

Survey Results: Park Funding

Survey Info - This survey was sent on behalf of the City of Gig Harbor to the FlashVote community for Gig Harbor, WA.

These FlashVote results are shared with local officials

274

Total Participants

258 of 488 initially invited (53%)
16 others

Margin of error: ± 6%

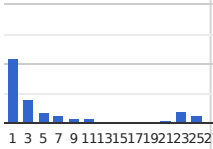
Applied Filter:

Locals only

Participants for filter:

186

Response Time (hours)



Started: **May 23, 2023 10:36am PDT**

Ended: **May 25, 2023 10:36am PDT**

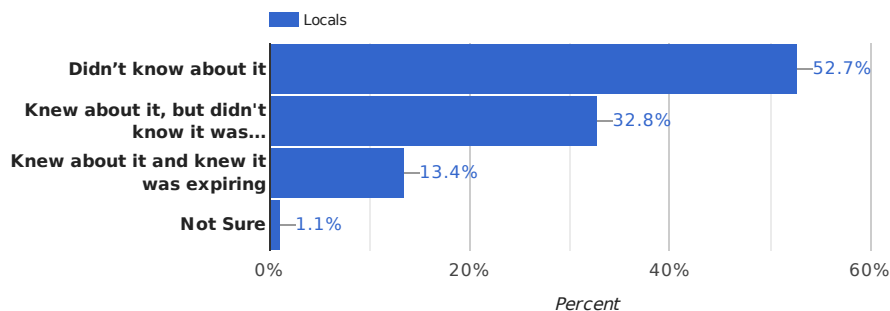
Target Participants: **All Gig Harbor**

Q1 In 2005, Gig Harbor voters approved a tax levy for a \$3.5 million bond used to pay for park improvements. As housing values have increased this tax levy has gone from \$0.22 per \$1,000 in assessed valuation in 2006, down to \$0.065 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2023. This tax levy expires this year.

Prior to reading this, which best describes what you knew about this tax levy for parks?

(186 responses by)

Options	Locals (186)
Didn't know about it	52.7% (98)
Knew about it, but didn't know it was expiring	32.8% (61)
Knew about it and knew it was expiring	13.4% (25)
Not Sure	1.1% (2)

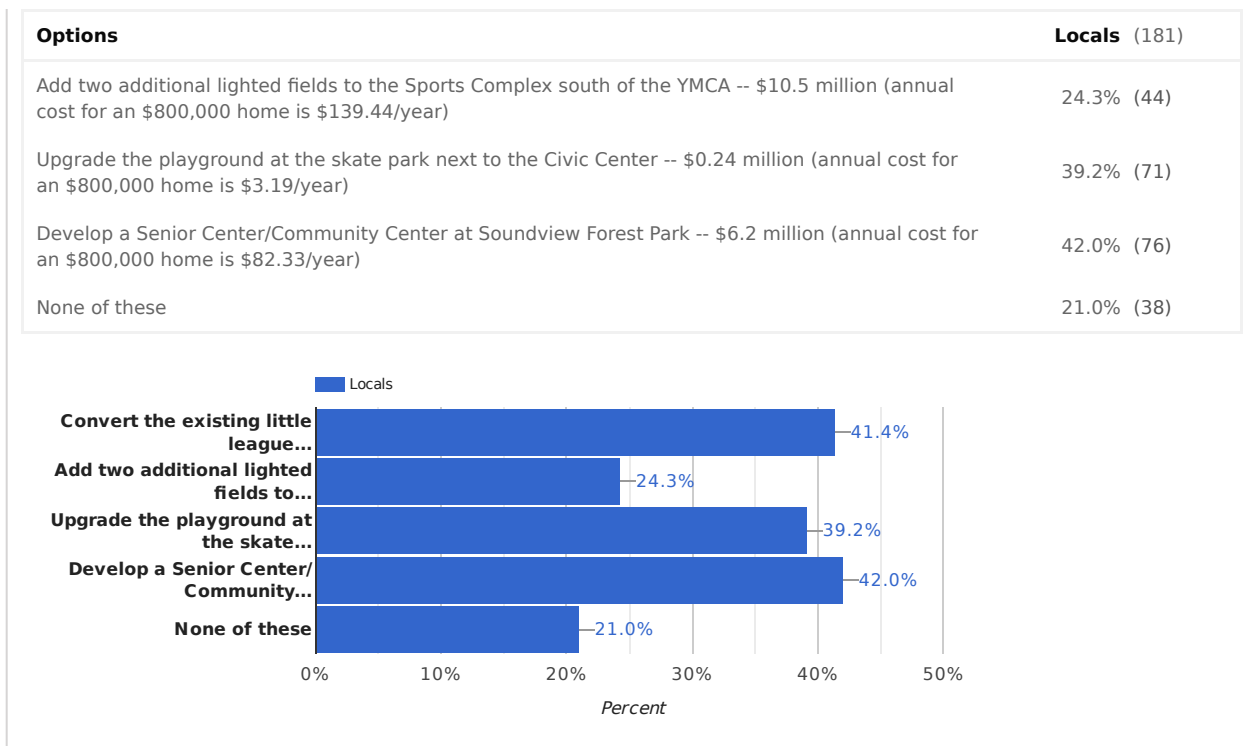


Q2 The City of Gig Harbor is considering replacement of the expiring park improvement tax levy with a new one. Every \$1 million in funding is estimated to require a levy of \$0.0166 per \$1,000 of assessed property value, so an \$800,000 home would pay approximately \$13.28 annually for every \$1 million funded.

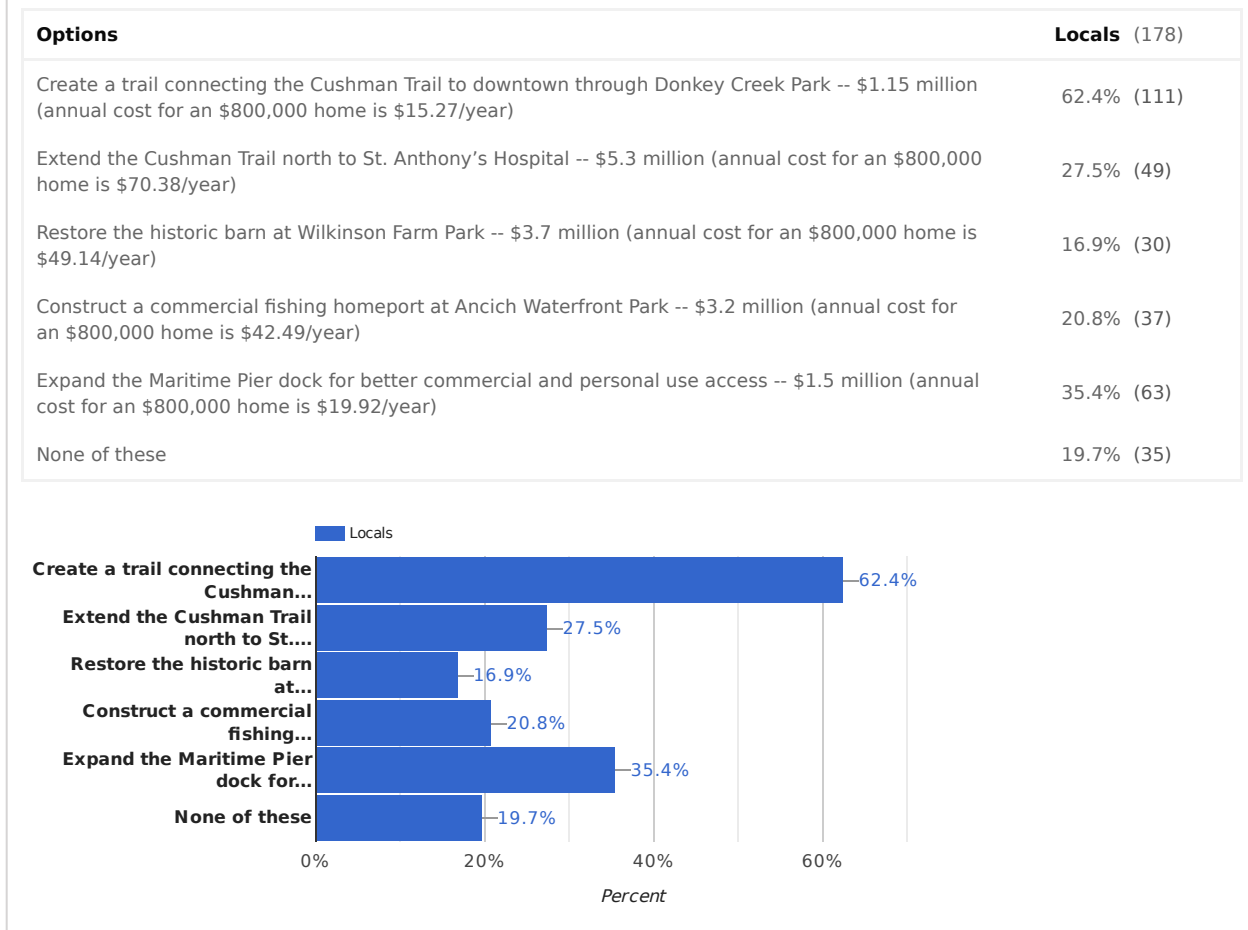
Which of the following possible city park projects would you be willing to pay for with a 20-year property tax increase, if any? (Choose all that apply)

(181 responses by)

Options	Locals (181)
Convert the existing little league fields at PenLight Fields (southwest of the YMCA) to lighted multi-sport fields as part of the Sports Complex -- \$3 million (annual cost for an \$800,000 home is \$39.84/year)	41.4% (75)



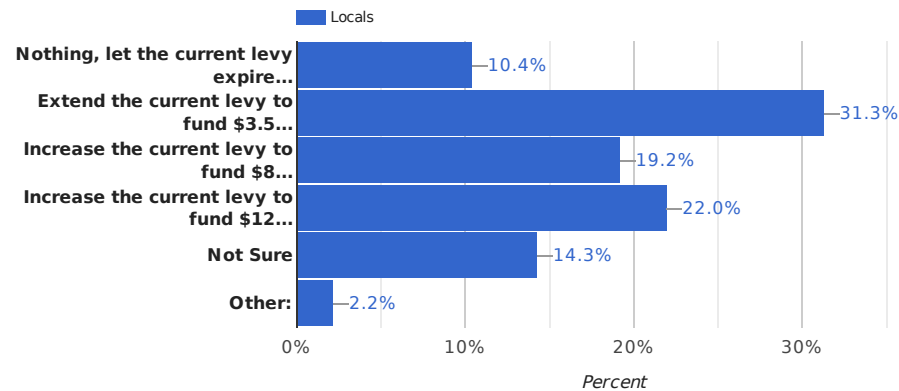
Q3 Which of these other possible city park projects would you be willing to pay for with a 20-year property tax increase, if any? (Choose all that apply)
(178 responses by)



Q4 Which best describes the overall level of funding for city park projects that you would support in a new 20-year tax levy to replace the expiring \$3.5 million bond funding?

(182 responses by)

Options	Locals (182)
Nothing, let the current levy expire and don't fund any of these park projects	10.4% (19)
Extend the current levy to fund \$3.5 million of park projects (annual cost for an \$800,000 home is \$46.48/year)	31.3% (57)
Increase the current levy to fund \$8 million of park projects (annual cost for an \$800,000 home is \$106.24/year)	19.2% (35)
Increase the current levy to fund \$12 million of park projects (annual cost for an \$800,000 home is \$159.36/year)	22.0% (40)
Not Sure	14.3% (26)
Other:	2.2% (4)



information without gig harbor existing
pen feel want mention
tax spending parks reevaluate also
levy priorities receipts kid stuff met
number support never keep
year going around need allocate 100

There is a number of parks in and around Gig harbor not to mention we have \$ going to Pen Met also.

I don't have or never had kids, I don't feel I want to support more kid stuff

keep it under \$100 per year

I need more information

Q5 Any other comments or suggestions about potential city park projects or funding?

A word cloud of terms related to the park project. The words are arranged in a circular pattern, with 'park' being the largest and most central word. Other prominent words include 'senior center', 'community', 'project', 'harbor', 'need', 'city', 'support', 'tax', 'fund', 'like', 'soundview', 'creek new', 'increase', 'use', 'another', 'year', 'see', 'little', 'please', 'put', 'forest', 'keep property', 'light', 'money', 'already', 'area', 'build', 'take', 'home', 'trail', 'gig', 'good', 'sport', 'enough', 'now', 'citizen', 'ball', 'priority', 'downtown', 'space', and 'boat'. The words are in various shades of blue and green, with some words appearing in a lighter, semi-transparent font.

It's time for the city to quit investing in new or expanded parks and start investing in actually implementing a downtown parking facility and improved retail and small living spaces that bring value to the citizens. We have enough park property and those that use those properties are minimal in comparison to the overall population. If baseball, leagues, and soccer leagues, and bocce ball leagues, and even other sports facilities are expanded, that should be at the expense of those who

are participating? We have no real affordable housing for elderly people in downtown Gig Harbor. Why not two-story buildings downtown with retail shops on the bottom and affordable condominiums on top, a walkable, a small grocery store, mini-hardware store, artisan and citizen activities stores, community feeling, social, etc. Let's increase density and community downtown for those who have lived in the cit their whole lives. We need to rebuild of downtown, we don't need trinket shops and liquor stores.

Install EV Chargers at some of the parks

We need to make a distinction between "parks" and "playing" fields. They are not one and the same.

Have any state grants have been explored to help offset sports fields cost?

Maintain Wilkinson Park as well as you can and initiate yearly Open Houses there so citizens can appreciate what that family did to help support the Gig Harbor citizens.

We have plenty of nice parks and taxes are already too high.

We need fields!!!! Please urge the council to fulfill their commitment to the sports complex! The community is and will be behind it

The fisherman and waterfront have gotten enough funds spent on them in the past 10 years. It is time to put the money toward lighted turf fields for children and families in our community.

Please don't waste taxpayer money on the masonic lodge-there are better uses for crescent creek park to make it natural and beautiful. Look for other spots in the city for a community center. And isn't commercial fishing an industry, not a park? How does that business fit in? Is there a park component?

We need fields! Kids are losing because we don't have enough. Simple as that.

Gig Harbor is worth investing in!

Senior center and public pool should be first priorities.

Definitely against any funding for lighted fields as part of a sport complex. We do not need more fields when those at the schools are not being used. I understand that the YMCA has been unable to secure funding necessary to build the fields. That should show us that the interest lies elsewhere and that lighted fields are not a priority.

Create a program to label tree species and teach more about identifying and caring for our forests. Stop spraying so copiously along trails and do more weeding and gravel approaches.

I would want to hear more about the scope and impact of each project before making any decisions. Is there an existing need? What is the expected usage? etc.

Upgrade and maintain existing parks before creating new ones

Soundview house is not sufficient for a senior center. Too small, multi level, not enough parking. Don't even consider it.

These questions are too vague for me to make an informed decision. I need more details and more information. There are a lot of levy asks and I am a senior citizen with limited income, but not low income, and fear that I will not be able to stay in my home if property taxes keep rising. I want to support local projects but want to see what other funding sources are contributing to them other than property owners.

We have an extreme lack of park space, field space and trail space. Please take action to correct these issues. It's difficult or impossible to find green space to play soccer with my son on the weekends. Super frustrating.

Seniors and Pickleball need to be a priority. Enough with all the ball fields

Would love a Senior Center but not with any impact to Soundview Forest—let it remain untouched.

We are new to this community (second year) and really appreciate the parks, trails, and recreational infrastructure provided and supported here.

The Gig Harbor Sports Complex is LONG OVERDUE. The City can make this happen!

Lack of understanding as to why city requires additional taxes on top of already steep property tax increases. Need to explain to the public where is the money being spent before asking for more

No

Bringing the Cushman trail to the waterfront would be great, & a safe way to get pedestrians to the harbor. A senior center is really needed! Improving the skatepark's playground would be nice, as would be adding multi use ball fields

Nice to know if these funds are capital or operating expenditures.

Great ideas. Adding to the city is good for all in the long run. Need to be proactive and keep homeless out and crime down. The state needs to be more strict on theft and offenders and keep them off the streets and increase faith based rehab.

Finish park project backlog and take a breath!

I believe the time is NOW to preserve and expand these areas/projects. We are proud to support these projects that serve each one of the citizens each day!! Thank you

Increasing walkability to/from the harbor and keeping natural landscape habitat for wildlife are most important to my family.

A Sr. Center should be a priority, but \$6.2 million seems too excessive.

The citizens already paid for the Boat shop buildings. The Eden Boat shop and has put in over 9 million. Then we build the kayak park storage at 8 million and now have more land, parks, Fisherman's waterfront dock and more. The city can not do so many projects and you have money for many smaller ones. Don't over tax your citizens. Rebuild a simple playground at the civic center and connect the Cushman trail to downtown. Call it good and be proud.

It has become such a financial struggle for most senior citizens to support another tax increase for our town.

We need an aquatic center.

[Additional survey reports](#)