

Terwillegar Park



EDMONTON



Public Information Meeting

Visioning for Terwillegar Park

June 22, 2005 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Riverbend Junior High School

EDMONTON



Agenda

- | | |
|--|--------------------|
| 1. Welcome/Introductions | Community Services |
| 2. Major Research Findings Park Vision/Guiding Principles Key Findings/Recommendations | Consultants |
| 3. Next Steps | Community Services |
| 4. Question & Answers | All |
| 5. Wrap Up | Community Services |

Terwillegar Park



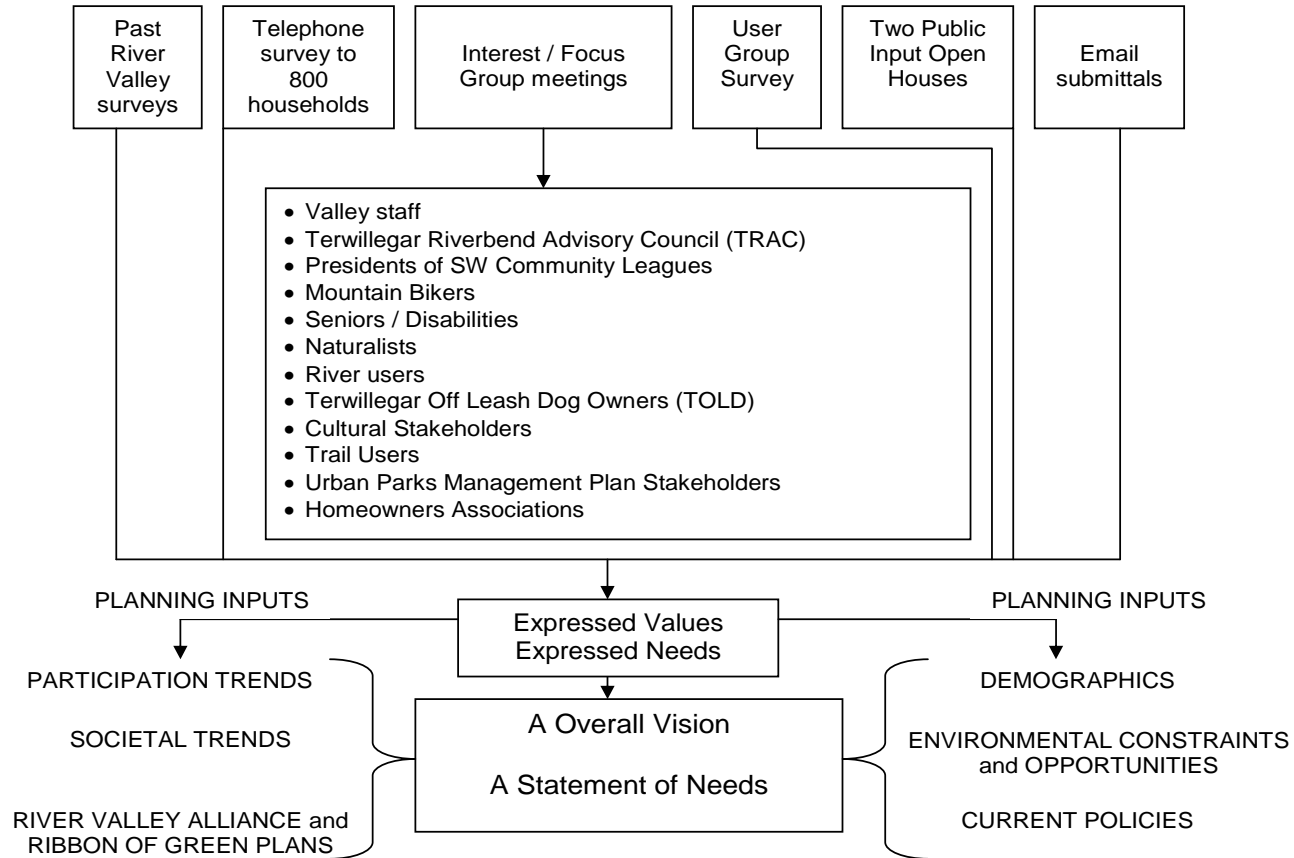


A VISION FOR TERWILLEGAR PARK





Process Overview





Involved Public

Close to 1200 residents participated in this Visioning Process through:

- Focus Group Meetings
- Stakeholder Group Questionnaires
- Fifty Submissions via letter, email and telephone
- Two Public Input Open Houses generating 188 feedback forms
- Telephone Survey to 800 households across Edmonton, including 281 or 35% within the Southwest



What We Have Learned From The Public Survey...

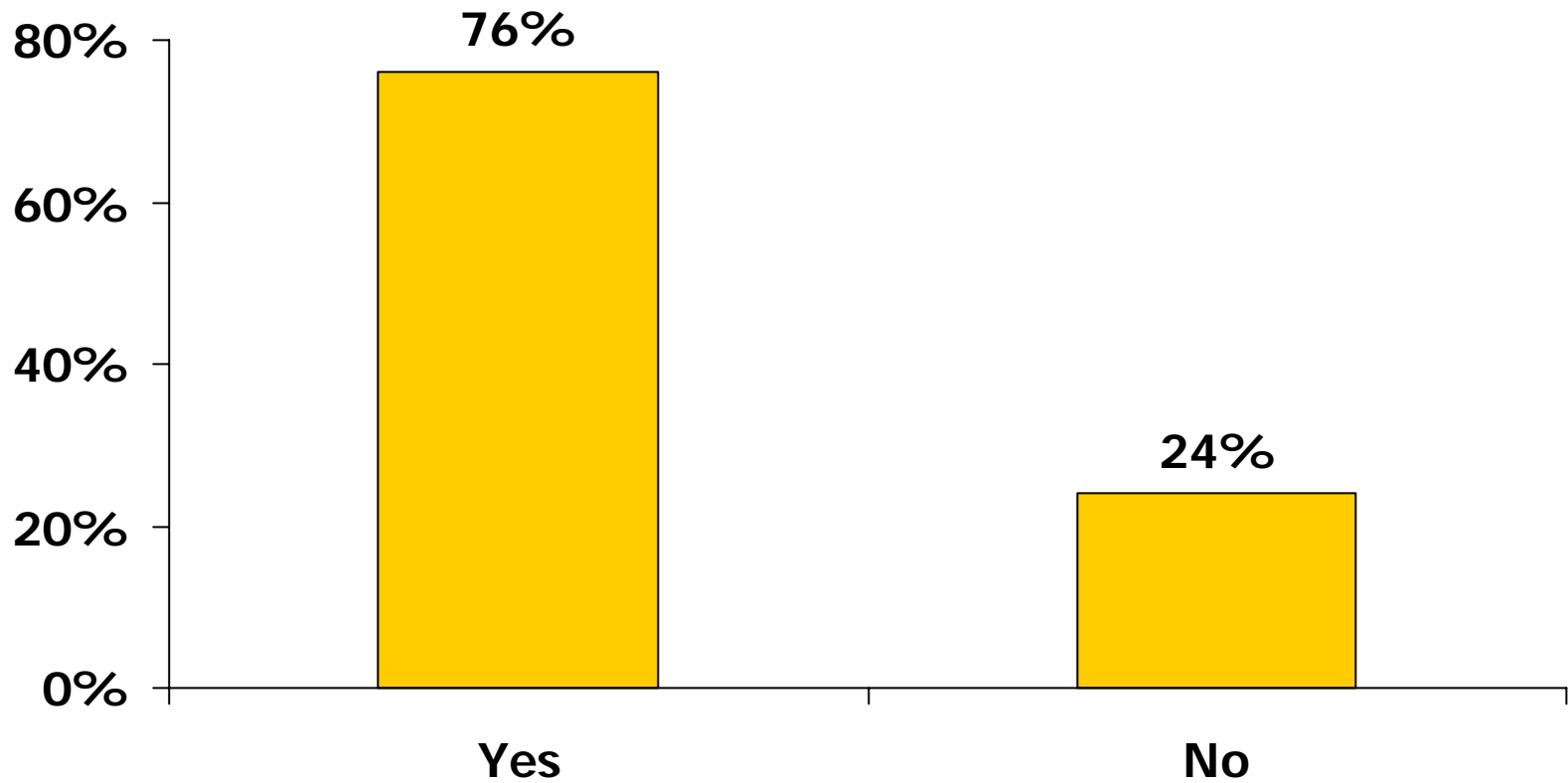


Survey Methodology

- **Completed 800 telephone surveys with Edmonton residents between April 15th and April 25th 2005.**
- **281 (35%) were residents of Southwest Edmonton.**



Current Usage of the River Valley



n=800



What types of activities do you participate in throughout the River Valley?

- **Walking/hiking** 75%
- **Cycling on paved trails** 40%
- **Cycling on unpaved trails** 23%
- **Jogging/running** 21%
- **Attend a festival/event** 19%
- **Picnicking** 18%
- **Dog walking off-leash** 15%
- **Dog walking on-leash** 14%

n=611, respondents that have visited Edmonton's River Valley



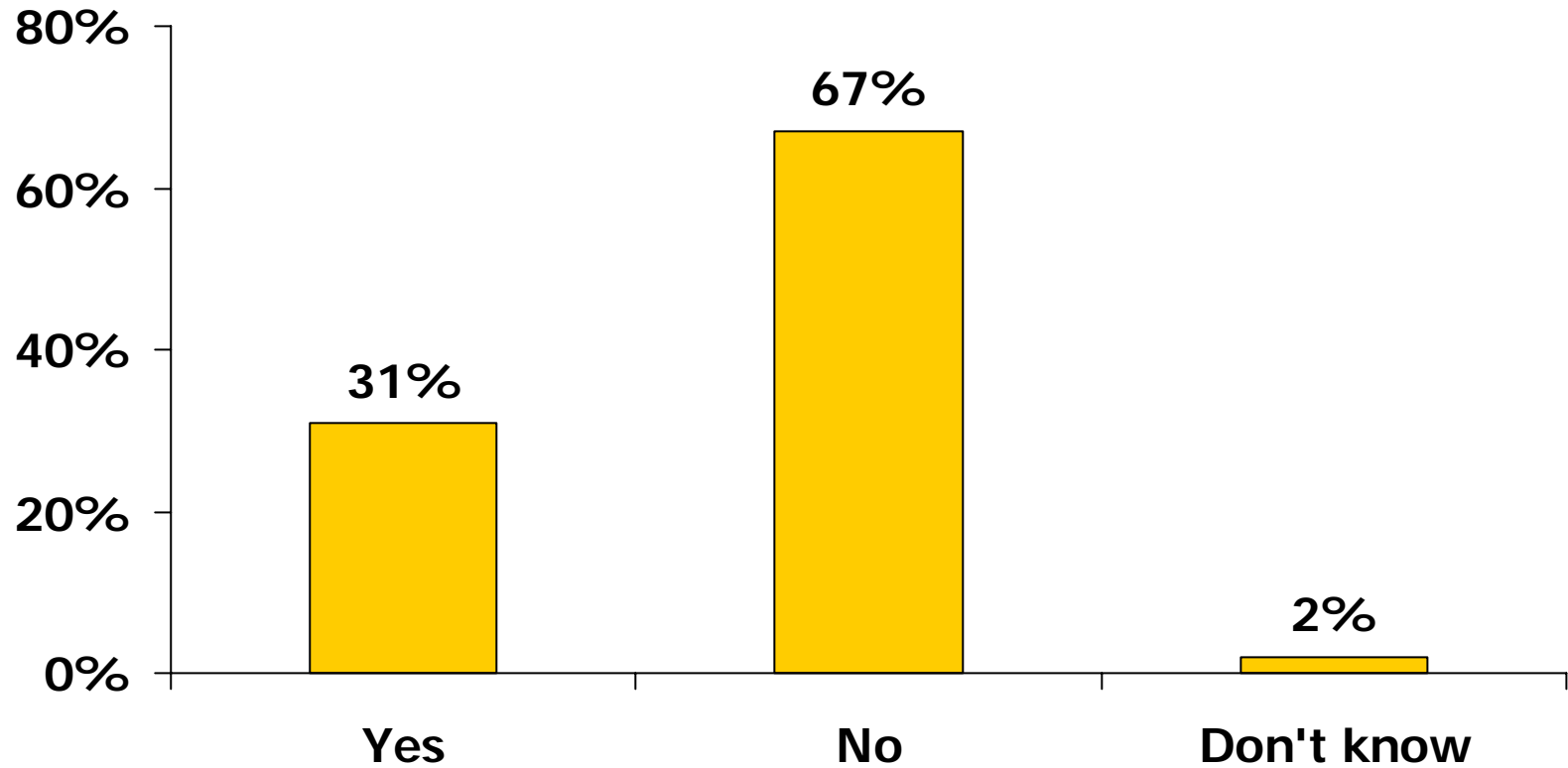
Importance of different trail configurations throughout the River Valley

| Trail Type | Very/Somewhat Important | Not very/Not at all Important |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Continuous paved multi-use trail & foot bridges | 85% | 13% |
| Trails suitable to persons with disabilities | 72% | 25% |
| Natural or unimproved trails | 65% | 33% |
| Asphalt or hard surface trails cleared of snow | 61% | 37% |
| Crushed gravel trails | 55% | 44% |
| Wood chip trails | 48% | 59% |
| Cross-country ski trails | 45% | 51% |

n=800



Have you visited Terwillegar Park in the past 12 months?



n=800



What types of activities do you participate in at Terwillegar Park?

- **Walking/hiking** 54%
- **Dog walking** 36%
- **Cycling** 34%
- **Jogging/running** 12%
- **Picnicking** 6%

n=250, respondents that have visited Terwillegar Park



How do you typically travel to Terwillegar Park?

- **Personal vehicle** 72%
- **Bicycle** 16%
- **Walk** 10%
- **Edmonton Transit** <1%
- **Jog** <1%

n=250, respondents that have visited Terwillegar Park



Vision for Terwillegar Park

- **Let nature take its course** **58%**
- **Paved trails for rollerblading/
cycling/wheelchairs** **14%**
- **More development in general** **8%**
- **Covered cooking/picnic area** **7%**
- **Paved roads and parking lot** **6%**

n=800



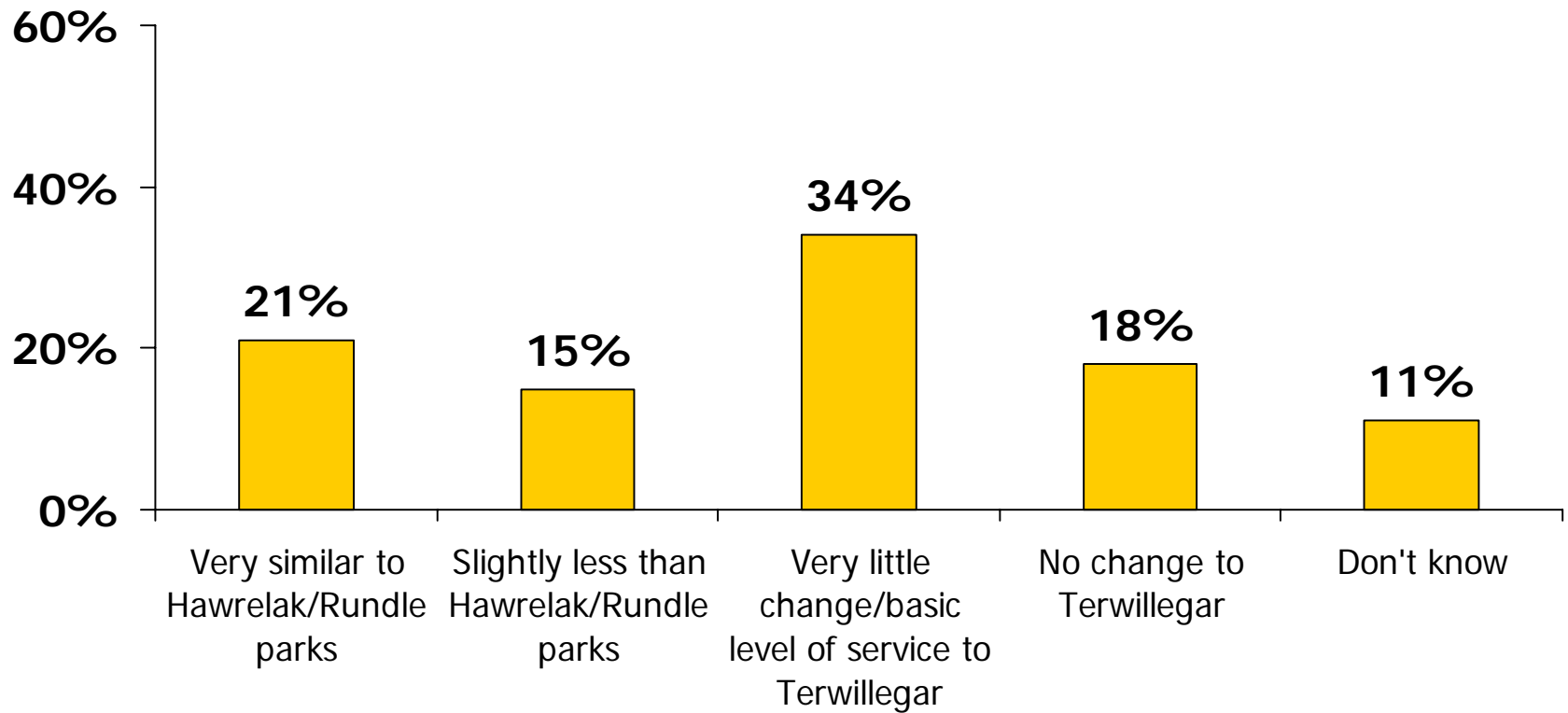
What types of activities, experiences, services and/or programs should be available in 10 years?

- **Trail based activities** **19%**
- **Picnic/group areas** **14%**
- **Leave it natural** **13%**
- **Washrooms** **12%**
- **Biking activities** **10%**

n=800



Potential Development Options



n=800



Highly Important Facilities & Services

- **Indoor bathrooms**
- **Picnic areas**
- **Nature/wildlife appreciation areas**
- **Open grass fields**
- **Improved trails**
- **Winter sledding/tobogganing**

n=800



Moderately Important Facilities & Services

- Winter public skating areas
- Nature interpretation displays
- Canoe launches
- Playgrounds
- Indoor shelters
- Continuous paved multi-use trails and foot bridges
- Areas for orienteering
- Dogs off-leash areas
- Paving of roads and parking areas
- City wide events areas

n=800



What We Have Learned From Open Houses, Focus Group Meetings, and Email Submittals...



Activities and Programs that interest groups want in the Park...

- **Most popular mentions:**
 - Walking and hiking (in nature)
 - Dog walking (on and off leash)
 - Cycling and mountain biking
 - Bird / wildlife watching
 - Running / jogging
 - Cross country skiing
- **Other popular mentions:**
 - Canoe / kayak launching
 - Orienteering
 - Dog swimming
 - Socializing



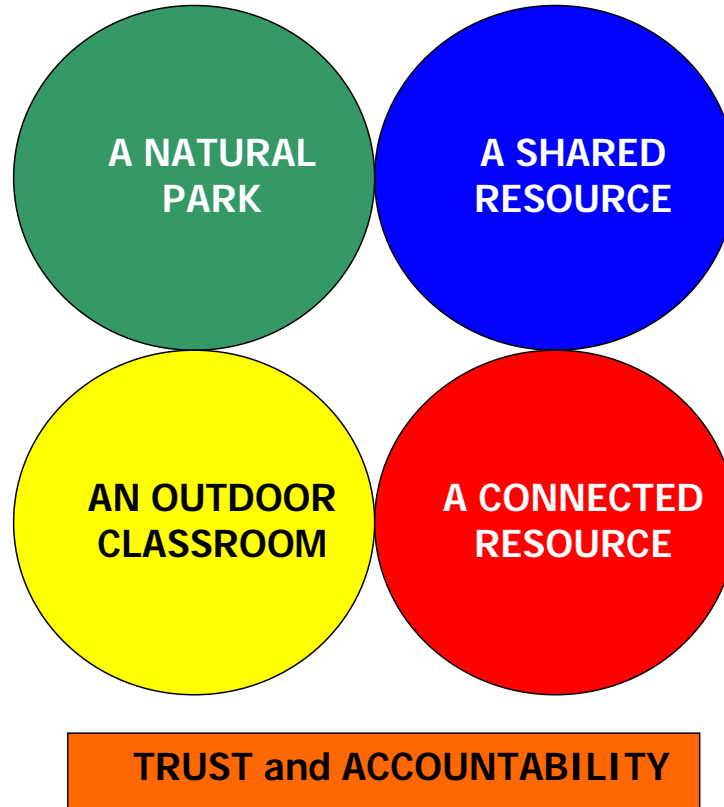
Facilities and Services that interest groups want in the Park...

- **Combination of trail types**
- **Off leash dog areas**
- **Canoe / kayak launching and staging area**
- **Nature / wildlife viewing and interpretive areas**
- **Improved park access and staging**



Terwillegar Park Values

“A Common Set of Threads”



“We don’t manage ecosystems, we manage our interaction with them”

- James Kay
professor of Environment Studies
Waterloo



The Vision...

“A Unique Natural Park within The City of Edmonton’s River Valley Park System”

A place where all people can:

- **Find solace from the pressures of urban lifestyles;**
- **Appreciate and learn about nature and how to preserve it;**
- **Participate, including all levels of ability or disability, in both passive and active leisure pursuits in a safe natural setting, thereby contributing to their mental, physical, and social well being;**
- **Discover new things in nature, new friends and new pursuits**
- **Enjoy nature and recreate in harmony because they are aligned with park management values and respecting the needs of others.**



Key recommendations...

- **Sensitive Ecosystem Inventory and Mapping**
- **Trails Systems**
 - Off leash
 - Mountain bikes
 - Multi-use
 - Nature
 - Cross Country Skiing
- **River Valley Multi-use Trail**
 - Review all possible alignments
- **Provide for water based nature activities and boater access**
- **Provide for winter activity preferences**



Key recommendations...(cont.)

- **Picnicking**
- **Park staging area**
 - Washrooms
 - Improved parking
 - Improved access road
- **Improved management**
 - Staff on site
- **Development of a Management Plan**
- **Advisory Committee**



Summation...

- **The Terwillegar Park Needs Consultation and Visioning suggests that:**
 - The Park should be a natural park within Edmonton's River Valley Parks System (with basic level public services)
 - All current activities should be continued
 - The continuous River Valley Trail (Ribbon of Green) alignment requires further review and consultation to ensure that all alternates have been explored
 - Public stakeholders need to remain involved in any future planning for the resource

EDMONTON



Next Steps

1. Consultant report to City in late June
2. Report to Community Services Committee in September

YOU CAN REGISTER TO SPEAK

3. Report to Council



Possible Next Steps after Council?

- Project Setup (prepare Terms of Reference, set up an Advisory Committee)
- Confirm and ratify the Vision Statement
- Concept Phase (2006)

EDMONTON



Development/Implementation Phase:

- Preliminary & Detailed Design
- Environmental Review/Approvals
- Construction Plans, Permits and Tenders
- Construction

EDMONTON



Q/A's

- Please approach the microphone.
- You have two minutes to ask your question.
- The Consultant or Community Services staff will respond to your question.

EDMONTON



Thank you for attending