



San Luis Obispo County Parks and the Nipomo Community Advisory Council
NIPOMO COMMUNITY PARK RECREATION SURVEY
OVERVIEW OF RESULTS

Table 1: Existing Recreation Opportunities

Question 1: Existing Recreation Opportunities. Please indicate whether each of the following recreation opportunities and facilities should be reduced, remain the same, or be increased.

Existing Recreation Opportunities	Reduce	Remain the same	Increase a little	Increase a lot
Walking/jogging/bicycling trails	3%	35%	35%	27%
Restrooms	1%	36%	49%	13%
Children’s play equipment	3%	38%	43%	15%
Individual picnic areas	3%	43%	43%	12%
Parking	2%	46%	39%	12%
Group picnic areas	3%	49%	40%	8%
Multipurpose sports fields	4%	51%	28%	17%
Wilderness areas	10%	49%	21%	20%
Basketball courts	4%	55%	30%	11%
Botanical gardens/exhibits	11%	50%	26%	14%
Equestrian trails	15%	50%	22%	13%
Off-leash dog area	15%	54%	19%	12%
Volleyball courts	6%	63%	26%	5%
Tennis courts	6%	66%	22%	6%
Horseshoe pits	8%	65%	23%	4%

**Figure 1: Existing Recreation Opportunities
Increase a little and a lot**

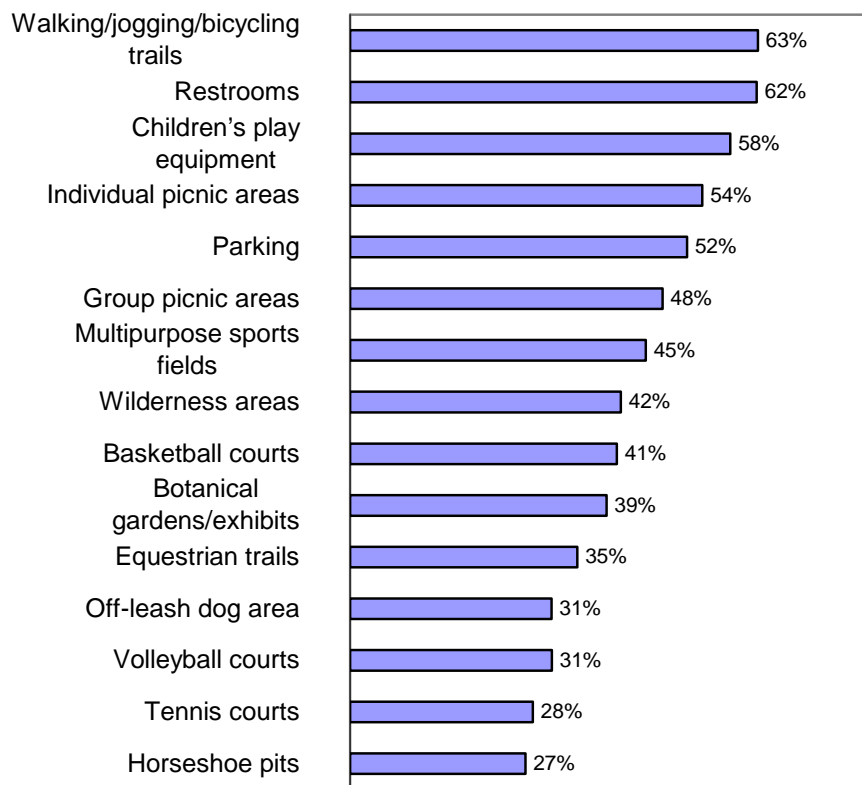


Table 2: Proposed Recreation Opportunities

Question 2: Proposed Recreation Opportunities. Please indicate your level of support for the following proposed recreation opportunities and facilities.

Proposed Recreation Opportunities	Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Neutral	Support	Strongly Support
Recreation/Community Center (gym, meeting rooms, kitchen, etc.)	8%	12%	24%	31%	25%
Swimming pool	11%	14%	22%	28%	25%
Amphitheater for outdoor performing arts	10%	13%	29%	31%	17%
Low impact activities (shuffleboard, lawn bowling, etc.)	7%	7%	44%	34%	9%
Skateboard park	18%	13%	27%	28%	14%
Community meeting rooms	9%	15%	37%	30%	9%
Equestrian arena (no rodeos or commercial events)	15%	19%	34%	21%	11%
Horse trailer parking area	17%	17%	38%	19%	10%
Community vegetable gardens	13%	20%	42%	18%	7%
Paved bicycle paths	4%	54%	31%	11%	0%

Figure 2: Proposed Recreation Opportunities Support and strongly support

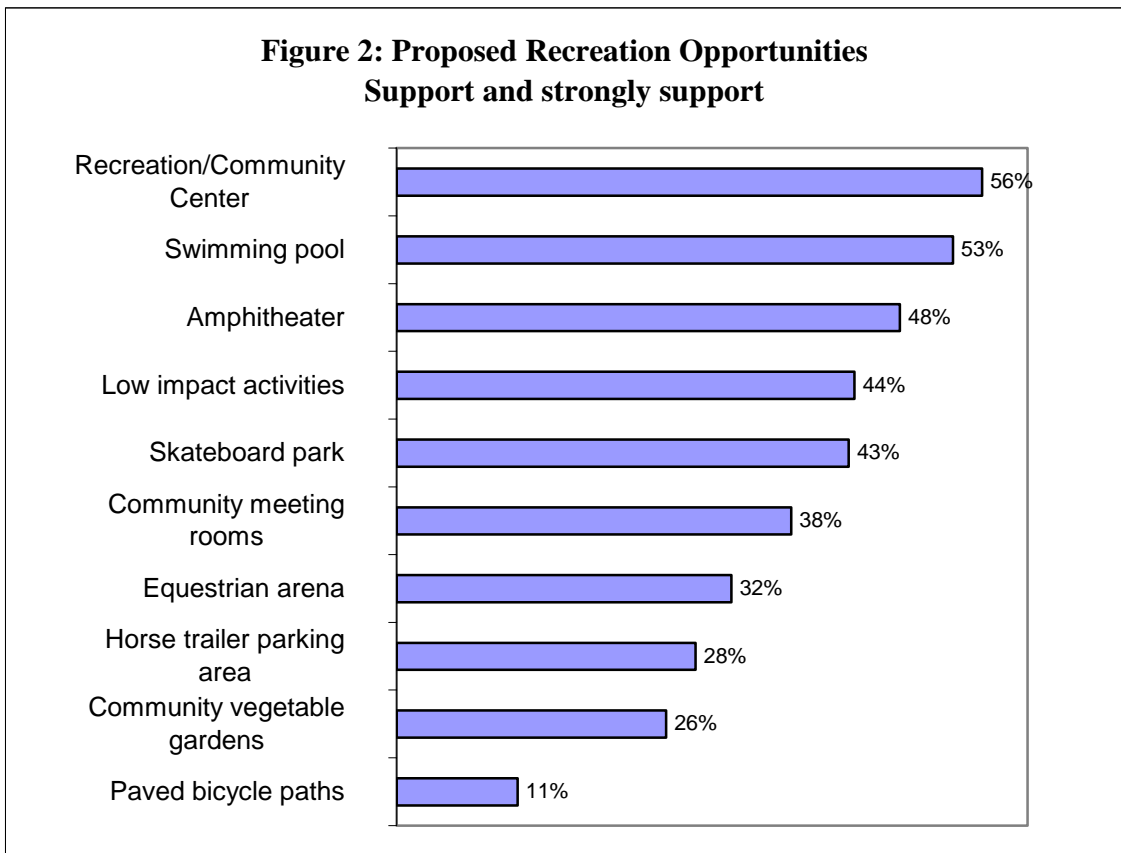


Table 3: Additional Proposed Activities

Suggestion

- Areas for younger children
- Water feature
- Handball courts
- Hockey/ice rink
- Frisbee golf
- Lighting
- Dedicated soccer fields
- Other swimming
- Afterschool programs
- Rollerblade/roller hockey
- Senior activities
- Dedicated softball fields
- Bicycle track
- Other trails
- Rodeo grounds
- Batting cages
- Fitness Trail
- Indoor gym

Table 4: Park Use

Question 3: Park Use. How often have you or your family used Nipomo Community Park during the past 12 months?

Category	Percent
Total	100%
Never	16%
Occasionally	38%
Once a month	17%
Once a week	17%
More than once a week	11%

Table 5: Funding Options

Question 4: Funding. In order to finance the development and maintenance of improvements in Nipomo Community Park, which of the following funding methods would you support?

Options	Total	Strongly Oppose	Oppose	Neutral	Support	Strongly Support
Property tax assessment on property owners	100%	40%	18%	20%	17%	5%
Assess special fees on new construction	100%	15%	8%	27%	32%	18%
User fees paid by those who use the park facilities	100%	9%	9%	16%	43%	23%

Question 5: Funding Amount. If an assessment of properties is proposed to fund improvements that you want in Nipomo Community Park, how much would you be willing to pay annually?

Total	100%
\$0	25%
\$1-10	23%
\$11-25	17%
\$26-50	20%
\$51-100	12%
Over \$100	4%

Table 6: Demographic Characteristics

Survey Return Rates		
Completed surveys were returned by 522 households, a survey return rate of 17%. The response rate for Oceano (5%) was unusually low, given that about 800 surveys (26%) were distributed to Oceano residents. With Oceano removed from the calculations, the survey return rate would be 22%. The typical return rate for a mail survey is 20%. An additional 51 surveys were completed by park users onsite at Nipomo Community Park.		
Area of Residence		
	Survey	
Nipomo east of 101	14%	
Nipomo west of 101	54%	
Black Lake Village	8%	
Callender-Garrett	2%	
Los Berros	5%	
Palo Mesa	3%	
Oceano	5%	
Rural Arroyo Grande	7%	
Other	2%	
	100%	
Nipomo Only		
	Survey	Census
Nipomo east of 101	21%	21%
Nipomo west of 101	79%	79%
Number of households w/ children under 18		
	Survey	Census
	42%	41%
Number of households w/ adults 65 and over		
	Survey	Census
	31%	28%
Gender		
	Survey	Census
Female	55%	51%
Male	45%	49%
	100%	100%
Home Ownership		
	Survey	Census
Own	91%	71%
Rent	9%	29%
	100%	100%
Racial/ethnic background		
	Survey	Census
Hispanic	14%	21%
Other Anglo/White/Caucasian	83%	74%
Black or African-American	0%	5%
Native American	2%	
Asian or Pacific Islander	1%	
Other	0%	
	100%	100%
Household Income		
	Survey	Census
Less than \$10,000 a year	2%	6%
\$10,000 - \$24,999	9%	17%
\$25,000 - \$39,999	15%	20%
\$40,000 - \$59,999	22%	20%
\$60,000 - \$99,999	31%	24%
\$100,000 and over	21%	13%
	100%	100%

Table 7: Background Variables and Recreation Opportunity Ratings

Regular park users (those that use the park at least occasionally) were:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • more likely to be Nipomo residents; • more likely to have children in the home; • more supportive of increases in basketball courts, children’s play equipment, and equestrian trails; • more supportive of adding an amphitheater for outdoor performing arts, community meeting rooms, paved bicycle paths, a recreation / community center, and a swimming pool; and, • more supportive of the use of property tax assessments and special fees on new construction to fund improvements.
Households with children were:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • generally more supportive of increasing existing recreation facilities and adding more proposed recreation facilities; • more likely to use the park than households without children; • more supportive of increases in basketball courts, children’s play equipment, and multipurpose sports fields; and, • more supportive adding a horse trailer parking area, paved bicycle paths, recreation / community center, skateboard park, and swimming pool.
Renters were:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • more supportive of increasing the group picnic areas; and, • more supportive of adding a swimming pool to the park.
The Hispanic participants were:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • more supportive of increasing the following existing recreation facilities: basketball courts, group picnic areas, horseshoe pits, and restrooms; and, • more supportive of the creation of a recreation / community center at the park.
Participants interviewed onsite at the park were
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • more supportive of increasing the horseshoe pits and more supportive of the proposed swimming pool; and, • less supportive of user fees to fund improvements in the park.
The analysis of background variables used statistical techniques (t-tests, analysis of variance, Chi square, and correlation) to determine whether the background variables were “significantly” (in a statistical sense) related to the participants’ opinions about existing recreation opportunities, proposed recreation opportunities, and park funding issues.