



Van Bibber Park Visitor Survey

Dates Wednesday, July 22, 2020 to Wednesday, August 12, 2020

Objective To better understand the visitor's experience on Van Bibber Park's trail system and gauge the interest of a proposed trail extension between Indiana Street and Fairmont Trail.

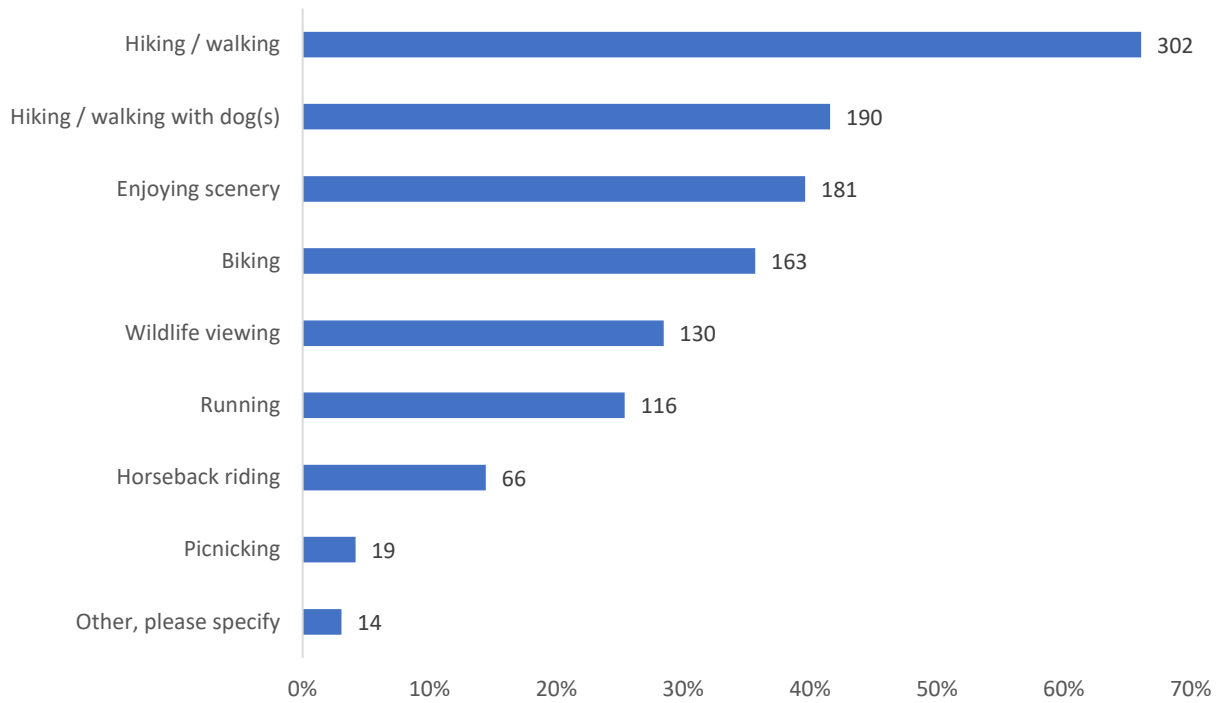
Key Findings

457 online surveys were completed

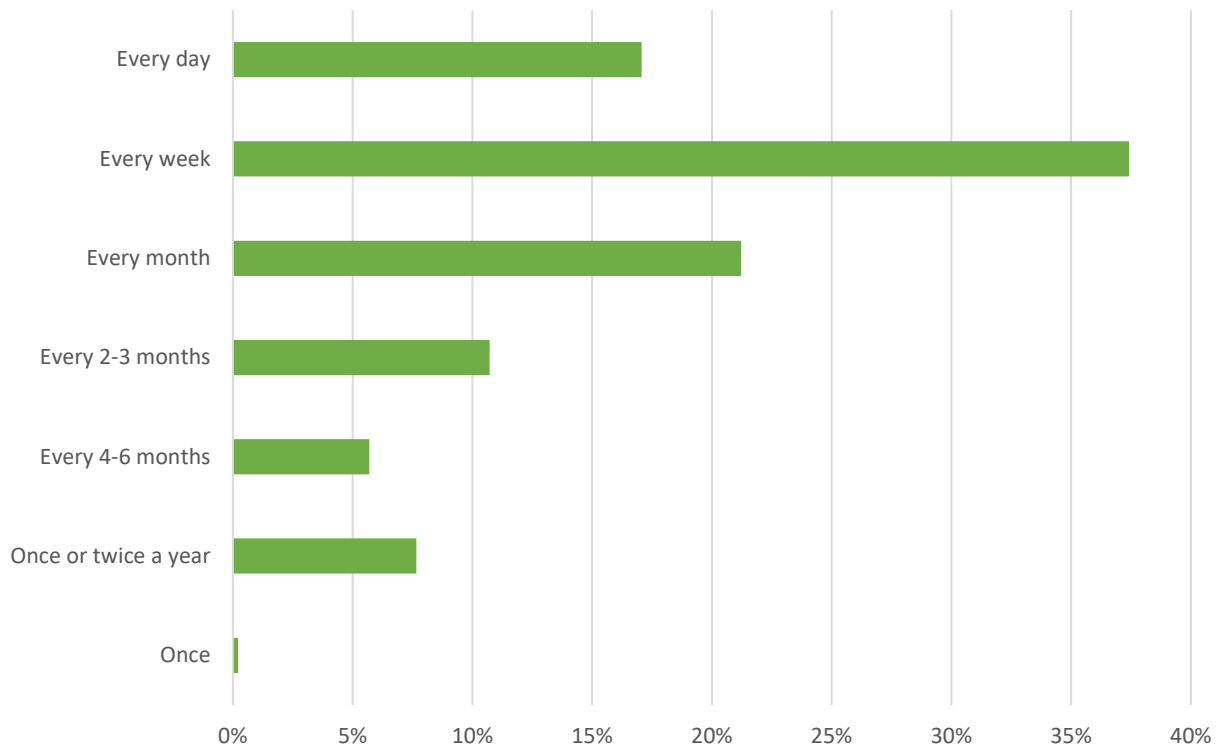
- Top motivations for visiting Van Bibber:
 - Hiking / walking (66%)
 - Hiking / walking with dog(s) (42%)
 - Enjoying scenery (40%)
 - Biking (36%)
 - Wildlife viewing (28%)
 - Running (25%)
 - Horseback riding (14%)
- Visitors predominately travel to the park by:
 - Car (40%)
 - Run / walk (35%)
 - Bike (13%)
 - Horseback (10%)
- 28% of visitors have experienced recreation conflict at Van Bibber Park.
- Visitors have had their experiences at the park negatively impacted by:
 - Conflict with a biker (46 respondents)
 - Conflict with a dog (28 respondents)
 - Conflict with a horse/equestrian (14 respondents)
 - Conflict with a hiker (12 respondents)
 - Conflict with a trail runner (4 respondents)
- 87% of respondents believed that expanding the Van Bibber Creek Trail from Indiana Street to the west to Fairmont Trail would improve their experience at the park.
- Specific to the trail extension, respondents preferred:
 - Combination of concrete surface trail with a parallel natural surface trail (57%)
 - Natural surface trail (31%)
 - Concrete surface trail (12%)

Note: Raw data from Survey123 can be found [here](#).

WHAT ARE YOUR PRIMARY ACTIVITIES AT VAN BIBBER PARK? (SELECT ALL THAT APPLY) N = 457

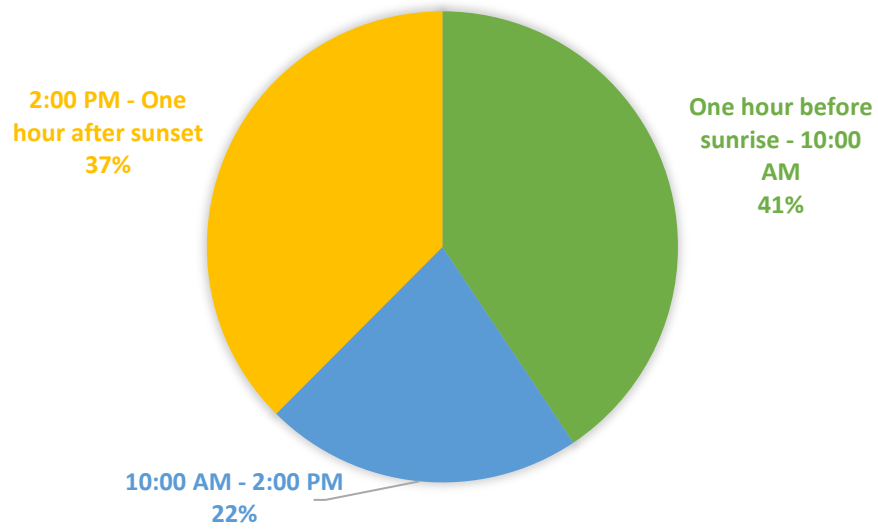


HOW OFTEN DO YOU VISIT VAN BIBBER PARK? N = 457

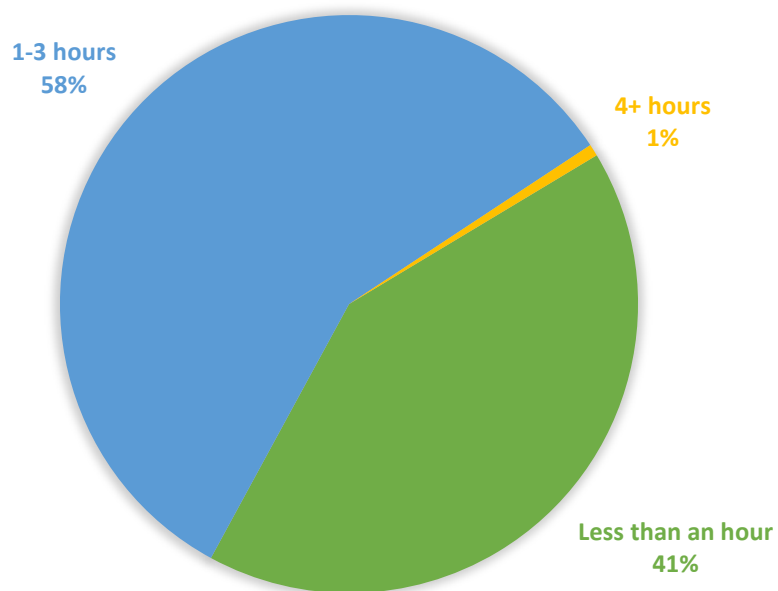


WHAT TIME DO YOU TYPICALLY VISIT THE PARK?

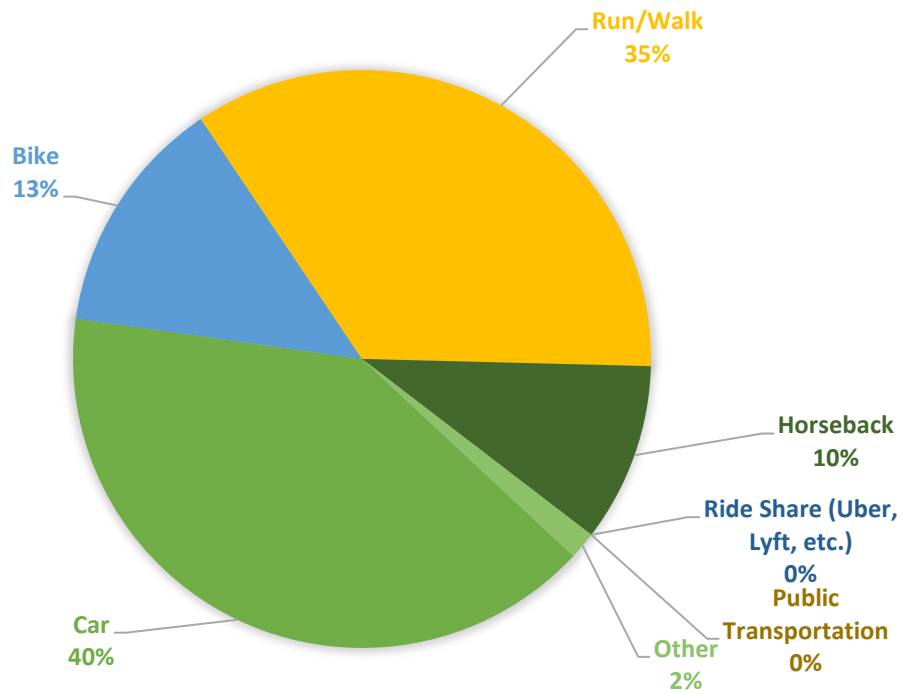
N = 453



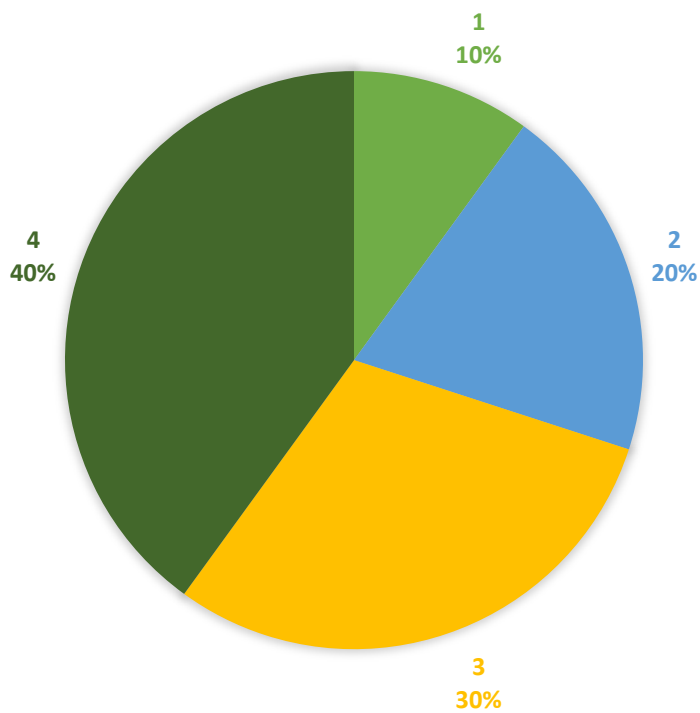
ON AVERAGE, HOW LONG DO YOU STAY WHEN YOU VISIT THIS PARK? N=455



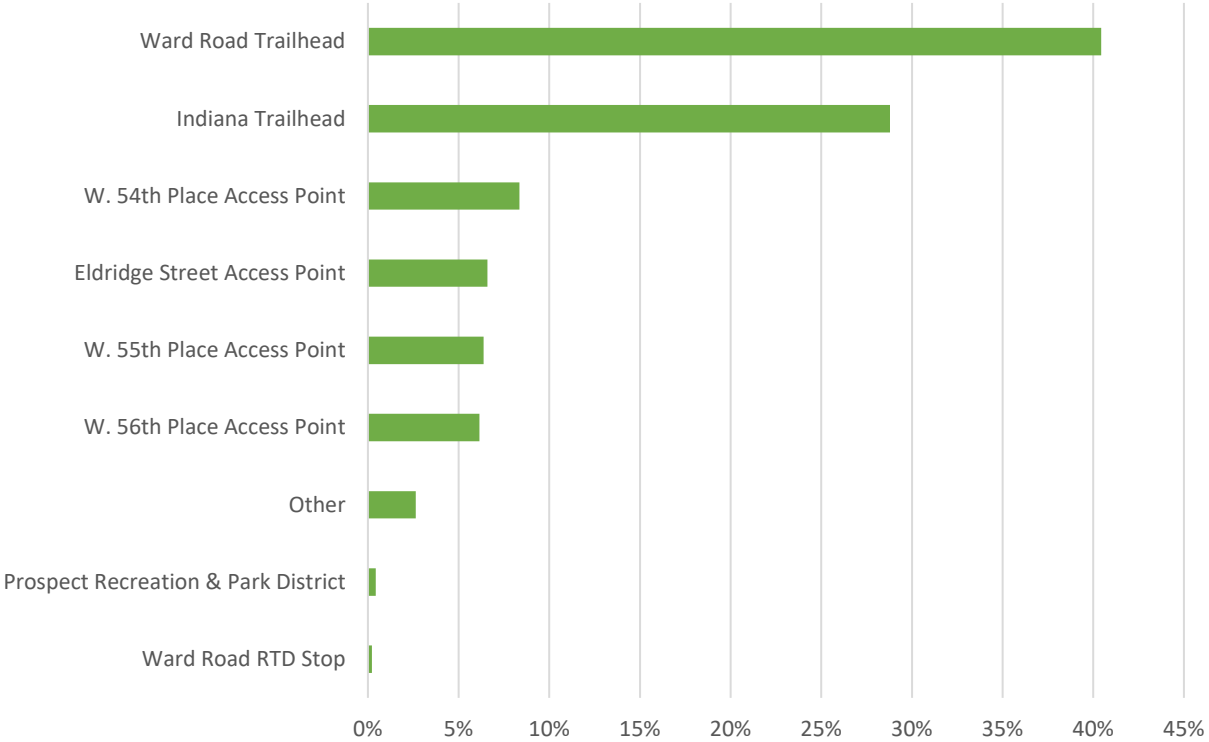
WHAT MODE OF TRANSPORTATION DO YOU TYPICALLY USE TO GET TO VAN BIBBER PARK? N = 457



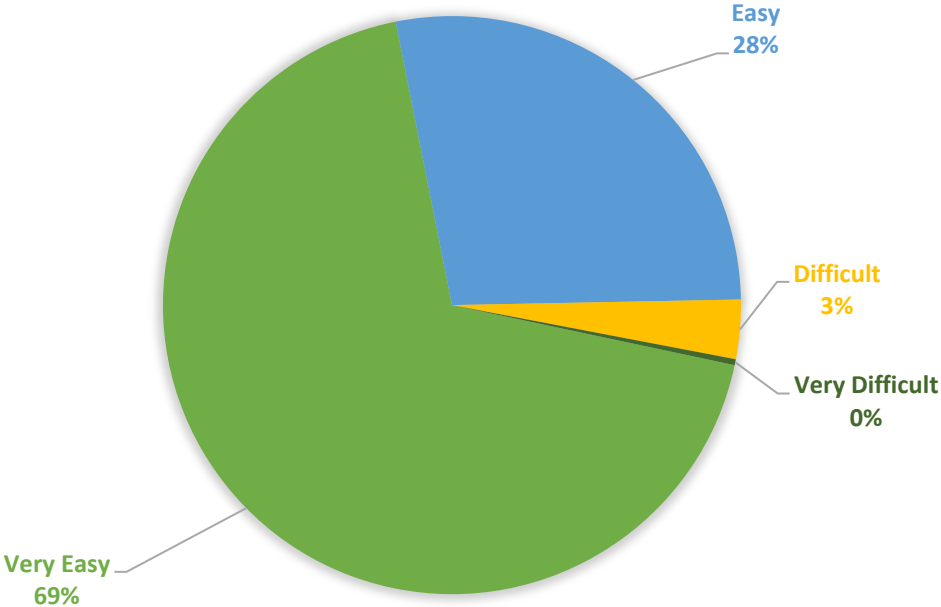
INCLUDING YOU, HOW MANY PEOPLE RIDE IN THE CAR? N = 157



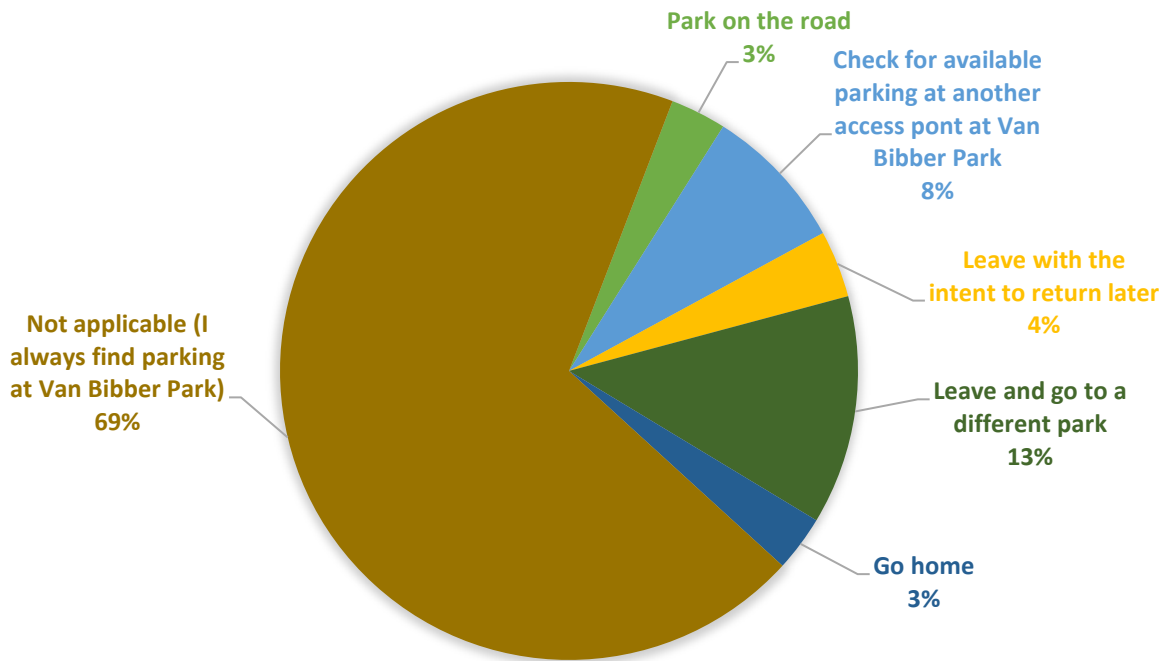
WHERE DO YOU ACCESS THE PARK? N = 455



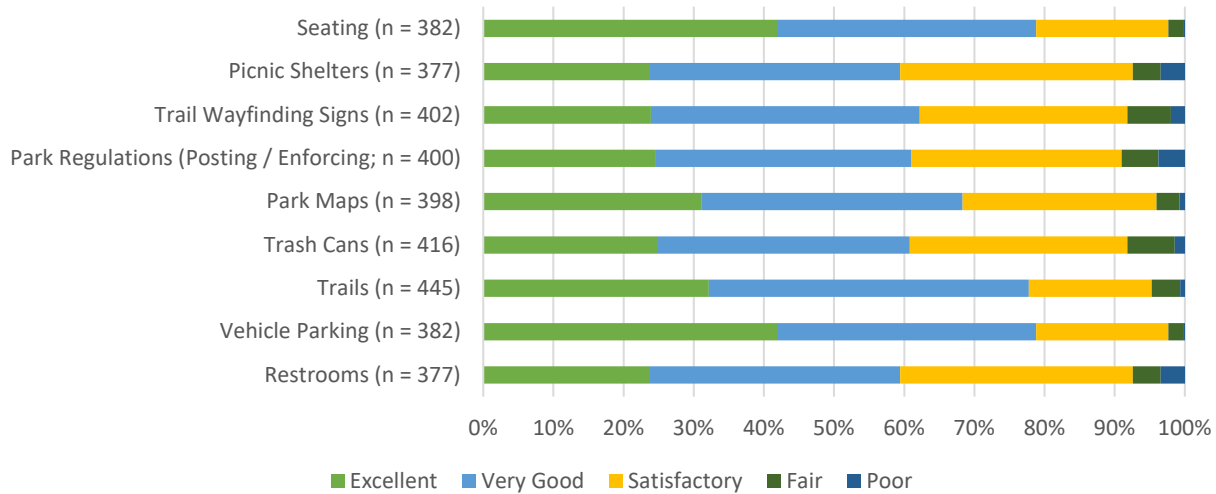
IF YOU TYPICALLY DRIVE, HOW EASY OR DIFFICULT WAS IT TO FIND PARKING? N = 302



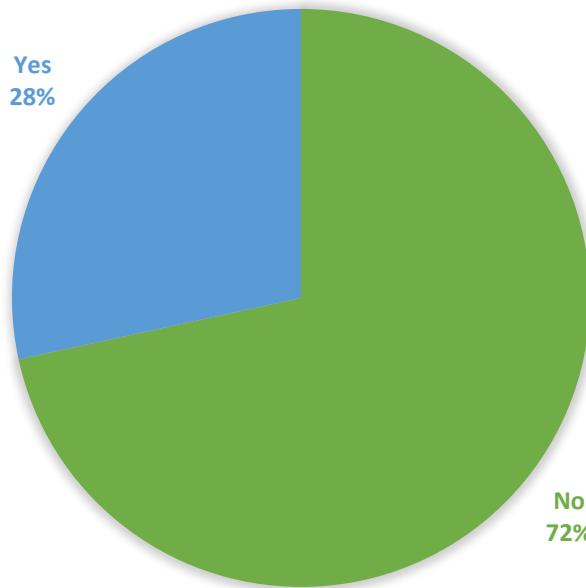
WHEN PARKING IS NOT AVAILABLE, WHAT DO YOU TYPICALLY DO? N = 320



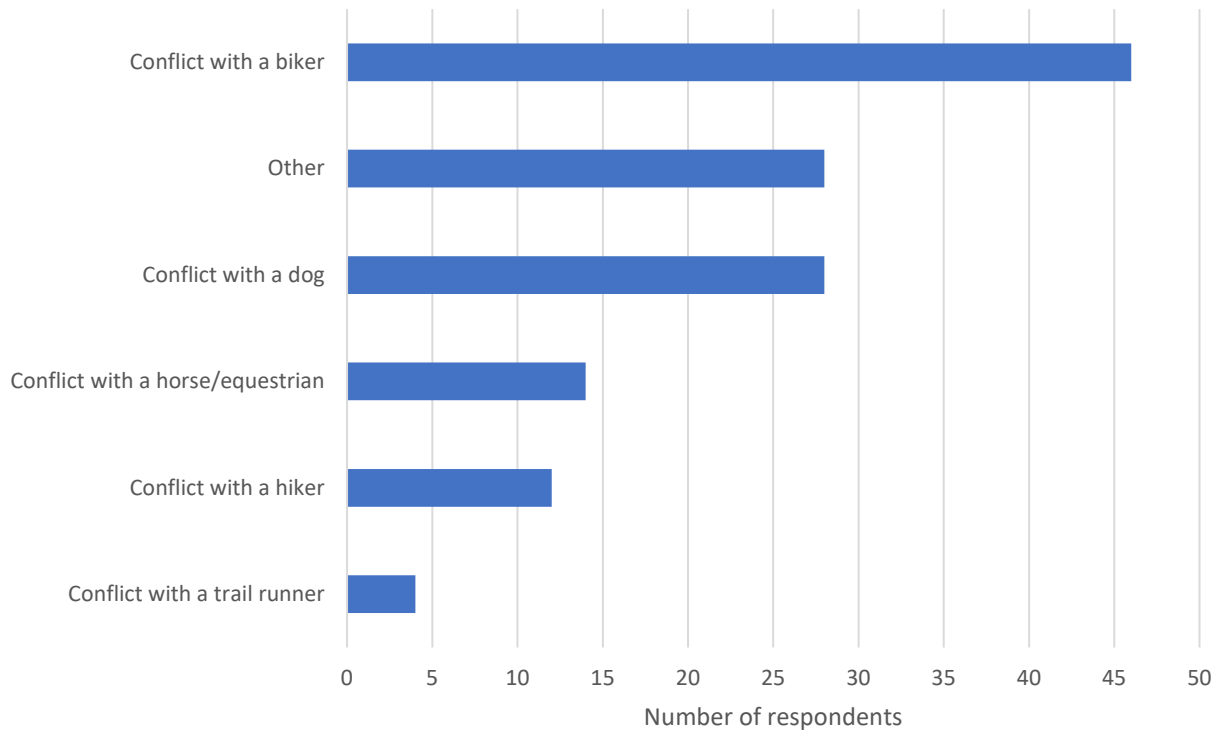
PLEASE RATE THE QUALITY OF THE PARK FACILITIES USED AT VAN BIBBER PARK.



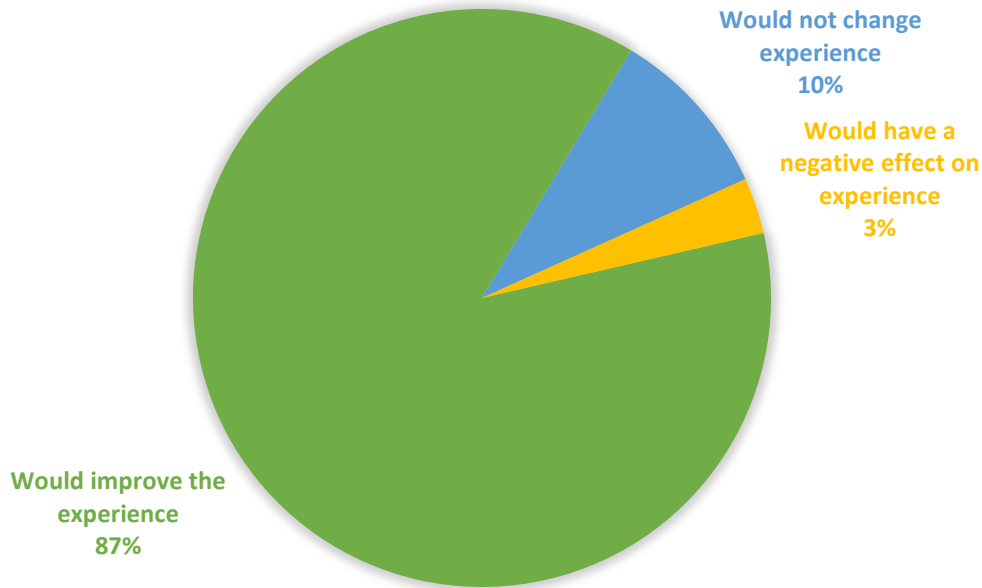
HAVE YOU EXPERIENCED RECREATION CONFLICT AT VAN BIBBER PARK? (N = 440)



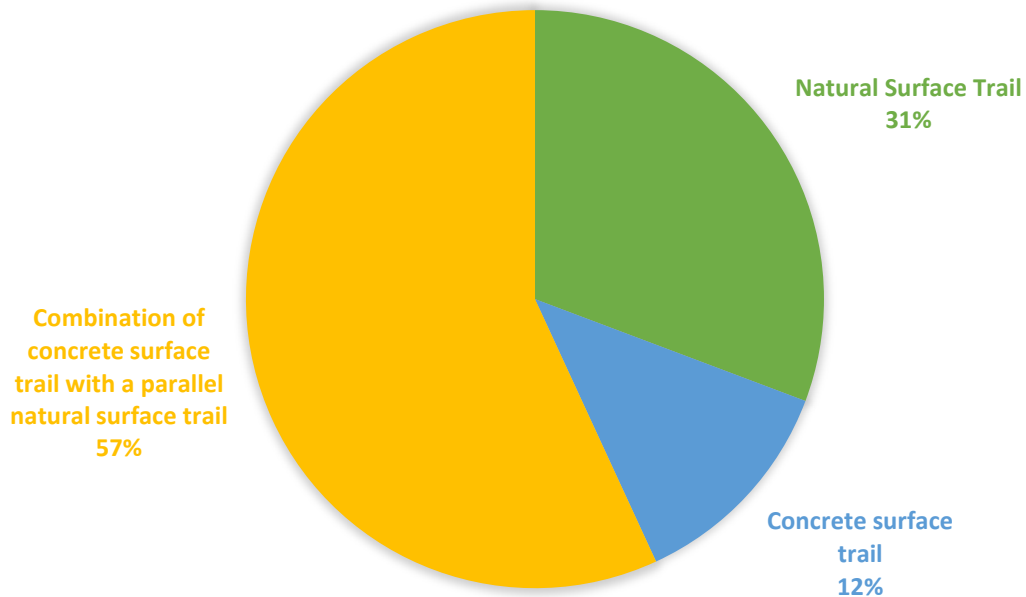
IF YES, WHAT KIND OF CONFLICT DID YOU EXPERIENCE? N = 132



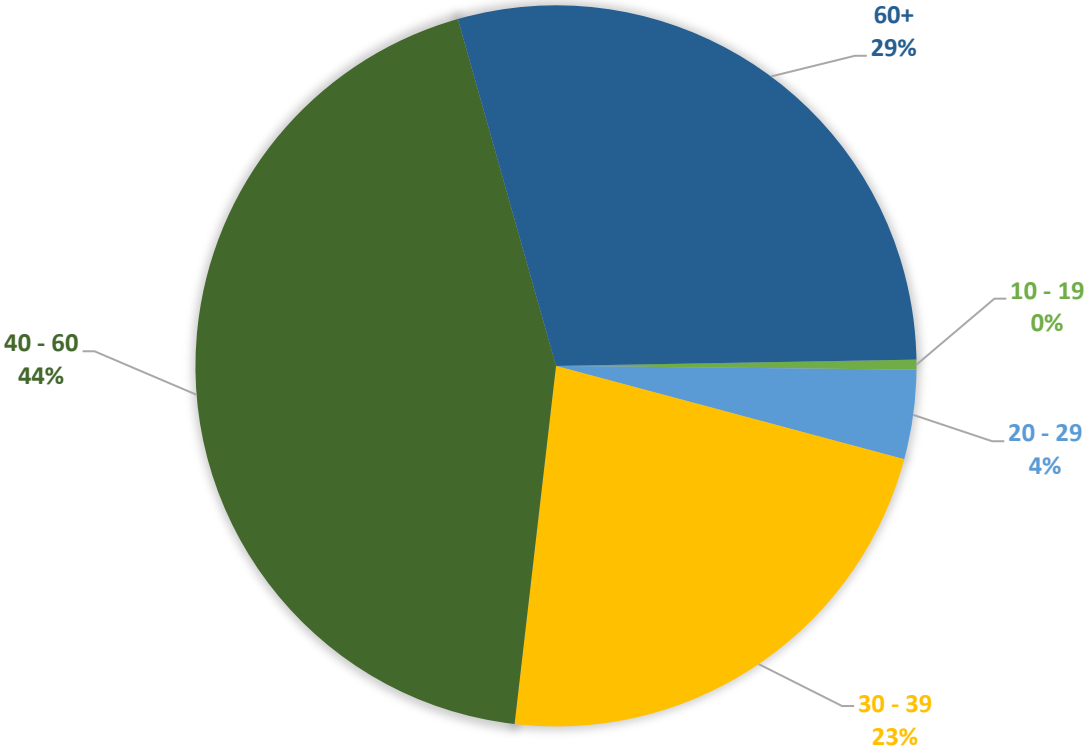
HOW WOULD EXTENDING THE VAN BIBBER CREEK TRAIL AFFECT YOUR EXPERIENCE AT THE PARK? N = 447



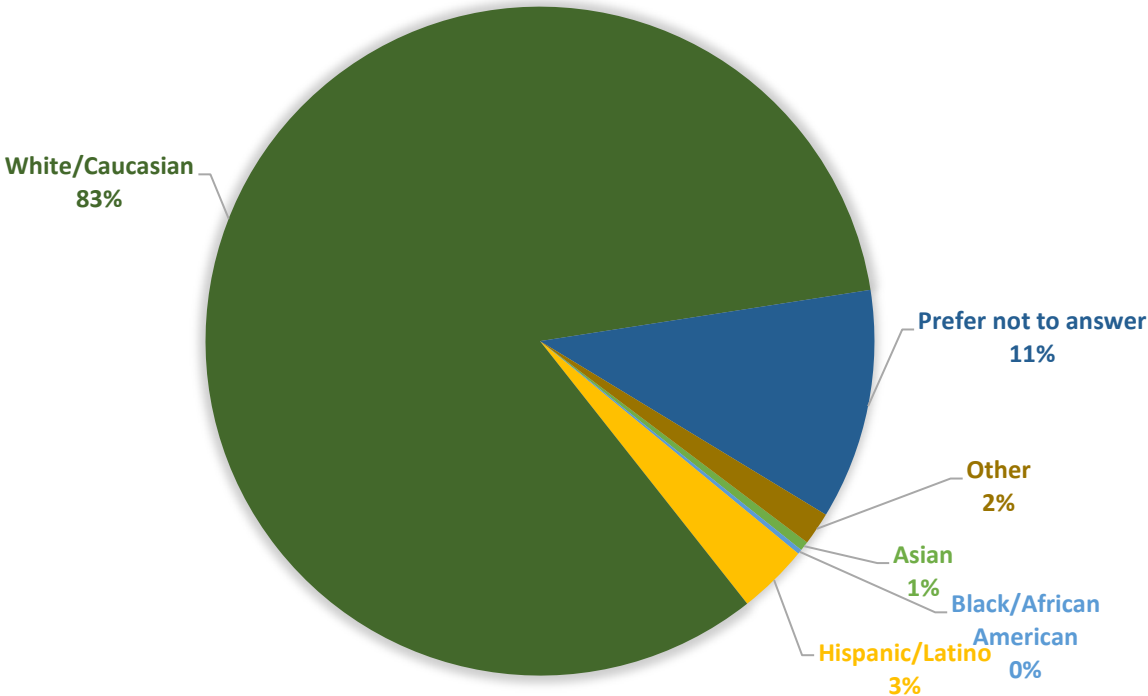
SPECIFIC TO THIS POTENTIAL TRAIL EXTENSION, WHAT TRAIL SURFACE WOULD YOU PREFER? N = 436



WHAT IS YOUR AGE RANGE? N = 450



PLEASE SELECT THE RACE OR ETHNICITY WITH WHICH YOU MOST IDENTIFY. N = 434



Methodology: A visitor survey was used to get public input on access issues when visitors are parking at the trailhead or entering the park from various access points. Due to current events with the COVID-19 virus, the survey was conducted as an online survey using the Survey 123 platform. A sandwich board that included a QR code as a link to the survey and general information about the project was produced and posted at the park's access points. Open Space staff also used social media and the Van Bibber Park page of the Jefferson County Open Space website to advertise the project and availability of the survey. The physical and online postings were available for the full duration of the survey. Open Space staff directly reached out to partner organizations for their input, including those representing youth, low income, Latino, senior, people with disabilities, bike, equestrian, and outdoor organizations. Notice of the survey was also distributed to representatives for Apex and Prospect Park and Recreation Districts and the cities of Arvada and Golden.

Considerations: Expanding the trail connection from Indiana Street to Fairmont Trail has been a priority for Jefferson County Open Space for the last several years. Given the environmental constraints of multiple canal and ditch crossings, this approximate two mile stretch of new trail will be resource intensive. This park is also frequently visited by equestrian, bike, and pedestrian visitors, so determining the most appropriate and desired trail surfacing is a key factor in the trail planning effort.

Results: Many respondents noted that their appreciation for the park's close proximity to their home. Expanding the Van Bibber Creek Trail to the west to Fairmont Trail was widely favored by the respondents in order to provide more regional and community connections. The majority of respondents prefer a combination of concrete and natural trail surfaces, which better serves all user groups and provides equitable and year-round access to the park. There were also themes around more enforcement of park regulations and more trash cans at the access points and more benches along the trail.