



RECREATION SURVEY RESULTS

Chatham Borough
Spring 2021

BACKGROUND

- ❖ Need a framework to make decisions about priorities for capital improvements, maintenance, etc. of recreational amenities
- ❖ Process has been somewhat ad hoc in the past
- ❖ Last year used a different platform with questions specifically about Garden Park
- ❖ This year decided to expand questions and use a platform that could reach more people

OUTREACH AND RESPONSES

Reached out to residents via social media, press release, recreation e-mail lists, and our web-site

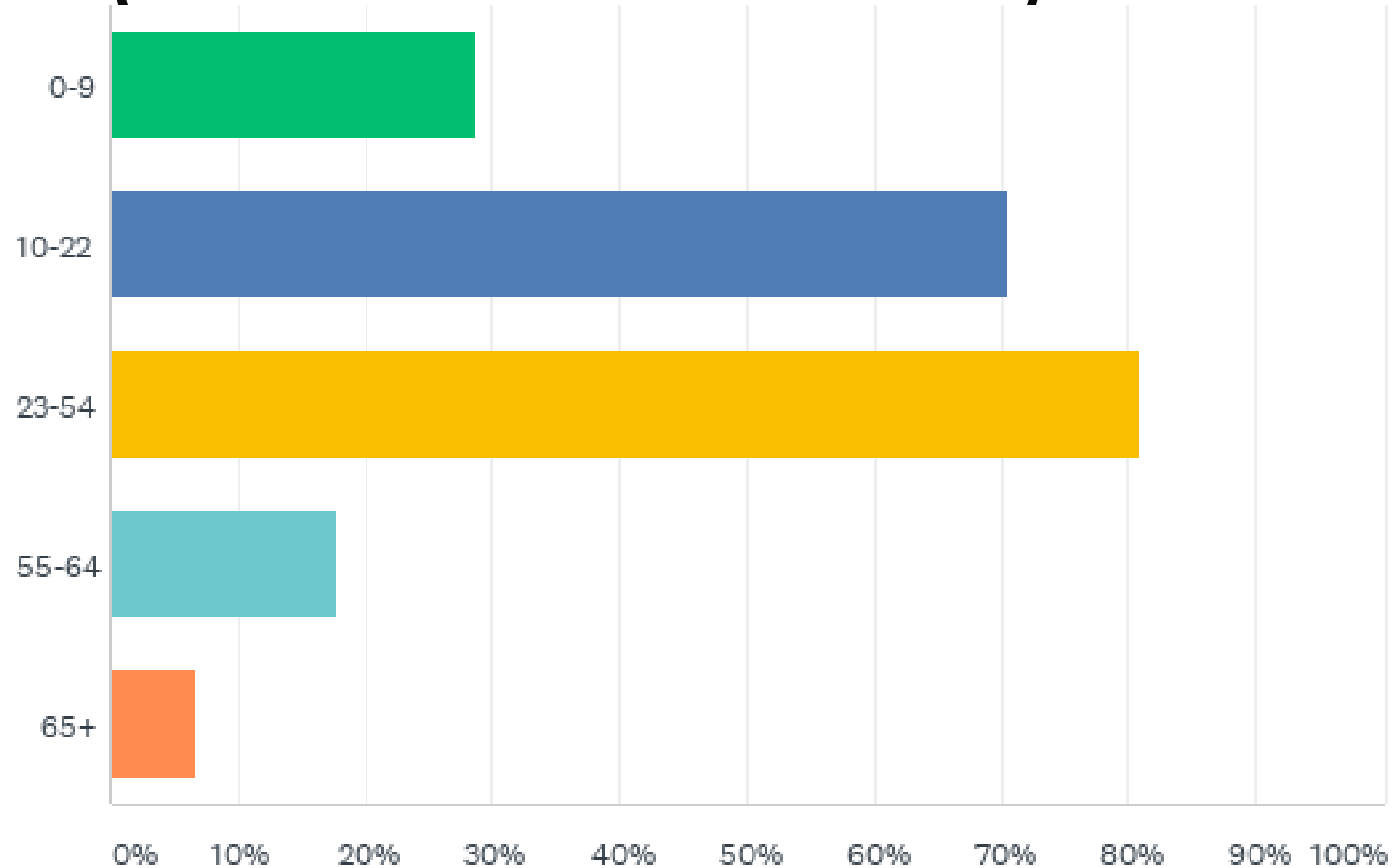
771 responses

- 555 Chatham Borough
- 221 Chatham Township
- 5 Neither

Analysis will focus on Borough responses, but all can be reviewed by the public:

- All responses - <https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-G7YG6JK89/>
- Borough only - <https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-GGK2GJK89/>

WHAT AGE GROUPS RESIDE IN YOUR CHATHAM HOUSEHOLD (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY).



THINKING ABOUT THOSE FACILITIES THAT CURRENTLY EXIST IN THE BOROUGH OF CHATHAM, WHAT IS YOUR LEVEL OF SATISFACTION WITH THE FOLLOWING? (NOT SORTED)

	UNSATISFIED	SOMEWHAT SATISFIED	SATISFIED	VERY SATISFIED	NA OR NO OPINION	TOTAL
Playing Fields	6.78% 37	21.98% 120	40.48% 221	21.06% 115	9.71% 53	546
Playgrounds	3.11% 17	16.82% 92	43.51% 238	19.38% 106	17.18% 94	547
Tennis Courts	26.06% 142	23.67% 129	16.15% 88	2.57% 14	31.56% 172	545
Basketball Courts	32.05% 175	23.81% 130	20.15% 110	4.40% 24	19.60% 107	546
Parks and Open Spaces	4.74% 26	26.41% 145	44.63% 245	20.95% 115	3.28% 18	549
Passive Recreation Facilities (trails, etc.)	10.95% 60	21.72% 119	36.86% 202	20.26% 111	10.22% 56	548

PLEASE INDICATE WHAT BOROUGH FACILITIES YOUR FAMILY HAVE USED IN THE PAST TWO YEARS. (SORTED BY WEIGHTED AVERAGE FOR HEAVIEST USE)

	Have not used	Use occasionally (up to six times/year)	Use regularly (up to 12 times/year)	Use frequently (more than 12 times/year)	Weighted Average
Passaic River trail at Shepard Kollock	32.11%	25.14%	12.66%	30.09%	1.41
Lum Fields / lacrosse practice wall	33.39%	22.20%	16.88%	27.52%	1.39
Shepard Kollack park playing fields	29.02%	27.36%	19.78%	23.84%	1.38
Memorial Park basketball court	33.27%	27.02%	12.50%	27.21%	1.34
Memorial Park playing fields	32.97%	25.60%	17.31%	24.13%	1.33
Memorial Park playground	38.59%	28.76%	14.29%	18.37%	1.12
Garden Park basketball court	51.67%	19.07%	9.63%	19.63%	0.97
Garden Park tennis courts	55.99%	17.86%	9.02%	17.13%	0.87
Garden Park tennis hitting wall	57.96%	21.30%	9.81%	10.93%	0.74
Shepard Kollack off-leash area	65.43%	15.24%	5.39%	13.94%	0.68
Shepard Kollock park picnic shelter	56.51%	30.48%	5.58%	7.43%	0.64
Reasoner Park gazebo	56.64%	29.70%	7.93%	5.72%	0.63
Garden Park playground	68.66%	18.66%	5.60%	7.09%	0.51
Memorial Park pool (when open)	80.37%	3.89%	4.07%	11.67%	0.47
Stanley Park picnic area	73.38%	18.30%	3.70%	4.62%	0.4

**PLEASE INDICATE THE PRIORITY LEVEL THAT SHOULD BE GIVEN TO EACH PROJECT,
ASSUMING PUBLIC FUNDS NEED TO BE USED
(SORTED BY WEIGHTED AVERAGE)**

	Not a priority	Low priority	High priority	Very high priority	No Opinion
Refurbish basketball courts at Garden Avenue park	7.50%	18.10%	20.84%	39.12%	14.44%
Refurbish the remaining three tennis courts at Garden Avenue park	14.96%	19.71%	23.18%	28.83%	13.32%
Continue expansion of the Passaic River trail	19.82%	20.18%	27.82%	24.18%	8.00%
Improve playground equipment to make more accessible for children with special needs	17.61%	19.82%	36.33%	13.03%	13.21%
Refurbish lacrosse/tennis wall at Garden Avenue Park	26.01%	25.64%	17.95%	15.93%	14.47%
Upgrade playground equipment at Memorial Park	27.39%	29.96%	20.22%	8.82%	13.60%
Upgrade playground equipment at Garden Avenue Park	30.71%	26.33%	17.18%	6.76%	19.01%
Upgrade playground equipment at Shepard Kollock park	30.83%	31.38%	16.33%	5.69%	15.78%
Refurbish lacrosse practice wall at Lum field	34.85%	27.19%	13.69%	7.12%	17.15%
Add "par course" exercise stations to the trail at Garden Avenue park	34.50%	31.01%	15.05%	6.24%	13.21%

**TO WHAT DEGREE DO YOU SUPPORT THE BOROUGH SPENDING ADDITIONAL PUBLIC FUNDS ON DEVELOPING NEW OR IMPROVING EXISTING FACILITY TYPES?
(SORTED BY WEIGHTED AVERAGE)**

	Do not support	Support	Strongly Support	N/A or no opinion	Weighted Average
Basketball Courts	7.43%	30.80%	53.08%	8.70%	2.5
Parks and Open Space	13.14%	38.50%	45.07%	3.28%	2.33
Paved Trails (cycling, walking)	16.76%	34.43%	44.81%	4.01%	2.29
Unpaved Nature Trails	18.98%	33.21%	42.52%	5.29%	2.25
Sports Fields	17.73%	37.84%	39.49%	4.94%	2.23
Playgrounds	18.30%	46.95%	26.25%	8.50%	2.09
Space for Older Adult Programs	23.71%	43.75%	21.69%	10.85%	1.98
Picnic areas	26.70%	48.43%	16.02%	8.84%	1.88
Pickleball Courts	30.76%	36.46%	19.15%	13.63%	1.87
Skateboard Parks	34.37%	31.81%	23.03%	10.79%	1.87
Outdoor Fitness Stations (e.g., par course)	34.19%	37.13%	16.54%	12.13%	1.8
Outdoor Swimming Pool	39.93%	29.76%	18.51%	11.80%	1.76
Splash Pads	38.01%	28.23%	14.39%	19.37%	1.71

OPEN ENDED QUESTIONS ... 19 PAGES OF FEEDBACK!

“Having enough free time to actually enjoy Chatham parks and open spaces this year, showed me how much I had been missing. They are AMAZING!”

“Did not know trails existed. Would love more communication on park trails.”

“I think it’s important for our town to continue to improve outdoor areas for walking/riding bikes, etc. Although my children are grown, we’ve used Fields thoroughly over many decades, and I want to see the young families of Chatham enjoy the same facilities that we had.”

OPEN ENDED (CONT.)

“Most of the recreation areas are geared towards children and young families. It would be great to incorporate features that serve an older population (sun shades, more benches, bocci court, pickle ball).”

“There are plenty of parks, open spaces, and playing fields in town. However, the actual playgrounds and/or playing surfaces could use updating.”

“For such an affluent town, we seem to neglect our sports fields and courts as compared to other towns. These facilities get a ton of use and are important for our youth.”

... full text available on our web site

HOW WILL THE SURVEY BE USED

- ❖ Inform decisions about capital and ongoing spending
 - ❖ 2020 – Tennis Courts
 - ❖ 2021 – Basketball Courts and enclose Dog Park
- ❖ Add specific “to do” items for public works department
- ❖ Continue work to expand Passaic River Trail
- ❖ Add more detail about trails and facilities on our web site
- ❖ Consider a more consistent schedule for updating of facilities and equipment

... if you did not have an opportunity to fill out the survey, please email Cdempsey@chathamborough.org or jmathiasen!@chathamborough.org with your thoughts and input



QUESTIONS?