

Memories + Stories

Comments from Community Meeting #1 on June 8, 2019

The master planning team asked community members to share memories and thoughts to explore the relationships Austinites have with their parks and outdoor spaces, and how that might help inform the design for John Treviño Jr. Metropolitan Park.

What is your favorite memory related to a park?

- family reunions
- birthday parties & graduation parties
- digging for dinosaur bones in the sand with my kids
- rest in a hammock
- family reunions parties! (YES!)
- fireworks & kites
- hanging out w/my grandpa John Trevino Jr.
- swimming & grilling w/ extended family
- resting in a hammock
- long interesting hikes
- family reunions and gatherings
- cruising Chicano Park on Sundays to check out low riders/classic cars
- swimming pool
- Sundays at beach park: BBQing, fishing, hanging out on fishing pier
- lots of flowers
- swim & picnic
- family gatherings
- Easter Sunday egg hunt!

What is your favorite way to spend an afternoon (or morning, or evening) with your family or friends?

- out on lake or at the movies
- reuniones, convivios (reunions, socializing)
- swimming
- swim & BBQ
- hiking, swimming, kayaking, walking dogs
- music & festivities at the park
- bird Watching
- hike/bike trail & relax w/picnic
- swing
- swimming & BBQ w/family & friends
- picnic under a shade tree
- waking among nature: flowers, trees, birds
- volunteering w/my fellow Master Naturalists!
- seesaw
- cultural events like artisan/farmers markets
- hiking & picnic in nature
- bird watching
- hiking (short trail w/kids)
- BBQ/picnic near a pool or water

What is your favorite community event?

- Latino Cultural Arts & Events
- City Nature Challenge!
- small church events like local Gospel, Tejano music event at Pan American
- Pease Park: Eeyore's Birthday!
- street festivals like Pecan Street
- running/races trails
- small scale concerts
- festivals like Pecan Street
- Bubble Palooza
- Eeyore's Birthday, Blues on the Green
- SXSW or any drink for a cause
- museum & history of areas/structure
- fiestas

John Treviño Jr. Metropolitan Park at Morrison Ranch

Community Meeting #2 / Junta Comunitaria #2
www.Austintexas.gov/JohnTrevinoMetroPark



Memories + Stories

Comments from Community Meeting #1 on June 8, 2019

Thoughts and stories from the Story Gathering Station:

“One thing [John Treviño Jr.] said... he used to fish when he was a child over here, so he wanted a safe way for families to still fish, to get down to the river. And he said he would love that – he also wanted the families in the community to get together like we were, to have pavilions and things they can rent out for birthday parties and have their birthday parties in parks.”

“Access to a healthy lifestyle... getting out of the house, playing ball with your family.”

“The first Saturday of every month we get together with our kayaks and binoculars and go down into the river and record all the things that we find – birds, flowers reptiles...”

“I just think that whatever events that happen here have to reflect the surrounding community so it doesn't displace anyone, I'm not sure, the business around, what are they going to do, what are they going to be like. What we would like to have is the people around the community to be part of the park, to be seen as stakeholders.”

“Whenever we would mention the park his eyes would light up with that wonderful Treviño twinkle.” About the promise of the park: “Families could come out here and enjoy it, recreation would be together.”

“It's important to be able to go somewhere to enjoy a place where it doesn't cost an arm and a leg to do. You can put your kids in the car, and go down to the park, and BBQ and you can fish, or hike and just enjoy the outdoors.”

John Treviño Jr. Metropolitan Park
at Morrison Ranch

Community Meeting #2 / Junta Comunitaria #2
www.Austintexas.gov/JohnTrevinoMetroPark



Suggestions for the Park

Analysis from Community Meeting #1 on June 8, 2019 and Survey Questionnaire results

What would you like to see or do at John Treviño Jr. Metropolitan Park?

Online survey and community meeting responses to this question mentioned over 1000 elements and ideas for the park. General trends and highlights are summarized below. The full survey responses and community meeting interactive boards are available on the project website.



What is the most exciting opportunity for John Treviño Jr. Metropolitan Park?

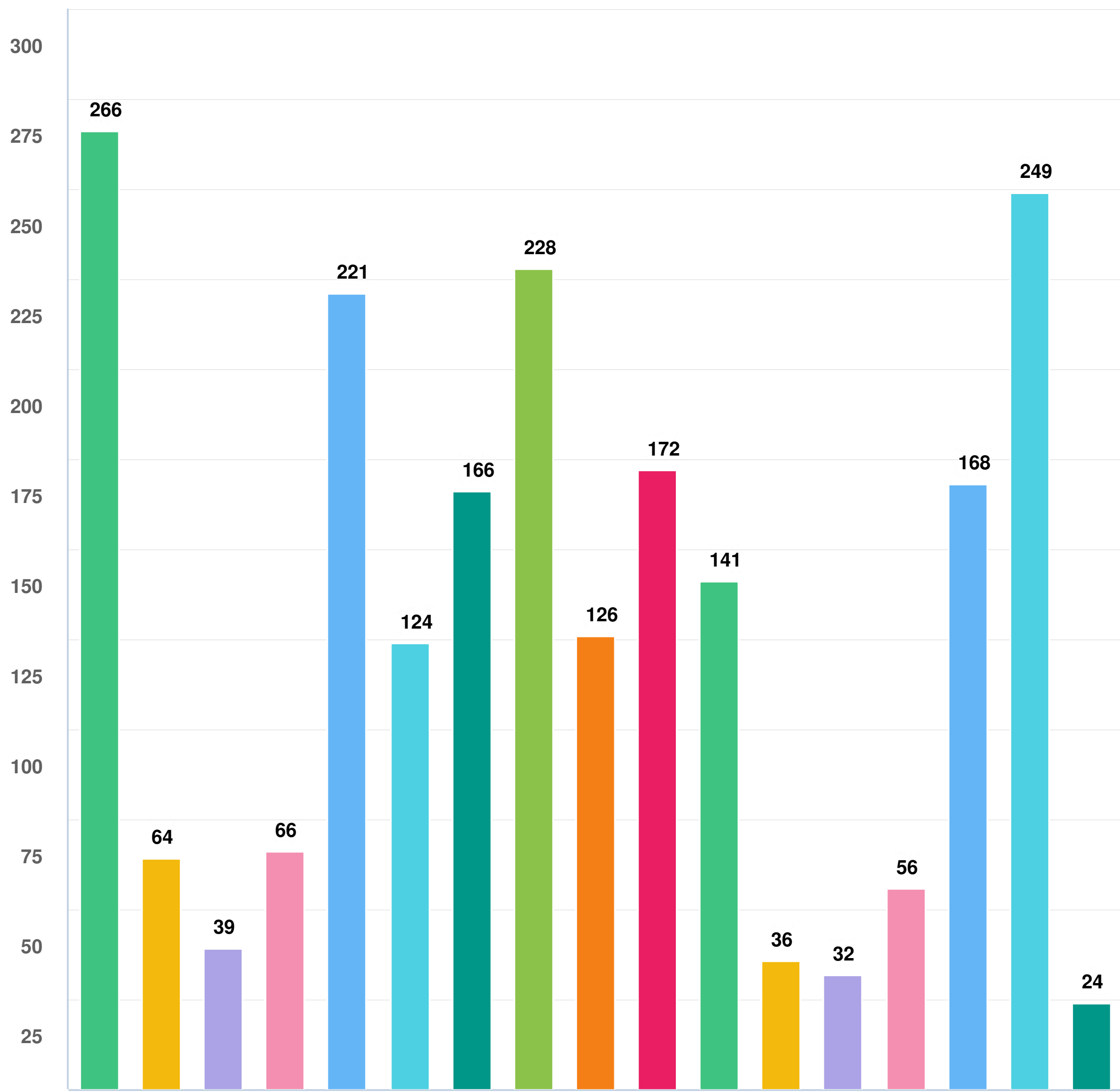


John Treviño Jr. Metropolitan Park at Morrison Ranch

Community Meeting #2 / Junta Comunitaria #2
www.Austintexas.gov/JohnTrevinoMetroPark

How are Parks Currently Used?

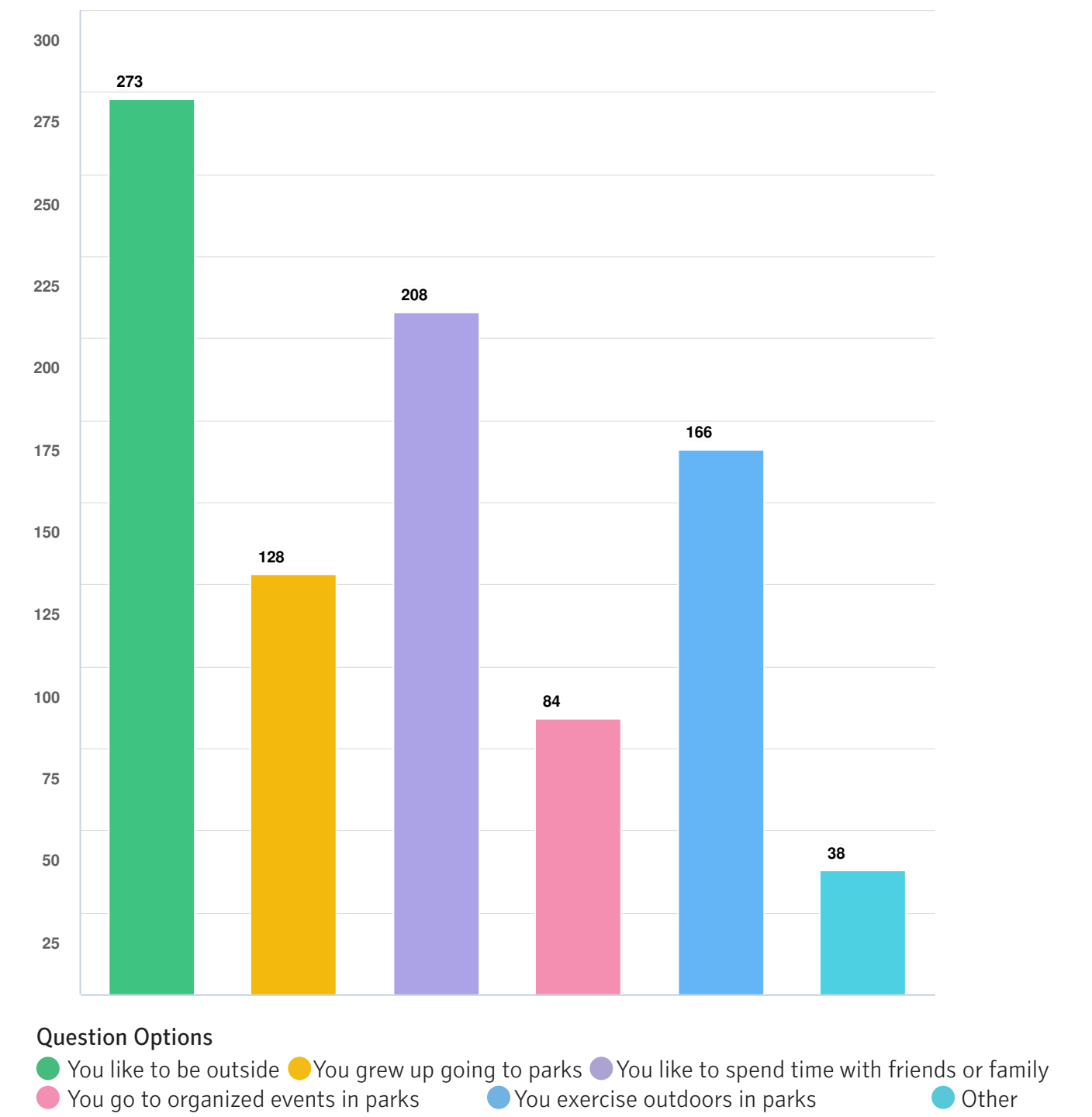
Analysis from 2019 John Treviño Jr. Metropolitan Park Survey Questionnaire results



Question Options

- Walk/Run/Hike/Bike/Horseback riding on trails or paths
- Play sports for an organized game (baseball, soccer, etc.)
- Walk, run or bike for exercise
- Use a playground of play structure
- Attend an events (concert, race or sporting event, cultural event etc.)
- Do water recreation (kayaking, paddle boarding, fishing)
- Make art or listen to music
- Play sports informally (baseball, soccer etc.)
- Individual or group exercise (fitness station, exercise class)
- Have a picnic
- Use a pool or water splash feature
- Garden in a community garden
- Do stewardship or volunteer projects
- Relax outdoors
- Walk a pet
- Enjoy nature
- Other

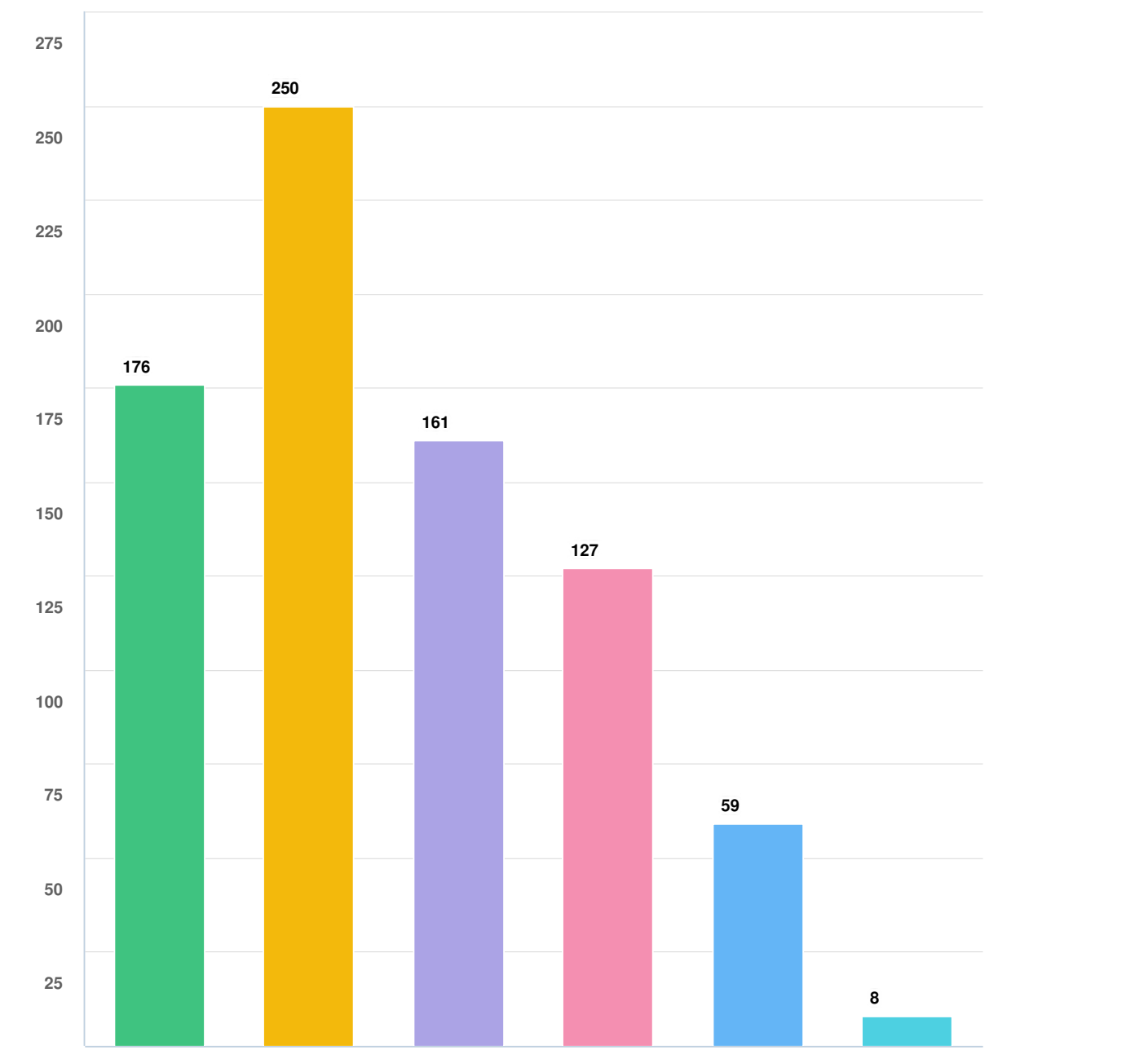
What do you like to do when you visit parks?



Question Options

- You like to be outside
- You grew up going to parks
- You like to spend time with friends or family
- You go to organized events in parks
- You exercise outdoors in parks
- Other

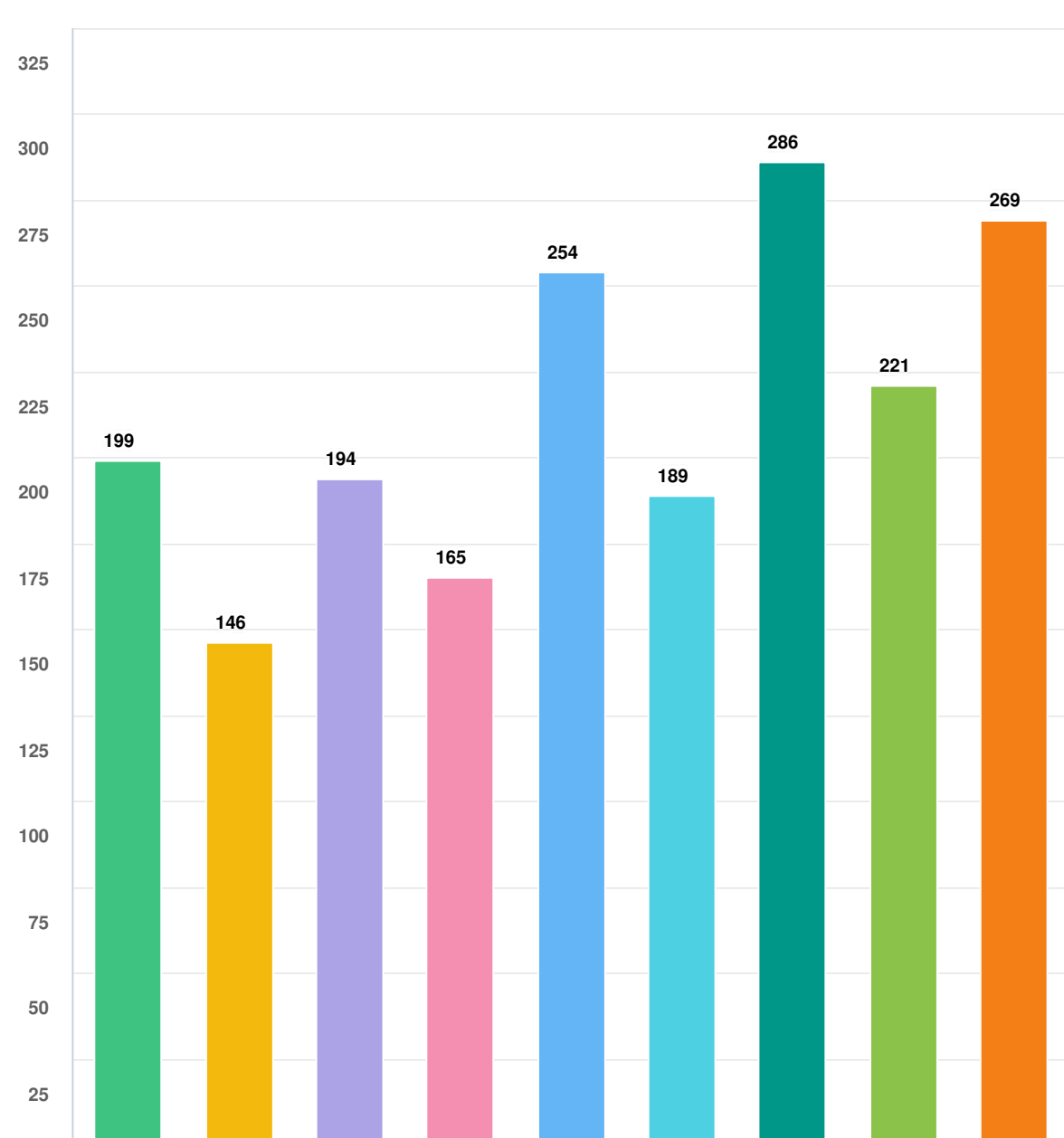
What are the primary reasons you go to parks?



Question Options

- By yourself
- With family
- With a friend
- With a small group (less than four people)
- With a larger group (more than four people)
- Other

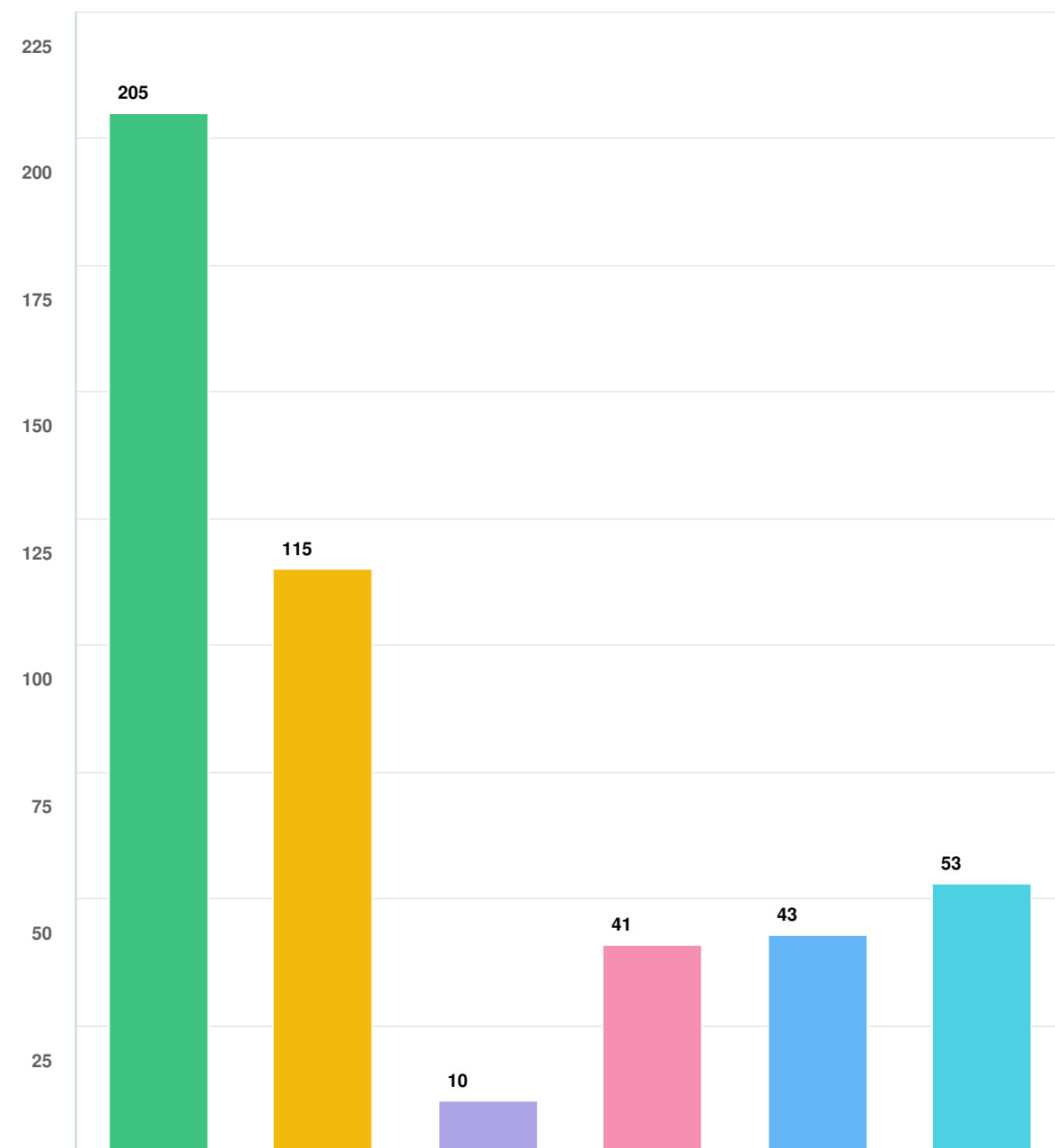
When you visit parks, who do you go with?



Question Options

- Time of day: Morning, Afternoon, Evening
- Days of the week: Weekdays, Weekends
- Seasons of the year: Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall

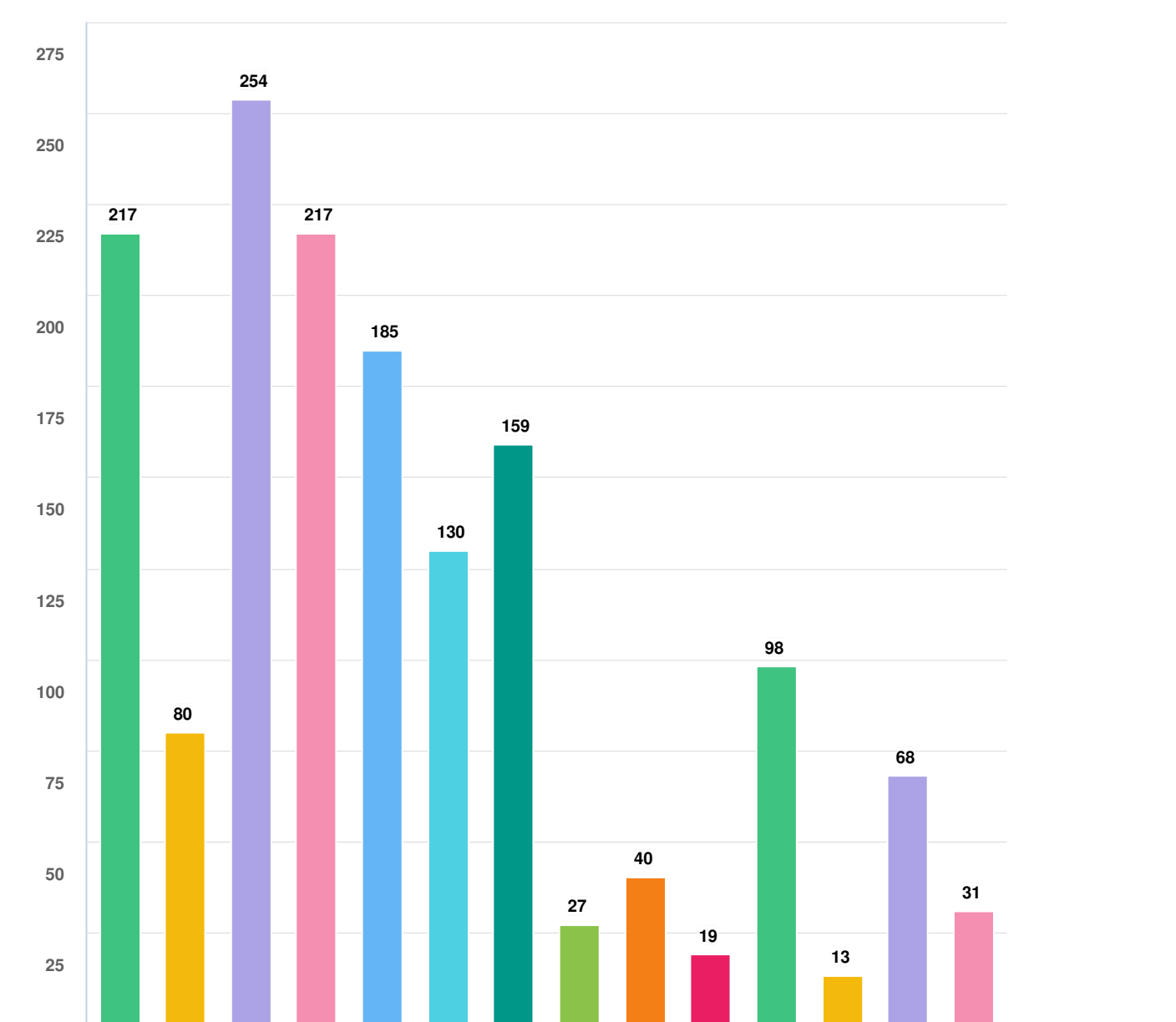
When do you primarily use parks?



Question Options

- They are too far away
- You have other places you would rather spend time
- You don't have time in your week
- You don't feel welcome or safe
- There isn't anything to do there
- Other

What barriers keep you from using parks?



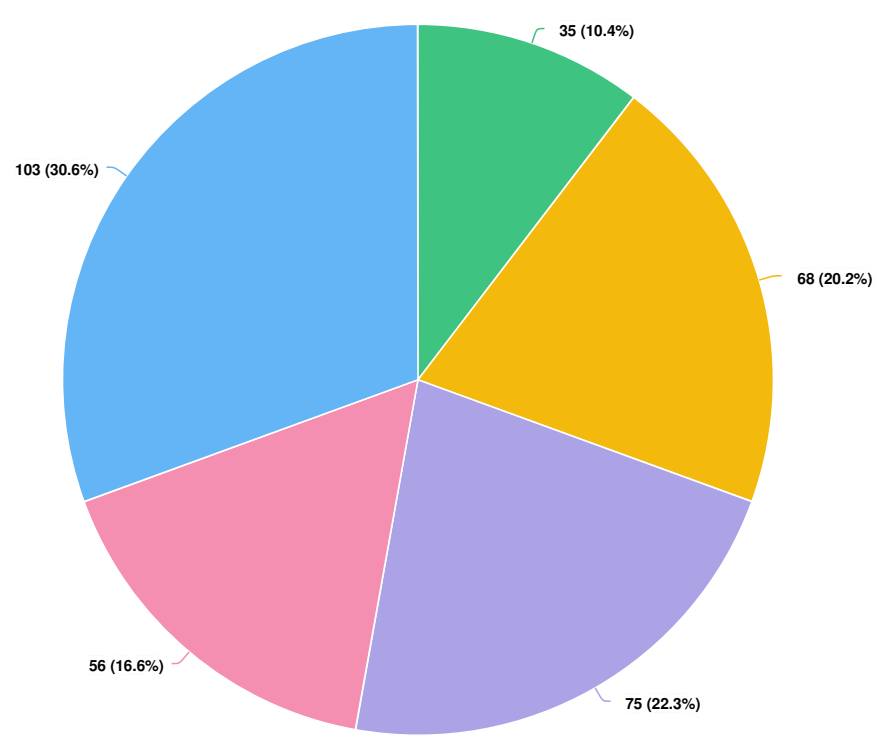
Question Options

- Easy to get to (landscapes, views)
- Lots of diverse activities in the park
- Cleanliness
- Safety
- Beauty (e.g. natural features, landscape, views)
- Quiet places and places to relax
- Places to connect with nature
- Places to connect with art and culture
- Community events
- Educational experiences
- Places to exercise or be active
- Organized Activities
- Opportunities to socialize, be with family or friends
- Other

What makes a park valuable to you?

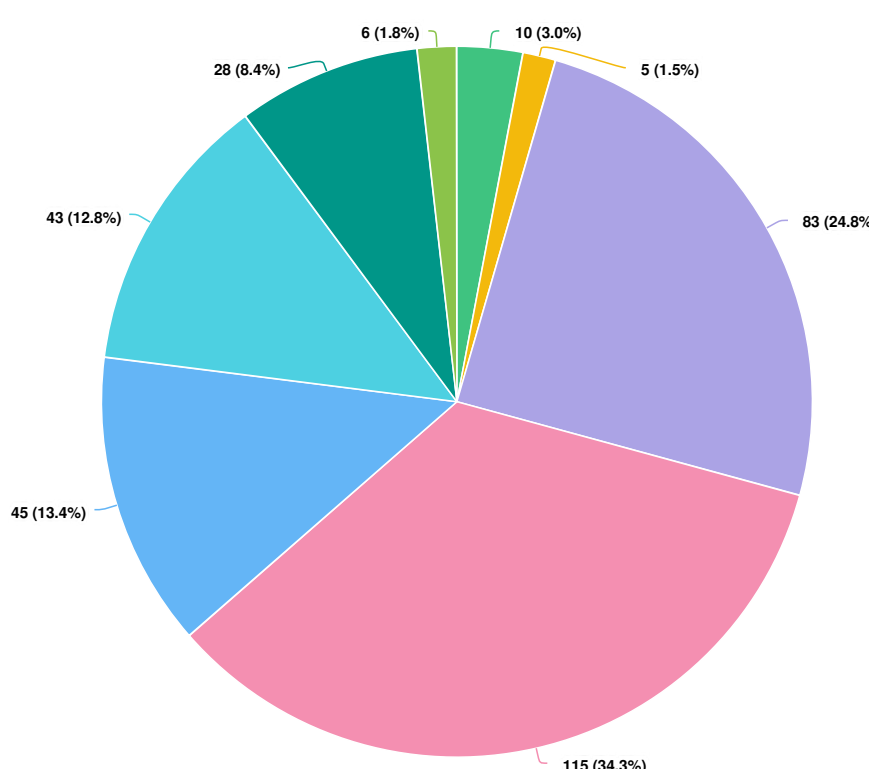
Who Took the Survey?

Analysis from 2019 John Treviño Jr. Metropolitan Park Survey Questionnaire results



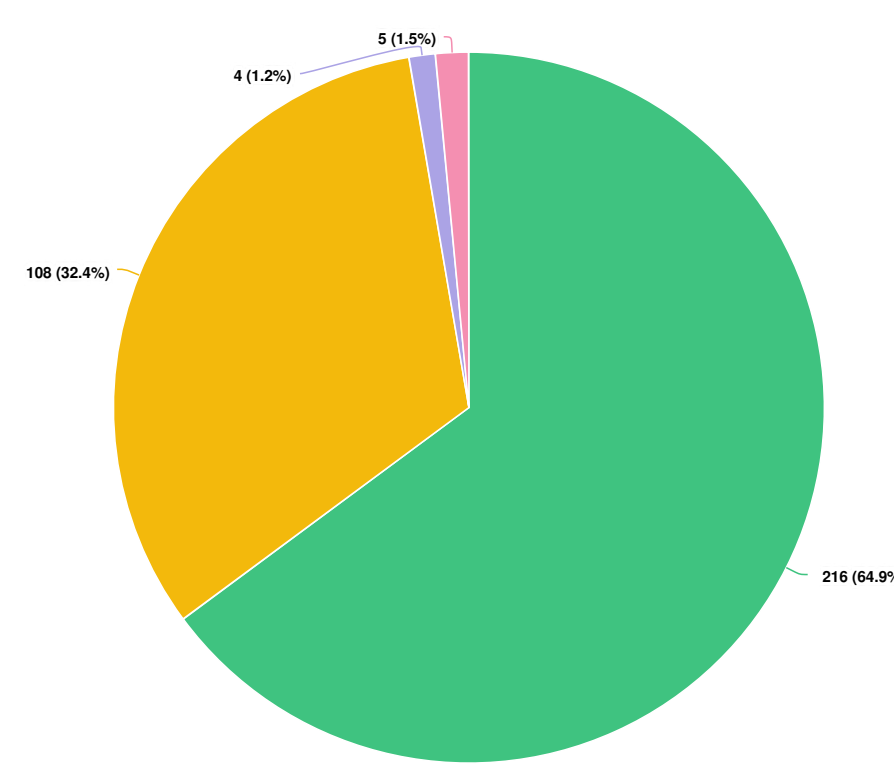
Question Options
 Less than 5 years 5-10 years 11-20 years
 21-30 years More than 30 years

How long have you lived in Austin?



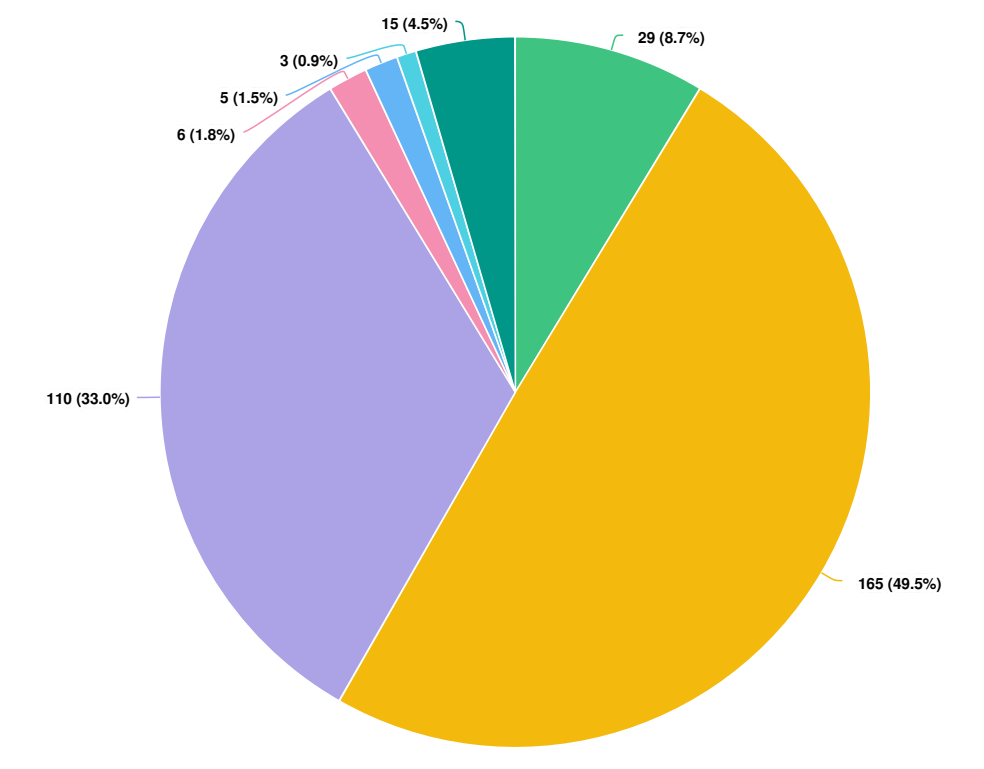
Question Options
 17 and under 18-25 26-34 35-44
 45-54 55-64 65-74 75 and over

What is your age?



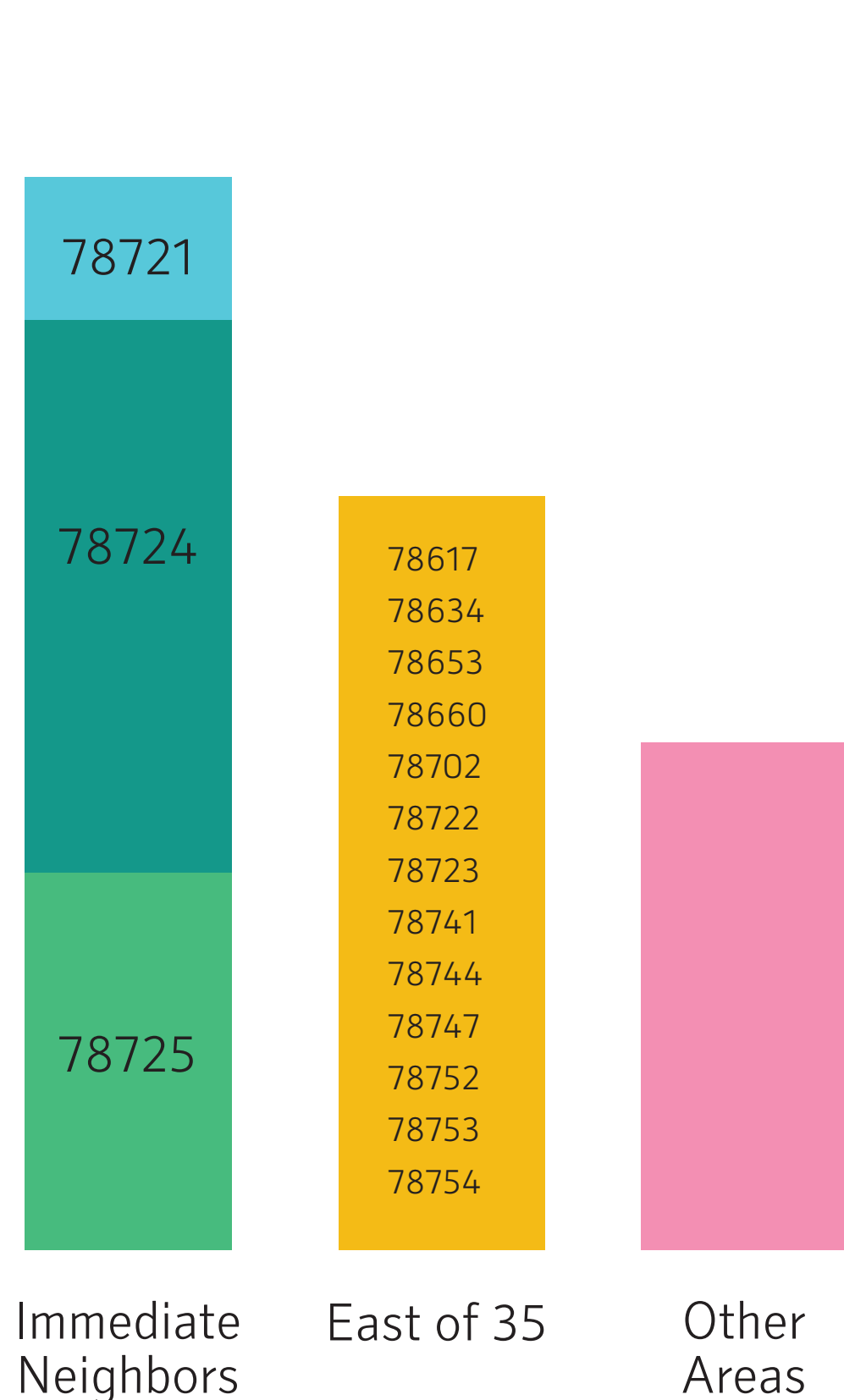
Question Options
 Female Male Non-binary Prefer not to answer

What is your gender?

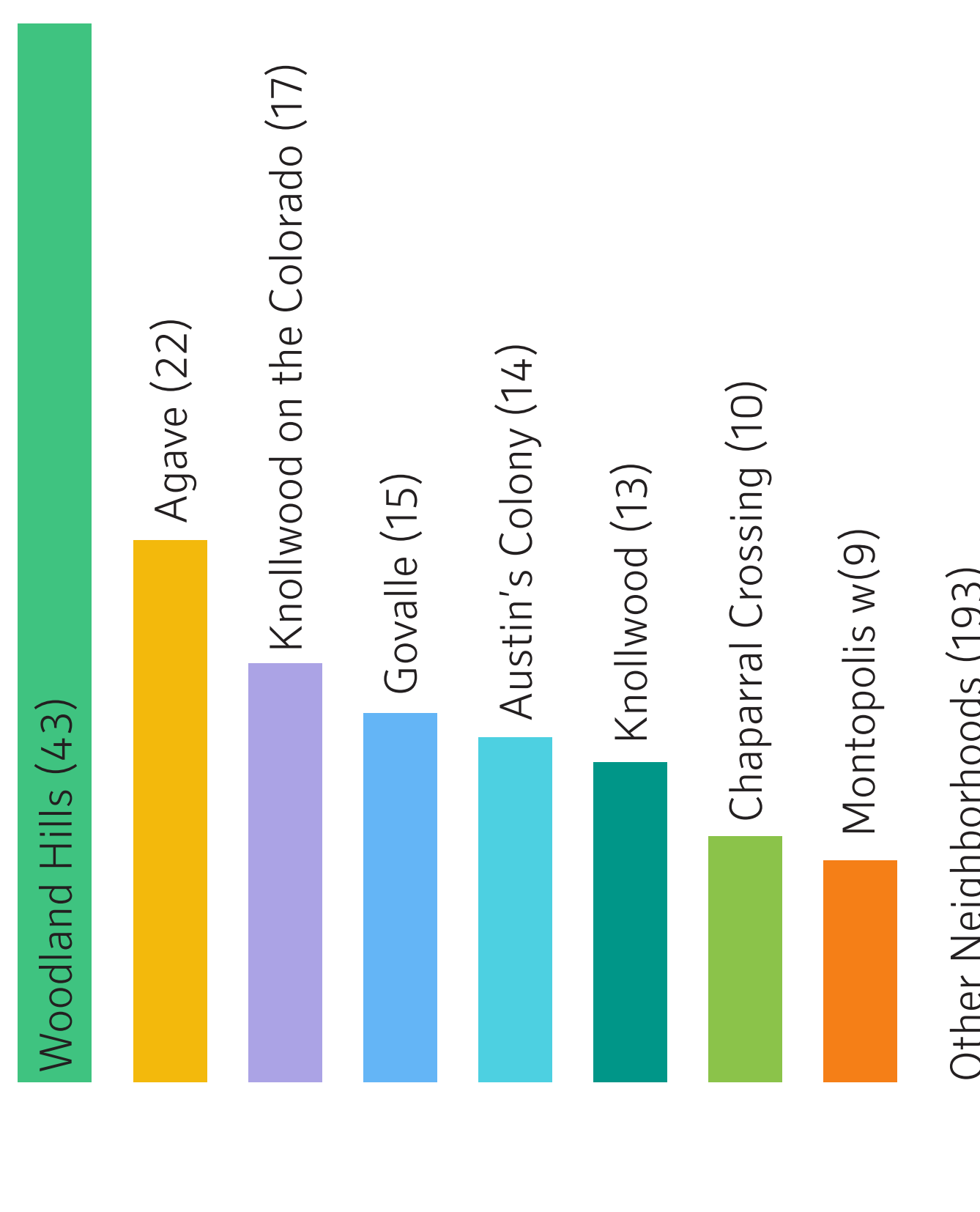


Question Options
 Black or African-American White or Caucasian Latino or Hispanic
 Asian or Asian-American Biracial or Multiracial Other
 Prefer not to answer

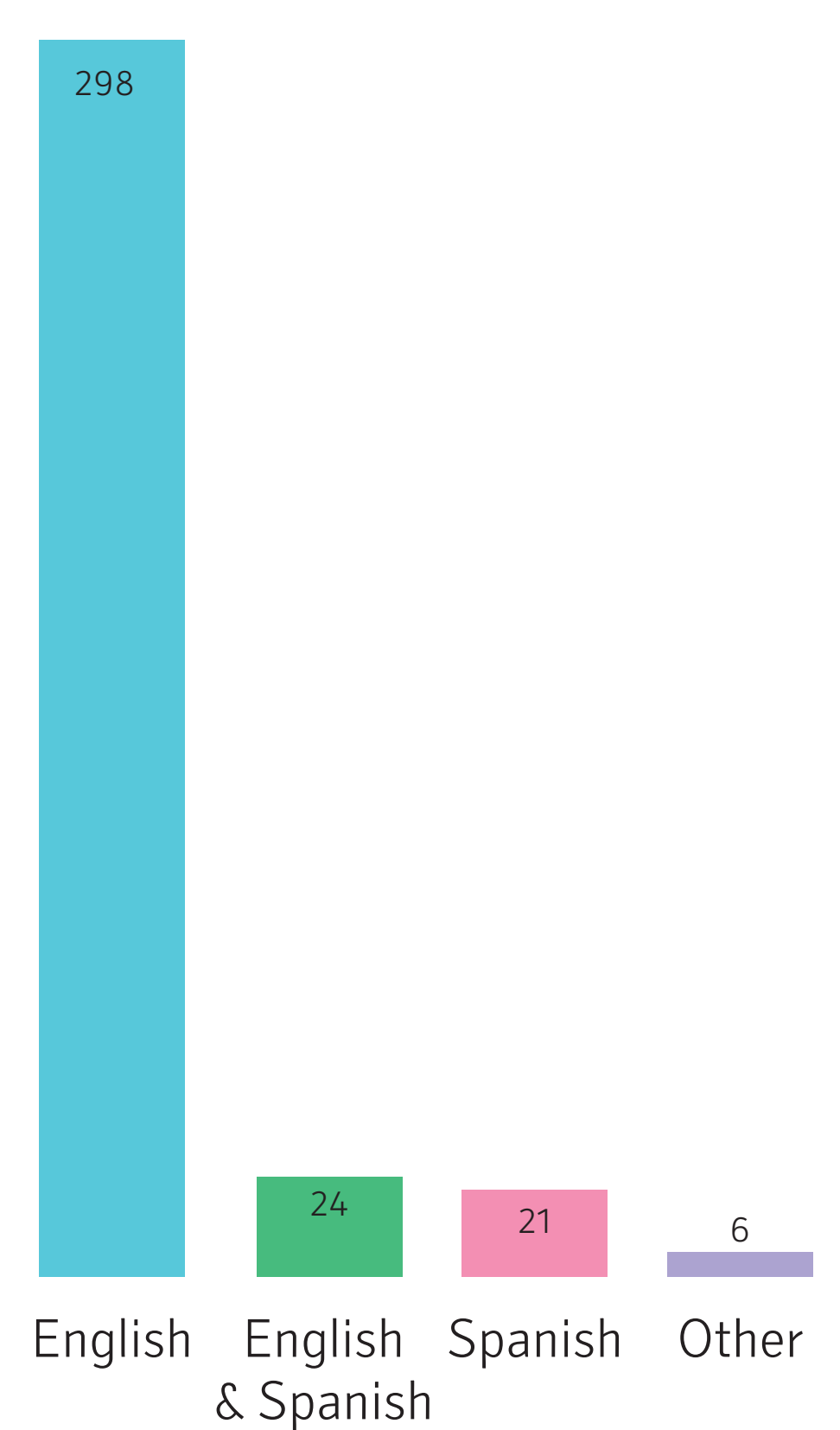
What is your race/ethnicity?



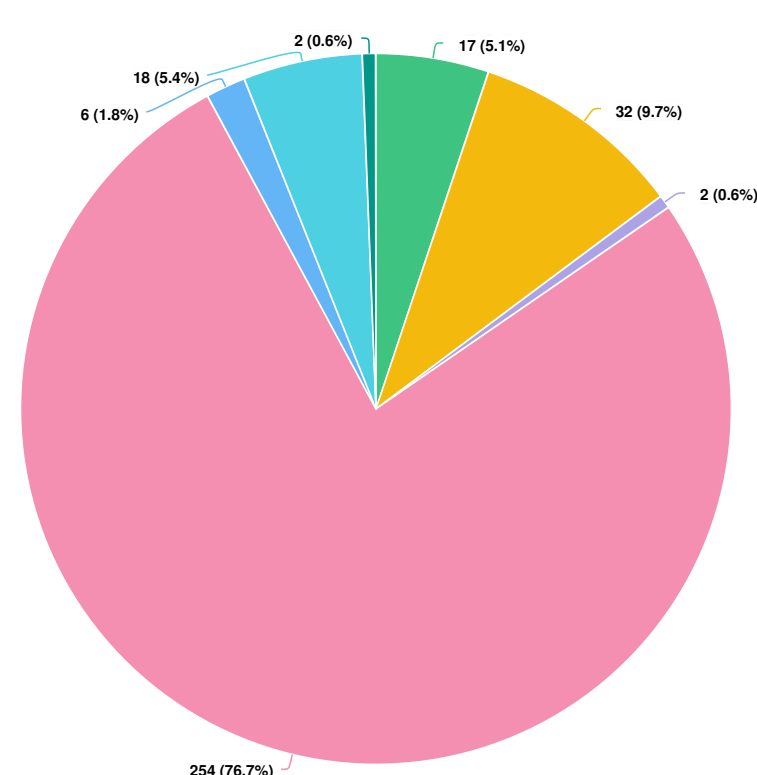
What is your home zip code?



What is the name of your neighborhood?

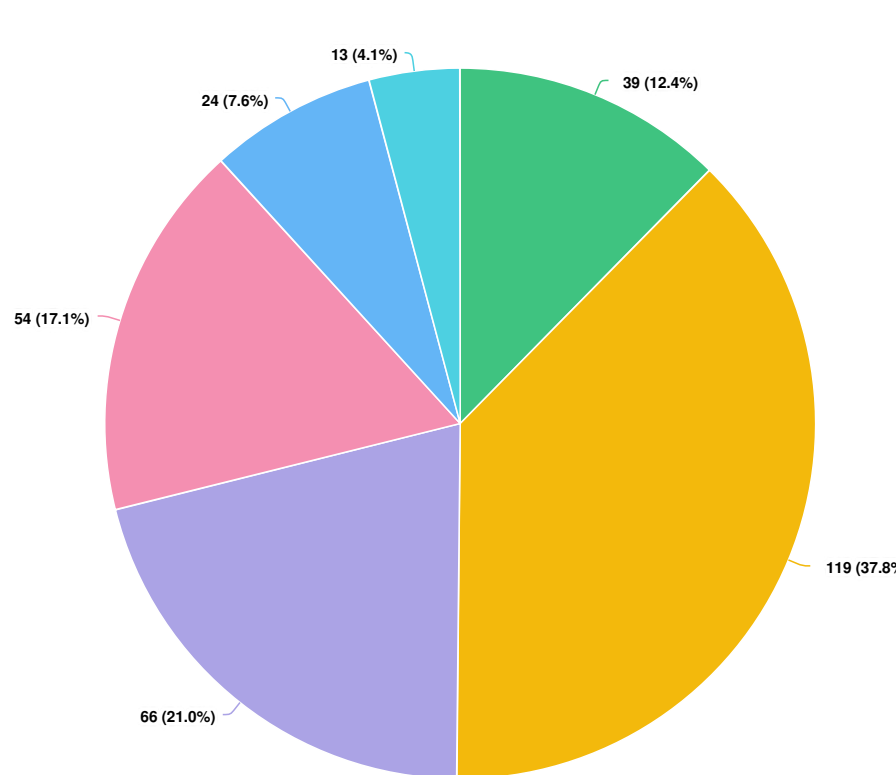


What is the primary language spoken in your home?



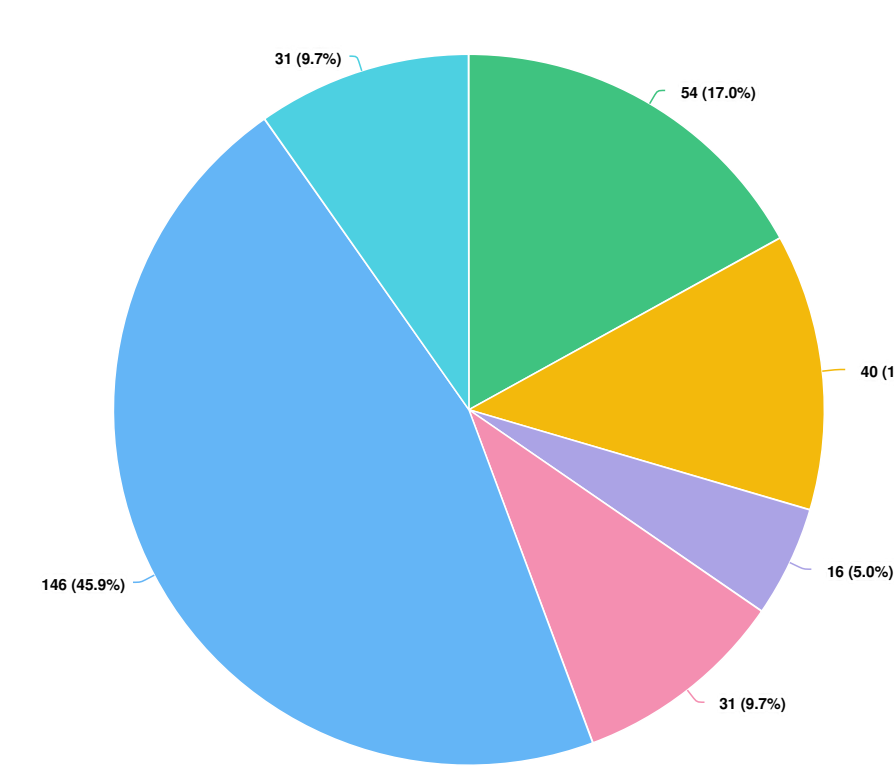
Question Options
 I rent an: Apartment House Townhouse/Condo
 I own a: House Townhouse/Condo
 I live in my parents', relatives, or a friend's home Other

Describe where you currently live?



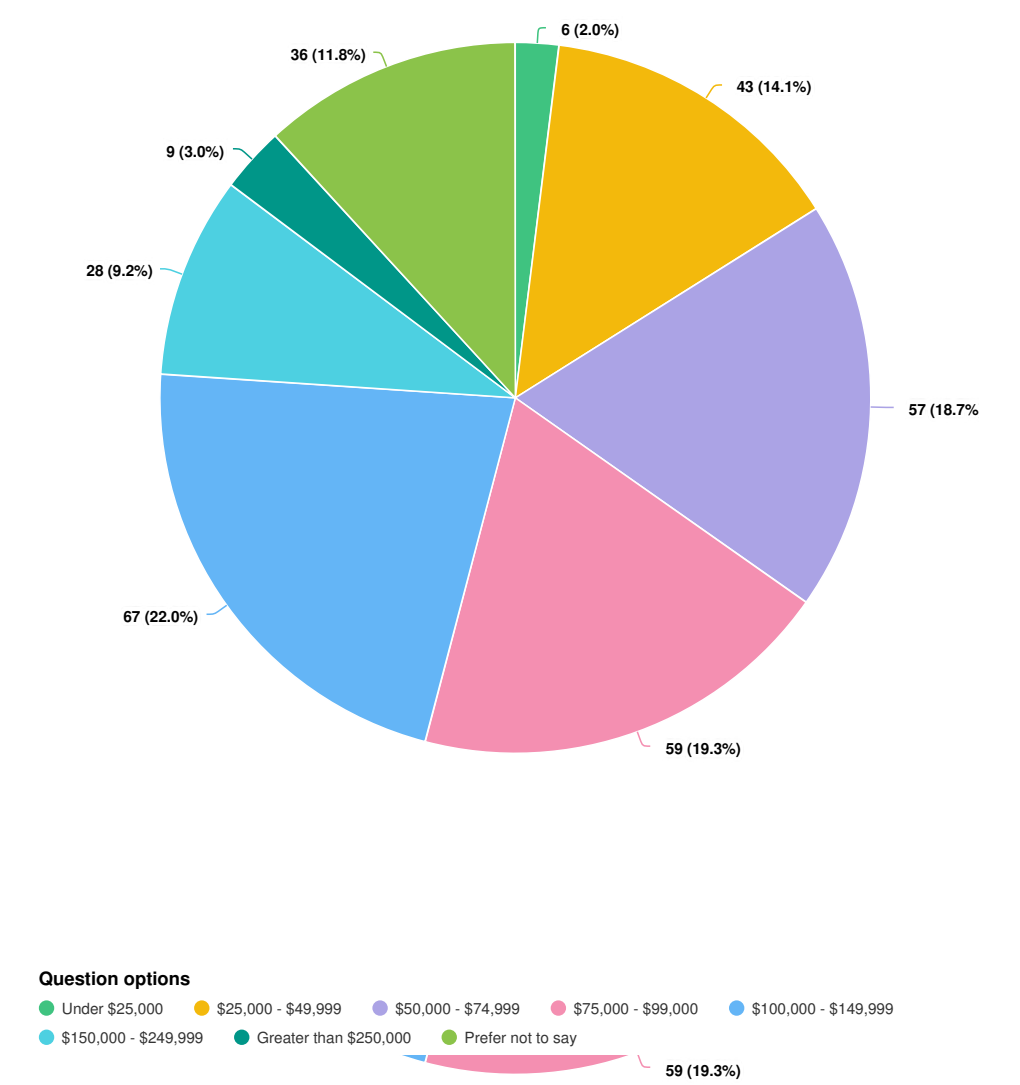
Question Options
 1 2 3 4 5 6+

How many individuals live in your household?



Question Options
 I have children under age 5 I have children between ages 6-12
 I have children between ages 13-17 I have children over age 18
 I don't have children I have grandchildren

What is your current parenting status?



Question Options
 Under \$25,000 \$25,000 - \$49,999 \$50,000 - \$74,999
 \$75,000 - \$99,000 \$100,000 - \$149,999 \$150,000 - \$249,999
 Greater than \$250,000 Prefer not to say

What is your approximate household income?

Vision for Treviño Park

Based on input from small group discussions, Community Meeting #1, and Survey Questionnaire results to date

The success of the future park will come with the ability to connect the site's rich layers of ecology, site heritage, and the mission of John Treviño Jr. in a place that offers new opportunities to residents. Rather than isolating traditional park uses that are often understood as oppositional, this place seeks to develop new relationships and synergies that address the benefits of diversity and the value of connections in this public land resource.



Advance the Legacy of John Treviño Jr.

The legacy of John Treviño Jr. should encompass all aspects of this park. The park should honor and communicate the memory of one of Austin's great civic leaders, and it can continue his legacy for future residents. John Treviño Jr. broke down barriers in support of many who face a long history of discrimination and he helped bring essential services to many who have long been denied adequate resources. The park should also acknowledge the East Side's Hispanic and Latinx culture, and support culturally appropriate events that celebrate this growing history.

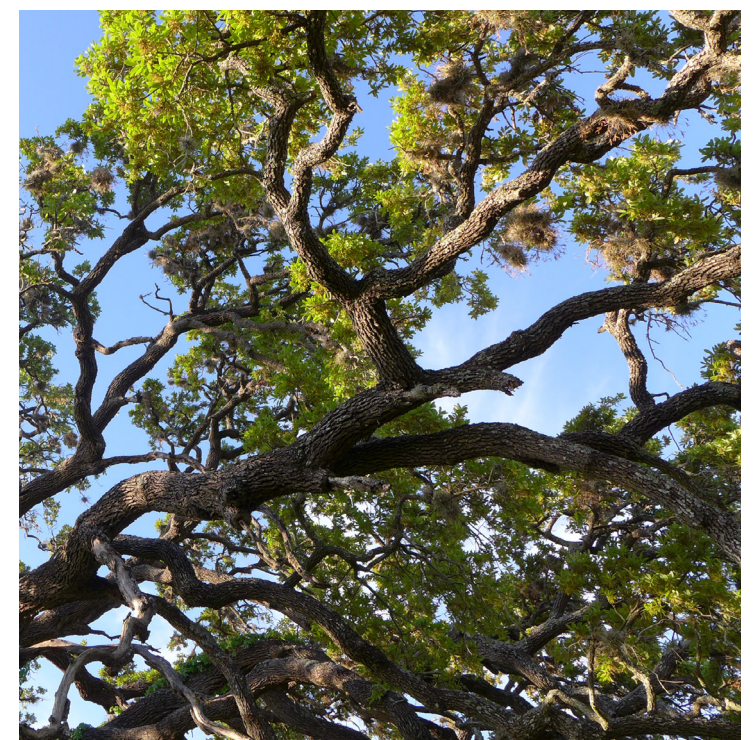
The park should set new expectations of what a public space and natural resource can offer residents to improve their health and well-being, the strength of their communities, and their opportunities for education and growth. This resource needs to be accessible and welcoming to all through the kinds of activities offered within the park and their means of access. This park should serve as a point of connection between residents and the many partner organizations working around the park. Neighbors should feel empowered to be involved in the shaping of all stages of the park's evolution to ensure it meets their needs and embodies their values as this rapidly changing part of the city continues to grow.



Adapt the Heritage of the Site

The earliest inhabitants of what is now Austin and this site area along the Colorado River were American Indians who camped and hunted along waterways. In the late 1800s, Western settlers divided the land into parcels for grazing and farming. Prior to becoming a park, this site was the Morrison Ranch where the land was farmed and grazed for decades. The artifacts of this heritage are imprinted on the land and legible throughout the park. Fences, barns, gates, and giant trees all remain as markers of a past life of this place where people carried out their daily lives and cultivated the land. Evidence of this history is increasingly hidden as Austin grows and farmland is turned into housing.

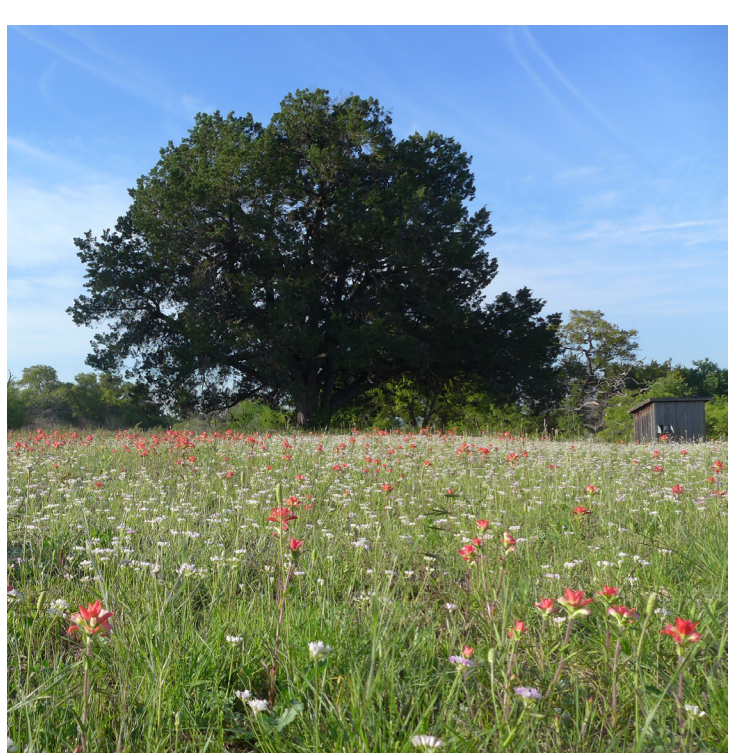
The park can build on the specific existing conditions to inform future opportunities. Rather than erasing or treating the site as a blank slate, it is important to acknowledge the richness of what is already there embodied in the land. Physical structure is not the only trace of this history, but also the act of engaging with the land as a productive community resource that is in sync with seasonal cycles. Incorporating the patterns of fields, fences, and this historical character of land use is essential to preserving the essence of the place as we know it today.



Engage the Intersection of Land and River

A fundamental asset of the park site is its position at the intersection of the upland prairie and the riparian corridor of the Colorado River. As such it is an opportunity to engage the blackland and post oak ecologies that once defined the region and the river valley that is a vital feature of the City of Austin.

A park within this context draws these two fundamental geological and ecological systems into the contemporary city. Providing all residents, particularly those who have not historically had access to such natural environments, opportunities to discover, recreate, learn, and contribute to the future health of these important ecologies is a great potential asset of this place. Increasing the diversity of species and the health of the larger watershed is critical as the city grows around the park. Providing people with a place to gather and enjoy such natural resources as a part of their place and their lives can have positive impacts.



John Treviño Jr. Metropolitan Park at Morrison Ranch

Community Meeting #2 / Junta Comunitaria #2

www.Austintexas.gov/JohnTrevinoMetroPark

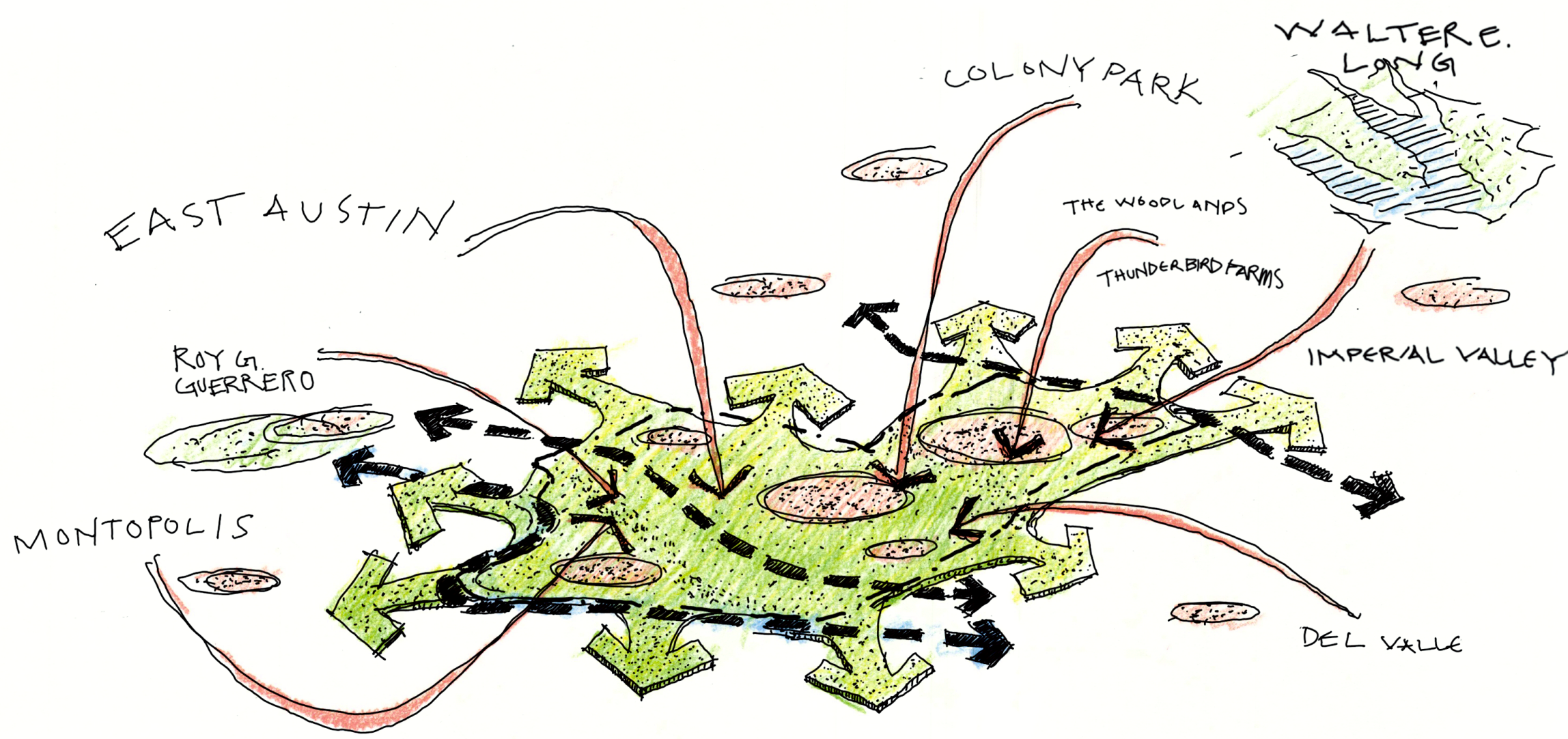


GGN

What is the role of Treviño Park?

Based on input from small group discussions, Community Meeting #1, and Survey Questionnaire results to date

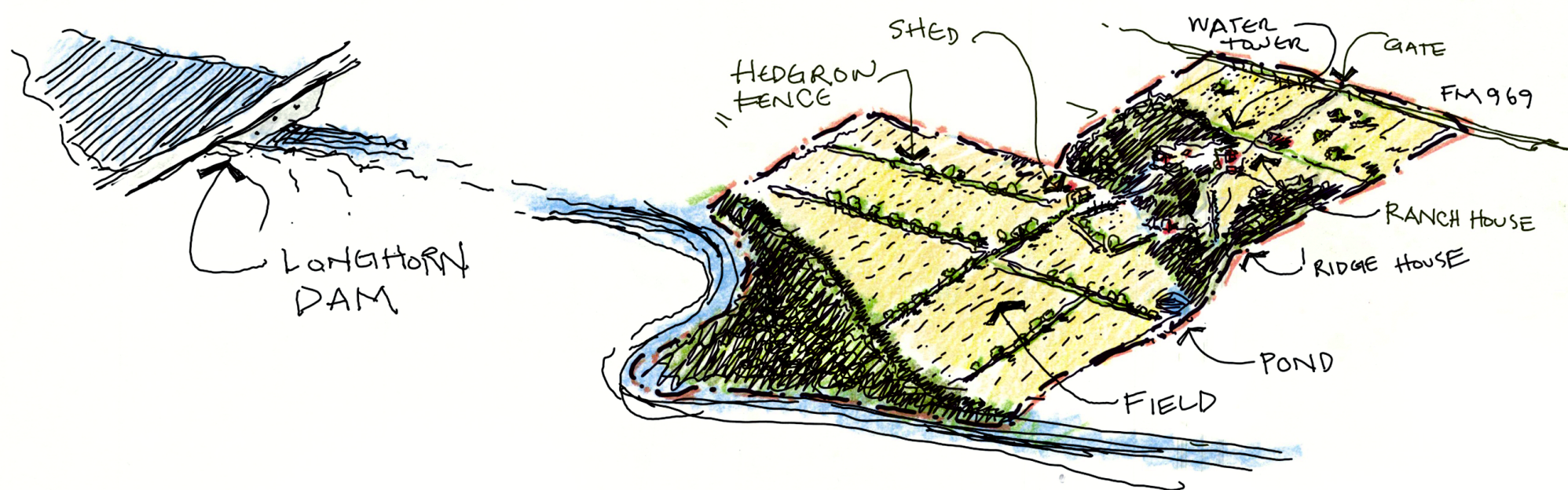
The following draft planning values have been derived from input from small group discussions, community meeting, and survey results to date. These values will guide the planning team in what they suggest through the master planning process.



Advance the Legacy of John Treviño Jr.

To advance the legacy of John Treviño Jr., John Treviño Jr. Metro Park should:

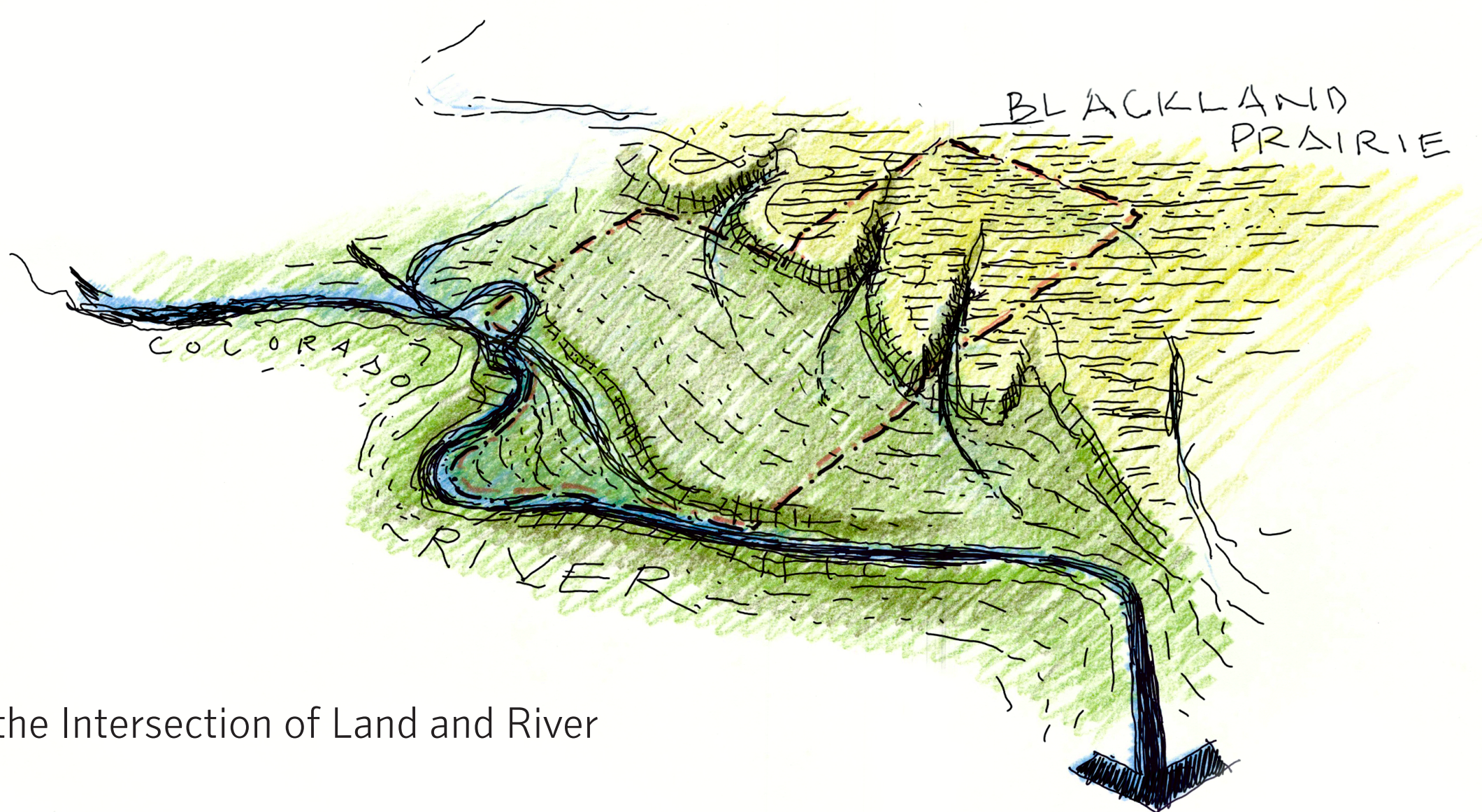
- Serve surrounding residents by providing access and opportunities that have historically been lacking in the area.
- Host activities that promote community building. Activities or events that have a negative impact on the surrounding neighbors or are inaccessible due to cost should be avoided.
- Become a point of connection among residents, organizations, and surrounding parks to build partnerships for a more equitable and healthier neighborhood.
- Honor and communicate the legacy of John Treviño Jr.
- Increase connectivity and public transportation access to the park.
- Emphasize the importance of family by offering a place for gathering that is essential for the communities around the park.
- Offer opportunities for people of all ages to learn about and connect to nature.
- Include places for play and sport that support health and community.



Adapt the Heritage of the Site

To adapt the heritage of the site, John Treviño Jr. Metro Park should:

- Acknowledge the long history and heritage of the land, from indigenous inhabitants to more recent residents and uses.
- Utilize existing structures for new purposes where possible.
- Build on the existing fences and hedgerows.
- Offer a connection to the agricultural history of the region while also adapting to the changes that are brought about by population and development growth.
- Carry the site's productive agricultural heritage into the present and future by exploring possibilities for food production and agricultural education.
- Protect the existing beauty, viewsheds and serene quality of the park.



Engage the Intersection of Land and River

To engage the intersection of land and river, John Treviño Jr. Metro Park should:

- Increase habitat within the park to support a healthier city and river for people, plants, and animals.
- Offer opportunities to learn about the site's unique ecologies.
- Offer safe access to the river.
- Strengthen existing or regenerate erased riparian and prairie ecologies.
- Allow for the ongoing evolution of this unique urban ecology.

John Treviño Jr. Metropolitan Park at Morrison Ranch

Community Meeting #2 / Junta Comunitaria #2

www.Austintexas.gov/JohnTrevinoMetroPark



GGN