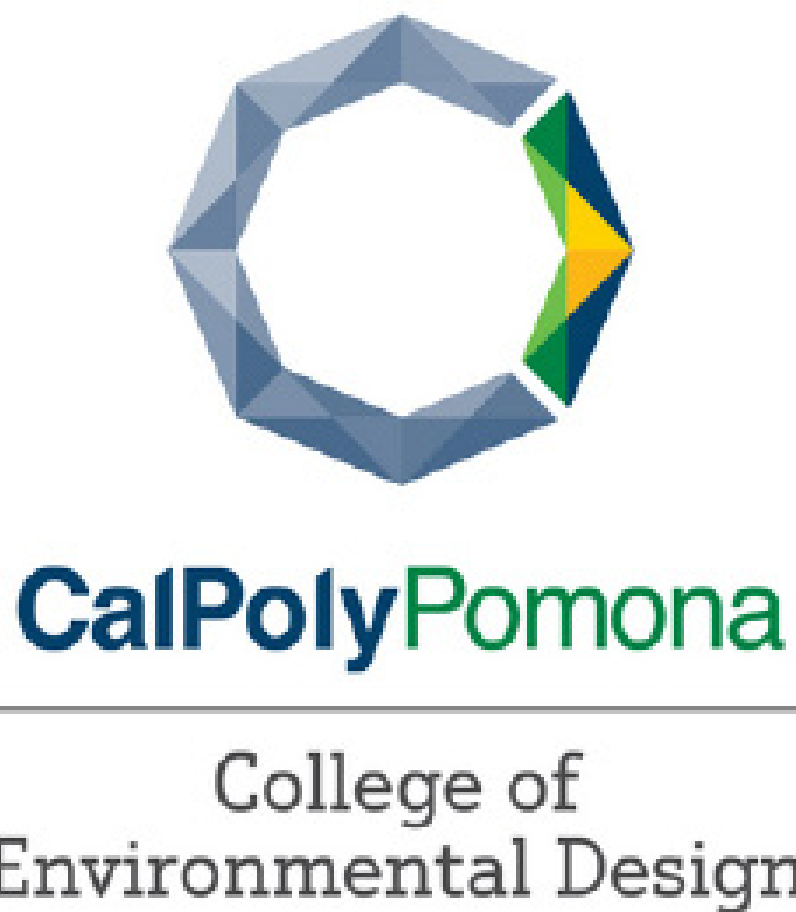


Impact of Park Amenities

Research by: Stephan Hahn | Advisor: Geoffrey Starns | Spring 2026



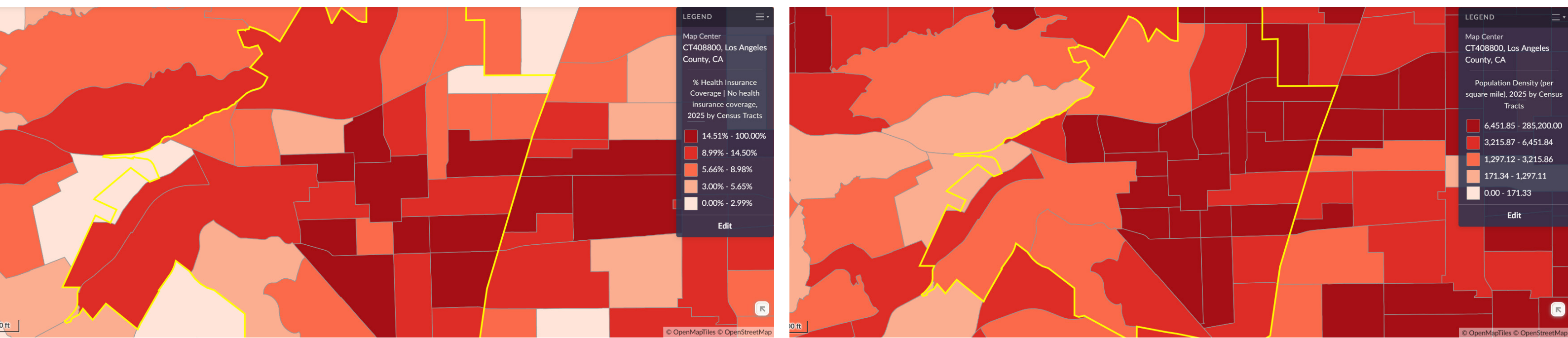
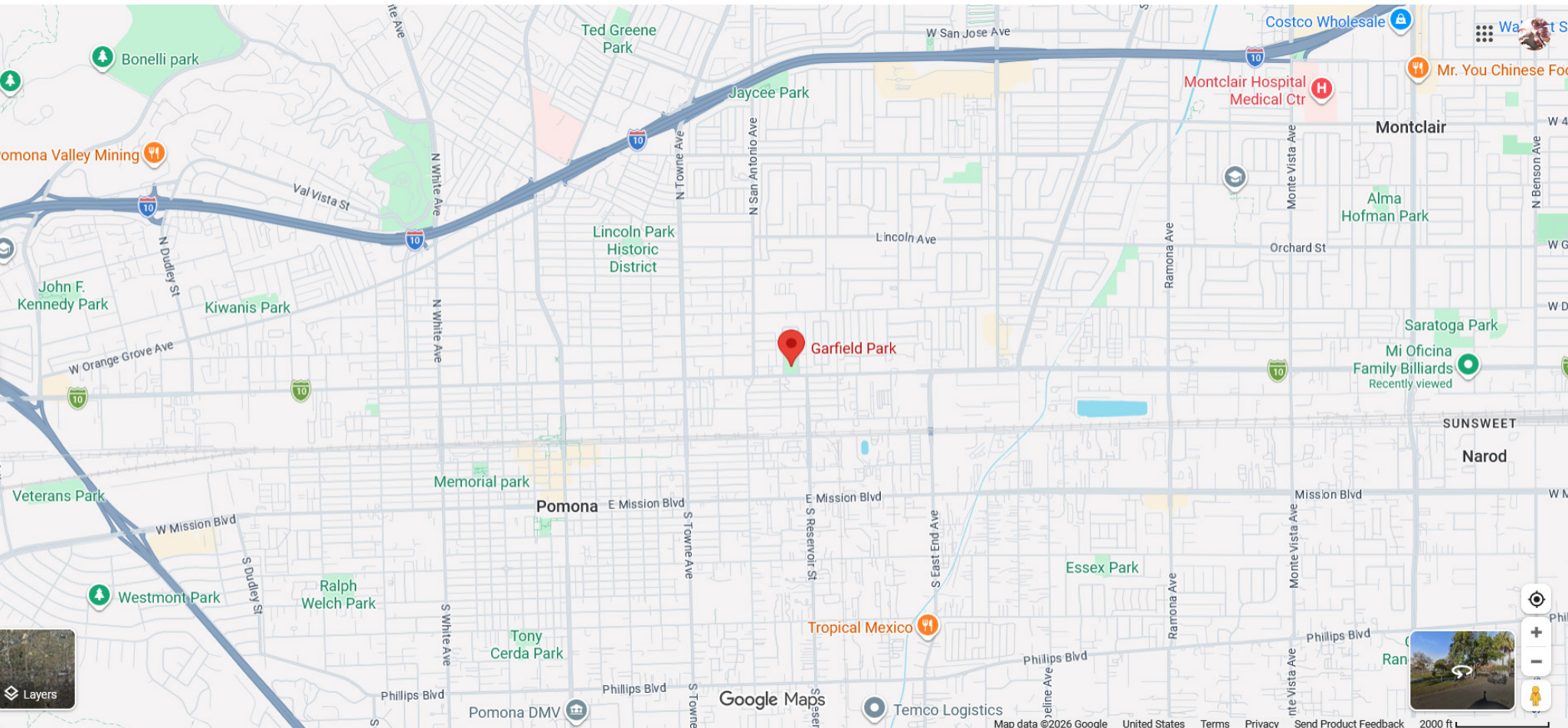
INTRODUCTION

This research argues that well-designed parks play a critical role in strengthening urban resilience by addressing growing social isolation and declining community connection. As modern lifestyles encourage people to stay indoors, loneliness and disconnection have increased, weakening both individual well-being and community cohesion. The paper highlights how accessible, amenity-rich green spaces can draw people outside, foster social interaction, and improve mental and physical health. By linking park design and amenities to broader urban resilience goals, the research demonstrates that parks are not just recreational spaces, but essential infrastructure for healthier, more connected, and adaptable cities.

STUDY AREA

Garfield Park (Pomona, CA)

This park was chosen because there was a Garfield Park Masterplan that was announced by the city of Pomona in the spring of 2025, and there have not been any changes made to the park since. (Survey example QR code provided below)



RECOMMENDATIONS

- Nature and greenery** provides a safe and open space where adults and children can both relax, away from the mundane and busy lifestyles. Not only does it provide fresh air, it also provides shade and acts as a barrier from vehicular traffic. It is the very foundation to building an inviting and safe park.
- Clear, clean walkways** are one of the most important park features. They ensure safety, protect sensitive areas like feet, and create a secure environment for visitors, children, and pets.
- Community outreach** helps shift the perception of parks from being unnecessary to essential. Parks should reflect the needs and cultures of the surrounding community to support mental and physical health and create a lasting positive impact.

METHODOLOGY

Research Questions

- To what extent do park amenities satisfy the needs and desires of participants?
- How does the presence of such amenities impact the physical, health, mental health, and overall satisfaction of the participants?

Research Method

Qualitative

Unit of Analysis

Survey results posted in Garfield Park

Data Collection

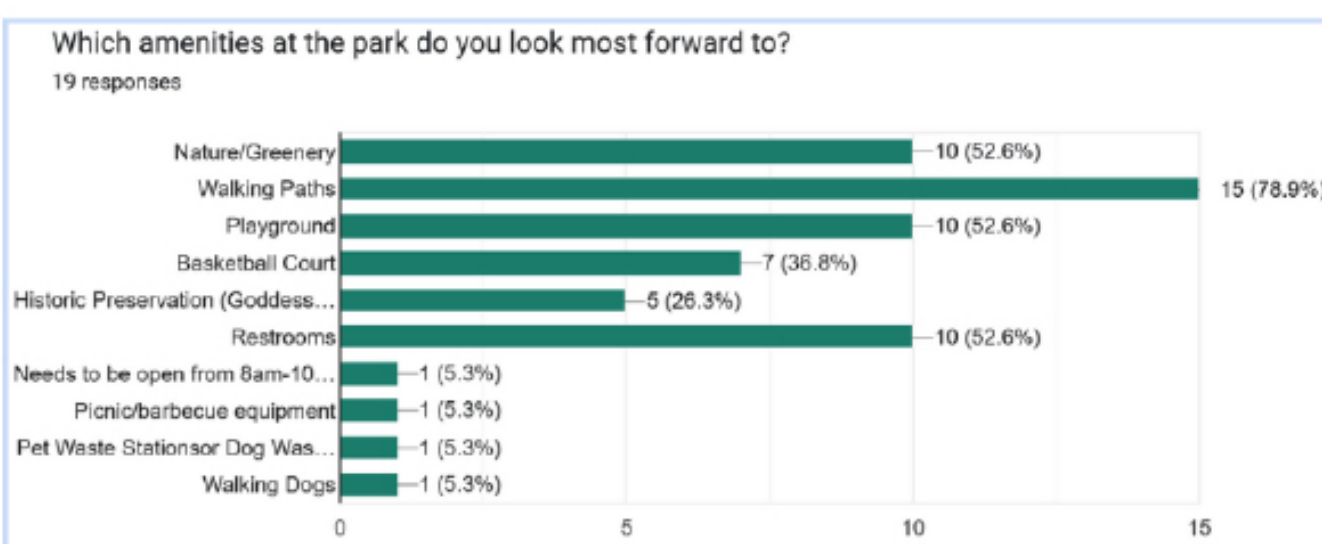
Primary Data: Online Survey
Secondary Data: Literature Review

Data Analysis

Thematic Coding & Sentiment Analysis

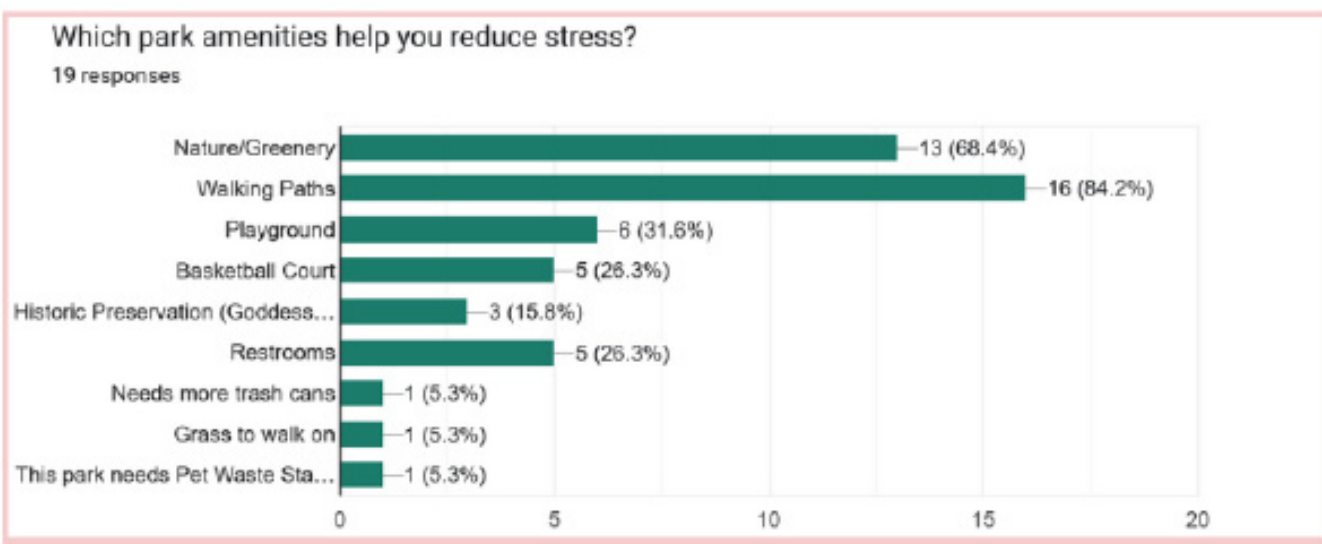
FINDINGS

Incentive Chart

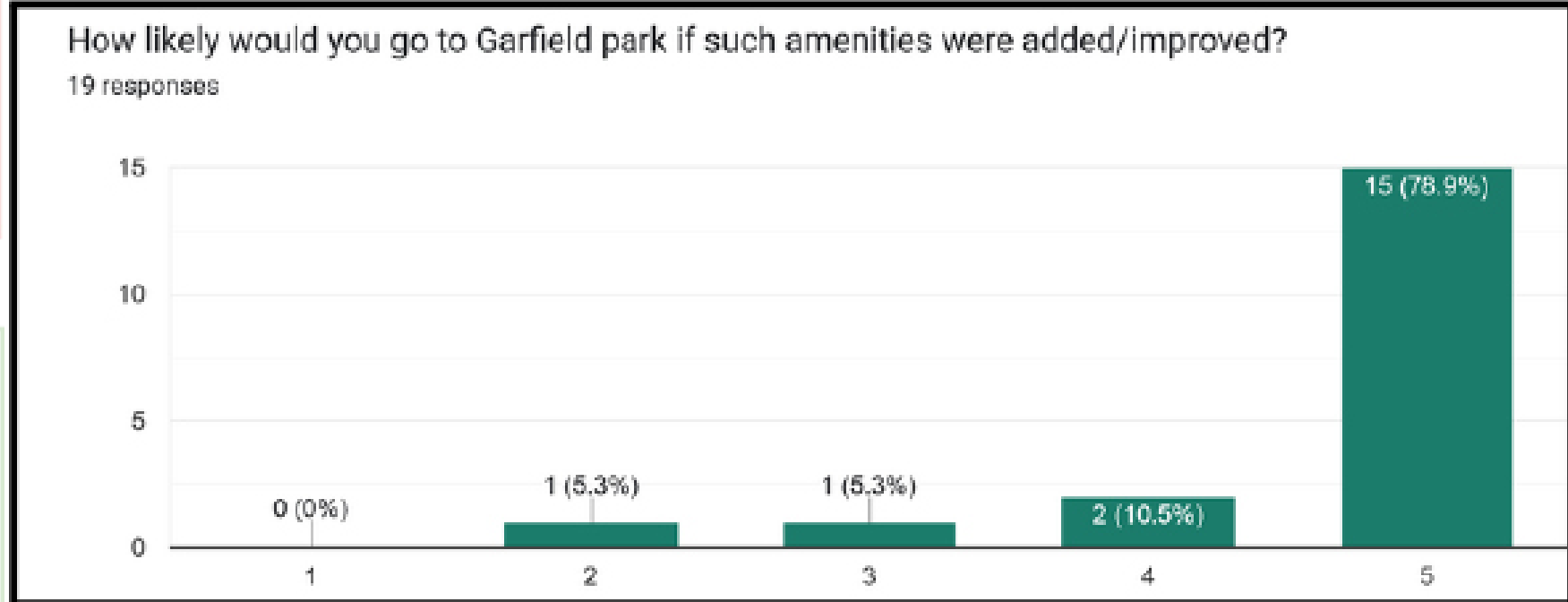
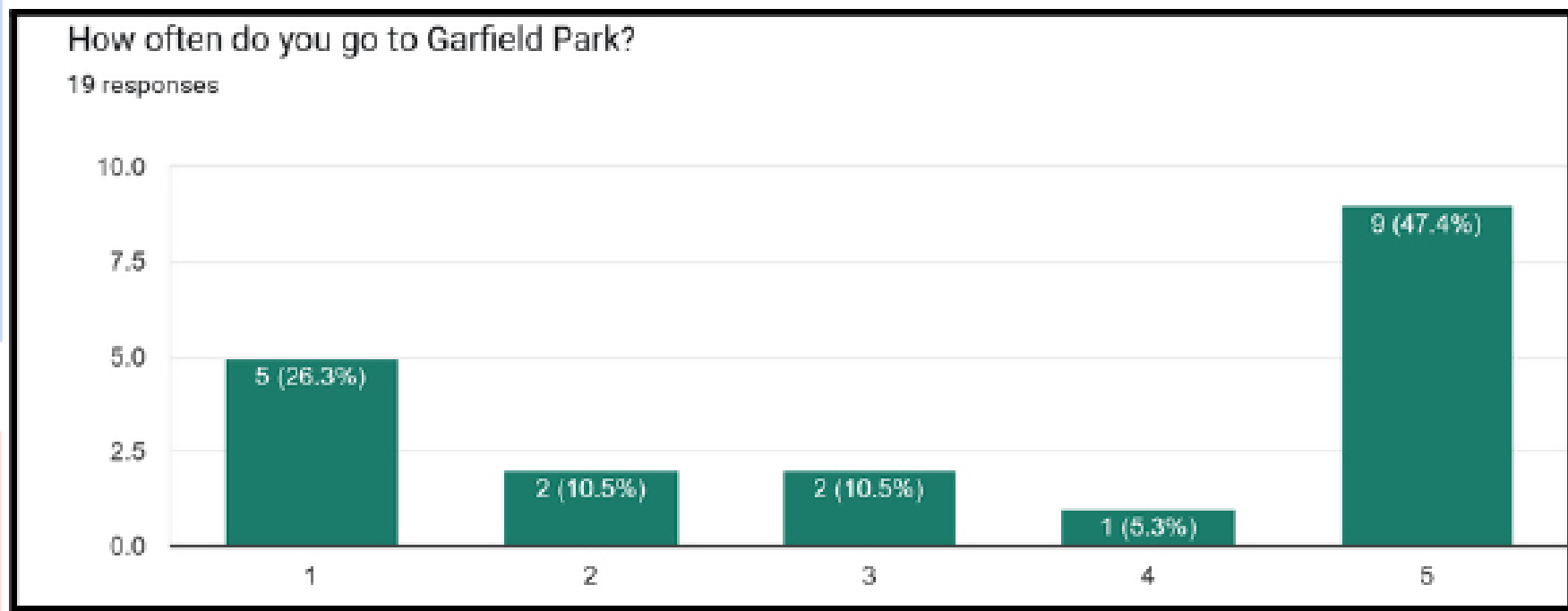
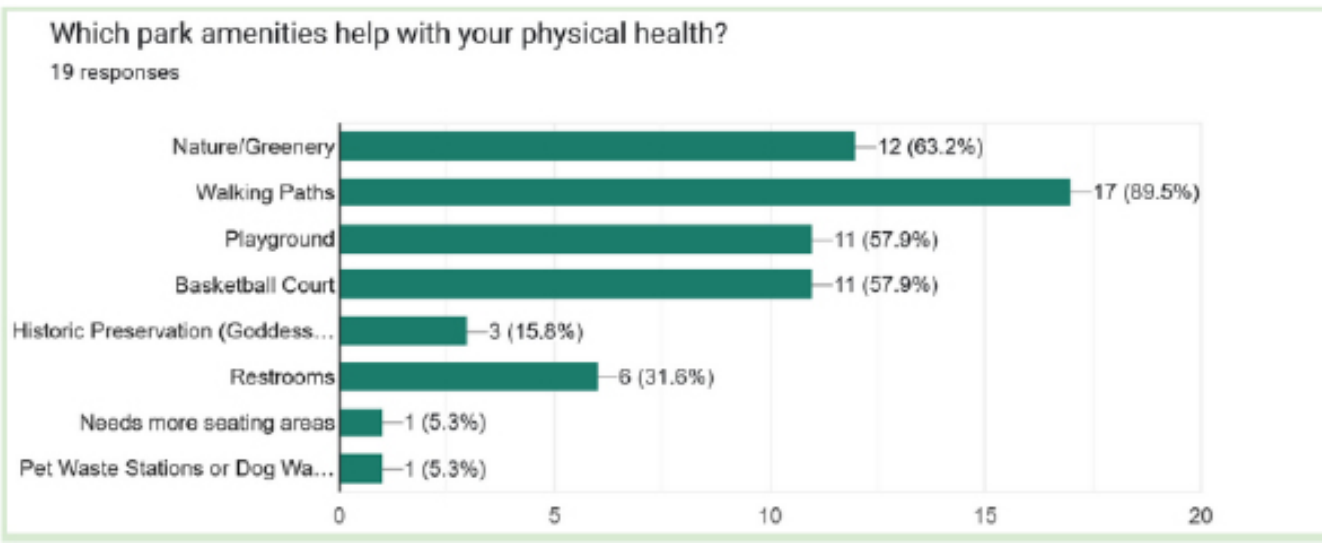


(1 stands for Almost never (0-1 time a week) and 5 stands for Always (4+ times a week))

Mental Health



Physical Health Chart



Key Findings:

- Implementing a clear walking path is the key to success.
- 37% total increase, 66% increase for option 5
- 78.9% (15) voted that walking paths are what they look forward
- 84.2% (16) voted that it helps reduce stress
- 89.5% (17) agreed that it helps their physical health

CONCLUSION

The study concludes that park amenities contribute to urban resiliency. Data from real-time surveys reveal how walking paths, nature, and playgrounds contribute to the increase in desire to utilize Garfield Park more. Visitors desire better amenities and, in turn, create interconnected communities that will also improve the livelihoods of those who choose to use the park. This will create a more resilient city that can prevent the loneliness epidemic from affecting the lives of the city of Pomona.