

# Survey Results: Outdoor Community Space

[Survey Info](#) - This survey was sent on behalf of the Town of Los Altos Hills to the FlashVote community for Los Altos Hills, CA.

These FlashVote results are shared with local officials

184

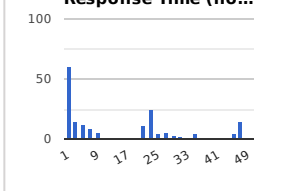
Total Participants

182 of 392 initially invited (46%)  
2 others  
Margin of error: ± 7%

Applied Filter:  
**Locals only**

Participants for filter:  
**159**

Response Time (ho...



Started:  
**Jun 8, 2022 11:16am PDT**

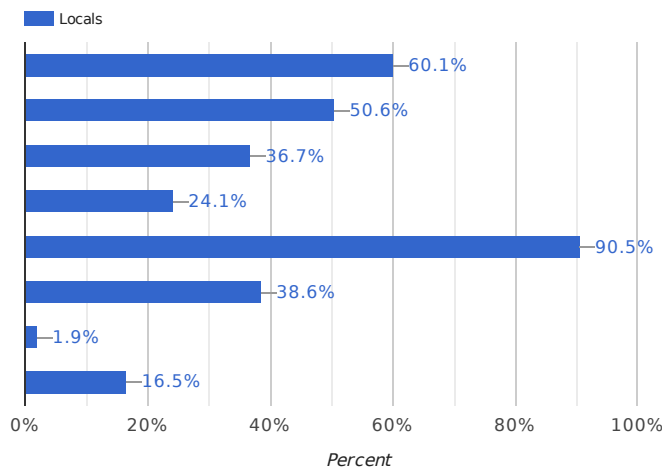
Ended:  
**Jun 10, 2022 11:16am PDT**

Target Participants:  
**All Los Altos Hills**

**Q1** In the last 12 months, which of the following outdoor recreation spaces have you or your family used locally? (Choose all that apply)

(158 responses by )

Options	Locals (158)
A local park NOT in Los Altos Hills	60.1% (95)
A local open space preserve NOT in Los Altos Hills	50.6% (80)
A local pathway/trail NOT in Los Altos Hills	36.7% (58)
Country club	24.1% (38)
Your home yard/amenities or someone else's	90.5% (143)
Local school or university	38.6% (61)
None of these	1.9% (3)
Other:	16.5% (26)



byrne open space westwind  
courts park preserve  
lah purissima  
fields pathway picnic  
local hills altos los rancho  
barn san use

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Menlo Park Skateboarding park

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Several parks in 15 miles radius for picnics and birthday parties

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Please don't advertise to non residents. Byrne Preserve had 60+ after dark last week.

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Open space in LAH

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with the Covid restrictions we have stayed home. other years we are out and using parks

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Open space preserve starting in LAH

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Los Altos Hills Pathways, Westwind Barn

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Byrne Preserve

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Santa Clara County parks, campgrounds, trails

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A pathway in Los Altos Hills!

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Local pathway in Los Altos hills

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National and state parks

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Byrne Preserve

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Purissima baseball fields for picnic

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Pickleball courts (everywhere)

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LAH pathways, Westwind Barn

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local pathway in LAH

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Purissima Park Town Picnic

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Rancho San

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Use Purissima park, west wind barn, and walk pathways all in LAH

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Pathways along streets in our neighborhood.

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LAH pathways

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Little League Fields

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Rancho San Antonio,

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Pathways in Los Altos Hills

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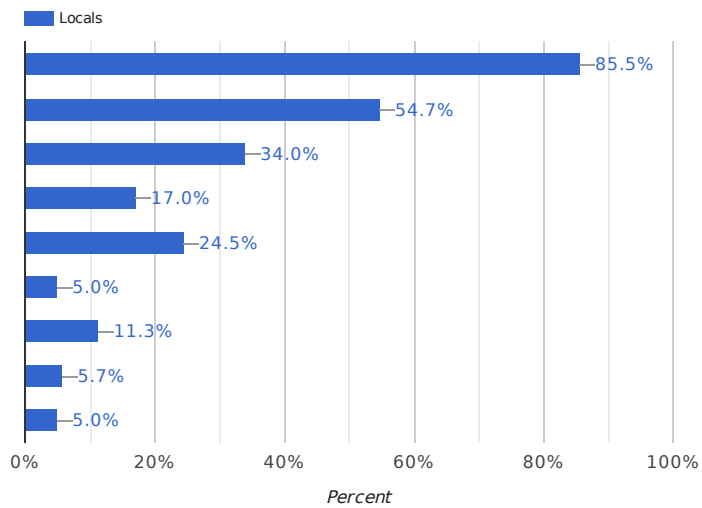
Multipurpose meeting/gathering places and Bocci/Pickle ball courts

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**Q2** In the last 12 months, which of the following, if any, have you or your family used *in Los Altos Hills*? (Choose all that apply, if any)

(159 responses by )

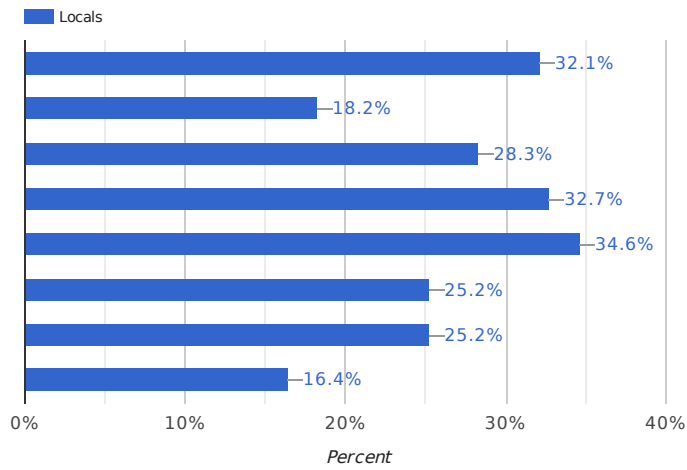
Options	Locals (159)
Pathways/trails	85.5% (136)
Open space preserves (Byrne, Juan Prado Mesa, Murietta, O'Keefe, Rhus, Central, Saddle Mountain)	54.7% (87)
Westwind Community Barn	34.0% (54)
Edith Park	17.0% (27)
Baseball fields at Purissima Park	24.5% (39)
Horse riding arena at Purissima Park	5.0% (8)
Dog park at Purissima Park	11.3% (18)
Outdoor fitness equipment at Purissima Park	5.7% (9)
Toddler playground at Purissima Park	5.0% (8)



**Q3** Which park amenities do you think Los Altos Hills needs more of, if any? (You can choose up to FOUR)

(159 responses by )

Options	Locals (159)
Open manicured grass sections (for picnics, casual games and outdoor activities)	32.1% (51)
Playground equipment	18.2% (29)
Restrooms	28.3% (45)
Park benches/seating	32.7% (52)
Shade structures	34.6% (55)
Picnic tables/BBQs	25.2% (40)
None of these	25.2% (40)
Other:	16.4% (26)



older better kids water  
 tennis dog waste bike courts  
 trails lah park grass path  
 purissima pool pathways  
 sit like old maintain

Skateboarding park

A better dog park!

Please do not build more.

Bins for dog waste on key pathways - like the ones a Byrne which are almost full every week

Mountain Bike Trails

swimming pool

Skate park or BMX bike track for older kids/teens

tennis and pickleball courts. Something for older folks and not just Little League which dominates

do not waste water on grass

Pool, Convenient dog friendly parks

Keep working on the pathways. They are the best thing about LAH!

maintain pathways in South LAH area -- Magdalena, Ravensbury etc.

Better maintained pathways without fences built right at path

dog waste pickup and disposal.

Grass is being phased out everywhere. Don't add more.

Community meeting rooms

We are retired & ok w LAH facilities; our kids live away & g'kds too old to use LAH parks dur visit

water fountains for people/dogs

improve, repair and extend the pathways

At Purissima park play structure

Fewer off-road paths, more sitting or gathering corners

Olympic-size Pool; tennis courts; food vendors

Benches on trails (like Rhus Ridge - I need a place to sit down on that hill!)

A dog park on flat land with grass

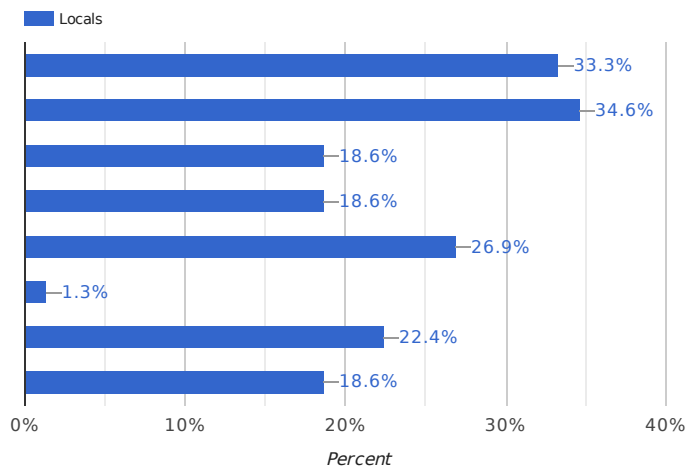
An official dog park time at the Purissima ballfields

More pathways if possible

**Q4** Which of the following new parks or outdoor facilities do you think we need most in Los Altos Hills, if any? (You can choose up to FOUR)

(156 responses by )

Options	Locals (156)
A manicured grass park (for picnics, casual games and outdoor activities)	33.3% (52)
More pathways/trails	34.6% (54)
Another open space preserve	18.6% (29)
A multipurpose grass sports field(s) (for soccer, cricket, flag football, etc.)	18.6% (29)
A full size multipurpose sports court (for basketball, pickleball, futsal, etc.)	26.9% (42)
Another horse riding arena	1.3% (2)
We don't need any of these	22.4% (35)
We need:	18.6% (29)



skateboard purissima property  
 field classes bike space ball  
 like open dog pool baseball  
 seniors  
 small trail park road preserve  
 pickle outside tennis court skate  
 area town  
 swimming convert community

Skateboarding park

Road side and trail side benches to allow seniors equal access

a better dog park!

Classes for seniors at town hall.

Restroom and coffee shop adjoining the grass park

Mountain Bike Trails

Skate park, BMX bike track for older kids/teens

a swimming pool

Tennis

Tennis courts. Hey, we don't all belong to country clubs!!!!

Playground

1) Bocce courts; 2) Wish the town had bought the Fenwick property & made it an open space preserve.

Pool, Convenient dog friendly parks

Tennis courts, pickle ball courts

"Shoup Park" a place for families with young children to gather

More housing

Mini parklet areas with water fountains, casual seating, adirondaks

Outside area for concerts and community events

less property tax

dog park without weeds

Swimming pool

A level well maintained dog park with a section for big dogs and one for small dogs

More community space for classes, performances, etc. Some could be outside such as a small stage.

Have a baseball field convert to soccer, field hockey

Eliminate off road routes that impede on privacy adversely impact privacy or serenity

An olympic-size pool and/or tennis courts like Ladera in Portola Valley offers its residents w/food

All new spaces not taking away from what we have. Would like Pickle ball court

Official dog park hours at the Purissima ballfields

Skateboard park

Q5 Any other comments or suggestions about parks and open spaces in Los Altos Hills, including anything else you would change?

(67 responses by )



Los Altos Hills should spend its limited budget on reducing fire dangers by clearing lands of flammable vegetation, cutting down dead trees on town residents' properties free of charge, etc.

From my previous comments, I'd really like to push for an out door skateboarding park for our children here in Los Altos Hills. Something safe and local would be amazing to have. I have connections through the skateboarding community that can help us design, build and fundraise for it.

I love LAH as it is. Just improve the paths so they are smoother to walk on.

Stop the proliferation of cell towers in the Hills. The telecoms and utility industries can no longer claim they comply with any measure of safety based on the radiation exposure limits not updated by the FCC since 1996, which, even at that time, were not based on human or environmental hazards. Who would want to buy a car or board a plane whose safety regulations haven't been updated since 1996? The U.S. Court of Appeals admonished the FCC for the District of Columbia Circuit on August 13, 2021, for the FCC's "complete failure to respond to comments concerning environmental harm caused by RF radiation" below the 1996 limits and remanded those 1996 limits back to the FCC for reconsideration. The same court, in August 2019, vacated the FCC's 5G wireless deployment order because the FCC failed to conduct an environmental review in violation of the National Environmental Policy Act. We live in a vacuum, with no official safety standard for exposure to RFR.

Please do not add parks or refined space. We have more than enough for our population profile.

Please get rid of the baseball fields that only serve majority of kids from outside of town. Longer term I would also like to see the riding facilities gone but for now there are enough local kids using them.

Pathway maintenance is good, improving and responsive - thanks! People really do use these pathways more and more. Dog waste bins at main intersections would help people pick up dog waste without carrying it all the way home.

This survey feels very narrow and only focuses on adding more of what we already have. We have zero spaces for teens in our community. We barely have spaces for elementary aged kids. It can be easy to add a skate park to some area that is not used much. You could add a BMX track around the baseball fields. Lots of ideas to explore. A decent playground or community tennis courts would be awesome to have as well.

The baseball fields seem to attract groups from outside LAH. We need facilities that serve our residents. The biggest lack which became apparent during the pandemic was access to a swimming pool. Our town is hilly and many of us are built out on our lots because of slope. Clubs are expensive and provide services more attractive to families. Swimming and water walking are recommended for older adults but we have no where to go.

some thing in the center of town. Purissima is far north

With RHNA and SB9, pathways for safe walking (away from traffic) will become more important than ever.

We need better pathways/trail guides. Please post the pathways map on the town website!

Little League dominates too much, often for those who don't even live in the town. We should also avoid merely supporting other out of town service providers who seem to have gotten too much of a political grip. A couple tennis courts would be good. So would a soccer/multipurpose field (I didn't check that earlier but should have). Let's share with a wider set of interests.

Town hall is useful for meetings

As someone with young kids, I'm constantly driving out of the neighborhood to find a playground; the rocky sidewalks make it difficult to push a stroller as well. A playground in LAH would help my kids meet more families close by.

Again, if it ever becomes available, we think that the Fenwick property would make a superb open space. Readily accessible, plenty of space for parking, wonderful views, and the house could be converted into a grand community/conference venue.

Please don't forget about the little corners of LAH. Some of us live in places that are somewhat out of the main area. We need facilities too!

Be sure the pathways are accessible and open to people and horses.

We need things to do other than walk and hike. Things that engage our neighbors and allows us to bring guests

Our pathways are special and we need take every opportunity to expand them.

Pathways make LAH a standout community, but it's not ideal for young children. We used Shoup Park in Los Altos. LAH needs something like that for people with young children to meet other people with young children.

Purissima Fields should remain exactly how they are.

Our town government should spend its valuable budget on fire prevention, by offering free dead tree removal services as it has done for many years.

No new spaces but adding a few little benches and picnic tables for socializing outdoors.

Los Altos Hills should be a low service small community without a whole lot of amenities.

You do not mention that an approach to funding these efforts is donations from residents.

I love the Town's open spaces and paths.

Better maintenance of pathways/trails (gopher holes, etc.) and trimming of weeds and surrounding vegetation/trees for better visibility, clearing out dead, fire-prone wood. Better parking access for Rhus Ridge and other trailheads. Online trailmap.

We need something less rural

A better dog park.

sidewalks or walk ways that were not also parking. Dog waste bags on pathways. rich people do not pick up after dogs

(as mentioned) would be great to have a dog park without weeds.

My dream community park would be on the land between Town Hall and Pinewood School, along the banks of the Barron Creek. It would be similar to Shoup Park in that it would have picnic tables under trees, playgrounds, benches, open grassy space, a creekside trail, parking and restrooms. If enough land could be acquired (and houses removed), then a swimming pool and sport courts would be nice too.

I would get rid of heritage house.

1. Please continue to maintain and improve existing parks and open spaces. 2. Work with Palo Alto to better define and manage trails adjacent to LAH. For example, the area between Foothill, Artastrero and Fremont. Clearly mark on pathways map. 3. Work with Los Altos to better manage access to Redwood Grove from LAH.

Thank You!

I live around Magdalena - there isn't really a park around here. We usually walk to Rancho San Antonia via Ravensbury. It would be nice to have a small park in the area.

I am unhappy the way Byrne Preserve (presumably a preserve, NOT a park, to protect wild life) is being used by the recreation department

As a LAH resident, we provide free water for dogs where the street meets our upper property. Dog-walkers LOVE it. How do we get more of them, e.g. every 1/2 mile or so around LAH pathways and streets?

I enjoy riding my gravel bike on the various pathways/trails

Not sure why needed in LAH? We came here to enjoy the extra space of our 1 acre lots.



We should look to making use of the facilities at foothill College.

Manicured grass requires water. No need to install a water consuming installation

Love all the trails and shortcuts through neighborhoods so we don't have to walk on busy roads. Thank you!

Community Open Space Facility for meetings and events.

We need a community park - we have a community barn, community horse ring, several ball fields but no community park similar to Shoup Park in Los Altos. A set of baseball fields is not a community park. It should be completely separate facility.

a park like shoup park would be fantastic in LAH.

Equal access for bikes as horses. Horse groups control the town politically.

None

On the whole, I think that Los Altos Hills doesn't do poorly in this regard. However, there are no public tennis or pickleball courts and so many people have to travel to Palo Alto, Mountain View, and Los Altos to play. I think that is an oversight.

More Pathways hooking with another. I love Shoup Park. Putting restrooms near the top of the hill at Westwind without disrupting the view.

Something residents have never understood, is that the Town provides the baseball diamonds for Los Altos/Los Altos Hills and Los Altos provides the majority of Soccer fields. Is Bullis still used for AYSO Soccer? The upper portion of the Bullis playground would make a perfect multi-use field.

Decades of town council, parks and pathway committee member efforts have created the beautiful options we enjoy right now. I'm concerned that 'change for change sake' or for the legacy imprint of current council persons drive this desire to add more public venues. What we have now was often hard-won and often created with resident input. A few squeaky wheels should not dictate a major expenditure or development of our natural areas. Please refer to the town surveys! That is what residents want.

Better and more playground facilities. More community gathering space, possibly at or near Town Hall and/or possibly near the nexus of the more popular hiking trails/walking paths. The community classes thru Parks and Rec were a great boon to the Town when they started and would like to see more of this.

Our small town has a great trail system, and the existing open space preserves should be maintained. Don't feel we need any other outdoor community spaces which are available in nearby towns. Rather recommend focusing on undergrounding electrical and high speed internet lines.

Love our town and all that it offers!

The pathways trail system is great. The open space is great.

The off road trails often impact privacy, security, and diminish the usability of the property that the homeowner is paying tax on.

A community center with a pool and other amenities similar to Ladera that's subsidized by the town would be ideal. People who use it could pay dues.

Update the Purissima Fields, but keep all four fields. Add picnic areas with seating at Byrne Preserve.

1) Perhaps do some fire mitigation clearing in Byrne Preserve, especially in the creek area. 2) Having ridden a mountain bike in Byrne Preserve for 40 years I miss my early-morning rides there. I never had any issues with either horses or hikers (I'd simply get off the bike and walk past horses and people during the very rare encounters). Thank you for this survey.

Check on trail conditions at least once a year.

Nothing.

New spaces don't convert baseball fields

Allow leash dogs in parks

There is nothing for teenagers to do in this town. Please work towards fixing that shortcoming.

Need more parking in open space preserves so we can drive there to hike further up. Unless we stay next door, there is not an easy way to get to those open spaces further away from home to explore. Pathways are wonderful and a joy to explore. It is great to see so many folks enjoying them. Need a place for local middle school and high school kids to hang out instead of all going to Los Altos downtown.

