



Work Session

WS

Milwaukie City Council

COUNCIL WORK SESSION

City Hall Council Chambers, 10722 SE Main Street
& Zoom Video Conference (www.milwaukieoregon.gov)

REVISED AGENDA

NOVEMBER 1, 2022

(Revised October 28, 2022)

Council will hold this meeting in-person and through video conference. The public may attend the meeting by coming to City Hall or joining the Zoom webinar, or watch the meeting on the [city's YouTube channel](#) or Comcast Cable channel 30 in city limits. **For Zoom login** visit <https://www.milwaukieoregon.gov/citycouncil/city-council-work-session-311>.

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Written comments may be delivered to City Hall or emailed to ocr@milwaukieoregon.gov. Council may take limited verbal comments.

Note: agenda item times are estimates and are subject to change.

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1. **Neighborhood Park Projects Update – Report** (4:00 p.m.)
Staff: Adam Moore, Parks Development Coordinator

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2. **Downtown Design Review – Discussion** (removed from the agenda)
Staff: Brett Kolver, Senior Planner

3. **Adjourn** (5:00 p.m.)

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Executive Sessions

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MINUTES

NOVEMBER 1, 2022

Council Present: Councilors Adam Khosroabadi, Lisa Batey, Desi Nicodemus, Council President Kathy Hyzy, and Mayor Mark Gamba

Staff Present: Justin Gericke, City Attorney
Nicole Madigan, Deputy City Recorder
Adam Moore, Parks Development Coordinator
Ann Ober, City Manager
Peter Passarelli, Public Works Director
Natalie Rogers, Climate & Natural Resources Manager
Scott Stauffer, City Recorder

Mayor Gamba called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

1. Neighborhood Park Projects Update – Report

Moore reported that the park project focus groups had found that members of Milwaukie's Black and Indigenous People of Color (BIPOC) and disabled community did not always feel safe in Milwaukie parks due to unclean spaces, vandalism, and drug paraphernalia. Focus group participants suggested posting a welcome sign in many languages and **Moore** shared thoughts on hosting more cultural events and including more murals. Participants commented on feeling unwelcome in parks due to some parks feeling more like an extension of someone else's backyard.

Moore stated that the park plans should strive to be more universally inclusive and go beyond the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) code requirements by making paths wide enough for wheelchair users to be able to pass one another or companions to walk alongside wheelchair/walker users. **Moore** shared that focus group participants wanted to see parks be more accessible for people of all ages and to install well designed bathrooms that provide ample room and options for all needs. Participants also commented on equal amenities across the whole city and how unleashed dogs caused more feelings of unwelcomeness.

Moore and **Councilor Batey** shared experiences and thoughts of dogs off leash and why following leash rules were important. **Council President Hyzy** pointed out the value of the focus groups, was distressed by community members not feeling welcome, and commented on the North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District's (NCPRD) parks signs. **Moore** acknowledged the discussion around signage and other visual avenues that could be used to promote inclusion and feelings of welcome.

Moore provided an engagement update that included data from completed surveys.

Moore presented the engagement summary for Bowman-Brae Park and **Councilor Nicodemus**, **Moore**, and **Council President Hyzy** commented on a ball pit feature used at the open houses. **Moore** provided feedback received for Bowman-Brae Park that included changes because of budget concerns. **Moore** presented the most recent design draft concept, advised that it would be changing, and shared what survey participants ranked as the most important features.

Moore mentioned conversations had with neighbors regarding the lack of sidewalks to the park and how disabled residents could not navigate the streets and would therefore need parking. **Moore** noted that the park's multiuse path would need to shrink, and

Councilor Batey asked if that was due to cost. **Moore** responded yes and continued to discuss other budgetary challenges. **Mayor Gamba** expressed concern regarding the lack of trees, especially around the playground. **Moore** replied that there was focused discussion and comments on the importance of trees in the park and their location.

Moore presented the engagement summary, concept feedback, and challenges for Balfour Park. A recurring design issue for Balfour Park was the community garden placement which had been difficult due to existing trees. The group discussed options for where the garden could go and what would have to move, including placing the garden outside of the park. **Moore** asked Council for direction on what should be done with community garden. The group discussed new community gardens in the new Clackamas County Hillside Manor design, the garden at Providence Milwaukie Hospital, the addition of fruit trees, and whether planting next to a train track is an acceptable location for a garden. **Ober** summarized that if the community garden needs are going to be met elsewhere, to keep the trees in Balfour Park and prioritize other amenities. The group discussed what the threshold would be for moving on without the community garden in Balfour Park and other features that were nonnegotiable to remove.

Moore described the features of the water table and mentioned that it was an affordable and cool amenity, but not a destination amenity like a splash pad. **Moore** advised Council that half street improvements such as the sidewalk and drop off area would be added later through the Safe Access for Everyone (SAFE) project on Balfour Street.

Moore presented the engagement summary and concept feedback on both concepts for Scott Park. **Moore** commented on conversations around the veteran's memorial within the park. The group discussed what renovations the veteran's group were interested in regarding the current memorial that is within the park. **Moore** added that Scott Park is a good location for an accessible playground, but the cost could be an issue, detailed the differences between the two draft design concepts, and pointed out challenges that are being evaluated.

Mayor Gamba expressed interest in playgrounds over a pergola in Scott Park and **Moore** believed that without the pergola and a few other amenities there could be hybrid playground features for both accessibility and nature-based play. **Council President Hyzy** and **Moore** discussed accessible playground surfacing and accessible playgrounds.

Moore advised there would be a special Park and Recreation Board (PARB) meeting on November 16 where the final plans would be shared and then brought to Council on December 6. **Ober** congratulated Moore on the work with the community and park planning and **Moore** commended the team and the community for all their engagement.

Moore and **Councilor Batey** discussed Ardenwald neighborhood's fundraising for Balfour Park.

2. Downtown Design Review – Discussion (removed from the agenda)

3. Adjourn

Mayor Gamba adjourned the meeting at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Nicole Madigan, Deputy City Recorder

COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

To: Mayor and City Council
Ann Ober, City Manager

Reviewed: Peter Passarelli, Public Works Director
Sasha Freeman, Administrative Specialist II

From: Adam Moore, Parks Development Coordinator

Subject: **Neighborhood Parks Development Update**

Date Written: Oct. 20, 2022

ACTION REQUESTED

Council is asked to receive an update on the development process of Balfour, Bowman-Brae, and Scott parks.

HISTORY OF PRIOR ACTIONS AND DISCUSSIONS

Balfour & Bowman-Brae Parks

[August 11, 2015:](#) The Planning Commission recommended adoption by Council of the park master plans for Balfour, Bowman-Brae, and Robert Kronberg Nature Park.

[October 20, 2015:](#) Following a public hearing, the park master plans were adopted by Council but were not implemented due to lack of funding.

Scott Park

[November 6, 1990:](#) Council adopted the Scott Park Master Plan, which has not been fully implemented.

[May 1, 2018:](#) Council repealed the Scott Park Master Plan after a public hearing. Repeal of the plan had been recommended by the Planning Commission after a separate public hearing.

Park Development Project

[September 14, 2021:](#) The park development project was presented by staff and discussed by Council during a study session.

[January 4, 2022:](#) An update on the status of the park development project was presented by staff and discussed by Council during a study session.

[January 18:](#) Council adopted a resolution authorizing a grant agreement with the State of Oregon Department of Administrative Services (DAS).

[February 1:](#) Council adopted a resolution authorizing a contract for park design and development services with GreenWorks, P.C.

[June 7:](#) An update on the status of the park development project was presented by staff and discussed by Council during a study session.

[September 20:](#) An update on the status of the park development project was presented by staff and discussed by Council during a study session.

[October 18:](#) A resolution declaring the public necessity to acquire a public right-of-way (ROW) and temporary construction easement to construct a multi-use trail and provide public access to Bowman-Brae Park from Where Else Lane was adopted.

ANALYSIS

Project History

The State of Oregon awarded Milwaukie federal funding to complete the design and construction of the city's remaining neighborhood parks. This will include the refinement of existing plans for Balfour and Bowman-Brae parks, and the creation of a new master plan for Scott Park. Awarded funding totaled \$2,250,000 with an anticipated allocation of \$1,000,000 for Balfour, \$700,000 for Bowman-Brae, and \$550,000 for Scott. Scott Park was also allocated \$60,000 in city general fund dollars. This project is primarily paid for with Federal American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) funds received through Oregon's Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Funding. Funding for Balfour Park was provided through Oregon House Bill (HB) 5006, which designated funds for use in Oregon House of Representatives District 41 as requested by Representative Karin Power. Funding for Scott and Bowman-Brae Parks was included in HB 5006 for use in Oregon Senate District 21 as requested by Senator Kathleen Taylor.

City staff completed a grant agreement with the state to accept the funds on January 24, 2022. Council adopted a resolution authorizing staff to enter into the grant agreement on January 18. On February 1 Council authorized staff to enter a contract with GreenWorks, P.C. to provide park design and development services. The contract was completed by staff on February 7. City staff and GreenWorks held a project kick-off meeting on February 2.

In 2020, Council adopted a new goal focusing on equity, inclusion, and justice. The city has spent a significant amount of time this year honing our outreach efforts to assure engagement with the Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) community. The city will be working with the newly created Equity Steering Committee (ESC) and the BIPOC community throughout the design process to assure these voices and the voices of our changing community are heard prior to development. On March 14, 2022, the consulting team lead by GreenWorks held an equity and public involvement discussion with members of the Parks and Recreation Board (PARB), the ESC, and city staff. The purpose of this meeting was to gather feedback and revise a draft on the project's public involvement plan (PIP). This PIP is an internal city document that was developed to help guide the community engagement process with a focus on equity. The PIP provides several recommendations to the city to ensure that community engagement is approachable and removes barriers from participation for all, especially members of the BIPOC community.

Planning & Approval Process

Of the three parks, Balfour and Bowman-Brae are currently undeveloped and receive only light maintenance, whereas Scott Park is a developed park site adjacent to the new Ledding Library building. The parks have differing land use designations. Balfour and Bowman-Brae have approved master plans from 2014 that will need to be revised through a Council resolution and

community service use approval process before the Planning Commission. The scope of work with the consulting team from GreenWorks includes two public meetings for these parks.

Scott Park has a master plan adopted by Council in the early 1990s, though the plan has aged, and the construction of the new library has made that plan obsolete. In 2018, the Scott Park Master Plan was repealed to allow for the development of the new library. Given the park's downtown location and the popularity of the library, as well as the natural resources on the site, Scott Park is anticipated to have much broader interest than the other two parks. The scope of work with the GreenWorks led consulting team calls for three Scott Park public meetings. The first public meeting was held as part of a park celebration event on May 1, 2022. This event provided information on the project timeline, the existing conditions of Scott Park, and gathered initial information from the public on the future amenities and features they would like to see in the park. Scott Park will require an approved resolution by Council; however, it will not require a community use approval by the Planning Commission. While the community use approval process is not necessary, the city intends to present the new master plan to the Planning Commission prior to the permit and construction phases. Given the natural resources, aquatic habitat, and conservation area on site, Scott Park will also require additional environmental considerations, reviews, and approval processes.

The current grant agreement with the state ends on June 30, 2024, however, extensions may be provided by the state on a case-by-case basis. The project timeline below uses the project deadline of mid-October 2024.

Projected Timeline- Completed

Potential benchmarks – which are open to revision based on the consulting team hired and the grant agreements – are as follows:

Winter 2022

- Enter a grant agreement with the state.
- Enter a contract with selected firm(s) and refine timeline.
- Project kick-off.
- Existing conditions/site plan for Scott Park reviewed.
- Begin community engagement with members of the ESC and PARB, March 14.
- Develop PIP.
- Update key stakeholders.
- Begin quarterly Council updates on January 4.

Spring 2022

- First Scott Park Community Engagement Meeting on May 1.
- First Scott Park Community Engagement Survey between May 3 through May 19.
- Second Council update with PIP and Scott Park engagement summary on June 7.

Summer 2022

- Engagement and design refinement.
- Juneteenth Pop-up Engagement.
- BIPOC Focus Group in Spanish on July 13.

- Balfour Park Community Engagement Meeting on July 20.
- Balfour Park Community Engagement Survey between July 25 – August 8.
- Bowman-Brae Park Community Engagement Survey between July 25 – August 15.
- People with disabilities Focus Group on July 25.
- Scott Park Second Community Engagement Meeting on August 4.
- Scott Park Second Community Engagement Survey between August 5 – August 19.
- Bowman-Brae Community Engagement Meeting and & Survey: Rescheduled due to extreme weather to August 6.
- People with disabilities follow up discussion on September 7.
- BIPOC Focus Group in English on September 8.
- Council Update on September 20.

Fall 2022

- Engagement and design refinement.
- Playground & Park Design Presentation on September 22.
- Extended PARB Meeting on September 28.
- Scott Park Third Community Engagement Meeting on October 6.
- Balfour Park Second Community Engagement Meeting on October 13.
- Bowman-Brae Second Community Engagement Meeting on October 17.
- Surveys for all three parks on Engage Milwaukie between October 6 – October 19.
- Special PARB Meeting on October 19.

Projected Timeline- Upcoming

Winter 2023

- Council update November 1.
- Public presentation of plans at a special PARB meeting on November 16 at 5:30.
- Plans to Council on December 6.

Fall 2023

- Final design work.
- Permitting process.
- Construction solicitation.
- Construction contract(s).

Winter 2023 – Fall 2024

- Construction.

Fall 2024

- Project Completion.
- Ribbon Cutting.

Winter 2024

- Grant reporting and close out.

Summer and Fall Engagement

City staff continue to work with the consulting team led by GreenWorks to create a new master plan for Scott Park and revise the existing North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District

(NCPRD) plans for Bowman-Brae and Balfour Parks. In accordance with the project's PIP the city hosted several in person engagement opportunities and online surveys to receive feedback on each of the three parks. As part of Milwaukie's citywide goal on equity and inclusion, the city has been conducting focus groups, interviews, and surveys with people with disabilities and members of the BIPOC community. This work has been conducted in both English and Spanish.

Throughout July and August, the city collected feedback at planning meetings, open houses, and online surveys. Summaries of the feedback received at those engagement events were shared with council on September 20 and with PARB on September 28. At the August 4, Scott Park planning meeting, city staff and the project team sought feedback from the community and stakeholders on two concept master plans that each looked at separate visions for Scott Park. The concept plans for Scott Park were developed based on feedback that the city and project team received in May of 2022. At the July 20 Balfour open house and the August 6 Bowman-Brae open house, the community was asked to provide suggestions and feedback on the existing 2015 plans. The 2015 park master plans were developed by NCPRD and adopted by council after public hearings, though given the time that has passed since those plans were adopted, the city is looking at potential revisions to the park designs.

On September 20, 2022, the city held a public presentation on playground design. The presentation was developed by the PARB chair Ben Johnson and project consultants from GreenWorks and GR Morgan. 17 people attended the presentation to learn about play concepts like nature-based play, inclusive play, and how to make parks and playgrounds more accessible. Topics like playground costs, maintenance, safety, and the different trade offs to consider in playground design were also discussed. The presentation was recorded and has been viewed 46 times since it was posted on the [city's YouTube channel](#) and website.

Staff also attended September NDA meetings for Lake Road, Historic Milwaukie, and Ardenwald-Johnson Creek. Staff provided updates on the project as well as summaries of the summer engagement. Staff emphasized the importance of community members attending the October planning meetings and reencouraged NDA members to help with the outreach for those meetings.

On October 6, the city held a hybrid planning meeting for Scott Park at the Ledding Library and on Zoom. The community was presented with the feedback the city received at the August planning meeting. The project team and city staff shared revised concepts with the meeting participants and collected feedback both online and in person. Participants were able to ask questions, provide comments, and submit surveys on their preference between the two revised concepts for Scott Park. 14 people signed into the meeting in person, 6 attended online, and 14 surveys were received in person. The survey was also available online at Engage Milwaukie between October 6 and October 19, and additional 65 surveys were received online.

Similar to the Scott Park meeting, on October 13 and October 17 hybrid planning meetings were also held at the Ledding Library and on Zoom for Balfour Park and Bowman-Brae Park respectively. These meetings provided the community summaries of the feedback received at the park open houses in the summer. The community was asked to provide feedback on potential revisions to the 2015 park master plans for both parks. The Balfour Park meeting had 18 people sign into the meeting in person, 3 attended online, and 14 surveys were received in person. The Balfour survey was also available online at Engage Milwaukie between October 6 and October 19, and additional 45 surveys were received online. At the Bowman-Brae planning

meeting 32 people signed into the meeting in person, 8 attended online, and 27 surveys were received in person. The Bowman-Brae survey was also available online at Engage Milwaukie between October 6 and October 19, and additional 36 surveys were received online.

All three of the planning meetings were recorded and can be viewed on the City's YouTube channel. Summaries of the feedback received from all three meetings will be available in the meeting packet for the November 1 council work session.

On Sunday, October 16 a pop-up engagement session was held for Scott Park at the Friends of the Ledding Library book sale. The concept plans for Scott Park were discussed with an additional 15 people and 6 more Scott Park surveys were received in person.

CURRENT STATUS

The park development team is currently reviewing feedback from the three planning meetings and the 208 surveys received between October 6 and October 19. Based on the information received staff will work to blend the two concepts for Scott Park into one final master plan by November 16. Revisions will also be made to the Balfour Park and Bowman-Brae Park plans based on feedback with careful consideration to the project budget. Overall feedback from the meetings and surveys was generally positive with residents requesting revisions to improve inclusivity and accessibility of each of the three parks. Surveyed community members were told which amenities would be in each of the parks and then asked to rank their preference for certain amenities. On the Scott Park survey, community members were asked for their preferred concept overall, whereas for Bowman-Brae and Balfour, community members were asked if they felt the concept plans met their needs. Staff will be reviewing those preferences and adjusting the designs, based on budget and other considerations ahead of the November 16 plan presentation.

Final park plans will be presented to the public at a special PARB meeting on Wednesday, November 16 at 5:30pm on Zoom. The meeting will be open to the public where questions and comments will be answered by city staff. Postcards with details on the meeting will be mailed to addresses within a half mile of each of the three parks. The zoom link and additional details can be found at www.milwaukieoregon.gov/meetings.

In addition to reviewing feedback received at the park meetings, NDA meetings, and focus groups for specific park design considerations, staff are looking at feedback considerations outside of parks, or for park management policies. For example, many participants at the BIPOC focus groups stress the importance of requiring and enforcing policies that require dogs to be on a leash. Participants of all focus groups expressed the importance of having access to bathrooms and drinking fountains in parks and elsewhere. Community members with disabilities provided feedback on inclusive policies for public events and stressed the importance of creating spaces that were free of bullying.

CLIMATE IMPACTS

The park development project will help the city address climate change adaptation and mitigation goals at the neighborhood level. This project will add park amenities, vegetation, stormwater facilities, and sidewalks to existing city parkland. These new park amenities have the potential to limit automotive trips as residents living in the Ardenwald, Lake Road, and Historic Milwaukie neighborhoods will have developed parks within a walkable distance of their homes. Additional trees and plants will help meet the city's 40% tree cover goals, while small rain gardens will help with storm water detention. Any development project will have a

carbon footprint, though this project will strive to keep its carbon footprint small using natural, recycled, and/or locally sourced products wherever possible.

BUDGET IMPACTS

This project is primarily paid for with ARPA funds received through the state. Staff will work on a budget amendment to account for any revenue and expenses in the current fiscal year. Guidance provided by the League of Oregon Cities (LOC) and the state confirms that all project expenses since March 2020 will be eligible for reimbursement.

WORKLOAD IMPACTS

Public works staff will be leading the effort to develop these three parks while coordinating with other city departments and outside agencies as required. A full-time parks development coordinator has been hired, who will act as project manager and oversee the project consulting team. Under the direction of the public works director, the parks development coordinator will collaborate with NCPRD staff where appropriate, and staff in the city manager's office and the planning and engineering departments. In addition to Council, other public boards, and commissions, such as the ESC, PARB, and the Planning Commission will all be engaged, particularly as park master plans are created and refined. NCPRD's District Advisory Committee (DAC) and the Clackamas County Board of County Commissioners, which acts as the NCPRD Board, will also be informed of the city's progress on the project, where appropriate. Staff will manage workloads and currently have the capacity to manage the work detailed in this report.

COORDINATION, CONCURRENCE, OR DISSENT

Development of new public recreation space will require close collaboration between departments within the city, related outside agencies, and the public. Continued partnership with NCPRD and Clackamas County will be sought to help ensure successful completion of this important project.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Not applicable.

ALTERNATIVES

Not applicable.

ATTACHMENTS

1. BIPOC Focus Group Summary
2. People with Disabilities Focus Group Summary
3. Bowman-Brae Park Revised Concept
4. Bowman-Brae Fall Engagement Summary
5. Balfour Park Revised Concept
6. Balfour Park Fall Engagement Summary
7. Scott Park Revised Concept 1
8. Scott Park Revised Concept 2
9. Scott Park Fall Engagement Summary

MILWAUKIE PARK DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

COUNCIL UPDATE PACKET

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7. Scott Park Revised Concept 1
8. Scott Park Revised Concept 2
9. Scott Park Fall Engagement Summary

MILWAUKIE PARK DEVELOPMENT PROJECT



FOCUS GROUP WITH BLACK, INDIGENOUS AND PEOPLE OF COLOR (BIPOC) COMMUNITY MEMBERS

FEEDBACK SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

The City of Milwaukie conducted a focus group with several people to understand the unique needs of people of color when they go to and visit parks. Participants were asked the following questions in the focus group:

1. What experiences do you like to have at parks?
2. What experiences do you not like to have at parks?
3. What are barriers to using parks?
4. What amenities do you want to see at parks?

Date and time: Thursday, September 8th, 6-7p

Location: Wichita Community Center

Staff: Adam Moore and Jon Hennington (City of Milwaukie), Jennifer D'Avazano (Greenworks), Daniel Franco (izo), Jessica Pickul (JLA Public Involvement),

Attendees: A total of **four (4) people attended** the focus group, which was held September 8, 2022.

SUMMARY

Participants appreciate **parks with natural amenities**, like landscaped areas, trees that provide shade, play structures made of wood, and the ability to view water bodies (i.e., a rivers or streams). Having **amenities for a variety of ages and abilities** was important to this group, as was providing ample seating. Several comments were made in **support of water play features**. Overall, participants want all family members to feel comfortable and safe in parks.

A theme that surfaced several times was that **some neighborhood parks or pocket parks don't feel safe to many people of color**. One example was shared that going to some parks feels like being in an extension of somebody's backyard, and not everyone welcomes new or different people in parks. The city can help people feel welcome in neighborhood parks by **placing signage in the park that intentionally states that the space is for everyone** (e.g., "All are welcome here" sign) or by placing BIPOC focused artwork in the park. Inviting BIPOC vendors to participate in park events is also a good way to support the BIPOC community and help people feel welcome.

People also noted that if they live further from the city center, in apartments that don't have easy access to a local park, or if their neighborhood park is in poor condition, they have to come into the city to go to parks.

FULL SUMMARY

Below is a summary of the feedback, organized by theme and question.

What participants enjoy at parks:

- Enjoy playgrounds made of natural materials and wood. It feels more integrated into the background and the materials are better for her kids. A good example is Westmoreland Park.
- Parks that offer options to older kids that can do by themselves. Helpful to have paths that allow sightlines to both the smaller children play area and big kid activities so parents can view multiple areas at once.
- The best parks are the ones where parents can watch their kids but not be too close (good visibility).
- Water features or natural areas with animals (geese). This also helps people stay cool.

Barriers to using parks or unpleasant experiences:

- At Bowman Brae Park, people who live there can enjoy the park, but the people who can't afford to live in the neighborhood need to drive there and there's no parking, making it inaccessible to people who can't afford to live there.
- Living outside of the city boundaries and coming into the city for park access. As a black person it doesn't always feel comfortable driving to a neighborhood park and appearing as an outsider.
- It's hard to know if you're welcome or safe in some parks.
- One participant explores all the parks to see which parks are actually safe for their family. There are some where they feel very unwelcome.
- It doesn't feel good going to parks that the city hasn't declared that it's a safe space and everyone's welcome.
- One participant doesn't like visiting parks that don't offer things for kids or have enough places for people to sit.
- It can be challenging when there's overcrowding of people that aren't kids: big kids, exercise groups, houseless people. It can make it hard to use the space because there's too many people.
- An opportunity to make it more inviting to people of color is to add art that's reflective of the community and shows POC.
- Proximity to home: nearby parks (i.e., Harmony Park) may be in bad condition and driving to one is a hassle. There's often not enough parking.
- Safety: nearby traffic isn't safe for small kids, as well as safety within the park.
- Noise from traffic.
- A suggestion was to provide outreach to neighbors that Milwaukie Parks are not people's personal backyards.

Where can the City create parks and spaces:

- More nice parks in the east. As we move east, the neighbors have less access to nice parks – the folks closer to the river have more parks and amenities.
- People who live in apartments don't have access to very many parks.
- There was community support for developing Whitcomb Park more. It has a small baseball and soccer field as well as a playground, but it is geared toward older kids. Many families go there to walk, and it feels welcoming to diverse community members. One participant is organizing a community garden at Whitcomb that they would like to be open to the community.
- Build less parks that feel like they are in people's backyards/private/not welcoming (e.g., Furnberg Park).

Preferred amenities or features:

- Play structures for different ages and abilities, sensory features (PSU park is good example)
- Places for concerts or other entertainment
- Accessible in all seasons (i.e., play surfaces that don't get muddy)

- More greenspace, trees for shade and cover
- Water features
- Walking paths
- Exercise opportunities, stations, or trail with signs
- Rock walls
- Provide a variety of things to do
- Seating, covered picnic area, BBQ
- Spray parks/splash pads
- Community space for meeting other people
- More games and different fun stuff that don't require you to be prepared
- Versatile play space (i.e., skate areas, dunes for remote control cars)
- Lights (it gets dark early); lighting near the play spaces and to make it feel safe
- Bridges or nature along pathways can give people more reasons to explore the park and to stay longer
- Flow and being able to get through the park comfortably

Technology in parks (charging stations):

- There was a mixed reaction to the technology question. While some felt that a park is a place to get away from technology, it can also be nice to get some work done while kids play. There was agreement that it would get used if it was available.
- One participant felt strongly about going to the park to get away from the screen but wouldn't mind if options were available to others.
- Events in parks, like the Juneteenth celebration, will also need power for the music.

Dogs in parks:

- It can be very overwhelming with kids and culturally having dogs in parks that are off leash.
- Dogs should be prevented from using water fountains that people use.
- Signs could be an opportunity to make it clear which areas dogs are allowed or not allowed (like Westmoreland).

Keeping participants engaged:

- Public events with food, games, and entertainment, make it easier to bring kids. Including BIPOC vendors will encourage more their customers, friends, and family to attend.
- Parents Magazine
- Family groups – online and in-person (i.e., Facebook, NextDoor, Milwaukie ChitChat Facebook group)
- Clackamas Living on the cheap
- Eventbrite events
- Connect with the local schools
- Post information at the recreation center or public library

MILWAUKIE PARK DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES FOCUS GROUP + INTERVIEWS

FEEDBACK SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

The City of Milwaukie conducted a focus group and phone interviews with several people to understand the needs of people with disabilities when they go to and visit parks. Participants were asked the following questions in the focus group and one-on-one interviews:

1. What experiences do you like to have at parks?
2. What experiences do you not like to have at parks?
3. What are barriers to using parks?
4. What amenities do you want to see at parks?
5. Using the three parks as scale examples and budget examples to gather information on what makes sense to put in the parks.

A total of **four (4) people were engaged**, with two people participating in the focus group, which was held virtually over Zoom on July 25, 2022, and two people participating in one-on-one phone interviews. Input received will help inform the designs of Balfour, Bowman-Brae, and Scott Parks.

SUMMARY

Overall, participants strongly preferred parks with natural amenities, like landscaped areas and trees that provide shade. Nearly all participants mentioned that providing shelters, which provide shade and protection from the elements, were crucial to having a good experience at parks. Many also mentioned a need for accessible restrooms - not just for themselves, but for caregivers who help them. Other common themes included providing wide, accessible pathways for people to get around in parks.

Below is a summary of the feedback, organized by theme and question:

Experiences enjoyed at parks

The majority of participants said that natural landscapes and shade, open play equipment such as swings or playhouses, and benches that look out onto green spaces were preferred. Wide paths that accommodate wheelchairs are important to this group, as well as privacy buffers. Participants requested buffers between public spaces and residencies to reduce noise and to respect the privacy of neighbors. Many people said that they enjoy going to parks and view parks as a place to build community and to socialize. To this end, they would like to see amenities and facilities (like trees, picnic tables, benches, etc.) that help people engage with one another.

Barriers to using parks

Sidewalk maintenance - or the lack thereof - was an issue raised by the participants. Incomplete sidewalks, ramps, and steep inclines, also lack of handicap parking or having gravel instead of pavement, were also

mentioned as accessibility issues for multiple participants. One participant mentioned that while they need smooth and wide paths to enjoy a park space, they feel it is important to offer a variety of amenities that allow everyone to do what they want to do at the park. For example, it is important to provide paved, accessible paths, while also providing gravel nature paths at parks.

Amenities requested by participants

Restrooms were mentioned frequently by participants. Many would like to see larger stalls that can accommodate wheelchairs and people that help them use the restroom. Working latches that are easily accessible by wheelchair users, clean and maintained restrooms, good lighting, were all very important components as well.

Spaces accessible for all people, such as open lawns and winding paths or wheelchair accessible picnic tables, was frequently mentioned as a method of community building. Someone said they would like to see more barbeque areas as well. Water fountains with lower access to the ground was another amenity brought up by interviewed participants. The addition of extra benches was requested by all participants.

How to keep others engaged in disability access work in parks

Multiple people requested that these conversations occur more often. Participants suggested reaching out to organizations that support people with disabilities (specifically by email), sending postcards to residents, and posting neighborhood association notices and flyers. They also asked that there be different activities and events for younger and older generations to encourage participation and engagement.

Improvements focused on one park or spread across all three?

Participants didn't seem to have a preference over one park or another. They did however have a strong inclination toward the City focusing on improving parks that already have established trees, as these parks already have shade, and they are more like to go to them. Someone suggested hosting a tree planting party to add trees to parks that need more shade.

TREE KEY:

Existing Tree
(Árbol Actual)

Proposed Tree
(Árbol Propuesto)

Existing Pump House
(Estación de bombeo actual)

Property to be Acquired
(Propiedad será Adquirida)

Open Lawn
(Plaza con césped)

Play Area
(Área de recreación)

Drop-Off
(Área Para Descargar)

Private Driveway/Entrada Privada

LEGEND (LEYENDA)

- | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| 1 Stormwater Swale
(Pantano de aguas de tormentas) | 4 Bench
(Banco) | 7 Picnic Shelter
(Área cubierta para comer) | 10 4' Gravel Path
(4' Sendero de Grava) |
| 2 6'-12' Wide Pathway
(Camino 6' - 12' de ancho) | 5 Bike Rack
(Portabicicletas) | 8 Screening Shrubs
(Arbustos de ocultación) | 11 Entry Sign
(Letrero de Entrada) |
| 3 Picnic Table
(Mesa de pícnic) | 6 Main Park Entry
(Entrada principal) | 9 Pollinator Garden
(Jardín de Polinizadoras) | |



Scale: 1"=10'-0"

October 2022



MILWAUKIE PARK DEVELOPMENT PROJECT: BOWMAN-BRAE PARK

COMMUNITY EVENT #3 OUTREACH SUMMARY



Prepared for

City of Milwaukie



CITY OF MILWAUKIE

Prepared by

JLA Public Involvement

October 2022

Introduction

For the last phase of the City of Milwaukie's Parks Engagement Project, the City conducted an online survey and in-person event for Bowman-Brae Park in October 2022. Participants could learn about the revised design for Bowman-Brae Park and provide feedback on their preferences.

Overall Participation and Notification

The project team developed an **online survey** and hosted an **in-person event** to gather community feedback. The online survey was open from October 6 – October 19, 2022. There were 65 visitors to the Engage Milwaukie page and **36 responses** to the online survey.

The in-person event, held on October 17th, was attended by **41 participants** (32 signed in at the event and 9 via Zoom). A presentation was provided by project staff about the revised park design and some of the previous community feedback heard to date, there was also time for questions from attendees. Those who participated could review the revised designs to provide input. The City received **27 written surveys**.

The online survey and written survey had similar questions. A **total of 63 people responded to the survey** either online or in written form.

Community members were informed about the event through the following:

- Mailers were sent out to the 97222 Zip code and the city's Urban Growth Boundary. Past participants from focus groups or city boards who live outside this area also received postcards. Postcards included information on Scott Park, Balfour Park, and Bowman-Brae Park meetings.
- Additional postcards were distributed to local businesses, city buildings, and the Ledding Library. Lake Road and Ardenwald NDAs also distributed postcards.
- Posts on the project website.
- Social media posts on Facebook.
- Emails to Engage Milwaukie users and the project email list.

Feedback Themes

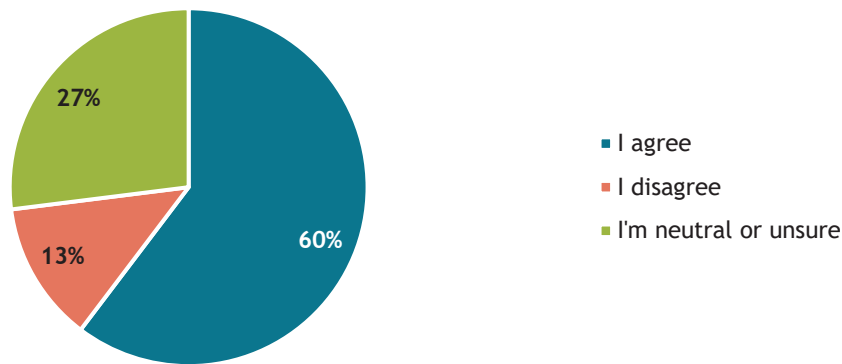
Respondents to the Bowman-Brae Park survey were generally **very supportive of a new park and the final design**. There continues to be a lot of **concern surrounding the access on Where Else Lane** and conflict with neighbors regarding this decision. Overall, the **picnic facilities and play area** are well received. Participants support a walking path but have concerns over the material to be used. Similarly, with the pollinator garden, it is widely supported but some mentioned the need for maintenance. As we've heard many times during this process, Milwaukians love their trees and support adding more to the park!

Combined Online and In-Person Survey Responses

Participants were given the opportunity to answer a series of questions related to the revised design for Bowman-Brae Park and what they like or dislike about it. Feedback from both the online survey and in-person event has been combined and is summarized below.

1. Does the final concept meet your needs?

60% of participants indicated that they **agree** with the final design concept. 27% of participants were neutral or unsure of the final design, while just 13% indicated that they disagree.



2. Please explain the answer you selected for question 1.

There is a lot of general support for the final concept. Participants expressed **appreciation for the play area** (some would like more equipment and less lawn), **picnic facilities** (some mentioned it may need more tables and benches), and **pollinator garden**. Many participants also requested **more trees** be added to the design, especially to the south side for shade.

While many like the idea of the path around the entire park, there was a lot of **concern about the 12' width being too narrow and equal concern over the portion that would be gravel**, which is seen as less accessible for those with mobility issues or riding bikes.

The open lawn area was appreciated by many respondents, who felt it would be useful for families with dogs.

3. Please rank the following park amenities in the order of your preference, 1 would be your highest preference, and 6 would be your lowest preference. The following park amenities will be included in the designs: walking trails, open lawn, benches, picnic tables, native plantings, proposed trees, stormwater swale, bike racks, trash facilities.

The Bowman-Brae Park amenity option that was most highly ranked for this round of outreach, was the **picnic shelter**, with an average 2.73 rank. **Swings** with a 2.81 average rank came in next, with the **pollinator garden** and **log play** following.

Amenity (Ranked 1 to 7)	Average Ranking (Lower rank means increased preference)
Picnic shelter	2.73
Swings	2.81
Pollinator garden	3.26
Play log	3.28
Drinking fountain	3.92
Drop-off / Pull in	4.77

4. What do you like least about the final design?

Respondents focused on trees (or the lack of trees), as what they liked least about the final concept. Respondents indicated there should be **more trees** placed on the **south side of the park** to provide more shade (over the playground, stormwater swale, and grass). Many also said there was **too much lawn**, and **not enough play area** or equipment.

Many people expressed concern about the **gravel path** and that it would be less accessible for those utilizing any form of wheels.

While the **lack of parking**, especially handicap spaces, was mentioned many times, several others said they would like to see the addition of a drop-off, pull in area. Lack of restrooms and a water fountain was also mentioned several times, as was the need for more benches.

5. Is there anything else we should consider as the design is finalized?

In this third phase of outreach for Bowman-Brae Park, respondents continued to express concern about **access to the park via SE Where Else Lane**. Respondents see this as a matter of equitable access for neighbors on the west side of the park and are concerned that the unsafe pedestrian route required to walk around the park to enter at the south heightens the need for access along SE Where Else Lane. Many participants also advocated for **paving nearby roads and/or sidewalks**

for better access. Without this access point, there was concern that the park would become (and remain) and “island.”

Support was expressed by several respondents for **more large trees, native plants, and fruit trees**, and a **smaller lawn area**.

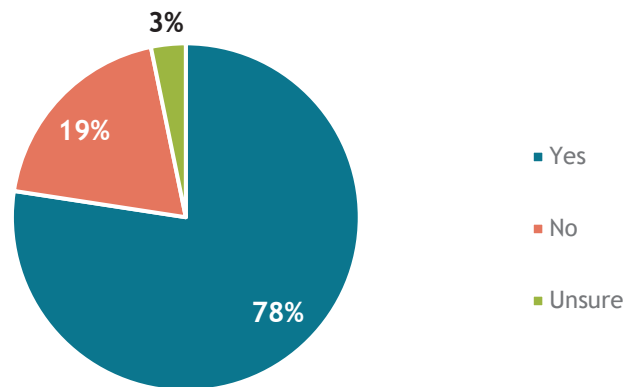
Some concern was expressed about **dog access and control** in the park. Respondents wanted to ensure that dog owners know that they need to keep their pets on a leash or alternatively, the an off-leash area within the park should be provided. Participants at the event learned that this park does not have enough space for an off-leash area.

A request was made by a few participants for **electricity and outlets** at the park so that the community can have “movies in the park.”

Additional individual comments of interest:

- Seating around play area is needed.
- Utilize the space to activate community self-advocacy and cooperation. I would love to see an information kiosk/ bulletin board for community events, or tools such as bike care stations, water and phones.
- Is there protection in the contract for if the irrigation is not doing its job that it gets corrected? Don't want dead trees or plants.
- Look into cool playground toy - it was like an excavator tool that dug dirt out of a big sandbox. Check out Creston park or Lents for kid structure ideas, too! Those big rubbery hills are great.
- The parents of the neighborhood should be on a committee to choose the design of playground.
- I like that there continues to be open lawn space (something we really enjoy) but adds in natural foliage/trees. The most important thing to us is the ability to gain access from both Brae and Where Else Ln as well as to feel safe in the park.

6. Have you participated in Milwaukie planning events before? (i.e., surveys, online or in-person open houses, etc.)

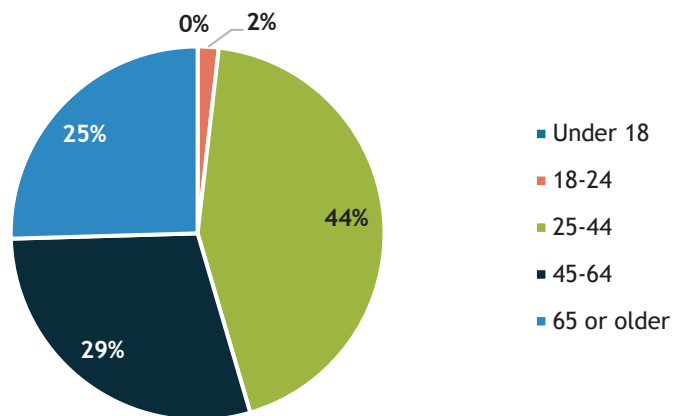


DEMOGRAPHICS INFORMATION

There were optional demographic questions on both the written and online surveys. Below are the results from those who provided answers to these questions.

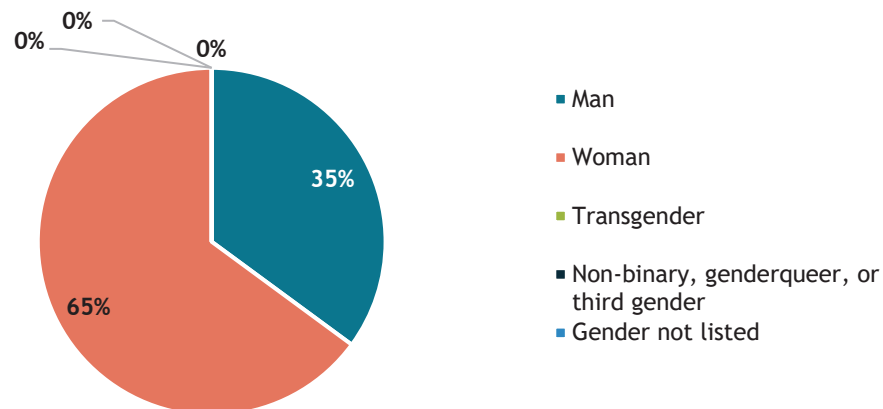
Age

The majority of participants were in the age range **25 to 44 (44%)**, followed by the 45- to 64-year-old group (29%), and **65 or older (25%)**. The under 18 and 18 to 24 age demographics were underrepresented in survey participation compared to the city rates.



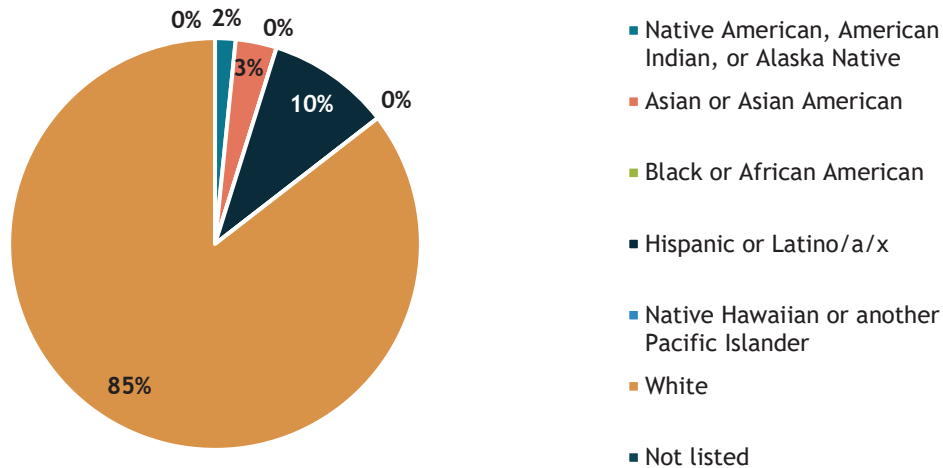
Gender

The majority of the participants identified as **women (65%)** and a little less than one third (35%) identified as men.



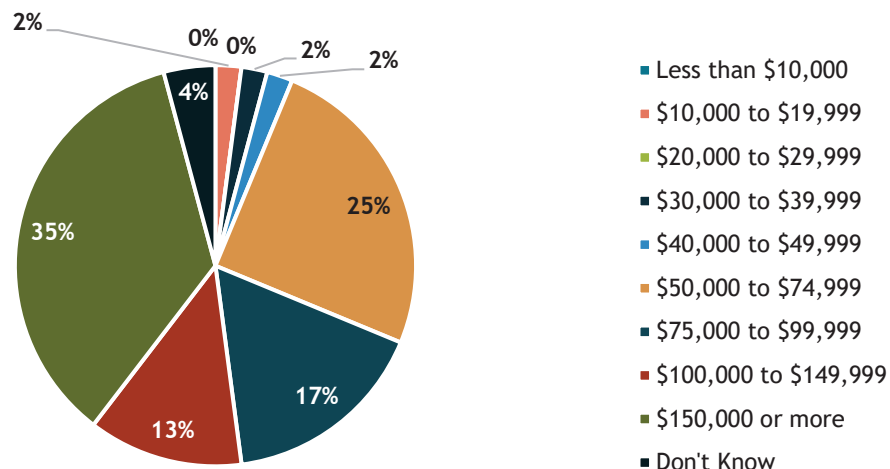
Race/Ethnicity

The majority of respondents (**53**) indicated that they identify as **white**. There were six (6) Hispanic or Latino/a/x respondents, two (2) Asian or Asian American, and one (1) Native American, American Indian, or Alaska Native. City of Milwaukie has a Hispanic population of 10% (higher in schools), this was represented in the participation.



Income

The vast majority of people responding have an annual income of **\$50,000 or more (90%)**. 35% of respondents have a total annual household income above \$150,000. This is substantially higher than income rates for the City at just 62% over \$50,000.



Language

Of those responding **48 people indicated English** as their primary language. Two (2) people wrote in Chinese, and two (2) people indicated Spanish.

Disability

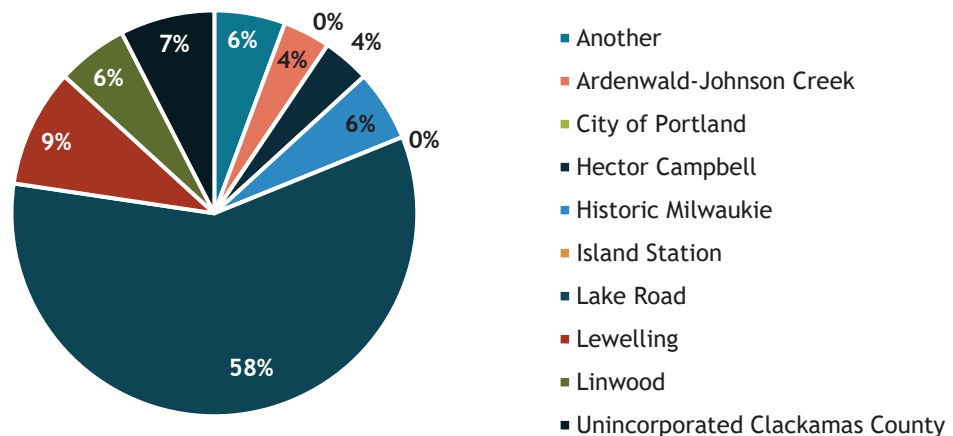
Just a few participants at the in-person event indicated they do identify with having or living with a disability. One (1) indicated they have a mobility or physical disability, one (1) noted a mental health disability, and one (1) has a hearing disability. *Note: This question was only asked on the paper survey.*

Sexual Orientation

Most respondents identify as **heterosexual (86%)**, with some identifying as gay or lesbian (7%), and bisexual (7%). *Note: This question was only asked in the online survey.*

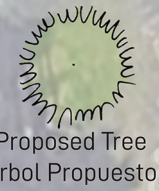
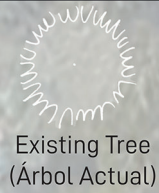
Neighborhood

The majority of respondents indicated that they live or work in the **Lake Road neighborhood (58%)**. Lewelling was another prominent area for participation.



What is your connection to Milwaukie?

The vast majority of respondents **live (26) and/or own a home (25) in Milwaukie**, while just three (3) rent a home. Some work (7) or own a business (1) in the city. Three (3) participants indicated that they come to Milwaukie for religious or cultural activities. One (1) person indicated they were just visiting the city. *Note: This question was only asked in the online survey.*



1

2

3

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12

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10

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8

4

Play Area
(Área de recreación)

Open Lawn
(Plaza con césped)

Drop-Off
(Área Para Descargar)

SE Balfour St

LEGEND/LEYENDA

1 Stormwater Swale
(Pantano de aguas de tormentas)

4 Bike Rack
(Portabicicletas)

7 Picnic Table
(Mesa de picnic)

10 Water Feature
(Instalación de Agua)

2 6'-8' Wide Pathway
(Camino 6' - 8' de ancho)

5 Slide Mound
(Montículo)

8 Community Garden
(Jardín comunitario)

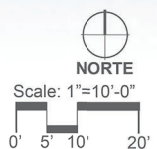
11 Picnic Shelter
(Área cubierta para comer)

3 Low Retaining Wall
(Muro de contención pequeño)

6 Bench
(Banco)

9 Park Entry Sign
(Letrero de entrada al parque)

12 Drinking Fountain
(Fuente de Agua)



October 2022



MILWAUKIE PARK DEVELOPMENT PROJECT: BALFOUR PARK

COMMUNITY EVENT #3 OUTREACH SUMMARY



Prepared for

City of Milwaukie



CITY OF MILWAUKIE

Prepared by

JLA Public Involvement

October 2022

Introduction

For the last phase of the City of Milwaukie's Parks Engagement Project, the City conducted an online survey and in-person event for Balfour Park in October 2022. Participants could learn about the Balfour Park redesign project, learn about the revised designs, and provide feedback on the final concept.

Overall Participation and Notification

The project team developed an **online survey** and hosted an **in-person event** to gather community feedback. The online survey was open from October 6 – 19, 2022. There were **73 visitors** to Engage Milwaukie and **45 responses** to the online survey.

Twenty-one (21) people attended the in-person event, held on October 13th, with 18 people (including three children) attending in-person and 3 people attending virtually over Zoom. At the event, the City and consultant team shared information about the final concept for Balfour Park and how feedback from the summer outreach was incorporated. Those who participated has an opportunity to ask questions and provide input through a written survey. The City received **14 written surveys**.

The online survey and written survey had similar questions. A **total of 59 people responded to the survey** either online or in written form.

Community members were informed about the event through the following:

- Mailers were sent out to the 97222 Zip code and the city's Urban Growth Boundary. Past participants from focus groups or city boards who live outside this area also received postcards. Postcards included information on Scott Park, Balfour Park, and Bowman-Brae Park meetings.
- Additional postcards were distributed to local businesses, city buildings, and the Ledding Library. Lake Road and Ardenwald NDAs also distributed postcards.
- Social Media posts to Facebook pages.
- An article in the local Pilot newsletter introducing the parks project.
- Posts on the project website.
- Text message was sent to all Hillside Manor residents through their internal communication system with the assistance of Clackamas County Housing Authority.
- Emails to Engage Milwaukie users and the project email list.

Feedback Themes

Several themes emerged from the online and in-person feedback. The **majority of respondents felt the final concept meets community needs** and provides something for all age groups.

People were split on whether they liked the community gardens and water feature or not, with many saying they were excited about the community garden, while others expressed trepidation about the management and maintenance of the garden, as well as the impact the garden may have on the park (e.g., some were concerned the existing tree would be removed to accommodate the garden, fertilizer run-off, peacocks eating the plants, etc.).

Similarly, some respondents were excited about the water feature, while others were worried about the cost to maintain the water feature and/or that it would bring too many people to the park. Many people mentioned that they liked the addition of **more trees, shaded areas, and native plantings**.

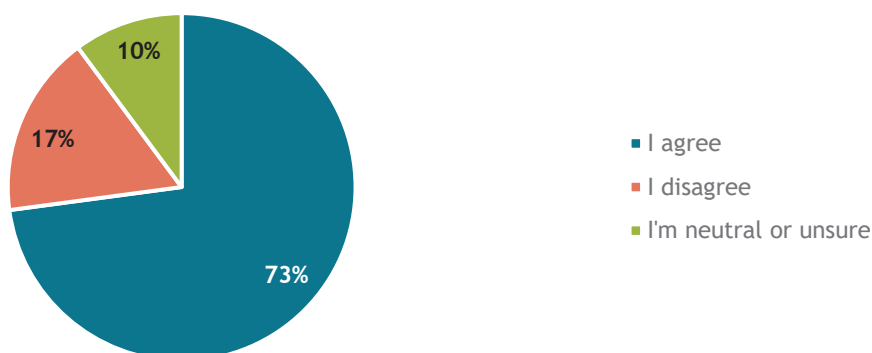
People also mentioned that they would like to see **more picnic tables and benches added**, as well as a public restroom. Concerns generally revolved around the maintenance of the lawn area and other features being added to the park (i.e., cost, who would maintain the features, etc.).

Combined Online and In-Person Survey Responses

Participants were given the opportunity to answer a series of questions related to the final concept for Balfour Park. Feedback from both the online survey and in-person event (which included a feedback form) has been combined and is summarized below.

1. Does the final concept meet your needs?

The majority of respondents agreed that the final concept design for Balfour Park meets their needs.



2. Please explain the answer you selected for Question 1.

Those who indicated that the final concept met their needs, many said that they felt the **concept balanced the interests and concerns of all community members** and that it provides something for people of all ages. Others stated that they liked the community garden, the water feature, play area, and picnic area. Many respondents also liked that the park kept the natural elements of the park and that trees were being added to the park.

Of those who did not feel the park met their needs, many were **concerned about the community garden and water feature**. There was concern about maintenance of community garden and the possible removal of the existing tree (or if not removed, that it would hinder sun access to the garden). Others felt that the garden should be fenced to keep the peacocks out. Some people felt that the water feature would bring too many people to the park and was not appropriate for Balfour Park. Several people were concerned that dogs would overrun the space, while others were concerned that there would not be enough space for their dogs and **would like to see more open space** at the park. (Please note that, current city code requires dogs to be on lease and many participants in focus groups expressed their concerns with unleashed dogs).

Others mentioned the **for a public bathroom, more seating, picnic tables, play equipment, and bike parking.**

3. Please rank the following park amenities in the order of your preference (1 indicates highest preference and 7 lowest preference). The following park amenities will be included in the designs: walking trails, open lawn, benches, picnic tables, native plantings, proposed trees, stormwater garden, bike racks, trash facilities.

Respondents ranked **picnic shelters** the highest in terms of preference. This was followed by **swings** and **community gardens**.

Amenity Ranked 1 to 7	Average Rank Lower score indicates higher preference
Picnic Shelter	3.12
Swings	3.85
Community Gardens	3.97
Log Play	4.07
Embankment Slide	4.09
Drinking Fountain	4.24
Water Feature	4.59

4. What do you like least about the final design?

While many people said that they liked the final design as-is, many people mentioned things they are concerned about or suggestions they have for Balfour Park.

Of the things people liked least about the final design, the **community garden and water feature** were mentioned the most. People were concerned about the maintenance of the garden, it's location near the street, and existing peacocks eating food grown in the garden. For the water feature, some felt that it was an unnecessary expense, may pose safety concerns (if it gets slipper), while others felt it should be larger and closer to the play area.

Others were concerned about the **lack of public restrooms and parking** and said that **additional trash bins were needed** for people to dispose of dog waste and trash. Other concerns included:

- Need for more picnic tables and benches.
- Maintenance of the lawn (cost, who would take care of it, etc.).
- Embankments and swale may limit people's movements into other areas of the park.
- Lack of variation in pathway surface.
- Would like the pathway to be looped.
- Not enough space for dogs.
- Play area should be larger and be fenced for safety.
- Need a second drinking fountain.
- Need more trees and shade.

- Possible removal of the Sitka spruce.
- Loss of the sledding area.

5. Planning for the park is nearly complete. Do you have any final things to share with us or questions about the park construction?

People expressed similar concerns and suggestions to what was shared in response to the previous questions. Additional concerns and suggestions mentioned in this open text question included:

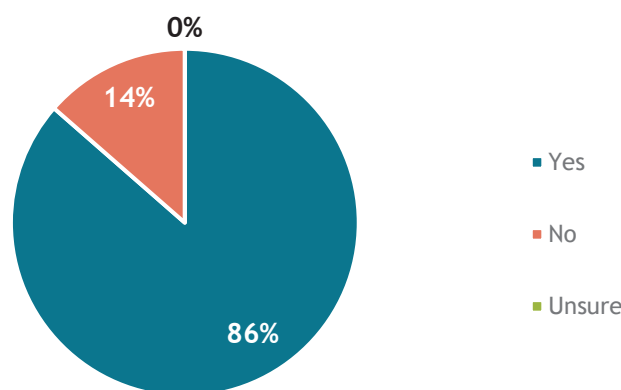
- Potential impact **climate change** may have on the park.
- Impact of the improvements on **nearby property owners**.
- Impact on **Johnson Creek watershed**.
- Create **safe sidewalk access** to the park from SE 32nd Ave.
- **Hire union trades people** to construct the improvements.
- **Keep the park as natural as possible** and minimize impact to existing trees and wildlife.
- **Rename the park** to “Peacock Park” or consult with the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde.
- **Move the shelter closer to the lawn** so that it could double as a performance stage.
- While some feel that **lighting at the park** will make the park safer, others were worried that it will encourage people to stay after the park closes.

People would like more information about the size of lawn and the water feature. Respondents had the following questions:

- Will there be sidewalk improvements for the entire block or only in front of the park?
- How are the peacocks going to be incorporated or taken into consideration for the park?
- What is the approximate construction duration (from start to finish)?
- Will people not in the neighborhood be able to use the community garden?
- Was public art considered?

6. Have you participated in Milwaukie planning events before? (i.e., surveys, online or in-person open house, etc.)

The majority of respondents (86%) said that they have participated in Milwaukie planning events before.

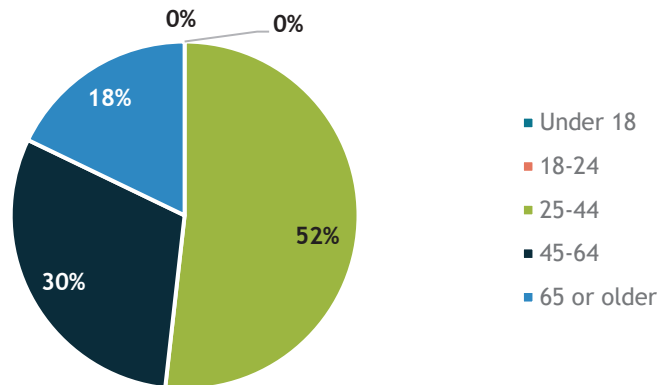


DEMOGRAPHICS INFORMATION

There were optional demographic questions on both the written and online surveys. Below are the results from those who provided answers to these questions.

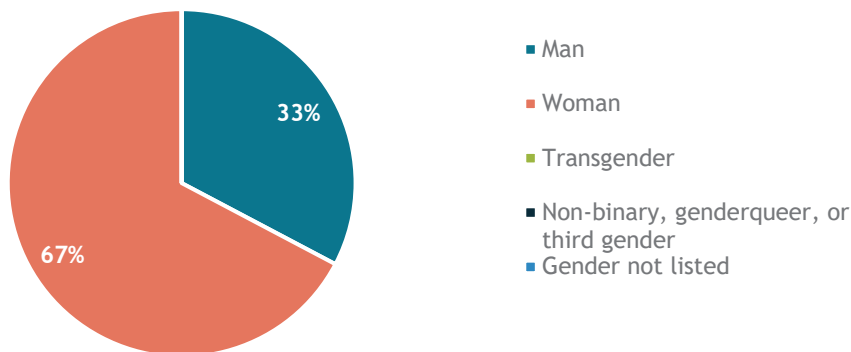
Age

The majority of participants were in the age range of **25 to 44 (52%)**, followed by 45 to 64-year-olds (30%). Respondents under 18 years of age were underrepresented in the survey participation when compared to the proportion of Milwaukie residents under 18 (25%).



Gender

The majority of the participants **identified as women (67%)** and a third (33%) identified as men.

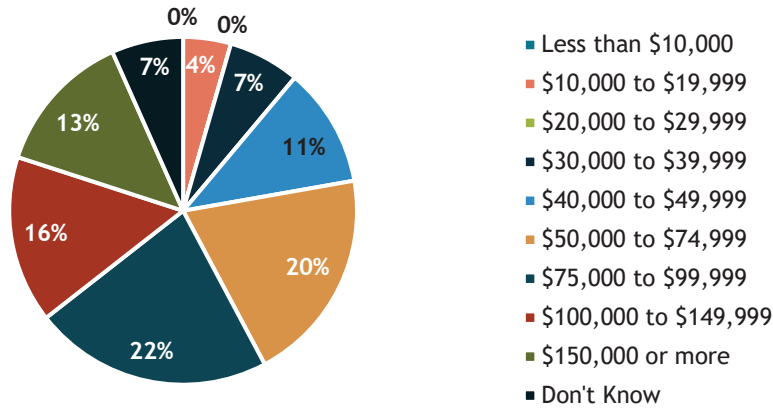


Race/Ethnicity

The majority of respondents (52) indicated that they identify as white (94.2%). One (1) person identified as Asian or Asian American. Two (2) respondents identified as Hispanic or Latino/a/x, which is proportionately lower than the amount of people who identify as Hispanic living in the City of Milwaukie (10%).

Income

The majority of people responding have an annual income of **\$50,000 or more (71%)**, which is higher than the proportion of Milwaukie households making over \$50,000 (62%). About a third of respondents have a total annual household income below \$50,000 or don't know.

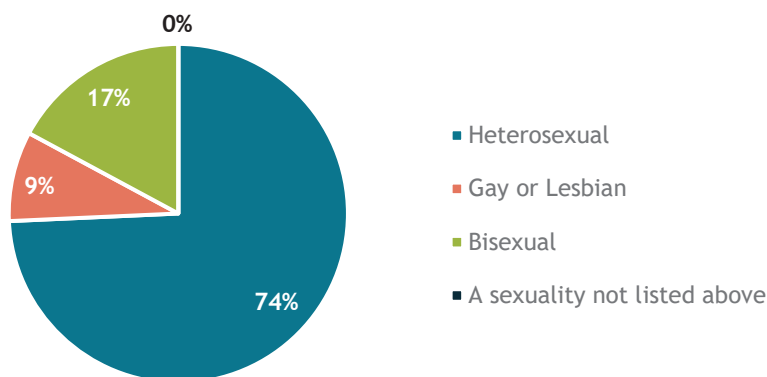


Language

Of those responding **41 people indicated English** as their primary language. Two (2) people indicated Spanish, and one (1) person said their language was not listed.

Sexual Orientation

Most respondents identify as **heterosexual (74%)**, with some identifying as bisexual (17%), and gay or lesbian (9%). *Note: This question was only asked in the online survey.*

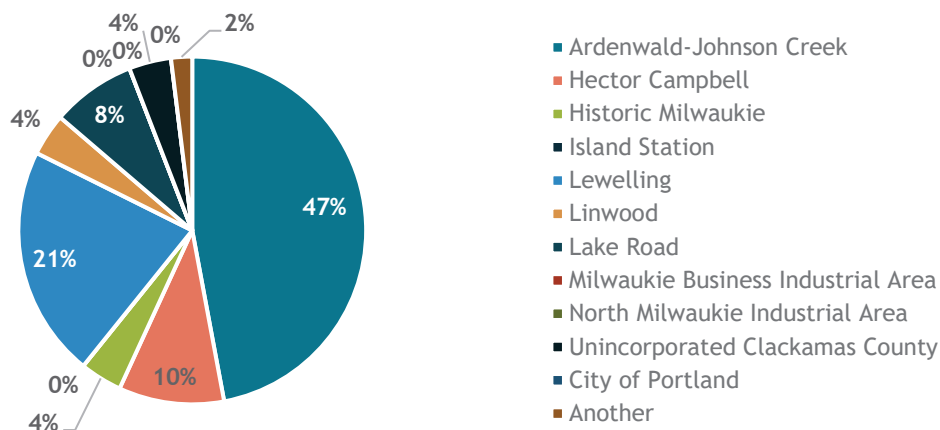


People Living with a Disability

Three people answered this question. One person said that they have a Mobility or other physical disability(s), another said that they have a hearing disability, and one other person said that they would prefer not to disclose this information. *Note: This question was only asked in the print survey.*

Neighborhood

The majority of respondents indicated that they live or work in the **Ardenwald-Johnson Creek neighborhood (47%)**. Lewelling was another prominent area for participation.



What is your connection to Milwaukie?

The vast majority of respondents **live and/or own a home in Milwaukie**. Some work or own a business in the city. *Note: This question was only asked in the online survey.*

KEYNOTES

- ① PERGOLA
(PÉRGOLA)
- ② ART
(ARTE)
- ③ BENCH
(BANCA)
- ④ SEAT WALL
(PARA SENTARSE)
- ⑤ DECK
(PLATAFORMA)
- ⑥ LOG
(LEÑO)
- ⑦ SOFT SURFACE TRAIL
(SENDERO)
- ⑧ ROCK STEPPERS
(ADOQUINES)
- ⑨ RIPARIAN
(RIBEREÑO)
- ⑩ NATIVE PLANTING
(PLANTAS NATIVAS)
- ⑪ LAWN
(CÉSPED)
- ⑫ INTERPRETIVE ELEMENT
(ELEMENTO INTERPRETATIVO)
- ⑬ ACCESSIBLE PICNIC TABLE
(MESA DE PICNIC ACCESIBLE)
- ⑭ STORYWALK IN THE PARK KIOSK
(QUIOSCO DE SENDERA DE HISTORIA DEL PARQUE)
- ⑮ DRINKING FOUNTAIN
(FUENTE DE AGUA)

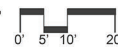
WS 33



OCTOBER 2022

SCOTT PARK | REVISED DESIGN CONCEPT 1

SCALE: 1" = 10'-0"



izo

jla
Public Involvement

GREENWORKS™

KEYNOTES

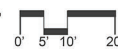
- ① PLAYGROUND
(EL CAMPO DE JUEGOS)
- ② POND PLATFORM
(PLATAFORMA DEL ESTANQUE)
- ③ STAGE
(ESCENARIO)
- ④ BENCH
(BANCA)
- ⑤ RIPARIAN
(RIBEREÑO)
- ⑥ NATIVE PLANTING
(PLANTA NATIVA)
- ⑦ LAWN
(CÉSPED)
- ⑧ ROCK STEPPERS
(ADOQUINES)
- ⑨ STORYWALK IN THE PARK KIOSK
(QUIOSCO DE SENDERA DE HISTORIA DEL PARQUE)
- ⑩ ACCESSIBLE PICNIC TABLE
(MESA DE PICNIC ACCESIBLE)
- ⑪ DRINKING FOUNTAIN
(FUENTE DE AGUA)
- ⑫ VETERAN MEMORIAL RENOVATION
(RENOVACIONES DE MEMORIAL DE VETERANOS)

WS 34



SCOTT PARK | REVISED DESIGN CONCEPT 2

SCALE: 1" = 10'-0"



izo

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Public Involvement

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OCTOBER 2022

MILWAUKIE PARK DEVELOPMENT PROJECT: SCOTT PARK

COMMUNITY EVENT #3 OUTREACH SUMMARY



Prepared for

City of Milwaukie



CITY OF MILWAUKIE

Prepared by

JLA Public Involvement

October 2022

Introduction

The City of Milwaukie conducted an online survey and in-person event for Scott Park in October 2022 to gather input on two design options. This was the last opportunity for community members to provide input before a final design option is selected for public review. Participants could learn about the Scott Park redesign project, provide input on the revised design options, including which option they would prefer to see in the park.

Overall Participation and Notification

The project team developed an **online survey** and hosted an **in-person event** to gather community feedback. The online survey was open from October 6 – October 19, 2022. There were **109 visitors** to Engage Milwaukie and **65 responses** to the online survey.

The in-person event, held on October 6th, was attended by at least **20 participants** (14 in-person and 6 via Zoom). A presentation was provided by project staff about the revised park design options and some of the previous community feedback heard to date, there was also time for questions from attendees. Those who participated could review the revised designs to provide input. City staff also did a pop-up engagement event at the Friends of the Ledding Library book sale on Sunday, October 15. The City received **20 written surveys**.

The online survey and written survey had similar questions. A **total of 85 people responded to the survey** either online or in written form.

Community members were informed about the event through the following:

- Mailers were sent out to the 97222 Zip code and the city's Urban Growth Boundary. Past participants from focus groups or city boards who live outside this area also received postcards. Postcards included information on Scott Park, Balfour Park, and Bowman-Brae Park meetings.
- Additional postcards were distributed to local businesses, city buildings, and the Ledding Library. Lake Road and Ardenwald NDAs also distributed postcards.
- Social Media posts to Facebook pages.
- An article in the local Pilot newspaper introducing the parks project.
- Posts on the project website.
- Emails to Engage Milwaukie users and the project email list.

Feedback Themes

One theme that has continually emerged from the Milwaukie Parks feedback is that **the community appreciates nature**.

How they want to engage with nature seems to be the question at hand. During this phase of outreach the online and in-person feedback was somewhat divided. There are those who want a playground area and lots of options for kids to explore outside and get out their energy, and others who would prefer a quiet and contemplative space in nature to relax and enjoy the scenery.

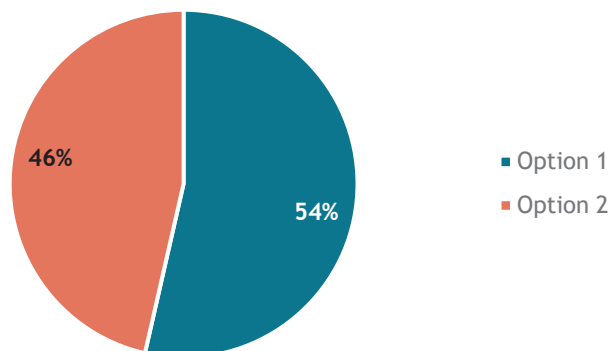
Two components that came through in a variety of responses are that **people want to be inclusive of everyone (all ages and abilities)** and for the park to reflect that priority. Secondly, they value the community aspect of Scott Park and want elements in the park that can **bring people together** like benches, picnic areas, and the amphitheater for events.

Combined Online and In-Person Survey Responses

Participants were given the opportunity to answer a series of questions related to which design option they prefer for Scott Park and what they like about each. Feedback from both the online survey and in-person event has been combined and is summarized below.

1. Which design concept do you prefer?

Design **Option 1 (45 votes or 54%)** was slightly preferred over Option 2 (39 votes or 46%).



2. Tell us why you prefer the option you selected for question 1. Please be specific.

Of those who prefer Option 1:

Many participants mentioned that Design Option 1 maintains a **more natural setting** with nature-based play elements rather than a traditional play structure. They also appreciate the **broad accessibility** of the design for various users of all ages. Many also mentioned appreciation for the seating options and **spaces for quiet reflection or observation** of the pond and animals. The **logs, pergola, deck, and grass area** were mentioned several times as well. One participant

summarized Option 1 as, it “maintains the serenity of the current space while making it more accessible.”

There was some concern about the soft surface trail not being accessible.

Of those who preferred Design Option 2:

Many participants who selected Design Option 2 chose it for the inclusion of a **playground**. They appreciate how this functionally connects the park to the library for families who want to stay for a longer active outing, similar to a community center space. It was also mentioned by some that there are no other available playgrounds in the downtown area during school hours so this would be an important addition for small kids. Other amenities mentioned include the **benches, stage, pond platform, and water fountain** as being important to their choice.

Several participants were still very supportive of native plantings and maintaining as much of the original plant life and layout as possible, including this comment: “fewer improvements are better to keep it from being cluttered.”

3. Please rank the following park amenities in the order of your preference, 1 would be your highest preference, and 10 would be your lowest preference.

The following park amenities will be included in the designs: walking trails, open lawn, benches, picnic tables, native plantings, bike racks, trash facilities. *Note: this list includes amenities from both designs.*

The Scott Park amenity option that was most highly ranked for this round of outreach, was the **viewing platform**, with an average 3.39 rank (a lower score indicated higher preference). The **stage renovation at the amphitheater** and the **playground** were second and third most highly ranked, followed closely by the soft surface trail.

Amenity (Ranked 1 to 10)	Average Rank (Lower score means increased preference)
Viewing Platform	3.39
Stage Renovation at amphitheater	4.61
Playground	4.79
Soft surface trail	4.88
Rock steppers	5.41
Play logs	5.48
Drinking fountain	5.49
Pergola	6.44
Storywalk kiosks	6.71
Veterans memorial renovations	7.54

4. Is there anything you do *not* like about your preferred design concept?

Of those who prefer Option 1:

Several participants mentioned wanting a few **more play elements** for kids, possibly trading out the pergola for a play structure. Some were concerned about the **soft surface trail not being accessible**, not having enough **benches**, and needing **more shade**. Other concerns focused on the maintenance and water use required for the lawn, Storywalk Kiosks being vandalized, and the design of the pergola.

Of those who preferred Design Option 2:

Participants requested that **more seating**, like benches or picnic tables, be added to Design Option 2 and suggested that it be located in the NW corner of the park (similar to Option 1). The **soft surface trail and logs** were also suggested to be carried into Option 2.

Several participants prefer the **pond platform proposed in Option 1**.

Some commented that they like the playground but would prefer it to be more nature or discovery focused with logs, stumps, and rocks.

For both design options, participants expressed disappointment that the pond will be closed off by a gate. One participant requested fencing between the playground and parking area.

5. Is there anything else we should consider as the design is finalized?

Comments for this question were far ranging. **One area of concern that was brought up multiple times focused on parking.** The improvements to the park will likely bring more vehicle traffic to an already crowded parking lot. The need for **bike parking and additional handicap parking** spaces was mentioned.

Some amenities that were requested include: More garbage cans, solar lights on the trail and at the memorial, dog poop stations, and a rocking or swing type bench. There was a lot of focus on **benches or other seating**, especially around the amphitheater for concerts, in quiet areas for meditation, and possibly under a covered area that could be used in rainy weather. Having a power source available for the stage was also brought up.

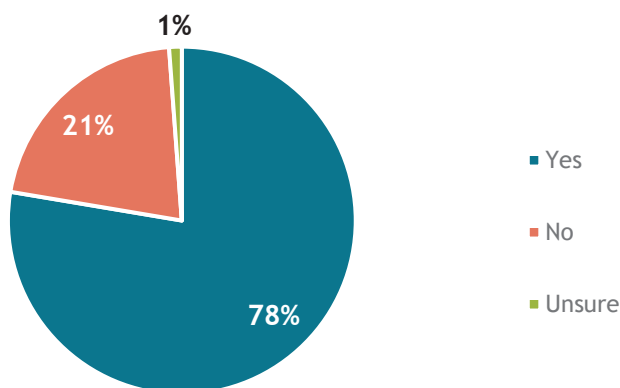
Several participants continue to advocate for **more trees (shade) and native plants** that have year-round interest and low maintenance needs and a smaller lawn area.

Additional individual comments of interest:

- Leveling the stage is the kind of boring, expensive project that nobody gets excited about. I think it's important for safety and true accessibility, however. That slope is awkward for someone on wheels!

- Tie the design into the library and ponds as much as possible. Connect to the neighboring properties if available. Blending the plaza of the next door apartments and the indoor uses of the library into the park would be an awesome placemaking project!
- It would be really fun to involve Sparrowhawk Natives (Milwaukie based business!) and the Milwaukie Garden Club in making a little native plants ID garden along the soft surface path in the shade.
- It would be good to consider the full landscape and native plant restoration all around the pond. Maybe partner with the high school, Portland Waldorf School, the neighborhood association, and the developers of the new apartment units on the North side to do an invasive plant removal weekend to restore the pond to its original beautiful design.
- Maybe some sort of visual or natural screening behind the viewing platform to cut sound and visual distraction from the play areas.
- Involving local artists would be a wonderful addition.
- Allowing for goat trails to the water. Or at least assuming for it. People will do it anyway so just make your plantings accordingly to allow for some space for kids to touch the water, throw little rocks in and ppl to have a little spot to enjoy the tranquility of being very near water and not up on a platform. Have an educational sign about no duck feeding and trust us to enjoy this public land.
- Design elements that allow the park to be used during the rainy seasons.

6. Have you participated in Milwaukie planning events before? (i.e., surveys, online or in-person open houses, etc.)

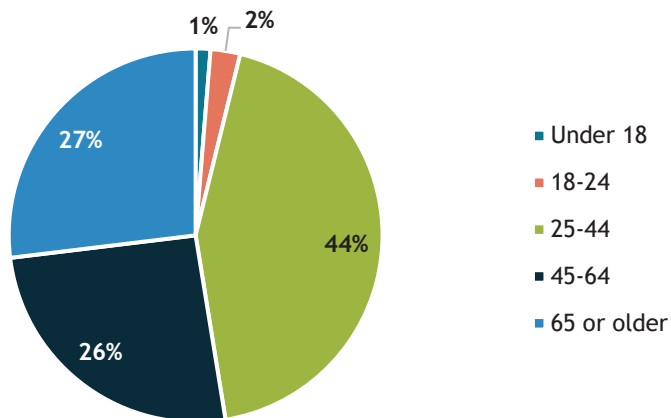


DEMOGRAPHICS INFORMATION

There were optional demographic questions on both the written and online surveys. Below are the results from those who provided answers to these questions.

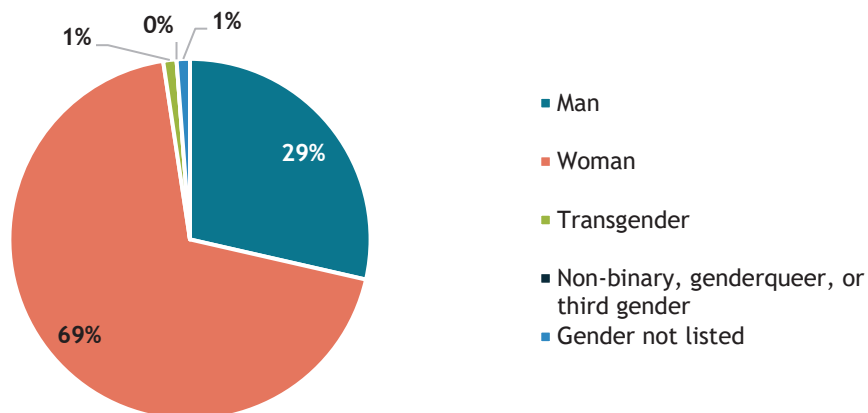
Age

The majority of participants were in the age range **25 to 44 (44%)**, followed by the **65 or older** age group (**27%**) and **45 to 64-year-olds (31%)**. The under 18 and 18 to 24 age demographics were underrepresented in survey participation when compared to City rates.



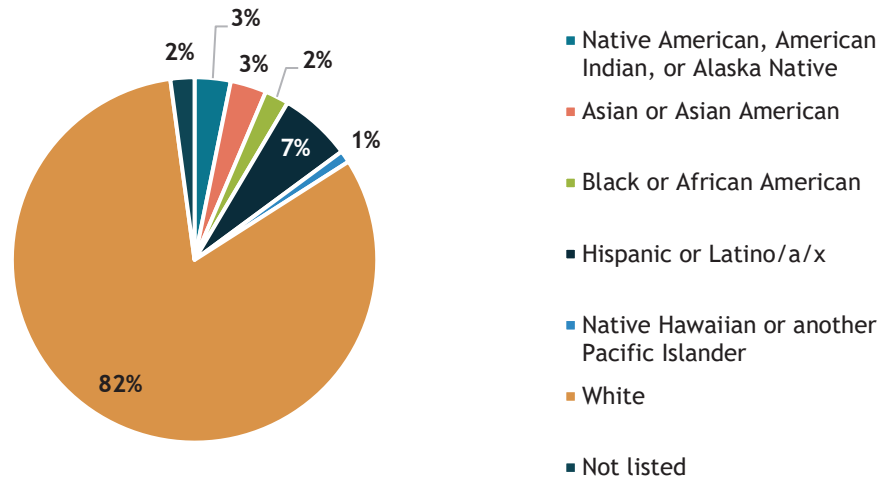
Gender

The **majority of the participants identified as women (69%)** and a little less than one third (29%) identified as men.



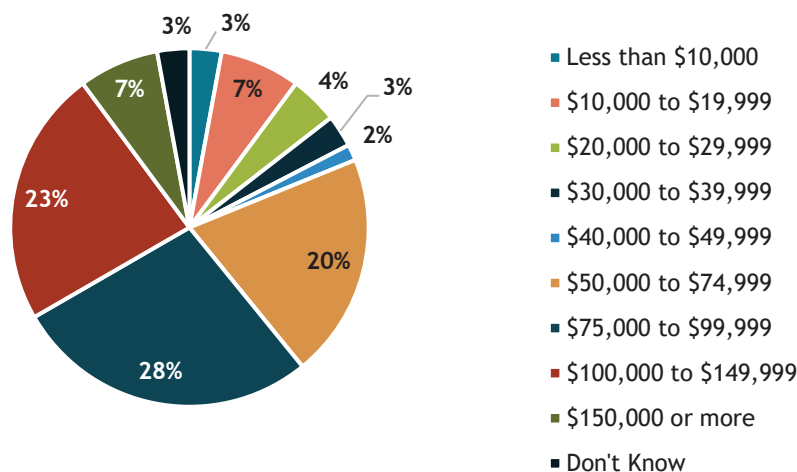
Race/Ethnicity

The majority of respondents (**77**) indicated that they identify as **white**. There were six (6) Hispanic or Latino/a/x respondents, three (3) Asian or Asian American, three (3) Native American, American Indian, or Alaska Native, two (2) Black or African American, one (1) Native Hawaiian or another Pacific Islander, and two (2) said their race was not listed (Italian American and Middle Eastern). City of Milwaukie has a Hispanic population of 10% (higher in schools), this was almost represented in the participation.



Income

The majority of people responding have an annual income of **\$50,000 or more (78%)**, which is higher than the proportion of Milwaukie households making over \$50,000 (62%). A little less than a quarter (22%) of respondents have a total annual household income below \$50,000 or don't know.



Language

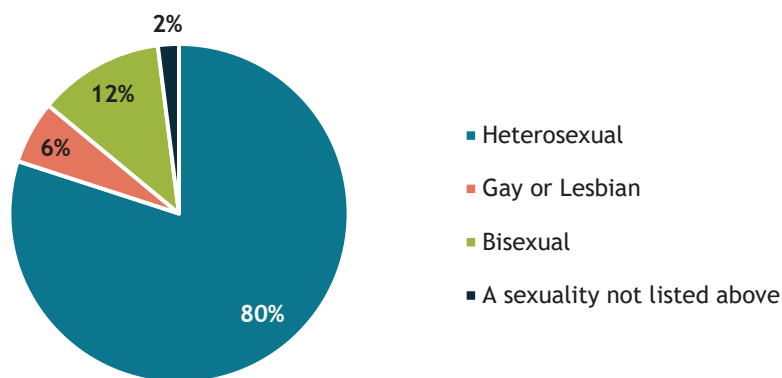
Of those responding **65 people indicated English** as their primary language. 2 people indicated Spanish, and 2 people said their language was not listed (Chinese and Italian).

People Living with a Disability

Several participants at the in-person event indicated that do identify with having or living with a disability. **Four (4)** indicated they have a **mobility or physical disability**, three (3) noted a mental health disability, two (2) have a hearing disability, and one (1) a visual disability. Two (2) others noted that their disability was not listed. *Note: This question was only asked on the paper survey.*

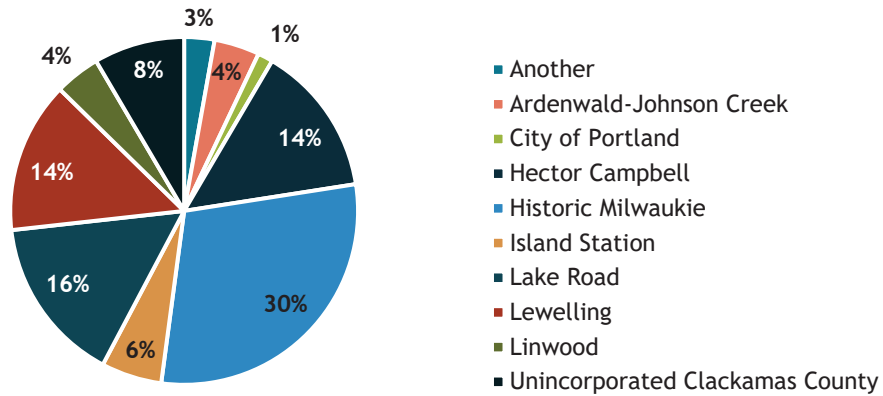
Sexual Orientation

Most respondents identify as **heterosexual (80%)**, with some identifying as gay or lesbian (6%), and bisexual (12%). *Note: This question was only asked in the online survey.*



Neighborhood

A significant percent of respondents indicated that they live or work in the **Historic Milwaukie neighborhood (30%)**. Lake Road (16%), Hector Campbell, and Lewelling (each 14%) were other prominent areas for participation.



What is your connection to Milwaukie?

The vast majority of respondents **live (48) and/or own a home (41) in Milwaukie**. Some work (16) or own a business (3) in the city. Seven (7) participants indicated that they come to Milwaukie for religious or cultural activities. *Note: This question was only asked in the online survey.*

**WS 1. 11/1/22
Presentation**



CITY OF MILWAUKIE

Neighborhood Park Development Update

November 1



Focus Group Findings

People with disabilities and members of our BIPOC communities don't always feel safe or welcome in parks

ADA & barrier free codes are the minimum for accessibility and inclusion

Offer parks with options for all people, regardless of ability or age

Well designed restrooms and drinking fountains are important

Distributing amenities and investing in parks throughout the city is important

Enforcement of leash rules for dogs is important



Engagement Goals Update

Three hybrid planning meetings with online surveys

61 in person & 146 online surveys combined

8.2% of surveys are from Fall participants who identify as non-white

14.5% of surveys are from Fall participants who are new to Milwaukie planning surveys or events

141 people engaged with the project team in person

182 visitors to the three Engage Milwaukie pages



Bowman-Brae Engagement Summary

41 people attended the planning meeting

63 in person or online surveys

60% feel the park meets their needs

19% new to Milwaukie planning

85% identify as white



Bowman-Brae Feedback & Challenges



Ensure that the path & park are accessible to those with mobility devices

Provide more shade trees & benches

Construction budget is a concern

Lacks “wow” factor

Amenity Ranked 1 to 6	Average Ranking Lower rank means increased preference
Picnic shelter	2.73
Swings	2.81
Pollinator garden	3.26
Play log	3.28
Drinking fountain	3.92
Drop-off / Pull in	4.77

Draft Bowman-Brae Concept

Where Else Lane acquisition begun

Multiuse trail will need to shrink

Residents want a more accessible perimeter path

Working to add additional trees & benches



Balfour Engagement Summary

21 people attended the planning meeting

59 in person or online surveys

73% feel the park meets their needs

14% new to Milwaukie planning

94% identify as white



Balfour Concept Feedback & Challenges



People appreciate that the design has something for everyone

Mixed reviews for water feature and community gardens

Placement of the community gardens is a concern

Working with arborists on tree protection and safe trimming

Amenity	Average Rank
Ranked 1 to 7	Lower score indicates higher preference
Picnic Shelter	3.12
Swings	3.85
Community Gardens	3.97
Log Play	4.07
Embankment Slide	4.09
Drinking Fountain	4.24
Water Feature	4.59

Draft Balfour Concept

Focus on protecting tree coverage & community space

Pulls elements from 2011 neighborhood plan, 2015 NCPRD plan, and 2022 engagement

Half street improvements to come later with the rest of Balfour Street

Spacing a concern, especially for community gardens & shelter



Scott Park Engagement Summary

20 people attended the planning meeting

85 in person or online surveys

21% new to Milwaukie planning

82% identify as white

Additional pop-up engagement held at library book sale



Scott Park Engagement Summary



Only 6 participants prefer concept 1 over concept 2

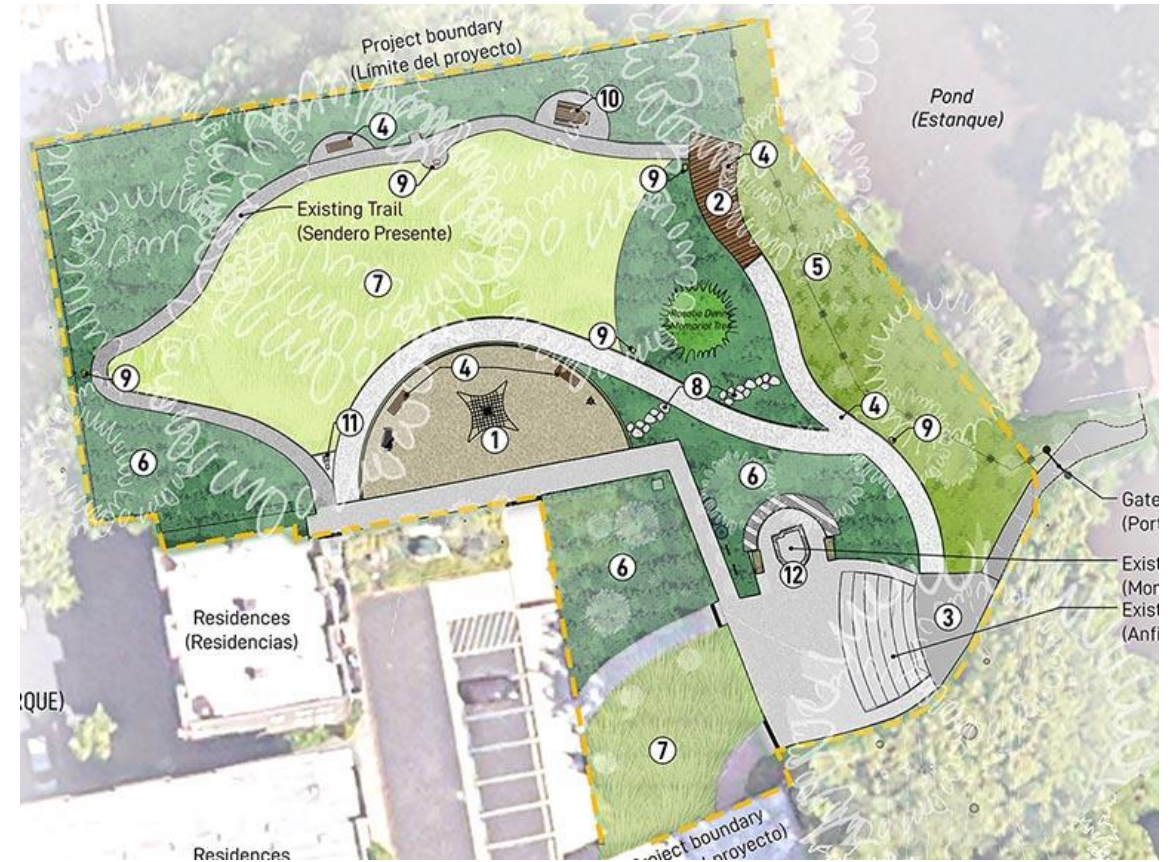
Working to blend the two concepts together

Memorial could be renovated with separate funding and a deliberate design process

Scott Park a good location for accessible features and safety surfacing, though cost is a concern

Amenity	Average Rank
Ranked 1 to 10	Lower score means increased preference
Viewing Platform	3.39
Stage Renovation at amphitheater	4.61
Playground	4.79
Soft surface trail	4.88
Rock steppers	5.41
Play logs	5.48
Drinking fountain	5.49
Pergola	6.44
Storywalk kiosks	6.71
Veterans memorial renovations	7.54

Scott Park Draft Concepts



Upcoming Next Steps

Special Parks & Recreation Board Meeting

November 16 on Zoom

5:30 – 7:30pm

milwaukieoregon.gov/meetings

City Council Meeting

December 6

~7:00pm

City Hall & Zoom



Parks Discussion

Thank you!

Questions?

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Parks Development Coordinator

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