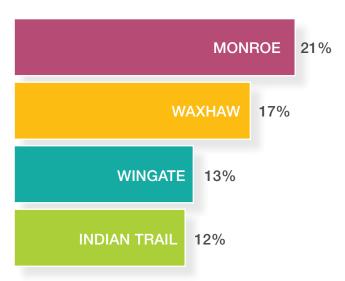
DEMOGRAPHICS

685 SURVEY RESPONSES

Q1: WHERE DO YOU LIVE?



-3% -2%

1%

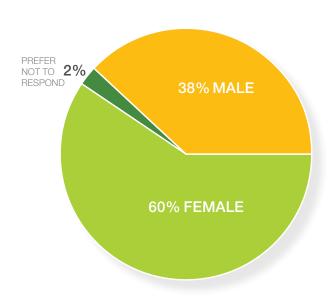
10%

TOP RESPONSES: 63% OF TOTAL

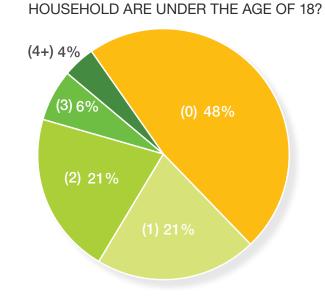
Q4: WHAT RACE/ETHNIC ORIGIN

BEST REPRESENTS YOU?

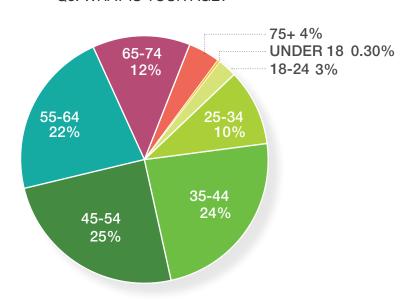
Q2: WHAT IS YOUR GENDER?



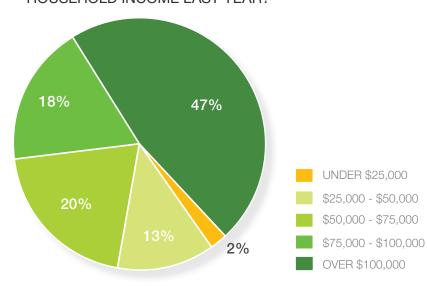
Q5: HOW MANY MEMBERS OF YOUR



Q3: WHAT IS YOUR AGE?



Q6: WHAT WAS YOUR TOTAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME LAST YEAR?



0% NATIVE HAWAIIAN OR OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDER

BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN

0.5% AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE

WHITE OR CAUCASIAN

HISPANIC OR LATINO

TWO OR MORE RACES

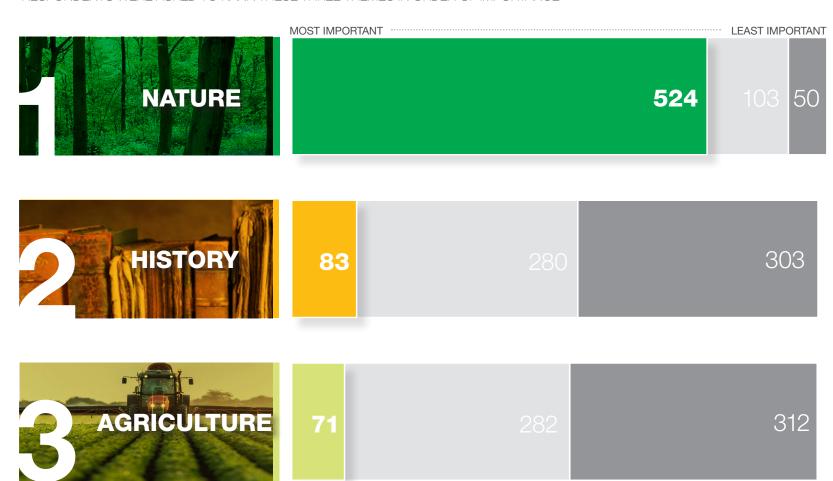
ASIAN OR ASIAN AMERICAN

PREFER NOT TO RESPOND

0.5% ANOTHER RACE

Q7: THEMING PRIORITIZATION

RESPONDENTS WERE ASKED TO RANK THESE THREE THEMES IN ORDER OF IMPORTANCE



MOST IMPORTANT:

NATURE



According to the survey responses, nature is undoubtedly the primary draw for potential users. The overwhelming majority are looking forward to interacting with, learning from, and delving into nature. Prioritizing the theme of nature will open many opportunities for programming and activities because the natural resources are the greatest assets of the existing site. People are craving access to natural areas for a variety of reasons: recreation, education, mental health, etc.

History and agriculture, important aspects to the region, are about even in terms of user preference, and can be incorporated into other activities or programs centered around education

COMMENTS

"Natural area to preserve space for wildlife since it's dwindling in Union County"

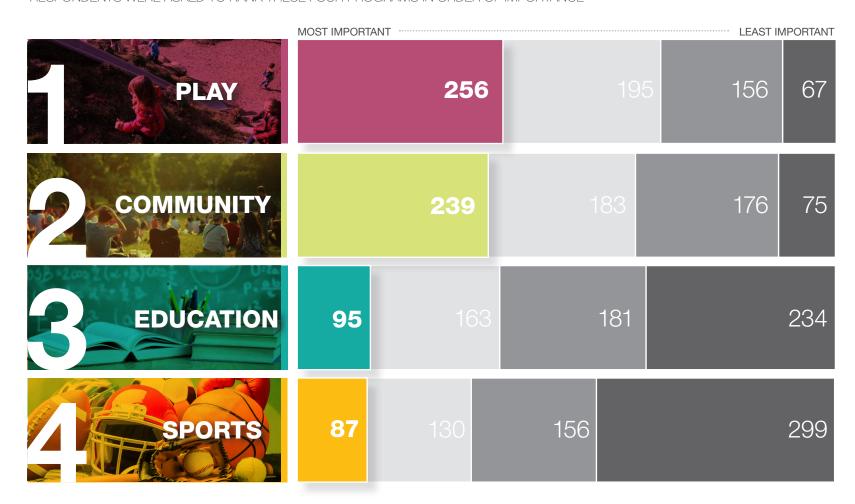
"When working towards developing this area, keeping the most natural look for the park is important!"

"Small group educational opportunities to learn more about nature, history of our area, or about our agricultural heritage."

"Make it open & quiet. Not much open trails & quiet woods to walk around anymore"

Q8: PROGRAM PRIORITIZATION

RESPONDENTS WERE ASKED TO RANK THESE FOUR PROGRAMS IN ORDER OF IMPORTANCE







The program deemed most important to the community is play, which is not limited to children at a playground. This park should be accessible to people of all ages and allow people to play outside of the traditional playground. Providing a destination playground for kids with a variety of flexible and dynamic spaces outside of that will allow people to congregate, run, lay, jump, nap, play fetch - universal play.

Community is the second most important program, which goes hand in hand with play. People crave interaction with others, whether it is a concert, birthday party, or random runin at the park. Open, flexible spaces can facilitate meaningful, memorable interactions.

COMMENTS

"Outdoor table tennis"

"When we go to parks, we most love the playgrounds, the open fields for throwing footballs, kids doing tricks like cartwheels, flying kites, being able to walk and see nature, areas that we can eat, bathrooms easily accessible, and feeling safe."

"Splash pad park/tennis courts"

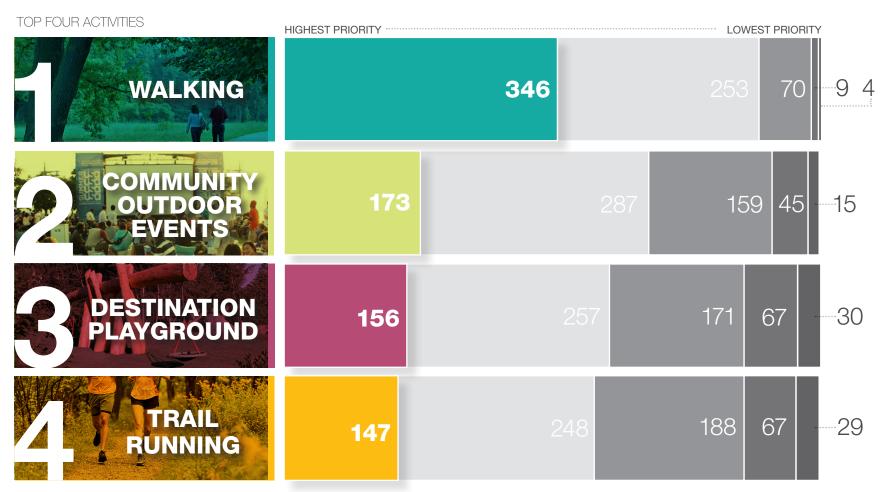
"Would love to have a nice park that is kid friendly close by!" "Set aside large family gathering areas"

"I would like to see the park put on more events and community programming" "Wading pond - water feature for summertime fun"

"Tree/plant markers of native plants. Local artist sculptures. Story walk. Pollinator/butterfly garden. Butterfly highway/milkweed. Signage native birds of North Carolina."

Q9: ACTIVITY PRIORITIZATION

RESPONDENTS WERE ASKED TO RANK ACTIVITIES ON A SCALE FROM HIGHEST TO LOWEST PRIORITY.



HIGHEST PRIORITY:
WALKING



The highest priority activity, by a long shot, is walking. The public requires safe walking paths for people of all ages. This basic yet important acitivity connects all of the other potential uses of the park. Facilities along the different paths, depending on the programmed use and projected traffic, should allow people to sit, interact with their surroundings, relax.

Loops for paths and trails could also be incorporated as recreational loops with specific lengths. This could coincide with the trail running and community events as charity runs, for example.

COMMENTS

"Please, no horses!"

"Regular bike paths"

"Plans for future connectivity to other parks/recreation/walking areas"

"Dog park! Something we can do with our dogs!"

"Large areas that are fenced to allow dogs to run free."

"Benches along walking trails for those requiring"

"It would be important for the park to be open to the public as much as possible, including evenings and weekends."

"Community garden, ability to donate tree's/park benches, etc."















JESSE HELMS PARK UNION COUNTY, NC • OPEN SPACE OPPORTUNITIES PN 1019519 | 03.23.2021 | UNION COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION































