

# Visitor Perceptions of Columbia's Dog Parks

## Dog Park Survey Technical Report



Presented to

**Columbia Parks and Recreation Department**

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## **Pictures in this Report:**

All pictures used in this report were obtained from Columbia Parks and Recreation, Google images (labeled as free to use, share or modify), and taken by the Lily Bennett (author).

## **Executive Summary**

As trends in dog ownership have increased, researchers have turned more attention to understanding the benefits of dog parks and the social and structural dynamics of planning for dog-friendly spaces. Previous research has demonstrated that dog parks provide a number of potential benefits, such as fostering social interaction between community members, space for physical activity, and opportunities to better socialize dogs. A number of studies assessing visitor perceptions of dog parks have been conducted in various areas nationwide, but there is a lack of local studies examining public perceptions of Columbia's dog parks to help guide future planning and management decisions. Therefore, the School of Natural Resources at the University of Missouri conducted an on-site survey of dog park visitors to find out their perceptions in terms of usage, motivations, desired features, constraints, and willingness to pay.

This study included 180 respondents (84% response rate), who were contacted on-site at the three different dog parks in Columbia, Missouri (Twin Lakes, Garth and Indian Hills). Nearly 30% were between 18 and 24, with over 50% under the age of 30. Most have an annual income below \$50,000, have no children, and live within Columbia, Missouri.

Almost 90% of respondents traveled to the dog park by car; 40% traveled less than 2 miles while over a third traveled 3 or more miles. Over half of respondents spent an hour or more at the dog park, with nearly 10% spending 2 or more hours. The most popular seasons for dog park use are spring and summer, with the least use in winter. The most popular times to visit are later afternoon or evening.

Overall, respondents expressed a strong sense of attachment and meaning to the dog parks. Most people report visiting more than one park. Twin Lakes had the longest average visitation history (2.5 years). Although Indian Hills had the least visitors encountered, those who do visit accounted for the most frequent visitation.

The greatest motivations for visiting the dog park were dog-centered: importance of having dog off leash, exercising and improving dog health, and letting dogs do things they normally wouldn't get to at home. Visitors reported overall low levels of constraint to visitation, the key constraints being a lack of time and worry about aggression from others' dogs.

When asked about important attributes of dog parks, shade, maintenance, adequate trash cans, secure fencing, seating, available waste bags, and trees/landscaping were rated highly by over 90% of respondents.

Dog park entrance fees received mixed reception from respondents, which could be expected, since Columbia does not have a history of charging for park use. More than a quarter reported being unwilling to pay. The largest support (44%) was for paying less than \$25 on an annual basis, but indicated this willingness depended on desired improvements such as lighting for extended hours, provision of more seating, improvements to terrain and landscaping, and restroom facilities.



## Introduction

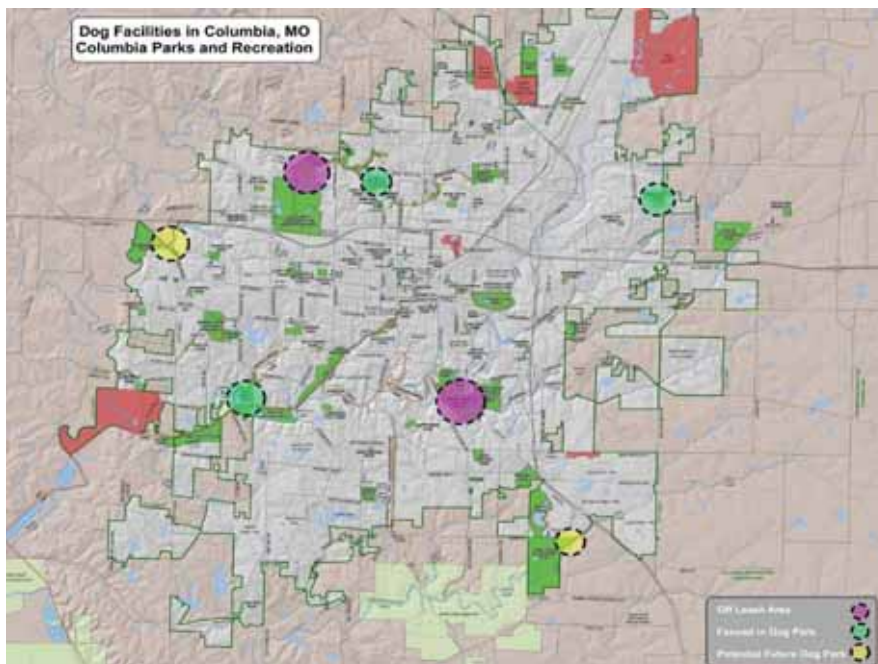
Dog park usage is on the rise (Lee et al., 2009). Trends in increased urbanization and population growth, increased levels of dog ownership and related expenditures, a decrease in home ownership, and the prevalence of leash laws since the 1980s are all factors driving the demand for leash-free areas (Matisoff & Noonan, 2012; Walls, 2009; Urbanik & Morgan, 2013). Dog parks have begun to receive increased interest from park and recreation professionals as they work to design and maintain quality parks to serve the rising demand (Dolesh, 2018; Gómez & Usher, 2017; Spencer, 2018; Stecchi, 2011).

While dog parks are important for the exercise and socialization of dogs, studies have also demonstrated a number of personal health and wellness benefits gained by owners, such as more exercise, motivation, improved mental health, and social interactions (Andreassen et al., 2013; Brown & Rhodes, 2006; Cline, 2010; Cutt et al., 2007; Evenson et al., 2016; Westgarth et al., 2017). Indeed, some of the

benefits extend to the broader community through fostering relationships and sense of community (Graham & Glover, 2014; Gómez et al., 2017; Toohey & Rock, 2011; Middle, 2019; Wood et al., 2005).

Although research shows that the inclusion of a dog park in a community is seen as mostly beneficial, studies also demonstrate a number of constraints experienced by dog parks and their users, such as issues with maintenance, lack of compliance with regulations, lack of funding, as well as concerns with sanitation, aggression, crowding, and access (Gómez, 2013; Krohe, 2005; Lee et al., 2009; Middle, 2019; Rahim et al., 2017; Shyan et al., 2003). Since studies tend to look at a few dog parks in a specific area, research often acknowledges a lack of generalizability for results due to variances in geographic location, demographics, and social climate (Lee et al., 2009; Gómez & Usher, 2017; Weston et al., 2013).

There are currently three fenced dog parks in Columbia, Missouri, all of which are managed by Columbia Parks and Recreation. There is no membership requirement, and access to all parks is free. While the parks are well-used, there is little to no existing data on usage, perceptions, and satisfaction. There is also interest in understanding dog park users' willingness to pay for entrance to one or more dog parks, or a specialty park. Overall, this study aims to understand the perceptions and needs of dog park users in Columbia, Missouri.



## Methodology

This project focused on three fenced dog parks in Columbia, Missouri: Indian Hills (2.8 acres), Garth (3.2 acres), and Twin Lakes (10.1 acres). Columbia also has two off-leash areas (Grindstone Nature Area and Bear Creek Nature Area), but they were not included in this study given they are not fenced in areas and are open to other uses as well. Data was collected through an on-site survey from May-August 2018. The self-administered survey was primarily collected on tablets, using the Qualtrics survey platform, but a paper version and an email link (sent later in the day after the park visit) were made available.

Systematic sampling occurred in 2-3 hour time blocks stratified by day of the week (weekdays and weekends) and time of day (between the hours of 6 am and 8 pm). Each user (18+) was approached and asked if they would be interested in taking the survey; during busier times, every third user was approached. Re-encounters with prior visitors were recorded alongside new surveys. Data collection was originally scheduled for 100 hours, but extra collection times were added to compensate for high heat indexes and inclement weather during some data collection periods, resulting in 137 total hours.

The survey contained 26 questions. A section about usage and visitation utilized multiple choice and open-ended responses. Topics such as motivations and willingness to pay were addressed on a five-point Likert scale that measured the level of importance visitors place on particular aspects (1=Very Unimportant, 3=Neither, 5=Very Important).

Questions about constraints and willingness to pay were addressed on similar five-point scales (see Appendix A for a full sample of questions

and scales). Information about visitor demographics was also included in the survey, as well as an open-ended section at the end for comments.

This report is organized into four sections: 1) respondents' profile, 2) usage and today's visit, 3) Columbia Parks and Recreation dog parks, and 4) fees in dog parks and 5) comments from dog park users. Full data tables corresponding with the figures are available in Appendix B.

While this report focuses primarily on findings from the overall sample of dog park users, park-specific trends are also noted. Additional details on park specific information is available in Appendices C-E.

### Response Rates

- Total completed surveys..... 180
- Total unique contacts..... 215

**Overall response rate (180/215) : 83.7%**

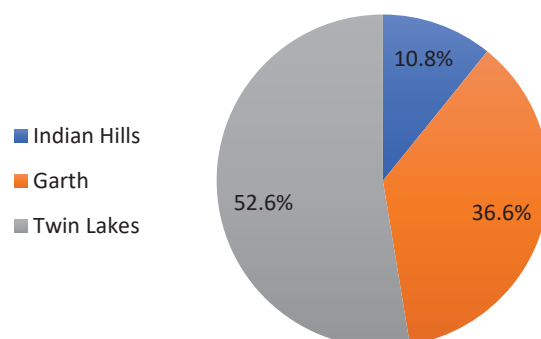
- Total re-encounters..... 110
- Total contacts (overall)..... 325

**Overall re-encounter rate (110/325) : 33.8%**

### Response Distribution by Park

- **Indian Hills:** 17 complete
- **Garth:** 71 complete
- **Twin Lakes:** 92 complete
- **Total completed surveys:** 180

**Figure 1: Response rate by park**

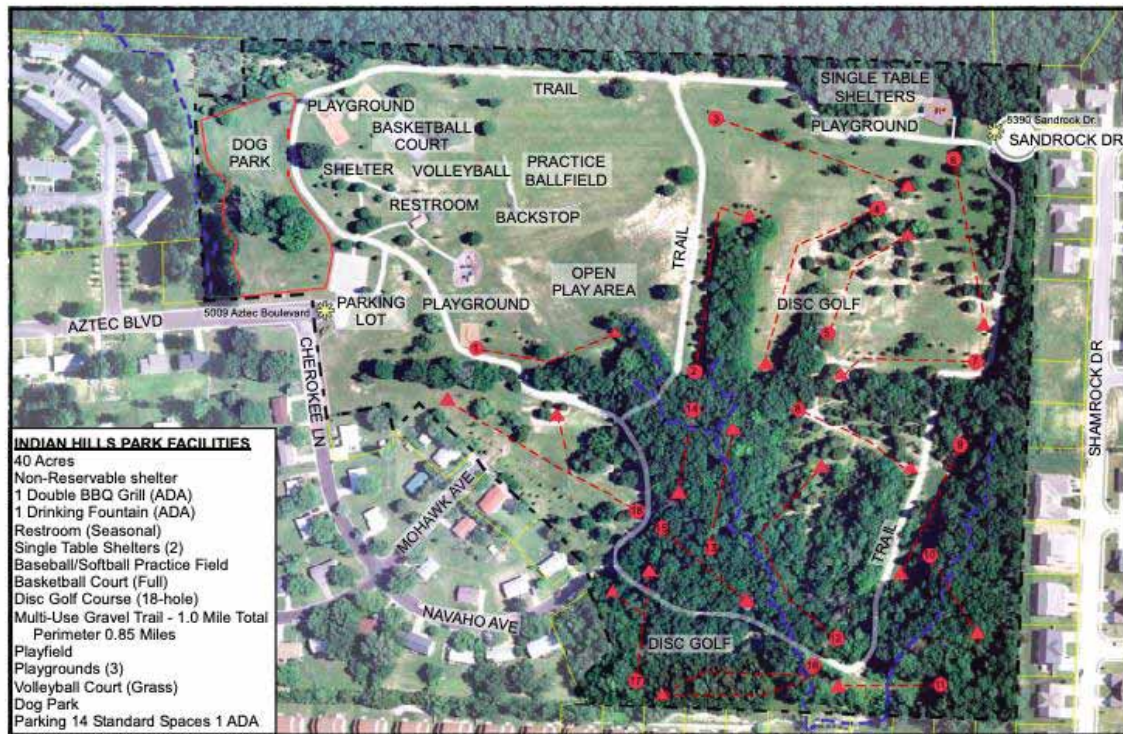






**Garth Nature Area**  
2799 N. Garth Ave.





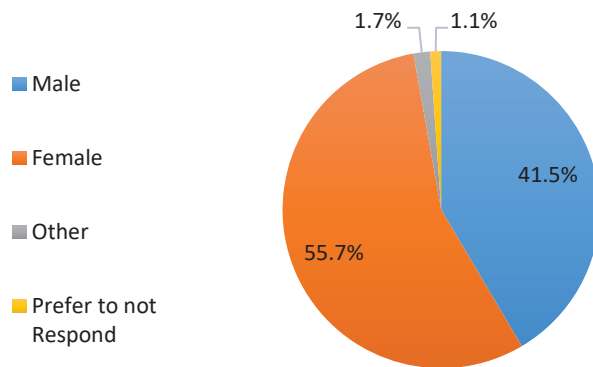
**Indian Hills Park**  
5009 Aztec Boulevard (West Entry)  
5390 Sandrock Drive (East Entry)

100' 50' 0' 225'  
Parcel lines property of Boone County



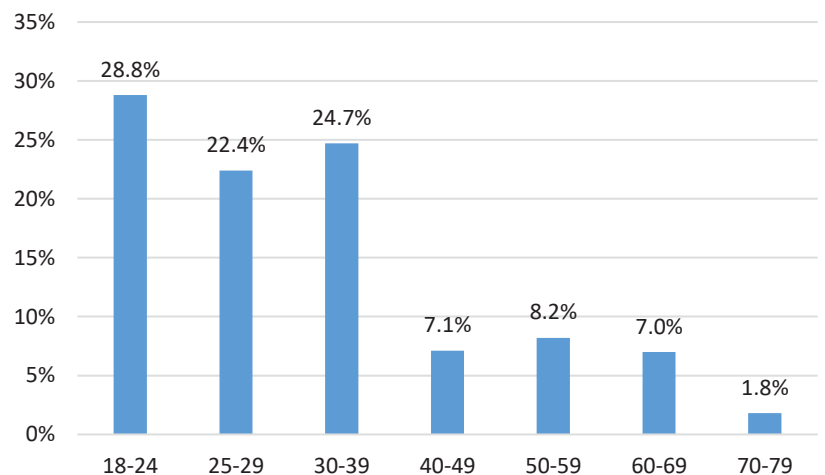
## Section I: Respondent Profile

**Figure 2: Respondent gender (n=176)**



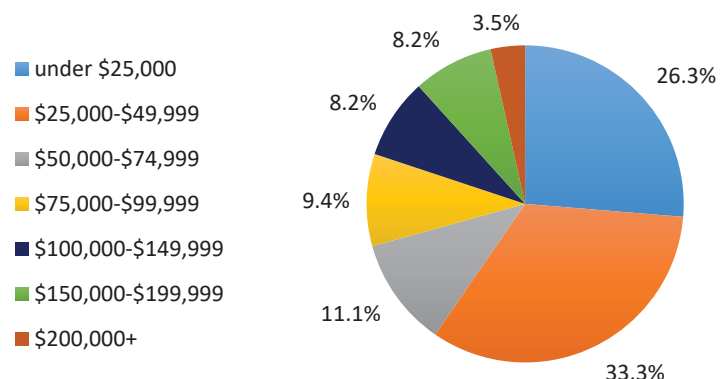
- More than half (56%) of the respondents were female (Figure 2)

**Figure 3: Respondent age groups (n=170)**



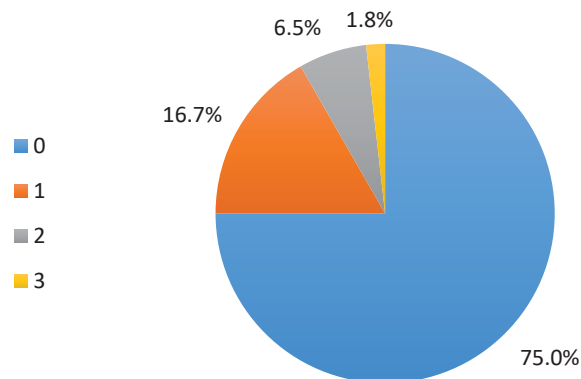
- Nearly 30% of respondents were between the ages of 18 and 24 (Figure 3)
- Over half (51%) of respondents were under the age of 30 (Figure 3)

**Figure 4: Annual household income before taxes (n=171)**



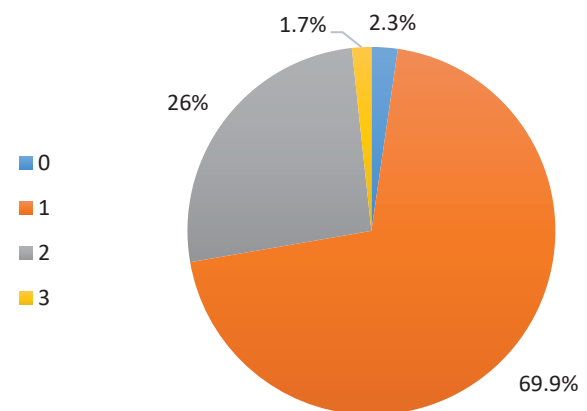
- A third (33%) of respondents have an annual household income of \$25,000-\$49,999 (Figure 4), although at Indian Hills, about a third (31%) report making less than \$25,000
- More than half of respondents (60%) report making less than \$50,000/year (Figure 4)

**Figure 5: Number of children under 18 in household (n=168)**



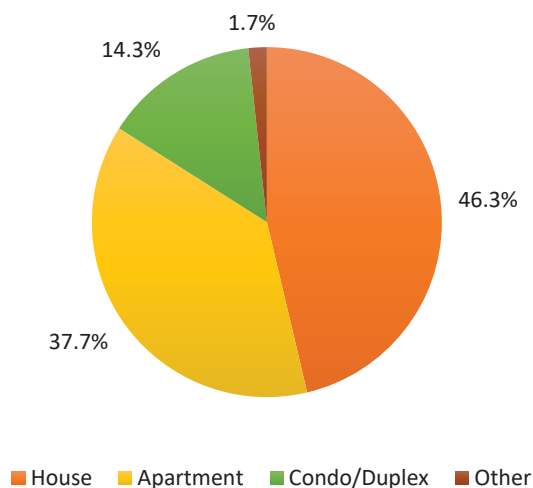
- The majority of dog park users (75%) report having no children (Figure 5)
- This finding could be attributed to the fact that Columbia is a college town, with the majority of survey respondents being under 30 years old

**Figure 6: Number of dogs owned (n=173)**

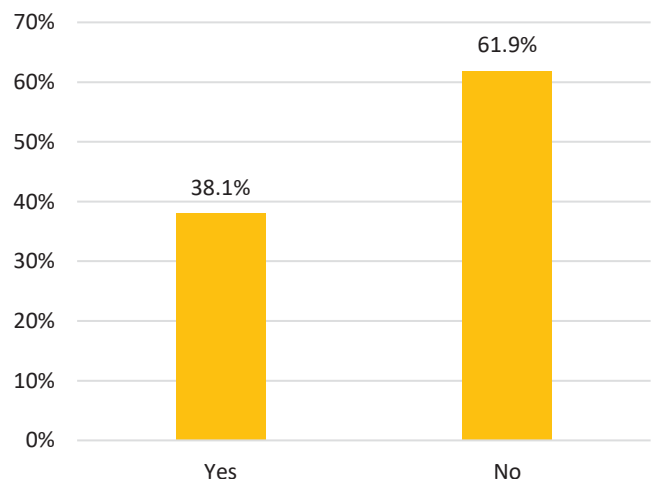


- The majority of respondents (70%) report only owning one dog (Figure 6)
- Just under 50% of respondents report living in houses, followed by nearly 40% in apartments (Figure 7)
- 62% do not have a fenced in area for dogs where they live (Figure 8)
- Of those without fenced areas, 57% live in apartments, and 19% live in houses

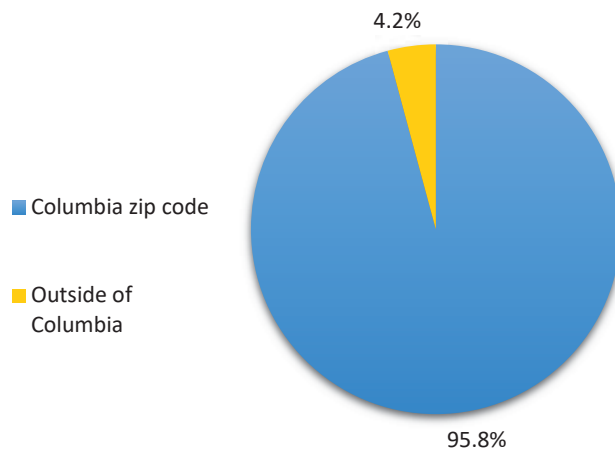
**Figure 7: Residence type (n=175)**



**Figure 8: Does your residence have a fenced area for dogs (n=176)**



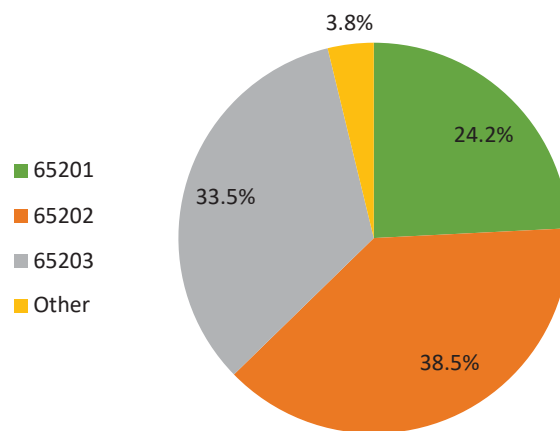
**Figure 9: What is your zip code? (n=168)**



- The majority of respondents (96%) live within a Columbia, MO zip code (Figure 9)
- Other visitors reported zip codes from St. Louis, MO, Arizona, New Mexico, Arkansas, and Hawaii

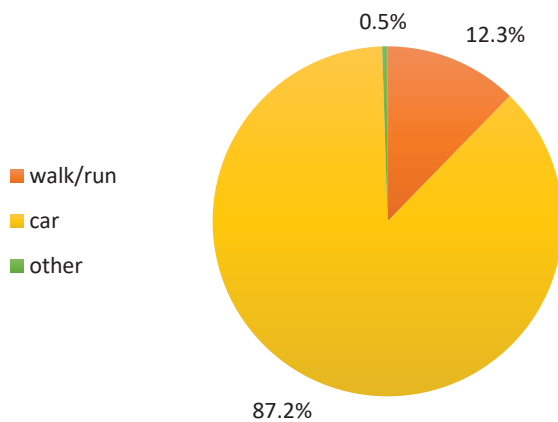
- Although respondents came from nearly all zip codes in the Columbia area, the most common were 65201, 65202, and 65203 (Figure 10)
- The majority of visitors at Twin Lakes were from 65203 (56%), while 65202 was the most common zip code for visitors at Garth (63%) and Indian Hills (75%); these correspond with the zip codes where the parks are located

**Figure 10: Respondent zip codes (within Columbia) (n=161)**

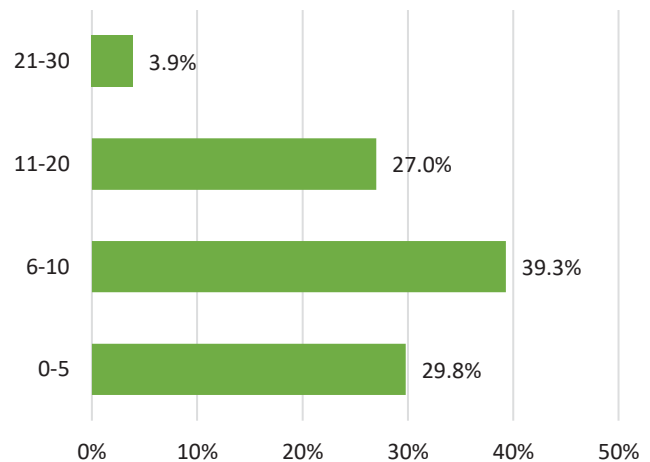


## Section II: Usage and Today's Visit

**Figure 11: Transportation to the dog park (n=179)**

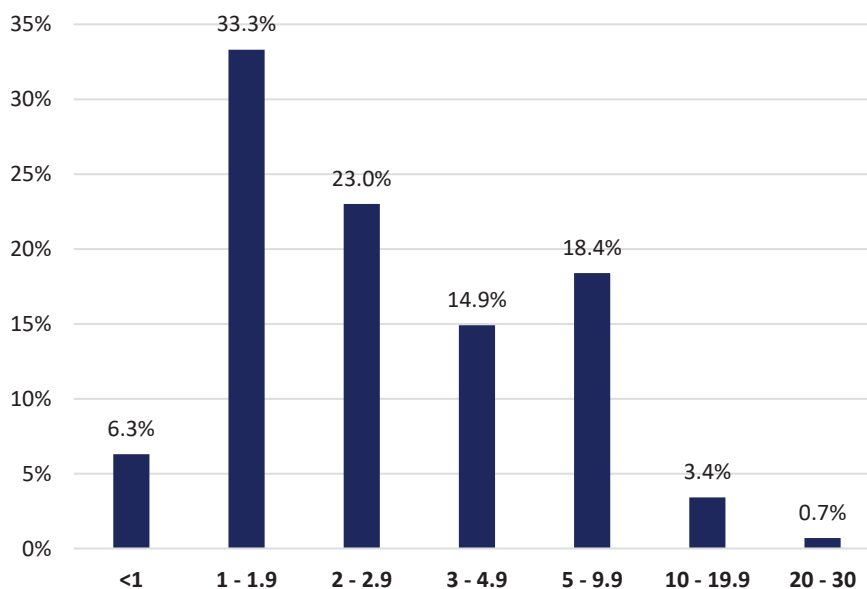


**Figure 12: Travel time (minutes) (n=178)**



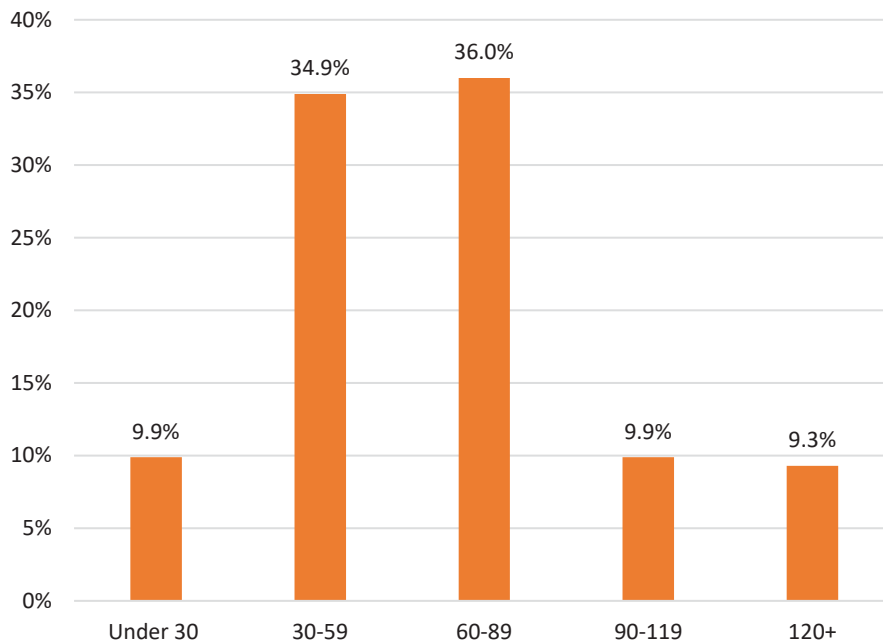
- Most respondents (87%) traveled to the dog park by car (Figure 11)
- The majority of respondents (69%) arrived at the dog park in 10 minutes or less (Figure 12)

**Figure 13: Miles traveled to the dog park (n=174)**



- 40% of respondents traveled *less than 2 miles* to the dog park (Figure 13)
- Over one-third (37%) of respondents traveled *3 or more miles* to the dog park (Figure 13)

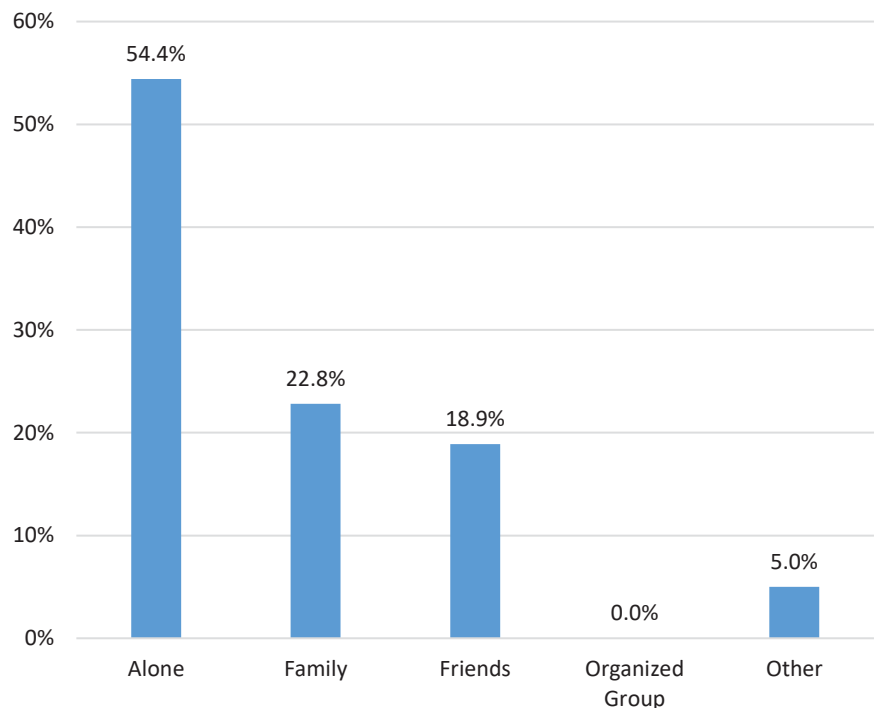
**Figure 14: Length of stay at the dog park (minutes) (n=172)**



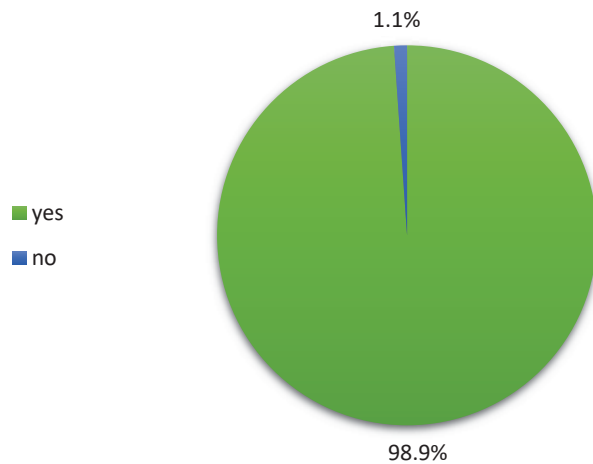
- Over half of respondents (55%) report spending an hour (60 minutes) or more at the dog park (Figure 14)
- 9% of respondents report spending 2 hours or more at the dog park (Figure 14)

**Figure 15: With whom are you visiting the dog park today? (check all that apply) (n=180)**

- More than half of respondents (54%) report visiting the dog park alone (Figure 15)
- The 5% of respondents that selected "other" noted that they were visiting the dog park with a significant other (Figure 15)



**Figure 16: Are you here with dog(s) today? (n=180)**

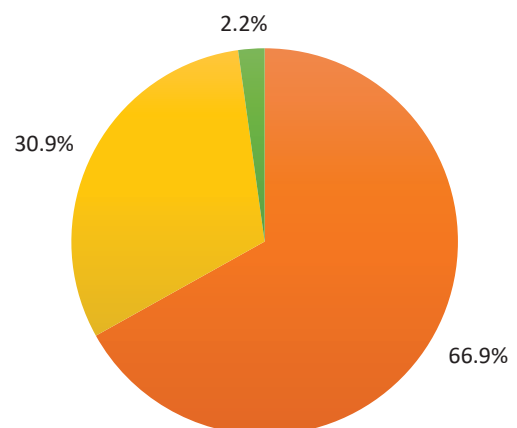


- The two respondents who were not at the park with dogs (1%) were visiting to get an idea of what Columbia's dog parks were like, as they were planning to adopt dogs (Figure 16)

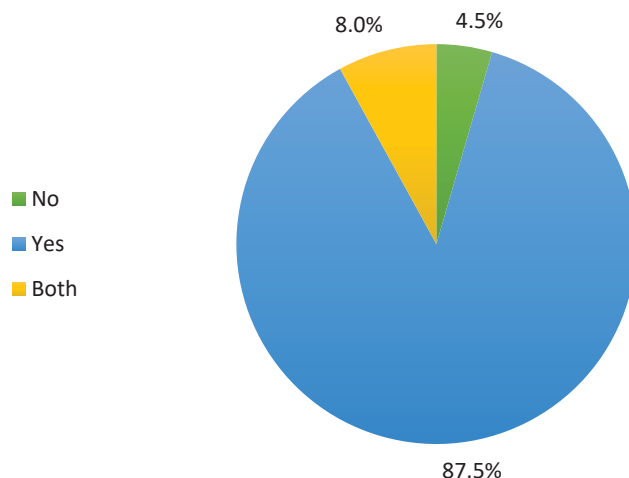
**Figure 17: If you are here with dog(s), then how many dog(s) are you here with today? (n=178)**

- Of the 99% of respondents that were with dogs, the majority (67%) were only with one dog (Figure 17)

1  
2  
3



**Figure 18: If you are with a dog(s), are you the owner of the dog(s)? (n=176)**



- The majority of respondents (95.5%) were with dog(s) they own (Figure 18)
- 12.5% were with dog(s) they do not own (Figure 18)

**Table 1: Place Attachment**

|                                                                       | n   | Mean        | S.D.        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-------------|-------------|
| <b>Place Identity (<math>\alpha=.824</math>)</b>                      |     | <b>3.86</b> | <b>.244</b> |
| This dog park means a lot to me                                       | 179 | 4.13        | .711        |
| I am very attached to this dog park                                   | 177 | 3.81        | .829        |
| I identify strongly with this dog park                                | 176 | 3.65        | .834        |
| <b>Social Bonding (<math>\alpha=.683</math>)</b>                      |     | <b>3.77</b> | <b>.293</b> |
| I have a lot of fond memories about this dog park                     | 178 | 3.96        | .773        |
| I bring my family/friends to this dog park                            | 176 | 3.91        | .788        |
| I have a special connection with the people who come to this dog park | 176 | 3.43        | .885        |
| <b>Place Dependence (<math>\alpha=.779</math>)</b>                    |     | <b>3.72</b> | <b>.127</b> |
| I enjoy recreating at this dog park more than any other dog park      | 179 | 3.80        | .789        |
| This dog park is the best place for dogs                              | 178 | 3.78        | .832        |
| I wouldn't substitute any other dog park for what I do here           | 178 | 3.57        | .787        |

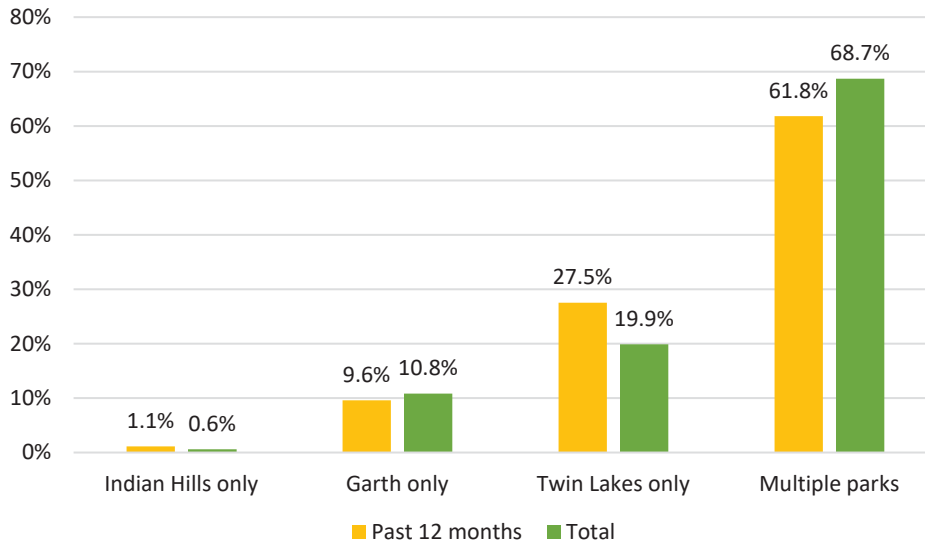
1=Strongly Disagree, 5=Strongly Agree

- *Place Attachment* is a sense of meaning and emotional bonding with important places (Kyle et al., 2005; Low & Altman, 1992; Williams & Vaske, 2003). It is commonly comprised of three dimensions:
  - *Place Identity*: emotional and symbolic ties with a place
  - *Place Dependence*: a functional attachment based on a place's ability to satisfy activity needs/goals
  - *Social Bonding*: a place is considered special because of the social ties and interactions it supports
- Place Identity was rated the strongest dimension of place attachment across all three parks
  - This was followed by social bonding and then place dependence at Garth and Indian Hills
  - Place dependence ranked higher than social bonding at Twin Lakes



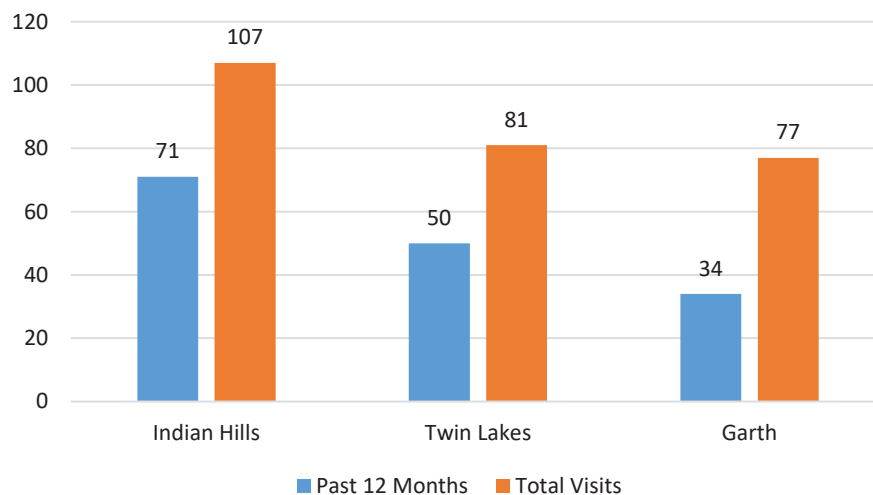
## Section III: Columbia Parks and Recreation Dog Parks

Figure 19: Park visitation



- Most respondents have visited multiple Columbia, MO, dog parks in both the *past 12 months* (62%) and in *total* (69%) (Figure 19)

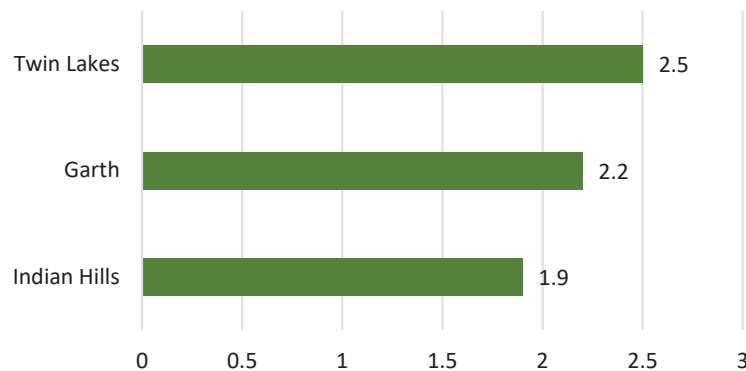
Figure 20: Average (mean) number of visits to each dog park



- Although Indian Hills had the fewest visitors encountered, those that were accounted for the most frequent visitation and re-encountered contacts

- The average number of visits over the *past 12 months* ranged from  $M=34$  (Garth) to  $M=71$  (Indian Hills), with a maximum number of visits reported ranging from 300 (Garth) to 800 (Indian Hills) (Figure 20)
- The average number of *total visits* to each park ranged from  $M=77$  (Garth) to  $M=107$  (Indian Hills), with a maximum total number of visits ranging from 900 (Garth) to 2100 (Indian Hills) (Figure 20)

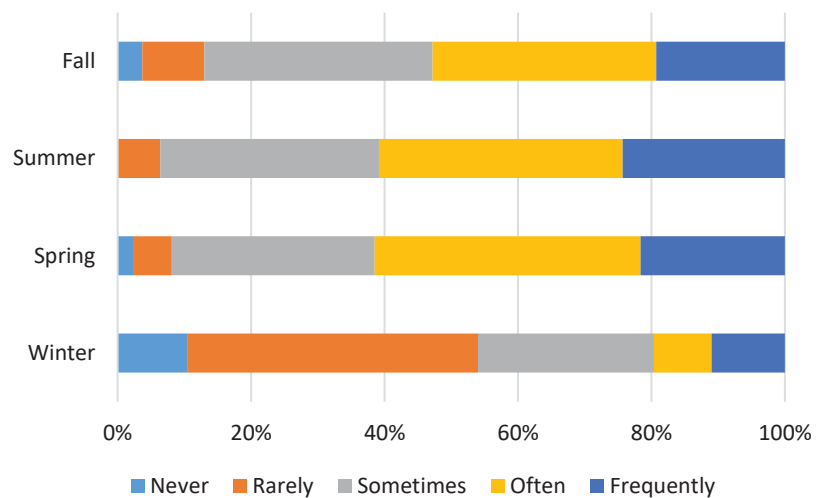
**Figure 21: Average number of years coming to each dog park**



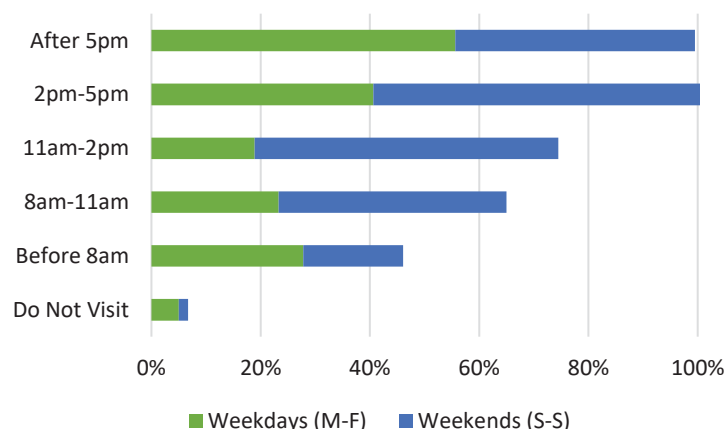
- The average number of years visitors reported coming to each dog park was around 2 years (Figure 21)
- Twin Lakes had the longest visitation at an average of 2.5 years (maximum reported 15 years)

**Figure 22: Park visitation per season**

- The highest use is during the **Spring** and **Summer**; 61% of respondents report visiting *Often (20-49 times)* or *Frequently (50+)* for both seasons (Figure 22)
- Respondents visit the dog parks least frequently during **Winter**; 54% of respondents report visiting *Rarely (1-4 times)* or *Never (0)* (Figure 22)

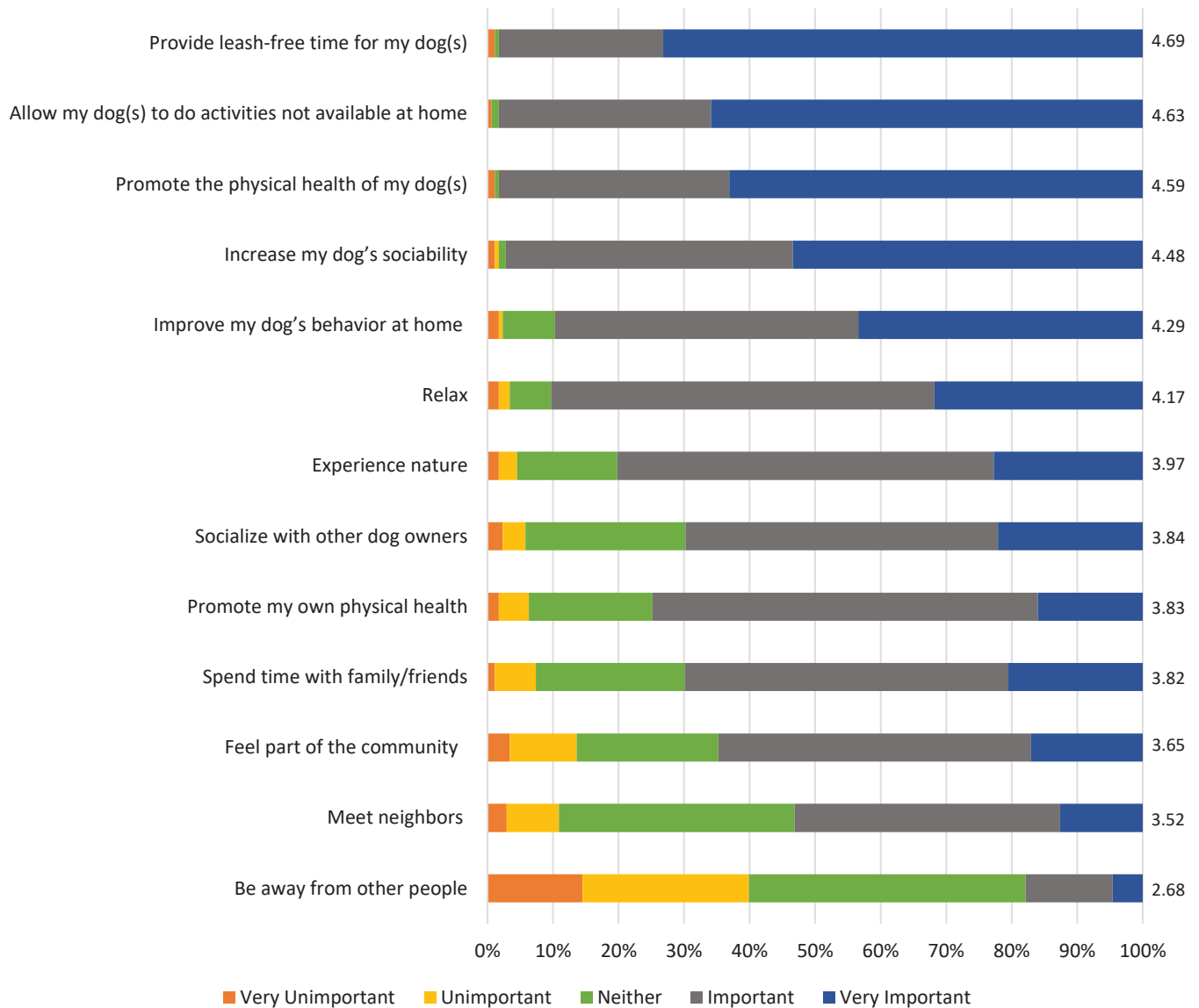


**Figure 23: Weekly visitation times (select all that apply) (n=180)**



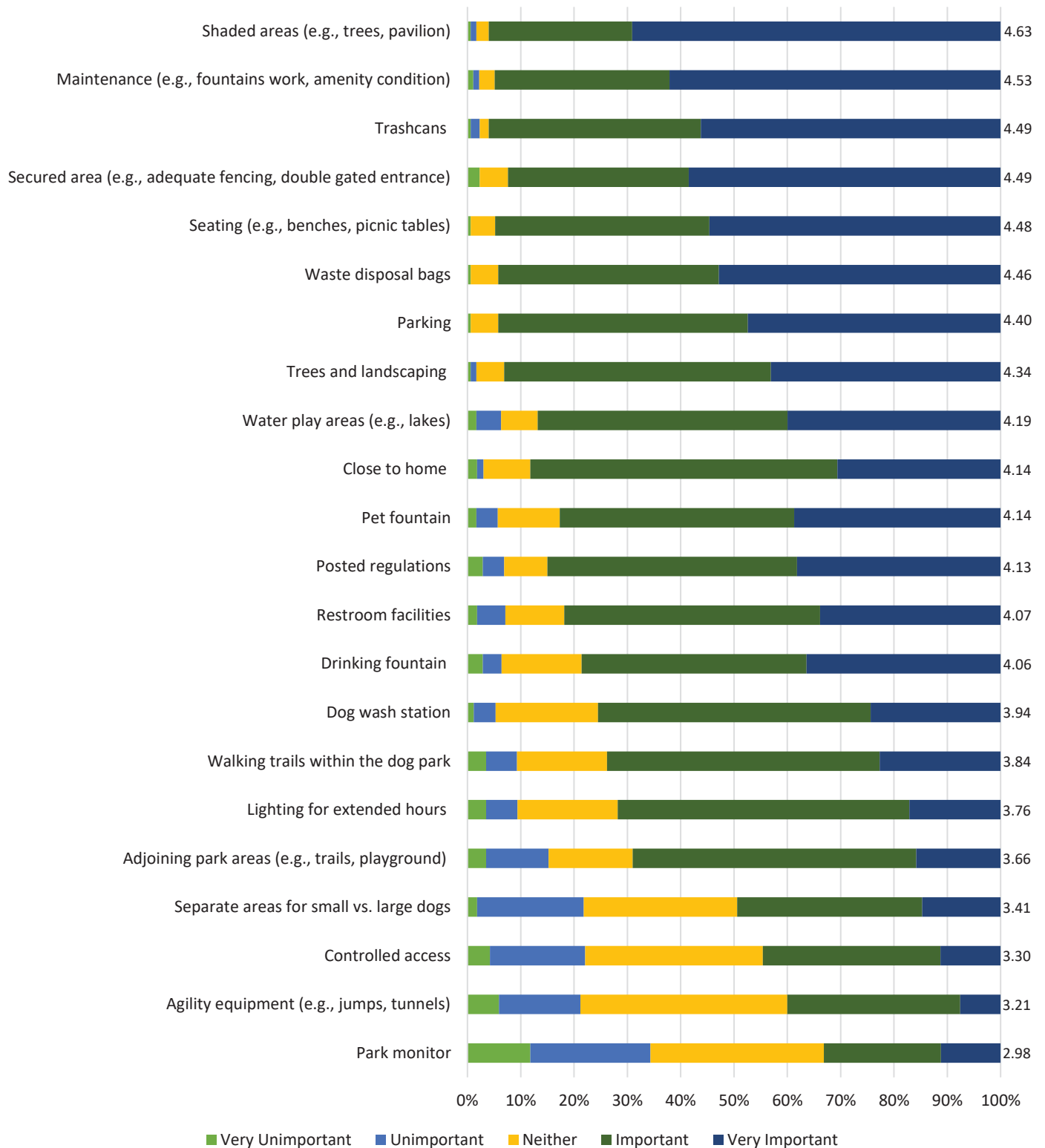
- During the **weekdays (M-F)**, the **most** popular visitation time is *after 5 pm* (56%); the **least** popular time is *11am-2pm* (19%)
- During the **weekends (S-S)**, the **most** popular visitation time is from *2pm-5pm* (62%); the **least** popular time is *Before 8am* (18%)

**Figure 24: Motivations for choosing a dog park**



- Respondents' **most important** (*important/very important*) motivations for visiting a dog park pertain to dog-related motivations: 1) Provide leash-free time for my dog(s) (98%), 2) Allow my dog to do activities not available at home (98%), 3) Promote the physical health of my dog (98%), 4) Increase my dog's sociability (97%), and 5) Improve my dog's behavior at home (90%) (Figure 24)
- Respondents' **least important** (*unimportant/very unimportant*) motivation for visiting a dog park is to Be away from other people (40%) (Figure 24)
- While these motivations remained relatively consistent across the three parks, Promote my own physical health was ranked as second-least important motivation at Indian Hills Dog Park

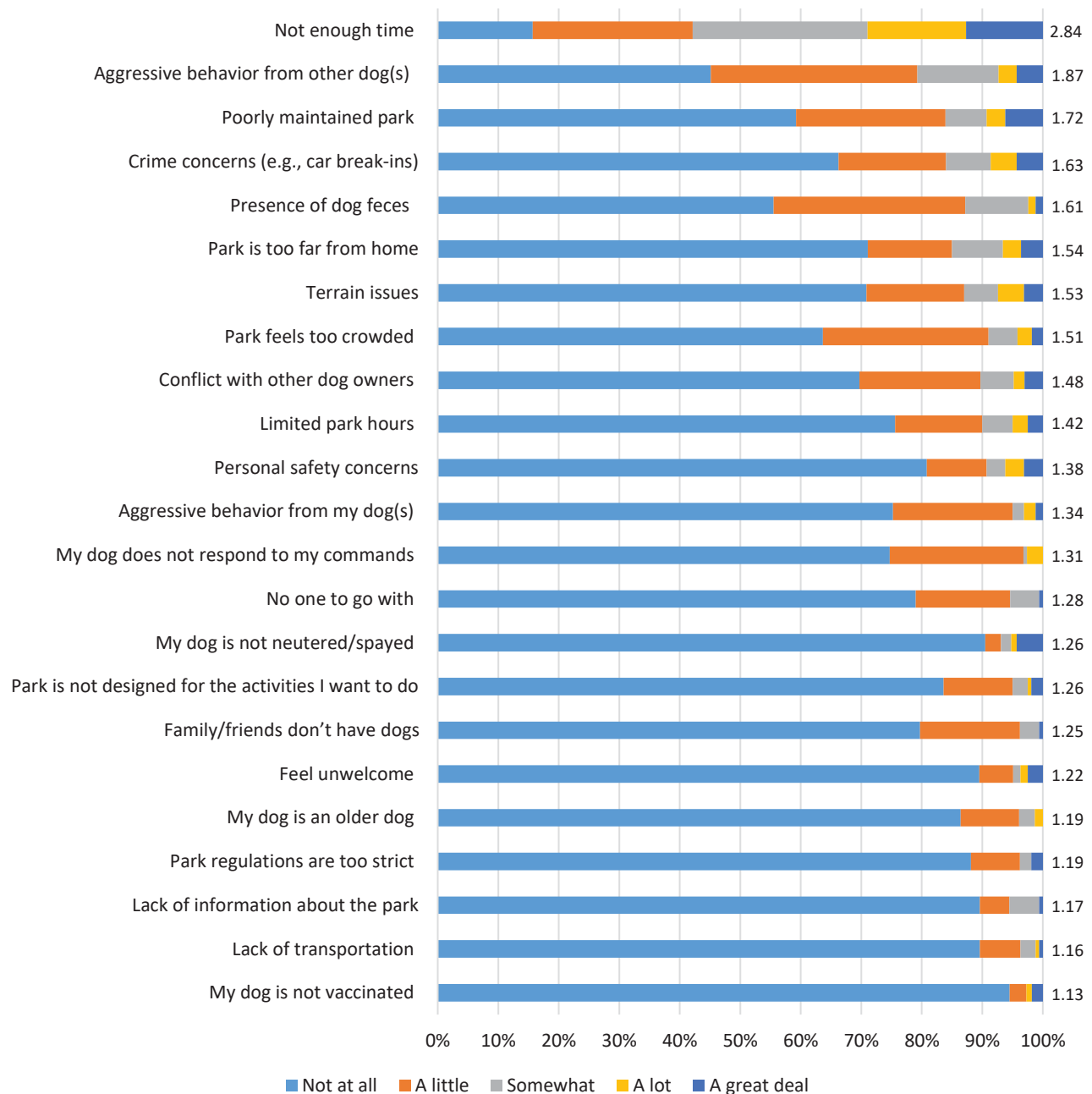
**Figure 25: Importance of dog park attributes**



- **Over 90% of** respondents reported the following dog park attributes to be *Important* or *Very Important*:
  - Shaded areas (96%)
  - Maintenance (95%)
  - Trash cans (96%)
  - Secured area (fencing, double gate) (92%)
  - Seating (95%)
  - Waste disposal bags (94%)
  - Parking (94%)
  - Trees and landscaping (93%)
- **50% - 90%** respondents reported the following dog park attributes to be *Important* or *Very Important*:
  - Water play areas (87%)
  - Close to home (88%)
  - Pet fountain (83%)
  - Posted regulations (85%)
  - Restroom facilities (82%)
  - Drinking fountain (79%)
  - Dog wash station (75%)
  - Walking trails within the dog park (74%)
  - Lighting for extended hours (72%)
  - Adjoining park areas (69%)
- **Less than 50%** of respondents reported the following dog park attributes to be *Important* or *Very Important*:
  - Separate areas for small/large dogs (49%)
  - Controlled access (45%)
  - Agility equipment (40%)
  - Park monitor (33%)



**Figure 26: Constraints to Visitation**

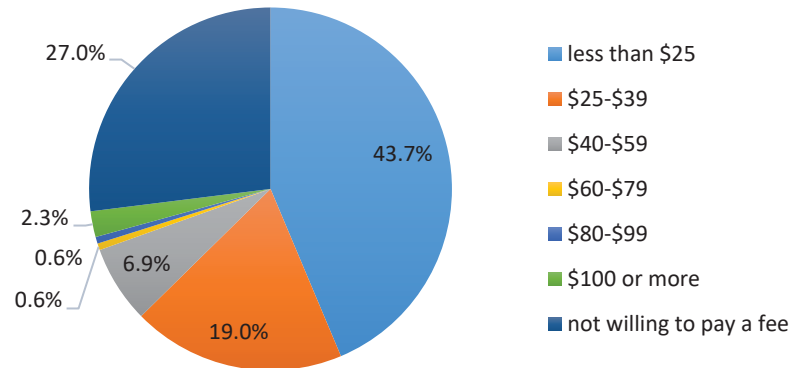


- Overall, visitors reported low levels of constraints. For 21 of the 23 constraint items, at least 80% of respondents expressed *little to no constraint* (Figure 26)
- The greatest constraints to visitation reported were:
  - Not enough time ( $M=2.84$ ; 58% *somewhat to a great deal*)
  - Aggressive behavior from other dogs ( $M=1.87$ ; 21% *somewhat to a great deal*)

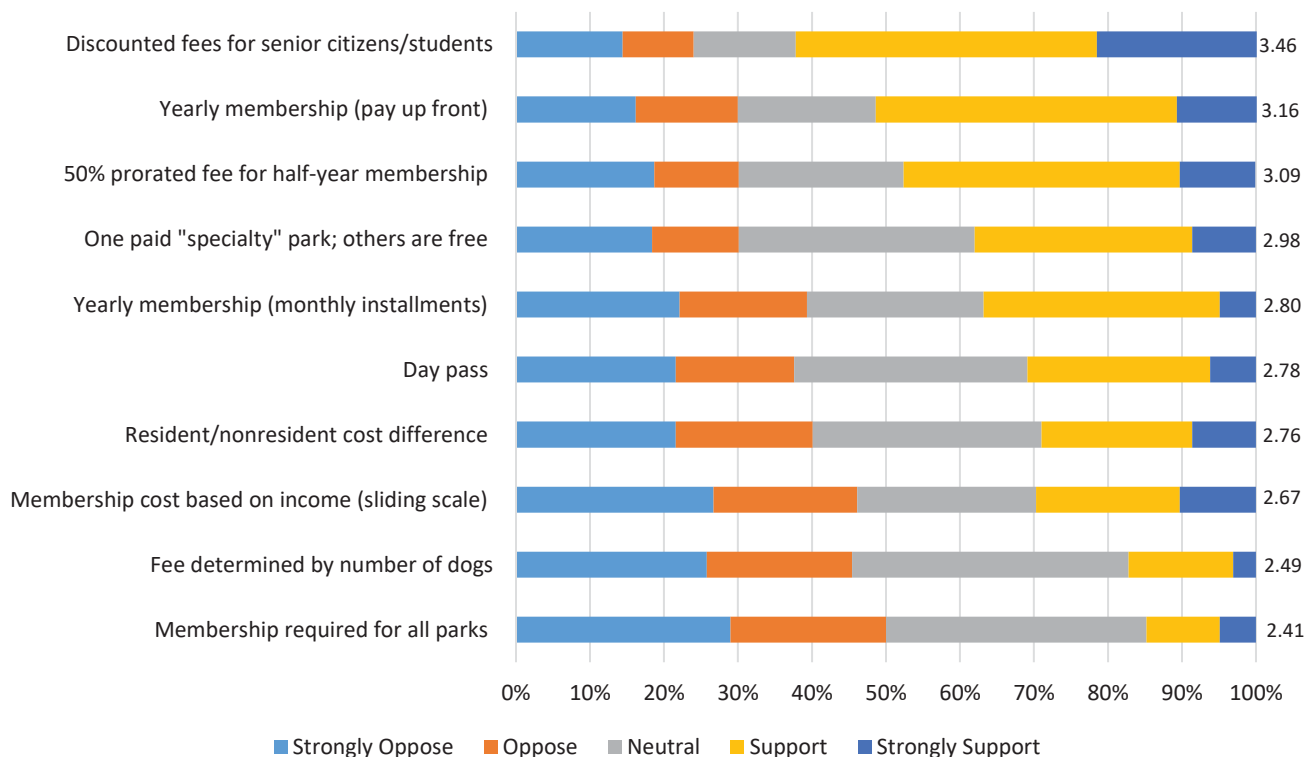
## Section IV: Fees in Dog Parks

**Figure 27: What would you consider a fair annual price for using Columbia Parks & Recreation dog parks? (n=174)**

- 44% of respondents consider less than \$25 to be a fair annual price for using Columbia Parks & Recreation dog parks (Figure 27)
- 27% of respondents reported being unwilling to pay a fee; This may be related to Columbia not having a history of charging fees for dog park use (Figure 27)

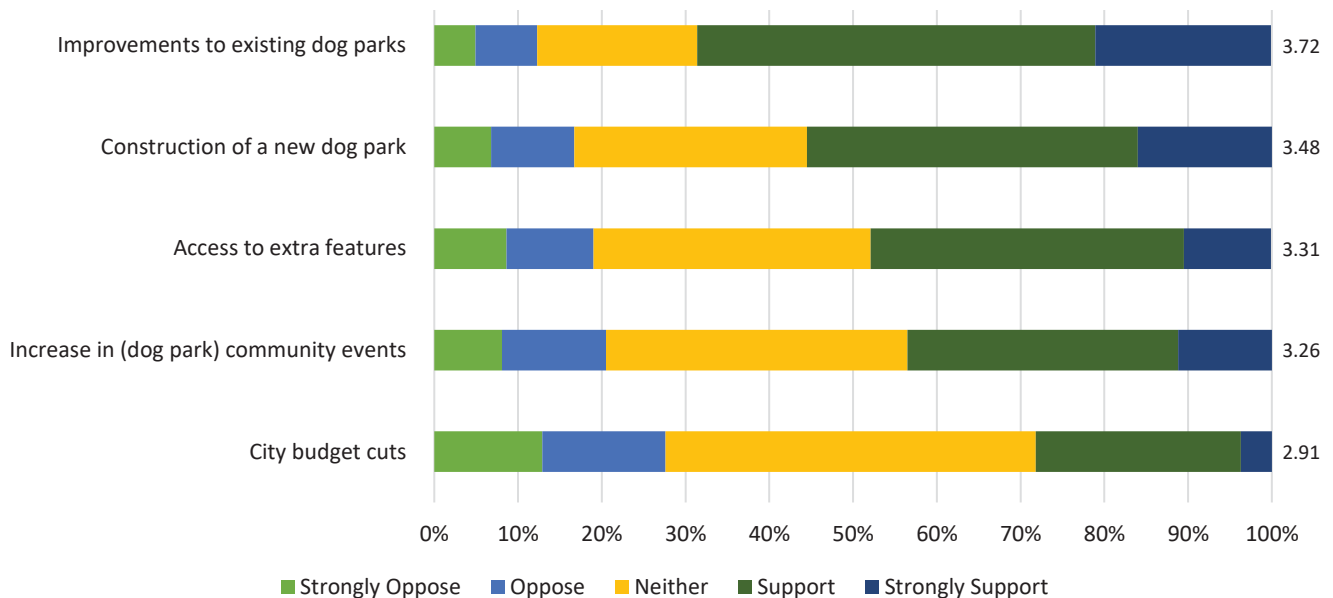


**Figure 28: To what extent would you support or oppose the following fee structures?**



- Respondents indicated the **most support** (*support or strongly support*) for:
  - Discounted fees for senior citizens/students (62%)
  - Yearly membership (pay up front) (52%)
  - 50% prorated fee for half year membership (48%) (Figure 28)
- Respondents prefer one paid “specialty” park (38% *support/strongly support*; 30% *oppose/strongly oppose*) over membership being required for all parks (15% *support/strongly support*; 50% *oppose/strongly oppose*) (Figure 28)

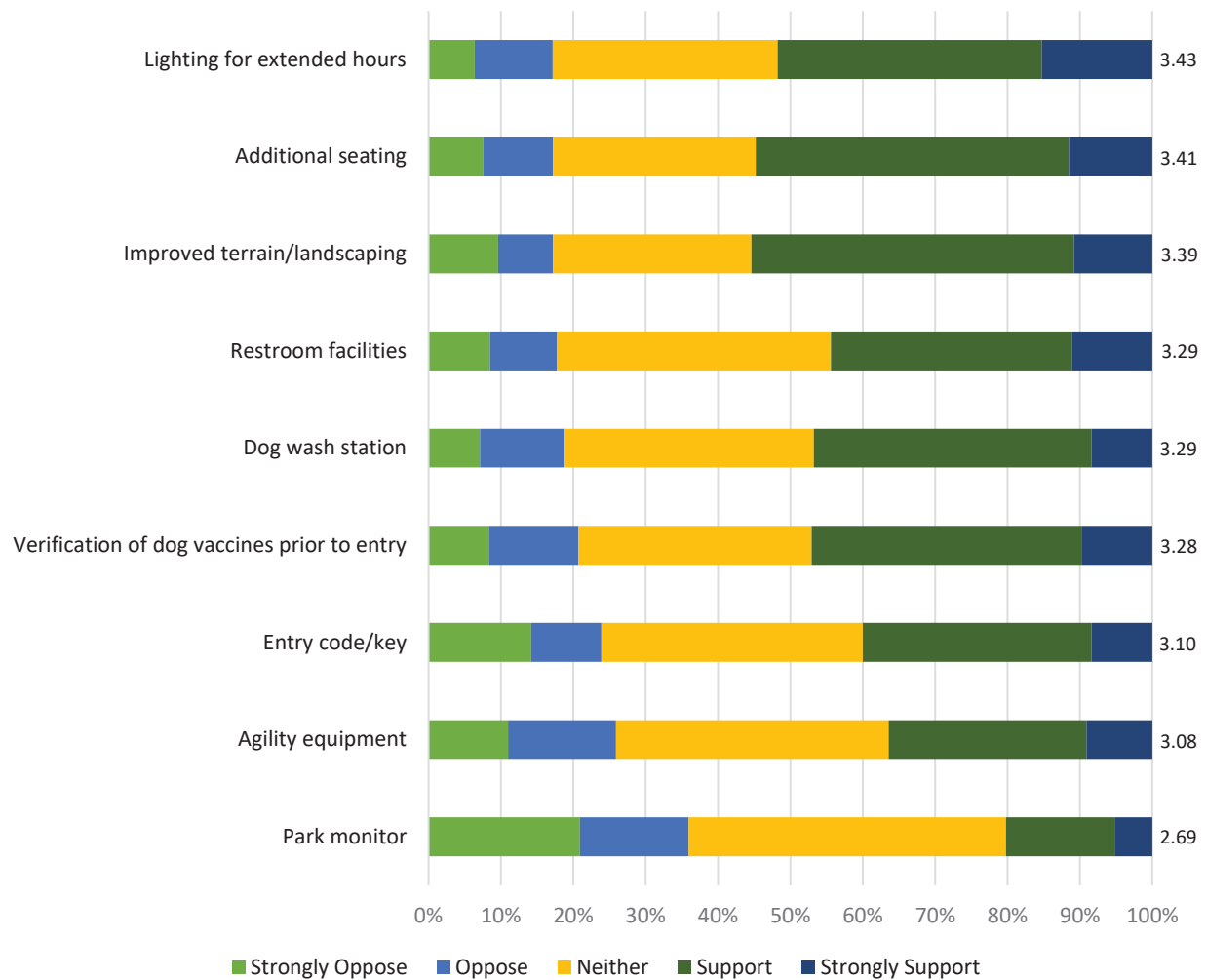
**Figure 29: For each of the following circumstances, to what extent would you support or oppose paying a \$25 fee for using Columbia Parks & Recreation dog parks?**



- Improvements to existing dog parks (69%) was the **most supported** (*support or strongly support*) circumstance for paying a \$25 fee (Figure 29)
- City budget cuts (28%) was the **most opposed** (*oppose or strongly oppose*) circumstance for paying a \$25 fee (Figure 29)



**Figure 30: To what extent would you support or oppose paying a \$25 fee for using Columbia Parks & Recreation dog parks in exchange for the following features?**



- Features that respondents reported the **most support** (*support or strongly support*) for in exchange for paying a \$25 fee include:
  - Lighting for extended hours (52%)
  - Additional seating (55%)
  - Improved terrain/landscaping (55%)
  - Restroom facilities (44%)
- Several differences emerged the rankings across parks:
  - Dog wash station ranked 4<sup>th</sup> most important at Garth, ahead of restroom facilities
  - Dog wash station ranked as the most supported feature at Indian Hills, followed by lighting for extended hours and additional seating.

## Section V: Comments from Dog Park Users

At the end of the survey, respondents were given the opportunity to share any extra questions, comments, or concerns.

Seventy-eight respondents (43%) provided comments. These comments were categorized based upon recurring themes that occurred during the evaluation process.



Many people commented about how much they enjoy the dog parks. Others took this opportunity to elaborate on their concerns and desires about safety and maintenance,

regulations, and features and amenities in the dog park. Comments and questions about the possibility of fees were common, and numerous visitors explained they were new to the area and/or dog ownership. Other comments touched upon usage, and benefits.

Eight themes emerged related to: 1) general positive feedback; 2) features and amenities; 3) safety and maintenance; 4) fees; 5) regulations; 6) usage; 7) benefits; and 8) new to area and/or dog ownership.

The frequency and percentage of each emerging theme is presented in Table 2.



**Table 2: Frequency and percent of themes from respondents' comments**

| Themes                                    | frequency | % of comments |
|-------------------------------------------|-----------|---------------|
| Theme 1: General positive feedback        | 11        | 12%           |
| Theme 2: Features and amenities           | 16        | 18%           |
| Theme 3: Safety & maintenance concerns    | 23        | 25%           |
| Theme 4: Fees                             | 14        | 15%           |
| Theme 5: Regulations                      | 6         | 7%            |
| Theme 6: Usage                            | 10        | 11%           |
| Theme 7: Benefits                         | 2         | 2%            |
| Theme 8: New to area and/or dog ownership | 9         | 10%           |
| <b>Total Comments</b>                     | <b>91</b> |               |

## **Theme 1: General positive feedback**

A number of users expressed positive remarks for a particular dog park or the dog parks in general. Some non-local users expressed the desire for similar facilities in their areas. Below are some examples from respondent quotes:

*"Great park for families (not just dog park)."*  
(Twin Lakes)

*"I appreciate access to designated dog parks."*

*"For me, the dog park is the number one feature about Columbia Parks that I love."*

*"Love twin lakes with the lake and free run. Wish we had this facility in Albuquerque."*

*"Been to dog parks all over California and Hawaii and this is the best one!"* (Twin Lakes)



## **Theme 2: Features and amenities**

A number of users took the opportunity to share what features they desire to see in the dog parks. Most frequent comments indicated needs for shade, more trash cans, and more lighting. Examples of quotes from respondents are noted:

*"More lighting, cameras, rule enforcement, no fishing signs, and shade."* (Twin Lakes)

*"It would be really nice to have a covered pavilion w/ benches over near the back of the larger, all year-round dog park."* (Twin Lakes)

*"Garth has nice shade compared to twin lakes but still maybe could use extra shade on open half."*

*"Nice park, but hard to find shade on a hot day."* (Twin Lakes)

*"We could definitely support more restricted access."* (Indian Hills)

*"It would be nice and more convenient if there were multiple dog waste stations in the park, rather than just one at the entrance."* (Garth)

*"Could please use a garbage can near the tables. There is only one can!!!"* (Garth)

*"Don't like the pea gravel around the lake. Gets in dogs' paws/uncomfortable for them."* (Garth)

*"Strongly support an additional dog park with trail system."*

*"Doggie drinking fountains should be mandatory."*

*"Lighting for after dark should be the biggest priority."* (Indian Hills)

*"More off-leash areas would be nice."*

*"Improve quality and location of bathrooms (far with dog and child)."* (Twin Lakes)



## **Theme 3: Safety and maintenance concerns**

The greatest number of respondent comments were in regard to various safety and

maintenance issues in the dog parks. Some comments noted specific issues, while others were more general. Concerns about presence of dog feces, car break-ins, and dirty swimming water were each noted several times. Examples of respondent comments are below:

*"I love twin Lakes and used to go there constantly, but then one of my dogs swam around the fence and ran away; I wish fence went further out into the water."*

*"Better upkeep, especially need to empty trash cans more as they are filled to the brim with poop.... unsanitary and nasty."* (Twin Lakes)

*"Biggest issue is people not picking up after their dogs."*

*"Twin lakes needs to keep small dogs in small dog area."*

*"Repair fencing so small dogs can't escape."* (Twin Lakes)

*"...however the dog parks on the north side of town, especially Indian hills, lacks general maintenance."*

*"Garth and Twin Lakes dog parks are very often too crowded for a safe experience for dogs as many dogs are not trained well enough."*

*"Garth Dog Park needs work on its pond. It is too shallow, and the aerator doesn't seem to be working well enough, or not powerful enough to adequately move water - water is very stagnant, full of algae already, and smells."*

*"Water is dirty in the small dog area."* (Twin Lakes)

*"We've called the cops on people who go to the dog park at Garth for making threats. We now go to Twin Lakes and it feels far safer. However, I've only been to those two so I can't speak for security at any other Columbia dog park."*

*"Sometimes worried about car break-ins at this park."* (Twin Lakes)

*"I fell in the wooded area. Severely sprained ankle. No help was available. Had a painful long walk back to the car. 'Borrowed' rebar from fence for cane (friend replaced it). Think about ways to provide assistance for accidents."* (Twin Lakes)

*"Poison ivy is prevalent."* (Twin Lakes)

*"2 rules: keep it safe, keep it clean; c'mon, how hard is it?"*

*"Take care of existing parks, stop opening new areas."*



## **Theme 4: Fees**

A number of comments were provided regarding fees. Since Columbia has not charged to use dog parks in the past, respondents had various questions about what fees would be used for. Many comments were shared regarding what respondents would be willing to pay for with a fee, while some elaborated on concerns behind a fee program, or reasons for their unwillingness to pay a fee. Some examples of comments are as follows:

*"Already pay taxes I'm not paying fees. Nice parks already, they don't need more money."*

*"I think extra mowing would be a good incentive for a fee program. I don't think a fee should be*

*levied if taxes can be used to maintain the parks."*

*"Hard to charge fees for all parks as people really need to use dog parks. This might become a financial burden for some. But perhaps make improvements in one park and see if people are willing?"*

*"...but if fees charged, I might not use [the dog park] as much and just go to other off leash areas."*

*"I'd 100% support a fee to deter irresponsible dog owners from bringing their aggressive or unvaccinated dogs."*

*"What exactly would the fees be for?"*

*"Would be willing to pay fee if some types of upgrades/improvements were made for the money spent."*



### **Theme 5: Park regulations**

Several comments from respondents acknowledged issues with, lack of, or modifications to dog-related regulations in parks. The following lists all of the comments:

*"I object that there are absolute leash requirements at other parks."*

*"I suggest modifying that ordinance to designate SOME hours daily at that park (and others?) for the convenience of the large numbers of residents all over town who own*

*dogs and should be able to enjoy [leash-free] access to parks we are financially supporting during early morning hours when the parks are essentially empty and being wasted. Daily, until 8 AM?"*

*"Inform all park rangers about open carry in the parks...they stopped me with my firearm and gave me a ticket for endangering wildlife..."*

*"It could use a few guidelines for owners, such as neutering, but I still love it!!" (Twin Lakes)*

*"Park regulations not enforced." (Twin Lakes)*

*"More rule enforcement." (Twin Lakes)*



### **Theme 6: Usage**

A few comments were related to how, when, and why respondents use the dog parks. This theme highlights the importance of dog parks for those without fenced yards, as well as importance of park features outside the dog park. Examples of comments are listed:

*"We like to bring our puppy here when he has extra energy."*

*"This park [Garth] is closest to home but prefer Twin Lakes when with my kids because of the pool and playground."*

*"We come to this park every day because it is close to home."*

*"We come to the dog park a lot more now that we down sized from our old house to our condo."*

*"Love the dog parks since we don't have a fenced yard."*

*"Been going to dog parks more often lately."*

*"Dog park seems well used by many." (Twin Lakes)*

*"Use this park often; unaware of Indian Hills." (Twin Lakes)*

*"Don't have my own dogs, I usually go to the park with the dogs I take care of from time to time."*



### **Theme 7: Benefits**

The value of dog parks was noted in the following respondent comments:

*"Access to dog parks is so important. Dogs need to run free and far, socialize, and explore natural/wooded areas. A lot of dog owners don't live in this environment and the dogs need it!"*

*"Columbia dog parks are a great way for pet loving residents to come together and also a great way for dogs and dog owners alike to enjoy a more active lifestyle."*



### **Theme 8: New to area and/or dog ownership**

A handful of respondents commented that they were new to the Columbia area, or new to dog ownership. Some of these respondents noted having difficulty answering some of the survey questions due to unfamiliarity. Examples of comments are below:

*"Just moved here about a month ago, and am a new dog owner, so some questions are difficult to answer."*

*"Some questions are hard to answer (why not come as often, fees) as I am new to area and have not experienced the parks and city climate enough to know a for sure opinion on everything."*

*"Some questions I can't answer because I just got my dog this summer."*

*"We currently don't own a dog, but we'll adopt one within 4 weeks."*

*"First time at dog park; would have liked to have more information on dog-friendly activities."*

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## **Appendix A**

### **Survey**

For staff use only: Park: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# COLUMBIA PARKS & RECREATION DOG PARK SURVEY

## TODAY'S VISIT...

1. How did you get to the dog park today? ☐ Walk/Run ☐ Car ☐ Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_
2. About how long did it take you to get here? \_\_\_\_ (hours) : \_\_\_\_ (minutes)
3. About how many miles did you travel to get here? \_\_\_\_ (miles)
4. About how long will you stay here today? \_\_\_\_ (hours) : \_\_\_\_ (minutes)
5. Are you here with any dog(s) today?  
☐ No ☐ Yes (please answer the following questions):
  - a. How many? \_\_\_\_ dog(s)
  - b. Are you the owner of the dog(s)? (check both if applicable) ☐ No ☐ Yes
6. With whom are you visiting the dog park today? (please check all that apply)  
☐ Alone ☐ Family ☐ Friends ☐ Organized group ☐ Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_
7. Regarding this dog park, to what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

| Statements                                                            | Strongly Disagree | Disagree | Neutral | Agree | Strongly Agree |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|----------|---------|-------|----------------|
| This dog park means a lot to me                                       | 1                 | 2        | 3       | 4     | 5              |
| I wouldn't substitute any other dog park for what I do here           | 1                 | 2        | 3       | 4     | 5              |
| I have a lot of fond memories about this dog park                     | 1                 | 2        | 3       | 4     | 5              |
| I have a special connection with the people who come to this dog park | 1                 | 2        | 3       | 4     | 5              |
| I enjoy recreating at this dog park more than any other dog park      | 1                 | 2        | 3       | 4     | 5              |
| This dog park is the best place for dogs                              | 1                 | 2        | 3       | 4     | 5              |
| I am very attached to this dog park                                   | 1                 | 2        | 3       | 4     | 5              |
| I bring my family/friends to this dog park                            | 1                 | 2        | 3       | 4     | 5              |
| I identify strongly with this dog park                                | 1                 | 2        | 3       | 4     | 5              |

## COLUMBIA PARKS & RECREATION DOG PARKS

8. For each Columbia Parks & Recreation dog park listed below, please answer the following three questions about your park use. (please enter "0" if you do not visit that dog park)
  - (1) About how many times have you visited each dog park in the past 12 months? (including today)
  - (2) About how many total times have you visited each dog park? (estimate)
  - (3) How many years have you been coming to each dog park?
  - a. Indian Hills Dog Park: \_\_\_\_\_ times (past 12 months) \_\_\_\_\_ times (total) \_\_\_\_\_ years
  - b. Garth Dog Park: \_\_\_\_\_ times (past 12 months) \_\_\_\_\_ times (total) \_\_\_\_\_ years
  - c. Twin Lakes Dog Park: \_\_\_\_\_ times (past 12 months) \_\_\_\_\_ times (total) \_\_\_\_\_ years

9. About how many times do you visit any of the Columbia Parks & Recreation dog parks during each season? (circle one response in each row)

| Season                     | Never (0) | Rarely (1-4) | Sometimes (5-19) | Often (20-49) | Frequently (50+) |
|----------------------------|-----------|--------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|
| Winter (December-February) | 0         | 1-4          | 5-19             | 20-49         | 50+              |
| Spring (March-May)         | 0         | 1-4          | 5-19             | 20-49         | 50+              |
| Summer (June-August)       | 0         | 1-4          | 5-19             | 20-49         | 50+              |
| Fall (September-November)  | 0         | 1-4          | 5-19             | 20-49         | 50+              |

10. For each part of the week listed below, what times of the day do you typically visit any of the Columbia Parks & Recreation dog parks? (check all that apply in each row)

- a. Weekdays (Mon-Fri): ☐ do not visit ☐ before 8am ☐ 8am-11am ☐ 11am-2pm ☐ 2pm- 5pm ☐ after 5pm
- b. Weekends (Sat-Sun): ☐ do not visit ☐ before 8am ☐ 8am-11am ☐ 11am-2pm ☐ 2pm- 5pm ☐ after 5pm

**11. How important or unimportant are each of the following reasons to you when choosing to visit a dog park?**

| <u>Reasons</u>                                         | Very<br>Unimportant | Unimportant | Neither | Important | Very<br>Important |
|--------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------|---------|-----------|-------------------|
| Feel part of the community                             | 1                   | 2           | 3       | 4         | 5                 |
| Relax                                                  | 1                   | 2           | 3       | 4         | 5                 |
| Spend time with family/friends                         | 1                   | 2           | 3       | 4         | 5                 |
| Experience nature                                      | 1                   | 2           | 3       | 4         | 5                 |
| Socialize with other dog owners                        | 1                   | 2           | 3       | 4         | 5                 |
| Promote my own physical health                         | 1                   | 2           | 3       | 4         | 5                 |
| Promote the physical health of my dog(s)               | 1                   | 2           | 3       | 4         | 5                 |
| Increase my dog's sociability                          | 1                   | 2           | 3       | 4         | 5                 |
| Improve my dog's behavior at home                      | 1                   | 2           | 3       | 4         | 5                 |
| Provide leash-free time for my dog(s)                  | 1                   | 2           | 3       | 4         | 5                 |
| Allow my dog(s) to do activities not available at home | 1                   | 2           | 3       | 4         | 5                 |
| Meet neighbors                                         | 1                   | 2           | 3       | 4         | 5                 |
| Be away from other people                              | 1                   | 2           | 3       | 4         | 5                 |

**12. How important or unimportant are each of the following attributes when you choose a dog park?**

| <u>Site Attributes</u>                                       | Very<br>Unimportant | Unimportant | Neither | Important | Very<br>Important |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------|---------|-----------|-------------------|
| Trashcans                                                    | 1                   | 2           | 3       | 4         | 5                 |
| Water play areas (e.g., lakes)                               | 1                   | 2           | 3       | 4         | 5                 |
| Agility equipment (e.g., jumps, tunnels)                     | 1                   | 2           | 3       | 4         | 5                 |
| Lighting for extended hours                                  | 1                   | 2           | 3       | 4         | 5                 |
| Seating (e.g., benches, picnic tables)                       | 1                   | 2           | 3       | 4         | 5                 |
| Shaded areas (e.g., trees, pavilion)                         | 1                   | 2           | 3       | 4         | 5                 |
| Trees and landscaping                                        | 1                   | 2           | 3       | 4         | 5                 |
| Waste disposal bags                                          | 1                   | 2           | 3       | 4         | 5                 |
| Dog wash station                                             | 1                   | 2           | 3       | 4         | 5                 |
| Drinking fountain                                            | 1                   | 2           | 3       | 4         | 5                 |
| Pet fountain (drinking fountain with attached dog bowl)      | 1                   | 2           | 3       | 4         | 5                 |
| Restroom facilities                                          | 1                   | 2           | 3       | 4         | 5                 |
| Parking                                                      | 1                   | 2           | 3       | 4         | 5                 |
| Park monitor                                                 | 1                   | 2           | 3       | 4         | 5                 |
| Controlled access (e.g., proof of vaccination, membership)   | 1                   | 2           | 3       | 4         | 5                 |
| Posted regulations                                           | 1                   | 2           | 3       | 4         | 5                 |
| Walking trails within the dog park                           | 1                   | 2           | 3       | 4         | 5                 |
| Adjoining park areas (e.g., trails, playground)              | 1                   | 2           | 3       | 4         | 5                 |
| Close to home                                                | 1                   | 2           | 3       | 4         | 5                 |
| Maintenance (e.g., fountains work, amenity condition)        | 1                   | 2           | 3       | 4         | 5                 |
| Separate areas for small vs. large dogs                      | 1                   | 2           | 3       | 4         | 5                 |
| Secured area (e.g., adequate fencing, double gated entrance) | 1                   | 2           | 3       | 4         | 5                 |

**13. To what extent do the following keep you from visiting this dog park as often as you would like?**

| <u>Situations</u>                                                | Not at all | A little | Somewhat | A lot | A great deal | Not Applicable |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|----------|----------|-------|--------------|----------------|
| Not enough time                                                  | 1          | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5            | NA             |
| Park is too far from home                                        | 1          | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5            | NA             |
| Lack of transportation                                           | 1          | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5            | NA             |
| Park feels too crowded                                           | 1          | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5            | NA             |
| Feel unwelcome                                                   | 1          | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5            | NA             |
| Conflict with other dog owners                                   | 1          | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5            | NA             |
| No one to go with                                                | 1          | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5            | NA             |
| Aggressive behavior from my dog(s)                               | 1          | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5            | NA             |
| Aggressive behavior from other dog(s)                            | 1          | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5            | NA             |
| My dog is not vaccinated                                         | 1          | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5            | NA             |
| My dog is not neutered/spayed                                    | 1          | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5            | NA             |
| My dog does not respond to my commands                           | 1          | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5            | NA             |
| Park regulations are too strict                                  | 1          | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5            | NA             |
| Presence of dog feces                                            | 1          | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5            | NA             |
| Poorly maintained park (e.g., excess trash, run down facilities) | 1          | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5            | NA             |
| Limited park hours                                               | 1          | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5            | NA             |
| Terrain issues (e.g., lack of grass, erosion)                    | 1          | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5            | NA             |
| Personal safety concerns (e.g., fear of injury)                  | 1          | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5            | NA             |
| Crime concerns (e.g., car break-ins)                             | 1          | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5            | NA             |
| My dog is an older dog                                           | 1          | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5            | NA             |
| Park is not designed for the activities I want to do             | 1          | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5            | NA             |
| Family/friends don't have dogs                                   | 1          | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5            | NA             |
| Lack of information about the park                               | 1          | 2        | 3        | 4     | 5            | NA             |

**FEES IN DOG PARKS**

**14. Some dog parks in Missouri charge fees, ranging from \$25-\$100 annually. What would you consider a fair annual price for using Columbia Parks & Recreation dog parks? (check one)**

☐ less than \$25   ☐ \$25-\$39   ☐ \$40-\$59   ☐ \$60-\$79   ☐ \$80-\$99   ☐ \$100 or more   ☐ Not willing to pay a fee

**15. To what extent would you support or oppose each of the following fee structures?**

| <u>Fee Structure</u>                            | Strongly Oppose | Oppose | Neutral | Support | Strongly Support |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------|--------|---------|---------|------------------|
| Yearly membership (pay up front)                | 1               | 2      | 3       | 4       | 5                |
| Yearly membership (monthly installments)        | 1               | 2      | 3       | 4       | 5                |
| Membership cost based on income (sliding scale) | 1               | 2      | 3       | 4       | 5                |
| 50% prorated fee for half-year membership       | 1               | 2      | 3       | 4       | 5                |
| Discounted fees for senior citizens/students    | 1               | 2      | 3       | 4       | 5                |
| Day pass                                        | 1               | 2      | 3       | 4       | 5                |
| Resident/nonresident cost difference            | 1               | 2      | 3       | 4       | 5                |
| One paid "specialty" park; others are free      | 1               | 2      | 3       | 4       | 5                |
| Membership required for all parks               | 1               | 2      | 3       | 4       | 5                |
| Fee determined by number of dogs                | 1               | 2      | 3       | 4       | 5                |

16. For each of the following circumstances, to what extent would you support or oppose paying a \$25 fee for using Columbia Parks & Recreation dog parks?

| Circumstances                           | Strongly Oppose | Oppose | Neutral | Support | Strongly Support |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------------|--------|---------|---------|------------------|
| Access to extra features                | 1               | 2      | 3       | 4       | 5                |
| City budget cuts                        | 1               | 2      | 3       | 4       | 5                |
| Construction of a new dog park          | 1               | 2      | 3       | 4       | 5                |
| Improvements to existing dog parks      | 1               | 2      | 3       | 4       | 5                |
| Increase in (dog park) community events | 1               | 2      | 3       | 4       | 5                |

17. To what extent would you support or oppose paying a \$25 fee for using Columbia Parks & Recreation dog parks in exchange for the following features?

| Features                                    | Strongly Oppose | Oppose | Neutral | Support | Strongly Support |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------------|--------|---------|---------|------------------|
| Agility equipment                           | 1               | 2      | 3       | 4       | 5                |
| Lighting for extended hours                 | 1               | 2      | 3       | 4       | 5                |
| Dog wash station                            | 1               | 2      | 3       | 4       | 5                |
| Additional seating                          | 1               | 2      | 3       | 4       | 5                |
| Improved terrain/landscaping                | 1               | 2      | 3       | 4       | 5                |
| Restroom facilities                         | 1               | 2      | 3       | 4       | 5                |
| Park monitor                                | 1               | 2      | 3       | 4       | 5                |
| Verification of dog vaccines prior to entry | 1               | 2      | 3       | 4       | 5                |
| Entry code/key                              | 1               | 2      | 3       | 4       | 5                |

FINALLY, PLEASE TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF ....

18. What is your gender? ☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Other ☐ Prefer not to respond

19. What year were you born? \_\_\_\_\_

20. What is your annual household income before taxes? (check one)

- ☐ less than \$25,000   
 ☐ \$25,000-49,999   
 ☐ \$50,000-74,999   
 ☐ \$75,000-99,999  
☐ \$100,000-149,999   
 ☐ \$150,000-199,999   
 ☐ \$200,000 or more

21. How many children under the age of 18 live in your household? \_\_\_\_\_ children under 18 in household

22. How many dogs do you own? \_\_\_\_\_ dog(s)

23. What is your residence type? ☐ House ☐ Apartment ☐ Condominium/Duplex ☐ Other

24. Does your residence have a fenced in area for dog(s)? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't own dog(s)

25. What is your zip code? \_\_\_\_\_

26. Please share any other comments, questions or concerns:

*You're done! Thank you very much for completing this survey.*

**Appendix B**  
**Brief Report (Overall)**

## **Columbia Parks and Recreation Dog Park Study**

### **Brief Report: Overall Sample**

Lily Bennett  
Sonja Wilhelm Stanis, PhD



**School of Natural Resources**  
University of Missouri

This brief report presents a summary of the onsite visitor survey data collected from three Columbia Parks and Recreation Dog Parks (Indian Hills, Garth, Twin Lakes) May-August 2018 (Response rate 83.7%; n=180)

### Section I: Respondent Profile

Figure 1: Respondent gender (n=176)

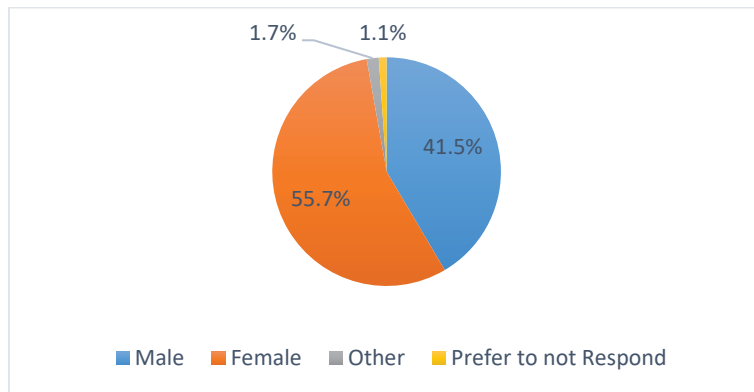


Figure 2: Respondent age groups (n=170)

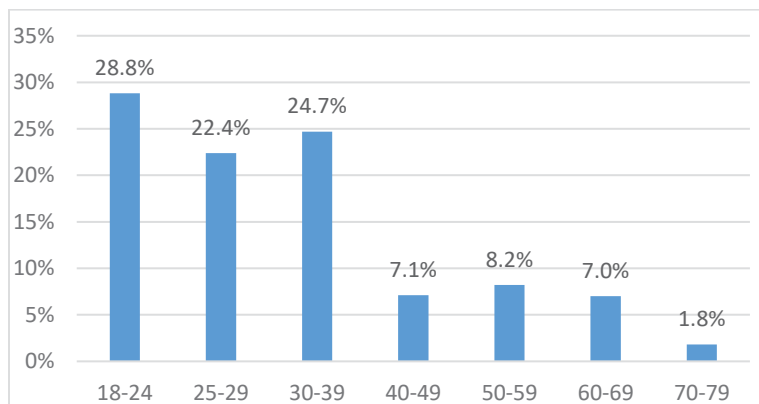


Figure 3: Annual household income before taxes (n=171)

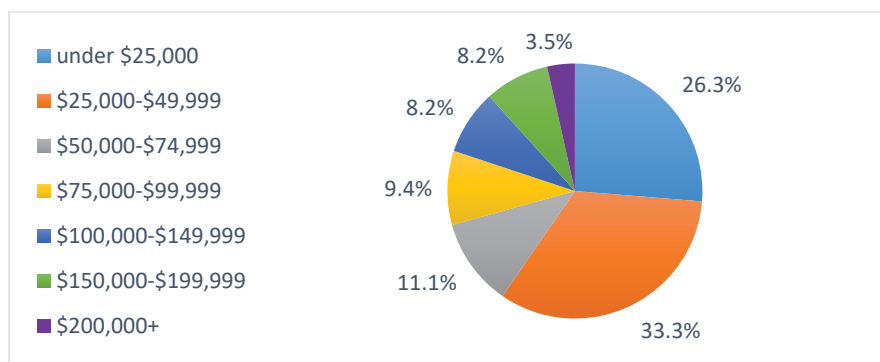


Figure 4: Number of children under 18 in household (n=168)

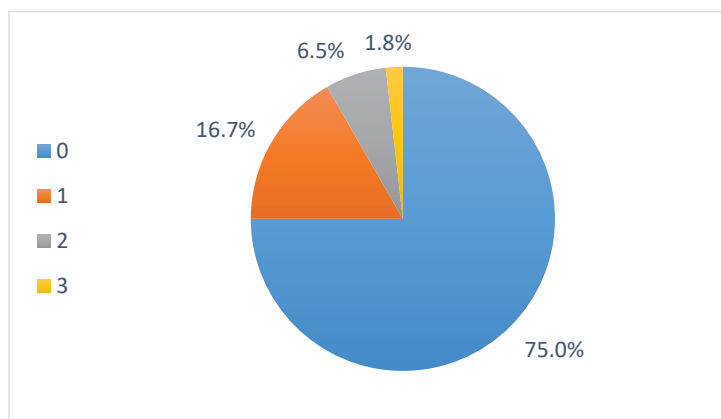


Figure 5: Number of dogs owned (n=173)

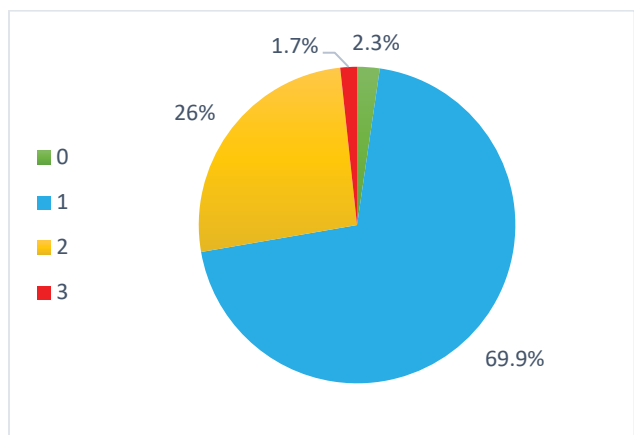


Figure 6: Residence type (n=175)

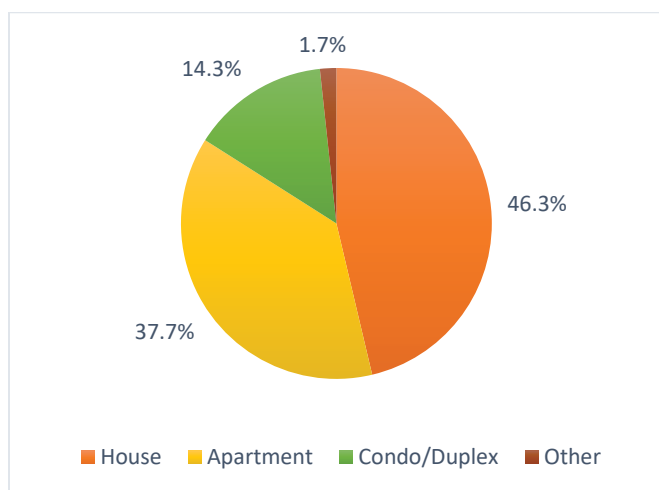


Figure 7: Does your residence have a fenced area for dogs? (n=176)

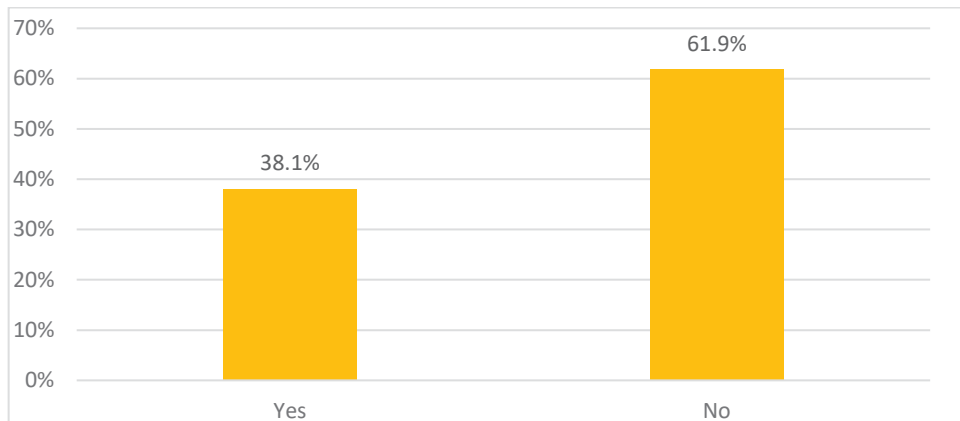


Figure 8: What is your zip code? (n=168)

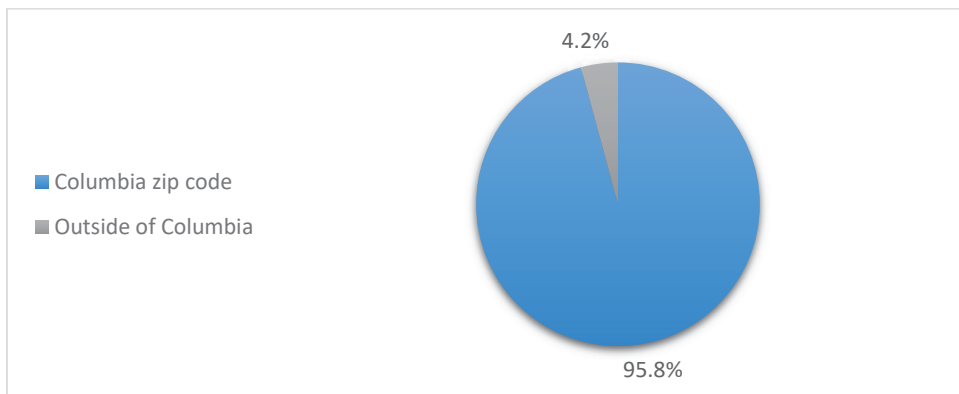
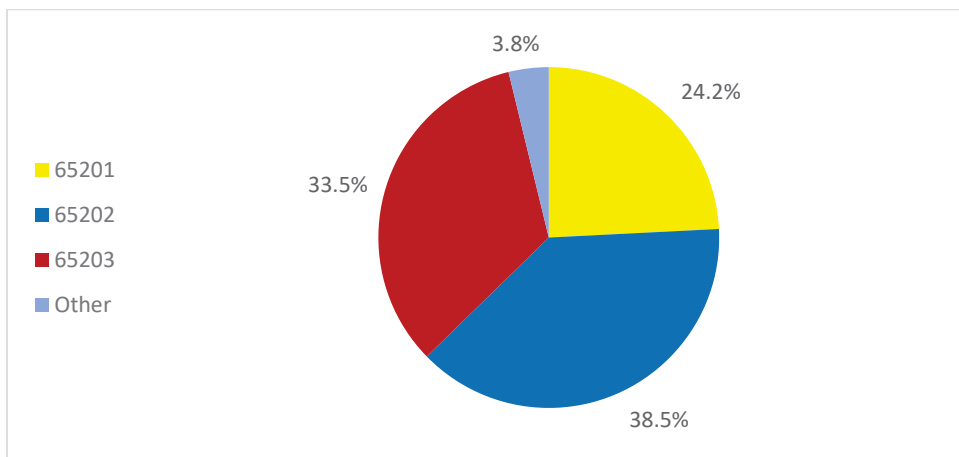


Figure 9: Respondent zip codes (within Columbia) (n=161)



## Section II: Usage and Today's Visit

Figure 10: Percentage of respondents by park (n=180)

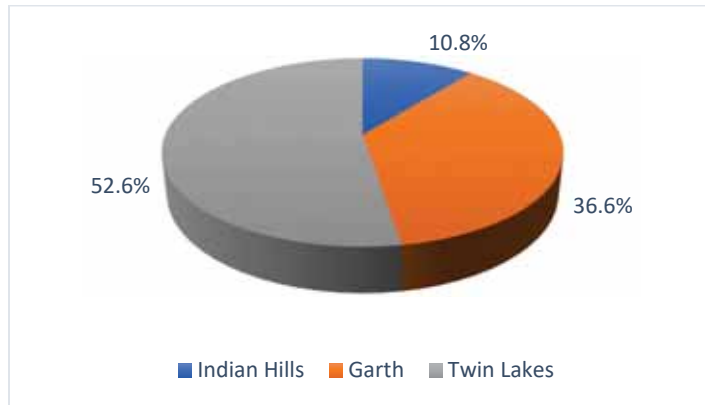


Figure 11: Transportation to the dog park (n=179)

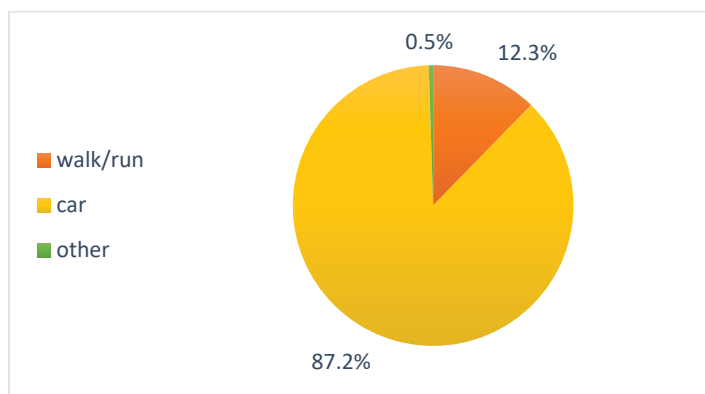


Figure 12: Travel time (minutes) (n=178)

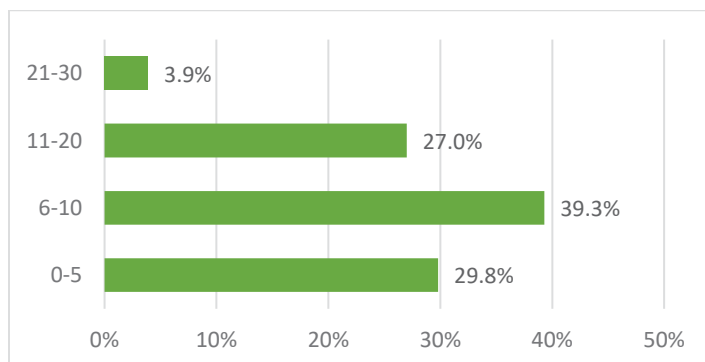


Figure 13: Miles traveled to dog park (n=174)

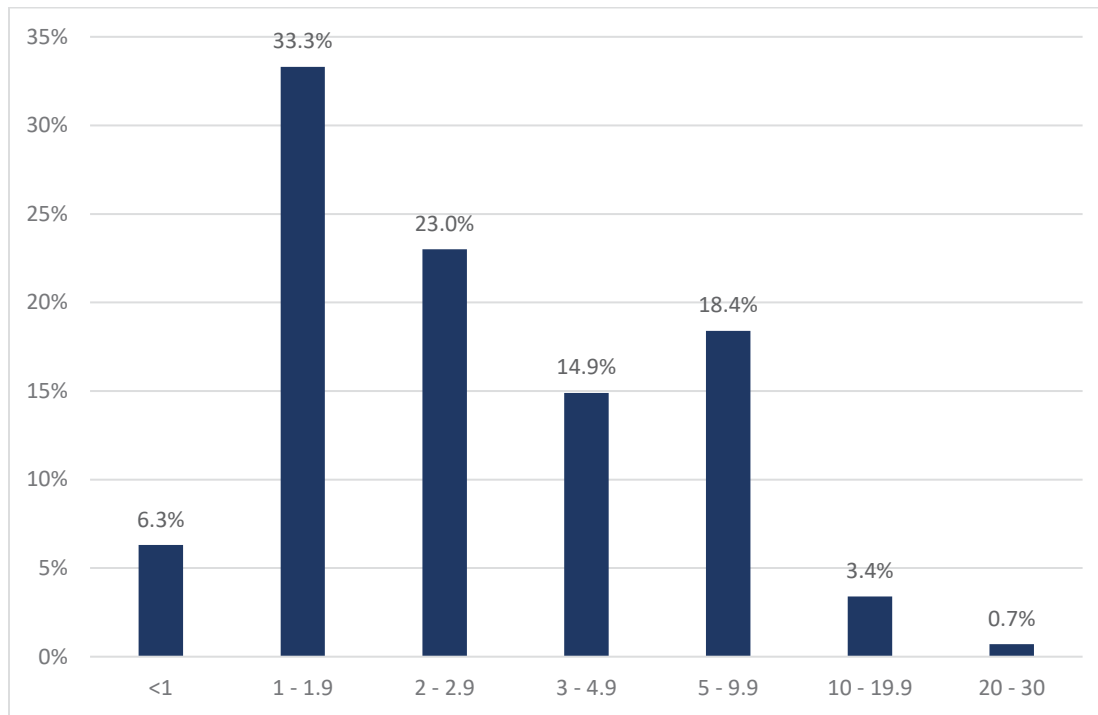


Figure 14: Length of stay at the dog park (minutes) (n=172)

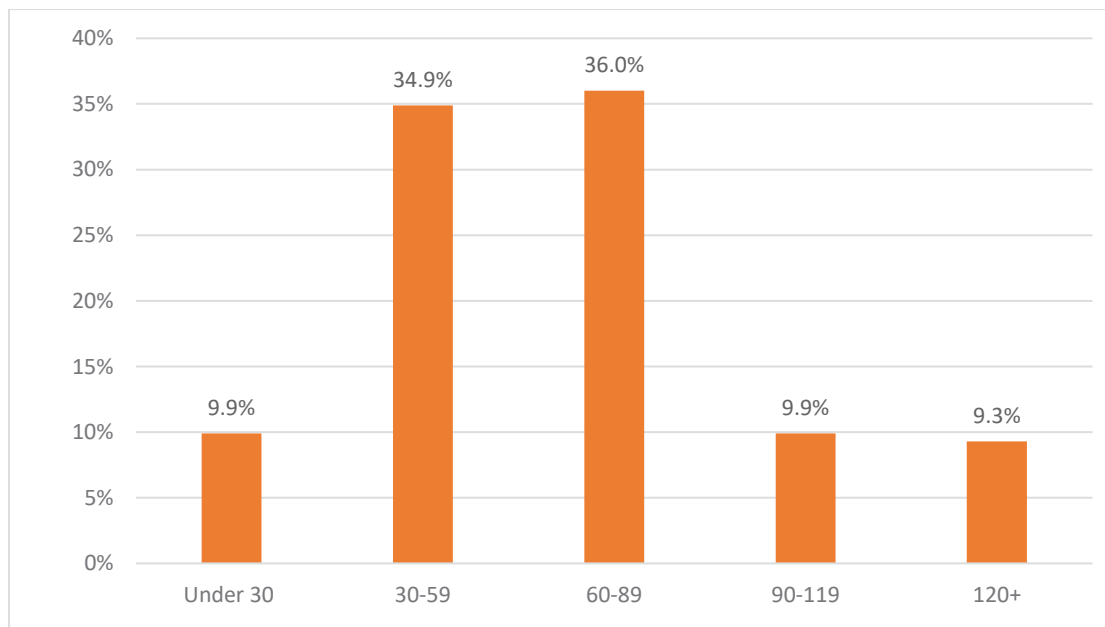


Figure 15: Are you here with dog(s) today? (n=180)

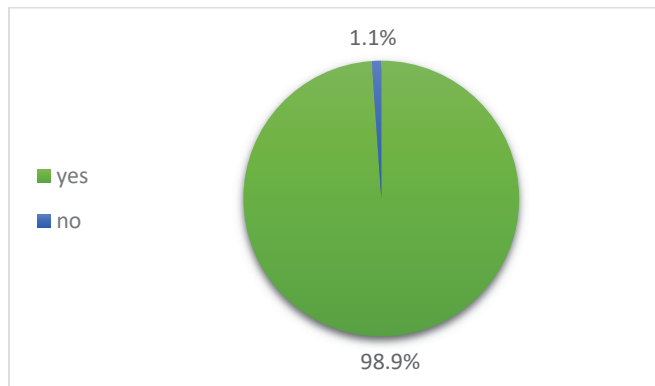


Figure 16: If you are with a dog(s), then how many dog(s) are you here with today? (n=178)

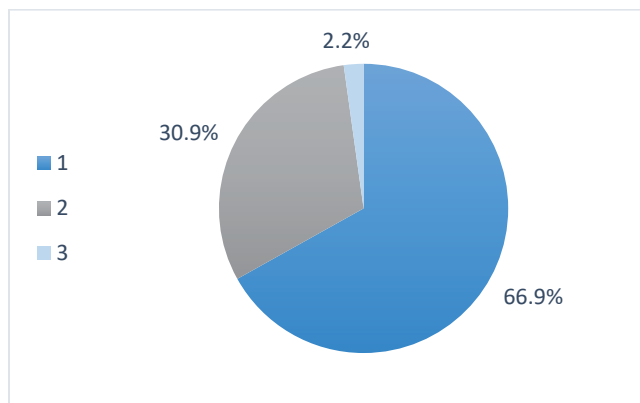


Figure 17: If you are with a dog(s), are you the owner of the dogs? (n=176)

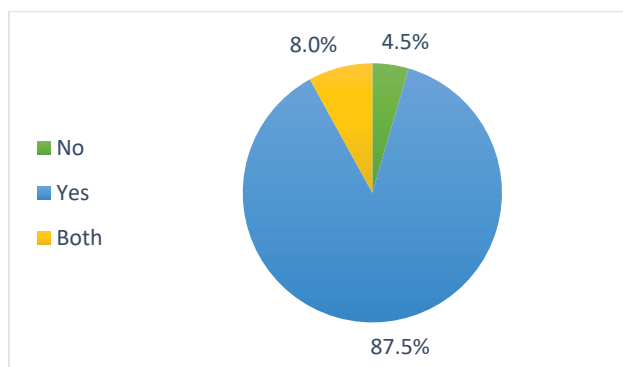
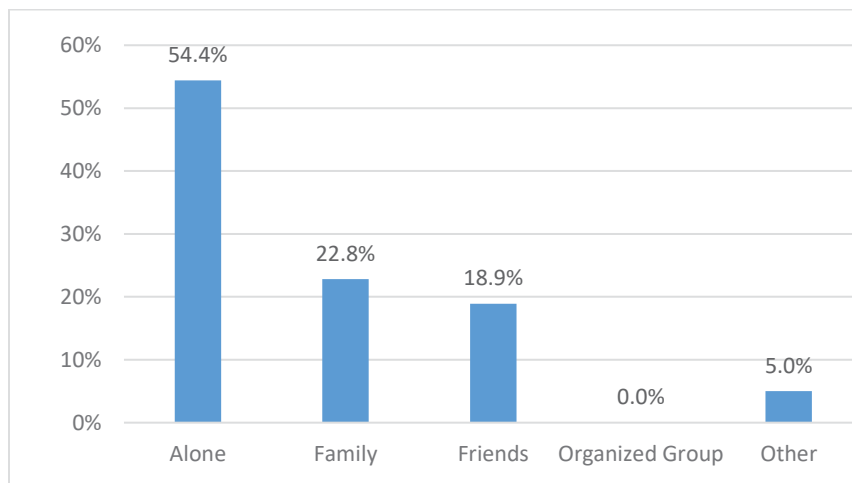


Figure 18: With whom are you visiting the dog park today? (check all that apply) (n=180)



Most common "Other" response is "significant other"

Table 1: Place Attachment

|                                                                       | n   | Mean        | S.D.        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-------------|-------------|
| <b>Place Identity</b>                                                 |     | <b>3.86</b> | <b>.244</b> |
| This dog park means a lot to me                                       | 179 | 4.13        | .711        |
| I am very attached to this dog park                                   | 177 | 3.81        | .829        |
| I identify strongly with this dog park                                | 176 | 3.65        | .834        |
| <b>Place Dependence</b>                                               |     | <b>3.72</b> | <b>.127</b> |
| I enjoy recreating at this dog park more than any other dog park      | 179 | 3.80        | .789        |
| This dog park is the best place for dogs                              | 178 | 3.78        | .832        |
| I wouldn't substitute any other dog park for what I do here           | 178 | 3.57        | .787        |
| <b>Place Bonding</b>                                                  |     | <b>3.77</b> | <b>.293</b> |
| I have a lot of fond memories about this dog park                     | 178 | 3.96        | .773        |
| I bring my family/friends to this dog park                            | 176 | 3.91        | .788        |
| I have a special connection with the people who come to this dog park | 176 | 3.43        | .885        |

1=Strongly Disagree, 5=Strongly Agree

### Section III: Columbia Parks and Recreation Dog Parks

Figure 19: Park visitation

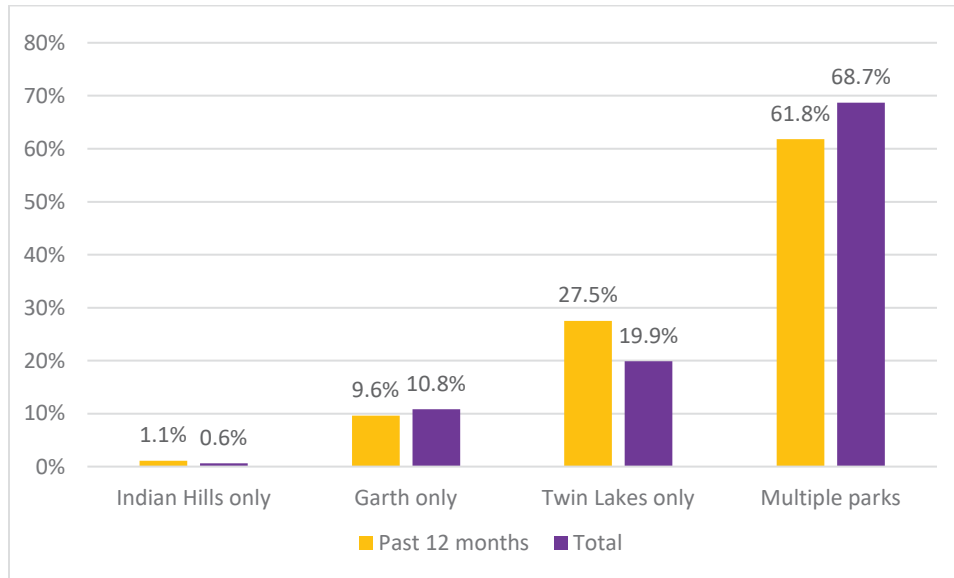


Table 2: Park visitation

|                | n   | Indian Hills only | Garth only | Twin Lakes only | Multiple parks |
|----------------|-----|-------------------|------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Past 12 months | 178 | 1.1%              | 9.6%       | 27.5%           | 61.8%          |
| Total          | 166 | 0.6%              | 10.8%      | 19.9%           | 68.7%          |

Figure 20: Average (mean) number of visits to each dog park

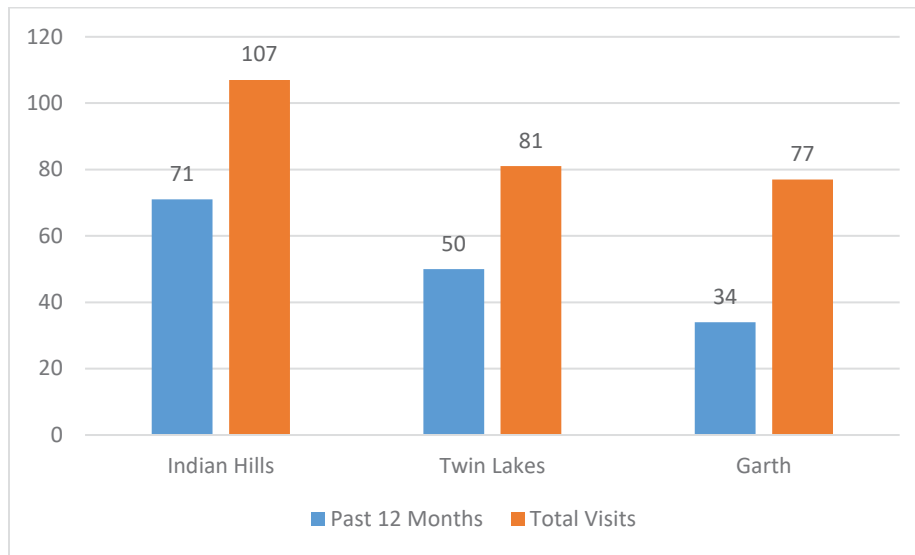


Table 3: Average number of visits to each dog park *over the past 12 months*

|              | n   | Minimum | Maximum | Median | Mean |
|--------------|-----|---------|---------|--------|------|
| Indian Hills | 40  | 1       | 800     | 5      | 71   |
| Twin Lakes   | 155 | 1       | 700     | 15     | 50   |
| Garth        | 120 | 1       | 300     | 10     | 34   |

"Mean" and "Median" are rounded to the nearest whole number

Respondents who indicated they had not visited the dog park were excluded from the analysis.

Table 4: Average number of *total* visits to each dog park

|              | n   | Minimum | Maximum | Median | Mean |
|--------------|-----|---------|---------|--------|------|
| Indian Hills | 54  | 1       | 2100    | 10     | 107  |
| Twin Lakes   | 145 | 1       | 1000    | 25     | 81   |
| Garth        | 126 | 1       | 900     | 20     | 77   |

"Mean" and "Median" are rounded to the nearest whole number

Respondents who indicated they had not visited the dog park were excluded from the analysis

Figure 21: Average (mean) number of *years* coming to each dog park

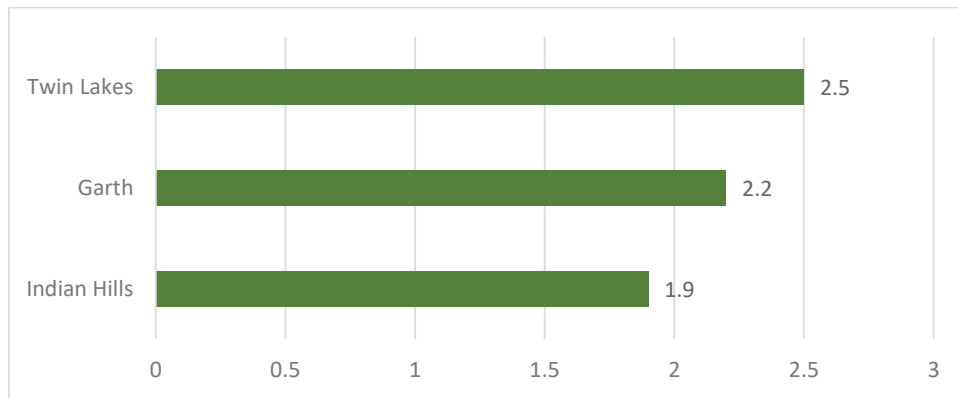


Table 5: Average number of years coming to each dog park

|              | n   | Minimum | Maximum | Median | Mean |
|--------------|-----|---------|---------|--------|------|
| Twin Lakes   | 145 | 0.1     | 15      | 2      | 2.5  |
| Garth        | 123 | 0.3     | 10      | 2      | 2.2  |
| Indian Hills | 48  | 0.5     | 6       | 2      | 1.9  |

Respondents who indicated they had not visited the dog park were excluded from the analysis

Figure 22: Park visitation per season

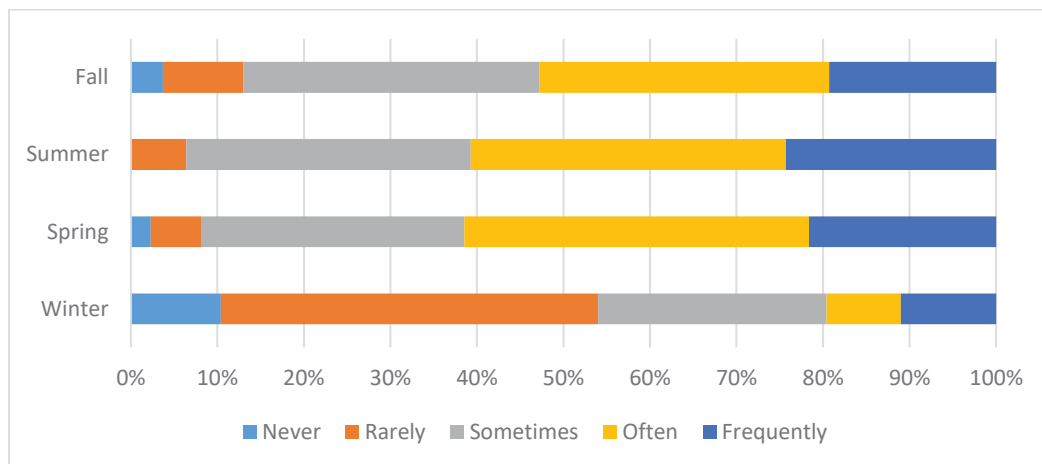


Table 6: Park visitation per season

|        | n   | Never<br>(0) | Rarely<br>(1-4) | Sometimes<br>(5-19) | Often<br>(20-49) | Frequently<br>(50+) |
|--------|-----|--------------|-----------------|---------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Fall   | 161 | 3.7%         | 9.3%            | 34.2%               | 33.5%            | 19.3%               |
| Summer | 173 | 0.0%         | 6.4%            | 32.9%               | 36.4%            | 24.3%               |
| Spring | 171 | 2.3%         | 5.8%            | 30.4%               | 39.8%            | 21.6%               |
| Winter | 163 | 10.4%        | 43.6%           | 26.4%               | 8.6%             | 11.0%               |

Figure 23: Weekly visitation times (select all that apply) (n=180)

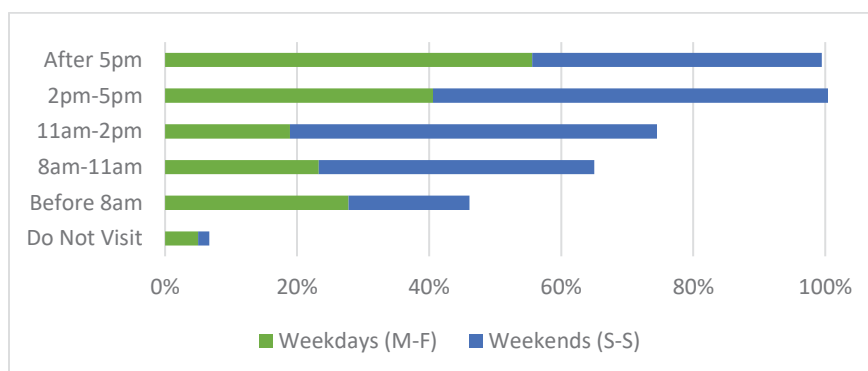
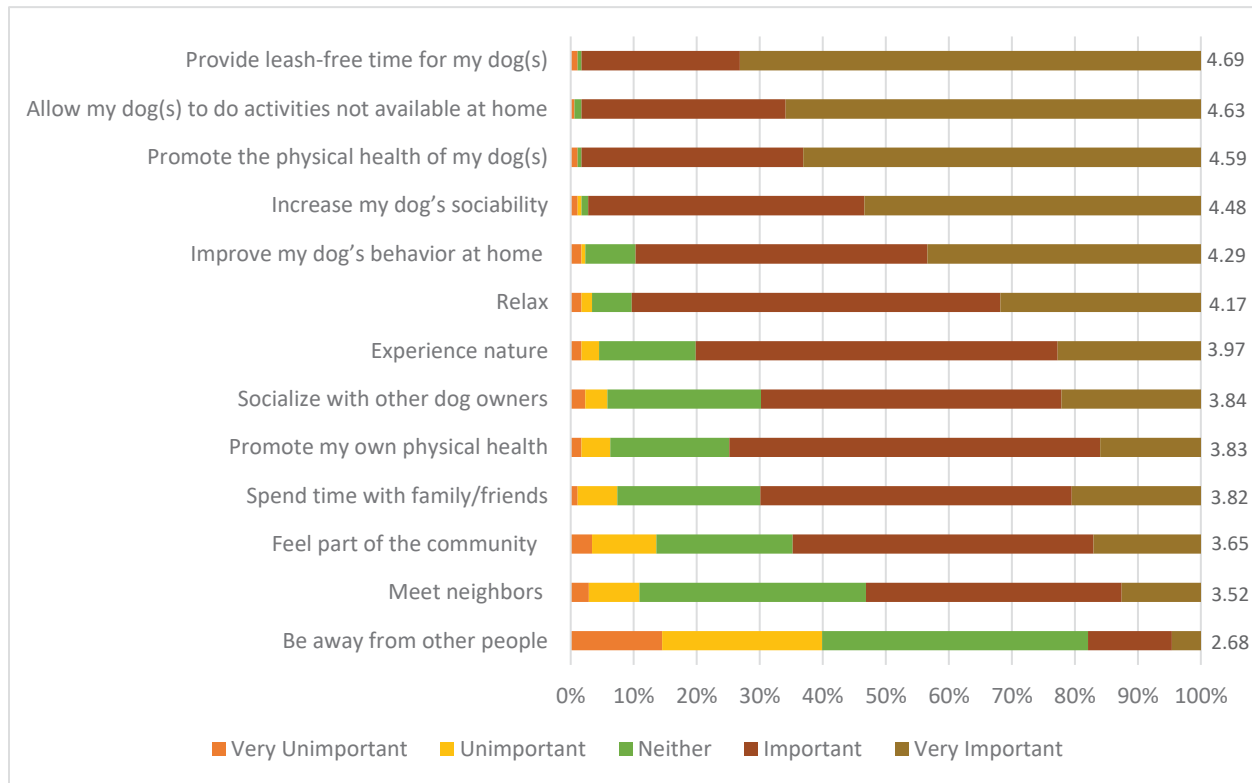


Table 7: Weekly visitation times (select all that apply)

|                | Do Not Visit | Before 8am | 8am-11am | 11am-2pm | 2pm-5pm | After 5pm |
|----------------|--------------|------------|----------|----------|---------|-----------|
| Weekdays (M-F) | 5.0%         | 27.8%      | 23.3%    | 18.9%    | 40.6%   | 55.6%     |
| Weekends (S-S) | 1.7%         | 18.3%      | 41.7%    | 55.6%    | 61.7%   | 43.9%     |

Figure 24: Motivations for choosing a dog park

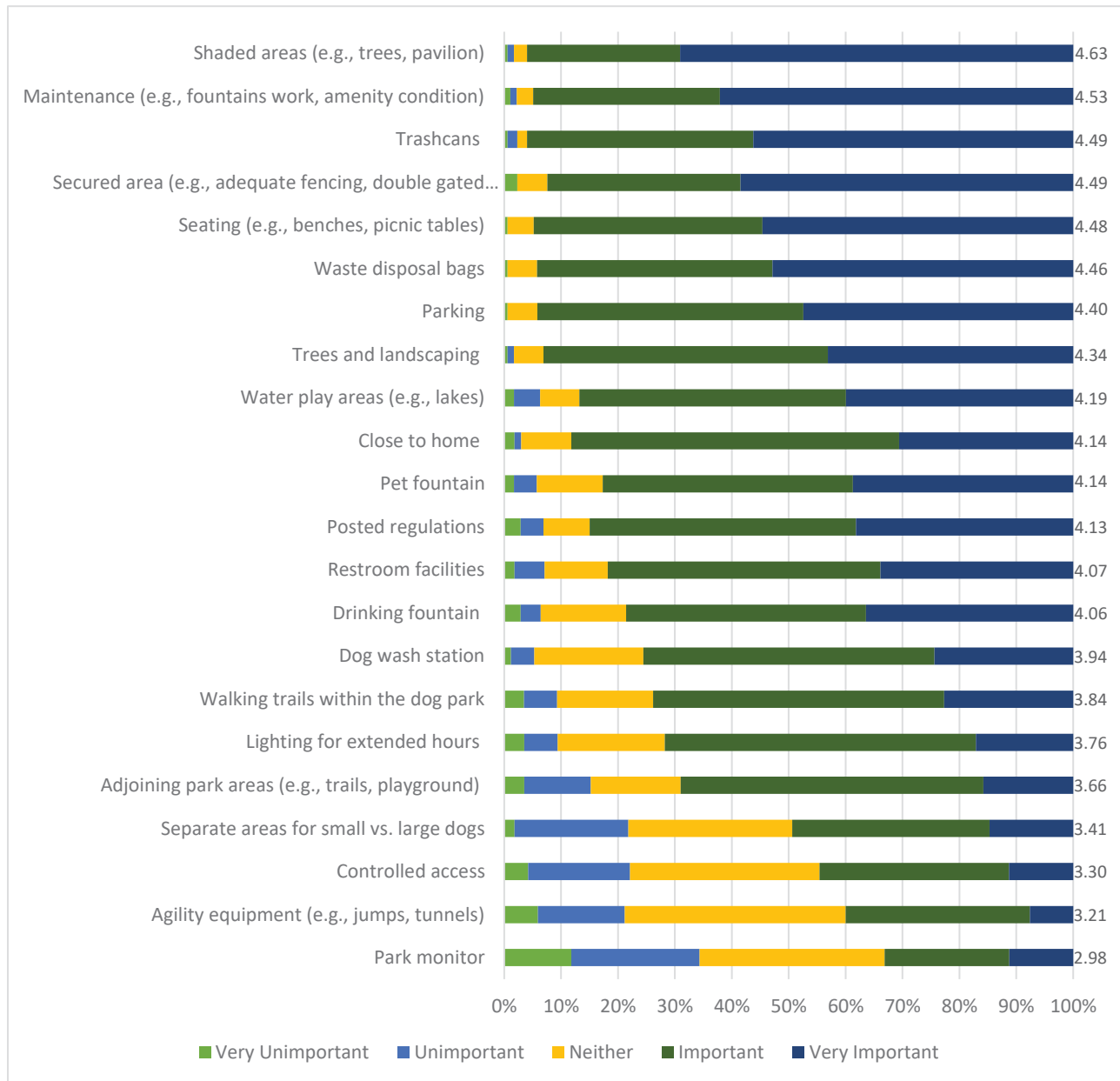


Numbers to the right of the chart represent item mean (*M*) scores; 1=Very Unimportant, 5=Very Important

Table 8: Motivations for choosing a dog park

|                                                        | n   | Very Unimportant | Unimportant | Neither | Important | Very Important | Mean (S.D.)  |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-----|------------------|-------------|---------|-----------|----------------|--------------|
| Provide leash-free time for my dog(s)                  | 175 | 1.1%             | 0.0%        | 0.6%    | 25.1%     | 73.1%          | 4.69 (.603)  |
| Allow my dog(s) to do activities not available at home | 176 | 0.6%             | 0.0%        | 1.1%    | 32.4%     | 65.9%          | 4.63 (.571)  |
| Promote the physical health of my dog(s)               | 176 | 1.1%             | 0.0%        | 0.6%    | 35.2%     | 63.1%          | 4.59 (.626)  |
| Increase my dog's sociability                          | 176 | 1.1%             | 0.6%        | 1.1%    | 43.8%     | 53.4%          | 4.48 (.667)  |
| Improve my dog's behavior at home                      | 175 | 1.7%             | 0.6%        | 8.0%    | 46.3%     | 43.4%          | 4.29 (.781)  |
| Relax                                                  | 176 | 1.7%             | 1.7%        | 6.3%    | 58.5%     | 31.8%          | 4.17 (.759)  |
| Experience nature                                      | 176 | 1.7%             | 2.8%        | 15.3%   | 57.4%     | 22.7%          | 3.97 (.806)  |
| Socialize with other dog owners                        | 172 | 2.3%             | 3.5%        | 24.4%   | 47.7%     | 22.1%          | 3.84 (.890)  |
| Promote my own physical health                         | 175 | 1.7%             | 4.6%        | 18.9%   | 58.9%     | 16.0%          | 3.83 (.812)  |
| Spend time with family/friends                         | 176 | 1.1%             | 6.3%        | 22.7%   | 49.4%     | 20.5%          | 3.82 (.869)  |
| Feel part of the community                             | 176 | 3.4%             | 10.2%       | 21.6%   | 47.7%     | 17.0%          | 3.65 (.992)  |
| Meet neighbors                                         | 175 | 2.9%             | 8.0%        | 36.0%   | 40.6%     | 12.6%          | 3.52 (.915)  |
| Be away from other people                              | 173 | 14.5%            | 25.4%       | 42.2%   | 13.3%     | 4.6%           | 2.68 (1.027) |

Figure 25: Importance of dog park attributes

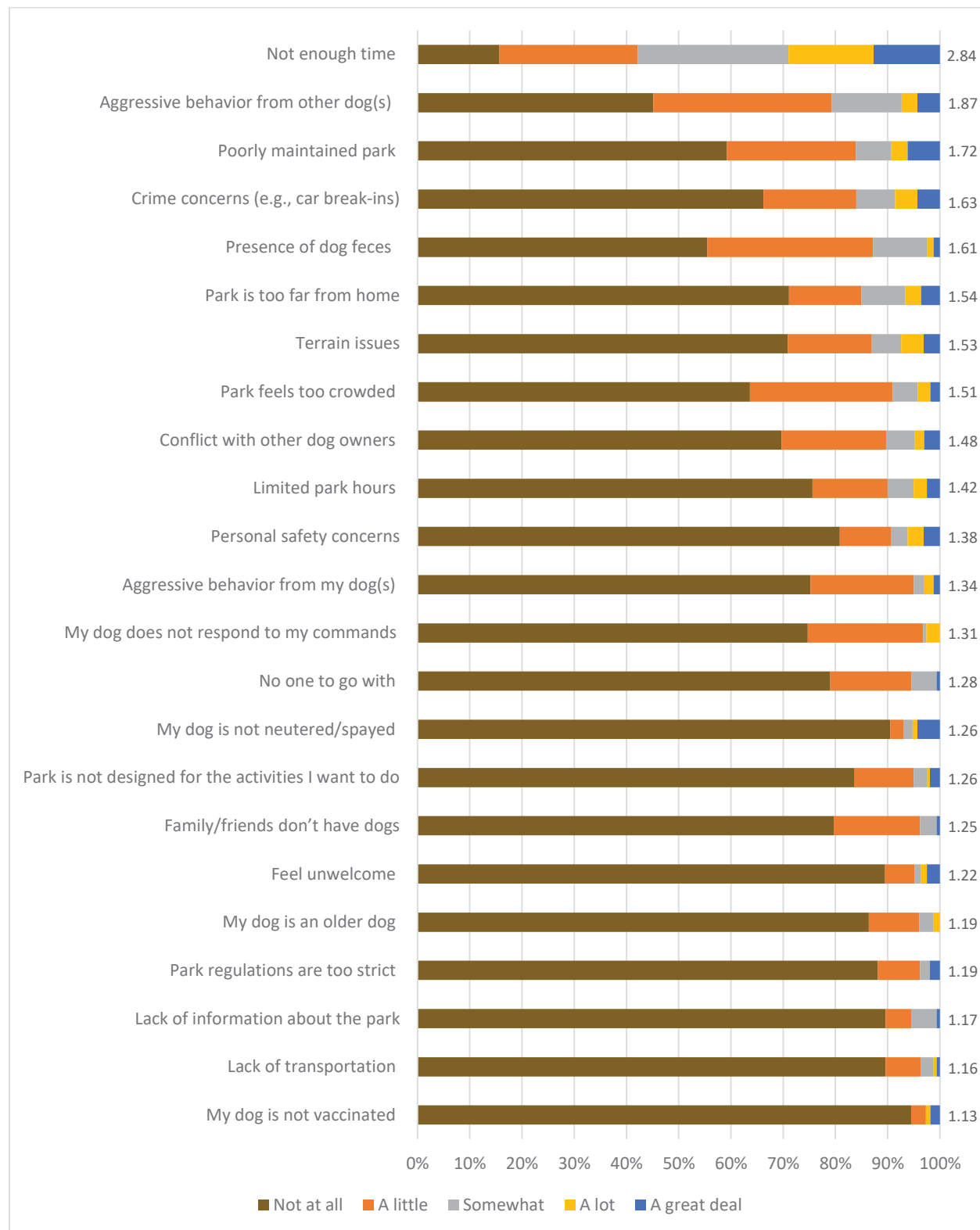


Numbers to the right of the chart represent item mean (M) scores; 1=Very Unimportant, 5=Very Important

Table 9: Importance of dog park attributes

|                                                              | n   | Very Unimportant | Unimportant | Neither | Important | Very Important | Mean (S.D.)  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----|------------------|-------------|---------|-----------|----------------|--------------|
| Shaded areas (e.g., trees, pavilion)                         | 175 | 0.6%             | 1.1%        | 2.3%    | 26.9%     | 69.1%          | 4.63 (.647)  |
| Maintenance (e.g., fountains work, amenity condition)        | 174 | 1.1%             | 1.1%        | 2.9%    | 32.8%     | 62.1%          | 4.53 (.718)  |
| Trashcans                                                    | 176 | 0.6%             | 1.7%        | 1.7%    | 39.8%     | 56.3%          | 4.49 (.676)  |
| Secured area (e.g., adequate fencing, double gated entrance) | 171 | 2.3%             | 0.0%        | 5.3%    | 33.9%     | 58.5%          | 4.49 (.706)  |
| Seating (e.g., benches, picnic tables)                       | 174 | 0.6%             | 0.0%        | 4.6%    | 40.2%     | 54.6%          | 4.48 (.643)  |
| Waste disposal bags                                          | 174 | 0.6%             | 0.0%        | 5.2%    | 41.4%     | 52.9%          | 4.46 (.651)  |
| Parking                                                      | 173 | 0.6%             | 0.0%        | 5.2%    | 46.8%     | 47.4%          | 4.40 (.646)  |
| Trees and landscaping                                        | 174 | 0.6%             | 1.1%        | 5.2%    | 50.0%     | 43.1%          | 4.34 (.684)  |
| Water play areas (e.g., lakes)                               | 175 | 1.7%             | 4.6%        | 6.9%    | 46.9%     | 40.0%          | 4.19 (.880)  |
| Close to home                                                | 170 | 1.8%             | 1.2%        | 8.8%    | 57.6%     | 30.6%          | 4.14 (.764)  |
| Pet fountain                                                 | 173 | 1.7%             | 4.0%        | 11.6%   | 43.9%     | 38.7%          | 4.14 (.898)  |
| Posted regulations                                           | 173 | 2.9%             | 4.0%        | 8.1%    | 46.8%     | 38.2%          | 4.13 9.934)  |
| Restroom facilities                                          | 171 | 1.8%             | 5.3%        | 11.1%   | 48.0%     | 33.9%          | 4.07 (.905)  |
| Drinking fountain                                            | 173 | 2.9%             | 3.5%        | 15.0%   | 42.2%     | 36.4%          | 4.06 (.957)  |
| Dog wash station                                             | 172 | 1.2%             | 4.1%        | 19.2%   | 51.2%     | 24.4%          | 3.94 (.839)  |
| Walking trails within the dog park                           | 172 | 3.5%             | 5.8%        | 16.9%   | 51.2%     | 22.7%          | 3.84 (.960)  |
| Lighting for extended hours                                  | 170 | 3.5%             | 5.9%        | 18.8%   | 54.7%     | 17.1%          | 3.76 (.927)  |
| Adjoining park areas (e.g., trails, playground)              | 171 | 3.5%             | 11.7%       | 15.8%   | 53.2%     | 15.8%          | 3.66 (.995)  |
| Separate areas for small vs. large dogs                      | 170 | 1.8%             | 20.0%       | 28.8%   | 34.7%     | 14.7%          | 3.41 (1.023) |
| Controlled access                                            | 168 | 4.2%             | 17.9%       | 33.3%   | 33.3%     | 11.3%          | 3.30 (1.024) |
| Agility equipment (e.g., jumps, tunnels)                     | 170 | 5.9%             | 15.3%       | 38.8%   | 32.4%     | 7.6%           | 3.21 (.990)  |
| Park monitor                                                 | 169 | 11.8%            | 22.5%       | 32.5%   | 21.9%     | 11.2%          | 2.98 (1.172) |

Figure 26: Constraints to visitation



Numbers to the right of the chart represent item mean (*M*) scores; 1=Not at all, 5=A great deal

Table 10: Constraints to visitation

|                                                      | n   | Not at all | A little | Somewhat | A lot | A great deal | Mean (S.D.)  |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----|------------|----------|----------|-------|--------------|--------------|
| Not enough time                                      | 166 | 15.7%      | 26.5%    | 28.9%    | 16.3% | 12.7%        | 2.84 (1.242) |
| Aggressive behavior from other dog(s)                | 164 | 45.1%      | 34.1%    | 13.4%    | 3.0%  | 4.3%         | 1.87 (1.040) |
| Poorly maintained park                               | 162 | 59.3%      | 24.7%    | 6.8%     | 3.1%  | 6.2%         | 1.72 (1.127) |
| Crime concerns (e.g., car break-ins)                 | 163 | 66.3%      | 17.8%    | 7.4%     | 4.3%  | 4.3%         | 1.63 (1.078) |
| Presence of dog feces                                | 164 | 55.5%      | 31.7%    | 10.4%    | 1.2%  | 1.2%         | 1.61 (.818)  |
| Park is too far from home                            | 166 | 71.1%      | 13.9%    | 8.4%     | 3.0%  | 3.6%         | 1.54 (1.019) |
| Terrain issues                                       | 161 | 70.8%      | 16.1%    | 5.6%     | 4.3%  | 3.1%         | 1.53 (1.000) |
| Park feels too crowded                               | 168 | 63.7%      | 27.4%    | 4.8%     | 2.4%  | 1.8%         | 1.51 (.841)  |
| Conflict with other dog owners                       | 165 | 69.7%      | 20.0%    | 5.5%     | 1.8%  | 3.0%         | 1.48 (.915)  |
| Limited park hours                                   | 160 | 75.6%      | 14.4%    | 5.0%     | 2.5%  | 2.5%         | 1.42 (.894)  |
| Personal safety concerns                             | 162 | 80.9%      | 9.9%     | 3.1%     | 3.1%  | 3.1%         | 1.38 (.926)  |
| Aggressive behavior from my dog(s)                   | 162 | 75.3%      | 19.8%    | 1.9%     | 1.9%  | 1.2%         | 1.34 (.724)  |
| My dog does not respond to my commands               | 154 | 74.7%      | 22.1%    | 0.6%     | 2.6%  | 0.0%         | 1.31 (.621)  |
| No one to go with                                    | 167 | 79.0%      | 15.6%    | 4.8%     | 0.0%  | 0.6%         | 1.28 (.608)  |
| Park is not designed for the activities I want to do | 158 | 83.5%      | 11.4%    | 2.5%     | 0.6%  | 1.9%         | 1.26 (.715)  |
| My dog is not neutered/spayed                        | 116 | 90.5%      | 2.6%     | 1.7%     | 0.9%  | 4.3%         | 1.26 (.896)  |
| Family/friends don't have dogs                       | 158 | 79.7%      | 16.5%    | 3.2%     | 0.0%  | 0.6%         | 1.25 (.575)  |
| Feel unwelcome                                       | 162 | 89.5%      | 5.6%     | 1.2%     | 1.2%  | 2.5%         | 1.22 (.754)  |
| Park regulations are too strict                      | 161 | 88.2%      | 8.1%     | 1.9%     | 0.0%  | 1.9%         | 1.19 (.647)  |
| My dog is an older dog                               | 154 | 86.4%      | 9.7%     | 2.6%     | 1.3%  | 0.0%         | 1.19 (.533)  |
| Lack of information about the park                   | 162 | 89.5%      | 4.9%     | 4.9%     | 0.0%  | 0.6%         | 1.17 (.564)  |
| Lack of transportation                               | 163 | 89.6%      | 6.7%     | 2.5%     | 0.6%  | 0.6%         | 1.16 (.543)  |
| My dog is not vaccinated                             | 109 | 94.5%      | 2.8%     | 0.0%     | 0.9%  | 1.8%         | 1.13 (.625)  |

### Section IV: Fees in Dog Parks

Figure 27: What would you consider a fair annual price for using Columbia Parks & Recreation dog parks? (n=174)

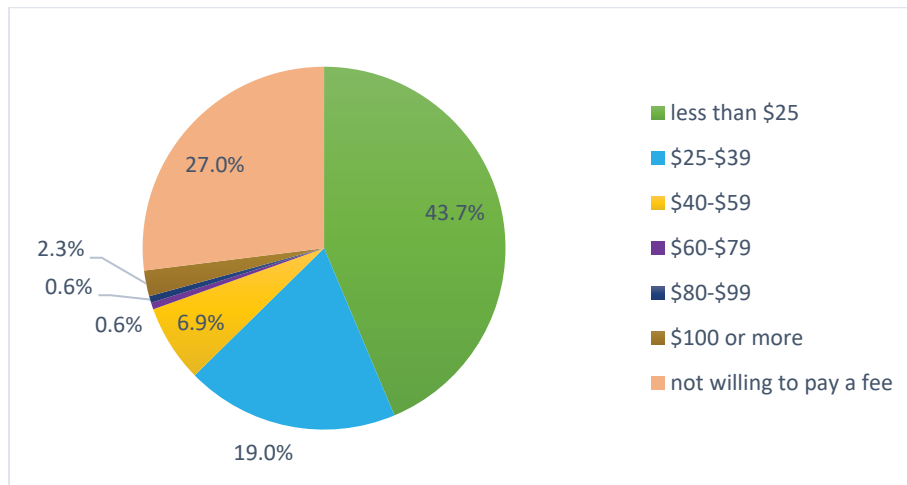
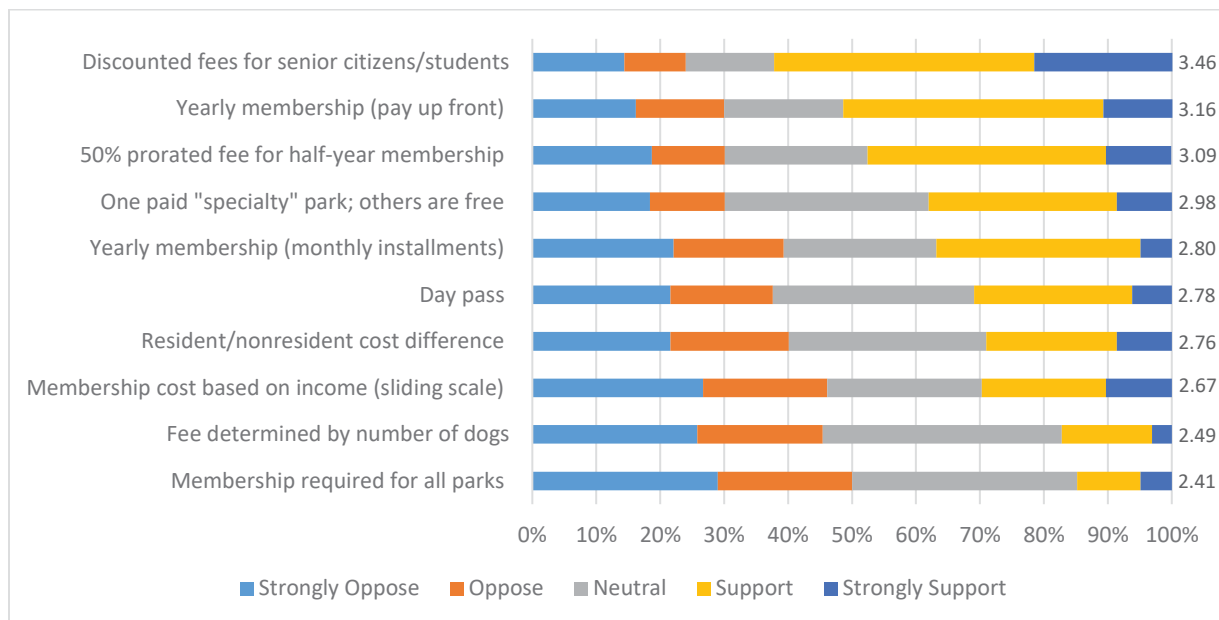


Figure 28: To what extent would you support or oppose the following fee structures?

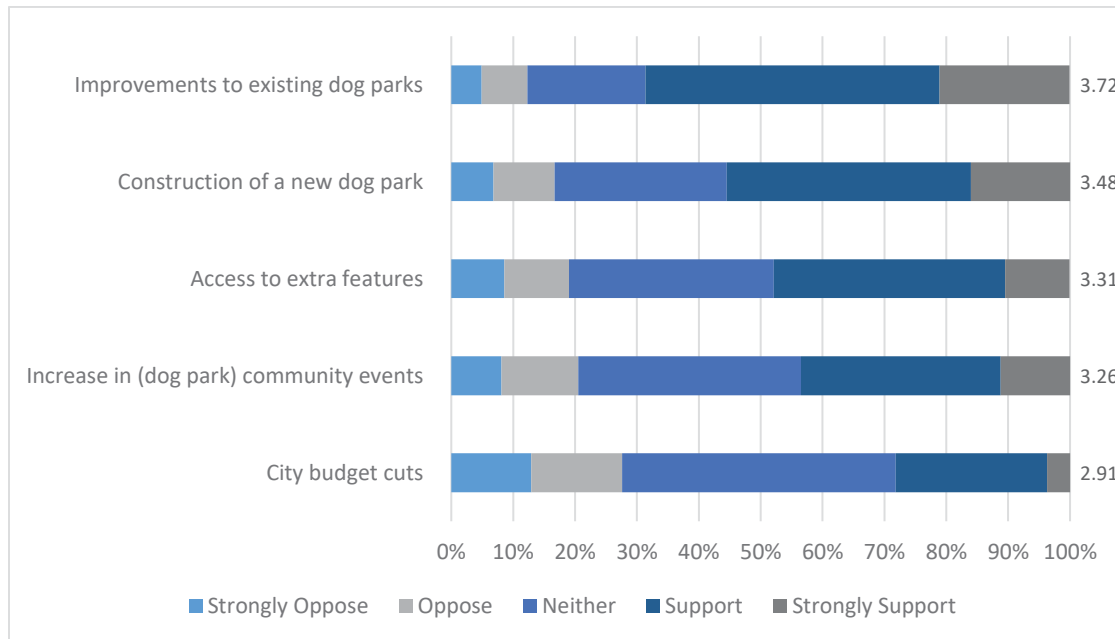


Numbers to the right of the chart represent item mean (*M*) scores; 1= Strongly Oppose, 5= Strongly Support

Table 11: To what extent would you support or oppose the following fee structures?

|                                                 | n   | Strongly Oppose | Oppose | Neutral | Support | Strongly Support | Mean (S.D.)  |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----|-----------------|--------|---------|---------|------------------|--------------|
| Discounted fees for senior citizens/students    | 167 | 14.4%           | 9.6%   | 13.8%   | 40.7%   | 21.6%            | 3.46 (1.267) |
| Yearly membership (pay up front)                | 167 | 16.2%           | 13.8%  | 18.6%   | 40.7%   | 10.8%            | 3.16 (1.242) |
| 50% prorated fee for half-year membership       | 166 | 18.7%           | 11.4%  | 22.3%   | 37.3%   | 10.2%            | 3.09 (1.331) |
| One paid "specialty" park; others are free      | 163 | 18.4%           | 11.7%  | 31.9%   | 29.4%   | 8.6%             | 2.98 (1.283) |
| Yearly membership (monthly installments)        | 163 | 22.1%           | 17.2%  | 23.9%   | 31.9%   | 4.9%             | 2.80 (1.320) |
| Day pass                                        | 162 | 21.6%           | 16.0%  | 31.5%   | 24.7%   | 6.2%             | 2.78 (1.216) |
| Resident/nonresident cost difference            | 162 | 21.6%           | 18.5%  | 30.9%   | 20.4%   | 8.6%             | 2.76 (1.245) |
| Membership cost based on income (sliding scale) | 165 | 26.7%           | 19.4%  | 24.2%   | 19.4%   | 10.3%            | 2.67 (1.275) |
| Fee determined by number of dogs                | 163 | 25.8%           | 19.6%  | 37.4%   | 14.1%   | 3.1%             | 2.49 (1.151) |
| Membership required for all parks               | 162 | 29.0%           | 21.0%  | 35.2%   | 9.9%    | 4.9%             | 2.41 (1.113) |

Figure 29: For each of the following circumstances, to what extent would you support or oppose paying a \$25 fee for using Columbia Parks & Recreation dog parks?

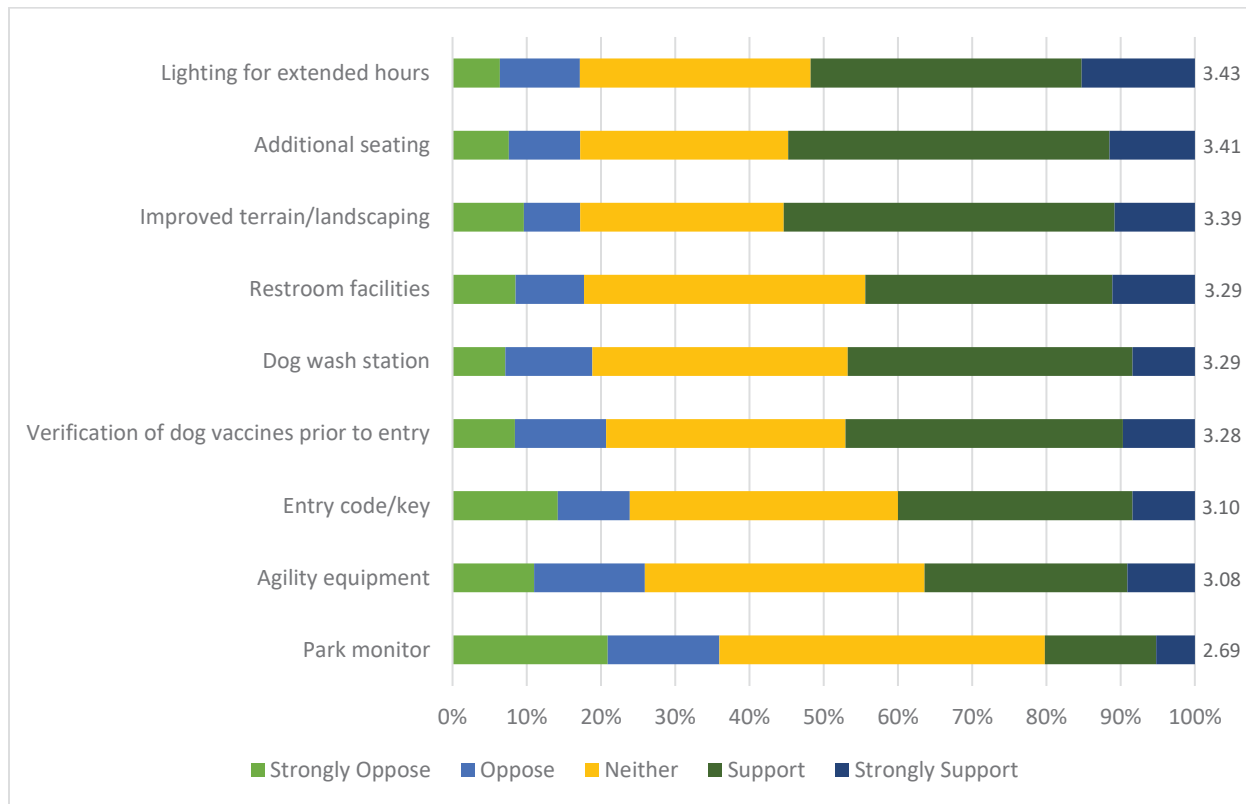


Numbers to the right of the chart represent item mean (*M*) scores; 1= Strongly Oppose, 5= Strongly Support

Table 12: For each of the following circumstances, to what extent would you support or oppose paying a \$25 fee for using Columbia Parks & Recreation dog parks?

|                                         | n   | Strongly Oppose | Oppose | Neutral | Support | Strongly Support | Mean (S.D.)  |
|-----------------------------------------|-----|-----------------|--------|---------|---------|------------------|--------------|
| Improvements to existing dog parks      | 162 | 4.9%            | 7.4%   | 19.1%   | 47.5%   | 21.0%            | 3.72 (1.035) |
| Construction of a new dog park          | 162 | 6.8%            | 9.9%   | 27.8%   | 39.5%   | 16.0%            | 3.48 (1.088) |
| Access to extra features                | 163 | 8.6%            | 10.4%  | 33.1%   | 37.4%   | 10.4%            | 3.31 (1.073) |
| Increase in (dog park) community events | 161 | 8.1%            | 12.4%  | 36.0%   | 32.3%   | 11.2%            | 3.26 (1.075) |
| City budget cuts                        | 163 | 12.9%           | 14.7%  | 44.2%   | 24.5%   | 3.7%             | 2.91 (1.027) |

Figure 30: To what extent would you support or oppose paying a \$25 fee for using Columbia Parks & Recreation dog parks in exchange for the following features?



Numbers to the right of the chart represent item mean (M) scores; 1= Strongly Oppose, 5= Strongly Support

Table 13: To what extent would you support or oppose paying a \$25 fee for using Columbia Parks & Recreation dog parks in exchange for the following features?

|                                             | n   | Strongly Oppose | Oppose | Neither | Support | Strongly Support | Mean (S.D.)  |
|---------------------------------------------|-----|-----------------|--------|---------|---------|------------------|--------------|
| Lighting for extended hours                 | 157 | 6.4%            | 10.8%  | 31.2%   | 36.6%   | 15.3%            | 3.43 (1.076) |
| Additional Seating                          | 154 | 7.6%            | 9.6%   | 28.0%   | 43.3%   | 11.5%            | 3.41 (1.062) |
| Improved Terrain/landscaping                | 157 | 9.6%            | 7.6%   | 27.4%   | 44.6%   | 10.8%            | 3.39 (1.091) |
| Dog wash station                            | 154 | 7.1%            | 11.7%  | 34.4%   | 38.3%   | 8.4%             | 3.29 (1.022) |
| Restroom Facilities                         | 153 | 8.5%            | 9.2%   | 37.9%   | 33.3%   | 11.1%            | 3.29 (1.063) |
| Verification of dog vaccines prior to entry | 155 | 8.4%            | 12.3%  | 32.3%   | 37.4%   | 9.7%             | 3.28 (1.072) |
| Entry Code/key                              | 155 | 14.2%           | 9.7%   | 36.1%   | 31.6%   | 8.4%             | 3.10 (1.146) |
| Agility Equipment                           | 154 | 11.0%           | 14.9%  | 37.7%   | 27.3%   | 9.1%             | 3.08 (1.108) |
| Park Monitor                                | 153 | 20.9%           | 15.0%  | 43.8%   | 15.0%   | 5.2%             | 2.69 (1.121) |

**Appendix C**  
**Brief Report (Indian Hills)**

**Columbia Parks and Recreation Dog Park Study**  
**Brief Report: Indian Hills Dog Park**

Lily Bennett  
Sonja Wilhelm Stanis, PhD



**School of Natural Resources**  
University of Missouri

This brief report presents a summary of the onsite visitor survey data collected from Indian Hills Dog Park May-August 2018 (Response rate 85%; n=17)

### Section I: Respondent Profile (Indian Hills)

Figure 1: Respondent gender (n=17)

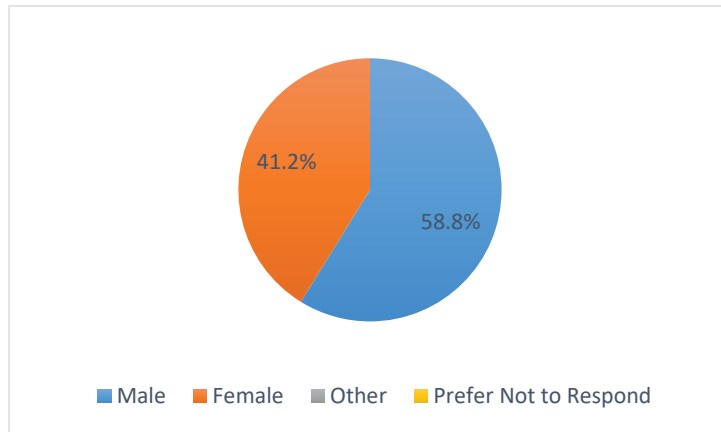


Figure 2: Respondent age groups (n=17)

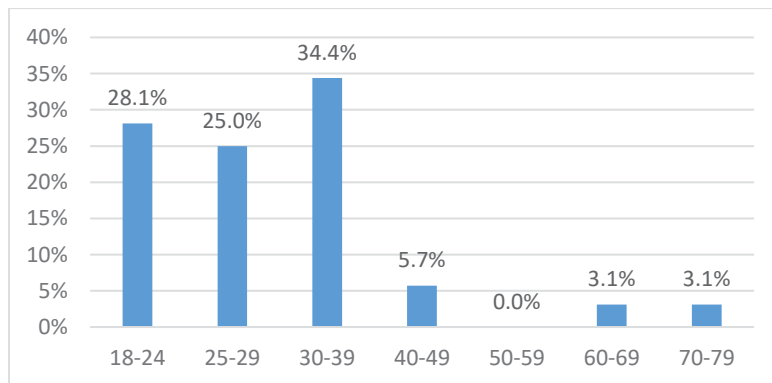


Figure 3: Annual household income before taxes (n=16)

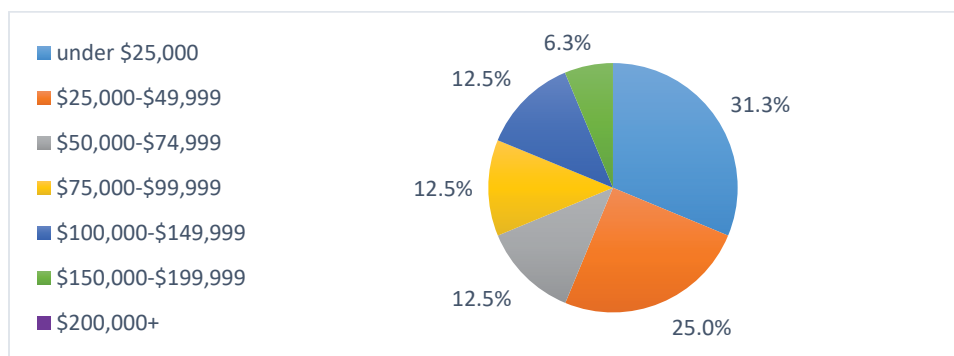


Figure 4: Number of children under 18 in household (n=14)

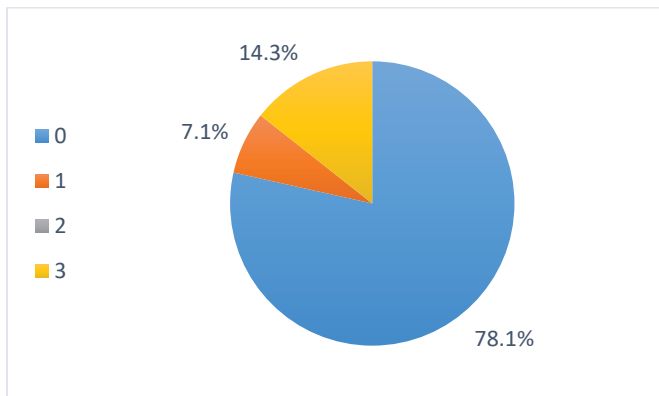


Figure 5: Number of dogs owned (n=16)

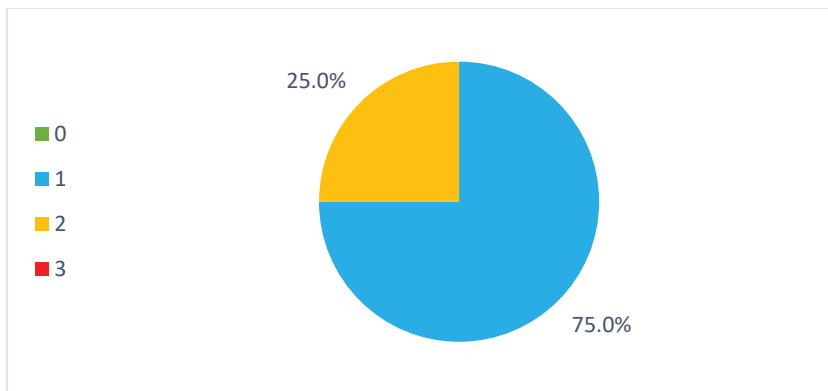


Figure 6: Residence type (n=17)

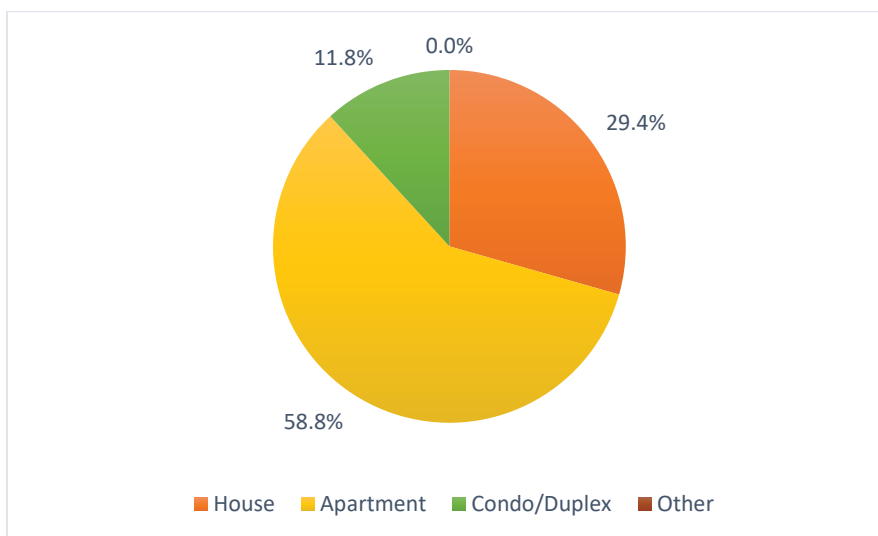


Figure 7: Does your residence have a fenced area for dogs? (n=17)

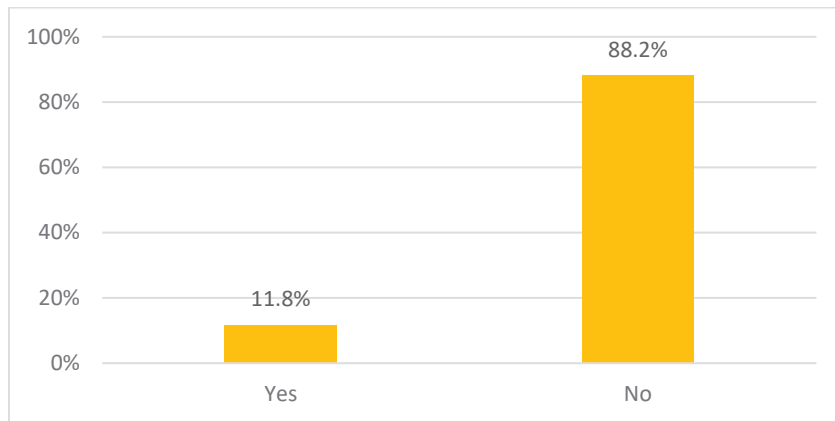
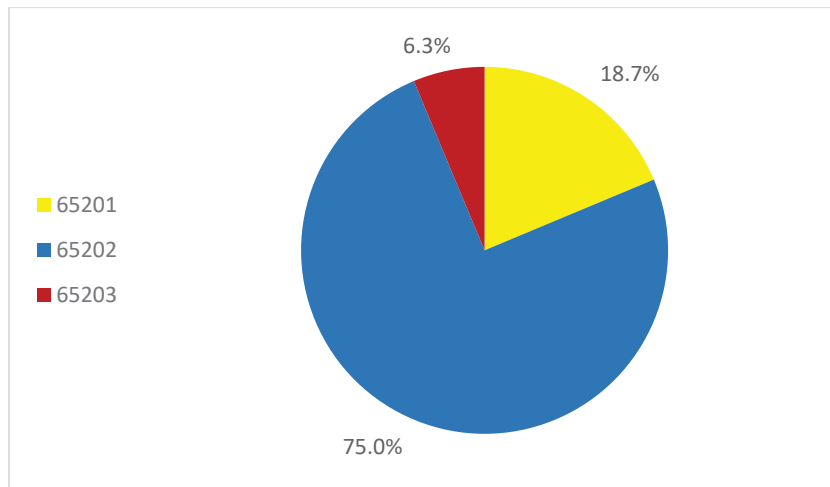


Figure 8: What is your zip code? (n=16)



## Section II: Usage and Today's Visit

Figure 9: Transportation to the dog park (n=17)

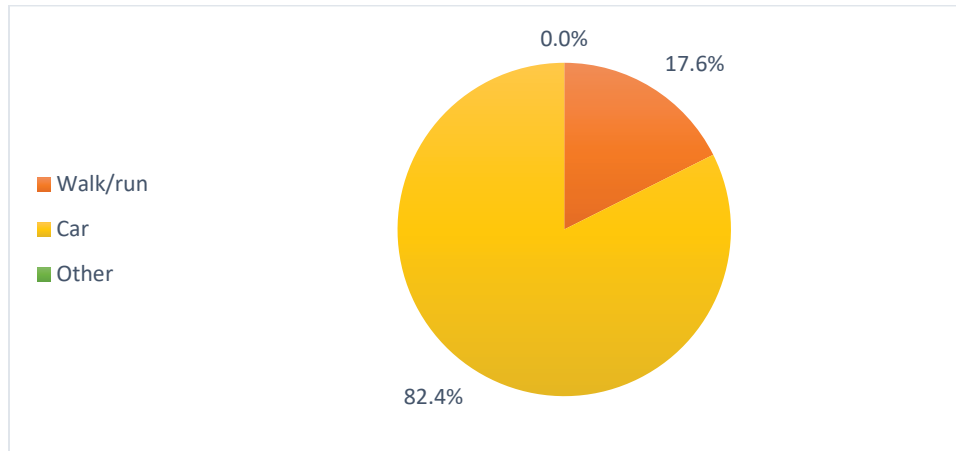


Figure 10: Travel time (minutes) (n=17)

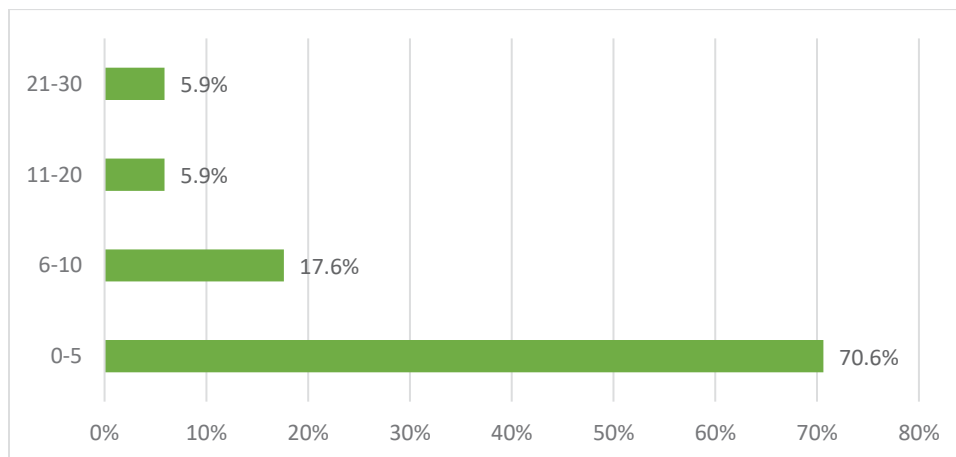


Figure 11: Miles traveled to dog park (n=17)

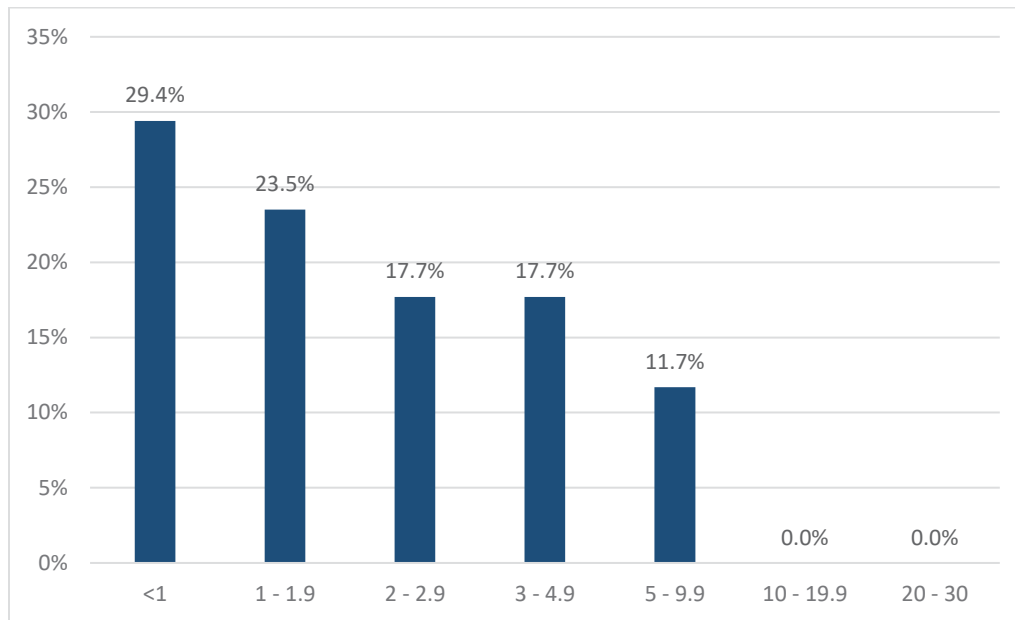


Figure 12: Length of stay at the dog park (minutes) (n=16)

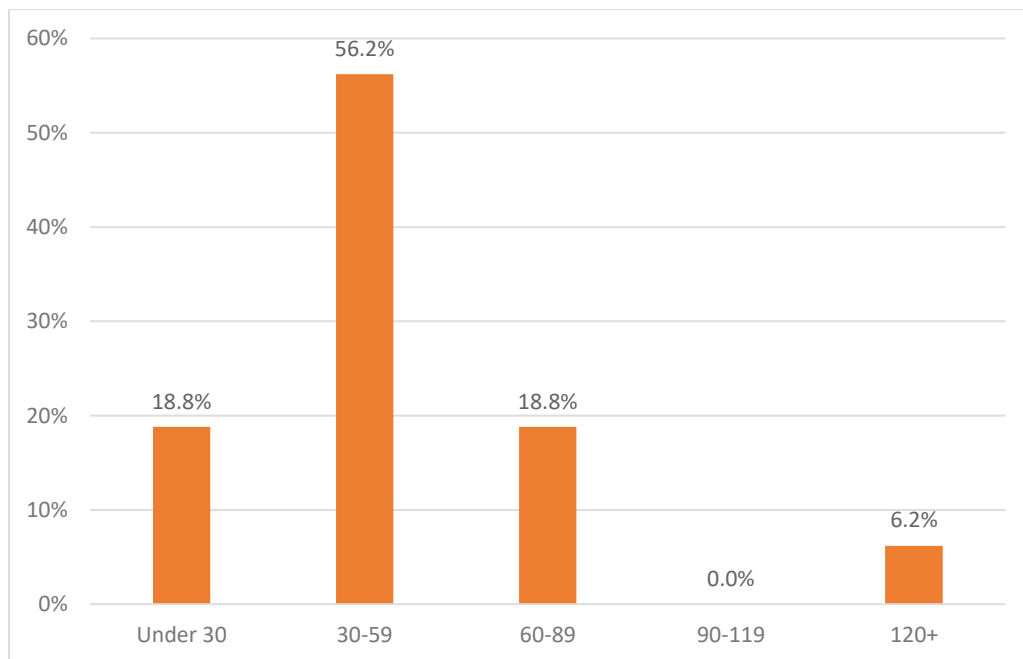


Figure 13: Are you here with dog(s) today? (n=17)

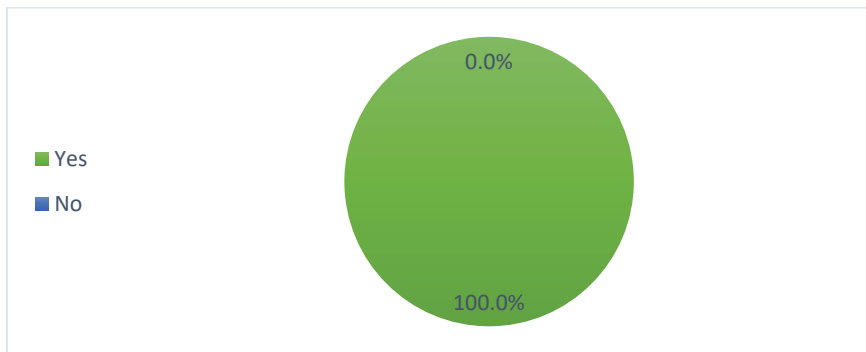


Figure 14: If you are with a dog(s), then how many dog(s) are you here with today? (n=17)

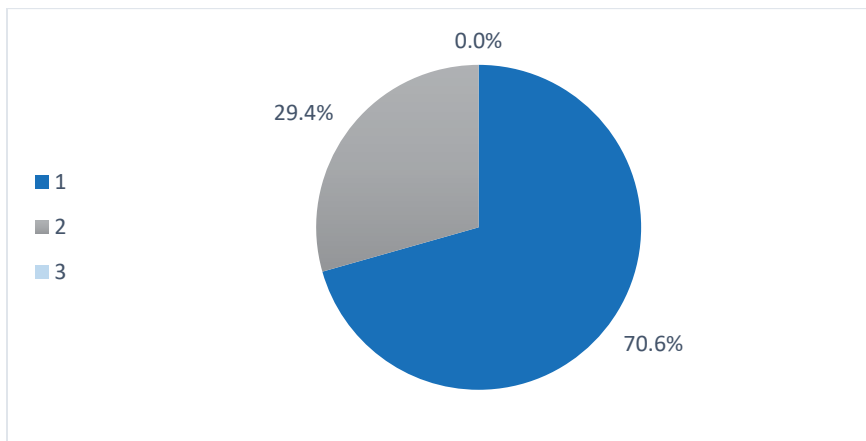


Figure 15: If you are with a dog(s), are you the owner of the dog(s)? (n=17)

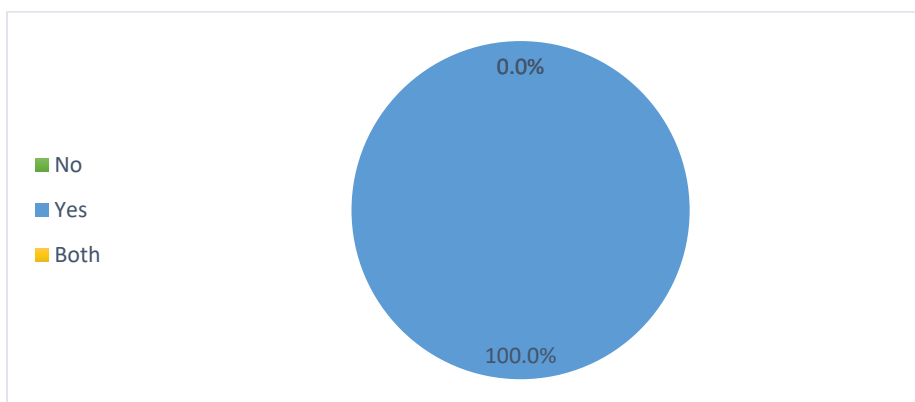
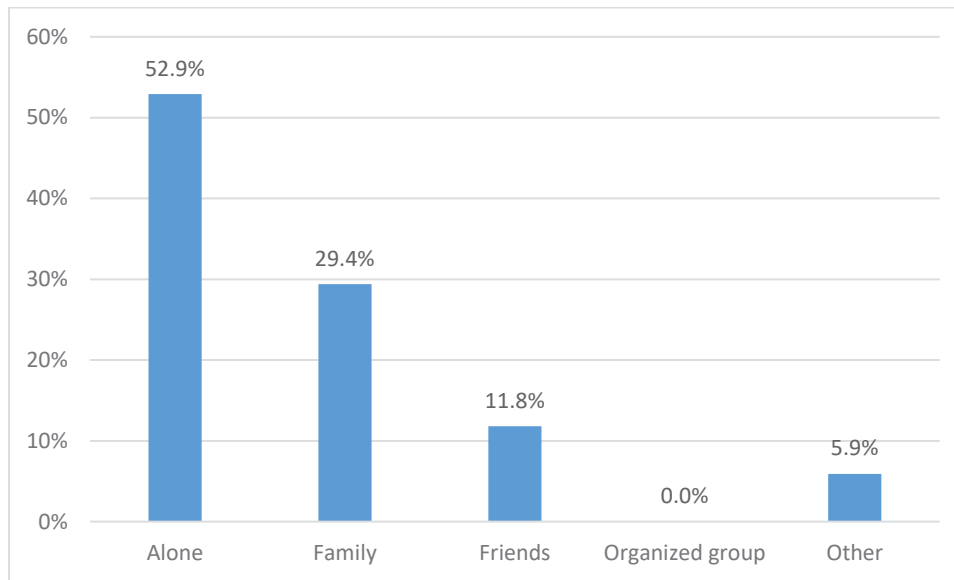


Figure 16: With whom are you visiting the dog park today? (check all that apply) (n=17)



Most common "Other" response is "significant other"

Table 1: Place Attachment

|                                                                       | n  | Mean        | S.D.        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|----|-------------|-------------|
| <b>Place Identity</b>                                                 |    | <b>3.64</b> | <b>.377</b> |
| This dog park means a lot to me                                       | 16 | 4.06        | .574        |
| I identify strongly with this dog park                                | 15 | 3.53        | .990        |
| I am very attached to this dog park                                   | 15 | 3.33        | .816        |
| <b>Place Bonding</b>                                                  |    | <b>3.45</b> | <b>.127</b> |
| I have a lot of fond memories about this dog park                     | 16 | 3.50        | .816        |
| I bring my family/friends to this dog park                            | 15 | 3.47        | .743        |
| I have a special connection with the people who come to this dog park | 16 | 3.38        | .957        |
| <b>Place Dependence</b>                                               |    | <b>3.30</b> | <b>.430</b> |
| This dog park is the best place for dogs                              | 15 | 3.60        | .828        |
| I enjoy recreating at this dog park more than any other dog park      | 16 | 3.50        | 1.033       |
| I wouldn't substitute any other dog park for what I do here           | 16 | 2.81        | .750        |

1=Strongly Disagree, 5=Strongly Agree

### **Section III: Columbia Parks and Recreation Dog Parks**

Figure 17: Park visitation

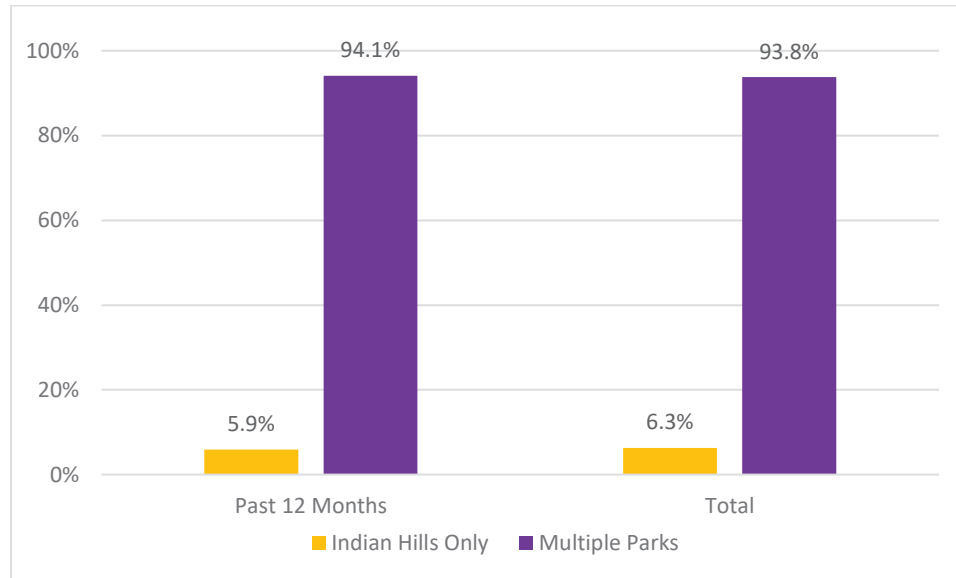


Table 2: Park visitation

|                | n  | Indian Hills only | Multiple Parks |
|----------------|----|-------------------|----------------|
| Past 12 Months | 17 | 5.9%              | 6.3%           |
| Total          | 16 | 94.1%             | 93.8%          |

Figure 18: Average (mean) number of visits to each dog park

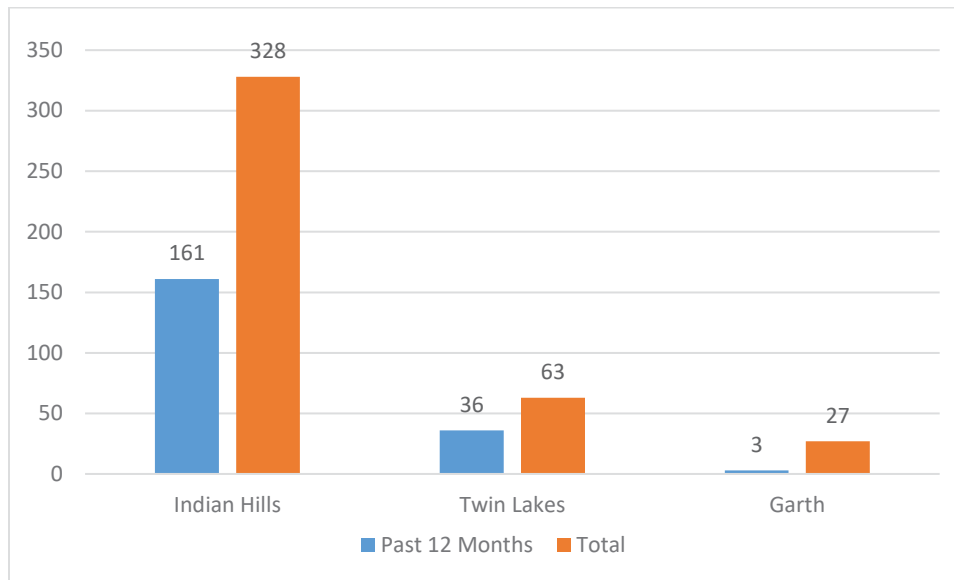


Table 3: Average number of visits to each dog park *over the past 12 months*

|              | n  | Minimum | Maximum | Median | Mean |
|--------------|----|---------|---------|--------|------|
| Indian Hills | 17 | 1       | 800     | 30     | 161  |
| Twin Lakes   | 13 | 1       | 200     | 12     | 36   |
| Garth        | 10 | 1       | 8       | 2      | 3    |

"Mean" and "Median" are rounded to the nearest whole number

Respondents who indicated they had not visited the dog park were excluded from the analysis.

Table 4: Average number of *total* visits to each dog park

|              | n  | Minimum | Maximum | Median | Mean |
|--------------|----|---------|---------|--------|------|
| Indian Hills | 16 | 1       | 2100    | 30     | 328  |
| Twin Lakes   | 13 | 1       | 350     | 20     | 63   |
| Garth        | 10 | 1       | 250     | 2      | 27   |

"Mean" and "Median" are rounded to the nearest whole number

Respondents who indicated they had not visited the dog park were excluded from the analysis.

Figure 19: Average number of *years* coming to each dog park

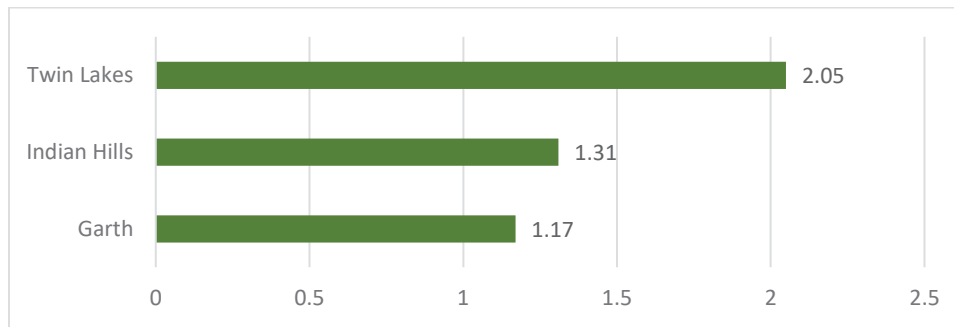


Table 5: Average number of years coming to each dog park

|              | n  | Minimum | Maximum | Median | Mean |
|--------------|----|---------|---------|--------|------|
| Twin Lakes   | 13 | 0.1     | 6       | 1      | 2.05 |
| Indian Hills | 13 | 1       | 3       | 1      | 1.31 |
| Garth        | 9  | 0.5     | 3       | 1      | 1.17 |

Respondents who indicated they had not visited the dog park were excluded from the analysis

Figure 20: Park visitation per season

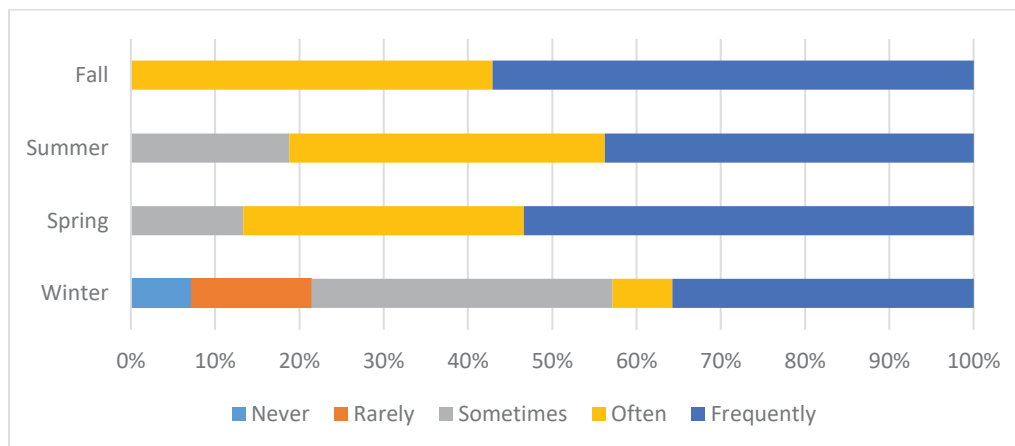


Table 6: Park visitation per season

|        | n  | Never<br>(0) | Rarely<br>(1-4) | Sometimes<br>(5-19) | Often<br>(20-49) | Frequently<br>(50+) |
|--------|----|--------------|-----------------|---------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Fall   | 14 | 0.0%         | 0.0%            | 0.0%                | 42.9%            | 57.1%               |
| Summer | 16 | 0.0%         | 0.0%            | 18.8%               | 37.5%            | 43.8%               |
| Spring | 15 | 0.0%         | 0.0%            | 13.3%               | 33.3%            | 53.3%               |
| Winter | 14 | 7.1%         | 14.3%           | 35.7%               | 7.1%             | 35.7%               |

Figure 21: Weekly visitation times (select all that apply) (n=17)

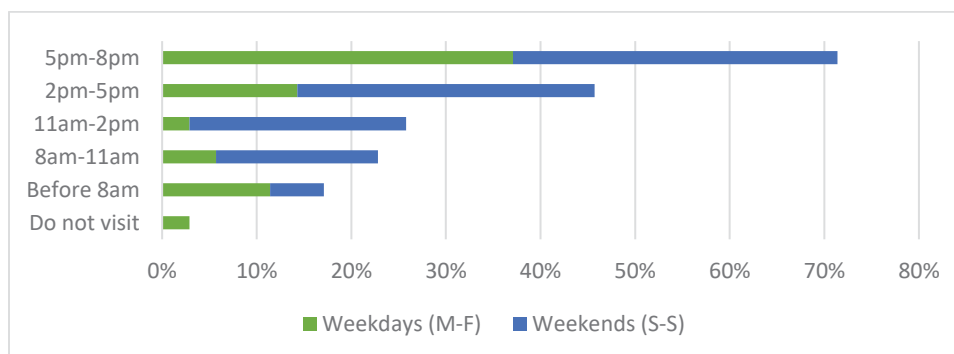
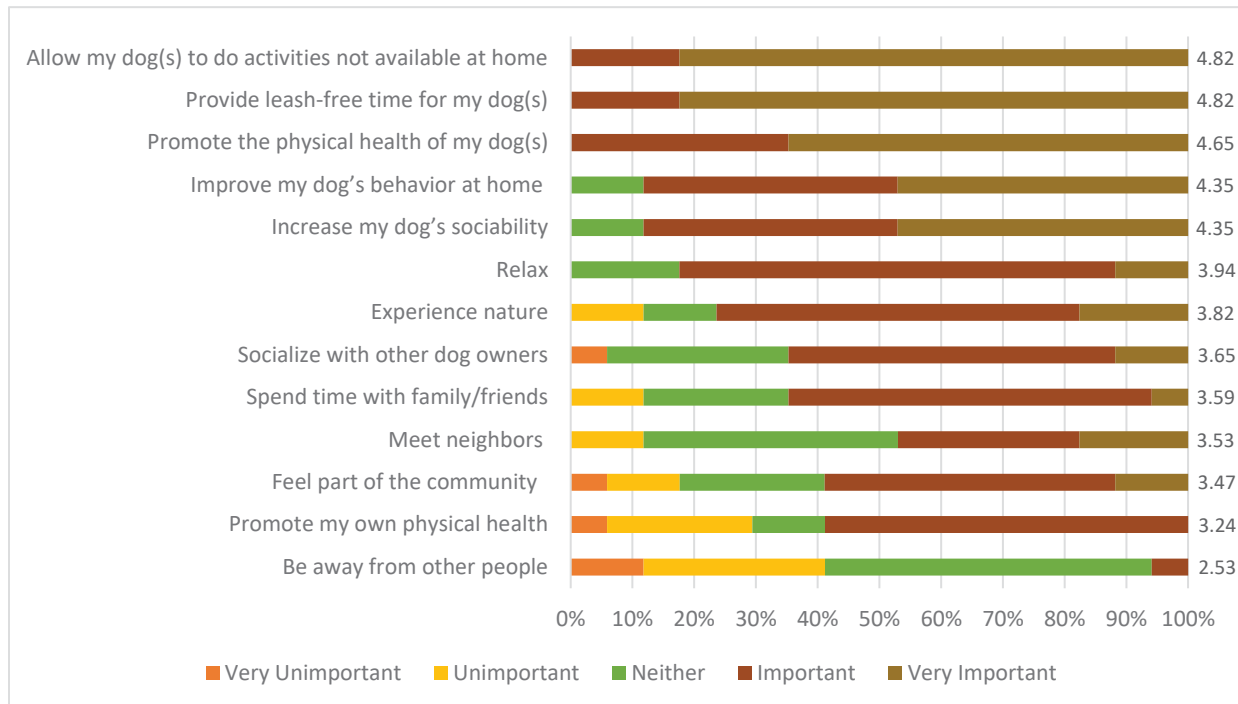


Table 7: Weekly visitation times (select all that apply) (n=17)

|                | Do not visit | Before 8am | 8am-11am | 11am-2pm | 2pm-5pm | 5pm-8pm |
|----------------|--------------|------------|----------|----------|---------|---------|
| Weekdays (M-F) | 2.9%         | 11.4%      | 5.7%     | 2.9%     | 14.3%   | 37.1%   |
| Weekends (S-S) | 0.0%         | 5.7%       | 17.1%    | 22.9%    | 31.4%   | 34.3%   |

Figure 22: Motivations for choosing a dog park (n=17)

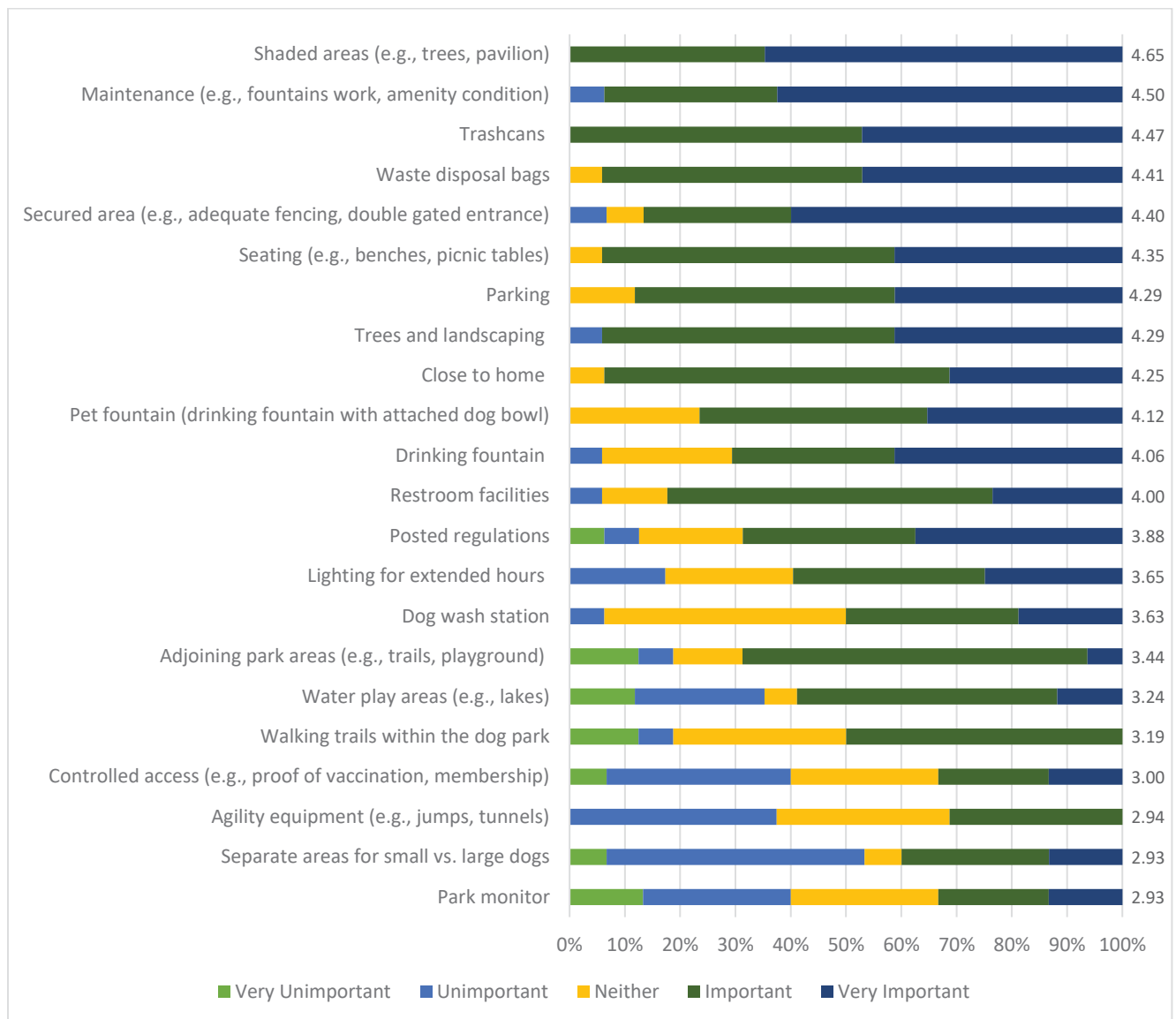


Numbers to the right of the chart represent item mean (M) scores; 1=Very Unimportant, 5=Very Important

Table 8: Motivations for choosing a dog park (n=17)

|                                                        | Very Unimportant | Unimportant | Neither | Important | Very Important | Mean (S.D.)  |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-------------|---------|-----------|----------------|--------------|
| Provide leash-free time for my dog(s)                  | 0.0%             | 0.0%        | 0.0%    | 17.6%     | 82.4%          | 4.82 (1.068) |
| Allow my dog(s) to do activities not available at home | 0.0%             | 0.0%        | 0.0%    | 17.6%     | 82.4%          | 4.82 (.556)  |
| Promote the physical health of my dog(s)               | 0.0%             | 0.0%        | 0.0%    | 35.3%     | 64.7%          | 4.65 (.795)  |
| Increase my dog's sociability                          | 0.0%             | 0.0%        | 11.8%   | 41.2%     | 47.1%          | 4.35 (.883)  |
| Improve my dog's behavior at home                      | 0.0%             | 0.0%        | 11.8%   | 41.2%     | 47.1%          | 4.35 (.931)  |
| Relax                                                  | 0.0%             | 0.0%        | 17.6%   | 70.6%     | 11.8%          | 3.94 (1.033) |
| Experience nature                                      | 0.0%             | 11.8%       | 11.8%   | 58.8%     | 17.6%          | 3.82 (.493)  |
| Socialize with other dog owners                        | 5.9%             | 0.0%        | 29.4%   | 52.9%     | 11.8%          | 3.65 (.702)  |
| Spend time with family/friends                         | 0.0%             | 11.8%       | 23.5%   | 58.8%     | 5.9%           | 3.59 (.702)  |
| Meet neighbors                                         | 0.0%             | 11.8%       | 41.2%   | 29.4%     | 17.6%          | 3.53 (.393)  |
| Feel part of the community                             | 5.9%             | 11.8%       | 23.5%   | 47.1%     | 11.8%          | 3.47 (.393)  |
| Promote my own physical health                         | 5.9%             | 23.5%       | 11.8%   | 58.8%     | 0.0%           | 3.24 (.943)  |
| Be away from other people                              | 11.8%            | 29.4%       | 52.9%   | 5.9%      | 0.0%           | 2.53 (.800)  |

Figure 23: Importance of dog park attributes

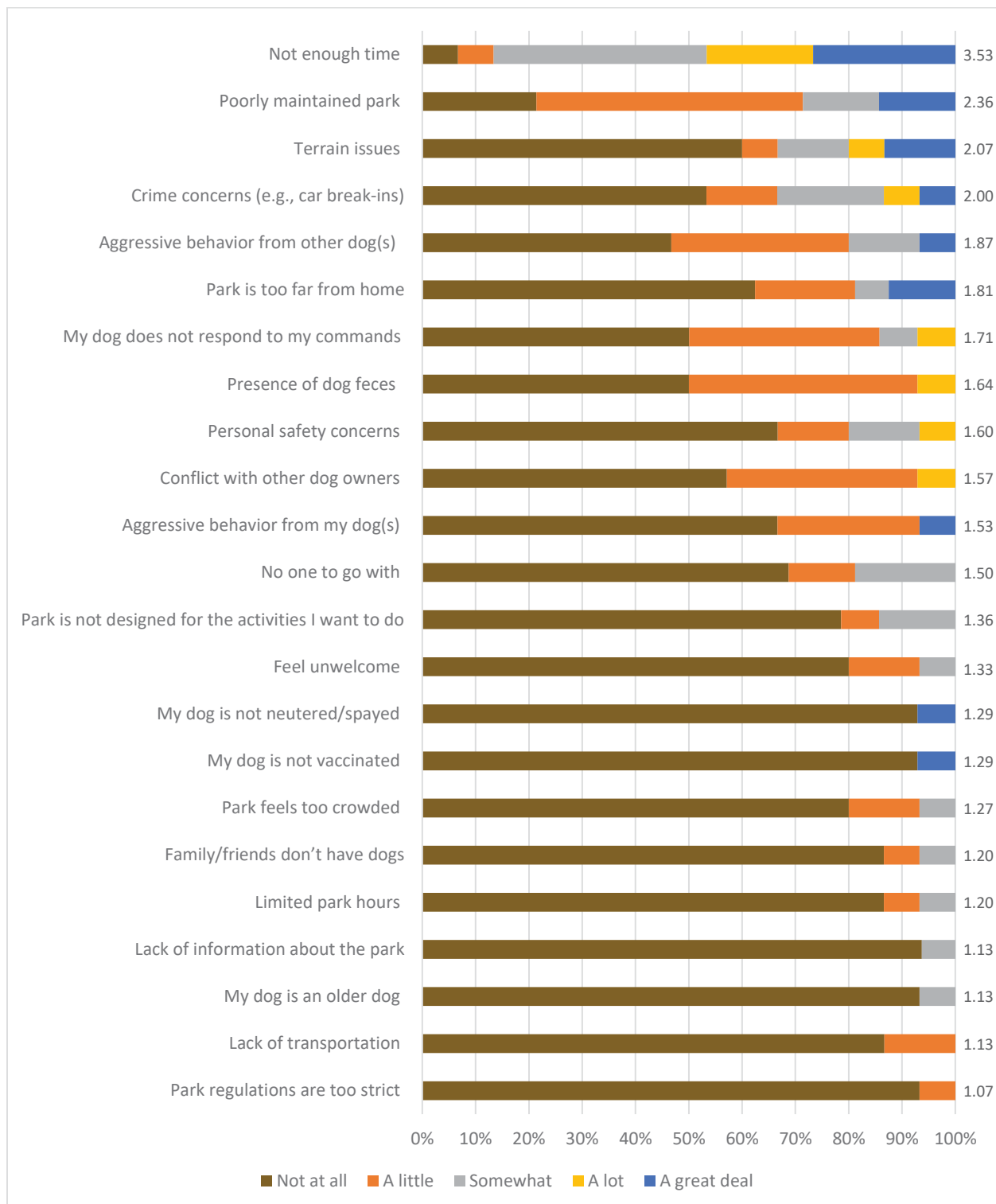


Numbers to the right of the chart represent item mean (*M*) scores; 1=Very Unimportant, 5=Very Important

Table 9: Importance of dog park attributes

|                                                              | n  | Very Unimportant | Unimportant | Neither | Important | Very Important | Mean (S.D.)  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|----|------------------|-------------|---------|-----------|----------------|--------------|
| Shaded areas (e.g., trees, pavilion)                         | 17 | 0.0%             | 0.0%        | 0.0%    | 35.3%     | 64.7%          | 4.65 (.493)  |
| Maintenance (e.g., fountains work, amenity condition)        | 16 | 0.0%             | 6.3%        | 0.0%    | 31.3%     | 62.5%          | 4.50 (.816)  |
| Trashcans                                                    | 17 | 0.0%             | 0.0%        | 0.0%    | 52.9%     | 47.1%          | 4.47 (.514)  |
| Waste disposal bags                                          | 17 | 0.0%             | 0.0%        | 5.9%    | 47.1%     | 47.1%          | 4.41 (.618)  |
| Secured area (e.g., adequate fencing, double gated entrance) | 15 | 0.0%             | 6.7%        | 6.7%    | 26.7%     | 60.0%          | 4.40 (.910)  |
| Seating (e.g., benches, picnic tables)                       | 17 | 0.0%             | 0.0%        | 5.9%    | 52.9%     | 41.2%          | 4.35 (.606)  |
| Trees and landscaping                                        | 17 | 0.0%             | 5.9%        | 0.0%    | 52.9%     | 41.2%          | 4.29 (.772)  |
| Parking                                                      | 17 | 0.0%             | 0.0%        | 11.8%   | 47.1%     | 41.2%          | 4.29 (.686)  |
| Close to home                                                | 16 | 0.0%             | 0.0%        | 6.3%    | 62.5%     | 31.3%          | 4.25 (.577)  |
| Pet fountain (drinking fountain with attached dog bowl)      | 17 | 0.0%             | 0.0%        | 23.5%   | 41.2%     | 35.3%          | 4.12 (.781)  |
| Drinking fountain                                            | 17 | 0.0%             | 5.9%        | 23.5%   | 29.4%     | 41.2%          | 4.06 (.966)  |
| Restroom facilities                                          | 17 | 0.0%             | 5.9%        | 11.8%   | 58.8%     | 23.5%          | 4.00 (.791)  |
| Posted regulations                                           | 16 | 6.3%             | 6.3%        | 18.8%   | 31.3%     | 37.5%          | 3.88 (1.204) |
| Lighting for extended hours                                  | 17 | 0.0%             | 17.6%       | 23.5%   | 35.3%     | 25.3%          | 3.65 (1.057) |
| Dog wash station                                             | 16 | 0.0%             | 6.3%        | 43.8%   | 31.3%     | 18.8%          | 3.63 (.885)  |
| Adjoining park areas (e.g., trails, playground)              | 16 | 12.5%            | 6.3%        | 12.5%   | 62.5%     | 6.3%           | 3.44 (1.153) |
| Water play areas (e.g., lakes)                               | 17 | 11.8%            | 23.5%       | 5.9%    | 47.1%     | 11.8%          | 3.24 (1.300) |
| Walking trails within the dog park                           | 16 | 12.5%            | 6.3%        | 31.3%   | 50.0%     | 0.0%           | 3.19 (1.047) |
| Controlled access (e.g., proof of vaccination, membership)   | 15 | 6.7%             | 33.3%       | 26.7%   | 20.0%     | 13.3%          | 3.00 (1.195) |
| Agility equipment (e.g., jumps, tunnels)                     | 16 | 0.0%             | 37.5%       | 31.3%   | 31.3%     | 0.0%           | 2.94 (.854)  |
| Park monitor                                                 | 15 | 13.3%            | 26.7%       | 26.7%   | 20.0%     | 13.3%          | 2.93 (1.280) |
| Separate areas for small vs. large dogs                      | 15 | 6.7%             | 46.7%       | 6.7%    | 26.7%     | 13.3%          | 2.93 (1.280) |

Figure 24: Constraints to visitation



Numbers to the right of the chart represent Mean (M) scores; 1=Not at all, 5=A great deal

Table 10: Constraints to visitation

|                                                      | n  | Not at all | A little | Somewhat | A lot | A great deal | Mean (S.D.)  |
|------------------------------------------------------|----|------------|----------|----------|-------|--------------|--------------|
| Not enough time                                      | 15 | 6.7%       | 6.7%     | 40.0%    | 20.0% | 26.7%        | 3.53 (1.187) |
| Poorly maintained park                               | 14 | 21.4%      | 50.0%    | 14.3%    | 0.0%  | 14.3%        | 2.36 (1.277) |
| Terrain issues (e.g., lack of grass, erosion)        | 15 | 60.0%      | 6.7%     | 13.3%    | 6.7%  | 13.3%        | 2.07 (1.534) |
| Crime concerns (e.g., car break-ins)                 | 15 | 53.3%      | 13.3%    | 20.0%    | 6.7%  | 6.7%         | 2.00 (1.309) |
| Aggressive behavior from other dog(s)                | 15 | 46.7%      | 33.3%    | 13.3%    | 0.0%  | 6.7%         | 1.87 (1.125) |
| Park is too far from home                            | 16 | 62.5%      | 18.8%    | 6.3%     | 0.0%  | 12.5%        | 1.81 (1.377) |
| My dog does not respond to my commands               | 14 | 50.0%      | 35.7%    | 7.1%     | 7.1%  | 0.0%         | 1.71 (.914)  |
| Presence of dog feces                                | 14 | 50.0%      | 42.9%    | 0.0%     | 7.1%  | 0.0%         | 1.64 (.842)  |
| Personal safety concerns (e.g., fear of injury)      | 15 | 66.7%      | 13.3%    | 13.3%    | 6.7%  | 0.0%         | 1.60 (.986)  |
| Conflict with other dog owners                       | 14 | 57.1%      | 35.7%    | 0.0%     | 7.1%  | 0.0%         | 1.57 (.852)  |
| Aggressive behavior from my dog(s)                   | 15 | 66.7%      | 26.7%    | 0.0%     | 0.0%  | 6.7%         | 1.53 (1.060) |
| No one to go with                                    | 16 | 68.8%      | 12.5%    | 18.8%    | 0.0%  | 0.0%         | 1.50 (.816)  |
| Park is not designed for the activities I want to do | 14 | 78.6%      | 7.1%     | 14.3%    | 0.0%  | 0.0%         | 1.36 (.745)  |
| Feel unwelcome                                       | 15 | 80.0%      | 13.3%    | 6.7%     | 0.0%  | 0.0%         | 1.33 (.816)  |
| My dog is not vaccinated                             | 14 | 92.9%      | 0.0%     | 0.0%     | 0.0%  | 7.1%         | 1.29 (1.069) |
| My dog is not neutered/spayed                        | 14 | 92.9%      | 0.0%     | 0.0%     | 0.0%  | 7.1%         | 1.29 (1.069) |
| Park feels too crowded                               | 15 | 80.0%      | 13.3%    | 6.7%     | 0.0%  | 0.0%         | 1.27 (.594)  |
| Limited park hours                                   | 15 | 86.7%      | 6.7%     | 6.7%     | 0.0%  | 0.0%         | 1.20 (.561)  |
| Family/friends don't have dogs                       | 15 | 86.7%      | 6.7%     | 6.7%     | 0.0%  | 0.0%         | 1.20 (.561)  |
| Lack of transportation                               | 15 | 86.7%      | 13.3%    | 0.0%     | 0.0%  | 0.0%         | 1.13 (.352)  |
| My dog is an older dog                               | 15 | 93.3%      | 0.0%     | 6.7%     | 0.0%  | 0.0%         | 1.13 (.516)  |
| Lack of information about the park                   | 16 | 93.8%      | 0.0%     | 6.3%     | 0.0%  | 0.0%         | 1.13 (.500)  |
| Park regulations are too strict                      | 15 | 93.3%      | 6.7%     | 0.0%     | 0.0%  | 0.0%         | 1.07 (.258)  |

### Section IV: Fees in Dog Parks

Figure 25: What would you consider a fair annual price for using Columbia Parks & Recreation dog parks? (n=16)

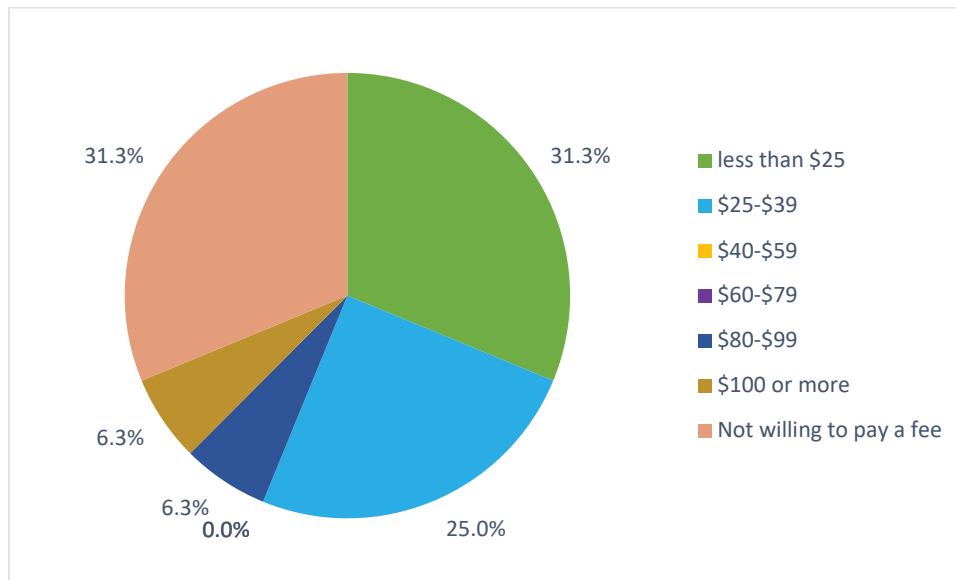
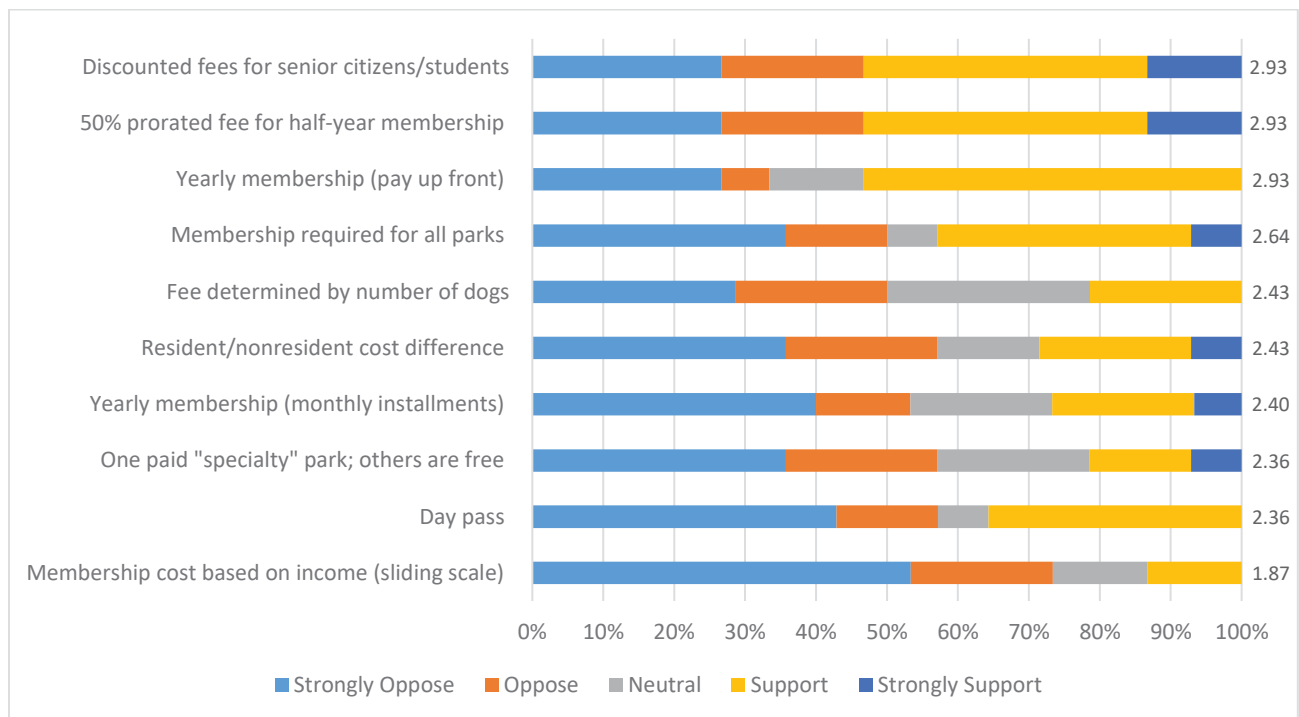


Figure 26: To what extent would you support or oppose the following fee structures?

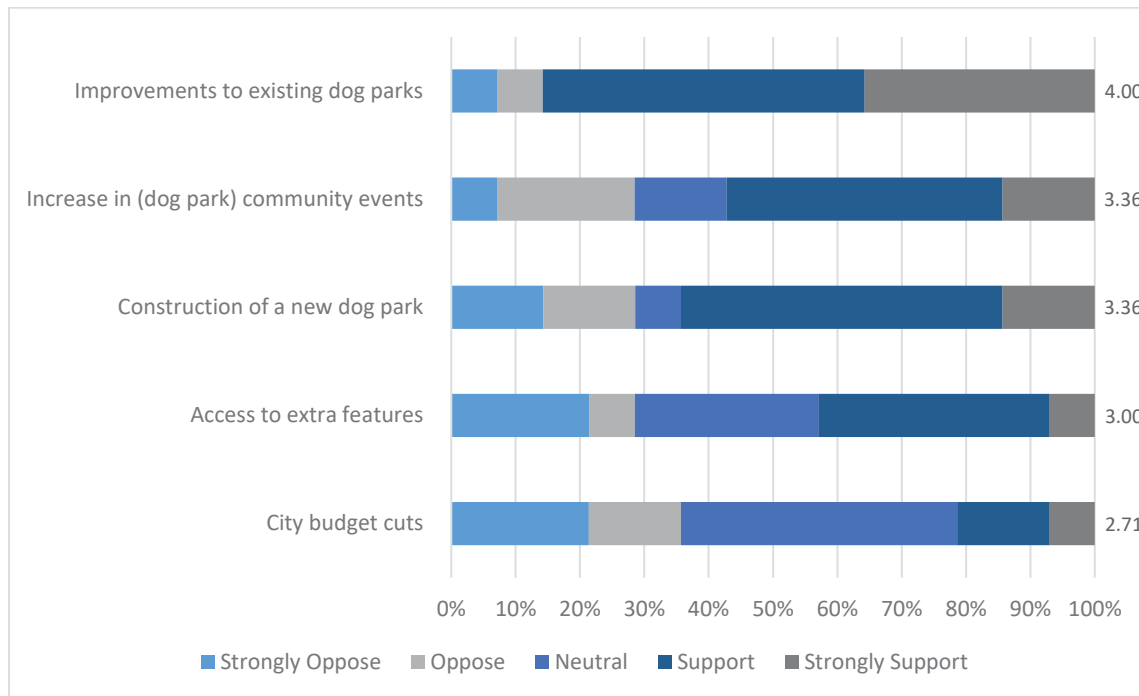


Numbers to the right of the chart represent the mean (M) scores; 1= Strongly Oppose, 5=Strongly Support

Table 11: To what extent would you support or oppose the following fee structures?

|                                                 | n  | Strongly Oppose | Oppose | Neutral | Support | Strongly Support | Mean (S.D.)  |
|-------------------------------------------------|----|-----------------|--------|---------|---------|------------------|--------------|
| Discounted fees for senior citizens/students    | 15 | 26.7%           | 20.0%  | 0.0%    | 40.0%   | 13.3%            | 2.93 (1.534) |
| 50% prorated fee for half-year membership       | 15 | 26.7%           | 20.0%  | 0.0%    | 40.0%   | 13.3%            | 2.93 (1.534) |
| Yearly membership (pay up front)                | 15 | 26.7%           | 6.7%   | 13.3%   | 53.3%   | 0.0%             | 2.93 (1.335) |
| Membership required for all parks               | 14 | 35.7%           | 14.3%  | 7.1%    | 35.7%   | 7.1%             | 2.64 (1.499) |
| Fee determined by number of dogs                | 14 | 28.6%           | 21.4%  | 28.6%   | 21.4%   | 0.0%             | 2.43 (1.158) |
| Resident/nonresident cost difference            | 14 | 35.7%           | 21.4%  | 14.3%   | 21.4%   | 7.1%             | 2.43 (1.399) |
| Yearly membership (monthly installments)        | 15 | 40.0%           | 13.3%  | 20.0%   | 20.0%   | 6.7%             | 2.40 (1.404) |
| One paid "specialty" park; others are free      | 14 | 35.7%           | 21.4%  | 21.4%   | 14.3%   | 7.1%             | 2.36 (1.336) |
| Day pass                                        | 14 | 42.9%           | 14.3%  | 7.1%    | 35.7%   | 0.0%             | 2.36 (1.393) |
| Membership cost based on income (sliding scale) | 15 | 53.3%           | 20.0%  | 13.3%   | 13.3%   | 0.0%             | 1.87 (1.125) |

Figure 27: For each of the following circumstances, to what extent would you support or oppose paying a \$25 fee for using Columbia Parks & Recreation dog parks? (n=14)

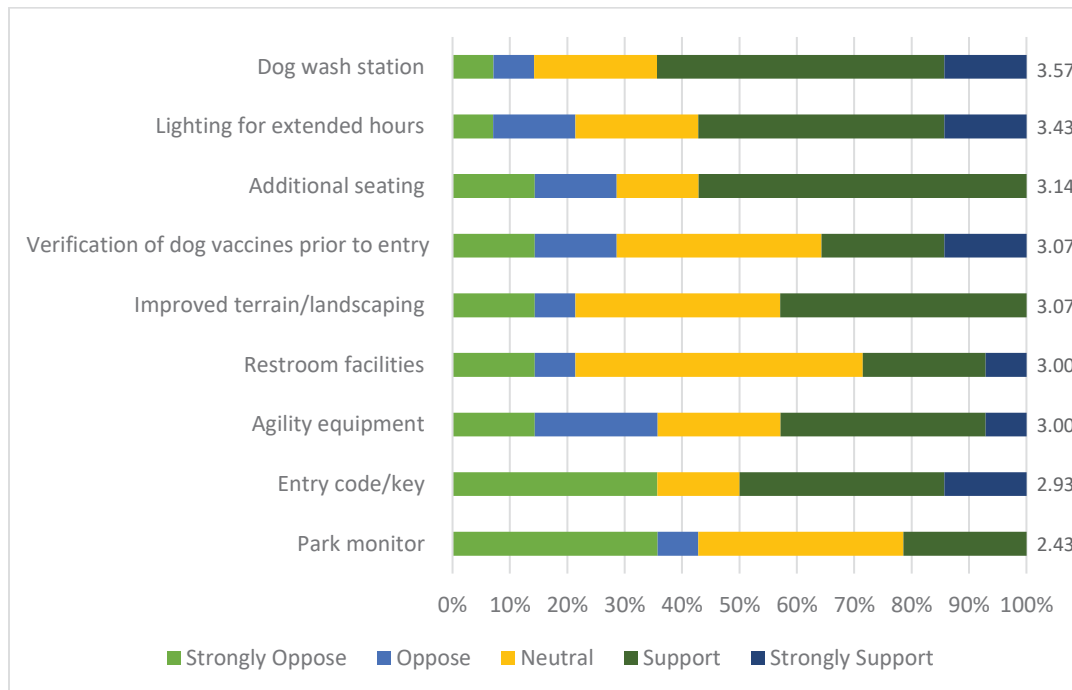


Numbers to the right of the chart represent the mean (M) scores; 1= Strongly Oppose, 5=Strongly Support

Table 12: For each of the following circumstances, to what extent would you support or oppose paying a \$25 fee for using Columbia Parks & Recreation dog parks? (n=14)

|                                         | Strongly Oppose | Oppose | Neutral | Support | Strongly Support | Mean (S.D.)  |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------------|--------|---------|---------|------------------|--------------|
| Improvements to existing dog parks      | 7.1%            | 7.1%   | 0.0%    | 50.0%   | 35.7%            | 4.00 (1.177) |
| Increase in (dog park) community events | 7.1%            | 21.4%  | 14.3%   | 42.9%   | 14.3%            | 3.36 (1.216) |
| Construction of a new dog park          | 14.3%           | 14.3%  | 7.1%    | 50.0%   | 14.3%            | 3.36 (1.336) |
| Access to extra features                | 21.4%           | 7.1%   | 28.6%   | 35.7%   | 7.1%             | 3.00 (1.301) |
| City budget cuts                        | 21.4%           | 14.3%  | 42.9%   | 14.3%   | 7.1%             | 2.71 (1.204) |

Figure 28: To what extent would you support or oppose paying a \$25 fee for using Columbia Parks & Recreation dog parks in exchange for the following features? (n=14)



Numbers to the right of the chart represent the mean (M) scores; 1= Strongly Oppose, 5=Strongly Support

Table 13: To what extent would you support or oppose paying a \$25 fee for using Columbia Parks & Recreation dog parks in exchange for the following features? (n=14)

|                                             | Strongly Oppose | Oppose | Neutral | Support | Strongly Support | Mean (S.D.)  |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------------|--------|---------|---------|------------------|--------------|
| Dog wash station                            | 7.1%            | 7.1%   | 21.4%   | 50.0%   | 14.3%            | 3.57 (1.089) |
| Lighting for extended hours                 | 7.1%            | 14.3%  | 21.4%   | 42.9%   | 14.3%            | 3.43 (1.158) |
| Additional seating                          | 14.3%           | 14.3%  | 14.3%   | 57.1%   | 0.0%             | 3.14 (1.167) |
| Verification of dog vaccines prior to entry | 14.3%           | 14.3%  | 35.7%   | 21.4%   | 14.3%            | 3.07 (1.269) |
| Improved terrain/landscaping                | 14.3%           | 7.1%   | 35.7%   | 42.9%   | 0.0%             | 3.07 (1.072) |
| Restroom facilities                         | 14.3%           | 7.1%   | 50.0%   | 21.4%   | 7.1%             | 3.00 (1.109) |
| Agility equipment                           | 14.3%           | 21.4%  | 21.4%   | 35.7%   | 7.1%             | 3.00 (1.240) |
| Entry code/key                              | 35.7%           | 0.0%   | 14.3%   | 35.7%   | 14.3%            | 2.93 (1.592) |
| Park monitor                                | 35.7%           | 7.1%   | 35.7%   | 21.4%   | 0.0%             | 2.43 (1.222) |

**Appendix D:**  
**Brief Report (Garth)**

**Columbia Parks and Recreation Dog Park Study**  
**Brief Report: Garth Dog Park**

Lily Bennett  
Sonja Wilhelm Stanis, PhD



**School of Natural Resources**  
University of Missouri

This brief report presents a summary of the onsite visitor survey data collected from Garth Dog Park May-August 2018 (Response rate 89.9%; n=71)

**Section I: Respondent Profile (Garth)**

Figure 1: Respondent gender (n=70)

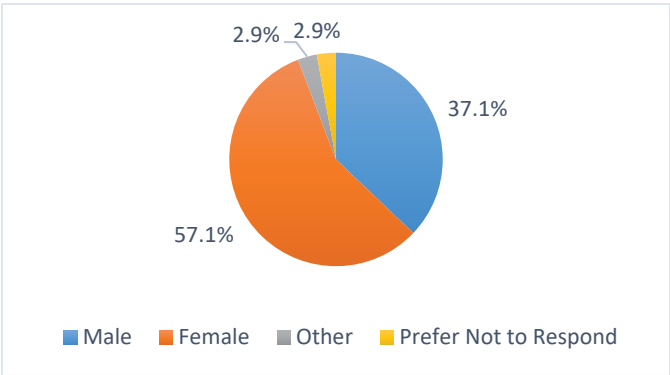


Figure 2: Respondent age groups (n=69)

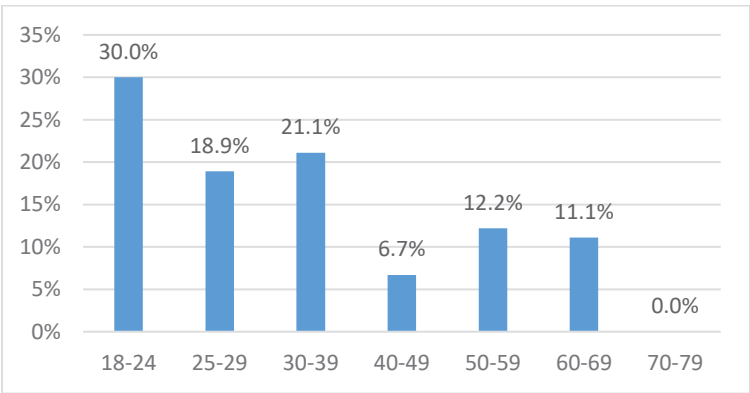


Figure 3: Annual household income before taxes (n=66)

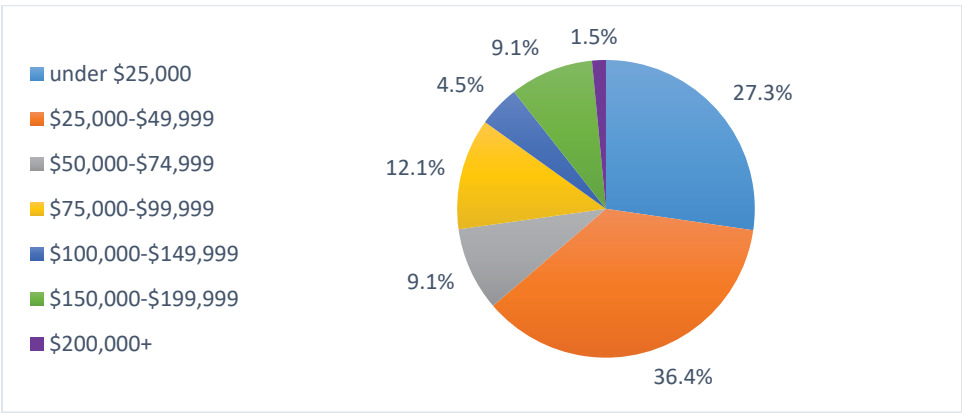


Figure 4: Number of children under 18 in household (n=65)

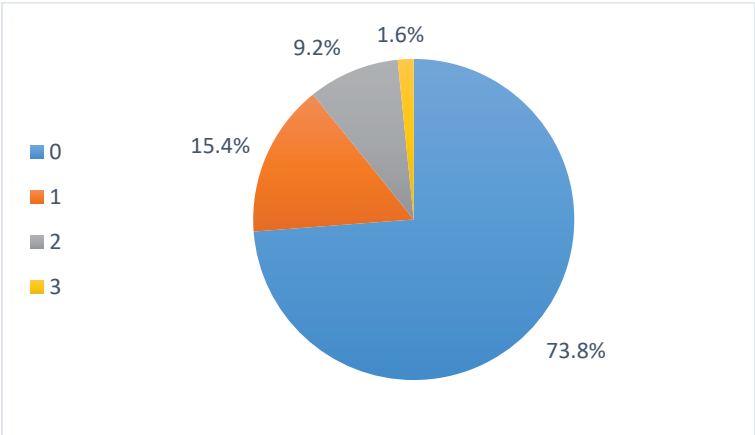


Figure 5: Number of dogs owned (n=68)

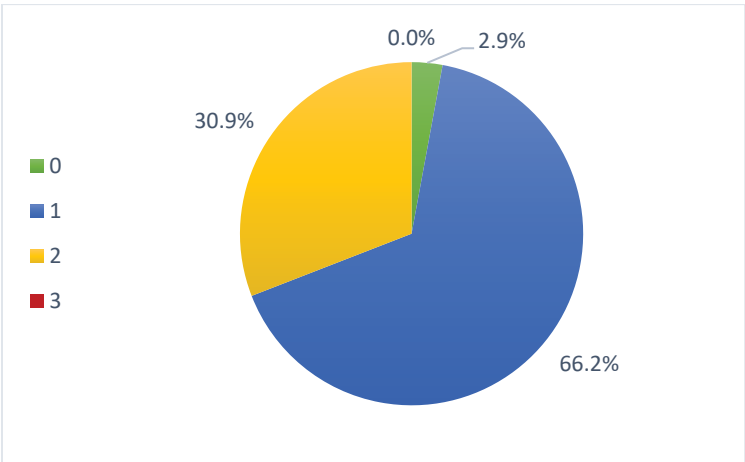


Figure 6: Residence type (n=69)

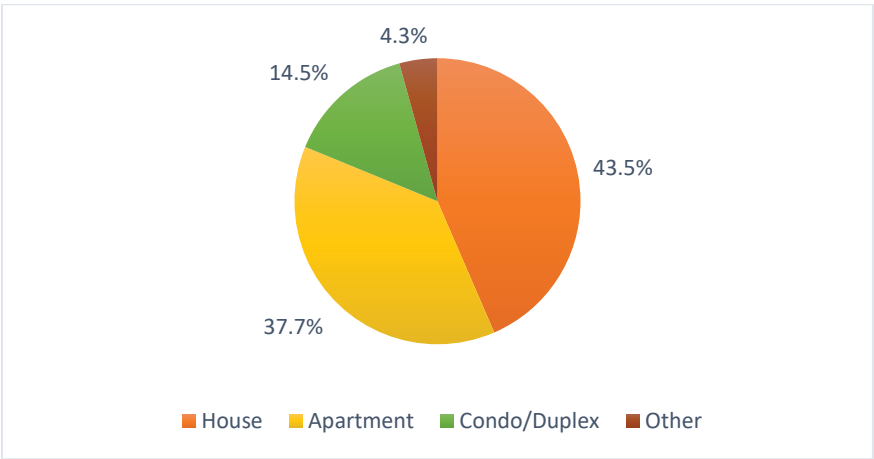


Figure 7: Does your residence have a fenced area for dogs? (n=69)

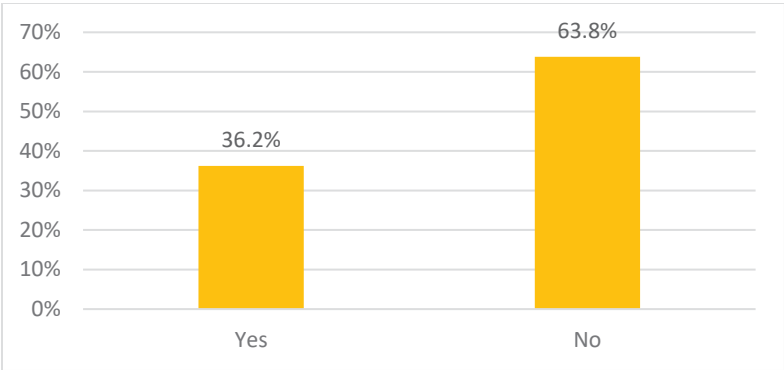


Figure 8: What is your zip code? (n=65)

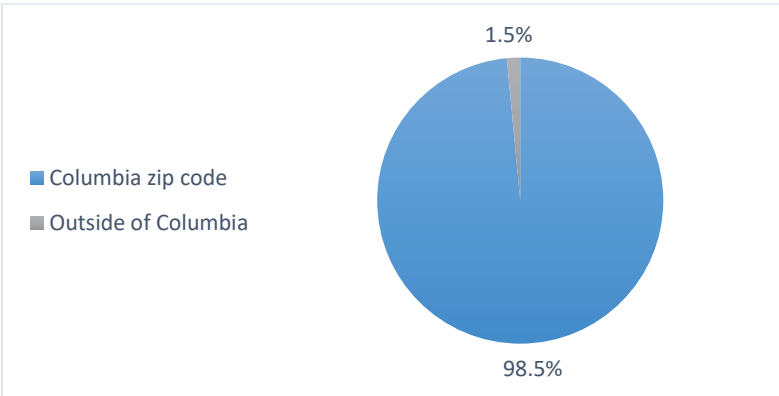
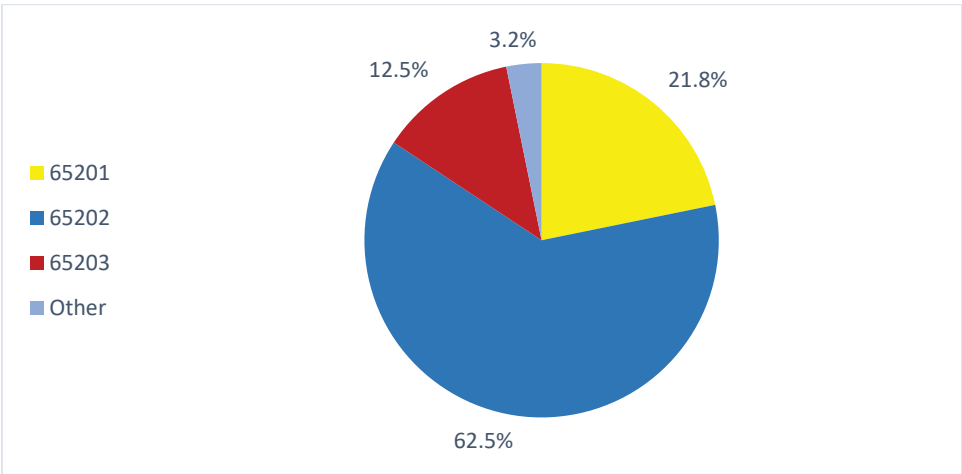


Figure 9: Respondent zip codes (within Columbia) (n=64)



**Section II: Usage and Today’s Visit**

Figure 10: Transportation to the dog park (n=71)

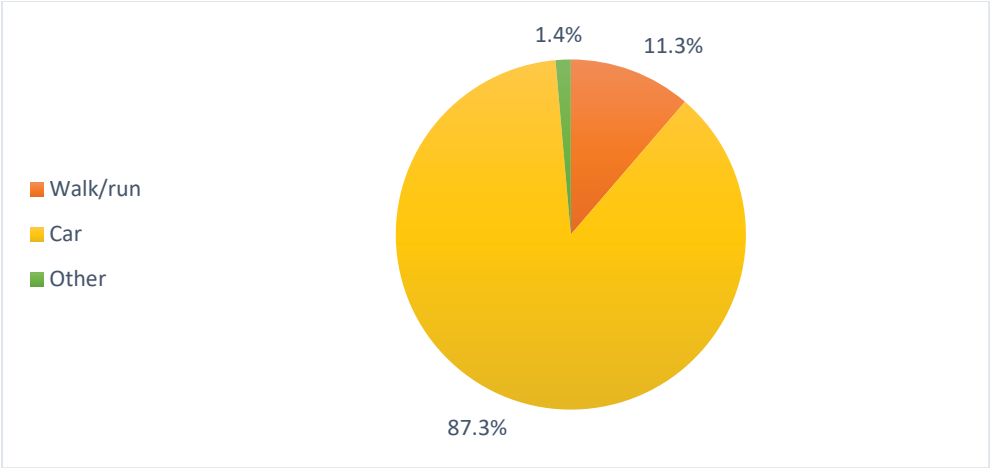


Figure 11: Travel time (minutes) (n=71)

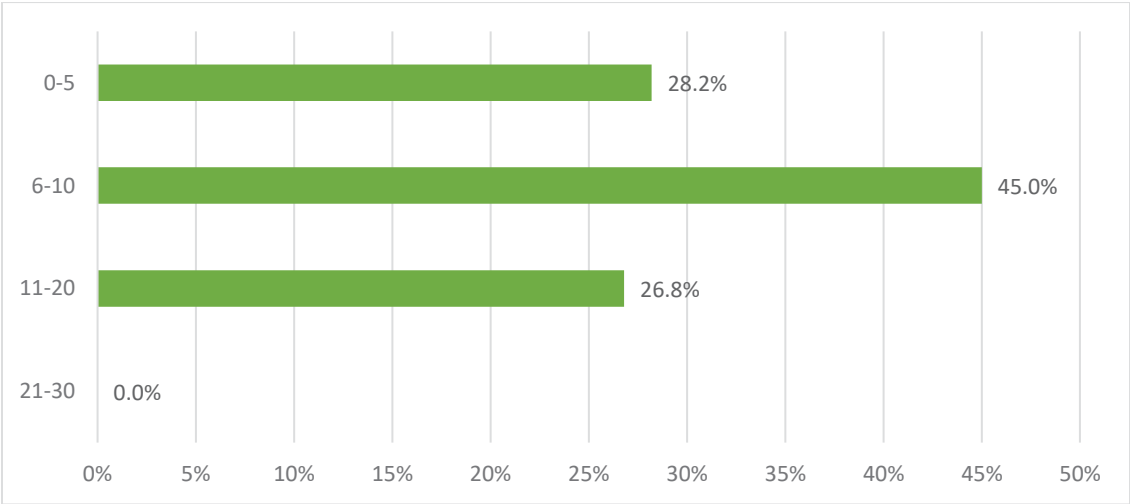


Figure 12: Miles traveled to the dog park (n=70)

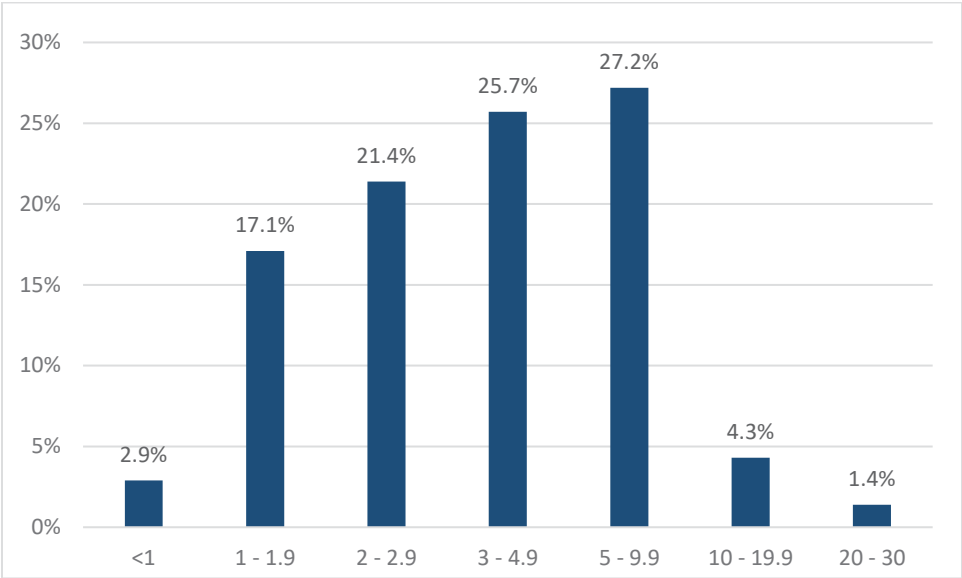


Figure 13: Length of stay at the dog park (minutes) (n=67)

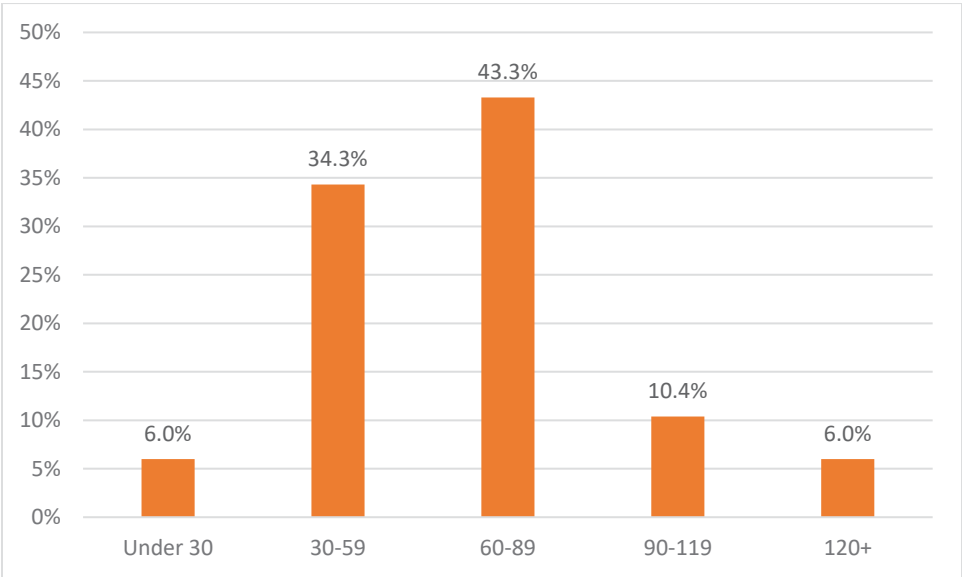


Figure 14: Are you here with dog(s) today? (n=71)

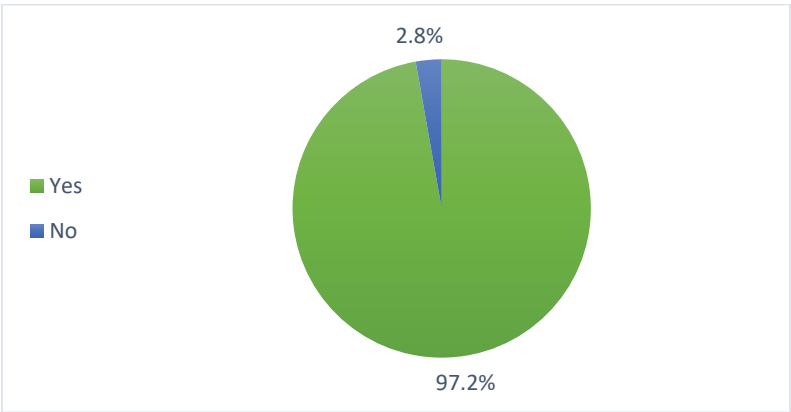


Figure 15: If you are with a dog(s), then how many dog(s) are you here with today? (n=69)

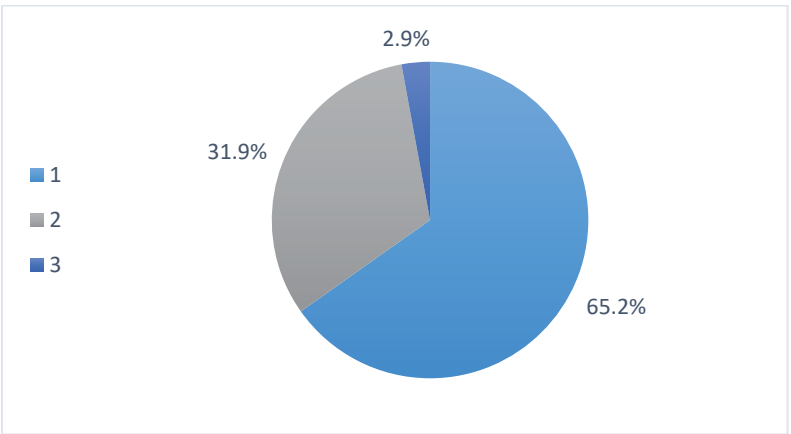


Figure 16: If you are with a dog(s), are you the owner of the dog(s)? (n=68)

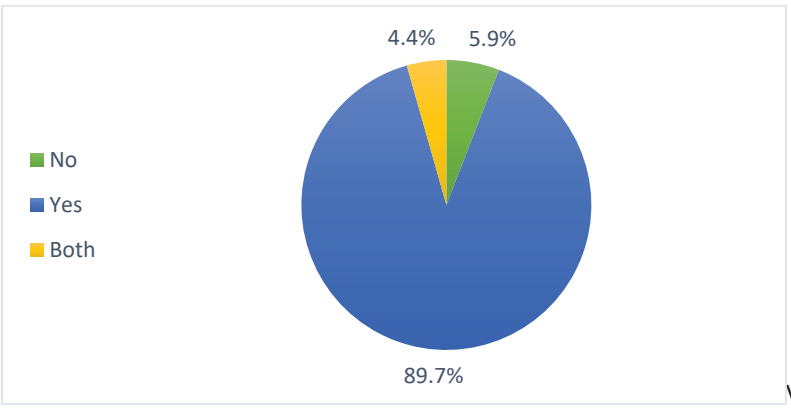
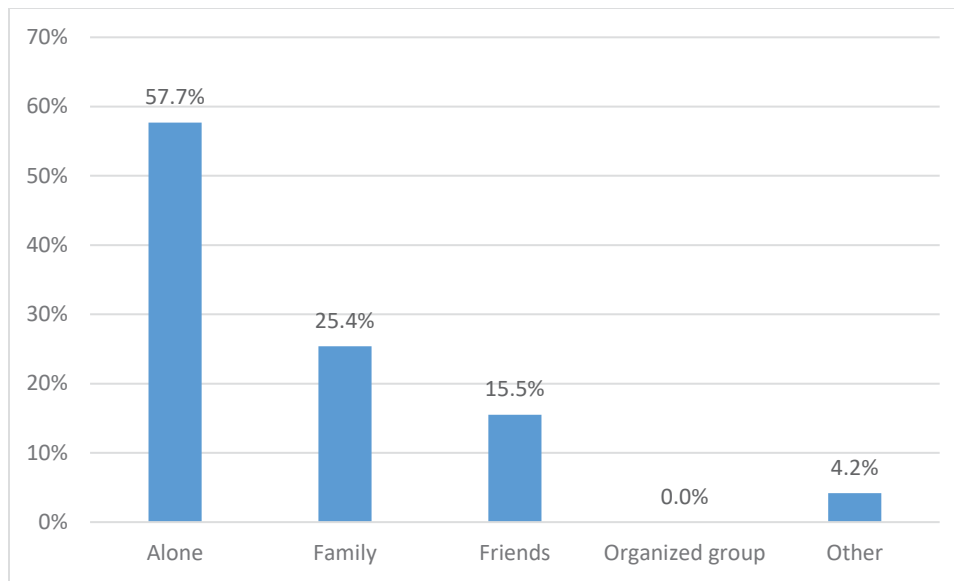


Figure 17: With whom are you visiting the dog park today? (check all that apply) (n=71)



Most common "Other" response is "significant other"

Table 1: Place Attachment

|                                                                       | n  | Mean        | S.D.        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|----|-------------|-------------|
| <b>Place Identity</b>                                                 |    | <b>3.64</b> | <b>.377</b> |
| This dog park means a lot to me                                       | 16 | 4.06        | .574        |
| I identify strongly with this dog park                                | 15 | 3.53        | .990        |
| I am very attached to this dog park                                   | 15 | 3.33        | .816        |
| <b>Place Bonding</b>                                                  |    | <b>3.45</b> | <b>.062</b> |
| I have a lot of fond memories about this dog park                     | 16 | 3.50        | .816        |
| I bring my family/friends to this dog park                            | 15 | 3.47        | .743        |
| I have a special connection with the people who come to this dog park | 16 | 3.38        | .990        |
| <b>Place Dependence</b>                                               |    | <b>3.30</b> | <b>0.43</b> |
| This dog park is the best place for dogs                              | 15 | 3.60        | .828        |
| I enjoy recreating at this dog park more than any other dog park      | 16 | 3.50        | 1.033       |
| I wouldn't substitute any other dog park for what I do here           | 16 | 2.81        | .750        |

1=Strongly Disagree, 5=Strongly Agree

**Section III: Columbia Parks and Recreation Dog Parks**

Figure 18: Park visitation

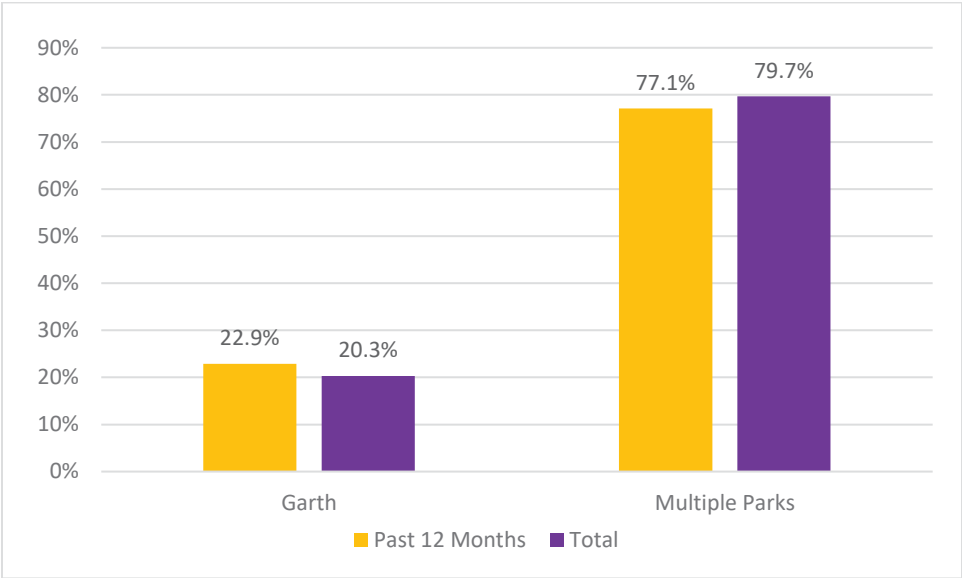


Table 2: Park visitation

|                | n  | Garth only | Multiple parks |
|----------------|----|------------|----------------|
| Past 12 months | 70 | 22.9%      | 77.1%          |
| Total          | 64 | 20.3%      | 79.7%          |

Figure 19: Average (mean) number of visits to each dog park

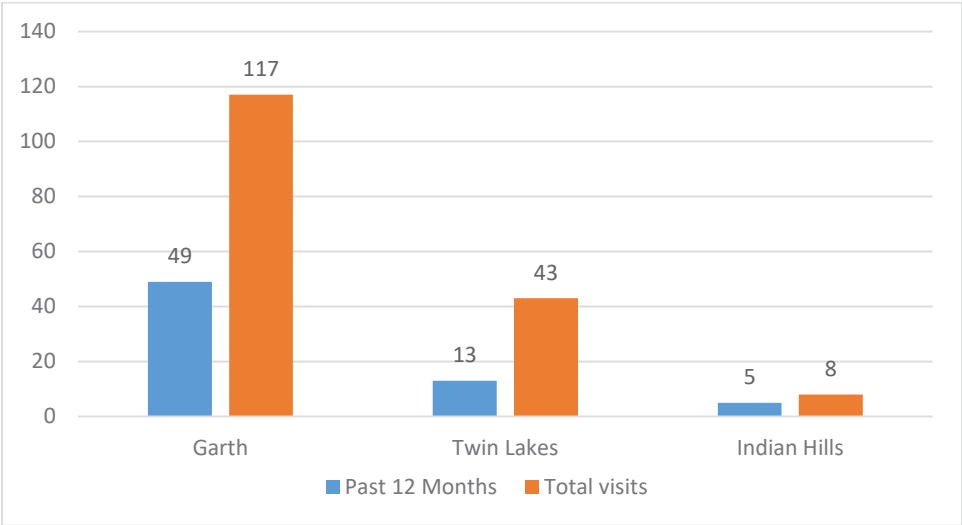


Table 3: Average number of visits to each dog park *over the past 12 months*

|              | n  | Minimum | Maximum | Median | Mean |
|--------------|----|---------|---------|--------|------|
| Garth        | 67 | 1       | 300     | 24     | 49   |
| Twin Lakes   | 52 | 1       | 75      | 5      | 13   |
| Indian Hills | 16 | 1       | 20      | 3      | 5    |

“Mean” and “Median” are rounded to the nearest whole number  
Respondents who indicated they had not visited the dog park were excluded from the analysis.

Table 4: Average number of *total* visits to each dog park

|              | n  | Minimum | Maximum | Median | Mean |
|--------------|----|---------|---------|--------|------|
| Garth        | 63 | 1       | 900     | 35     | 117  |
| Twin Lakes   | 51 | 1       | 250     | 20     | 43   |
| Indian Hills | 24 | 1       | 30      | 6      | 8    |

“Mean” and “Median” are rounded to the nearest whole number  
Respondents who indicated they had not visited the dog park were excluded from the analysis.

Figure 20: Average (mean) number of *years* coming to each dog park

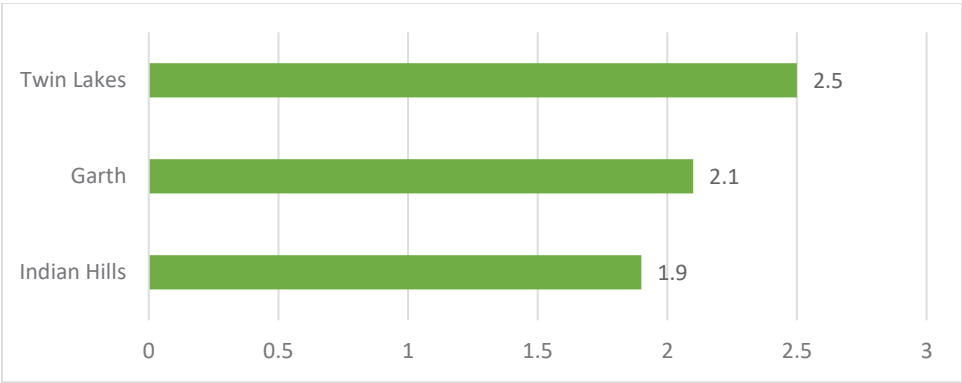


Table 5: Average number of years coming to each dog park

|              | n  | Minimum | Maximum | Median | Mean |
|--------------|----|---------|---------|--------|------|
| Twin Lakes   | 51 | 0.5     | 15      | 2      | 2.5  |
| Garth        | 66 | 0.3     | 8       | 1.8    | 2.1  |
| Indian Hills | 21 | 0.5     | 4       | 2      | 1.9  |

Respondents who indicated they had not visited the dog park were excluded from the analysis.

Figure 21: Park visitation per season

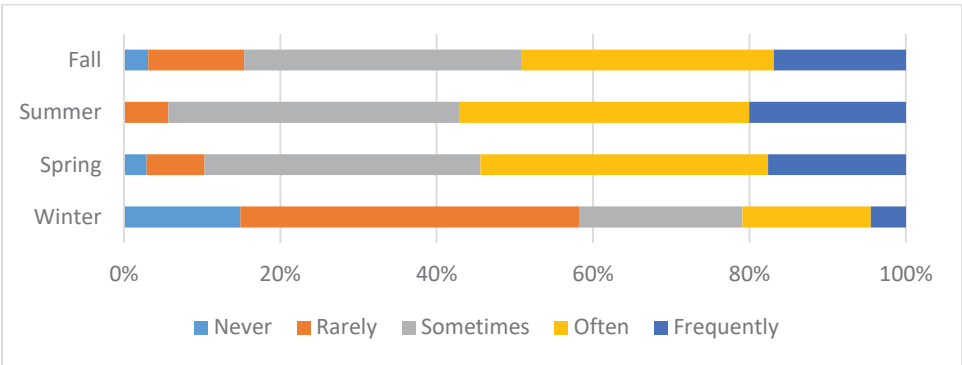


Table 6: Park visitation per season

|        | n  | Never<br>(0) | Rarely<br>(1-4) | Sometimes<br>(5-19) | Often<br>(20-49) | Frequently<br>(50+) |
|--------|----|--------------|-----------------|---------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Fall   | 65 | 3.1%         | 12.3%           | 35.4%               | 32.3%            | 16.9%               |
| Summer | 70 | 0.0%         | 5.7%            | 37.1%               | 37.1%            | 20.0%               |
| Spring | 68 | 2.9%         | 7.4%            | 35.3%               | 36.8%            | 17.6%               |
| Winter | 67 | 14.9%        | 43.3%           | 20.9%               | 16.4%            | 4.5%                |

Figure 22: Weekly visitation times (select all that apply) (n=71)

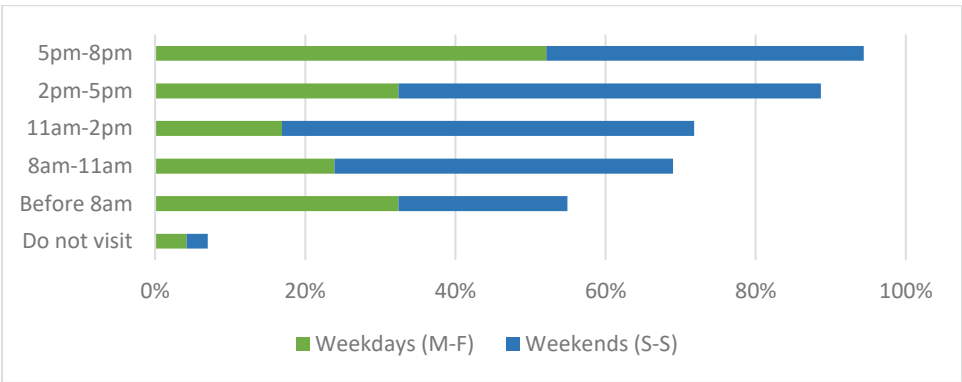
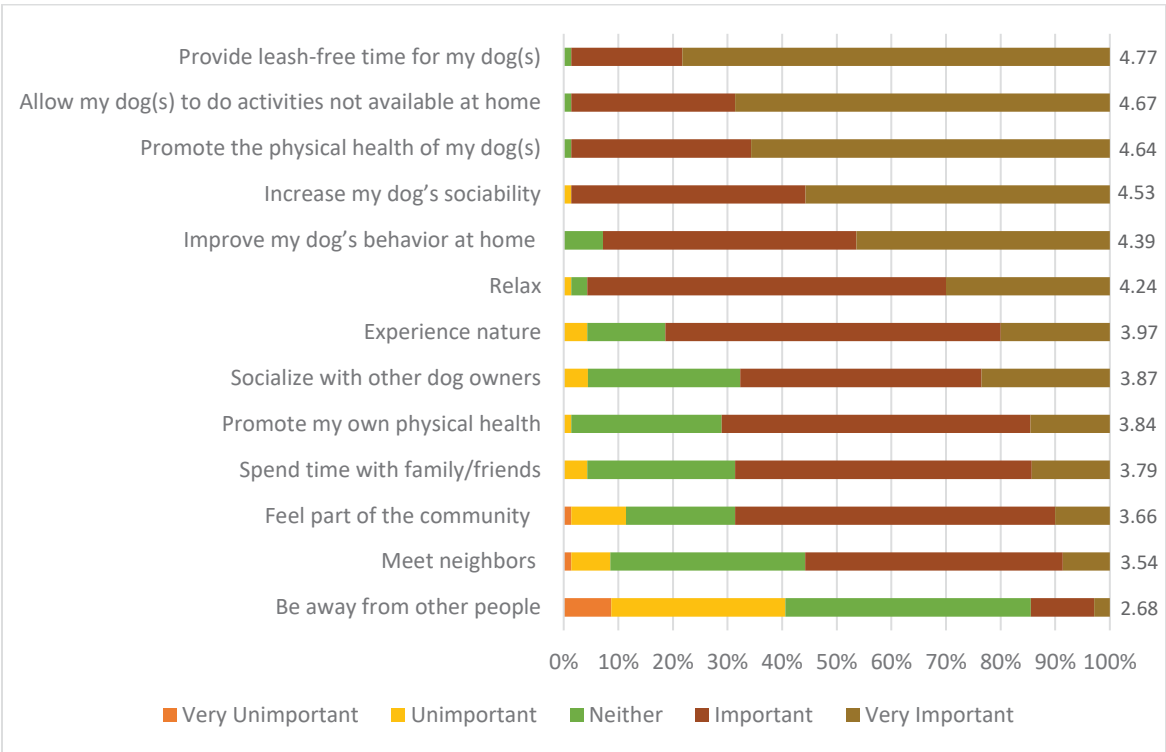


Table 7: Weekly visitation times (select all that apply) (n=71)

|                | Do Not Visit | Before 8am | 8am-11am | 11am-2pm | 2pm-5pm | After 5pm |
|----------------|--------------|------------|----------|----------|---------|-----------|
| Weekdays (M-F) | 4.2%         | 32.4%      | 23.9%    | 16.9%    | 32.4%   | 52.1%     |
| Weekends (S-S) | 2.8%         | 22.5%      | 45.1%    | 54.9%    | 56.3%   | 42.3%     |

Figure 23: Motivations for choosing a dog park

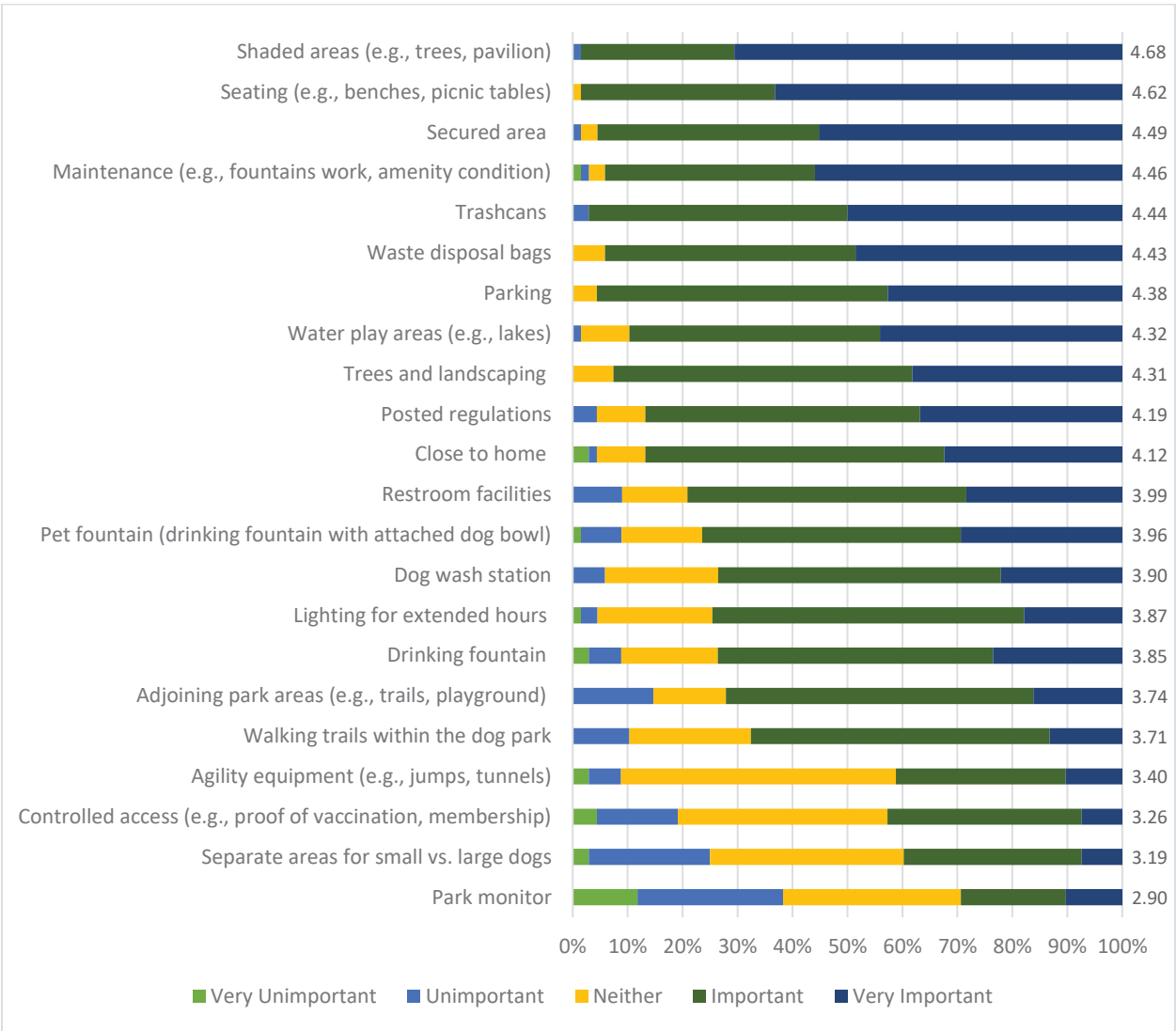


Numbers to the right of the chart represent item mean (M) scores; 1=Very Unimportant, 5=Very Important

Table 8: Motivations for choosing a dog park

|                                                        | n  | Very Unimportant | Unimportant | Neither | Important | Very Important | Mean (S.D.) |
|--------------------------------------------------------|----|------------------|-------------|---------|-----------|----------------|-------------|
| Provide leash-free time for my dog(s)                  | 69 | 0.0%             | 0.0%        | 1.4%    | 20.3%     | 78.3%          | 4.77 (.458) |
| Allow my dog(s) to do activities not available at home | 70 | 0.0%             | 0.0%        | 1.4%    | 30.0%     | 68.6%          | 4.67 (.503) |
| Promote the physical health of my dog(s)               | 70 | 0.0%             | 0.0%        | 1.4%    | 32.9%     | 65.7%          | 4.64 (.512) |
| Increase my dog’s sociability                          | 70 | 0.0%             | 1.4%        | 0.0%    | 42.9%     | 55.7%          | 4.53 (.583) |
| Improve my dog’s behavior at home                      | 69 | 0.0%             | 0.0%        | 7.2%    | 46.4%     | 46.4%          | 4.39 (.623) |
| Relax                                                  | 70 | 0.0%             | 1.4%        | 2.9%    | 65.7%     | 30.0%          | 4.24 (.576) |
| Experience nature                                      | 70 | 0.0%             | 4.3%        | 14.3%   | 61.4%     | 20.0%          | 3.97 (.722) |
| Socialize with other dog owners                        | 68 | 0.0%             | 4.4%        | 27.9%   | 44.1%     | 23.5%          | 3.87 (.827) |
| Promote my own physical health                         | 69 | 0.0%             | 1.4%        | 27.5%   | 56.5%     | 14.5%          | 3.84 (.678) |
| Spend time with family/friends                         | 70 | 0.0%             | 4.3%        | 27.1%   | 54.3%     | 14.3%          | 3.79 (.740) |
| Feel part of the community                             | 70 | 1.4%             | 10.0%       | 20.0%   | 58.6%     | 10.0%          | 3.66 (.849) |
| Meet neighbors                                         | 70 | 1.4%             | 7.1%        | 35.7%   | 47.1%     | 8.6%           | 3.54 (.811) |
| Be away from other people                              | 69 | 8.7%             | 31.9%       | 44.9%   | 11.6%     | 2.9%           | 2.68 (.899) |

Figure 24: Importance of dog park attributes

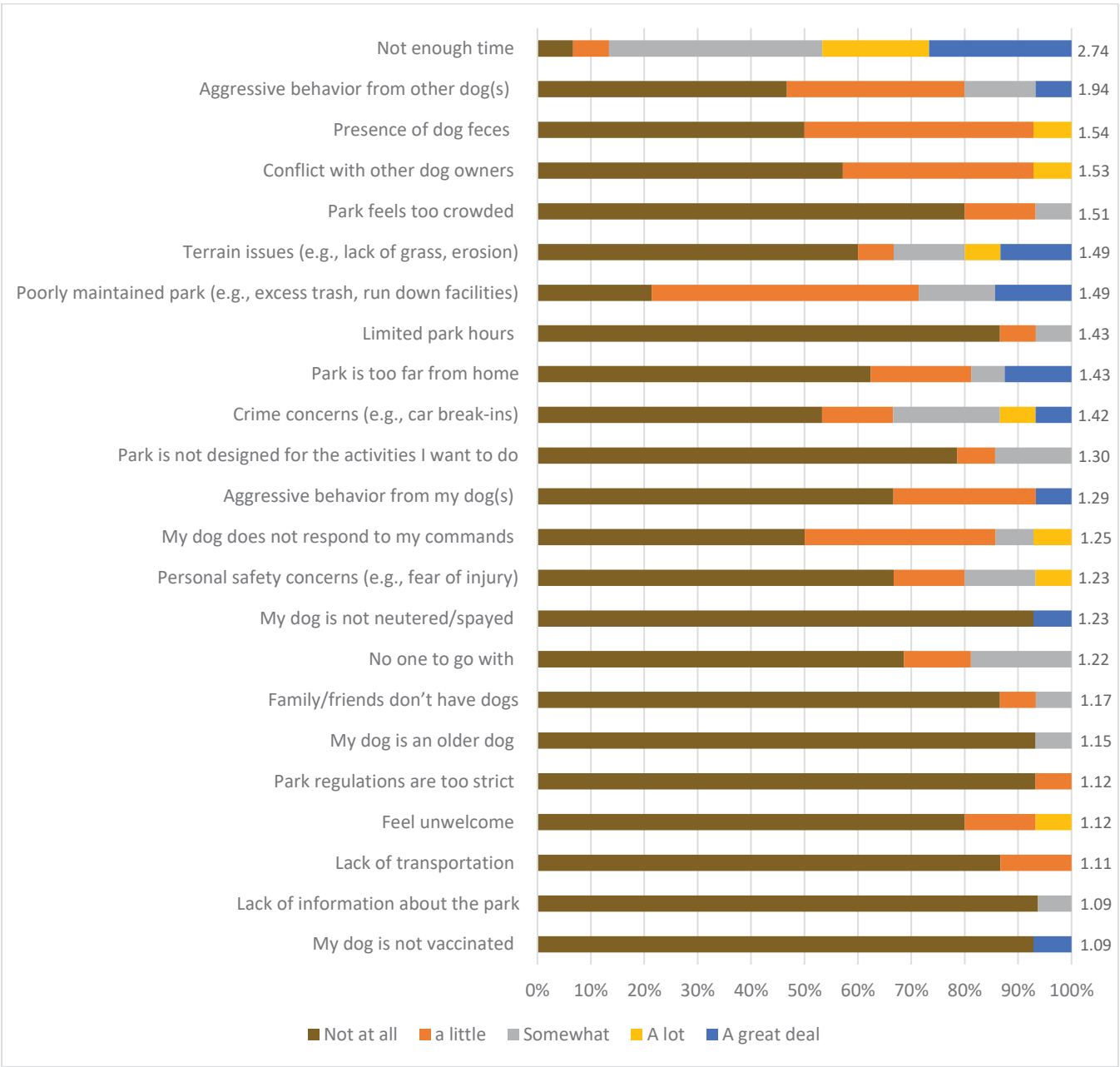


Numbers to the right of the chart represent item mean (M) scores; 1=Very Unimportant, 5=Very Important

Table 9: Importance of dog park attributes

|                                                            | n  | Very Unimportant | Unimportant | Neither | Important | Very Important | Mean (S.D.)  |
|------------------------------------------------------------|----|------------------|-------------|---------|-----------|----------------|--------------|
| Shaded areas (e.g., trees, pavilion)                       | 68 | 0.0%             | 1.5%        | 0.0%    | 27.9%     | 70.6%          | 4.68 (.558)  |
| Seating (e.g., benches, picnic tables)                     | 68 | 0.0%             | 0.0%        | 1.5%    | 35.3%     | 63.2%          | 4.62 (.519)  |
| Secured area                                               | 67 | 0.0%             | 1.5%        | 3.0%    | 40.3%     | 55.2%          | 4.49 (.637)  |
| Maintenance (e.g., fountains work, amenity condition)      | 68 | 1.5%             | 1.5%        | 2.9%    | 38.2%     | 55.9%          | 4.46 (.762)  |
| Trashcans                                                  | 68 | 0.0%             | 2.9%        | 0.0%    | 47.1%     | 50.0%          | 4.44 (.655)  |
| Waste disposal bags                                        | 68 | 0.0%             | 0.0%        | 5.9%    | 45.6%     | 48.5%          | 4.43 (.606)  |
| Parking                                                    | 68 | 0.0%             | 0.0%        | 4.4%    | 52.9%     | 42.6%          | 4.38 (.574)  |
| Water play areas (e.g., lakes)                             | 68 | 0.0%             | 1.5%        | 8.8%    | 45.6%     | 44.1%          | 4.32 (.701)  |
| Trees and landscaping                                      | 68 | 0.0%             | 0.0%        | 7.4%    | 54.4%     | 38.2%          | 4.31 (.605)  |
| Posted regulations                                         | 68 | 0.0%             | 4.4%        | 8.8%    | 50.0%     | 36.8%          | 4.19 (.778)  |
| Close to home                                              | 68 | 2.9%             | 1.5%        | 8.8%    | 54.4%     | 32.4%          | 4.12 (.856)  |
| Restroom facilities                                        | 67 | 0.0%             | 9.0%        | 11.9%   | 50.7%     | 28.4%          | 3.99 (.879)  |
| Pet fountain (drinking fountain with attached dog bowl)    | 68 | 1.5%             | 7.4%        | 14.7%   | 47.1%     | 29.4%          | 3.96 (.937)  |
| Dog wash station                                           | 68 | 0.0%             | 5.9%        | 20.6%   | 51.5%     | 22.1%          | 3.90 (.813)  |
| Lighting for extended hours                                | 67 | 1.5%             | 3.0%        | 20.9%   | 56.7%     | 17.9%          | 3.87 (.796)  |
| Drinking fountain                                          | 68 | 2.9%             | 5.9%        | 17.6%   | 50.0%     | 23.5%          | 3.85 (.950)  |
| Adjoining park areas (e.g., trails, playground)            | 68 | 0.0%             | 14.7%       | 13.2%   | 55.9%     | 16.2%          | 3.74 (.908)  |
| Walking trails within the dog park                         | 68 | 0.0%             | 10.3%       | 22.1%   | 54.4%     | 13.2%          | 3.71 (.830)  |
| Agility equipment (e.g., jumps, tunnels)                   | 68 | 2.9%             | 5.9%        | 50.0%   | 30.9%     | 10.3%          | 3.40 (.866)  |
| Controlled access (e.g., proof of vaccination, membership) | 68 | 4.4%             | 14.7%       | 38.2%   | 35.3%     | 7.4%           | 3.26 (.956)  |
| Separate areas for small vs. large dogs                    | 68 | 2.9%             | 22.1%       | 35.3%   | 32.4%     | 7.4%           | 3.19 (.966)  |
| Park monitor                                               | 68 | 11.8%            | 26.5%       | 32.4%   | 19.1%     | 10.3%          | 2.90 (1.161) |

Figure 25: Constraints to visitation



Numbers to the right of the chart represent item mean (M) scores; 1=Not at all, 5=A great deal

Table 10: Constraints to Visitation

|                                                                  | n  | Not at all | a little | Somewhat | A lot | A great deal | Mean (S.D.)  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|----|------------|----------|----------|-------|--------------|--------------|
| Not enough time                                                  | 66 | 6.7%       | 6.7%     | 40.0%    | 20.0% | 26.7%        | 2.74 (1.328) |
| Aggressive behavior from other dog(s)                            | 68 | 46.7%      | 33.3%    | 13.3%    | 0.0%  | 6.7%         | 1.94 (1.091) |
| Presence of dog feces                                            | 67 | 50.0%      | 42.9%    | 0.0%     | 7.1%  | 0.0%         | 1.54 (0.804) |
| Conflict with other dog owners                                   | 68 | 57.1%      | 35.7%    | 0.0%     | 7.1%  | 0.0%         | 1.53 (0.985) |
| Park feels too crowded                                           | 68 | 80.0%      | 13.3%    | 6.7%     | 0.0%  | 0.0%         | 1.51 (0.906) |
| Poorly maintained park (e.g., excess trash, run down facilities) | 65 | 21.4%      | 50.0%    | 14.3%    | 0.0%  | 14.3%        | 1.49 (0.831) |
| Terrain issues (e.g., lack of grass, erosion)                    | 65 | 60.0%      | 6.7%     | 13.3%    | 6.7%  | 13.3%        | 1.49 (0.773) |
| Park is too far from home                                        | 68 | 62.5%      | 18.8%    | 6.3%     | 0.0%  | 12.5%        | 1.43 (0.935) |
| Limited park hours                                               | 65 | 86.7%      | 6.7%     | 6.7%     | 0.0%  | 0.0%         | 1.43 (0.918) |
| Crime concerns (e.g., car break-ins)                             | 66 | 53.3%      | 13.3%    | 20.0%    | 6.7%  | 6.7%         | 1.42 (0.878) |
| Park is not designed for the activities I want to do             | 66 | 78.6%      | 7.1%     | 14.3%    | 0.0%  | 0.0%         | 1.3 (0.784)  |
| Aggressive behavior from my dog(s)                               | 66 | 66.7%      | 26.7%    | 0.0%     | 0.0%  | 6.7%         | 1.29 (0.627) |
| My dog does not respond to my commands                           | 65 | 50.0%      | 35.7%    | 7.1%     | 7.1%  | 0.0%         | 1.25 (0.531) |
| My dog is not neutered/spayed                                    | 47 | 92.9%      | 0.0%     | 0.0%     | 0.0%  | 7.1%         | 1.23 (0.865) |
| Personal safety concerns (e.g., fear of injury)                  | 65 | 66.7%      | 13.3%    | 13.3%    | 6.7%  | 0.0%         | 1.23 (0.702) |
| No one to go with                                                | 67 | 68.6%      | 12.5%    | 18.8%    | 0.0%  | 0.0%         | 1.22 (0.487) |
| Family/friends don't have dogs                                   | 64 | 86.7%      | 6.7%     | 6.7%     | 0.0%  | 0.0%         | 1.17 (0.420) |
| My dog is an older dog                                           | 65 | 93.3%      | 0.0%     | 6.7%     | 0.0%  | 0.0%         | 1.15 (0.441) |
| Feel unwelcome                                                   | 65 | 80.0%      | 13.3%    | 0.0%     | 6.7%  | 0.0%         | 1.12 (0.484) |
| Park regulations are too strict                                  | 66 | 93.3%      | 6.7%     | 0.0%     | 0.0%  | 0.0%         | 1.12 (0.412) |
| Lack of transportation                                           | 64 | 86.7%      | 13.3%    | 0.0%     | 0.0%  | 0.0%         | 1.11 (0.403) |
| My dog is not vaccinated                                         | 45 | 92.9%      | 0.0%     | 0.0%     | 0.0%  | 7.1%         | 1.09 (0.468) |
| Lack of information about the park                               | 65 | 93.8%      | 0.0%     | 6.3%     | 0.0%  | 0.0%         | 1.09 (0.384) |

**Section IV: Fees in Dog Parks**

Figure 26: What would you consider a fair annual price for using Columbia Parks & Recreation dog parks? (n=70)

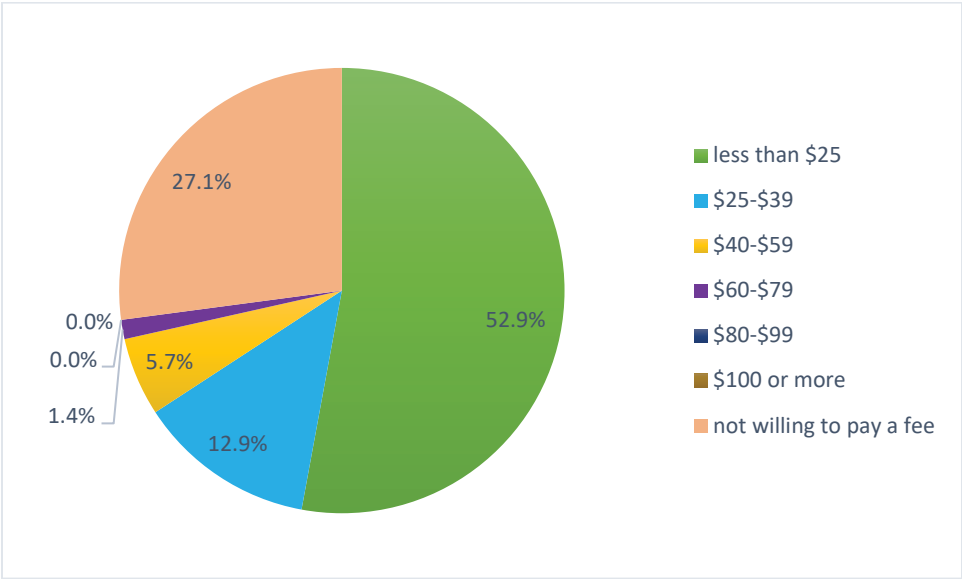
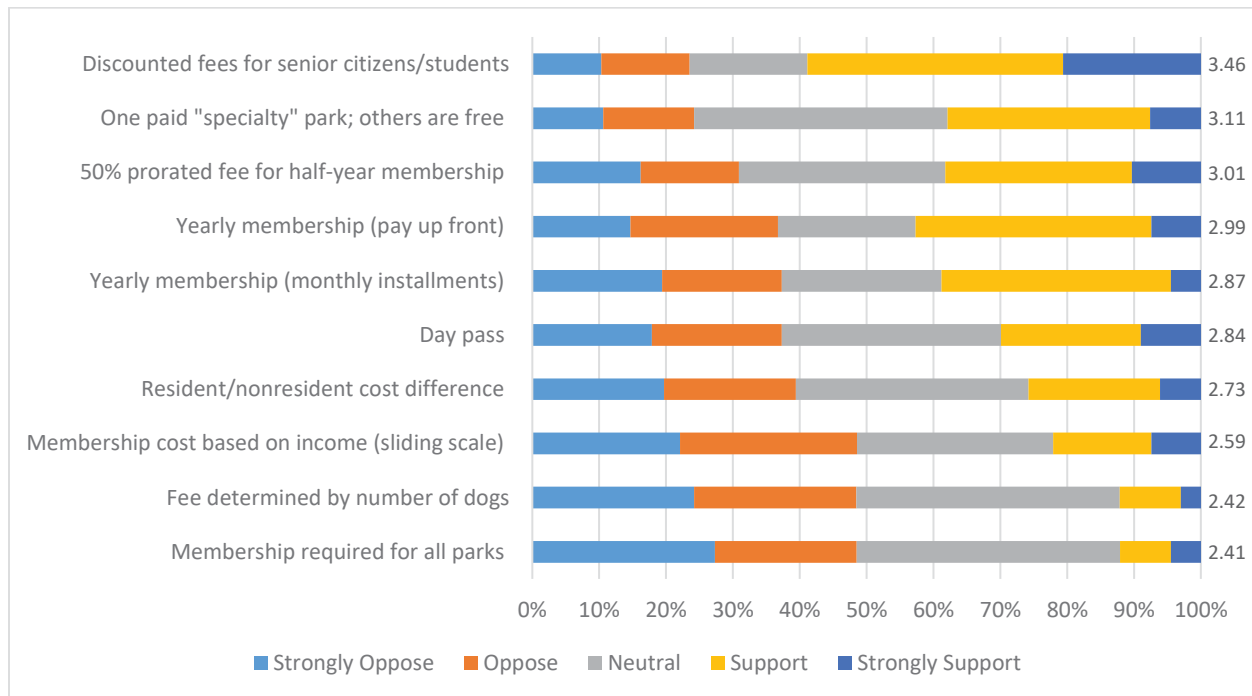


Figure 27: To what extent would you support or oppose the following fee structures?

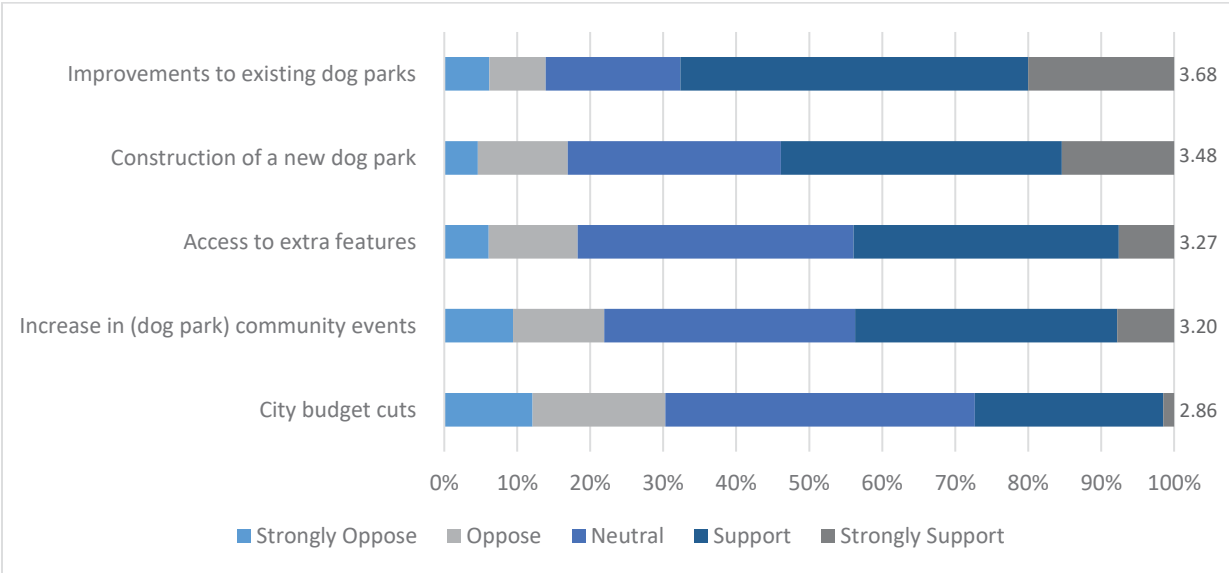


Numbers to the right of the chart represent item mean (*M*) scores; 1= Strongly Oppose, 5= Strongly Support

Table 11: To what extent would you support or oppose the following fee structures?

|                                                 | n  | Strongly Oppose | Oppose | Neutral | Support | Strongly Support | Mean (S.D.)  |
|-------------------------------------------------|----|-----------------|--------|---------|---------|------------------|--------------|
| Discounted fees for senior citizens/students    | 68 | 10.3%           | 13.2%  | 17.6%   | 38.2%   | 20.6%            | 3.46 (1.251) |
| One paid "specialty" park; others are free      | 66 | 10.6%           | 13.6%  | 37.9%   | 30.3%   | 7.6%             | 3.11 (1.083) |
| 50% prorated fee for half-year membership       | 68 | 16.2%           | 14.7%  | 30.9%   | 27.9%   | 10.3%            | 3.01 (1.228) |
| Yearly membership (pay up front)                | 68 | 14.7%           | 22.1%  | 20.6%   | 35.3%   | 7.4%             | 2.99 (1.215) |
| Yearly membership (monthly installments)        | 67 | 19.4%           | 17.9%  | 23.9%   | 34.3%   | 4.5%             | 2.87 (1.217) |
| Day pass                                        | 67 | 17.9%           | 19.4%  | 32.8%   | 20.9%   | 9.0%             | 2.84 (1.214) |
| Resident/nonresident cost difference            | 66 | 19.7%           | 19.7%  | 34.8%   | 19.7%   | 6.1%             | 2.73 (1.171) |
| Membership cost based on income (sliding scale) | 68 | 22.1%           | 26.5%  | 29.4%   | 14.7%   | 7.4%             | 2.59 (1.2)   |
| Fee determined by number of dogs                | 66 | 24.2%           | 24.2%  | 39.4%   | 9.1%    | 3.0%             | 2.42 (1.053) |
| Membership required for all parks               | 66 | 27.3%           | 21.2%  | 39.4%   | 7.6%    | 4.5%             | 2.41 (1.109) |

Figure 28: For each of the following circumstances, to what extent would you support or oppose paying a \$25 fee for using Columbia Parks & Recreation dog parks?

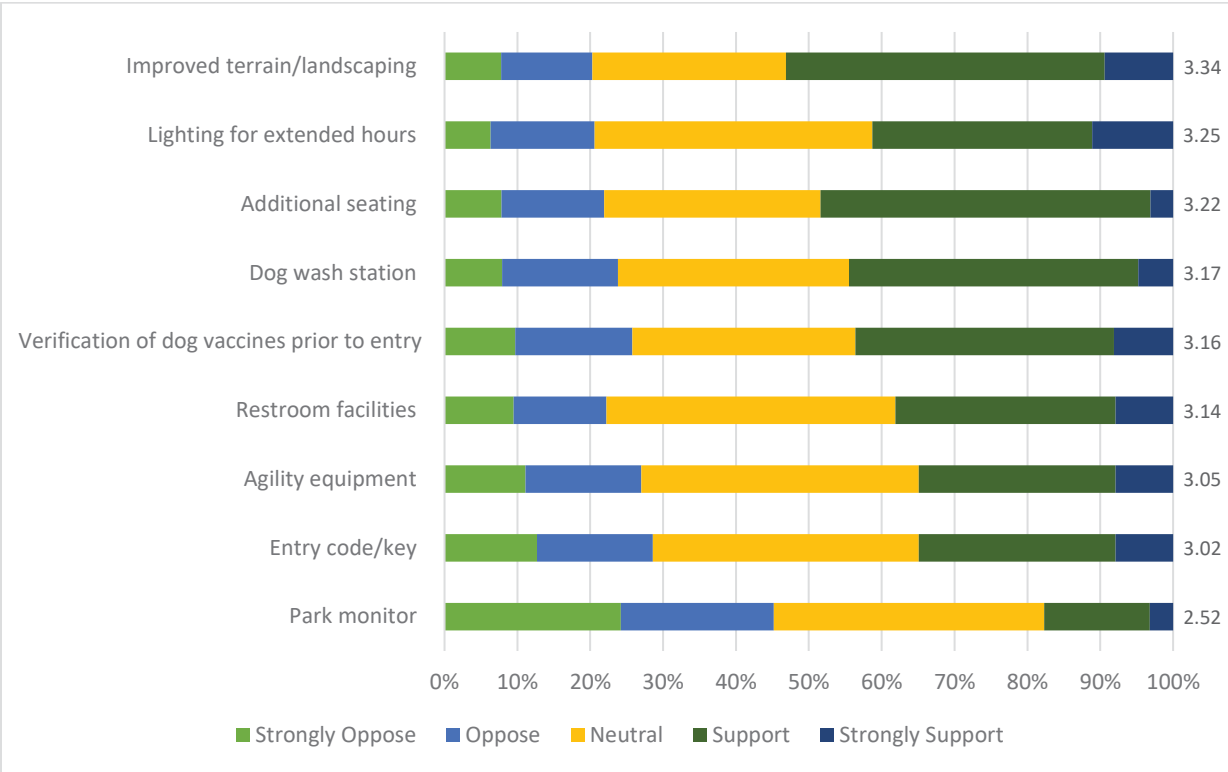


Numbers to the right of the chart represent item mean (M) scores; 1= Strongly Oppose, 5= Strongly Support

Table 12: For each of the following circumstances, to what extent would you support or oppose paying a \$25 fee for using Columbia Parks & Recreation dog parks?

|                                         | n  | Strongly Oppose | Oppose | Neutral | Support | Strongly Support | Mean (S.D.)  |
|-----------------------------------------|----|-----------------|--------|---------|---------|------------------|--------------|
| Improvements to existing dog parks      | 65 | 6.2%            | 7.7%   | 18.5%   | 47.7%   | 20.0%            | 3.68 (1.077) |
| Construction of a new dog park          | 65 | 4.6%            | 12.3%  | 29.2%   | 38.5%   | 15.4%            | 3.48 (1.047) |
| Access to extra features                | 66 | 6.1%            | 12.2%  | 37.9%   | 36.4%   | 7.6%             | 3.27 (0.985) |
| Increase in (dog park) community events | 64 | 9.4%            | 12.5%  | 34.4%   | 35.9%   | 7.8%             | 3.20 (1.072) |
| City budget cuts                        | 66 | 12.1%           | 18.2%  | 42.4%   | 25.8%   | 1.5%             | 2.86 (0.991) |

Figure 29: To what extent would you support or oppose paying a \$25 fee for using Columbia Parks & Recreation dog parks in exchange for the following features?



Numbers to the right of the chart represent item mean (M) scores; 1= Strongly Oppose, 5= Strongly Support

Table 13: To what extent would you support or oppose paying a \$25 fee for using Columbia Parks & Recreation dog parks in exchange for the following features?

|                                             | n  | Strongly Oppose | Oppose | Neutral | Support | Strongly Support | Mean (S.D.)  |
|---------------------------------------------|----|-----------------|--------|---------|---------|------------------|--------------|
| Improved terrain/landscaping                | 64 | 7.8%            | 12.5%  | 26.6%   | 43.8%   | 9.4%             | 3.34 (1.072) |
| Lighting for extended hours                 | 63 | 6.3%            | 14.3%  | 38.1%   | 30.2%   | 11.1%            | 3.25 (1.047) |
| Additional seating                          | 64 | 7.8%            | 14.1%  | 29.7%   | 45.3%   | 3.1%             | 3.22 (1.000) |
| Dog wash station                            | 63 | 7.9%            | 15.9%  | 31.7%   | 39.7%   | 4.8%             | 3.17 (1.025) |
| Verification of dog vaccines prior to entry | 62 | 9.7%            | 16.1%  | 30.6%   | 35.5%   | 8.1%             | 3.16 (1.104) |
| Restroom facilities                         | 63 | 9.5%            | 12.7%  | 39.7%   | 30.2%   | 7.9%             | 3.14 (1.060) |
| Agility equipment                           | 63 | 11.1%           | 15.9%  | 38.1%   | 27.0%   | 7.9%             | 3.05 (1.099) |
| Entry code/key                              | 63 | 12.7%           | 15.9%  | 36.5%   | 27.0%   | 7.9%             | 3.02 (1.129) |
| Park monitor                                | 62 | 24.2%           | 21.0%  | 37.1%   | 14.5%   | 3.2%             | 2.52 (1.112) |

**Appendix E**  
**Brief Report (Twin Lakes)**

**Columbia Parks and Recreation Dog Park Study**  
**Brief Report: Twin Lakes Dog Park**

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University of Missouri

This brief report presents a summary of the onsite visitor survey data collected from Twin Lakes Dog Park May-August 2018 (Response rate 79.3%; n=92)

### Section I: Respondent Profile (Twin Lakes)

Figure 1: Respondent gender (n=89)

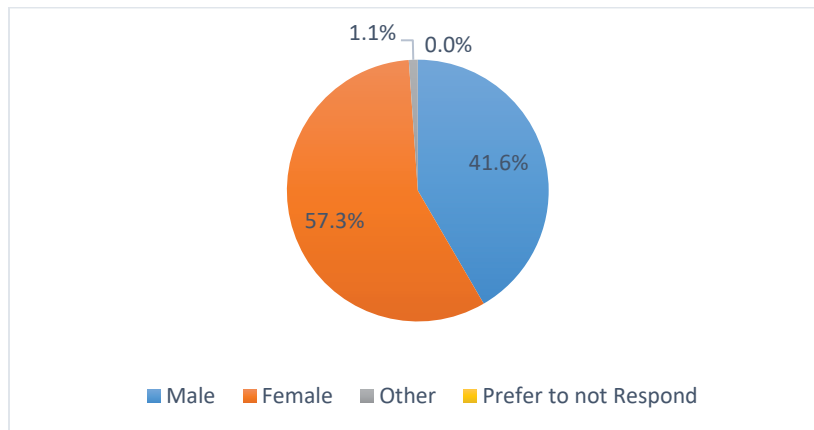


Figure 2: Respondent age groups (n=84)

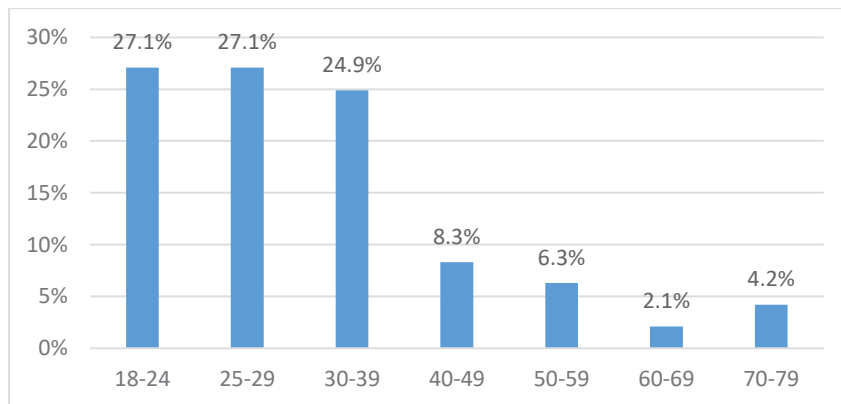


Figure 3: Annual household income before taxes (n=89)

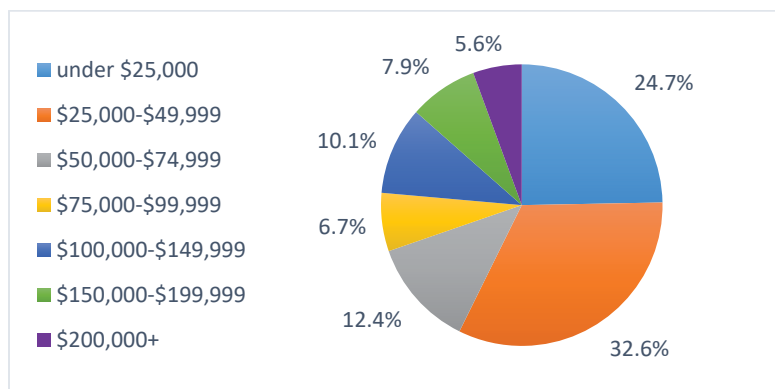


Figure 4: Number of children under 18 in household (n=89)

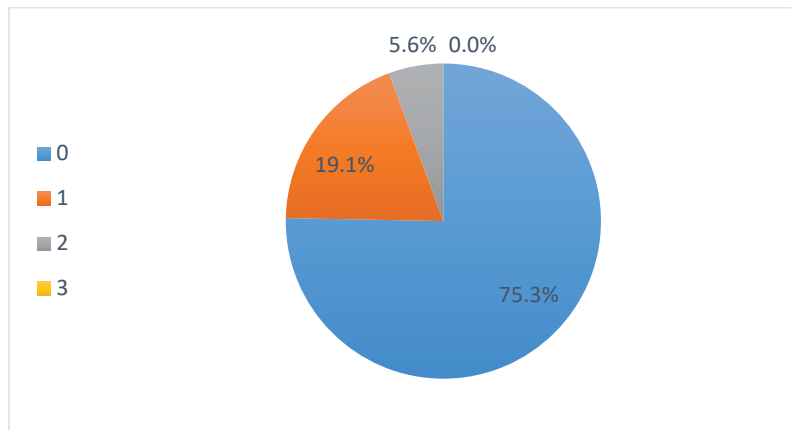


Figure 5: Number of dogs owned (n=89)

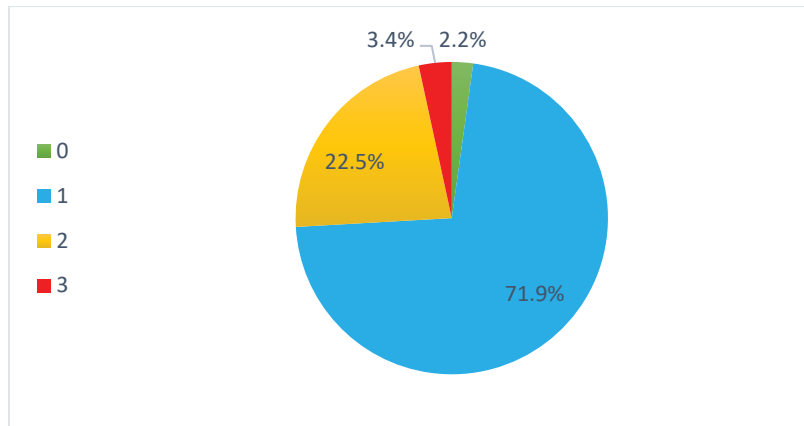


Figure 6: Residence type (n=89)

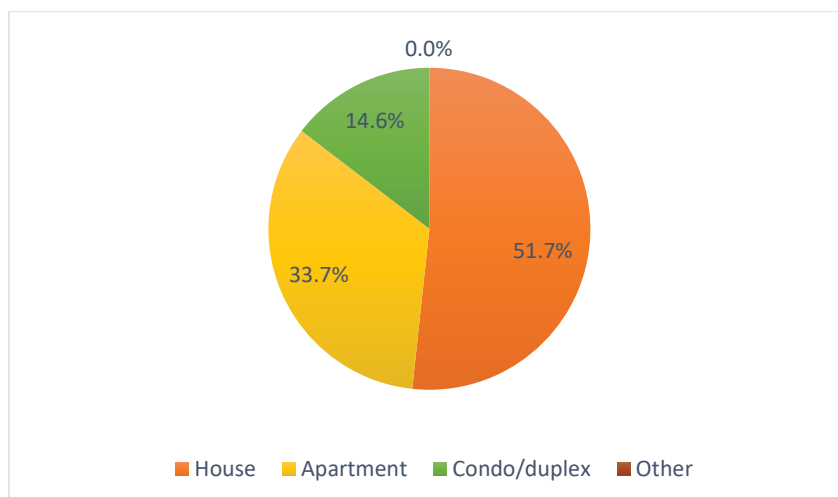


Figure 7: Does your residence have a fenced area for dogs? (n=90)

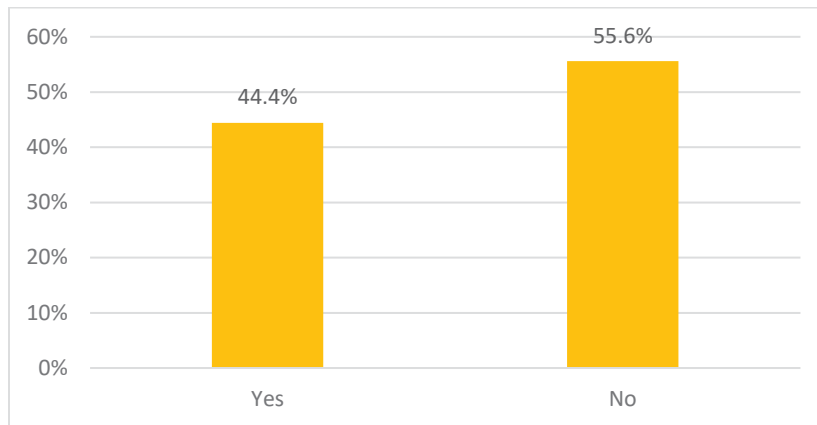


Figure 8: What is your zip code? (n=87)

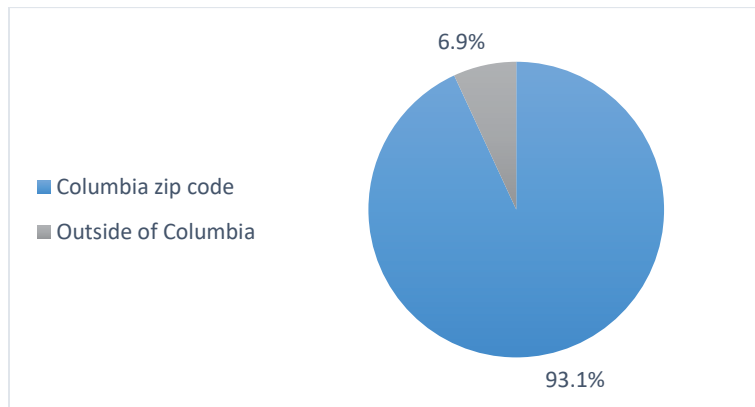
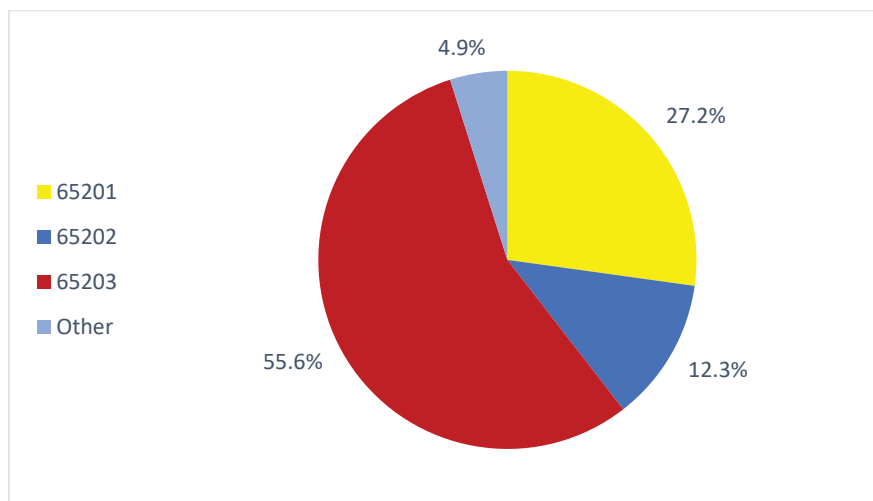


Figure 9: Respondent zip codes (within Columbia) (n=81)



## Section II: Usage and Today's Visit

Figure 10: Transportation to the dog park (n=91)

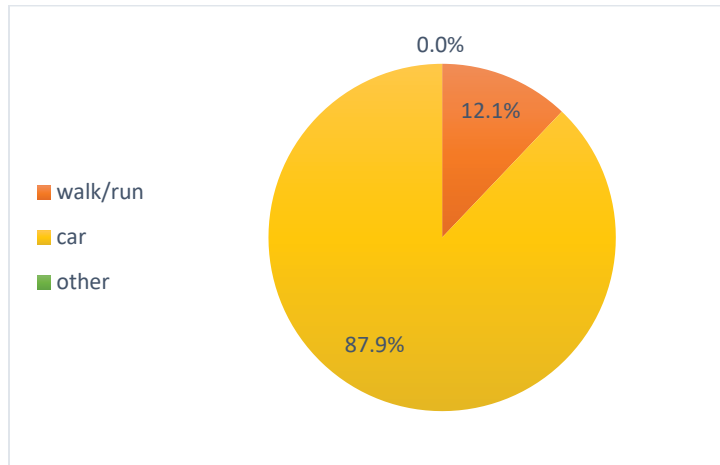


Figure 11: Travel time (minutes) (n=90)

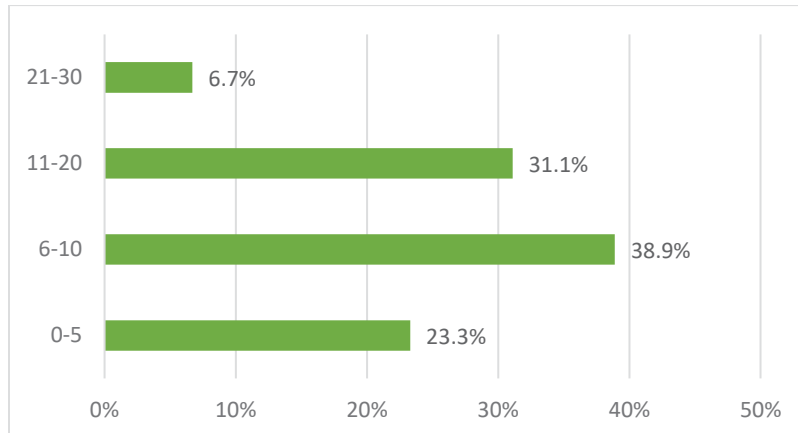


Figure 12: Miles traveled to the dog park (n=87)

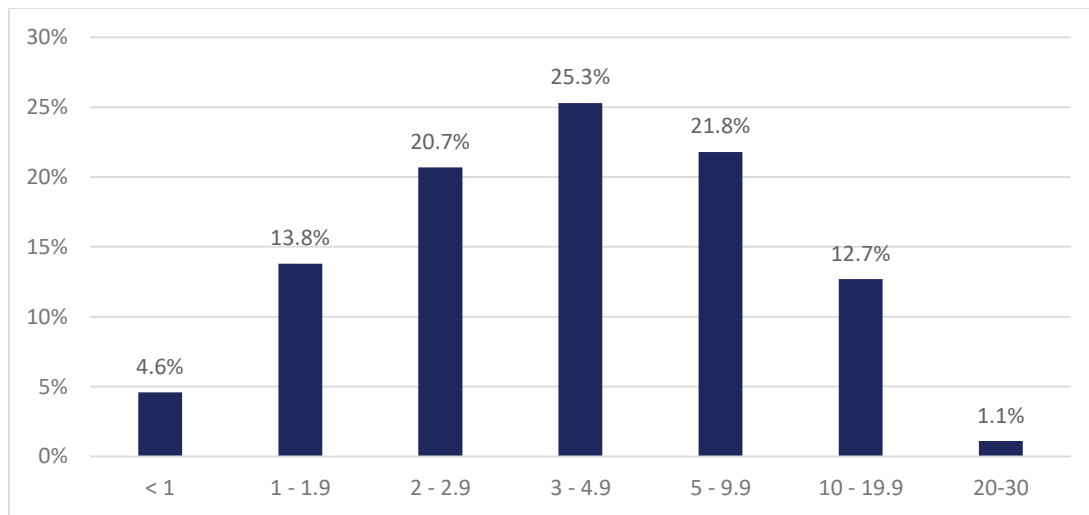


Figure 13: Length of stay at the dog park (minutes) (n=89)

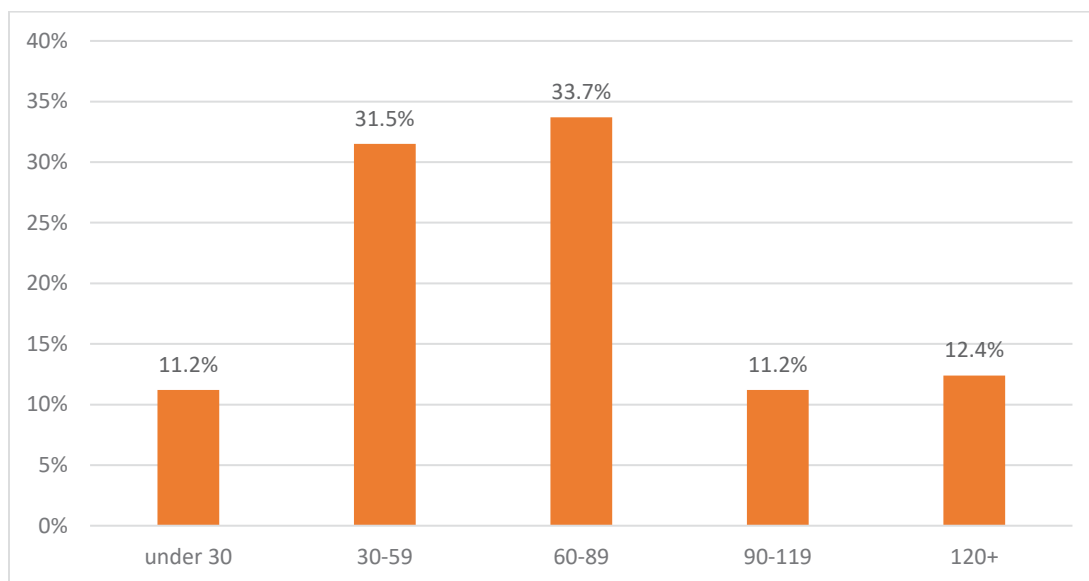


Figure 14: Are you here with dog(s) today? (n=92)

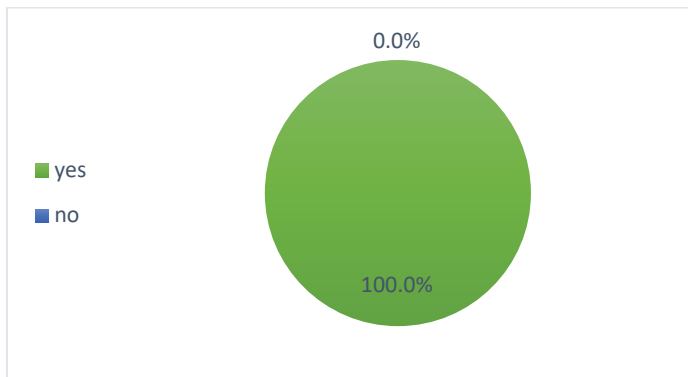


Figure 15: If you are here with a dog(s), then how many dog(s) are you here with today? (n=92)

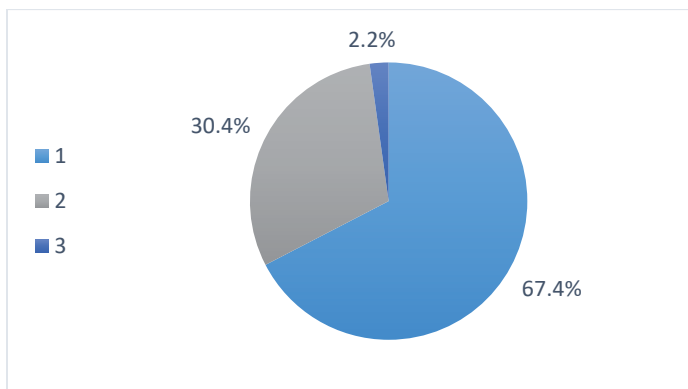


Figure 16: If you are here with a dog(s), are you the owner of the dog(s)? (n=91)

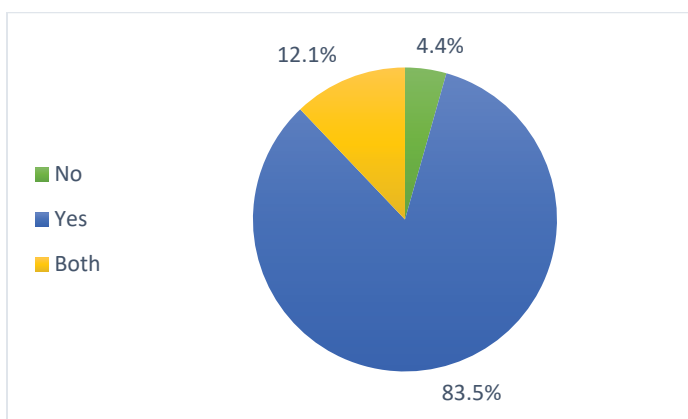
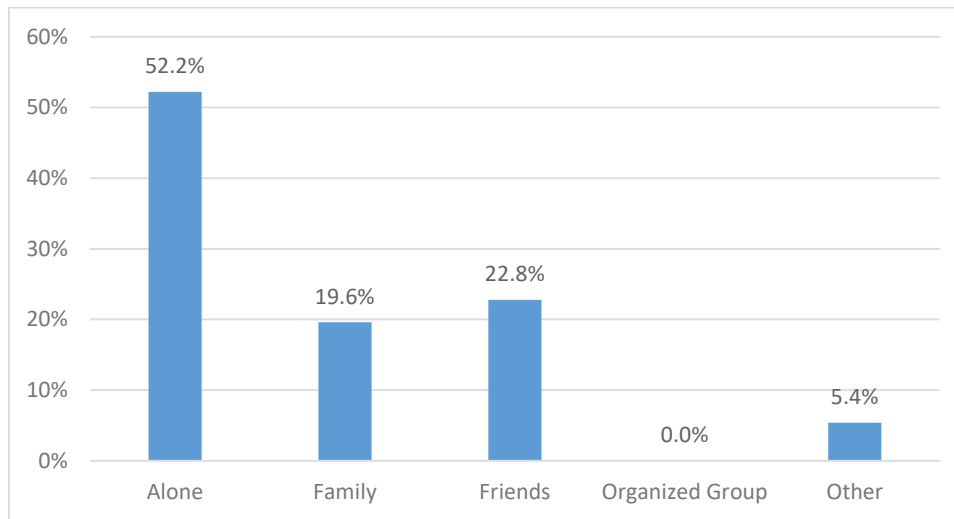


Figure 17: With whom are you visiting the dog park today? (check all that apply) (n=92)



Most common "Other" response is "significant other"

Table 1: Place Attachment

|                                                                       | n  | Mean        | S.D.        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|----|-------------|-------------|
| <b>Place Identity</b>                                                 |    | <b>4.00</b> | <b>.246</b> |
| This dog park means a lot to me                                       | 92 | 4.26        | .693        |
| I am very attached to this dog park                                   | 91 | 3.98        | .802        |
| I identify strongly with this dog park                                | 90 | 3.77        | .822        |
| <b>Place Dependence</b>                                               |    | <b>3.93</b> | <b>.093</b> |
| This dog park is the best place for dogs                              | 92 | 3.99        | .749        |
| I enjoy recreating at this dog park more than any other dog park      | 92 | 3.97        | .687        |
| I wouldn't substitute any other dog park for what I do here           | 91 | 3.82        | .709        |
| <b>Place Bonding</b>                                                  |    | <b>3.90</b> | <b>.297</b> |
| I have a lot of fond memories about this dog park                     | 91 | 4.11        | .706        |
| I bring my family/friends to this dog park                            | 90 | 4.03        | .841        |
| I have a special connection with the people who come to this dog park | 89 | 3.56        | .852        |

1=Strongly Disagree, 5=Strongly Agree

### **Section III: Columbia Parks and Recreation Dog Parks**

Figure 18: Park visitation

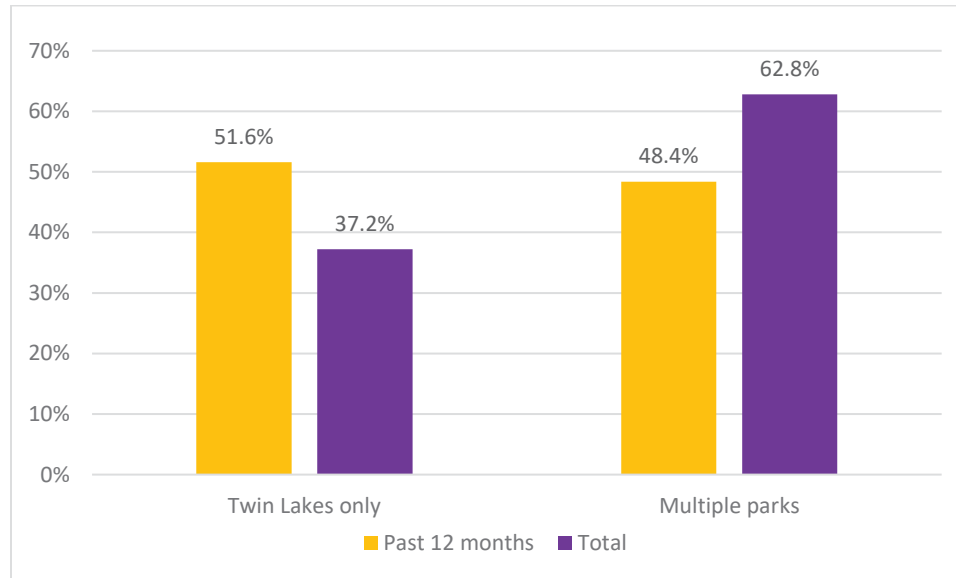


Table 2: Park visitation

|                | n  | Twin Lakes only | Multiple parks |
|----------------|----|-----------------|----------------|
| Past 12 months | 91 | 51.6%           | 48.4%          |
| Total          | 86 | 37.2%           | 62.8%          |

Figure 19: Average (mean) number of visits to each dog park

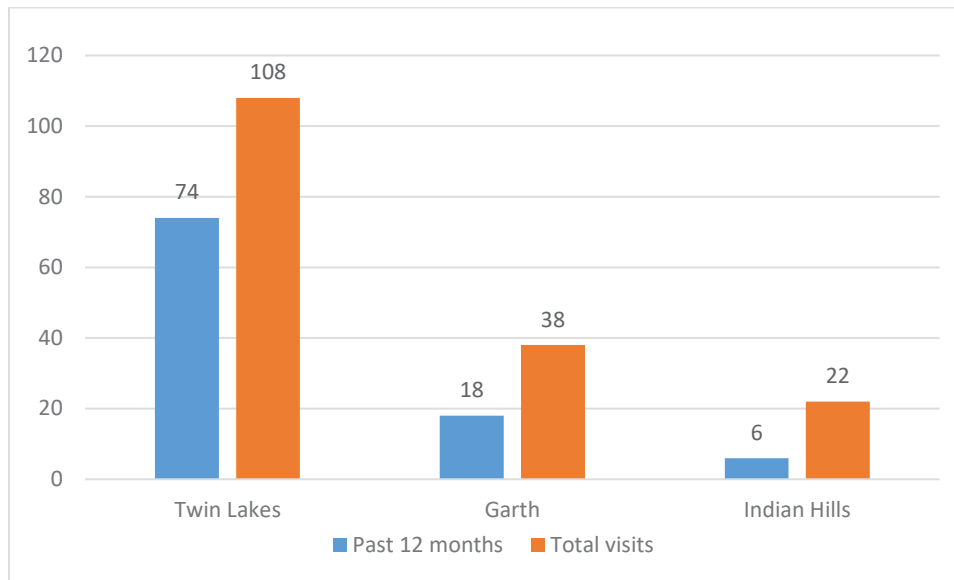


Table 3: Average number of visits to each dog park *over the past 12 months*

|              | n  | Minimum | Maximum | Median | Mean |
|--------------|----|---------|---------|--------|------|
| Twin Lakes   | 90 | 1       | 700     | 25     | 74   |
| Garth        | 43 | 1       | 250     | 5      | 18   |
| Indian Hills | 7  | 1       | 30      | 2      | 6    |

"Mean" and "Median" are rounded to the nearest whole number

Respondents who indicated they had not visited the dog park were excluded from the analysis.

Table 4: Average number of *total* visits to each dog park

|              | n  | Minimum | Maximum | Median | Mean |
|--------------|----|---------|---------|--------|------|
| Twin Lakes   | 81 | 1       | 1000    | 45     | 108  |
| Garth        | 53 | 1       | 750     | 6      | 38   |
| Indian Hills | 14 | 1       | 100     | 4      | 22   |

"Mean" and "Median" are rounded to the nearest whole number

Respondents who indicated they had not visited the dog park were excluded from the analysis.

Figure 20: Average (mean) number of *years* coming to each dog park

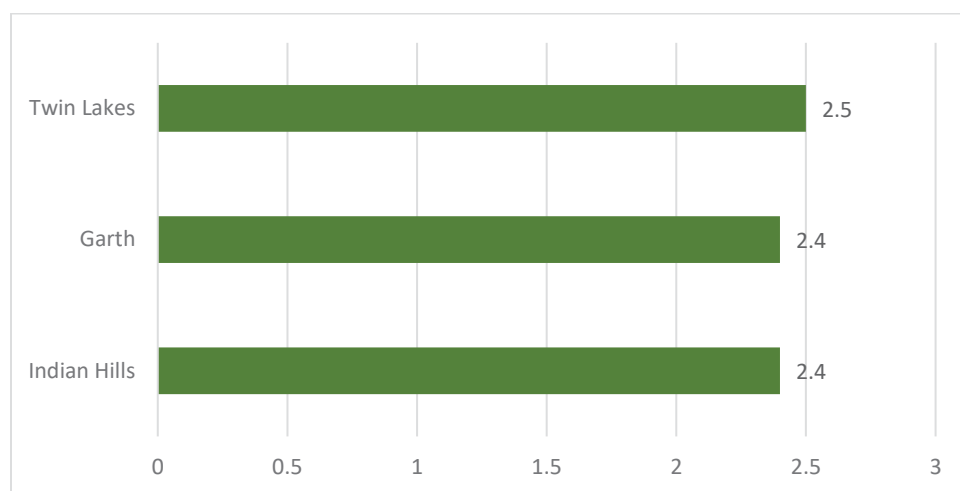


Table 5: Average number of years coming to each dog park

|              | n  | Minimum | Maximum | Median | Mean |
|--------------|----|---------|---------|--------|------|
| Twin Lakes   | 81 | 0.2     | 12      | 2      | 2.5  |
| Garth        | 48 | 0.3     | 10      | 2      | 2.4  |
| Indian Hills | 14 | 1       | 6       | 2      | 2.4  |

Respondents who indicated they had not visited the dog park were excluded from the analysis

Figure 21: Park visitation per season

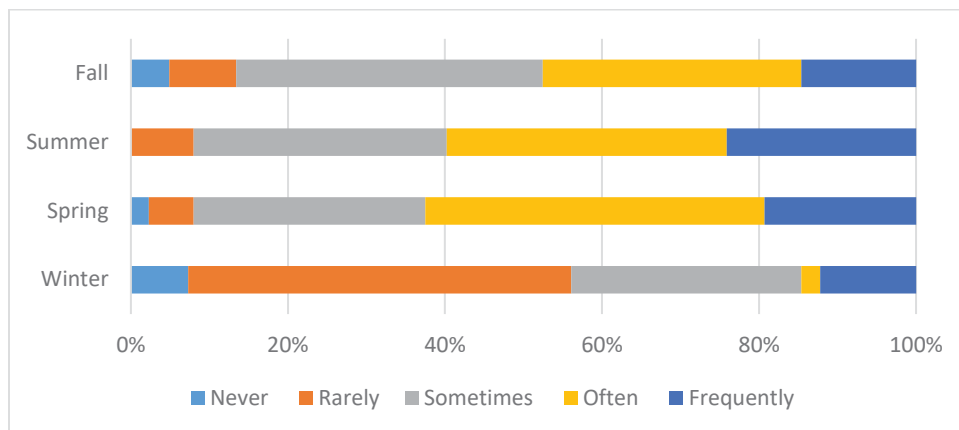


Table 6: Park visitation per season

|        | n  | Never<br>(0) | Rarely<br>(1-4) | Sometimes<br>(5-19) | Often<br>(20-49) | Frequently<br>(50+) |
|--------|----|--------------|-----------------|---------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Fall   | 82 | 4.9%         | 8.5%            | 39.0%               | 32.9%            | 14.6%               |
| Summer | 87 | 0.0%         | 8.0%            | 32.2%               | 35.6%            | 24.1%               |
| Spring | 88 | 2.3%         | 5.7%            | 29.5%               | 43.2%            | 19.3%               |
| Winter | 82 | 7.3%         | 48.8%           | 29.3%               | 2.4%             | 12.2%               |

Figure 22: Weekly visitation times (select all that apply) (n=92)

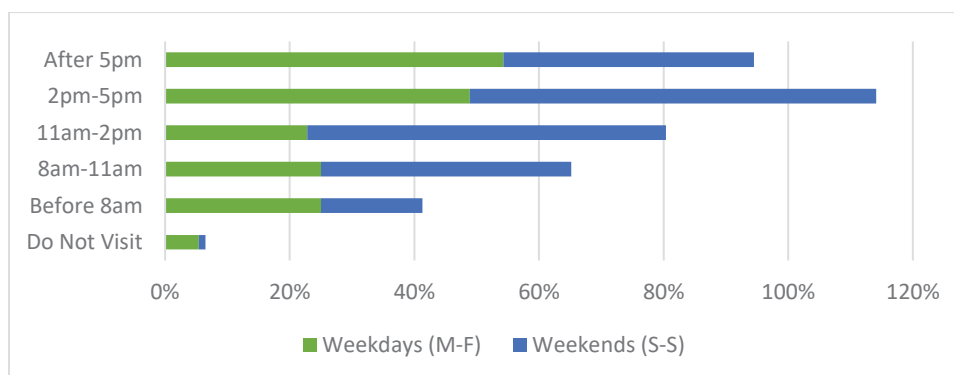
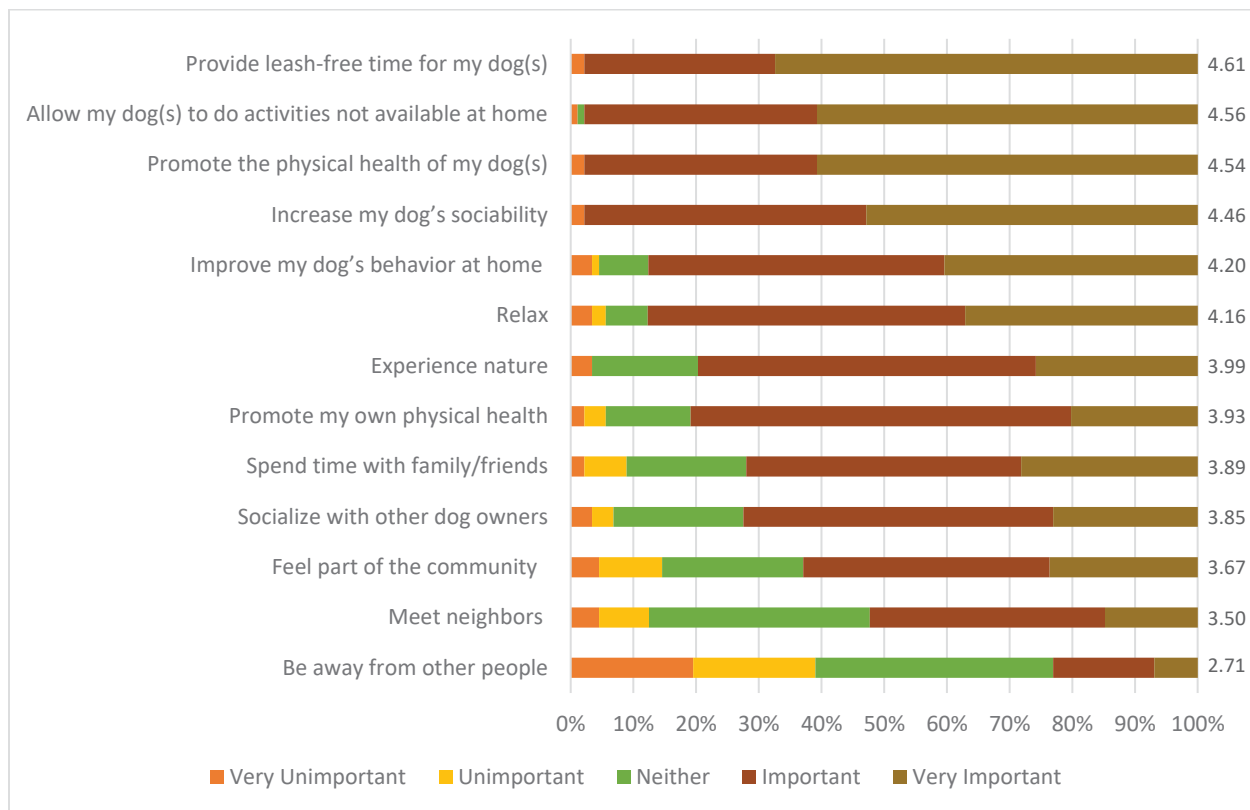


Table 7: Weekly visitation times (select all that apply)

|                | Do Not Visit | Before 8am | 8am-11am | 11am-2pm | 2pm-5pm | After 5pm |
|----------------|--------------|------------|----------|----------|---------|-----------|
| Weekdays (M-F) | 5.4%         | 25.0%      | 25.0%    | 22.8%    | 48.9%   | 54.3%     |
| Weekends (S-S) | 1.1%         | 16.3%      | 40.2%    | 57.6%    | 65.2%   | 40.2%     |

Figure 23: Motivations for choosing a dog park

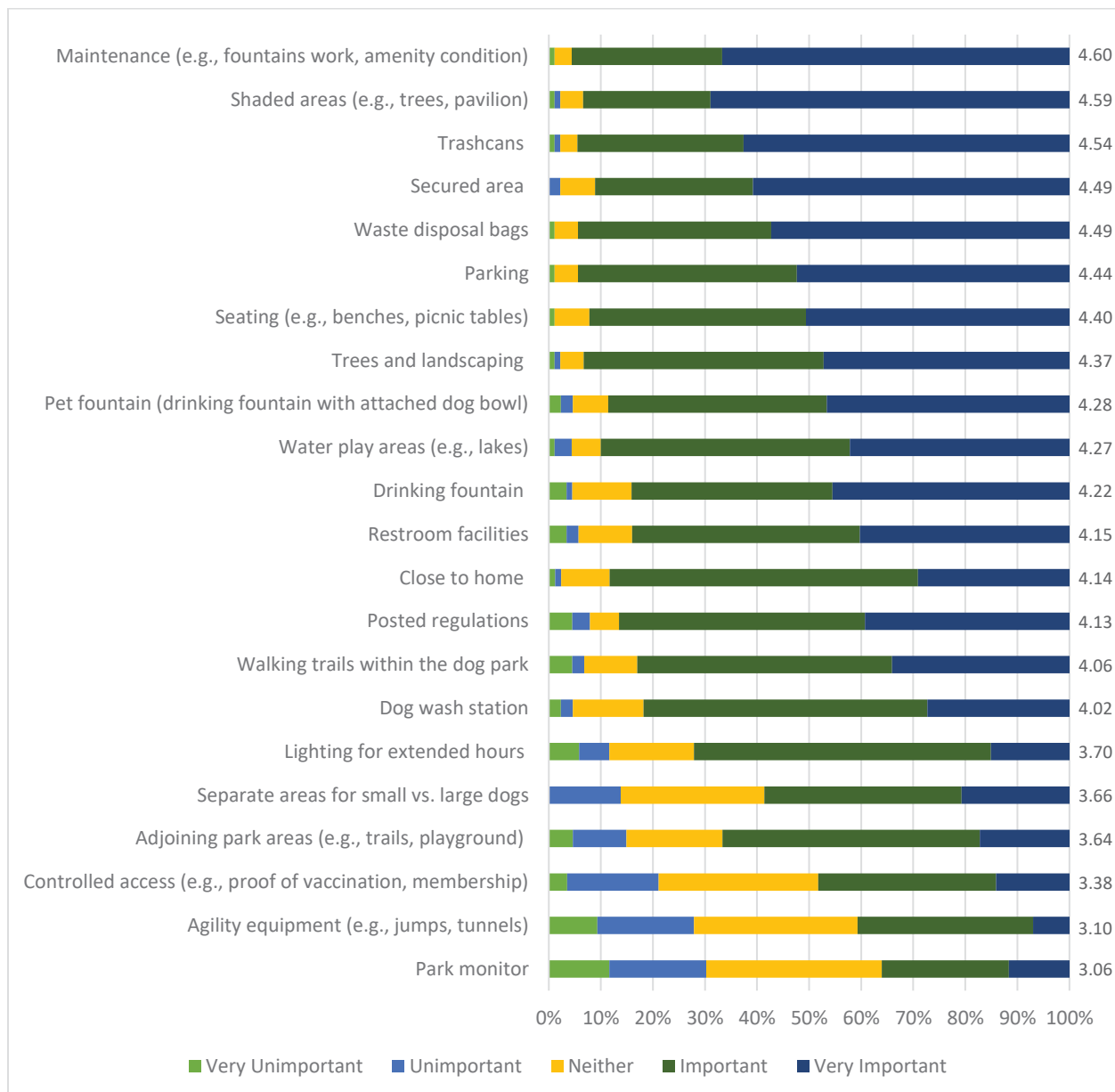


Numbers to the right of the chart represent item mean (*M*) scores; 1=Very Unimportant, 5=Very Important

Table 8: Motivations for choosing a dog park

|                                                        | n  | Very Unimportant | Unimportant | Neither | Important | Very Important | Mean (S.D.)  |
|--------------------------------------------------------|----|------------------|-------------|---------|-----------|----------------|--------------|
| Provide leash-free time for my dog(s)                  | 89 | 2.2%             | 0.0%        | 0.0%    | 30.4%     | 67.4%          | 4.61 (0.717) |
| Allow my dog(s) to do activities not available at home | 89 | 1.1%             | 0.0%        | 1.1%    | 37.1%     | 60.7%          | 4.56 (0.639) |
| Promote the physical health of my dog(s)               | 89 | 2.2%             | 0.0%        | 0.0%    | 37.1%     | 60.7%          | 4.54 (0.724) |
| Increase my dog's sociability                          | 89 | 2.2%             | 0.0%        | 0.0%    | 44.9%     | 52.8%          | 4.46 (0.724) |
| Improve my dog's behavior at home                      | 89 | 3.4%             | 1.1%        | 7.9%    | 47.2%     | 40.4%          | 4.20 (0.894) |
| Relax                                                  | 89 | 3.4%             | 2.2%        | 6.7%    | 50.6%     | 37.1%          | 4.16 (0.903) |
| Experience nature                                      | 89 | 3.4%             | 0.0%        | 16.9%   | 53.9%     | 25.8%          | 3.99 (0.859) |
| Promote my own physical health                         | 89 | 2.2%             | 3.4%        | 13.5%   | 60.7%     | 20.2%          | 3.93 (0.823) |
| Spend time with family/friends                         | 89 | 2.2%             | 6.7%        | 19.1%   | 43.8%     | 28.1%          | 3.89 (0.970) |
| Socialize with other dog owners                        | 87 | 3.4%             | 3.4%        | 20.7%   | 49.4%     | 23.0%          | 3.85 (0.934) |
| Feel part of the community                             | 89 | 4.5%             | 10.1%       | 22.5%   | 39.3%     | 23.6%          | 3.67 (1.085) |
| Meet neighbors                                         | 88 | 4.5%             | 8.0%        | 35.2%   | 37.5%     | 14.8%          | 3.50 (0.994) |
| Be away from other people                              | 87 | 19.5%            | 19.5%       | 37.9%   | 16.1%     | 6.9%           | 2.71 (1.160) |

Figure 24: Importance of dog park attributes

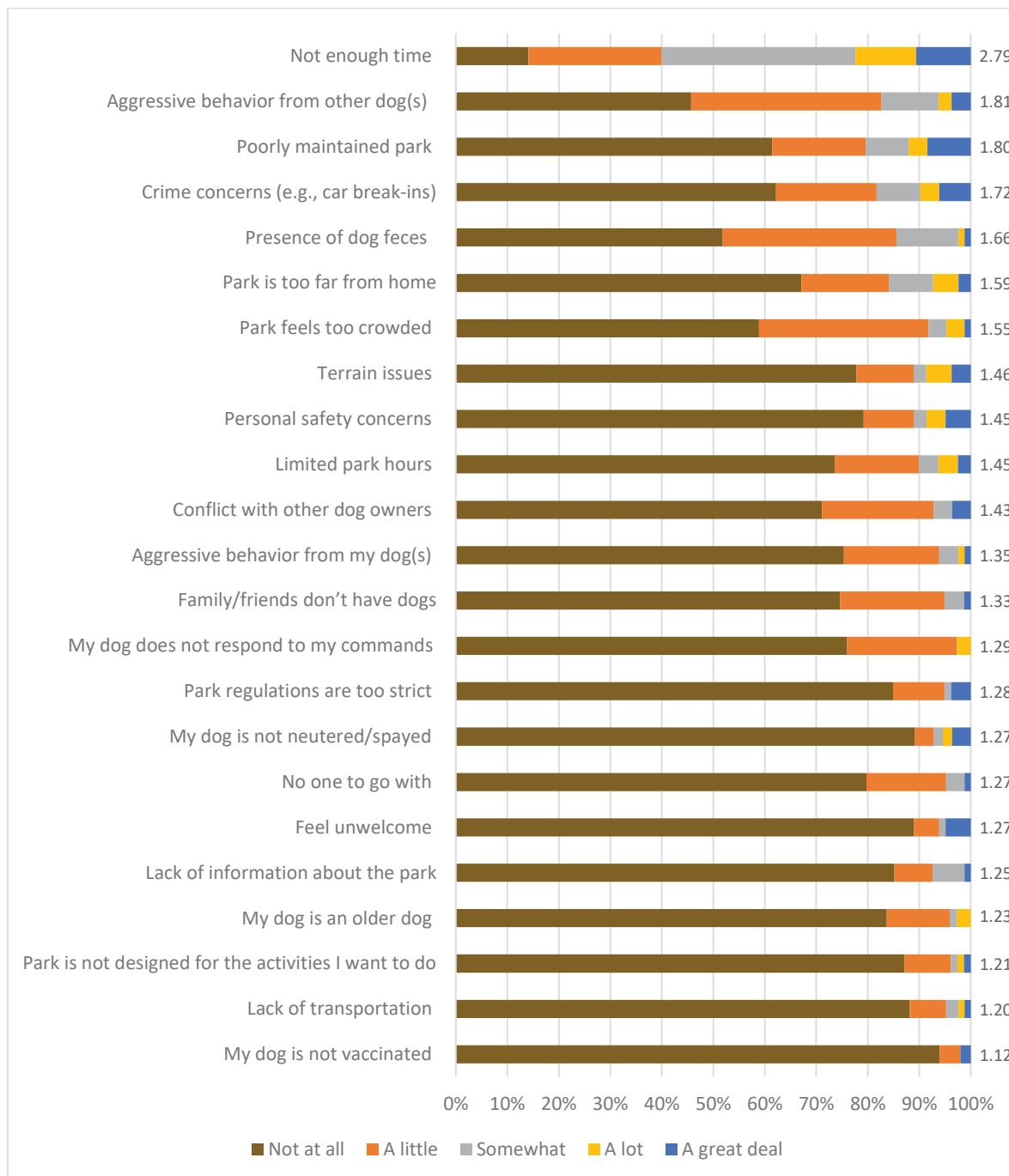


Numbers to the right of the chart represent item mean (*M*) scores; 1=Very Unimportant, 5=Very Important

Table 9: Importance of dog park attributes

|                                                              | n  | Very Unimportant | Unimportant | Neither | Important | Very Important | Mean (S.D.)  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|----|------------------|-------------|---------|-----------|----------------|--------------|
| Maintenance (e.g., fountains work, amenity condition)        | 90 | 1.1%             | 0.0%        | 3.3%    | 28.9%     | 66.7%          | 4.60 (0.667) |
| Shaded areas (e.g., trees, pavilion)                         | 90 | 1.1%             | 1.1%        | 4.4%    | 24.4%     | 68.9%          | 4.59 (0.733) |
| Trashcans                                                    | 91 | 1.1%             | 1.1%        | 3.3%    | 31.9%     | 62.6%          | 4.54 (0.720) |
| Waste disposal bags                                          | 89 | 1.1%             | 0.0%        | 4.5%    | 37.1%     | 57.3%          | 4.49 (0.693) |
| Secured area (e.g., adequate fencing, double gated entrance) | 89 | 0.0%             | 2.2%        | 6.7%    | 30.3%     | 60.7%          | 4.49 (0.725) |
| Parking                                                      | 88 | 1.1%             | 0.0%        | 4.5%    | 42.0%     | 52.3%          | 4.44 (0.692) |
| Seating (e.g., benches, picnic tables)                       | 89 | 1.1%             | 0.0%        | 6.7%    | 41.6%     | 50.6%          | 4.40 (0.719) |
| Trees and landscaping                                        | 89 | 1.1%             | 1.1%        | 4.5%    | 46.1%     | 47.2%          | 4.37 (0.729) |
| Pet fountain (drinking fountain with attached dog bowl)      | 88 | 2.3%             | 2.3%        | 6.8%    | 42.0%     | 46.6%          | 4.28 (0.870) |
| Water play areas (e.g., lakes)                               | 90 | 1.1%             | 3.3%        | 5.6%    | 47.8%     | 42.2%          | 4.27 (0.804) |
| Drinking fountain                                            | 88 | 3.4%             | 1.1%        | 11.4%   | 38.6%     | 45.5%          | 4.22 (0.940) |
| Restroom facilities                                          | 87 | 3.4%             | 2.3%        | 10.3%   | 43.7%     | 40.2%          | 4.15 (0.947) |
| Close to home                                                | 86 | 1.2%             | 1.2%        | 9.3%    | 59.3%     | 29.1%          | 4.14 (0.722) |
| Posted regulations                                           | 89 | 4.5%             | 3.4%        | 5.6%    | 47.2%     | 39.3%          | 4.13 (0.991) |
| Walking trails within the dog park                           | 88 | 4.5%             | 2.3%        | 10.2%   | 48.9%     | 34.1%          | 4.06 (0.975) |
| Dog wash station                                             | 88 | 2.3%             | 2.3%        | 13.6%   | 54.5%     | 27.3%          | 4.02 (0.844) |
| Lighting for extended hours                                  | 86 | 5.8%             | 5.8%        | 16.3%   | 57.0%     | 15.1%          | 3.70 (0.995) |
| Separate areas for small vs. large dogs                      | 87 | 0.0%             | 13.8%       | 27.6%   | 37.9%     | 20.7%          | 3.66 (0.962) |
| Adjoining park areas (e.g., trails, playground)              | 87 | 4.6%             | 10.3%       | 18.4%   | 49.4%     | 17.2%          | 3.64 (1.034) |
| Controlled access (e.g., proof of vaccination, membership)   | 85 | 3.5%             | 17.6%       | 30.6%   | 34.1%     | 14.1%          | 3.38 (1.046) |
| Agility equipment (e.g., jumps, tunnels)                     | 86 | 9.3%             | 18.6%       | 31.4%   | 33.7%     | 7.0%           | 3.10 (1.085) |
| Park monitor                                                 | 86 | 11.6%            | 18.6%       | 33.7%   | 24.4%     | 11.6%          | 3.06 (1.172) |

Figure 25: Constraints to visitation



Numbers to the right of the chart represent item mean (*M*) scores; 1=Not at all, 5=A great deal

Table 10: Constraints to visitation

|                                                      | n  | Not at all | A little | Somewhat | A lot | A great deal | Mean (S.D.)  |
|------------------------------------------------------|----|------------|----------|----------|-------|--------------|--------------|
| Not enough time                                      | 85 | 14.1%      | 25.9%    | 37.6%    | 11.8% | 10.6%        | 2.79 (1.156) |
| Aggressive behavior from other dog(s)                | 81 | 45.7%      | 37.0%    | 11.1%    | 2.5%  | 3.7%         | 1.81 (0.989) |
| Poorly maintained park                               | 83 | 61.4%      | 18.1%    | 8.4%     | 3.6%  | 8.4%         | 1.80 (1.257) |
| Crime concerns (e.g., car break-ins)                 | 82 | 62.2%      | 19.5%    | 8.5%     | 3.7%  | 6.1%         | 1.72 (1.158) |
| Presence of dog feces                                | 83 | 51.8%      | 33.7%    | 12.0%    | 1.2%  | 1.2%         | 1.66 (0.830) |
| Park is too far from home                            | 82 | 67.1%      | 17.1%    | 8.5%     | 4.9%  | 2.4%         | 1.59 (1.006) |
| Park feels too crowded                               | 85 | 58.8%      | 32.9%    | 3.5%     | 3.5%  | 1.2%         | 1.55 (0.824) |
| Terrain issues (e.g., lack of grass, erosion)        | 81 | 77.8%      | 11.1%    | 2.5%     | 4.9%  | 3.7%         | 1.46 (1.025) |
| Limited park hours                                   | 80 | 73.8%      | 16.3%    | 3.8%     | 3.8%  | 2.5%         | 1.45 (0.926) |
| Personal safety concerns (e.g., fear of injury)      | 82 | 79.3%      | 9.8%     | 2.4%     | 3.7%  | 4.9%         | 1.45 (1.056) |
| Conflict with other dog owners                       | 83 | 71.1%      | 21.7%    | 3.6%     | 0.0%  | 3.6%         | 1.43 (0.872) |
| Aggressive behavior from my dog(s)                   | 81 | 75.3%      | 18.5%    | 3.7%     | 1.2%  | 1.2%         | 1.35 (0.727) |
| Family/friends don't have dogs                       | 79 | 74.7%      | 20.3%    | 3.8%     | 0.0%  | 1.3%         | 1.33 (0.674) |
| My dog does not respond to my commands               | 75 | 76.0%      | 21.3%    | 0.0%     | 2.7%  | 0.0%         | 1.29 (0.610) |
| Park regulations are too strict                      | 80 | 85.0%      | 10.0%    | 1.3%     | 0.0%  | 3.8%         | 1.28 (0.826) |
| Feel unwelcome                                       | 82 | 89.0%      | 4.9%     | 1.2%     | 0.0%  | 4.9%         | 1.27 (0.903) |
| No one to go with                                    | 84 | 79.8%      | 15.5%    | 3.6%     | 0.0%  | 1.2%         | 1.27 (0.647) |
| My dog is not neutered/spayed                        | 55 | 89.1%      | 3.6%     | 1.8%     | 1.8%  | 3.6%         | 1.27 (0.891) |
| Lack of information about the park                   | 81 | 85.2%      | 7.4%     | 6.2%     | 0.0%  | 1.2%         | 1.25 (0.681) |
| My dog is an older dog                               | 74 | 83.8%      | 12.2%    | 1.4%     | 2.7%  | 0.0%         | 1.23 (0.609) |
| Park is not designed for the activities I want to do | 78 | 87.2%      | 9.0%     | 1.3%     | 1.3%  | 1.3%         | 1.21 (0.652) |
| Lack of transportation                               | 84 | 88.1%      | 7.1%     | 2.4%     | 1.2%  | 1.2%         | 1.20 (0.655) |
| My dog is not vaccinated                             | 50 | 94.0%      | 4.0%     | 0.0%     | 0.0%  | 2.0%         | 1.12 (0.594) |

### Section IV: Fees in Dog Parks

Figure 26: What would you consider a fair annual price for using Columbia Parks & Recreation dog parks? (n=88)

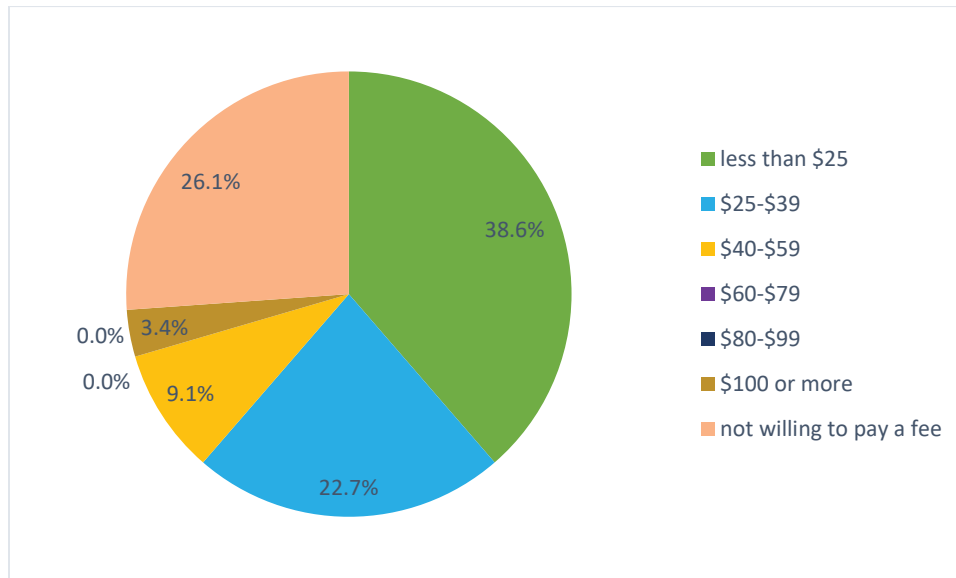
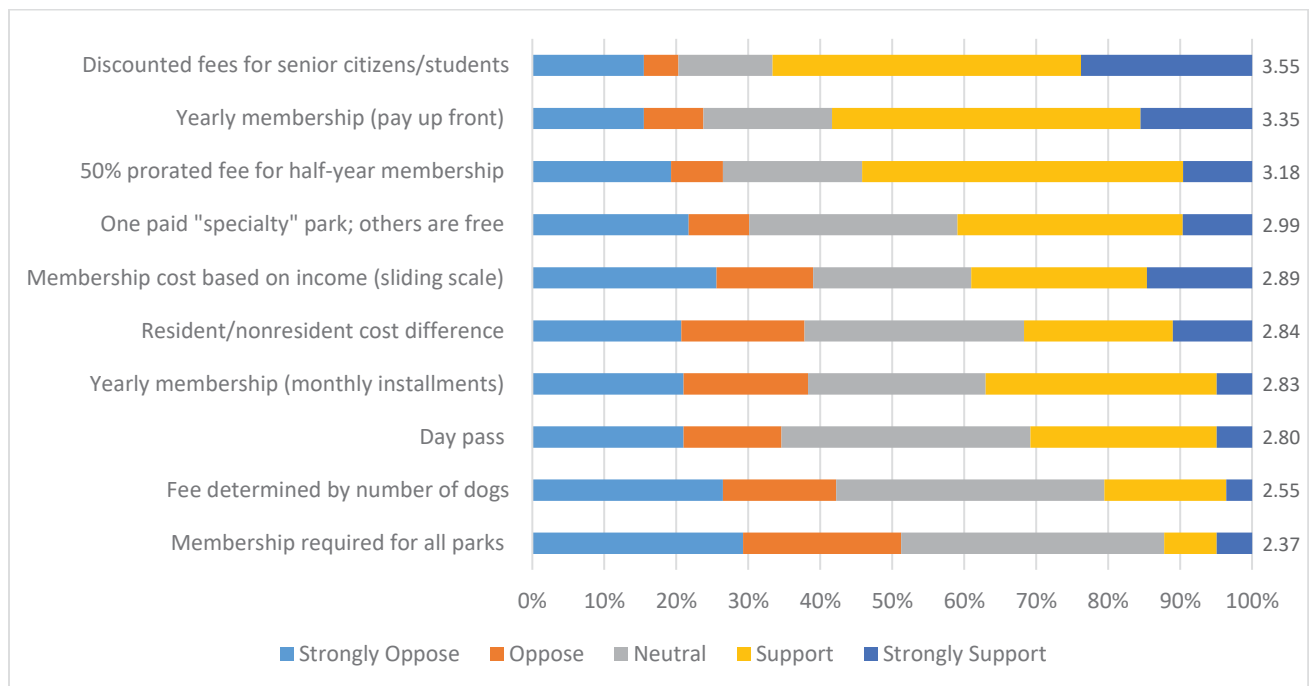


Figure 27: To what extent would you support or oppose the following fee structures?

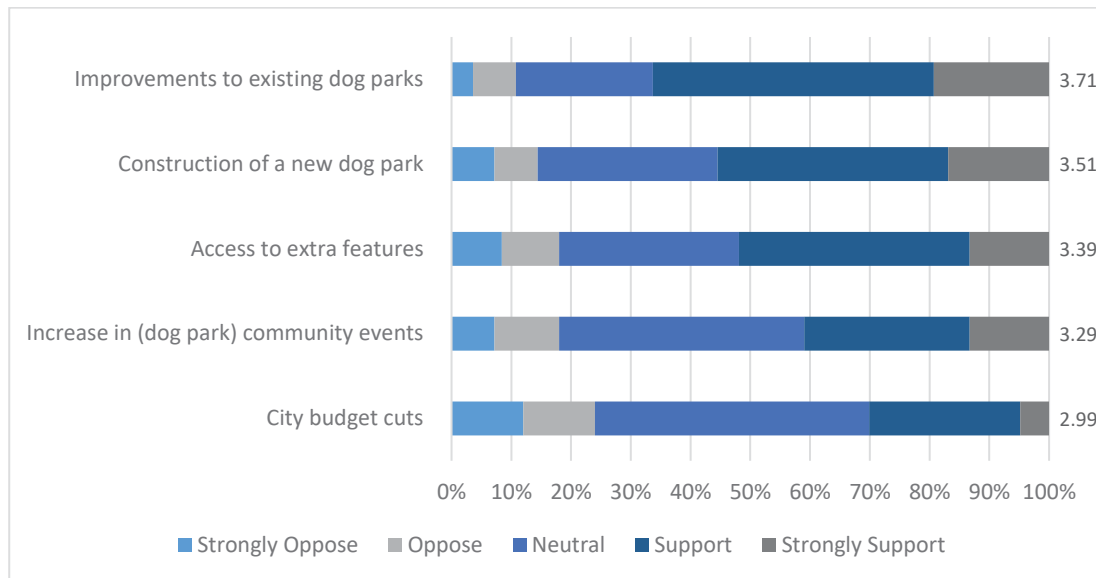


Numbers to the right of the chart represent item mean (M) scores; 1= Strongly Oppose, 5= Strongly Support

Table 11: To what extent would you support or oppose the following fee structures?

|                                                 | n  | Strongly Oppose | Oppose | Neutral | Support | Strongly Support | Mean (S.D.)  |
|-------------------------------------------------|----|-----------------|--------|---------|---------|------------------|--------------|
| Discounted fees for senior citizens/students    | 84 | 15.5%           | 4.8%   | 13.1%   | 42.9%   | 23.8%            | 3.55 (1.330) |
| Yearly membership (pay up front)                | 84 | 15.5%           | 8.3%   | 17.9%   | 42.9%   | 15.5%            | 3.35 (1.285) |
| 50% prorated fee for half-year membership       | 83 | 19.3%           | 7.2%   | 19.3%   | 44.6%   | 9.6%             | 3.18 (1.289) |
| One paid "specialty" park; others are free      | 83 | 21.7%           | 8.4%   | 28.9%   | 31.3%   | 9.6%             | 2.99 (1.293) |
| Membership cost based on income (sliding scale) | 82 | 25.6%           | 13.4%  | 22.0%   | 24.4%   | 14.6%            | 2.89 (1.414) |
| Resident/nonresident cost difference            | 82 | 20.7%           | 17.1%  | 30.5%   | 20.7%   | 11.0%            | 2.84 (1.281) |
| Yearly membership (monthly installments)        | 81 | 21.0%           | 17.3%  | 24.7%   | 32.1%   | 4.9%             | 2.83 (1.233) |
| Day pass                                        | 81 | 21.0%           | 13.6%  | 34.6%   | 25.9%   | 4.9%             | 2.80 (1.188) |
| Fee determined by number of dogs                | 83 | 26.5%           | 15.7%  | 37.3%   | 16.9%   | 3.6%             | 2.55 (1.161) |
| Membership required for all parks               | 82 | 29.3%           | 22.0%  | 36.6%   | 7.3%    | 4.9%             | 2.37 (1.128) |

Figure 28: For each of the following circumstances, to what extent would you support or oppose paying a \$25 fee for using Columbia Parks & Recreation dog parks?

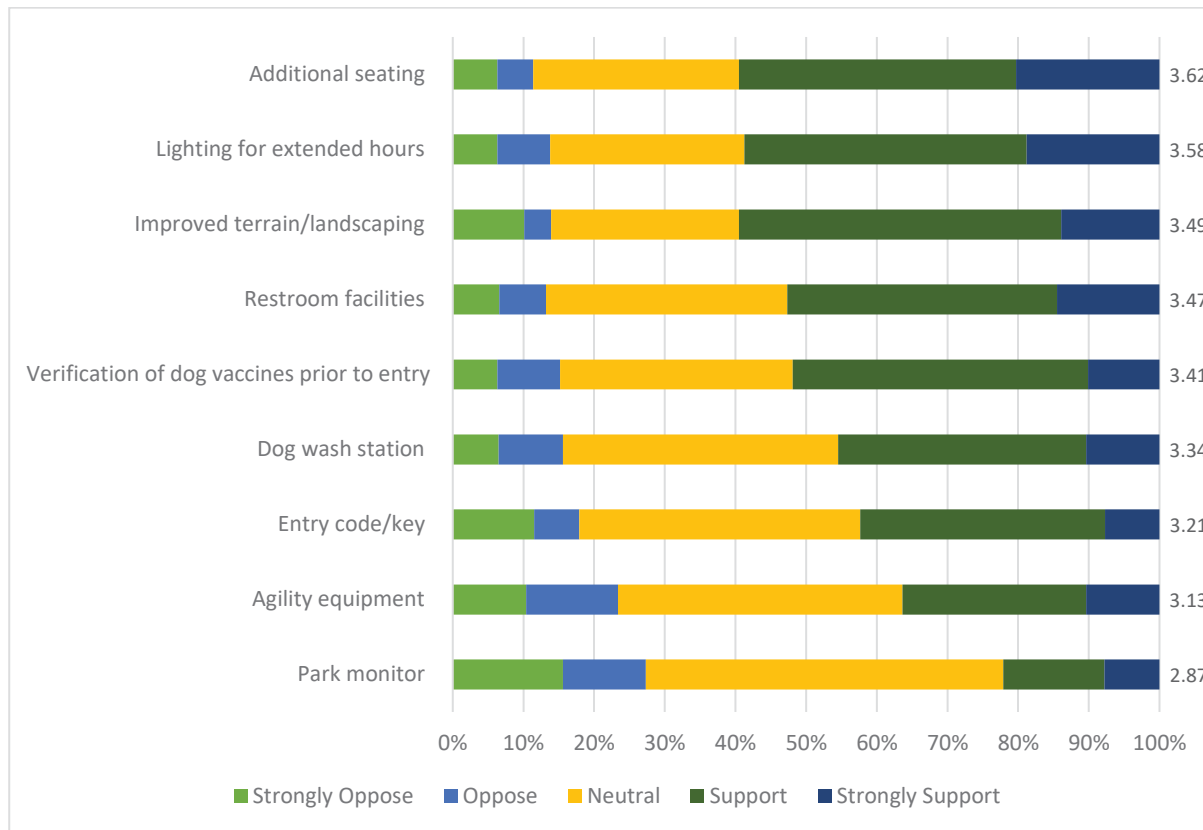


Numbers to the right of the chart represent item mean (*M*) scores; 1= Strongly Oppose, 5= Strongly Support

Table 12: For each of the following circumstances, to what extent would you support or oppose paying a \$25 fee for using Columbia Parks & Recreation dog parks?

|                                         | n  | Strongly Oppose | Oppose | Neutral | Support | Strongly Support | Mean (S.D.)  |
|-----------------------------------------|----|-----------------|--------|---------|---------|------------------|--------------|
| Improvements to existing dog parks      | 83 | 3.6%            | 7.2%   | 22.9%   | 47.0%   | 19.3%            | 3.71 (0.982) |
| Construction of a new dog park          | 83 | 7.2%            | 7.2%   | 30.1%   | 38.6%   | 16.9%            | 3.51 (1.086) |
| Access to extra features                | 83 | 8.4%            | 9.6%   | 30.1%   | 38.6%   | 13.3%            | 3.39 (1.102) |
| Increase in (dog park) community events | 83 | 7.2%            | 10.8%  | 41.0%   | 27.7%   | 13.3%            | 3.29 (1.065) |
| City budget cuts                        | 83 | 12.0%           | 12.0%  | 45.8%   | 25.3%   | 4.8%             | 2.99 (1.030) |

Figure 29: To what extent would you support or oppose paying a \$25 fee for using Columbia Parks & Recreation dog parks in exchange for the following features?



Numbers to the right of the chart represent item mean (M) scores; 1= Strongly Oppose, 5= Strongly Support

Table 13: To what extent would you support or oppose paying a \$25 fee for using Columbia Parks & Recreation dog parks in exchange for the following features?

|                                             | n  | Strongly Oppose | Oppose | Neutral | Support | Strongly Support | Mean (S.D.)  |
|---------------------------------------------|----|-----------------|--------|---------|---------|------------------|--------------|
| Additional seating                          | 79 | 6.3%            | 5.1%   | 29.1%   | 39.2%   | 20.3%            | 3.62 (1.066) |
| Lighting for extended hours                 | 80 | 6.3%            | 7.5%   | 27.5%   | 40.0%   | 18.8%            | 3.58 (1.077) |
| Improved terrain/landscaping                | 79 | 10.1%           | 3.8%   | 26.6%   | 45.6%   | 13.9%            | 3.49 (1.108) |
| Restroom facilities                         | 76 | 6.6%            | 6.6%   | 34.2%   | 38.2%   | 14.5%            | 3.47 (1.039) |
| Verification of dog vaccines prior to entry | 79 | 6.3%            | 8.9%   | 32.9%   | 41.8%   | 10.1%            | 3.41 (1.007) |
| Dog wash station                            | 77 | 6.5%            | 9.1%   | 39.0%   | 35.1%   | 10.4%            | 3.34 (1.008) |
| Entry code/key                              | 78 | 11.5%           | 6.4%   | 39.7%   | 34.6%   | 7.7%             | 3.21 (1.073) |
| Agility equipment                           | 77 | 10.4%           | 13.0%  | 40.3%   | 26.0%   | 10.4%            | 3.13 (1.104) |
| Park monitor                                | 77 | 15.6%           | 11.7%  | 50.6%   | 14.3%   | 7.8%             | 2.87 (1.092) |