



# RECREATION AND PARKS SURVEY: OPEN-ENDED RESPONSE RESULTS

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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