

City of Alexandria, Virginia

Citywide Park Improvement Plans Chinquapin Park



October 24, 2012

Recreation, Parks, & Cultural Activities
Park Planning, Design & Capital Development Division

Citywide Park Planning Goals & Criteria



Goal

Create plans that identify the priorities for future park enhancements and uses in Alexandria's large, multi-use, municipally-owned parks, balancing the City's recreational, cultural, environmental, and passive use needs.

What is a Citywide Park?

Over 20 acres

Multi-use

Municipally-owned



Citywide Park Planning Framework Timeline



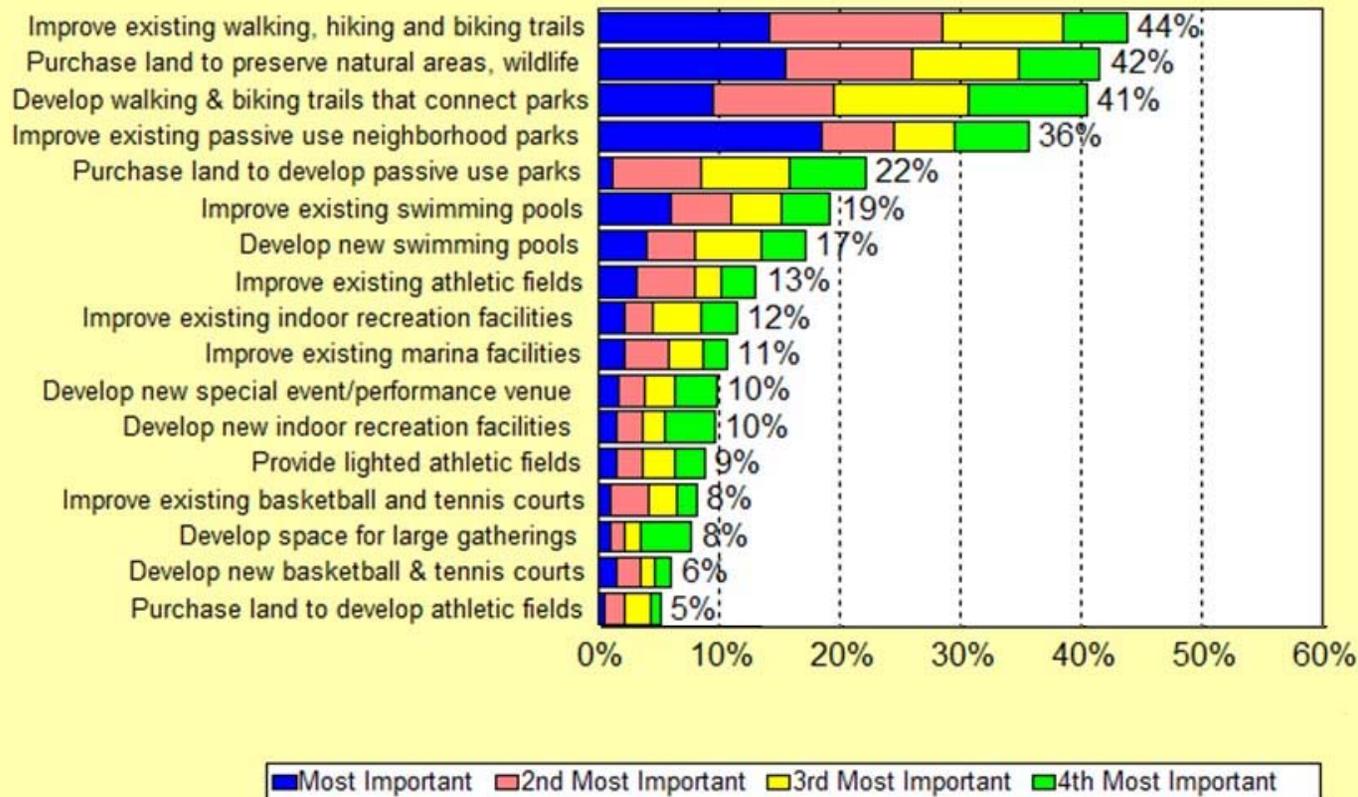
	Spring 2012	Summer 2012	Fall/Winter 2012	Spring 2013	Summer 2013
Conduct Site Inventory	Dark Gray	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue
Review Existing Plans & Documents	Dark Gray	Dark Gray	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue
Collect Qualitative Data from City Staff	Light Blue	Dark Gray	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue
Conduct Site Observations	Light Blue	Dark Gray	Dark Gray	Light Blue	Light Blue
Review National Benchmarks & Standards	Light Blue	Dark Gray	Dark Gray	Dark Gray	Dark Gray
Obtain Feedback from Public	Light Blue	Light Blue	Dark Gray	Dark Gray	Dark Gray
Hold Public Workshops	Light Blue	Light Blue	Dark Gray	Dark Gray	Light Blue
Develop Recommendations & Report	Light Blue	Light Blue	Light Blue	Dark Gray	Dark Gray

Park Planning Needs Assessment



Q15. Actions That Households Are Most Willing to Support with Their Tax Dollars

by percentage of respondents who selected the item as one of their top four choices



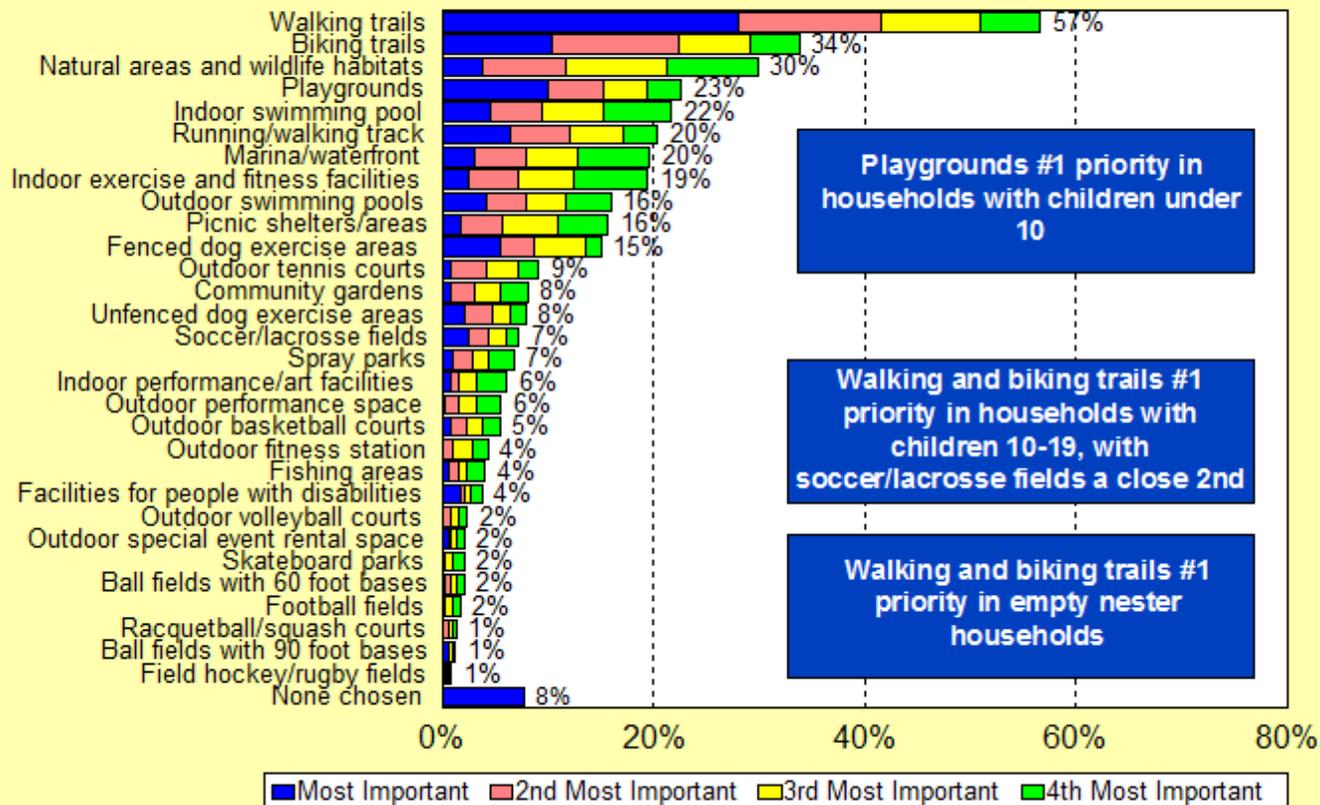
Source: Leisure Vision/ETC Institute (July 2011)

Park Planning Needs Assessment



Q7. Parks, Recreation, or Cultural Amenities That Are Most Important to Households

by percentage of respondents who selected the item as one of their top four choices



Playgrounds #1 priority in households with children under 10

Walking and biking trails #1 priority in households with children 10-19, with soccer/lacrosse fields a close 2nd

Walking and biking trails #1 priority in empty nester households

Consistent Findings in all Citywide Parks

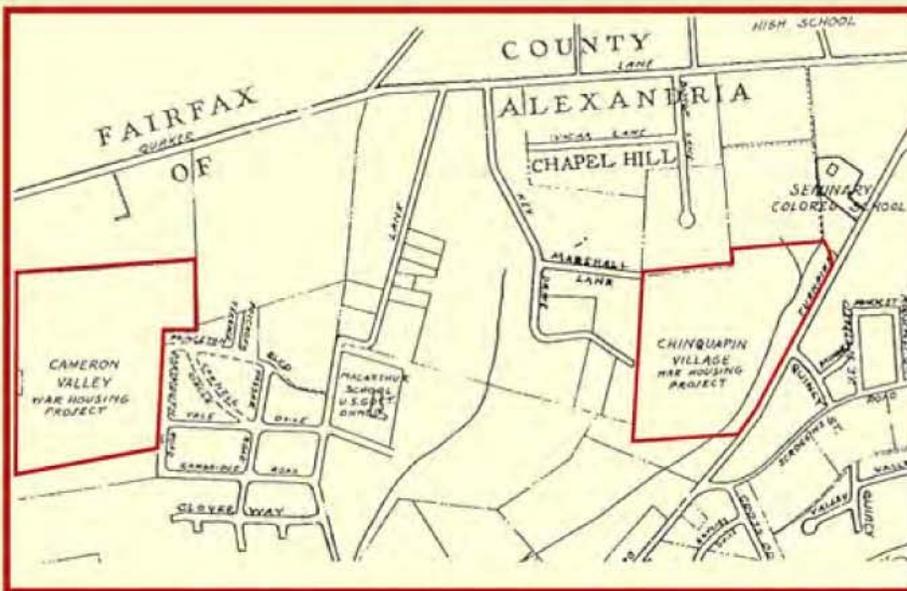


Develop strategy or implementation for:

1. Natural and Historic resource protection
2. Universal ADA accessibility
3. Multi-use paths to reflect user patterns
4. Parking management strategies
5. Upgrade and maintain sports fields
6. Trash receptacle locations and recycling program
7. Standardized way-finding and park regulation signage
8. Locations for public art, in collaboration with the Office of the Arts
9. Infrastructure for event spaces (hard surfaces, electrical outlets, restroom access, water)

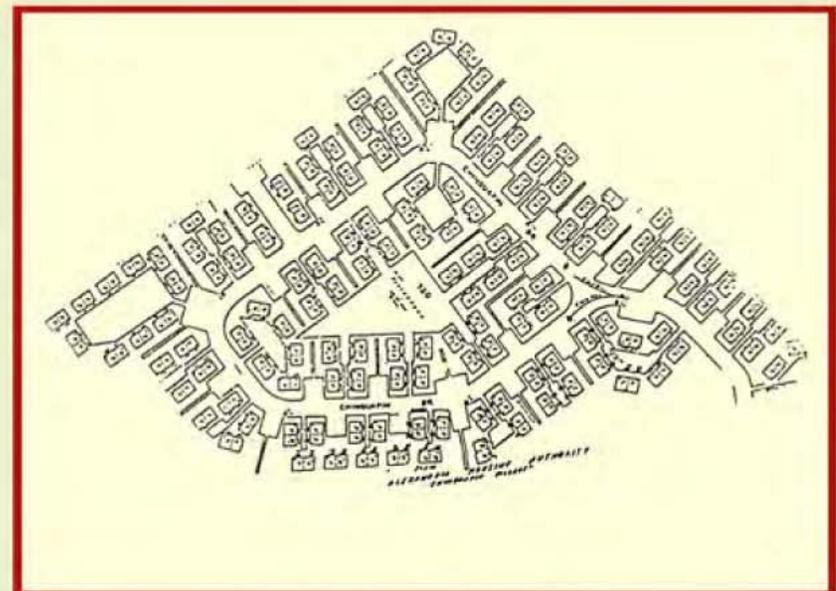


Chinquapin Park History



The parcels of land for two World War II federal housing projects, Chinquapin Village and Cameron Valley, appear on this 1946 map. Children from Chinquapin Village walked through the woods (now Forest Park) to reach MacArthur School, noted on the map as owned by the U.S. government. The school was built for children from the two projects.

Alexandria Library, Special Collections.



The 150 duplexes in the Chinquapin Village Housing Project were arranged around courts connected to a central, circular road, the "Chinquapin Circle." A triangular-shaped, common play area can be seen in the center of the village in this mid-1940s map.

Alexandria Library, Special Collections

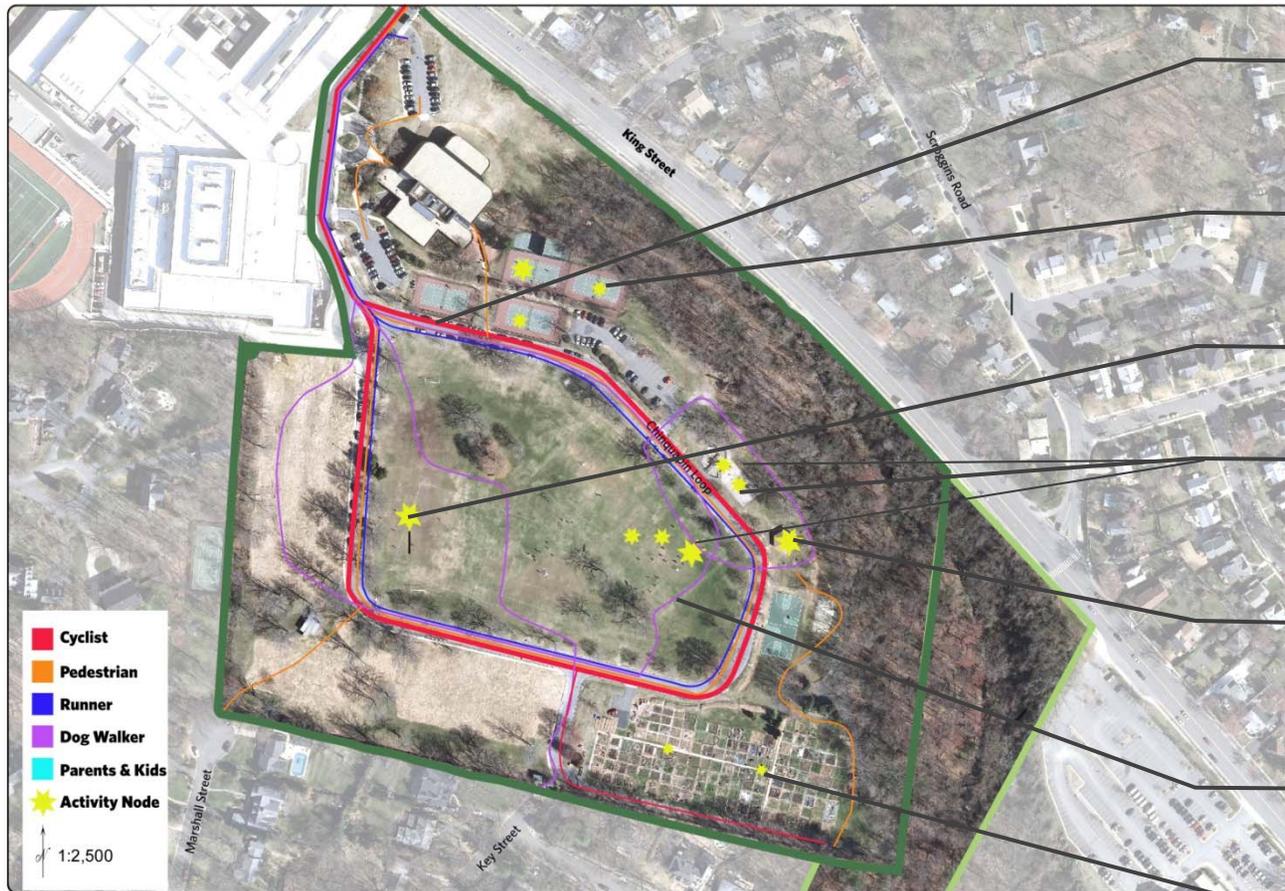
Chinquapin Park Existing Conditions



Chinquapin Park Existing Conditions



Chinquapin Park Site Observations



Loop is used for vehicles, runners, cyclists, and pedestrians

Active tennis courts, people parking in circle to use tennis courts

Used for soccer practice

Used by summer camp groups

Small groups and parents with kids using space for open play when camps are not present

Dog-walkers allow dogs off-leash in unauthorized areas

Active community garden

CHINQUAPIN PARK

JUNE 19, 2012, 10:15AM-11:00AM

JULY 9, 2012, 5:30PM-6:30PM

JULY 11, 2012, 9:00AM-10:00AM

Chinquapin Park Anticipated Projects



**Chinquapin
Recreation Center
scheduled for
renovation in FY19**

**Loop re-paving
scheduled for FY16**

**Playground
renovation
scheduled for FY14**

**Potential site for TC
Williams tennis
courts**

1:2,500

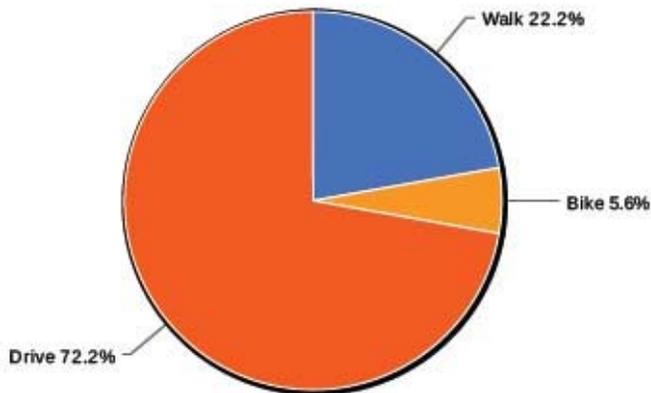
Chinquapin Park

Who have we heard from?

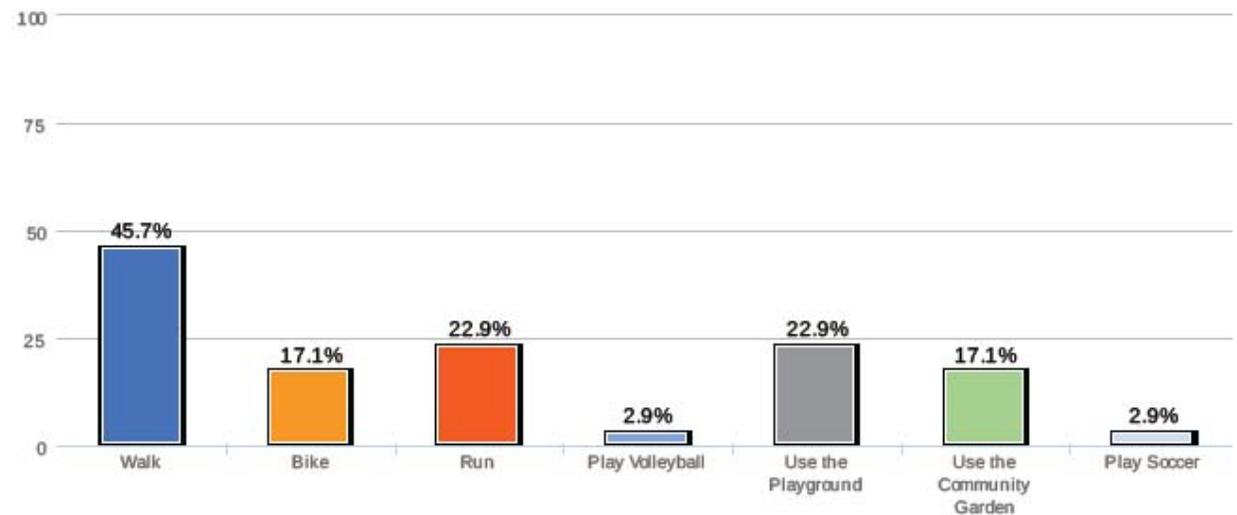


36 Surveys on Chinquapin completed as of 1:00pm on October 24

How do you get to Chinquapin Park?



What activities do you do in the Park? (Check all that apply)

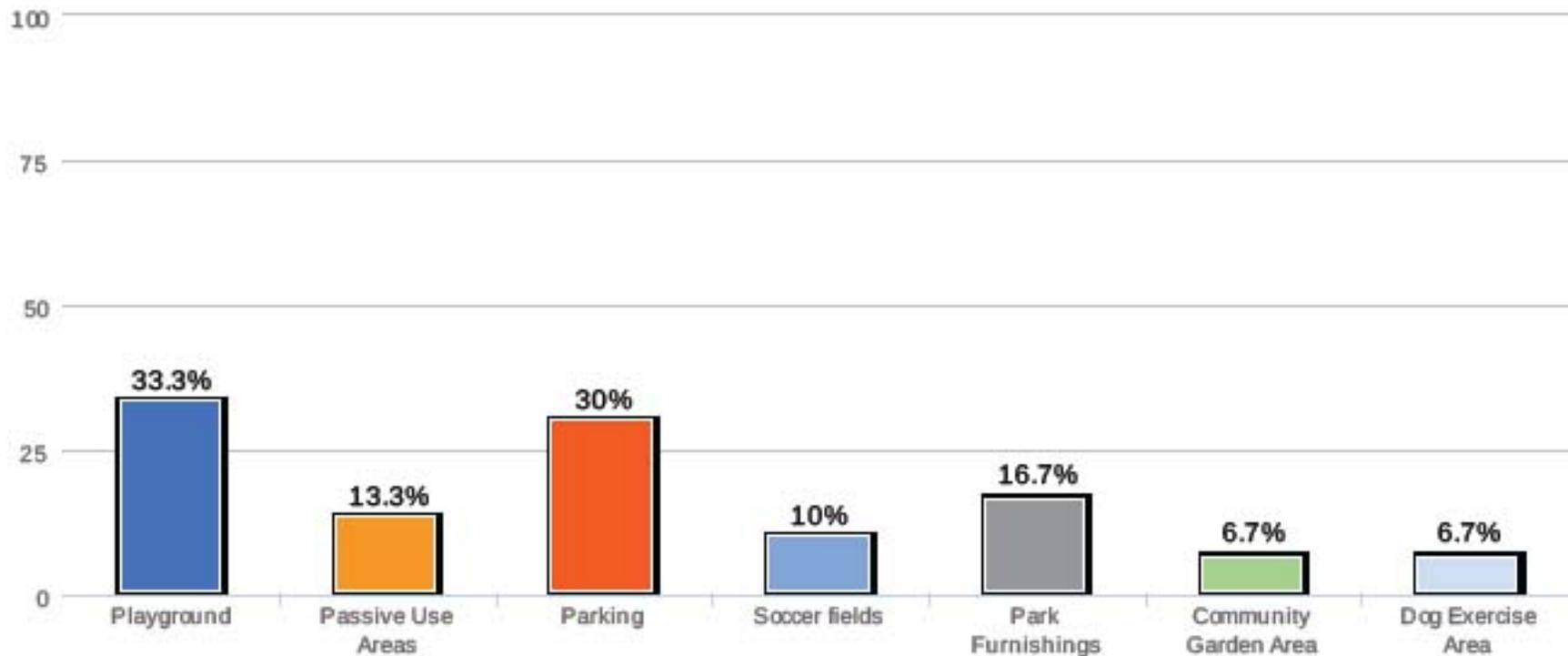


Chinquapin Park

What have we already heard?



What areas of the Park do you think need improvement?



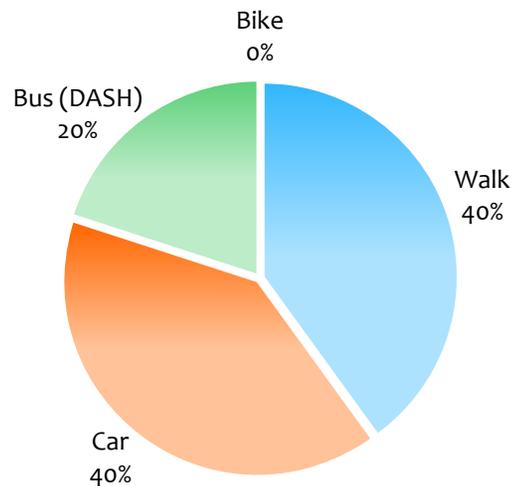
Chinquapin Park

T.C. Students

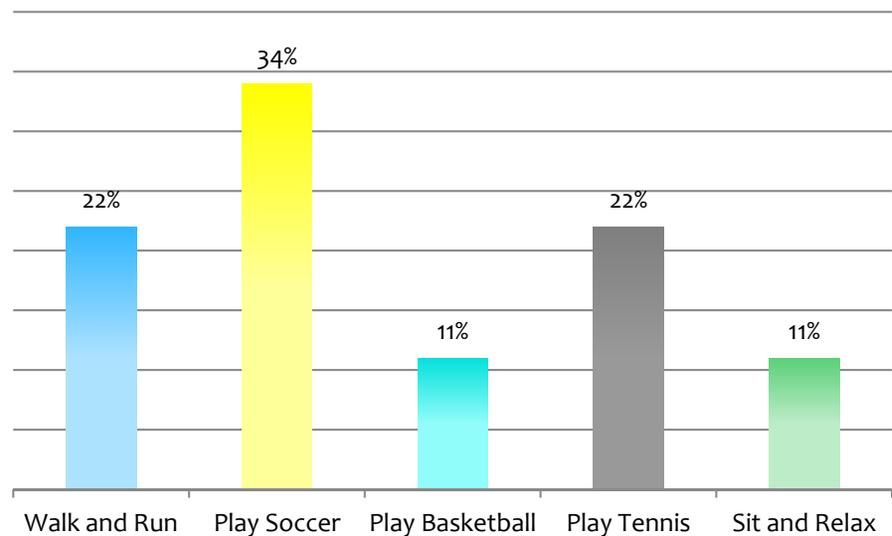


30 students took part in a Chinquapin Park workshop

Students Mode of Transport to the Park



Students Desired Park Activities



Suggested improvements:

- Provide a soccer field with goal posts
- Park furnishings
- Sidewalks

Group Exercise



1. Complete individual surveys
(for those who have not filled out the online survey)
 - <http://alexva.us/aw4>

2. As a group, Identify:
 - a) The top five park assets
 - b) Where pathways should be for optimal park circulation
 - c) Existing conditions that need improvement
 - d) Programs/facilities that are not in the park, but should be

3. Review both the list of improvements and program needs, prioritize the top five.

Next Steps



1. Tell your friends and neighbors to take the survey before the end of November:

www.alexva.us/aw3

2. Workshops in four other Citywide Parks:

- Hensley, October 29 @ Lee Center
- Holmes Run, November 7 @ Samuel Tucker
- Ben Brenman/Boothe, November 14 @ Samuel Tucker

3. Synthesis and Analysis

4. Spring Workshops