

Harelson Park Improvements

Investing in Tempe Parks

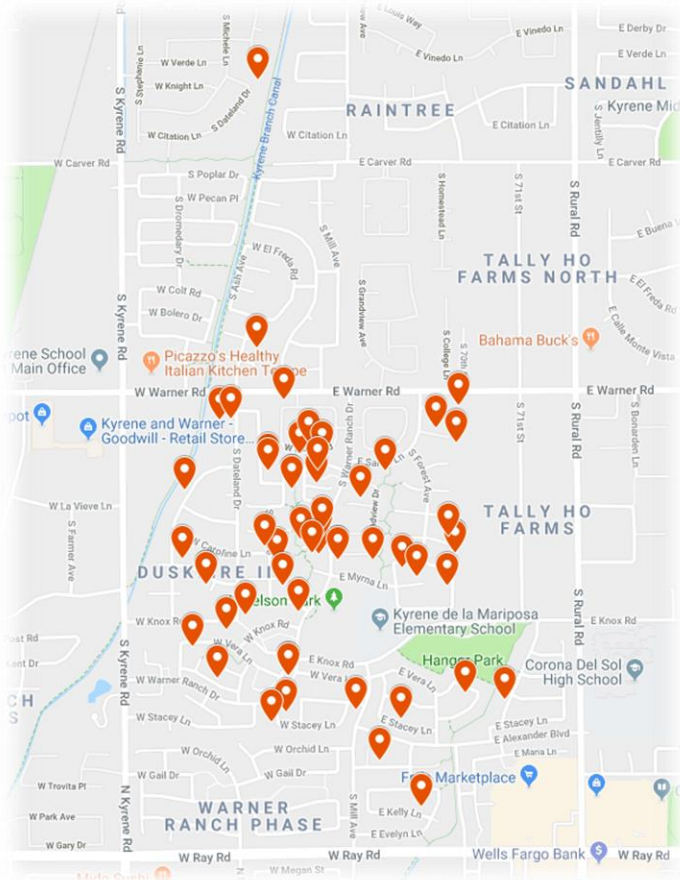
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Tempe

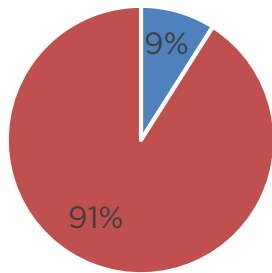
Overview:

A public meeting was held in Harelson Park on March 2, 2019 to share designs and receive input on proposed improvements to the picnic ramada in Harelson Park. Residents in the area of Warner Rd to Ray Rd, Rural Rd to Kyrene Rd (1426 households) were invited to attend via direct mailing. The invitation was shared via Nextdoor.com to the Warner Ranch Neighborhood and received 216 impressions. Signs were also posted in the park announcing the meeting. Twenty (20) residents signed-in at the meeting and 14 surveys were turned in. The survey was also posted online from March 2-16. Forty additional survey responses were received online for a total of 54 respondents.

Map of Responses:



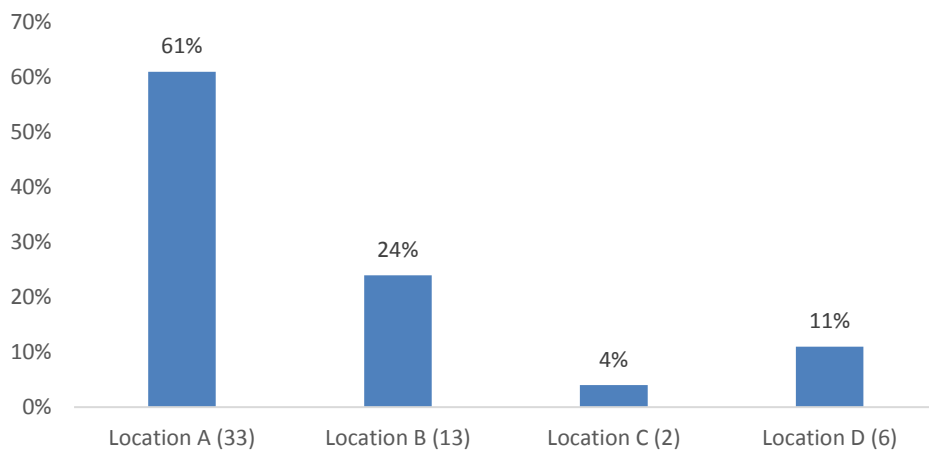
1. Harelson Park is eligible for new picnic ramadas. Please choose the number and size of ramadas you would prefer:



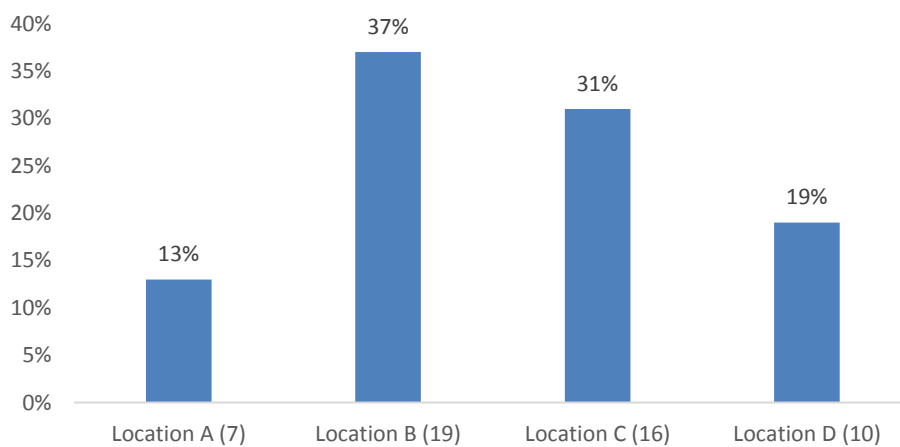
- One (1) 24x36 ramada (5)
- Two (2) 20x20 ramadas (49)

2. Please rank your top two ramada locations from the four options shown on the map:

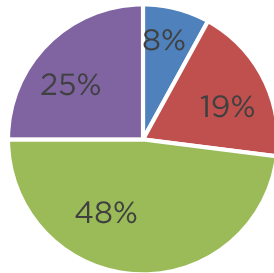
1st Choice - Location A, 61%



Second Choice, Location B, 36%



3. The picnic ramada(s) will have metal hip roofs. Which column material do you prefer?

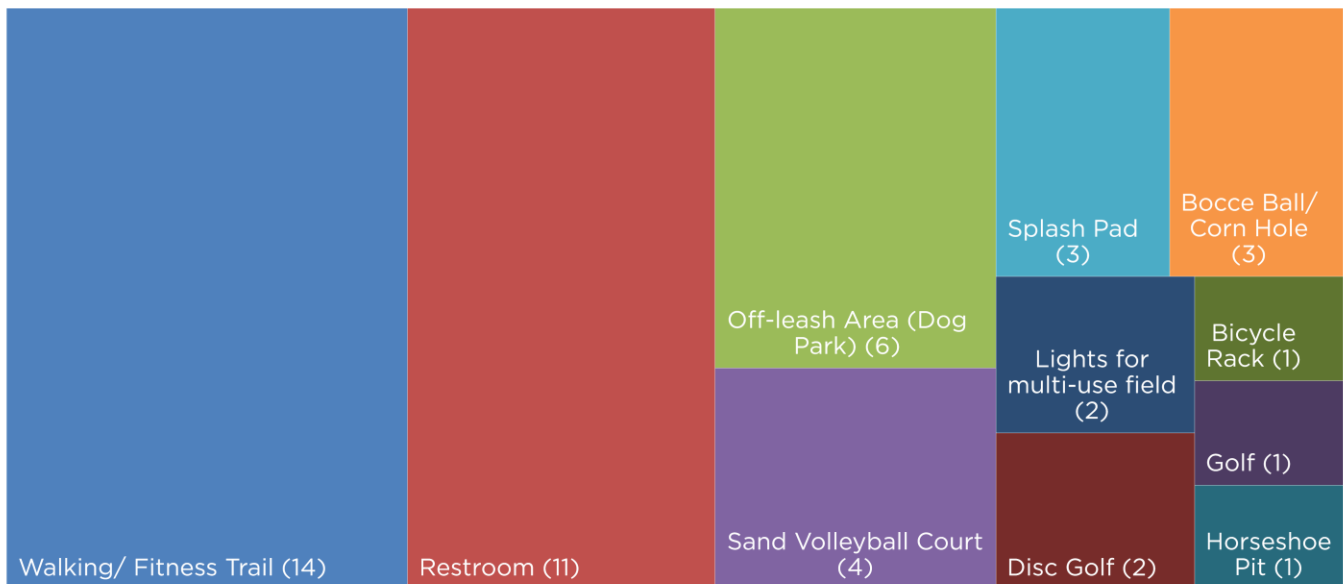


- Option A - Metal Post Finish (4)
- Option B - Scoured CMU Block (10)
- Option C - Notched CMU Block (25)
- Option D - Stone Veneer (13)

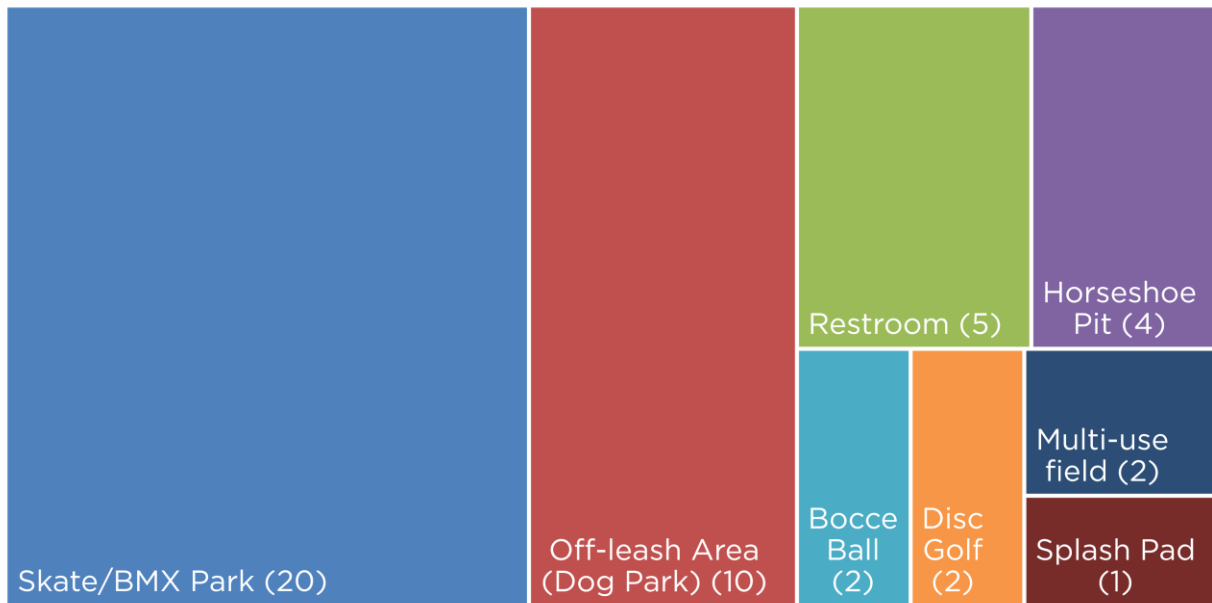
4. In the future Harelson park and other neighborhood parks could be eligible for enhanced amenities which would increase the recreational value of a park. The number, type, and size of amenities will be determined by size of park, cost of amenity, and fit. Examples could include, *but are not limited to*:

- Off leash area (dog park)
- Skate or BMX park
- Sand volleyball court
- Bocce ball/ corn hole
- Horseshoe pit
- Disc golf
- Walking/fitness trail
- Multi-use concrete pad
- Lit multi-used field (soccer, football, etc.)
- Restroom
- Other _____

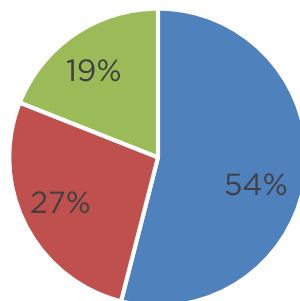
a. Please select the enhanced amenity you would **most** like to see in Harelson Park:



b. Please select the enhanced amenity you would least like to see in Harelson Park:



5. Currently your park sign states that the park is open from 6 a.m. to 12 a.m. Are you in favor of changing the posted park hours to 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. ?



■ Yes (28) ■ No (14) ■ No Opinion (10)

6. Additional Comments:

1. I am a Warner Ranch resident (since 1988) and walk and exercise at the park all the time. As I mentioned above, I think we should install something like the old Perrier Par Courses that were around in the late 70's and 80's. They had fitness stations made of wood along a gravel pathway and was fun, safe and good exercise for all ages. I would be willing to chip in extra money if that's what it would take. Thank you for all you are doing to make our park fun and beautiful.

2. As this is an interior neighborhood park, please keep amenities consistent with the neighborhood atmosphere of this park.
3. It is not "scoured CMU block - its "scored"
4. Restrooms at this park and all parks, are not for the people that live within a 1/4mile of the park. They are for people that drive to this park to take their kids to soccer practice (AYSO1046 here at Harelson). They are for people that ride with their young children to a playground (Harelson or Hanger), but they're stuck at a park with kids, bikes, and no bathroom. They are for older adults that play tennis, but also use the restroom more frequently. Other community assets are more accessible to more residents, if there are bathrooms adjacent. A clean, simple solution might be to have a new/clean/maintained/frequently swapped out port-o-potty (that has good looking visual screening on the outside). There are more parks than this one that need restrooms. The city should have a financially viable plan to provide them. (my kids have pee'd on a lot of trees at Hanger and Harelson Parks) A few people's sleeping habits shouldn't dictate a curfew at city parks. It's hot in the summer. In summer, a resident should be able to play tennis at 10:30 at night, or go out and shoot hoops at 10:30 at night. What harm have we seen in the last 45 years from keeping city parks open til midnight?
5. Why is the existing picnic ramada being removed..? seems like a waste of money to remove and replace. If needed just do the maintenance... Actually the existing ramada looks fine to me...
 And, what is wrong with the present lighting? seems if lighting needs improving just upgrade the light bulbs...
6. A-Please replace all the missing irrigation valve covers. They are a trip and fall hazard.
 B-Please repair/replace all the irrigation pipe leaks to avoid the "mini-swamps."
 C-Please do not put in a Dog Park at this location. They should be located only at stand alone locations.
 D-Install a water fountain (similar the existing) very near Ramada location ""A.""
 E-Replace the signage located near Ramada location ""B."" Most of the lettering is in bad shape.
 F-Place two (2) additional trash cans adjacent the center light poles at the soccer field. I dog walk the park daily and notice that is where the trash I pick up is mostly located."
7. Please consider an easy to maintain restroom in the near future!!

8. Thanks for the opportunity to vote and chime in.
9. We are new residents to Tempe, and so enjoy the parks in Warner Ranch!
10. I think it's very important to have a ramada near the play area since there are many families that come just for that. We often bring our grandkids for a picnic & play. We don't personally use the soccer fields, but many do so it would be nice for them to have a ramada closer to their fields also. But it definitely should NOT be taken from near the playground.
11. Thanks for improving our park! Another suggestion would be to remove the sand and install wood chips instead.
12. Thank you for all you do! Another doggy drinking fountain, new bbq grill.
13. Please plant shade trees on south side of benches around playground to shade parents.
14. Water less often in summer as park is way too wet and too many areas of standing water.
15. Reduce or stop over irrigation water during summer because it is impossible to walk when it is flooded.
16. Love to see amenities to compete with Gilbert parks so young families can be drawn back to Tempe.
17. Thoughtful design. Well done. Expand lighted area coverage to areas between basketball and soccer. Remove BBQ grills.
18. We live right next to the park, and although it's not a common occurrence, we do hear some loud noises late at night over there on the weekend. A 10 PM close time would be preferable.
19. As a parent of young children, I would LOVE to have a ramada closer to the playground area so I could sit in the shade on a bench while my children play in the shade at the playground. I'm sure many other parents would appreciate this as well!! The benches by the playground are not shaded, so this would extend the use of the playground for us into the warmer days. I do not favor adding restrooms or the skate park. This is a local park. These amenities will increase non-residents in the park. please turn off the lights so there will be no soccer playing after 9:00 on week nights. the noise is unbelievable even blocks away!! also, the canopy covering the playground was a great idea, but it is too small. (no shade for parents to sit in).I hate to see the original ramada be torn down. Can we leave up and add 2 more?The ramada is used often and having 2 more in the park would be great!!

20. My family have lived in this neighborhood for 30 years. We have used Harelson Park for all of these years for tennis, walking our dog and soccer practices. Only minor improvements are needed here. The tennis courts are great.
21. I'm in favor of leaving the existing ramada in place and placing a new one in the location of option D.

Email Received March 6, 2019:

Indeed my pleasure in writing you both today and I hope all is well.

I wanted to thank you for taking the opportunity to host the meeting last Saturday, unfortunately I was driving our children to practices and saw the lovely get together.

Thank you for allowing us to provide some suggestions for the remodeling.

I realize, it would have helped to hear the presentation to understand the context for the remodeling so please take the below suggestions with that in mind:

We have had the delight of living in this lovely neighborhood for 10+ years which we have held numerous birthday parties specifically at Haralson Park and attended many others. This is an extremely populated park, from Wednesday school ½ days to numerous practices where the siblings/friends play at the park. With that, here are our suggestions. In order of preference:

1. Warner Ranch has the blessings of several individuals with disabilities who frequent the park. The individuals with disabilities are lovely, kind individuals and FOR YEARS we have had no problems with anyone. All individuals with and without disabilities LOVE to swing (This is a calming motion for some individuals with & without disabilities). It would be WONDERFUL if we had SECOND swinging area. For example- the NE side of the park for more individuals to have the opportunity to participate. We DO NOT want to exclude ANYONE, rather offer another safer place for more individuals to swing as some of the participants with and without disabilities swing very high which the little kids are running around the swings and there have been a few close calls in general. Just thinking how can we better this experience for everyone and offer more swings as these are popular.
2. Tree for shading the benches and surrounding areas of the park. LOVE THE benches added several years ago around the park, however in the summer they are unusable. We would love to strategically plant trees around the benches for the afternoon sun. Or have a new place to sit near the playground with many trees on each side of the playground (West Side especially) with more benches and LOTS OF SHADE. It is very difficult to use this park during the summer which we reside to Hanger, but we love this park even more.
3. The zip line on the SW end of the park. It is VERY difficult for children to do it on their own. As a parent, I'm trying to hold the black handle PLUS lift my child up to reach it as the one step is WAY too far from the handle which I have also seen numerous other parents/ children have the same problem. Would be a great help if some more steps were created for the children to child up (like a ladder) then the adult/parent would hold the handle as they reach for it instead of them climbing on us as a ladder.
4. Always we asked the kids there suggestions (they are 10, 8 and 3) which they said they would LOVE another play area. In the future would be nice to have a larger one and smaller one

Thank you for taking the time to read, sincerely value all you are doing for the community and greatly appreciate your support. I hope you many blessings and a have delightful rest of your day.