



Mountlake Terrace Parks Planning

ONLINE OPEN HOUSE FINAL REPORT

APRIL 7 – APRIL 28, 2021

SUMMARY

The City of Mountlake Terrace is developing two plans that will help guide the future of its parks and open spaces: The [Recreation, Parks and Open Space \(RPOS\) Master Plan](#) and the [Veterans Memorial Park \(VMP\) Master Plan](#).

As part of these two planning projects, the City hosted an online open house between April 7 and April 28, 2021. The purpose of the online open house was to share information about the projects and what was heard from the community during previous outreach, and to gather input.

When visiting the online open house, participants could:

- Learn more about the two projects, including needs, existing conditions, and what we've heard so far.
- Share their ideas, values, and priorities for the future of the City's recreation programs, parks, and open spaces.
- Review design concepts for Veterans Memorial Park and share their preferences.
- Share demographic information.
- Sign up to receive email updates.

Promotions

The City used multiple methods to reach audiences and promote the online open house. Yard signs were placed throughout Mountlake Terrace and emails were sent to project partners, neighborhood organizations, and immediate project stakeholders.

The online open house was also promoted on the project webpage, social media, and in the City Happenings newsletter.

METHODOLOGY

The online open house included 19 questions that addressed:

- Ideas, values and priorities for the City's recreation programs, parks, and open spaces.
- Design options for Veterans Memorial Park.
- Respondent demographics.

Participants were given the opportunity to provide their contact information to receive updates about the projects and other Mountlake Terrace Recreation & Parks activities.

The online open house was available in other languages through the Google Translate webpage extension. All questions were optional. Not all respondents answered every question. Many questions allowed respondents to select more than one answer or write in their response.

In cases where the respondent could select more than one answer, this report does not provide the percentages for each answer. In some cases, percentages do not add to 100 because of rounding.

The following report captures the data for all survey questions built into the online open house. Open-ended comments are included as appendices.

Use and Activity

Between April 7 and April 28, 472 individuals visited the online open house. Each question received a different number of responses:

- 148 people responded to the RPOS survey.
- 33 people responded to the VMP survey.
- 48 people signed up to receive email updates.
- 22 people provided demographic information.

All survey entries were in English.

SURVEY RESULTS

Recreation Parks and Open Spaces (RPOS)

Not all 148 participants responded to every question. Below are the results of each question.

Question 1 | What is one park and recreation improvement you'd like to see in the next five years?

135 people shared a park and recreation improvement they'd like to see in the next five years. Common responses are listed below. For a list of all responses to this question, see [Appendix A](#).

- Pickleball courts
- New Recreation Pavilion
- Improvement of play structures
- Improved/continued park maintenance
- Ballinger Park and Veterans Memorial Park improvements
- Trails
- Skate park

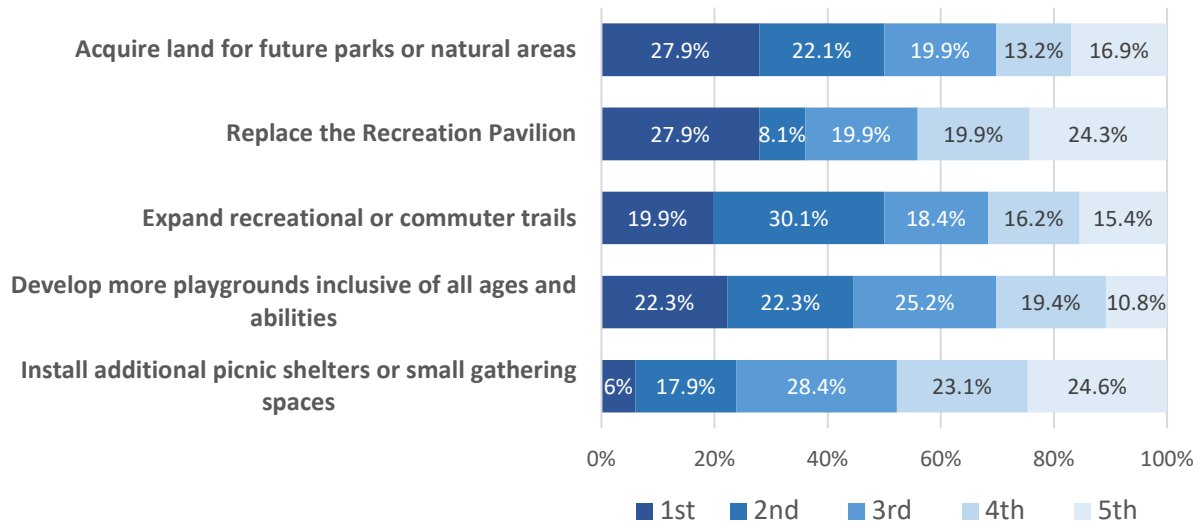
Question 2 | From accessible playgrounds to splash pads to natural play areas, the types of play experiences that are being provided are changing and diversifying. Are there other types of experiences that you'd like to see in Mountlake Terrace? What outdoor recreation opportunities are missing?

114 people shared an experience they'd like to see in Mountlake Terrace. Common responses are listed below. To review all responses to this question, see [Appendix A](#).

- Pickleball courts
- Skate park
- Splash pad
- Bigger off-leash dog park

Question 3 | The fall 2020 community survey identified five priorities for the park system. For the following list of park system priorities, indicate how you would rank the priority for each (1st priority is highest and 5th priority is lowest).

Acquiring land for future parks or natural areas and replacing the Recreation Pavilion were ranked highest by respondents. When using weighted rankings, acquiring land for future parks or natural areas and expanding recreational or commuter trails were the highest ranked priorities. Installing additional picnic shelters or small gathering spaces was the lowest ranked priority by respondents.



	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	Total respondents
Acquire land for future parks or natural areas	38	30	27	18	23	136
Replace the Recreation Pavilion	38	11	27	27	33	136
Develop more playgrounds inclusive of all ages and abilities	31	31	35	27	15	139
Expand recreational or commuter trails	27	41	25	22	21	136
Install additional picnic shelters or small gathering spaces	8	24	38	31	33	134

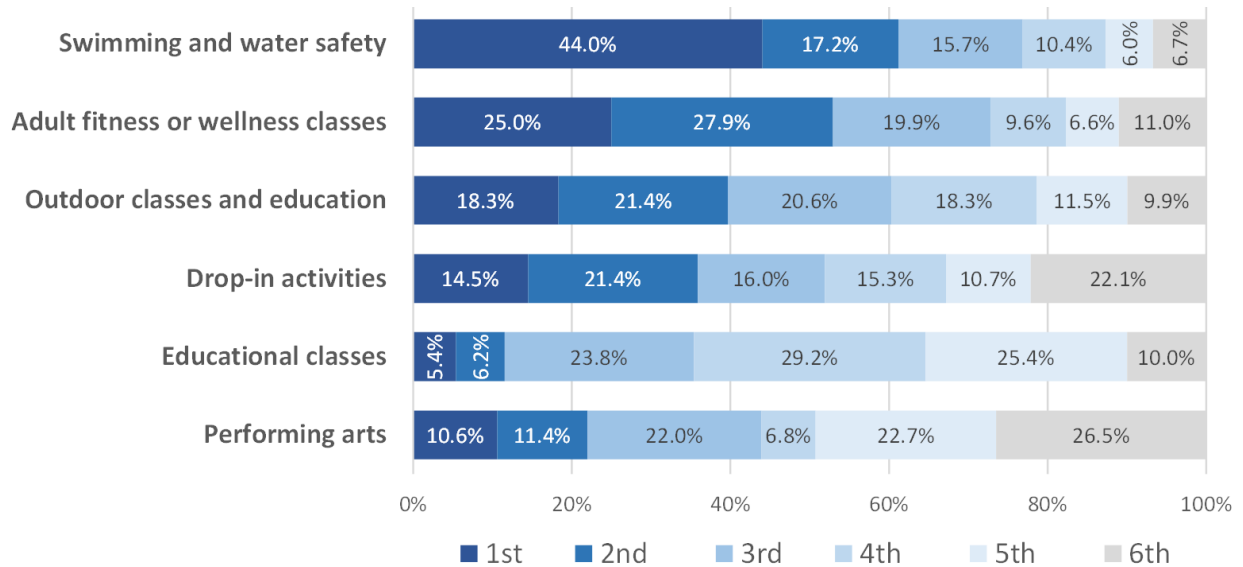
Question 4 | Is there a particular park in Mountlake Terrace where you would like to see improvements made? What improvements?

98 people provided a response. Commonly suggested improvements noted are listed below. To review all write-in responses to this question, see [Appendix A](#).

- Ballinger Park restrooms and play areas
- Evergreen Playfield pickleball courts
- Bicentennial Park restrooms and play areas
- Veterans Memorial Park trails and maintenance

Question 5 | The fall 2020 community survey identified six priorities for recreation programs and activities. For the following list of recreation programs and activities, indicate how you would rank the priority for each (1st priority is highest and 6th priority is lowest).

Respondents identified swimming and water safety as their top priorities, followed by adult fitness or wellness classes, and outdoor classes and education. Educational classes and performing arts were prioritized lowest by respondents.



	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	Total respondents
Swimming and water safety	59	23	21	14	8	9	134
Adult fitness or wellness classes	34	38	27	13	9	15	136
Performing arts	14	15	29	9	30	35	132
Drop-in activities	19	28	21	20	14	29	131
Educational classes	7	8	31	38	33	13	130
Outdoor classes and education	24	28	27	24	15	13	131

Question 6 | The 2020 community survey identified some reasons why people don't use Mountlake Terrace parks more often. Please indicate which, if any, of these issues apply for each park listed below.

The following were identified by respondents as the most common reasons for not visiting Mountlake Terrace's parks more frequently:

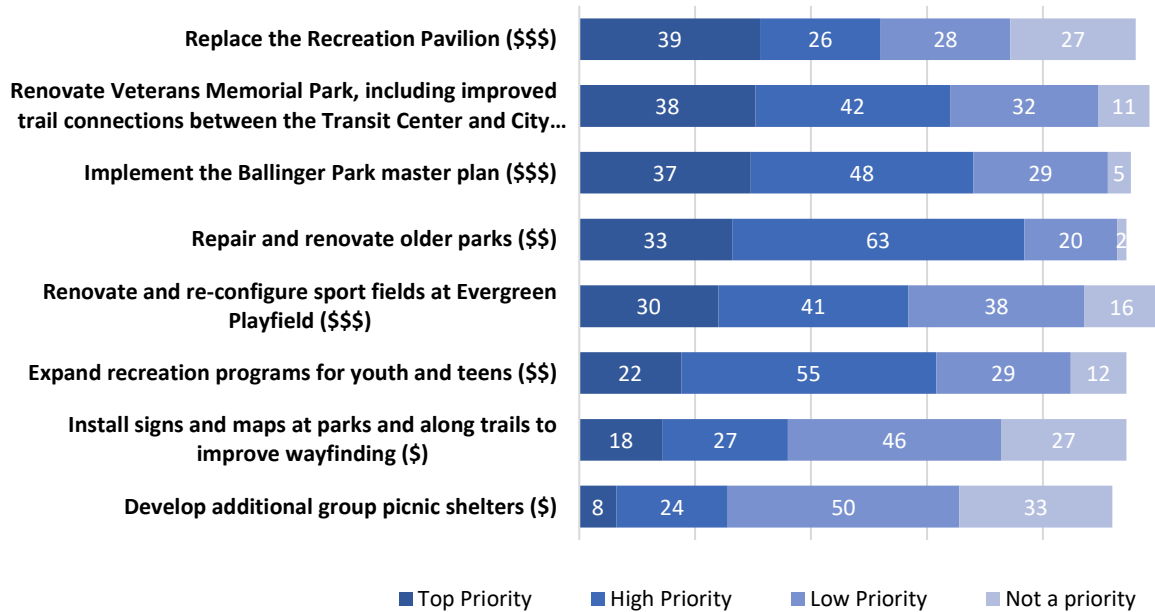
- Outdated amenities at Evergreen Playfield
- Not enough restrooms at Forest Crest Playfield
- Not enough restrooms at Terrace Creek Park
- Safety concerns at Veterans Memorial Park

Park	Not enough restrooms	Outdated amenities	Safety concerns	Maintenance/cleanliness concerns
Ballinger Park	46%	43%	35%	34%
Bicentennial Park	50%	39%	28%	3%
Evergreen Playfield	48%	54%	19%	15%
Forest Crest Playfield	66%	26%	26%	18%
Jack Long Park	38%	35%	46%	23%
Terrace Creek Park	67%	28%	42%	8%
Terrace Ridge Park	53%	44%	34%	9%
Veterans Memorial Park	40%	48%	75%	48%

	Total respondents	Not enough restrooms	Outdated amenities	Safety concerns	Maintenance/cleanliness concerns
Ballinger Park	65	30 (46%)	28 (43%)	23 (35%)	22 (34%)
Bicentennial Park	36	18 (50%)	14 (39%)	10 (28%)	1 (3%)
Evergreen Playfield	48	23 (48%)	26 (54%)	9 (19%)	7 (15%)
Forest Crest Playfield	38	25 (66%)	10 (26%)	10 (26%)	7 (18%)
Jack Long Park	26	10 (38%)	9 (35%)	12 (46%)	6 (23%)
Terrace Creek Park	60	40 (67%)	17 (28%)	25 (42%)	5 (8%)
Terrace Ridge Park	32	17 (53%)	14 (44%)	11 (34%)	3 (9%)
Veterans Memorial Park	65	26 (40%)	31 (48%)	49 (75%)	31 (48%)

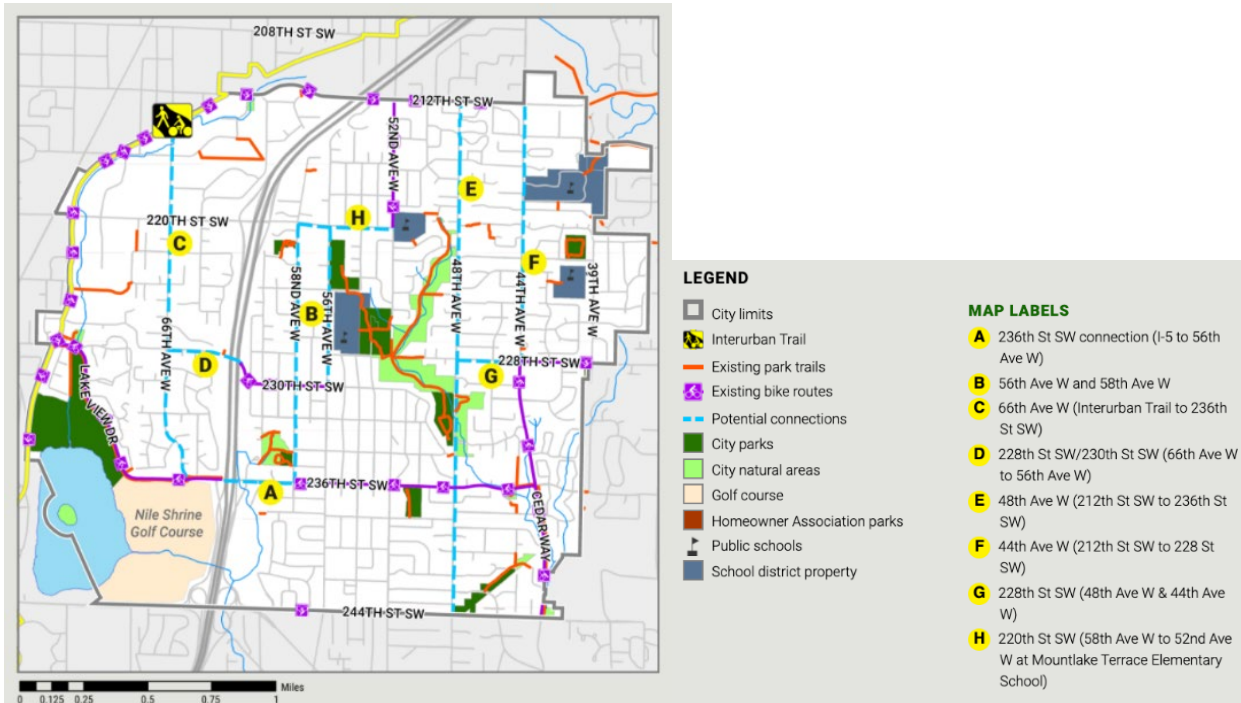
Question 7 | The following list of improvements and facilities may be considered in the new RPOS Plan. Improvements would be funded by your tax dollars. For each item, please tell us if it should be a Top Priority, a High Priority, a Low Priority or Not a Priority at all.

When considering future system investments, respondents identified repairing and renovating older parks, replacing the Recreation Pavilion, renovating Veterans Memorial Park, and implementing the Ballinger Park master plan as their top priorities.



	Top Priority	High Priority	Low Priority	Not a priority	Total respondents
Implement the Ballinger Park master plan (\$\$\$)	37	48	29	5	119
Renovate and re-configure sport fields at Evergreen Playfield (\$\$\$)	30	41	38	16	125
Repair and renovate older parks (\$\$)	33	63	20	2	118
Renovate Veterans Memorial Park, including improved trail connections between the Transit Center and City Hall (\$\$)	38	42	32	11	123
Expand recreation programs for youth and teens (\$\$)	22	55	29	12	118
Develop additional group picnic shelters (\$)	8	24	50	33	115
Replace the Recreation Pavilion (\$\$\$)	39	26	28	27	120
Install signs and maps at parks and along trails to improve wayfinding (\$)	18	27	46	27	118

Question 8 | The following map illustrates existing recreational trails and bikeways, in addition to potential bike routes that may be considered as future improvements to the city’s trail network. Thinking about trails and pathways, what destinations need to connect in Mountlake Terrace?



Respondents identified 236th St SW between I-5 and 56th Ave W, as well as 66th Ave W from Interurban Trail to 236th St SW, as the most needed trail and pathway connections.

	Number of responses
A: 236th St SW connection (I-5 to 56th Ave W)	50
C: 66th Ave W (Interurban Trail to 236th St SW)	44
B: 56th Ave W and 58th Ave W	28
D: 228th St SW/230th St SW (66th Ave W to 56th Ave W)	27
H: 220th St SW (58th Ave W to 52nd Ave W at Mountlake Terrace Elementary School)	26
E: 48th Ave W (212th St SW to 236th St SW)	24
G: 228th St SW (48th Ave W & 44th Ave W)	23
F: 44th Ave W (212th St SW to 228 St SW)	21
Other:	1
Total responses	96

Question 9 | The Craze recreation program guide is increasingly expensive to mail to all households in the City. In the fall 2020 community survey, respondents identified the City Happenings newsletter, the City’s website, and MLT News as the most preferred ways to learn about programs, events, and activities. If the City transitioned to an electronic-only version of the Craze, how would you prefer to receive it?

Most respondents would like to receive electronic versions of the Craze via the City’s Recreation & Parks Department webpage or as part of an opt-in email distribution list.

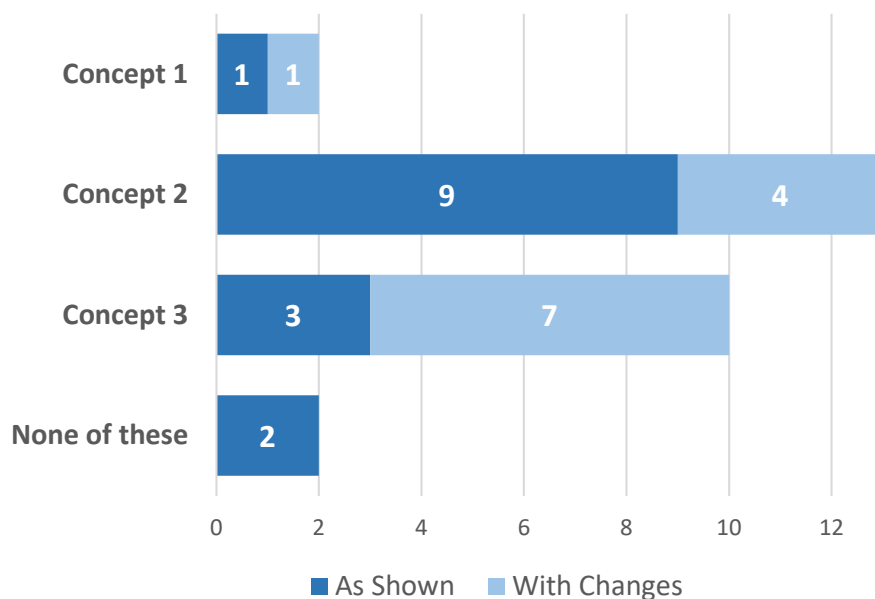
	Number of responses
On the Mountlake Terrace Recreation & Parks Department webpage	92
As part of an opt-in email distribution list	90
As a QR code or link in the City Happenings newsletter or on an informational postcard	54
From the City’s social media postings (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram)	50
None of the above; do not transition to an electronic-only version of the Craze	12
Other:	1
Total responses	134

Veterans Memorial Park (VMP)

Not all 33 participants responded to every question. Below are the results of each question.

Question 1 | Which concept do you prefer? Select one.

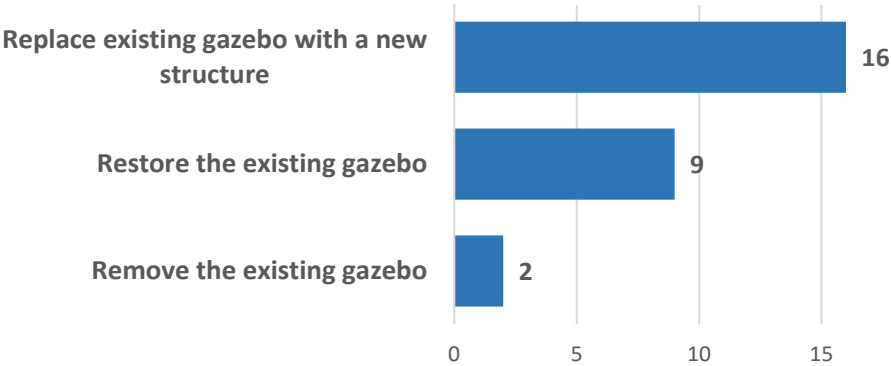
Respondents preferred Concept 2 as shown. Nine survey participants submitted suggested changes to a concept. The full list of suggested changes for each concept can be viewed on [Appendix B](#).



	Number of responses	Percentage
Concept 2 as shown	9	33%
Concept 3 with changes	7	26%
Concept 2 with changes	4	15%
Concept 3 as shown	3	11%
None of these	2	7%
Concept 1 as shown	1	4%
Concept 1 with changes	1	4%
Total respondents	27	

Question 2 | Which shelter option do you prefer? Select one.

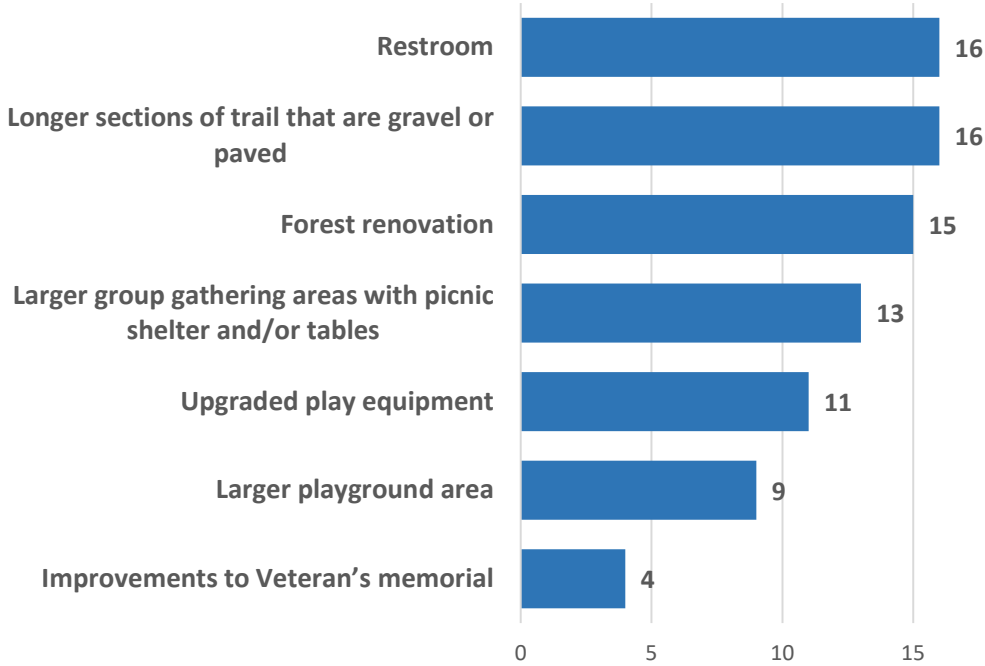
The majority (59%) of respondents prefer to replace the existing gazebo with a new structure.



	Number of responses	Percentage
Replace existing gazebo with a new structure	16	59%
Restore the existing gazebo	9	33%
Remove the existing gazebo	2	7%
Total respondents	27	

Question 3 | Below is a list of potential Veterans Memorial Park improvements. Which improvements are most important to you? Select up to 4.

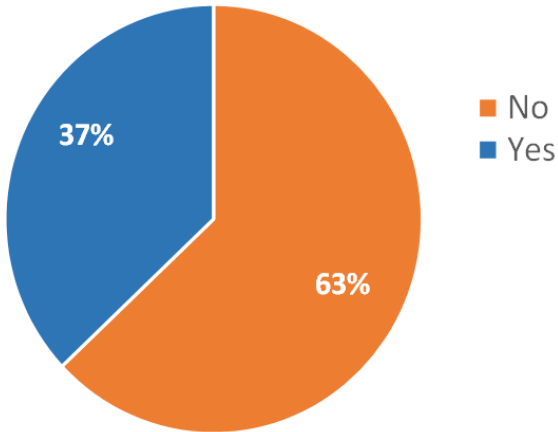
Respondents identified restrooms, longer gravel or paved sections of trail, and forest renovation as the most important improvements for Veterans Memorial Park.



	Number of responses
Longer sections of trail that are gravel or paved	16
Restroom	16
Forest renovation	15
Larger group gathering areas with picnic shelter and/or tables	13
Upgraded play equipment	11
Larger playground area	9
Improvements to Veteran's memorial	4
Total respondents	27

Question 4 | Would you use a new lawn/gathering area (“Middle Plateau” in Concept 3)? If yes, how would you use it?

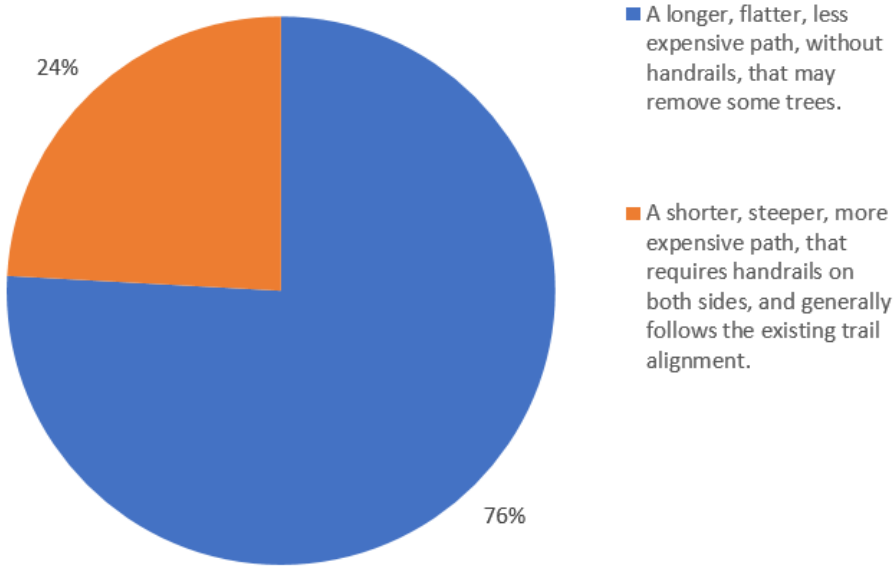
The majority (63%) of respondents said they would not use a new lawn/gathering area. Respondents that stated they would use a new lawn/gathering area said they would use it for activities such as picnics, reading or relaxing, and lawn games. The complete list of activities noted is in see [Appendix B](#).



	Number of responses	Percentage
No	17	63%
Yes	10	37%
Total respondents	27	

Question 5 | The Main Trail will be redesigned to make it ADA-compliant, and there are different ways to make that happen. Which option do you prefer for the new Main Trail?

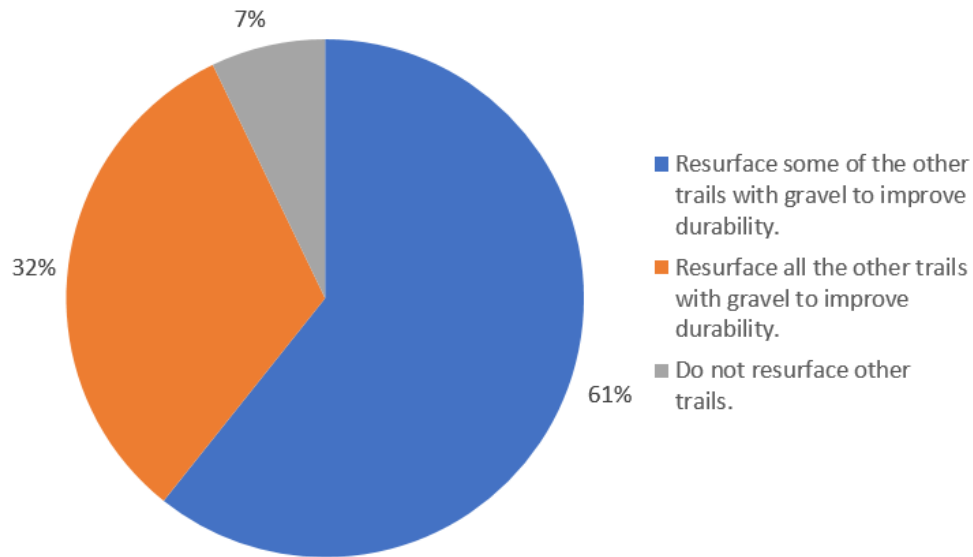
Most respondents (76%) would prefer a longer, flatter, less expensive path, without handrails, that may remove some trees.



	Number of responses	Percentage
A longer, flatter, less expensive path, without handrails, that may remove some trees.	22	76%
A shorter, steeper, more expensive path, that requires handrails on both sides, and generally follows the existing trail alignment.	7	24%
Total respondents	29	

Question 6 | Not including the Main Trail, what level of improvement do you prefer for other park trails? SELECT ONE.

The majority (61%) of respondents would prefer some of the other park trails be resurfaced with gravel to improve durability.



	Number of responses	Percentage
Resurface some of the other trails with gravel to improve durability.	17	61%
Resurface all the other trails with gravel to improve durability.	9	32%
Do not resurface other trails.	2	7%
Total respondents	28	

Question 7 | Do you have other comments or suggestions for the future of Veterans Memorial Park?

12 people provided additional comments or suggestions for the future of Veterans Memorial Park. Some common themes are listed below. For a complete list of comments submitted, see [Appendix B](#).

- Town Center and transit center connections and integration
- Safety improvements
- Preservation of forest and green spaces

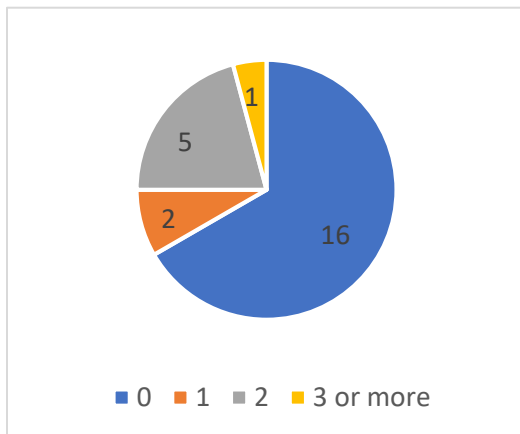
More About You (demographics)

Demographic questions were optional. Not all 22 participants responded to every question. Below are the results of each question

Question 1 | Please check ALL the ways you would prefer to learn about Mountlake Terrace's parks, recreation facilities, programs, and special events. Select all that apply.

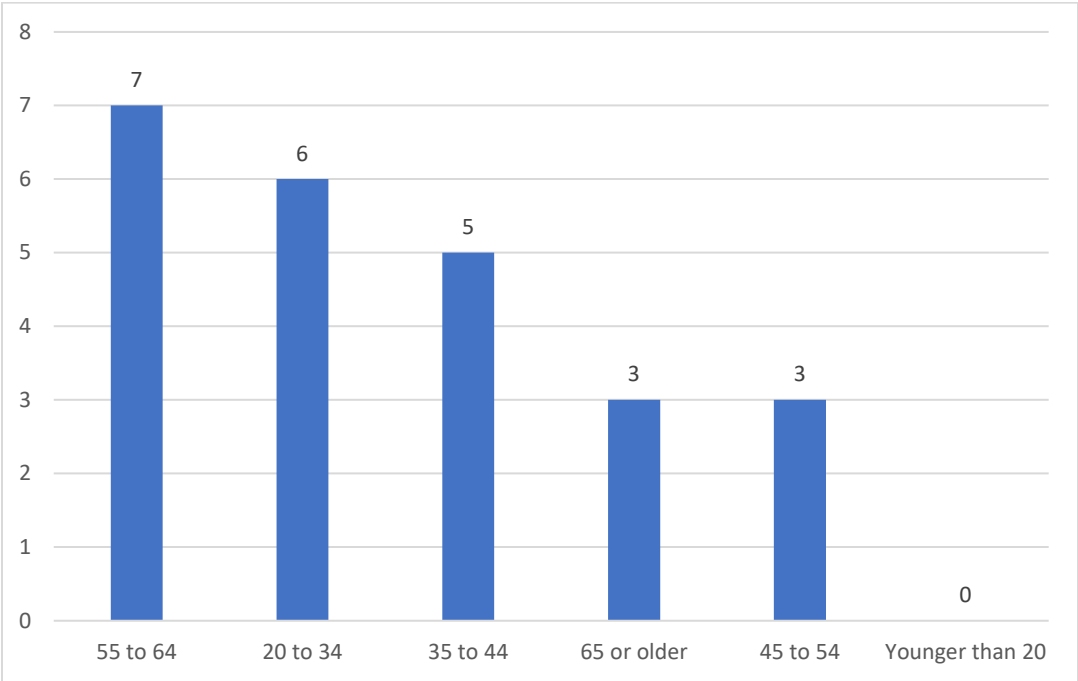
	Number of responses
City website	19
MLT News	17
Facebook	14
City Happenings newsletter	12
Craze recreation program guide	9
Community event signs	7
Instagram	6
Rec Reporter e-newsletter	5
Twitter	4
YouTube	3
Flyers at City facilities	1
Other:	1
Everett Herald	0
None of these	0
Total respondents	22

Question 2 | How many children under age 18 live in your household?



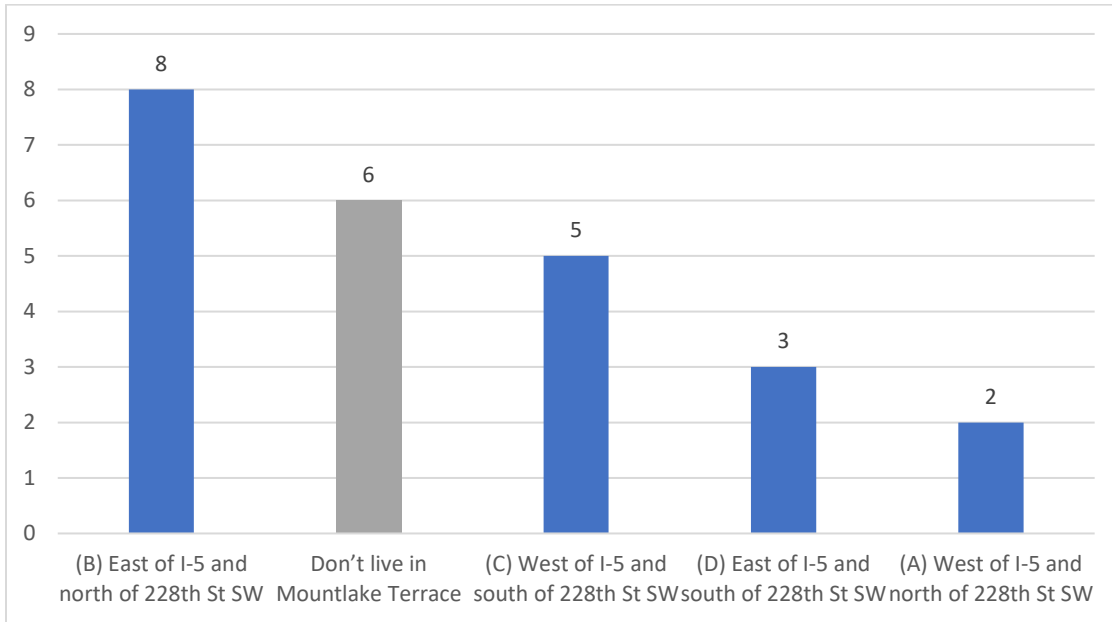
	Number of responses	Percentage
0	16	67%
1	2	8%
2	5	21%
3 or more	1	4%
Total	24	

Question 3 | What is your age?



	Number of responses	Percentage
55 to 64	7	29%
20 to 34	6	25%
35 to 44	5	21%
65 or older	3	13%
45 to 54	3	13%
Younger than 20	0	0%
Total	24	

Question 4 | In which section of Mountlake Terrace do you live?



	Number of responses	Percentage
(B) East of I-5 and north of 228th St SW	8	33%
Don't live in Mountlake Terrace	6	25%
(C) West of I-5 and south of 228th St SW	5	21%
(D) East of I-5 and south of 228th St SW	3	13%
(A) West of I-5 and north of 228th St SW	2	8%
Total	24	

NEXT STEPS

Input received from this online open house will be incorporated into both planning projects, which are at different stages in their development.

For the RPOS Plan, City staff and the project team will incorporate feedback into a draft plan for Recreation & Park Advisory Commission review and comment by mid-2021. City Council will review and approve the final plan by the end of 2021. The final RPOS Plan will guide recreation and park improvements for the coming 20 years.

For the VMP Master Plan, City staff will consider input received from this online open house, as well as comments from the Recreation & Park Advisory Commission, to recommend a preferred concept to City Council for approval by fall 2021. The final VMP Master Plan will guide City investments in the park.

The City has some funding to build an asphalt, ADA-accessible trail with lighting that connects the Town Center with the future Link light rail station. This new trail will be built by 2024, when the Mountlake Terrace light rail station is scheduled to open. Other improvements to the park will be made as funding is secured.

WEB ACTIVITY REPORT

URL: mltparks.infocommunity.org

Users | 472

Total number of individual IP addresses that visited the online open house at least once.

Sessions | 612

The number of individual visits to the online open house from all users.

Total Pageviews | 1,302

The total number of times all pages within the online open house were viewed.

Unique Pageviews | 1,116

This number aggregates multiple visits to a page within a single browsing session. Example: If a user viewed the Project Home page five times within one browsing session, the total number of unique views of that page would be one. If a user viewed the online open house on a Thursday and then came back to view again on a Friday, those visits are counted as multiple browsing sessions.

Pages Visited Per Session | 2.13

The average number of pages a user visited during a session.

Session Duration | 2 minutes, 27 seconds

The average time a user spent viewing the online open house during a session.

Device Use | Mobile (54%), Desktop (44%), Tablet (2%)

Top Traffic Sources | Direct Entry of URL (62%), Facebook (12%), City of Mountlake Terrace website (7%), Playtimescheduler.com (5%)

APPENDIX A: Online Open House RPOS survey write-in responses

1. What is one park and recreation improvement you'd like to see in the next five years?
6 outdoor racquetball/handball courts
A connection to the inter urban south trail without having to cross at the busy 104 intersection.
A new recreation pavilion plan / building
A new recreation pavilion with an on-site gymnasium.
A second disc golf course
A splash pad for children
A spray park for kids.
a youth center for youths to go to that provides support for mental health, academics and just a gathering place to play drop in sports.
ADA/bike/walking paths to the light rail
Add 10 Pickleball courts to the Evergreen play fields
add lines for 10 pickleball courts on the existing tennis courts at the Evergreen Playfield Complex
Add lines to tennis courts for Pickleball.
add more pickleball courts please. it is a really growing sport.
add more pickleball courts please. it is a really growing sport.
Adding a park to Melody Hill. Kids don't have a close place to play.
Adding Pickleball Courts
As a family with a wheelchair user, we would like to see more curb cut sidewalks. This will provide much needed safety for those walking to parks, etc. 66th Ave West needs curb cuts so we can walk safely to Ballinger Park. As a main road in MLT 66th should be completely accessible. Thank you
Ballinger Park; both play area and restroom near baseball/soccer field have needed update and upgrade for years. Also, MLT has a problem of placing landscaping, as on Ballinger Way, AND not budgeting for landscape maintenance (Weeding).
Bathroom at Evergreen Playfields need redoing. Pathway above new soccer field adjacent to Parkside Condos needs paving and trees need seen too.
Better paths in Veteran's Memorial Park and general cleanup there.
Better sitting and eating areas both sheltered and not sheltered
Better trail and transportation connections for non-drivers so they can get around the city.
Bicycle pump track
Change track around evergreen field remove the gravel and do a turf or something other than dirt and gravel
Charging stations in parking areas
Charging stations in parking areas for cars.
Clean up Veteran's park
Clear wooded areas of invasive plants
Connector trail from 48th to the pavilion area
Converting the dirt/rock around the track by the rev center to a normal rubber/paved track
Dedicated pickleball courts
Dedicated pickleball courts
Dedicated pickleball courts

Dedicated pickleball courts
Dedicated Pickleball Courts.
Disc golf course at Ballinger Park
Disc golf sign and maintenance
Doing great but would love to see more natural park areas. The more green the better!
Evergreen Playfield renovation of both field spaces and walking paths.
Facilities improvement at the Pavilion.
Greater freedom for dogs to be off-leash (e.g. from off-hours such as until 30 minutes after sunrise and starting 30 minutes until sunset)
Homeless/Drug use out of parks
Hot tub reinstalled at Recreation Pavilion
Hot tub reinstalled at Recreation Pavilion
I would love to see Ballinger Park updated to what the Master Plan describes.
I'd like to see a better plan for Veterans Memorial Park and how it interacts with the redevelopment of the Town Center. From the edges to the middle, it needs to be more inviting and user friendly. It's dark and needs to be an extension of both light rail and new Town Center.
I'd like to see pickle-ball courts in several parks
Improve the dog park
Improved stairs on sloped path from rec center to trail
Improvement of play structures
Improvement of play structures
Improvements to Veterans Park
Improving Veterans Memorial park. Right now it just seems sad and dark
Increase in Pickleball courts
indoor and outdoor pickleball courts
indoor and outdoor pickleball courts
Invasive plant removal
Ivy removal, protect native species
Lighting and safety features.
Maintain parks
Maintain parks
Maintaining parks
Maintenance of existing parks, playgrounds and bathrooms
Massive upgrade of Veterans Memorial Park. It's theme and proximity to the library make it an important destination that currently feels unsafe.
MLT NEEDS A SPLASH PARK. EVERGREEN PLAYFIELD HAS PLENTY OF ROOM.
More activities for kids: drawing, yoga, golf, robotics, drama, rhythmic gymnastics,
more adult fitness classes
More dedicated pickleball courts. Since people can show up to play drop in without scheduling with others it makes playing much easier than something like tennis, not to mention 8 people can play in the same space as a single tennis court.
More disc golf courses, and revised signs at existing disc golf locations.

More footpath trails. It would be nice to see them stay as dirt trails except in the play area (top of park) and if there is one to shortcut to the light rail that should be accessible to wheelchairs
More garbage cans,
More investment in the maintenance of the parks we have.
more natural habitation restoration- the one at lake ballinger is a bit small but a good start :)
More Pickelball court opportunities
More pickleball courts
More pickleball courts
more pickleball courts
More pickleball courts
More Pickleball courts.
More trees planted
More updated sports fields and walking trails
More walking trails and indoor volleyball space
Multi gym indoor facility
New pavilion
New pavilion facility
New Pavilion with increased amenities and capacity.
New play equipment at bicentennial park, but please keep the metal slide.
New playgrounds on the aging playground areas
New pool
New Recreation Pavilion
New Recreation Pavilion
new swimming pool
Outdoor benches/tables around the town center- place to sit and enjoy coffee or lunch from nearby businesses.
Pedestrian bridge over Lyon Creek at 228th
Pickleball courts
Pickleball Courts
pickleball courts
pickleball courts
Pickleball courts dedicated to pickleball
Pickleball courts in Mountlaker Terrace
Pickleball courts, hopefully at Ballinger Park
Pickleball lines on the courts at Evergreen Playfield Complex.
Pickleball lines painted at existing tennis courts.
Preservation of land and trees
real pickleball courts
Recreation Pavilion replacement
reduction of invasive species of plants and attracting keeping wildlife
Refurbishing and/or replacing benches / picnic tables.
Renovation to the child care rooms at the pavilion.

Restoration of trail access at multiple entrance locations to Terrace Creek Park and Veterans Memorial Park
Restrooms (Terrace Creek, and Veterans)
Revamp either Candy Cane Park playground of Veteran's Park playground
skate park
Skate park
Skate park for adolescents
Skateboard park
Splash pad in our community would be great.
Swim
Swimming beach clean up, and plant a couple of shade trees, since you are removing a tree by the shore. Return garbage cans to area.
Terrace Creek Park
Terrace Ridge Park
The continuation of care and further addition of natural flora to the parks.
Tree and plant Identification walks, explaining the ecosystems. Educational nature walks
Update rec center pool (old locker room/showers)
update the recreation center - offer more young child opportunities
Update the swimming pool locker rooms
Updated playgrounds
updated pool and hot tub
Updated Rec Center
Upgrade the Mountlake Terrace pool facility.
Upgraded play equipment at neighborhood parks
Veteran's Memorial-- clean up trash in the park.
Veterans Memorial Park
VETERANS PARK NO HOMELESS CAMPS OR GARBAGE LEFT THERE
With the new town center development, I'd like to see a better plan to make Veterans Park more user friendly and inviting. From the edges to the
2. From accessible playgrounds to splash pads to natural play areas, the types of play experiences that are being provided are changing and diversifying. Are there other types of experiences that you'd like to see in Mountlake Terrace? What outdoor recreation opportunities are missing?
6 outdoor racquetball courts. There are no outdoor courts in Snohomish County. Outdoor racquetball is growing. See 6 court design at Chehalis High School. They are low maintenance cost. If any of the parks have significant slopes that require retaining walls, they can serve that purpose (See Ridgecrest Park in Shoreline). MLT can partner with the Washington Racquetball Association for guidance on court specifications, signage. If the City chooses to allow tournament play, revenue could be generated for block reservations similar to the model used at MLT Recreation Center.
A community garden patch would be nice.
A dedicated space for at least 10 pickleball courts.
A reflexology path would be nice to have at one of the parks or pavilion.
A Skateboard park is the longest lasting highest use, low maint. type of structure you can build.
Missing not only in MLT but surrounding areas are seriously lacking.

A skatepark
A splash pad or two would be nice.
A splash pad would be a fantastic addition to the City's park system! Also, better facilities for securing bikes at the parks. Bike racks should be available at all parks to encourage use from a wider area of MLT.
A splash pad would be fun, but is there a way to incorporate that without extreme water use?
A splash pad would be great. More all weather/covered outdoor play and seating options would be wonderful. Lighting and extended park hours that would allow outdoor recreation and access during dark winter evenings feels like a missing component, particularly this last year when indoor options have been so limited.
Add lines to tennis courts for Pickleball.
Addition of pickleball courts or at least adding lines for 10 pickleball courts on the existing tennis courts at the Evergreen Playfield Complex.
Indoor dedicated and specifically designed pickleball courts would be greatly appreciated for year round play as well. PB is the fastest growing sport in the country and is enjoyed by many age groups and skill levels.
All of those listed in the question.
An outdoor, covered, amphitheater for concerts and gatherings.
Areas to have "concerts in the park"
Signage or informational materials for running/biking trails
Expansion of the current rec center to accommodate the influx of new residents
At the play fields at lake ballinger, replace old tennis courts with a partial covered basketball courts. You could put in 4 open baskets which would be a great resource for the area
Being able to walk my dog off leash
Bigger off leash dog park. Use Ballinger for one
Bike lane on 48th
Outdoor pool
Biking lane markings where possible
Bird watching
Bouldering/Rock climbing - the Mountaineers has an outdoor boulder for the public, and a climbing wall. Could there be a boulder at least, and a low height climbing wall to practice fundamentals?
Fewer baseball fields - they occupy huge portions of the parks, are only used by a few families, and only used during certain times of the year. The fencing breaks up the parks (Forest Crest) even though it's never used. Even if the gravel part stays, you could remove the fencing until it's time to be used.
Children need supervision from adults, which means it should welcome both parties. A gathering point for barbeques and picnics would be important. Also, this park should have proper access to the library for families with children of different ages.
craft classes

Dedicated indoor and outdoor pickleball courts with lights for night play. It's a sport that is easily played all year around.
Dedicated pickleball courts
Disk golf, bocce
Expression swing, full support swing seat.
general blacktop areas to play like hopscotch, 4-square, casual basketball, maybe tetherball, etc
Good playgrounds
Hiking areas? Definitely splash pads and accessible playgrounds would be good.
Hot tub at Pavilion
I believe the best features of parks is the tranquil beauty of nature and the ability to explore nature peacefully.
I DONT HAVE A GREAT RESPONSE TO THIS ONE, OTHER THAN A NICE SPLASH PAD AREA. I TRAVEL TO EDMONDS A LOT DURING THE SUMMER TO PARTAKE IN THE SPLASH PAD PARK THEY BUILT THERE. IT TURNED A WOODED, SHADY UNUSED PORTION OF THE CITY INTO A KID FILLED SUMMER EXPERIENCE.
I love the idea of a splash pad. I can't think of anything else.
I think it would be good to focus on maintaining and upgrading existing high-demand amenities rather than adding new ones that would not get used much.
I would love to see shaded parks and more walking paths. A splash pad would be a huge benefit and bring people from all over. An amphitheater or outdoor community space would be incredible.
If a natural area is covered with invasive non native plants then it is not appropriate to call a portion of a park a "natural area".
Inclusive equipment and opportunities for people with disabilities. Equipment and opportunities to attract the over 12 crowd. Equipment and opportunities for Adults and Seniors within the neighborhood and regional park system. Music and Arts in the park. Add a neighborhood park in the Northwest quadrant, and perhaps another in the Central West area, these areas seem underserved regarding neighborhood parks.
indoor and outdoor pickleball courts
indoor and outdoor pickleball courts
It feels like the MLT population is getting younger with the addition of larger apartment buildings and townhouses. A splash pad would be awesome resource for young kids in Terrace. There is currently no public gardening option for people who live in places with limited outdoor space, which is becoming increasingly necessary for food security and mental and physical health in quarantine times. The existing dog park is small and muddy, which means it's not the best for larger dogs or in the winter.
It would be nice to have actual bathrooms at parks, not just port a potty.
Like to see an outdoor stage(theater) like Edmonds has for outdoor concerts in the park DURNING THE DAYTIME.
lined with cover pickleball courts
More adult softball, 10 years ago had a fairly vibrant softball league at Evergreen Fields but lack of attention has all but killed the league.
More children playing sports. More parks
More fruit trees (partner with food banks to pick the fruit if needed), encampments are reducing the ability to use parks and creating lots of trash. These are the basics.
more pickleball courts

More pickleball courts would be great. Pickleball and badminton share the same size courts (different nets) so it can be a really good way to have access to two sports.
More Pickleball courts.
more pickleball specific courts or more visible lines on tennis courts
More trails in the parks for foot traffic only. Right now the largest trail network is in Terrace Cr Pk and that is dominated by disc golfers on the much of the trail.
More turf fields and a pump track.
Mountlake Terrace nature walks. Return of bike, walk, run tour for TDT. Solve the homeless encampments in the city parks.
Multi purpose field (s)
NA
Na
New play toy
No comment
No suggestion
None to my knowledge
Not sure where they would go, but more nature trails. A larger and potentially outdoor (or roof that opens) pool.
Opportunities to play pickleball both indoors and outdoors especially for seniors a demographic which few of your questions addressed
Opportunities to play pickleball both inside and outdoors
Outdoor amphitheater for musical and theatrical productions
Outdoor splashpads, natural play areas, skate park areas.
outdoor volleyball courts that can be used during the day and at night with lights on them for the community; if they are done correctly with the amount of space around them and the number of courts there is an opportunity to host national events/qualifiers for adults and youth
Park paths can be culturally inclusive and informative. Land acknowledgement, historical markers and placards identifying native plants, with a focus on helping us all feel more connected to and respectful of the land and it's original inhabitants.
Paved loop around the city for just pedestrians or around he lake ballinger area.
Paved trails
Pickleball
Pickleball courts
Pickleball courts
pickleball courts
pickleball courts
Pickleball courts
Pickleball courts
Pickle-ball courts
Pickleball courts - fun for all ages
Pickleball courts, bocce ball
Pickleball courts. This is the fastest growing sport in America with over 3 million players. Just in the MLT, LFP, Brier and Kenmore area there are many many players and the number is growing every day. The LFP Horizon View court is booked all day on most days. We really could use more playing areas and MLT is a perfect location.

Pickleball courts. Better upkeep on the tennis courts.
Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in the country, and before long it will include the world, as several countries have taken it up already. We need more true pickleball courts, both indoor and out.
Pickleball is the one of the fastest growing worldwide. It is especially accessible for people over 50. The boomer demographic should be a driver for age appropriate sports for physical and mental health.
Pickleball opportunities to play both indoors and outdoors
Playground with areas for toddlers to climb as well as older kids. Either separate or on the same play area.
Restored ecosystems for bird watching
Restrooms at parks
Rose gardens with benches for older residents without the socializing expected at the senior center. A quiet space for residents due to the increase in multigenerational homes. More secluded than big open spaces. Simple with benches in the paths. Sometimes people need to get away and get lost in their thoughts. I think if my kids and how we can overrun a park very quickly with our loudness.
Skate park. Bicycle pump track. More vendors in parks. More programming / events in parks. Would really like to have a weight room. Make every park loved. Melody Hill and 212th have poor access to parks; would like to see this improved.
Skate parks
Skateboard park
Splash pad, fountains, large climbing structures
Splash pad, pickleball
Splash pad; better access to Lake Ballinger for swimming; Fisherpeople are not politely interacting with swimmers and have taken over the swimming beach. They leave their lines unattended, and yell at you when you ask them where their line is so you can get in the water safely. I don't think the new fishing pier will help this situation enough. There should be a clear boundary between fishing areas and swim areas.
Splash Pads
Splash pads and accessible playgrounds is a great idea. Green spaces.
Splash pads are an interesting idea, but something useful every month of the year seems more fitting.
Splash pads Baby swings with holes big enough for kids to get their shoes/boots out Trampoline type play Climbing areas for little kids (2-4 year olds) Play areas for both big kids and little kids at each park Saucer swings and connected big kid/baby swing Zip line
Splash pads, climbing Wall

Splash parks! More picnic areas!
There are not enough disc golf courses. As a former golf course, Lake Ballinger park is a natural fit for a 9+ hole course. Disc golf is one of the fastest growing sports in the world, at Botha professional and amateur level. It is a covid safe sport, and for that reason the number of people who play nearly doubled nationwide in 2020. Please consider adding a course to Lake ballinger park. I am happy to help lead fundraisers, and participate in work parties and I know many others who are as well if it helps us have more opportunities for the sport.
There was a paddle board rental business that started at Lake Ballinger just before the pandemic. That would be nice to get back.
toilets for public use
Trampoline park
Turf fields to ensure year round ability for youth teams to play soccer, baseball and softball
Update what MLT has on a rotational basis before adding more.
Wading pool or splash pad. Kids bike riding area or course.
Walking trails
you know it is pickleball courts
Zip line!
Ziplines! Also, not just big open grassy areas (like Terrace Creek has), but points of interest, more like a garden, that you could walk through (that is kid friendly) to explore.
ziplines, gardens, points of interest for young children
4. Is there a particular park in Mountlake Terrace where you would like to see improvements made? What improvements?
A new play area at Bicentennial Park, close to the picnic shelter. Repurpose the current play area. Removal of dead trees. Removal of old stumps to safety up the central play area. Replant native and other trees for beautification and reduce the carbon footprint of the city.
add lines for 10 pickleball courts on the existing tennis courts at the Evergreen Playfield Complex
Add lines to tennis courts for Pickleball.
Anywhere where additional pickleball courts could be built
Ballinger - more trails - it's a beautiful park but fairly lightly used in the open spaces - more laid out dirt and gravel paths would attract more people to get out and move around
Ballinger lake
Ballinger Lake Park... more trees, shrubs, and flowers
Ballinger Park - update playground and ground cover that isn't little rocks
Terrace Creek Park - improve baby swings and make it so you don't have to climb to get to the first step of the play structure or jump to get off the slides. You need to add more ground cover. Also get ground cover that isn't little rocks that get stuck in little shoes
Bicentennial Park - update baby swing, so kid's shoes/boots can come out the holes and add more swings. I would also like updated slides, but the update at Ballinger Park is way more necessary.
Fireman Park - improve the "fire truck" so kids of all ages can ride in it. The ladder rungs are too far apart for little kids to use and it's tricky even for big kids and adults to get in and out of. Add additional parts to the fire truck (hose/ladder/etc) to encourage active play rather than just sitting to drive the truck.

Ballinger Park gets a lot of use and far less maintenance than it needs.
Ballinger park needs something. It is a huge park with only a couple areas for youth sports that are outdated
Ballinger Park should have permanent restrooms for the playing fields.
Ballinger park. More trails, restrooms, ability to get close to Lake Ballinger without swampy ground (boardwalk?)
Ballinger Park. More trashcans around the park, more control of the dogs off leash so not stepping in dog feces , patrolled once in awhile for homeless, maybe the new trail will be lighted and less thistles and blackberry bushes and monitoring of the cottonwoods. They are older and dropping large limbs without warning.
Bathrooms at Bicentennial and Candy Cane Parks.
Bicentennial could use a better play structure.
Bicentennial Park - drinking fountain, baseball and soccer field combination field with bleachers and picnic tables and benches
Candy Cane park playground needs some upkeep
Candy cane/terrace creek
Charging stations in parking lots
Charging stations in parking lots
Dog Park & Lake Ballinger! Dog Park - better surface to stop all the mud, fix fencing, dig up blackberries & holly. Ballinger - better trails, longer lake side trail.
evergreen
Evergreen fields, add Pickleball courts
Evergreen Park - replace upper tennis ball with 2 pickle-ball courts.
Evergreen playfield - convert the upper tennis court to 2 pickleball courts
Evergreen Playfield Complex. Please add lines for 10 Pickleball courts. that would be so helpful to our community
evergreen playfield, add pickleball court lines for 10 courts on existing tennis courts.
Evergreen, add pickleball courts.
excited to see changes at Ballinger, so far changes have been great as far as keeping black berry bushes down and allowing increased space use.
Fire engine park needs more than climbing structures and swings. My kids miss having a slide to go down. They like the sand box but the digger is sometimes hard to operate.
Fire truck park by QFC. That might make a nice quiet garden path area for elderly.
Firefighter Park and Veteran's Memorial Park are both kinda weird and sad- better play equipment and some thoughtful landscaping could make them much more appealing.
Forest Crest. Install synthetic turf.
Hot tub back at Pavilion
I see huge opportunities for making Veterans Memorial Park a highlight of our Town Center resources. Many residents, myself included, choose to live in Mountlake Terrace because we see opportunity to make the burgeoning transit hub a focus point of the community. Veterans Memorial Park cannot be left out of these planning designs and decisions. I support the letter submitted by NextMLT that outlines important considerations for preserving this park and its important functions. I would also like to see improvements made to the trails accessing Terrace Creek Park. Several access points are used around the park and many of these pose serious safety risks. As a frequent user of

<p>this park, I would like to know I can access the streamside trail without sliding down a hill, following a deer trail into the woods, or worrying about falling on a poorly maintained path.</p>
<p>I WAS HOPING TO TEAR OUT THE DIRT FIELD AT EVERGREEN AND CREATE AN EXPANSIVE SPLASH PAD PARK. NOW THAT THE FIELD IS BEING IMPROVED, NOT SURE WHERE THERE IS ADEQUATE SPACE.</p>
<p>I would like to see a park in the NW corner of the city. As land cost continues to rise and development grow, putting off this investment is going to make this challenging in the future.</p>
<p>I would love to see Ballinger Park updated per the Master Plan. Most of Western MLT that is not within walking distance of a park, particularly for younger kids that can't make the hill to Ballinger. I see a need for a playground in NW MLT.</p>
<p>I'd like to see Jack Long Park with more programming and master planning. I feel like this park is relatively underused.</p>
<p>Improve sidewalk by play area in bicentennial park</p>
<p>Improved playground or splash pad / fountains at either Vettrans or Camdycane Park</p>
<p>indoor and outdoor pickleball courts</p>
<p>Keep updating evergreen</p>
<p>Lake Ballinger</p>
<p>Lake Ballinger park would be a great place for pickleball courts</p>
<p>Lake Ballinger should include a skate park area, as well as updated play area for kids both young and older.</p>
<p>Lake ballinger: all areas including playground, old golf course, and water front.</p>
<p>Large off lease dog park at Ballinger with access to lake</p>
<p>Maintain parks</p>
<p>Maintained bathrooms at Terrace Creek, candy cane, park</p>
<p>Maybe not a park? But cleanup of the creek/bridge area just south of the new Gateway Place area to the NW of Studio Six. My husband and I have walked there, and the creek is in serious need of cleanup of trash and litter.</p>
<p>Maybe stairs going from the top of the hill by the rec center down to the start of the frisbee golf trail? On that very steep hill.</p>
<p>More benches throughout Mountlake Terrace on 56th Avenue and through the parks.</p>
<p>More pickleball courts indoor and outdoor</p>
<p>More picnic space at Volunteer Memorial park. Not enough "soft", "green" spaces to comfortable sit in.</p>

<p>More trash cans to help people dispose of their trash at Forest Crest Playfield. There used to be two on the field, and instead there is only one now in the parking lot. This one is rarely used by park attendees, and is instead used by people who wish to dump their trash. Wish there were small on-field bins instead of the giant one in the parking lot. At minimum, need to ensure the big trash dumpster in the parking lot remains locked at all times to prevent people from illegally dumping.</p>
<p>Bouldering rock and basketball court on the north side of Forest Crest playfield.</p>
<p>Clean up the forested area and the crappy fencing on the east side of the field. Homeless people are camping out down there and dumping trash. Could maintain it as a wild space (which is nice, preferred) but don't let it be a dump. Also, the trees on the east side of the field need to have deadwood removed because there are large branches that are broken and could fall on/seriously injure any member of the public at any given time. An arborist needs to assess.</p>
<p>n/a</p>
<p>No particular park. All could use improvements of some sort.</p>
<p>Not any particular park or recreation center but by adding more pickleball courts you will get more families out together to play a sport...where else does that happen?</p>
<p>Once the playground is in at Lake Ballinger, parking will be an issue for lake users, since it already is a problem. Since you removed all of the street parking, and the lot by the senior center often fills, how will this issue be addressed?</p>
<p>Pedestrian bridge over Lyon Creek at 228th</p>
<p>Pickleball courts</p>
<p>pickleball courts</p>
<p>pickleball courts (add pickleball lines to the tennis courts at Evergreen playfield) with covers or more indoor pickleball</p>
<p>Pickleball courts at every park</p>
<p>please line 10 pickleball courts on the tennis courts at the evergreen playfield.</p>
<p>Please put a park with closer walking distance in the Melody Hill area!</p>
<p>Rec center- individual shower stalls for privacy.</p>
<p>Remodel rec pavilion. Keep great pool, add cover to bball courts for safe winter / wet use.</p>
<p>Replace the bathrooms at Evergreen Playfield</p>
<p>Repopulate the urban forest at Veterans Park.</p>
<p>Tennis courts</p>
<p>Terrace Creek Park has some beautiful old growth trees.. These are gold and I'd like to see some removal of invasives and restoration of the creek bed.</p>
<p>Terrace park playground. It seems that part of the playground is missing.</p>
<p>Terrace ridge</p>
<p>Do something with the volleyball court. Never see anyone on it, no provided net(which i get). Replace/refurbish the benches / picnic tables. Maybe add some more picnic tables mid-park (1/2 up the hill)</p>
<p>Terrace ridge park is badly in need of additional picnic tables, seating, shade, and updated/younger play equipment.</p>
<p>Terrace ridge park needs updated play toy. With items for kids of all ages and abilities.</p>

The disc golf course at Terrace Creek could really use some maintenance. Signs letting pedestrians and other park users know to watch for flying discs, as well as clear signs with hole layouts, would be a high impact improvement to this park.
The track by the rec pavilion- would be awesome to make it rubber and not dirt treading effectively and environment friendly with Ballinger Park.
updated Recreation Pavilion
Veterans'
Veterans Memorial
Veterans Memorial - invasive species removal
Matt Hirvela - plant native species
Veterans Memorial Park
Veterans Memorial Park - lighting, safety, and accessibility. Important link from Transit Center to Civic Center. Need to work with partners to remove homeless population and open up park for others to use and feel safe while using it.
Veteran's memorial park needs to be cleaned up. Lots of trash everywhere. Trails should be less winding/meandering and provide more direct connections to transit station.
Veterans Memorial Park. Total cleanup and improved trails with a new play structure.
Veterans Memorial Park. Improved Trails and Playground
Veterans Memorial Park. The light-rail station will be an important resource. Lack of ADA/walking/biking paths from the north will result in people circumnavigating the park via car, to access transit via the south, and will deter people from choosing alternative methods to reach the transit center.
VETERANS PARK
Veterans Park is damp, feels unsafe, and will soon be supporting a much higher density area. Major improvements could be made to better activate the space including connections to the adjacent streets, Civic Center, and Transit Center.
Veterans Park is our closest park however it is super sketchy - the equipment is unsafe and there are people clearly using drugs around most of the time. I do not feel safe bringing my child there.
Veterans park, add lights. All parks, add EV charging
Veterans Park. Clear out the invasives. Close social Trails and rebuild or relocate recreational trails.
Veterans park. New play structure, and make any campers leave.
Would like to see better connections to the future rail station. It would be a nice feature to walk through the park either coming from or going to the train.
Would love to have better bathrooms at Candy Cane park playground.

APPENDIX B: Online Open House VMP survey write-in responses

1a. Please describe the changes you would suggest for Concept 1.
Add 2 stall restroom.
1b. Please describe the changes you would suggest for Concept 2.

The map and the description for Concept 2 have some differences, so I'm not entirely sure which one has the typos. I would only want lighting on the Upper Loop Trail. I would prefer to restore the gazebo, but I'm not excited about installing a restroom. A big priority for me is regularly removing trash. Because it is located next to the Transit Center, it could certainly become a magnet for people to set up tents and settle in there. I'm concerned about how to make the park a place that looks well cared for, and is the sort of place that draws people to use it frequently and regularly and with care; not as a dumping ground or a place to toss their waste.

Add asphalt to City Center and 60th similar to Concept 3 and new gazebo.

1c. Please describe the changes you would suggest for Concept 3.

Concept 3 is the closest to achieving the vision of VMP as a focal point of the Town Center. However, I feel this concept falls short on several fronts regarding accessibility to the surrounding community, including:

1) Pathway connection on southern border of VMP between 58th Ave W and MLT Transit Center as outlined in Figure 5.10 of the Town Center Subarea Plan adopted on September 26, 2019. This connection would be an important connectivity point between the future light rail station and the envisioned retail core along 57th Ave W extension to 236th St SW. This pathway would also be important for future residents living just south of the park in the zoned TC-1 area, and could provide a frontage for future first floor retail/restaurants facing the park side. Suggest adding this east/west pathway connection and tying it into the paved trail exiting VMP on the south side.

2) A wide open and obvious connection to the civic plaza. VMP and the civic plaza are two of the core public spaces of the Town Center and any concept should make pedestrian movement between the two spaces as inviting and accessible as possible. The proposed connection between VMP and the civic plaza shown in Concept 3 does not seem very inviting, nor is it obvious as it is hidden behind the police station. Concept 3 should, at a minimum, add an additional paved entry point on the west side of the library. There is an existing landscaped area on the west side of the library that could be transformed into an obvious and welcoming entry point to VMP.

3) Pave the gravel path running north/south between 60th Ave W and the transit center. The area just north of MLT transit center is also TC-1 and zoned for 6-12 story buildings, so potentially hundreds of future residents would need direct access to the transit center from the NW corner of VMP. Concept 3 only provides a meandering north/south gravel path between 60th Ave W and the transit center. At a minimum, this pathway connection should be paved and lit.

Concept 3, except with the natural paths shown in option 1.

Good with any plan, but would like to see aggressive tree removal to help forest health in all of them. Would like to see a more direct route to light rail transit centers that wouldn't go through park.

I think ramps would be very helpful.

I would like to see a prioritization of native and natural areas in the park. Rather than clearing an area and planting grass for the middle plateau i would like to see the preservation of the trees and addition of native undergrowth in the area and around the park.

I'm concerned about safety of restrooms. Need locks. I would not feel comfortable using them without them until we can keep homeless people from sleeping in the park
1. Would you use a new lawn/gathering area ("Middle Plateau" in Concept 3)? If yes, how would you use it?
Dog play area, place for reading next to library.
It should connect to the library / Civic Campus, ideally by an amphitheater or some other means.
picnic
picnics, frisbee, lawn games etc.
picnics, stop for a rest on the walk home from the work commute
playing with family ... Frisbee, ball toss etc
Resting, picnicking, enjoying the outdoors
7. Do you have other comments or suggestions for the future of Veterans Memorial Park?
Absolutely none of these plans are acceptable as a transformative master plan required for our Town Center. They need to be more ambitious, better connect the transit center to the town center, treat the edges as porous, and address surrounding development. Please come back with better plans.
Even today, Veterans Memorial Park (especially the area around the existing gazebo) has had a tendency to be a refuge area for homeless folks. I am concerned that the improved accessibility of Veterans Memorial Park to the light rail station could make this problem much more prevalent. Although I am absolutely in favor of much greater accessibility at all points in the park, the benefits to the Town Center would be diminished if the Town Center residents do not feel comfortable or safe passing through or using the space. I feel that future concepts/studies for VMP should acknowledge this possibility. It might be beneficial for the design team to seek input from local law enforcement on what issues they have had at VMP in the past and work to craft design solutions to discourage this behavior in the future. For example, Concept 3 will add restrooms and a new gazebo that I can easily foresee being a nightly magnet for homeless folks' use. Future designs for these spaces should consider ways to make the gazebo and restroom inaccessible (self-locking, or manually locked) during nighttime hours. The design team should also seek input from local law enforcement if design elements not yet considered could make it easier for them to regularly/easily monitor the park.
I completely agree with all of the statements outlined in this article: https://nextmlt.com/the-veterans-memorial-park-master-plan-is-too-important-to-get-wrong/ . I do not feel that any of the plan options properly take into consideration the integration of the Veterans Mem. Park with the Town Center master plan, the civic center campus, or the future adjacent multi-family residential/commercial development (especially on the South side of the park). I sincerely hope we get more concept options which take into account the 'boundary' areas at the edges of the park as I feel this would be a better long term investment.
I like that a lot of the park is natural, but I have rolled my ankle while running on the trail from the library to the transit center due to erosion. If nothing else, need to fix the eroding trails and the play structures for safety!
I think it is VERY IMPORTANT to consider how the park will interact with the Transit Center/ Light Rail Station, the neighborhood plan (with tall buildings surrounding it in the future), and also how the city envisions people using the park. As density increases, our shared green spaces become all the more precious and vital for our communal health. Let's do our best now to prepare for an increased population density in the future, including how to help the park to be a safe place.
It is dark and scary!
Keep it forested as much as possible while improving the play/gathering areas.
Please DO NOT overdevelop it. Leaving parts of it with a feel of being in the woods is so important.

REMOVE THE HOMELESS SO WE CAN USE IT SAFELY!!!

Safety and lighting are a must. It is very scary now to walk through the park from the transit center to the city center or home. A bathroom is really needed at the main park area! 2 bathrooms would be really nice. Right now, people either try to run to the library, or go in the woods. A better picnic area would be grand!

Since it is Veterans Memorial Park, it is important to keep and enhance that concept as the veterans were the first to move here. The park is underused mostly due to safety concerns related to it being too wooded, not lighted, a blight, and easy for folks with drugs, alcohol, and homelessness issues (who do not keep things clean or safe). Limbing up the park to make it more visible would help address safety as well as lighting and usability. The park will continue to be underused unless safety is address which to me is more important than protecting the tree canopy. There are plenty of trees that will remain and make it it a nice wood park but currently the trees and shrubs are part of the problem. Bicentennial Park's improvements is a perfect example of how that park has transformed from an eyesore that attracted drugs, alcohol and trouble to one that is open, accessible, and used often which makes it safer.

Something i would consider to be very important at this park is the preservation of the existing trees and native plant life. Along with the removal of invasive and nonnative plants like ivy and holly to be replaced by native species that would compliment the parks ecosystem. I believe that a prioritization of the parks environmental health will create a pleasant atmosphere for people to go on a walk along the trails or to meet up with friends; while also providing an environmental benefit by its presence in the area.