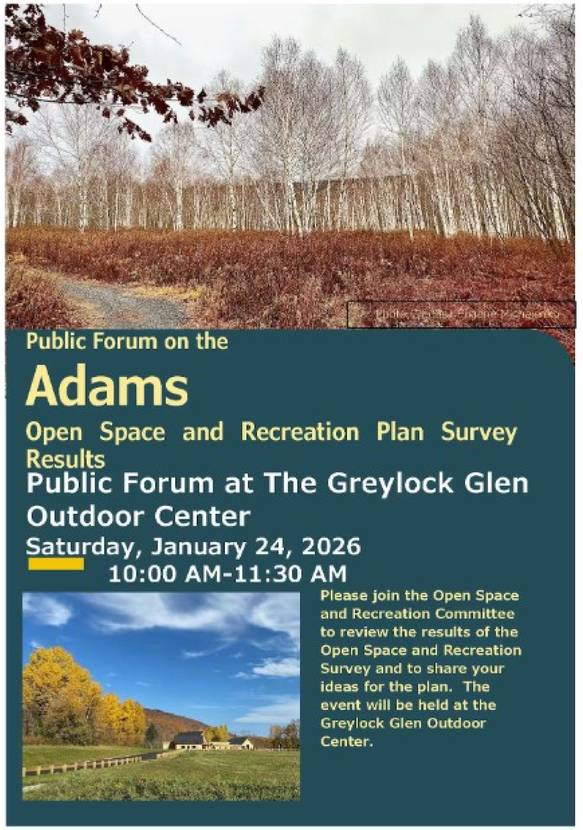
Mentimeter



Adams Open Space and Recreation Plan Public Forum

Greylock Glen Outdoor Center, Saturday January 24, 2026

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Open Spaces in Adams include:

- Ashuwillticook Rail Trail
- The Greylock Glen
- Mount Greylock
- Adams Visitor Center
- Town Common
- Bellevue Cemetery
- Valley Memorial Park
- Renfrew Field
- Russell Field
- Forest Park Country Club
- Pleasant Street Park

Mentimeter

What do we mean by open-space?

- Any land or area that...
- (1) conserve and enhance natural or scenic resources
- (2) protect streams or water supply
- (3) promote conservation of soils, wetlands, beaches, or tidal marshes
- (4) enhance the value to the public of abutting or neighboring parks, forests, wildlife preserves, nature reservations, or sanctuaries
- (5) enhance recreation opportunities

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A conditionally accepted Open Space and Recreation Plan makes the town eligible for:

- Local Acuisitions for Natural Diversity (LAND) Program
- Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (PARC) Program
- Land and Conservation Funds
- Other Grants administered by the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affiairs and Division of Conservation Services

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Information updated July 1, 2025 Note: Communities are eligible for grant funding throughout the entire OSRP expiration month		
COMMUNITY	**ELIGIBLE TO APPLY**	**PLAN STATUS**
Abington	NO	Expired Plan
Acton	YES	Apr-34
Acushnet	NO	Expired Plan
Adams	NO	Expired Plan
Agawam	YES	Jan-27
Alford	NO	Expired Plan
Amesbury	YES	May-29
Amherst	NO	Expired Plan
Andover	NO	Expired Plan
Arlington	YES	Jul-29
Ashburnham	YES	May-29
Ashby	YES	Aug-25
Ashfield	YES	Aug-25
Ashland	NO	Expired Plan
Athol	YES	Feb-27
Attleboro	YES	Oct-31
Auburn	YES	Jan-29
Avon	YES	Apr-29
Ayer	YES	May-28
Barnstable	YES	Aug-25
Barre	YES	Mar-29
Becket	YES	Jul-30
Bedford	NO	Expired Plan
Belchertown	YES	Feb-28
Bellingham	NO	Expired Plan

Open Space and Recreation Plans are...

- a tool communities use to plan for conservation and recreation needs and opportunities
- relevant for 10 years
- a prerequisite for the town to apply for some state grants
- reviewed and approved by the Division of Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affiars
- another way to ensure that decision town leaders make align with the community's desires

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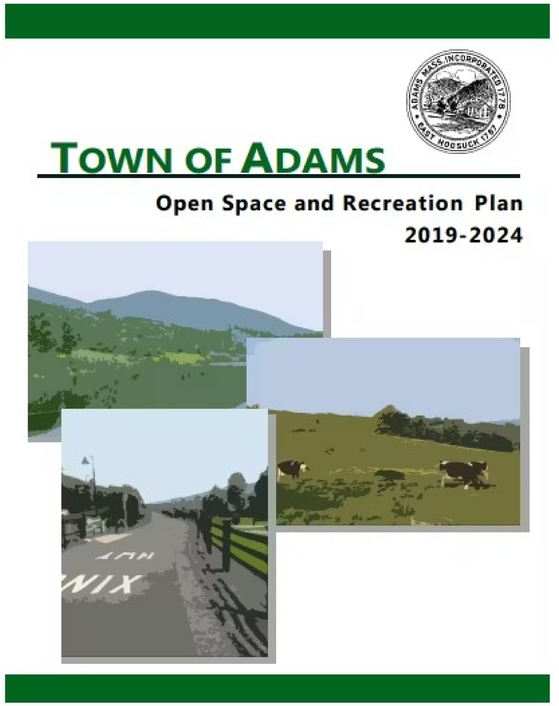
The Town has an existing Open Space Plan developed in 2019.



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Other plans informing the OSRP.

- 2019 Stormwater Management Plan
- 2024 Adams Hazard Mitigation Plan
- 2025 ADA Self Evaluation
- 2004 Community Development Plan

Timeline of the Process:

- August/September - Meet with stakeholders, develop survey questions
- October- Publish Survey with opening and closing dates.
- October/November/ December - Collect survey responses
- October through March - Drafting the plan
- January/February/March - Use survey results to establish goals and objectives
- January - Present survey results and goals to community
- March - Present goals, objectives, and actions to community.
- April/May - Publish draft for public comment. Provide opportunity for the public to provide written comments
- May - Submit draft document for EEA's review
- June - Incorporate EEA'S comments into the plan

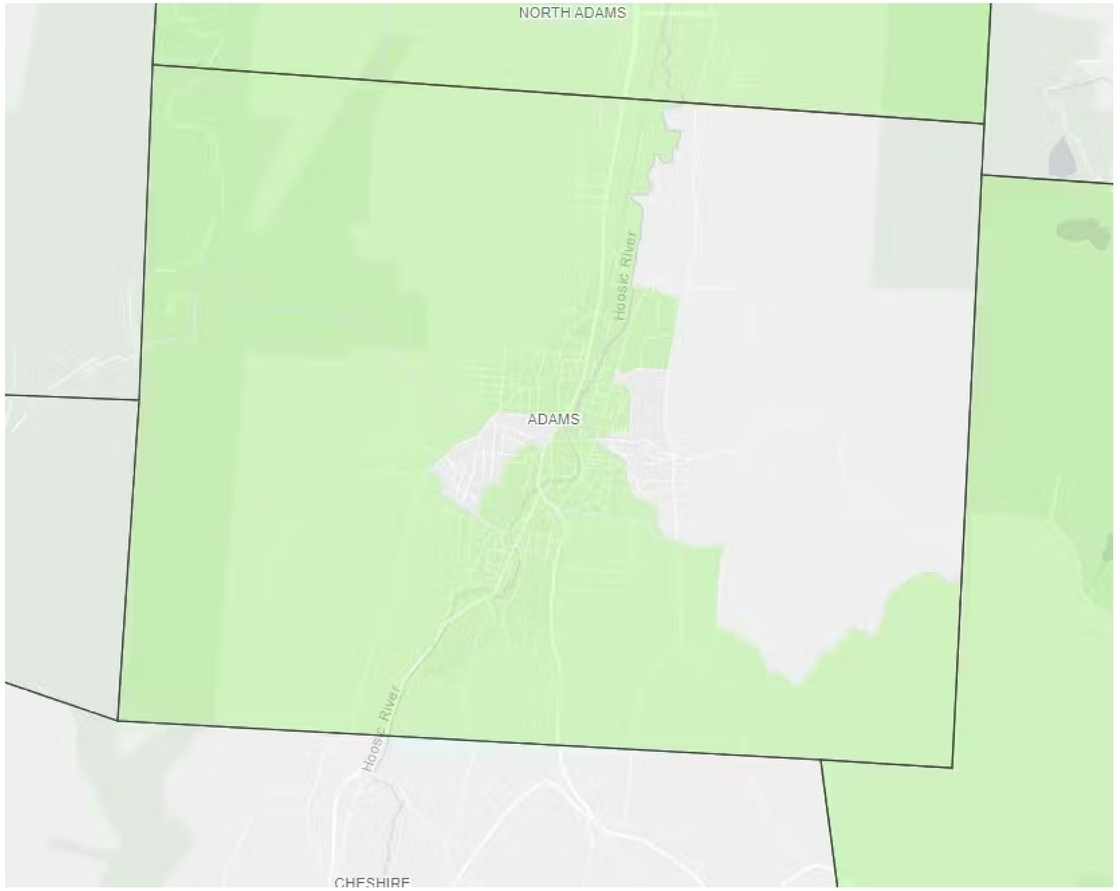
Mentimeter

Environmental Justice Communities in Green

Qualify based on one or more of the following conditions existing in the community.

- Annual median household income is 65 percent or less of statewide annual household income.
- minorities make up 40 percent or more of the population
- 25 percent or more of households speak English less than "very well"
- Minorities make up 25 percent or more of population and AMI is less than 150 percent of statewide AMI.

Adams Census Tracts qualify based on income levels.



Adams Open Space and Recreation Plan

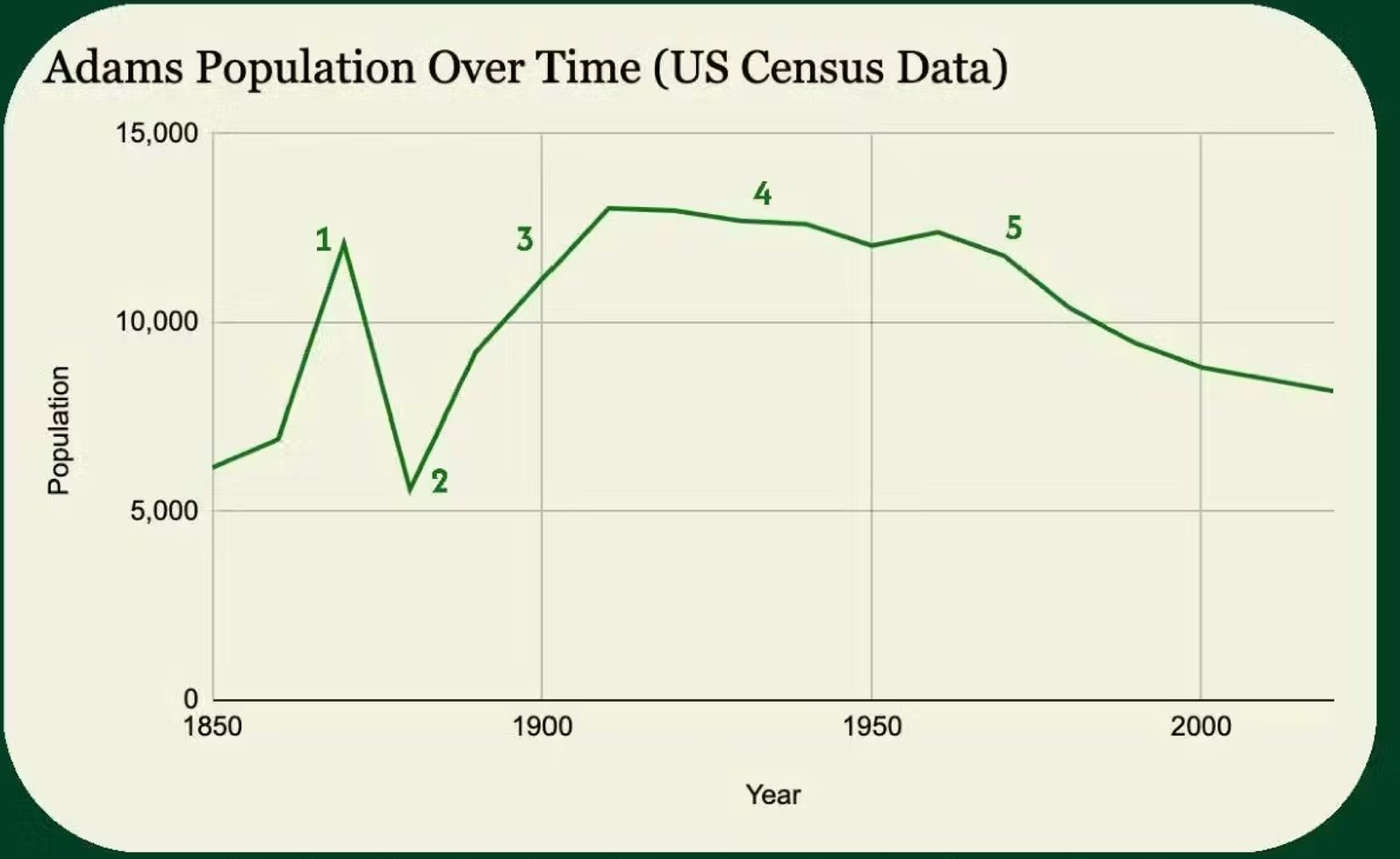
Sonia Dhingra, Ziann Facey, Stella Rothfeld, and Bradley St. Laurent

Who we are

- Stella, Sonia, Ziann, and Bradley
- Williams College, ENVI 402
- Assisting Berkshire Regional Planning Commission (BRPC) and the town of Adams in updating the Adams Open Space and Recreation Plan

Community Profile: History and Population

1. Adams begins to industrialize, railroad built in 1840s helps growth (1820-1850).
2. North Adams incorporates (1878)
3. Industrialization continues (1875-1910).
4. Great Depression, numerous devastating floods (1930s)
5. End of the Mill years: Berkshire Mills close in 1958, Waverly-Schumacher in 1989.



Sources: Adams Historical Society "Adams Historical Timeline," Explore Adams "History of Adams," US Census Data

Survey Outreach

Berkshire Mobile Farmers Market

Adams Council on Aging

THE ADAMS THEATER

Adams Theater

RambleFest

Interviews with Dan Doyle & Heather Linscott

Dan

- How do we advance ecotourism to benefit the town and not compromise the town?
- Develop the downtown area to have places for people who visit the Glen to eat and shop and stay
- Proportional and steady growth
- Need to retain younger demographics
- Work with farmers to preserve their land & work
- Pool resources & coordinate with other towns on recreation spaces

Heather

- Keep spaces wild, don't overdevelop the Glen
- Tree planting initiatives, native species, pollinator gardens
- Outdoor swimming options
- Housing options for visitors coming to recreate
- More outdoor recreation opportunities for kids

Adams Council on Aging Roundtable

- Parks used to be lively, programmed, central to childhood - today they feel underused and socially empty
    - Teens once ran summer programs and activities
    - Parents met each other through park use
- Strong desire for youth programming and a community center
    - Teen employment opportunities in parks
    - Intergenerational activities
- Accessibility is a major gap
    - Playgrounds have outdated equipment and have a lack of inclusive design
    - Bathrooms often locked or closed
    - Sidewalks often uneven and cracked

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BART & HVHS Visits

Hoosac Valley High School

- Limited outdoor activities to enjoy after school
- Parks and playgrounds are not maintained (i.e lighting), but usually vandalized and not aesthetically pleasing
- Little to no access to public bathrooms
- Expressed demand for more teen friendly recreational spaces and facilities.

HVHS Survey Outreach

Berkshire Regional Arts and Tech Charter (BART)

- Adams residents & non-residents who recreate frequently in Adams
- Parks are not very appealing aesthetically
- Ashuwillticook is successful
- Not much to do in parks
- Parks need maintenance

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Friends of the Glen Roundtable

- Desire for additional spaces: skating rink, outdoor swimming, more snowmobiling trails, more winter activities, camping, fisheries, river walks
- Changing spaces: consolidation/relocation of parks, repurposing of mills for indoor recreation spaces
- Maintenance: signage and clear rules for trails
- Populations to take note of: kids, young families, aging population
- Desire for more youth engagement
- Don’t want to lose farms

Mentimeter

Agricultural Commission

- Number of farms has declined (12 dairy farms in 80s vs 1 now)
- Not enough young people interested in farming: kids go to school and then out West to farm and don't come back home
- If schools could have programs that get kids involved in farming or gardening that could support youth interest & engagement in farming
- Ecotourism & value added operations each come with pros and cons
- Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR) vs. Conservation Restriction

Members of Agricultural Commission

Williams College Students and non-Adams farmer

General Town Hall Roundtable

- Strong interest in river, town-wide access, outdoor swimming, and camping
- Connectivity is a core issue: unsafe roads, weak trail links, car dependence, poor links with North Adams
- River is neglected - broken stormwater systems, no fishing access, uncoordinated flood management
- Big regional opportunity: wildlife corridors, farmland conservation, Hoosic River revival
- Need to use what exists better: vacant storefronts, underused parks/green spaces

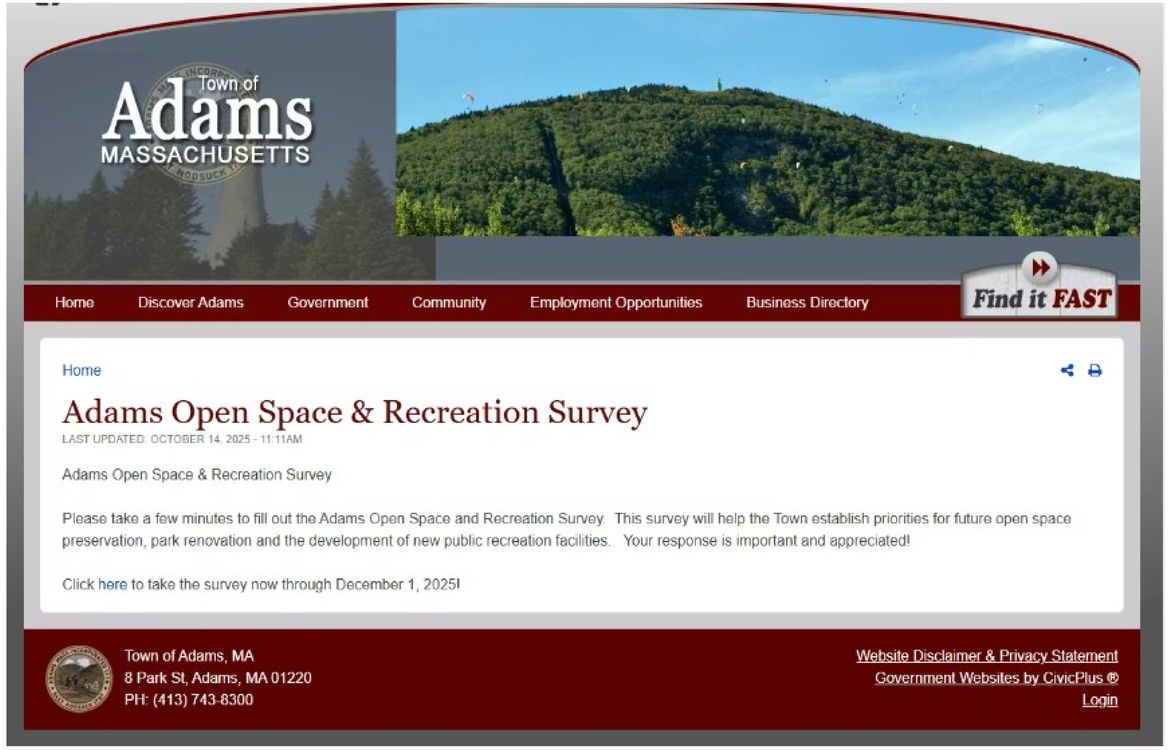
Conclusions: Community Needs / Suggested Focus

- Retention of youth in Adams through programs, development of adequate facilities, and more community engagement opportunities. Especially teens!
- Better maintenance of existing recreational facilities and amenities. (**Bathrooms**, trash receptacles, better lighting on Ashuwillticook).
- Consistent desire for increased outdoor features, both leisure (picnic and seating areas) and active spaces, as well as increase in access to indoor recreational facilities.
- Increase Adams' connectivity with neighboring towns (continue to extend Ashuwillticook however possible, increase sharing of amenities between neighboring towns).
- Regulate E-Bike usage, especially on Ashuwillticook.
- Continue to protect and embrace Adams' natural beauty and the related opportunities (protect scenic areas and farmland, continued development of wildlife corridors, increase access to Hoosic/improve river health).
- Pass the Community Preservation Act
- Improve awareness of Town developments.

Mentimeter

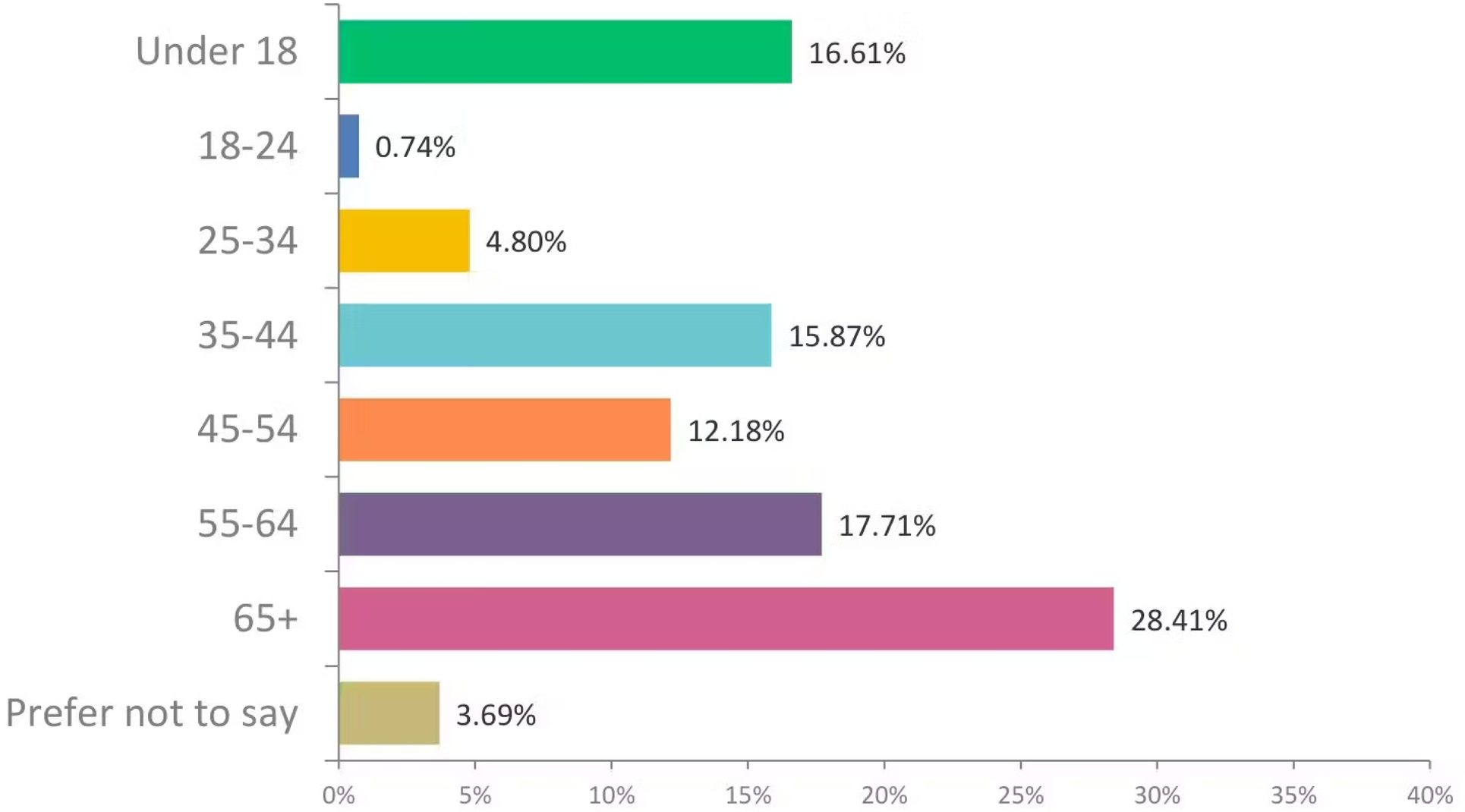
2025 SurveyMonkey Survey

- 291 Total Responses.
- Survey open during October, November, early December.
- Average response time- 15 minutes.
- Accessed through URL and QR codes on Flyers
- Paper Copies were available at the Council on Aging, Town Hall, Greylock Glen, Adams Library.
- Advertised on the Town's website, Berkshire Eagle, iBerkshires, and with flyers around town.
- Previous Surveys
  - 2010 OSRP Survey- sent to 600 town households, 231 surveys returned (39% of total)
  - 2019 OSRP Survey- Electronic Survey, 235 Total Responses



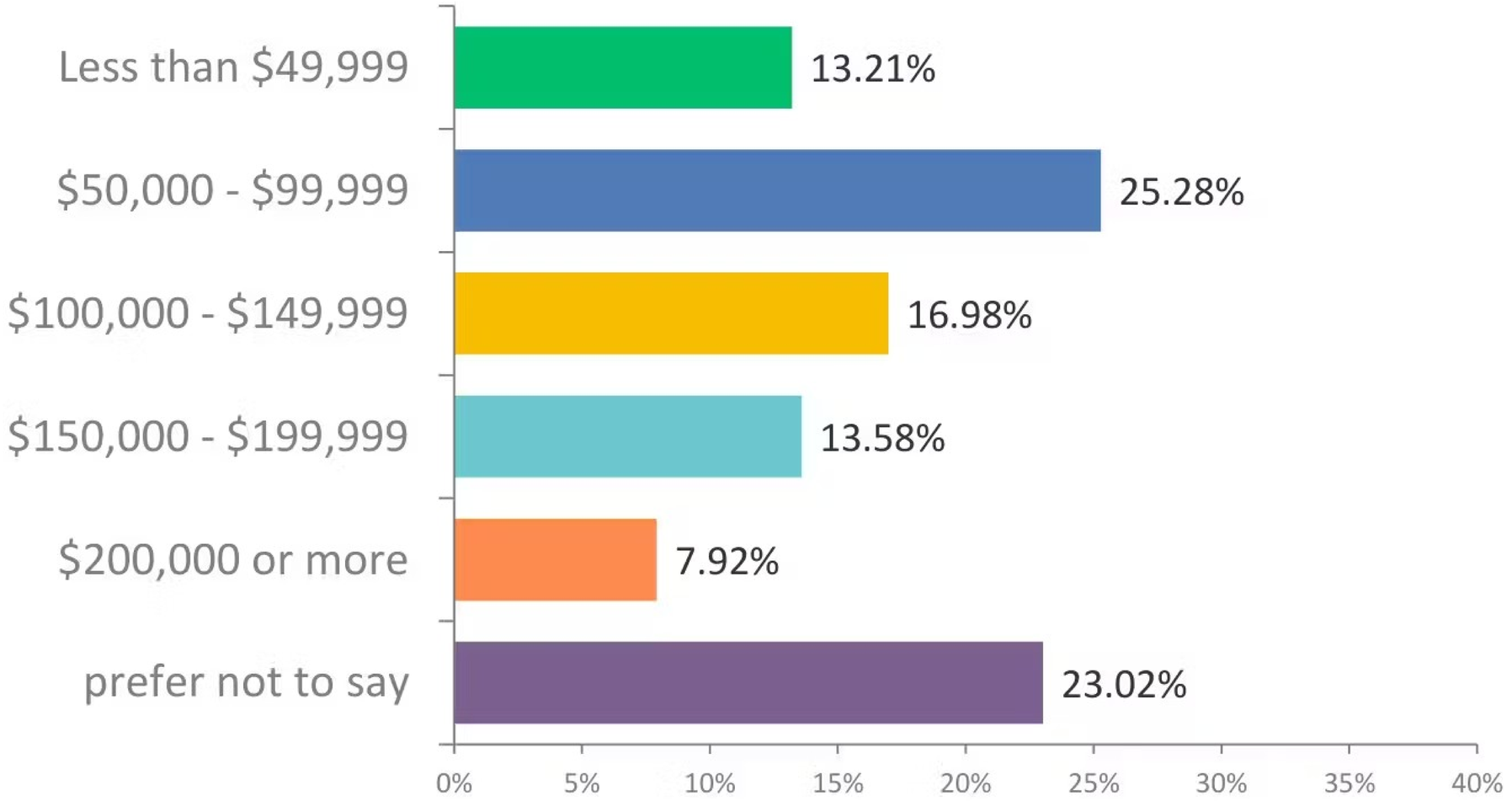
Q22: Please select your age range

Answered: 271 Skipped: 20



Q23: Please select your annual household income range

Answered: 265 Skipped: 26



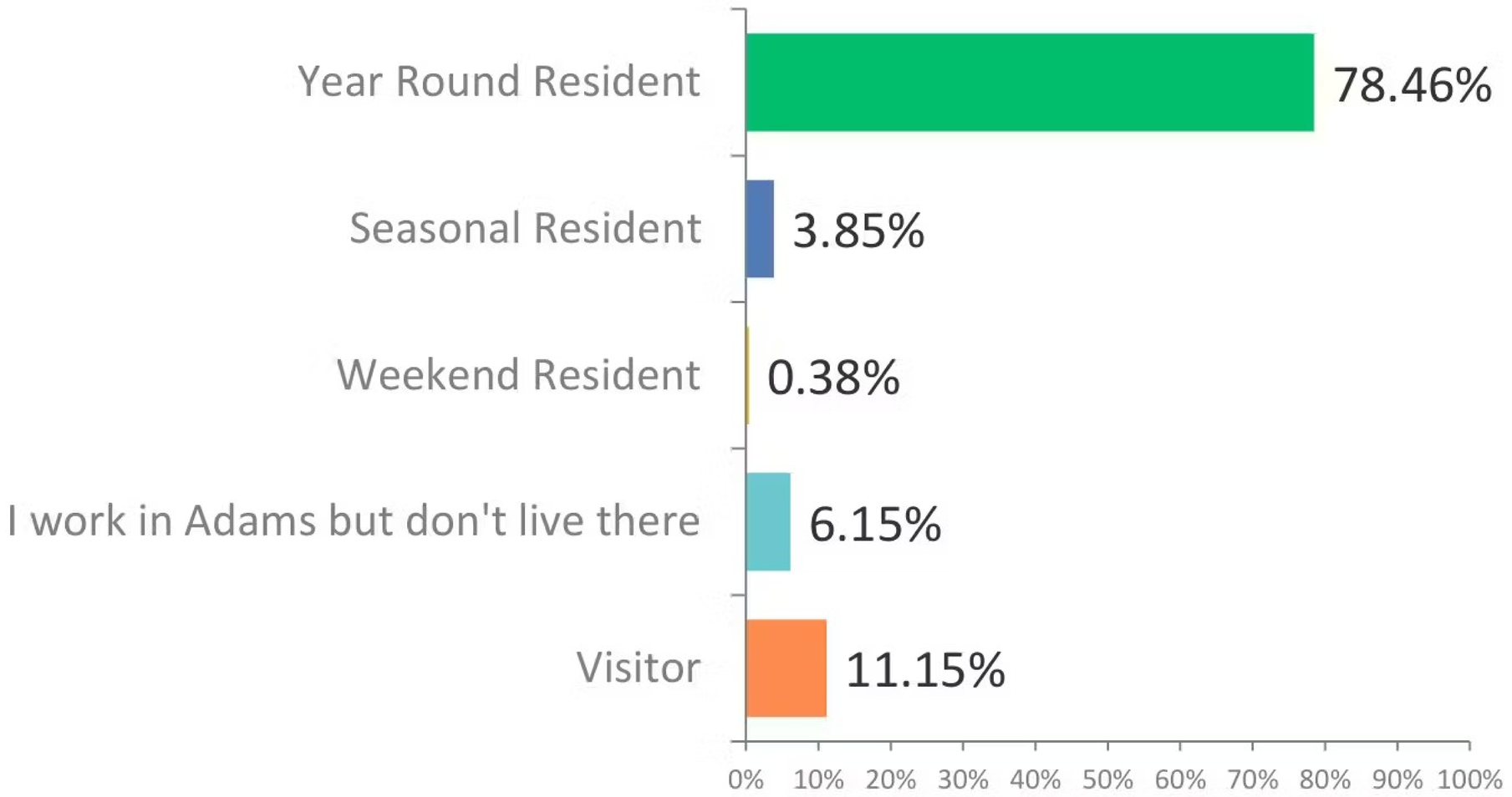
Question 24 If your answers represent other members of your household, please indicate the number of people and their age (including yourself). For example, a household of two people, both are age 50-59 would select from column "2 people" and row "50-59". A family living with a grandparent might look like, 1 person under 10, 2 people 10-19, 2 people 40-50, and 1 person 70+

Mentimeter

	1 person	2 people	3 people	4 people	5 people	6 people	Total
Under 10 years old	23	15	6	5	1	4	54
10-19	42	24	7	6	3	3	85
20-29	18	8	3	2	2	3	36
30-39	20	19	4	2	1	4	50
40-49	31	36	3	3	1	3	77
50-59	24	28	2	3	0	3	60
60-69	34	32	2	2	2	3	75
70+	23	21	3	3	2	5	57
	215	183	30	26	12	28	494
						Answered	

Q25: What is your residency status in Adams

Answered: 260 Skipped: 31



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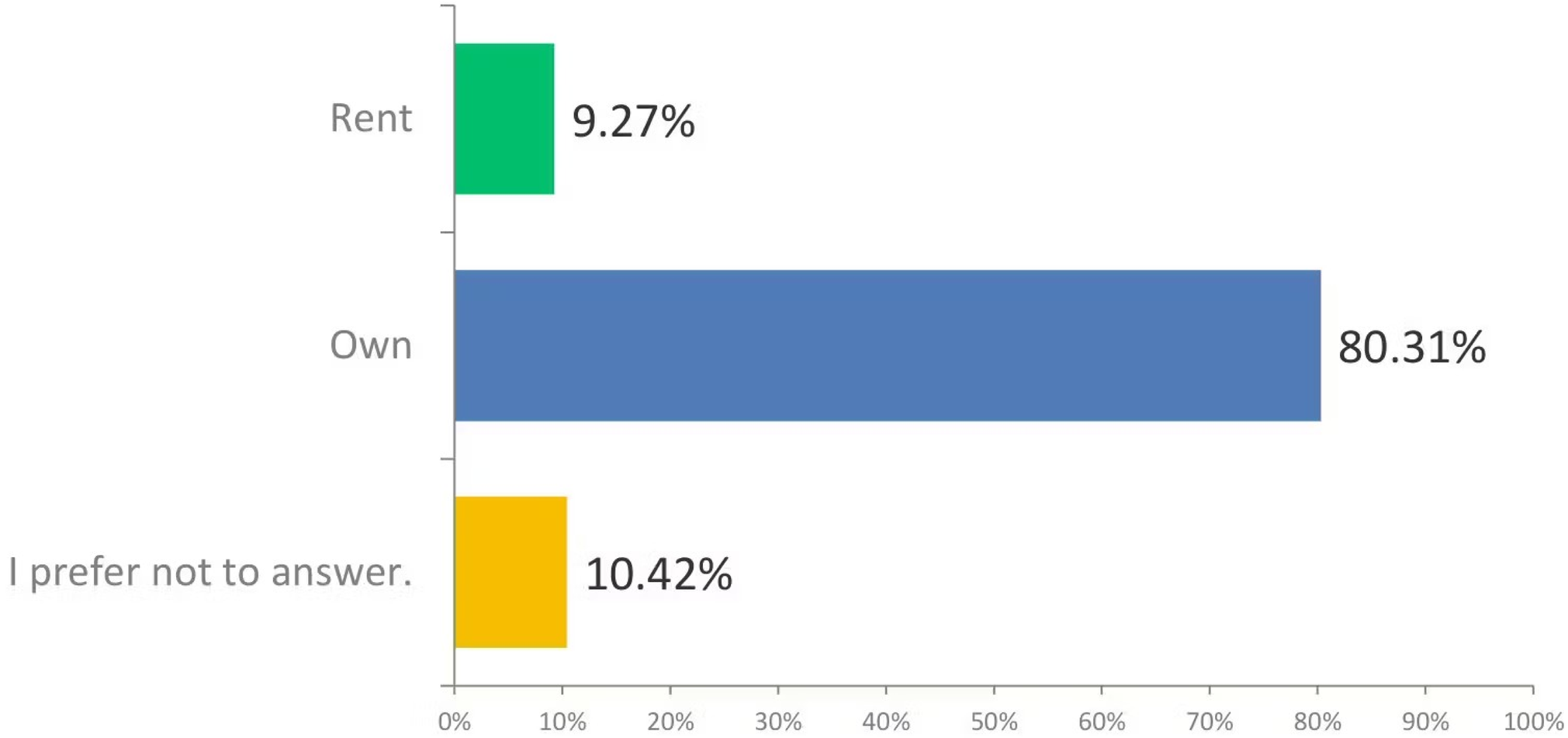
Mentimeter

Q26: Do you rent or own your home?

Answered: 259 Skipped: 32



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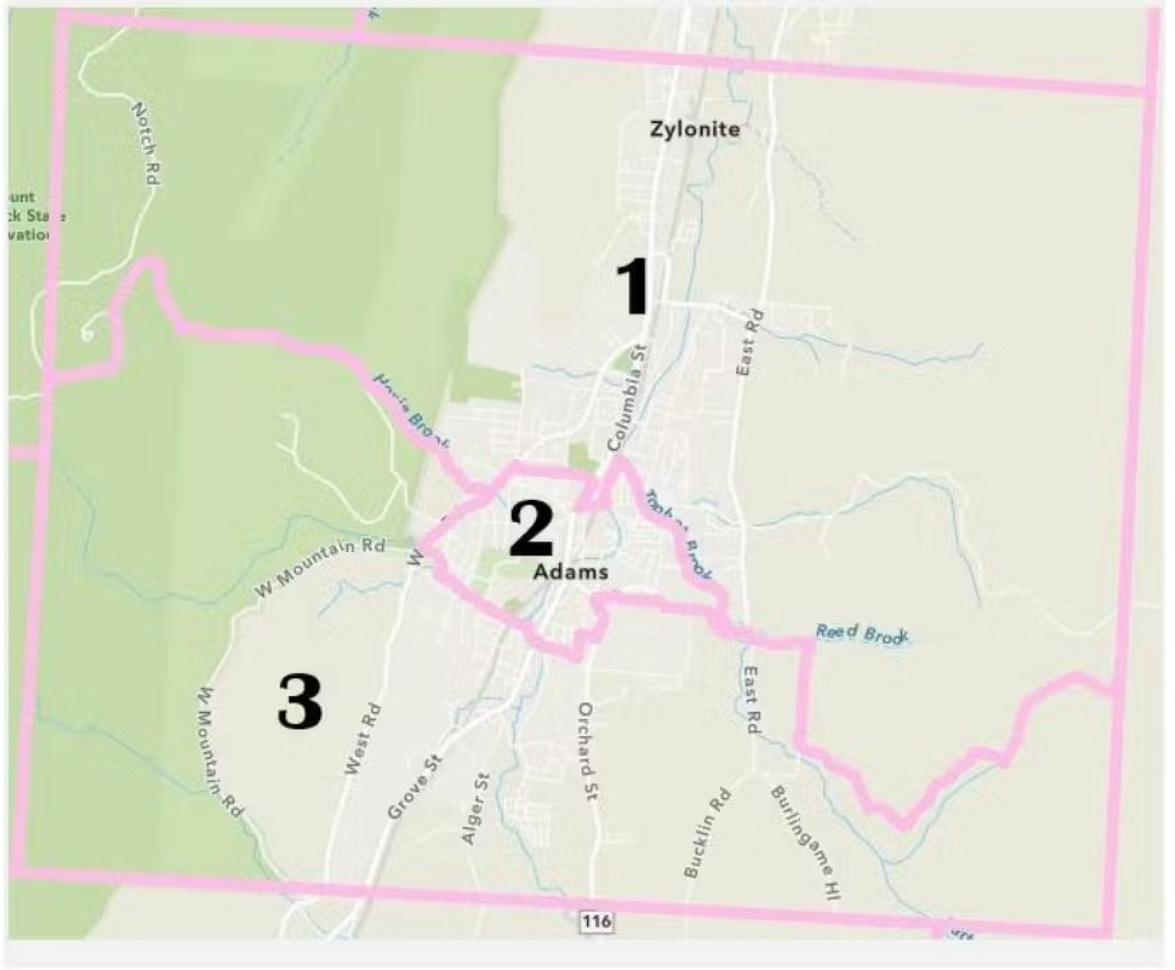
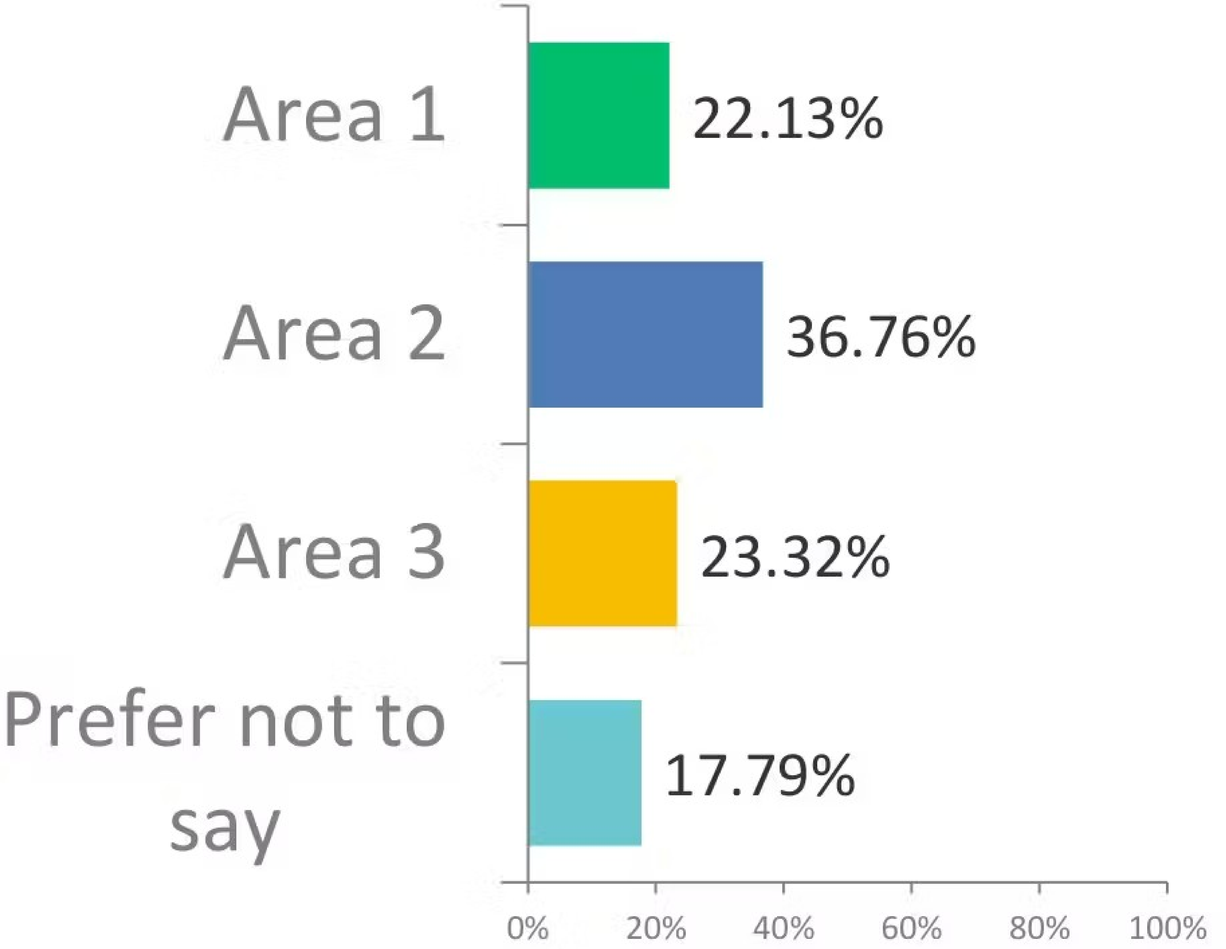
Q27: From the map above, which area of Adams do you live?

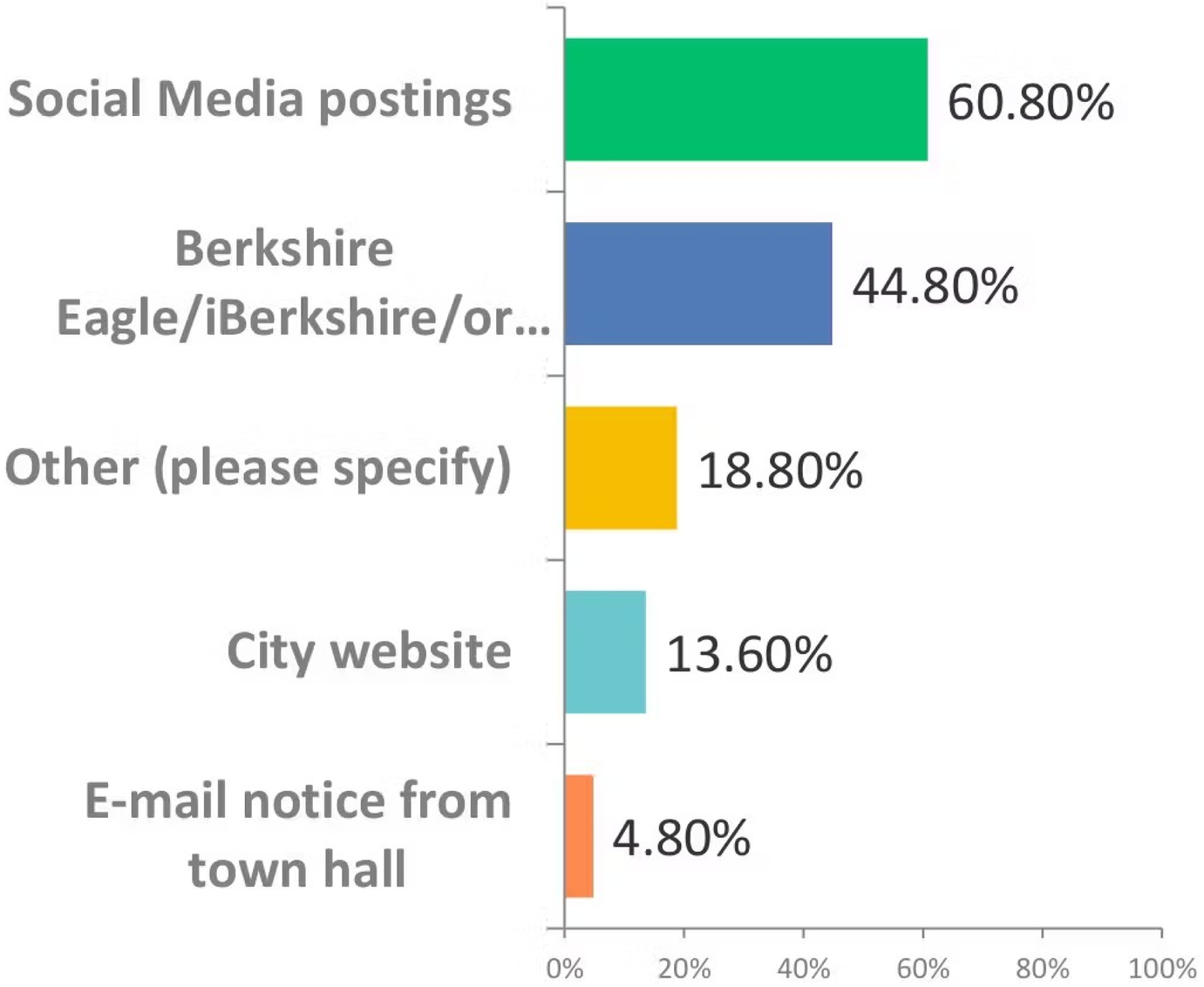
Answered: 253 Skipped: 38





Q28: How do you get information about Parks and Recreation/open space issues in Adams?

Other included:	
I don't / rarely get information	15
Family / Friends	8
Word of mouth	5
Social Medida / Internet Search	3
Glen newsletter	3
Flyers	3
Local news / publications	2
Town Hall / Town Website	2



Answered: 250 Skipped: 41

Mentimeter
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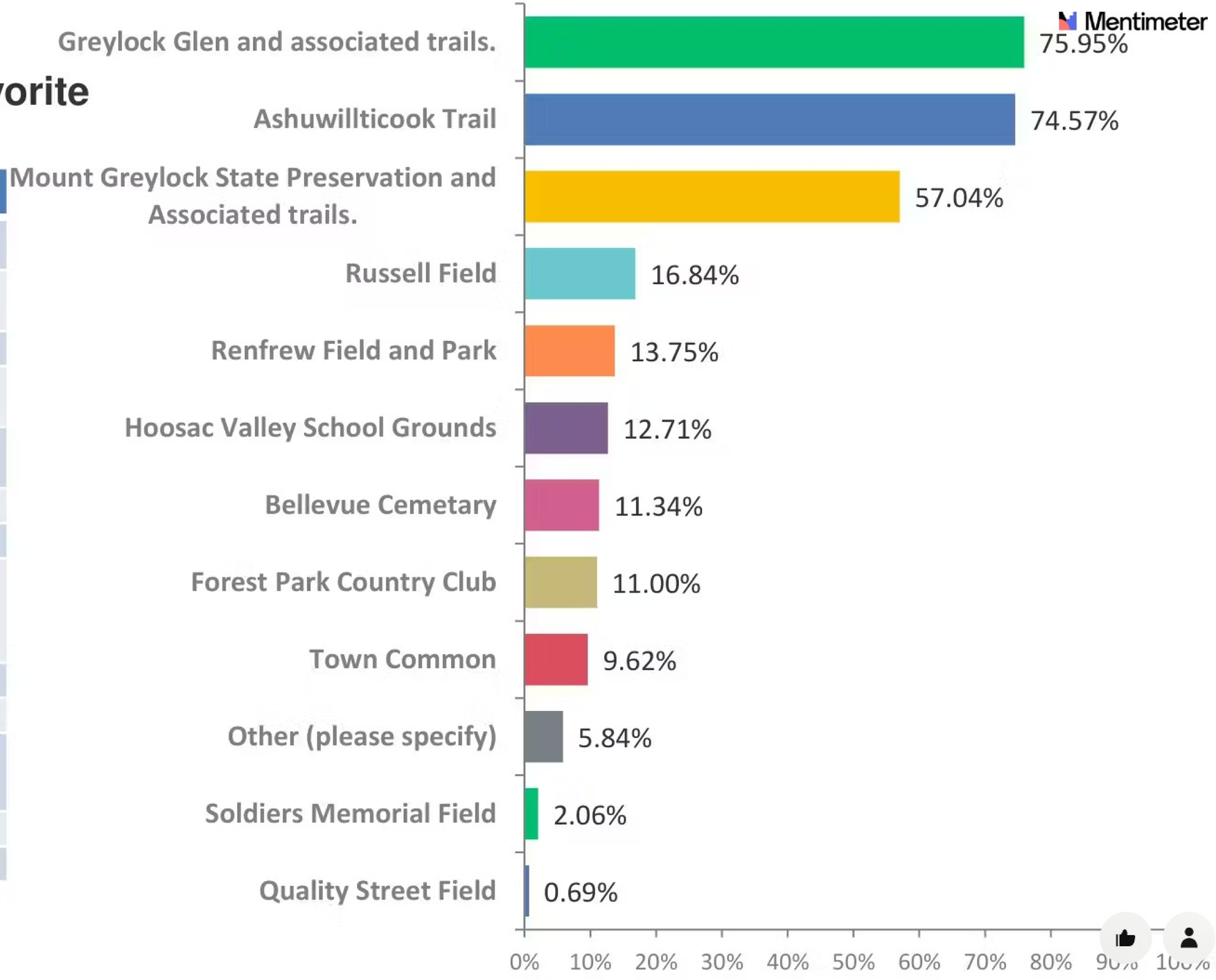
Q1: Choose your top 3 favorite outdoor sites in Adams.

Other included:	
Maple Street Cemetery	2
Adams Visitor Center / Council on Aging	2
Valley Street Field	1
Trails near the old Greenhouse	1
Summer, Hoosac, and Park Streets	1
St. Stans playground	1
Skatepark	1
Private landowners who allow us to hunt ride at and snowmobiles	1
Parks	1
Oak turn area	1
jogging in Cheshire siting outdoor at my home	1
Bellevue Falls	1
Appalachain Trail	1

Answered: 291 Skipped: 0



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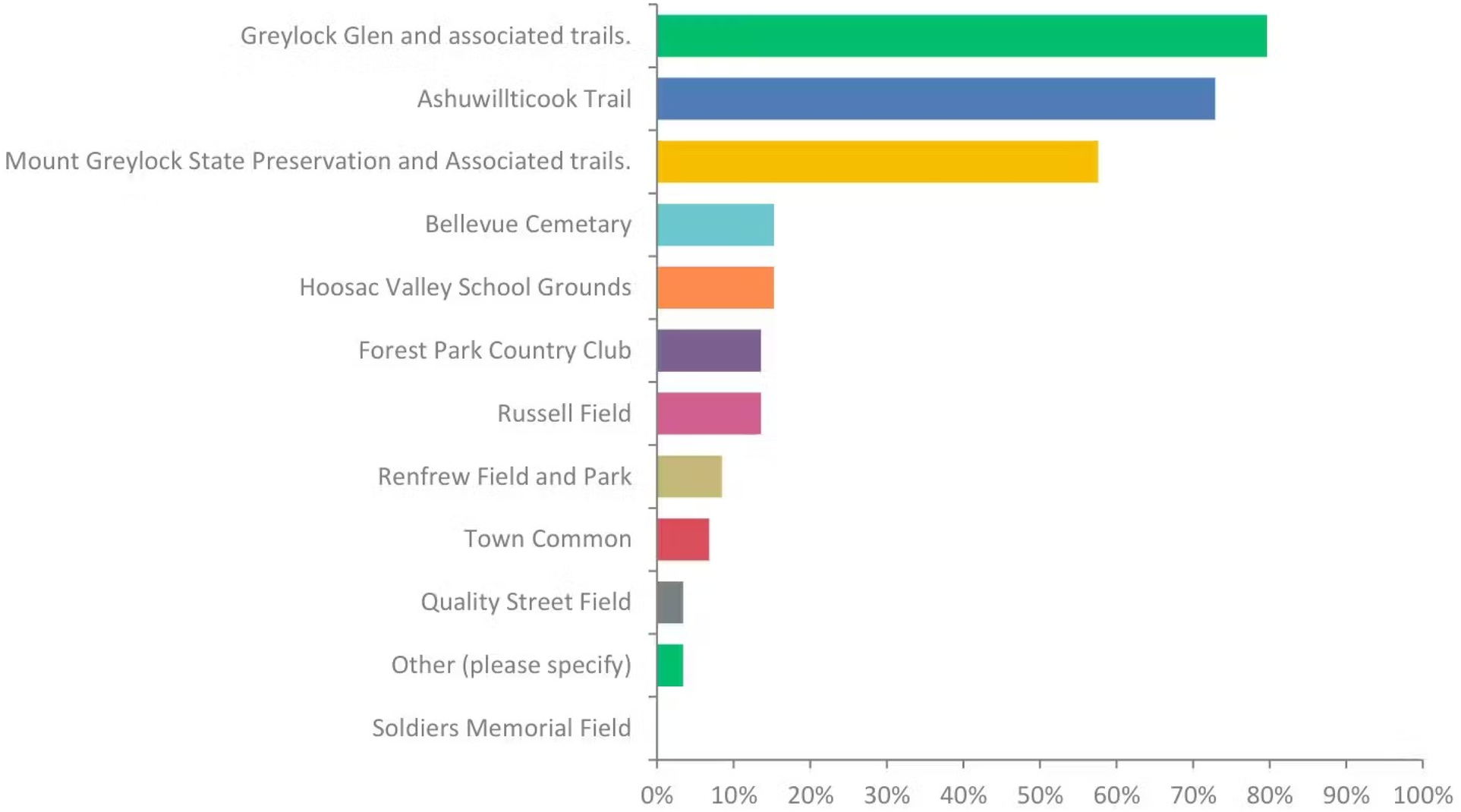
Mentimeter

Q1: Choose your top 3 favorite outdoor sites in Adams. (South Neighborhoods)

Answered: 59 Skipped: 0



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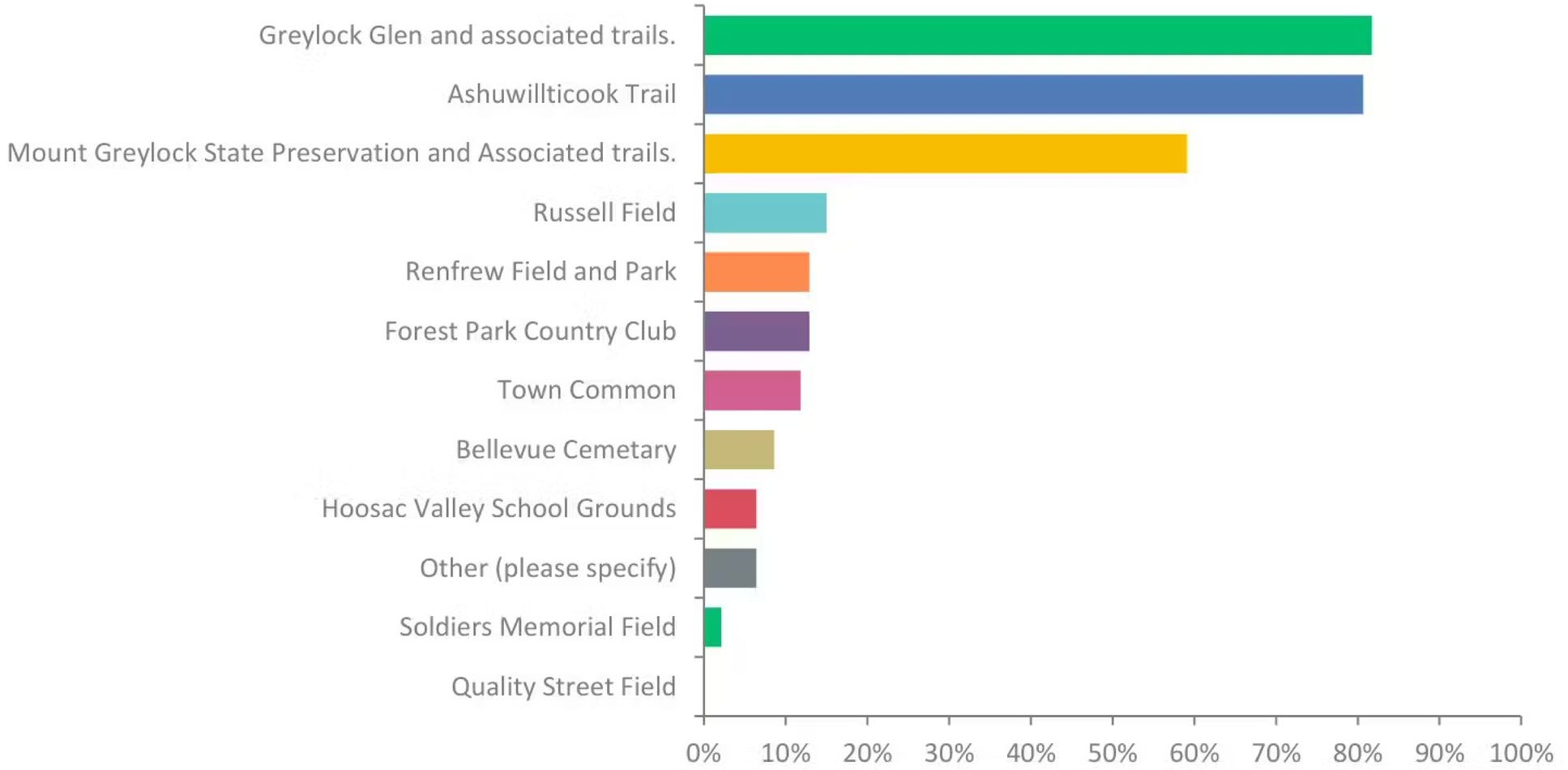
Mentimeter

Q1: Choose your top 3 favorite outdoor sites in Adams. (Downtown)

Answered: 93 Skipped: 0



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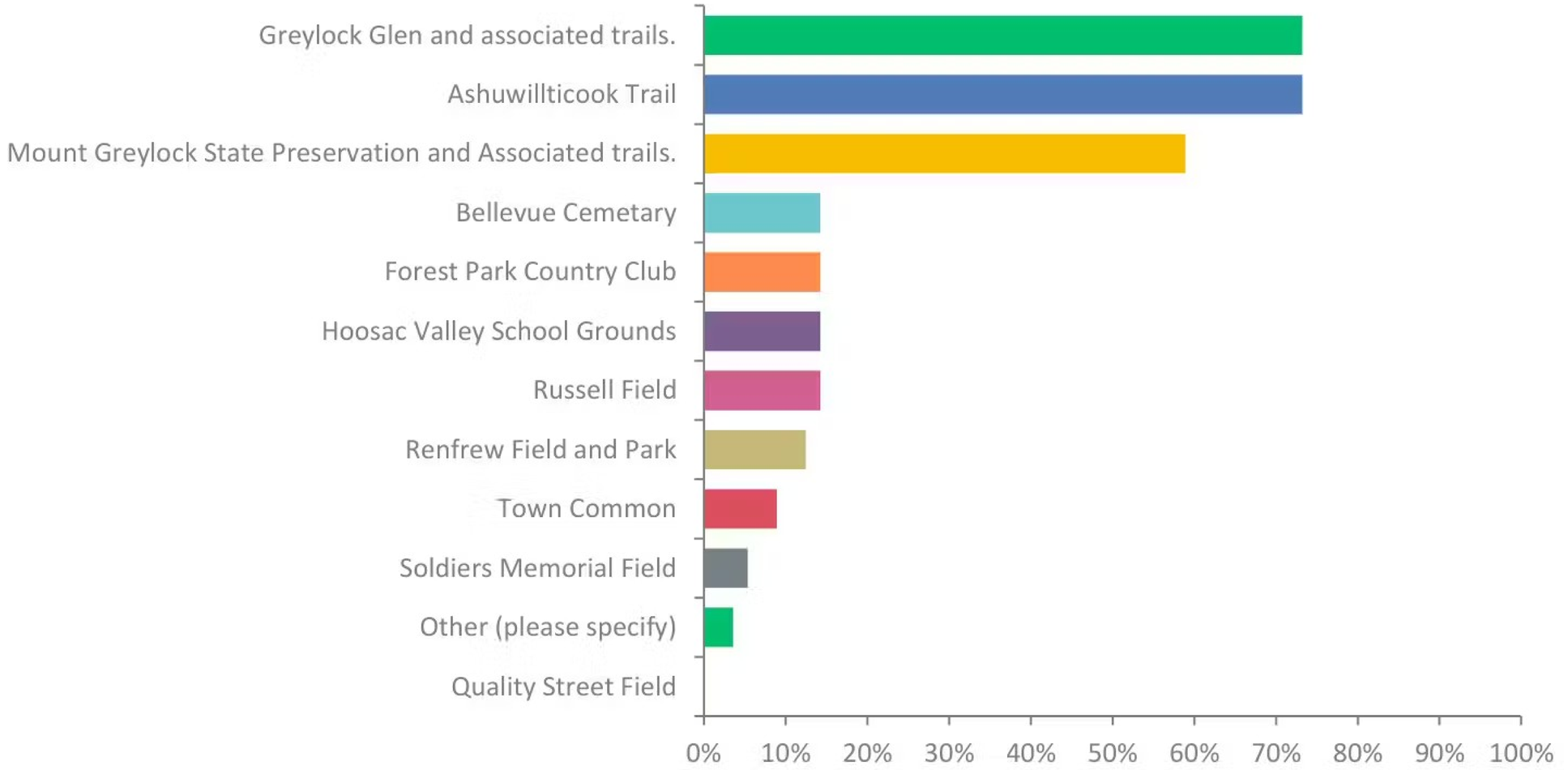
Mentimeter

Q1: Choose your top 3 favorite outdoor sites in Adams. (North)

Answered: 56 Skipped: 0



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Question 2 What is your favorite place, and what suggestions do you have for improving your favorite outdoor places in Adams?

Trail Maintenance and Enhancement	35
Visitor and Recreation Amenities	33
Community and Cultural Programming	22
Greylock Glen Projects	20
Safety and Accessibility	19
Sports Facility Improvements	17
Recreation Area Maintenance	15
Conservation and Environmental Preservation	13
Recreation Area Promotion	13
Transportation Infrastructure	10
Landscape and Public Space Improvement	9
Tourism and Economic Development	9
Mountain Biking Trails	8
Vehicle and Snowmobiling Access	7
Playground Development	6
Outdoor Recreation Facilities	5
Community Garden and Recreation Space	4
Family-Friendly Activities	4
Mount Greylock Sites	4
Land Use and Development Limitations	3
Visitor Services	3

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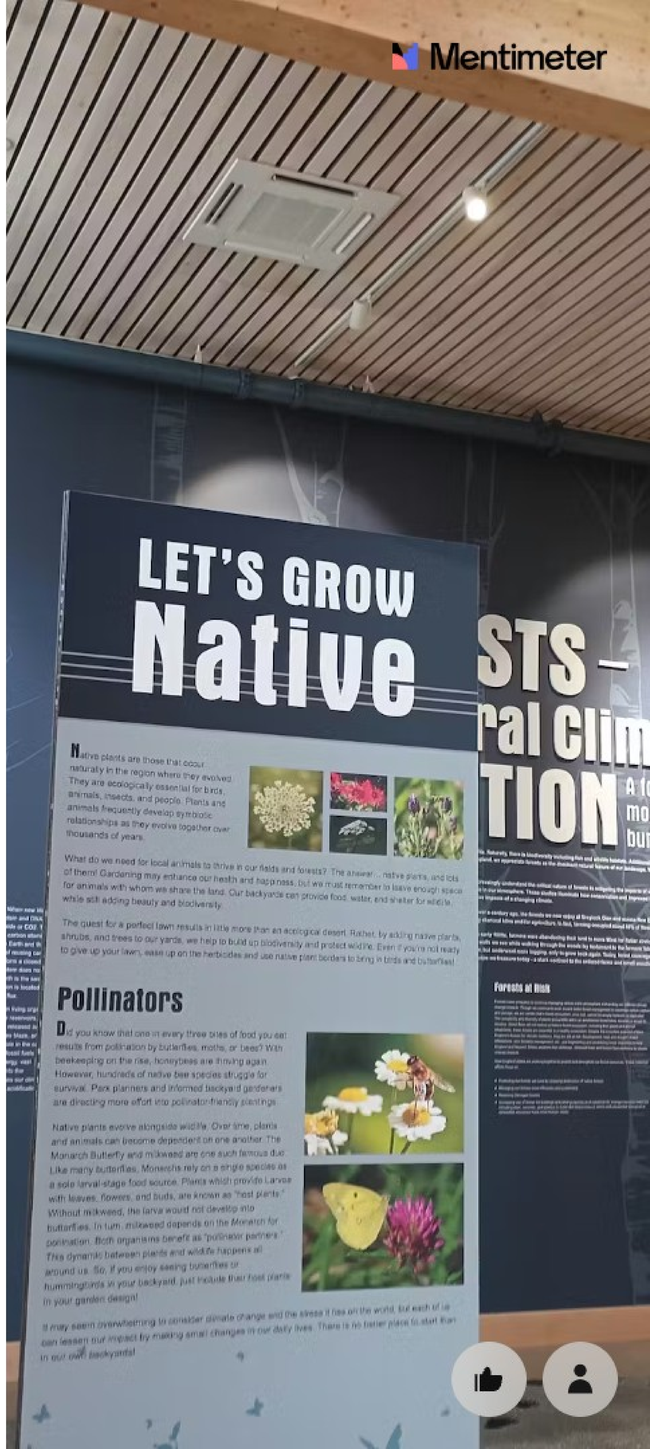
Question 2: Some specific things we heard from the community were-

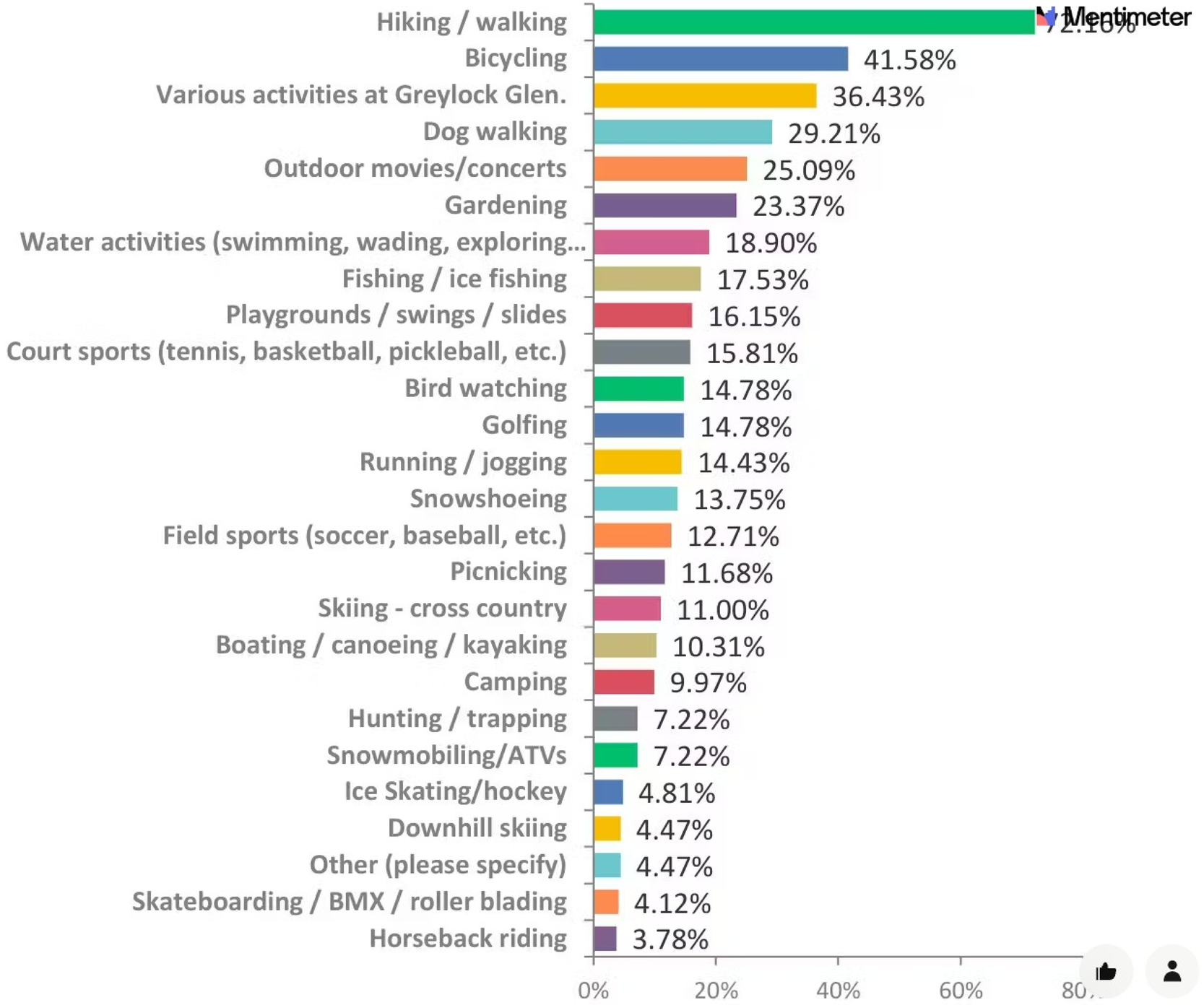
- Space for a frisbee golf course
- It would be great if something could be done about those bike riders who go too fast on the bike trail.
- Sto the e-bikes flying on the bike path
- A Zip Line
- Easier access to Greylock from Adams
- The Trail is great but what about s place such as the Adams Senior Center where exercise equipment could be placed outside to be used either before or after walking the trail
- Mount Greylock and Greylock Glen improvements for snowmobiling
- Renfrew field to make the basketball court better and the football field beter
- Renfrew Park, and I have a suggestion of fixing the basketball hoops and repaintina the court.



Q3: Choose up to five (5) activities that you enjoy doing in Adams.

Answered: 291 Skipped: 0

Other included:	
Walking	2
Street Fairs	2
Astronomical observing	1
just going around with friends to some places.	1
Volleyball	1
Paragliding	1
Outdoor Yoga	1
Butterflying	1
Ramblefest & Thunderfest	1
Keep our community free of illegal dumping, with outreach and educational programs.	1



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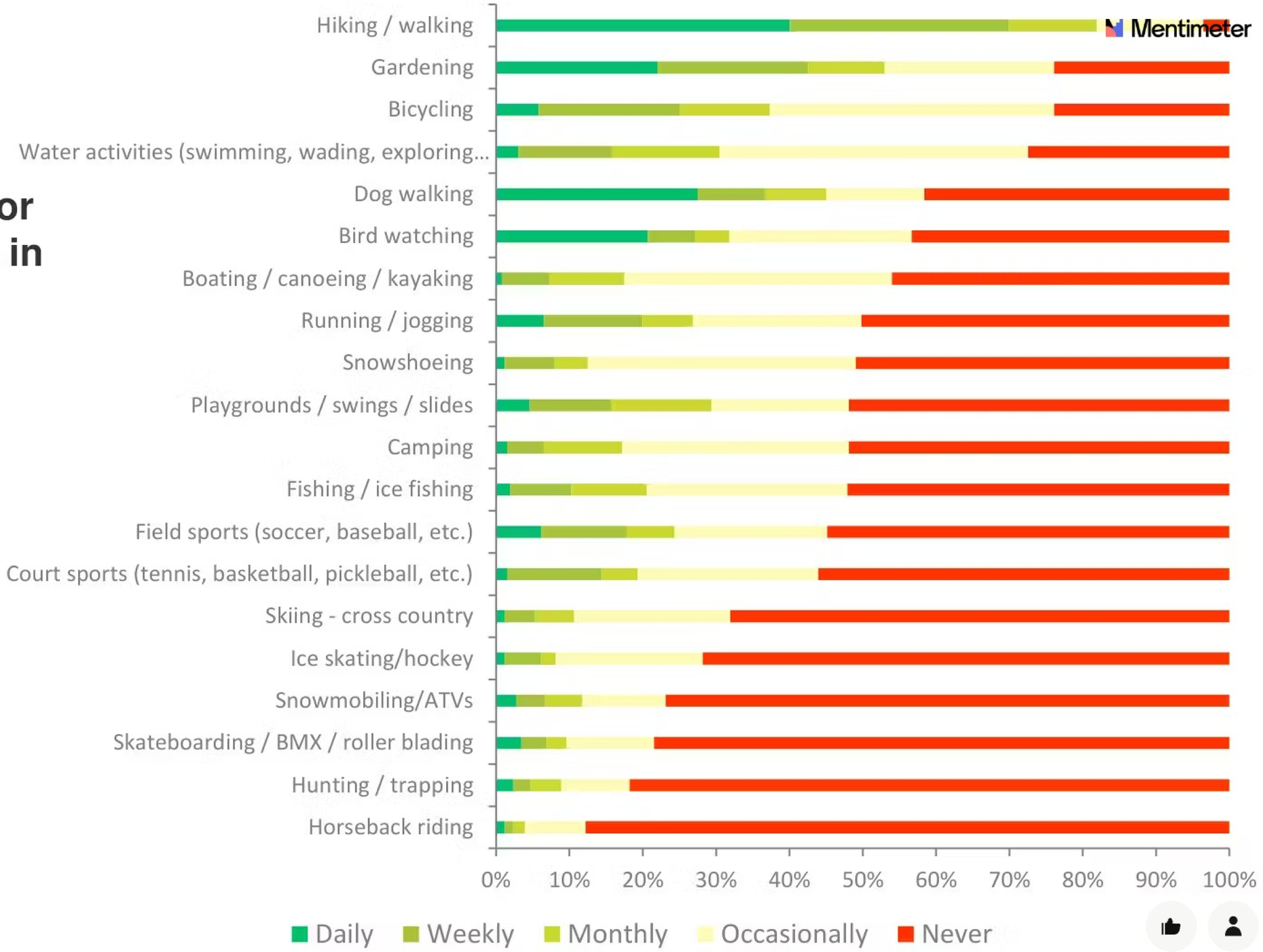
Q4: How often do you or your family participate in the following outdoor activities in Adams?

Answered: 291 Skipped: 0



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Q4: How often do you or your family participate in the following outdoor activities in Adams?

Answered: 291 Skipped: 0

	DAILY	WEEKLY	MONTHLY	OCCASIONALLY	NEVER
Hiking / walking	40.07% 113	29.79% 84	12.06% 34	14.54% 41	3.55% 10
Gardening	22.01% 59	20.52% 55	10.45% 28	23.13% 62	23.88% 64
Bicycling	5.80% 16	19.20% 53	12.32% 34	38.77% 107	23.91% 66
Water activities (swimming, wading, exploring shorelines/creeks)	3.01% 8	12.78% 34	14.66% 39	42.11% 112	27.44% 73
Dog walking	27.48% 72	9.16% 24	8.40% 22	13.36% 35	41.60% 109
Bird watching	20.69% 54	6.51% 17	4.60% 12	24.90% 65	43.30% 113
Boating / canoeing / kayaking	0.76% 2	6.46% 17	10.27% 27	36.50% 96	46.01% 121
Running / jogging	6.51% 17	13.41% 35	6.90% 18	22.99% 60	50.19% 131
Snowshoeing	1.14% 3	6.84% 18	4.56% 12	36.50% 96	50.95% 134

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Q4: How often do you or your family participate in the following outdoor activities in Adams? (Continued)

Answered: 291 Skipped: 0

Playgrounds / swings / slides	4.58% 12	11.07% 29	13.74% 36	18.70% 49	51.91% 136
Camping	1.53% 4	4.96% 13	10.69% 28	30.92% 81	51.91% 136
Fishing / ice fishing	1.90% 5	8.37% 22	10.27% 27	27.38% 72	52.09% 137
Field sports (soccer, baseball, etc.)	6.18% 16	11.58% 30	6.56% 17	20.85% 54	54.83% 142
Court sports (tennis, basketball, pickleball, etc.)	1.52% 4	12.88% 34	4.92% 13	24.62% 65	56.06% 148
Skiing - cross country	1.14% 3	4.18% 11	5.32% 14	21.29% 56	68.06% 179
Ice skating/hockey	1.16% 3	5.02% 13	1.93% 5	20.08% 52	71.81% 186
Snowmobiling/ATVs	2.75% 7	3.92% 10	5.10% 13	11.37% 29	76.86% 196
Skateboarding / BMX / roller blading	3.46% 9	3.46% 9	2.69% 7	11.92% 31	78.46% 204
Hunting / trapping	2.33% 6	2.33% 6	4.26% 11	9.30% 24	81.78% 211
Horseback riding	1.18% 3	1.18% 3	1.57% 4	8.27% 21	3 223

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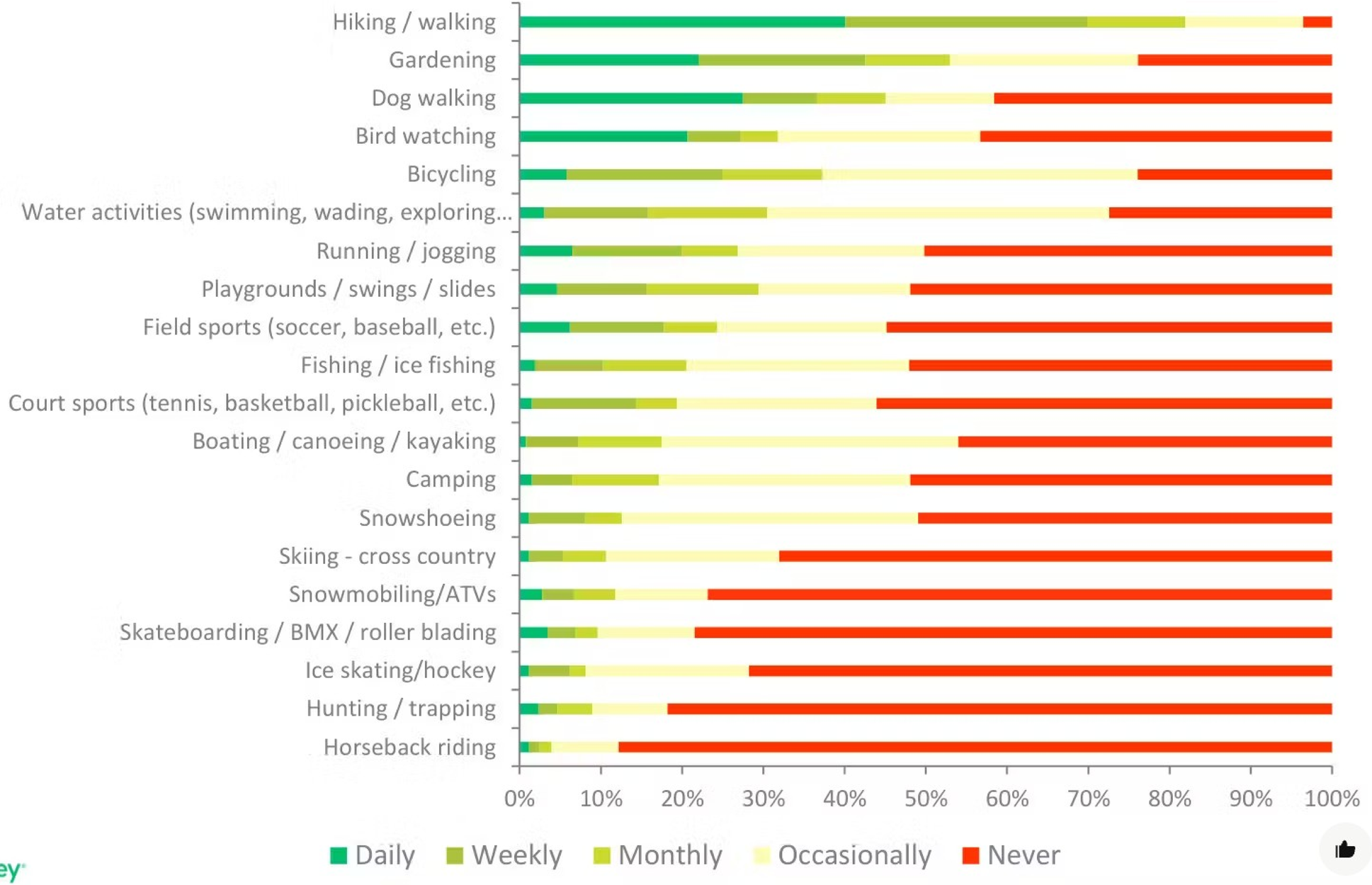
Q4: How often do you or your family participate in the following outdoor activities in Adams? (Weighted Averages)

Mentimeter

Answered: 291 Skipped: 0



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Q5: How would you rate each of the following in your neighborhood?

Answered: 288 Skipped: 3

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Mentimeter

Q5: How would you rate each of the following in your neighborhood?

Answered: 288 Skipped: 3

	VERY POOR	POOR	AVERAGE	GOOD	VERY GOOD
Quality of city-owned parks and playgrounds.	6.38% 18	15.96% 45	52.13% 147	20.21% 57	5.32% 15
Ability to walk to a park or playground.	3.21% 9	11.79% 33	30.36% 85	36.79% 103	17.86% 50
Ability to bike for leisure, exercise, or transit	2.50% 7	4.64% 13	22.86% 64	36.07% 101	33.93% 95
Ability to visit a park with a quiet natural setting.	2.47% 7	13.07% 37	28.27% 80	28.62% 81	27.56% 78
Ability to walk for leisure or exercise.	1.77% 5	4.24% 12	23.32% 66	36.40% 103	34.28% 97
Ability for you or your children to participate in a sports or exercise program.	1.53% 4	11.07% 29	40.84% 107	29.01% 76	17.56% 46

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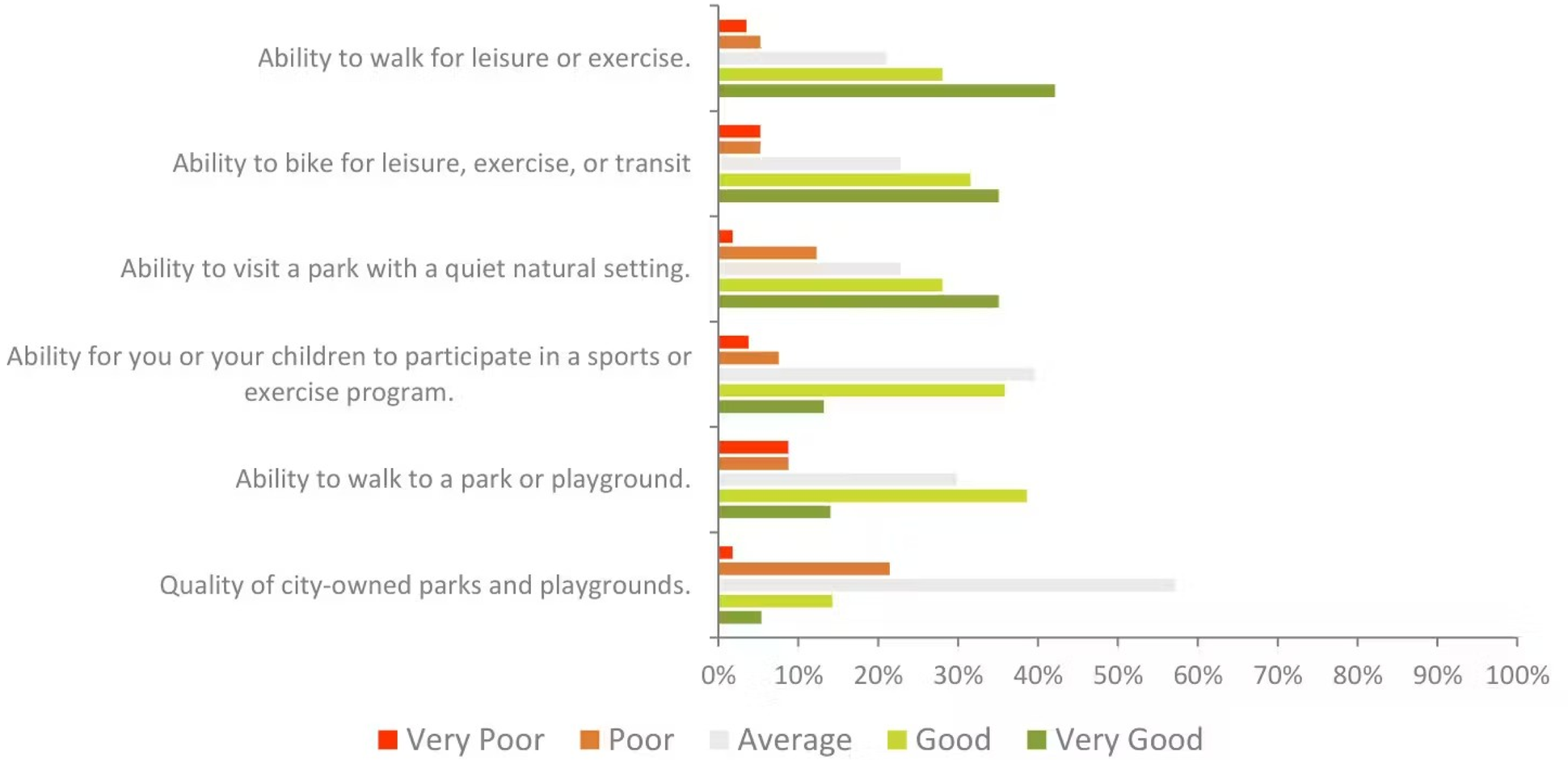
Q5: How would you rate each of the following in your neighborhood? (South)

Answered: 59 Skipped: 0



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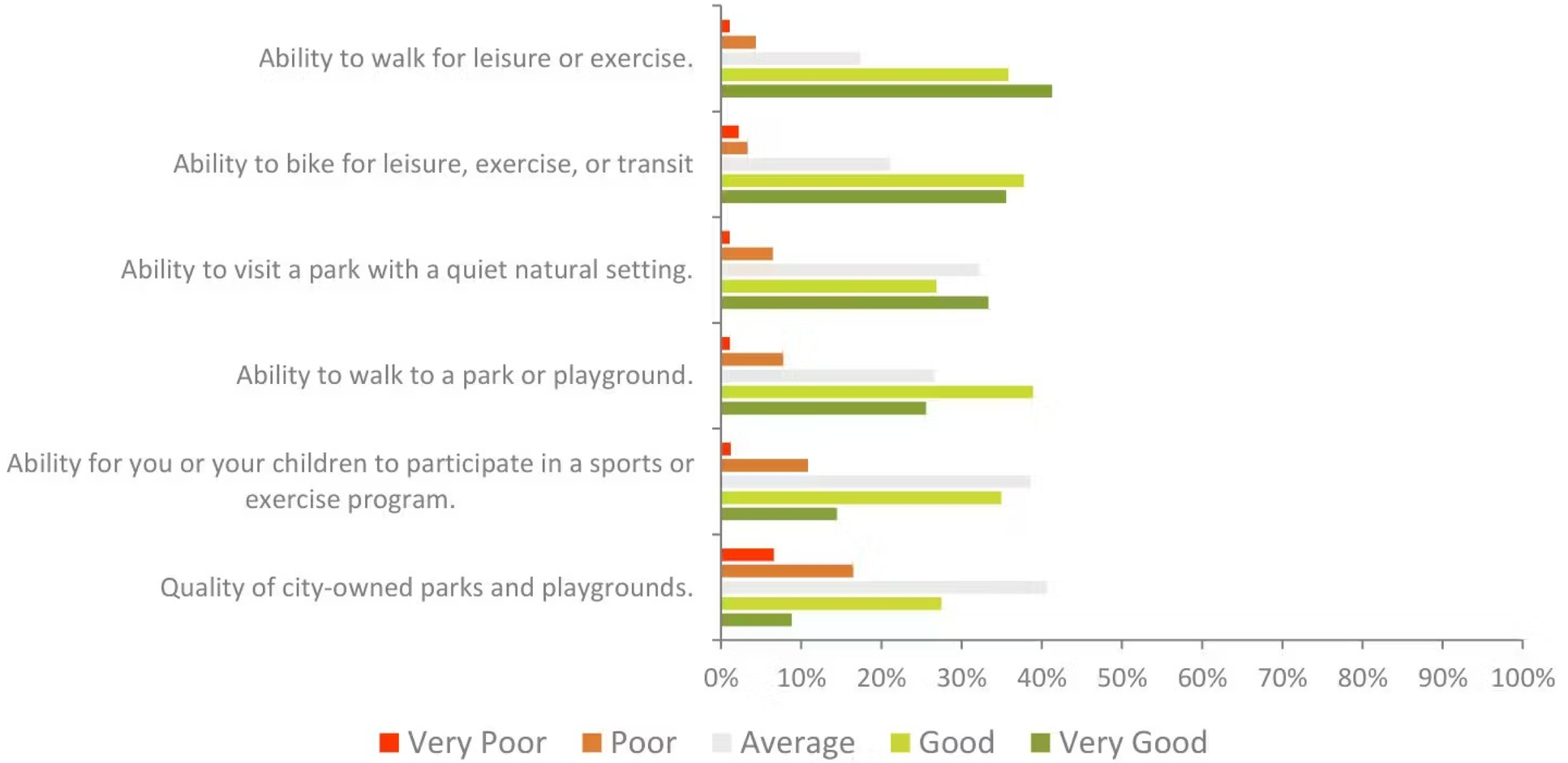
Q5: How would you rate each of the following in your neighborhood? (Downtown)

Answered: 93 Skipped: 0



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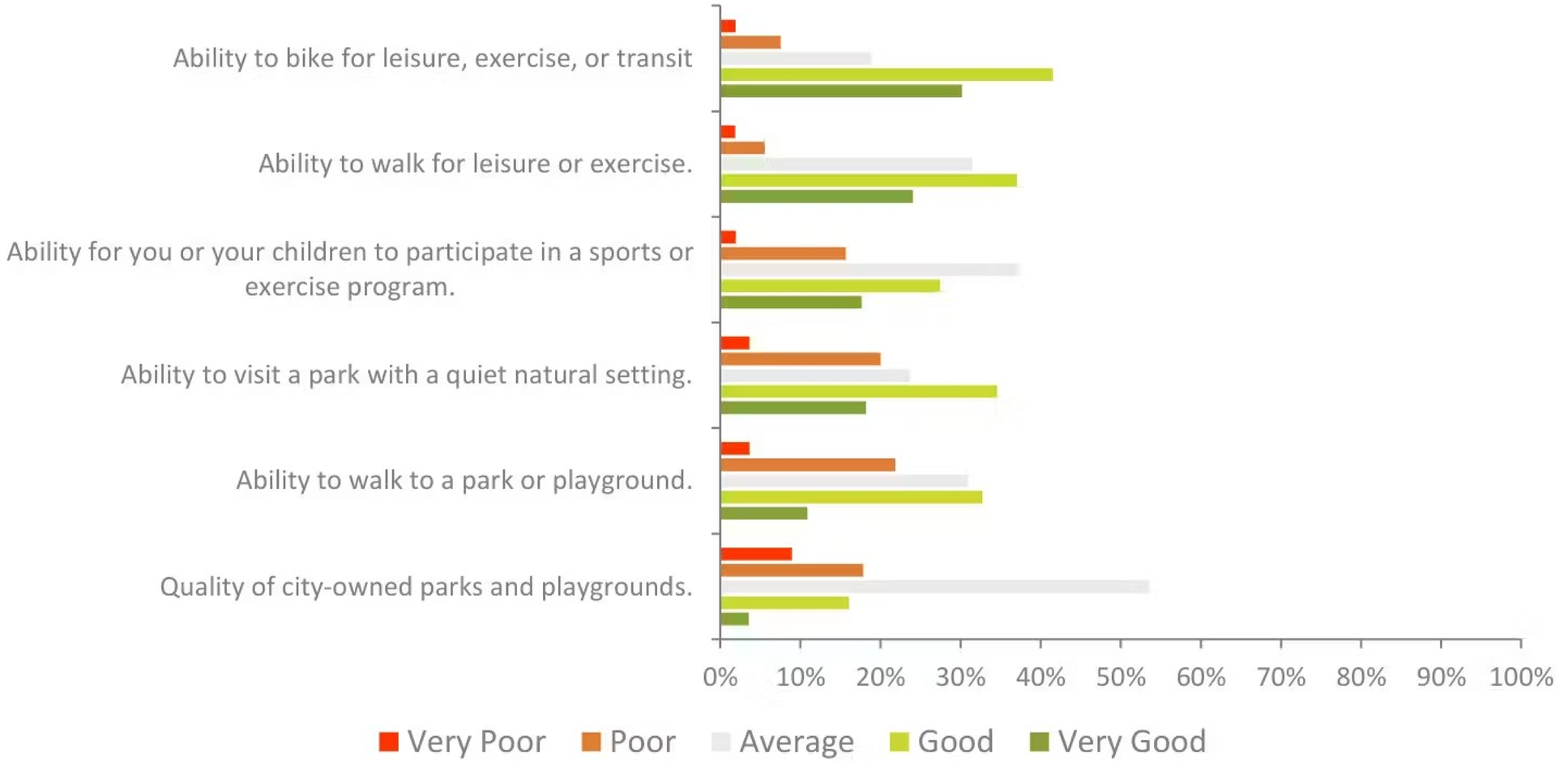
Mentimeter

Q5: How would you rate each of the following in your neighborhood? (North)

Answered: 56 Skipped: 0



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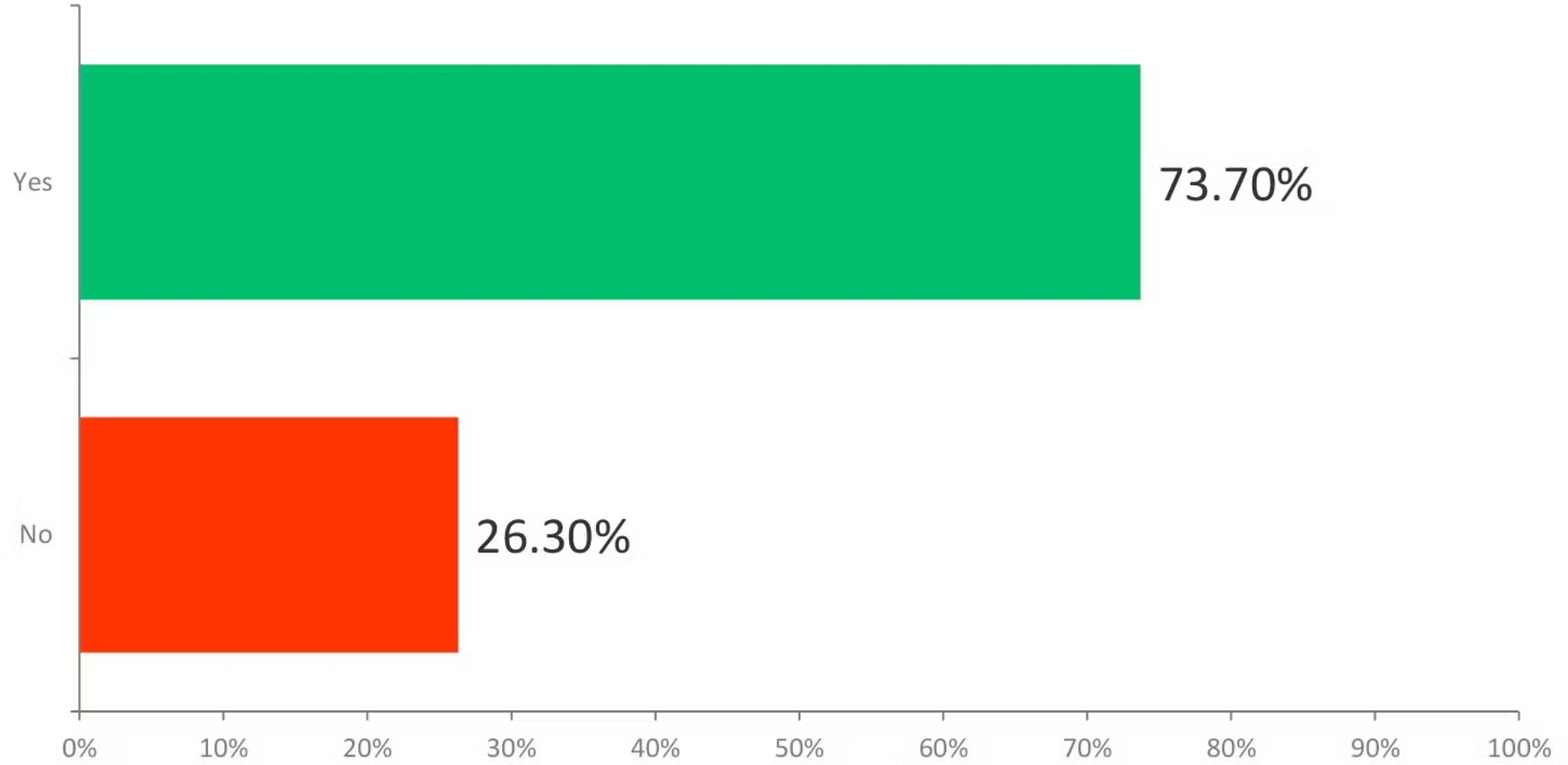
Mentimeter

Q6: Can you walk or bike to your preferred park or open space?

Answered: 289 Skipped: 2



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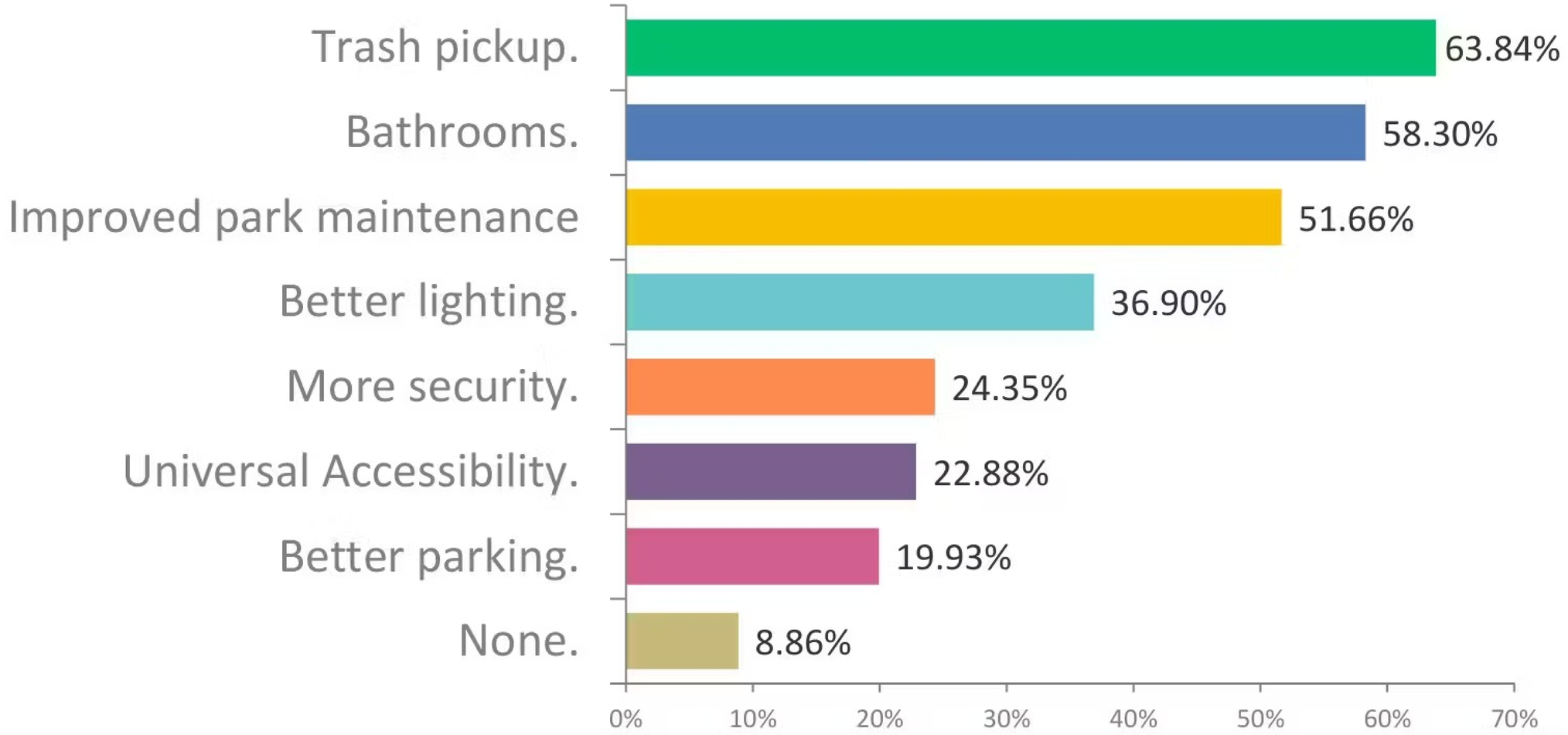
Mentimeter

Q7: Choose all relevant/necessary improvements to Adams Town parks.

Answered: 271 Skipped: 20



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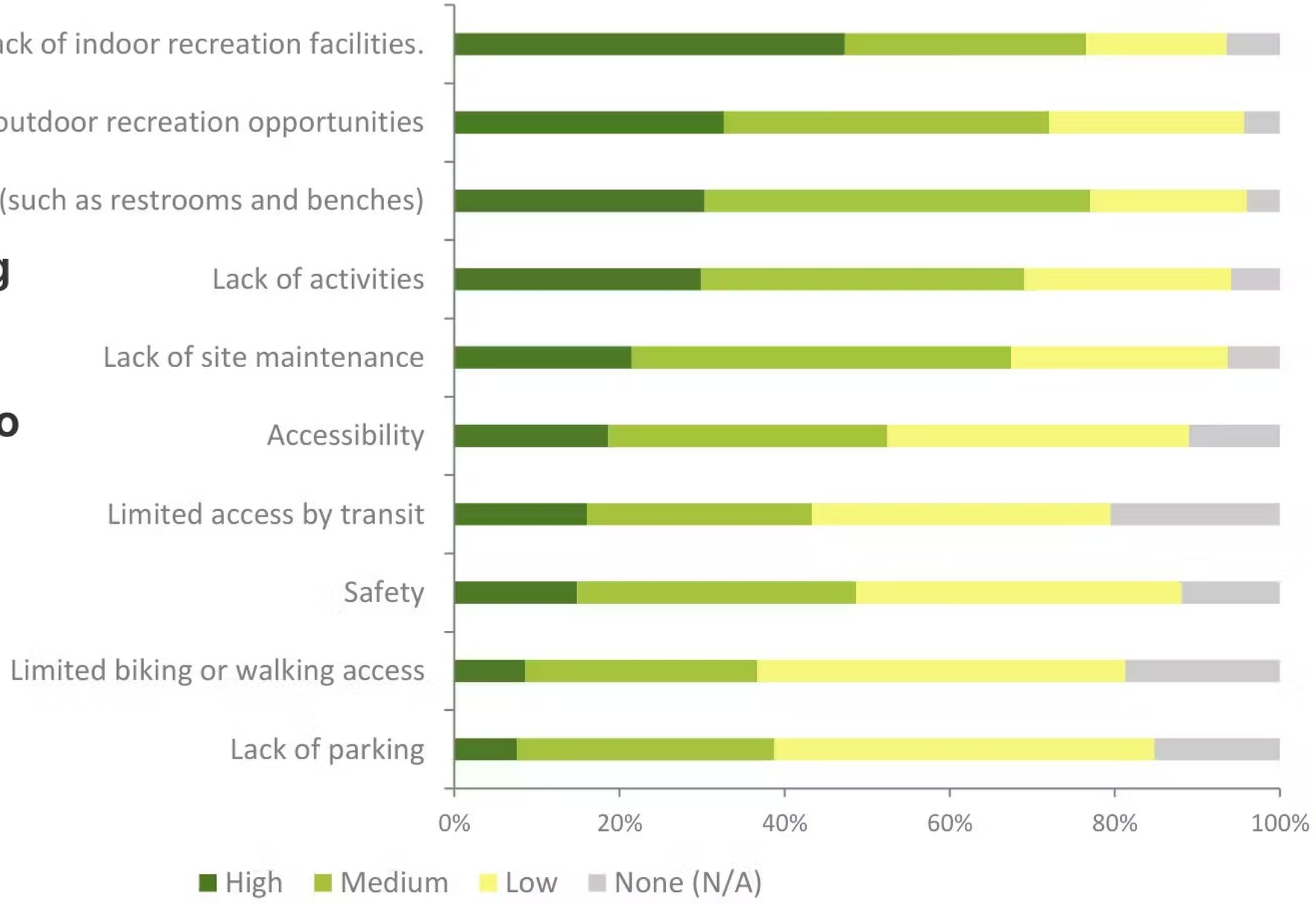
Mentimeter

Q8: Which of the following do you see as the most pressing barriers or concerns when it comes to Adams Outdoor Recreation Facilities (including parks, playing fields, and playgrounds, etc)?



Answered: 285 Skipped: 6

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Q8: Which of the following do you see as the most pressing barriers or concerns when it comes to Adams Outdoor Recreation Facilities (including parks, playing fields, and playgrounds, etc)?

Mentimeter

	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	NONE (N/A)
Lack of indoor recreation facilities.	47.29% 131	29.24% 81	16.97% 47	6.50% 18
Lack of information about outdoor recreation opportunities	32.62% 91	39.43% 110	23.66% 66	4.30% 12
Lack of site amenities (such as restrooms and benches)	30.29% 83	46.72% 128	18.98% 52	4.01% 11
Lack of activities	29.89% 81	39.11% 106	25.09% 68	5.90% 16
Lack of site maintenance	21.48% 58	45.93% 124	26.30% 71	6.30% 17
Accessibility	18.63% 49	33.84% 89	36.50% 96	11.03% 29
Limited access by transit	16.04% 43	27.24% 73	36.19% 97	20.52% 55
Safety	14.87% 40	33.83% 91	39.41% 106	11.90% 32
Limited biking or walking access	8.61% 23	28.09% 75	44.57% 119	18.73% 50
Lack of parking	7.60% 20	31.18% 82	46.01% 121	15.21% 10

Answered: 285 Skipped: 6

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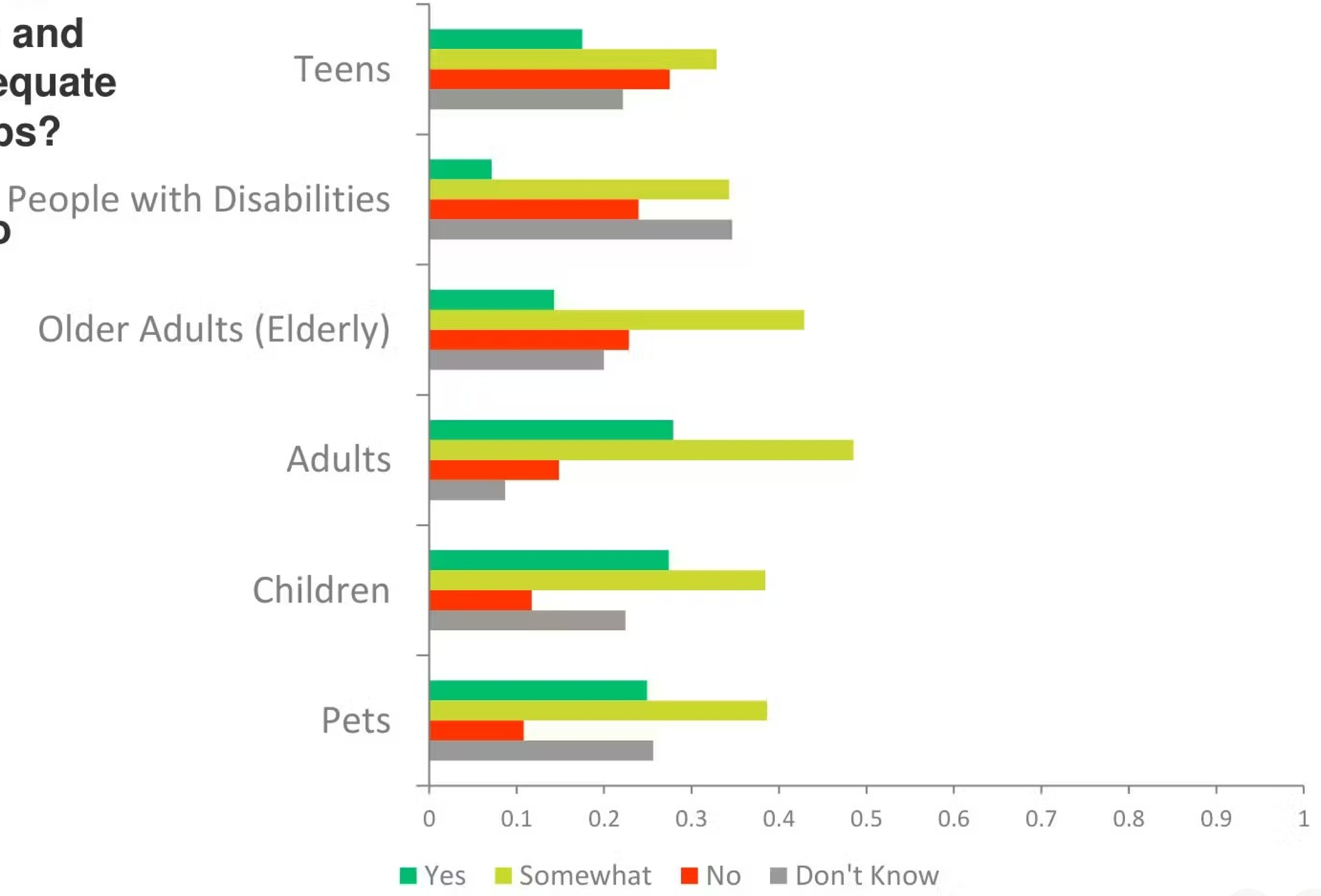
Question 8 other responses.

- study where manpower is be used and reallocate if necessary
- "Learn how to" (skate, XC ski, hike safely, play tennis/pickleball) programs or there used to be a summer Jr Rangers program at the Glen.
- A consistently updated place to find and post events online and paper posting area with time, dates, directions, cost, contact info
- Summer programing for kids offered at the parks that will be listed on town website and at the kiosks around town, so families know what is happening and will be more apt to participate.

Q9: Are existing Outdoor recreational programs and facilities in Adams adequate for the following groups? (Organized by NO responses, Greatest to Least)



Answered: 282 Skipped: 9

Mentimeter
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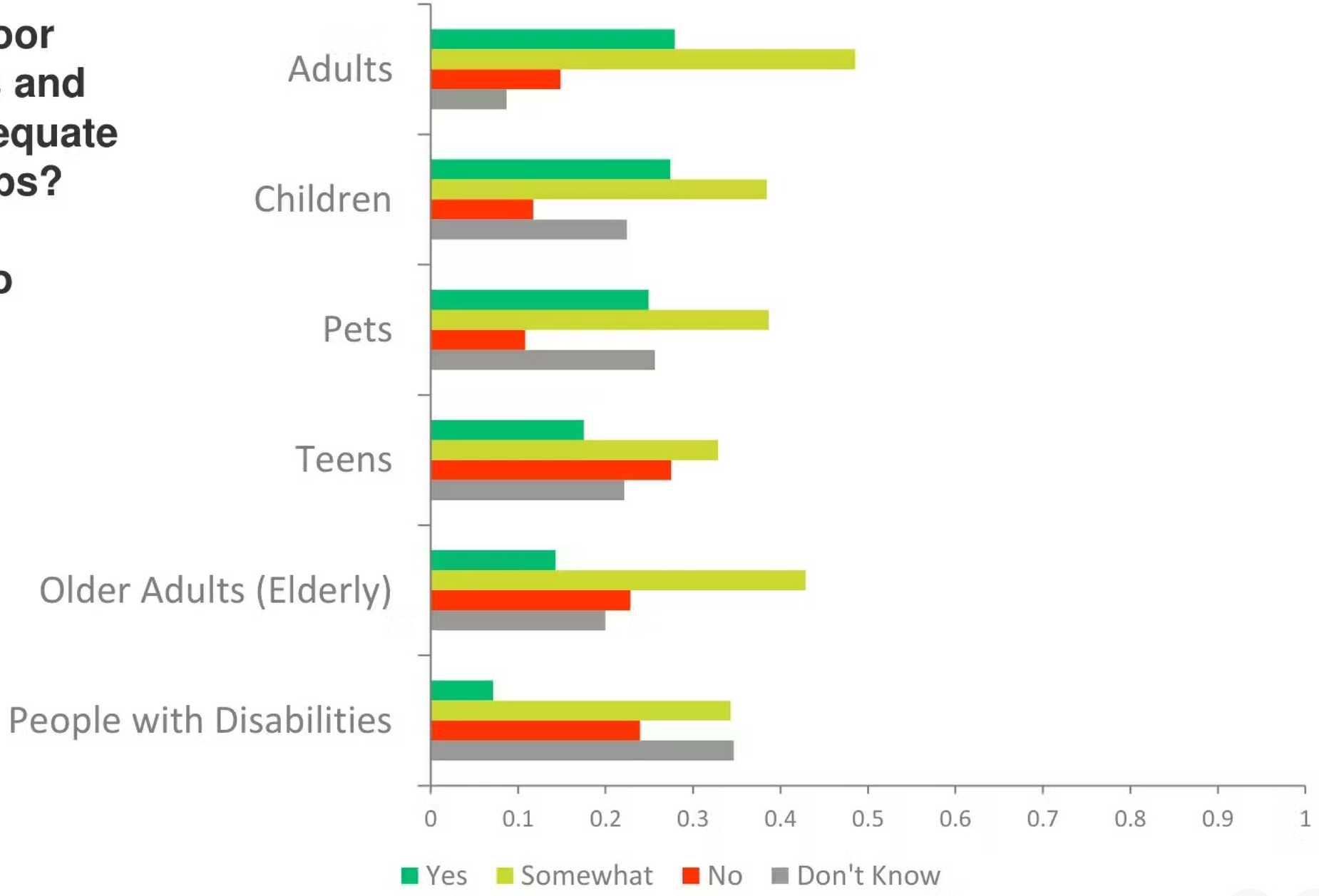
Mentimeter

Q9: Are existing Outdoor recreational programs and facilities in Adams adequate for the following groups? (Organized by Yes responses, Greatest to Least)



Answered: 282 Skipped: 9

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Other included:	
More programming at the Glen	7
Outdoor Arts / Music Festival	5
Indoor sports facility	3
Summer tennis program for kids	2
Youth Center	2
Accessible outdoor programming	2
Adult hiking groups	2
Adams Softball League	1
Educational lectures on history, eco events and demos	1
Guided historic walking tours	1
Court sports	1
More accessible trails on Mount Greylock	1
Campground	1
Junior Ranger Programs	1
Form a community chapter of Keep Massachusetts Beautiful	1
Community Garden	1

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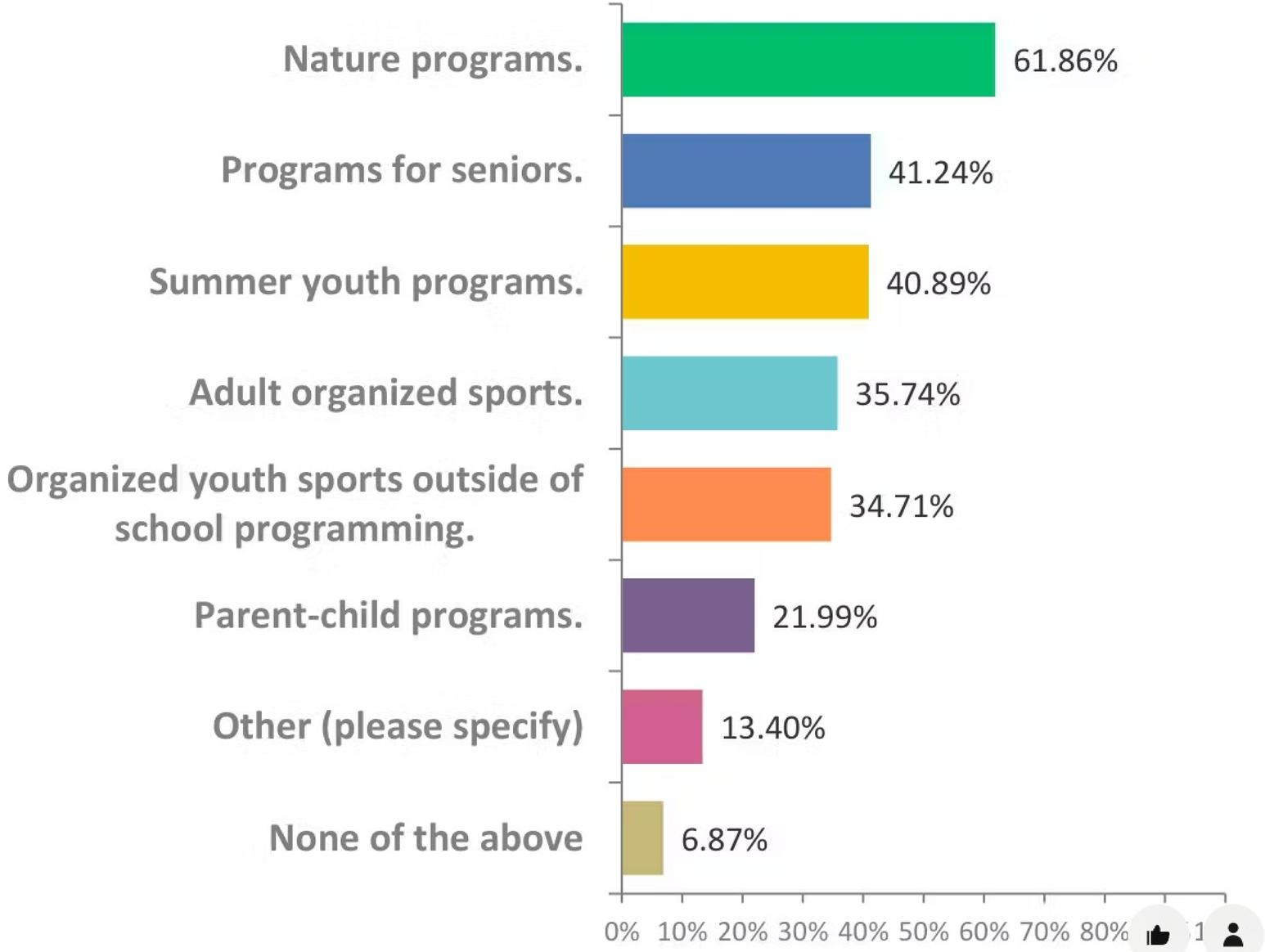
Mentimeter

Q10: Which activities would you like to see more of in Adams?



Other included:	
Court Sports	11
Splash park	6
Park maintenance and upkeep	5
Amenities (bathrooms, water stations, seating, etc)	4
Indoor rec complex	3
Pump track / bike park	2
Campground	2
Outdoor Volleyball	2
Skatepark	2
More nature trails at the Glen	1
Dog park	1
Motorized vehicle access	1
Dining	1
Ice skating	1
Frisbee golf course	1
Fitness park	1
Longer Visitor Center Hours	1
Educational outreach to community	1
Gaga ball court	1

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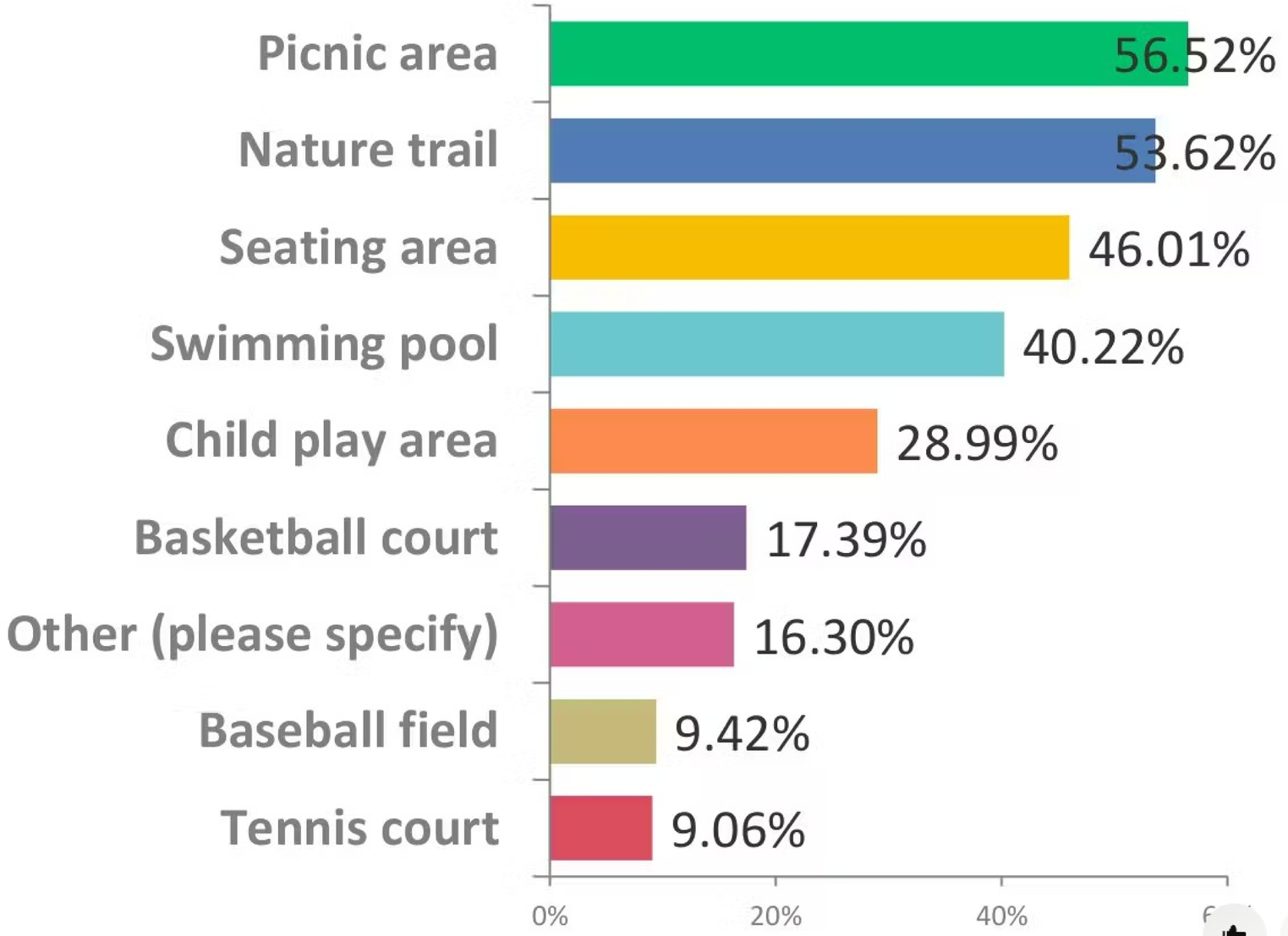
Q11: What features would you like to see in town parks to make them more attractive to visit?

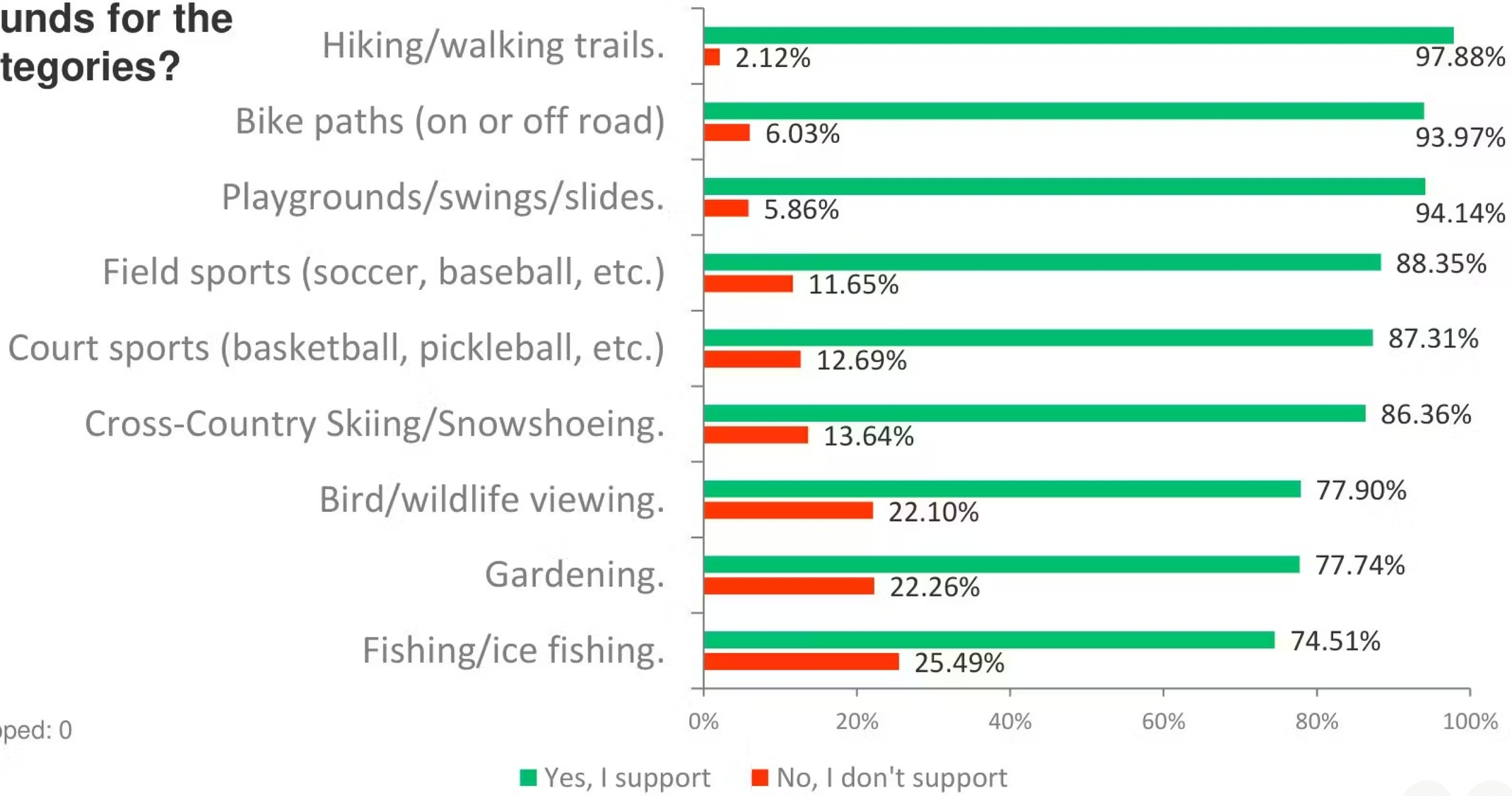
Mentimeter

Answered: 276 Skipped: 15



Mentimeter

Q12: Do you support the use of town Parks and Recreation funds for the following categories?



Answered: 291 Skipped: 0

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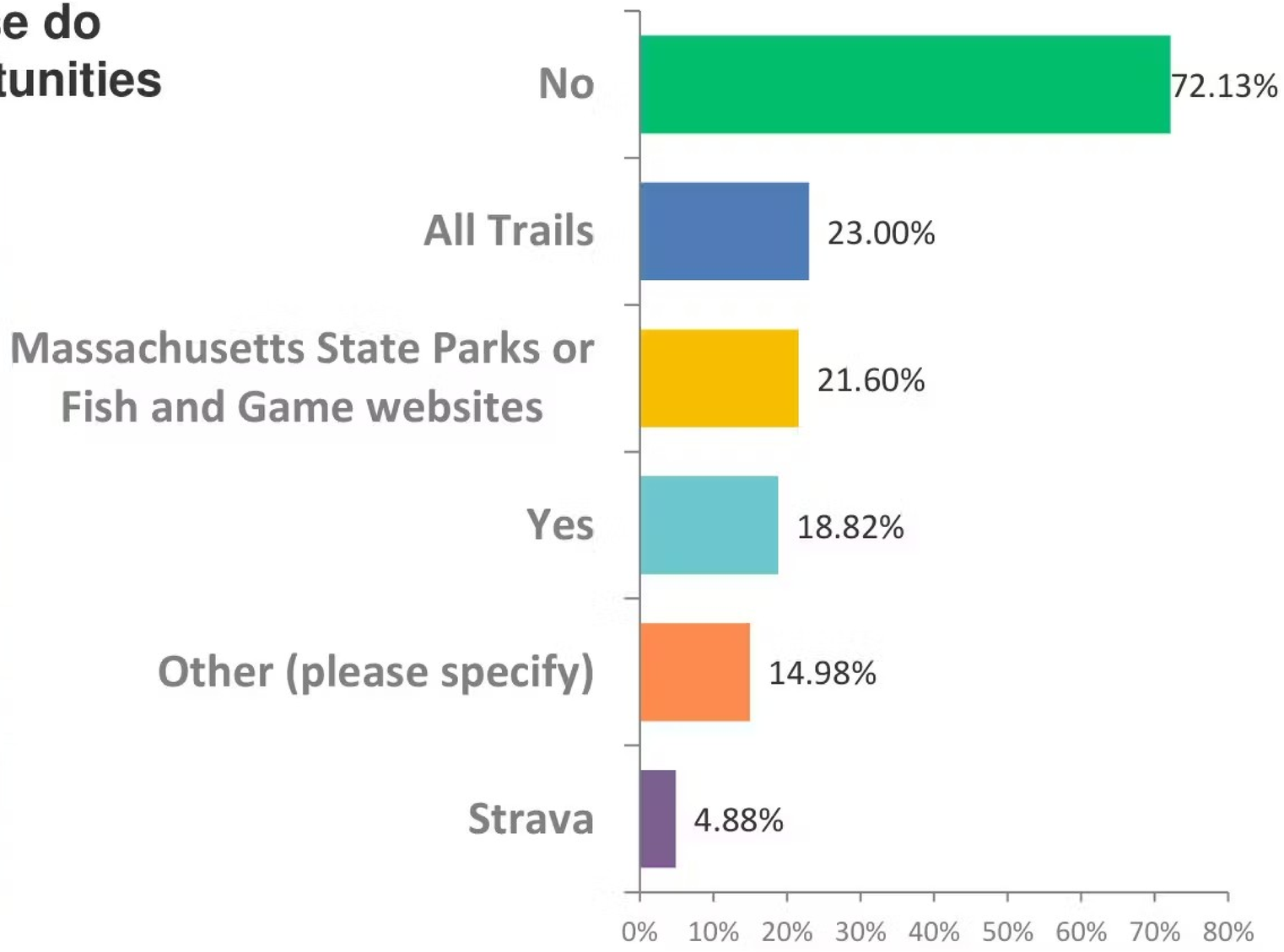
Q13: Are you familiar with the Berkshires Outside website that highlights Berkshire County outdoor offerings? How else do you learn about recreational opportunities in your community?

Other included:	
Social Media / Internet Search	19
Word of mouth	7
Local publications	5
Flyers	3
Visitor Center info board	1
Local Organizations (Trustees, Audubon)	1
I don't	1
Snowmobile Association of Massachusetts	1
Explore Adams	1

Answered: 287 Skipped: 4



Mentimeter
Powered by SurveyMonkey

Question 14 Use this space to tell us about something we missed or other concerns regarding recreation in Adams?

Mentimeter

Love Adams. Born and raised here ProAdams. Thank you!

Making the town more attractive and inviting. Roads are awful. Hotel/motel space is limited.

I think the town needs to do its best to ensure that the rural/bucolic aspects of the town (ex. the farms that comprise significant portions of its outskirts remain in agriculture and aren't lost to development. These properties being in active production have been important historically and will continue to be important into the future. In addition, it would be wonderful to restore the Hoosic River to a more "natural" state. Clearly the flood project significantly altered its natural character and ecological function, but there are ways that it can be enhanced and made into more of an asset for the town. Lastly, Adams is part of a significant wildlife area known as the Berkshire Wildlife Linkage. Community development and town planning should consider not only the needs of the human residents of the town, but should balance these needs with that of the greater ecology to encompass things such as ensuring that wildlife have local habitat and the ability to pass through the town safely.

The glen should encourage, advertise, and accommodate snowmobiling. Snowmobilers spend more money as compared to other groups.

"in town opportunities - in town birding, stargazing, checkers
explore Anthony pool -- could it ever come back?"

Getting people to visit Adams through outdoor recreation is a great goal. However, it needs to be done in such a way that produces revenue for the town and the businesses within the town. Often, outdoor activities are free and we need to be able to get the people that are coming to the town for recreation to actually spend money in the town. There needs to be a plan that links recreation and economic development.

Adams has the potential to be the most attractive recreational town in the Berkshires. In order to create that environment, we must have parks and facilities that are top notch to draw those types of families and individuals in. There should be a plan of action the is culminated by an overall vision fo all of our parks and spaces. They should all speak to one theme that makes the unique but unified. People from the outside should visibly be able to see that we care for our families, our elderly, our disabled, and our general population. Right now there isn't much that makes our spaces and parks feel like we are doing that on purpose. For example, the newer park near McDonalds could have a couple small climbing structures to give kids something to do if their family wants to hang out there.

Love Adams. My daughters, who are in late 20's, have had safety issues running on the bike trial while being alone from Park St to Lime St

You covered just about everything.

Adams based on previous experience will not spend money for senior activities

We enjoy planned family activities - geocaching hikes, how to use a compass hikes, scavenger hunts,etc. I feel like my kids are more willing to join group for an activity if they think it sounds fun and like other kids their ages will be there.

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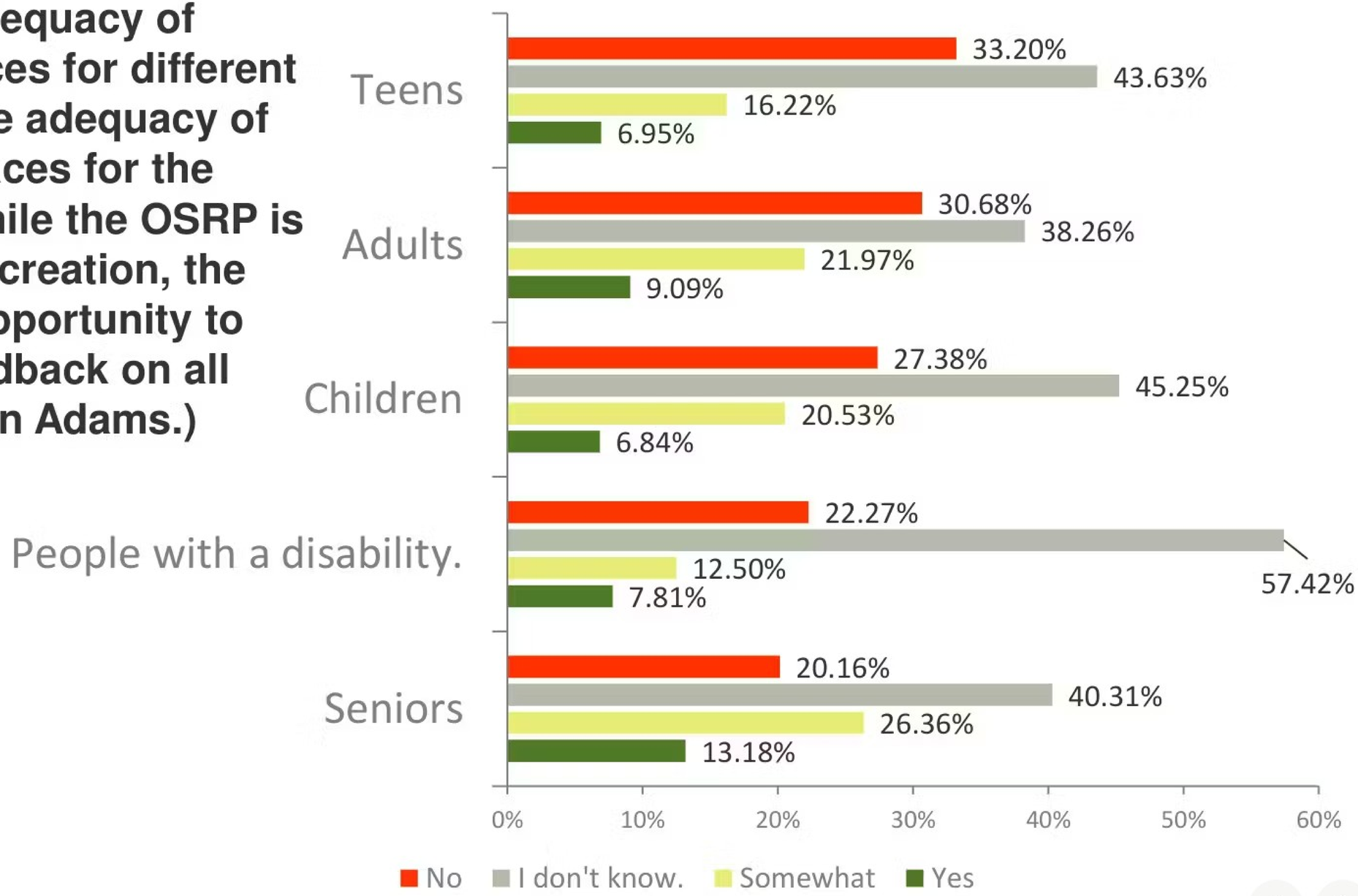
Mentimeter

Q15: Previous surveys have asked residents about the adequacy of indoor recreation spaces for different groups. Please rate the adequacy of indoor community spaces for the following groups? (While the OSRP is focused on outdoor recreation, the survey is a valuable opportunity to gather community feedback on all aspects of recreation in Adams.)



Answered: 270 Skipped: 21

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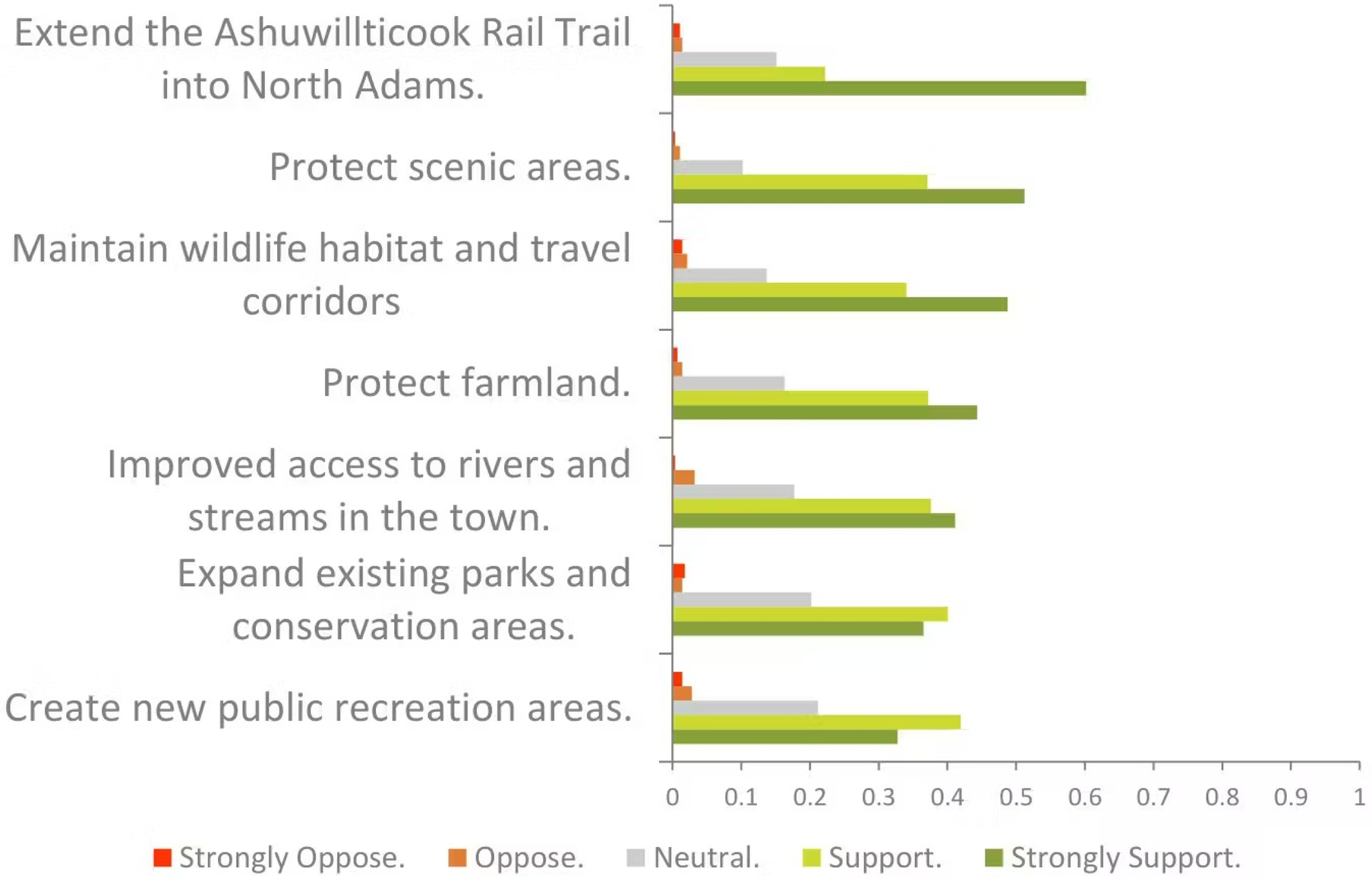
Mentimeter

Q16: Indicate your level of support of the following activities in Adams?



Answered: 286 Skipped: 5

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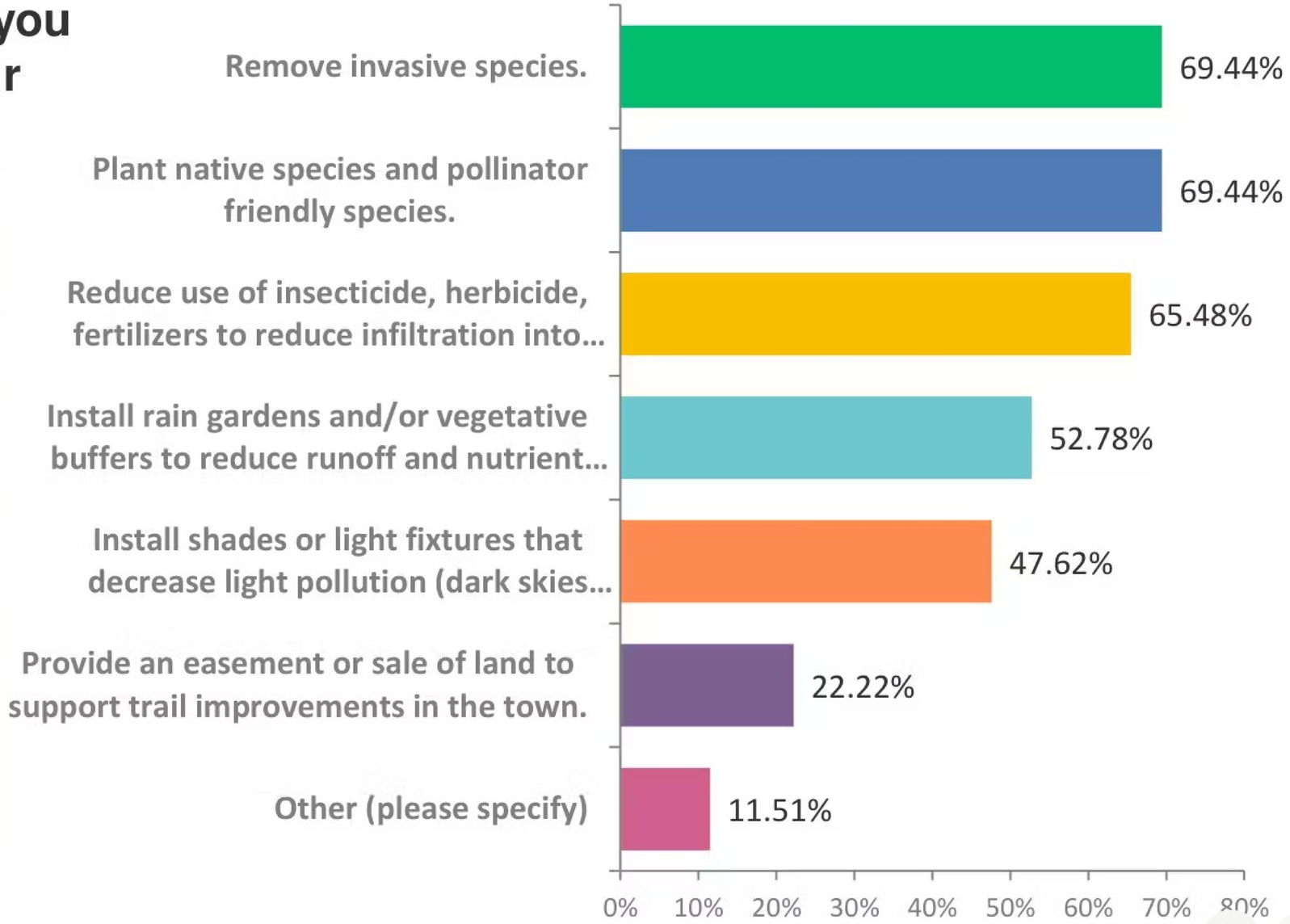
Q17: Which of the following conservation practices would you be willing to implement on your own property?

Other included:	
I already practice most of these initiatives	6
Dark Sky Initiatives	5
Plant trees / other native species	2
No herbicides or fertilizers	2
Provide a forum on invasive species identification	1
This is excellent! As Director of Nbswmd I can offer rain barrels through our state contract for residential properties. Heavily discounted	



Answered: 252 Skipped: 39

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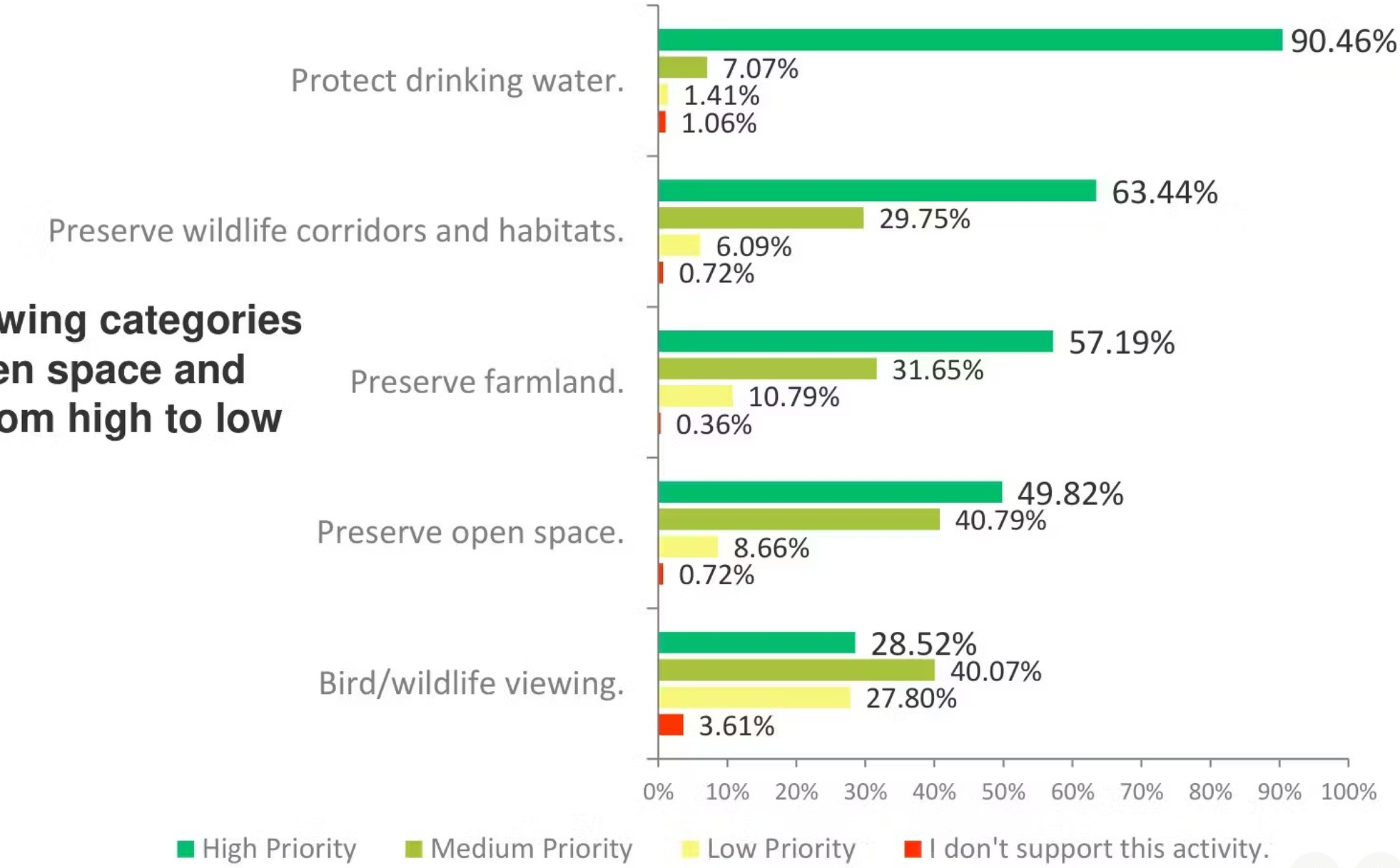
Mentimeter

Q18: Rate the following categories for town use of open space and recreation funds from high to low priority?



Answered: 285 Skipped: 6

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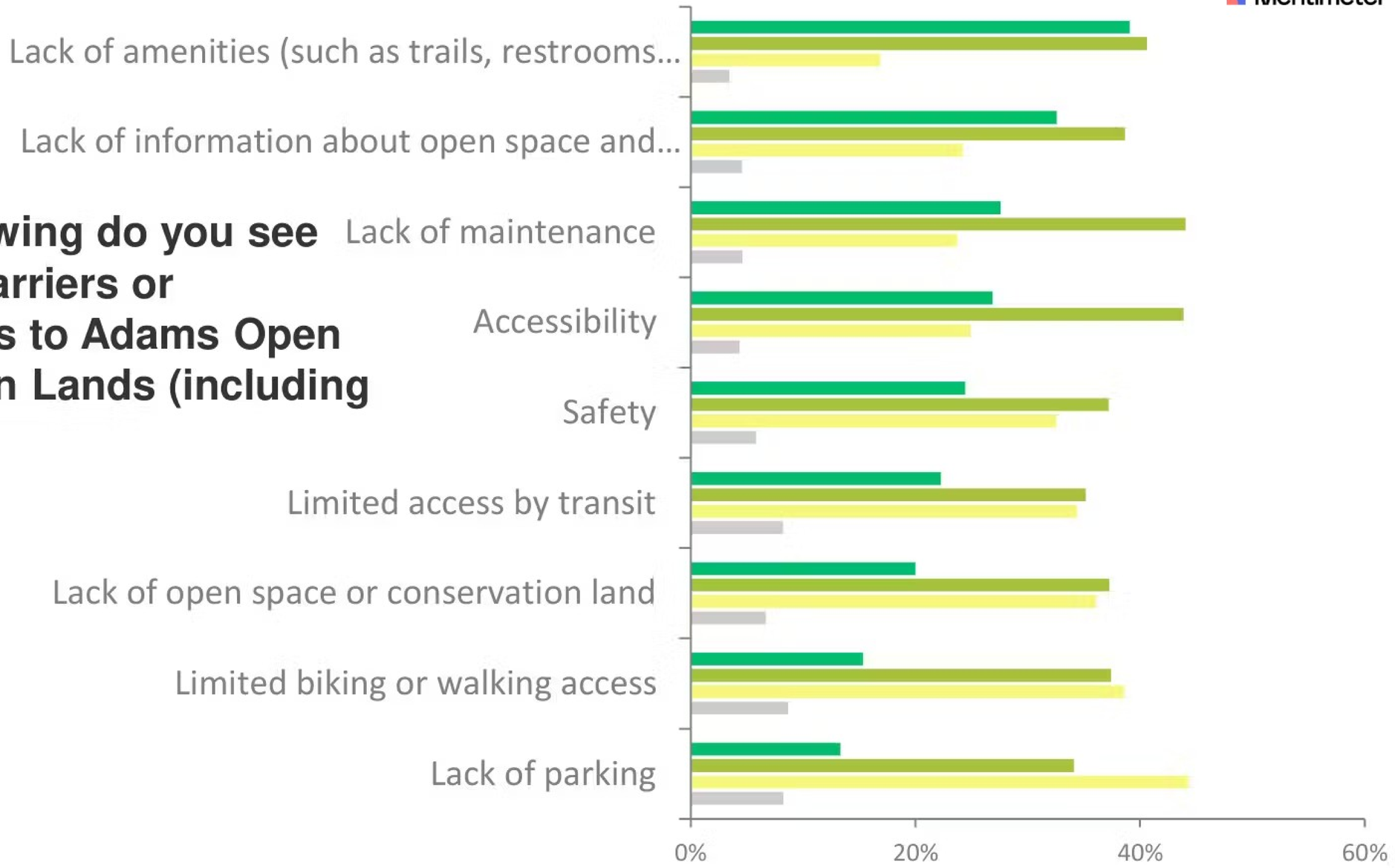
Mentimeter

Q20: Which of the following do you see as the most pressing barriers or concerns when it comes to Adams Open Space and Conservation Lands (including trails)?



Answered: 274 Skipped: 17

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Q20: Which of the following do you see as the most pressing barriers or concerns when it comes to Adams Open Space and Conservation Lands (including trails)?

	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	NONE (N/A)
Lack of amenities (such as trails, restrooms and picnic areas)	39.08% 102	40.61% 106	16.86% 44	3.45% 9
Lack of information about open space and conservation lands	32.58% 86	38.64% 102	24.24% 64	4.55% 12
Lack of maintenance	27.59% 72	44.06% 115	23.75% 62	4.60% 12
Accessibility	26.88% 68	43.87% 111	24.90% 63	4.35% 11
Safety	24.42% 63	37.21% 96	32.56% 84	5.81% 15
Limited access by transit	22.27% 57	35.16% 90	34.38% 88	8.20% 21
Lack of open space or conservation land	20.00% 51	37.25% 95	36.08% 92	6.67% 17
Limited biking or walking access	15.35% 39	37.40% 95	38.58% 98	8.66% 22
Lack of parking	13.33% 34	34.12% 87	44.31% 113	8.24%

Answered: 274 Skipped: 17

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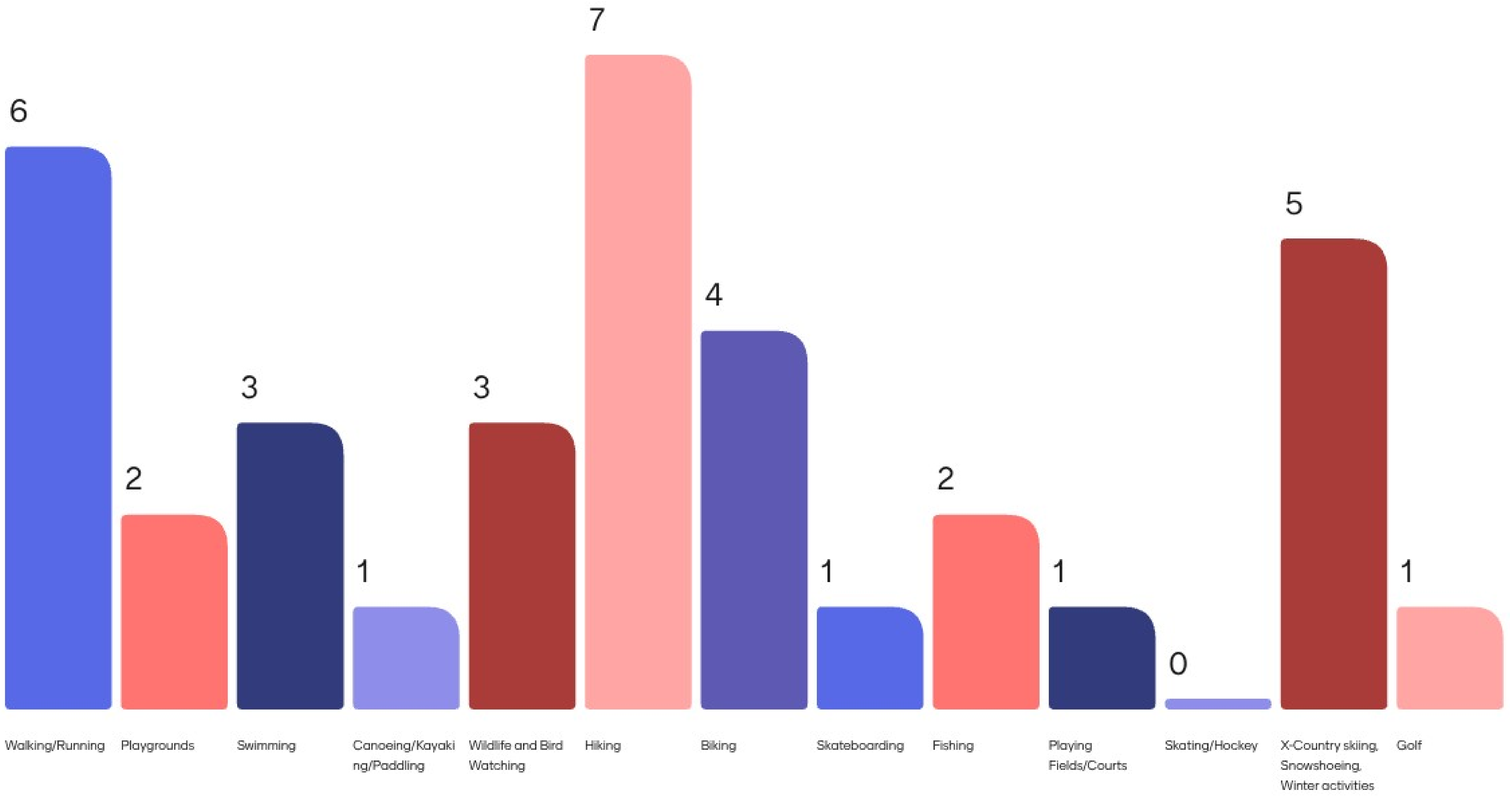
Question 21 Use this space to tell us about something we missed or other concerns regarding conservation in Adams?

Mentimeter

Recreation and Trail Infrastructure	14
Economic Development Initiatives	12
Conservation and Environmental Education	9
Community and Public Spaces	7
Wildlife and Ecosystem Management	6
Urban Cleanliness and Waste	6
Seasonal and Age-Specific Recreation	4
Infrastructure and Property Maintenance	4
Youth and Senior Programming	3
Public Communication and Information	3
Public and Park Safety	3
Motorized Vehicle Access	2
Flood and River Management	1
Food and Restaurant Options	1

What five (5) outdoor recreation activities do you enjoy in Adams?



Tell us your favorite open space site in Adams?

ashuwillticook

mount greylock

glen

greylock glen

the trail

rail trail

mt greylock

trail

greylock

hiking trails

mt greylock summit

ashuwillticook bike trail

Mentimeter

What improvements in open space or recreation would you like to see in Adams?

trash cans
rubbish clean up
splash park
more activities offered
farmland preservation
swimming
connect rail trail to na
bathrooms
trail signage
bike trail extension
snowmobile access
connectivity
outdoor swimming
conserve private open spa
splash pad
invasive species manageme
more facilities - in town
snowmobile atv trail acce
trash maintenance

10

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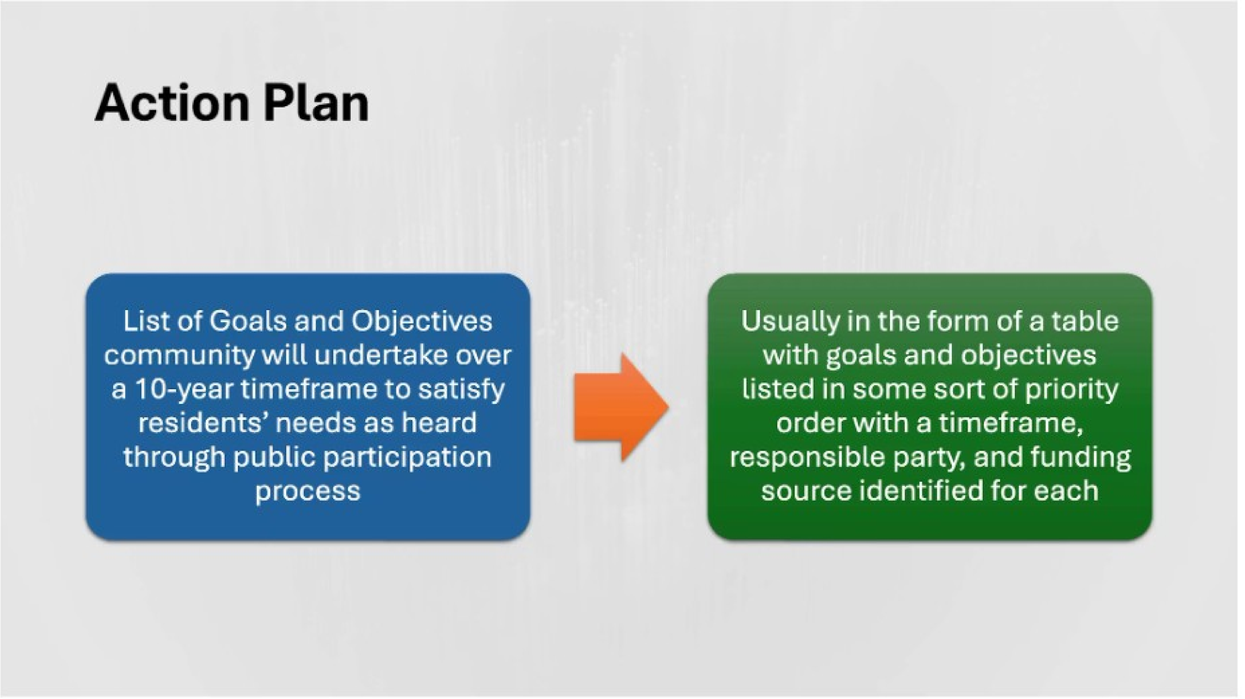
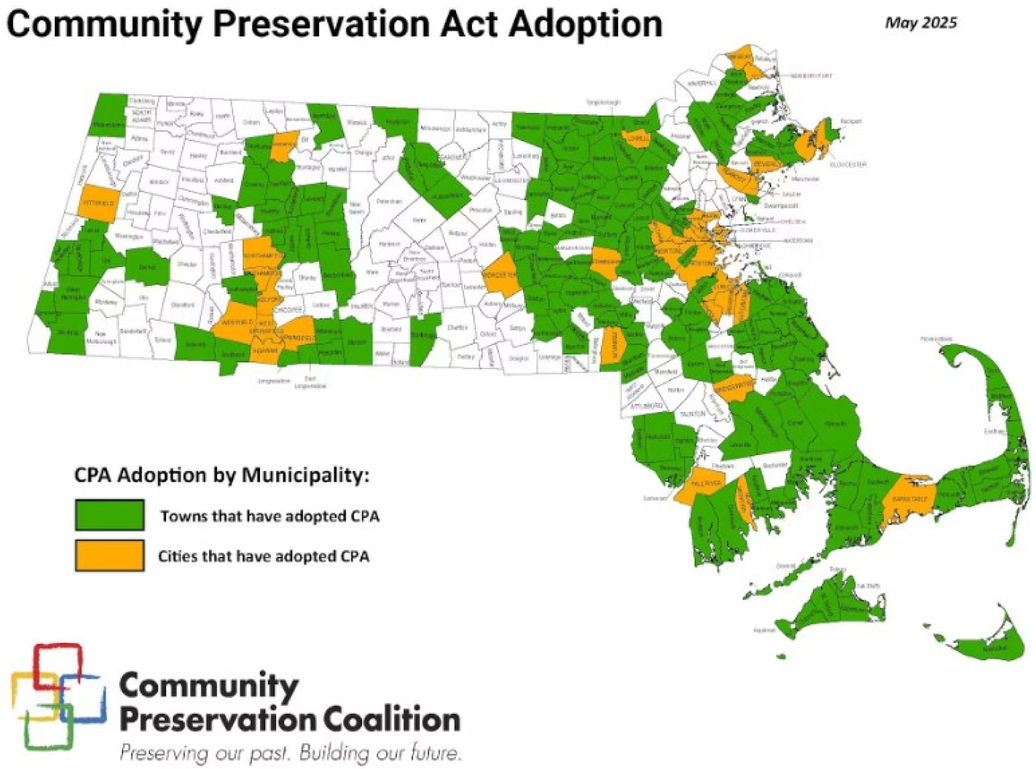


Public Participation leads to Goals and Actions.

Mentimeter



Berkshire County Towns with CPA Committees (Year Adopted)

1. Stockbridge, 2002
2. Williamstown, 2002
3. Lenox, 2006
4. Becklet, 2008
5. Great Barrington, 2012
6. Pittsfield, 2016
7. Lee, 2020
8. West Stockbridge, 2020

The Community Preservation Act

Allows communities to establish a dedicated fund for:

Open Space

Historic Preservation

Affordable Housing

Mentimeter

Basics of the Act

- Local adoption needed
- Establishes up to a 3% surcharge on local property taxes
- Requires 10% of monies to be spent on each of the 3 categories
- Allows flexibility for the remaining 70% in each of the 3 categories
- Establishes a Community Preservation Committee

Mentimeter

Available CPA Exemptions

- Property owned and occupied by a person who qualifies for low income housing or low or moderate income senior housing
- Commercial and industrial properties in cities or towns with classified tax rates
- $100,000 of the value of each taxable parcel of residential real property

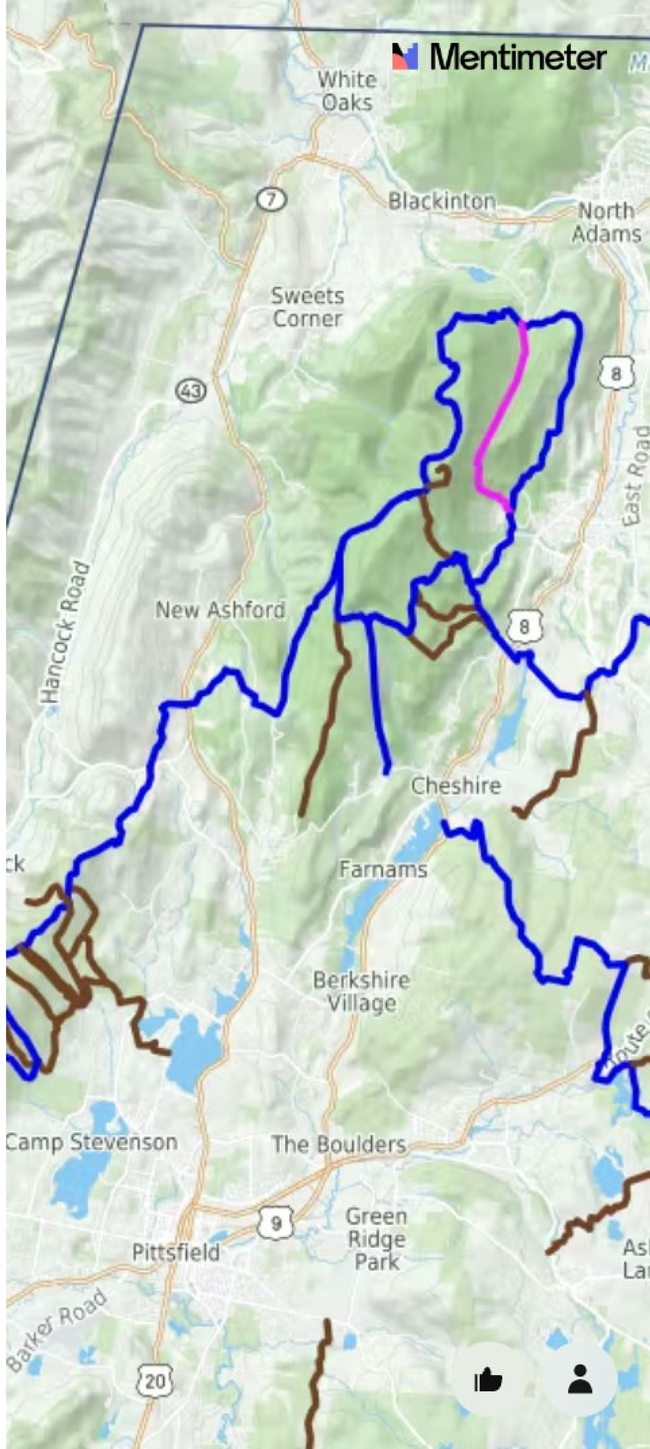
Mentimeter

What does that mean for the taxpayer?

Assessed Housing Value	$200,000		
* With $100,000 exemption	$100,000		
Net House Value Surcharged	$100,000		
Municipal Tax Rate	$16.00		
Amount Subject to Surcharge	$1,600		
CPA Surcharge	.03%	.02	.01
Amount paid toward CP Fund	$48	$32	$16

Goals and Actions

- Improve maintenance of existing recreational facilities in the town.
- Enforcement of rules on Ashuwillticook and other recreational areas regarding dog waste, E-Bikes, etc.
- Continued development at Greylock Glen in order to further utilize facilities without damaging the environment that bring people to the area.
- Extend Ashuwillticook Rail Trail to North Adams.
- Work with local individuals and businesses to "adopt" sections of the rail trail to clean and maintain civic pride in the resource.
- Inventory street/shade trees in the downtown and develop a replacement plan for damaged/diseased trees.
- Improve connectivity of pedestrian network to facilitate travel east/west and to connect schools, Greylock Glen, Downtown.
- Develop downtown parks facilities on Winter Street.



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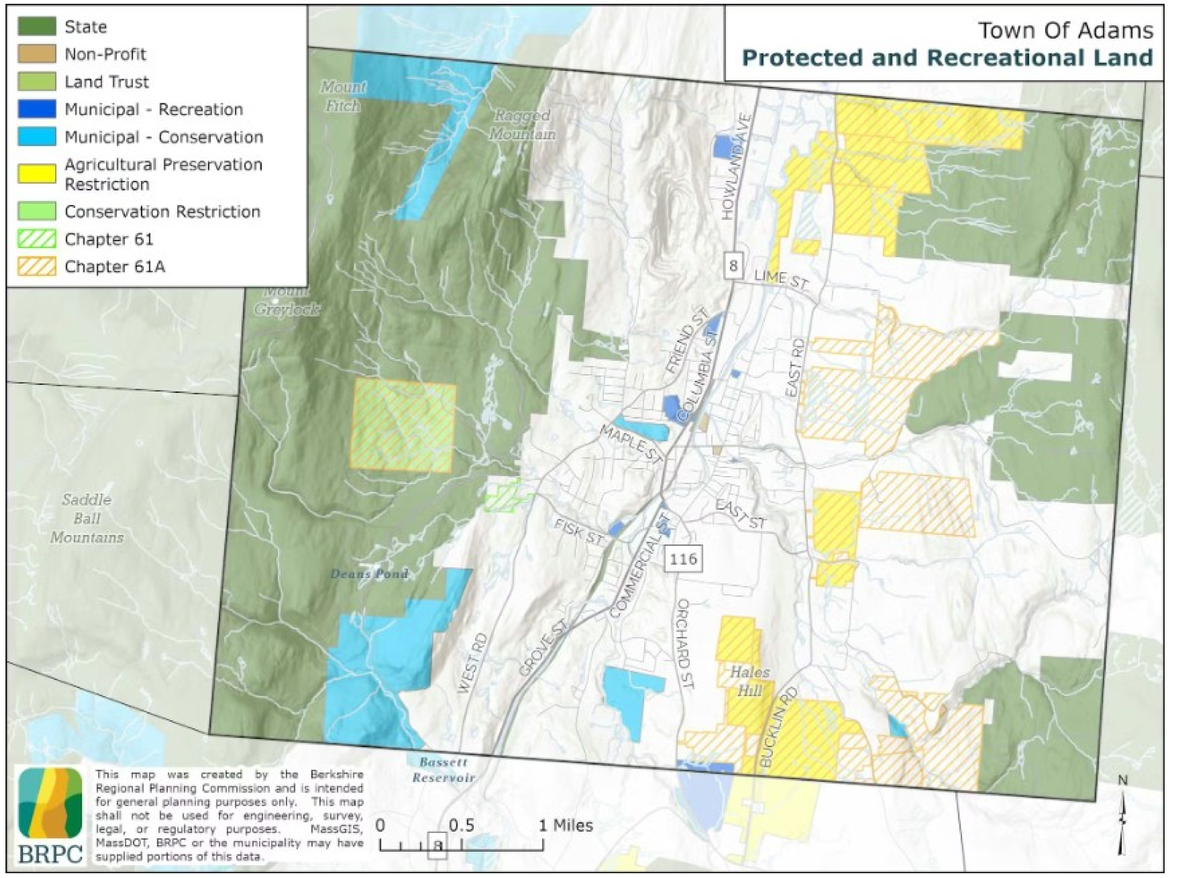
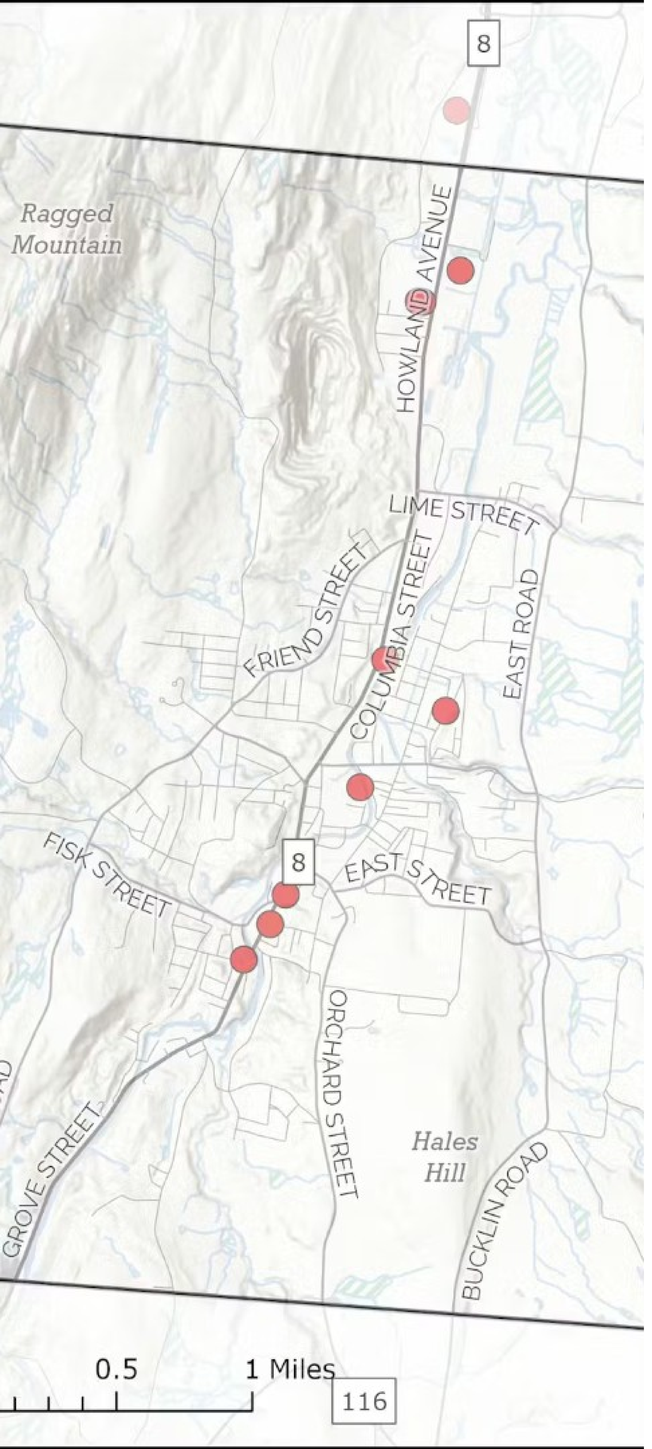
Goals and Actions (Continued)

- Increase opportunities for residents to access water resources such as river access points, splash parks, and pools.
- Develop indoor recreational opportunities for residents of all ages and abilities. Offer additional programming during winter when outdoor recreation is more difficult.
- Work with local farming community to support local farms, protect local farmlands, and maintain existing farm operations and the history of farming in the community.
- Use ADA Transition plan to guide accessibility





Goals and Actions (Continued)

- Find and procure (lease) dedicated indoor space for teen activities for afterschool and weekends. ie: basketball, volleyball, ping pong arts & crafts etc. Determine if a new position is needed to coordinate activities.
- Bring back summer parks program for children - day camps. Determine if the person who coordinates this would be the same person who coordinates the indoor sports schedule.
- Find a space to set up an ice skating rink for the winter.
- Determine if one park or more than one park needs enhancements to outdoor structures for people with special physical needs for people of all ages. Determine if grants are available for this and if so, who in town would apply for those grants? Choose which park(s) to enhance.

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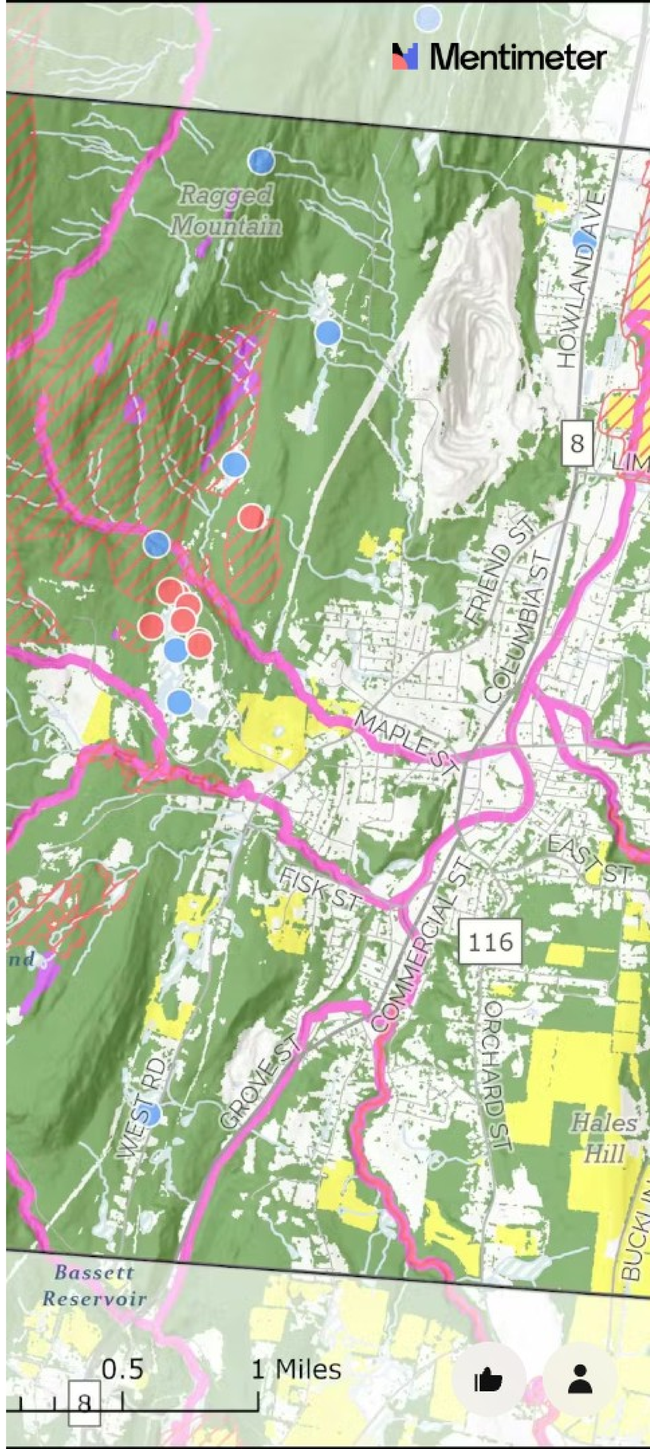
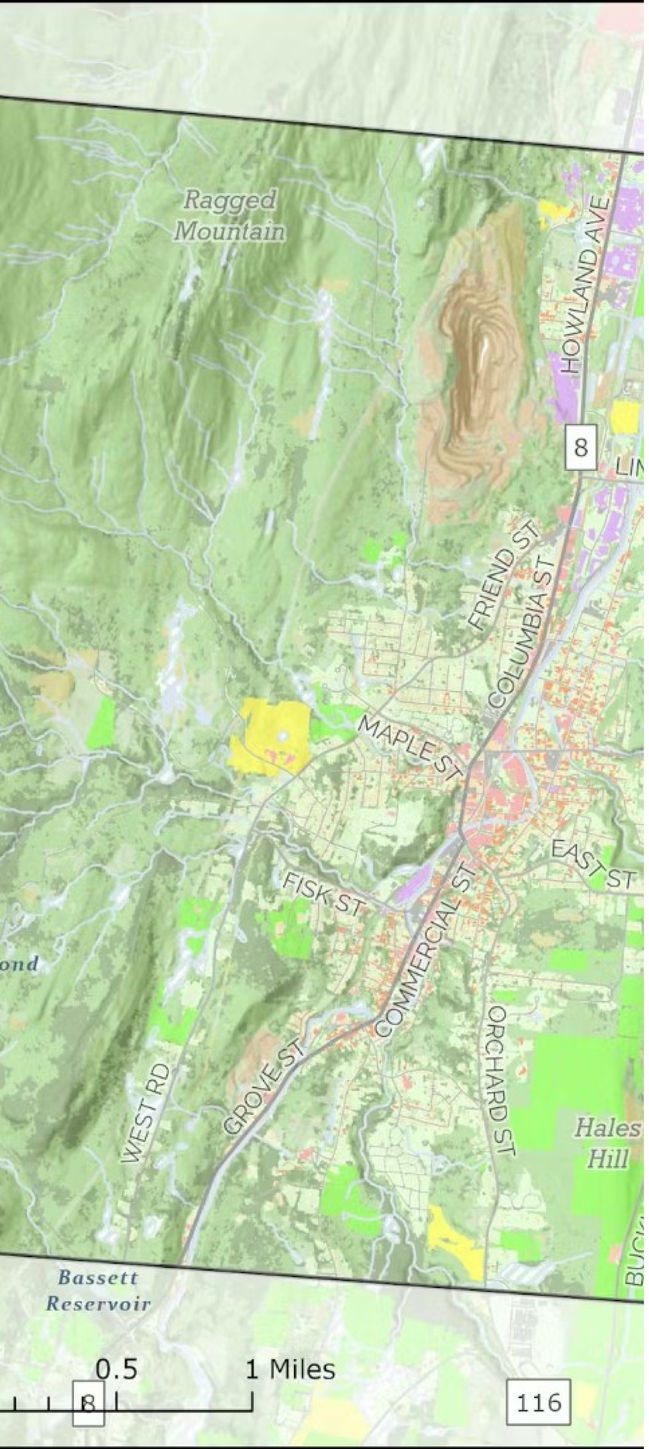
Goals and Actions (Continued)

- Determine if an indoor space for children with sensory issues is needed; if so, procure space to be leased and made available for families to use. Secure grant funding for the space and for a coordinator.
- Carve out from the DPW budget, the parks budget, so it can be better determined how much money is going to the parks for various items such as maintenance.
- Craft a memo to be added to the backside of the dog license application that asks people to be mindful to clean up after their dogs while walking on the bike trail and on the town sidewalks.
- Signage along the bike trail reminding people to clean up after dogs.





Mentimeter

Questions from the audience?

2 questions

1 upvote

Mentimeter

Contact Us

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sjenkins@berkshireplanning.org

413-442-1521 ext. 24

BRPC
Berkshire Regional Planning Commission