



RECREATION AND PARKS SURVEY: OPEN-ENDED RESPONSE RESULTS

SEPTEMBER 2022

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INTRODUCTION

The VCU Survey and Evaluation Research Laboratory (SERL) conducted a Recreation and Parks Survey as part of the update of the Henrico County Comprehensive Plan. The SERL prepared a summary and analysis of the survey responses published July 2022.

This memorandum, prepared by Clarion Associates and independent from SERL's analysis, provides a summary of the themes found in the open-ended responses from the Survey. All responses can be found in Appendix D of the SERL Report located on the HenricoNext website:

<https://www.henriconext.us/resources-1>

HOW WERE KEY THEMES IDENTIFIED?

Upon reading the responses for each question, a word, phrase, or idea was noted if it was mentioned more than 3 times. Notes were then organized into 9 themes, and responses containing those specific words, phrases, or ideas were themed accordingly.

THEMES FROM OPEN-ENDED QUESTIONS

The Recreation and Parks Survey contained one open-ended question:

Question 28: Please share any additional comments that could assist Henrico County in improving parks, trails, open spaces, and recreational facilities and services.

Approximately 250 responses were received after SERL redacted responses containing profanity or mentions of specific individuals. Responses were reviewed and are summarized by the following themes:

- **Biking** - trails and paths; separation from cars; connectivity; greenways
- **Sidewalks & Trails** - pedestrian sidewalks and trails; connectivity; paved paths
- **Safety** - security; bike and pedestrian safety; lighting
- **Facility Maintenance** - cleanliness; repairs, updates, and improvements; bathrooms; landscaping; rules
- **Classes & Events** - more classes, events, and programs
- **Athletics** - more lessons; skate park; tennis courts; pickleball courts; indoor swimming; fishing
- **Parks & Greenspaces** - more parks; natural greenspaces
- **Children & Elderly** - facilities and programs for all ages
- **Facility Diversity & Accessibility** - different types and locations of parks and facilities; disability access