

Snow Hinton Park Master Plan

Barge Design Solutions, Inc. July 7, 2020

Survey Summary

The Snow Hinton Park online survey was launched on May 25, 2020 and closed on June 16, 2020. Questions for the survey were developed through a back-and-forth process with Tuscaloosa City staff. The City developed a webpage with a video presentation and a link to the survey. www.elevatetuscaloosa.com/snowhinton

Figure 1-1: Project Webpage



The survey was promoted through with a press release, flyers, yard signs, Alabama Public Radio PSA, 311 Hold Message, webpage slider digitals ads, and social media outlets.

The target response level was a minimum of 385. The survey exceeded that goal with roughly 668 surveys total. Based on this simple metric, we have a confidence level of 95% and confidence interval of 3.75. This means that we can be reasonably confident that these results represent the opinions of the community by ± 3.75 points of the results provided.

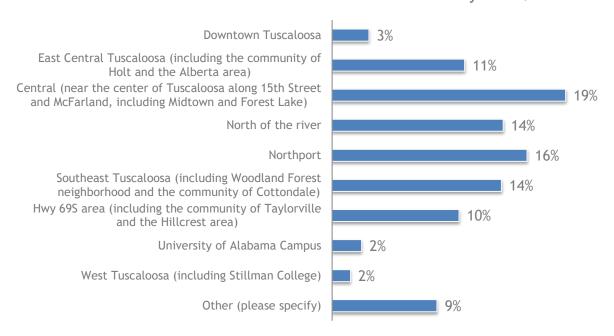
However, we also review the demographic information provided. While this information is optional and relies on the honesty of the participants, we can compare the statistical significance of the sample. Using this comparison method, we can determine if there is a difference in how certain response groups answered various questions. During the analysis, we found cases of statistical significance between groups. In several questions below, we included the statistical significance between groups in our analysis.

Location and Demographics of Respondents

In the survey, we included several demographic questions in order to determine if we were able to reach a typical representation of the community. We began with a question that asked, "Please select the area that best describes where you live." A total of 662 people responded to this question. The highest choice selected was Central (near the center of Tuscaloosa along 15th Street and McFarland, including Midtown and Forest Lake). The second highest response was Northport.

Figure 1-2: Respondents' Location

Please select the area that best describes where you live.



The respondents who selected other (please specify) predominately were from areas of the County. Several wrote in County or noted specific areas like Brookwood, Coker, or Duncanville. There was also three respondents who stated that they live across from the park.

Gender of Respondents

In addition to asking where respondents live, we asked about their gender. In the results, we find that females represent the majority of the respondents in the survey, or 64.2%, with 34.0% males responding. Based on the U.S. Census Bureau QuickFacts, the female population in Tuscaloosa is currently 52%. While we have a disproportional number of females responding, many may be responding on opinions for the household. In our

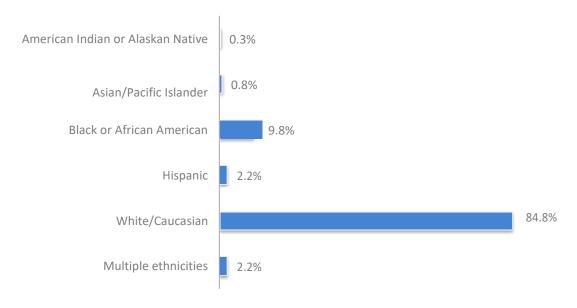
experience, we often find that females are more likely to take online surveys. During our analysis, we isolated responses from males and females on several questions to determine the statistical significance between groups. Unless noted below in the question analysis, gender does not appear to alter the outcome of the results.

Race and Ethnicity of Respondents

According to the U.S. Census Bureau QuickFacts, Tuscaloosa is 51% white, 44% black or African American, 3% Hispanic and less than 2% in other categories. In the results, we find most respondents were white/Caucasian at 84.8%. As with gender, we again analyzed several questions for statistical significance between groups due to the disparagement of race and ethnicity of respondents as compared to the current demographics. Based on our analysis, we did not find significant differences in most responses to questions unless noted.

Figure 1-3: Race and Ethnicity of Respondents

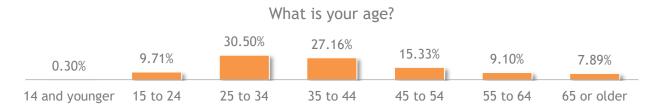
Which race/ethnicity best describes you? (Please choose only one)



Age of Respondents

In addition to gender and race, we asked respondents to provide their age. The majority responded with 25-34. According to the U.S. Census Bureau 2016 American Community Survey, the median age for Tuscaloosa is 28.7.





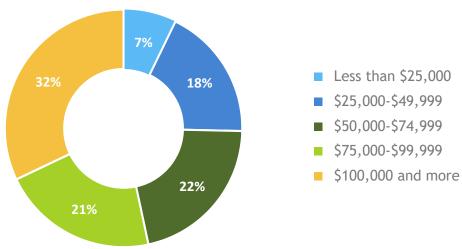
And within the households, respondents were asked to provide the number of children by age living in the home. Approximately 50% of respondents answered zero or skipped the question. Of the ones responding, the largest group was 6 to 12 years old, and the smallest group was 5 years old and under. It is important for the consultant team to see a variety of household types taking the survey. Overall, the consulting team was pleased to see a healthy mix of households ranging in age, with some having young children, some midrange, and some with older children, as well as households without children or grown children.

A majority of respondents were married (63%) or single/never married (20%). In addition, 69% had a bachelor's degree or higher. 14% had an associate's degree and 3% had a vocational certificate. Roughly 1% indicated that they had less than a high school diploma.

When asked about income, roughly 10% skipped the question. Of those who answered, 32% have a household income of \$100,000 or more.

Figure 1-5: Average Household Income



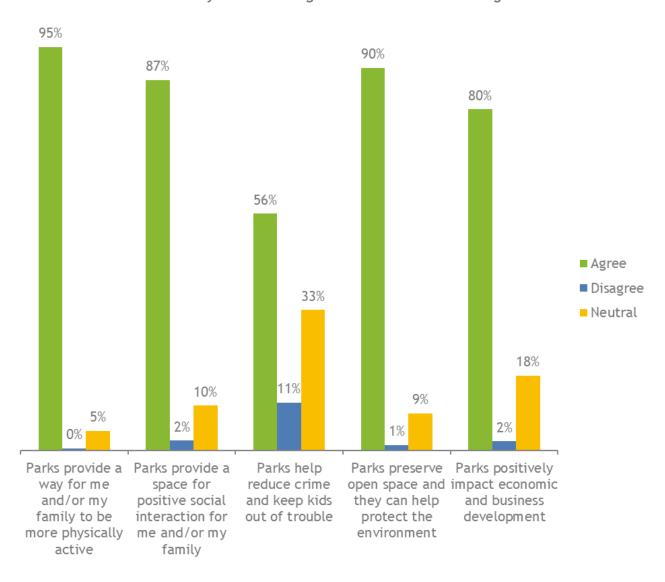


Value and Benefits of Parks

In order to determine the opinion of the community, we asked if respondents agree or disagree about statements concerning the impact of parks and recreation on the community's people, environment, and economy. Notably, 56%-95% of the community agree that parks have a positive impact on the community. The largest disagreement concerns parks reducing crime and keeping kids out of trouble. This may be due to occurrences of crime in Snow Hinton Park itself.

Figure 1-6: Value and Benefit of Parks

Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements.

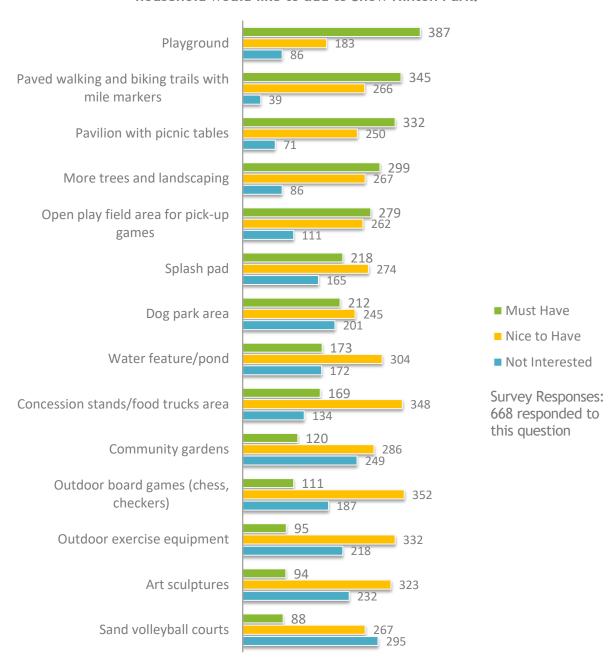


Desire for Facilities

To determine the desire for new facilities, we asked survey respondents to indicate which ones you or your household would like to add to Snow Hinton Park. Of the approximately 668 respondents to this question, we find the number one desire/must-have is for playgrounds.

Figure 1-7: Desired Facilities

Please indicate which of the following FACILITIES you or your household would like to add to Snow Hinton Park.



In summary, below are the top five in each possible selection. A small number of respondents specified an item under other. A number of those responses listed skatepark, basketball court and nice restrooms.

Mı	ust Have
1	Playground
2	Paved walking and biking trails with mile markers
3	Pavilion with picnic tables
4	More trees and landscaping
5	Open play field area for pick-up games
Ni	ce to Have
1	Outdoor board games (chess, checkers)
2	Concession stands/food trucks area
3	Outdoor exercise equipment
4	Art sculptures
5	Water feature/pond
No	ot Interested
1	Sand volleyball courts
2	Community gardens
3	Art sculptures
4	Outdoor exercise equipment
5	Dog park area

When we break out and compare the top three desired facilities among statistical significance groups, such as female and male, and different racial groups, we find that playgrounds consistently ranked high, as well as trails and pavilions and play field areas.

- Male top three "must have": Open play field area for pick-up games, Paved walking and biking trails with mile markers, and Playground
- Female top three "must have": Playground, Pavilion with picnic tables, Paved walking and biking trails with mile markers
- Black or African American top three "must have": Playground, Pavilion with picnic tables, and Open play field area for pick-up games
- White/Caucasian top three "must have": Playground, Paved walking and biking trails with mile markers, and Pavilion with picnic tables

After a discussion with City staff about the results, the consulting team added "must have" and "nice together to have" to create a combined top ten list.

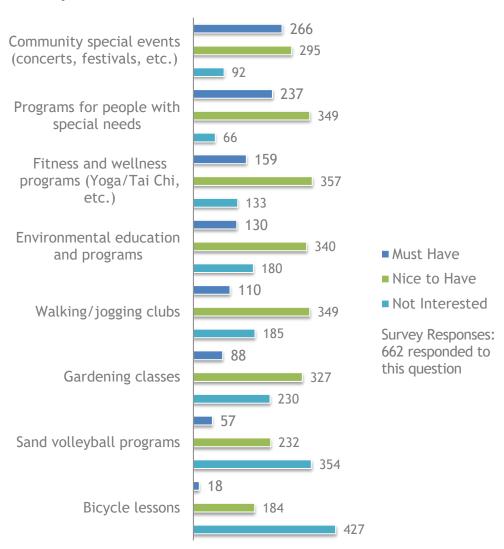
Top ⁻	Геп "Must Have" and "Nice to Have"
1	Paved walking and biking trails with mile markers
2	Pavilion with picnic tables
3	Playground
4	More trees and landscaping
5	Open play field area for pick-up games
6	Concession stands/food trucks area
7	Splash pad
8	Water feature/pond
9	Outdoor board games (chess, checkers)
10	Dog park area

Desire for Programs

Programs provide a conduit to engage the community in a variety of activities in a park. To learn what programs Tuscaloosa residents desire, we asked respondents to indicate if they or any member of their household has a need/want for each of the Parks and Recreation programs listed below. Not surprising, we find community special events at the top of the list. Based on our experience, we typically find these community events rank high, along with other non-sport programs where it is easy for any level of ability to participate.

Figure 1-8: Desired Programs

Please indicate which of the following PROGRAMS you or your household would like to add to Snow Hinton Park.



In summary, below are the top five in each possible selection.

Μι	ust Have
1	Community special events (concerts, festivals, etc.)
2	Programs for people with special needs
3	Fitness and wellness programs (Yoga/Tai Chi, etc.)
4	Environmental education and programs
5	Walking/jogging clubs
Ni	ce to Have
1	Fitness and wellness programs (Yoga/Tai Chi, etc.)
2	Programs for people with special needs
3	Walking/jogging clubs
4	Environmental education and programs
5	Gardening classes
No	ot Interested
1	Bicycle lessons
2	Sand volleyball programs
3	Gardening classes
4	Walking/jogging clubs
5	Environmental education and programs

Similar to the analysis on facilities, the consulting team added "must have" and "nice to have" together to create a combined list.

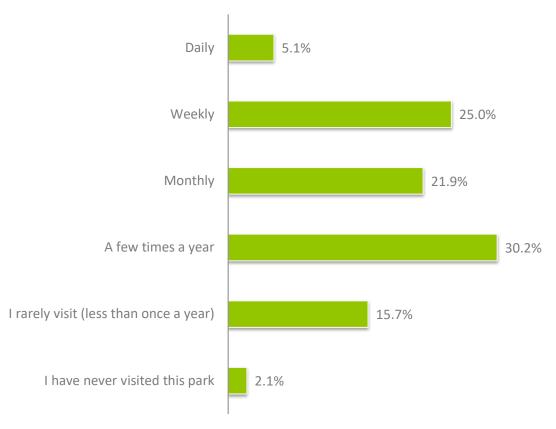
Top Eight "Must Have" and "Nice to Have"			
1	Programs for people with special needs		
2	Community special events (concerts, festivals, etc.)		
3	Fitness and wellness programs (Yoga/Tai Chi, etc.)		
4	Environmental education and programs		
5	Walking/jogging clubs		
6	Gardening classes		
7	Sand volleyball programs		
8	Bicycle lessons		

Park Usage

To understand what parks are being used by the respondents, we asked "How often do you or your household visit Snow Hinton Park?"

Figure 1-9: Respondents' Usage Rates at Snow Hinton Park

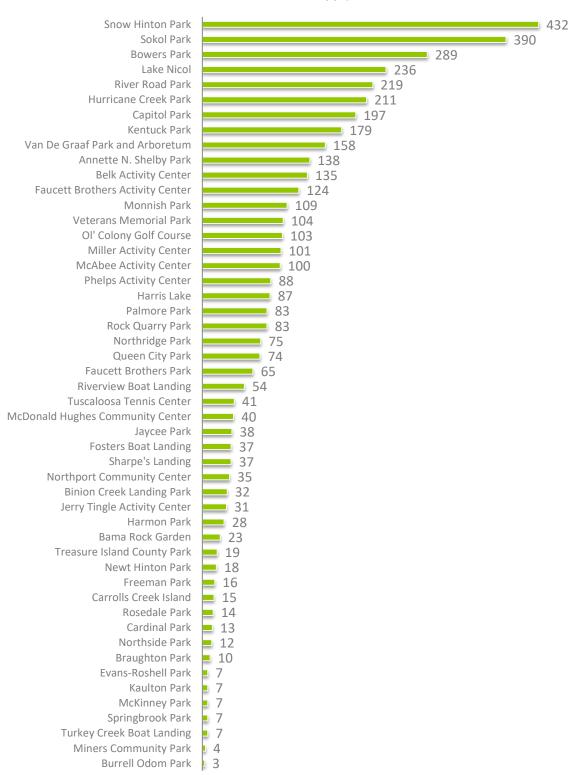




To understand what parks are being used by the residents, we asked survey respondents to indicate if they or any member of their household has used the following parks. The most used park, based on survey input, was Snow Hinton Park with 432 of the total 641 respondents replying to this question.

Figure 1-10: Respondents' Usage Rates at All Parks

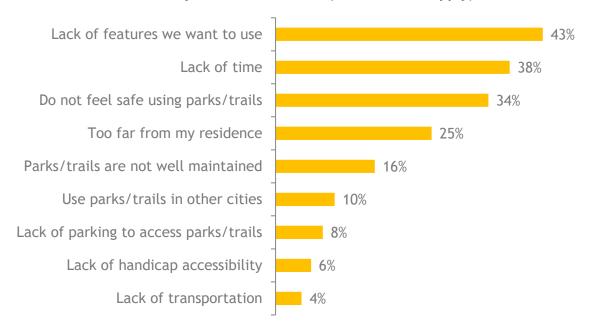
Which Tuscaloosa parks and recreation facilities do you or your household use? Check all that apply.



Next we ask, if you or your household has NOT visited any parks or trails in Tuscaloosa in the past month, please check any of the following reasons you have not visited (check all that apply). Most respondents indicated that the lack of features is why they have not visited any parks or trails in the past month. In the open-ended comments, someone mentioned not visiting parks due to COVID-19; in retrospect, the consulting team should have noted in the question that it was intentionally excluded.

Figure 1-11: Reasons for Lack of Visits

If you or your household has NOT visited any parks or trails in Tuscaloosa in the past month, please check any of the following reasons you have not visited (check all that apply).

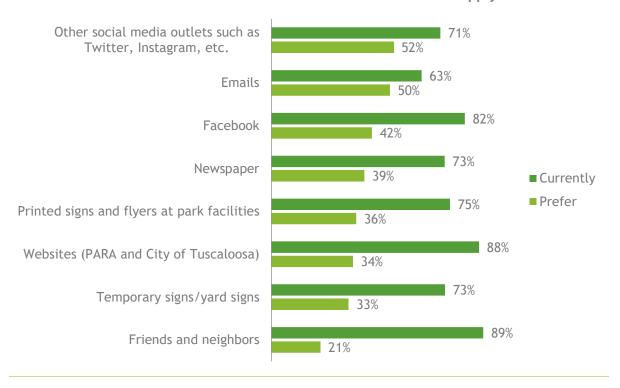


Communication

Next we asked, "Which of the following ways do you learn about recreation programs and activities in Tuscaloosa? Please check all that apply." The City of Tuscaloosa uses a variety of communication methods to engage the community. To determine which methods are reaching the respondents, we asked what ways they learn about programs and provided a multiple-choice list. From the responses, we find that most are learning about happenings through friends and neighbors (89%), looking at the PARA and City of Tuscaloosa website (88%), and/or Facebook (82%) to find out what activities are available. However, most prefer other social media outlets such as Twitter, Instagram, etc. (52%), or direct emails (50%).

Figure 1-12: Communication

Which of the following ways do you learn about recreation programs and activities in Tuscaloosa? Please check all that apply.



Additional Comments, Questions, or Concerns

In the final question on the survey, we asked an open-ended question. We had a total of roughly 188 comments.

Do you have any other comments, questions, or concerns?

- I would feel more comfortable visiting Snow Hinton if it was regularly patrolled.
- I would love Snow Hinton Park to be safer, maybe having a fence along the road.
- I feel that in the current economic situation, the city's money could be better spent than to hire outside firms for consultation on issues like this. You are trying to drastically reduce budgets across the board and throwing away resources on this.
- A place for my dog to run would be so beneficial. I am currently driving 15 min each way to sokol dog park. A dog park would be a wonderful addition to Snow Hinton.
- Snow Hinton is a great space and could be so much more. Would love to see it used for things like outdoor film and music events.
- Snow Hinton Park has had several incidences of crime and rowdy behavior, especially teenagers. No matter how nice it looks, I would be hesitant to go there unless security is stepped up.
- It would be nice to have a basketball court added to Snow Hinton and more sociable activities

- We must have better parking; when my son played soccer, we had to park on the streets!
- The lack of funding for biking and hiking trails almost seems nonexistent in Tuscaloosa County, Compared to other areas in the state like Birmingham, Auburn, Anniston, and Huntsville. Tuscaloosa is slipping behind. But I appreciate what PARA and WAMBA do for our local parks.
- This may be outside the scope of this project, but my comment adds to the bicycle/walk trails. I live in Idlewood (.75 miles from the park) and I think it would be advantageous for the city and the local communities if Bowers Park and Snow Hinton Park were connected via a shared use path. The path would utilize the Alabama Power ROW (Fayetteville, AR does this well) and connect to the park through the Cedar Knoll neighborhood. Cedar Knoll has had several drainage issues in the past, but the issues should have been remedied in the recent improvements. Cedar Knoll lacks curb and gutter, but if the path were to utilize their neighborhood, I'm hopeful an agreement could be reached by further improving their neighborhood. Along with the shared-use path, adjacent neighborhoods would then be able to connect to the main shared-use path with their own paths.
 - Also, I think it would great if the city utilized the northeast corner and developed a mini golf course. As well as the Northington Elementary School building as an indoor/outdoor electric go cart track. Yes, racing through the school. Ideally all of that would comingle with the park while still retaining park features.
 - Lastly, I've been thinking for a while that Snow Hinton Park should have a water feature (lake/pond) and more trees. I grew up in Tuscaloosa playing soccer for YMCA out at Snow Hinton Park, but now that soccer has shifted to Sokol Park, I think some of the open space can be eliminated (larger zone a) and utilized for more peaceful park elements. One of my favorite parks is El Retiro Park in Madrid, Spain.
- There are too many loose dogs at the parks.
- I walked at Snow Hinton Park today and did not enjoy it. The area looked unkept & did not seem inviting for folks to walk there.
- Just be sure to accommodate the people now using the park and build on that. Nice presentation.
- Too many dogs.
- The crime in the area of Snow Hinton is the biggest reason my family does not go there. I'm not sure how that can be remedied except with police presence. Otherwise, I'm all for making the city look nicer.
- Parks do not keep kids out of trouble. Positive role models that instill good character traits and accountability do.
- Spend money on parks, not giving money to small businesses. Small businesses are good for the city, but parks are good for everybody. Especially those of us that are less fortunate.
- More dog parks would be great. However, the big one in Northport I've had many problems with. Bad owners who don't watch their dogs and people who are very rude and aggressive.
- No excuse that Tuscaloosa, as big as it is, doesn't have more than one dog park. I have three dogs & it's tough getting them to the current dog park.
- There should be public access to Lake Tuscaloosa.
- ABSOLUTELY A DOG PARK. The one in Northport is always busy but is so far away.
- Great presentation and survey!
- The toilets should be pulled down and built in a separate area from the picnic tables. There are loiterers there and it is not hygienic or safe. I also think we should have an avenue of trees (real hardwoods) not rubbish arborvitaes and crepe myrtles. Trees that will give shade to the walkers as the temps rise and will last 100 years.

- My daughter played in the tennis courts at Snow Hinton when she was small. Then the
 city moved them to Bowers. Instead of walking to the park, I had to drive her to
 campus or the high school to play tennis. She is in her 50s now and still plays on the
 California tennis league. There's nothing like hitting a few tennis balls around after a
 hard day's work.
 - We need a nice playground for young children, also with shade trees. Landscape, sprinklers, and trees along McFarland. This is the opportunity to make a wonderful park for years to come and a beautiful and welcoming entrance to the City.
- Covid is a reason not to go to a park and should be taken into account with survey answers.
- We don't go to Snow Hinton Park because it is so close to a busy highway. I would love to see a barrier that would protect both dogs and children from running into traffic. I know dogs are supposed to be on leashes, but sometimes they break free. I definitely see how beneficial it could be to update Snow Hinton. It is such a beautiful park and I love the ideas you have mentioned here. We would DEFINITELY visit more if there was a splash pad and playground for toddlers!
- This park is a great central location! We need basketball courts and a volleyball indoor and outdoor place that is centrally located. We are a homeschool family and a part of the Tuscaloosa Warriors sports league and at times is hard for the homeschool community to find places for practicing and games. Tuscaloosa has a very large homeschool community and this improvement would be great for them as well.
- Parks are crucial to a good city environment. Have you noticed the diversity developing at this park? For some people, this may be their only regular positive interaction with people of other races/cultures. You just can't underestimate the value of our parks:)
- Please add a skywalk or other safe way for pedestrians to access park from west side of McFarland Blvd. This would add to appeal.
- Would like to see more trees and fewer shrubs for shade and safety reasons. Avoid ponds for safety and to reduce bugs.
- Would like to see Snow Hinton act as "Central Park" in NY. I know not anywhere close to the same size but would be a great destination if maintained correctly.
- PARA does a great job.
- The sidewalks from the Citgo at Hargrove Road/Loop Road leading to Snow Hinton are in bad shape. The curbs are crumbling, sidewalks buckling, and there are not any handicap transitions. I firmly believe more local families would use Snow Hinton park if they could ride their bikes, push baby strollers, or skateboard to the park.
- Maintain as is, more trees along main walking trail only, leave all open spaces open, control speeding and loud cars, no more pavilions, no more parking, no ponds.
- I am Snow Hinton's daughter, so my family and I have a special interest in the park and its future. I also serve on the PARA Board of Directors. When my Dad passed away in 1976, he envisioned the establishment of a European-style passive park for the enjoyment of the citizens of Tuscaloosa. My family and I continue to support this vision and have worked well with the City of Tuscaloosa and PARA in the past to make the park what it is today. We remain grateful and humbled that over the years this park has been loved and respected as a passive park and continues to be a focal point in our community. Our hope and desire is that it will remain so that my Dad's vision of the park would continue to be honored.
- Safety of public parks even in daytime.
- The city needs to have security in the park and see that it is closed and quiet after 10:00.
- I look forward to seeing enhancements to this park that is in the heart of the city and often provides an early impression of it to visitors. I enjoy walking there and

- would love to see bicycle paths as well. I appreciate the attention it is receiving from our city's leadership.
- My race and how much money I make has nothing to do with this survey
- Tuscaloosa needs another dog park. The one at Sokol is way too busy with too many dogs. It has led to lots of problems
- This park is in desperate need of beautification with lots of shade trees and landscaping, also a more magnetic space that people are drawn to spend time in.
- Art objects if not in well viewed areas are subject to graffiti/defacing. I would prefer that my walk area remain in full view for safety reasons.
- No matter what add water fountains to Snow Hinton ASAP!!!!!
- Drugs and prostitution around Bowers Park need to be addressed. Enforce park
- Thank you so much for making this presentation and survey widely available to the public! Just last week my son wanted to practice soccer, and we wished that Snow Hinton Park had goals so that we wouldn't have to drive up to Sokol North and hope that the Park Rangers wouldn't tell us to leave. Having a place to play informal soccer is a high priority for my family. Also, Snow Hinton often feels hotter than other outdoor places, it would be great if additional shade or other cooling (maybe from splash pad water?) was available.
- Even though I live very close to it, I quit going to Snow Hinton Park several years ago because it became too crowded. An element of people seemed to be taking over so I chose to not go anymore for safety. Placing the newer pavilion near residential areas and close to Hargrove Road was a mistake in my opinion. I live about four blocks from that pavilion and I can tell you on some weekends I can hear the music and noise at my house. It used to be a nice quite park to go walk or relax, but not that much anymore. I have never figured out why the maze of the road through the park was designed that way. I don't plan to use the park in the near future, if at all.
- The barrel Odom Park needs security patrol on the sight.
- Skate park for the kids would be great... it would be a good reason for me to visit Ttown more.
- We need to open and promote Bama rock gardens more. I work with a lot of rockclimbing organizations and know we could get help and events there easily. Would love to talk about this more.
- I'd love to know how much use that park gets. Back when it was used for baseball, soccer, and football, it was heavily used by the community. I'd have a walking track and fitness equipment around the perimeter, with lots of trees. Then add free use ball fields in the interior.
- I like the idea of beautifying the park, but I think we need to keep a lot of open spaces and the walking trails.
- Snow Hinton and parks in central Tusc City have a reputation as not being safe for individual females to do single activities in them. More police or security presence is needed to keep the criminal elements and solicitation out of the parks. From what I see there is very little police patrolling of central Tusc city.
- Please consider sight and wind buffers along the major roads (McFarland and Hargrove). Perhaps berms (rolling hills) along with a MUCH more aggressive greenscaping. Snow Hinton needs more shade! Keep open spaces, but the overall space can be reduced. Most of the open spaces rarely see activity, so there is room for more paths and trees while still maintaining "pick-up" field games, etc.
- I would love to see a park kind of how Birmingham is about to do around the new bridges area downtown, with a dog park and skatepark. A splash pad for kids would be nice too.

- Please build a skatepark in this park, Palmore is always overcrowded. Alberta skatepark is a nice example of a simple park that doesn't take up too much space.
- Building a skatepark.
- Put a skatepark at Snow Hinton with a splash pad and a dog park so I can play with the puppies.
- I'm worried programming will keep people from using the park. It's like a big backyard that everyone feels safe sharing and using. Programming can exclude people and take up space.
- The large climbing slide is very dangerous, and I would prefer it be removed and the space used for something more people could enjoy.
- Thanks for asking for citizens feedback!
- Better bathrooms
- The Snow Hinton Park is a little treasure in the middle of the overheated, gray, and deforested landscape of this area. People should be spending more time outside than indoors. But they need to be pleasant places. Very very important to welcome and encourage pedestrian and bicycle users (to not come with their cars!). So, no biking trails that starts and ends anywhere! The parks should be all connected within the whole city.
- There are places to grab food in the other side of McFarland Blvd. It would be nice
 to have picnic tables on that side of park. McFarland's sidewalks must have
 different features/pavement/signs inviting visitors from across the road to WALK
 there.
- The park must have better and more attractive accesses on all sides and mainly to/from the nearby apartments and the school!
- The vehicular circulation should only occur with a different (grooved?) pavement/texture treatment designed to create noise/vibration to alert drivers to change their speed and there should be traffic calm strategies as for sharing the road with pedestrian and cyclists.
- It is very important to consider new ways and resources for rainwater drainage that may create new landscapes and that play with the movement/sound of rainwater and include the reuse of water for gardening and splashing.
- Have bilingual signs (Spanish)
- Adequate park personnel patrols to hinder illegal activity
- My son grew up playing soccer, tennis, basketball, and every activity available in our parks. He's married and owns a home in Woodland Hills and still enjoys taking his mom along with his wife for bike rides, walks, and jogging at Snow Hinton. This park is important for our community.
- This is the last green space in Tuscaloosa. Please do not chop it up. Wish City/PARA could have purchased the land instead of that apartment monstrosity. " single family homes on a golf course like environment" HaHaHaHaHa.
- I do not want concerts at this park! I live close by, and there is already excessive noise.
- Need lower prices for daily swimming pools.
- Quit spending money like a drunken sailor and maintain the thousands of rose bushes we planted downtown. The weeds are taking over.
- Would like public parks on Lake Tuscaloosa
- Volleyball courts are a waste of space and materials. I have seen parks in other cities that were used semi regularly put in volleyball courts and take up a portion of the park that is useless for anything else and never gets used. Rain creates puddles and a nasty environment to play on.
- I enjoy the open fields of Snow Hinton Park and if sections of it were turned into

- soccer fields, it would need to be leveled so the holes are taken out. People use this park for walking/running and personal training so mile markers around the paved walking path are an excellent idea.
- There are no dog parks in Tuscaloosa other than the one at Sokol Park. People mainly use the Arboretum for dog walking on this side of town. A large dog park would be a good idea for those living in that area.
- Skateplaza would be a great addition to the park system.
- When there was a playground at Snow Hinton and my older daughter was little, we used to walk over and play a few times a week. We've not used the park as much in the past couple of years, but we would LOVE to be able to just walk over and spend the day there, have a birthday party there, have events for the college students we work with there. etc. Especially love the idea of the splash pad, a playground, and a community garden (we would totally participate in that!!). Snow Hinton already draws a diverse group of people because of its location in the city. In this season of isolation (COVID-19) and social unrest from racial injustice, providing places where families can play, interact, and work together outdoors could help us develop relationships across all the barriers that currently keep us apart. As for the garden, the COVID-19 crisis has revealed in a new way our dependency on an unhealthy and unjust food system. Providing a way for the community to learn about growing our own food/plants could be a catalyst for many to change our unsustainable habits. I would imagine that having Manna Grocery across the street could be an easy "in" for a garden. They are connected with so many local farmers and have access to folks who would likely be interested in helping/teaching, etc.
- I wish we could do better with our parks and outdoor activities. I just got back from Tallahassee, FL where I am from and there are so many choices for outdoor activities. We currently don't enjoy any Tuscaloosa parks and go toward Birmingham or other cities to hike and enjoy outdoor stuff.
- We need a skate park!!!!
- Safety and security are major concerns. Living nearby, the idea of concerts seems like it would disturb the neighborhood. People often race/do donuts on Hargrove nearby. This could also affect safety.
- Do not waste the taxpayers' time and effort by making more outrageous Elevate plans and never following thru with them. Elevate Tuscaloosa was/is a waste of time & money when plans should be placed to help the struggling businesses that are already here. We have so many in dire need of help before Covid-19!
- I grew up coming to play at this park. I think it would be a good idea to add a nice playground and a pretty water feature.
- The skateparks implemented in Palmore Park and in Cottondale have provided for great recreational activity and a community of extreme sports enthusiasts who take pride in the facility and surrounding area.
- You didn't include the Bobby Miller Center
- I would like to see more shade area in Snow Hinton for running purposes, and swings for parents to be around the kids. Also, a designated area/lane for strollers.
- I have lived in Tuscaloosa my whole life and over the last 15 years I have felt like Snow Hinton Park has really taken a downturn because of people not feeling safe to use it. I drive through on occasion and would not feel safe taking my daughter there to play.
- Make sure transit is accessible!
- Please don't overdo Snow Hinton Park. We don't need anything more like that thing made with rope. We don't need any statues. Make it user-friendly for families.
- Fenced areas for smaller children with posted signs that the area is for small children (age range preferred) would be great. All-inclusive equipment is needed. People fly kites here, remember to leave treeless room for that.

- Would love to have more areas in town with trails within the woods for walking/hiking.
- I believe the community should continue investments in recreation as there are numerous benefits. I also believe that the community of Tuscaloosa could use more basketball courts in secure locations.
- Playground area needs to be inclusive to special needs children.
- A splash pad would be great to have but make it affordable for families.
- Added safety features and resources were not mentioned in the presentation. I live
 on Brookhaven Dr and have experienced shootings and multiple assaults in Snow
 Hinton Park. Most citizens in Tuscaloosa would consider the park to be extremely
 unsafe. I would love to see gates put up and additional patrol around the park. There
 has been an increase in petty thefts in my neighborhood since the slide was built and
 there is always a large amount of people that hang out in the parking lot after hours.
 Before any additional features are added, current and future safety measures need
 to be addressed. Thank you!
- I don't think the timing is right for this project.
- Snow Hinton is a beautiful location and I would love to see upgrades. It is underutilized due to people not feeling safe. I walk at this park at least 4 days each week and we need separate lanes for bicyclist and skateboarders. I walk with friends and we don't hear them coming behind us and have almost been knocked down. I would love to see a place where older adults can gather together and feel safe. Maybe a water feature with plants/flowers and park benches with shade from the summer sun. Make it an area that ALL can enjoy and feel safe. Don't allow people to congregate with loud music. Security is a MUST!!! Maybe install some emergency blue light phones.
- Need to clean up the park before deciding anything. You have a drag strip from one end to the other end. Then they get out on Hargrove Road and even McFarland and really race. The noise from their cars and radio is mind blowing. This has been going on for at least 3 months and nothing has ever been done about it?????
- The need of all communities to have access to quality green space and parks needs to happen in a way that does not further marginalize vulnerable communities.
- What's wrong with green space? I'd like to go to Snow Hinton Park but it no longer seems safe. If the equipment and facilities that are there are well-maintained and safe, why would we need more? This is a waste of public funds.
- The primary objective of Snow Hinton should be to maintain the open space and areas. Any improvements should take a back seat to the open space objective. This is one of the few great open spaces in the city and it should be maintained.
- A dog park, a water feature, and increased pedestrian and bike access, particularly to cross McFarland (a pedestrian overpass or underpass would be ideal) would be our highest priorities. It is nice that the park is peaceful and relatively quiet, so adding sports or a splashpad could detract from that. We live in the Brookhaven neighborhood directly across Hargrove from the park and are there daily.
- Add basketball area to Snow Hinton or Bowers. Shouldn't have to drive all the way to Fosters for a good basketball court. There's plenty of room.
- The slide needs to be removed..it is unsightly and an accident waiting to happen..
- We enjoy wide open area..free of shrubs...the street should go straight across instead of all the boxed in areas...
- Leave it like it is ..the slide ruined what was there..it is the only open area to walk in Tuscaloosaso please don't clutter it up ...
- The security in Snow Hinton is awful. The lights are not maintained despite emails to the PARA director. There is no connectivity to Midtown.
- What do these questions have to do with improving Snow Hinton Park?

- More sidewalks and trails and bike lanes for walking/running/cvcling! A swimming facility closer to the north of the river area would be nice. We love
- Some city sponsored nighttime events like 3 on 3 basketball or frisbee could help activate the spaces at nontypical time. The city needs its own golf course not
- I need open space away from walkers to throw my boomerangs 2-3 times per week
- Please consider a dog park near the 5 Points area--Arboretum would be perfect if there was an enclosed space in addition to the walking trails.
- Better security to keep drug dealers and users out, sexual predators out, gangs out and large gatherings that usually turn violent.
- Having beautiful parks and green spaces is a vital part of the community; however, we really need more activities for families and young people. An example would be more splash pads, as mentioned in the presentation, but also maybe a mini golf complex, paint ball complex, skateboard park, area for archery, etc. We just need more things for families to do together, not necessarily in Snow Hinton Park, but around town. Also, Snow Hinton Park is the perfect area for a stage with sound equipment and outdoor concerts and festivals.
- Maybe more police presence at the park since there is a history of crime, especially rape.
- All of the parks need water fountains.
- I have always heard there has been a good bit of crime at Snow Hinton
- Why don't we try finishing up some of the projects that are currently going on (like road work and that ridiculous archway) before spending even more money on new projects. Or offer more funding to PARA and the public library for improvements of their current facilities.
- Would love to bring grandchildren to play when they visit. Need toddler safe areas.
- Crime at Snow Hinton and Tuscaloosa in general makes one tentative to go out. Last time we went to Snow Hinton my son and husband were shot at. The last time I was at Monnish, people were blatantly doing drugs near the preschoolers.
- Need more basketball courts in Tuscaloosa, I understand they have potential to attract crime and gangs, but nothing better than good pick-up basketball games or even just shooting alone
- Something honoring Jay Strickland would be great. He was a great guy.
- I'll say it again. Indoor ice facility. HOCKEY...
- I would love to see more horse stuff at Sokol and other parks.
- Ouestion 6 was worded weird. There needed to be an option of "no" for the people that do not receive or wish to receive information in that form.
- A splash pad might be odd to have at a park right next to a very busy road, there is one at Annette Shelby Park where people could be directed to do for that amenity. It just might be an eye sore to have people running around in swimsuits next to the road.
- Just the streetlights around the track. Get it done please. It'll decrease violence at the park.
- Bike and skate lanes are priority for safety.
- Dog area also would be good. Walkers need their own lane and area... walk almost daily. Love Snow Hinton. Bring the playground back. Increase security...
- I go to Snow Hinton less than others (to jog) because of the road/traffic exposure. Just better landscaping protection from McFarland would be helpful.
- Would like public tennis courts and soccer fields south of the river.
- Thank you for your work in "elevating" Snow Hinton Park! Our family looks forward to forthcoming improvements, as we would like to visit Snow Hinton more frequently.

- Would like to see the Blue direct dial to 911 phones within the park like the ones stationed around The University of Alabama.
- I saw a few years ago where PARA actually presented this same concept to the city council. How do you justify spending this much money for someone else to copy their work and ideas?
- The reason I didn't answer #5 is because walking where people take their dogs isn't pleasant. You have to worry about stepping in dog crap. I say a big fat NO for having dogs anywhere in the parks
- I would like to see more areas where children can play, especially when it's hot. Splash pads, more shade.
- We don't care for the tall slide at that playground. We do miss there being a good playground there. We used to go to the park almost every week but once the playground on the backside came out the kids lost interest. More shade trees would be wonderful. Personally, I would prefer there to not be a dog park there. A splash pad is an interesting idea. Families would want to rent shelters for birthday parties if there is a splash pad. Walking paths that are well lit for safety and some open space to play games and have sporting activities is nice.
- Need playground areas made with shading over them... and seating around for parents to watch children play... playground for 1-5 then 6-10... age specific...
- Build more skateparks Tuscaloosa!!!!
- My main concern is to definitely get something built at the back of the park (near retaining wall and old playground) because there's nothing currently over there for anyone to enjoy. I really hope we can get a dog park. I know there is one in Sokol Park, but that's far for a lot of people and considering Snow Hinton is located in the city, I feel that people would enjoy being able to have their dogs off leash. Also, I think removing the old toddler swings and adding new swings near the tall slide would be a great addition.
- It would be nice to have a barrier between the park and McFarland that serves to block noise and provide some visual disruption between the busy road and the park goers without hiding the park from view altogether.
- Walking paths and seating area with shade would make the park more usable during mid-summer.
- I am concerned that the park will not remain safe and free from rowdy teenagers, alcohol, and drug use/activities.
- We need a soccer field or 2 with goals for pick-up games for all ages, perhaps including a smaller field with small goals. When there were goals in the park, soccer was VERY popular, especially with the Latino community. Get rid of the Ponderosa fencing. The Allee might be cool but reduce the roads through the park. Reduce the side of the Snow Hinton sign. Hide the utility lines. Move the kaleidoscope to the Skynet area. The kids will love it. Keep that--it supports increased physical activity. Upgrade the ugly light fixtures. Hide the view to the street and definitely to the glorification of the military park! Ditch the flag court plenty of flags in the military park. A stage for concerts in the park would be great. How about a skywalk across McFarland? Thanks for helping make Tuscaloosa even better.
- Drug deals are the reason we don't go to the park. You won't run off the criminals.
 You just let them congregate in the parking areas.
- Please leave Snow Hinton alone! You are going to ruin it if you reduce the green space at all! It is perfectly fine as it is! Your "improvements" are not wanted!
- Yeah, it's nice and all to study the park, but we have to do better. It is a shameful waste of our citizens' money on out of town consultants to only come up with such meager results. The lack of vision is disappointing, especially for one of

- Tuscaloosa's premier and prominent green spaces. You can't consult or buy cool.
- We need more public basketball courts.
- This presentation was very disappointing. I am upset that PARA or more of the community is not involved in this process. This was an out of town firm. The long-term financial impact to the city directly is my main concern.
- Security is needed at Snow Hinton Park at night specifically.
- Instead of the common, parking lot filler crepe myrtle trees, I would much rather see native plant gardens. Maybe a local pollinator garden would be beneficial and would add to the educational value of the park.
- It would be great to see a plan to improve park options down Hwy 69s for those of us in the community who live in Taylorville/Duncanville/closer to Moundville.
- I've heard that historically Snow Hinton has been home to recurring crimes, especially for young women. I mainly do not use Snow Hinton for safety reasons but would be interested in the park if additional lighting/safety measures were taken.
- IMPEACH Walt Maddox for STEALING our money!! Didn't use the tax dollars for the airport that he promised! He is a LIAR with what he will do with our tax dollars!!!!!!!!!!!!!
- This park needs SO many more trees, and thus more shade! They could be a buffer to the McFarland traffic as well. Our Faith community planted several trees on the south end and would be willing to donate more. But there is lack of water access, so it is hard to help trees get a good start without hauling milk jugs of water from home.
- Outstanding Plan!!
- The reason I selected safety as reason to not go to the parks is because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Playgrounds have been closed as well (rightly so).
- Safety is extremely important. I used to walk at park in college but started feeling unsafe with exposure of being seen from McFarland & some of people "hanging out" at park.
- DOG PARK PLEASE! Driving to Sokol Park is a huge imposition/time sink for people who don't live north of the river.
- We need a walkover bridge (like the Arcadia one on Veteran's Memorial Pkwy/15th Street) that crosses McFarland Blvd/Hwy 82 to connect Midtown Village area to Snow Hinton Park/Bowlero/University Mall. Those who live in Midtown and Forest Lake area and utilize the park need a safer way to cross over to the park. Also, connecting the two shopping centers (Midtown and University Mall) would possibly reduce traffic, allowing shoppers to walk from space to space safely. We also walk to Aldi from Forest Lake, so again having a crossover bridge would be beneficial in many ways.
- Surprised that riverwalk was left out of question 4. It seems to be the most used public park in city. Manderson landing also heavily used.
- A sand pit for volleyball will be a litter box for the all the "cat lady's" cats she feeds.
- Park needs pedestrian access and fewer cars. It should have one entry/exit. As it is, drivers use it as a short cut to avoid the intersection of MacFarland and Hargrove. This fact affects the park experience very much.
- Please keep the two largest areas, sections A and B, open. We love flying kites and feeling the freedom of unobstructed space.
- I use Snow Hinton Park to play soccer on a regular basis with my friends and colleagues. The open space in the middle is perfect and the best place we have found to do this. Please keep it!
- This is a focal point when visitors come to town. Please make it user friendly and pleasing to the eye!
- I am most invested in the fields (A and B) being maintained for pick-up sports.
- Multiple soccer pick-up games happen simultaneously on weekends. Also, families

- collect pecans every year. McFarland needs a vegetative barrier.
- We love the city parks and use them regularly for both formal and informal sports, Frisbee golf, hikes, dog park, picnics, and rec centers. They are a huge part of helping sell the city to people who want to relocate here. Thank you for the attention you give to keeping them beautiful and accessible!
- An area for soccer pickup games is a must.
- Please let it be beautiful and not too crowded and overrun with sports and continue to let it be mostly green space except paved walking and biking trails. Something similar to Government Plaza with an added pavilion.
- Please keep most or all of the very large open spaces for pickup games. There are very few similar places in Tuscaloosa available. Also, these open areas could do with being regraded, there are some pretty significant depressions that can be a hazard for pick-up games. I really don't like the idea of putting a large useless water feature in those spaces. I would also like to see a lot more shade trees around the walking trails. I realize they take a while to grow, but might as well start sometime. A screen of trees and shrubs that separate the park from McFarland (and maybe the utility lines) would make the park a more enclosed and welcoming space.
- I'm strongly in favor of improving biking and walking access to the park, I don't live close by enough to use it personally, but I think it would be great for the park. Maybe even a bike path to UA campus?
- Including more activities for children enlarged playground, splash pad, etc. are also great ideas. More pavilions are also great. I don't have kids, but still.
- Once improvements are made, upkeep of the park is a high priority to me. Picking up trash, well-kept grass, and overall cleanliness of the park.
- It would be ideal if there could be more trees between McFarland and the park. The road is so busy that it feels like you're just on the side of a highway while you're in at least half of the park. This is the main reason I don't go to the park and would go far more often if it felt removed from the road. In any case, I appreciate all your hard work and appreciate that you've asked for our input.
- Please keep open areas for games with soccer balls and footballs and kites and things that you can only do with open spaces!
- I am part of an informal weekly soccer game, and we play at Snow Hinton, on fields A and B. Please do not add a bunch of stuff to those fields but leave them open for people to use. I've seen other pick-up soccer games, football, kite flying, etc. on those fields - they get a lot of use. There aren't many places in the city with open fields for informal sports or recreation.
- Just want to maintain a good amount of greenspace and safety.
- I would really love a dog park added to this park location.
- We love the Tuscaloosa parks.
- The city needs to take over para. Para is awful. Stop funding them.
- Thank you for our green spaces.
- I didn't answer #5 because I haven't visited a park within the last month to avoid being around people. I'm serious about distancing.
- Snow Hinton Park is the LAST open area left city central. Seriously. The last big space. Once it's gone, that's it. My point is, please do not divide up into a bunch of small areas of clutter. Leave those big open areas 1 and 2 open. Once is broken up, Tuscaloosa will never have any large open air places again.
- Love how beautiful you are making our city. Let's keep it going. ROLL TIDE!!
- Elevate expenditures on capital projects make less sense than ever in the face of pandemic-related severe economic contraction. Why would this be a priority right now??

- We love Snow Hinton Park for walking. But as our daughter has grown, there is no playground for her to use (the one for toddlers was removed). Also, we do not feel safe to go to the park in the late afternoon/evening. We've seen too many unsafe situations and there need to be more police patrols there and possibly cameras. We're excited for updates to this park and can't wait to use them!
- We love the will may dog park at Sokol Park but would really appreciate one more centrally located.
- Would love to have a pool open late for exercise after work. The pool at McAfee is convenient but closes too early and is too hot.

Appendix

Copy of the Online Survey



Elevate Tuscaloosa Preliminary Survey - Snow Hinton Park

Snow Hinton Park Suggestions

1. Please indicate which of the following FACILITIES you or your household would like to add to Snow Hinton Park.

	Must Have	Nice to Have	Not Interested
Paved walking and biking trails with mile markers	0		
Outdoor exercise equipment	\circ		\circ
Pavilion with picnic tables	0		
Art sculptures	\circ		\circ
More trees and landscaping	0		
Splash pad	\circ		\circ
Playground	0		
Water feature/pond	\circ		\circ
Dog park area	0		
Community gardens			\circ
Concession stands/food trucks area	0		
Outdoor board games (chess, checkers)	\circ		\circ
Sand volleyball courts	0		
Open play field area for pick-up games	\circ		\circ
Other must-have item not listed (please specify)			

2. Please indicate which of the following PROG	RAMS you or your household would like to
add to Snow Hinton Park.	

	Must Have	Nice to Have	Not Interested
Bicycle lessons	0	0	\circ
Community special events (concerts, festivals, etc.)	\circ	\circ	0
Environmental education and programs	0	0	0
Fitness and wellness programs (Yoga/Tai Chi, etc.)	\circ	\circ	\circ
Gardening classes	0	0	0
Programs for people with special needs	\circ	\circ	\circ
Sand volleyball programs	0	0	\circ
Walking/jogging clubs	\circ	\circ	\circ
Other must-have program not listed (please specify)			
3. How often do you or your household visit Snow Hint	on Park?		

_									_			
3	How	often	do	VOLUC	or v	/OHr	household	visit	Snow	Hinton	Park	c

\bigcirc	Daily
\bigcirc	Weekly
\bigcirc	Monthly
\bigcirc	A few times a year
\bigcirc	I rarely visit (less than once a year)
\bigcirc	I have never visited this park

4. Which Tuscaloosa parks and recre	ation facilities do you or your househ	old use? Check all that apply.				
Annette N. Shelby Park	Hurricane Creek Park	Palmore Park				
Bama Rock Garden	Jaycee Park	Phelps Activity Center				
Belk Activity Center	Jerry Tingle Activity Center	Queen City Park				
Binion Creek Landing Park	Kaulton Park	River Road Park				
Bowers Park	Kentuck Park	Riverview Boat Landing				
Braughton Park	Lake Nicol	Rock Quarry Park				
Burrell Odom Park	McAbee Activity Center	Rosedale Park				
Capitol Park	McDonald Hughes Community Center	Sharpe's Landing				
Cardinal Park	McKinney Park	Snow Hinton Park				
Carrolls Creek Island	Miller Activity Center	Sokol Park				
Evans-Roshell Park	Miners Community Park	Springbrook Park				
Faucett Brothers Activity Center	Monnish Park	Treasure Island County Park				
Faucett Brothers Park	Newt Hinton Park	Turkey Creek Boat Landing				
Fosters Boat Landing	Northport Community Center	Tuscaloosa Tennis Center				
Freeman Park	Northridge Park	Van De Graaf Park and Arboretum				
Harmon Park	Northside Park	Veterans Memorial Park				
Harris Lake	Ol' Colony Golf Course					
any of the following reasons you have	visited any parks or trails in Tuscaloo e not visited (check all that apply).	sa in the past month, please check				
Use parks/trails in other cities						
Too far from my residence						
Parks/trails are not well maintained						
Lack of features we want to use						
Lack of parking to access parks/trails						
Do not feel safe using parks/trails						
Lack of time						
Lack of handicap accessibility						
Lack of transportation						

check all that apply.		
	Currently	Prefer
Websites (PARA and City of Tuscaloosa)		
Printed signs and flyers		

6. Which of the following ways do you learn about recreation programs and activities in Tuscaloosa? Please

at park facilities	
Newspaper	
Friends and neighbors	
Temporary signs/yard signs	
Emails	
Facebook	
Other social media	

7. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements.

outlets such as Twitter, Instagram, etc.

	Agree	Disagree	Neutral
Parks provide a way for me and/or my family to be more physically active	0	0	0
Parks provide a space for positive social interaction for me and/or my family	\circ	\circ	\circ
Parks help reduce crime and keep kids out of trouble	0	0	0
Parks preserve open space and they can help protect the environment	\circ	\circ	\bigcirc
Parks positively impact economic and business development	\circ	0	\circ

8. I	Please select the area that best describes where you	ı live.		
0	Downtown Tuscaloosa			
0	East Central Tuscaloosa (including the community of Holt and the Alberta area)			
0	Central (near the center of Tuscaloosa along 15th Street and McFarland, including Midtown and Forest Lake)			
0	North of the river			
0	Northport			
0	Southeast Tuscaloosa (including Woodland Forest neighborhood and the community of Cottondale)			
0	Hwy 695 area (including the community of Taylorville and the Hillcrest area)			
0	University of Alabama Campus			
0	West Tuscaloosa (including Stillman College)			
0	Other (please specify)			
4				
9. What is your gender?				
0	Female			
0	Male			
0	Prefer to self-describe			
10. Which race/ethnicity best describes you? (Please choose only one)				
0	American Indian or Alaskan Native	Hispanic		
0	Asian/Pacific Islander	○ White/Caucasian		
0	Black or African American	Multiple ethnicities		
11.	What is your age?			
0	14 and younger	○ 45 to 54		
0	15 to 24	○ 55 to 64		
0	25 to 34	65 or older		
0	35 to 44			

12. How many children, by age, currently	y live in your household?			
Less than 1 year old to 5 years old				
6 to 12 years old				
12 to 18 years				
13. What is your highest level of complet	red education?			
Less than high school	Bachelor's Degree (4 years of college)			
High school	Master's Degree			
Vocational certificate	PhD/JD/MD			
Associate's degree (2 years of college)				
14. Which of the following best describes	s your current relationship status?			
Married				
○ Widowed				
○ Divorced				
○ Separated				
In a domestic partnership or civil union				
Single, but cohabiting with a significant other				
Single, never married				
15. What is your approximate average ho	ousehold income?			
Less than \$25,000	\$75,000-\$99,999			
\$25,000-\$49,999	S100,000 and more			
\$50,000-\$74,999				
16. Do you have any other comments, questions, or concerns?				

17. Please feel free to provide your name and contact information (optional). Name Address City Email Address Done

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