%	80%
Rec center	20%	37% A	34% B	28%	26%	42% A C	26%	32%
Sand volleyball courts	16% B	9%	9%	13% A	18% B C	11% C	5%	11%
Skate parks	14%	11%	13%	10%	15% C	17% C	5%	12%

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	Rent (A)	Own (B)	Female (A)	Male (B)	18-34 (A)	35-54 (B)	55+ (C)	Overall (A)
Splash pads	11%	17% A	15%	15%	16% C	23% A C	7%	15%
Paved trails	93% B	82%	88% B	82%	90% B C	83%	83%	85%
Tennis courts	24%	21%	18%	25% A	28% B C	23% C	15%	22%
Youth athletic fields	18%	22%	20%	19%	21% C	33% A C	7%	21%

Table 90: Funding for Rochester Parks & Recreation System Programs by Respondent Age, Sex and Housing Tenure

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	Rent (A)	Own (B)	Female (A)	Male (B)	18-34 (A)	35-54 (B)	55+ (C)	Overall (A)
Adult athletic fields	51%	48%	55% B	43%	48%	46%	51%	48%
Basketball courts	60% B	51%	59% B	48%	56% C	56% C	49%	53%
Community gardens	69% B	62%	76% B	51%	63%	62%	68% B	64%
Community/regional parks (i.e. Silver Lake or Quarry Hill)	86%	87%	92% B	80%	87%	86%	86%	86%
Cross country ski trails	50%	56% A	60% B	47%	43%	58% A	61% A	54%
Disc golf courses	55% B	48%	46%	54% A	53% C	53% C	42%	50%
Dog parks	66% B	56%	64% B	54%	58%	56%	62%	59%
General open space/natural space	89% B	78%	87% B	75%	81%	80%	83%	81%
Golf courses	35%	38%	39%	35%	35%	35%	41% A	37%
Graham Arena	48%	48%	55% B	39%	41%	50% A	51% A	48%
Mayo Field (Honkers baseball)	43%	49% A	51% B	43%	41%	49% A	51% A	47%
Mountain biking trails	60%	54%	58%	53%	57% C	62% C	48%	55%
Natural areas	89% B	78%	88% B	75%	81%	80%	83%	81%

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	Rent (A)	Own (B)	Female (A)	Male (B)	18-34 (A)	35-54 (B)	55+ (C)	Overall (A)
National Volleyball Center	45% B	36%	43% B	35%	40%	38%	39%	39%
Neighborhood parks (within ½ mile of home)	80%	79%	86% B	73%	76%	81%	81% A	79%
Outdoor exercise equipment	49%	44%	52% B	38%	43%	50% A C	42%	45%
Outdoor benches	72%	68%	76% B	63%	70%	70%	69%	69%
Outdoor pools	63%	76% A	83% B	59%	62%	83% A C	71% A	72%
Outdoor ice rinks	67%	64%	72% B	56%	64%	64%	66%	65%
Picnic areas/shelters	74%	73%	82% B	63%	67%	75% A	76% A	73%
Playgrounds	72%	77% A	84% B	66%	72%	79% A	75%	76%
Pickleball	46%	50%	49%	47%	36%	48% A	59% A B	48%
Public art	69% B	49%	62% B	47%	61% B C	52%	51%	54%
Quarry Hill Nature Center	82%	83%	88% B	77%	78%	85% A	84% A	83%
Rec center	60%	64%	71% B	54%	59%	68% A C	61%	63%
Sand volleyball courts	50% B	42%	48% B	40%	43%	45%	44%	44%
Skate parks	50%	51%	59% B	42%	47%	55% A	50%	51%

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	Rent (A)	Own (B)	Female (A)	Male (B)	18-34 (A)	35-54 (B)	55+ (C)	Overall (A)
Splash pads	59%	61%	70% B	50%	58%	67% A C	57%	61%
Paved trails	85%	84%	89% B	78%	83%	84%	85%	84%
Tennis courts	55%	52%	58% B	47%	50%	53%	55%	53%
Youth athletic fields	64%	65%	70% B	60%	56%	70% A	66% A	65%

Table 91: Familiarity with Park System Plan by Respondent Age, Sex and Housing Tenure

How familiar, if at all, are you with the Park System Plan that was developed in 2015-2016? (Percent very or somewhat familiar)	Rent (A)	Own (B)	Female (A)	Male (B)	18-34 (A)	35-54 (B)	55+ (C)	Overall (A)
How familiar, if at all, are you with the Park System Plan that was developed in 2015-2016?	10%	18% A	12%	18% A	8%	14% A	23% A B	15%

Table 92: Preference for Park System Plan and Funding by Respondent Age, Sex and Housing Tenure

Which ONE of the following statements best describes the type of park system and level of investment you desire for Rochester?	Rent (A)	Own (B)	Female (A)	Male (B)	18-34 (A)	35-54 (B)	55+ (C)	Overall (A)
Best in the Midwest through significant investment in state of the art facilities, a complete, connected trail system, large natural areas, and significant expanded programming.	34% B	21%	21%	28% A	32% B C	25% C	18%	25%
Best in the State of Minnesota through additional investment to modernize indoor and outdoor facilities, expand the trail system, preserve additional natural areas, and increase programming.	38%	40%	43% B	37%	44% C	42% C	33%	40%
Similar to other Minnesota communities through modest investment for indoor and outdoor facilities to serve popular sports, gradual connection of all trails, enhancement of natural areas and some programming.	24%	29%	30% B	25%	18%	27% A	36% A B	28%
Focus on meeting the basic resident needs with indoor and outdoor facilities for a few sports, trail connectivity focused on park access, a few natural areas, and continued collaboration with local clubs/associations for programing.	1%	8% A	4%	7% A	5%	4%	8% B	6%
Minimalist focus on maintaining what currently exists with limited, phased increases in facilities, trails, and natural areas. Programing primarily provided by clubs/associations.	3%	2%	2%	3% A	1%	2%	4% A	3%

Table 93: Current Parks and Recreation System Preferences by Respondent Age, Sex and Housing Tenure

Which ONE of the following statements do you agree most with in terms of the City's current Parks and Recreation system?	Rent (A)	Own (B)	Female (A)	Male (B)	18-34 (A)	35-54 (B)	55+ (C)	Overall (A)
I would prefer better maintenance, updates, or expansions of existing parks, open space, trails, facilities, and recreation programs (e.g., enhanced accessibility, more bathrooms, additional playground equipment, more programs, etc.) rather than investments in new regional parks and new large facilities.	29%	30%	27%	33% A	28%	25%	36% A B	30%
I would prefer large investments in regional parks, build out of neighborhood parks, and more large facilities instead of greater maintenance or enhancements of the current parks and recreation system.	13% B	8%	8%	12% A	14% C	11% C	5%	10%
I would prefer a balance between greater maintenance and enhancements to the current parks and recreation system and investing in new regional and neighborhood parks and new large facilities in order to equitably meet the recreation needs of the entire community.	57%	62%	65% B	55%	58%	64%	59%	61%

Select Survey Results by Respondent Race/Ethnicity, Country of Origin, First Language and Sexual Orientation

Table 94: Quality of The Rochester Parks & Recreation System Respondent Race/Ethnicity, Country of Origin, First Language and Sexual Orientation

Please rate the quality of each of the following aspects of the Rochester Parks & Recreation system. (Percent excellent or good)	White alone, not Hispanic	Hispanic and/or other race	My country of origin is the USA	I am originally from another country	English	Other language	Heterosexual/straight	Identify another way	Overall
	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)
Overall feelings of safety in City parks and recreation facilities	87%	84%	86%	88%	86%	85%	89% B	78%	86%
Overall cleanliness of City parks and recreation facilities	80%	74%	78%	88% A	78%	90% A	83% B	61%	78%
Location of parks	89% B	75%	87%	81%	87%	83%	87%	82%	87%
Quality of parks	87% B	67%	84%	84%	84%	85%	85% B	78%	83%
Mowing	90% B	85%	89%	88%	89%	85%	90% B	85%	89%
Quality of playgrounds	82% B	64%	79% B	68%	80% B	60%	80%	79%	78%
Playground maintenance	81% B	56%	76%	73%	76%	71%	76%	78%	75%
Shelter maintenance	72% B	52%	68%	59%	68%	55%	67%	67%	67%
Trails and sidewalk connections	83%	82%	83% B	75%	83%	78%	82%	84%	83%
Condition of trails and sidewalks	81%	81%	81% B	71%	81%	77%	82% B	72%	80%
Quality of indoor recreation facilities	65% B	46%	63% B	43%	62%	56%	62%	52%	61%

Please rate the quality of each of the following aspects of the Rochester Parks & Recreation system. (Percent excellent or good)	White alone, not Hispanic	Hispanic and/or other race	My country of origin is the USA	I am originally from another country	English	Other language	Heterosexual/straight	Identify another way	Overall
	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)
Amount of recreation programs	65% B	42%	60%	48%	60%	51%	60%	55%	59%
Variety of recreation programs	65% B	45%	63% B	40%	62%	50%	61%	61%	61%
Quality of recreation programs	74% B	54%	72% B	50%	71% B	56%	71%	62%	70%

Table 95: Frequency of Using Rochester Parks & Recreation System Amenities Respondent Race/Ethnicity, Country of Origin, First Language and Sexual Orientation

In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program? (Percent used at least a few times a year)	White alone, not Hispanic	Hispanic and/or other race	My country of origin is the USA	I am originally from another country	English	Other language	Heterosexual/straight	Identify another way	Overall
	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)
In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program?	93%	99% A	94%	97%	94%	96%	98% B	77%	94%

Table 96: Daily Usage of Rochester Parks & Recreation System Amenities Respondent Race/Ethnicity, Country of Origin, First Language and Sexual Orientation

In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program? (Percent used daily)	White alone, not Hispanic (A)	Hispanic and/or other race (B)	My country of origin is the USA (A)	I am originally from another country (B)	English (A)	Other language (B)	Heterosexual/straight (A)	Identify another way (B)	Overall (A)
In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program?	10%	19% A	12%	10%	12%	9%	11%	15%	12%

Table 97: Usage of Rochester Parks & Recreation System Programs Respondent Race/Ethnicity, Country of Origin, First Language and Sexual Orientation

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	White alone, not Hispanic	Hispanic and/or other race	My country of origin is the USA	I am originally from another country	English	Other language	Heterosexual/straight	Identify another way	Overall
	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)
Adult athletic fields	19%	35% A	22%	22%	21%	36% A	22%	22%	22%
Basketball courts	11%	25% A	13%	24% A	12%	39% A	13%	16%	13%
Community gardens	12%	33% A	16%	23%	15%	37% A	16%	19%	16%
Community/regional parks (i.e. Silver Lake or Quarry Hill)	84%	95% A	86%	95% A	86%	91%	90% B	73%	86%
Cross country ski trails	26%	30%	27%	32%	27%	22%	27%	21%	27%
Disc golf courses	17%	20%	18%	14%	17%	32% A	16%	27% A	18%
Dog parks	26%	37% A	28%	27%	28%	19%	28%	27%	27%
General open space/natural space	80%	91% A	82%	93% A	81%	96% A	87% B	66%	82%
Golf courses	23%	21%	24% B	14%	23%	25%	24%	19%	23%

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	White alone, not Hispanic (A)	Hispanic and/or other race (B)	My country of origin is the USA (A)	I am originally from another country (B)	English (A)	Other language (B)	Heterosexual/straight (A)	Identify another way (B)	Overall (A)
Graham Arena	25%	41% A	28%	29%	28%	28%	27%	28%	28%
Mayo Field (Honkers baseball)	25%	19%	24%	21%	24%	24%	25%	21%	24%
Mountain biking trails	27%	23%	26%	28%	26%	34%	26%	27%	26%
Natural areas	78%	87% A	79%	84%	79%	83%	84% B	67%	80%
National Volleyball Center	10%	7%	10%	7%	10%	11%	11% B	5%	10%
Neighborhood parks (within ½ mile of home)	71%	78% A	71%	94% A	71%	94% A	76% B	58%	73%
Outdoor exercise equipment	11%	18% A	12%	15%	13%	9%	12%	18% A	13%
Outdoor benches	71%	80% A	72%	82% A	72%	83%	74% B	67%	72%
Outdoor pools	37%	39%	38%	40%	37%	49% A	39% B	31%	38%
Outdoor ice rinks	26%	35% A	28%	24%	28%	20%	27%	29%	28%
Picnic areas/shelters	54%	70% A	56%	69% A	56%	73% A	61% B	44%	57%

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	White alone, not Hispanic	Hispanic and/or other race	My country of origin is the USA	I am originally from another country	English	Other language	Heterosexual/straight	Identify another way	Overall
	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)
Playgrounds	46%	52%	46%	68% A	46%	74% A	50% B	35%	48%
Pickleball	12%	8%	11%	16%	12%	12%	10%	18% A	12%
Public art	46%	53%	47%	43%	48% B	35%	48%	46%	47%
Quarry Hill Nature Center	78%	88% A	80%	87%	80%	83%	84% B	64%	80%
Rec center	31%	35%	31%	41%	31%	52% A	31%	28%	32%
Sand volleyball courts	10%	14%	10%	19% A	10%	28% A	11%	15% A	11%
Skate parks	12%	13%	12%	18%	12%	13%	12%	12%	12%
Splash pads	15%	15%	15%	24% A	16%	8%	17% B	10%	15%
Paved trails	84%	89%	85%	84%	85%	83%	90% B	65%	85%
Tennis courts	18%	41% A	21%	37% A	21%	36% A	23%	18%	22%
Youth athletic fields	19%	28% A	20%	25%	20%	28%	21%	16%	21%

Table 98: Funding for Rochester Parks & Recreation System Programs Respondent Race/Ethnicity, Country of Origin, First Language and Sexual Orientation

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	White alone, not Hispanic	Hispanic and/or other race	My country of origin is the USA	I am originally from another country	English	Other language	Heterosexual/straight	Identify another way	Overall
	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)
Adult athletic fields	47%	57% A	47%	66% A	48%	52%	49% B	41%	48%
Basketball courts	55%	49%	53%	54%	53%	52%	53%	54%	53%
Community gardens	65%	60%	64%	70%	65%	58%	66% B	57%	64%
Community/regional parks (i.e. Silver Lake or Quarry Hill)	86%	85%	86%	92%	87% B	75%	88% B	77%	86%
Cross country ski trails	57% B	40%	54%	60%	55%	44%	56% B	43%	54%
Disc golf courses	53% B	35%	50%	40%	50%	46%	49%	49%	50%
Dog parks	62% B	44%	59%	57%	59% B	44%	61% B	49%	59%
General open space/natural space	81%	81%	81%	86%	81%	86%	82%	79%	81%
Golf courses	39% B	26%	37%	33%	36%	49% A	36%	40%	37%

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	White alone, not Hispanic	Hispanic and/or other race	My country of origin is the USA	I am originally from another country	English	Other language	Heterosexual/straight	Identify another way	Overall
	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)
Graham Arena	49% B	40%	48%	50%	48% B	35%	49% B	37%	48%
Mayo Field (Honkers baseball)	50% B	37%	47%	48%	48%	40%	47%	46%	47%
Mountain biking trails	55%	56%	55%	66%	55%	69% A	56%	54%	55%
Natural areas	82%	79%	82%	78%	81%	81%	82%	80%	81%
National Volleyball Center	38%	40%	38%	49% A	38%	49%	40% B	32%	39%
Neighborhood parks (within ½ mile of home)	80%	75%	79%	85%	79%	72%	82% B	63%	79%
Outdoor exercise equipment	46%	43%	44%	64% A	45%	57%	47% B	37%	45%
Outdoor benches	70%	69%	69%	70%	70% B	58%	71% B	58%	69%
Outdoor pools	74% B	62%	72%	81%	72%	71%	74% B	60%	72%
Outdoor ice rinks	65%	63%	64%	68%	65%	57%	66% B	51%	65%
Picnic areas/shelters	74% B	65%	73%	74%	73% B	62%	74% B	63%	73%

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	White alone, not Hispanic	Hispanic and/or other race	My country of origin is the USA	I am originally from another country	English	Other language	Heterosexual/straight	Identify another way	Overall
	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)
Playgrounds	75%	74%	75%	86% A	75%	78%	77% B	64%	76%
Pickleball	51% B	37%	48%	58%	48%	47%	48% B	41%	48%
Public art	54%	60%	54%	59%	53%	69% A	55%	54%	54%
Quarry Hill Nature Center	83%	79%	83%	85%	84% B	65%	85% B	70%	83%
Rec center	62%	67%	63%	73%	63%	63%	65% B	51%	63%
Sand volleyball courts	44%	43%	43%	56% A	44%	47%	45%	41%	44%
Skate parks	54% B	38%	51%	54%	51%	45%	50%	52%	51%
Splash pads	61%	58%	60%	63%	60%	62%	63% B	49%	61%
Paved trails	84%	82%	84%	84%	85% B	68%	86% B	70%	84%
Tennis courts	52%	56%	52%	68% A	52%	58%	54% B	44%	53%

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	White alone, not Hispanic (A)	Hispanic and/or other race (B)	My country of origin is the USA (A)	I am originally from another country (B)	English (A)	Other language (B)	Heterosexual/straight (A)	Identify another way (B)	Overall (A)
Youth athletic fields	66% B	58%	64%	72%	65%	57%	67% B	53%	65%

Table 99: Familiarity with Park System Plan Respondent Race/Ethnicity, Country of Origin, First Language and Sexual Orientation

How familiar, if at all, are you with the Park System Plan that was developed in 2015-2016? (Percent very or somewhat familiar)	White alone, not Hispanic (A)	Hispanic and/or other race (B)	My country of origin is the USA (A)	I am originally from another country (B)	English (A)	Other language (B)	Heterosexual/straight (A)	Identify another way (B)	Overall (A)
How familiar, if at all, are you with the Park System Plan that was developed in 2015-2016?	15%	12%	15%	18%	15%	11%	15%	12%	15%

Table 100: Preference for Park System Plan and Funding Respondent Race/Ethnicity, Country of Origin, First Language and Sexual Orientation

Which ONE of the following statements best describes the type of park system and level of investment you desire for Rochester?	White alone, not Hispanic	Hispanic and/or other race	My country of origin is the USA	I am originally from another country	English	Other language	Heterosexual/straight	Identify another way	Overall
	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)	(B)	(A)
Best in the Midwest through significant investment in state of the art facilities, a complete, connected trail system, large natural areas, and significant expanded programming.	21%	39% A	25% B	15%	24%	27%	23%	34% A	25%
Best in the State of Minnesota through additional investment to modernize indoor and outdoor facilities, expand the trail system, preserve additional natural areas, and increase programming.	43% B	27%	40%	43%	40%	40%	41% B	33%	40%
Similar to other Minnesota communities through modest investment for indoor and outdoor facilities to serve popular sports, gradual connection of all trails, enhancement of natural areas and some programming.	28% B	22%	27%	29%	28%	20%	27%	27%	28%
Focus on meeting the basic resident needs with indoor and outdoor facilities for a few sports, trail connectivity focused on park access, a few natural areas, and continued collaboration with local clubs/associations for programming.	5%	8%	5%	8%	5%	10%	6%	5%	6%

Which ONE of the following statements best describes the type of park system and level of investment you desire for Rochester?	White alone, not Hispanic (A)	Hispanic and/or other race (B)	My country of origin is the USA (A)	I am originally from another country (B)	English (A)	Other language (B)	Heterosexual/straight (A)	Identify another way (B)	Overall (A)
Minimalist focus on maintaining what currently exists with limited, phased increases in facilities, trails, and natural areas. Programing primarily provided by clubs/associations.	2%	4%	2%	6%	3%	3%	2%	1%	3%

Table 101: Current Parks and Recreation System Preferences Respondent Race/Ethnicity, Country of Origin, First Language and Sexual Orientation

Which ONE of the following statements do you agree most with in terms of the City's current Parks and Recreation system?	White alone, not Hispanic (A)	Hispanic and/or other race (B)	My country of origin is the USA (A)	I am originally from another country (B)	English (A)	Other language (B)	Heterosexual/straight (A)	Identify another way (B)	Overall (A)
I would prefer better maintenance, updates, or expansions of existing parks, open space, trails, facilities, and recreation programs (e.g., enhanced accessibility, more bathrooms, additional playground equipment, more programs, etc.) rather than investments in new regional parks and new large facilities.	31%	25%	30%	28%	30%	22%	29%	30%	30%
I would prefer large investments in regional parks, build out of neighborhood parks, and more large facilities instead of greater maintenance or enhancements of the current parks and recreation system.	8%	20% A	10%	6%	9%	22% A	9%	17% A	10%
I would prefer a balance between greater maintenance and enhancements to the current parks and recreation system and investing in new regional and neighborhood parks and new large facilities in order to equitably meet the recreation needs of the entire community.	61%	55%	60%	67%	61%	56%	62% B	52%	61%

Select Survey Results by Respondent Disability Status and Familiarity with Park System Plan

Table 102: Quality of The Rochester Parks & Recreation System by Respondent Disability Status and Familiarity with Park System Plan

Please rate the quality of each of the following aspects of the Rochester Parks & Recreation system. (Percent excellent or good)	HAVE a physical, mental, or emotional condition (A)	NO physical, mental, emotional condition (B)	Very or somewhat familiar (A)	I've heard of it but don't know much about it (B)	Not at all familiar (C)	Overall (A)
Overall feelings of safety in City parks and recreation facilities	86%	86%	83%	82%	90% A B	86%
Overall cleanliness of City parks and recreation facilities	78%	78%	77%	76%	80%	78%
Location of parks	80%	88% A	87%	89%	85%	87%
Quality of parks	82%	84%	79%	86% A	84%	83%
Mowing	85%	89%	86%	87%	91% B	89%
Quality of playgrounds	84% B	77%	82%	76%	79%	78%
Playground maintenance	79%	75%	75%	73%	77%	75%
Shelter maintenance	73%	67%	63%	62%	73% A B	67%
Trails and sidewalk connections	86%	82%	80%	87% A C	81%	83%
Condition of trails and sidewalks	68%	83% A	75%	81%	82% A	80%
Quality of indoor recreation facilities	39%	65% A	61%	53%	67% B	61%
Amount of recreation programs	51%	61% A	55%	56%	63%	59%
Variety of recreation programs	52%	62% A	57%	59%	64%	61%

Please rate the quality of each of the following aspects of the Rochester Parks & Recreation system. (Percent excellent or good)	HAVE a physical, mental, or emotional condition (A)	NO physical, mental, emotional condition (B)	Very or somewhat familiar (A)	I've heard of it but don't know much about it (B)	Not at all familiar (C)	Overall (A)
Quality of recreation programs	60%	71% A	61%	64%	77% A B	70%

Table 103: Frequency of Using Rochester Parks & Recreation System Amenities by Respondent Disability Status and Familiarity with Park System Plan

In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program? (Percent used at least a few times a year)	HAVE a physical, mental, or emotional condition (A)	NO physical, mental, emotional condition (B)	Very or somewhat familiar (A)	I've heard of it but don't know much about it (B)	Not at all familiar (C)	Overall (A)
In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program?	84%	96% A	94%	95%	94%	94%

Table 104: Daily Usage of Rochester Parks & Recreation System Amenities by Respondent Disability Status and Familiarity with Park System Plan

In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program? (Percent used daily)	HAVE a physical, mental, or emotional condition (A)	NO physical, mental, emotional condition (B)	Very or somewhat familiar (A)	I've heard of it but don't know much about it (B)	Not at all familiar (C)	Overall (A)
In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program?	11%	12%	12%	16% C	10%	12%

Table 105: Usage of Rochester Parks & Recreation System Programs by Respondent Disability Status and Familiarity with Park System Plan

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	HAVE a physical, mental, or emotional condition (A)	NO physical, mental, emotional condition (B)	Very or somewhat familiar (A)	I've heard of it but don't know much about it (B)	Not at all familiar (C)	Overall (A)
Adult athletic fields	9%	24% A	32% B C	21%	21%	22%
Basketball courts	6%	14% A	15%	12%	13%	13%
Community gardens	23% B	15%	14%	24% A C	12%	16%
Community/regional parks (i.e. Silver Lake or Quarry Hill)	80%	87% A	83%	90% A C	85%	86%
Cross country ski trails	21%	28% A	33% C	32% C	23%	27%
Disc golf courses	10%	19% A	19%	13%	20% B	18%
Dog parks	32%	27%	28%	31% C	25%	27%
General open space/natural space	80%	82%	82%	87% C	80%	82%
Golf courses	7%	26% A	33% B C	22%	21%	23%
Graham Arena	39% B	26%	31% C	39% A C	22%	28%
Mayo Field (Honkers baseball)	15%	26% A	29% C	26%	22%	24%
Mountain biking trails	30%	26%	29%	23%	27%	26%

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	HAVE a physical, mental, or emotional condition (A)	NO physical, mental, emotional condition (B)	Very or somewhat familiar (A)	I've heard of it but don't know much about it (B)	Not at all familiar (C)	Overall (A)
Natural areas	79%	80%	83% C	86% C	75%	80%
National Volleyball Center	2%	11% A	11%	9%	10%	10%
Neighborhood parks (within ½ mile of home)	64%	74% A	75%	75%	71%	73%
Outdoor exercise equipment	18% B	11%	14%	12%	12%	13%
Outdoor benches	84% B	70%	69%	76%	71%	72%
Outdoor pools	35%	38%	40%	39%	36%	38%
Outdoor ice rinks	24%	29%	29%	33% C	25%	28%
Picnic areas/shelters	67% B	55%	65% C	62% C	52%	57%
Playgrounds	38%	49% A	48%	46%	49%	48%
Pickleball	4%	13% A	12%	10%	12%	12%
Public art	71% B	43%	41%	58% A C	43%	47%
Quarry Hill Nature Center	80%	80%	81%	86% C	77%	80%
Rec center	15%	35% A	37% C	37% C	28%	32%

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	HAVE a physical, mental, or emotional condition (A)	NO physical, mental, emotional condition (B)	Very or somewhat familiar (A)	I've heard of it but don't know much about it (B)	Not at all familiar (C)	Overall (A)
Sand volleyball courts	7%	12%	10%	7%	13% B	11%
Skate parks	16% B	11%	10%	14%	12%	12%
Splash pads	12%	16%	19%	16%	14%	15%
Paved trails	81%	86%	86%	86%	84%	85%
Tennis courts	9%	24% A	22%	20%	22%	22%
Youth athletic fields	10%	22% A	26% C	22%	18%	21%

Table 106: Funding for Rochester Parks & Recreation System Programs by Respondent Disability Status and Familiarity with Park System Plan

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	HAVE a physical, mental, or emotional condition (A)	NO physical, mental, emotional condition (B)	Very or somewhat familiar (A)	I've heard of it but don't know much about it (B)	Not at all familiar (C)	Overall (A)
Adult athletic fields	52%	48%	44%	46%	51%	48%
Basketball courts	70% B	50%	51%	55%	53%	53%
Community gardens	82% B	61%	65%	69% C	62%	64%
Community/regional parks (i.e. Silver Lake or Quarry Hill)	80%	87% A	87%	87%	86%	86%
Cross country ski trails	50%	55%	58%	57%	51%	54%
Disc golf courses	43%	51%	46%	43%	54% A B	50%
Dog parks	68% B	57%	55%	56%	61%	59%
General open space/natural space	89% B	80%	81%	82%	81%	81%
Golf courses	30%	38% A	36%	34%	39%	37%
Graham Arena	52%	47%	49%	51% C	45%	48%
Mayo Field (Honkers baseball)	53%	46%	50%	47%	46%	47%
Mountain biking trails	56%	56%	52%	55%	56%	55%
Natural areas	89% B	80%	82%	82%	81%	81%

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	HAVE a physical, mental, or emotional condition (A)	NO physical, mental, emotional condition (B)	Very or somewhat familiar (A)	I've heard of it but don't know much about it (B)	Not at all familiar (C)	Overall (A)
National Volleyball Center	40%	39%	33%	35%	42% A B	39%
Neighborhood parks (within ½ mile of home)	80%	79%	80%	76%	81%	79%
Outdoor exercise equipment	50%	44%	43%	44%	46%	45%
Outdoor benches	77% B	68%	69%	69%	70%	69%
Outdoor pools	65%	73% A	73%	77% C	69%	72%
Outdoor ice rinks	63%	65%	60%	65%	65%	65%
Picnic areas/shelters	82% B	71%	78% C	75% C	70%	73%
Playgrounds	77%	75%	77%	81% C	72%	76%
Pickleball	37%	50% A	53%	47%	47%	48%
Public art	75% B	51%	49%	56%	55%	54%
Quarry Hill Nature Center	84%	82%	89% C	84%	80%	83%
Rec center	64%	63%	56%	63%	65% A	63%
Sand volleyball courts	51% B	43%	38%	41%	47% A	44%

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	HAVE a physical, mental, or emotional condition (A)	NO physical, mental, emotional condition (B)	Very or somewhat familiar (A)	I've heard of it but don't know much about it (B)	Not at all familiar (C)	Overall (A)
Skate parks	58% B	50%	53%	54%	49%	51%
Splash pads	61%	61%	59%	60%	61%	61%
Paved trails	85%	84%	87%	85%	82%	84%
Tennis courts	52%	53%	47%	49%	56% A B	53%
Youth athletic fields	64%	65%	64%	59%	67% B	65%

Table 107: Familiarity with Park System Plan by Respondent Disability Status and Familiarity with Park System Plan

How familiar, if at all, are you with the Park System Plan that was developed in 2015-2016? (Percent very or somewhat familiar)	HAVE a physical, mental, or emotional condition (A)	NO physical, mental, emotional condition (B)	Very or somewhat familiar (A)	I've heard of it but don't know much about it (B)	Not at all familiar (C)	Overall (A)
How familiar, if at all, are you with the Park System Plan that was developed in 2015-2016?	12%	16%	100%	0%	0%	15%

Table 108: Preference for Park System Plan and Funding by Respondent Disability Status and Familiarity with Park System Plan

Which ONE of the following statements best describes the type of park system and level of investment you desire for Rochester?	HAVE a physical, mental, or emotional condition (A)	NO physical, mental, emotional condition (B)	Very or somewhat familiar (A)	I've heard of it but don't know much about it (B)	Not at all familiar (C)	Overall (A)
Best in the Midwest through significant investment in state of the art facilities, a complete, connected trail system, large natural areas, and significant expanded programming.	32% B	23%	32% C	30% C	20%	25%
Best in the State of Minnesota through additional investment to modernize indoor and outdoor facilities, expand the trail system, preserve additional natural areas, and increase programming.	35%	40%	35%	34%	44% A B	40%
Similar to other Minnesota communities through modest investment for indoor and outdoor facilities to serve popular sports, gradual connection of all trails, enhancement of natural areas and some programming.	28%	27%	22%	31%	27%	28%
Focus on meeting the basic resident needs with indoor and outdoor facilities for a few sports, trail connectivity focused on park access, a few natural areas, and continued collaboration with local clubs/associations for programming.	3%	6% A	9% B	4%	6%	6%
Minimalist focus on maintaining what currently exists with limited, phased increases in facilities, trails, and natural areas. Programming primarily provided by clubs/associations.	1%	3%	2%	2%	3%	3%

Table 109: Current Parks and Recreation System Preferences by Respondent Disability Status and Familiarity with Park System Plan

Which ONE of the following statements do you agree most with in terms of the City's current Parks and Recreation system?	HAVE a physical, mental, or emotional condition (A)	NO physical, mental, emotional condition (B)	Very or somewhat familiar (A)	I've heard of it but don't know much about it (B)	Not at all familiar (C)	Overall (A)
I would prefer better maintenance, updates, or expansions of existing parks, open space, trails, facilities, and recreation programs (e.g., enhanced accessibility, more bathrooms, additional playground equipment, more programs, etc.) rather than investments in new regional parks and new large facilities.	37% B	28%	22%	32% A	30%	30%
I would prefer large investments in regional parks, build out of neighborhood parks, and more large facilities instead of greater maintenance or enhancements of the current parks and recreation system.	13%	9%	9%	12%	9%	10%
I would prefer a balance between greater maintenance and enhancements to the current parks and recreation system and investing in new regional and neighborhood parks and new large facilities in order to equitably meet the recreation needs of the entire community.	50%	62% A	69% B	56%	61%	61%

Select Survey Results by Respondent Annual Household Income

Table 110: Quality of The Rochester Parks & Recreation System by Respondent Annual Household Income

Please rate the quality of each of the following aspects of the Rochester Parks & Recreation system. (Percent excellent or good)	Less than \$25,000 (A)	\$25,000 to \$49,999 (B)	\$50,000 to \$74,999 (C)	\$75,000 to \$99,999 (D)	\$100,000 to \$149,999 (E)	\$150,000 or more (F)	Overall (A)
Overall feelings of safety in City parks and recreation facilities	77%	79%	90% A B	87% A B	86% A B	90% A B	86%
Overall cleanliness of City parks and recreation facilities	77%	73%	84% B	81%	80%	79%	78%
Location of parks	88%	81%	86%	91% B E	82%	89% B E	87%
Quality of parks	84%	81%	88% E	85%	81%	86%	83%
Mowing	90%	85%	94% B E	89%	86%	89%	89%
Quality of playgrounds	80%	80%	85% E	78%	76%	81%	78%
Playground maintenance	69%	73%	84% A B E F	77%	74%	75%	75%
Shelter maintenance	47%	69% A	65% A	75% A	67% A	66% A	67%
Trails and sidewalk connections	84%	81% C	72%	87% C	85% C	84% C	83%
Condition of trails and sidewalks	81% B	66%	71%	84% B C	85% B C	87% B C	80%
Quality of indoor recreation facilities	45%	49%	63% A B	70% A B	58%	68% A B	61%
Amount of recreation programs	47%	58%	71% A E	59%	54%	60%	59%
Variety of recreation programs	33%	70% A E	71% A E	65% A E	53% A	62% A	61%
Quality of recreation programs	72%	64%	76%	71%	65%	74%	70%

Table 111: Frequency of Using Rochester Parks & Recreation System Amenities by Respondent Annual Household Income

In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program? (Percent used at least a few times a year)	Less than \$25,000 (A)	\$25,000 to \$49,999 (B)	\$50,000 to \$74,999 (C)	\$75,000 to \$99,999 (D)	\$100,000 to \$149,999 (E)	\$150,000 or more (F)	Overall (A)
In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program?	100% B C E	87%	90%	100% B C E	91%	100% B C E	94%

Table 112: Daily Usage of Rochester Parks & Recreation System Amenities by Respondent Annual Household Income

In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program? (Percent used daily)	Less than \$25,000 (A)	\$25,000 to \$49,999 (B)	\$50,000 to \$74,999 (C)	\$75,000 to \$99,999 (D)	\$100,000 to \$149,999 (E)	\$150,000 or more (F)	Overall (A)
In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program?	4%	12%	9%	16% A C	11%	16% A C	12%

Table 113: Usage of Rochester Parks & Recreation System Programs by Respondent Annual Household Income

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	Less than \$25,000 (A)	\$25,000 to \$49,999 (B)	\$50,000 to \$74,999 (C)	\$75,000 to \$99,999 (D)	\$100,000 to \$149,999 (E)	\$150,000 or more (F)	Overall (A)
Adult athletic fields	21%	13%	19%	20%	24% B	29% B C D	22%
Basketball courts	15%	9%	9%	11%	16% B C	14%	13%
Community gardens	46% B C D E F	22% C D E F	13%	13%	13%	12%	16%
Community/regional parks (i.e. Silver Lake or Quarry Hill)	87% B	76%	83%	91% B C E	83% B	94% B C E	86%
Cross country ski trails	13%	31% A D	26% A	21%	24%	37% A C D E	27%
Disc golf courses	11%	18%	16%	19%	17%	15%	18%
Dog parks	33%	31%	25%	26%	31%	27%	27%
General open space/natural space	94% B C E	76%	75%	89% B C E	79%	90% B C E	82%
Golf courses	20%	12%	19%	21% B	27% B C	28% B C	23%
Graham Arena	55% B C D E F	21%	29%	26%	25%	34% B D E	28%
Mayo Field (Honkers baseball)	16%	16%	21%	29% A B	26% B	28% A B	24%
Mountain biking trails	30%	30% C E	20%	34% C E	21%	28% C E	26%
Natural areas	96% B C E F	79%	76%	86% C E	75%	82%	80%

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	Less than \$25,000 (A)	\$25,000 to \$49,999 (B)	\$50,000 to \$74,999 (C)	\$75,000 to \$99,999 (D)	\$100,000 to \$149,999 (E)	\$150,000 or more (F)	Overall (A)
National Volleyball Center	6%	8%	9%	7%	11%	15% A B C D	10%
Neighborhood parks (within ½ mile of home)	64%	68%	64%	82% A B C E	69%	82% A B C E	73%
Outdoor exercise equipment	21% C	14%	8%	14%	13%	13%	13%
Outdoor benches	89% B C E F	54%	77% B E	81% B E	70% B	75% B	72%
Outdoor pools	51% B C E	34%	36%	43% E	34%	39%	38%
Outdoor ice rinks	38% B C D	25%	25%	25%	27%	33% B C	28%
Picnic areas/shelters	63% C	66% C E	45%	67% C E	51%	60% C E	57%
Playgrounds	28%	57% A C E	34%	51% A C	46% A C	56% A C E	48%
Pickleball	9%	14% D	16% D E F	7%	10%	8%	12%
Public art	57%	48%	43%	50%	45%	52% C	47%
Quarry Hill Nature Center	87% B C	73%	74%	82% B C	81% B	88% B C E	80%
Rec center	27%	25%	24%	30%	33% C	42% A B C D E	32%
Sand volleyball courts	20% D E F	12%	13% D	6%	9%	10%	11%

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	Less than \$25,000 (A)	\$25,000 to \$49,999 (B)	\$50,000 to \$74,999 (C)	\$75,000 to \$99,999 (D)	\$100,000 to \$149,999 (E)	\$150,000 or more (F)	Overall (A)
Skate parks	9%	19% A C D E F	11%	10%	12%	12%	12%
Splash pads	19%	12%	10%	21% B C	16% C	20% B C	15%
Paved trails	86%	80%	82%	86%	82%	94% B C D E	85%
Tennis courts	18%	20%	21% D	12%	25% D	31% A B C D	22%
Youth athletic fields	15%	11%	16%	20% B	22% B	31% A B C D E	21%

Table 114: Funding for Rochester Parks & Recreation System Programs by Respondent Annual Household Income

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	Less than \$25,000 (A)	\$25,000 to \$49,999 (B)	\$50,000 to \$74,999 (C)	\$75,000 to \$99,999 (D)	\$100,000 to \$149,999 (E)	\$150,000 or more (F)	Overall (A)
Adult athletic fields	55%	46%	52% D	43%	52% D	47%	48%
Basketball courts	54%	60% E	57%	51%	49%	56%	53%
Community gardens	75% D E	74% D E	70% E	62%	60%	65%	64%
Community/regional parks (i.e. Silver Lake or Quarry Hill)	87% B	77%	86% B	84% B	89% B	92% B C D	86%
Cross country ski trails	39%	51%	57% A	49%	52%	64% A B D E	54%
Disc golf courses	39%	48%	52%	48%	48%	48%	50%
Dog parks	44%	61% A	70% A D E F	54%	57% A	58% A	59%
General open space/natural space	87%	80%	88% B E F	82%	80%	79%	81%
Golf courses	32%	36%	43% D E	29%	34%	38% D	37%
Graham Arena	62% B D E	43%	54% B E	47%	43%	50%	48%
Mayo Field (Honkers baseball)	46%	50%	50% D	41%	52% D	44%	47%
Mountain biking trails	61%	53%	58%	52%	51%	65% B D E	55%

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	Less than \$25,000 (A)	\$25,000 to \$49,999 (B)	\$50,000 to \$74,999 (C)	\$75,000 to \$99,999 (D)	\$100,000 to \$149,999 (E)	\$150,000 or more (F)	Overall (A)
Natural areas	84%	78%	85% E	84%	78%	81%	81%
National Volleyball Center	42%	34%	47% B D E	32%	39%	43% D	39%
Neighborhood parks (within ½ mile of home)	85% B	71%	83% B	80% B	78% B	85% B E	79%
Outdoor exercise equipment	42%	47%	54% D E	41%	42%	47%	45%
Outdoor benches	79% B	64%	73% B	72%	68%	70%	69%
Outdoor pools	73% B	58%	80% B E	78% B E	65%	79% B E	72%
Outdoor ice rinks	58%	54%	71% A B	63%	69% B	64% B	65%
Picnic areas/shelters	70%	75%	78% E	74%	68%	73%	73%
Playgrounds	75%	67%	76% B	81% B E	71%	85% B C E	76%
Pickleball	28%	43% A	57% A B D E	45% A	46% A	51% A	48%
Public art	69% C D E	63% C D E	50%	52%	51%	58%	54%
Quarry Hill Nature Center	80%	76%	85% B	80%	86% B	88% B D	83%
Rec center	59%	58%	63%	61%	64%	69% B	63%

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	Less than \$25,000 (A)	\$25,000 to \$49,999 (B)	\$50,000 to \$74,999 (C)	\$75,000 to \$99,999 (D)	\$100,000 to \$149,999 (E)	\$150,000 or more (F)	Overall (A)
Sand volleyball courts	50%	43%	55% B D E F	40%	39%	46%	44%
Skate parks	57%	49%	58% E	55%	48%	51%	51%
Splash pads	68% B	50%	67% B E	61% B	59%	66% B	61%
Paved trails	84%	76%	90% B D	78%	85% B D	90% B D	84%
Tennis courts	48%	46%	60% B D	44%	53%	57% B D	53%
Youth athletic fields	40%	59% A	67% A	67% A	67% A	70% A B	65%

Table 115: Familiarity with Park System Plan by Respondent Annual Household Income

How familiar, if at all, are you with the Park System Plan that was developed in 2015-2016? (Percent very or somewhat familiar)	Less than \$25,000 (A)	\$25,000 to \$49,999 (B)	\$50,000 to \$74,999 (C)	\$75,000 to \$99,999 (D)	\$100,000 to \$149,999 (E)	\$150,000 or more (F)	Overall (A)
How familiar, if at all, are you with the Park System Plan that was developed in 2015-2016?	10%	11%	11%	17%	20% A B C	16%	15%

Table 116: Preference for Park System Plan and Funding by Respondent Annual Household Income

Which ONE of the following statements best describes the type of park system and level of investment you desire for Rochester?	Less than \$25,000 (A)	\$25,000 to \$49,999 (B)	\$50,000 to \$74,999 (C)	\$75,000 to \$99,999 (D)	\$100,000 to \$149,999 (E)	\$150,000 or more (F)	Overall (A)
Best in the Midwest through significant investment in state of the art facilities, a complete, connected trail system, large natural areas, and significant expanded programming.	34% C	27% C	11%	23% C	30% C	29% C	25%
Best in the State of Minnesota through additional investment to modernize indoor and outdoor facilities, expand the trail system, preserve additional natural areas, and increase programming.	23%	29%	53% A B E	41%	37%	41%	40%
Similar to other Minnesota communities through modest investment for indoor and outdoor facilities to serve popular sports, gradual connection of all trails, enhancement of natural areas and some programming.	27%	35%	26%	27%	24%	25%	28%
Focus on meeting the basic resident needs with indoor and outdoor facilities for a few sports, trail connectivity focused on park access, a few natural areas, and continued collaboration with local clubs/associations for programming.	9%	8%	4%	7%	7%	4%	6%
Minimalist focus on maintaining what currently exists with limited, phased increases in facilities, trails, and natural areas. Programming primarily provided by clubs/associations.	7% B E	0%	6% B	1%	1%	1%	3%

Table 117: Current Parks and Recreation System Preferences by Respondent Annual Household Income

Which ONE of the following statements do you agree most with in terms of the City's current Parks and Recreation system?	Less than \$25,000 (A)	\$25,000 to \$49,999 (B)	\$50,000 to \$74,999 (C)	\$75,000 to \$99,999 (D)	\$100,000 to \$149,999 (E)	\$150,000 or more (F)	Overall (A)
I would prefer better maintenance, updates, or expansions of existing parks, open space, trails, facilities, and recreation programs (e.g., enhanced accessibility, more bathrooms, additional playground equipment, more programs, etc.) rather than investments in new regional parks and new large facilities.	35%	29%	29%	31%	31%	24%	30%
I would prefer large investments in regional parks, build out of neighborhood parks, and more large facilities instead of greater maintenance or enhancements of the current parks and recreation system.	22% C D E	17% C D E	5%	6%	5%	13% C E	10%
I would prefer a balance between greater maintenance and enhancements to the current parks and recreation system and investing in new regional and neighborhood parks and new large facilities in order to equitably meet the recreation needs of the entire community.	43%	54%	66% A	63%	63% A	63% A	61%

Select Survey Results by Ward of Residence

Table 118: Quality of The Rochester Parks & Recreation System by Ward of Residency

Please rate the quality of each of the following aspects of the Rochester Parks & Recreation system. (Percent excellent or good)	Ward 1 (A)	Ward 2 (B)	Ward 3 (C)	Ward 4 (D)	Ward 5 (E)	Ward 6 (F)	Overall (A)
Overall feelings of safety in City parks and recreation facilities	90% E	91% E	91% E	85% E	77%	88% E	86%
Overall cleanliness of City parks and recreation facilities	75%	79%	83%	84% A E F	75%	76%	78%
Location of parks	87% C	86% C	76%	93% C	86% C	89% C	87%
Quality of parks	85% C	86% C E	74%	85% C	79%	87% C E	83%
Mowing	89% C	91% C	80%	92% C	92% C F	86%	89%
Quality of playgrounds	79%	74%	72%	81%	78%	83% C	78%
Playground maintenance	71%	76%	68%	80% C E	69%	84% A C E	75%
Shelter maintenance	74% C E	68% C	50%	71% C E	61% C	78% C E	67%
Trails and sidewalk connections	86%	80%	79%	87% F	84%	79%	83%
Condition of trails and sidewalks	89% B F	76% F	82% F	83% F	83% F	67%	80%
Quality of indoor recreation facilities	64% F	59%	60%	70% E F	56%	51%	61%
Amount of recreation programs	55%	50%	53%	74% A B C E	48%	67% B C E	59%
Variety of recreation programs	61% E	55%	53%	71% B C E	46%	68% B C E	61%
Quality of recreation programs	65%	64%	63%	79% A B C F	73% F	60%	70%

Table 119: Frequency of Using Rochester Parks & Recreation System Amenities by Ward of Residency

In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program? (Percent used at least a few times a year)	Ward 1 (A)	Ward 2 (B)	Ward 3 (C)	Ward 4 (D)	Ward 5 (E)	Ward 6 (F)	Overall (A)
In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program?	99% E F	100% E F	99% E F	98% E F	93% F	88%	94%

Table 120: Daily Usage of Rochester Parks & Recreation System Amenities by Ward of Residency

In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program? (Percent used daily)	Ward 1 (A)	Ward 2 (B)	Ward 3 (C)	Ward 4 (D)	Ward 5 (E)	Ward 6 (F)	Overall (A)
In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program?	14%	15% C	8%	8%	16% C D	14%	12%

Table 121: Usage of Rochester Parks & Recreation System Programs by Ward of Residency

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	Ward 1 (A)	Ward 2 (B)	Ward 3 (C)	Ward 4 (D)	Ward 5 (E)	Ward 6 (F)	Overall (A)
Adult athletic fields	24%	23%	25%	28% F	24%	17%	22%
Basketball courts	12%	13%	18%	16%	12%	15%	13%
Community gardens	16% C	26% A C E F	8%	23% C F	18% C F	10%	16%
Community/regional parks (i.e. Silver Lake or Quarry Hill)	91% D F	92% D F	93% D F	83%	92% D F	84%	86%
Cross country ski trails	30% F	37% C F	23%	29% F	31% C F	17%	27%
Disc golf courses	16%	22% C E	9%	21% C E	13%	19% C	18%
Dog parks	27%	26%	24%	35% C F	38% A B C F	20%	27%
General open space/natural space	85% F	86% F	90% F	89% F	86% F	76%	82%
Golf courses	26%	25%	24%	21%	23%	21%	23%
Graham Arena	38% B C D F	24%	22%	17%	32% B C D	25%	28%
Mayo Field (Honkers baseball)	25%	25%	33% D E F	18%	21%	24%	24%
Mountain biking trails	37% C E F	30% E F	27% F	40% B C E F	19%	16%	26%
Natural areas	80%	81%	83%	90% A B F	84% F	75%	80%
National Volleyball Center	9%	10%	10%	10%	10%	8%	10%
Neighborhood parks (within ½ mile of home)	73%	85% A E F	78%	87% A C E F	76%	75%	73%

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	Ward 1 (A)	Ward 2 (B)	Ward 3 (C)	Ward 4 (D)	Ward 5 (E)	Ward 6 (F)	Overall (A)
Outdoor exercise equipment	13%	17% E F	16% E	13%	10%	10%	13%
Outdoor benches	63%	82% A C F	70%	85% A C E F	76% A F	67%	72%
Outdoor pools	35%	37%	42%	42%	42%	40%	38%
Outdoor ice rinks	35% C D	34% C D	24% D	15%	32% D	29% D	28%
Picnic areas/shelters	64% F	55%	56%	69% B C F	63% F	48%	57%
Playgrounds	52% F	48%	52% F	54% F	49%	42%	48%
Pickleball	15% C	14% C	5%	11%	11%	10%	12%
Public art	54% C F	60% C D E F	34%	45% C	51% C F	38%	47%
Quarry Hill Nature Center	87% C F	89% C F	79%	86% F	89% C F	75%	80%
Rec center	34%	30%	36%	27%	37% D F	27%	32%
Sand volleyball courts	14%	10%	9%	14%	11%	10%	11%
Skate parks	7%	15% A	14%	10%	13% A	12%	12%
Splash pads	14%	18%	16%	18%	13%	17%	15%
Paved trails	94% C F	92% F	87% F	90% F	90% F	78%	85%
Tennis courts	22%	28% D F	28% D F	14%	26% D F	16%	22%
Youth athletic fields	20%	25% D	19%	15%	21%	24% D	21%

Table 122: Funding for Rochester Parks & Recreation System Programs by Ward of Residency

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	Ward 1 (A)	Ward 2 (B)	Ward 3 (C)	Ward 4 (D)	Ward 5 (E)	Ward 6 (F)	Overall (A)
Adult athletic fields	50% B	40%	52% B	43%	59% B D F	44%	48%
Basketball courts	45%	49%	53%	54%	54% A	61% A B	53%
Community gardens	65%	63%	60%	70%	69%	63%	64%
Community/regional parks (i.e. Silver Lake or Quarry Hill)	87%	89% D	91% D	80%	92% D F	85%	86%
Cross country ski trails	60% C	58% C	44%	53%	58% C	52%	54%
Disc golf courses	46% C	49% C	35%	58% A C	49% C	50% C	50%
Dog parks	62% F	59%	58%	63% F	62% F	51%	59%
General open space/natural space	82% F	85% F	86% F	90% A E F	82% F	74%	81%
Golf courses	33%	37% C	25%	42% C	36% C	41% C	37%
Graham Arena	47% C	46% C	35%	51% C	56% A B C F	43%	48%
Mayo Field (Honkers baseball)	43%	47%	39%	45%	51% C	53% C	47%
Mountain biking trails	63% C F	56% C	43%	55% C	59% C F	49%	55%
Natural areas	84% F	85% F	83% F	89% F	84% F	73%	81%
National Volleyball Center	36%	28%	40% B	34%	48% A B D F	39% B	39%

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	Ward 1 (A)	Ward 2 (B)	Ward 3 (C)	Ward 4 (D)	Ward 5 (E)	Ward 6 (F)	Overall (A)
Neighborhood parks (within ½ mile of home)	82%	82% F	81%	84% F	83% F	75%	79%
Outdoor exercise equipment	44%	39%	51% B	49%	47%	46%	45%
Outdoor benches	68%	73%	70%	70%	75% F	65%	69%
Outdoor pools	70%	69%	71%	71%	81% A B C D F	73%	72%
Outdoor ice rinks	64%	68%	65%	61%	68%	60%	65%
Picnic areas/shelters	69%	83% A C D F	64%	73% C	79% A C F	69%	73%
Playgrounds	77%	80% F	73%	73%	81% C D F	71%	76%
Pickleball	50% C	43% C	32%	54% B C	55% B C	49% C	48%
Public art	53%	62% F	55%	59% F	55%	47%	54%
Quarry Hill Nature Center	81%	87% F	84%	81%	88% F	80%	83%
Rec center	67% B D	56%	64% D	53%	74% B C D F	62%	63%
Sand volleyball courts	50% C F	42% C	32%	42%	53% B C D F	41%	44%
Skate parks	48% C	52% C	35%	52% C	56% C	52% C	51%
Splash pads	66% B C	55%	53%	58%	64% B C	66% B C	61%

For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, FIRST please indicate whether your household uses each, THEN tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed: (Percent yes)	Ward 1 (A)	Ward 2 (B)	Ward 3 (C)	Ward 4 (D)	Ward 5 (E)	Ward 6 (F)	Overall (A)
Paved trails	83% F	89% D F	88% D F	80%	90% D F	75%	84%
Tennis courts	54%	55%	48%	52%	59% C F	49%	53%
Youth athletic fields	69%	63%	62%	69%	65%	61%	65%

Table 123: Familiarity with Park System Plan by Ward of Residency

How familiar, if at all, are you with the Park System Plan that was developed in 2015-2016? (Percent very or somewhat familiar)	Ward 1 (A)	Ward 2 (B)	Ward 3 (C)	Ward 4 (D)	Ward 5 (E)	Ward 6 (F)	Overall (A)
How familiar, if at all, are you with the Park System Plan that was developed in 2015-2016?	20% E	15%	15%	25% B C E F	11%	15%	15%

Table 124: Preference for Park System Plan and Funding by Ward of Residency

Which ONE of the following statements best describes the type of park system and level of investment you desire for Rochester?	Ward 1 (A)	Ward 2 (B)	Ward 3 (C)	Ward 4 (D)	Ward 5 (E)	Ward 6 (F)	Overall (A)
Best in the Midwest through significant investment in state of the art facilities, a complete, connected trail system, large natural areas, and significant expanded programming.	23%	32% D	21%	19%	29%	21%	25%
Best in the State of Minnesota through additional investment to modernize indoor and outdoor facilities, expand the trail system, preserve additional natural areas, and increase programming.	39%	36%	41%	37%	36%	46%	40%
Similar to other Minnesota communities through modest investment for indoor and outdoor facilities to serve popular sports, gradual connection of all trails, enhancement of natural areas and some programming.	27%	26%	30%	31%	29%	23%	28%
Focus on meeting the basic resident needs with indoor and outdoor facilities for a few sports, trail connectivity focused on park access, a few natural areas, and continued collaboration with local clubs/associations for programing.	5%	3%	5%	11% B	4%	9%	6%
Minimalist focus on maintaining what currently exists with limited, phased increases in facilities, trails, and natural areas. Programing primarily provided by clubs/associations.	6% F	3%	3%	2%	3%	1%	3%

Table 125: Current Parks and Recreation System Preferences by Ward of Residency

Which ONE of the following statements do you agree most with in terms of the City's current Parks and Recreation system?	Ward 1 (A)	Ward 2 (B)	Ward 3 (C)	Ward 4 (D)	Ward 5 (E)	Ward 6 (F)	Overall (A)
I would prefer better maintenance, updates, or expansions of existing parks, open space, trails, facilities, and recreation programs (e.g., enhanced accessibility, more bathrooms, additional playground equipment, more programs, etc.) rather than investments in new regional parks and new large facilities.	28%	34%	33%	37% E	23%	33%	30%
I would prefer large investments in regional parks, build out of neighborhood parks, and more large facilities instead of greater maintenance or enhancements of the current parks and recreation system.	8%	9%	8%	12%	9%	8%	10%
I would prefer a balance between greater maintenance and enhancements to the current parks and recreation system and investing in new regional and neighborhood parks and new large facilities in order to equitably meet the recreation needs of the entire community.	64%	56%	60%	51%	68% D	60%	61%

Appendix D: Survey Methodology

About the Survey

In 2015-2016, the City of Rochester developed a Parks and Recreation Master Plan to help guide future improvements to make sure the facilities, programs, and amenities offered meet community needs, and to make sure that improvements were economically sustainable over next 20 years. In 2021, the City of Rochester, MN contracted with Polco's National Research Center (NRC) to conduct a survey of residents to ensure the goals, policies and strategies of the Plan developed in 2016 still meet the community's needs. Questions about the survey can be directed to Jenna Bowman, City of Rochester Strategic Communications and Engagement Director, at jbowman@rochestermn.gov.

Selecting Survey Recipients

Two efforts were made to recruit residents to participate in the survey. The first was a targeted random sample of resident households, to ensure a results were representative of the entire population. One of the first steps taken to ensure survey results are representative of the target population is to use a source from which survey recipients are selected that provides adequate to good "coverage" of the target population. This source is referred to as the "sampling frame" in the survey research industry. For a survey of residents, a list of addresses based on the United States Postal Service delivery sequence file is the most comprehensive list of households. For this survey, the list was purchased from Go-Dog Direct.

Since it is cost prohibitive to survey every household in Rochester, a random selection of records from the sampling frame was made. An example that may be familiar from a math or statistics class is the jar or bowl of marbles of various colors. If the jar has two-thirds red marbles and one-third blue marbles, a random selection of marbles from that jars should result in a similar proportion of red and blue marbles as in the original jar.

The addresses were geocoded (mapped to a specific latitude and longitude) and compared to the boundaries of Rochester. Addresses identified as being outside of the city limits of were excluded. Additionally, the Ward within which each household was location was

identified. A total of 5,500 households were selected to receive the survey. Multi-family housing units were oversampled to compensate for single-family housing unit residents' tendency to return surveys at a higher rate. These 5,500 survey recipients were further divided into two groups, as described in the next section.

The second effort to recruit residents to the survey was an open participation survey, which the City publicized and to which any resident was invited.

Administering the Resident Survey

As mentioned above, the 5,500 households randomly selected to receive mailed invitation so participate in the survey were randomly divided into two groups. For the first group of 3,000 households the first mailing was a postcard inviting the household to participate in the survey. The next mailing contained a cover letter with instructions, the survey questionnaire, and a postage-paid return envelope. The final mailing contained a reminder letter, another survey, and a postage-paid return envelope. For the second group of 2,500 households, the first mailing was a postcard inviting the household to participate, followed one week later by a reminder postcard. All mailings included a web link to give residents the opportunity to respond to the survey online. All follow-up mailings asked those who had not completed the survey to do so and those who had already done so to refrain from completing the survey again. The first mailings were sent on July 12, 2021. The open participation survey was publicized beginning on August 2, 2021. Data collection for the survey was ended on August 20, 2021. Responses from recipients who completed a hard copy survey were entered into an electronic dataset using a "key and verify" method, where all responses are entered twice and compared to each other. Any discrepancies were resolved in comparison to the original survey form. Range checks as well as other forms of quality control were also performed. Responses from surveys completed on Polco were downloaded and merged with the mailed survey responses.



A total of 732 completed surveys were received from the random sample survey recipients, for an overall response rate of 13.3%. Of the 732 completed surveys, 510 came from the 3,000 households mailed a hard copy survey and a survey link (367 completed the paper survey while 143 did the survey online) for a response rate of 17.0% and 211 from the 2,500 households mailed invitations to the online survey for a response rate of 8%. A total of 1,444 responses were received from the open participation survey recruitment.

When a survey is administered to a sample of randomly selected recipients of the larger population being studied (known as a “probability sample”), a margin of error can be calculated that estimates the precision of the survey results based on that sample. This margin of error quantifies what is known as the “sampling error.” A margin of error at the 95% confidence level can be calculated for any sample size, and indicates that in 95 of 100 surveys conducted in a similar manner, a result would be found that is within the “margin of error.” The practical difficulties of conducting any resident survey may introduce other sources of error in addition to sampling error. Despite the best efforts to boost participation and ensure potential inclusion of all households, some selected households will decline participation in the survey (referred to as non-response error) and some eligible households may be unintentionally excluded from the listed sources for the sample (referred to as coverage error). The margin of error for this survey, with 732 probability sample respondents, is $\pm 3.6\%$. In essence, this means that, 95% of the time, any statistic given in this report will be within 3.6 percentage points of what the entire adult population would have given had they all been surveyed.

Analyzing the Results

Weighting and Blending the Data

The results from the random sample and the open participation effort were independently adjusted through a process known as weighting to be as reflective of Rochester’s overall adult (18+) population, as possible, using information available from the 2010 Census and 2017 American Community Survey. The primary objective of weighting survey data is to

make the survey respondents reflective of the larger population of the community. Statistical weights were applied to adjust the sociodemographic characteristics of the respondents (tenure [rent vs own], housing unit type [attached vs detached], ethnicity, race, sex, and age) to match the sociodemographic/geographic characteristics of the City. No adjustments were made for design effects.

The responses to the survey were then compared for the random sample recipients and the open participation survey respondents. As might be expected, those who responded to the open participation survey were more likely to report using Parks & Recreation offerings. They also tended to give slightly lower ratings. The open participation survey respondents were then given additional adjustments (weighting) to make them more representative of the population. The results of the weighting for the random sample and open participation survey are presented in the table on the next page. The results presented in the body of the report are based on the statistically valid responses only, but the open participation survey responses are included in the appendices to the report.

Statistical Analysis

The electronic dataset was analyzed using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS). For the most part, frequency distributions are presented in the body of the report. The complete sets of frequencies for each survey question are presented in *Appendix A: Frequency of Responses to All Questions*. Comparisons of responses to questions by respondent characteristics and geographic location can be found in *Appendix C: Selected Survey Responses by Respondent Characteristics*. Chi-square or ANOVA tests of significance were applied to these breakdowns of selected survey questions. A “p-value” of 0.05 or less indicates that there is less than a 5% probability that differences observed between groups are due to chance; or in other words, a greater than 95% probability that the differences observed in the selected categories of the sample represent “real” differences among those populations. Where differences between subgroups are statistically significant, they have been marked.

Table 126: Rochester, MN Parks & Recreation Planning Survey Weighting Table 2021

Characteristic	Population Norm	Random Sample		Open Participation	
		Unweighted Data	Weighted Data	Unweighted Data	Weighted Data
Housing					
Rent home	31%	18%	28%	9%	28%
Own home	69%	82%	72%	91%	72%
Race and Ethnicity					
White alone, not Hispanic	82%	89%	82%	90%	82%
Hispanic and/or other race	18%	11%	18%	10%	18%
Sex and Age					
Female	52%	57%	51%	61%	52%
Male	48%	43%	49%	39%	48%
18-34 years of age	33%	17%	31%	21%	32%
35-54 years of age	33%	27%	33%	53%	35%
55+ years of age	34%	55%	36%	26%	33%
AREA					
Ward 1	17%	16%	18%	15%	17%
Ward 2	19%	20%	19%	18%	19%
Ward 3	14%	16%	13%	14%	13%
Ward 4	13%	10%	13%	12%	13%
Ward 5	20%	20%	20%	26%	21%
Ward 6	17%	17%	17%	14%	17%

Appendix E: Survey Materials

The following pages contain copies of the survey materials mailed to the random sample participants, including the hard copy survey. This survey is nearly identical to what was used for the online survey, with two exceptions. Only online respondents were asked the open-ended question “Thinking about the future of the Rochester Parks and Recreation System, do you have any other suggestions for improvements or how funding should be spent?” And only the open participation survey respondents were asked how they had heard of the survey.



201 4th Street SE
Rochester, MN 55904

Presorted
First Class Mail
US Postage
PAID
Boulder, CO
Permit NO. 94

Rochester, MN Community Member:

In 2015-2016, the City of Rochester developed a Parks and Recreation Master Plan to help guide future improvements to make sure the facilities, programs, and amenities offered meet community needs, and to make sure that improvements were economically sustainable over next 20 years. The City is conducting a survey of residents to ensure the goals, policies and strategies of the Plan developed in 2016 still meet the community's needs. **We want to hear from you even if you don't use the City's parks and recreation services!**

Polco is an external, independent firm that has been contracted to conduct this survey. Your household has been selected at random to participate. In order to hear from a diverse group of residents, we ask that the adult 18 years or older in your household who most recently had a birthday complete the survey online by going to:

Please do not share your survey link. This survey is for randomly selected households only. Your answers will be completely confidential and no personally identifying information will be shared.

If you have any questions about the survey, please contact Jenna Bowman, City of Rochester Strategic Communications and Engagement Director, at jbowman@rochestermn.gov or 507-328-2913.

Thank you for your time and participation!

Sincerely,

Paul Widman, City of Rochester Park and Recreation Director



201 4th Street SE
Rochester, MN 55904

Presorted
First Class Mail
US Postage
PAID
Boulder, CO
Permit NO. 94

Rochester, MN Community Member:

Here's another chance if you haven't already responded to our survey! **If you completed it online, we thank you for your time and ask you to recycle this invitation. Please do not respond twice.**

In 2015-2016, the City of Rochester developed a Parks and Recreation Master Plan to help guide future improvements to make sure the facilities, programs, and amenities offered meet community needs, and to make sure that improvements were economically sustainable over next 20 years. The City is conducting a survey of residents to ensure the goals, policies and strategies of the Plan developed in 2016 still meet the community's needs. **We want to hear from you even if you don't use the City's parks and recreation services!**

Polco is an external, independent firm that has been contracted to conduct this survey. Your household has been selected at random to participate. In order to hear from a diverse group of residents, we ask that the adult 18 years or older in your household who most recently had a birthday complete the survey online by going to:

Please do not share your survey link. This survey is for randomly selected households only. Your answers will be completely confidential and no personally identifying information will be shared.

If you have any questions about the survey, please contact Jenna Bowman, City of Rochester Strategic Communications and Engagement Director, at jbowman@rochestermn.gov or 507-328-2913.

Thank you for your time and participation!

Sincerely,

Paul Widman, City of Rochester Park and Recreation Director



201 4th Street SE
Rochester, MN 55904

Presorted
First Class Mail
US Postage
PAID
Boulder, CO
Permit NO. 94

Rochester, MN Community Member:

In 2015-2016, the City of Rochester developed a Parks and Recreation Master Plan to help guide future improvements to make sure the facilities, programs, and amenities offered meet community needs, and to make sure that improvements were economically sustainable over next 20 year period. The City is conducting a survey of residents to ensure the goals, policies and strategies of the Plan developed in 2016 still meet the community's needs. **We want to hear from you even if you don't use the City's parks and recreation services!**

Polco is an external, independent firm that has been contracted to conduct this survey. Your household has been selected at random to participate. A survey will be mailed to you in a few days. In order to hear from a diverse group of residents, we ask that the adult 18 years or older in your household who most recently had a birthday complete the survey. If that person prefers, they may complete the survey online by going to:

Please do not share your survey link. This survey is for randomly selected households only. Your answers will be completely confidential and no personally identifying information will be shared.

If you have any questions about the survey, please contact Jenna Bowman, City of Rochester Strategic Communications and Engagement Director, at jbowman@rochestermn.gov or 507-328-2913.

Thank you for your time and participation!

Sincerely,

Paul Widman, City of Rochester Park and Recreation Director



July 2021

Dear Rochester, MN Community Member:

In 2015-2016, the City of Rochester developed a Parks and Recreation Master Plan to help guide future improvements to make sure the facilities, programs, and amenities offered meet community needs, and to make sure that improvements were economically sustainable over next 20 year period. The City is conducting a survey of residents to ensure the goals, policies and strategies of the Plan developed in 2016 still meet the community's needs. **We want to hear from you even if you don't use the City's parks and recreation services!**

Polco is an external, independent firm that has been contracted to conduct this survey. Your household has been randomly selected to participate.

A few things to remember:

- **Your responses are completely confidential.** No personally identifying information will be shared.
- In order to hear from a diverse group of residents, the adult 18 years or older in your household who most recently had a birthday should complete this survey.
- **You may return the survey by mail in the enclosed postage-paid envelope, or you can complete the survey online at:**
- **Please do not share your survey link.** This survey is for randomly selected households only. The City will conduct a separate survey that is open to all residents just a few weeks from now.

If you have any questions about the survey, please contact Jenna Bowman, City of Rochester Strategic Communications and Engagement Director, at jbowman@rochestermn.gov or 507-328-2913.

Thank you for your time and participation!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Widman', is written over a light gray rectangular background.

Paul Widman, City of Rochester Park and Recreation Director



July 2021

Dear Rochester, MN Community Member:

Here's another chance if you haven't already responded to our survey! **If you completed it and sent it back, we thank you for your time and ask you to recycle this survey. Please do not respond twice.**

In 2015-2016, the City of Rochester developed a Parks and Recreation Master Plan to help guide future improvements to make sure the facilities, programs, and amenities offered meet community needs, and to make sure that improvements were economically sustainable over next 20 year period. The City is conducting a survey of residents to ensure the goals, policies and strategies of the Plan developed in 2016 still meet the community's needs. **We want to hear from you even if you don't use the City's parks and recreation services!**

Polco is an external, independent firm that has been contracted to conduct this survey. Your household has been randomly selected to participate.

A few things to remember:

- **Your responses are completely confidential.** No personally identifying information will be shared.
- In order to hear from a diverse group of residents, the adult 18 years or older in your household who most recently had a birthday should complete this survey.
- **You may return the survey by mail in the enclosed postage-paid envelope, or you can complete the survey online at:**
- **Please do not share your survey link.** This survey is for randomly selected households only. The City will conduct a separate survey that is open to all residents just a few weeks from now.

If you have any questions about the survey, please contact Jenna Bowman, City of Rochester Strategic Communications and Engagement Director, at jbowman@rochestermn.gov or 507-328-2913.

Thank you for your time and participation!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Widman', written in a cursive style.

Paul Widman, City of Rochester Park and Recreation Director

City of Rochester Parks & Recreation Planning Survey 2021

We want to hear from you even if you don't use the City's parks and recreation services! Please complete this survey if you are the adult (age 18 or older) in the household who most recently had a birthday (see cover letter for more information). Your responses are completely confidential and no identifying information will be shared.

1. Please rate the quality of each of the following aspects of the Rochester Parks & Recreation system.

	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Don't know</u>
Overall feelings of safety in City parks and recreation facilities.....	1	2	3	4	5
Overall cleanliness of City parks and recreation facilities.....	1	2	3	4	5
Location of parks.....	1	2	3	4	5
Quality of parks.....	1	2	3	4	5
Mowing.....	1	2	3	4	5
Quality of playgrounds.....	1	2	3	4	5
Playground maintenance.....	1	2	3	4	5
Shelter maintenance.....	1	2	3	4	5
Trails and sidewalk connections.....	1	2	3	4	5
Condition of trails and sidewalks.....	1	2	3	4	5
Quality of indoor recreation facilities.....	1	2	3	4	5
Amount of recreation programs.....	1	2	3	4	5
Variety of recreation programs.....	1	2	3	4	5
Quality of recreation programs.....	1	2	3	4	5

2. In the last 2 years, how often, if ever, has your household used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program?

- Never → Go to question 3
 - A few times a year
 - 1-2 times a month
 - Once a week
 - Multiple times a week
 - Daily
- } Skip to question 4

3. If your household has NOT used a Rochester park or trail, or a Rochester Parks & Recreation facility or recreation program, please share why (check all that apply).

- No interest
- No time
- Cost/ too expensive
- Safety concerns
- Lack of transportation
- Distance from home
- A physical, mental, or emotional condition
- Physical barrier (major roadway, geography, elevation, river, etc.)
- Lack of welcome and inclusive space
- Lack of amenities/programs that meet my household's needs
- Other: _____

4. Thinking about the last 2 years, please select all City-provided or supported recreation programs that you or someone in your household has participated in.

- We don't participate in City recreation programs
- 125 Live
- Adaptive recreation
- Basketball
- Baseball
- Broomball
- Disc golf
- Figure skating
- Football/flag football
- Golf
- Hockey
- Kickball
- Lacrosse
- Mountain biking
- Pipsqueaks indoor playground
- Pickleball
- Soccer
- Softball
- Swimming
- Volleyball
- Water aerobics
- Other: _____

5. For each of the following City of Rochester Parks & Recreation offerings, **FIRST** please indicate whether your household uses each, **THEN** tell us whether you believe the City of Rochester Parks and Recreation should invest in each or not knowing that additional investment means additional funding is needed:

	Does your household participate?		Should the City invest?	
	no	yes	no	yes
Adult athletic fields	N	Y	N	Y
Basketball courts	N	Y	N	Y
Community gardens	N	Y	N	Y
Community/regional parks (i.e. Silver Lake or Quarry Hill)	N	Y	N	Y
Cross country ski trails	N	Y	N	Y
Disc golf courses	N	Y	N	Y
Dog parks	N	Y	N	Y
General open space/natural space	N	Y	N	Y
Golf courses	N	Y	N	Y
Graham Arena	N	Y	N	Y
Mayo Field (Honkers baseball)	N	Y	N	Y
Mountain biking trails	N	Y	N	Y
Natural areas	N	Y	N	Y
National Volleyball Center	N	Y	N	Y

	Does your household participate?		Should the City invest?	
	no	yes	no	yes
Neighborhood parks (within ½ mile of home)	N	Y	N	Y
Outdoor exercise equipment	N	Y	N	Y
Outdoor benches	N	Y	N	Y
Outdoor pools	N	Y	N	Y
Outdoor ice rinks	N	Y	N	Y
Picnic areas/shelters	N	Y	N	Y
Playgrounds	N	Y	N	Y
Pickleball	N	Y	N	Y
Public art	N	Y	N	Y
Quarry Hill Nature Center	N	Y	N	Y
Rec center	N	Y	N	Y
Sand volleyball courts	N	Y	N	Y
Skate parks	N	Y	N	Y
Splash pads	N	Y	N	Y
Paved trails	N	Y	N	Y
Tennis courts	N	Y	N	Y
Youth athletic fields	N	Y	N	Y

Overview of Parks System Plan

In 2015-2016, the City of Rochester developed a Parks and Recreation Master Plan to help guide future improvements to make sure the facilities, programs, and amenities offered meet community needs, and to make sure that improvements were economically sustainable over next 20 year period.

6. How familiar, if at all, are you with the Park System Plan that was developed in 2015-2016?

- Very familiar
- Somewhat familiar
- I've heard of it but don't know much about it
- Not at all familiar

7. Which ONE of the following statements best describes the type of park system and level of investment you desire for Rochester?

- Best in the Midwest through significant investment in state of the art facilities, a complete, connected trail system, large natural areas, and significant expanded programming.
- Best in the State of Minnesota through additional investment to modernize indoor and outdoor facilities, expand the trail system, preserve additional natural areas, and increase programming.
- Similar to other Minnesota communities through modest investment for indoor and outdoor facilities to serve popular sports, gradual connection of all trails, enhancement of natural areas and some programming.
- Focus on meeting the basic resident needs with indoor and outdoor facilities for a few sports, trail connectivity focused on park access, a few natural areas, and continued collaboration with local clubs/associations for programming.
- Minimalist focus on maintaining what currently exists with limited, phased increases in facilities, trails, and natural areas. Programming primarily provided by clubs/associations.

8. Which ONE of the following statements do you agree most with in terms of the City's current Parks and Recreation system?

- I would prefer better maintenance, updates, or expansions of existing parks, open space, trails, facilities, and recreation programs (e.g., enhanced accessibility, more bathrooms, additional playground equipment, more programs, etc.) rather than investments in new regional parks and new large facilities.
- I would prefer large investments in regional parks, build out of neighborhood parks, and more large facilities instead of greater maintenance or enhancements of the current parks and recreation system.
- I would prefer a balance between greater maintenance and enhancements to the current parks and recreation system and investing in new regional and neighborhood parks and new large facilities in order to equitably meet the recreation needs of the entire community.

Our last questions are about you. We recognize that we are asking many demographic questions; this is to make sure we hear from a diverse group of people and to understand differences in experience. These responses will be used to compare the survey responses above to better understand the potential differing experiences of residents from diverse backgrounds. These questions are voluntary, but we are asking you to please help us by providing this critical information so that we can fully understand survey results. Again, all of your responses to this survey are confidential and no identifying information will be shared.

9. **Do you own or rent your home?**
 Own Rent
10. **Do you have a physical, mental, or emotional condition that limits and/or shapes your participation in work and society?**
 Yes No
11. **How much do you anticipate your household's total income before taxes will be for the current year? (Please include in your total income money from all sources for all persons living in your household.)**
 Up to \$9,999
 \$10,000 to \$24,999
 \$25,000 to \$49,999
 \$50,000 to \$74,999
 \$75,000 to \$99,999
 \$100,000 to \$149,999
 \$150,000 to \$199,999
 \$200,000 to \$249,999
 \$250,000 or more
12. **Is English your first language?**
 Yes No
13. **Which best describes your country of origin, regardless of current nationality?**
 My country of origin is the USA
 I am originally from another country
14. **What is your race and/or ethnicity? (Mark one or more races to indicate what race you consider yourself to be.)**
 American Indian or Alaskan Native
 Arabic or Middle Eastern
 Asian, Asian Indian or Pacific Islander
 Black, African American or African immigrant
 Spanish, Hispanic or Latino/a
 White
 Other

15. **What is your religious or spiritual identity?**
 Agnostic / Atheist
 Buddhist
 Christian
 Hindu
 Jewish
 Muslim
 Sikh
 Spiritual, but no religious affiliation
 No affiliation
 Other
16. **In which category is your age?**
 18-24 years 55-64 years
 25-34 years 65-74 years
 35-44 years 75 years or older
 45-54 years
17. **What is your current gender identity?**
 Female
 Genderqueer/gender non-conforming
 Male
 Trans male/trans man
 Trans female/trans woman
 Different/other identity
18. **Which term best describes your sexual orientation?**
 Asexual
 Bisexual
 Gay
 Heterosexual/Straight
 Lesbian
 Queer
 Questioning
 I prefer to self identify
19. **What is your 5-digit zip code?**
 55901 55906
 55902 Other zip code
 55904 Don't know
 55905

Thank you for completing this survey. Please return the completed survey in the postage-paid envelope to: National Research Center, Inc., PO Box 549, Belle Mead, NJ 08502



201 4th Street SE
Rochester, MN 55904

Presorted
First Class Mail
US Postage
PAID
Boulder, CO
Permit NO. 94