

Oswegoland Park District Community Survey

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NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

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Outreach, Engagement, and Regional Development

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Executive Summary

The Oswegoland Park District commissioned the Center for Governmental Studies (CGS) at Northern Illinois University to conduct a multi-mode survey (online, mail, and telephone reminder calls) of residents. The purpose of the survey was to gather residents' opinions about the Oswegoland Park District's facilities, programs, and services, and to determine residents' recreation needs. A total of 528 completed surveys was received.

Findings

Overall Opinion of the Park District

- The respondents were asked to rate their overall opinion of the Oswegoland Park District on a scale of "0" (completely dislike) to "10" (highest regard). 79.4% of the respondents have a positive impression of the Park District (rating of "6" or higher). The mean rating given was 7.53.
- When respondents were asked their *favorite* thing about the Park District the top responses were the parks (16.5%), the variety, number, or type of programs and events (16.5%), the walking and bike trails/paths (11.0%), and the programs/activities for children (10.2%).
- When respondents were asked their *least favorite* thing about the Park District a wide variety of responses were given. The most common responses were cost (9.0%) and upkeep/maintenance of parks and facilities (7.0%).
- Four-fifths (80.0%) of respondents indicated their household is likely to use the Oswegoland Park District during the next 12 months, with 63.2% indicating their household is very likely.

Awareness and Use of the Park District

- Awareness is highest for the PrairieFest (83.2%), Civic Center Aquatic Park (79.2%), Civic Center (77.3%), and Fox Bend Golf Course (73.3%) and lowest for Community Park at Grande Park (27.6%) and South Point Center (43.3%).
- Those respondents who were aware of a park, facility, or community festival were then asked whether their household had visited or attended the park, facility, or community festival during the past 12 months. Seven out of ten respondents stated they visited Hudson Crossing Park (72.9%) and Prairie Point Community Park (72.5%). About one-half or less of respondents reported that their household had visited or attended the other parks, facilities, and community festivals asked about in the survey.
- The majority of respondents have used the Oswegoland Park District during the past 12 months for all of the recreational activities asked about in the survey except for theatre (47.7%), adult sports leagues (42.2%), adult classes (37.4%), and fitness (33.9%). Almost one-third (31.3%) of respondents indicated their needs are not being met by any organization for adult sports leagues, one fourth (25.3%) of respondents stated their needs are not being

met by any organization for adult classes, and 10.4% of respondents reported their needs are not being met by any organization for fitness.

Satisfaction With the Park District

- The majority of respondents were satisfied with each of the parks, facilities, and community festivals asked about in the survey. The highest percentage of respondents stated they are satisfied with Prairie Community Park (95.6%) and the lowest percentages of respondents indicated they were satisfied with Boulder Point (80.4%) and the Civic Center (80.5%).
- Most respondents were satisfied with the appearance (93.7%), cleanliness (93.6%), and maintenance of the parks and facilities (88.9%).
- The majority of respondents were satisfied with the Park District programs asked about in the survey. Satisfaction was highest for the As We Grow Preschool (98.6%) and dance (97.3%). Satisfaction was lowest for fitness (79.0%), adult classes (81.8%) and the adult sport leagues (83.3%).
- More than four-fifths of respondents were satisfied with the customer service provided by Park District staff (90.9%), the Park District social media (82.8%), the ease of registering for programs (82.1%), the Park District website (81.7%), the availability of information about parks/facilities (81.3%), and the availability of information about programs (81.2%).

Value of the Park District

- The majority (88.4%) of respondents believe the Park District is valuable to their community. Compared with 78.8% of respondents who think the Park District is valuable to their household.
- Three-fourths (75.0%) of respondents believe the overall value of the Park District, given its share of the property taxes is excellent or good.
- Only 18.9% of respondents were aware that the Park District offers financial assistance to eligible households.

Future Direction of the Park District

- Most respondents were supportive of the Park District budgeting funds for maintaining and improving the current aquatic facilities (92.2%) and acquiring land for parks (87.8%).

Information Sources About the Park District

- More than two-fifths (43.7%) of respondents reported they learn about the Park District from the community banners/signs, with 23.2% indicating it is their preferred source. 43.3% of respondents said they learn about the Park District from the Park District website, with 23.4% indicating it is their preferred source. 38.9% of respondents state they learn about the Park District from Park District emails, with 35.6% saying it is their preferred source.

37.5% of respondents indicated they learn about the Park District from the digital seasonal brochure, with 27.5% reporting it is their preferred source. More than one-fourth (28.7%) of respondents reported they learn about the Park District from social media, with 21.5% stating it is their preferred source.

Introduction

Background and Purpose

The Oswegoland Park District commissioned the Center for Governmental Studies (CGS) at Northern Illinois University to conduct a survey of residents to gather their opinions about the Oswegoland Park District's facilities, programs, and services, and to determine residents' recreation needs. A multi-mode survey (online, mail, and telephone reminder calls) was administered to a random sample of households in the Park District's service area. The findings of the survey will be used for strategic planning.

Methodology

Questionnaire

A 32-question survey was developed by CGS and the Oswegoland Park District staff. The following topics were covered in the questionnaire:

- overall opinion of the Park District,
- awareness and use of the Park District,
- satisfaction with the Park District,
- value of the Park District,
- future direction of the Park District, and
- information sources about the Park District.

The questionnaire was translated into Spanish. The questionnaire may be found in Appendix A.

Sample

A random sample of 2,000 households within the Oswegoland Park District service area was provided by the Marketing Systems Group, a survey sampling firm. The sample included names, email addresses, mailing addresses, and telephone numbers.

Pretest

CGS pretested the questionnaire with approximately 20 households. The pretest was designed to gauge whether the respondents understood the questions being asked and could provide the necessary information.

Data Collection

Each household in the random sample was sent an invitation email with a unique ID code and a link to the survey. This email may be found in Appendix B.

Follow-up communications are important to get responses from as high a proportion of the sample as possible, as harder to reach respondents often have different experiences and responses than easier to reach respondents. Therefore, CGS sent up to six reminder emails to those who did not respond after the initial email. The questionnaire and a cover letter were mailed to those who did not complete the survey online (See Appendix B for cover letter). Reminder calls were made to those who did not complete either the survey online or through the mail (See Appendix B for reminder call script).

The survey was open from April 5, 2023 to June 15, 2023.

A total of 528 completed surveys were received. The margin of error for the survey is +/- 4.2 percentage points at the 95 percent level of confidence.

Data Analysis

The data was weighted on age, gender, and race/ethnicity using information from the 2017-2021 American Community Survey. Data weighting on key demographic variables ensures that respondents to the survey are representative of the population of all adults in the Oswegoland Park District service area and that the findings can be generalized to the total adult population.

Chi-square tests were used to test significance between demographic groups. All demographic differences reported are statistically significant at the $p \leq 0.05$ level.

Findings

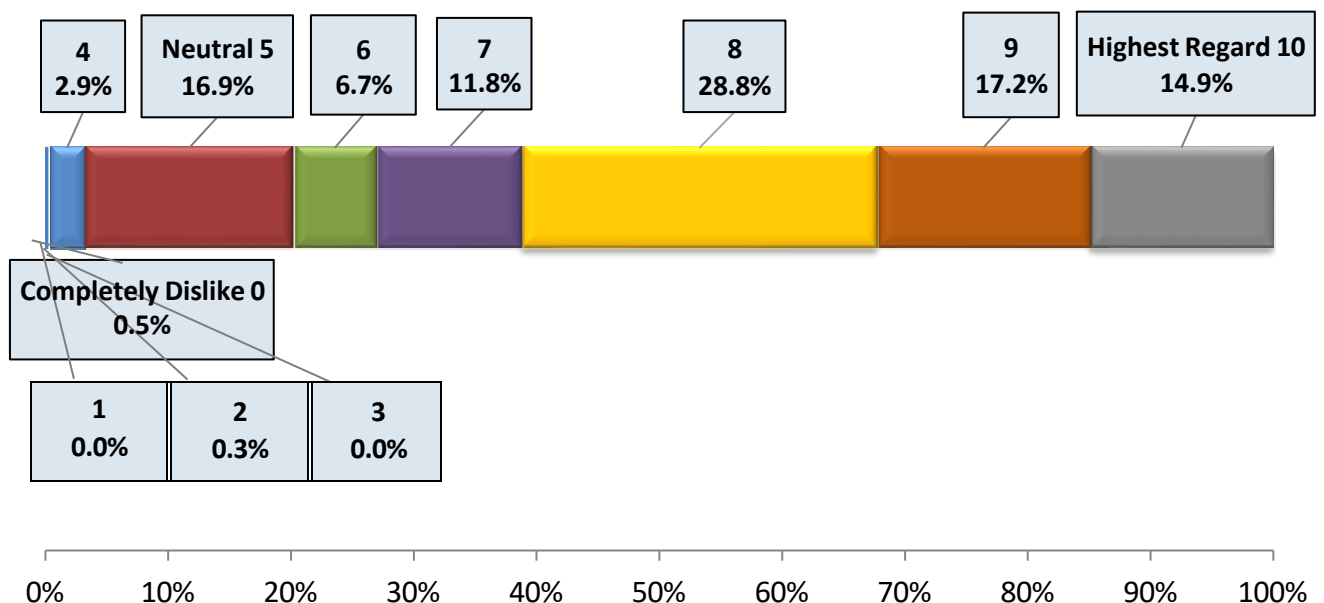
Overall Opinion of the Park District

The respondents were first asked a set of questions regarding their overall opinion of the Oswegoland Park District. The respondents were asked to rate their overall opinion of the Park District, to provide their favorite and least favorite thing about the Park District, and to indicate the likelihood of their household using the Park District in the next 12 months.

The respondents were asked to rate their overall opinion of the Park District on a scale from “0” to “10, where “0” was completely dislike and “10” was highest regard. 79.4% of the respondents have a positive impression of the Park District (rating of “6” or higher). The mean rating given was 7.53 (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Rating of Overall Opinion of the Oswegoland Park District

What is your overall opinion of the Oswegoland Park District?



Demographic Differences

- Respondents with children in their household under the age of 18 (83.9%) were more likely than respondents with no children in their household under the age of 18 (70.3%) to rate the Park District “7” or higher.

When asked their *favorite* thing about the Park District the most common responses were the parks (16.5%), the variety/number/type of programs and events (16.5%), the walking and bike trails/paths (11.0%), and the programs/activities for children (10.2%) (Table 1) (See Appendix C for verbatim comments).

Table 1: Favorite Thing About the Park District

What is your favorite thing about the Park District? (MULTIPLE RESPONSES POSSIBLE)

Favorite Thing	Percent
Parks	16.5
Variety/Number/Type of Programs and Events	16.5
Walking and Bike Trails/Paths	11.0
Programs/Activities for Children	10.2
Aquatic Facilities	9.1
Quality of Classes/Programming	5.9
Park District Staff	5.5
Events	5.1
Well-Maintained/Clean	4.7
Natural Areas/Open Spaces	3.5
Playgrounds/Parks for Children	3.1
Golf Course	1.6
Affordable Programs	1.6
Nothing	0.8
Don't Use Park District	7.1
Don't Know	3.1
Other	17.3

When asked their *least favorite* thing about the Park District a wide variety of responses were given. The top responses were cost (9.0%) and upkeep/maintenance of parks/facilities (7.7%). (Table 2) (See Appendix C for verbatim comments).

Table 2: Least Favorite Thing About the Park District

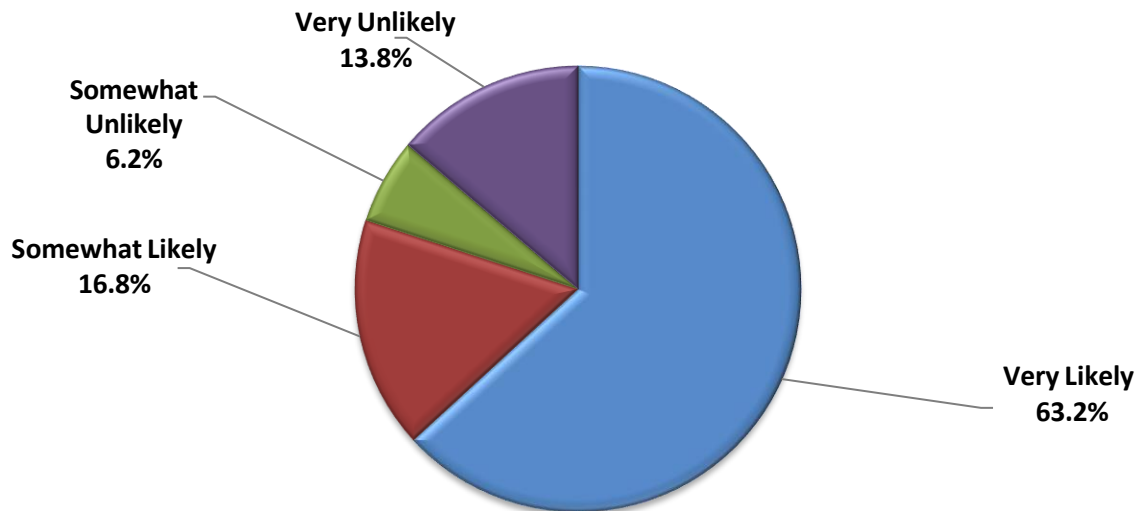
What is your least favorite thing about the Park District? (MULTIPLE RESPONSES POSSIBLE)

Least Favorite Thing	Percent
Cost	9.0
Upkeep/Maintenance of Parks/Facilities	7.7
Lack of a Fitness Center/Gym	4.7
Aquatic Facilities	4.3
Amount of Taxes Too High	3.4
Facilities/Parks Need to be Updated	3.4
Availability of Classes/Programs	3.4
Lack of Programs for Preteens/Teens	3.0
Not Enough Adult/Senior Programs	3.0
Lack of Communication	2.6
Lack of a Community Center	2.6
Nothing	8.9
Don't Use Park District	4.7
No Opinion/Not Applicable	6.0
Don't Know	2.6
Other	34.3

Four-fifths (80.0%) of respondents indicated that their household is likely to use the Park District during the next 12 months, with 63.2% indicating their household is very likely (Figure 2).

Figure 2: Likelihood of Household Using the Park District During Next 12 Months

During the next 12 months, how likely or unlikely are you or anyone in your household to use the Oswegoland Park District facilities, programs, or services?



Demographic Differences

- The percentage who indicated that their household is likely to use the Park District facilities, programs or services during the next 12 months is highest among respondents 35-44 years of age (92.3%) and respondents 18-34 years of age (88.6%) and lowest among respondents 65 years of age or greater (63.7%). 78.4% of respondents 45-54 years of age and 75.0% of respondents 55-64 years of age reported that their household is likely to use the Park District.
- 94.8% of respondents with children in their household under the age of 18 compared with 74.8% of respondents with no children in their household under the age of 18 stated they are likely to use the Park District facilities, programs or services during the next 12 months.

Awareness and Use of the Park District

Next, the respondents were asked about their awareness and current use of 12 Oswegoland Park District parks, facilities, and community festivals.

First respondents were asked if they are aware of the 12 Oswegoland Park District parks, facilities, and community festivals. Seven out of ten or more respondents were aware of the PrairieFest (83.2%), Civic Center Aquatic Park (79.2%), Civic Center (77.3%), and Fox Bend Golf Course (73.3%). Awareness was lowest for Community Park at Grande Park (27.6%) and South Point Center (43.3%).

Those respondents who were aware of a park, facility, or community festival were then asked whether their household had visited or attended the park, facility, or community festival during the past 12 months. Seven out of ten respondents stated they visited Hudson Crossing Park (72.9%) and Prairie Point Community Park (72.5%). About one-half or less of respondents reported that their household had visited or attended the other parks, facilities, and community festivals asked about in the survey during the past 12 months (Table 3).

Table 3: Awareness and Household's Use of Park District Parks, Facilities, and Community Festivals During the Past 12 Months

Are you aware of each of the following Oswegoland Park District parks, facilities, and community festivals?

During the past 12 months, have you or other household members visited or attended each of the following parks, facilities, and community festivals?

Park/Facility/Community Festival	Awareness	Visited/Attended During Past 12 Months
PrairieFest	83.2%	52.0%
Civic Center Aquatic Park	79.2%	38.8%
Civic Center	77.3%	44.4%
Fox Bend Golf Course	73.3%	32.0%
Boulder Point	67.3%	43.6%
Prairie Point Community Park	66.1%	72.5%
Little White School Museum	63.0%	15.7%
Winrock Pool	57.0%	30.1%
Hudson Crossing Park	56.1%	72.9%
Saw Wee Jee Park	51.1%	46.5%
South Point Center	43.3%	40.5%
Community Park at Grande Park	27.6%	31.8%

Demographic Differences

Awareness

- The percentage of respondents who were aware of PrairieFest increases as years living in the Park District service area increases (66.7%, less than 5 years; 82.4%, 5-9 years; 92.3%, 10-19 years; 92.5%, 20-29 years; 94.9%, 30 or more years).
- Respondents who have lived in the Park District service area 5 years or more (84.0%) were more likely than respondents who have lived in the Park District service area less than five years (61.5%) to be aware of the **Civic Center**.
- The percentage of respondents who were aware of the **Civic Center** decreases as age increases (91.1%, 18-34 years of age; 81.3%, 35-44 years of age; 81.1%, 45-54 years of age; 70.7%, 55-64 years of age; 55.6%, 65 years of age or greater).
- Respondents who have children in their household under the age of 18 (91.4%) were more likely than respondents who do not have children in their household under the age of 18 (73.5%) to be aware of the **Civic Center**.
- Respondents who have lived in the Park District service area 10 years or more (87.7%) were more likely than respondents who have lived in the Park District service area less than 10 years (60.5%) to be aware of the **Fox Bend Golf Course**.
- Respondents who have lived in the Park District service area 5 years or more (78.4%) were more likely than respondents who have lived in the Park District service area less than five years (46.2%) to be aware of **Boulder Point**.
- Respondents less than 55 years of age (76.7%) were more likely than respondents 55 years of age or greater (55.8%) to be aware of **Boulder Point**.
- Respondents who have children in their household under the age of 18 (87.1%) were more likely than respondents who do not have children in their household under the age of 18 (60.6%) to be aware of **Boulder Point**.
- Respondents less than 55 years of age (73.9%) were more likely than respondents 55 years of age or greater (55.8%) to be aware of **Prairie Point Community Park**.
- Respondents who have children in their household under the age of 18 (81.9%) were more likely than respondents who do not have children in their household under the age of 18 (60.6%) to be aware of **Prairie Point Community Park**.
- Respondents who have lived in the Park District service area 5 years or more (74.2%) were more likely than respondents who have lived in the Park District service area less than five years (43.6%) to be aware of the **Little White School Museum**.
- Respondents who have lived in the Park District service area 30 years or more were most likely to be aware of **Winrock Pool** (82.1%), followed by respondents who have lived in the Park District service area 5-29 years (65.8%). Respondents who have lived in the Park District service area less than 5 years are least likely to be aware of **Winrock Pool** (35.9%).

- Respondents less than 55 years of age (66.1%) were more likely than respondents 55 years of age or greater (46.5%) to be aware of **Winrock Pool**.
- Respondents who have children in their household under the age of 18 (80.2%) were more likely than respondents who do not have children in their household under the age of 18 (47.0%) to be aware of **Winrock Pool**.
- Respondents who have lived in the Park District service area 5 years or more (67.0%) were more likely than respondents who have lived in the Park District service area less than five years (35.9%) to be aware of **Hudson Crossing Park**.
- Respondents who have lived in the Park District service area 5 years or more (56.7%) were more likely than respondents who have lived in the Park District service area less than five years (17.9%) to be aware of **South Point Center**.
- Respondents less than 55 years of age (53.3%) were more likely than respondents 55 years of age or greater (29.1%) to be aware of **South Point Center**.
- Respondents who have children in their household under the age of 18 (70.7%) were more likely than respondents who do not have children in their household under the age of 18 (28.0%) to be aware of **South Point Center**.

Visited/Attended in Past 12 Months

- Respondents who have lived in the Park District service area 5 years or more (58.9%) were more likely than respondents who have lived in the Park District service area less than 5 years (32.7%) to have attended **PrairieFest** in the past 12 months.
- Respondents 45-54 years of age (84.9%) were most likely to have attended **PrairieFest** in the past 12 months, followed by respondents 35-44 years of age (67.3%). Respondents 55 years of age or greater (42.9%) and respondents 18-34 years of age (35.5%) were least likely to have attended PairieFest in the past 12 months.
- Respondents who are 35-44 years of age (56.6%) and respondents who are 45-54 years of age (50.0%) were most likely to have visited the **Civic Center Aquatic Park** during the past 12 months. 28.6% of respondents 18-34 years of age visited the Civic Center Aquatic Park during the past 12 months. Respondents who are 55-64 years of age (16.7%) and respondents 65 years of age or greater (15.6%) were least likely to have visited the Civic Center Aquatic Park during the past 12 months.
- Respondents who have children in their household under the age of 18 (56.3%) were more likely than respondents who do not have children in their household under the age of 18 (14.9%) to have visited the **Civic Center Aquatic Park** during the past 12 months.
- Respondents who are less than 45 years of age (56.5%) were more likely than respondents who are 45 years of age or greater (31.0%) to have visited the **Civic Center** during the past 12 months.

- Respondents who have children in their household under the age of 18 (59.4%) were more likely than respondents who do not have children in their household under the age of 18 (30.9%) to have visited the **Civic Center** during the past 12 months.
- Respondents who have children in their household under the age of 18 (59.4%) were more likely than respondents who do not have children in their household under the age of 18 (26.3%) to have visited **Boulder Point** during the past 12 months.
- The percentage of respondents who have visited **Prairie Point Community Park** decreases as years living in the Park District service area increases (89.8%, less than 5 years; 54.9%, 5-9 years; 49.2%, 10-19 years; 48.7%, 20-29 years; 33.3%, 30 years or more).
- Respondents less than 55 years of age (84.2%) were more likely than respondents 55 years of age or greater (45.8%) to have visited **Prairie Point Community Park** in the past 12 months.
- Respondents who have children in their household under the age of 18 (88.4%) were more likely than respondents who do not have children in their household under the age of 18 (60.0%) to have visited **Prairie Point Community Park** during the past 12 months.
- Respondents who have children in their household under the age of 18 (40.9%) were more likely than respondents who do not have children in their household under the age of 18 (16.1%) to have visited **Winrock Pool** during the past 12 months.
- Respondents who are 35-44 years of age (60.0%) were most likely to have visited **South Point Center** during the past 12 months, followed by respondents who are 18-34 years of age (48.7%) and respondents who are 45-54 years of age (31.8%). Respondents 55-64 years of age (8.3%) and respondents who are 65 years of age or greater (7.7%) were least likely to have visited South Point Center during the past 12 months.
- The percentage of respondents who indicated they have visited **Hudson Crossing Park** during the past 12 months decreases as age increases (93.6%, 18-34 years of age; 78.9%, 35-44 years of age; 66.6%, 45-54 years of age; 63.6%, 55-64 years of age; 52.2%, 65 years of age or greater).
- Respondents who have lived in the Park District service area less than 10 years (85.2%) were more likely than respondents who have lived in the Park District service area 10 or more years (68.4%) to have visited **Hudson Crossing Park** during the past 12 months.
- Respondents who have children in their household under the age of 18 (52.4%) were more likely than respondents who do not have children in their household under the age of 18 (21.6%) to have visited **South Point Center** during the past 12 months.

Those respondents who have participated in a recreational activity during the past 12 months were asked which organizations they used for the activity. The majority of respondents used the Oswegoland Park District for all of the recreational activities asked about in the survey except for theatre (47.7%), adult sports leagues (42.2%), adult classes (37.4%), and fitness (33.9%).

Almost one-third (31.3%) of respondents indicated their needs are not being met by any organization for adult sports leagues, one fourth (25.3%) of respondents stated their needs are not being met by any organization for adult classes, and 10.4% of respondents reported their needs are not being met by any organization for fitness. (Table 4).

Table 4: Organizations Used for Recreational Activities

Which organizations have you or members of your household used during the past 12 months for each of the following recreational activities (both indoors and outdoors)? (MULTIPLE RESPONSES POSSIBLE)

Recreational Activity	Oswegoland Park District	Another Park District	School District	A Private Facility or Organization	Another Organization	Needs Not Being Met by Any Organization
Special Events	86.4%	20.8%	11.0%	24.0%	7.1%	2.6%
Early Childhood Classes	81.8%	3.6%	27.3%	25.5%	1.8%	0.0%
Youth Athletics	78.2%	5.9%	7.9%	29.7%	7.9%	4.0%
Youth Classes	75.8%	3.2%	8.1%	14.5%	9.7%	6.5%
Dance	73.7%	0.0	2.6%	13.2%	2.6%	7.9%
Gymnastics	66.0%	0.0%	1.9%	32.1%	1.9%	1.9%
Golf	65.1%	10.5%	0.0%	46.5%	4.7%	7.9%
Preschool	59.2%	0.0%	20.4%	26.5%	4.1%	0.0%
Before and After School Care	50.0%	0.0%	12.5%	20.8%	12.5%	8.3%
Theatre	47.7%	4.5%	9.1%	34.1%	13.6%	6.8%
Adult Sports Leagues	42.2%	1.6%	3.3%	21.9%	6.6%	31.3%
Adult Classes	37.4%	1.2%	0.0%	25.3%	11.9%	25.3%
Fitness	33.9%	5.6%	1.9%	37.9%	13.0%	10.4%

The respondents were asked to share reasons that deter them or their household from using the Oswegoland Park District parks, facilities, or programs. The most frequent responses were cost (11.0%) and they have no children, they have no young children, or their children are grown (10.4%). 12.7% of respondents commented there are no reasons that deter them or their household from using the Park District parks, facilities, or programs (Table 5) (See Appendix C for verbatim comments).

Table 5: Reasons That Deter Use of Park District Parks, Facilities, or Programs

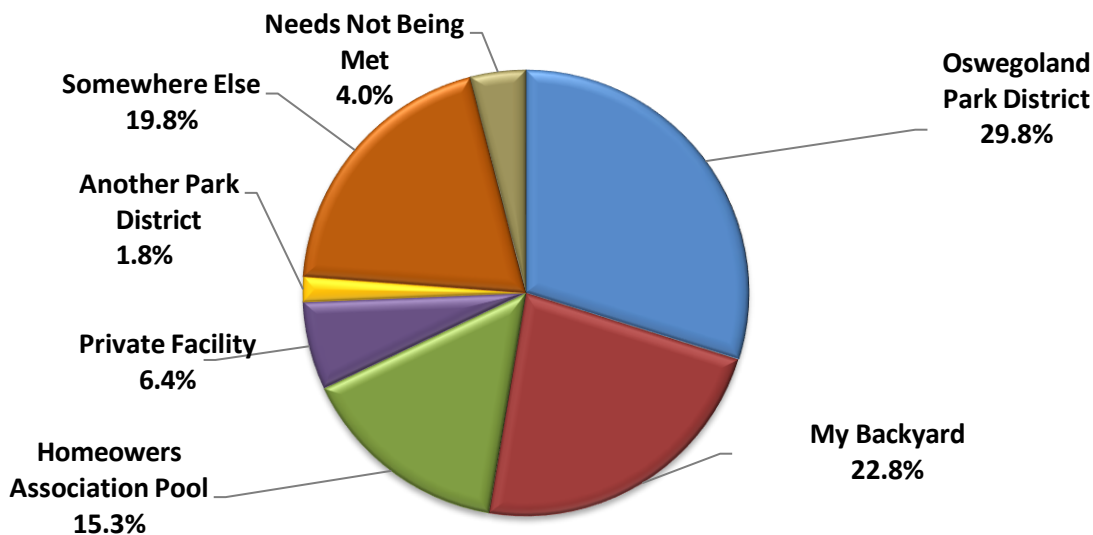
What reasons deter you or your household from using the Oswegoland Park District parks, facilities, or programs? (MULTIPLE RESPONSES POSSIBLE)

Reason	Percent
Cost	11.0
No Children/No Young Children/Children Grown	10.4
Lack of Time/Too Busy	9.8
Limited Program Offerings/Lack of Specific Programs	9.8
Times Classes Are Offered	9.8
Quality of Parks, Facilities, or Programs	5.8
Programs Offered are Not of Interest	5.8
Lack of Information About Programs	5.8
Age/Health Issues	5.2
No Interest/Need	4.0
Availability of Programs/Programs Full	3.4
Location of Facilities	3.5
Lack of Fitness Center/Gym	2.9
None	12.7
Other	19.1

The respondents were asked where they participate in their summer water activities. The respondents indicated a variety of locations, with 29.8% stating the Oswegoland Park District (Figure 3).

Figure 3: Location for Summer Water Activities

Where do you participate in your summer water activities?



Demographic Differences

- Respondents who rent their home (49.0%) were more likely than respondents who own their home (27.3%) to participate in their summer water activities at the Oswegoland Park District.
- Respondents who have children in their household under the age of 18 (42.9%) were more likely respondents who have no children in their household under the age of 18 (15.9%) to participate in their summer water activities at the Oswegoland Park District.

Those respondents who do not use the Oswegoland Park District for their summer water activities were asked why not.

The most frequent responses for why they don't use the Oswegoland Park District for summer water activities are they use their neighborhood/homeowner association/apartment pool (16.8%) and they have their own pool (13.1%). 8.4% of respondents indicated the Oswegoland Park District's water amenities are too crowded (Table 6) (See Appendix C for verbatim comments).

Table 6: Reasons Don't Use Oswegoland Park District for Summer Water Activities
Why don't you use the Oswegoland Park District for summer water activities? (MULTIPLE
RESPONSES POSSIBLE)

Reason	Percent
Use Neighborhood/Homeowner Association/Apartment Pool	16.8
Have Own Pool	13.1
Too Crowded	8.4
Use Another Park District's Pool	7.5
Not Aware of Park District Water Amenities	5.6
Not Interested/No Need/No Time	5.6
Use Friend's/Relative's/Neighbor's Pool	5.6
Children Grown/No Children/Children Too Young	4.7
Cost	3.7
Children Unruly/Unsupervised	3.7
Use a Commercial Water Park	3.7
Go to a Lake	3.7
Park District Water Amenities Not Close to Home	2.8
Not Clean	1.9
Other Water Parks Offer More Activities	1.9
Other	21.5

The respondents were asked to indicate what would increase their household's use of the parks, facilities, or programs in the future. A wide variety of responses were given. The most frequent responses were lower prices (7.8%), add aquatic facility (7.8%), more adult/older adult programs (7.7%), more class options offered (7.7%), and improved aquatic facilities/improved aquatic facilities' hours/add adult swim/other improvements to aquatic facilities (7.2%). 12.2% of the respondents commented that nothing would increase their household's use of the parks, facilities, or programs. (Table 7) (See Appendix C for verbatim comments).

Table 7: What Would Increase Household's Use of the Park District Parks, Facilities, or Programs

In the future, what would increase your household's use of the Park District parks, facilities, or programs? (MULTIPLE RESPONSES POSSIBLE)

Responses	Percent
Lower Prices	7.8
Add Aquatic Facility	7.8
More Adult/Older Adult Programs	7.7
More Class Options Offered	7.7
Improved Aquatic Facilities/Improved Aquatic Facilities' Hours/ Add Adult Swim/Other Improvements to Aquatic Facilities	7.2
Fitness Center/Gym	5.6
More Time Available for Recreation	5.0
Better Communication by Park District	3.9
Changing Times Programs Are Offered	3.3
More Walking/Bike Trails/Paths	3.3
More Events	3.3
Updated Parks/Facilities	2.2
More Children's Athletics	2.2
More Pickleball Courts	2.2
Nothing	12.2
Don't Know/Unsure	3.9
Other	37.8

Satisfaction With the Park District

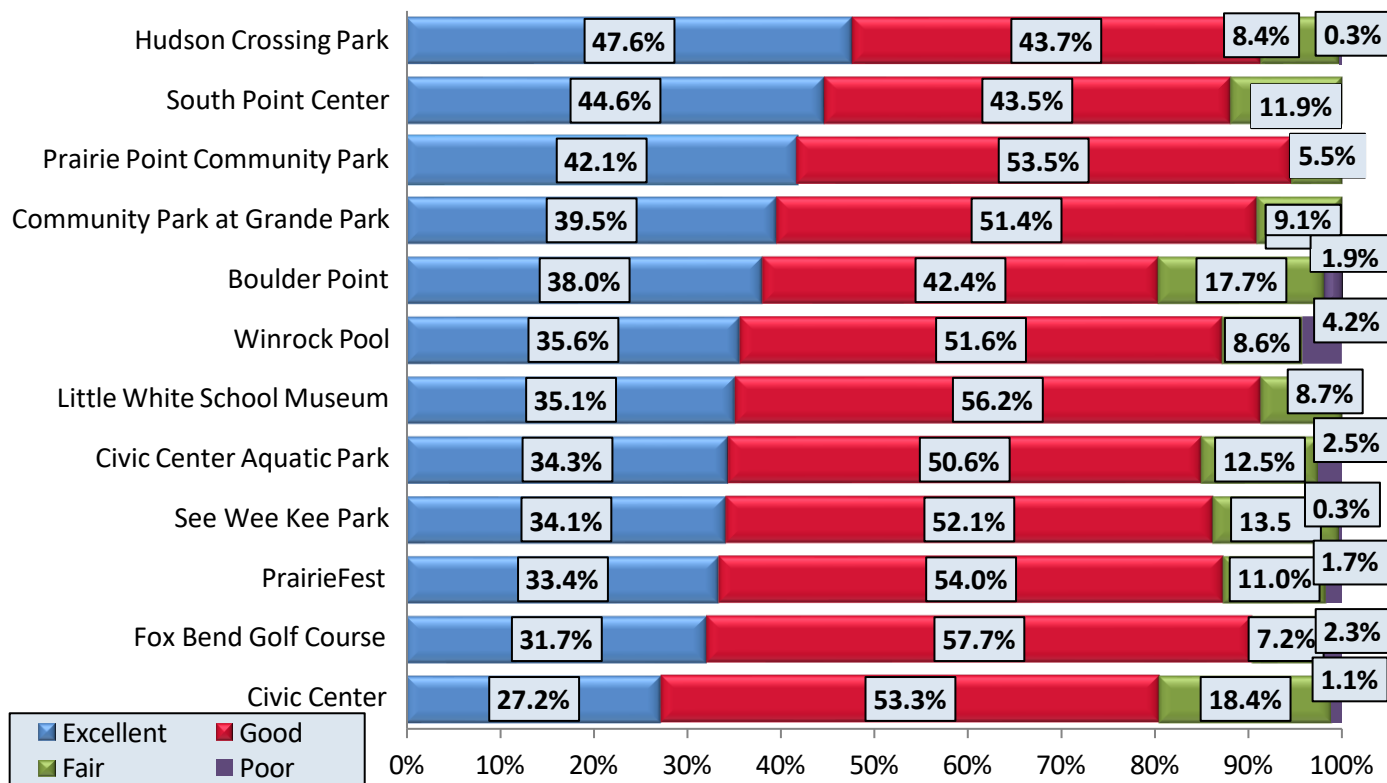
A set of questions was asked about satisfaction with various aspects of the Park District, including the parks, facilities, and community festivals, programs, customer service, ease of registering for programs, and communication.

Respondents who were aware of a park, facility, or community festival were asked to rate their satisfaction with the park, facility, or community festival. The majority of respondents were satisfied with each of the parks, facilities, and community festivals asked about in the survey. The highest percentage of respondents indicated they were satisfied with Prairie Point

Community Park (95.6%) and the lowest percentages of respondents indicated that they were satisfied with Boulder Point (80.4%) and the Civic Center (80.5%) (Figure 4).

Figure 4: Satisfaction with Park District Parks, Facilities, and Community Festivals

Based on what you know about the following Oswegoland Park District parks, and facilities, and community festivals how would you rate each?



Demographic Differences

- Respondents who have no children in their household under the age of 18 (96.3%) were more likely than respondents who have children in their household under the age of 18 (72.7%) to be satisfied with Saw Wee Kee Park.

Those respondents who rated a park, facility, or community festival fair or poor were asked why they gave that rating.

Hudson Crossing Park

The respondents would like more access to the river and more water-based sports at Hudson Crossing Park. Also, they would like the Park District to purchase land along the river and extend Hudson Crossing Park.

“Would love to see Hudson Crossing somehow take more advantage of the location on the river. Could there be more water-based activities, docks, etc.?”

“More access to the river at Hudson Crossing Park.”

“The park district should continue to purchase property along the river and extend Hudson Crossing as far north and south as possible. This should be a public gem of Oswego.”

South Point Center

According to the respondents, the room for exercise at South Point Center “is not large enough” and “the temperature control is not sufficient.”

Prairie Point Community Park

The main comments about Prairie Point Community Park regarded the restrooms being “disgusting” and “smelly.”

Community Park at Grande Park

There were no comments specific to this park.

Boulder Point

A couple of respondents commented there is “a lot of crime in the area where Boulder Point is located.”

Winrock Pool

Respondents mentioned that Winrock Pool is not open to the public, there is not enough parking, is old, and there are not enough shady areas.

“Furious that second pool (Winrock) is used mainly for swim team! Taxpayers paid for that pool, and it should be open to taxpayers every day!! Let the swim team use it in the early morning!”

“Insufficient parking at Winrock during swim meets.”

“Winrock Pool is old.”

“Winrock Pool doesn’t have enough shady areas.”

Little White School Museum

Respondents commented that “exhibits are stale” and they are not sure what the building is used for “except perhaps walk throughs by grade school students.”

Civic Center Aquatic Park

Respondents mentioned that the Civic Center Aquatic Park is too crowded, run down, the locker rooms are outdated and dirty, there is not enough shaded seating, and the kids/teens are disruptive.

“Locker rooms are outdated, and some are smelly; not enough shaded seating.”

“The kids/teens are allowed to get disruptive to other guests. The locker rooms are often dirty.”

“The pool is out of date. The pool is now overrun by pre-teens without parents. They are ruining the experience for everyone.”

“Our Civic Center Aquatic Center is too small and run down for a town that has 35,000 people in it. People are shoulder to shoulder on hot days. We stopped going and got pass to Raging Waves instead. “

“Pools are way too crowded to be worth going or getting a season pass. Civic Center pool is so crowded it’s often not able to be kept clean.”

See Wee Kee Park

Respondents said that See Wee Kee Park “seems a little run down and could use some updating” and it “could use more signage.”

PrairieFest

Respondents commented that PrairieFest needs better entertainment, more rides, more vendors, especially local vendors and food vendors, and is too spread out.

“PrairieFest has been way too spread out the last couple times I’ve visited. Really far walk between the crafters to food to carnival or car show.”

“Need better entertainment at PrairieFest. Most of the bands we have never heard of.”

“PrairieFest has really gone downhill. It is not the same festival it was years ago. Used to have way more vendors that we could shop at and the food vendors choices stink. Bring back the fun.”

“PrairieFest not local enough too many outside vendors.”

Fox Bend Golf Course

The main comments about the Fox Bend Golf Course regarded the new greens being constructed.

“The new greens at Fox Bend never seemed necessary to me in the first place and but they are taking too long.”

“I felt Fox Bend should have provided some fee reduction when we were playing on a course under construction and not a complete 18 holes.”

Civic Center

Respondents stated the Civic Center is outdated and small.

“Civic Center needs updating, feels like its stuck 20+ years in the past.”

“It needs remodeling. It's small and outdated.”

“The outside of the Civic Center needs some TLC. We visit for classes frequently. There are roof shingles on the side facing the small wood garden where the shingles are falling off.”

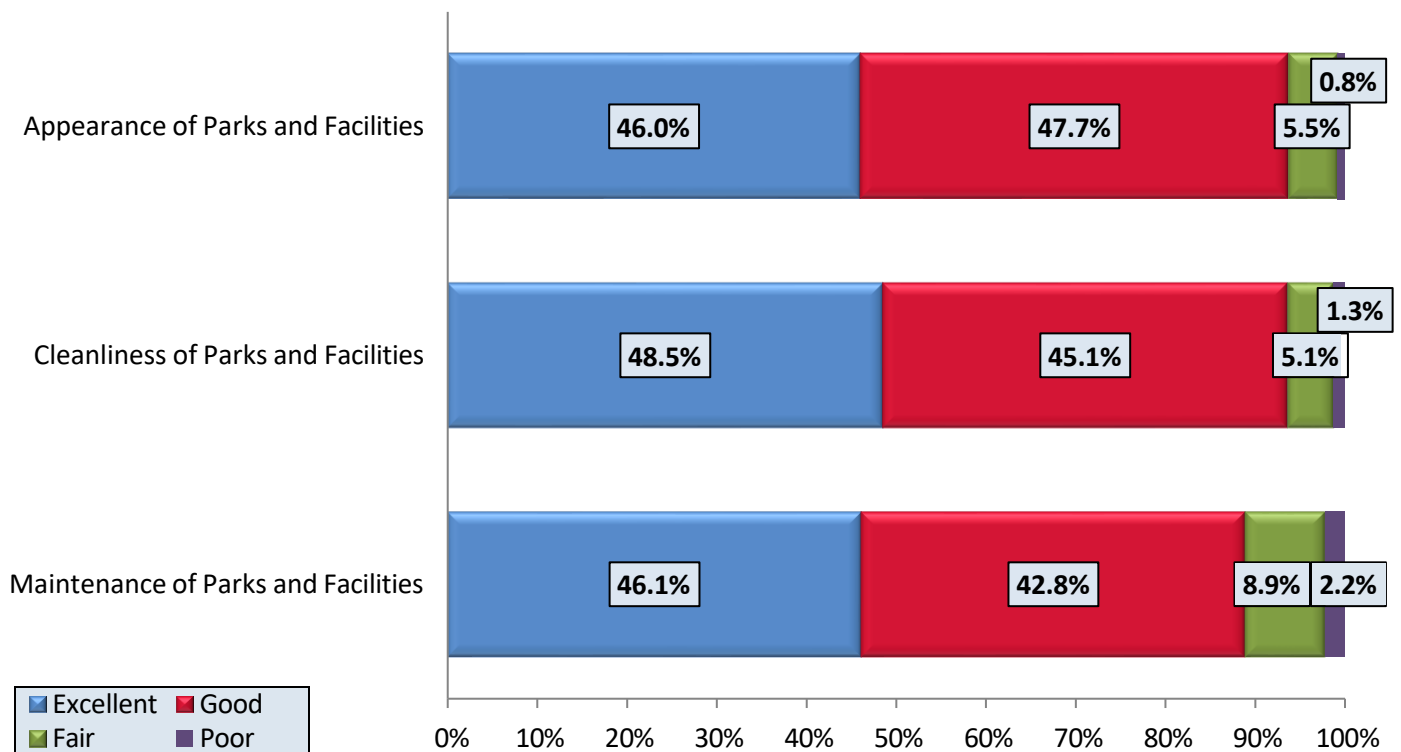
General Comments

Several respondents provided general comments about the facilities. They mentioned that “many of the facilities are showing their age” and need to be updated.

Most respondents are satisfied with the appearance (93.7%), cleanliness (93.6%), and maintenance of parks and facilities (88.9%) (Figure 5).

Figure 5: Satisfaction with Appearance, Cleanliness, and Maintenance of Parks and Facilities

Based on what you know about the following Oswegoland Park District parks and facilities how would you rate ...?



Those respondents who rated the appearance of the parks and facilities, the cleanliness of the parks and facilities, or the maintenance of the parks and facilities fair or poor rating were asked why they gave that rating.

Appearance of Parks and Facilities

Respondents stated some “older parks and buildings could use an update,” “remove weeds from parks,” and “add more flowers and welcoming amenities to the parks.”

Cleanliness of Parks and Facilities

Respondents mentioned there is garbage on the grounds, garbage cans are not emptied, equipment is not clean, and restrooms are dirty.

“Garbage, equipment not always clean, ... graffiti, ...”

“Over the past year or so, cleanup efforts have been minimal. Hire someone to pick up the trash that is left by people (unfortunate to have to do that) but it makes our parks look bad.”

“Restrooms are usually filthy.”

Maintenance of Parks and Facilities

The respondents commented that the equipment at some of the parks is broken, and the bike trails need better maintenance.

“The spinner thing at Hudson Crossing has been broken for literally 5+ years.”

“At some of the parks the stuff for the kids don't work.”

“Bike trails need constant maintenance, so they are not like a washboard.”

The three top improvements respondents would like the Park District to make to the parks and facilities are add or expand the parks, facilities, or equipment (17.6%), update or upgrade the parks, facilities, or equipment (16.9%), and provide better upkeep or maintenance (10.8%). 17.8% of respondents reported there are no improvements they would like the Park District to make to the parks and facilities (Table 8) (See Appendix C for verbatim comments).

Table 8: Improvements Would Like Park District to Make to the Parks and Facilities

What improvements would you like the Oswegoland Park District to make to the parks and facilities? (MULTIPLE RESPONSES POSSIBLE)

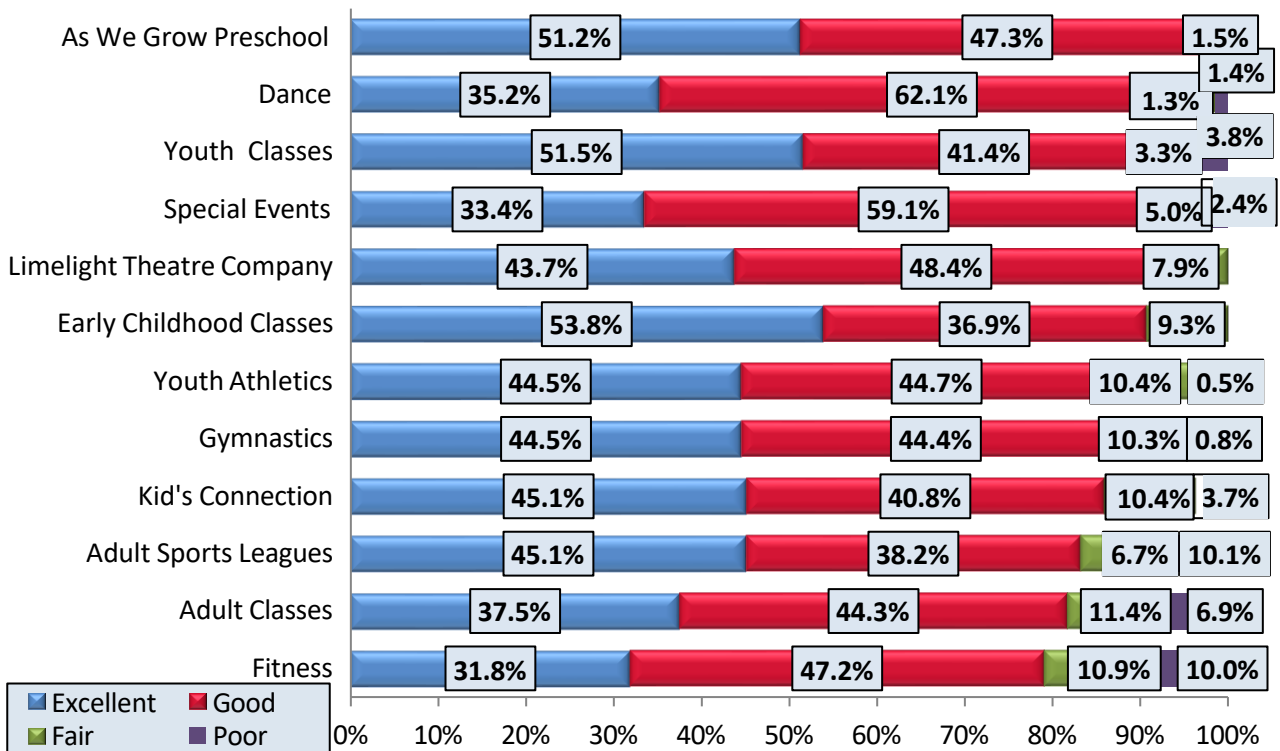
Improvement	Percent
Add/Expand Parks/Facilities/Equipment	17.6
Update/Upgrade Parks/Facilities/Equipment	16.9
Better Upkeep/Maintenance	10.8
More/Better Restrooms	6.8

Improvement	Percent
More Trees/Plants/Flowers	4.7
Make Facilities Accessible for Individuals with a Disability	2.0
More/Better Parking	2.0
Close Facilities/Parks That Have Low Use	2.0
More Benches in Parks	2.0
More Trash Cans	2.0
None	17.8
Don't Know/Unsure	4.1
Do Not Use Parks/Facilities	2.7
Other Improvements to Parks/Facilities	20.9
Add Programs	4.1
Other Comments	5.4

The majority of respondents were satisfied with the Park District programs asked about in the survey. Satisfaction was highest for the As We Grow Preschool (98.6%) and dance (97.3%). Satisfaction was lowest for fitness (79.0%), adult classes (81.8%) and the adult sport leagues (83.3%) (Figure 6).

Figure 6: Satisfaction with Park District Programs

Based on what you know about the following Oswegoland Park District programs how would you rate ...?



Demographic Differences

- 90.7% of female respondents compared with 72.0% of male respondents were satisfied with the adult sports leagues.
- 85.7% of female respondents compared with 67.5% of male respondents. were satisfied with fitness.

Those respondents who rated a program fair or poor were asked why they gave that rating.

As We Grow Preschool

A couple of respondents said it is “more like daycare” than preschool. One respondent stated that the staff was “inattentive to child.”

Dance

Respondents indicated that “dance program is good for kids but would like various dance classes for adults.”

Youth Classes

Respondents would like “more variety.” They suggested adding computer and drawing classes. They also suggested adding more classes for children 13 or older. A few respondents mentioned “the classes are expensive.”

Special Events

Respondents gave a variety of reasons for rating special events fair or poor including but not limited to being too expensive, too crowded, and not having small town feel/charm.

“Too expensive, too crowded, no local flair.”

“They have gone downhill and no longer are appealing. Downtown Oswego has lost its country charm and so have the events. Need more small-town country charm events and less booshie type. Even the Christmas program has lost its charm.”

“Lost small town feel.”

“Not enough for young adults.”

“We don’t have to keep same events every single year. Mix it up!!!”

“Would like to see Country Market expanded with more vendors and more frequent live music.”

Limelight Theatre Company

Respondent commented “the kids and director are great and enthusiastic,” but the shows are “consistently hard to hear and understand.”

Early Childhood Classes

The respondents stated that their “child did not enjoy the classes,” “it was a fair experience,” and the “level of instruction was not appropriate.”

Youth Athletics

The comments about youth athletics regarded the variety of options offered, the cost, the amount of practice time, and the coaches.

"Don't keep score, not a lot of options, expensive."

"Not a lot of guidance. Not enough practice time before first baseball game (2 weeks)."

"Not enough variety."

"Poor experience with coaching in the past."

Gymnastics

The main comments respondents had about gymnastics was that their child did not improve or was limited in how far they could progress while in the Park District program.

"My daughter did not improve with 3+ years of training but improved immensely once we left and joined a private facility."

"When my child was in the program, she didn't grow in the program like friends who were doing private studios. My child was in the program for a few years."

"My daughter used to do the gymnastic program, but we felt she was limited in how far she could progress with the park district classes. there were not enough assessments and she ended up taking the same class level repeatedly and lost interest."

Kid's Connection

Respondents mentioned there was a lack of activities, large class sizes, not enough discipline, and it was expensive.

"I had a child in the program at one time and was not impressed with the teachers. I did not find that they gave them activities to challenge them."

"Very expensive"

"The quality of programs could be better. Better management of kids and more discipline."

"When my kids attended, they were not engaged. When I would pick them up, they were playing the same one game or laying around on mats. The supervisors were not organizing anything."

"When we used it there was a lack of activities and large class sizes."

Adult Sports Leagues

Respondents commented “there is not many options/variety of sports” and “there are no leagues during the winter.”

Adult Classes

Respondents stated that there are “not many options for adult classes,” “nothing of interest,” and “times classes are offered are limited.”

Fitness

Respondents would like “more variety of classes and times offered” and a “good indoor facility with a gymnasium.”

Respondents would like the Oswegoland Park District to add a variety of programs in the future including adult/senior programs (16.5%) and festivals or events (11.2%). 7.9% of respondents indicated there are no programs they would like the Park District to add in the future (Table 9) (See Appendix C for verbatim comments).

Table 9: Programs Would Like Park District to Add in the Future

What programs would you like the Oswegoland Park District to add in the future? (MULTIPLE RESPONSES POSSIBLE)

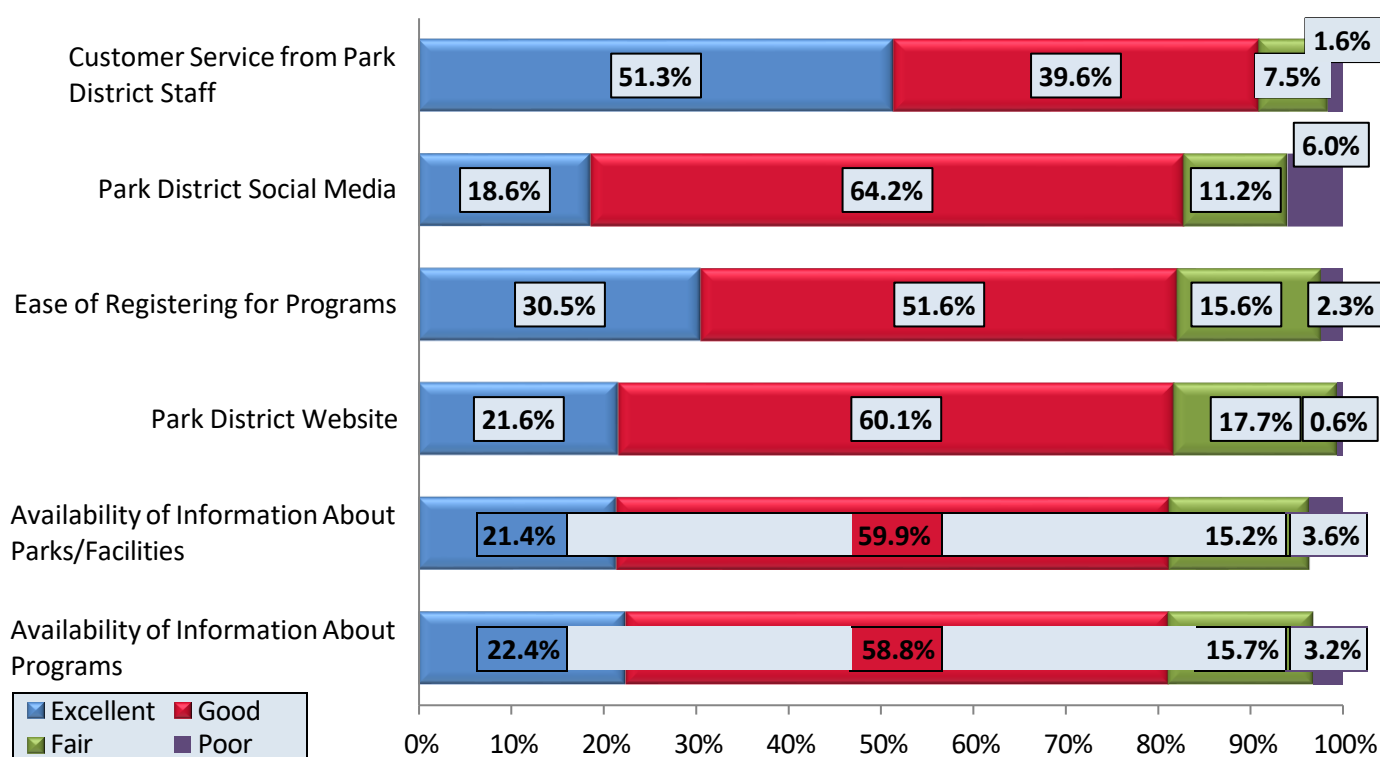
Program	Percent
Adult/Senior Programs	16.5
Festival/Events	11.2
Arts and Crafts	8.6
Fitness and Wellness	7.2
Youth Programs	7.2
Youth Athletics	5.3
Aquatics	3.9
Cooking	3.9
Adult Athletics	3.9
Teen Programs	3.3
Clubs/Groups	3.3
Dance	2.6
Leagues	2.6
Music	2.6
None	7.9
Don't Know/Unsure	13.8

Program	Percent
Other Programs	16.4
Add Facility	6.6
Other Comments	11.2

More than four-fifths of respondents were satisfied with the customer service provided by Park District staff (90.9%), the Park District social media (82.8%), the ease of registering for programs (82.1%), the Park District website (81.7%), the availability of information about parks/facilities (81.3%), and the availability of information about programs (81.2%) (Figure 7).

Figure 7: Satisfaction with Park District Customer Service, Social Media, Ease of Registering for Program, Website, and Information About Parks, Facilities, and Programs

Based on what you know about the Oswegoland Park District, how would you rate ...?



Demographic Differences

- Respondents who have no children in their household under the age of 18 (96.6%) were more likely than respondents who have children in their household under the age of 18 (79.6%) to be satisfied with the ease of registering for programs.

- Respondents less than 45 years of age (88.0%) were more likely than respondents 45 years of age or greater (69.9%) to be satisfied with the availability of information about parks and facilities.

Those respondents who rated an aspect of the Park District fair or poor were asked why they gave that rating.

Customer Service from Park District Staff

Respondents mentioned that Park District staff are not knowledgeable, not responsive, not courteous, and do not respond in a timely manner.

“Staff isn't always able to answer questions.”

“Sometimes no response, long wait time on response.”

“It would be nice if staff were more informed about details of programs. For example- giving more guidance to parents about karate level placement during registration. Also, details on Otters (time of swim meets).”

“When I expressed my frustration with Winrock being closed for open swim and the Civic Center not being open on Monday, the manager just gave me a bunch of excuses. He wasn't empathetic or apologetic.”

“They seem bothered when you ask a question. Short abrupt answers.”

“When I called to ask a question about the swim team and swim passes I left a message with someone and didn't get a call back for a month (I'd already called again by then and was finally able to get an answer).”

Park District Social Media

Respondents believe that the “Park District needs more of a presence on social media”. They stated there are “not enough posts” and “not enough information.”

Ease of Registering for Programs

Respondents provided several reasons why they rated ease of registering for programs fair or poor, including creating an account took a bit of time, website is not mobile friendly, registration is confusing, it is difficult to find programs, and system is slow.

“Creating an account was a bit long.”

“The website is not mobile friendly. An app that allows you to choose the class you want and pay with Apple Pay would be nice.”

“It is not as intuitive as it should be. It’s sometimes confusing.”

“Sometimes your system is slow and locks up.”

“When searching for a class or activity, you have to know the exact name, or it doesn't show up. You should have a filter that brings up classes similar to the one you're searching for.”

Park District Website

Respondents commented the website is “hard to navigate,” “it is difficult to find information,” “needs better organization,” and “it isn’t very mobile friendly.”

Availability of Information About Parks and Facilities

Respondents mentioned that it is difficult to find information about the parks and facilities on the Park District website because “information is buried” and they would prefer to receive information in the mail or sent by email.

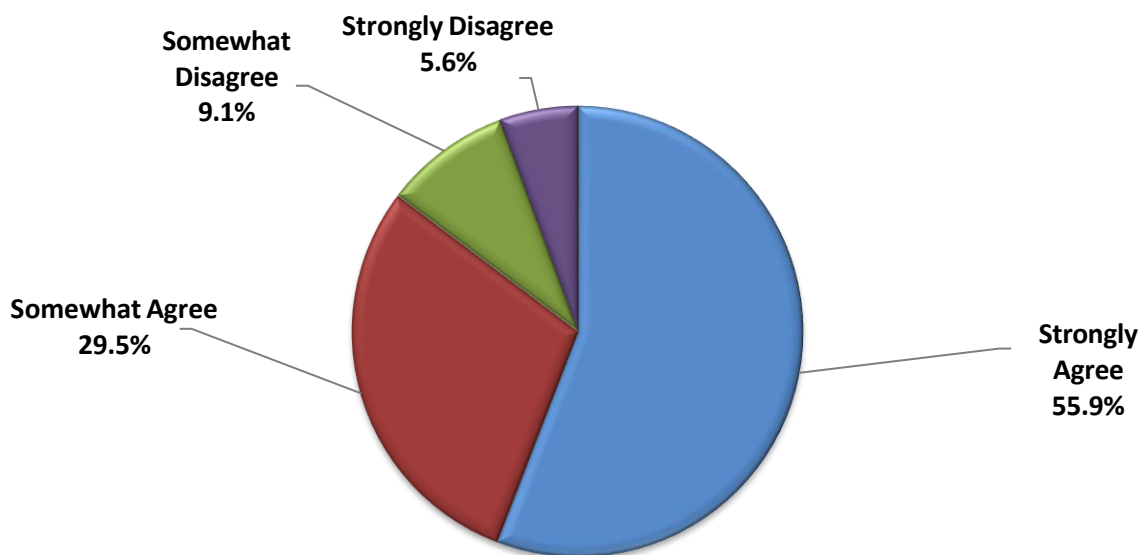
Availability of Information About Programs

Most respondents who rated the availability of information about programs fair or poor stated “it is not easy to find out what is available and where.” Several respondents said they would prefer to receive the brochure in the mail rather than search for programs online.

Most respondents (85.4%) agreed with the statement “Members of my household feel we belong at the Oswegoland Park District”, with 55.9% strongly agreeing (Figure 8).

Figure 8: Perception of Belonging at the Oswegoland Park District

To what extent do you agree with the following statement? “Members of my household feel we belong at the Oswegoland Park District.”



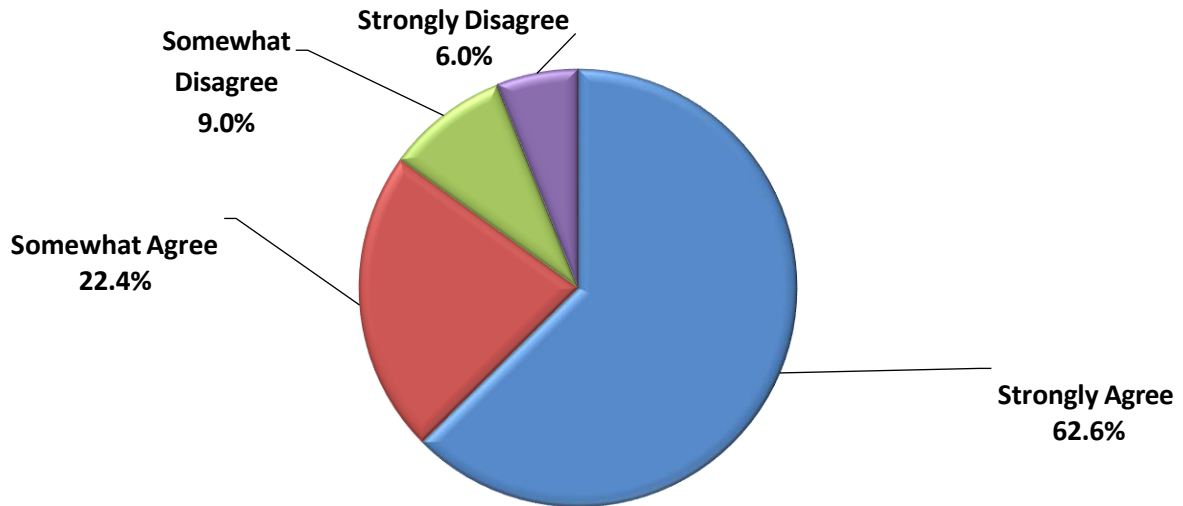
Demographic Differences

- Asian respondents (95.0%) and White respondents (90.0%) were more likely than respondents of two or more races (80.0%), Hispanic respondents (76.0%), and Black respondents (71.4%) to agree with the statement.

Of those respondents who indicated there is a member of their household who identifies with a disability, most (85.0%) agreed with the statement “The Oswegoland Park District has effectively provided accommodations”, with 62.6% strongly agreeing (Figure 9).

Figure 9: Perception Park District Effectively Provides Accommodations for Individuals with Disabilities

To what extent do you agree with the following statement? “The Oswegoland Park District has effectively provided accommodations”



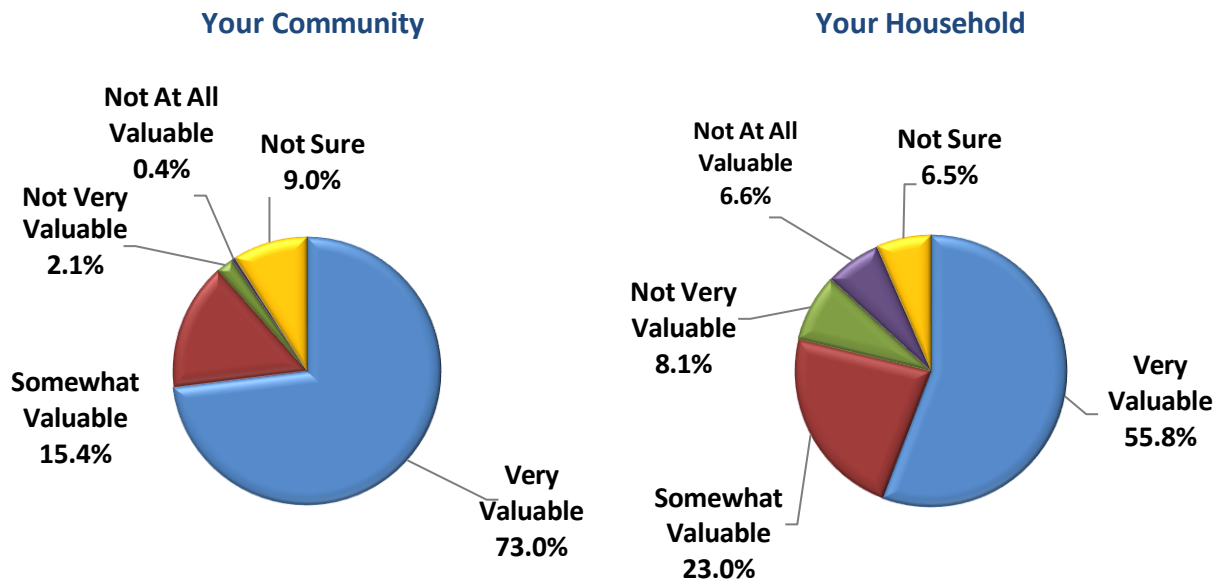
Value of the Park District

A set of questions about the value of the Oswegoland Park District was then asked. The respondents were asked about how valuable the Park District is and the benefits the Park District provides to their household and the community.

The majority (88.4%) of respondents believe the Park District is valuable to **their community**, with 73.0% indicating it is very valuable. Compared with 78.8% of respondents who think the Park District is valuable to **their household**, with 55.8% indicating it is very valuable (Figure 10).

Figure 10: Value of the Park District

How valuable is the Oswegoland Park District to ...?



Demographic Differences

Value of Park District to Community

- No significant demographic differences were found.

Value of Park District to Household

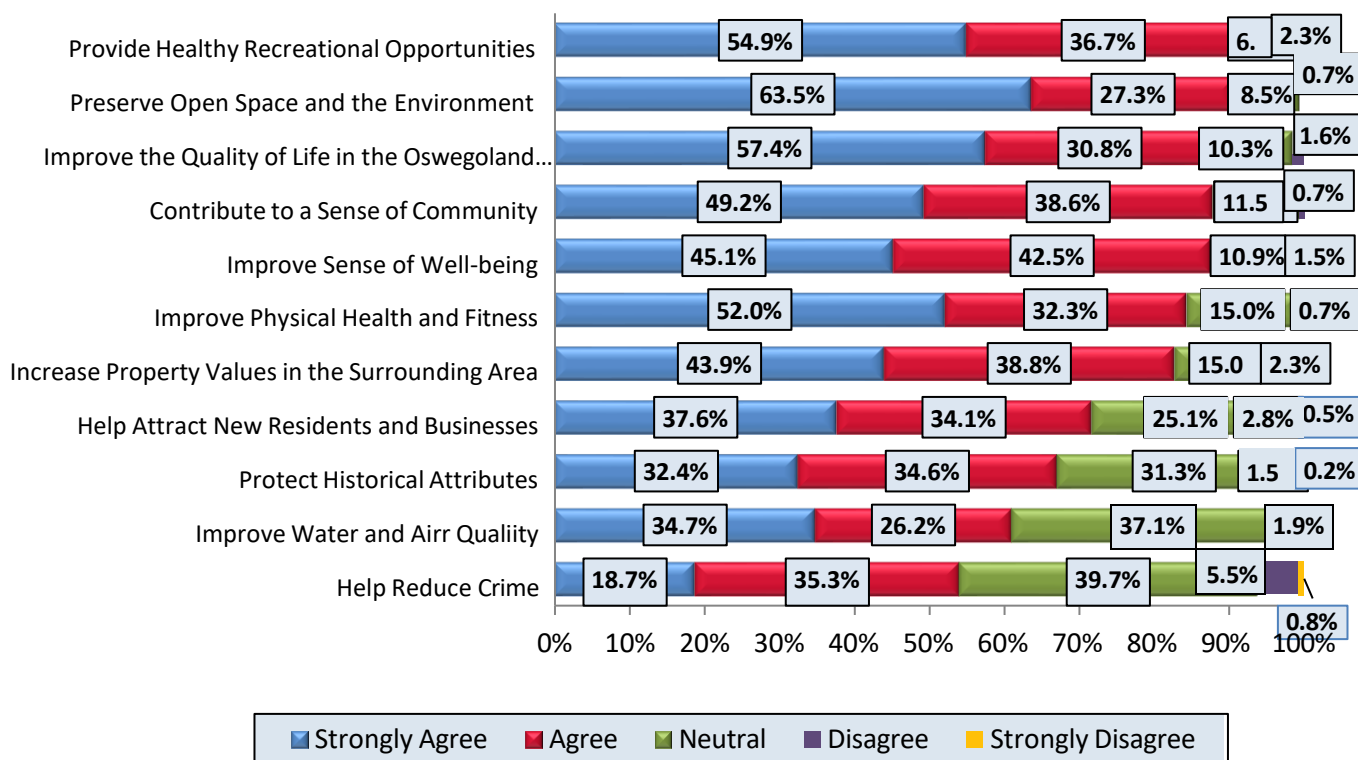
- The percentage of respondents who believe the Park District is valuable to their household decreases as age increases (88.7%, 18-34 years of age; 83.1%, 35-44 years of age; 78.4%, 45-54 years of age; 73.2%, 55-64 years of age; 67.5%, 65 years of age or greater).
- Respondents who have children in their household under the age of 18 (91.4%) were more likely than respondents who do not have children in their household under the age of 18 (74.9%) to believe the Park District is very valuable to their household.

Eleven benefits park district parks, trails, and nature areas may provide were listed and respondents were asked if they agree or disagree the Oswegoland Park District parks, trails, and nature areas provide each of the benefits.

More than nine out of ten respondents agreed that the Oswegoland Park District parks, trails, and nature area provide healthy recreational opportunities (91.6%) and preserve open space and the environment (90.8%) (Figure 11).

Figure 11: Benefits Provided by Oswegoland Park District Parks, Trails, and Nature Areas

Do you agree or disagree the Oswegoland Park District parks, trails, and nature areas provide each of the following benefits?



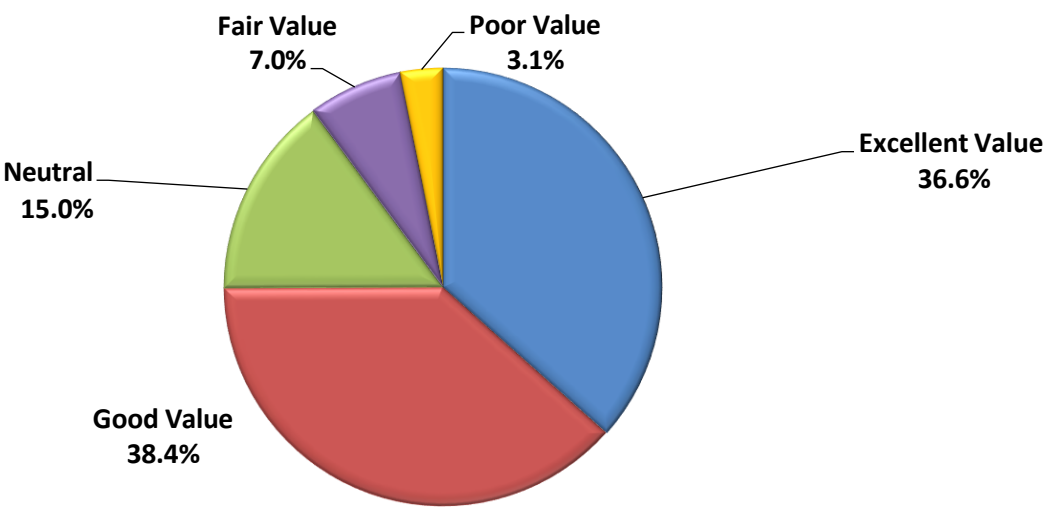
Demographic Differences

- Male respondents (90.5%) were more likely than female respondents to agree that the Oswegoland Park District parks, trails, and nature areas **improve physical health and well-being**.
- The percentage of respondents who agreed that the Oswegoland Park District parks, trails, and nature areas **increase property values in the surrounding area** decreases as age increases (96.2%, 18-34 years of age; 87.7%, 35-44 years of age; 81.1%, 45-54 years of age; 75.0%, 55-64 years of age; 68.3%, 65 years of age or greater).

Three-fourths (75.0%) of respondents believe the overall value the Park District represents, given its share of the property taxes is excellent (36.6%) or good (38.4%) (Figure 12).

Figure 12: Overall Value Park District Represents, Given Its Share of the Property Taxes

How would you rate the overall value that the Park District represents, given its share of the property taxes?



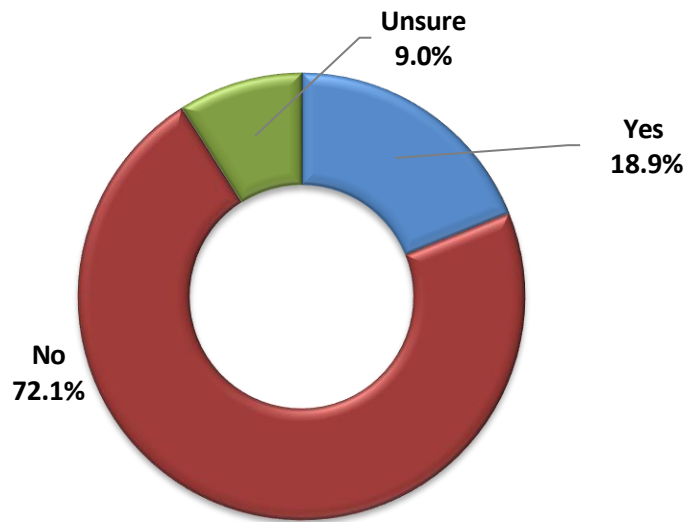
Demographic Differences

- The percentage of respondents who believe the overall value the Park District represents, given its share of the property taxes decreases as age increases (96.2%, 18-34 years of age; 81.0%, 35-44 years of age; 65.9%, 45-54 years of age; 62.1%, 55-64 years of age; 57.0%, 65 years of age or greater).

Only 18.9% of respondents were aware that the Park District offers financial assistance to eligible households (Figure 13).

Figure 13: Awareness of Financial Assistance for Eligible Households

Are you aware that the Oswegoland Park District offers financial assistance to eligible households?



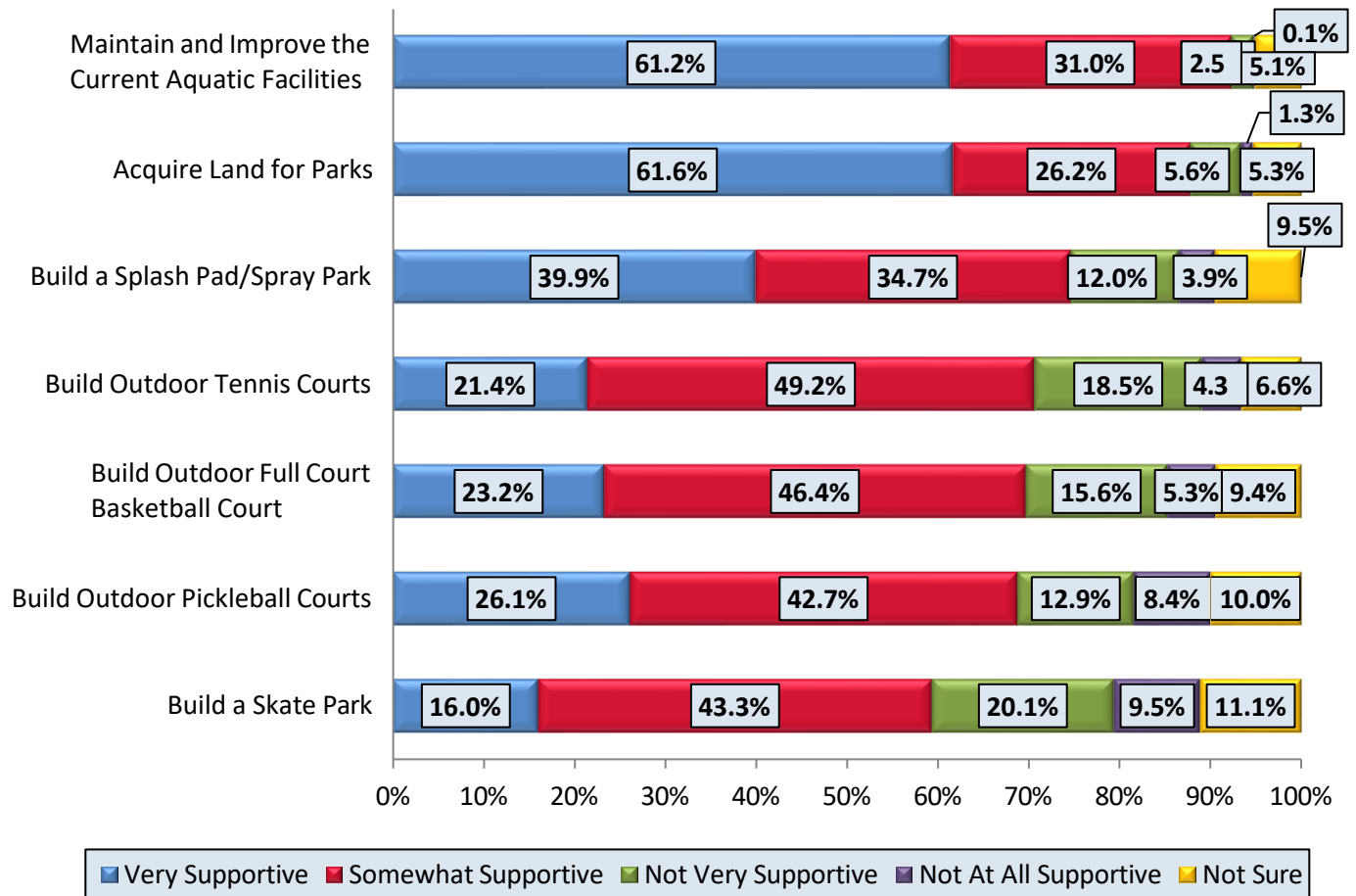
Future Direction of the Park District

Next the respondents were asked about how supportive they are of the Oswegoland Park District budgeting funds for seven initiatives.

Almost all (92.2%) of respondents state they are very or somewhat supportive of the Park District budgeting funds for maintaining and improving the current aquatic facilities. Most (87.8%) respondents said they are very or somewhat supportive of the Park District budgeting funds for acquiring land for parks (Figure 14).

Figure 14: Support for Park District Budgeting Funds

How supportive are you of the Oswegoland Park District budgeting funds to ...?



Demographic Differences

- Respondents who have children in their household under the age of 18 (87.7%) were more likely than respondents who have no children in their household under the age of 18 (62.7%) to be supportive of the Park District budgeting funds for building a splash pad/spray park.
- Respondents who have children in their household under the age of 18 (70.3%) were more likely than respondents who have no children in their household under the age of 18 (52.4%) to be supportive of the Park District budgeting funds for building a skate park.

Those respondents who indicated they were not very supportive or not at all supportive of the Park District budgeting funds for an initiative were asked why they gave that rating.

Maintain and Improve the Current Aquatic Facilities

The majority of respondents who indicated they would not be supportive of the Park District budgeting funds to maintain and improve the current aquatic facilities commented they do not use the aquatic facilities.

Acquire Land for Parks

Respondents believe there are enough parks and would prefer that funds be used to maintain the existing parks and facilities. Respondents are also concerned about increases in their taxes.

“Do we really need more parks? How about funds for better maintenance of the ones already in existence?”

“I’d rather see money spent on things we have that are not maintained.”

“I think there are enough parks.”

“I am concerned about the increased cost to the taxpayer of additional parks and facilities, particularly in light of the increased cost being charged for park district activities.”

“More land = more taxes.”

Build a Splash Pad/Spray Park

Respondents questioned whether another splash pad/spray park is necessary. Respondents also commented that a splash pad/spray park is used by a very limited proportion of residents and is used only during a short period of time during the year.

Build Outdoor Tennis Courts

Respondents questioned whether more tennis courts are necessary and stated they would not use the courts. A few respondents mentioned that the existing tennis courts are hardly used.

Build Outdoor Full Court Basketball Courts

Most respondents said their household would not use the basketball courts. Several respondents were concerned that the basketball courts may attract “a bad crowd of teens” and cause increased crime.

Build Outdoor Pickleball Courts

Respondents commented that “pickleball is just a fad.” Additionally, respondents were concerned about the noise, the increase in their taxes, and whether there was a need for more pickleball courts.

Build a Skate Park

Respondents mentioned that there is already a skate park, it may “draw a bad crowd,” and it is dangerous and cause injuries.

Information Sources About the Park District

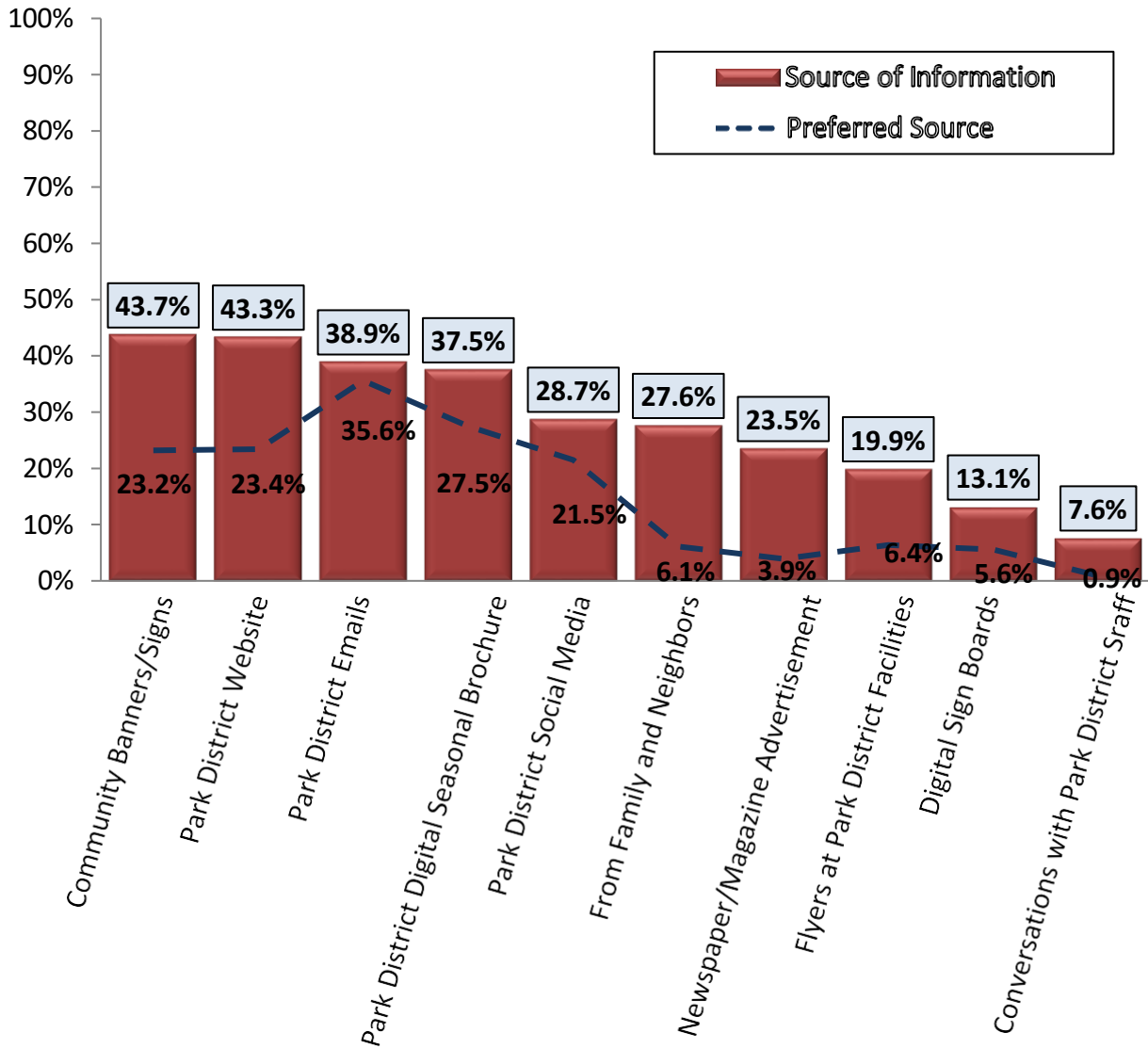
The next section of the survey was about how the respondents learn about the Oswegoland Park District, their most preferred method of learning about the Park District, and their preferred language for receiving information about the Park District.

Respondents learn about the Oswegoland Park District from a variety of information sources. More than two-fifths (43.7%) of respondents reported they learn about the Park District from the community banners/signs, with 23.2% indicating it is their preferred source. 43.3% of respondents said they learn about the Park District from the Park District website, with 23.4% indicating it is their preferred source. 38.9% of respondents state they learn about the Park District from Park District emails, with 35.6% saying it is their preferred source. 37.5% of respondents indicated they learn about the Park District from the digital seasonal brochure, with 27.5% reporting it is their preferred source. More than one-fourth (28.7%) of respondents reported they learn about the Park District social media, with 21.5% stating it is their preferred source (Figure 15).

Figure 15: Information Sources About the Park District

Which of the following ways do you or members of your household learn about the Oswegoland Park District? (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

Which two of the ways do you or members of your household most prefer to learn about Park District programs and activities?



Demographic Differences

Source of Information About the Park District

- 56.3% of respondents aged 35-44 and 45.6% of respondents 18-34 years of age indicated they learn about the Park District from the **Park District website**. The percentage of respondents who reported they learn about the Park District from the Park District website then decreases as age increases (37.8%, 45-54 years of age; 26.8%, 55-64 years of age; 17.8%, 65 years of age or greater).
- Hispanic respondents (55.4%) were more likely than White respondents (36.6%) and respondents of other races/ethnicities (23.3%) to learn about the Park District from the **Park District website**.
- Respondents with children in their household under the age of 18 (54.3%) were more likely than respondents with no children in their household under the age of 18 (29.5%) to learn about the Park District from **Park District website**.
- Respondents with children in their household under the age of 18 (56.0%) were more likely than respondents with no children in their household under the age of 18 (36.4%) to learn about the Park District from **Park District emails**.
- The percentage of respondents who learn about the Park District from the **Park District digital seasonal brochure** increases as years living in the Park District service area increases up to 29 years when the percentage of respondents decreases (21.8%, less than 5 years; 35.3%, 5-9 years; 52.3%, 10-19 years; 64.1%, 20-29 years; 46.2%, 30 years or more).
- White respondents (49.4%) were most likely than Hispanic respondents (28.6%) and respondents of other races/ethnicities (23.3%) to learn about the Park District from the **Park District digital seasonal brochure**.
- Respondents with children in their household under the age of 18 (55.2%) were more likely than respondents with no children in their household under the age of 18 (28.0%) to learn about the Park District from the **Park District digital seasonal brochure**.
- Respondents who have lived in the Park District service area 5-29 years (43.9%) were most likely to learn about the Park District from the **Park District social media**. 25.6% of respondents who have lived in the Park District service area 30 years or more learn about the Park District from the Park District social media. Respondents who have lived in the Park District service area less than 5 years (11.5%) are least likely to learn about the Park District from the Park District social media.
- Respondents less than 55 years of age (37.8%) were more likely than respondents 55 years of age or greater (17.4%) to learn about the Park District from the **Park District social media**.
- Hispanic respondents (53.6%) were more likely than respondents of other races/ethnicities (33.3%) and White respondents (26.2%) to learn about the Park District from the **Park District social media**.

- Respondents with children in their household under the age of 18 (38.8%) were more likely than respondents with no children in their household under the age of 18 (26.0%) to learn about the Park District from **friends and neighbors**.

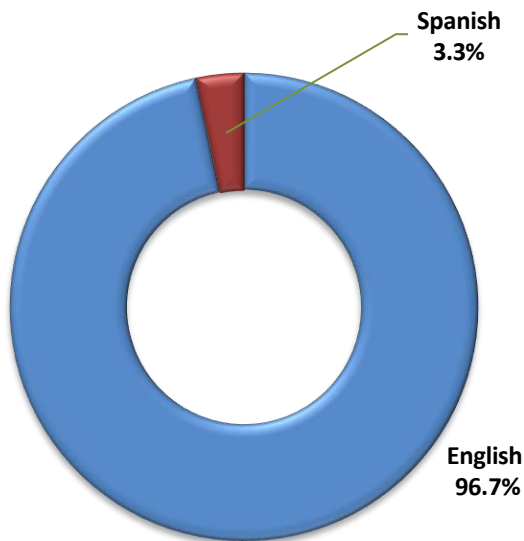
Most Preferred Source of Information About the Park District

- Respondents with children in their household under the age of 18 (37.9%) were more likely than respondents with no children in their household under the age of 18 (27.3%) to indicate their most preferred source of information about the Park District is **Park District emails**.
- The percentage of respondents who indicated their most preferred source of information about the Park District is **Park District emails** decreases as age increases (48.1%, 18-34 years of age; 31.3%, 35-44 years of age; 29.7%, 45-54 years of age, 17.8%, 55-64 years of age, 7.3%, 65 years of age or greater).

Almost all (96.7%) respondents would prefer to receive information about the Park District in English and 3.3% would prefer to receive information about the Park District in Spanish. No other languages were specified (See Figure 16).

Figure 16: Preferred Language for Receiving Information About the Park District

What is your preferred language for receiving information about the Oswegoland Park District?



16.1% of Hispanic respondents would prefer to receive information about the Park District in Spanish.

Characteristics of Respondents and Their Households

The final set of questions asked about the characteristics of the respondent and their household.

Table 10 below summarizes the characteristics of the survey respondents and their households.

Table 10: Characteristics of Respondents and Their Households

Characteristic	Percent
<u>Respondent's Gender Identity</u>	
Male	46.0
Female	52.4
Gender Non-Binary	0.0
Another Gender Identity	0.0
Prefer Not to Answer	1.6
<u>Respondent's Age</u>	
18-34	28.9
35-44	23.6
45-54	13.6
55-64	15.1
65+	16.3
Prefer Not to Answer	2.4
<u>Respondent's Race/Ethnicity</u>	
Asian	5.1
Black	2.5
Hispanic	20.5
Native American or Alaska Native	0.1
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0.0
White	65.3
Another Race	0.2
Two or More Races	4.3
Prefer Not to Answer	2.0
<u>Area Residence is Located</u>	
Oswego	74.0
Montgomery	5.7
Boulder Hill	9.7
Aurora	5.7
Plainfield	4.9
<u>Years Living in Park District Service Area</u>	
Less Than 5 Years	16.7
5-9 Years	12.9
10-19 Years	30.7
20-29 Years	19.1
30+ Years	20.6

Characteristic	Percent
<u>Rent/Own Home</u>	
Rent	7.5
Own	90.9
Other	1.6
<u>Children in Household</u>	
Yes	40.8
No	59.2

Conclusions and Recommendations

The Oswegoland Park District is doing a good job of serving residents. The respondents perceive the Park District to be valuable to their community and household. Satisfaction is high for the Park District parks, facilities, community festivals, and programs. Satisfaction with customer service provided by Park District staff is very high. The majority of respondents indicate that their household is likely to use the Park District in the next 12 months.

Awareness is high for most of the Park District parks, facilities, and community festivals especially for the PrairieFest, Civic Center Aquatic Park, Civic Center, and Fox Bend Golf Course.

The majority of respondents use the Oswegoland Park District for the recreational activities asked about in the survey with the exception of adult sports leagues, adult classes, and fitness. Additionally, for those three recreational activities a large proportion of respondents indicated their needs are not being met by any organization. The Park District should consider adding more adult sport leagues and adult classes. Additionally, the Park District should consider studying the feasibility of building a fitness center/gym.

There is less of a feeling of belonging at the Park District among Hispanic respondents, Black respondents, and respondents of 2 or more races. The Park District should explore ways of increasing the feeling of belonging among these groups.

The cost of programs and pool passes is mentioned as a factor that deters use of the Park District. Only a small proportion of respondents are aware that financial assistance is available to eligible households. The Park District should consider ways of reducing the cost of programs and pool passes and better publicizing the available financial assistance.

The Park District should continue using a variety of methods to communicate with residents. New residents to the Oswegoland area are less likely to be aware of the parks, facilities, and community festivals. The Park District should develop methods to communicate with new residents about what the Park District offers.

The respondents comment they would like the Park District to better maintain and update the current parks and facilities. The respondents think the Park District should budget funds to maintain and improve the current aquatic facilities and acquire land for parks. The Park District should consider budgeting funds to maintain and update the current parks and facilities especially the aquatic facilities and to acquire land for parks.

Appendix A: Questionnaire



OSWEGOLAND PARK DISTRICT COMMUNITY SURVEY

The Oswegoland Park District is interested in residents' opinions of the Park District facilities, programs, and services and residents' recreation needs. This information will be used to plan for the future.

I. Overall Opinion of the Oswegoland Park District

1. Please rate your overall opinion of the Oswegoland Park District.

Completely Dislike					Neutral					Highest Regard
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

2. What is your favorite thing about the Park District?

3. What is your least favorite thing about the Park District?

II. Use of the Oswegoland Park District

4. During the next 12 months, how likely or unlikely are you or anyone in your household to use the Oswegoland Park District facilities, programs, or services?

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Very likely | <input type="radio"/> Somewhat unlikely |
| <input type="radio"/> Somewhat likely | <input type="radio"/> Very unlikely |

5A. Are you aware of each of the following Oswegoland Park District parks, facilities, and community festivals?

5B. During the past 12 months, have you or other household members visited or attended each of the following parks, facilities, and community festivals?

5C. Based on what you know about the following Oswegoland Park District parks, facilities, and community festivals how would you rate each?

ANSWER 5B & C ONLY IF YOU INDICATED IN QUESTION 5A YOU ARE AWARE OF THE PARK, FACILITY, OR COMMUNITY FESTIVAL.

	A. Aware	B. Visited/Attended	C. Rating				
	Yes, aware of park/facility/community festival	Yes, visited/attended park/facility/community festival in past 12 months	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Don't Know
a. Boulder Point	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Civic Center	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. Civic Center Aquatic Park	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. Fox Bend Golf Course	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. Little White School Museum	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f. South Point Center	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
g. Winrock Pool	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
h. Community Park at Grande Park	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
i. Hudson Crossing Park	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
j. Prairie Point Community Park	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
k. Saw Wee Kee Park	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
l. PrairieFest	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

5D. If you rated one or more of the above parks, facilities, or community festivals fair or poor, please tell us why you gave this rating. Please include the name of the park or facility in your response.

6. Please indicate which organizations you or members of your household have used during the past 12 months for each of the following recreational activities (both indoors and outdoors).
(CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

		Organizations						
	Oswegoland Park District	Another park district	Your school district	A private facility or organization in the town where you live	A private facility or organization outside the town where you live	Another organization	Needs are not currently being met by any organization	Does not apply
a. Early childhood classes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Preschool	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. Before and After School Care	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. Fitness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. Adult sports leagues	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f. Youth athletics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
g. Golf	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
h. Gymnastics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
i. Dance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
j. Theatre	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
k. Special events	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
l. Youth classes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
m. Adult classes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

7. Please share any reasons that deter you or your household from using Oswegoland Park District parks, facilities, or programs.

8a. Currently, the Oswegoland Park District offers three water amenities: the splash pad at Prairie Point Park, and the Civic Center Aquatic Park and Winrock Pool in the Boulder Hill neighborhood. Where do you participate in your summer water activities?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Oswegoland Park District | <input type="radio"/> A private facility outside your town |
| <input type="radio"/> Another park district | <input type="radio"/> Somewhere else |
| <input type="radio"/> Your backyard | <input type="radio"/> Needs are not currently being met |
| <input type="radio"/> Homeowners association pool | <input type="radio"/> Does not apply |
| <input type="radio"/> A private facility in your town | |

8b. If you do not use the Oswegoland Park District for summer water activities, please explain why not?

9. In the future, what would increase your household's use of the parks, facilities, or programs?

II. Satisfaction With the Oswegoland Park District

10. Based on what you know about the Oswegoland Park District parks and facilities, how would you rate...? **IF FAIR OR POOR, please tell us why you gave this rating and indicate which specific parks/facilities.**

Rating						Reason for Rating
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Don't Know	Why do you give this rating?
a. The cleanliness of parks/facilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
b. The appearance of parks/facilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
c. The maintenance of parks/facilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

11. What improvements would you like the Oswegoland Park District to make to the parks and facilities?

12. Based on what you know about the following Oswegoland Park District programs, how would you rate...? **IF FAIR OR POOR**, please tell us why you gave this rating.

Rating						Reason for Rating
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Don't Know	Why do you give this rating?
a. Early childhood classes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	_____ _____ _____
b. As We Grow Preschool	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	_____ _____ _____
c. Kid's Connection	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	_____ _____ _____
d. Fitness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	_____ _____ _____
e. Adult Sports Leagues	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	_____ _____ _____
f. Youth athletics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	_____ _____ _____
g. Gymnastics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	_____ _____ _____
h. Dance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	_____ _____ _____
i. Limelight Theatre Company	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	_____ _____ _____
j. Special events	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	_____ _____ _____
k. Youth classes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	_____ _____ _____

Rating						Reason for Rating
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Don't Know	Why do you give this rating?
1. Adult classes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

13. What programs would you like the Oswegoland Park District to add in the future?

14. Based on what you know about the Oswegoland Park District, how would you rate...? **IF FAIR OR POOR, please tell us why you gave this rating.**

Rating						Reason for Rating
	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Don't Know	Why do you give this rating?
a. The Park District website	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<hr/> <hr/>
b. Ease of registering for programs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<hr/> <hr/>
c. Availability of information about Park District parks and facilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<hr/> <hr/>
d. Availability of information about Park District programs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<hr/> <hr/>
e. Customer service from Park District staff	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<hr/> <hr/>
f. The Park District social media (Facebook, Instagram)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<hr/> <hr/>

15. Belonging describes the feeling of being welcomed, included, accepted, or valued as part of a group. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement:

"Members of my household feel we belong at the Oswegoland Park District."

- ☐ Strongly agree
 ☐ Somewhat disagree
 ☐ Don't know
☐ Somewhat agree
 ☐ Strongly disagree

16. If you or a member of your household is an individual who identifies with a disability, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement:

"The Oswegoland Park District has effectively provided accommodations."

- ☐ Strongly agree
 ☐ Somewhat agree
 ☐ agree

- ☐ Somewhat disagree
- ☐ Strongly disagree
- ☐ Don't know
- ☐ Does not apply

IV. Value of the Oswegoland Park District

17a. How valuable is the Oswegoland Park District **to your community**?

- ☐ Very valuable
 ☐ Not at all valuable
☐ Somewhat valuable
 ☐ Not sure
☐ Not very valuable

17b. How valuable is the Oswegoland Park District **to your household**?

- ☐ Very valuable
 ☐ Not at all valuable
☐ Somewhat valuable
 ☐ Not sure
☐ Not very valuable

18. The following are some benefits park district parks, trails, and nature areas may provide to you and your household and the community. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree the Oswegoland Park District parks, trails, and nature areas provide each of these benefits.

Agree or Disagree					
	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
a. Improve physical health and fitness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Help reduce crime	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. Improve the quality of life in the Oswegoland community	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. Preserve open space and the environment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. Increase property values in the surrounding area	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f. Improve water and air quality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
g. Contribute to a sense of community	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
h. Help attract new residents and businesses	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
i. Protect historical attributes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
j. Provide healthy recreational opportunities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
k. Improved sense of well-being	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
l. Other (PLEASE SPECIFY) _____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

19. Which **TWO** of the benefits in Question 18 are most important to you and your household? Indicate the letters of the benefits from Question 18 below.

- 1st: _____
 2nd: _____
 ☐ None

20. Approximately 5% of your property taxes goes to the Oswegoland Park District. Thinking about the programs, parks, facilities, and services that the Park District provides, please rate the overall value that the Park District represents, given its share of the property taxes.

- ☐ Excellent value
 ☐ Fair value
☐ Good value
 ☐ Poor value
☐ Neutral

21. The Oswegoland Park District believes that recreational opportunities should be available to all. Are you aware that the Oswegoland Park District offers financial assistance to eligible households?

- ☐ Yes
 ☐ No
 ☐ Unsure

V. Future Direction of the Oswegoland Park District

22. How supportive are you of the Oswegoland Park District budgeting funds to...? **IF NOT VERY SUPPORTIVE OR NOT AT ALL SUPPORTIVE**, please tell us why you gave this rating.

	Rating					Reason for Rating
	Very Supportive	Somewhat Supportive	Not Very Supportive	Not At All Supportive	Not Sure	Why do you give this rating?
a. Build outdoor full court basketball courts	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	_____
b. Build outdoor tennis courts	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	_____
c. Build outdoor pickleball courts	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	_____
d. Build a skate park	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	_____
e. Build a splash pad/spray park	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	_____
f. Maintain and improve the current aquatic facilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	_____
g. Acquire land for parks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	_____

VI. Information Sources About the Oswegoland Park District

23. Which of the following ways do you or members of your household learn about the Oswegoland Park District? **(CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)**

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> (a) Community Banners/Signs | <input type="radio"/> (f) Park District Emails |
| <input type="radio"/> (b) Conversations with Park District Staff | <input type="radio"/> (g) Park District Digital Seasonal Brochure |
| <input type="radio"/> (c) Flyers at Park District Facilities | <input type="radio"/> (h) Park District Digital Sign Boards |
| <input type="radio"/> (d) From Friends and Neighbors | <input type="radio"/> (i) Park District Website |
| <input type="radio"/> (e) Newspaper/Magazine Advertisements | <input type="radio"/> (j) Social Media
Which ones? _____ |
| | <input type="radio"/> (k) Other (PLEASE SPECIFY)
_____ |

24. Which **TWO** of the ways in Question 23 do you or members of your household **MOST PREFER** to learn about Park District programs and activities? Indicate the letters in parentheses of the items from Question 23 below.

1st: _____
2nd: _____

☐ None

25. What is your preferred language for receiving information about the Oswegoland Park District?

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| <input type="radio"/> English | <input type="radio"/> Other (PLEASE SPECIFY)
_____ |
| <input type="radio"/> Spanish | |

VII. Demographics

Finally, we would like to know about you and your household. The Oswegoland Park District works to provide services to everyone in the community, and all the information in this section will help us make sure our data is representative of people living in the service area.

26. In which area do you live?

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Oswego | <input type="radio"/> Aurora |
| <input type="radio"/> Montgomery | <input type="radio"/> Plainfield |
| <input type="radio"/> Boulder Hill | |

27. How long have you lived within the Oswegoland Park District's boundaries?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Less than 5 years | <input type="radio"/> Female |
| <input type="radio"/> 5-9 years | <input type="radio"/> Gender non-binary |
| <input type="radio"/> 10-19 years | |

28. Are you...?

- ☐ Male

- ☐ 20-29 years
- ☐ 30 years or more

- ☐ Another
gender
identity,
not listed
here
- ☐ Prefer not to answer

29. What is your age?

- ☐ 18-34
- ☐ 35-44
- ☐ 45-54

- ☐ 55-64
- ☐ 65+
- ☐ Prefer not to answer

30. Are you...? (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

- ☐ Asian
- ☐ Black
- ☐ Hispanic or Latino
- ☐ Native American or Alaska Native
- ☐ Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander

- ☐ White
- ☐ Another race (PLEASE SPECIFY) _____
- ☐ Prefer not to answer

31. Do you rent or own your home?

- ☐ Rent
- ☐ Own
- ☐ Other (PLEASE SPECIFY) _____

32. Please indicate how many people in your household are in each of the following age groups and the total number of people in your household. **PLEASE INCLUDE EVERYONE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD, INCLUDING YOURSELF.**

Less than 1 year of age	_____
Aged 1-4	_____
Aged 5-12	_____
Aged 13-17	_____
Aged 18-34	_____
Aged 35-44	_____
Aged 45-54	_____
Aged 55-64	_____
Aged 65 and greater	_____
Total number of people in household	_____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION. PLEASE RETURN YOUR COMPLETED SURVEY IN THE POSTAGE-PAID ENVELOPE TO THE CENTER FOR GOVERNMENTAL STUDIES, 1425 W LINCOLN HWY, DEKALB, IL 60115.

Appendix B: Survey Materials



May 2023

Dear Oswegoland Park District Resident,

We would like to hear from you!

The Oswegoland Park District has commissioned the Center for Governmental Studies at Northern Illinois University to conduct a survey of residents. The Oswegoland Park District is interested in residents' opinions of the Park District facilities, programs, and services and residents' recreation needs. This information collected will help plan for the future.

Your household is one of a limited number of households that has been randomly selected to participate, so your responses to the survey are very important to us. We want to hear from residents from across the Oswegoland Park District's service area, so even if you do not use Park District facilities, programs, or services, we still want to hear your opinions.

Your responses will be confidential. All information you provide will be reported in summary form only, so your answers will be added to the responses of others and will not be shared individually.

Please return the completed survey in the enclosed postage-paid envelope to the Center for Governmental Studies at Northern Illinois University or complete the survey online at:

<https://www.research.net/r/OswegolandParkDistrictSurvey1>

To access the online survey, you will need to enter your 5-digit identification number located in the top right-hand corner of this letter.

On average, the survey takes about 10 minutes, although it may be longer or shorter depending on your answers. Please complete the survey before June 20, 2023.

If you have any questions about this survey, please email Mindy Schneiderman at the Center for Governmental Studies at Northern Illinois University at schneiderman@niu.edu.

Thank you for your participation.

Sincerely,

Sandy Smith *Dannielle Wilson* *Robert S. Lyons* *David Behrens* *John Wise*

The Oswegoland Park Board of Commissioners

- **FROM:**schneiderman@niu.edu
- **DATE:**Saturday, April 5, 2023
- **SUBJECT:**Oswegoland Park District Community Survey-Encuesta Comunitaria del Distrito de Parques de Oswegoland



Oswegoland Park District Community Survey-Encuesta Comunitaria del Distrito de Parques de Oswegoland

Dear [FirstName] [LastName],
Estimado residente del Distrito de Parques de Oswegoland,

We would like to hear from you!
¡Nos gustaría saber de usted!

The Oswegoland Park District has commissioned the Center for Governmental Studies at Northern Illinois University to conduct a survey of residents. The Oswegoland Park District is interested in residents' opinions of the Park District facilities, programs, and services and residents' recreation needs. This information collected will help plan for the future.

El Distrito de Parques de Oswegoland ha encargado al Centro de Estudios Gubernamentales de la Universidad del Norte de Illinois que realice una encuesta a los residentes. El Distrito de Parques de Oswegoland está interesado en conocer las opiniones de los residentes sobre las instalaciones, los programas y los servicios del Distrito de Parques, así como las necesidades de recreación de sus residentes. La información recopilada será de utilidad para planes futuros.

We want to hear from residents from across the Oswegoland Park District's service area, so even if you do not use Park District facilities, programs, or services, we still want to hear your opinions.

Queremos escuchar a los residentes de toda el área de servicio del Distrito de Parques de Oswegoland, por lo que, incluso si no se beneficia de las instalaciones, los programas o los servicios del Distrito de Parques, aún queremos conocer sus opiniones.

All information you provide will be reported in summary form only, so your answers will be added to the responses of others and will not be shared individually.

Toda la información proporcionada se presentará solo en forma de resumen, por lo que sus respuestas se sumarán a las respuestas de los demás y no se compartirán de manera individual

To complete the survey please click the "Begin Survey" button but below.

Para completar la encuesta, haga clic en el botón "Comenzar encuesta", pero a continuación.

If you have any questions about this survey, please email Mindy Schneiderman at the Center for Governmental Studies at Northern Illinois University at schneiderman@niu.edu.

Si tiene alguna pregunta sobre la encuesta, envíe un correo electrónico a Mindy Schneiderman del Centro de Estudios Gubernamentales de la Universidad del Norte de Illinois a schneiderman@niu.edu.

Thank you for your participation.
Gracias por su participación.

Sincerely,
Atentamente,

The Oswegoland Park Board of Commissioners
La Junta de Comisionados de Parques de Oswegoland

[Begin Survey](#)

Please do not forward this email as its survey link is unique to you.
[Privacy](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)

Reminder Call Script

Telephone answering machine message

Hi, I'm calling from Northern Illinois University. We are conducting a survey to find out about residents' opinions of the OswegolandPark District facilities, programs, and services and residents' recreation needs.

To share your opinions, please take a few minutes to complete the online survey at:

<https://www.research.net/r/OswegolandParkDistrictSurvey1>

On the first page of the survey, please enter the following 5-digit code: (ID NUMBER).

Thanks for your time and have a great (day/evening)!

If Person Answers the Telephone

Hi, I'm calling from Northern Illinois University.

I'll only take a minute of your time today/tonight.

We are conducting a survey to find out about residents' opinions of the OswegolandPark District facilities, programs, and services and residents' recreation needs.

If you'd like to take the survey online, you can go to:

<https://www.research.net/r/OswegolandParkDistrictSurvey1>

On the first page of the survey, please enter the following 5-digit code: (ID NUMBER).

Additionally, we could text or email you the survey link, or send a paper copy of the survey in the mail.

Would you like us to do that?

INTERVIEWER NOTE: IF YES, CONFIRM TELEPHONE NUMBER OR COLLECT EMAIL OR MAILING ADDRESS

Thanks for your time today! Have a great (day/evening)!

Appendix C: Verbatim Comments

Note: Numbers in parentheses are the number of respondents who gave the response.

What is your favorite thing about the Park District?

Parks

All of the parks

Beauty of the parks

Decent amount of good parks

I like all of the park space that is available in Oswego.

Maintenance of Prairie Point Park

Many different parks

Many parks

Nice parks

Number of parks

Overall quality of the parks

Parks are well maintained.

Parks are by the river for a more natural setting.

Parks, Phillip's Park

Prairie Point Park

Quality of parks

Saw Wee Kee Park and other similar parks with unpaved trails.

The beauty of the parks (2)

The neighborhood parks and specifically the Veterans Memorial Park

The parks, especially Prairie Point, walking up the hill. Grant Park.

The park on the Fox River.

The parks (3)

The parks all over the community.

The parks are plentiful and fantastically maintained.

The quality of your parks.

There are lots of parks.

There seems to be many parks.

They do a great job maintaining the parks.

They do a pretty good job keeping up the parks.

Veterans Park

Variety/Number/Type of Programs/Events

Activities

Activities offered.

Decent amount of programs

Good variety of activities

Great variety of classes

I have lived here less than a year. However, when I look at the course offerings, they seem to have a broad range.

It offers a large variety of classes including competitive gymnastics which is not offered at many other park districts.

Large variety of programs and events for everyone!

Like the various programs and events offered.

Lots of activities offered.

Lots of different activities

Options of activities

Programs for all ages

So much variety

The amount of activities

The diverse options for entertainment and fun for families.

The diverse sports that are available.

The variety of activities for all ages.

The variety of activities offered.

The variety of activities that you put on for the community.

The variety of programming across age groups.

The variety of programs being offered for little kids through seniors.

The wide variety of programs offered.

There is a great variety of things for kids and adults to do.

There is a wide variety of things for everyone.

They have a good variety of programs and activities.

They have a lot of activities and other programs to do.

They offer a lot of activities ranging from babies to teens and even adults.

They offer so much for families.

They seem to have a lot of offerings.

They seem to offer a lot of different options.

Types of classes

Variety and mix of adult and children's activities.

Variety of activities.

Variety of adult classes offered.

Variety of options and activities available

Variety of programs

Variety of programs offered.

Variety of programs/sports/activities/events

Wide variety of programs

Walking and Bike Trails/Paths

Bike paths (2)

Bike trails (2)

Fox River Trail

Fox River Trail from Hudson Crossing to Violet Patch

I like the bike trails.

I love the bike paths and how well maintained they are kept.

Maintains trails in winter.

Paths

The amount of trails

The Fox River Trail

The numerous walking trails.

The provided bike paths are a delight.

The trails

The walk paths.

They maintain the path by my house well.

Trails (3)

Upkeep of paths

Walking paths (4)

Walking/biking paths

Walking/running trail options.

Programs/Activities for Children

Beginner programs for kids

Children's programs

Classes for kids

Convenience for before and after school care.

Dance program and sports activities for children

Good variety of programs for kids.

Kids sports

Kids sports programs were always good when our kids were young.

Lots of activities for children

Lots of opportunities. Especially when my kids were little-swim lessons, sports, arts.

Lots of programs for kids

Number of options for the kids to try and participate in

Plenty of programs for the kids

Preschool

Preschool teachers

Programs for children.

The activity options for really little ones!

The programs offered. We have participated in dance, dance company, robotics, karate, gymnastics, Kid's Connection, soccer, gobbler hobbler, holiday railway, and swimming lessons.

The sports programs for our children

The summer camp program, the fact that they work with Fox Valley Special Recreation so special needs kids can attend but also have additional support if needed.

Variety of classes for my kids

Variety of programs for young children

Wide variety of kids sports/activities

Young kid sports

Youth sports

Aquatic Facilities

Aquatic facilities

It used to be the swimming pool in the summer, it was very family oriented. Now they have let the rowdy kids take over and the kitchen isn't open.

Love the splash park because it's great for my grandchildren. It's close. And it's free fun.

Outdoor pools

Pool (3)

Pools

Pools (6)

Splash pad (2)

Swim lessons

Swimming pools

The Civic Center Pool.

The pool (2)

The pools in the summer

The Splash pad is great!

Water park

Quality of Classes/Programming

All the different classes

Class size and quality of instructors

Classes offered.

Exercise classes

Fitness classes

Good programming

Good programs offered.

Great programming

Pilates fitness classes

Quality of programs offered.

Some good programming

When I took classes, the instructor was energetic.

Workout classes

Yoga class on Thursdays in Little White School House

Yoga classes for adults

Park District Staff

April Booras and Linda Hamilton fitness instructors

Every encounter I've had with a Park District employee has been great. This includes, but is not limited to, the maintenance team, supervisors, Brew at the Bridge, and those individuals I've spoken with at the Civic Center.

Friendliness of staff (2)

Great staff

Gymnastics coaches are great.

Helpfulness of staff

How friendly and helpful the staff is.

Staff

The employees and staff are very friendly and helpful.

The friendliness of the staff

The staff

The staff is always friendly and helpful.

The teachers were so kind and great!

Events

Beer & Wine Festival

Events

Events for adults

Fun events all year long

Lots of events

PrairieFest (2)

PrairieFest and all the other fun summer fests

Special activities like train with Santa

The different community activities they host.

The events

The races-trail run and 5K's.

The special events like PrairieFest and the Farmers Market

Well Maintained/Clean

Clean parks

Cleanliness

Facilities are clean.

From my experience, our local parks are very well maintained. Paved pathways and sidewalks are promptly replaced or repaired, playground equipment and grounds are well kept, and grassy areas for recreation are frequently mowed. The Park District is always on top of things.

Generally, always clean

Good maintenance

How clean everything is.

It's clean.

Keeping areas near river neat

Maintenance is timely.

Parks and facilities are always clean.

Upkeep of natural areas

Natural Areas/Open Spaces

Forest preserve areas

It has obtained a lot of land that is in its natural state.

Nature areas

Open land

Open spaces

Ponds (2)

The amount of natural areas

The wetlands

Playgrounds/Parks for Children

Parks for kids

Playgrounds (3)

Playgrounds and parks for kids to play in

The numerous playgrounds.

The playgrounds (2)

Golf Course

Fox Bend Golf Course and driving range.

Golf

Golf course (2)

Affordable Programs

Affordable programs

Cost of classes

Programs reasonably priced

The cost-effective price

Nothing

Nothing (2)

Don't Use Park District

Don't go.

Don't use (2)

Don't use it anymore, but liked Date Night and birthday party options.

I don't attend the Park District.

I don't use anything the Park District offers.

I have never used any park in the district.

I have not been to a class since the beginning of the pandemic.

I haven't been.

I've been meaning to take advantage of the parks and programs provided by the Park District but haven't had a chance yet.

I've not used the district yet to have a favorite.

Never been there.

Never had any interaction with them.

Never use it.

Never used.

New resident (under 1 year) so haven't had much exposure to the Park District.

No experience with them

We don't use the Park District.

Don't Know

Don't know (3)

I have no idea.

Not sure-I don't know a lot about it.

Nothing comes to mind.

Unsure

Other

Access to fun things to do year-round.

Accessible

All of the community opportunities

Baseball diamond

Beauty

Being able to coach

Benches, shade, good for kids and seniors

Civic Center

Close facilities

Communication

Community Gardens

Community oriented

Community spirit

Dance company

Disc golf

Dog Park

Ease of registration

Facilities are located in many communities.

Frisbee golf park

Great for young children

Has a small-town sense of community.

I like having a Park District in my area that families can use.

Limelight Theatre Company

Location

New Boulder Point facility

Nice athletic fields

Number and variety of spaces

Number of locations

Park space made available to community residents in general. We have many spaces set aside for a variety of interests and athletic pursuits for our youngsters. Entertainment areas designated for people of all ages. It helps build community involvement.

Pickleball courts

Pickleball

Riverfront's activities

Skate park

Some flexibility when it comes to registering.

Stay behind the nature to quietly take care of all Oswego has to offer.

Tennis and basketball courts

The offerings make our community better!

The positive, inclusive vibe

They look after the community and the kids and the bike paths, parks. etc.

They worked with a local garden club to install a pollinator garden.

Walking my dog

Walking quietly, enjoying nature.

When my children were younger (they are in their 20's now) they participated in many of the youth sports, and we were very happy with everything. We also bought pool passes every year.

What is your least favorite thing about the Park District?

Cost

Activities and classes have become far too expensive for what they provide.

Cost (4)

Cost for classes

Cost of fitness classes.

Expensive programs

For a grandparent that is raising 3 grandchildren the fees seem high and it's hard to afford it.

How expensive the swim team and summer swim passes are.

It's nudging towards pricy.

Prices of classes/activities

Pricing

Pricing is always a problem.

Renting shelters is too expensive.

Sometimes the pricing is not very good.

The cost

The fees we have to pay to use a park for a party. We are already paying taxes and should be able to use the parks for free.

Too expensive for passes. There should be senior discounts for the passes.

Too expensive when our tax dollars should have already paid for it.

Wish there was a bigger discount than \$10 for signing up early for pool or if they could have a discount if you sign up multiple members.

Upkeep/Maintenance of Facilities/Parks

Allowing the invasive growth to take over the Prairieview marsh.

Broken things at skate park

Buildings could use updating.

Condition of running/walking trails

Condition of some bike paths

Could be a little cleaner.

Could keep up with trash pickup at some of the parks

Maintenance is sometimes shoddy.

Maintenance of some bike trails

Needing better upkeep

Not replacing trees that have been removed in Grande Park. Specifically, between the schools and Anfield Windermere and Ridge. Also not maintaining pond levels and algae.

Not responding to the parks for the community, when they have been overlooked for maintenance or a good cleaning!

On the few occasions I have used facilities I've noted problems with facilities - wooden benches need refinishing, restrooms need far better maintenance, etc.

Pond shoreline maintenance

Randomly removed goals at parks need replacing.

Some of the ball fields are in poor condition. Especially the baseball fields.

The maintenance of parking lots and containment of weeds.

Upkeep of the park spaces (litter/dog waste)-more of an eyesore than it seems useful at this point).

Weeds growing on the edges of ponds. Sitting on a bench and seeing mostly tall weeds.

While the playgrounds have been updated for the kids (thank you!) - in general the overall upkeep of things to keep it nice looking for our community (including the skate park by Thompson Jr. High).

Lack of a Fitness Center/Gym

Lack of a community center (indoor basketball/volleyball courts, exercise center, pool).

Lack of fitness center

Lack of fitness facilities

No fitness center.

No gym

No gym or health club

No workout center.

That they don't have an indoor track to walk on.

There is no community gym. We lost the YMCA. Definitely need an affordable gym!!

There's not a big sportsplex with swimming pool, basketball courts, ice skating, etc.

We wish they had a cushioned walking track. We would certainly use it all winter.

Aquatic Facilities

Aquatics do not even compare to those at Fox Valley Park District.

Need another swimming pool

No indoor pool (2)

Not enough pools for the size of our community. Would love to have a pool to join, but the Civic Center and Winrock are so overly crowded. It's not fun anymore.

Our pools!

The pool areas are not sprayed for mosquitoes in the summer.

They don't have a nice swimming pool.

With the increasing population Civic Center Pool is not sufficient for the community.

Amount of Taxes Too High (

Cost to taxpayers is high.

High tax cost

High taxes

Quite expensive tax entity

Tax level

Taxes

Taxes too high

The rate of taxes

Facilities/Parks Need to be Updated

Facilities needed updating.

Old, run down, outdated.

Small, aging facilities while our community and population is growing so fast

Some facilities need updating.

Some of the facilities are old and outdated.

The Park District baseball diamonds excluding the new Prairie Point facility are an embarrassment. The baseball back stops are the same ones my kids played on back in the 1990's. Now my grandkids are playing on the same fields and the backstops are all rusted. We go to other towns' baseball fields and they are new and nicely maintained. Oswego gives a bad image with your very old facilities.

The. parks are feeling worn and need updating.

Wish the Civic Center Pool could be updated with additional activities or updated slides. More shade.

Availability of Classes

Availability of classes

Availability of classes and events

Gymnastics fill up very quickly.

How fast programs book

How quickly some activities fill up.

Some classes fill up in 10 minutes.

The inability to register for high-traffic programs like youth soccer.

When a program is full

Lack of Programs for Preteens/Teens

I'm having trouble finding things for my 13-year old's non-sports, non-theatre interests

Most things offered are geared toward young kids and older folks. Need more things for teens or young adults maybe and some more LGBTQIA+ inclusive events maybe,

Not enough activities for the 11-13 age group.

Not enough sports for preteen

The amount of baseball options for older kids (11+) throughout the summer. There are many options for the younger kids (T-Ball) as well as options in June. We need more non-club options in July and August.

The number of programs available to older teens

Very few activities for kids once they get into high school.

Not Enough Adult/Senior Programs

As a senior citizen, I'm not aware of any activities for this age group.

Not enough adult programs. Nothing for crafting or learning. Fitness based. Other park districts offer various classes like painting or crocheting or ceramics. Stuff that I'd be interested in.

Not enough things for older adults (45-65).

Not much for older (retired) people

Offer more adult opportunities.

Somewhat lack programs for older adults.

Very limited adult sports

Lack of Communication

Communication

Communication for swimming teams and lessons is very challenging. It is hard to get response back via phone or email. Also, staff seem uniformed about details, and everything is filtered through Carly.

Finding information

Lack of readily accessible information about what and where things are available.

Not always being informed on upcoming events

Sometimes disorganized when it comes to communication.

Lack of a Community Center

Does not have a community center or indoor facility for winter activities.

It would be great to have a community center!

Need a bigger indoor resource for community i.e., Fox Valley Community Center.

There is not a civic center.

Wish there was a bigger building for activities.

Nothing

Can't really complain.

I don't have any strong complaints.

None (8)

Nothing (6)

Nothing at this time.

Nothing currently.

Nothing that I can think of.

Don't Use Park District

Do not use.

Do not use the Park District.

Don't go.

Don't use.

Haven't been.

I don't use anything the Park District offers.

I don't use often enough to comment.

I have never used any park in the district.

I've not used the district yet to have a least favorite.

Never had any interaction with them.

Never used.

New resident (under 1 year) so haven't had much exposure to the Park District.

No Opinion/Not Applicable

N/A (12)

No opinion (2)

Don't Know

Don't have enough experience with the Park District to really answer this question.

Don't know.

I can't think of one.

I don't know.

Not sure

Nothing comes to mind.

Other

A lot of the toddler/parent activities only cater to stay at home parents, excluding a large portion of parents that work.

Classes offered were short term. would have preferred to have a yearly or quarterly option.

Contention between cars and users of Fox River trail along North Adams Street in Oswego

Crowded pools

Did not like that the aquatic center closed early last year.

Dog park

Dog park has no shade. People there do not pay attention to their dogs, and do not pick up after them.

Facilities are often crowded.

Fox Bend Golf Course

Having to fill out a form every year.

Highly disagree with taping off the playgrounds during COVID. Grandchildren in town from Texas were super disappointed. Fresh air is wholesome as is exercise. Using common sense in this situation would have been the thing to do.

I don't find much of interest for me now.

I think our Park District on the whole is excellent. I would like to see it participate in Silver Sneakers for seniors. I think many seniors would feel more comfortable attending park district exercise classes than gyms.

I wish we could sign up for longer adult classes. For example, I take a yoga class through the Park District and it's only 4-6 weeks at a time. I wish I could sign up for months at a time.

I would like them to do more for people with special needs.

If I had to say one thing it's this: I wish there were more trees along the fox river trail. Segments of that trail are much nicer farther north.

Inappropriate spending

Instructors/coaches are not always the most knowledgeable.

It is a smaller district.

It's been years since I've looked through a program guide. I would be very interested in aqua fitness programs (aqua Zumba).

It's not a safe place anymore.

I've tried to volunteer in the Community Gardens but have not had luck hearing back.

Lack of better facilities.

lack of pickleball courts (2}

Lack of portable toilets

Lack of shade trees and water fountains

Lack of trees in large parks

Lack of walking paths documentation

Lacking facilities for the residents.

Limited parking

Locations are far from home.

Longer seasons for grade school children.

Movies in the park

Music venues

Need referees in soccer.

No bathrooms or latrines at most of them

No bike trails.

No easy access to Community Gardens. Needs a parking area closer to gardens so we can easily transport our equipment.

No girl's softball

No ice rink

No outdoor movies in our area. Only in Aurora.

No park benches or not enough park benches under shade.

No Park District pools or water facilities on the south side of town.

No pickleball courts - outdoor or indoor!

No special needs programs or events

Noise

Not a wide variety of options for choices

Not being able to fish

Not completing walking path at Hunt Club.

Not enough choices

Not enough events

Not enough places to go fishing.

Not enough public facilities. The park closest to me does not count as having a public bathroom. I do encourage my children to use the bathroom at home before we head out to the park, but in case of an emergency, there isn't a bathroom to use.

Not enough weekend/evening options for kid's classes

Not keeping score in basketball and kids aren't free on Sundays after 4pm at Fox Bend. The Superintendent there will keep me from going back until he is replaced.

Not many new options of activities or events

Our garbage can for throwing away dog poop was taken and never returned. We called and inquired as to why and were told it would be investigated. We still have no garbage can. In the summer months, having bags of dog poop in my garage is unpleasant. Please bring the garbage cans back.

People walking paths with unleashed dogs.

Permits for kayaks.

Politics

Programs were cancelled often due to low enrollment.

Recreation in the park is meant for kids. Adult fitness stations along the paths would add many benefits.

Scheduling programs

Sometimes programs overlap and it makes it hard to participate in more than one program. For example- Otters and Dance Company conflicts. Spring recital rehearsal and recital conflicts with Otters Team photos and the Intrasquad meet.

Sometimes they forget to make sure the drains are clean and the bubblers in our Augusta Lake are working.

That the pool allows totally inappropriate thong swimsuits.

That they don't do periodic adult swims for 10 or 15 minutes throughout the day.

That you don't have any water exercise classes

The Boulder Point location.

The focus on classes. I want more opportunities for the city to be more ecologically minded.

The inadequate parking for the pickleball court on Briarcliff! It's very dangerous on Briarcliff every day! I've witnessed numerous times, cars pulling out from River Bend to make a right turn onto Briarcliff and have near head on collision with cars that are leaving from their pickleball play. Possibly some parking slots could be created on Red Fox!!

The lack of parking

The lack of participation from some parents regarding coaching

The late times for little one's activities. Events at 6/6:30 are too late for my almost 3year old whose bedtime is 7pm.

The new pickleball court you put in at the Civic Center. Terrible playing surface.

The unavailability of lighted game fields other than softball/baseball. Lights at Prairie Fest or Prairie Point for soccer would cause no additional light issues.

The unavailability of some facilities. Specific example Winrock Pool. Our tax dollars paid for the remodel and it's seldom open to the community.

The water fountain water is very gritty.

The website

The website. Signups for events can be a headache. As an example, my son is 3 years old. There have been times where I wasn't allowed to sign up for the Friday night (winter) events at nearby gyms, because 3 and under are free, however, have to pay at the door because I was told either, "you didn't sign up, so walk-ins are \$," or, "every walk in must pay." Quite irritating because the site wouldn't allow me to sign up/register (thereby showing his age). On a similar note, some summer events (age requirements), would not allow me to sign up my son, despite him hitting the age requirement by the time the event started (versus the day registration opens). As an example, T-ball: I couldn't sign up my son when he was 2yrs old (late winter/early spring, or whenever registration opens...May?), for the T-ball event (minimum age of 3), when it started in June, when he would've hit the age requirement.

There seems to be some political favoritism.

There's not much to do.

They do not return your messages or calls. Tried to have a meeting with them with no luck. Just get the runaround

We need an entrance to the park from the southwest side.

We need more public tennis courts.

Website on phone

When you don't open all the pools to public use (some only for competitions in the last couple of years).

Would love to see many more vendors at the summer market and have it longer also.

What reasons deter you or your household from using the Oswegoland Park District parks, facilities, or programs?

Cost

Cost (5)

Cost plays a factor. My husband lost his job, so we have not been able sign up and pay for classes for our son.

Costs for the Park District in Oswego are typically more expensive than others. When you have more than 1 child costs add up and it is very costly, so we look for activities that are affordable.

It is expensive.

New here. Getting settled in new house/garden, so really haven't committed to trying activities—yet. I belong to the YMCA in Plainfield, so I exercise there. Although the Park District has a nice offering of yoga classes, and I'd like to take one closer to home (than the Plainfield YMCA)—I don't really want to pay a fee, in-addition to my YMCA membership.

Prices (3)

Prices are high for limited availability.

Some of the program costs are out of our budget.

Sometimes cost deters us. Just don't have the extra money to take classes now.

The cost

The cost of programs has risen, and the value provided (e.g. cost per class period) has dropped.

They want to do several things, due to cost can't do it.

When the pool passes increased in price, and the decision was made to use Winrock only for swim lessons, we stopped buying the family pass.

Children Are Grown/Do Not Have Children/Do Not Have Young Children

Age of kids

Children are grown and no longer need classes.

Children have grown up and left home

Don't have kids.

Have no young children.

I don't have young children.

I have no children living with me and am 77 years old.

I used the Park District a lot when my kids were small, and with my grandchild but they recently moved away.

Kids are getting older, and activities are predominantly child focused

Kids are older.

My kids are older. We used it more when they were younger.

No children in household

Nothing, just need to be age appropriate. Older my kids get, less we use some facilities.

Our family dynamic is changing; our kids are now in college, and we don't use the Park District's programming... though we did tons while our kids were growing up.

Our kids have grown and moved out of state with most of our grandchildren. The grands that still live in the area are in other towns and use those park districts.

We don't have any kids in our household.

We no longer have young children in the house.

We used the Park District when our kids were young. We did a lot with swimming lessons and sports like T-ball, and flag football. Not now, our boys are grown, and two of them have special needs, so we do a lot with the FVSRA. I plan to take a pickleball class because now I have a little bit of time to myself.

Lack of Time/Too Busy

Busy with other activities, 3 kids in High School/Middle (school very active in athletics).

Currently, time constraints within household.

Don't have enough time.

I peruse the mailings from time to time but overall don't take action to use the offerings due to either lack of time or not making the time to follow through to do so.

I work and don't have a lot of extra time.

It's really a lack of time to participate in local activities or programs, but we do enjoy our local Oswegoland Park District parks and we're grateful for how well maintained everything is.

Lack of time (2)

Lack of time/commitment

No time (2)

Not enough time (2)

Time only. We use them often, between the Civic Center aquatic center and the community parks.

We're out of town a lot and very busy with family and older grandchildren.

Work schedule

Work, time constraints

Limited Program Offerings/Lack of Specific Programs

Activities are not offered/available.

Don't offer some summer leagues for soccer or more competitive baseball at younger age.

I don't see many opportunities for senior exercise classes.

I use them whenever possible, there are some things like indoor sports (soccer/flag football/boys gymnastics) that we have had to look elsewhere for.

I will always choose our park district first if it's offered! As our kids get older and need more advanced sports teams, we have moved to other groups/facilities.

Lack of activities after middle school.

Lack of options (more options in other cities)

Lack of programming for adults other than fitness

Lacking art programs

Limited choices

Not enough options for fitness

Not enough options for intermediate /advanced athletes.

Not enough services provided that I need as a heart patient. Cardio Program, Water Aerobics, etc.

Sometimes programs are not offered at our park district or other organizations have better options.

The only thing that really deters us is the lack of older kid sports during July and August.

They don't offer much.

Wish there were more fitness classes offered. Also, would really like to have a fitness center.

Time Classes Are Offered

Adult fitness classes don't fit in my schedule.

Class days/times

Just timing

Lack of times available that coordinate with our schedule.

Not convenient times

Probably just conflicts with our schedules

Specifically exercise classes taken need to accommodate my schedule.

The times don't fit our schedule.

They are offered too late at night for my young kids.

Time classes offered.

Time scheduled.

Times classes offered do not fit my schedule.

Times offered for classes don't fit my schedule.

Times that work for me as a working adult

Timing

Timing of programs offered.

Quality of Parks, Facilities, or Programs

Don't have coaches that are very good at coaching for example baseball (although I know they are volunteers).

Higher quality of programs in other areas, or variety. We go to Paramount for our theater needs, or downtown Chicago, and my husband enjoys golfing at a variety of courses around the area. I run many of the races that the Park District puts on, but also run races in other locations. So really, we go elsewhere just for variety.

I would use the pool area, but it is not anywhere near as nice as Phillips Park or any other water park in the area.

Lack of skilled instructors for youth sports at times.

Mainly our poorly outdated swim facility at Civic Center

Parks are not always kept up to date or clean, better instruction at private facilities/organizations.

Sometimes the quality of the program

The buildings need to be updated.

There are better choices with professional staff instead of high school teens.

Youth theatre program quality elsewhere is what makes us go outside of Oswego.

Programs Offered Are Not of Interest

Activities do not interest me.

Classes I'm interested in for my age.

Most programs are not of interest to me.

No programs that we are interested in.

Nothing compelling to me.

Offerings not of interest.

Programs not enticing for teens.

There hasn't been anything we are interested in doing.

There is not a lot that interests me.

They don't offer what we are interested in.

Lack of Information About Programs

Don't know about them.

Don't know about many of the offerings.

Don't know them and don't know that I would use them if I did know them.

I don't receive the flyer in the mail anymore, and I don't have the time to click through the website.

I never got a catalog this year. I do use Hudson Park for walking along the river and attending Wine on the Fox.

I truly have had no clue about them I've never seen any advertising for it so these are things I will hopefully see more often.

Lack of communication of classes

Unaware

We have lived here for two years and I'm completely unfamiliar with the Park District offerings.

Age/Health Issues

Age

Elderly

I am older and do not enjoy being around children and teenagers, especially since COVID-19 began.

My health

My husband is ill, retirees.

Trouble walking

We are seniors and don't go to a lot of things. I do take my dog on walks though Winrock Park and pick up trash. My granddaughter loves to go there and play.

We are two seniors, we only use the walking path very relaxing, and we enjoy it.

We have used some services that we find applicable. But age and physical agility have been a deterrent.

No Interest/Need

Do not need.

Lack of interest (2)

No need

No need for anything which is offered.

No need. Gym at home. Pool at subdivision.

Not currently interested.

Availability of Program/Programs Full

Availability of classes (2)

Availability of yoga classes

Classes are full.

Programs like Kid's Connection fill up way too fast due to high demand.

The only reason that deters us from being able to participate in programs is when they fill up.

Location of Facilities

Aurora is closer to where we live.

Does not have facilities in the south end of town.

Facilities are farther than the in-town organizations. We've kind of grown out of the Park District.

Have used some in the past, but they're too far from where I live. I live in Kendall County in far southeast Aurora. Started going to Oswego Senior Center for exercise and other programs.

Location of facilities

Some of the facilities are too far out of the way.

Lack of Fitness Center/Gym

Need a workout facility under Park District. Fox Valley facility is an example.

Needed a full use gym.

No work out facilities for adults. If they exist it's unknown. I participate with facilities that are not part of the Park District. I am a former Schaumburg resident and the park district had multiple workout facilities, indoor swimming pools and other activities for children and adults of all ages.

There are not enough indoor fitness facilities for adults/teens-for example exercise equipment/indoor basketball and other sports. There seems to be a need for a YMCA that the Park District could fill (Like the Eola Center).

There is no sports/ athletics center which holds football and wrestling camps so have to neighboring towns like Yorkville and Aurora.

None

I can't think of a reason.

No reason

No reason-different offerings at different facilities

None (12)

None, I use them all the time.

Nothing (3)

Nothing comes to mind.

Nothing specific. Our family just finds things that interest us and can fit in our schedule.

There are no reasons.

Other

Pools always look so packed when visiting parks that I hesitate to consider buying a pass.

Access to the swimming lesson pool

Allowing inappropriate thong swimsuits at your pools.

Convenience

Don't always want to drive

Facility doesn't have available room for events. Now I can look into some of the others since I know there's more.

Have tried some fitness classes but the last one was not as advertised, and teacher did not adjust for the age and or ability of participants.

I belong to the Healthplex.

I don't want to attend classes because of COVID. I don't need exercise classes to exercise.

I keep forgetting to see what the Park District offers.

I would like more native habitats or environmental preservation programs.

It doesn't allow us to enroll in classes or activities that start at a future date if my child doesn't currently match the age. For example, she was 18 months in March, it wouldn't allow me to enroll in a class that didn't start until April when registration opened because she was 18

months yet... even though she would be 19 months in April. Big deterrent and I just went somewhere else.

I've been meaning to go to the Civic Center pool for lap swim but I'm not sure about where to sign up and what hours are best for that (less crowded).

Lack of parking for aged people

Limited parking in some cases, poor sanitation, avoid due to lack of COVID mitigation measures.

Mosquitos

Need more hiking paths.

Registration dates are not clear on the website for large sports such as soccer.

Reluctant to do soccer again without referees.

Sometimes a lack of sense of community

Son not into sports yet

Special needs child

The dog park is not free! Need more dog parks.

The only encumbrance I've encountered was the inability to sign up for event due to age restrictions, as previously outlined in an earlier portion of this survey.

The pool usually gets overcrowded and there isn't much to do besides that for the parks or water parks.

The pools are way too crowded to be able to enjoy them. I'd rather drive to Naperville centennial beach park because it's less crowded.

We are interested in programs that are specific for adults not involving kids at this moment.

We are just drawn more to the Aurora and Naperville parks and downtown areas. There's a lot more to do in those areas too. But we still enjoy days in Oswego as well.

We go outside Oswego for youth indoor swim lessons and horseback riding. I prefer Whitetail Ridge for golf over Fox Bend.

We utilize the sports programs until competition does not meet our children's standards.

We would likely need to make use of the special recreation services but those are somewhat limited in Oswego.

You're spending less money on recreational renovations and more on policing and restrictions.

Why don't you use the Oswegoland Park District for summer water activities?

Use Neighborhood/Homeowner Association/Apartment Pool

Association pool is 2 minutes from our house.

Because I pay an association fee where I live so I use those pools.

Churchill pool

Easier to use community pool.

Homeowners Association pool (2)

I have my own Homeowner Association pool

Live in Churchill Club and have access to the pool there.

The subdivision pool is a block from our house and included in Homeowner Association fee.

Using the pool in my apartment building is more convenient.

We have a community pool in our neighborhood.

We have one in our subdivision that I don't want to pay more for another facility.

We use both our Homeowner Association pool and Winrock (for Otters). Our kids have outgrown the splash pad, and since we have the neighborhood pool, we don't want to spend the extra money to go elsewhere.

We use our neighborhood pool, although we wish it had a slide.

We use the association pool at Southbury.

We use the Oswego splash pad and our neighborhood pool.

We use the splash pads but have a neighborhood pool.

We usually do a couple times a year, but we have a Homeowner Association pool.

Have Own Pool

Have a pool at home but go to Civic Center on occasion.

Have my own pool (6)

I have an in-ground pool.

We did have passes for the pool for several years when our kids were younger; now we have our own backyard pool.

We do sometimes but we have our own in-ground pool.

We have a pool in our backyard (2)

We have a pool. When our boys were little, we would go to the Civic Center Aquatic Park a couple of times a summer.

We have our own pool, so it's not crowded.

Too Crowded

As the community has grown, these water activities areas have become very crowded.

Civic Center is crowded.

Crowds (2)

Every time I am on site after work for another class it is packed with kids, or the slow time is during my work hours.

I use it for swim lessons, but it usually gets too crowded.

Too crowded (2)

Winrock is too crowded and so is the Civic Center.

Use Another Park District's Pool

Aurora has better options.

For the same price or cheaper, I could go to Phillips Park or splash country so much better.

Fox Valley Park District has a bigger pool with more attractions.

Kids prefer Fox Valley Park District pools, and we are considered residents there too

We are normally at Fox Valley water park facilities.

We do use the splash pad at Prairie Point Community Park from time to time throughout the summer for our kids, but we are more comfortable using the privacy of our backyard or a commercial water park like Otter Cove in St. Charles for family water recreation.

We like Philips Park pool. It's clean and closer.

We live closer to Naperville than Oswego so the closest splash pad to us is Wolfs Crossing Community Park.

Not Aware of Park District Water Amenities

Did not know about Winrock Pool

I didn't know about them.

Never knew about it.

No idea where Winrock Pool is located.

Not sure how to join.

Use Prairie Point splash pad only. Did not know about others.

Not Interested/No Need/No Time

I am a senior and do not enjoy public water parks or pools.

No need

No need to

Not huge of water activities anymore

Not interested (2)

Use Friend's/Relative's/Neighbor's Pool

Go to a friend's house.

I have in the past, just have a friend with a pool now.

Neighbors have pools.

Sometimes we swim at my mom's pool, sometimes we go to Civic Center

We use our neighbor's pool.

We use the splash pad and sometimes the Civic Center pool, but my parents have a pool, so we go there most of the time.

Children Are Grown/No Children/Children Too Young

I don't have children.

My kids are older and living in different states. I usually go to where they live for water activities.

My kids are too small to watch alone.

They are more for younger families. My kids are older.

We used to when the kids were younger.

Cost

Cost (2)

The cost. As a resident I pay taxes and still pay full price to use the pools. Residents should get a discount.

Too expensive

Children Are Unruly/Unsupervised

Kids are too disruptive/splashing/wild.

Kids are not monitored/behaving badly.

Pool is just unruly, unsupervised 12-year-olds. It is no longer any fun.

Too many unsupervised children

Use a Commercial Water Park

Got to the water park in Yorkville.

Like the water park in Yorkville

Raging Waves offers a pool pass for a similar cost and has more to offer.

We go to Raging Waves

Go to a Lake

Have a vacation home on a lake.

Typically, on weekends we would travel to a lake for water activities.

We go to our family's home with a lake in Michigan.

We're at a lake in Northern Wisconsin.

Park District Water Amenities Are Not Close to Home

Not necessarily close to home

The pools are not close to our area.

There are no facilities on the south end of town.

Not Clean

Dirty facilities

Not as clean as I might like.

Other Water Parks Offer More Activities

Doesn't offer as many water activities as other parks.

More activities available at another water park

Other

Avoid travel time.

Before the pandemic we did swim lessons at the Civic Center once a week and then moved to Bear Paddle because lessons were cancelled to weather often. My kids thrived at Bear Paddle once a week and their skills grew much quicker. Now that we are back to lessons again one of my children wanted to do Otters and we were exploring information about lessons offered 4 days a week. Lessons went quickly, communication with staff was challenging when it came to details. Summer school goes to 11:45 so lessons were limited to choose from (12-12:30 was the only option.) Lessons filled up fast and there was very little communication about wait lists.

Convivence

Do not use public pools.

Don't go to pools locally anymore. We go on vacation instead.

During the week my work prevents me, and on the weekend, I usually visiting my relatives.

First responders and health care workers don't get discounts and I do at other places.

Getting too big for splash pad. Haven't yet taken him to Civic Center.

I can't because my son injured his foot

I don't want to be out in the sun as it can cause skin cancer problems.

I go overseas in the summer when I was younger my family went to the Civic Center Aquatic Park a lot in the summer.

I prefer just to be at home.

It's not meeting my needs anymore with all the break outs that's going on, it's not safe.

It's run down, too small and outdated compared to other neighboring park districts! I pay \$13K a year in taxes, and the new pool (Winrock) is basically for the swim team leaving everyone to crowd into the Civic Center pool. Ridiculous! Last time we went there it was shoulder to shoulder, chairs are too few and most broken, the pool floor has sharp points and my kid cut his foot. Better facilities outside of Oswego, and still only 15 min away. Take your lead from Phillips Park!

Membership with other facility that has extended hours for lap swim.

Our kids' friends don't go to them.

The hours are not that convenient.

The splash pad is too small for our kids.

Too hard to leave the house with my kids.

Use Healthplex

We belong to the Aurora Country Club.

We visit the park district pools 1 time a year.

We couldn't get passes, for the 2023 summer we were able to get passes.

In the future, what would increase your household's use of the parks, facilities, or programs?

Lower Prices

Cheaper prices

Cheaper rates

Decrease in cost.

Decrease in prices.

I would love to if the pricing worked for my family.

If they lowered the price of the pool.

Lower cost (3)

Lower prices

Lower the costs for residents and stop charging us to rent a spot at a park for our family, we are already paying taxes for it.

Make it affordable.

More affordable season passes. The price for a summer water park season pass is high for what you get compared to a commercial or private water park.

Price maybe

Add Aquatic Facility

A lazy river

A pool closer to residence

Additional pool towards Prairie Point area. I would join in a heartbeat.

An indoor pool for year-round swim classes or swim team

Indoor pool (3)

Indoor swimming pool. Not a water park but a pool with diving boards.

Indoor swimming

Something closer to south Oswego. That way our friends can get together. A pool facility near there would be great!

Splash pads in more parks.

Water park for grandkids

Would like to see an indoor pool that old folks could use.

Would love an adult only pool

More Adult/Older Adult Programs

A full range of activities/classes for seniors which accepts residents with Silver Sneakers memberships.

Adult activities other than fitness and sports

Adult programming

Available classes for older adults. At a reasonable price

fitness, fitness punch card plans to be able to choose different classes, Pilates, art classes like painting and drawing for adults, dance classes for adults other than ballroom-different styles like salsa, club, polka.

I think we use it an adequate amount. But it would be nice if there were more leisure activities for adults. Board game get together.

I would like adult oil painting classes.

More adult programs

More older adult programs

More programs available at older ages, so that will increase my household's use.

More senior activities

Programs that are designed for senior interests and publicity, so seniors are aware of them.

Senior walking club-late morning or afternoon; monthly food truck senior lunches at a scenic park; senior trips, both local and road trips

More Class Options Offered

Additional interesting options

More art options.

More class options.

More gymnastics classes.

More offerings for yoga classes

More options (3)

More selection

More teen options

More things for teens

More variety and times of fitness classes.

More yoga options.

Improved Aquatic Facilities/Improved Aquatic Facilities' Hours/Add Adult Swim/Other Improvements to Aquatic Facilities

Better water park

Expanding the water parks would be nice.

Increase in times available for calm adult pool use.

Maybe updating the civic center pool.

Not allowing inappropriate thong swimsuits at the pool

Open up both pools with longer hours.

Opening Winrock Pool for other swimming needs would be very nice -- we are adults with no kids, and love the pool, but the Civic Center gets crowded and Winrock is more our vibe.

Pool being open more than two and half months of the year.

Pool time for adults only (advertise this if it exists)

Swimming lesson pool open to the public.

Water aerobics water exercising what time in the morning or afternoon where it's just adult swim.

Winrock pool's hours are too short.

Wish Winrock had more hours open. Otherwise, I enjoy the parks.

Fitness Center/Gym

A workout facility! And not in Montgomery or Boulder Hill. A nice workout facility with gym equipment and classes. A workout facility in Oswego.

An indoor track and workout facility.

Athletic center

Fitness center

Gym facility (working out)

Gym in centralized location with basketball. YMCA type.

If there was a Oswegoland Park District indoor facility that had indoor soccer and flag football all year round I would have my kids using that facility all year round.

Indoor fitness/Indoor sports (basketball and tennis/pickle ball courts)

Open a community gym like we had at the YMCA. Oswego needs this badly!!!

Would be great if our community offered a facility that was similar to the Vaughan Center in Aurora.

More Time Available for Recreation

If we had more time and my son would show more interest.

Maybe if I had more time.

More time

More time and money

Not so busy

Our family's ability to make time for recreation is the largest factor. We also need to become more familiar with the offerings.

Probably if I were more interested or had more time.

Retirement-will have more time available.

Time only, the park district is giving all the options necessary at a very fair price.

Better Communication by Park District

Better/more advertising of the services available

I'm not sure, maybe you if you sent mailings. Maybe an app. Would be easier. Just inundated with mail sometimes it gets lost.

It would help if information on the website was structured a little more clearly. For example, for the Civic Center Aquatic Park there are different prices and times listed in different areas of the page. It makes it harder to understand.

Knowing more about what's available and when.

More information

Pamphlet sent out with all the available activities and hours for different locations to help inform people that are new to the area.

Updates

Changing Times Programs Are Offered

Earlier times for evening classes

Fitness classes in the afternoon and evening,

Maybe outdoor morning fitness classes during summer at Prairie Point

More evening programming times. Some of the toddler and me classes are in the morning. During traditional times with stay-at-home parents, that works. Now with working parents it doesn't.

More programs on the weekend

Times that work for my family and me.

More Walking/Bike Trails/Paths

A more expansive unpaved trail system at some of the other parks

I would like a park on the west side of town with waking paths.

More bike and walking trails

More walking trails.

More walking, biking trails.

We love trail walking. Any increase in trails would increase our use of parks.

More Events

Events

Festivals

More events at Hudson Crossing and Prairie Point Parks. We love outdoor concerts and would attend more of them. The new amphitheater is nice, but not conveniently located.

More events for the family (kids and adults alike).

More events would be amazing.

Special needs events

Updated Parks/Facilities

Updated playground equipment

Updating facilities

Updating the facilities with more amenities, however, still must be cost effective.

Updating the parks in general

More Children's Athletics

Baseball for 11+ in the months of July and August.

Children's athletics

Girl's softball

Just more children's sports, especially indoor soccer/flag football.

More Pickleball Courts

Availability of pickleball

Pickleball courts (2)

Pickleball courts. Boulder Hill is great.

Nothing

Nothing (14)

Nothing. Not interested.

Nothing I can think of. We will probably be moving out of the area in the next year or so.

Nothing. We use them as much as we want, love them.

Nothing. We use outdoor parks quite a bit- things that don't cost money.

Nothing. My needs are met.

Nothing. I already use them.

Nothing. We already primarily use the Oswegoland Park District for our kids' activities.

Nothing. We have as of this year

Don't Know/Unsure

Don't know (3)

Not sure

Unsure (3)

Other

A children's zip line for my grandkids

A dog park!

A kid's fitness playground.

Access to Fox

Accessibility to lakes

Adding activities for special needs, people would increase our use.

Addition of pollinator gardens, focus on native plant gardens, or idea gardens for people to learn about lawn alternatives.

Adult fitness stations in the parks

An outdoor ice rink.

Availability of classes

Better cleaning and sanitation procedures for facilities

Better facilities for changing, like at water recreation areas, and commercial or other nearby water park.

Better staff at Fox Bend.

Better restroom facilities.

Better/closer parking

Cross country skiing trails.

Deal days

Deals

Disc golf

Easier access via bike paths.

Enough facilities to cover the growing population, especially the south end of Oswego.

facility availability Bluntly put, COVID restrictions are officially lifted.

Finish the greens on Fox Bend

For years, we wished that there would've been an ice rink down on Briarcliff. The ice rink that they sometimes provide at Seasons Ridge. The pond was never really skateable. The ice was never properly resurfaced! Is it possible that across the street in the open field that they could make that into an ice rink with water provided from nearby fire hydrants or pond.

Gender inclusive bathroom

Has the Park District considered purchasing the old nursery (on route 34) and turning it into a park?

Having facilities for adults and seniors.

I have a nephew who is 2 months old as he grows, I definitely see him swimming and go to Preschool

I live alone as a senior and enjoy the parks and will continue to do so. The programs that are offered are great and I'm happy to support them with my tax dollars. I believe they add a lot of value to living in the community even if I don't participate in the programs.

I would also be great for the park district to invest in the area west of the river...tennis courts for instance.

If I did not have to drive to get there.

If they had facilities closer to where I live.

Just having more time to get settled into the community.

Keep up with neighboring communities and facilities.

Keeping score in basketball,

Knowing it's safe & the kids can have fun like they used to. I believe if they remodel it and gear it towards older kids as well it would be much better.

Large civic/recreational facility.

Larger facilities

Make facilities adult-only

Maybe some nature or birding tours.

More classes offered at a bigger space.

More community gardens, and more native preservation/pollinator efforts

More desire to do so.

More facilities,

More parks

More shaded spots and benches, more concessions, buy a bottle of water, etc.

My husband thinks some improvements to the golf course are needed.

Need to look at brochure.

Offering kubbb league

Our house backs up to Augusta Park and we love taking walks and just enjoying the beauty of the park.

Pay a fair wage that would interest people into employment such as summer lifeguards.

Restroom facilities

Security features in more isolated areas of walking trails like cameras and emergency phones. I'm a single female. Many Park District and state facilities are too isolated for me.

Space where kids and parents can both work out if they want.

Spraying for mosquitoes

The pool lifeguards are not babysitters. I do not know how to handle misbehavior, except require adults.

Things to do with dogs. A robust dog park would be great (especially without the fees that the village has).

Too elderly and infirm to use it but would like a decrease in taxes.

Track (2)

Walking track

We currently use bike/walking paths playgrounds for our grandkids.

We would like to see the old Traugher/Senior Center be used for anything, especially the gyms. Open those up for local youth clubs to rent for practice.

Weather

Welcoming atmosphere

Would be nice if residents got a bigger discount. Basically, if we had more money, we'd do more activities.

Would like riverfront park areas expanded.

Would like to see more trees in large areas such as Old Post and Prairie Point.

What improvements would you like the Oswegoland Park District to make to the parks and facilities?

Add/Expand Parks/Facilities/Equipment

A basketball court at the Hudson Crossing Park. The plot of land across the street is not in use and I'd like to see something done over there, if not the basketball court maybe a fountain with a surrounding garden or a dog park.

Add a community garden.

Add an indoor turf field facility.

Add pickleball courts.

An additional park near the Oaks of Churchill is seriously needed.

Aside from Saw Wee Kee forest trail, there really aren't many (or any) other forest preserves or nature centers to enjoy in Oswego, at least as far as we are aware. Coming from Chicago and the Cook County Forest Preserve District there really isn't anything comparable for miles.

Continue to purchase and expand parks and more forest preserves for hiking. We need to protect the trees and dwindling open space as we become enclosed by developments.

Expansion of Veterans Park

I would have loved a workout room w/ a window to the gymnastics gym so I could work out while my kid does gymnastics!

I would like to see it expanded and have the same facilities and resources as other towns such as indoor pools and an ice rink.

increase the bike trails.

Indoor pool with qualified/experienced swim teachers and regular lesson options.

Indoor walking track

Invest in the property on Orchard Road between Route 34 and Mill to build a facility for fitness, classes, preschool, indoor courts etc.

It would be nice if the Park District had exercise machines.

Locate a facility or room/class space on the far east side. I'm driving 15-20 minutes to get to South Point or Civic Center and I'm within the district.

More pools. For a town of near 40K people what we have is not adequate.

More splash pads. The current splash pad is nice but a need for more than one. When summer camps bring their kids, its use becomes limited.

More walking and biking trails. Maybe separate those features since bicyclists don't seem to know the usual courtesies of giving notice when they come up behind walkers. It's very risky.

Newer buildings

Offer indoor facilities for basketball, swimming, workout equipment, etc.

Open space park. Property next to the Southbury Clubhouse would be a great prairie park.

Rock climbing facility

The addition of indoor recreational sports availability.

Up to date larger fitness facility

Weights and walking track like other park districts

Update/Upgrade Parks/Facilities/Equipment

Add more athletic items for adults like obstacle courses, climbing walls, agility, etc.

Aquatic remodel for sure

Civic Center is so dark and dated inside.

How about redoing them completely!

I would like to see the lockers rooms at the Civic Center updated (more toilets if possible).

Improve the walking path on the west side of the river across from Violet Patch Park

Just a general refresh

More interactive items for kids

More seating and expand the food court.

Shades for Winrock Pool and a spectator's area and better PA system

Some general updating and don't take away all the trees when improving parks. It's nice to have some of the park to have shade.

Some of the parks' play equipment could be updated.

Some updated playground equipment for some bigger kids also

Spend some money (our taxes) and improve the appearance of your facilities.

Splash pad with rubber base, safer for young children. Also, more coverings from the sun to sit under.

The parks are nice however the facilities need to be updated.

The Seasons Ridge, walking path should be paved,

Update

Update the Civic Center pool.

Update the facilities. They are clean but need to be updated.

Update them.

Updated facilities

Updating play equipment

Upgrade old parks to have nice turf instead of mulch.

Upgrading and adding different playground equipment.

Better Upkeep/Maintenance

Better garbage pickup. We live across the street from a softball field, the garbage is always overflowing.

Better maintenance

Better upkeep

Clean around ponds

Clean the parks more frequently.

Cleaner bathrooms with doors that work.

Drag Lakeview Estates like you promised.

Fix broken things at skate park.

Have a monthly program that would control dandelions and other weeds.

If possible, deep clean the playground equipment.

Keep the areas clean from litter and trash.

Keep the parks clean.

Maintain parking areas that are gravel on a regular basis.

Make sure our Bubbler is always working.

Refill wood chips/sand

Working drinking fountains

More/Better Restrooms

Bathroom access at all parks. Even Aurora has that, and they aren't maintained as well.

More bathrooms at parks

More restroom facilities, women don't like outhouses.

More restrooms (3)

Nicer bathrooms at Hudson Crossing.

Portable toilets

Remodeling bathrooms (civic center),

Restroom building instead of portable potties.

More Trees/Plants/Flowers

I think they should plant more trees along some of the bike paths and open areas.

Less weeds and more perennials.

More flowers

More native prairie plants to scare geese away.

More trees (2)

They are very good as is. Sometimes they could use a little more color (flowers, decoration).

Make Facilities Accessible for Individuals with a Disability

Full accessibility

More handicapped accessible

They're doing a pretty good job but as a physically limited person it would be wonderful if the handicap access entrance access worked on the doors - recent examples: Civic Center not working 4/29/23 - Boulder Hill Point not working 4/25/23 - it's a struggle to open those doors.

More/Better Parking

Better parking at pickleball courts on Briarcliff

Close parking lot to Community Gardens

More parking

Close Facilities/Parks That Have Low Use

Close prairie point building. so much appears to be unused.

Get rid of Winrock. I hardly ever see the swings or other equipment being used.

Nusay is deserted and most are skeptical of going there.

More Benches in Parks

More benches

More benches so older folks can sit down for a bit.

More park benches in the shade for parents!

More Trash Cans

Garbage can on the paths.

More garbage cans and recycling containers

More trash cans.

None

I don't have any suggestions at this point.

None (11)

None at this time.

None that I am aware of

None, that I am aware of. (2)

None. I think the current condition and facilities are already more than sufficient!

Nothing (6)

Nothing I can think of.

Nothing really comes to mind. A continuation of the good job that is currently being done.

Nothing, all is good.

Don't Know/Unsure

Don't know (4)

I don't know.

Unsure

Do Not Use Parks/Facilities

Don't use them.

Haven't used them.

I have never used any park in the district so have no answer to this question.

I've never used any facilities.

Other Improvements to Parks/Facilities

Add bat houses.

Add concession stands at all.

Add food truck for 4th of July celebration.

Add more shaded seating.

Better leverage the Fox River; Hudson Crossing is great but would love some actual river activities.

Connecting bike paths from town to downtown.

Don't include water features where everything is made of plastic.

extended hours (Winrock)

Focus on education towards native plants, water conservation, and supporting pollinators.

I do have a suggestion. I very much would have appreciated a heads up when the last number of memorial bricks were installed. A simple email to those of us who purchased a brick would have been appreciated. I noticed the article in the paper shortly after the dedication and was disappointed not to have been notified. I ordered the brick by email so an email going out would have been an easy thing for the Park District to do. From what I heard from others,

there could have been a greater emphasis on the veterans who were being honored and a little less on the politicians attending and being photographed. Perhaps coordinating with The Oswego Ledger and providing the names of the veterans so they could be included in the article. When/if additional bricks are installed, you may want to consider. Also, right now I think there could be better publicity about the park and especially the bricks, as I've talked with several residents who were not aware of this worthy project.

I would like to know the mileage of all the trails including Morgan Crossing.

Inclusion practices

Make the centrally located parks feel more welcoming and safer.

Make the river path more welcoming like Naperville, have food trucks or ice cream vendors.

More 5k races

More chairs at Civic Center

More diversity in staffing

More river access.

More shade.

More things to do.

Not sure if the dog park is part of the district but it's a joke. I can't believe you are supposed to pay and have proof of vaccines. From what I saw, my backyard is bigger than the whole thing. To have to have a fob to access it crazy. The Aurora dog park near Holy Angels school by Prairie and Heywood Ave is so much bigger, always clean, even poop bags available and although they don't have little agility things for dogs, even the smaller dog section is I think bigger than the entire Oswego dog park.

Pickleball availability

Please cut the curbs on the bike paths south of Prairie Point Park. Constantly riding over curbs wrecks bike tires, rims, and hurts my back. These are new bike paths associated with the subdivisions.

Please spray open outdoor areas, especially by water, for mosquitoes

Pollinator preservation efforts

Pricing on fitness classes. Either a monthly fee for unlimited or reduction in cost when you sign up for multiple classes.

Smaller class sizes

Solve contention between cars, bikes, walkers, runners on North Adams Street

Some areas with more access/areas for seniors.

The Facility's make them more available to the Community for events. It's not published enough that you can have events like Aurora. We go there for lots of Events, Oswego is not at all eventful or known to hold pop up or social events.

The kid's playground is definitely geared towards older kids. They cannot walk from one part of the playground to the other up top. It's not safe for the little ones.

Add Programs

Add a cardio program for adults with heart or lung issues.

Girl's sports. Bring back girls' softball my girls loved it as they were growing up. Gave them choices and now only private.

More program options.

Only thing that would be better is to have more girls' basketball options.

Overall, more activities at the parks for older people. Volleyball, basketball, maybe even tennis courts.

Self-defense classes

Other Comments

I run on the Foxer Trail all the time, and I really appreciate how well the Oswegoland Park District takes care of trail maintenance and maintaining the parks that I run through.

I think that they do a wonderful job at maintaining and innovating their offerings.

I would like the community to respect the parks/facilities that are already in place.

Just keep improving, make tomorrow better than today!

Stop building unneeded facilities.

The rubber mats at the playgrounds are very good.

They do a great job.

Users taking better care of areas. Leave it better than you found it.

What programs would you like the Oswegoland Park District to add in the future?

Adult/Senior Programs (8)

Adult hobby classes

Adult senior softball

Alzheimer's meet up or somewhere I can take my dad to be able to socialize with other older people.

Board game tournaments for adults

Flowers planting and cutting indoor arrangements.

Gardening (2)

Late day senior exercise

More adult classes

More adult classes and activities, talks, gardening.

More classes and activities for seniors

More classes offered for adults in the evening/weekend.

More fun senior activities

More programs for older adults-day trips, two-day trips, etc. and not just during the week.
Some of us still work 40+ hours.

More senior events

More varied exercise classes for seniors

Older adult fitness programs

Senior activities

Senior citizens health care related camps

Senior group activities such as quilting, bridge, pickleball, etc. and find a way to publicize the programs so seniors are aware of them.

Senior swim classes which include a designated swim time and exercise class.

Senior walk classes

Strength training for seniors.

Things with senior citizens in mind.

Water aerobics taught for seniors.

Festivals/Events

Adult social events

Birding events

Bring back the Saturday family attractions to the Christmas program like they used to do at Mason Square years ago.

Do Friday night car shows with movies in the park.

Do more street fairs downtown for families and less involvement with alcohol like the brew fests, no one wants to bring kids around alcohol n drinking.

Events for challenged youth.

Have more fun things for kids throughout the district like monthly touch a truck with different fire departments and the police department.

Lego event

Make PrairieFest fun again, Montgomery fest is smaller but offers so much more activities, do the same for Prairie fest. Bring back the small-town country charm and stop being like the uppity neighboring towns. We have enough of them, need the small town feel back

More 5k races

More festivals

More free outdoor events. Smaller gatherings.

More fun adult get together activities.

More outdoor concerts.

Pop ups. Allow receptions and other gatherings.

Social events

We would love a family event that puts children in one play area and parents in another.

Arts and Crafts

Art

Art classes for adults

Basket weaving

Crafting or hobby

Crafting time

Crafts

Crocheting

Knitting (2)

More arts

Oil painting for adults

Painting for adults

Photography

Fitness and Wellness

Adult exercise classes

Adult outdoor fitness class early morning (before 8am)

Adult yoga

Aerial yoga

Fitness

Hot yoga/Bickram yoga

More Zumba classes

Variety of yoga classes. Classes very early morning or around 4:30 p.m. (teacher hours)

Walking program

Yoga

Yoga and meditation

Youth Programs

Art classes that include 12-year-olds

Cultural classes that would help all children learn about different races and cultures. Around the world food prep classes. African Art classes. African Dance. Indian dance etc... mix it up. Oswego is a melting pot, so inclusion is necessary for the children and I'm not talking LGBTQ.

Dance with ages 6-9 is too large. Kinder and 3rd grade have very different abilities. I would like an 8-10 option.

Fishing and hunting safety for kids.

More dance classes that are not 6 months long-shorter duration

More for 2-year-olds.

More gymnastics

More STEM classes for elementary

Programs for days off school.

Spring break camps that go for half days.

Summer camps for half days.

Youth Athletics

Add back girls' softball. Give the girls a chance to try. Loved volleyball.

Golf for younger ages

Indoor soccer and flag football. Maybe even tackle football or partner with Oswego Youth Tackle Football so their program shows up on your site.

More girls' basketball options throughout the year.

More older kid baseball (11+) in July and August. Right now, it is only offered in June. Kids need sports all summer. I am aware there are other sports, but he only has interest in baseball and ice hockey (private club in the fall and winter months).

Soccer for youth

Softball not just baseball

Summer youth soccer

Aquatics

Indoor swimming

More adult aquatic programs.

Swim lessons for 1 hour instead of 30 minutes.

Water aerobics

Water volleyball

Year-round swim classes

Cooking

Adult cooking classes

Cooking (2)

Cooking classes (2)

Cooking for teens

Adult Athletics

Adult indoor women's volleyball

Bocce ball

Adult kickball

Adult disc golf

Pickleball (2)

Teen Programs

Intramural activities for teens - as there is no real place for teens to play a sport more for fun or recreation - since it seems pickup games are no longer a thing.

Pickleball for teens including boys.

Teen camps

Tennis for teens

Would like more programs designed for older teens- currently limited with martial arts type classes that would likely appeal to older teens. More class offerings for different days and times. Would like to see more beginning classes for older teens in things such as tennis, golf, etc.

Clubs/Groups

A mountain bike club

Bicycling club

Dog walking groups

Haven't been here through the summer, yet. But if there isn't a kayak/canoe/floating group—that would be a lot of fun!

Hiking groups, kayaking groups, river tubing groups with regular meetups.

Dance

Adult ballroom dancing

Adult dance early morning classes (before 8am)

I would be interested in social dance/ballroom.

Line dancing

Leagues

Elementary basketball league

More golf leagues.

More soccer leagues.

Pickleball would be fantastic! I have been looking for a night league to join -- many pickleball leagues cater to seniors during the day.

Music

Community chorus opportunities for adults.

Music classes

Music classes for adults

Music or vocal classes

None

None (9)

None that I can think of.

None, our needs are met.

None. I think the current offerings are sufficient.

Don't Know/Unsure

Can't think of anything

Don't know (10)

I don't have any ideas.

I don't know enough about what's offered to suggest anything to add.

I have no idea as I do not rely on the Park District for entertainment.

Not sure (2)

Nothing comes to mind.

Nothing I can think of.

Unsure (3)

Other Programs

Adult education for lawn alternatives, benefits of native plants, how to support pollinators, and how to be more climate focused.

Babysitting class for young adults

Badminton

Computer classes

Disc golf (2)

Educational learning related.

Guided walks, history walks

helpful community classes that are not 'salesy.'

Introductory Spanish classes for English speakers

Kubb

Martial arts

Maybe chess games

Maybe something like fantasy football or things like that to introduce people in the community.

More mommy and me classes

More of those open play options for parents that work and can't come on a Tuesday at 10am with our toddler.

Open gym

Pet related programs

Sag supported bike ride.

Something Lego related.

Supported bike rides that connect parks.

Tai Chi

Tennis

Winter programs ... Indoor.

Would love to see some theater for adults -- edgy stuff. New theater.

Add Facility (10) 6.6%

A facility with a gym, indoor pool

Adult fitness locations that include cardio machines and weights, similar to the YMCA that closed years ago.

Indoor fitness center

Indoor pool

Indoor pool with regular lessons and qualified instructors

Indoor walking track

Large central gym

Pickleball courts at Prairie Point

Pickleball courts indoor and outdoor

Workout facility

Other Comments

I would like to see current events being promoted...i.e., Brew at the Bridge, Wine on the Fox, PrairieFest all have seemed to decline (from my perspective) in attendance over the years.

A greater attempt on the Park Districts part to reach out to seniors.

After school care full before we could even enroll in school. What a joke.

Daily adults-only time or area at both pools, reduced pricing for residents

I don't know what classes are currently being held.

I don't really care as I go outside this community for entertainment - my friends live elsewhere, and I greatly prefer the Morton Arboretum to anything Oswego offers.

I wish that the classes for kids like 3 years old were longer. Once my son had gotten used to it, it ended.

I'd really have to experience the current offering before registering feedback.

Many of the creative craft and one-time kid's' activities are honestly very expensive. I'd love our family to participate. Perhaps find some less pricy ideas for this area

More time choices in current offerings.

More volunteering opportunities

Not aware of adult fitness

The programs are most likely fine. The facilities are not.

They should review Lifetime Fitness and incorporate some classes they offer.

Would like to see Park District working with Senior Center to provide programming.

Would love cross country ski rentals at the golf course.

You offer a lot. I think an app would be helpful.