



Notice of Meeting and Meeting Agenda Regional Parks Committee

Wednesday, November 27, 2024

9:30 AM

6th Floor Boardroom
625 Fisgard St.
Victoria, BC V8W 1R7

J. Brownoff (Vice Chair), C. Coleman, S. Goodmanson, C. Harder, G. Holman, M. Tait, S. Tobias,
K. Williams, R. Windsor, C. McNeil-Smith (Board Chair, ex officio)

The Capital Regional District strives to be a place where inclusion is paramount and all people are treated with dignity. We pledge to make our meetings a place where all feel welcome and respected.

1. Territorial Acknowledgement

2. Approval of Agenda

3. Adoption of Minutes

3.1. [24-1273](#) Minutes of the October 23, 2024 Regional Parks Meeting

Recommendation: That the minutes of the Regional Parks Committee meeting of October 23, 2024 be adopted as circulated.

Attachments: [Minutes - October 23, 2024](#)

4. Chair's Remarks

5. Presentations/Delegations

The public are welcome to attend CRD Board meetings in-person.

Delegations will have the option to participate electronically. Please complete the online application at www.crd.bc.ca/address no later than 4:30 pm two days before the meeting and staff will respond with details.

Alternatively, you may email your comments on an agenda item to the CRD Board at crdboard@crd.bc.ca.

6. Committee Business

6.1. [24-1209](#) Wigglesworth Lake Regional Park - Interim Management Guidelines

Recommendation: The Regional Parks Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board: That the Wigglesworth Lake Regional Park Interim Management Guidelines be adopted.

Attachments: [Staff Report: Wigglesworth Lake Regional Park – IMG](#)
 [Appendix A: Wigglesworth Lake Regional Park – IMG](#)

6.2. [24-1219](#) 2024 Capital Regional District Regional Parks and Trails Resident Survey

Recommendation: The Regional Parks Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board: That the Resident Survey results and final report be adopted and published on the CRD website.

Attachments: [Staff Report: 2024 CRD Regional Parks & Trails Resident Survey](#)
 [Appendix A: 2024 CRD Regional Parks & Trails Resident Survey Report](#)
 [Appendix B: 2024 Resident Survey Fact Sheet](#)
 [Presentation: 2024 CRD Regional Parks & Trails Resident Survey Results](#)

6.3. [24-1208](#) Regional Trestles Renewal, Trails Widening and Lighting Project Update - November 2024

Recommendation: The Regional Parks Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board: That the Regional Trestles Renewal, Trails Widening and Lighting Project Update - November 2024 be forwarded to the Transportation Committee for information.

Attachments: [Staff Report: Regional Trestles Renewal, Trails Widening & Lighting Project](#)
 [Appendix A: Swan Lake and Brett Avenue Trestles: Profile Views of Options](#)
 [Appendix B: Initial Construction Sequencing Map](#)

7. Notice(s) of Motion**8. New Business****9. Adjournment**

The next meeting will be held in 2025.

To ensure quorum, please advise Tamara Pillipow (tpillipow@crd.bc.ca) if you or your alternate cannot attend.

Meeting Minutes

Regional Parks Committee

Wednesday, October 23, 2024

9:30 AM

6th Floor Boardroom
625 Fisgard St.
Victoria, BC V8W 1R7

PRESENT

Directors: C. McNeil-Smith (Chair), J. Brownoff (Vice Chair) (9:47 am) (EP), C. Coleman, S. Goodmanson, G. Holman (EP), J. Rogers (for S. Tobias) (EP), M. Tait (9:33 am) (EP), K. Williams, R. Windsor, C. Plant (Board Chair, ex officio) (EP)

Staff: T. Robbins, Chief Administrative Officer; R. Smith, Acting General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Environmental Services; M. MacIntyre, Senior Manager, Regional Parks; M. Lagoa, Deputy Corporate Officer; T. Pillipow, Committee Clerk (Recorder)

EP - Electronic Participation

Regrets: Directors L. Szpak, S. Tobias

The meeting was called to order at 9:31 am.

1. Territorial Acknowledgement

Director Windsor provided a Territorial Acknowledgement.

2. Approval of Agenda

MOVED by Director Coleman, **SECONDED** by Director Williams,
That the agenda for the October 23, 2024 Regional Parks Committee meeting be approved.
CARRIED

3. Adoption of Minutes

3.1. [24-1049](#) Minutes of the September 25, 2024 Regional Parks Meeting

MOVED by Director Goodmanson, **SECONDED** by Director Williams,
That the minutes of the Regional Parks Committee meeting of September 25, 2024 be adopted as circulated.
CARRIED

Director Tait joined the meeting electronically at 9:33 am.

4. Chair's Remarks

There were no Chair's remarks.

5. Presentations/Delegations

There were no presentations or delegations.

6. Committee Business

6.1. [24-988](#) Mountain Forest Regional Park - Interim Management Guidelines

M. MacIntyre spoke to Item 6.1.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- engagement with the local community
- potential First Nation naming for this park
- the potential to create a connector trail

Director Brownoff joined the meeting electronically at 9:47 am.

**MOVED by Director Goodman, SECONDED by Director Williams,
The Regional Parks Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District
Board:**

**That the Mountain Forest Regional Park Interim Management Guidelines be
adopted.**

CARRIED

6.2. [24-989](#) Water Safety Pilot Program at Thetis Lake and Elk/Beaver Lake Regional Parks - Summer 2024 Update

M. MacIntyre spoke to Item 6.2.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- there was no theft or vandalism for the duration of the pilot
- Island Health to present to the committee with updated data and future plans
- sharing any learnings with stakeholders
- engaging with View Royal Fire Department regarding their purchase of drones

**MOVED by Director Coleman, SECONDED by Director Goodman,
The Regional Parks Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District
Board:**

**That the Water Safety Program be continued at Elk/Beaver Lake Regional Park
and Thetis Lake Regional Park for the foreseeable future.**

CARRIED

6.3. [24-987](#)

Bylaw No. 4640: Amendment to the Capital Regional District Parks Services and Facilities Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 3675

M. MacIntyre spoke to Item 6.3.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- allocation of funds generated
- promotion of active transportation
- the process that determined the pay parking increases schedule

Motion Arising:

MOVED by Director Plant, **SECONDED** by Alternate Director Rogers,
That the gradual pay parking increases at Thetis Lake and Sooke Potholes in proposed Bylaw No. 4640 be revised as follows: 2026 Daily \$5 and Season \$40, 2027 Daily \$6 and Season \$50.

Discussion continued regarding:

- the potential impact to acquiring a contractor to manage these lots with the proposed lowered rates
- that pay parking be implemented in more regional parks

The question was called on the motion arising:

That the gradual pay parking increases at Thetis Lake and Sooke Potholes in proposed Bylaw No. 4640 be revised as follows: 2026 Daily \$5 and Season \$40, 2027 Daily \$6 and Season \$50.

CARRIED

Opposed: Coleman, Holman, Tait, Windsor

MOVED by Director Plant, **SECONDED** by Director Coleman,

The Regional Parks Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:

1. That Bylaw No. 4640, "Capital Regional District Regional Parks Services and Facilities Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 1, 2010, Amendment Bylaw No. 11, 2024", be introduced and read a first, second and third time; and
2. That Bylaw No. 4640 be adopted.

CARRIED

Opposed: Tait

7. Notice(s) of Motion

There were no notice(s) of motion.

8. New Business

There was no new business.

9. Adjournment

MOVED by Director Windsor, **SECONDED** by Director Coleman,

That the October 23, 2024 Regional Parks Committee meeting be adjourned at 10:54 am.

CARRIED

CHAIR

RECORDER

**REPORT TO REGIONAL PARKS COMMITTEE
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2024**

SUBJECT **Wrigglesworth Lake Regional Park – Interim Management Guidelines**

ISSUE SUMMARY

Capital Regional District (CRD) staff are seeking approval to implement the Wrigglesworth Lake Regional Park Interim Management Guidelines (IMG). The purpose of the IMG is to guide the operation of the Wrigglesworth Lake Regional Park property (the property) prior to a park management plan being in place.

BACKGROUND

The CRD purchased the 15.5-hectare (38.3-acre) property on June 8, 2022. The Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission supported the transfer of Wrigglesworth Lake Community Park to CRD Regional Parks in exchange for land acquisition funds to aid in the purchase of the 23.5-hectare (58.1-acre) Admiral's Forest property for use as a community park. Wrigglesworth Lake Regional Park is in the Malahat community of the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area and complements the immediately adjacent Sooke Hills Wilderness Trail (part of the Trans Canada Trail), which is owned and managed by the CRD as part of the regional parks service.

In time, CRD staff will initiate the development of a park management plan for the property. This process will involve engagement with First Nations, stakeholders and the public to establish a 10-year vision for the park and outline the management actions needed to achieve that vision. Prior to a new management plan being in place, direction is needed to guide the interim management of the property. Staff developed the IMG (Appendix A), which prioritizes building relationships and gathering information needed to better understand the property's park values in order to inform the eventual development of a park management plan. The IMG further guides the securement of the property and establishes how it will be utilized on an interim basis. Once a park management plan is developed and approved by the CRD Board, the IMG will no longer be used to manage the property.

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative 1

The Regional Parks Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:
That the Wrigglesworth Lake Regional Park Interim Management Guidelines be adopted.

Alternative 2

That the Wrigglesworth Lake Regional Park Interim Management Guidelines be referred back to staff with direction for revision.

IMPLICATIONS

Alignment with Existing Plans & Strategies

The IMG broadly supports the five priority areas within the Regional Parks and Trails Strategic Plan 2022-2032 (Strategic Plan), approved by the CRD Board on July 12, 2023. It provides guidance to establish collaborative working relationships with First Nations to continue the CRD's reconciliatory action. It further guides gathering information needed to inform the development of conservation, visitor experience, climate action and resiliency, and access and equity-related park management actions that could be implemented through a future park management plan.

Environmental & Climate Action

The property is located within the Coastal Western Hemlock bio-geoclimatic zone, which covers about 11% of the CRD land base and is poorly protected across its range. About 77% (11.97 ha) of the property has been identified as containing sensitive ecosystems, such as wetland, mature forest and riparian habitat, including the presence of a large lake. This property supports diverse habitat values for many species, including large mammals such as beaver, bear and cougar, and a diversity of forest birds. Knowledge of other rare or endangered species is limited; however, the property likely supports diverse flora and fauna representative of those unique ecosystems. The property is situated within the Arbutus Creek watershed, supporting the ecological health and function of the ecosystems downstream. The IMG includes multiple actions that support ecological monitoring and conservation initiatives aimed at protecting and promoting the property's unique natural values. It further includes actions that support the development of climate change mitigation and adaptation measures that could be implemented through a future park management plan.

First Nations Implications

The new Strategic Plan provides direction for CRD staff to involve First Nations in land acquisition and park management planning (Reconciliation Action 1-1a). As the property was acquired prior to the Strategic Plan being in place, First Nations involvement in the acquisition was limited. Thirteen First Nations governments and Treaty Associations have been identified as having overlapping asserted Territory over the property. CRD staff will forward a draft copy of the IMG to these First Nations for information and are committed to working with them during the term of the IMG and beyond to identify opportunities that respect and support their rights and self-determination and to pursue them through the future management plan. The future management plan will make it possible to implement initiatives such as replacing the temporary designation of Wigglesworth Lake Regional Park assigned during its acquisition, and/or incorporate Indigenous languages and site information into park signage with interested First Nations.

Equity, Diversity & Inclusion

The IMG includes an interim management action that supports the identification of barriers to access and equity within the property that could be addressed through a future park management plan.

Financial Implications

Implementation of the IMG will require an additional budget request, which would be included in the CRD's regular annual budgeting process.

Service Delivery Implications

Prior to acquisition, the property served as a valuable greenspace, lake access and enhanced connectivity for the surrounding neighbourhood. Current public uses are primarily day use, picnicking, swimming, paddleboarding and dog walking. CRD staff recommend maintaining most of the existing trails as hiking trails and maintaining the open greenspace for day use and lake access.

Social Implications

Implementing the IMG communicates to the public how the CRD intends to manage the property and what recreation opportunities are available while it's in place. The IMG includes flexibility to adapt management activities based on public feedback and new information, while the CRD continues to learn more about the property.

CONCLUSION

CRD staff are seeking approval to implement the Wigglesworth Lake Regional Park IMG to guide the operation of the property prior to a park management plan being in place. The IMG supports the Strategic Plan direction and prioritizes building relationships and gathering information needed to inform the development of a park management plan. It further guides the securement of the property and how it is to be utilized on an interim basis. Once a park management plan is developed and approved by the CRD Board, the IMG will no longer be used to manage the property.

RECOMMENDATION

The Regional Parks Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:
That the Wigglesworth Lake Regional Park Interim Management Guidelines be adopted.

Submitted by:	Mike MacIntyre, Senior Manager, Regional Parks
Concurrence:	Glenn Harris, Ph.D., R.P.Bio., Acting General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Environmental Services
Concurrence:	Ted Robbins, B. Sc., C. Tech., Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENT

Appendix A: Wigglesworth Lake Regional Park – Interim Management Guidelines

Wrigglesworth Lake

Interim Management Guidelines

Capital Regional District | November 2024



Capital Regional District | Regional Parks
490 Atkins Avenue, Victoria BC V9B 2Z8
T: 250.478.3344 | www.crd.bc.ca/parks

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1. Context

1.1 Background

Wrigglesworth Lake Regional Park is in the traditional territory of multiple First Nations who have stewarded the lands since time immemorial. The Capital Regional District (CRD) purchased Wrigglesworth Lake Regional Park in 2022, in a CRD Board-approved acquisition agreement with the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission (JdFEA P&RC). The JdFEA P&RC used the funds from the Wrigglesworth Lake Regional Park acquisition to purchase other lands for community park purposes in Otter Point.

The 15.5-hectare parcel is in the Malahat community of the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area (Map 1). Prior to its acquisition, the property served as a valuable greenspace and lake access for the surrounding community. The park naturally connects to the Sooke Hills Wilderness Trail (part of the Trans Canada Trail) and provides an opportunity for dog walking, paddleboarding, freshwater swimming and day use. The 4.21-hectare freshwater lake is accessible by an open, flat green space, and a small network of pathways offers valuable nature-based recreation opportunities. Since the acquisition, CRD staff have begun securing the site and maintaining the trails to ensure they are safe for public use while minimizing impacts to the natural environment. Current public uses are primarily day use, picnicking, swimming and paddleboarding.

The property is located within the Coastal Western Hemlock biogeoclimatic zone, which covers about 11% of the CRD land base and is poorly protected across its range. About 77% (11.97 ha) of the property has been identified as a sensitive ecosystem, such as wetland, mature forest and riparian habitat, including the presence of a large lake. This property supports diverse habitat values for many species, including large mammals such as beaver, bear and cougar, and a diversity of forest birds. Knowledge of other rare or endangered species are limited; however, the property likely supports diverse flora and fauna representative of those unique ecosystems. The property is situated within the Arbutus Creek watershed, supporting the ecological health and function of the ecosystems downstream. Further research will build a better understanding of the park values and potential threats.

Under Malahat's *Official Community Plan Bylaw 3721* (OCP), the property is in rural Malahat and is designated as Parks. Under *Malahat's Land Use Bylaw 980*, the property is zoned Greenbelt 2 and Greenbelt 3. The OCP and Malahat's *Land Use Bylaw 980* provide additional context and land use planning direction for the property at the neighbourhood level.

1.2 First Nations Reconciliation

Reconciliation Goal 1 within the Regional Parks and Trails Strategic Plan 2022-2032 (Strategic Plan) is to pursue “strong, collaborative and mutually beneficial relationships with First Nations through working in partnership.” Priority action 1-1a within the Strategic Plan supports this goal and sets out that the CRD will “work collaboratively with First Nations to develop and implement priority initiatives related to regional parks and regional trails, such as involving First Nations in land acquisition and park management planning and operations.”

To date, 12 First Nation Governments or Treaty Associations have asserted Territory over the property. These include the Lyackson First Nation, Cowichan Tribes, Halalt First Nation, MÁLEXEŁ Nation (Malahat Nation), Spune’luxutth Tribe (Penelekut Tribe), Tsu'uubaa-asatx First Nation, Stz'uminus First Nation, the Te'Mexw Treaty Association, SẄÁUTW (Tsawout First Nation), WSIKEM (Tseycum First Nation), BOKEĆEN (Pauquachin First Nation), and WJOŁEŁP (Tsartlip First Nation). CRD staff will collaborate with First Nations, during the lifespan of this IMG and beyond, to identify and pursue opportunities that respect and support First Nations’ rights and self-determination. The CRD will collaborate with interested First Nations to establish a name for the park and to incorporate Indigenous language names for plants and site features in interpretive and other signage.

1.3 Purpose & Connection to the Parkland Acquisition & Management Planning Processes

Securing and managing parks and protected areas is a resource-intensive process, which is guided by the Land Acquisition Strategy. Prior to acquisition, the property was evaluated against a comprehensive set of acquisition criteria and the CRD’s Land Acquisition Strategy guided the identification of the property as a desirable addition to the regional parks and trails system.

The purpose of this IMG document is to guide how CRD staff will manage the property prior to a park management plan being in place. This includes providing guidance on site securement and how the property will be utilized on an interim basis. It further guides building relationships and gathering information needed to inform a future management planning process.

The development of a park management plan is a multi-year process that involves extensive First Nations, stakeholder and public engagement, and approval by the CRD Board. The management plan will provide a long-term vision for the park and specify management actions to achieve it. Once a park management plan has been prepared, the IMG will no longer be used to manage the property.



2. Park Classification

The Strategic Plan establishes a park classification system that is used to assign each regional park one of four classifications based on the intended management outcome. Each classification includes a purpose statement that provides high-level direction for how parks under that classification are to be managed to achieve the intended outcome.

At the time of transfer and purchase, Wrigglesworth Lake was designated as a **Natural Recreation Area**. The purpose of this classification, as outlined within the Strategic Plan, is “to protect a connected system of natural areas and to offer visitor opportunities that are primarily focused on compatible outdoor recreation.”

This classification will be applied on an interim basis until more is learned about the site during the IMG. A final park classification will be designated through a management planning process.

3. Interim Park Management Goals

The following interim park management goals are applicable to all park acquisitions and establish the outcomes of implementing the IMG to help to prioritize efforts and resources. They are intended to provide the necessary groundwork for securing the site and undertaking the future development of a park management plan.

1	Build Relationships Identify First Nations, local governments, partners and stakeholders interested in the management of the property and develop working relationships to identify shared goals and future opportunities for collaboration.
2	Gather Information Gather baseline archaeological, cultural heritage, ecological, outdoor recreation and infrastructure information to identify park values and priorities to be included within a future park management plan.
3	Protect Park Values Conduct site securement, including addressing interim operational, cultural, conservation and outdoor recreation needs to protect known and potential park values.

4. Interim Management Actions

The following table outlines a series of interim management actions that will guide the operation of the property over the lifespan of the IMG.

Interim Management Actions	Timing
Reconciliation	
Collaborate with First Nations to jointly determine a process for ongoing engagement and identify shared priorities for park management and use.	Short-term
Collaborate with First Nations to identify the property's archaeological and cultural significance, including traditional land uses, areas, biogeographical features and species of importance.	Short-term / Ongoing
The management of archeological and cultural heritage sites will be undertaken in accordance with provincial legislation and following discussions with involved First Nations.	Medium-term
Collaborate with First Nations to jointly determine environmental, economic, social and cultural interests in the property and identify co-management and other opportunities that align with or further these interests.	Short-term / Ongoing
Conservation	
Monitor ecological values within the property to assess potential threats and identify and implement appropriate mitigation measures, as needed.	Ongoing
Implement the CRD's impact assessment process and best management practices, as needed, to mitigate potential impacts on the natural environment and support development/facilities within the park.	Ongoing
Identify and manage property encroachments.	Short-term
Complete an ecological inventory and assessment to document existing ecological values, identify and assess potential threats, mitigation options, and restoration opportunities.	Short-term
Complete an assessment of priority invasive species within the property and identify appropriate management actions.	Medium-term

Visitor Experience	
Identify and mitigate visitor safety hazards.	Ongoing
Install minimal infrastructure needed to secure the site.	Short-term
Document visitors-use patterns to better understand recreation values.	Ongoing
Enforce <i>Capital Regional District Parks Regulation Bylaw No. 1</i>, 2018.	Ongoing
Under the CRD's Dog Management Policy Framework, dogs may be off leash but must remain under effective control at all times.	Ongoing
Monitor visitors use to inform a recommendation for the site under the CRD's Dog Management Policy Framework, within a future management plan (e.g., dogs on leash or dogs may be off leash but must remain under effective control at all times).	Long-term
Public access to the property will be provided from Goldstream Height Drive, which provides appropriate visitor amenities as a primary access node.	Ongoing
Prepare an interim sign plan to guide the installation of necessary orientation and basic park regulation signage.	Short-term
Basic facilities of a seasonal portable toilet (May to September) and regulatory signage will be provided within the property.	Ongoing
Maintain existing established trails within the property.	Ongoing
Provide information on the CRD's website informing the public of what outdoor recreational opportunities are available on the property in the interim and what visitor amenities can be expected.	Short-term
Explore the feasibility of an active transportation connection to and from the property and the existing, near-by Sooke Hills Wilderness Trail (part of the Trans Canada Trail).	Long-term
Climate Action & Resiliency	
Identify opportunities to adapt to climate change, including identifying natural hazards to and from the property and necessary mitigation measures that could be included as actions within a future park management plan.	Long-term
Access & Equity	
Consider undertaking an assessment to identify accessibility and equity barriers and opportunities for improvement that could be included as actions within a future park management plan.	Long-term

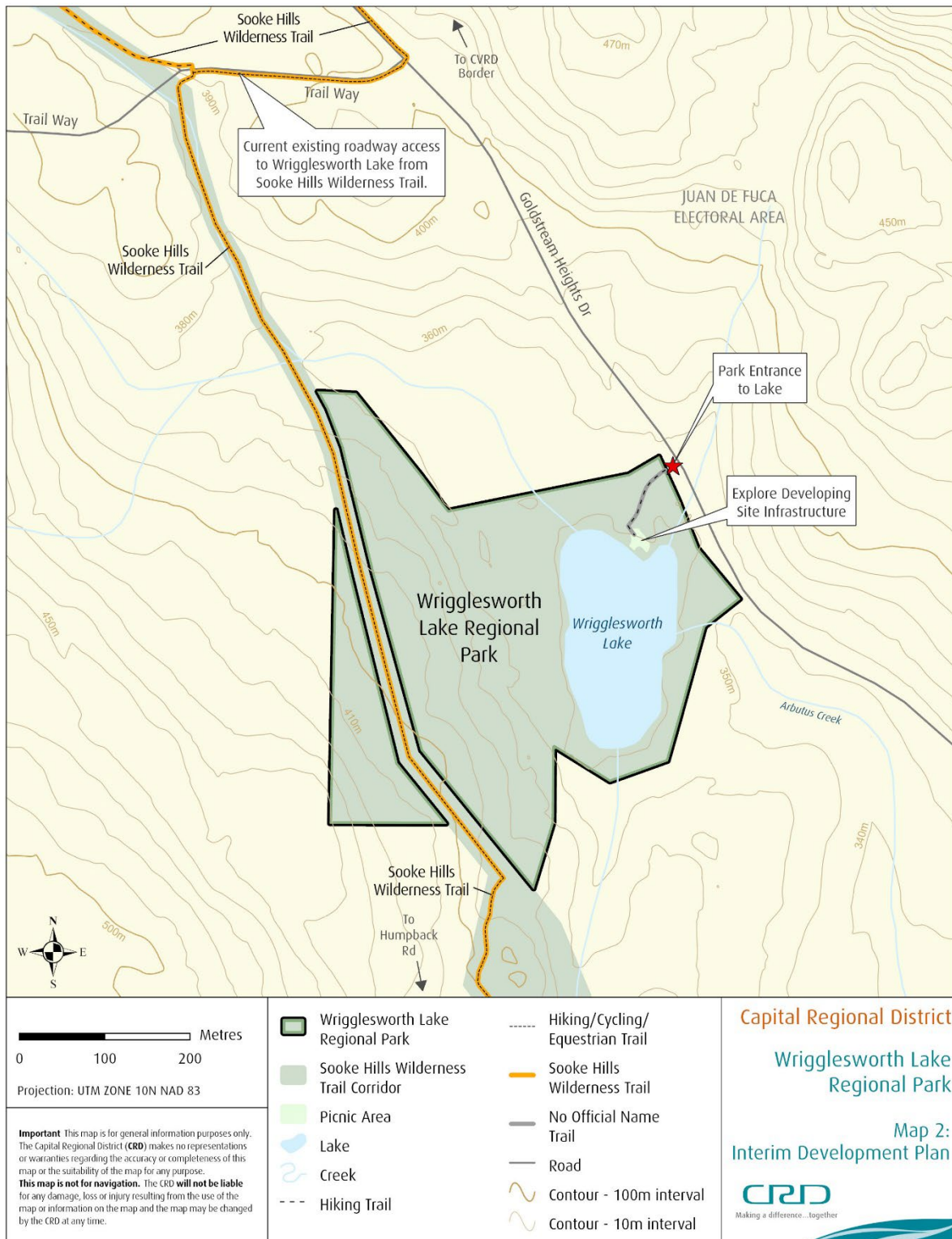
5. Implementation Strategy

5.1 Interim Development Concept

The Interim Development Plan establishes the location of key infrastructure and visitor amenities that will be available while the IMG is in place (Map 2). It should be noted that the concept is temporary and subject to change once a new Wrigglesworth Lake Regional Park Management Plan is in place and a final development concept is approved. The types of infrastructure and resources dedicated to installation during the IMG stage are therefore selected accordingly. During the IMG period, staff will conduct all necessary preliminary work to inform the final development concept, so the ideas proposed in the management plan and development concept are grounded in solid baseline studies and cost estimates.

5.2 Monitoring and Review

At the beginning of each year, CRD staff will prepare an annual operating plan (AOP) for Wrigglesworth Lake Regional Park, which will outline the interim management actions that are to be completed within the property over the year, including estimated timelines and required resources. Monitoring of the implementation status of the IMG will occur during the preparation of the AOP and will provide an opportunity for staff to review implementation progress, identify outstanding management actions or new actions that are to be completed, and evaluate the success of completed or ongoing management actions.



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**REPORT TO REGIONAL PARKS COMMITTEE
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2024**

SUBJECT 2024 Capital Regional District Regional Parks and Trails Resident Survey

ISSUE SUMMARY

To provide the results of the 2024 Capital Regional District (CRD) Regional Parks and Trails Resident Survey (Resident Survey).

BACKGROUND

The Resident Survey assesses residents' opinions, values, attitudes, satisfaction and patterns of visitor use over time, providing comprehensive insights into how the community perceives the CRD's regional parks and trails services. Key data points from the survey highlight which parks and trails residents visit, their purposes and their modes of travel. This information supports the CRD's planning and operational decisions and tracks progress toward the 2022-2032 Regional Parks and Trails Strategic Plan (Strategic Plan) priorities. The 2024 Resident Survey results are provided in Appendix A.

The survey covers the entire regional planning area, including the CRD's 13 municipalities, the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area, the Southern Gulf Islands and Salt Spring Island. It is statistically representative, with 7,650 households contacted and 1,762 valid surveys completed, achieving a response rate of 23%, above the target of 20%. The 2024 Resident Survey methodology was updated to reflect administrative, societal and technological changes since 2017, as well as to better align with other regional studies and with strategic planning priorities. The updates include:

- questionnaire reviewed with a diversity, equity and inclusion lens
- offered the survey online, with options for telephone and physical questionnaires
- expanded the options for gender
- added a question about dwelling tenure (rented or owned)
- added a question about household income
- added a question about accessibility
- added a question about access to e-bikes and e-micromobility devices
- distinguished barriers specific to regional parks and trails
- added questions aligned with five strategic priorities

Although it followed the same general procedure as previous surveys, the 2024 Resident Survey is unique in that it took place following severe pandemic-induced impacts on regional parks and trails visitation levels, and a period of rapid regional growth. As a result, the report notes differences in satisfaction levels from previous surveys and how the pandemic or other factors may have influenced these changes.

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative 1

The Regional Parks Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:
That the Resident Survey results and final report be adopted and published on the CRD website.

Alternative 2

That the Resident Survey results and final report be referred to staff with direction for revision.

IMPLICATIONS

Alignment with Board & Corporate Priorities

New survey questions on reconciliation, climate resiliency and access and equity align with the CRD Board's regional priorities of Climate Action & Environment and First Nations. The updated survey now includes more nuanced questions about use, barriers and transportation modes specific to regional trails, which also supports the CRD Board's strategic priority of Transportation.

Delivering the 2024 Resident Survey meets the CRD Corporate Priority 7-d2 in the 2023-2026 CRD Corporate Plan to "Undertake the Resident Survey."

Alignment with Existing Plans & Strategies

Delivering the 2024 Resident Survey meets Priority 3-1c in the Strategic Plan to "Undertake Resident Surveys to assess visitor use satisfaction and emerging trends related to regional parks and regional trails (every 5 years)."

Climate Implications

To better understand visitor use of regional parks and trails, the 2024 Resident Survey separated questions about barriers, travel methods and frequency of use for regional parks and trails.

The Resident Survey collected additional information on electric bicycles and e-micromobility devices. It found that 29% of households own, or are planning to own, a micro-mobility vehicle (e.g., e-bike, electric scooter, etc.) and 19% are unsure. This number is higher than was reported in the 2022 Capital Regional District Origin Destination Household Travel Survey, which found 11% of residents' adult bicycles were electric, representing 30,490 bicycles, and that 2.3% of households had access to an e-micromobility device.

Climate Action & Resiliency is one of the updated Strategic Plan priorities. In addition to historical survey questions on climate action, the 2024 Resident Survey included new questions on climate resiliency. Most CRD residents recognize the important role parks play in contributing to regional climate resiliency (80%), meeting Canada's protected area targets (63%) and the role trails play in reducing greenhouse gas emissions (75%). Reducing greenhouse gas emissions is viewed as a medium-to-high priority for regional park and trail management for most residents (64%). Enhancing infrastructure throughout the region to promote active transportation, such as cycling and walking, is also largely supported by CRD residents. Residents largely view the use of the Land Acquisition Funds to expand both urban (62%) and rural (63%) bike and pedestrian trails as medium-to-high priority.

Environmental Implications

Management and acquisition of regional parkland and protected natural areas as a way of mitigating climate change is also largely supported by CRD residents. The Resident Survey results indicate residents' prevailing support for the conservation mandate of regional parks and trails.

Conservation remains one of the core missions and a Strategic Plan priority of the CRD's Regional Parks Service. Residents' support for conservation remains strong and consistent across survey years. The two highest reported benefits of regional parks were "a place to experience natural environment" (95%) and "a place for the conservation of natural environments" (94%). Additionally, residents rate protecting the natural environment and conducting restoration projects aimed at conserving natural areas as two of the top three priorities for managing regional parks and trails.

Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Implications

The 2024 Resident Survey methodology and questionnaire changes were reviewed with an equity, diversity and inclusion lens. The survey methodology was offered by multiple means for the first time to allow for a range of response methods. However, year over year, there is a higher response rate from older, wealthier homeowners in the region. Younger people remain underrepresented. Similarly, more residents that self-identify as women, versus men, respond to the survey. In future survey years, offering incentives like gift certificates for groceries may help increase survey response rates from a broader demographic. It is also recommended that future surveys explore barriers to visitor use for people who have and have not visited a regional park and trail (while collecting distinct data between the two groups).

Access & Equity is one of the updated Strategic Plan priorities. The 2024 Resident Survey included new questions about access and equity. Most residents view the CRD's parks as welcoming and accessible to all (82%) and recognize the benefit of regional trails for providing accessible routes for residents (81%). Many view regional parks and trails as contributing to equitable access (63%). However, this percentage is lower (54%) among households in which at least one member has a permanent accessibility requirement. The survey results do show that households where at least one member has a permanent accessibility requirement (20%) are less likely to have visited a regional park or trail in the past year. This suggests that enhancing equitable access to regional parks and trails is needed, and that CRD residents are in support of these efforts (65% of residents identify accessibility enhancements as a medium-to-high priority).

Financial Implications

The results from the Resident Survey inform regional parks and trails planning, operation and maintenance activities and residents' priorities for conservation and restoration. Over half (65%) of participants supported increasing funding to operate regional parks and trails (up from 57% in 2017).

First Nations Implications

Since the 2017 Resident Survey, the CRD has adopted a statement of reconciliation, committed to building strong and enduring relationships with neighbouring First Nations governments and added reconciliation as one of the five strategic priorities in the Strategic Plan. The 2024 Resident Survey is the first survey year to include questions on reconciliation, and the results will serve as a baseline to measure residents' perceptions of the CRD's progress towards the short, medium and long-term reconciliation actions identified in the Strategic Plan. The new questions about reconciliation were included in the values, benefits, management and acquisition category of questions. While reconciliation is a new strategic priority, many residents acknowledge the

importance of parks (61%) and trails (51%) for respecting and preserving First Nations cultural heritage. Additionally, residents see parks (53%) and trails (44%) as valuable places for learning about these traditions. Two-thirds of residents (67%) feel expanding Conservancy Areas (a new park classification that protects cultural values) is a medium-to-high priority. Currently, no regional parks are classified as conservancies, so this number likely speaks to the public's awareness of Indigenous Guardian programs and other park agency conservancies (e.g., BC Parks). When asked about whether regional parks and trails are effectively contributing to reconciliation with First Nations, most residents did not know whether the region's parks and trails are effectively contributing to reconciliation and responded with the "neutral" statement (61%). This result indicates that the majority of CRD residents are likely unaware of the efforts the CRD has undertaken to foster reconciliation in regional parks and trails, and that future awareness building in this area is needed.

Social Implications

The Resident Survey is a randomly selected, statistically valid survey, and a valuable tool to measure residents' satisfaction over time. The 2024 Resident Survey did indicate a drop in satisfaction from 2017. The drop might be attributable to pressures on CRD regional parks and trails that have developed or worsened since 2017 (Appendix A – Executive Summary). This is an important result, since satisfaction ratings remain high in other self-selecting visitor or resident surveys. The Resident Survey supports and complements other CRD regional parks and trails public engagement processes by providing a broader understanding of satisfaction and identifying gaps in user groups to improve the regional parks and trails services for everyone.

Visitor experience remains one of the core missions and a Strategic Plan priority of the CRD's regional parks service. The survey confirmed that regional parks and trails are popular destinations, with 91% of residents visiting a regional park and 83% visiting a regional trail. The top five activities in regional parks and trails are walking (79%), hiking (71%), viewing nature (43%), cycling (42%) and dog walking (38%). Consistent across survey years, residents value parks and trails for their contributions to residents' health and wellbeing, the conservation of natural environments and providing space for outdoor recreation. Like previous survey years, the top visited regional parks were Elk/Beaver Lake (66%), Thetis Lake (57%) and Island View Beach (52%). The most visited regional trails were the Galloping Goose (72%), Lochside Regional Trail (56%) and the E&N Rail Trail (37%).

CONCLUSION

The CRD Regional Parks and Trails Resident Survey is conducted approximately every five years and provides valuable insights into residents' opinions, values, attitudes (benefits), satisfaction and visitor use patterns over time. The changes to the methodology and the questions added in relation to the five priorities of the 2022-2032 Strategic Plan and other CRD Board's strategic priorities will make it possible to measure and track user satisfaction with the work done in these areas. In this regard, the results seem to reflect that the priorities in the Strategic Plan also align with users' concerns.

The underlying reasons for the observed differences in overall satisfaction between the 2017 and 2024 studies are unclear at this time. Consistency in methodology will be essential for accurately assessing the impact of a partial return to normalcy and the influence of more intrinsic factors.

The CRD will use the results to support planning, land use decisions, guide operations and track progress towards the regional Strategic Plan priorities.

RECOMMENDATION

The Regional Parks Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:
That the Resident Survey results and final report be adopted and published on the CRD website.

Submitted by:	Mike MacIntyre, Senior Manager, Regional Parks
Concurrence:	Glenn Harris, Ph.D., R.P.Bio., Acting General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Environmental Services
Concurrence:	Ted Robbins, B. Sc., C. Tech., Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENTS

Appendix A: 2024 CRD Regional Parks and Trails Resident Survey Report – November 2024

Appendix B: Resident Survey Fact Sheet – Regional Parks – November 2024

2024 Capital Regional District Regional Parks and Trails Resident Survey Report



Acknowledgements

Territorial Acknowledgement

The Capital Regional District conducts its business within the traditional territories of many First Nations, including though not limited to BOKEĆEN (Pauquachin), MÁLEXEŁ (Malahat), Pacheedaht, Pune'laxutth' (Penelekut), Sc'ianew (Beecher Bay), Ləkʷəŋən (Songhees), SṠÁUTW (Tsawout), T'Sou-ke, WSIKEM (Tseycum) and xʷsepsum (Esquimalt), all of whom have a long-standing relationship with the land and water from time immemorial that continues to this day.

Research Acknowledgement

The survey research was conducted by R.A. Malatest & Associates Ltd. (Consultants), with the guidance of the Capital Regional District.

This project would not be possible without the contributions of 1,762 participating households that responded to this survey and told us about their opinions on regional parks and trails. We thank you for your participation in the region's 2024 CRD Regional Parks and Trails Resident Survey.

Cover Photo: Mount Work Regional Park

Executive Summary

Project Background

- In 2024, the Capital Regional District (CRD) conducted a [Regional Parks and Trails Resident Survey](#) to gain a better understanding of resident views, needs, experiences (visitor-use patterns) and satisfaction in regional parks over time. This helps the CRD serve residents better.
- The survey is conducted semi-regularly (every 5+ years), with previous surveys conducted in 2017, 2005, 1998 and 1992.
- Survey data will be used to guide decision-making and inform ongoing sustainable planning initiatives.

The 2024 CRD Regional Parks and Trails Resident Survey

- A full review of the questionnaire was completed in 2023, to ensure the questions reflect the updated 2022-2032 Regional Parks and Trails Strategic Plan (Strategic Plan) and principles of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.
- New questions about Reconciliation, Access and Equity, and Climate Action and Resiliency were added to existing questions about Conservation and Visitor Experience. Key questions were retained to allow comparability to historical survey data.
- The survey approach was modified in 2024 to minimize the use of paper, encouraging residents who had been sampled to complete the survey online. To minimize barriers to participation, paper copies and phone support were made available to those who asked for an alternate mode.

Survey Administration

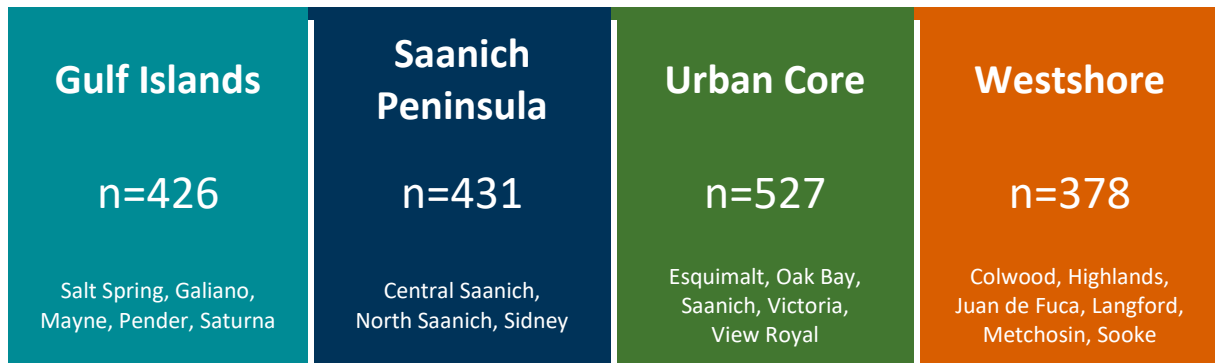
- The 2024 Resident Survey was launched in January 2024 and closed in April 2024.
- A mail-out package containing a survey invitation letter with a unique survey access code was sent to 7,650 randomly selected residents of the CRD, who were invited to provide their feedback on 33 regional parks and 4 regional trails.
- The survey was hosted online, with options for telephone and physical questionnaires by request.
- Most surveys were completed online (99%), with less than 1% of surveys completed via telephone or paper.
- A detailed survey methodology can be found in [Appendix A](#).

Accuracy of Survey Results

- The sampling error was within an acceptable level ($\pm 2.3\%$); the survey results are an accurate representation of CRD residents' feedback with the following caveats:
 - As with all voluntary survey methods, there is a risk of self-selection into a survey based on respondents' interest in the subject matter.
 - Certain demographic groups may be over or under-represented in the survey results.
 - Responses from some residents reporting on parks systems managed by other agencies may be uncontrollable, (e.g., BC Parks, Parks Canada, municipal parks).

Who Responded

- Resident feedback was received from 1,762 households across the CRD, across four sub-regions:



- More females (55%) responded to the survey than males (45%). Fewer than 1% of respondents identified as non-binary.
- The majority of respondents were older adults or seniors (55-64 years, 22%; 65+ years, 48%). Few residents younger than 35 years answered the survey (18-24 years, 1%; 25-35 years, 6%; 35-44 years, 10%).
- Most respondents (87%) reported owning their homes; 13% reported renting.
- Couples without children made up the largest group of respondents (48%), followed by adults living alone (26%) and parents with dependent children (15%). Smaller proportions of the sample lived with extended family members (5%) or in households shared by more than two adults (6%).
- Two in five respondents (41%) reported a household income under \$80,000. Nearly one-third (29%) indicated an income between \$80,000 and \$124,999, while the remaining 30% reported earning \$125,000 or more.
- One in five respondents (20%) noted that someone in their household has a permanent accessibility requirement¹.
- More detailed information on who responded to the survey can be found in the Respondent Socio-Demographic Characteristics section of this report.

¹ This is comparable to 2022 Statistics Canada data which reports that 28.6% of British Columbians, age 15 or older, have one or more disability. <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/11-627-m/11-627-m2023063-eng.htm>

Factors Influencing Regional Parks and Trails (2017 – 2024)

Throughout the report, comparisons are made between results from the 2024 survey cycle and the survey that was administered in 2017. Throughout that period, visitor experiences within CRD regional parks and trails may have been impacted by one or more notable pressures.

Population Growth and Urban Expansion

The CRD has experienced significant population growth, particularly in suburban areas like Langford, which has expanded rapidly. This increase in residents has led to more frequent use of regional parks and trails, as new communities seek nearby recreational spaces. With more people living near parklands, demand for outdoor recreation has grown, and parks have become essential for both leisure and commuting, particularly as trail networks expand to accommodate cyclists and pedestrians.

The COVID-19 Pandemic

Starting in March 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic had a major impact on how regional parks and trails were used. During the pandemic, people turned to outdoor spaces as a safer alternative to indoor activities. Regional parks and trails remained open while other local provincial, federal and municipal parks were closed to the public. Parks and trails saw increased visitation due to restrictions on indoor gatherings, with residents seeking opportunities for exercise and mental health breaks in nature. This led to a record number of park and trails visitors, with many first-time visitors using regional parks and trails during this time.

Housing and Affordability Pressures

Rising housing costs in the CRD have pushed more people into suburban and rural areas, increasing their reliance on nearby parks for recreation. Moreover, the homelessness crisis, partly driven by housing affordability issues, has led to encampments in public parks and trails, particularly during the pandemic when shelter capacities were reduced. This has impacted both the use of parks and trails for recreation and how they are managed.

Increased Focus on Active Transportation

The growing popularity of active transportation for commuting (walking, cycling, etc.) has also influenced the use of regional trails. The region's emphasis on reducing greenhouse gas emissions, building sustainable communities and initiatives focused on improving trail connectivity have further driven the use of trails as part of daily transportation networks. However, conflicts have arisen on multi-use trails, as e-bikes, which can travel at higher speeds, share paths with recreational cyclists and pedestrians, leading to concerns over safety, trail congestion, and differing perceptions of appropriate use.

Environmental and Climate Change Concerns

Climate change has played a dual role in impacting park and trail use. Warmer weather and longer summers have encouraged more outdoor activities. However, extreme weather events such as record high temperatures, wildfire smoke and flooding have occasionally disrupted safe access to parks and trails.

An Aging Population

As is typical across much of Canada, the CRD has experienced an aging demographic. This trend reflects both the aging of the local population and the region's attractiveness to retirees, particularly because of its mild climate. As the proportion of older residents increases, so does the growing need for accessible, safe, and peaceful park spaces.



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What Did We Learn?

Resident Use of Regional Parks and Trails is High

- Ninety-one percent (91%) of residents visited a regional park, and 83% visited a regional trail in the past 12 months.
- Residents from the Westshore were the most likely to have visited a regional park (96%) or trail (90%).
- These findings reflect the high demand for park and trail access among residents, particularly among residents in the rapidly expanding western communities.



Residents Feel Regional Parks and Trails are Important

- Most residents (94%) feel regional parks are important, and 84% feel the same about regional trails.



Residents Clearly Recognize the Benefits and Contributions of Regional Parks and Trails

- The most highly valued benefits of parks include providing spaces for experiencing and conserving natural environments, as well as supporting outdoor recreation.
- Trails are appreciated for their role in recreation, promoting health and well-being, and serving as greenway connections across the region.
- Most residents believe that regional parks and trails significantly contribute to resident health, the conservation of natural environments and outdoor recreational opportunities.

Regional Parks & Trails Contribute to...



Resident Health &
Well-being



Conservation of
Natural Environments



Space for Outdoor
Recreation

Most Residents are Satisfied with Parks and Trails

- Most residents (79%) are satisfied with their overall experiences in regional parks and trails.
- Satisfaction has, however, declined since 2017, when 90% of residents reported being satisfied. This drop might be attributable to pressures on CRD parks and trails that have developed or worsened since 2017 (see previous section).
- Satisfaction levels vary by sub-region, with residents of the Gulf Islands reporting the lowest levels of satisfaction.

MOST residents are **SATISFIED** with parks and trails



Popular Parks, Trails and Activities

- Among residents, the most popular parks are Elk/Beaver Lake, Thetis Lake, and Island View Beach.
- The most frequently visited trail is the Galloping Goose Regional Trail.
- Walking (79%), hiking (71%), viewing nature (43%), cycling (42%) and dog walking (38%) are the most common activities enjoyed in parks and trails.



Preservation of the Natural Environment is a Top Priority

- According to residents, protecting the natural environment and maintaining existing facilities are the top priorities for managing regional parks and trails. Restoration projects aimed at conserving natural areas are also strongly supported.
- Residents identified expansion of wilderness and conservation areas as a top priority area for the Land Acquisition Fund.

Residents Support Increased Funding for Regional Parks and Trails

- Nearly two-thirds of residents (64%) support increasing funding for the operation of regional parks and trails.
- A large majority (87%) are supportive of establishing a foundation to secure partnerships and donations as a means of boosting funding.



The 2024 Resident Survey Sets a New Benchmark for Strategic Priorities

- The inclusion of new questions establishes a baseline for tracking resident feedback over time, particularly in relation to key Strategic Priorities outlined in the 2022-2032 CRD Regional Parks and Trails Strategic Plan. These priorities include Reconciliation, Climate Action & Resiliency, and Access & Equity.



Reconciliation (Strategic Priority #1)

Goal: Strong, collaborative and mutually beneficial relationships with First Nations through working in partnership.

The CRD demonstrates its commitment to Indigenous Reconciliation through respecting Indigenous laws, creating opportunities to collaborate in the operation of parks and trails, and strengthening relationships with First Nations communities. The 2024 Resident Survey added questions to help gauge public perception of CRD Regional Parks and Trails' contributions to reconciliation.

Many residents acknowledge the importance of parks (61%) and trails (51%) for respecting and preserving First Nations cultural heritage. Additionally, residents see parks (53%) and trails (44%), as valuable places for learning about these traditions.

Approximately half of residents believe that enhancing collaboration with First Nations governments (50%) and increasing visitor awareness of First Nations history (53%) should be a medium to high priority for regional park and trail management.

When asked about whether regional parks and trails are effectively contributing to reconciliation with First Nations, three times as many residents responded that they are (29%), compared to the proportion who think they are not (10%). Most residents, however, did not know whether the region's parks and trails are effectively contributing to Reconciliation and responded with a "neutral" sentiment (61%). This result suggests that the majority of CRD residents are likely unaware of the efforts the CRD has undertaken to foster strong, collaborative, and mutually beneficial partnerships with First Nations and future awareness building in this area is likely needed.

Two-thirds of residents (67%) feel expanding Conservancy Areas is a medium to high priority. As of 2024, no regional parks are designated as such. As the CRD designates and enacts conservancies in regional parks, this question will be used to monitor support for conservancies going forward.



Climate Action & Resiliency (Strategic Priority #4)

Goal: Regional parks and regional trails are resilient and take action on climate change.

The CRD is committed to addressing climate change at the regional level and to take on a leadership role to pursue carbon neutrality. The CRD can contribute to regional greenhouse gas reductions in regional parks and trails by making operational choices that reduce emissions, and through the planning, design, and operation of the regional trails system, which serves as the anchor of the region's active transportation network. In addition to historical survey questions that centre on climate action, the 2024 Resident Survey included questions about climate resiliency.

Most CRD residents recognize the important role parks play in contributing to regional climate resiliency (80%) and the role trails play in reducing greenhouse gas emissions (75%). Reducing greenhouse gas emissions/adapting to climate change is viewed as a medium to high priority for regional park and trail management for most residents (64%).

Management and acquisition of regional parkland and protected natural areas as a way of mitigating climate change is also largely supported by CRD residents. Preservation of the natural environment is viewed as the top management priority, with 68% of residents rating it as a high priority and 24% as a medium priority. Top priorities for the use of Land Acquisition Funds include expanding wilderness areas, conservation areas, and natural recreation areas.

Enhancing infrastructure throughout the region to promote active transportation, such as cycling and walking, is also largely supported by CRD residents. Residents largely view the use of the Land Acquisition Funds to expand both urban (62%) and rural (63%) bike and pedestrian trails as a medium to high priority.



Access & Equity (Strategic Priority #5)

Goal: Regional parks and regional trails are inclusive and accessible.

The CRD is committed to ensuring that regional parks and trails are welcoming and meaningfully accessible to all. The 2024 Resident Survey included questions about inclusion, safety, and accessibility and the survey language was reviewed with this lens.

Most residents view CRD parks as welcoming and meaningfully accessible to all (82%) and recognize the benefit of regional trails for providing accessible routes for residents (81%). Many view regional parks and trails as contributing to equitable access (63%). However, this percentage is lower (54%) among households in which at least one member has a permanent accessibility requirement.

The survey results do show that households in which at least one member has a permanent accessibility requirement were less likely to have visited a regional park or trail in the past year. This does suggest that enhancing equitable access to regional parks and trails is needed and CRD residents are in support of these efforts (65% of residents identify accessibility enhancements as a medium to high priority).

Feeling unwelcome in regional parks due to ethnicity, gender, or cultural practices did not present as a barrier to visitation among CRD residents (0% of respondents cited this barrier).

What's Next?

- The CRD is committed to transparency and information sharing. This report is public and available on <https://www.crd.bc.ca/parks-recreation-culture/parks-trails/crd-regional-parks/crd-parks-plans-reports>.
- The CRD uses the results of the survey to track satisfaction over time and to continue to improve our understanding of visitor activities, the values and benefits of parks and get feedback on priorities for park management and facilities.
- Survey results are shared broadly with CRD staff. Staff use the regional level data to identify strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities for improvement.
- The information gathered by this survey will help guide staff in conservation, planning and service delivery.
- CRD is committed to conducting the Regional Parks and Trails Resident survey every 5+ years.
- The 2024 CRD Regional Parks and Trails Resident Survey provides an important baseline of residents' values, opinions, and visitor-use activities to measure progress towards the strategic priorities in the 2022-2032 CRD Regional Parks and Trails Strategic Plan.

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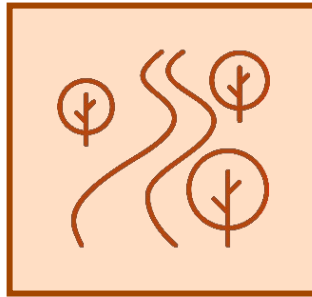
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2024 Regional Parks and Trails Resident Survey Results

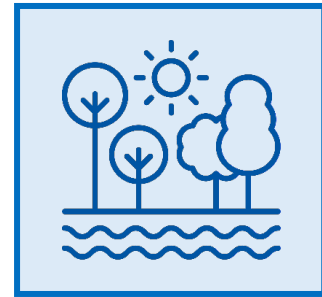
The following sections detail the survey results for the 2024 Regional Parks and Trails Resident Survey.



Figures in green represent results specific to regional parks.



Figures in orange represent results specific to regional trails.



Figures in blue represent results for questions asked about the entire system of regional parks and trails.

A Note About Comparisons with Previous Survey Years

Where meaningful, 2024 survey results are compared to results from previous survey years.

To facilitate more accurate year-over-year comparisons, the 2017 survey results were reanalyzed using an updated methodology. Specifically, to better reflect population density differences across the region, census information was used to develop survey weights. In addition to using these survey weights to adjust for any sub-region over or under-sampling, invalid response categories were also excluded from the recalculations².

Appendix C contains CRD level survey results across all available years for questions that remain the same or similar to those asked in 2024. Results from 2005, and earlier, are not weighted, and therefore comparisons to this year should be made with caution.

² As a result, the 2017 values presented in this report may not match previously published results.

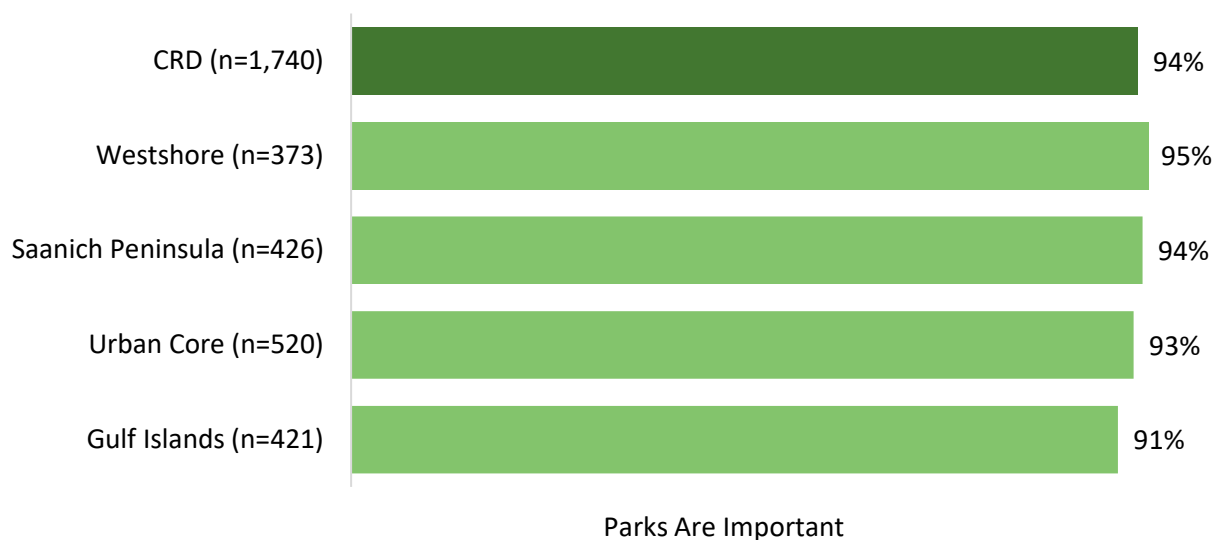
Benefits of Regional Parks

Residents were asked to rate how important it was to them to have regional parks. Residents were also presented with several benefit statements³ relevant to regional parks and asked to rate how important each statement was to them.

Nearly all residents surveyed (94%) feel regional parks are important⁴ (Figure 1). Compared to the 2017 survey results, residents' importance ratings for regional parks saw a very minor decline (moving from 97% in 2017 to 94% in 2024).

Figure 2 also displays the percentage of residents in each sub-region who feel it is important to have regional parks. Westshore residents are the most likely to rate parks as important, while Gulf Island residents are the least likely.

Figure 1. Percentage of Residents who Feel Parks are Important (CRD and by Sub-Region), 2024 Capital Regional District Parks and Trails Resident Survey

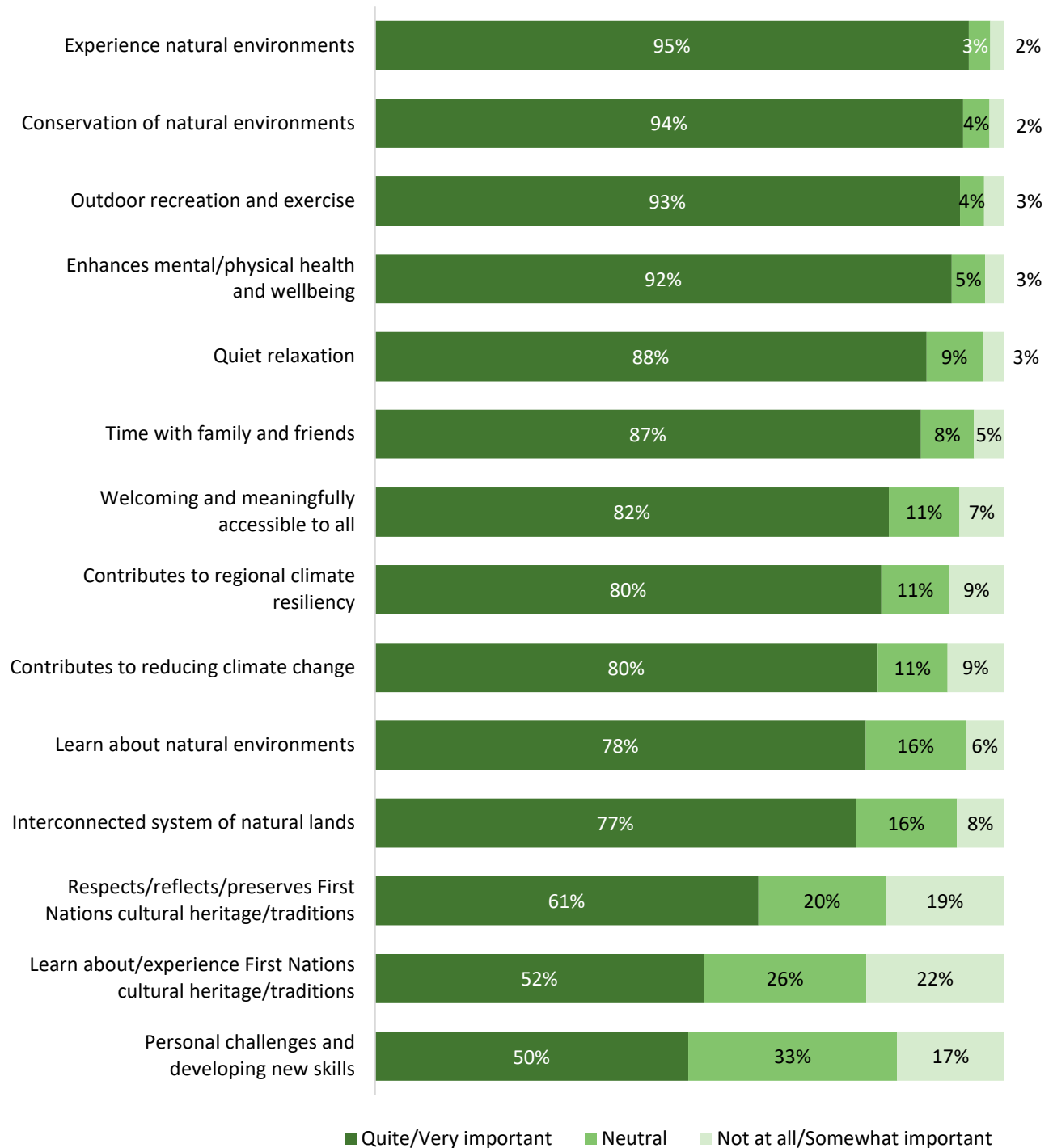


³ Several benefit statements were added to the 2024 survey questionnaire to better reflect Strategic Plan priorities.

⁴ Percentage of respondents who answered with a "Quite Important" or "Very Important" to the question: *How important is it to you to have regional parks?*

Figure 2 displays a breakdown of importance ratings for each regional park benefit. Detailed survey results, including sub-regional results, can be found in Appendix B.

Figure 2. Benefits of Regional Parks (CRD Level Results), 2024 Capital Regional District Parks and Trails Resident Survey



The three park benefits with the highest importance ratings overall are:

- “A place to experience natural environments” (95%)
- “A place for the conservation of natural environments” (94%)
- “A place for outdoor recreation and exercise” (93%)

The three park benefits with the lowest importance ratings overall are:

- “A place that respects, reflects, and preserves First Nations cultural heritage and traditions” (61%)
- “A place to learn about and experience First Nations cultural heritage and traditions” (52%)
- “A place for providing personal challenges and developing new skills” (50%)

Despite receiving the lowest overall importance ratings, a sizable proportion (one half or more) of residents still acknowledge that parks are important spaces for respecting and preserving First Nations culture, offer opportunities to learn about First Nations traditions, and serve as spaces for personal challenge and skill development.

The top three most agreed upon benefit statements for regional parks in 2024 parallel the results from 2017 (experience natural environments; conservation of natural environments; and outdoor recreation and exercise), as well as the top two results from 2005 (experience natural environments; conservation of natural environments).

The three benefits with the lowest importance ratings in 2024 are all new survey questions, and therefore a comparison to previous years is not possible.



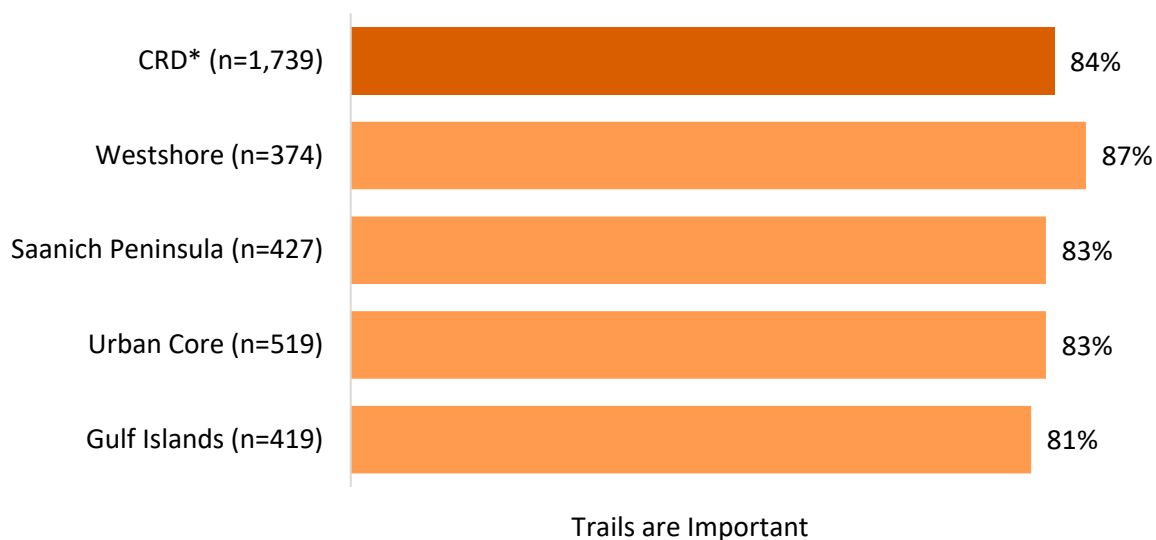
Benefits of Regional Trails

Residents were asked to rate how important it was to them to have regional trails. Residents were also presented with several benefit statements⁵ relevant to regional trails and asked to rate how important each was to them.

Most residents surveyed (84%) feel that regional trails are important⁶ (Figure 3). Compared to the 2017 survey results, residents' importance ratings for regional trails saw a noticeable decline (moving from 94% in 2017 to 84% in 2024).

Figure 4 also displays the percentage of residents in each sub-region who feel it is important to have regional trails. Westshore residents are the most likely to rate trails as important, while Gulf Island residents are the least likely.

Figure 3. Percentage of Residents who Feel Trails are Important (CRD and by Sub-Region), 2024 Capital Regional District Parks and Trails Resident Survey

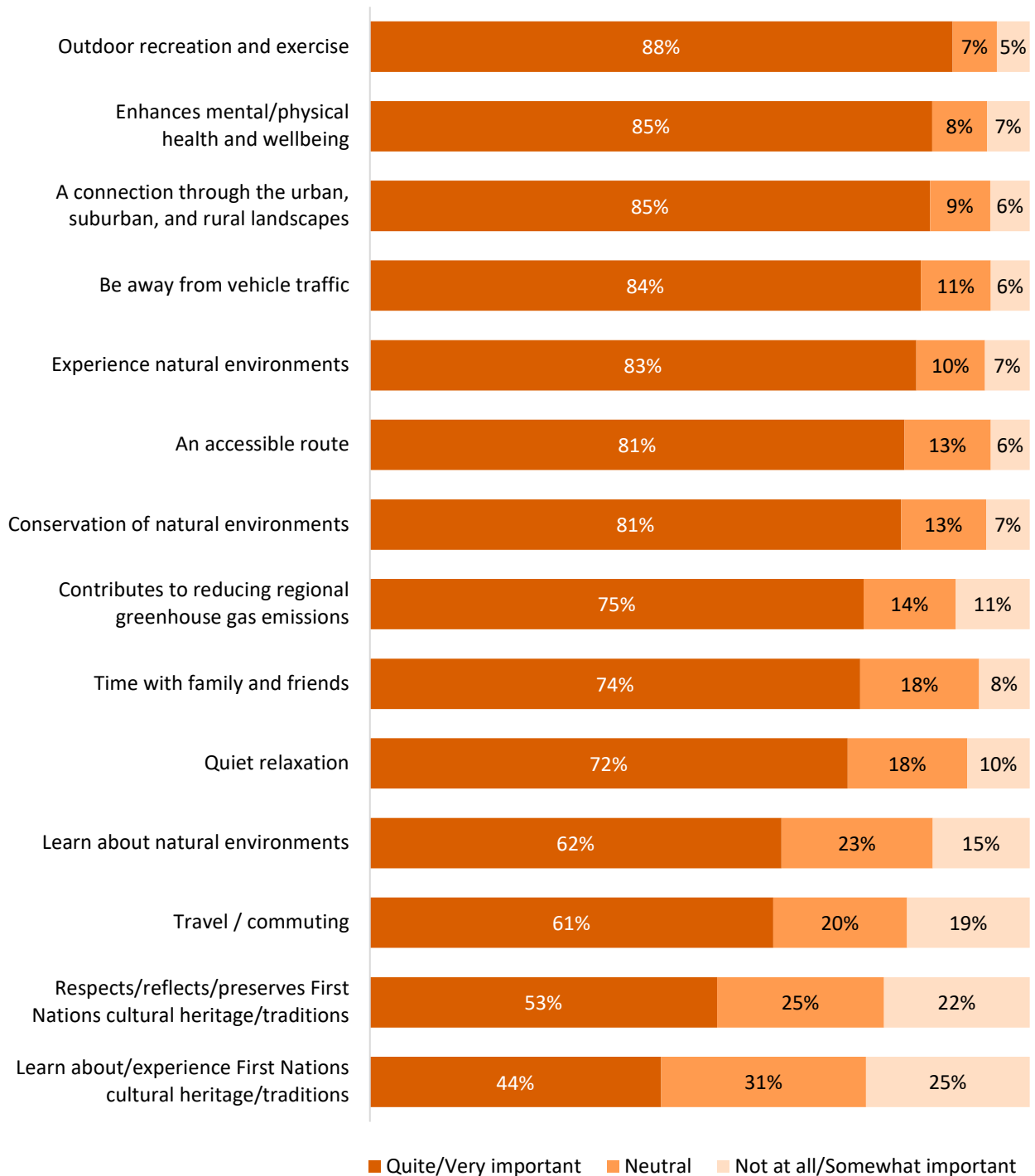


⁵ Several benefit statements were added to the 2024 survey questionnaire to better reflect Strategic Plan priorities.

⁶ Percentage of respondents who answered with a "Quite Important" or "Very Important" to the question: *How important is it to you to have regional trails?*

Figure 4 displays a breakdown of importance ratings for each regional trail benefit. Detailed survey results, including sub-regional results, can be found in Appendix B.

Figure 4. Benefits of Regional Trails (CRD Level Results), 2024 Capital Regional District Parks and Trails Resident Survey



The top three trail benefits with the highest importance ratings overall are:

- “A place for outdoor recreation and exercise” (88%)
- “A place that enhances mental and physical health and wellbeing” (85%)
- “A greenway connection through the urban, suburban, and rural landscapes” (85%)

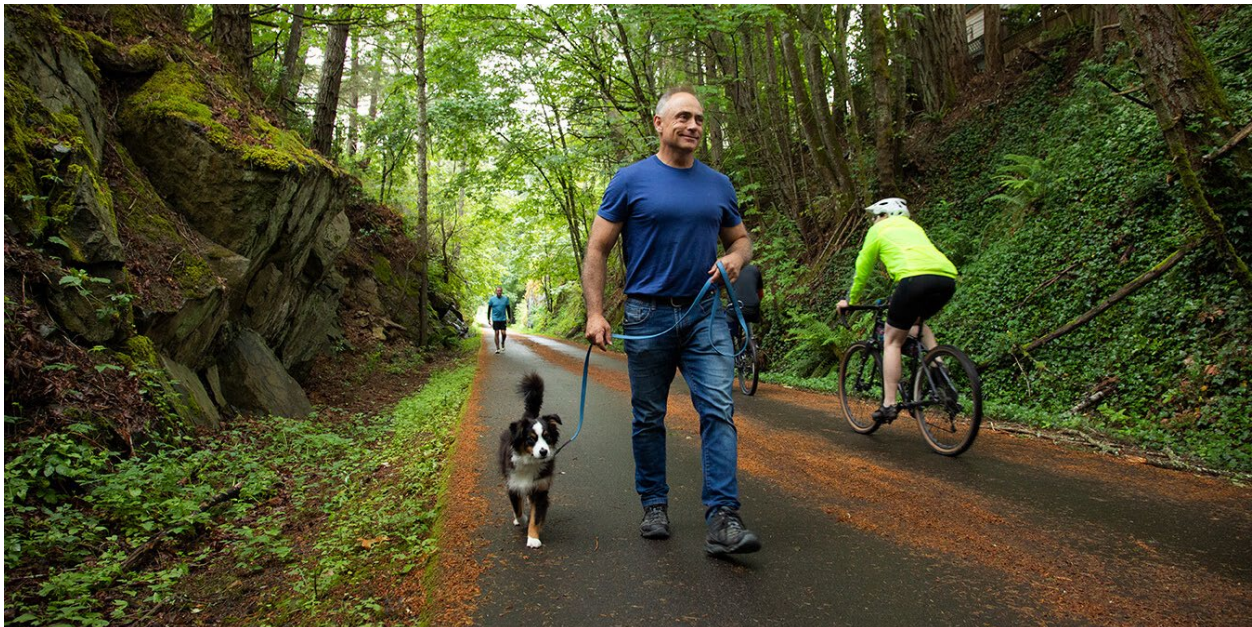
The bottom three trail benefits with the lowest importance ratings overall are:

- “A route to travel for commuting purposes” (61%)
- “A place that respects, reflects, and preserves First Nations cultural heritage and traditions” (53%)
- “A place to learn about and experience First Nations culture and traditions” (44%)

Despite receiving the lowest overall importance ratings, a sizable proportion of residents still acknowledge that trails are important spaces for commuting within the region, for respecting and preserving First Nations culture and for offering opportunities to learn about First Nations traditions.

Two of the top three most agreed upon benefit statements for regional trails were also noted as top benefits in 2017 (outdoor recreation and exercise; enhances mental and physical health and wellbeing). These benefits were not included in the 2005 survey year. The importance rating of the third top benefit (greenway connection across landscapes) increased slightly since 2017, finishing as a top three trail benefit in 2024. This was also the top benefit identified in 2005.

Two of the three benefits with the lowest importance ratings in 2024 were new survey questions not asked prior to 2024 (“a place that respects, reflects, and preserves First Nations cultural heritage and traditions”; and “a place to learn about and experience First Nations culture and traditions”). Additionally, many of the lowest rated benefit statements from previous survey iterations were removed in 2024. Therefore the 2024 results now serve as a new baseline for future survey years.



Visitor Use Patterns

Parks and Trails Frequency of Use

Residents were asked to indicate how many times they have visited both **regional parks** and **regional trails**, in the past 12 months⁷. **Figure 5a** displays the frequency of use of regional parks and **Figure 5b** displays the frequency of use of regional trails. Detailed survey results, including sub-regional results, can be found in Appendix B.

Ninety-one percent (91%) of residents visited a regional park within the past 12 months, while 83% of residents visited regional trail over the same time.

Residents visited regional parks and trails with varying frequency, with the largest proportion (22%) having visited between 1-5 times per year. Approximately one-fifth of residents visited a regional park (18%) and/or regional trails (17%) with great frequency (“daily or weekly”).

Figure 5a. Regional Parks Frequency of Use (CRD Level Results), 2024 Capital Regional District Parks and Trails Resident Survey

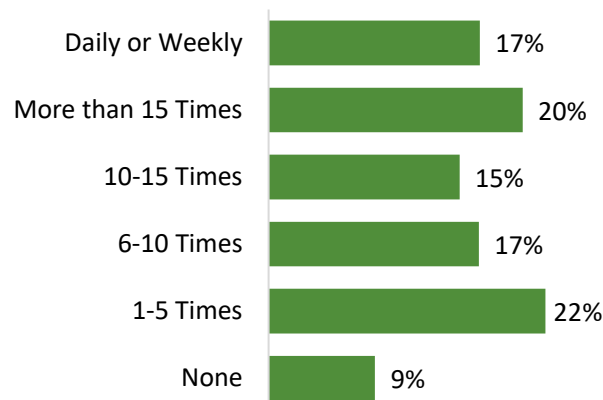
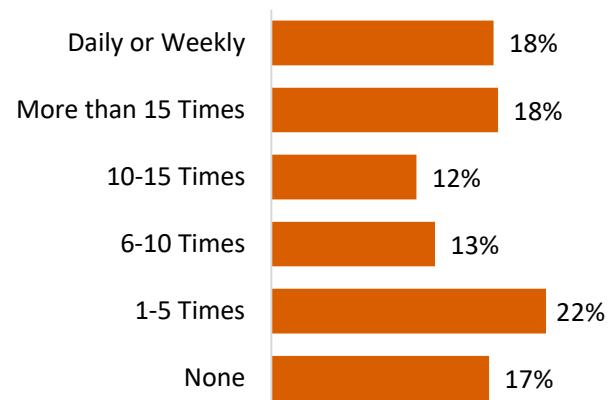


Figure 5b. Regional Trails Frequency of Use (CRD Level Results), 2024 Capital Regional District Parks and Trails Resident Survey



Similar proportions of residents reported visiting regional parks or trails in 2017. Specifically, 94% of residents reported visiting a regional park and 87% reported visiting a regional trail in 2017. Due to changes in question wording and response options, further year-over-year comparisons are not possible.

At the sub-regional level (See Appendix B for results), residents from the Gulf Islands are more likely to have not visited a regional park or trail in the past 12 months compared to residents from all other sub-regions. Westshore residents are most likely to have visited a regional park or trail in the past 12 months and are more likely than all other groups to have visited on a “daily or weekly” basis.

⁷ In 2017 residents were asked about their frequency of use for both parks and trails together. The 2024 survey asked about frequency of use for parks and trails separately, and serves as a new baseline for this metric.

Parks and Trails Visited

Residents were asked to indicate which **regional parks** and **regional trails**, if any, they had visited in the past 12 months. **Figure 6a** displays the percentage of residents who visited each regional park and **Figure 6b** displays the percentage of residents who visited each regional trail. Detailed survey results, including results by sub-region, are detailed in Appendix B.

The five most visited **regional parks** are:

- Elk/Beaver Lake (66%)
- Thetis Lake (57%)
- Island View Beach (52%)
- Witty's Lagoon (46%)
- East Sooke (46%)

The five least visited **regional parks** are:

- St. John Point (1%)
- Mountain Forest (2%)
- Matthews Point (2%)
- Mount Parke (2%)
- Wrigglesworth Lake (2%)

The most visited regional parks remain consistent from 2017 to 2024 (Elk/Beaver Lake, Thetis Lake, Island View Beach, Witty's Lagoon, and East Sooke). Three parks new to the list in 2024, are among the parks least visited by residents (St. John Point, Mountain Forest and Wrigglesworth Lake). Parks with the largest increases in visitors from 2017 to 2024 include Sooke Hills Wilderness Park (+8 percentage points [pp] since 2017), Sea to Sea Park Reserve (+5pp since 2017), and Mount Wells (+5pp since 2017).

The most visited **regional trail** is the Galloping Goose Regional Trail (visited by 72% of residents) while the least visited **regional trail** is the Mayne Island Regional Trail⁸ (visited by 2% of residents). The Galloping Goose Regional Trail was also the most visited regional trail in 2017. New to 2024, the Mayne Island Regional Trail, has the lowest volume of visitors. Visitation to trails is up slightly for the E&N Rail Trail (Humpback Connector) (+5pp) since 2017, but down slightly for the Galloping Goose (-6pp) and Lochside Trail (-3pp) over the same period.

Figure 6a. Regional Parks Visited (CRD Level Results), 2024 Capital Regional District Parks and Trails Resident Survey



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⁸ The Mayne Island Regional Trail was partially under construction in 2024. The 2024 survey will provide a baseline to measure use on Mayne Island Regional Trail.

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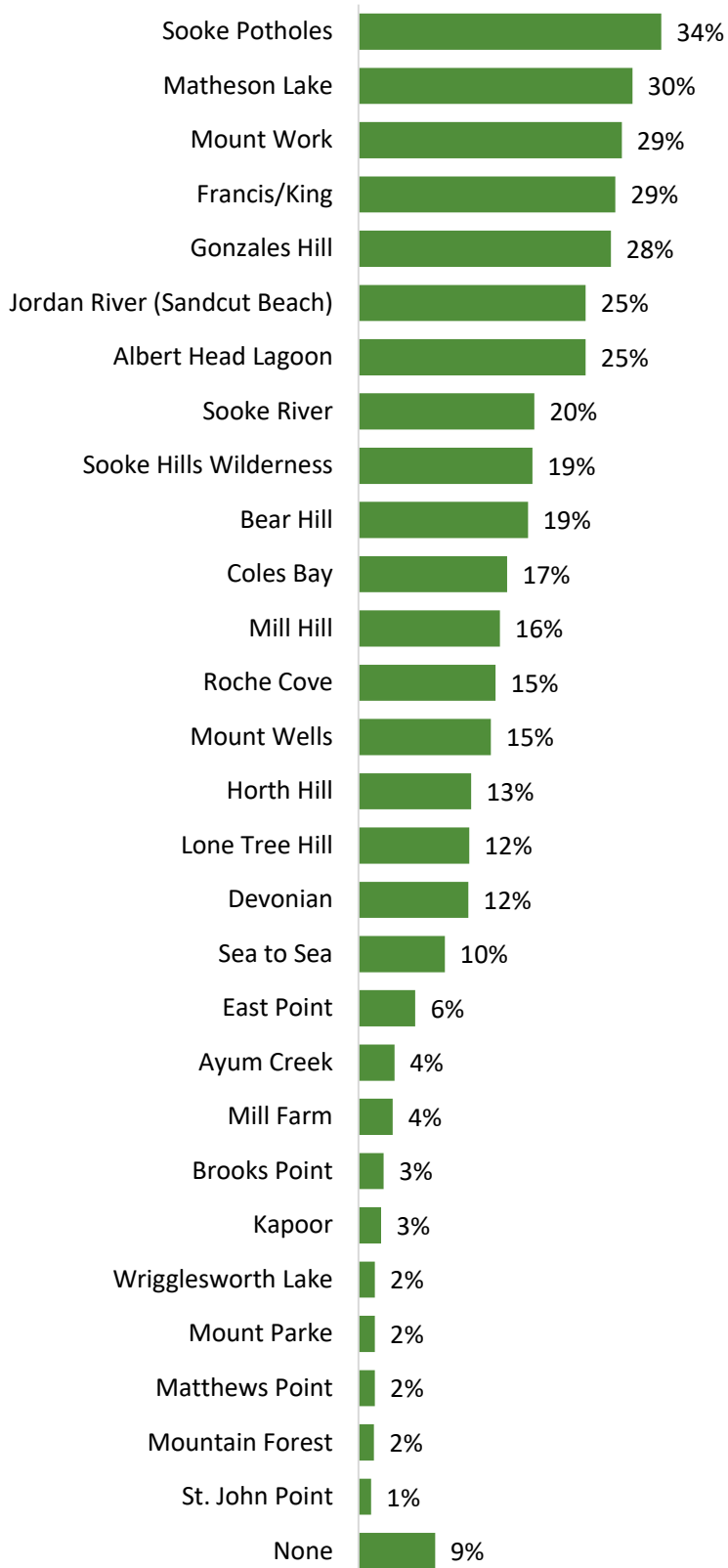
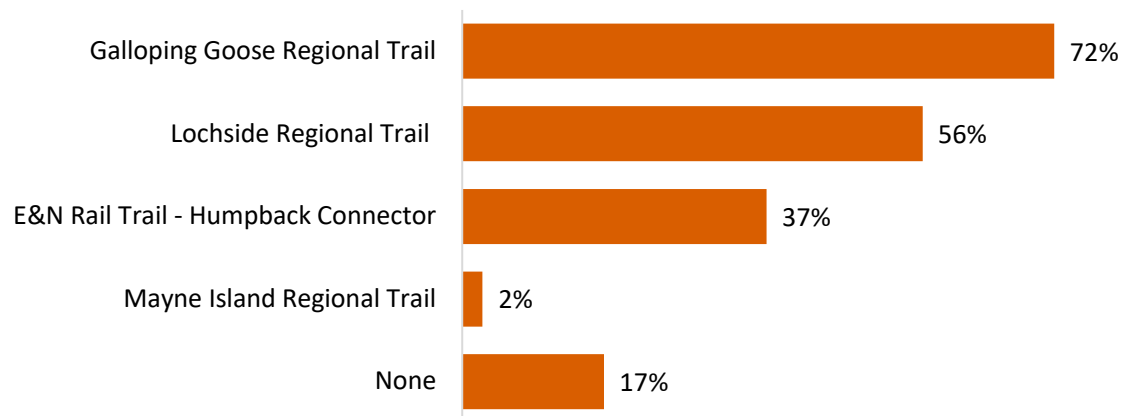


Figure 6b. Regional Trails Visited (CRD Level Results), 2024 Capital Regional District Parks and Trails Resident Survey



Visitation differences emerged for most of the regional parks and trails across sub-regions (See Appendix B for details), likely reflecting the closeness and accessibility of the regional parks and trails to residents.



Activities Completed within Regional Parks and Trails

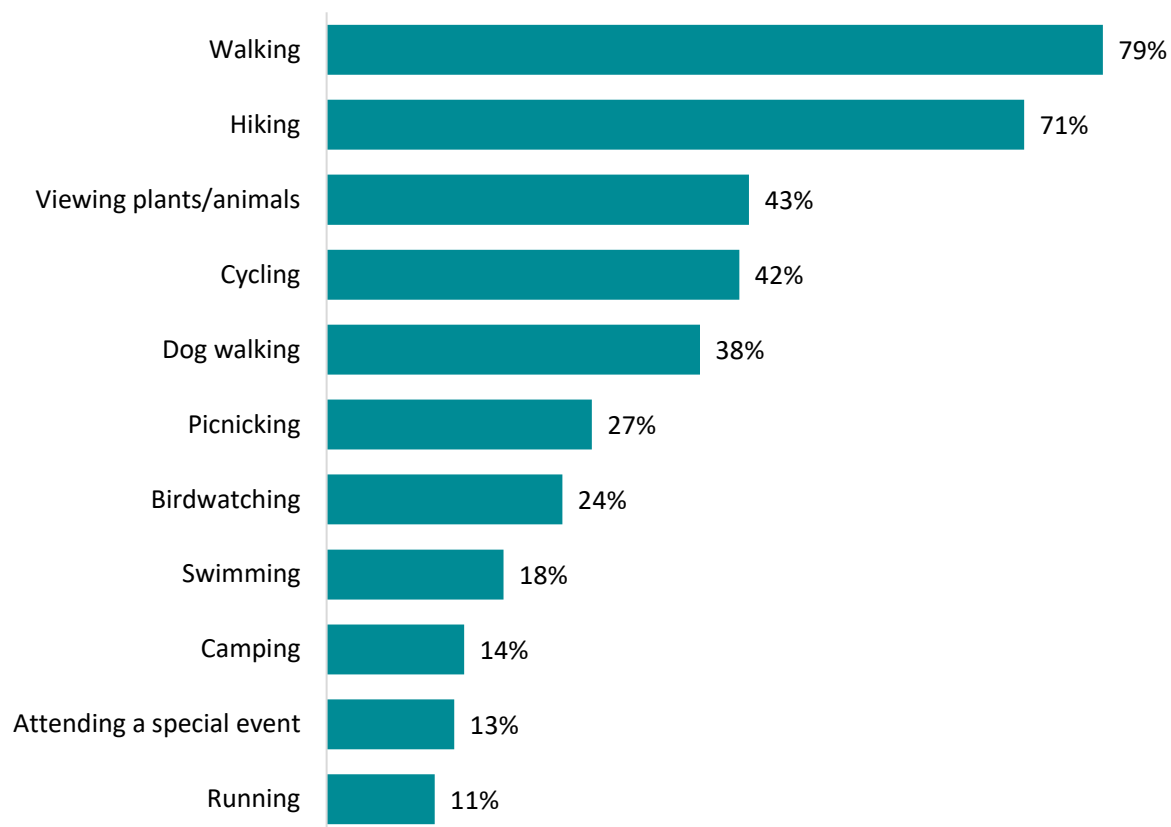
Residents were presented with a list of outdoor recreation activities and asked to select up to five main activities they do the most in regional parks and trails. [Figure 7](#) displays the percentage of residents who engage in each activity. Detailed survey results, including sub-regional results, can be found in Appendix B.

The most frequently reported activities in regional parks and trails include:

- “Walking” (79%)
- “Hiking” (71%)
- “Viewing plants/animals” (43%)
- “Cycling” (42%)
- “Dog-walking” (38%)

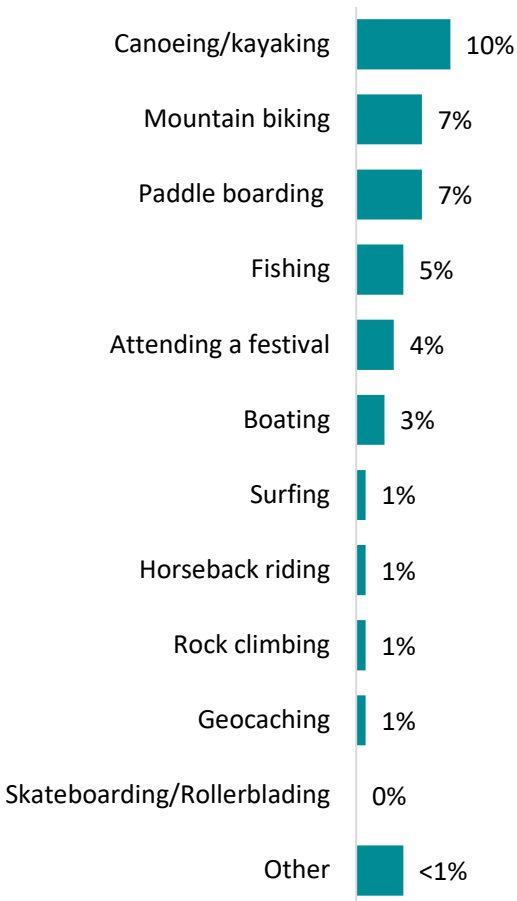
The top three activities remained the same since residents were last surveyed in 2017, however the popularity of cycling as an activity has more than doubled from 2017 (20%) to 2024 (42%).

Figure 7. Regional Park and Trail Activities (CRD Level Results), 2024 Capital Regional District Parks and Trails Resident Survey



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Cycling is more popular among residents of the Urban Core (45%), compared to other sub-regions, particularly Gulf Island residents (27%). Dog walking (44%), swimming (22%) and camping (20%) are more common among Westshore residents, compared to other sub-regions (See Appendix B for full results by sub-region). Birdwatching (36%) and boating (9%) are more popular with Gulf Island residents, while boating (7%) and horseback riding (2%) are more popular among residents of the Saanich Peninsula, compared to the other sub-regions. The differences observed across sub-regions, are likely influenced by the unique socio-demographic profiles and varying levels of access to different types of regional parks and trails in each area.

Transportation Mode to Regional Parks and Trails

Residents were asked to indicate their most frequent mode of transport⁹ to **regional parks** and **regional trails**. **Figure 8a** displays the most frequent mode of travel to regional parks and **Figure 8b** displays the most frequent mode of travel to regional trails. Detailed survey results, including sub-regional results, can be found in Appendix B.

Most residents (81%) primarily use a personal vehicle to travel to regional parks. However, travel to regional trails is more varied, with top modes including a personal vehicle (parked near trail access) (39%), a personal bicycle (24%) or walking (22%).

Figure 8a. Most Frequent Mode of Travel to Regional Parks (CRD Level Results), 2024 Capital Regional District Parks and Trails Resident Survey

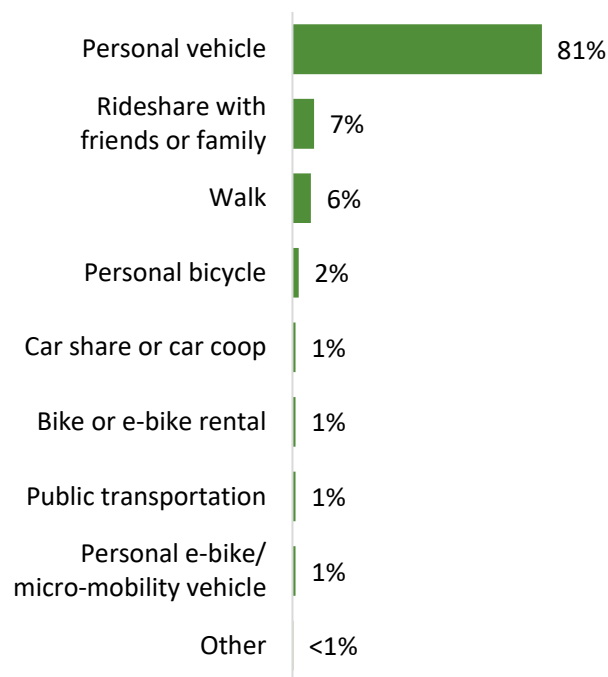
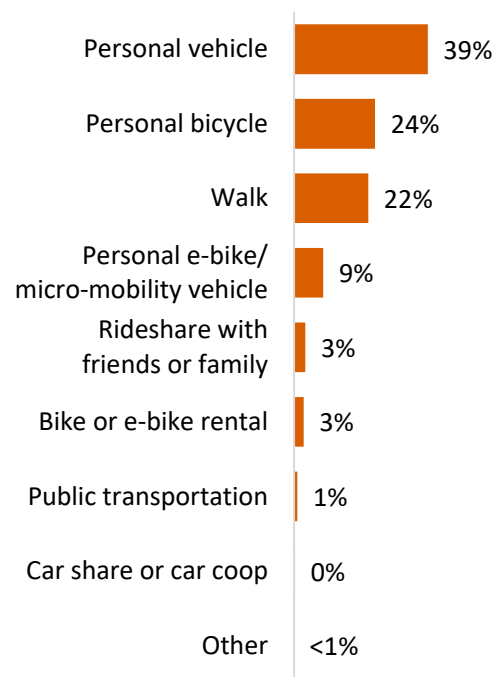


Figure 8b. Most Frequent Mode of Travel to Regional Trails (CRD Level Results), 2024 Capital Regional District Parks and Trails Resident Survey



Transportation modes to regional parks do not differ across sub-regions. However, when travelling to regional trails, residents from the Gulf Islands (58%), Westshore (49%) and the Saanich Peninsula (47%), are more likely to utilize a personal vehicle than residents of the Urban Core (33%). Residents from the Urban Core (28%) are more likely to use a personal bicycle to access regional trails, compared to the other sub-regions, particularly those from the Westshore (14%).

⁹ New question for 2024. The 2024 results will serve as a baseline for this measure.

Barriers to Visiting Regional Parks

Residents who had not visited a regional park within the last 12 months (n=177) were asked to identify the barriers that prevented them from visiting. [Figure 9](#) provides a detailed breakdown of the barriers selected by **non-visitors**. Detailed survey results, including sub-regional results, can be found in Appendix B.

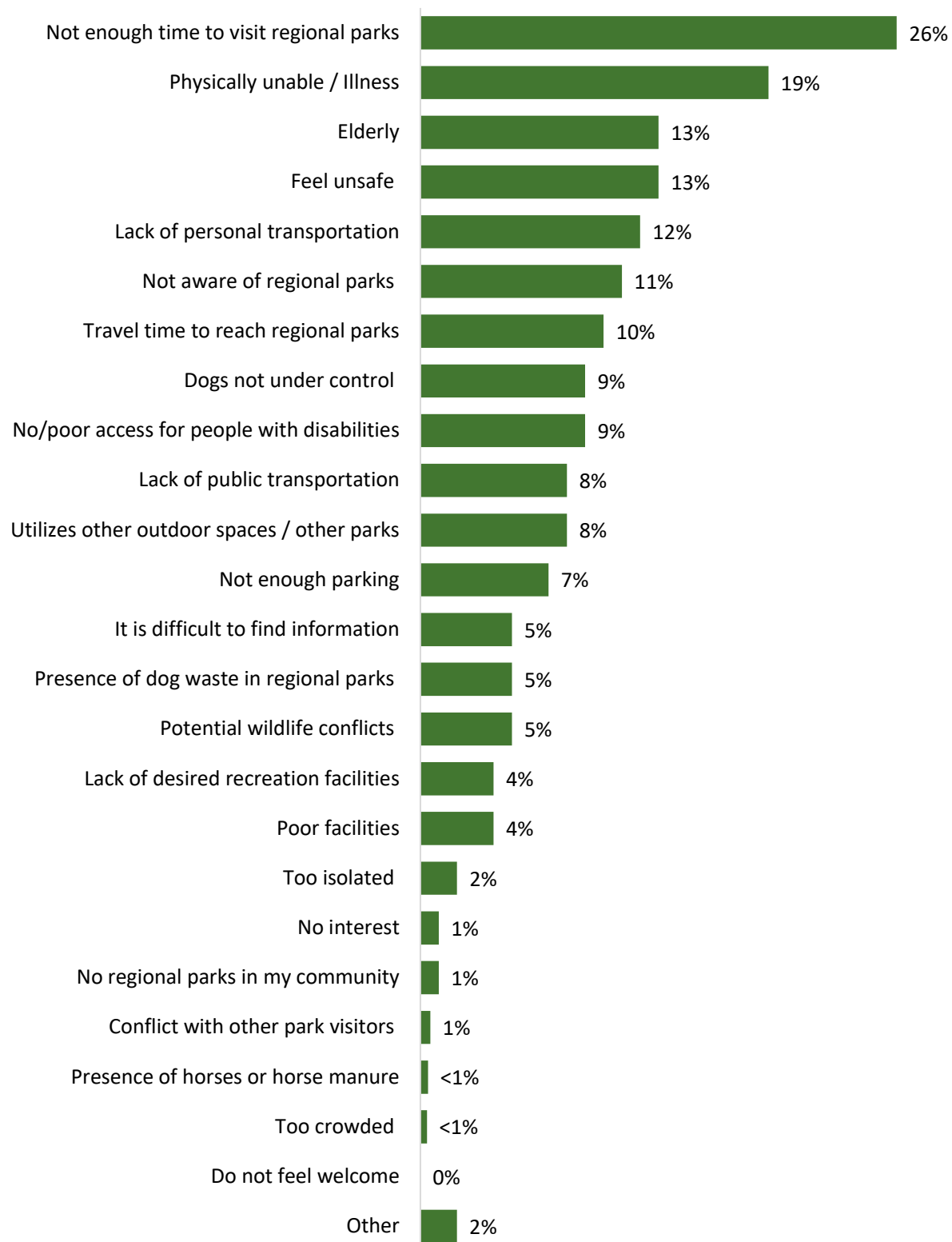
The top five barriers to visiting regional parks for those who did not visit a park in the last 12 months are:

- “Not enough time to visit regional parks” (26%)
- “Physically unable / Illness” (19%)
- “Elderly” (13%)
- “Feel unsafe” (13%)
- “Lack of personal transportation to regional parks” (12%)

The 2024 survey allowed residents to report on barriers to visiting regional parks separate from trails, whereas the 2017 survey asked about barriers for parks and trails collectively. In 2017, the top barriers for parks and trails included off-leash dogs (37%), not enough time to visit (25%), too far from home (20%), feels unsafe (14%) and too many cyclists (13%). “Lack of time” was also the top barrier noted in 2005. The consistent ranking of “lack of time” and “safety concerns” as top barriers over time suggests these may be enduring issues affecting park visitation.



Figure 9. Barriers to Visiting Regional Parks (CRD Level Results), 2024 Capital Regional District Parks and Trails Resident Survey



Barriers to Visiting Regional Trails

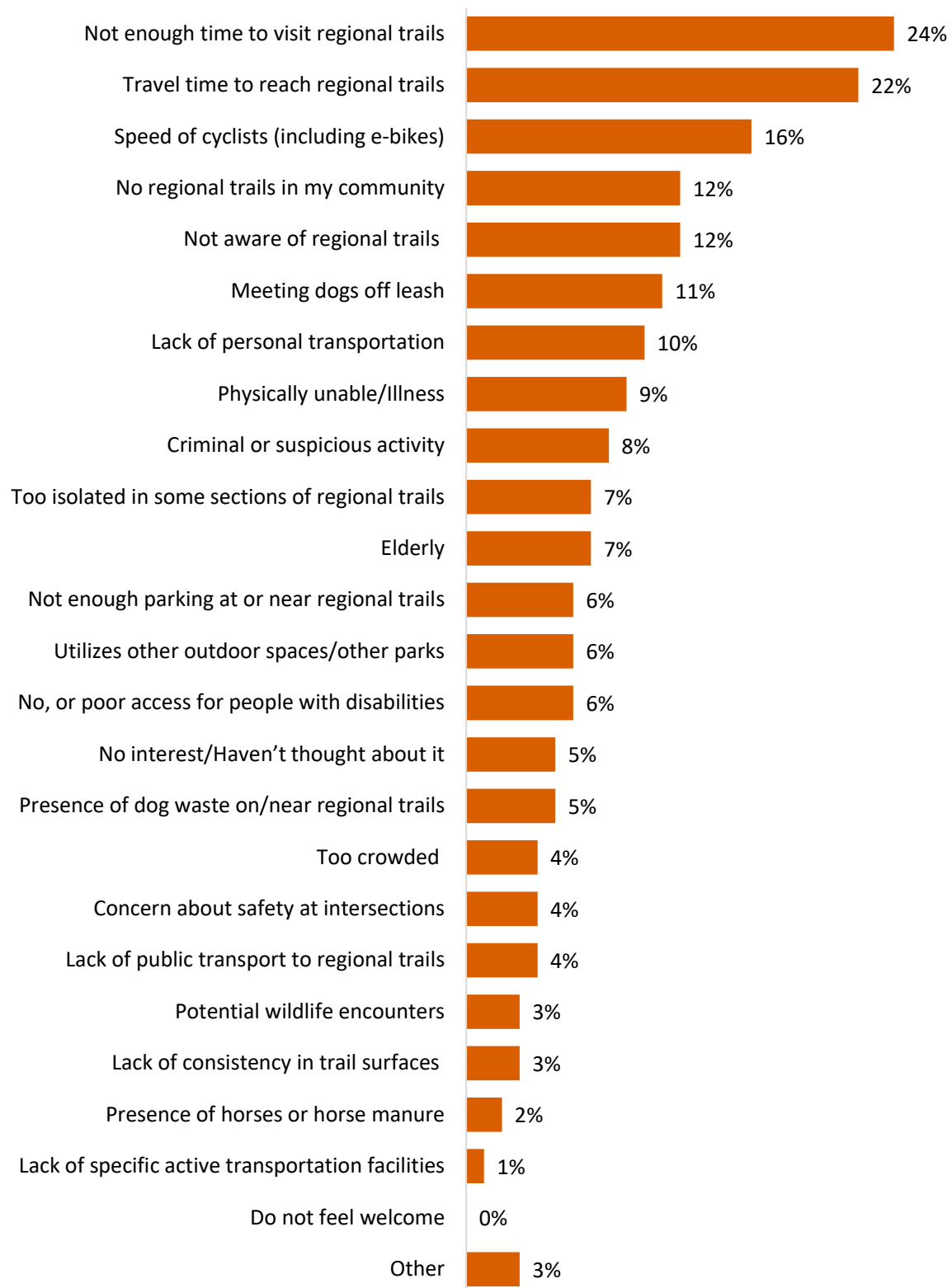
Residents who had not visited a regional trail within the last 12 months (n=385) were asked to identify reasons for their lack of visitation. [Figure 10](#) provides a detailed breakdown of the barriers selected by non-visitors. Detailed survey results, including sub-regional results, can be found in Appendix B.

The top five barriers to visiting regional trails among those who did not visit a trail in the last 12 months are:

- “Not enough time to visit regional trails” (24%)
- “Travel time to reach regional trails” (22%)
- “Speed of cyclists (including e-bikes)” (16%)
- “No regional trails in my community” (12%)
- “Not aware of regional trails” (12%)

The 2024 survey allowed residents to report on barriers to visiting regional parks separate from trails, whereas the 2017 survey asked about barriers for parks and trails collectively. In 2017, the top barriers for parks and trails included off-leash dogs (37%), not enough time to visit (25%), too far from home (20%), feels unsafe (14%) and too many cyclists (13%). “Lack of time” was also the top barrier noted in 2005. The consistent emergence of “lack of time”, concerns about travel distance, and concerns about conflicts with cyclists as top barriers over time suggests these may be enduring issues affecting park visitation.

Figure 10. Barriers to Visiting Regional Trails (CRD Level Results), 2024 Capital Regional District Parks and Trails Resident Survey

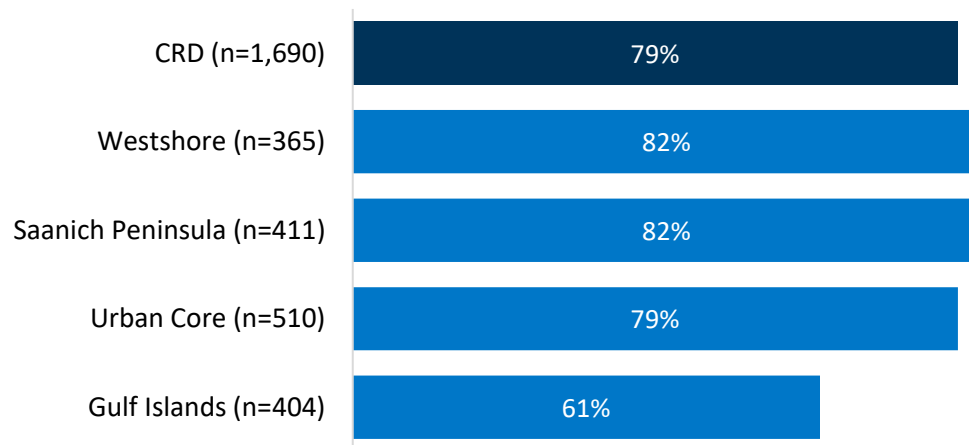


Satisfaction

Satisfaction with Regional Parks and Trails

When asked to assess their overall level of satisfaction with their regional parks and trails system experiences, most (79%) residents report being satisfied¹⁰ (Figure 11a).

Figure 11a. Percentage of Satisfied Residents (CRD and by Sub-Region), Capital Regional District Parks and Trails Resident Survey



At the sub-regional level, residents living in the Westshore and the Saanich Peninsula sub-regions appear to be the most satisfied with parks and trails, while those living in the Gulf Island sub-region have the lowest level of satisfaction. While this pattern was also identified in 2017, the gap between the sub-regions has widened as levels of satisfaction for Gulf Islands residents dropped more than their Westshore and Saanich Peninsula counterparts (Gulf Islands, -19 pp; Westshore and Saanich Peninsula, -8pp).

While overall satisfaction remained high in 2024, it did see a decline of 11 percentage points (pp) since residents were last surveyed in 2017. At that time, overall satisfaction with CRD parks and trails was assessed at 90%. A similar satisfaction question was not asked in 2005.

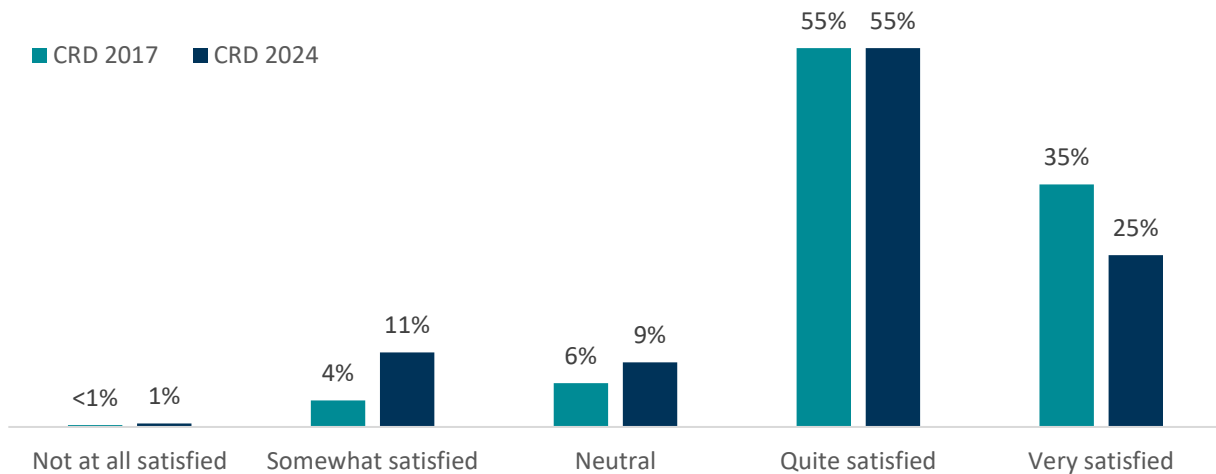
The distribution of responses for the satisfaction question is presented in Figure 11b for both 2017 and 2024. A closer examination of resident satisfaction over time shows stability among the proportion of

¹⁰ Percentage of respondents who answered with a “Quite Satisfied” or “Very Satisfied” to the question: *Overall, how satisfied are you with your regional parks and trails system experiences?*

residents who are "Quite satisfied", but a decline in the proportion of "Very satisfied" respondents (-10pp) and small increases in the "Somewhat satisfied" (+7pp) and "Neutral" (+3pp) responses.

Factors that may have impacted this shift in satisfaction are outlined earlier in the report (Section: Factors Influencing Regional Parks and Trails (2017 - 2024)).

Figure 11b. Resident Satisfaction 2024 and 2017, Response Distribution (CRD), Capital Regional District Parks and Trails Resident Survey



Contributions of Regional Parks and Trails

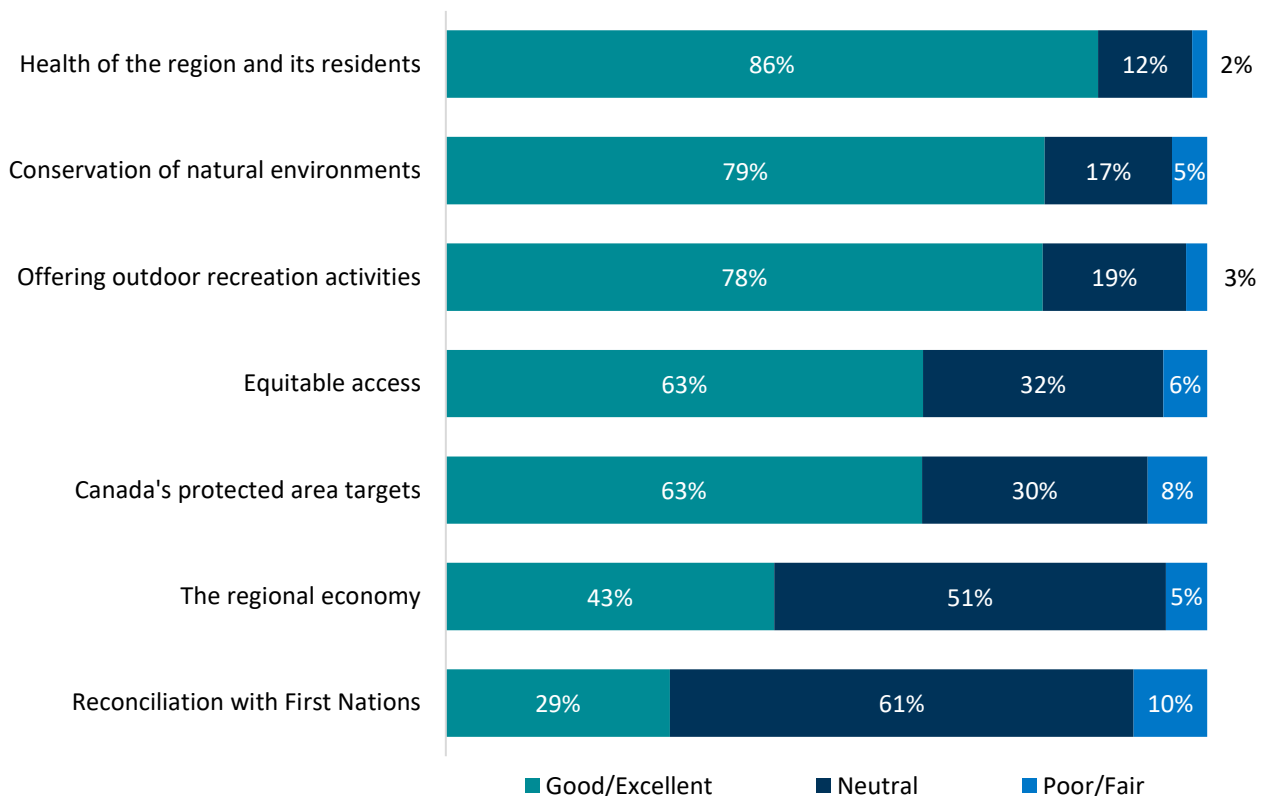
Residents were asked to rate regional parks and trails contributions¹¹ over the past five years. [Figure 12](#) displays a rating breakdown for each contribution area. Detailed survey results, including sub-regional results, can be found in Appendix B.

Most residents feel that regional parks and trails are good/excellent at contributing to:

- “The health of the region and its residents” (86%)
- “The conservation of natural environments” (79%)
- “Offering outdoor recreational activities” (78%)

This result is very similar to what was found in 2017. At that time, most residents felt that regional parks and trails contribute to the health of the region and its residents (89%), and many viewed CRD parks and trails as vital to conservation of natural environments (78%) and offering spaces for outdoor recreational activities (78%).

Figure 12. Regional Parks and Trails Contributions (CRD Level Results), 2024 Capital Regional District Parks and Trails Resident Survey



¹¹ Several contribution areas were added to the 2024 survey questionnaire to better reflect Strategic Plan priorities.

A smaller proportion of respondents (43%) feel that parks and trails successfully contribute to the regional economy (i.e., fees, regional business, tourism). Regardless, this is a higher proportion of respondents than in 2017; at that time just over one-third of residents believed CRD parks and trails effectively contributing to the regional economy (35%).

When asked about whether regional parks and trails effectively contribute to reconciliation with First Nations, three times as many residents reported that they are (29%), compared to the proportion who think they are not (10%). However, a large proportion of residents were “neutral” (61%) suggesting that most residents do not hold a strong opinion on this matter¹². Increasing resident awareness of the CRD’s actions towards reconciliation with First Nations groups within the context of regional parks and trails may serve to improve residents’ ratings of this contribution area.

At the sub-regional level (See Appendix B for detailed results), residents from the Gulf Islands consistently provided lower positive ratings across all items, compared to the other three sub-regions.



¹² New question for 2024. The 2024 results will serve as a baseline for this measure.

Management and Funds

Priorities for Regional Parks and Trails

Residents were provided with a list of activities¹³ and asked to indicate which should be given priority over the next 5 years to enhance their enjoyment of the regional parks and trails system. [Figure 13](#) displays a breakdown of priority ratings for each item. Detailed survey results, including sub-regional results, can be found in Appendix B.

The highest priorities for residents are as follows:

- “Protecting the natural environment” (68%)
- “Repairing and maintaining existing facilities” (59%)
- “Undertaking restoration projects to conserve natural environments” (50%)

These findings are consistent with the 2017 survey, where residents identified the same top three priorities.

Priority areas rated as less important by residents include:

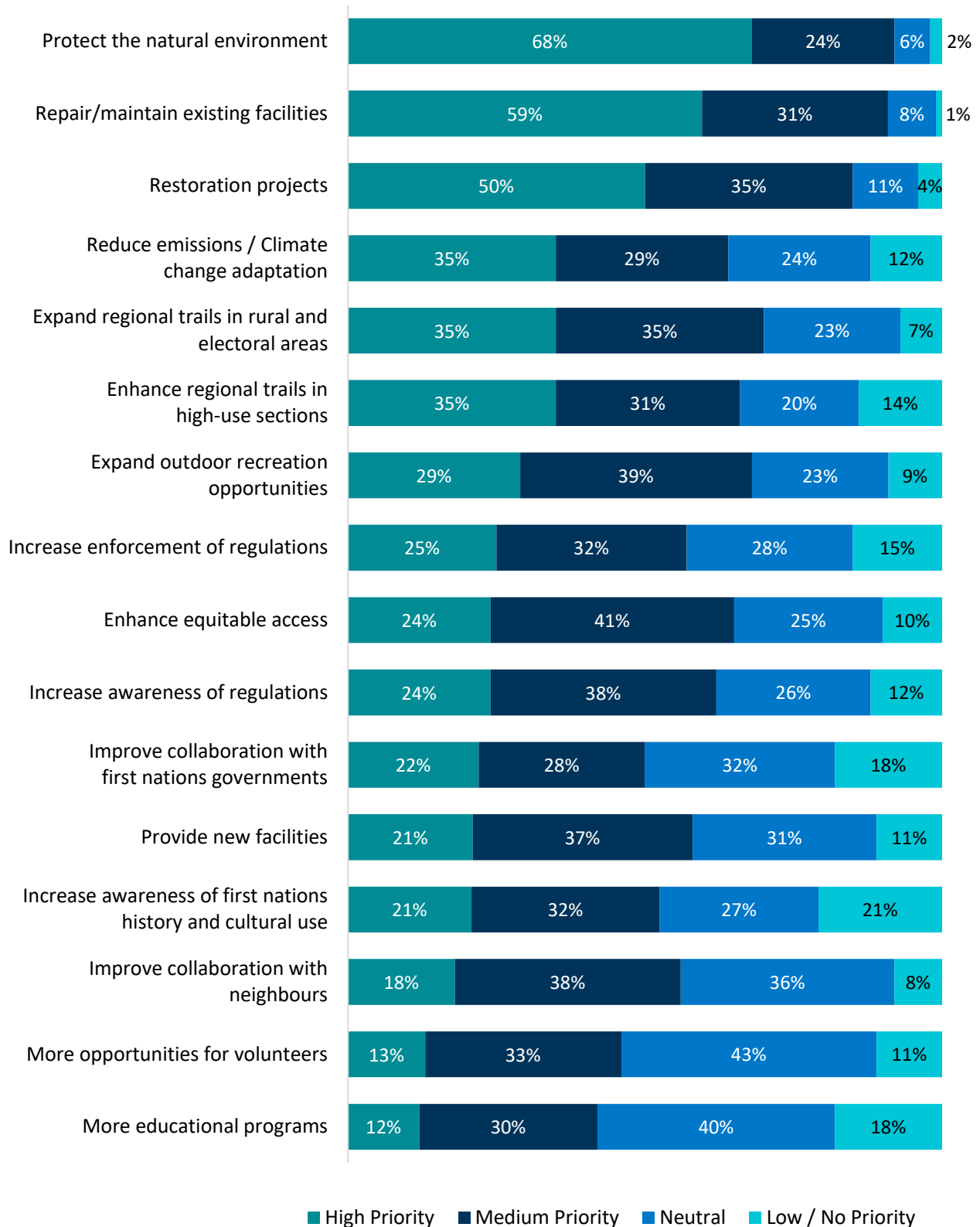
- “Improving collaboration with regional parks and trails neighbours (i.e., Government agencies, stakeholders)” (18%)
- “Providing more opportunities for volunteers” (13%)
- “Providing more educational programs” (12%)

These findings are somewhat consistent with the 2017 survey: most residents did not rate expanding educational programs and volunteer opportunities as high priority activities at that time. Resident support to improve collaboration with regional parks and trails neighbours decreased from 25% in 2017 to only 18% in 2024 (a decline of -7pp across years).

Notable differences emerged across sub-regions for some priorities. Gulf Island residents place a higher priority on expanding regional trails in rural areas (49%) compared to those from the Saanich Peninsula (29%). Additionally, more Gulf Island residents are proponents of activities aimed at reconciliation, such as improving collaboration with First Nations governments (25%) and increasing awareness of First Nations history and cultural use (26%). Residents from the Urban Core (37%) and Westshore (34%) are more likely to suggest that “enhancement of regional trails in high-use sections with separated paths and lighting” is a high priority for the CRD, relative to the Gulf Islands (24%) and Saanich Peninsula (27%).

¹³ Several activities / priority areas were added to the 2024 survey questionnaire to better reflect Strategic Plan priorities.

Figure 13. Regional Park and Trail Priorities (CRD Level Results), 2024 Capital Regional District Parks and Trails Resident Survey



Land Acquisition Fund Priorities

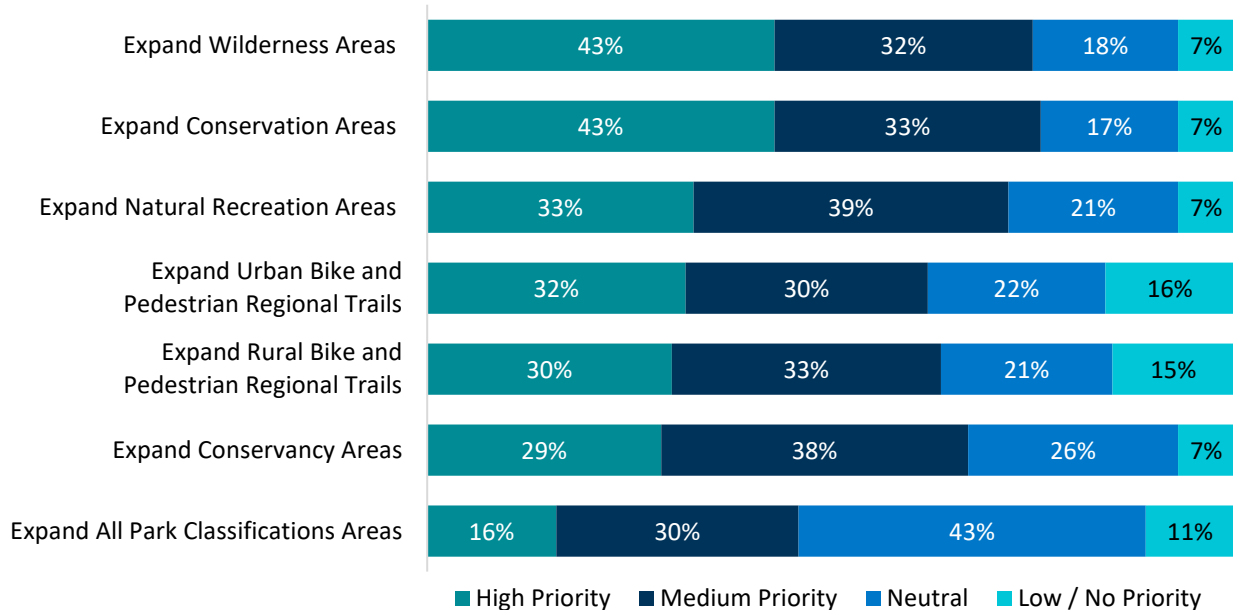
The CRD's 2022 Financial Plan incorporated a new approach to land acquisition that leverages borrowing capacity to purchase land that would otherwise be unattainable on a pay-as-you-go savings model. This financing structure is anticipated to create a revenue stream that can be used to fund up to \$50 million of land purchases over 15 years, thereby leveraging a net increase in land values more than \$100 million.

The CRD's Regional Parks and Trails Strategic Plan (2022-2032) supports global, national and provincial conservation targets, and working with First Nations, to increase representation of all four regional natural areas: (Conservation Areas, Wilderness Areas, Natural Recreation Areas and Conservancy Areas¹⁴) and two classifications of regional trails (Urban Bike & Pedestrian, Rural Bike & Pedestrian).

Residents were asked to indicate their priorities for how the Land Acquisition Fund should be spent over the next five years to expand classification areas. [Figure 14](#) displays a breakdown of priority ratings for each item. Detailed survey results, including sub-regional results, can be found in Appendix B.

According to residents, using the fund to expand wilderness areas (43%) and conservation areas (43%) are the highest priorities.

Figure 14. Regional Park and Trail Land Acquisition Fund Priorities (CRD Level Results), 2024 Capital Regional District Parks and Trails Resident Survey



¹⁴ Conservancy Areas are a new park classification introduced in the 2022-2032 Strategic Plan. Conservancy Areas protect natural assets and areas primarily for their intrinsic cultural use value and to offer visitor opportunities that enhance understanding and appreciation for Indigenous cultural use where appropriate. As of 2024, no regional parks are designated as conservancy areas. As the CRD designates and enacts conservancies in regional parks, this question will be used to monitor support for conservancies going forward.

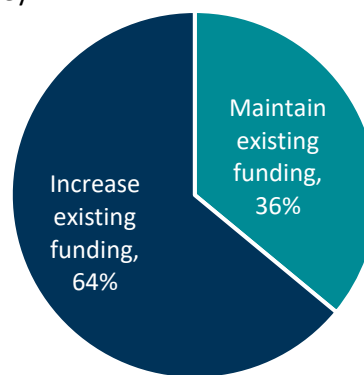
Regional Parks and Trails Funding Approach

Residents were asked for their input on how approach funding the operation of the regional parks and trails system in the future. [Figure 15](#) displays the response breakdown. Detailed survey results, including sub-regional results, can be found in Appendix B.

Nearly two-thirds of residents (64%) stated they would like to see an increase in funding to operate regional parks and trails, while the remaining 36% would prefer to maintain existing funding levels.

The proportion of residents supporting increased funding has grown over time, from 57% in 2017 to 64% in 2024 (an increase of +7 percentage points).

Figure 15. Regional Park and Trail Funding (CRD Level Results), 2024 Capital Regional District Parks and Trails Resident Survey

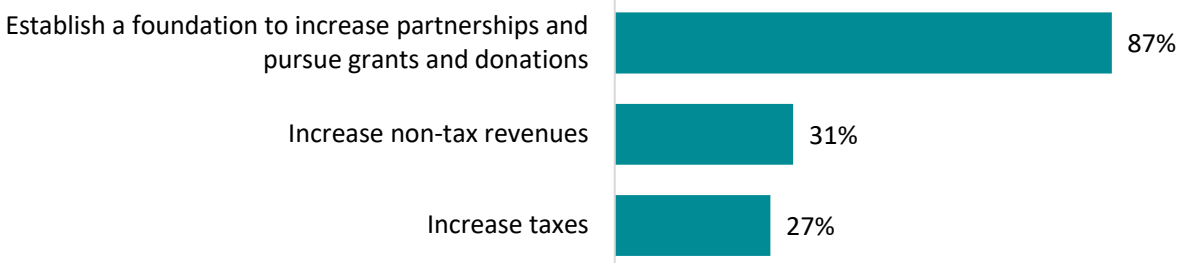


Regional Parks and Trails Funding Sources

Residents were asked which strategies should be employed to secure funding for regional parks and trails¹⁵. [Figure 16](#) displays the response breakdown. Detailed survey results, including sub-regional results, can be found in Appendix B.

Most residents (87%) supported establishing a foundation to increase partnerships and pursue grants and donations. In contrast, less than one-third of residents endorsed increasing non-tax revenue sources (e.g., paid parking, park user fees, food services, equipment rentals, merchandise sales) (31%) or raising taxes (27%).

Figure 16. Regional Park and Trail Funding Sources (CRD Level Results), 2024 Capital Regional District Parks and Trails Resident Survey



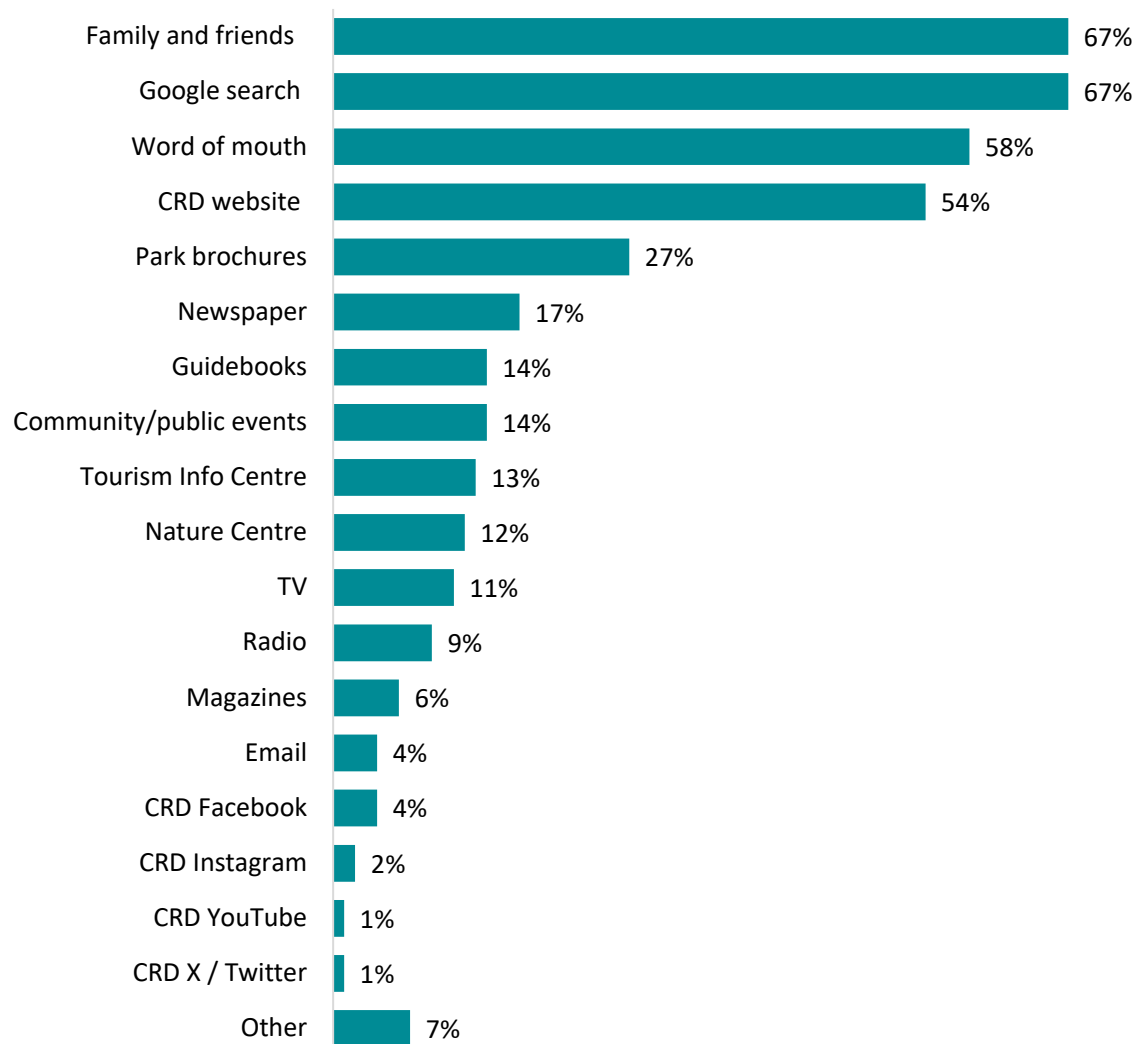
¹⁵ New question in 2024.

Information Sources

Residents were asked to indicate which information sources they use to find out about regional parks and trails. [Figure 17](#) displays the proportion of respondents who selected each information source. Detailed survey results, including sub-regional results, can be found in Appendix B.

“Family and friends” and “google searches” are the most used sources, with both being cited by 67% of respondents, followed closely by “word of mouth” (58%). The “CRD website” is also a significant source of information, used by 54% of respondents. Results highlight the importance of both interpersonal and digital sources of information for residents who wish to learn more about regional parks and trails.

Figure 17. Regional Park and Trail Information Sources (CRD Level Results), 2024 Capital Regional District Parks and Trails Resident Survey



Resident Value Orientations

Value orientation refers to the underlying beliefs and attitudes that shape individuals' perspectives towards an object, and in this case, regional parks and trails. Residents were asked to rate their agreement with a series of value statements¹⁶ that reflect these perspectives. [Figure 18](#) displays a breakdown of agreement for each values statement. Detailed survey results, including sub-regional results, can be found in Appendix B.

The three value orientations with the highest levels of agreement overall are:

- "Regional parks and trails are important for outdoor recreation" (97%)
- "We have a responsibility to future generations to protect regional parks and trails" (96%)
- "Regional parks and trails are important for their beauty" (93%)

The two value orientations with lower levels of agreement overall are:

- "I have a cultural bond with regional parks and trails lands" (25%)
- "Outdoor recreational use of regional parks and trails is more important than protecting natural environments" (16%)

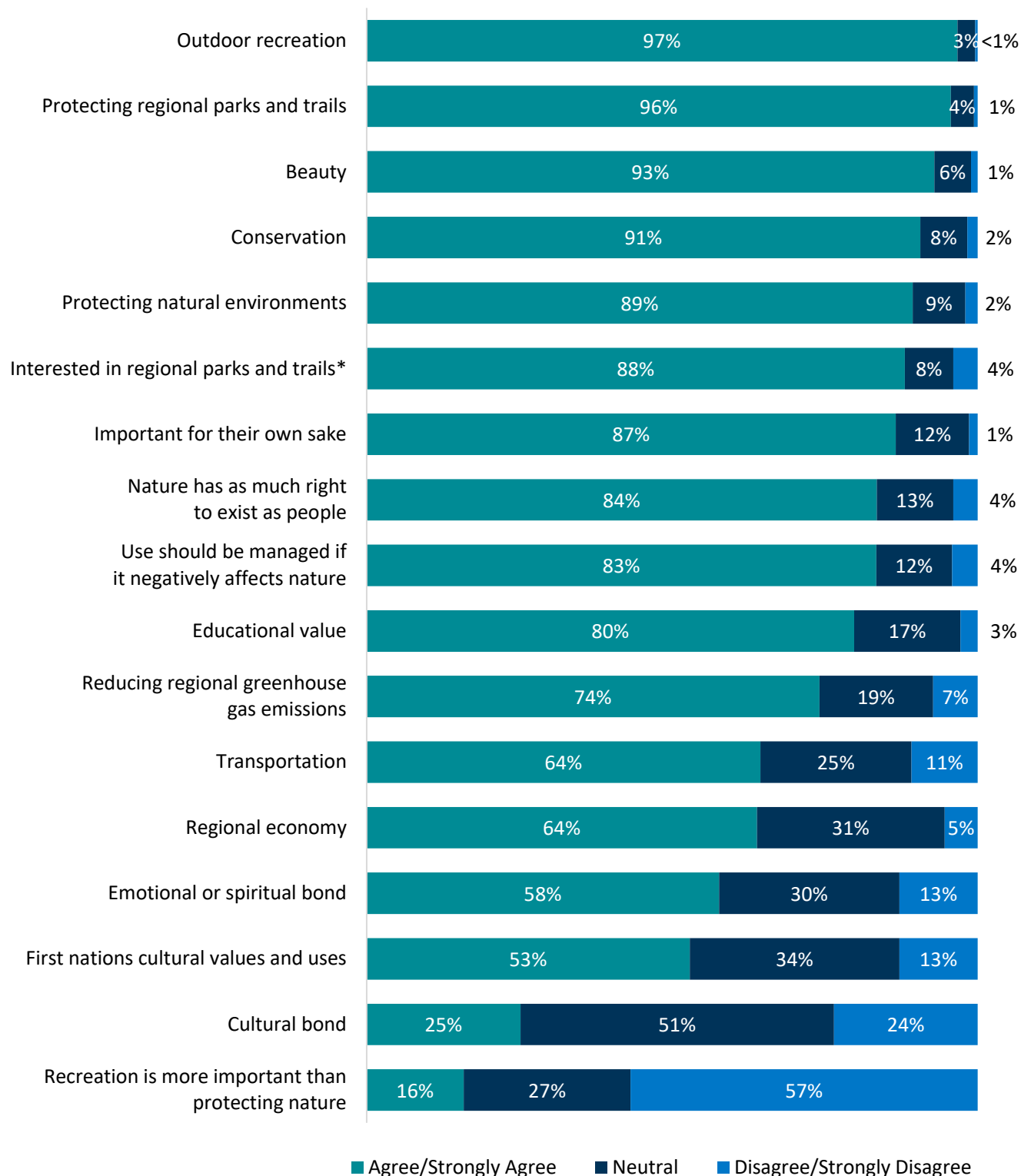
Residents' top and bottom value orientations remained relatively consistent from 2017 to 2024.

Residents continue to acknowledge the value of parks and trails for recreation, conservation, and beauty. Meanwhile, fewer residents continue to report having a cultural connection to the land. The belief that recreational use should take precedence over environmental protection also remained relatively steady over this period (down -1pp since 2017).

Overall, value orientations did not significantly differ by sub-region (See Appendix B). The one notable exception was that Urban Core residents (67%) are more likely to agree with the statement "Regional trails are important for transportation" compared to Gulf Islands residents (49%).

¹⁶ A value orientation scale was previously developed and adapted for regional parks and trails in the 2017 survey year. Several values statements were added to the 2024 survey questionnaire to better reflect Strategic Plan priorities.

Figure 18. Resident Value Orientations towards Regional Parks and Trails (CRD Level Results), 2024 Capital Regional District Parks and Trails Resident Survey

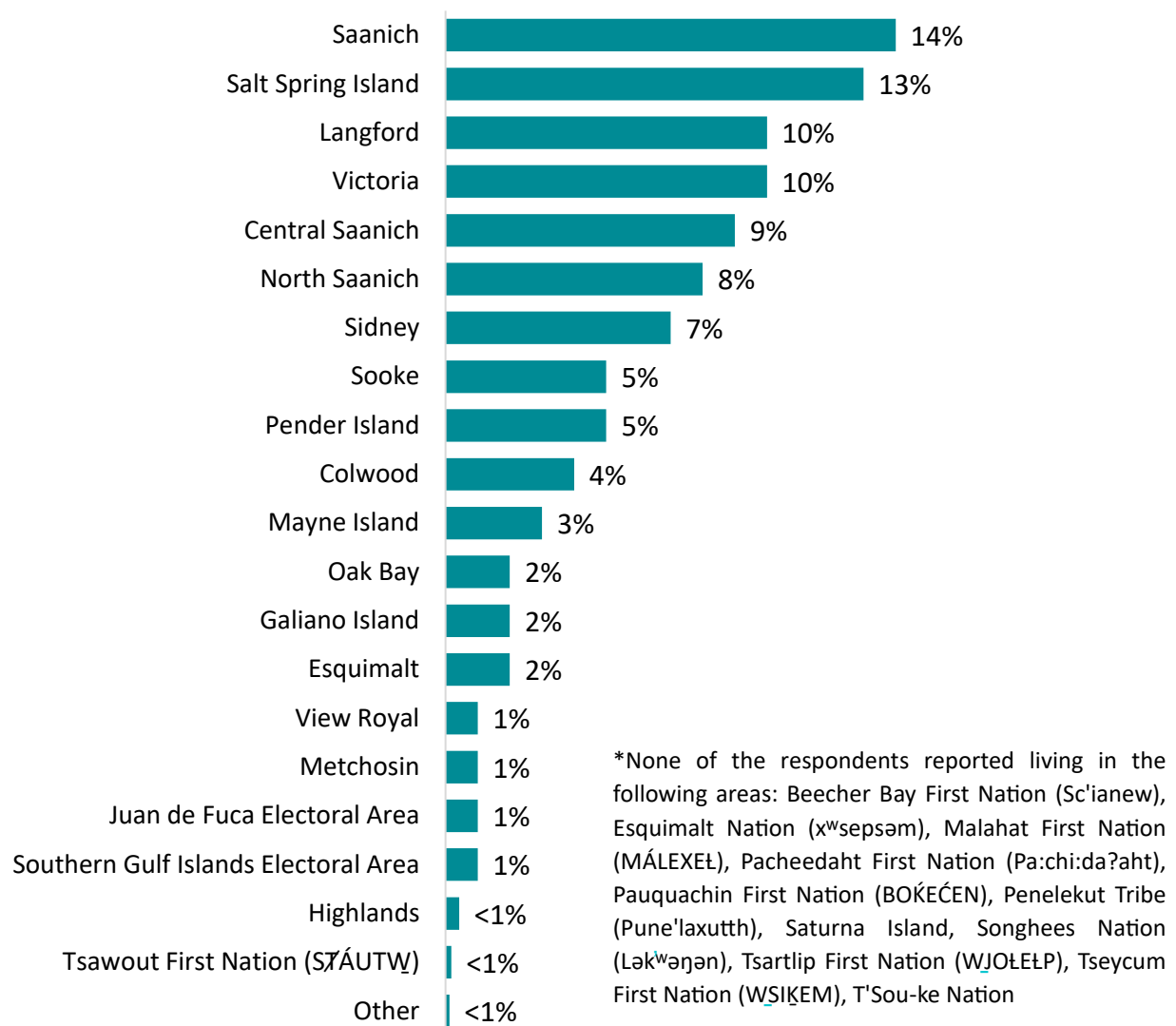


*Survey item reverse coded.

Respondent Socio-Demographic Characteristics

This section summarizes the respondent characteristics of the residents who completed the survey. While this information might be helpful for providing context to the information in this report, it is important to recognize that the residents who responded to the survey may not be representative of all CRD parks and trails visitors. Further details on sample representativeness can be found at the end of this section (see [Table 1](#)). Because [Figure 19a](#) through [Figure 19h](#) describe who answered the survey, the results are unweighted.

Figure 19a. Capital Region Areas where Survey Respondents Live* (Unweighted CRD Level Results), 2024
Capital Regional District Parks and Trails Resident Survey



The majority of respondents reside in Saanich, Salt Spring Island, Langford, Victoria or Central Saanich.

Figure 19b. Respondent Age (Unweighted CRD Level Results), 2024 Capital Regional District Parks and Trails Resident Survey

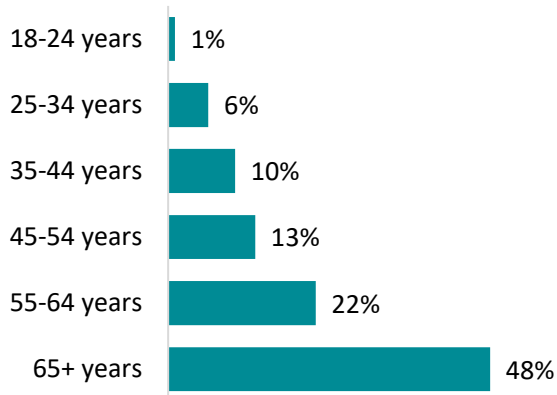


Figure 19c. Respondent Gender (Unweighted CRD Level Results), 2024 Capital Regional District Parks and Trails Resident Survey

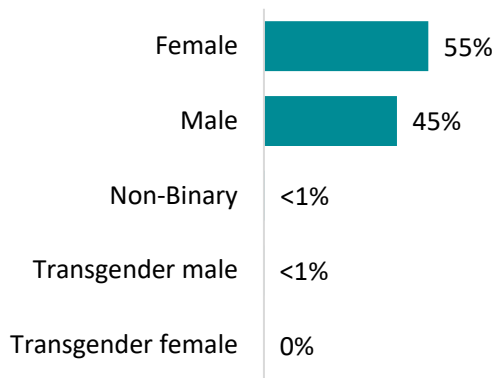
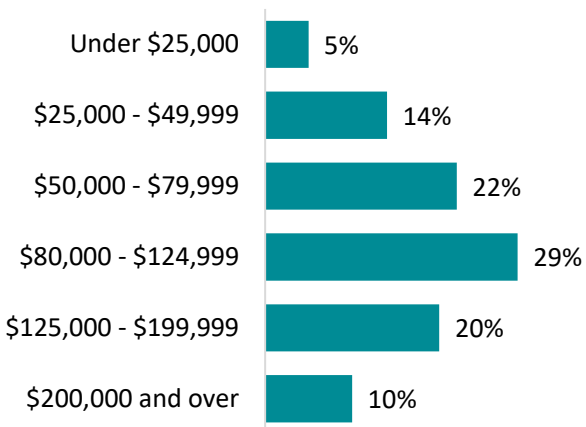


Figure 19d. Household Income (Unweighted CRD Level Results), 2024 Capital Regional District Parks and Trails Resident Survey



The survey was primarily completed by older adults, with nearly half of the participants aged 65 and older. Younger individuals were less likely to respond.

More females than males responded to the survey. Very few respondents identify as non-binary.

The income distribution shows a majority of respondents reporting household earnings in higher income brackets. A smaller proportion of respondents fall into lower income categories.

Figure 19e. Household Composition (Unweighted CRD Level Results), 2024 Capital Regional District Parks and Trails Resident Survey

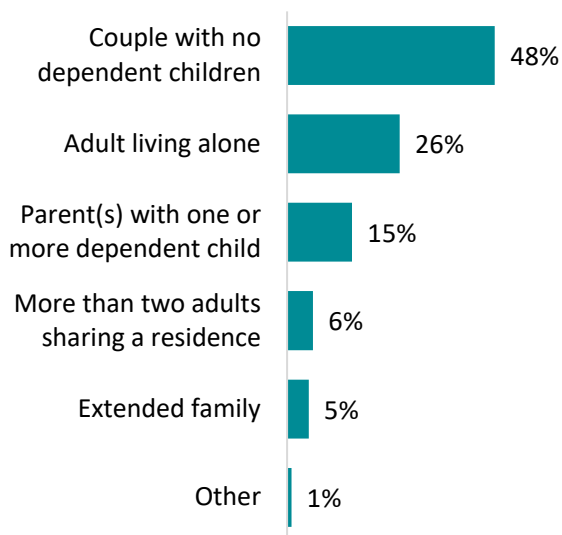


Figure 19g. Household with Members with Accessibility Requirements (Unweighted CRD Level Results), 2024 Capital Regional District Parks and Trails Resident Survey

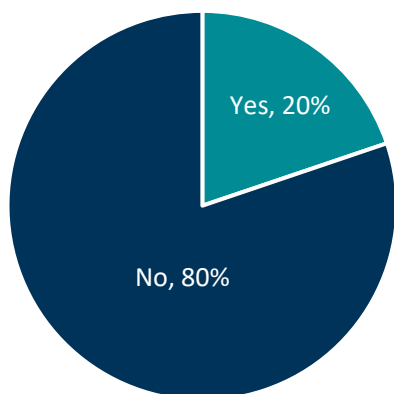
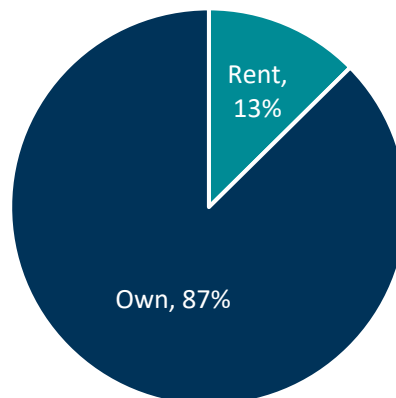


Figure 19f. Home Ownership (Unweighted CRD Level Results), 2024 Capital Regional District Parks and Trails Resident Survey



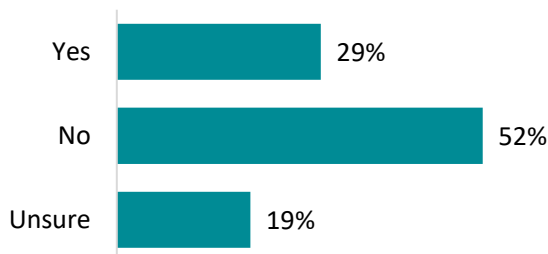
Survey respondents come from a variety of household types, with couples without children representing almost one-half of respondents.

Most respondents own their own homes.

One-fifth of respondents indicated that someone in their household has accessibility requirements.

While a sizable portion of residents are not interested in micro-mobility vehicles, there is still notable interest or uncertainty among almost one-half of respondents.

Figure 19h. Currently Owns / Plans to Own a Micro-Mobility Vehicle (Unweighted CRD Level Results), 2024 Capital Regional District Parks and Trails Resident Survey



Sample Representativeness

Table 1 displays the respondent characteristics for the 2024 Regional Parks and Trails Resident Survey Sample and the 2021 Census characteristics for the CRD. Some differences between the Resident Survey sample and the census population are apparent. As with most household surveys, older residents are over-represented in the sample and women were slightly more likely to complete the survey than men. The Resident Survey sample, when compared to 2021 Census data, also has a higher household income than the regional average with the small majority (59.8%) reporting household incomes of \$80,000 or greater.

Table 1. Socio-Demographic Sample Representativeness

Demographic Category	2024 Survey Sample Characteristics ¹	2021 Census Canada Characteristics ²	Difference
Age			
18-24 years	0.9%	7.0% ³	-6.1%
25-34 years	5.6%	16.1%	-10.5%
35-44 years	9.7%	15.9%	-6.2%
45-54 years	13.2%	14.8%	-1.6%
55-64 years	22.2%	17.2%	+5.0%
65 years or older	48.4%	29.0%	+19.4%
Gender			
Men+ (Male & Transgender Male)	44.6%	48.4%	-3.8%
Women+ (Female & Transgender Female)	55.1%	51.6%	+3.5%
Non-Binary	0.3%	NA [†]	NA [†]
Gross Household Income			
Under \$25,000	4.6%	8.2%	-3.6%
\$25,000 - \$49,999	13.9%	17.4%	-3.5%
\$50,000 - \$79,999	21.8%	21.5%	+0.3%
\$80,000 - \$124,999	29.3%	23.6%	+5.7%
\$125,000 - \$199,999	20.4%	19.2%	+1.2%
\$200,000 and over	10.1%	9.9%	+0.2%

¹ Unweighted Results

² Source: Statistics Canada, 2021 Census of Population <https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/dp-pd/prof/index.cfm?Lang=E>

³ Survey category did not align with Census categories for this age range. Data for census category "20 to 24 years" is presented.

[†] Category not available in census data.

APPENDIX A: DETAILED SURVEY METHODOLOGY

Survey Instrument

A survey with a standardized set of questions was administered to a random selection of residents within the CRD (see Appendix D). Key questions were retained from previous surveys to ensure comparability to historical survey data. In 2024, the survey included new questions to align with the CRD's 2022-2032 strategic priorities of Reconciliation, Climate Action and Resiliency, and Access and Equity. All responses in the survey were voluntary, thus participants were able to skip any question they did not wish to answer.

Sample Selection

The sampling approach for 2024 surveying used the 2021 CRD census population as a starting point and applied the method of cube-root proportional allocation to determine the desired proportional representation of each region for the survey (See [Table A.1](#)). Survey regions from 2017 were maintained to facilitate year-over-year comparisons (See [Figure A.1](#)).

Cube-root proportional allocation is an approach in which the sample sizes are determined proportionately from the cube roots of the population sizes of each region. This type of approach allows for relatively robust results at both the CRD and sub-regional levels and was chosen because of the contrast in the size of the populations in each region that would otherwise create imbalances in survey representation.

The sampling method was updated in 2024 in response to concerns that previous approaches over-represented residents of the Westshore compared to residents in other regions. This sampling method, in addition to applying weights to the final dataset, allows for more robust and representative results from the four CRD regions.

Table A.1 Sample Allocation by Sub-Region

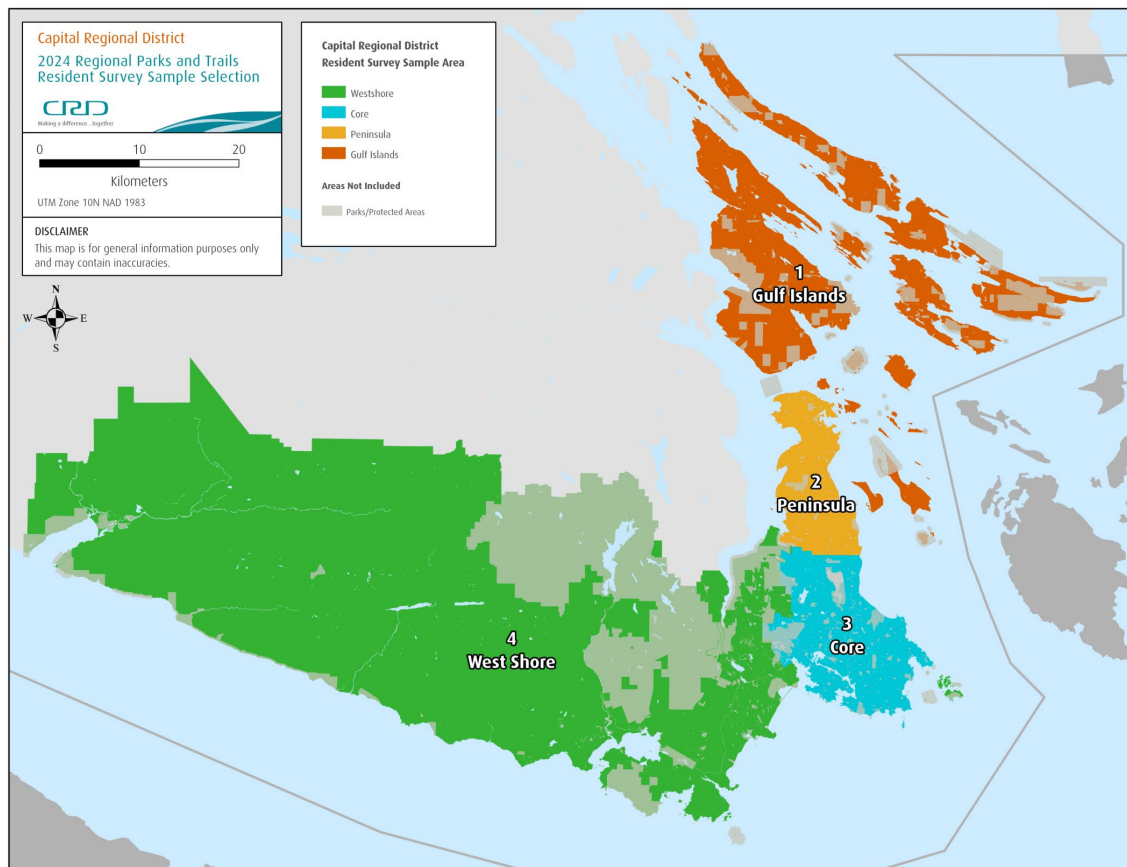
	2021 Census Population	Cube root of population	% of Cube root (% of sample from each region)	2024 Survey Sample
Gulf Islands (Salt Spring, Galiano, Mayne, Pender, Saturna)	17,736	26	15%	1,654
Saanich Peninsula (Central Saanich, North Saanich, Sidney)	44,820	36	21%	1,587
Urban Core (Esquimalt, Oak Bay, Saanich, Victoria, View Royal)	258,654	64	37%	2,303
Westshore (Colwood, Highlands, Juan de Fuca, Langford, Metchosin, Sooke)	94,241	46	27%	2,108
TOTAL	415,451	171	100%	7,652

Sample Purchase

The sample of Canada Post mailing addresses from the CRD was purchased from ASDE Inc. GIS files of the CRD denoting boundaries (Figure A.1) were provided to ensure the addresses fell within the survey's intended sampling regions.

To maintain proportional representation of household types in each region (those with landlines and those without), the sample was randomly drawn from two lists of households in the region; address-and-phone sample as well as addresses that could not be matched to a phone number.

Figure A.1 Map of Sub-Region Boundaries



Survey Administration / Data Collection

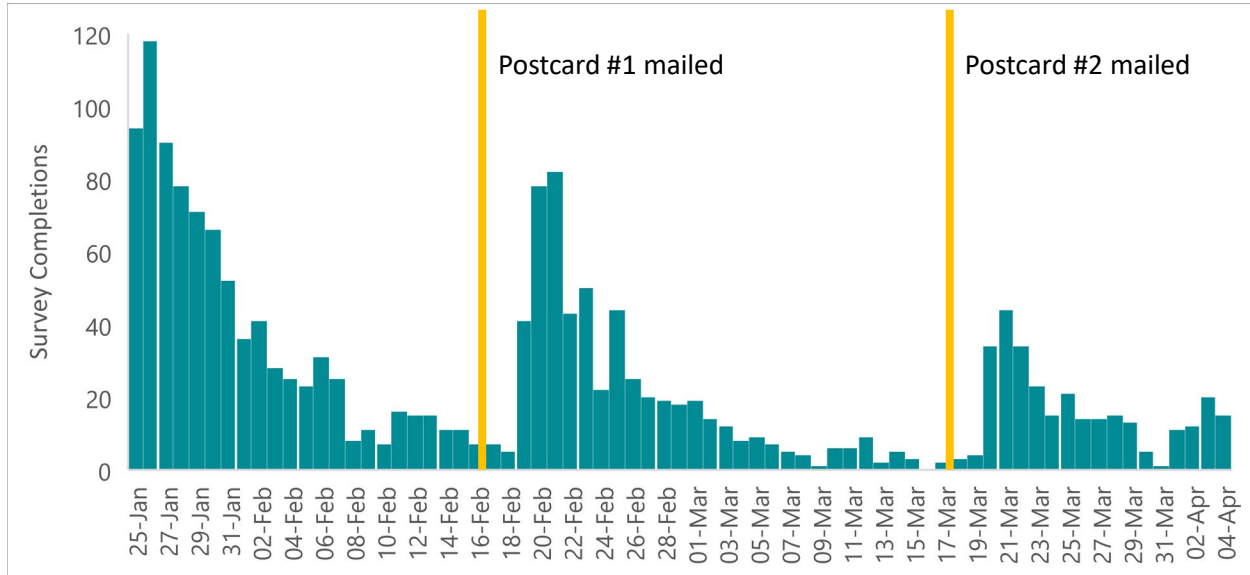
Residents were notified of their selection by letter, which was drafted by the CRD. Notification letters included a URL to complete the survey (see Appendix E) as well as a phone number which could be used to request a paper version of the survey or to complete the survey by telephone (with the research vendor, Malatest).

Forty (40) residents (0.5%) requested a paper version of the survey, and 32 residents (0.4%) completed by telephone. All others completed the survey online.

Two reminder postcards were sent to households who had not yet completed a survey (see Appendix F). After each postcard, the completion numbers increased indicating that these were an effective means of

securing survey completions (Figure A.2). The survey was open for a little more than two months, from January 25 to April 4th, 2024.

Figure A.2 Survey Completions by Date



Completions

Of the 7,652 households that were surveyed, 94 (1.2%) mailings were returned as moved/unknown/unclaimed addresses, resulting in a final sample of 7,558 households. From this, 1,762 invited residents completed their survey, resulting in a response rate of 23.3%. Residents from Saanich Peninsula had the highest response rate (27.3%) while residents from the West Shore had the lowest response rate (18.1%). Table A.2 details survey completions overall and by sub-region, along with response rates and margin of errors (MOE).

Table A.2 Survey Completion Details (Overall and by Sub-Region)

Region	Surveyed	Undeliverable	Completions	Response Rate	MOE
Gulf Islands	1,654	48	426	26.5%	4.7%
Saanich Peninsula	1,587	7	431	27.3%	4.7%
Urban Core	2,303	15	527	23.0%	4.3%
Westshore	2,108	24	378	18.1%	5.0%
CRD TOTAL	7,652	94	1,762	23.3%	2.3%

Sampling Error

Margin of error (MOE) estimates were generated for the regions and the CRD as a whole. To estimate the margin of error, we assumed a resident population similar to the 2021 Statistics Canada census.

The following MOE formula was used, with a z-score of $z=1.96$ (95% confidence).

$$\text{MoE} = z \times \sqrt{\frac{p(1-p)}{n}}$$

n = sample size

z = z-score

p = sample proportion

The estimated margin of error for the CRD-level results was $\pm 2.3\%$, at the 95% confidence level. This means 19 times out of 20, the true population values are within $\pm 2.3\%$, of the reported value. A margin of error of $\pm 2.3\%$ bodes well for the overall quality of the data as an accepted level for most survey research is $\pm 5.0\%$.

Regional Representativeness of the Data

Based on survey completions, the Core region is most under-represented in the survey data (-32.3%) while Gulf Island residents are the most over-represented ($+19.9\%$) (see [Table A.3](#)). To correct for these imbalances, survey weights were calculated using the resident population based on the 2021 Statistics Canada census. The calculated weight was normalized such that the sum of the weights across all regions matched the total number of surveys obtained.

Table A.3 Representativeness by Sub-Region

Region	Population		Survey Data		Difference
	Residents	%	Completions	%	
Gulf Islands	17,736	4.3%	426	24.2%	19.9%
Saanich Peninsula	44,820	10.8%	431	24.5%	13.7%
Urban Core	258,654	62.3%	527	29.9%	-32.3%
Westshore	94,241	22.7%	378	21.5%	-1.2%
TOTAL	415,451	100.0%	1762	100.0%	

Survey weights were applied to CRD level results, where specified, to ensure representativeness at the regional level. Some CRD level results (e.g., demographics) are presented unweighted to better understand who responded to the survey (sample characteristics). These results should not be generalized to the entire region. Sub-region (i.e., Gulf Islands, Saanich Peninsula, Urban Core, West Shore) results are not weighted because the sub-region is the base unit.

Data Cleaning

After survey close, Malatest exported raw survey data for cleaning. Cases were reviewed for completeness. Cases were considered complete if they had answered at least one question. One case (n=1) was removed as the respondent had skipped through the survey without providing answers to any questions.

Exclusion of Non-Valid Response Categories

Presentation of 2024 results focus on weighted percentages for valid responses only (i.e. “No Response” counts were excluded when calculating response category percentages for each question). To facilitate year-over-year comparisons, the same approach was applied to the reanalysis of the 2017 results.

Descriptive Statistics

Most analyses in this report center on percent positive results, which represent the percentage of respondents who answered with one of the top two positive responses to the question (for example “Satisfied” or “Very Satisfied”). Percentages were calculated using a denominator that excluded invalid responses (e.g. “No Response”).

Comparison to Previous Years

To allow for comparison across years, consistent questions and methodology were used across survey years where possible. Also, the reporting structure remained consistent to better compare similarities and differences in respondents’ opinions across years.

To better compare results between 2024 and 2017 (the previous survey year), survey weights were calculated and applied to the 2017 dataset. Population estimates were based on the 2016 Statistics Canada census. Presentation of 2024 results focus on weighted percentages for valid responses only (i.e. “No Response” counts were excluded when calculating response category percentages for each question). To allow for more accurate year-over-year comparisons, the same method was applied to the 2017 results. It should be noted that the 2017 statistics presented in this report differ from what was reported in 2017 due to these methodological differences (use of survey weights and reporting of valid responses only on a question-by-question basis).

Datasets from the 2005 resident survey and earlier were not available and results from these earlier data collection periods could not be weighted. Therefore, only general trends (percentages and top / bottom trends) found in the 2005 survey results are compared with more recent survey findings.

The 2024 survey used the same sub-regions as the 2017 survey. However, comparisons at the sub-region level with previous survey years were not possible as the municipalities included in the sub-regions differed in the 1992, 1998, and 2005 resident surveys.

Repeating the resident survey in five years, with the current survey instrument and methodology, will allow for better exploration and confirmation of trends and patterns in the results.

Suggested Improvements to Future Survey Years



Making a difference...together

To address the underrepresentation of certain groups, such as younger residents, working-age adults, lower- to middle-income households, future survey iterations should consider offering substantial survey incentives to help boost participation. For example, offering a prize draw for a \$500 grocery card, and smaller \$50 gift certificates could encourage broader involvement.

Demographic questions could be expanded to include questions on ethnicity, new Canadian status, etc. The addition of these questions would allow for a better understanding of differences in usage, perceptions and values across different demographic groups, allowing for more nuanced exploration of usage equity in regional parks and trails.

Additionally, to gain better insight into the barriers to park and trail use faced by all residents it is recommended that survey questions on barriers be asked of everyone, not just non-visitors.

APPENDIX B: 2024 DETAILED SURVEY RESULTS

How important is it to you to have regional parks? (Q1)

Response Options	CRD* (n=1,740)	Gulf Islands (n=421)	Saanich Peninsula (n=426)	Urban Core (n=520)	Westshore (n=373)
Not at all important	0.4%	0.7%	0.5%	0.4%	0.5%
Somewhat important	3.2%	5.0%	2.8%	3.5%	2.1%
Neutral	2.9%	3.1%	2.6%	3.1%	2.4%
Quite important	12.9%	16.4%	18.1%	12.3%	11.3%
Very important	80.7%	74.8%	76.1%	80.8%	83.6%

How important to you are the following benefits provided by regional parks? (Q2)

	Response Options	CRD* (n=1,744)	Gulf Islands (n=423)	Saanich Peninsula (n=427)	Urban Core (n=521)	Westshore (n=378)
A place for outdoor recreation and exercise	Not at all important	0.8%	1.7%	1.2%	0.8%	0.5%
	Somewhat important	2.4%	2.9%	2.8%	2.5%	1.9%
	Neutral	3.8%	5.1%	4.0%	3.7%	4.0%
	Quite important	22.5%	24.3%	24.2%	22.7%	20.7%
	Very important	70.5%	66.0%	67.8%	70.4%	72.9%
A place that enhances mental and physical health and wellbeing	Not at all important	0.8%	1.7%	1.6%	0.8%	0.5%
	Somewhat important	2.2%	2.2%	2.8%	2.3%	1.6%
	Neutral	5.3%	6.7%	5.6%	5.0%	5.8%
	Quite important	20.4%	16.3%	22.1%	20.8%	19.4%
	Very important	71.2%	73.1%	67.8%	71.2%	72.7%
A place for the conservation of natural environments	Not at all important	0.5%	2.6%	0.9%	0.4%	0.3%
	Somewhat important	1.8%	2.1%	2.3%	1.7%	1.6%
	Neutral	4.2%	3.1%	3.7%	4.4%	4.0%
	Quite important	20.6%	16.9%	19.9%	21.8%	18.6%
	Very important	72.9%	75.2%	73.1%	71.7%	75.5%
A place to experience natural environments	Not at all important	0.4%	1.9%	0.9%	0.2%	0.3%
	Somewhat important	1.8%	2.4%	1.4%	1.9%	1.6%
	Neutral	3.4%	2.6%	2.3%	3.9%	2.7%
	Quite important	21.4%	19.3%	23.0%	22.2%	18.8%
	Very important	73.1%	73.8%	72.3%	71.9%	76.7%

*Results weighted at the CRD level.

	Response Options	CRD* (n=1,744)	Gulf Islands (n=423)	Saanich Peninsula (n=427)	Urban Core (n=521)	Westshore (n=378)
A place to learn about natural environments	Not at all important	2.0%	2.6%	1.9%	1.7%	2.4%
	Somewhat important	4.1%	5.0%	3.8%	4.3%	3.7%
	Neutral	15.9%	15.8%	14.9%	16.3%	15.5%
	Quite important	32.3%	27.1%	35.7%	33.2%	29.3%
	Very important	45.7%	49.4%	43.7%	44.5%	49.1%
A place that respects, reflects, and preserves First Nations cultural heritage and traditions	Not at all important	9.5%	6.9%	11.1%	8.8%	11.0%
	Somewhat important	9.3%	9.2%	8.3%	10.2%	7.2%
	Neutral	20.3%	18.0%	24.2%	18.3%	24.3%
	Quite important	26.1%	25.8%	25.8%	26.3%	25.4%
	Very important	34.9%	40.2%	30.6%	36.3%	32.1%
A place to learn about and experience First Nations cultural heritage and traditions	Not at all important	10.6%	7.6%	13.6%	9.8%	11.7%
	Somewhat important	11.3%	10.2%	8.2%	12.1%	10.7%
	Neutral	25.8%	23.9%	30.6%	23.7%	29.6%
	Quite important	24.8%	26.5%	28.7%	24.7%	23.2%
	Very important	27.5%	31.8%	18.8%	29.7%	24.8%
An interconnected system of natural lands	Not at all important	2.4%	1.9%	3.8%	2.1%	2.7%
	Somewhat important	5.1%	4.3%	4.9%	5.0%	5.3%
	Neutral	16.1%	12.2%	18.8%	16.6%	13.9%
	Quite important	30.3%	27.0%	29.6%	30.4%	31.3%
	Very important	46.1%	54.5%	43.0%	45.8%	46.8%
A place that contributes to reducing climate change	Not at all important	3.9%	6.4%	3.3%	3.7%	4.3%
	Somewhat important	5.2%	4.8%	6.4%	5.6%	3.5%
	Neutral	11.1%	10.7%	12.7%	10.4%	12.0%
	Quite important	24.6%	20.5%	26.9%	24.2%	25.3%
	Very important	55.3%	57.6%	50.7%	56.1%	55.1%
A place to spend time with family and friends	Not at all important	0.8%	1.9%	0.7%	0.8%	0.8%
	Somewhat important	4.0%	3.1%	4.0%	4.6%	2.4%
	Neutral	8.4%	11.2%	8.3%	8.7%	7.1%
	Quite important	31.6%	32.8%	33.9%	32.2%	28.6%
	Very important	55.2%	51.1%	53.1%	53.7%	61.1%
A place for quiet relaxation	Not at all important	0.9%	1.9%	1.7%	0.8%	0.8%
	Somewhat important	2.5%	2.6%	4.0%	2.3%	2.4%
	Neutral	8.9%	9.0%	7.6%	9.4%	8.0%
	Quite important	27.1%	31.4%	30.0%	28.2%	22.0%
	Very important	60.6%	55.1%	56.7%	59.3%	66.8%
A place for providing personal challenges and developing new skills	Not at all important	8.4%	12.1%	8.1%	8.9%	6.4%
	Somewhat important	8.6%	9.5%	9.3%	8.9%	7.5%
	Neutral	33.2%	35.8%	36.1%	33.2%	31.2%
	Quite important	25.7%	23.7%	28.5%	25.7%	24.8%
	Very important	24.2%	19.0%	18.1%	23.4%	30.1%

*Results weighted at the CRD level.

	Response Options	CRD* (n=1,744)	Gulf Islands (n=423)	Saanich Peninsula (n=427)	Urban Core (n=521)	Westshore (n=378)
A place that is welcoming and meaningfully accessible to all	Not at all important	2.1%	3.1%	1.6%	2.1%	2.1%
	Somewhat important	5.0%	5.9%	4.9%	5.6%	3.4%
	Neutral	11.2%	13.3%	12.9%	11.0%	10.8%
	Quite important	32.5%	32.5%	35.8%	32.5%	31.0%
	Very important	49.1%	45.1%	44.7%	48.8%	52.6%
A place that contributes to regional climate resiliency	Not at all important	4.5%	6.1%	2.8%	4.2%	5.6%
	Somewhat important	4.3%	5.4%	6.1%	3.8%	4.3%
	Neutral	10.8%	13.5%	14.2%	10.7%	9.1%
	Quite important	26.2%	21.3%	27.1%	26.1%	26.9%
	Very important	54.2%	53.7%	49.8%	55.1%	54.1%

Which of the following regional park(s) have you visited in the last 12 months? (Q3)

Parks	CRD* (n=1,724)	Gulf Islands (n=407)	Saanich Peninsula (n=425)	Urban Core (n=517)	Westshore (n=375)
Albert Head Lagoon	25.2%	4.2%	9.2%	20.1%	50.4%
Ayum Creek	4.0%	0.7%	0.7%	2.1%	11.2%
Bear Hill	18.8%	4.7%	31.1%	20.5%	10.9%
Brooks Point	2.8%	17.7%	2.4%	2.3%	1.6%
Coles Bay	16.5%	4.4%	50.4%	15.1%	6.4%
Devonian	12.2%	1.7%	4.9%	8.3%	28.0%
East Point	6.3%	6.4%	4.0%	7.0%	5.6%
East Sooke	45.5%	14.7%	30.4%	43.3%	64.3%
Elk/Beaver Lake	66.3%	29.5%	74.8%	73.5%	49.6%
Francis/King	28.5%	3.4%	22.6%	32.5%	25.1%
Gonzales Hill	28.0%	9.1%	10.4%	38.9%	10.4%
Horth Hill	12.5%	7.9%	53.4%	9.1%	3.5%
Island View Beach	51.8%	26.0%	82.6%	55.5%	31.7%
Jordan River - (Sandcut Beach)	25.2%	8.1%	18.1%	21.9%	40.8%
Kapoor	2.5%	0.2%	0.7%	2.5%	3.7%
Lone Tree Hill	12.3%	2.7%	5.6%	11.4%	19.7%
Matheson Lake	30.4%	2.7%	15.3%	27.5%	50.7%
Matthews Point	1.8%	8.1%	0.9%	1.5%	1.6%
Mill Farm	3.8%	25.6%	1.9%	3.3%	2.1%
Mill Hill	15.7%	3.7%	6.4%	12.4%	31.2%
Mountain Forest	1.7%	1.2%	1.6%	2.1%	0.5%
Mount Parke	1.8%	14.5%	0.5%	1.5%	0.8%
Mount Wells	14.7%	1.7%	4.2%	12.8%	27.5%
Mount Work	29.2%	5.9%	35.1%	31.7%	23.7%
Roche Cove	15.2%	1.7%	5.9%	12.0%	30.7%

*Results weighted at the CRD level.

Parks	CRD* (n=1,724)	Gulf Islands (n=407)	Saanich Peninsula (n=425)	Urban Core (n=517)	Westshore (n=375)
Sea to Sea	9.6%	2.9%	3.8%	8.9%	15.5%
Sooke Hills Wilderness	19.3%	4.2%	7.5%	16.4%	35.2%
Sooke Potholes	33.6%	13.8%	16.7%	32.1%	49.3%
Sooke River	19.5%	5.7%	10.6%	16.1%	35.5%
St. John Point	1.4%	12.8%	0.7%	1.0%	0.8%
Thetis Lake	56.7%	12.0%	37.9%	59.8%	65.3%
Witty's Lagoon	45.9%	8.4%	27.3%	42.7%	69.9%
Wigglesworth Lake	1.8%	0.2%	0.9%	1.7%	2.7%
None	8.5%	21.1%	7.3%	9.7%	3.7%

About how many times have you visited the regional parks in the last 12 months? (Q4)

Response Options	CRD* (n=1,739)	Gulf Islands (n=419)	Saanich Peninsula (n=426)	Urban Core (n=518)	Westshore (n=376)
None	8.5%	20.5%	7.3%	9.7%	3.7%
1-5 Times	22.2%	37.0%	18.1%	23.4%	18.1%
6-10 Times	16.8%	15.5%	21.1%	17.4%	13.6%
10-15 Times	15.3%	8.6%	13.8%	15.6%	16.2%
More than 15 Times	20.3%	9.5%	22.3%	20.5%	21.0%
Daily or Weekly	16.9%	8.8%	17.4%	13.5%	27.4%

What is your most frequent mode of travel to regional parks? (Q5)

Response Options	CRD* (n=1,562)	Gulf Islands (n=333)	Saanich Peninsula (n=397)	Urban Core (n=470)	Westshore (n=362)
Personal vehicle	80.8%	81.7%	82.6%	79.6%	82.9%
Rideshare with friends or family	7.2%	4.2%	7.6%	8.3%	4.7%
Walk	5.7%	8.1%	5.8%	4.5%	8.3%
Personal bicycle	2.3%	2.1%	2.0%	2.8%	1.4%
Car share or car coop	1.0%	2.1%	0.8%	1.1%	0.8%
Bike or e-bike rental	1.0%	0.6%	0.3%	1.5%	0.0%
Public transportation	0.9%	0.0%	0.3%	1.1%	0.8%
Personal e-bike or micro-mobility vehicle	0.9%	1.2%	0.3%	0.9%	1.1%
Other	0.3%	0.0%	0.5%	0.4%	0.0%

*Results weighted at the CRD level.

If you have not visited regional parks in the last 12 months, why? (Q6)

Barriers	CRD* (n=177)	Gulf Islands (n=83)	Saanich Peninsula (n=31)	Urban Core (n=50)	Westshore (n=13)
Not enough time to visit regional parks	25.7%	18.1%	25.8%	22.0%	61.5%
Physically unable / Illness	18.5%	8.4%	6.5%	24.0%	0.0%
Elderly	12.6%	7.2%	12.9%	12.0%	23.1%
Feel unsafe	12.5%	2.4%	9.7%	16.0%	0.0%
Lack of personal transportation to regional parks	12.0%	9.6%	3.2%	14.0%	7.7%
Not aware of regional parks	10.6%	14.5%	6.5%	12.0%	0.0%
Travel time to reach regional parks	10.1%	24.1%	6.5%	10.0%	0.0%
Dogs not under control	9.1%	10.8%	9.7%	8.0%	15.4%
No, or poor access for people with disabilities	8.6%	4.8%	3.2%	10.0%	7.7%
Lack of public transportation to regional parks	8.3%	4.8%	0.0%	10.0%	7.7%
Utilizes other outdoor spaces / other parks	8.0%	14.5%	16.1%	6.0%	7.7%
Not enough parking	7.1%	1.2%	6.5%	8.0%	7.7%
It is difficult to find information about the kinds of activities that are offered at regional parks	5.2%	6.0%	3.2%	6.0%	0.0%
Presence of dog waste in regional parks	5.1%	6.0%	9.7%	4.0%	7.7%
Potential wildlife conflicts	4.8%	2.4%	3.2%	4.0%	15.4%
Lack of specific recreation facilities or desired recreation experiences	3.9%	4.8%	6.5%	4.0%	0.0%
Poor facilities	3.6%	0.0%	0.0%	4.0%	7.7%
Too isolated	2.4%	2.4%	0.0%	2.0%	7.7%
Other	1.9%	4.8%	0.0%	2.0%	0.0%
No interest / Haven't thought about it	1.4%	2.4%	12.9%	0.0%	0.0%
No regional parks in my community	1.2%	12.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Conflict(s) with other park visitors	0.5%	2.4%	3.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Presence of horses or horse manure	0.4%	1.2%	3.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Too crowded	0.4%	3.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Do not feel welcome or due to ethnicity/gender/cultural practices	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

*Results weighted at the CRD level.

How important is it to you to have regional trails? (Q7)

Response Options	CRD* (n=1,739)	Gulf Islands (n=419)	Saanich Peninsula (n=427)	Urban Core (n=519)	Westshore (n=374)
Not at all important	1.9%	2.9%	2.6%	1.9%	1.3%
Somewhat important	6.0%	7.6%	7.0%	6.2%	4.5%
Neutral	8.5%	8.6%	7.7%	9.2%	6.7%
Quite important	22.8%	27.4%	25.5%	23.1%	19.8%
Very important	60.9%	53.5%	57.1%	59.5%	67.6%

How important to you are the following benefits provided by regional trails? (Q8)

	Response Options	CRD* (n=1,710)	Gulf Islands (n=410)	Saanich Peninsula (n=418)	Urban Core (n=515)	Westshore (n=368)
A place for outdoor recreation and exercise	Not at all important	1.4%	3.2%	1.4%	1.2%	1.6%
	Somewhat important	3.6%	3.4%	3.8%	3.9%	2.7%
	Neutral	6.7%	4.6%	5.7%	7.4%	5.4%
	Quite important	20.6%	24.9%	26.1%	20.0%	18.8%
	Very important	67.8%	63.9%	62.9%	67.6%	71.4%
A place that enhances mental and physical health and wellbeing	Not at all important	1.9%	2.9%	1.9%	2.1%	1.1%
	Somewhat important	4.6%	3.2%	3.1%	5.3%	3.6%
	Neutral	8.3%	6.1%	9.6%	8.0%	8.8%
	Quite important	23.4%	29.3%	27.0%	23.5%	20.1%
	Very important	61.9%	58.4%	58.4%	61.1%	66.5%
A place to conserve natural environments	Not at all important	1.6%	2.7%	2.2%	2.0%	0.3%
	Somewhat important	4.9%	4.2%	4.3%	5.3%	4.4%
	Neutral	12.9%	12.3%	13.0%	14.3%	9.0%
	Quite important	26.4%	26.2%	30.4%	26.9%	23.0%
	Very important	54.1%	54.7%	50.0%	51.5%	63.3%
A place to experience natural environments	Not at all important	1.4%	3.0%	1.9%	1.4%	0.8%
	Somewhat important	5.4%	2.7%	3.4%	6.6%	3.6%
	Neutral	10.4%	9.1%	12.0%	11.1%	7.9%
	Quite important	26.7%	29.9%	31.9%	27.3%	21.6%
	Very important	56.1%	55.3%	50.8%	53.5%	66.0%
A place to learn about natural environments	Not at all important	4.8%	6.2%	6.5%	4.7%	3.8%
	Somewhat important	9.9%	8.4%	6.5%	11.1%	8.8%
	Neutral	22.9%	19.3%	25.9%	23.3%	21.2%
	Quite important	27.4%	30.0%	31.7%	26.9%	26.1%
	Very important	35.0%	36.1%	29.3%	34.0%	40.1%

*Results weighted at the CRD level.

	Response Options	CRD* (n=1,710)	Gulf Islands (n=410)	Saanich Peninsula (n=418)	Urban Core (n=515)	Westshore (n=368)
A place that respects, reflects, and preserves First Nations cultural heritage and traditions	Not at all important	12.8%	10.8%	15.2%	12.1%	13.7%
	Somewhat important	9.4%	9.3%	8.9%	9.6%	9.0%
	Neutral	25.3%	21.1%	28.0%	24.9%	26.0%
	Quite important	24.4%	26.5%	27.0%	23.5%	25.4%
	Very important	28.2%	32.2%	21.0%	29.9%	26.0%
A place to learn about and experience First Nations culture and traditions	Not at all important	14.8%	11.5%	18.0%	14.5%	14.7%
	Somewhat important	10.1%	10.1%	8.2%	10.4%	10.1%
	Neutral	31.0%	25.6%	35.5%	29.7%	33.5%
	Quite important	21.8%	28.3%	23.3%	21.5%	20.7%
	Very important	22.3%	24.6%	15.1%	23.9%	21.0%
A place that contributes to reducing regional greenhouse gas emissions	Not at all important	4.9%	7.9%	4.6%	4.5%	5.7%
	Somewhat important	6.3%	5.7%	5.6%	6.6%	5.7%
	Neutral	14.0%	13.0%	15.5%	13.5%	14.8%
	Quite important	22.7%	22.4%	25.8%	23.0%	20.5%
	Very important	52.1%	51.1%	48.6%	52.3%	53.3%
A greenway connection through the urban, suburban, and rural landscapes	Not at all important	2.5%	4.2%	2.9%	3.0%	0.8%
	Somewhat important	3.5%	3.4%	4.3%	3.3%	3.5%
	Neutral	9.1%	8.8%	7.9%	9.3%	9.3%
	Quite important	24.1%	23.3%	27.5%	23.2%	24.8%
	Very important	60.8%	60.2%	57.4%	61.2%	61.6%
A route to travel for commuting purposes	Not at all important	11.7%	16.4%	13.9%	11.6%	10.1%
	Somewhat important	6.9%	5.1%	9.4%	6.9%	6.0%
	Neutral	20.3%	25.7%	20.7%	19.7%	20.8%
	Quite important	22.7%	21.3%	26.0%	20.1%	28.4%
	Very important	38.4%	31.4%	30.0%	41.7%	34.7%
An opportunity to be away from vehicle traffic	Not at all important	2.4%	4.7%	3.4%	2.4%	1.6%
	Somewhat important	3.5%	4.9%	6.5%	3.1%	3.0%
	Neutral	10.6%	6.1%	8.2%	12.0%	8.7%
	Quite important	23.6%	25.0%	25.7%	22.8%	24.5%
	Very important	59.9%	59.3%	56.4%	59.6%	62.2%
A place to spend time with family and friends	Not at all important	2.8%	4.0%	3.6%	3.1%	1.4%
	Somewhat important	4.9%	3.7%	5.6%	5.5%	3.3%
	Neutral	18.0%	16.8%	17.7%	19.1%	15.2%
	Quite important	28.9%	31.7%	30.1%	29.9%	25.0%
	Very important	45.4%	43.8%	43.0%	42.4%	55.2%
A place for quiet relaxation	Not at all important	3.5%	5.4%	4.1%	3.7%	2.2%
	Somewhat important	6.0%	5.2%	8.0%	6.1%	4.9%
	Neutral	18.1%	14.5%	15.9%	19.6%	15.8%
	Quite important	27.2%	30.0%	29.5%	27.5%	25.1%
	Very important	45.2%	45.0%	42.5%	43.1%	52.0%

*Results weighted at the CRD level.

	Response Options	CRD* (n=1,710)	Gulf Islands (n=410)	Saanich Peninsula (n=418)	Urban Core (n=515)	Westshore (n=368)
A route that is accessible	Not at all important	1.6%	4.4%	1.9%	1.4%	1.6%
	Somewhat important	4.3%	5.2%	4.8%	4.5%	3.3%
	Neutral	13.1%	9.4%	12.0%	14.7%	9.8%
	Quite important	28.5%	31.5%	33.0%	26.5%	31.5%
	Very important	52.5%	49.5%	48.2%	52.9%	53.8%

Which of the following regional trail(s) have you visited in the last 12 months? (Q9)

Trails	CRD* (n=1,710)	Gulf Islands (n=467)	Saanich Peninsula (n=421)	Urban Core (n=513)	Westshore (n=370)
E&N Rail Trail - Humpback Connector	37.1%	9.9%	14.7%	40.7%	42.7%
Gallopig Goose Regional Trail	72.2%	31.5%	44.9%	73.7%	88.4%
Lochside Regional Trail	56.1%	30.8%	76.2%	62.6%	33.5%
Mayne Island Regional Trail	2.5%	16.3%	1.4%	1.9%	1.9%
None	17.3%	48.5%	21.9%	17.2%	9.7%

About how many times have you visited the regional trails in the last 12 months? (Q10)

Response Options	CRD* (n=1,703)	Gulf Islands (n=410)	Saanich Peninsula (n=418)	Urban Core (n=509)	Westshore (n=366)
None	17.4%	48.0%	22.0%	17.3%	9.8%
1-5 Times	22.0%	34.6%	22.2%	22.2%	18.9%
6-10 Times	13.1%	6.3%	20.3%	12.6%	12.3%
10-15 Times	11.6%	3.4%	9.6%	12.4%	12.0%
More than 15 Times	18.1%	4.4%	15.1%	19.1%	19.7%
Daily or Weekly	17.8%	3.2%	10.8%	16.5%	27.3%

What is your most frequent mode of travel to regional trails? (Q11)

Response Options	CRD* (n=1,304)	Gulf Islands (n=214)	Saanich Peninsula (n=329)	Urban Core (n=428)	Westshore (n=333)
Personal vehicle and parking near trail access points	39.0%	57.9%	47.4%	32.7%	49.2%
Personal bicycle	23.6%	16.8%	21.0%	28.3%	13.5%
Walk	21.6%	11.2%	16.1%	21.3%	25.8%
Personal e-bike or micro-mobility vehicle	8.5%	7.0%	7.0%	9.8%	6.0%
Rideshare with friends or family	3.3%	2.8%	4.9%	2.8%	3.9%
Bike or e-bike rental	2.8%	2.3%	2.4%	3.5%	1.2%

*Results weighted at the CRD level.

Response Options	CRD* (n=1,304)	Gulf Islands (n=214)	Saanich Peninsula (n=329)	Urban Core (n=428)	Westshore (n=333)
Public transportation	1.0%	0.9%	0.6%	1.4%	0.0%
Car share or car coop	0.3%	0.5%	0.6%	0.2%	0.3%
Other	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

If you have not visited regional trails in the last 12 months, why? (Q12)

Barriers	CRD* (n=385)	Gulf Islands (n=184)	Saanich Peninsula (n=85)	Urban Core (n=84)	Westshore (n=32)
Not enough time to visit regional trails	24.2%	16.8%	32.9%	26.2%	37.5%
Travel time to reach regional trails	21.6%	32.1%	11.8%	13.1%	9.4%
Speed of cyclists (including e-bikes)	16.4%	5.4%	27.1%	27.4%	21.9%
No regional parks in my community	12.2%	25.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Not aware of regional trails	11.7%	14.7%	7.1%	11.9%	6.3%
Meeting dogs off leash	10.9%	7.1%	11.8%	15.5%	18.8%
Lack of personal transportation to/on regional trails	10.4%	8.7%	9.4%	14.3%	12.5%
Physically unable/illness	9.1%	7.6%	5.9%	14.3%	12.5%
Criminal or suspicious activity	7.8%	1.6%	12.9%	13.1%	15.6%
Too isolated in some sections of regional trails	7.0%	5.4%	5.9%	8.3%	15.6%
Elderly	6.8%	3.8%	4.7%	11.9%	15.6%
Not enough parking at or near regional trails	6.0%	0.5%	8.2%	13.1%	12.5%
Utilizes other outdoor spaces/other parks	6.0%	6.5%	7.1%	6.0%	0.0%
No, or poor access for people with disabilities	5.7%	2.7%	5.9%	10.7%	9.4%
No interest/Haven't thought about it	5.5%	1.6%	12.9%	7.1%	3.1%
Presence of dog waste on/near regional trails	5.2%	4.9%	5.9%	3.6%	9.4%
Too crowded	4.2%	0.5%	9.4%	7.1%	3.1%
Concern about safety at intersections of regional trails and roadways	4.2%	3.3%	4.7%	6.0%	3.1%
Lack of public transport to regional trails	4.2%	3.3%	2.4%	6.0%	9.4%
Potential wildlife encounters	3.1%	0.5%	5.9%	4.8%	6.3%
Lack of consistency in trail surfaces	2.9%	2.2%	3.5%	3.6%	3.1%
Other	2.9%	2.2%	3.5%	2.4%	6.3%
Presence of horses or horse manure	1.6%	1.1%	2.4%	1.2%	3.1%
Lack of specific active transportation facilities (electric charging, lighting)	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	2.4%	0.0%
Do not feel welcome or due to ethnicity/gender/cultural practices	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

*Results weighted at the CRD level.

To what extent do you disagree or agree with each of the following statements? (Q13)

	Response Options	CRD* (n=1,698)	Gulf Islands (n=408)	Saanich Peninsula (n=413)	Urban Core (n=512)	Westshore (n=366)
Regional parks and trails are important for outdoor recreation	Strongly Disagree	0.3%	2.0%	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%
	Disagree	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%
	Neutral	2.9%	2.5%	2.9%	2.9%	2.7%
	Agree	17.5%	19.7%	20.7%	17.5%	15.7%
	Strongly Agree	79.2%	75.9%	76.2%	79.4%	80.8%
Regional parks and trails are important for conservation	Strongly Disagree	0.3%	2.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%
	Disagree	1.4%	0.7%	1.0%	1.6%	1.1%
	Neutral	7.7%	7.1%	7.5%	7.8%	7.7%
	Agree	28.7%	28.8%	30.6%	29.5%	25.5%
	Strongly Agree	61.9%	61.1%	60.7%	60.9%	65.5%
Regional parks and trails are important for First Nations cultural values and uses	Strongly Disagree	7.3%	5.9%	8.3%	6.9%	8.5%
	Disagree	5.4%	5.4%	6.8%	4.7%	6.9%
	Neutral	34.3%	32.7%	37.2%	33.5%	35.4%
	Agree	26.4%	27.8%	27.7%	26.7%	24.7%
	Strongly Agree	26.5%	28.3%	20.0%	28.2%	24.5%
We have a responsibility to future generations to protect regional parks and trails	Strongly Disagree	0.3%	1.0%	0.2%	0.2%	0.5%
	Disagree	0.3%	0.2%	0.0%	0.4%	0.3%
	Neutral	3.8%	2.7%	3.2%	4.1%	3.3%
	Agree	16.5%	19.9%	21.4%	16.0%	15.0%
	Strongly Agree	79.1%	76.2%	75.2%	79.3%	80.9%
Regional parks and trails are important for their educational value	Strongly Disagree	0.8%	1.2%	1.5%	0.8%	0.3%
	Disagree	2.0%	2.7%	1.2%	1.8%	3.0%
	Neutral	17.4%	20.2%	18.0%	17.8%	15.4%
	Agree	41.1%	39.4%	43.6%	40.8%	40.9%
	Strongly Agree	38.8%	36.5%	35.8%	38.8%	40.4%
Regional parks and trails are important for their beauty	Strongly Disagree	0.2%	1.5%	0.0%	0.2%	0.3%
	Disagree	0.9%	1.0%	0.7%	1.2%	0.0%
	Neutral	6.0%	7.9%	6.5%	6.5%	4.1%
	Agree	32.2%	30.9%	35.8%	33.9%	26.0%
	Strongly Agree	60.7%	58.8%	56.9%	58.2%	69.6%
Regional parks and trails are important for the regional economy	Strongly Disagree	1.4%	2.2%	1.0%	1.4%	1.4%
	Disagree	4.0%	6.1%	4.4%	3.5%	4.7%
	Neutral	30.7%	36.6%	27.8%	31.5%	28.7%
	Agree	32.6%	28.0%	39.3%	32.1%	31.8%
	Strongly Agree	31.3%	27.0%	27.6%	31.5%	33.4%

*Results weighted at the CRD level.

	Response Options	CRD* (n=1,698)	Gulf Islands (n=408)	Saanich Peninsula (n=413)	Urban Core (n=512)	Westshore (n=366)
I have an emotional or spiritual bond with regional parks and trails	Strongly Disagree	5.2%	4.9%	7.1%	4.9%	5.2%
	Disagree	7.6%	8.6%	6.7%	7.9%	6.9%
	Neutral	29.5%	34.9%	33.5%	29.6%	26.5%
	Agree	27.4%	22.4%	25.1%	27.4%	29.6%
	Strongly Agree	30.2%	29.2%	27.6%	30.2%	31.8%
I have a cultural bond with regional parks and trails lands	Strongly Disagree	8.2%	7.4%	10.8%	7.5%	8.8%
	Disagree	15.3%	14.1%	13.5%	16.1%	14.2%
	Neutral	51.3%	48.6%	53.6%	52.2%	48.5%
	Agree	13.3%	17.3%	12.5%	12.1%	16.2%
	Strongly Agree	11.9%	12.6%	9.6%	12.1%	12.3%
Regional parks and trails are important for their own sake	Strongly Disagree	0.7%	1.2%	0.5%	1.0%	0.0%
	Disagree	0.7%	1.2%	0.7%	0.8%	0.3%
	Neutral	12.0%	9.7%	13.0%	12.5%	10.7%
	Agree	33.3%	30.3%	37.3%	34.9%	27.6%
	Strongly Agree	53.2%	57.5%	48.4%	50.8%	61.5%
Visitor use of regional parks and trails should be managed if it negatively affects natural environments	Strongly Disagree	2.1%	2.7%	1.0%	2.6%	1.4%
	Disagree	2.1%	3.2%	2.0%	1.8%	2.7%
	Neutral	12.4%	13.1%	12.2%	12.0%	13.2%
	Agree	40.0%	36.3%	45.7%	40.8%	35.7%
	Strongly Agree	43.4%	44.7%	39.1%	42.8%	47.0%
Outdoor recreational use of regional parks and trails is more important than protecting natural environments	Strongly Disagree	17.3%	19.2%	16.1%	17.2%	17.6%
	Disagree	39.5%	39.8%	38.8%	38.9%	41.3%
	Neutral	27.3%	24.6%	28.0%	28.1%	25.3%
	Agree	10.9%	10.2%	12.0%	10.9%	10.7%
	Strongly Agree	5.0%	6.2%	5.1%	4.9%	5.0%
Outdoor recreation use of regional parks and trails should be compatible with protecting natural environments	Strongly Disagree	0.4%	1.0%	0.7%	0.2%	0.5%
	Disagree	1.7%	1.2%	1.5%	2.0%	1.1%
	Neutral	8.6%	7.4%	9.0%	9.6%	6.0%
	Agree	43.5%	42.4%	47.4%	42.0%	45.9%
	Strongly Agree	45.9%	48.0%	41.4%	46.3%	46.4%
Natural environments and species have as much right to exist as people	Strongly Disagree	1.3%	2.5%	0.5%	1.4%	1.4%
	Disagree	2.7%	2.5%	1.7%	2.9%	2.5%
	Neutral	12.5%	13.5%	14.1%	13.2%	9.9%
	Agree	30.5%	26.4%	35.4%	30.6%	28.8%
	Strongly Agree	52.9%	55.2%	48.3%	51.9%	57.5%

*Results weighted at the CRD level.

	Response Options	CRD* (n=1,698)	Gulf Islands (n=408)	Saanich Peninsula (n=413)	Urban Core (n=512)	Westshore (n=366)
Regional trails are important for transportation	Strongly Disagree	2.9%	6.1%	3.9%	2.6%	2.8%
	Disagree	7.9%	12.7%	11.0%	7.9%	5.8%
	Neutral	24.7%	31.9%	27.4%	23.0%	26.9%
	Agree	30.8%	26.2%	33.7%	31.0%	29.4%
	Strongly Agree	33.7%	23.0%	24.0%	35.6%	35.0%
Regional trails are important for reducing regional greenhouse gas emissions	Strongly Disagree	3.3%	5.0%	2.9%	3.3%	3.0%
	Disagree	4.1%	5.4%	4.9%	3.7%	4.4%
	Neutral	18.6%	24.0%	20.2%	17.8%	19.1%
	Agree	32.8%	30.0%	40.0%	31.6%	33.1%
	Strongly Agree	41.3%	35.6%	32.0%	43.6%	40.4%
I am not that interested in regional parks and trails	Strongly Disagree	67.5%	63.3%	63.9%	66.7%	72.2%
	Disagree	20.7%	24.2%	22.9%	21.1%	17.9%
	Neutral	7.9%	9.2%	8.0%	8.9%	5.0%
	Agree	1.9%	1.5%	2.9%	1.8%	1.9%
	Strongly Agree	2.0%	1.7%	2.2%	1.6%	3.0%

Select the 5 main outdoor recreation activities you do the most in regional parks and trails. (Q14)

Activities	CRD* (n=1,661)	Gulf Islands (n=391)	Saanich Peninsula (n=405)	Urban Core (n=505)	Westshore (n=360)
Attending a festival	4.1%	2.3%	2.5%	4.2%	5.0%
Attending a special event	12.9%	7.4%	11.6%	14.1%	11.1%
Birdwatching	24.5%	36.1%	24.9%	25.9%	18.1%
Boating	3.4%	8.7%	7.2%	2.8%	2.5%
Camping	13.6%	10.2%	10.4%	12.1%	19.7%
Canoeing/kayaking	9.9%	12.8%	11.1%	8.5%	12.5%
Cycling	42.0%	27.4%	36.5%	45.3%	37.8%
Dog walking	38.0%	35.3%	39.5%	35.6%	44.2%
Fishing	5.5%	4.1%	4.7%	4.8%	8.1%
Geocaching	1.3%	1.8%	1.7%	0.8%	2.5%
Hiking	71.2%	72.1%	68.4%	70.9%	73.1%
Horseback riding	0.8%	1.3%	2.0%	0.4%	1.1%
Mountain biking	6.8%	4.6%	4.7%	7.5%	6.4%
Paddle boarding	7.1%	2.3%	4.9%	7.7%	7.2%
Picnicking	26.7%	27.4%	27.2%	26.5%	26.7%
Rock climbing	1.0%	0.8%	0.5%	0.8%	1.7%
Running	10.9%	5.4%	9.9%	11.3%	11.4%
Skateboarding/Rollerblading	0.3%	0.0%	0.5%	0.4%	0.0%
Surfing	0.6%	0.5%	0.2%	0.6%	0.8%
Swimming	18.1%	14.1%	13.6%	17.6%	22.2%

*Results weighted at the CRD level.

Activities	CRD* (n=1,661)	Gulf Islands (n=391)	Saanich Peninsula (n=405)	Urban Core (n=505)	Westshore (n=360)
Viewing plants/animals	42.8%	50.4%	42.5%	41.6%	44.7%
Walking	79.4%	76.5%	82.7%	79.2%	78.9%
Other	5.0%	5.6%	3.2%	5.5%	4.2%

Overall, how satisfied are you with your regional parks and trails system experiences? (Q15)

Response Options	CRD* (n=1,690)	Gulf Islands (n=404)	Saanich Peninsula (n=411)	Urban Core (n=510)	Westshore (n=365)
Not at all satisfied	0.5%	2.0%	0.5%	0.4%	0.5%
Somewhat satisfied	10.7%	17.1%	8.8%	10.8%	10.4%
Neutral	9.3%	19.6%	9.0%	9.6%	6.8%
Quite satisfied	54.6%	47.3%	58.4%	53.5%	57.3%
Very satisfied	24.8%	14.1%	23.4%	25.7%	24.9%

Overall, how would you rate regional parks and trails over the past 5 years on a scale from 1 (Poor) to 5 (Excellent) in the following areas. (Q16)

	Response Options	CRD* (n=1,710)	Gulf Islands (n=410)	Saanich Peninsula (n=418)	Urban Core (n=515)	Westshore (n=368)
Offering outdoor recreation activities	Poor	0.4%	1.5%	0.0%	0.2%	0.8%
	Fair	2.4%	2.0%	1.7%	2.4%	2.7%
	Neutral	18.8%	30.2%	21.9%	17.9%	17.9%
	Good	50.7%	50.0%	52.1%	51.1%	48.9%
	Excellent	27.8%	16.2%	24.3%	28.4%	29.7%
Contributing to the conservation of natural environments	Poor	0.8%	1.3%	0.2%	0.6%	1.4%
	Fair	3.8%	4.8%	3.2%	3.8%	4.1%
	Neutral	16.7%	21.0%	19.3%	16.1%	16.4%
	Good	55.2%	53.9%	58.2%	56.7%	50.1%
	Excellent	23.5%	19.0%	19.1%	22.9%	27.9%
Contributing to the health of the region and its residents	Poor	0.3%	1.3%	0.0%	0.2%	0.5%
	Fair	1.7%	2.0%	2.7%	1.4%	1.9%
	Neutral	12.3%	21.5%	12.7%	12.1%	11.2%
	Good	48.1%	49.5%	54.9%	47.3%	46.8%
	Excellent	37.6%	25.8%	29.7%	39.0%	39.5%

*Results weighted at the CRD level.

	Response Options	CRD* (n=1,710)	Gulf Islands (n=410)	Saanich Peninsula (n=418)	Urban Core (n=515)	Westshore (n=368)
Contributing to the regional economy (i.e., fees, regional business, tourism)	Poor	1.5%	1.5%	1.0%	1.6%	1.4%
	Fair	3.9%	4.6%	4.4%	3.2%	5.5%
	Neutral	51.5%	57.6%	55.4%	51.7%	47.8%
	Good	31.4%	28.9%	32.0%	31.1%	32.6%
	Excellent	11.7%	7.4%	7.1%	12.4%	12.7%
Contributing to Canada's protected area targets for nature protection and climate resiliency (30% of lands and waters protected by 2030)	Poor	1.9%	3.5%	1.5%	2.2%	1.1%
	Fair	5.9%	7.3%	6.2%	5.2%	7.5%
	Neutral	29.6%	33.2%	30.8%	28.4%	31.8%
	Good	44.2%	39.2%	48.0%	45.5%	39.5%
	Excellent	18.4%	16.7%	13.5%	18.7%	20.2%
Contributing to equitable access in regional parks and trails	Poor	1.4%	3.3%	0.7%	1.4%	1.4%
	Fair	4.3%	5.6%	5.4%	3.8%	5.2%
	Neutral	31.6%	40.3%	33.4%	32.3%	27.3%
	Good	47.2%	40.3%	48.9%	46.7%	48.8%
	Excellent	15.5%	10.6%	11.5%	15.8%	17.4%
Contributing to reconciliation with First Nations	Poor	4.0%	4.3%	2.7%	4.0%	4.7%
	Fair	5.6%	6.5%	4.2%	6.0%	5.2%
	Neutral	60.9%	62.7%	65.7%	59.2%	63.0%
	Good	21.2%	20.9%	22.2%	22.3%	18.0%
	Excellent	8.2%	5.5%	5.2%	8.6%	9.1%

What activities should be given priority over the next 5 years to enhance your enjoyment of the regional parks and trails system? (Q17)

	Response Options	CRD* (n=1,698)	Gulf Islands (n=408)	Saanich Peninsula (n=413)	Urban Core (n=512)	Westshore (n=366)
A - Protect the natural environment	Not a Priority	0.5%	1.5%	0.0%	0.6%	0.3%
	Low Priority	1.3%	1.5%	1.5%	1.4%	0.8%
	Neutral	6.1%	4.6%	6.0%	6.0%	6.8%
	Medium Priority	24.3%	20.1%	21.4%	25.3%	23.7%
	High Priority	67.8%	72.2%	71.1%	66.7%	68.5%
B - Expand outdoor recreation opportunities	Not a Priority	2.4%	4.7%	1.0%	2.4%	2.8%
	Low Priority	6.5%	6.0%	7.7%	5.8%	7.9%
	Neutral	23.3%	19.2%	20.5%	24.9%	20.8%
	Medium Priority	38.8%	37.3%	42.8%	39.8%	34.6%
	High Priority	29.0%	32.9%	28.0%	27.1%	34.0%

*Results weighted at the CRD level.

	Response Options	CRD* (n=1,698)	Gulf Islands (n=408)	Saanich Peninsula (n=413)	Urban Core (n=512)	Westshore (n=366)
C - Provide new or additional facilities	Not a Priority	2.9%	6.0%	3.5%	2.6%	2.8%
	Low Priority	7.7%	8.0%	7.0%	7.3%	9.1%
	Neutral	30.8%	32.6%	28.9%	32.2%	27.6%
	Medium Priority	37.3%	30.1%	41.6%	37.7%	35.8%
	High Priority	21.2%	23.3%	19.0%	20.2%	24.7%
D - Repair and maintain existing facilities	Not a Priority	0.4%	0.5%	0.2%	0.6%	0.0%
	Low Priority	0.8%	1.5%	1.0%	0.6%	1.1%
	Neutral	8.4%	8.4%	5.4%	8.6%	9.3%
	Medium Priority	31.4%	39.5%	33.8%	31.9%	27.3%
	High Priority	58.9%	50.0%	59.5%	58.2%	62.3%
E - Increase visitor's awareness of First Nations history and cultural use in regional parks and trails	Not a Priority	12.3%	8.9%	15.1%	11.3%	14.3%
	Low Priority	8.8%	7.1%	8.4%	8.7%	9.6%
	Neutral	26.5%	26.5%	30.7%	24.3%	30.6%
	Medium Priority	31.5%	31.1%	33.7%	32.4%	28.1%
	High Priority	20.9%	26.3%	12.1%	23.3%	17.4%
F - Undertake restoration projects to conserve natural environments	Not a Priority	1.1%	1.5%	0.7%	1.2%	1.1%
	Low Priority	3.3%	3.6%	3.0%	3.4%	3.1%
	Neutral	10.5%	9.7%	11.6%	10.2%	10.9%
	Medium Priority	35.4%	30.5%	37.1%	35.9%	34.4%
	High Priority	49.6%	54.7%	47.5%	49.3%	50.6%
G - Expand regional trails in rural and electoral areas	Not a Priority	2.9%	3.8%	2.2%	3.4%	1.4%
	Low Priority	4.4%	3.1%	5.9%	4.2%	4.5%
	Neutral	23.1%	13.5%	22.9%	23.8%	23.0%
	Medium Priority	34.8%	31.0%	39.9%	35.1%	32.3%
	High Priority	34.8%	48.6%	29.1%	33.5%	38.8%
H - Enhance regional trails in high-use sections with separated paths and lighting	Not a Priority	6.1%	8.2%	6.0%	6.2%	5.4%
	Low Priority	7.7%	10.8%	9.7%	6.6%	9.3%
	Neutral	20.3%	30.0%	23.9%	19.9%	17.7%
	Medium Priority	31.4%	27.4%	33.7%	30.3%	34.1%
	High Priority	34.5%	23.6%	26.7%	36.9%	33.5%
I - Increase enforcement of regional parks and trails regulations	Not a Priority	5.0%	5.6%	4.7%	5.0%	4.8%
	Low Priority	10.0%	10.5%	8.9%	9.5%	11.8%
	Neutral	28.0%	37.0%	32.9%	27.6%	25.4%
	Medium Priority	31.6%	28.3%	31.7%	31.0%	33.8%
	High Priority	25.4%	18.6%	21.8%	27.0%	24.2%
J - Increase visitor's awareness about regional parks and trails regulations	Not a Priority	4.3%	4.8%	3.7%	4.4%	4.2%
	Low Priority	7.7%	9.4%	8.1%	7.0%	9.0%
	Neutral	26.3%	26.3%	29.1%	26.5%	24.5%
	Medium Priority	37.9%	40.3%	37.3%	38.6%	35.8%
	High Priority	23.8%	19.1%	21.7%	23.5%	26.5%

*Results weighted at the CRD level.

	Response Options	CRD* (n=1,698)	Gulf Islands (n=408)	Saanich Peninsula (n=413)	Urban Core (n=512)	Westshore (n=366)
K - Provide more educational programs	Not a Priority	5.1%	6.1%	5.7%	4.2%	7.1%
	Low Priority	13.2%	13.0%	13.1%	13.0%	13.6%
	Neutral	39.6%	39.8%	42.6%	39.7%	38.1%
	Medium Priority	30.2%	30.6%	29.5%	30.7%	29.0%
	High Priority	11.9%	10.5%	9.2%	12.4%	12.2%
L - Provide more opportunities for volunteers	Not a Priority	3.9%	4.4%	4.0%	4.0%	3.6%
	Low Priority	7.1%	8.2%	8.0%	6.6%	7.8%
	Neutral	42.9%	37.9%	46.3%	43.7%	40.1%
	Medium Priority	33.0%	36.4%	32.8%	32.2%	34.5%
	High Priority	13.1%	13.1%	9.0%	13.5%	14.0%
M - Improve collaboration with regional parks and trails neighbours (i.e., Government agencies, stakeholders)	Not a Priority	3.5%	3.1%	3.7%	3.8%	2.5%
	Low Priority	4.9%	4.9%	4.2%	4.8%	5.6%
	Neutral	36.0%	30.3%	39.4%	35.6%	36.3%
	Medium Priority	37.8%	40.9%	37.6%	38.0%	36.6%
	High Priority	17.8%	20.8%	15.1%	17.7%	18.9%
N - Improve collaboration with First Nations governments in service delivery, planning and management	Not a Priority	10.2%	8.7%	13.9%	9.5%	11.0%
	Low Priority	8.1%	6.6%	6.9%	8.9%	7.0%
	Neutral	32.4%	30.4%	35.6%	29.8%	38.3%
	Medium Priority	27.7%	29.3%	29.5%	28.2%	25.1%
	High Priority	21.6%	25.0%	14.1%	23.7%	18.6%
O - Enhance equitable access to regional parks and trails	Not a Priority	2.8%	4.1%	2.7%	2.6%	3.1%
	Low Priority	6.7%	6.3%	5.7%	7.1%	6.5%
	Neutral	25.2%	23.4%	27.7%	24.4%	26.7%
	Medium Priority	41.1%	42.1%	43.3%	40.7%	40.7%
	High Priority	24.2%	24.1%	20.5%	25.2%	23.0%
P - Prioritize greenhouse gas emission reductions and climate change adaptation	Not a Priority	6.6%	8.4%	6.9%	6.0%	7.6%
	Low Priority	5.8%	7.1%	6.2%	5.2%	7.0%
	Neutral	24.0%	24.2%	24.6%	23.5%	25.1%
	Medium Priority	28.6%	22.4%	32.0%	28.9%	27.3%
	High Priority	35.0%	37.9%	30.3%	36.3%	33.0%

*Results weighted at the CRD level.

What are your priorities for how the Land Acquisition Fund is spent in the next five years? (Q19)

	Response Options	CRD* (n=1,698)	Gulf Islands (n=408)	Saanich Peninsula (n=413)	Urban Core (n=512)	Westshore (n=366)
Expand Conservation Areas	Not a Priority	2.6%	3.4%	2.8%	2.3%	3.4%
	Low Priority	4.5%	5.3%	3.8%	4.5%	4.9%
	Neutral	16.9%	13.5%	17.8%	16.6%	17.8%
	Medium Priority	33.2%	29.9%	35.8%	33.0%	33.2%
	High Priority	42.7%	47.9%	39.8%	43.6%	40.7%
Expand Wilderness Areas	Not a Priority	2.8%	2.4%	2.8%	2.9%	2.6%
	Low Priority	3.8%	5.3%	4.5%	3.9%	2.8%
	Neutral	18.3%	15.3%	16.9%	18.9%	17.9%
	Medium Priority	31.7%	28.0%	35.9%	31.5%	31.1%
	High Priority	43.4%	48.9%	39.9%	42.8%	45.6%
Expand Natural Recreation Areas	Not a Priority	2.2%	3.2%	2.5%	2.7%	0.6%
	Low Priority	5.1%	4.8%	3.6%	5.2%	5.8%
	Neutral	20.7%	15.4%	20.6%	21.3%	20.2%
	Medium Priority	38.7%	45.7%	41.5%	38.9%	35.4%
	High Priority	33.2%	30.9%	31.8%	31.9%	38.0%
Expand Conservancy Areas	Not a Priority	3.5%	3.5%	2.8%	3.4%	4.0%
	Low Priority	3.7%	5.6%	5.1%	3.2%	4.0%
	Neutral	25.9%	19.4%	26.5%	25.3%	28.5%
	Medium Priority	37.8%	31.7%	37.9%	40.2%	32.3%
	High Priority	29.2%	39.8%	27.7%	28.0%	31.1%
Expand Urban Bike and Pedestrian Regional Trails	Not a Priority	5.7%	7.2%	7.3%	6.1%	3.4%
	Low Priority	10.0%	10.1%	11.6%	9.2%	11.4%
	Neutral	22.0%	23.5%	22.0%	21.3%	23.6%
	Medium Priority	30.4%	29.1%	32.2%	29.7%	31.9%
	High Priority	31.8%	30.1%	26.8%	33.6%	29.6%
Expand Rural Bike and Pedestrian Regional Trails	Not a Priority	5.2%	5.0%	5.1%	6.1%	2.8%
	Low Priority	10.2%	8.7%	9.9%	10.5%	10.0%
	Neutral	21.2%	15.5%	21.3%	21.3%	21.9%
	Medium Priority	33.0%	27.6%	33.8%	33.8%	31.6%
	High Priority	30.3%	43.3%	29.9%	28.3%	33.6%
Expand all Park Classifications Areas	Not a Priority	4.7%	7.0%	6.4%	4.8%	3.4%
	Low Priority	6.2%	4.6%	4.9%	6.0%	7.5%
	Neutral	42.6%	39.0%	42.9%	43.6%	40.2%
	Medium Priority	30.3%	28.2%	34.4%	30.5%	28.2%
	High Priority	16.2%	21.1%	11.3%	15.1%	20.7%

*Results weighted at the CRD level.

What should be done to operate the regional parks and trails system in the future? (Q20)

Response Options	CRD* (n=1,634)	Gulf Islands (n=387)	Saanich Peninsula (n=399)	Urban Core (n=493)	Westshore (n=355)
Maintain existing funding	36.0%	30.5%	34.8%	36.7%	35.8%
Increase existing funding	64.0%	69.5%	65.2%	63.3%	64.2%

Given the demand for funding and limited resources available, what tools or approaches do you feel should be utilized to fund regional parks and trails? (Q21)

Response Options	CRD* (n=1,604)	Gulf Islands (n=378)	Saanich Peninsula (n=388)	Urban Core (n=488)	Westshore (n=350)
Increase taxes	27.1%	31.5%	28.6%	28.1%	23.1%
Increase non-tax revenues (e.g., paid parking, park user fees, food services, equipment rentals, merchandise sales)	31.1%	30.7%	27.1%	31.8%	31.4%
Establish a foundation to increase partnerships and pursue grants and donations	86.6%	86.2%	87.6%	86.1%	87.7%

Which of the following information sources do you use to find out about the regional parks and trails you visit? (Q22)

	CRD* (n=1,607)	Gulf Islands (n=374)	Saanich Peninsula (n=394)	Urban Core (n=489)	Westshore (n=350)
Family and friends	67.5%	60.4%	64.7%	68.3%	67.7%
Google search	67.3%	56.4%	64.5%	69.1%	65.7%
Word of mouth	57.9%	61.2%	62.7%	56.2%	59.7%
CRD website	54.2%	44.4%	56.3%	54.0%	55.4%
Park brochures	27.2%	36.6%	26.4%	26.4%	28.0%
Newspaper	17.0%	8.6%	17.5%	18.4%	14.6%
Guidebooks	14.3%	19.0%	16.2%	14.1%	13.1%
Community/public events	14.0%	12.6%	12.4%	14.3%	14.3%
Tourism Info Centre	12.8%	28.3%	12.4%	10.6%	16.0%
Nature Centre	12.3%	11.8%	9.9%	11.7%	15.4%
TV	11.1%	4.0%	9.4%	11.2%	12.6%
Radio	8.8%	4.3%	4.8%	9.8%	8.6%
Other	6.6%	3.2%	5.1%	5.9%	9.7%
Magazines	6.5%	4.0%	11.7%	6.7%	3.7%
Email	4.0%	5.1%	3.0%	3.7%	5.1%
CRD Facebook	4.0%	2.4%	4.3%	2.7%	7.7%

*Results weighted at the CRD level.

	CRD* (n=1,607)	Gulf Islands (n=374)	Saanich Peninsula (n=394)	Urban Core (n=489)	Westshore (n=350)
CRD Instagram	2.3%	1.3%	2.5%	2.5%	2.0%
CRD YouTube	1.0%	0.3%	1.0%	0.6%	2.3%
CRD X / Twitter	0.7%	0.3%	0.8%	0.8%	0.3%

*Weighted CRD Level Results

In which area of the Capital Region do you live in? (Q23)

	CRD (n=1,647)
Beecher Bay First Nation (Sc'ianew)	0.0%
Central Saanich	8.9%
Colwood	4.3%
Esquimalt	1.9%
Esquimalt Nation (x ^w sepsəm)	0.0%
Galiano Island	2.2%
Highlands	0.4%
Juan de Fuca Electoral Area	0.9%
Langford	10.3%
Malahat First Nation (MÁLEXEL)	0.0%
Mayne Island	3.3%
Metchosin	1.2%
North Saanich	7.9%
Oak Bay	2.2%
Pacheedaht First Nation (Pa:chi:da?ah)	0.0%
Pauquachin First Nation (BOKÉĆEN)	0.0%
Pender Island	4.6%
Penelekut Tribe (Pune'laxutth)	0.0%
Salt Spring Island	13.1%
Saanich	14.3%
Saturna Island	0.0%
Sidney	7.5%
Songhees Nation (Lək ^w əŋən)	0.0%
Sooke	4.6%
Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Area	0.6%
Tsartlip First Nation (WJOŁŁP)	0.0%
Tsawout First Nation (SĀÁUTW)	0.2%
Tseycum First Nation (WSIKEM)	0.0%
T'Sou-ke Nation	0.0%
Victoria	10.2%
View Royal	1.5%

*Results weighted at the CRD level.

	CRD (n=1,647)
Other	0.1%

In which age category do you fall? (Q24)

	CRD (n=1,640)	Gulf Islands (n=387)	Saanich Peninsula (n=402)	Urban Core (n=494)	Westshore (n=357)
18-24 years	0.9%	1.0%	0.0%	1.0%	1.1%
25-34 years	5.6%	1.3%	3.2%	5.9%	6.7%
35-44 years	9.7%	5.9%	6.2%	8.5%	15.4%
45-54 years	13.2%	9.8%	7.5%	13.6%	15.4%
55-64 years	22.2%	18.9%	23.6%	22.3%	21.8%
65+ years	48.4%	63.0%	59.5%	48.8%	39.5%

What is your gender? Refers to current gender which may be different from sex assigned at birth and may be different from what is indicated on legal documents. (Q25)

	CRD (n=1,563)	Gulf Islands (n=361)	Saanich Peninsula (n=388)	Urban Core (n=472)	Westshore (n=342)
Male	44.5%	49.6%	39.9%	45.6%	43.0%
Female	55.1%	50.1%	59.8%	54.0%	56.4%
Transgender male	0.1%	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Transgender female	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Non-Binary	0.3%	0.3%	0.0%	0.4%	0.6%

Do you own or rent your home? (Q26)

	CRD (n=1,635)	Gulf Islands (n=388)	Saanich Peninsula (n=398)	Urban Core (n=494)	Westshore (n=355)
Rents	12.6%	7.2%	9.8%	19.4%	12.1%
Owns	87.4%	92.8%	90.2%	80.6%	87.9%

Please indicate the type of household in which you live. (Q27)

	CRD (n=1,613)	Gulf Islands (n=379)	Saanich Peninsula (n=393)	Urban Core (n=490)	Westshore (n=351)
Adult living alone	25.5%	19.5%	26.5%	32.7%	21.1%
Couple with no dependent children	47.7%	59.6%	53.2%	39.6%	39.9%
Extended family	4.8%	5.0%	4.3%	4.1%	6.0%

*Results weighted at the CRD level.

	CRD (n=1,613)	Gulf Islands (n=379)	Saanich Peninsula (n=393)	Urban Core (n=490)	Westshore (n=351)
More than two adults sharing a residence	5.9%	4.0%	4.3%	6.7%	8.5%
Parent(s) with one or more dependent child (full, or part-time)	15.1%	10.0%	10.9%	16.1%	23.9%
Other	1.0%	1.8%	0.8%	0.8%	0.6%

Please indicate the range which corresponds to your household's total gross income last year (from all sources, before income taxes). (Q28)

	CRD (n=1,223)	Gulf Islands (n=1,223)	Saanich Peninsula (n=279)	Urban Core (n=278)	Westshore (n=394)
Under \$25,000	4.6%	4.7%	2.5%	4.8%	6.3%
\$25,000 - \$49,999	13.9%	17.9%	12.2%	14.5%	10.7%
\$50,000 - \$79,999	21.8%	22.2%	24.5%	21.1%	19.9%
\$80,000 - \$124,999	29.3%	31.5%	26.6%	29.4%	29.4%
\$125,000 - \$199,999	20.4%	16.8%	25.2%	16.8%	24.3%
\$200,000 and over	10.1%	6.8%	9.0%	13.5%	9.6%

Do you or anyone in your household have one, or more, accessibility requirements (e.g., permanent condition(s) that impacts mobility, vision, hearing, cognition, sensory processing, social interactions or requires the use of an aid such a stroller, wheelchair, cane, or walker and/or adaptive design)? (Q29)

	CRD (n=1,555)	Gulf Islands (n=360)	Saanich Peninsula (n=384)	Urban Core (n=477)	Westshore (n=334)
Yes	19.8%	21.7%	17.4%	19.7%	20.7%
No	80.2%	78.3%	82.6%	80.3%	79.3%

Do you currently own, or in the next 5-years are planning to own, a micro-mobility vehicle? (e-bikes, scooters, electric scooters, electric tricycles, electric unicycles, unicycles and more). (Q30)

	CRD (n=1,630)	Gulf Islands (n=386)	Saanich Peninsula (n=396)	Urban Core (n=492)	Westshore (n=356)
Yes	28.7%	35.0%	26.3%	28.9%	24.4%
No	52.2%	49.2%	56.1%	51.0%	52.8%
Unsure	19.1%	15.8%	17.7%	20.1%	22.8%

*Results weighted at the CRD level.

APPENDIX C: 1998, 2005, 2017, 2024 SURVEY RESULTS

Residency of Participants

Response Options	Percentage (%) response in each sample			
	1998	2005	2017	2024
Beecher bay First Nation (SCIANEW)	-	-	0.0%	0.0%
Central Saanich	-	13.8%	5.0%	4.6%
Colwood	-	5.6%	3.4%	4.5%
Esquimalt	-	0.6%	9.2%	4.0%
Esquimalt Nation (Xwesepsum)	-	-	0.2%	0.0%
Galiano Island	-	-	0.5%	0.4%
Highlands	-	0.8%	4.0%	0.4%
Juan de Fuca Electoral Area	-	2.2%	2.3%	1.0%
Langford	-	7.7%	2.6%	10.8%
Malahat First Nation (MÁLEXEL)	-	-	0.0%	0.0%
Mayne Island	-	-	0.7%	0.6%
Metchosin	-	2.1%	4.5%	1.3%
North Saanich	-	3.1%	4.3%	3.5%
Oak Bay	-	1.1%	13.2%	4.5%
Pacheedaht First Nation	-	-	0.0%	0.0%
Pauquachin First Nation (BOKEĆEN)	-	-	0.0%	0.0%
Pender Island	-	-	0.9%	0.8%
Penelakut Tribe (PUNE'LAXUTTH')	-	-	0.0%	0.0%
Salt Spring Island	-	11.4%	1.0%	2.3%
Saanich	-	10.8%	17.7%	29.1%
Saturna Island	-	-	0.8%	0.0%
Sidney	-	3.1%	2.1%	3.3%
Songhees Nation (Ləkʷəŋən)	-	-	0.0%	0.0%
Sooke	-	11.7%	3.7%	4.9%
Southern Gulf Islands	-	6.9%	-	0.1%
Tsartlip First Nation (WJOŁŁLP)	-	-	0.1%	0.0%
Tsawout First Nation (SĪÁUTW)	-	-	0.0%	0.1%
Tseycum First Nation (W SIKEM)	-	-	0.0%	0.0%
T'Sou-ke Nation	-	-	0.0%	0.0%
Victoria	-	7.2%	11.8%	20.9%
View Royal	-	3.1%	11.9%	3.0%
Other	-	5.4%	-	0.1%
No Response	-	3.2%	-	-

Note: A dash (-) indicates data is absent for a particular question or response option for the corresponding survey year.

Socio-demographic Data

Response Options	Percentage (%) response in each sample			
	1998 ¹	2005 ²	2017	2024
Age				
18-24	2.7%	-	0.4%	0.9%
25-34	9.5%	-	5.9%	5.6%
35-44	18.0%	-	11.6%	9.7%
45-54	24.0%	-	19.2%	13.2%
55-64	18.7%	-	28.0%	22.2%
65+	27.1%	-	34.8%	48.4%
No response	-	-	-	-
Gender				
Male	51.9%	49.5%	63.3%	44.5%
Female	48.1%	46.2%	36.7%	55.0%
No response	-	5.4%	-	-
Transgender male*	-	-	-	0.0%
Transgender female*	-	-	-	0.0%
Non-Binary*	-	-	-	0.4%
Gross Annual Income*				
Under \$25,000	-	-	-	4.9%
\$25,000 - \$49,999	-	-	-	13.5%
\$50,000 - \$79,999	-	-	-	21.2%
\$80,000 - \$124,999	-	-	-	29.2%
\$125,000 - \$199,999	-	-	-	19.3%
\$200,000 and over	-	-	-	11.9%
Home Ownership*				
Rent	-	-	-	16.2%
Own	-	-	-	83.8%
Household Composition				
Couple with no dependent children	-	54.8%	45.0%	41.9%
Adult living alone	-	20.8%	18.4%	28.8%
Parent(s) with one or more dependent child (full, or part-time)*	-	28.0%	20.5%	17.1%
More than two adults sharing a residence*	-	-	-	6.8%
Extended family	-	-	6.1%	4.6%
Other	-	-	1.3%	0.8%
Adults sharing residence	-	-	8.7%	-
No response	-	4.1%	-	-
Accessibility Requirement*				
Yes	-	-	-	19.8%
No	-	-	-	80.2%

Response Options	Percentage (%) response in each sample			
	1998 ¹	2005 ²	2017	2024
Micro mobility Vehicle* (Own, currently or within 5 years)				
Yes	-	-	-	27.8%
No	-	-	-	51.9%
Unsure	-	-	-	20.3%

Note: A dash (-) indicates data is absent for a particular question or response option for the corresponding survey year.

*New or updated survey question / response option for 2024 survey

¹Household composition data is not reported for the 1998 sample. This information was not retrieved through this survey that year.

²Age is not reported for the 2005 sample as different categories were used in this survey year.

Importance / Benefits of Regional Parks

Benefit Statements	Percent positive ¹ (%) in each sample			
	1998	2005	2017†	2024†
Importance of regional parks	80.8%	79.9%	96.7%	93.5%
A place for outdoor recreation	87.9%	-	92.8%	-
A place to exercise	-	-	79.2%	-
A place for outdoor recreation and exercise ²	-	-	-	93.0%
A place that enhances mental and physical health	-	-	88.3%	-
A place that enhances mental and physical health and wellbeing ³	-	-	-	91.6%
A place to be with a dog	-	65.6%	50.4%	-
A place to horseback ride	-	43.1%	16.2%	-
A place to go camping	-	-	45.9%	-
A place for the conservation of natural environments and species ⁴	94.2%	94.4%	90.4%	93.5%
A place to experience natural environments and species	89.5%	94.8%	90.2%	94.5%
A place to learn about natural environments and species	83.5%	89.7%	78.3%	78.0%
A place that respects, reflects, and preserves First Nations cultural heritage and traditions*	-	-	-	61.0%
A place to learn about and experience First Nations cultural heritage and traditions*	-	-	-	52.3%
An interconnected system of natural lands	-	-	79.5%	76.5%
A place that contributes to reducing climate change	-	-	79.4%	79.9%
A place to spend time with family and friends	93.2%	92.6%	84.6%	86.8%
A place for quiet relaxation	89.2%	93.3%	86.1%	87.7%
A place for providing personal challenges and developing new skills*	-	-	-	49.8%
A place that is welcoming and meaningfully accessible to all *	-	-	-	81.6%
A place that contributes to regional climate resiliency*	-	-	-	80.4%

Benefit Statements	Percent positive ¹ (%) in each sample			
	1998	2005	2017†	2024‡
A place to attend festivals	-	-	27.2%	-
A place to attend special events	-	-	29.5%	-
A green-space buffer from suburban development	92.4%	93.3%	-	-
A place that enhances residential property values	-	61.8%	-	-
A place that stimulates the economy through sales of outdoor equipment	-	51.6%	-	-
A place to hike	-	89.5%	-	-
A place to cycle	-	70.7%	-	-
A place to promote nature-based tourism	-	74.7%	-	-
Maintaining scenic areas	92.4%	-	-	-
Habitat for wildlife	92.1%	-	-	-

Note: A dash (-) indicates data is absent for a particular question or response option for the corresponding survey year.

*New benefit statement added to the 2024 survey.

† 2017 and 2024 survey data are weighted. Results prior to 2017 are unweighted.

¹ Positive response categories included "very important", "quite important" or "somewhat important" in 2005. Positive response categories included "very important" and "quite important" in 2017; these same response categories were used in 2024.

² Separate questions used in previous years were combined into one benefit statement in 2024.

³ Benefit statement revised in 2024 from previous year's wording. Variations in wording may have influenced the response.

⁴ Previously worded as "a place for the conservation of natural environment and species" in 2017 and "protected natural environment for native plants and animals" in 1998 and 2005.

Importance / Benefits of Regional Trails

Benefit Statements	Percent positive ¹ (%) in each sample			
	1998	2005	2017†	2024‡
Importance of regional trails	-	72.1%	-	83.7%
A place for outdoor recreation	-	-	90.9%	-
A place to exercise	-	-	84.0%	-
A place for outdoor recreation and exercise ²	-	-	-	88.4%
A place to be with a dog	-	47.2%	50.1%	-
A place that enhances mental and physical health and wellbeing ³	-	-	-	85.3%
A place to horseback ride	-	23.0%	18.4%	-
A place for the conservation of natural environments and species ⁴	-	67.9%	80.3%	80.5%
A place to experience natural environments and species	-	68.5%	82.5%	82.8%
A place to learn about natural environments and species	-	-	68.8%	62.3%
A place that respects, reflects, and preserves First Nations cultural heritage and traditions*	-	-	-	52.6%
A place to learn about and experience First Nations culture and traditions*	-	-	-	44.1%

Benefit Statements	Percent positive ¹ (%) in each sample			
	1998	2005	2017†	2024‡
A place that contributes to reducing regional greenhouse gas emissions*	-	-	-	74.8%
A place that contributes to reducing climate change	-	-	76.1%	-
A greenway connection through the urban, suburban and rural landscape ³	-	81.4%	85.6%	84.9%
A route to travel or commuting purposes ³	-	56.9%	58.7%	61.1%
An opportunity to be away from vehicle traffic ³	-	73.2%	88.3%	83.5%
A place to spend time with family and friends	-	70.2%	78.2%	74.3%
A place for quiet relaxation	-	-	78.5%	72.4%
A route that is accessible*	-	-	-	81.0%
A place to attend festivals	-	-	19.8%	-
A place to attend special events	-	-	21.4%	-
A place that enhances residential property values	-	28.8%	-	-
A place that stimulates the economy through sales of outdoor equipment	-	19.9%	-	-
A place to hike	-	70.3%	-	-
A place to cycle	-	68.9%	-	-
A place to promote nature-based tourism	-	34.4%	-	-

Note: A dash (-) indicates data is absent for a particular question or response option for the corresponding survey year.

† 2017 and 2024 survey data are weighted. Results prior to 2017 are unweighted.

*New benefit statement added to the 2024 survey.

¹ Positive response categories included "very important", "quite important" or "somewhat important" in 2005. Positive response categories included "very important" and "quite important" in 2017; these same response categories were used in 2024.

² Separate questions used in previous years were combined into one benefit statement in 2024.

³ Statement wording was changed in 2017 from wording used in 2005. Variations in wording may have influenced the response.

⁴ Previously worded as "a place for the conservation of natural environment and species" in 2017 and "protected natural environment for native plants and animals" in 1998 and 2005.

Regional Parks and Trails Visited in the Past 12 Months

Response Options	Percent (%) in each sample			
	1998	2005	2017†	2024‡
None (Parks)*	-	-	-	8.5%
None (Trails)*	-	-	-	17.3%
Albert Head Lagoon	15.0%	17.5%	22.7%	25.5%
Ayum Creek	-	5.3%	2.9%	4.0%
Bear Hill	12.4%	13.9%	17.9%	18.8%
Brooks Point	-	3.2%	2.3%	2.8%
Coles Bay	15.9%	11.0%	13.7%	16.5%
Devonian	7.2%	9.3%	14.2%	12.2%
East Point	7.9%	4.8%	8.9%	6.3%
East Sooke	27.2%	36.9%	45.4%	45.5%

Response Options	Percent (%) in each sample			
	1998	2005	2017†	2024†
Elk/Beaver Lake	53.0%	51.2%	68.2%	66.3%
E&N Rail Trail - Humpback Connector	-	-	31.9%	37.1%
Francis/King	12.2%	13.1%	30.2%	28.5%
Galloping Goose Regional Trail	-	57.3%	78.4%	72.2%
Gonzales Hill	16.5%	13.2%	25.9%	28.0%
Hartland Mountain Bike (Mount Work)	-	-	12.1%	-
Horth Hill	13.6%	7.1%	10.5%	12.5%
Island View Beach	40.6%	35.5%	54.6%	51.8%
Jordan River	-	-	25.1%	25.2%
Kapoor	-	1.4%	2.6%	2.5%
Lochside Regional Trail	-	31.1%	59.1%	56.1%
Lone Tree Hill	6.0%	7.0%	11.6%	12.3%
Matheson Lake	16.8%	22.6%	0.0%	30.4%
Matthews Point	-	2.7%	0.1%	1.8%
Mayne Island Regional Trail	-	-	-	2.5%
Mill Farm	-	7.4%	0.0%	3.8%
Mill Hill	7.8%	10.0%	14.6%	15.7%
Mountain Forest*	-	-	-	1.7%
Mount Parke	6.2%	2.0%	1.8%	1.8%
Mount Wells	-	3.3%	10.2%	14.7%
Mount Work	13.4%	14.6%	28.1%	29.2%
Roche Cove	11.3%	16.5%	17.9%	15.2%
Sea to Sea	-	4.0%	5.0%	9.6%
St. John Point*	-	-	-	-
Sooke Hills Wilderness	-	13.1%	11.2%	19.3%
Sooke Potholes	-	-	34.7%	33.6%
Thetis Lake	29.4%	38.2%	58.9%	56.7%
Witty's Lagoon	32.6%	37.4%	51.2%	45.9%
Wrigglesworth Lake*	-	-	-	1.8%

Note: A dash (-) indicates data is absent for a particular question or response option for the corresponding survey year.

† 2017 and 2024 survey data are weighted. Results prior to 2017 are unweighted.

*New response option / park or trail added to the 2024 survey.

Activities in Regional Parks and Trails

Response Options	Percent (%) in each sample			
	1998	2005	2017†	2024†
Birdwatching	-	-	27.1%	24.5%
Boating/Canoeing/Kayaking	-	15.6%	-	-
Cycling	-	37.7%	20.1%	42.0%

Response Options	Percent (%) in each sample			
	1998	2005	2017†	2024†
Camping	-	-	12.5%	13.6%
Fishing	-	9.6%	5.7%	5.5%
Geocaching	-	-	3.2%	1.3%
Hiking	-	-	71.3%	71.2%
Horseback riding	-	4.2%	6.4%	0.8%
Mountain biking	-	-	7.5%	6.8%
Picnicking	-	50.7%	26.8%	26.7%
Running/Jogging	-	18.7%	18.5%	10.9%
Skateboarding/Rollerblading	-	-	0.5%	0.3%
Surfing	-	-	2.1%	0.6%
Swimming	-	32.1%	22.9%	18.1%
Viewing plants/animals	-	54.8%	50.6%	42.8%
Walking	-	-	85.2%	79.4%
Walking a dog	-	41.8%	43.5%	38.0%
Hiking/Walking	-	92.9%	-	-
Sunbathing	-	24.5%	-	-
Nature photography	-	27.3%	-	-
Boating	-	-	6.4%	3.4%
Canoeing/Kayaking	-	-	35.2%	9.9%
Paddle Boarding*	-	-	-	7.1%
Attending a special event*	-	-	-	12.9%
Attending a festival*	-	-	-	4.1%
Rock climbing*	-	-	-	1.0%
Other	-	-	-	5.0%

Note: A dash (-) indicates data is absent for a particular question or response option for the corresponding survey year.

† 2017 and 2024 survey data are weighted. Results prior to 2017 are unweighted.

*New response option / park or trail added to the 2024 survey.

Frequency of Use of Regional Parks and Trails

Response Options	Percent (%) in each sample				
	1998	2005	2017†	2024† (Parks) ¹	2024† (Trails) ¹
Not at All / 0 times	26.0%	19.1%	4.4%	8.5%	17.4%
1-5 Times	28.9%	24.4%	16.0%	22.2%	22.0%
6-10 Times	-	-	16.5%	16.8%	13.1%
More than 10 times	-	-	63.0%	-	-
10-15 Times*	-	-	-	15.3%	11.6%
More than 15 Times*	-	-	-	20.3%	18.1%
Daily or Weekly*	-	-	-	16.9%	17.8%
Daily	-	-	-	-	-

Response Options	Percent (%) in each sample				
	1998	2005	2017†	2024† (Parks) ¹	2024† (Trails) ¹
Weekly	-	-	-	-	-
No Response	-	-	-	-	-

Note: A dash (-) indicates data is absent for a particular question or response option for the corresponding survey year.

† 2017 and 2024 survey data are weighted. Results prior to 2017 are unweighted.

*New response option / park or trail added to the 2024 survey.

¹ Frequency of visitation was asked separately for parks and trails starting in 2024.

Barriers Limiting the Use of Regional Parks and Trails

Response Options	Percent (%) in each sample				
	1998	2005	2017†	2024† (Parks) ¹	2024† (Trails) ¹
Not enough time	38.7%	63.6%	24.7%	25.7%	24.2%
Not aware of regional parks and trails	15.1%	10.6%	7.5%	10.6%	11.7%
No opportunities for my recreation activities	10.6%	4.5%	-	-	-
Too crowded	5.9%	6.5%	-	0.4%	4.2%
Poor facilities	2.7%	3.2%	7.9%	3.6%	-
Lack of public transportation	5.9%	4.9%	5.4%	8.3%	4.2%
Lack of personal transportation	9.1%	5.4%	-	12.0%	-
Lack of personal transportation to/on regional trails ²	-	-	-	-	10.4%
Lack of access for people with disabilities	4.3%	3.4%	9.2%	8.6%	5.7%
Too far from my residence	-	26.3%	19.8%	-	-
I am not really interested in visiting regional parks or trails	-	4.4%	-	1.4%	5.5%
My friends are not interested	-	2.2%	-	-	-
My family members are not interested	-	3.6%	-	-	-
I don't have the skills	-	0.4%	-	-	-
I don't have the ability	-	4.1%	-	-	-
Feel unsafe	-	-	14.1%	12.5%	-
Lack of bicycle	-	-	3.1%	-	-
Lack of car	-	-	7.3%	-	-
Meeting dog off-leash	-	-	36.9%	9.1%	10.9%
Presence of horses or horse manure	-	-	4.8%	0.4%	1.6%
Too isolated	-	-	6.5%	2.4%	7.0%
Too many cyclist	-	-	13.1%	-	-
Too many walkers	-	-	1.6%	-	-
Elderly	-	-	8.1%	12.6%	6.8%
Physically unable	-	-	9.4%	18.5%	9.1%
Other	-	-	2.2%	1.9%	2.9%

Response Options	Percent (%) in each sample				
	1998	2005	2017†	2024† (Parks) ¹	2024† (Trails) ¹
Travel time to reach regional parks/trails	-	-	-	10.1%	21.6%
Utilizes other outdoor spaces / other parks or trails	-	-	-	8.0%	6.0%
Not enough parking at or near regional parks or trails	-	-	-	7.1%	6.0%
It is difficult to find information about the kinds of activities that are offered at regional parks	-	-	-	5.2%	-
Presence of dog waste in regional parks or trails	-	-	-	5.1%	5.2%
Potential wildlife conflicts or encounters	-	-	-	4.8%	3.1%
Lack of specific recreation facilities or desired recreation experiences	-	-	-	3.9%	-
No regional parks or trails in my community	-	-	-	1.2%	12.2%
Conflict(s) with other park visitors	-	-	-	0.5%	-
Do not feel welcome or due to ethnicity/gender/cultural practices*	-	-	-	0.0%	0.0%
Speed of cyclists (including e-bikes)*	-	-	-	-	16.4%
Criminal or suspicious activity*	-	-	-	-	7.8%
Concern about safety at intersections of regional trails and roadways*	-	-	-	-	4.2%
Lack of consistency in trail surfaces*	-	-	-	-	2.9%
Lack of specific active transportation facilities (electric charging, lighting)*	-	-	-	-	0.5%

Note: A dash (-) indicates data is absent for a particular question or response option for the corresponding survey year.

† 2017 and 2024 survey data are weighted. Results prior to 2017 are unweighted.

*New barrier added to the 2024 survey.

¹ Barriers to use was asked separately for parks and trails starting in 2024.

² The wording of the statement "Lack of personal transportation" used in 1998 and 2005 was reworded to "Lack of personal transportation to/on regional trails" in 2024.

Priorities for Management of Regional Parks and Trails

Priority Areas ²	Percent (%) rated "High Priority" in each sample ¹			
	1998	2005	2017†	2024†
Provide outdoor recreation opportunities	-	-	38.7%	-
Expand outdoor recreation opportunities ³	-	-	-	29.0%
Provide new or additional facilities	15.5%	-	19.0%	21.2%
Repair and maintain existing facilities	56.8%	43.1%	55.8%	58.9%
Provide more drive-in camping areas	-	12.8%	12.5%	-
Provide hike-in camping areas ³	9.3%	16.2%	11.1%	-
Protect the natural environments and species ³	69.8%	55.6%	61.0%	67.8%

Priority Areas ²	Percent (%) rated “High Priority” in each sample ¹			
	1998	2005	2017†	2024†
Undertake restoration projects to conserve natural environments and species ³	47.0%	43.4%	51.5%	49.6%
Acquire more parkland	25.2%	36.2%	50.3%	-
Widen regional trails	-	-	14.3%	-
Separate users on regional trails	-	-	14.0%	-
Increase enforcement of regional parks and trails regulations ³	-	27.9%	19.9%	25.4%
Increase visitors’ awareness about regional parks and trails regulations	-	-	22.0%	23.8%
Provide more educational programs/opportunities	13.3%	11.5%	13.7%	11.9%
Provide more opportunities for volunteers ³	48.7%	12.8%	12.4%	13.1%
Improve collaboration with regional parks and trails neighbours (i.e., Government agencies, stakeholders) ³	-	-	24.7%	17.8%
Improve collaboration with First Nations governments in service delivery, planning and management*	-	-	-	21.6%
Improve security	20.5%	23.0%	-	-
Provide more trails	27.8%	-	-	-
Provide more information	16.9%	14.8%	-	-
Manage the impact of visitors on plants and animals	46.7%	-	-	-
Prioritize greenhouse gas emission reductions and climate change adaptation*	-	-	-	35.0%
Expand regional trails in rural and electoral areas*	-	-	-	34.8%
Enhance regional trails in high-use sections with separated paths and lighting*	-	-	-	34.5%
Enhance equitable access to regional parks and trails*	-	-	-	24.2%
Increase visitor's awareness of First Nations history and cultural use in regional parks and trails*	-	-	-	20.9%

Note: A dash (-) indicates data is absent for a particular question or response option for the corresponding survey year.

† 2017 and 2024 survey data are weighted. Results prior to 2017 are unweighted.

*New item added to the 2024 survey.

¹ The top response category was “high priority” in 1998, 2017 and 2024. The top response category in 2005 was “very important”.

² Additional priority areas pertaining to specific issues, such as hiking or dog management were included in the 1998 and 2005 surveys. To reduce information load, these statements were not included in this table.

³ Statement wording was changed from the previous survey period. Variations in wording may have influenced the response.

Funding of Regional Parks and Trails

Response Options	Percent (%) rated “High Priority” in each sample ¹			
	1998	2005	2017†	2024†
Reduce Funding	2.9%	1.8%	-	-
Maintain Existing Funding	49.5%	44.5%	43.2%	36.0%
Increase Funding	39.1%	43.9%	56.8%	64.0%
No Response	8.5%	9.8%	-	-



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Note: A dash (-) indicates data is absent for a particular question or response option for the corresponding survey year.
† 2017 and 2024 survey data are weighted. Results prior to 2017 are unweighted.

APPENDIX D: 2024 SURVEY INSTRUMENT

2024 CRD REGIONAL PARKS AND TRAILS RESIDENT SURVEY – Online Version

Take this survey to help us plan the future of your Regional Parks and Trails

The Capital Regional District (CRD) is conducting a survey to improve outdoor recreation, conservation, facilities, and services within regional parks and trails. To manage your regional parks and trails well and determine future directions, we need to hear from you about your ideas and opinions. Even if you have not used any regional parks or trails, your opinions are important to us.

Your address is one of only a small number that has been randomly selected from the area served by CRD. It is important to hear from you and each household selected in this sample, to accurately represent the views of all residents. One adult over 18 years old per household should complete the survey.

Your responses are voluntary and will be kept confidential. Please enter your unique survey code to start the survey.

Personal information contained on this form is collected under the authority of the Local Government Act and is subject to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. The personal information will be used for purposes directly associated with this survey. Inquiries about the collection or use of information in this form can be directed to Name, Position, Regional Parks, Capital Regional District 250.360.XXXX

Enter your unique survey code to start the survey

Pre-Amble

The CRD protects and manages more than 13,300 hectares of natural areas in 33 regional parks and four regional trails on southern Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands.

To help us manage regional parks and trails effectively, this survey will ask your thoughts about regional parks (pop-up definition) and regional trails (pop-up definition).

(pop-up definition – regional parks – “Regional public areas dedicated to outdoor recreation, climate action and resiliency, access and equity, reconciliation, and the conservation of natural environments and species, such as Elk/Beaver Lake Regional Park, Thetis Lake Regional Park, Island View Beach Regional Park, etc. managed by the CRD”).

(pop-up definition – regional trails – “CRD regional trails: The recreation and transportation corridors within the CRD, which include the Galloping Goose Regional Trail, the Lochside Regional Trail, the E&N Rail Trail - Humpback Connector, and the Mayne Island Regional Trail”).

Regional Parks Pre-Amble

The regional parks and regional trails system are managed holistically, but regional parks and trails have different visitor use, facility requirements, management demands, and priorities.

To help us manage regional parks effectively, the following six questions will ask you your thoughts about regional parks (*pop up map or embedded in survey*)

1. How important is it to you to have regional parks? (Please check one answer)

1. Not at all important
2. Somewhat important
3. Neutral
4. Quite important
5. Very important

2. How important to you are the following benefits provided by regional parks? (Please check one answer per statement)

Scale 1-5 (1 - Not at all important, 2- Somewhat Important, 3 - Neutral, 4 – Quite Important, 5 -Very Important)

1. A place for outdoor recreation and exercise
2. A place that enhances mental and physical health and wellbeing
3. A place for the conservation of natural environments
4. A place to experience natural environments
5. A place to learn about natural environments
6. A place that respects, reflects, and preserves First Nations cultural heritage and traditions
7. A place to learn about and experience First Nations cultural heritage and traditions
8. An interconnected system of natural lands
9. A place that contributes to reducing climate change
10. A place to spend time with family and friends
11. A place for quiet relaxation
12. A place for providing personal challenges and developing new skills
13. A place that is welcoming and meaningfully accessible to all
14. A place that contributes to regional climate resiliency

3. Which of the following regional park(s) have you visited in the last 12 months?

Survey Tool Note - Conditional – If select None, skips to Q 7

1. None
2. Albert Head Lagoon
3. Ayum Creek
4. Bear Hill
5. Brooks Point
6. Coles Bay
7. Devonian
8. East Point
9. East Sooke
10. Elk/Beaver Lake
11. Francis/King

12. Gonzales Hill
13. Horth Hill
14. Island View Beach
15. Jordan River - (Sandcut Beach)
16. Kapoor
17. Lone Tree Hill
18. Matheson Lake
19. Matthews Point
20. Mill Farm
21. Mill Hill
22. Mountain Forest
23. Mount Parke
24. Mount Wells
25. Mount Work
26. Roche Cove
27. Sea to Sea
28. Sooke Hills Wilderness
29. Sooke Potholes
30. Sooke River
31. St. John Point
32. Thetis Lake
33. Witty's Lagoon
34. Wrigglesworth Lake

4. About how many times have you visited the regional parks in the last 12 months?

1. 1-5 Times
2. 6-10 Times
3. 10-15 Times
4. More than 15 Times
5. Daily or Weekly

5. What is your most frequent mode of travel to regional parks?

1. Personal vehicle
2. Car share or car coop
3. Rideshare with friends or family
4. Personal bicycle
5. Personal e-bike or micro-mobility vehicle
6. Bike or e-bike rental
7. Public transportation
8. Walk
9. Other _____

6. If you have not visited regional parks in the last 12 months, why?

(Please check all that apply)

1. Not aware of regional parks
2. Feel unsafe

3. Lack of personal transportation to regional parks
4. Lack of public transportation to regional parks
5. Not enough parking
6. No, or poor access for people with disabilities
7. Poor facilities
8. Presence of horses or horse manure
9. Not enough time to visit regional parks
10. Travel time to reach regional parks
11. Too isolated
12. Too crowded
13. It is difficult to find information about the kinds of activities that are offered at regional parks
14. Conflict(s) with other park visitors
15. Lack of specific recreation facilities or desired recreation experiences
16. Dogs not under control
17. Presence of dog waste in regional parks
18. Potential wildlife conflicts
19. Do not feel welcome or due to ethnicity/gender/cultural practices
20. Other _____

Regional Trails Pre-Amble

To help us manage regional trails effectively, the following six questions will ask you your thoughts about regional trails (*pop-up map or embedded in the survey*)

7. How important is it to you to have regional trails? (Please check one answer)

1. Not at all important
2. Somewhat important
3. Neutral
4. Quite important
5. Very important

8. How important to you are the following benefits provided by regional trails? (Please check one answer per statement)

Scale 1-5 (1 - Not at all important, 2- Somewhat Important, 3- Neutral, 4 – Quite Important, 5- Very Important)

Benefits

1. A place for outdoor recreation and exercise
2. A place that enhances mental and physical health and well being
3. A place to conserve natural environments
4. A place to experience natural environments
5. A place to learn about natural environments
6. A place that respects, reflects, and preserves First Nations cultural heritage and traditions
7. A place to learn about and experience First Nations culture and traditions

8. A place that contributes to reducing regional greenhouse gas emissions
9. A greenway connection through the urban, suburban, and rural landscapes
10. A route to travel for commuting purposes
11. An opportunity to be away from vehicle traffic
12. A place to spend time with family and friends
13. A place for quiet relaxation
14. A route that is accessible

9. Which of the following regional trails have you visited in the last 12 months?

Survey Tool Note - Conditional – If select None, skip to Q12

1. None
2. E&N Rail Trail – Humpback Connector
3. Galloping Goose Regional Trail
4. Lochside Regional Trail
5. Mayne Island Regional Trail

10. About how many times have you have visited regional trails in the last 12 months?

1. 1-5 Times
2. 6-10 Times
3. 10-15 Times
4. More than 15 Times
5. Daily or Weekly

11. What is your most frequent mode of travel to regional trails?

1. Personal vehicle and parking near trail access points
2. Car share or car coop
3. Rideshare with friends or family
4. Personal bicycle
5. Personal e-bike or micro-mobility vehicle
6. Bike or e-bike rental
7. Public transportation
8. Walk
9. Other _____

**12. If you have not visited regional trails in the last 12 months, why?
(Please check all that apply)**

1. Not aware of regional trails
2. Lack of personal transportation to/on regional trails
3. Lack of public transport to regional trails
4. Not enough parking at or near regional trails
5. No, or poor access for people with disabilities
6. Lack of specific active transportation facilities (electric charging, lighting)
7. Presence of horses or horse manure
8. Not enough time to visit regional trails
9. Travel time to reach regional trails
10. Too isolated in some sections of regional trails

11. Too crowded
12. Speed of cyclists (including e-bikes)
13. Meeting dogs off leash
14. Presence of dog waste on/near regional trails
15. Potential wildlife encounters
16. Lack of consistency in trail surfaces
17. Concern about safety at intersections of regional trails and roadways
18. Criminal or suspicious activity
19. Do not feel welcome or due to ethnicity/gender/cultural practices
20. Other _____

Regional Parks and Trails Pre-Amble

The next set of questions will ask your thoughts about regional parks and trails.

**13. To what extent do you disagree or agree with each of the following statements?
(Please check one answer per statement)**

Scale (1-5) (Strongly Disagree, Disagree, Neutral, Agree, Strongly Agree)

1. Regional parks and trails are important for outdoor recreation
2. Regional parks and trails are important for conservation
3. Regional parks and trails are important for First Nations cultural values and uses
4. We have a responsibility to future generations to protect regional parks and trails
5. Regional parks and trails are important for their educational value
6. Regional parks and trails are important for their beauty
7. Regional parks and trails are important for the regional economy
8. I have an emotional or spiritual bond with regional parks and trails
9. I have a cultural bond with regional parks and trails lands
10. Regional parks and trails are important for their own sake
11. Visitor use of regional parks and trails should be managed if it negatively affects natural environments
12. Outdoor recreational use of regional parks and trails is more important than protecting natural environments
13. Outdoor recreation use of regional parks and trails should be compatible with protecting natural environments
14. Natural environments and species have as much right to exist as people
15. Regional trails are important for transportation
16. Regional trails are important for reducing regional greenhouse gas emissions
17. I am not that interested in regional parks and trails

14. Select the 5 main outdoor recreation activities you do the most in regional parks and trails. (19 in 2017)

1. Attending a festival
2. Attending a special event

3. Birdwatching
4. Boating
5. Camping
6. Canoeing/kayaking
7. Cycling
8. Dog walking
9. Fishing
10. Geocaching
11. Hiking
12. Horseback riding
13. Mountain biking
14. Paddle boarding
15. Picnicking
16. Rock climbing
17. Running
18. Skateboarding/Rollerblading
19. Surfing
20. Swimming
21. Viewing plants/animals
22. Walking
23. Other _____

15. Overall, how satisfied are you with your regional parks and trails system experiences?

1. Not at all satisfied
2. Somewhat satisfied
3. Neutral
4. Quite satisfied
5. Very satisfied

16. Overall, how would you rate regional parks and trails over the past 5 years in: Scale 1-5 (Poor, Fair, Neutral, Good, Excellent)

1. Offering outdoor recreation activities
2. Contributing to the conservation of natural environments
3. Contributing to the health of the region and its residents
4. Contributing to the regional economy (i.e., fees, regional business, tourism)
5. Contributing to Canada's protected area targets for nature protection and climate resiliency (30% of lands and waters protected by 2030)
6. Contributing to equitable access in regional parks and trails
7. Contributing to reconciliation with First Nations

17. What activities should be given priority over the next 5 years to enhance your enjoyment of the regional parks and trails system? (Please check one answer per statement)

Scale (1-5) (Not a Priority / Low Priority / Neutral / Medium Priority / High Priority)

1. Protect the natural environment
2. Expand outdoor recreation opportunities
3. Provide new or additional facilities
4. Repair and maintain existing facilities
5. Increase visitor's awareness of First Nations history and cultural use in regional parks and trails
6. Undertake restoration projects to conserve natural environments
7. Expand regional trails in rural and electoral areas (*pop-up definition – Expand – Plan and develop new sections of trail and/or improve trail connections*)
8. Enhance regional trails in high-use sections with separated paths and lighting (*pop-up definition – Enhance – Make improvements to existing trails, e.g., widening and lighting, trail resurfacing, etc.*)
9. Increase enforcement of regional parks and trails regulations
10. Increase visitor's awareness about regional parks and trails regulations
11. Provide more educational programs
12. Provide more opportunities for volunteers
13. Improve collaboration with regional parks and trails neighbours (i.e., Government agencies, stakeholders)
14. Improve collaboration with First Nations governments in service delivery, planning and management
15. Enhance equitable access to regional parks and trails
16. Prioritize greenhouse gas emission reductions and climate change adaptation

18. Given the demand for funding and limited resources available, which of the activities listed above should the regional parks and trails system focus on in the next 5 years? (Please put the letters corresponding to your first, second, and third choice in the appropriate box)

1. () Highest priority
2. () Second priority
3. () Third priority

19. The CRD's 2022 Financial Plan incorporates a new approach to land acquisition that leverages borrowing capacity to purchase land that would otherwise be unattainable on a pay-as-you-go savings model. This financing structure is anticipated to create a revenue stream that can be used to fund up to \$50 million of land purchases over 15 years, thereby leveraging a net increase in land values more than \$100 million.

The CRD's *Regional Parks and Trails Strategic Plan (2022-2032)* supports global, national and provincial conservation targets, and working with First Nations, to increase representation of all four regional natural areas: (Conservation Areas, Wilderness Areas,

Natural Recreation Areas and Conservancy Areas) and two classifications of regional trails (Urban Bike & Pedestrian, Rural Bike & Pedestrian).

What are your priorities for how the Land Acquisition Fund is spent in the next five years?

Scale (1-5) (Not a Priority / Low Priority / Neutral / Medium Priority / High Priority)

1. Expand Conservation Areas (pop-up definition – “Conservation Areas protect species or ecological communities at risk and offer visitor opportunities that are primarily focused on the interpretation of natural and cultural features”)
2. Expand Wilderness Areas (pop-up definition - “Wilderness Areas protect large, connected tracts of natural areas and to offer visitor opportunities that are primarily focused on remote and secluded compatible outdoor recreation”.)
3. Expand Natural Recreation Areas (pop-up definition – “Natural Recreation Areas protect a connected system of natural areas and to offer visitor opportunities that are primarily focused on compatible outdoor recreation.”)
4. Expand Conservancy Areas (pop-up definition - “Conservancy Areas protect natural assets and areas primarily for their intrinsic cultural use value and to offer visitor opportunities that enhance understanding and appreciation for Indigenous cultural use where appropriate.”)
5. Expand Urban Bike and Pedestrian Regional Trails (pop-up definitions – Urban Bike and Pedestrian Trails provide an off-street trail corridor in urban areas that is primarily for high volumes of active transportation at peak travel times and accommodates regular recreation use.)
6. Expand Rural Bike and Pedestrian Regional Trails (pop-up definition - Rural Bike & Pedestrian Trails provide an off-street trail corridor in rural areas that is primarily for active transportation and recreation with higher volumes.)
7. Expand all Park Classifications Areas

20. What should be done to operate the regional parks and trails system in the future? (Please check one answer)

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| 1. Maintain existing funding | This would result in a 2024 level of operation. |
| 2. Increase existing funding | This would result in a level of operation above and beyond 2024 levels. This could result in more conservation projects, new or upgraded facilities, etc. |

21. Currently CRD regional parks and trails services and facilities are financed through tax-based revenue. Given the demand for funding and limited resources available, what tools or approaches do you feel should be utilized to fund regional parks and trails?

1. Increase taxes
2. Increase non-tax revenues (e.g., paid parking, park user fees, food services, equipment rentals, merchandise sales)
3. Establish a foundation to increase partnerships and pursue grants and donations

22. Which of the following information sources do you use to find out about the regional parks and trails you visit? (Please check all that apply)

1. CRD website
2. CRD social media (*Conditional – if select CRD SM – options for Facebook/Instagram /X/ You Tube*)
3. Google search
4. Family and friends
5. Nature Centre (CRD or other)
6. Newspaper
7. Magazines
8. Radio
9. TV
10. Park brochures
11. Tourism Info Centre
12. Word of mouth
13. Guidebooks
14. Community/public events
15. Email
16. TV
17. Other, please specify _____

ABOUT YOU

Personal information contained on this form is collected under the authority of the Local Government Act and is subject to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

23. In which area of the capital region do you live in?

1. Beecher Bay First Nation (Sc'ianew)
2. Central Saanich
3. Colwood
4. Esquimalt
5. Esquimalt Nation (xʷsepsəm)
6. Galiano Island
7. Highlands
8. Juan de Fuca Electoral Area
9. Langford
10. Malahat First Nation ((MÁLEXEŁ)
11. Mayne Island
12. Metchosin
13. North Saanich
14. Oak Bay
15. Pacheedaht First Nation (P'a:chi:da?ahť)
16. Pauquachin First Nation (BOKEĆEN)
17. Pender Island

18. Penelekut Tribe (Pune'laxutth)
19. Salt Spring Island
20. Saanich
21. Saturna Island
22. Sidney
23. Songhees Nation (Lək'wəḡən)
24. Sooke
25. Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Area
26. Tsartlip First Nation (WJOLELP)
27. Tsawout First Nation (SṪÁUTW)
28. Tseycum First Nation (WSIKEM)
29. T'Sou-ke Nation
30. Victoria
31. View Royal
32. Other _____

24. In which age category do you fall?

1. 18-24
2. 25-34
3. 35-44
4. 45-54
5. 55-64
6. 65+

25. What is your gender? Refers to current gender which may be different from sex assigned at birth and may be different from what is indicated on legal documents.

1. Male
2. Female
3. Transgender male
4. Transgender female
5. Non-Binary
6. Prefer Not to Say
7. Prefer to Self Identify _____

26. Do you rent or own your home?

1. Rent
2. Own

27. Please indicate the type of household in which you live.

1. Adult living alone
2. Couple with no dependent children
3. Extended family
4. More than two adults sharing a residence
5. Parent(s) with one or more dependent child (full, or part-time)
6. Other _____

28. Please indicate the range which corresponds to your household's total gross income last year (from all sources, before income taxes).

1. Under \$25,000
2. \$25,000 - \$49,000
3. \$50,000 - \$79,999
4. \$80,000 - \$124,999
5. \$125,000 - \$199,000
6. \$200,000 and over
7. Decline to answer/don't know

29. Do you or anyone in your household have one, or more, accessibility requirements (e.g., permanent condition(s) that impacts mobility, vision, hearing, cognition, sensory processing, social interactions or requires the use of an aid such a stroller, wheelchair, cane, or walker and/or adaptive design)?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Prefer Not to Say

30. Do you currently own, or in the next 5-years are planning to own, a micro-mobility vehicle? (e-bikes, scooters, electric scooters, electric tricycles, electric unicycles, unicycles and more).

1. Yes
2. No
3. Unsure

We greatly appreciate your help with this survey. If you have any question or would like to receive a summary of the results, please contact:

CRD Regional Parks
490 Atkins Avenue, Victoria, BC, Canada V9B 2Z8
T: 250.478.3344 F: 250.478.5416
E-mail: crdparks@crd.bc.ca



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APPENDIX E: 2024 NOTIFICATION LETTER



Executive Office
625 Fisgard Street, PO Box 1000
Victoria, BC V8W 2S6

T: 250.360.3125
F: 250.360.3130
www.crd.bc.ca

January 23, 2024

Secure Access Code: A1B2C3

Resident
201 - 862 CLOVERDALE AVE
VICTORIA BC V8X 2S8

File: 0640-20

Dear Resident:

We Want to Hear from You About CRD Regional Parks and Trails!

Your household has been randomly selected to participate in the Capital Regional District's (CRD) Regional Parks and Trails 2024 Resident Survey, (Resident Survey). Your participation goes a long way toward improving regional parks and trails in the region. This survey provides the CRD with information critical for decisions on regional parks and trails service delivery, management, operations, outdoor recreation and protecting natural environment and species.

This survey will take approximately 20 minutes to complete. One adult over 18 years old per household should complete the survey. You can complete the survey in three ways:

- Take the survey online at www.crdresidentsurvey.ca using the secure access code at the top of this letter.
- Complete the survey over the phone by calling the toll-free survey hotline at **1.833.224.7237**.
- Complete the survey at home, by calling the toll-free survey hotline at **1.833.224.7237** and **requesting a physical questionnaire to be mailed to your address**. Complete and return the survey – an enclosed stamped and self-addressed envelope will be provided.

R.A. Malatest & Associates Ltd., a Victoria based research firm, is surveying on behalf of the CRD.

All information your household provides for the survey is strictly for the purpose of the CRD Regional Parks and Trails 2024 Resident Survey, is confidential and is not shared with any other individual or organization, per the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. See the Frequently Asked Questions on the back of this letter for details on participating.

If you have questions about the survey, call the toll-free survey hotline at **1.833.224.7237** or email crdresidentsurvey@malatest.com. For further information, visit www.crdresidentsurvey.ca.

Thank you for participating in this vital survey that will benefit all regional residents.

Sincerely,

Colin Plant
Chair, Capital Regional District Board

For questions about CRD regional parks and trails research, contact
CRD Regional Parks at 250.478.3344 or crdparks@crd.bc.ca

PREC-1643628113-829

CRD Regional Parks and Trails 2024 Resident Survey

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is conducting this survey?

The CRD Regional Parks and Trails 2024 Resident Survey is a Capital Regional District (CRD) initiative being carried out by Victoria-based research firm R.A. Malatest & Associates Ltd.

Why are you doing this survey?

The CRD regularly administers a statistically valid resident survey (1992, 1998, 2005, 2017) to document public opinions toward regional parks and trails. The survey data will benefit communities within the capital region by informing the CRD on how satisfied residents are with their regional parks and trails system experience.

Why should my household participate in this survey? What will the survey information be used for? This survey will help document public satisfaction, confirm visitor activities in the parks and help the CRD assess understanding of the various benefits of parks. Your feedback will help to inform long-term planning and support related goals identified in both the CRD's Corporate Plan 2023-2026 and the Regional Parks Strategic Plan 2022-2032. The survey is strictly confidential, and your participation is optional.

How will my information be kept private?

The survey is voluntary and strictly confidential. Any information collected will be protected per the provisions of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. Data gathered is processed, stored, and used in a form that does not permit any individual household or its members to be identified. Names, addresses and phone numbers are deleted from the data file at the conclusion of the survey's data collection phase.

How can residents confirm that the survey is legitimate?

Residents can confirm the survey is the legitimate CRD Regional Parks and Trails 2024 Resident Survey if they receive a letter signed by Colin Plant, CRD Board Chair, with a secure access code directing them to complete a survey at www.crdresidentsurvey.ca, by telephone or requesting a physical questionnaire.

How are residents selected to participate?

Participants are selected randomly from demographics and residence location to collect information on regional parks and trails from a statistically relevant sample of study area households. Questions or concerns about this research for the CRD can be directed to Malatest's toll-free survey hotline at 1.833.224.7237.

What do I do if I lose my letter with my secure login code?

If you have misplaced your secure access code, please contact Malatest's toll-free survey hotline at 1.833.224.7237.

When is the survey being conducted and how long will it take?

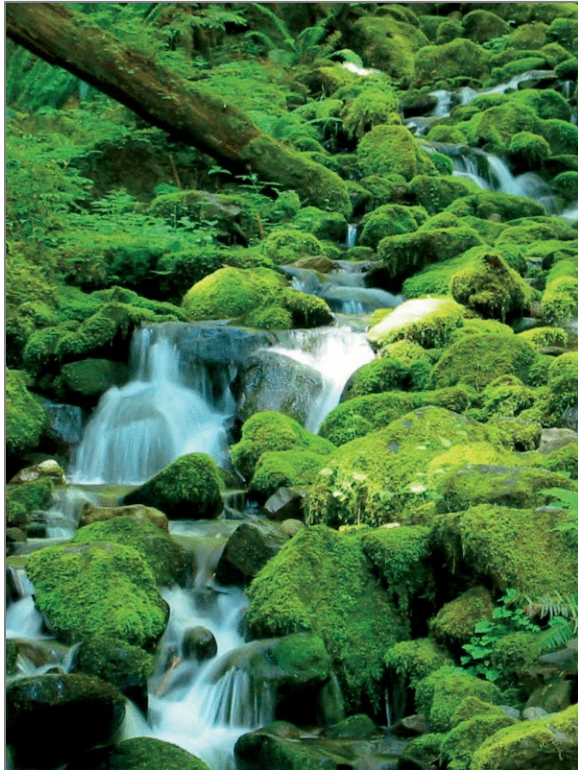
The survey is being launched in January 2024. The online survey should take between 15 and 25 minutes to complete.



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APPENDIX F: 2024 REMINDER POSTCARDS

First Reminder Postcard



In January 2024 we mailed you an invitation to take the **CRD Regional Parks & Trails 2024 Resident Survey**.

If you have already participated, thank you for your feedback!

If you have not taken it yet, please complete it online as soon as possible:

www.crdresidentsurvey.ca

Your feedback is important to us!



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Complete the survey online:
www.crdresidentsurvey.ca

Access Code: A1A1A1

Alternatively, you may request a phone survey or physical questionnaire by calling the toll-free survey hotline at 1.833.224.7237.

It's important that we hear from residents like you who have been randomly chosen from a sample. By taking the survey, you help make sure the survey results represent CRD residents' opinions.

If you have any questions about the survey, call 1.833.224.7237 or email crdresidentsurvey@malatest.com.

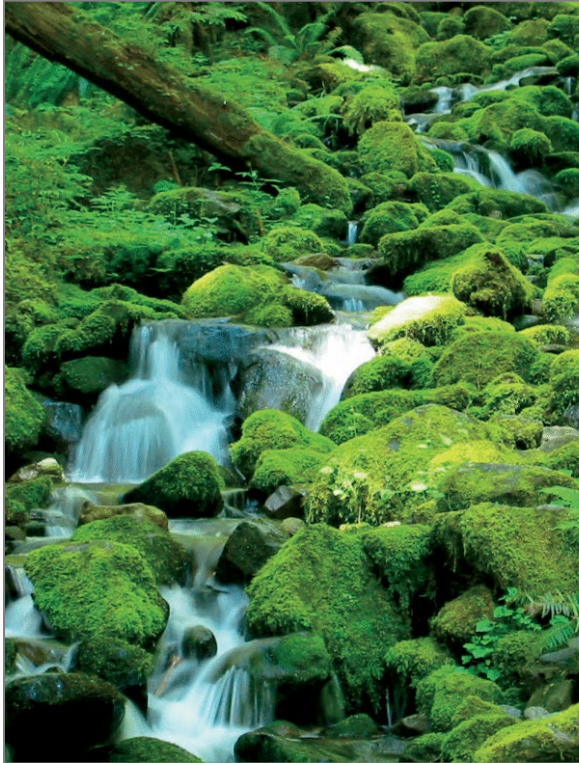


RESIDENT
201-862 CLOVERDALE AVE
VICTORIA BC
V8X 2S8



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Second Reminder Postcard



In January 2024 we mailed you an invitation to take the **CRD Regional Parks & Trails 2024 Resident Survey**.

The survey is closing on April 4, 2024.

This means you have one more opportunity to complete the survey before it closes. If you have not taken it yet, please complete it online as soon as possible:

www.crdresidentsurvey.ca

Your feedback is important to us!



Complete the survey online:
www.crdresidentsurvey.ca

Access Code: A1A1A1

Alternatively, you may request a phone survey or physical questionnaire by calling the toll-free survey hotline at 1.833.224.7237.

Your address was one of only 7,650 randomly chosen from a sample across the region. It's important that we hear from a diverse sample of residents. By taking the survey, you help make sure the survey results represent CRD residents' opinions, whether you frequently visit the regional parks and trails, or not.

If you have any questions about the survey, call 1.833.224.7237 or email crdresidentsurvey@malatest.com.



RESIDENT
201-862 CLOVERDALE AVE
VICTORIA BC V8X 2S8

Resident Survey Fact Sheet

Regional Parks

Capital Regional District | November 2024

Resident survey in 2024 to collect public opinions about the regional parks and trails system



7650 Households
1762 Participants
23% Response



Data statistically valid and representative of CRD (95% confidence level)

Why do you visit regional parks and trails?



Walking-79%



Hiking-71%



Viewing nature-43%



Cycling-42%



Dog walking-38%



Participants supported outdoor recreation if it was compatible with conservation



94%
2024

Parks are important

97%
2017

84%
2024

Trails are important

94%
2017

Resident Survey Fact Sheet

79%
2024

Are satisfied with their experience in regional parks and trails

91% Visited a regional park

83% Visited a regional trail



90%
2017

Where do you go?

66% **Elk/Beaver Lake**
→ 1,919,677 Visits in 2023

57% **Thetis Lake**
→ 540,857 Visits in 2023

52% **Island View Beach**
→ 451,232 Visits in 2023

Why don't you visit?

26% Not enough time

19% Physically unable/illness

13% Elderly

13% Feel unsafe

12% Lack of personal transportation

Survey data aligns with the 2023 Traffic and Trails count data

Where do you go?

72% **Galloping Goose**
→ 2,273,816 Visits in 2023

56% **Lochside**
→ 1,221,933 Visits in 2023

37% **E&N Rail Trail**
→ 483,546 Visits in 2023

Why don't you visit?

24% Not enough time

22% Travel time to trails

16% Speed of cyclists

12% Not aware/no trails in community

11% Meeting dogs off leash

Survey data aligns with the 2023 Traffic and Trails count data



64% of participants supported the increase in funding to operate regional parks and trails in the future

Residents' priorities for the next 5 years

1. Protect the natural environment
2. Repair and maintain existing facilities
3. Restoration projects to conserve natural environments

2024 CRD Regional Parks and Trails Resident Survey Results

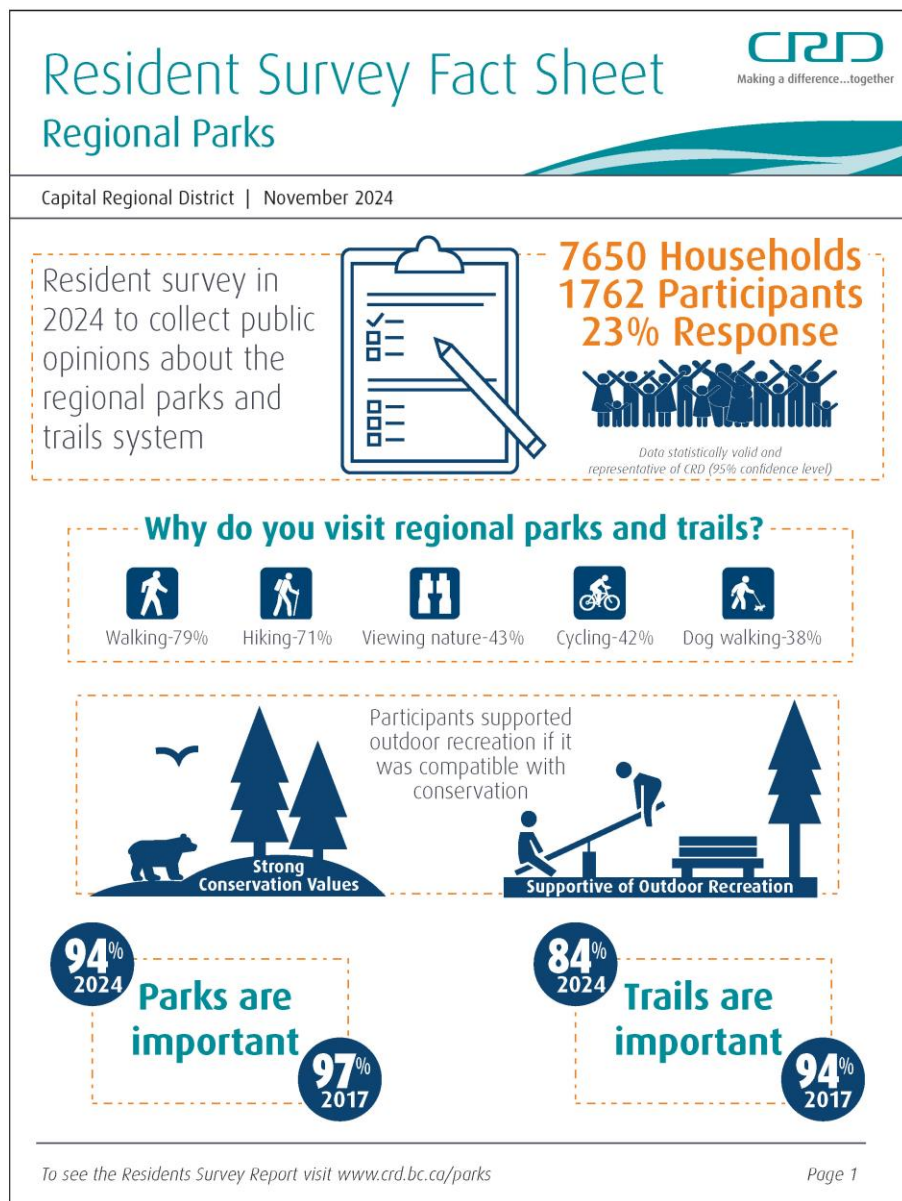
Regional Parks Committee
November 27, 2024

2024 Regional Parks and Trails Resident Survey Results – Why do we conduct the Resident Survey?

The CRD Regional Parks and Trails Resident Survey provides a snapshot of the public's opinion towards regional parks and trails.

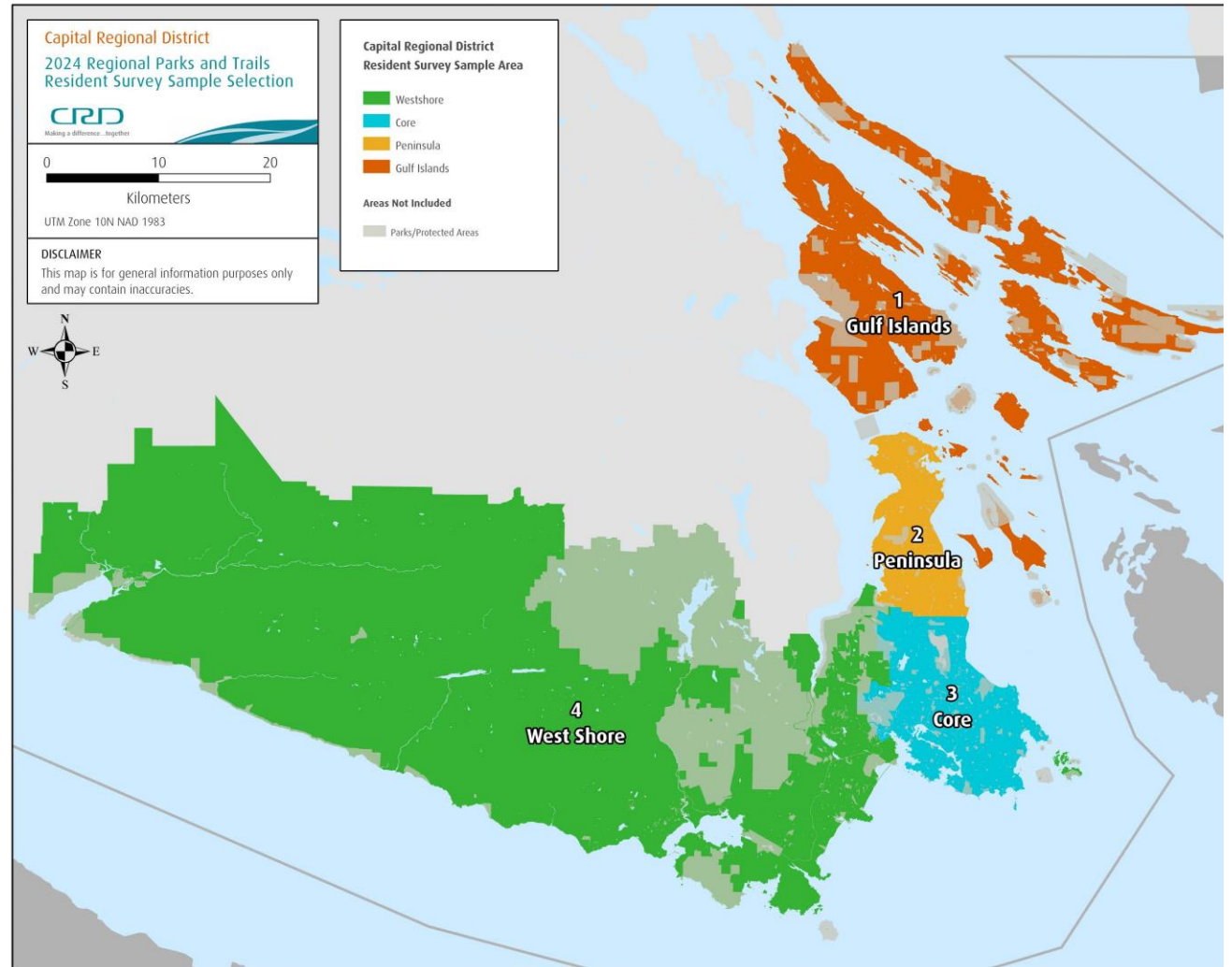
Data is used to:

- Measure residents' values, opinions and priorities
- Track satisfaction and visitor-use patterns
- Guide planning & operations decision making



2024 CRD Regional Parks and Trails Resident Survey Results – Methodology

- Strategic Plan priorities
- Diversity, equity and inclusion lens
- Regional Planning Area (RPA), Gulf Islands and SSI
- Mailed to 7,650 randomly selected households
- 1,762 participants (23% survey response rate)





Key Findings

2024 CRD Regional Parks and Trails Resident Survey Results – Benefits

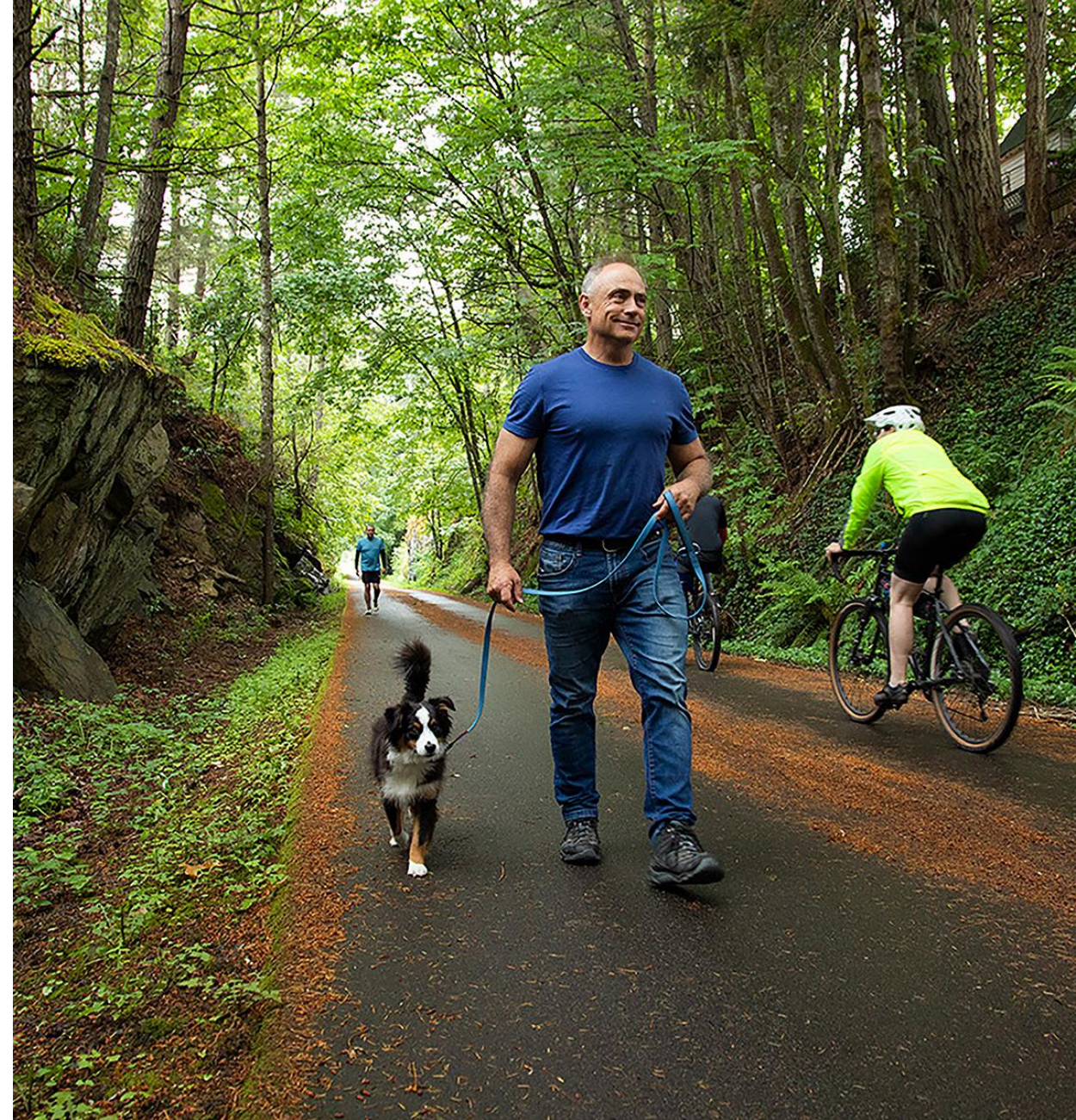
Regional Parks

- Experience natural environments
- Conservation
- Outdoor recreation & exercise



Regional Trails

- Outdoor recreation & exercise
- Enhances mental, physical health & well-being
- A greenway connection through urban, suburban and rural landscapes



2024 Regional Parks and Trails Resident Survey Results – Visitor Use

Why do you visit regional parks and trails?



Walking-79%



Hiking-71%



Viewing nature-43%



Cycling-42%



Dog walking-38%

Visitor Use – Parks

Where do you go?

66% Elk/Beaver Lake
→1,919,677 Visits in 2023

57% Thetis Lake
→540,857 Visits in 2023

52% Island View Beach
→451,232 Visits in 2023

Survey data aligns with the 2023 Traffic and Trails count data

Visitor Use – Trails

Where do you go?

72% Galloping Goose
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56% Lochside
→1,221,933 Visits in 2023

37% E&N Rail Trail
→483,546 Visits in 2023

Survey data aligns with the 2023 Traffic and Trails count data

2024 Regional Parks and Trails Resident Survey Results – Visitor Use

Visitor Use – Parks

Why don't you visit?

- 26%** Not enough time
- 19%** Physically unable/illness
- 13%** Elderly
- 13%** Feel unsafe
- 12%** Lack of personal transportation

Survey data aligns with the 2023 Traffic and Trails count data

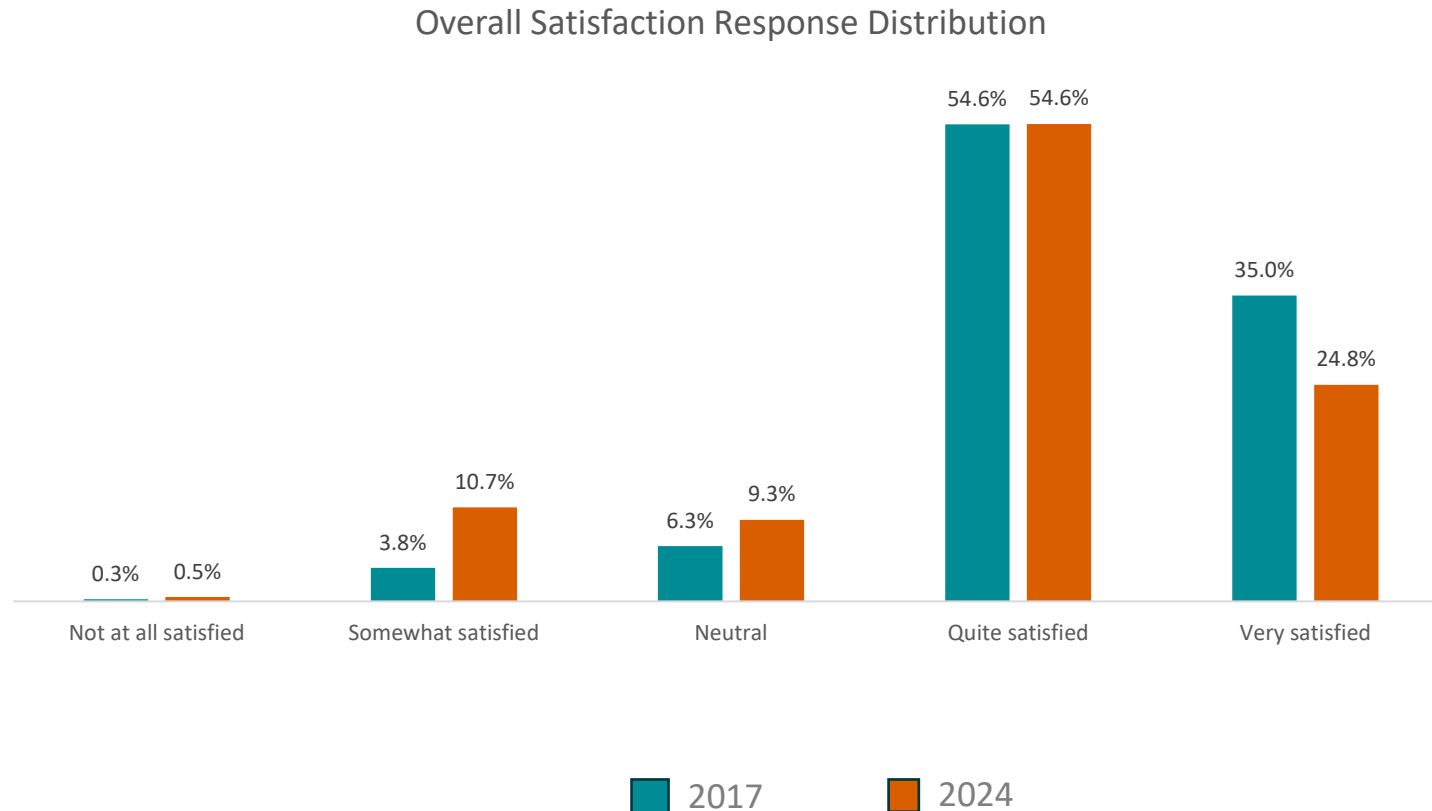
Visitor Use – Trails

Why don't you visit?

- 24%** Not enough time
- 22%** Travel time to trails
- 16%** Speed of cyclists (including e-bikes)
- 12%** Not aware/no trails in community
- 11%** Meeting dogs off leash

Survey data aligns with the 2023 Traffic and Trails count data

2024 Regional Parks and Trails Resident Survey Results - Satisfaction



Most residents (79%) are satisfied with regional parks and trails

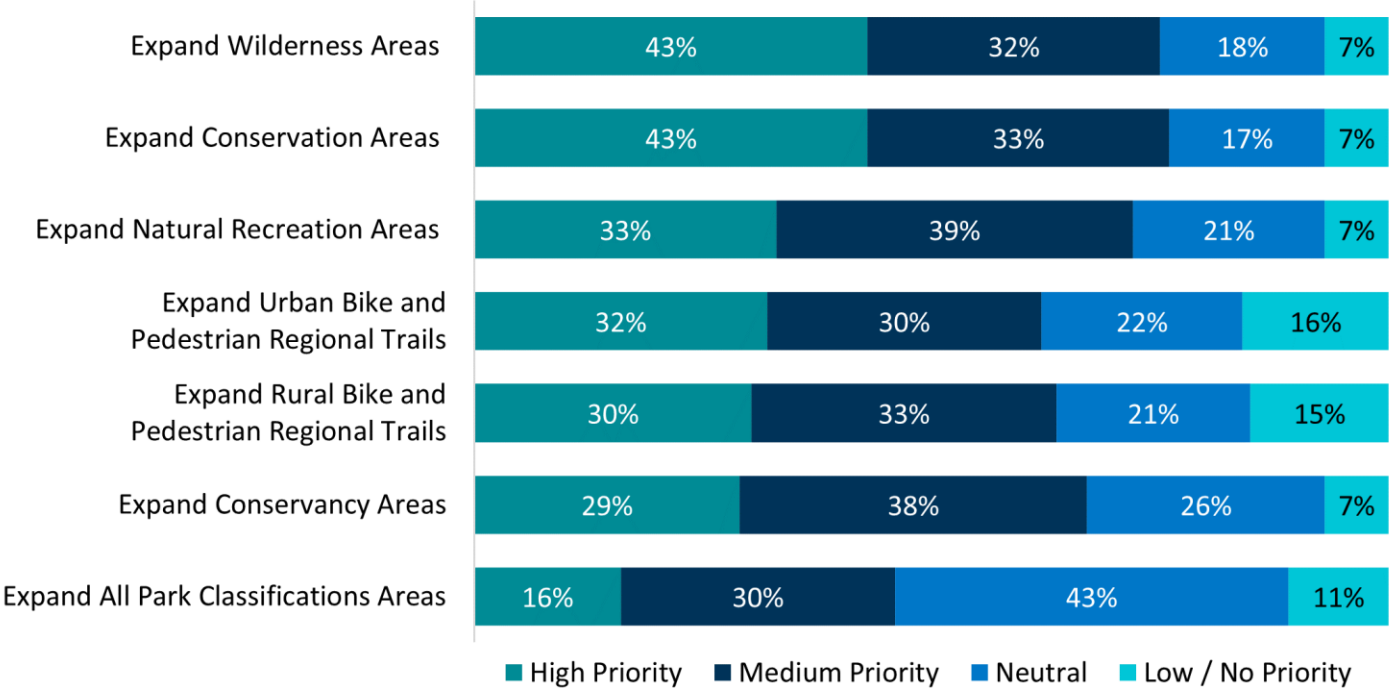
2024 Regional Parks and Trails Resident Survey Final Results

Management & Funds



64% of residents support increasing funding for the operation of regional parks and trails (57% in 2017)

Support for expanding park classifications through the Land Acquisition Fund

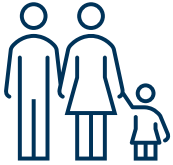


2024 Regional Parks and Trails Resident Survey Final Results

Values



Regional parks and trails are important for outdoor recreation (97%)



We have a responsibility to future generations to protect regional parks and trails (96%)



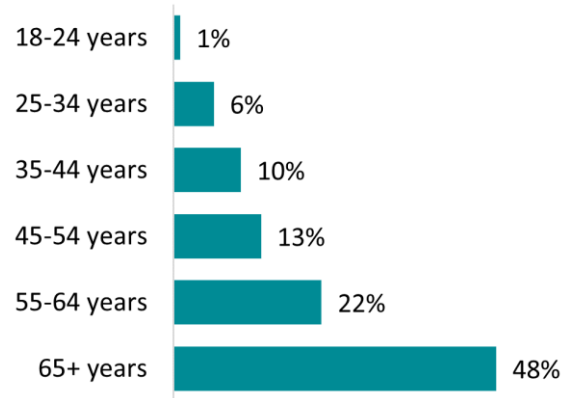
Regional parks and trails are important for their beauty (93%)



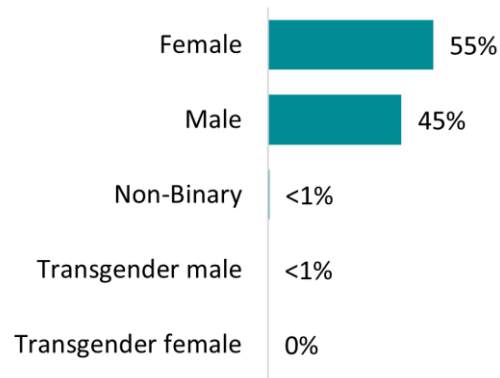
2024 Regional Parks and Trails Resident Survey Final Results

Demographics

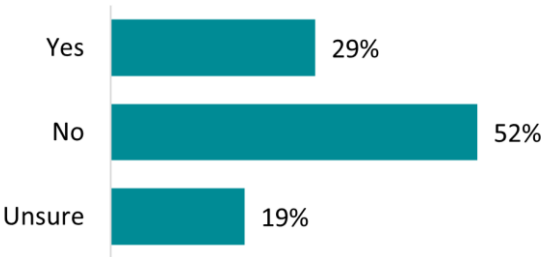
Age:



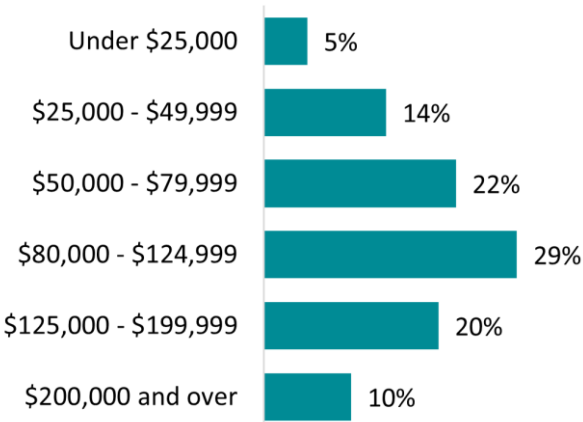
Gender:



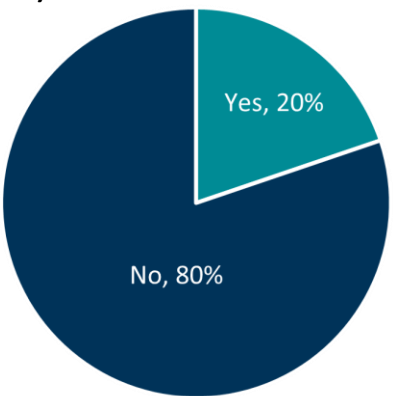
E-Bike/micro-mobility device? (new):



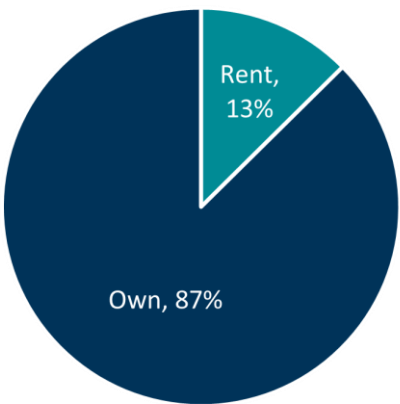
Income (new):



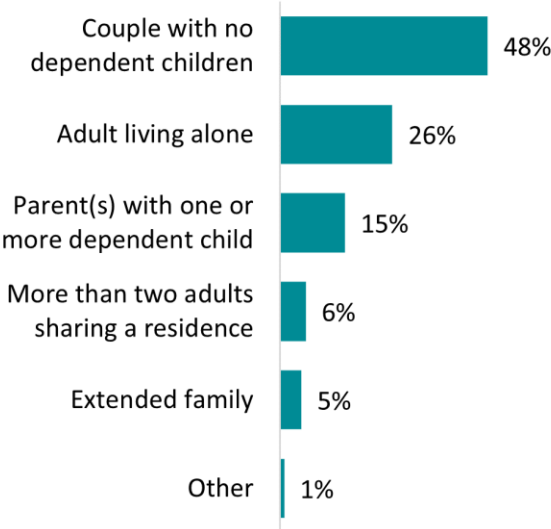
Accessibility Requirements? (new):



Rent/Own? (new):



Household Composition:



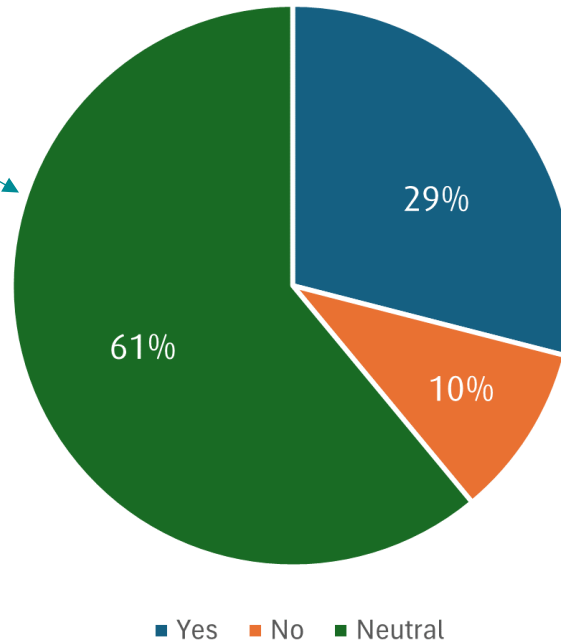


Key Findings – Strategic Plan

2024 Regional Parks and Trails Resident Survey Final Results

Reconciliation

- Most residents acknowledge the importance of **parks** (61%) and **trails** (51%) for respecting and preserving First Nations cultural heritage and as valuable places to learn about First Nations culture (**parks** 53%, **trails** 44%).
- Are regional parks and trails contributing to reconciliation with First Nations?
- Support for **Conservancy Park Classification** is high (62%), though no regional parks are classified as Conservancies.



2024 Regional Parks and Trails Resident Survey Final Results

Conservation

- Experiencing natural environments (95%) and the conservation of natural environments (94%) are top reported benefits for regional parks.
- Protecting regional parks and trails for future generations (96%), providing beauty (93%), and conservation (91%) are highly reported values.
- 79% agree regional parks and trails positively contribute to the conservation of natural environments, and 63% agree that CRD Regional Parks positively contribute to Canada's protected area targets (30X30)*.



2024 CRD Regional Parks and Trails Resident Survey Final Results

Visitor Experience

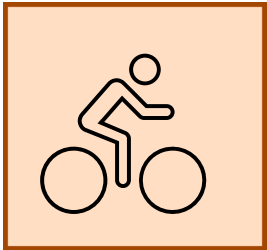
Residents' priorities for the next 5 years

- 1. Protect the natural environment
- 2. Repair and maintain existing facilities
- 3. Restoration projects to conserve natural environments

91% visited a regional park



83% visited a regional trail



Regional Parks
& Trails
Contribute to...



Resident Health & Well-being



Conservation of Natural Environments



Space for Outdoor Recreation



2024 CRD Regional Parks and Trails Resident Survey Final Results

Climate Action & Resiliency



81% of residents travel by personal vehicle to regional parks and 39% by personal vehicle to regional trails.



62% of residents travel by bike or active transportation to regional trails, ~19% by active transportation to regional parks.



Most residents recognize the important role parks play in reducing greenhouse (GHG) emissions (75%). Reducing GHG emissions/adapting to climate change is medium-high priority for most residents (64%).



2024 CRD Regional Parks and Trails Resident Survey Final Results

Access & Equity



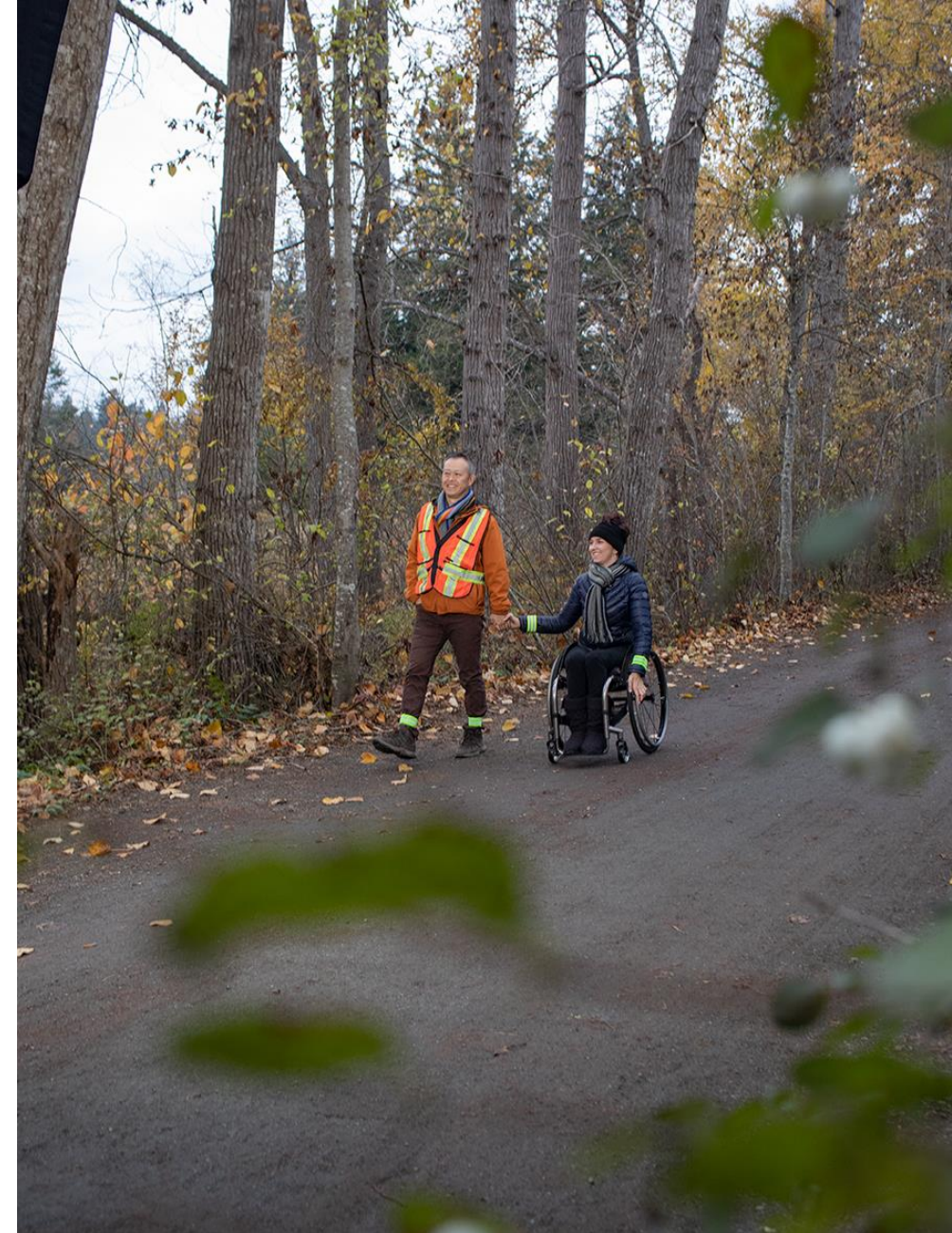
Most residents view **regional parks** as welcoming and meaningfully accessible to all (82%) and recognize the benefits of **regional trails** for providing accessible routes for residents (81%).



Many residents view regional parks and trails as contributing to equitable access (63%) and enhancing equitable access to **regional parks and trails** as a medium-to-high priority (65%).

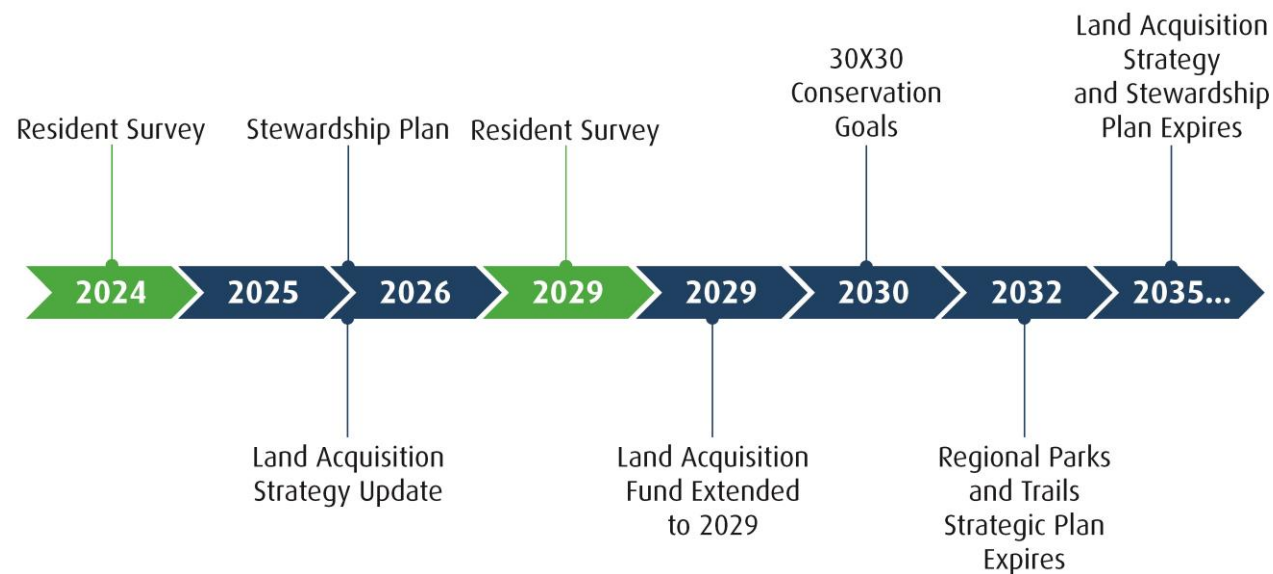


Households in which one member has a permanent accessibility requirement were less likely to have visited a **regional park or trail** in the past year.

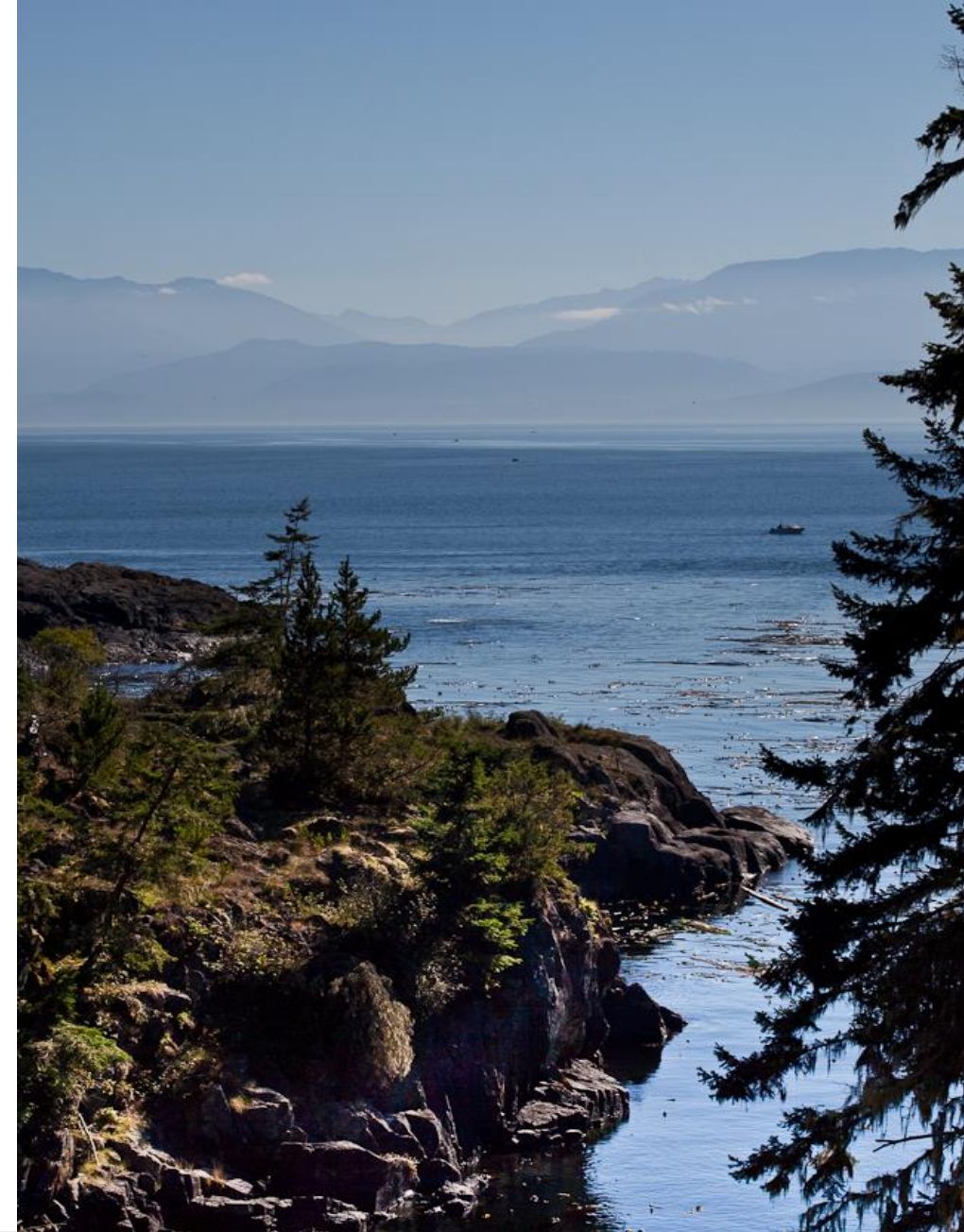


2024 CRD Regional Parks and Trails Resident Survey Final Results

What's Next?



- Post the 2024 Resident Survey results on the CRD website
- Refine the questionnaire for the 2029-2030 Resident Survey
- Use this and the next survey results to inform strategic plans



Questions?



**REPORT TO REGIONAL PARKS COMMITTEE
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2024**

SUBJECT **Regional Trestles Renewal, Trails Widening and Lighting Project Update
– November 2024**

ISSUE SUMMARY

To provide the semi-annual update on the Regional Trestles Renewal, Trails Widening and Lighting Project and the Multi-Use Trail Safety Enhancement Study.

BACKGROUND

On August 9, 2023, the CRD Board approved that the Regional Trestles Renewal, Trails Widening and Lighting Project (the Project) be accelerated by the inclusion of the Project in the 2024-2028 Financial Plan, that project funds (\$53.5 million) be secured by way of debt, and that staff continue to develop partnerships, pursue grant opportunities and investigate options to generate additional funds through non-tax revenue. The scope of the Project includes critical infrastructure renewal for the Selkirk, Swan Lake and Brett Avenue Trestles, and six kilometres of separated-use, widened pathway design with lighting on the Galloping Goose Regional Trail (GGRT) and Lochside Regional Trail (LRT). Staff were directed to report on progress with the Project through bi-annual updates to the Regional Parks Committee.

Trestle Renewals Update

Selkirk Trestle

Through an invitation to tender, a contract was awarded in September 2024 to complete the Selkirk Phase 1 below deck critical repairs. The repairs are required to support a widened and lit deck. The work is not anticipated to close the trail and will be completed by Q2 of 2025. BC Transportation Financing Authority (BCTFA) will be paying for the portion of work associated with the elements of the Selkirk Trestle under BCTFA responsibility, per the BCTFA/CRD agreement.

Planning for Selkirk Phase 2, which includes widening, lighting, resurfacing and separating use, will start in 2025. The timing for completing Phase 2 will be coordinated with BCTFA and BC Hydro. BCTFA is currently exploring an application to Transport Canada to leave the bascule (lifting portion of the Selkirk Trestle) in the down position permanently, which may impact the design of the above-deck improvements. BC Hydro is planning to excavate within sections of the GGRT on the north end of the Selkirk Trestle, starting in 2026, to install a new high-voltage transmission line and remove an old line, as part of the BC Hydro Cable Replacement Project. CRD staff will aim to coordinate construction schedules so that closures of the Selkirk Trestle will align with closures of the GGRT caused by BC Hydro, to minimize the duration of trail closure.

Swan Lake Trestle and Brett Avenue Trestle

The Swan Lake and Brett Ave Trestles, constructed circa 1915-1917, are part of the National Historical Register and are both in deteriorating condition, with many of their structural components nearing the end of their service life. Staff retained the services of a structural engineering firm to identify options with concept designs to rehabilitate or replace the structures so that they can accommodate a widened and lit deck and achieve an extended service life.

Four options were identified for the Swan Lake Trestle and two options for the Brett Ave Trestle. Options were evaluated and ranked using weighted criteria, including remaining service life of existing timber components, impacts to historical preservation of the construction and style of the trestles, constructability, cost (Class D estimates excluding O&M costs), environmental impacts, maintenance and lifecycle costing. Profile views of each of the options are included in Appendix A. Results are summarized below:

Swan Lake Trestle Options		Cost	Ranking
Option 1	Rehabilitate existing structure, add 30-span steel trestle system using top-down construction; 75-year design life	\$7.94M	1
Option 2	Rehabilitate existing structure, add 16-span steel trestle system using ground-up construction; 75-year design	\$8.56M	3
Option 3	Remove existing structure and build new four span steel “I” girder bridge with concrete deck; 75-year design life	\$8.98M	2
Option 4	Rehabilitate existing structure by pairing new steel elements adjacent to rehabilitated existing timber elements; 30-year design life	\$9.34M	4

Brett Avenue Trestle Options		Cost	Ranking
Option 1	Add a reinforced soil integrated bridge with concrete footings and stringers with 20m span. Potential to leave some timber pier bents for aesthetics; 75-year design life	\$1.39M	1
Option 2	Remove existing structure and replace with a multi-plate arch structure; 75-year design life	\$1.79M	2

Based on the draft weighted evaluation criteria, the current best scoring option for the Swan Lake Trestle is Option 1, rehabilitation of the existing structure by constructing a 145.8 m long, 30-span steel trestle system matching a similar layout to the current timber trestle. Existing timber caps and piles can remain to maintain aesthetics. The top-down construction reduces the environmental impacts associated with ground disturbance below the trestle for access to the site. CRD staff are exploring opportunities with the Swan Lake Nature Sanctuary to coordinate construction with a potential future Blenkinsop Creek Restoration project. If the restoration project moves forward, Option 2 becomes the top-ranked option because the impacts of ground disturbance and environmental impacts on the scoring are reduced.

Next steps include engaging with District of Saanich staff to discuss the preferred options and implications of proceeding with work based on the terms of the existing District of Saanich/CRD agreement. Staff will also initiate the process for securing Heritage Alteration Permits, which will be needed for both trestles. Staff plan to return to Regional Parks Committee with recommended options for approval in 2025 before detailed design begins.

Trails Widening and Lighting Update

The procurement process to engage with a consulting firm with active transportation expertise to complete detailed design and construction administration for the Project is nearing completion. Over the summer, staff issued a request for qualifications to shortlist consulting firms to invite to submit detailed proposals for detailed design and construction administration services. An offer for contract is expected to be issued to the successful proponent by the end of 2024, and detailed

design will start in 2025. The consulting firm will support the CRD project team with detour planning and coordinating construction sequencing with third-party projects happening within the Project corridor between 2025 and 2028. A final construction sequencing plan will be established in 2025 when timelines for third-party projects in the corridor are confirmed. The initial construction sequencing, with anticipated third-party project timing, is illustrated in Appendix B.

Staff have begun initial engagement with special interest groups, municipal and provincial staff and First Nations. Input from initial engagement will be carried forward to the detailed design stage of the Project, and staff have plans to complete further engagement under a comprehensive Engagement Plan starting in 2025.

Recruitment for two new four-year term positions will begin in November 2024, with the intention that staff will start in early 2025 to support project delivery, including engagement with special interest groups and First Nations.

A summary of key 2025 activities, with anticipated timeline for completion, is found in the table below. The first section of trail to undergo construction will be a 300 m section of the GGRT between Gorge Road and Cecelia Road, starting in summer 2025 due to City of Victoria plans for a sewer replacement project. Staff are working with City of Victoria and District of Saanich staff on a design for the AAA detour, which is anticipated to be needed for at least four months starting in late spring 2025.

2025 Key Activities		
Phase	Key Activity	Completion
Planning	Engagement Plan (First Nations & Special Interest Groups)	Q1
	Detour planning for entire Project corridor	Q2
	Design & Construction Sequencing Plan	Q2
	Swan Lake & Brett Ave Trestles: final options selected	Q2
	Selkirk Trestle – Phase 2 above deck improvements	Q4
	Environmental Impact Assessments for 2025, 2026 construction	Q4
Design	Detailed design for GGRT near Tillicum Rd	Q3*
	Detailed design for sections planned for 2026 construction	Q4
	Swan Lake & Brett Ave Trestles: initiate detailed design and heritage alteration permit process	Q4
Procurement	Tender for GGRT Section A Phase B Cecelia Rd to Dupplin Rd	Q3
	Tender for GGRT near Tillicum Rd	Q4
Construction	Selkirk Trestle – Phase 1 below deck critical repairs	Q1
	GGRT Section A Phase A Gorge Rd to Cecelia Rd (~300 m section of trail initiated by City of Victoria sewer replacement project)	Q3
	TENTATIVE - GGRT Section A Phase B Cecelia Rd to Dupplin Rd (~400 m section of trail)	Q4

* to be coordinated with Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure's Tillicum Active Transportation Bridge Project schedule

CRD Multi-Use Trails Safety Enhancement Study

At its September 2024 meeting, the Regional Parks Committee directed staff to engage a consultant to develop a study to build on previous efforts and to provide recommendations to further enhance safety on the CRD's multi-use trails, in light of the evolving characteristics of trail users, including the increasing prevalence of motorized personal mobility devices, such as e-bikes. Additionally, staff were directed to report back to the Regional Parks Committee on the findings of the safety study through bi-annual Regional Trestles Renewal, Trail Widening and Lighting Project updates. Staff have procured the services of a consulting firm with active transportation expertise to complete the study. The focus of the remainder of 2024 will be on data collection and interpretation and engagement planning to solicit qualitative input on trail user experience and comfort. Deliverables for Q1 of 2025 include a draft summary of review of use of rigid bollards. Staff anticipate having a draft study for presentation at the next bi-annual Regional Trestles Renewal, Trails Widening and Lighting Project Update Project update in spring 2025.

ALTERNATIVES*Alternative 1*

The Regional Parks Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board: That the Regional Trestles Renewal, Trails Widening and Lighting Project Update – November 2024 be forwarded to the Transportation Committee for information.

Alternative 2

That this report be referred back to staff for additional information.

IMPLICATIONS*Financial Implications*

Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 4588 was adopted in September 2024. Staff will continue to monitor for applicable grant opportunities and will apply for grants as they become available. At this point, the estimates for the Swan and Brett trestle projects are within budget and the overall project is deemed to be on budget.

First Nations Reconciliation

CRD staff are working with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure on a coordinated consultation for the Project. The Ministry, as the landowner, has a duty to consult with First Nations for projects on their lands, and the CRD, as a proponent, will work with its Indigenous Relations team to fulfill engagement responsibilities. CRD staff will present updates on the Project to First Nations on a quarterly basis. Staff will also engage with environmental consultants to complete environmental impact assessments and management plans for the Project corridor.

CONCLUSION

In August 2023, the CRD Board approved the Regional Trestles Renewal Trails Widening and Lighting Project, encompassing critical infrastructure renewal for 3 trestles and 6 km of separated-use pathway design with lighting, with funds to be secured by way of debt, grants and revenue-generating non-tax funding. Construction on Selkirk Phase 1 below-deck repairs is underway, as are planning and procurement activities for detailed design, construction administration and the trail safety enhancement study. Staff are working with municipal and

provincial partners, special interest groups and First Nations to prepare for summer 2025 construction activities, including detour planning for up to two sections of trail. Recommended options for the Swan Lake and Brett Avenue trestles will be brought to the Regional Parks Committee in spring 2025 for approval, after which staff will move forward with detailed design and permitting.

RECOMMENDATION

The Regional Parks Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:
That the Regional Trestles Renewal, Trails Widening and Lighting Project Update – November 2024 be forwarded to the Transportation Committee for information.

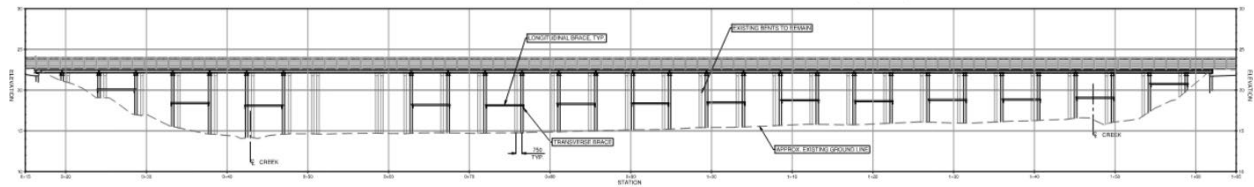
Submitted by:	Steve May, P.Eng., Senior Manager, Facilities Management & Engineering Services
Concurrence:	Glenn Harris, Ph.D., R.P.Bio., Acting General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Environmental Services
Concurrence:	Kevin Lorette, P. Eng., MBA, General Manager, Planning & Protective Services
Concurrence:	Ted Robbins, B. Sc., C. Tech., Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENTS

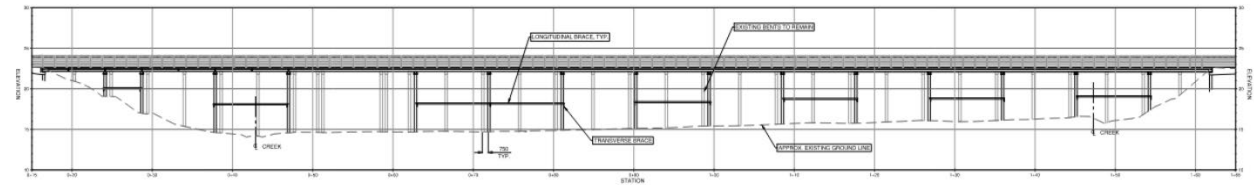
Appendix A: Swan Lake and Brett Avenue Trestles: Profile Views of Options
Appendix B: Initial Construction Sequencing Map

SWAN LAKE AND BRETT AVENUE TRESTLES PROFILE VIEW OF OPTIONS

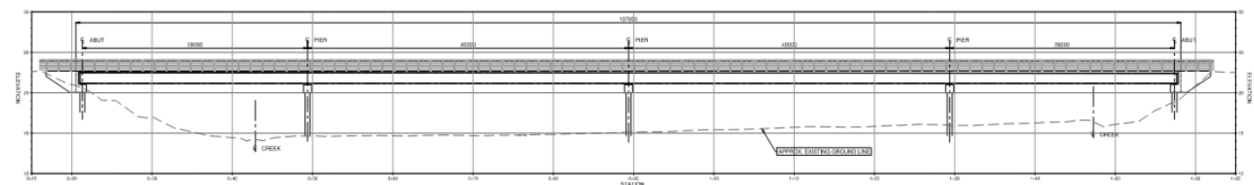
Swan Lake Trestle - Option 1



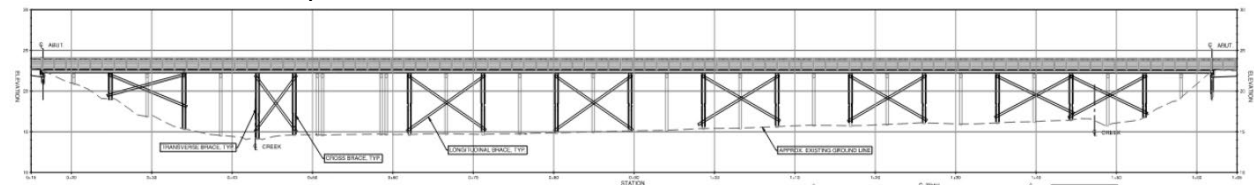
Swan Lake Trestle – Option 2



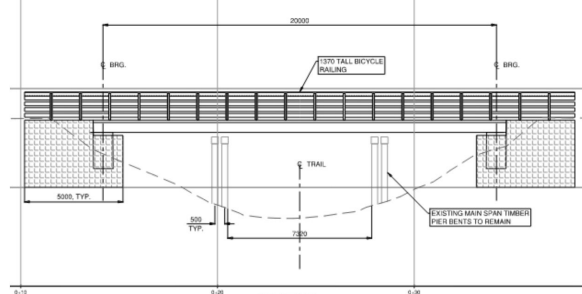
Swan Lake Trestle – Option 3



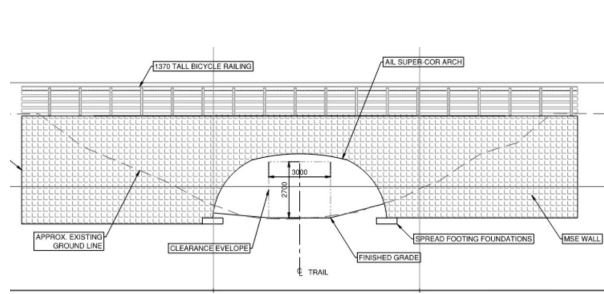
Swan Lake Trestle – Option 4



Brett Avenue Trestle – Option 1



Brett Avenue Trestle – Option 2



Initial phases of construction for the Regional Trestles Renewal, Trails Widening and Lighting Project will be coordinated with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, City of Victoria, and BC Hydro projects happening within the Project corridor between 2025 and 2026.

Map Labels:

- Section A:** BC Hydro Cable Replacement Project Construction 2025-2027 (TBC), City of Victoria Sewer Replacement Project Construction Spring/Summer 2025, Selkirk Trestle, Upper Harbour, Selkirk Water, Gorge Waterway, TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT, CITY OF VICTORIA.
- Section B:** Brett Trestle, MOTI Uptown Transit Oriented Development Timing TBD, District of Saanich, District of Esquimalt.
- Section C:** CRD GGRT Section A Phase A Construction Spring/Summer 2025, CRD GGRT Section A Phase B Construction Summer/Fall 2025, CRD GGRT Section C Phase A Construction 2026, TBC, MOTI Tillicum Active Transportation Bridge Construction 2025-2026, Interurban Bridge, McKenzie Ave Bridge, Portage Inlet, Portage Rd, Admirals Rd, Dryden Rd, Obed Ave, Tillicum Rd, Gaiglow Rd, Colville Rd, Skinner C.
- Other Labels:** Swan Trestle, Swan Lake, Blenkinsop Creek, Potential Swan Lake Nature Sanctuary Blenkinsop Creek Restoration Project Construction 2026-2028 Subject to Grant Funding, Reynolds Rd, Borden St, Quadra St, McKenzie Ave, Patricia Bay Hwy, Interurban Rd, Colquitz River, Burnside Rd W, Carey Rd, Vernon Ave, Boleskine Rd, Douglas St, Birchard St, Cloverdale Ave, Cook St, Finlayson St, Hillside Ave, Bay St.

Scale and Orientation: 0 to 1,000 Meters. North arrow pointing up.