

# PUBLIC INPUT SUMMARY NOVEMBER 2021



## I. Background

The City of Tempe works to offer opportunities for play, shaded spaces, and comfort in our neighborhood parks. Towards that effort, up to two picnic ramadas are scheduled for Svob Park. If there is not a majority support, in the form of written or online responses, for the addition of a picnic ramada, the city will explore additional shade in the park.

## II. Outreach

Several methods were used to provide bilingual information to the public regarding the project, meeting and opportunities for input.

- Two direct mail postcards were sent to 1,546 households in the project area, from Southern Ave. to Baseline Road, I-10 to 48th Street. The first with meeting and survey information and the second as a reminder to provide comments.
- Email notification to neighborhood and homeowners' association contacts inviting them to attend the meeting or to comment online and share with their neighborhoods,
- Email notification to relevant Boards and Commissions inviting them to attend the meeting or to comment online.
- An open house was held on Oct. 16 at Svob Park with approximately 15 attendees and a virtual public meeting was held on Oct. 18 with 5 attendees. A recording of the virtual meeting was made available online.
- Doorhangers were delivered to all homes bordering the park reminding them of the online survey deadline and encouraging participation.
- The topic was posted on the project website for input from Oct. 16 through Nov. 1, 2021.
- Project website was available.

Below is a summary of digital outreach that provided information to the public regarding the meeting, project and opportunities for input:

### NEXTDOOR

10/15/21 – public meeting. Impressions: 54

10/28/21 – online input reminder. Impressions: 25



## Why or Why Not?

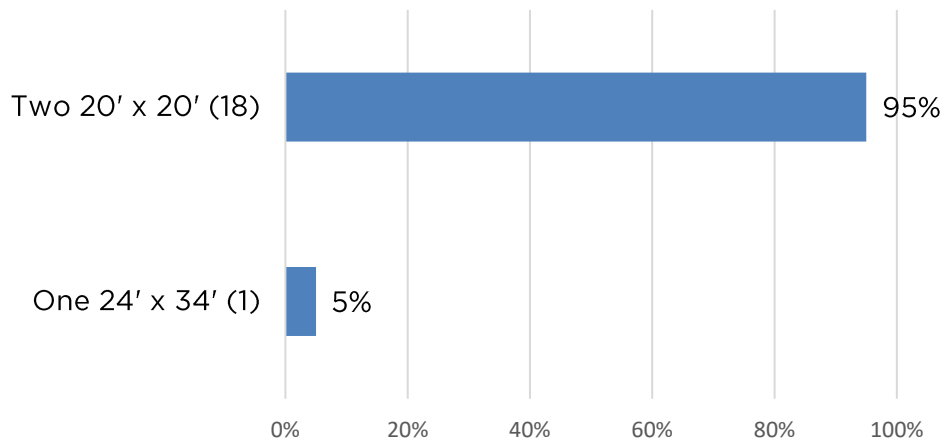
### “Yes” responses:

1. There needs to be many more quality of life improvements
2. Needed
3. Shade would help draw people out more. Would like to see the tables by the playground covered so parents could sit in the shade while their children play.
4. more shade
5. Because I love having lunch at the park but sometimes it's too hot to be here without coverings over my head.
6. The park is huge and could use more entertaining space.
7. More picnic and shaded areas are needed.
8. It's a lovely little park and the ramadas would enhance our enjoyment of our neighborhood park!
9. I did. But do not but the one in the open field. That gets use for a lot of sport.
10. More seating and shaded areas are good.
11. Some area are shaded by trees but depending on time of day they only help so much
12. yes. i selected site B and D because they are more visible from vineyard, and less close to other residences. also, homeless and/or drug addict issues are prevelant in this neighborhood (i live in knoell garden villas s.e of this park) and higher visibility may deter misuse.
13. Not enough shaded seating in the park
14. I think a shaded structure would be a benefit to the park and increase use by area families

### “No” responses:

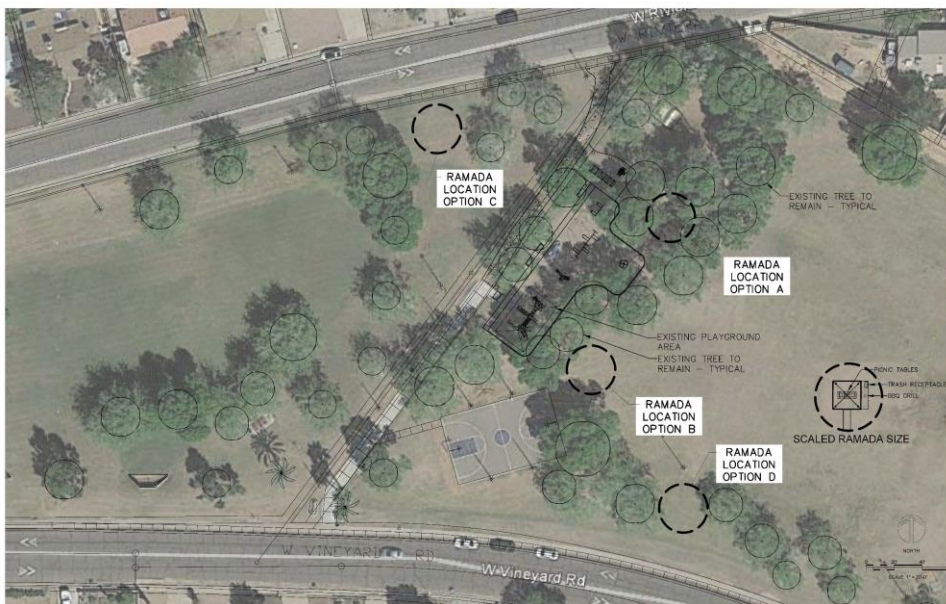
1. Due to the amount of homeless in the area.
2. Homeless population already utilizes this park too much. For the safety of our neighborhood I am very against this. Use funds to encourage safety measures.
3. Increase crime and homeless in the area.
4. We have homeless issues and this will just allow for more comfort
5. Don't believe they would be used that often. They encourage homeless to use them as a place to live. People won't clean up after themselves.
6. I'm on the fence on this subject and would have preferred a “maybe” choice. Normally, I think the answer would be “yes, that's great” from neighbors, but our fear of people taking up residence under the shelters, would run our neighbors off from enjoying the park. The sports teams that practice at Svob, be it soccer, football, or the basketball court, have great parent participation, and having additional seating and/or overhead shade @ those locations would be a welcome site. Would be great for neighborhood meetings also, but the fear of the park taken over, combined with the lack of involvement from the neighbors, makes things difficult to get a consensus.
7. Invites more homeless to hang out

2. If there is support from the neighborhood, SvoB Park can receive one 24' x 34' ramada or two 20' x 20' ramadas. Would you prefer one large or two smaller ramadas?

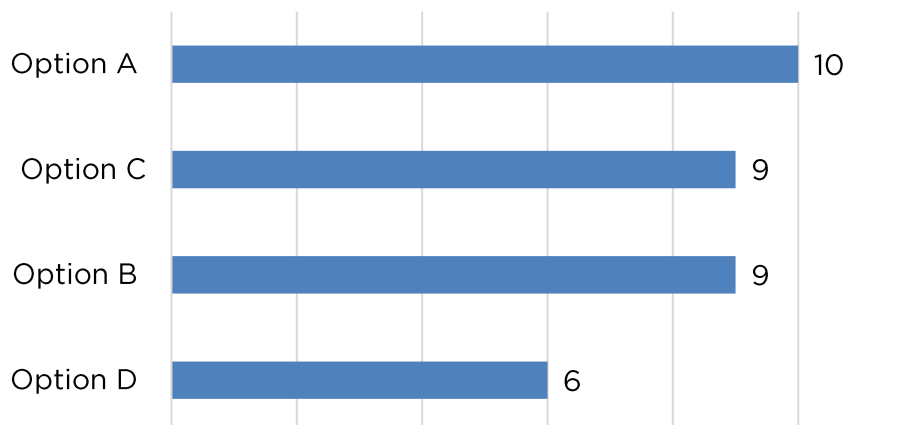


Total responses: 19

3. Please choose your TWO (2) favorite ramada locations from the four options shown on the map:

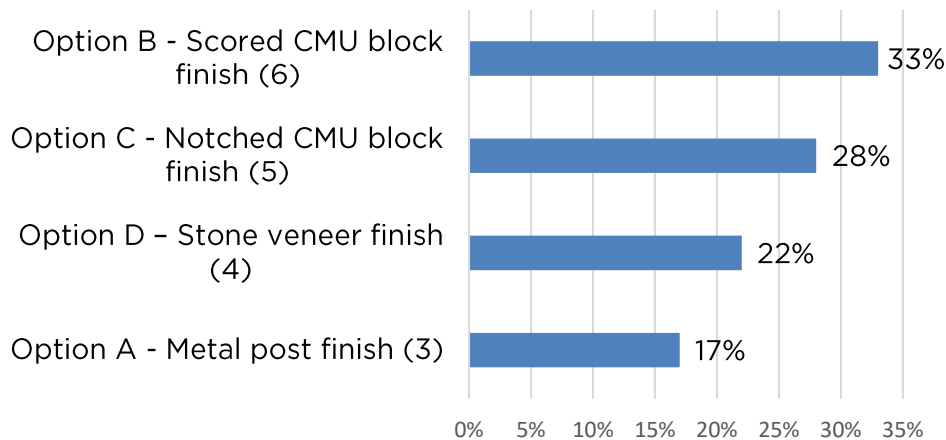


SVOB PARK SITE PLAN AND RAMADA LAYOUT LOCATION OPTIONS



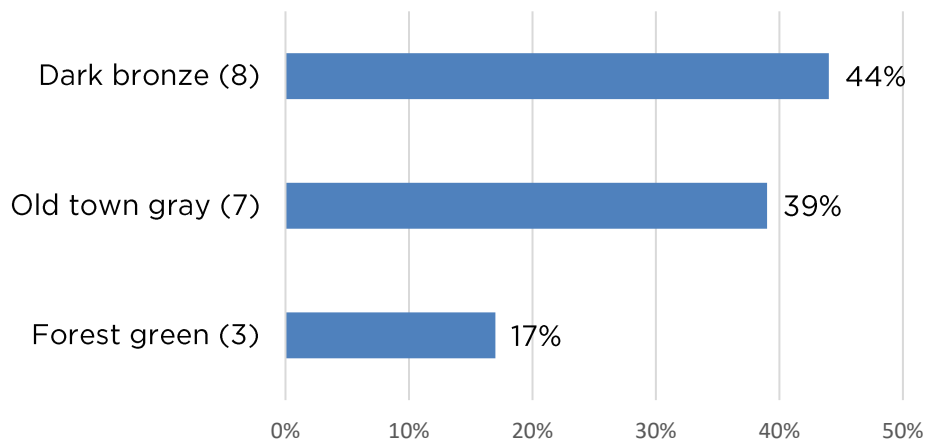
Total responses: 18

4. The picnic ramada will have a metal hip roof. Which column material do you prefer?



Total responses: 18

5. Which color do you prefer for the ramada roof?



Total responses: 18

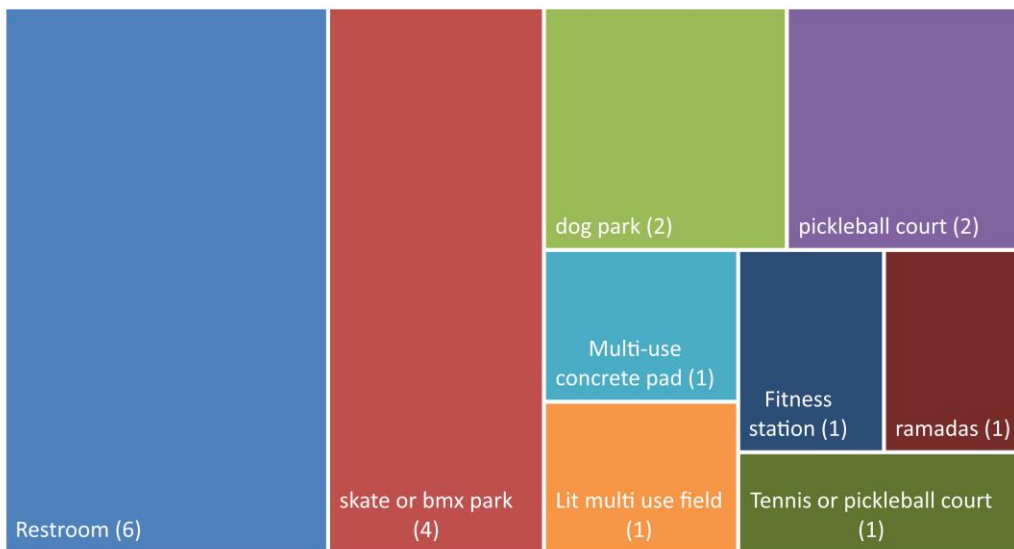
6. In the future, Svob Park could be eligible for enhanced amenities which would increase the recreational value of a park. The number, type, and size of amenities will be determined by size of park, cost of amenity, and fit. Examples could include, *but are not limited to*:

- Off leash area (dog park)
- Skate or BMX park
- Sand volleyball court
- Bocce ball/corn hole
- Adventure/Parkour Course
- Horseshoe pit
- Disc golf
- Walking/fitness trail
- Fitness Stations
- Multi-use concrete pad
- Lit multi-use field
- Tennis Court
- Pickleball Court
- Restroom
- Other\_\_\_\_\_

Please select the enhanced amenity you would **most** like to see in Svob Park:

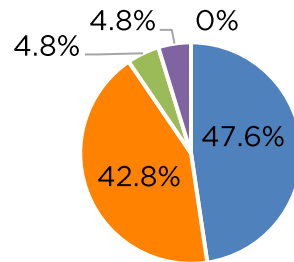


Please select the enhanced amenity you would **least** like to see in Svob Park:



7. Our objective is to provide clean, safe, and friendly parks. Please rate how we are doing on a scale from 1 to 5 where 1 means very dissatisfied and 5 means very satisfied.

#### Cleanliness of Svob Park



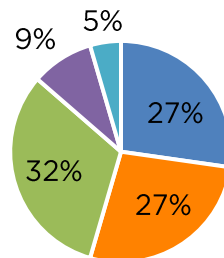
- Very Satisfied (10)
- Satisfied (9)
- No opinion/neutral (1)
- Dissatisfied (1)
- Very dissatisfied (0)

Total responses: 21

#### Comments on cleanliness:

1. It took the city too long to remove the stump when the tree came down in a storm.
2. After football, the park is trashed and no one cleans it up for a couple days.
3. Park guys do a great job!

#### Safety of Svob Park



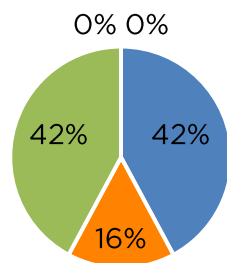
- Very Satisfied (6)
- Satisfied (6)
- No opinion/neutral (7)
- Dissatisfied (2)
- Very dissatisfied (1)

Total responses: 22

#### Comments on safety:

1. I don't feel safe at my park in the evening or dark
2. The darkness in the east is a concern
3. homeless meth/heroin issue in the area

## Friendliness of the park staff



- Very Satisfied (8)
- Satisfied (3)
- No opinion/neutral (8)
- Dissatisfied (0)
- Very dissatisfied (0)

Total responses: 19

### Comments on friendliness:

1. I haven't had interaction w/park staff (12 years)
2. Never see them
3. No issues here. Accommodating when we report, whether a need for more trash bins, clogged grate at retention, trees down, graffiti.

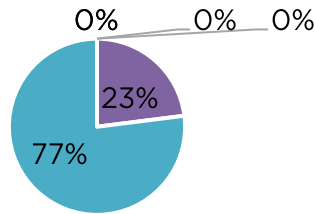
### 8. Additional Comments

1. Thank you for the opportunity for input. Please help keep our community safe. Anything that encourages homeless to stay.
2. I think additional shade sails picnic bench/benches along perimeter of park - just somewhere to rest
3. More improvements like restrooms, horse shoe pit, dog park, corn hole, etc. would be welcome.
4. It would be nice to provide shade for the athletes and their parents during the games. A light color (for the ramada roof) would uplift heat.
5. Trash cans need to be covered better. Flies made eating at a picnic table near the cans very unpleasant. I am a senior with a bad hip. I like walking around the edge of the play area on the rubberized mate. It is much easier on bad joints. Longer walking trails of this material would be wonderful.
6. General observations. Svob is a very busy park, especially with sports practices. Dog park has come up before but that would draw in folks from all around, as sports do currently, and clean up can be a real challenge. Cleaning up excrement would be an issue, lack of respect / responsibility abounds. Noise, fighting, normal dog park behaviors in open spaces like Sports Complex on Hardy etc, one thing, not so much in neighborhood. A few residents often do the clean up @ surrounding areas as it is already. "Buy in", is a challenge, trying to gain majority vote. Last Grant cycle, we directed our efforts to park, as several complain about needing perimeter seating, overnight lighting east sports field. But when we accepted/added suggestions for either of the popular complaints, little to no support. And/or lack of any participation. No Grant paperwork submitted.
7. additional police presence would be helpful in this area in general. lots of packages get stolen, cars broken into (if unlocked at least), bicycles stolen, meth and heroin using vagrants / beggars from I/10 and baseline use this area as a pass through.. they go north on wendler drive and cut over west on



vineyard, from there they go south on filer to fremont drive, or stay on vineyard and branch off wherever.

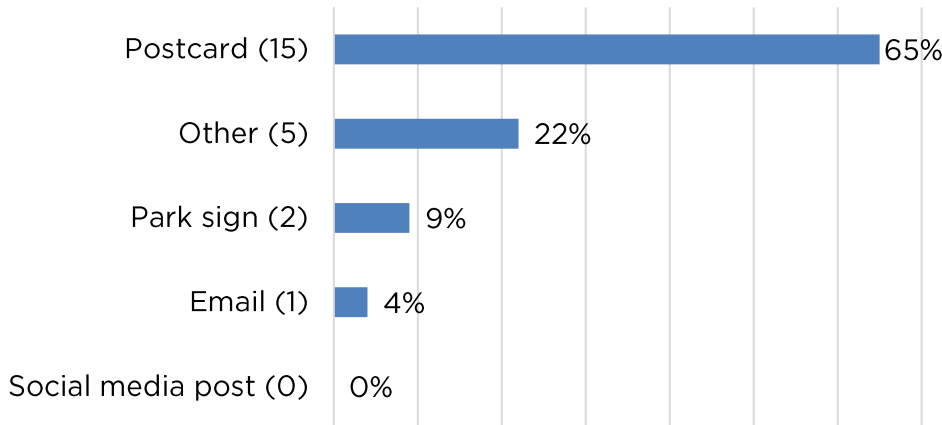
9. The following question is voluntary. If you choose to respond, please mark all that apply. Race/Ethnicity:



- American Indian/Alaskan Native (0)
- African American/Black (0)
- Asian/Pacific Islander (0)
- Hispanic/Latino (3)
- White (10)
- Other (0)

Total responses: 13

10. How did you find out about the Svob Park project?



Other:

- First saw it appear on the park upgrade lists
- I live next door to the park
- Live in the neighborhood
- Nextdoor app
- Postcard AND park sign AND social media post

Total responses: 23

#### IV. Emails

1. **October 11, 2021** - Hello! I received your mailer with regards to potentially adding 2 ramadas to Svob Park. I have some major concerns. We have had a huge increase in homeless people over the last 2 years. That park is becoming a hang out for a number of them. I am worried that if we give them more opportunities with shade/comfort that will have them stay and linger more than they already are. I feel money would be better spent on safety. More lighting is the first thing that comes to mind. I understand the advantage of adding ramadas, but until the homeless situation improves, I do not think it is in the best interest of the safety for the neighborhood.