

Memorandum

To: Kurt Baker, CPRP, Director Whitpain Township Parks and Recreation Department

CC: Tavis Dockwiller RLA, Ann Hutchinson, AICP, Eric Sylvester, Victor Trujillo, RLA, Rick Tralies, RLA Ann M. Toole, CPRP

From:

Re: PROS Update Survey Findings

Date: 12-5-20

PROS Update Survey Overview

With 2,258 respondents, the survey provides a solid base of information to ascertain public opinion about parks, recreation and open space. The analysis of the data shows that:

- The public wants to see Mermaid Lake developed as a community park with active and passive recreation facilities and connections to nature.
- Indoor year round facilities for recreation and sports are important to the residents.
- Combined, Mermaid Lake, Open Space, and Park Maintenance are the most important things that residents choose to spend their money on in a budget exercise. It is important to note that the residents specifically identified park maintenance as important and worthy of spending their money on. Typically park maintenance has challenges in securing the budget and staffing sufficient to meet the demands of a municipal parks and recreation system.
- The Township's program ratings are affected by the very limited indoor recreation facilities available for public recreation programming. A large number of respondents reported using the Greater Plymouth Community Center as well as responding in several questions that indoor recreation facilities in Whitpain Township are important to them.
- Residents prefer supporting parks and recreation with existing township taxes and user fees and charges for facility use and programs. Partnerships and new township taxes rank low with the residents.

The following sections present the summary of the survey process and findings followed by charts illustrating the response for each question

and lastly a section on written comments.

Summary of Survey Process and Findings

Whitpain Township PROS Update Survey

The purpose of the Whitpain Township PROS Update Survey was to collect public opinion from the residents about parks, recreation, and open space in the community. The information collected is being used to develop the vision, goals, and action plan to improve parks, recreation and open space over the next ten years and beyond. Two major events occurred during the survey process: the COVID-19 pandemic and the Township's acquisition of Mermaid Lake as the newest community park. Due to these events, the framework for the survey was changed to include Mermaid Lake as a main focus and recreation programs were jettisoned as a separate survey of the Parks and Recreation Department's best customers. Programming has always been a key function of the Department began an evolution during the pandemic and new considerations with the addition of Mermaid Lake. With more in-depth information needed for the program evolution, a separate survey is necessary to provide the department with the level of information that can most effectively be provided by the best customers of recreation programs and services. The best customers are those residents who sign up for the Township's organized scheduled recreation programs; they number about 4,300.

Survey Process

The PROS Update Advisory Committee provided their ideas for the kinds of information they wanted to know from the public regarding their use of parks, why they use them, what they do there, their program interests, their level of support, and their ideas about Mermaid Lake as a future park. Working in collaboration with the Parks and Recreation Department Management Team, our planning team developed the questions proposed for the survey. The Advisory Committee, Township Management, and the Board of Supervisors reviewed and commented on the draft questions. The planning team translated these questions into a highly interactive questionnaire. The Parks and Recreation Department undertook a yeoman's effort in promoting the survey to the public through e-mail, Facebook, the Whitpain Wire, the printed newsletter, word-of-mouth, outreach to community organizations and other means ongoing from October 23 through December 6, 2020.

Results

The responses totaled 2,258. The data points total 84,358 with 724 written comments. Each participant provided about 37 pieces of information. These numbers are important as they provide significantly more public input than is possible in public meetings and from a much broader group of citizens that go out to public meetings.

Who Responded?

- 89% Township Residents
- Ages
 - 25 – 45 years of age: 36%
 - 46 – 65 years of age: 33%



- 66+ years of age: 9%
- 18 – 24 years of age: 1%. Only four respondents were under 18 years of age
- Households
 - 53% have children 18 years of age and under
 - 12% were senior citizens
 - 50 respondents live alone
 - 50 respondents live alone
 - 47 respondents have people with special needs in the household
- Park Users
 - About 77% of respondents are park users, mostly weekly.
 - 25 respondents reported never using the parks but like having them in the community
 - Only four respondents reported that they never use the parks

Findings

Priorities

1. Indoor year round recreation facility
2. Open Space & Conservation
3. Making Mermaid Lake a public park

Most Used Township Parks

1. Wentz Run
2. Centre Square
3. Prophecy Creek

Most Used Parks and Recreation Facilities Other than Township Parks

1. State Parks
2. Parks in other municipalities
3. Greater Plymouth Community Recreation Center

Note: 367 respondents reported being country club members.

Top Things Respondents Like to Do in the Township Parks

1. Walk/run
2. Enjoy nature
3. Exercise

Note: 420 respondents reported using the parks more after the pandemic than before

Top Programs Respondents Would like to Do Next Year

1. Sports
2. Camps
3. Special Events and Family Programs

Improvements Respondents Would Most Like to See

1. Safe sidewalk connections to parks
2. Open space and natural areas
3. Indoor recreation

Note: The bicycle network was close to the third choice.



Park Ratings

- Good to Excellent: 60%
- Average: 15%
- Fair: 3%
- Poor – only two respondents rated the parks as poor

Program Ratings

- Good to Excellent: 50%
- Average: 19%
- Fair: 4%
- Poor: only nine respondents rated the programs as poor

Ways Respondents Are Willing to Support Parks and Recreation in Order of Preference

1. Seek grants for improvements
2. Use existing township taxes for improvements
3. Pay user fees to join pool if developed
4. Use existing township taxes for maintenance
5. Pay rental fees for facility use
6. Pay user fees for programs
7. Undertake a private fundraising campaign
8. Public-Private Partnerships - Private financing or support of public recreation facilities to attempt to defray the cost of development, operations, and maintenance. These partnerships may result in some public use restrictions.
9. Use new township taxes to develop or improve parks

How Important Mermaid Lake is to Develop

- Extremely important: 27%
- Very Important: 39%
- Of average importance 27%
- Of low importance: 5%
- Not important: 2%

Top Ways Respondents Would Like to See Mermaid Lake Developed

1. Develop as a community park with a mix of active and passive facilities and connections with nature
2. Develop and indoor year round recreation and sports facilities
3. Restore the existing pool

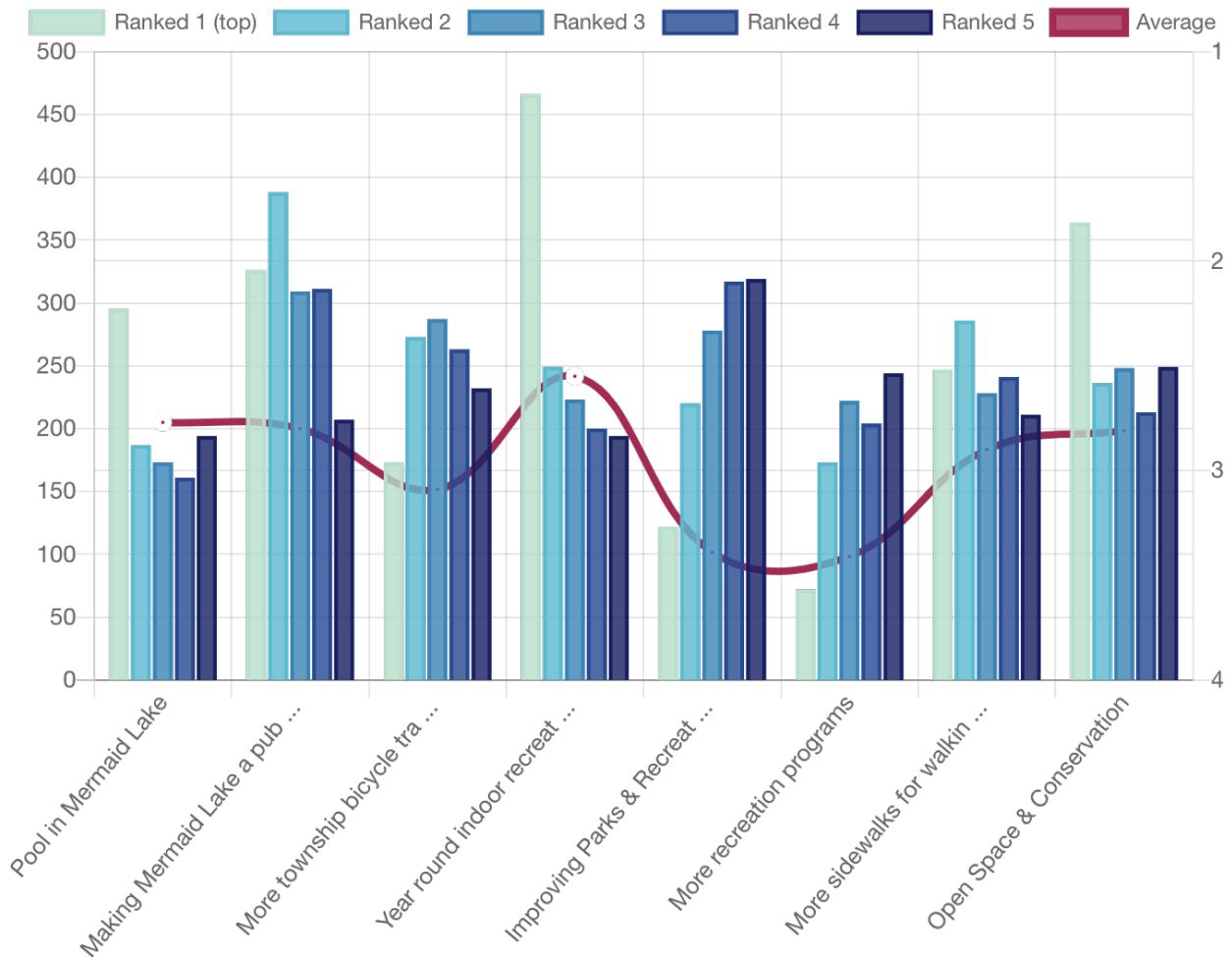
Top Three Things Respondents Would Spend Their Money On

1. Improving Mermaid Lake
2. Park Maintenance and Operations
3. Existing Parks and Recreation Facility Improvements

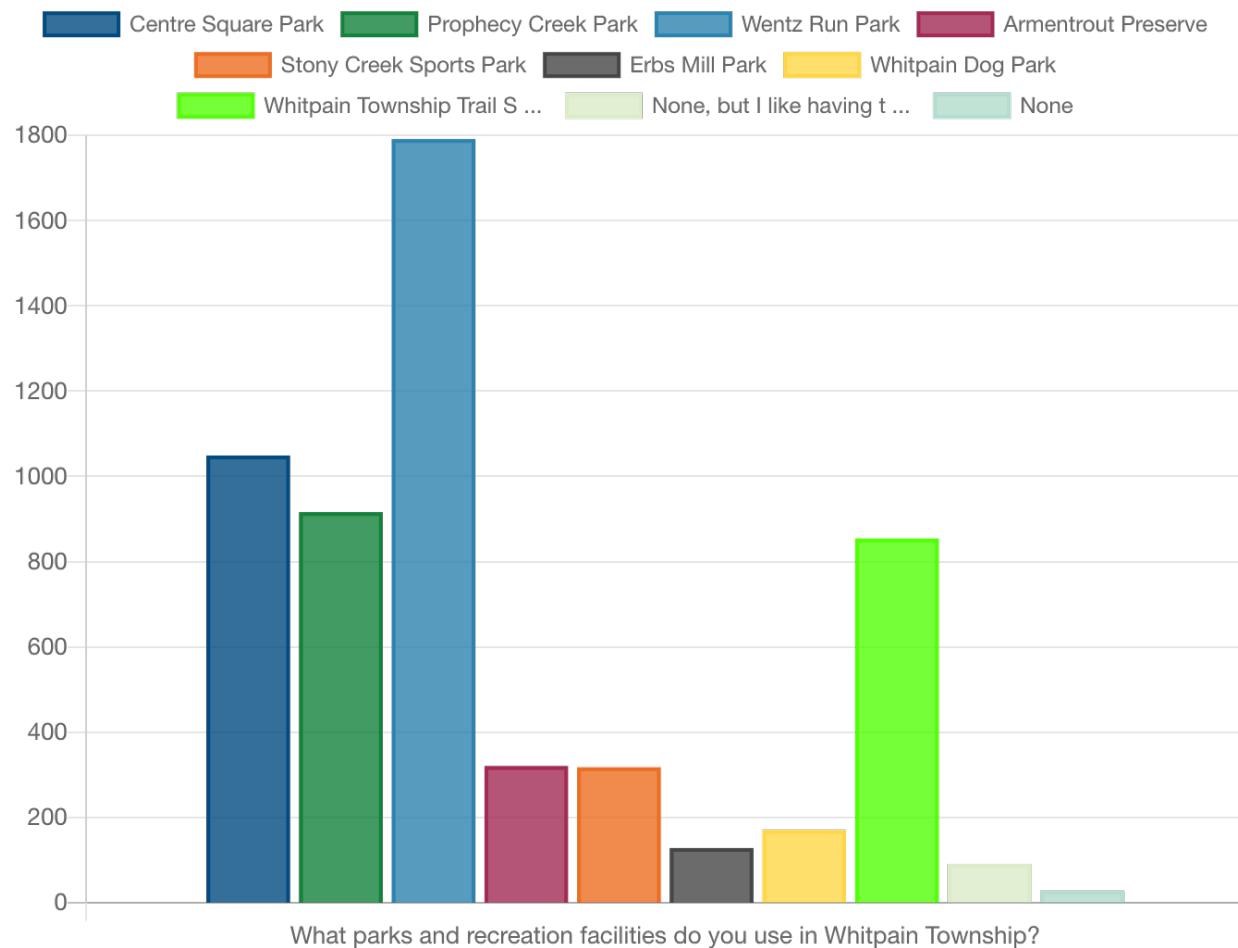


Charts for the Responses of the Survey Questions

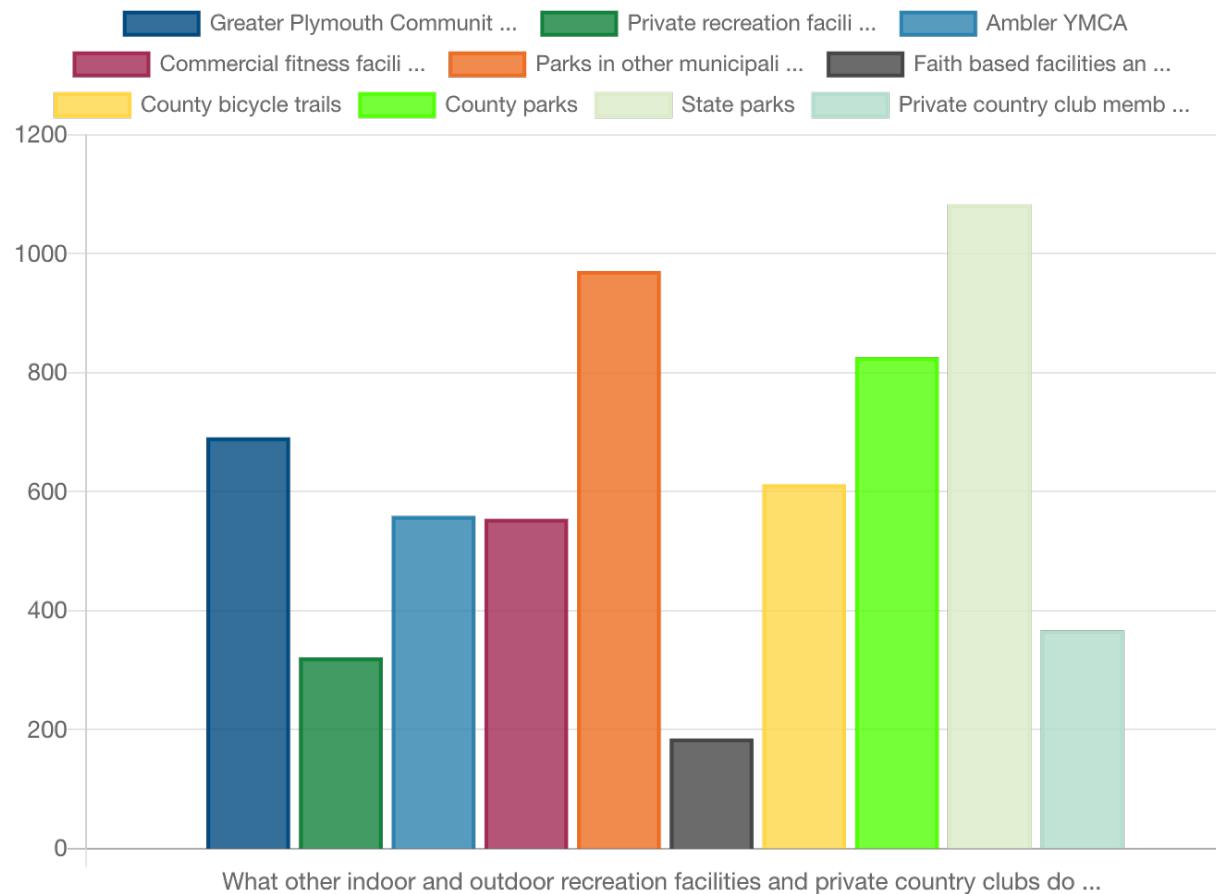
What's important to you?



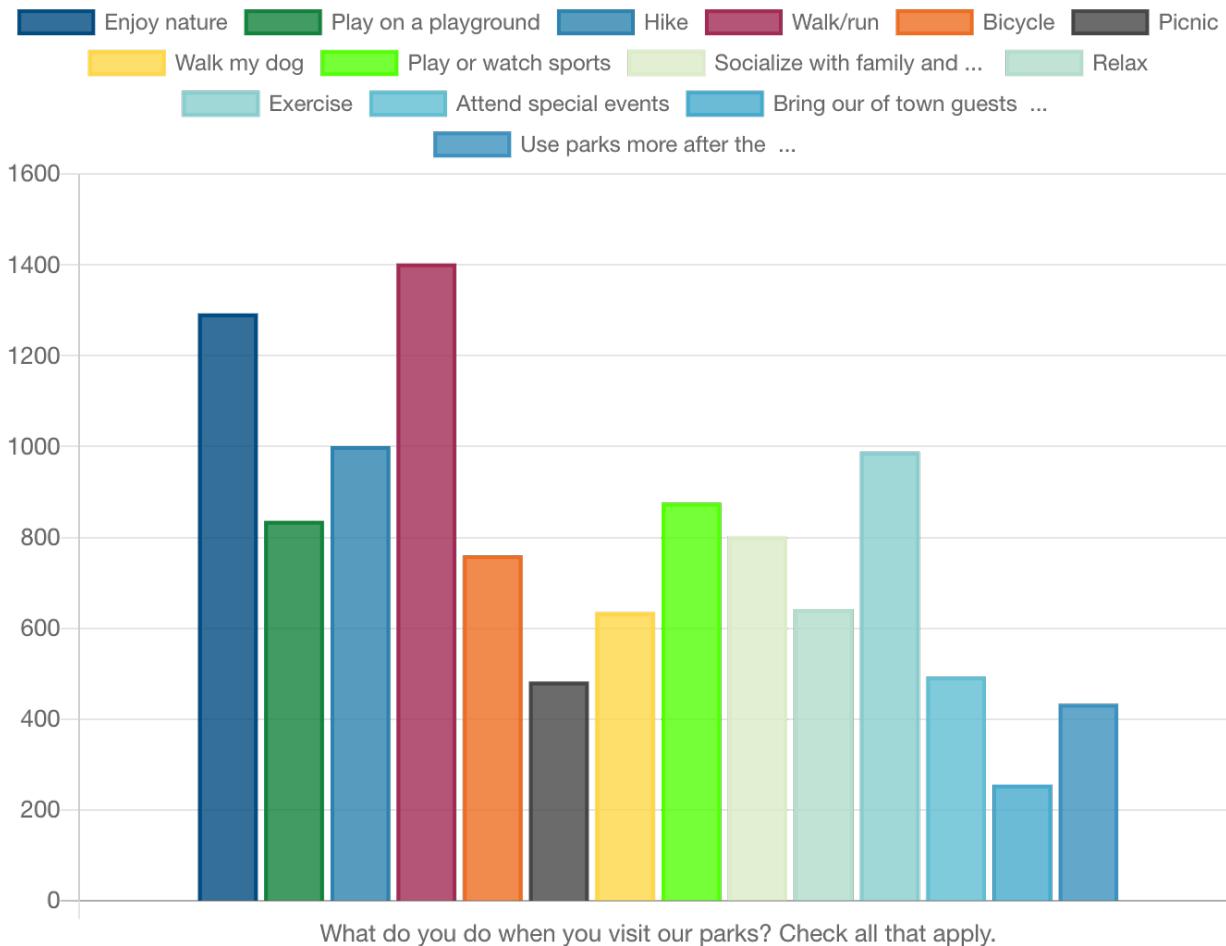
What parks and recreation facilities do you use in Whitpain Township?



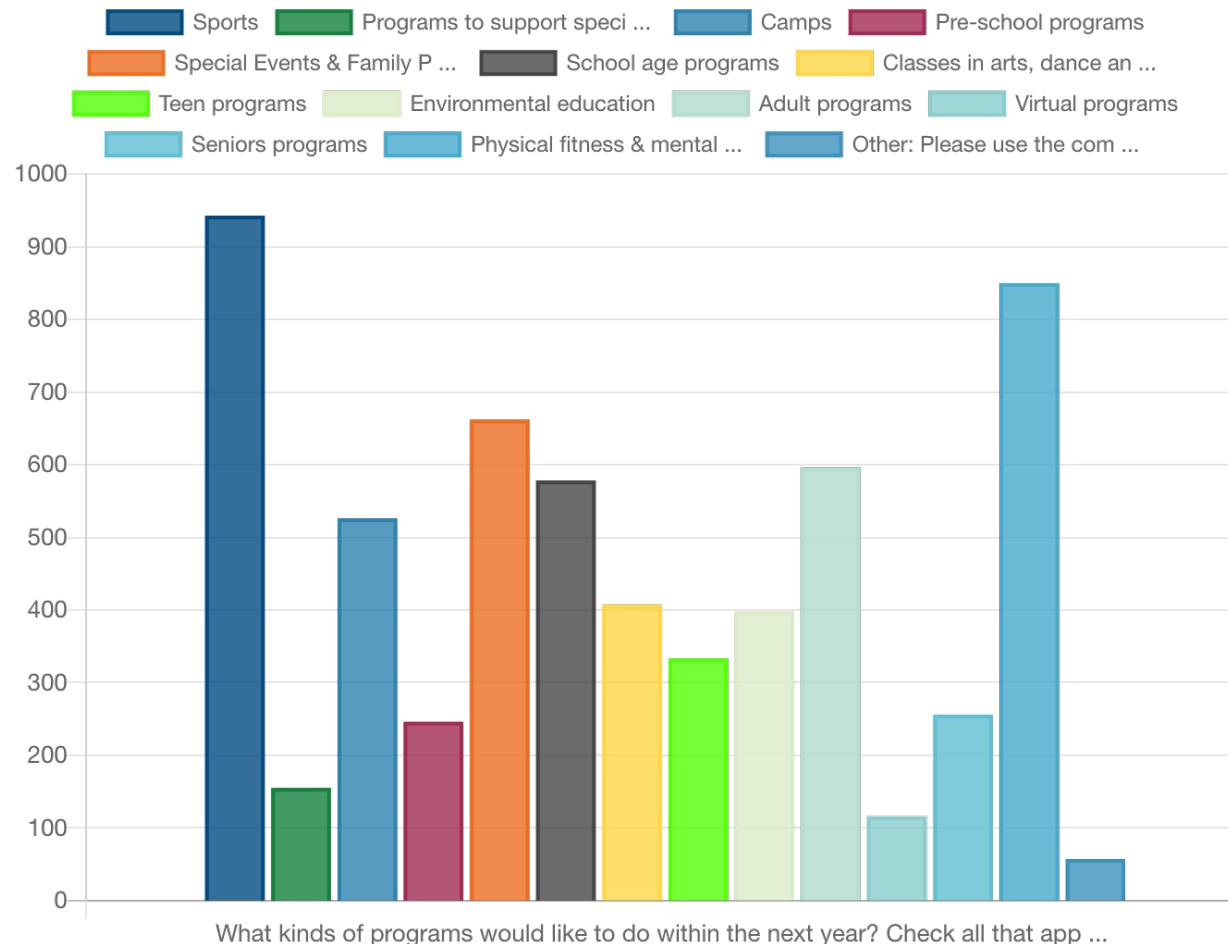
What other indoor and outdoor recreation facilities and private country clubs do you use? Check all that apply.



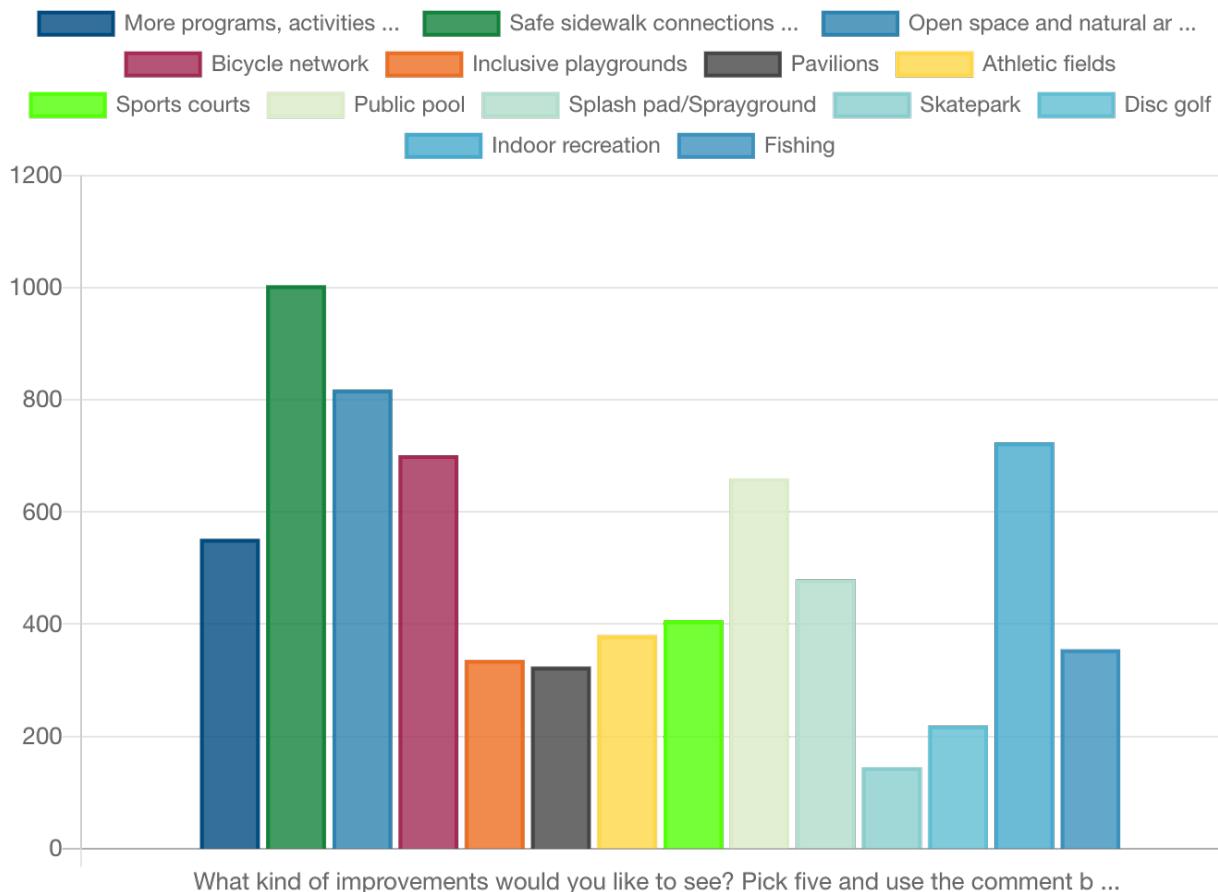
What do you do when you visit our parks? Check all that apply.



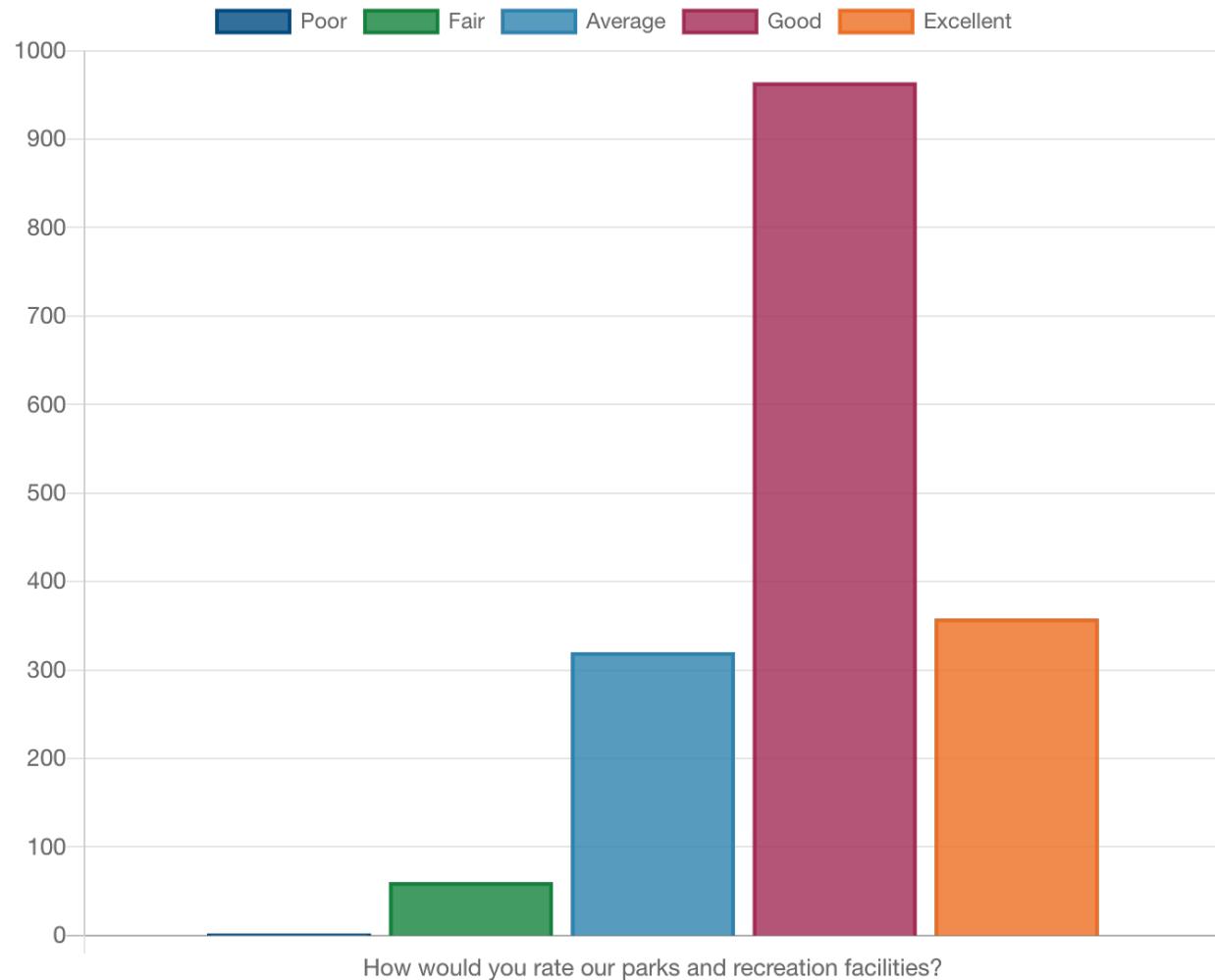
What kinds of programs would like to do within the next year? Check all that apply



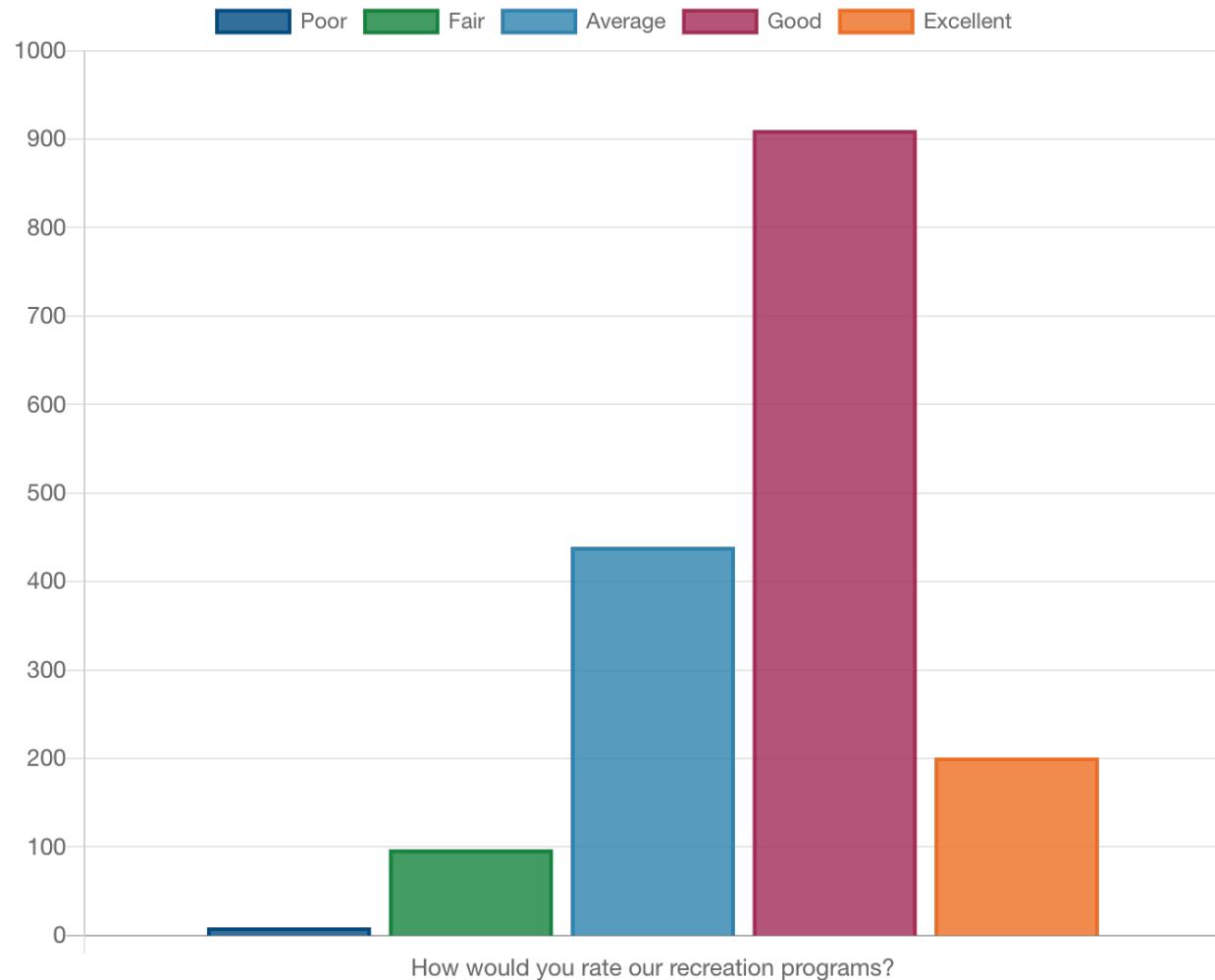
What kind of improvements would you like to see? Pick five and use the comment bubble if you want to add anything else.



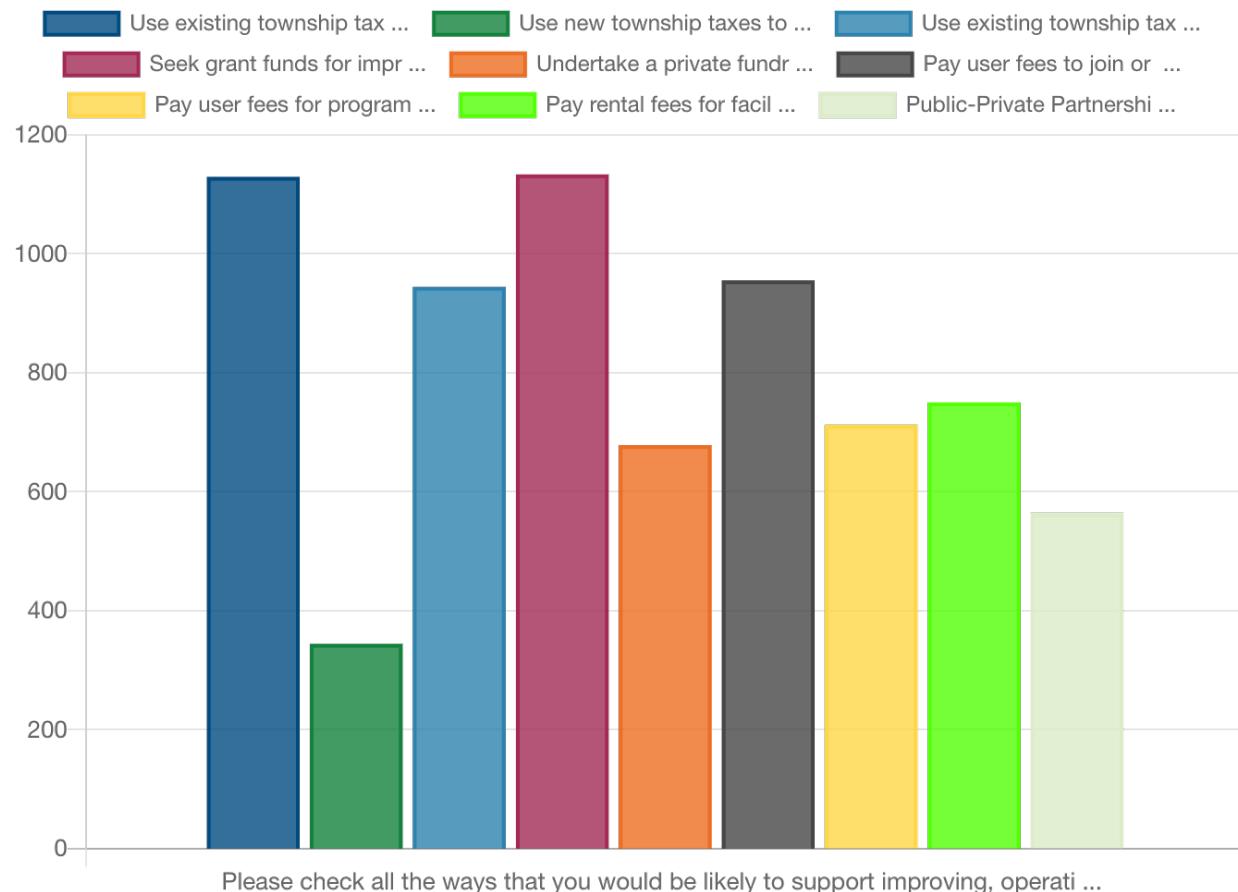
How would you rate our parks and recreation facilities?



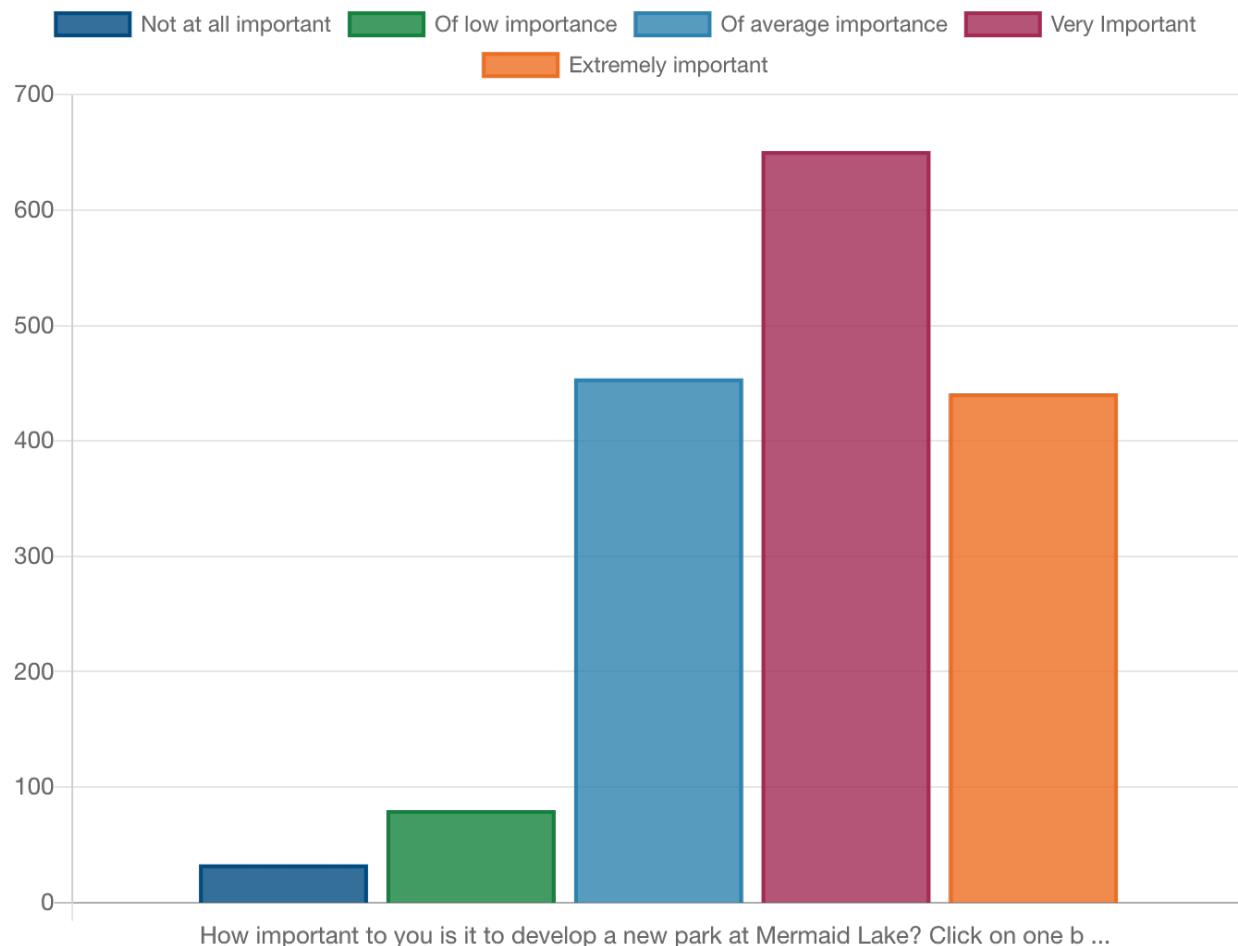
How would you rate our recreation programs?



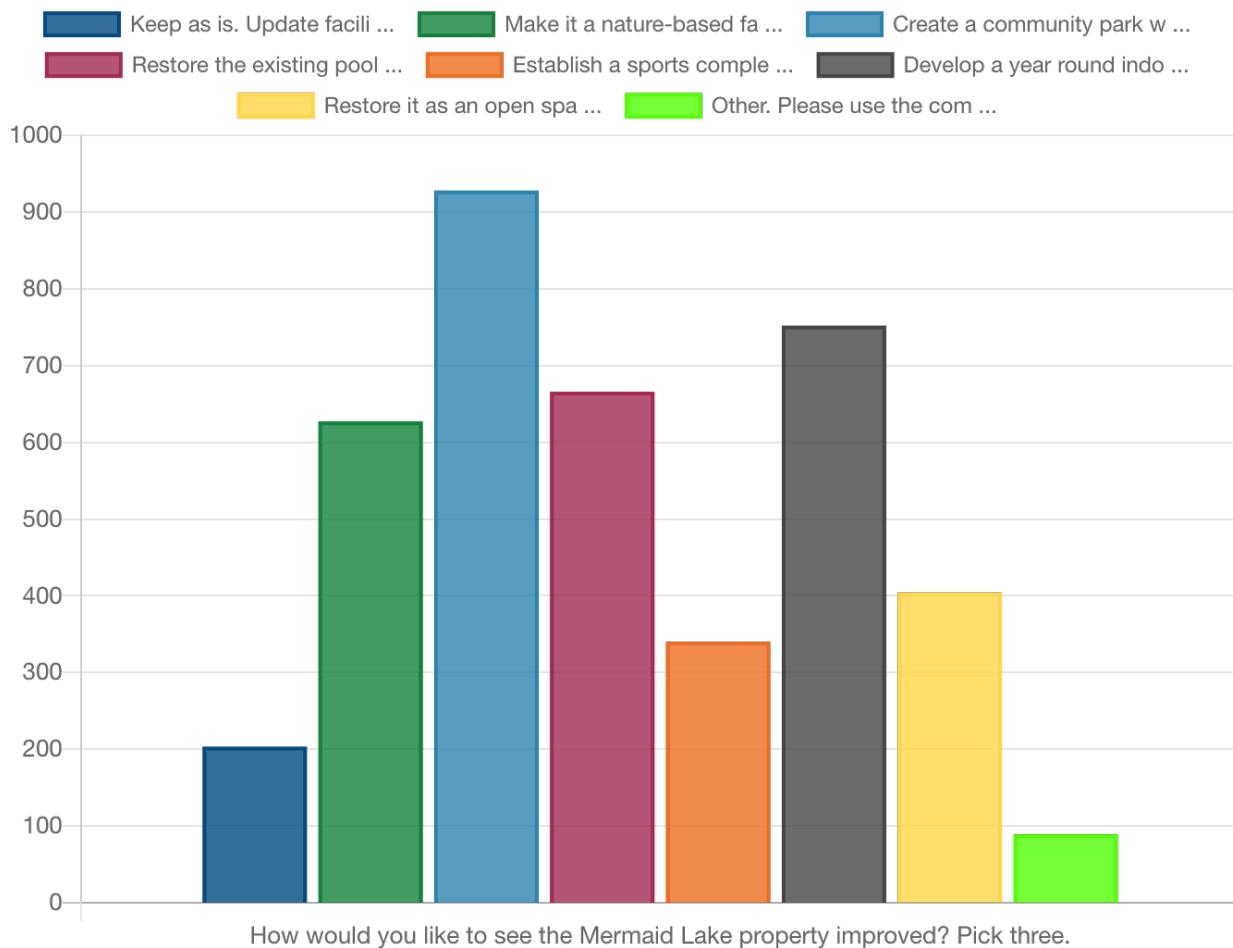
Please check all the ways that you would be likely to support improving, operating, maintaining, and programming our newest park at Mermaid Lake.



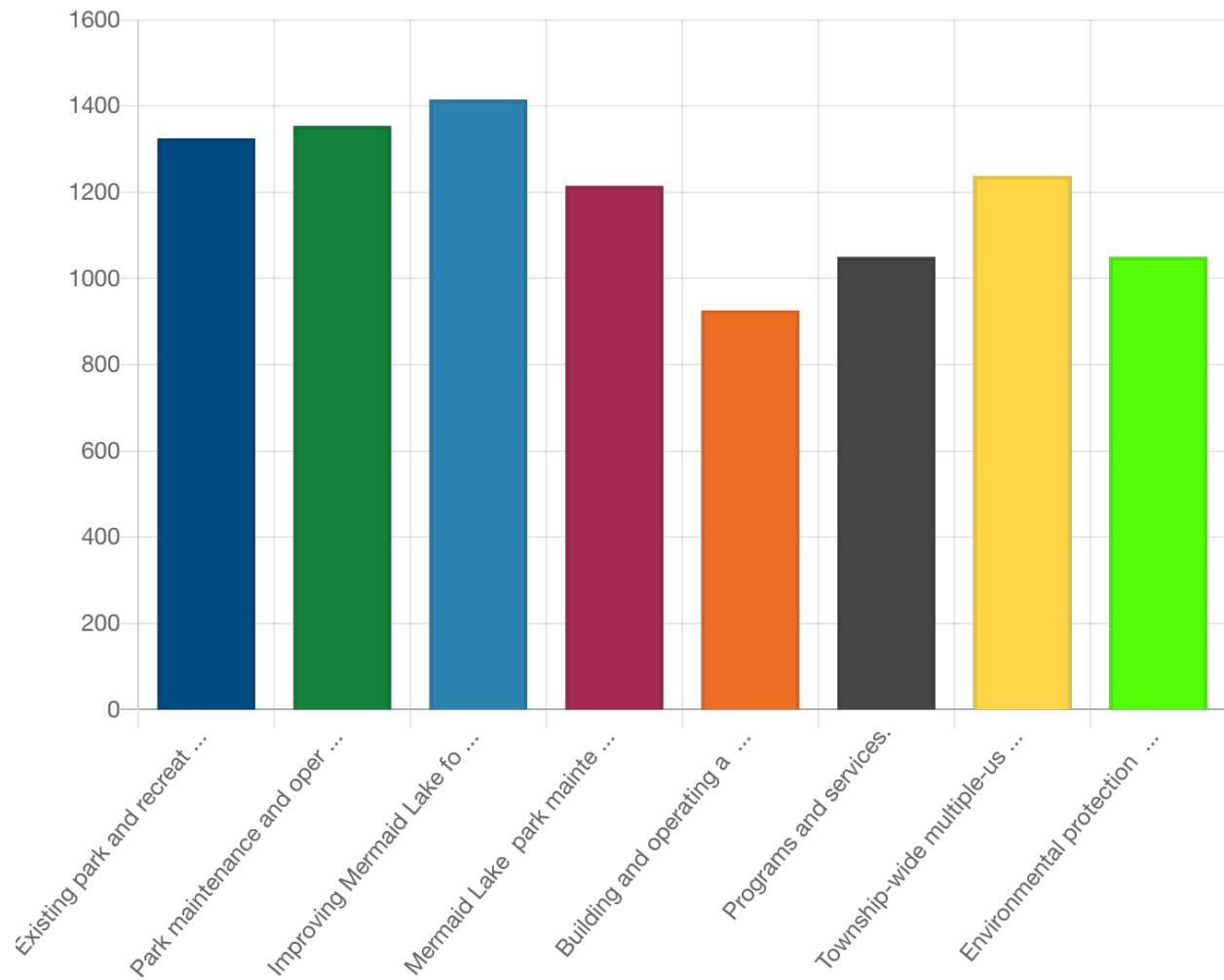
How important to you is it to develop a new park at Mermaid Lake? Click on one button.



How would you like to see the Mermaid Lake property improved? Pick three.



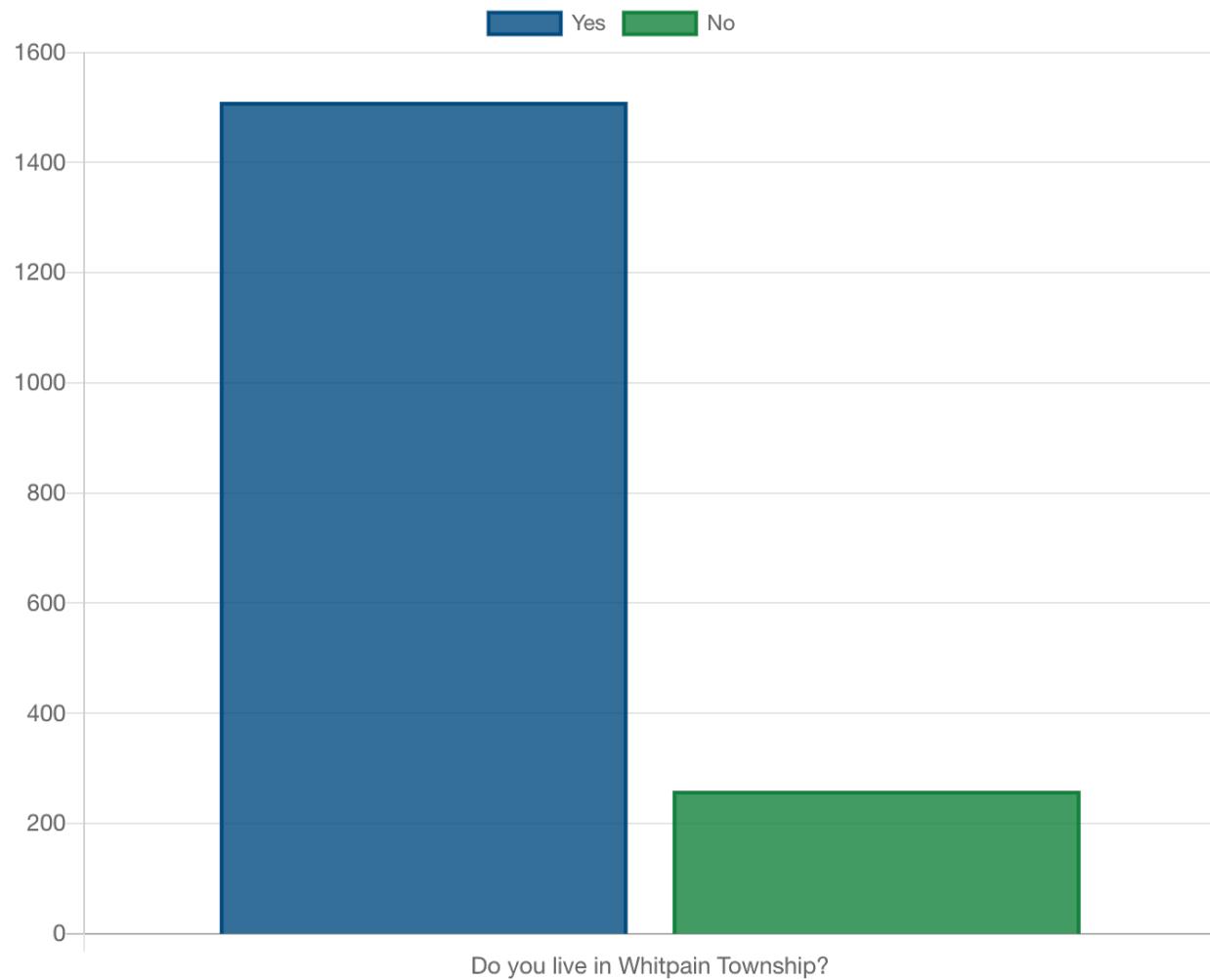
How would you spend \$100?



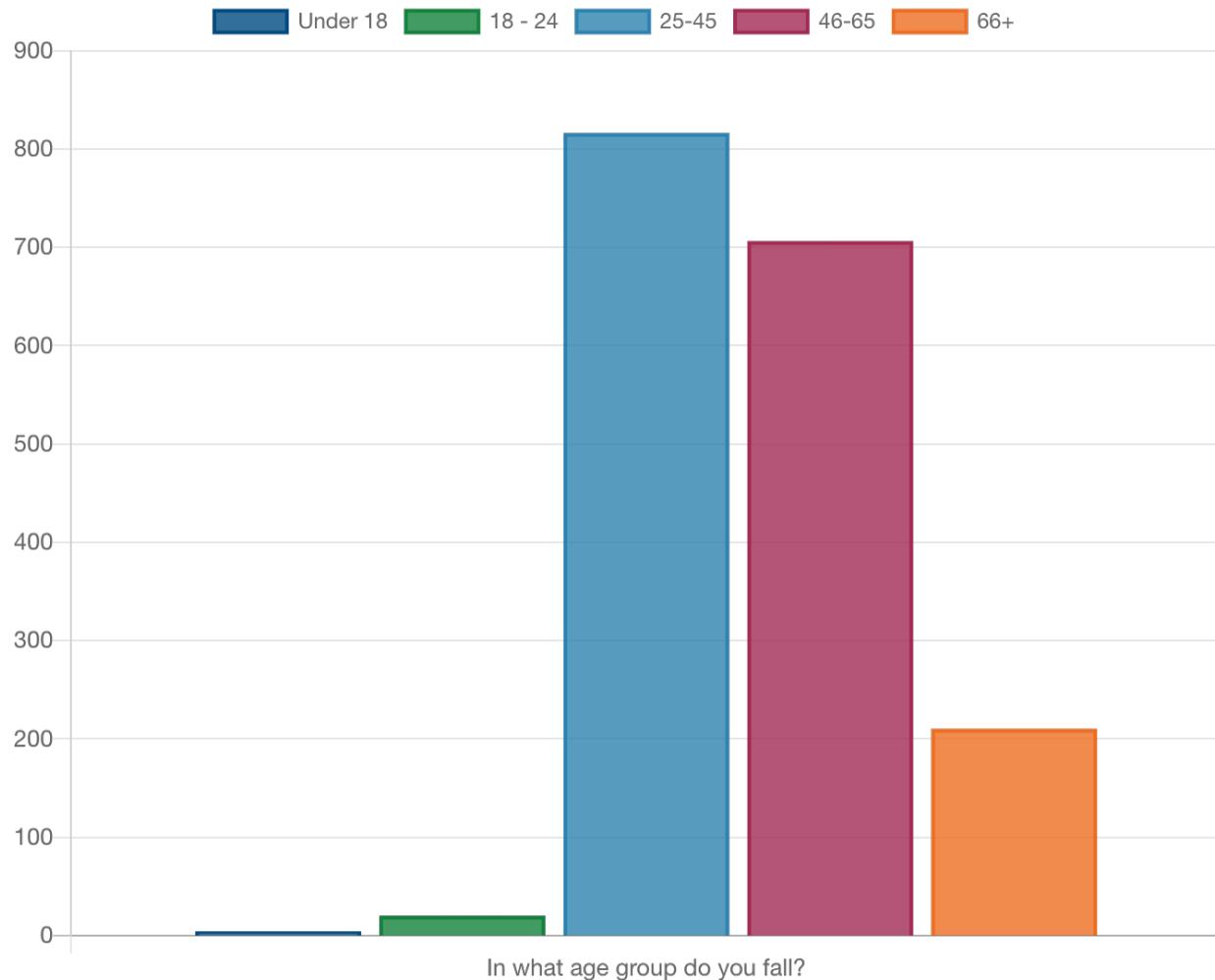
In the BIG PICTURE of all of our parks, recreation, open space, trails, and programs TOWNSHIP-WIDE, what is your idea for the one single thing that you would most like us to do?



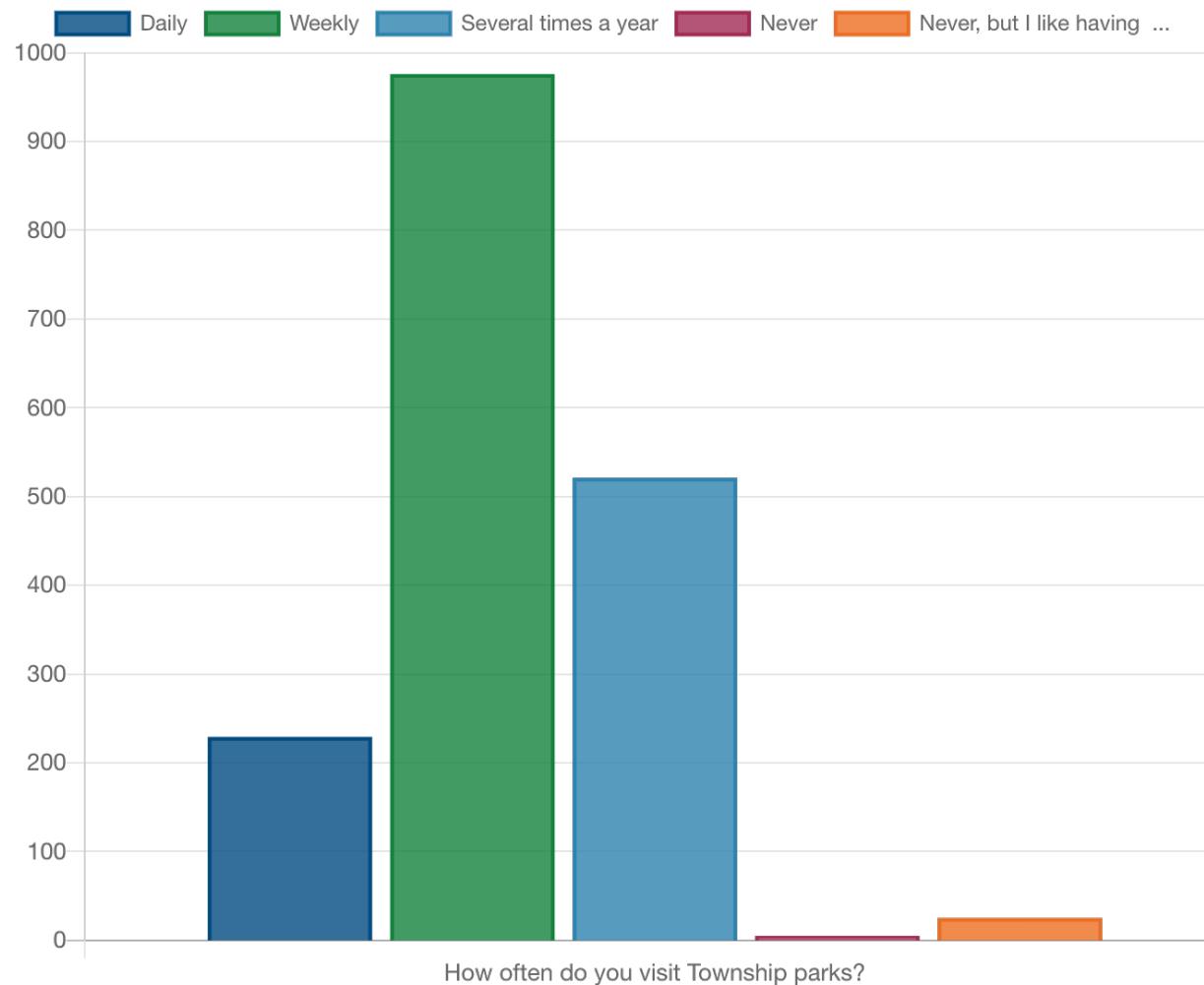
Do you live in Whitpain Township?



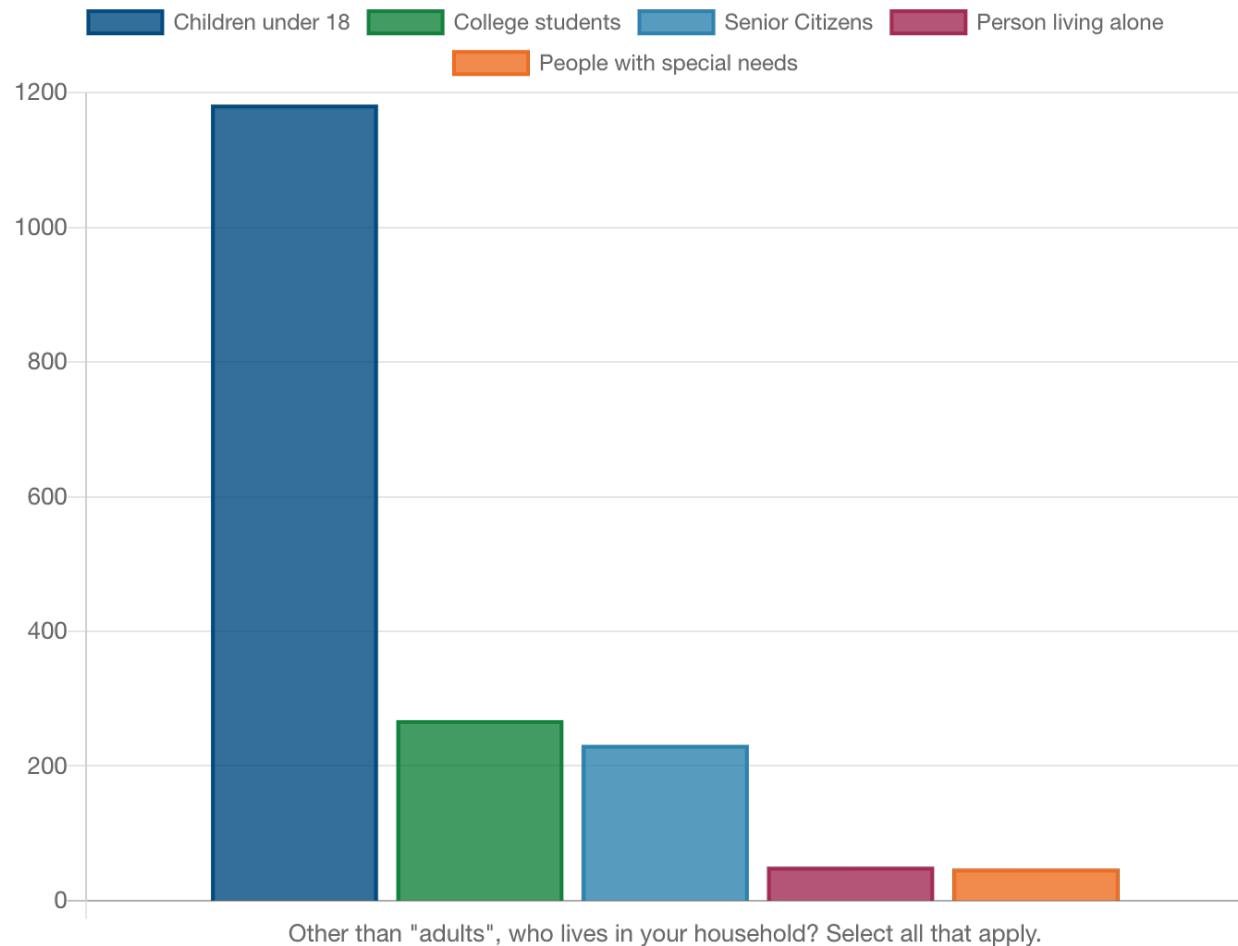
In what age group do you fall?



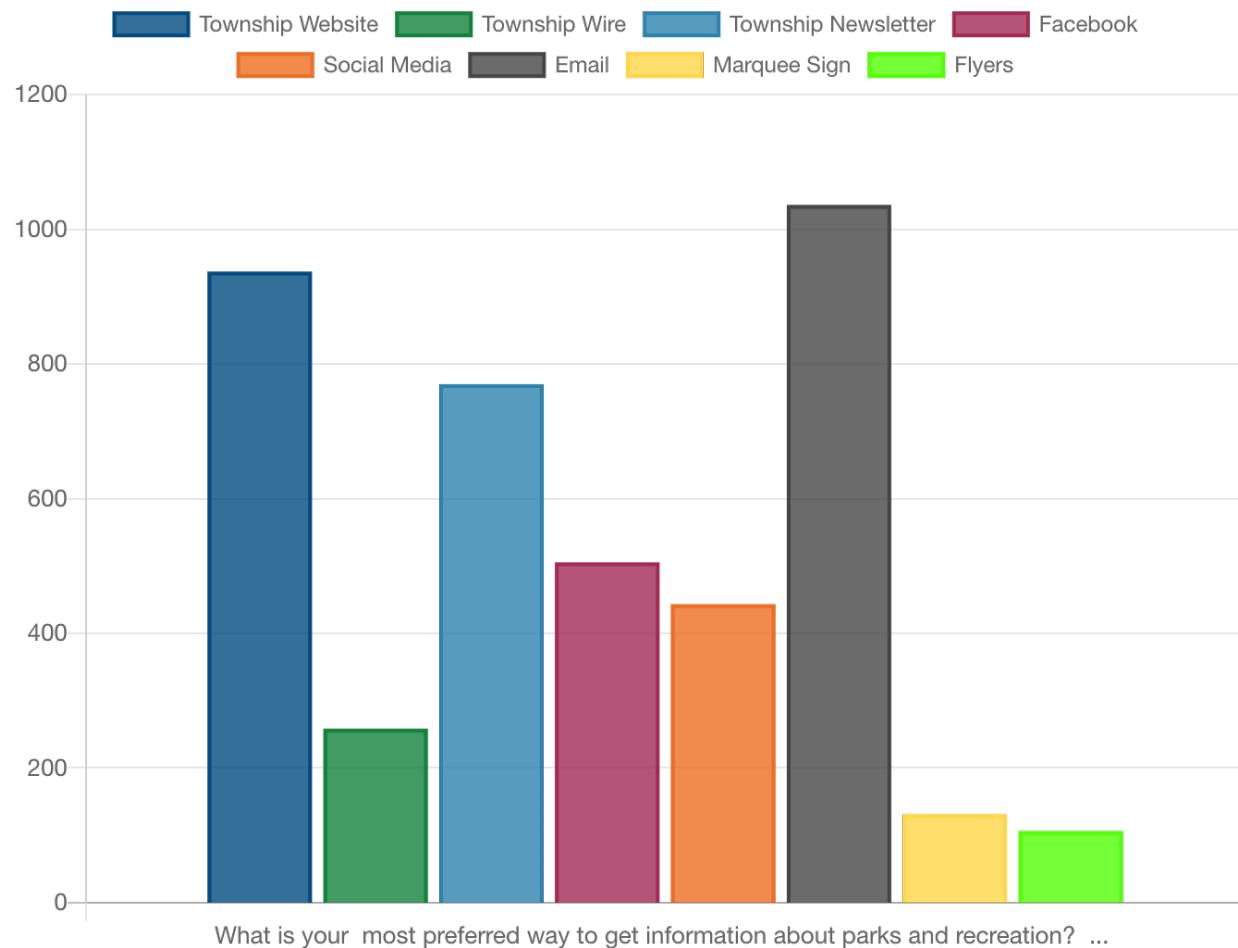
How often do you visit Township parks?



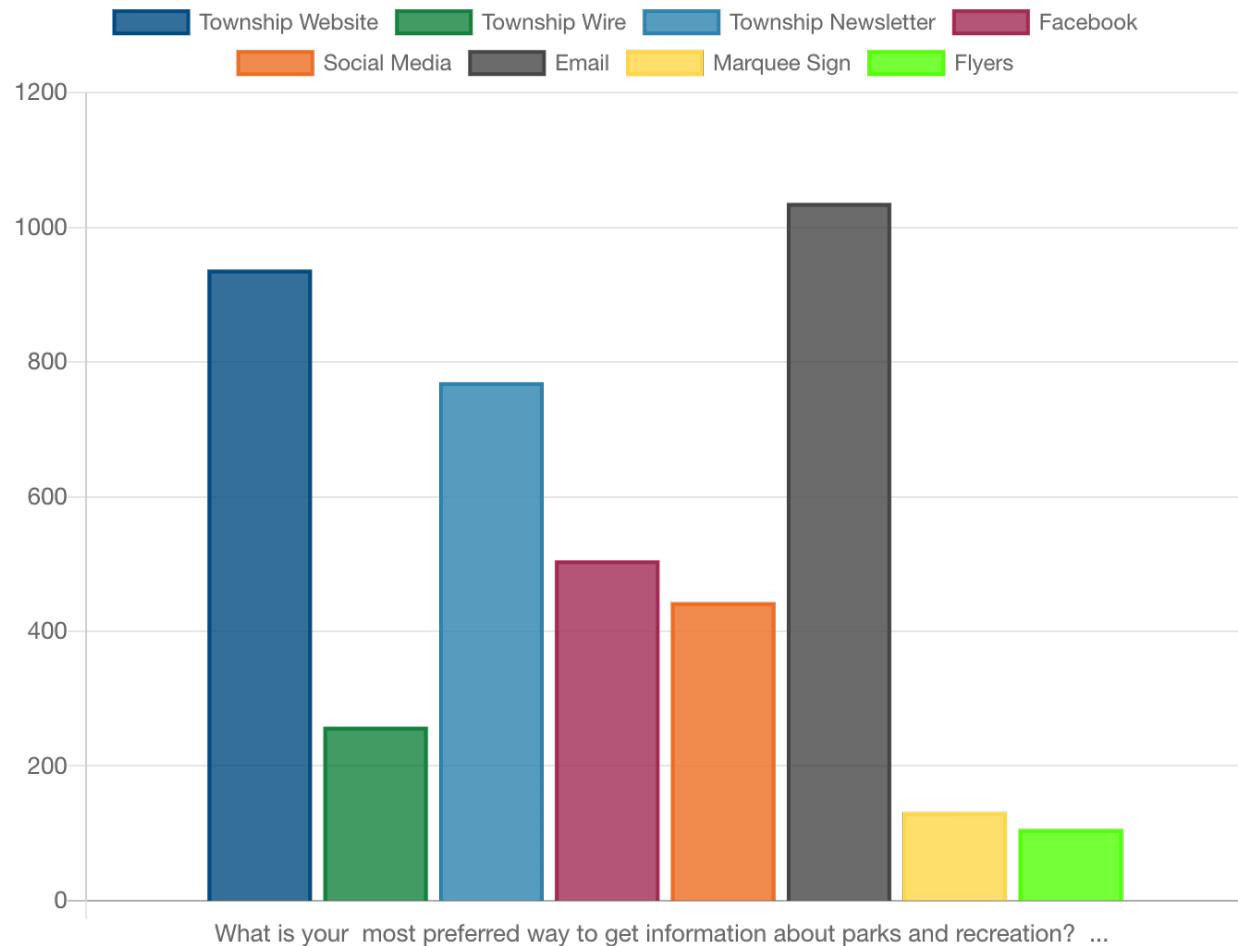
Other than "adults", who lives in your household? Select all that apply.



What is your most preferred way to get information about parks and recreation? Select all that apply.



What is your most preferred way to get information about parks and recreation? Select all that apply.



Blue Bell CC (Robert again - test) I like to ride my bike really fast on the township trail - FYI
Did an amazing job with summer camp during a pandemic. Really missed the haunted hayride at prophecy creek this year.
Pickleball Courts Lighted Tennis Courts More tennis courts Implement online scheduling for tennis courts to avoid long wait time
We belong to Blue Bell Country Club
North Hills Country Club
I would love to see a skate park that requires protective gear to be worn and a separate bike or scooter park also with required protective gear. Amble skate park is way too crazy with skateboards, scooters, rollerblades, etc. all together
Whitpain Greens Swim Club
Keep the golf. Do year round like Plymouth does with their facility. Tired of paying another township for these activities. If I have to pay someone would rather pay whitpain. Too many fields in this township! Let's do other sports bocce, pickle ball, after school programs for kids, golf for all ages.
Use the space for Township camps .. Provide more open spaces also indoor outdoor some covered spaces for events or gatherings places to have cookouts ,picnic tables. We don't need more sports fields let's make mermaid more of a park they can come to just to relax have a barbecue have a picnic enjoy the openness. A township pool could bring in some money. And dog friendly you should be able to walk your dogs through the park on a leash
Nor-Gwen Pool
WOULD LOVE to have an indoor recreation community center in this community.
Make a really neat playground, similar to the new lion park in chalfont. Great for older kids and new. Maybe add a skate park for older kids too.
The only disc golf course in the area is fort washington, i believe. my husband would be there EVERY DAY if you out a disc golf course in. thanks!
Would keeping it as is also mean preserving the golf course for public use? If so, I would support that. Otherwise, it would be great to preserve a majority and include trails/nature-based activities. In my opinion there is an abundance for sports fields already in the area. I would also support using a portion to create a bike pumptrack as noted in my previous comment (https://www.phillypumptrack.org/ see Philly Pumptrack for potential community impact & benefits this could bring to Whitpain)
mini golf, batting cages
Pickleball courts



We belong to Whitpain Greens Swim Club

Currently, we take our kids to Goldfish Swim school in Fort Washington for swim lessons. It would be great if we can have close by in our own township.

Also, we have to take them to Frog Hollow Tennis club in winters since they have indoor courts.

My family loves to play badminton but we do not have any badminton courts nearby.

Nor-gym pool

Philadelphia Aviation Country Club

Whitpain Greens Swim Club

Whitpain Greens Swim Club

Two things I will add -

1. It would be great to have some more "classes" or activities for teens/adults involving nature or art/crafts, cooking, books etc. (not necessarily exercise-related)
2. I don't think we need any more sports fields - there are so many already and it would be great to have Mermaid has a place that everyone can exercise, swim and be fit - not just for sports teams.
3. POOL and safe walk/biking paths are very important to our family.

Keep 9 hole golf course public charge reasonable fee- great for kids to start golf

Would love a frisbee golf course at Mermaid!

Blue Bell CC

Restore the chip and putt course

Make a disc golf course

Blue Bell Country Club

and inclusive playgrounds!

Our township NEEDS an indoor fitness recreational center like Plymouth

Safe clean bathroom facilities, e.g. at Cebtre Square Park

H.

Sidewalks are important

I've been a member of Talamore for 20+ years, and am an avid golfer.

Pet friendly activities

Blue bell country club

The township could run a camp similar to what Mermaid had before. We could have a township swimming pool. The pavilions could be rented out for picnics and activities. The Barn could be used to cater events as they did in the past, as a moneymaker for the township. The golf course could also be



used since there are so few public courses in the area. It seems like a waste not to make use of these already existing options.

Community Garden

Talamore for the pool but would drop that for township pool.

Not disc golf - actual golf

Would like to see a nice municipal golf course at mermaid.

Please finish the connector trail from Montco over to wentz

Improve trail maintenance, especially at the Armentrout. Some trails desperately need to be regraded. Mermaid lake would be a great location for a spray park. Spray parks are much less expensive to operate than swimming pools. Consider a private park for Whitpain residents only (similar to Alverthorpe park in Abington). For programming in the next year, consider social distancing options, e.g. story walk.

9hole golf course was great to have and would be a great fit there

Golf!

Outdoor fitness and yoga

We use nearby indoor tennis facilities.

We'd really like to have pickleball courts in Whitpain Township. Parkside Place in Upper Gwynedd has 4 courts and they get a ton of use. Pickleball is the fastest growing sport and is played by the young and old.

Would like to see game courts added but please no more ball fields. We have spent more than enough \$ on fields. I was sorry to see courts and fields grouped together.

Would love to have 9-hole golf course or driving range. (Pay fee for use.)

Outdoor ice-skating rink, like they have in the city. This would give adults/children an great way to remain active throughout the colder weather.

Golf

continue to support the preservation of equestrian trails

Manufacturers Country Club

Manufacturers G&CC

Equestrian trails are important. Mermaid Lake could be openspace naturalized with native plants, and no human activity



I don't use them because I live at Willow Lake farm and the preserve is my back yard.
Love what the community association for Blue Bell Country Club has done for our home owners - tennis courts, pickle ball, pool, fitness center, we use all the time! Makes for a great community vibe while creates home value appreciation. Beautiful job they did for us!
Open a gym on mermaid lakes property for residents
Equestrian trail riding
Philadelphia Cricket Club.
Blue Bell Country Club recreational facilities
Equestrian trails
Environmental conservation programs, perhaps in conjunction with Wissahickon Trails (Watershed).
Golf course (9 hole)
Nor-Gwynedd Pool
Preferred improvements: Pickle Ball courts. Fishing and angler programs to educate youth to fishing.
More picnic areas
9 hole golf course
I wasn't even aware that there's a Whitpain Township Trail System. I wish some of these facilities are better advertised.
Ride horses. Maybe some programs to educate people on being around horses on the trails.
Blue Bell Country Club Other Suggestion: Indoor lacrosse fields/soccer fields
Whitpain Greens Swim Club
Another dog park on east side of 202
WRA is amazing. I feel we need some adult leagues such as pickle ball, boce, or horse shoes. The township is well equipped with soccer and baseball now. I believe other sports like Lacrosse and field hockey need to be supported. Both these programs are the top in our community, but do not get the respect of soccer and baseball does. The girls and boys lacrosse need a home and not the hammy downs of fields that are not conditioned well. small nature center along the pond would be a great feature
Philadelphia rock gyms
Create similar membership program as Plymouth meeting community center. Or building Blue bell community center. Resident / non resident fee base



Union League at Torresdale
Cedarbrook country club
Sculpture, architecture and mosaic history and technique education that lead to an annual sculpture walk festival that connects all the parks and open spaces. A percent for art sales tax.
I just moved to Blue Bell in the last few weeks, so I have not had a chance to explore all of the options below, but I plan to over the next few months.
Blue Bell Country Club
We use the Upper Gwynedd pool and playground
Park usage to support BSA Scouting activities and programs including Camping.
certain parts of Mermaid must be wetlands but have been mowed as if they were not. i think that it is important to restore appropriate wetland vegetation (and perhaps introduce other appropriate changes) to these areas. flooding is a growing issue with climate change, development and loss of trees in the township. the acquisition of Mermaid gives us an opportunity to restore its wetlands to mitigate other negative water trends in the township.
Restore Mermaid to wetlands. Use a demonstration area for how to plant wetlands for use by pollinators and wildlife. Should build wetland compatible walk ways (maybe some board walks)
This township needs pickleball courts and a community center to serve its residents.
Indoor sports facility should be township's priority!
Cedarbrook
Cedarbrook Country Club
Unfortunately all my swimmers now are in and out of college but I would love to see Mermaid become a community facility. My kids swam there in the mornings for years and there really isn't any good pools for kids to train in around here.
Golf
Old York Road CC
Cedarbrook
Blue Bell Country Club
Restore the chip and putt golf course.
Love the idea of an indoor recreational center. At the same time i think it should be a balanced plan that keeps as much open space on the mermaid lake property as possible.
If you selectively update existing facilities and eliminate the rest and the pool, you basically do most of the things referenced on this list.



Blue bell cc
We live across from the new parking lot area at the end of Normandy drive. You can't imagine how disturbing this area has become. People are loud early on weekend mornings. They park EVERYWHERE, they leave odd trash as a dumping area at times, people park there late at night for unknown reasons (it's dark there...why are they parking?) We never received any survey asking how we felt about a parking area there. On some weekends they park all along Normandy Dr inhibiting a safe flow of traffic.
We are members at BBCC. Our family would love to see a skatepark and pool at Mermaid. It would be great to have a township rec center with equal access to all of the community not limited to WRA.
I don't belong to a club, but my kids take private lessons at Worcester Golf club and golf there 2 xs/mth
I'd love to see a YOUTH golf program. My son would like golf camps and youth play in tournaments. Could a WRA golf be an option at Mermaid? Could the Mermaid pool run a township water polo program? That would be great!
I'm not sure what "public park" at Mermaid means. I'd love to see a 9 hole course back there, a community pool, maybe a driving range and an ice cream stand. mini golf?
we belong to Cedarbrook CC
Outdoor Archery facility
You should explore making exercise stations around the space for intermittent exercise - ex pull-up bar, etc. Or, make it American Ninja Warrior style activity zones.
More tennis courts and indoor tennis facilities
Please consider: 1) better maintenance of trails during the pandemic, especially the Armentrout which is very steep and hard to walk with stroller in parts, 2) policing and considerable fining to deter off-leash dogs which have become a huge issue, 3) recreational programs that are socially distanced (e.g. outdoor movies, story walk, fireworks)
Stopped private fitness when COVID hit
large multi-pool swim facility. see comment on prior question
Indoor soccer facilities, NorGwyn pool,
Cedarbrook
Softball fields
Rent out the Barn area for companies to have employee picnics etc like Mermaid use to do. Bring back golf course area and charge fee to play golf. Keep tennis courts and basketball courts. Get rid of the pool and use that land for expanded golf course area.



Want to walk to the trail system on 73 and 202. Also please require new communities to have a path along the major roads so we can walk safely to parks and not have to drive.

Bluestone Country Club

Belong to Blue Bell CC

We belong to Blue Bell Country Club

There needs to be more softball fields. There is 1 softball field vs several baseball fields. And the softball field is unuseable after any rain storms for days!

Over the past 30-40 years, Whitpain parks and recreation programs and facilities have developed and improved to become one of the finest in the county, if not the state. My advise would be to continue to invest in them and develop them with an eye on the future. Use public/private partnerships where possible.

Regarding the Support....I checked all of them. The bottom line is that we purchased Mermaid. Now, we need to figure out what to do with it. Use all possible ways to pay for it.

I would love to see a safe, yet child appropriate playground that includes "Ninja Warrior" style course. I also like an inclusive playground for all kids, plus it is safer for the little ones usually too. I would prefer playground surfaces surrounding the playground that are rubber or deterrents of ticks.

I would love to see an indoor facility created in Whitpain for recreation sports - either on the grounds of Mermaid Lake or elsewhere. I do not see the need for an outdoor community pool.

I use the Horseways equestrian trail network

Blue Bell CC

I would like to see mermaid use the existing bldg for bbqs, family/company picnic rentals and township events. A walking bridge over the pond, Wild flower garden patches, bird houses along the trail. Update into a Public pool, update the basketball court and mini golf. Make it a family friendly open space with outdoor themes for use. Picnic area, maybe add some bocce ball courts. Could also host seasonal themed events like model train exhibits, environmental classes.

Would love to have an ice skating park.

Open, connecting, maintained equestrian trails are very important. Whitpain has quite a large horse-rider population.

keeping open space open preserves the nature of our township, and keeps our taxes low. we do not need more soccer fields or skateparks or the traffic that they bring !!!!!

With the pandemic, using outdoor space for an escape is great.

Mermaid Aquatics should be improved. They have been the foundation of mermaid for many years.



again, living by Mermaid, it would be nice to have sidewalks on Arch Street Road and Jolly road to connect neighborhoods to the park. Our adult programs could be much better. NorGwynn has some much better programs.

Whitpain has lost several public pools which also had a competitive and learn to swim program in the summer. Whitpain would definitely benefit from both an indoor and outdoor pool/facility similar to Greater Plymouth Community Center. As a swimmer myself as well as a parent to 2 Olympic trail swimmers, we spend lots of time and money on other memberships outside our community. As a coach, I would be happy to help establish a USA Learn to Swim school for infants through adults.

Plant new park with native plant species and remove invasive plants.

Plant a butterfly garden and create a ecological functioning wetland / and or stream where the current pond is now.

Plant a new riparian buffer around the creek.

Outdoor environmental classroom for community schools.

Concerts like at Wentz

Cedarbrook Country Club

I think that the current condition of Mermaid Lake and Wentz Road at the turnpike overpass is a disgrace as it looks overrun and unkept.

Check out the pools at Bellewood Country Club, Whitpain would thrive with this type of chargeable amenity.

Splashpad for kids! Nothing like that in the area

A sidewalk/crosswalk connecting the Blue Bell Knoll neighborhood to Wentz run park would be great!

Public-Public Partnerships with groups like Troop 98 to help defray costs for certain aspects of maintenance of the grounds and buildings. It would be great to see a Scout Troop housed in the existing buildings at Mermaid Lake. And the partnership opportunities that can continue, such as the current Wentz Run trail and Eagle projects done in the Township.

GP Community Center is a wonderful model for providing top-notch facilities. We have used the pool, the exercise classes and the outdoor walking trail. It is always a pleasure to see all of the activity.

Sell Prophecy Creek Park to pay for Mermaid lake improvements.

Live in Blue Bell Country Community and use the homeowners' community amenities

I am a resident of Blue Bell Country Club and have access to their several recreational facilities. I think that Whitpain Township is doing a good job in terms of programs

would love some more fishing options



Why did this desirable property sell at such a low cost per acre? Back taxes? I believe there are enough kid-friendly venues in the twp. I'd like to see this property be brought up to par and turned into a revenue producer offering to groups, Corp America; etc. Personally, I hoped a reputable builder would have turned this into an "Over 55." I'd also like to see it turn into a fun place for pop-up flea market or craft show venue. Would have really preferred a MINI Towne Center (ala KoP.) Good luck!

I am have mobility issues that would benefit from water activities like aerobics. Optimizing this facility for residents of all ages Andy physical abilities would greatly enhance the offerings to the residents. Enhancing the wellbeing and health of residents should be a goal of the park and rec offerings

I only met up in one park once due to an organizer explaining/handing out information. Lack of use primarily was due to working 12 hour shifts during employment and my dogs were not used to socializing with other dogs. Since I am now retired, I desire to check out some of the available parks. The Plymouth Community Center charges Whitpain Township members more, so Whitpain should have their own center. The Zumba class offered was too late in the evening for me. Offer earlier evening class.

Bocce pits like Palmer Park in Skippack.
Pond for fishing like Hillcrest, kids and seniors

Fishing pond like Hillcrest for kids and seniors.
Bocce pits like Palmer Park in Skippack

I would love to see a well designed championship level disc golf course developed in the area and Mermaid Lake may be a great opportunity. The sport has been growing rapidly over the past year and this region in particular could benefit from a large challenging course.

We have lived in Whitpain for 19 yrs and been impressed with the programs and parks. Proximity to Awentz Run was a major factor in choosing our neighborhood. Greatly appreciated the youth sports programs when kids were young and now the walking and hiking options with dogs are Very important to us.

There is a very critical need to cull the deer in the township. The very large and growing deer population is causing devastation of the woodlands which is not reversible. This also impacts all natural habitat and birdlife. This needs to be immediately addressed, not take years of discussion and debate which usually results in no action.

just want to thank the township for hosting Hocus Pocus movie on 2 nights recently. It was so nice of Tp to come up with an idea to let kids have some fun during Halloween even during the pandemic. Thanks so much. :)

Manufacturers Country Club

Senior softball and basketball programs.

Philadelphia Cricket Club

I'm at a point where I'm not looking for organized programs but I approve of the need to have them primarily for children and those with special needs.



I'm at a point where I don't participate much in programs but I think it is good for the township to conduct as much as possible especially for children and those with special needs.

Increased park maintenance of existing facilities and trails.

A park security program for evenings and weekends

I am concerned that a pool would be a severely negative cash flow operation and a liability to the township

The pool is KEY to a successful Mermaid Lake experience.

Concerning Mermaid lake and Arch Street entrance and Blue Bell Crossing neighborhood. We would love to be able to walk to park but once Arch Street gets to fenced area it becomes unsafe to walk. Any possibility of moving fence back to provide for sidewalk. The grass area narrows there and the constant traffic at high rates of speed make it difficult to walk there.

pickleball

Keep the 9 hole golf course

The 1912 Club

Add programs like painting in the park, wildlife programs, use an existing building for a concession stand to earn money for the mermaid park. Add a bocce ball court or two something different from your everyday prototypical park setting. Add benches and picnic area. Add some art structures, plant trees, promote a natural wild habitat for animals. Hold events like a model train exhibits during Thanksgiving and Xmas. Think differently than the parks we currently have.

Playground area for toddlers& older kids

Whitpain greens swim club

it would be great to have the golf course restored at Mermaid Lake into a public golf course

Blue Bell Country Club

The Mermaid Lake property should be transformed to include: a community recreational center with indoor and outdoor pool, facilities, and also outdoor park and rental spaces too.

Blue Bell Country Club

Cedarbrook country club

Philadelphia Aviation Country Club (Wings Field Pool)

Please consider facilities for Scouting activities and meetings. There are multiple Scout Troops (Boys & Girls) in the township that provide very active programs.

Scout Troops will be willing to provide voluntary assistance with appropriate work projects, especially at the Mermaid facility.



Whitemarsh Valley Country Club
Love the Outdoor Concerts, Township Sponsored Events such as The Hayrides at Prophecy Creek, Fire Expo, Summer Camp for Kids. I think that Whitpain Township offers a wide variety of family friendly activities for all ages. I would love to see Mermaid as a community pool. Also, I would like to see the Barn as a venue for corporate events. It could be leased out to a business that would provide catering like the Manor House at Prophecy Creek for informal events.
Would like an outdoor bocci court, like one at the Plymouth Community Center.
The lack of sidewalks in the township cuts off neighbors and neighborhoods.
Would love to have indoor township pickleball courts.
We need more senior activities year round. Bocci, pickle ball, golf. We have MORE than enough baseball and soccer fields and dog parks. I am tired of paying other townships for activities we could be doing here. Would like to see 9 hole golf course reinstated at mermaid. This is a great sport for ALL ages. Nit sure what you mean by having a park at mermaid, there is so much we can do with that property . Golf, fishing, indoor year round activities.
I would like to see the various trails in the township linked to each other, and also recommendations and information about all the trails that currently exist including up to date maps in an easy to access format
Paying fees would be appropriate for a community center or private rentals of space but not for every program offered. Discounted memberships for community members should be offered with discounted and/or free use of various services. Perhaps a menu of options for different levels of membership and size of family/household. Using Mermaid Lake as a true community center would be wonderful.
Have to go to Pickleball courts in Ambler (Whitpain Township) because we have no Pickleball courts
would love to see dedicated grassy and/or sand areas for volleyball activities--there is nothing in the area-have to go all the way to Bucks County for this.
No Pool at Mermaid! We don't need it and don't want it. Don't compete with other clubs with pools in the Township!! It will be a nightmare to manage and be a financial disaster. Return the stream and lake to its natural state.
We need a pickle ball court(s).
Saftey 1st
We need a slightly larger bridge in Mermaid Park. This would help to create a footpath from the Arch St. side to the Jolly Rd. side. A sidewalk needs to be added from Mermaid Park to the trail near Henkels and McCoy.
Most of our great facilities are focused on the youth. When our children and grandchildren were young we used them regularly. Now that i am a senior citizen my activity is limited to walking, spectating and the dog park. I would love to see the par three golf course at Mermaid part of



planning. It is something that could be used by the youth and the adult community. Since Center Square became a Toll Development and Woody's became a hospital Mermaid is our only public golf available nearby.

social member at Blue Bell Country Club

