



Greenwood Park and Kealy Woods Public Consultation Summary

March 2020

PUBLIC CONSULTATION & METHODOLOGY

The public consultation for Greenwood and Kealy Woods Park involved a formal open house, 2 workshops with school aged children, a build your own park activity as part of the annual Kids in the Hall event, meetings with stakeholder groups including in person, on the phone, and emails. Staff also worked to develop an online project page and public engagement that included a survey questionnaire.

City staff had the following public consultation goals;

- ✓ Communicate key findings from the environmental assessment.
- ✓ Communicate the rationale and basis for park improvements and restoration strategies.
- ✓ Connect with community members that may not typically engage in public consultation.
- ✓ Learn more about the park from a variety of perspectives.
- ✓ Consult with stewardship groups and other external stakeholders.
- ✓ Integrate online methods of engagement together with an onsite open house.

CONSULTATION EVENTS

- A public open house was held on Tuesday January 28th 2020 from 4:00-8:00pm at Queensbury Elementary school. 65 people attended the event with 56 online and hard copy questionnaire responses received.
- A workshop was held on March 2nd 2020 with 25 grade 5/6 students at Queensbury Elementary. Students were shown maps and staff engaged in survey conversation.
- A site tour and workshop was held on March 9th with 22 grade 11 students at Sutherland High School. Students toured the site to review and discuss the environmental assessment during a morning. In the afternoon, students broke out into discussion groups to provide input on recreational and habitat enhancement improvements. They also completed individual surveys.

Staff also met with the following stakeholders;

- North Shore Mountain Bike Association. Site tour to review potential for a multi-use mountain bike trail
- North Vancouver Culture Commission
- North Vancouver Recreation Commission
- North Shore Committee on Disability Issues
- Greater Vancouver Orienteering Club
- Richard Wheeler, author of Metro Van Climbing Guide
- Greenwood Park North Vancouver stewardship group

WHAT WE HEARD

The following information are the results of the feedback collected from all the consultation events noted above, the Lets Talk Public Engagement online survey, as well as discussions with stakeholders in person, by telephone, email, letters, and through social media.



103

Surveys
Completed



352

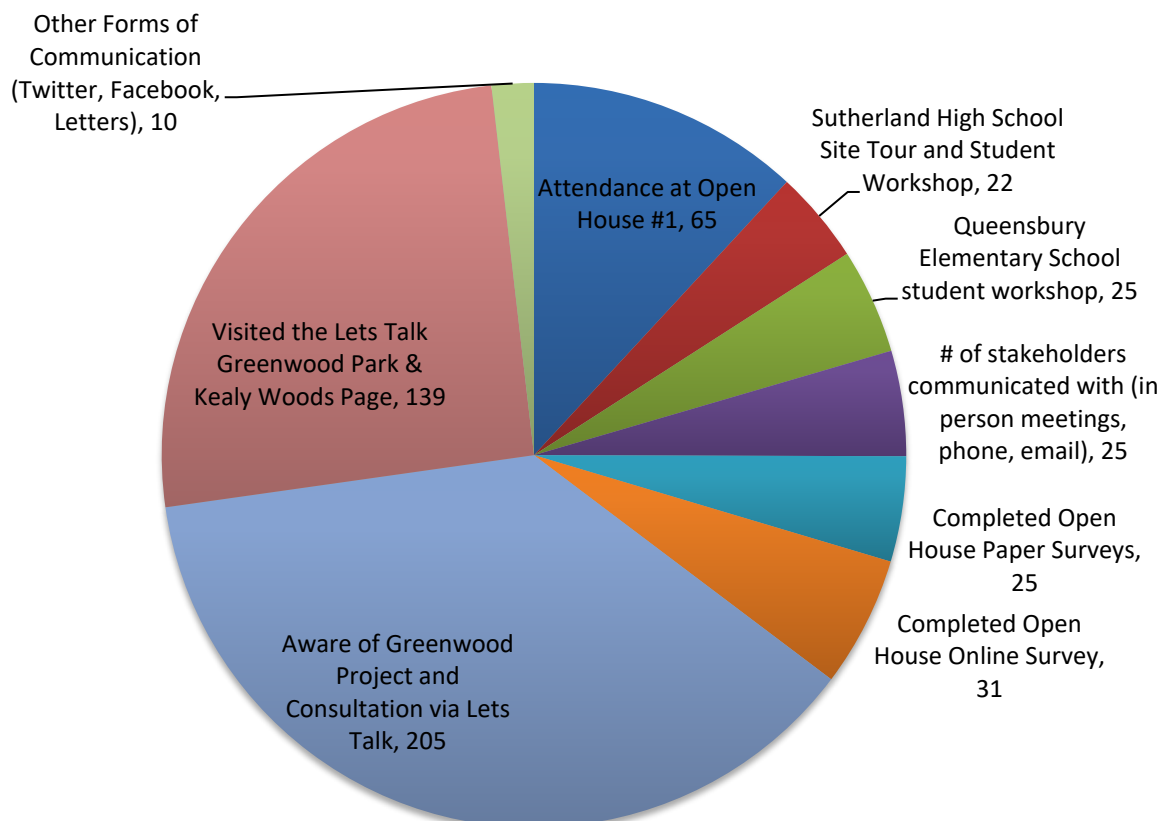
Aware and
Consulted



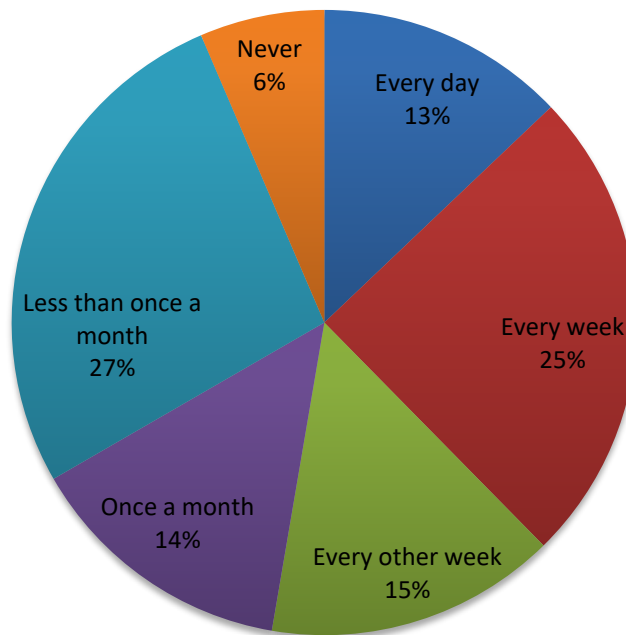
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Other Forms of
Communication

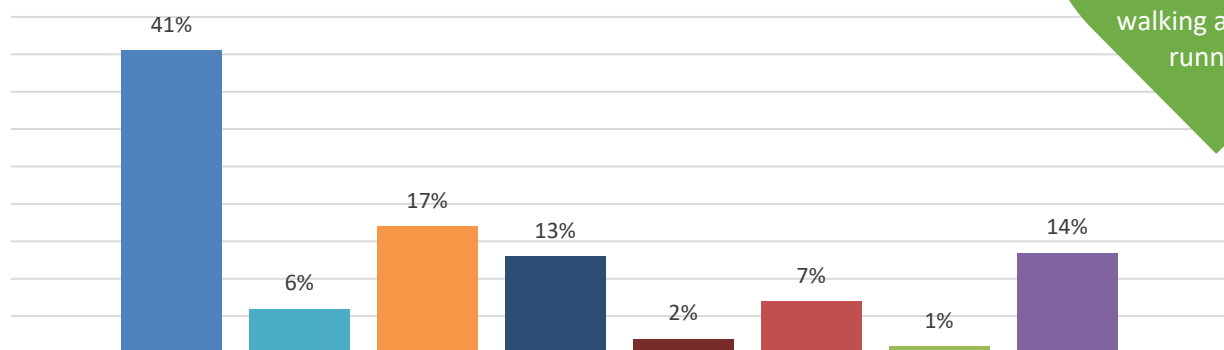
The following chart outlines the types of engagement responses including whom and how many people were involved in phase 1 of the consultation process.



1. How often do you visit Greenwood Park?



2. What do you like to do at Greenwood Park?



There is a range of activities people enjoy at Greenwood. The most favoured is trail based activities including hiking, walking and trail running

■ Walking/Hiking ■ Rock climbing/bouldering ■ Walking the dog ■ Nature and wildlife watching
■ Other (please specify) ■ Trail Running ■ Cycling ■ Mountain Biking

Selection of Other Comments:

"I like to run around and play in the forest to find hidden doors" – Grade 5 student

"Exploring nature with my kids (age 3 and 6), playing hide and seek, picking huckleberries and blackberries in the summer" – Open house participant

Bring our kids to run and play around and have fun in nature. They are always super creative with their imagination when we are there. – Open house participant

"Things I like to do at Greenwood Park is jumps, slide down big rocks, help pick up litter" – Grade 5 student

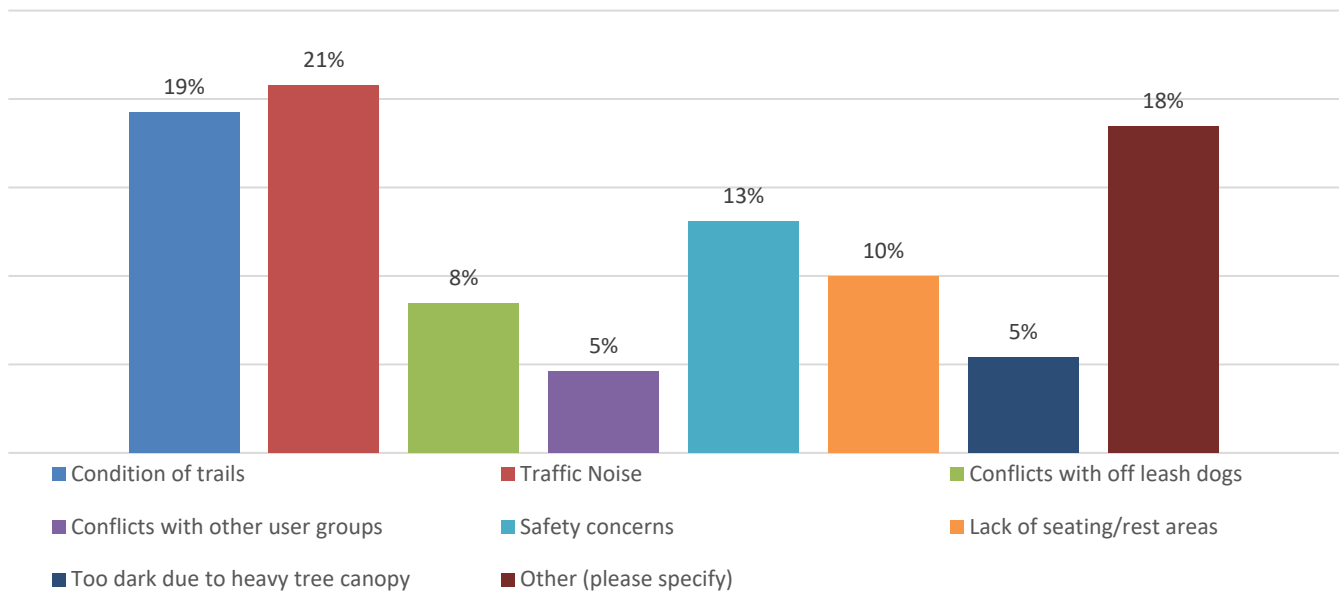
"The area has been used extensively since the 1940's for climbing. It is now documented in a film called 'How to Climb a Mountain'" – Open house participant, resident climber

"The park is mainly a great and refreshing break from the City aesthetic. The best use for it is walks and biking or hikes. We think it could use some cleaning up at the entrances to make it more welcoming."- Grade 11 workshop group

"The GVOC runs evening trainings for kids programs in this park. We like this park because it has open understory allowing for route finding off the trail. It is important and healthy for children to run in wild spaces." – Open house participant



3. Do you have any concerns when you visit Greenwood Park?



Selection of Other Comments:

"When walking we have often noticed illegal dumping as well as lawn chairs and signs for Frisbee golf. I would like to see the park as a natural habitat for wildlife and native plants and have low impact activities in it." – Open house participant

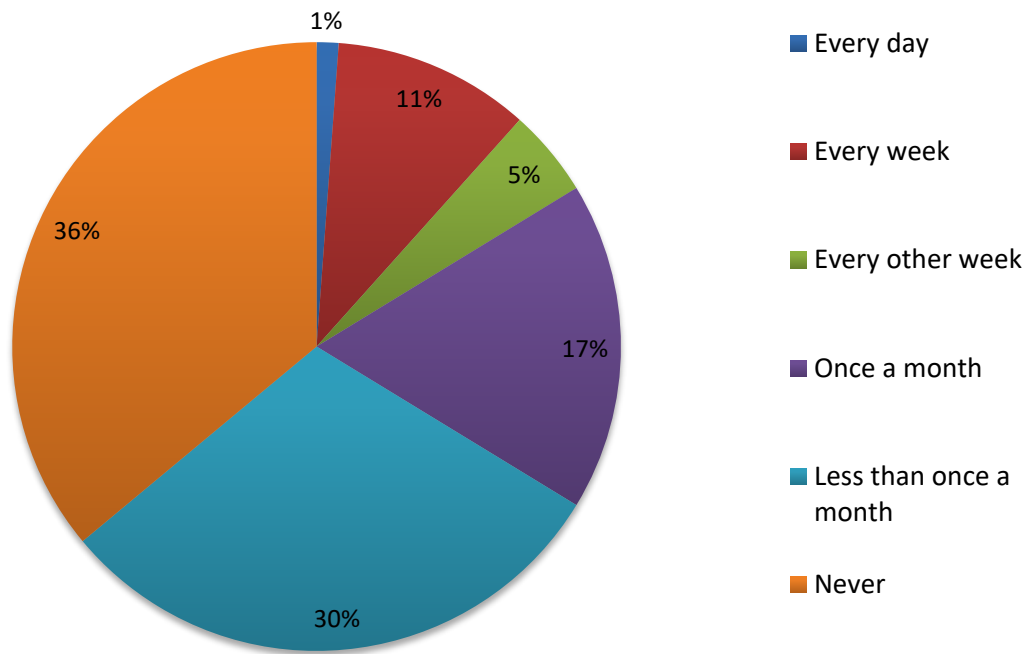
"I want someone to clean up the graffiti"- Grade 6 student

"After the implementation of the Green Necklace pathway on the West side of the park our family has seen a significant negative impact on the drainage in the area. The disturbance of the pathway has caused increased water flow along the path down the 23rd street East and debris from the park often covers the drains. We are concerned that this will cause flooding of the homes on the 300 block of 23rd Street East." – Open house participant

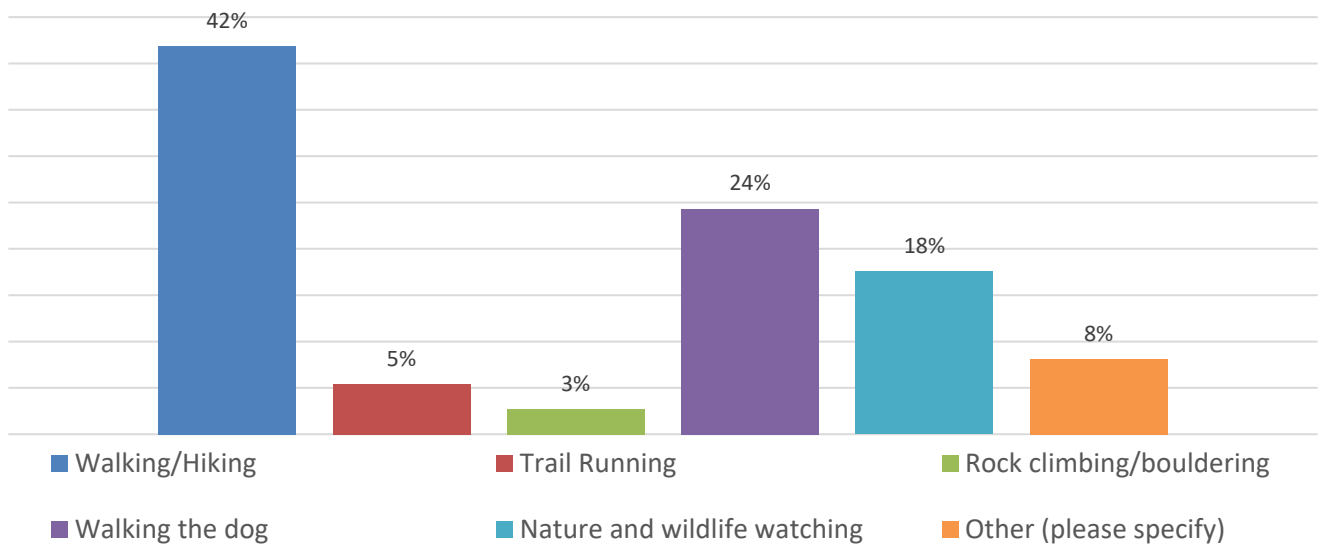
"Garbage is a concern, and fallen tree/debris across trails. And also some vandalism such as Frisbee Golf people appear to have spray painted numbers on some of the trees in Greenwood Park near the East base of it." – Open house participant



4. How often do you visit Kealy Woods?



5. What do you like to do at Kealy Woods?



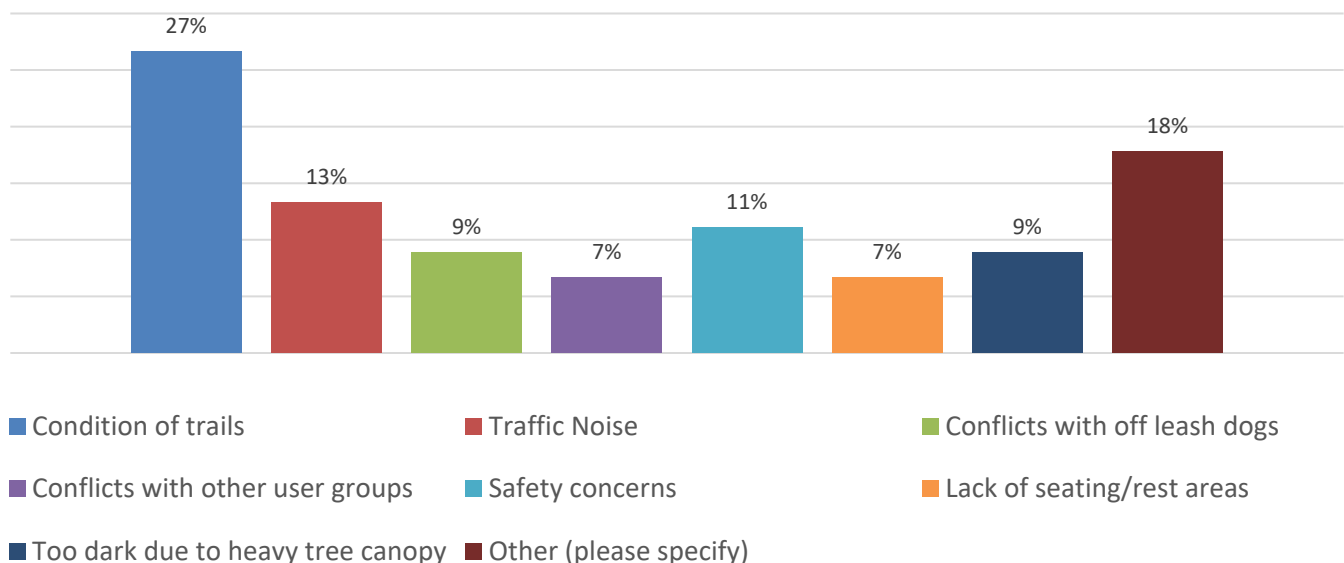
Selection of Other Comments:

"Berry picking (huckleberry and blackberry with my 3 and 6 year old." – Open house participant

"I tried walking through it with my dog once but it doesn't have trails that are cleared enough. Ended up climbing over and under downed trees." – Open house participant

"I would like to see the lane completed & remove parking from the boulevard to the highway." – Open house participant

6. Do you have any concerns when you visit Kealy Woods?



Selection of Other Comments:

"Hard to know where you are." – Grade 11 student

"Safety concerns from broken glass, discarded drug paraphernalia and garbage - I've seen garbage that might imply people have been camping, keep a close eye on my children in case we encounter someone living in the woods." – Open house participant

"Quite a bit of garbage was there on my recent visit." – Open house participant

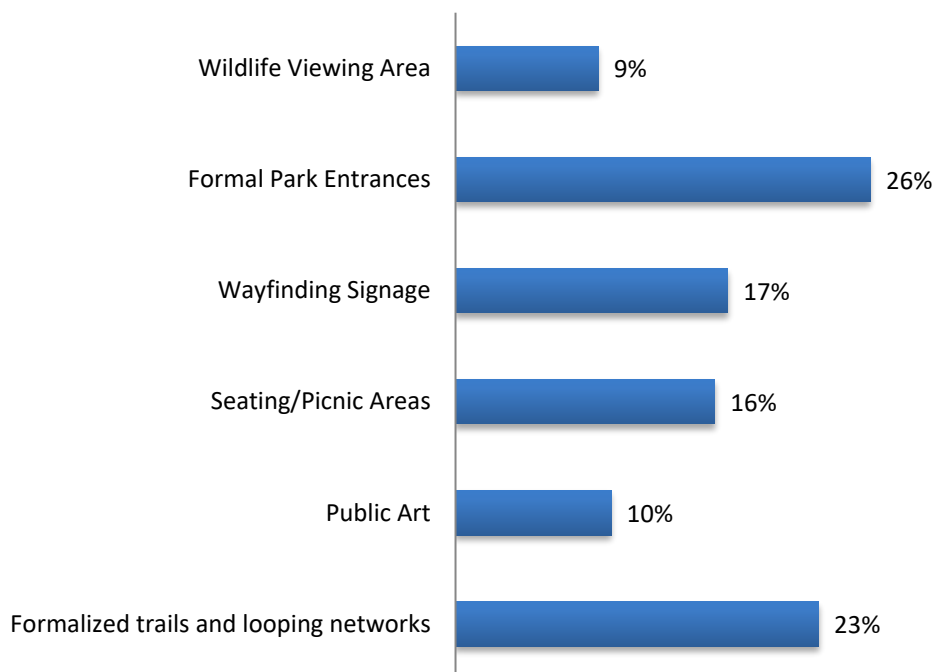
"Too much blackberry." – Open house participant



7. Do you visit Greenwood Park and/or Kealy Woods Park with a community group? If yes, please indicate the group below.

- Greater Vancouver Orienteering Club
- Evergreen Forest Stewardship Program
- Used to visit with parent participation pre-school
- At least once a week, the class from Queensbury school visits the area
- North Shore Rescue
- Physical education classes at school

8. What pedestrian improvements would you like to see in the parks?



Selection of Other Comments:

"We would love to see some nice picnic areas, public art and nicer entrances." Grade 11 workshop group

"Minimize your messing around with this exceptional natural park. I have been using it since 1984." – Open house participant

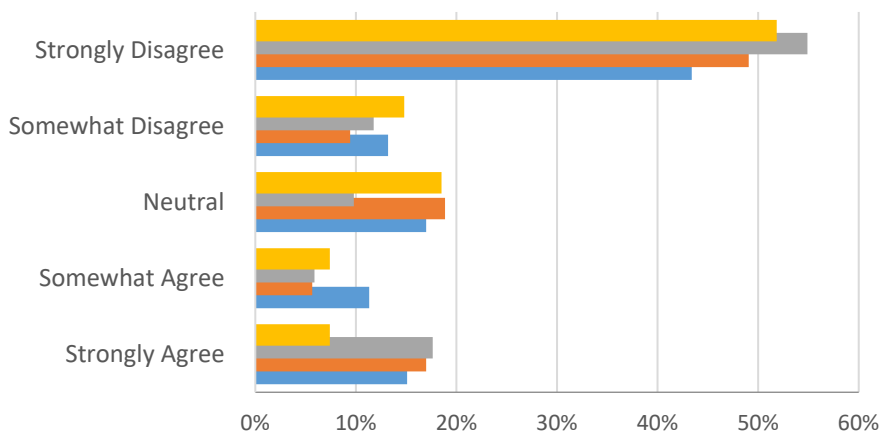
"It would be great if an outside learning classroom space could be incorporated into the design for use by school district 44/Queensbury Elementary/Sutherland classes." –Open house participant

Potential Recreational Improvements

The methodology for the questions posed to the public for recreational improvements varied in the following section. This was a necessary given the audience age range and time allotment. Open house participants were asked to rate the potential recreational improvements at Greenwood and Kealy Woods. Whereas the school students, were asked to choose which options (if any) they preferred.

9a. Please rate each of the potential recreational activity improvements

Results from Public Open House#1

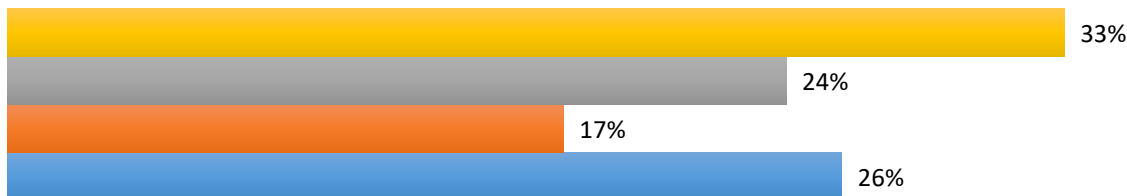


	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Neutral	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Adventure Circuits	7%	7%	19%	15%	52%
Kids Mountain Bike Trails	18%	6%	10%	12%	55%
Formalized Climbing/Bouldering	17%	6%	19%	9%	49%
Nature Play Elements	15%	11%	17%	13%	43%



9b. What recreational improvements would you like to see?

Results from Student Workshops



Adventure Circuits	33%
Kids Mountain Bike Trails	24%
Formalized Climbing/Bouldering	17%
Nature Play Elements	26%

Selection of Other Comments:

"Would love to see access to the boulders be improved with cleared landings for safety" – Open house participant

"I'd like to see a tree house"- Grade 11 Student

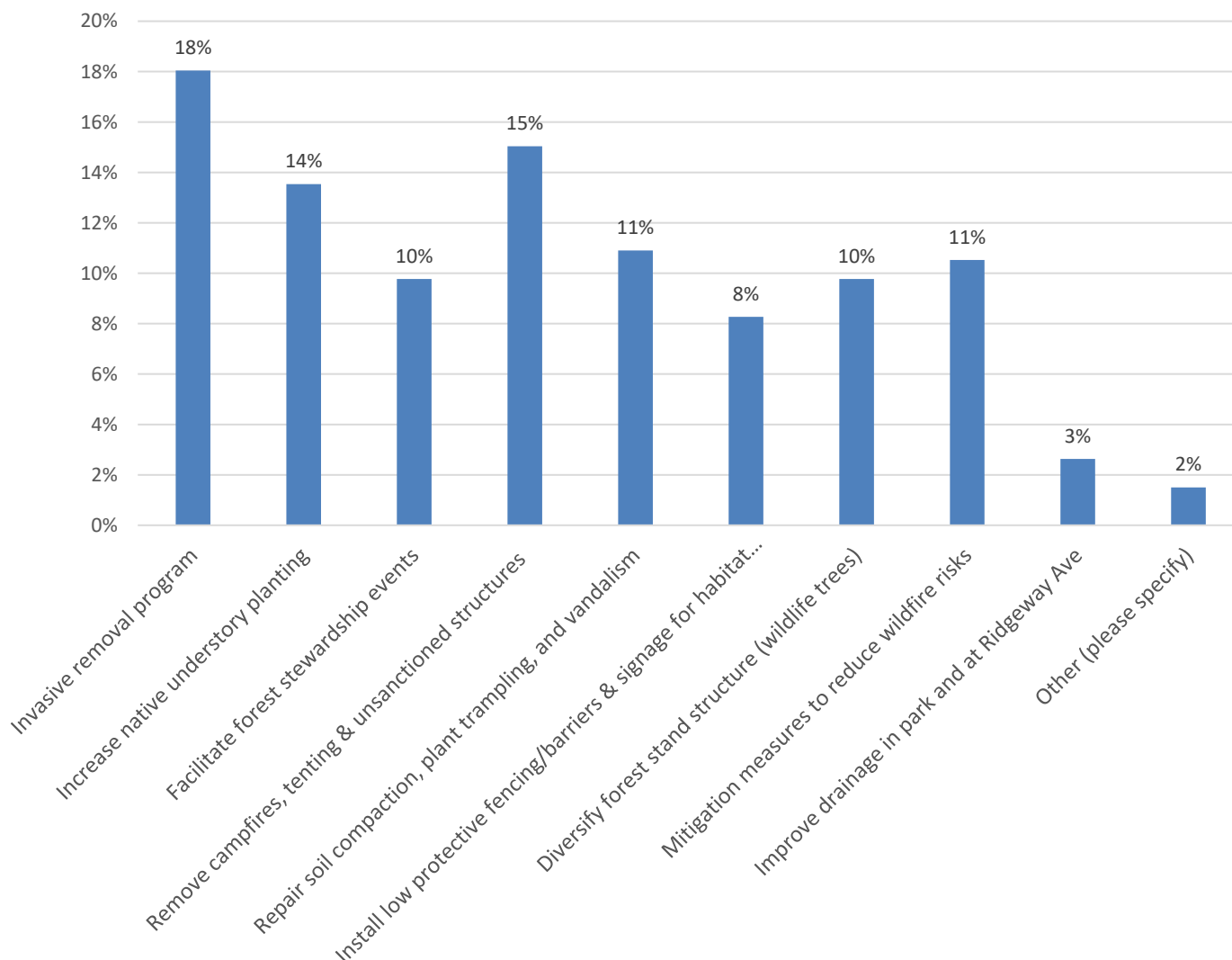
"More bike trails, jumps and obstacles!" Grade 5 student

"Minimize your messing around with this exceptional natural park. I have been using it since 1984." – Open house participant

"It would be great if an outside learning classroom space could be incorporated into the design for use by school district 44/Queensbury Elementary/Sutherland classes." –Open house participant

"Kids mountain bike trail would be amazing because there isn't many good places in North Vancouver for casual mountain biking that doesn't require unnecessary work." - Grade 11 workshop group

10. In your opinion, how can we better support forest health in these parks?



Selection of Other Comments:

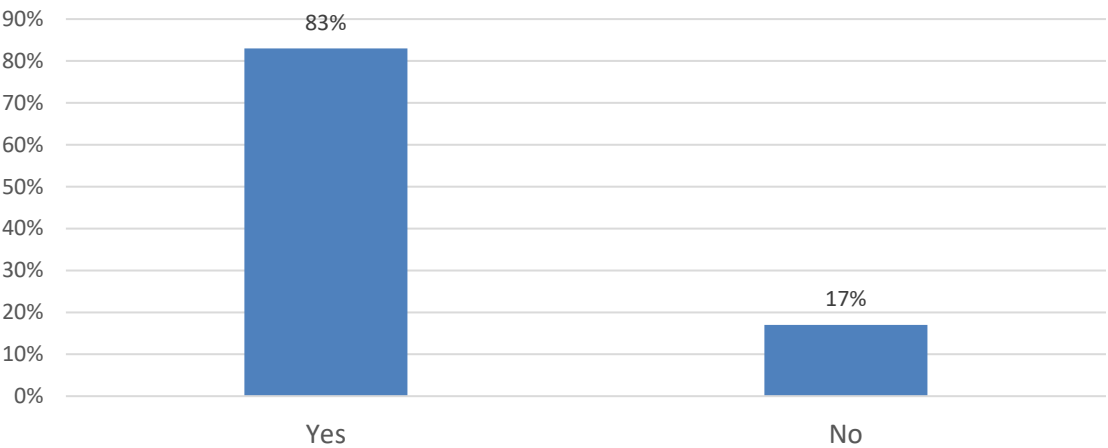
"Invasive plant removal, more trash cans, and a mural to replace the graffiti so people will stop wrecking that area is important to us." – Grade 11 workshop group

"I think a big part is access as well. I often have friends who bike from Lynn Valley and once they get to the bottom of East 22nd they don't know where to go. If you cleaned up the bottom of east 22nd and put in proper signage and path/trail to head up to green." – Open house participant

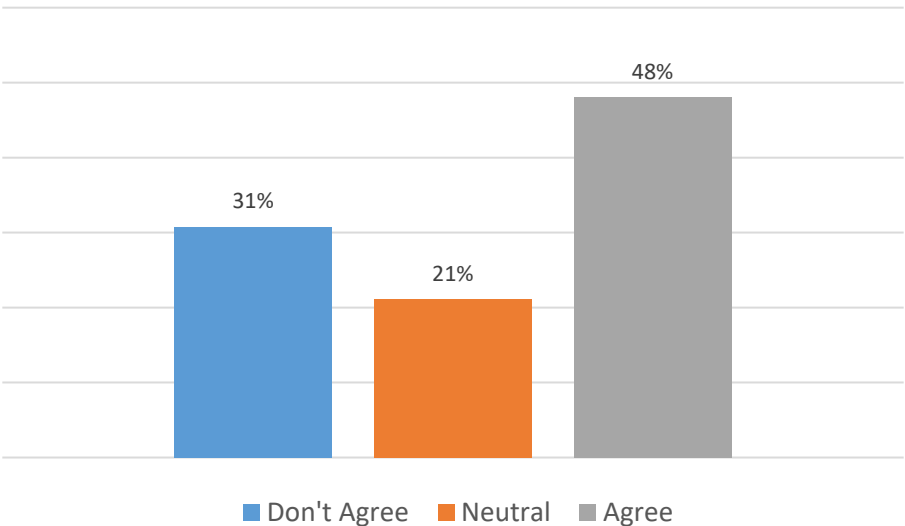
"Leave as natural as possible. Your improvements tend to have unintended negative consequences." – Open house participant

"By creating a more clarified main trail, people are less likely to wander off the path, which may harm natural growth." –Open house participant

11. Do you live or work within walking distance of Greenwood Park and Kealy Woods?

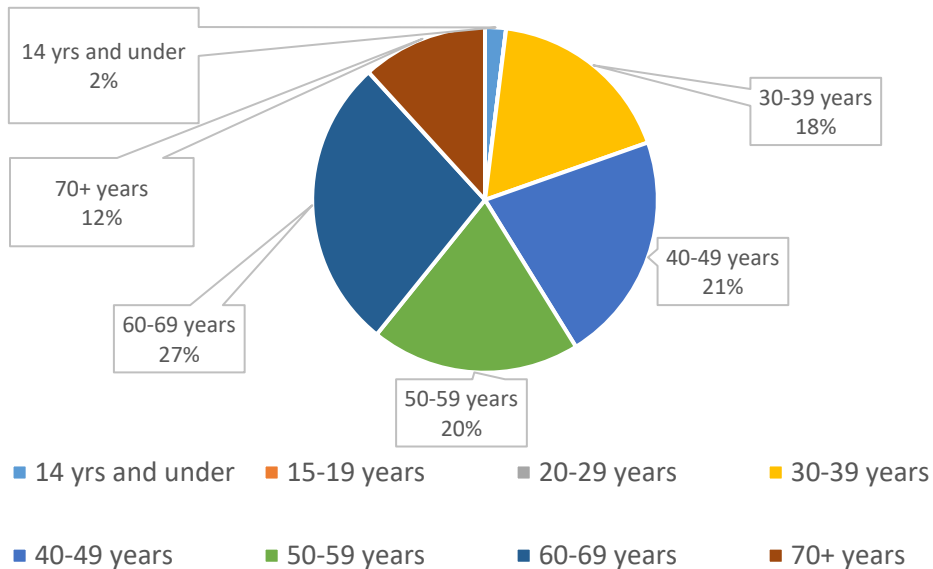


12. The preliminary urban forest improvement plan recommends some trails be maintained and improved and others to be decommissioned. Do you agree with these recommendations?

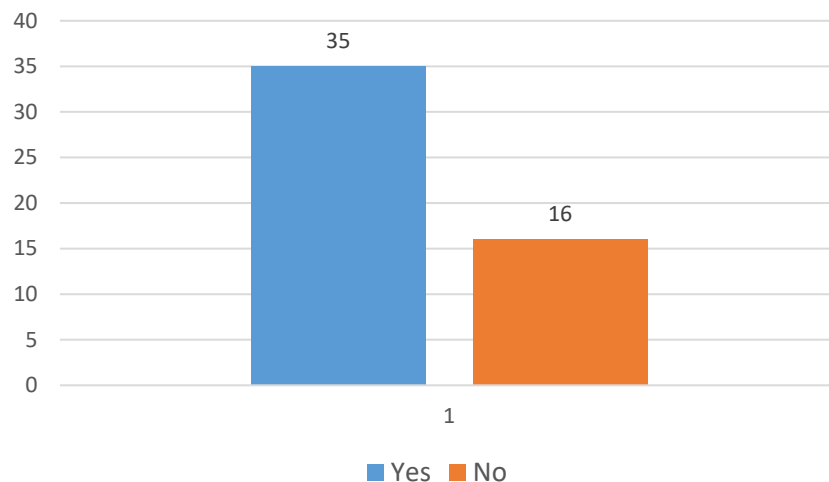


DEMOGRAPHICS AT THE PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE #1

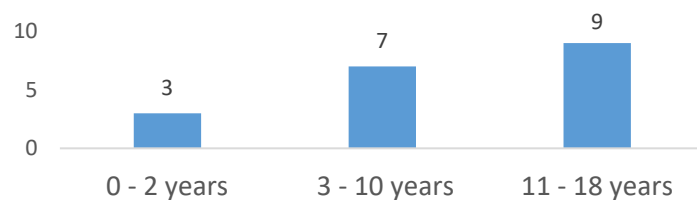
13. What is your age range?



14. Do you have children?



15. Please indicate your children's ages:



*See Appendix A for full list of Additional Comments collected at Open House #1

STAKEHOLDER DISCUSSIONS - KEY POINTS

Greenwood Park Forest Stewardship Group

- Concerns about drainage on 23rd Street
- Frustrations over lack of coordination of forest stewardship effort and the Green Necklace installation
- Maintenance concerns including bylaws checking for parties and camping

Community Recreation & Culture Commission

- Hosts a variety of walking programs in Greenwood Park to and from Harry Jerome
- Requests for public washroom and storage facility
- Maintain areas of open forest play for games like 'Capture the Flag'
- Get a lot of requests for an archery range
- Slack lines, adventure circuits and rope play

Community Public Art Commission (Confirm name)

- Public art funding is available for 2020 and/or 2021
- Suggests stone sculpture with reference/theme to original quarry

Greater Vancouver Orienteering Group

- Been running orienteering events in Greenwood and Kealy Woods since 2011
- Usually 1x in spring, 1x in fall
- Kids age range between 8 and 9-usually 25 people with parents and volunteers
- Requests that some open forest areas be maintained for kids to run freely to look for points

North Shore Committee on Disability Issues (ACDI) Group

- Ensure that if picnic tables are provided, they are wheelchair accessible
- Requests that the City consider providing a paved trail in Greenwood Park so the forest is accessible to people with physical disabilities
- Provide signage that includes brail and ensure colors and font are inclusive
- Benches should have arm rests

Hansen Pines Disc Golf

- Suggests the disc golf has a very active group that has been using the course for a number of years

North Shore Mountain Bike Association

- Volunteer build event days where public participates in creating the trails
- Proposed route would likely be classified as a 'Blue' run trail due to terrain toward the east leg

- Possible collaboration with CNV Operations for trail construction
- Trail re-route likely needed on the south-west portion of the loop to avoid drainage. Impact assessment likely needed.

Grade 5/6 class of Queensbury Elementary School

- Suggestions and requests were made by several of the students to participate in clean up of the trash, litter and dangerous items left in the park. They also want to do planting events.
- Were in favour of an outdoor classroom

Grade 11 class of Sutherland High School

- Students suggested that the Quarry central rock face that is currently covered in graffiti should become a public art mural. Should be nature themed but would be left alone by teenagers because it is done professionally. Could be collaborative with kids. The surrounding rock areas should be cleaned up and formalized rock climbing could occur.
- Students suggested that the quarry should become a destination with a defined trail, signage, seating and public art. They reasoned that if more people come to the quarry because it is a unique place, it will stop getting destroyed.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS

APPENDIX A

Any other Comments?

- *I think that an omission by this survey and report is the fact that this park (Greenwood) is used on a regular basis for commercial activities (tv and film) and the effects that it has had on the park. The money used from renting out the park should be directed back into restoring this park. I have noticed on several occasions' furniture etc. being brought into the park, presumably for parties etc. I would like to see the park retained in as much of a natural state as possible, as we continue to see pressures put on the wildlife throughout the parks in the City. eg. What has transpired in Moodyville Park. And the paving and bike lanes put in the park of Grand Blvd., not on the street. I like the idea of attempting to get rid of invasive species.*
- *Greenwood is well used and appreciated for being natural. People who want a more structured or urban park use the nearby Boulevard park. Signage for the main (gravel covered) path would be useful as occasionally people get disoriented. Please please please do not pave any paths.*
- *I'm sorry to have missed the open house yesterday. I've very interested in this project because (we've lived in the area for 12 years now) we've often said if Greenwood park had a bike path from the bottom of 22nd to it, it would be way better utilized. Also, it's too dark and un-cared for.*
- *I'm excited at the idea to created a nature-centric play space for my children and the community. Queensbury School staff, Queensbury PAC and Rainforest learning centre should be consulted specifically as stakeholders on that piece if it's going to happen as teachers often take students into Greenwood Park for exploration and play - this could be a real benefit to these school communities. I'm a bit hesitant about the kids bike track as it could bring car traffic into the area (speeding is already an issue with cut through) as a destination for people to come to and could inadvertently cause more damage to the forest with kids biking off trails. I think some wayfinding signage would be useful, especially with people coming into the area off the green necklace - but nothing too big.*
- *Love and attention for our natural spaces is always appreciated, as it is usually cars and roads that get the \$ and attention! Thanks.*
- *No need for guards and fencing. Please do not ruin open spaces like Bridgeman. We don't like using park anymore as not as dog and family friendly.*
- *Small adventure/forest style playground? Like at the park near the school board at 2121 Lonsdale?*
- *Leave the forest ALONE ! Stop making it formalized . . . no structures! No public art ! Please let it just be NATURAL. Stop putting in any lighting and take out lighting along green necklace.*
- *Minimize your messing around with this exceptional natural park. I have been using it since 1984.*

- *Insertion of the black necklace and accompanying drainage problems and life-killing lighting are examples of interference by people who do not understand or appreciate the concept of a natural park.*
- *I would like to see these parks retained as wildlife areas with well defined walking trails to reduce the impact on this environment. With all the development we are losing wildlife habitat all over the city. The paving and lighting of many green spaces such as Grand Boulevard are reducing green spaces that could make our city more livable*
- *It would be great if an outside learning classroom space could be incorporated into the design for use by school district 44/Queensbury Elementary/Sutherland classes.*
- *We live with Greenwood Park to the West of our house, and also to the North with the Reservoir and green space just behind us. We have enjoyed it for the 33 years we have been here, for its natural and undeveloped beauty. Therefore we are opposed to the idea of playgrounds, climbing areas, picnic tables etc. The park gets great use from many groups including Firemen, Search and Rescue training, hiking and school groups, mountain biking, Frisbee golf and many dog walkers. All this usage has occurred in its present mostly natural state. So we do see maintenance, safety measures, garbage cleanup, vandalism corrections, as what this park mainly needs to continue. More natural light by thinning the tree canopies, and natural plants would be a bonus. As for play grounds and structures for children and families, we feel this is not the place for that. Queensbury school, just a block away has two lovely playgrounds, as does Grand Blvd. Park on 15th and Moody (with washrooms), making it a different type of experience for families. We look forward to attending the next Public Forum, and wish to be notified with the details, ahead of time. Thank you*
- *Would love to see access to the boulders be improved with cleared landings for safety*
- *I do not want mountain kids mountain bike trails unless they are well separated from the main walking trails. Kids on bicycles are a menace on trails. They don't look ahead and can't anticipate how to negotiate through pedestrian and other bike traffic. They can be too fast and turn haphazardly every which way. I want to be able to enjoy a peaceful and safe walk in the park.*
- *I think the quarry could be a fun place for local rock climbers if it was cleaned up. Also, some of the best bouldering in the park is not really accessible from a current trail (the 'cracker jack' area that is east of the park entrance at the end of Moody). It may be worth considering improving access to this area. Thanks for this initiative. I am a big fan of Greenwood Park.*
- *Please do not get carried away and overdo park improvements. These are neighbourhood parks, not tourist destinations! A crucial role for these parks is to provide habitat for what remains of our wildlife and to provide wildlife corridors. Keep ongoing maintenance costs to a minimum by keeping the trails informal, by not introducing public art, by not providing seating and picnic areas, by not installing way-finding signage, by not having formal entrances, and by not having specific wildlife viewing areas. The questionnaire design forces me to say I do not have children, but I do have a daughter, now aged 25 who enjoyed the "wildness" of the two parks during field trips with the Parent Participation Preschool and later as a place to go on walks and observe nature. My family is thankful we can still go on walks in the parks to experience west coast nature, in a quiet, informal way so close to our*

house. There are plenty of developed spaces in the City. It is now time to leave some spaces alone as pockets of wildness and habitat. Please do not be responsible for their diminishment or disappearance!

- A dark tree canopy is typical to a West Coast forest. No tree removal or logging should occur. The park should be left as a natural area with minimal intervention; too many trees have been removed already. It is important that this not become a destination park as there is very little parking around it and it would create problems in the quiet neighbourhood surrounding the park. The questionnaire is biased to creating change, no option for keeping things pretty much "as is" were offered. This is a small neighbourhood park & it should remain so.*
- Hopefully none of these trails become asphalt. Green necklace already exists on Grand Blvd and elsewhere. Have spent many years cleaning up garbage in both Greenwood and Kealy Woods on my own, used to boulder when a younger age as well. :)*
- Kealy woods - park is very under utilized- consider making a trail network that uses the entire park not just the tiny northern portion currently in use. The current trail networks have grown organically over 50+ years and provide a wonderful variety as well as varying degrees of difficulty which I believe is appealing to most walkers, hikers and joggers. Please don't try to 'grade' or gravel all paths. Most walkers I speak with don't want this sanitized version of a trail. The current large gravel perimeter trail could be enhanced making it fully wheelchair accessible but keep the other trails more natural. I am OK with closing off some of the very small redundant braided trails but try to keep as many as possible. Please don't build fences on either side of the paths to keep walkers hemmed in as this no longer looks or feels like a natural park. Minimize the building of stairs in all but the steepest areas. Both fences and stairs are also a significant ongoing maintenance issue and cost due to our wet climate (rot) and also falling trees. If you take a walk down Mahon park today you will see a great example of how challenging it is to maintain these fences as there are dozens of broken and missing sections in that park that have been broken for a long time. Greenwood park - west side - can you consider adding another 'enhanced secondary' trail connecting the two east/west enhanced secondary trails so that you can walk a continuous loop in the forest rather than having to drop down the paved bike path as is currently shown on the map. Nature is wonderful.*
- I agree with most of the plans, however it would be nice to keep the trail that goes around the water reservoir so that we can keep a full loop without having to go on the Blvd. paved bike trail. When I run in the woods, I do a crazy 8 shape with the one end being around the reservoir. I have chatted with fellow runners and dog walkers and they say the same. Thank you for your consideration and investment in improving the park!*
- Thank you for looking after our park. We go here everyday and the forest is a second home for our family. Please, please, we kindly ask that you don't change our forest too much. Please leave trails open where we can touch and feel the trees, please do not put fences between us and the forest. One of our favorite things about this park is how natural and rustic it is compared to many other green areas in North Vancouver. Please keep it this way. It will be so so appreciated! Thank you.*