

2026 BAINBRIDGE ISLAND PARK, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE PLAN

APPENDIX B. COMMUNITY SURVEY REPORT

Survey Methodology

The 2025 Bainbridge Island Parks and Recreation Survey was designed by RRC Associates, in collaboration with Park District staff, Park Board members, and Framework using a traditional mail invitation approach with access to complete the survey online or by smartphone through a password protected website. The goal was to reach a representative population sample to best reflect the needs and priorities of Bainbridge Island residents. The mailed invitation, also referred to as the Invite Survey, was structured to reach a random selection of households. In total, 5,000 households on the island were selected through a systematic random sampling approach to participate in the survey. Additionally, available phone numbers associated with the selected addresses were sent a SMS text message reminder to complete the survey.

RRC uses a variety of sources for mailing lists, and in order to get the most accurate resident information, most data are obtained from multiple data sources including change of address forms with USPS, tax rolls, credit reporting agencies (like Experian, Transunion, and Equifax), voter registration lists, utility connects, bill processors, and so on. For Bainbridge Island, the list was purchased from Data Axle(dataaxleusa.com/about-us).

Responses were collected from all areas across Bainbridge Island, representing wide geographic participation. In total, the Invite Survey generated 389 responses, resulting in a margin of error of +/-4.94% at a 95% confidence level. That means, if you were to conduct the survey 100 times using the same sampling and data collection procedures, 95 times out of 100 the results from the survey would fall within with the margin of error which was +/- 4.94%. A common target for margin of error is +/-5%.

To further ensure results represent residents of Bainbridge Island, Invite Survey responses are weighted by age, home ownership, presence of children, and sex using the 2023 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates to better represent the population. In this case, younger residents were not as well represented; weighting is therefore applied to ensure younger residents are given a representative share of responses. This is a common practice in survey research and facilitates representative results.

Conclusion

The methodology is used to produce the Comprehensive Plan Survey follows a standardized approach within the scope and budget allocated to the research. The project relies on a random sample of respondents from across Bainbridge Island to participate. Statistical weighting was employed to mitigate potential impact of responses bias and to improve proportional representation of specific demographics cohorts when compared to the 2023 ACS 5-Year Estimates. All of these additional steps taken together allow for valid and reliable results from residents.



BAINBRIDGE ISLAND METROPOLITAN PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT

Comprehensive Plan Survey Report



Bainbridge Island
Metro Park & Recreation District



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INTRODUCTION

- The purpose of this study was to gather community feedback on the Bainbridge Island Metro Park & Recreation District parks, recreation facilities, amenities, future planning, communication, and more.
- This survey research effort and subsequent analysis were designed to assist the Park District in developing a plan to reflect the community's needs and desires.



RESEARCH METHODS

1

Statistically Valid (Invitation Survey)

Postcards were mailed to a systematic sample of residential addresses on Bainbridge Island, with instructions to complete online through password protected website (1 response per household). Reminder text messages with a link to the online survey were also sent to help boost response rates.



389

Invitation surveys completed
+/- 4.9% Margin of Error

2

Open Link Survey

Later, the online survey was made available to all Bainbridge Island stakeholders, including non-residents (e.g., commuters, residents of nearby communities)



878

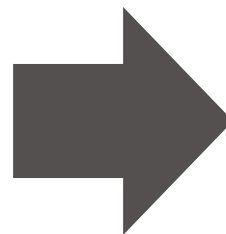
Open Link surveys completed

1,267
Total Surveys
Completed

5,000 Postcards Mailed
(4,898 delivered)

| WEIGHTING THE DATA

The demographic profile of the Invite sample is compared to known statistics of Bainbridge Island residents using 2023 ACS 5-Year Estimates provided by the US Census Department.



Underlying data from the invitation survey is weighted by the age, gender, housing tenure (own/rent), and household makeup (presence of children) of Bainbridge Island residents to ensure appropriate representation.

The weighting process changes the results only slightly but ultimately makes the results more accurate and representative of the population.



KEY FINDINGS

KEY FINDINGS



Two samples were collected in the survey effort—the statistically valid Invite sample and the Open link sample—both of which had strong response rates. The Invite is representative of the whole population of Bainbridge Island, including parks and recreation users and non-users; therefore, the Invite sample is considered more reliable. Respondents from the Open link survey are more represented by families and frequent users. Together, both samples provide an excellent source of input on topics addressed throughout the survey.



Satisfaction with services, facilities, and natural areas is consistently high. Satisfaction is strong across all categories, with Invite respondents generally rating higher. “Opportunities for recreation and exercise” and “accessible natural areas and shoreline” top the list, while “resources for community needs and programming” ranks lowest, especially in the Open link sample.



Natural areas, trails, and shoreline access are the community’s highest priorities. These amenities are rated as the most important, with most needs being met. Shoreline access, however, rated higher in importance than meeting the needs of the community, indicating some room for improvement.

KEY FINDINGS



Nature-based and fitness activities are the most common uses of parks. Access to natural areas and personal fitness are the top reasons for visiting parks. Other common activities include dog walking, walking/running, and shoreline access—highlighting the importance of nature preservation and active recreation.



Expanding trails and improving amenities are the top ways to encourage park use. More trail miles and improved trail amenities are the top ways to encourage park use, followed by shade, restrooms, and maintenance.



There is strong engagement in Park District programs. Participation rates are notably higher in the Open link sample (67%) compared to the Invite sample (43%). Respondents most frequently cited cost, program convenience, and the quality of instructors as key factors influencing their decision to participate.



The community's goals center on health, environmental stewardship, and equity. Both samples share the same top goals: active lifestyles, environmental protection, affordability, sustainability, and accessibility.

KEY FINDINGS



Residents show strong support for sustainability and environmental stewardship efforts. Across both samples, there is clear prioritization of sustainability initiatives, with proactive forest management and wildfire mitigation ranking as the highest environmental priorities. Other widely supported actions include waste reduction, resource conservation, and shoreline protection—demonstrating the community’s commitment to long-term ecological health.



Trails are the top funding priority for residents. Both samples direct the most hypothetical funding to trails, followed by parkland acquisition and shoreline access. Open link respondents allocate more to sports courts, splash pads, gym space, and athletic fields. Bond referendums are the most supported funding method.



Email is the preferred method for Park District communication. Most respondents rate Park District communication positively. The recreation guide is the most used source, but email/newsletters are the most preferred, showing strong alignment with current outreach methods.

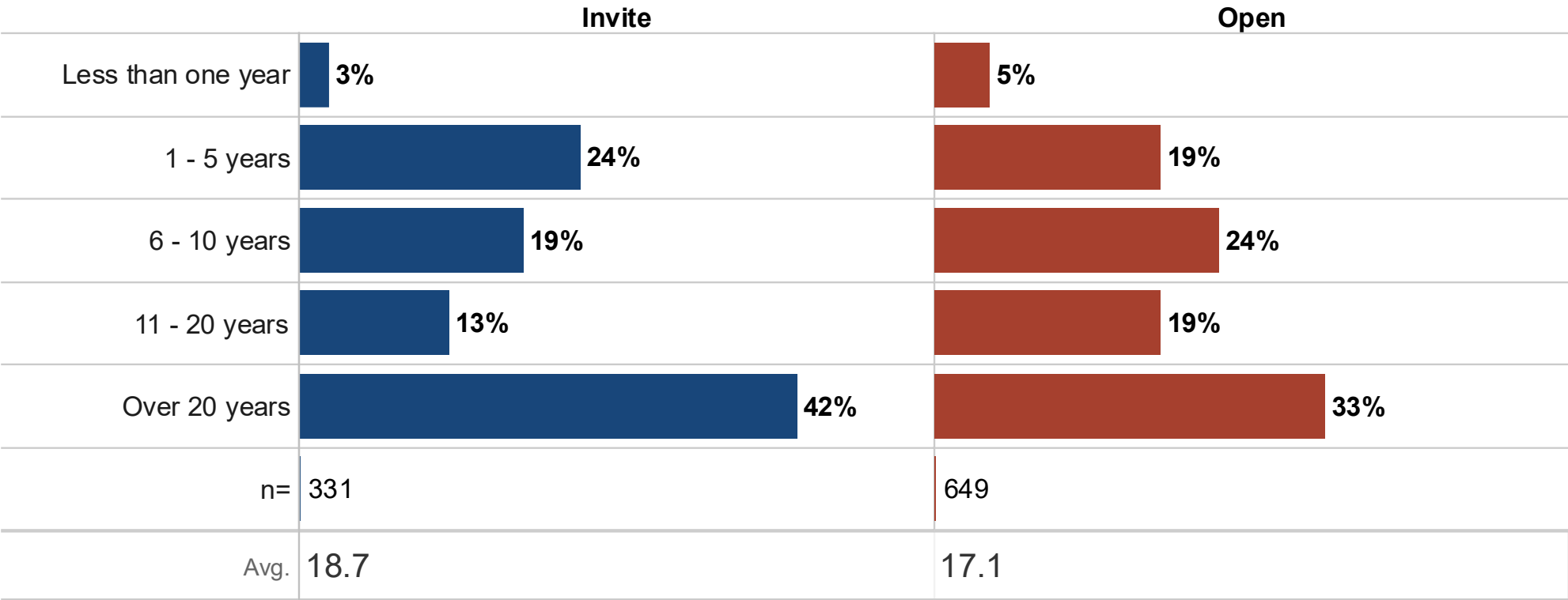


LIVING ON BAINBRIDGE ISLAND

LENGTH OF TIME ON BAINBRIDGE ISLAND

In the statistically valid Invite sample, most respondents (42%) have lived on Bainbridge Island for over 20 years, followed by 27% who have lived there less than five years. The Open link sample, also had a large share of long-term residents (33%), and about a quarter are newer residents, including 5% who have lived there less than one year compared to 3% in the Invite sample. On average, Invite respondents reported living on the island longer (18.7 years) than Open respondents (17.1 years).

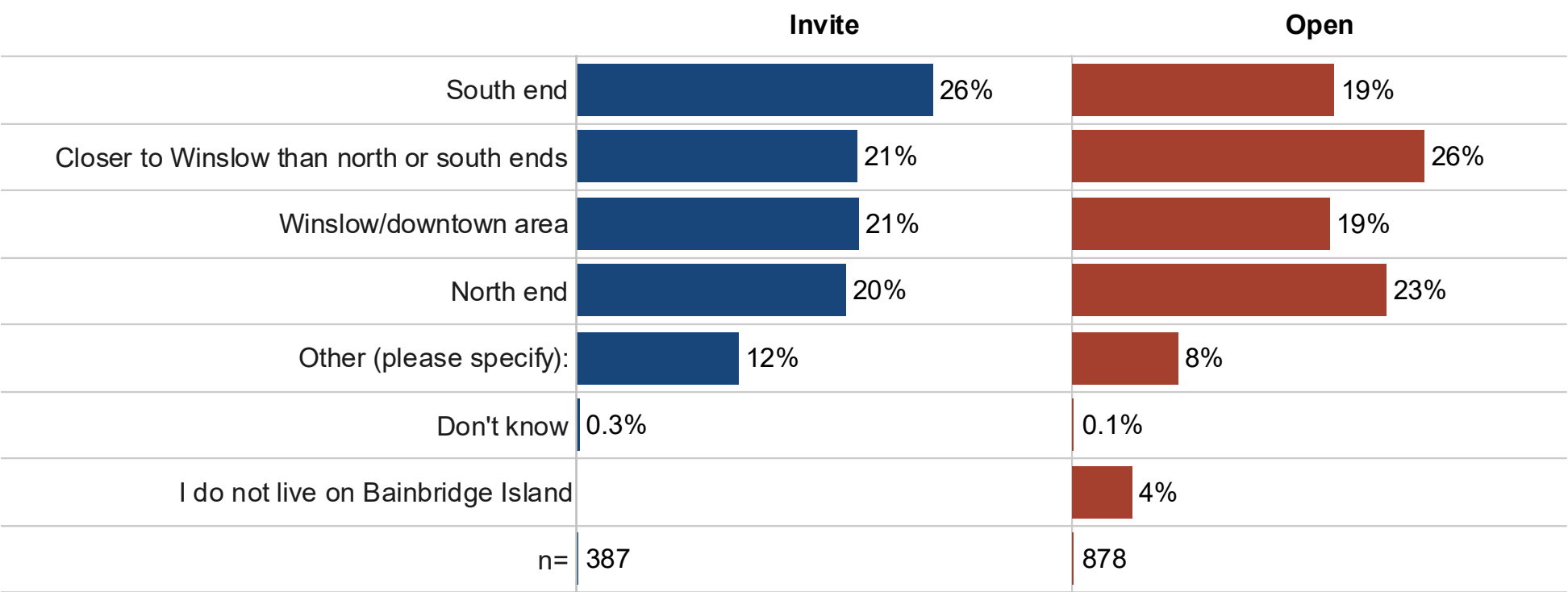
How long have you lived on Bainbridge Island?



LOCATION ON BAINBRIDGE ISLAND

Responses were collected from all areas of the island. The Invite sample is made up of a slightly higher share of south end residents compared to the Open link which is comprised of a greater share of residents closer to Winslow.

Where do you reside on the island?

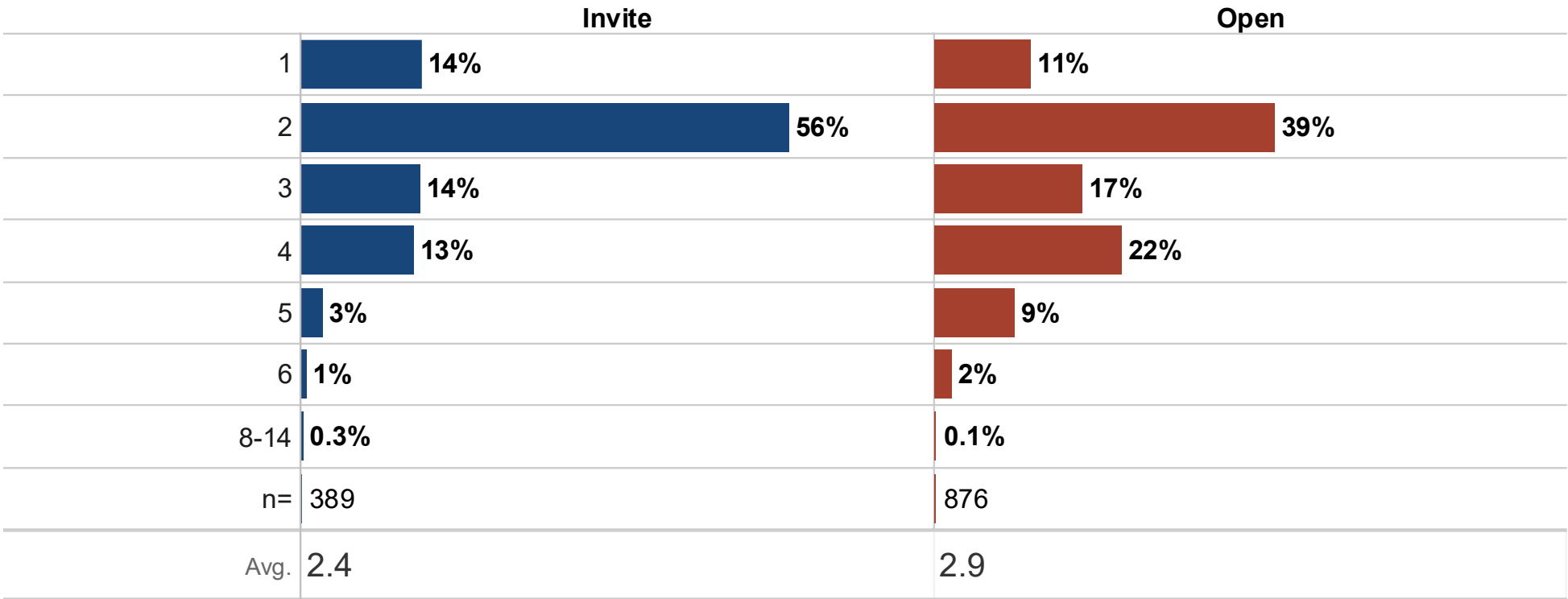


Source: RRC Associates, 2025 Bainbridge Island Metro Park & Rec District Comprehensive Plan Survey

NUMBER OF PEOPLE PER HOUSEHOLD

The majority of Invite respondents come from a two-person household (56%), with an average household size of 2.4 people. The Open link sample recorded slightly higher shares of households with three or more people, with a higher average household size of 2.9.

How many people reside in your household?





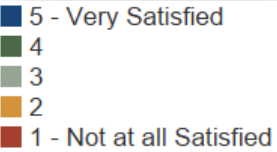
CURRENT USE & SATISFACTION

SATISFACTION

Satisfaction levels are generally high across all categories, with the Invite sample consistently rating services slightly higher than the Open link sample. In both samples, “Opportunities for recreation and exercise” received the highest satisfaction (84% Invite, 79% Open link rating 4 or 5), followed closely by “Accessible or useable natural areas and recreational shoreline” (80% Invite, 81% Open link). The lowest-rated category was “Resources for community needs, programming, and gathering,” particularly in the Open link sample (71% rating 4 or 5 compared to 76% Invite).

Overall, how satisfied are you with the following on Bainbridge Island?

Rating Category		Crosstab by:	Avg.	n=	Percent Responding			
					1 & 2	3	4 & 5	
Opportunities for recreation and exercise.	Invite		4.3	386	3%	12%	31%	53% 84%
	Open		4.1	864	7%	15%	35%	44% 79%
Accessible or useable natural areas and recreational shoreline.	Invite		4.2	387	6%	13%	31%	50% 80%
	Open		4.2	866	5%	14%	39%	42% 81%
Events, facilities, spaces, and programs that provide opportunities for learning, creativity, cultural experiences, and other enrichment.	Invite		4.1	380	3%	21%	36%	39% 76%
	Open		4.1	862	5%	19%	42%	35% 76%
Resources for community needs, programming, and gathering.	Invite		4.1	379	4%	20%	39%	37% 76%
	Open		3.9	853	7%	23%	41%	30% 71%



FACILITIES & AMENITIES – IMPORTANCE

Facilities and amenities that serve the greatest share of residents (recreation areas, trails, shoreline) are the most important to both samples with average ratings of at least 4.5 out of 5. Facilities and amenities with more specific users (athletic facilities, playgrounds, aquatic centers, etc.) saw more divergent ratings, with a more equal distribution between low, moderate, and high importance to residents.

Please rate how important the following facilities and amenities are to your household.

Rating Category		Crosstab by:	Avg.	n=	Percent Responding			
					1 & 2	3	4 & 5	
Natural areas in parks	Invite		4.8	383	1%	3%	81%	97%
	Open		4.6	869	1%	7%	19%	73%
Recreational trails	Invite		4.7	381	1%	2%	19%	78%
	Open		4.6	869	3%	8%	19%	71%
Shoreline access	Invite		4.6	386	2%	5%	19%	73%
	Open		4.5	865	5%	9%	20%	67%
Athletic facilities	Invite		3.4	380	22%	29%	24%	25%
	Open		3.7	858	20%	19%	19%	42%
Bainbridge Island Recreation Center	Invite		3.3	388	29%	23%	21%	27%
	Open		3.4	864	25%	23%	21%	31%
Bainbridge Island Aquatic Center	Invite		3.3	384	29%	20%	24%	27%
	Open		3.4	865	28%	21%	34%	51%
Playgrounds	Invite		3.1	385	21%	24%	21%	20%
	Open		3.2	858	18%	23%	19%	24%
Community buildings and rental facilities	Invite		3.0	384	30%	30%	32%	40%
	Open		3.0	864	18%	35%	23%	34%
Other (specify:)	Invite		4.7	62	4%	2%	81%	93%
	Open		4.6	142	6%	4%	84%	89%

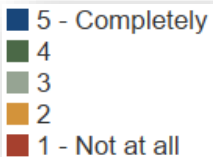
5 - Very important
4
3
2
1 - Not at all important

FACILITIES & AMENITIES – NEEDS MET

Overall, most facilities and amenities are effectively meeting community needs, with particularly high satisfaction for natural areas in parks and recreational trails, both of which also ranked among the most important amenities. Shoreline access, while also rated as highly important, shows a more moderate level of needs being met, suggesting room for improvement. The Invite and Open samples are generally consistent in their ratings, though the Open sample expresses slightly lower satisfaction with the Bainbridge Island Aquatic Center compared to the Invite sample.

Please rate how well these facilities and amenities are currently meeting the needs of the community.

Rating Category		Crosstab by:	Avg.	n=	Percent Responding		
					1 & 2	3	4 & 5
Natural areas in parks	Invite		4.3	359	5%	9%	35% 52% 86%
	Open		4.2	788	3%	10%	46% 41% 86%
Recreational trails	Invite		4.3	355	6%	9%	35% 50% 85%
	Open		4.3	781	3%	11%	44% 42% 86%
Playgrounds	Invite		4.2	246	5%	17%	36% 43% 79%
	Open		4.1	580	2%	17%	44% 36% 80%
Bainbridge Island Recreation Center	Invite		3.9	244	7%	23%	43% 26% 69%
	Open		3.8	599	10%	23%	42% 24% 66%
Community buildings and rental facilities	Invite		3.9	205	6%	22%	52% 21% 72%
	Open		3.8	521	7%	31%	40% 22% 62%
Athletic facilities	Invite		3.8	226	6%	27%	44% 23% 67%
	Open		3.6	600	16%	23%	40% 21% 61%
Bainbridge Island Aquatic Center	Invite		3.8	251	11%	23%	43% 23% 66%
	Open		3.4	617	17% 21%	30%	33% 16% 49%
Shoreline access	Invite		3.5	346	16% 22%	20%	37% 21% 58%
	Open		3.5	753	17%	28%	34% 21% 54%
Other (previously specified)	Invite		2.0	33	34% 46% 80%	9%	10%
	Open		2.3	100	39% 25% 64%	15%	21%



AVERAGE IMPORTANCE- PERFORMANCE MATRIX

Understanding the Importance-Performance Matrix:

The following pages provide a graphical importance/satisfaction matrix comparing the average rating for importance, and the average rating for meeting the needs of the community, for each of the facilities and services rated by respondents. This matrix provides four quadrants in relation to the average ratings from all rated categories. These quadrants help to highlight the level of interest and performance of each, while identifying areas of focus.

High Importance / Low Needs Met

These are key areas for improvement. Enhancing these facilities/programs could significantly improve overall community satisfaction.

High Importance / High Needs Met

Important amenities that currently meet community needs. Maintenance should continue, but major improvements are a lower priority.

Low Importance / Low Needs Met

Niche facilities/programs with a small but dedicated audience. Tracking participation can guide future planning.

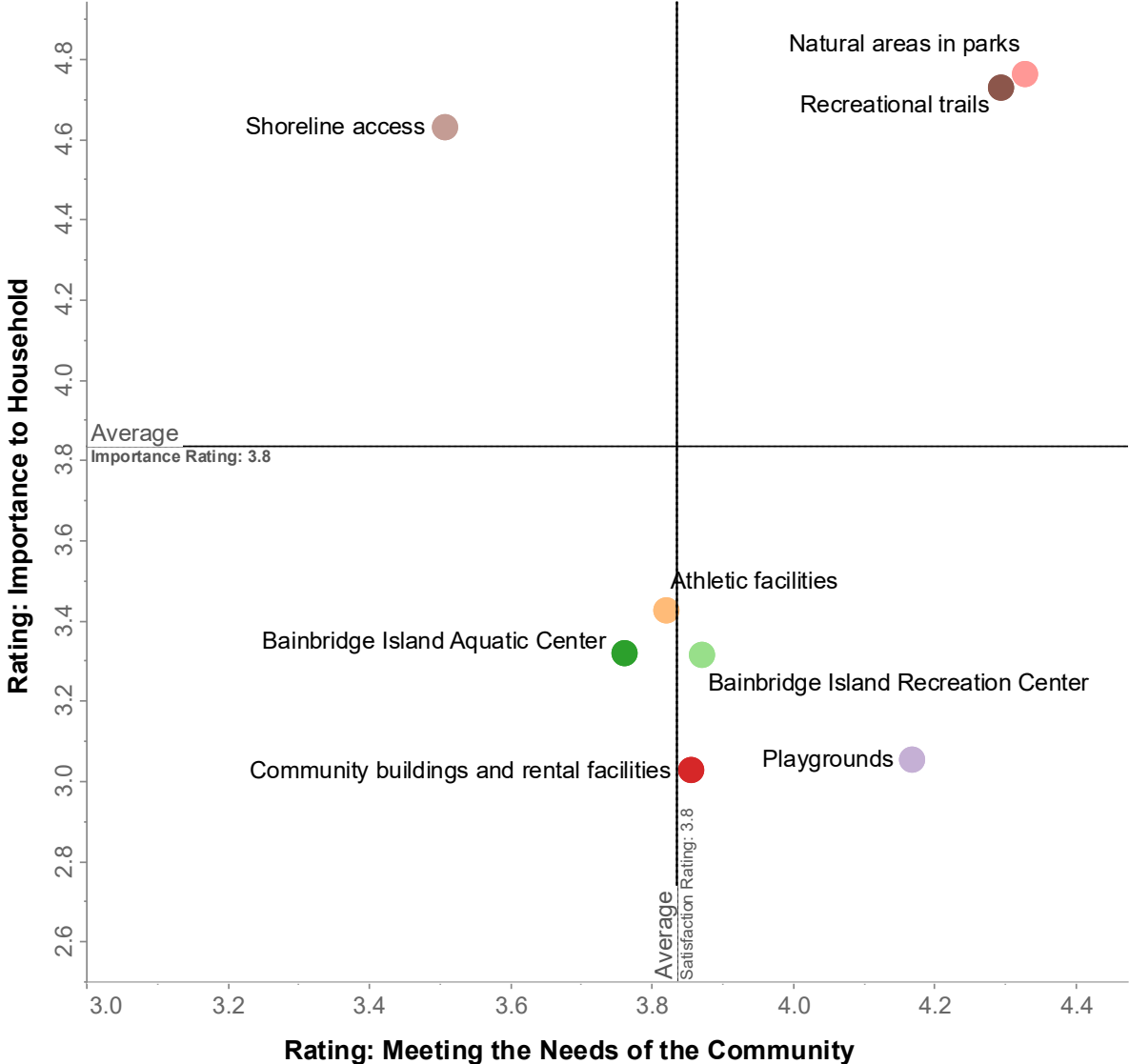
Low Importance / High Needs Met

Adequately supported amenities. Future discussions may consider whether current resource allocation aligns with long-term benefits.

IMPORTANCE/NEEDS MET MATRIX

INVITE SAMPLE

- The only listed item that falls in the high importance/low needs met category for the Invite sample is shoreline access, indicating some room for improvement.
- Natural areas and recreational trails at Bainbridge’s parks are highly important to respondent households and meet the needs of the community well. Continued investment in maintenance will be important to preserve satisfaction.
- All other facilities and amenities are slightly lower priorities on average; however, none of the facilities or amenities are failing to meet the needs of the community, as none received average ratings lower than 3.5 in needs met.

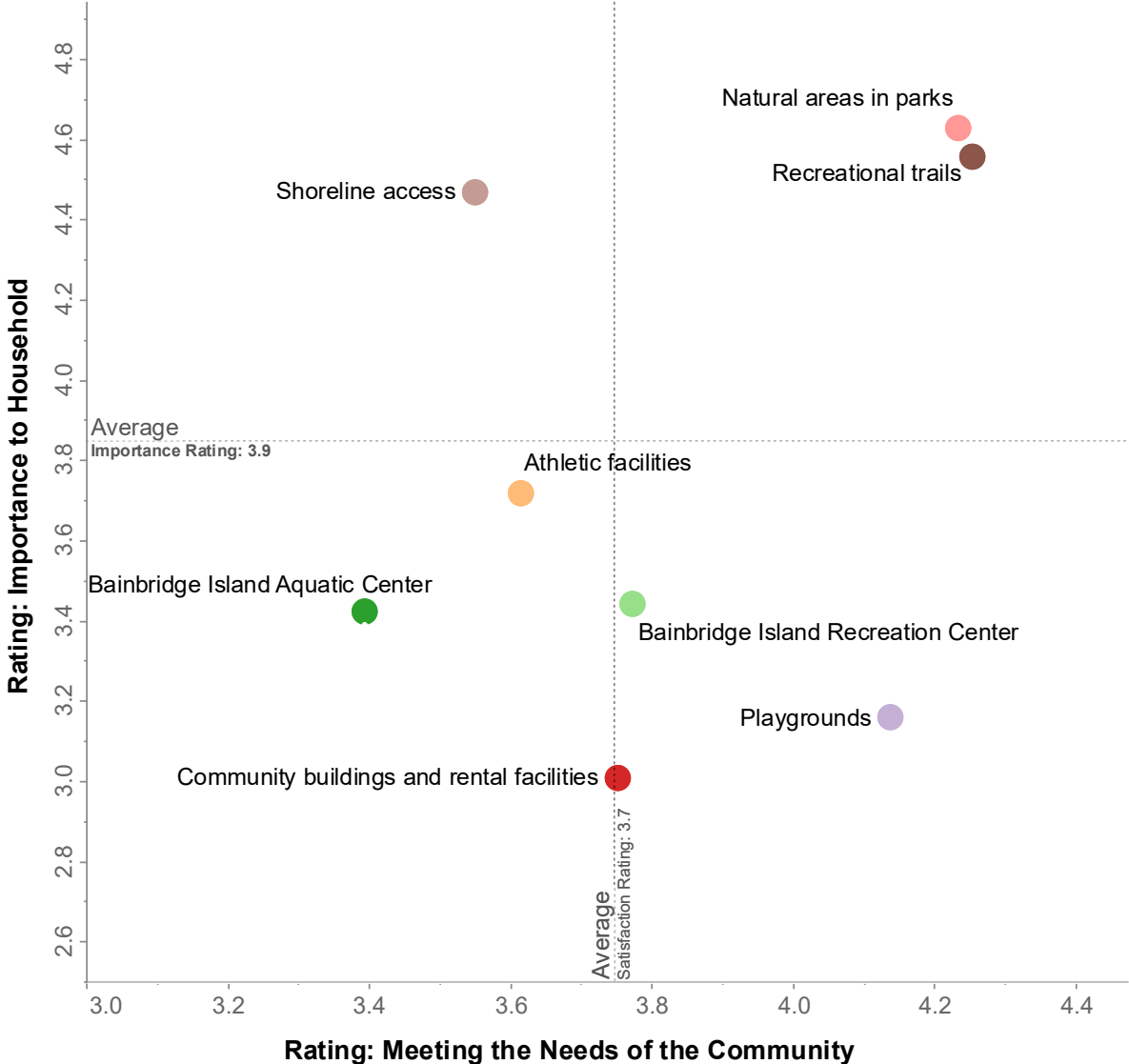


Source: RRC Associates, 2025 Bainbridge Island Metro Park & Rec District Comprehensive Plan Survey

IMPORTANCE/NEEDS MET MATRIX

OPEN LINK SAMPLE

- Similar to the Invite sample, shoreline access was the only category that falls in the high importance/low needs met quadrant.
- Other facilities and amenities perform similarly to the Invite sample as well, with average ratings ranging from 3.4 to 4.2.



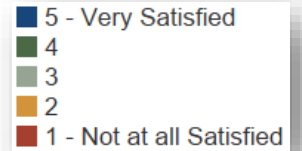
Source: RRC Associates, 2025 Bainbridge Island Metro Park & Rec District Comprehensive Plan Survey

SATISFACTION OF TRAILS

INVITE SAMPLE

- Overall, satisfaction with trails is very high for the Invite sample, with 87–89% of Invite respondents rating nature access, maintenance and cleanliness, walking/hiking opportunities, and safety along trails positively.
- Accessibility features, such as parking and surface conditions, also receive strong ratings (78% satisfied), while diverse exercise/skill opportunities and amenities along trails score slightly lower (73% and 69%, respectively).
- Opportunities with narrower user appeal, such as equestrian (64%) and mountain biking (61%), receive lower satisfaction ratings, along with wayfinding and connections between destinations (69–71%).

How satisfied are you with each of the following aspects of trails on Bainbridge Island?
Invite only



Rating Category	Avg.	n=	Percent Responding				
			1 & 2	3	4 & 5		
Nature access	4.5	371	4%	9%	25%	63%	87%
Maintenance and cleanliness of trails	4.4	372	2%	9%	31%	58%	89%
Walking and hiking opportunities	4.4	371	3%	11%	24%	62%	86%
Safety along trails	4.4	353	3%	11%	29%	58%	86%
Accessibility qualities (parking, surfaces, slopes/grades)	4.1	357	6%	16%	37%	40%	78%
Diverse exercise and skill level opportunities	4.0	319	8%	18%	35%	38%	73%
Equestrian opportunities	3.9	72	16% 18%	19%	16%	48%	64%
Amenities along trails (benches, trash cans, lighting)	3.9	358	8%	23%	36%	33%	69%
Connections to parks, neighborhoods, and other destinations	3.9	360	8%	20%	42%	30%	71%
Trail way-finding (information, signage, route-understanding)	3.9	372	12%	19%	37%	32%	69%
Mountain bike opportunities	3.8	141	13%	26%	21%	40%	61%
Other (specify:)	2.3	28	34% 32% 67%	17%	17%	17%	

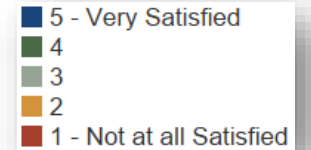
SATISFACTION OF TRAILS

OPEN LINK SAMPLE

- Open link respondents also report high satisfaction with trails, with 84–88% rating walking/hiking opportunities, nature access, trail maintenance, and safety positively.
- Accessibility qualities and wayfinding earn moderate satisfaction (70–74%), while diverse exercise options and amenities along trails score slightly lower (67%).
- Satisfaction is lower for mountain biking (61%) and equestrian opportunities (53%), similar to the Invite sample.

How satisfied are you with each of the following aspects of trails on Bainbridge Island?

Open only



Rating Category	Avg.	n=	Percent Responding				
			1 & 2	3	4	5	4 & 5
Walking and hiking opportunities	4.4	823	3%	9%	31%	57%	88%
Nature access	4.4	821	3%	9%	34%	54%	88%
Maintenance and cleanliness of trails	4.3	812	3%	12%	35%	50%	85%
Safety along trails	4.3	784	3%	13%	35%	50%	84%
Accessibility qualities (parking, surfaces, slopes/grades)	4.0	798	6%	20%	36%	38%	74%
Trail way-finding (information, signage, route-understanding)	3.9	807	9%	21%	38%	32%	70%
Diverse exercise and skill level opportunities	3.9	737	8%	25%	33%	34%	67%
Amenities along trails (benches, trash cans, lighting)	3.9	806	8%	26%	36%	30%	67%
Connections to parks, neighborhoods, and other destinations	3.8	802	10%	26%	34%	30%	64%
Mountain bike opportunities	3.7	345	17%	23%	30%	30%	61%
Equestrian opportunities	3.6	179	20%	27%	19%	34%	53%
Other (specify:)	2.6	73	41% 16% 58%	8%	27%	34%	

FAVORITE PARKS, TRAILS AND/OR FACILITIES

OPEN-ENDED COMMENTS

Respondents were given an opportunity to list their most favorite park, trail, and/or facility and describe why. Some of the commonly listed locations are listed below as well as verbatim comments that highlight respondent sentiments.

- Battle Point Park

“Large, diverse area with many different activities possible.”

- Grand Forest

“Diversity of trails, beautiful wild areas, ease of access.”

- Fort Ward Park

- Bainbridge Island Recreation Center (BIRC)

“It has hills for exercise, flat trails for easy walking, water views, natural areas, historic features, and paved trails for friends using walkers/wheelchairs. And the trails connect to other parks for long walks. Oh, and it has restrooms and a boat launch.”

- Fay Bainbridge Park

- Aquatic Center

Our children participate in BISC and it is an invaluable program to youth in our community.

- Gazzam Lake Nature Preserve

- Blakely Harbor Park

It's the right amount of walking for my family, my dog is allowed, and the beach is so nice on a summer afternoon. We regularly see herons, bald eagles, seals, and snakes!

- Rotary Park

- Hawley Cove

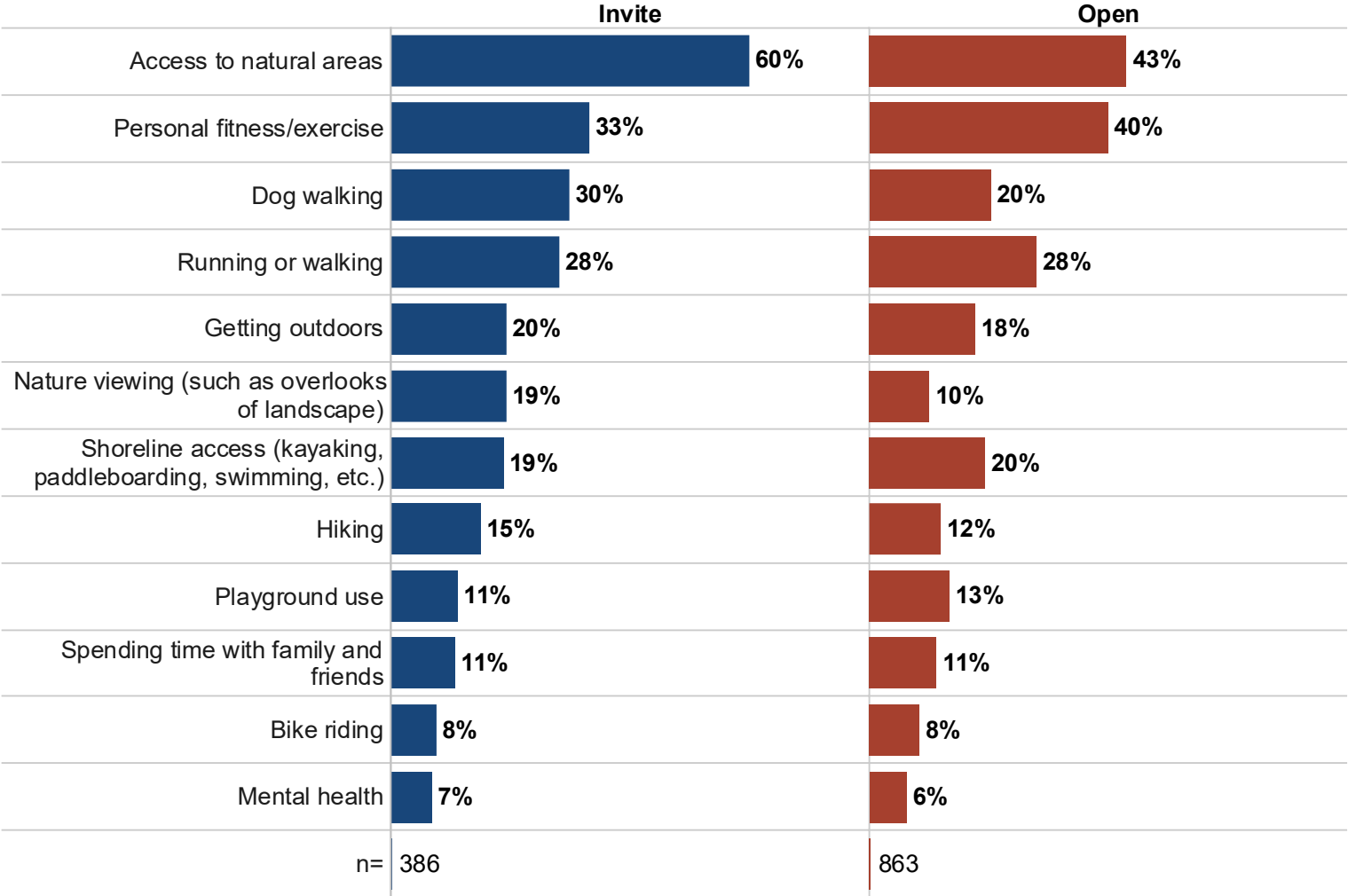
Close to my house and close to town. I like that the facility is able to host city day visitors while also providing me with access to the special shoreline and nature. The boardwalk is special I enjoy how I can easily feel immersed in nature

PURPOSE OF VISIT

SLIDE 1 OF 2

- Access to natural areas is the leading reason for park and facility visits, noted by 60% of Invite respondents and 43% of Open link respondents.
- Personal fitness and exercise ranks second, with higher participation among the Open link sample (40%) compared to the Invite sample (33%), followed by dog walking, running/walking, and getting outdoors.
- Nature-based and fitness-related activities are the primary drivers for park use, indicating that preserving natural areas and supporting exercise opportunities should remain central priorities for the Park District.

What are the main reasons you visit Park District parks or facilities?



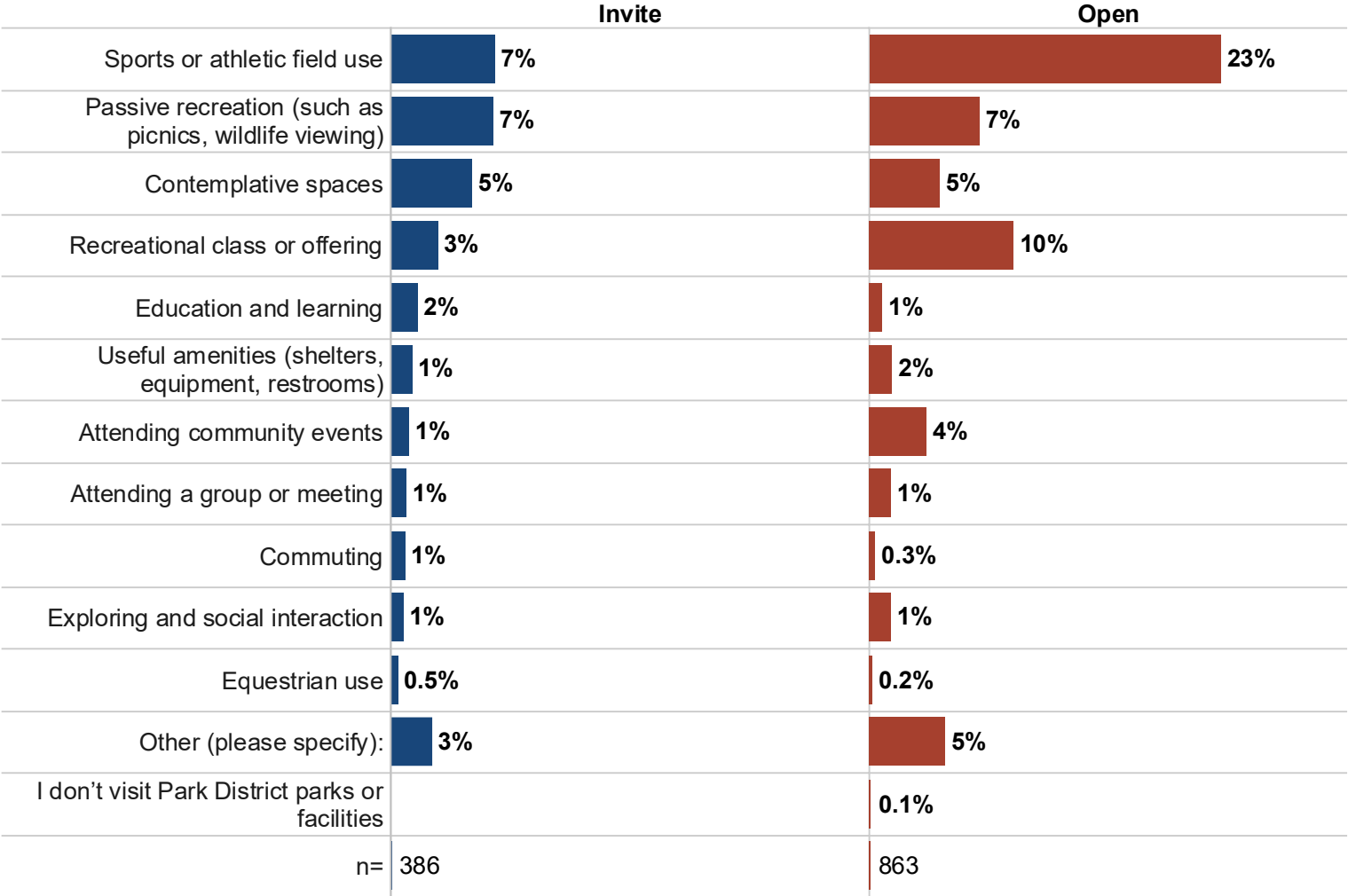
Source: RRC Associates, 2025 Bainbridge Island Metro Park & Rec District Comprehensive Plan Survey

PURPOSE OF VISIT

SLIDE 2 OF 2

- Organized social events, specific classes or offerings from the Park District, and commuting were among those cited smaller shares of both the Invite and Open link samples.
- However, the Open link sample is much more likely to participate in sports or athletic fields use than the Invite sample (23% compared to 7%).
- No respondents from the Invite sample said they do not visit Park District parks or facilities.

What are the main reasons you visit Park District parks or facilities?

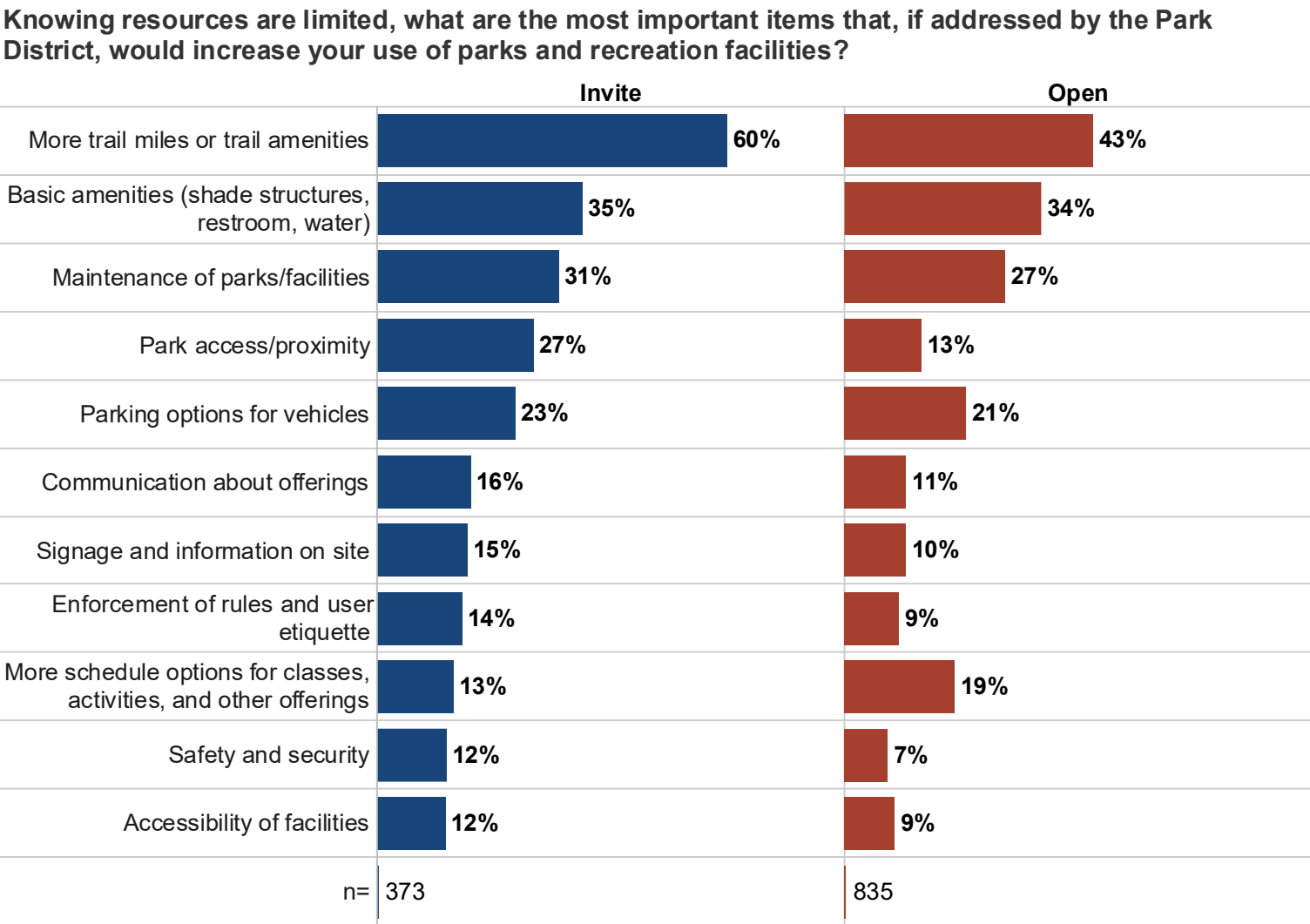


Source: RRC Associates, 2025 Bainbridge Island Metro Park & Rec District Comprehensive Plan Survey

INCREASING USE

SLIDE 1 OF 2

- More trail miles or trail amenities is the top improvement that would increase park use, selected by 60% of Invite respondents and 43% of Open link respondents.
- Basic amenities such as shade structures, restrooms, and water, along with maintenance of parks and facilities, were also highly ranked, with similar importance in both samples.



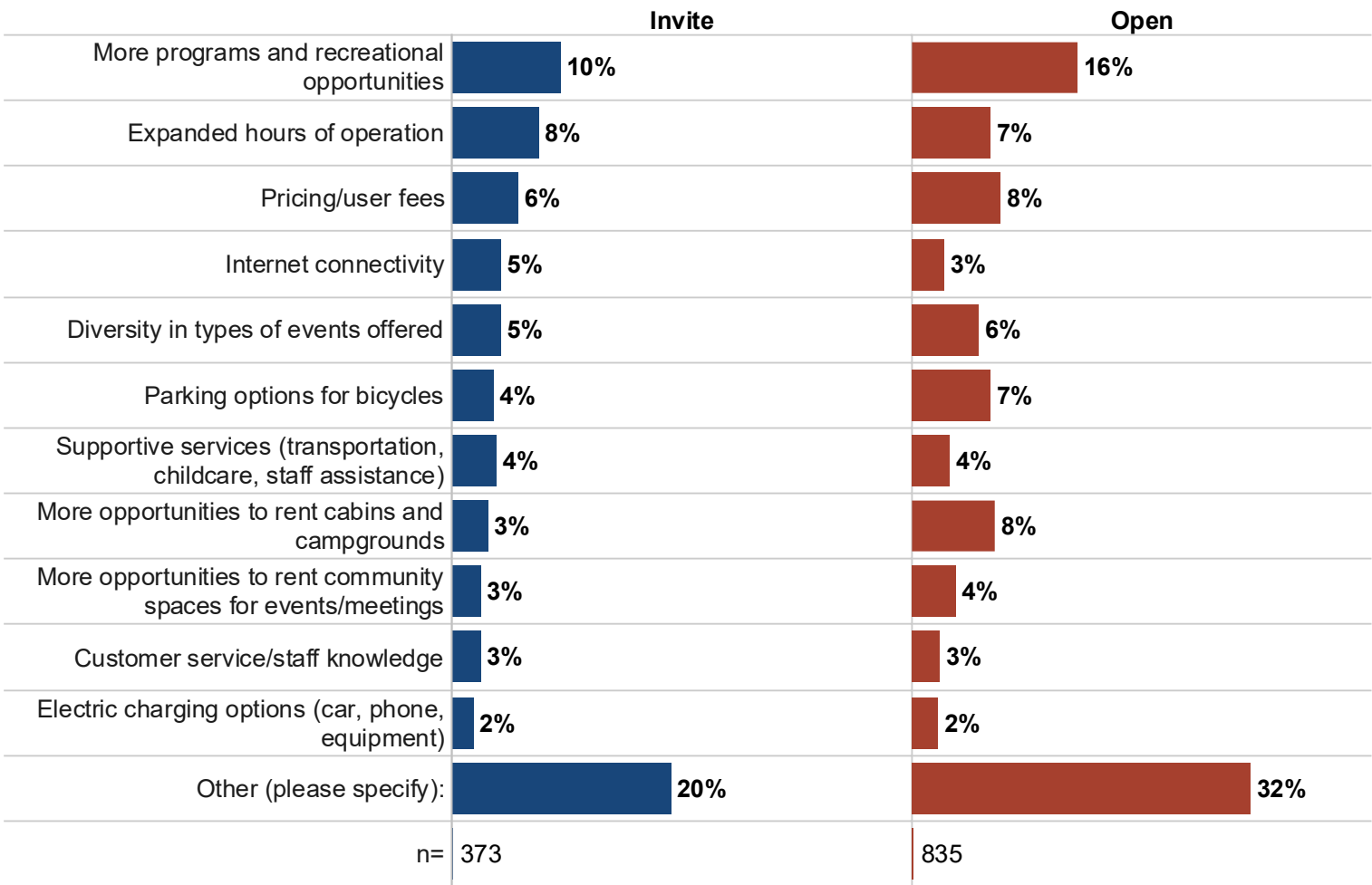
Source: RRC Associates, 2025 Bainbridge Island Metro Park & Rec District Comprehensive Plan Survey

INCREASING USE

SLIDE 2 OF 2

- The least important items cited by both samples were electric charging options, customer service, and rental spaces.
- Items mentioned in the “other” category include:
 - Lighting for athletic fields and courts
 - Additional and covered pickleball facilities
 - Improved shoreline access
 - Expanded trail networks and connectivity
 - Upgrades to pools and aquatic facilities
 - Enhanced gymnastics spaces
 - More off-leash dog areas
 - Turf field development, and
 - Splash pads.

Knowing resources are limited, what are the most important items that, if addressed by the Park District, would increase your use of parks and recreation facilities?



Source: RRC Associates, 2025 Bainbridge Island Metro Park & Rec District Comprehensive Plan Survey

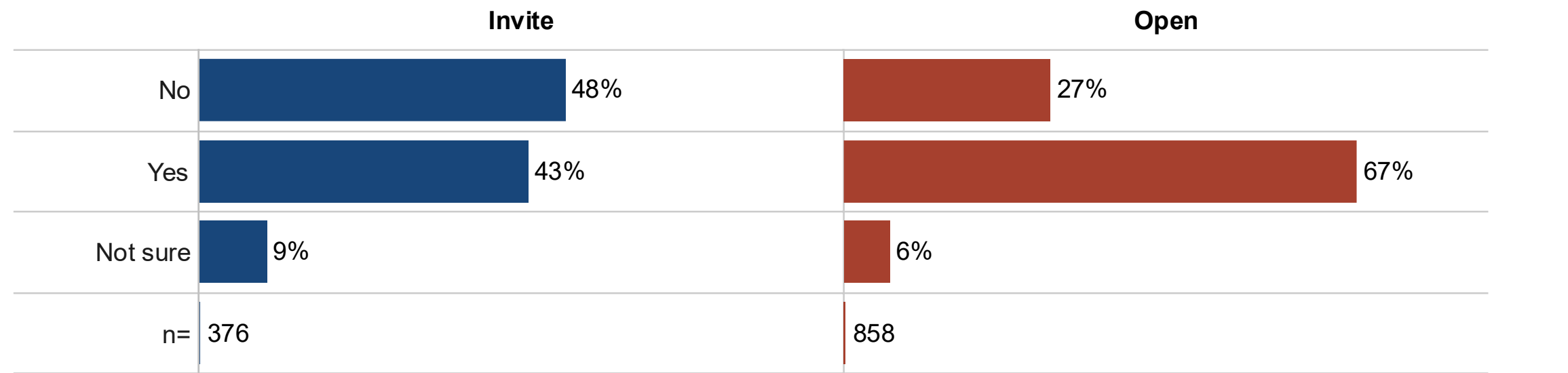


PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

PROGRAM PARTICIPATION

Slightly less than half (43%) of the Invite sample households had at least one member who participated in a Park District program during the past 12 months. The Open link sample had a much higher share, at around two-thirds (67%) participating.

Have you or other members of your household participated in any Park District led programs during the past 12 months?

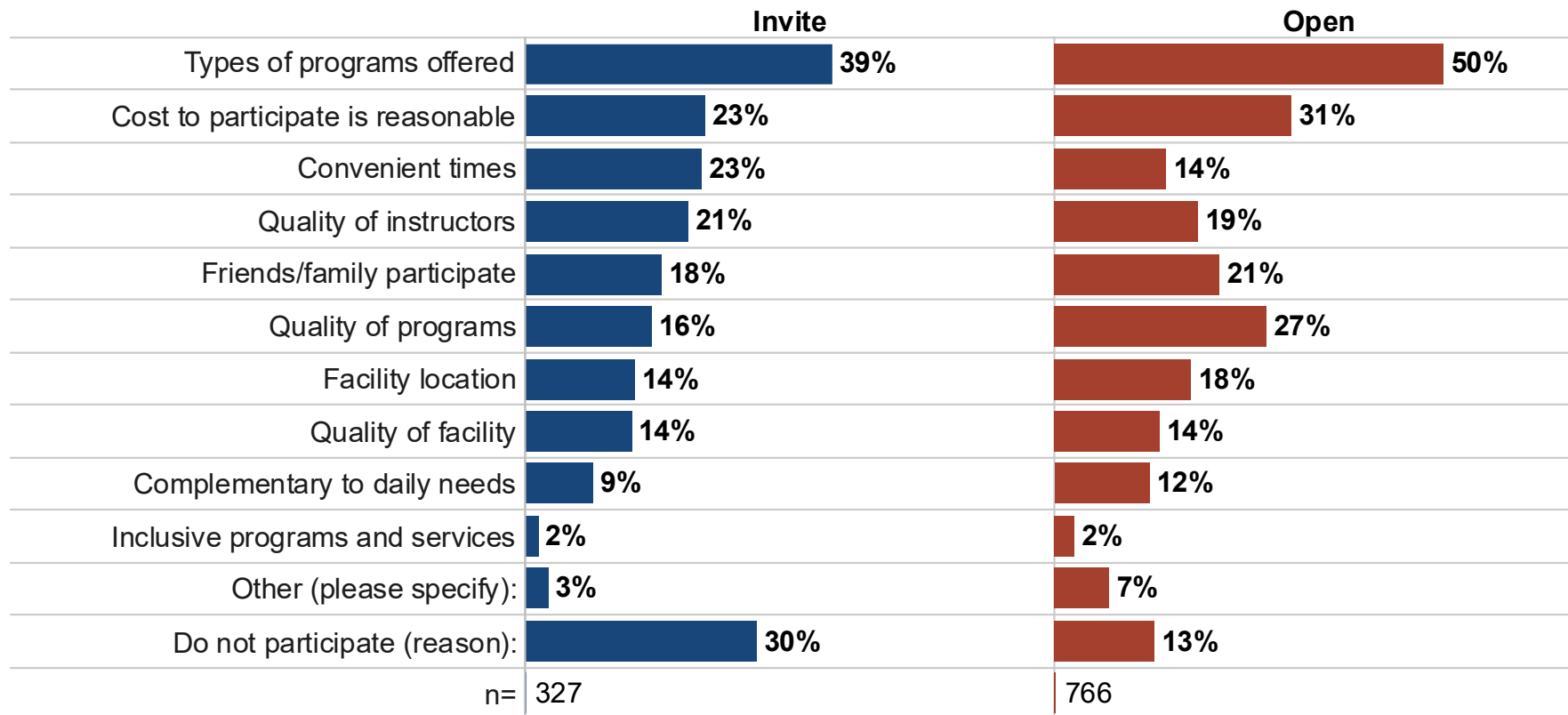


Source: RRC Associates, 2025 Bainbridge Island Metro Park & Rec District Comprehensive Plan Survey

TOP REASONS FOR PROGRAM USE

The types of programs offered is the most important reason for participating in Park District programs for both the Invite (39%) and Open link (50%) samples. Cost, convenience, and quality of instructors were also cited by at least one-fifth of Invite respondents.

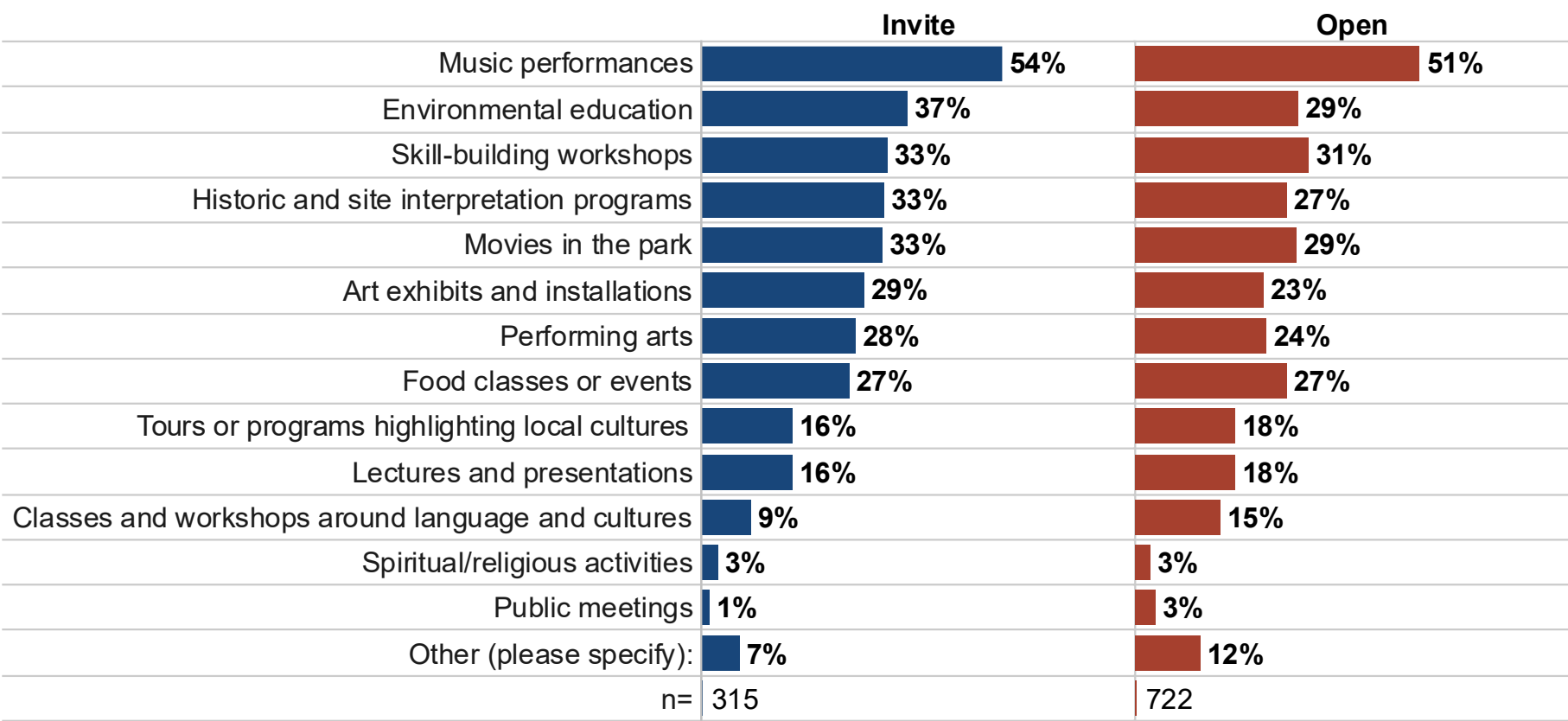
Please check the TOP 3 primary reasons your household participates in the Park District's programs.



FUTURE PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Music performances are the most requested cultural offering in both the Invite (54%) and Open link (51%) samples, followed by environmental education, skill-building workshops, and movies in the park. Historic and site interpretation programs also rank highly, particularly among Invite respondents. Overall, interest spans a variety of cultural and educational experiences, indicating strong demand for diverse program options that combine entertainment, learning, and community engagement.

What types of cultural programs or events would you like to see more of?





VALUES & VISION

VALUES & VISION

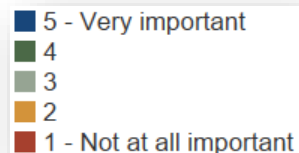
INVITE SAMPLE

- The highest priorities for Invite respondents are protecting environmental resources and preserving land within parks (92% rating 4 or 5) and encouraging active lifestyles that promote health, wellness, and fitness (91%).
- Other top goals include environmental sustainability in park design and maintenance (84%) and ensuring affordability of facilities and programs (82%), indicating strong value placed on environmental stewardship and equitable access.

Parks, recreation, and open space opportunities are offered in the Park District for a variety of purposes and to serve the needs of a diverse population. Please mark the box for how important each of the following goals are to you and your household.

Invite Only

Rating Category	Avg.	n=	Percent Responding			
			1 & 2	3	4 & 5	
Protect environmental resources and preserve land within parks	4.6	351	3%	6%	76%	92%
Encourage active lifestyles and promote health, wellness, and fitness	4.6	346	3%	6%	76%	91%
Encourage environmental sustainability in park design and maintenance practices	4.4	345	5%	11%	62%	84%
Ensure facilities and programs are affordable to all residents	4.3	344	7%	11%	64%	82%
Ensure parks and recreation opportunities are accessible to all residents (including safe walkable routes, lack of physical barriers, accommodations for needs, support services)	4.2	344	7%	18%	51%	76%
Provide a high level of safety and security	4.0	347	9%	20%	40%	71%
Reflect community interests as expressed and requested, particularly from evaluation and public feedback	4.0	335	8%	22%	35%	70%
Strengthen community connections and sense of place	3.8	335	13%	20%	32%	67%
Offer activities for residents to meet, socialize, and interact	3.5	338	21%	31%	26%	48%
Offer cultural events, festivals, and activities that are inclusive and provide diversity of offerings	3.4	340	24%	28%	26%	49%
Focus on providing family-oriented activities	3.2	336	27%	35%	21%	38%
Other (please specify):	4.5	23	10%	9%	77%	81%



VALUES & VISION

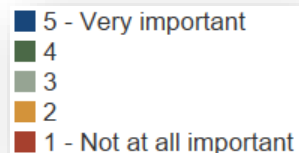
OPEN LINK SAMPLE

- Although the order of priorities differs slightly, Open link respondents identified the same top five goals as the Invite sample: emphasizing active lifestyles, environmental protection, affordability, sustainability, and accessibility.

Parks, recreation, and open space opportunities are offered in the Park District for a variety of purposes and to serve the needs of a diverse population. Please mark the box for how important each of the following goals are to you and your household.

Open Only

Rating Category	Avg.	n=	Percent Responding			
			1 & 2	3	4 & 5	
Encourage active lifestyles and promote health, wellness, and fitness	4.7	778	2%	5%	79%	93%
Protect environmental resources and preserve land within parks	4.5	771	4%	10%	68%	86%
Ensure facilities and programs are affordable to all residents	4.4	775	5%	11%	64%	84%
Encourage environmental sustainability in park design and maintenance practices	4.3	774	6%	11%	58%	83%
Ensure parks and recreation opportunities are accessible to all residents (including safe walkable routes, lack of physical barriers, accommodations for needs, support services)	4.1	770	8%	17%	47%	75%
Provide a high level of safety and security	4.0	765	9%	20%	39%	71%
Reflect community interests as expressed and requested, particularly from evaluation and public feedback	4.0	736	7%	22%	38%	71%
Strengthen community connections and sense of place	4.0	755	10%	19%	38%	71%
Focus on providing family-oriented activities	3.7	762	17%	24%	31%	59%
Offer activities for residents to meet, socialize, and interact	3.6	759	15%	28%	26%	57%
Offer cultural events, festivals, and activities that are inclusive and provide diversity of offerings	3.5	757	20%	23%	25%	57%
Other (please specify):	4.6	63	6%	8%	79%	86%



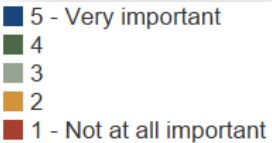
ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES

INVITE SAMPLE

- There is strong support for environmental stewardship on Bainbridge Island, with proactive forest management (89%) and wildfire mitigation (82%) receiving the highest importance ratings among Invite respondents.
- Other highly valued initiatives include management plans for natural resources (80%), removal of invasive plant species (79%), and low-waste practices and designs on parklands (79%).
- Waste reduction efforts such as recycling practices (78%) and addressing pollution and emissions (77%) are also widely supported.
- While still important to a majority, initiatives like climate change-related plans (70%) and use of renewable energy (64%) received relatively lower priority compared to other stewardship actions.

There are lots of ways the Park District can help environmental stewardship on Bainbridge Island. How important are the following initiatives to you?
Invite Only

Rating Category	Avg.	n=	Percent Responding			
			1 & 2	3	4 & 5	
Proactive forest management	4.5	343	2%	8%	27%	62% 89%
Wildfire mitigation	4.4	340	3%	15%	24%	58% 82%
Management plans for natural resources on parklands	4.3	341	5%	15%	28%	52% 80%
Removal of non-native invasive plants that inhibit local ecosystems	4.2	348	7%	14%	26%	53% 79%
Low-waste practices and designs on parklands	4.2	342	7%	15%	29%	50% 79%
Reduction, reuse, and recycling practices	4.2	347	8%	13%	28%	50% 78%
Reduction of pollution, including emissions	4.1	341	9%	14%	28%	49% 77%
Low-impact development practices	4.1	338	7%	19%	26%	47% 74%
Encouraging use of local services and resources	4.1	342	5%	19%	36%	39% 76%
Encouraging walking, and other alternatives to gas-engine vehicles	4.1	348	12%	12%	26%	50% 76%
Climate change related plans	3.9	344	14%	16%	23%	47% 70%
Use of and hosting of renewable energy	3.9	340	12%	24%	26%	38% 64%



ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES

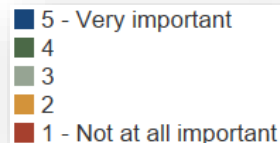
OPEN LINK SAMPLE

- Overall, priorities are closely aligned, but Invite respondents tend to give slightly stronger support across most environmental initiatives, with the highest priorities being proactive forest management and wildfire mitigation.
- In the Open link sample, support is also high for reduction, reuse, and recycling practices (78%), and management plans for natural resources (77%) indicating broad interest in both conservation and sustainable management practices.
- Similar to the Invite sample, the Open link also placed the lowest priority on climate change related plans and use of and hosting of renewable energy.

There are lots of ways the Park District can help environmental stewardship on Bainbridge Island. How important are the following initiatives to you?

Open Only

Rating Category	Avg.	n=		Percent Responding			
				1 & 2	3	4 & 5	
Proactive forest management	4.3	749	4%		15%	27%	54% 81%
Wildfire mitigation	4.3	736	5%		16%	24%	54% 79%
Reduction, reuse, and recycling practices	4.2	759	6%		16%	27%	51% 78%
Management plans for natural resources on parklands	4.2	732	6%		16%	28%	49% 77%
Encouraging walking, and other alternatives to gas-engine vehicles	4.2	764	9%		13%	27%	51% 78%
Removal of non-native invasive plants that inhibit local ecosystems	4.1	760	7%		15%	33%	45% 79%
Encouraging use of local services and resources	4.1	745	8%		15%	32%	45% 77%
Low-waste practices and designs on parklands	4.1	752	8%		15%	32%	45% 77%
Reduction of pollution, including emissions	4.1	757	10%		17%	25%	48% 74%
Low-impact development practices	4.0	737	9%		18%	29%	44% 72%
Climate change related plans	4.0	753	14%		14%	25%	47% 72%
Use of and hosting of renewable energy	3.8	742	12%		22%	31%	34% 65%



FUTURE NEEDS

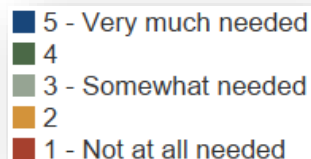
INVITE SAMPLE

- Maintenance of existing parks and facilities (78% rating it a 4/5), improving shoreline/water access (72%), and increased trail miles/connections (74%) were among the highest rated on average by the Invite sample.
- Conversely, adding sports fields or updated playgrounds was the least important future need cited by the Invite sample.

What are the greatest needs in the list below for the next 6 to 12 years?

Invite Only

Rating Category	Avg.	n=	Percent Responding			
			1 & 2	3	4 & 5	
Maintenance of existing parks and facilities	4.1	346	6%	17%	37%	40% 78%
Improved shoreline/water access	4.0	339	9%	19%	28%	44% 72%
Increased trail miles/connections	4.0	339	10%	16%	34%	40% 74%
Acquiring land for environmental stewardship	3.6	330	19%	25%	23%	33% 56%
Acquiring land for development into parks	3.5	337	18%	29%	25%	28% 53%
Developing new parks and facilities	3.3	336	21%	35%	28%	17% 45%
Additional amenities along trails (such as benches, art, or bike racks)	3.0	334	21% 31%	34%	27%	34%
Additional amenities in parks (such as drinking fountains, benches, and lighting)	3.0	337	16% 28%	41%	25%	31%
Improvements to existing parks such as the addition of sports fields or updated playgrounds	2.9	322	24% 37%	31%	22%	31%
Other (please specify):	4.7	45	2%	4%		80% 94%



FUTURE NEEDS

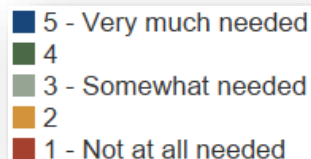
OPEN LINK SAMPLE

- Compared to the Invite sample, the Open link sample shows similar overall priorities, with maintenance of existing parks and facilities ranked highest (77% vs. 78%).
- However, the Open link sample places slightly less emphasis on improved shoreline/water access (66% vs. 72%) and increased trail miles/connections (65% vs. 74%).

What are the greatest needs in the list below for the next 6 to 12 years?

Open Only

Rating Category	Avg.	n=	Percent Responding			
			1 & 2	3	4 & 5	
Maintenance of existing parks and facilities	4.2	757	6%	17%	30%	46% 77%
Improved shoreline/water access	3.9	736	13%	21%	25%	42% 66%
Increased trail miles/connections	3.9	736	12%	23%	28%	37% 65%
Acquiring land for environmental stewardship	3.5	731	22%	25%	21%	31% 52%
Acquiring land for development into parks	3.5	732	21%	27%	23%	29% 52%
Developing new parks and facilities	3.4	741	21%	31%	26%	22% 47%
Improvements to existing parks such as the addition of sports fields or updated playgrounds	3.3	728	16% 29%	25%	18%	28% 46%
Additional amenities in parks (such as drinking fountains, benches, and lighting)	3.1	738	19% 31%	34%	19%	35%
Additional amenities along trails (such as benches, art, or bike racks)	2.9	748	23% 34%	37%	18%	28%
Other (please specify):	4.8	97	4%			90% 96%

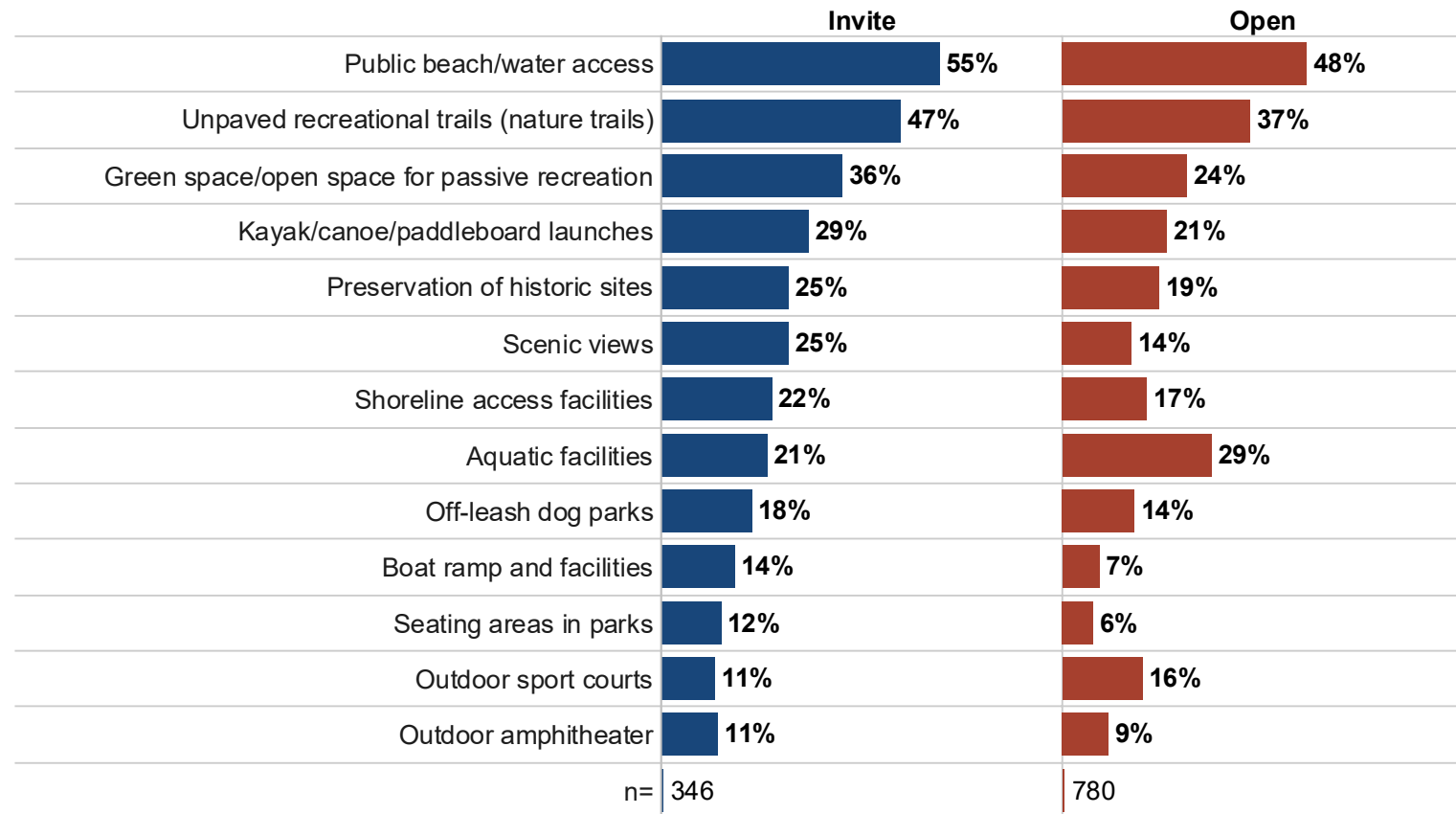


ADDITIONAL AMENITIES

SLIDE 1 OF 2

- Consistent with the desire for more shoreline/water access, the most common desire for additional amenities was public beach/water access (55% Invite, 48% Open link).
- Unpaved recreation trails followed among both samples, with just under half of the Invite sample (47%) and over one-third of the Open link sample (37%).
- The Open link sample places a highly higher priority on aquatic facilities and courts.

What additional recreational amenities are most needed for you or your household?



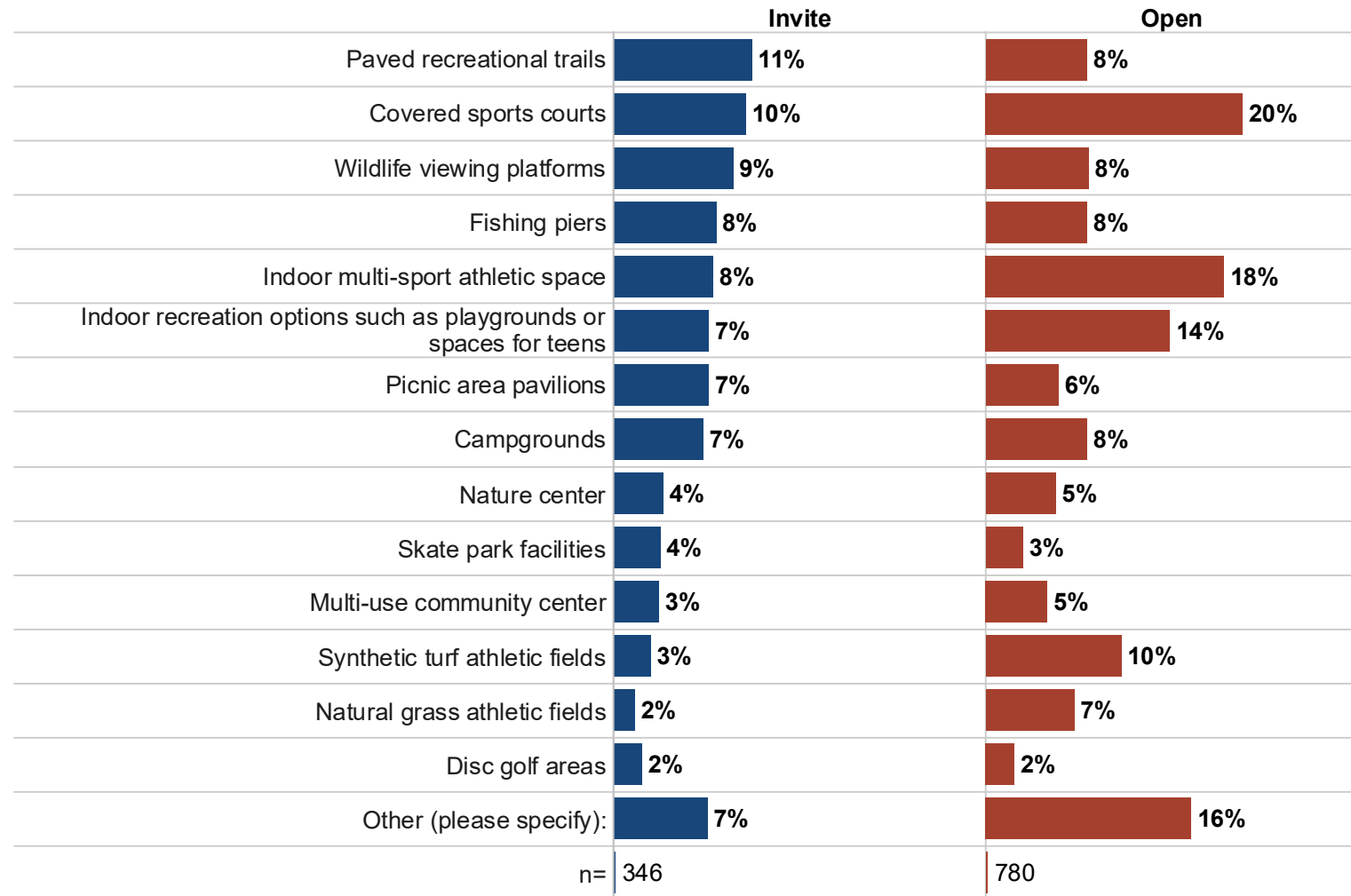
Source: RRC Associates, 2025 Bainbridge Island Metro Park & Rec District Comprehensive Plan Survey

ADDITIONAL AMENITIES

SLIDE 2 OF 2

- The lowest needed recreation amenities were activity-specific facilities that cater to a smaller group of residents.
- The Open link sample has a stronger preference overall for sports-based amenities such as courts and fields.

What additional recreational amenities are most needed for you or your household?



Source: RRC Associates, 2025 Bainbridge Island Metro Park & Rec District Comprehensive Plan Survey

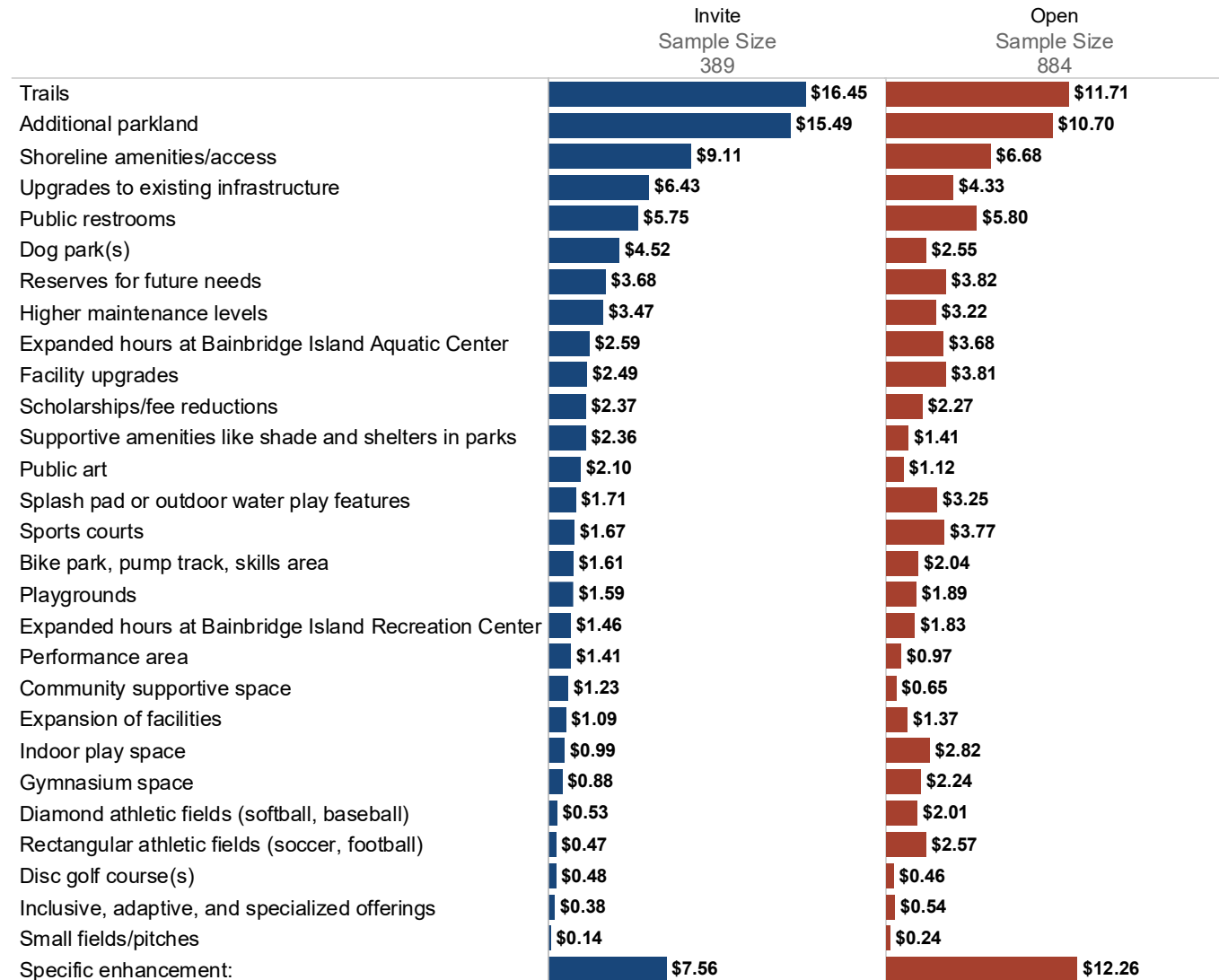


FINANCIAL CHOICES

\$100 BUDGET ALLOCATION

- Trails received the highest funding allocation in both samples, though Invite respondents allocated significantly more (\$16.45) than Open link respondents (\$11.71).
- Additional parkland ranked second for both groups, with Invite respondents again allocating more (\$15.49 vs. \$10.70).
- Shoreline amenities/access was a top-three priority for both samples, though Invite respondents allocated more funding than the Open group.
- The Open sample directed more funding than the Invite sample toward sports courts, splash pads or outdoor water play features, gymnasium space, and fields.
- Categories receiving lower allocations overall include inclusive/adaptive offerings, disc golf, and small fields/pitches in both samples.
- Common “other” responses include covered pickleball courts, pool or aquatic upgrades, lighting for fields, more trails and bike paths, gymnastics facility improvements, roller hockey rink cover, shoreline access, and more restrooms.

Imagine you have \$100 to spend on improving recreation facilities, services and/or programs for the Park District, how would you allocate that \$100 across the following categories?

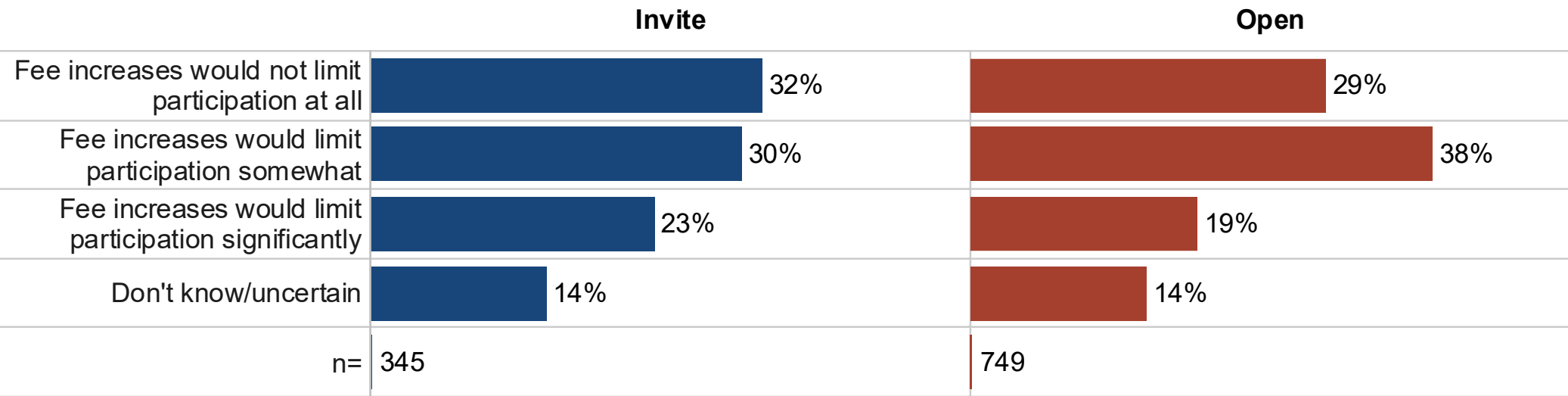


Source: RRC Associates, 2025 Bainbridge Island Metro Park & Rec District Comprehensive Plan Survey

FEES AND PARTICIPATION

About one-third of respondents in both samples indicated that fee increases would not limit their participation in Park District programs and facilities (32% Invite, 29% Open). However, a larger share of Open respondents (38%) than Invite respondents (30%) said fee increases would somewhat limit their participation, while significant limitations were more often cited by Invite respondents (23% vs. 19%).

If fee adjustments were made for Park District programs and facilities, which of the following best describes the potential impact, if any, that fee increases would have on your current level of participation?

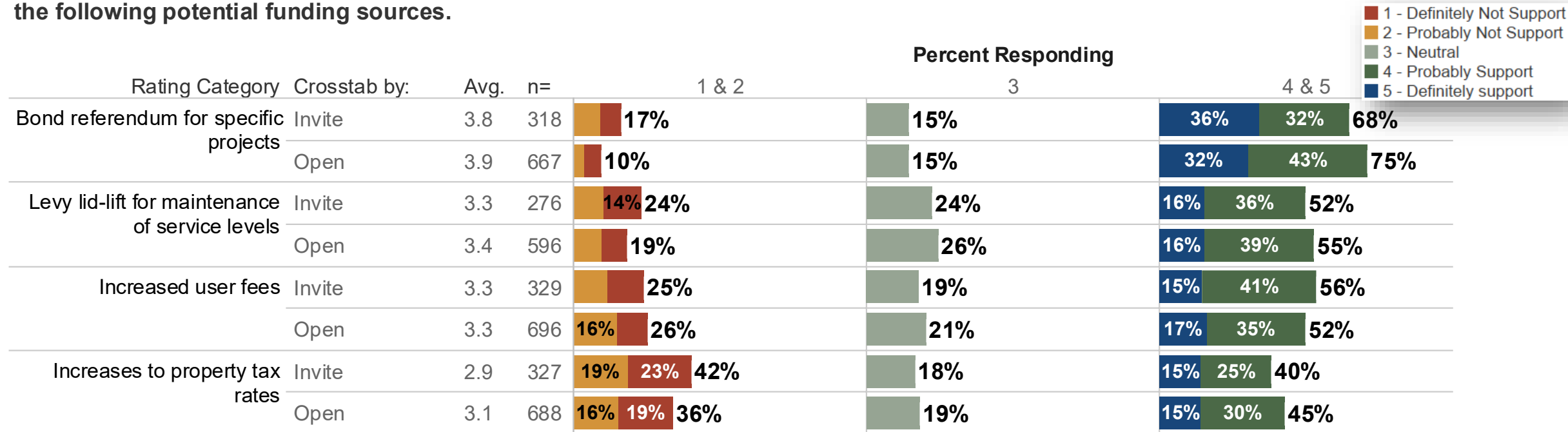


Source: RRC Associates, 2025 Bainbridge Island Metro Park & Rec District Comprehensive Plan Survey

TYPES OF FUNDING SUPPORT

Bond referendums for specific projects receive the strongest support among all potential funding sources, with higher backing from the Open link sample (75%) than the Invite sample (68%). Support for a levy lid-lift to maintain service levels is moderate in both groups, as is support for increased user fees. Increases to property tax rates receive the lowest support overall, though Open link respondents are slightly more favorable than Invite respondents.

The recommendations from this survey could possibly require financial support. Please indicate how strongly you support each of the following potential funding sources.

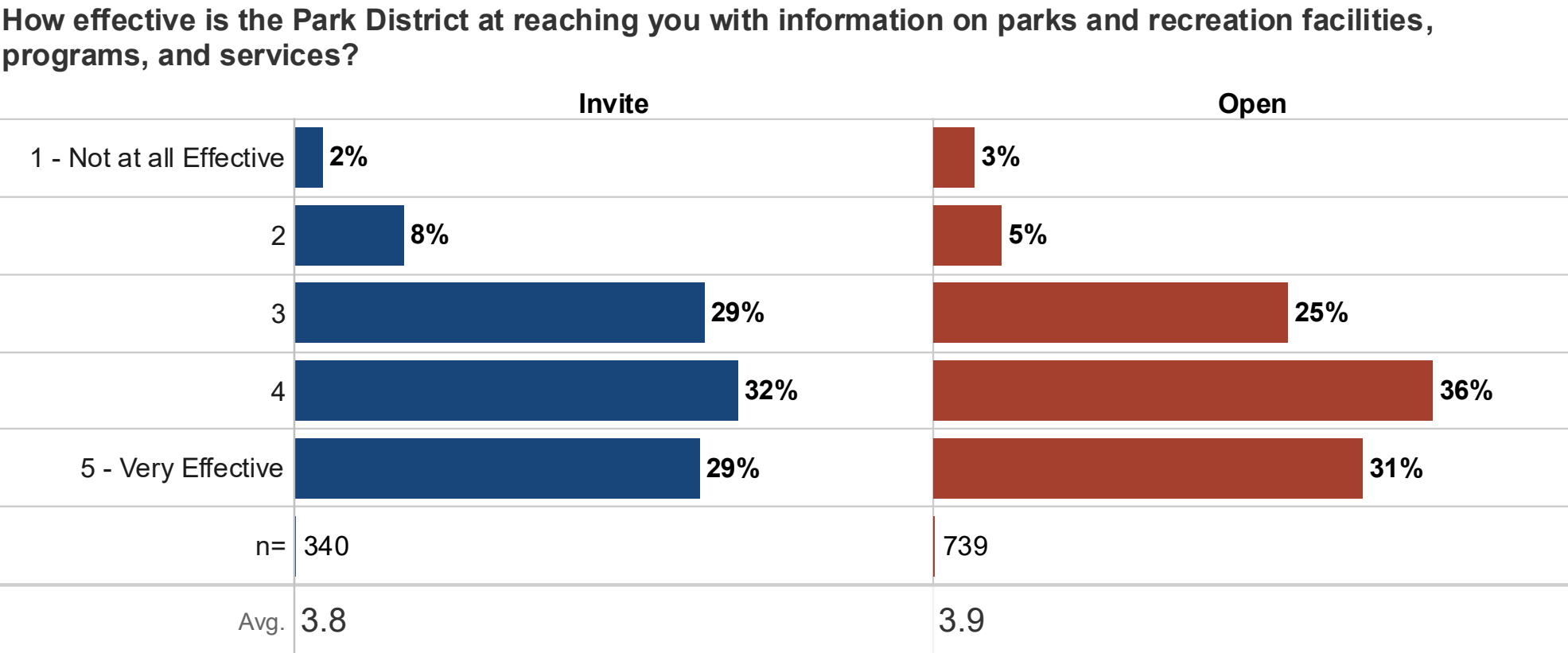




COMMUNICATION

EFFECTIVENESS OF COMMUNICATION

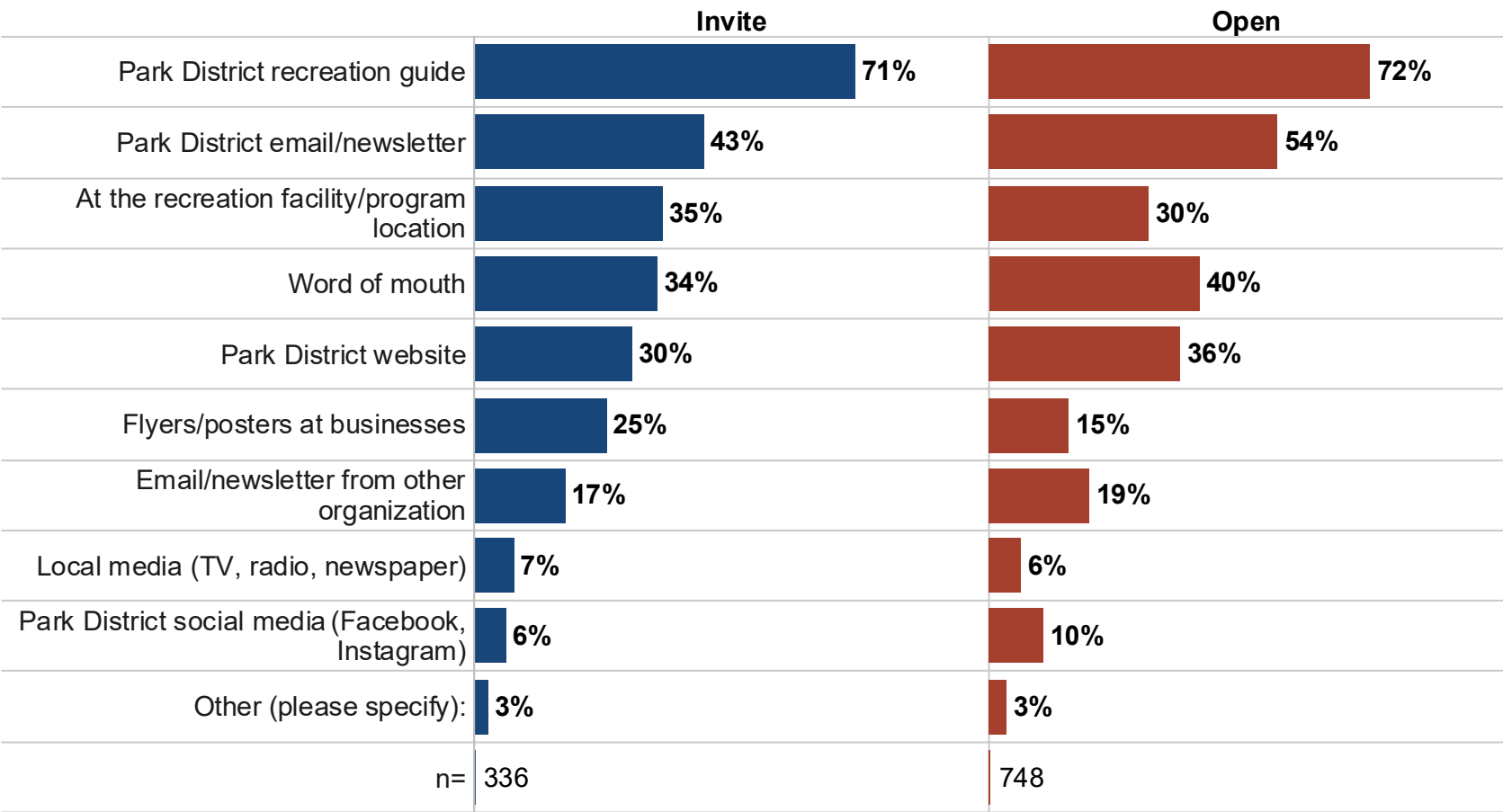
Most respondents view the Park District’s communication efforts positively, with 61% of Invite respondents and 67% of Open link respondents rating effectiveness a 4 or 5. Negative ratings are low in both groups, at 10% for Invite and 8% for Open link.



CURRENT COMMUNICATION METHODS

- The Park District recreation guide is the most common information source for both Invite (71%) and Open link (72%) respondents.
- The Park District email/newsletter is also widely used, with higher usage among Open link respondents (54%) than Invite respondents (43%).
- Other common sources include word of mouth and the Park District website, while social media and local media are the least used channels.

How do you currently receive information on parks and recreation facilities, programs, and services offered by the Park District?

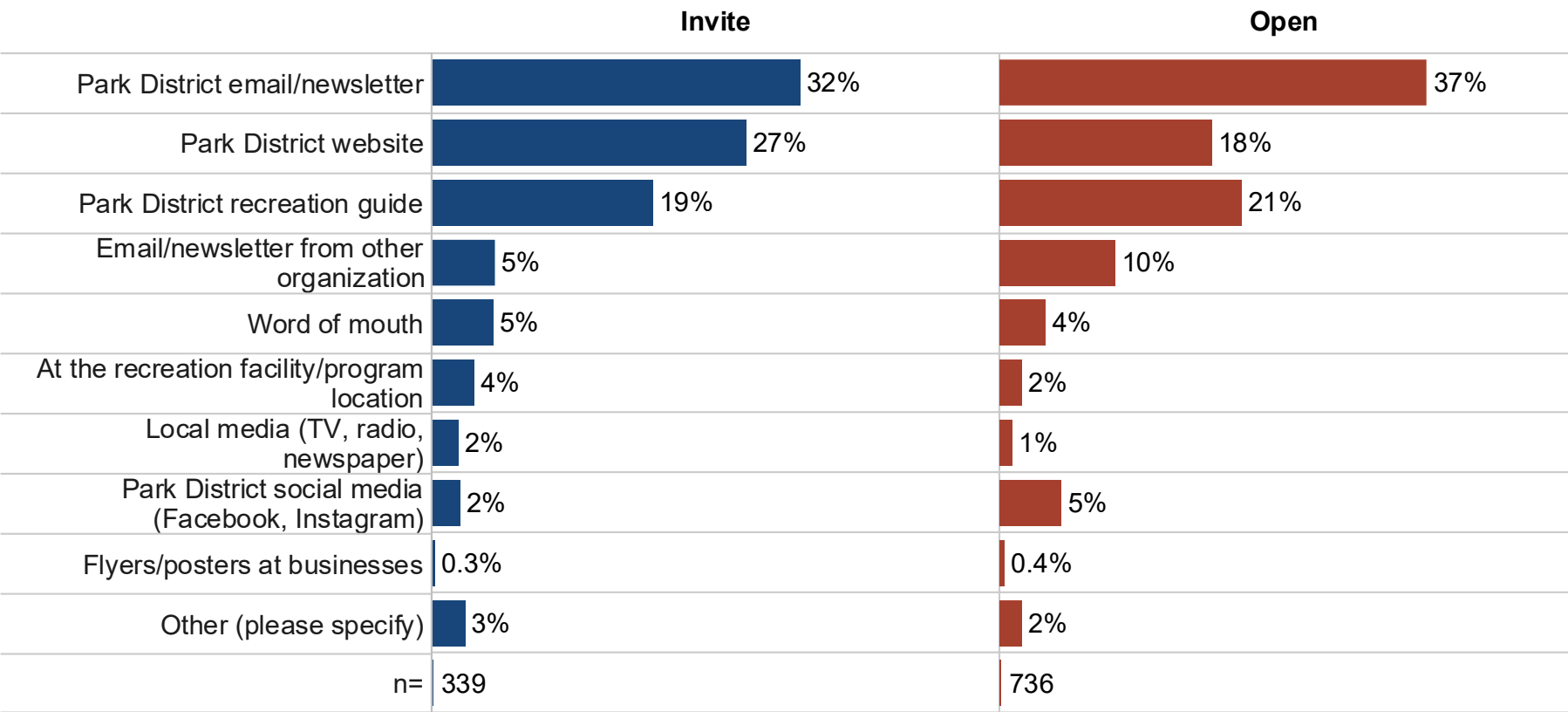


Source: RRC Associates, 2025 Bainbridge Island Metro Park & Rec District Comprehensive Plan Survey

PREFERRED COMMUNICATIONS

- In both samples, the Park District recreation guide is currently the most used information source, yet it ranks lower as a preferred method (19% Invite, 21% Open link), suggesting it is effective for reach but not the top choice for how residents want to receive information.
- The Park District email/newsletter is both a widely used current method and the top preferred method (32% Invite, 37% Open link), indicating strong alignment between current use and resident preference.
- The Park District website is the second most preferred method for Invite respondents (27%), showing an opportunity to further strengthen its role as a go-to communication tool.

What is the preferred way for you to receive information on parks and recreation facilities, programs, and services?



Source: RRC Associates, 2025 Bainbridge Island Metro Park & Rec District Comprehensive Plan Survey

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS & SUGGESTIONS

At the end of the survey, respondents were given the opportunity to provide any additional comments or suggestions for the Park District. A total of 560 comments were collected from both samples and common themes are highlighted below.



Facility and Amenity Improvements

- Calls for better lighting at indoor and outdoor courts and fields.
- Requests for more public restrooms and enhanced shoreline access.
- Desire for parity in quality between softball and baseball facilities.



Strategic Growth that Enhances Community Character

- Support for improvements that integrate with the environment and preserve scenic views.
- Desire for nature-focused facilities, such as a nature center, and enhancements that promote safety and resilience (e.g., wildfire mitigation).
- Preference for designs and materials that feel authentic to the Island rather than suburban or overly commercial.



Equity and Accessibility in Park Planning

- Calls for ADA-compliant trails, shoreline access, and play areas.
- Interest in facilities and programming for a wide range of ages, from young children to seniors.
- Suggestions for equitable distribution of amenities across the Island so all neighborhoods benefit.



Expanded Indoor and All-Weather Recreation Options

- Requests for indoor play areas for young children and covered sports complexes.
- Interest in multi-use covered courts with lighting for extended hours.
- Suggestions for specialized facilities like a fly casting pond tied to local heritage.



Support for Niche or Underrepresented Sports

- Requests for an ice hockey rink or covered roller hockey space.
- Suggestions for indoor sport courts that can serve multiple activities.
- Recognition of community interest in figure skating and hockey due to regional trends.



Connectivity, Trails, and Safety

- Support for north-south trail connections and links to schools, ferry, and businesses.
- Concerns about lack of safe walking/biking routes on roads without shoulders or sidewalks.
- Desire for open spaces along trails for passive recreation, not just continuous walking.

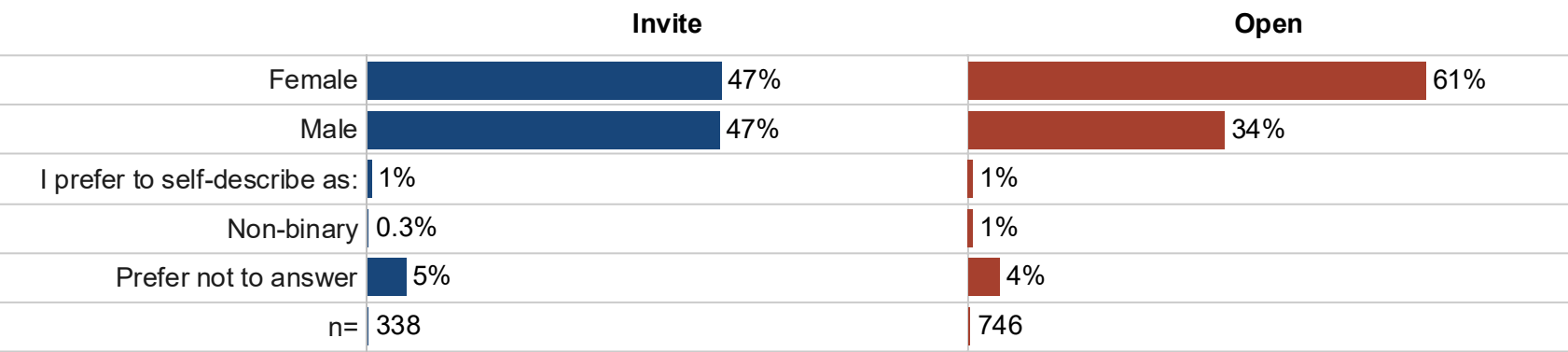


DEMOGRAPHICS

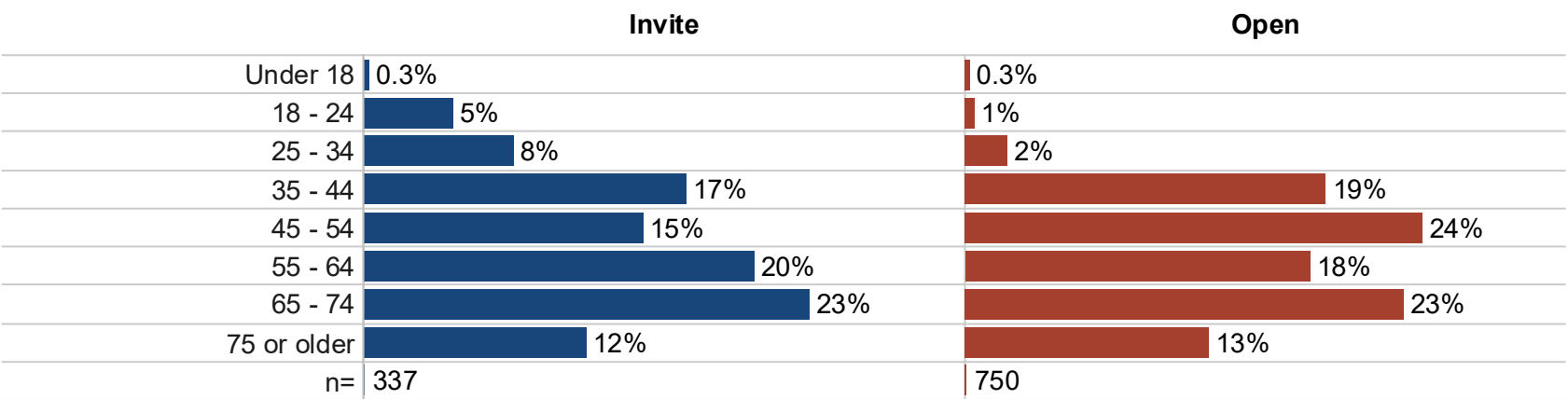
GENDER & AGE

- The Invite sample was weighted by gender and age using US Census data to better represent Bainbridge Island.
- More than half of the Open link sample were female.

Please indicate the gender with which you identify:



What is your age?

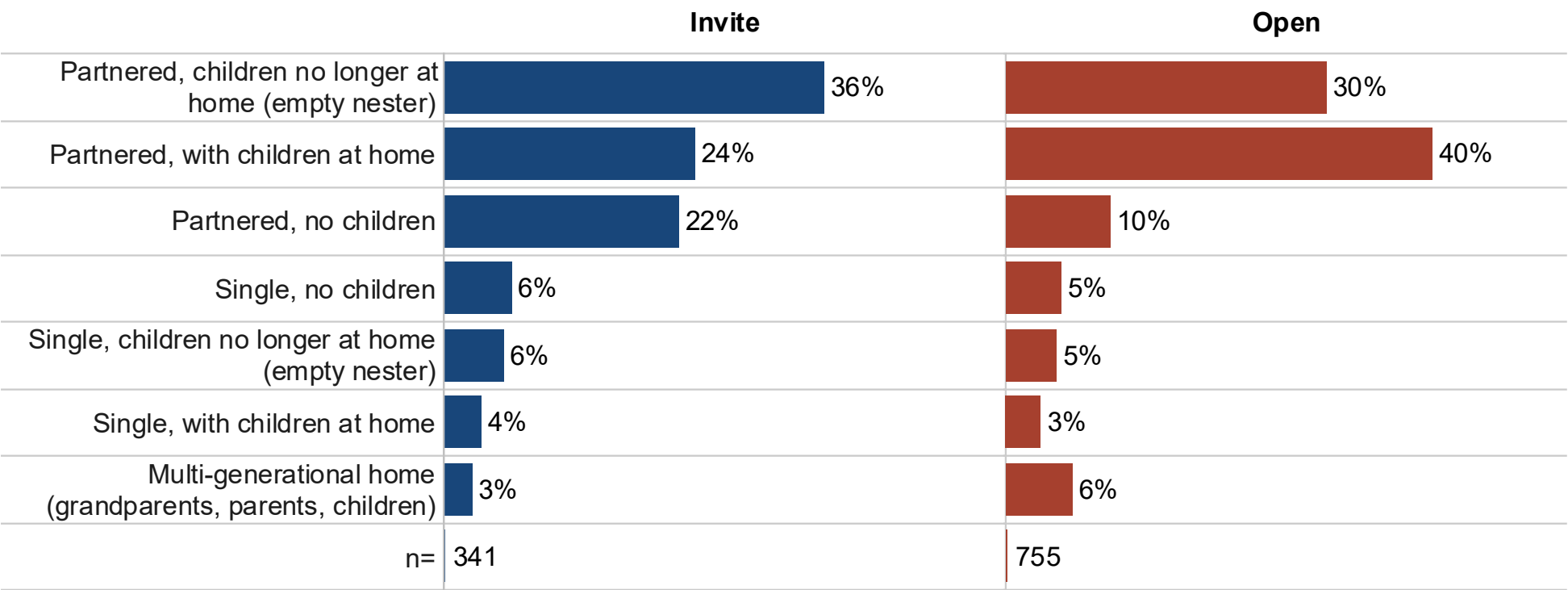


Source: RRC Associates, 2025 Bainbridge Island Metro Park & Rec District Comprehensive Plan Survey

HOUSEHOLD MAKEUP

- A total of 36% of the Invite sample, and 30% of the Open link sample, are partners with children no longer at home, followed by partners with children at home, and partners without children.
- The Invite sample was weighted by the presence of children in household to better represent the community; including children in any category (partnered, single, or multi-generational).

Which of these categories best applies to your household?

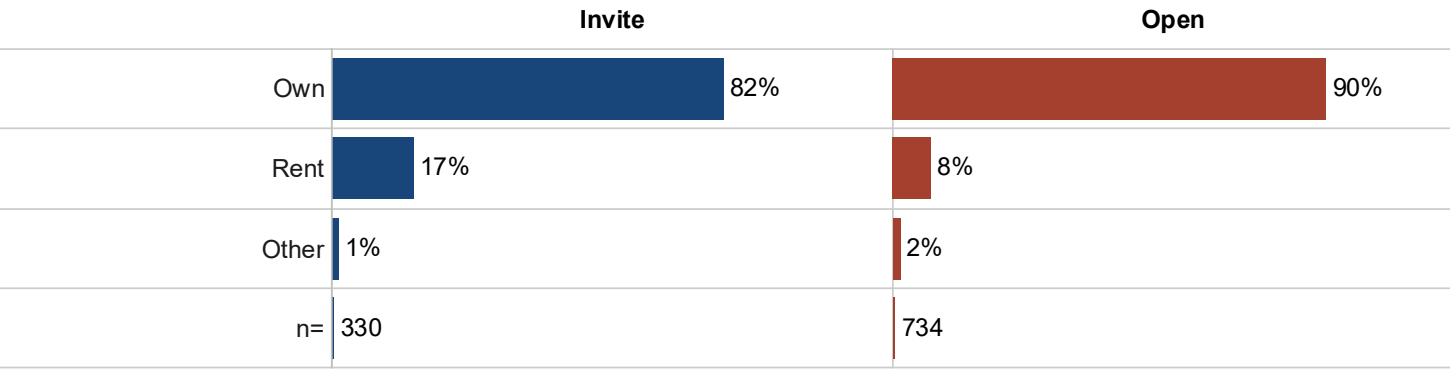


Source: RRC Associates, 2025 Bainbridge Island Metro Park & Rec District Comprehensive Plan Survey

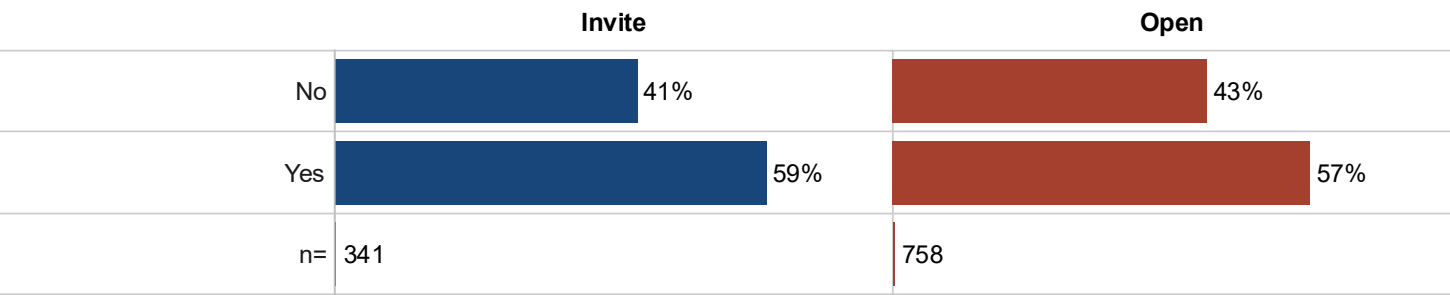
RESIDENCE OWNERSHIP & USE OF GAS-ENGINE VEHICLE

- The Invite sample was weighted by home ownership status to better represent the distribution of housing tenure on Bainbridge Island.
- A majority of respondents use alternative transportation to gas-engine vehicles to access parks and park facilities.

Do you own or rent your residence in the community?



Do members of your household use alternative transportation to gas-engine vehicles to access parks and park facilities?

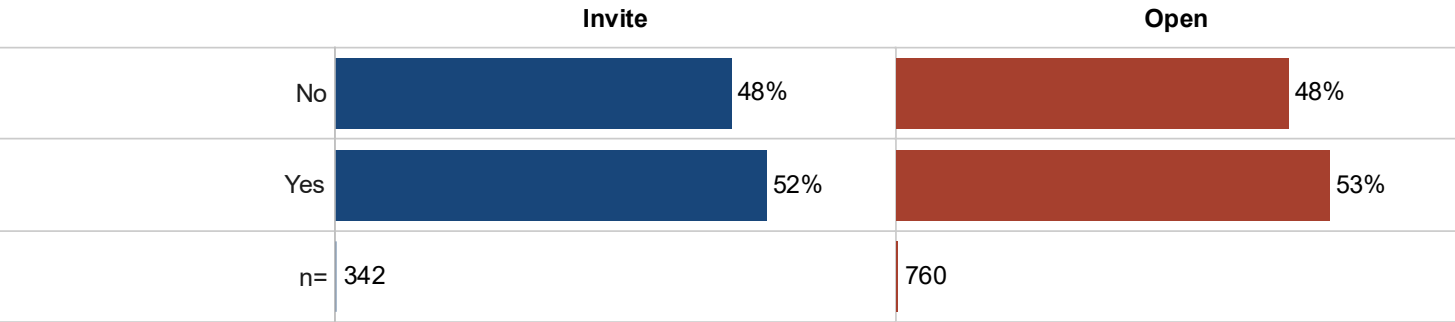


Source: RRC Associates, 2025 Bainbridge Island Metro Park & Rec District Comprehensive Plan Survey

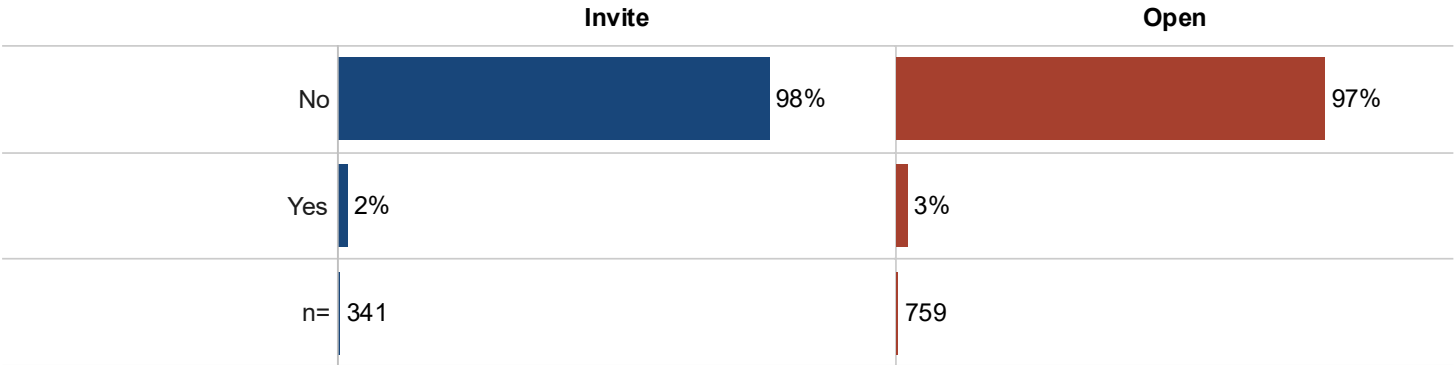
DOG & HORSE OWNERSHIP

- The majority of respondents own a dog on Bainbridge Island.
- Only a small share (2%-3%) of either sample cited owning a horse.

Do you or a member of your household own a dog?



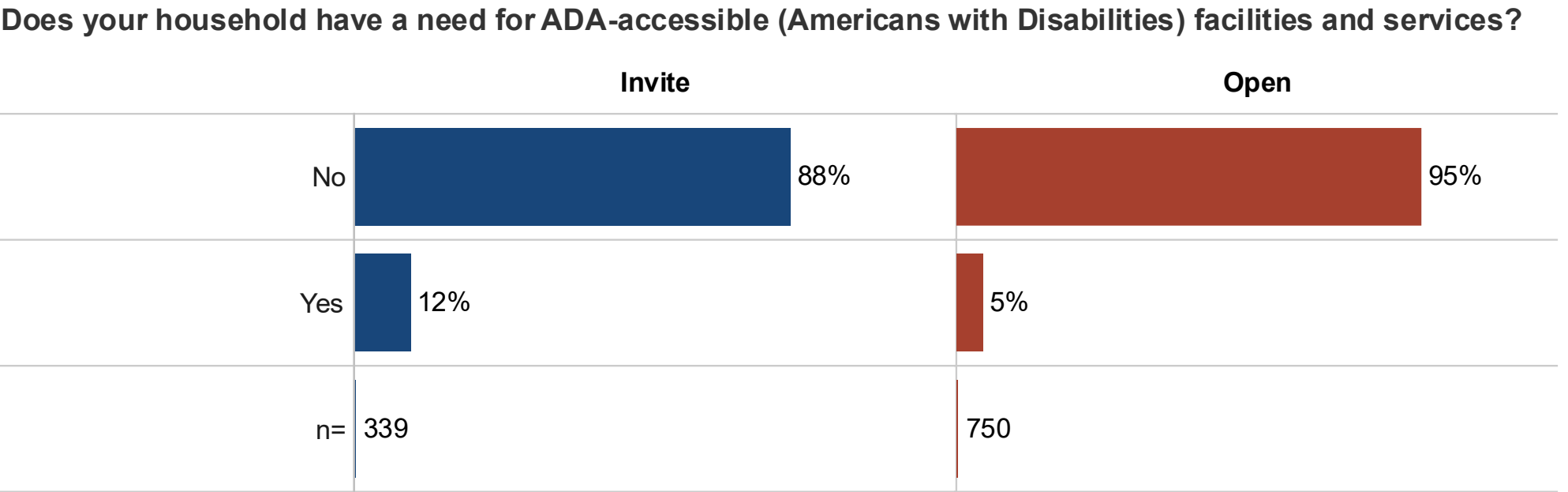
Do you or a member of your household own a horse?



Source: RRC Associates, 2025 Bainbridge Island Metro Park & Rec District Comprehensive Plan Survey

ADA ACCESSIBLE NEEDS

Resident with a need for ADA-accessible facilities and services are better represented among the Invite sample compared to the Open link (12% vs. 5%).



Source: RRC Associates, 2025 Bainbridge Island Metro Park & Rec District Comprehensive Plan Survey

ETHNICITY & RACE

Across both samples, the majority of respondents identified as white, but some representation was obtained across various ethnicities and races.

What race do you consider yourself to be?

	Invite	Open
White	84%	85%
American Indian or Alaska Native	1%	1%
Some other race	1%	1%
Asian	1%	4%
Hispanic or Latino	1%	1%
Middle Eastern or North African	1%	1%
Black or African American	0.3%	1%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander		0.1%
Prefer not to answer	13%	10%
n=	335	741

Source: RRC Associates, 2025 Bainbridge Island Metro Park & Rec District Comprehensive Plan Survey



RRC

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