

CITY OF DEXTER
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, September 15, 2020 @ 7:00 PM

Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/91207736824>

Dial-In Information

888 788 0099, 877 853 5247 US Toll-free

Meeting ID: 912 0773 6824#

A G E N D A

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

Becky Murillo - Chair

Toni Henkemeyer – Vice Chair

Scott Bell – Ex Officio

Anne Marques

Ronald Miller

Joanne Wagner

Jacob Young

Student Representatives: Adam Hauser

Natalie Walton

Nicholas Williamson

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES È AUGUST 18, 2020

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

5. CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION

6. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATION

A. Chair

a. Huron Waterloo Pathways Initiative

B. Commissioners and Ex Officio

a. Tree Board

b. City Council

c. Art Selection Committee

d. Student Representatives

C. Staff Report

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion of: 2021 – 2026 Master Plan Update

8. OLD BUSINESS

A. Discussion of: Park Maintenance Requests

9. CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION

10. PROPOSED BUSINESS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

11. ADJOURNMENT

**CITY OF DEXTER
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 18, 2020**

The regular meeting of the City of Dexter Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order at 7:01pm via Zoom Meetings.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Murillo, Henkemeyer, Bell, Marques, Miller, Wagner, and Young

Commissioners Absent: None

Student Representatives Present: Williamson, and Hauser (arr. 7:15pm)

Student Representatives Absent: Walton

Others Present: Justin Breyer, City Clerk and Assistant to the City Manager

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion by Miller; Seconded by Bell to approve the minutes from July 21, 2020 as presented.

Unanimous Voice Vote
Motion Adopted

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Murillo; Seconded by Marques to approve the agenda as presented.

Unanimous Voice Vote
Motion Adopted

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION

None

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATION

A. CHAIR

Becky Murillo reported that HWPI met, but she did not attend.

B. COMMISSIONERS AND EX-OFFICIO

Tree Board – Joanne Wagner reported that she was able to connect with Michelle Aniol regarding trees planted near Red Brick, and it is now normal to leave the burlap on the root ball.

City Council – None

Art Selection Committee – None

Student Representatives – Nick Williamson reported that they are still planning to play soccer, and may have games next week, but will find out on Thursday.

C. STAFF REPORT

Justin Breyer submitted his report per the packet. He provided the following updates:

- Jake Young was appointed as a new Parks and Recreation Commission member.
- Ralph Wilson Foundation Grant.

NEW BUSINESS

A. DISCUSSION OF: 2021-2026 MASTER PLAN UPDATE

The Parks and Recreation Commission discussed the Parks and Recreation Master Plan Public Input Meeting:

- 10 – 15 minutes of introduction and background.
- Common threads or responses from the survey.
- Staff to draft some questions for discussion at the next meeting.

B. DISCUSSION OF: CONFLICT OF INTEREST ORDINANCE

The Parks and Recreation Commission discussed the Conflict of Interest Ordinance. No substantive changes to the document were proposed.

C. DISCUSSION OF: ON-SITE PARKS MEETINGS

Staff provided an update regarding holding Commission meetings at parks. Discussion followed.

OLD BUSINESS

None

PARKS MAINTENANCE REQUESTS

- Trip hazard near the amphitheater – retaining wall piece

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION

None

PROPOSED BUSINESS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

- Public Meeting Questions
- Jake Young introduced himself

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Murillo, Seconded by Young adjourn the meeting at 7:56pm.

Unanimous Voice Vote
Motion Adopted

Justin Breyer
City Clerk and Assistant to the City Manager

To: Parks and Recreation Commission

From: Justin Breyer, Assistant to the City Manager/Clerk

Re: Discussion of: Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Date: September 13, 2020

As discussed at previous meetings, the 2016- 2021 Parks and Recreation Master Plan is coming due for an update with the Plan expiring on December 31, 2021. In order to have full overlap of current approved plans, the 2021-2026 Plan will need to be submitted to the MDNR by February 1, 2021. In turn, work on updating the plan will need to begin in 2020. Staff has provided a draft timeline of work for the 2021-2026 update.

Staff has released the public survey via the E-Mail Update, Facebook, and the City's website. To date, we have received 124 responses.

At the August meeting, the Parks and Recreation Commission discussed holding a public input meeting on October 13th. Attached is a draft PowerPoint presentation for the meeting. Below are some ideas for some questions to ask as part of the public input portion of the meeting. The Commission may wish to discuss these questions.

October 13th Public Input Session Questions

Questions with Pre-Set Responses

Commission Picks 5 – 10 of the comments from amenities question & have people vote

Small Projects Proposed by Survey Comments:

- Trail Etiquette signage
- Park Identification Signage – Mill Creek Park, Monument Park
- Park Lighting
- Beautification Projects for Existing Parks
- Additional Drinking Fountains/Bottle Filling Stations
- Additional Bicycle Racks Downtown
- Add pickleball courts to Community Park Basketball Courts

Construction-Related Projects Proposed by Survey/Comments

- Community Center
- Skateboard Park
- Splash Pad
- Indoor and/or Outdoor Pool
- Permanent Bathrooms
- Dog Park
- Sheltered Picnic Areas
- Tennis Courts
- Beach Volleyball Court

Strawpoll.me Questions (No Pre-Set Questions)

- What projects would contribute to a greater accessibility of the City's Parks?
- Ideas for additional "events"
- Other Comments

Submittal Requirements

- Two forms of public input
- Plan submitted to State by February 1st of the year applying. This is a change from 2016 where the application deadline was March 1st.
- Draft Plan must be available for 30-days for public review and comment, then hold a well-publicized public hearing
- Resolution by the Parks and Recreation Commission must come after the 30-day review period and before adoption by City Council

Updated Draft Timeline

- January – April 2020: Administrative and Commission Review of Existing Plan
- May – October 2020: Public Input
- October 13, 2020: Public Input Meeting
- October 20, 2020: Parks and Recreation Commission Reviews Draft Plan and Approves the Start of Public Review and Comment Period
- November 1, 2020: Start of Public Review and Comment Period
- November 17, 2020: Parks and Recreation Commission Recommends that City Council Set a Public Hearing Date
- December 1, 2020: Completion of Public Review and Comment Period
- December 14, 2020: City Council Adopts Date for Public Hearing
- December 15, 2020: Parks and Recreation Commission Adopts Resolution and Recommends Plan Adoption to City Council
- January 11, 2020: City Council Public Hearing and Plan Adoption

CITY OF DEXTER

Parks and Recreation

Public Input Session

October 13, 2020

AGENDA

- Introduction to Parks and Recreation Master Planning
 - Why Do We Plan?
 - How Are Master Plans Used?
 - Status of Work to Date
- Summary of Public Survey Results
- Public Participation Exercises
- Q&A with Parks and Recreation Commission
- Wrap-Up and Next Steps

WHY DO WE PLAN?

- Reasons why communities adopt a Parks and Recreation Plan every five years:
 - Introspection
 - Changing Demographics
 - Define Vision, Scope, and Goals
 - Prioritize Funding
 - State Grants

WHAT GOES INTO A PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN

- Introduction
- Community Description
- Administrative Structure
- Parks and Recreation Inventory
- Handicap Accessibility
- Public Input Process
- Goals and Objectives
- Action Plan
- Supplemental

HOW ARE PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLANS USED?

- Used as a guiding document for the Parks and Recreation Commission and the City
- Used in annual Budget planning
- Capital Improvements Plan
- State Grant Applications

STATUS OF WORK TO DATE

- 2021-2026 Plan
- Administrative/Inventory Sections
- Seeking Community Input
 - Public Survey
 - Public Input Session

SUMMARY OF SURVEY RESULTS

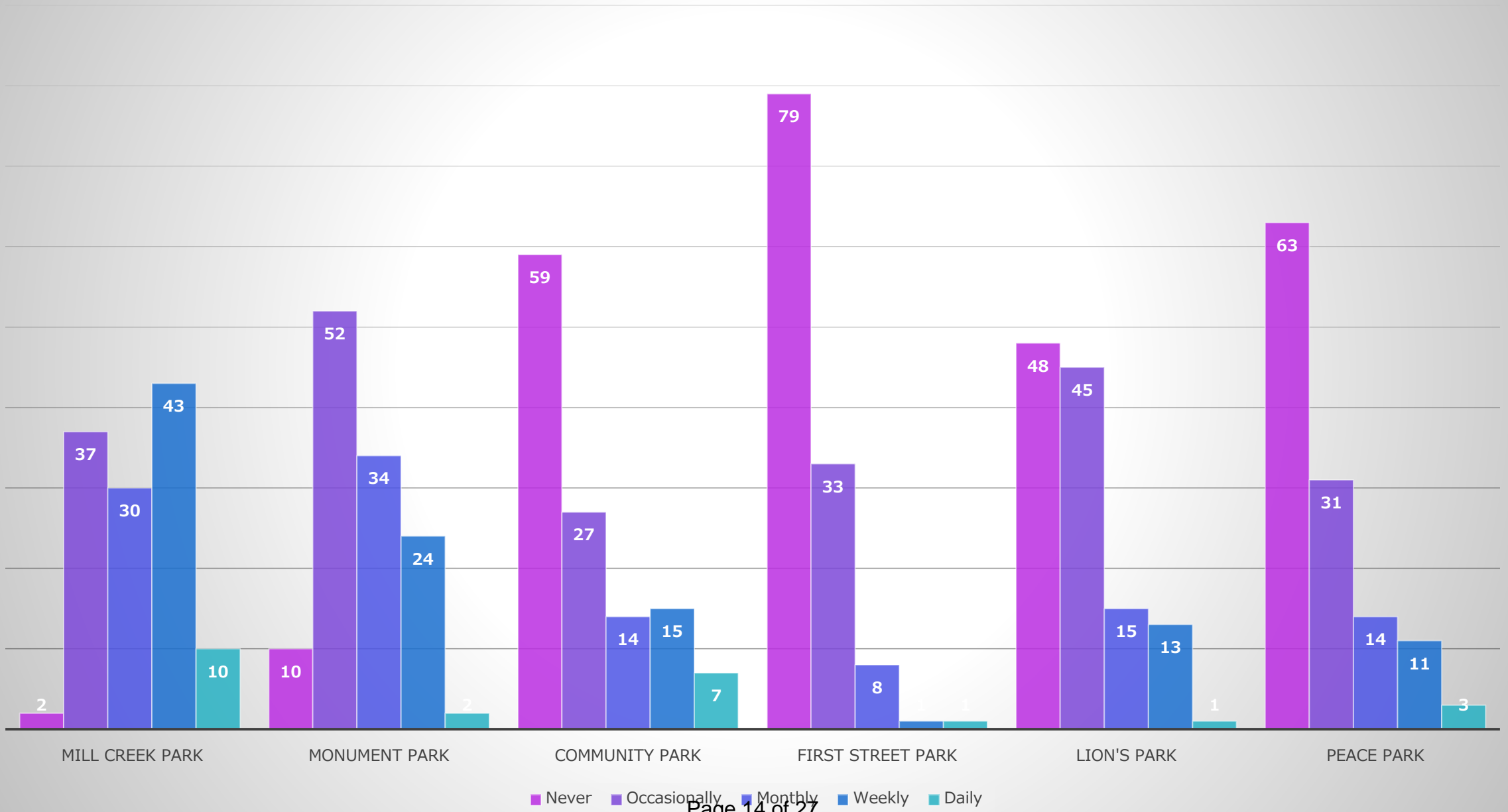
SUMMARY OF SURVEY RESULTS

- 123 Responses
- Demographics
 - 74% of respondents were Dexter City residents
 - 23% of respondents were Dexter-area residents
 - 3% of respondents were non-area residents
 - Highest rate of responses among those living in the City/area were between 4-10 years (48%) and 11-20 years (23%)
 - 50-59 age bracket had the most responses (29%), followed by those ages 40-49 (27%)
 - Highest rate of responses among those with zero (43%) or two (27%) children living in the household

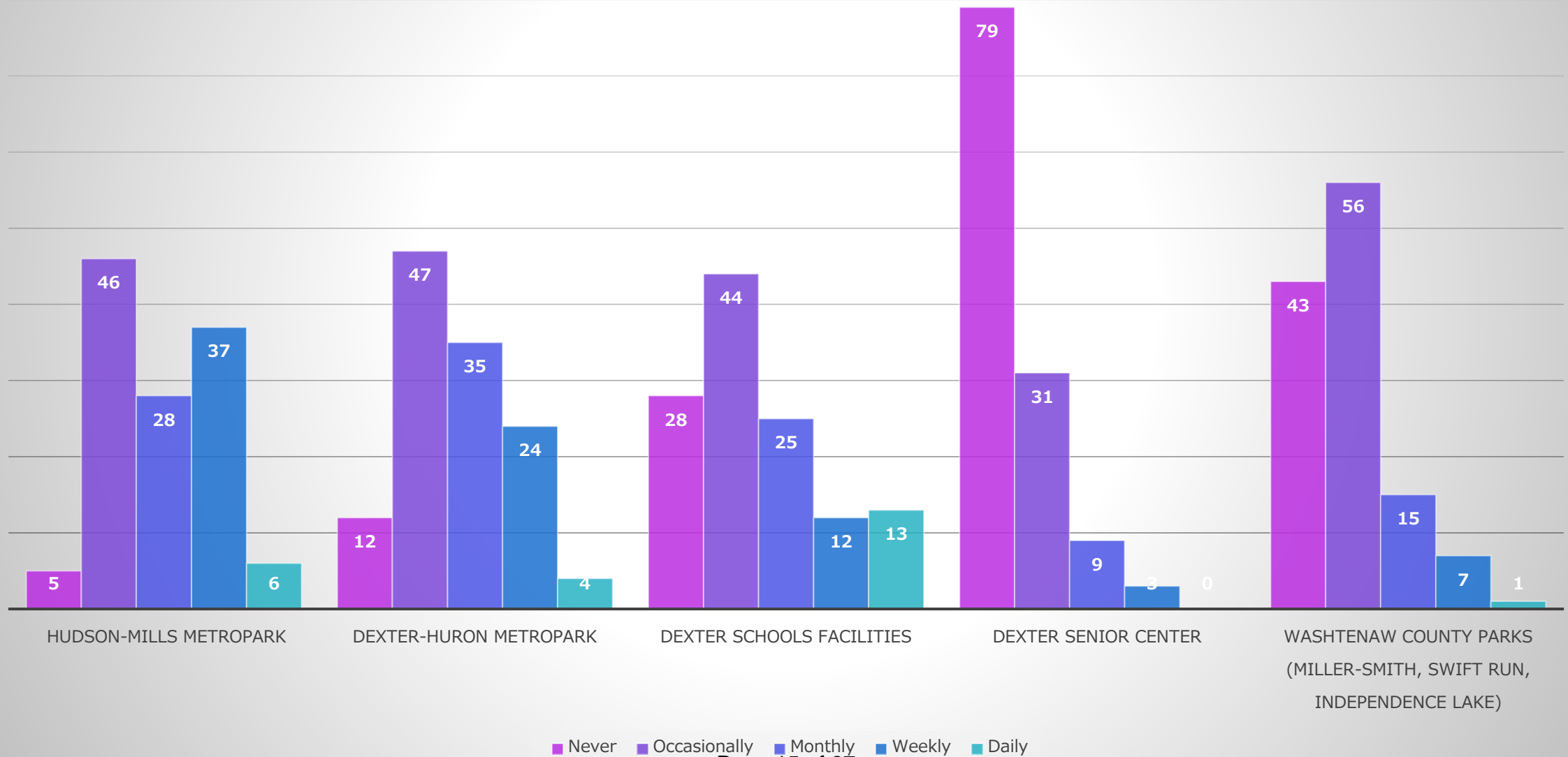
SUMMARY OF SURVEY RESULTS

- People are generally satisfied with the quality of Dexter parks.
- First Street Park, Lion's Park, and Peace Park are not well frequented compared to other parks. Community Park is also not well under for its size compared to other parks.
 - Lack of awareness of these parks
 - Parks are outside of Downtown
- Primary reasons people do not visit Dexter parks:
 1. "There is nothing preventing me from using City parks." (95)
 2. "I don't have time" (15)
 3. "I visit parks outside of the City limits" (9)
 4. "Other" (8)
 5. "I do not know the location" (7)

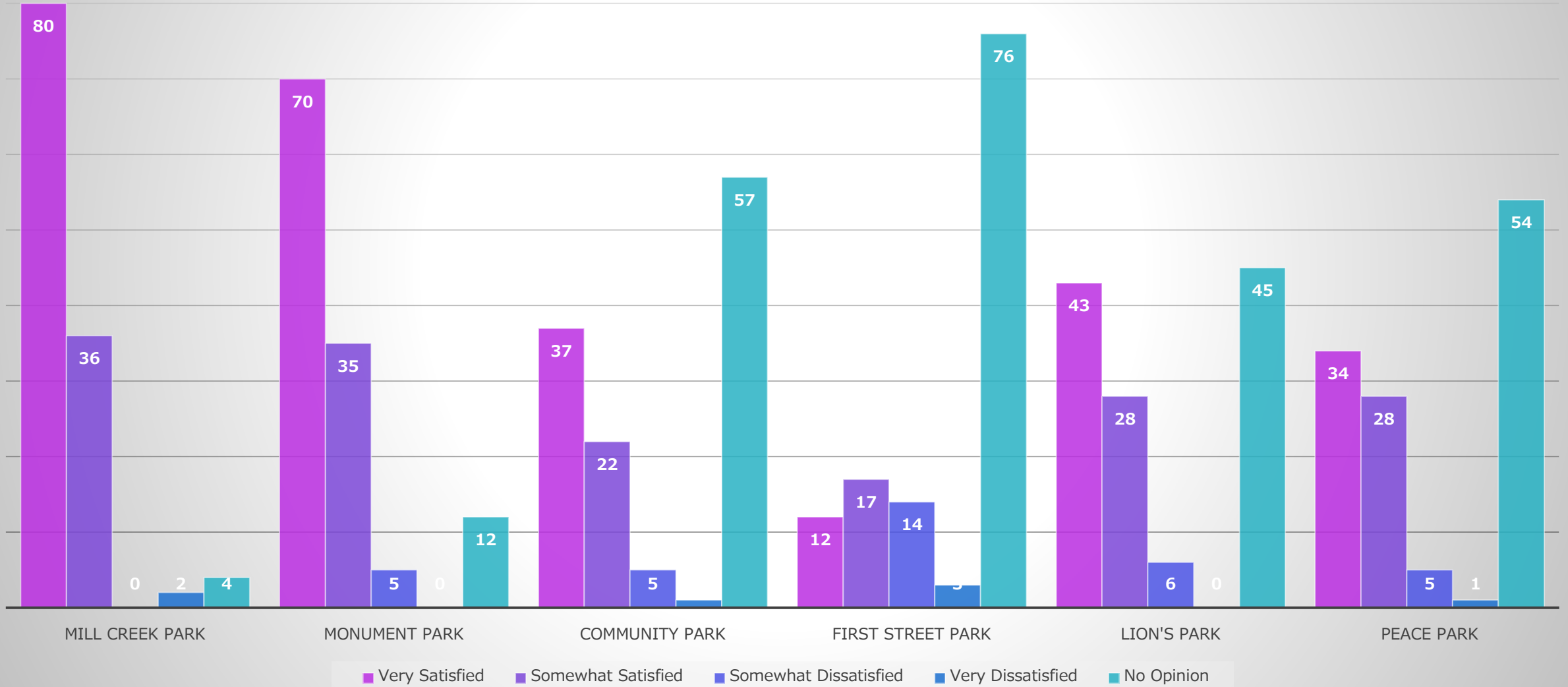
Visits to City Parks/Facilities



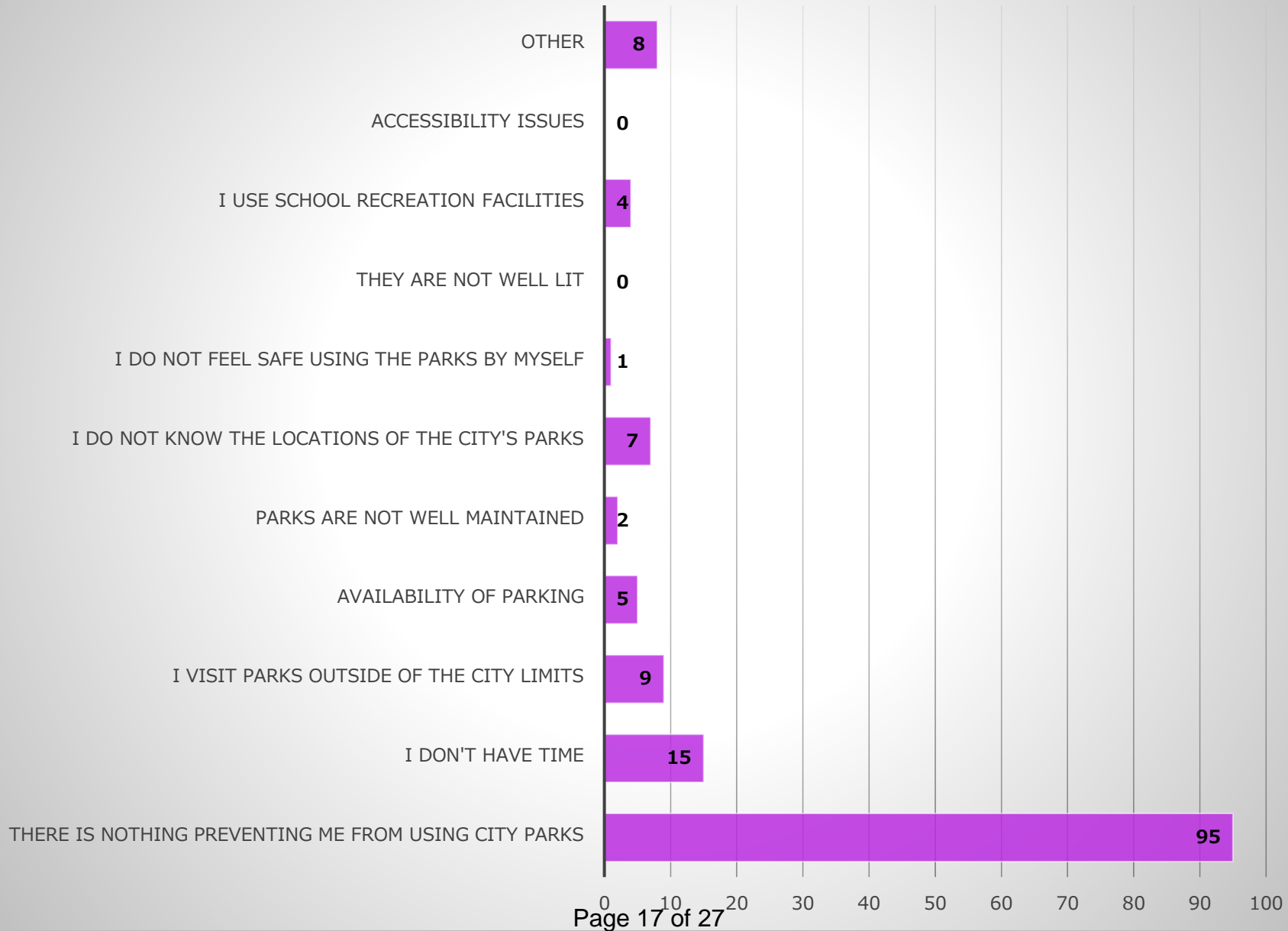
Visits to Non-City Parks/Facilities



City Park Satisfaction



Reasons That Prevent You From Using City Parks

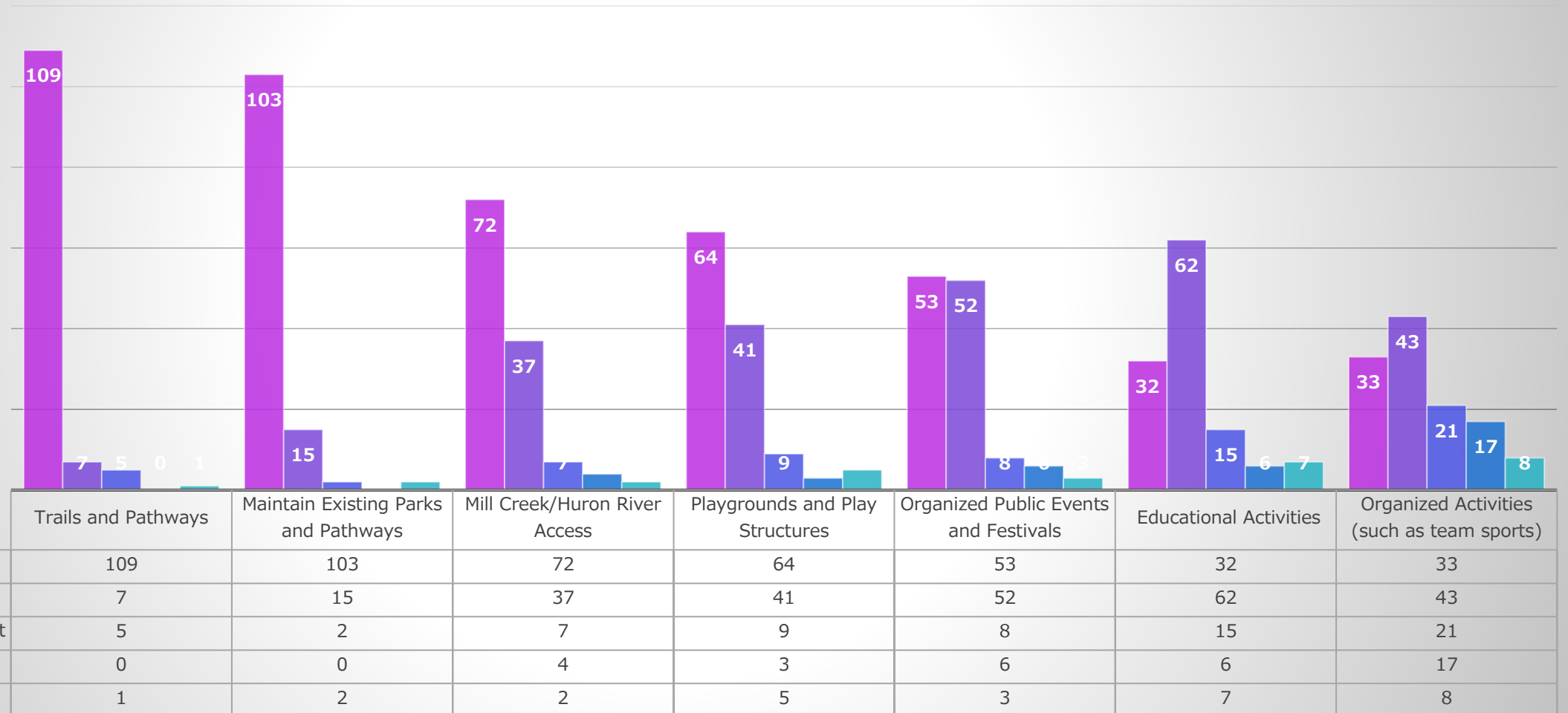


SUMMARY OF SURVEY RESULTS

GENERAL ACTIVITIES

- Trails and Pathways (89.34% very important, 5.7% somewhat important)
- Maintain Existing Parks and Pathways (84.42% very important, 12.29% somewhat important)
- Mill Creek/Huron River Access (59.01% very important, 30.32% somewhat important)
- Playgrounds and Playground Structures (52.45% very important, 33.32% somewhat important)
- Organized Public Events and Festivals (43.34% very important, 42.62% somewhat important)
- Educational Activities (26.22% very important, 50.81% somewhat important)
- Organized Activities (27.04% very important, 35.25% somewhat important)

Please indicate how important you feel these items are to parks and recreation systems.



SUMMARY OF SURVEY RESULTS

SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES

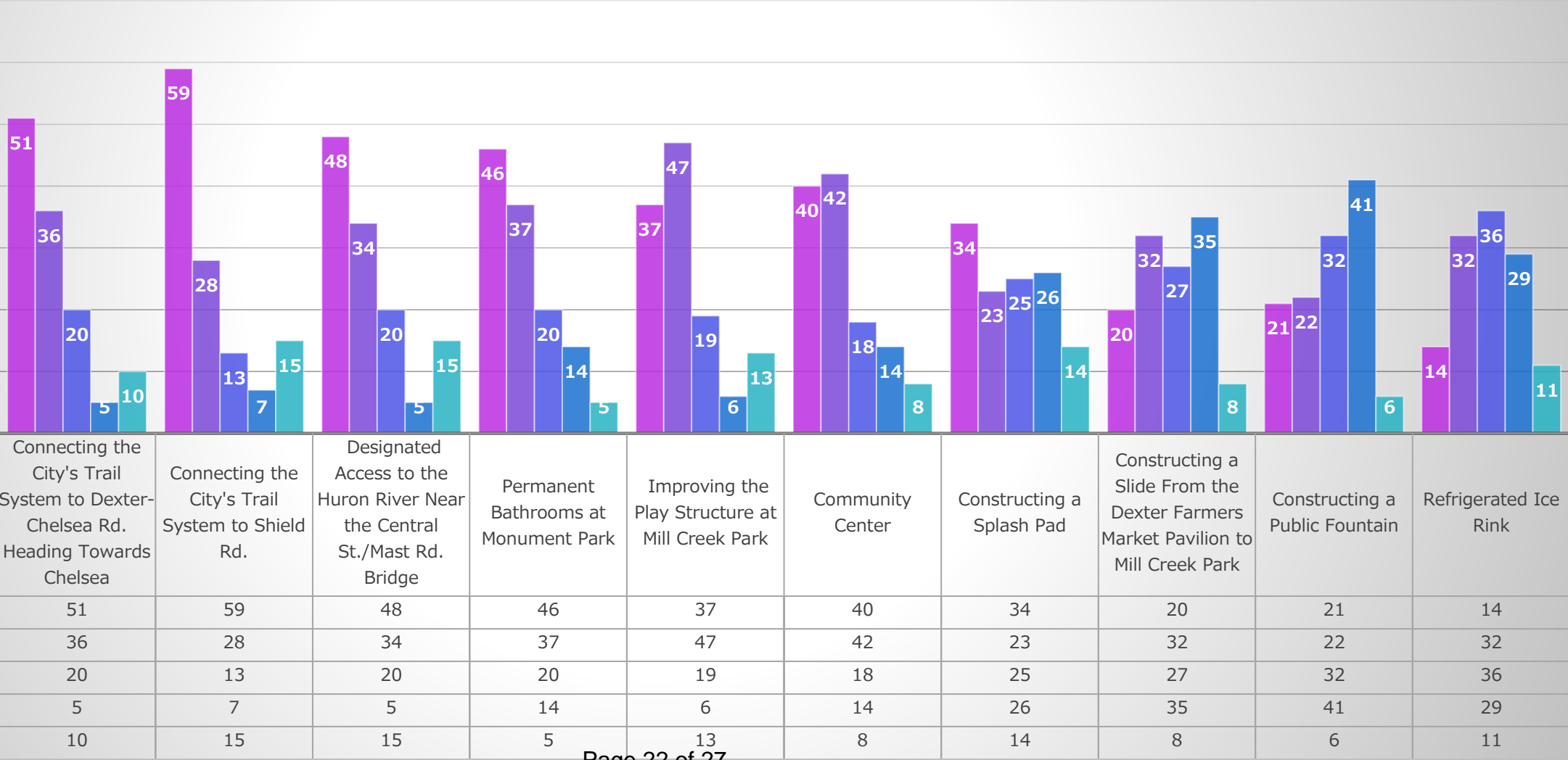
- Connecting the City's Trail System to Dexter-Chelsea Rd. (41.80% very important, 29.50% somewhat important)
- Connecting the City's Trail System to Shield Rd. (48.36% very important, 22.95% somewhat important)
- Designated Access to the Huron River (39.34% very important, 27.86% somewhat important)
- Permanent Bathrooms at Monument Park (37.70% very important, 30.33% somewhat important)
- Improving the Play Structure at Mill Creek Park (30.32% very important, 38.52% somewhat important)
- Community Center (32.78% very important, 34.42% somewhat important)

SUMMARY OF SURVEY RESULTS

SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES

- Constructing a Splash Pad (27.86% very important, 18.85% somewhat important)
- Constructing a Slide from the Dexter Farmers Market to Mill Creek Park (16.39% very important, 26.23% somewhat important)
- Constructing a Public Fountain (17.21% very important, 18.03% somewhat important)
- Refrigerated Ice Rink (11.47% very important, 26.23% somewhat important)

List of Ideas Discussed by Parks and Recreation Commission. Please indicate how important you feel these projects/improvements would be to the City of Dexter's Parks and Recreation System



SUMMARY OF SURVEY RESULTS

What amenities would you like to see added to City of Dexter Parks?

Permanent Bathrooms	18	Beach Volleyball Court	1
Splash Pad	13	Path Connecting to Huron Farms	1
Dog Park	8	Basketball Courts	1
Drinking Fountains/Water Bottle Fill Station	6	Livery	1
New Play Structures	5	Sandbox	1
Trails and Signage	5	Putting Green	1
Indoor Pool/Public Pool	3	Driving Range	1
Outdoor Pool	3	Restroom on B2B	1
Sheltered Picnic Areas	2	Rock Climbing Wall	1
Senior Facilities	2	Permanent Pavillion in Monument Park	1
Water Fountain	2	Bicycle Rentals	1
Mill Creek Slope Slide	2	Kayak Rentals	1
More Flower Gardens	2	Snowmobile Rentals	1
Recreation Center	2	More Events for Adults	1
Tennis Courts	2	Lighting in Mill Creek Park	1
Skateboard Park	2	Wider Paths	1
Educational Programs	2	Something like Henry Ford Park in Greenfield Village	1
Live Music Bands	1	Handwash Station	1
Pickleball	1	Adult Recreation Leagues	1
More Benches/Tables	1	Park Exercise Equipment	1
More Parking	1	Sledding Hill (Not Bunny Slope)	1
More Shade Trees	1	Maintenance Items	1
More Garbage Cans	1		

SUMMARY OF SURVEY RESULTS

Are there any parks and/or recreation issues that you believe should be addressed by the City of Dexter?

Trail Concerns/Signage/Trail Etiquette	5
Mill Creek Park Improvements	5
Invasive Species Maintenance	4
Trail Connections	4
Community Park Improvements	3
Monument Park Improvements	2
Community Center	1
Park Lighting	1
Skate Park	1
Added beautification/flowers	1
Woodchips	1
Water pads	1
Pool	1
Train tressle/Traffic	1
Park Identification Signs	1
Bathrooms	1
Drinking Fountains/Bottle Filling Stations	1
Event Board	1

SUMMARY OF SURVEY RESULTS

Other Comments

City is doing a great job/Thank You	10
First Street Park Improvements	2
Add bike racks downtown	1
Community Center	1
Rezoning of Copeland Building	1
Maintain what we have	1
Water park	1
Less parking on Main Street	1
Historic Plaques	1
Adult Recreation Leagues	1

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION EXERCISES

NEXT STEPS

- Finish Writing Plan Based on Public Input
- Public Hearing
- Submit Plan to MDNR