# Taufer & Richmond Park Engagement Report January 2020

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### **Engagement Overview**

This outreach project revealed that there is a gap between the current state of Taufer Park and what the community would like to see. Survey participants pointed to an increased presence of those experiencing homelessness, which significantly decreased their satisfaction with both parks, particularly Taufer Park.

The dual engagement on both Richmond Park and Taufer Park drew an interesting comparison. While the community expressed some need for improvement at Richmond, they were much more critical of Taufer Park. Safety and cleanliness concerns were brought up about both parks, but again, Taufer Park received more of these complaints.

The survey questions about amenities and events showed that there still community interest in using the parks for events, community activities, and other uses (see Question 3). Survey participants ranked markets, live music, and movies in the park as the top choices for events in the parks. Social events were also ranked higher than sporting events for activating the parks (see Question 4). Participants felt that these types of events could bring more attention to the parks and solve some of the issues surrounding safety and crime.

### **Project Map**





The purpose of this engagement project was to determine if the 2017 Parks & Public Lands Needs Assessment results are compatible with what the community would like to see in Taufer and Richmond Park.

Survey questions focused on potential amenities, events, and programing for the parks. Respondents were asked to rank options and give their own ideas for what would work best in each park. In addition to this, the survey question focuses on transportation access and perceived safety of the park.

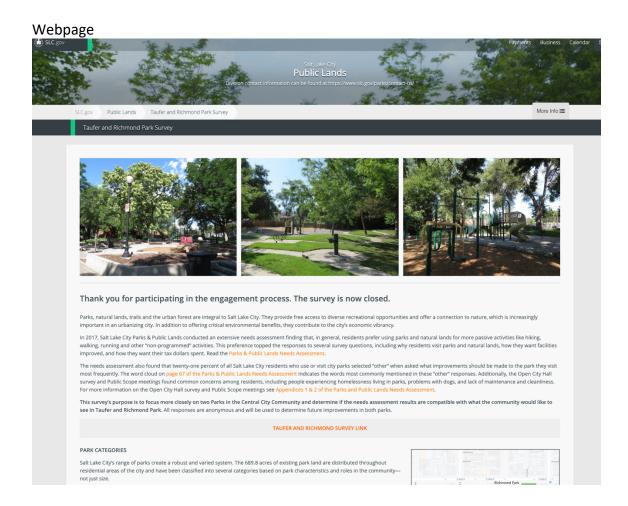
### **Engagement Approach**

- Engagement Goals
  - Obtain insight on what the community values about these two parks.
  - o Determine what improvements the community would prefer.
  - o Engage as many residents as possible, especially those who live in the area.
- Engagement Methods
  - Project website
  - Social media (Twitter, Facebook, and Nextdoor)
  - Senior Center focus group
  - Neighborhood canvassing
  - o Online survey
  - Flyers at local businesses
  - Signs at nearby parks

### **Overview of Outreach**

### Online survey:

- Survey Completions: 132
- Survey was open 10/24/2019 12/08/2019
- Further details in Survey Summary below



### **Focus Group**

City Staff met with members of the Liberty Senior Center and talked about the issues surrounding the parks. These conversations were a one-on-one format and mirrored the questions on the online survey. This effort was taken to ensure that those who could not access the survey digitally were still heard from. These results were compiled into the Qualtrics results.

### Canvasing

Flyers were distributed door-to-door around the neighborhood in a half mile radius around both parks. Additional flyers were taken to local businesses, such as coffee shops, grocery stores, and laundromats. Flyers were also sent to apartment property managers to distribute to their tenants.

### **Printed Materials**

# About the Parks:

### **Taufer Address:**

680 S 300 E Salt Lake City, UT 84111

### **Richmond Address:**

444 E 600 S Salt Lake City, UT 84111

#### **Council Member:**

Ana Valdemoros (District 4)

# Community Council:

Central City

# Questions & Comments

#### Visit

https://www.slc.gov/parks/t
aufer-and-richmond-parksurvey/?
preview\_id=2669&preview\_n
once=c2dccbf6df&preview=t
rue for more information and
to take the survey.

If you have questions or would like to be put on the email update list for the project, email:

CivicEngagementTeam@slcg ov.com



# Take the Survey!

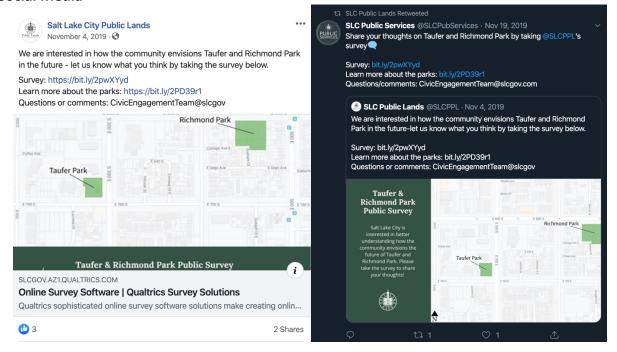
Visit the link below to take the survey and share your thoughts on these parks.

www.slc.gov/can



People with disabilities can request accommodation with 48 hours advance notice. Accommodations may include alternate formats, interpreters, and other auxiliary aids. Please contact Celina Milner at celina.milner@slcgov.com, 801-535-7697, or TDD 711.

#### Social Media



### **Survey Summary**

Most of the survey participants live close by (within one mile) of either park. Most said they used the park for one hour at a time in the afternoon. Walking was the most prevalent mode of transportation to each park, and the vast majority of participants said the parks were easy to get to.

Community Events and Social Activities were the favored choices for recreational activities.

Close to one-third of the respondents said they visited the parks with their dog.

Survey participants expressed the need for more safety measures in the park, both in open comments and in ranking possible amenities. "Increased safety measures" was ranked the number one priority for survey residents (see Question 2).

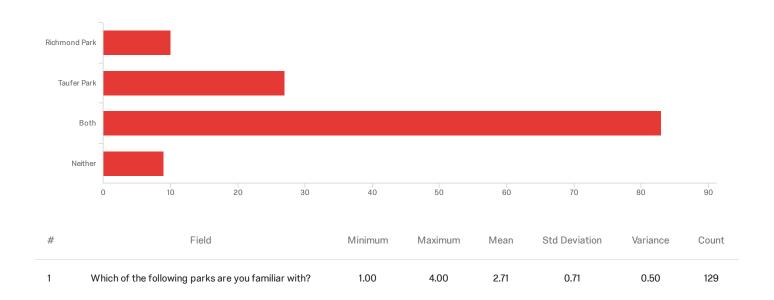
Taufer Park was viewed more negatively in this survey when compared to Richmond Park. 68.18 % of respondents strongly disagreed or somewhat disagreed with the statement "I am satisfied with the conditions and amenities at Taufer Park" (see question 39). By comparison Richmond Park had a 43.84% for the same question. (see question 25)

Taufer Park was also viewed as less safe than Richmond Park. 8.22% of the participants marked "Very unsafe" for Richmond Park (see Question 23) compared to the 36.36% "Very unsafe" for Taufer Park (see Question 37).

# **Qualtrics Survey Data**

Taufer and Richmond Park Survey

## Q1 - Which of the following parks are you familiar with?



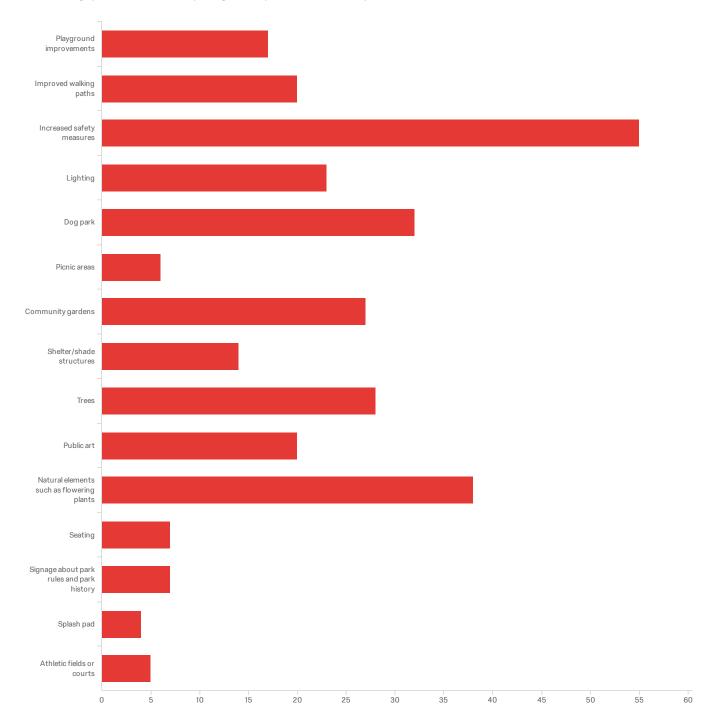
#	Field	Choice C	ount
1	Richmond Park	7.75%	10
2	Taufer Park	20.93%	27
3	Both	64.34%	83
4	Neither	6.98%	9

129

## Q2 - The following questions focus on your general park values for all parks in Salt Lake

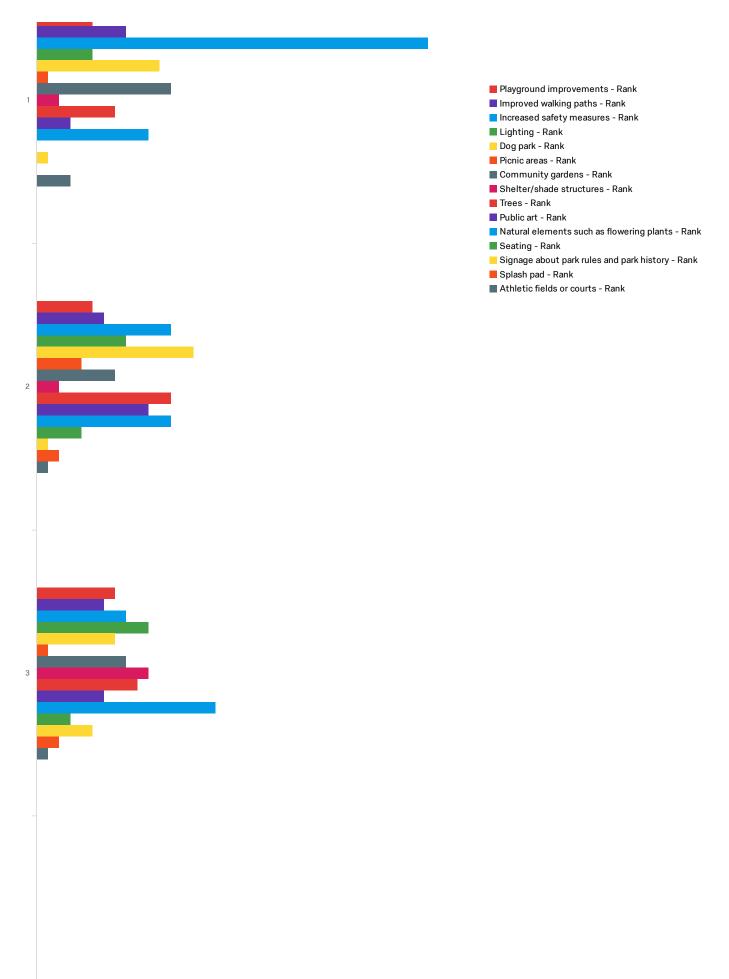
## City. Please select your top three priorities. (drag and drop)

The following questions focus on your general park values for all parks in...



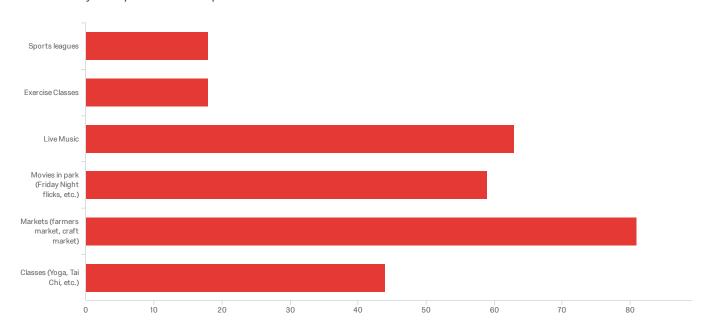
QID38 - Top Three



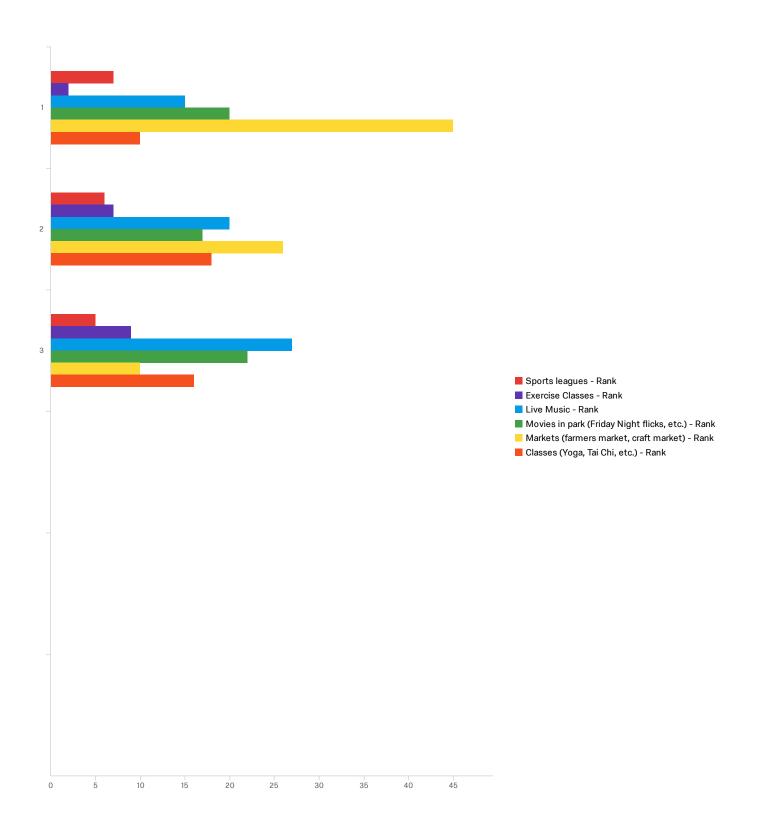


# Q3 - Please select your top three favorite park events

Please select your top three favorite park events



Please select your top three favorite park events



# Q4 - Which park recreation programs would you or your family be interested in? Check all that apply.



Q40\_6\_TEXT - Other (please specify)

Other (please specify)	
Services for the homeless to get them off the streets.	
Play groups, dog agility training	

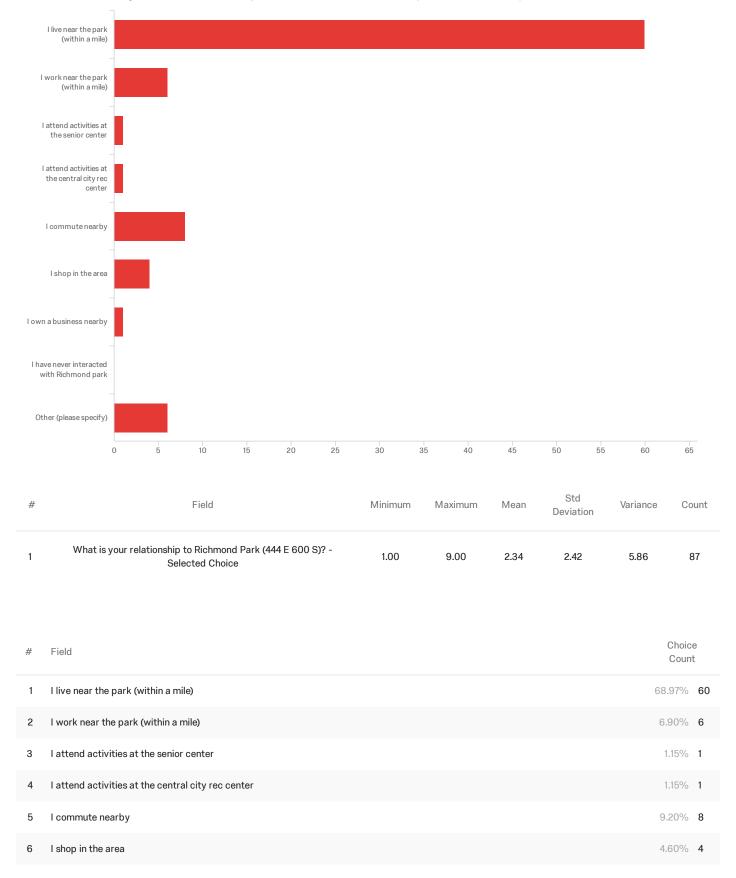
Other (please specify)
Quiet respite from chaotic city. Connection to nature meditation or Tai Chi
Nature talks.
various educational informatiom/ resources, art in our city, gardening, etc.
Movies at night
Plot in a community garden.

None

 $Tau fer\ park\ is\ our\ neighborhoods\ outdoor\ homeless\ shelter.$ 

# **Richmond Park**

### Q11 - What is your relationship to Richmond Park (444 E 600 S)?



#	Field	Choice Count	
7	I own a business nearby	1.15%	1
8	I have never interacted with Richmond park	0.00%	0
9	Other (please specify)	6.90%	6
			87

### Q2\_9\_TEXT - Other (please specify)

Other (please specify)

I sometimes walk nearby, but live beyond 1 mile away

I own a home nearby

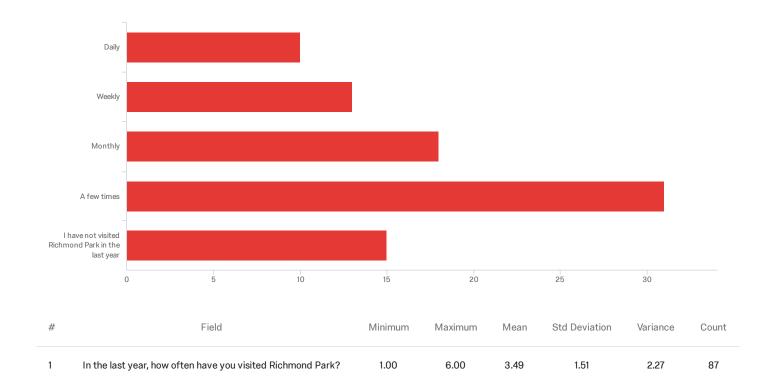
Walk, visit friends, hear a lot of complaints

A group of volunteers help me and at least 30 others enjoy nutritious produce we don't have access to. Food Not Bombs is a nonprofit food redistribution method that helps out by meeting in Richmond park a few times a week

I lived nearby and I might walk there when visiting friends in the neighborhood

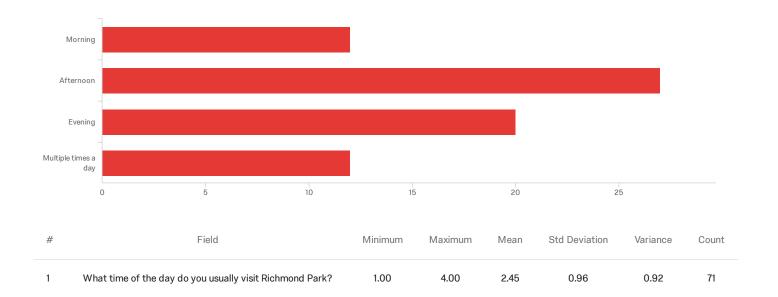
I ive and shop near the park. I also walk around the park and use it for general relaxation. It is nice to have just green space that is calm and not heavily populated. I do look forward to the community garden that will be built in the southeast part of the park net year. Occasionally I have met a relative of Mrs Richmond that is visiting the park, it is nice to know her descendents still celebrate her and the park that bears her name.

# Q12 - In the last year, how often have you visited Richmond Park?



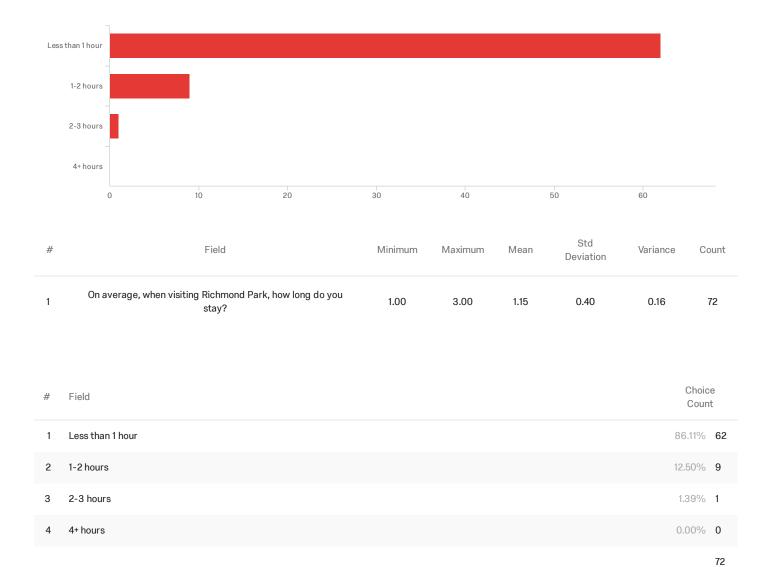
#	Field	Choice Count	
1	Daily	11.49%	10
2	Weekly	14.94%	13
3	Monthly	20.69%	18
4	A few times	35.63%	31
5	I have not visited Richmond Park in the last year	17.24%	15
			87

# Q13 - What time of the day do you usually visit Richmond Park?

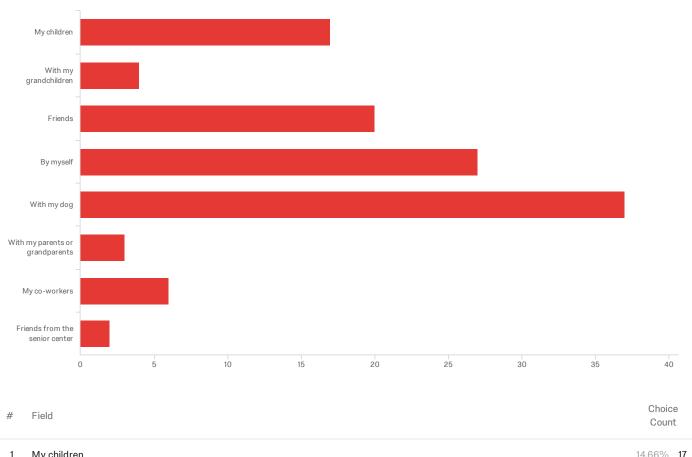


#	Field	Choice Count
1	Morning	16.90% 12
2	Afternoon	38.03% <b>27</b>
3	Evening	28.17% <b>20</b>
4	Multiple times a day	16.90% 12

# Q14 - On average, when visiting Richmond Park, how long do you stay?

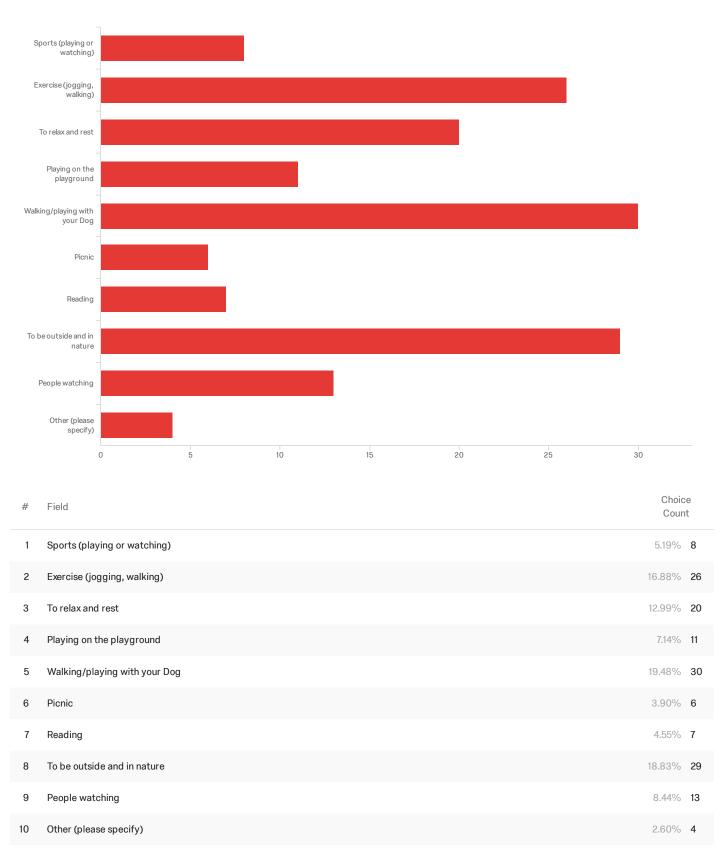


# Q15 - Who do you visit the park with? Check all that apply.



#	Field	Choice Count
1	My children	14.66% 17
2	With my grandchildren	3.45% <b>4</b>
3	Friends	17.24% <b>20</b>
4	By myself	23.28% <b>27</b>
5	With my dog	31.90% <b>37</b>
6	With my parents or grandparents	2.59% 3
7	My co-workers	5.17% 6
8	Friends from the senior center	1.72% <b>2</b>

# Q16 - What activities do you engage in when visiting Richmond Park? Check all that apply.



# Field Choice Count

154

### Q9\_10\_TEXT - Other (please specify)

Other (please specify)

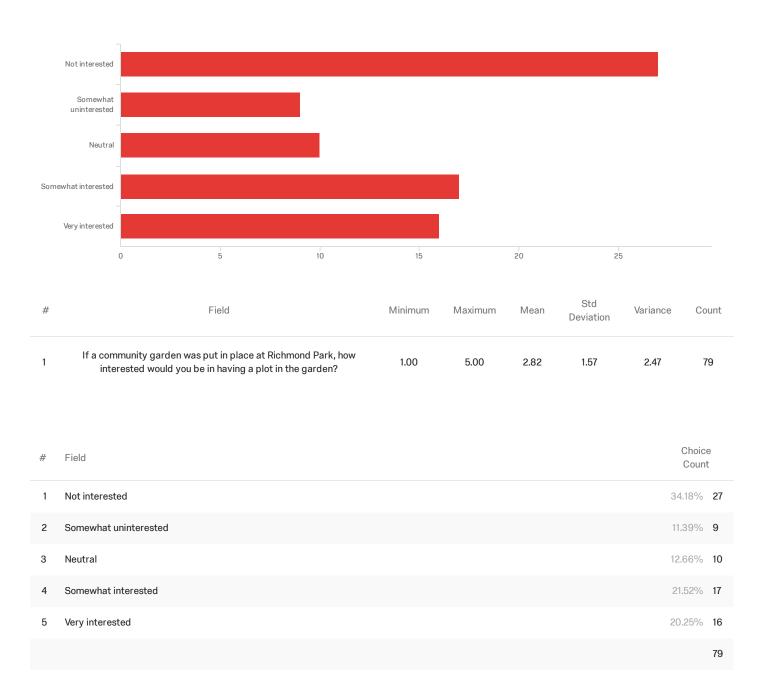
### Painting and drawing

It is nice just having a green space, sitting and walking around the park at my own pace. The park is peaceful and not often heavily populated, it feels spacious. I am looking forward to the community garden being built in the southeast corner next year. Occaisionally I have met a descendent of Mrs richmond, it is nice to see they still celebrate her and the park that bears her name.

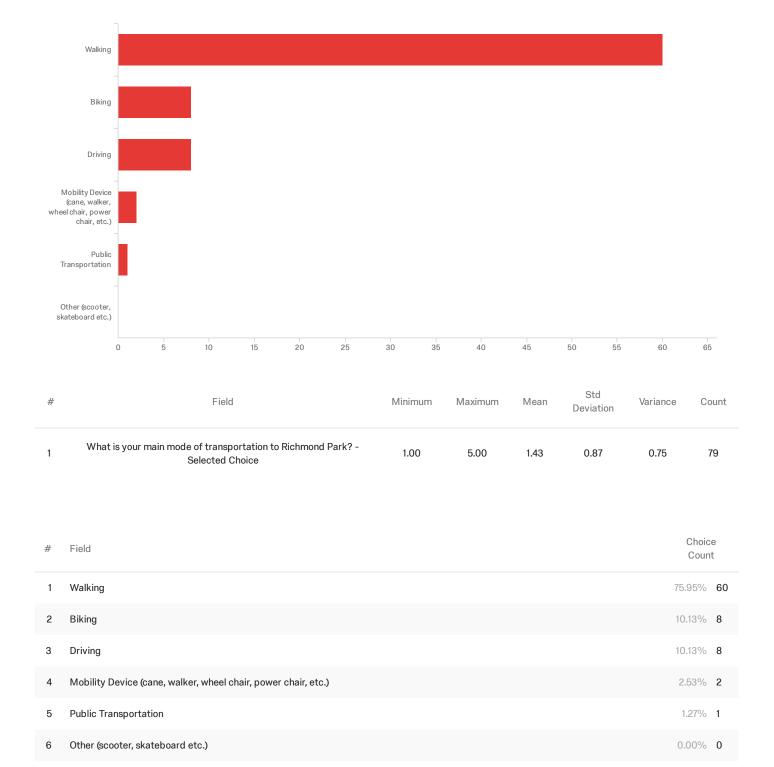
I live next to Richmond and utilize the parking provided by the park as resident parking.

Artwork

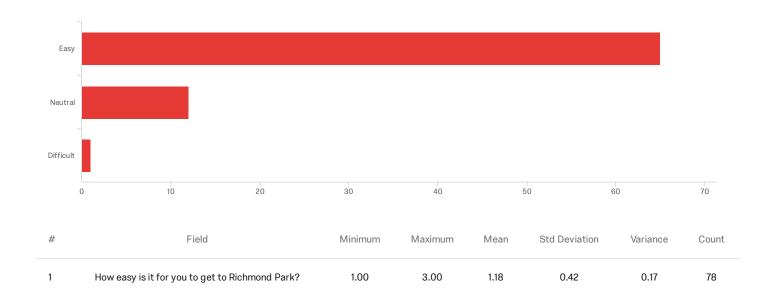
# Q17 - If a community garden was put in place at Richmond Park, how interested would you be in having a plot in the garden?



# Q18 - What is your main mode of transportation to Richmond Park?



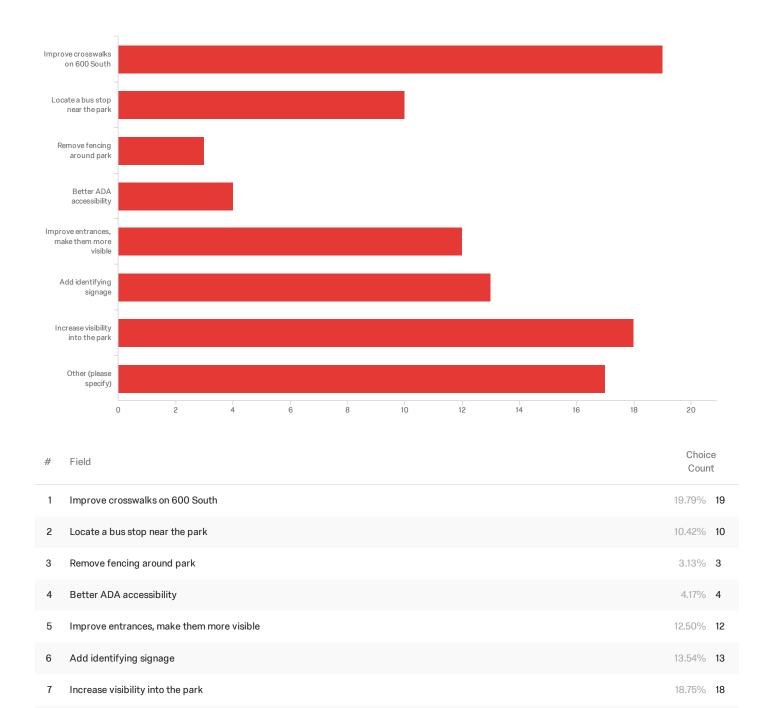
# Q19 - How easy is it for you to get to Richmond Park?



#	Field	Choice Coun	
1	Easy	83.33%	65
2	Neutral	15.38%	12
3	Difficult	1.28%	1
			78

### Q20 - Are there improvements that can be made to make it easier to get to the park?

### (Check all that apply)



Q13\_8\_TEXT - Other (please specify)

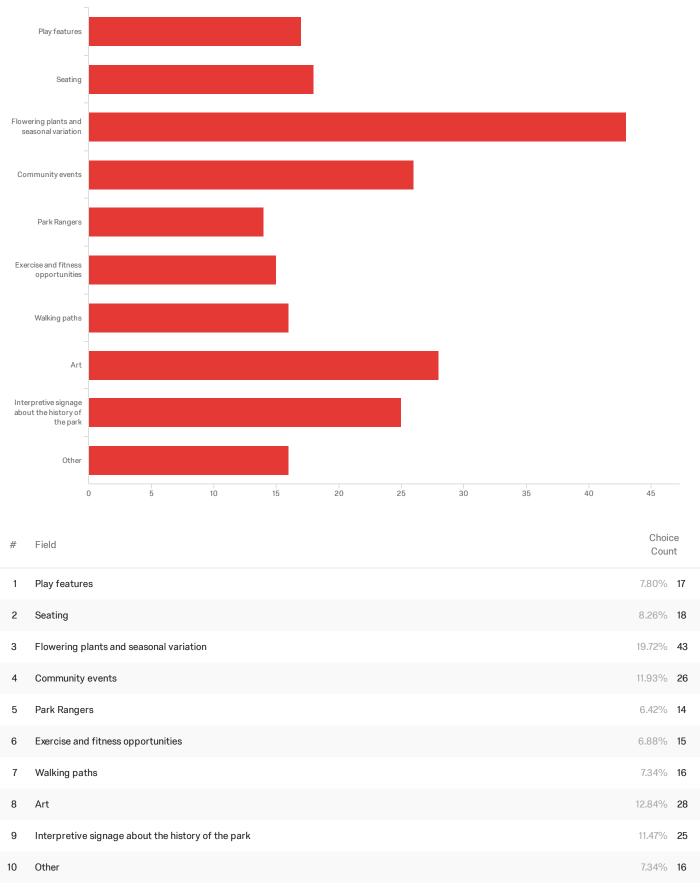
Other (please specify)

17.71% 17

96

Other (please specify)
keep people from sleeping in the park overnight
dog run
Cleaner - seems like it needs more garbage/recycling cans
Security to stop criminals/drug use, increase public safety
Homeless camped out there make it feel unsafe.
Bike lanes on 600 S and 500 East please.
A community garden would be the greatest benefit
No, accessibility is perfect. The original plan was well thought out. Do not fix, what is not broken.
Kick out the homeless
I live less than 2 blocks from the park. I have no trouble getting there.
Safety
remove the homeless gauntlet
Get rid of the homeless people all they do is drugs
Remove the transients/drug dealing and provide a safe playground for the residents and their children.
Bathrooms
700 s enterance could b better marked
Na

### Q22 - What would you like to see more of in Richmond Park?



218

<b>O</b> 1	15	10	TFYT	· _ (	Other
w	IU .	IU		- (	Julei

Other

More trees please

Not a WCG garden. They only serve a very small segment of the population and have very restrictive, controlling rules.

rangers if that means making sure the park is safe. i would go much more but people sleep there and i don't know if they are stable. i'm trying to be as neutral as i can with my language. i don't feel safe visiting with my kids.

Better The open space is good for picnics and lounging but it's not very relaxing with all the traffic going by. Maybe add a small pony wall along 6th to help create a quieter atmosphere.

Increased security, police walking patrols in regular uniforms

Fenced dog area

Garden

A fenced off leash dog area

How about adult playgrounds

Pickleball Courts

Please do not put seating near the residential parking or houses on cottage ave.

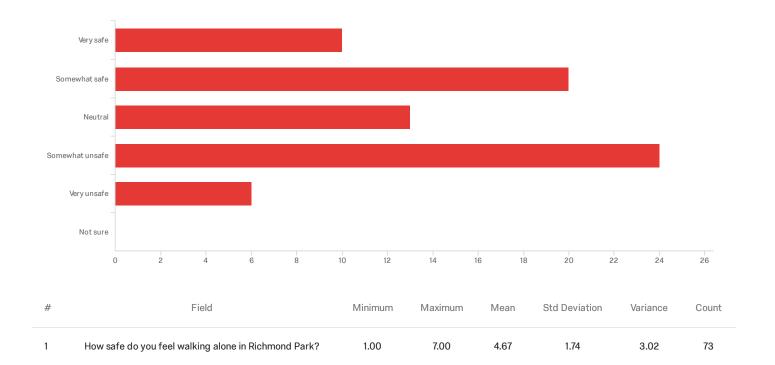
Location

Less homeless

safety for the public is more important at this time then any sign or decoration

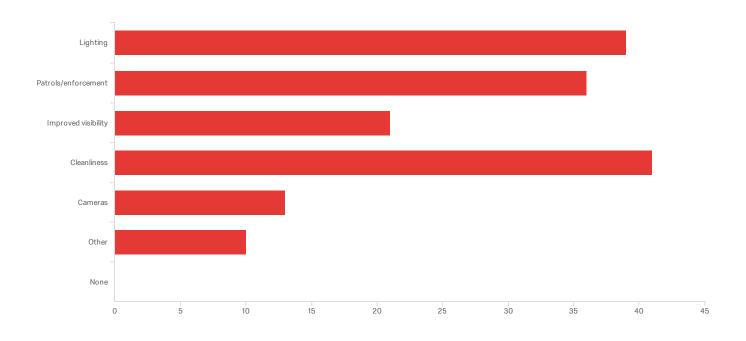
Please weed it better

# Q23 - How safe do you feel walking alone in Richmond Park?



#	Field	Choice Count
1	Very safe	13.70% 10
2	Somewhat safe	27.40% 20
3	Neutral	17.81% 13
4	Somewhat unsafe	32.88% <b>24</b>
5	Very unsafe	8.22% 6
6	Not sure	0.00% 0

## Q24 - What improvements should be made to make the park feel safer?



#	Field	Choice C	Count
1	Lighting	24.38%	39
2	Patrols/enforcement	22.50%	36
3	Improved visibility	13.13%	21
4	Cleanliness	25.62%	41
5	Cameras	8.13%	13
6	Other	6.25%	10
7	None	0.00%	0
			160

### Q52\_8\_TEXT - Other

Other

More people using the park.

The interior area is fenced in and there are often homeless lying around. Depending on the time of day and who else might be at the park, it can feel a little unsafe.

ΑII

Less places to hide. Homeless are sleeping/camping in the bushes and behind the rock features.

Other

Continued presence of neighborhood gatherings for food donations.

6th South has so much traffic, a gate or fence along that side of the park would make me feel safer with my dog and I think would make parents feel safer with their children

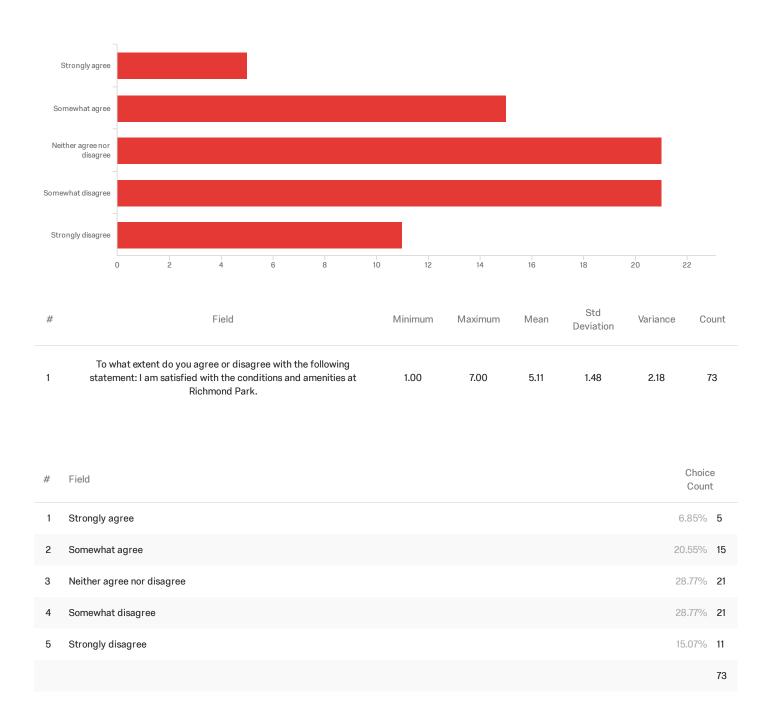
The park does not need any additional security

The covered seating area is so dirty and not inviting to sit down at all . Fine if a home less person sits there as long as they clean up after themselves ..

Many homeless sleep there at night

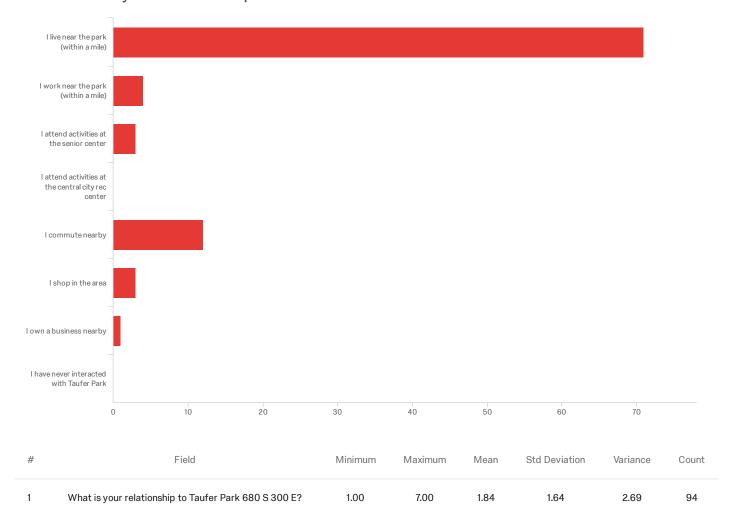
remove homeless

# Q25 - To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement: I am satisfied with the conditions and amenities at Richmond Park.



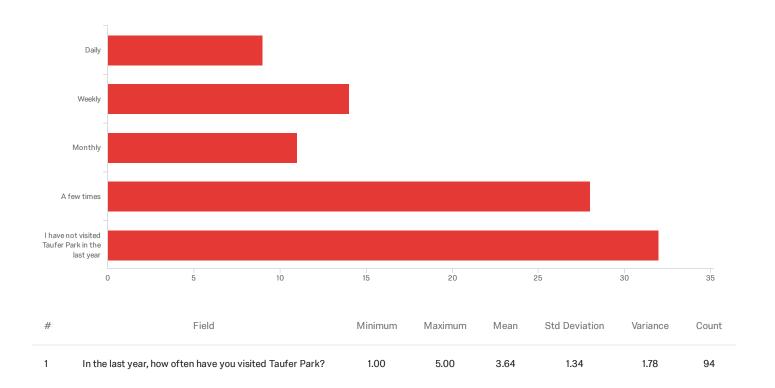
# **Taufer Park**

## Q27 - What is your relationship to Taufer Park 680 S 300 E?



#	Field	Choice Count	
1	I live near the park (within a mile)	75.53%	71
2	I work near the park (within a mile)	4.26%	4
3	I attend activities at the senior center	3.19%	3
4	I attend activities at the central city rec center	0.00%	0
5	I commute nearby	12.77%	12
6	I shop in the area	3.19%	3
7	I own a business nearby	1.06%	1
8	I have never interacted with Taufer Park	0.00%	0

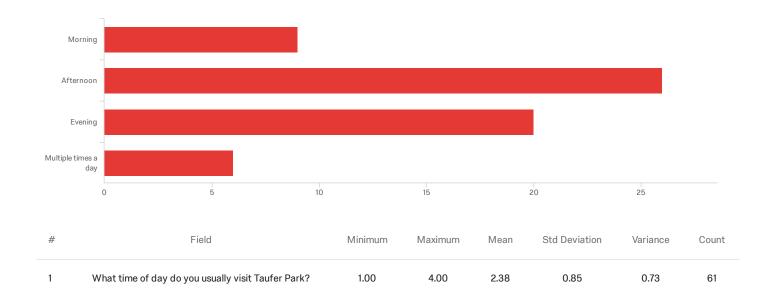
#### Q28 - In the last year, how often have you visited Taufer Park?



#	Field	Choice Count	
1	Daily	9.57%	9
2	Weekly	14.89%	14
3	Monthly	11.70%	11
4	A few times	29.79%	28
5	I have not visited Taufer Park in the last year	34.04%	32
			94

Showing rows 1 - 6 of 6

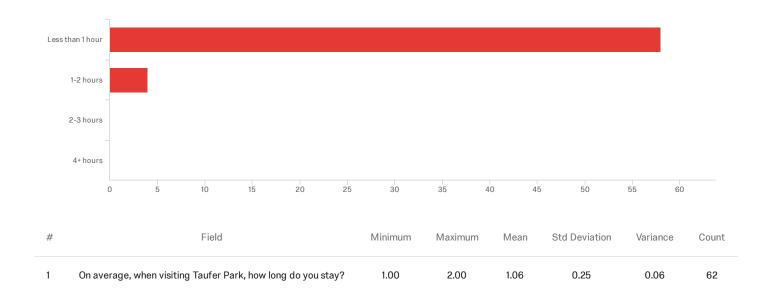
## Q29 - What time of day do you usually visit Taufer Park?



#	Field		Choice Count	
1	Morning	14.75%	9	
2	Afternoon	42.62%	26	
3	Evening	32.79%	20	
4	Multiple times a day	9.84%	6	

Showing rows 1 - 5 of 5

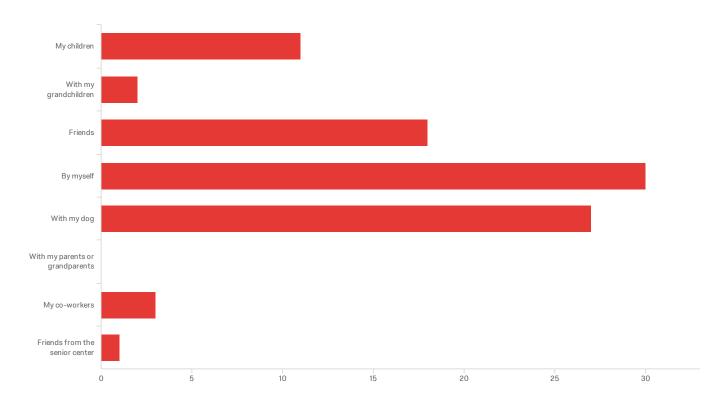
#### Q30 - On average, when visiting Taufer Park, how long do you stay?



#	Field	Choice Count
1	Less than 1 hour	93.55% 58
2	1-2 hours	6.45% 4
3	2-3 hours	0.00% 0
4	4+ hours	0.00% 0

Showing rows 1 - 5 of 5

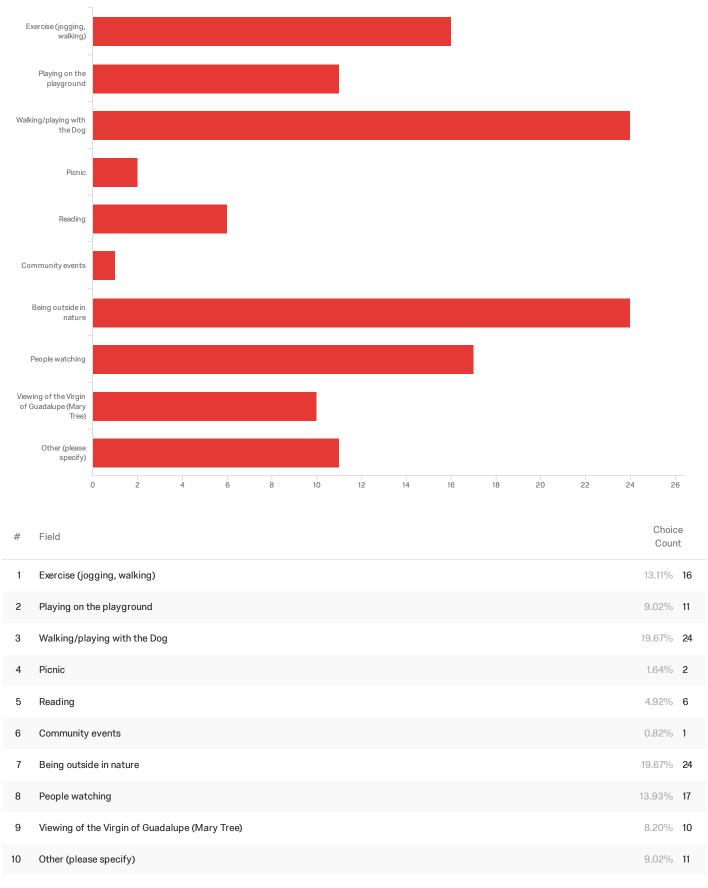
## Q31 - Who do you visit Taufer Park with? Check all that apply.



#	Field	Choic Coun	
1	My children	11.96%	11
2	With my grandchildren	2.17%	2
3	Friends	19.57%	18
4	By myself	32.61%	30
5	With my dog	29.35%	27
6	With my parents or grandparents	0.00%	0
7	My co-workers	3.26%	3
8	Friends from the senior center	1.09%	1

Showing rows 1 - 9 of 9

#### Q32 - What activities do you engage in when visiting Taufer Park? Check all that apply:



Choice Field Count

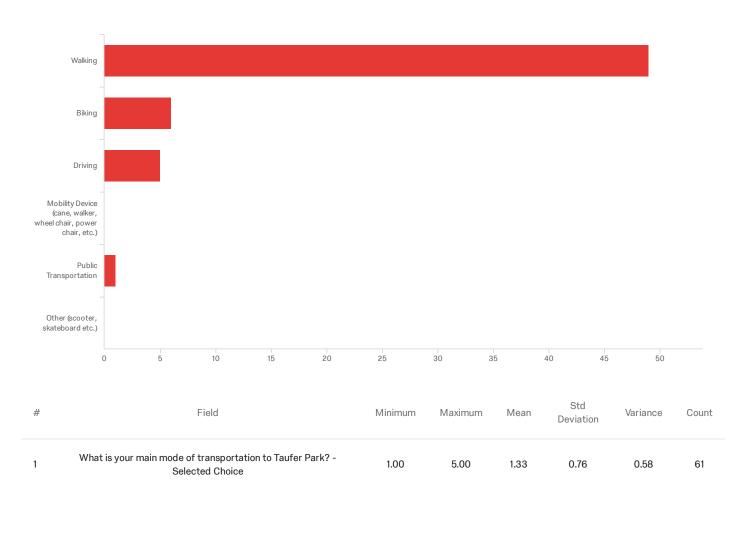
122

#### Showing rows 1 - 11 of 11

Q22_10_TEXT - Other (please specify)
Other (please specify)
tradition to meet for father's day since Justin Taufer is my husbands father
Very brief, related to 300 East bikeway
Lunch break
Visiting with friends
quick walk through
Pause while walking by.
I walk by on my way to Koko kitchen
Just walking through
None- I go by the park but don't go in. I have looked at the Virgin Mary Tree before, but otherwise do not go in the park.
I just walk by. I never stop in this park
Chat atom talling

Chat story telling

#### Q33 - What is your main mode of transportation to Taufer Park?



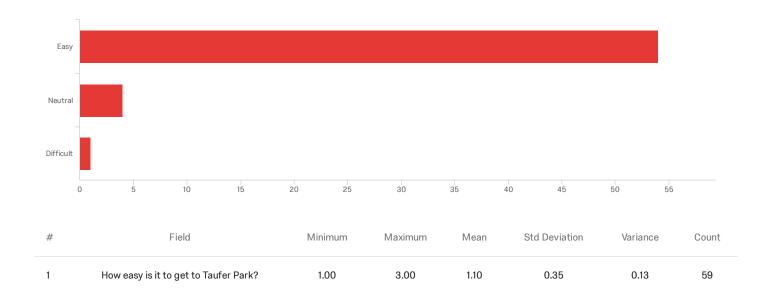
#	Field	Choice Count	
1	Walking	80.33%	49
2	Biking	9.84%	6
3	Driving	8.20%	5
4	Mobility Device (cane, walker, wheel chair, power chair, etc.)	0.00%	0
5	Public Transportation	1.64%	1
6	Other (scooter, skateboard etc.)	0.00%	0

Showing rows 1 - 7 of 7

61

Q23\_6\_TEXT - Other (scooter, skateboard etc.)

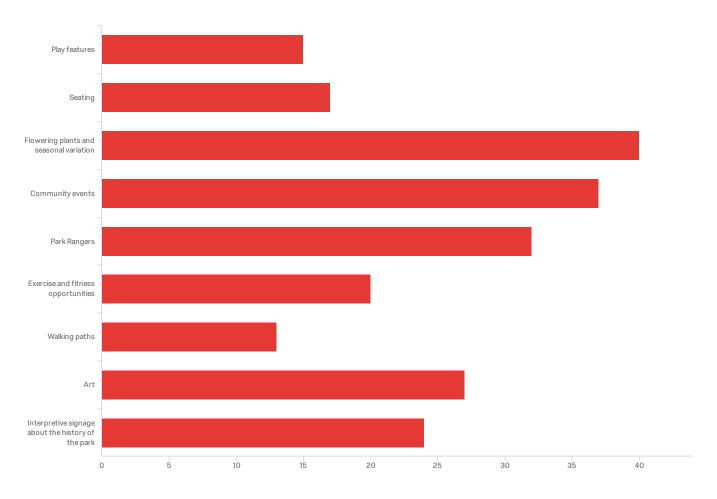
## Q34 - How easy is it to get to Taufer Park?



#	Field	Choice Count
1	Easy	91.53% <b>54</b>
2	Neutral	6.78% <b>4</b>
3	Difficult	1.69% 1
		59

Showing rows 1 - 4 of 4

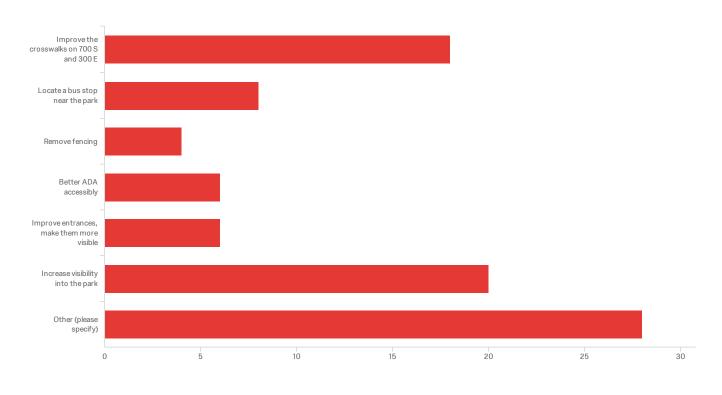
#### Q35 - What would you like to see more of in Taufer Park? (Check all that apply)



#	Field	Choic Cour	
1	Play features	6.67%	15
2	Seating	7.56%	17
3	Flowering plants and seasonal variation	17.78%	40
4	Community events	16.44%	37
5	Park Rangers	14.22%	32
6	Exercise and fitness opportunities	8.89%	20
7	Walking paths	5.78%	13
8	Art	12.00%	27
9	Interpretive signage about the history of the park	10.67%	24
			225

#### Q36 - Are there improvements that can be made to make it easier to get to? (Check all

#### that apply)



#	Field	Choice Count
1	Improve the crosswalks on 700 S and 300 E	20.00% 18
2	Locate a bus stop near the park	8.89% <b>8</b>
3	Remove fencing	4.44% <b>4</b>
4	Better ADA accessibly	6.67% 6
5	Improve entrances, make them more visible	6.67% <b>6</b>
6	Increase visibility into the park	22.22% 20
7	Other (please specify)	31.11% 28
		90

Showing rows 1 - 8 of 8

Q55\_7\_TEXT - Other (please specify)

Other (please specify)

keep the homless out of the park

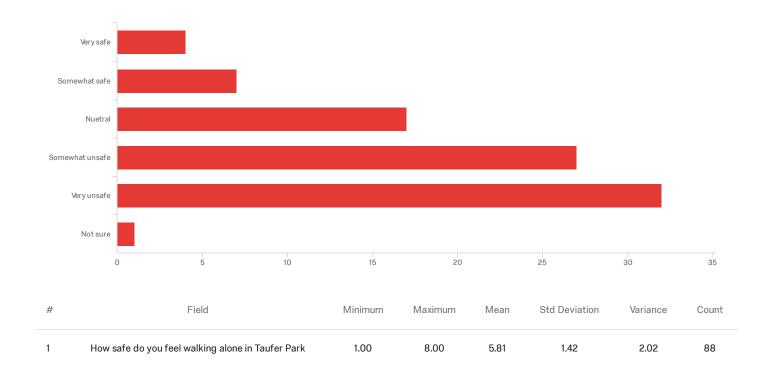
Other (please specify)

Police patrols and social services for homeless I actually don't go anymore because there are always tons of people camped there, and I don't feel safe stop letting people camp there Porta pottys More green space Remove homeless individuals making this park their home and clean up park Restore 300E bus, regular police drive bus, stop criminal behavior Bike lanes in 700 S. You could put these in tomorrow since there's plenty of room. Remove the encampments. Keep the shelter open. Do a better job of providing housing for homeless people. Lighting, it's so dark there and lots of homeless people and drug dealers in the park Needs more lighting! Come on it's dark at night and dangerous! Clean up the feces and needles? Get rid of the vagrants. Drug heroin using scumbags. Make it friendlier by reducing the sketchy people and drug dealing. Keep the criminals away. Our stolen bikes ended up there The homeless have taken over this park. You can hardly walk on the sidewalk. I drive to the senior center rather than walk. more police presence due To homeless camps, there are fewer visits from dog owners and school children. Park is completely overrun by homeless camps. I feel uncomfortable even walking by, much less enjoy the facilities. Better lighting, better garbage receptacles, no homeless people The homeless population at the park is out of control. I live half block away and have experienced many many transients walking by my house and on my property because if the park Get rid of homelessness and drugs Dealing with the homeless problem

The nearby community can't use Taufer Park because the homeless have taken over it.

Other (please specify)	
Uneven bricks make it hard to walk scooter	
None	
No homeless	
Na	

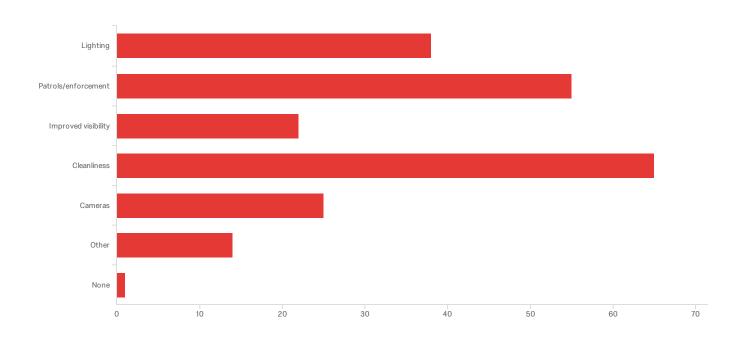
#### Q37 - How safe do you feel walking alone in Taufer Park



#	Field	Choic Coun	
1	Very safe	4.55%	4
2	Somewhat safe	7.95%	7
3	Nuetral	19.32%	17
4	Somewhat unsafe	30.68%	27
5	Very unsafe	36.36%	32
6	Not sure	1.14%	1

Showing rows 1 - 7 of 7

#### Q38 - What improvements should be made to make the park feel safer?



#	Field	Choice C	Count
1	Lighting	17.27%	38
2	Patrols/enforcement	25.00%	55
3	Improved visibility	10.00%	22
4	Cleanliness	29.55%	65
5	Cameras	11.36%	25
6	Other	6.36%	14
7	None	0.45%	1
			220

Showing rows 1 - 8 of 8

Q54\_8\_TEXT - Other

Not letting it be a homeless camp

Clean up debris. We have 3 year old that would love to play here.

Neutral!!!!! How do you spell it!!!!?¿??¿

Other

Take care of the homeless people who have no where else to go.

Stop vagrants from shooting up and using the park as a place to chop all the bikes they steal from our neighborhood every day? For a start? That would be nice.

Shot the druggies

Get the homeless and drug dealers out of there. It's not safe for kids at all !!

Recently there has been large groups of homeless

Close park at night to deter homeless camps

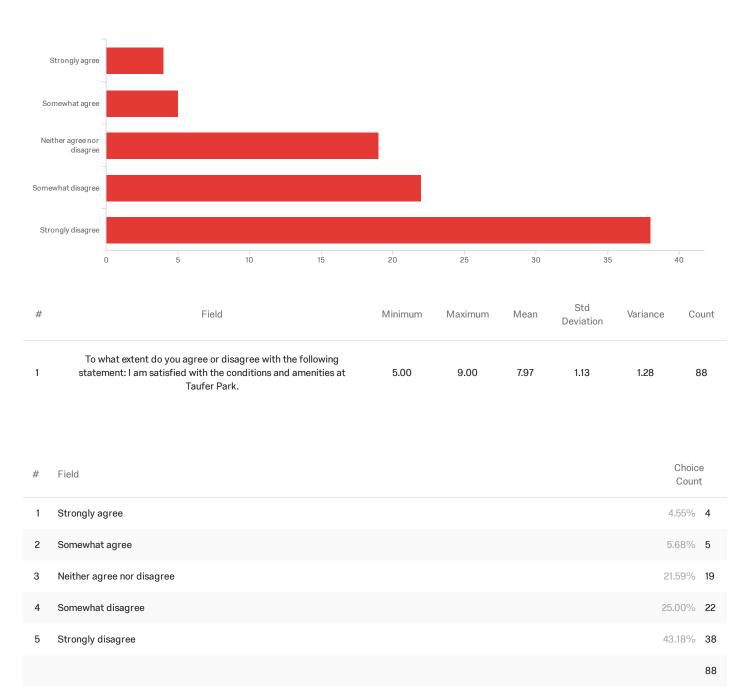
Portable restroom

All of the above.

remove homeless

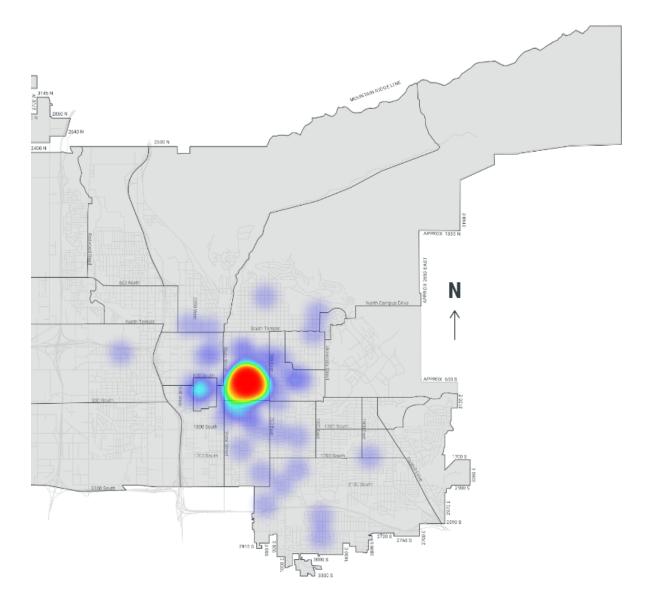
The homeless and the garbage and khuman waste makes the park undesirable.

# Q39 - To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement: I am satisfied with the conditions and amenities at Taufer Park.

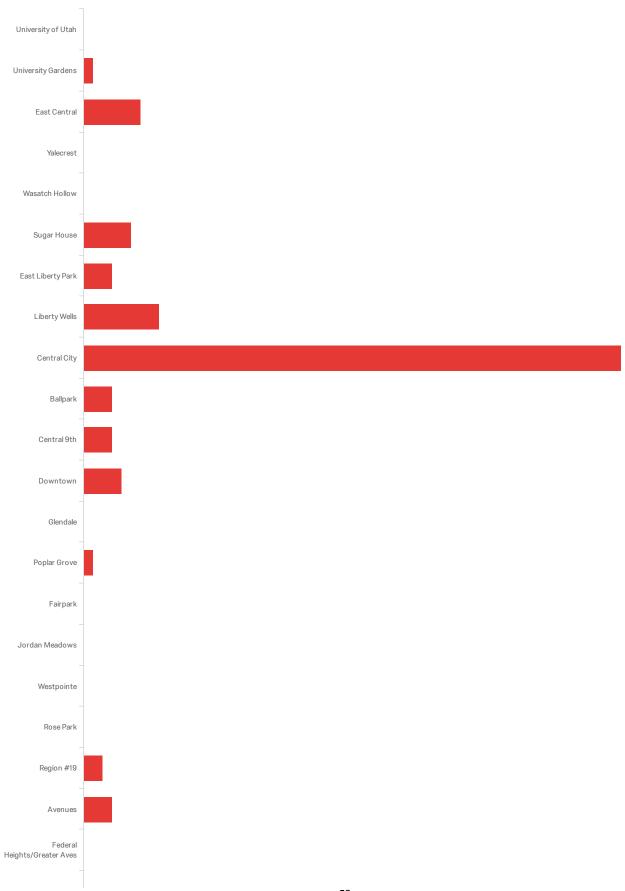


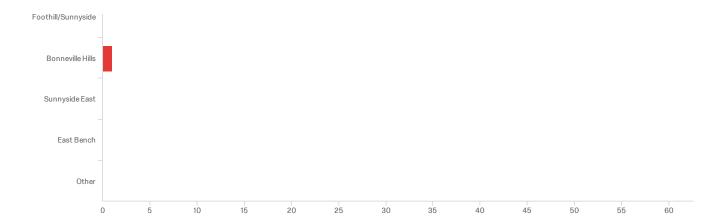
Showing rows 1 - 6 of 6

## D3 - Please click on the map closest to where you live.

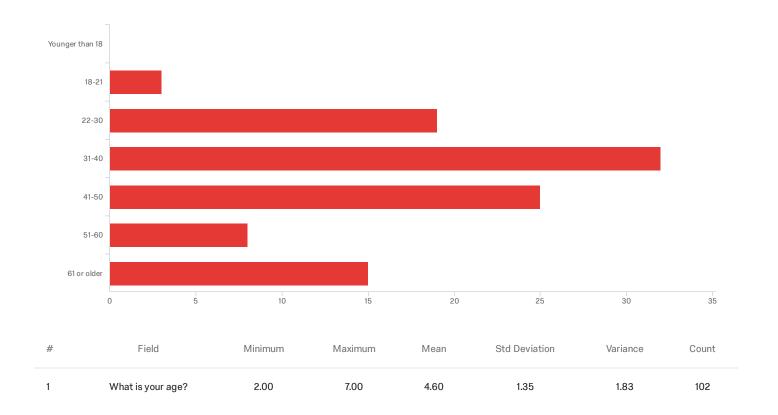


#### D3 - Please click on the map closest to where you live. - Regions





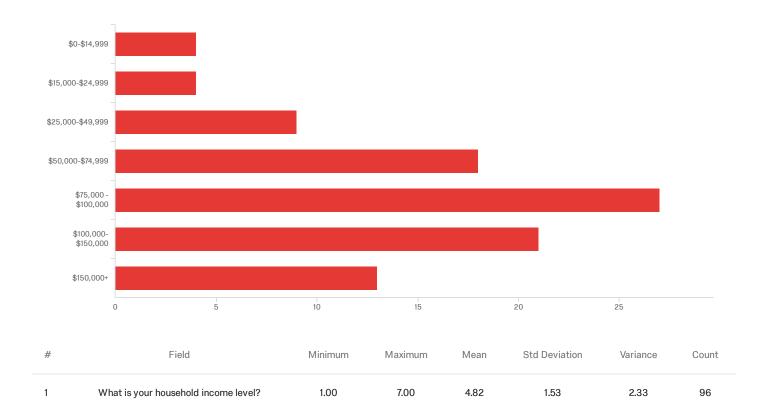
## D4 - What is your age?



#	Field	Choice Count	
1	Younger than 18	0.00%	0
2	18-21	2.94%	3
3	22-30	18.63%	19
4	31-40	31.37%	32
5	41-50	24.51%	25
6	51-60	7.84%	8
7	61 or older	14.71%	15
			102

Showing rows 1 - 8 of 8

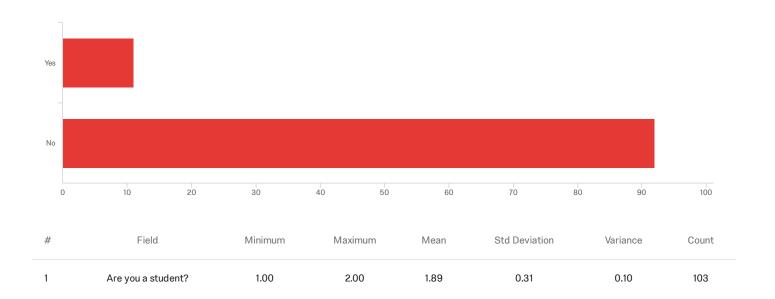
#### D5 - What is your household income level?



#	Field	Choice Count	
1	\$0-\$14,999	4.17%	4
2	\$15,000-\$24,999	4.17%	4
3	\$25,000-\$49,999	9.38%	9
4	\$50,000-\$74,999	18.75%	18
5	\$75,000 - \$100,000	28.13%	27
6	\$100,000- \$150,000	21.88%	21
7	\$150,000+	13.54%	13
			96

Showing rows 1 - 8 of 8

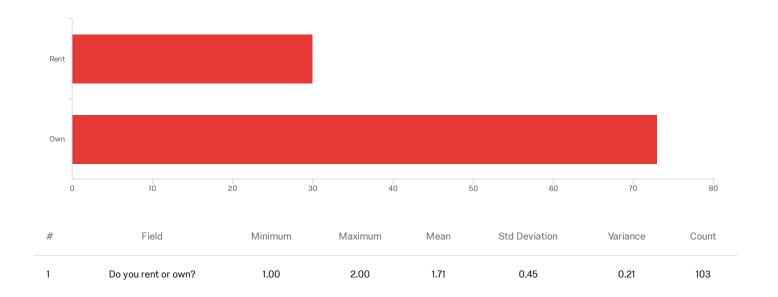
## D6 - Are you a student?



#	Field	Choice Co	ount
1	Yes	10.68%	11
2	No	89.32%	92

Showing rows 1 - 3 of 3

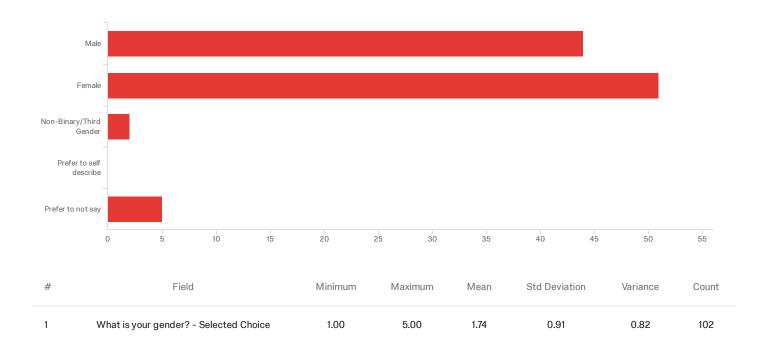
## D7 - Do you rent or own?



#	Field	Choice Count
1	Rent	29.13% 30
2	Own	70.87% <b>73</b>

Showing rows 1 - 3 of 3

#### D8 - What is your gender?

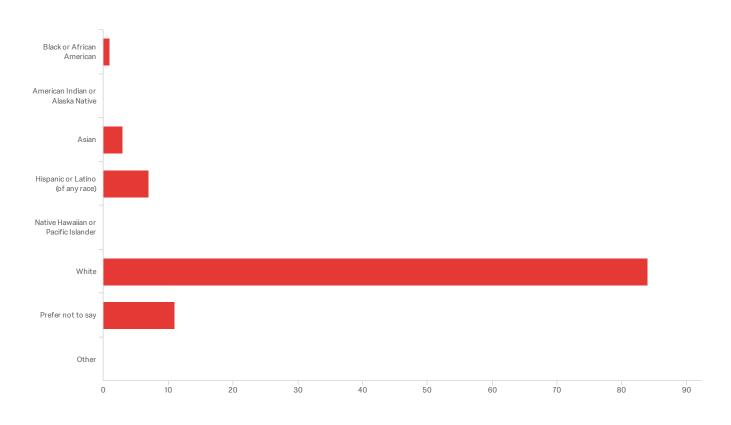


#	Field	Choice Count	
1	Male	43.14%	44
2	Female	50.00%	51
3	Non-Binary/Third Gender	1.96%	2
4	Prefer to self describe	0.00%	0
5	Prefer to not say	4.90%	5
			102
	Showing rows 1 - 6 of 6		

Q49\_4\_TEXT - Prefer to self describe

Prefer to self describe

## D9 - What is your ethnicity?



#	Field	Choice Count	
1	Black or African American	0.94%	1
2	American Indian or Alaska Native	0.00%	0
3	Asian	2.83%	3
4	Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	6.60%	7
5	Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.00%	0
6	White	79.25%	84
7	Prefer not to say	10.38%	11
8	Other	0.00%	0

Showing rows 1 - 9 of 9

106

#### Q50\_7\_TEXT - Other

Other

#### **Q21**

#### What do you like best about Richmond Park?

It's location near the neighborhood, and the access to open spaces in the middle of the city.

Broad open space, proximity to residences nearby.

Large open grass area

Watching dogs play there.

Nice park for my dog and I

It's a nice green space near central city, which there ought to be more of.

Pocket Parks are great for the neighborhood.

Love that it's a green space in the middle of the neighborhood and that we often have the park to ourselves

large open grass aria

Open space, nice sidewalks.

It has a lot of open space that can be used for a variety of purposes - playing with dogs, soccer, kickball, picnics, running, catch, etc.

Location

I like that it brings the community together - a lot of people bring their dogs to play. Parents bring their kids too, on occasion.

It's close and good for dogs.

The proximity to our house and the quite neighborhood

I used to like to hang out there with our kids. But since Operation Rio Grande It's been dicey. I have taken a man shoes who had none in winter, I have taken people coats & food. It's more of a refugee camp now than a park for citizens.

Openness and easy to get to

I like that there is a park but wouldn't take my family to it, it doesn't feel safe

Richmond Park provides a much needed green space for the community. The community who take care of the resources provided to them. I see a wide range of ages enjoying the park.

This is only when the transients don't overthrow the playground and volleyball court with their issues and hostile personalities

Big open grassy area. Multiple benches. Covered table

The unofficial "community event." Richmond Park is a green open space that has not been sold to developers. I like that it has organically facilitated a gathering of people to commune over food donations. People who's presence helps maintain the park space be a healthy one.

The homeless

I'm happy community garden plots are being added. I'm lucky to have garden space in my own yard but many neighbors don't.

It is a hidden gem!

Great Open Space thats still a little hidden away.

Nice community park, dogs

It is nice to have an open green space that is peaceful. The seating and the pavillion are in nice locations, not near the residential parking/cars and houses on cottage avenue. You have privacy but your not secluded, you can walk, think, relax, destress, see people and their dogs come and go, or interact with people. Sometimes people will park on 6th south and have lunch or just sit in the park for a short time. Sometimes they are by themselves and walk slowly back to their car seemingly a bit more relaxed.

It is a neighborhood resource for people regardless of socioeconomic status

It's close to my house.

The greenery and it's never really busy

Greenspace in an urban area

It's peaceful and green.

I have not really used the park, proper, only walk by.

Open space. Easy access

Open space

Open views of nature and green spaces

Open space, people watching dogs and kids.

It's right in front of my house.

proximity to my house, greenspace in Central City

It's nice as long as there aren't any drunk creatures storming about pissed off that they aren't very good at life

I like that it's open space in the city. Maybe a little bit of a lame answer, but I just like that it's there.

The shade on the edges of the park is very nice

#### **Q26**

#### Are there any reasons that prevent you from visiting Richmond Park?

The occasional aggressive person experiencing homelessness.

We skip it if there is a large encampment of homeless people. Most are harmless, but I have my toddler with and that makes me less likely to chance that they might be bothered by an intoxicated person, regardless of if they are homeless or not.

Just don't think about it

homeleeeeesss

The homeless camps

Traffic and unsafe nearby streets.

I walk my dogs through the park but because it doesn't have an off leash area, it doesn't serve a lot of value to me.

safety at night

I would love to do a picnic with friends but the tables and benches are just dirty.

Drug addicts and homeless people

I am concerned about safety in the park with the number of nearby homeless camps.

I have had a couple unpleasant run-ins with our homeless neighbors at the park. On one visit, there was a homeless woman trying to befriend my dog. A homeless man with her told me she had a bad infection and shouldn't be touching anyone or anything. It created a very uncomfortable situation. After the woman chased my dog around for a bit, I ended up leaving early. Like me, many people use it as a quasi dog park which is nice. However, some don't pick up after their pets well and are ruining it for the rest of us.

Dog poop. All the time. It's disgusting.

Na

Homeless hangout leaving lots to trash etc...

There is often alot of dog poop that dog owners don't pick up. Perhaps a dog poop bag dispenser would be worthwhile improvement.

Transients on a daily basis, however I chose to live within central city. Take the good with the bad, I guess.

The homeless camps.

It's scary, only go there because of work.

sorry to repeat. the people than sleep over / squat there.

In the last three years parks in central city in general have become gathering places for drug dealers

It's less of a park more of an encampment (especially with the empty lots between there & the rec center being used as homeless camps & [language redacted])

Dusk tends to be scary, obvious criminal behavior

No

Homeless

The people who camp out there, and argue among themselves loudly, and shout at people walking through. If there were more events, more general foot traffic, it wouldn't matter.

Sometimes the homeless seem to take over the park.

it doesn't feel that safe and there isn't a lot going on there. Some of that is the nature of the neighborhood and not something the city can necessarily fix- there are not regular ultimate frisbee games or anything going on, for example. I usually end up going (quite a bit further) to Liberty Park rather than spending time at Richmond Park.

#### Homeless camps

The homeless sometime spill over into the park, depending on raids or if they are being run out of other parts of the city. They can get ,verbally combative and will physically come into the residential yards, some clearly are high or have mental issues. It helps to have officers drive through or park for 5 minutes. Just drive through when going on are getting off shift enroute to the police station. Their presence makes a big difference and the officers don't have to engage anyone.

Sprinklers soaking the grass. Such a wasteful practice in our environment that does not naturally sustain green lawns. It seems mindless, especially when I see sprinklers opening during or after rainstorms. Chemicals used to keep the area weed free. All of that energy could be reassigned to fostering a community garden of healthy native plants and flowers that help pollinators thrive. Bees and butterflies are an investment that reward the environment. It's worth the effort and helpful. So please, let's stop wasting water on lawns we don't need.

Trash and homeless

Transient camps, garbage, dog poop

None

not really

The incessant drug dealing and massive homeless camps don't make me want to spend much time there anymore

Hypodermic needles & homeless

It appears kind of dirty by the picnic and play areas, and a lot of homeless ppl sleep there.

## Are there any reasons that prevent you from visiting Taufer Park?

As an adult with a teen I dont use play ground. I would enjoy a peaceful place to sit with wildlife habitat (ie birds, butterflies bees) and enjoy nature. A fountain might be nice. Increase visibility I do not support because a peaceful place should seclude you from the traffic and city. Cameras and Rangers / ground keepers can help with crime.

Because it's full of homeless people who have no other options.

Gang of homeless that hang out at the park. I have called parks and public lands, called 911 regularly. They come back within an hours. Saturday and Sunday nights especially racus. Same people all around the park Pooping and peeing on the wet side of the park.

Very arrogant do not respect that the park closes at 11pm.

**Homeless** 

Homeless always there, don't even like to walk by, won't walk on same side of the street

Homeless and drug trafficking issues

Homeless and drug users.

Homeless and open drug use

Homeless camps and trash

Homeless camps, drugs, anarchy

Homeless hangout

Homeless people

Homeless population

homeless presence

homeless recently - unsanitary for our family

I don't have kids myself so I don't have much reason to go but parents that live in the apartments right across the street can't take their kids there in good faith to play in a park that's supposed to be for them

I don't visit because of the people camped there all the time

I live across the street and this park makes me feel unsafe in my own home. I don't want to go anywhere near it.

I marked that I have never visited Taufer... You need to understand with your survey choices, I WILL NOT visit Taufer park because it is NOT SAFE, rather I walk by on my way to the Library. It is a horrible overflow spot of homeless people that come down from the Library or taking a break from taking anything of value that is not nailed down or that they can cut free with their bolt cutters. There are no facilities for them at Taufer which means human feces and trash all over. I live within a mile and the homeless are using the neighborhoods to prey upon for quick thievery and our yards to take dumps in or catch a few hours of sleep in before they gather their stuff up before homeowners wake up. Horrible that people are living this way.

I walk past Taufer Park frequently on the way to work. I seldom stop or walk through the park because of the number of homeless encampments.

I'd never intentionally "visit" Taufer Park. I walk or drive by weekly if not daily. I truly feel sorry for those living adjacent to this park. And I don't think having a women's shelter so close will ever help the park.

It doesn't feel safe. I wouldn't trust the playground for my child.

It has great amenities, but there are a lot of homeless people and drug dealers and it is very dirty and scary.

It is always full of homeless people. I have found used needles all over, and regularly see drug deals happening. It just seems really dirty, and is not the kind of place I would ever want to spend time. I live around the corner, so I walk past daily. After dark, I will always cross the street to avoid the park, because no a single light works and it is just dark and creepy. It is honestly a place I try to avoid, and I think others do, too. I have lived in this neighborhood for five years, and not once have I seen children or families playing there. It is known as a dirty, druggie, homeless park, and I think the city really needs to address cleaning it up and making the neighborhood a bit cleaner, safer, and better for families.

it is completely full of homeless and drug addicts

It is dirty and seems like a dumping ground for trash from certain people who live on that block.

It is not a park that people go to utilize as a park. It is utilized as a hangout and sleeping park

it's become a campground for people experiencing homelessness. not sure if drugs and alcohol are a part of the group activities. i feel unsafe bringing my kids their now. i have enjoyed it in the past.

It's dark and lots of people loitering there at night. I live right across from that park and it makes me extremely nervous.

It's like walking thru someone's living room. Broken bottles, trash & food strewn about.

It's a heroin den. I used to go there regularly.. but then Sheriff Winder closed the jail to non violent offenders, drug and property crime went unchecked for about three years, Op Rio Grand caused a splash effect, and the park(s) filled up with professional thieves, low level drug dealers, and became a fun little neighborhood skid row.

Justin is our father and our grandfather and we traditionally go to the park to celebrate Father's day with our grandchildren, but this year we could not stay there because of the homeless in the park. We did not feel safe since they homeless were yelling at each other and being very disruptive. We also feel the bronze plate honoring Justin needs to be taken care of a little better so you can read it.

Large homeless population camping there during the day and the garbage/possessions that are piled up in places.

nope

Not convenient, especially since I live so close to Richmond Park.

Not really interested in city-type parks. More interested in natural areas or trails.

Only that it is slightly further from my apt.

Our homeless neighbors. Unfortunately, it has become the homeless park. My niece and nephew were visiting and rode their bikes down to the park. They quickly returned because they felt unsafe. My niece said there were a few people who seemed like they were on drugs. Adult men are often sitting around the play equipment that is rarely used by children for obvious reasons. I want our homeless neighbors to feel welcome in public spaces, but I wish they wouldn't stake out spots around children's play areas. It's a frequent occurrence to see police cars next to the park. A friend of mine is a "Taufer". He and his family have an annual tradition to have a picnic at the park to honor the person whom the park is named after, but they couldn't this year. They showed up and immediately left for safety reasons.

Seems to attract drugs, prostitution, homeless who camp and usually has garbage strewn about.

Since operation Rio Granderson, taufer park has become a popular place for drug dealers and campers to stay for days and nights on end. I've witnessed several instances of aggression which have been reported to the police, however, the need for better oversight and enforcement doesn't seem to be understood by the city

Sometimes individuals hanging out look dubious/threatening

State Street traffic.

Stinky homeless druggies crackheads prevent me from visting the park.

Taufer park has large amount of homeless encampments. Project rio grande only relocated the homeless population. I understand they need to go somewhere, so I understand why they are at the park, but because of all the encampments the park is full of garbage. I've seen used needles and other dangerous objects there. This has only been a problem the last year or so.

Taufer park is basically a new rio grand. On one hand it's getting a lot of use but on the other, it's so crowded with homeless folks that it would be hard for anyone else to use it. I would be concerned about taking kids or my dog there even after the police have gone through and pushed every one out because I already see needles and dime bags on the sidewalks in the surrounding area, I'm sure the park is even worse.

The criminal element there is out of control. It's terrifying to bring kids there now.

The fact that the city allows large amounts of people to crowd such a small park that's located directly next to senior housing is a disgrace. The fact that the park is dark at night is a public safety issue that has been ignored for years. Do something now!

The homeless camps - they have taken over that park.

The homeless population.

The large amount of dangerous individuals and drugs

The trash, transient camps. Last time I took my child there, a man was just walking around yelling expletives. He needs help but I need to take care of my child.

There are often homeless people hanging out at the park, especially during the warmer months. They are messy and loud.

There are times when Taufer is inundated with people camping. People experiencing homelessness should be welcome in our public spaces, but we need more consistent enforcement against the ones who are aggressive and using the space as a bedroom and bathroom.

There can be a lot of garbage left by homeless campers.

This is a small pocket park. I don't live close enough to utilize it. I have similar parks closer to my residence.

This is a very scary park. And attracts transients. I have put up cameras around my house because the problem is so bad.

#### **Transients**

Was told I should be careful because lots of homeless camp there. Sometimes rude and say things to you. If not there I might stop more often.

We live w block away and have a three-year old that would love to play at this park. Unfortunately the homeless population has made this their home and we've encountered feces, trash, and needles here and cannot bring her here without a serious clean up of this park. Instead we drive to other neighborhood parks they are better maintained.

We used to take our kids there all the time - since Operation Rio Grande I wouldn't let my kids go there alone & we no longer go there at all since it's not safe, dirty and a homeless encampment.

Yes, I can't go on walks around my neighborhood like I used to because there are usually huge homeless encampments at the park all day and all night. I barely want to walk past there, I DEFINITELY don't go to the park. I remember kids used to play there and families would hang out there a few years ago but since the homeless camps have arrived, I don't see anyone using the park anymore. It's a really cute spot with nice trees but I'm a young female and I'm tired of getting harassed every time I go near there. Sometimes the park will empty and law enforcement will kick everyone out but it's usually only a week or so before they come back again. The park doesn't need more amenities, it needs consistent security and the homeless need to have an actual place to go.

You cant even walk by the park. The homeless are always camping there and drug dealers are nearby. Winter is the best time to use the park because the homeless are usually gone. But spring, summer and fall you are not safe.