

Questionnaire Summary: Borough of Lemoyne

Background

At the first meeting of the Borough of Lemoyne's Comprehensive Recreation, Parks, and Open Space Plan Study Committee, the group provided direction on recreation, park, and open space issues, opportunities, and concerns. Additionally, the group assisted with questions that should be asked of the community to help inform direction for the future of Lemoyne's recreation and parks.

Pashek+MTR then developed a draft questionnaire in SurveyMonkey. There was a concerted effort to promote participation in the questionnaire, including utilization of the Borough website, project website, social media such as Facebook, and flyers.

Response Rate

As of March 2022, the questionnaire received a total of 264 responses. This questionnaire was not intended to achieve statistically valid results. We find value in qualitative information generated by the questionnaire, especially the responses to open-ended questions, and typically use this data to identify trends. The outreach efforts of the Steering Committee and other volunteers helped deliver a pool of responses that provides valuable insight on the questions asked.

Findings

Pashek+MTR summarized the most important responses to the questionnaire. For additional tabulations and much more detail in qualitative individual responses, see the full questionnaire printout.

Q1 Do you live in the Borough of Lemoyne? (263 Responses)

- Yes - 81%
- No - 19% (Responses: Bosler, Hampden, Etters, Lewisberry, Fairview, New Cumberland, Washington Heights, Mechanicsburg, Camp Hill, Green Lane Farms, Lower Allen, Newberrytown, York Haven, and Fairfax)
- Those who are not residents indicates that the School District and West Shore Commission email blast reached the region

Individual responses included: Harrisburg, Fairfax, Mechanicsburg, and Camp Hill

Q2 Please indicate the number of people living in your household according to the following age ranges (264 Responses):

	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Under the age of 4	64%	29%	2%	2%	2%	45
Ages 5-12	56%	41%	2%	2%	0%	61
Ages 13-18	77%	20%	2%	0%	0%	44
Ages 19-29	62%	36%	2%	0%	0%	47
Ages 30-59	31%	68%	1%	0%	0%	183
Ages 60+	47%	53%	0%	0%	0%	96

Q3 Where do you think the Borough should focus its parks and recreation efforts in the future? (264 Responses, 28 Individual Responses)

	High Priority	Priority	Low Priority	Not Necessary	Total
Protect Open Space and Natural Resources	61%	33%	5%	1%	258
Develop Walking and Biking Trails	57%	28%	10%	4%	261
Improve Existing Amenities	38%	51%	9%	2%	257
Enhance Accessibility (ADA)	25%	50%	20%	5%	247
Expand Recreation Programming	20%	49%	23%	8%	256
Construct Multi-use Fields	0%	0%	0%	0%	0

Individual responses included: More green spaces, better utilization of existing parks, preserve trees, plant native trees and vegetation, a dog park, increased park staff capacity, invest in Negley Park

Q4 The following is a list of recreation activity categories. Check the box if members of your family would like to participate in the activity listed, if they are or would be made available. (261 Responses, 27 Individual Responses)

- Outdoor Recreation - 74%
- Special Events - 63%
- Concerts/Movies - 60%
- Exercise/Fitness - 56%
- Nature Watching - 47%

Individual responses included: Pickleball (most frequent comment), a dog park, walking and hiking trails, kayaking, indoor and outdoor aquatics, gardening, skatepark (skateboarding and ice skating), bocce, concerts, educational programming

Q5 What experiences do you want when visiting parks or recreation areas? Select all that apply (264 Responses, 27 Individual Responses):

The highest-ranking five aspects were, in order:

1. Enjoy Nature - 87%
2. Walking - 86%
3. Socializing - 61%
4. Fitness - 50%
5. Picnicking - 49%
6. Playgrounds and unstructured play areas - 46%

Individual responses included: Dog park, open drone area, food truck festival, aquatics, skate park, gardening, pickleball, family activities, trashcans for pet waste, connections to parks

Q6 Please provide your impression of Negley Park, 418 Cumberland Road (249 Responses, 36 Individual Responses). (Options included Excellent, Good, Fair, and Poor):

- Location - Excellent (66%)
- Cleanliness - Good (60%)
- Safety - Good (53%)
- Amenities Available - Good (50%)
- Parking - Good (47%) (13% Poor)
- Attractiveness - Good (46%)

Individual responses included: Trees and vegetation are overgrown which blocks the view and leads to an unkempt look, bottom lot is not a good utilization of space and unsafe for pedestrians, unused tennis courts (possibly repurpose for pickleball)

Q7 Please provide your impression of Schell Park, Sycamore Street (94 Responses, 160 Individual Responses) (Options included Excellent, Good, Fair, and Poor):

- Cleanliness – Good (57%)
- Safety – Good (57%)
- Location – Good (50%)
- Attractiveness – Good (45%)
- Facilities Available – Fair (41%) 22% Poor
- Parking – Fair (39%) 36% Poor

Individual responses included: A vast majority were unaware or unfamiliar with this park, lack of playground, very small, too far for most people

Q8 Please provide your impression of Memorial Park, 94 Herman Avenue. (186 Responses, 71 Individual Responses) (Options included Excellent, Good, Fair, and Poor):

- Cleanliness – Good (57%)
- Parking – Good (54%)
- Safety – Good (52%)
- Attractiveness – Good (48%)
- Location – Good (45%)
- Amenities Available – Good (43%)

Individual responses included: A majority of respondents had not been to the park, doesn't feel safe (drug use/vandalism), not convenient to get to/unfavorable location, remove trees that are blocking the scenic view

Q9 Please provide your impression of Maple Street Park. (127 Responses, 119 Individual Responses) (Options included Excellent, Good, Fair, and Poor):

- Cleanliness – Good (60%)
- Safety – Good (53%)
- Attractiveness – Good (52%)
- Location – Good (48%)
- Amenities Available – Fair (45%), Poor (12%)
- Parking – Fair (40%), Poor (18%)

Individual responses included: A majority of respondents are unfamiliar with the park have not frequented the park because it isn't convenient for them

Q10 The Borough is home to three passive parks and one historic park: Frazer, Flynn, Woodside, & Fort Couch Parks. What improvements would increase the enjoyment of these areas? (217 Responses, 53 Individual Responses)

- Habitat Improvements – 65%
- Native Plantings – 62%
- Passive Recreation Amenities – 50%
- Community Gardens – 36%
- Interpretative Signage – 19%
- Do not make improvements to these areas – 11%

Individual responses included: Many respondents were unfamiliar with these parks, more historical/educational information at the parks (specifically Fort Couch), there are no activities at these parks, remove invasive species and improve habitats

Q11 How often do you visit one of the Borough Parks? (261 Responses)

- Weekly - 35% (92)
- Daily - 28% (72)
- Occasionally - 21% (54)
- Monthly - 13% (35)
- Never - 3% (8)

Q12 If the Borough would expand facilities at the existing parks how important would it be to provide the following amenities? (Options included Very Important, Somewhat Important, Not Important, and Not Needed) (263 Responses, 20 Individual Responses)

The five highest-ranking five facilities were, in order:

- Restrooms – Very Important (78%)
- Trails – Very Important (69%)
- Shade – Very Important (67%)
- Stormwater management – Very Important (65%)
- Accessibility – Very Important (65%)

Facilities identified as “Not Needed” included:

- Cross Country Skiing
- Football Field
- Dek Hockey

Individual responses included: More accessibility, more native plants and removal of invasive species, river access, facility improvements at Memorial Park, connections and safe routes between parks, more parks (ex. Dog parks), and installation of a permanent band shell/amphitheater, remove trees blocking scenic reviews, electric charging stations, gardens, swimming pools, improved parking

Q13 Do you feel a system of trails, greenways and open space throughout the Borough is needed? (263 Responses)

- Very Important or Somewhat Important – 89%
- Not Important or Not Needed – 11%

Q14 How do you find information regarding recreation programs, sports leagues and special events located in the Borough of Lemoyne? (263 Responses)

The highest-ranking information sources were, in order:

- Borough Newsletter- 58% (152)
- West Shore Recreation Website/Social Media – 41% (108)
- Facebook - 38% (101)
- Word of Mouth – 36% (94)
- Borough Website- 28% (73)
- Neighborhood Social Media/Next Door – 22% (58)

Individual responses included: West Shore Recreation Catalogue, TrailLink App, School, Lemoyne Media, Borough meetings, Homeowners Association

Q15 Has the 2020-2021 Covid 19 Pandemic impacted your need or interest in access to parks and open space? (262 Responses)

- Yes, I have enjoyed more time in the outdoors during this time - 71%
- No, I did not find myself utilizing these spaces more during this time – 19%
- No opinion- 10%

Q16 How important is it that the Borough continue to dedicate tax dollars towards investments to public parks, trails, and open space? (264 Responses)

- Extremely Important or Somewhat Important - 97%
- Not at all Important/No opinion – 3%

Finally, 138 respondents provided their information for additional outreach opportunities.