

# MADISON DARK

Master Plan

**SURVEY & SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT**Results Report



### CITY OF LAKEWOOD

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### **OUR VISION**

Inspiring all of our communities to thrive.

### OHR MISSION

To advance Cuyahoga County's social, economic, and environmental health through equitable community planning.

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# **ONLINE SURVEY**

The online survey was open for two months from May 1st, 2023 to June 30th 2023. In total, 1,129 people took the survey and provided 18,382 multiple choice answers and 2,769 written responses to open ended questions. The survey was designed to understand how visitors use the park currently, as well as their priorities for future improvement.

Yard signs with information about the Master Plan and a QR code linking to the project website and survey were placed in strategic locations throughout the park, while paper copies of the survey were distributed at community events and made available at the Lakewood Public Library Madison Branch. A link to the survey was also distributed electronically via email to parents and students at Lakewood City Schools and posted to social media by County Planning, the City of Lakewood, Lakewood Alive, and Friends of Madison Park. The following pages provide a brief summary of the online survey's key findings.





Sample page of the Online survey





# **TOP TEN THEMES**

Obtaining input from residents, stakeholders, and other community members is essential to shaping policies and recommendations that are reflective of the needs of the community. The following 10 themes were the most common among respondents:

- 1. Exercise and relaxation (73%), leisure (64%), and community events (60%) are the primary reasons respondents visit Madison Park
- 2. Nearly 99% of respondents indicated that they typically visit Madison Park in the summer compared to only 29% that visit in the winter.
- 3. The most used amenities at Madison Park are the playground, parking lots, walking path, and Becks Pool.
- 4. The activities and programs respondents would like to see most are farmers markets (80%), concerts and performances (66%), festivals (63%) and nature-related activities (43%).
- 5. A splash pad (32%), nature play area (16%), volleyball court (12%), and skatepark (10%) are the most desired additional amenities.
- 6. Respondents desire additional supporting amenities such as trees & shade (54%), water features (42%), community art (40%), and more seating and tables (40%).
- 7. 55% of respondents indicated that they felt the park was very inclusive or inclusive, and cited the need for multi-generational programming & equipment (37%), better walking & biking connections (36%), and ADA accessibility (28%) to make the park more inclusive.
- 8. 66% of respondents indicated that they feel very safe or safe getting to Madison Park, and cited the need for adding or improving security cameras (47%), lighting (44%), trails & bike lanes (39%), emergency call boxes (38%), and crosswalks (38%) would make them feel safer getting to Madison Park via walking or biking.
- 9. A vast majority (73%) of respondents indicated that they visit nearby bars, restaurants and other businesses on their way to or from Madison Park.
- 10. When asked to provide ideas for how they would like to see Madison Park improved, respondents indicated that improving safety, updating the pool and playground, adding more shade and environmental amenities, and incorporating additional programming, hangout areas, and amenities were their top priorities.

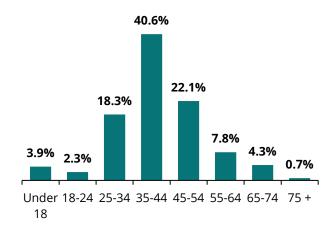
# **SURVEY DEMOGRAPHICS**

# **TOTAL SURVEY RESPONDENTS**

1,129

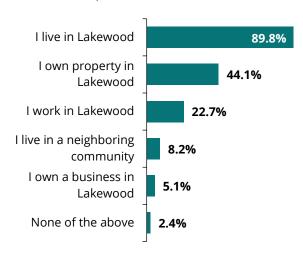
# **AGE OF RESPONDENTS**

Number of responses: 906



# **RELATIONSHIP TO LAKEWOOD**

Number of responses: 1,128



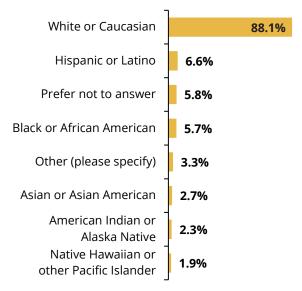
# **RESPONDENT LOCATIONS**

Number of responses: 1,009



### RESPONDENT RACE AND ETHNICITY

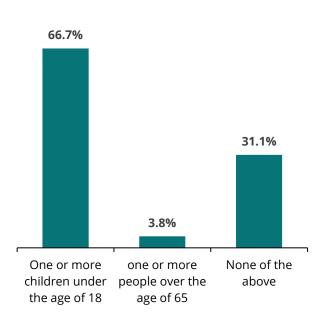
Number of responses: 898



Other answers include: Arabic (3), multi-racial (4), and Middle Eastern (6).

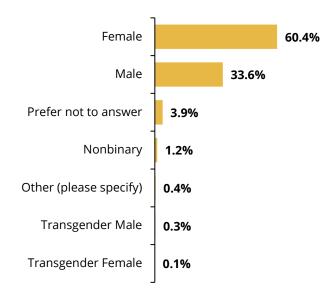
# ARE YOU A CAREGIVER FOR ONE OF THE FOLLOWING?

Number of responses: 905



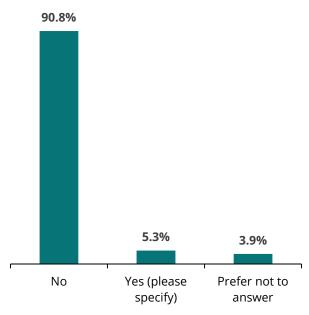
### **RESPONDENT GENDER**

Number of responses: 899



# DO YOU OR SOMEONE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD HAVE ANY PHYSICAL OR COGNITIVE DISABILITIES THAT MAY AFFECT ACCESS OR USE OF A PARK?

Number of responses: 893

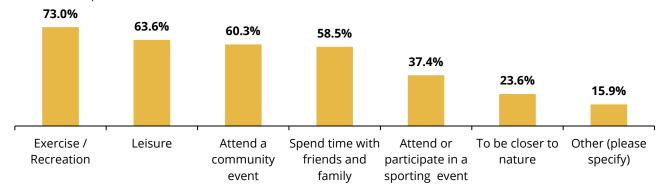


**Specified answers include:** Cognitive disabilities (13), physical disabilities (18), vision impairment (1).

# **SURVEY RESULTS**

### WHAT ARE YOUR REASONS FOR VISITING MADISON PARK

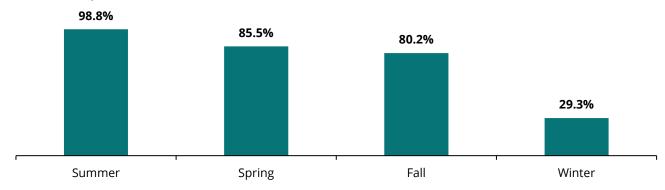
Number of responses: 922



Other answers include: dog walking (12), community gardening (8), lunch breaks (5).

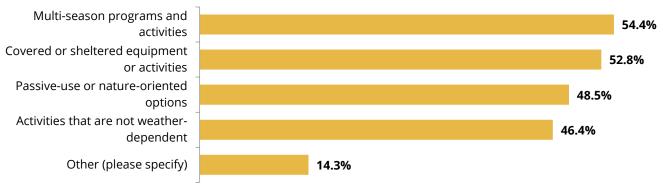
### WHAT SEASONS DO YOU TYPICALLY VISIT MADISON PARK?

Number of responses: 910



# WHAT PROGRAMS OR AMENITIES WOULD ENCOURAGE YOU TO VISIT MADISON PARK YEAR-ROUND?

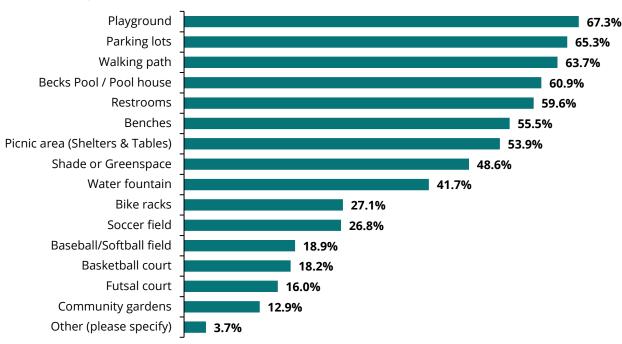
Number of responses: 847



Other answers include: Skateboarding/BMX (16), community events (9), ice rink (6), pickleball (6).

### WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING AMENITIES HAVE YOU OR YOUR FAMILY USED IN THE LAST YEAR?

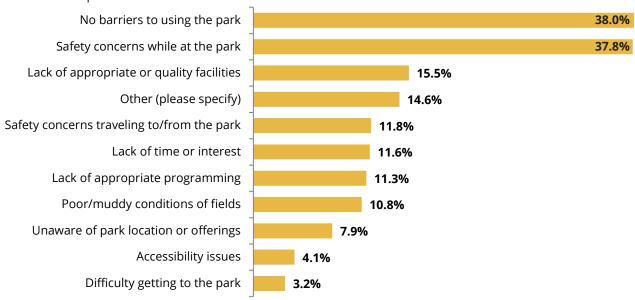
Number of responses: 908



**Other answers include:** Composting (3), locker rooms, electric vehicle charging station.

# DO ANY OF THE FOLLOWING KEEP YOU FROM ENJOYING MADISON PARK?

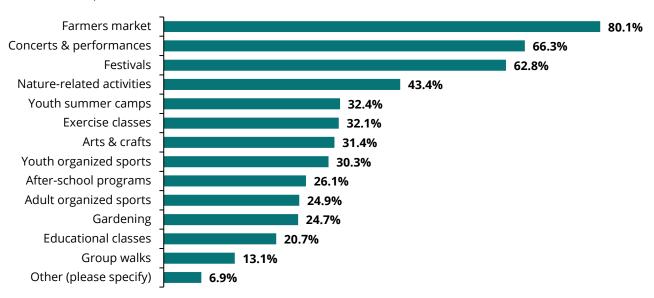
Number of responses: 851



**Other answers include:** misbehaving teens (34), poor bathroom conditions (11), lack of trees and shade (9), trouble parking (8).

### WHAT ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE MORE OF AT MADISON PARK?

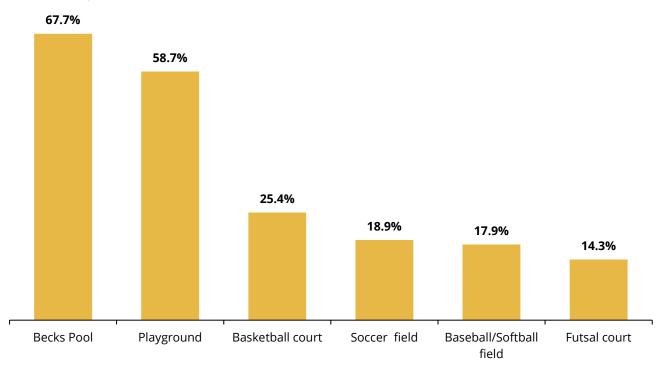
Number of responses: 896



Other answers include: Skateboarding/BMX (13), pickleball (5), splashpad (5).

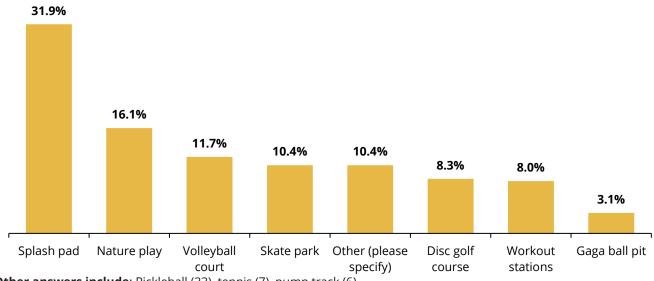
# WHICH CURRENT RECREATIONAL EQUIPMENT OR OPTIONS WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE RENOVATED OR EXPANDED?

Number of responses: 739



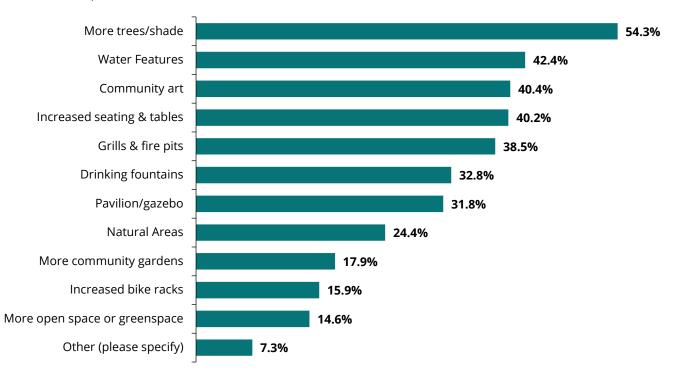
# WHICH ONE NEW RECREATIONAL EQUIPMENT OR OPTION WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE MOST AT MADISON PARK?

Number of responses: 864



# **Other answers include**: Pickleball (33), tennis (7), pump track (6).

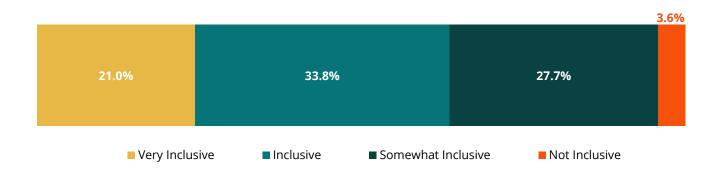
# WHICH SUPPORTING AMENITIES WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE MORE OF AT MADISON PARK? Number of responses: 883



Other answers include: Accessible bathrooms (6), landscaping improvements (3), more swings (2).

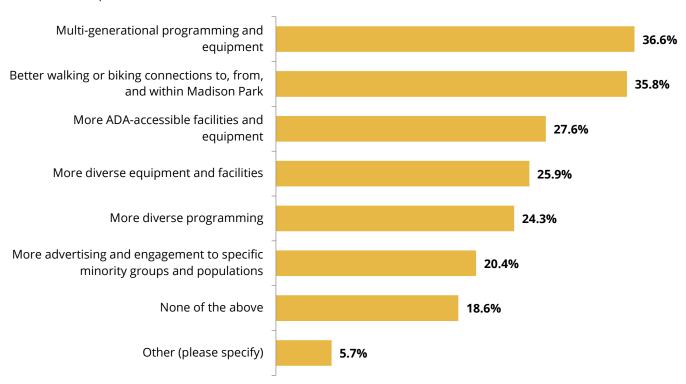
# HOW INCLUSIVE OR INVITING DO YOU FEEL PROGRAMMING AND FACILITIES ARE TO PEOPLE OF DIFFERENT AGES, ABILITIES, AND BACKGROUNDS AT MADISON PARK?

Number of responses: 765



# **HOW COULD MADISON PARK BE MORE INCLUSIVE?**

Number of responses: 773



**Other answers include:** Biking and walking infrastructure in and around the park (40), senior programs (12), opportunities to bring different cultures together (10).

# PLEASE DESCRIBE HOW MADISON PARK COULD BE MORE INCLUSIVE?

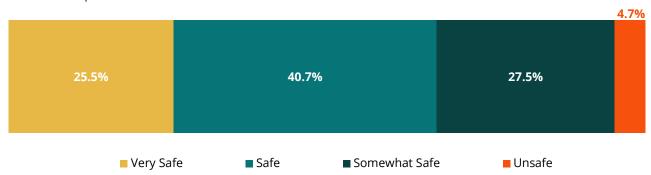
Number of responses: 244

Respondents had the opportunity to expand upon their answers of the previous two questions and explain their thoughts on how Madison Park could be more inclusive in the future. The top themes from these questions as well as example comments can be seen in the chart below.

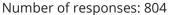
	Themes	Example Comments
1.	Multi-generational programming and equipment	"Activities for adults without kids."
		"Safety for seniors. And an area for seniors to be able to sit, relax, read, have lunch, walk without having to be afraid.
2.	Better walking and biking connections to, from, and within Madison Park	"Maybe a loop track for walking."
		"Increased bike connections to the park from both Madison and Athens."
		"It is very difficult to cycle around the park with the other activities and arrangement of the park. There is also very poor and insecure bike parking."
3.	More ADA accessible facilities and equipment	"Better ROLLING connections to, from, and within Madison Park! Wheelchair pathways are really not great."
		"ADA-accessible playground equipment."
4.	More diverse equipment and facilities	"More variety of areas besides one playground and outdated sporting areas, skatepark that meets the needs of all skater ability levels."
		"It's just always nice to see a bevy of options for local communities/peoples"
5.	More diverse programming	"More diverse equipment and unique facilities will draw more people to the park and its activities, maybe even a multicultural fair/festival every year highlighting the diversity of cultures and lifestyles Lakewood is host to."
	More advertising and engagement to specific groups	"Multilingual signage."
6.		"Better informing about existing programming."
		"People with disabilities and other marginalized communities must be at the table for planning."
7.	The park is currently accessible	"I feel like it does a good job overall already."
8.	Other accessibility comments	"Bus Access."
		"More equipment for older 'tween children.'"
		"Better parking."
		"Safer, more evenly distributed playground equipment with better sight lines."

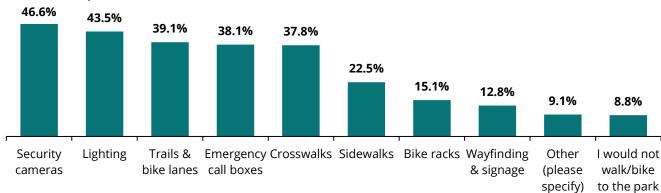
### HOW SAFE DO YOU FEEL WALKING OR BIKING TO MADISON PARK?

Number of responses: 892



### WHAT WOULD ENCOURAGE YOU OR YOUR FAMILY TO WALK OR BIKE TO MADISON PARK?

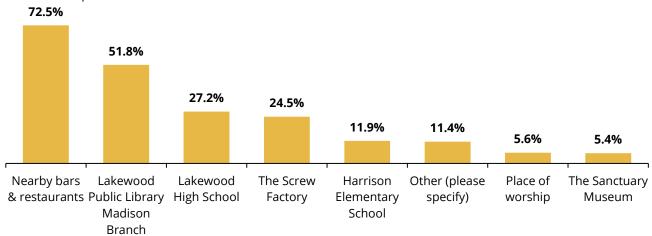




Other answers include: Overall safety/security (32), I already walk/bike to the park (13).

# WHAT OTHER PLACES DO YOU WALK/BIKE TO ON YOUR WAY TO OR FROM MADISON PARK?

Number of responses: 709



**Other answers include:** My/Friends/Family's home (15), other parks (9), Garfield Middle School (3) and Padre Pio Academy (2).

# HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE MADISON PARK IMPROVED? / IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE ABOUT YOUR EXPERIENCES OR IDEAS ABOUT MADISON PARK?

Number of responses: 595

Respondents had two opportunities to provide additional comments. The top themes from these questions as well as example comments can be seen in the chart below.

	Themes	Example Comments
1.	Safety, patrol, and security	"Increased presence of community ambassadors/leadership to encourage respectful behavior from visitors."
		"Safety measures, I get nervous when my kids hang out there."
2.	Becks Pool update	"Improve and modernize the pool with more features for kids."
۷.		"Updated pool with residency policy."
3.	More trees, shade, and environmental amenities	"More trees for shade, beauty, and improved air quality please! So much wasted grassland, also open to more native no mow areas."
4.	More organized programs and events	"Stage or natural amphitheater would be great to allow for cultural performances. I would like to see movies like they have at Lakewood Park, or front porch series like they have at main library."
5.	Appreciation of Madison Park	"I have lived right by the park for 41 years. It has been an integral and special part of our lives the whole time. We love it!
		"We've always enjoyed the park. Looking forward to more improvements."
6.	Skatepark addition	"I would love to see additions made to make skateboarding more accessible to people. A pump track, skateable architecture, or a place to skateboard."
		"Some sort of skateable architecture like slanted benches, banks, and curbs."
7.	Splashpad addition	"A splashpad that is outside of the pool area so families can enjoy a free place to play and relax at the park on hotter days. This is lacking at all Lakewood Parks and would make Madison park jump to the top of the park list in Lakewood."
8.	Playground updates	"More playground equipment that is lower to the ground; playground equipment spread out over a larger area so that there's less crowding in concentrated areas."
9.	Teen area	"Something for the teenagers to do so they're not hanging out on the little kid playground."
٠,		"A place that caters to teenage age group so they don't take over the playground"
10	. Make Madison Park more inviting	"More of a welcoming entrance on the Athens side of the park."
10.		"A park that is inclusive to all ages like Lakewood Park. Vibrant and welcoming to all as opposed to a loitering place for teens and sports events/activities."

# SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT RESULTS

A concerted effort was made to engage all park users, especially school-aged children as they represent a large segment of park and playground users and are a group that do not typically take surveys or have a direct voice in community matters. As such, this planing effort worked with two elementary schools in close proximity to Madison Park: Harrison Elementary School and Padre Pio Academy. Students were directly engaged to gain insight into how they currently use and view the park, and how they would like to see it updated in the future.

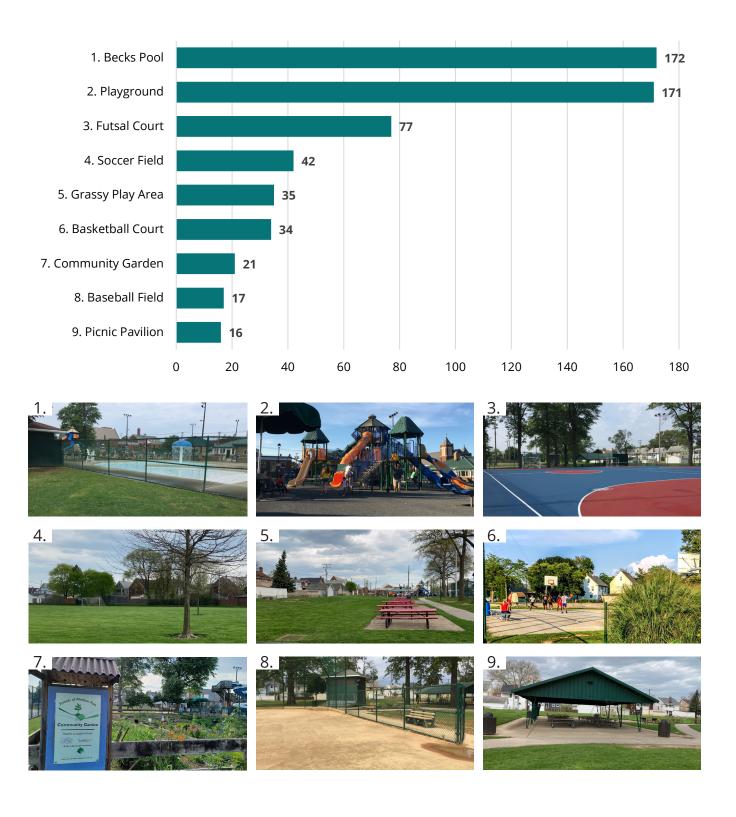
Students in Kindergarten through 5th grade at Harrison Elementary and students in Kindergarten through 8th

grade at Padre Pio Academy were asked what features of the park they currently like the most, which features they like the least, and what types of features, amenities, or equipment they would want in the park in the future. It is worth noting that students at Padre Pio Academy utilize the northern half of the park for school activities, which may slightly skew results towards amenities in this section of the park. The results of this exercise can be found on pages 17-19.

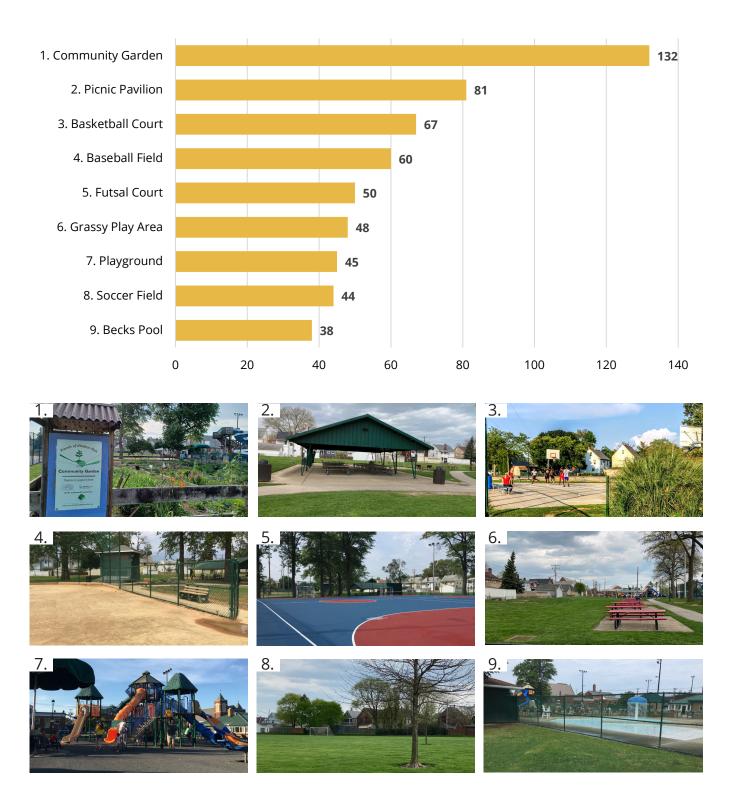
Students were also given a take home worksheet where they were encouraged to design their dream park. Sample "dream park" designs can be found on pages 21 and 22.



# WHAT PARK AMENITIES DO YOU LIKE THE MOST?



# WHAT PARK AMENITIES DO YOU LIKE THE LEAST?

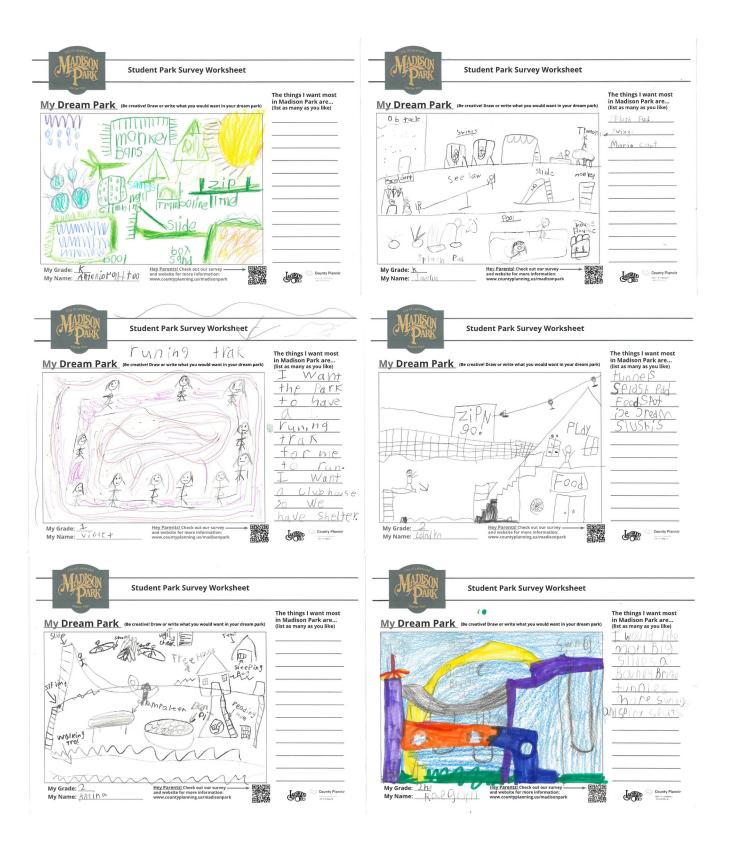


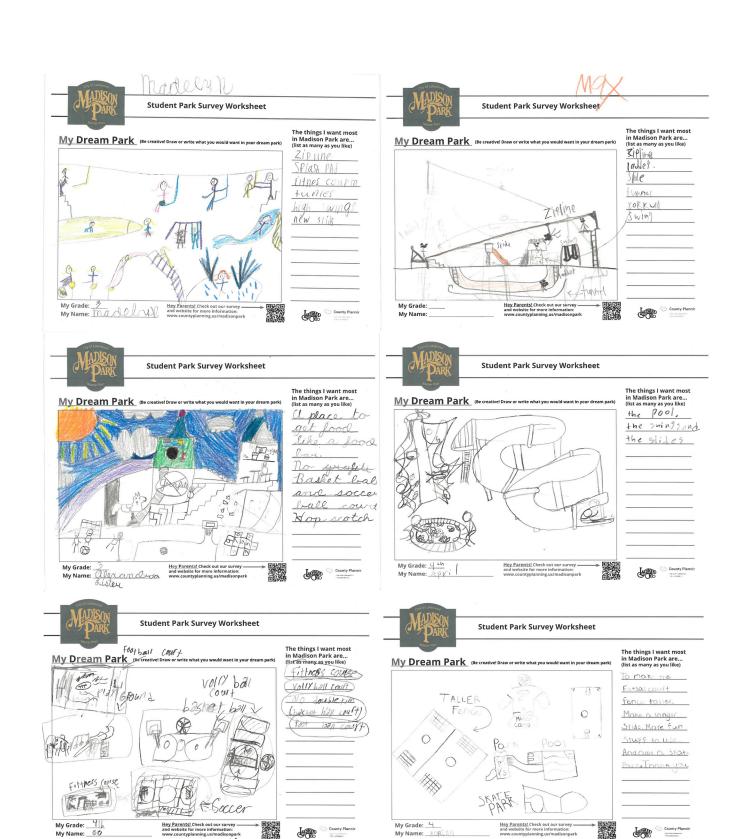
# WHAT PARK AMENITIES WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE ADDED?



Other answers include: zipline (10), trampoline (5), rock climbing walls (2), volleyball (2), digging area (2), tennis court (2), concession stand (2), football field (2), see saw (1), caves (1), rope course (1), a quiet place to read (1)

# SAMPLE STUDENT TAKE HOME WORKSHEETS





& Keryan



FOR OUR COMMUNITY
FOR OUR REGION
FOR OUR FUTURE