

# Appendix

## a. CBO Interview Summaries

### **Interest and significance of the Willamette River and/or Willamette Cove.**

- Indigenous cultural significance of the area, and canoeing on the river. Right now the Willamette isn't safe for elders and children.
- Accessible connectivity to nature and recreation for community especially for BIPOC communities and surrounding residents, like Historic Albina.
- Climate resilience. As extreme heat events become more frequent WC provides an opportunity to access cooling via tree canopy and water. Pools in the area have closed recently.
- People that live in and around WC. We need to be aware of historic and ongoing displacement of the area and build an inclusive nature park for BIPOC and marginalized communities.
- Wildlife and habitat restoration. Preservation of urban forest and connected canopy.

*Bringing Indigenous peoples back to Willamette River is a dream of our Native community.*

*-- Renea Perry, Executive Director of Portland All Nations Canoe Family (PANCF)*

### **Potential concerns and questions about previous cleanup and engagement efforts, as well as the future of the site.**

- Community involvement and communication with priority communities, such as BIPOC communities, Historic Albina and surrounding residents. Casting a wider net beyond existing partners.
- Safety and education about the reality of the site, consuming plants, fishing, and how to use the river.
- Where is the contaminated soil going? We don't want it to have further negative environmental justice impacts.

- Worried about the urgency, efficiency, and quality of clean-up.
- Accessibility of the site for disability groups, general inclusivity.
- Displacement of houseless individuals.
- Balancing industrial uses with the site like shipping containers.
- Meaningful interactions and stewardship, not just checking boxes.

*Displacing houseless folks, without offering long term solutions.*

*-- Taylor Cass-Talbott and Barbie Weber, co directors and founders of Groundscore*

### **How can Metro advocate for community hopes for this nature park while being clear about the limitations of the project?**

- Accountability for past mistakes with Indigenous communities and previous divestment in the area.
- Transparency about funding availability and the decision making process. Being transparent about the project timeline, and any uncertainties.
- Regular and thorough communication with the community about what the public can and cannot do with the site.
- There should be many community engagement methods utilized with a specific focus on reaching out to priority populations.
- Incorporating Indigenous perspectives and centering their experience and expertise (like ITEK).
- Involvement and employment opportunities in the clean up process.
- Activities like storytelling and art

*Actively engage with and listen to communities with lived experiences, while also acknowledging limitations in accessibility. [Provide] alternative means of information dissemination.*

*-- Erin Taylor, Aim 4 Access*

## What a healing process could look like for different communities.

- Ceremony for Indigenous communities, to lay prayers down and bless the land. Letting Indigenous communities lead and inform.
- Community-led efforts, and involvement through activities like planting and stewardship.
- Creating opportunities for joy and gathering, especially for Black and Brown people.
- Supporting connectivity with the surrounding area, and building on existing trail networks.
- Recognizing and representing different communities with different needs.
- Nearby affordable housing options for displaced populations.
- Balancing human activity with wildlife spaces and protecting restoration efforts.

*Healing ceremony for river that is open to public.*

-- Sprinavasa Brown, ELSO

*Prevent further degradation by human activity and to allow the area to heal.*

-- Maritza Oropeza, Latino Outdoors

- Environmental education programs and outdoor classrooms. Low impact activities like scavenger hunt.
- Culturally significant spaces for Indigenous communities to gather like a longhouse, in partnership with Tribes.

*Is calling it a “park” appropriate? You are entering that space knowing that it’s been harmed so know that it needs healing and care; it’s like visiting a sick relative - [we] need to create boundaries but also show that we care about it.*

-- Tana Atchley Culbertson, Nesika Wilamut

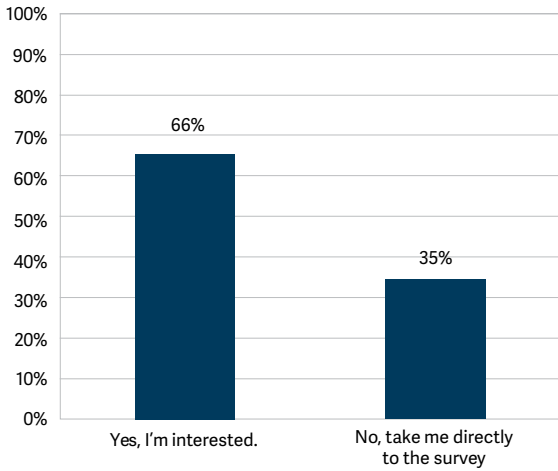
## Initial high-level ideas about desired activities and amenities on the site.

- Accessibility and inclusive design like a sensory garden and clean open spaces with mobile device accessibility.
- Signage and storytelling in several languages including Indigenous languages, and educating the public on historic and cultural context of the site.
- Water recreation amenities, boating access.
- Amenities that connect the community to nature like trails that connect to surrounding areas, play areas, and urban forests.

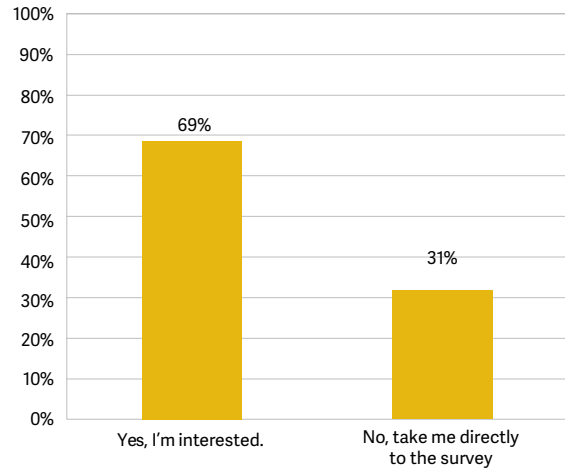
## b. Willamette Cove Site Master Plan Community Survey Results

1. Would you like to learn more about the Willamette Cove site and project background before starting the survey?

Survey in English  
n=3,055  
skipped=5

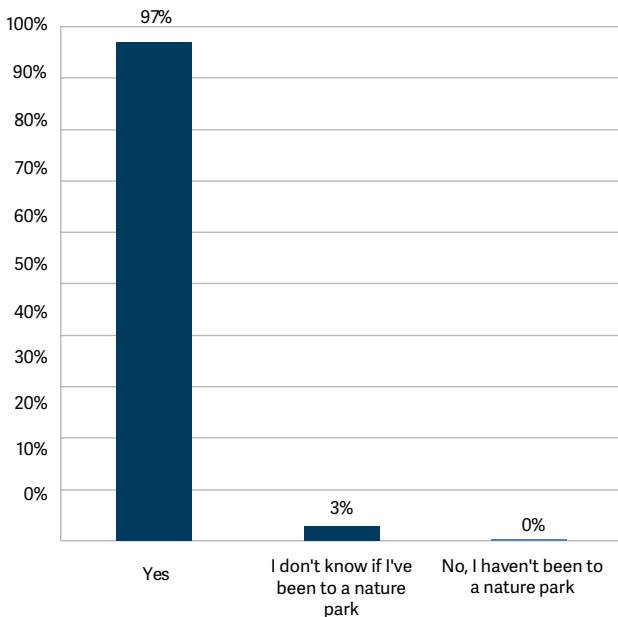


Survey in Spanish  
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skipped=0

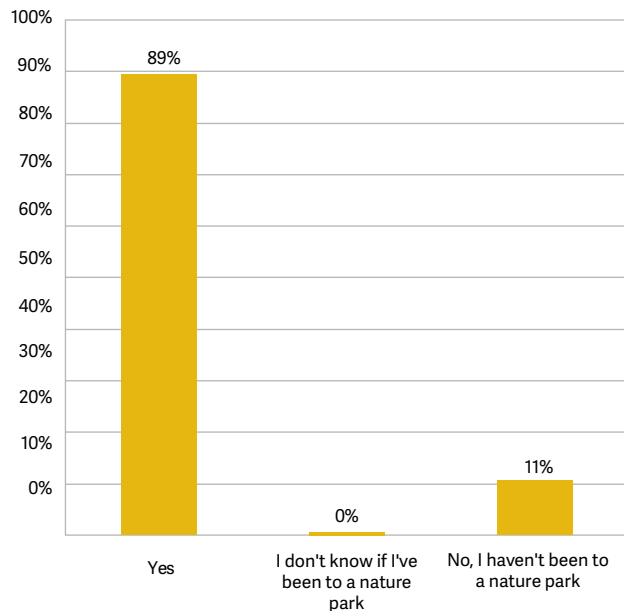


3. Do you ever visit nature parks?

Survey in English  
n=2,249  
skipped=611

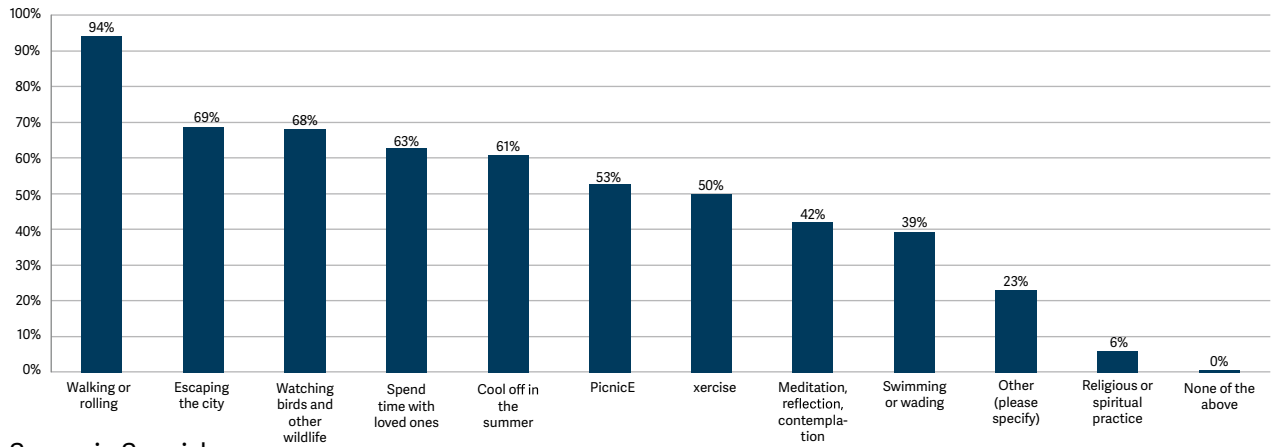


Survey in Spanish  
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skipped=4

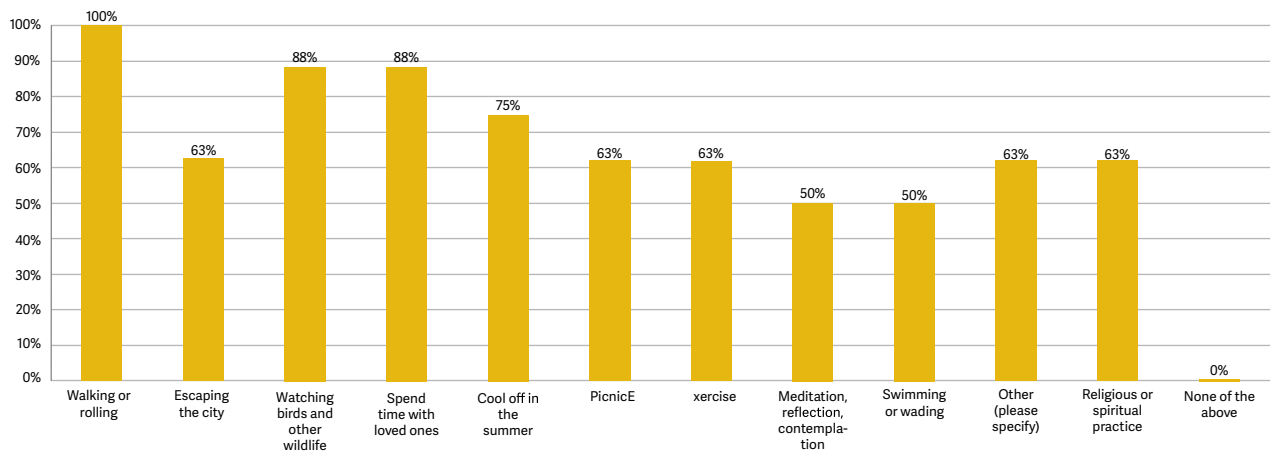


#### 4. How do you currently use nature parks? What do you typically do? (Select all that apply).

Survey in English  
 n=2,357  
 skipped=703

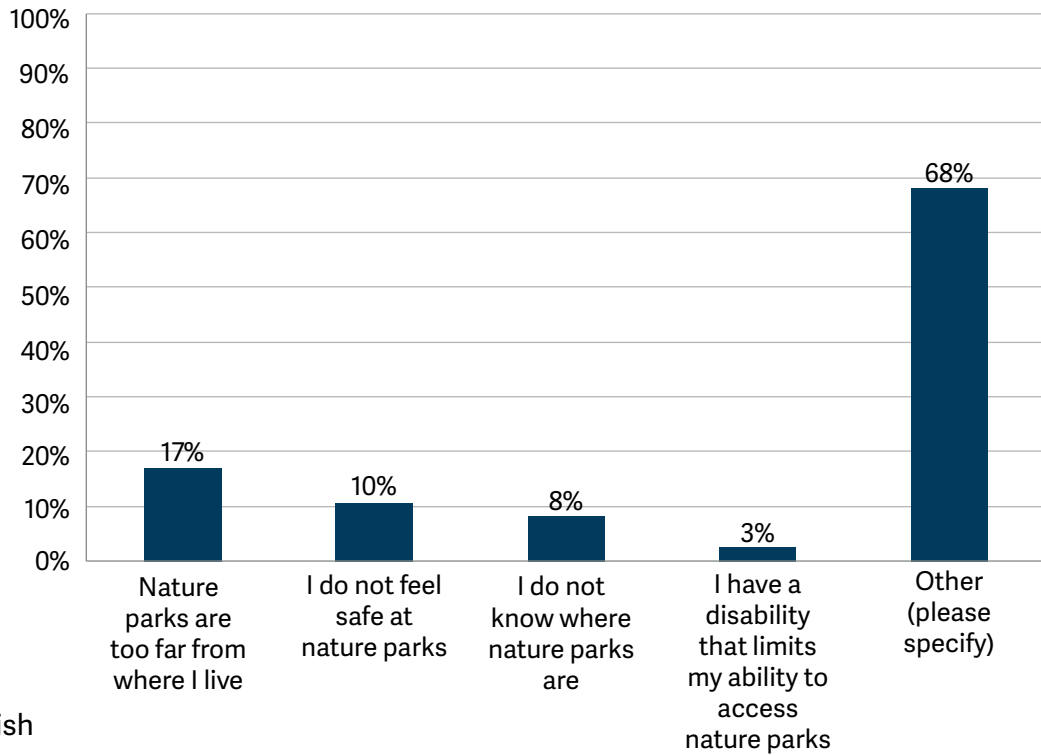


Survey in Spanish  
 n=8  
 skipped=5

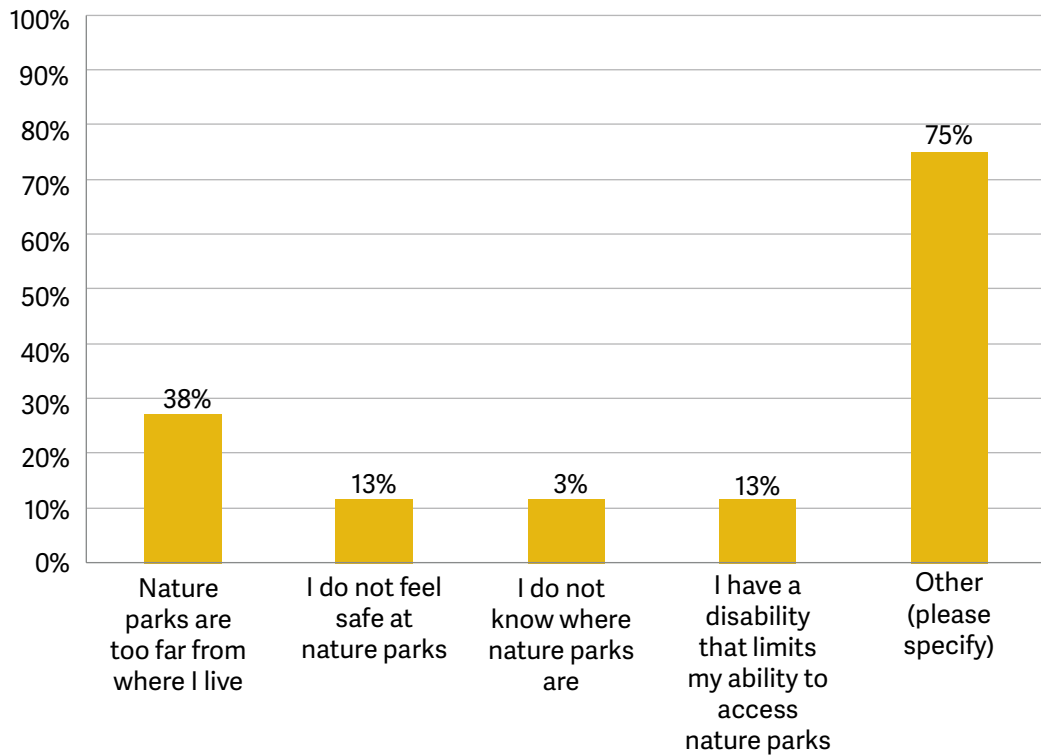


5. If you don't use nature parks? Why? (Select all that apply).

Survey in English  
n=2,328  
skipped=732



Survey in Spanish  
n=8  
skipped=5

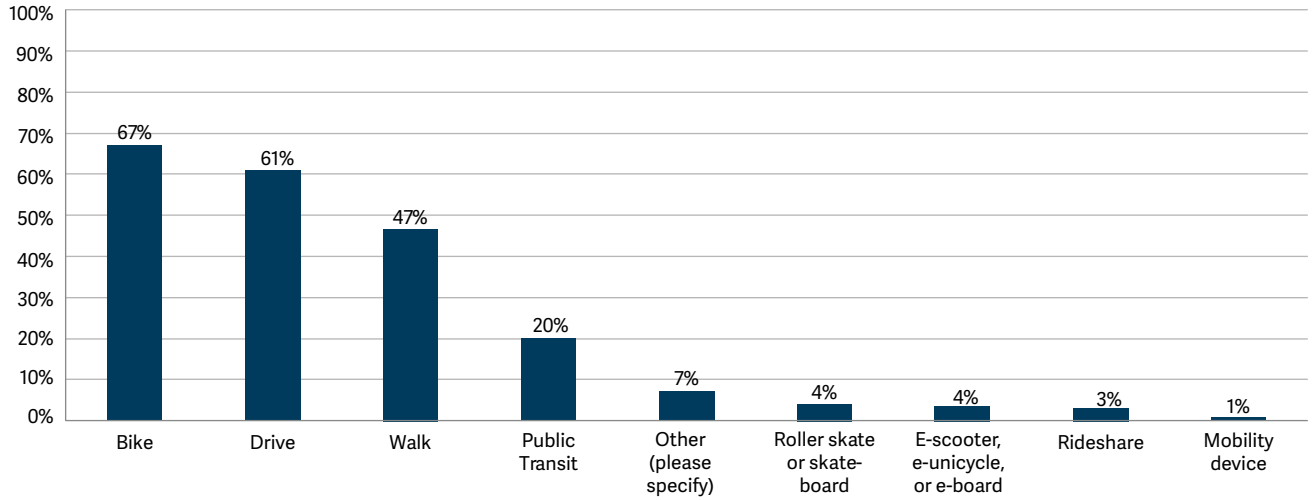


6. We hope you visit Willamette Cove once the nature park is open. How do you anticipate you will travel to the site? (Select all that apply).

Survey in English

n=2,262

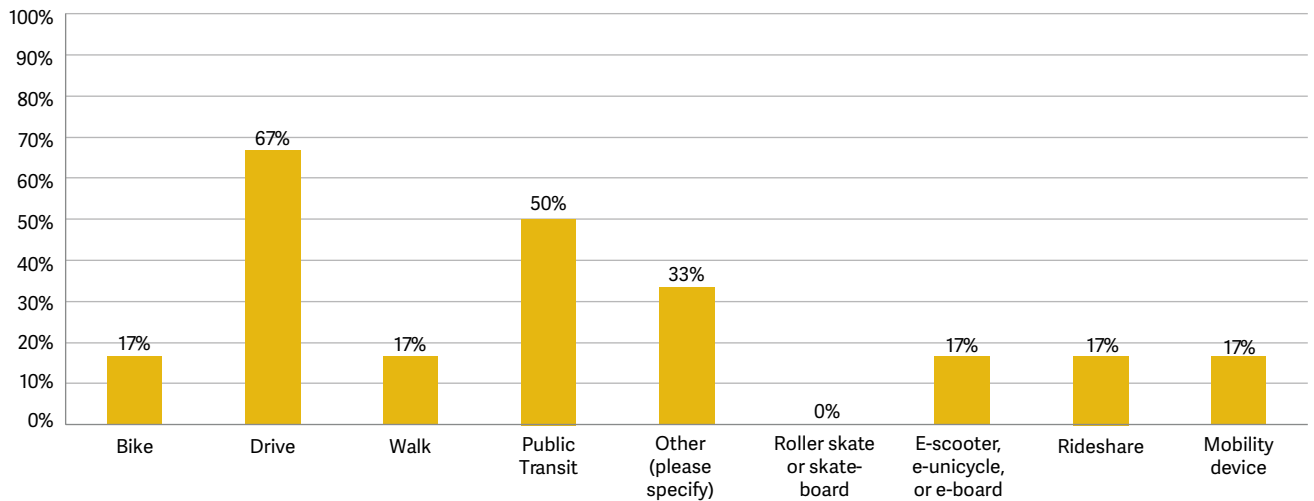
skipped=798



Survey in Spanish

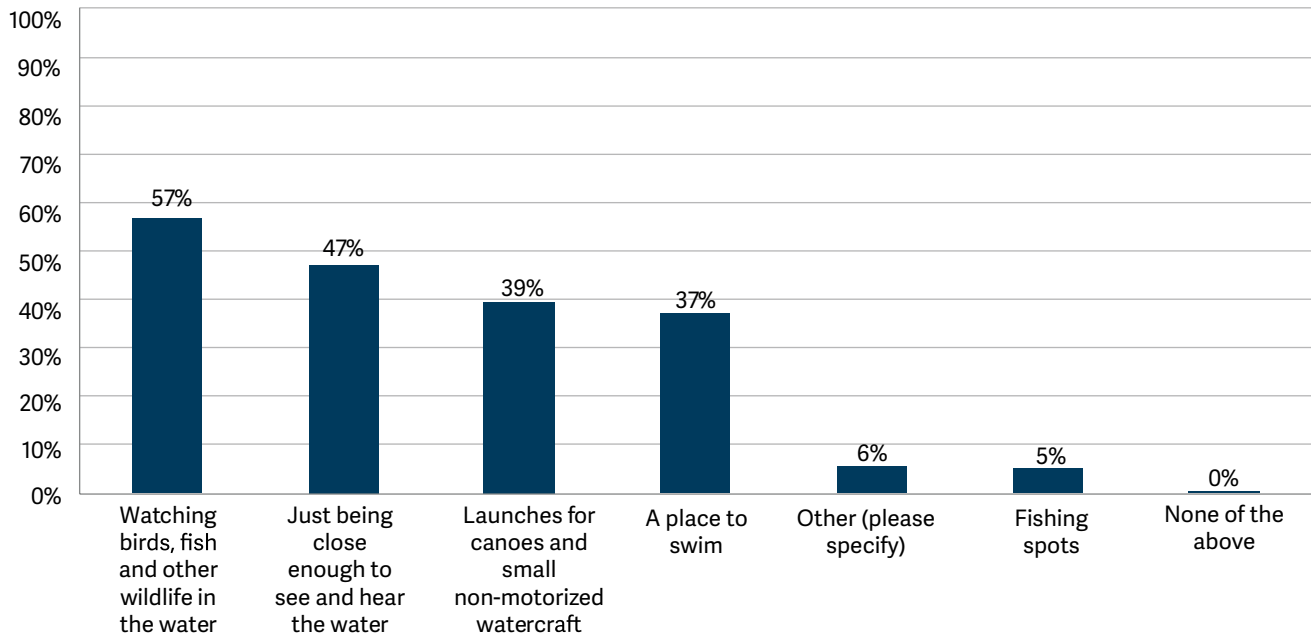
n=6

skipped=7

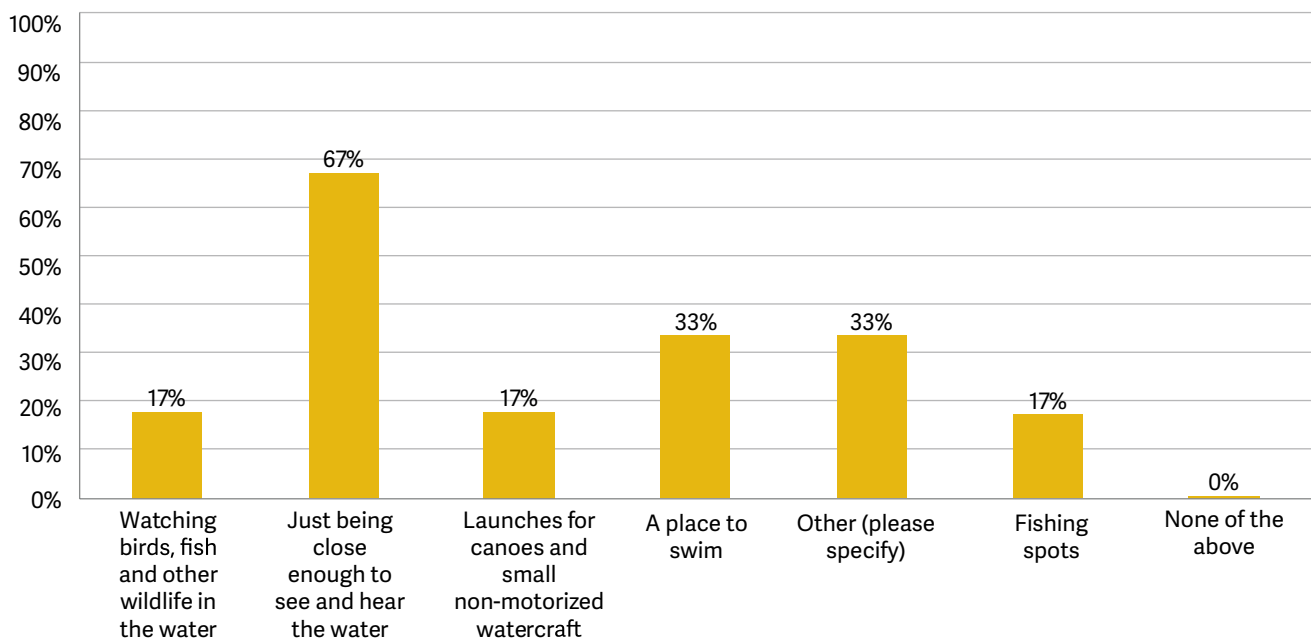


7. Willamette Cove is one of the only places in North Portland where the public can access the Willamette River. What types of water access are most important to you? (To determine our community's priorities, please choose your top two).

Survey in English  
n=2,262  
skipped=798



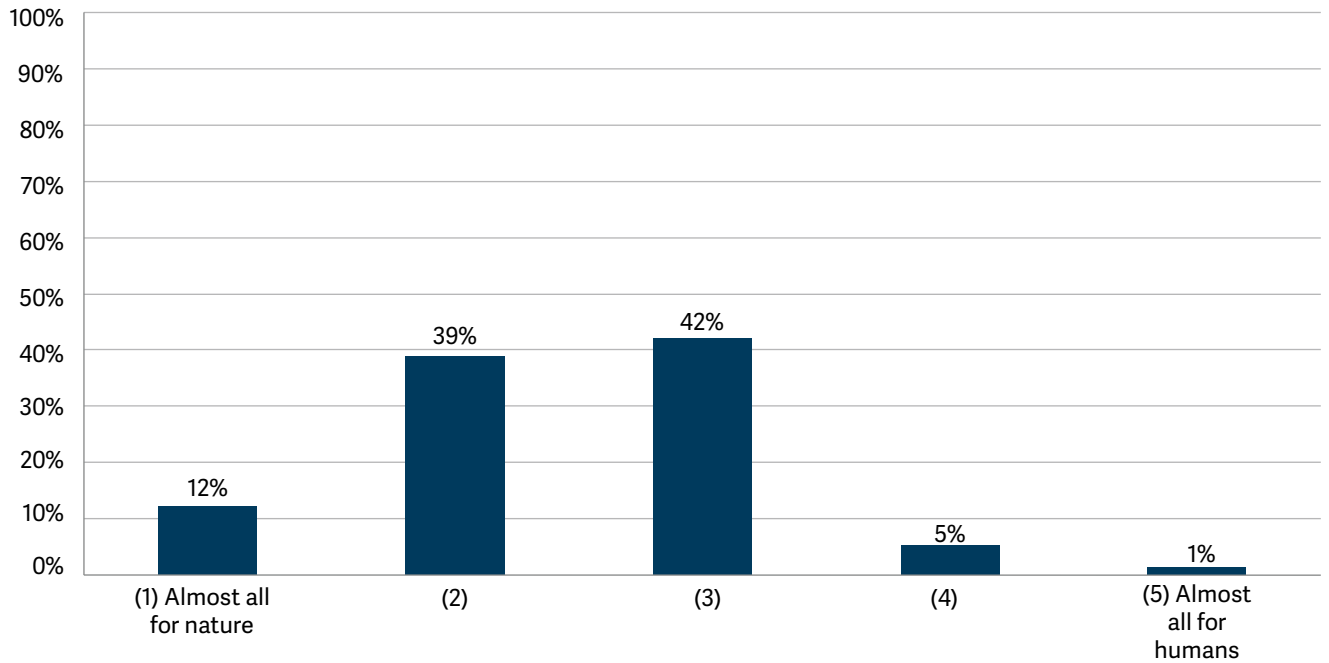
Survey in Spanish  
n=6  
skipped=7



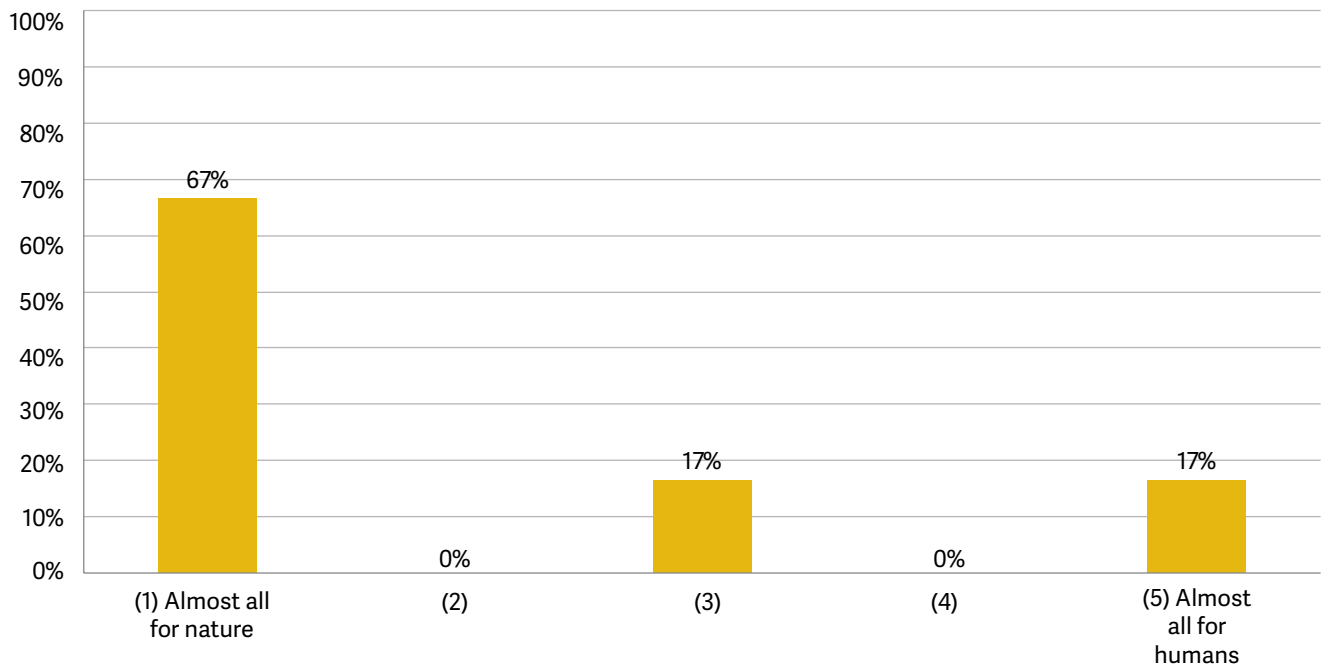


8. Willamette Cove nature park will balance access for people and space for plants and animals to thrive. What do you think the appropriate balance should be?

Survey in English  
n=2,262  
skipped=798

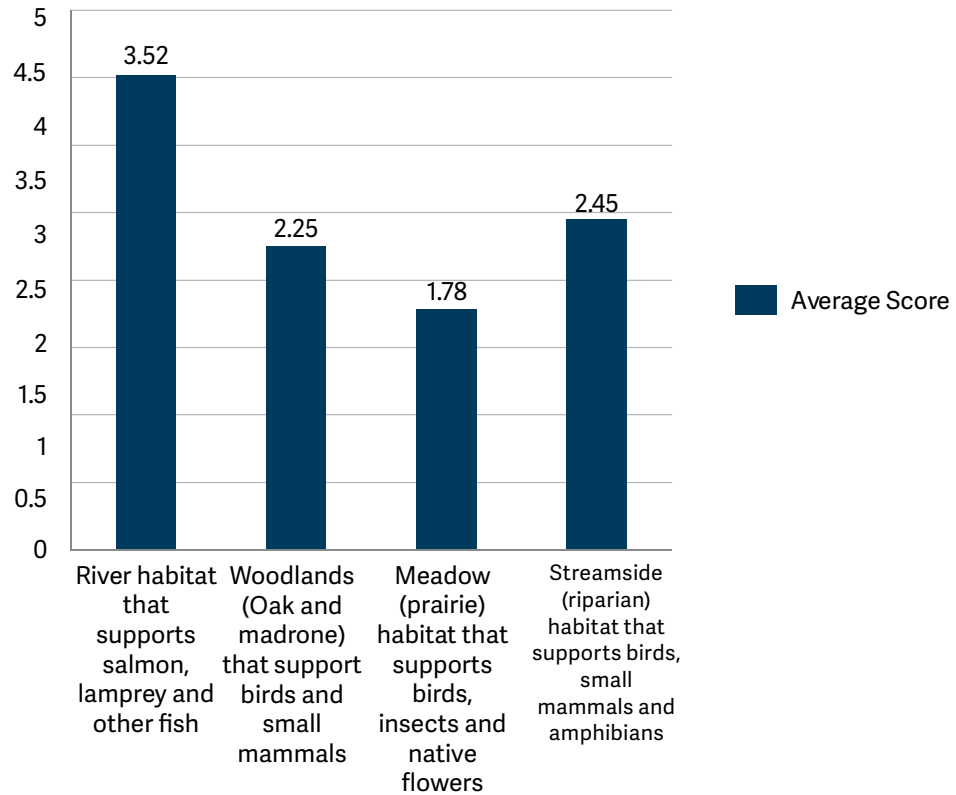


Survey in Spanish  
n=6  
skipped=7

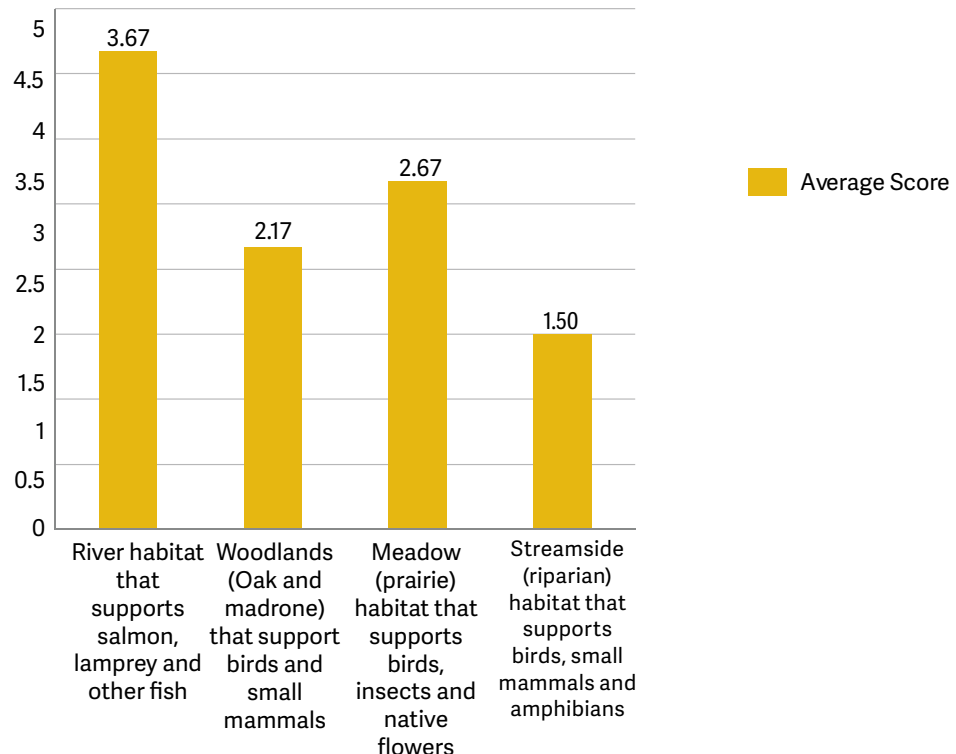


9. Metro has worked closely with multiple Tribes to develop a conservation plan for the nature park at Willamette Cove. There will be a variety of habitats supporting a range of plants and animals. Please rank these habitats in order of which you would like to see prioritized. - Four photos are displayed in a 2x2 grid. From right to left the labels read, "River", "Woodlands", "Meadow", and "Streamside" representing different habitat options.

Survey in English  
n=2,262  
skipped=798



Survey in Spanish  
n=6  
skipped=7



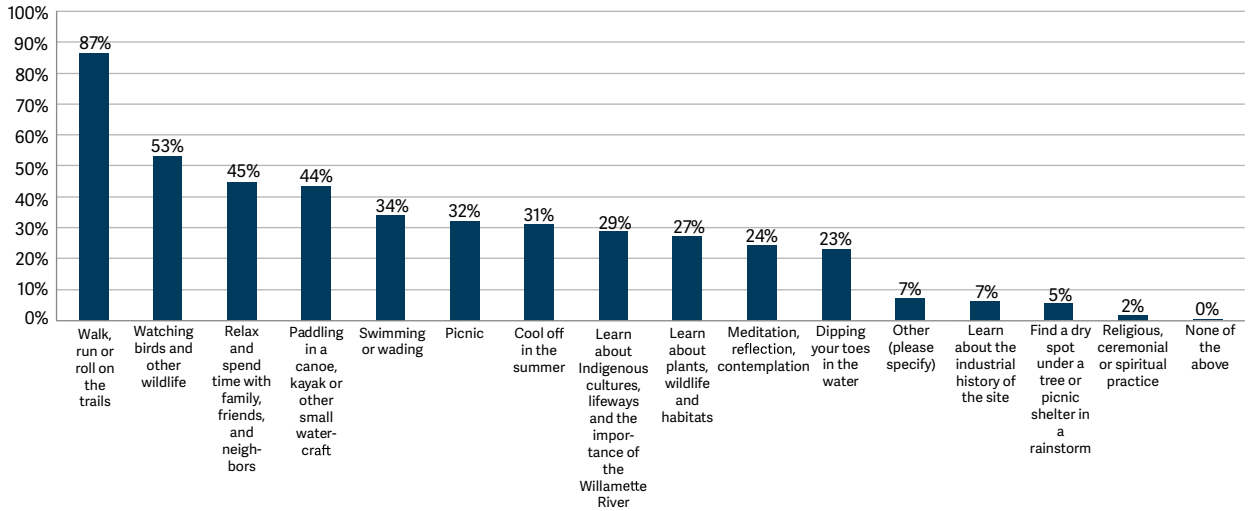
## 10. How do you imagine using the nature park the most?

(To help us determine our community's priorities, please choose your top 5).

Survey in English

n=2,262

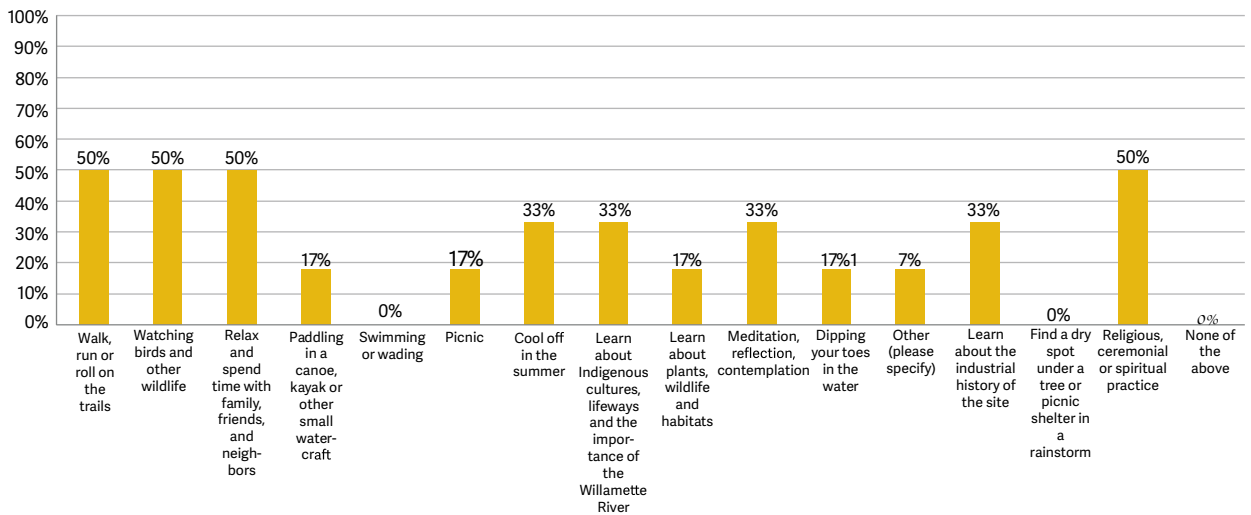
skipped=798



Survey in Spanish

n=6

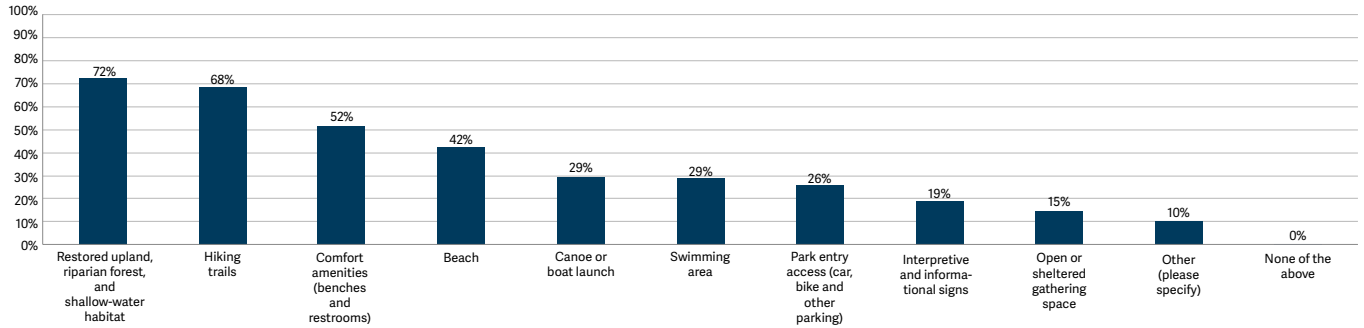
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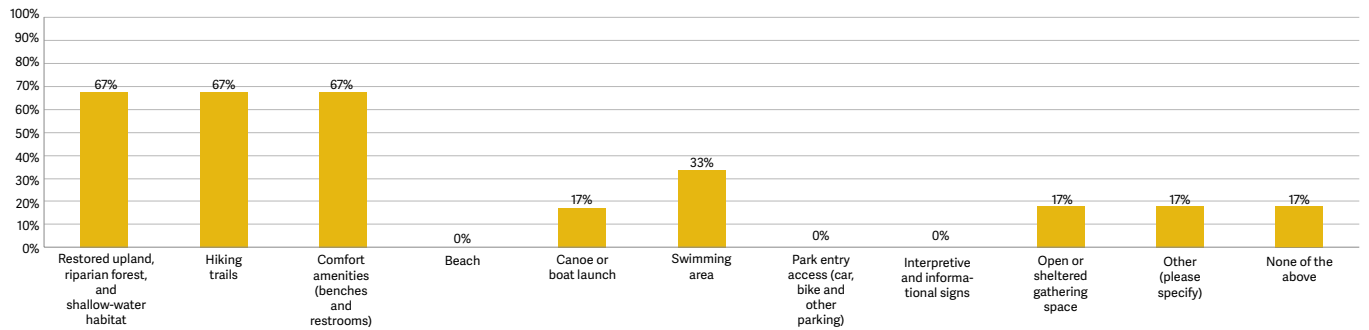
11. There are elements of the nature park that take up a lot of space but are required, like room in the parking lot for emergency vehicles. This can make it hard to fit everything we might want into the park. Which of these park amenities are most important to you?

(To help us determine our community’s priorities, please choose your top 4).

Survey in English  
n=2,262  
skipped=798



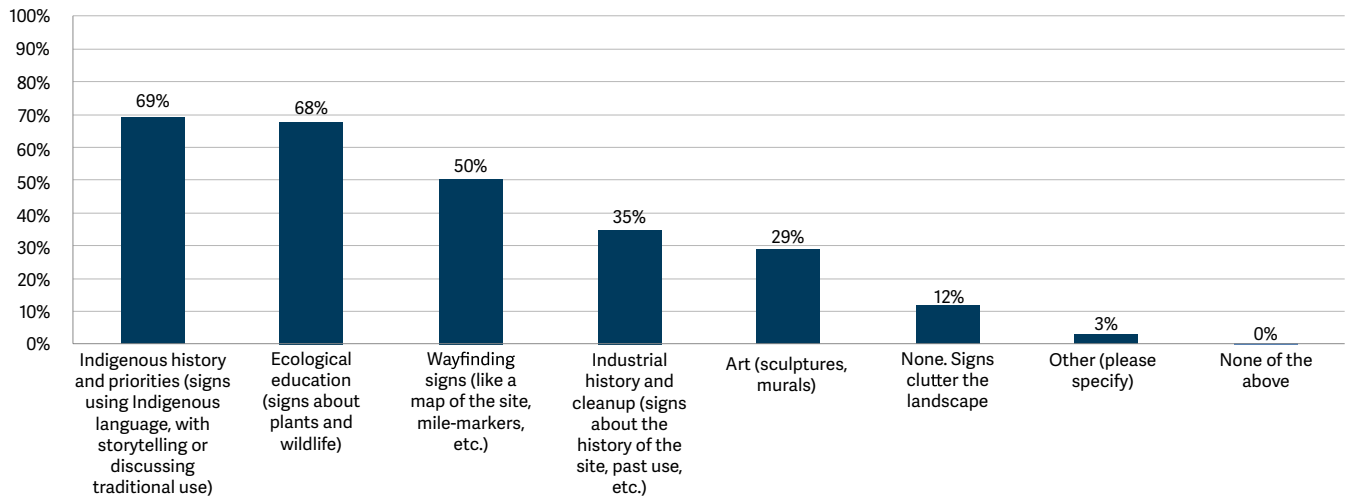
Survey in Spanish  
n=6  
skipped=7



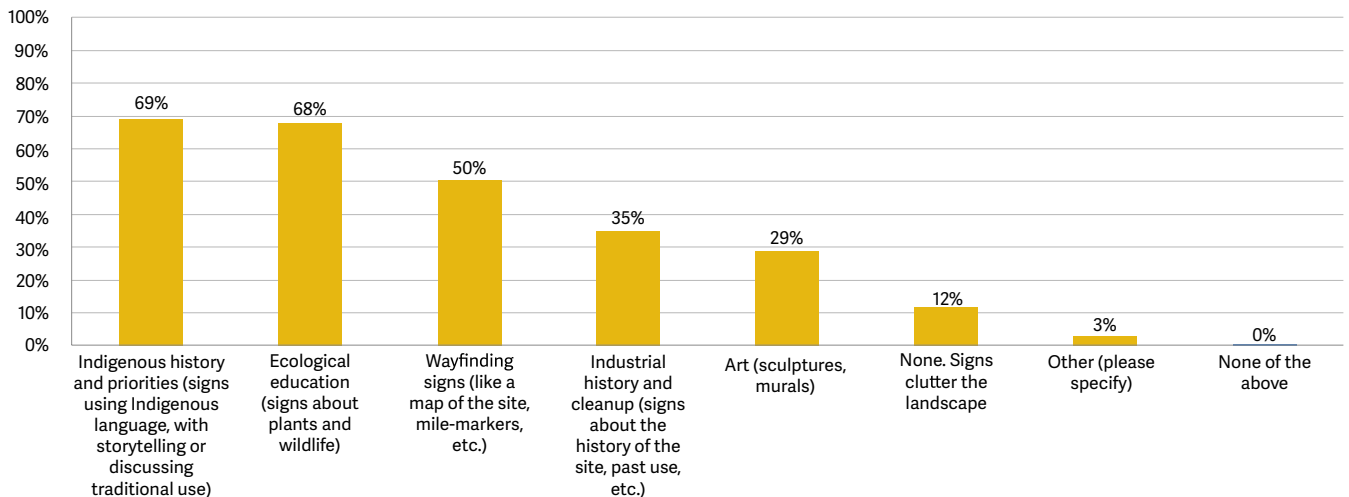
12. Interpretive signs and information can help park visitors understand the landscape, deepen their experience and learn Willamette Cove’s history. Art can enhance the natural beauty of a nature park. Which kinds of information signs would you most want to see at Willamette Cove? Please share your interest in different kinds of information signs.

(To help determine our community’s priorities, please choose your top three).

Survey in English  
 n=2,262  
 skipped=798



Survey in Spanish  
 n=6  
 skipped=7



## Open-Ended Questions

2. Do these values resonate with you? What other values are important to keep in mind for the site? (Please describe below).

Survey in English  
n=1,720  
skipped=1,340

Survey in Spanish  
n=7  
skipped=6

### Key Themes & Takeaways

- Affirmation and Enhancement
  - Insight: Many respondents affirmatively agree with the listed values and suggest adding aspects such as safety and land considerations emphasizing the importance of community inclusion.
  -
- Value Resonance and Community Importance
  - Keywords: resonate, values, strongly, absolutely, habitat, restoration, value, accessibility, communities
  - Insight: Strong resonance with current values with a focus on environmental concerns like habitat restoration and accessibility, highlighting the community's central role.
  -
- Access and Environmental Concerns
  - Keywords: access, nature, water, important, river, people, climate, park, recreation
  - Insight: Access to natural resources like water and parks is emphasized, along with the importance of considering climate impacts and providing recreational facilities.
  -
- Project Support and Value Appreciation
  - Keywords: values, agree, important, add, like, project, wonderful, community, listed, appreciate
  - Insight: General support for the project's values with a desire to see additional values considered, showing appreciation for the project's direction and community impact.
  -
- Positive Reception and Transparency
  - Keywords: great, good, project, far, transparency
  - Insight: Positive feedback on the project's approach with a specific call for increased transparency and the inclusion of broader stakeholder perspectives.

### Survey in English - Notable quotes related to key themes

- "These values resonate, and I am reassured to hear of the early and prioritized consultation with tribes and communities of color"
- "Yes! I'm particularly interested in ensuring that the park is designed to facilitate and celebrate the customs of our Indigenous communities, as well as being climate-resilient and supporting wildlife"
- "Access for everyone also means making sure there is public transport and bike options to the park"
- "Absolutely. In addition, I would love to see water access for everyone for fishing and swimming. Also, connection to the rest of North Portland via non-car transportation (transit, walking, biking,

rolling)”

- “Yes. It would also be nice to have some sort of public art that resonates with the acknowledgment and accountability”
- “Transparency about the levels of toxins/contamination throughout the project”
- “Accessibility and native planting of plants is important to me - also, safety for women”
- “Climate resilience should include access to the water so people can cool off and swim during heat waves”
- “Honor and acknowledge the past, protect for the future, yet allow careful use for today”
- “Climate resilient infrastructure, wildlife and habitat restoration and preservation that is accessible for all members of the surrounding community”
- “Yes, sounds great. Please include engagement in languages other than English”
- “The values expressed by the historically underrepresented groups resonate with me. I want the park to center around indigenous experience and expertise. I want the emphasis of accessibility be focused around indigenous community members, communities of color, folx with disabilities, and low-income communities. I would also be interested to see the park acknowledge the houseless community use in its design”
- “There are beautiful scotch broom that are magnificent when blooming. I’d like to see those preserved as there is incredible natural beauty happening already. I also think there are some markings of graffiti and color that are quite beautiful and I’m curious if it could be part of a community sculpture to preserve some of the history of markings that took place and not wiped everything out with ‘new development’”
- “Community engagement in every step of the planning process is vital.”
- “Environmental conservation and preserving natural beauty should be key considerations.”

13. Are there amenities, facilities, spaces or any other park element that is culturally important to you and would make your experience at Willamette Cove more meaningful? Are there culturally-specific stories or knowledge that you would like to share about Willamette Cove or the lower Willamette River? (Please describe).

Survey in English  
n=743  
skipped=2,317

Survey in Spanish  
n=3  
skipped=10

## Key Themes & Takeaways

- **Accessibility:** Importance of making the park accessible to everyone, including people with disabilities.
- **Environmental and Historical Education:** Desire for educational elements related to the history of the area, environmental conservation, and indigenous history.
- **Ceremonies and Cultural Practices:** Interest in having ceremonies and gatherings, particularly those honoring indigenous cultures.
- **Nature and Wildlife Preservation:** Emphasis on preserving natural habitats and wildlife within the park.
- **Amenities for Families:** Requests for family-friendly amenities such as playgrounds and bathrooms.

## Notable quotes related to key themes

- “It is important anyone should be able to access the water, accessible features can still exist in a nature park. Water access should be inviting and enjoyable for long periods of time. Any related stories about sewage history. Racism in our city’s development past and present.”
- “The history of industry and how it takes people committing to prioritize our planet to overcome the damage that has been done. Where our salmon population is at now vs what it used to be and how we can support it. The importance of storm water treatment throughout our valley in creating a safe, swimmable, and livable Willamette River.”
- “I believe in having a ceremony to unveil the Willamette Cove and its new transition will be an important marker. I think it would be good to have an indigenous gathering there before the park opens to honor and reclaim its new transition of health and care.”
- “I have never seen more Cedar waxwings in my life than I have at the cove. In fall, with the madrone full of berries, I counted over 200 feasting. The oaks and madrone are truly special. There is also one sneaky pacific yew that is super beautiful.”
- “I would love to see a little educational corner telling the history of St. John’s and that site.”
- “Why must all of the riverfront in Portland be relentlessly developed and overrun with people? Less amenities, more nature, please.”
- “I’m a professional mariner, and I think some art/interpretative signs about Portland’s maritime history would be an interesting addition given the proximity to Swan Island and the site’s historical use as a dry dock. This would need to be balanced with discussion of industrial environmental concerns and colonialism.”
- “Acknowledging somewhere on the site that it is a Superfund site and that it is being maintained to be safe for people.”
- “Potties for kids. Perhaps a small nature playground (no plastic, all wood and recycled stuff, nature-themed, good for kids up to 13 years old).”
- “Disc golf, bathrooms, group gathering sites.”
- “Recognition of tribal history - there’s none of this on the new Vancouver waterfront area, and that is mind-blowing to me.”
- “The importance of river and stream side restoration in helping to recover endangered species: salmon, steelhead, and lamprey.”
- “Want to read about indigenous people from the area.”
- “If there is going to be a non-motorized boat launch, close parking will be essential. Accessible pathways between parking, restrooms, boat launch, and other amenities.”
- “I would love the site to be designed from the perspective of keeping a child engaged.”



## 14. Is there anything else you would like to share with us about Willamette Cove?

Survey in English  
n=928  
skipped=2,132

Survey in Spanish  
n=5  
skipped=8

### Key Themes & Takeaways

- **Appreciation and Gratitude:** Words like "thank," "time," "energy," and "can't wait" indicate expressions of gratitude and positive anticipation for the efforts being made regarding Willamette Cove.
- **Simplicity and Action:** Words like "don't," "overthink," "simple," and "action" suggest a desire for straightforward, uncomplicated solutions actions rather than over-complicating the design process.
- **Recreational Activities:** Words such as "fishing," "activities," and "enjoy" point to interests in recreational activities and the enjoyment of the natural environment at Willamette Cove.
- **Preservation and Environment:** Terms like "preserve," "nature," "environment," and "protect" suggest a focus on environmental preservation and protection of the natural beauty and ecosystem of Willamette Cove.
- **Accessibility and Safety:** Concerns about safe access to the water and the importance of consulting with current river users.

### Notable quotes related to key theme

- "Thank you for your time and energy put into this project. We are excited to see the outcome and hopeful for what will be."
- "Can't wait to have a spot in North Portland to swim in the river!!"
- "I have seen so many different natural areas working for RID and when I volunteered with the native plant center, and this spot feels so unique and special. Admittedly, I am biased because the cove is close to my home. Thanks for all your work."
- "When planning waterway access it's imperative to consult with current river users, especially the motorized boating community who regularly uses this stretch of river in the summer months. This area is a busy commercial waterway and one of the last places in Portland to enjoy the widest array of towed water sports. Adding additional access points could be a safety issue, particularly for novice paddlers who might not understand how to safely navigate a busy waterway. Groups you could engage on this topic include the Oregon State Marine Board, Oregon Families for Boating and SK Rentals."
- "We're hoping the frog ferry makes it down this way, either to the bridge or the Cove."
- "This is a wonderful collaboration and I'm excited to witness the process of this park's development."
- "To honor the indigenous heritage and also to promote the revival of the language, all the signage and interpretive features in this park should include Chinuk Wawa in addition to English, Spanish, Russian, etc. that are currently used by Metro."
- "This sounds lovely. This may not be popular, but can it be a no dog park or at the very least, dogs must be on leashes?"
- "I would prefer it be restored more for natural benefit desperately needed on the Willamette River waterfront and less for peoples' activities other than walking."
- "I think it is important to fully share the history of a site, including the events that contaminated it. I think it is an important story to share about Metro's commitment to improving the region. The city did not focus on this when building Cully Park on a landfill, instead they did a lot to downplay the situation."

- "I think there should be a running/walking path that is long enough for people to set out and not clutter the pathway. Maybe a few miles long or longer!"
- "Excited that Portland is reclaiming former industrial space in the area. Knowing that this is far from pristine from prior use, it seems appropriate that it should be used to expand outdoor recreation access for Portlanders and visitors."

### **Survey in Spanish -Responses translated**

- "Please make this a space that is not overcrowded and that respects the traditions and culture with the fauna and the habitat of the tribes"
- "no"
- "Thank you"
- "Consider electric generators on the bank of the Willamette River and solar panels to make the park self-sufficient in energy consumption"

# c. Workshops

## In-Person Mapping Activity Results

Table 1 (English)



Table 2 (English)



Table 3 (Spanish)





Table 4 (English)



Table 5 (English)

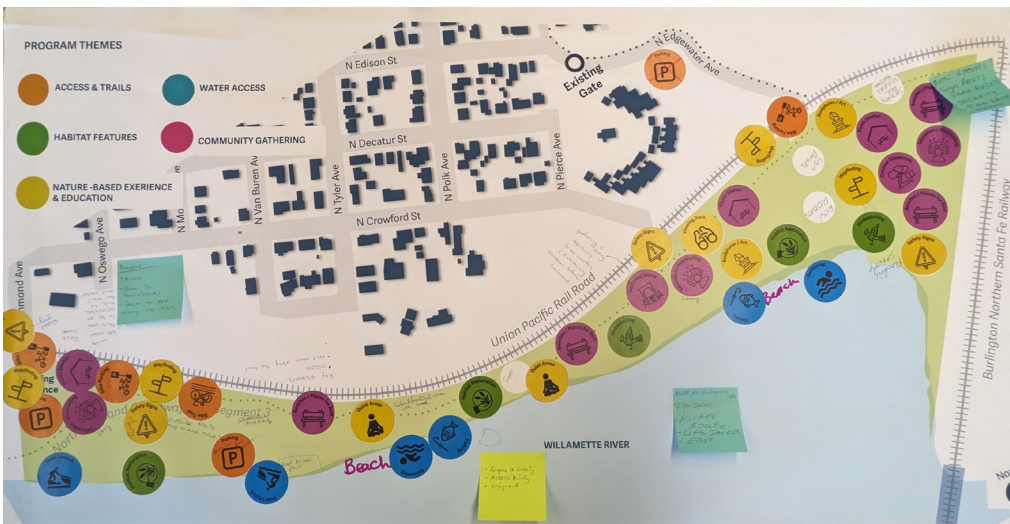


Table 6 (English)



Table 7 (English)



Table 8 (English)



Table 9 (Spanish)









