



Leslie Hardy
Community Services Director

Nathalie Adourian
City Attorney

Jessica Wang
Executive Assistant

AGENDA

Park Planning and Community Events Commission May 19, 2026

5:30 PM Regular Session

City Council Chamber
300 E. Chapman Avenue
Orange, CA 92866

BRANDY ROMERO
Chair

CHIP AHLWEDE
Vice Chair

ADAM LITWIN
Commissioner

EUGENE FIELDS
Commissioner

EVA PEREZ
Commissioner

JAMES KUSHON
Commissioner

PERLA LOZANO
Commissioner

Welcome to the Park Planning and Community Events Commission. Regular meetings of the City of Orange Park Planning and Community Events Commission are held on the third Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September, and October at 5:30 p.m.

Agenda Information

The agenda contains a brief general description of each item to be considered. Written materials relating to an item on the agenda that are provided to the Park Commission after agenda packet distribution and within 72 hours before it is to consider the item will be made available for public inspection in the City Clerk's Office located at 300 E. Chapman Avenue, Orange, during normal business hours; at the Park Commission meeting; and made available on the City's website.

Public Participation

Park Planning and Community Events Commission meetings are streamed live and on-demand on the City's website at www.cityoforange.org.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.3, members of the public may address the Commission on any agenda items or matters within the jurisdiction of the governing body by using any of the following methods:

1) In-Person

To speak on an item on the agenda, complete a speaker's card indicating your name, address, and identify the agenda item number or subject matter you wish to address. The card should be given to staff prior to the start of the meeting. General comments are made during the "Public Comments" section on the agenda. Public comments are limited to three (3) minutes per speaker, unless a different time limit is announced.

2) Written Public Comments

Members of the public can submit their written comments electronically for the Park Commission's consideration by using the eComment feature on the Agenda page of the City's website at www.cityoforange.org. To ensure distribution to the Park Commission prior to consideration of the agenda, we encourage the public to submit written comments by 3:00 p.m. the day of the meeting. All written comments will be provided to the Commissioners and posted on the City's website after the meeting.

Please contact the City Clerk's Office at (714) 744-5500 with any questions.

ADA Requirements: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need accommodations to participate in this meeting, contact the Community Services Department at (714) 744-7274. Notification at least 48 hours in advance of meeting will enable the City to make arrangements to assure accessibility to this meeting.

1. OPENING/CALL TO ORDER

1.1 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Eva Perez

1.2 ROLL CALL

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

At this time, members of the public may address the Commission on matters not listed on the Agenda which are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission, provided that NO action may be taken on off-agenda items unless authorized by law. Public Comments are limited to three (3) minutes per speaker.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1. Approval of minutes of the City of Orange Park Planning and Community Events Commission Regular Meeting held on March 17, 2026

Recommended Action:

Approve minutes as presented.

Attachments: [Staff Report](#)
[March 17, 2026 Regular Meeting minutes](#)

4. COMMISSION BUSINESS

4.1. Grijalva Park Masterplan Update

Recommended Action:

Provide input regarding the development of the Grijalva Park Masterplan Update.

Attachments: [Staff Report](#)
[Grijalva Park Master Plan Update Presentation](#)

5. COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR'S REPORT

6. ADJOURNMENT

The next Regular Park Planning & Community Events Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 21, 2026, at 5:30 p.m., in the Council Chamber.

I, Jessica Wang, Executive Assistant for the City of Orange, hereby declare, under penalty of perjury, that a full and correct copy of this agenda was posted pursuant to Government Code Section 54950 et. seq., at the following locations: Orange Civic Center kiosk and Orange City Clerk's Office at 300 E. Chapman Avenue, Orange Main Public Library at 407 E. Chapman Avenue, Police facility at 1107 N. Batavia, and uploaded to the City's website www.cityoforange.org.

Date posted: May 14, 2026



Agenda Item

Park Planning and Community Events Commission

Item #: 3.1.

5/19/2026

File #: 26-0298

TO: Chair and Members of the Park Planning and Community Events Commission

THRU: Leslie Hardy, Community and Library Services Director

FROM: Jessica Wang, Executive Assistant

1. SUBJECT

Approval of minutes of the City of Orange Park Planning and Community Events Commission Regular Meeting held on March 17, 2026

2. SUMMARY

Submitted for your consideration and approval are the minutes of the above meeting.

3. RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approve minutes as presented.

4. ATTACHMENTS

- March 17, 2026 Regular Meeting minutes



Agenda Item

Park Planning and Community Events Commission

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3. RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approve minutes as presented.

4. ATTACHMENTS

- March 17, 2026 Regular Meeting minutes

MINUTES - DRAFT

City of Orange

**Park Planning and Community Events
Commission**

March 17, 2026

The Park Planning and Community Events Commission of the City of Orange, California convened on March 17, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. in a Regular Meeting the Council Chamber, 300 E. Chapman Avenue, Orange, California.

1. OPENING/CALL TO ORDER

Chair Romero called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

1.1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Commissioner Fields.

1.2. ROLL CALL

Present Ahlsweide, Fields, Perez, Kushon, and Romero

Absent Litwin

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1. Approval of minutes of the City of Orange Park Planning and Community Events Commission Regular Meeting held on January 20, 2026

A motion was made by Commissioner Perez, seconded by Commissioner Kushon, to approve the minutes as presented.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Ahlsweide, Fields, Perez, Kushon, and Romero

Noes: None

Absent: Litwin

4. COMMISSION BUSINESS

4.1. Consideration of Prohibition of Smoking in City Parks

Emily Bustamante, Assistant Community Services Director, presented a staff report on options related to smoking in City parks.

Lieutenant Kevin Plog and Sergeant Mike Sellers of the Orange Police Department

answered Commissioner questions on enforcement ability and the parameters of where a smoking ban would apply.

A motion was made by Commissioner Perez, seconded by Vice Chair Ahlswede, to make a recommendation to City Council to ban smoking in all City parks.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Ahlswede, Perez, Kushon, and Romero

Noes: Fields

Absent: Litwin

4.2. USA250 Fundraising Subcommittee Appointment

Emily Bustamante, Assistant Community Services Director, presented a staff report on the USA250 Fundraising Subcommittee that was established at the October 21, 2025 Regular Meeting of the Park Planning and Community Events Commission.

Commissioners discussed the benefit of an additional member on the subcommittee.

Commissioner Kushon made a motion to nominate Vice Chair Ahlswede to join the USA250 Fundraising Subcommittee.

Vice Chair Ahlswede stated his gratitude for the nomination but declined before a second could be made and the motion was withdrawn.

No other motions were made. No action was taken.

5. COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR'S REPORT

5.1. Updates on USA250

Emily Bustamante, Assistant Community Services Director, presented an update on the USA250 initiative around the City.

Chair Romero provided an update on a Celebration in the Park on July 3, 2026 event in connection with the USA250 initiative. She requested each Commissioner fundraise \$2,500.00 to contribute to the event.

Staff clarified the difference between the USA250 Planning Subcommittee and the USA250 Fundraising Subcommittee. Having fulfilled their purpose, the USA250 Planning Subcommittee was dissolved.

5.2. Utility Box Art Program

Emily Bustamante, Assistant Community Services Director, provided an update on the Utility Box Art Program, a collaborative initiative between the Community and Library Services Department and the Public Works Department to celebrate USA250 by wrapping City-owned traffic signal control boxes with sponsored art submissions.

Submissions for art will be accepted through April 13, 2026 and will be brought back to the Park Planning and Community Events Commission for final selection.

5.3. Updates on the Grijalva Park Masterplan

Emily Bustamante, Assistant Community Services Director, provided an update to the Grijalva Park Masterplan. A community-wide questionnaire was released and a community input public workshop is scheduled for March 31, 2026.

5.4. Updates on Summer Programs

Emily Bustamante, Assistant Community Services Director, provided an update on aquatic and day camp programs provided in the City. Agreements were approved by City Council with Premier Aquatics LLC to provide a year-round aquatic program at Hart Park Pool and with The Hub OC for the Youth Centers of Orange to provide a youth and teen summer day camp out of Shaffer Park.

5.5. Budget Study Sessions

Emily Bustamante, Assistant Community Services Director, informed the Commission of upcoming City Council meetings with a focus on the City budget.

5.6. Updates on Capital Improvement Projects

Emily Bustamante, Assistant Community Services Director, provided updates on the Hart Park Pickleball and Fitness Circuit Project, Serrano Park Lodge Pole Fencing, the Skatepark at Grijalva Park, and Rampart Street Park projects.

6. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

The next Regular Park Planning and Community Events Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 19, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

Emily Bustamante
Assistant Community Services Director



Agenda Item

Park Planning and Community Events Commission

Item #: 4.1.

5/19/2026

File #: 26-0299

TO: Chair and Members of the Park Planning & Community Events Commission

THRU: Leslie Hardy, Community and Library Services Director

FROM: Emily Bustamante, Community Services Assistant Director

1. SUBJECT

Grijalva Park Masterplan Update

2. SUMMARY

The City has initiated the process to update the 2005 Grijalva Park Masterplan. This item provides a review of the planning process, a summary of feedback from recently conducted community outreach, and an opportunity to provide additional comments and recommendations to help guide development of the Grijalva Park Masterplan Update.

3. RECOMMENDED ACTION

Provide input regarding the development of the Grijalva Park Masterplan Update.

4. FISCAL IMPACT

None.

5. STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

Goal 3: Enhance Public Communication Strategy and Quality of Life.

6. DISCUSSION AND BACKGROUND

The City has engaged with the Orange County Council of Governments (OCCOG) to develop a site-specific reuse plan for Grijalva Park by updating the 2005 Grijalva Park Master Plan. The planning effort is funded through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Brownfields Grant Program, secured by OCCOG and the City.

OCCOG retained Montrose Environmental and its subconsultant, Kimley-Horn to prepare the Grijalva Park Master Plan Update. The updated Master Plan will serve as a long-range policy document intended to guide future park improvements, programming opportunities, and capital projects. The planning process includes multiple opportunities for community engagement to help build upon previous planning efforts and identify opportunities to enhance Grijalva Park in response to current and future community needs.

The Master Plan Update is intended to ensure that Grijalva Park continues to meet the recreational,

open space, and community gathering needs of residents while aligning with current planning goals and community priorities.

Beginning in February 2026, Kimley-Horn initiated community outreach efforts by meeting with key stakeholders and working group participants, including representatives from the Greater Orange Community Arts Theater (GOCAT), Orange Elderly Services (OES), and the Orange Public Library Board of Trustees, and the Orange Public Library Foundation. The consultant team also distributed a community-wide survey and facilitated a public community input meeting at the Sports Center on March 31, 2026, to gather feedback regarding desired park amenities, programming opportunities, circulation, accessibility, and overall park character.

This meeting provides an opportunity for Kimley-Horn to present a summary of the input collected, as well as an opportunity for the Park Planning and Community Events Commission (Commission) to discuss the information presented and provide feedback. A draft Grijalva Park Master Plan Update will be presented to the Commission at a future meeting for review and recommendation to the City Council.

7. ATTACHMENTS

- Grijalva Park Master Plan Update Presentation



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7. ATTACHMENTS

- Grijalva Park Master Plan Update Presentation

An aerial photograph of a park area with a winding river or stream. The park is surrounded by residential developments. The image has a stylized, painterly appearance with vibrant colors like blues, greens, and yellows. The text is overlaid in white.

Grijalva Park Master Plan Update

May 2026

AGENDA

1. Community Engagement Update
2. Site Plan Overview
3. Next Steps

VISION AND OBJECTIVES

Vision

The City of Orange, in partnership with the Orange County Council of Governments (OCCOG), envisions Grijalva Park as a vibrant, inclusive, and resilient community hub that reflects the city's commitment to quality of life, sustainability, and long-term stewardship of public spaces.

Through the updated Grijalva Park Master Plan, the City will establish a forward-looking framework to guide future enhancements, programming, and capital projects that respond to evolving community needs.

This vision aspires to transform Grijalva Park into a model of recreational excellence, where diverse amenities, active and passive recreation opportunities, and environmentally responsible design come together to enrich daily life for residents and visitors.

The Master Plan will ensure that investments in the park are strategic, coordinated, and aligned with broader citywide goals—creating a legacy destination that strengthens community identity, celebrates local character, and supports health, wellness, and social connection for generations to come.

Objectives

- Aim to engage with community stakeholders to define the future improvements and recreational amenities for the property.
- The master planning process will build upon past planning decisions related to the property and identify other opportunities to enhance this important community asset.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

Background

- City Staff Meeting August 2025
- Working Group Session October 2025
- Working Group Session February 2026
- Community Engagement Event March 2026

Community Engagement Summary

- The most requested improvements are new amenities:
 - BMX pump track,
 - additional walking/jogging trails,
 - playground updates, and
 - a senior center,
- Concerns included
 - Safety
 - parking difficulties, and
 - limited shade
- The park is valued for its accessibility, open space, and family-friendly environment, but respondents consistently call for enhancements that support multi-generational use, community events, and nature-focused activities.

What is your vision for the future of Grijalva Park?

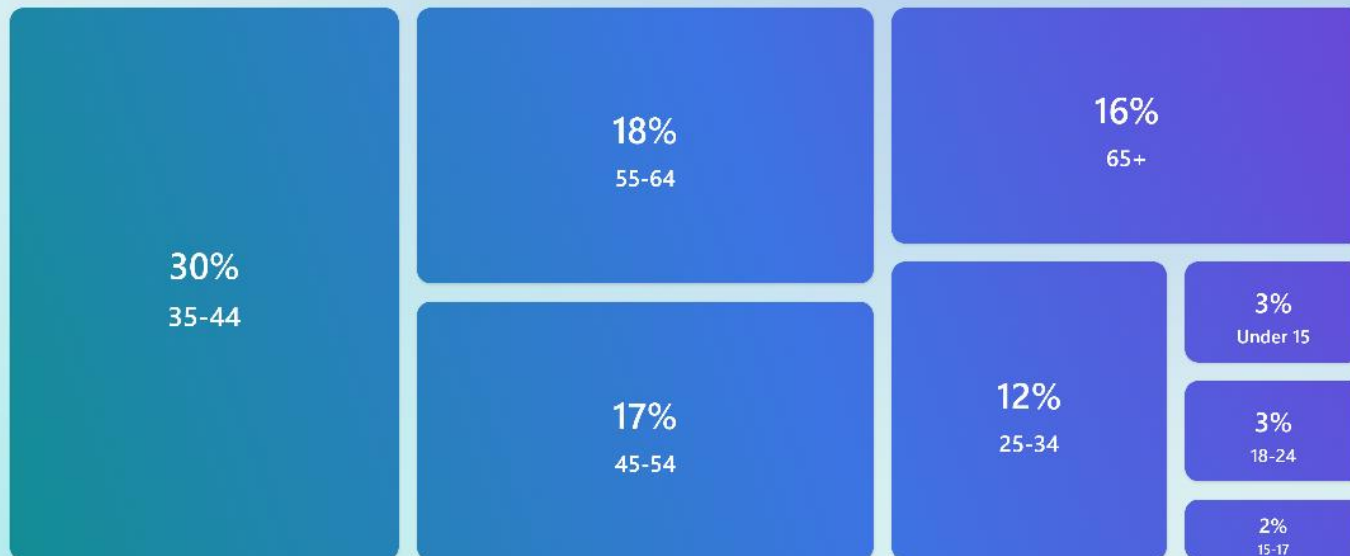
46 respondents (25%) answered community for this question.



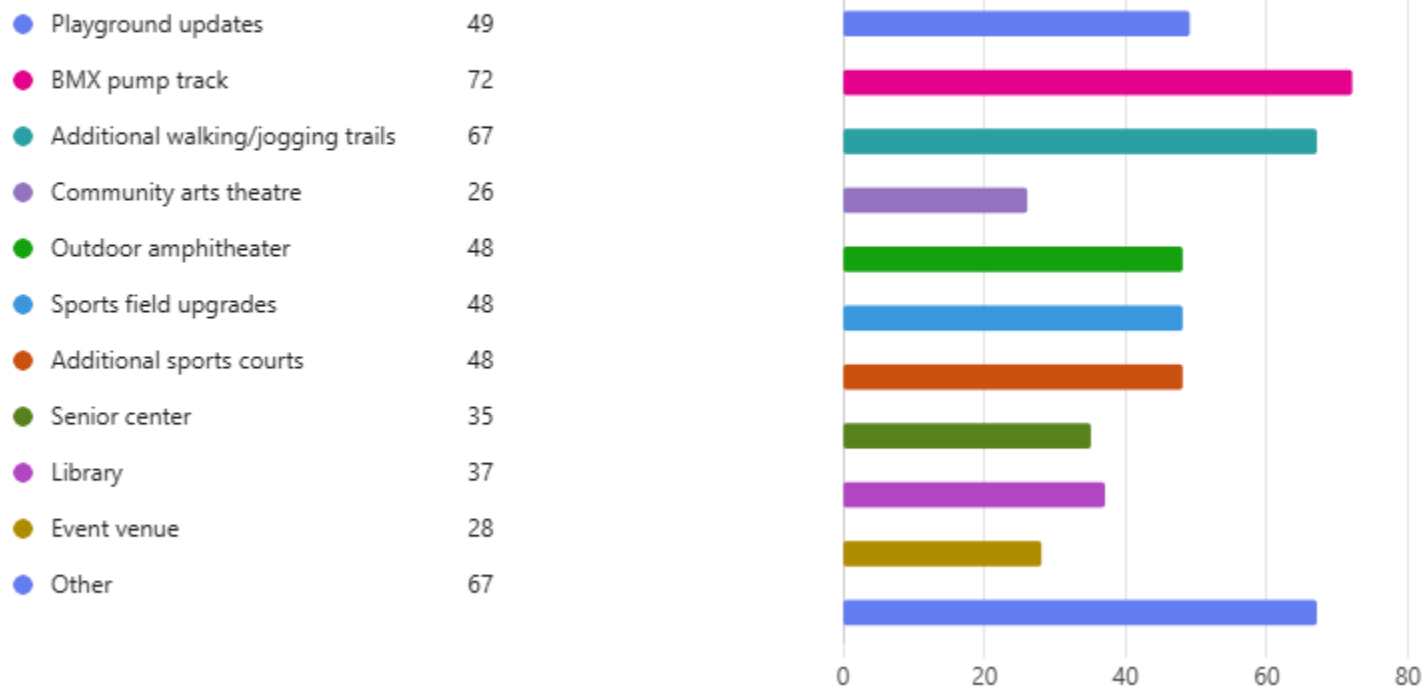
Do you live within the City of Orange municipal limits?



Which age group do you belong to?



14. Which new amenities or site improvements would you like to see added to Grijalva Park? (Select all that apply)

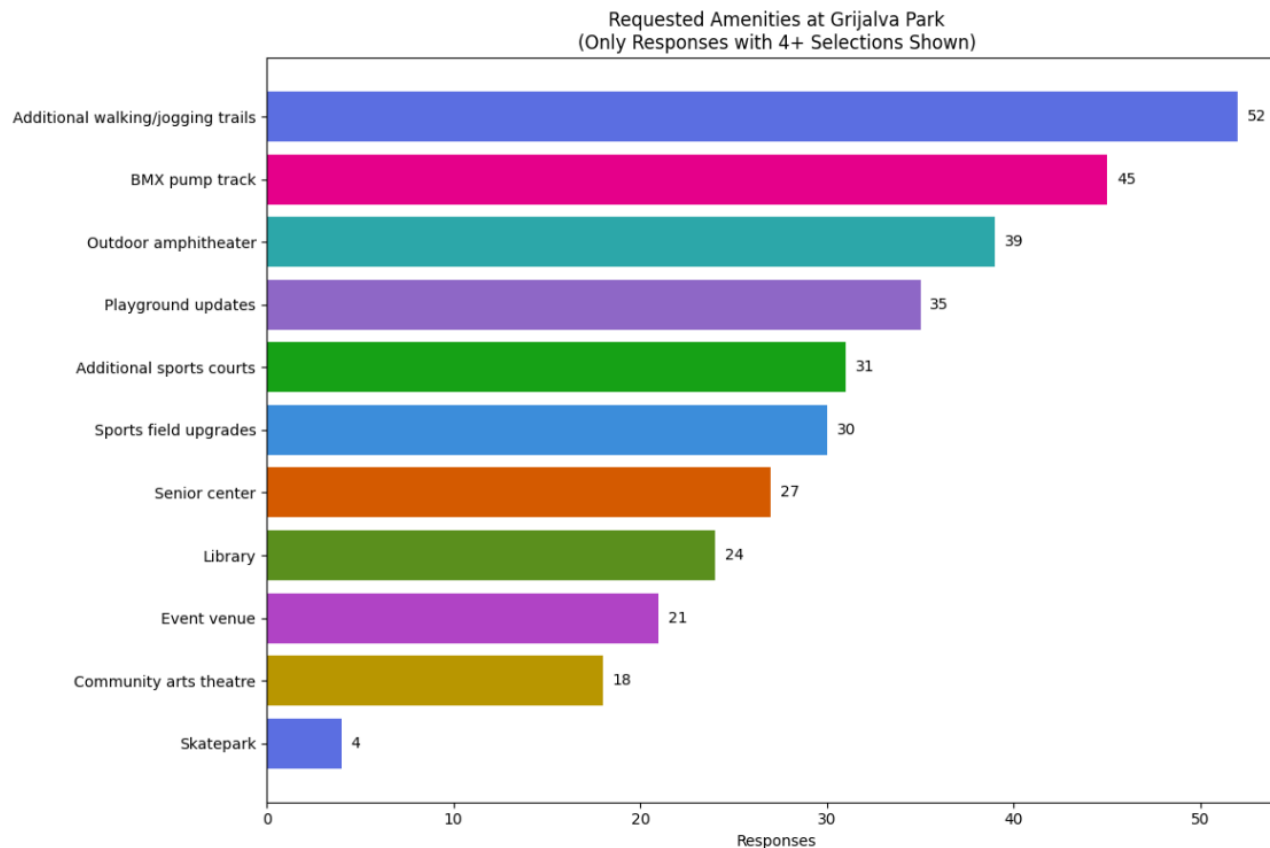


33 respondents (18%) answered Park for this question.

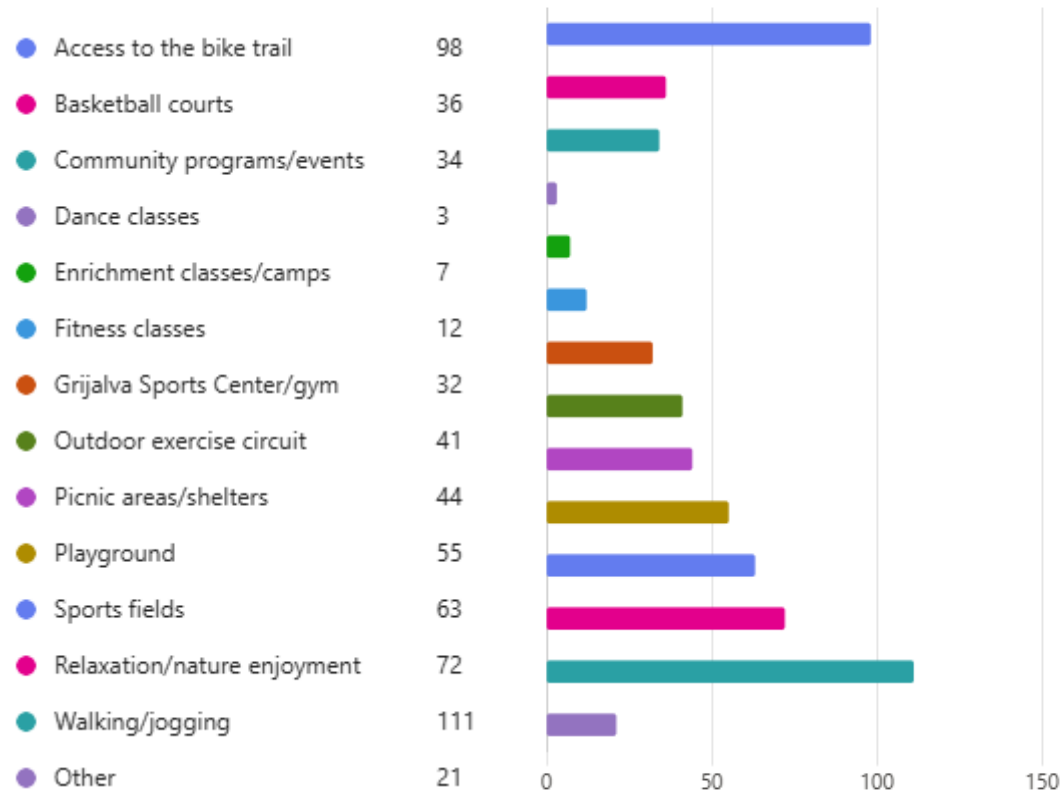
Dog Park Bike Park
 track and skatepark
 Grijalva park
 use this park
 pump track
 kids
 tennis court
 park would be great
Park
 Community
 BMX track
 skate park
 soccer fields good park
 trail along the park
 events at the park
 improvements that make the park
 Park area
 parking lots

Amenities

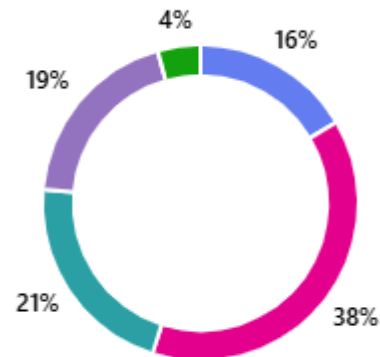
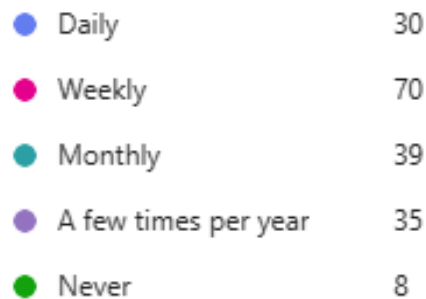
- Based on the 182 respondents, the survey was filtered to remove the day of the Community Engagement event and two days following to filter for stakeholder groups attending the event totaling 130 respondents.



9. Which activities or amenities do you currently use at Grijalva Park? (Select all that apply)



6. How often do you visit Grijalva Park?



16. How appealing would the following potential amenities be to you?

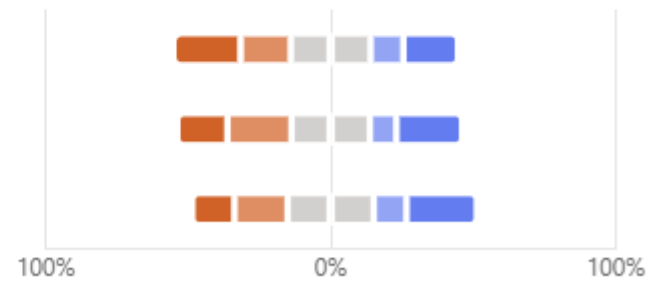
[More details](#)

● Very appealing ● Somewhat appealing ● Neutral ● Not very appealing ● Not at all appealing

Library

Performing Arts Center

Senior Center



SITE PLAN OVERVIEW



LEGEND

- 1 GRIJALVA SPORTS CENTER
- 2 LIBRARY / SENIOR CENTER - (32,000 SF)
- 3 GOCAT (THEATER) - (32,000 SF)
- 4 DRY CREEK
- 5 SKATE PARK - (11,500 SF)
- 6 BASKETBALL COURTS (2)
- 7 EXERCISE CIRCUIT
- 8 MULTI-PURPOSE FIELD (LIGHTED)
- 9 SUPPORT BUILDING
- 10 PLAYGROUND
- 11 VOLLEYBALL COURT (SAND)
- 12 RESTROOM
- 13 PICNIC PAVILIONS

EXISTING PARKING SPACES = 407
 NEW PARKING SPACES = 301



NEXT STEPS



- LEGEND**
- 1 LIBRARY / SENIOR CENTER - (32,000 SF)
 - 2 GOGAT (THEATER) - (32,000 SF)
 - 3 DRY CREEK
 - 4 DECORATIVE PAVING
 - 5 SKATE PARK - (11,500 SF)
 - 6 BASKETBALL COURTS (2)
 - 7 EXERCISE CIRCUIT
 - 8 MULTI-PURPOSE FIELD (LIGHTED)
 - 9 SUPPORT BUILDING
 - 10 PLAYGROUND
 - 11 VOLLEYBALL COURT (SAND)
 - 12 PICNIC TABLES
 - 13 PICNIC PAVILIONS
 - 14 WALKING PATHS
 - 15 EMERGENCY ACCESS
 - 16 NEW PARKING - ± 302 SPACES
 - 17 EXISTING PARKING - ± 418 SPACES

Kimley»»Horn

MONTROSE
ENVIRONMENTAL