

To: City Council

From: Matt Muckler, City Administrator

Date: February 27, 2014 Weekly Council Update

- **City Councilmember NIMS Training Scheduled for March 4th:** The National Incident Management System (NIMS) is a standardized approach to managing and responding to emergency situations. It was developed by the Department of Homeland Security and released in March 2004 and establishes a uniform set of processes and procedures that emergency responders at all levels of government will use to conduct response operations. The *NIMS Training Program* is intended for emergency management officials and administrators responsible for budgets, planning and procurement, as well as elected officials who are policy makers in their local governments.

Chief Mike Horihan has arranged for a training on Tuesday March 4th at 6:30 p.m. at the West Branch Fire Station. There will be elected officials from other Cedar County cities who will also be in attendance. Please contact Police Chief Mike Horihan or Administrative Assistant Shanelle Peden with any questions about this event.

- **Heirloom Seeds:** The West Branch Public Library and Friends of the West Branch Public library have two intertwining activities coming up soon. Next week, the library will begin signing out heirloom seeds, those that are not commonly produced through modern agriculture, for use by those in the community. The current collection has been established through donations from several local seed companies and includes flowers, herbs, vegetables, and fruits. Through the seeds, the Library wishes to encourage members of our community to learn about sustainability, to provide and promote fun and healthy activities among families, and to encourage healthy lifestyles. In conjunction with this collection, the Library and Friends will be holding another adult-level program on Friday, March 7th at 7:00 p.m. and will feature a gardening expert as well as a proponent of seed saving.

- **Park & Rec Survey Results:** The Park & Rec Survey results have been compiled and attached to this Weekly Council Update. Also attached are the comments received on the question of combining a new library with the community center. Brian Boelk, with HBK Engineering will present a brief report to the City Council at the March 24th Meeting and be available for any questions.

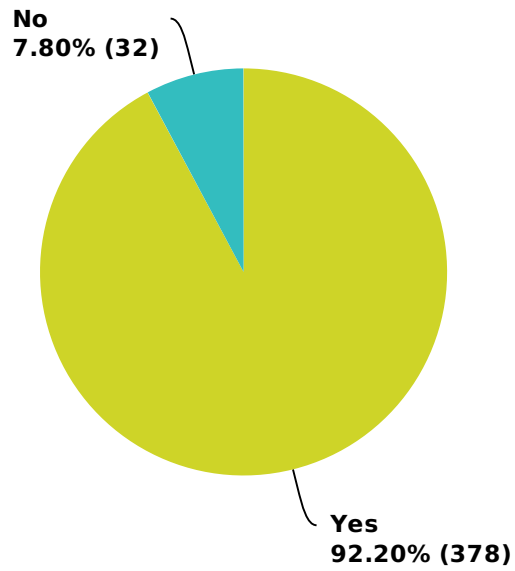
- **Upcoming Events:**

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| ▪ Friday February 28 th at 10:00 a.m. | Preschool Story Time at WBPL |
| ▪ Saturday March 1 st at 7:00 a.m. | Tough Mother Fitness Class |
| ▪ Saturday March 1 st at 8:45 a.m. | Pilates Class |
| ▪ Monday March 3 rd at 5:30 p.m. | Tough Mother Fitness Class |
| ▪ Monday March 3 rd at 6:00 p.m. | City Council Work Session #1 |
| ▪ Monday March 3 rd at 6:30 p.m. | City Council Meeting |
| ▪ Monday March 3 rd at 7:00 p.m. | City Council Work Session #2 |
| ▪ Tuesday March 4 th at 6:30 p.m. | NIMS Training at the Fire Station |

The information provided is one-way communication and should not be discussed among you as this would be a violation of the open meeting law.

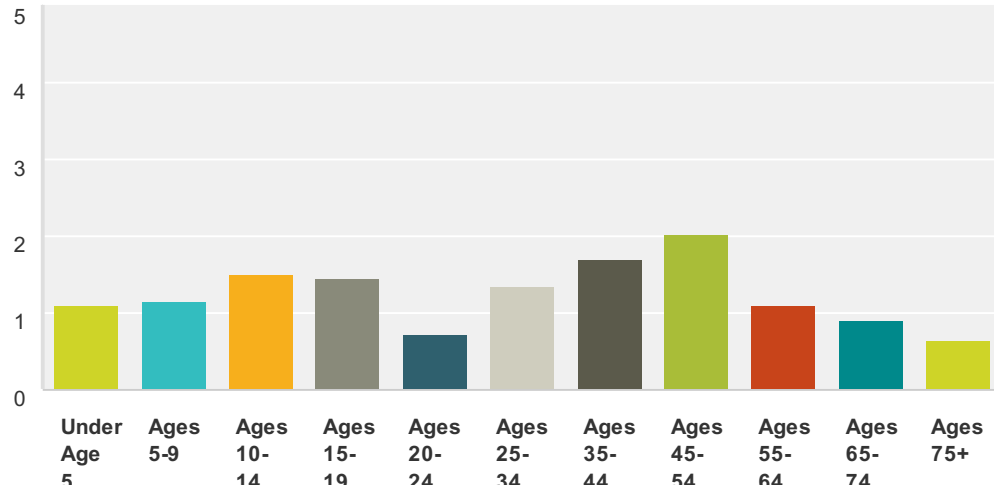
Q1 Is your residence located within the West Branch School District?

Answered: 410 Skipped: 4



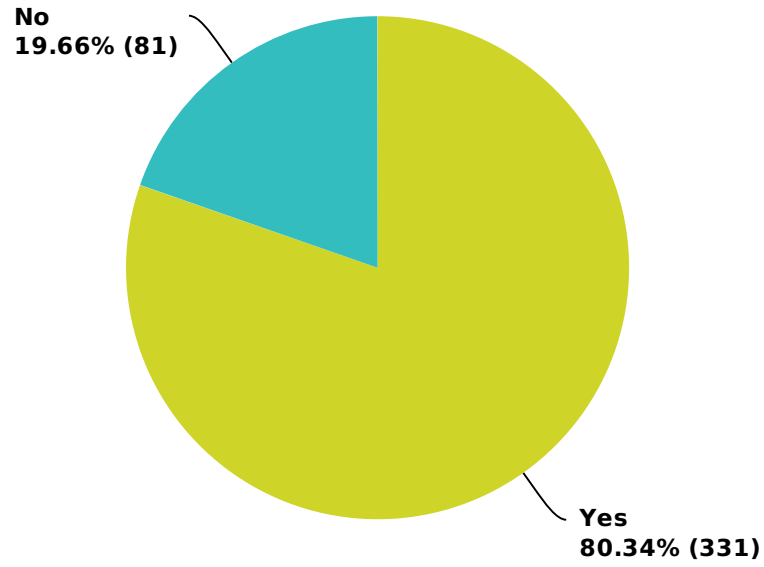
Q3 Including yourself, list the number of people in your household who are:

Answered: 413 Skipped: 1



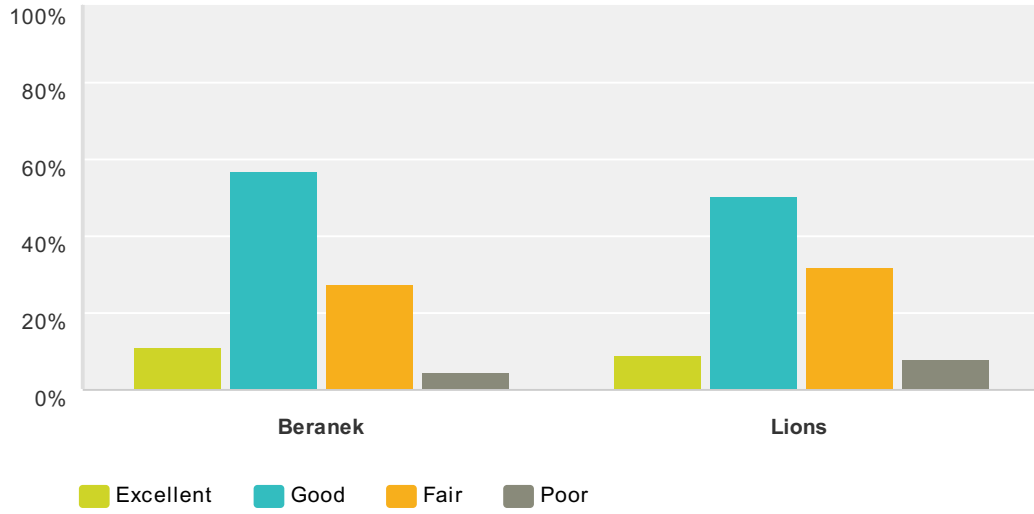
Q4 Have you or members of your household visited any of the City of West Branch parks during the past year?

Answered: 412 Skipped: 2



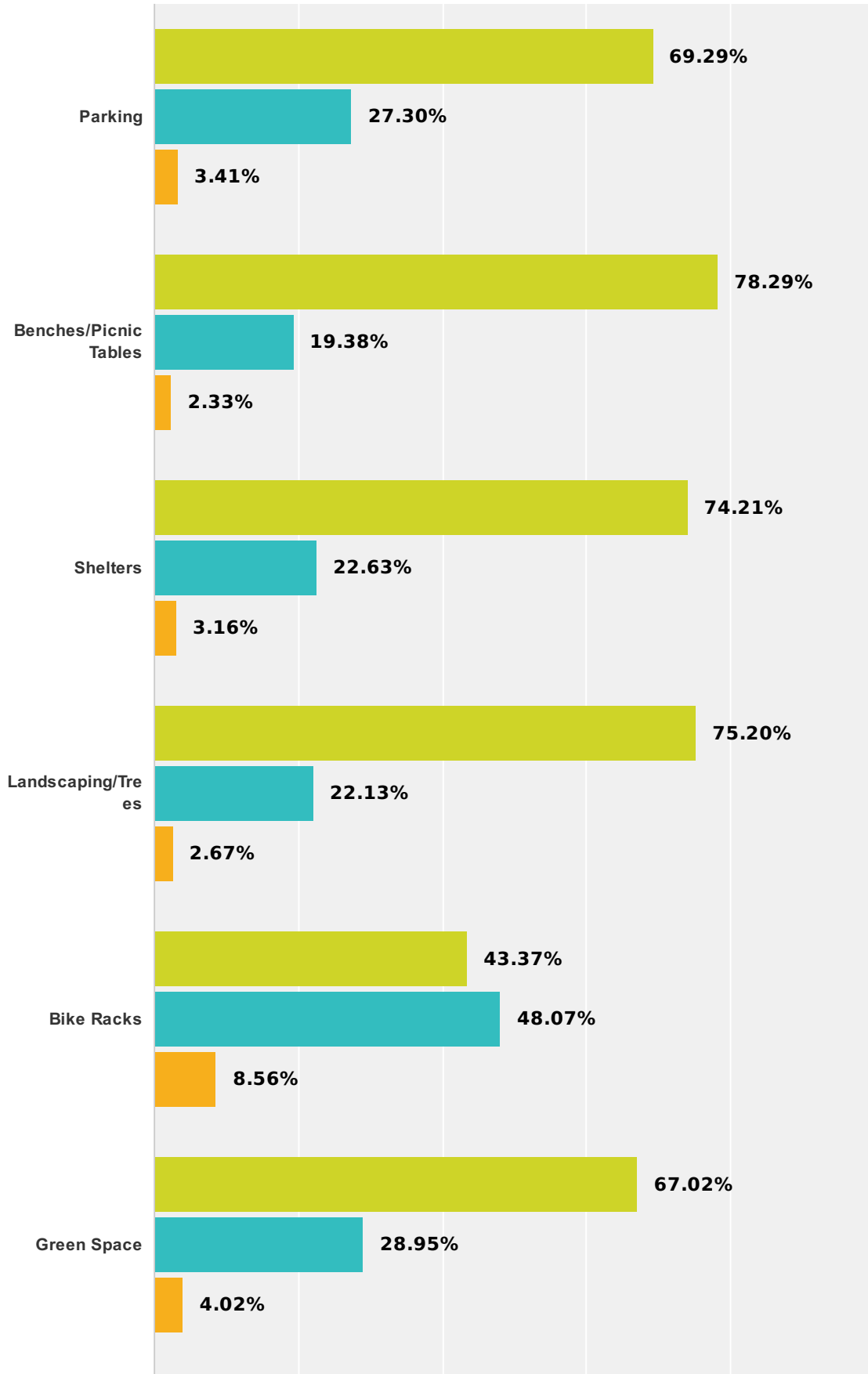
Q5 How would you rate the physical condition of the parks you have visited?

Answered: 382 Skipped: 32

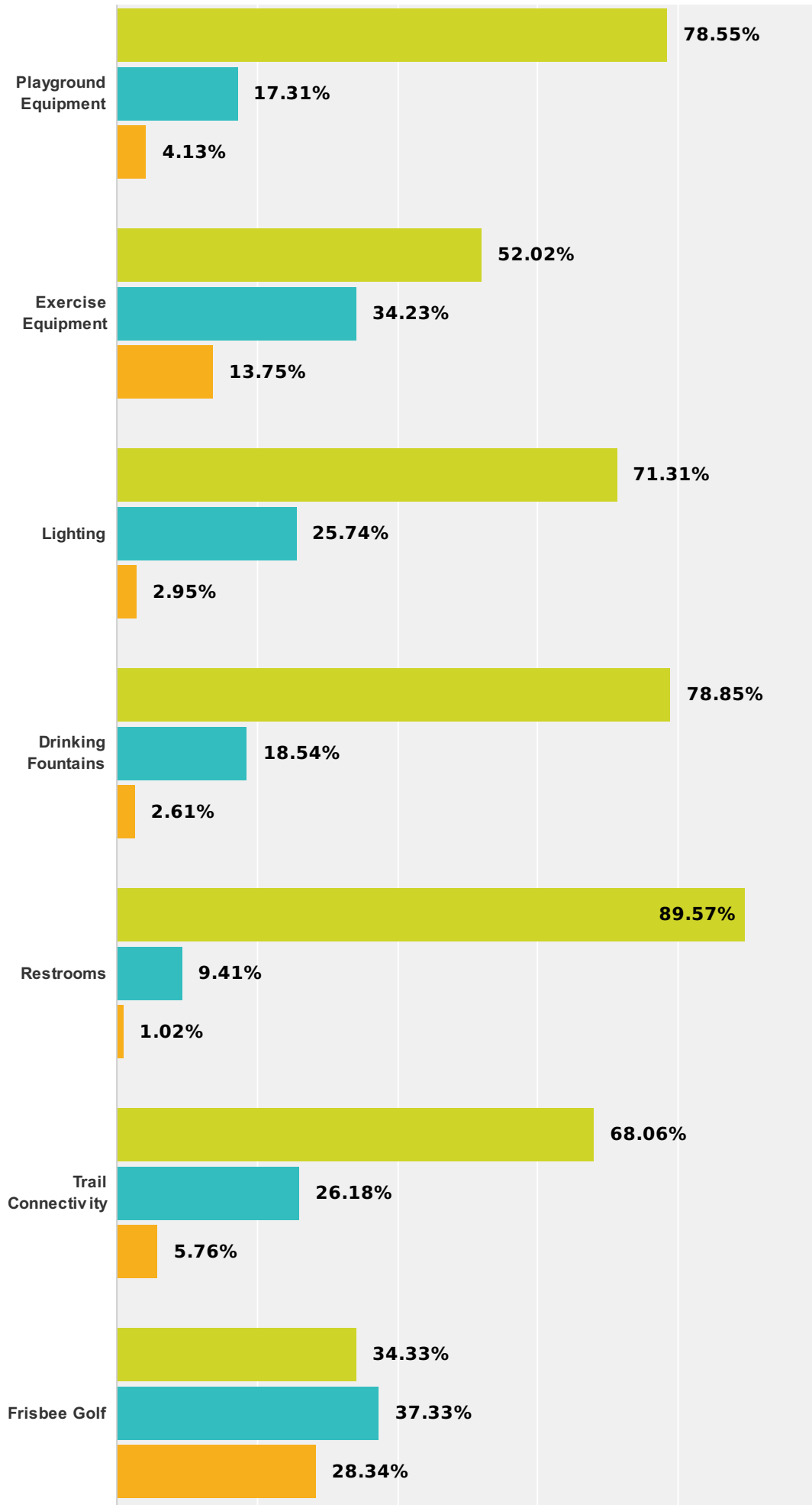


Q6 What amenities would you like to have available to you in West Branch parks?

Answered: 405 Skipped: 9



City of West Branch Parks and Rec Public Input Survey



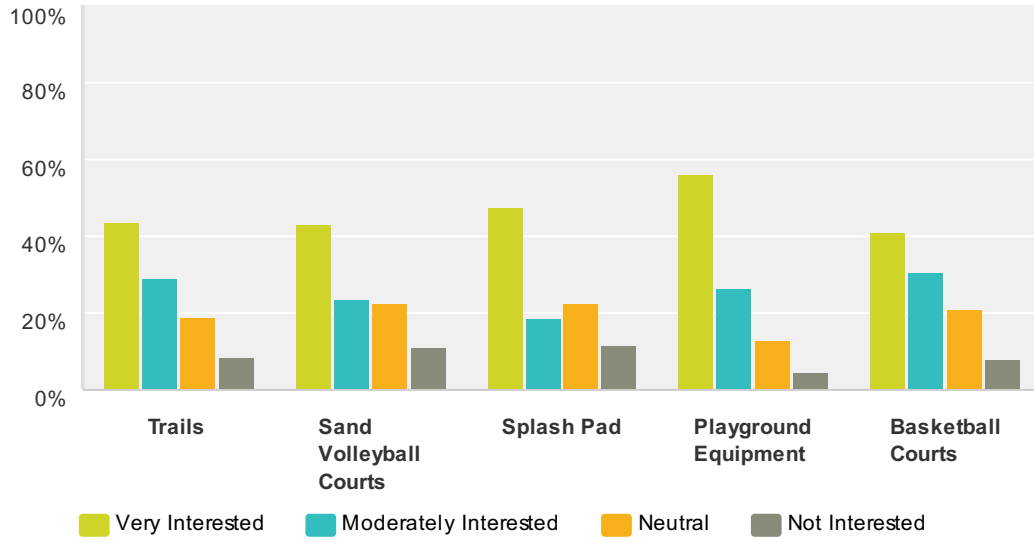
City of West Branch Parks and Rec Public Input Survey



Interested Neutral Not Interested

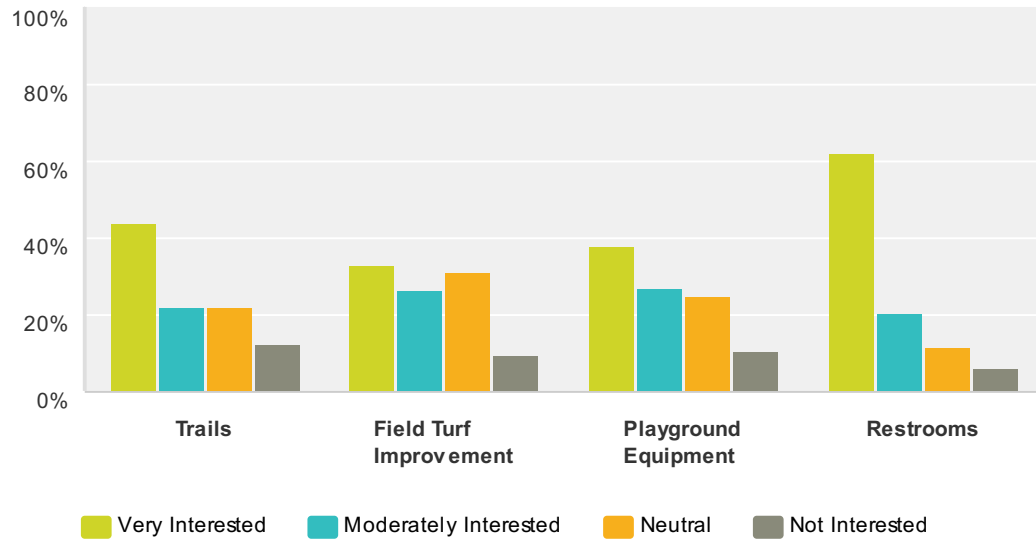
Q7 At Beranek Park, how would you rate your interest in the following features:

Answered: 403 Skipped: 11



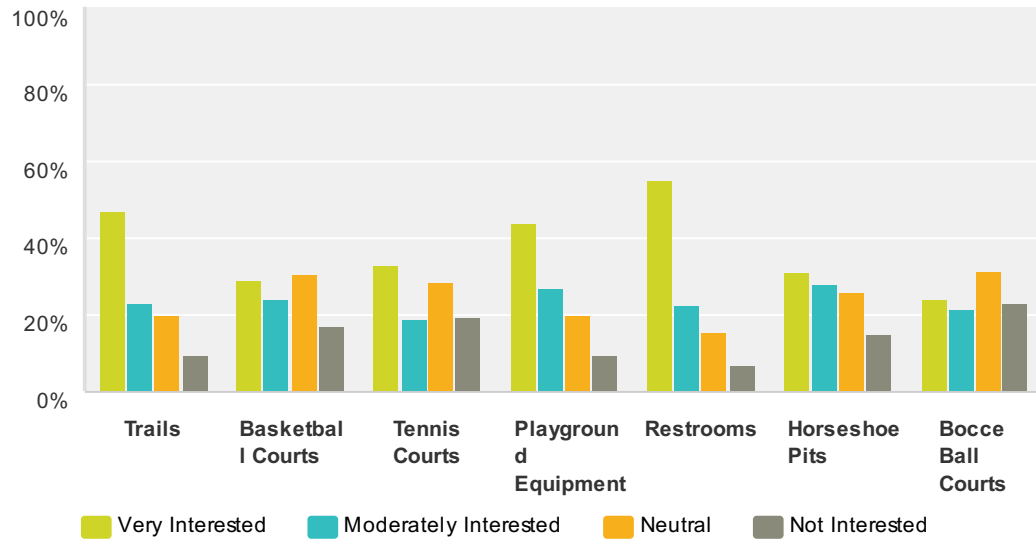
Q8 At Lions Field, how would you rate your interest in adding the following features:

Answered: 393 Skipped: 21



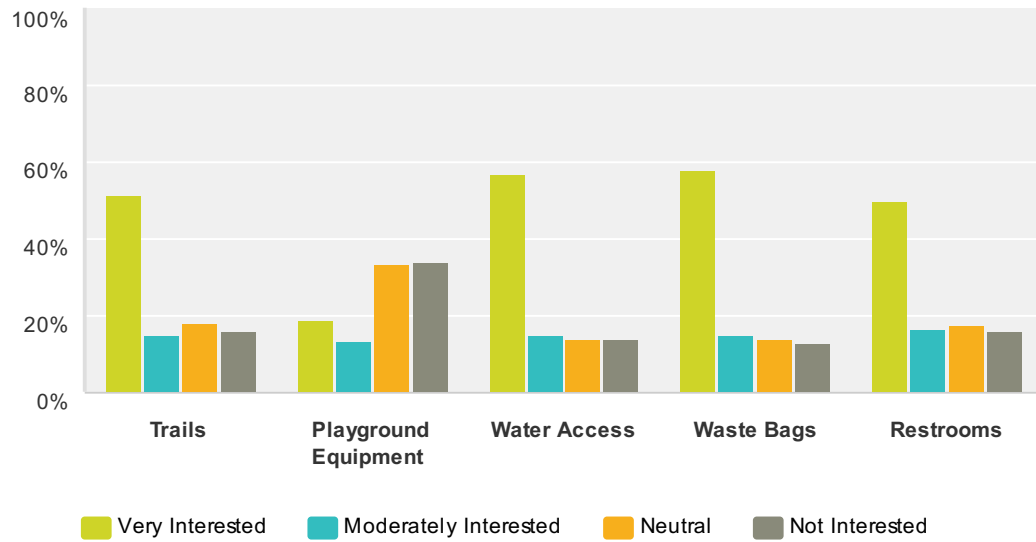
Q9 At Wapsi Park, how would you rate your interest in adding the following features:

Answered: 393 Skipped: 21



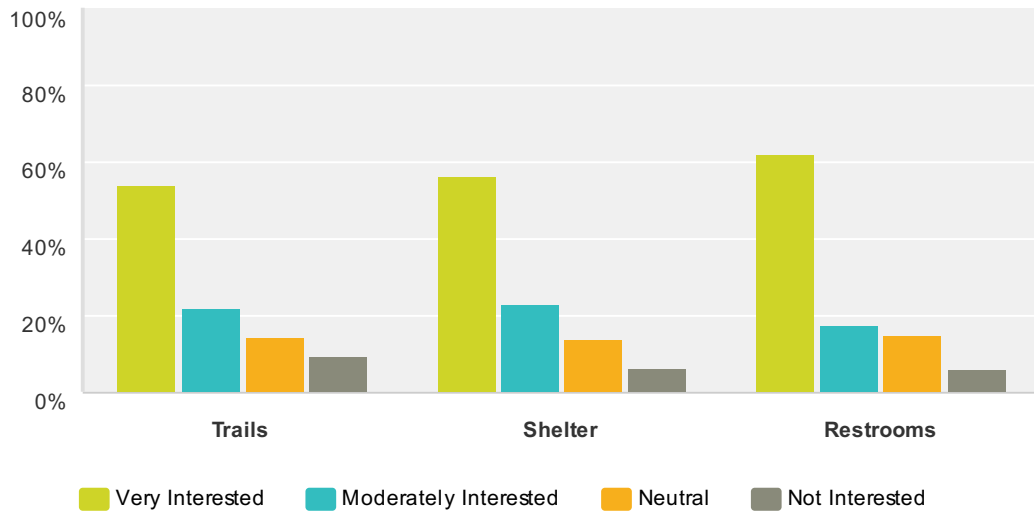
Q10 At the future Dog Park, how would you rate your interest in adding the following features:

Answered: 401 Skipped: 13



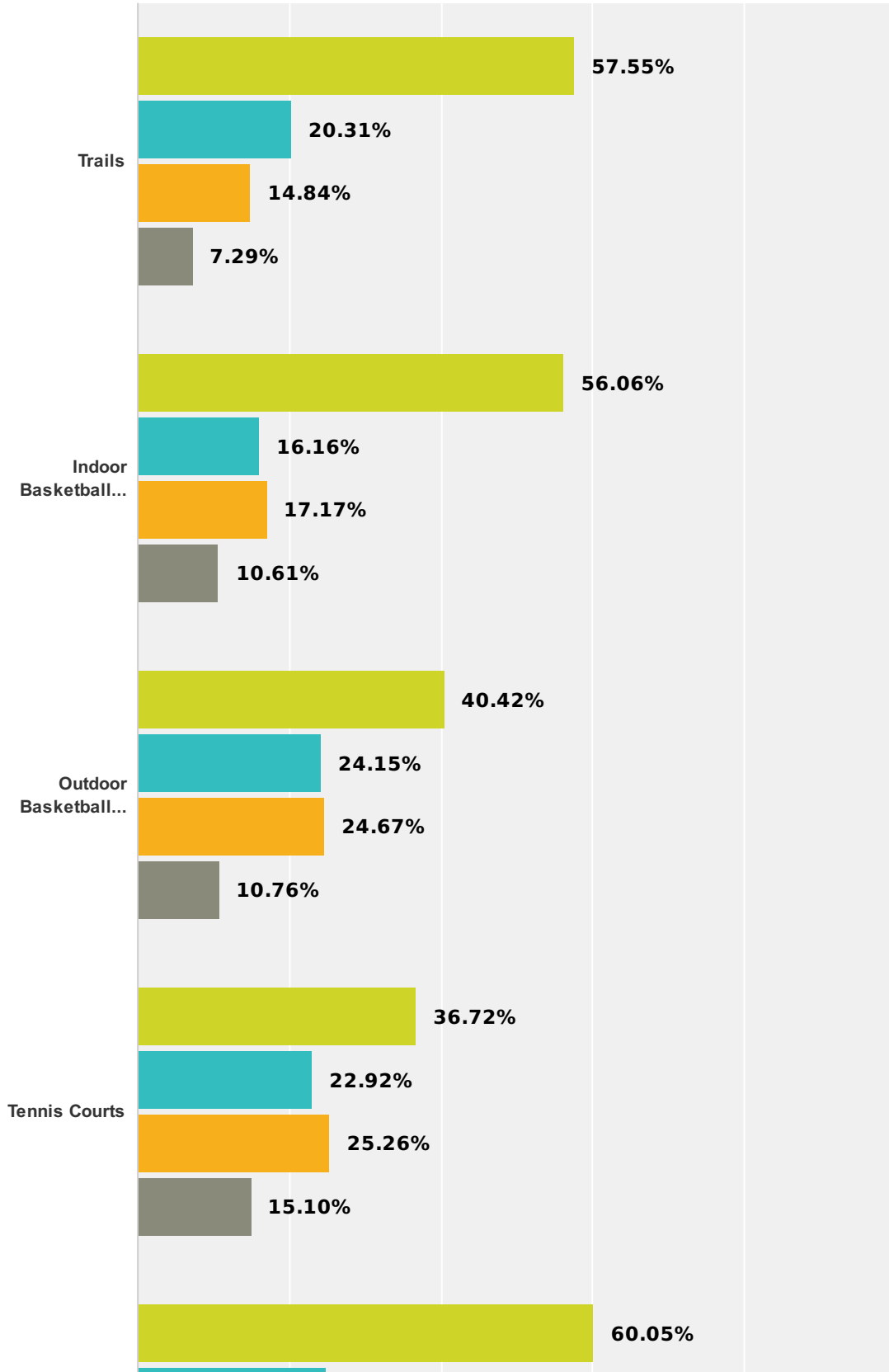
Q11 At the future Meadows Park, how would you rate your interest in adding the following features:

Answered: 398 Skipped: 16

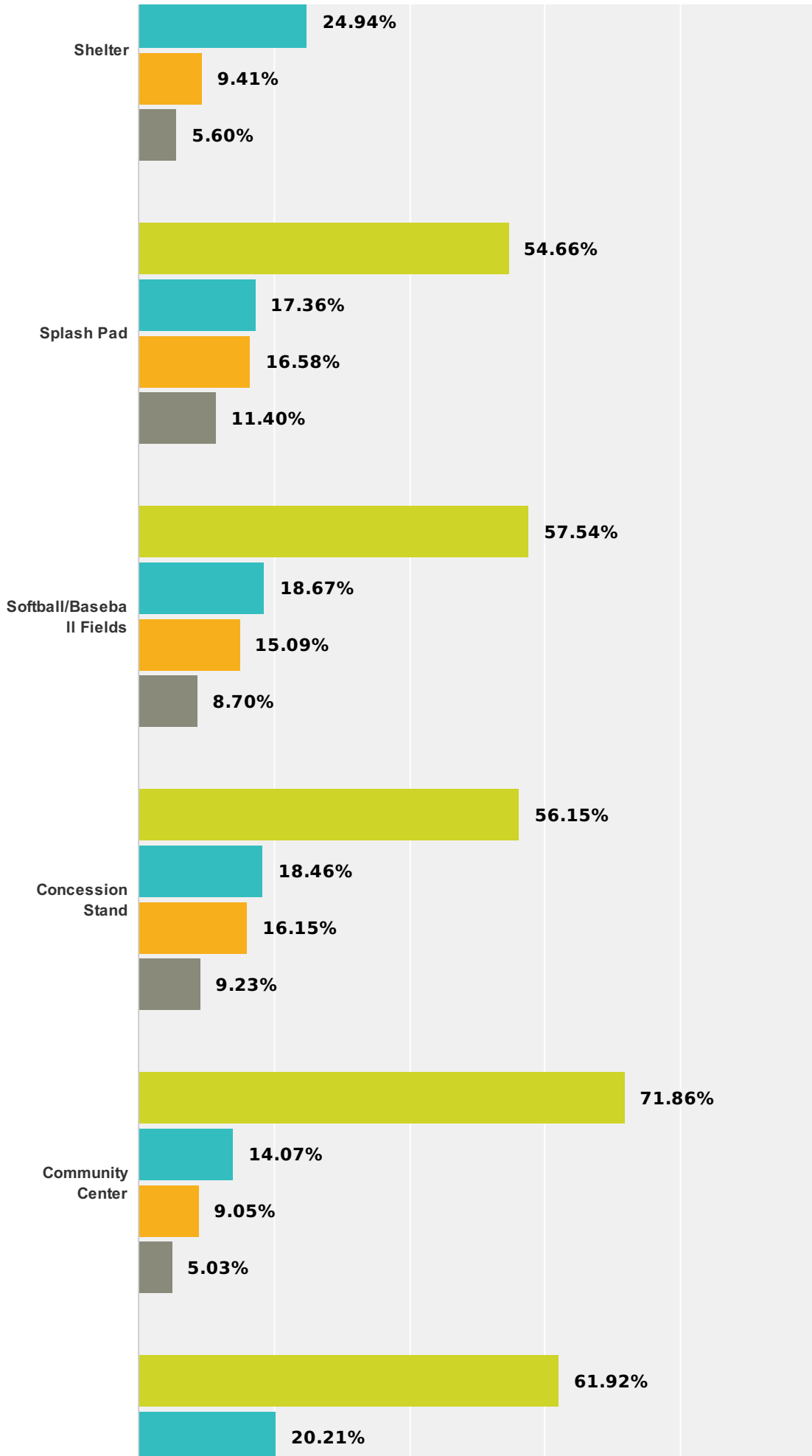


Q12 At the future Pedersen Valley Recreation Complex, how would you rate your interest in adding the following features:

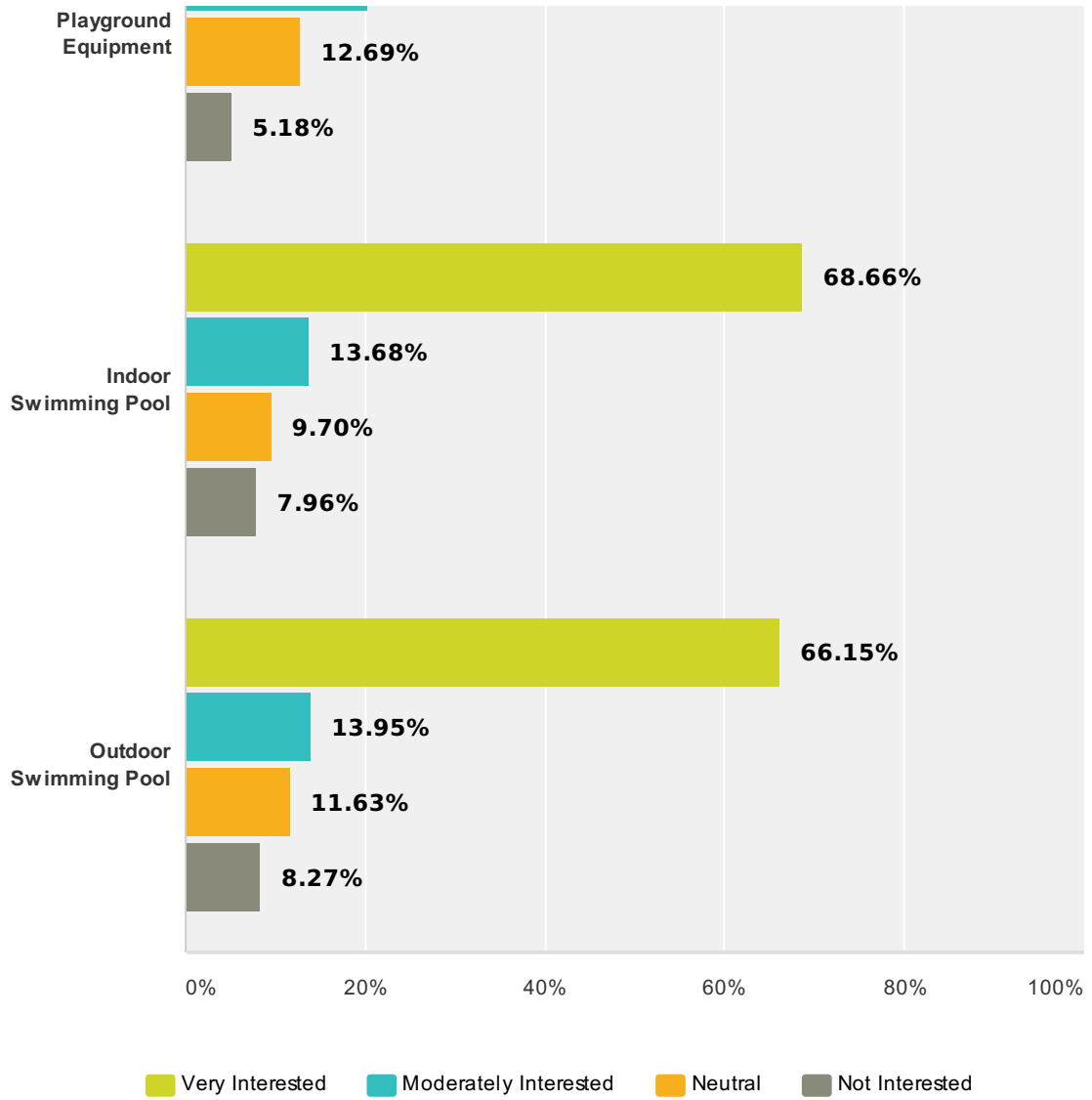
Answered: 410 Skipped: 4



City of West Branch Parks and Rec Public Input Survey

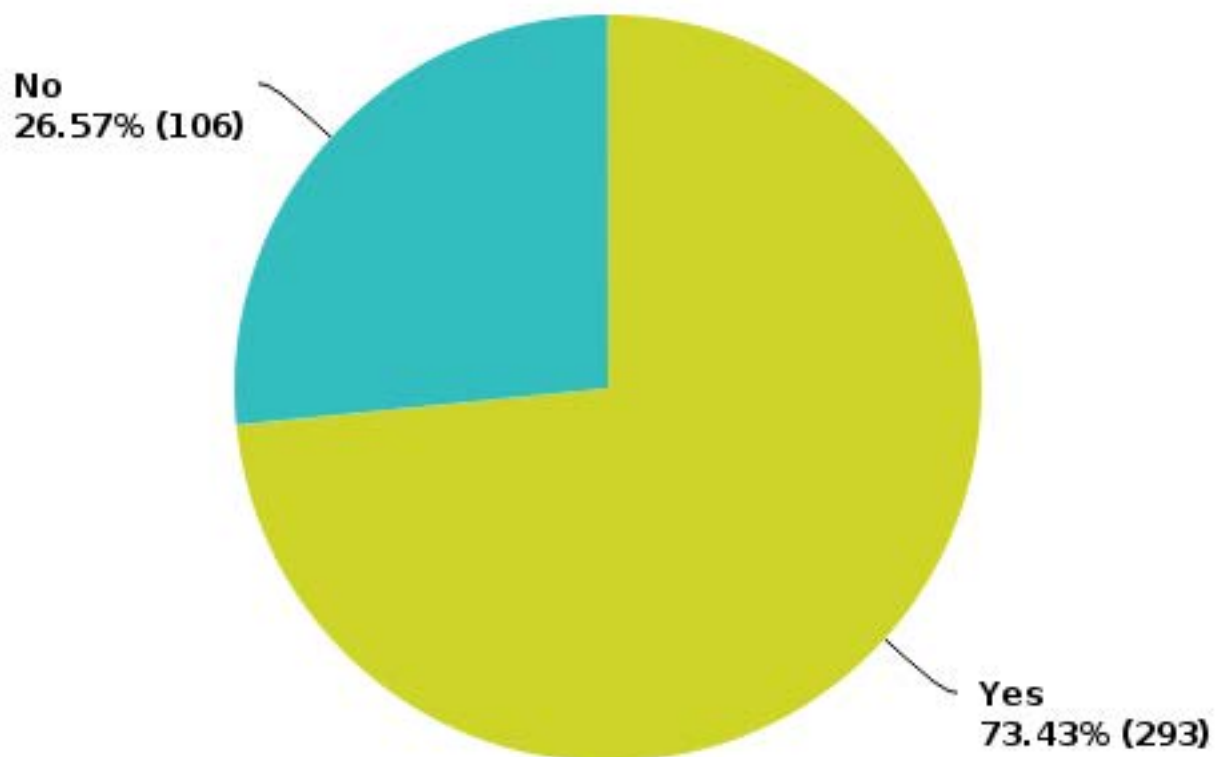


City of West Branch Parks and Rec Public Input Survey



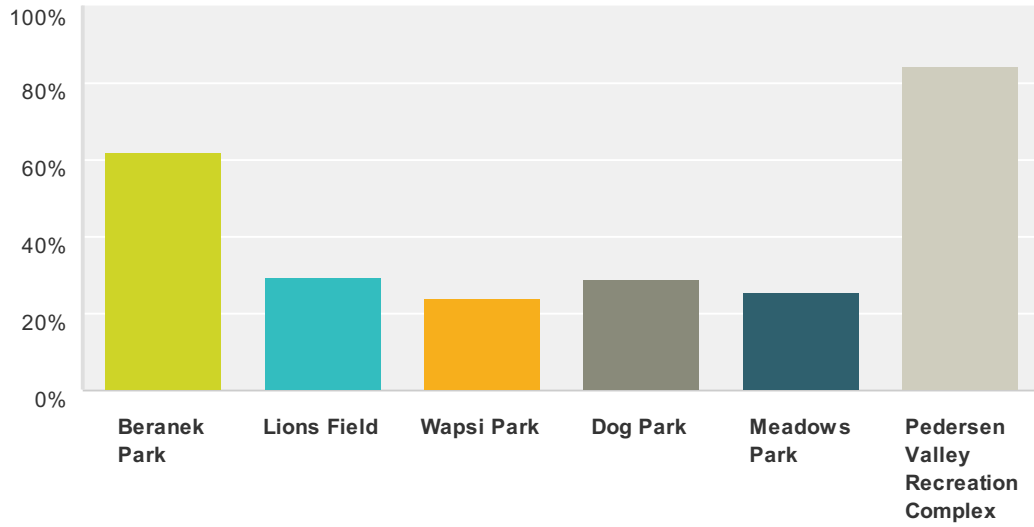
Q13 Would you be in support of combining the new West Branch Public Library with a Recreational Facility and/or Community Center?

Answered: 399 Skipped: 15



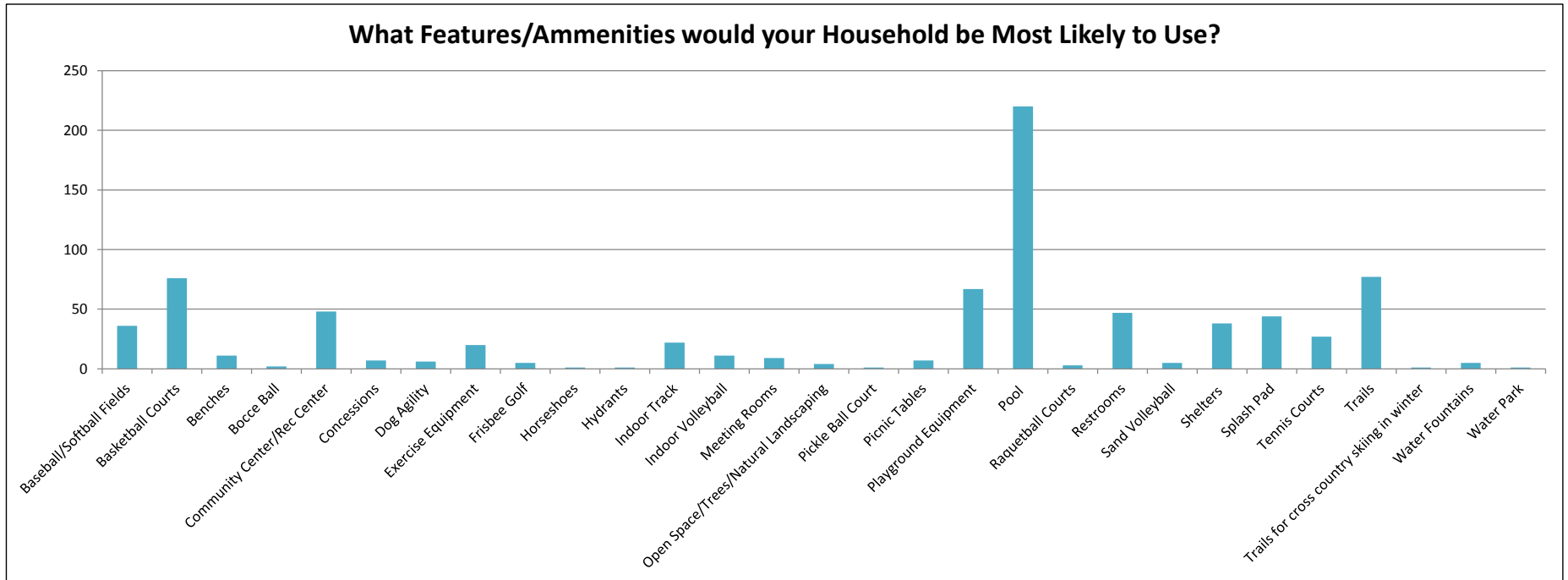
Q14 Given the potential features and amenities listed in this survey, which park(s) would you or members of your household be most likely to visit?

Answered: 400 Skipped: 14



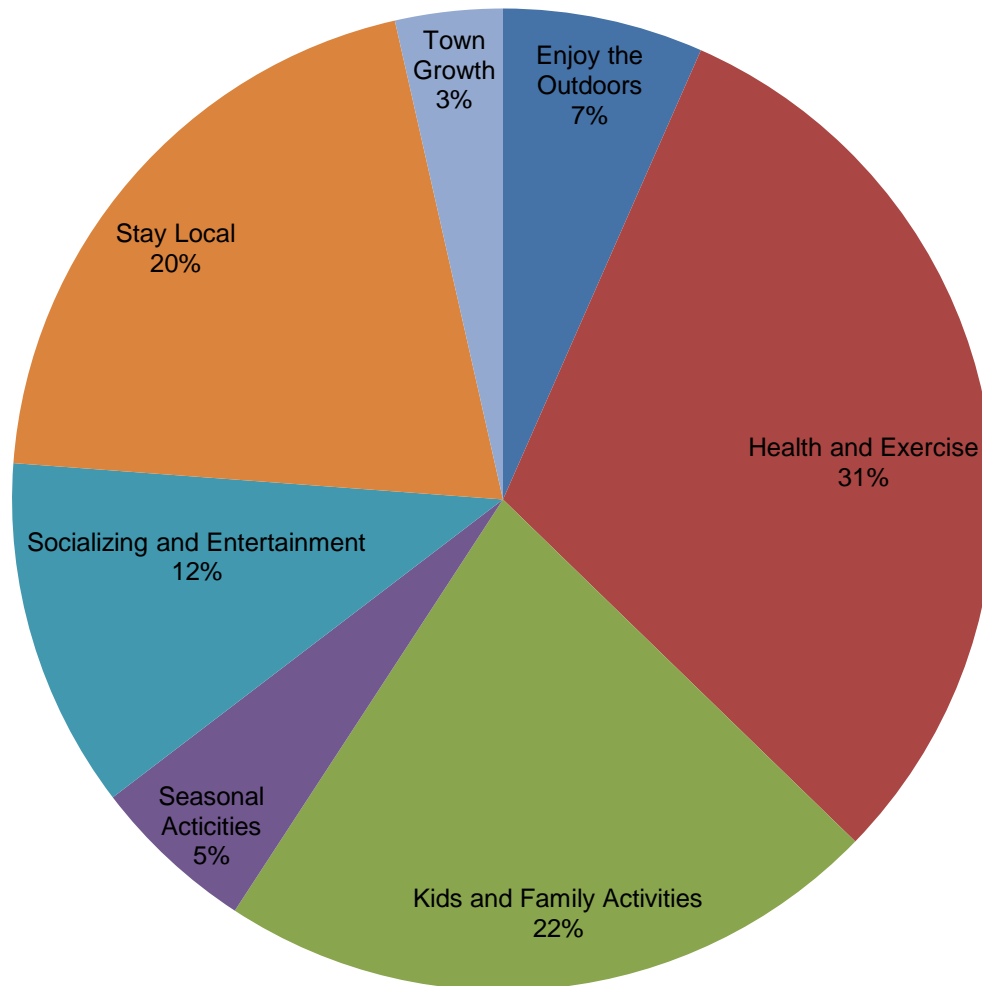
City of West Branch Parks & Rec Public Input Survey

Q15 What Features/Ammenities would your Household be Most Likely to Use?



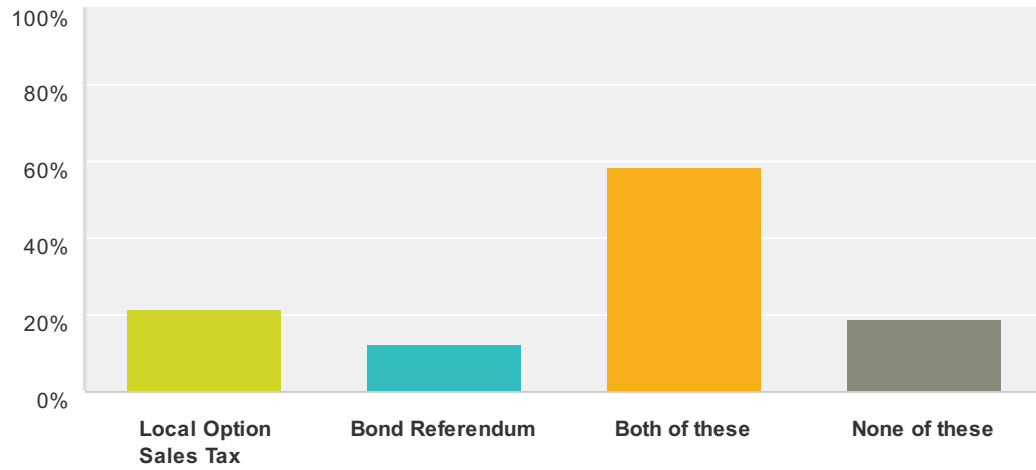
City of West Branch Parks & Rec Public Input Survey

Q16 What Makes these Ammenities Important to your Household?



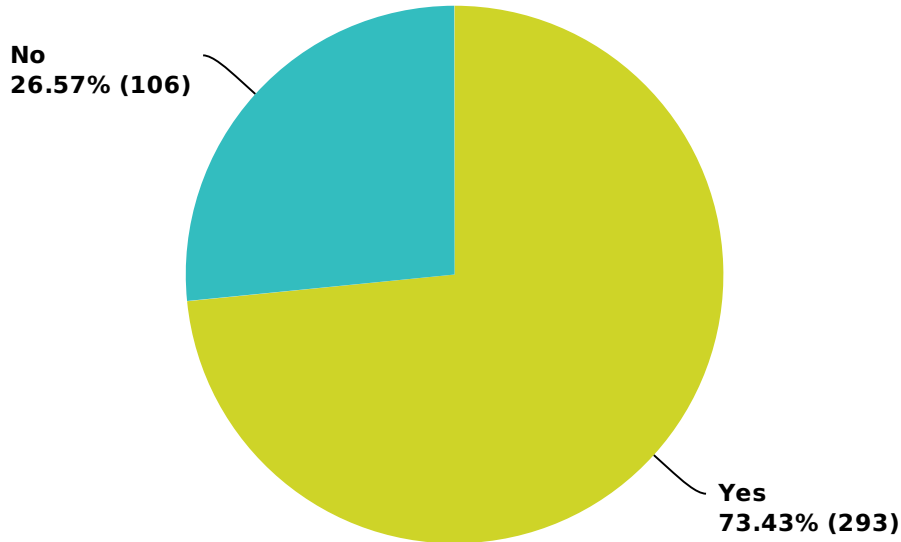
Q17 To assist in funding these projects, which of the following would you support?

Answered: 382 Skipped: 32



Q13 Would you be in support of combining the new West Branch Public Library with a Recreational Facility and/or Community Center?

Answered: 399 Skipped: 15



#	Why or why not?	Date
1	Would it affect the ability of the Library to remain the quiet and neutral place?	2/19/2014 11:10 AM
2	Works well in North Liberty.	2/19/2014 10:40 AM
3	It would be an efficient use of community resources & kids wouldn't have to choose between going to the library or rec center after school.	2/19/2014 9:42 AM
4	Building 1 large facility should be less expensive than 3 separate. Normally I'm against taxation to pay for gigantic projects. In this case, I believe a community center/exercise facility would be a great asset. Work hard to keep it cost effective.	2/18/2014 10:22 PM
5	A library near the school is a good fit. Rec and Comm center functions do not need to be near a school	2/18/2014 10:15 PM
6	I like NL facility - convenient	2/18/2014 10:11 PM
7	noise, never get built (library)	2/18/2014 10:05 PM
8	The WB Public Library is in a very good location for school children and for town to use. It is a very nice library is and should be used as a library and not combined with anything else	2/18/2014 10:00 PM
9	It would slow down the process of building the new library to pretty much a standstill	2/18/2014 9:56 PM
10	If it was an actual community center – not just a library and then one big room called the "community center"	2/18/2014 9:51 PM
11	Central location for both	2/18/2014 9:34 PM
12	I think it's something to consider, West Branch needs some updating to attract future residents	2/18/2014 9:25 PM
13	It would be a waste to vacate the very usable library space. if it could be sold to the school and proceeds used to build new then I would be for it. Additionally, the future of library materials is not in space utilizing books, it's in electronic media which will take less space	2/18/2014 9:22 PM
14	It would be a central location for many activities for families/kids	2/18/2014 9:15 PM

City of West Branch Parks and Rec Public Input Survey

15	Having them together may increase use for both facilities	2/18/2014 9:09 PM
16	Great way to have all community events at a central location. This would also make combined programming more feasible	2/18/2014 9:04 PM
17	Do not think there is enough space	2/18/2014 8:47 PM
18	Use Wilton as a potential model!	2/18/2014 8:40 PM
19	If it says in the same location so seniors can have easy access	2/18/2014 8:34 PM
20	A similar situation was done successfully in North Liberty	2/18/2014 8:21 PM
21	seems to have worked well at North Liberty	2/18/2014 8:15 PM
22	more use of all facilities	2/18/2014 8:09 PM
23	One stop for the family. The kids could hang out with friends, then grab a good book to take home and read. We could have meeting rooms that all areas could share	2/18/2014 8:01 PM
24	Then it would all be together to enjoy	2/18/2014 7:33 PM
25	Not close enough to schools	2/18/2014 7:21 PM
26	Same director could supervise both - labor savings	2/18/2014 4:44 PM
27	Combine Dept Heads	2/18/2014 4:39 PM
28	Combine expense for parking, shelter, various play equipment, upkeep, etc...	2/18/2014 4:37 PM
29	Leave it where it is and add onto it.	2/18/2014 4:34 PM
30	We don't need either!	2/18/2014 4:30 PM
31	You have a traffic and safety problem	2/18/2014 4:28 PM
32	Its fine where it is	2/18/2014 4:24 PM
33	Seems like a good combination	2/18/2014 4:20 PM
34	We already have several parks plus the school playground that is used when school is not in session. I favor adding on to the present library to the north - having a basement in the new addition.	2/18/2014 4:13 PM
35	We need more red opportunities near people. I am not in favor of moving the library.	2/18/2014 4:07 PM
36	Library is for learning, others are for fun	2/18/2014 3:59 PM
37	I like where the library is now, good central location	2/18/2014 3:55 PM
38	The library needs to be close to schools. Moving it to Pedersen Valley does not accomplish that purpose.	2/18/2014 3:52 PM
39	Better for the whole family - all in one place	2/18/2014 3:49 PM
40	Library should be an unrelated, independent unit, not an "arm" with a related foundation	2/18/2014 3:25 PM
41	If it makes sense for both parties.	2/18/2014 3:10 PM
42	Multiplicative effect of joint operation	2/18/2014 3:06 PM
43	The WBPL is not that old.	2/18/2014 3:02 PM
44	Too far away from schools, & central business district	2/18/2014 2:32 PM
45	Library is good where it is!	2/18/2014 2:28 PM
46	Neither facility would be big enough	2/18/2014 2:25 PM
47	They need to stay closer to the school! They can expand where they are at - there is no need for a new building.	2/18/2014 2:21 PM
48	It seems to work very well for North Liberty	2/18/2014 2:10 PM
49	At this time, I see no need to move library	2/18/2014 10:32 AM
50	This has worked well for other communities	2/18/2014 10:23 AM

City of West Branch Parks and Rec Public Input Survey

51	Convenient	2/18/2014 10:07 AM
52	If combined, the location should be close enough for kids to walk to; centrally located.	2/18/2014 9:51 AM
53	But, need to be close to town, and safe for kids to walk to.	2/18/2014 9:41 AM
54	Easier access to everything when its all in one place.	2/18/2014 9:34 AM
55	2 places at one time, something for all ages	2/17/2014 3:00 PM
56	Who need a library when there is the internet?	2/17/2014 2:55 PM
57	The current library is too small so if building a community center it would only make sense to have the library attached. Also, this would make activities more convenient for staff & families. The only down fall is the location of the current library and the after school kids; they would have a little more travel through town	2/14/2014 5:49 PM
58	Better final product with combined efforts	2/14/2014 12:59 PM
59	It works well in North Liberty (I was a former resident). It's nice having all amenities in one location.	2/13/2014 10:43 PM
60	easier to ask for money	2/13/2014 9:34 PM
61	works well in North Liberty....	2/13/2014 9:34 PM
62	I think they should be separate so noise level can be controlled. kids can be loud playing and a library should be quiet.	2/13/2014 9:20 PM
63	I like North Libertys set up.	2/13/2014 6:46 PM
64	I believe that it will benefit both and will be great for the community.	2/13/2014 6:34 PM
65	It works for North Liberty!	2/13/2014 3:37 PM
66	it works for north liberty, good for the kids	2/13/2014 3:17 PM
67	It would be a place for everyone to do what they want.	2/13/2014 2:47 PM
68	makes sense	2/13/2014 2:19 PM
69	Model after North Liberty, it works!!!	2/13/2014 1:51 PM
70	More that I'm not necessarily opposed; would want to see the plan. Not sure library move is needed.	2/13/2014 1:43 PM
71	need rec facility not new library	2/13/2014 1:24 PM
72	The library should stay a library, a quiet place to do homework and read books.	2/13/2014 1:23 PM
73	I think it would be a wonderful opportunity to add another activity base to the existing community center	2/13/2014 11:22 AM
74	GREAT community resource!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!	2/13/2014 11:10 AM
75	Convenience	2/13/2014 10:19 AM
76	Maybe.	2/12/2014 9:32 PM
77	Well I don't really know what combining them means so I don't know. But it would be cool if they moved the library and knocked the old one down so there is more parking for football games!	2/12/2014 6:12 PM
78	You don't want a bunch of noise on the other side of the library. Libraries are supposed to be quiet.	2/12/2014 4:43 PM
79	Because it's two of my favorite places combined. I just hope that the building wouldn't be too far away from town.	2/12/2014 1:31 PM
80	Undecided	2/12/2014 12:26 PM
81	Greater access for kids who may have rides to rec center, but not the library	2/12/2014 11:48 AM
82	I think it would be ok to have them located close to each other but would prefer them to be separate buildings. A library should be a library and a rec center should be a rec center	2/11/2014 9:11 PM
83	Think we need one, if this allowed it to happen, whoop!	2/11/2014 8:42 PM
84	Too Noisy and Privacy	2/11/2014 8:41 PM
85	North Liberty's works well	2/11/2014 4:56 PM

City of West Branch Parks and Rec Public Input Survey

86	The one we have is just fine!	2/11/2014 4:51 PM
87	Like idea of shared expenses. We have outgrown current library.	2/11/2014 4:04 PM
88	i think it would much easier for the kids instead of having to travel all over town everything is in one spot.	2/11/2014 3:18 PM
89	I like the location of the library now	2/11/2014 1:09 PM
90	We have a public library	2/11/2014 12:50 PM
91	I believe their building is newer and since the school would be moving things they could expand. plus the elementary uses it where it is at. I think would be a waste of space at rec center.	2/11/2014 10:26 AM
92	because if one or the other would want to expand in the future it would either make it impossible or not cost effective	2/11/2014 9:27 AM
93	Save money and staff with using one facility (one place to maintain, remove snow, etc). Also Library kids and sports kids can all be together and not create discrimination between the groups.	2/11/2014 8:43 AM
94	because you need degrees of seperation or it will always end up in a dispute over space at some point and if you need to join them to make it work then maybe you dont need one or the other	2/11/2014 7:16 AM
95	No we have space in West Branch for other spots to put it, and the library has no more room to get any bigger or hold anymore people.	2/10/2014 4:36 PM
96	It would be a good aspect having these facilities close together.	2/10/2014 3:43 PM
97	It would better utilize the use of the center for everyone.	2/10/2014 12:35 PM
98	The library needs to remain centrally located in town.	2/10/2014 11:29 AM
99	Makes sense for efficiency and more people to use the space	2/9/2014 1:58 PM
100	Seems like the best option for the library at this point	2/9/2014 9:48 AM
101	Sounds like it could be more cost effective to combine them.	2/9/2014 9:43 AM
102	If it was a green building with a living roof and/or close to zero carbon footprint.	2/8/2014 2:53 PM
103	North Liberties set up brings alot of people to library also	2/8/2014 9:12 AM
104	A library is a special place where one can go for silence and study.	2/8/2014 6:36 AM
105	My concern would be that it would limit the ability to expand for both uses (library and community center)	2/8/2014 6:02 AM
106	It would be nice to visit the library and a recreational facility.	2/7/2014 9:57 PM
107	More people may be there so I can see more friends when I go.	2/7/2014 4:26 PM
108	I dont know.	2/7/2014 3:13 PM
109	too much work	2/7/2014 3:08 PM
110	I do love books its just i'm not interested.	2/7/2014 3:07 PM
111	The library is fine as it is.	2/7/2014 3:05 PM
112	As long as we get a rec center, I dont care what they do with it	2/7/2014 3:05 PM
113	Keep it altogether	2/7/2014 3:05 PM
114	I would love to have the Library and the Community Center located together at the new park.	2/7/2014 3:04 PM
115	Because the library is simply a library and I simply believe the two should be seperate.	2/7/2014 3:04 PM
116	cus it wont make it a library	2/7/2014 3:04 PM
117	It would give us more room to add things in town	2/7/2014 3:03 PM
118	The library could be in the recreational facility.	2/7/2014 3:03 PM
119	I wouldn't be available that much	2/7/2014 3:03 PM
120	my parents say I am not allowed to go to the Library anymore	2/7/2014 3:03 PM

City of West Branch Parks and Rec Public Input Survey

121	Just have it on its own not with WBPL	2/7/2014 3:03 PM
122	I really do not care	2/7/2014 3:02 PM
123	Because it sounds great for the community	2/7/2014 3:02 PM
124	I think libraries should be separate from fun things.	2/7/2014 3:02 PM
125	Save space and money.	2/7/2014 3:01 PM
126	Because I think West Branch should be bigger and have more things	2/7/2014 3:01 PM
127	It would be fun!	2/7/2014 3:00 PM
128	Because	2/7/2014 3:00 PM
129	convenience	2/7/2014 3:00 PM
130	We need some stuff	2/7/2014 3:00 PM
131	too little of space there	2/7/2014 3:00 PM
132	I think because so many children go there that it would work out great	2/7/2014 2:59 PM
133	Because it would be easier.	2/7/2014 2:59 PM
134	good stuff	2/7/2014 2:59 PM
135	I dont know	2/7/2014 2:59 PM
136	It would be sick-nasty (awesome) (off the hook)	2/7/2014 2:58 PM
137	ldk	2/7/2014 2:58 PM
138	Doesn't need to be together	2/7/2014 2:58 PM
139	It would be convenient	2/7/2014 2:58 PM
140	N/A	2/7/2014 2:56 PM
141	Maybe. It might make some sense for staffing. However, I don't think W.B. can afford a large rec facility	2/7/2014 2:50 PM
142	It depends on what you mean by combining. But in theory yes I would be interested in hearing more.	2/7/2014 2:47 PM
143	I want both now now now now	2/7/2014 9:38 AM
144	I think it provides great options for families during various events	2/6/2014 9:38 PM
145	If kids are drawn to the community center then they may be more inclined to check out the library. It seems like upper elementary kids are frequently at the library but middle school and high school students are not. This may change if the rec center and library are combined.	2/6/2014 12:28 PM
146	great way to combine funding to give the community two things they desperately need	2/6/2014 11:56 AM
147	It would be a good mix of activity and education.	2/6/2014 11:47 AM
148	indifferent	2/6/2014 11:42 AM
149	Very good use of space and resources	2/6/2014 11:06 AM
150	Library should remain near school; proposed location would not be near either school location	2/6/2014 11:04 AM
151	I believe that it would provide a center of activity for the town and would increase usage of all facilities.	2/5/2014 7:14 PM
152	It would make economical sense logically.	2/5/2014 2:04 PM
153	concern is library is a safe environment for kid between end of school and after school activites and is close to ensure Davey	2/5/2014 6:39 AM
154	I like the idea of the library being close to the school. Today I know my children can walk safely to the library without having to cross any busy intersections.	2/4/2014 3:09 PM
155	I use to live in North Liberty and that's how they do it and it works well for both kids and parents.	2/4/2014 1:14 PM

City of West Branch Parks and Rec Public Input Survey

156	I like the idea, especially for older kids, however I do have some concerns on the distance for elementary kids to walk for library use.	2/4/2014 11:09 AM
157	It makes sense from a cost perspective but there must be ample parking especially when there are tournaments, etc. at the fields and recreation center	2/4/2014 9:13 AM
158	As long as the library location would remain where it is.	2/2/2014 3:38 PM
159	The convenience of the two put together seems intelligent. Plus, it will allow more foot traffic through the place.	2/2/2014 10:03 AM
160	I do not support a new library	2/1/2014 2:50 PM
161	While I believe it would draw more people to the library, but the location is less convenient and the draw of computer would lure many kids away from the physical activities offered at the park.	2/1/2014 12:52 PM
162	Only if the size of the property allows for adequate space for recreation, a community center and a library.	2/1/2014 10:50 AM
163	The library has a great location for children old enough to be on their own but too young to drive. If the city could acquire the land north of the football field, then I would be interested in seeing how a library/rec/community center would work.	1/31/2014 1:57 PM
164	I just don't think that the three go together.	1/31/2014 1:45 PM
165	we need a community/rec center and some people would love to have a place you can do all your errands at once	1/30/2014 7:40 PM
166	It would offer something for the whole family.	1/30/2014 5:57 PM
167	It would be very convenient	1/30/2014 5:42 PM
168	The library has an existing space which needs to be expanded and should remain separate for volume control and parking	1/30/2014 5:12 PM
169	We do not need a new library	1/30/2014 5:05 PM
170	It is a natural fit and allows for better staffing	1/29/2014 2:25 PM
171	like the idea of having major community features in one area	1/29/2014 1:47 PM
172	Fantastic idea!	1/29/2014 11:27 AM
173	As long as there is good parking and a way to keep everything near downtown.	1/29/2014 10:59 AM
174	more efficient use of space	1/29/2014 5:25 AM
175	No, the library will turn into a daycare center, even more than it is now.	1/28/2014 9:50 PM
176	a facility that serves all purposes is good for the community.	1/28/2014 8:57 PM
177	Works well for North Liberty.	1/28/2014 7:32 PM
178	make less buildings with more uses. place for school age kids to go	1/28/2014 7:31 PM
179	I like the library location where it's currently at. Why would you move the library and incur that cost	1/28/2014 6:36 PM
180	I would have said no prior to visiting North Liberty's facility but if they could be combined to be that much more, I think it would be great.	1/28/2014 6:36 PM
181	like north liberty	1/28/2014 6:22 PM
182	Library should still maintain a central location within the community	1/28/2014 5:45 PM
183	Works well in North Liberty	1/28/2014 5:31 PM
184	Convenience, financial savings	1/28/2014 4:32 PM
185	one building is easier and cheaper to maintain.	1/28/2014 4:25 PM
186	Would be very beneficial to the community. I, personally, would use it multiple times per day.	1/28/2014 4:09 PM
187	If it could provide the needed space for both facilities, while being more efficient to run (maintenance, cleaning, exterior upkeep)	1/28/2014 3:19 PM