

“Lanie Fleischer” Chester Creek Trail – Phase 2 Improvements – Open House



November 20, 2014

Meeting Agenda

- 1) Project Team Introduction
- 2) Refresh 2013 Survey & Workshop
- 3) Project Recap: Ph 1 (*summer 2014*)
- 4) Phase 2 budget, plan, schedule/segments
- 5) Pedestrian/Bicycle Detour Routes
- 6) Trails Initiative
- 7) Questions
- 8) **“FEEDBACK EXERCISE”**

Design Team



Municipality of Anchorage Parks and Recreation Staff:

- **John Rodda, Park Director**
- **Holly Spoth-Torres, Park Superintendent**
- **Maeve Nevins, Park Planner**



The Boutet Company (TBC)

- **Jacques Boutet, P.E. - Principal Engineer**
- **Jon Petrunic, Project Designer**



Project Description

- **Multi-use paved trail, typically 8 feet wide, shoulder width varies;**
- **5.5 miles were analyzed in 2013 Engineering Assessment;**
- **Analysis began at Mile Post 0.0 intersection at the Tony Knowles Coastal Trail and the Westchester Lagoon;**
- **Analysis ended at Mile Post 5.5 at the Lidia Selkregg Chalet in the Russian Jack Springs Park.**

Engineering Assessment Graphics



West



East



Definition: “Critical Segments”

A “Critical Segment” is a portion of the trail that was determined to have the *highest density of hazards* and is considered the *highest priority* by the community.

SURVEY and WORKSHOP Results

1. On-line Survey =

➤ 503 Responses

2. Workshop Participants =

Approximately 75 Attendees at Workshop

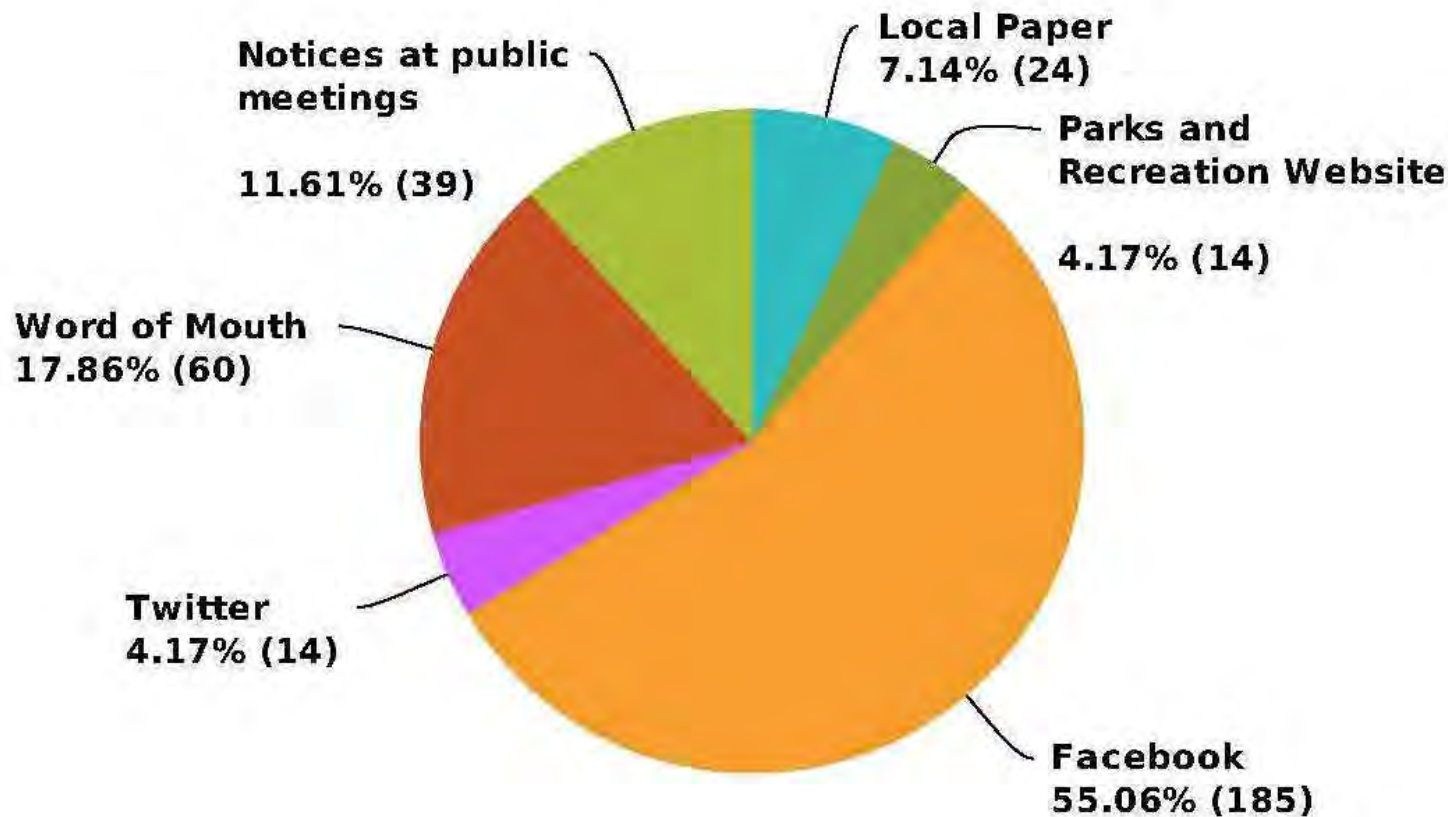
➤ Responses = over 50 comments generated on boards and through other correspondence

3. 1,000 Flyers were mailed to neighbors along trail corridor.

SURVEY and WORKSHOP Results

Q28 How did you find out about this survey?

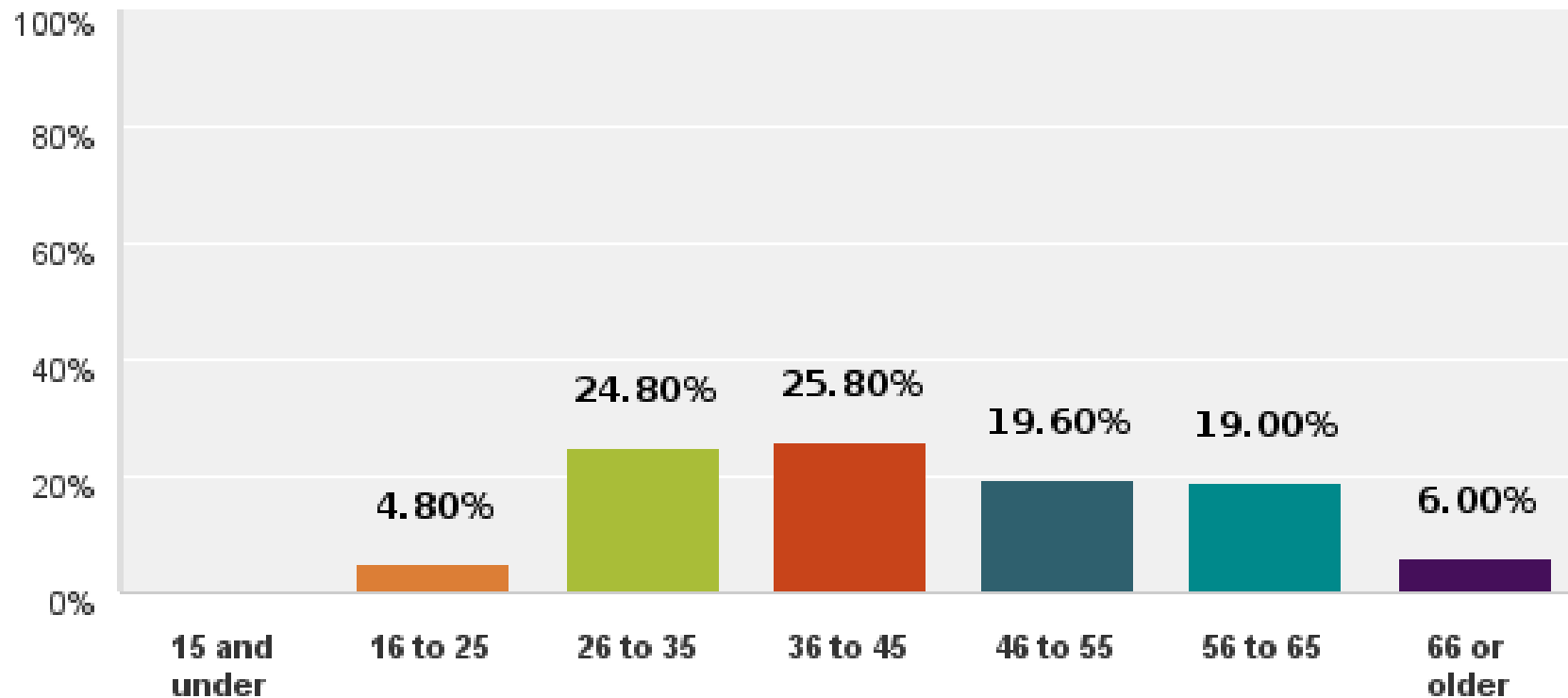
Answered: 336 Skipped: 167



SURVEY and WORKSHOP Results

Q3 Please identify your age group:

Answered: 500 Skipped: 3



SURVEY and WORKSHOP Results

Q4 What is your gender?

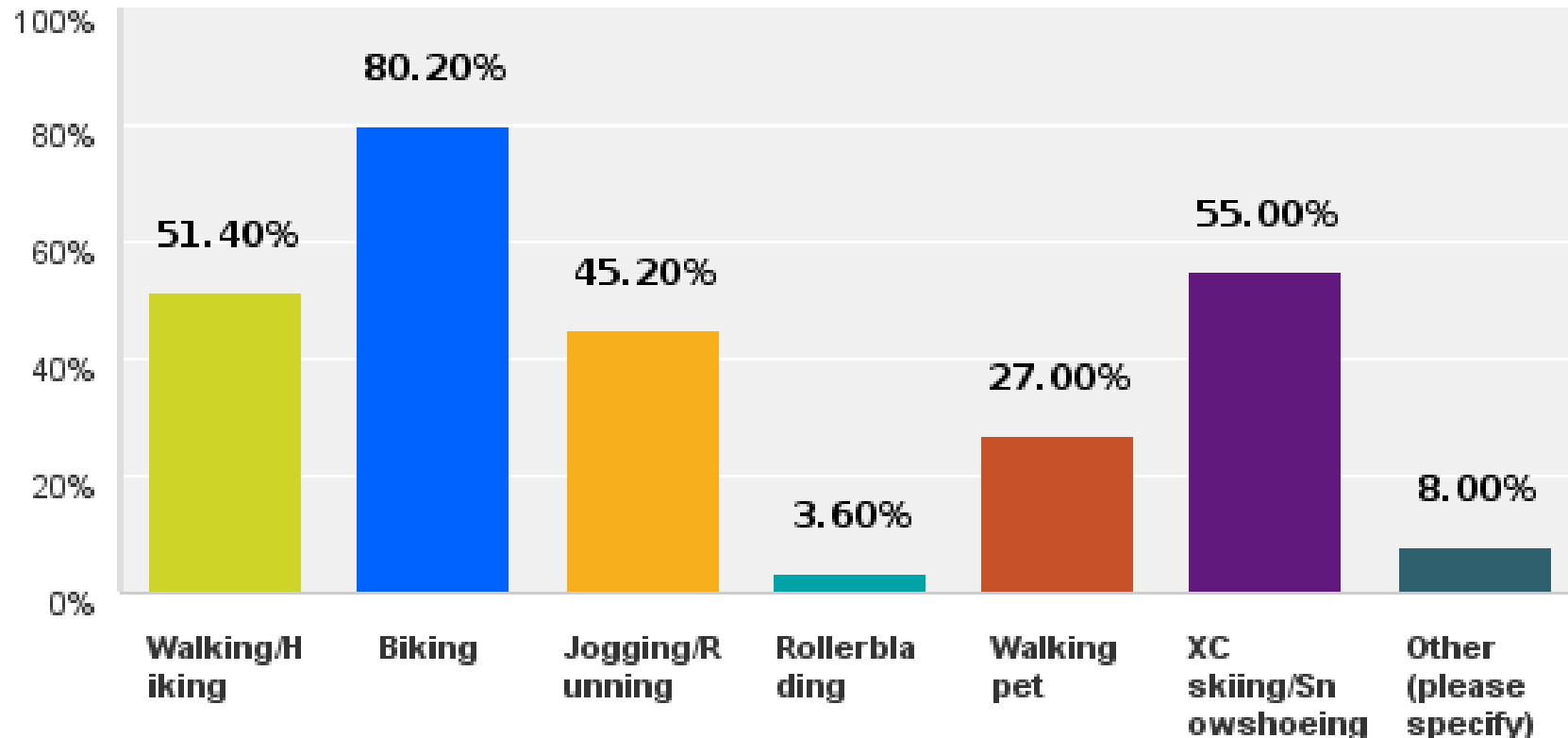
Answered: 496 Skipped: 7



SURVEY and WORKSHOP Results

Q5 What is your primary activity on the trail? (Check all that apply)

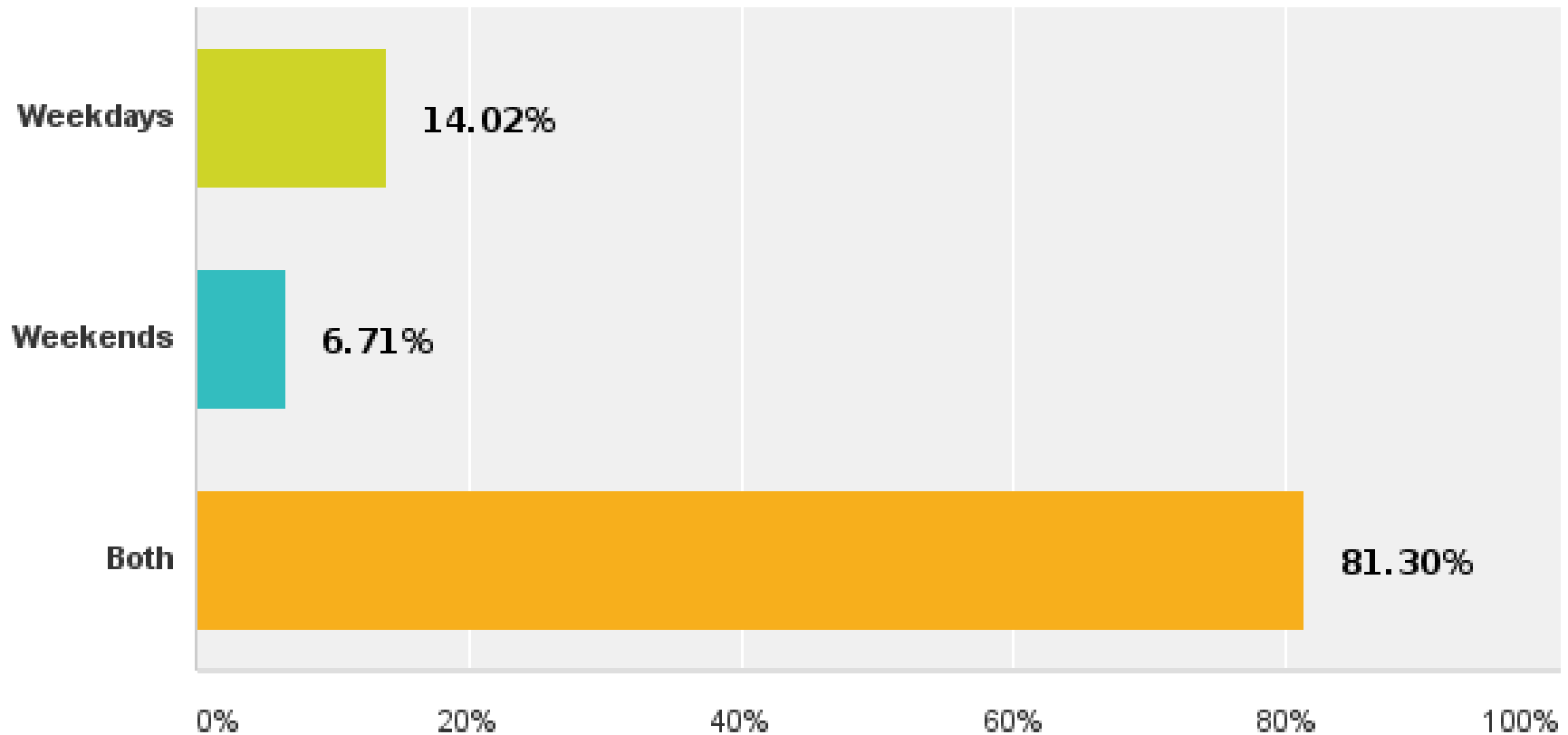
Answered: 500 Skipped: 3



SURVEY and WORKSHOP Results

Q6 Generally, when do you use the trail?

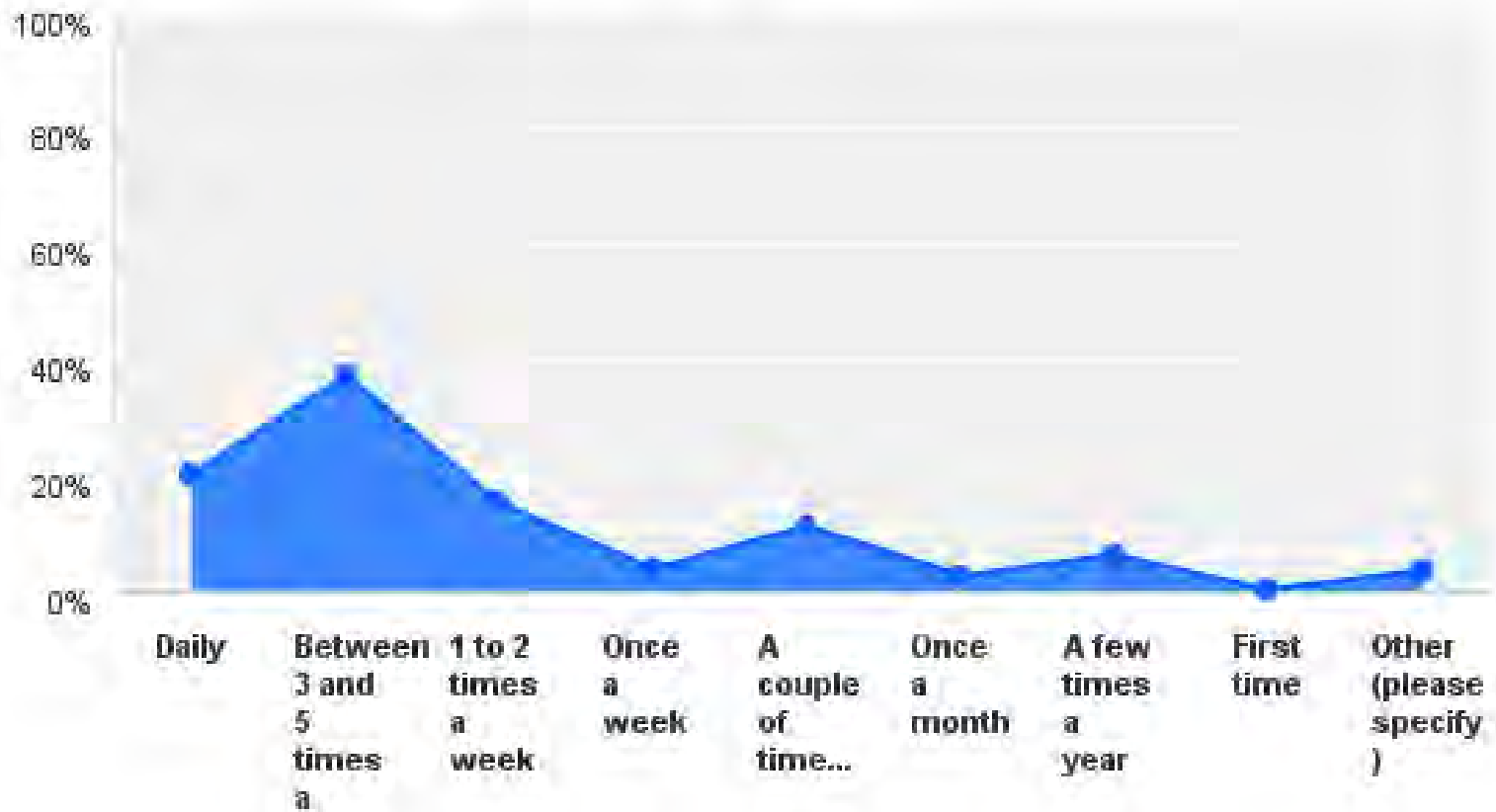
Answered: 492 Skipped: 11



SURVEY and WORKSHOP Results

Q2 How often, on average, do you use the trail?

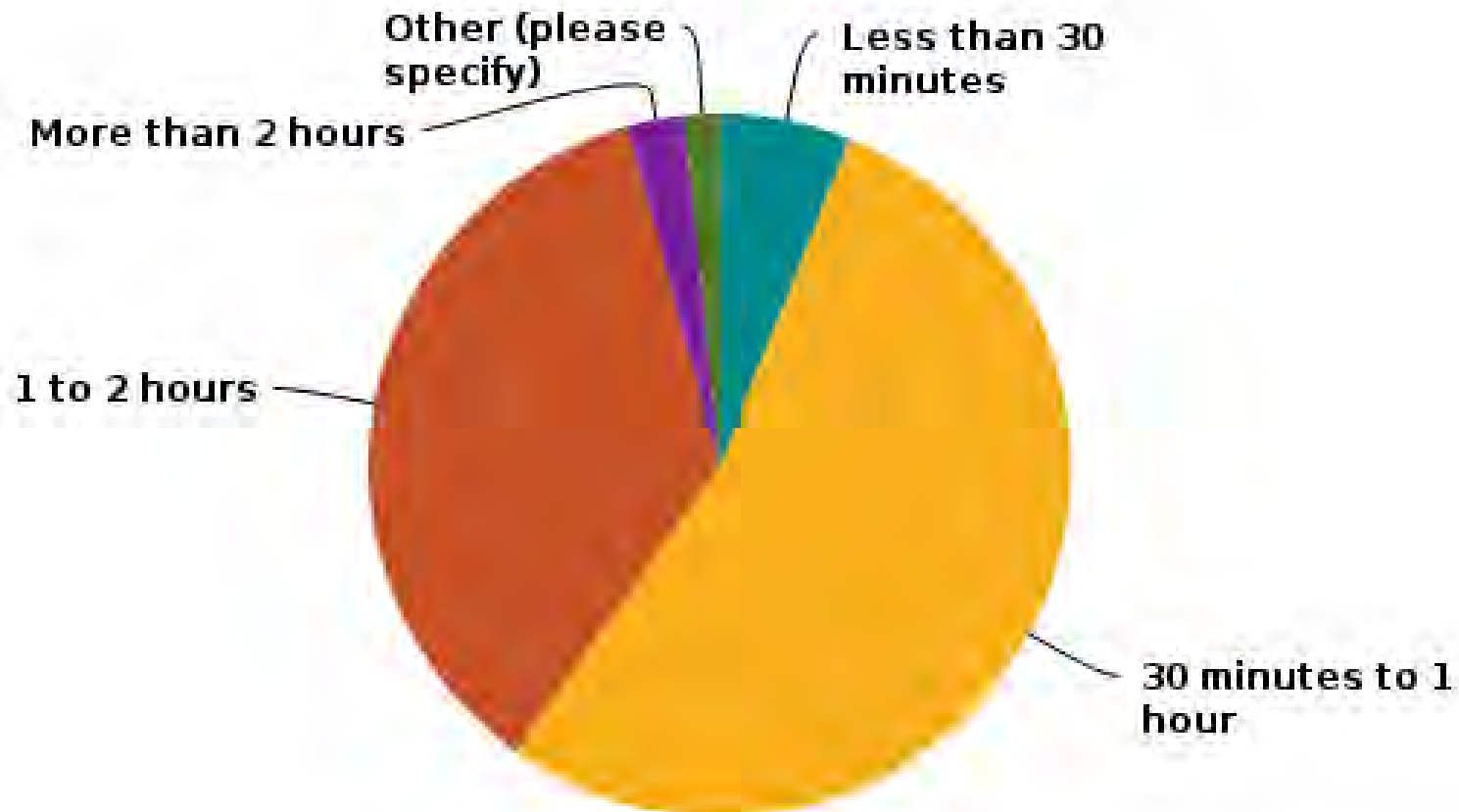
Answered: 501 / Skipped: 2



SURVEY and WORKSHOP Results

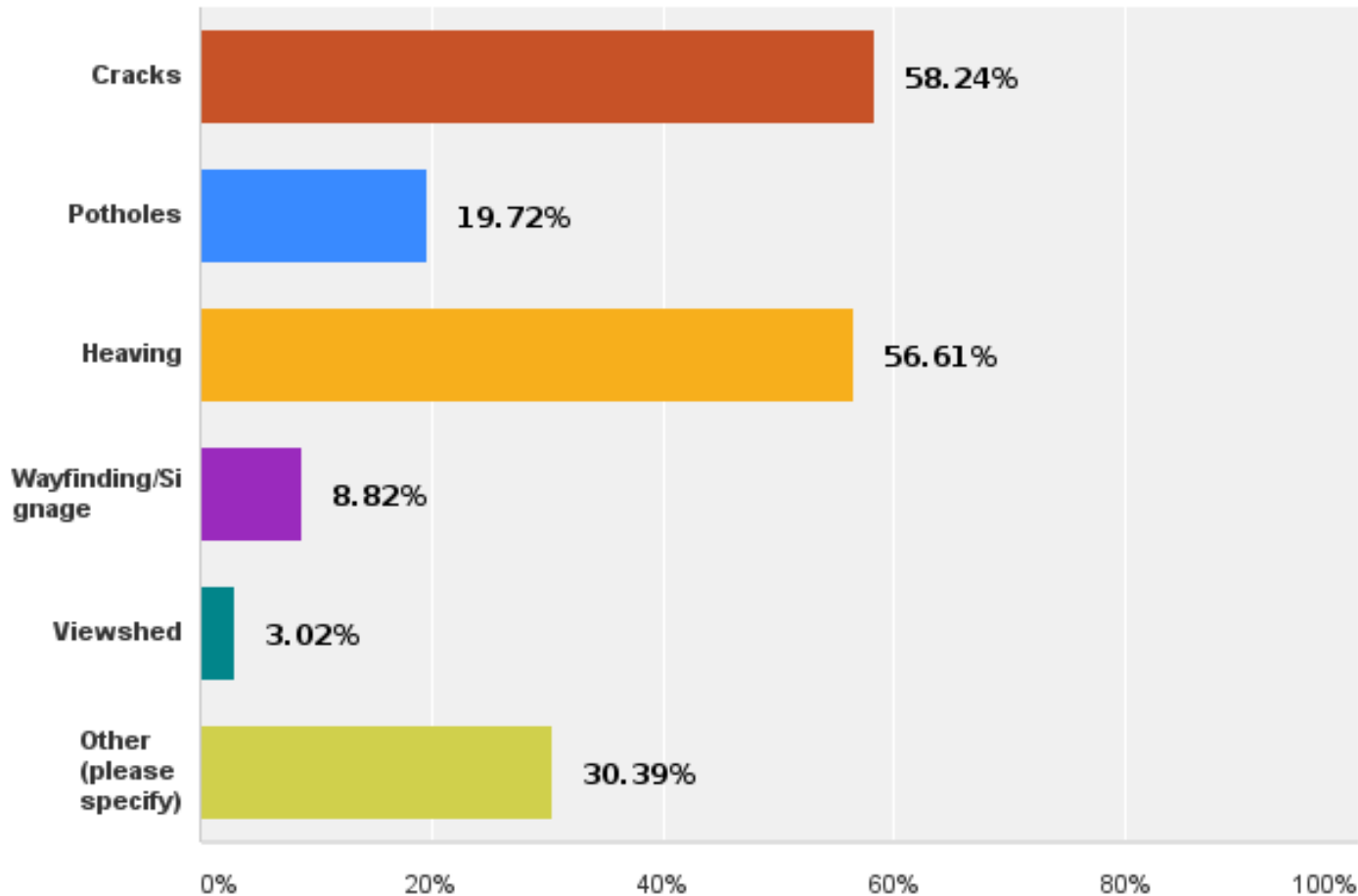
Q7 How much time do you generally spend on the trail each visit?

Answered: 496 Skipped: 7



SURVEY and WORKSHOP Results

What do you consider to be the most significant issue with trail?



SURVEY and WORKSHOP Results

What do you consider to be the most significant **issue** with trail?

“Heaving!”

“Tree roots are the #1 worst thing.”

“Flooding in Tunnels”

“Snow plow protection”

“Drain bump by C street underpass!”

“Lack of lighting spur trails”

“Safety especially near homeless camps”

“I like the trail being more narrow and intimate with the woods.”

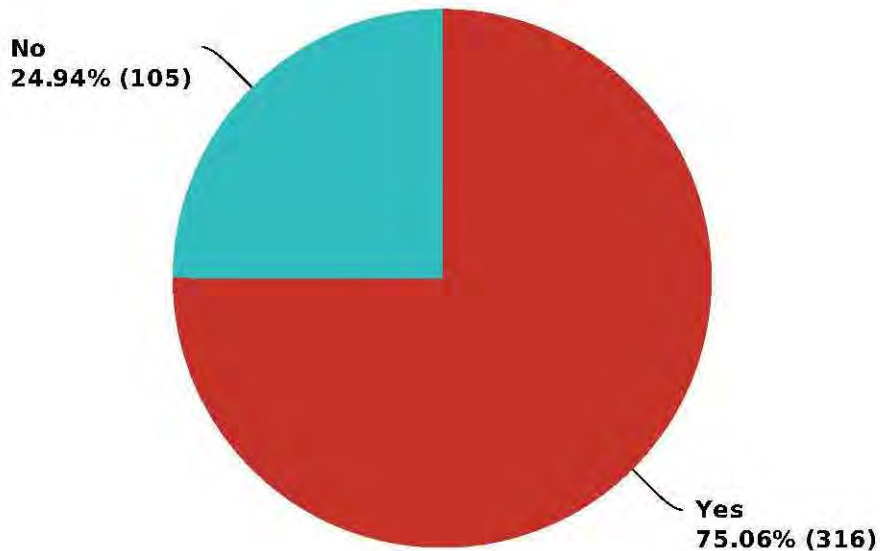
Key Issues

Key Issues:

Tunnels

Q20 Do you feel that the tunnels need to be improved? If yes, please explain.

Answered: 421 Skipped: 82



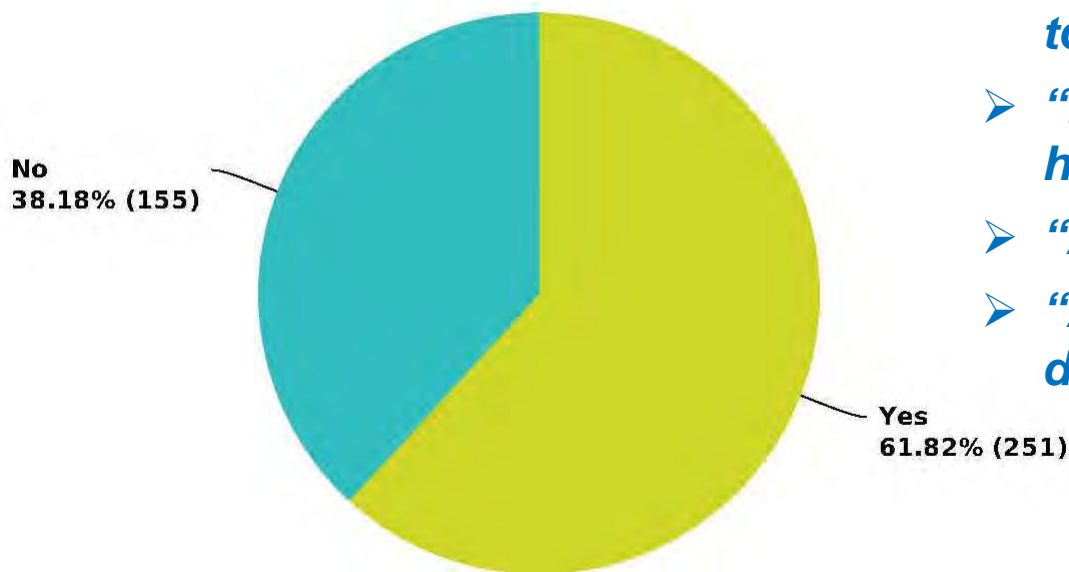
- *“Cracks, potholes...”*
- *“Better seasonal lighting...”*
- *“Blind corners entering and exiting pose a hazard.”*
- *“Icing and drainage”*
- *“Several tunnels are undersized, but tunnel replacements are beyond project budget (include in STIP for road work).”*

Key Issues:

Signage

Q24 Do you feel the signage is adequate?
If no, please explain.

Answered: 406 Skipped: 97



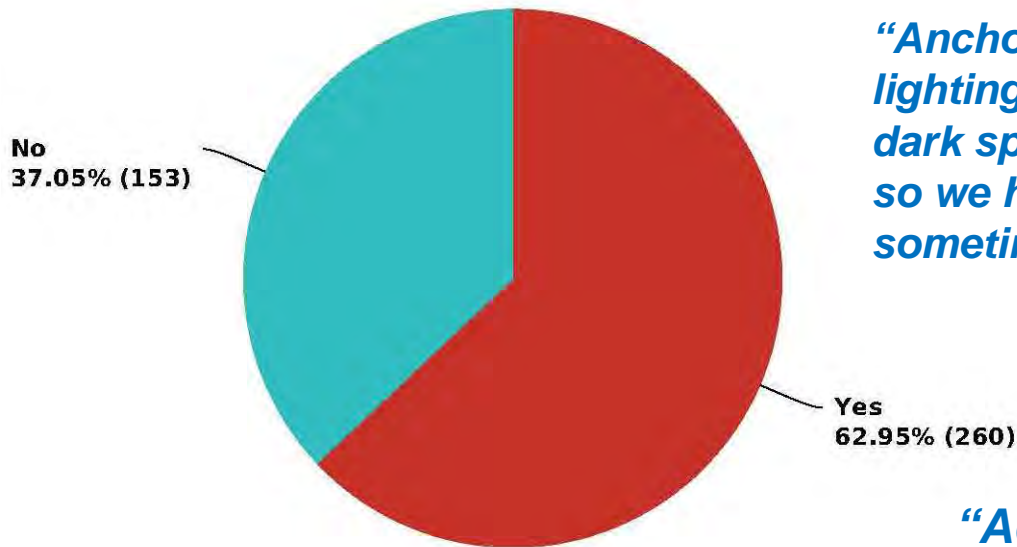
- *“Difficult for visitors to navigate.”*
- *“It’s much better than it used to be!”*
- *“Maps at intersections would help.”*
- *“Add better signage at spurs.”*
- *“A lot of people ask for directions.”*

Key Issues:

Lighting

Q21 Do you feel there is adequate lighting on the trail? If no, please explain.

Answered: 413 Skipped: 90



“There are very dark sections!”

“Anchorage overdoes lighting. We need some dark spots in our greenbelts so we have a chance to sometimes see the stars.”

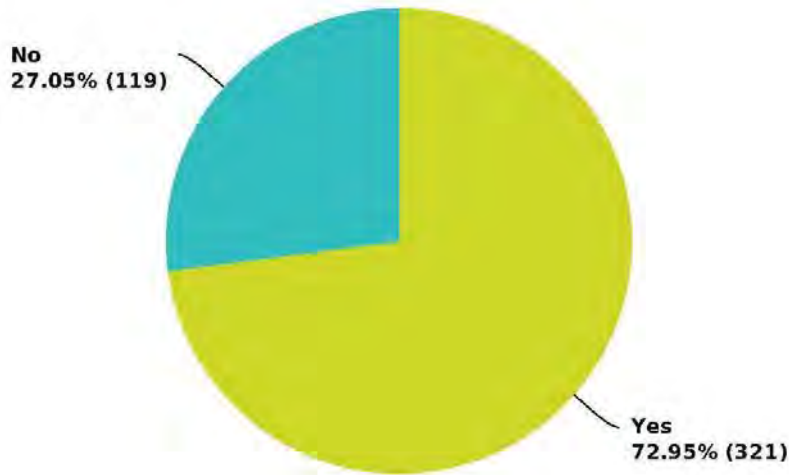
“Adequate if maintained.”

Key Issues:

Width

Q22 The average paved width of the trail is 8 feet wide, do you feel the Chester Creek Trail is wide enough? If no, please explain.

Answered: 440 Skipped: 63

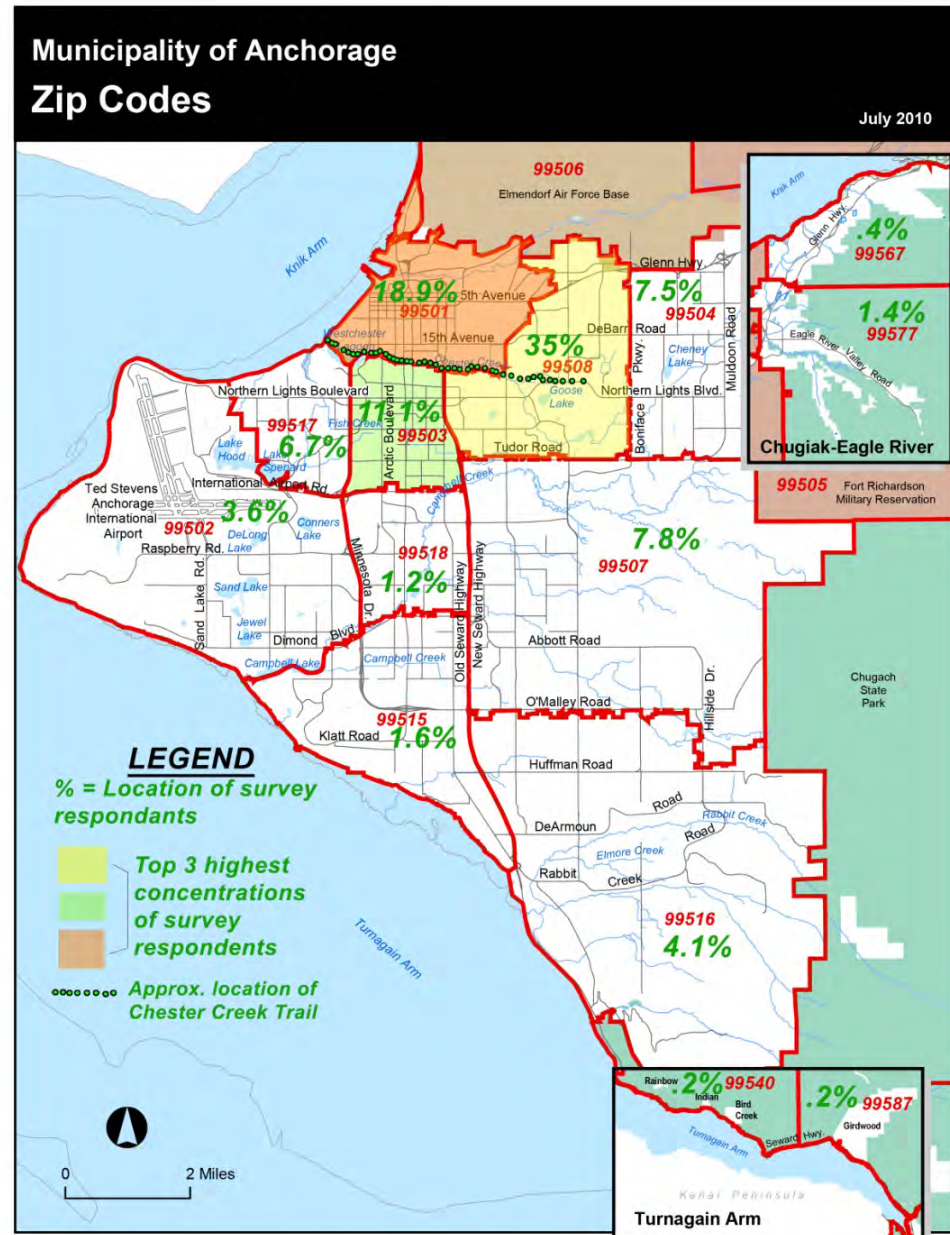


- *“The problem is that no one keeps to one side. Signage is needed.”*
- *“There are times on my bike commute when it can get a bit congested, but it isn’t a superhighway, it’s a path through a greenbelt. Leave the width as it is!”*
- *“Gets too congested, unsafe to pass.”*
- *“It could be wider, but I don’t want to cut the trees.”*

SURVEY and WORKSHOP Results

Where are respondents from?

- Highest responses were from Chester Creek Trail corridor.
- Zip Codes:
 1. 99508
 2. 99501
 3. 99503

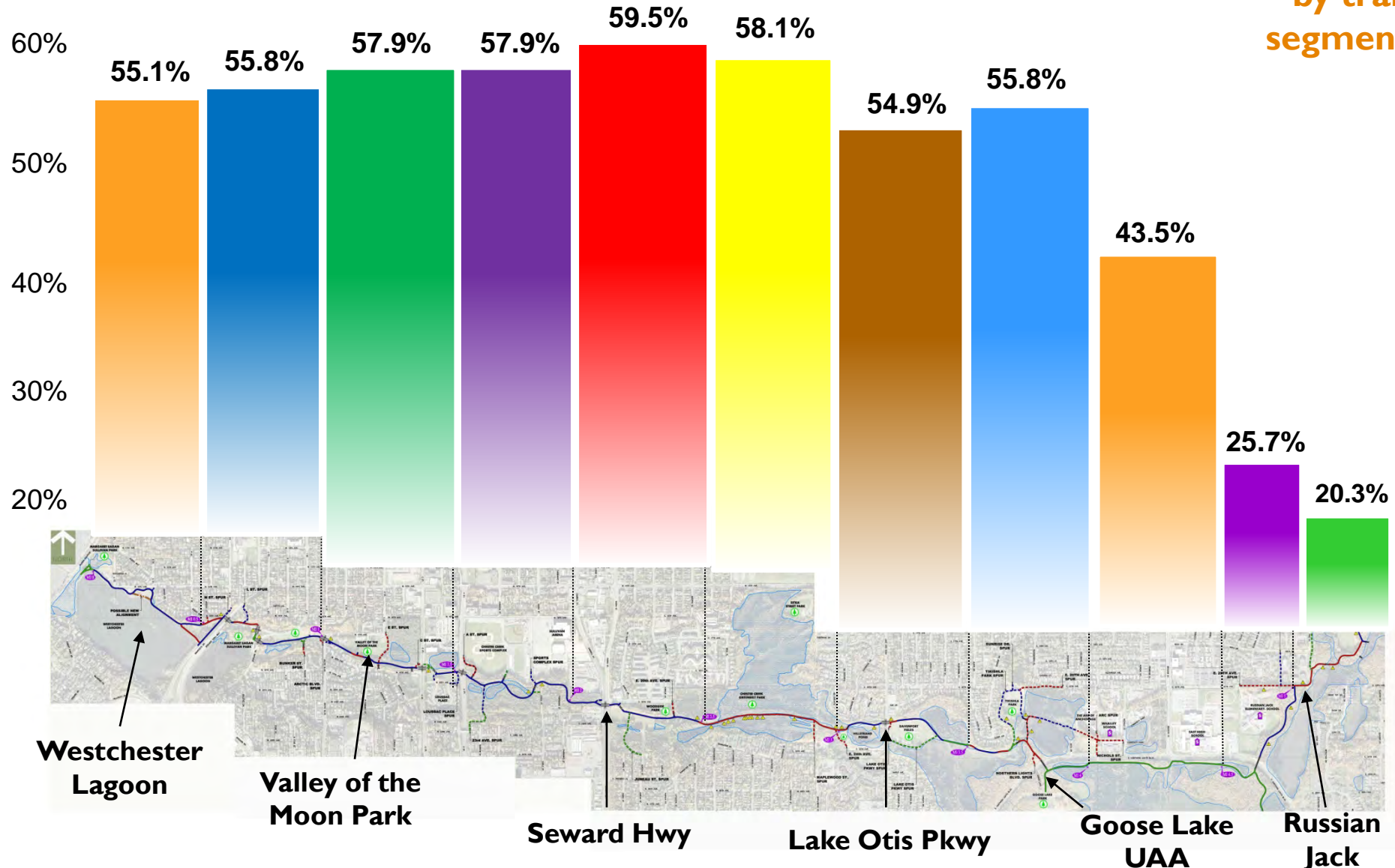


SURVEY and WORKSHOP Results

Trail Usage

by trail
segment

What segment of trail do you **USE** most often?



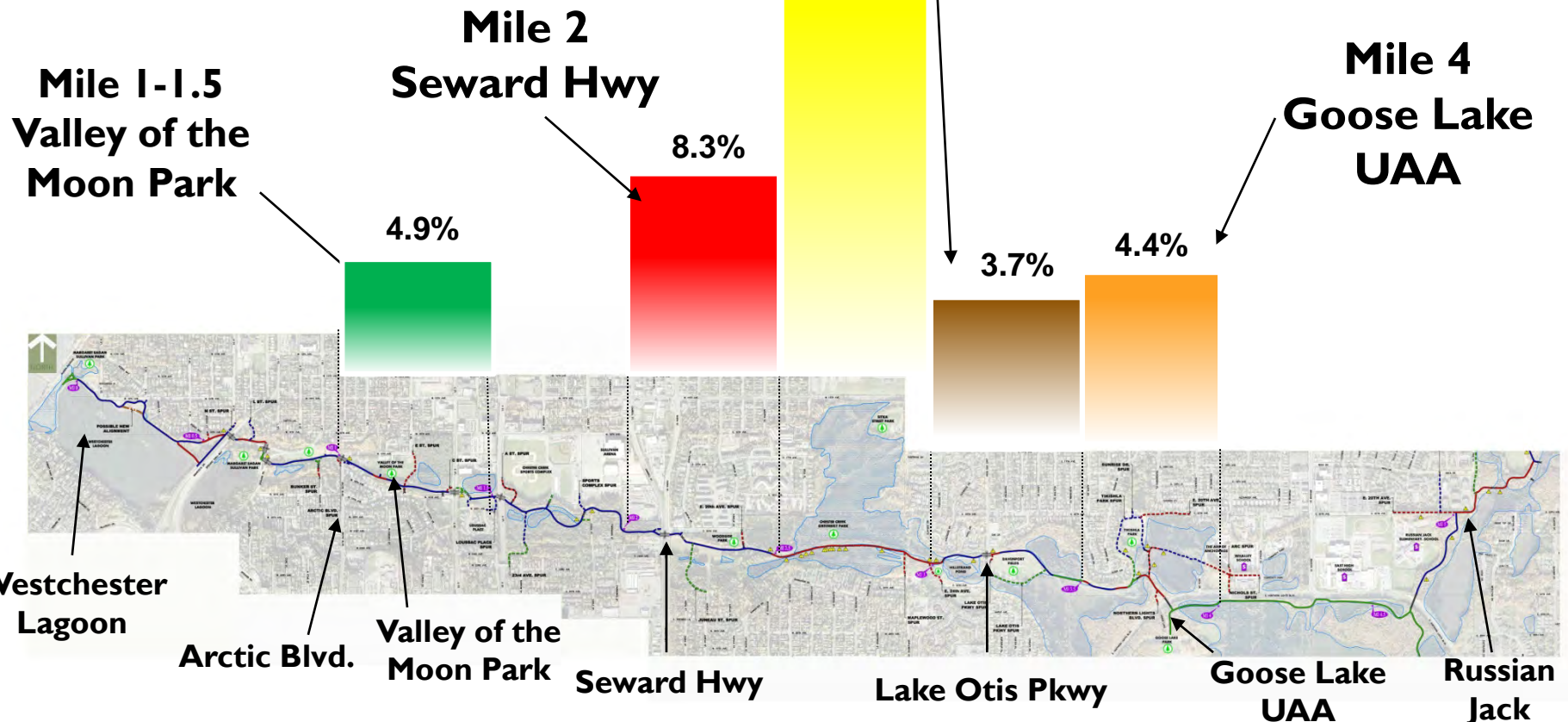
SURVEY and WORKSHOP Results

Priorities

by trail segment

What segment of trail is in worst condition?

"The whole trail. There is heaving, flooding, potholes and cracks on the whole trail."

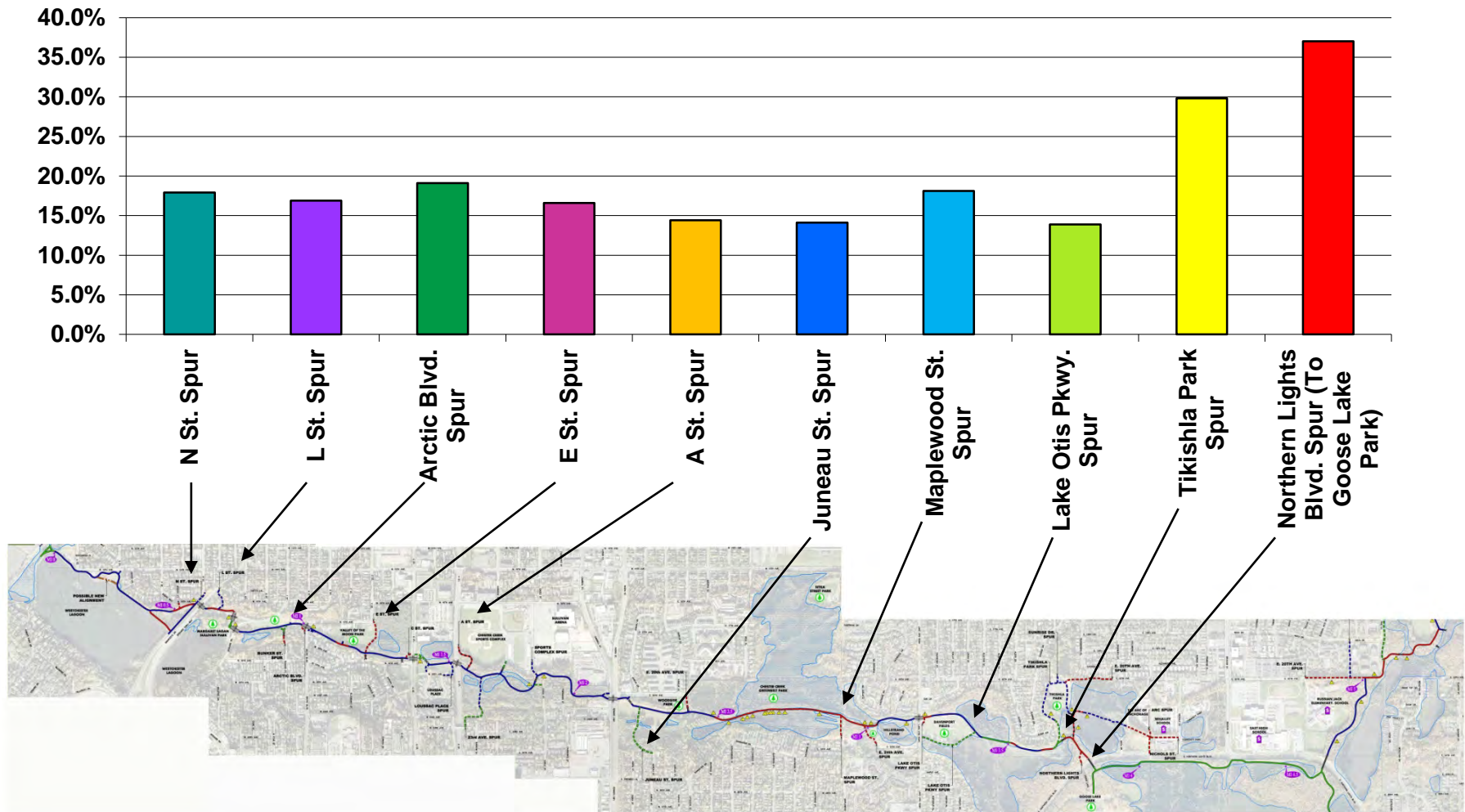


SURVEY and WORKSHOP Results

Trail Usage

by trail
segment

Which Spurs do you **USE** the most to access the trail?



SURVEY and WORKSHOP Results

Priorities

What Spur would you improve first?

“Don’t spend \$ on spurs – fix the trail.”

“Whichever spur gets the highest traffic.”

by trail
spur

Tikishla
Park Spur

9.02%

Maplewood
St. Spur

5.15%

Arctic Blvd.
Spur

3.1%

E St. Spur

2.9%

Arc
Spur
2.1%



2014 Project Plan PHASE I



Phase I – 2014

Phase 1: 2014: Based on the *highest used* portion of the trail corridor. Construction included:

1. **Main Trail** - Mile post **0.0** at Westchester Lagoon to mile post **1.0** at Arctic Blvd. Tunnel (east)
2. **Spurs:**
 - i. The “social path” at the Westchester Lagoon
 - ii. Virginia Ct. Spur
 - iii. Arctic Blvd Spur
 - iv. N St. Spur
 - v. L St. Spur
 - vi. Bunker St. Spur
3. **Construction Documents and Permitting of Phase 2 is being finalized now**, including entire length of main trail and all critical spurs.

Phase 1 ~ 2014 Design / Permit / Construction

-W.Chester Lagoon through Arctic Blvd.-

PHASE I



LEGEND & SYMBOLS

W. 17TH AVE.	STREET NAME
	IDENTIFIED TRAIL HAZARD
	EXISTING PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE
	EXISTING TUNNEL
	CHESTER CREEK TRAIL MILE POST
	MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE PARK
	DESIGNATED WETLAND



Chester Creek Trail Spur (Poor Condition)

Segments of trail spur considered to have a high density of hazards and requires significant mitigation and repairs.



Chester Creek Trail Spur (Mediocre Condition)

Segments of trail spur considered to have a medium density of hazards and requires isolated hazards to be mitigated and repaired.



Chester Creek Trail Spur (Good Condition)

Segments of trail spur considered to have a low density of hazards and does not require repairs and/or mitigation.



Chester Creek Main Trail (Poor Condition)

Segments of trail considered to have a high density of hazards and requires significant repairs and mitigation.



Chester Creek Main Trail (Mediocre Condition)

Segments of trail considered to have a medium density of hazards and requires isolated hazards to be corrected.



Chester Creek Main Trail (Good Condition)

Segments of trail considered to have a low density of hazards and does not require repairs and/or mitigation.

Before & After



Remember that bump?



Before & After



*Remember that sharp corner,
dangerous shoulders and
limited site lines?*



2015 Project Plan PHASE 2



Current Funding

Project Funding to Date:

- **\$150,000** 2012 State Legislative Grant
- **\$1,555,000** 2013 Municipality of Anchorage Bond
- **\$1,470,000** 2014 Municipality of Anchorage Bond

Total: \$3,175,000

- **Approx. \$900,000** spent to date for phase 1 design, construction and Phase 2 design.

Total remaining: \$2,275,000 for permitting & construction

Phase 2 – 2015

Phase 2: 2015: We have identified the “*highest priorities*” of concern by segment, spur and hazard.

Main Trail - Mile Post 1.0 at Arctic Blvd. Tunnel to approx. Mile Post 4.0 at Arc of Anchorage.

Construction will be phased:

- Segment 1 (Arctic Blvd to Seward Hwy)
- Segment 2 (Seward Hwy to Lake Otis Pkwy)
- Segment 3 (Lake Otis Pkwy to Arc of Anchorage)

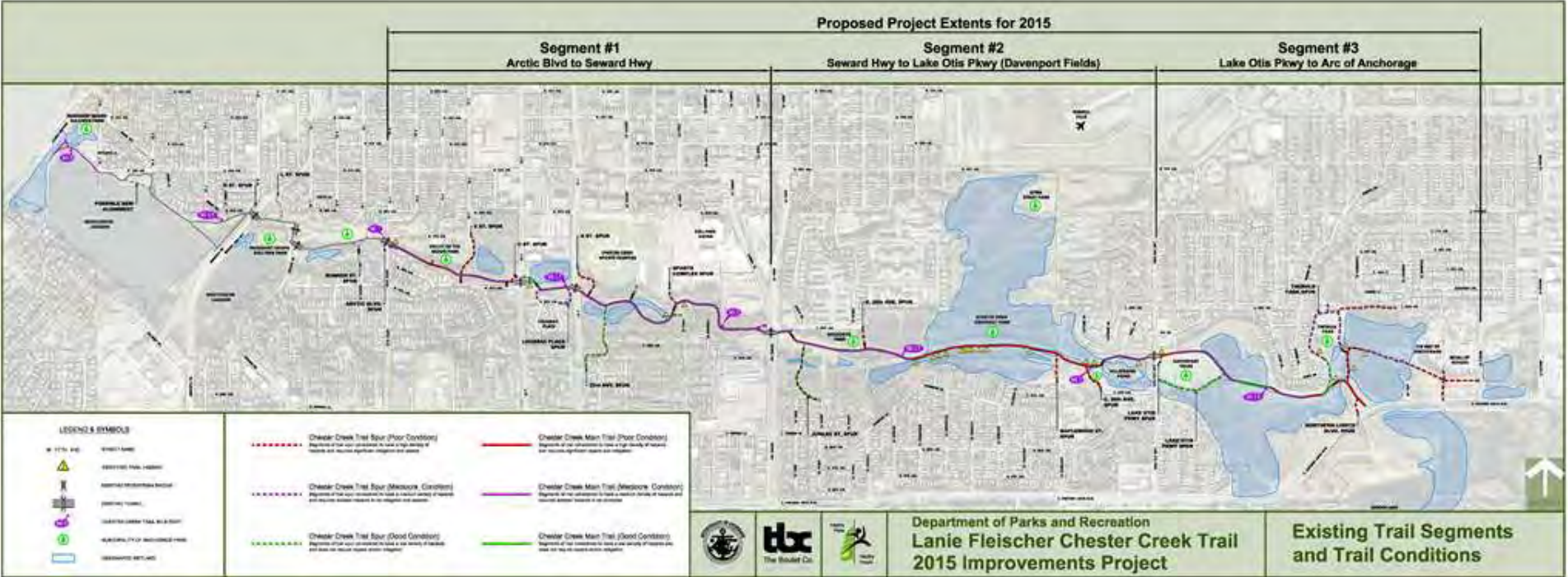
Spurs will be repaired based on **priority** and **budget** available during bidding process.

Phase 2 – 2015

Phase 2 SPURS: Spurs may include (in order of priority):

1. Arc Spur (Arc of Anchorage Trails - Segment #3)
2. Nichols St. Spur
3. Maplewood St. Spur
4. A St. Spur
5. E. 20th Ave Spur (Adjacent to Eastchester Park)
6. E. 24th Ave Spur
7. Eagle St. Spur
8. E Street Spur
9. Sports Complex Spur
10. E. 20th Ave Spur (Near Tikishla Park)
11. Tikishla Spur
12. Sunrise Park Spur
13. Loussac Place Spur
14. C Street Spur
15. 23rd. Ave Spur

PHASE 2



2015 Improvement Schedule

Winter:

- Finalize permitting and formalize construction documents

Spring:

- (P&R) Invitation to Bid, Formalize contracts
- Outreach for Construction Schedule with Detours
- April – 2015 Park Bond Proposition: **For future trail and bridge Improvement projects**

Summer:

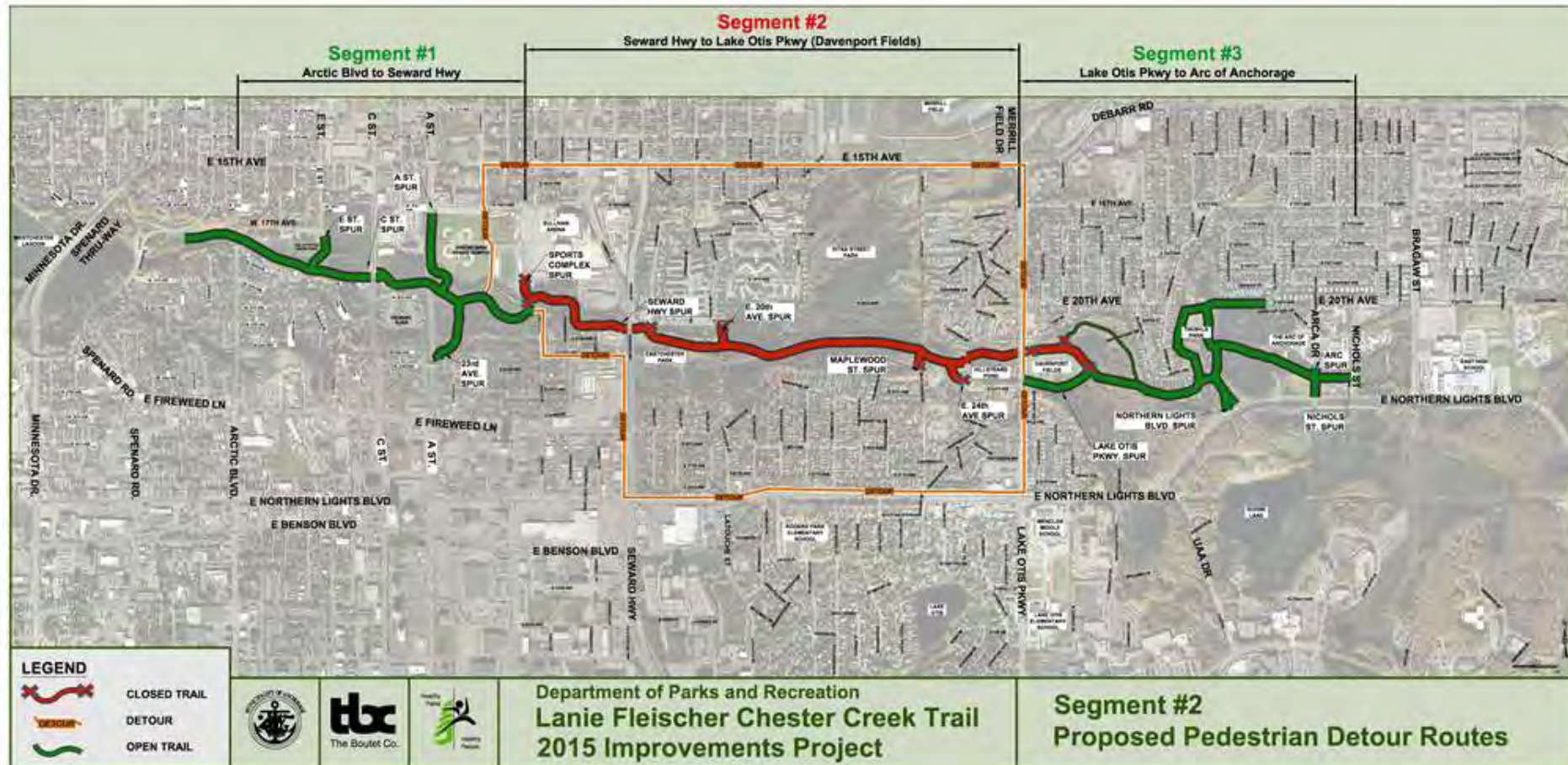
- **Phase 2 Construction Improvements**
- **Approximate dates: June 1 to Oct. 31st**
- *Note: All major running events will be accommodated in the summer construction schedule*



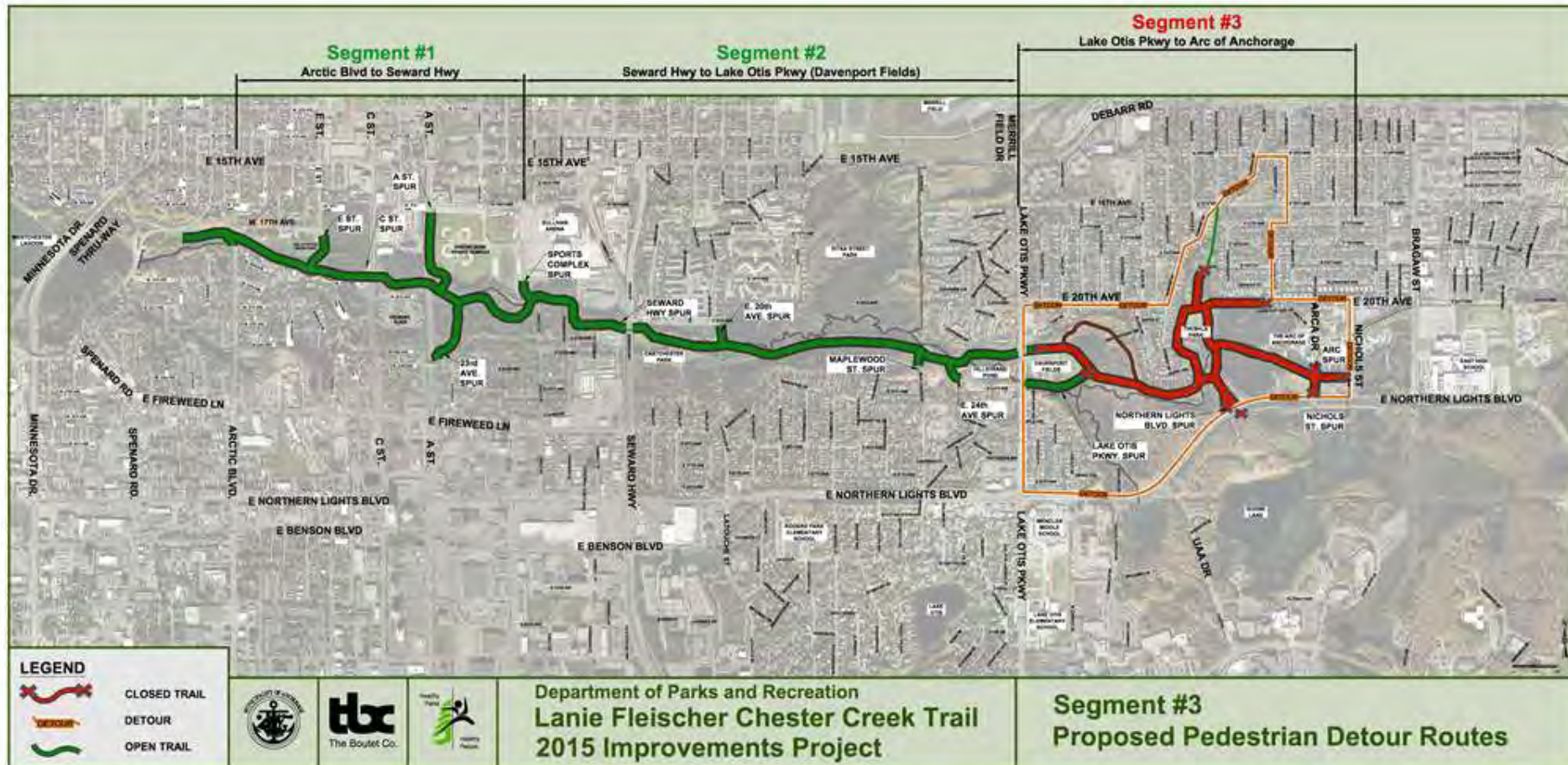
2015 DRAFT detour routes



2015 DRAFT detour routes



2015 DRAFT detour routes



What do you like **most** about the Chester Creek Trail?

Positives



- *“It’s great seeing people using the trail and creates a sense of community.”*
- *“I decided to move here because of the Chester Creek Trail.”*
- *“Forested feel along much of the trail.”*
- *“It’s the best urban trail in the Country!”*
- *“The ability to go from the Inlet to Muldoon and the options for entering/exiting to other connecting destinations of trails.”*

Photo credit: Bob Hallinen, Anchorage Daily News, www.ADN.com

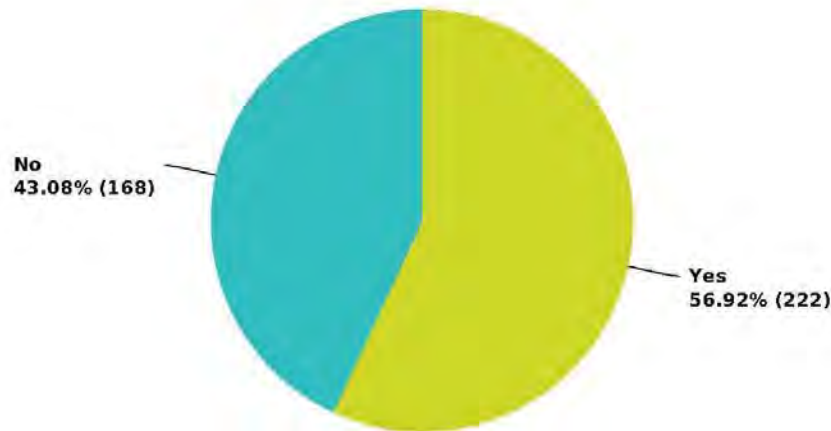
BE INVOLVED:

Volunteer or Join *Trails Initiative*

1. How? Provide email to Michelle Fehribach, MOA Volunteer Coordinator

Q26 Would you like to participate in volunteer projects to improve the trail? If yes, please provide your e-mail address below:

Answered: 390 Skipped: 113



2. Join the Parks & Recreation Department and *The Anchorage Park Foundation* in endorsing the Anchorage Economic Development Corporation's **Live.Work.Play. Trails Initiative.**

Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	56.92%	222
No	43.08%	168
Total		390

Project Information

Project Website:

<http://www.muni.org/Departments/parks/Pages/ChesterCreekImprovements2.aspx>



Parks and Recreation Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/AnchorageParks>



FOLLOW Parks and Recreation on Twitter:

<https://twitter.com/ANCgreenparks>

Project Contact: Maeve Nevins, Park Planner

E-mail: NevinsMV@muni.org Phone: (907)-343-4135



THANK YOU!

