

# Optimist Park Improvements



## PUBLIC INPUT SUMMARY MAY 2022

### I. Background

The City of Tempe works to offer opportunities for play, shaded spaces, and comfort in our neighborhood parks. Towards that effort, new playground equipment and picnic ramadas, full rubberized surfacing for the play area, accessible walkways, a landscape buffer, and trees are scheduled for Optimist Park. Residents were asked to provide input on theme, playground equipment, a new ramada and overall park experience.

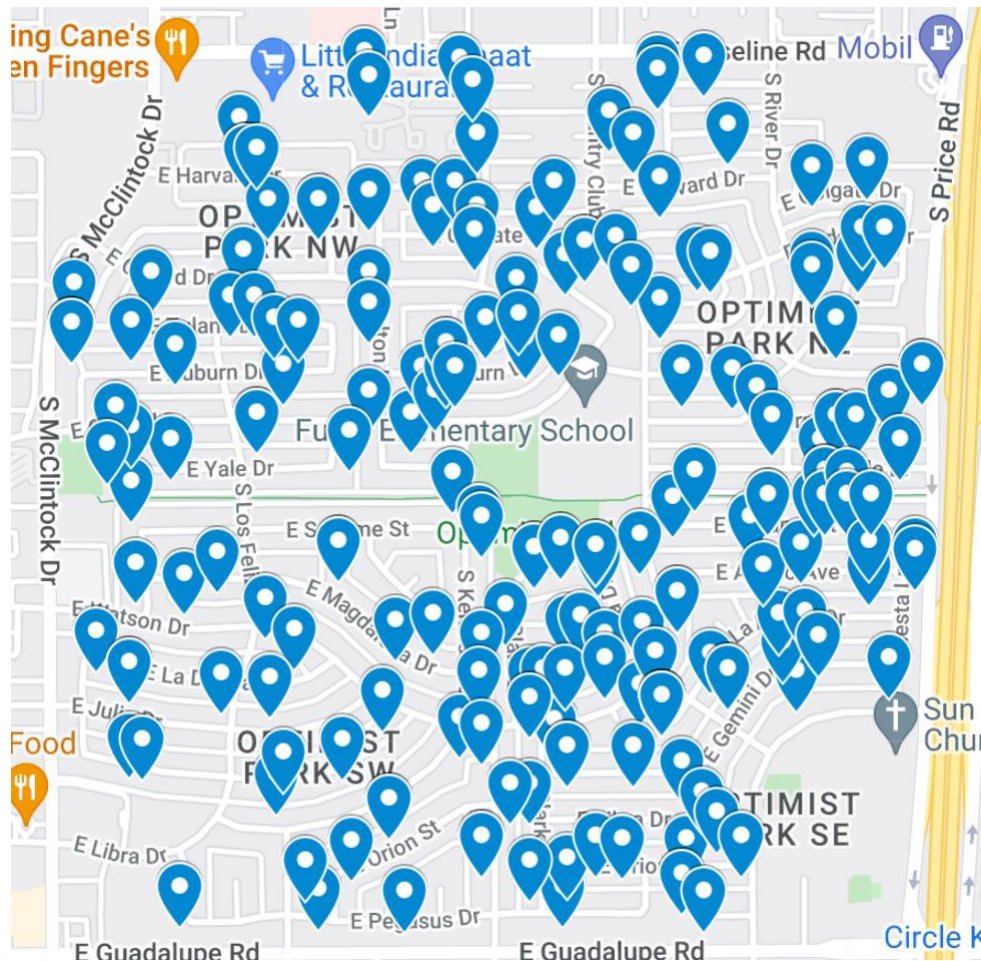
### II. Outreach

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

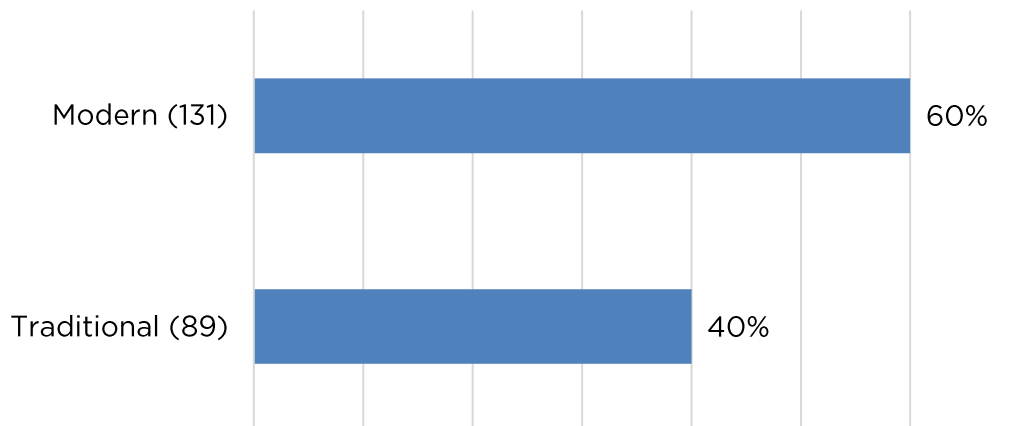
- Two direct mail postcards were sent to 1,961 households in the project area from McClintock Drive to Price Road, Baseline Road to Guadalupe Road. The first postcard included meeting and survey information and the second a reminder to provide comments.
- Notification email to neighborhood contacts and Fuller Elementary School inviting them to attend the meeting, comment online and share with neighbors.
- Yard signs were posted in the park.
- Notification email to relevant Boards and Commissions inviting them to attend the meeting or to comment online.
- Nextdoor post to the project area with meeting and comment information with 226 impressions. Second post on comment reminder with 264 impressions.
- A flyer was provided to Fuller Elementary School students and parents via Peachjar.
- An open house was held on May 11 at Optimist Park with approximately 75 attendees and an on-demand online session was available 24/7 and has been viewed 189 times.
- The topic was posted on the project website for input from May 11 through May 25, 2022. Surveys were collected at the in-person meeting and online with a total of 226 received.

### III. Survey Responses

Map of respondents:

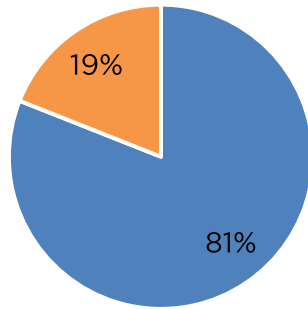


1. The playground design for Optimist Park will include a play structure for 5-12 year-olds. Should this play structure be *traditional*, or *modern*?



Responses: 220

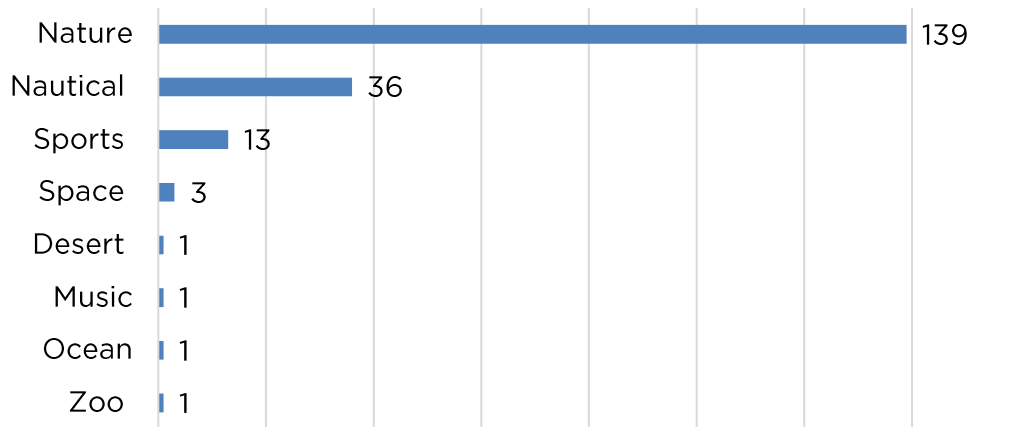
2. Should the playground be designed around a central theme?



■ Yes (175) ■ No (40)

Responses: 215

3. If yes, what theme? (Examples include: nature, specific sports, nautical,)



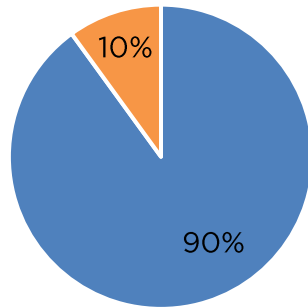
Responses: 195

4. Please list in order of importance the top five (5) pieces of equipment you would like to see in Optimist Park:

First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth
Arch swings (36) 2-5 play structure (28) Fitness stations (19)	Arch swings (26) Fitness stations (14) Toddler swings (13)	Track ride (18) Arch swings (16) Musical play equipment (16)	Rocky ridge (24) Web climber (16) Group spinner (14)	Arch swings (14) Track ride (11) Sway bridge (10) 2-5 play structure (9)
Track ride (17) 5-12 play structure (14) Toddler swing (12)	Web climber (13) Track ride (12) 2-5 play structure (10)	Web climber (13) Fitness stations (13) Rocky ridge (11) Ridge boulder climber (10) 2-5 play structure (8) Round the bend (7)	Net climber (9) Arch swings (8) Fitness stations (8) Musical play equipment (7) Ridge boulder climber (7)	Fitness stations (8) Musical play equipment (8) Rocky ridge (8) See saw (8)
Web climber (10) Expression swing (10) Horseshoe court (7)	Sway bridge (10) Musical play equipment (8) Net climber (8) Ridge boulder climber (8)	See saw (7)	Sway bridge (7)	Unity dome (7)
Net climber (7)	Group spinner (6) Horseshoe court (6)	Sway bridge (7) Comet spinner (6)	Track Ride (7) Expressions swing (6) See saw (6)	Group spinner (7) Group swing (6) Round the bend (6)

Group spinner (4)	Spring rider (6)	Group spinner (6)	Drum circle (5)	Toddler swings (5)
Rocky ridge (4)	Game table (5)	Net climber (6)	Group swing (5)	Game table (5)
Rock log (3)	Orbitron (5)	Toddler swing (6)	Rock log (5)	Ridge boulder climber (5)
Tire swing (3)	Rock log (5)	Spring rider (5)	Triumph climber (5)	Web climber (5)
Group swing (3)	See saw (5)	Utility dome (5)	Unity dome (5)	Net climber (5)
Basketball Court (2)	5-12 play structure (4)	Orbitron (4)	Ground maze (4)	Drum circle (4)
Comet spinner (2)	Cozy cocoon (4)	Rock log (4)	Spring rider (4)	Spinner bowl (4)
Game table (2)	Expression swing (3)	Tire swing (4)	Toddler swing (4)	Vortex spinner (4)
Orbitron (2)	Rocky ridge (3)	5-12 play structure (3)	Comet spinner (3)	Adventure Tube (3)
Spinner bowl (2)	Balance beam (2)	Balance beam (3)	Game table (3)	Expressions swing (3)
Sway Bridge (2)	Bathrooms (2)	Drum circle (3)	Round the bend (3)	Steppers (3)
Better water (1)	Comet spinner (2)	Game table (3)	Orbitron (3)	Balance beam (2)
See saw (1)	Game table (2)	Horseshoe court (3)	2-5 play structure (2)	Ground maze (2)
Spring rider (1)	Group swing (2)	Cozy cocoon (2)	5-12 play structure (2)	Horseshoe court (2)
Triumph Climber (1)	Omni spin (2)	Spinner bowl (2)	Horsehoe court (2)	Spring rider (2)
	Round the bend (2)	Expression swing (1)	Log crawl tube (2)	5-12 play structure (1)
	Spinner bowl (2)	Group swing (1)	Omni spin (2)	Around the bend (1)
	Triumph climber (2)	Spaces for parties (1)	Track ride (2)	Basketball court (1)
	Unity dome (2)	Spintastic (1)	Adventure tube (1)	Bounce button (1)
	Boulder climber (1)	Steppers (1)	Bocce Ball (1)	Comet Spinner (1)
	Drum circle (1)	Swings (disabled friendly) (1)	NBA threepoint line (1)	Lights (1)
	Log crawl (1)		Revo (1)	Log crawl tube (1)
	Revo (1)		Sand volleyball (1)	Orbitron (1)
	Slides (1)		Spinner bowl (1)	Rock log (1)
	Tire swing (1)		Vortex spinner (1)	Sand (1)
	Vortex spinner (1)			Slide (1)
				Spintastic (1)
				Tire swing (1)
				Triumph Climber (1)

5. Do you support the addition of a picnic ramada in Optimist Park?



■ Yes (199) ■ No (23)

Responses: 222

### Why or Why Not?

#### Yes responses:

1. 2 of the smaller ramadas - 1 near path and 1 near eqpt. And swings. Also, leave small area of sand for those younger kids near play area, mostly rubberized surface.
2. A picnic ramada would encourage more families and provide more shade
3. A place is needed - covered, to gather with friends while being able to watch the kids. Plus, an additional ramada for parties or activities, so the people just going to the park can still enjoy the park without feeling like they are intruding on the party and vice versa.
4. A Ramada Would be helpful for large gatherings
5. A shaded area that for a group to sit would be nice.
6. Absolutely - for family gatherings.
7. Always good for parents... and a shade place to get out of the sun.
8. An additional Ramada can accommodate more visitors at the same time.
9. As of right now, it is difficult to have an event at Optimist Park due to lack of shade and places to sit.
10. Birthday parties
11. Bring families together while using playground equipment
12. Can make it a full family day with food and drinks.. need a larger shady area for picnics....lights.. maybe misters operable by those picnicing. A splash pad near by would also be nice...
13. Can you reserve the ramada for an event? Will police patrol at night?
14. Cause then people can have gatherings and enjoy the park in larger groups! Also adds a little bit more shade to the park in the summers besides the shade provided by the trees.
15. Community ownership and neighborhood growth.
16. Definitely, We want multiple families to be able to use the facilities at once.
17. During the summertime, added area with covered Ramada would be good for larger group picnics at the park. There are some picnic tables under trees but not all spots. I would think the next placement would be right next to/nearest the playground so it didn't seem too in the way.
18. Encourage family time at the park
19. Family parties and events close to home.
20. Family picnics where older grandparents can watch kids play
21. For a shaded area to enjoy a picnic in the park

22. For family members to have a covered space and multiple tables to allow big families to have place's to set and a couple of barbecue grills if there are two different families that are cooking a meal
23. For picnics or parties
24. for shade
25. Good for family or party gatherings
26. Good for gatherings
27. Good places for events at the park
28. Good use of grass space and will provide a spot for shade and picnics
29. great place for gatherings
30. I dont see a problem
31. I like family park birthdays and events
32. I live across the street from the park and sometimes see larger groups (kids sports groups) use the park. It would be good to have a Ramada space for them and family parties.
33. I love the idea of a shaded area and additional gather spaces.
34. I regularly host dinners with neighbors at the park, and we eat near the playground so the kids can enjoy that. I have also hosted birthday parties by the playground - the ramada would be ideal for all of that, and I would personally host an event using the ramada more than once a month.
35. I support as long as we don't cut down trees to place them.
36. I support numerous picnic ramadas, not just one ramada.
37. I think a picnic ramada is always nice, it's so hot and sunny it's a nice place to sit in the shade.
38. I think it would be great to be able to sit down and maybe bring a picnic in a shaded area. Our summers get too hot to sit out with no covered patio to sit down at.
39. I think it would be great to have a covered seating area for picnics.
40. I think more people would come to the park if the was a picnic ramada
41. I think one right next to the park would be great for birthday parties and more shade for parents at the park.
42. I would love to have my sons birthday parties at the park but there is only one table out there which makes it hard. They would be a great addition to our park.
43. If it is covered, then I think it will be used.
44. Is it even a park without one? Sometimes families want to have large gatherings and there's just not space to do it at home.
45. It ain't a park without it.
46. It allows for more families to utilize the park for events.
47. It gets so hot in the summer, some more shade would be nice.
48. It helps bring families together
49. It is nice to get out and stay at the park. Picnics are good!
50. It provides more area for shade. People might enjoy having a picnic at the park more.
51. It will allow families to spend more time at the park.
52. It will bring more people out
53. It will encourage families to gather and provide additional shade options in the summer months.
54. It will encourage group visits.
55. It would allow for a place for my kids to eat a snack or lunch. It would also allow for gatherings to celebrate events.
56. it would be a great gathering place
57. It would be a great option for family event gatherings

58. It would be a nice add on
59. it would be another great spot for parties
60. It would be nice to have a Ramada since there are no shaded picnic tables. Families could use it to host get togethers, birthdays, etc
61. It would be nice to have a shaded area to sit/eat near an open space for kids to play.
62. It would be nice to have a shady space for summer gatherings. The trees aren't quite shady enough alone.
63. It would be nice to have family gatherings or small picnics in the park. Right now, the park primarily serves children and young families. It would be nice to also have amenities for users of other ages.
64. It would be nice to have lunch with my son at Fuller and eat with him outside at a Ramada.
65. It would encourage families with to go out and enjoy nature
66. It would provide extra shade for a picnic area or party.
67. It's a great park in the neighborhood and would provide some shade for families
68. It's nice to have more areas of shade.
69. Makes it easy to have a home base for parents, facilitate parties, eat food, shelter from sun and rain
70. More area for families to have snacks, have shade, and gatherings
71. More enticing for celebration events.
72. More ppl could use the park if theme was a covered picnic ramada
73. more protection from sun
74. More shade is always good
75. More shade is needed
76. More shaded areas.
77. My family utilizes this park frequently and the benefit would be tremendous.
78. Needed to build community at the park. There's really no place to hold fun events or bring your family together at the moment.
79. nice to have more shade and places to sit
80. Nice touch
81. Not enough shade outside the playground.
82. Option 2 looks best. It's away from park to give birthdays some space.
83. Our neighborhood continues to grow and family oriented. Adding another Ramada would be a great idea due to this.
84. Park needs a good refresher Would be really nice to allocate an area as a community garden
85. People like shaded areas to relax...and plus, the sun here is brutal.
86. People would use the park more if we had ramadas. Also would use it in different ways- picnics. The shade is key for using it more often and more of the day. Extends the time of day you can use the park
87. Picnic Ramadas create great spaces for families and neighbors to gather for any occasion.
88. Picnics are nice.
89. Place for couples or groups to gather and eat and play.
90. popular park
91. Provides additional shade but also another place to support parties for kids
92. Provides more shade and more seating
93. Ramada would provide shade and a place for families and friends to gather and socialize.
94. Ramada's will increase usage of Optimist Park
95. Shade is always more useful.

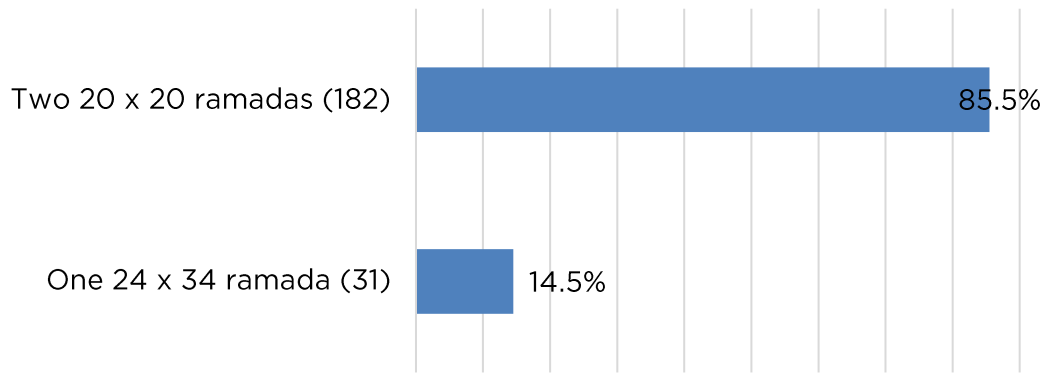
96. Shade is important for people's health
97. Shade makes life nicer!
98. Shaded area to eat lunch and snacks
99. Shaded dining
100. Shaded gathering place for all ages and get togethers
101. Shaded table areas would be nice for small get togethers and birthday parties.
102. So my family and I can spend time there for a picnic or bbq.
103. So the community can have events all year long.
104. Sounds nice. There's only one table by the playground now.
105. Summer use of the park makes these essential. Just like Kiwanis Park, where we lived for years nearby.
106. The more shade the better
107. The park is already used as a natural gathering point and we have celebrated several events there. Adding ramadas for shade will be a fantastic addition to the park.
108. There aren't many places to sit near the playground for birthdays or events
109. There currently isn't any great shaded areas to sit in or near the grass and having a table in the shade would be nice.
110. They will help with shade, seating and food related activities happening in our community. It will bring us together to create a stronger neighborhood community. Our taxes will actually go toward a neighborhood improvement demonstrating the City's commitment to actually helping Tempe residents. Oh, and by the way, THANK YOU!
111. This will give residents the versatility and option to utilize the ramada if wanted, needed or desired.
112. To allow for family get togethers, or simply more shaded areas to sit while kids play.
113. To allow for neighborhood get togethers. To help encourage a longer stay for parents and kids at the park. Provide more shade.
114. To provide gatherings, shade and place to hang out with the neighbors
115. Way for people to gather
116. We can always use more shade in the park. A shaded table would be a family gathering area
117. We need more shade in the park. Everyone needs a family picnic and birthday party place.
118. We need shady places to sit and eat.
119. We would enjoy having gatherings at the park.
120. Would be great for neighborhood parties and kids birthday parties.
121. Would be nice for birthdays. It's close to home.
122. Would be nice for families to have room for picnics or birthday celebrations or family get togethers
123. Would be nice to have a gathering place
124. Would be nice to have additional places to gather so we don't need to carry own chairs to park
125. would be nice to have more shade and places to sit and eat
126. Would be nice when there are parties
127. Would love to have a place to gather in the park for parties or etc. Or to just read a book during the day.
128. Yes just dont change the trees some of the picnic tables now are surrounded by groups of trees
129. Yes, it would make the space more usable in the summer.



130. Yes, we need more covered areas that can serve as picnic and family gathering spaces.
131. Yes. Shade is KING in Arizona. However I must say that the park has some benches under some nice shade trees which is great. If a ramada is put in, I foresee more use, but would want some form of accountability for its use (not necessarily any expense, unless necessary), to ensure it is maintained. If implemented, I highly recommend red pistache or ash trees (bonita may be nice) as shade on the west and south sides of the structure.

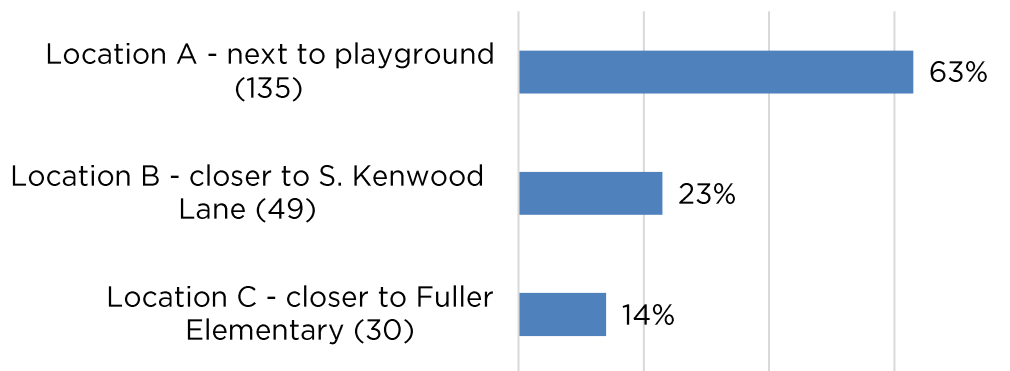
**No responses:**

1. (What is the difference between a ramada and a shade structure?) 1. One ramada will not make much difference. 2. People tend to bring their own pop-up canopies for shade. 3. Many of the existing tables have several large trees close that provide shade. 4. Ramada(s) may provided more "secluded" spots for undesirable night time activities. I would especially advise against a ramada in the area close to Kenwood. About 30 years ago they removed a table in that area because of questionable activities.
  2. Do not want to encourage homeless to sleep/stay in Ramada by providing them shade.
  3. Don't want homeless
  4. Homeless inhabitant & Drug issues
  5. I do not support the addition of a picnic ramada because I do not think that it is necessary to have one built in Optimist Park, and I think that it will have a negative effect on the look and feel of the park.
  6. I just don't think we would use it.
  7. I think of home owners having to look at those huge Ramadas. Not good. There are plenty of tables already in the park and rarely anyone sitting at them. Please don't build one. I live on the trail and I know how even the lights have impacted our property negatively. Thank you
  8. I think there is plenty of seating and picnic tables.
  9. It seems to end up being a place that homeless hang out
  10. Just don't, seems to become a hang out for homeless etc
  11. Just not sure we would use it
  12. Optimist Park is beautiful as it is. I've raised two children in this neighborhood and they were very happy with the openness of the park. Adding more structures takes away from that.
  13. People tend to sleep in them and they end up smelling like pee. The picnic table under trees are sufficient for this park.
  14. Ramada's are always left dirty with trash and trash bins stuffed to the brim. Benches and tables are enough.
  15. The city just planted a lot of trees around all the picnic tables in the park providing enough shade for people during gatherings.
  16. They will attract more homeless people. There are already too many homeless hanging around.
  17. Too complicated. Reservation or first come. Scattered Comfy benches to sit, visit and watch your kids
  18. We prefer the shade of trees.
6. If there is support from the neighborhood, Optimist Park can receive one 24' x 34' ramada or two 20' x 20' ramadas. Would you prefer one large or two smaller ramadas?



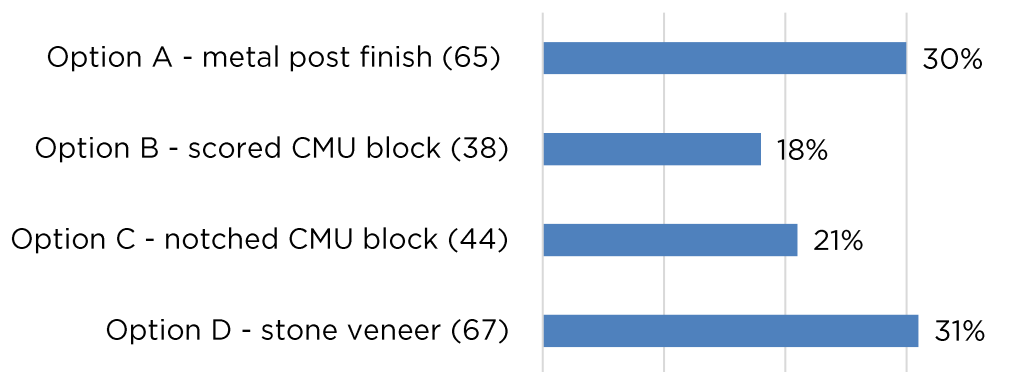
Responses: 213

7. Please choose your favorite ramada location from the three options shown on the map:



Responses: 214

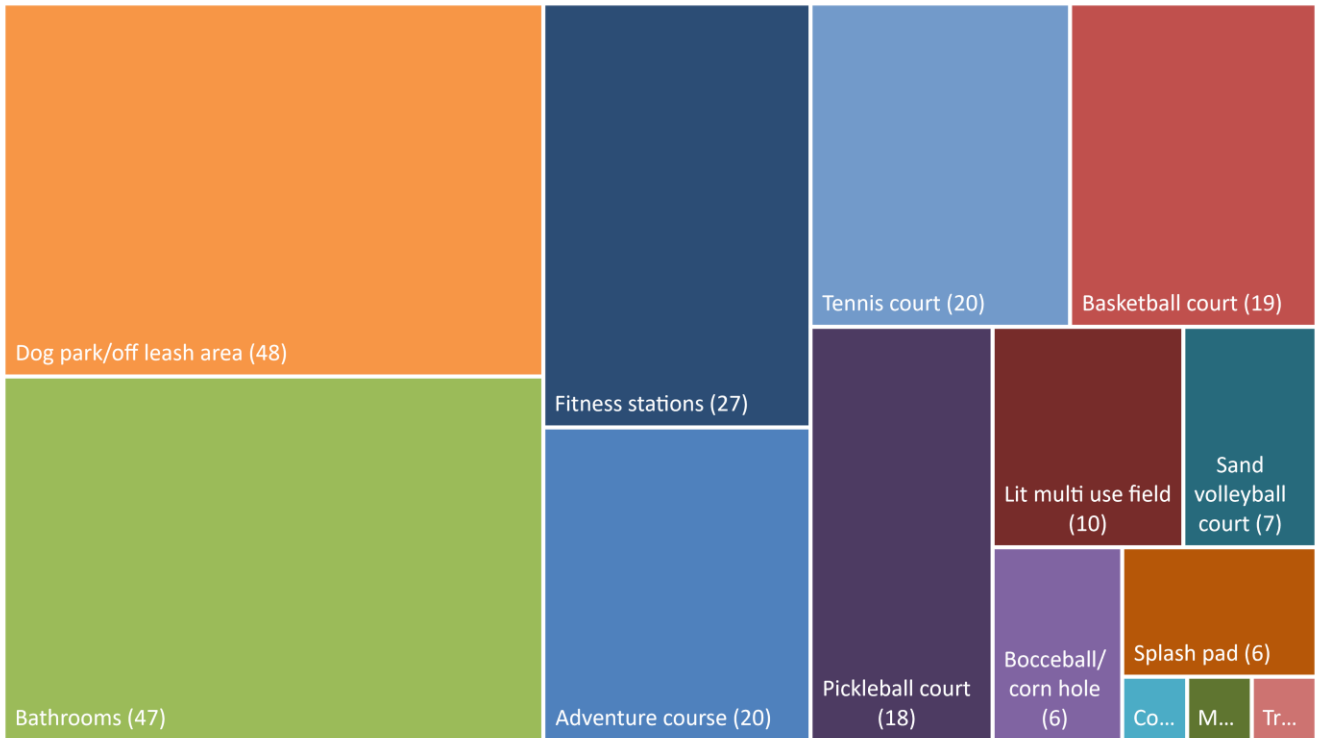
8. The picnic ramada will have a metal hip roof. Which column material do you prefer?



Responses: 214

9. In the future, Optimist 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.

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

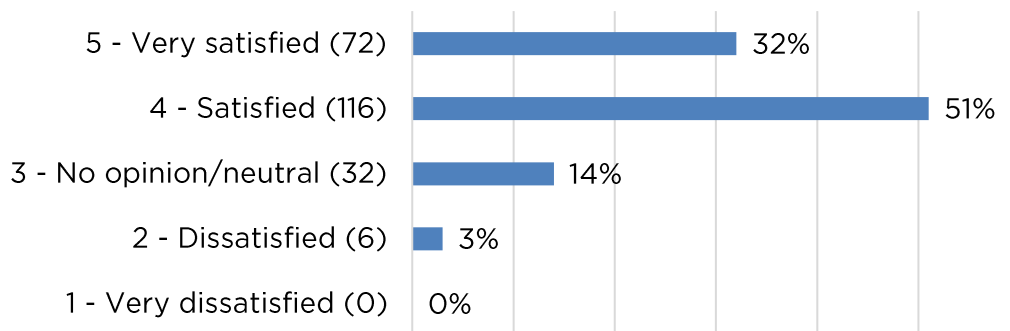


Please select the enhanced amenity you would least like to see in Optimist Park:



10. Our objective is to provide accessible, 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 Optimist Park



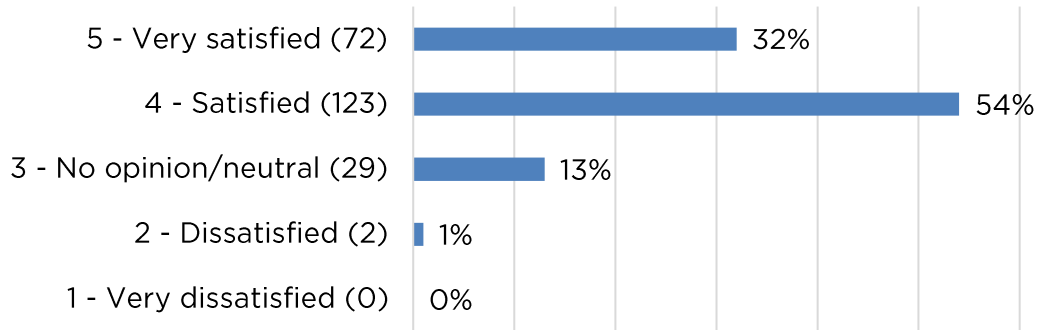
Responses: 226

#### Comments:

- Dirty equipment
- Dont use sand as the filler. Use natural wood chips or something similar to that.
- Graffitis
- I love all the trees that have been planted recently! And the sculptures at the walking path/street intersections.
- playground & picnic tables get graffiti often
- tables have peeling paint & graffiti
- The sidewalks are always covered with sand or leaves
- The sticky goat head weeds are so prevalent and thick at Optimist, my dog cannot walk through many parts of the park.
- There's currently a box of condoms and what looks like human excrement on the Kenwood side of the park.
- Too many people let their dog off leash and they go after other pups. Also a lot of people are not cleaning their dog poop and it gets left on the side walk.
- Trash is not picked up often enough/not enough trash cans

- Would like to see accessibility options considered for children in need

### Safety of Optimist Park

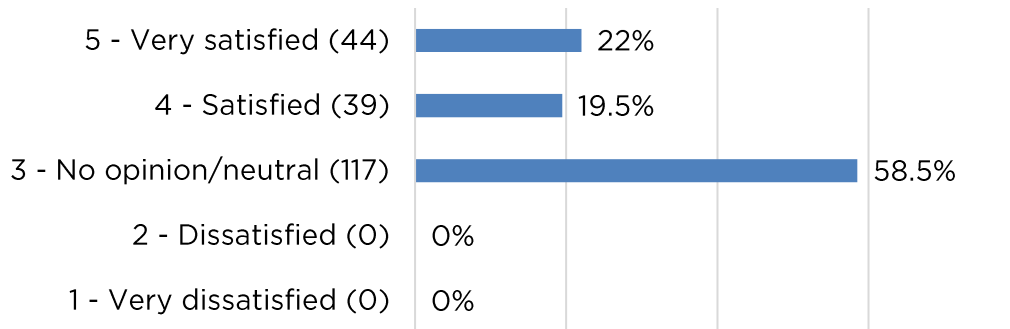


Responses: 226

#### Comments:

- It is weird having the way more cars hang out by the park at night.
- Lots of jr high kids are very unruly and destructive. Also homeless people sleeping under tables.
- More lighting
- More lights would make it more useable
- There are still the occasional people who come in the park at night and smoke.
- This could easily go bad. Starting to see homeless people there
- Usually no problems. See police driving by regularly

### Friendliness of the park staff



Responses: 200

#### Comments:

- Have not seen any staff
- Haven't met anyone from the park staff
- I didn't know the park had staff
- I haven't had interaction with park staff
- I never see any staff
- I've never seen park staff at this park
- Most people are friendly and respectful
- n/a
- N/A
- N/A no interaction
- na
- Never see staff there.
- Never see them
- Never seen park staff there
- Never seen park staff!
- never seen them
- No interaction

- No park staff at optimist
- No park staff.
- No staff
- There is a staff?
- There is no park staff?
- What staff?
- Y'all are great!

## 11. Additional Comments

1. A dog park would be a great addition to optimist park! A lot of people already bring their dog around to the park so it would be great to have an off leash area.
2. A large slide for kids older than the 2-5 group would be wonderful to see as well!
3. Add more barbecue grills to the other tables that are existing in the park already
4. Again, I would like to see the park, to the extent that space allows, to provide amenities for users of all ages and abilities to engage in recreation, physical activity, and socialization. I appreciate the improvements that are coming and look forward to more in the future. Any chance you could buy the property (church?) s/o Fuller and open up a community center for area residents ? !?
5. Answers to the above questions fluctuate depending on your staff that cycle.
6. Any different type of ground under the play structure except dirt. The dirt/sand is messy and dated.
7. Any time we've gone to the park (pretty regularly) I've never thought it was dirty or unfriendly. Overall it's a well maintained park. Definitely could use a restroom though.
8. Any upgrades would be great! The neighbor loves this park and any upgrades would be awesome. I'm sure there has been a lot of back and forth about the pros and cons of a restroom but I know that is one of the biggest turnoffs. Otherwise it's a great little park
9. Anyone that tries to do illegal drugs goes to jail in any park check them
10. as much as i would like a skate park close to my house it tends to attract a less desirable crowd, seen it wreck neighborhoods
11. At present we do not use the park...have no knowledge of the above info...11,12,13,
12. Better lighting- with dark sky certification
13. Can't wait!
14. Have sandbox
15. I like basketball.
16. I LOVE the new addition of the trees and the path crossing the park. I wish the grass was in better shape. It is mostly pretty terrible at Optimist Park.
17. I previously submitted this form but would like to add a few comments. I'd like to see the addition of several parking spots for travel trailers for neighborhood visitors. There are no spaces anywhere nearby where visitors to our wonderful city can park for a few days. I think it would be a great option either here in our neighborhood, but if that isn't possible, then at the Tempe Sports Complex or another City park. I'd also like to see more artwork.
18. I realize it's difficult, but access to restrooms would be nice. Not all of us live across the street, and with little ones, the time to pack up and leave, drive/walk home - is difficult with little bladders. When renting (not sure if you do) - party goers do not clean up after themselves and leave tape, left over balloon remnants, etc. This is at all parks - and just looks bad and messy. It

- appears there is no incentive to clean, and there is no apparent staff to clean up. The Ramada's soon get very nasty looking. (Kiwanis is a good example. There are remnants of 100's of party's hanging inside the Ramada's. Such a shame, for the beautiful parks you offer us. We certainly enjoy using the many parks with our granddaughter. Tempe does a lovely job overall. Thank you!
19. I think the current structures at Optimist park are great and don't need improvement. My 4 and 8 year olds play on it for hours multiple nights a week. I think a restroom is the most impactful addition. Furthermore, the time it would take to switch out the equipment and surface is time lost for playing. The picnic ramadas are also a great idea.
  20. I think the park is large enough to have a sand volleyball or full basketball court which would be great to have. Love seeing the modern parks with fitness stations too
  21. I wasn't sure if a backstop for baseball/kickball was included with the multi use field. It would be such a great addition to our park since I've seen multiple tball/little leagues teams, etc practice in the park over the years.
  22. I would love to have several slots for travel trailers for our neighborhood guests, with city power and water.
  23. I would really like for the sand to remain on the toddler side of the playground. Putting in rubber flooring for the older set of playground equipment is great, but the toddlers really love to dig in the sand. My kids would be sad if all the sand were to disappear.
  24. It needs bathrooms.
  25. It would be nice to keep a small area of sand for kids to play in.
  26. It's a wonderful park and welcomes many children and adults. As bathrooms may be the obvious choice for a future amenity, my fear is that it may not be kept up and may be a safety issue for children.
  27. I've never seen park staff at this or any other Tempe park.
  28. Kids NEED sand to play in. I live where I can see the playground and there are children with sand toys playing there EVERYday. I like the idea of the rubberized surface in areas that children can fall from heights (monkey bars, etc.) but kids need to dig and build and bury themselves! Sand is cooler for bare feet. Yes! Toes dig down into the cooler sand. Please keep huge areas of sand.
  29. Lighting in the park in the evening would be nice. Doesn't have to go real late, just to reasonable hours.
  30. Love the new walkway!!! So nice that more shade trees planted. The stand up spinner has been broken for years and never fixed. Need shaded areas for parents to sit and watch their kids. Better water fountains! Thank you for asking our opinions!! Theresa Yentes
  31. Might be a good idea to keep a small sand area since some residents like this.
  32. More trash cans are needed, especially along the new path through the park. Currently there is one small trash can and it is always overflowing. All of the picnic tables should have one trash can
  33. More trash cans for pet waste would be stellar!
  34. My daughter is 11. Therefore I focused on her perspective.
  35. My family has spent so much time at Optimist park over the last ten years. We love it. I'm so excited for the improvements. I do not live close enough to the park to be affected by a lighted multi use field, and I'm happy. If that got voted in and I did live that close, I would likely sell my house. Rest rooms would prevent the kids and sometimes parents from peeing in the alley by the homes ( which happens every day that we are there).

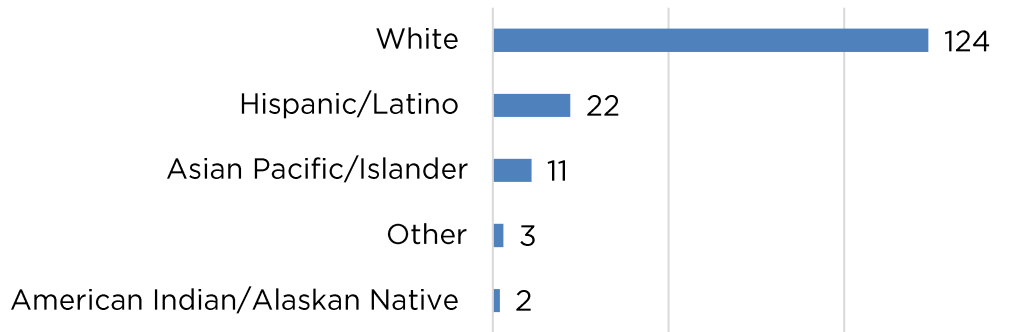
36. My son is handicapped, more paved paths leading from new jogging path down to playground would be awesome!!!
37. Need more lighting for safety on perimeter and near school
38. No ramadas or bathrooms. ESPECIALLY NO BATHROOMS. Don't remove the sand. Kids love the sand. More swings. Other than that, the park is great and people already love it. Don't fix what's not broken.
39. Optimist park needs a small splash pad area. It is so hot in the summer, most kids/adults do not go to the park. A splash pad opened during summer months would serve the patrons of the park. I was disappointed to see it was not an option or future option.
40. Our preference would be to have age appropriate equipment and facilities for neighborhood.
41. Please add a basketball court, and pickle ball. I will love you for ever and ever if you do!
42. Please add an off-leash area (dog park) and an area for basketball or bocce ball. Sand volleyball or tennis court would be great too. I don't have kids, but I love taking my dogs to the park. It would be great to have an off-leash area for them even if it is small. Having some adult activities would be great too. Even if you opened up the basketball court at the school. Thanks for all of the hard work you are doing!!
43. Please do not turn our lovely quite neighborhood park into a loud amusement park feel and/or a homeless encampment. My youngest child enjoys playing the sand as much as the playground itself so I vote for that to remain below the 2-5 younger child playground. My oldest prefers the bouncy rubber option so I vote for that below the 5-12 structure. Thank you for allowing input and listening to our thoughts and opinions.
44. PLEASE keep sand, at least for the littlest kids at the playground. It is used daily for imagination play and sensory play. I'm disappointed it was omitted from the survey options and concerned that it's omission will give the impression that sand isn't one of the most valued aspects of the current playground. The other closest playgrounds all don't have sand, so Optimist Park needs to keep it! Also - that car on the 2-5 side is very well loved- for both imagination and allowing 2 kids to ride at the same time. I didn't see an option for that sort of thing on the new list - but I would like to see a play vehicle that kids can ride together.
45. Please keep the sand in the playground for the kids to play in. No ramadas in the park. Definitely no bathrooms. Please add fitness equipment to walking path.
46. Please leave some sand for the kids to play in. My son Konstantin included a Tempe city flag redesign because he thinks the current redesign is "too plain." Thanks for everything we love the neighborhood and we love Tempe!
47. Please please please NO SAND! Sand is the worst. We drive to other parks bc we hate the optimist park sand so much
48. Ramadas only make sense if there are restrooms.
49. Remove the sand in the paly ground area and replace it with a padded system
50. Right now, I walk through the park at least several times a week. the people using the park have pets (sometimes off-leash), or are children/families in the play area. Adding a dog run, pickleball, a walking/fitness trail, bocce ball and/or a sand volleyball court would give the park amenities that the neighborhood could really use. We already have a soccer field at Gacki Park.
51. Rubber ground
52. Sand pit with rubber area
53. Soccer goals!!!



54. Tempe Parks should invest in a pump track, not just a BMX park. We have enough of those. Pump tracks are safer and more people of all abilities can ride them and still have fun. Check out: <https://www.rocklin.ca.us/news/bike-pump-track-concept-whitney-park-pedals-forward>
55. Thank you City of Tempe for doing such great work. Leslie Knope would be so proud of the improvements.
56. Thank you for soliciting input on the Optimist Park Improvement Project.
57. Thank you! We love the park and walking path!
58. Thanks for the survey
59. Thanks so much for allowing input online! We love our neighborhood.
60. The lights around the park should be on a timer and turn off/on on a scheduled timer. My backyard is backed up against the park and the park light stay on all night which causes a disturbance when trying to sleep because the lights shine into my room when trying to sleep.
61. The trail has had numerous off-road vehicles going on it at high speeds. It is neighbors which makes it tricky. Not good. Dirt bikes, motorcycles, 4 seater big vehicles, etc. Dirt flies everywhere and they are loud. Also, the lights have got to have a dimmer light....like the canal trail has with shorter posts and dim yellow non bug lights. Thank you
62. There is never any shaded seating in the play ground area for parents. Benches are always in sun. There needs to be additional signs that dogs are not allowed off leash. My children have been chased twice on the playground- once resulting in me being bitten when I intervened. Neighbors use the area to the east of the playground as an off-leash dog park, which fine, whatever, but off leash dogs, should not be near the children. Too many people are not responsible dog owners.
63. Unsure if allowed, Fuller has basketball and soccer fields would allowing use of those during non school hours be more cost effective than building a second set. It seems other parks that share proximity to schools share some of the outdoor fields and equipment
64. We don't live in the neighborhood but have friends that do from attending Fuller, the park update is important to us as we have to travel to go to a fun and safe park all the time our neighborhood doesn't have a park and the closest ones to us we feel are not safe. The optimist park is a safe and fun place to play
65. We have had some crime in the area, so no services that could invite that such as bathrooms.
66. We love optimist park!
67. We love our park and are so excited to see it grow!!
68. We love this park and go there all the time with our kids.
69. We want all the sand to remain in the park except the least amount of rubber required by ADA KEEP THE SAND!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
70. Would also like to see toddler swings if they're not included in the 2-5 play structure. 2nd choice for ramada Location B.
71. Would like to have designated picnic areas away from the kids playing, to be able to sit down and relax. Would also like the neighbors to start caring more about the park and cleaning up their dogs messes.
72. would like to see the rubber foam surface as opposed to sand or chips
73. Would prefer keeping some sand for a little kids. 25 to 50% sand versus rubber surface. Drinking fountain that can fill bottles.

The following questions are voluntary.

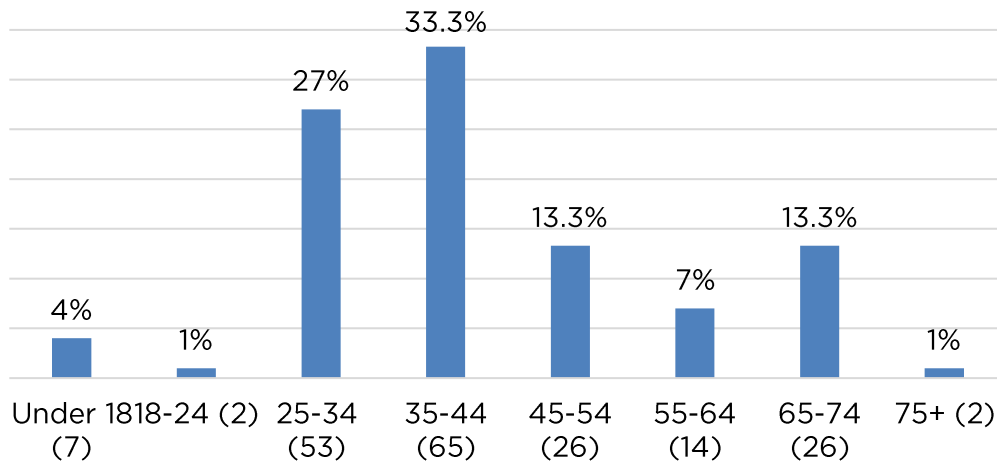
12. If you choose to respond, please mark all that apply. Race/Ethnicity:



Other:

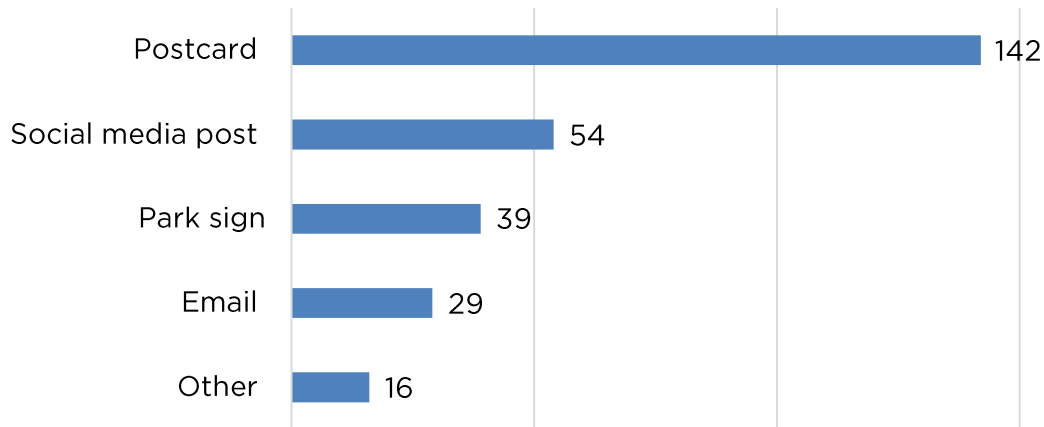
- Family is mix
- human
- Mexican American

13. What is your age?



Responses: 195

14. How did you find out about the Optimist Park project?



Other:

- Community what's app group
- Dads neighborhood group
- Friend

- Fuller elementary school reminder
- Got a letter in the mail
- group text from neighbours
- Live in the neighborhood
- live nearby, walk this path all the time
- Neighborhood Facebook group
- Optimist Park Facebook PG