

APPENDIX B

**REPORT FROM THE
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY
SURVEY
FOR SKAGIT COUNTY**

**A.R.N. TECHNICAL AND RESEARCH REPORTS
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INTRODUCTION

In Spring of 2003, Skagit County Parks and Recreation Department (SCPRD) contracted with Applied Research Northwest (ARN) to conduct a scientific study. The purpose of the study was to inform the Skagit County Parks and Recreation Department Comprehensive Plan – a growth management tool that provides the SCPRD managers with a clear direction in terms of where the community is (existing conditions) and where it is going (future desires). The goal of the study was to provide SCPRD with estimates of residents' preferences for parks and recreation facilities development and priorities for future planning. The study consisted of the administration of a community survey to a random sample of Skagit County residents and included items on recent activities, desired expansion of existing facilities (including athletic fields, campgrounds, trails, etc.) and the addition of a new public indoor facility including classrooms and a multi-purpose gym. Development of the Northern State Recreation Area (NSRA) was also included in the study.

RESEARCH METHODS

This section of the report describes the sample, data collection methods, response rates, indicators of the generalizability of the sample, the survey instrument and margins of error. Greater detail on any of these issues is available from the authors. Readers who are not interested in these research methods can safely skip to the results section. Also, the complete text of the survey, with response frequencies, can be found in appendix A of this report.

SAMPLING

For the Skagit County Parks and Recreation Department (SCPRD) Community survey, the target population was residents of Skagit County. The survey was administered by telephone to randomly selected, listed household members in Skagit County. Of the 926 households contacted, 378 telephone numbers were disqualified (see Table 1: invalid contacts). Thus, the valid telephone sample consisted of 548 qualified households. Each household was telephoned (attempted) up to 5 times over a two-week period in June. Attempts included at least one weekend and one daytime call, with the majority of calling occurring between 5:30 pm and 9:00 p.m. on weeknights.

The average survey length was 9 minutes. Fifty-five percent (55%) of qualified participants completed a survey for a total of 300 completed surveys. The results of all calls made for the community survey are summarized below in Table 1.

Table 1. Skagit County Parks and Recreation Community Survey Call Results Summary	
	<u>N</u>
Complete	300
Total Completes	300
Refused	97
Soft Refusals	84
Refused Incomplete	7
No Answer - no pick up	11
Busy	3
No Answer - machine / voice mail	30
Callback	16
Total Valid Contacts	548
Bad Number	110
Physical/Mental - Unable	18
Unable - Language	19
Maximum Attempts reached (5)	231
Total Invalid Contacts	378
Total	926
Response Rate (completes/valid)	55%

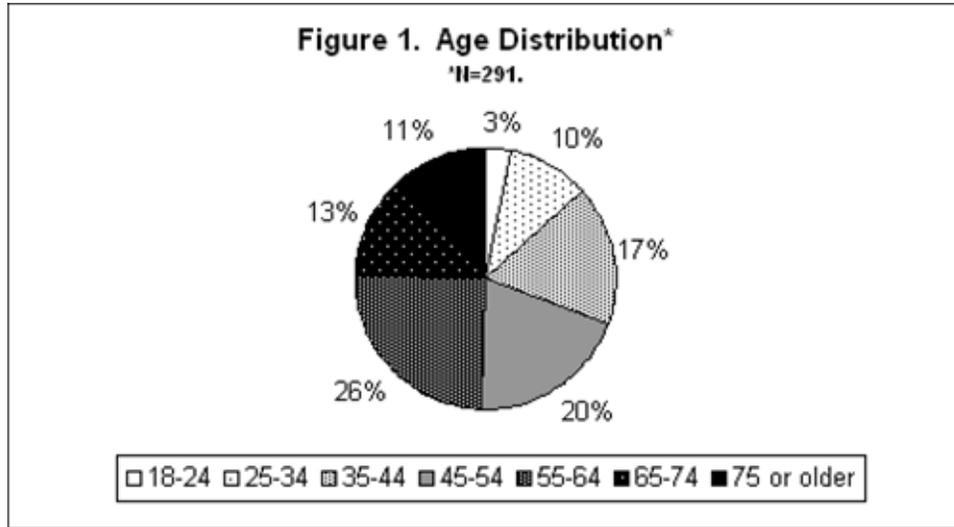
SAMPLE CHARACTERISTICS

Sex

Of the 300 residents in Skagit County who responded to the SCPRD Community survey, 40% were male and 60% were female. The sex distribution of Skagit County is close to 50-50 based on 2000 U.S. Census data. The survey did not attempt to randomize the selection of the household member. Since females are more likely to answer the telephone than males, telephone surveys like this one typically over represent the perspectives of females. Most of the questions are worded to elicit information about the entire household, so it is likely that this information closely resembles what would have been found with a more even sex distribution.

Age

Of the 300 residents in Skagit County who responded to the SCPRD Community survey, 3% were between the ages of 18 and 24, 10% were between 25 and 34, 17% were between 35 and 44, and 20% were between 45 and 54 (see Figure 1). The largest proportion of respondents (26%) was between the ages of 55 and 64. Thirteen percent (13%) were between the ages of 65 and 74 and 11% were 75 years of age or older. An additional 3 respondents did not answer this question so identifying information for these respondents is not available.



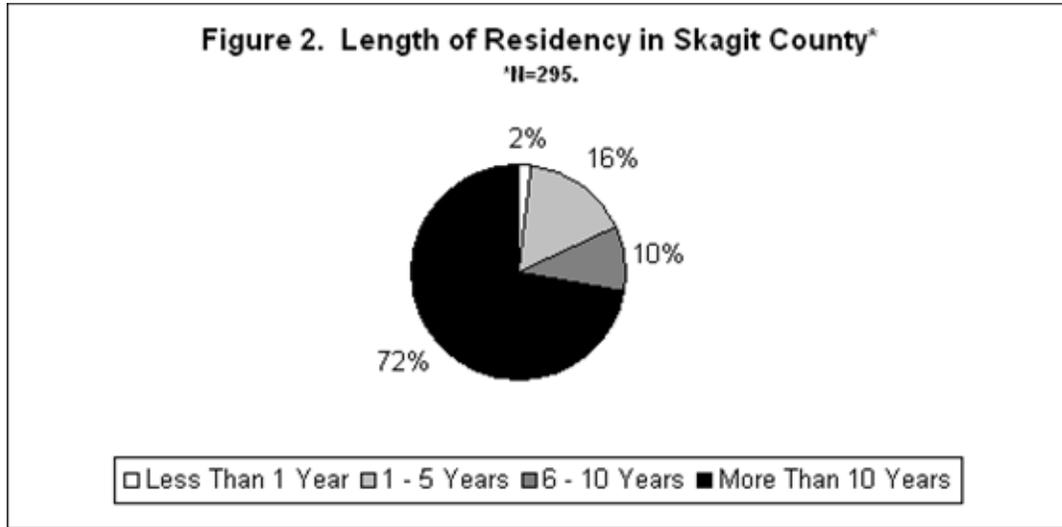
It is important to note here that the 18 to 24 and the 55 to 64 age categories were disproportionate to the actual age distribution of Skagit County. The youngest category was somewhat under represented and the older age category was slightly over represented. This sort of response pattern is common when using listed phone numbers, as younger people tend to move more often and be out of the house more than older residents. However, since respondents were asked to report on behaviors of all household members it is likely that the results reported closely resembles what would have been found with a more even age distribution.

Youth (age 18 or younger) Living in Household

Of the 300 residents in Skagit County who responded to the SCPRD Community survey, over half (62%) reported that there are no children age 18 or younger living in their home. The remaining 38% said there was children age 18 or younger living in their home. This question was asked to measure significant differences in response to the survey questions between households with children and those without children.

Length of Residency in Skagit County

When asked how long residents had lived in Skagit County, about three-quarters of respondents (72%) reported living in Skagit County for more than ten years (see Figure 2). Ten percent (10%) of respondents had lived there six to ten years. Sixteen percent (16%) of respondents said they lived there for one to five years and 2% said less than one year.



Geographic Distribution

The distribution of respondents according to zip code and city of residence for completed survey cases (N=300) compared to the randomly sampled listed cases (N=1000) were within 2.5% of one another for all 17 areas (see Appendix B). The distribution was within 1% for 14 of those 17 areas. Therefore we can have confidence that proportionate representation of each area of Skagit County is described in this report.

MARGINS OF ERROR

The findings described in this report are estimates because we use the responses of 300 households to estimate the behaviors of all households in Skagit County. The key to the success of survey research is that such estimates are remarkably accurate, but they are not perfectly accurate. For a survey of 300 cases, we would estimate an error margin of plus or minus six percent (6%). That is, we can be 95% sure that the true percentage, had we been able to survey all people in Skagit County would have fallen within 6% above or below the percentage we report. For example, because 17% of survey respondents reported being 35 to 44 years of age, we can be quite sure that the actual percentage of people in Skagit County who are in this age category are somewhere between 11% and 23%. When the number of respondents is smaller, the error margin is greater.

RESULTS

This section describes the findings of the analysis for all 300 respondents of the Skagit County Parks and Recreation Department Community Survey. A complete listing of the survey results can be found in the appendices to this report, however this section provides complete descriptive text and highlights statistically significant findings.

PARK USAGE

The first section of the SCPRD Survey asked respondents to report on their household's general use of parks and recreation facilities during the past twelve months, considering use both inside and outside of Skagit County. Respondents were asked to report on their past use regardless of geographic location because past behavior tends to be the most accurate indicator for projecting future behavior.

Nearly all (92%) of respondents reported their household had used a park facility in the past 12 months. More SCPRD Survey respondents reported household members spending time at a public seashore, lake or river (water access, 78%) in the past twelve months than any other of the listed facilities. Trails^{III} (67%) were a close second (see Table 2, below). Spending time at a park playground was ranked third with just over half (55%) reporting spending time at a park playground. Use of an indoor athletic facility and an indoor public pool were the least used parks in the past 12 months. About one-quarter (27%) of respondents reported household use of an indoor public pool and 18% reported use of an indoor athletic facility.

Table 2. Parks Used in the Past 12 Months*

Water Access	78%
Trails	67%
Park playground	55%
Campground or RV	47%
Other parks	43%
Outdoor Athletic Facility	40%
Boat launch	34%
Indoor public pool	27%
Indoor Athletic Facility	18%

*N=299. N is an average. Sum of percentages greater than 100 due to use of multiple facilities.

Relationships Between Variables

There is a statistically significant relationship between most of the parks used in the past 12 months. In other words, most survey respondent households were likely to report using more than one facility in the past 12 months. The most significant findings were households who used outdoor athletic facilities were also likely to use indoor athletic facilities ($r = .45$) and households who used a public seashore were also likely to use trails ($r = .42$).

There were also significant findings for park use in the past 12 months for households that reported having children eighteen years of age or younger. Households with children were

significantly more likely to use all park facilities (except boat launches) in the past 12 months than households without children. Households with children were significantly more likely than others to use water access (88%), trails (80%), playgrounds (76%), outdoor athletic facilities (61%), RV/campgrounds (58%), indoor pools (40%), and indoor athletic facilities (31%).

In general, households with fewer years living in Skagit County, younger-aged households and households with children were more likely to report using parks in the past 12 months. As expected, younger aged households are more likely to have lived in Skagit County a fewer number of years and are more likely to have children living in the household. Because younger people are generally more active, more likely to move or to have just “settled down” and to have children living in the home these findings suggest a strong demographic relationship with park use.

PARK NEEDS AND PROJECTED USE

SCPRD Survey respondents were asked to report on specific kinds of parks that could be a part of Skagit County Parks and Recreation Department’s future plans. Respondents were asked to report *how much* the additional facility is needed in Skagit County and *how likely* their household members would be to use the additional facility.

Needs for Additional Facilities

Respondents reported an indoor aquatic center, a multi-use gymnasium, and multi-purpose rooms as the top three additional facilities most needed in Skagit County (see Figure 3). Over half (58%) of respondents said that Skagit County needs an indoor aquatic center “a great deal” or “quite a bit”. Almost half (46%) of respondent said that Skagit County needs a multi-use gymnasium and 39% said the county needs multi-purpose rooms “a great deal” or “quite a bit”.

Respondents reported a low level of a need for additional athletic fields in Skagit County. Forty percent (40%) of respondents said additional athletic fields are needed “not much” or “not at all”.

It is important to note two patterns in the data. First, substantially similar numbers of respondents reported at least “somewhat” needing all of the facilities (minimum 60%, maximum 79%). In addition, the proportion of respondents who reported not needing the facilities at all are not systematically ordered (as often is the case with items like these). These patterns suggest that there is no powerful mandate for or against specific facilities, and that there is an overall interest in seeing additional parks and recreation facilities in Skagit County.

Respondents who reported the need for trails or athletic fields were also asked to identify the types of trails or fields they felt were needed. Those findings are detailed in tables 3 and 4 below.

As with their reports of use in the past 12 months, respondents from households with children, who had lived in the county for fewer than 10 years, and younger aged-respondents generally reported slightly higher levels of needs for many of the items than households

without children, or who had lived in the country for 10 years or more, or with older-aged respondents.

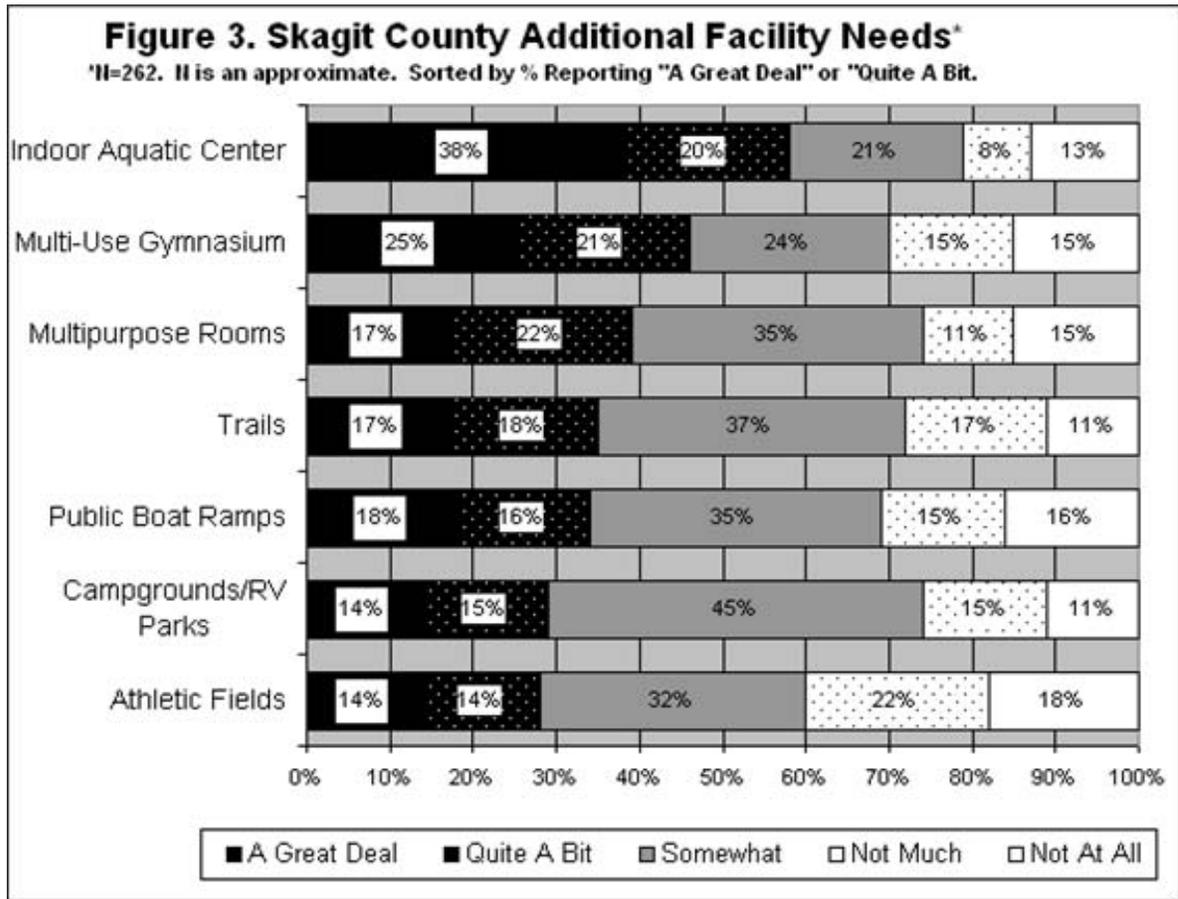


Table 3. Types of Trails Needed*

Hiking	80%
Bicycle	53%
Equestrian	18%
Interpretive	17%
Other	14%
Motorcycle	9%

*N=93 "Other" responses are detailed in the appendices

Table 4. Types of Fields Needed*

Youth Baseball	79%
Soccer	62%
Adult Baseball	47%
Youth Softball	34%
Adult Softball	23%
Football	17%
Other	6%

*N=70 "Other" responses are detailed in the appendices

Likelihood of Use of Additional Facilities

After reporting on the needed facilities, respondents were asked how likely members of their household would be to use such a facility. An indoor aquatic center and additional trails were the top two additional facilities respondents reported their household would likely use (see Figure 4). Two-thirds (66%) of respondents reported their household "probably" or "definitely" would use additional trails¹². Slightly fewer (64%) respondents reported their household "probably" or "definitely" would use an indoor aquatic center, though a higher

proportion reported they would “definitely” use such a center. Just over half (53%) of respondents reported their household “probably” or “definitely” would use multipurpose rooms or additional campgrounds and RV parks.

Of those respondents who reported their household “probably” or “definitely” would use additional trails; hiking and bicycle were ranked most likely to use (see tables 5 and 6). Eighty percent (80%) of these respondents said their household would use additional hiking trails and about half (53%) said their household would use bicycle trails.

Respondents reported a low likelihood of using additional athletic fields. Two-thirds (66%) of respondents said their household “probably” or “definitely” would not use additional athletic fields. Since respondents reported a low level of need for additional athletic fields in Skagit County it is expected to have a low level of likelihood of use of the additional facility as well.

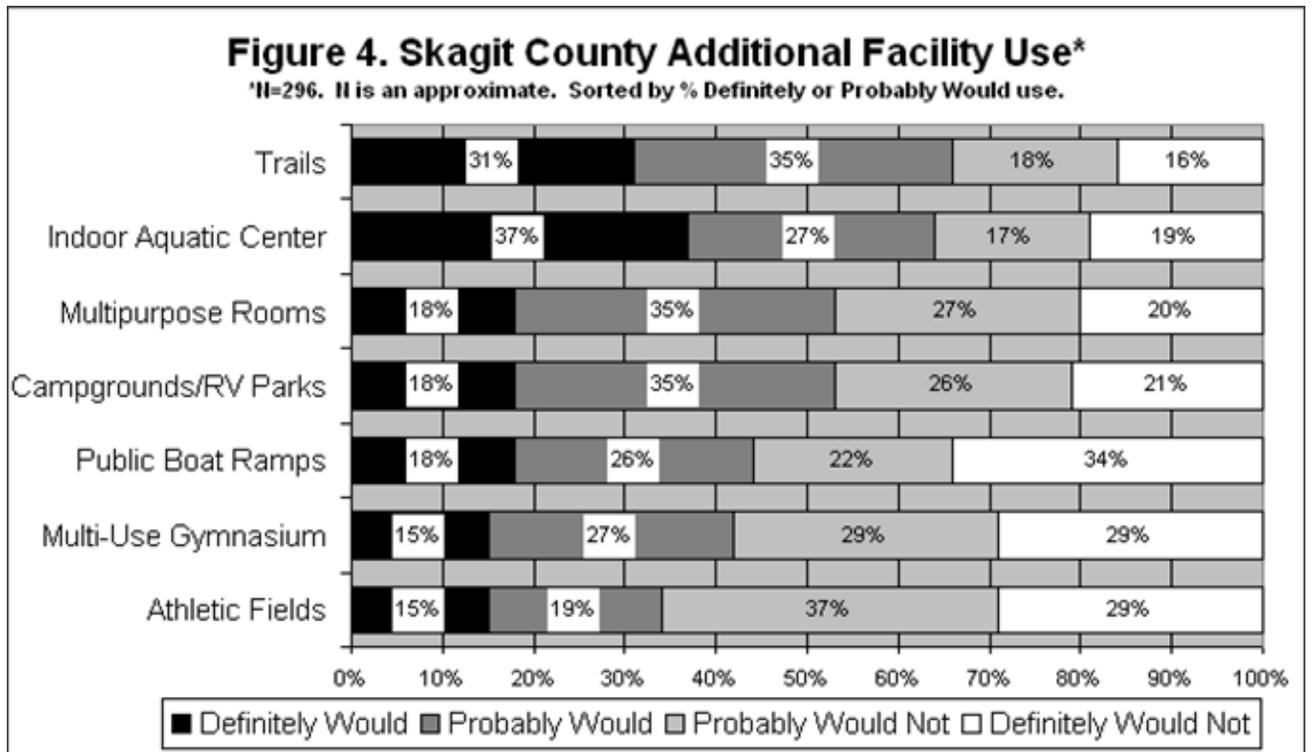


Table 5. Types of trails likely to use*

Hiking	82%
Bicycle	37%
Interpretive	16%
Other	12%
Motorcycle	8%
Equestrian	6%

*N=194. Sum of percentages greater than 100 due to use of multiple facilities.

Table 6. Types of fields likely to use*

Youth Baseball	66%
Soccer	50%
Adult Baseball	32%
Youth Softball	25%
Adult Softball	19%
Other	12%
Football	5%

*N=98. Sum of percentages greater than 100 due to use of multiple facilities.

Similar to reports of needs, respondents from households with children, who had lived in the county for fewer than 10 years, and younger aged-respondents generally reported slightly higher likelihood of use for many of the items than households without children, or who had lived in the country for 10 years or more, or with older-aged respondents. No strong patterns were noted.

Analysis of Needs, Likelihood of Use and Prior Use

Responses to the items were analyzed in combination to determine if those households who had previously used certain facilities were more likely to report a higher need for such facilities, as well as whether they would be more likely to use additional facilities if they were provided. For example, if people had used a public indoor pool in the prior 12 months, were they more likely to report that there was a need for an indoor public pool? Were they more likely to say they would use one? Responses were also examined to evaluate whether those who report a stronger need also reported a higher likelihood of use of the facilities.

For the most part, people who had used a particular facility in the past 12 months were twice as likely to report needing the same type of additional facilities “a great deal” compared to those who had not used them. For example, 17% of respondents who *had* used a campground or RV park in the past 12 months reported needing additional campgrounds “a great deal” compared to 9% of those who *had not* used them.

There are some notable exceptions:

- q Those who used outdoor athletic facilities were four times more likely to report needing additional athletic fields “a great deal” (26% of outdoor athletic facility users vs. 6% of non- users).
- q Users of public boat launches were three times more likely to report needing such a facility “a great deal” (30% vs. 11% of non-users).
- q Those who had used a public indoor pool were a little less likely to report a strong need for such a facility – perhaps due to the presence of a nearby public pool not run by the county (51% vs. 33% of non-users).

The greatest value of knowing people’s activities in the prior 12 months comes in seeing the degree of association with their reported likelihood of using additional local facilities like those they said they had used. The more strongly prior use and likelihood of use are related, the better we can estimate the likelihood of use in the area for the additional facilities.

For each item, use of a similar facility in the prior 12 months at least doubled the likelihood that the respondent would report that someone in their household would “definitely” use such a facility in Skagit County. Particularly notable are:

- q Outdoor athletic facilities (29% of household that used this type of facility in the prior 12 months reported their household “definitely” would use such a facilities in Skagit County vs. 5% of *non*-prior users)
- q Boat launches (47% of prior users “definitely” would vs. 3% of *non*-prior users that “definitely” would.).

- q Indoor athletic facility users are also much more likely to make use of a multi-use gymnasium (41% vs. 9% of *non*-prior users).
- q An indoor aquatic center has wide appeal to both prior users and *non*-prior users of public indoor pools, with 51% of prior users saying they “definitely” would use such a facility and 31% of *non*-prior users.

Although fewer than half of respondents reported using outdoor athletic facilities and public boat launches in the past year (40% and 34% respectively), those two groups reported higher likelihoods of using such facilities if additional ones were provided than did any other facility user ($r = .55$ and $.69$ respectively). While other reports of needs, in addition to likelihood of use are not as strong, it is clear that for the most part, distributions of use in the past 12 months (Table 2 above) provide an accurate tool for predicting reported likelihood of use in all cases, but particularly for some of the low-frequency and relatively low-need items (use of boat launches and indoor and outdoor athletic facilities).

Discussion

There is no magic formula for determining which facilities would be the best use of the county’s resources – this study is not sufficient for such predictions and would require a great deal of information about the costs of creating and maintaining each facility and other competing needs in the county. In addition, the likelihood of use/prior use analysis is limited by the fact that some facilities are already more rare in Skagit County – in particular public indoor pools and indoor athletic facilities.

The more common use of trails, water access, and playgrounds is conditioned in part on the current availability in conjunction with people’s propensity to use them. It is difficult to surmise with certainty whether people’s propensities are strong enough to support additional facilities when the particular types of facilities being discussed are harder to find. This is of particular concern for the public indoor aquatic center, since the costs of maintaining such a facility are very high, yet people who have not used any public indoor pools in the past year are rather likely to report that they “definitely” would use such a facility if it existed. Despite those reports, it appears that using a public indoor pool would be an uncommon undertaking for many of the county’s residents.

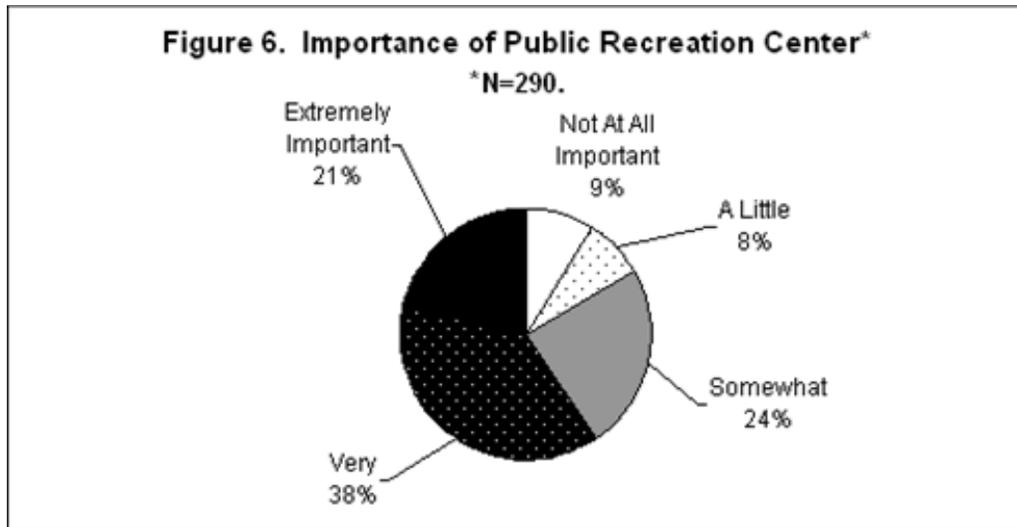
COMMUNITY PRIORITIES

Recreation Center

The current Skagit County Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan includes the construction of a public indoor recreation center^[3] as a future goal. SCPRD Survey respondents reported a high level of importance on a public indoor recreation center for the people of Skagit County. Sixty-one percent (61%) of respondents said the facility would be “extremely” or “very” important to the people of Skagit County. About one-quarter (24%) of respondents said it would be “somewhat” important and the remaining 17% said it would be “a little” or “not at all” important.

Use of the multi-use gymnasium or the multipurpose rooms that would be part of an indoor public recreation center can be ascertained in part by the previous survey items that asked about the need and likelihood for using such facilities. One in six respondents (15%) said

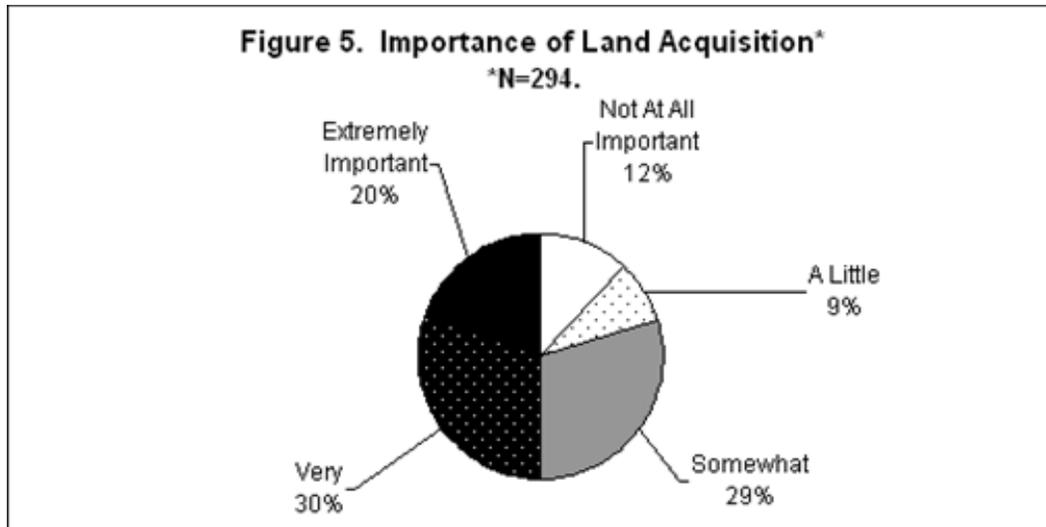
they “definitely” would use a multi-use gymnasium, and nearly a fifth (18%) of respondents said they “definitely” would use multipurpose rooms (see Figure 4). However the users would likely be drawn from somewhat different populations, since less than half (7%) said they would “definitely” use both facilities. One-third of respondents (33%) said they either “definitely” or “probably” would use both facilities. Fifteen percent said they “definitely” would NOT use either facility. With a margin of error for this survey of about 6%, this suggest that between 9% and 21% of Skagit County residents would be highly unlikely to use the gym or multipurpose rooms, while between 79% and 91% might use it.



In general, females responding on behalf of their household were more likely than male respondents to report a higher level of importance on a public indoor recreation center for the people of Skagit County. In addition, households with youths and younger aged households were more likely to report a higher level of importance.

Acquiring Land

Respondents were asked to report on the importance to their household that Skagit County acquire land to support new parks and provide recreation, while maintaining the existing facilities at the current levels or better. Half of respondents (50%) said that it is “extremely” or “very” important to their household that Skagit County acquires land. Thirty percent (30%) said acquiring land is “somewhat” important and the remaining 20% said “a little” or “not at all”.



Typically, younger aged households were more likely to report a higher level of importance for their household on land acquisition for Skagit County.

Northern State Recreation Area

Most (63%) of respondents reported being *unfamiliar* with the plan for developing the Northern State Recreation Area. The remaining 37% said they were at least “sort of” familiar with the plan.

Of the respondents who said they were at least “sort of” familiar with the plan for developing the area, 28% reported “trails” as the most important plan element to their household. The second most important elements were “ball fields” and “playgrounds” with both elements being reported as the most important element by 14% of these respondents.

Table 7. Most Important Element in NSRA Development Plan*

Trails	28%
None are important	20%
Ball Fields	14%
Playgrounds	14%
Campgrounds	12%
Can't Choose Only One	9%
Interpretive Center	2%
Equestrian Center	2%

*N=102 Those unfamiliar with the plan were not asked this item.

Additional recreation program suggestions

Respondents were asked to recommend additional recreation programs to the SCPRD. A complete listing of suggestions for additional recreation programs can be found in the appendices of this report.

SUMMARY

Results of the Skagit County Parks and Recreation Department Community Survey suggest that Skagit County is most in need of an indoor aquatic center, followed closely by a multi-use gymnasium and multipurpose rooms. Additional athletic fields were the least likely to be report as a need for the County, in this survey. However, substantially similar numbers of respondents reported at least “somewhat” needing all the facilities (Figure 3). The study shows that there is no powerful mandate for or against specific facilities, but that there is an overall interest in seeing additional parks and recreation facilities in Skagit County.

Strong demographic patterns showed up consistently for most items throughout the analysis. Respondents who are between 25 and 54 tend to be more likely to report to report for their households a need and likelihood of using additional facilities, as are respondents with children in the home, and those who have lived in Skagit County less than 10 years. These demographic characteristics tend to coincide with one another.

Likelihood of using the facilities was somewhat differently ranked from the needs reported, though additional analysis suggested that some of the low-likelihood of use items such as the gymnasium, boat ramps and athletic fields, may be patronized more reliably than users of the higher ranked facilities. Reliability of use reports was gauged by people’s reports that they had used similar facilities over the past 12 months.

Likelihood of use is complicated by the fact that some facilities are harder to find in and around Skagit County than others. For example, the prevalence of playgrounds, trails and water access in part explains the high rates of use and propensities for use. By contrast, the lack of a public gymnasium, multi-purpose rooms or and aquatic center limits the probability that respondents would have used such a facility in the past 12 months. All these factors must be weighed when interpreting these results.

Nearly 60% of respondents reported that a public recreation center was “very” or “extremely” important to Skagit County. Fifty-percent reported that land acquisition was “very” or “extremely” important to their households.

Finally, most respondents (63%) said they were unfamiliar with the plan to develop the NSRA. Of those who were familiar with the plan, 28% prioritized trail development over the other plan elements.

APPENDIX A: SCDPRD COMMUNITY SURVEY TEXT WITH RESULTS

INTRO:

Hello, my name is \$. I'm calling because the Skagit County Parks and Recreation Department is seeking community input for its future plans. They'd like to know your household's priorities for parks and recreation facilities and programs. Your participation is extremely important, even if you don't use local parks or recreation facilities. May I speak with someone in your household 18 years or older... Would that be you? Do you have a few minutes to answer some questions?

N =		300
100%		
Able to Complete..... 01...	=> V1_1	300
100%		
Unable..... 02...	=> INT	0
0%		

V1_1:

My first questions have to do with your use of parks and recreation facilities in general. When answering these questions, please consider the activities both inside and outside of Skagit County for everyone in your household. Thinking about the past 12 months, has anyone in your household... [v1.1] Used Any campgrounds or RV parks?

N =		300
100%		
Yes..... 1...		140
47%		
No..... 0...		160
53%		
[Do NOT Read] Don't Know..... 7...		0
0%		
[Do NOT Read] Not Applicable..... 8...		0
0%		
[Do NOT Read] Refused..... 9...		0
0%		

V1_2:

[v1.2] (Used) Walking, hiking, riding, or biking Trails?

N =		300
100%		
Yes..... 1...		201
67%		
No..... 0...		97
32%		
[Do NOT Read] Don't Know..... 7...		1
0%		
[Do NOT Read] Not Applicable..... 8...		0
0%		
[Do NOT Read] Refused..... 9...		1
0%		

V1_3:

[v1.3] (Used) Any Outdoor Athletic Facilities like ball fields, basketball or tennis courts? [spectators are users]

N =	300
100%	
Yes..... 1..	119
40%	
No..... 0..	180
60%	
[Do NOT Read] Don't Know..... 7..	1
0%	
[Do NOT Read] Not Applicable..... 8..	0
0%	
[Do NOT Read] Refused..... 9..	0
0%	

V1_4:

[v1.4] (Used) Any Indoor Athletic facilities like basketball, tennis or volleyball courts?

N =	300
100%	
Yes..... 1..	54
18%	
No..... 0..	245
82%	
[Do NOT Read] Don't Know..... 7..	1
0%	
[Do NOT Read] Not Applicable..... 8..	0
0%	
[Do NOT Read] Refused..... 9..	0
0%	

V1_5:

[v1.5] Spent time at the public seashore, lake or river?

N =	300
100%	
Yes..... 1..	233
78%	
No..... 0..	67
22%	
[Do NOT Read] Don't Know..... 7..	0
0%	
[Do NOT Read] Not Applicable..... 8..	0
0%	
[Do NOT Read] Refused..... 9..	0
0%	

V1_6:

[v1.6] (Used) A public boat launch?

N =	300
100%	
Yes..... 1..	103
34%	
No..... 0..	197
66%	
[Do NOT Read] Don't Know..... 7..	0
0%	
[Do NOT Read] Not Applicable..... 8..	0
0%	

[Do NOT Read] Refused.....	9...	0
0%		

V1_7:

[v1.7] (Used) A public indoor pool?		
N =		300
100%		
Yes.....	1...	80
27%		
No.....	0...	220
73%		
[Do NOT Read] Don't Know.....	7...	0
0%		
[Do NOT Read] Not Applicable.....	8...	0
0%		
[Do NOT Read] Refused.....	9...	0
0%		

V1_8:

[v1.8] (Used) A park playground?		
N =		300
100%		
Yes.....	1...	165
55%		
No.....	0...	134
45%		
[Do NOT Read] Don't Know.....	7...	0
0%		
[Do NOT Read] Not Applicable.....	8...	0
0%		
[Do NOT Read] Refused.....	9...	1
0%		

V1_9:

[v1.9] (Used) Any other kind of parks?		
N =		300
100%		
Yes.....	1...	129
43%		
No.....	0...	169
56%		
[Do NOT Read] Don't Know.....	7...	2
1%		
[Do NOT Read] Not Applicable.....	8...	0
0%		
[Do NOT Read] Refused.....	9...	0
0%		

V2_1A:

My next questions ask about specific kinds of park and recreation facilities that could be a part of future plans. I'm going to read a list of some facilities the County could provide beyond what is currently available. For each item, please let me know how much the additional facility is needed and also how likely your household would be

to use it. So... how much does Skagit County need... [v2.1a] Additional campgrounds or RV Parks? Would you say...

N =		300
100%		
A Great Deal..... 4...		35
12%		
Quite A Bit..... 3...		39
13%		
Somewhat..... 2...		117
39%		
Not Much..... 1...		40
13%		
Not At All..... 0...		29
10%		
[Do NOT Read] Don't Know..... 7...		37
12%		
[Do NOT Read] Not Applicable..... 8...		2
1%		
[Do NOT Read] Refused..... 9...		1
0%		

V2_1B:

[v2.1b] How likely would the people in your household be to use additional campground and RV parks? Would you say...

N =		300
100%		
Definitely Would..... 4...		54
18%		
Probably Would..... 3...		104
35%		
Probably Would Not, or..... 2...		79
26%		
Definitely Would Not..... 1...		62
21%		
[Do Not Read] Don't Know..... 7...		1
0%		
[Do Not Read] Not Applicable..... 8...		0
0%		
[Do Not Read] Refused..... 9...		0
0%		

V2_2:

So... how much does Skagit County need... [v2.2] Additional Trails? Would you say...

N =		300
100%		
A Great Deal..... 4...		45
15%		
Quite A Bit..... 3...		48
16%		
Somewhat..... 2...	=> V2_3	101
34%		
Not Much..... 1...	=> V2_3	47
16%		

Not At All.....	0...	=> V2_3	29
10%			
[Do NOT Read] Don't Know.....	7...	=> V2_3	28
9%			
[Do NOT Read] Not Applicable.....	8...	=> V2_3	2
1%			
[Do NOT Read] Refused.....	9...	=> V2_3	0
0%			

V2_2A:

	Yes	No	[Do NOT Read] Don't Know	[Do NOT Read] Not Applicable	[Do NOT Read] Refused
[v2.2a] Bicycle	49 (53%)	44 (47%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
[v2.2b] Equestrian	17 (18%)	76 (82%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
[v2.2c] Hiking	74 (80%)	19 (20%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
[v2.2d] Motorcycle [two-wheeled motorized vehicles only]	8 (9%)	85 (91%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
[v2.2e] Interpretive [signage and routing to educate the user on a specific feature of the area utilized by the trail.	16 (17%)	77 (83%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
[v2.2f] Other [Do NOT Read]	13 (14%)	80 (86%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)

V2_2O:

[v2.2o] Other [Hit ENTER and Type in Response]	
N =	13
100%	
..... Y...	13
100%	
..... 0...	0
0%	

V2_3:

(How likely would the people in your household be to use...) [v2.3] Additional Trails? (Would you say...)	
N =	300
100%	
Definitely Would.....	4... 91
30%	
Probably Would.....	3... 103
34%	
Probably Would Not, or.....	2... => V2_4 55
18%	
Definitely Would Not.....	1... => V2_4 48
16%	
[Do Not Read] Don't Know.....	7... => V2_4 2
1%	
[Do Not Read] Not Applicable.....	8... => V2_4 1
0%	
[Do Not Read] Refused.....	9... => V2_4 0
0%	

V2_3A:

	Yes	No	[Do NOT Read] Don't Know	[Do NOT Read] Not Applicable	[Do NOT Read] Refused
[v2.3a] Bicycle	71 (37%)	123 (63%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
[v2.3b] Equestrian	12 (6%)	182 (94%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
[v2.3c] Hiking	159 (82%)	35 (18%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
[v2.3d] Motorcycle [two-wheeled motorized vehicles only]	15 (8%)	179 (92%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
[v2.3e] Interpretive [signage and routing to educate the user on a specific feature of the area utilized by the trail.	31 (16%)	163 (84%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
[v2.3f] Other [Do NOT Read]	24 (12%)	170 (88%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)

V2_3O:

[v2.3o] Other [Hit ENTER and Type in Response]

N =	24
100%	
..... Y...	24
100%	
..... 0...	0
0%	

V2_4:

(How much does Skagit County need...) [v2.4] Additional Athletic Fields? (Would you say...)

N =	300
100%	
A Great Deal..... 4...	35
12%	
Quite A Bit..... 3...	35
12%	
Somewhat..... 2... => V2_5	79
26%	
Not Much..... 1... => V2_5	53
18%	
Not At All..... 0... => V2_5	45
15%	
[Do NOT Read] Don't Know..... 7... => V2_5	53
18%	
[Do NOT Read] Not Applicable..... 8... => V2_5	0
0%	
[Do NOT Read] Refused..... 9... => V2_5	0
0%	

V2_4A:

	Yes	No	[Do NOT Read] Don't Know	[Do NOT Read] Not Applicable	[Do NOT Read] Refused
--	-----	----	--------------------------	------------------------------	-----------------------

[v2.4a] Adult Baseball	33 (47%)	37 (53%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
[v2.4b] Youth Baseball	55 (79%)	15 (21%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
[v2.4c] Adult Softball	16 (23%)	54 (77%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
[v2.4d] Youth Softball	24 (34%)	46 (66%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
[v2.4e] Football	12 (17%)	58 (83%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
[v2.4f] Soccer	43 (61%)	26 (37%)	1 (1%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
[v2.4g] Other [Do NOT Read]	4 (6%)	66 (94%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)

V2_40:

[v2.4o] Other [Hit ENTER and type in Response]

N =	4
100%	
..... Y...	4
100%	
..... 0...	0
0%	

V2_5:

(How likely would the people in your household be to use...) [v2.5] Additional Athletic Fields? (Would you say...)

N =	300
100%	
Definitely Would..... 4...	43
14%	
Probably Would..... 3...	55
18%	
Probably Would Not, or..... 2... => V2_6A	111
37%	
Definitely Would Not..... 1... => V2_6A	87
29%	
[Do Not Read] Don't Know..... 7... => V2_6A	4
1%	
[Do Not Read] Not Applicable..... 8... => V2_6A	0
0%	
[Do Not Read] Refused..... 9... => V2_6A	0
0%	

V2_5A:

	Yes	No	[Do NOT Read] Don't Know	[Do NOT Read] Not Applicable	[Do NOT Read] Refused
[v2.5a] Adult Baseball	31 (32%)	67 (68%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
[v2.5b] Youth Baseball	65 (66%)	33 (34%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
[v2.5c] Adult Softball	19 (19%)	79 (81%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
[v2.5d] Youth Softball	24 (24%)	74 (76%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
[v2.5e] Football	5 (5%)	93 (95%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
[v2.5f] Soccer	49 (50%)	49 (50%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
[v2.5g] Other [Do NOT Read]	12 (12%)	86 (88%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)

V2_50:

[v2.5o] Other [Hit ENTER and type in Response]	
N =	12
100%	
..... Y...	12
100%	
..... 0...	0
0%	

V2_6A:

(How much does Skagit County need...) [v2.6a] Additional Public Boat Ramps?
(Would you say...)

N =	300
100%	
A Great Deal..... 4...	43
14%	
Quite A Bit..... 3...	38
13%	
Somewhat..... 2...	81
27%	
Not Much..... 1...	36
12%	
Not At All..... 0...	38
13%	
[Do NOT Read] Don't Know..... 7...	61
20%	
[Do NOT Read] Not Applicable..... 8...	2
1%	
[Do NOT Read] Refused..... 9...	1
0%	

V2_6B:

(How likely would your household be to use...) [v2.6b] Additional Public Boat Ramps? (Would you say...)

N =	300
100%	
Definitely Would..... 4...	53
18%	
Probably Would..... 3...	76
25%	
Probably Would Not, or..... 2...	63
21%	
Definitely Would Not..... 1...	97
32%	
[Do Not Read] Don't Know..... 7...	9
3%	
[Do Not Read] Not Applicable..... 8...	2
1%	
[Do Not Read] Refused..... 9...	0
0%	

V2_7A:

(How much does Skagit County need...) [v2.7a] A multi-use gymnasium where you could play basketball, indoor tennis, volleyball, soccer and that sort of thing? (Would you say...)

N =	300
100%	
A Great Deal..... 4...	70
23%	
Quite A Bit..... 3...	57
19%	
Somewhat..... 2...	65
22%	
Not Much..... 1...	40
13%	
Not At All..... 0...	42
14%	
[Do NOT Read] Don't Know..... 7...	23
8%	
[Do NOT Read] Not Applicable..... 8...	3
1%	
[Do NOT Read] Refused..... 9...	0
0%	

V2_7B:

(How likely would your household be to use...) [v2.7b] A multi-use gymnasium where you could play basketball, indoor tennis, volleyball, soccer and that sort of thing? (Would you say...)

N =	300
100%	
Definitely Would..... 4...	45
15%	
Probably Would..... 3...	80
27%	
Probably Would Not, or..... 2...	87
29%	
Definitely Would Not..... 1...	85
28%	
[Do Not Read] Don't Know..... 7...	2
1%	
[Do Not Read] Not Applicable..... 8...	1
0%	
[Do Not Read] Refused..... 9...	0
0%	

V2_8A:

(How much does Skagit County need...) [v2.8a] Multipurpose rooms that could be used for enrichment programs, classes, crafts, fitness and aerobics, meetings and receptions? (Would you say...)

N =	300
100%	
A Great Deal..... 4...	45
15%	
Quite A Bit..... 3...	58
19%	
Somewhat..... 2...	95
32%	
Not Much..... 1...	30
10%	

Not At All.....	0...	40
13%		
[Do NOT Read] Don't Know.....	7...	31
10%		
[Do NOT Read] Not Applicable.....	8...	0
0%		
[Do NOT Read] Refused.....	9...	1
0%		

V2_8B:

(How likely would your household be to use...) [v2.8b] Multipurpose rooms that could be used for enrichment programs, classes, crafts, fitness and aerobics, meetings and receptions? (Would you say...)

N =		300
100%		
Definitely Would.....	4...	54
18%		
Probably Would.....	3...	105
35%		
Probably Would Not, or.....	2...	81
27%		
Definitely Would Not.....	1...	58
19%		
[Do Not Read] Don't Know.....	7...	2
1%		
[Do Not Read] Not Applicable.....	8...	0
0%		
[Do Not Read] Refused.....	9...	0
0%		

V2_9A:

(How much does Skagit County need...) [v2.9a] An Indoor Aquatic Center for swimming, water play and therapy? (Would you say...)

N =		300
100%		
A Great Deal.....	4...	107
36%		
Quite A Bit.....	3...	55
18%		
Somewhat.....	2...	59
20%		
Not Much.....	1...	23
8%		
Not At All.....	0...	36
12%		
[Do NOT Read] Don't Know.....	7...	19
6%		
[Do NOT Read] Not Applicable.....	8...	1
0%		
[Do NOT Read] Refused.....	9...	0
0%		

V2_9B:

(How likely would your household be to use...) [v2.9b] An Indoor Aquatic Center for swimming, water play and therapy? (Would you say...)

N =	300
100%	
Definitely Would..... 4..	109
36%	
Probably Would..... 3..	82
27%	
Probably Would Not, or..... 2..	50
17%	
Definitely Would Not..... 1..	57
19%	
[Do Not Read] Don't Know..... 7..	2
1%	
[Do Not Read] Not Applicable..... 8..	0
0%	
[Do Not Read] Refused..... 9..	0
0%	

V3_1:

The current County Parks and Recreation Comprehensive Plan includes the construction of a public indoor recreation center as a future goal. The rec center might include things like a multi-use gymnasium, and multipurpose rooms like those I described earlier. [v3.1] So... How important do you think this facility would be to the people of Skagit County? Would you say...Extremely Important... Very... Somewhat... A little... or Not at all Important.

N =	300
100%	
Extremely Important..... 5..	62
21%	
Very..... 4..	110
37%	
Somewhat..... 3..	70
23%	
A Little, or..... 2..	22
7%	
Not At All Important..... 1..	26
9%	
[Do NOT Read] Don't Know..... 7..	7
2%	
[Do NOT Read] Not Applicable..... 8..	1
0%	
[Do NOT Read] Refused..... 9..	2
1%	

V4_1:

[v4.1] How important is it to the people in your household that the parks and recreation department acquire land to support new parks and provide recreation, while maintaining the existing facilities at the current levels or better? Would you say it is... [Parks have traditionally been acquired by donations and grants as well as being prioritized by elected leaders so that bonds and other capital funds may be sought and used.]

N =	300
100%	
Extremely Important..... 5..	59
20%	

Very.....	4..	88
29%		
Somewhat.....	3..	87
29%		
A Little, or.....	2..	25
8%		
Not At All Important.....	1..	35
12%		
[Do NOT Read] Don't Know.....	7..	5
2%		
[Do NOT Read] Not Applicable.....	8..	0
0%		
[Do NOT Read] Refused.....	9..	1
0%		

V5_1:

[v5.1] Are you familiar with the plan for developing the Northern State Recreation Area?

N =		300
100%		
Yes.....	2..	68
23%		
Sort Of.....	1..	43
14%		
No.....	0..	188
63%		
[Do NOT Read] Don't Know.....	7..	0
0%		
[Do NOT Read] Not Applicable.....	8..	0
0%		
[Do NOT Read] Refused.....	9..	1
0%		

V6_1:

[v6.1] What element in the development plan is most important to the people in your household? [Choose Only One, Prompt if respondent doesn't recall plan elements]

N =		112
100%		
Trails.....	1	29
26%		
Interpretive Center.....	2	2
2%		
Ball Fields.....	3	14
13%		
Equestrian Center.....	4	2
2%		
Campgrounds.....	5	12
11%		
Playgrounds.....	6	14
13%		
[Do NOT Read] Can't Choose Only One.....	7	9
8%		
[Do NOT Read] None of The Above.....	8	20
18%		

[Do NOT Read] Don't Know the most important..... 77... 4%	5
[Do NOT Read] Not Applicable - unfamiliar with plan elements..... 88... 4%	5
[Do NOT Read] Refused..... 99... 0%	0

V7_1:

[v7.1] Do you have any suggestions for additional recreation programs in Skagit County?

N =	300
100%	
Yes..... 1... 31%	93
No..... 0... 69%	206
[Do NOT Read] Don't Know..... 7... 0%	0
[Do NOT Read] Not Applicable..... 8... 0%	0
[Do NOT Read] Refused..... 9... 0%	1

V8_1:

Finally, these last few questions are to help us better understand who takes part in our survey. [v8.1] May I ask your age?

N =	300
100%	
18-24..... 1 3%	9
25-34..... 2 10%	30
35-44..... 4 17%	50
45-54..... 5 19%	58
55-64..... 6 24%	72
65-74..... 7 13%	39
75 or older..... 8 11%	33
[Do NOT Read] Don't Know..... 77... 1%	3
[Do NOT Read] Not Applicable..... 88... 0%	0
[Do NOT Read] Refused..... 99... 2%	6

V8_2:

[v8.2] Are there any children age 18 or younger living in your home?

N =	300
100%	
Yes..... 1... 38%	113

No.....	0...	184
61%		
Don't Know.....	7...	0
0%		
Not Applicable.....	8...	0
0%		
Refused.....	9...	3
1%		

V8_3:

[v8.3] How long have you lived in Skagit County?

N =		300
100%		
Less Than 1 Year.....	1...	6
2%		
1 - 5 Years.....	2...	48
16%		
6 - 10 Years.....	3...	29
10%		
More Than 10 Years.....	4...	212
71%		
[Do NOT Read] Don't Know.....	7...	1
0%		
[Do NOT Read] Not Applicable.....	8...	1
0%		
[Do NOT Read] Refused.....	9...	3
1%		

V8_4:

[v8.4] I know this sounds silly, but are you...

N =		300
100%		
Male, or.....	1...	119
40%		
Female.....	0...	179
60%		
[Do NOT Read] Don't Know.....	7...	0
0%		
[Do NOT Read] Not Applicable.....	8...	0
0%		
[Do NOT Read] Refused.....	9...	2
1%		

INT99:

Thank you for your time. Have a good evening.

N =		300
100%		
Complete.....	08...	300
100%		

=> END

F8:

How did you get my number?

Your number was randomly selected from all the households with listed telephone numbers throughout Skagit County.

Where did the funding come from for this survey?

The Skagit County Commissioners approved funding for the comprehensive plan update in the 2003 budget. This support comes from the general fund.

How long will this survey take?

It depends on your answers, but it averages nine minutes.

Who can I contact for more information about Parks/the survey/the results?

You can contact Bob Vaux (V-oh), Director of the Parks and Recreation Department. His phone number is 336-9414.

What if I do not use the parks?

The Parks and Recreation Department is seeking input from everyone in the community, whether they use the parks or not. They hope to find out what both park users and non-users see as priorities for Skagit County. If you participate, the findings will better represent all residents in Skagit County, giving the department more complete information.

Can I see the results?

The results will become part of the updated comprehensive plan as well as posted on the county parks website.

Will there be fees/costs for the indoor facilities (multi-use gym, multipurpose rooms/classes etc.)?

Like current programs, fees would be attached to all use of the facility.

APPENDIX B: GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION, SAMPLED VS. COMPLETED

Table B-1. Geographic Distribution by Zip Code: Sample Distribution vs. Survey Respondent Distribution					
Zip Code	Sample Distribution	Percent	Respondent Distribution	Percent	Difference Between Distributions
98232	60	6	25	8.3	2.3
98233	101	10.1	33	11	0.9
98221	209	20.9	65	21.7	0.8
98274	124	12.4	39	13	0.6
98229	2	0.2	1	0.3	0.1
98238	2	0.2	1	0.3	0.1
98235	7	0.7	2	0.7	0
98241	3	0.3	1	0.3	0
98267	7	0.7	2	0.7	0
98283	7	0.7	2	0.7	0
98222	1	0.1			-0.1
98255	2	0.2			-0.2
98263	5	0.5	1	0.3	-0.2
98237	50	5	14	4.7	-0.3
98273	191	19.1	55	18.3	-0.8
98257	72	7.2	17	5.7	-1.5
98284	157	15.7	42	14	-1.7
Total	1000	100	300	100	

Table B-2. Geographic Distribution by City: Sample Distribution vs. Survey Respondent Distribution					
Zip Code	Sample Distribution	Percent	Respondent Distribution	Percent	Difference Between Distributions
BOW	60	6	25	8.3	2.3
BURLINGTON	101	10.1	33	11	0.9
ANACORTES	209	20.9	65	21.7	0.8
BELLINGHAM	2	0.2	1	0.3	0.1
CONWAY	2	0.2	1	0.3	0.1
CLEARLAKE	7	0.7	2	0.7	0
DARRINGTON	3	0.3	1	0.3	0
MARBLEMOUNT	7	0.7	2	0.7	0
ROCKPORT	7	0.7	2	0.7	0
BLAKELY ISLAND	1	0.1			-0.1
MOUNT VERNON	315	31.5	94	31.3	-0.2
HAMILTON	2	0.2			-0.2
LYMAN	5	0.5	1	0.3	-0.2
CONCRETE	50	5	14	4.7	-0.3

LA CONNER	72	7.2	17	5.7	-1.5
SEDRO WOOLLEY	157	15.7	42	14	-1.7
Total	1000	100	100	100	

APPENDIX C: SPCRD COMMUNITY SURVEY OPEN-ENDED RESPONSES

These tables show the verbatim responses recorded by interviewers. The tables show responses to open-ended questions and responses recorded to “other” response categories, which are selected when the respondent did not recognize a response category as being an appropriate description of what they used.

V2_20. Other Additional Trails NEEDED?
More walking trails and access to wooded areas.
Nature trails.
Paved trails for jogging, strollers and scooters
Rock climbing, with metal pegs.
Safe walking trails for families
Shoreline trails and community woodland.
Something you can walk on.
Trails in the woods, on the water or on the lake. Trails away from densely populated areas.
Walking
Walking
Walking trails in the woods
Walking trails.
Wheelchair accessible.

V2_30. Other Additional Trails would USE?
An asphalt roller blade trail.
Birding trails
Easy walking trails
Forested trails, trails in the wood or around lakes
Just about any trail that has scenery or nature.
Paved trails for jogging, strollers and scooters
Scenic trails
Sightseeing trails, and horse trails.
Trails through the woods.
Trails with accessibility for disabled and trails that go someplace like stores.
Walking
Walking trails
Walking trails
Walking trails with access to the outer areas.
Walking trails for two day hikes
Walking trails or trails for walking dogs.
Walking trails
Walking trails, not a great big hike.
Walking

V2_40. Other Additional Athletic Fields NEEDED?

Basketball and versatile fields for multiple sports.
 Fields that can be used for more the one activity.
 Frisbee golf
 Tennis

V2_50. Other Additional Athletic Fields would USE?

Basketball
 Basketball and tennis
 Basketball courts
 Basketball, softball, and Frisbee golf
 Basketball
 Big fields like soccer or football
 Big open fields for running and kite flying.
 I'd like to see volleyball nets and racquetball courts.
 Multipurpose fields
 Riding and biking
 Tennis
 Use soccer fields for ultimate Frisbee

V7_1. Do you have any suggestions for additional recreation programs in Skagit County?

A bigger center for kids after school and weekends would be great.
 A place to ride BMX bikes with ramps and things like that.
 A public access TV station, if that's possible.
 A public indoor pool would be wonderful.
 A public pool
 Accessibility would be nice for people who need to motor or wheelchair in there.

 Any kind of park that doesn't charge a fee for parking would be useful. We don't use state parks because of the fees.
 Anything related to a swimming pool. Make that top priority.
 Aquatic center.
 Acquiring more land is a good idea for people and animals.
 Buy the adjacent land next to Sharp County Park.
 Don't forget Anacortes.
 Eastern Skagit County needs more development.
 Extension of the walking trail by Padilla Bay, Bay view. I have always thought it would be nice to extend it all the way to Samish island.
 Gymnastics and ice-skating. Also, the Walker Valley off-road vehicle park is important to the county, which people are trying to get closed, which could potentially generate a lot of revenue for the county. A campground at this site would also generate a
 I do believe the highways should have a separate bicycle track (farther from the highway) - I think that should be one of the top priorities. Also, they have beautiful parks right now and they're trying to close a portion of them. If they don't have money

I enjoy being able to drive somewhere and being able to look at the water or to have a picnic and that sort of thing without having to be charged five dollars.

I just think they should have maybe more swimming pools that are open to the public and more campgrounds.

I like the walking, biking, and hiking trails.

V7_1. Do you have any suggestions for additional recreation programs in Skagit County? CONTINUED

I think if some of the existing programs like FFA and four h were better funded they would fill a large gape.

I think the charging for parking has hurt a lot of people I know. People I know would go for a half an hour walk everyday. Now it costs five dollars to park. Elderly people can't afford five dollars for a half an hour walk.

I think they need to build something more for the people who are handicapped; I am talking about the people who are physically handicapped.

I wish there were more handball facilities. Often time's handball and squash can be done in the same court and that's what I hear a lot of moaning about. I don't think you can purchase too much parkland.

I would like larger park in south Mt. Vernon

I would always like to see more dive sites. And by that I mean scuba diving not high diving.

I would like a fun park with swimming and rides.

I would like after school programs for students of all ages.

I would like an aquatic center at North state recreational Area.

I would like programs for children with physical or mental disabilities.

I would like Programs for teenagers.

I would like to see a paved trail; I think the most important thing is to be able to use a stroller on it.

I would like to see a small childcare service provided for only about an hour or so while the parents swim or work out.

I would like to see more exercise classes and for the different abilities ones that are out there children, youth, adult and elderly. For the trails and I would like to see the trails be appropriate for the age groups. Intermediate and the ones where there

I would like to see more interpretive trails such as nature, wildlife, and birding trails.

I would like to see s Model airplane fields in this area. Lots of senior citizens and youth.

I would like to see the dykes developed and more organized exercise activities for free for people who don't have money.

I would like wheelchair accessible trails and dike access.

I'd like to see a boxing gym.

I'd like to see more kayaking. I don't see many young people kayaking because it's so expensive. We live in one of the best places in the world for kayaking and not enough young people participate because it's too expensive. A public program would be help.

I'd like to see some programs available for the older population that would help maintain good health. Also, programs concerning preventative issues.

If we don't do something to get the children involved now, the children here won't be the kind of people we would want taking care of us later. I would like to see more kids in activities in small towns like this one.

Improving the fairgrounds.

It is unfortunate that all families can't afford to go to the park because they have to pay every time to get in.

It would be great if they did more classes for both adults and kids - classes for cooking, crafts, pottery, or things for kids to do.

It would be great to have a swimming pool. The YMCA makes you pay charge to use it if you are not a member.

It would be nice if gymnastics were offered in town. I know a lot of people who want to do gymnastics but don't want

to drive to Mount Vernon to do it.

It would be nice if the dykes were hiker friendly.

It would be nice if we could have organized walks with a knowledgeable guide.

It would be nice to have more water access such as the beach at Clear Lake.

V7_1. Do you have any suggestions for additional recreation programs in Skagit County? CONTINUED

It would be nice to see a trail along the water and it would be long and not hills. It would be good to the view.

I've been on the Cascade Trail an awful lot and horses are all over the trail. It makes bike riding difficult and sometimes impossible. There needs to be a bike lane - if only a two feet wide lane that the horses would respect as being only for bicycles

Just need some more

Just take care of the kids, and that gets into a family issue.

Lacrosse would be good - my kids have asked about that. Also, more skateboarding parks.

Lets not develop a bunch if we can't afford it.

Little kids need more places for recreation. Teenagers also need somewhere to go, instead of the mall.

Make more fields.

Make places for the kids to play.

Maybe another archery facility, for outdoor bow hunting.

More convenience, some parks and campgrounds don't have electricity of any kind. So if they had restrooms with electrical access - one per bathroom - especially for disabled people and people that need nebulizers or to recharge a battery.

More swing sets.

My priorities would be access to the rivers and/or lakes in Skagit County, and my indoor priorities would be basketball, racquetball, and swimming.

Need to focus more on the youth sports and youth centers. It keeps them out of trouble.

One thing I would love to see in this town: it would be nice to be able to launch a day sailor or a rowboat down at Mariners Park. There's a great place where it could be set up to launch small boats.

Public transportation increasing number of people who might need assistance to get to the places

Quit spending county money.

Something for the Quadra and paraplegics to do. There is nothing for them.

The fairgrounds should move to the Northern state recreation area. The biggest thing I would like to see a swimming pool. A pool is good for all age level and schools that can't afford pools. There needs to be an increase in programs that increase awareness of

The kids up here have nothing to do, the swimming pool idea is wonderful. An arcade room to keep kids out of trouble is a great idea. We need something that we can do every day.

The pool area is a big consideration, as well as trails and interlinking trails.

There is no therapeutic type of pool in the whole Skagit county area that I know of. There is a fantastic Easter seal sponsored pool in Ventura that would make a good model for a therapy pool for Skagit County.

There needs to be a public swimming pool in the Sedro Woolley area.

There needs to be more play rooms for kids of all ages. In Everett there is a petting zoo and a place for swimming for kids and adults, something like that park would be great for this area. A single place where you can do all sorts of different activities

There needs to be more youth programs for teenagers. They don't have a youth group type programs for high school kids.

There needs to be some places to do yoga and tai chi - things that don't jar the joints, and safe places to walk or ride a bike. If there are some beautiful natural areas that aren't currently protected by the federal, state, or city government, then the

They need to have something for the kids to do, like a skate park.

They really need a public facility that can hold 250 to 500 people.

They should have an Off Road Vehicle park.

V7_1. Do you have any suggestions for additional recreation programs in Skagit County? CONTINUED

They should put in another fishing pond for the kids.

Swimming pools with a diving tank

More boat launches

We could use one or two more good golf courses.

We live at Clear Lake And there are people who are swimming there now. It makes it so hard to use the boat ramp there because of the swimmers.

We need a new county fairground.

We need a place to dance.

We need a shooting range.

We need more places for our great grandchildren to play.

We need something closer to us because the kids here would have to travel more than 70 miles to get to a facility. And 70 miles back. Darrington does have things but they are not always included in those.

We need to maintain the facilities we have. We need to grow conservatively.

We really need a public wading pool for kids

What they need are some bicycle trails. They should be letting the bikes use road shoulders or at least widening the roads, and they haven't been doing that. Also, the shooting range: they stop wasting money on other proposals and do that one.

Yes we would like to see a shooting range.

You've got the trail from concrete to Woolley; it's really hard to walk on because it's so soft. Needs to be done something so people can walk on it and ride bicycles on it. Needs to be partially paved. Basically you've got a lot of potential.

QCMT. Comments

A multi-use facility for children would be nice.

A pool both indoor and outdoor is high priority. I would like to see seashore trails, as well as easier trails for children to hike.

Children do not live at her residence but it is a daycare facility.

Fish and wildlife have signs and they say do not park beyond this sign. People still do park there. They use it as a garbage drop off at times. And the sheriff does come by to patrol the area but not nearly enough.

I do not like motor vehicles on the trails or on the waters. I think that the trails should lead somewhere like to a store a park or something that way people can use them as a daily routine. We need to have trails that the elderly people can use. It

I don't want new development on the farmlands or the flood plains.

I don't want to support it [parks and recreation development] if it involves raising taxes, but I do appreciate what the parks and recreation department does. If they can find a way to make it happen more efficiently or without raising taxes, I support it.

I feel they should clean up the current trails. The high schools could be used as multi purpose rooms and extra gyms.

I feel we need to improve the public boat launches instead of adding more. For example, make them wider so you can launch two boats at once.

I just have one thing to say and this is that Seattle City light had bought property here and then donated it back to the county. This then took the land off the tax rolls.

I just am not certain what the parks and recreation department, what their mandate covers. I am not certain their mandate covers. I would prefer to see conservation and smart development as a priority.

QCMT. Comments

I know that there isn't a need in Anacortes and I assume that there is a larger need in Burlington or Mt. Vernon.

I location of trails and habitat diversity they provide are important in considering new trails.

i think fairgrounds are most important for the North state development plan.

I think some parts of the county are served well with indoor facilities, while some parts of the county are not. In addition, I think that the northern state complex could address some of the needs now in that portion of the county.

I think that location of new development is important, I won't use a recreation center if it is not located near where I live (Mt. Vernon).

I think that the most important aspect of the plan is an indoor basketball court.

I think they forget how many thousands visit this area each year that don't live here. This puts a lot of pressure on the parks.

I think they should keep it natural and preserve the historical aspect of it. I think the swimming would be very good for this area because right now we have to be a member at YMCA. Maybe even an outside pool would be nice and natural trails.

I think we need more camp grounds near the water.

I use the Private Health Club facilities.

I would like multi-use trails that include biking, hiking, and horseback riding all in one trail.

I would like to see a public pool provided. We go to watch the games and things. The kids need something to keep them out of trouble.

I would like to see accelerated penalties for deviant violations occurring within the county's parks and recreation boundaries. If a person is caught littering, painting graffiti, etc, the fines should be more extreme than they currently are.

I would like water therapy programs.

If the recreation center is one big unit, rather than several small ones, it would only benefit the people nearby, and it wouldn't be fair if the whole county would have to pay for it.

If they can't maintain the parks they have now, how are they going to acquire new parks?

If they did build these the rates would be so high that the people who really need them would not be able to afford them.

If we were going to spend money to develop the Northern State property for various projects then we should go forward with doing that so that the zoning laws don't change and prevent us from doing so. Our current fairgrounds are also inadequate. I think

I'm not a big proponent of building more buildings. I'd prefer to see more outdoor activities.

Info on the web about the parks and recreation would be nice.

It seems kind of silly to be asking questions of elderly people that do not use the parks or other things. I live alone and I do not use any of this. We don't need these kinds of things. The county needs to handle the money better for things we really need.

Multi purpose rooms and gyms could be good depending on where they are located.

On question V6.1 the suggestion was to turn it back into a mental health facility. Why are there no mentions of golf courses here? We are spectators of soccer.

Public school facilities would be a good place to gather for sports and activities in the evenings, weekends, and summer.

That I am encouraged that you are looking and asking questions because it will give our kids something to do and more family things.

The boat ramps need to be maintained, updated, and fixed. Also, for the multi-use gym, the county needs to utilize what we have. The recreation center would be great if it included a pool. For acquiring new land, its importance depends on where the land comes from.

QCMT. Comments

The district closed down the dike system. I don't understand why we can't use the system as a walking trail. The dyke systems are used in Europe for trails.

The fees for some facilities, the Clear Lake area for example, are exorbitant, and if the public facilities were less expensive, they would be used. It should not be for profit; it should be public.

The multi purpose rooms and recreation center would be very important to Skagit County if they are geared to all age levels. Also, the costs for park and trail access keep going up. This is sad for families of lower income that won't be able to afford to visit

The Padilla Bay trail at the south end, where the parking is most convenient for the disabled you have to go all the way to the Interpretive Center to get the key to open the gate. It's so inconvenient that it's not even worth going there.

The questions need to separate RV parks and camping grounds because they are two different things.

There are people that are low income that can't afford to go to the parks even though they want to. Also, there are senior citizens that would like to have access to parks and recreation areas but can't afford the day use charges.

There is a disparity of programs; they're mostly located in Mt. Vernon and not easily accessible to other Skagit county residents. Developing recreation is extremely important to the people of Skagit County. There needs to be programs that are inclusive a

There is more need for restrooms.

There was one question for V3_1. It was with this building. Is there going to be a public pool there? Or is this just the gym and multipurpose rooms?

They need to re-evaluate the fees you have to pay just to sit at the park. Maybe they should have time frame to have users pay \$2 for a few hours. Racer Park is where we used to take the kids to ride their bikes.

They need to send out information about the amount of occupancy in each park, to determine the need for the park. I would also like to see how the money is being used.

V2.8B. Would this include a weight room? If it does then the family would use it more.

We have a lot of parks and recreation options available to the public; we don't need any additional land acquisition. Clear cooperatives need to be established between the schools and the parks. We have plenty of gyms right now. We need to support keeping

^[1] Trails, in this section of the survey, were described as walking, hiking, riding or biking.

^[2] Trails, in this section of the survey, were described as bicycle, equestrian, hiking, motorcycle, and interpretive.

^[3] The recreation center was described as a center that would include a multi-use gymnasium and multi-purpose rooms. A multi-use gymnasium would be used to play indoor basketball, tennis, volleyball, soccer and that sort of thing. Multipurpose rooms would be used for enrichment programs, classes, crafts, fitness and aerobics, meetings and receptions.

