

# DEFOREST PARK VISION PLAN

LONG BEACH CITY COUNCIL

CITY OF  
LONGBEACH



## ATTACHMENT A



**THE DEFOREST PARK VISION PLAN PROVIDES STRATEGIC GUIDANCE FOR FUTURE INVESTMENTS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO MAXIMIZE IMPACT, BEST SERVE THE COMMUNITY, AND ENHANCE THE OVERALL PARK USER EXPERIENCE.**

**ABOUT THE DEFOREST PARK VISION PLAN**



**Conservation Corps  
of Long Beach**



**Camp Fire**

**Camp Fire  
Angeles Council**



**Ninth District  
Council Office**

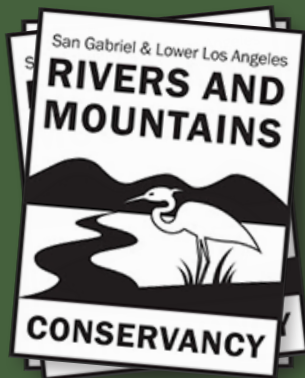


**City of Long Beach  
Department of Parks  
Recreation and Marine**



**City  
Fabrick**

**Funded by RMC Prop 1** a coalition of local nonprofits have **partnered** with the City of Long Beach to create a “Vision Plan” for DeForest Park.



## **WHAT IS RMC Prop 1?**

California voters approved the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (RMC Prop 1) which authorized \$7.5 billion dollars in general bonds for the acquisition, development, rehabilitation, restoration, and protection of land and water resources.

# DEFOREST PARK PARTNERSHIPS

## CONSERVATION COPRS OF LONG BEACH

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Once the Right-of-Entry permit is issued, the Department will enter into lease negotiations with Conservation Corps and Camp Fire.

The leases will be presented to commission and council for approval. At approval the leases will be executed prior to the start of construction. The terms of the lease will not go into effect until the certificate of occupancy is issued.

# DEFOREST PARK VISION PLAN

## ABOUT THE VISION PLAN



**2016**

LA County identifies North Long Beach as having a “very high” need for parks and open space.

- Citywide Average: 5.6 acres of park per 1,000 residents
- North Long Beach Average: 0.9 acres of park per 1,000 residents



**2018**

The City of Long Beach studied the potential for new parks and open spaces in North Long Beach.



**2019**

**August: Site Analysis**

- Walking tours
- Demographic, health, and spatial study
- Site survey & photo documentation
- Relevant planning and policy efforts

**September: Park Assessment**

- Community & project team park assessments

Project Start

# DEFOREST PARK VISION PLAN

## ABOUT THE VISION PLAN

**2019**

### **October: First Workshop Series**

- Public workshops
- DeForest Park Neighborhood Association
- Stakeholder group outreach
- Print & online survey

**2020**

### **January: Second Workshop Series**

- Public workshops
- DeForest Park Neighborhood Association
- Stakeholder group outreach
- Print survey

### **March: Third Workshop Series**

- Workshops at public events
- DeForest Park Neighborhood Association
- Signs and posters
- Stakeholder group outreach
- Online survey
- Conceptual Design & Vision Plan Draft

### **June: Long Beach Parks and Recreation Commission**

### **TODAY: Long Beach City Council**

# DEFOREST PARK VISION PLAN

## EXISTING CONDITIONS

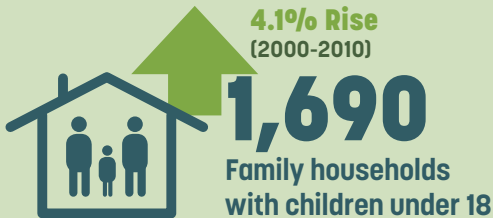
### DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

Sources:  
US Census 2010 & 2000  
& CalEnviroScreen 3.0

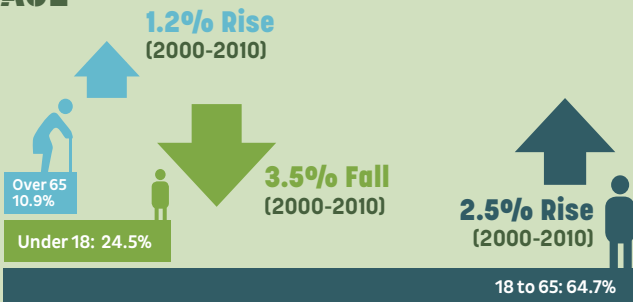
#### POPULATION



#### FAMILIES



#### AGE



#### EMISSIONS



**44.36 kg/day**  
Diesel Particulate Matter  
&

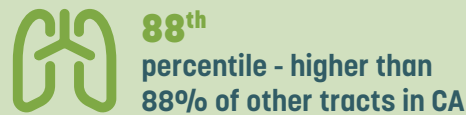
**12.13 ug/m3**  
Particulate Matter 2.5  
Risk of heart & lung disease, irregular  
heartbeat, asthma decreased lung  
function, and other serious issues

#### DIVERSITY



Latino/a/x  
African American  
White  
Asian  
Other

#### ASTHMA RATES



#### FOREIGN BORN



#### CHILDHOOD OBESITY



#### LANGUAGES



# DEFOREST PARK VISION PLAN COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

## ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY



13

Public Workshops  
& Stakeholder Meetings



156

Park Assessments &  
Community Surveys



7

Park Ideas Created  
by the Community





# DEFOREST PARK VISION PLAN

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



## PARK ASSESSMENT

A Park Assessment is a user-friendly and reliable tool designed to evaluate the physical condition of parks and their potential to promote physical activity.

- 2 Public Park Assessments
- Available in Multiple Languages
- 22 Park Assessments Participants
- Build Community Trust

### SUMMARY OF PARK ASSESSMENT FINDINGS:

- The park has a diversity of options to play, exercise, and participate in recreational activities.
- Wetlands restoration is good example for improvement.
- Having open grassy areas in the park is a valuable asset for the community.
- There are opportunities to enjoy the park in passive recreation, such as strolling or experiencing nature.
- The playground and tennis court are in good condition.
- The park is built at an appropriate scale.
- There are several areas that are dark or hidden, making these areas feel unsafe.
- The general infrastructure of the park and its amenities need improvement and maintenance.
- Community center is aging and needs improvement.
- The park and its facilities have limited ADA accessibility.
- Not enough areas to sit down.
- Unsafe driving behavior limits park access for pedestrians and bicyclists.
- Litter and illegal dumping makes the park unattractive.

# DEFOREST PARK VISION PLAN COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



## WORKSHOP SERIES 1 [DISCOVERY]

The activity asked community members to share their knowledge about the existing conditions of the park, considering the needs of others through role-playing.

- 3 Public Community Workshops
- 33 Existing Conditions Activity Participants



# WORKSHOP ONE - EXISTING CONDITIONS ACTIVITY

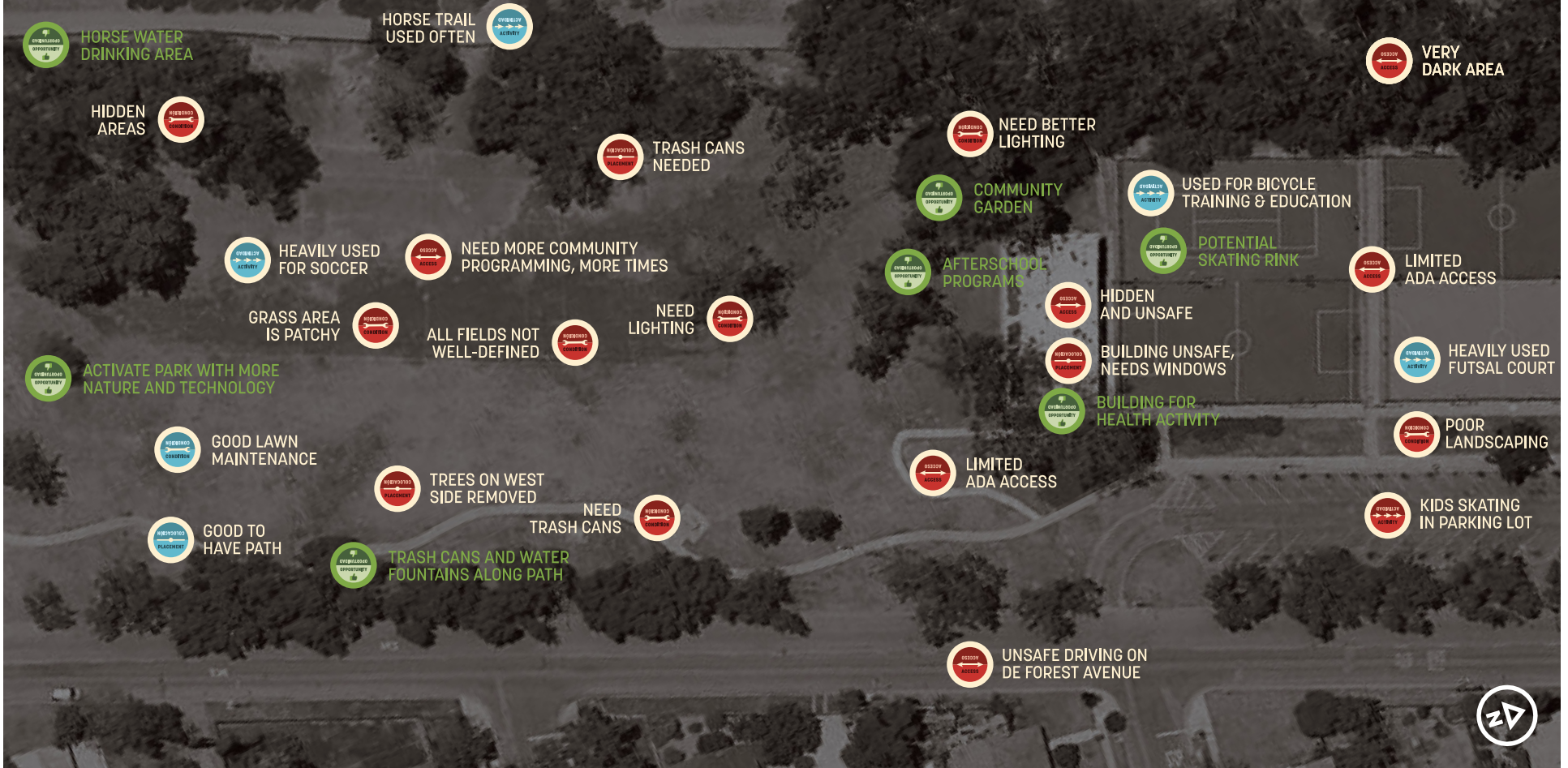
## NORTH END OF THE PARK



	<b>GOOD PLACEMENT</b>		<b>GOOD ACCESS</b>		<b>GOOD ACTIVITY</b>		<b>GOOD CONDITION</b>		<b>OPPORTUNITY</b>
	<b>BAD PLACEMENT</b>		<b>BAD ACCESS</b>		<b>BAD ACTIVITY</b>		<b>BAD CONDITION</b>		<b>CHALLENGE</b>

# WORKSHOP ONE - EXISTING CONDITIONS ACTIVITY

## MIDDLE OF THE PARK



**GOOD  
PLACEMENT**



**GOOD  
ACCESS**



**GOOD  
ACTIVITY**



**GOOD  
CONDITION**



**OPPORTUNITY**



**BAD  
PLACEMENT**



**BAD  
ACCESS**



**BAD  
ACTIVITY**



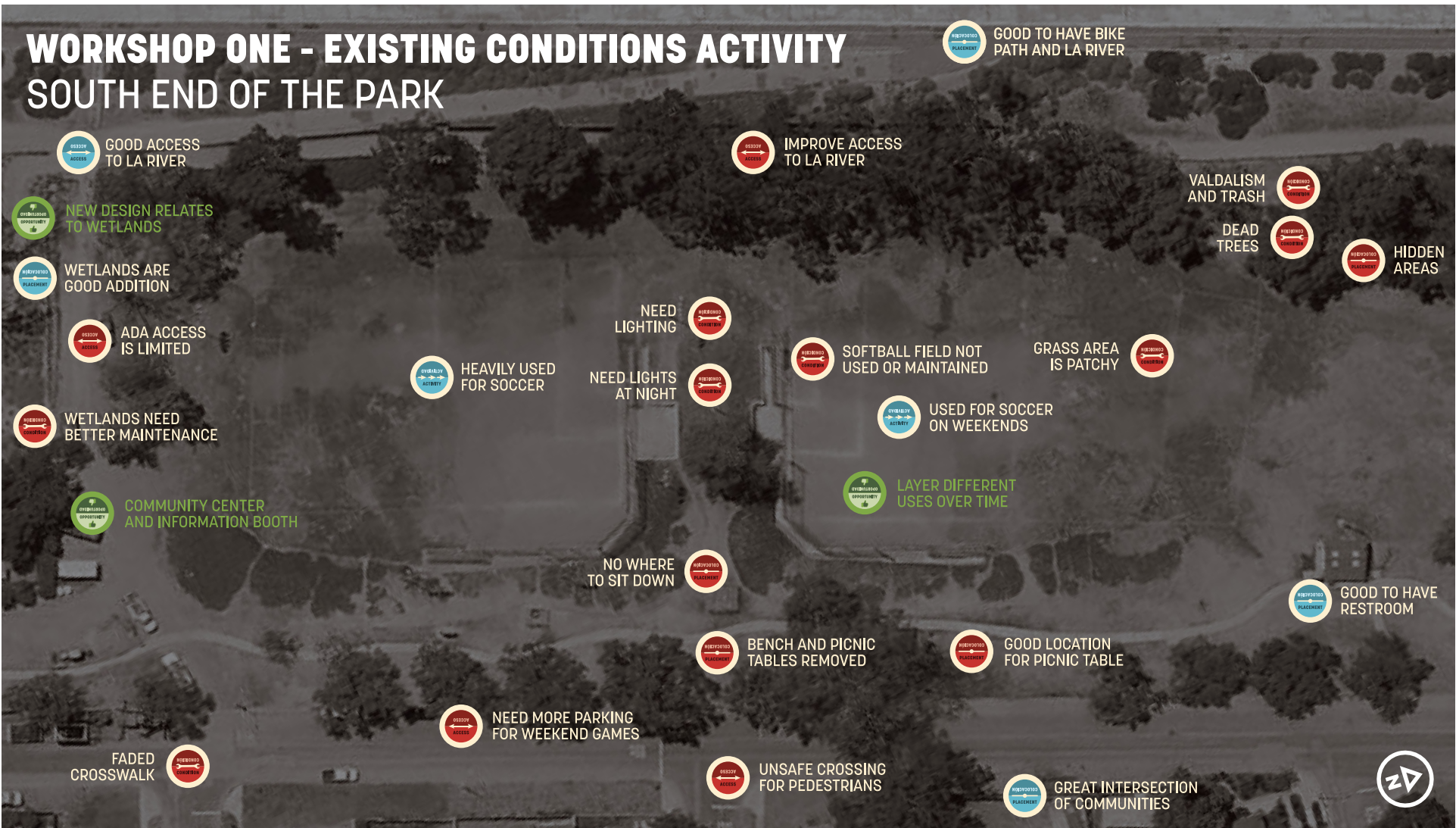
**BAD  
CONDITION**



**CHALLENGE**

# WORKSHOP ONE - EXISTING CONDITIONS ACTIVITY

## SOUTH END OF THE PARK



**GOOD PLACEMENT**



**GOOD ACCESS**



**GOOD ACTIVITY**



**GOOD CONDITION**



**OPPORTUNITY**



**BAD PLACEMENT**



**BAD ACCESS**



**BAD ACTIVITY**

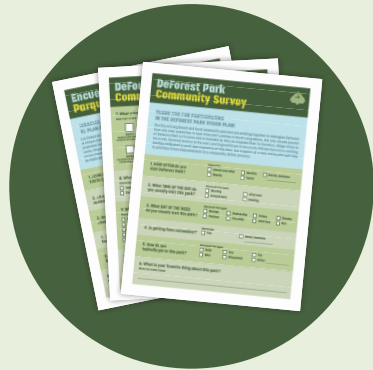


**BAD CONDITION**



**CHALLENGE**

# DEFOREST PARK VISION PLAN COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



## PUBLIC SURVEYS

Short surveys were distributed in-person and online and in multiple languages to understand how community members use DeForest Park.

- **52 Responses**

### SUMMARY OF SURVEY FINDINGS:

- The park is active both during the day and night, and throughout the entire week.
- Getting here is very convenient.
- Most people access the park by walking over. Some people drive or bike over to the park.
- People are attracted to the park because of the walking trail, wetlands, and its close proximity to people's homes.
- The top community priority for the future of the park is "safety", "upgrades", and "education".
- The secondary community priorities are "accessibility", "sustainability", and "health".
- The community believes that the population group we should be most mindful of is "families".
- Community members are willing to get involved with the change, mainly by reporting any issues to the police or by using the "Go Long Beach" app.
- People are also willing to help participate in neighborhood cleanups and attending public meetings.

# DEFOREST PARK VISION PLAN COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



## WORKSHOP SERIES 2 [OPPORTUNITY]

The activity asked community members to identifying potential park opportunities for the park to best serve the needs of all park users through a board game.

- 4 Public Community Workshops + 3 Stakeholder Workshops
- 63 Design Your Park Activity Participants



# DEFOREST PARK VISION PLAN

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT





# DEFOREST PARK VISION PLAN COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

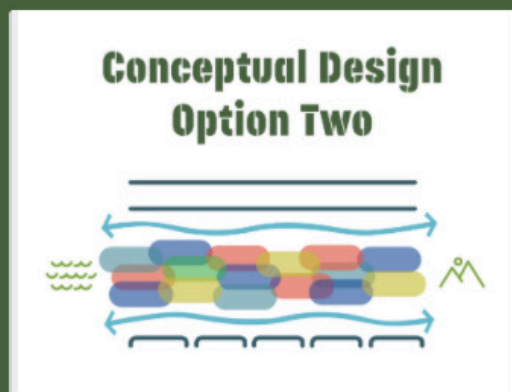


## WORKSHOP SERIES 3 [REFINEMENT]

The online survey asked community members to choose between two conceptual designs and answer questions to refine the final community conceptual design.

- 1 Virtual Public Workshop
- 82 Survey Participants

\* 1. Which of the two Conceptual Design options do you like more?



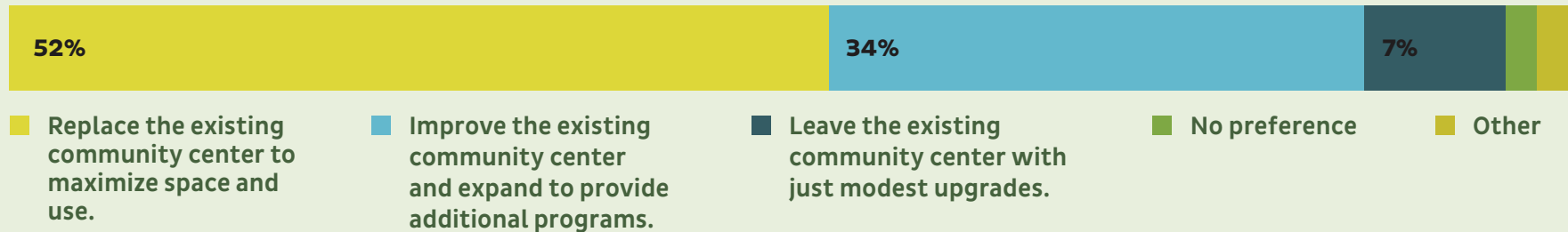
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## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

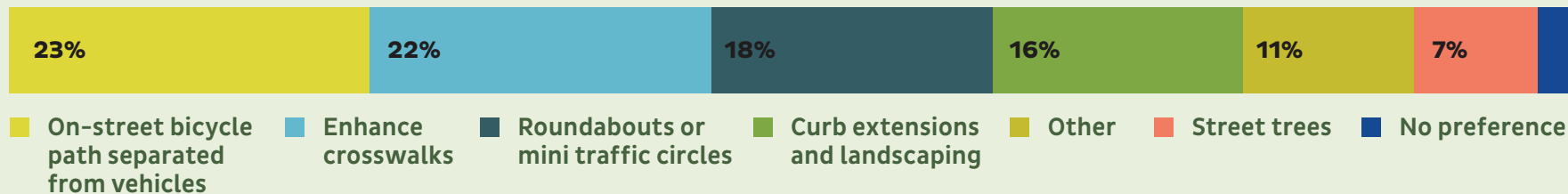
### 1. WHICH OF THE TWO CONCEPTUAL DESIGN OPTIONS DO YOU LIKE MORE?



### 2. THE COMMUNITY CENTER IS AGING AND IN NEED OF IMPROVEMENTS. TO WHAT EXTENT SHOULD THE COMMUNITY BUILDINGS BE IMPROVED AND/OR REPLACED?



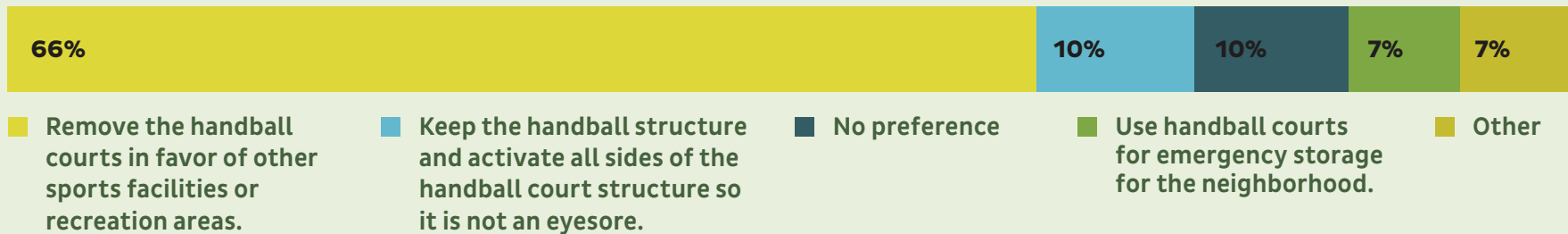
### 3. COMMUNITY MEMBERS REPORT UNSAFE DRIVING BEHAVIOR NEAR THE PARK, WHAT POTENTIAL IMPROVEMENTS WOULD YOU PREFER TO MAKE DEFOREST AVENUE SAFER PARK USERS?



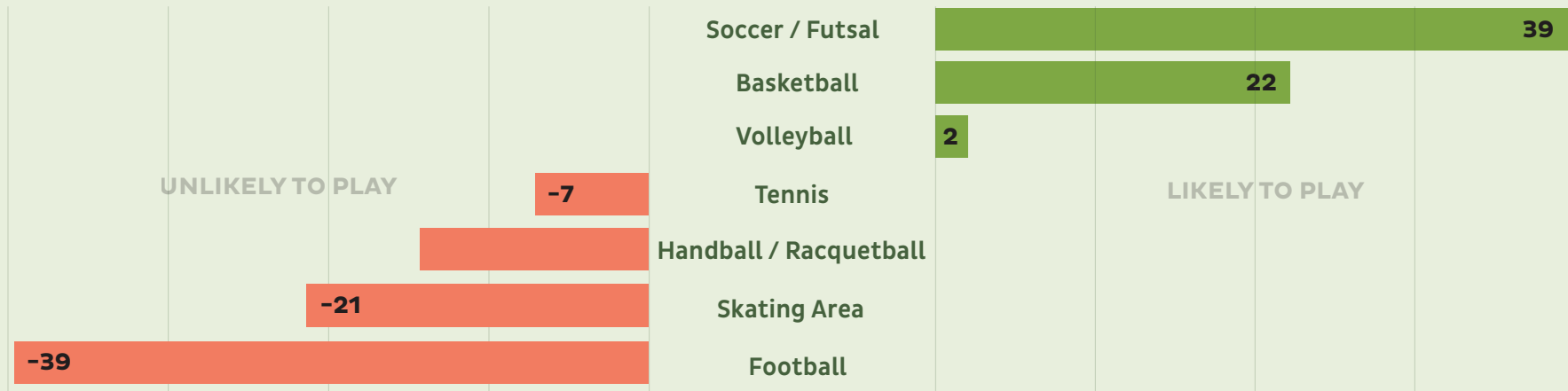
# DEFOREST PARK VISION PLAN

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

4. CURRENTLY THE HANDBALL COURT STRUCTURE IS CLOSED DOWN AND INACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC. IT ALSO DIVIDES THE PARK INTO TWO, LIMITING NORTH-SOUTH ACCESSIBILITY AND CREATING HIDDEN AND UNSAFE AREAS. SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS OF POTENTIAL FUTURE USES OF THE SPACE AS SUGGESTED BY COMMUNITY MEMBERS:



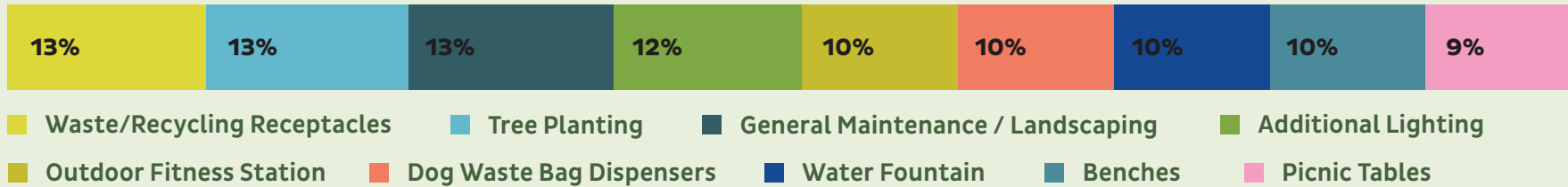
5. PARK USERS SHARED THAT SPORTS COURTS AND FIELDS HAVE DIFFERENT LEVELS OF DEMAND AND USE DEPENDING OF THE TIME OF DAY. PLEASE SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS TO HOW LIKELY YOU AND YOUR FAMILY ARE TO USE THE FOLLOWING SPORTS FACILITIES:



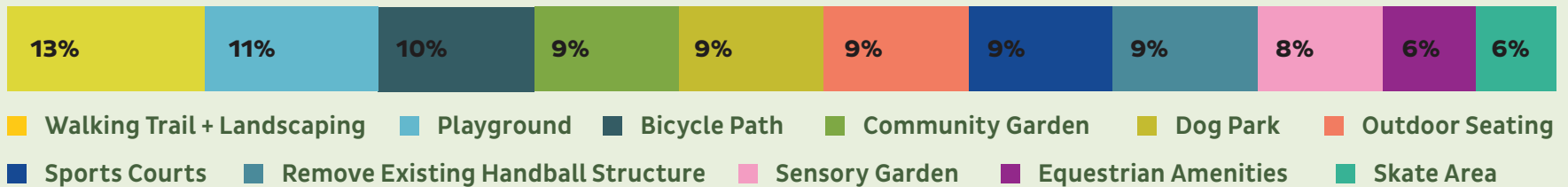
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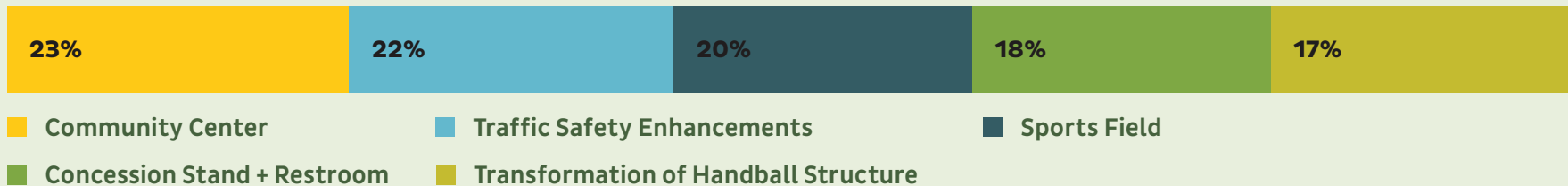
### 6. HOW WOULD YOU PRIORITIZE THESE POTENTIAL SMALLER SIZE PROJECTS?



### 7. HOW WOULD YOU PRIORITIZE THESE POTENTIAL MEDIUM SIZE PROJECTS?

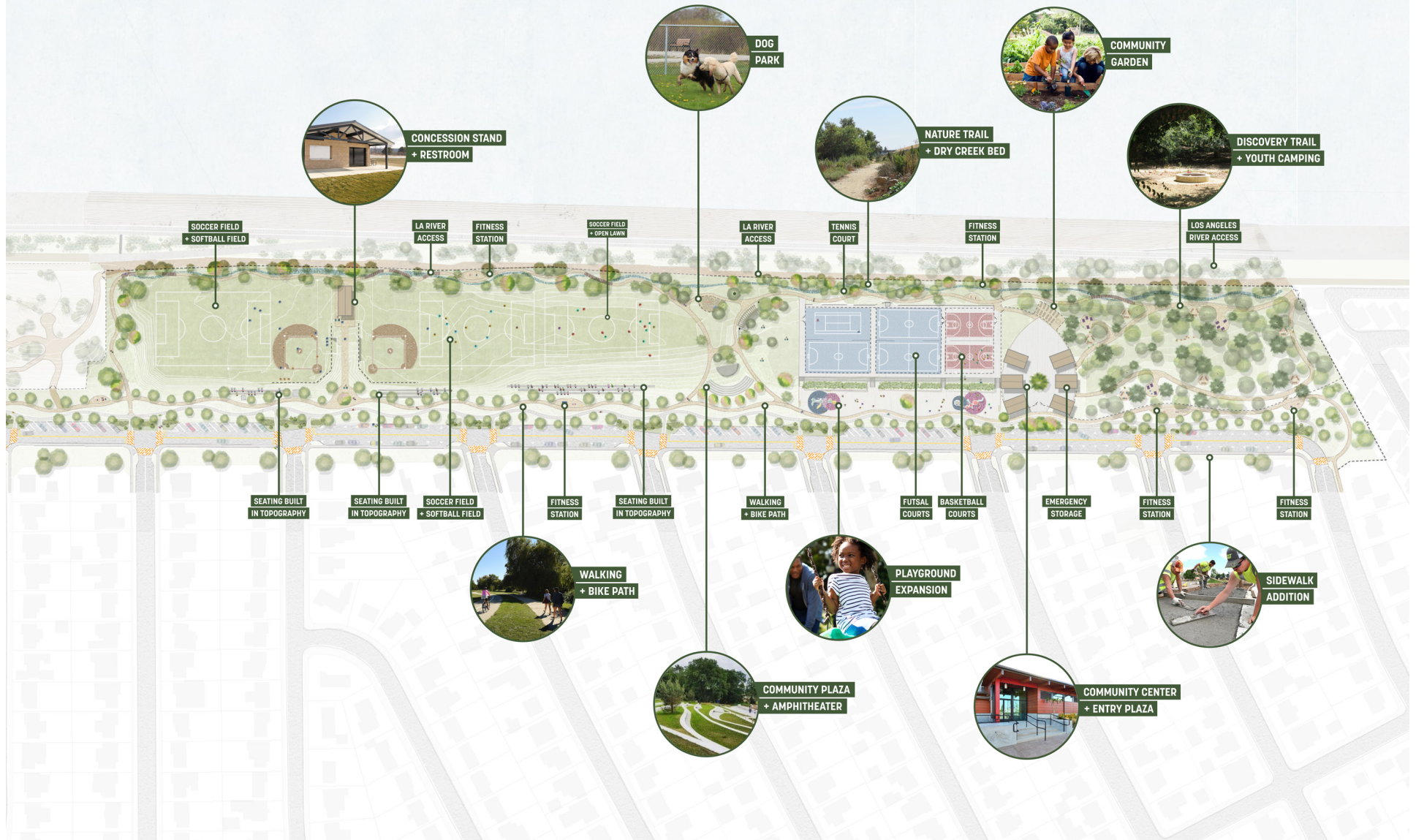


### 8. HOW WOULD YOU PRIORITIZE THESE POTENTIAL LARGER SIZE PROJECTS?



# DEFOREST PARK VISION PLAN

## VISION PLAN CONCEPT



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# **DEFOREST PARK VISION PLAN**

## **NEXT STEPS**

### **FUNDING SECURED**

**DeForest Wetlands Grant**

**San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles RMC Proposition 1 Planning Grant**

**Conservation Corps of Long Beach Facility Grant**

**Camp Fire Grant - Port of Long Beach**



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