

Recreation Master Plan Phase I

Town of Salem, New Hampshire

September 2025



Tighe&Bond



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The Town of Salem greatly appreciates the efforts of community members, Town staff, officials, and professionals who contributed to this planning effort. Your interest and support will continue to foster the success of our park and recreation system.

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Executive Summary

In January 2025, the Town of Salem initiated Phase I of a Recreation Master Plan to inventory existing facilities, engage the public, and establish community-supported goals and objectives for the future of parks and recreational opportunities. This planning effort involved collaboration with Town departments and was led by the Recreation Advisory Committee. More than 250 residents participated in the planning effort, sharing their priorities for parks and recreation and their vision for the future in a community-wide survey as well as public workshops held during Phase I.

Phase I focuses on a high-level inventory completed by Salem Town Staff, the development of goals, objectives, and vision statement, preliminary community engagement, a preliminary level of service (LOS) analysis, and the development of constraints and opportunities for two, underdeveloped priority sites. This report begins to define a long-term vision for improving access, connectivity, and the overall quality of open space as well as parks and recreational facilities in Salem and lays the foundation for a complete Recreation Master Plan in the future. The Recreation Master Plan was divided into phases due to limited funding.

An additional phase would be required to fully complete the Recreation Master Plan. Phase II of the planning would include an in-depth description and analysis of current and future recreational needs, additional community engagement to confirm agreement with the Recreation Advisory Committee's vision and goals, and to determine preferences for parks, recreational facilities, and programs. Additionally, Phase II would identify policies, strategies, and the level of investment needed to sustain and improve parks and recreation services in alignment with the Town's vision statements, goals, and objectives. This phase would lay out short- and long-term strategies that the Town can use in making decisions about funding, managing, maintaining and improving the Town's parks and open spaces.

The Phase I Salem Recreation Master Plan contains eight sections:

- **Section 1:** *Introduction* of the Phase I planning process.
- **Section 2:** *Vision Statement* describes the Town's core values, vision, mission and goals for parks, recreation, and open space.
- **Section 3:** *Goals & Objectives* describe the Town's goals and corresponding objectives, influenced by the Vision Statement.
- **Section 4:** *Public Engagement & Outreach* presents the results of workshops and public survey.
- **Section 5:** *Inventory of Parks & Recreation Lands* provides an inventory of all parks, recreation, and open space lands owned by the Town of Salem.
- **Section 6:** *Priority Sites* discusses the two opportunity parcels selected by the Recreation Advisory Committee, their constraints, and their opportunities.
- **Section 7:** *Level of Service* outlines the preliminary LOS of Phase I.
- **Section 8:** *Next Steps* discusses the planning needs to complete the Plan.

The Vision for Parks and Recreation

Through community feedback, and developed by the Recreation Advisory Committee, the following vision emerged: *Salem is committed to expanding and enhancing parks, trails, and open space while creating a connected, accessible, and well-maintained network of active recreation, passive open spaces, and conservation areas for all residents.*

Section 1 Introduction

The 2025 Salem Recreation Master Plan is the first phase of a comprehensive planning document that guides future policies and actions by examining the Town's need for new or improved parks, recreation facilities, and open spaces. The Recreation Master Plan was divided into phases due to limited funding. A comprehensive plan such as this is important for many reasons. It identifies park and recreation assets; prioritizes needs; outlines goals, objectives, and actions; and enables the Town to pursue state and federal grants for capital improvements and land protection efforts. More specifically, this Phase I Plan:

- Outlines the community's vision and key goals for parks and recreation.
- Describes existing conditions and highlights current needs and opportunities.
- Summarizes community preferences gathered through surveys and workshops.
- Identifies two priority sites for further evaluation and potential redevelopment.

The Plan is structured into eight (8) sections, each contributing to a comprehensive understanding of Salem's current conditions and future opportunities.

1.1 Purpose & Scope

The overall purpose of parks and recreation in Salem is to provide Salem's residents with a diverse system of interconnected parks and quality recreational opportunities that protect natural resources, promote public health, and enhance the quality of life. The initial phase of Salem's Recreation Master Plan will focus on gaining knowledge, setting goals, conducting preliminary data gathering and analysis, and performing public outreach to inform later stages of the planning work. This Plan does not fulfill the scope for a complete Recreation Master Plan; rather, it establishes the foundation for additional analysis and development of strategies to maintain and improve parks and recreation facilities in the future.

1.2 Planning Process Overview & Timeline

The development of the Salem Parks and Recreation Master Plan followed a collaborative and community-focused planning process, launched in January 2025. The process began with a kickoff meeting with Town staff and the Town's Recreation Advisory Committee (RAC). The in-person RAC kickoff meeting was held on January 15, 2025, and provided a foundation for development of the Phase I Plan's goals, objectives, and overall needs.

The kickoff meeting was followed by one virtual and one in-person workshop with the RAC, held on January 30 and February 13, 2025, respectively. These sessions focused on drafting a shared vision statement, outlining key goals and objectives, and developing the public outreach strategy. These foundational elements served as a guiding framework for the remainder of the Phase I effort.

To support a data-informed approach, the planning team developed an interactive ArcGIS web map using the Town's GIS data layer of existing parks to inventory park and open space assets across Salem. This tool also integrated state and regional resource layers such as conservation lands, trails, and water bodies, providing context for the locations of parks and open space. In parallel, on-the-ground assessments were conducted using Survey123, a GIS-based mobile data collection application. Using this tool, Town staff

evaluated conditions at all Town-owned facilities, documenting safety, accessibility, amenities, and general upkeep. These observations were geo-tagged and compiled into an interactive database to support future facility planning and prioritization. The RAC met on March 3, 2025, to launch the community survey and review findings for the Survey123 inventory collection program.

A citizen survey was launched on March 6, 2025, and remained open through May 15, 2025, to gather broad community input. The 19-question survey explored how residents use parks, what amenities they value, and what improvements they would like to see. The survey was promoted on the Town's website, social media platforms, and at Town Hall. A total of 251 surveys were completed, offering a meaningful snapshot of community preferences.

Following the community engagement phase, the RAC reconvened for a virtual meeting on June 5, 2025, to review survey results, discuss field assessment findings, and provide input on emerging themes and site-specific considerations.

To complement the survey, a public Visioning Workshop was hosted virtually on June 12, 2025. RAC members participated in discussions focused on recreation priorities, emerging needs, and ideas for future investments. Tighe & Bond presented the final feedback received from the community survey as well as reviewed two draft priority site diagrams and presented the draft LOS analysis. This workshop provided a valuable opportunity for engagement and idea sharing.

The planning process concluded with a formal presentation of the draft Plan at Salem Town Hall during a public meeting on August 14, 2025, which was also attended by members of the RAC. This final step ensured that the Plan was vetted by key Town boards and stakeholders, helping to build consensus and momentum for implementation.

Meetings and workshops are summarized in Table 1-1 below. All meeting agendas and presentations can be found in Appendix A.

TABLE 1-1. Planning Process Meetings and Workshops

Date	Meeting/Workshop	Format
January 15, 2025	RAC Meeting - Kickoff and Project Introductions	In-person
January 30, 2025	Workshop #1 – Vision, Goals, and Objectives	Virtual
February 13, 2025	Workshop #2 – Refinement of Plan Framework	In-Person
March 3, 2025	RAC Meeting – Public Engagement & Inventory Review	Virtual
June 5, 2025	RAC Meeting – Review of Community Input and Field Data	Virtual
June 12, 2025	Workshop #3 – Public Visioning Workshop	Virtual
August 14, 2025	Workshop #4 - Presentation of Draft Plan	In-person

Section 2 Vision Statement

The values and aspirations of Salem residents serve as the foundation for the Phase I 2025 Recreation Master Plan. Through a series of public engagement efforts, residents shared their values, needs, and expectations for the future of parks and recreation in Town. This input, combined with guidance from the RAC and Town staff, informed the creation of a community vision statement to guide this Plan.

Key themes from the public and RAC included:

- Expanding parks and green spaces while balancing active and passive recreation.
- Connectivity was a major focus, with a desire for linked park networks, expanded bike trails, improved pedestrian access, as well as safety and maintenance at existing facilities.
- Preserving historical and cultural assets, such as veterans' memorials and the Depot area.
- Increasing programming across all facilities.
- Increasing conservation efforts through pollinator gardens and wildlife education.

The vision reflects the desire for a connected, inclusive, and resilient park and recreation system that enhances quality of life for all residents, while protecting the Town's natural and cultural resources.

The following vision emerged:

Salem is committed to expanding and enhancing parks, trails, and open space while creating a connected, accessible, and well-maintained network of active recreation, passive open spaces, and conservation areas for all residents.

This statement captures a shared outlook for Salem's future, one in which public spaces support healthy lifestyles, environmental stewardship, community connection, and a strong sense of place.

Section 3 Goals & Objectives

The Town compiled a list of goals and objectives to coordinate future actions to improve their parks and recreation facilities. The list below was developed and reviewed by the RAC and through consultation with Town staff, with consideration of community input from the survey results as well as discussions from the public workshops.

Salem's 2025 parks and recreation goals and objectives are as follows:

Goal 1: Enhance Accessibility and Equity in Recreation Spaces

- Objective 1.1: Ensure safe pedestrian and bike access to parks, trails, and green space by connecting sidewalks and pathways in key neighborhoods.
- Objective 1.2: Identify opportunities to create pocket parks and green spaces in neighborhoods lacking proximity to the existing network.
- Objective 1.3: Increase access to public waterbodies for passive recreation, swimming, fishing, etc.
- Objective 1.4: Maintain and improve existing park infrastructure such as playgrounds and courts to ensure a safe and accessible system.
- Objective 1.5: Enhance inclusive, recreational programming across all demographics from senior citizens to summer camp children.
- Objective 1.6: Enhance lighting in parks for evening use.

Goal 2: Improve Connectivity Across Network of Parks

- Objective 2.1: Complete and maintain the Rail Trail, including historic and wildlife signage along the route.
- Objective 2.2: Explore funding opportunities for linking parks, open spaces, and waterbodies through bike trails and greenways.
- Objective 2.3: Expand upon a comprehensive trail network in the Town Forest to connect conservation and recreation areas.

Goal 3: Expand Recreation Opportunities to Meet Community Needs

- Objective 3.1: Increase the number of playgrounds, ballfields, and courts to meet the needs of Salem residents.
- Objective 3.2: Create and implement new recreational facilities and amenities such as skate parks, dog parks, splash pads, public restrooms, and expanded parking.
- Objective 3.3: Blend passive and active recreation by incorporating pollinator gardens, walking trails, and organized hikes in parks and conservation areas.

Goal 4: Foster Environmental Stewardship and Public Education

- Objective 4.1: Partner with garden clubs and other organizations to establish pollinator gardens and enhance conservation efforts.
- Objective 4.2: Install educational signage about local wildlife and natural resources in parks and along trails.

- Objective 4.3: Develop programs like organized hikes, wildlife education, and nature-based workshops in collaboration with local groups and organizations.

Goal 5: Celebrate Cultural & Historic Heritage

- Objective 5.1: Increase cultural programming, including events at gathering spaces and art installations at the Depot area.
- Objective 5.2: Preserve and highlight historical features of parks with signage and public education initiatives.
- Objective 5.3: Partner with local groups to integrate memorials for veterans and other historic events into park planning and programs.

The goals and objectives outlined in this Plan are designed to ensure that the Town's natural and recreational resources are managed effectively, equitably, and sustainably. By focusing on preservation, accessibility, community engagement, and resiliency, Salem can create a vibrant network of park and recreation facilities that enhances the quality of life for current and future generations. The successful implementation of these goals will not only protect the Town's natural beauty but also foster a sense of pride, community well-being, and environmental stewardship among all residents.

The next step in the Recreation Master Plan process is to translate these priorities into a clear and actionable 7-10-Year Action Plan. Phase II of this plan would outline specific projects, policies, and initiatives that respond directly to the identified goals and objectives, while addressing existing gaps in service, protecting critical resources, and enhancing recreational opportunities for all residents. Each action item would include details on responsible parties, potential funding sources, and a proposed timeline for implementation. This next phase ensures that the community's shared vision is carried forward through targeted investments and coordinated efforts across municipal departments, boards, and local partners.

Section 4 Public Engagement & Outreach

Community input played a central role in shaping Phase I of the Salem Recreation Master Plan. A multi-faceted outreach approach was used to ensure broad and diverse public participation. This included a community-wide survey, and four public workshops to share ideas and identify priorities in real time. Together, these engagement efforts provided critical insights into how Salem residents use existing facilities, what they value most in their recreational spaces, and where they see opportunities for improvement.

The feedback gathered directly informed the vision, goals and objectives, and recommendations of this Plan.

4.1 Public Workshops

A total of four (4) Public Presentations/Workshops were hosted by the Town of Salem either virtually or in person at Town Hall. All workshops were facilitated by Tighe & Bond. Major themes and take ways from each workshop are included below:

- Workshop #1 - January 30, 2025 – Virtual workshop to discuss Vision, Goals, and Objectives.
- Workshop #2 – February 13, 2025 – In-Person workshop to confirm draft Vision, Goals, and Objectives and establish method for inventory collection and public engagement.
- Workshop #3 – June 12, 2025 – Virtual workshop to present final Vision, Goals and Objectives, as well as the results of the public survey and draft Level of Service (LOS) Analysis.
- Workshop #4 - August 14, 2025 – In-person workshop to present the Draft Plan and final opportunity site diagrams and LOS analysis.

4.2 Community Survey

A citizen-based survey consisting of nineteen (19) questions was developed via SurveyMonkey to better understand residents' values, preferences, and priorities regarding the Town's parks, open spaces, and recreational amenities. The survey included a mix of multiple-choice, rating scale, and open-ended questions and was designed to capture both general satisfaction levels and specific ideas for improvement.

The questionnaire was made available on the Town's website, social media platforms, and at the Town Hall. Postcards and flyers with a quick response code (QR Code) to access the survey were distributed at community locations. The survey was available from March 6, 2025 to May 15, 2025. The full survey with results can be found in Appendix B.

Respondents were asked about how frequently they visit local parks and trails, which locations they use most often, and what types of recreational activities they participate in. Many questions focused on identifying which facilities and programs are most important to the community, such as walking trails, playgrounds, sports fields, natural areas, and cultural or community events. Residents were also asked to rank potential priorities for future investment, such as upgrading existing facilities, acquiring new parkland, or expanding programming for youth or seniors.

The survey also asked about barriers to park access, including lack of transportation, awareness, or concerns about safety or accessibility. Demographic questions helped capture a diverse range of perspectives across different age groups and neighborhoods.

Open-ended questions gave residents an opportunity to share specific suggestions and highlight community needs that may not be captured in structured responses. Many participants expressed a desire for better maintenance, more walking and biking connections between parks, and additional opportunities for passive recreation and nature experiences. The respondents highlighted specific needs, such as relocating the skate park, adding a dog park, increasing water access, and increasing public amenities such as restrooms.

Several key themes and community priorities emerged that will inform future planning and development of parks and recreation facilities. Respondents to the survey highly value parks and recreation, with over 72% rating them as "very important." Popular facilities include the Rail Trail, Town Forest, and Field of Dreams, which were among the most visited and highly ranked in terms of usage. However, access and awareness of a park's location and amenities vary significantly across facilities, with some parks like Linwood Ave Park and Hedgehog Park being underused, often due to concerns about maintenance, safety, or lack of amenities.

When asked about satisfaction across different age groups, the results indicate room for improvement. While a majority of residents feel neutral to positive about recreation options for children, satisfaction drops notably for teens and adults. Concerns included a



HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF SALEM

Tell us what matters most to you by filling out the Community Survey by May 15, 2025.



<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/6ZRM93D>

The Town of Salem is updating its Open Space and Recreation Master Plan, a public process to set out a shared community vision for land use, natural resources, and recreation facilities.



lack of teen-friendly spaces, insufficient passive recreation areas, and limited year-round programming. Many respondents noted barriers such as poor facility conditions, limited parking, safety concerns, and lack of awareness about existing parks.

Conservation and expansion of open space are clear priorities. A strong majority of respondents (77%) support preserving additional land for scenic views, wildlife, and trails. Respondents also expressed strong interest in enhancing existing parks, expanding hiking and biking trails, improving ADA accessibility, and adding amenities such as splash pads, restrooms, dog parks, and educational programming.

In terms of funding, 88% of respondents are receptive to allocating Town resources toward these improvements, with top priorities including the maintenance of current facilities, land preservation, and developing diverse recreational options for all age groups.

A total of 251 online surveys were completed. Respondents reflected a range of ages, neighborhoods, and recreational interests. Overall, the survey highlights a well-engaged community eager for thoughtful investment in open space and recreation that supports conservation, park maintenance, and accessibility. These findings provide a strong foundation for shaping a community-driven plan.

Section 5 Inventory of Parks & Recreation Lands

5.1 Existing Parks & Recreation Data

This section provides a comprehensive summary of Salem's existing parks and recreation lands. These include Town-owned parks and conservation areas only and does not include privately-owned open spaces and recreational areas managed by other organizations, such as the school. This data forms the foundation for identifying gaps in service and areas for improvement.

The Town of Salem maintains approximately 650 acres of public parks, open space, and recreational land across 16 sites. These parks support a wide range of recreational, environmental, and community uses and are essential to the quality of life for Salem residents.

5.2 Inventory Methodology

Town staff and the RAC utilized Survey123, a mobile GIS-based data collection tool, to conduct on-site evaluations of Salem's parks and recreation facilities. This method allowed staff to systematically assess the condition, safety, accessibility, and amenities of each park using a standardized digital form. Observations were recorded in real time and geo-tagged, providing an interactive and spatially accurate inventory of current park conditions.

Data collected through Survey123 included metrics such as the presence and quality of amenities (e.g., benches, restrooms, trails), and notes on accessibility and maintenance concerns. A total of 16 facilities were evaluated using this tool. This on-the-ground input provided an objective complement to the community survey and workshop feedback, yielding valuable information to identify facility gaps, prioritize capital improvements, and align park features with community needs.

The Survey123 inventory table is provided in Appendix C.

5.3 Park Classification and Description

To guide the analysis of future park needs, Salem's parks and recreation facilities have been classified into three distinct types based on their scale, purpose, and amenities: Mini Parks, Neighborhood Parks, and Community Parks. This typology is widely used in parks planning and is tailored here to reflect Salem's specific facility inventory and community needs. These adapted standards were developed by the National Parks and Recreation Association.

5.3.1 Mini Parks

Mini Parks are small public spaces, typically under two acres, that serve nearby residents and are located within walking distance of neighborhoods. These parks offer limited recreational opportunities and generally include features such as open lawns, benches, small playgrounds, or memorials.

- Little Saugus Field (1 acre)
- Veterans Memorial (5 acres; 2 usable)
- William Valentine Park (0.5 acres)

5.3.2 Neighborhood Parks

Neighborhood Parks are moderately sized and designed to serve surrounding neighborhoods with features like playgrounds, multi-use fields, and passive open space. These parks typically support daily, unstructured use and small gatherings.

- Millville Recreation Area (38 acres)
- Walmart Field (2 acres)
- Lawrence Road Recreation Area (5 acres; 1 usable).

5.3.3 Community Parks

Community Parks are larger, multi-use spaces that support both active and passive recreation for the entire community. These parks often include athletic fields, walking trails, forestland, and event spaces. Some also provide access to natural resources such as wetlands or wildlife corridors.

- Field of Dreams (7 acres; 5 usable)
- DiBenedetto Field (78 acres; 6 usable)
- Palmer School Field (8 acres)
- Town Forest (350 acres)
- Hedgehog Park (28 acres; 20 usable)
- Linwood Avenue Park (8 acres; 2 usable)
- Michele Memorial Park (48 acres; 34 usable)
- Morse Field (14 acres; 7 usable)
- Rail Trail (37 acres)
- Senior Center Grounds (16 acres; 6 usable)

5.3.4 Park Inventory

Inventory data was compiled using a combination of GIS analysis, Town Assessor records, and publicly available datasets from state agencies and regional planning commissions. Input from Town staff through the Survey123 application helped verify and supplement the dataset.

Park Name	Total Acres	Usable Acres	Category
Little Saugus Field	1	1	Mini Park
Veterans Memorial	5	2	Mini Park
William Valentine	0.5	0.5	Mini Park
Millville Recreation Area	38	38	Neighborhood Park
Walmart Field	2	2	Neighborhood Park

Lawrence Road	5	1	Neighborhood Park
Field of Dreams	7	5	Community Park
DiBenedetto Field	78	6	Community Park
Palmer School Field	8	8	Community Park
Town Forest	350	350	Community Park
Hedgehog Park	28	20	Community Park
Linwood Avenue	8	2	Community Park
Michele Memorial	48	34	Community Park
Morse Field	14	7	Community Park
Rail Trail	37	37	Community Park
Senior Center Grounds	16	6	Community Park
Total	645	520	

Of the 645 acres included in Salem's recreation inventory, a substantial portion, particularly in the Town Forest and Rail Trail, offers passive recreational opportunities such as hiking, walking, and nature appreciation. However, usable acreage (520 acres) for active recreation is more limited, especially in parks with environmental constraints such as wetlands, steep slopes, or conservation easements. Understanding the difference between total and usable acreage is critical for planning future recreational investments and prioritizing improvements.

Section 6 Priority Sites

6.1 Site Selection

Three priority sites, Millville Recreation Area, Lawrence Road Recreation Area, and Little Saugus Field, were identified for a more focused analysis. These sites were selected by Town Staff, the RAC, and supported by feedback from the community survey, based on their location, existing conditions, potential for community benefit, and alignment with Town goals.

These sites are shown in the opportunity figures in Appendix D.

6.2 Site #1 – Millville Recreation Area

Site #1 includes seven parcels (Parcel IDs: 57-6855-0, 57-2578-0, 57-2579-0, 57-2595-0, 66-2678-0, 57-2598-0, and 57-2597-0) and is located in the Residential (R) zoning district near Millville Lake. The site features a mix of water resources, deciduous forest, and water courses.

The area was repeatedly cited by residents during the public engagement process as a desirable location for improved recreational amenities, particularly access to water and swimming. The RAC and Town staff also identified this area as a high priority, and the site has previously been considered by the Town as a potential opportunity for recreation development. Permitting needs have not yet been evaluated.

The sections below outline the existing environment, constraints, and opportunities at the Millville site.

6.2.1 Existing Environment

- Approximately 38 acres across two main clusters of parcels, separated by Widow Harris Brook.
- Extends from Glen Denin Drive on the east to Millville Circle and Millville Lake on the west.
- Includes forested land, a small existing beach area, and wetlands.
- A small parking lot exists off Millville Circle.
- The area is mostly undeveloped woodland with sloping topography (approx. 180' to 140' elevation).

6.2.2 Constraints

- The site is divided by conservation easements, wetlands, and a small sliver of one non-Town-owned parcel.
- The western portion is not level and would require significant regrading, tree removal, and retaining walls to accommodate active recreation facilities.
- Widow Harris Brook, the 100-year flood zone, and a conservation easement present barriers to connecting the eastern and western areas. A boardwalk crossing would require access over a non-Town-owned parcel.

- Proximity to adjacent residences may cause potential conflicts such as traffic, noise, and lighting.
- **Western Parcel:** Potential to accommodate one baseball field, one softball field, and one soccer field, with significant challenges:
 - Extensive site work needed (regrading, retaining walls, stormwater management).
 - Likely removal of woodland buffer between residences and fields.
 - Parking and access road construction required.
- **Eastern Parcel:** Better suited for limited active recreation:
 - Two soccer fields could fit with optimal orientation.
 - A softball field fits but would encroach on a designated wildlife corridor and limit space for parking.
 - Parking is possible with access from Glen Denin Drive.
 - Fields would still require grading (10–15' elevation change) and tree clearing.
 - Facilities would be near homes, and some may encroach on conservation easements.
- **Water Access Area:**
 - Road realignment may be needed.
 - No accessible pathway currently connects the street to the beach.
 - Parking in the wide intersection is informal and unsafe.
 - Limited visibility from the road to the water.

6.2.3 Opportunities

- **Improved Water Access:**
 - Enhancing and formalizing the beach area is a high-feasibility, low-impact option.
 - Proposed improvements include:
 - Boardwalk and dock installation.
 - ADA-compliant (5% grade) accessible pathway and stairs from street to beach.
 - Tree limbing or removal near the crosswalk to improve visibility.
 - Slope revegetation with native plants.
 - Crosswalk, sidewalk, and right-angle intersection to improve pedestrian safety and access.
 - 10-space parking area with a planted buffer strip.
- **Woodland Trails:**
 - More than a mile of trails could be developed across both parcel groups.
 - A pedestrian bridge over Widow Harris Brook could link the east and west portions, pending easement negotiations or acquisition.

- Trails would enhance passive recreation and offer scenic connections to Millville Lake.

The Millville Recreation Area offers a rare opportunity in Salem to improve water access, enhance trail connectivity, and expand passive recreation in a largely undeveloped, wooded area. While significant constraints limit the feasibility of large-scale active recreation facilities, such as steep slopes, wetlands, floodplains, and adjacent residential uses, there is strong community interest in enhancing this site. Improvements that focus on accessible water access, woodland trails, and light-touch recreational amenities would provide high community value while maintaining the site's natural character.

6.3 Site #2 – 73 Lawrence Road

The Lawrence Road Recreation Area is a single parcel approximately 5 acres in size, located at the corner of Lawrence Road and Veterans Memorial Parkway. The site is positioned adjacent to a busy intersection and directly across Lawrence Road from the Salem Senior Center, which could provide additional shared parking opportunities. The parcel features open lawn, marshland, and wetland resources and is adjacent to a residential retirement community.

While the site is currently underutilized, it presents strong potential for passive recreation, particularly nature-based amenities that could serve older adults and nearby residents. It was identified as a high-potential site during public engagement for its accessibility, visibility, and open character.

The sections below outline the existing environment, constraints, and opportunities at the Lawrence Road site.

6.3.1 Existing Environment

- Approximately 8-acre parcel containing open mown lawn and natural areas with wetland resources.
- The western portion of the site is entirely constrained by wetlands, a mapped wildlife corridor, the 500-year floodplain, and the 100-year floodplain.
- Informal pull-off area used for limited parking.
- Maintained but undeveloped green space.
- Directly across the street from the Salem Senior Center, offering potential for shared access or overflow parking.

6.3.2 Constraints

- The parcel is bordered by a high-traffic intersection with wide-radius corners that promote speeding and reduce pedestrian safety.
- Any improvements must include traffic calming and intersection design changes to safely support new park uses.
- Invasive plants are present within the lawn area and along the wetland edge.
- The site lacks accessible, designated parking.

- The western half of the site is heavily constrained due to environmental conditions including wetlands, mapped wildlife habitat, and overlapping 100- and 500-year floodplains, which limits the footprint for new facilities.

6.3.3 Opportunities

- **Traffic and Safety Improvements:**
 - Install high-visibility crosswalks using contrasting surface materials to draw driver attention.
 - Redesign the intersection to reduce turning radii and vehicle speeds.
 - Add a fence or natural barrier between the lawn and roadway to improve safety and define park boundaries.
- **Park Enhancements:**
 - Remove invasive vegetation and establish a native meadow.
 - Construct a nature-themed playground that aligns with the passive character of the site.
 - Build a boardwalk extending into the wetlands to offer wildlife viewing and nature interpretation without disrupting sensitive resources.
 - Include a gazebo, bocce ball courts, or space for lawn games to support intergenerational use.
 - Create a circular walking path within the open lawn for low-impact exercise.
- **Accessibility and Parking:**
 - Construct a small, formal parking area with ADA spaces.
 - Explore the use of the Senior Center parking lot for shared access or overflow parking, especially given its proximity and alignment with the intended user base.
 - Consider a designated pull-off area to accommodate drop-off/pick-up for older adults or visitors with limited mobility.

With targeted improvements and careful design, the Lawrence Road Recreation Area can become a signature neighborhood park that enhances local open space offerings, improves public safety, and provides inclusive recreational opportunities for all ages and abilities, especially older adults living nearby.

6.4 Site #3 – Little Saugus Field

Little Saugus Field is a compact pocket park located in the heart of a residential neighborhood. The site combines a wide open lawn with a small wooded knoll at the northern end, providing open recreation space. With its central location and strong accessibility, the site could serve as a gathering place for families and children and has the potential to support both active and passive recreation in a highly walkable setting.

The sections below outline the existing environment, constraints, and opportunities at Little Saugus Field.

6.4.1 Existing Environment

- Small neighborhood park with open lawn and a wooded knoll at the northern end.
- Located in the center of a residential neighborhood, easily accessible by walking and biking.
- Maintained green space with opportunities for both informal recreation and programmed use.

6.4.2 Constraints

- Limited acreage restricts the size and number of facilities that can be accommodated.
- Active recreation (soccer, tee-ball) may compete with space for other amenities such as playgrounds or picnic areas.
- Parking is limited, with most access anticipated to be via walking or biking from the surrounding neighborhood.

6.4.3 Opportunities

- **Recreation Enhancements:**
 - Very limited space for a U9/U10 soccer field or a 50' baseline tee-ball field to serve youth sports.
 - Space to install a small playground to support neighborhood families.
 - Maintain part of the lawn as flexible open space or convert a portion into a pollinator meadow.
- **Passive Use and Community Amenities:**
 - Add a pergola, gazebo, or picnic pavilion to support social gatherings and family use.
 - Walking path around the site measures approximately 1/5th of a mile, supporting walking, jogging, and low impact exercise.

With its walkable location, open character, and open lawn areas, Little Saugus Field has strong potential to serve as a family-oriented neighborhood park. Modest enhancements would broaden recreational opportunities, create a balance between active and passive uses, and strengthen its role as a valued community gathering space.

6.5 Priority Sites Constraints and Opportunities Summary

The Priority Sites represent distinct opportunities to enhance Salem's open space and recreation system. While each site presents its own set of environmental, logistical, and design constraints, both offer meaningful potential for community-driven improvements.

The table below illustrates a summary of constraints and opportunities at the sites.

TABLE 6-1. Summary of Constraints and Opportunities

Site	Key Constraints	Key Opportunities
Millville Recreation Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wetlands limit buildable area • Significant grade changes and woodland clearing required for fields • Parcels split by brook and wildlife corridor • Recreational facilities would be close to residential homes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve and formalize water access • Add beach pathway and dock • Develop woodland trails with bridge crossing • Enhance pedestrian access and parking • Support passive recreation and natural character
Lawrence Road Recreation Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wetlands limit buildable area • High-traffic intersection • Limited and informal parking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add crosswalks for safety • Shared parking with nearby Senior Center • Add gazebo, bocce, or lawn games • Nature-themed boardwalk
Little Saugus Field	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited acreage restricts facility size and number • No space for designated parking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Space for U9/U10 soccer field or tee-ball • Playground and flexible open lawn • 1/5-mile path • Pergola, gazebo, or picnic pavilion

6.6 Alignment of Priority Sites with Goals & Objectives

The Priority Sites represent distinct opportunities to enhance Salem's open space and recreation system. While each site presents its own set of environmental, logistical, and design constraints, all offer meaningful potential for community-driven improvements.

The Priority Sites closely align with Salem's goals for accessibility, connectivity, environmental education, and community-focused recreation. Each site presents a distinct opportunity: Millville for trail and water access improvements in a natural setting, Lawrence Road for creating a neighborhood park with inclusive, low-impact amenities, and Little Saugus Field for a mini park in walking distance to residential areas. Together, these priority sites reflect a balanced approach to meeting community needs.

This section expands on the alignment of the two sites with the plan's goals and objectives.

6.6.1 Millville Recreation Area

Goal 1: Enhance Accessibility and Equity in Recreation Spaces

- **Objective 1.1:** Enhances pedestrian access by proposing sidewalk connections and crosswalk improvements, especially near the water access point.
- **Objective 1.3:** Directly supports increased access to a public waterbody for passive recreation, swimming, and fishing.
- **Objective 1.5:** Opportunities for accessible nature-based programming (e.g., trails, beach access) serve a wide range of ages and abilities.

Goal 2: Improve Connectivity Across Network of Parks

- **Objective 2.2:** Bridge and trail network could connect Millville with other neighborhoods or future greenways.
- **Objective 2.3:** Expands Salem's overall trail network with more than a mile of potential woodland walking trails.

Goal 3: Expand Recreation Opportunities to Meet Community Needs

- **Objective 3.1:** While full-scale field development is limited, conceptual field layouts show the site's long-term potential.
- **Objective 3.3:** Incorporates walking trails, nature observation, and passive recreation.

Goal 4: Foster Environmental Stewardship and Public Education

- **Objective 4.2:** Potential for interpretive signage about the wetland, wildlife corridor, and Widow Harris Brook.
- **Objective 4.3:** Woodland trails and boardwalk areas provide a strong foundation for nature-based education and organized programming.

6.6.2 Lawrence Road Recreation Area**Goal 1: Enhance Accessibility and Equity in Recreation Spaces**

- **Objective 1.1:** Improves pedestrian safety and access through crosswalks, traffic calming, and proximity to the Senior Center.
- **Objective 1.2:** Functions as a small-scale green space (pocket park) in a highly accessible neighborhood area.
- **Objective 1.4:** Introduces new infrastructure (e.g., gazebo, bocce, walking loop) designed for accessibility and inclusivity.
- **Objective 1.5:** Proposed amenities are age-friendly and suited to both seniors and families, supporting inclusive recreation.

Goal 3: Expand Recreation Opportunities to Meet Community Needs

- **Objective 3.2:** Adds new amenities such as seating areas, walking loops, and small game courts.
- **Objective 3.3:** Incorporates meadow restoration, wetland boardwalks, and passive recreation opportunities.

Goal 4: Foster Environmental Stewardship and Public Education

- **Objective 4.1:** Meadow creation supports pollinator habitat and provides a partnership opportunity with local groups.
- **Objective 4.2:** Boardwalk area provides a platform for educational signage and environmental interpretation.

6.6.3 Little Saugus Field

Goal 1: Enhance Accessibility and Equity in Recreation Spaces

- **Objective 1.2:** Functions as a small-scale, highly accessible pocket park in the heart of a residential neighborhood.
- **Objective 1.4:** Introduces new infrastructure such as a playground, walking path, and pergola/pavilion designed for accessibility and inclusivity.
- **Objective 1.5:** Proposed amenities support families and children, offering opportunities for intergenerational recreation and small-scale community programming.

Goal 2: Improve Connectivity Across Network of Parks

- **Objective 2.2:** Enhances neighborhood connections by linking walking paths to surrounding sidewalks and nearby green spaces.

Goal 3: Expand Recreation Opportunities to Meet Community Needs

- **Objective 3.1:** Provides space for youth sports, including a U9/U10 soccer field or tee-ball diamond.
- **Objective 3.3:** Balances active and passive recreation through walking paths, flexible open lawn, and a playground.

Goal 4: Foster Environmental Stewardship and Public Education

- **Objective 4.1:** Potential to establish a meadow or pollinator garden in partnership with local groups.
- **Objective 4.2:** Opportunities for educational signage about neighborhood ecology or pollinator species.

Goal 5: Celebrate Cultural & Historic Heritage

- **Objective 5.1:** Site could host small-scale community or cultural programming, such as art installations or seasonal events.

Section 7 Level of Service

To inform the LOS analysis, data from the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) 2025 Agency Performance Review was incorporated. This national dataset aggregates information from nearly 1,000 park and recreation agencies across the country and offers median service levels based on community size.

Importantly, NRPA emphasizes that its performance metrics are not prescriptive standards but guidelines to help communities benchmark themselves against similar jurisdictions. Each community's park system should reflect its unique character, geography, and recreational priorities. In Salem, this means considering not only the number of parks and amenities, but also the quality, accessibility, and geographic distribution of these resources across neighborhoods.

7.1 Level of Service Analysis

The LOS analysis is a critical component of assessing how well Salem's existing parks and open space system is serving the needs of its residents. This analysis considers both the quantity and distribution of parkland and recreational amenities in relation to the town's population, as well as how Salem compares to national benchmarks. The LOS analysis helps identify gaps in service and areas where future investment may be needed to meet demand and access to open space.

Salem currently provides approximately 645 acres of parks and open space across 16 publicly accessible sites. With a population of 31,549, this equates to roughly:

- 2,103 residents per park
- 20.6 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents

These figures compare favorably to the 2025 National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Agency Performance Review¹, which reports a typical benchmark of:

- 2,386 residents per park
- 10.6 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents

Even when excluding the 350-acre Town Forest from Salem's total, bringing the usable parkland figure to about 295 acres, Salem still meets the national benchmark with 9.4 acres per 1,000 residents, suggesting the community is relatively well-served in terms of total acreage.

While the total acreage figure suggests that Salem benefits from a relatively high amount of open space, the number of park sites and types of amenities available may not fully reflect the recreational needs of Salem's population. For example, the Town currently has two basketball courts and four tennis courts, resulting in approximately one basketball court for every 15,775 residents and one tennis court per 7,887 residents. These ratios

¹<https://www.nrpa.org/globalassets/research/research-reports/2025-agency-performance-review-report.pdf>

suggest that some recreational facilities may be underprovided relative to demand, as further expanded upon below.

7.1.1 Distribution and Access

As part of this Phase I planning effort, a Level of Service mapping analysis was completed to assess spatial distribution and community access to parks. This GIS-based analysis used the following park type-specific buffer distances that reflect the unique development and land use patterns in Salem:

- **Mini Parks:** Access radius of 1 mile
- **Neighborhood Parks:** Access radius of 1–2 miles
- **Community Parks:** Access radius of 2–3 miles

These distances are greater than the commonly used walkable standard of ½ mile, but are appropriate for a town with an auto-oriented layout like Salem. Buffers were generated around both the total parcel area and the "usable" parkland footprint to identify true service coverage. This approach helped determine where gaps in access exist, especially in areas with higher residential densities and limited walkability.

Overall, mini and neighborhood parks can be found near the center of town, while community parks are more widely distributed. The northern and southwest portions of town are noticeably lacking mini and neighborhood parks.

Distribution and access for each park was evaluated by reviewing the entire parcel as well as usable area only. LOS figures can be found in Appendix E.

7.1.2 Facility-Specific LOS

In addition to parkland coverage, the quantity of active recreational facilities in Salem was evaluated against NRPA benchmarks for typical communities with similar populations. Applicable facility types compared with NRPA benchmarks can be found in Table 7-1 below.

TABLE 7.1 – Facility NRPA Benchmarks

Facility Type	NRPA Benchmark	Salem LOS	Meets Benchmark
Playground	1 per 3,750 residents	1 per 6,310	Underprovided
Diamond Fields	1 per 4,063 residents	1 per 5,258	Slightly underprovided
Basketball Courts	1 per 8,000 residents	1 per 15,775	Underprovided
Rectangular Fields	1 per 5,000 residents	1 per 15,775	Underprovided
Tennis Courts	1 per 6,003 residents	1 per 7,887	Underprovided
Dog Parks	1 per 46,917 residents	N/A	None present
Miles of Trails	10 miles (typical)	12 miles	Exceeds benchmark

While Salem's trail mileage slightly exceeds the national average, the Town currently falls short of typical LOS for active recreational facilities like courts, fields, and playgrounds. These deficiencies are important to consider, particularly in growing neighborhoods and among age groups with specific recreational needs (e.g., youth sports, seniors, pet owners).

7.1.3 Summary

The LOS analysis demonstrates that while Salem has a generous overall supply of parkland, especially when large natural areas are included, the Town's number of park sites and active recreational facilities lags behind national averages. Addressing these gaps, particularly in neighborhoods underserved by parks or lacking playgrounds, courts, or sports fields, will be essential for improving access to park and recreation facilities townwide to meet future community needs. The results of the LOS analysis align with the feedback received from the Community Survey.

This analysis will help guide future land acquisition, park development, and amenity investment decisions, forming a foundation for Salem's evolving parks and recreation system.

Section 8 Next Steps

This Recreation Master Plan represents Phase I of Salem's long-term vision to enhance open space, improve recreational opportunities, and promote environmental stewardship throughout the community. The work completed to date, including the development of goals and objectives, public engagement, and priority site identification, lays the foundation for a more detailed and actionable planning process in the next phase.

8.1 Future Phases of the Recreation Master Plan

The next phase of the Recreation Master Plan process could involve the following key components:

- **Demographics and Needs Analysis** - A comprehensive analysis of population trends, age cohorts, and regional recreational benchmarks will be conducted to better understand current and future needs.
- **Strategy Development** - Building on the goals and objectives established in Phase I, the Town will develop targeted strategies to guide decision-making and investment over the next seven to ten years.
- **Action Plan** - A detailed Action Plan will identify:
 - Recommended actions aligned with goals and objectives
 - Responsible parties (e.g., municipal departments, boards, community partners)
 - Priority level (High, Medium, or Low) for each action
 - Timeframes for implementation (Short-, Mid-, and Long-term)
 - Potential funding sources, including local, state, federal, and grant opportunities
- **Draft and Final Recreation Master Plan** - A full Recreation Master Plan will be prepared. This report will include all typical elements of a full Recreation Master Plan, such as the community vision, inventory of lands, needs analysis, action plan, and public process documentation.
- **Monitoring, Updating, and Tracking Progress** - Establishing a process for tracking implementation progress will be critical to the long-term success of the Recreation Master Plan. The Town will explore tools and methods for:
 - Monitoring completed actions
 - Updating the plan on a rolling basis
 - Reporting progress to Town leadership and the public

Appendix A

Meeting & Workshop Agendas

Salem, NH Open Space Master Plan Kickoff Meeting

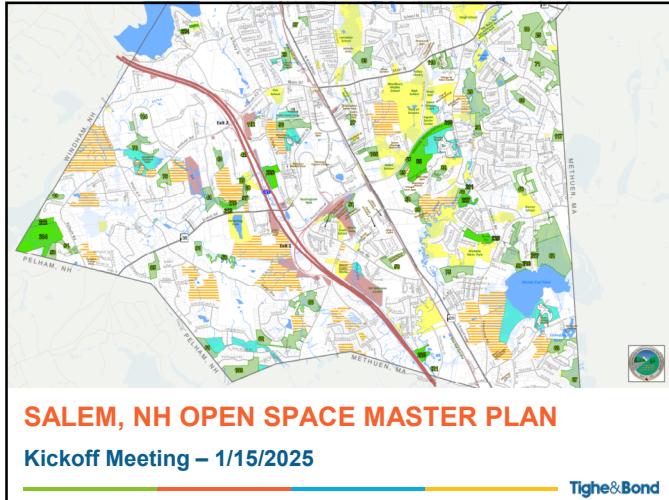
ATTENDEES:

Kristin Yankauskas, Tighe & Bond	Crayton Brubaker, CIP Program Manager
Katie Duffey, Community Services Director	Thomas Woelfel, Chair Recreation
Roy Sorenson, Municipal Services Director	Advisory Committee
John Vogl, GIS Manager	

DATE: January 15, 2025

LOCATION: Teams Meeting

6:00 – 6:05 PM	Introductions
6:05 – 6:15 PM	Overall Project Goals
6:15 – 6:35 PM	Scope of Work, Budget & Schedule Review of Tasks 1 - 4
6:35 – 6:40 PM	Document & Data Collection
6:40 – 6:55 PM	Goals & Objectives Brainstorm Session to prep for Workshops
6:55 – 7:00 PM	Next Steps, Open Discussion & Questions Survey 123 Prep Schedule Workshops



1

AGENDA

- Introductions
- Overall Project Goals
- Scope of Work, Budget, Schedule
- Document & Data Collection
- Goals & Objectives
- Next Steps, Open Discussion

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2

INTRODUCTION

• **Sharon Rooney – Project Manager**

Sharon Rooney, AICP, RLA (she/her/hers)
Principal Planner

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• **Kristin Yankauskas – APM & Planner**

Kristin Yankauskas
Project Manager

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3

OVERALL PROJECT GOALS

- Provide the initial phase of Salem's Park and Recreation Master Plan:
 - Goal Setting
 - Conducting Preliminary Data & Analysis
 - Public Outreach
- Establish clear, actionable goals and objectives to guide the development of the Parks and Rec Master Plan.
- Establish inventory of existing facilities
- Complete Level of Service analysis
- Site Analysis Diagrams for 2 Sites
- Summary Report

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4

SCOPE OF WORK

• Task 1 – Kickoff Meeting & Data Collection

- Deliverable(s): Kickoff Meeting Notes & Web Map Application

• Task 2 – Develop Goals & Objectives

- Deliverable(s): Draft Vision, Goals, and Objectives Statement

• Task 3 – Parks and Recreation Data Collection

- Deliverable(s): Preliminary Findings Summary, Space Diagrams for 2 Sites

• Task 4 – Public Engagement & Outreach

- Deliverable(s): PowerPoint Presentation & Presentation Boards for Public Meeting.

• Task 5 – Summary Report

- Deliverable(s): Draft and Final Summary Report



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5

SCHEDULE & BUDGET

• Schedule:

- Task 1: Kickoff & Data Collection – January
- Task 2: Develop Goals & Objectives – January/February
- Task 3: Parks & Rec Data Collection – February/March
- Task 4: Public Engagement & Outreach - March
- Task 5: Summary Report – March/April

• Fee: \$35,000

- Lump sum

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6

DOCUMENT & DATA COLLECTION

• Recreation Facilities Data:

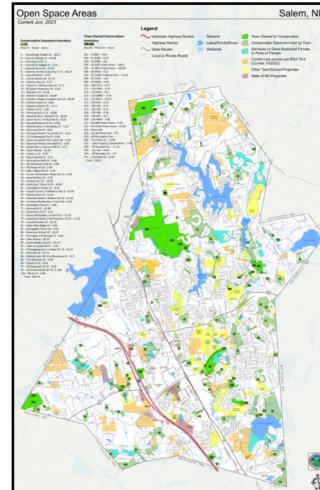
- Parcels
- Fields
- Passive Recreation
- Rail trail
- “Undeveloped Opportunity” – vacant areas – potential rec uses
- Mapping vs Asset Management

• Data Collection

- Use of online form (Survey 123)
- Inventory questions to be developed with Recreation Advisory Committee
 - Athletic fields
 - Playgrounds
 - Trails
 - Restrooms
 - Amenities
- Photo collection
 - Used to update current recreation facilities data
 - Used to develop Level of Service Analysis

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• Vision Statement

• Goals & Objectives

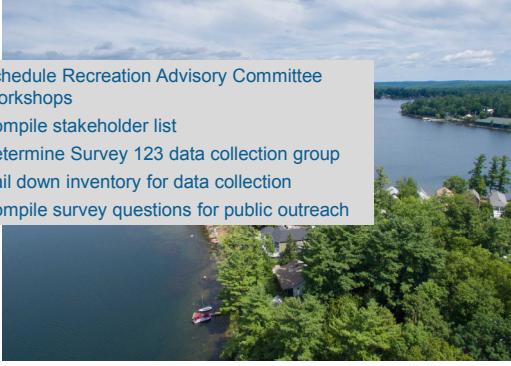
- Developed during workshops
- Based on identified community needs, environmental considerations, and recreational opportunities

• Initial “wish list” brainstorm

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8

NEXT STEPS



1. Schedule Recreation Advisory Committee Workshops
2. Compile stakeholder list
3. Determine Survey 123 data collection group
4. Nail down inventory for data collection
5. Compile survey questions for public outreach

9

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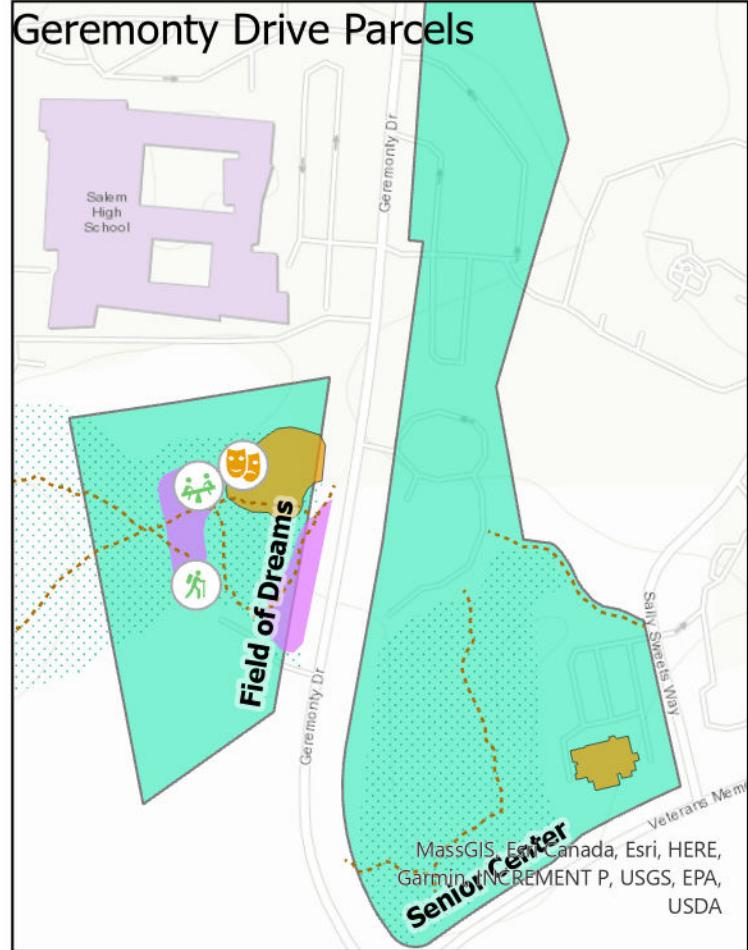


OPEN DISCUSSION & QUESTIONS

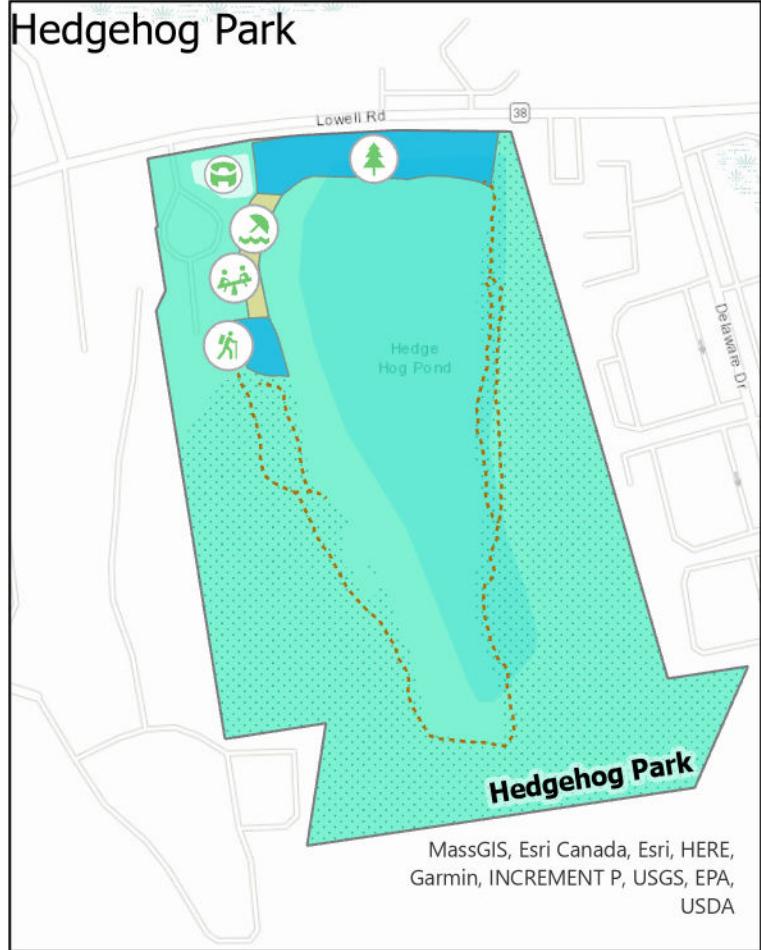
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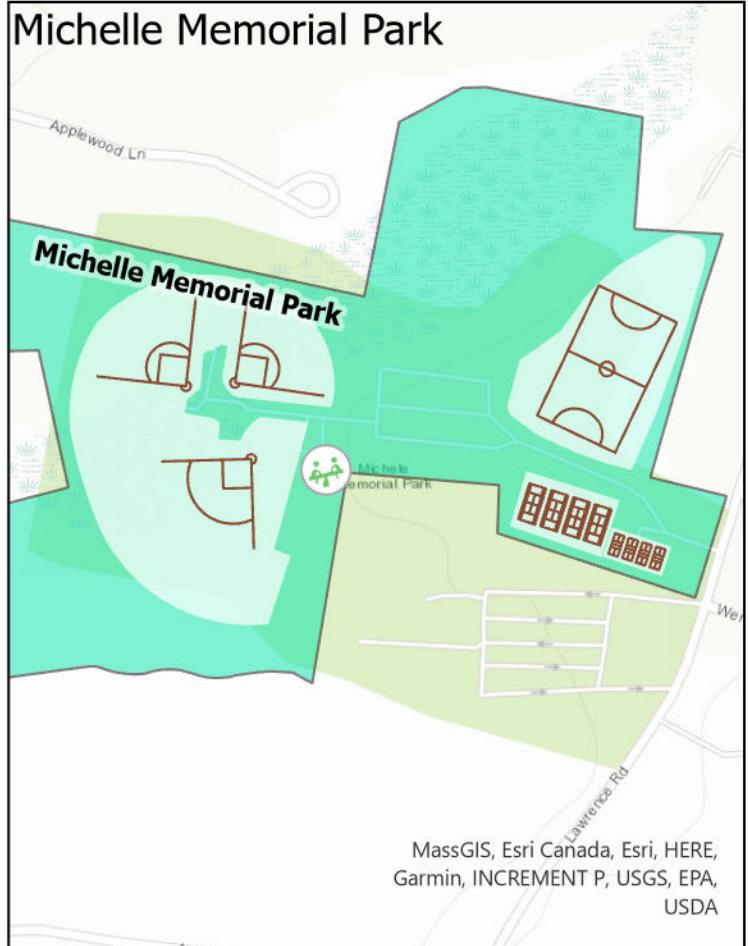
Geremony Drive Parcels



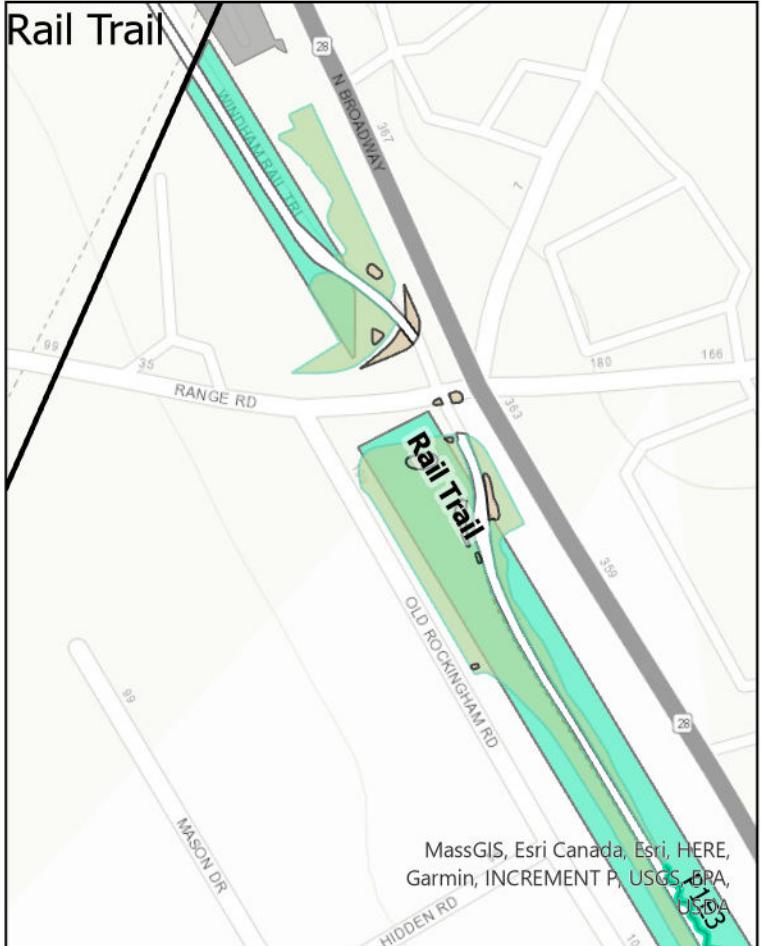
Hedgehog Park

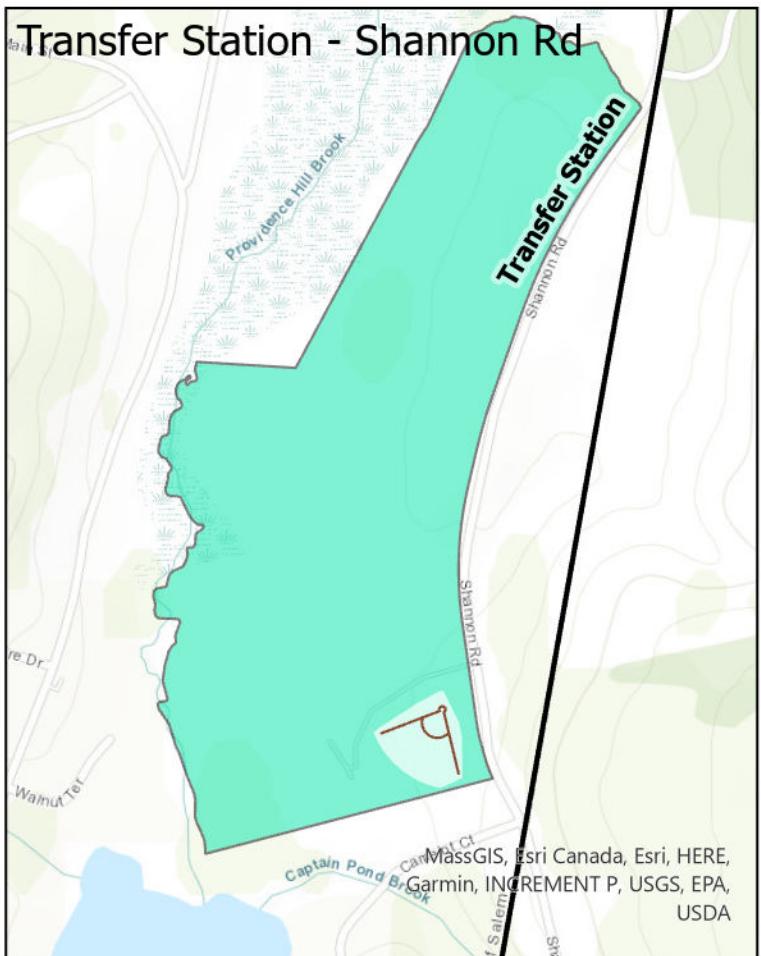
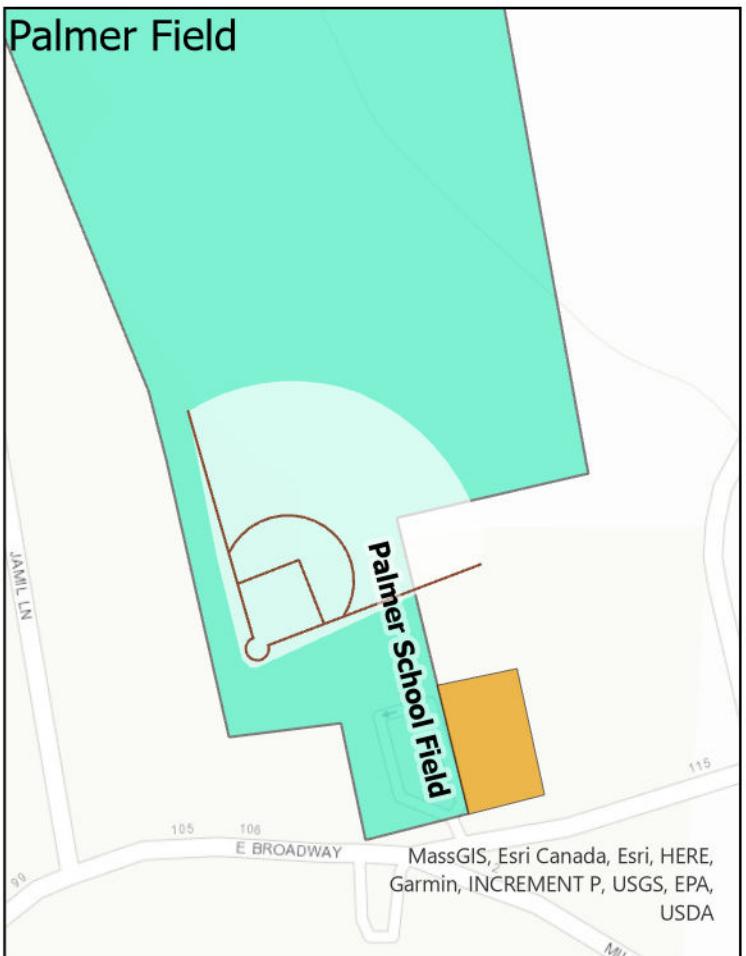
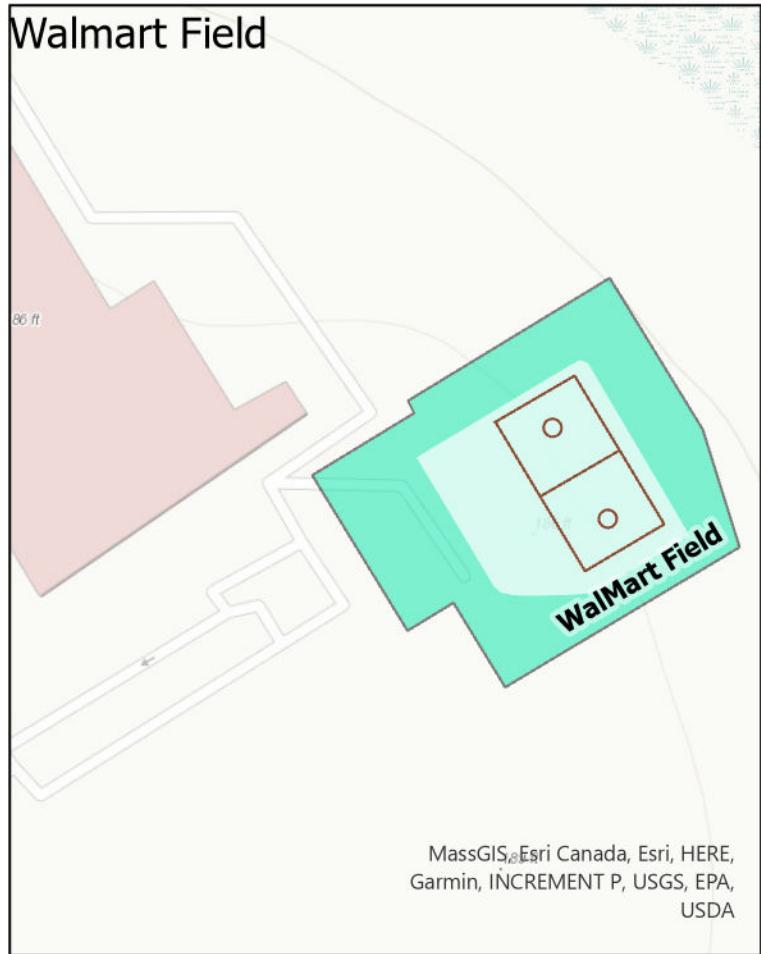
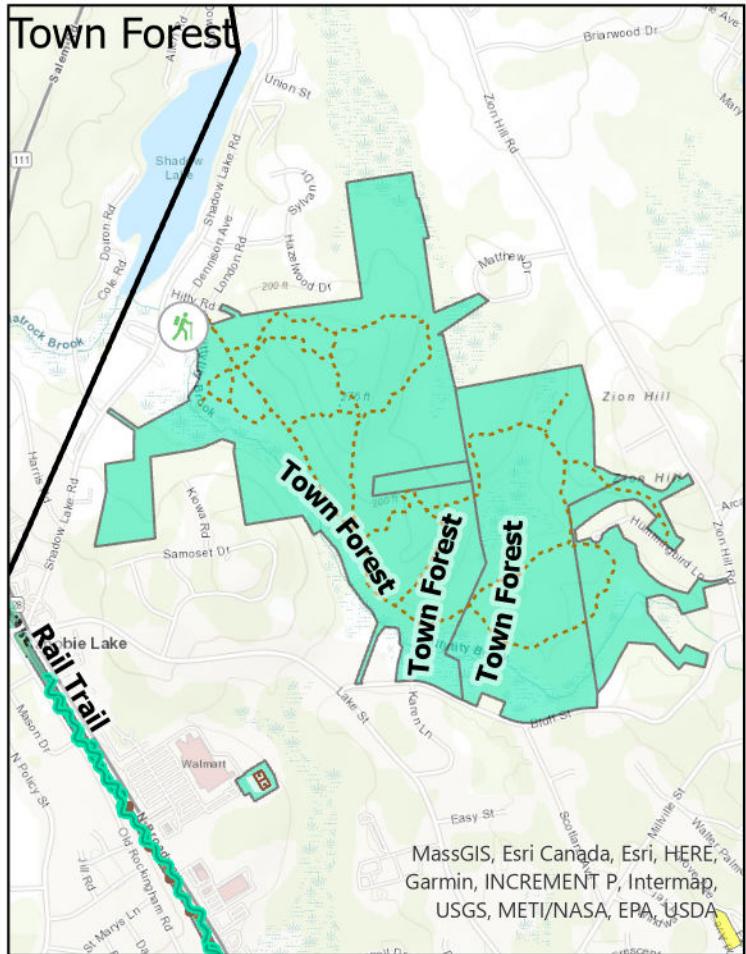


Michelle Memorial Park

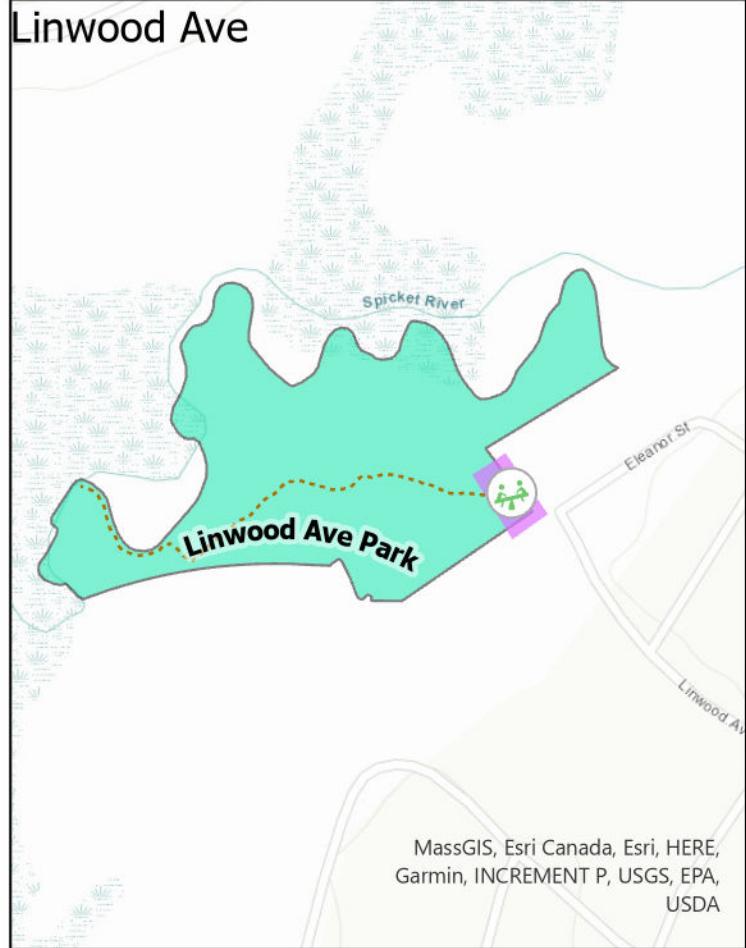


Rail Trail

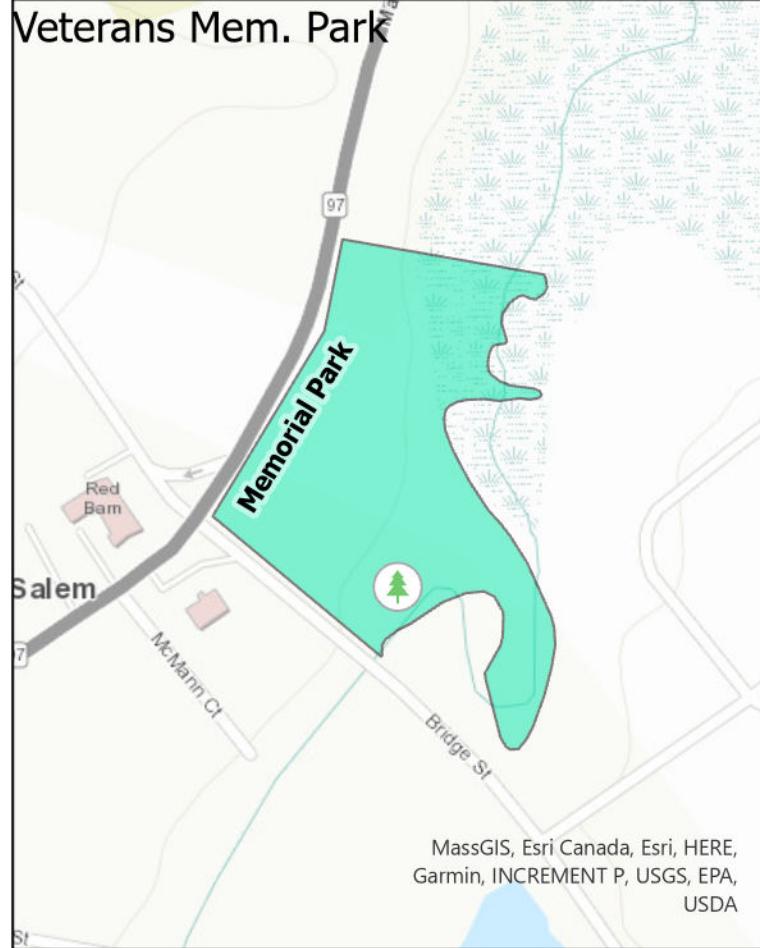




Linwood Ave



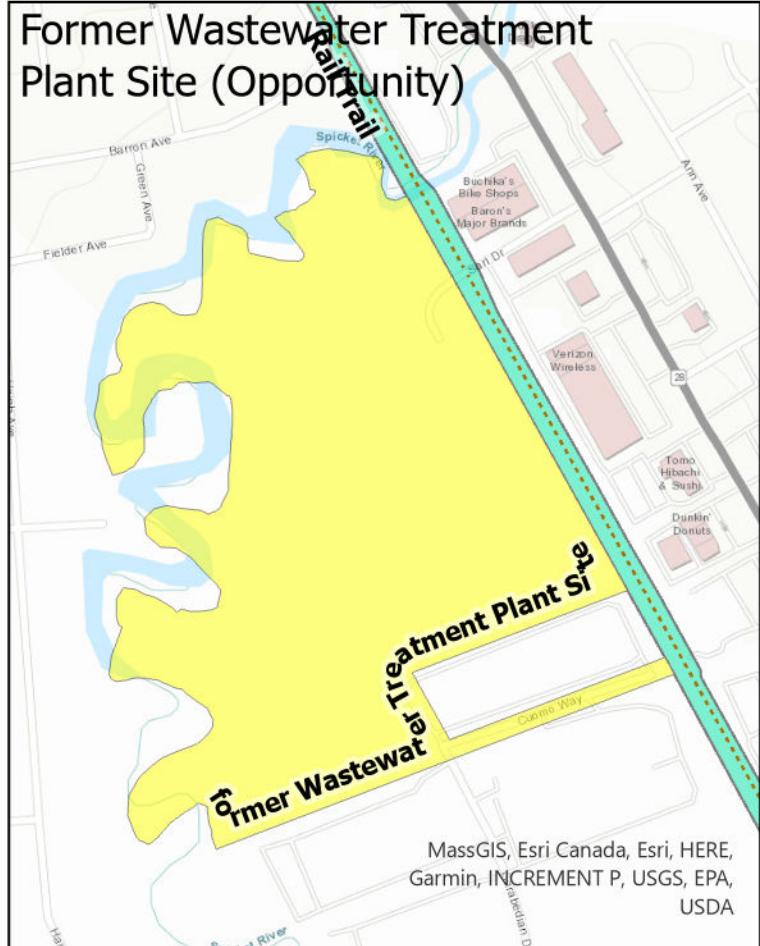
Veterans Mem. Park



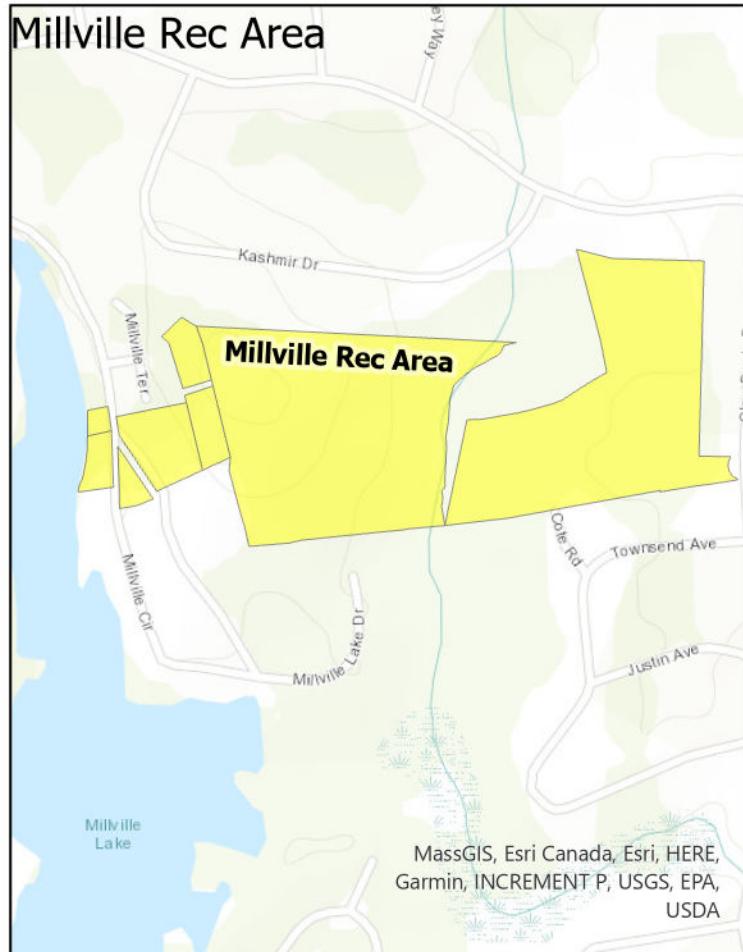
Bill Valentine Park



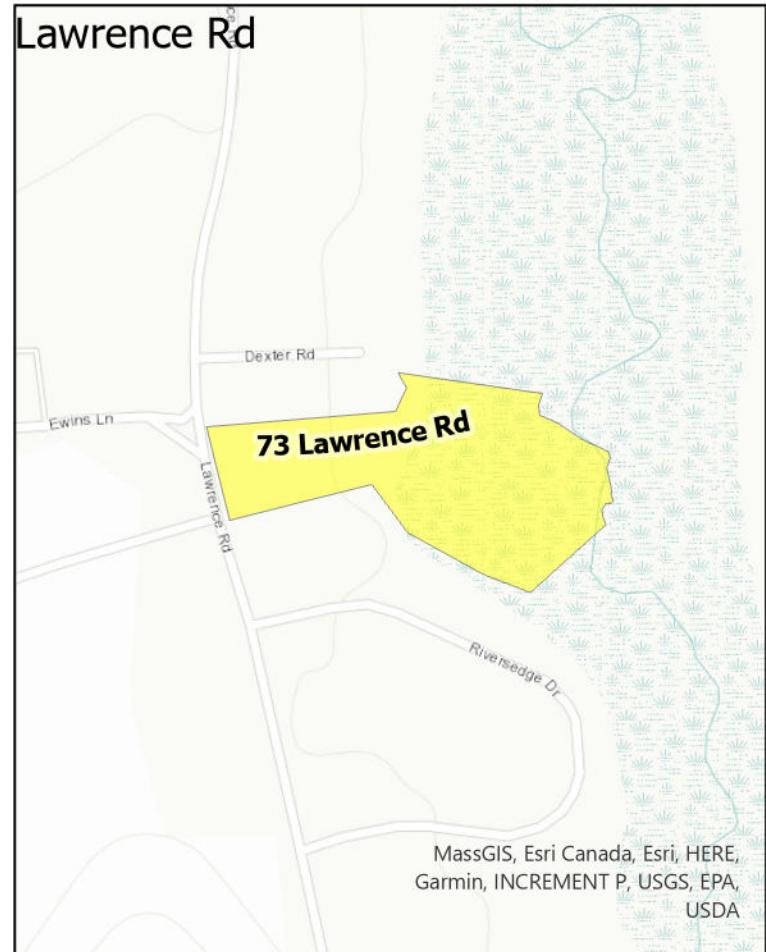
Former Wastewater Treatment Plant Site (Opportunity)



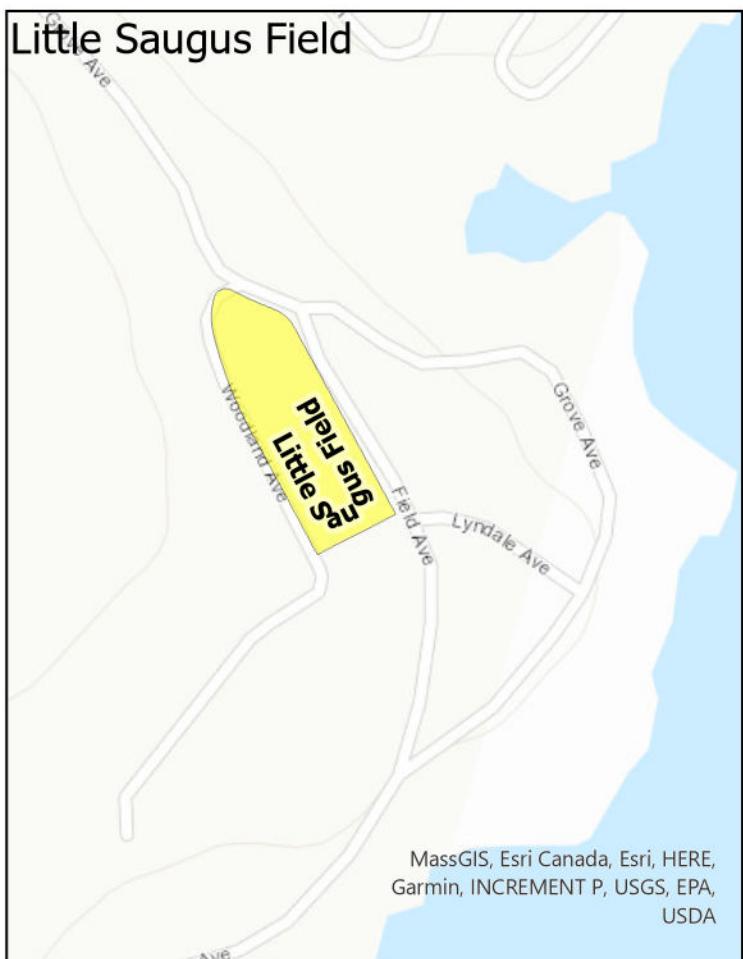
Millville Rec Area



Lawrence Rd



Little Saugus Field



Salem, NH Open Space Master Plan Kickoff Meeting

ATTENDEES:

Kristin Yankauskas, Tighe & Bond	Pat Good, Recreation Advisory Committee
Katie Duffey, Community Services Director	Rick Murray, Recreation Advisory Committee
Roy Sorenson, Municipal Services Director	Rachel Hill, Recreation Advisory Committee
John Vogl, GIS Manager	Keven Richard, Recreation Advisory Committee
Crayton Brubaker, CIP Program Manager	Corinne Gordon, Recreation Advisory Committee
Thomas Woelfel, Chair Recreation Advisory Committee	

DATE: January 15, 2025

LOCATION: Salem Town Hall

An in-person meeting was held on January 15, 2025 at the Salem Town Hall to kickoff the Salem Open Space Master Plan effort. The following are discussion items from the meeting.

- Group discussed overall project goals, scope of work, budget and schedule.
- Tighe & Bond confirmed receipt of open space and recreation GIS data.
- Community Engagement was outlined; includes one in-person workshop and a survey
 - Virtual and paper surveys will be distributed 6-12 weeks in advance.
 - It was noted that the Town's Master Plan efforts involved a survey. There may be overlap in park and rec related questions.
- Sites for Potential Open Space and Recreation Opportunities were reviewed:
 - Millville Rec Area
 - Consolidating 8 parcels, split by Conservation easement
 - Vacant, old town beach, fallen into disrepair
 - Town owned land
 - Old Water Treatment Plan – No longer an option
 - Michelle Memorial Park
 - Potential reconfiguring, ensuring best use of space
 - Adding soccer field
 - Wetlands cover a majority of the western part of the parcel
 - Little Saugus Field
 - Potential for a pocket park
 - Lawrence Road

- 5 acres, 4 of which are covered by wetlands
- Potential for small field/backyard games
- 6 – 8 parking spaces
- Pocket park to meet demand
- Workshop Dates are scheduled for:
 - In-person Workshop: Thursday, January 30, 2025 @ 6pm
 - Virtual Workshop: Thursday, February 13, 2025 @ 6 or 7pm

Action Items

- Town of Salem to send Tighe & Bond Master Plan survey results that pertain to Open Space and Recreation.
- Town of Salem to send Tighe & Bond list of potential stakeholders to target for community engagement and public outreach.
- Tighe & Bond to compile potential community outreach survey questions.
- Tighe & Bond to compile list of inventory items.

Salem, NH Open Space Master Plan

Workshop 1

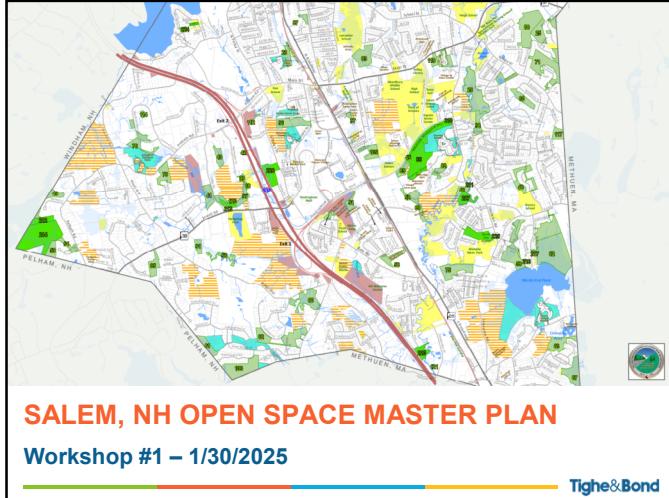
ATTENDEES:

Kristin Yankauskas, Tighe & Bond	Crayton Brubaker, CIP Program Manager
Katie Duffey, Community Services Director	Thomas Woelfel, Chair Recreation
Roy Sorenson, Municipal Services Director	Advisory Committee
John Vogl, GIS Manager	Recreation Advisory Committee Members

DATE: January 30, 2025

LOCATION: Teams Meeting

6:00 – 6:05 PM	Introductions
6:05 – 6:15 PM	Vision Statement Development
6:15 – 6:35 PM	Goals & Objectives Development
6:35 – 6:40 PM	Open Space Inventory
6:40 – 6:55 PM	Community Survey Questions
6:55 – 7:00 PM	Next Steps, Open Discussion & Questions



1

WORKSHOP GOALS

- **Why are we here tonight?**

1. Define a shared vision statement
2. Identify key goals based on community values and needs
3. Establish specific objectives to achieve these goals
4. Develop a list of important open space and recreation inventory items
5. Brainstorm community survey questions

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2

OVERALL PROJECT GOALS

- Provide the initial phase of Salem's Park and Recreation Master Plan
- Establish a shared vision statement and clear, actionable goals and objectives to guide the development of the Parks and Rec Master Plan.
- Establish inventory of existing facilities
- Complete Level of Service analysis
- Site Analysis Diagrams for 2 Sites
- Summary Report

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3

SCOPE OF WORK

- **Task 1 –Kickoff Meeting & Data Collection**
 - Deliverable(s): Kickoff Meeting Notes & Web Map Application
- **Task 2 – Develop Goals & Objectives**
 - Deliverable(s): Draft Vision, Goals, and Objectives Statement
- **Task 3 – Parks and Recreation Data Collection**
 - Deliverable(s): Preliminary Findings Summary, Space Diagrams for 2 Sites
- **Task 4 – Public Engagement & Outreach**
 - Deliverable(s): PowerPoint Presentation & Presentation Boards for Public Meeting.
- **Task 5 – Summary Report**
 - Deliverable(s): Draft and Final Summary Report



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4

MASTER PLAN TAKE AWAYS RELATED TO OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION

- Desire for Salem to invest in a **linked network** of quality parks, open spaces, and waterways specifically through bike trails.
- Strong interest in recreation-based spaces as a way to address the **need for gathering spaces** for residents to meet.
- Strong interest in **beautification and access to natural resources** such as public waterbodies.

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5

MASTER PLAN TAKE AWAYS RELATED TO OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION

• Community Member's Wish List:

- Millville Park/Town Beach
- Creating access to Spicket River
- Enhance lighting throughout parks in the evenings
- Complete the Rail Trail / Dedicated parking for Rail Trail
- Dog Park
- Splash pad
- Public Toilets
- Parks geared toward passive recreation
- Town Forest trail network
- More playgrounds, fields, and courts (pickleball)
- Educational signage on local wildlife

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6

WHAT IS A VISION STATEMENT?

- A vision statement describes the long-term aspirations for parks, recreation, and open space in the community
- [Town's] open spaces and recreational assets will provide **equitable access** to high-quality outdoor experiences, **preserve critical natural resources**, and **adapt to a changing climate** while fostering a strong sense of community and place.
- [Town] is committed to **maintaining and expanding** its parks, trails, and open spaces to promote **public health, environmental stewardship, and social well-being**, ensuring that all residents have opportunities for recreation, connection with nature, and cultural engagement.

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7

VISION EXERCISE

- **Imagine it's 2035. You're enjoying open spaces and recreation in Salem. What do you see? What is improved?**
 - Greater accessibility and connectivity?
 - Climate resiliency?
 - Active recreation?
 - Passive green space?
- **What are the biggest priorities for our parks and recreation system?**

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VISION STATEMENT KEY THEMES / GOALS

- **Connectivity**
 - linking trails, greenways, recreation areas
- **Expansion**
 - increased park space, conservation land acquisition
- **Sustainability**
 - Protecting natural resources, climate resiliency efforts
- **Accessibility**
 - ADA compliance, equitable access for all residents, parking
- **Health**
 - Activities, wellness programs
- **Community Engagement**
 - public involvement, fostering community ownership, youth/senior programming
- **Cultural**
 - public art, cultural programming

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VISION STATEMENT NEXT STEPS

- **Tighe & Bond -- draft 2-3 Vision Statements**
- **Next workshop we will ask:**
 - Does this statement capture our aspirations/goals?
 - Is it clear, inspiring, and forward-thinking?
 - Does it align with Salem's values?

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GOALS & OBJECTIVES

- **Goals – General Concepts “Big Picture”**
 - Improving Open Space & Recreation Accessibility
 - Natural Resource Protection
 - Expanding/Maintaining Active Recreation Opportunities
 - Enhancing Trails & Connectivity
 - Focusing on Building Climate Resilience
- **Objectives – Concrete ideas for accomplishing goals**
- **Actions – Specific activities that achieve the objectives (next phase)**

Example

Goal = Improve trail connectivity

Objectives = expand trail network

Activities = Conduct study to ID missing links in the trail network

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KEY GOALS

- **We've already identified key goals through the vision statement exercise**
- **For each key theme: *What do we want to achieve in this area over the next 10-20 years?***

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KEY OBJECTIVES

- Objectives should be SMART
- For each key goal : *What specific, measurable steps will help us achieve this goal?*

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GOALS & OBJECTIVES NEXT STEPS

- Tighe & Bond -- draft list of goals and objectives
- Next workshop we will review and refine
- Connecting vision statement, goals & objectives

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SURVEY 123 – INVENTORY COLLECTION

• Recreation Facilities & Amenities

- Athletic Fields (Baseball, Softball, Soccer, Lacrosse, Multi-Use)
- Courts (Basketball, Tennis, Pickleball, Volleyball)
- Playgrounds
- Skate Parks
- Dog Parks
- Boat Ramps/Docks
- Swimming (pools, lakes, beaches)
- Other(s)

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SURVEY 123 – INVENTORY COLLECTION

• Trails & Open Space

- Walking/Hiking Trials
- Trail surface type (paved, unpaved, gravel, dirt)
- Biking Trails
- Nature Preserves/Wildlife Areas
- Open Green Spaces (meadows, lawns, unprogrammed spaces)

• Parks & Rec Infrastructure

- Restrooms
- Parking Areas & Number of Spaces
- Picnic Areas
- Benches/Seating Areas
- Trash/Recycling Bins

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SURVEY 123 – INVENTORY COLLECTION

• Lighting & Accessibility

- Lighting
- ADA Accessibility Features (ramps, pathways)
- Signage (directional, informational, safety)

• Safety & Security Features

- Fencing
- Surveillance
- Overall Condition (Excellent, good, fair, poor)

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NEXT STEPS



1. Nail down inventory for data collection
2. Compile survey questions for public outreach
3. Draft Vision Statement
4. Draft Goals & Objectives

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OPEN DISCUSSION & QUESTIONS

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CONTACT INFORMATION

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Kristin Yankauskas
Project Manager

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Salem, New Hampshire

Open Space Master Plan

January 30, 2025

Workshop #1 Notes

Priorities

- Increased parks, active recreation, and passive green space
 - Blend active and passive recreation
- Accessibility
 - Connecting sidewalks in neighborhoods to increase accessibility
 - Removing fees
 - Explore pocket parks
- Add Conservation spaces to recreation spaces
- Safety & Maintenance
 - Swing sets
 - Existing infrastructure
 - Increase safety at parks
- Hedgehog Park
 - Waived fee for seniors
 - Desire to increase programming
- Strong emphasis on history and veterans memorials
 - Art Depot Area
 - Preserving historical features and educating historical facts is important.
- Rail Trail
 - Desire to implement signage on history
- Cultural
 - Desire to increase cultural programing
 - Band stand
- Wildlife
 - Signage for wildlife is high priority
 - Garden clubs
 - Public education
 - Organized hikes
 - Increase programming in Forest and parks
 - Pollinator gardens

Goals & Objectives

1. Accessibility
 - a. Safe pedestrian/bike access to recreational areas
 - b. Ensuring accessibility for various groups
 - c. Community engagement
 - d. Need for gathering spaces for residents to meet
 - e. Increased access to public waterbodies.
2. Connectivity
 - a. Rail Trail
 - b. Maintaining existing parks
 - c. Exploring funding to increase connectivity
 - d. Desire for linked network of parks, open spaces, waterways, specifically through bike trails
3. Expansion
 - a. Expanding passive and active recreation
 - b. Pocket parks
 - c. Ball parks to meet population needs

Other notes

- School has fields, but they are under school jurisdiction
- Relocate skate park
- Add dog park
- Note historical uses of parks in report

Master Plan Survey – Recreation “Wish List”

- Millville Park/Town Beach
- Creating access to Spicket River
- Enhance lighting throughout parks in the evenings
- Complete the Rail Trail / Dedicated parking for Rail Trail
- Dog Park
- Splash pad
- Public Toilets
- Parks geared toward passive recreation
- Town Forest trail network

- More playgrounds, fields, and courts (pickleball)
- Educational signage on local wildlife

Salem, NH Open Space Master Plan Workshop 2

ATTENDEES:

Kristin Yankauskas, Tighe & Bond	Crayton Brubaker, CIP Program Manager
Katie Duffey, Community Services Director	Thomas Woelfel, Chair Recreation
Roy Sorenson, Municipal Services Director	Advisory Committee
John Vogl, GIS Manager	Recreation Advisory Committee

DATE: February 13, 2025

LOCATION: Salem, NH Town Hall

6:00 – 6:10 PM	Review Draft Vision Statement
6:10 – 6:25 PM	Review Draft Goals & Objectives
6:25 – 6:35 PM	Review Survey123 Inventory Form
6:35 – 6:40 PM	Review Public Outreach Survey Questions
6:40 – 7:00 PM	Opportunity Site Selection

Salem, NH Open Space Master Plan

Draft Vision Statement, Goals & Objectives

To: Recreation Advisory Committee

FROM: Kristin Yankauskas, Planner, Tighe & Bond

CC: Sharon Rooney, Project Manager, Tighe & Bond

DATE: February 13, 2025, revised February 19, 2025 and February 24, 2025

Introduction

This memorandum outlines a draft vision statement, goals, and objectives for the Salem, New Hampshire Open Space and Recreation Plan. The draft vision statement, goals and objectives were developed based on meeting discussions, workshop brainstorm sessions, and community priorities identified through feedback on the Salem Master Plan.

The vision statement, goals, and objectives are intended to guide the planning process and ensure alignment with the community's open space and recreation needs.

Refinement of the vision statement, goals and objectives was completed as part of Workshop #2 on Thursday, February 13th. Further refinement of the vision statement was completed on February 24, 2025 as a result of feedback from the Recreation Advisory Committee.

Draft Vision Statement

Salem is committed to expanding and enhancing parks, trails, and open space while creating a connected, accessible, and well-maintained network of active recreation, passive open spaces, and conservation areas for all residents.

Draft Goals & Objectives

Goal 1: Enhance Accessibility and Equity in Recreation Spaces

- Objective 1.1: Ensure safe pedestrian and bike access to parks, trails, and green space by connecting sidewalks and pathways in key neighborhoods.
- Objective 1.2: Identify opportunities to create pocket parks and green spaces in neighborhoods lacking proximity to the existing network.
- Objective 1.3: Increase access to public waterbodies for passive recreation, swimming, fishing, etc.
- Objective 1.4: Maintain and improve existing park infrastructure such as playgrounds and courts to ensure a safe and accessible system.
- Objective 1.5: Enhance inclusive, recreational programming across all demographics from senior citizens to summer camp children.
- Objective 1.6: Enhance lighting in parks for evening use.

Goal 2: Improve Connectivity Across Network of Parks

- Objective 2.1: Complete and maintain the Rail Trail, including historic and wildlife signage along the route.

- Objective 2.2: Explore funding opportunities for linking parks, open spaces, and waterbodies through bike trails and greenways.
- Objective 2.3: Expand upon a comprehensive trail network in the Town Forest to connect conservation and recreation areas.

Goal 3: Expand Recreation Opportunities to Meet Community Needs

- Objective 3.1: Increasing playgrounds, ballfields, and courts to meet the needs of Salem residents.
- Objective 3.2: Create and implement new recreational facilities and amenities such as skate parks, dog parks, splash pads, public restrooms, and expanded parking.
- Objective 3.3: Blend passive and active recreation by incorporating pollinator gardens, walking trails, and organized hikes in parks and conservation areas.

Goal 4: Foster Environmental Stewardship and Public Education

- Objective 4.1: Partner with garden clubs and other organizations to establish pollinator gardens and enhance conservation efforts.
- Objective 4.2: Install educational signage about local wildlife and natural resources in parks and along trails.
- Objective 4.3: Develop programs like organized hikes, wildlife education, and nature-based workshops in collaboration with local groups.
- Objective 4.4: Partner with other organizations to increase opportunities in open space such as organized hikes in the Town Forest or other conservation areas.

Goal 5: Celebrate Cultural & Historic Heritage

- Objective 5.1: Increase cultural programming, including events at the bandstand and art installations at the Depot area.
- Objective 5.2: Preserve and highlight historical features of parks with signage and public education initiatives.
- Objective 5.3: Partner with local groups to integrate memorials for veterans and other historic events into park planning and programming.

Salem, NH Open Space Master Plan Touch Base Meeting

ATTENDEES:

Kristin Yankauskas, Tighe & Bond	Crayton Brubaker, CIP Program Manager
Katie Duffey, Community Services Director	Thomas Woelfel, Chair Recreation Advisory Committee
Roy Sorenson, Municipal Services Director	Recreation Advisory Committee
John Vogl, GIS Manager	

DATE / TIME: Thursday, March 6, 2025; 4:30 – 5:00PM

LOCATION: Microsoft Teams

4:30 – 4:35 PM	Finalize Vision Statement, Goals & Objectives
4:35 – 4:40 PM	Survey123 Inventory Form
4:40 – 4:45 PM	Public Outreach Survey
4:45 – 5:00 PM	Opportunity Site Diagrams

Salem, NH Open Space Master Plan Touch Base Meeting

ATTENDEES:

Kristin Yankauskas, Tighe & Bond

~~Katie Duffey, Community Services Director~~

John Vogl, GIS Manager

Crayton Brubaker, CIP Program Manager

DATE / TIME: Thursday, June 5, 2025; 10:00-10:30AM

LOCATION: Microsoft Teams

Review Level of Service Analysis & Mapping

Review Survey Results & Send Raw Data

Opportunity Site Diagrams

General Preparation for June 12th Meeting

Salem, NH Open Space Master Plan Workshop 3

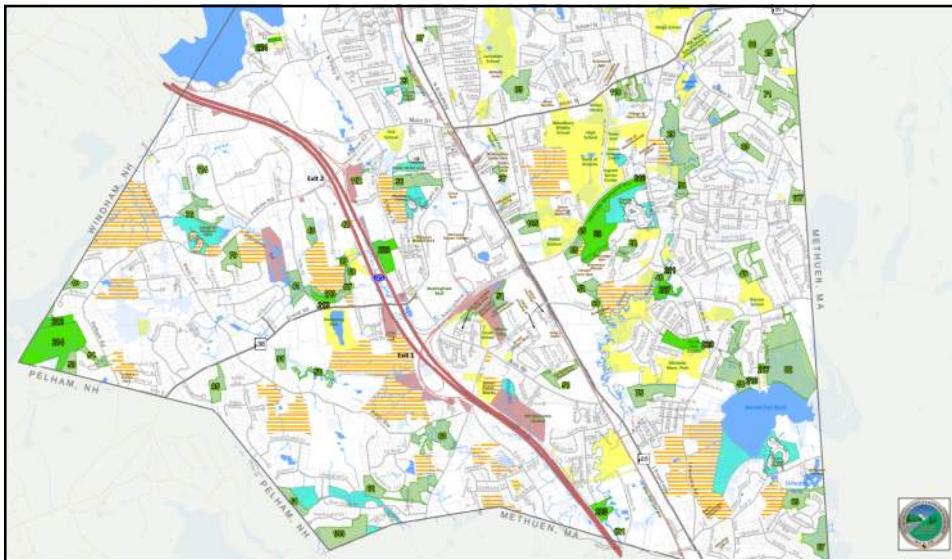
ATTENDEES:

Kristin Yankauskas, Tighe & Bond	Crayton Brubaker, CIP Program Manager
Katie Duffey, Community Services Director	Thomas Woelfel, Chair Recreation
Roy Sorenson, Municipal Services Director	Advisory Committee
John Vogl, GIS Manager	Recreation Advisory Committee

DATE: June 12, 2025

LOCATION: Microsoft Teams

6:00 – 6:10 PM	Review Progress to Date
6:10 – 6:25 PM	Discuss Community Survey Results
6:25 – 6:35 PM	Review Site Diagrams
6:35 – 6:40 PM	Review Final Inventory
6:40 – 7:00 PM	Look Ahead and Open Discussion



SALEM, NH OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN
Workshop #3 – 6/12/2025 (Virtual)

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WORKSHOP GOALS

- 1. Lookback at what we've accomplished to date
- 2. Discuss final feedback received from the community survey
- 3. Review and discuss two site diagrams
- 4. Final review of the Parks and Recreation inventory
- 5. Review Level of Service (LOS) results



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OVERALL PROJECT GOALS

- The initial phase of Salem's Park and Recreation Master Plan
- Establish shared vision statement, goals and objectives
- Establish inventory of existing facilities
- Receive Community input
- Complete Level of Service analysis
- Site Analysis Diagrams for 2 Sites
- Summary Report



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SCOPE OF WORK

- Task 1 –Kickoff Meeting & Data Collection ✓
 - Deliverable(s): Kickoff Meeting Notes & Web Map Application
- Task 2 – Develop Goals & Objectives ✓
 - Deliverable(s): Draft Vision, Goals, and Objectives Statement
- Task 3 – Parks and Recreation Data Collection ✓
 - Deliverable(s): Preliminary Findings Summary, Space Diagrams for 2 Sites
- Task 4 – Public Engagement & Outreach ✓
 - Deliverable(s): PowerPoint Presentation & Presentation Boards for Public Meeting.
- Task 5 – Summary Report
 - Deliverable(s): Draft and Final Summary Report



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OUR VISION STATEMENT

Salem is committed to expanding and enhancing parks, trails, and open space while creating a connected, accessible, and well-maintained network of active recreation, passive open spaces, and conservation areas for all residents.



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OUR GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Goal 1: Enhance Accessibility & Equity in Recreation Spaces

- ❖ Pedestrian/bike access - connecting sidewalks and pathways
- ❖ Create pocket parks and green spaces in underserved areas
- ❖ Increase access to public waterbodies
- ❖ Maintain and improve existing park infrastructure
- ❖ Enhance recreational programming
 - Enhance lighting in parks for evening use.

Goal 2: Improve Connectivity Across Network of Parks

- ❖ Complete and maintain the Rail Trail
 - Explore funding opportunities for linking parks/open spaces
- ❖ Expand upon trail network in the Town Forest

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OUR GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Goal 3: Expand Recreation Opportunities to Meet Community Needs

- ❖ Increase playgrounds, ballfields, and courts
- ❖ Create new recreational facilities and amenities such as skate parks, dog parks, splash pads, public restrooms, and parking.
- Incorporate pollinator gardens, walking trails, and organized hikes

Goal 4: Foster Environmental Stewardship and Public Education

- Partner with garden clubs and other organizations
- Install educational signage
- ❖ Program hikes, wildlife education, and nature-based workshops

Goal 5: Celebrate Cultural & Historic Heritage

- Increase cultural programming
- Preserve and highlight historical features of parks
- Partner with local groups to integrate memorials for veterans and other historic events

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PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT – SURVEY RESULTS

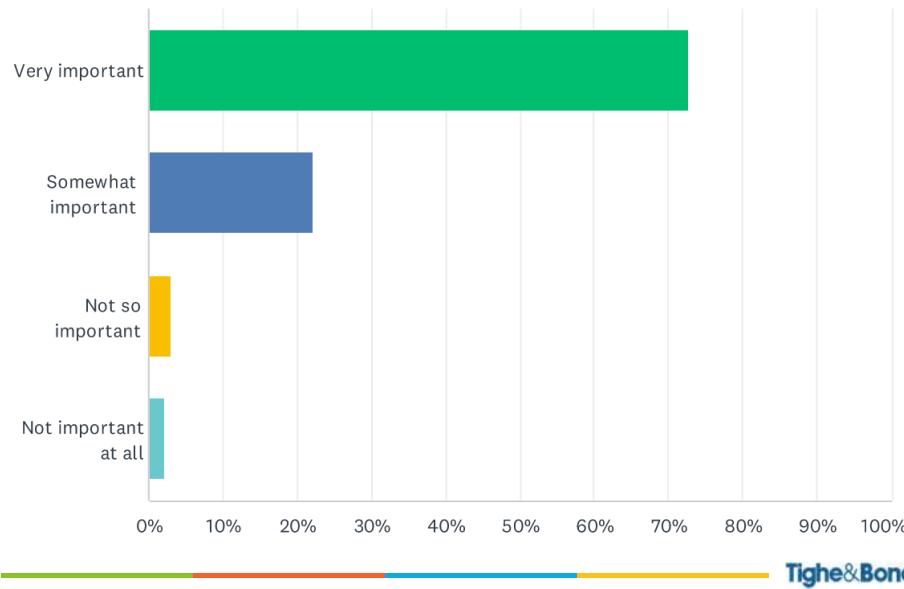
- 19 Questions
- >250 Responses
- 72% consider parks and rec very important
- 77% consider it very important to preserve additional lands for conservation/open space



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Q1: HOW IMPORTANT ARE PARKS AND REC TO YOU?



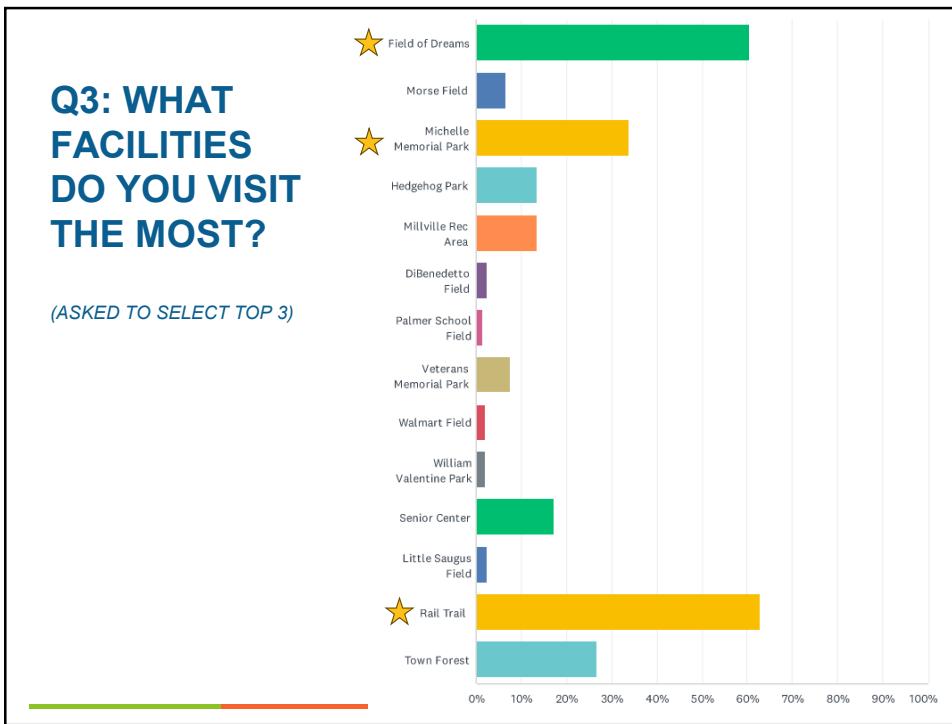
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Q2: HOW OFTEN DO YOU VISIT?

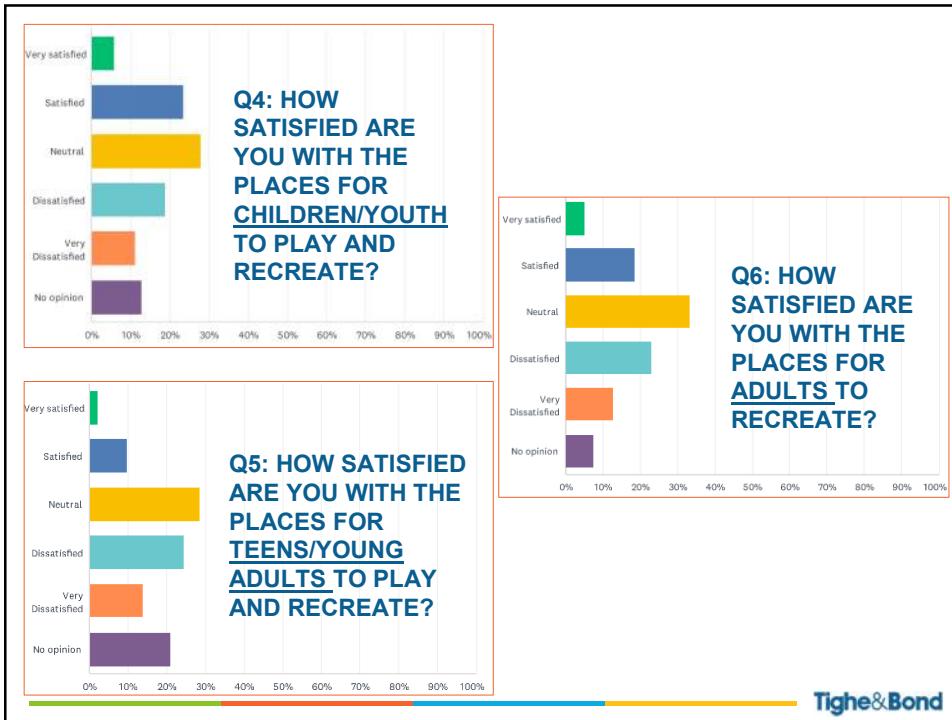
	OFTEN (3 OR MORE TIMES PER WEEK)	1-2 TIMES PER WEEK	1-2 TIMES PER MONTH	ON OCCASION (MORE THAN 3 TIMES PER YEAR)	RARELY/NOT AT ALL	I HAVE NEVER HEARD OF THIS FACILITY	TOTAL
Field of Dreams	6.69% 16	8.79% 21	17.15% 41	37.24% 89	29.71% 71	0.42% 1	239
Morse Field	3.59% 8	4.48% 10	1.79% 4	12.56% 28	29.15% 65	48.43% 108	223
Michelle Memorial Park	7.76% 18	12.50% 29	12.50% 29	22.41% 52	25.86% 60	18.97% 44	232
Hedgehog Park	1.30% 3	2.17% 5	6.52% 15	24.78% 57	62.17% 143	3.04% 7	230
Milville Rec Area	5.22% 12	2.61% 6	7.39% 17	10.00% 23	41.74% 96	33.04% 76	230
DiBenedetto Field	0.88% 2	0.88% 2	2.19% 5	7.46% 17	32.02% 73	56.58% 129	228
Palmer School Field	1.32% 3	1.76% 4	1.32% 3	8.81% 20	49.78% 113	37.00% 84	227
Veterans Memorial Park	2.65% 6	3.10% 7	6.19% 14	24.78% 56	47.79% 108	15.49% 35	226
Walmart Field	0.88% 2	0.88% 2	0.88% 2	3.10% 7	69.91% 158	24.34% 55	226
William Valentine Park	1.78% 4	0.44% 1	1.78% 4	6.22% 14	33.33% 75	56.44% 127	225
Linwood Ave Park	4.89% 11	0.89% 2	1.78% 4	3.56% 8	32.89% 74	56.00% 126	225
Senior Center	4.00% 9	2.67% 6	2.67% 6	21.78% 49	60.44% 136	8.44% 19	225
Little Saugus Field	1.78% 4	0.89% 2	0.00% 0	2.67% 6	31.11% 70	63.56% 143	225
Rail Trail	14.71% 35	15.13% 36	21.85% 52	28.99% 69	18.49% 44	0.84% 2	238
Town Forest	4.39% 10	7.46% 17	10.09% 23	30.26% 69	42.11% 96	5.70% 13	228

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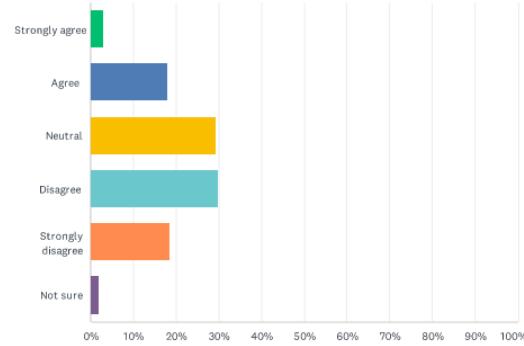


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Q7: HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT: "MY NEIGHBORHOOD HAS ADEQUATE PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES"



Q8: WHAT NEIGHBORHOOD DO YOU LIVE IN?

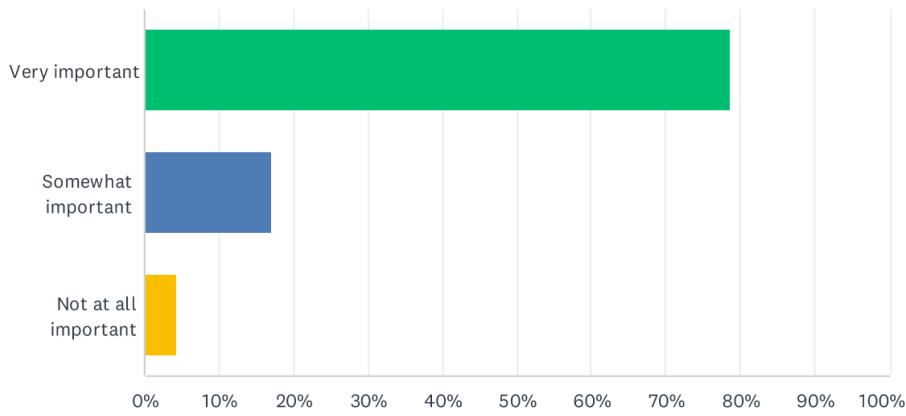
Neighborhoods with highest response rates:

1. North Salem
2. Linwood Ave
3. South Broadway

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Q9: RATE THE IMPORTANCE OF PRESERVING ADDITIONAL LANDS FOR CONSERVATION, SCENIC VIEWS, HABITAT, TRAILS, AND OTHER OPEN SPACE



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Q10: WHY DON'T YOU USE PARKS, REC, OPEN SPACE?

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Don't know the location(s)	41.55%
Perception of entrance fees	12.08%
Lack of programming	22.71%
Lack of passive recreation spaces	20.77%
Not conveniently located	13.04%
Too crowded	6.76%
Not interesting or enjoyable	20.77%
Poor ADA/Handicapped accessibility	4.35%
Don't have transportation	1.93%
Conditions are poorly maintained	32.37%
Feel unsafe	8.21%
Lack of adequate parking	20.29%
Short operational hours	5.80%
N/A – I am content with current conditions	17.39%
Other (please specify)	19.32% 



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Q10: WHY DON'T YOU USE PARKS, REC, OPEN SPACE?

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Other (please specify)	19.32%

Top 'other' responses:

1. Dog restrictions
2. Not enough infrastructure (benches, trash cans, playgrounds, etc.)
3. Lack of sidewalks to and from
4. Safety concerns (Town Forest, unkept equipment at Linwood)
5. Lack of practice fields (baseball and basketball specifically)
6. Entry fee / closed gates
7. Time/Schedule constraints / Lack of free time



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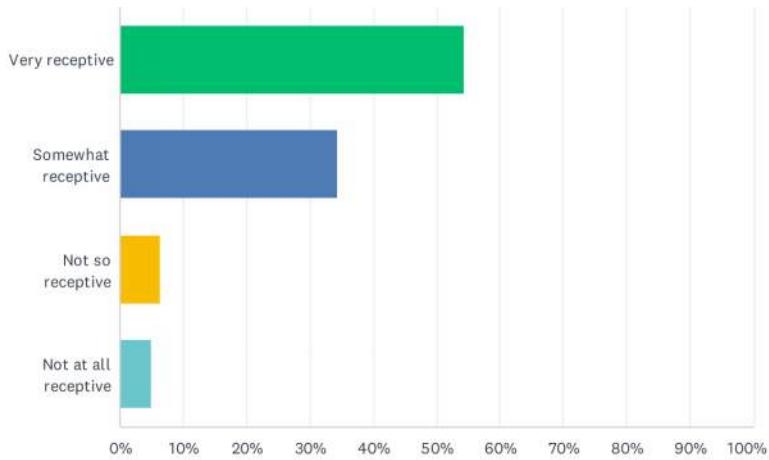
Q11: HOW SHOULD THE TOWN SPEND ADDITIONAL RESOURCES?

	AGREE	NEUTRAL	DISAGREE
Protect undeveloped land from future development	69.08% 143	21.74% 45	9.18% 19
Provide more year-round recreation facilities	72.20% 148	19.51% 40	8.29% 17
Acquire additional land to expand existing parks, open space areas, and recreation facilities	67.80% 139	21.95% 45	10.24% 21
Add more pocket parks (defined as a small outdoor space, usually no more than ¼ of an acre that can serve as meeting places, play areas, picnicking, etc.)	51.94% 107	28.64% 59	19.42% 40
Maintain and enhance existing parks, open space areas, and recreation facilities	86.83% 178	11.22% 23	1.95% 4
Develop more active recreation (splash pads, playgrounds, courts)	69.27% 142	20.96% 43	9.76% 20
Develop more water-based recreation (kayaking, fishing, swimming) opportunities	58.94% 122	30.43% 63	10.63% 22
Provide more bike lanes/bike paths	39.71% 81	38.24% 78	22.06% 45
Provide more walking and hiking trails	64.39% 132	28.29% 58	7.32% 15
Increase park area for passive recreation (hiking, walking, bird watching)	57.97% 120	33.33% 69	8.70% 18
Preserve historic properties and improve historical programming	50.25% 102	40.89% 83	8.87% 18
Preserve land for plant and wildlife habitat	69.27% 142	24.39% 50	6.34% 13
Expand recreational programs for all ages	71.08% 145	22.06% 45	6.86% 14
Community Services (park maintenance, public safety, ADA compliance, restrooms)	71.57% 146	20.10% 41	8.33% 17
Community Programming (youth programs, senior wellness programs, cultural events, education programs, sports leagues)	68.14% 139	23.04% 47	8.82% 18

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Q12: ARE YOU RECEPTIVE TO TOWN RESOURCES/FUNDS BEING ALLOCATED TOWARDS ADDITIONAL PARKS/REC RESOURCES?



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Q13: WHAT IS ON YOUR PARKS AND REC WISH LIST?

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSE
Multi-purpose field	28.38%
Baseball/softball fields	12.61%
Basketball courts	18.92%
Tennis courts	5.41%
Pickleball courts	10.81%
Skate park	12.61%
Dog park	23.87%
Splash pad	43.69%
Water access for swimming	45.50%
Water access for kayaks/canoes	41.44%
Hiking trails	41.44%
Playgrounds	42.79%
Picnic Areas	35.59%
Benches/Seating	30.18%
Passive Green Space	26.58%
Public art installations	14.41%
Wildlife/Nature Preserves	28.83%
Pollinator gardens	29.73%
Restrooms	50.90%
Water fountains	17.57%
Outdoor fitness stations	22.07%
Educational programs	22.97%
Other (please specify)	13.96%

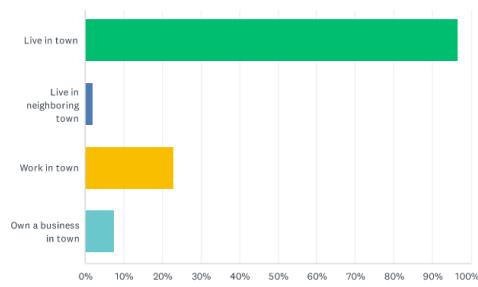
Top 'other' responses:

1. Practice fields, unorganized practice opportunities
2. Improving Linwood playground
3. Complete Rail Trail
4. More restrooms (specifically Rail Trail, Hedgehog, Millville)
5. Indoor rec center

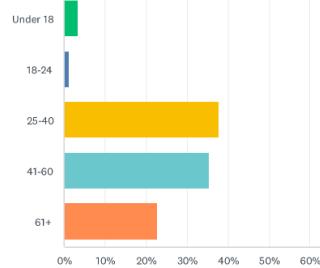
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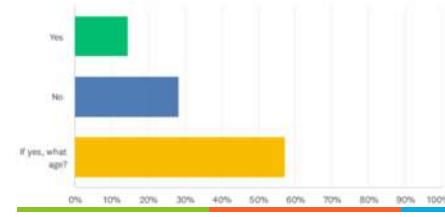
Q14: DO YOU LIVE/WORK/ OR OWN A BUSINESS IN TOWN?



Q16: AGE RANGE



Q15: DO YOU HAVE CHILDREN?



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Q17: WHERE DO YOU GO OUTSIDE OF SALEM FOR RECREATION?

Top Responses:

1. Griffin Park
2. Musquash Conservation Area
3. Windham Town Forest
4. Atkinson Town Forest
5. Hampstead Town Forest
6. Ward Reservation
7. Benson Park
8. Hampton Beach
9. Salisbury Beach
10. Wallis Sands Beach
11. White Mountains
12. Derry Splash Pad



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Q18: WHERE DO YOU THINK ADDITIONAL PARKS ARE NEEDED IN TOWN, IF ANY?

Top Response (by far):

Millville Lake Area – Clean up and repurpose area into a usable public space for swimming and recreation

- Beach Access
- Restrict access to Salem residents
- Tear down old bathhouse
- Add picnic tables, walking trails, bike paths
- Dog park
- General support for recreational development

Other Responses:

- Michelle Park – Add basketball court
- Linwood Ave – Park is outdated, needs an upgrade
- Hedgehog – Revive former skate park, keep redevelopment plan on track
- North Salem – Several mentions as underserved
- South Salem – General requests for more recreation
- Lawrence Road – Pocket park
- Tuscan Village/Center of Town – Call for connected parks
- Indoor Recreation space
- Expand Rail Trail

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Q19: OPEN ENDED FOR ADDITIONAL THOUGHTS, COMMENTS, RECOMMENDATIONS, ETC.

1. Improve maintenance of existing facilities

- Existing parks & rec need better upkeep, specifically play structures and athletic fields (Field of Dreams, Linwood Ave, Millville Lake Beach)

2. Expand and diversify recreational opportunities

- More parks, pocket parks, and multi-rec spaces (many references to Griffin Park in Windham)
- Desired additions: tennis, basketball, pickleball, dog park, skate park, splash pad, indoor facilities

3. Enhance connectivity and access

- Extend rail trail, especially towards Tuscan area

4. Increase public access to water bodies

- Residents want more public access to lakes such as Millville and Arlington Pond

5. Improve communication and public awareness

- Residents request better flyers, maps, event info as well as clarifying rules/access requirements (e.g., resident stickers)

6. Focus on passive recreation and gathering spaces

- Desire for passive open spaces for gathering, walking, relaxing

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SURVEY

Improve maintenance of existing facilities

Expand and diversify recreational opportunities

Enhance connectivity and access

Increase public access to water bodies

Improve communication and public awareness

Focus on passive recreation and gathering spaces

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Goal 1: Enhance Accessibility and Equity in Recreation Spaces

Goal 2: Improve Connectivity Across Network of Parks

Goal 3: Expand Recreation Opportunities to Meet Community Needs

Goal 4: Foster Environmental Stewardship and Public Education

Goal 5: Celebrate Cultural & Historic Heritage

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MILLVILLE

PARKS & RECREATION OPPORTUNITY PARCELS

MILLVILLE RECREATIONAL PARCELS

EXISTING

- Swimming & Water Access
- Parking Lot
- Woodland

CONSTRAINTS

- Wooded area is divided by a conservation easement, wetlands and a non-town owned parcel
- The western wooded area is not level, needs extensive grading and tree removal for active recreation facilities
- The eastern parcel is also not ideal for active recreation facilities
- Recreational facilities would be too close to residential homes

OPTIONS

- Improved / accessible water access area
- Woodland walking trails (less than a mile as shown)
- Boardwalk over Widow Harris Brook - path through a non-owner parcel not owned by the town (posing a challenge to making the west and east sides)
- Entrance on Glen Denin Dr.



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MILLVILLE

PARKS & RECREATION OPPORTUNITY PARCELS

MILLVILLE RECREATIONAL PARCELS - WESTERN PARCEL FITTING STUDY

EXISTING CONSTRAINTS

- Woodland sloping SE from 180 to 140
- Significant regrading, tree removal, retaining walls or construction of fields
- Site will need to contain stormwater runoff which will further limit recreational facilities
- Constructing recreational facilities will remove woodland adjacent to residential homes

OPTIONS

- Fitting three fields is highly unlikely given site constraints
- New parking and drive to access recreation area needed
- Retaining walls needed throughout



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MILLVILLE

PARKS & RECREATION OPPORTUNITY PARCELS

MILLVILLE RECREATIONAL PARCELS - EASTERN PARCEL FITTING STUDY

EXISTING CONSTRAINTS

- Wooded area, even with tree planting recommendations, is not feasible to remove woodland from adjacent residential homes
- With 10'-15' of grade change, 10' of land will need to be realigned to fit soccer fields
- Recreation facilities will conflict with existing conservation easements

OPTIONS

- 2 Soccer fields could fit with the land orientation
- 1 Football field does not fit
- 1 Softball field can fit within the parcel, but overlaps the wildlife zone and removes space for parking
- A parking lot is possible with no impact from other streets
- Tree buffer will need to be removed between fields and neighbors



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MILLVILLE

PARKS & RECREATION OPPORTUNITY PARCELS

MILLVILLE RECREATIONAL PARCELS - BEACH ACCESS

EXISTING CONSTRAINTS

- Street will need to be realigned
- No accessible pathway to beach
- Wide intersection used for parking but not safe
- Minimal visibility down to beach from street

OPTIONS

- Improving beach access and facilities is the most feasible and has the least impact on the environment and neighborhood
- Boardwalk and dock
- 5% Accessible Pathway
- Steep open street to beach
- Increase visibility of the beach by removing or trimming up trees by crosswalk
- Revegetate slope with grasses & native plants
- Crosswalk and sidewalk from parking lot - 10 spaces
- Planting strip between street and boardwalk
- Right angle intersection with possible location of drive to access recreational fields



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LAWRENCE ROAD

PARKS & RECREATION OPPORTUNITY PARCELS 73 LAWRENCE ROAD

EXISTING

- Open Lawn
- Marsh & Wetlands
- Informal pull-off parking area

CONSTRAINTS

- The primary issue is that the site is next to a busy road. The intersection also has wide radius curves designed to facilitate traffic. Traffic calming measures are needed to slow traffic next to where new park facilities would be located.
- Invasive plants in lawn area should be removed as well as vegetation along the wetland edge should be thinned.

OPTIONS

- New parking area needed
- Remove invasive plants
- Create meadow
- Nature-themed playground
- Open up view into wetlands



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LAWRENCE ROAD

PARKS & RECREATION OPPORTUNITY PARCELS 73 LAWRENCE ROAD - DESIGN CONCEPT

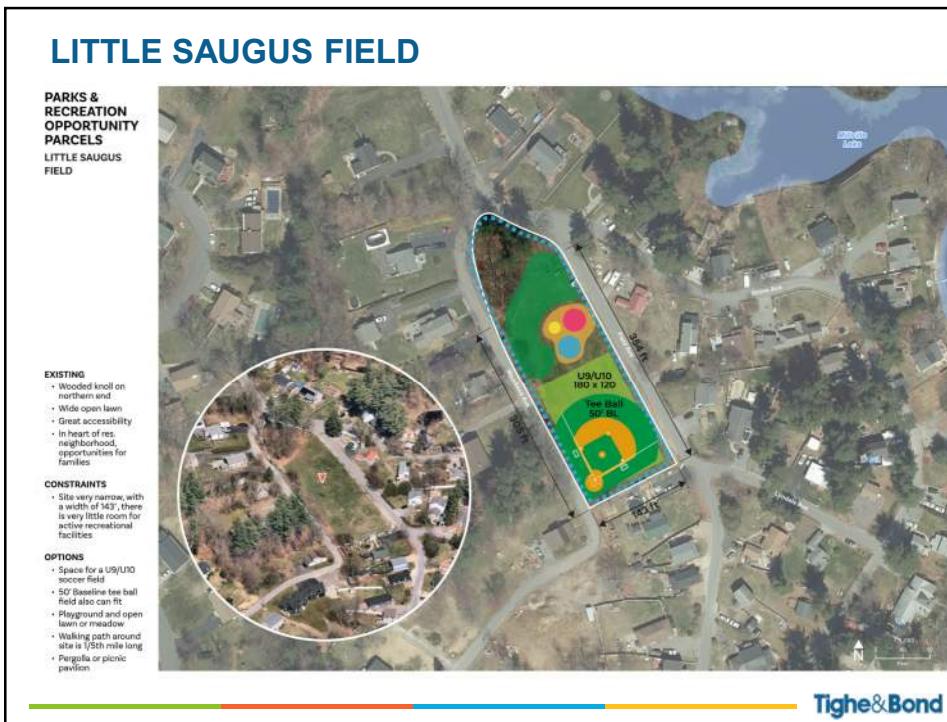
OPTIONS

- Intersection design must be addressed to make street crossing safe
- Crosswalk with surface markings contrasts with roadway to make crossing clearly visible
- Fencing and visual break safety barrier between lawn and driveway
- If used by residents from adjacent retirement home, a pulley system for trash could be optional
- Bocce ball courts, lawn games, small gazebo feasible in lawn area
- Open lawn large enough for circular walking paths
- Boardwalk extends into wetlands to view wider area



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LOS - MAPPING PARK ACCESS

- Distance people must travel to reach parks
- Park access analysis:
 - >1 mile to reach Mini Park
 - 1-2 mile to reach Neighborhood Park
 - 2-3 miles to reach a Community Park
- These travel distances are greater than typical walking distance (1/2 mile), reflecting land use patterns in Salem.

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LOS - MAPPING PARK ACCESS

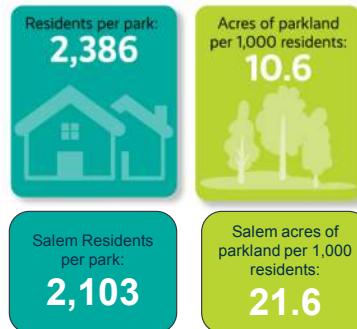
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LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS

National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) Performance Review Key Findings

- Findings are for typical park and recreation agencies



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LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS

Number of Residents per Park (Salem = 2,103)

	All Agencies	Less Than 20,000	20,000 to 49,999	50,000 to 99,999	100,000 to 250,000	More Than 250,000
Median	2,386	1,172	2,062	2,346	3,344	6,120
Lower Quartile	1,333	659	1,233	1,489	2,173	3,274
Upper Quartile	5,000	1,944	3,000	4,048	7,039	18,586

Acres of Parkland per 1,000 Residents (Salem = 20.6 with Town Forest, 9.4 without Town Forest)

	All Agencies	Less Than 20,000	20,000 to 49,999	50,000 to 99,999	100,000 to 250,000	More Than 250,000
Median	10.6	12.6	11.2	10.2	7.0	10.2
Lower Quartile	5.1	6.0	6.2	4.8	4.4	5.0
Upper Quartile	18.0	20.9	18.0	17.4	15.5	16.7

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LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS

LOS for Common Types of Outdoor Facilities:

- 1 playground/play structure for every 3,750 residents
 - Salem = 6,310
- 1 diamond field for every 4,063 residents
 - Salem = 5,258
- 1 basketball court for every 8,000 residents
 - Salem = 15,775
- 1 rectangular field for every 5,000 residents
 - Salem = 15,775
- 1 tennis court for every 6,003 residents
 - Salem = 7,887
- 1 dog park for every 46,917 residents
 - Salem = N/A

Types of Facilities	Median Number of Residents per Facility						
	Percent of Agencies	All Agencies	Less Than 20,000	Population of Jurisdiction			
				20,000 to 49,999	50,000 to 99,999	100,000 to 250,000	
Playgrounds or play structures	93%	3,750	1,990	3,705	3,707	5,016	9,591
Diamond fields	85	4,063	1,833	3,007	3,675	6,821	11,729
Basketball courts, standalone	84	8,000	4,366	7,501	8,363	9,643	15,136
Rectangular fields	83	5,000	2,493	3,333	4,070	7,375	14,238
Tennis courts	72	6,003	3,074	5,461	5,865	8,731	10,524
Dog parks	68	46,917	10,327	27,508	55,135	74,504	128,906
Tot lots	53	12,434	5,323	12,744	12,443	20,180	33,913
Community gardens	52	34,105	8,800	27,262	56,150	55,326	125,935
Swimming pools	49	45,919	9,500	27,081	46,353	65,697	113,219
Skateboard parks	46	54,750	11,284	33,367	60,904	105,567	239,077
Multisite courts – basketball, volleyball, etc.	42	19,571	5,248	15,531	24,955	47,626	71,750
Pickleball	42	12,597	3,390	7,737	10,500	20,244	42,495
Multisite courts – tennis, pickleball	37	15,674	4,634	13,000	12,972	34,500	61,213
18-hole golf courses	29	96,391	9,626	32,812	68,208	112,641	251,483
Driving range stations	28	24,360	2,122	12,700	4,914	35,710	172,403
Synthetic rectangular fields	25	43,643	11,284	23,389	36,000	54,254	127,714
Volleyball courts, standalone	23	27,640	9,250	14,280	26,612	46,517	57,456
Splash pads, spray grounds or spray showers	23	54,010	12,756	30,629	54,100	67,685	199,437
Fitness zones/Exercise stations	22	39,188	8,233	27,262	35,000	43,611	111,111
Disc golf courses	20	76,780	11,079	29,445	58,603	118,723	278,884
Ice rinks	19	19,667	8,015	19,770	29,378	102,891	332,258
Walking loops/Running tracks	19	20,017	5,459	18,585	20,527	37,069	68,811
Nine-hole golf courses	14	121,825	17,750	38,333	61,757	126,621	428,359
Overlay fields	10	18,097	10,584	10,000	9,375	22,951	36,070
Racquetball/Handball/Squash courts	9	47,792	13,350	21,791	43,857	42,484	137,076
Waterparks	7	82,250	17,813	32,812	76,780	149,008	332,396

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LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS

• Miles of Trail (Salem = 17.21 miles)

- “Typical” park and rec agency is responsible for managing 16 miles of trails

	All Agencies	Less Than 20,000	20,000 to 49,999	50,000 to 99,999	100,000 to 250,000	More Than 250,000
Median	16.0	4.5	10.0	18.1	27.0	97.0
Lower Quartile	6.0	2.0	5.0	8.0	18	40.8
Upper Quartile	46.0	9.2	19.6	37.0	52.0	180.3

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NRPA PARK METRICS

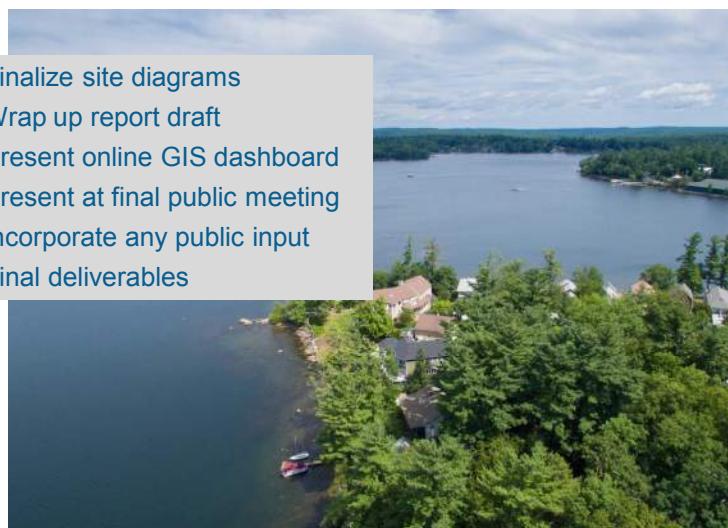
- **Comprehensive source of benchmarks and insights**
- **Tools to generate comparisons with peer agencies**
- **Complete agency performance survey in NRPA Park Metrics and create custom reports to compare Salem with its peers.**
 - In depth comparison, requires the entry of a spreadsheet worth of information and gives NRPA permission to include statistics in their annual report.

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NEXT STEPS

1. Finalize site diagrams
2. Wrap up report draft
3. Present online GIS dashboard
4. Present at final public meeting
5. Incorporate any public input
6. Final deliverables



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OPEN DISCUSSION & QUESTIONS

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Principal Planner

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- **Kristin Yankauskas – APM & Planner**

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Project Manager

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Salem, NH Open Space Master Plan Workshop 4

ATTENDEES:

Kristin Yankauskas, Tighe & Bond	Crayton Brubaker, CIP Program Manager
Katie Duffey, Community Services Director	Thomas Woelfel, Chair Recreation
Roy Sorenson, Municipal Services Director	Advisory Committee
John Vogl, GIS Manager	Recreation Advisory Committee

DATE: August 14, 2025

LOCATION: Salem, NH Town Hall

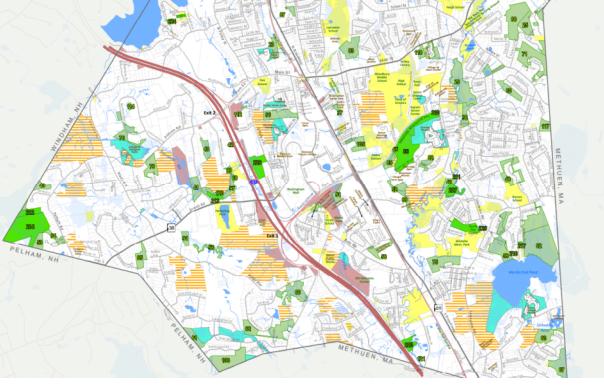
6:00 – 6:10 PM Lookback at Tasks Completed to Date

6:10 – 6:25 PM Present Final Site Diagrams

6:25 – 6:35 PM Present LOS Results

6:35 – 6:50 PM Present Draft Report

6:50 – 7:00 PM Look Ahead & Open Discussion



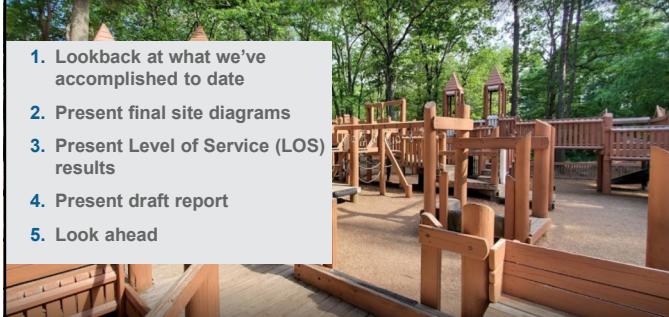
SALEM, NH OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN
Workshop #4 – 8/14/2025

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WORKSHOP GOALS

1. Lookback at what we've accomplished to date
2. Present final site diagrams
3. Present Level of Service (LOS) results
4. Present draft report
5. Look ahead



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OVERALL PROJECT GOALS

- The initial phase of Salem's Park and Recreation Master Plan
- ✓ Establish shared vision statement, goals and objectives
- ✓ Establish inventory of existing facilities
- ✓ Complete Level of Service analysis
- ✓ Site Analysis Diagrams for 2 Sites
- ✓ Summary Report

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SCOPE OF WORK

- **Task 1 – Kickoff Meeting & Data Collection** ✓
 - Deliverable(s): Kickoff Meeting Notes & Web Map Application
- **Task 2 – Develop Goals & Objectives** ✓
 - Deliverable(s): Draft Vision, Goals, and Objectives Statement
- **Task 3 – Parks and Recreation Data Collection** ✓
 - Deliverable(s): Preliminary Findings Summary, Space Diagrams for 2 Sites
- **Task 4 – Public Engagement & Outreach** ✓
 - Deliverable(s): PowerPoint Presentation & Presentation Boards for Public Meeting.
- **Task 5 – Summary Report** ✓
 - Deliverable(s): Draft and Final Summary Report



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OUR VISION STATEMENT

Salem is committed to expanding and enhancing parks, trails, and open space while creating a connected, accessible, and well-maintained network of active recreation, passive open spaces, and conservation areas for all residents.



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OUR GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Goal 1: Enhance Accessibility & Equity in Recreation Spaces

- ❖ Pedestrian/bike access - connecting sidewalks and pathways
- ❖ Create pocket parks and green spaces in underserved areas
- ❖ Increase access to public waterbodies
- ❖ Maintain and improve existing park infrastructure
- ❖ Enhance recreational programming
- Enhance lighting in parks for evening use.

Goal 2: Improve Connectivity Across Network of Parks

- ❖ Complete and maintain the Rail Trail
- Explore funding opportunities for linking parks/open spaces
- ❖ Expand upon trail network in the Town Forest

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OUR GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Goal 3: Expand Recreation Opportunities to Meet Community Needs

- ❖ Increase playgrounds, ballfields, and courts
- ❖ Create new recreational facilities and amenities such as skate parks, dog parks, splash pads, public restrooms, and parking.
- Incorporate pollinator gardens, walking trails, and organized hikes

Goal 4: Foster Environmental Stewardship and Public Education

- Partner with garden clubs and other organizations
- Install educational signage
- ❖ Program hikes, wildlife education, and nature-based workshops

Goal 5: Celebrate Cultural & Historic Heritage

- Increase cultural programming
- Preserve and highlight historical features of parks
- Partner with local groups to integrate memorials for veterans and other historic events

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MILLVILLE



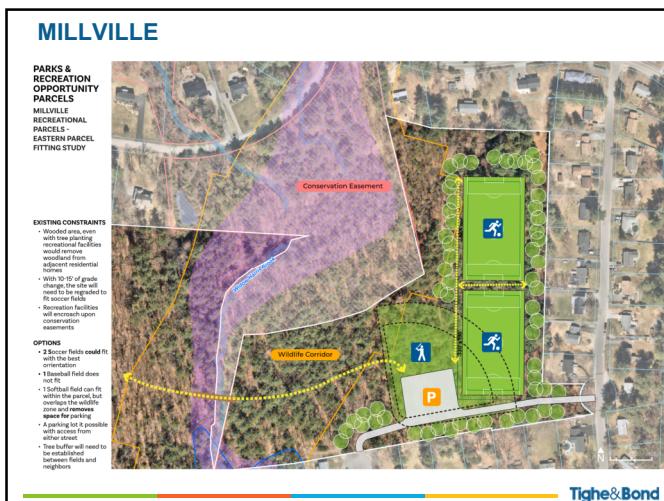
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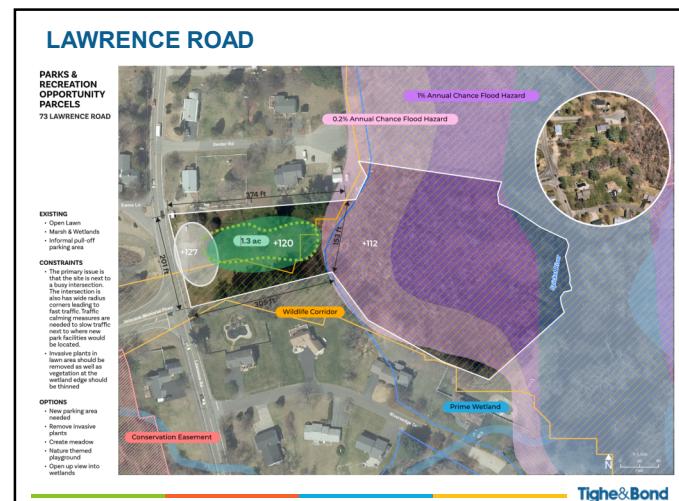
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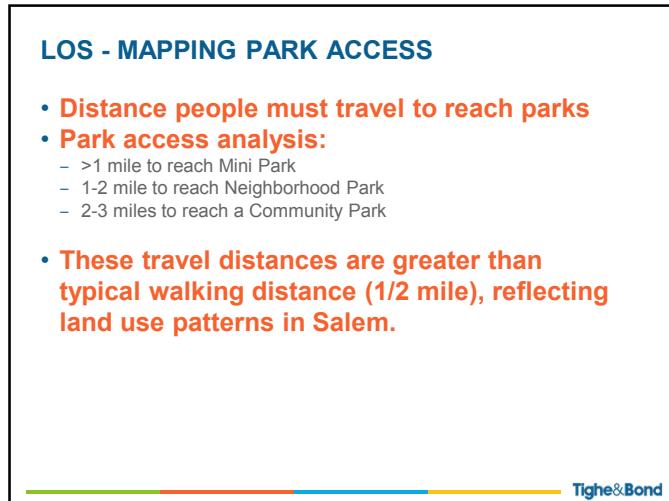
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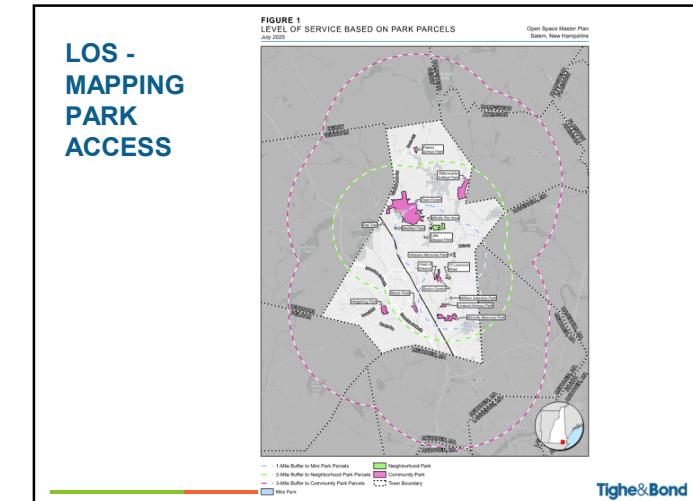
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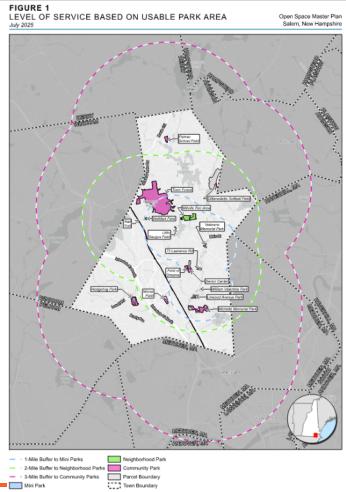


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LOS - MAPPING PARK ACCESS - USABLE AREA



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NRPA PARK METRICS

- **Comprehensive source of benchmarks and insights**
- **Tools to generate comparisons with peer agencies**
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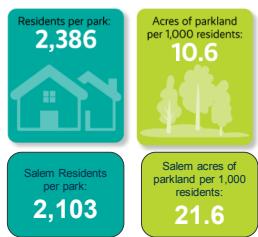
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LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS

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Dog parks	68	46,917	10,127	22,958	55,135	74,504	128,906
Swing sets	55	14,441	3,231	3,821	4,641	7,030	13,425
Community gardens	52	34,505	8,800	27,262	56,150	55,326	125,935
Swimming pools	49	45,919	9,500	27,081	46,333	65,697	103,219
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Pickleball	37	15,631	4,634	10,000	12,972	34,951	61,211
Tennis courts - tennis, pickleball	37	15,631	4,634	10,000	12,972	34,951	61,211
18-hole golf courses	36	96,391	9,676	32,812	68,208	112,641	251,481
Swing range stations	36	24,000	5,700	12,750	24,000	38,000	75,000
Symmetrical rectangular fields	25	41,643	11,284	21,989	36,000	54,254	107,774
Volleyball courts, standard	23	27,640	9,250	14,280	26,612	46,537	57,656
Swing sets, spray grounds or spray showers	23	54,000	12,756	30,429	54,300	67,685	109,437
Fitness zones/Exercise equipment	22	39,180	8,233	27,262	35,000	43,601	111,111
Swing sets, spray grounds or spray showers	22	39,180	8,233	27,262	35,000	43,601	111,111
Disc golf courses	20	76,780	11,079	29,445	58,603	108,723	279,884
Ice rinks	19	19,667	8,015	19,770	29,378	102,891	312,258
Swing sets, spray grounds or spray showers	19	20,017	5,459	18,585	20,537	37,000	68,811
Nine-hole golf courses	14	121,825	17,750	38,333	63,757	126,621	428,359
Overplay fields	10	18,097	10,584	10,000	9,375	22,953	36,070
Swing sets, spray grounds or spray showers	9	47,792	13,350	21,791	41,837	42,484	137,076
Squash courts	7	82,250	17,813	32,812	76,780	149,008	332,396

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LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS

Miles of Trail (Salem = 12 miles)

- “Typical” park and rec agency is responsible for managing 16 miles of trails

All Agencies	Less Than 20,000	20,000 to 49,999	50,000 to 99,999	100,000 to 250,000	More Than 250,000
Median	16.0	4.5	10.0	18.1	27.0
Lower Quartile	6.0	2.0	5.0	8.0	18
Upper Quartile	46.0	9.2	19.6	37.0	52.0

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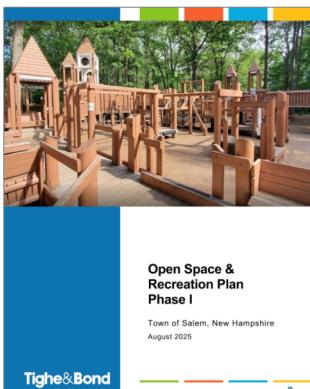


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B Inventory Form
C Map of Recreation & Open Space Lands

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WRAPPING UP

- Receive comments from draft report
- Incorporate any public input
- Final deliverables



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LOOK AHEAD POTENTIAL

1. Demographics & Needs Analysis
2. Develop specific strategies from goals and objectives
3. Action Plan
 - Recommended actions
 - Responsible parties
 - Priority (high/med/low)
 - Timeframes
 - Funding
4. OSRP Report
5. Monitoring, updating, tracking OSRP



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OPEN DISCUSSION & QUESTIONS

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CONTACT INFORMATION

• **Sharon Rooney – Project Manager**

Sharon Rooney, AICP, RLA (she/her/hers)

Principal Planner

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Kristin Yankauskas

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Appendix B

Public Survey Results



HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF SALEM

Tell us what matters most to you by filling out the Community Survey by May 15, 2025.



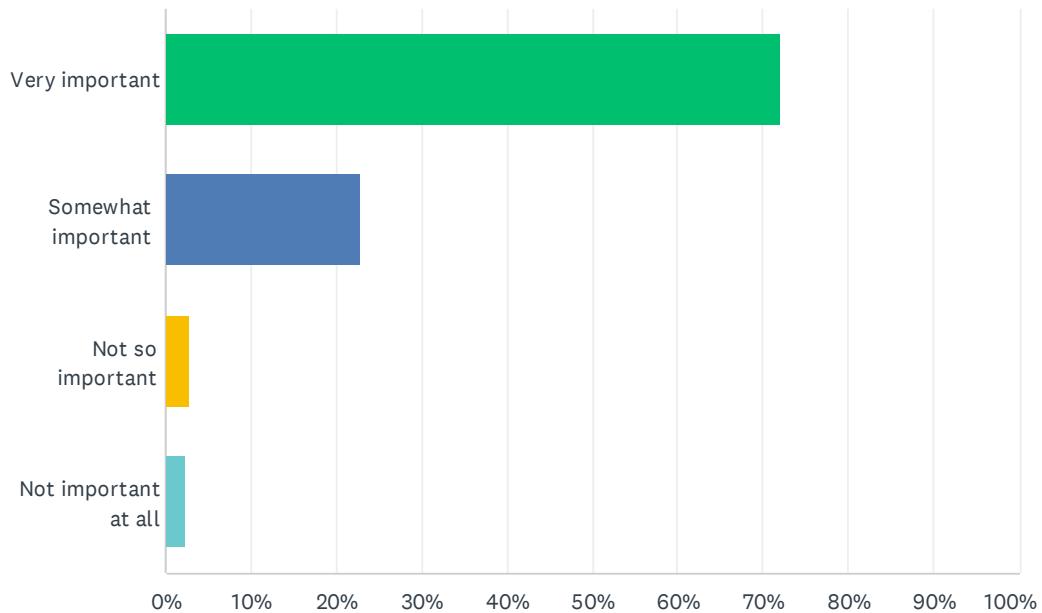
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/6ZRM93D>

The Town of Salem is updating its Open Space and Recreation Master Plan, a public process to set out a shared community vision for land use, natural resources, and recreation facilities.



Q1 How important are parks and recreation to you?

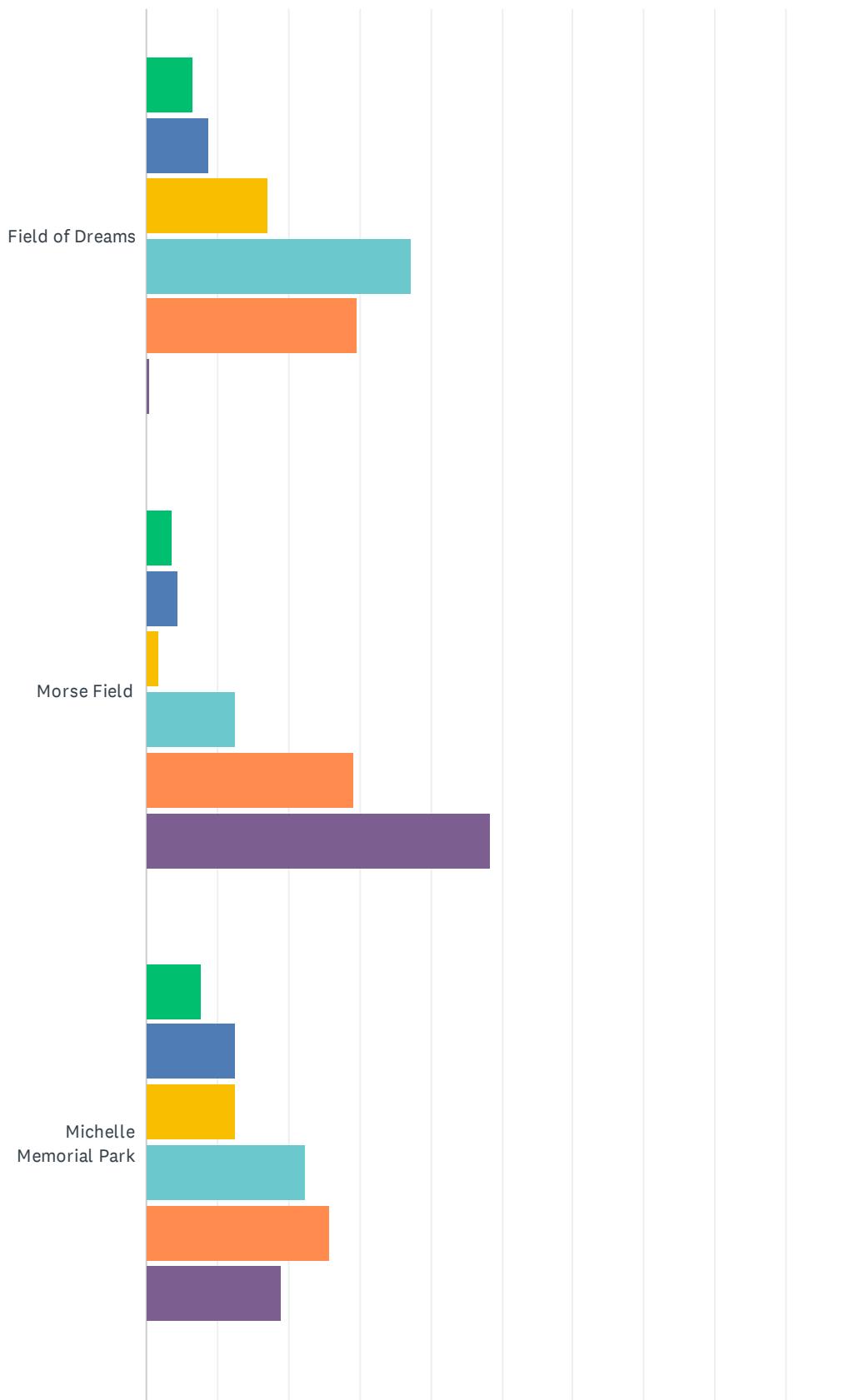
Answered: 251 Skipped: 0

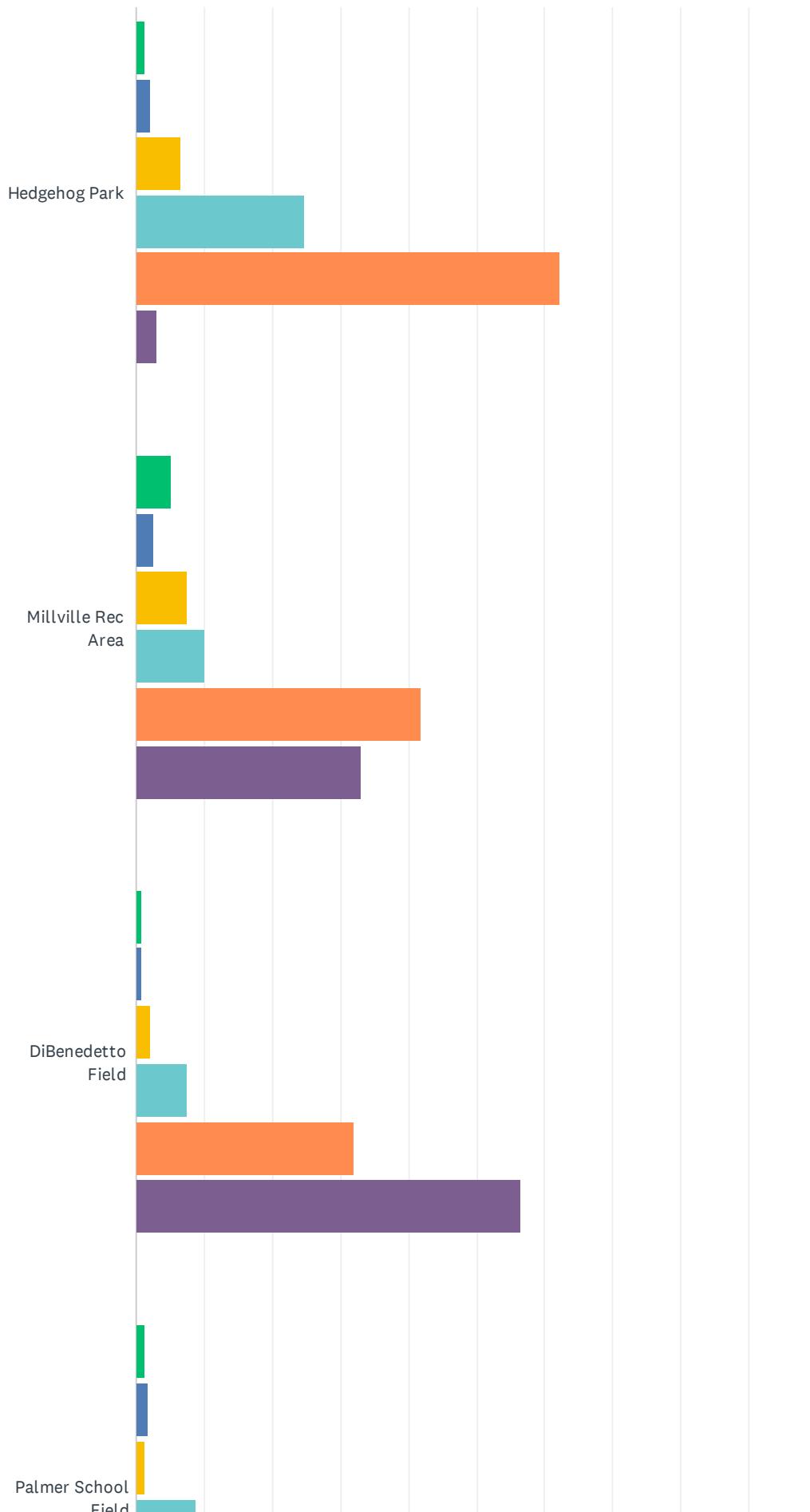


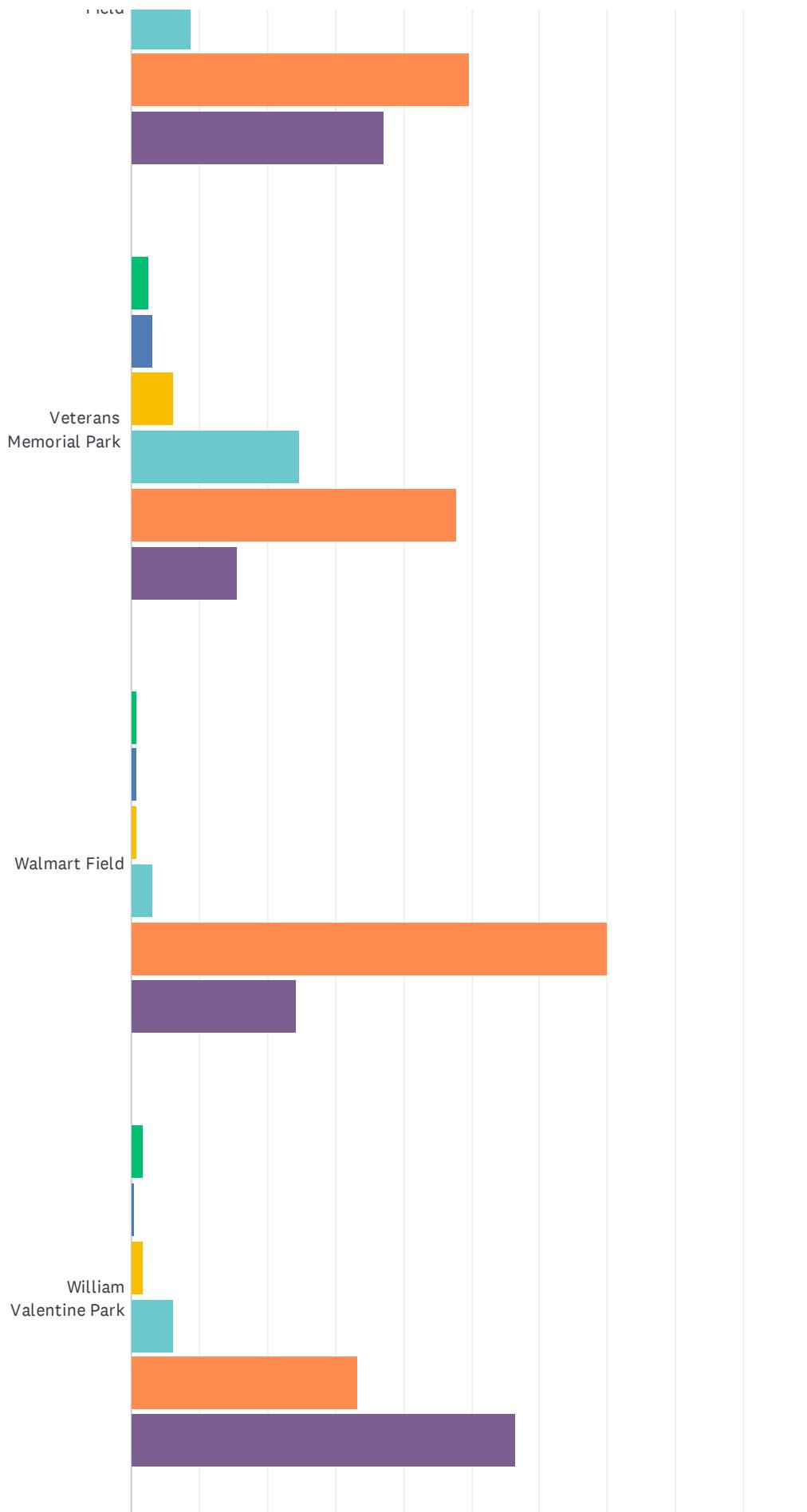
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very important	72.11%	181
Somewhat important	22.71%	57
Not so important	2.79%	7
Not important at all	2.39%	6
TOTAL		251

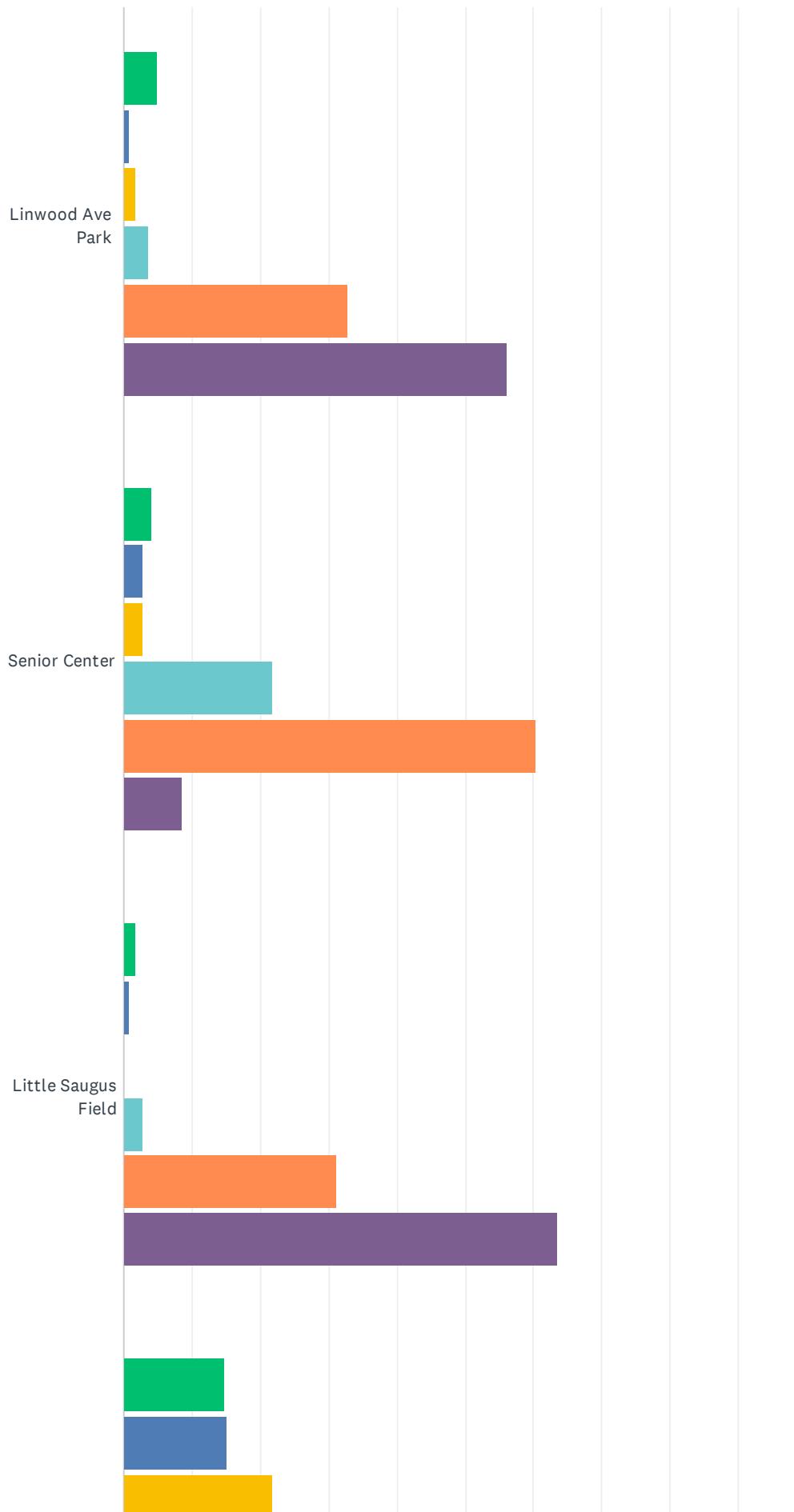
Q2 How often do you visit/use each park and/or recreation area?

Answered: 247 Skipped: 4

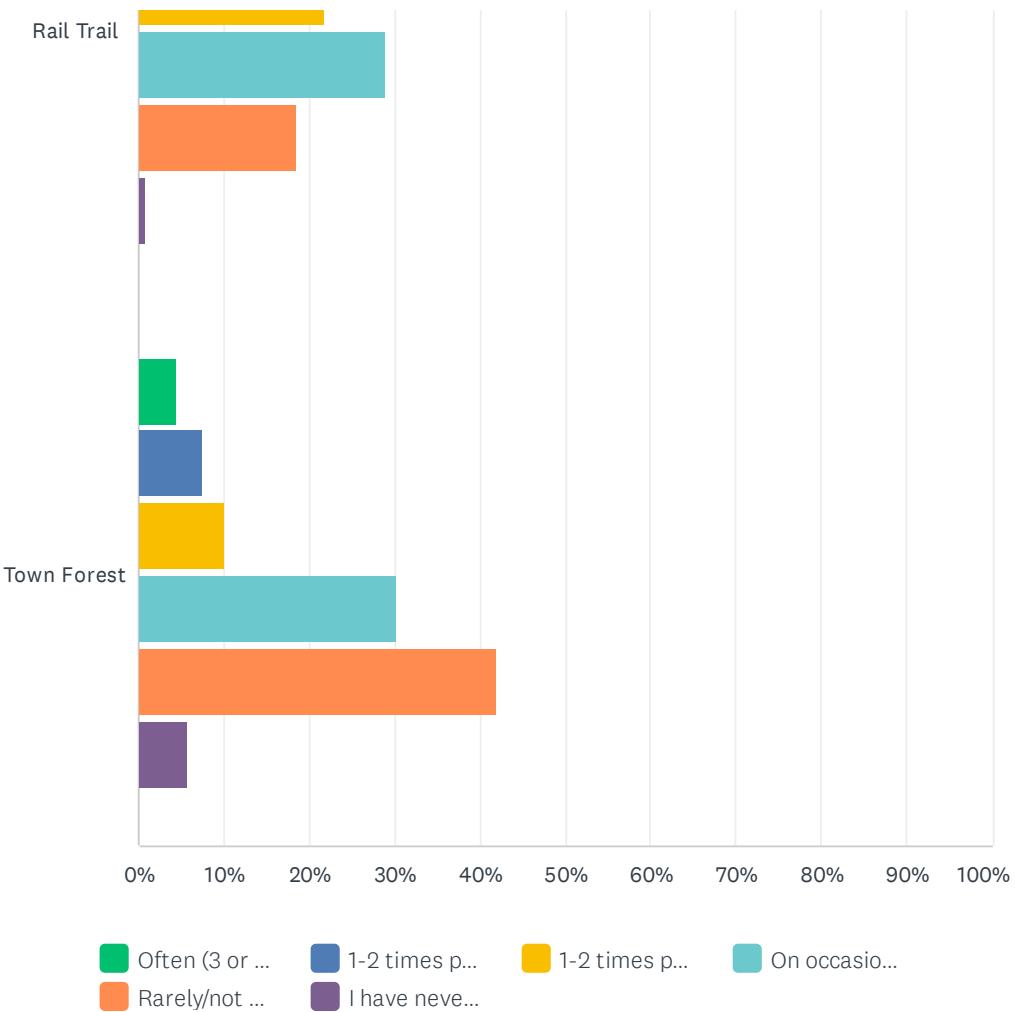








Salem, NH Open Space and Recreation Master Plan Community Survey

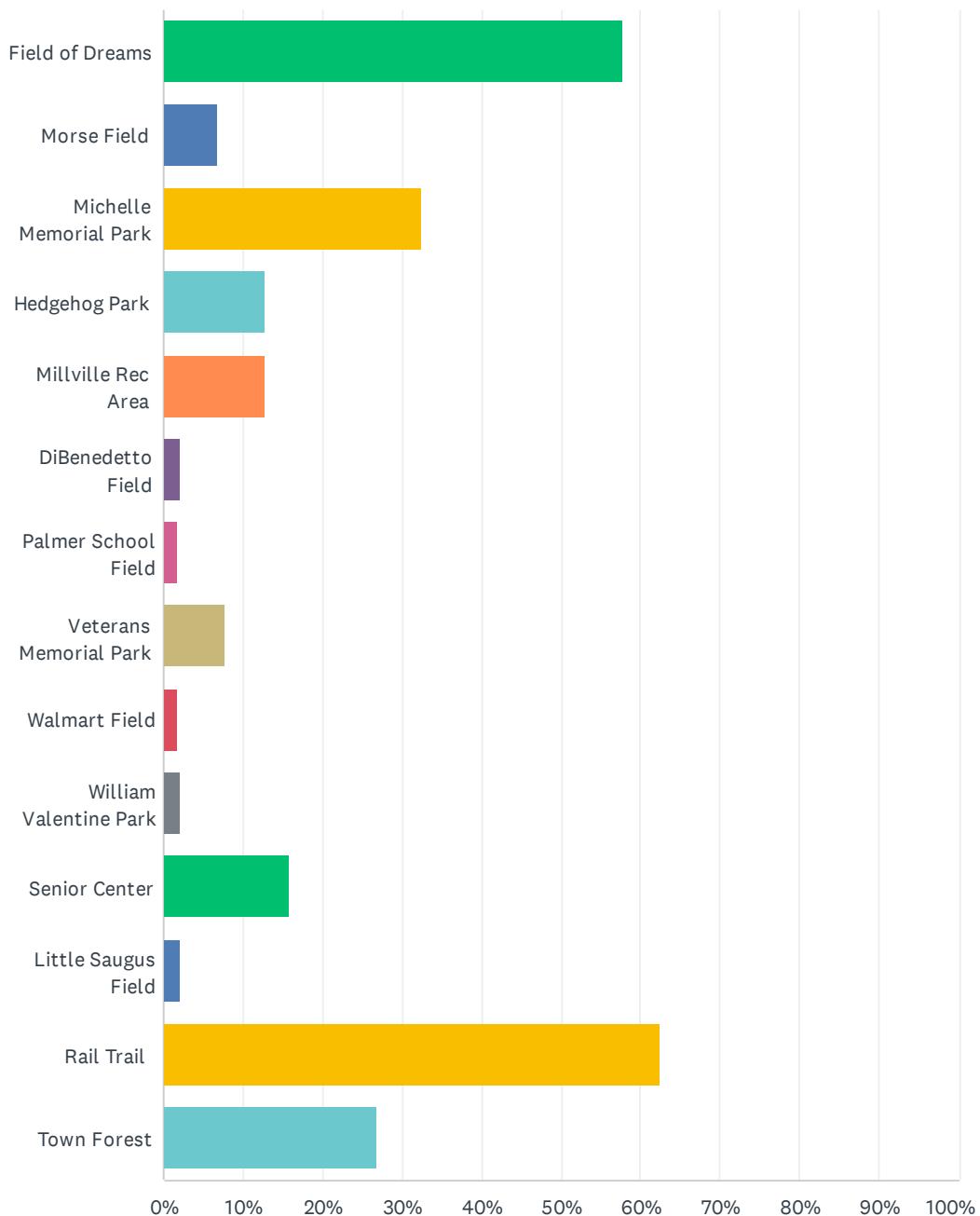


Salem, NH Open Space and Recreation Master Plan Community Survey

	OFTEN (3 OR MORE TIMES PER WEEK)	1-2 TIMES PER WEEK	1-2 TIMES PER MONTH	ON OCCASION (MORE THAN 3 TIMES PER YEAR)	RARELY/NOT AT ALL	I HAVE NEVER HEARD OF THIS FACILITY	TOTAL
Field of Dreams	6.69% 16	8.79% 21	17.15% 41	37.24% 89	29.71% 71	0.42% 1	239
Morse Field	3.59% 8	4.48% 10	1.79% 4	12.56% 28	29.15% 65	48.43% 108	223
Michelle Memorial Park	7.76% 18	12.50% 29	12.50% 29	22.41% 52	25.86% 60	18.97% 44	232
Hedgehog Park	1.30% 3	2.17% 5	6.52% 15	24.78% 57	62.17% 143	3.04% 7	230
Millville Rec Area	5.22% 12	2.61% 6	7.39% 17	10.00% 23	41.74% 96	33.04% 76	230
DiBenedetto Field	0.88% 2	0.88% 2	2.19% 5	7.46% 17	32.02% 73	56.58% 129	228
Palmer School Field	1.32% 3	1.76% 4	1.32% 3	8.81% 20	49.78% 113	37.00% 84	227
Veterans Memorial Park	2.65% 6	3.10% 7	6.19% 14	24.78% 56	47.79% 108	15.49% 35	226
Walmart Field	0.88% 2	0.88% 2	0.88% 2	3.10% 7	69.91% 158	24.34% 55	226
William Valentine Park	1.78% 4	0.44% 1	1.78% 4	6.22% 14	33.33% 75	56.44% 127	225
Linwood Ave Park	4.89% 11	0.89% 2	1.78% 4	3.56% 8	32.89% 74	56.00% 126	225
Senior Center	4.00% 9	2.67% 6	2.67% 6	21.78% 49	60.44% 136	8.44% 19	225
Little Saugus Field	1.78% 4	0.89% 2	0.00% 0	2.67% 6	31.11% 70	63.56% 143	225
Rail Trail	14.71% 35	15.13% 36	21.85% 52	28.99% 69	18.49% 44	0.84% 2	238
Town Forest	4.39% 10	7.46% 17	10.09% 23	30.26% 69	42.11% 96	5.70% 13	228

Q3 What facilities do you visit the most? Please select top three.

Answered: 235 Skipped: 16

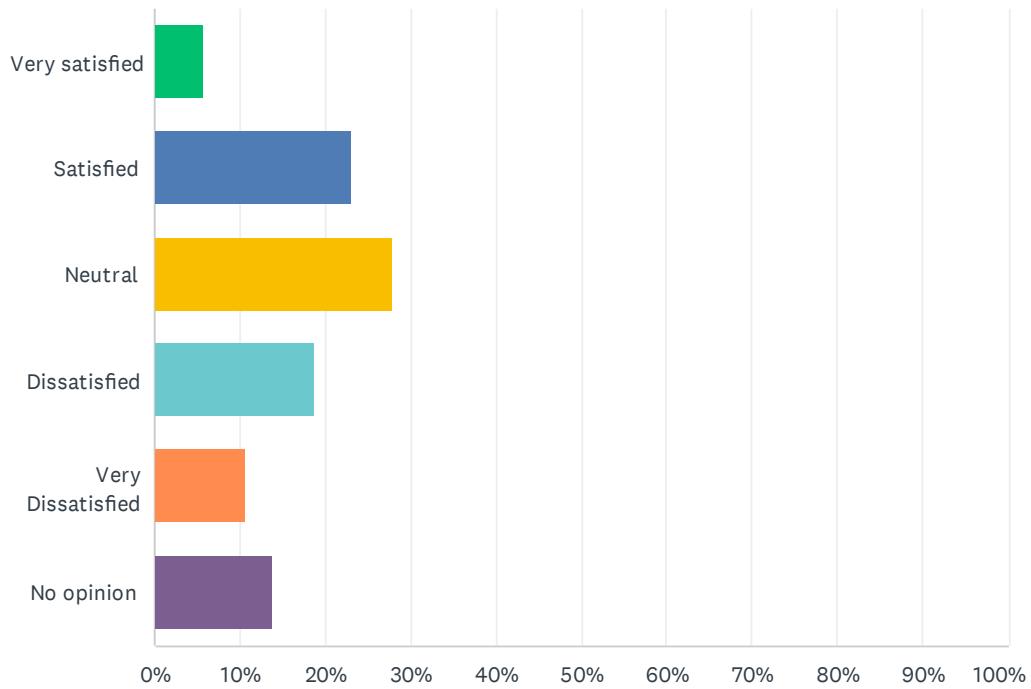


Salem, NH Open Space and Recreation Master Plan Community Survey

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Field of Dreams	57.87% 136
Morse Field	6.81% 16
Michelle Memorial Park	32.34% 76
Hedgehog Park	12.77% 30
Millville Rec Area	12.77% 30
DiBenedetto Field	2.13% 5
Palmer School Field	1.70% 4
Veterans Memorial Park	7.66% 18
Walmart Field	1.70% 4
William Valentine Park	2.13% 5
Senior Center	15.74% 37
Little Saugus Field	2.13% 5
Rail Trail	62.55% 147
Town Forest	26.81% 63
Total Respondents: 235	

Q4 How satisfied are you with the places for children and youth to play and recreate?

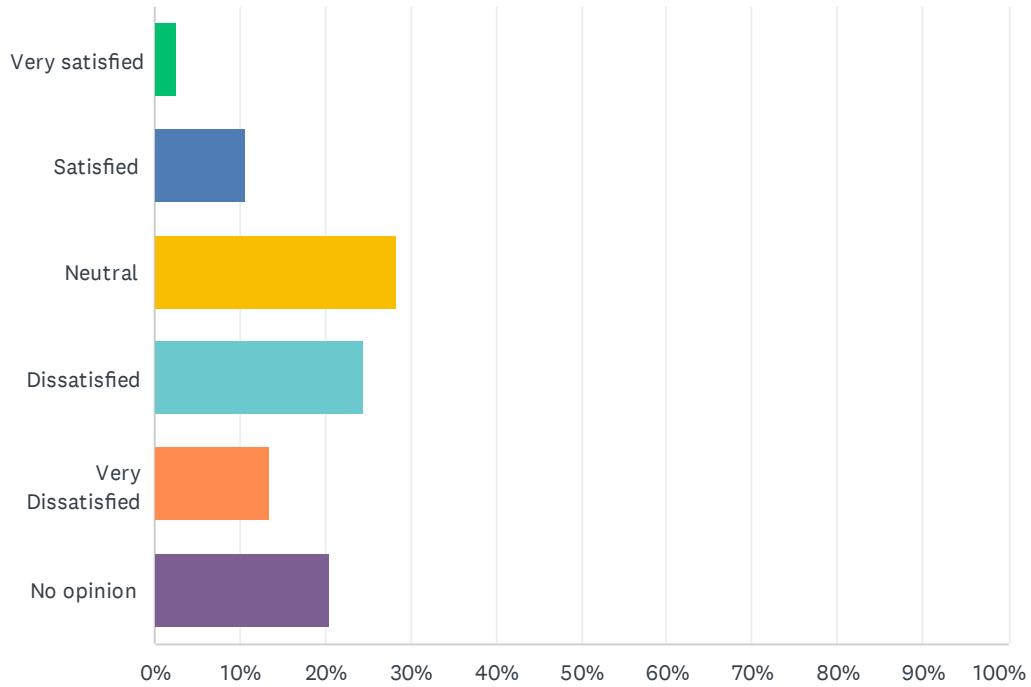
Answered: 244 Skipped: 7



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very satisfied	5.74%	14
Satisfied	22.95%	56
Neutral	27.87%	68
Dissatisfied	18.85%	46
Very Dissatisfied	10.66%	26
No opinion	13.93%	34
TOTAL		244

Q5 How satisfied are you with the places for teens and young adults to play and recreate?

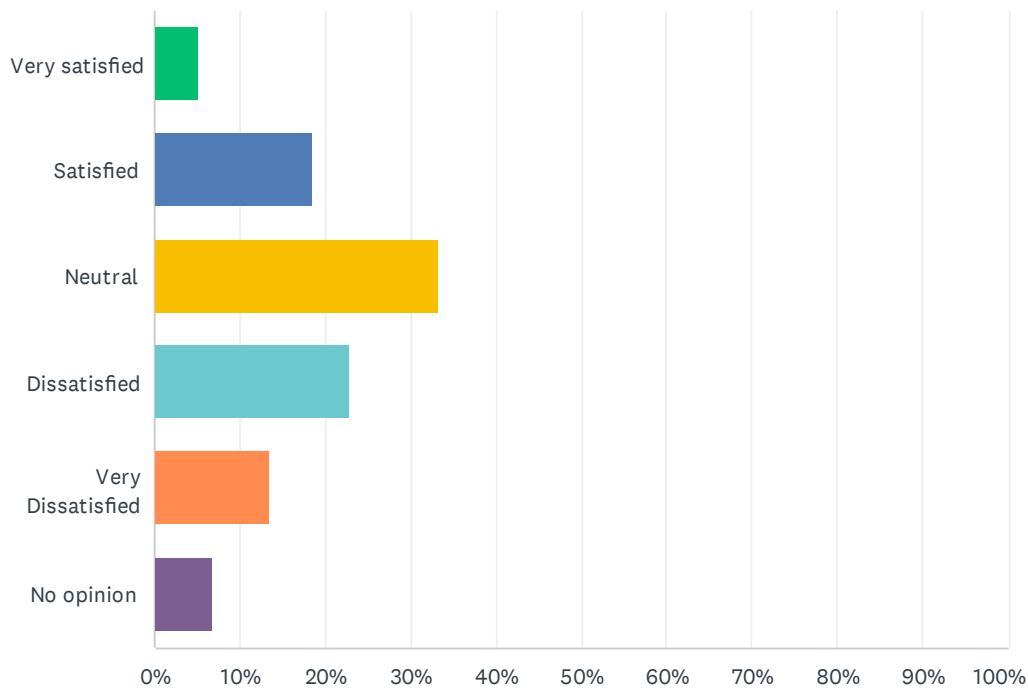
Answered: 244 Skipped: 7



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very satisfied	2.46%	6
Satisfied	10.66%	26
Neutral	28.28%	69
Dissatisfied	24.59%	60
Very Dissatisfied	13.52%	33
No opinion	20.49%	50
TOTAL		244

Q6 How satisfied are you with the places for adults to recreate?

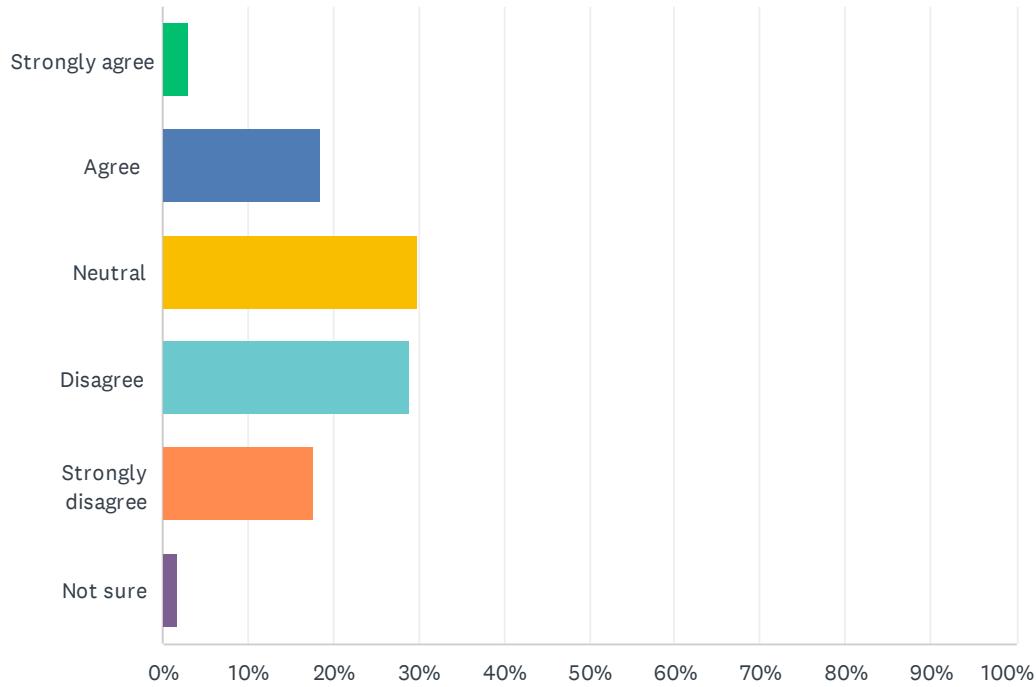
Answered: 232 Skipped: 19



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very satisfied	5.17%	12
Satisfied	18.53%	43
Neutral	33.19%	77
Dissatisfied	22.84%	53
Very Dissatisfied	13.36%	31
No opinion	6.90%	16
TOTAL		232

Q7 How do you feel about the following statement: "My neighborhood has adequate parks and recreation facilities."

Answered: 231 Skipped: 20



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	3.03%	7
Agree	18.61%	43
Neutral	29.87%	69
Disagree	29.00%	67
Strongly disagree	17.75%	41
Not sure	1.73%	4
TOTAL		231

Q8 What neighborhood of Salem do you live in?

Answered: 207 Skipped: 44

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	North Salem	5/15/2025 11:23 AM
2	Not quite north Salem but close	5/15/2025 9:00 AM
3	North Salem	5/14/2025 1:10 PM
4	Tuscan Village	5/14/2025 1:09 PM
5	Haigh Ave	5/14/2025 8:11 AM
6	Barron School area off of Wheeler ave	5/10/2025 8:25 PM
7	Tuscan Village	5/10/2025 12:23 PM
8	Methuen Line	5/7/2025 11:25 AM
9	Tuscan	5/7/2025 1:08 AM
10	North salem	5/6/2025 8:59 PM
11	Sullivan Avenue, near the Depot	5/4/2025 9:10 PM
12	Salem Hill Park (Howard St.)	4/28/2025 7:18 AM
13	By the Woodbury School	4/24/2025 1:26 PM
14	South Brady Ave	4/24/2025 1:22 PM
15	North	4/24/2025 9:50 AM
16	Town Center	4/23/2025 12:54 PM
17	Cluff Crossing Rd	4/21/2025 8:23 PM
18	North Salem	4/21/2025 4:06 PM
19	Linwood ave	4/21/2025 2:27 PM
20	Linwood ave	4/21/2025 2:13 PM
21	north	4/21/2025 1:53 PM
22	north salem	4/21/2025 1:06 PM
23	Little Saugus	4/20/2025 3:34 PM
24	North Salem	4/19/2025 12:33 AM
25	Spicket Hill	4/15/2025 4:51 PM
26	Cross street	4/13/2025 6:31 PM
27	Haigh Ave	4/13/2025 4:37 PM
28	Crestwood	4/12/2025 11:33 PM
29	North Salem	4/12/2025 8:44 AM
30	Ward 1	4/11/2025 5:18 PM
31	canobie lake park area	4/11/2025 11:44 AM
32	North Salem	4/11/2025 11:37 AM
33	55	4/9/2025 3:03 PM

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34	near Barron school	4/8/2025 2:37 PM
35	Near Woodbury School	4/8/2025 10:02 AM
36	Riversedge Drive	4/7/2025 9:46 AM
37	Barron ave-HaighAve	4/6/2025 10:04 AM
38	Linwood	4/5/2025 9:49 AM
39	Centerville area	4/4/2025 11:32 AM
40	by icecenter	4/3/2025 4:42 PM
41	Woodbury School	4/2/2025 11:11 AM
42	Millville	4/2/2025 9:24 AM
43	Near Woodbury School	3/31/2025 10:51 AM
44	North salem	3/31/2025 10:26 AM
45	Millville lake	3/30/2025 8:52 PM
46	Baron school district	3/30/2025 5:19 PM
47	Linwood	3/30/2025 5:12 PM
48	Depot	3/30/2025 12:33 PM
49	Millville circle	3/30/2025 10:31 AM
50	Milville Circle	3/30/2025 10:30 AM
51	Meisner Road	3/30/2025 10:20 AM
52	Granite ave	3/30/2025 9:35 AM
53	Sally sweet way	3/30/2025 8:06 AM
54	Ackerman old coach	3/30/2025 6:21 AM
55	Park ave	3/29/2025 11:37 AM
56	Little Saugus	3/29/2025 10:04 AM
57	Salem	3/29/2025 2:07 AM
58	Depot	3/28/2025 5:45 PM
59	Linwood	3/28/2025 4:47 PM
60	Millville	3/28/2025 3:44 PM
61	central	3/28/2025 3:15 PM
62	Millville	3/28/2025 11:51 AM
63	North Salem	3/28/2025 10:38 AM
64	Meisner	3/28/2025 9:24 AM
65	Lamp lighter	3/28/2025 8:55 AM
66	Depot	3/28/2025 8:40 AM
67	Lawrence road	3/28/2025 7:35 AM
68	Lancaster School Neighborhood	3/28/2025 6:59 AM
69	N Salem Duston rd	3/28/2025 12:03 AM
70	Lawrence rd	3/27/2025 11:10 PM
71	Cortland dr - Brady Ave area	3/27/2025 11:07 PM

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72	Town center	3/27/2025 10:20 PM
73	Linwood ave	3/27/2025 9:04 PM
74	Central	3/27/2025 9:02 PM
75	Lancaster school area	3/27/2025 7:47 PM
76	Near woodbury and high school	3/27/2025 7:01 PM
77	Millville/Lancaster	3/27/2025 6:39 PM
78	North	3/27/2025 6:22 PM
79	North Salem	3/27/2025 5:09 PM
80	Linwood	3/27/2025 4:54 PM
81	Town center	3/27/2025 4:26 PM
82	Barron School area	3/27/2025 3:12 PM
83	Lancaster School	3/27/2025 3:01 PM
84	Lancaster Farm Road	3/27/2025 2:59 PM
85	West Duston Rd	3/27/2025 2:51 PM
86	Lancaster Farm Road	3/27/2025 2:45 PM
87	Near the Kelley library	3/27/2025 2:37 PM
88	Bannister Rd	3/27/2025 2:34 PM
89	Millville	3/27/2025 12:45 PM
90	Linwood	3/27/2025 12:41 PM
91	North Salem - Autumn Woods	3/27/2025 12:31 PM
92	Autumn woods	3/27/2025 12:18 PM
93	Depot	3/27/2025 11:32 AM
94	Salem	3/27/2025 11:30 AM
95	Linwood	3/27/2025 11:08 AM
96	North Salem	3/27/2025 10:26 AM
97	North Main St- not really in any neighborhood unfortunately. Difficult to connect with neighbors. No safe walking near home, etc.	3/27/2025 10:17 AM
98	Linwood	3/27/2025 10:05 AM
99	Linwood	3/27/2025 9:54 AM
100	Canobie	3/27/2025 9:54 AM
101	Millville circle	3/27/2025 9:50 AM
102	Millville	3/27/2025 9:41 AM
103	Millville Circle	3/27/2025 9:34 AM
104	Linwood	3/27/2025 9:16 AM
105	linwood	3/27/2025 9:10 AM
106	Lawrence rd	3/27/2025 8:45 AM
107	Linwood	3/27/2025 8:44 AM
108	Millville	3/27/2025 8:36 AM
109	Linwood	3/27/2025 8:32 AM

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110	Atkinson	3/27/2025 8:28 AM
111	Millville	3/27/2025 8:18 AM
112	Dyson drive	3/27/2025 8:16 AM
113	Linwood ave	3/27/2025 8:14 AM
114	Haigh Ave	3/27/2025 8:05 AM
115	Linwood Ave	3/27/2025 8:01 AM
116	Telfer Circle	3/27/2025 7:58 AM
117	School st/main st	3/27/2025 7:52 AM
118	Near captains pond	3/27/2025 7:35 AM
119	Barron district	3/27/2025 6:56 AM
120	Barron	3/27/2025 6:29 AM
121	Kelly rd	3/27/2025 6:11 AM
122	Barron	3/27/2025 5:56 AM
123	Linwood ave	3/27/2025 5:40 AM
124	Millville	3/27/2025 4:09 AM
125	Na	3/27/2025 3:37 AM
126	Green acre dr	3/27/2025 3:12 AM
127	Field of dreams/Barron School	3/27/2025 1:49 AM
128	Barron District	3/27/2025 12:23 AM
129	Lancaster Farm	3/26/2025 11:47 PM
130	Butler street	3/26/2025 11:12 PM
131	Near McKinnons	3/26/2025 10:42 PM
132	North Salem	3/26/2025 10:41 PM
133	Historic district	3/26/2025 10:31 PM
134	Matthias	3/26/2025 10:26 PM
135	Soule school zoned	3/26/2025 10:04 PM
136	Near hedgehog	3/26/2025 9:51 PM
137	Salem center	3/26/2025 9:49 PM
138	Tuscan Village	3/26/2025 9:45 PM
139	Canobie	3/26/2025 9:44 PM
140	Canobie	3/26/2025 9:43 PM
141	Near Main Street Fire Station	3/26/2025 9:41 PM
142	Depot	3/26/2025 9:29 PM
143	Millville/Depot	3/26/2025 9:27 PM
144	Barron district	3/26/2025 9:27 PM
145	Millville neighborhood	3/26/2025 9:21 PM
146	North Salem Area	3/26/2025 9:13 PM
147	Barron area	3/26/2025 9:11 PM

Salem, NH Open Space and Recreation Master Plan Community Survey

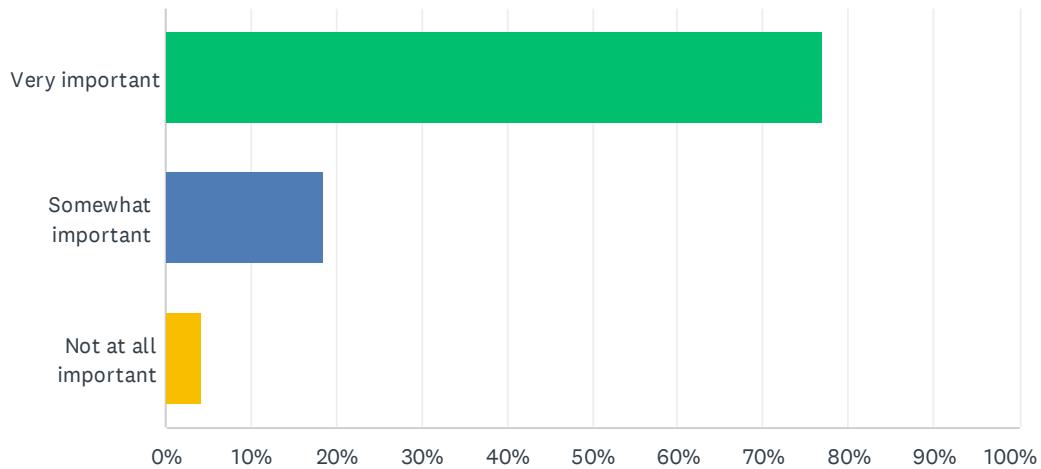
148	Millville Circle	3/26/2025 9:08 PM
149	North Salem	3/26/2025 9:03 PM
150	Joseph rd	3/26/2025 9:02 PM
151	Veterans Memorial	3/26/2025 8:57 PM
152	Canobie lake park	3/26/2025 8:55 PM
153	Ticklefancy Lane	3/26/2025 8:48 PM
154	North Salem	3/26/2025 8:05 PM
155	Granite Ave.	3/26/2025 7:31 PM
156	Carol Ave	3/26/2025 2:37 PM
157	Unknown	3/26/2025 1:34 PM
158	North Salem	3/26/2025 1:33 PM
159	Fisk school district/ Canobie Lake Park area	3/26/2025 11:18 AM
160	North Salem	3/26/2025 11:07 AM
161	Barron school district	3/26/2025 10:38 AM
162	North Salem	3/26/2025 10:31 AM
163	Haigh ave	3/26/2025 10:20 AM
164	Soule school	3/26/2025 10:12 AM
165	Carol ave Oakridge	3/26/2025 10:09 AM
166	West Salem	3/26/2025 10:04 AM
167	Cole Street	3/19/2025 10:35 AM
168	South	3/19/2025 10:22 AM
169	Near Arlington pond	3/19/2025 7:42 AM
170	Millville Lake	3/18/2025 10:36 PM
171	Barron school district/Lawrence rd	3/18/2025 1:09 PM
172	North Salem	3/18/2025 1:09 PM
173	n/a	3/18/2025 10:04 AM
174	Briarwood Dr	3/17/2025 10:09 AM
175	North Salem	3/17/2025 3:41 AM
176	Old Rockingham Rd	3/16/2025 7:42 PM
177	FISK SCHOOL	3/16/2025 5:53 PM
178	Autumn woods	3/16/2025 4:56 PM
179	Millville	3/16/2025 11:05 AM
180	North Salem	3/16/2025 10:08 AM
181	Near school street and bridge	3/16/2025 9:24 AM
182	North salem	3/16/2025 9:20 AM
183	Fisk School area	3/16/2025 8:22 AM
184	North Salem	3/16/2025 8:20 AM
185	North Salem	3/16/2025 7:58 AM

Salem, NH Open Space and Recreation Master Plan Community Survey

186	lawrence rd	3/15/2025 11:35 AM
187	We are in the Barron district	3/15/2025 10:18 AM
188	Carol Ave/Oakrisge	3/15/2025 9:02 AM
189	West side	3/15/2025 8:36 AM
190	North Salem	3/15/2025 7:37 AM
191	Historical Area	3/14/2025 10:32 PM
192	Woodbury	3/14/2025 5:04 PM
193	Johnson sve	3/14/2025 4:52 PM
194	West side/pelham road	3/14/2025 4:48 PM
195	Near Canobie Lake Park / Fisk School	3/14/2025 4:39 PM
196	Near Soule School	3/14/2025 3:59 PM
197	Old coach area	3/14/2025 3:41 PM
198	Central	3/14/2025 3:28 PM
199	Off Main St.	3/14/2025 3:26 PM
200	North Policy area	3/14/2025 3:12 PM
201	Grove Ave	3/14/2025 3:09 PM
202	North Salem/Arlington Pond	3/14/2025 2:42 PM
203	Townsend Ave area	3/14/2025 2:42 PM
204	Canobie lake area	3/14/2025 2:41 PM
205	Soule School	3/14/2025 2:39 PM
206	southwest near Pelham	3/12/2025 2:59 PM
207	West side	3/11/2025 8:49 PM

Q9 Please rate the importance of preserving additional lands for conservation purposes, including scenic views, wildlife habitats, walking trails, and other open space values.

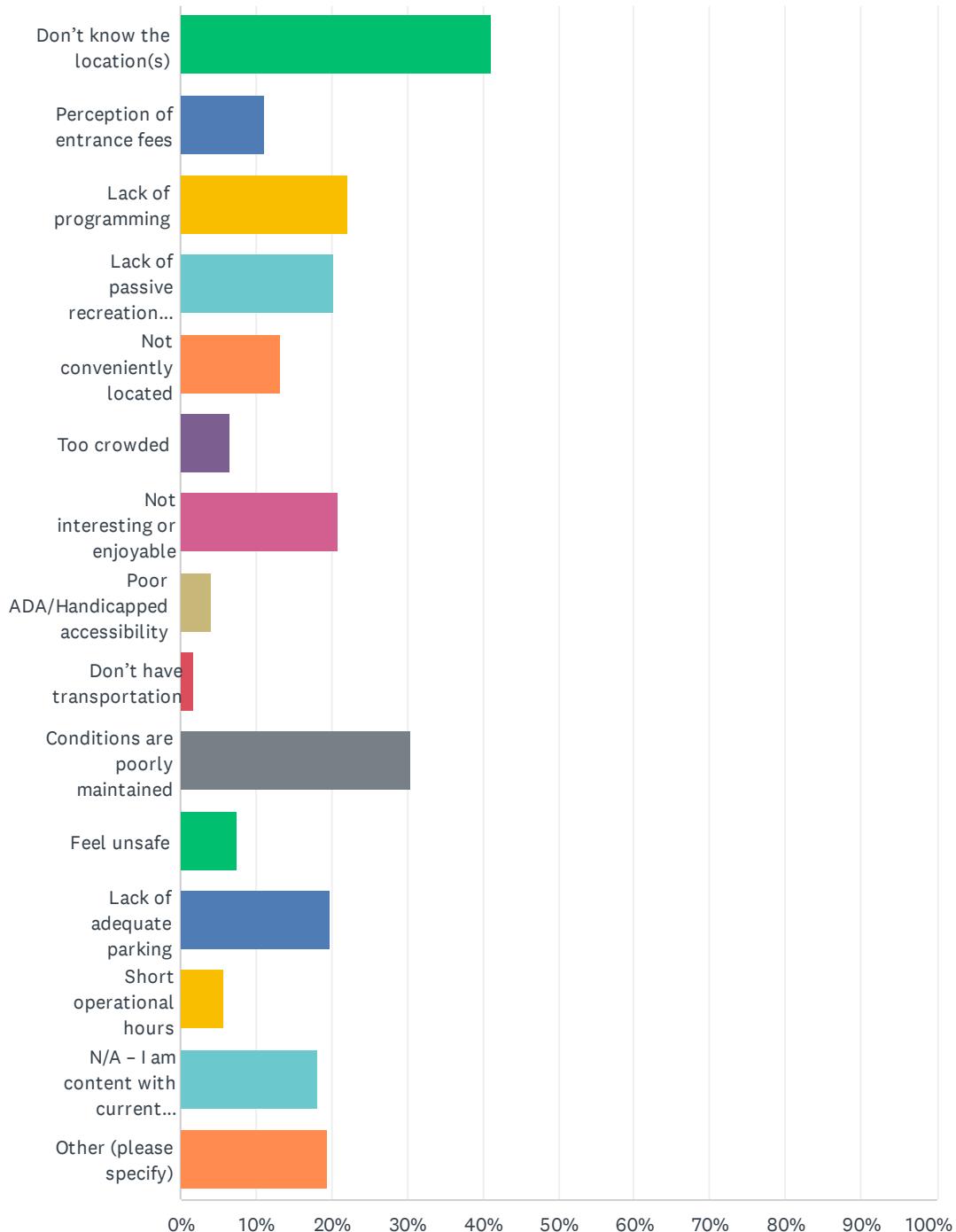
Answered: 231 Skipped: 20



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Very important	77.06%
Somewhat important	18.61%
Not at all important	4.33%
TOTAL	231

Q10 What are the reasons why you do not use parks, recreation facilities, and open space resources in Salem more frequently? Check all that apply.

Answered: 226 Skipped: 25



Salem, NH Open Space and Recreation Master Plan Community Survey

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Don't know the location(s)	41.15% 93
Perception of entrance fees	11.06% 25
Lack of programming	22.12% 50
Lack of passive recreation spaces	20.35% 46
Not conveniently located	13.27% 30
Too crowded	6.64% 15
Not interesting or enjoyable	20.80% 47
Poor ADA/Handicapped accessibility	3.98% 9
Don't have transportation	1.77% 4
Conditions are poorly maintained	30.53% 69
Feel unsafe	7.52% 17
Lack of adequate parking	19.91% 45
Short operational hours	5.75% 13
N/A – I am content with current conditions	18.14% 41
Other (please specify)	19.47% 44
Total Respondents: 226	

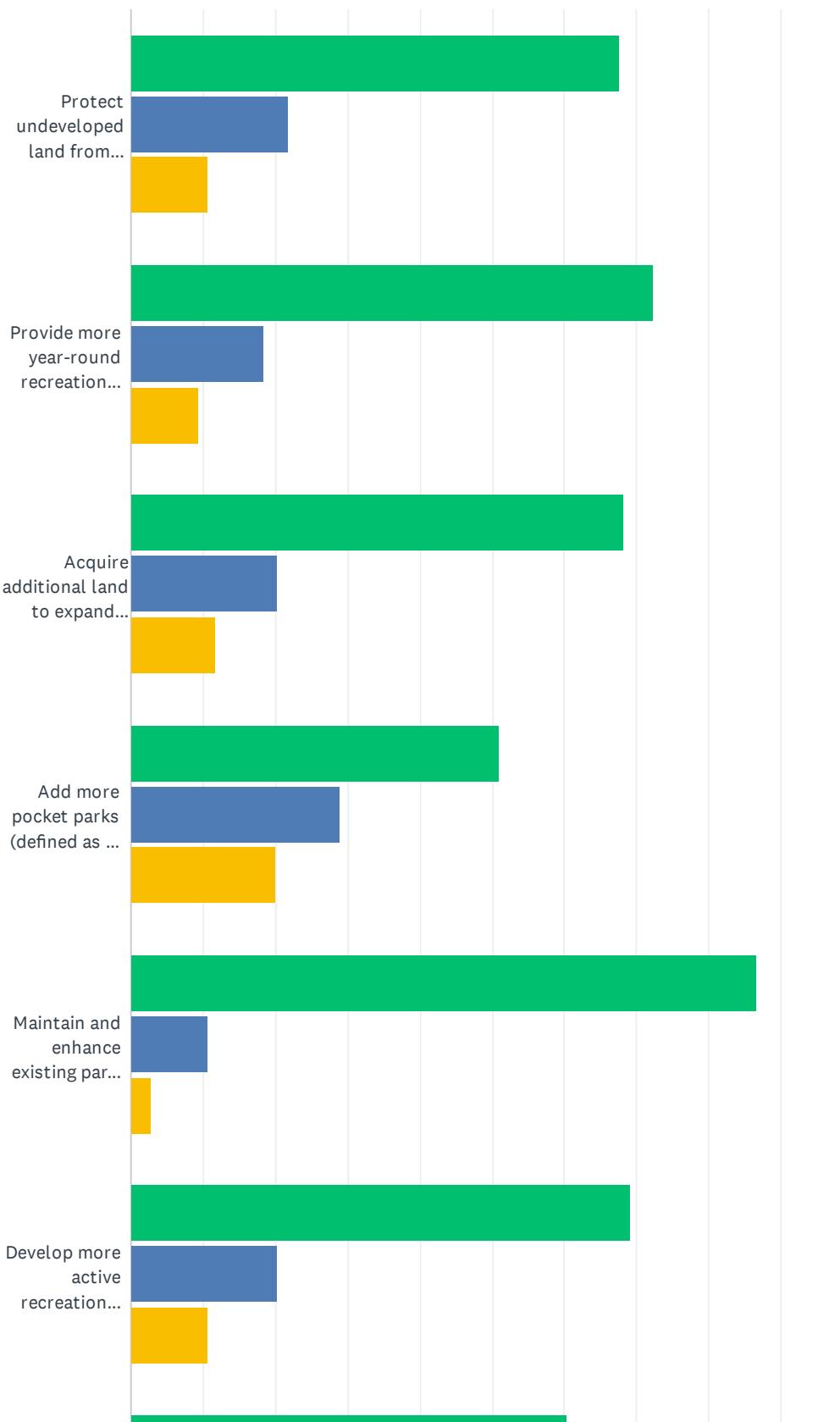
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Working a lot	5/14/2025 8:11 AM
2	Rail trail not finished	5/4/2025 9:10 PM
3	stopped using most of these areas do to drug related paraphernalia, notified Salem PD on 2 occasions because of finding used syringes at Field of Dreams then just stopped taking my nieces and nephews ther and now there all grown and moved away	4/28/2025 7:18 AM
4	Lights - Restrooms - a DOG PARK	4/24/2025 9:50 AM
5	I don't have lots of time to enjoy them :) Salem is great!	4/19/2025 12:33 AM
6	Dog restrictions	4/13/2025 6:31 PM
7	Not sure of reservation procedures for the pickleball courts.	4/13/2025 4:37 PM
8	Salem Youth Baseball has locked out families and kids from going to the fields to practice and play ball with their friends and family. They believe they hold a monopoly over town fields, and even threaten families who go to Michelle Park to hit in the cages with their kids or use the fields when the league doesnt have games. Palmer field also should be brought up to standard and be allowed for use for residents to go out and practice when they want to.	4/11/2025 11:44 AM
9	dogs running without a leash	4/8/2025 2:37 PM
10	No time	3/30/2025 5:12 PM
11	Not enough infrastructure, like benches, trash cans, sidewalks, and playgrounds. Certain parks just aren't large enough to bring dogs along or can be much too crowded, like the field of dreams.	3/30/2025 10:20 AM
12	Lack of sidewalks to/from	3/28/2025 10:38 AM
13	Time/schedule restraints	3/28/2025 9:24 AM

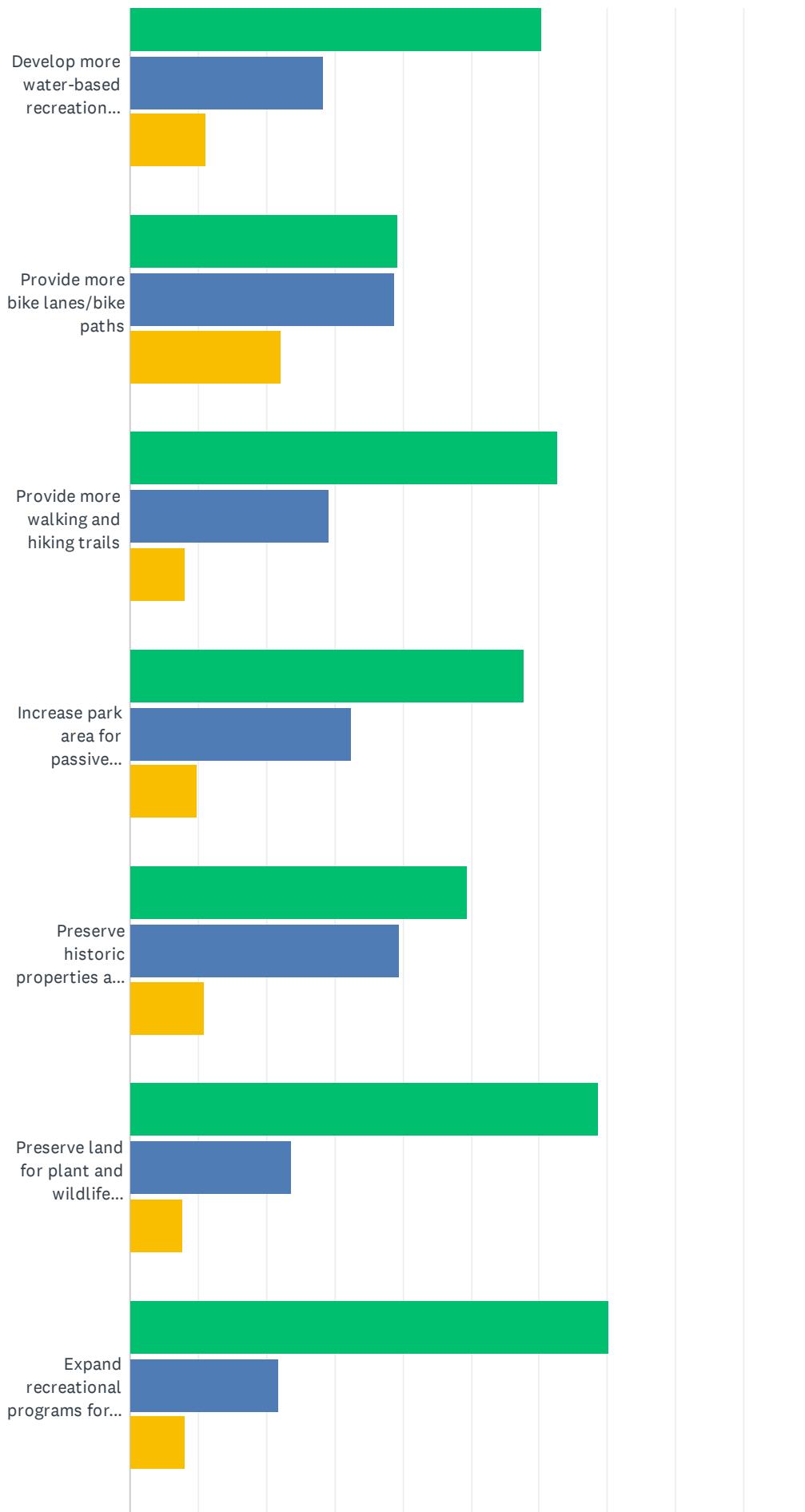
Salem, NH Open Space and Recreation Master Plan Community Survey

14	Very small areas only takes minutes to explore.	3/28/2025 6:59 AM
15	Lack of free time	3/27/2025 11:07 PM
16	There has to be alternative sports areas ...they are now no longer small quirky sports they are mainstream as much as any other there is no room designated for people who ride boards of anytime..mountainboards skateboards scooters one wheels BMX all that is needed is open hilly areas dirt trails and skatepark designed by someone with a clue. by	3/27/2025 7:47 PM
17	Winter	3/27/2025 4:26 PM
18	Not much for older kids	3/27/2025 2:34 PM
19	No time	3/27/2025 12:31 PM
20	Nonresidents	3/27/2025 10:26 AM
21	Unsafe pertains to Town Forest only. Unsure of entry, boundaries, being alone, etc.	3/27/2025 10:17 AM
22	Need some basketball courts	3/27/2025 9:54 AM
23	parking	3/27/2025 9:10 AM
24	Millville is very neglected!	3/27/2025 8:36 AM
25	Linwood ave park has not been upkeeped and unsure if equipment is safe - would use often since it is in the neighborhood	3/27/2025 8:14 AM
26	Would love a kids park that is fully enclosed!	3/27/2025 7:35 AM
27	Too many bees at field of dreams	3/27/2025 4:09 AM
28	The tennis instructor "Molly r is rude and throws people off the court. Why does she work for the town	3/27/2025 3:37 AM
29	Lack of time	3/27/2025 3:21 AM
30	Town forrest is buggier than other trails	3/27/2025 12:23 AM
31	More funding needed for recreation	3/26/2025 11:12 PM
32	Need better play structures	3/26/2025 9:51 PM
33	Our family focus is mainly sport and walking/hiking	3/26/2025 8:05 PM
34	popular areas crowded with non-residents (hedgehog, FOD, etc...)	3/26/2025 2:37 PM
35	No basketball courts im aware of	3/26/2025 10:38 AM
36	Equipment lacks - not enough to keep kids engaged	3/26/2025 10:12 AM
37	not enough time in my day	3/26/2025 10:04 AM
38	I used to love the Town Forest before it was torn, town became too crowded & people leave dog poop & trash along the trail. We walked our dogs every weekend & some summer nights. It was great, now it's just an urban park.	3/18/2025 10:36 PM
39	Work and family obligations	3/16/2025 7:42 PM
40	No place to just walk and picnic	3/15/2025 7:37 AM
41	Woodbury area	3/14/2025 5:04 PM
42	Fence and gate always closed/locked. I'm not paying a fee to use a facility my hard earned tax dollars pay for	3/14/2025 4:48 PM
43	I use the ones I want to use and they are available for my purposes	3/14/2025 3:59 PM
44	Not enough trails	3/13/2025 12:33 PM

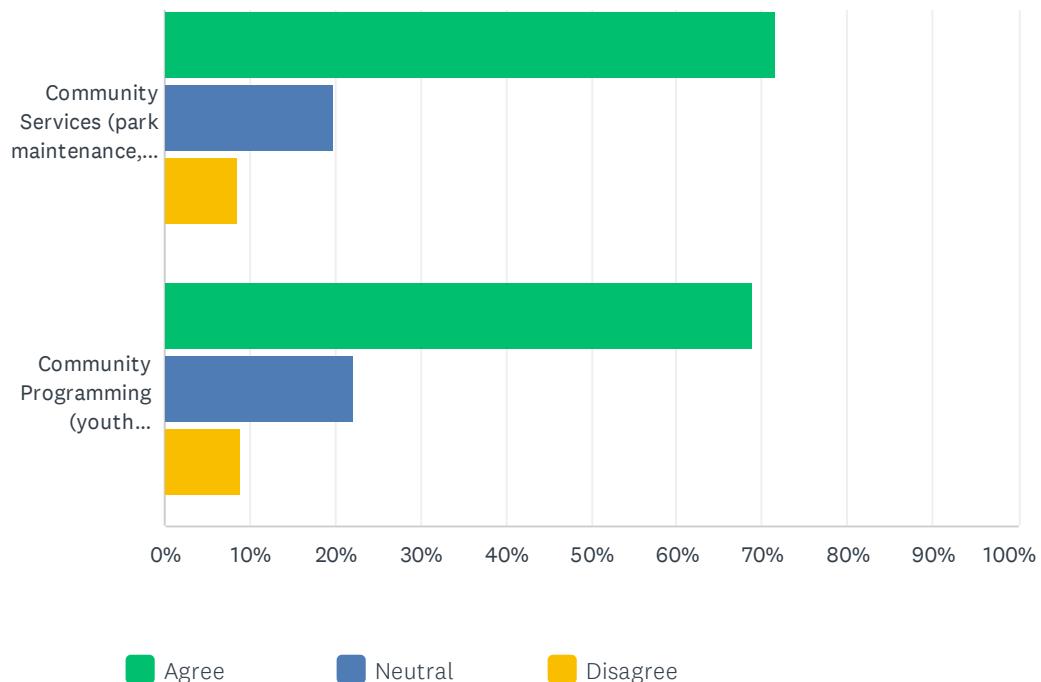
Q11 How should the town spend additional resources?

Answered: 227 Skipped: 24





Salem, NH Open Space and Recreation Master Plan Community Survey

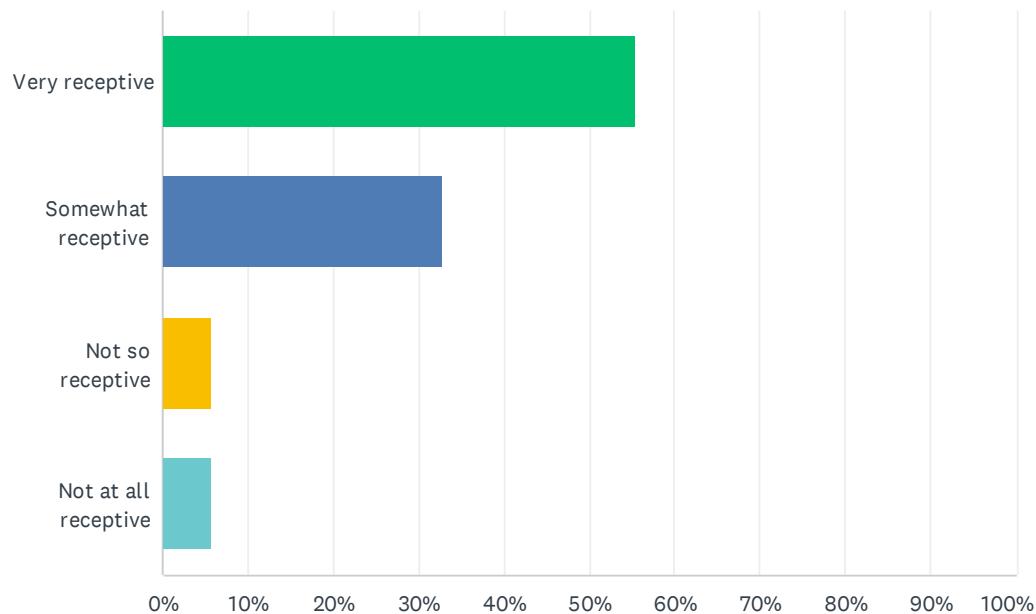


Salem, NH Open Space and Recreation Master Plan Community Survey

	AGREE	NEUTRAL	DISAGREE	TOTAL
Protect undeveloped land from future development	67.56% 152	21.78% 49	10.67% 24	225
Provide more year-round recreation facilities	72.20% 161	18.39% 41	9.42% 21	223
Acquire additional land to expand existing parks, open space areas, and recreation facilities	68.16% 152	20.18% 45	11.66% 26	223
Add more pocket parks (defined as a small outdoor space, usually no more than ¼ of an acre that can serve as meeting places, play areas, picnicking, etc.)	50.89% 114	29.02% 65	20.09% 45	224
Maintain and enhance existing parks, open space areas, and recreation facilities	86.55% 193	10.76% 24	2.69% 6	223
Develop more active recreation (splash pads, playgrounds, courts)	69.06% 154	20.18% 45	10.76% 24	223
Develop more water-based recreation (kayaking, fishing, swimming) opportunities	60.44% 136	28.44% 64	11.11% 25	225
Provide more bike lanes/bike paths	39.19% 87	38.74% 86	22.07% 49	222
Provide more walking and hiking trails	62.78% 140	29.15% 65	8.07% 18	223
Increase park area for passive recreation (hiking, walking, bird watching)	57.78% 130	32.44% 73	9.78% 22	225
Preserve historic properties and improve historical programming	49.55% 109	39.55% 87	10.91% 24	220
Preserve land for plant and wildlife habitat	68.61% 153	23.77% 53	7.62% 17	223
Expand recreational programs for all ages	70.14% 155	21.72% 48	8.14% 18	221
Community Services (park maintenance, public safety, ADA compliance, restrooms)	71.62% 159	19.82% 44	8.56% 19	222
Community Programming (youth programs, senior wellness programs, cultural events, education programs, sports leagues)	68.92% 153	22.07% 49	9.01% 20	222

Q12 Are you receptive to town resources and funds being allocated towards additional resources, such as the ones listed in the question above?

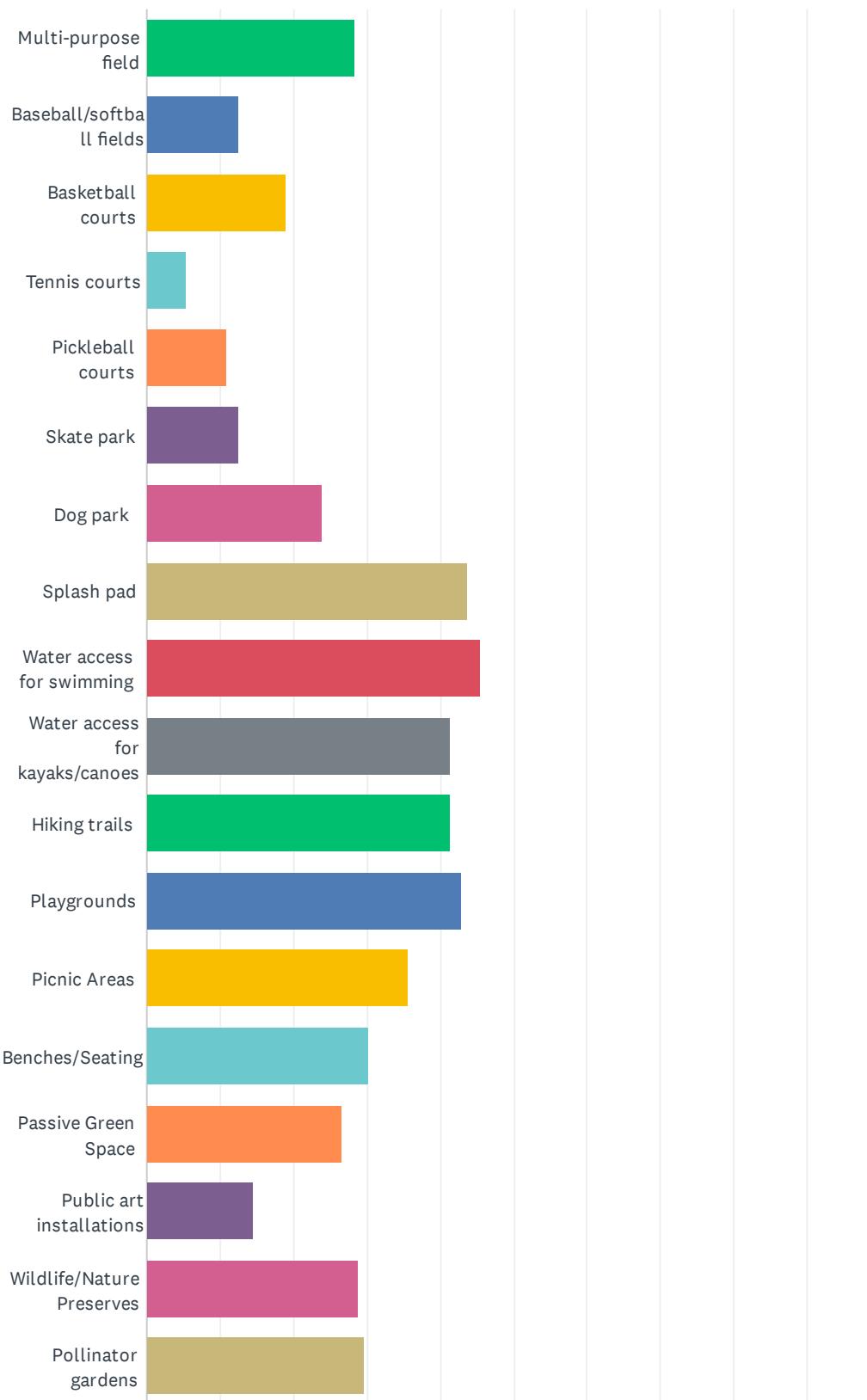
Answered: 222 Skipped: 29



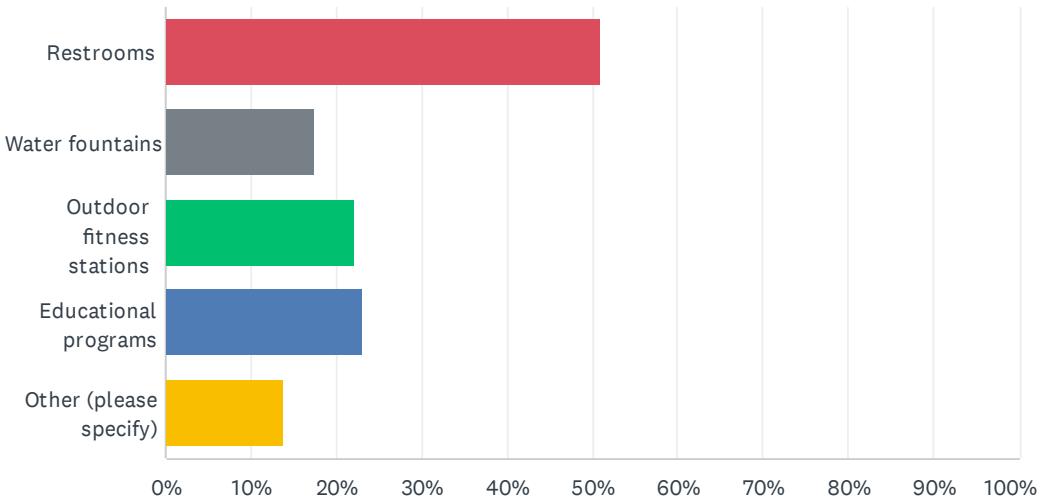
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Very receptive	55.41% 123
Somewhat receptive	32.88% 73
Not so receptive	5.86% 13
Not at all receptive	5.86% 13
TOTAL	222

Q13 What is on your "Parks and Recreation Wish List?" Check all that apply.

Answered: 222 Skipped: 29



Salem, NH Open Space and Recreation Master Plan Community Survey



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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Multi-purpose field	28.38%
Baseball/softball fields	12.61%
Basketball courts	18.92%
Tennis courts	5.41%
Pickleball courts	10.81%
Skate park	12.61%
Dog park	23.87%
Splash pad	43.69%
Water access for swimming	45.50%
Water access for kayaks/canoes	41.44%
Hiking trails	41.44%
Playgrounds	42.79%
Picnic Areas	35.59%
Benches/Seating	30.18%
Passive Green Space	26.58%
Public art installations	14.41%
Wildlife/Nature Preserves	28.83%
Pollinator gardens	29.73%
Restrooms	50.90%
Water fountains	17.57%
Outdoor fitness stations	22.07%
Educational programs	22.97%
Other (please specify)	13.96%
Total Respondents: 222	

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Sufficient at present	5/15/2025 11:23 AM
2	More special needs activities	5/14/2025 1:10 PM
3	Motocross track	5/14/2025 1:10 PM
4	More hiking trails within walking distance of Tuscan/Depot Area	5/4/2025 9:10 PM
5	Please fix Hedgehog!	4/24/2025 9:50 AM
6	Please update Linwood park!	4/21/2025 2:13 PM
7	Completion of Rail Trail	4/15/2025 4:51 PM
8	Have a Sports & Activities Project to create new ones for play now and during the next pandemics like Covid-19. Create them to be low impact and keep players separate. The town	4/13/2025 4:37 PM

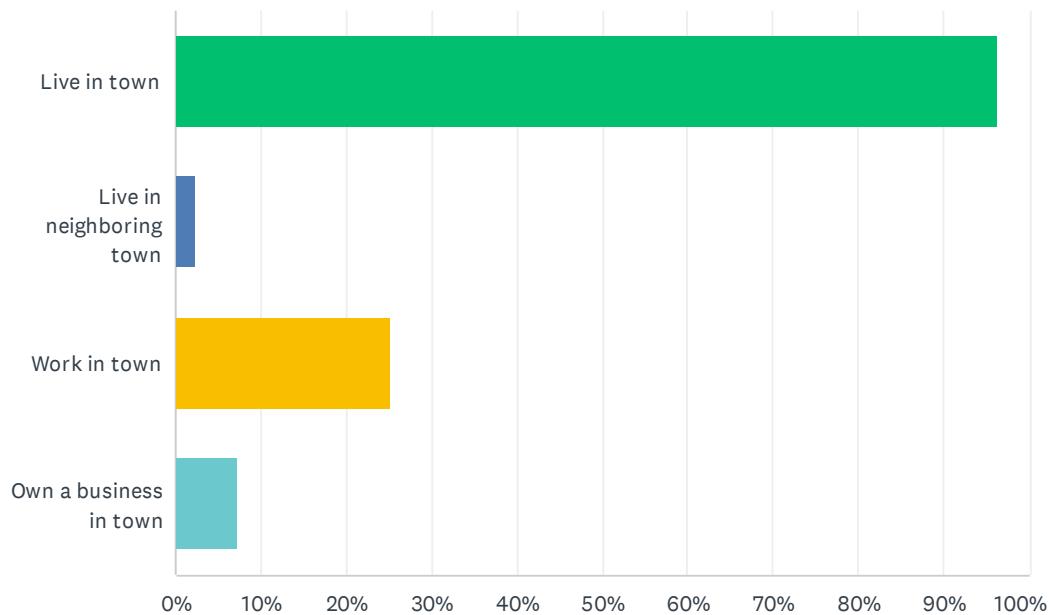
Salem, NH Open Space and Recreation Master Plan Community Survey

project could: 1.Unite people. 2 Give new hope & encouragement. 3. Help the world solve the challenge of playing sports & activities now and during future pandemics. It can be done.

9	None of the above. It's not the town's obligation to provide recreational facilities.	4/11/2025 5:18 PM
10	Stop leagues from telling the tax payers that they cant use the fields in town when the leagues arent using the fields. You have certain individuals bullying other travel programs from existing, and even telling kids if they dont associate with them they will never play on competitive sports teams at the high school. Fix this. Allow kids to go out and have space to play sports that arent always part of a league, or if they just want to go out and practice with friends and family.	4/11/2025 11:44 AM
11	Better program venue at Ingram Senior center	3/30/2025 8:06 AM
12	Teen 12-17 year round places to recreate	3/29/2025 9:00 AM
13	Competing at away games	3/29/2025 2:07 AM
14	Safe walking trails and sidewalks	3/28/2025 11:51 AM
15	Sports or recreation areas for everyone else meaning the only people getting g anything have always been baseball basketball soccer ect....although sports are as big or bigger now get with it	3/27/2025 7:50 PM
16	Improving Linwood playground	3/27/2025 4:55 PM
17	Functional, clean, maintained bathrooms or port a pots and small picnic pavilion at Hedgehog Park. School playgrounds and baseball can be neighborhood playgrounds and fields. Rail trail and town forest are great resources! Millville is nice specifically because it's underdeveloped and quiet, took 10 years to find it, changing room or bathroom there would be convenient, but not having that means it's not crowded..	3/27/2025 4:42 PM
18	Public swimming pool	3/27/2025 3:03 PM
19	Bigger walking loops away from the road. FOD is too small.	3/27/2025 10:39 AM
20	Boat ramp	3/27/2025 10:26 AM
21	Linwood park restoration and trails for the wetland area	3/27/2025 9:54 AM
22	Clean up Millville beach and make only access for people who live on lake	3/27/2025 9:50 AM
23	Hire new recreation dept instructors. The ones you have now for tennis are horrendous	3/27/2025 3:37 AM
24	Town Football Field	3/26/2025 9:41 PM
25	We need a large multi-purpose indoor/outdoor facility so town teams can be active in all seasons and the town can generate revenue from non-town programs wanting to use the facilities. Example: Tyngsboro Sports Center	3/26/2025 8:05 PM
26	Stop spending money	3/26/2025 7:22 PM
27	The rail trail can really use a restroom. Also, if Hedgehog can complete it's plan my needs will be served.	3/14/2025 4:04 PM
28	Something for trash in areas	3/14/2025 2:52 PM
29	plow rail trail in winter	3/14/2025 2:44 PM
30	Indoor rec center	3/14/2025 2:44 PM
31	Finish the rail trail to the Mass border please !	3/14/2025 2:41 PM

Q14 Do you live/work/or own a business in town? Check all that apply.

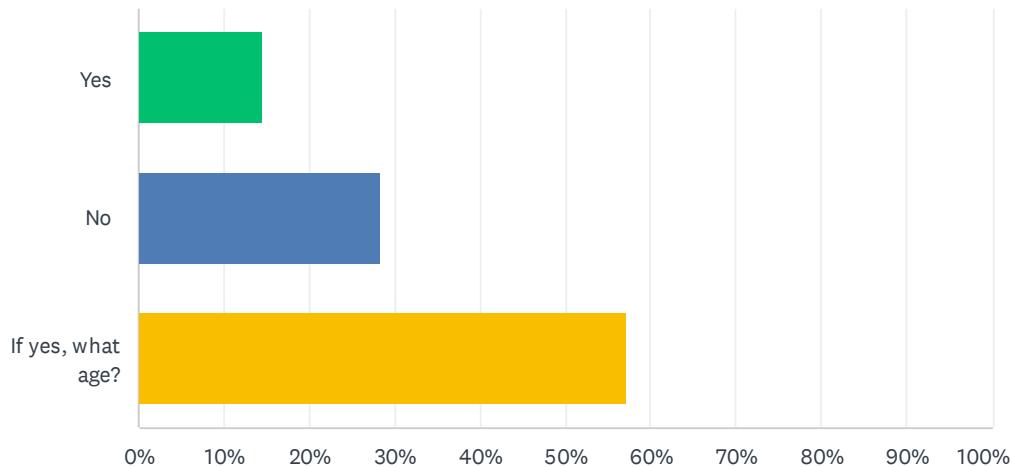
Answered: 219 Skipped: 32



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Live in town	96.35%	211
Live in neighboring town	2.28%	5
Work in town	25.11%	55
Own a business in town	7.31%	16
Total Respondents: 219		

Q15 Do you have children?

Answered: 222 Skipped: 29



ANSWER CHOICES		RESPONSES	
Yes		14.41%	32
No		28.38%	63
If yes, what age?		57.21%	127
TOTAL			222

#	IF YES, WHAT AGE?	DATE
1	20	5/14/2025 1:10 PM
2	5	5/14/2025 8:11 AM
3	21	5/7/2025 11:25 AM
4	35,33,31	5/3/2025 8:34 AM
5	32	4/28/2025 7:18 AM
6	13, 10	4/24/2025 1:22 PM
7	Adults	4/24/2025 9:50 AM
8	Adults	4/23/2025 12:54 PM
9	10 month old and another on the way	4/21/2025 2:13 PM
10	Adults who no longer live in Salem	4/15/2025 4:51 PM
11	1	4/12/2025 8:44 AM
12	45	4/11/2025 5:18 PM
13	11	4/11/2025 11:44 AM
14	17, 14	4/11/2025 11:37 AM
15	22, 20	4/7/2025 9:46 AM

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16	12	4/5/2025 9:49 AM
17	32, 34	4/2/2025 9:24 AM
18	9 (twins)	3/30/2025 5:30 PM
19	20's	3/30/2025 5:19 PM
20	9	3/30/2025 5:12 PM
21	Under 1	3/30/2025 10:20 AM
22	Newborn	3/30/2025 9:35 AM
23	17, 16, 13	3/30/2025 6:21 AM
24	15,19,23	3/28/2025 5:45 PM
25	13	3/28/2025 4:47 PM
26	41 39 32se	3/28/2025 3:15 PM
27	2, 4	3/28/2025 10:50 AM
28	3 and 5	3/28/2025 9:27 AM
29	4, 25	3/28/2025 8:19 AM
30	9,5,2	3/28/2025 12:08 AM
31	9 & 5	3/27/2025 11:14 PM
32	2	3/27/2025 11:13 PM
33	12,9,4,3	3/27/2025 10:25 PM
34	31, 34	3/27/2025 9:06 PM
35	5	3/27/2025 8:58 PM
36	5	3/27/2025 8:54 PM
37	14 15	3/27/2025 7:53 PM
38	17,15,14,12	3/27/2025 7:06 PM
39	7	3/27/2025 6:46 PM
40	11 14	3/27/2025 5:32 PM
41	15	3/27/2025 4:56 PM
42	12,13,20	3/27/2025 4:14 PM
43	11,14	3/27/2025 3:05 PM
44	10 and 12 years old	3/27/2025 2:42 PM
45	3 and 5	3/27/2025 2:40 PM
46	Over 18	3/27/2025 12:52 PM
47	11	3/27/2025 12:33 PM
48	13,13,12	3/27/2025 12:24 PM
49	5	3/27/2025 11:35 AM
50	3	3/27/2025 11:11 AM
51	10 and 6	3/27/2025 9:50 AM
52	7, 4	3/27/2025 9:16 AM
53	14, 10	3/27/2025 9:10 AM

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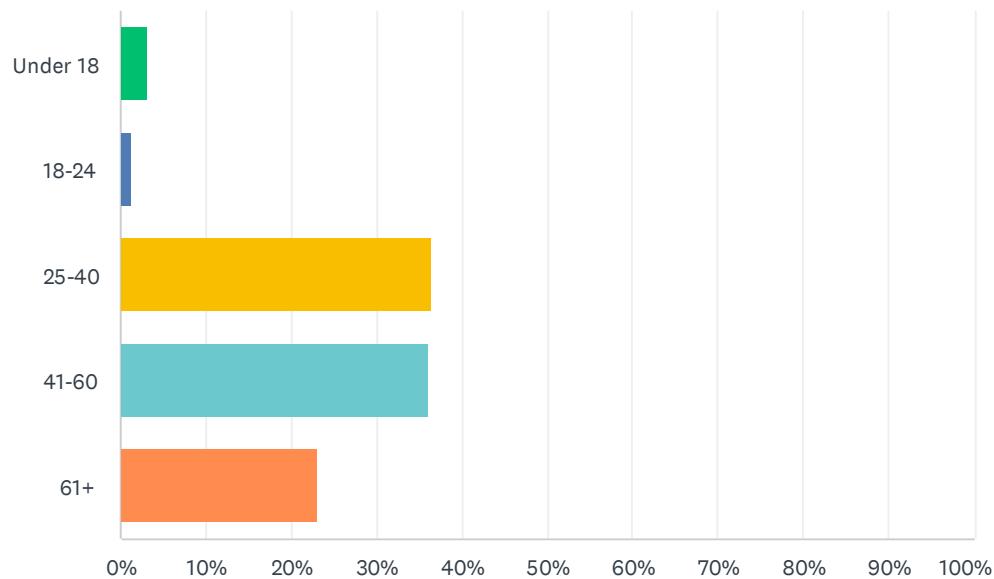
54	3 and 9	3/27/2025 8:45 AM
55	5 and 6	3/27/2025 8:32 AM
56	Adults	3/27/2025 8:28 AM
57	31 33	3/27/2025 8:18 AM
58	8, and almost 2	3/27/2025 8:16 AM
59	2 year old and 6 month old	3/27/2025 8:14 AM
60	Adults	3/27/2025 8:05 AM
61	3yr and 1yr	3/27/2025 8:01 AM
62	1	3/27/2025 7:52 AM
63	4, 2, and one on the way	3/27/2025 7:35 AM
64	4,6	3/27/2025 6:56 AM
65	3,6	3/27/2025 6:29 AM
66	7,2	3/27/2025 6:11 AM
67	6 and 4	3/27/2025 5:40 AM
68	6	3/27/2025 4:09 AM
69	16	3/27/2025 3:21 AM
70	24,27	3/27/2025 3:12 AM
71	2	3/27/2025 1:49 AM
72	7, q4	3/27/2025 12:23 AM
73	7,8,11,21	3/26/2025 11:47 PM
74	2, 5, 7	3/26/2025 10:42 PM
75	2	3/26/2025 10:41 PM
76	Newborn	3/26/2025 10:31 PM
77	8,5	3/26/2025 10:26 PM
78	7	3/26/2025 10:19 PM
79	3 and 5	3/26/2025 10:04 PM
80	7,4,1	3/26/2025 9:51 PM
81	7	3/26/2025 9:49 PM
82	2	3/26/2025 9:45 PM
83	4	3/26/2025 9:44 PM
84	5 and 7	3/26/2025 9:43 PM
85	1, 4, 7	3/26/2025 9:27 PM
86	2 & 4	3/26/2025 9:27 PM
87	3.5	3/26/2025 9:24 PM
88	3, 6	3/26/2025 9:23 PM
89	6,12	3/26/2025 9:21 PM
90	2 & 3	3/26/2025 9:13 PM
91	9 and 5	3/26/2025 9:11 PM

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92	7	3/26/2025 9:08 PM
93	10, 7	3/26/2025 9:03 PM
94	13,10,8	3/26/2025 9:02 PM
95	6	3/26/2025 8:57 PM
96	7,5,2	3/26/2025 8:55 PM
97	6, 8, 10	3/26/2025 8:05 PM
98	22, 28	3/26/2025 2:37 PM
99	Grown	3/26/2025 1:33 PM
100	7	3/26/2025 11:07 AM
101	13 and 11	3/26/2025 10:38 AM
102	6 9 12 13	3/26/2025 10:31 AM
103	Grandchildren	3/26/2025 10:12 AM
104	older than 18	3/26/2025 10:04 AM
105	34 and 31	3/25/2025 7:30 AM
106	3	3/19/2025 10:37 AM
107	4, 10	3/18/2025 1:11 PM
108	8, 13	3/17/2025 10:14 AM
109	Adult	3/16/2025 7:46 PM
110	13	3/16/2025 4:59 PM
111	35	3/16/2025 11:08 AM
112	12	3/16/2025 10:12 AM
113	3	3/16/2025 9:29 AM
114	13, 11	3/16/2025 9:25 AM
115	11, 7	3/16/2025 8:22 AM
116	12	3/16/2025 8:02 AM
117	39 and 40	3/15/2025 11:40 AM
118	4 and 8	3/15/2025 10:21 AM
119	Adukts	3/15/2025 7:45 AM
120	Adults	3/14/2025 5:07 PM
121	19, 14	3/14/2025 4:54 PM
122	7, 12, 16	3/14/2025 4:53 PM
123	They are adults	3/14/2025 4:19 PM
124	43 with grandchildren	3/14/2025 3:02 PM
125	8	3/14/2025 2:46 PM
126	grown up and live elsewhere	3/12/2025 3:14 PM
127	Over 18	3/11/2025 8:52 PM

Q16 Please select your age range

Answered: 222 Skipped: 29



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Under 18	3.15%	7
18-24	1.35%	3
25-40	36.49%	81
41-60	36.04%	80
61+	22.97%	51
TOTAL		222

Q17 Where do you go outside of Salem for recreation?

Answered: 176 Skipped: 75

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Hampton beach	5/15/2025 11:23 AM
2	Haverhill MA	5/15/2025 9:00 AM
3	Don Ball Park in Derry, Londonderry Town Commons and Forrest, Alexander Carr Park in Derry	5/14/2025 1:10 PM
4	Motocross tracks	5/14/2025 1:10 PM
5	Nashua's mine falls park, White mountain region for hikes, Andover for the AVIS hiking trails	5/14/2025 1:09 PM
6	Backyard or Field of Dreams	5/14/2025 8:11 AM
7	hiking trails in windham and haverhill ma	5/10/2025 8:25 PM
8	Other southern NH locations	5/9/2025 11:25 AM
9	Haverhill, more fishing opportunities there where you can park on the street right near a spot, like Hedgehog but more plentiful.	5/7/2025 11:25 AM
10	Windham and Pelham and derry	5/6/2025 8:59 PM
11	White Mountains, Green Mountains, Adirondacks, Baxter State Park.	5/4/2025 9:10 PM
12	after working 60+hours a week I barely have time to cut my grass, so I dont go outside of Salem. Everything I need is in this wonderful town of Salem	4/28/2025 7:18 AM
13	Atkinson, Amesbury, Newburyport	4/24/2025 1:26 PM
14	Windham/Plaistow/Kingston/Salisbury/Hampton/Pelham	4/24/2025 9:50 AM
15	Mountains/Coast	4/23/2025 12:54 PM
16	Rail Trail	4/21/2025 8:23 PM
17	Griffin park in windham	4/21/2025 2:27 PM
18	The beach and mountains	4/21/2025 2:13 PM
19	Plymouth, NH, Campton NH	4/19/2025 12:33 AM
20	Rail Trail, Tuscan Village walking paths	4/15/2025 4:51 PM
21	Musquash conservation in Londonderry, Deer Leap in Windham, Derry Dog Park, Windham town forest, Fosters pond in Windham	4/13/2025 6:31 PM
22	Manchester NH	4/12/2025 11:33 PM
23	Windham Ferry Londonderry	4/12/2025 8:44 AM
24	N/A	4/11/2025 5:18 PM
25	Anywhere that allows my kid to play ball on their field without getting bullied. So pretty much any surrounding town. Hampton, Portsmouth, Pelham, etc	4/11/2025 11:44 AM
26	Salem High School, Field of dream	4/11/2025 11:37 AM
27	Ipswich river wildlife sanctuary, plum Island	4/8/2025 2:37 PM
28	Amesbury, Atkinson, Windham	4/8/2025 10:02 AM
29	Harold Parker State Forest	4/7/2025 9:46 AM
30	Wyndham town Forest, Wyndham rail, trail, deer, leap in Wyndham, Hampstead town Forest,	4/2/2025 9:24 AM

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31	Big Island Pond, Newburyport	3/31/2025 10:51 AM
32	Windham	3/31/2025 8:48 AM
33	Florida	3/30/2025 8:52 PM
34	Pelham, Windham, hampton	3/30/2025 5:19 PM
35	My yard	3/30/2025 5:12 PM
36	Massachusetts parks or state parks	3/30/2025 12:33 PM
37	Haverhill, Methuen	3/30/2025 10:31 AM
38	Haverhill, Methuen	3/30/2025 10:30 AM
39	Field of Dreams, Rail Trail, Salem Town Forest.	3/30/2025 10:20 AM
40	Fish and boat on the many lakes, rail trail,	3/30/2025 9:35 AM
41	Lake masabesic walking trails	3/30/2025 8:06 AM
42	Windham, derry, hudson	3/30/2025 6:21 AM
43	Windham	3/29/2025 11:37 AM
44	Windham, Hudson	3/29/2025 10:04 AM
45	Basketball courts competing with other teams For special Olympics	3/29/2025 2:07 AM
46	None	3/28/2025 5:45 PM
47	Beaches, towns that have pools that allow access to out of town residents	3/28/2025 4:47 PM
48	Millville lake	3/28/2025 3:44 PM
49	seabrook	3/28/2025 3:15 PM
50	Haverhill, Nashua, Jamaica plain, Boston, Everett, west roxbury	3/28/2025 11:51 AM
51	Haverhill, Amesbury MA, Hampton/Salisbury, Deerfield	3/28/2025 10:50 AM
52	HS track and field, field of dreams, rail trail, michelle park	3/28/2025 9:27 AM
53	We don't we go to other towns. Like windham	3/28/2025 8:58 AM
54	Windham	3/28/2025 7:38 AM
55	Pelham, Atkinson trail networks, Belknap, Ossipee and White Mountains	3/28/2025 7:10 AM
56	Woodlock park, Atkinson town forest	3/28/2025 12:08 AM
57	Town Forest, hedgehog park	3/27/2025 11:14 PM
58	Windham - Derry	3/27/2025 11:13 PM
59	Griffin Park, Windham	3/27/2025 10:25 PM
60	Home	3/27/2025 9:06 PM
61	State parks	3/27/2025 9:06 PM
62	Windham Griffin Park	3/27/2025 8:54 PM
63	Mountains Maine Vermont	3/27/2025 7:53 PM
64	North nh, atv trails, Massachusetts- amesbury, newburyport, danvers	3/27/2025 7:06 PM
65	Derry, Windham, Amesbury	3/27/2025 6:46 PM
66	Winnipesaukee	3/27/2025 6:25 PM
67	Conservation forests, town forests, State Parks with trails and lakes, ocean. Derry dog park. Benson Park. Windham and Atkinson parks.	3/27/2025 5:32 PM
68	Ward reservation	3/27/2025 4:56 PM

Salem, NH Open Space and Recreation Master Plan Community Survey

69	Derry, windham	3/27/2025 4:14 PM
70	Atkinson	3/27/2025 4:08 PM
71	Beach and pools	3/27/2025 3:05 PM
72	Windham	3/27/2025 2:59 PM
73	Rail trail	3/27/2025 2:55 PM
74	My yard, Tuscan Village	3/27/2025 2:50 PM
75	Derry, Windham, Methuen, Pelham	3/27/2025 2:42 PM
76	Hampton and Salisbury Beach, Wallis sands	3/27/2025 2:40 PM
77	Merrimack River Walk, Lowell Ma Boston Common Lynn River Walk, Ma	3/27/2025 12:52 PM
78	Windham (Griffin Park)	3/27/2025 12:51 PM
79	My yard	3/27/2025 12:33 PM
80	Derry sports zone, hookset indoor facility,	3/27/2025 12:24 PM
81	Windham or Amesbury or Derry	3/27/2025 11:35 AM
82	Windham, Amesbury, Hudson (Bensons), Wakefield.	3/27/2025 10:45 AM
83	Lakes ,ponds ,boating	3/27/2025 10:26 AM
84	Lowell	3/27/2025 10:05 AM
85	White mountains, Boston/canbridge	3/27/2025 9:54 AM
86	Windham - need outdoor basketball courts, like they have.	3/27/2025 9:54 AM
87	Don Ball Park	3/27/2025 9:16 AM
88	Bension Park, Deer Leap trail Windham, Hamstead town forest, Foster Pond Windham, veterans memorial park dracut, Salisbury & Hampton beaches, state parks (Bear Brook and Pawtuckaway),	3/27/2025 9:10 AM
89	Windham	3/27/2025 8:53 AM
90	Gym	3/27/2025 8:45 AM
91	Field of dreams, Michelle park. Rail trail, town forest	3/27/2025 8:38 AM
92	Millville and rail trail, field of dreams	3/27/2025 8:36 AM
93	Atkinson Plaistow Hampstead trails	3/27/2025 8:28 AM
94	Field of dreams rail trail	3/27/2025 8:18 AM
95	Windham, londonderry, derry	3/27/2025 8:16 AM
96	Windham, Haverhill, Hudson	3/27/2025 8:14 AM
97	Griffin Park, Windham Don Ball Park (Splashpad), Derry	3/27/2025 8:05 AM
98	Walk. Mall swimming bingo	3/27/2025 8:05 AM
99	Windham	3/27/2025 8:01 AM
100	Derry NH, Haverhill, Andover, Billerica	3/27/2025 7:52 AM
101	Windham- we love Griffin Park Derry- for the splash pad at Don Ball Park	3/27/2025 7:35 AM
102	Drummond Park, Don Ball, Benson Park	3/27/2025 6:56 AM
103	Windham, atkinson, plaistow	3/27/2025 6:29 AM
104	Derry park	3/27/2025 5:40 AM
105	Windham Griffin park	3/27/2025 4:09 AM

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106	Boston	3/27/2025 3:37 AM
107	Town Forrest, field of dreams. I also walk	3/27/2025 3:21 AM
108	Beaches, camping in ME	3/27/2025 3:12 AM
109	Windham, Derry, Stoneham	3/27/2025 1:49 AM
110	Depends	3/27/2025 12:23 AM
111	Derry, Londonderry, Windham	3/26/2025 11:12 PM
112	Windham, Derry, Tewksbury, everywhere else	3/26/2025 10:42 PM
113	Griffin Park, Derry dog park	3/26/2025 10:41 PM
114	Derry	3/26/2025 10:31 PM
115	School playgrounds	3/26/2025 10:26 PM
116	Massachusetts, Windham, Atkinson, Portsmouth	3/26/2025 10:19 PM
117	Windham griffin park, Derry don ball park	3/26/2025 10:04 PM
118	Windham rail trail, bensons park in Hudson and griffin park	3/26/2025 9:51 PM
119	Massachusetts, windham, Kingston	3/26/2025 9:49 PM
120	Griffin Park- Windham	3/26/2025 9:45 PM
121	Griffin park, Don ball park	3/26/2025 9:44 PM
122	Griffin park	3/26/2025 9:43 PM
123	Griffin Park, Don Ball Park, Hampton Beach, White Mountains, Vertical Dreams Rock Climbing gym, Camp Carpenter, Griswold Scout Reservation,	3/26/2025 9:41 PM
124	Derry splash pad, griffin park	3/26/2025 9:27 PM
125	Griffin Park in Windham	3/26/2025 9:24 PM
126	windham, wakefield	3/26/2025 9:23 PM
127	Griffin Park, Windham	3/26/2025 9:21 PM
128	Windham Griffin Park	3/26/2025 9:13 PM
129	Windham, Methuen, Derry	3/26/2025 9:11 PM
130	Windham	3/26/2025 9:08 PM
131	Windham, NH Londonderry, NH	3/26/2025 9:03 PM
132	Field of dreams and rail trail	3/26/2025 9:02 PM
133	Massachusetts (mostly beaches, plum island, etc), Atkinson and Hampstead for their parks/playgrounds, Derry/Dracut for splashpad	3/26/2025 8:57 PM
134	Griffin park widham Splash pad in Derry	3/26/2025 8:55 PM
135	Mainly local sports fields	3/26/2025 8:05 PM
136	beaches, mountains, boston	3/26/2025 2:37 PM
137	Walk at my work location and Hampton Beach/seacoast.	3/26/2025 1:33 PM
138	Windham or Pelham	3/26/2025 11:18 AM
139	...	3/26/2025 11:07 AM
140	Griffin Park in Windham	3/26/2025 10:38 AM
141	Windham Derry	3/26/2025 10:12 AM
142	Windham and Auburn	3/26/2025 10:04 AM

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143	Derry parks and Griffin park	3/19/2025 7:46 AM
144	Windham, Methuen, derry	3/18/2025 1:11 PM
145	windham park, manchester parks, rail trails	3/18/2025 10:08 AM
146	Rail Trail, Woodbury fields, N Salem elementary	3/17/2025 10:14 AM
147	Beaches	3/17/2025 3:46 AM
148	Ocean, mountains	3/16/2025 7:46 PM
149	Windham and Derry	3/16/2025 4:59 PM
150	White mountains	3/16/2025 11:08 AM
151	Outside town, typically beach or up north	3/16/2025 10:12 AM
152	State parks, Griffin Park	3/16/2025 9:25 AM
153	Maine!	3/16/2025 8:32 AM
154	Windham and Derry	3/16/2025 8:22 AM
155	Windham Griffon Park, Derry Don Ball Park, Newburyport, MA	3/16/2025 8:02 AM
156	trails and parks	3/15/2025 11:40 AM
157	Newburyport	3/15/2025 10:21 AM
158	Literally anywhere else	3/15/2025 9:06 AM
159	Mountains	3/15/2025 8:40 AM
160	Griffin Park in Windham. A perfect example to look at	3/15/2025 7:45 AM
161	Nh beaches. White mtns.	3/14/2025 5:07 PM
162	Boston	3/14/2025 4:54 PM
163	Benson Park in Hudson	3/14/2025 4:53 PM
164	Deers leap in Pelham or fosters pond in windham	3/14/2025 4:43 PM
165	The Beach	3/14/2025 4:19 PM
166	White Mountains. Seacoast	3/14/2025 3:44 PM
167	Surrounding towns for dog parks	3/14/2025 3:30 PM
168	Beach	3/14/2025 3:30 PM
169	Beach - lakes - mountains	3/14/2025 3:15 PM
170	Newburyport MA	3/14/2025 3:14 PM
171	Cederdale	3/14/2025 2:46 PM
172	bike anywhere in a 50 mile radius, go to aerial silks in Lawrence, hike in towns all over	3/14/2025 2:45 PM
173	Providence Rail Trail Cape Cod Rail Trial Windham Rail Trail	3/14/2025 2:42 PM
174	Newburyport, seacoast	3/13/2025 12:37 PM
175	hiking trails in many places	3/12/2025 3:14 PM
176	Mountains or beach	3/11/2025 8:52 PM

Q18 Where do you think additional parks and recreation facilities are needed in town, if any?

Answered: 119 Skipped: 132

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	None	5/15/2025 11:23 AM
2	I'm not sure	5/15/2025 9:00 AM
3	Would be nice if more smaller parks were scattered through residential neighborhoods	5/14/2025 1:10 PM
4	The tuscan village area. There should be pickleball and basketball courts or something similar especially on the vacant land surrounding the depot village area.	5/14/2025 1:09 PM
5	Splash Pad	5/14/2025 8:11 AM
6	we need a big open, large playground, or multiple, small neighborhood ones. Parents with children under 5 only have the Field of dreams which already needs updates.	5/10/2025 8:25 PM
7	Within walking distance of the most densely populated areas and connecting neighborhoods through wooded areas.	5/4/2025 9:10 PM
8	none, I drive by these pocket parks all the time and never see anyone at them except for feild of dreams hedghog park and Michelle park and a guy sleeping in his truck at Valentine park	4/28/2025 7:18 AM
9	All, especially North	4/24/2025 9:50 AM
10	Millville recreation area needs to have new tree growth along beach area removed. It used to be much wider and the town needs to add beach sand ASAP. Tree roots have been exposed from erosion, creating dangerous tripping hazards	4/21/2025 4:06 PM
11	I think Michelle park off Lawrence Road by Mary Queen of peace Church should have basketball court. I know my teenager would likely walk down there and meet his friends instead of playing in my driveway.	4/21/2025 2:27 PM
12	Linwood ave needs park updated!	4/21/2025 2:13 PM
13	Millville lake beach access is is desperate need of repair. Tree's that line the beach access are over-grown and need to be removed. The beach used to be wider but smaller trees have taken over and limited access to the beachfront. The town also needs to add sand to cover the exposed tree roots along the beach.	4/21/2025 1:30 PM
14	I'd be happy with any improvement, maybe near north Salem?	4/19/2025 12:33 AM
15	No Opinion	4/15/2025 4:51 PM
16	Add a dog park	4/13/2025 6:31 PM
17	South Salem	4/12/2025 11:33 PM
18	North Salem	4/12/2025 8:44 AM
19	None are needed	4/11/2025 5:18 PM
20	North Salem	4/11/2025 11:44 AM
21	North Salem	4/11/2025 11:37 AM
22	hard to say	4/8/2025 2:37 PM
23	Near schools	3/31/2025 8:48 AM
24	Baron school for a field (soccer, lacrosse,etc)	3/30/2025 5:19 PM
25	Not sure	3/30/2025 5:12 PM

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26	More parks are needed that are not at schools, as well as track and field parks that are also not at a school. If you don't have kids, it's weird going to a school to run track	3/30/2025 12:33 PM
27	Tear down bathhouse on Millville circle and clean it up maybe put some picnic tables and make some walking trails behind the bathhouse	3/30/2025 10:31 AM
28	Millville Lake Beach Area for Salem Residents only and tear down old bathhouse and make dog park and walking and bike paths behind old bath house	3/30/2025 10:30 AM
29	I think a skate park would be an amazing thing to have. The hedgehog location was perfect, not sure why the decision was made to remove it.	3/30/2025 9:35 AM
30	Senior center / field of dreams	3/30/2025 8:06 AM
31	A park like griffin park or don ball park or bensons	3/30/2025 6:21 AM
32	It would be helpful to have info on current location so and resources located at them.	3/29/2025 10:04 AM
33	New team Jogging suits and team jerseys	3/29/2025 2:07 AM
34	Tuscan	3/28/2025 5:45 PM
35	all over	3/28/2025 3:15 PM
36	I would love to see pickleball courts and walking areas near millville section, or other areas outside of Tuscan village	3/28/2025 11:51 AM
37	North Salem	3/28/2025 10:50 AM
38	Link open space .	3/28/2025 7:10 AM
39	Lakes , larger public beach /water access for kayak	3/28/2025 12:08 AM
40	NO	3/27/2025 9:06 PM
41	The hills along the rear of the dump should be designated to ride downhill sports bikes boards karts ect. It's dead space why not use it because we needed it	3/27/2025 7:53 PM
42	Boat ramp	3/27/2025 6:25 PM
43	Maintenance of bathrooms near beaches. Storm shelter/ picnic pavilions at open fields. Skate park. Fenced in dog park at least the size of Derry's (about a baseball field size, roughly), no sharp rocks like Benson's. Artistic climbing structure or a slide built into a hillside in Tuscan for kids of Instagram generations. Pocket playgrounds and parks a safe walking distance near apartments and other dense housing. Sidewalk and crosswalks on School St connecting Haigh and Lancaster schools, plus sidewalk that turns the corner from Senior Center to Geremonty Court House, and along West side of Rt 28 to the Depot would create good walking loops of different distances with all the sidewalks from school Street and Millville to Main St Depot rail trail to veterans Park to Senior center to the police station. Main St north side sidewalk is barely stroller accessible with the telephone poles in the middle. Lawrence Rd and Lake St might not be safe enough for walking even with a sidewalk. Other main roads are narrow, windy and busy.	3/27/2025 5:32 PM
44	Linwood park needs updating	3/27/2025 4:56 PM
45	A splash pad would be nice for kids at one of the parks.	3/27/2025 4:08 PM
46	Millville Street area	3/27/2025 3:05 PM
47	The field next to Walmart is lacking a lot of maintenance and safety. Near the schools would be a safe area	3/27/2025 2:59 PM
48	Town garden would be nice	3/27/2025 2:55 PM
49	Not sure	3/27/2025 2:50 PM
50	More green space and play grounds accessible by sidewalks so bigger kids can get there by walking or riding bikes	3/27/2025 2:42 PM
51	Not necessarily need new parks but Update existing parks especially Michelle Park,	3/27/2025 12:52 PM
52	It would be nice to have a park similar to Griffin Park in Windham over near	3/27/2025 12:51 PM

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Tuscan/Rockingham mall. There is so much shopping/restaurants built there is nothing really for kids/teens. Would also love to have a public swimming area at Arlington pond that is for residents of Salem and not just residents of the neighborhood.

53	North Salem	3/27/2025 12:33 PM
54	North Salem	3/27/2025 12:24 PM
55	Hedgehog Park and Field of Dreams (esp FoD, it's a death trap for younger kids on those hot metal slides!)	3/27/2025 11:35 AM
56	Haven't scouted locations.	3/27/2025 10:45 AM
57	Boat launch	3/27/2025 10:26 AM
58	None	3/27/2025 10:05 AM
59	The Elenor street wetland area	3/27/2025 9:54 AM
60	Upgrade current parks	3/27/2025 9:16 AM
61	more acecss to the town's water - parking for Salem Residents at Arlington pond, additional beach space and parking for Salem residents at Millville. there is rarely any parking whenever I go, so much that I just do not bother, same with trying to fish in arlington - it is either hope one of the two spots along the road are available or park in front of the cemetary (is that allowed). What about turning 52 Theresa ave into a parking area for 20-25 cars, keeping the boat launch small (for non-motor boats, kayaks, canoes, etc.) and then having a trail from the parking area to 8 hunters run where there could be a big field with volleyball nets and badmitten nets, plus a pavilion, with tables and benches, with open field for play, maybe a little area for fishing or just a dock for sitting and enjoying the view (I believe there is no swiming but maybe a viewing dock that you can fish off too), the town could even sell parking permits for use (say \$10-20 for annual parking permit, with evidence of residency. Town would benefit from tickets for non-permitted parked vehicles. Emergency access via Hunters Road with locked gate, etc... plenty of options) or the 54 acres off Green Haven Road - that would be a beautiful place to put in parking, and some trails , maybe a small open field with seating along the trails.	3/27/2025 9:10 AM
62	Tuscan area	3/27/2025 8:53 AM
63	Large area with space for all age group children	3/27/2025 8:45 AM
64	Not sure	3/27/2025 8:38 AM
65	Millville, it is poorly maintained	3/27/2025 8:36 AM
66	Rail trail	3/27/2025 8:28 AM
67	By canobie area, playground at every field to keep our little ones busy	3/27/2025 8:16 AM
68	Possibly in tuscan village is space available, neighborhoods, central town/near rail trail	3/27/2025 8:14 AM
69	As we have most of the facilities in the center of town (Tuscan, Field of Dreams, Hedgehog) something for the people in North Salem would be a benefit.	3/27/2025 8:05 AM
70	Millville beach with bathrooms salem residence only	3/27/2025 8:05 AM
71	Would be nice to have a small one in each neighborhood, not just the school ones. We can't use those during school hours.	3/27/2025 6:56 AM
72	No	3/27/2025 5:40 AM
73	Na	3/27/2025 3:37 AM
74	Everywhere	3/27/2025 1:49 AM
75	Bathrooms would help a lot? Skate park	3/27/2025 12:23 AM
76	Improve what we have first	3/26/2025 11:12 PM
77	Not sure where they could go but they would be a HUGE asset to the town and their young folk. The playground at hedgehog park is honestly scary. A fix there maybe?	3/26/2025 10:42 PM
78	Old Christmas tree shop	3/26/2025 10:41 PM

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79	North Salem.	3/26/2025 10:26 PM
80	Residential areas, Salem Center, North Salem	3/26/2025 10:19 PM
81	Salem center	3/26/2025 9:49 PM
82	Tuscan Village	3/26/2025 9:45 PM
83	Tuscan, Millville lake	3/26/2025 9:44 PM
84	Small neighborhood playgrounds are needed throughout the town. A town owned football field and multi-sport field complex is needed anywhere it will fit, basketball courts and passive recreation would be great near the Salem Rail Trail.	3/26/2025 9:41 PM
85	Need more field, play ground, Restroom	3/26/2025 9:21 PM
86	Salem is in need of a football field/area for the town's youth football program. Sadly after millions spent on a HS field, our Salem Youth program has to borrow the space from surrounding towns to play. The children here in Salem should be able to play here!	3/26/2025 9:03 PM
87	Bathrooms at field of dreams	3/26/2025 9:02 PM
88	I think more functional playgrounds/rec spaces are needed, especially with the influx in town. Teens also need more resources	3/26/2025 8:57 PM
89	I would like to see a large recreation area like The griffin park in Windham	3/26/2025 8:48 PM
90	We have a large backyard with plenty to do so getting outside isn't something we need to travel for.	3/26/2025 8:05 PM
91	Millville Lake Public swimming for Salem Residents only	3/26/2025 7:31 PM
92	Develop the land at end of Veteran's Memorial Parkway/Lawrence Rd and Property off of Glen Denin Drive.	3/26/2025 1:33 PM
93	Pocket park off of Lawrence Road across from Veterans Memorial Parkway	3/26/2025 11:18 AM
94	Upgrade existing parks	3/26/2025 11:07 AM
95		3/26/2025 10:38 AM
96	All over town.	3/26/2025 10:09 AM
97	Michelle Park expansion Millville Water and land area	3/25/2025 7:30 AM
98	Tuscan or near center of town	3/19/2025 7:46 AM
99	We have enough parks & recreation.	3/18/2025 10:41 PM
100	everywhere possible - millville, hedgehog, pocket parks, wastewater treatment plant	3/18/2025 10:08 AM
101	Somewhere near the field of dreams. Something similar to Griffin Park in Windham would be great	3/17/2025 10:14 AM
102	Would like to see a park developed next to Chamber office	3/16/2025 7:46 PM
103	Millville town owned property	3/16/2025 5:56 PM
104	We need more sports complex areas	3/16/2025 10:12 AM
105	Small micro parks around neighborhoods near the historical district of Salem NH	3/16/2025 9:29 AM
106	perhaps somethings also inside of vacate building with outdoor space connected. multi-purpose for all ages?	3/15/2025 11:40 AM
107	Tuscan Village needs a centrally located park.	3/15/2025 10:21 AM
108	South side, and around the lakes	3/15/2025 9:06 AM
109	Save the land for Westside Fire Station.....very important. Not much land left on westside!	3/15/2025 8:40 AM
110	A central location for people to use, Suggestion, expand the open recreation use at the Town Forest.	3/15/2025 7:45 AM

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111	N/a	3/14/2025 4:53 PM
112	Pocket park off of Lawrence road across from veterans memorial	3/14/2025 4:43 PM
113	The plan for Hedgehog Park is awesome, that should resolve many issues for recreation of all ages. I think we have several other parks. The ones I utilize are always available. There may be a problem for baseball and football leagues for younger kids but I am not of that demographic.	3/14/2025 4:19 PM
114	We need a dog park in town!!	3/14/2025 3:30 PM
115	Millville Circle	3/14/2025 3:14 PM
116	Non update the ones already in town	3/14/2025 3:02 PM
117	We just need a indoor space to give kids access to sports etc during the winter months	3/14/2025 2:46 PM
118	Should be connections to areas off the rail trail	3/13/2025 12:37 PM
119	To enhance the area for residents	3/11/2025 8:52 PM

Q19 In your own words, please provide additional thoughts, comments, recommendations, or further explanations about the Town's recreation and open space network.

Answered: 107 Skipped: 144

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Keep NON RESIDENTS OUT!!	5/15/2025 11:23 AM
2	Since we don't have a walkable town, I think more space to be/play/relax outdoors would be amazing.	5/15/2025 9:00 AM
3	Other than Hedgehog Park, there is a scarcity of places to swim. Millville has no lifeguards, and the bath house closed in the eighties. Arlington Pond has private association beaches.	5/14/2025 1:10 PM
4	The town could use better maps for its existing hiking trails as well as more pickleball/tennis or other active rec courts. Fitness stations along the bike ped corridor would also be cool. The town has come a long way over the last several years with regards to recreation- keep up the great work!!	5/14/2025 1:09 PM
5	I travel to Derry or other communities to use their splash pad with my grandson. I think Salems youth would love to have a splash pad!	5/14/2025 8:11 AM
6	thank you for installing the pickleball courts at Michelle Park!	5/10/2025 8:25 PM
7	Our rec options are almost no. Existent	5/6/2025 8:59 PM
8	Suggest adding low-impact walking paths or boardwalks through open spaces/woodlands/along wetland perimeters to provide more local nature paths rather than needing to drive to the town forest to provide more localized outdoor recreation, and preventing the need for concentrated parking at specific trailheads like the town forest.	5/4/2025 9:10 PM
9	More facilities needed for youth sports	5/3/2025 8:34 AM
10	save the tax payers money and hire more police officers and equipment	4/28/2025 7:18 AM
11	We worked tirelessly and fruitfully for a dog park but could not get approval on ANY area - very frustrating. And Hedgehog is a disgrace. Thx	4/24/2025 9:50 AM
12	I would really like to see a dog park here in Salem.	4/21/2025 8:23 PM
13	Millville lake access for swimming and kayaking - the town beach is terrible condition. Arlington Lake should have public access. There should be more public water access as most of it is private due to associations	4/21/2025 1:53 PM
14	PLEASE make Millville lake more accessible before this summer begins!	4/21/2025 1:30 PM
15	I think it would be nice for the town to have skate park, but I don't think it's a number one priority.	4/19/2025 12:33 AM
16	Dog park	4/13/2025 6:31 PM
17	Create a project for ideas to create new sports and activities that can be played almost anywhere, inside and outside by almost everyone, including those with a disability. Send an email to WORLDBASENEWSPORT@YAHOO.COM for pictures and detailed information.	4/13/2025 4:37 PM
18	The town should leave recreation to private parties.	4/11/2025 5:18 PM
19	You have the baseball league bullying those who want to go out and practice on the fields and telling them they'll call the cops on them if they use the cages or fields after hours. We now go to other towns because of the bullying. Get your baseball program in check.	4/11/2025 11:44 AM
20	the loss of biodiversity in Salem due to development and now getting permission to build closer to and on wetlands should be stopped	4/8/2025 2:37 PM

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21	shouldnt have pay a fee to use hedgehog park, live down the road	4/3/2025 4:42 PM
22	The town beach on Millville Lake is a disgrace. People use it all the time which is great however they leave trash behind and it's left for the residence in the neighborhood to clean it up. If the town is gonna have a piece of property that's open to the public,they need to do a better job of maintaining and keeping the place clean.I noticed recently that there's Town conservation land up on Zion Hill Road, however, there does not appear to be any parking or access to the area. Other areas in town just need to be maintained better trash picked up equipment needs to be repaired and replaced.	4/2/2025 9:24 AM
23	We need more sidewalks and ways to bike around town. too many cars around depot makes it VERY unsafe to walk anywhere	3/30/2025 12:33 PM
24	Update and Maintain Millville Lake Beach area. Tear down old bathhouse and make walking and bike trails behind bathhouse area. Ensure it is monitored for Salem Residents only.	3/30/2025 10:30 AM
25	A dog park is needed. The town is lacking in walkways, sidewalks, and safe places to be outside due to route 28 and other roads not being easily accessible to people. Having a safe path to walk with children would be nice as well as additional smaller playgrounds, because field of dreams can get very busy.	3/30/2025 10:20 AM
26	Safe walking paths and sidewalks improved	3/30/2025 8:06 AM
27	Too much focus on senior citizens not enough on families	3/30/2025 6:21 AM
28	Stop letting developers build giant expensive apartments. Force affordable housing!	3/29/2025 11:37 AM
29	Town Beach at Millville is a disgrace. Town won't even pick up the trash!	3/29/2025 10:04 AM
30	We need to communicate with other team coaches and to have more Team meetings in our Network	3/29/2025 2:07 AM
31	not enough	3/28/2025 3:15 PM
32	I would absolutely love to have more adult recreation options. I'm not aware of any women's sports leagues for adults.	3/28/2025 11:51 AM
33	As a parent, clean restrooms, source of shade, and maintained structures are important for playgrounds. I think the number of playgrounds is ok (tho could use one closer to me!) but they aren't that well maintained. My family loves getting out to parks and green spaces so never too many in our book.	3/28/2025 10:50 AM
34	More activity for adults would be amazing!	3/28/2025 7:38 AM
35	Play areas for children should be in areas where yards are small. The town Forest is about the only unpaved area where a person can walk , we need a much larger network of open space.	3/28/2025 7:10 AM
36	I would love a place to be able to go Stand Up Paddle boarding. Field of dreams is awesome and super nostalgic- my home town had the same set up. But I'm 40 so that's also saying something lol - it could use a glow up for sure.	3/27/2025 11:14 PM
37	Salem needs a multipurpose park, with courts, a playground, bathroom facilities, and splash pad. This town is growing and thriving with a lot of families!	3/27/2025 10:25 PM
38	We need something more like Griffith Park with playgrounds and sensory play and open space for recreational Activities	3/27/2025 8:54 PM
39	Using dead spaces for alternative and usually ignored sports areas should be the 1st thing done it's free and will make biggest impact.	3/27/2025 7:53 PM
40	Hedgehog park is sketchy and over crowded, field of dreams needs more parking, I have seen some sketchy fold at the town park and don't feel safe walking with my children there. Rail trail north end by windham is nice, limited parking on the south end. More open and safe outdoor areas for picnics would be nice.	3/27/2025 7:06 PM
41	Great work removing the knotweed from the rail trail! I live 1/8 of a mile from the rail trail but walking to it on Taylor or Dyer and crossing the road is so scary. Not enough sidewalks to get there, convenient/not crowded parking to drive there. The field of dreams is great! But on nice days, sometimes I can't park. I wish I could walk to a place to ride my bike or play with the kids. And if I can't walk, I have to be able to park	3/27/2025 6:46 PM

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42	Need to focus more on maintaining current assets instead of generating more facilities.	3/27/2025 6:25 PM
43	Love our open sports fields, forest, rail trail and wild green spaces! We have a nice mix of recreation opportunities for those who look. Please keep as many of the trees as possible, development has been going so fast, the remaining forests need to be kept as forests. School outdoor space should be part of the overall plan, but primarily for the children and community, including their out of school activities. Teams, rec department, PTA events, adult recreation opportunities, scouts, and community meeting space.	3/27/2025 5:32 PM
44	Thank you for caring about this important topic!	3/27/2025 4:56 PM
45	It seems like funds are always used for adult use. There are so many young children here in Salem that need a safe place to play. Something for the teens would be nice too to keep them out of trouble. People complain about teens hanging around well that's because there isn't much for them to do. Maybe a skate park, more basketball courts, field for football/soccer/lacrosse might keep them occupied. My sons love to fish so maybe someplace easier to access with parking for parents where they can fish might be nice. Hedge Hog parking lot is closed a lot of the time so I can't bring them there because I can't park. It is time to think of the families with kids in this town and not just the older folks	3/27/2025 4:14 PM
46	We have no open space...	3/27/2025 4:08 PM
47	Public pool and fix and maintain Millville Beach swimming area	3/27/2025 3:05 PM
48	Keep them available only to Salem residents	3/27/2025 2:50 PM
49	The school play grounds are the best place to bring kids to play. Field of Dreams is run down and not safe and not for bigger kids. Michele park is for very little kids.	3/27/2025 2:42 PM
50	I wasn't aware of many of the parks listed here. Maybe starting with sharing what spaces are available, what's there, when they're open, cost etc could help! I've lived in town for almost 10 years and am on town Facebook pages, and still wasn't aware of many parks listed here. Thank you!	3/27/2025 2:40 PM
51	Salem certainly has more income flowing in with Tuscan village so updating parks for baseball n other sports would help. Town school baseball fields need attention. Let's keep the kids safe and occupied. Hire someone local who knows what excites the kids,(not some current park's person) who's coached the kids to evaluate the parks to access what's needed	3/27/2025 12:52 PM
52	We need more indoor spaces for basketball courts. The schools do not have enough or allow kids enough space to play and or even practice. The baseball facilities at Michelle park are great and very well maintained by SYB.	3/27/2025 12:24 PM
53	Not enough innovation or attraction. Chelmsford has wonderful children's parks as well as Windham. Even Derry has a great Don Ball park that brings and generates lots of discussions.	3/27/2025 11:35 AM
54	Linwood park needs a little facelift	3/27/2025 11:11 AM
55	Maybe market what you have better and put hiking maps on the town website so people can get info before they go. It is difficult to find information now, I have recently tried. Thank you.	3/27/2025 10:45 AM
56	The town of Salem has no boat launch in any of the 5 lakes and ponds	3/27/2025 10:26 AM
57	Revamping Linwood Ave park would be great for the neighborhood so kids have a place to play that's not the street and adults have a place to walk that's not the street	3/27/2025 10:05 AM
58	I would strongly encourage the rehab of the Linwood park. There are many younger families and young people buying in this area that would benefit from the park being made safer and nicer.	3/27/2025 9:54 AM
59	We need more practice fields for our wreck LaCrosse and football teams	3/27/2025 9:34 AM
60	Upgrade current parks. Restrooms and new equipment are needed. The Linwood Park in ancient	3/27/2025 9:16 AM
61	I'd love to see more access to the ponds for residents - encourage kayaking, fishing and swimming. more places to sit and have lunch outside, pavilions and picnic tables. More parking and access to Worlds End for kayaking and fishing.. Maybe treat worlds end trail for ticks (it is horrible). I used to enjoy salem town forest but stopped when the houses were built	3/27/2025 9:10 AM

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right along the back path (wow i just looked it up, that was many years ago, guess I will have to give it another try, maybe the forest growth has separated the trail from the houses).

62	Not enough open green space land for conservation and wildlife	3/27/2025 9:10 AM
63	I do not think keeping wet lands enhances a community .	3/27/2025 8:53 AM
64	It would be great to have access to water for swimming, kayaking. Additionally a splash pad and dog park would encourage me and my family to stay in town rather than going to other towns for those items. More events like family day and movie night to use this parks and get the community together.	3/27/2025 8:38 AM
65	Keep Tuscan from dominating Salem. It has changed the feel of the community but not for the better. It's getting out of hand!	3/27/2025 8:28 AM
66	I hope there is something to do for my kids as I grew up in Salem and bought my parents house and they weren't must for us to do except for the mall n bowling but I would love to do more things outside that my kids can enjoy instead of them saying that they are bored right after we get there. N I would love a park at transfer station	3/27/2025 8:16 AM
67	I'd love to see the park at Linwood Ave better maintained and a playground added	3/27/2025 8:01 AM
68	Would LOVE a splash pad and/or enclosed playground for young kids. Thank you!!	3/27/2025 7:35 AM
69	Please please consider updating the park on Linwood ave! The bench is broken and it could use some updating. I would LOVE to see something added to this area. We have a great neighborhood and we love this space!	3/27/2025 5:40 AM
70	Please investigate who your recreational instructors are. They discourage people from wanting to join. Specifically Molly Radcliffe she is awful	3/27/2025 3:37 AM
71	It is necessary to rebuild a good skate park that so many in town have donated to - it's an Olympic sport & never should have fallen in disrepair but should have been replaced.	3/27/2025 3:12 AM
72	I think field of dreams should be upgraded from wood to metal and there needs for be more parking in that area. The closest dark park to Salem is in Derry.	3/26/2025 10:41 PM
73	This town has so much potential. I dislike having to leave town to engage in activities I enjoy. We need more neighborhood playgrounds, green areas for picnics and free/imaginative play for children, and better youth sports that are accessible and not privatized. Griffin park in Windham and Woodlock park in Atkinson are great examples. The youth of Salem need extracurricular options beyond hanging at the mall and strip malls.	3/26/2025 10:19 PM
74	Please consider a better park, one more open with fencing. Splash pad would be awesome.	3/26/2025 9:51 PM
75	There are not enough football fields or basketball courts to meet the needs of the youth in town. These should be the priority to take the burden off the schools. Also the youth need a community center similar to the Senior Center that is available to them and provides programming for kids and families. Too much of Salem's community/recreation efforts go only to seniors and it is unfair that they get a town sponsored rec center and the kids do not.	3/26/2025 9:41 PM
76	A splash pad would be amazing. Derry has amazing offerings through their rec department, could be helpful to research and model some offerings after them.	3/26/2025 9:27 PM
77	Wish list that we have playground with different fields and tennis courts, basketball courts. And have restroom with a lot of parking spaces.	3/26/2025 9:21 PM
78	It would be nice to have programming in one of the parks- yoga, volleyball, etc	3/26/2025 9:02 PM
79	We have issues with competing for space to play sports, especially with winter training. Local youth sport organizations are not prioritized, as they should be according to the Salem Recreation guidelines. If that were taken seriously and run as it should be there would be less push back from the town about needing more space. An indoor/outdoor multi-purpose facility would still be amazing for the town though. The town is growing and growing. Sport programs are growing just as fast and we are pinching each other out because of space issues. Then when the town youth sports need locations to practice in winter months they get booted out of the town facilities for non-youth and often non-town organizations. It's not right. The additional space being built would then also be able to be rented to those for profit organizations or non-youth recreation organizations and so on.	3/26/2025 8:05 PM

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80	Please Note, There is a plaque hidden in the over grown wooded part of Millville Beach that should be exposed Due to the respect of the deceased.	3/26/2025 7:31 PM
81	I love the idea of shared Salem open spaces, I think they will only add to the town's pro-community feeling	3/26/2025 2:37 PM
82	We need to expand our fields so we never have any town leagues going out of town to practice and have games. That is disgraceful.	3/26/2025 1:33 PM
83	Recreation activities should be dramatically increased. Existing park maintenance and improvements must be made.	3/26/2025 11:07 AM
84	Griffin park in Windham is great. If we had something like that it would be filled. No baseball fields needed at that facility. Michele park is amazing and the baseball board does an incredible job.	3/26/2025 10:38 AM
85	Since you've added basketball courts at Hedgehog, the park should be open year-round for parking. I think you are going to find that these courts will have very little usage.	3/26/2025 10:20 AM
86	Field of Dreams has never been a kid friendly park. It was terrible from day 1. Toddlers have a hard time getting on and off the equipment without help. The only good equipment is at the schools. More choices are needed at all the parks	3/26/2025 10:12 AM
87	List of the Town's available parks and open spaces.	3/25/2025 7:30 AM
88	Rail trail has been nice addition. Need some playgrounds and splash pads for kids. Would love to see better parking and more options at field of dreams even though that isn't the towns	3/19/2025 7:46 AM
89	I would like to ensure our forests & open spaces are protected	3/18/2025 10:41 PM
90	Out of everything listed here the most important feature is preserving land for plant and wildlife habitat. I truly hope to see more consideration for wildlife and allowing them to have habitats instead of continuing to push them out. Preserving land can be beneficial for educational purposes allowing community members to learn about local plants and wildlife. Having parks and open spaces allow people to get out of the house and off of technology- to connect with the environment and community around them.	3/18/2025 1:27 PM
91	Places that already exist need better upkeep of play structures.	3/18/2025 1:11 PM
92	MORE PARKS	3/18/2025 10:08 AM
93	I think somewhere that has fields/playground/water fountains and public restrooms would be great (similar to Griffin Park) so all ages can get use out of it. Also continuing paving the rail trail towards Tuscan would be great.	3/17/2025 10:14 AM
94	Thanks for asking!	3/16/2025 7:46 PM
95	More courts for tennis basketball, pickleball etc	3/16/2025 5:56 PM
96	Would love to develop outside and indoor space for athletic use. We have many parks on this survey I didn't even know existed, how can we update and use these facilities to facilitate youth sports in this area	3/16/2025 10:12 AM
97	We need better sports fields for the kids, particularly soccer. Ours are embarrassing compared to other towns. Would love to see a dog park, skate park, splash pad and BMX bike park. Also we have so many lakes in town and so very little public access to the water, especially Arlington Pond. Unfortunately Hedgehog gets a bad rep.	3/16/2025 9:25 AM
98	I commend the attempt to make improvements and develop new facilities / experiences as our town has experienced exponential growth	3/16/2025 8:32 AM
99	Pocket parks would be a great solution in Salem! Also continued investment in the rail trail as that's an already existing and excellent recreation option	3/15/2025 10:21 AM
100	We need more passive recreation space for people to gather.	3/15/2025 9:06 AM
101	A large open recreation area. Look at Griffin Park in Windham. Many from Salem go there for walking, Children's area, basketball, baseball, soccer and even fireworks could be done there.	3/15/2025 7:45 AM
102	Stop expanding, stop taking grant money, stop trying to expand. Fix what we have, replace what is broken, replace what you already took away (skate park) and leave the rest alone. You	3/14/2025 4:53 PM

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don't need a compacted hiking path around hedgehog pond. The dust and debris from the recycling center is not healthy to be breathing in as it is and always forms a layer of dust on the trees and the water/ice. Fix what you have and stop trying to limit people from using it.

103	Other than the amazing projects that the Friends of Recreation has managed to do with no taxpayers money, everything else costs money!! The Field of Dreams is in need of maintenance and that is going to cost money. Honestly, there is a lot of time that playground is not in use. Veteran's Park has 3 ceremonies a year, other than that, I don't see many people there either. The pocket park behind the Salem Museum down by the river is not that busy and I don't think Valentine Park is very busy either. I would think long and hard about the need for making another park.	3/14/2025 4:19 PM
104	The town needs to provide more information on our current parks. Location, facilities. etc. Also, the Recreation Committe seems to be mainly focused on Hedgehog park. More focus should be aimed at improving the Millville Lake town beach.	3/14/2025 3:14 PM
105	Town flyers on what is happening at all parks in town What if anything happening with the Bushway property? Is their a map of where the town parks are? Do we need to show resident stickers to park	3/14/2025 3:02 PM
106	could use more (any?) bike lanes	3/14/2025 2:45 PM
107	Finish the rail trail	3/14/2025 2:42 PM

Appendix C

Inventory Table

Observer Name:	JV / KD / JK	JV/KD/JK
Facility Name:	Hedgehog Park	Linwood Ave Park
Who/What department manages the property?	Community Services	Community Services Department
Is the layout of the site safe for users?	yes	no
Describe the safety issue		Outdated playground. Not easily accessible.
Is parking provided on site?	yes	no
What is the parking area condition?	2	0
How many parking spots are there?	60	0
Are there handicap spots?	yes	NA
How many handicap spots are there?	2	
What buildings are on-site?	Temporary shed at entrance	0
SiteADA	2	1
SiteSafety	3	1
Equipment	1	1
Lighting	1	1
SiteDrainage	3	2
OverallCondition	2	1
Inventory of features for the open space area:	BasketballCourt,Swimming,Walking_Hiking,Playground,PicnicArea,Benches_Seating,Trash,PassiveGreenSpace,PortableToilet	Playground,PicnicArea,Benches_Seating,PassiveGreenSpace
Number of Basketball Court(s)	2	0
Number of Tennis Court(s)	0	0
Number of Soccer Field(s)	0	0
Number of Volleyball Court(s)	0	0
Number of Pickleball Court(s)	0	0
Number of Swimming/Water Access Area(s)	1	0
Number of Baseball/Softball Field(s)	0	0
Number of Bike Trail(s)	0	0
Number of Walking/Hiking Trail(s)	1	0
Number of Playground(s)	1	1
Number of Picnic Area(s)	2	1
Number of Benches/Seating	1	2
Number of Trash Receptacle(s)	5	0
Number of Recycling Receptacle(s)	0	0
Number of Passive Green Space(s)	1	1
Number of Nature/Wildlife Preserve(s)	0	0
Number of Restroom(s)	0	0
Number of Portable Toilet(s)	2	0
Swimming Area Type	Beach	NA
Trail Surface Type	Dirt	NA
Additional Notes	Improvements planned for 2025, to include pavilion, five shaded picnic areas including ADA accessible picnic tables, trail revitalization. Two shuffle board courts available. Playground is substandard given the surface material.	All of the equipment is in need of an upgrade.

Observer Name:	JV/KD/JK	JV/KD/JK
Facility Name:	Morse Field	DiBenedetto Softball Field
Who/What department manages the property?	Salem School District, Salem Youth Soccer, Community Services Department	Community Services Department, Salem Youth Softball
Is the layout of the site safe for users?	yes	yes
Describe the safety issue		
Is parking provided on site?	yes	yes
What is the parking area condition?	3	2
How many parking spots are there?	71	35
Are there handicap spots?	yes	no
How many handicap spots are there?	4	
What buildings are on-site?	Irrigation shed	N/A
SiteADA	1	1
SiteSafety	3	2
Equipment	0	0
Lighting	0	0
SiteDrainage	3	3
OverallCondition	3	2
Inventory of features for the open space area:	SoccerField,Baseball_SoftballField,PortableToilet	Baseball_SoftballField,PicnicArea,Benches_Seating,PortableToilet
Number of Basketball Court(s)	0	0
Number of Tennis Court(s)	0	0
Number of Soccer Field(s)	1	0
Number of Volleyball Court(s)	0	0
Number of Pickleball Court(s)	0	0
Number of Swimming/Water Access Area(s)	0	0
Number of Baseball/Softball Field(s)	1	1
Number of Bike Trail(s)	0	0
Number of Walking/Hiking Trail(s)	0	0
Number of Playground(s)	0	0
Number of Picnic Area(s)	0	1
Number of Benches/Seating	0	2
Number of Trash Recepticle(s)	0	0
Number of Recycling Recepticle(s)	0	0
Number of Passive Green Space(s)	0	0
Number of Nature/Wildlife Preserve(s)	0	0
Number of Restroom(s)	0	0
Number of Portable Toilet(s)	2	1
Swimming Area Type	NA	NA
Trail Surface Type	NA	NA
Additional Notes	Owned in common by the Salem School District, State of NH. The Town of Salem maintains the irrigation system. In need of dugouts.	Picnic tables and benches in need of replacement. Parking lot needs designated spaces for both handicap and traditional spaces. The entire softball field needs to be renovated.

Observer Name:	JV/KD/JK	JV/KD/JK
Facility Name:	Palmer School Field	WalMart Field
Who/What department manages the property?	Community Services Department, Salem Youth Baseball	Community Services Department, Salem Youth Lacrosse
Is the layout of the site safe for users?	yes	yes
Describe the safety issue		
Is parking provided on site?	yes	yes
What is the parking area condition?	3	3
How many parking spots are there?	23	20
Are there handicap spots?	yes	no
How many handicap spots are there?	2	
What buildings are on-site?	Palmer School	N/A
SiteADA	1	0
SiteSafety	2	3
Equipment	0	0
Lighting	0	0
SiteDrainage	2	3
OverallCondition	2	3
Inventory of features for the open space area:	Baseball_SoftballField,Playground,PicnicArea,Restroom,PortableToilet	PortableToilet
Number of Basketball Court(s)	0	0
Number of Tennis Court(s)	0	0
Number of Soccer Field(s)	0	0
Number of Volleyball Court(s)	0	0
Number of Pickleball Court(s)	0	0
Number of Swimming/Water Access Area(s)	0	0
Number of Baseball/Softball Field(s)	1	0
Number of Bike Trail(s)	0	0
Number of Walking/Hiking Trail(s)	0	0
Number of Playground(s)	1	0
Number of Picnic Area(s)	2	0
Number of Benches/Seating	0	0
Number of Trash Receptacle(s)	0	0
Number of Recycling Receptacle(s)	0	0
Number of Passive Green Space(s)	0	0
Number of Nature/Wildlife Preserve(s)	0	0
Number of Restroom(s)	1	0
Number of Portable Toilet(s)	1	1
Swimming Area Type	NA	NA
Trail Surface Type	NA	NA
Additional Notes	The field needs a complete renovation. Dugouts and picnic tables need replacement. No fencing for the ball field. No ADA access to the ball field. Toilets in school are only open when building in use. Master Plan targets site for street improvements.	Practice field for lacrosse and flag football. Parking spaces are unmarked.

Observer Name:	JV/KD/JK	JV/KD/JK
Facility Name:	William Valentine Park	Veterans Memorial Park
Who/What department manages the property?	Conservation Commission	Salem Municipal Services
Is the layout of the site safe for users?	yes	yes
Describe the safety issue		
Is parking provided on site?	yes	yes
What is the parking area condition?	3	3
How many parking spots are there?	4	6
Are there handicap spots?	no	no
How many handicap spots are there?		
What buildings are on-site?	N/A	Gazebo, Hose House, 911 Memorial, Cemetery
SiteADA	0	0
SiteSafety	3	3
Equipment	0	0
Lighting	0	0
SiteDrainage	3	3
OverallCondition	3	3
Inventory of features for the open space area:	PicnicArea,PassiveGreenSpace	PassiveGreenSpace
Number of Basketball Court(s)	0	0
Number of Tennis Court(s)	0	0
Number of Soccer Field(s)	0	0
Number of Volleyball Court(s)	0	0
Number of Pickleball Court(s)	0	0
Number of Swimming/Water Access Area(s)	0	0
Number of Baseball/Softball Field(s)	0	0
Number of Bike Trail(s)	0	0
Number of Walking/Hiking Trail(s)	0	0
Number of Playground(s)	0	0
Number of Picnic Area(s)	1	0
Number of Benches/Seating	0	0
Number of Trash Receptacle(s)	0	0
Number of Recycling Receptacle(s)	0	0
Number of Passive Green Space(s)	1	1
Number of Nature/Wildlife Preserve(s)	0	0
Number of Restroom(s)	0	0
Number of Portable Toilet(s)	0	0
Swimming Area Type	NA	NA
Trail Surface Type	NA	NA
Additional Notes		Master Plan identifies parking improvements, lighting improvements, and expansion and connections of pathways to historic Town Hall building and parking area.

Observer Name:	KD/JK	KD/JK
Facility Name:	Senior Center	Field of Dreams
Who/What department manages the property?	Community Services Department	Private Non-Profit0 Field of Dreams
Is the layout of the site safe for users?	yes	yes
Describe the safety issue		
Is parking provided on site?	yes	yes
What is the parking area condition?	3	3
How many parking spots are there?	105	30
Are there handicap spots?	yes	yes
How many handicap spots are there?	31	2
What buildings are on-site?	Ingram Senior Center & 3 Sheds	News Stage/Pavilion & Storage Shed & Old Stage
SiteADA	3	2
SiteSafety	3	3
Equipment	0	2
Lighting	3	0
SiteDrainage	3	3
OverallCondition	3	3
Inventory of features for the open space area:	Trash,Restroom	Walking_Hiking,Playground,PicnicArea,Benches_Seating,Trash,PassiveGreenSpace,PortableToilet
Number of Basketball Court(s)	0	0
Number of Tennis Court(s)	0	0
Number of Soccer Field(s)	0	0
Number of Volleyball Court(s)	0	0
Number of Pickleball Court(s)	0	0
Number of Swimming/Water Access Area(s)	0	0
Number of Baseball/Softball Field(s)	0	0
Number of Bike Trail(s)	0	0
Number of Walking/Hiking Trail(s)	0	2
Number of Playground(s)	0	1
Number of Picnic Area(s)	1	1
Number of Benches/Seating	0	6
Number of Trash Recepticle(s)	1	6
Number of Recycling Recepticle(s)	0	0
Number of Passive Green Space(s)	0	1
Number of Nature/Wildlife Preserve(s)	0	0
Number of Restroom(s)	8	0
Number of Portable Toilet(s)	0	2
Swimming Area Type	NA	NA
Trail Surface Type	NA	Dirt
Additional Notes	Roofing issues causing icy entryway. Windows need replacement. HVAC needs replacement. Lack of storage space. Entrance ramp needs replacement. Electronic sign to be installed in 2025.	Old Stage needs to be removed. Starting to fundraise to replace the playground (painted this year). They continue to fundraise to make major improvements.

Observer Name:	KD/JK	KD/JK
Facility Name:	Michelle Memorial Park	Millville Rec Area
Who/What department manages the property?	Salem Youth Baseball & Salem Youth Soccer & Community Services Department	Community Services Department & Millville Lake Association
Is the layout of the site safe for users?	yes	no
Describe the safety issue		
Is parking provided on site?	yes	yes
What is the parking area condition?	3	1
How many parking spots are there?	171	
Are there handicap spots?	yes	no
How many handicap spots are there?	6	
What buildings are on-site?	Blockhouse & Storage Garage	Restroom (no longer available for use)
SiteADA	1	1
SiteSafety	3	1
Equipment	2	0
Lighting	3	0
SiteDrainage	2	2
OverallCondition	3	1
Inventory of features for the open space area:	TennisCourt,SoccerField,Pickleball,Baseball_SoftballField,Playground,Benches_Seating,Trash,Restroom,PortableToilet	Swimming,PassiveGreenSpace
Number of Basketball Court(s)	0	0
Number of Tennis Court(s)	4	0
Number of Soccer Field(s)	1	0
Number of Volleyball Court(s)	0	0
Number of Pickleball Court(s)	8	0
Number of Swimming/Water Access Area(s)	0	1
Number of Baseball/Softball Field(s)	3	0
Number of Bike Trail(s)	0	0
Number of Walking/Hiking Trail(s)	0	0
Number of Playground(s)	1	0
Number of Picnic Area(s)	0	0
Number of Benches/Seating	15	0
Number of Trash Receptacle(s)	6	0
Number of Recycling Receptacle(s)	0	0
Number of Passive Green Space(s)	0	1
Number of Nature/Wildlife Preserve(s)	0	0
Number of Restroom(s)	2	0
Number of Portable Toilet(s)	3	0
Swimming Area Type	NA	Beach
Trail Surface Type	NA	NA
Additional Notes	2 Dumpsters; Restrooms in block house	

Observer Name:	KD/JK/JV	KD/JK/JV
Facility Name:	Little Saugus Field	Rail Trail
Who/What department manages the property?	Town owned. Unknown maintenance	Friends of Salem Bike-Ped Corridor & Town of Salem
Is the layout of the site safe for users?	yes	yes
Describe the safety issue		
Is parking provided on site?	no	yes
What is the parking area condition?	0	3
How many parking spots are there?	0	35
Are there handicap spots?	NA	no
How many handicap spots are there?		
What buildings are on-site?	N/A	N/A
SiteADA	0	3
SiteSafety	3	3
Equipment	0	0
Lighting	0	0
SiteDrainage	0	4
OverallCondition	3	3
Inventory of features for the open space area:	PassiveGreenSpace	BikeTrail,Walking_Hiking,PicnicArea,Benches_Seating
Number of Basketball Court(s)	0	0
Number of Tennis Court(s)	0	0
Number of Soccer Field(s)	0	0
Number of Volleyball Court(s)	0	0
Number of Pickleball Court(s)	0	0
Number of Swimming/Water Access Area(s)	0	0
Number of Baseball/Softball Field(s)	0	0
Number of Bike Trail(s)	0	1
Number of Walking/Hiking Trail(s)	0	1
Number of Playground(s)	0	0
Number of Picnic Area(s)	0	2
Number of Benches/Seating	0	15
Number of Trash Receptacle(s)	0	0
Number of Recycling Receptacle(s)	0	0
Number of Passive Green Space(s)	1	0
Number of Nature/Wildlife Preserve(s)	0	0
Number of Restroom(s)	0	0
Number of Portable Toilet(s)	0	0
Swimming Area Type	NA	NA
Trail Surface Type	NA	Paved
Additional Notes	Potential for neighborhood gathering space.	One observation platform. Second observation platform planned for 2025. Half of the trail is unpaved.

Observer Name:	KD/JV
Facility Name:	Town Forest
Who/What department manages the property?	Conservation Commission
Is the layout of the site safe for users?	yes
Describe the safety issue	
Is parking provided on site?	yes
What is the parking area condition?	3
How many parking spots are there?	12
Are there handicap spots?	no
How many handicap spots are there?	
What buildings are on-site?	N/A
SiteADA	0
SiteSafety	3
Equipment	0
Lighting	0
SiteDrainage	2
OverallCondition	3
Inventory of features for the open space area:	Walking_Hiking,Nature_WildlifePreserve
Number of Basketball Court(s)	0
Number of Tennis Court(s)	0
Number of Soccer Field(s)	0
Number of Volleyball Court(s)	0
Number of Pickleball Court(s)	0
Number of Swimming/Water Access Area(s)	0
Number of Baseball/Softball Field(s)	0
Number of Bike Trail(s)	0
Number of Walking/Hiking Trail(s)	12
Number of Playground(s)	0
Number of Picnic Area(s)	0
Number of Benches/Seating	0
Number of Trash Receptacle(s)	0
Number of Recycling Receptacle(s)	0
Number of Passive Green Space(s)	0
Number of Nature/Wildlife Preserve(s)	1
Number of Restroom(s)	0
Number of Portable Toilet(s)	0
Swimming Area Type	NA
Trail Surface Type	Dirt
Additional Notes	

Appendix D

Opportunity Site Figures

PARKS & RECREATION OPPORTUNITY PARCELS

MILLVILLE RECREATIONAL PARCELS

EXISTING

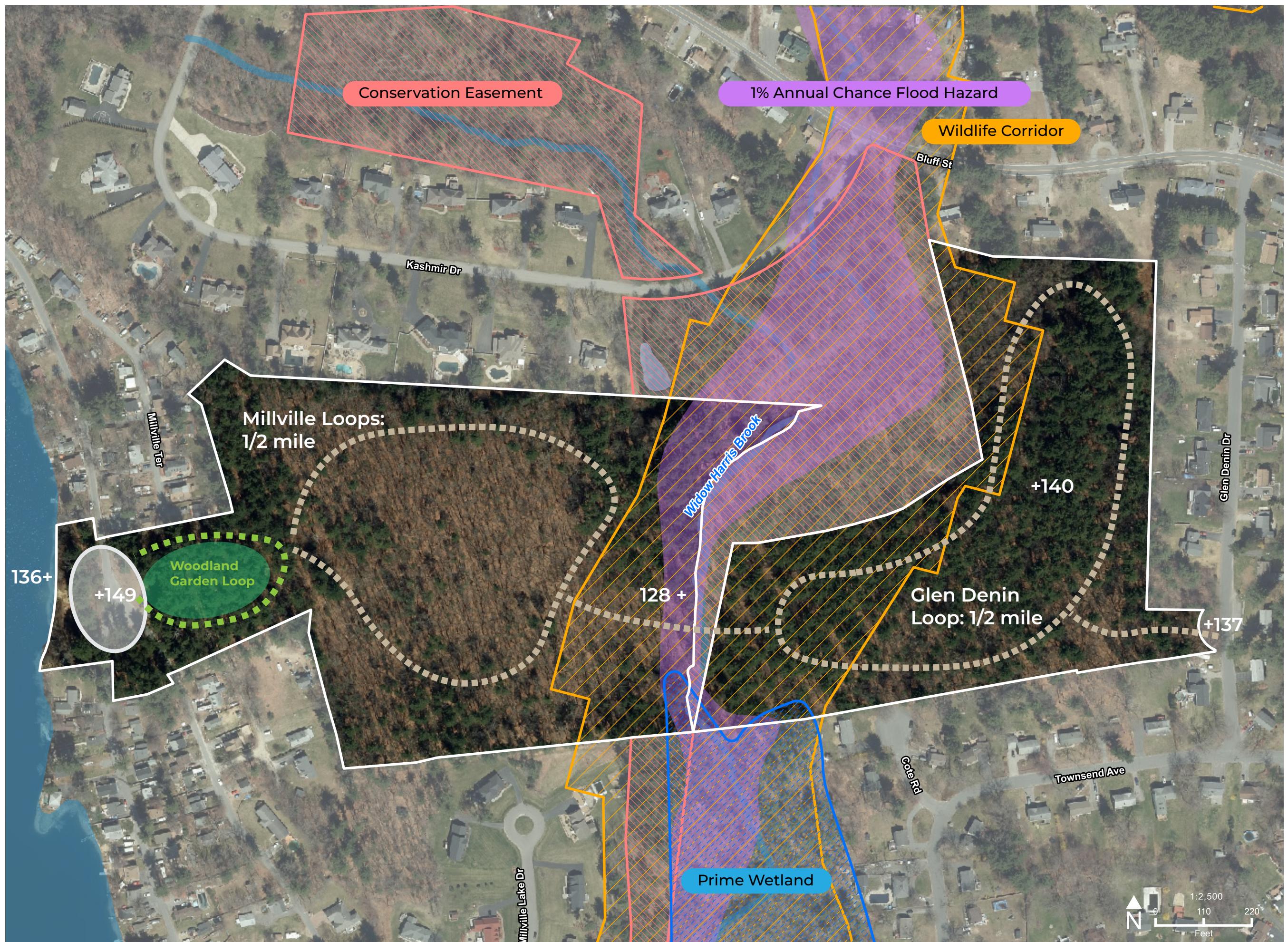
- Swimming & Water Access
- Parking Lot
- Woodland

CONSTRAINTS

- Wooded area is divided by conservation easement, wetlands and a non-town owned parcel
- The western wooded area is not level, needing extensive regrading and tree removal for active recreational facilities
- The eastern parcel is also not ideal for active recreation facilities
- Recreational facilities would be too close to residential homes

OPTIONS

- Improved / accessible water access area
- Woodland walking trails (a little more than a mile as shown)
- Boardwalk over Widow Harris Brook - path would crossover parcel not owned by the town posing challenges to linking the west and east sides
- Entrance on Glen Denin Dr



PARKS & RECREATION OPPORTUNITY PARCELS

MILLVILLE RECREATIONAL PARCELS - WESTERN PARCEL FITTING STUDY

EXISTING CONSTRAINTS

- Woodland sloping SE from 180 to 140
- Significant regrading, tree removal, retaining walls required for construction of fields
- Site will need to contain stormwater runoff which will further limit recreational facilities
- Constructing recreational facilities will remove woodland adjacent to residential homes

OPTIONS

- Fitting three fields is highly unlikely given site constraints
- New parking and drive to access recreation area needed
- Retaining walls needed throughout



PARKS & RECREATION OPPORTUNITY PARCELS

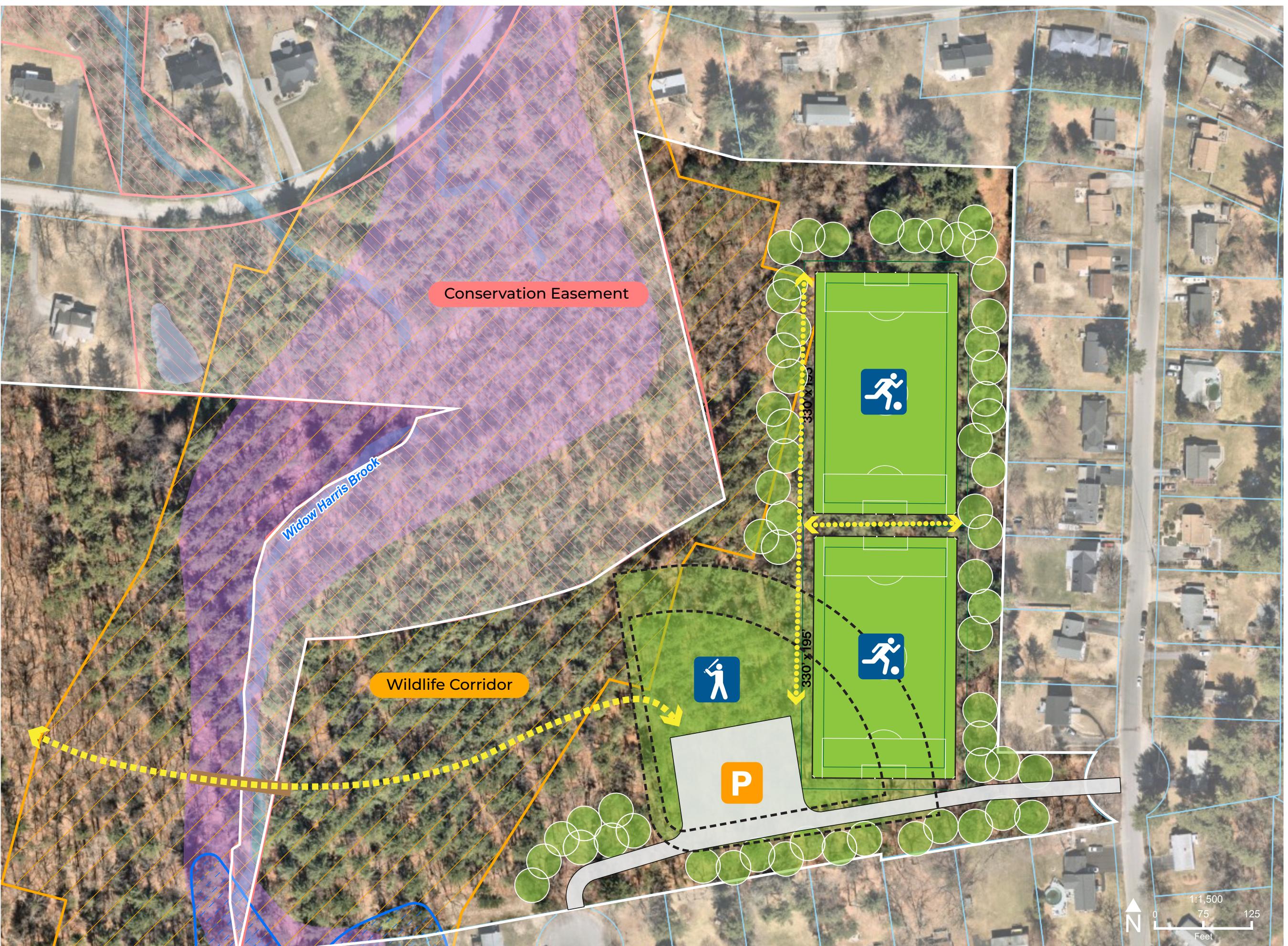
MILLVILLE RECREATIONAL PARCELS - EASTERN PARCEL FITTING STUDY

EXISTING CONSTRAINTS

- Wooded area, even with tree planting recreational facilities would remove woodland from adjacent residential homes
- With 10-15' of grade change, the site will need to be regraded to fit soccer fields
- Recreation facilities will encroach upon conservation easements

OPTIONS

- 2 Soccer fields **could** fit with the best orientation
- 1 Baseball field does not fit
- 1 Softball field can fit within the parcel, but overlaps the wildlife zone and **removes space for** parking
- A parking lot is possible with access from either street
- Tree buffer will need to be established between fields and neighbors



PARKS & RECREATION OPPORTUNITY PARCELS

MILLVILLE RECREATIONAL PARCELS - BEACH ACCESS

EXISTING CONSTRAINTS

- Street will need to be realigned
- No accessible pathway to beach
- Wide intersection used for parking but not safe
- Minimal visibility down to beach from street

OPTIONS

- Improving beach access and facilities is the most feasible and has the least impact on the environment and neighborhood
- Boardwalk and dock
- 5% Accessible Pathway
- Steps from street to beach
- Increase visibility of the beach by removing or limbing up trees by crosswalk
- Revegete slope with grasses & native plants
- Crosswalk and sidewalk from parking lot - 10 spaces
- Planting strip between street and sidewalk
- Right angle intersection with possible location of drive to access recreational fields



PARKS & RECREATION OPPORTUNITY PARCELS

73 LAWRENCE ROAD

EXISTING

- Open Lawn
- Marsh & Wetlands
- Informal pull-off parking area

CONSTRAINTS

- The primary issue is that the site is next to a busy intersection. The intersection is also has wide radius corners leading to fast traffic. Traffic calming measures are needed to slow traffic next to where new park facilities would be located.
- Invasive plants in lawn area should be removed as well as vegetation at the wetland edge should be thinned

OPTIONS

- New parking area needed
- Remove invasive plants
- Create meadow
- Nature themed playground
- Open up view into wetlands



PARKS & RECREATION OPPORTUNITY PARCELS

73 LAWRENCE ROAD - DESIGN CONCEPT

OPTIONS

- Intersection design must be addressed to make street crossing safe
- Crosswalk with surfacing that contrasts with roadway to make crossing clearly visible
- Fence to provide visual break safety barrier between lawn and roadway
- If used by residents from adjacent retirement home, a pulloff parking area could be optional.
- Bocce ball courts, lawn games, small gazebo all feasible in lawn area
- Open lawn large enough for circular walking path
- Boardwalk extends into wetlands to view wider area



PARKS & RECREATION OPPORTUNITY PARCELS

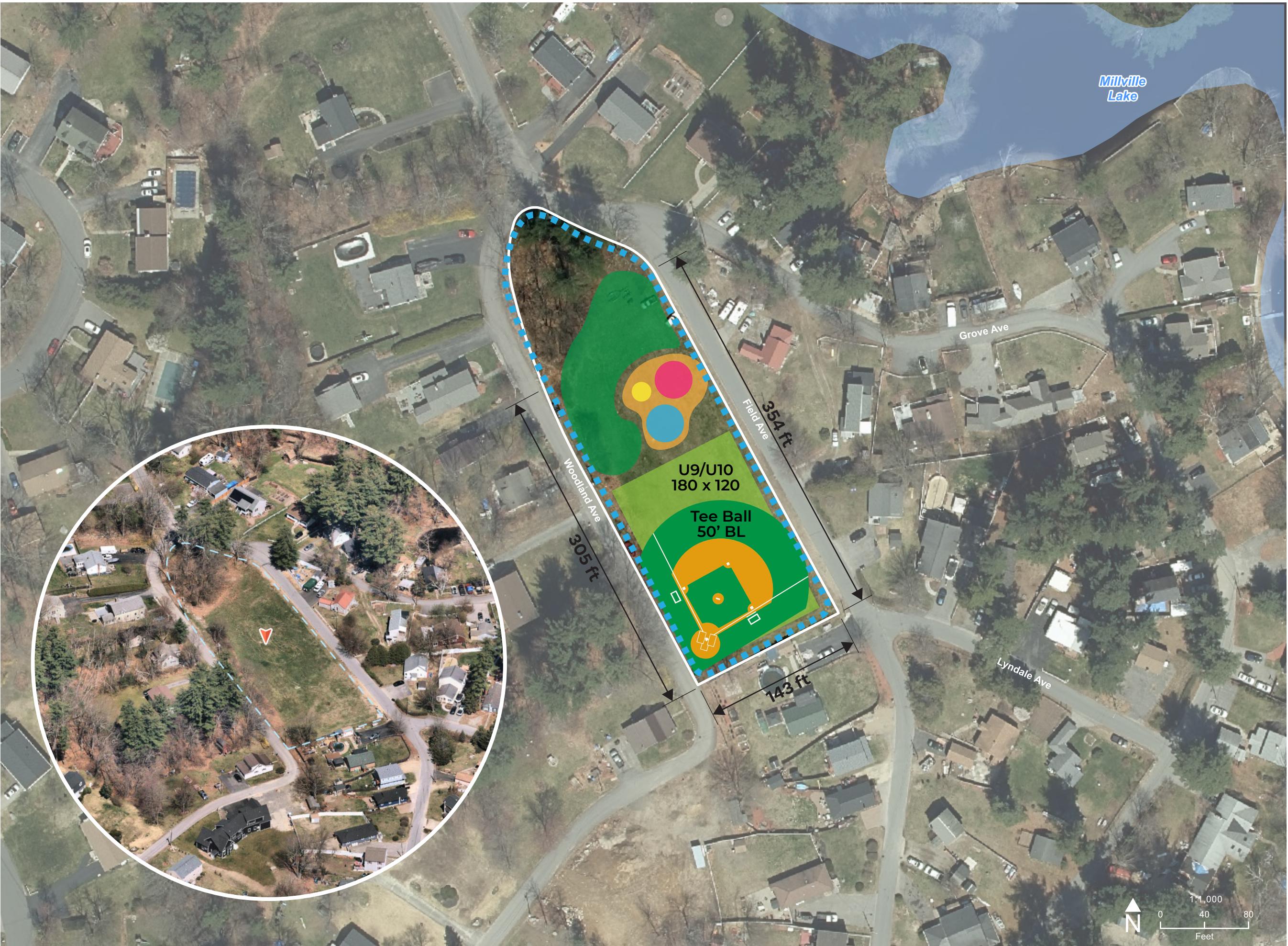
LITTLE SAUGUS FIELD

EXISTING

- Wooded knoll on northern end
- Wide open lawn
- Great accessibility
- In heart of res. neighborhood, opportunities for families

OPTIONS

- Space for a U9/U10 soccer field
- 50' Baseline tee ball field also can fit
- Playground and open lawn or meadow
- Walking path around site is 1/5th mile long
- Pergola or picnic pavilion



Appendix E

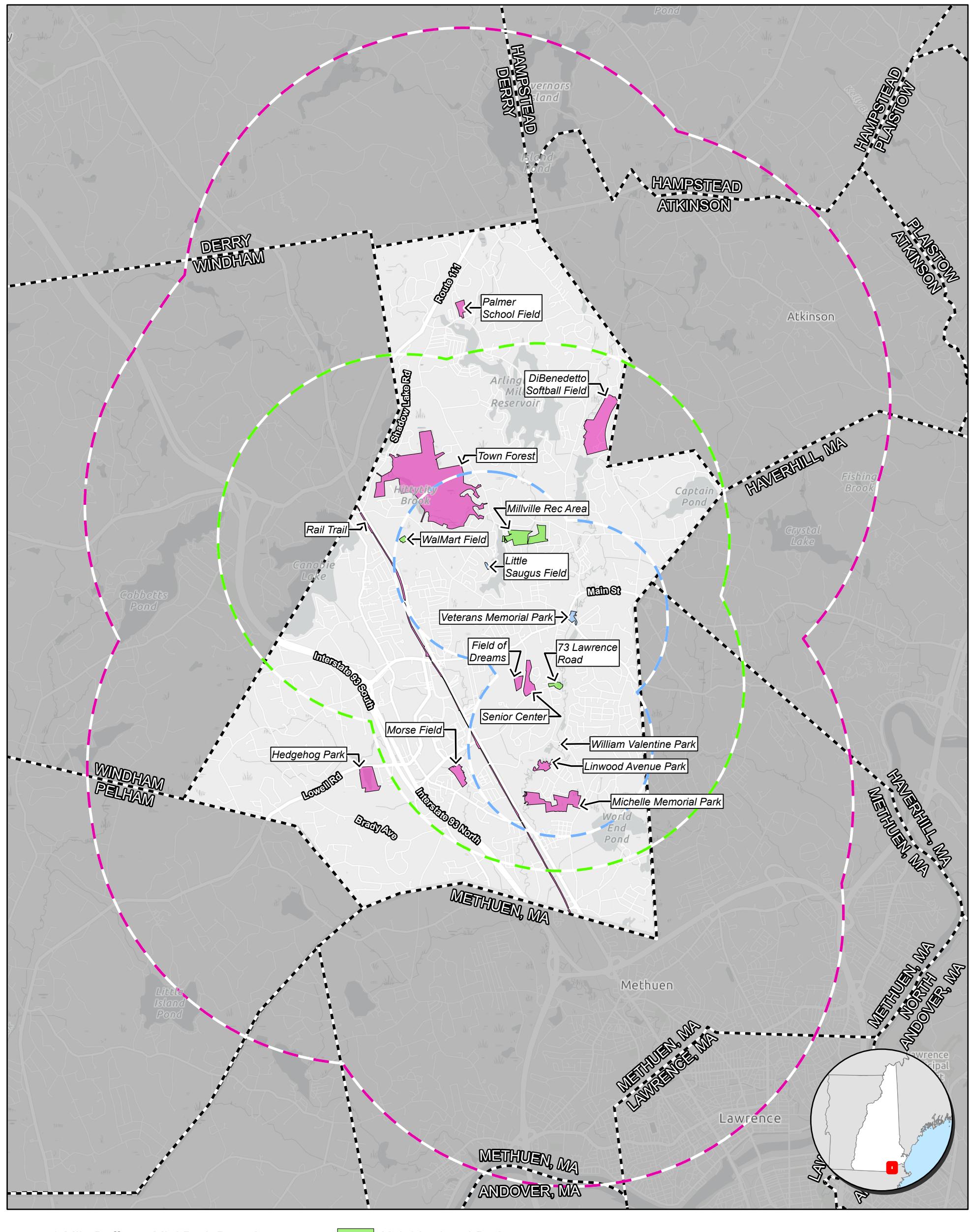
Level of Service Analysis

FIGURE 1

LEVEL OF SERVICE BASED ON PARK PARCELS

July 2025

Open Space Master Plan
Salem, New Hampshire



- 1-Mile Buffer to Mini Park Parcels
- 2-Mile Buffer to Neighborhood Park Parcels
- 3-Mile Buffer to Community Park Parcels
- Mini Park
- Neighborhood Park
- Community Park
- Town Boundary

1:66,000

0 2,750 5,500
Feet

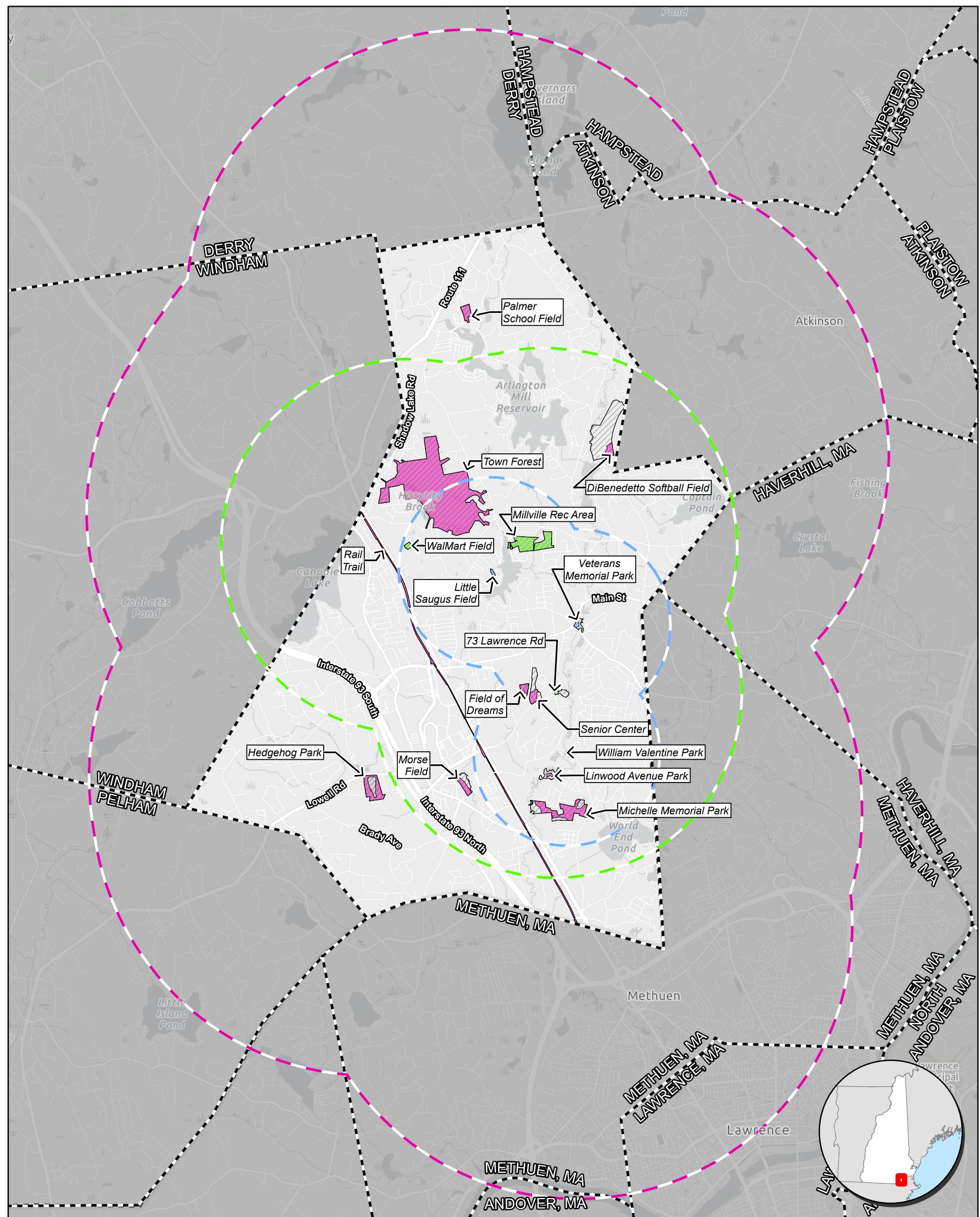
FIGURE 2

LEVEL OF SERVICE BASED ON USABLE PARK AREA

July 2025

Open Space Master Plan

Salem, New Hampshire



- 1-Mile Buffer to Mini Parks
- 2-Mile Buffer to Neighborhood Parks
- 3-Mile Buffer to Community Parks

	Neighborhood Park
	Community Park
	Parcel Boundary
	Mini Park
	Town Boundary

Tighe&Bond

Based on ESRI Basemaps.
Park data provided by the Town of Salem.

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