

APPENDIX B

Community Engagement Summaries

part of the East Riverfront Asset Study

City of Detroit
Parks and Recreation Division
General Services Department
2022





EAST RIVERFRONT

ASSETS STUDY

Engagement Summary

Round 1: April, 2021

Part of the

PARKS & REC
STRATEGIC PLAN



Round 1 Engagement

Along with the City of Detroit Parks & Recreation Department, the consultant team hosted five virtual public meetings in April 2021, each focused on different areas of the East Riverfront.

JEFFERSON VILLAGE

April 13, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m

GOLD COAST

OWEN PARK, ERMA
HENDERSON MARINA & PARK

April 7, 6:00 – 7:30 pm

MARINA DISTRICT

RIVERSIDE MARINA & ST. JEAN BOAT LAUNCH

April 14, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m

THE ARETHA

April 15, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m

CIVIC CENTER

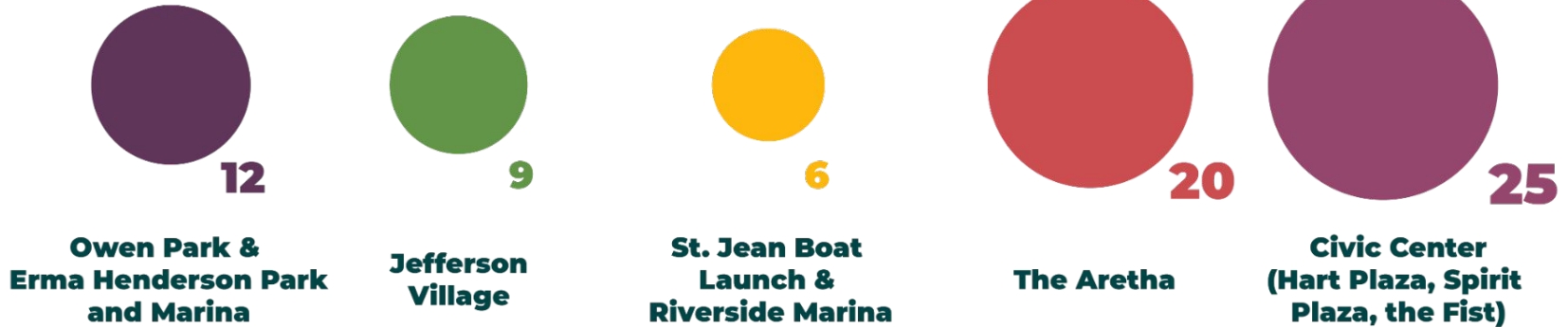
HART PLAZA, SPIRIT PLAZA,
JOE LOUIS FIST

April 21, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m

Detroit River

Participation

In all, about 70 stakeholders joined across all meetings.



Format

Due to the pandemic, meetings were held virtually on Zoom. Short introductory presentations were followed by group discussion, where comments were recorded live on virtual sticky notes (shown below). Presentation materials along with recordings of the meetings can be found on our website [here](#).

What are your three favorite sites along the riverfront? Of the sites in this study, which ones have you visited?

THE EAST RIVERFRONT

JEFFERSON VILLAGE

MARINA DISTRICT
UNIVERSITY MARINA, ST. CLAIR BOAT CLUB

GOLD COAST
OWEN PARK, ERMA HENDERSON MARINA & PARK

GABRIEL RICHARD PARK

MT. ELLIOT PARK

ROBERT C. VALADE PARK

THE ARETHA

MILLIKEN STATE PARK AND HARBOR

MILLIKEN STATE PARK WETLANDS

CULLEN PLAZA (+ CAROUSEL)

RIVERWALK GARDEN ROOMS

GM PLAZA

CIVIC CENTER
HART PLAZA, CHRYSLER PLAZA, BOE LORAIN PARK

I've spent a good part of my life at the aretha. I also enjoy mt. elliot and the entire riverwalk. I live and walk along the riverwalk many days that I don't cross jefferson (as long as it's not too cold) -Shahida

Lived here 60 years. I spent a lot of time coming to the aretha. doing it for over 25 years, love the riverwalk itself. it's a detroit jewel. some people may take it for granted. these are gems and jewels. i'd like to see them keep flowing and prosperous - Pam Powell

Riverfront is one of my highlights. been going for 63 years. since i was a child. place next to ehene park. great place for a dook. I'd like to explore hat opportunity to place a dook there and naming it after john train. it'd be great to travel down the river, take kids -Rhubon

the transformation is amazing. oullan - million stata. i like the whole route. i belong to a dog walking group. we go to joe lewis arena and oomo baok. can't wait til the west riverfront is developed -snooc

i enjoy the riverfront. i love living so close to fresh water. i spent many years going to ehene. it's wonderful to see all the boats can come and dook. see the beautiful lawn and nature. animals. see the entertainment. great health event, healing space. it has such value to our city. brings beauty and healing. i ride my bike all along the riverfront. even some times in the winter. -piper

this concert venue is on international waters. directly look at canada. boats that pull up. awesome experience you can't get anywhere else. detroiters take it for granted. memorials are beautiful here too. -blake

i've just been speaking about this. it's an international border-rubon

born and raised. frequently spend time in the city and particularly on the river - millikan and oullan plaza. spent a lot of my time at the aretha. it's a gem. it's quite essential detroit culture. something we can all be proud of -deidre

nice park, could use more [restroom] facilities -rubon

use the riverfront to commute to work. enjoyed the new robert valade park. great addition. i've attended the aretha once. did enjoy it. enjoyed pop ups and festivals at hart plaza-daniel

beautiful venue. proud to work with the aretha. i've bicycled and walked every inch of the walk. hart plaza is my favorite jazz fest! one of the best views in the city -joe miller

concerns about parking. parking structure to make it easier? bus services from eastern market? gridlock too (one way streets?) it's great/fantastic -jw mitchell

arts presenter for the aretha. so excited to work with an independent venue. amazing if we could maintain and support for staying independent. supports local artists. it's an amazing space and important part of the music industry in detroit -jennifer

I work with the aretha and the riverfront. it's generational - families that have enjoyed the aretha. the young to the parents to grandparents enjoying the amenities has been meaningful. the concerts have generations attending and enjoying that. gathering place for families. people feel welcome and enjoy a great time there. -Sharon

Summary of Findings

What Detroiters Think About Their Riverfront

The riverfront should be connected as much as possible

Hard to pick a favorite spot! It's so diverse. My three favorite are different: The Civic Center (energizing space), Milliken Park (beautiful, flora/fauna, quiet) and The Aretha (unique, beautiful)

I lived in Belize for a couple years, I was trying to find something to do when I came home, feeling a real sense of pride when there at Hart Plaza -- the river was so blue, all the people watching. I remember being shocked at the jazz fest, how diverse it was, going stage to stage.

The riverfront represents a rebirth, gives the energy, see another country from the riverfront.

Riverfront investment helps our property values. Can bike down Jefferson to the RiverWalk. It's one of the reasons we selected to live here.

I love living so close to fresh water.

There's lots of land on the riverside, build more restaurant and amenities

I love all the stops along the way. I enjoy the interactions with all the people. It's wonderful thing. Even if the cold out, if the sun's out, I'm going to walk

My memory goes back to ethnic festivals, going with family ... seeing the multi-generations of families

Preserve the variety.

An aerial photograph showing a residential and commercial area. A yellow dashed line outlines a specific region containing a large green field, a parking lot, and a building. To the right, a marina with many boats is visible, along with a body of water. The text 'OWEN PARK' is overlaid on the left side of the image, and 'ERMA HENDERSON PARK & MARINA' is overlaid on the bottom right. A 'Google Earth' logo is in the bottom left corner.

**OWEN
PARK**

**ERMA
HENDERSON
PARK &
MARINA**

OWEN PARK & ERMA HENDERSON PARK AND MARINA

WHO ATTENDED: Area residents who are walkers, bikers, nature lovers, sports enthusiasts, active and passive users of Erma Henderson Park and Marina; though no boaters. Also some who did not realize that Owen Park was a public space.

WHEN: April 7, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m

“ This park has nowhere to go
but up! ”

- MEETING PARTICIPANT ON OWEN PARK

OWEN PARK:

- Primarily used for fishing
- Improve access: Make it easier to get down to the water and address the car-tracked terrain.
- Add lighting.
- Address the abandoned building next to the park, it would make it seem less isolated and safer.
- Some suggested adding amenities, like benches for seniors, and activities for kids, like fishing.
- Others want the park as a quiet space and fishing spot.

OWEN PARK & ERMA HENDERSON PARK AND MARINA cont'd

WHO ATTENDED: Area residents who are walkers, bikers, nature lovers, sports enthusiasts, active and passive users of Erma Henderson Park and Marina; though no boaters. Also some who did not realize that Owen Park was a public space.

WHEN: April 7, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m

“Important for boating, preserve this recreation experience.”

- MEETING PARTICIPANT ON ERMA HENDERSON

ERMA HENDERSON PARK AND MARINA:

- Flower gardens are a big attraction, and the basketball courts are well used.
- Address the late-night noise: People gathering in the parking lot disturb nearby residents. (Worse during the pandemic.)
- Add amenities: Food, boat and bike rentals and other concessions that both boaters and non-boaters could enjoy.
- Improve access: Both to the marina and between the marina and the park.
- Reopen the bathrooms.

An aerial photograph of a suburban area. A yellow dashed line outlines a rectangular residential development in the upper-middle section of the image. The area contains several rows of houses and green spaces. To the left, a road runs diagonally. Below the outlined area, there is a large body of water with a marina and several buildings. The rest of the image shows a typical suburban layout with streets, houses, and greenery.

JEFFERSON VILLAGE

JEFFERSON VILLAGE

WHO ATTENDED: Neighborhood residents that want action. They take great pride in their neighborhood.

WHEN: April 13, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m

“Our neighborhood is nice, but the functionality is lacking”

- MEETING PARTICIPANT

- Are knowledgeable about its history, current state and have ideas for addressing vacant lots, discontinuous sidewalks, etc.
- Multiple efforts to connect with the City and DEGC have not yielded the desired results.
- Are frustrated and fear being left out of the decision making/development process.
- See “limitless” opportunities for development: Neighborhood housing, a park and retail.
- Are concerned that building homes of similar size is cost prohibitive and lesser stock will compromise quality and property values.
- Are interested in accessing Riverside Marina as a recreation site.

ST. JEAN BOAT LAUNCH & RIVERSIDE MARINA



Kears
Marina

Fairview

Riverside
Marina

St. Jean

St. Jean Boat Launch

RIVERSIDE MARINA & ST. JEAN BOAT LAUNCH

WHO ATTENDED: Boat owners, non-boaters and marina management.

WHEN: April 14, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m

When I go to the marina, I want to feel like I'm on vacation.

- MEETING PARTICIPANT

› BOATERS:

- Have concerns about admitting non-boaters including waterfront/dock safety, keeping them away from boat slips.
- Offer enhanced opportunities for boaters (who pay slip fees) vs. non-boaters.
- Offer non-boaters limited access memberships.
- Want more places to dock along the riverfront and docking for larger boats
- Want more activities including concerts, food truck competitions.

› NON-BOATERS:

- Want access to the marina.
- Want to add aquatic rentals, gym/sauna and other recreational facilities.

› Reestablish the Belle Isle water taxi.

› Create opportunities to encourage women anglers.

› At St. Jean: Issue with unauthorized jet ski rentals needs attention.

THE ARETHA FRANKLIN AMPHITHEATER



THE ARETHA

WHO ATTENDED: Enthusiastic, long-time concert goers, facility management staff and their supporters.

WHEN: April 15, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m



It's second to none, I've travelled all over the world



- MEETING PARTICIPANT

- Had a great affection for and memories of facility.
- Mentioned that generations have enjoyed events there.
- Consider it a vital part of Detroit's arts and culture legacy.
- Provides jobs to the community, especially young people.
- Improve access: Continue the RiverWalk in front of the building and improve the pavement and aesthetics of the Atwater St. detour
- Improve the parking: More open lots, shuttle availability from off-site locations (Eastern Market, etc.)
- Improve the “back of the house”: Improve the locker rooms, the stage floor and canopy, winterize the bathrooms (capital improvements)
- Improve the “front of the house”: Update the box office, add LED screens, better seats, more concessions, and enhanced security.
- Add winter activities: Ice skating on the lagoon and a sledding hill.
- Form a “Friends of The Aretha” group of volunteers.

THE CIVIC CENTER

SPIRIT PLAZA

THE FIST

HART PLAZA

THE CIVIC CENTER

WHO ATTENDED: Detroiters and regional Hart Plaza/Civic Center fans and event promoters who love the facility, but see its shortcomings.

WHEN: April 21, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m

It's a recognizable center of Detroit culture and part of our brand

- MEETING PARTICIPANT

MONUMENT TO JOE LOUIS:

- Mostly did not want the sculpture moved.
- Strongly recommended access improvements across Jefferson.
- Said that closing Woodward at Spirit Plaza has helped improve access.
- Wanted better maintenance of the area, added greenery and benches.

SPIRIT PLAZA

- Like the events but suggest better marketing to get the word out.
- Event promoters: Insurance and security are issues when holding events at Hart Plaza. Challenging as a program space.
- Noise factor: Entertainment is in conflict with courts and other CAY business.
- Most walk or bike there, drivers park in underground garage

THE CIVIC CENTER cont'd

WHO ATTENDED: Detroiters and regional Hart Plaza/Civic Center fans and event promoters who love the facility, but see its shortcomings.

WHEN: April 21, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m

It's Detroit at its loveliest. It really is.

- MEETING PARTICIPANT

HART PLAZA

Accessing the site: Via car, walking, biking, QLine.

- Boaters listen from the water but have no docking access.

Parking: Ford Auditorium garage, Milliken Park (and walk to the site)

- More parking is needed for people working the events.

Event facilitation and management: Facility requirements for events have changed radically since 1975. More heavy equipment, technology needs, etc.

- Future events may need to be gated for crowd control, vaccine checks and enhanced security.
- How to close off events yet maintain RiverWalk accessibility.
- Smaller events cannot meet insurance and security requirements.
- Create smaller spaces for neighborhood events on the lower level.
- Major capital improvements needed to the upper and lower levels.

More improvements: Improve the walking surface, pavers are degraded and unsafe.

- Turn the fountain back on!
- Better maintain the green spaces.
- Position the monuments in a “more intentional” way.
- Add seating and grills.
- Show movies and bring back the festivals.
- Work with MDOT to improve Jefferson access issues.



THE BIG TAKEAWAYS

- **Detroiters *love* their waterfront;** want it to thrive and see many ways to improve/expand it.
- The **focus groups were positive events with enthusiasm and appreciation** expressed for all sites. Discussions were robust, respectful and on-point.
- **Participants were realistic about the shortcomings of most sites** and vocal in offering recommendations for improvement.
- **The most analytical, in-depth discussions were around Hart Plaza and Jefferson Village.** Individuals with specialized knowledge of these sites attended (community leaders and a developer at Jefferson Village, event promoters at Hart Plaza). Both substantive concerns about, and ideas for change at these sites were expressed.
- **Jefferson Village residents are in need of meaningful engagement** and action from the City and DEGC in the near-term. Trust issues, frustration and being ignored were expressed.
- **Both Hart Plaza and the Aretha require substantive capital improvements** that require extensive funding. Both professional and non-professional participants agreed that modernization and a long list of front and back of the house improvements are essential.
- **The parks have potential to provide educational opportunities/activities.** Identify them and seek funding partners to activate.



THE BIG TAKEAWAYS

- **People want more access to the water:** Docking sites at facilities along the riverfront (Hart Plaza, The Aretha, others), the addition of more places to access and patronize from the water including restaurants, entertainment and retail options.
- **Security-related issues are becoming more complex** and substantive for major events at the Civic Center, and likely The Aretha, too, though that was not specifically mentioned. For example, vaccine checks may be needed once large events begin again.
- **The marinas appear to be the underutilized properties** with boaters and non-boaters recommending entertainment options, expanded facilities, aquatic rentals, access for non-boating area residents and docks for bigger boats.
- **A wide range of access issues were identified at the various sites:** Accessing The Aretha from the Riverwalk vs. detouring to the roadway; pedestrian and vehicular flow at the Civic Center and The Aretha; access to the water in Owen Park, etc.
- **Parking options were identified as a major obstacle for The Aretha**, though less so for the Civic Center.
- It's amazing how **many Detroiters still don't know about the Riverfront**

EAST RIVERFRONT

ASSETS STUDY

Survey Results Summary

Round 2: June - September, 2021

Part of the

PARKS & REC
STRATEGIC PLAN



Round 2 Engagement

The second round of engagement was designed to gain more in depth individualized insights on each asset. Individuals were able to complete a community survey and/or participate in targeted stakeholder interviews.

To bridge the digital divide, the community survey was designed to be adaptive, it could be completed online, by paper, and over the phone.

The survey was launched in June 21, 2021 and remained open for about 3 months until September 15th, 2021.



Let us know

PARKS & REC
STRATEGIC PLAN

DETROIT

how WE can make

Detroit, MI

CIVIC CENTER

SPRUIT PLAZA

JOE LOUIS PLAZA

HARRY PLAZA

THE ARETHA

GOLD COAST PARKS

OWEN PARKS

EDNA HENDERSON PARK and MARINA

MARINA DISTRICT

RIVERSIDE MARINA

ST JEAN BOAT LAUNCH

Canada

Belle Isle

The East Riverfront

better for YOU!

visit surveymonkey.com/r/ERASsurvey
or call **313-241-4080**

Social media post advertising the survey

Let us know
how WE can make
THIS PLAZA
better for YOU!

 visit detroitmi.gov/eras or
 call **313-241-4080**

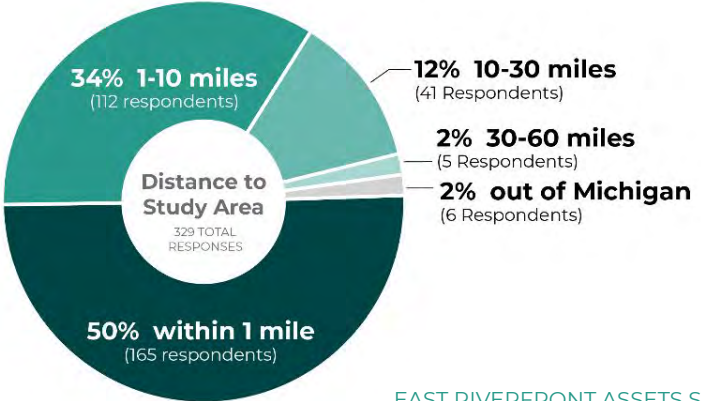
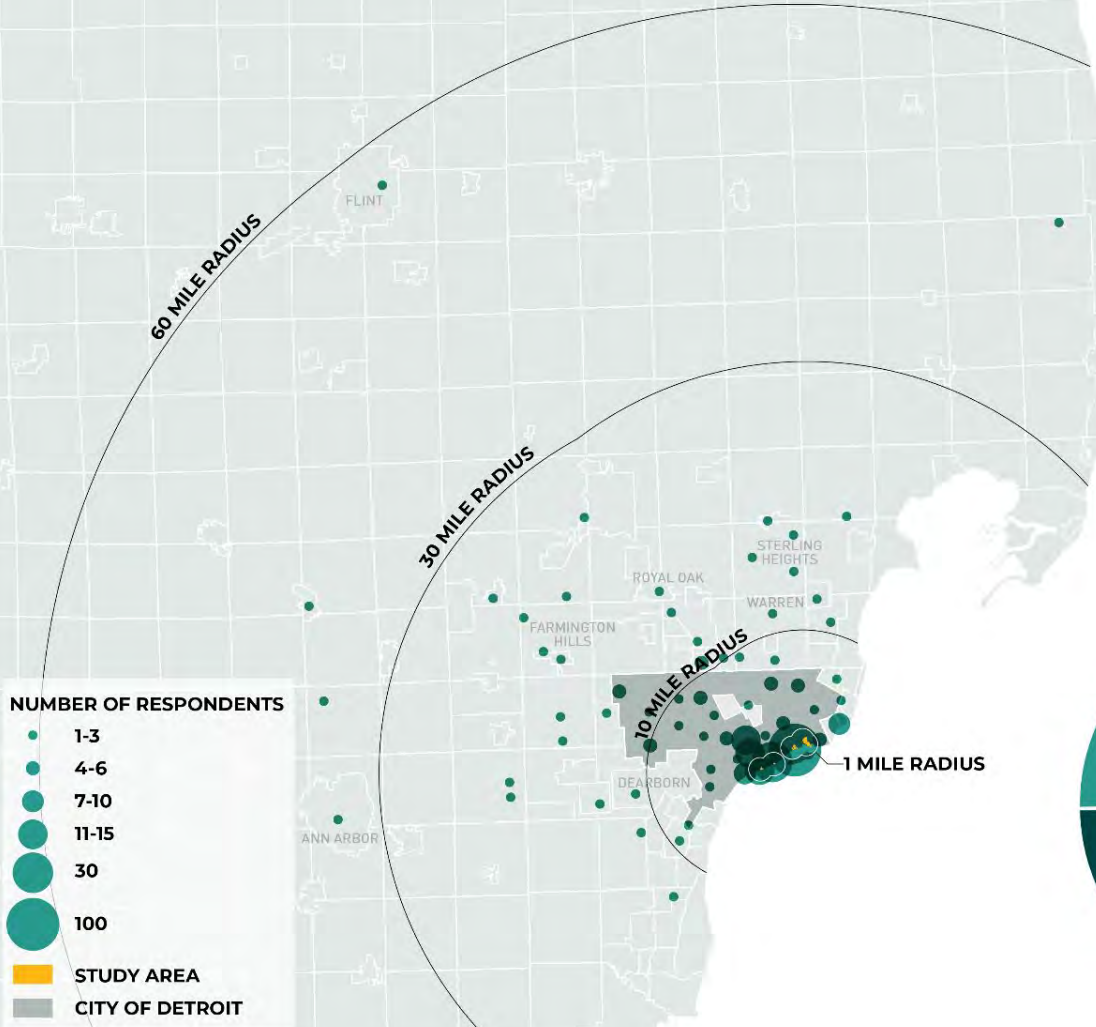


PARKS & REC
DETROIT MI 

To maximize participation and practice safety measures during Covid-19, signage about the survey was posted at each asset.

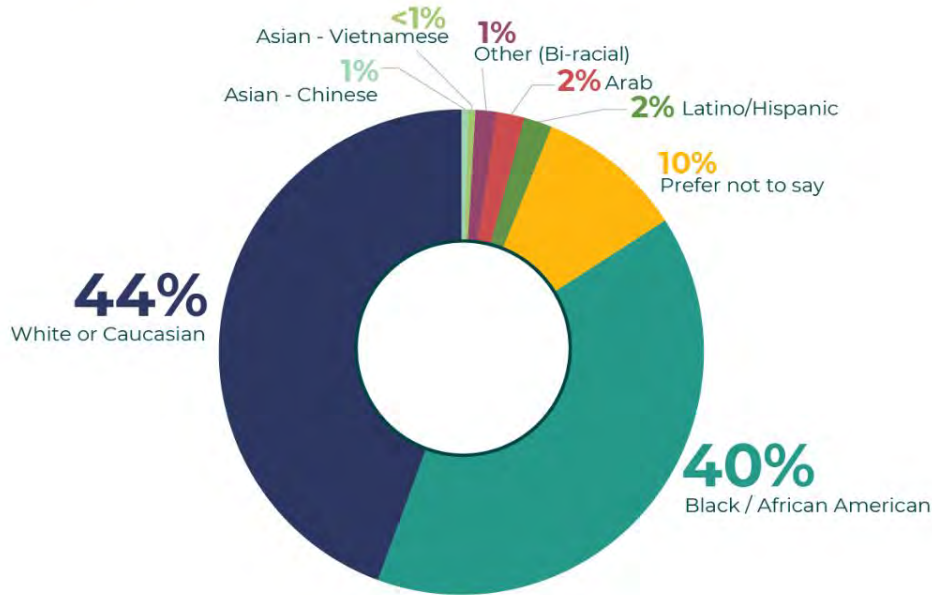
Participation

In all, **329 stakeholders** shared their input in the community survey. Residents from across the City provided their input, but the majority of respondents resided in the zip codes nearest to the assets.



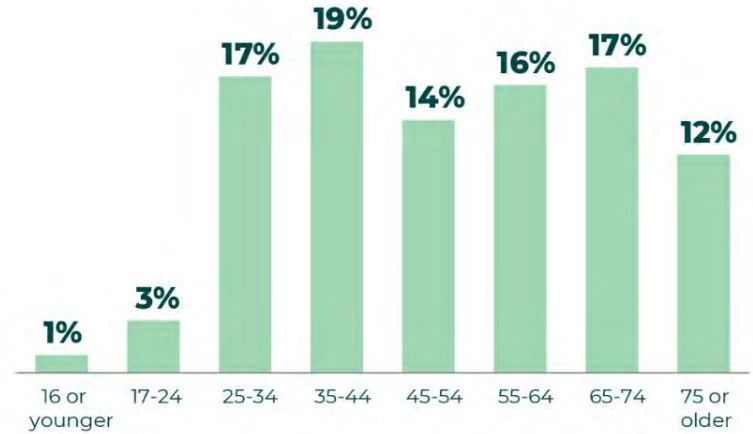
WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING BEST DESCRIBES YOUR RACE?

214 responses



WHAT IS YOUR AGE?

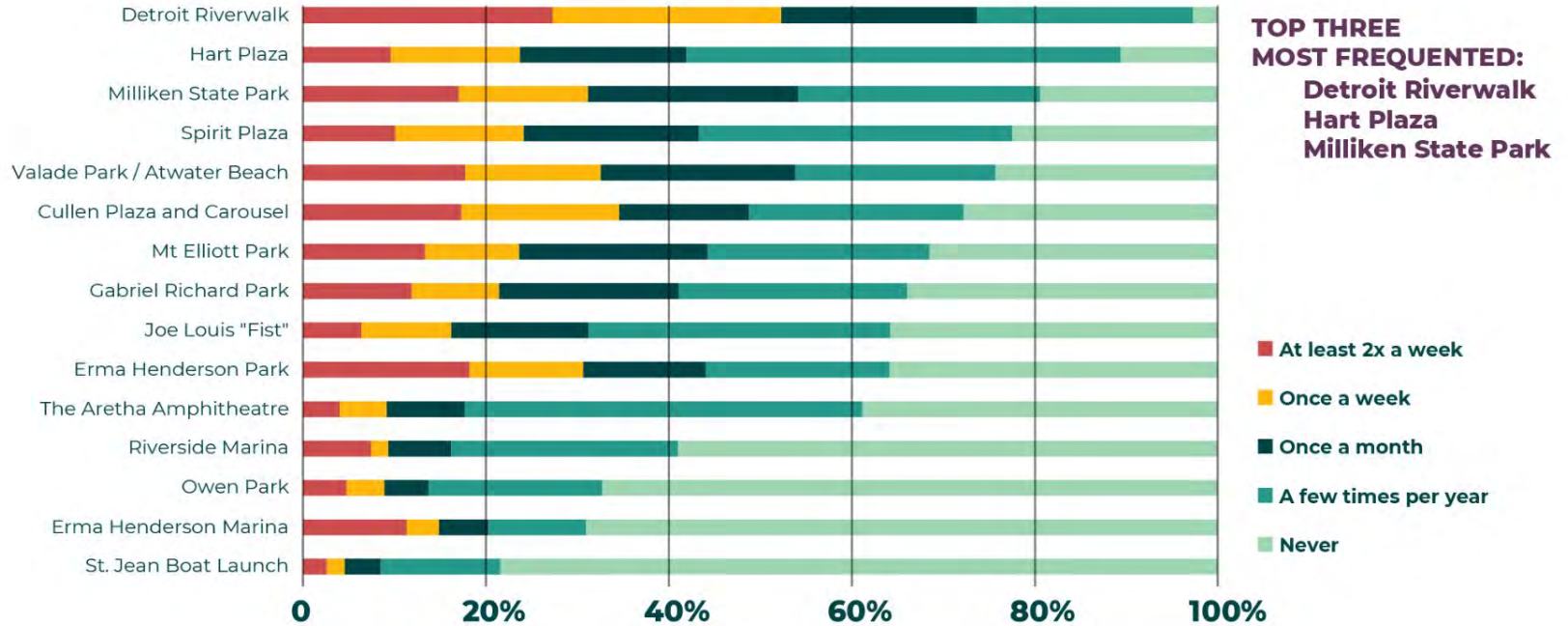
202 responses



Respondents were diverse in terms of race, ethnicity and age.

Summary of Findings

PLEASE TELL US ABOUT YOUR INTERACTIONS ON THE DETROIT'S EAST RIVERFRONT: **HOW OFTEN DO YOU GO?**



HART PLAZA

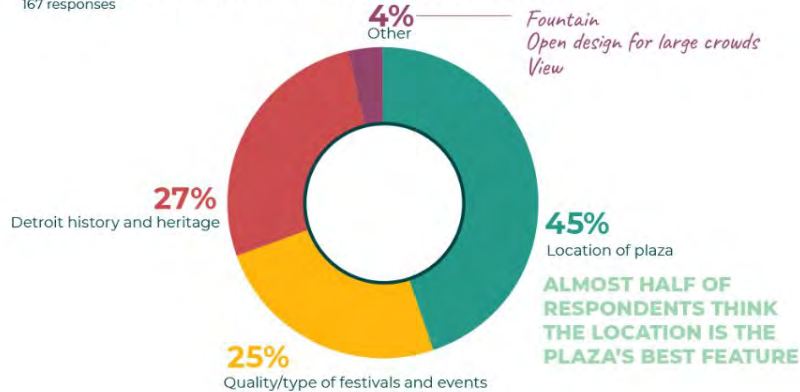
WHAT IS YOUR GENERAL OPINION OF THE PLAZA?

161 responses



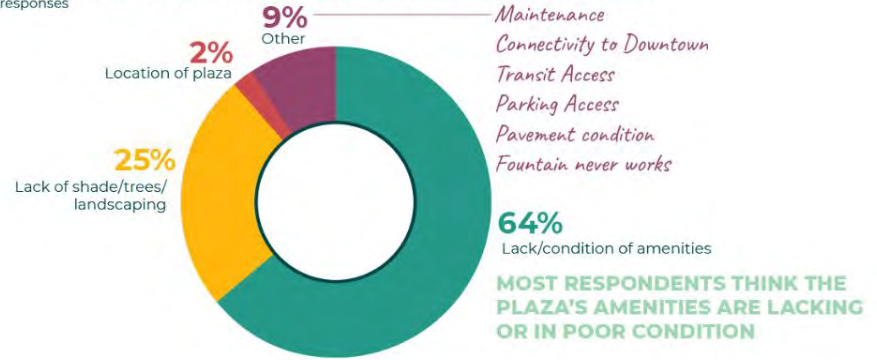
WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE FEATURE OF THE PLAZA?

167 responses



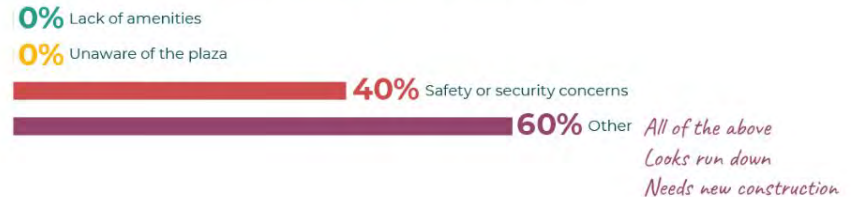
WHAT DO YOU FEEL IS THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE AT THE PLAZA?

167 responses



IF YOU HAVE NOT VISITED HART PLAZA, WHY NOT?

5 responses





I love the jazz festival.

Har Plaza is a recreational wasteland. It is completely paved and completely missing any recreational amenities. Even though it is empty space, it serves as a barrier between downtown and the riverfront. Redesign to serve as an inviting link between Spirit Plaza and the Riverfront.

It shouldn't be vacant space when there are no festivals. It should be available for community and family activities all year.

It's been a barren moonscape with a massive non-working fountain since it was created... Most of the pavers are broken. The lack of shade trees and landscaping makes it very unattractive.

It has a beautiful view of the river. Please don't obstruct the view.

It is really a Detroit Jewel. I wish it could look more like the Inner Harbor in Baltimore, MD.

HART PLAZA

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- Many cited the **general condition as being in disrepair** and in need of an upgrade, in addition to better upkeep and maintenance.
- **Better bathroom facilities** were top of mind for respondents.
- **Participants love the fountain, but many note disappointment in its disrepair** and that it's turned off most of the time.
- There is much love for the festivals held here, but many wish for **activation and beautification on non-event days**.
- **People experiencing homelessness impacts user experiences** on the plaza.
- Many cited the **expanse of cement and lack of greening** as an issue that needs to be addressed.
- **Connectivity to Spirit Plaza, parking, and bicycle access** all need to be addressed.

A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide consists of several light blue speech bubbles and arrows of varying sizes and orientations, some pointing towards the right and others in different directions, creating a sense of communication and flow.

WE HEAR YOU!

How will this input be reflected in Hart Plaza's recommendations?

- Any new improvements to the site should be paired with a maintenance plan to ensure the quality and experience of the plaza remains consistent over time.
- Fix the fountain, and KEEP IT ON (as much as possible)!
- Activate and beautify the plaza to maximize its daily use (not just for festivals).
- Build better bathroom facilities that are clean and well maintained.
- Work across city departments to help those experiencing homelessness on the site.
- Work across city departments to maintain monuments and markers.
- Work across city departments to address security concerns.
- Add greening and landscaping to soften the impact of the large paved surfaces.
- Create safer connections and crossings to and from Spirit Plaza, a clear parking plan, and better bicycle infrastructure.

SPIRIT PLAZA & THE “FIST”

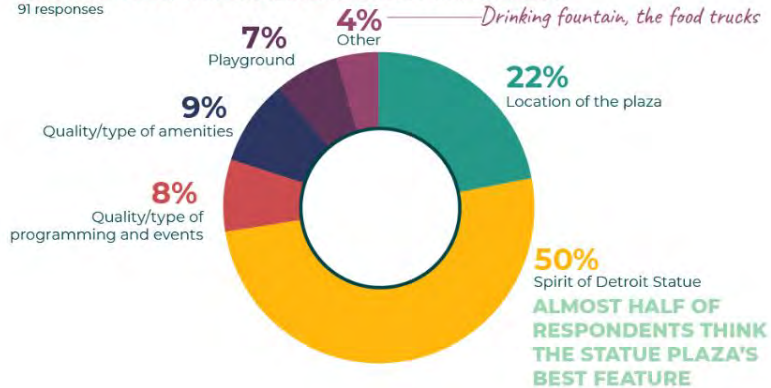
WHAT IS YOUR GENERAL OPINION OF THE PLAZA?

92 responses



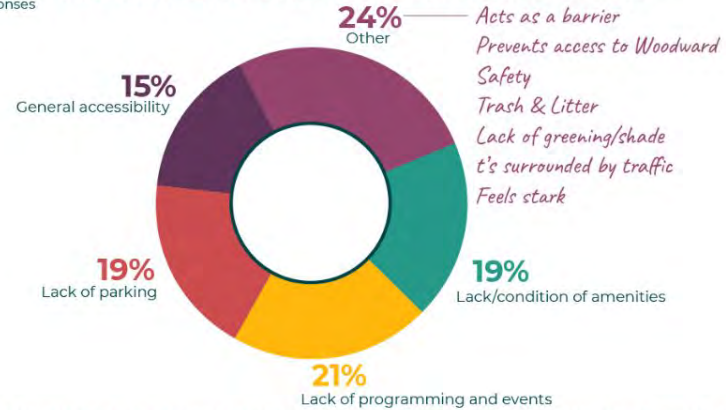
WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE FEATURE OF THE PLAZA?

91 responses



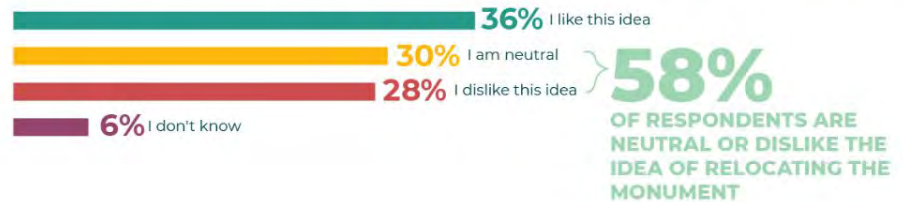
WHAT DO YOU FEEL IS THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE AT THE PLAZA?


91 responses



HOW WOULD YOU FEEL ABOUT RELOCATING THE JOE LOUIS (“FIST”) MONUMENT?

102 responses



An aerial photograph of a city plaza. In the center is a large, colorful mural with geometric shapes in shades of blue, yellow, and red. Surrounding the mural are several large umbrellas in red, yellow, and orange. A statue is visible in the lower center of the image. The plaza is paved and surrounded by streets with cars and buildings.

I think efforts should be taken to try and work more green space into this segment of downtown. Everything in this area is so grey and paved.

There have been times I felt like I couldn't enjoy the park, in particular in winter, without making a purchase.

It's a great start! But it needs to be better connected to Hart Plaza. Should serve as a gateway to the plaza. Also needs to be pedestrianized more.

I love having this plaza and am so grateful the city chose to remove cars from this beautiful spot!

Looks temporary. If it keeps being used, rip up the pavement and make it a true park. If not used enough, remove it. I miss being able to take Woodward all the way to Jefferson.

It's great and a really unique space - keep it shut down to traffic so the kids can play freely and safely...

SPIRIT PLAZA & THE “THE FIST”

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- Still **feels like a temporary space** rather than a welcoming public plaza.
- Respondents would like to see **more consistent programming** and family-friendly infrastructure.
- Many cited the **lack of greening** as an issue that needs to be addressed.
- Many comments responded to the creation of the plaza itself, and **wondered if returning road access to Woodward could be considered.**
- While some appreciated the food trucks and local vendors, others cited a **perception that you needed to buy something** to use the plaza.
- The plaza is **difficult to bike and drive to.**

A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide consists of several light blue speech bubbles and arrows of varying sizes and orientations, some pointing right and some pointing up or down, creating a sense of communication and flow.

WE HEAR YOU!

How will this input be reflected in Spirit Plaza's recommendations?

- **Formalize the space with curbs and pavers so it feels less temporary.**
- **Provide programming that is welcoming, and can appeal to different demographics of all income levels.**
- **Incorporate family-friendly activities and infrastructure.**
- **Create a space that is more lush and shady by incorporating trees and other plantings.**
- **Consider ways to better accommodate cars driving toward Woodward Ave.**
- **Alleviate the need to drive and park by providing clear bicycle access and amenities, transit amenities, and safer pedestrian access.**
- **Work across city departments to help those experiencing homelessness on the site.**
- **Leave the "Fist" in its current location, but make it safer and more welcoming to get to.**

THE ARETHA

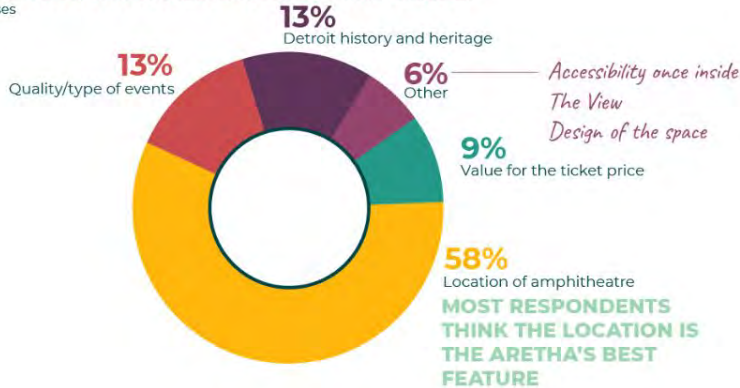
WHAT IS YOUR GENERAL OPINION OF THE AMPHITHEATRE?

95 responses



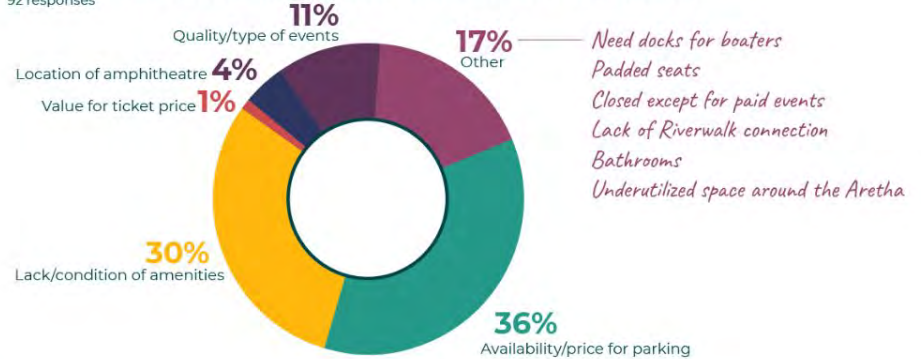
WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE FEATURE OF THE VENUE?

96 responses



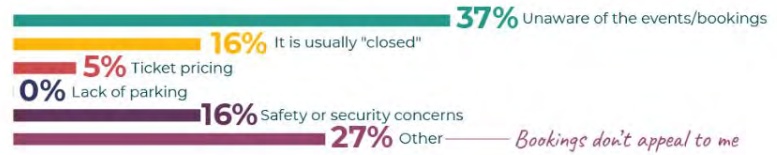
WHAT DO YOU FEEL IS THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE AT THE VENUE?


92 responses



IF YOU HAVE NOT VISITED THE AMPHITHEATRE, WHY NOT?

19 responses





The grounds should be improved to be more accessible to visitors and every day users when there is not an event going on.

Traffic to/from on event nights and parking is a big issue. Clutters up the entire area.

The Aretha is one of my favorite summertime venues in Detroit!

Would like to see more varied music offerings.

PLEASE connect the Riverwalk behind the theater on the river. I walk the river all the time and it would be lovely to be able to stay on the Riverwalk and connect to Valade Park. There are 365 days a year. There are not that many concerts in the big picture of things. Also, open up the parking lots there when there are no concerts. Let the public park there!

It's a beautiful venue. Make sure you keep up with updates and maintenance of the property.

THE ARETHA

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- Many respondents expressed the desire for free **access to the site and riverwalk when events weren't going on.**
- Generally, respondents find the venue and location beautiful, but find the **need for general updates and maintenance of the property.** The maintenance of the **ponds** needs to be addressed.
- **Parking is an issue, as is access via transit.** One noted they were unsure about how to get there via transit.
- The venue **lacks a marquee** or outside signage to advertise events.
- Respondents would like to see **Aretha Franklin celebrated at the site.**
- Of those who say they do not visit the Aretha, almost all cited the **types of offerings.**
- Boaters would like to **dock at the site.**
- Many expressed interest in **updated bathrooms, better food options, and a digitized ticketing system.**



WE HEAR YOU!

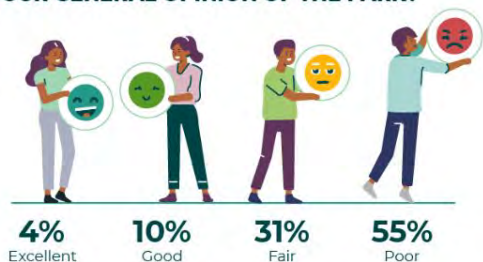
How will this input be reflected in The Aretha's recommendations?

- **Provide a design solution to allow access around the venue and continuous Riverwalk connectivity to Valade Park.**
- **Give the venue a facelift with general updates and better maintain exterior of the property, especially the ponds.**
- **Access by all modes of transportation needs to be clear. Increase wayfinding signage, and lessen the parking demand by making it easier to walk, bike and take transit to the site.**
- **Provide a marquee or outside signage to advertise upcoming events.**
- **Celebrate Aretha Franklin's legacy on the site.**
- **Evaluate programming to explore opportunities for more varied offerings.**
- **Provide docks along the Riverfront so boaters can take advantage of the site.**
- **Update bathrooms and better food options. Upgrade technology to provide smartphone entry.**

OWEN PARK

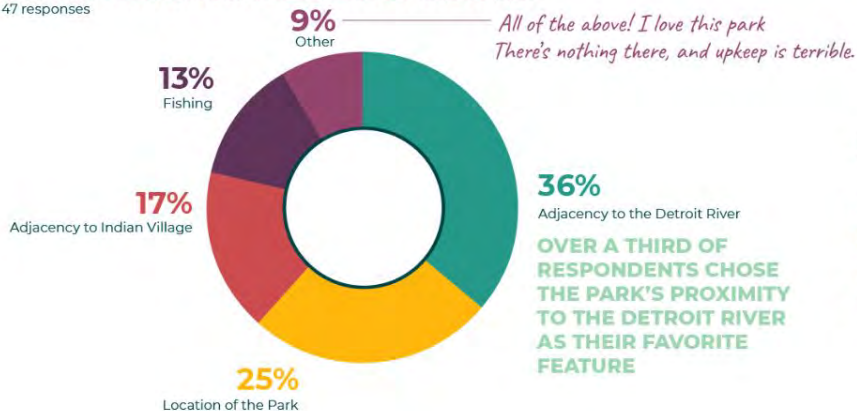
WHAT IS YOUR GENERAL OPINION OF THE PARK?

48 responses



WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE FEATURE OF THE PARK?

47 responses

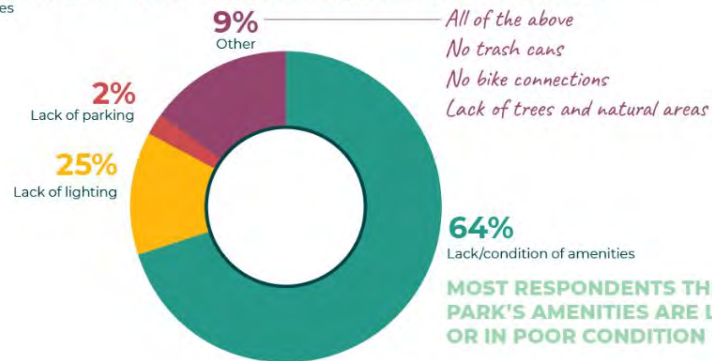


36%
Adjacency to the Detroit River

OVER A THIRD OF RESPONDENTS CHOSE THE PARK'S PROXIMITY TO THE DETROIT RIVER AS THEIR FAVORITE FEATURE

WHAT DO YOU FEEL IS THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE AT THE PARK?

47 responses




MOST RESPONDENTS THINK THE PARK'S AMENITIES ARE LACKING OR IN POOR CONDITION

IF YOU HAVE NOT VISITED OWEN PARK, WHY NOT?

18 responses





Anything is probably better than what is there now

The road is dirt and there is no signage. I'm not sure if I want the signage - this is one of Detroit's best kept secrets.

It's my favorite park. Please don't overdevelop it!

Needs lots of cleanup. Just don't commercialize this park too much. It's got a lot of character and represents "the city" very well. Don't over gentrify it.

Dog friendly park or fishing pier; less is more in some parks. Bench seating and shade would be great.

OWEN PARK

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- The quiet, secluded and **informal nature of the park is seen as a benefit.**
- **Fishing** is the recreational activity that happens here the most, and should be celebrated and amenitized.
- Some called for a **family-friendly environment** that is connected to the rest of the Riverwalk system.
- Most who haven't visited the park conveyed that they hadn't been there because they were **unaware of it.**

A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide consists of several speech bubbles and arrows. Some are solid teal, while others are white outlines. They are arranged in a cluster, with some pointing towards the right, suggesting communication and flow.

WE HEAR YOU!

How will this input be reflected in Owen Park's recommendations?

- **Formalize fishing amenities at the site while maintaining the park's quiet, scenic and secluded feeling.**
- **Incorporate restrooms and picnic tables into the future design.**
- **Consider ways to integrate this site within the riverfront park system.**

ERMA HENDERSON MARINA

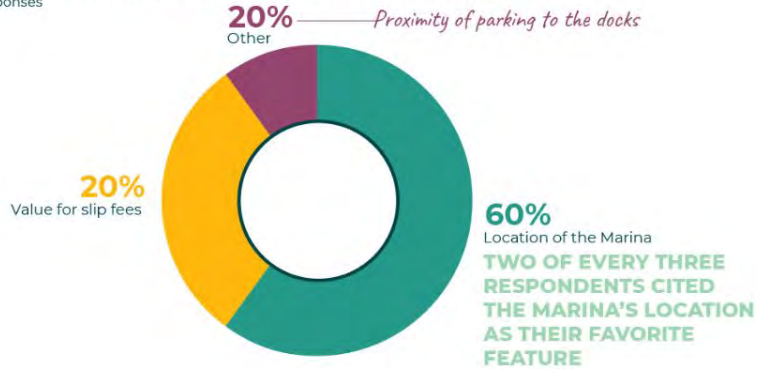
WHAT IS YOUR GENERAL OPINION OF THE MARINA?

10 responses



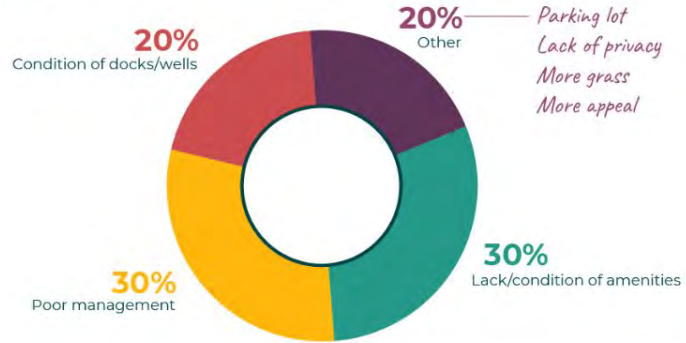
WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE FEATURE OF THE MARINA?

10 responses



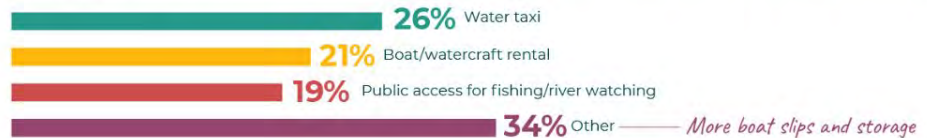
WHAT DO YOU FEEL IS THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE AT THIS MARINA?

10 responses

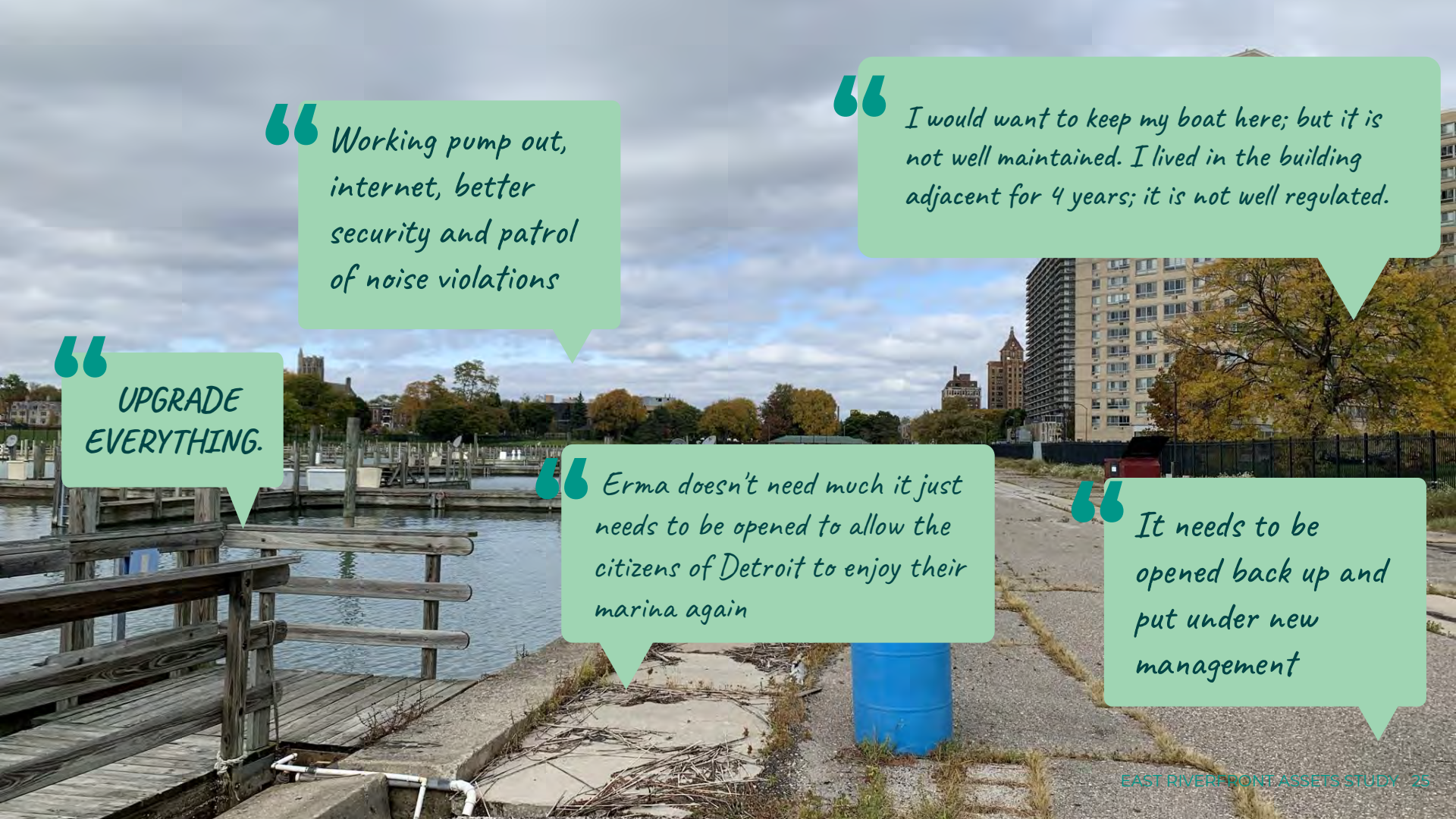


IF YOU DO NOT KEEP A BOAT HERE, WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE AT THIS MARINA?

57 responses



84% OF RESPONDENTS DO NOT KEEP A BOAT AT THIS MARINA



*Working pump out,
internet, better
security and patrol
of noise violations*

*I would want to keep my boat here; but it is
not well maintained. I lived in the building
adjacent for 4 years; it is not well regulated.*

*UPGRADE
EVERYTHING.*

*Erma doesn't need much it just
needs to be opened to allow the
citizens of Detroit to enjoy their
marina again*

*It needs to be
opened back up and
put under new
management*

ERMA HENDERSON MARINA

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- There is **confusion as to why the marina is closed** and when/if it will reopen.
- Generally, the **facility is outdated and in need of an upgrade** and additional landscaping treatments.
- Respondents cited **management challenges at the facility**.
- The marina can **feel exclusive**, not like a public asset.
- For those who do not keep boats here, respondents would like to see a kayak launch, more exterior landscaping and buffering from the surrounding community, and a **destination restaurant**.



WE HEAR YOU!

How will this input be reflected in the Marina's recommendations?

- **Clearly keep the public up to date, for example by displaying onsite signage, as to the status of the of the marina, and when it will be available for use by the public.**
- **Update the facility, including additional landscaping treatments.**
- **Work with management to address concerns of boaters and repair relationships.**
- **Assess the opportunity for increased dining options, including restaurants and food trucks.**
- **Explore public access, kayak/boat launches at this location.**

ERMA HENDERSON PARK

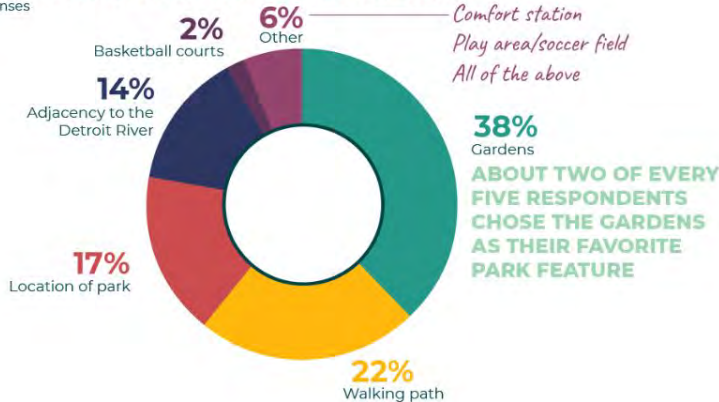
WHAT IS YOUR GENERAL OPINION OF THE PARK?

95 responses



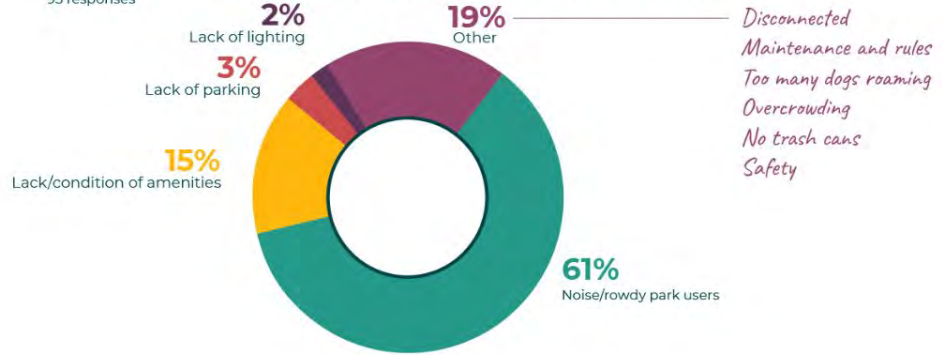
WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE FEATURE OF THE PARK?

97 responses



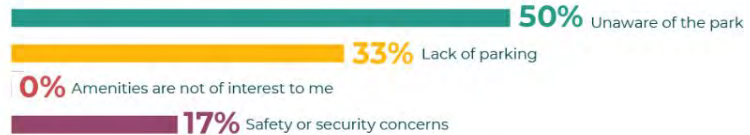
WHAT DO YOU FEEL IS THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE AT THE PARK?

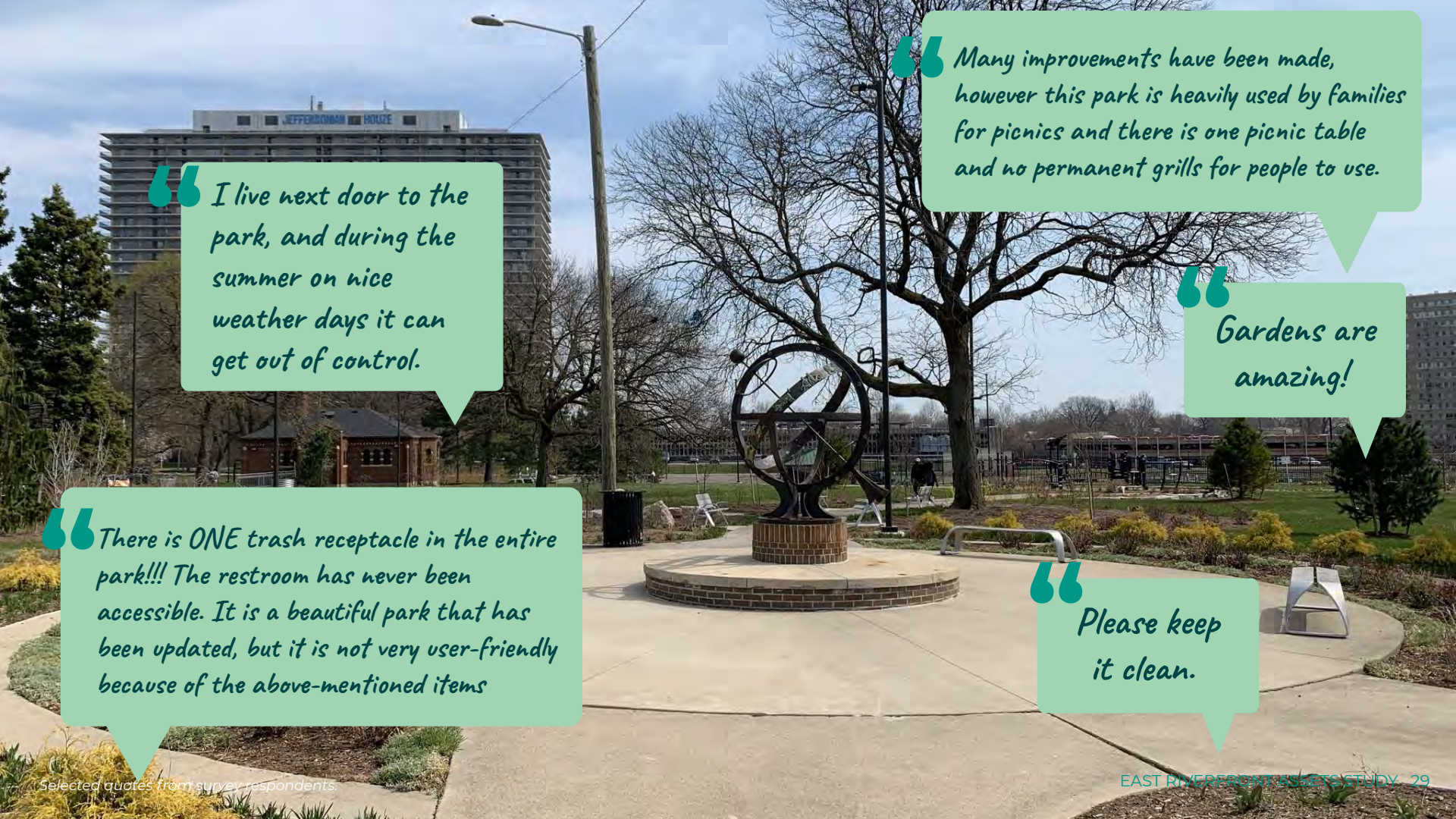
95 responses



IF YOU HAVE NOT VISITED ERMA HENDERSON PARK, WHY NOT?

6 responses





I live next door to the park, and during the summer on nice weather days it can get out of control.

Many improvements have been made, however this park is heavily used by families for picnics and there is one picnic table and no permanent grills for people to use.

Gardens are amazing!

There is ONE trash receptacle in the entire park!!! The restroom has never been accessible. It is a beautiful park that has been updated, but it is not very user-friendly because of the above-mentioned items

Please keep it clean.

ERMA HENDERSON PARK

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- Respondents are **appreciative of the landscaping/flower beds**, and would like to see more.
- Park users can stay late into the evening and produce noise and other issues that impact the quality of life with nearby residents. There were **many calls for increased security at this location**.
- **Trash collection** is an issue here.
- The park feels **disconnected from the river itself** and the riverwalk system.
- Some feel the park **doesn't feel welcoming to the public**.
- The **bathroom hours are confusing**, and they are often closed.
- There's an opportunity to **display Erma Henderson's history** on the site.



WE HEAR YOU!

How will this input be reflected in the Park's recommendations?

- **Incorporate clear signage with park rules, and posted hours that restrooms will be open.**
- **Increase the number of family-friendly amenities, such as picnic tables in shady spots.**
- **Maintain the flower beds and expand their footprint.**
- **Work across city departments to allow park users to maximize the use of this park without becoming a nuisance to neighbors by more strictly enforcing park rules.**
- **Increase the number of trash receptacles and how often they are emptied.**
- **Consider ways of better connecting the site to the river and riverwalk system.**
- **Host more programmed events to bring in new visitors and advertise that the park is open to the public.**
- **Celebrate Erma Henderson's history on the site.**

RIVERSIDE MARINA

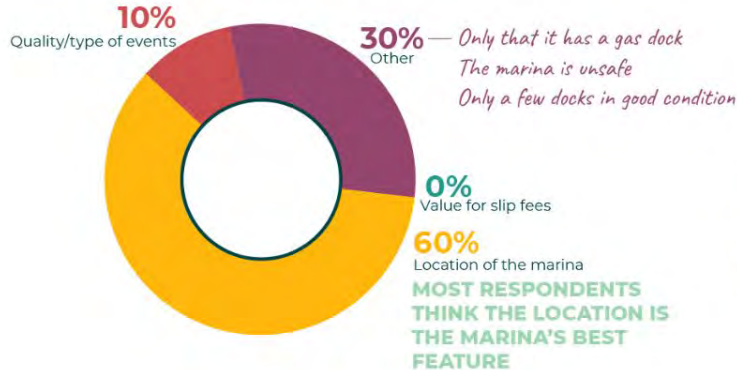
WHAT IS YOUR GENERAL OPINION OF THE MARINA?

10 responses



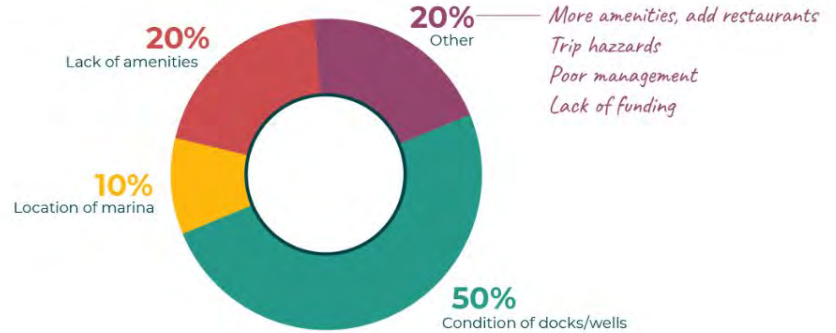
WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE FEATURE OF THE MARINA?

10 responses



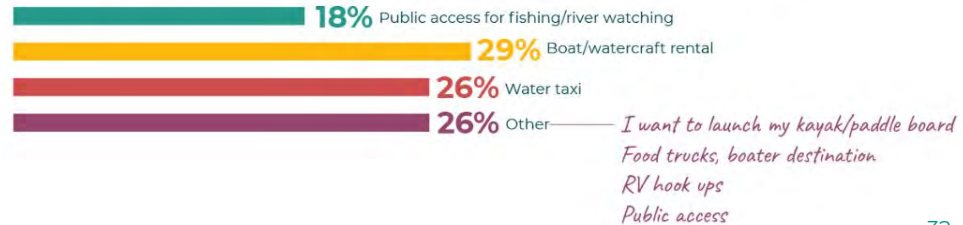
WHAT DO YOU FEEL IS THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE AT THIS MARINA?


10 responses



IF YOU DO NOT KEEP A BOAT HERE, WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE AT THIS MARINA?

19 responses





The management is not handling the marina well. There needs to be new management.

Public access and kayak launch.

There are only a few docks in good condition, rates keep going up with few upgrades, the management company doesn't have the money to keep things up to par and they charge people more and more every year.

This marina needs a total overhaul. Can't put bandages on dilapidated and severely damaged wells and docks.

Selected quotes from survey respondents.

RIVERSIDE MARINA

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- Of those who keep boats here, respondents feel the **marina is in poor condition**, citing unsafe conditions, docks that are underwater and tripping hazards.
- Some noted that the facility is **not ADA compliant**.
- Respondents cited **management challenges at the facility**.
- Many expressed the desire for **more destination amenities**, including additional food offerings (food trucks and restaurants).
- For those who don't keep a boat here, public access, including **boat and kayak launches were desired**, along with the ability to rent watercrafts.



WE HEAR YOU!

How will this input be reflected in Riverside Marina's recommendations?

- **Make capital improvements to ensure a safe and ADA accessible boating environment.**
- **Work with management to address concerns of boaters and repair relationships.**
- **Assess the opportunity for increased dining options, including restaurants and food trucks.**
- **Explore public access, kayak/boat launches at this location.**

ST. JEAN BOAT LAUNCH

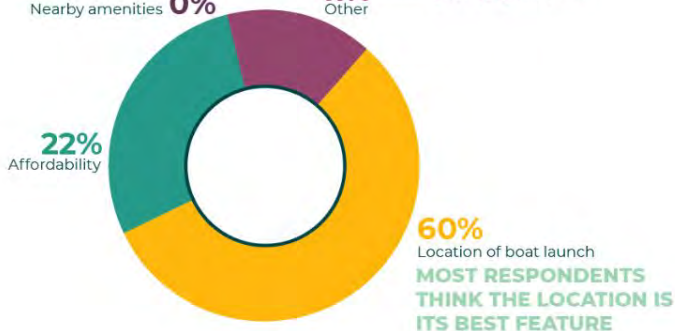
WHAT IS YOUR GENERAL OPINION OF THE BOAT LAUNCH?

10 responses



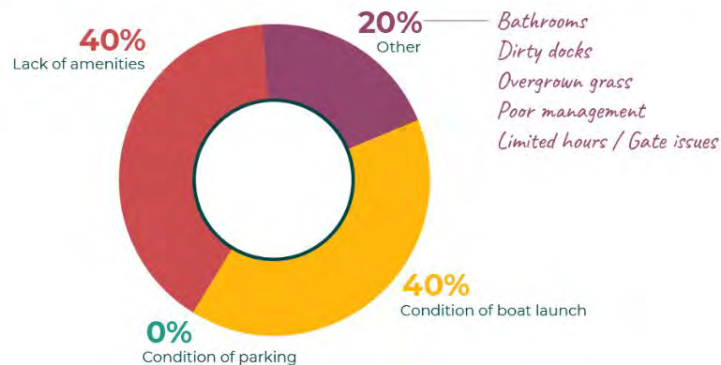
WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE FEATURE OF THE BOAT LAUNCH?

10 responses



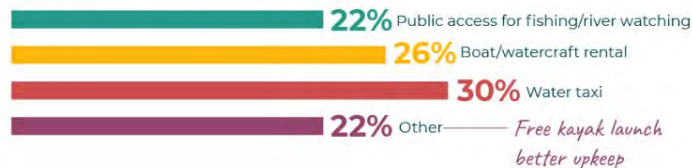
WHAT DO YOU FEEL IS THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE AT THIS BOAT LAUNCH?

10 responses



IF YOU DO NOT KEEP A BOAT HERE, WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE AT THIS LOCATION?

23 responses





“ Updates and better upkeep, along with a water taxi!

“ Public access & kayak launch.

“ Please invest in this boat launch.

“ Open it up to public! Detroiters want to be able to get to the river.

Selected quotes from survey respondents

ST. JEAN BOAT LAUNCH

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- Respondents find that the boat launch could use some **general upgrades and better maintenance.**
- The **paid bathrooms are complicated** and in poor condition.
- Some cited **difficulty accessing the site after hours** and inconsistency in gate closure timing.
- For those that don't keep boats here, a **kayak/paddle board launch** was the most requested amenity.
- Respondents would like to see this site open to the public and **better integrated within the riverfront park system.**



WE HEAR YOU!

How will this input be reflected in the boat launch's recommendations?

- **Make capital improvements to ensure a safe and ADA accessible boating environment.**
- **Update the bathrooms and evaluate the paid access system. If payment is to remain, consider upgrading the payment technology with smartphone integration.**
- **Work with management to address concerns of boaters and repair relationships.**
- **Assess the opportunity for increased dining options, including restaurants and food trucks.**
- **Explore public access, kayak/boat launches at this location.**
- **Consider ways to integrate this site within the riverfront park system.**

January 12, 2021



EAST RIVERFRONT

ASSETS STUDY

Engagement Summary

Round 3: November, 2021

Part of the

**PARKS & REC
STRATEGIC PLAN**



Format

Due to the pandemic, meetings were held virtually on Zoom. Short presentations were followed by group discussion. Presentation materials along with recordings of the meetings can be found on our website [here](#).

There were **three meetings**, each covering different Riverfront Assets:

1. **November 15th, 2021:** Erma Henderson + Riverside Marinas
2. **November 16th, 2021:** Spirit Plaza, the Fist + Hart Plaza
3. **November 17th, 2021:** Erma Henderson Park + Owen Park

Community Update!

PARKS & REC
STRATEGIC PLAN
CITY OF DETROIT

DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE EAST RIVERFRONT ASSETS STUDY

Detroit, MI

Canada

Belle Isle

CIVIC CENTER
SPIRIT PLAZA
JOE LOUIS FIST
HART PLAZA

THE ARETHA

GOLD COAST PARKS
OWEN PARK
ERMA HENDERSON PARK and MARINA

MARINA DISTRICT
RIVERSIDE MARINA
ST JEAN BOAT LAUNCH

3 MEETINGS!

Each **virtual meeting** will cover different assets:

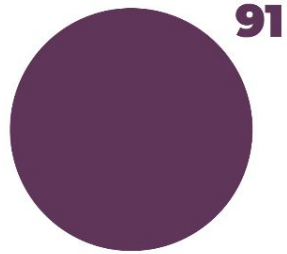
Mon. November 15, 6-7:30pm: Erma Henderson + Riverside Marinas

Tues. November 16, 6-7:30pm: Spirit Plaza, the Fist + Hart Plaza

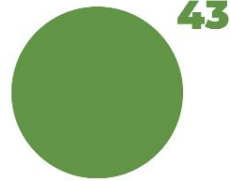
Wed. November 17, 6-7:30pm: Erma Henderson Park + Owen Park

Participation

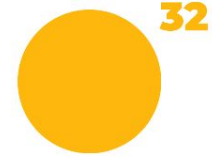
In all, about 160 stakeholders joined across all meetings.



**Erma Henderson Marina,
Riverside Marina &
St. Jean Boat Launch**



**Civic Center
(Hart Plaza, Spirit
Plaza, the Fist)**



**Owen Park &
Erma Henderson Park**

Meeting 1: The Marinas

ERMA HENDERSON MARINA , RIVERSIDE MARINA & ST. JEAN BOAT LAUNCH

WHO ATTENDED: Boat owners, non-boaters and marina management.

WHEN: November 15, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m

This meeting was very well attended with almost 100 participants. Many boaters voiced their concerns over who has participated in the process so far, and how they could have their voices heard in the final recommendations.

SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS:

- The marinas are well loved. They are an important part of black boating culture.
- Support for current black-run management, would like to provide him with the resources to succeed.
- Display Erma Henderson's legacy on site.
- Concerned about having not been involved in the process to date, many questions about the survey and how it was administered.
- Have concerns about security and admitting non-boaters including waterfront/dock safety, keeping them away from boat slips.

ACTION:

- The planning team re-opened the survey to be sure those who wanted to participate were able to. It was sent to all those who signed in, along with Marina management to distribute to their listserv.

We would love more funding at Riverside to make our marina more competitive and beautiful like other marinas. We have so much potential. We are such a huge family here.

- MEETING PARTICIPANT

The Marinas

Questions in the chat:

1. What will the status of management be?

Answer: This plan has no recommendations considering the management of the facility, it is a capital improvement assessment.

2. Who was surveyed...how was it distributed?

Answer: The survey was distributed widely, citywide, through the DONs, marina management, and advertised through signage throughout the Riverfront. Survey details can be viewed [here](#).

3. How can we participate in the survey?

Based on tonight's feedback, the survey for the marinas was reopened, and can be taken [here](#).

4. Are the marina's owned by the city? County?

The marinas are owned by the City of Detroit.

What we heard:

“ Reopening the Marina will be amazing, having access to the water space is exciting. But as a resident in the area, the noise after 10pm can be disturbing, will noise enforcements be enforced?”

“ Information about Erma Henderson - who she was and why the marina was named after her. This is part of the culture and heartache of the community.”

“ I encourage the plan to thoughtfully integrate St. Jean's Ramp into the plans with Riverside. Today these two facilities function so separately that most public customers do not know that this public land is connected. I'm supportive of the suggested plans and improvements being recommended, which will greatly improve our boater experiences.”

“ Transient slips are nice idea for Henderson, also agree with caller that additional food/beverage opportunities on the river beyond Sinbads and Coriander would be a welcome addition.”

“ I Love the plans of improvements to include family and parks , however, what's being done must be handled with care of the city I'm sure you have grants in place to ensure every year that you are good for the season.”

“ There should be full transparency around this process and there needs to be focus on equity and inclusion. Priority should also be given to the existing management company.”

Meeting 2: The Civic Center

THE CIVIC CENTER

WHO ATTENDED: Detroiters and regional Hart Plaza/Civic Center fans and residents with deep connections to the Gateway to Freedom statue.

WHEN: November 16th, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m

Love the Woodward promenade and the Grand Staircase. The comfort station is a must - and most cities don't ever have enough of them.

- MEETING PARTICIPANT

This meeting was very well attended with almost xx participants. There was general support for the improvements being proposed, though much debate on whether or not to relocate the Gateway to Freedom Underground Railroad memorial statue.

SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS:

- Deep consideration needs to be taken in the decision to relocate the Underground Railroad memorial to the top of the proposed grand stair. While some saw the value in moving it to a more prominent and accessible location, others voiced concern that it would damage the hidden experience and intent of the artist. A suggestion was made to contact the artist, Ed Dwight, to see if he would support this move.
- Priorities for improvement were continuing to maintain the statue. (Recently stakeholders worked with the city to ensure ongoing maintenance of the statue.)
- Need to appreciate the history behind this statue, i.e., the descendants of those who were part of the Underground Railroad raised the funds for creating it and are still very active in seeing to its well-being.
- It was indicated that there was money set aside for the future care of the statue; stakeholders wondered what had become of that money.
- Participants were generally supportive of the Woodward promenade and the site plan approach. Celebrating historic legacy and more public art were topics of interest.

Civic Center

Questions in the chat:

1. Has full funding been secured?

Answer: Full funding has not yet been secured, this plan will help to determine costs and do fundraising.

2. Will there be any development/retail added to the site?

Answer: There are concessions planned on the lower level.

3. Are there plans for the rest of the former Ford Auditorium site?

Answer: There are no set plans for that site currently, though development options are being considered.

4. Who was involved in the process of making these recommendations?

Answer: A local architecture firm, ROSSETTI, was hired to spearhead the process for the City of Detroit. These recommendations are the synthesis of a year long public process. Their team, along with the City, are presenting these draft recommendations for public comment.

What we heard:

“ Maintenance funds are necessary so we are not here in 20 more years.

“ Clean restrooms, functioning fountain, basic maintenance of sculptures. . . just start there. The City has such a lack of funds and resources, why are these things a priority?

“ Readily available deep shade is essential at all points. Along the Woodward promenade, a cool breezy walk down to the water on a hot day feels delicious.

“ The Gateway to Freedom was strategically and thoughtfully placed by the Sculptor, Ed Dwight. For that reason, it should remain in its present place.

“ Moving our Landmark Gateway is NOT like moving furniture, it was placed on a specific spot.

“ Detailed, historically-based, and vibrant art installations would be great for daily activation and attention. Especially when there are no events.

Meeting 3: Erma Henderson + Owen Park

OWEN PARK & ERMA HENDERSON PARK AND MARINA

WHO ATTENDED: Area residents who are active and passive users of Erma Henderson Park; kayak users, etc.

WHEN: November 17th, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m

This meeting was attended by about 30 participants. There was general support for the improvements being proposed, though there was strong support for the park remaining a passive space for fishing rather than a more activated park.

SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS:

- At Owen Park
 - Fishing amenities need to be prioritized and celebrated.
 - Restrooms and picnics tables were the most desired amenities.
 - Suggestions for fishing educational programming for kids.
 - Too much space is allocated in the proposal for kayaks, consider making that smaller to preserve the passive nature of the park.
- At Erma Henderson Park
 - General support for the proposed site plan, including the relocation of the parking lot and a water activity rental area.
 - Open the bathrooms!
 - Need to continue conversations about security concerns at the site, and update near neighbors when future construction is taking place.

Erma Henderson Park

What we heard:

“

I was disappointed that park users were not notified of the upgrades [this past summer] via signage. We found ourselves driving or walking to the park to find it locked or new gates. We felt disrespected that we were not updated on the changes via the park since we were there until the park was abruptly closed.

“

We launch closer to the picnic shelters out of convenience due to the collapsed sea wall but could easily move to Erma Henderson to protect space for fisherman.

“

Fishing education and amenities for our kids.

Next Steps

ROUND 3: ONGOING ENGAGEMENT

- A Survey targeting boaters and will remain open through the end of the year:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ERASMarinas>
- Follow up with sculptor who created the Underground Railroad Memorial on Hart Plaza.
- Residents from The Whittier (residential tower) have requested a meeting with the team.

EAST RIVERFRONT

ASSETS STUDY

Survey #3 Results Summary

December, 2021

Part of the

PARKS & REC
STRATEGIC PLAN



191

Participants in the survey!

Survey 2

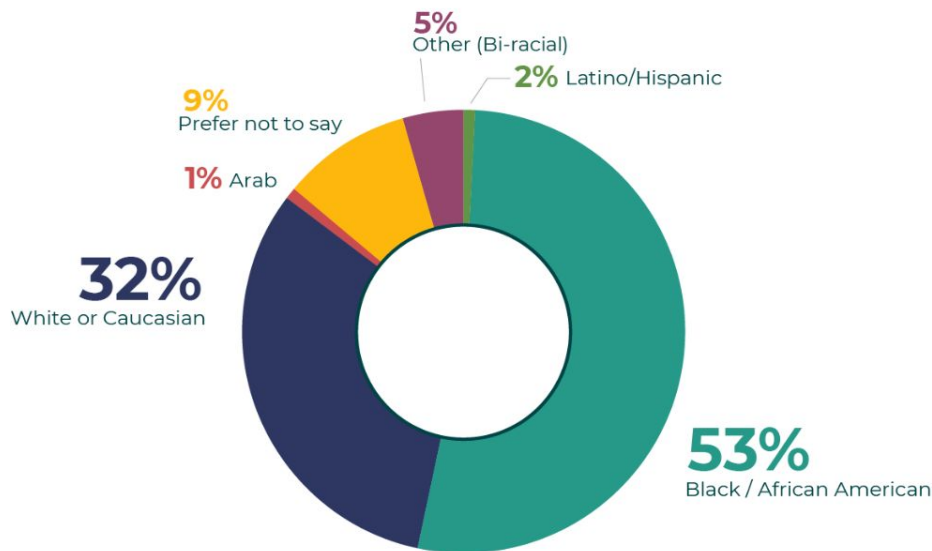
A virtual public meeting was held on November 15th to discuss the study's progress on the marinas. This meeting was very well attended with almost 100 participants. Many boaters voiced their concerns over who has participated in the process so far, and how the original survey was distributed.

In order to allow for additional participation and to be sure those who wished to participate were able to, an additional survey was launched on December 3rd, 2021. It remained open for one month, and was closed on December 31st. This survey was specifically targeted to the boating community. It was distributed widely to the marina listserv, those who provided their contact information in previous events. In all, the participation was very high.

Who participated?

WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING BEST DESCRIBES YOUR RACE?

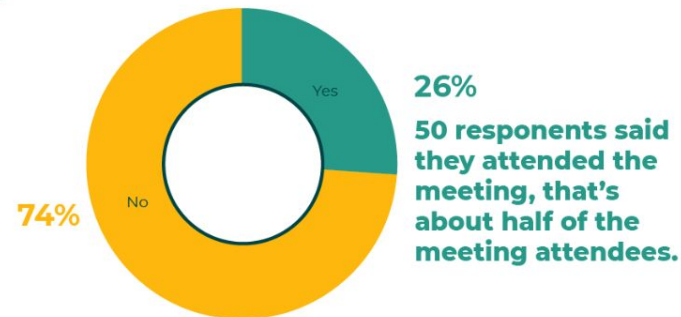
116 responses



Respondents were diverse in terms of race, ethnicity and age. About half of the November 15th meeting attendees participated.

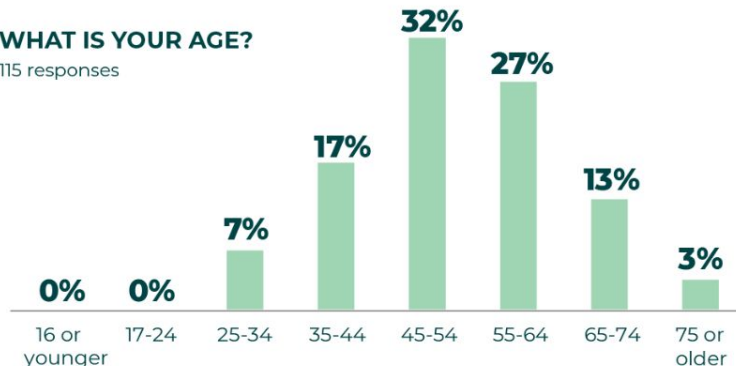
DID YOU ATTEND THE MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 15, 2021?

190 responses



WHAT IS YOUR AGE?

115 responses



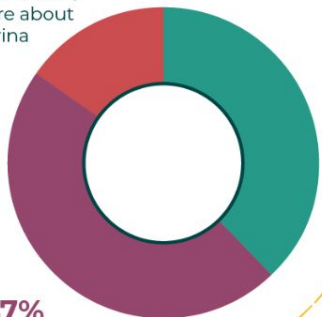
Who participated?

WHAT IS YOUR RELATIONSHIP TO ERMA HENDERSON MARINA?

166 responses

15%

I'm not a boater,
but I care about
the marina



38%

I kept a boat here
in the past

47%

I would like to keep
a boat here in the
future

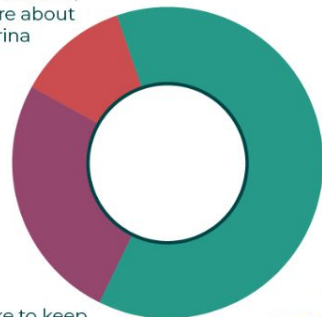
141
in the
boating community

WHAT IS YOUR RELATIONSHIP TO RIVERSIDE MARINA?

131 responses

11%

I'm not a boater,
but I care about
the marina



63%

I kept a boat here
in the past

26%

I would like to keep
a boat here in the
future

82
Riverside Marina
boaters

30%
have been here for
more than 10 years

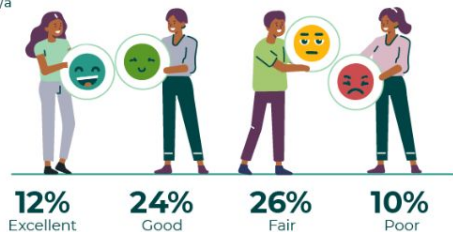
Many respondents identified as having connections with the boating community, including 82 Riverside Marina boaters

Erma Henderson Marina

Erma Henderson Marina

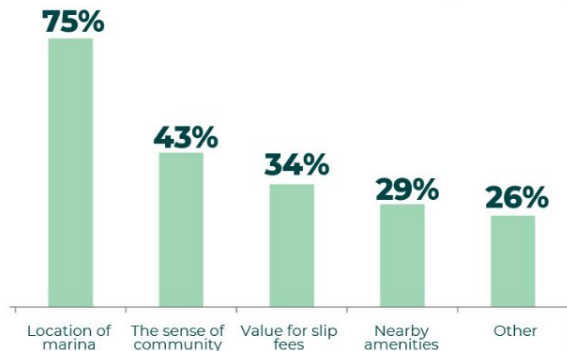
WHAT IS YOUR GENERAL OPINION OF THE MARINA WHEN IT WAS OPEN?

121 responses
28% answered n/a



WHAT ARE YOUR FAVORITE FEATURES OF THE MARINA?

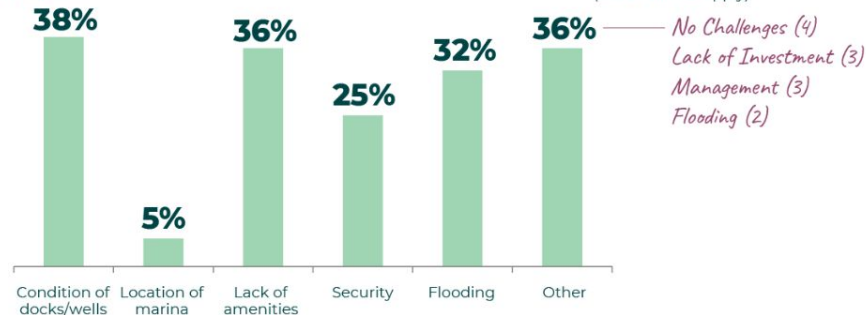
125 responses (check all that apply)



Management (6)
Nothing/Don't like (3)

WHAT DO YOU FEEL ARE THE BIGGEST CHALLENGES AT THIS MARINA?

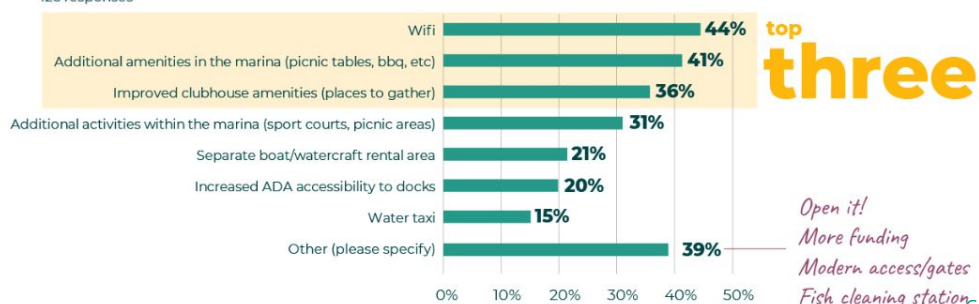
109 responses (check all that apply)



No Challenges (4)
Lack of Investment (3)
Management (3)
Flooding (2)

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE AT ERMA HENDERSON MARINA?

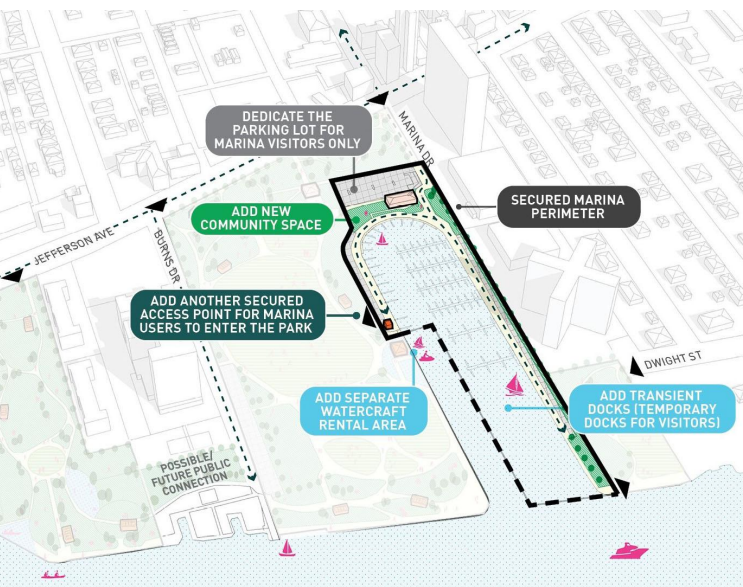
126 responses



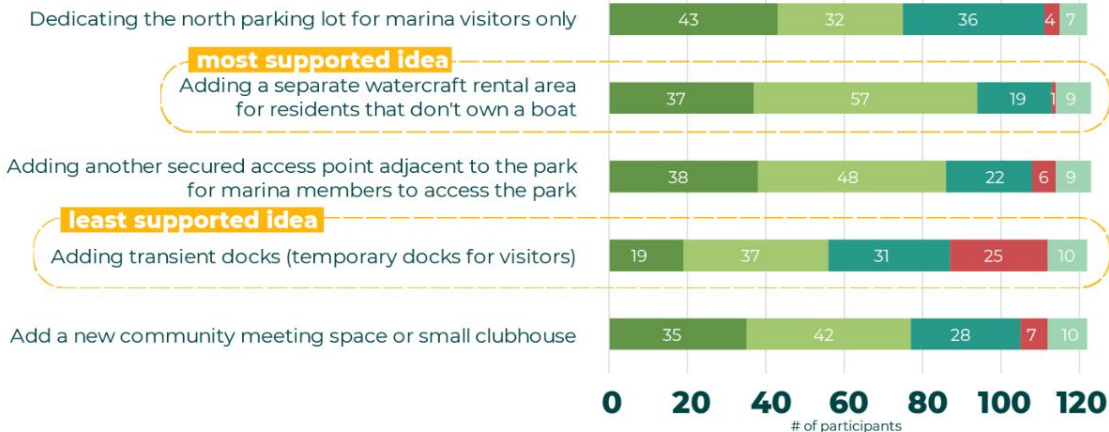
top three

Open it!
More funding
Modern access/gates
Fish cleaning station
Security

Erma Henderson Marina



REFER TO THE IMAGE. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS?



IF YOU DON'T LIKE ANY OF THE IDEAS ABOVE, TELL US WHY:

Most comments were related to allowing for rentals:

- Active boaters should not have to deal with non owners.
- Rentals create multiple issues, such as allowing inexperienced people operate vessels / PWC's on an extremely dangerous River with a high flow and boat traffic on an international boarder.

Others wanted more access or parking facilities:

- Is it possible for public to stroll the docks during the day time if this is a security issue?
- For us fishermen few more handicapped parking.
- Additional parking for trailered boats

- I love this idea
- I like this idea
- I'm neutral
- I don't like this idea
- I need more information

Anything else we should consider as recommendations for Erma Henderson Marina?

Make it useable ASAP.

I really like the plans as you have them. My only concern is whether the boat rental will be a viable business.

Easier access to entrance and exit so we do not have to exit our vehicles.

Erma doesn't need much it just needs to be opened to allow the citizens of Detroit to enjoy their marina again.

Security and more security and a boat ramp or launch.

If adding a visitor only parking lot, there should be golf carts to take visitors to the member slip. That could be a long walk for elderly guest.

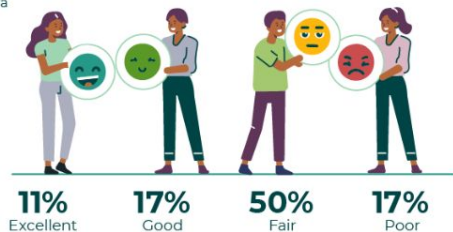
Yes, the illustrations that you have envisioned for Erma Henderson is beautiful. Do we want it? Yes... However, if they're not in touch or tuned into the already Black cultured family community that's already established there, could really put them in jeopardy. There is no sense of security for the existing boaters there at all.

Riverside Marina + St. Jean Boat Launch

Riverside Marina

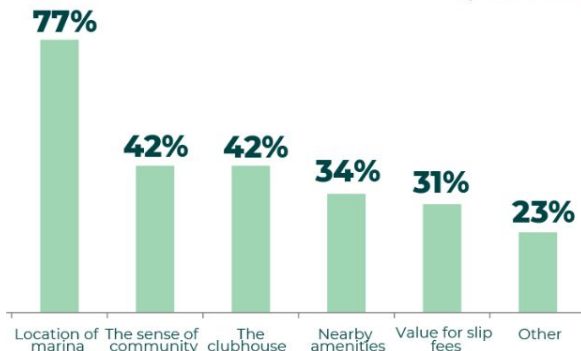
WHAT IS YOUR GENERAL OPINION OF THE MARINA WHEN IT WAS OPEN?

115 responses
6% answered n/a



WHAT ARE YOUR FAVORITE FEATURES OF THE MARINA? (check all that apply)

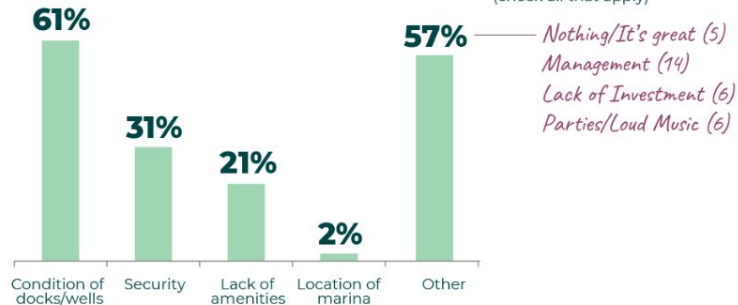
101 responses



*Storage Facilities (5)
Management (2)
Privacy (2)*

WHAT DO YOU FEEL ARE THE BIGGEST CHALLENGES AT THIS MARINA? (check all that apply)

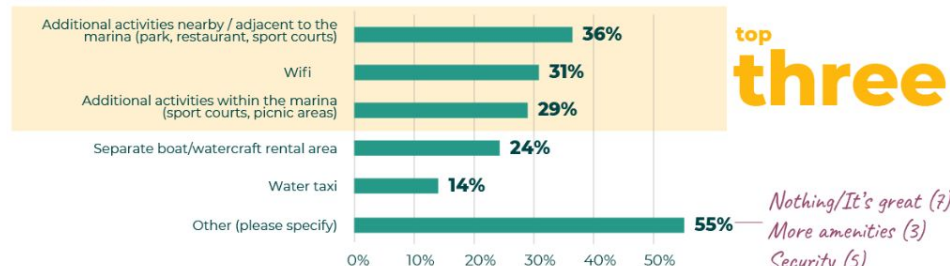
109 responses



*Nothing/It's great (5)
Management (14)
Lack of Investment (6)
Parties/Loud Music (6)*

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE AT RIVERSIDE MARINA?

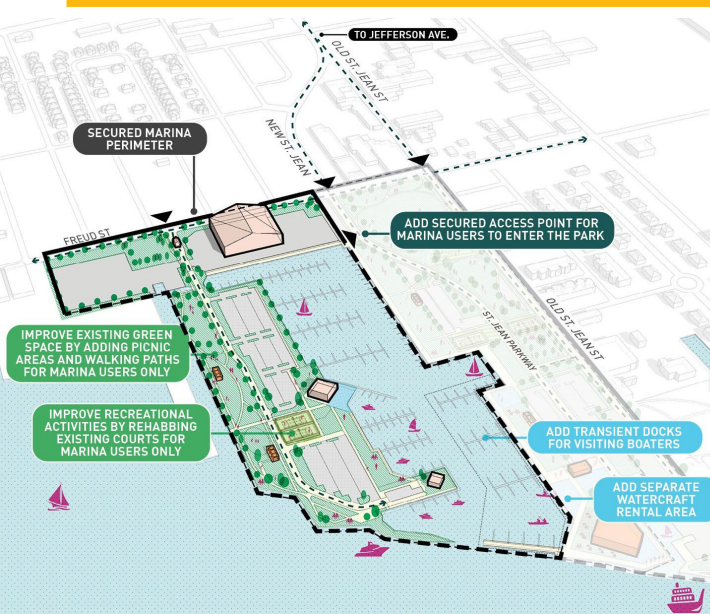
126 responses



top three

*Nothing/It's great (7)
More amenities (3)
Security (5)
Better facilities (7)
Management (15)*

Riverside Marina



REFER TO THE IMAGE. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS?

Improve existing green areas by adding picnic areas and walking paths for marina users only.



Improve recreational activities by rehabbing existing courts for marina users only.



least supported idea

Add a secured access point adjacent to park areas for marina users to access park amenities



Add a separate watercraft rental area for residents that don't own a boat.



most supported idea

Add transient docks for visiting boaters



Add a marina supply store to purchase goods on site



0 20 40 60 80 100
of participants

IF YOU DON'T LIKE ANY OF THE IDEAS ABOVE, TELL US WHY:

The supply store is not a priority for some

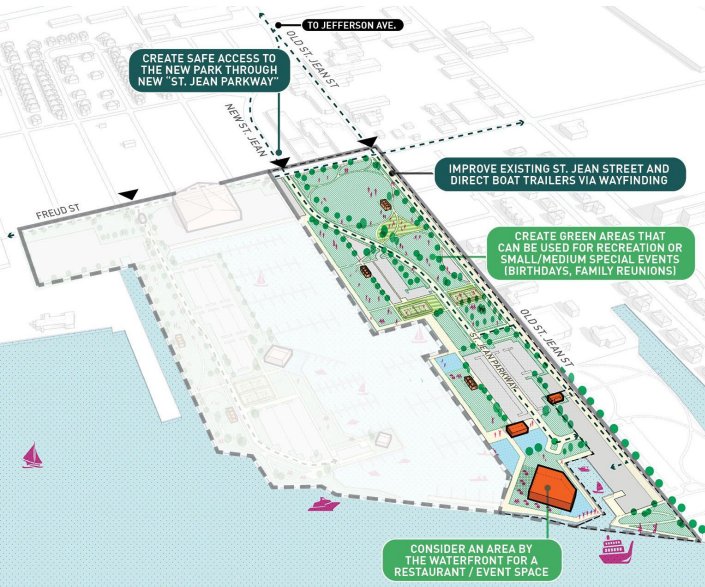
- There is a marina store by the gas dock.
- There are boat supply stores nearby that's not needed in the Marina.

Security and access is of top concern

- I think added picnic area is a great idea. The problem is that you want it to be for marina users only.
- I do not like that the Park is taking up all the space and docks on that side of the Marina

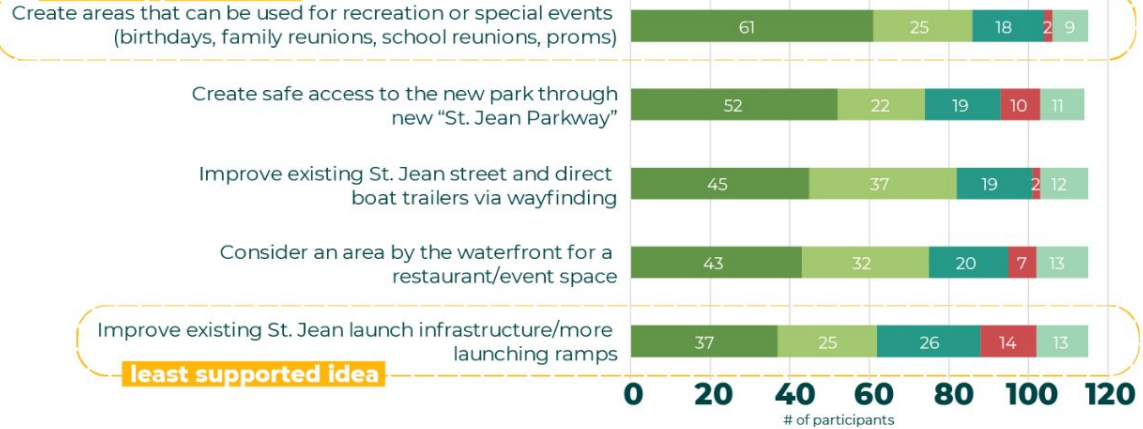
- I love this idea
- I like this idea
- I'm neutral
- I don't like this idea
- I need more information

St. Jean Boat Launch



REFER TO THE IMAGE. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS?

most supported idea



least supported idea

IF YOU DON'T LIKE ANY OF THE IDEAS ABOVE, TELL US WHY:

Respondents cited the need for more parking and basic upgrades

- More parking is needed for trailers and guests
- More ramps, more parking, bathrooms that aren't prison cell quality, security
- Please focus efforts and funding on expanding and improving the boat ramps, parking, access and security
- Need those spaces for more parking
- I don't think you need more ramps, maybe more parking. The space there is unfortunately limited.

- I love this idea
- I like this idea
- I'm neutral
- I don't like this idea
- I need more information

Anything else we should consider as recommendations for the Riverside Marina or St. Jean boat launch?

Play area for children of all sizes.

Improve the bathroom facilities. Perhaps install a fish cleaning station.

I feel the Riverside Marina should be members only and Erma Henderson should be members & public.

Do not make the Marina Public Access.

I recommend you keep the management that is at Riverside give the management funding so they can finish up the repairs they are doing and give them funds to build a restaurant a tiki bar and possibly a snack bar by the pool area.

Shopping strip with food & shops and bars on the pier.

I love the idea of securing off the greenspace on the east side of the marina for public or commercial use, but allow secure access for boaters from that site.



WE HEAR YOU!

Key takeaways

- Many of the recommendations being made were supported. However, when considering transient docks and watercraft rental areas, safety and security is a priority for boaters, as inexperienced boaters can cause conflicts and safety concerns.
- There is considerable support and pride from the black community for these marinas, the sense of community they create must be celebrated and valued as future plans for the sites evolve.
- Additional funding should be sought to not only achieve the ambitious goals of this plan, but provide upkeep for basic capital improvements and continued maintenance.
- Continued outreach and engagement needs to occur as part of the implementation of this study, to continue to build trust with the City and to provide further opportunities for the boating community to provide their input on the evolving plans.