



SECTION 6

Public Engagement

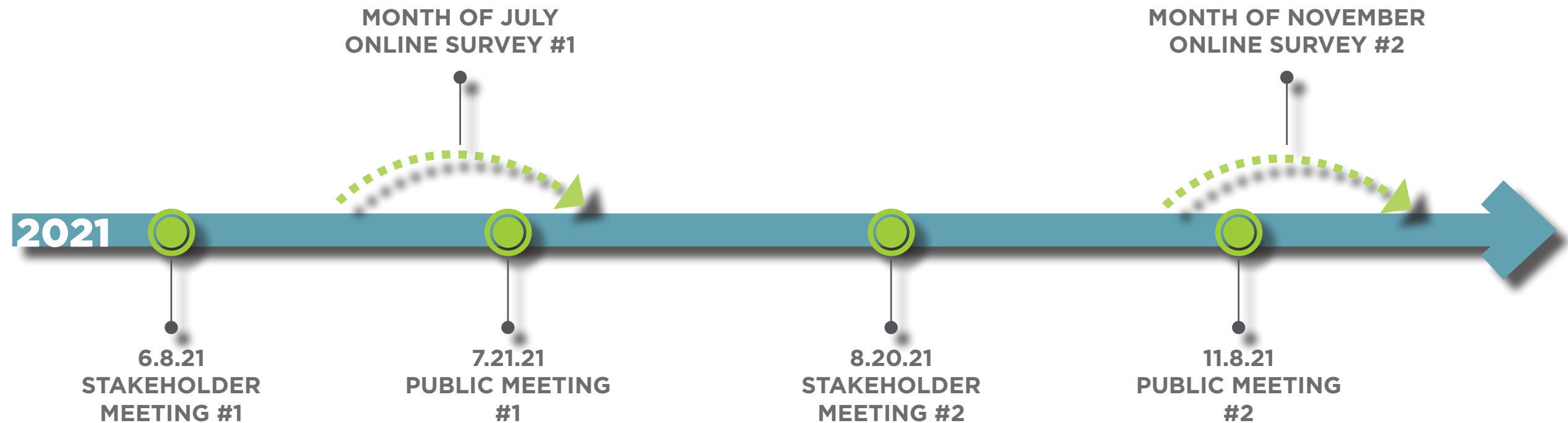
PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT OVERVIEW

The success of master plans is built on the inclusion of the public's ideas into the overall Vision. Throughout the course of planning for the future of Chippewa Lake, an exhaustive public engagement effort solicited hundreds of ideas and comments to help solidify the Vision. These ideas provide the foundation of this Plan's recommendations. The key public engagement events include:

- **Stakeholder Meetings**
- **Public Meetings #1 & #2**
- **Online Surveys #1 & #2**

During the outreach and engagement process, community members contributed their thoughts and ideas for the improvement of Chippewa Lake and its surrounding areas. Meetings with the public, stakeholders, and an online survey provided the planning team with a unique perspective on the entire study area, along with specific recommendations for Chippewa Lake.

After summarizing the input of more than 1,000 community members, between surveys and public meetings, the planning team determined key takeaways for consideration moving forward. Participants in the public engagement portion of the Plan process provided valuable insight to the priorities for short-term maintenance and updates, as well as long-term additions and improvements to Chippewa Lake. The comments and concerns received during this process were instrumental in crafting recommendations most appropriate for the future of Chippewa Lake.



Total Participants

Steering Committee	12
Online Survey #1	1,010
Public Meeting #1	150+
Online Survey #2	237
Public Meeting #2	135



Hundreds of community members attended Public Meetings #1 and #2.

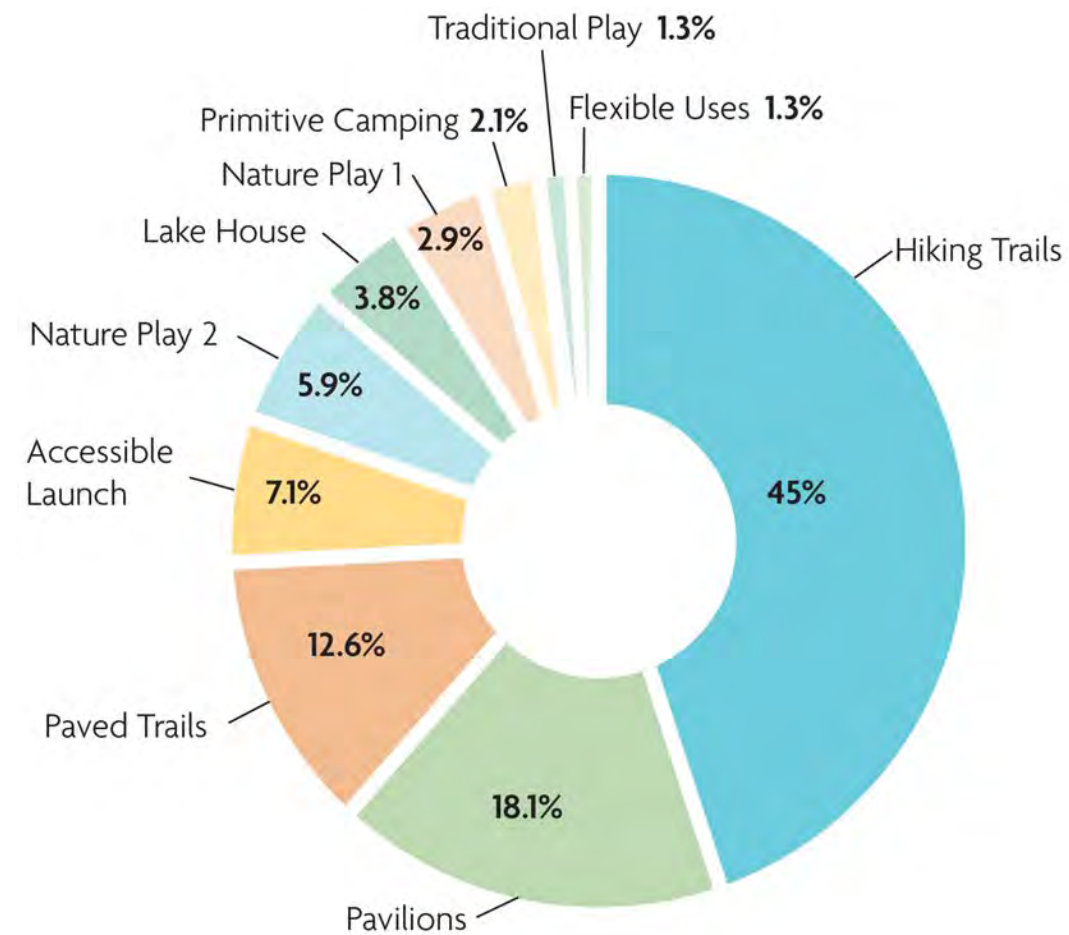
PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT Public Meeting #1 Results

On July 21, 2021, the community met at The Oaks Lakeside for a public meeting. A short presentation was given presenting an overview of the project, study goals, existing conditions, site analysis, and character image boards.

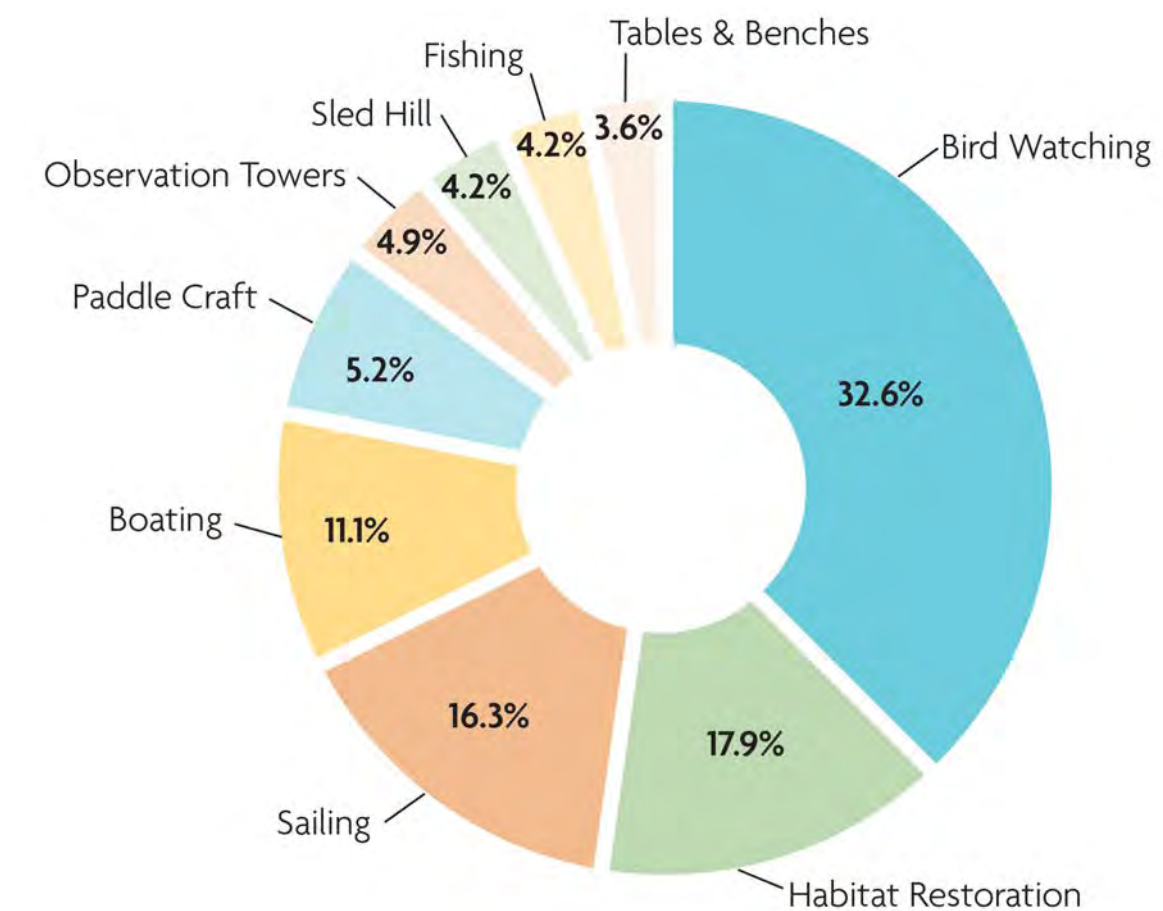
Over 150 community members engaged in opportunities to brainstorm and provide ideas for what types of amenities and priorities should be included in the Plan. Character image boards were set up allowing attendees to identify priority uses for the future park. Three sets were placed around the room, with three main categories of “Nature & Gathering,” “Recreation,” and “Restoration,” and blank boards that attendees could fill with other thoughts. The results of the public meeting are shown to the right.



RECREATION

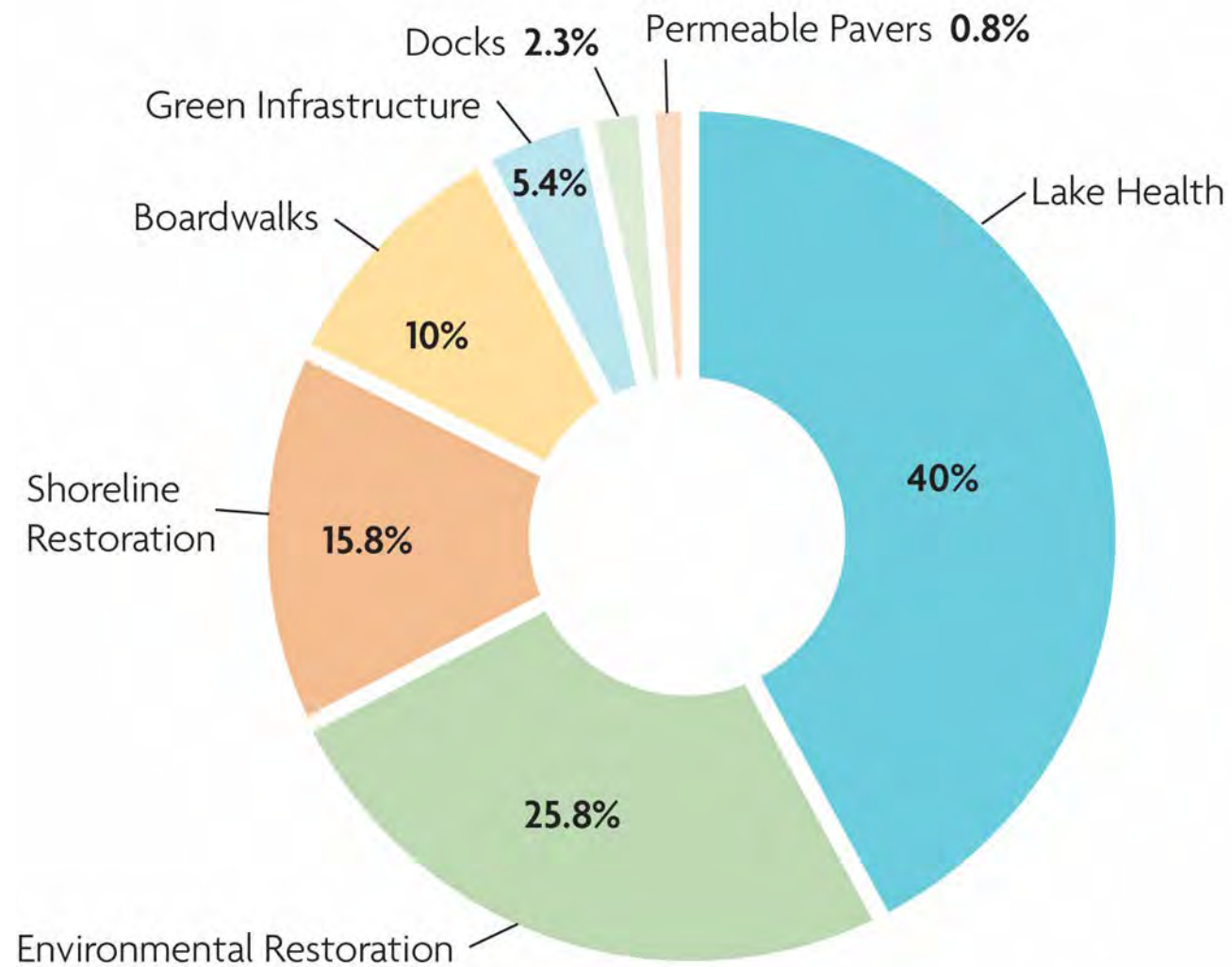


NATURE AND GATHERING

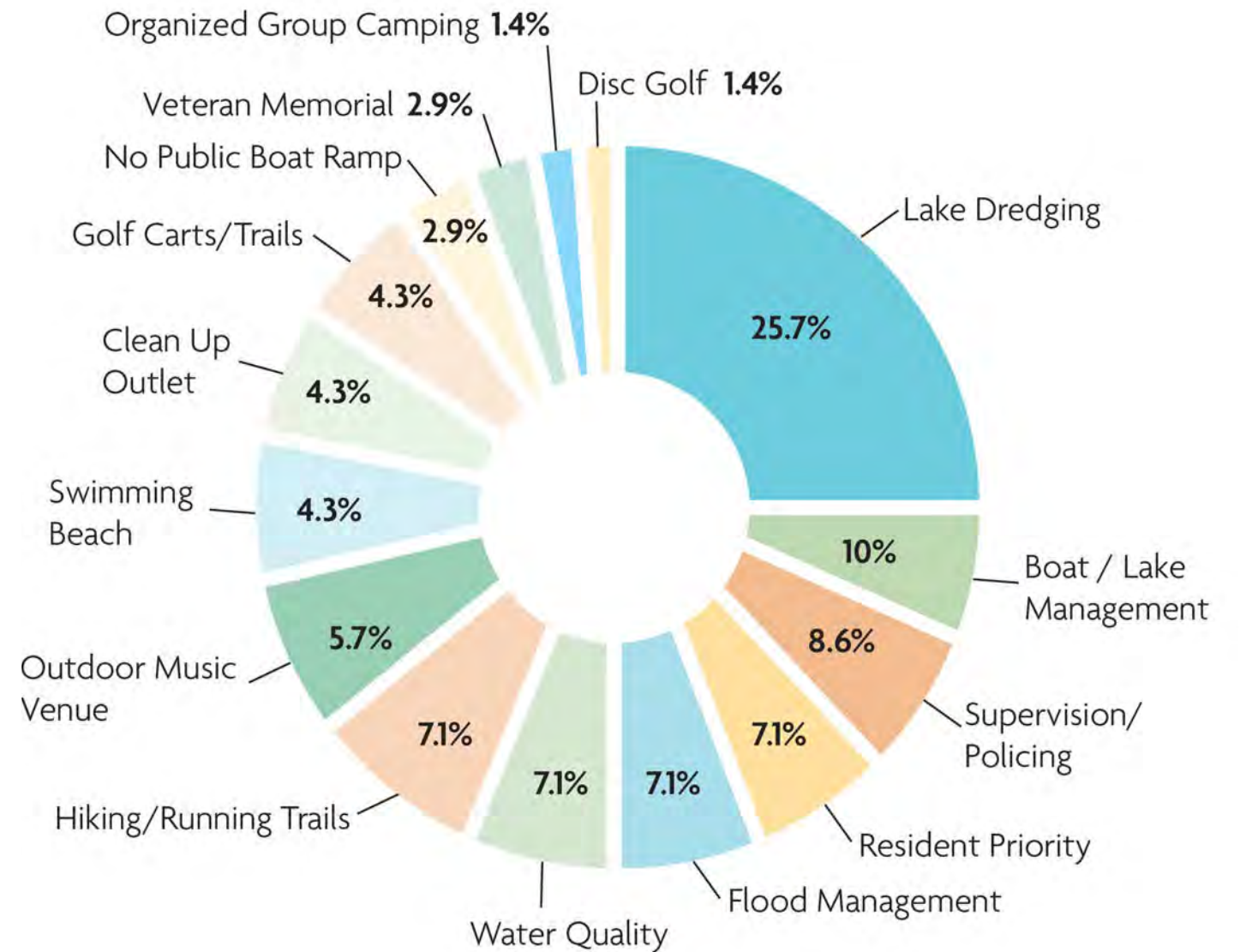


PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT Public Meeting #1 Results

RESTORTION

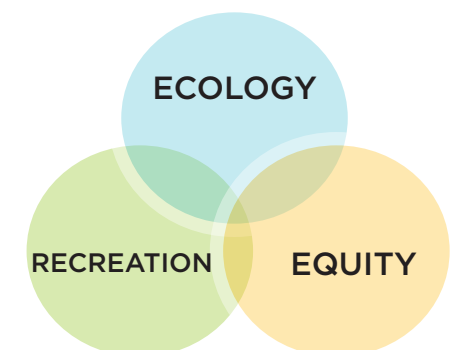


MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS



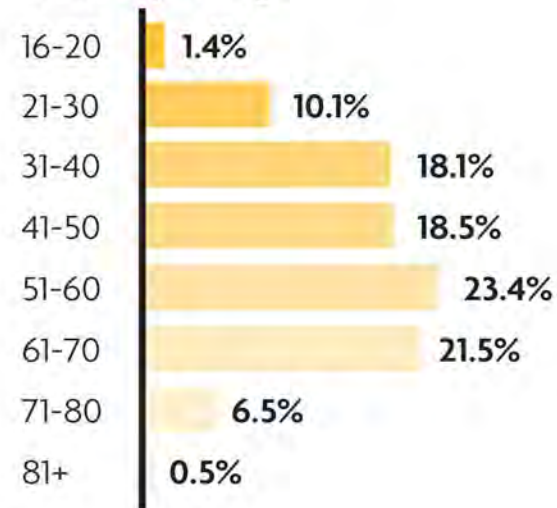
PUBLIC MEETING #1 KEY TAKEAWAYS:

1. Nature viewing and habitat restoration are high priorities.
2. Hiking trails, paved trails, and pavilions are high priorities.
3. Lake health and restoration are high priorities.
4. Lake maintenance, management, and supervision are considered high priorities.

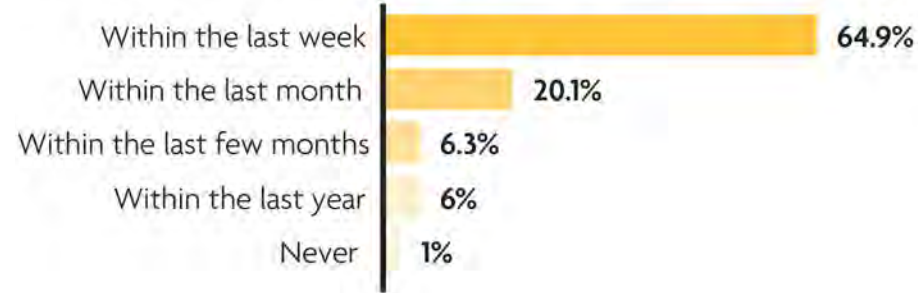


PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT Online Survey #1 Results

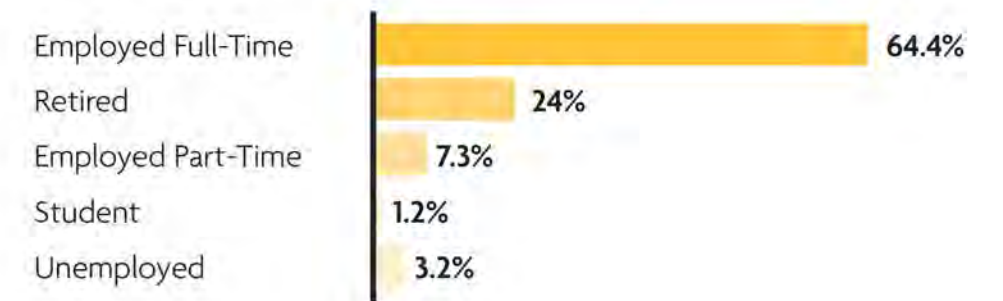
What is your age?



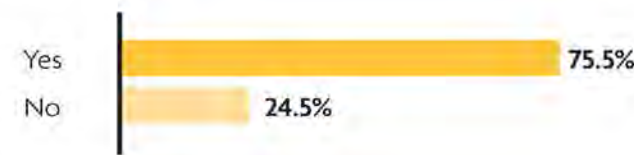
When was the last time you visited a park or trail in Medina County?



What is your employment status?



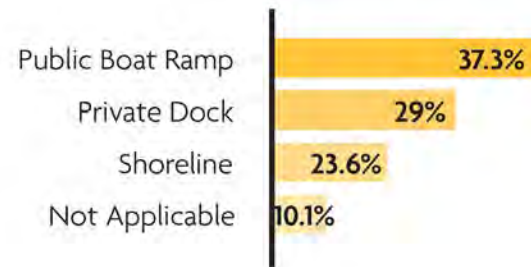
Have you used Chippewa Lake?



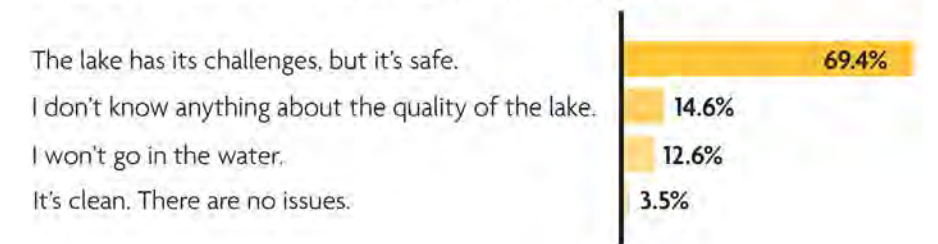
Do you own your home?



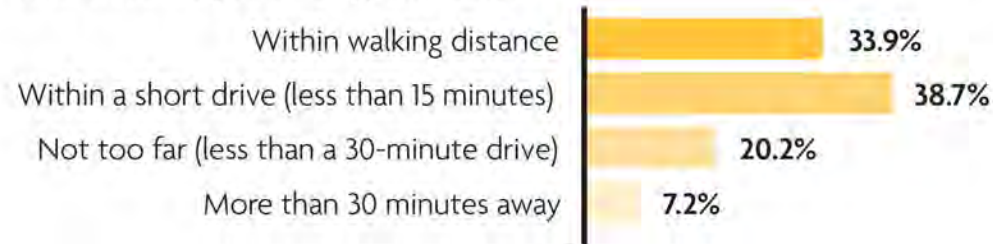
How do you, or would you, access Chippewa Lake?



What do you know about the water quality of Chippewa Lake?



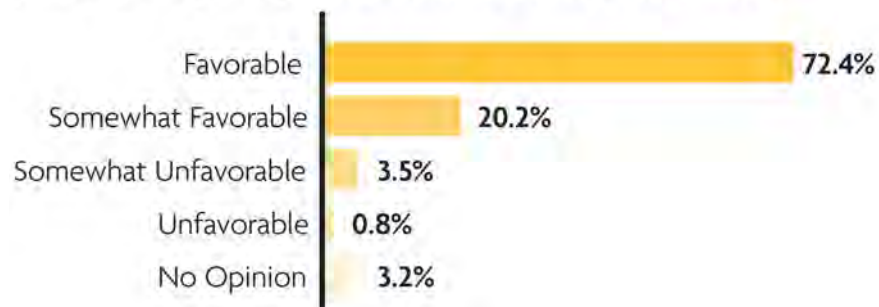
How close are you to Chippewa Lake?



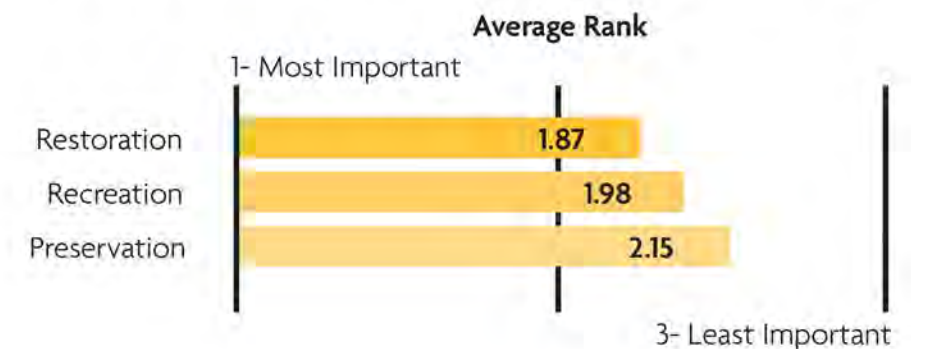
Do you have children in your home ages 17 or under?



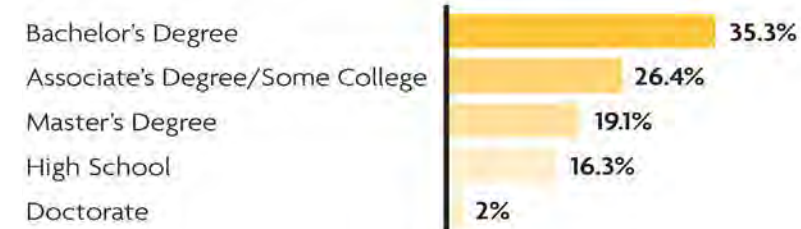
In Medina County, there are parks and trails managed by the county park district; some are managed by cities, townships, and villages; Hinckley Reservation is managed by Cleveland Metroparks. Thinking only about county parks, what is your opinion of Medina County Park District?



With the former Chippewa Lake Amusement Park, Medina County Park District has an opportunity to develop a unique destination. Rank the following in terms of importance with one being the most important.

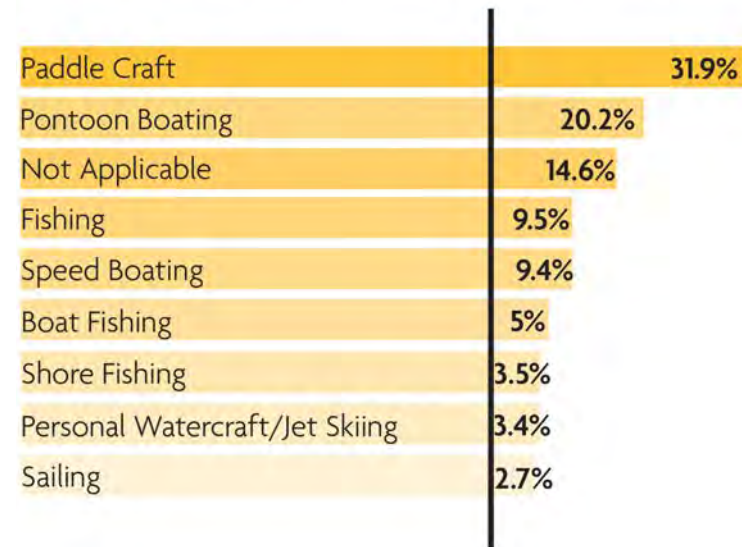


What level of education have you completed?

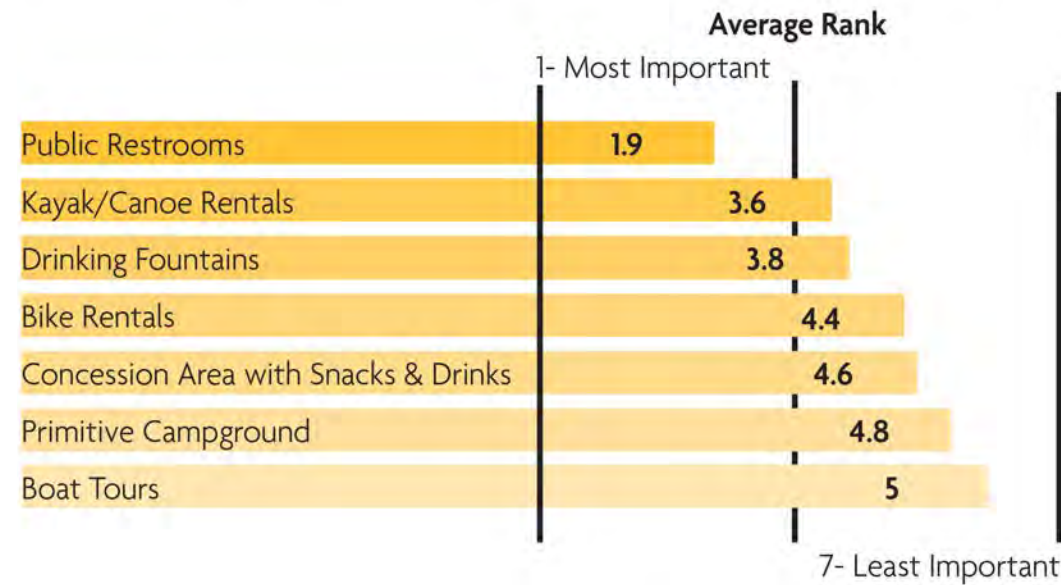


PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT Online Survey #1 Results

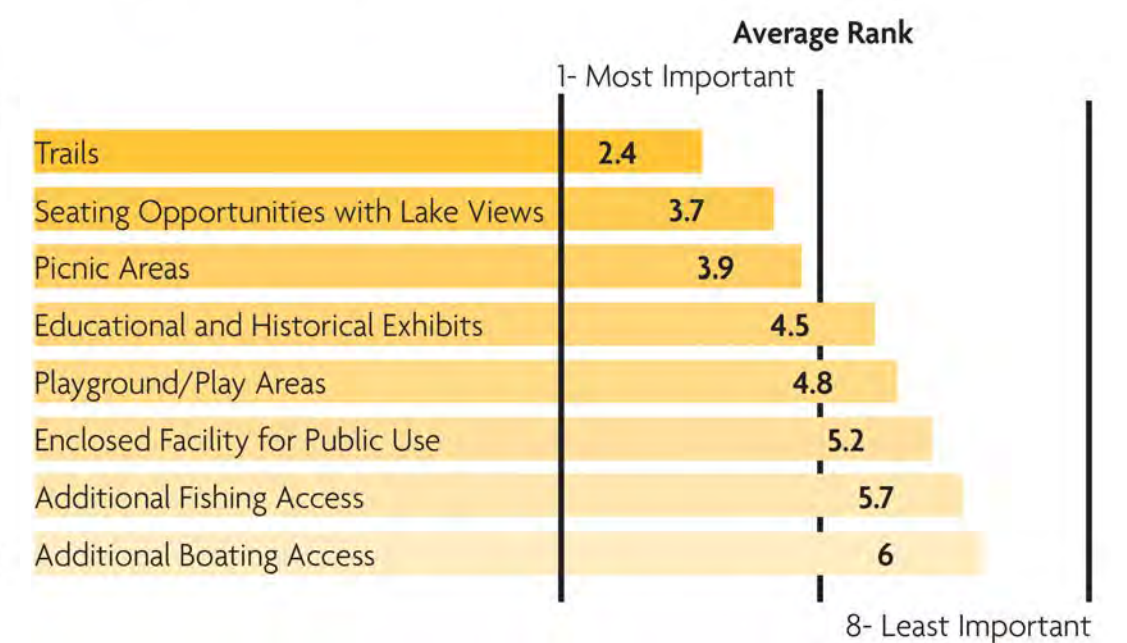
What is, or would be, your main reason for using Chippewa Lake?



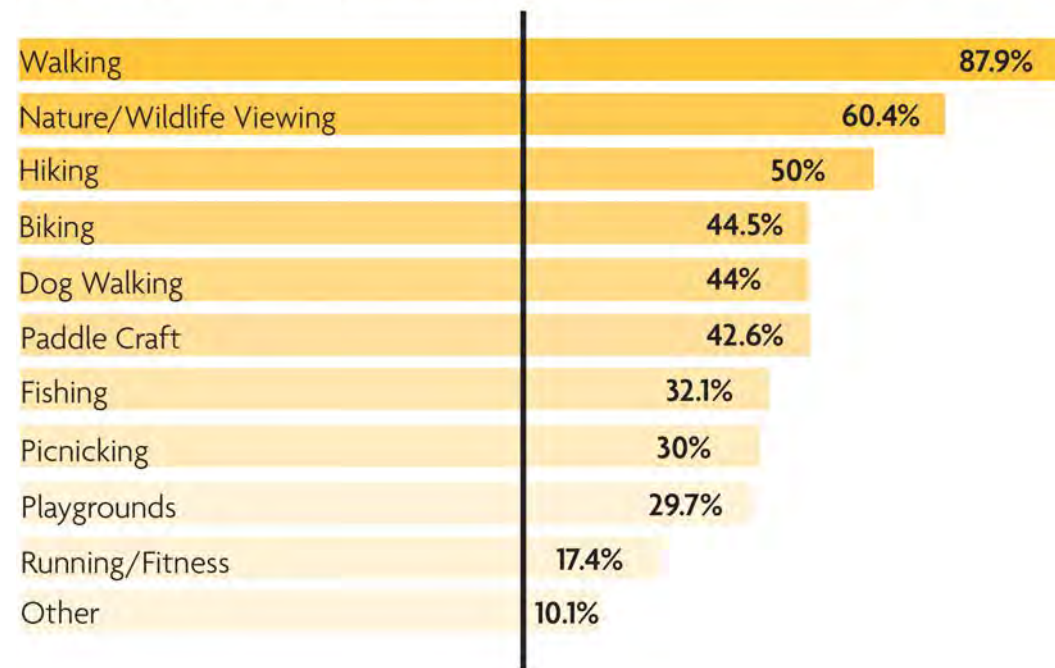
What type of amenities would you like to see offered? Rank the following in terms of importance with one being the most important.



What type of improvements would you like to see considered? Rank the following in terms of importance with one being the most important.

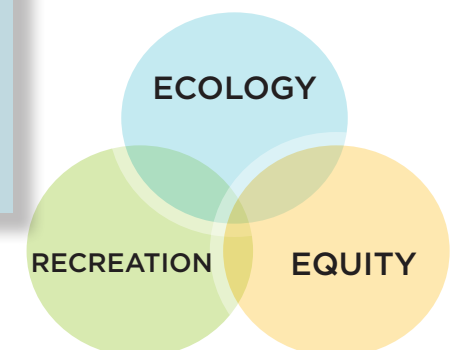


What types of activities do you typically participate in when visiting parks and open spaces? Choose all that apply.



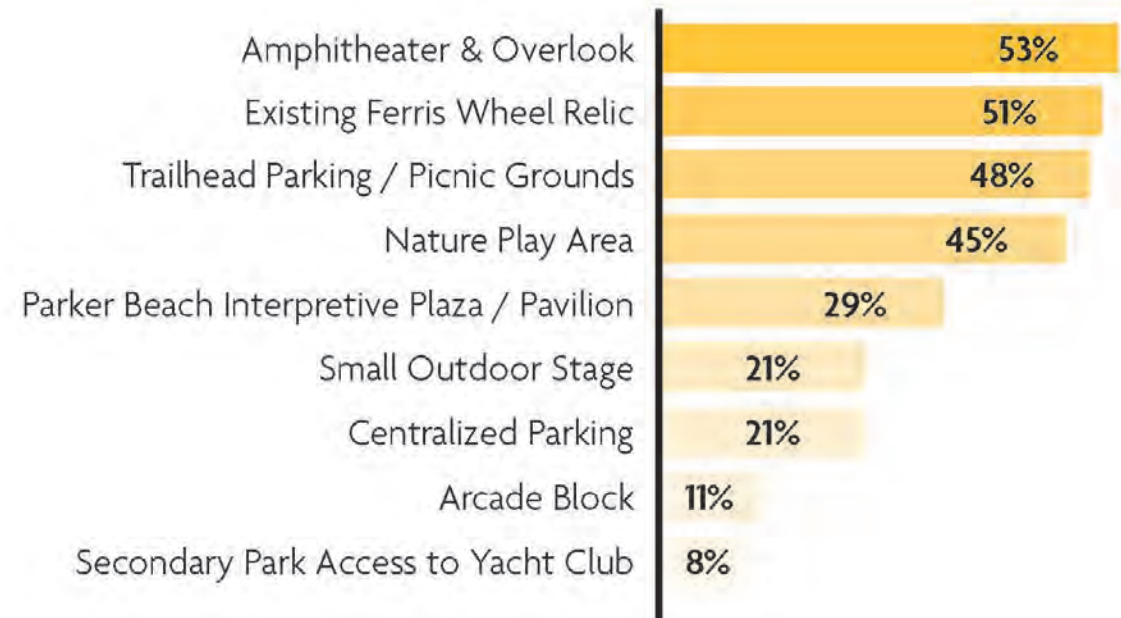
ONLINE SURVEY #1 KEY TAKEAWAYS:

1. Most users are within a short drive or walking distance to Chippewa Lake.
2. Residents think favorable of the county-managed parks.
3. Passive recreation (walking, nature viewing, and hiking) are the most desired uses when visiting public parks.
4. Paddle craft is the main reason for boating the lake.
5. Passive recreation improvements (trails, seating, picnic areas, and interpretive signage) are the most important desired improvements.
6. Public restrooms are the most desired park amenity.
7. The lake is generally safe but has challenges.

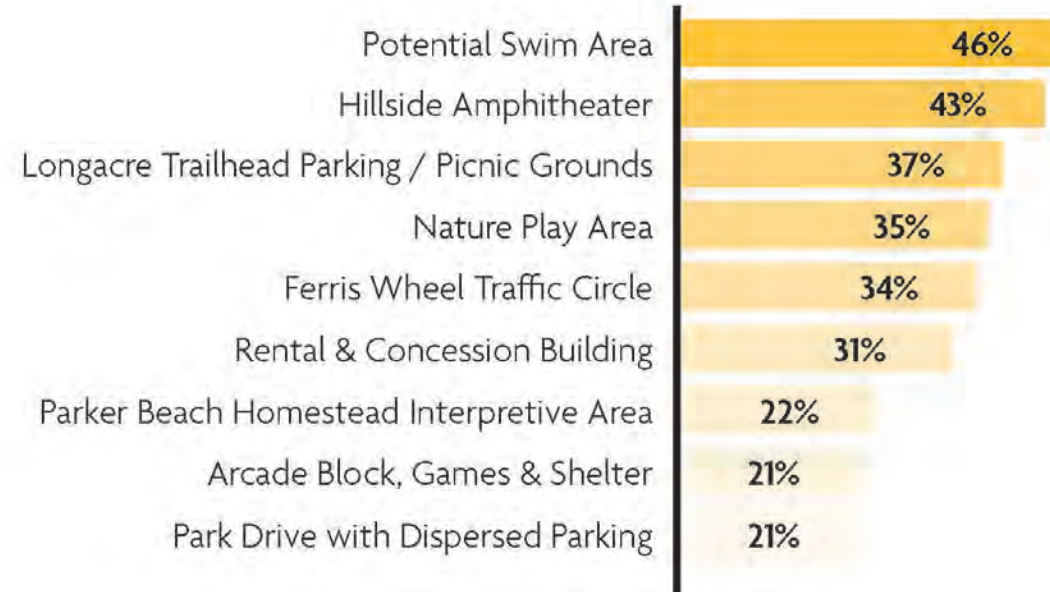


PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT Online Survey #2 Results

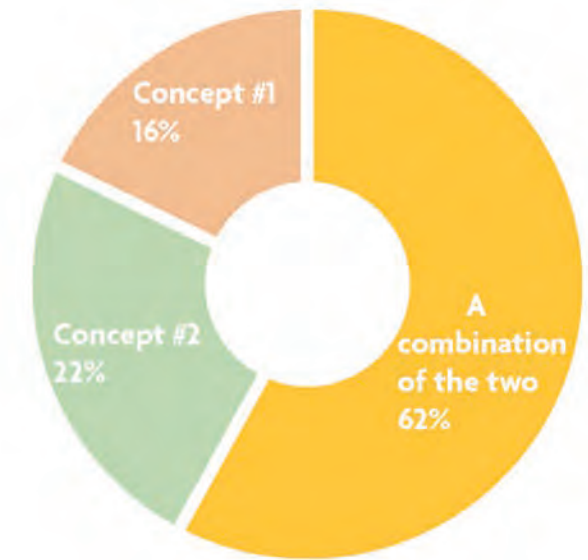
What top 3 elements do you like most about Focus Area Concept #1?



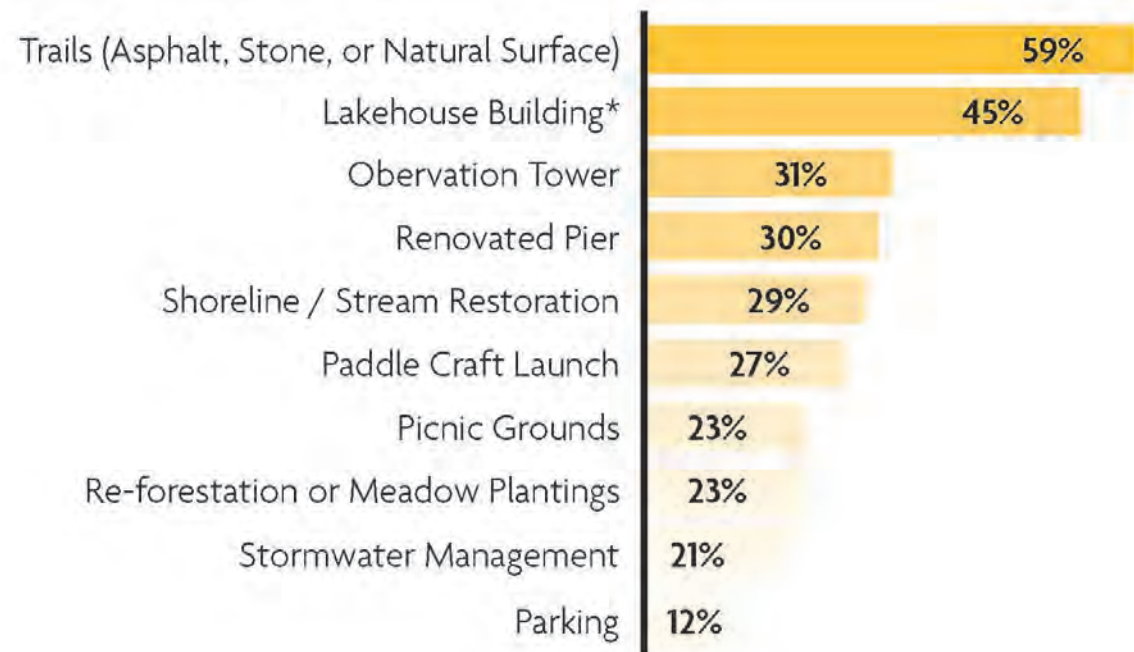
What top 3 elements do you like most about Focus Area Concept #2?



Which concept do you prefer the most?



What top 3 elements do you like most about both concepts?



ONLINE SURVEY #2 KEY TAKEAWAYS:

1. In Concept #1, the top three elements were amphitheater and overlook, existing Ferris wheel relic, and trailhead parking / picnic grounds.
2. In Concept #2, the top three elements were potential swim area, hillside amphitheater, Longacre trailhead parking / picnic grounds.
3. In both concepts, the top three elements were trails (asphalt, stone, or natural surface), lakehouse building, and observation tower.
4. Most respondents preferred a combination of the two concepts, followed by Concept #2, then Concept #1.

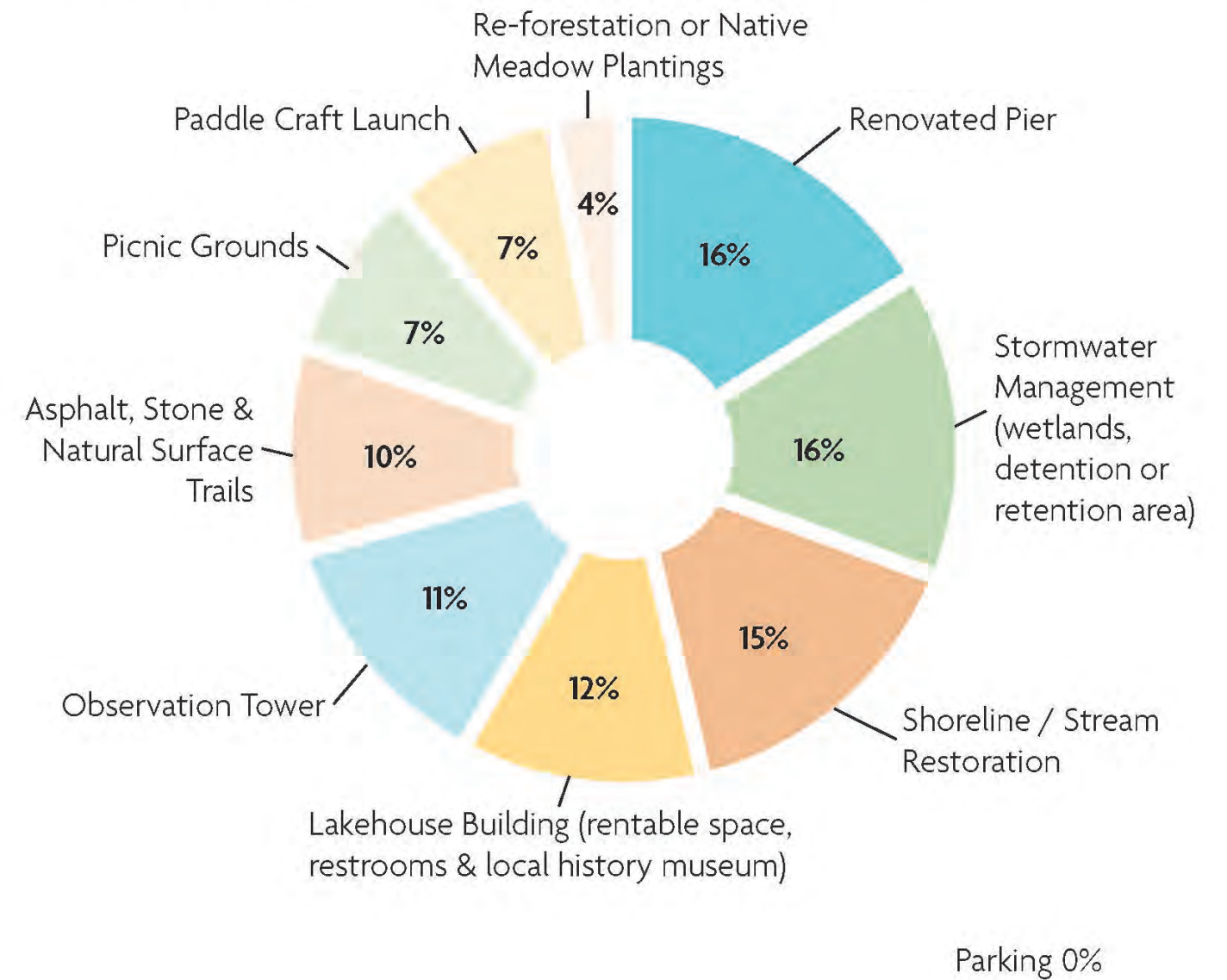
*Including Rentable Space, Restrooms & Local Museum

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT Public Meeting #2 Results

On November 8, 2021, the community met at Buffalo Creek Retreat to discuss plan recommendations. The meeting was held in three separate sessions to account for COVID-19 protocols and social distancing. At each of these sessions, a live survey was used to gather instant feedback on the Plan. There were also boards set up around the room that attendees could place stickers on to show which concept elements they favored most. An example of one of these boards is shown below. Together, the three sessions collected important feedback from over 100 community members and helped inform the final concepts of the Master Plan.

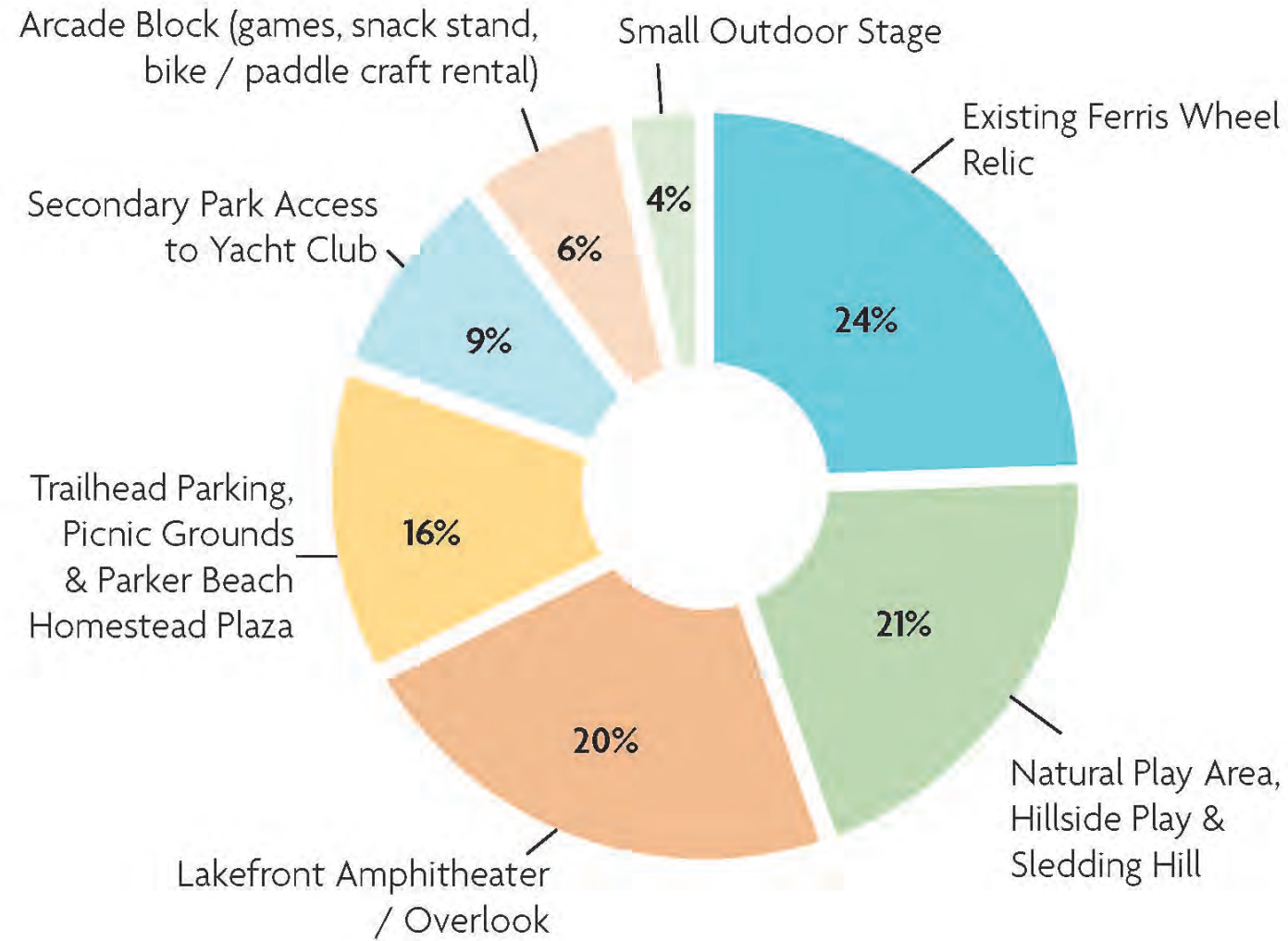


What proposed plan elements do you like in both concepts?

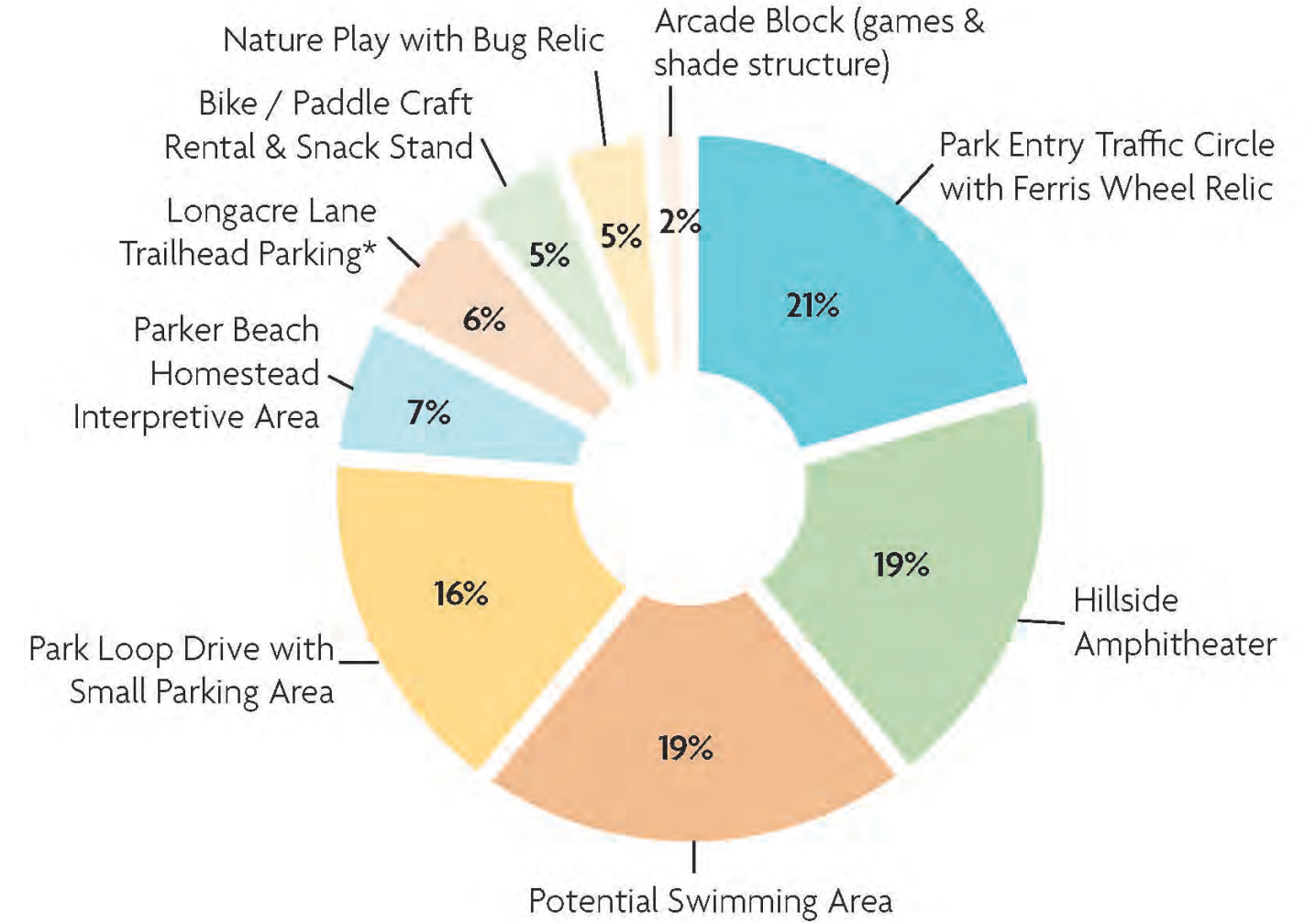


PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT Public Meeting #2 Results

What proposed plan elements do you like in Concept #1?



What proposed plan elements do you like in Concept #2?



* Including Shade Structure & Picnic Grounds

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT Live Survey (PM #2) Results

During the second public meeting, a live survey was used to gather feedback from the audience about how they feel about Chippewa Lake and the Plan elements. Participants answered questions on their phones and the results were displayed on the presentation screen, encouraging more discussion about the Plan.

Using one word, how would you describe the Medina County Park District?



Using one word, what is your preferred activity when visiting parks and open spaces?



Using one word, what is your biggest concern for the lake?

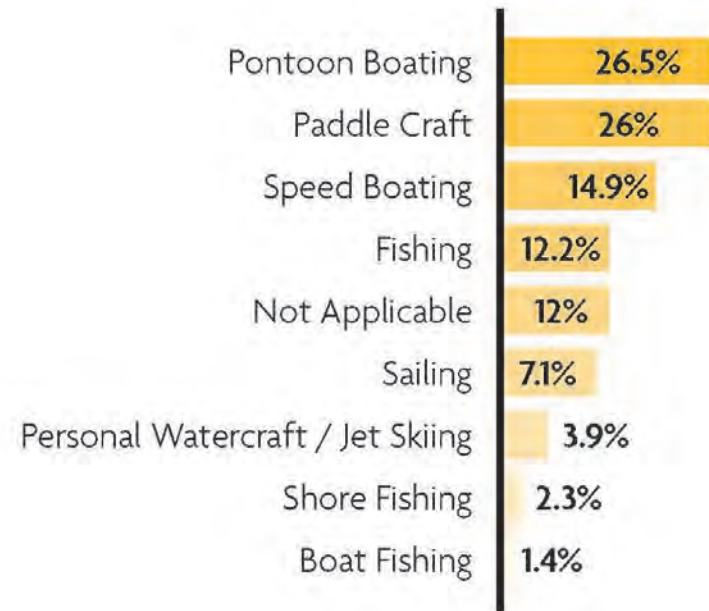


Using one word, is there any other park improvement you desire?



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT Live Survey (PM #2) Results

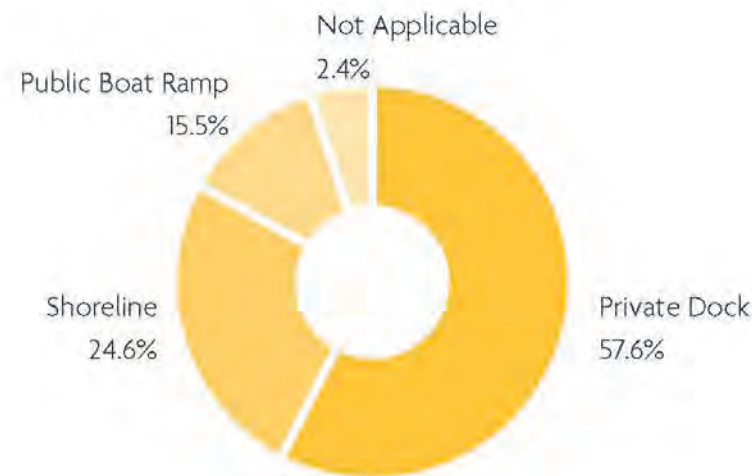
How do you primarily use Chippewa Lake?



Please identify your top 3 park improvements.

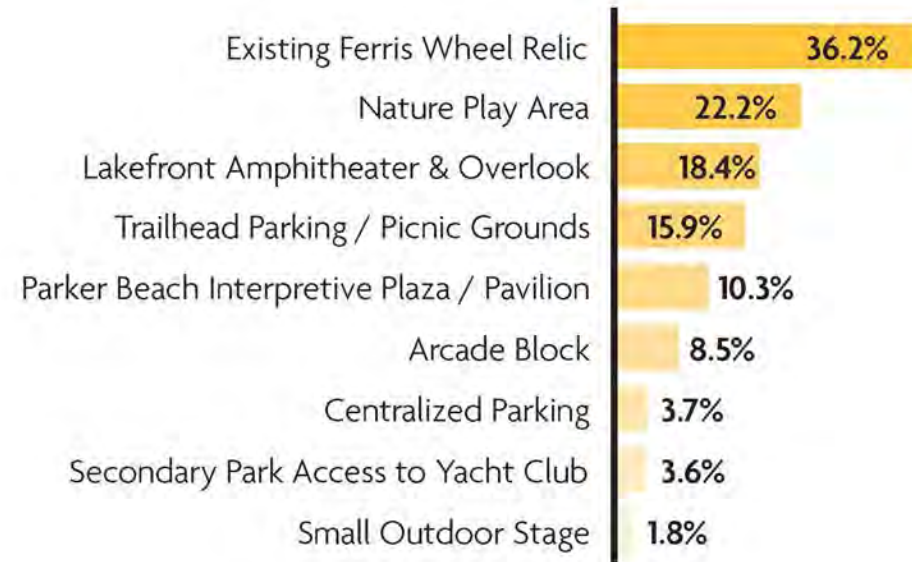


How do you access Chippewa Lake?



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT Live Survey (PM #2) Results

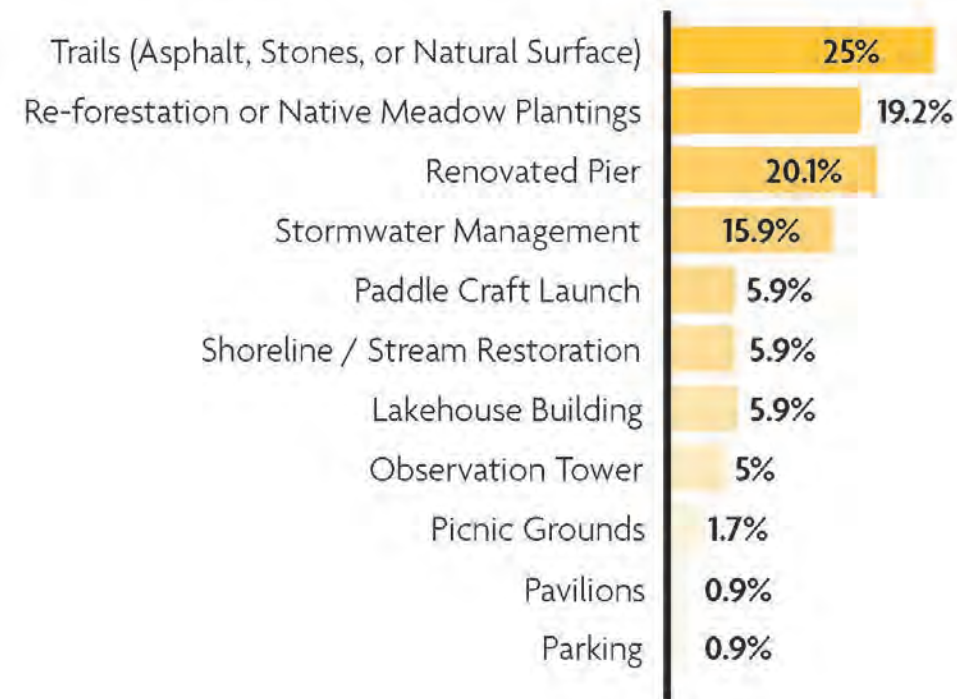
For Focus Area Concept #1, what top 3 elements do you prefer most?



For Focus Area Concept #2, what top 3 elements do you prefer most?



What top 3 elements do you like most about both concepts?



PUBLIC MEETING #2 & LIVE SURVEY KEY TAKEAWAYS:

1. In Concept #1, the top elements were existing Ferris wheel relic, natural play area, and lakefront amphitheater / overlook.
2. In Concept #2, the top elements were park entry traffic circle with Ferris wheel relic, hillside amphitheater, park drive / dispersed parking, and potential swimming area.
3. In both concepts, the top elements were renovated pier, stormwater management, re-forestation or native meadow plantings, trails, and shoreline / stream restoration.
4. The top three uses for Chippewa Lake were pontoon boating, paddle craft, and speed boating, and most people accessed the lake via private docks.
5. The top three park improvements were hiking / walking trails, seating opportunities with lake views, and environmental restoration.

