



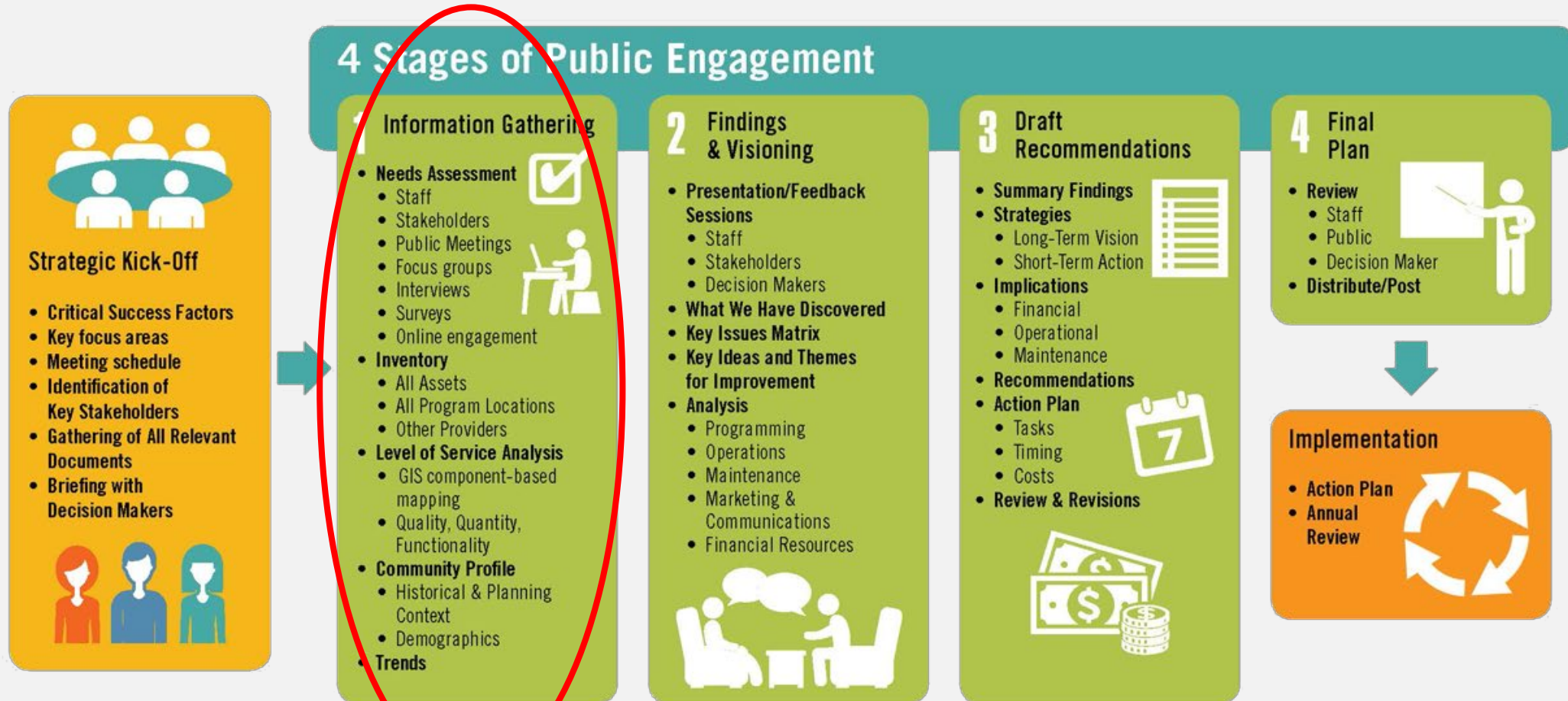
Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Focus Group Sessions November 2021



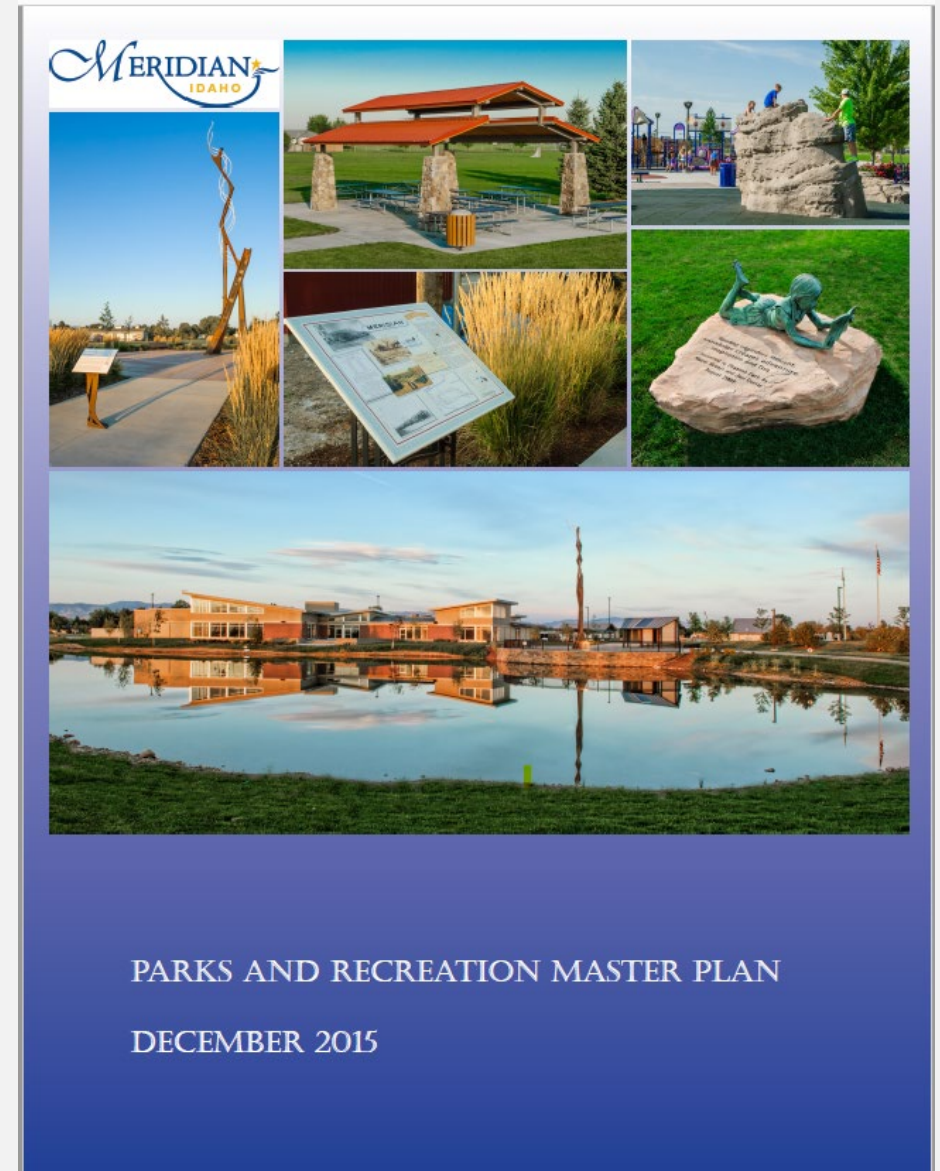
The Process

Strategic Master Planning Process



Master Plan Process/Schedule

- ❑ Strategic Kick-off: - October 10, 2021
- ❑ Leadership Interviews – October 13-15, 2021
- ❑ Survey – November 2021
- ❑ Community Center Feasibility Study –
November 2021 – March 2022
- ❑ Community Engagement – November 2021
 - ❑ Focus Groups – November 16-18, 2021
 - ❑ Public Presentation – November 18, 2021
- ❑ Inventory – November 2021
- ❑ Level of Service Analysis – December 2021
- ❑ Cost Recovery Study – January-May 2022
- ❑ Findings Presentation – March 2022
- ❑ Draft Recommendations Presentation – May 2022
- ❑ Draft & Final Plan Presentation – July 2022





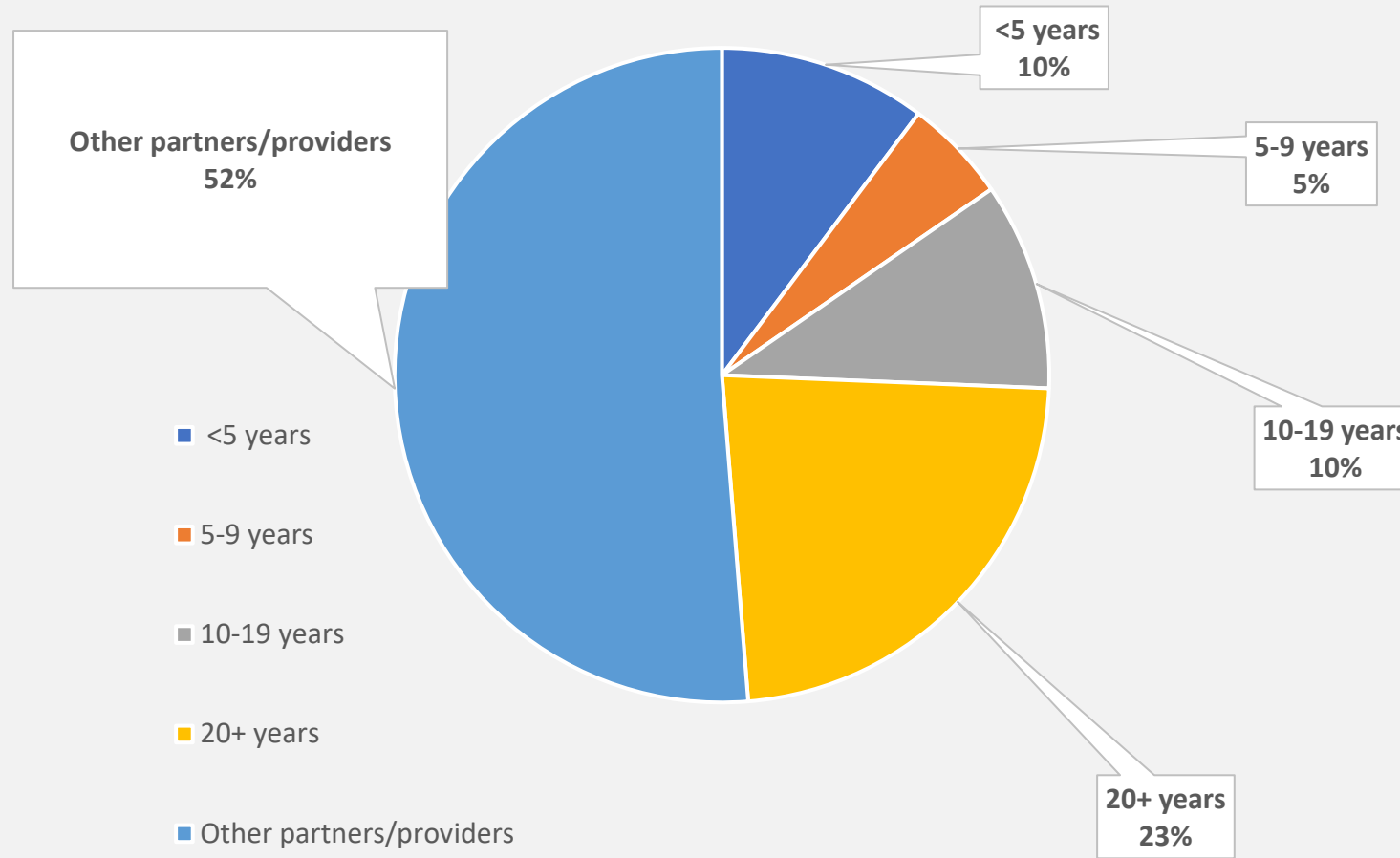
This is one part of the engagement process

We have a survey coming, and we hosted 8 focus groups,
stakeholder interviews and tonight's public meeting.

We want your input!

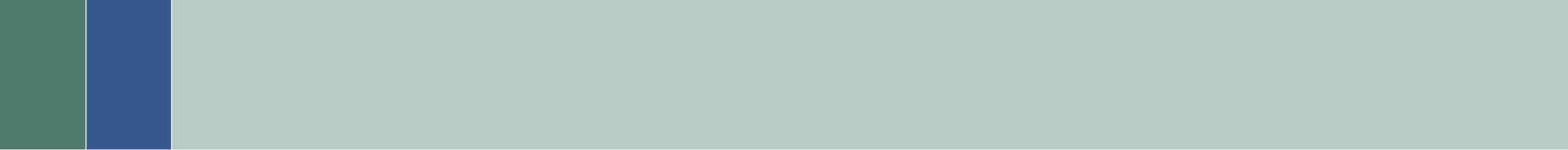
How long have you been a **resident** of Meridian?

39 Total Participants

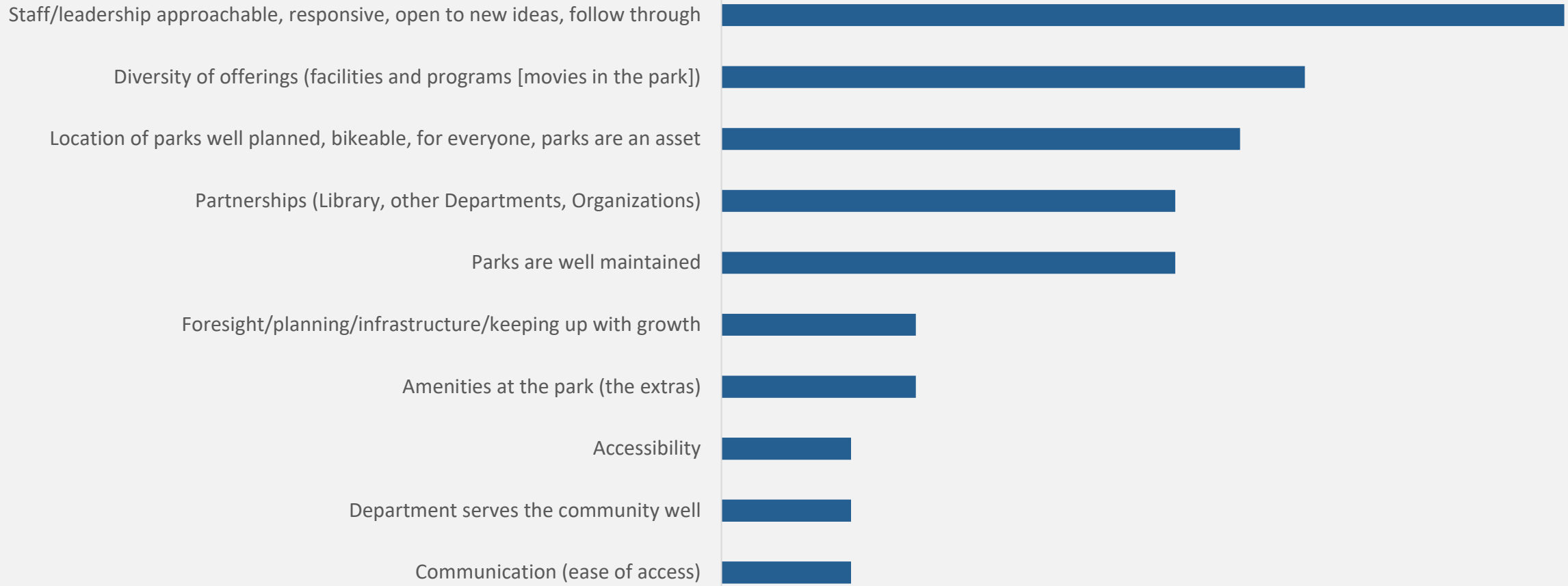


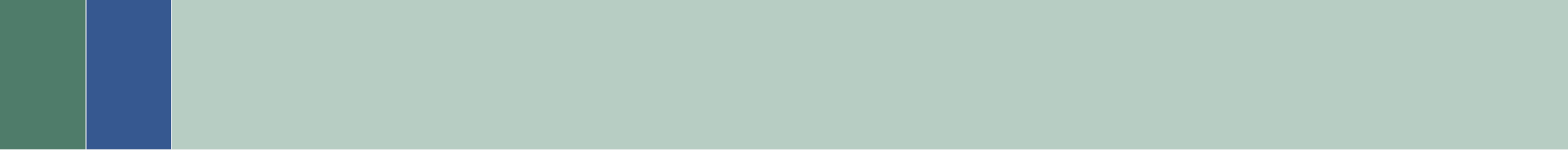


What are the strengths of the Meridian Parks and Recreation Department?



Strengths

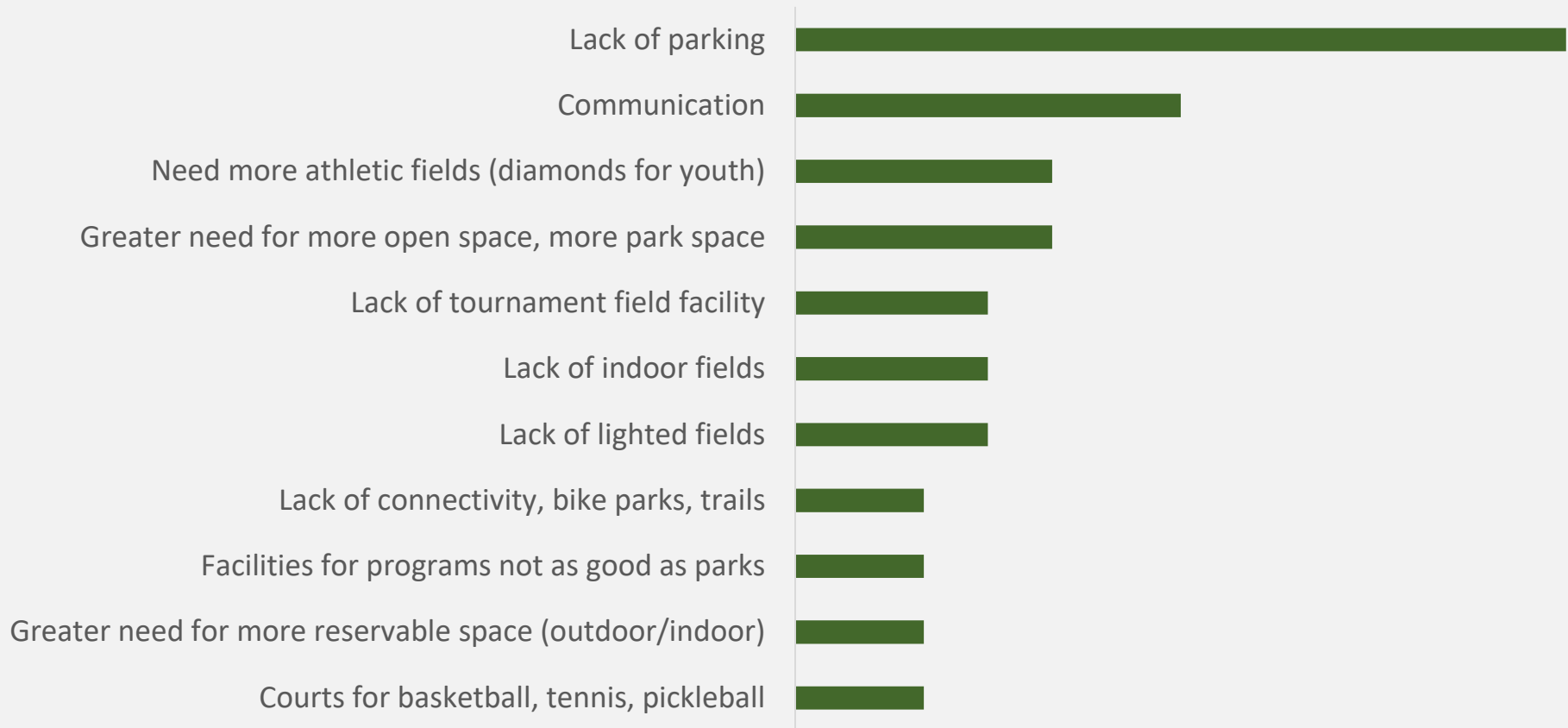


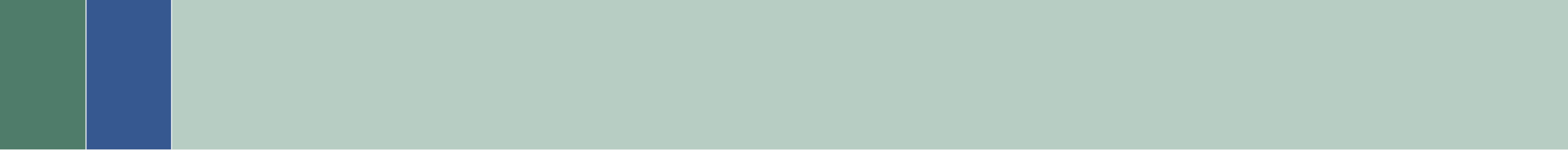


Conversely, what are the weaknesses that need to be addressed through the Master Plan update?



Areas of Improvement

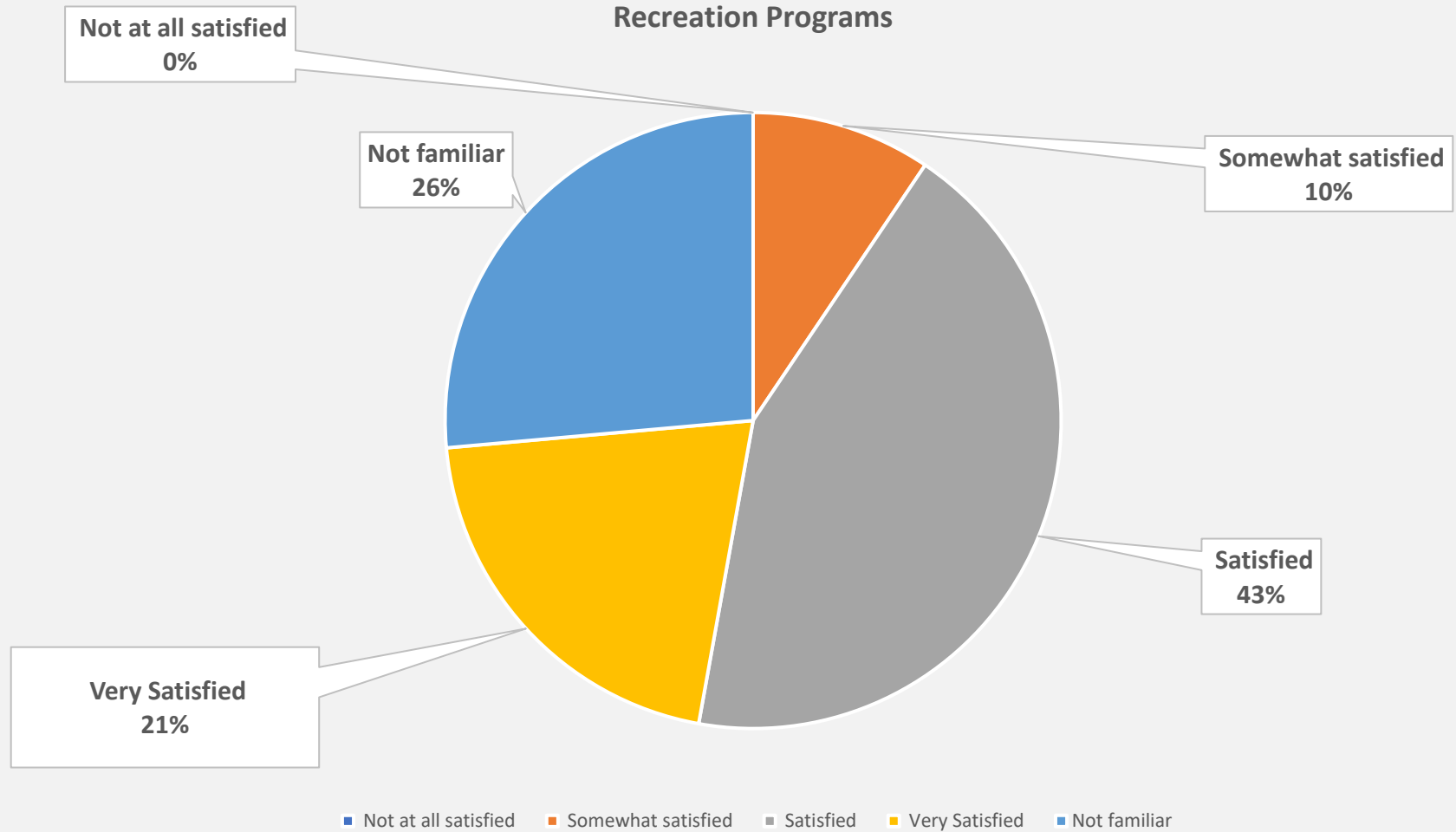


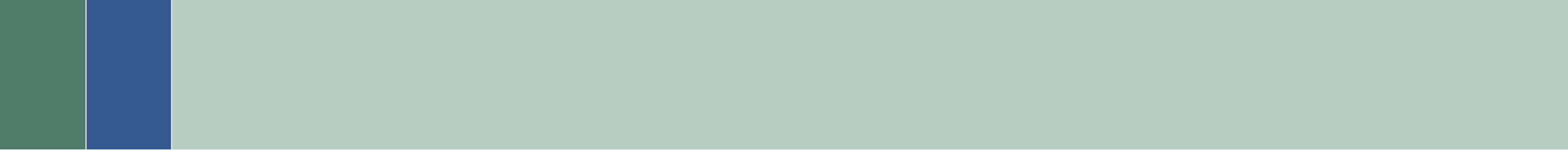


How satisfied are you with the quality of current programs offered?

4 Very Satisfied – 3 Satisfied – 2 Somewhat Satisfied – 1 Not at all Satisfied

Recreation Programs

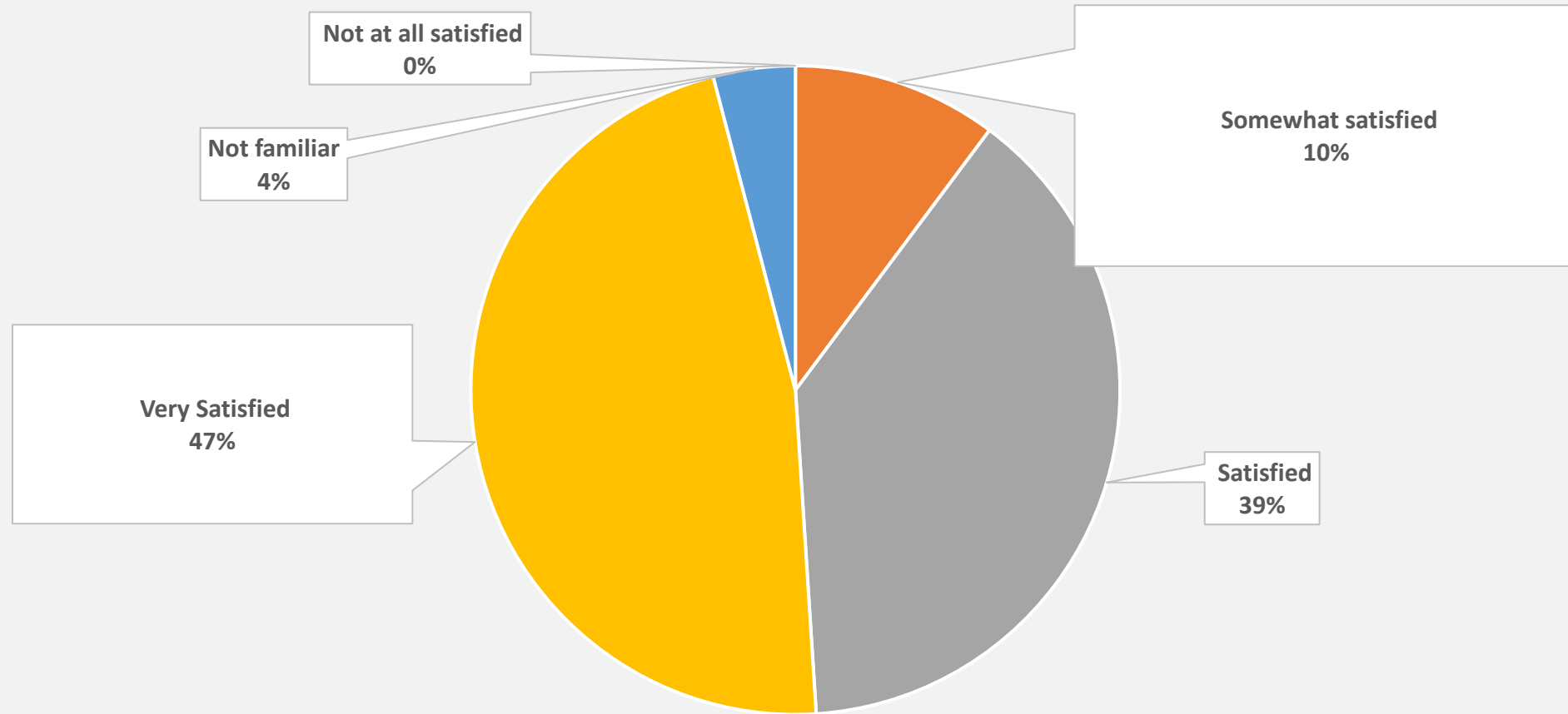




How satisfied are you with the overall quality of the existing parks and recreation facilities provided by the Meridian Parks and Recreation Department?

4 Very Satisfied – 3 Satisfied – 2 Somewhat Satisfied – 1 Not at all Satisfied

Satisfaction - Quality of Parks



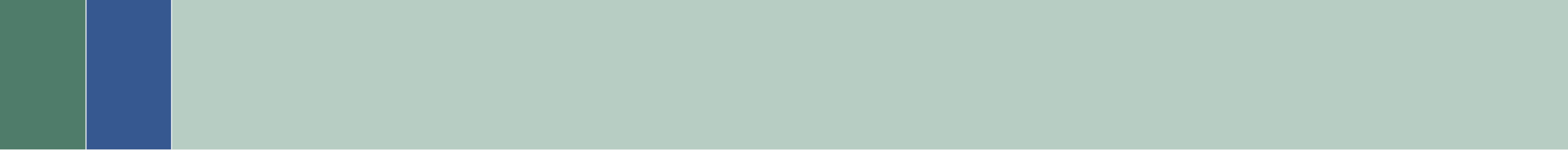
■ Not at all satisfied ■ Somewhat satisfied ■ Satisfied ■ Very Satisfied ■ Not familiar

What additional recreational programs/activities do you feel should be offered by the Department that are currently are not available?

Desired Programs and Activities



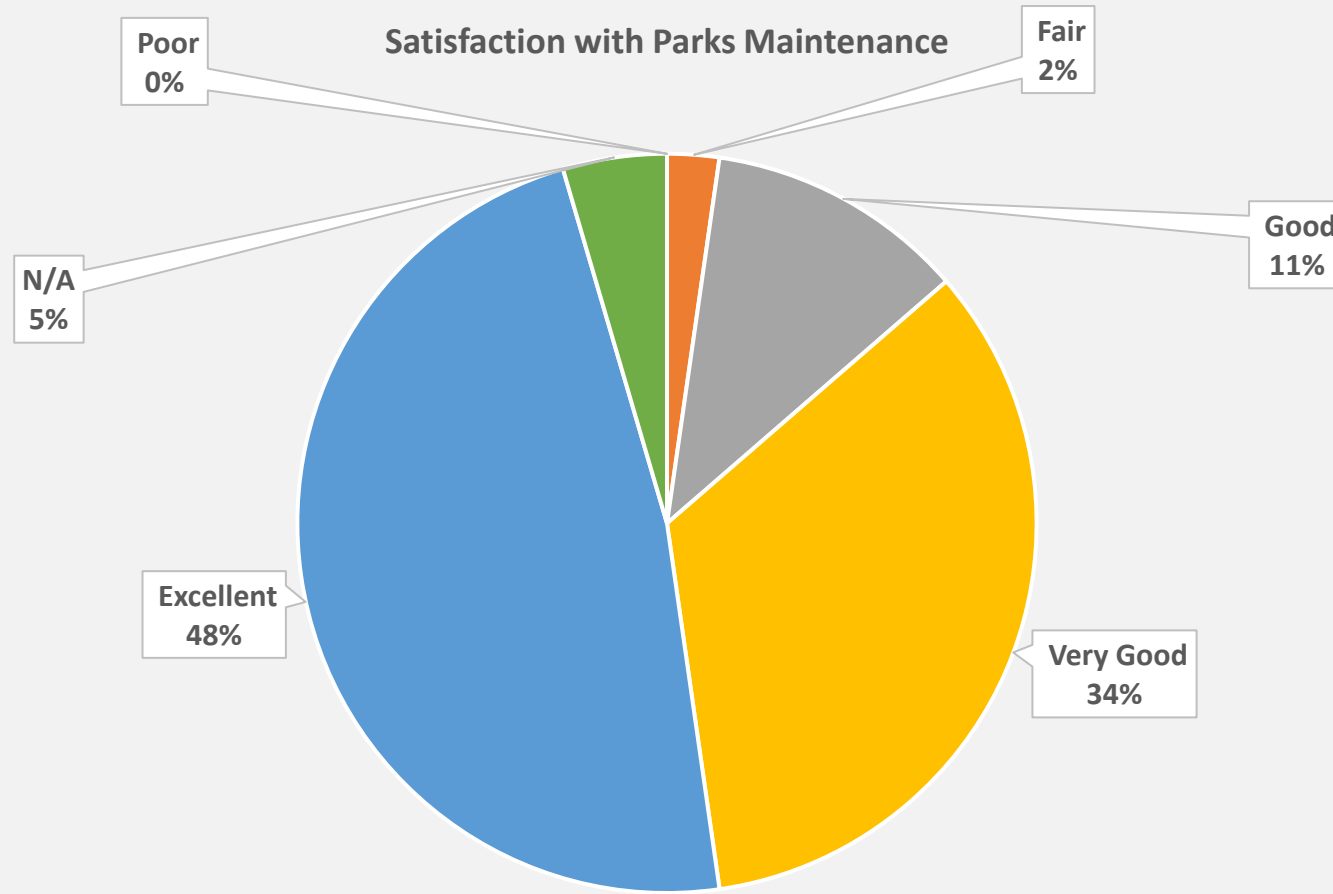
- Activity Fair/Special events
- Adaptive recreation
- Adventure based, especially attractive to teens
- Bocci Ball
- Cooking classes
- Dodgeball
- Evening programs
- Historical programs
- Horseshoe
- Markets
- Programs for working with your hands
- Races/triathlons
- Swim lessons
- Tennis



How would you rate the overall level of maintenance
at the parks and facilities owned or operated by the
City?

5 Excellent - 4 Very Good – 3 Good – 2 Fair – 1 Poor

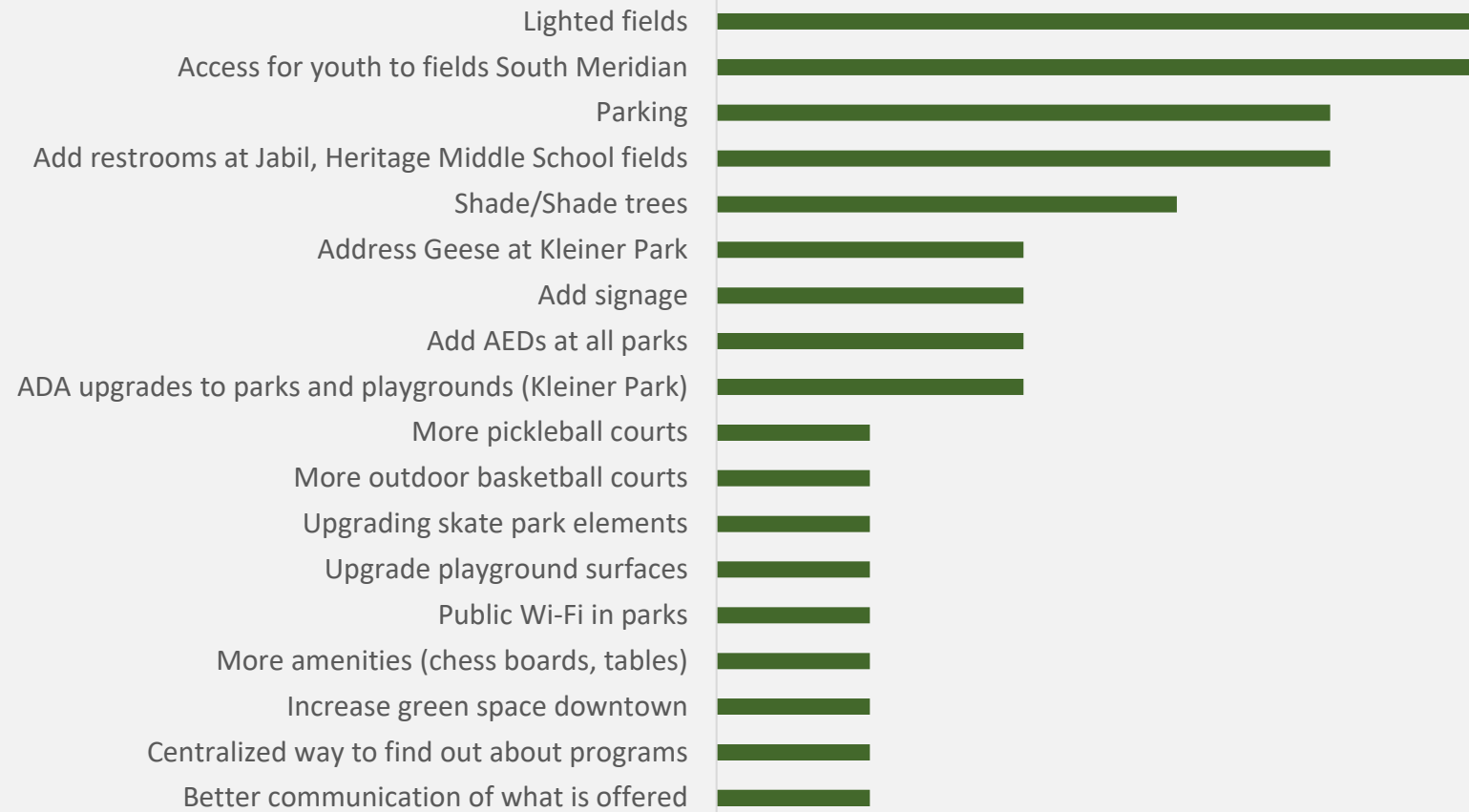
Satisfaction with Parks Maintenance



■ Poor ■ Fair ■ Good ■ Very Good ■ Excellent ■ N/A

What improvements are
needed at existing facilities?

Improvements to Existing Facilities





Are there any portions of the community that are underserved?

Where facilities don't meet the community's expectation?

- Homeschool population
- Low-income population
- Downtown residents
- South Meridian
- Veterans
- Special Needs
- Soccer players

- Needs a Community Center and park/event space
- Lacking amenities
- Parks
- Green Space
- Reservable space
- Softball fields
- Fields, neighborhood parks
- Lack of Diamond Fields for youth

What new recreational facilities or amenities would you like to see available?

Additional Facilities and Amenities

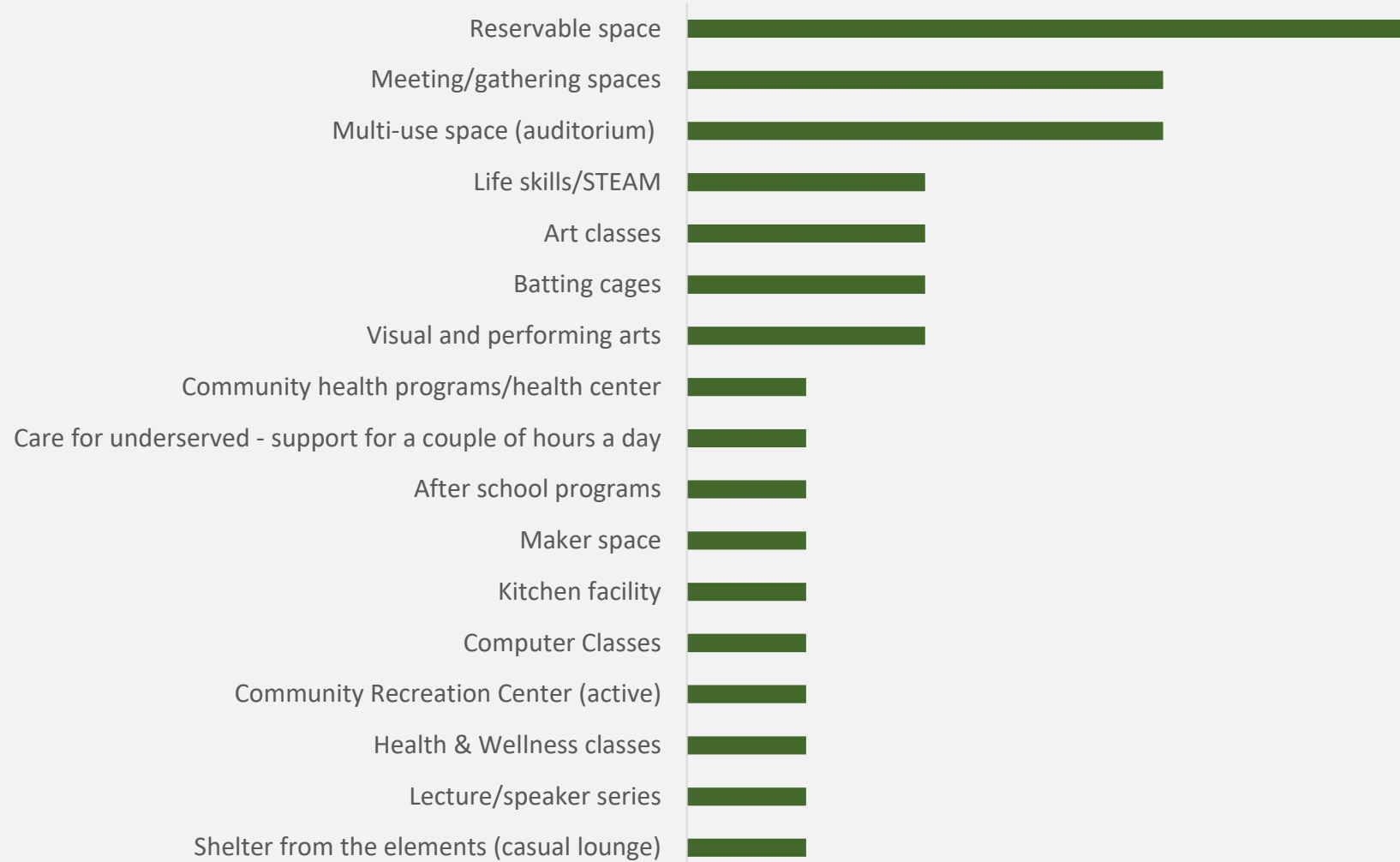


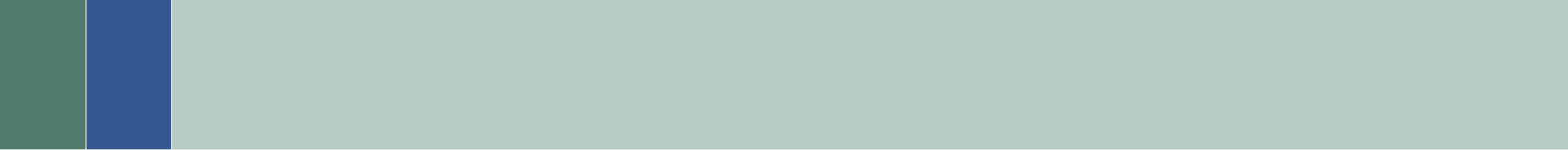


What is your vision for the future Community Center?

What activities and programs should it host?

Community Center Vision

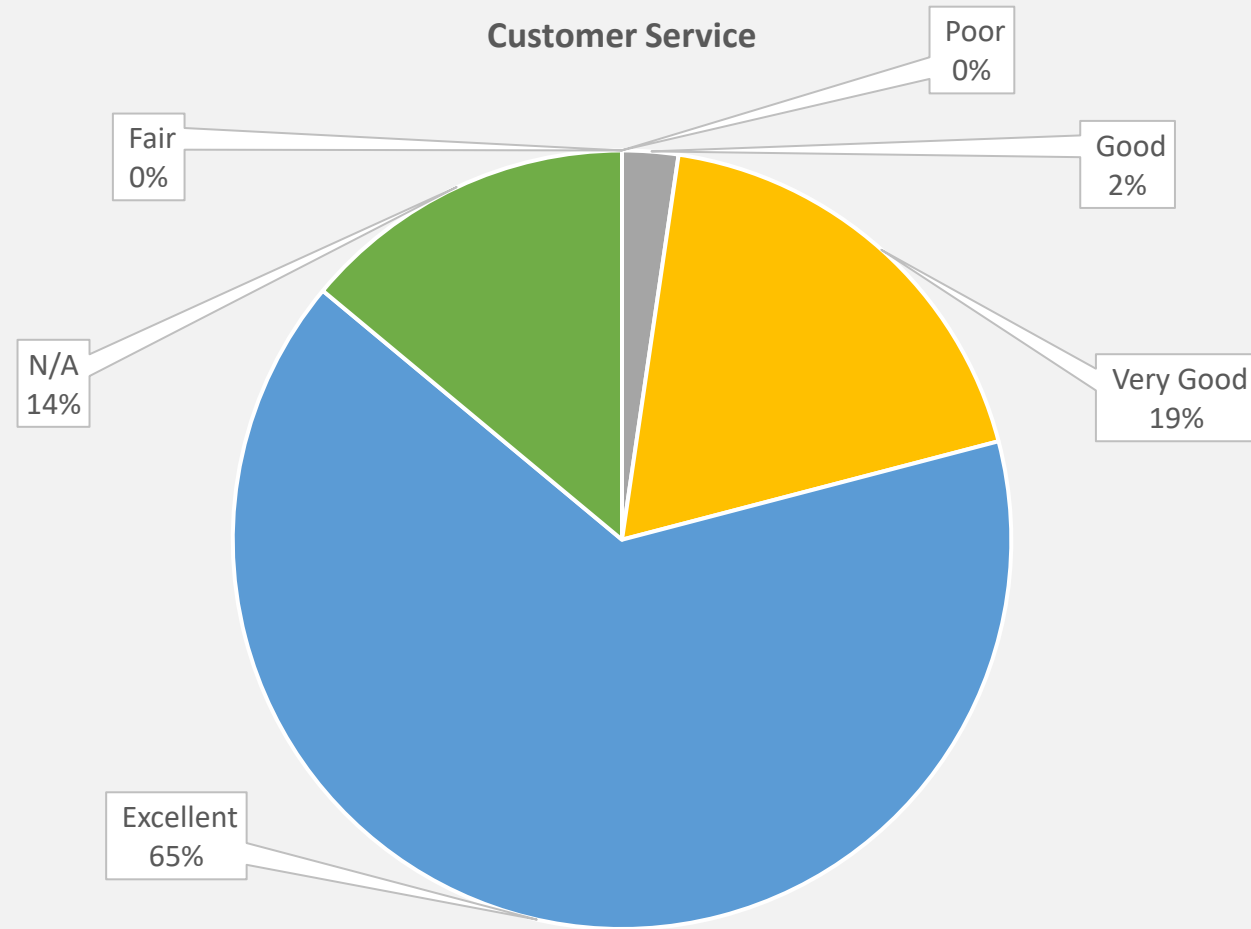




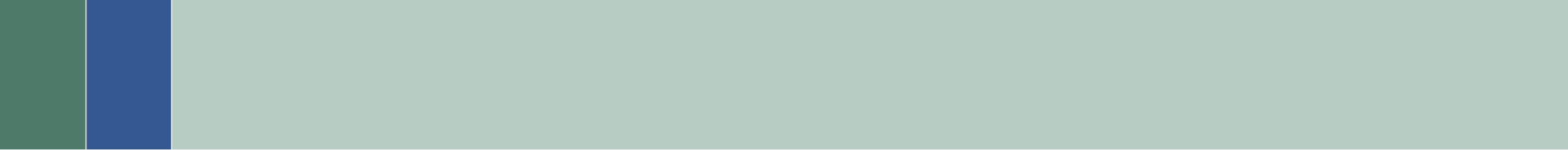
How would you rate the quality of customer service provided by the Parks and Recreation staff?

5 Excellent - 4 Very Good – 3 Good – 2 Fair – 1 Poor

Customer Service



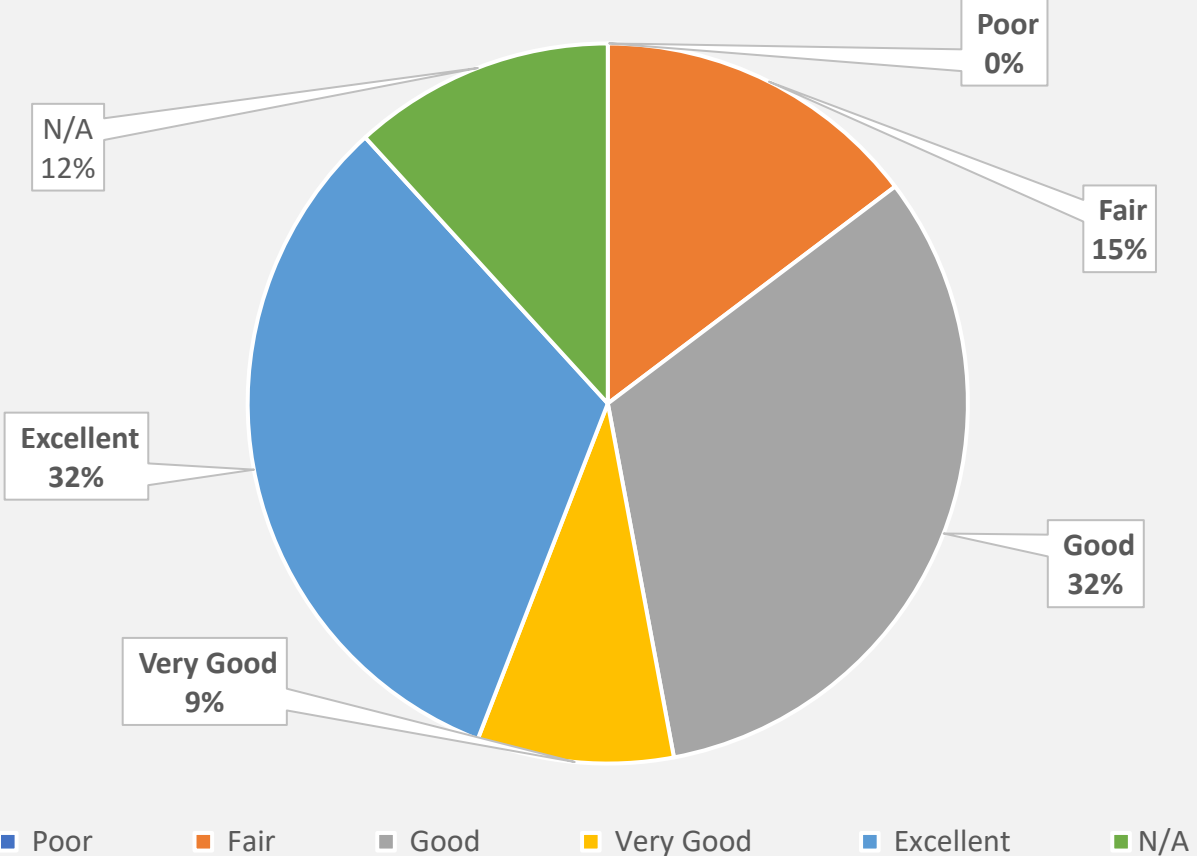
■ Poor ■ Fair ■ Good ■ Very Good ■ Excellent ■ N/A

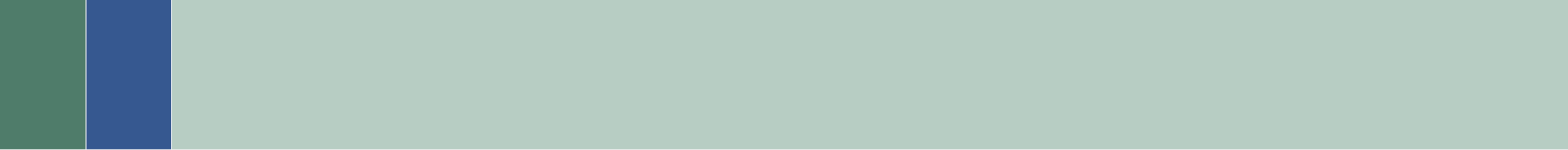


How effective is the Department in seeking feedback from the community and users on improving its performance?

5 Excellent - 4 Very Good – 3 Good – 2 Fair – 1 Poor

Seeking Feedback from the Community





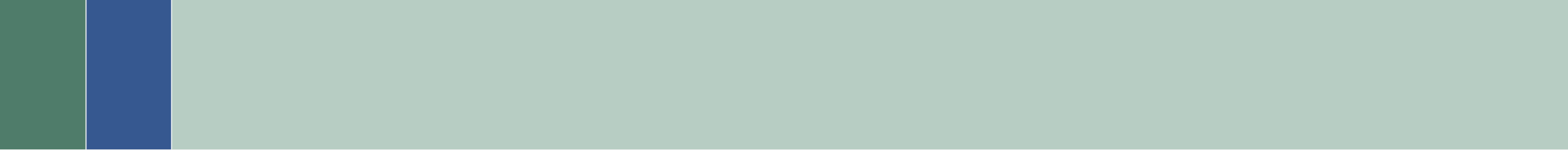
Who are the key partners and stakeholders in the community with regards to assisting with implementation of the Master Plan update?

- Sport Associations
- Home Builders/Developers
- MYAC (Mayor's Youth Advisory Council)
- Schools
- Clubs/Organizations
- Library
- Business community
- Meridian Co-op Community Gardeners
- West ADA Schools
- Boys & Girls Club
- Senior Center
- Mayor's Committees
- College and Universities
- Real Estate Association
- School Districts
- ADA County Highway District
- Valley Regional Transit
- Youth Sports Programs, Community Colleges, West Ada, Art Clubs, etc
- Chamber of Commerce
- Park users, HOA, local businesses, schools, youth clubs, large property owners, ACHD
- COMPASS
- Irrigation districts (for future pathways)
- FACTS
- Central District Health
- Churches
- Private schools
- FFA
- YMCA
- 4H
- Park Users
- Fire Department
- Police Department
- Service organizations

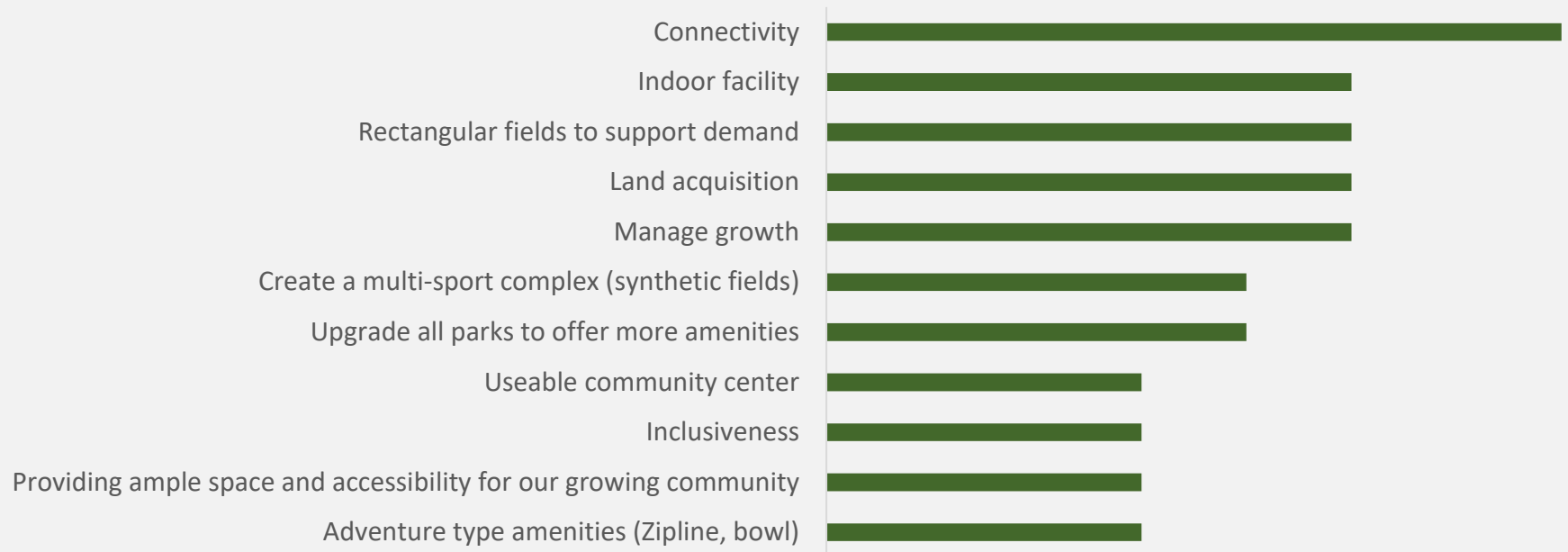
What are the key issues and values in the Meridian community that need to be considered while updating this Master Plan?

- Traffic/traffic safety
- Population growth
- Safety
- Art and Culture
- I 84 divides the City
- Accessibility/affordability/inclusivity
- Native plants
- Possible public/private partnership for an aquatic facility in Boise
- Connectivity
- Sustainability
- Maintain what we have
- City of Eagle developing a multi-sport complex
- Lighting in parks
- Need for more open space
- Enforcement of rules (ATVs in parks in the winter)
- Fiscal responsibility
- Funding/resources
- Water quality
- Bike paths to parks
- Bike and alternative transportation, family values reflecting the culture of Meridian
- Agricultural Heritage Preservation
- Air Quality
- Public health and safety should be taken into consideration when planning any new features and/or facilities
- Roots, sense of hometown
- Public safety
- Safe community
- Inclusivity and ADA should be thought about and valued as well
- Community engagement
- Partnerships

What are the priorities that we should consider from everything we've discussed?



Priorities



- More sports courts
- Open space
- Adaptive funding
- Reservable space
- Funding
- Veterans
- Additional baseball fields
- Watch for fads
- Maintain quality of maintenance level of service and funding
- Find future locations for parks while there is still open space available
- Start planning ahead for pandemics, and weather and AQ disruptions in the lives of young athletes. We will need a lot of indoor space in addition to the school space. Reduce pricing on renting gyms.
- Funding opportunities to provide facilities
- Champions, supporters of P & R initiative
- Downtown
- Infrastructure
- Right plan for a community center
- Youth access to diamond fields
- Understanding and ability to fund
- More specific amenities (covered seating/Wi-Fi)
- Maintain what we have
- Parking
- Marketing
- Water conservation
- History
- Staff to maintain fields
- Open space
- Something for everyone
- Keep up with changing demographics of Meridian
- Children's programs
- Plan for the younger generation
- Improve Park Impact Fees to pay for CIP for new facilities as a result of new development

Comments/suggestions/feedback?

- Maintain what we have
- What does the City need from the stakeholders
- Meridian is a paper culture - surveys need to be available in paper - Library will do that - assisted living facilities, childcare and schools
- Communicate through 400 HOAs
- Continue to promote Kleiner Brick Campaign - add a sign
- Separate large and small dogs
- Promote Disc golf at schools
- Work with Idaho Senior Games for Track and Field facility
- Consider AARP funding/grants
- Share success with other agencies
- Use augmented reality
- Budgets/resources
- Partnership for operation of Community Center

Thank You For Your Time & Participation!



Art Thatcher, MPA, CPRP
Direct (mobile): 757-592-3103
artt@greenplayllc.com
Principal, Project Manager

Tom Diehl, CPRP
Direct (mobile): 804-833-6994
tdiehl@greenplayllc.com
Project Manager/Consultant



