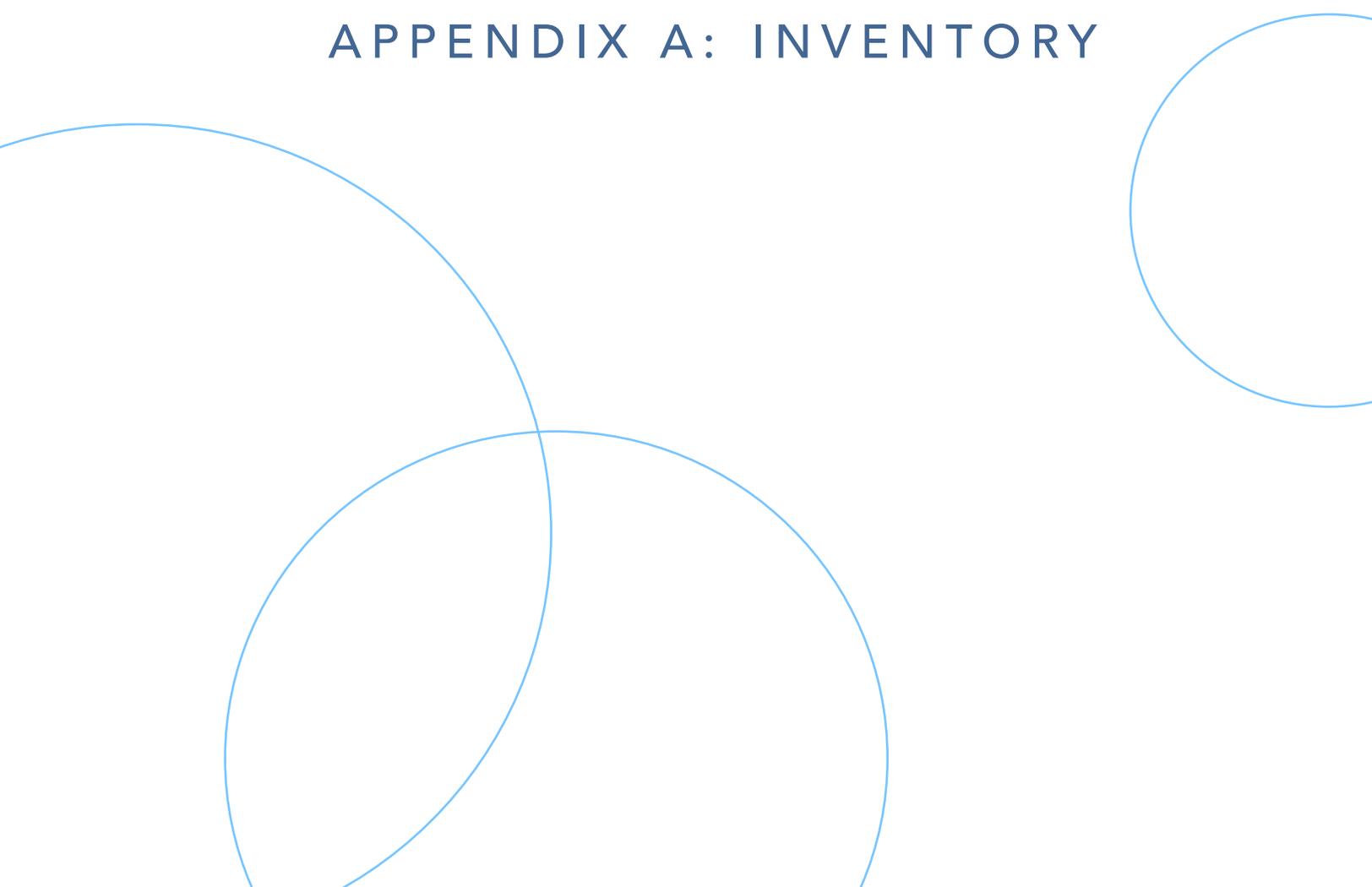




APPENDIX A: INVENTORY



Appendix A-2: City of South Lake Tahoe Parks and Recreation Department Inventory

Location	Area (Acres)	Outstanding Features	Address
DEVELOPED PARKS			
South Lake Tahoe Recreation Area			
Ice Arena, Recreation & Swim Complex	15.49	Ice arena, pool, gymnasium, meeting rooms, offices	1176 and 1180 Rufus Allen Blvd.
Art Building, Chamber, Museum, Campground, Visitors Center, Senior Center	35.42	Senior center operated by City. Other buildings are rented for as little as \$1/year. Visitors Center operated by LTVA.	3050 and 3062 Lake Tahoe Blvd.
Bijou Community Park	38.36	Disc golf, skate park, restroom, dog park and agility course; planned community garden	1201 Al Tahoe
Bonanza Park	1.00	Play structure, picnic tables, open turf area	
Bijou Municipal Golf Course	67.89	9-hole golf course	3464 Fairway Ave
Connolly Beach	2.13	Unimproved; open seasonally	Behind Timber Cove Lodge
El Dorado Beach	5.85	Beach, ramp, BBQ, restrooms, landscaping, bike trail, parking/concession	Lakeview and Harrison Ave
Regan Beach	5.33	Play structure, restrooms, concessions, wedding site	Pasadena to Fresno
South Lake Tahoe Community Play Field	6.54	Sports field, play structure, restrooms, concessions	1301 Al Tahoe Blvd
<i>Developed Parks Total</i>	<i>178.01</i>		
BIKE TRAIL			
15th Street Bike Trail	0.13	Bike trail, bridge, boardwalk	15th
Al Tahoe Bike Trail	1.28	Class I bike trail 6,059 lineal feet	Al Tahoe Blvd.
Harrison Ave Bike Trail	0.40		Between Los Angeles and Tulare
Linear Park	2.90		Lake Tahoe Blvd.
Lyons Ave Bike Trail	0.25		Lyons Ave.
Ski Run Bike Trail	1.33		Ski Run Blvd.
<i>Bike Trail Total</i>	<i>6.28</i>		
NATURAL AREA			
Al Tahoe Cemetery	0.34	Historic Cemetery in residential area	760 Alameda
Aspen Grove		Aspen trees on 4 lots	Pioneer & Chatsworth
Bijou Community Park access	0.16	Empty Lot meadow access	3507 Rancho Circle
Bijou Golf Course access	0.12	Empty Lot course access	1170 Fairway Ave.
Highland Woods	24.23		Access end of Silverwood Cr.
Lake Christopher Meadow	75.75		Pioneer Trail
<i>Natural Area Total</i>	<i>100.60</i>		

Appendix A-2: City of South Lake Tahoe Parks and Recreation Department Inventory

LANDSCAPE AREA			
Administrative Center	0.64	City office building, landscaping	1052 Tata Lane
Building Maintenance PW	0.04	Small turf area	1678 Shop Street
Police Station	4.98		1352 Johnson Blvd.
Public Works Motor Pool	0.50		1700 D Street
Rufus Allen Walkway	1.73		Rufus Allen
<i>Landscape Area Total</i>	<i>7.89</i>		
RETENTION BASIN			
Fem Ave Basin	0.96		Fern Ave and Pioneer Tr.
Park Ave Basin	1.76		Park Ave.
I Pine Ave Basin	0.99		Pine Ave.
Wildwood Basin	4.73		Wildwood and Highway 50
<i>Retention Basin Total</i>	<i>8.44</i>		
OTHER			
Fire Station # 1	0.61	Fire Station	Ski Run and Pioneer Tr.
Ryan Property		Unknown	D St.
The Lodge		Rental Building	1200 Rufus Allen Blvd
<i>Other Total</i>	<i>0.61</i>		
SCHOOL / ATHLETIC FIELDS			
Al Tahoe School *	3.00	Landscaping around school / Landscaping around school I Fields/restrooms	Lyons & Rufus Allen
Bijou School *	10.00	Landscaping around school / Fields	3501 Spruce Ave.
Meyers School *			San Bernardino and Apache
South Tahoe High School *	5.29		1735 Lake Tahoe Blvd.
South Tahoe Middle School *	7.42		2940 Lake Tahoe Blvd .
Tahoe Valley School *	12.05		943 Tahoe
<i>School / Athletic Fields Total</i>	<i>37.76</i>		

* = LTUSD property



APPENDIX B: PARCS SURVEY REPORT



City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County

Report of Results
October 2013



Parks and Recreation
Community Survey™



2955 Valmont Rd., Suite 300 • Boulder, Colorado 80301
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Executive Summary

The Parks and Recreation Community Survey™ (PARCS™) was developed by National Research Center, Inc. (NRC) to provide an in-depth sounding of residents' attitudes about community parks, recreation and leisure services. The PARCS instrument and its administration are standardized to assure high quality survey methods and comparable results across participating organizations, with some customization by each participating organization so that results will be useful and targeted.

The City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County PARCS gauged resident opinions about the community's recreation and leisure opportunities; priorities for and vision of parks and recreation; and the quality of recreation services, programs and facilities. PARCS results serve as a planning and evaluation tool that organizations may use to develop their long-term, master or strategic plans, determine how future resources will be allocated and evaluate their service provision.

The survey was mailed in August 2013 to a random selection of 1,600 households in the South Shore area. Each household was contacted three times about participation in the survey. A total of 324 completed surveys was obtained, providing an overall response rate of 22% and a margin of error of plus or minus six percentage points around any given percent for the entire sample. Survey results were weighted so that respondent age, gender, tenure (rent versus own), housing unit type, race and ethnicity were represented in the proportions reflective of the South Shore area overall.

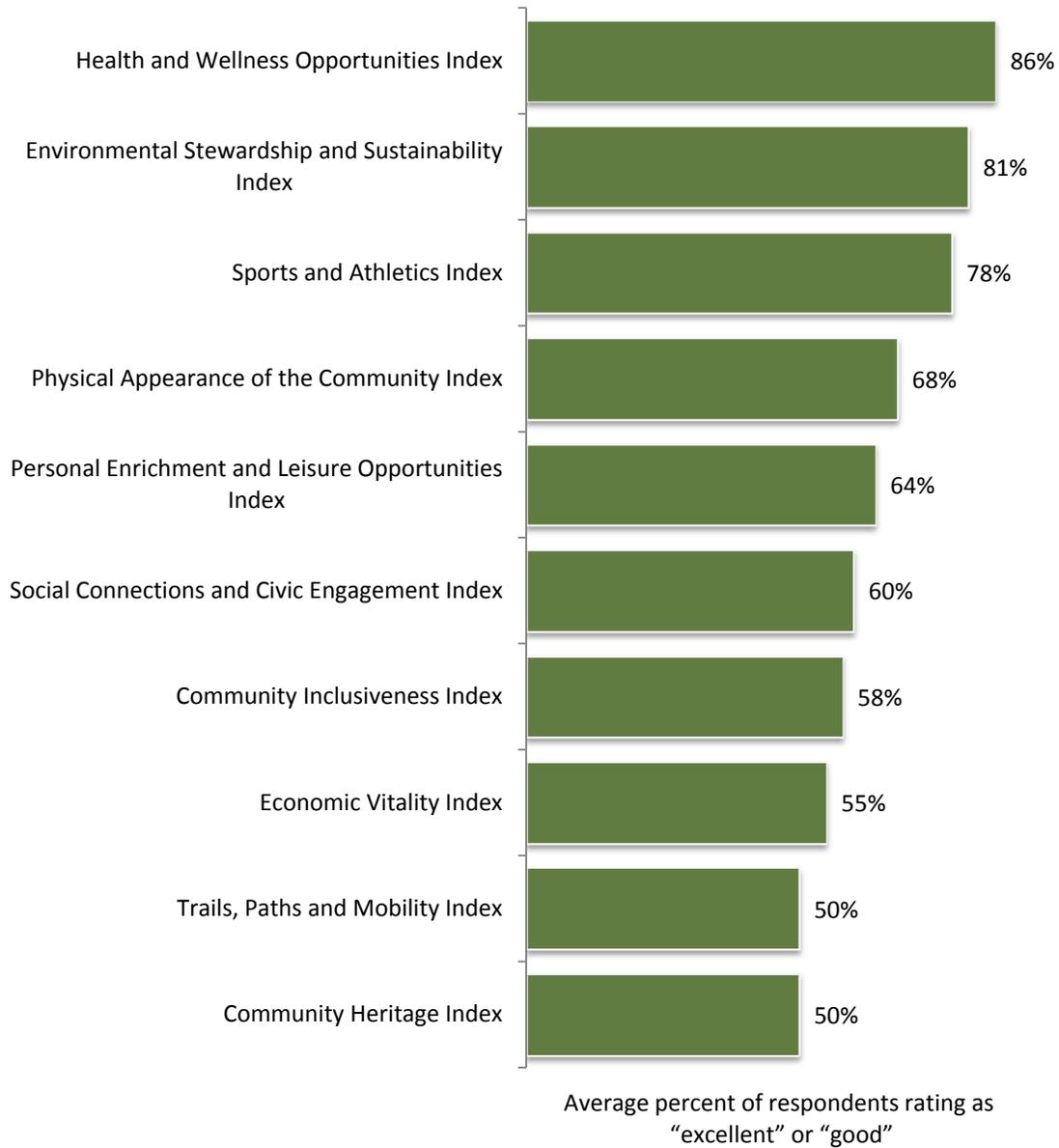
Quality of the Community

Users of parks and recreation services and facilities benefit in a variety of ways: learning new skills; increasing their fitness and health; participating in healthy competition; and enjoying recreation, rest or relaxation in parks and open spaces. However, the positive outcomes provided by parks and recreation extend beyond just those who directly interact with its services. In recent years, much research has been published that demonstrates the economic, environmental and social benefits that parks and recreation services produce for the good of the entire community.

Residents completing the questionnaire were asked to evaluate a number of community characteristics that can be influenced by the services provided by public parks and recreation agencies. The items from each of these questions were classified into 10 broad categories (or indices) of the community benefits that can be impacted by parks and recreation offerings. These indices were created to summarize with a single number the ratings for each of the individual items in the index. These index ratings from South Shore residents are shown in Figure 1. Generally, residents gave positive ratings to most aspects of the community and its amenities. The areas receiving the highest ratings from residents were the Health and Wellness Opportunities Index, Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability Index and the

Sports and Athletics Index. The indices of Economic Vitality; Trails, Paths and Mobility; and Community Heritage were rated least positively.

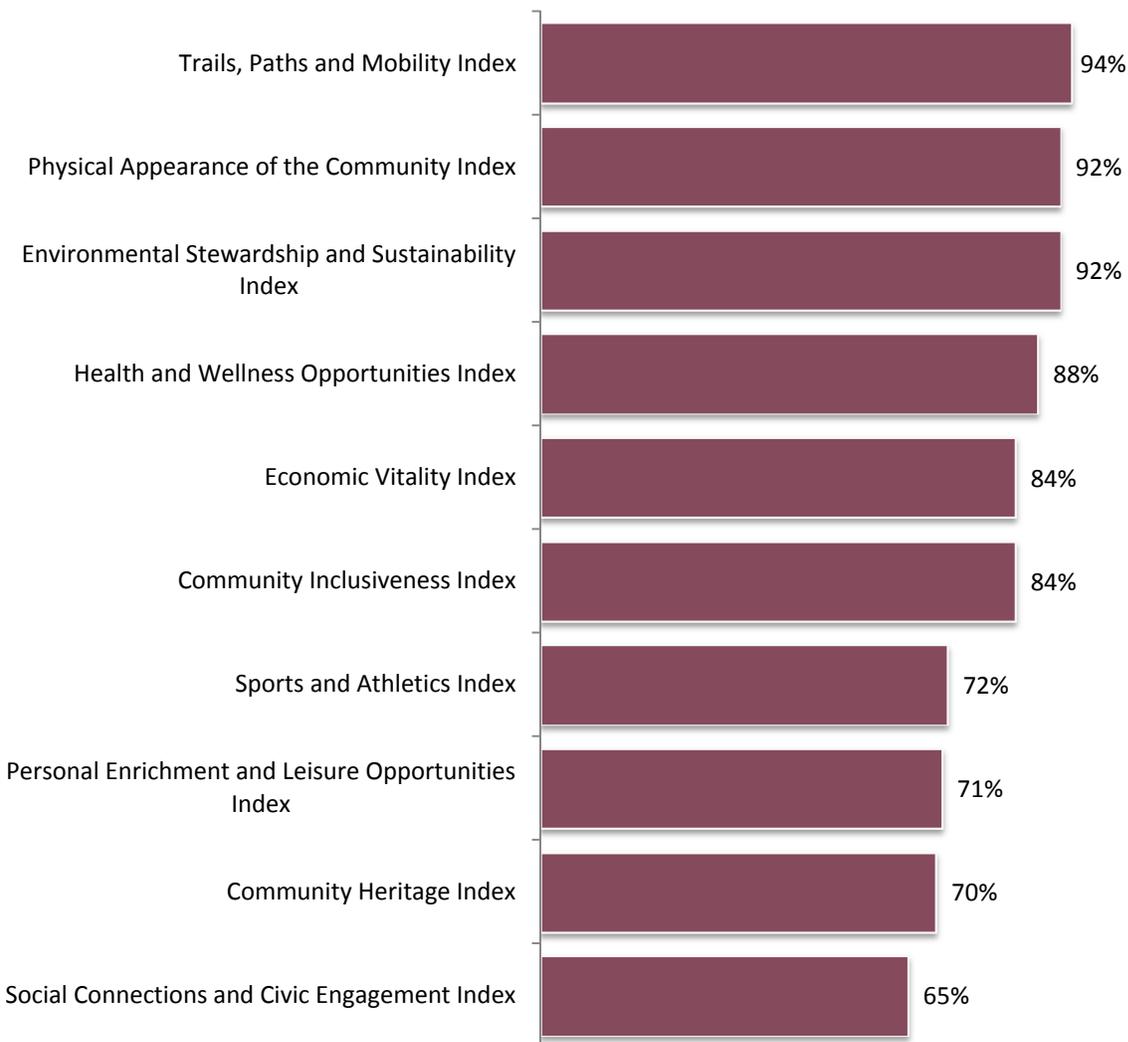
Figure 1: Community Characteristics Indices



Resident Priorities for Parks and Recreation in the City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County

A series of statements about possible overarching goals for the City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County was presented to survey respondents, who were asked to rate the importance of each of these potential purposes. These statements were placed into the same 10 broad categories used to classify community characteristics. Index scores also were created for each of these categories. Overall, residents felt parks and recreation should provide an important role in all of the areas assessed. However, the indices of Trails, Paths and Mobility; Physical Appearance of the Community; and Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability were rated as the most important roles of recreation in the community. Although the Social Connections and Civic Engagement Index was viewed as the least important community priority, it was believed to be important by a majority of residents.

Figure 2: Community Priorities Indices



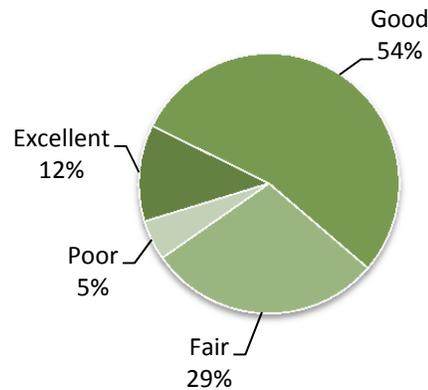
Average percent of respondents rating as
"essential" or "very important"

City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County Activities and Facilities

The overall quality of services provided by the City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County was rated as excellent or good by most residents.

Figure 3: Overall Quality of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County Services

Please rate the overall quality of services provided by the City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County



The individual activities and facilities receiving the highest and lowest quality ratings for those residents with an opinion are presented in Figure 4 below.

Figure 4: Summary of Quality Ratings for Activities and Facilities

	Activities	Facilities
Highest Quality Ratings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disc/Frisbee golf • Community events (such as Lake in the Sky Air Show, Race the Lake of the Sky SUP, Live at Lakeview Summer Concerts, etc.) • Ice skating • Golf 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lakeview Commons • South Tahoe Ice Arena • El Dorado Beach • Van Sickle Park
Lowest Quality Ratings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After school programs • Certifications (such as CPR, AED, First Aid, Babysitting, etc.) • Drop-in fitness (such as weights, exercise machines, etc.) • Martial arts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tahoe Paradise Park • Recreation and Swim Complex • Bicycle trails • Senior Center

Performance-Importance Comparisons for Services and Facilities

Residents were asked to select the three most important activities and the three most important facilities in the South Shore area. The quality ratings given to activities and facilities were compared to the importance rankings to identify action areas. Activities and facilities operating at the higher quality that parallels their importance are shown in the two upper quadrants in Figure 5 below. Activities and facilities ranked as higher in importance but lower in quality were flagged in the analysis as the areas in need of the most attention. Services and facilities falling into this category are shown in the two lower quadrants in the figure below.

Figure 5: Activity and Facility Highlights and Opportunities

	Activities	Facilities
Higher in Importance, Higher in Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fitness or health and wellness classes (such as aerobics, yoga, weight training, etc.) • Swim lessons • Community events (such as Lake in the Sky Air Show, Race the Lake of the Sky SUP, Live at Lakeview Summer Concerts, etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bijou Community Park • Campground by the Lake • El Dorado Beach • Lakeview Commons
Higher in Importance, Lower in Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Martial arts • Certifications (such as CPR, AED, First Aid, Babysitting, etc) • After school programs • Children and teen summer camp • Field sports (such as baseball, softball, soccer, football, etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior Center • Bicycle trails • Recreation and Swim Complex • Bijou Dog Park • Regan Beach

In summary, this survey captured the perspectives of South Shore area residents on their community and the quality and importance of the parks and recreation amenities available to them. There was widespread agreement that the South Shore area is a good place to live and while residents were satisfied with many of the opportunities for leisure offered in the community, they noted some areas for improvement.

Although parks, recreation and leisure services contribute strongly to the quality of community life in the City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County, not all of these services are necessarily the responsibility of a single department or even the responsibility of governments or districts. The characteristics that residents evaluated in PARCS both cut to the heart of community quality at the same time that they reach beyond the boundaries of any single governmental entity. PARCS brings resident evaluations not only of specific services but of community characteristics which are influenced by the private sector, nearby government entities and a wide variety of community services from schools to trash collection, libraries to police. The complete picture of how the community fares with parks, recreation and leisure opportunities can be influenced by many agencies that will need to work together to maximize effectiveness.

A periodic sounding of South Shore residents will not only provide ongoing assessment of the quality of services provided but also will gauge the progress South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County make at increasing community quality of life, wellness and vitality through parks and recreation offerings.

Introduction

Many benefits are conferred to the users of parks and recreation services and facilities. Those who participate in the activities and programs of a parks and recreation agency have the opportunity to learn new skills, increase their fitness and health and have an outlet for competition. The parks, trails and open space acquired, developed and maintained by a parks and recreation agency provide recreation, rest and relaxation to those who use them. However, the benefits provided by parks and recreation extend beyond just those who directly interact with its services. These economic, environmental and social benefits can promote the good of the entire community. In recent years, a great deal of scientific evidence has been published that confirms the potential of these community benefits.¹

Life in cities, counties, towns and special districts has been made more enjoyable because of active parks and recreation services that residents demand and support. But as parks and recreation agencies work to provide the services desired by the community and that will result in valuable community outcomes, they need to understand what those desired services and outcomes are.

To know confidently what residents seek, recreation and parks managers need to inquire directly of their constituency. This includes not only those who regularly use the services and facilities provided, but everyone within a district or jurisdiction who must support services whether or not the services are used and who benefit from the improvements to their community. To provide the management tool that will bring a representative voice of the community to recreation and parks managers, National Research Center, Inc. (NRC) developed the Parks and Recreation Community Survey™ (PARCS™) service.

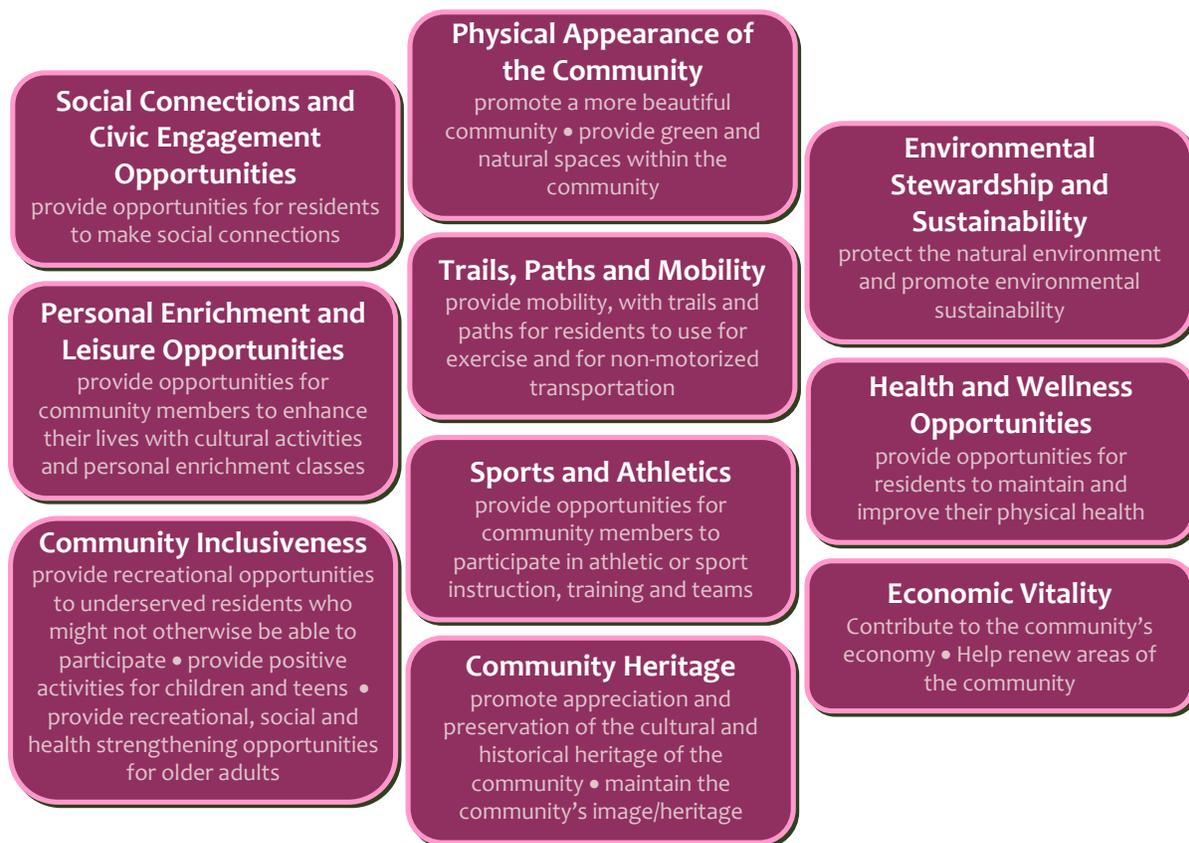
About PARCS

PARCS was developed to provide an in-depth sounding of residents' attitudes about community parks and recreation. The PARCS questionnaire evaluates a number of community characteristics that can be influenced by the services provided by a public parks and recreation agency. The survey also ascertains the importance residents place on potential priorities for a vision of parks and recreation in the community. The items from each of these questions are classified into 10 broad categories of community benefits that can be impacted by parks and recreation offerings. Figure 6 and Figure 7 show these 10 categories; Figure 6 lists the items that were used to assess the quality within each of these categories and Figure 7 lists the items that were used to assess importance within each of these categories. The questionnaire also measures resident evaluations of the offerings of their community parks and recreation agency.

Figure 6: Community Characteristics Assessed through PARCS



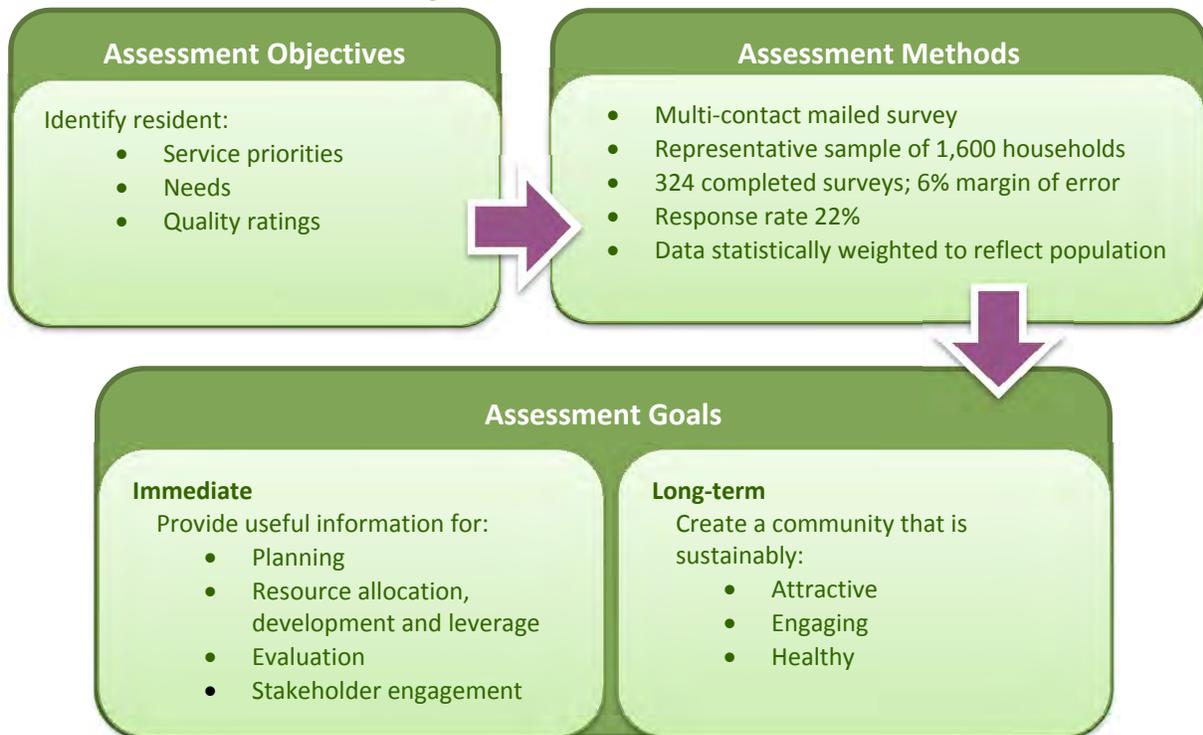
Figure 7: Priorities for Park and Recreation Assessed through PARCS



Periodic assessment permits evaluation of the impact of programs, policies and facilities on resident opinion; the results can be used to reallocate limited personnel and financial resources, educate key stakeholders and advocate for new sources of revenue. PARCS results also serve as a strategic planning and evaluation tool that organizations may use to develop their strategic or long-term plans, determine how future resources will be allocated and evaluate their current policies and service provision.

As shown in Figure 8 below, the immediate objectives of PARCS are to provide useful information for planning; resource allocation, development and leverage; evaluation; and stakeholder engagement. PARCS long-term objectives are to create a community that is sustainably attractive, engaging, vital and healthy. The ultimate goals of the assessment and the actions initiated based on assessment findings are to enhance communities as places to live and to improve the quality of life of residents and visitors.

Figure 8: PARCS Methods and Goals



PARCS Methods

The PARCS instrument and its administration are standardized to assure high quality survey methods and comparable results across participating organizations. Households within the South Shore boundaries were selected at random. Multiple mailings gave each household more than one reminder to participate with a self-addressed and postage-paid envelope to return the survey. Results were statistically weighted to reflect the proper demographic profile of adult residents in the entire community.

The survey was mailed in August 2013 to a random selection of 1,600 households in the South Shore area. Each household was contacted three times about participation in the survey. A total of 324 completed surveys was obtained, providing an overall response rate of

22% and a margin of error of plus or minus 6% around any given percent for the entire sample. Survey results were weighted so that respondent age, gender, tenure (rent versus own), housing unit type, race and ethnicity were represented in the proportions reflective of the South Shore area overall.

For more information on how to read and interpret this report, as well as additional methodological information, refer to *Appendix D: Survey Methods*.

Benchmark Comparisons

NRC's database of comparative resident opinion is comprised of resident perspectives gathered in public opinion surveys from approximately 500 local government agencies whose residents evaluated local government services and gave their opinion about the quality of community life. A benchmark comparison (the average rating from all the comparison agencies where a similar question was asked) has been provided when a similar question on the City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County's survey was included in NRC's database and there were at least five surveys in which the question was asked.

Where comparisons for quality ratings of community characteristics and overall department services were available, the City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County results were generally noted as being "above" the benchmark, "below" the benchmark or "similar" to the benchmark. In instances where ratings are considerably higher or lower than the benchmark, these ratings have been further demarcated by the attribute of "much," (for example, "much above" or "much below"). These comparisons are discussed throughout the body of the report, when applicable, and are included in tabular form in *Appendix C: Benchmark Comparisons*.

Structure of the PARCS Report

The report begins by discussing residents' perceptions of the overall quality of life in their community. The next section of the report summarizes the results of residents' evaluations of various characteristics of their community that can be influenced by parks and recreation offerings and the importance they place on the various roles that parks and recreation can play in their community. These priorities and characteristics have been placed into 10 categories (see Figure 6 and Figure 7 for the lists of the quality and importance items assessed in each category). For each of the 10 categories, a subsection contains an introduction explaining the connection of parks and recreation to this area, the importance placed by respondents on these areas as priorities for the City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County, culminating in the evaluations given by residents of the associated community characteristics. The final two sections of this report discuss the quality of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County's parks and recreation activities and facilities, the activities and facilities deemed most important by respondents and the results for the City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County's custom questions included on the survey.

The "percent positive" for each item on the survey is presented in the body of the report. The percent positive is the combination of the top two most positive response options (i.e., "excellent" and "good," "essential" and "very important," etc.). The full set of responses for all questions included on the survey can be found in *Appendix B: Complete Survey Frequencies*. It should be noted that often the sum of the two categories displayed in the graph will not add

exactly to the total displayed; this is due to the customary practice of rounding percentages to the nearest whole number. (Please see *Appendix D: Survey Methods* for more information about rounding.)

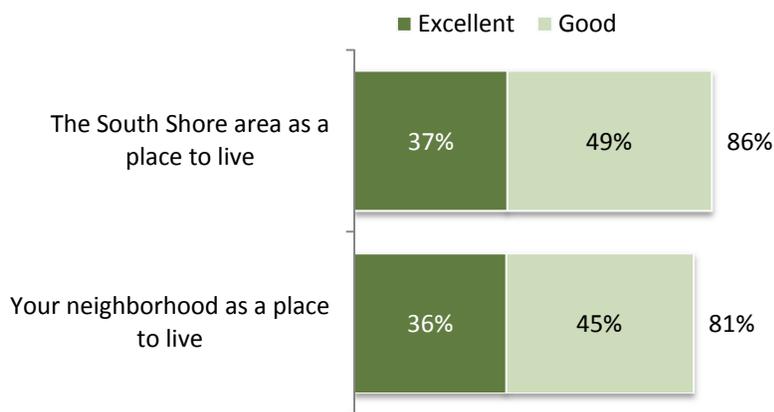
Survey Results

Living in the City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County

PARCS™ assessed residents’ evaluations of the quality of life in the broader community of the South Shore area and in their own neighborhood. Overall, residents gave high marks to the quality of life in their community; 86% rated the South Shore area as an excellent or good place to live, while 81% rated their neighborhood as an excellent or good place to live. These ratings were similar to the benchmark comparison (see *Appendix C: Benchmark Comparisons* for more detail about the comparisons).

The Anglo-Welsh poet R.S. Thomas said, “We only know who we are by knowing where we are. A particular place creates around us a unique culture that gives us not only our identity but also our vision and values.” Parks and recreation services can contribute greatly to a community’s sense of place and its quality of life. The American Planning Association notes: “Parks create a sense of place by connecting residents to one another and to their larger environment... They can physically reconnect communities to themselves by creating linkages or restoring historic connections broken by highways, sprawl and poor planning decisions.”² In a national U.S. survey that asked respondents to identify places besides their work or home that cultivate community and communication among people outside of home and work, a wide range of such places was named, ranging from popular community centers, coffee shops and restaurants to parks and malls. The research showed that the perceptions that such places are accessible in their community was associated with higher perceived quality of life.³

Figure 9: Ratings of South Shore area and Neighborhood as a Place to Live



Community Characteristics and Priorities

Many of the ways in which parks and recreation contribute to the community have been documented in *The Benefits Catalogue*⁴ and include the 10 categories described in this section of the report. Within each of these 10 categories, the importance placed by respondents on these areas as priorities for the City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County is reported, followed by the evaluations given by residents of related community characteristics.

Physical Appearance of the Community

Residents completing PARCS rated the importance of the City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County providing green spaces and promoting a more beautiful community. They also rated the number of parks in the community and the proximity of parks and recreation opportunities to their home.

The City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County’s promotion of a more beautiful community was rated as an essential or very important purpose of parks and recreation by 92% of respondents; 91% thought it was essential or very important that the City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County provide green and natural spaces within the community. About three-quarters of respondents rated their proximity of parks and recreation opportunities to their homes as excellent or good (see Figure 11) and the number of parks in the community was deemed to be excellent or good by 53% of respondents. These quality ratings were similar to and much below the benchmark comparisons, respectively (see *Appendix C: Benchmark Comparisons*).

The most talented architect or builder rarely wins in a competition against nature for the most beautiful space. Places to revive and replenish transform a location from merely functional to inviting. Urban parks and open spaces can serve a variety of purposes in a community, from greenways along rivers or ditches, to specialized uses such as ball fields, or simply to provide visual appeal for residents. As Paul Sherer notes:

*At the turn of the 20th century, the majority of Americans lived in rural areas and small towns, relatively close to the land. At the beginning of the 21st century, 85 percent of us were living in cities and metropolitan areas, and many of us are in desperate need of places to experience nature and refresh ourselves in the out-of-doors. City parks and open space improve our physical and psychological health, strengthen our communities, and make our cities and neighborhoods more attractive places to live and work.*⁵

Figure 10: Importance of Promoting a Beautiful Community

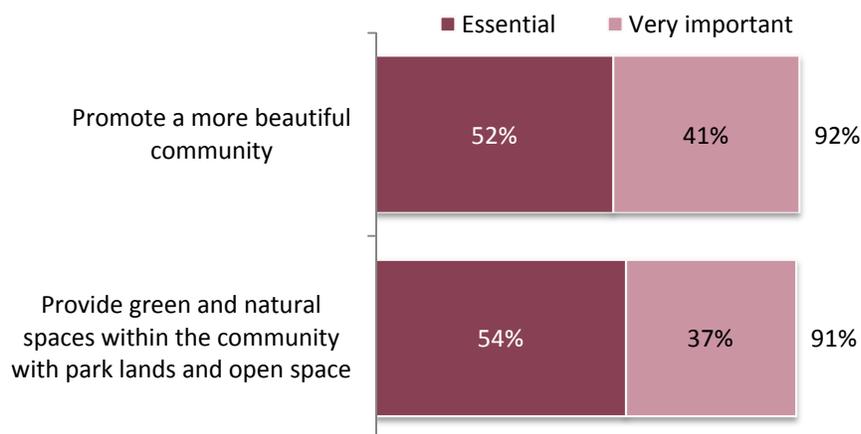
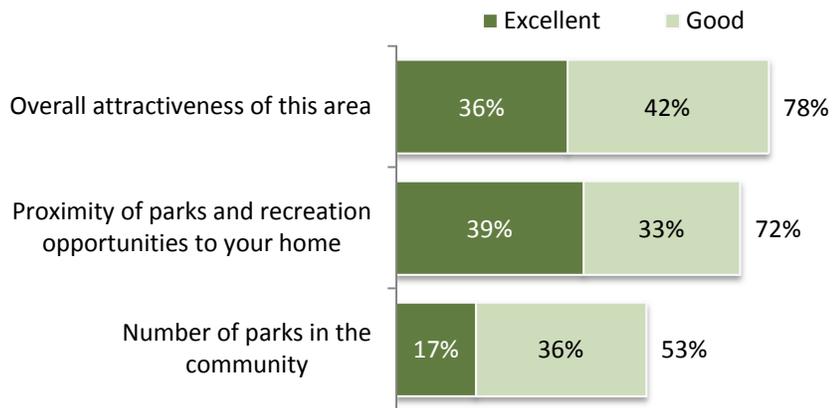


Figure 11: Ratings of Attractiveness and Parks



Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability

About 9 in 10 respondents felt it was essential or very important for the City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County to play a role in protecting the natural environment and promoting environmental sustainability. The amount of preserved natural areas/open space in the South Shore area was considered excellent or good by 76% of respondents, which was much above the national benchmarks (see *Appendix C: Benchmark Comparisons*).

Stewardship of our natural resources cannot be the job of a single community board or council. Preserving the natural environment is a job for generations, so it must become part of how all residents think, not for one or 10 election cycles but in perpetuity. If we exhaust our clean air, water and land, we will have stolen for ourselves a gift that could be given to future generations.

Parks provide important environmental benefits to communities. Parks or open space may preserve important natural areas and scenic places. They may provide habitat for plants and animals, and a well-connected park system can support wildlife movement. Trees and parks can help to reduce air and water pollution and keep cities cooler. They can help to manage stormwater runoff.⁵

Figure 12: Importance of Promoting Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability

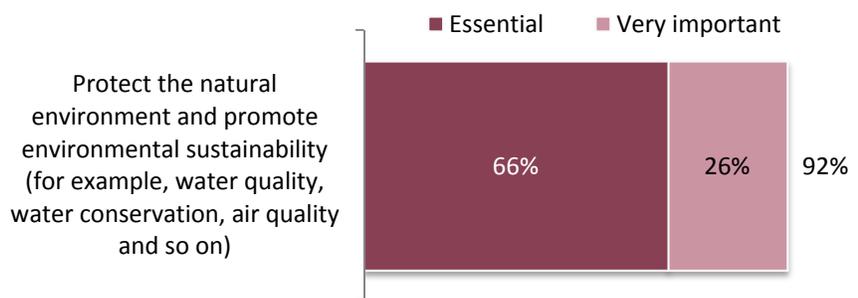
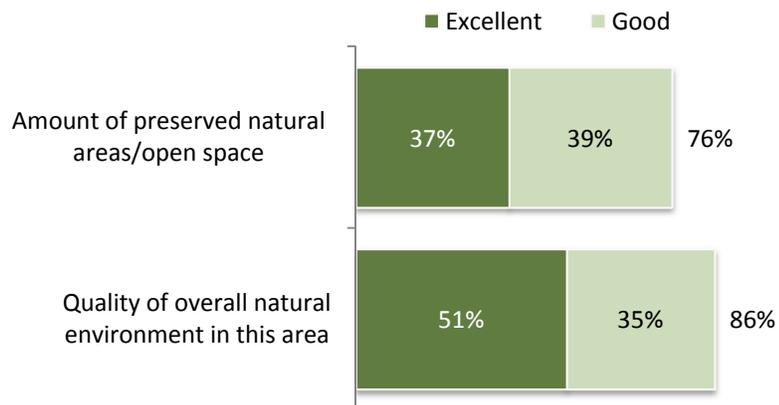


Figure 13: Ratings of Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability



Trails, Paths and Mobility

The role parks and recreation should play in enhancing mobility was assessed through PARCS; 94% of respondents considered mobility enhancement to be essential or very important. The number of paths and trails in the community was felt to be excellent or good by 53% of respondents. This quality rating was similar to the benchmark when compared to ratings given in communities across the country (see *Appendix C: Benchmark Comparisons*).

Figure 14: Importance of Providing Trails, Paths and Mobility

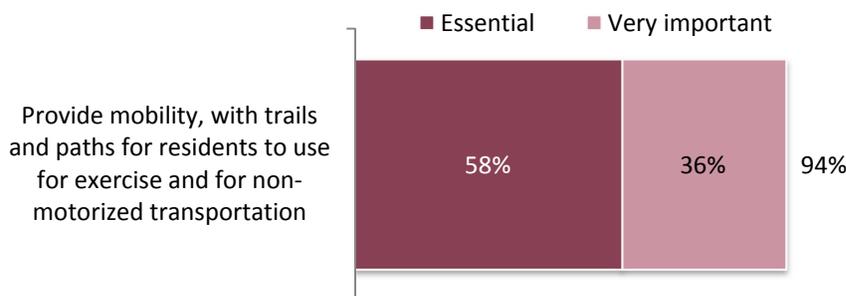
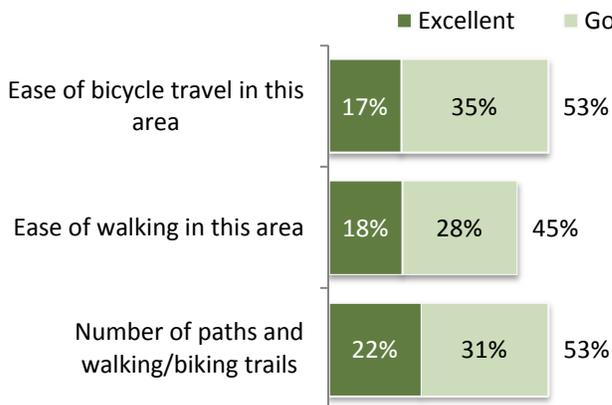


Figure 15: Ratings of Trails, Paths and Mobility



Walkable and bikeable communities do not force people to walk or bike but if easy pedestrian and bicycle mobility is absent, few will venture from their cars. When trails and paths are plentiful, residents will be attracted to them resulting in both more physical activity, and more space for public connection. More livable communities link nodes for shopping, working and dwelling and sometimes simply provide opportunities to explore the natural surroundings by means other than motor-powered vehicles.

People who use paths and trails for recreational walking and bicycling will experience health benefits from increased physical activity. In addition, health benefits have been observed from the replacement of trips made by vehicle with walking and bicycling.⁶⁻¹³ Numerous studies have been done which show that “active commuting” (commuting to work by walking or bicycling) is associated with increased health benefits.⁶⁻¹³ Just having trails in a community is associated with greater use of bicycling and walking for trips that would otherwise be made by vehicle.¹⁴⁻¹⁶

Parks and recreation contribute to improving the conditions that support physical and mental well-being by improving how well the body functions, enhancing self-esteem, self-image, life satisfaction and perceived quality of life – for individuals, families and communities.⁴ A long-term study of over 17,000 teenagers found that youth who used recreation centers were 75% more likely to engage in the highest category of moderate to vigorous physical activity. This national study provided the first evidence that community recreation facilities are important for adolescent activity.¹⁷ Parks and trails also contribute to increased physical activity among community residents. In the report “Case for Urban Open Space,” William Poole states:

One key link between parks and health might be the opportunity for regular exercise and to escape what Olmsted called “jar of the streets.” Exercise helps maintain healthy bones and muscles, builds cardiovascular fitness and relieves the psychological and physiological stress long linked to poor health. The chance to escape the city’s noise and bustle also relieves stress, which might otherwise be expressed through aggression or the abuse of drugs and alcohol. Parks also contribute to public health by helping to mitigate air pollution, noise and other environmental stressors, and by acting as green buffers between industrial areas and residential neighborhoods.¹⁸

Health and Wellness Opportunities

The majority of survey respondents felt promoting health and wellness opportunities was a critical role for the City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County to play in the community; 88% rated this purpose essential or very important. The South Shore area as a place to live a healthy life was regarded as excellent or good by 92% of respondents, which was much above ratings given in other communities across the nation (see *Appendix C: Benchmark Comparisons*).

Figure 16: Importance of Promoting Health and Wellness Opportunities

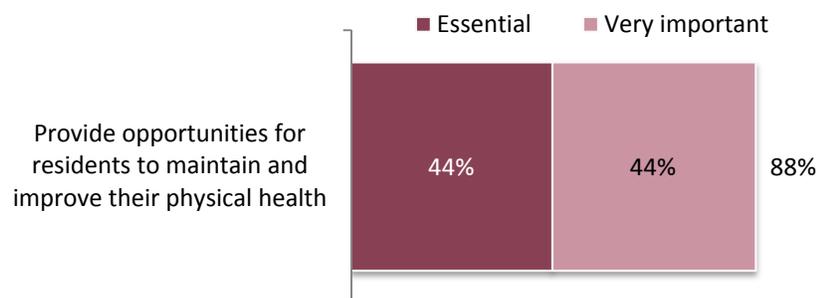


Figure 17: Ratings of Community Health and Wellness Opportunities



Economic Vitality

PARCS assessed a number of community characteristics related to the economy as well as assessing residents' perceptions about the role of parks and recreation in promoting economic vitality. About three-quarters of respondents felt it was essential or very important that the City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County help to contribute to the community's economy. Recreational opportunities for tourists or out-of-town visitors were rated as excellent or good by 85% of respondents; this rating was much above the benchmark (see *Appendix C: Benchmark Comparisons*).

Parks and recreation can contribute to the economic vitality of a community in a variety of ways, including attracting tourists, businesses, retirees and enhancing real estate values. Recreation, sports and fitness improve work performance through increased productivity, decreased absenteeism, decreased staff turnover and reduced on the job accidents. Parks can play a part in revitalizing communities. Recreation programs can strengthen the abilities of workers by offering skill-building classes. Parks and recreation can be part of creating a community where people want to live, work, play and spend.^{1,4,19-21}

Figure 18: Importance of Promoting Economic Vitality

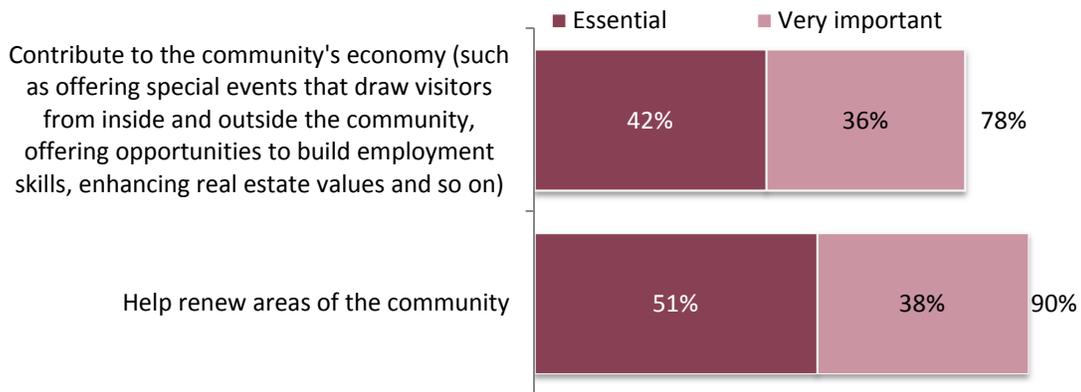
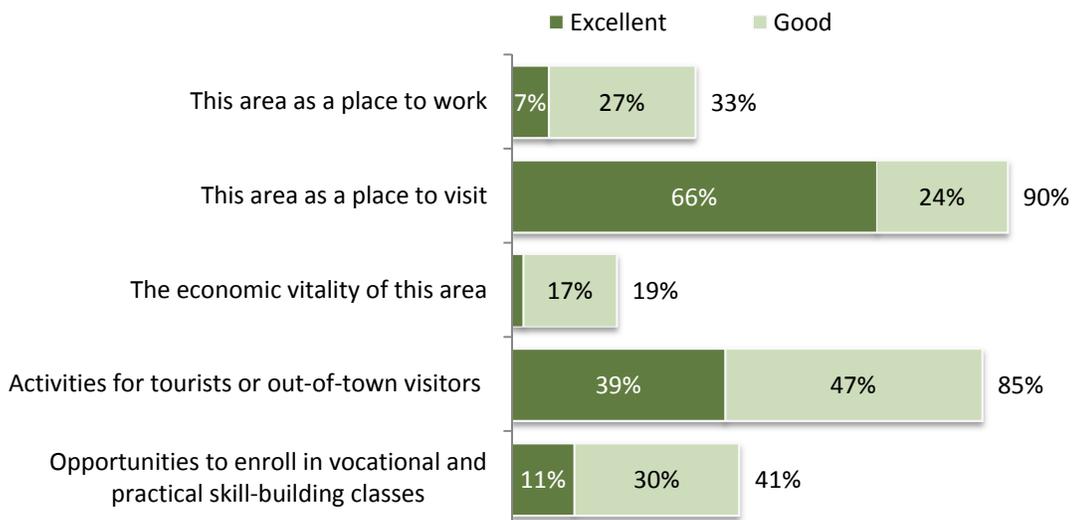


Figure 19: Ratings of Economic Vitality



A community that builds recreation programs around a diverse population creates a foundation of health and development that promises wellness opportunities for everyone. Understanding how well activities serve older residents, younger residents and residents who are on the margin – such as people with disabilities or low income residents – not only offers the most diverse set of programs, but has the opportunity to improve the largest number of lives and to generate the biggest group of boosters. A community will be judged more by the good it does for those with the least money, strength or political power than what it offers to the groups with the greatest wherewithal.

“The lack of places for physical activity in parks has profound human health implications,” according to Marty Martinez, Policy Director for the California Pan Ethnic Health Network. “Social science research shows that access to parks is critical to help reduce the epidemic of childhood obesity and diabetes.” Recreation programs for children and youth not only positively influence their physical health, they also provide many social benefits, including developing skills, promoting leadership and building character.²² They also help to decrease idle time during which they might engage in risky behaviors.¹ Childhood recreation activity has been shown to be associated with adult volunteering and community work.²³

Likewise, planning and programming for older adults is becoming an increasingly important aspect of recreation service provision. The numbers and proportion of older adults in the South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County population is growing steadily. Recreation can play a key role in the well-being of older adults and in enhancing their quality of life. For seniors, as for people of all ages, involvement in recreation activities can satisfy a variety of needs. Among the important benefits of recreation for the older adult population is increased health and fitness, as well as opportunities for socializing, for using skills and talents developed throughout their lifetime, and for learning new skills.

Community Inclusiveness

The importance of the City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County providing recreational opportunities to underserved residents was deemed essential or very important by 75% of survey respondents; 92% considered it essential or very important to provide positive activities for children and teens, while 86% considered it essential or very important to serve older adults.

Recreational opportunities in the area for children and for adults age 55 and older were rated as excellent or good by at least half of respondents (see Figure 21). These ratings were similar to and much below the benchmarks, respectively (see *Appendix C: Benchmark Comparisons*). Slightly fewer felt that recreational opportunities for teenagers and the number of playgrounds in the community were excellent or good. Recreational opportunities for teenagers and the number of playgrounds in the community were rated much below the benchmark comparisons.

Figure 20: Importance of Contributing to Community Inclusiveness

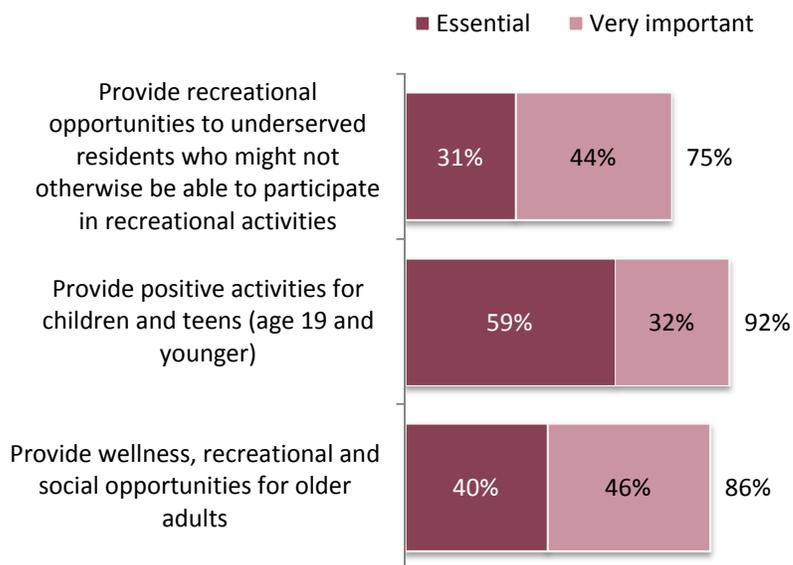
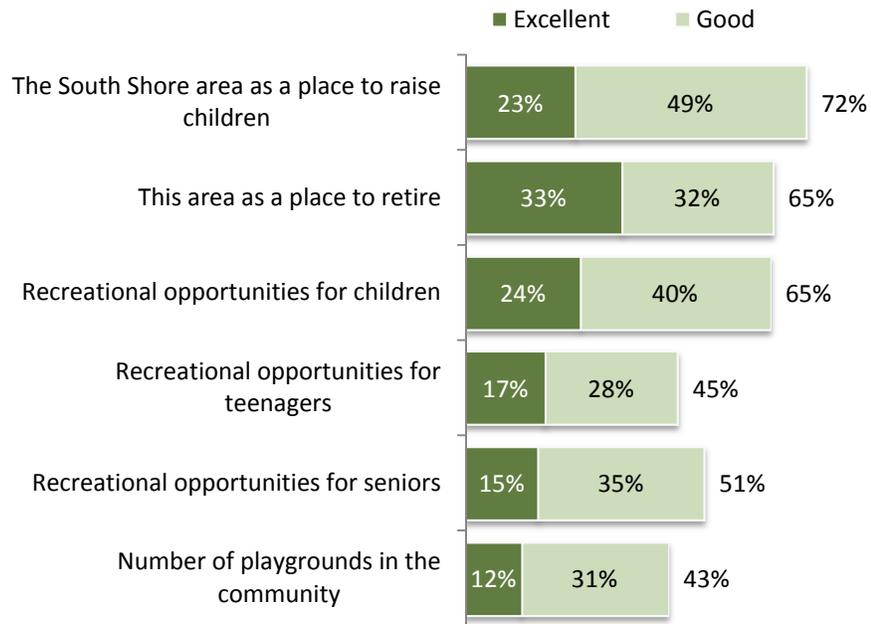


Figure 21: Ratings of Community Inclusiveness



Social Connections and Civic Engagement Opportunities

The role of the City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County in providing opportunities for residents to make social connections was considered essential or very important by 65% of those completing the questionnaire.

A variety of community characteristics related to community involvement was assessed. Opportunities to attend community events and opportunities to participate in social events or activities were rated as excellent or good by about three in five respondents; these ratings were similar to the national benchmark comparisons (see *Appendix C: Benchmark Comparisons*).

Figure 22: Importance of Promoting Social Connections and Civic Engagement Opportunities

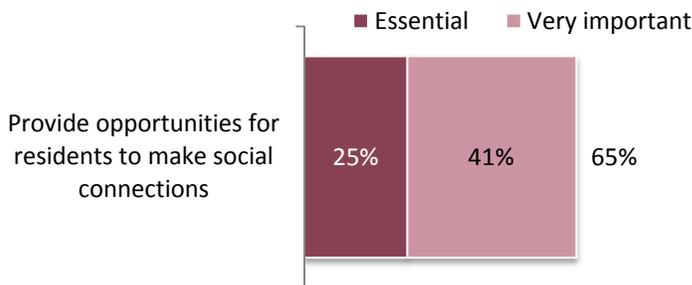
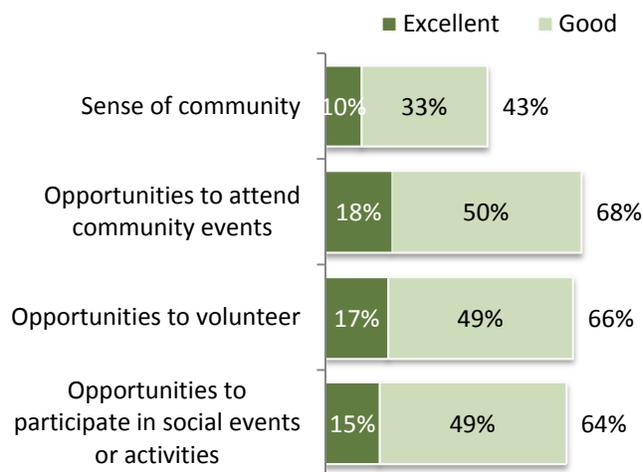


Figure 23: Ratings of Social Connections and Civic Engagement Opportunities



One of the growing concerns in America is the fraying social connection that bonds neighbors to one another. Due to a variety of factors, including increasing “screen time” (i.e., television, video games, etc.), the pressures of time and money and urban sprawl which makes it more difficult to get to places and to know neighbors, the opportunity for the tightly woven community (where residents rely on each other for safety, entertainment, friendship, intellectual stimulation and moral support) is lost. Self-reliance builds individuals and reliance on neighbors builds community. A strong recreation and parks program can help to repair fragile social connections, create new linkages where few exist and to tighten the network of community relationships.^{24,25} One study cited by the American Planning Association found that more green space in inner-city neighborhoods was associated with greater use of common public spaces by residents. They also observed that, compared to residents living with fewer green spaces, those closer to green spaces enjoyed more social activities, had more visitors, knew more of their neighbors and had stronger feelings of belonging.²⁶ Recreation and sports can help to build community through social inclusion and a sense of connection, and help build families through shared experiences and shared achievements. International research shows that increasing community participation in organized sport and recreation contributes to what is known as “social capital,” which is the “social fabric, or glue” that ties members together in a given locality.²⁷

When residents are connected to each other and to their local government, the civic engagement that results makes all plans to build community stronger. When residents are civically engaged, they help neighbors directly and they vote to help local government improve services and facilities for everyone.²⁸

Community Heritage

When asked how important they felt it was that the City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County should promote the appreciation and preservation of the cultural and historical heritage of the community, 78% of respondents felt it was essential or very important.

About two-thirds of respondents gave favorable ratings to preservation of historic resources in the area, which was similar to the benchmark (see *Appendix C: Benchmark Comparisons*).

Figure 24: Importance of Promoting Community Heritage

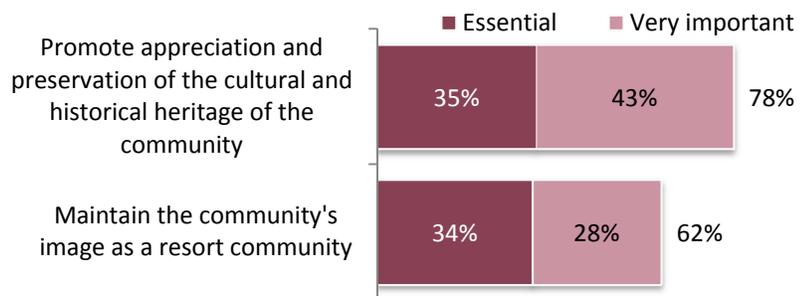
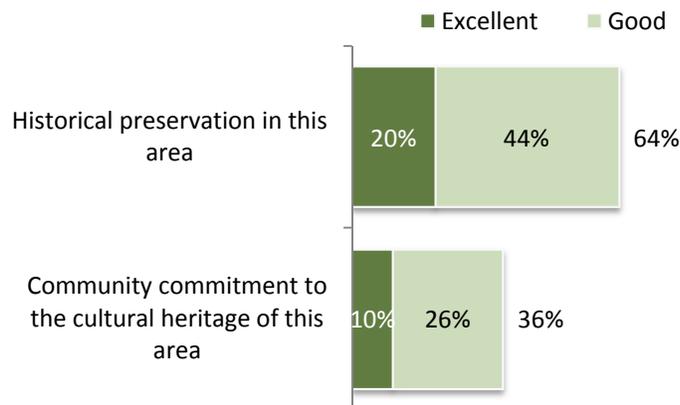


Figure 25: Ratings of Community Heritage



Heritage, in its broadest sense, reflects the identity of residents living within a community and imbues the area with distinctiveness. It can refer to the cultural or ethnic heritage of a community, its history, its natural setting and landscaping or a combination of all of these. It can help to form the identity of an individual or a community. Historic landscapes or iconic buildings can become a focus of community identity and pride. A building or park can help define a neighborhood and create a sense of local cohesion. A strong recreation and parks program can build a community legacy that strengthens or redefines the entire image of a community. Community heritage offers an emotional tie to community that, through parks and recreation investment, becomes grounded in the landscape and accompanying anticipated activity.

Sports and Athletics

Providing sports and athletics opportunities was felt to be an essential or very important priority for the City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County by 72% of respondents.

Over half of respondents rated the opportunities to participate in organized sports and athletics as well as outdoor recreation as excellent or good; these ratings were much below and much above the benchmarks, respectively. Opportunities to participate in individualized sports and outdoor recreation also were rated positively by almost 9 in 10 residents, which was rated much above the national benchmarks (see *Appendix C: Benchmark Comparisons*).

Despite having grown into bigger arenas, the roots of many recreation and parks programs and facilities reside with sports and athletics. Opportunities to engage in team or individual sporting activities once defined strong parks and recreation programs, and most residents still look to their parks and recreation providers to offer opportunities to play softball or join a gymnastics or soccer team and scores of other group activities as well as to offer facilities and programs for individual athletics like swimming, tennis and jogging.

Figure 26: Importance of Promoting Sports and Athletics

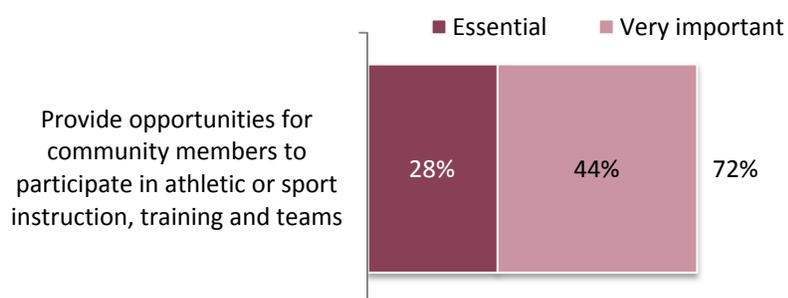
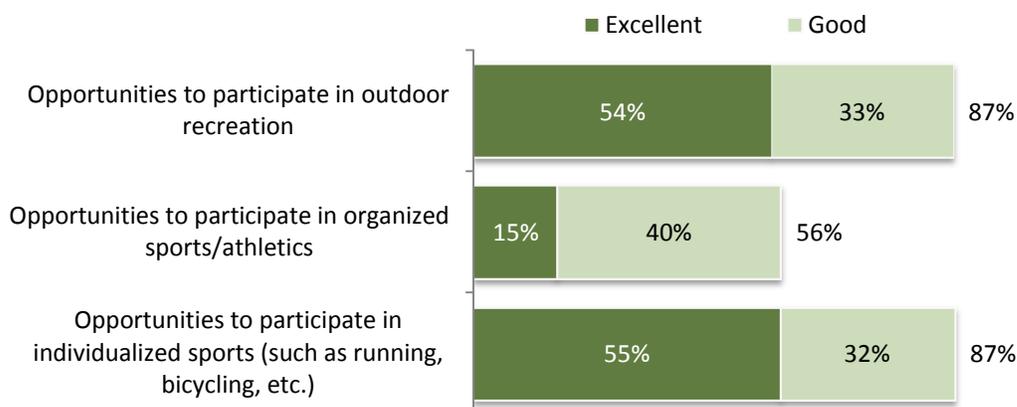


Figure 27: Ratings of Sports and Athletics Opportunities



Personal Enrichment and Leisure Opportunities

The provision of personal enrichment opportunities and cultural activities was considered an essential or very important role for the City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County by 71% of those completing the questionnaire. Opportunities in the South Shore area to enroll in personal enrichment classes was rated as excellent or good by 60% of respondents while opportunities to attend cultural activities was considered excellent or good by only 45% of respondents. A majority (87%) of respondents gave favorable ratings to opportunities for outdoor rest and relaxation, a rating that was much above the national benchmark (see *Appendix C: Benchmark Comparisons*).

Though leisure services always have encompassed much more than simple “fun,” clients of these services in ever greater numbers are coming to expect even more. If leisure connotes “relaxation,” some of the greatest opportunities to relax come from exploration of new territory that often is outside day to day work activities. Creating a clay pot, learning Japanese, weaving a rug or attending and even creating musical theater are examples of leisure services that enhance our experience of the world. These opportunities for personal enrichment and cultural awareness can be key components of a comprehensive recreation, parks and leisure services program.

Figure 28: Importance of Promoting Personal Enrichment and Leisure Opportunities

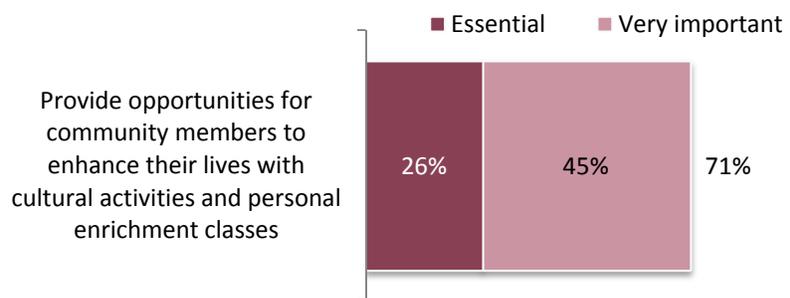
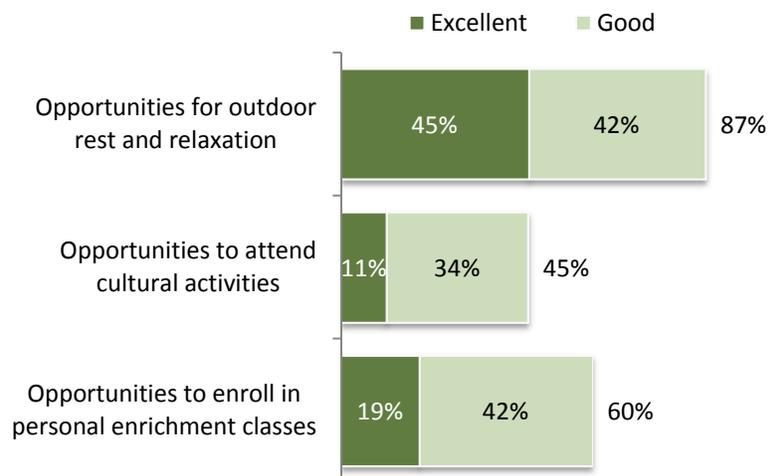


Figure 29: Ratings of Personal Enrichment and Leisure Opportunities

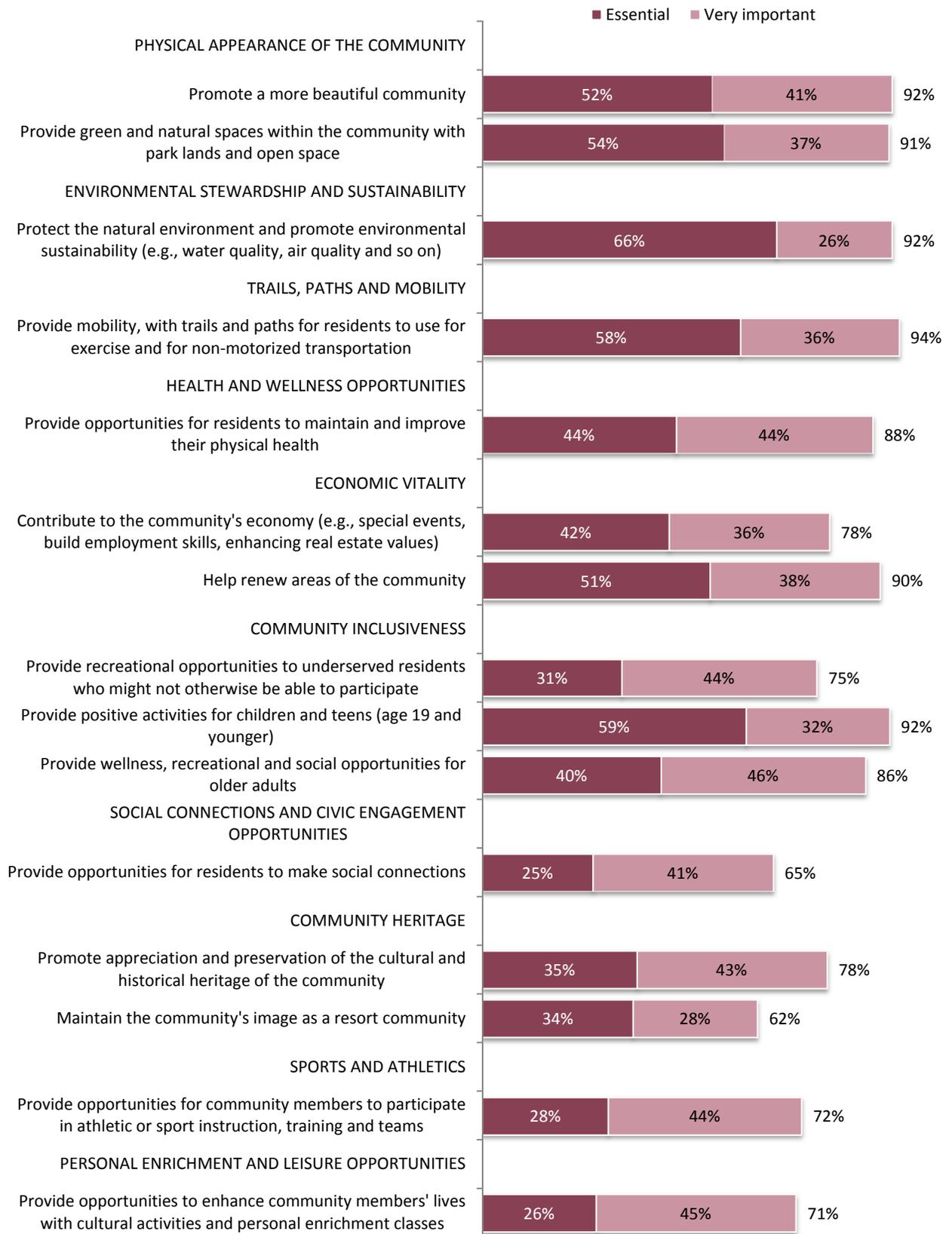


The Community Vision for Parks and Recreation

A variety of purposes can be served by parks and recreation offerings and those charged with providing parks and recreation services must be certain that they are placing the emphasis in service delivery where residents expect. A series of statements about possible overarching goals for the City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County was presented to survey respondents, who were asked to rate the importance of each of these potential purposes. The results have been presented in the previous sections; however, Figure 30 on the following page compares all of these items together by displaying the proportion of respondents rating each goal as “essential” or “very important.” The six purposes for the City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County given the highest priority by residents were:

- Provide mobility, with trails and paths for residents to use for exercise and for non-motorized transportation
- Promote a more beautiful community
- Provide positive activities for children and teens (age 19 and younger)
- Protect the natural environment and promote environmental sustainability (for example, water quality, water conservation, air quality and so on)
- Provide green and natural spaces within the community with park lands and open space
- Help renew areas of the community

Figure 30: Community Priorities for Parks and Recreation



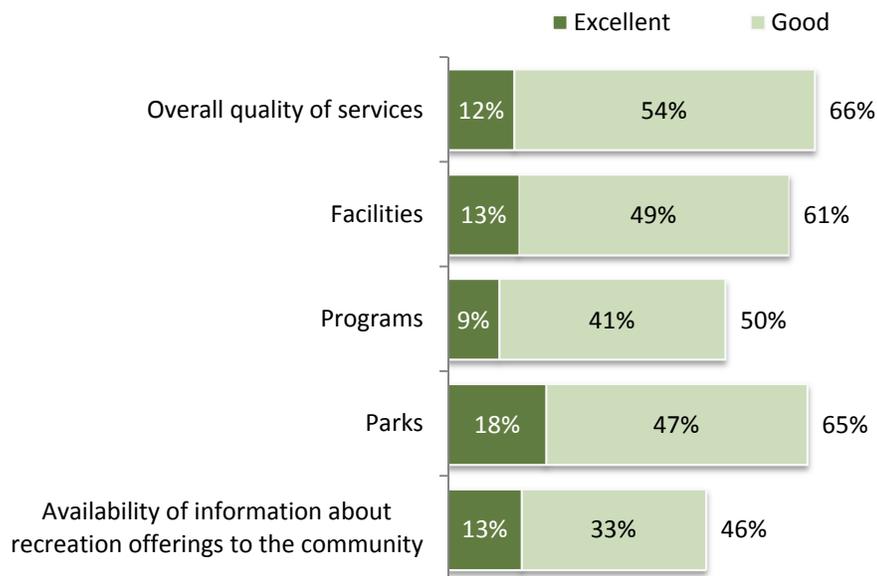
Services and Facilities of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County

The previous sections of this report have explored how residents view the community characteristics of the South Shore area and the vision they have for the role the City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County can play in supporting a high quality of life in their community. This section of the report explores residents' evaluations of the offerings of the City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County.

Overall Ratings of Services and Facilities

Those completing the questionnaire were asked about their overall impression of the services, facilities, programs and parks provided by the City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County. The overall quality of parks and recreation services was rated as excellent or good by 66% of respondents, which was below the ratings given by residents in other communities across the country (see *Appendix C: Benchmark Comparisons*).

Figure 31: Overall Ratings of Parks and Recreation Services and Facilities



Ratings of Activities and Facilities

Those completing the survey were asked to rate the quality of a variety of activities and facilities provided by the City of South Lake Tahoe and Meyers. Respondents also were asked which three activities and which three facilities they felt were most important to be offered.

Activities Offered by the City of South Lake Tahoe

Figure 32 summarizes the six activities receiving the highest quality ratings and displays two bars of information for each: the proportion rating each as excellent or good (regardless of respondent participation) and the proportion who chose each as one of their top three most important services. Following this graph, Figure 33 shows the ratings of quality and importance for all activities asked about on the survey.

The highest quality ratings were given to the following programs or activities:

- Disc/Frisbee golf
- Community events (such as Lake in the Sky Air Show, Race the Lake of the Sky SUP, Live at Lakeview Summer Concerts, etc.)
- Golf
- Ice skating

The programs or activities that were deemed the most important by the largest proportion of residents were:

- Community events (such as Lake in the Sky Air Show, Race the Lake of the Sky SUP, Live at Lakeview Summer Concerts, etc.)
- After school programs
- Field sports (such as baseball, softball, soccer, football, etc.)
- Fitness or health and wellness classes (such as aerobics, yoga, weight training, etc.)

Figure 32: Highest Rated (Quality) Offerings

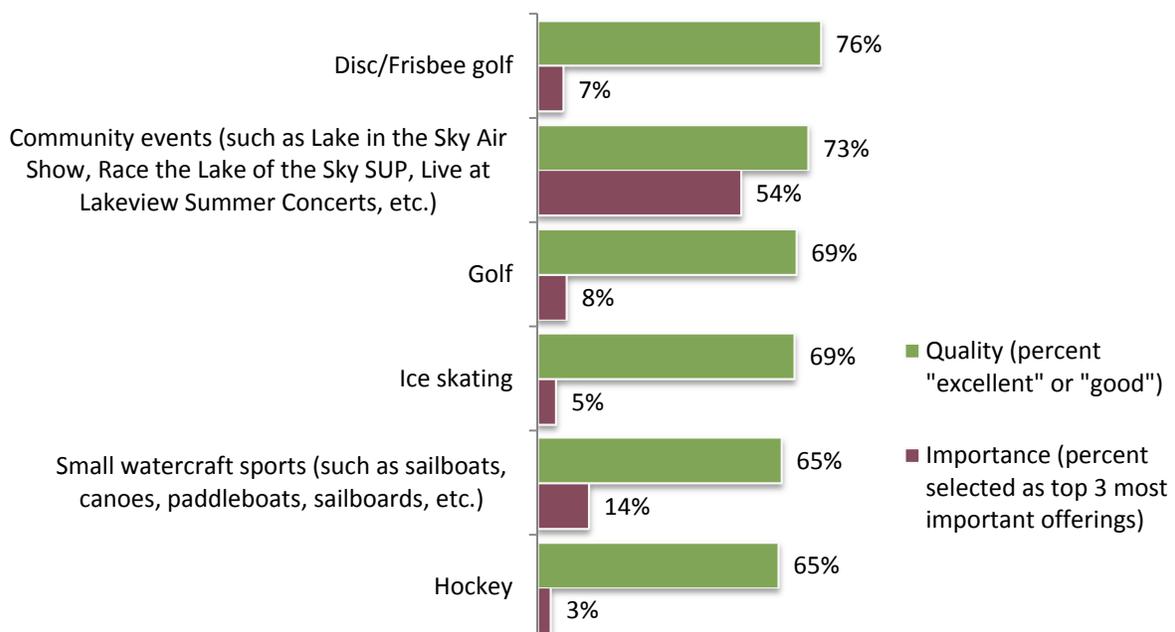


Figure 33: Quality and Importance of Offerings

Activity/Offering	Quality (percent “excellent” or “good”)*	Importance (percent selected as top 3 most important offerings)
Disc/Frisbee golf	76%	7%
Community events (such as Lake in the Sky Air Show, Race the Lake of the Sky SUP, Live at Lakeview Summer Concerts, etc.)	73%	54%
Ice skating	69%	5%
Golf	69%	8%
Hockey	65%	3%
Small watercraft sports (such as sailboats, canoes, paddleboats, sailboards, etc.)	65%	14%
Children and teen summer swim team	64%	5%
Fitness or health and wellness classes (such as aerobics, yoga, weight training, etc.)	60%	31%
Swim lessons	60%	15%
Field sports (such as baseball, softball, soccer, football, etc.)	58%	32%
Swimming pool activities	58%	8%
Senior fitness	57%	9%
Children and teen summer camp	55%	19%
After school programs	52%	35%
Certifications (such as CPR, AED, First Aid, Babysitting, etc.)	51%	17%
Drop-in fitness (such as weights, exercise machines, etc.)	41%	13%
Martial arts	40%	16%

**Note: A large proportion of respondents said “don’t know” when asked to rate the quality of most activities and programs. These percentages can be seen in Appendix B: Complete Survey Frequencies.*

To help the City of South Lake Tahoe identify the programs or activities which may require a critical focus, each of the offerings rated by survey respondents was placed in a matrix showing evaluations along two dimensions: quality and importance. Quality was deemed to be higher if the percent of respondents rating the item as excellent or good was 60% or greater. Quality was considered lower if the proportion rating the item as excellent or good was less than 60%. The importance ratings were determined by the proportion of respondents selecting each item as one of their top three most important services. If the percent of respondents choosing the item as one of the top three most important offerings was 15% or greater, the offering was deemed to be of higher importance; if less than 15% selected the item as one of the top three most important, it was deemed of lower importance.

Parks and recreation managers may wish to target improvement efforts at activities that have a lower quality but higher importance rating, which, for the City of South Lake Tahoe, included:

- Martial arts
- Certifications (such as CPR, AED, First Aid, Babysitting, etc)
- After school programs
- Children and teen summer camp
- Field sports (such as baseball, softball, soccer, football, etc.).

Figure 34: Importance and Quality Ratings of Offerings

	Higher Quality Ratings (60% or more rated as excellent or good)	Lower Quality Ratings (Less than 60% rated as excellent or good)
High Importance (Selected as one of top 3 most important by 15% or more)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fitness or health and wellness classes (such as aerobics, yoga, weight training, etc.) • Swim lessons • Community events (such as Lake in the Sky Air Show, Race the Lake of the Sky SUP, Live at Lakeview Summer Concerts, etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Martial arts • Certifications (such as CPR, AED, First Aid, Babysitting, etc) • After school programs • Children and teen summer camp • Field sports (such as baseball, softball, soccer, football, etc.)
Lower Importance (Selected as one of top 3 most important by fewer than 15%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and teen summer swim team • Hockey • Small watercraft sports (such as sailboats, canoes, paddleboats, sailboards, etc.) • Ice skating • Golf • Disc/frisbee golf 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drop-in fitness (such as weights, exercise machines, etc.) • Senior fitness • Swimming pool activities

Facilities Provided by South Lake Tahoe and Meyers

In addition to being asked about the quality of South Lake Tahoe programs and activities, survey respondents provided evaluations of the quality of the facilities provided by the City of South Lake Tahoe and Meyers.

Figure 35 below summarizes the six facilities receiving the highest quality ratings and displays two bars of information for each: the proportion rating each as excellent or good (regardless of whether they had used it) and the proportion of respondents that chose each as one of their top three most important facilities. Following this graph, Figure 36 shows the ratings of quality and importance for all of the facilities asked about on the survey.

The highest quality ratings were given to the following facilities:

- Lakeview Commons
- South Tahoe Ice Arena
- Van Sickle Park
- El Dorado Beach

The facilities that were considered the most important by the largest percent of residents were:

- Bicycle trails
- Lakeview Commons
- Recreation and Swim Complex
- Bijou Community Park

Figure 35: Highest Rated (Quality) Facilities

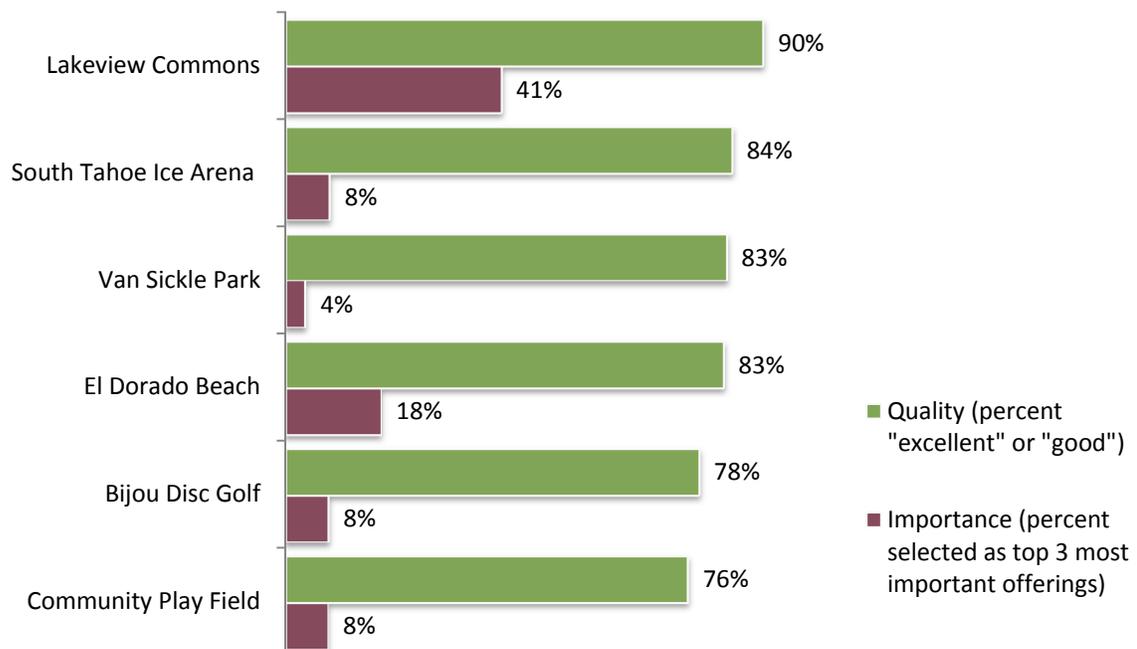


Figure 36: Quality and Importance of Facilities

Facility	Quality (percent “excellent” or “good”)*	Importance (percent selected as top 3 most important offerings)
Lakeview Commons	90%	41%
South Tahoe Ice Arena	84%	8%
El Dorado Beach	83%	18%
Van Sickle Park	83%	4%
Bijou Disc Golf	78%	8%
Community Play Field	76%	8%
Campground by the Lake	71%	13%
Explore Tahoe Visitor Center	70%	8%
Bijou Skate Park	70%	11%
Bijou Community Park	69%	20%
Regan Beach	69%	19%
Bijou Golf Course	67%	7%
Bijou Dog Park	66%	12%
Bonanza Park	65%	2%
Tahoe Paradise Park	64%	4%
Recreation and Swim Complex	63%	39%
Bicycle trails	62%	55%
Senior Center	58%	13%

**Note: A large proportion of respondents said “don’t know” when asked to rate the quality of many facilities. These percentages can be seen in Appendix B: Complete Survey Frequencies.*

The facilities operated by South Lake Tahoe and Meyers have been placed in a grid showing evaluations along the two dimensions of quality and importance. Quality was deemed to be higher if the percent of respondents rating the item as excellent or good was greater than 69%. Quality was considered lower if the proportion rating the item as excellent or good was 69% or fewer. The importance ratings were determined by the proportion of respondents selecting each facility as one of their top three most important. If the percent of respondents choosing the facility as one of the top three most important was 11% or greater, the facility was deemed of high importance; if fewer than 11% selected the facility as one of the top three most important, it was deemed of lower importance.

South Lake Tahoe and Meyers may wish to target facilities for improvements that had a lower quality but higher importance rating including:

- Senior Center
- Bicycle trails
- Recreation and Swim Complex
- Bijou Dog Park
- Regan Beach

Figure 37: Importance and Quality Ratings of Facilities

	Higher Quality Ratings (Greater than 69% rated as excellent or good)	Lower Quality Ratings (69% or fewer rated as excellent or good)
High Importance (Selected as top 3 most important by more than 11%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bijou Community Park • Campground by the Lake • El Dorado Beach • Lakeview Commons 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior Center • Bicycle trails • Recreation and Swim Complex • Bijou Dog Park • Regan Beach
Lower Importance (Selected as top 3 most important by 11% or fewer)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore Tahoe Visitor Center • Bijou Skate Park • Community Play Field • Bijou Disc Golf • Van Sickle Park • South Tahoe Ice Arena 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tahoe Paradise Park • Bonanza Park • Bijou Golf Course

Responses to South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County’s Custom Questions

In addition to the uniform questions on PARCS, the City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County were provided the opportunity to add their own unique questions on the survey to aid in planning, resource allocation and policy analysis. “Don’t know” responses have been removed from the analysis for the following questions, when applicable. A complete set of verbatim responses to the “other” responses in Figure 40 and Figure 41 can be found in *Appendix B: Complete Survey Frequencies*.

Figure 38: Custom Items from Question 1: Quality of Life and Community

Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in the South Shore area.	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Total
Overall feeling of safety in parks	25%	52%	20%	2%	100%
Family-friendly atmosphere of parks	29%	45%	22%	3%	100%

Figure 39: Custom Items from Question 3: Priorities for Parks and Recreation

Please indicate how important you think it is that the City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County should offer recreation facilities & programs and public parks to its residents for each of the following purposes: Provide opportunities for residents to engage in family-friendly activities, events and facilities	Percent of respondents
Essential	36%
Very important	49%
Somewhat important	12%
Not at all important	2%
Total	100%

Figure 40: Custom Question 8: Ways to Improve Access of Recreation Programs

What, if anything, could we do to improve access to recreation programs in the South Shore area?	Percent of respondents
Reduce admission costs/program fees	38%
Offer programs in a variety of locations	34%
Improve the condition of facilities	34%
Send email announcements about special events	30%
Increase facility hours or operation	26%
Provide evening classes	26%
Improve website information	23%
Other	21%
Nothing	9%

Total may exceed 100% as respondents could select more than one option

Figure 41: Custom Question 9: Ways to Improve Access of Parks and Recreation Facilities

What, if anything, could we do to improve access to parks and recreation facilities in the South Shore area?	Percent of respondents
Connect parks to bike routes and trails	62%
Improve sidewalk access	44%
Provide more neighborhood parks	38%
Distribute park maps with directions to parks	28%
Add more parking	27%
Improve website information	21%
Improve signage	17%
Other	13%
Nothing	8%

Total may exceed 100% as respondents could select more than one option

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Appendix B: Complete Survey Frequencies

Frequencies Excluding “Don’t Know” Responses

This appendix displays all response categories for all questions. The first set of frequencies excludes the “don’t know” option and the second set includes “don’t know” responses.

Table 1: Question 1: Quality of Life and Community

Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in the South Shore area.	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Total
The South Shore area as a place to live	37%	49%	11%	3%	100%
Your neighborhood as a place to live	36%	45%	15%	4%	100%
The South Shore area as a place to raise children	23%	49%	19%	9%	100%
This area as a place to work	7%	27%	37%	29%	100%
This area as a place to retire	33%	32%	24%	11%	100%
This area as a place to live a healthy life	55%	37%	6%	2%	100%
This area as a place to visit	66%	24%	7%	3%	100%
Overall attractiveness of this area	36%	42%	17%	5%	100%
Historical preservation in this area	20%	44%	28%	8%	100%
Recreational opportunities in this area	58%	27%	11%	4%	100%
Proximity of parks and recreation opportunities to your home	39%	33%	23%	5%	100%
The economic vitality of this area	2%	17%	46%	35%	100%
Community commitment to the cultural heritage of this area	10%	26%	44%	20%	100%
Sense of community	10%	33%	38%	19%	100%
Ease of bicycle travel in this area	17%	35%	33%	14%	100%
Ease of walking in this area	18%	28%	31%	23%	100%
Number of paths and walking/biking trails	22%	31%	37%	11%	100%
Opportunities for outdoor rest and relaxation	45%	42%	11%	2%	100%
Opportunities to attend cultural activities	11%	34%	42%	14%	100%
Recreational opportunities for children	24%	40%	29%	7%	100%
Recreational opportunities for teenagers	17%	28%	35%	20%	100%
Recreational opportunities for seniors	15%	35%	38%	12%	100%
Amount of preserved natural areas/open space	37%	39%	21%	3%	100%
Number of parks in the community	17%	36%	39%	8%	100%
Number of playgrounds in the community	12%	31%	41%	16%	100%
Overall feeling of safety in parks	25%	52%	20%	2%	100%
Family-friendly atmosphere of parks	29%	45%	22%	3%	100%
Quality of overall natural environment in this area	51%	35%	13%	1%	100%
Opportunities to attend community events	18%	50%	27%	5%	100%
Activities for tourists or out-of-town visitors	39%	47%	11%	4%	100%
Opportunities to volunteer	17%	49%	28%	6%	100%
Opportunities to enroll in personal enrichment classes	19%	42%	32%	8%	100%
Opportunities to enroll in vocational and practical skill-building classes	11%	30%	42%	16%	100%
Fitness opportunities (including exercise classes and paths or trails, etc.)	45%	36%	18%	1%	100%
Opportunities to participate in social events or activities	15%	49%	33%	3%	100%

Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in the South Shore area.	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Total
Opportunities to participate in outdoor recreation	54%	33%	11%	2%	100%
Opportunities to participate in organized sports/athletics	15%	40%	35%	9%	100%
Opportunities to participate in individualized sports (such as running, bicycling, etc.)	55%	32%	12%	1%	100%

Table 2: Question 2: Quality of Services

Please rate the quality of each of the following provided by the City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County as they relate to parks and recreation.	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Total
Overall quality of services	12%	54%	29%	5%	100%
Facilities	13%	49%	33%	6%	100%
Programs	9%	41%	39%	11%	100%
Parks	18%	47%	31%	4%	100%
Availability of information about recreation offerings to the community	13%	33%	38%	16%	100%

Table 3: Question 3: Community Parks and Recreation Priorities

Please indicate how important you think it is that the City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County should offer recreation facilities & programs and public parks to its residents for each of the following purposes.	Essential	Very important	Somewhat important	Not at all important	Total
Provide opportunities for residents to maintain and improve their physical health	44%	44%	10%	2%	100%
Provide opportunities for residents to make social connections	25%	41%	31%	3%	100%
Provide recreational opportunities to underserved residents who might not otherwise be able to participate in recreational activities (such as people with disabilities or people with low incomes)	31%	44%	21%	4%	100%
Provide positive activities for children and teens (age 19 and younger)	59%	32%	6%	2%	100%
Provide wellness, recreational and social opportunities for older adults	40%	46%	12%	2%	100%
Provide opportunities for residents to engage in family-friendly activities, events and facilities	36%	49%	12%	2%	100%
Contribute to the community's economy (such as offering special events that draw visitors from inside and outside the community, offering opportunities to build employment skills, enhancing real estate values and so on)	42%	36%	17%	5%	100%
Promote appreciation and preservation of the cultural and historical heritage of the community	35%	43%	20%	3%	100%
Promote a more beautiful community	52%	41%	6%	2%	100%
Help renew areas of the community	51%	38%	9%	1%	100%
Protect the natural environment and promote environmental sustainability (for example,	66%	26%	7%	1%	100%

Please indicate how important you think it is that the City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County should offer recreation facilities & programs and public parks to its residents for each of the following purposes.	Essential	Very important	Somewhat important	Not at all important	Total
water quality, water conservation, air quality and so on)					
Provide mobility, with trails and paths for residents to use for exercise and for non-motorized transportation	58%	36%	4%	2%	100%
Provide green and natural spaces within the community with park lands and open space	54%	37%	6%	3%	100%
Provide opportunities for community members to participate in athletic or sport instruction, training and teams	28%	44%	25%	3%	100%
Provide opportunities for community members to enhance their lives with cultural activities and personal enrichment classes	26%	45%	26%	3%	100%
Maintain the community's image as a resort community	34%	28%	24%	14%	100%

Table 4: Question 4: Quality of Parks and Recreation Activities

Please rate the overall quality of each of the following activities offered by the City of South Lake Tahoe.	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Total
Fitness or health and wellness classes (such as aerobics, yoga, weight training, etc.)	13%	47%	28%	12%	100%
Drop-in fitness (such as weights, exercise machines, etc.)	10%	31%	38%	21%	100%
Field sports (such as baseball, softball, soccer, football, etc.)	9%	49%	33%	9%	100%
Ice skating	23%	46%	27%	4%	100%
Hockey	22%	42%	29%	7%	100%
Golf	20%	49%	29%	2%	100%
Children and teen summer swim team	12%	51%	29%	7%	100%
Children and teen summer camp	11%	44%	34%	11%	100%
Martial arts	8%	32%	38%	22%	100%
Certifications (such as CPR, AED, First Aid, Babysitting, etc.)	12%	39%	32%	16%	100%
Community events (such as Lake in the Sky Air Show, Race the Lake of the Sky SUP, Live at Lakeview Summer Concerts, etc.)	23%	50%	23%	4%	100%
Small watercraft sports (such as sailboats, canoes, paddleboats, sailboards, etc.)	20%	45%	30%	5%	100%
Disc/Frisbee golf	23%	53%	23%	1%	100%
Swimming pool activities	17%	42%	33%	9%	100%
Swim lessons	14%	46%	32%	8%	100%
Senior fitness	10%	46%	34%	10%	100%
After school programs	17%	35%	34%	15%	100%

Table 5: Question 5: Most Important Offerings

Which three of the above do you think are the MOST IMPORTANT parks and recreation offerings to be provided?	Percent most important
Fitness or health and wellness classes (such as aerobics, yoga, weight training, etc.)	31%
Drop-in fitness (such as weights, exercise machines, etc.)	13%
Field sports (such as baseball, softball, soccer, football, etc.)	32%
Ice skating	5%
Hockey	3%
Golf	8%
Children and teen summer swim team	5%
Children and teen summer camp	19%
Martial arts	16%
Certifications (such as CPR, AED, First Aid, Babysitting, etc.)	17%
Community events (such as Lake in the Sky Air Show, Race the Lake of the Sky SUP, Live at Lakeview Summer Concerts, etc.)	54%
Small watercraft sports (such as sailboats, canoes, paddleboats, sailboards, etc.)	14%
Disc/Frisbee golf	7%
Swimming pool activities	8%
Swim lessons	15%
Senior fitness	9%
After school programs	35%

Table 6: Question 6: Quality of Parks and Recreation Facilities

Please rate the overall quality of each of the following facilities located in the City of South Lake Tahoe and Meyers.	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Total
Recreation and Swim Complex	17%	46%	29%	8%	100%
Bijou Community Park	20%	50%	27%	4%	100%
Community Play Field	24%	52%	19%	5%	100%
Lakeview Commons	58%	32%	9%	1%	100%
El Dorado Beach	36%	47%	15%	3%	100%
Regan Beach	26%	43%	25%	6%	100%
Bonanza Park	27%	38%	25%	10%	100%
Explore Tahoe Visitor Center	21%	49%	28%	2%	100%
Campground by the Lake	19%	52%	27%	1%	100%
Senior Center	16%	42%	35%	7%	100%
South Tahoe Ice Arena	30%	55%	13%	3%	100%
Tahoe Paradise Park	19%	45%	31%	6%	100%
Van Sickle Park	33%	51%	14%	2%	100%
Bijou Golf Course	18%	49%	29%	5%	100%
Bijou Disc Golf	25%	53%	21%	1%	100%
Bijou Skate Park	23%	47%	24%	7%	100%
Bijou Dog Park	22%	44%	28%	6%	100%
Bicycle trails	22%	40%	29%	9%	100%

Table 7: Question 7: Most Important Facilities

Which three of the above do you think are the MOST IMPORTANT parks and recreation facilities to be provided?	Percent most important
Recreation and Swim Complex	39%
Bijou Community Park	20%
Community Play Field	8%
Lakeview Commons	41%
El Dorado Beach	18%
Regan Beach	19%
Bonanza Park	2%
Explore Tahoe Visitor Center	8%
Campground by the Lake	13%
Senior Center	13%
South Tahoe Ice Arena	8%
Tahoe Paradise Park	4%
Van Sickle Park	4%
Bijou Golf Course	7%
Bijou Disc Golf	8%
Bijou Skate Park	11%
Bijou Dog Park	12%
Bicycle trails	55%

Table 8: Question 8: Ways to Improve Access of Recreation Programs

What, if anything, could we do to improve access to recreation programs in the South Shore area?	Percent of respondents
Nothing	9%
Reduce admission costs/program fees	38%
Increase facility hours or operation	26%
Provide evening classes	26%
Improve website information	23%
Send email announcements about special events	30%
Offer programs in a variety of locations	34%
Improve the condition of facilities	34%
Other, please specify:	21%

Total may exceed 100% as respondents could select more than one option

Verbatim Responses to Question 8 “Other, please specify:”

All write-in responses are presented below verbatim (without corrections to respondents’ spelling or punctuation). The responses are displayed alphabetically.

- Advertise & promote sports activities.
- Advertizing
- Areas to recreation season fine.
- Be more open to new ideas, stop trying to extract fees & insurance for everything anybody tries to do in this town.
- Better community commutation-settings word out-
- Better publicize offerings
- Bicycle tracks for community
- BUILD MORE FIELDS!
- Build the fields that were originally planned before the money was hijacked for the ice rink from measure S.
- Dog park-provide a shelter

- Eliminate parking meters!
- Especially the swimming pool
- Focus on community not tourist!
- Get some unity
- Have more recreational activities for people under 21.
- Have something for the mentally ill and home less people
- I know that i forget about parks & rec as a resource, if i do then how many others do too?
- I think it is well done.
- Improve bicycle trails to these areas !
- Improve community outreach, I don't know about any programs, if an you offer.
- Improve side streets need work badly.
- Improve traffic flow, more free parking
- Keep public transportation more user friendly less changes in route. More funding or lower rates for low income families
- Kids soccer & baseball should be in summer
- Liven it up a bit & communicate in a timely way!
- Make a bike path around lake/reds bike trails pavement
- Make a use tax so all can use it you own property only or long time resident
- Make the senior center fun-free classes for all ages
- More announcements in local papers
- More farmers markets, etc
- Move to tahoma
- No snow globe! attracts dirt bags! not good future tourists! Charge fees to be used for law enforcement to remove dirt bags
- Offer a variety of programs that cater to different age group/ethnic backgrounds activities must reflect the needs of all residents and not just the dominant group.
- On holiday weekends provide better trash collections i.e. Cans on beod
- Parking
- Pave city streets
- Pionner train bike trail (1 side)
- Please the parking meters at our recreation areas.
- Provide programs for the visually handicapped
- Quarterly mailing of available classes? (or by email?)
- Reduce road work at peak hours during summer.
- Reduce scheduling conflicts (i.e. By building a pool complex so lap swim, and rec swim, and lessons can occur simultaneously)
- Remove parking meters @ recreation areas
- Repair streets
- See question 8
- Send mailers out.
- "Senior" fitness classes should accommodate all levels not just the %15 very fittest seniors
- Shuttle buses? More (& more visible) cops/security? enforce laws such as no public pot-smoking or alcohol consumption
- Snail mail quarterly newsletters to inform community of upcoming events/programs.
- Tax levy! generate more revenue from casinos/corporations!! build a better skatepark, current one is poor design & build
- Thanks for all you do now!
- The parking meters are awful for many citizens
- We need a contiguous Bike trail through the city
- What programs ?

Table 9: Question 9: Ways to Improve Access of Parks and Recreation Facilities

What, if anything, could we do to improve access to parks and recreation facilities in the South Shore area?	Percent of respondents
Nothing	8%
Add more parking	27%
Provide more neighborhood parks	38%
Connect parks to bike routes and trails	62%
Improve signage	17%
Improve sidewalk access	44%
Distribute park maps with directions to parks	28%
Improve website information	21%
Other, please specify	13%

Total may exceed 100% as respondents could select more than one option

Verbatim Responses to Question 9 “Other, please specify:”

All write-in responses are presented below verbatim (without corrections to respondents’ spelling or punctuation). The responses are displayed alphabetically.

- 1) During special events at commons too much canvas being put up for advertisement 2) rubber cushion for child's play ground smells like rubber tires in summer & gets thrown in lake by kids. 3) parking for commons is poor during events people park in bike lanes & in front of every one's house's.
- Add more picnic tables and barbeques
- After heavy use the pool is nasty!
- Better law enforcement!
- Charge a dollar toll in Meyers to keep our city clean. have a ferry that goes across lake/transportation
- Designate more dog friendly spaces & enforce dog free rules more strictly.
- Dog park at the "y"
- Don't be so paranoid about letting people have events. Too much red tape !!!
- Don't charge for parking
- Don't close established trails in the name of progress
- Enforce concessionaire agreements evenly so they are open during required hours. Why does 1 concessionaire pay 15% and the other pays nothing?
- Expand programs.
- Facility updates, bike park in bison, regulation size facilities for competition play
- Get more business to participate with coupons.
- Give locals a discount!
- Handicap access! & any actives
- I think there needs to be a working crossing lrd at camp. Richardson where the crosswalk is that is what congests traffic in summer.
- I would pay a use tax for those service on my tax-homeowners bill. They would still for their money.
- Improve traffic flow
- Increase facility hours or operation
- Increase winter access
- Keep slow bikers off the highways
- More grass
- Move to tahoma
- No parking meters
- No smoking & no alcohol or drugs
- Not Paid Parking?
- Open 24 hours. Parks offer peace, solitude & healing which should be available to all always.
- Open parks earlier so locals can enjoy them before the tourist get real.

- Pave city street
- Provide a shelter at the dog park.
- Recent addition of paid parking at our areas is the opposite of what's needed
- Reduce parking fees, keep roads open.
- Remove parking meters!
- Same as comments for question 8
- See above
- See question 8 above
- Small low cost/multi use neighborhood parks build lots of them
- Stop charging so much to park every-where!
- The mentally ill and home less people need a place, to keep them from sleeping at the parks, library and laundry matt! they need your help!!
- Who's bright idea was to require paid parking on venice blvd access to walk in a natural environment on flat ground for senior?

Table 10: Question D1: Length of Residency

How many years have you lived in the South Shore area?	Percent
Less than 2 years	7%
2-5 years	10%
6-10 years	19%
11-20 years	21%
More than 20 years	44%
Total	100%

Table 11: Question D2: Respondent Gender

What is your gender?	Percent
Female	49%
Male	51%
Total	100%

Table 12: Question D3: Respondent Age

Which of the following includes your age?	Percent
18-24	6%
25-34	24%
35-44	19%
45-54	18%
55-64	19%
65 years or older	15%
Total	100%

Table 13: Question D4: Respondent Ethnicity/Origin

Are you Spanish, Hispanic or Latino?	Percent
No, not Spanish, Hispanic or Latino	85%
Yes, I consider myself to be Spanish, Hispanic or Latino	15%
Total	100%

Table 14: Question D5: Respondent Race

What is your race?	Percent
American Indian or Alaskan Native	6%
Asian, Asian Indian or Pacific Islander	4%
Black or African America	1%
White	85%
Other	13%
Total	100%

Total may exceed 100% as respondents could select more than one option.

Table 15: Question D6: Housing Unit Type

Which best describes the building you live in?	Percent
Single-family house detached from any other houses	72%
House attached to one or more houses (such as a duplex or townhome)	12%
Building with two or more apartments or condominiums	14%
Mobile home	2%
Total	100%

Table 16: Question D7: Tenure (Rent or Own)

Do you rent or own your home?	Percent
Rent	46%
Own	54%
Total	100%

Table 17: Questions D8, D9, D10 and D11: Children and Older Adults in Household

	Yes	No	Total
Do any children under age 6 live in your household?	13%	87%	100%
Do any children ages 6 to 12 live in your household?	12%	88%	100%
Do any teenagers ages 13 to 17 live in your household?	11%	89%	100%
Are you or any other members of your household aged 65 or older?	20%	80%	100%

Frequencies Including “Don’t Know” Responses

These tables contain the percentage of respondents for each response category as well as the “N” or total number of respondents for each category, next to the percentage. When the total N for a question does not equal the total number of all respondents, it is due to some respondents skipping the question.

Table 18: Question 1: Quality of Life and Community

Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in the South Shore area.	Excellent		Good		Fair		Poor		Don't know		Total	
	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N
The South Shore area as a place to live	36%	N=116	48%	N=156	11%	N=34	3%	N=11	2%	N=5	100%	N=322
Your neighborhood as a place to live	36%	N=116	45%	N=144	15%	N=47	4%	N=12	1%	N=3	100%	N=323
The South Shore area as a place to raise children	20%	N=65	42%	N=137	16%	N=52	8%	N=26	13%	N=43	100%	N=323
This area as a place to work	6%	N=21	25%	N=82	36%	N=116	28%	N=91	5%	N=15	100%	N=324
This area as a place to retire	31%	N=98	30%	N=95	22%	N=70	10%	N=33	8%	N=25	100%	N=322
This area as a place to live a healthy life	54%	N=175	37%	N=119	6%	N=20	2%	N=6	1%	N=4	100%	N=323
This area as a place to visit	66%	N=212	24%	N=76	7%	N=24	3%	N=8	1%	N=2	100%	N=323
Overall attractiveness of this area	36%	N=116	42%	N=135	16%	N=53	5%	N=16	1%	N=2	100%	N=323
Historical preservation in this area	19%	N=62	42%	N=136	27%	N=87	7%	N=24	4%	N=13	100%	N=322
Recreational opportunities in this area	57%	N=182	27%	N=86	11%	N=35	4%	N=12	2%	N=6	100%	N=322
Proximity of parks and recreation opportunities to your home	39%	N=126	33%	N=106	23%	N=74	5%	N=15	1%	N=3	100%	N=323
The economic vitality of this area	2%	N=7	16%	N=52	45%	N=143	34%	N=110	3%	N=8	100%	N=320
Community commitment to the cultural heritage of this area	9%	N=29	24%	N=77	40%	N=130	18%	N=59	8%	N=26	100%	N=321
Sense of community	9%	N=30	33%	N=106	37%	N=121	19%	N=60	2%	N=6	100%	N=323
Ease of bicycle travel in this area	17%	N=55	34%	N=111	32%	N=103	14%	N=46	3%	N=9	100%	N=323
Ease of walking in this area	17%	N=57	27%	N=88	31%	N=101	23%	N=75	1%	N=4	100%	N=324
Number of paths and walking/biking trails	22%	N=71	30%	N=97	36%	N=116	10%	N=34	2%	N=6	100%	N=324
Opportunities for outdoor rest and relaxation	45%	N=142	42%	N=134	11%	N=34	2%	N=5	1%	N=2	100%	N=317
Opportunities to attend cultural activities	11%	N=35	33%	N=107	41%	N=131	13%	N=43	2%	N=6	100%	N=322
Recreational opportunities for children	21%	N=68	35%	N=112	25%	N=79	6%	N=19	14%	N=45	100%	N=323
Recreational opportunities for teenagers	14%	N=45	23%	N=74	29%	N=93	17%	N=54	17%	N=55	100%	N=322
Recreational opportunities for seniors	11%	N=37	26%	N=84	28%	N=90	9%	N=28	25%	N=81	100%	N=319
Amount of preserved natural areas/open space	36%	N=116	38%	N=123	21%	N=67	3%	N=9	3%	N=8	100%	N=323
Number of parks in the community	16%	N=53	35%	N=112	38%	N=124	8%	N=25	3%	N=8	100%	N=323

Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in the South Shore area.	Excellent		Good		Fair		Poor		Don't know		Total	
	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N
Number of playgrounds in the community	10%	N=32	26%	N=84	35%	N=111	13%	N=43	16%	N=51	100%	N=322
Overall feeling of safety in parks	23%	N=73	48%	N=155	19%	N=60	2%	N=7	8%	N=26	100%	N=322
Family-friendly atmosphere of parks	25%	N=81	40%	N=129	20%	N=63	3%	N=10	11%	N=37	100%	N=319
Quality of overall natural environment in this area	50%	N=162	35%	N=113	13%	N=41	1%	N=3	1%	N=3	100%	N=322
Opportunities to attend community events	17%	N=55	49%	N=155	27%	N=85	5%	N=15	3%	N=9	100%	N=319
Activities for tourists or out-of-town visitors	36%	N=117	44%	N=141	10%	N=34	3%	N=11	6%	N=21	100%	N=323
Opportunities to volunteer	14%	N=46	42%	N=134	25%	N=78	5%	N=17	14%	N=44	100%	N=319
Opportunities to enroll in personal enrichment classes	15%	N=49	34%	N=109	26%	N=83	6%	N=20	18%	N=59	100%	N=320
Opportunities to enroll in vocational and practical skill-building classes	9%	N=30	25%	N=80	35%	N=114	14%	N=44	17%	N=53	100%	N=321
Fitness opportunities (including exercise classes and paths or trails, etc.)	43%	N=138	35%	N=111	18%	N=56	1%	N=3	3%	N=11	100%	N=319
Opportunities to participate in social events or activities	14%	N=45	47%	N=152	32%	N=102	3%	N=10	4%	N=14	100%	N=323
Opportunities to participate in outdoor recreation	53%	N=170	32%	N=104	11%	N=34	2%	N=7	2%	N=7	100%	N=323
Opportunities to participate in organized sports/athletics	13%	N=41	35%	N=110	30%	N=97	8%	N=24	14%	N=45	100%	N=318
Opportunities to participate in individualized sports (such as running, bicycling, etc.)	52%	N=169	30%	N=96	12%	N=37	1%	N=2	6%	N=19	100%	N=323

Table 19: Question 2: Quality of Services

Please rate the quality of each of the following provided by the City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County as they relate to parks and recreation.	Excellent		Good		Fair		Poor		Don't know		Total	
	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N
Overall quality of services	12%	N=37	52%	N=165	28%	N=88	5%	N=16	5%	N=15	100%	N=320
Facilities	12%	N=39	46%	N=148	31%	N=99	6%	N=19	5%	N=14	100%	N=320
Programs	8%	N=27	37%	N=117	35%	N=111	10%	N=32	10%	N=33	100%	N=320
Parks	17%	N=55	46%	N=145	30%	N=96	4%	N=14	3%	N=9	100%	N=319
Availability of information about recreation offerings to the community	13%	N=41	31%	N=101	36%	N=115	15%	N=47	5%	N=17	100%	N=320

Table 20: Question 3: Community Parks and Recreation Priorities

Please indicate how important you think it is that the City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County should offer recreation facilities & programs and public parks to its residents for each of the following purposes.	Essential		Very important		Somewhat important		Not at all important		Total	
Provide opportunities for residents to maintain and improve their physical health	44%	N=139	44%	N=142	10%	N=32	2%	N=7	100%	N=320
Provide opportunities for residents to make social connections	25%	N=79	41%	N=129	31%	N=100	3%	N=10	100%	N=319
Provide recreational opportunities to underserved residents who might not otherwise be able to participate in recreational activities (such as people with disabilities or people with low incomes)	31%	N=100	44%	N=140	21%	N=65	4%	N=13	100%	N=318
Provide positive activities for children and teens (age 19 and younger)	59%	N=188	32%	N=102	6%	N=18	2%	N=8	100%	N=316
Provide wellness, recreational and social opportunities for older adults	40%	N=127	46%	N=145	12%	N=38	2%	N=5	100%	N=315
Provide opportunities for residents to engage in family-friendly activities, events and facilities	36%	N=114	49%	N=156	12%	N=39	2%	N=8	100%	N=317
Contribute to the community's economy (such as offering special events that draw visitors from inside and outside the community, offering opportunities to build employment skills, enhancing real estate values and so on)	42%	N=134	36%	N=115	17%	N=54	5%	N=15	100%	N=319
Promote appreciation and preservation of the cultural and historical heritage of the community	35%	N=110	43%	N=136	20%	N=63	3%	N=8	100%	N=318
Promote a more beautiful community	52%	N=165	41%	N=129	6%	N=18	2%	N=7	100%	N=318
Help renew areas of the community	51%	N=163	38%	N=122	9%	N=28	1%	N=5	100%	N=317
Protect the natural environment and promote environmental sustainability (for example, water quality, water conservation, air quality and so on)	66%	N=212	26%	N=83	7%	N=22	1%	N=3	100%	N=320
Provide mobility, with trails and paths for residents to use for exercise and for non-motorized transportation	58%	N=184	36%	N=113	4%	N=12	2%	N=7	100%	N=316
Provide green and natural spaces within the community with park lands and open space	54%	N=173	37%	N=118	6%	N=19	3%	N=8	100%	N=318
Provide opportunities for community members to participate in athletic or sport instruction, training and teams	28%	N=90	44%	N=138	25%	N=79	3%	N=10	100%	N=318
Provide opportunities for community members to enhance their lives with cultural activities and personal enrichment classes	26%	N=81	45%	N=143	26%	N=84	3%	N=9	100%	N=318
Maintain the community's image as a resort community	34%	N=108	28%	N=89	24%	N=75	14%	N=46	100%	N=318

Table 21: Question 4: Quality of Parks and Recreation Activities

Please rate the overall quality of each of the following activities offered by the City of South Lake Tahoe.	Excellent		Good		Fair		Poor		Don't know		No response		Total	
	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N
Fitness or health and wellness classes (such as aerobics, yoga, weight training, etc.)	10%	N=30	34%	N=108	20%	N=65	9%	N=27	27%	N=87	0%	N=0	100%	N=318
Drop-in fitness (such as weights, exercise machines, etc.)	7%	N=21	21%	N=66	26%	N=82	14%	N=44	32%	N=103	0%	N=0	100%	N=317
Field sports (such as baseball, softball, soccer, football, etc.)	7%	N=21	37%	N=115	25%	N=78	7%	N=21	25%	N=78	0%	N=0	100%	N=313
Ice skating	18%	N=58	37%	N=117	21%	N=68	4%	N=11	20%	N=65	0%	N=0	100%	N=319
Hockey	15%	N=48	29%	N=92	20%	N=62	5%	N=15	32%	N=101	0%	N=0	100%	N=318
Golf	16%	N=50	38%	N=121	22%	N=72	1%	N=4	23%	N=72	0%	N=0	100%	N=318
Children and teen summer swim team	6%	N=20	26%	N=85	15%	N=48	4%	N=12	49%	N=155	0%	N=0	100%	N=320
Children and teen summer camp	6%	N=18	21%	N=67	16%	N=52	5%	N=16	52%	N=166	0%	N=0	100%	N=319
Martial arts	4%	N=11	14%	N=46	17%	N=55	10%	N=31	55%	N=177	0%	N=0	100%	N=319
Certifications (such as CPR, AED, First Aid, Babysitting, etc.)	7%	N=22	23%	N=72	19%	N=59	9%	N=30	42%	N=131	0%	N=0	100%	N=314
Community events (such as Lake in the Sky Air Show, Race the Lake of the Sky SUP, Live at Lakeview Summer Concerts, etc.)	20%	N=64	43%	N=138	21%	N=65	4%	N=11	12%	N=39	0%	N=0	100%	N=318
Small watercraft sports (such as sailboats, canoes, paddleboats, sailboards, etc.)	15%	N=48	35%	N=111	23%	N=73	4%	N=11	24%	N=76	0%	N=0	100%	N=319
Disc/Frisbee golf	19%	N=60	43%	N=136	18%	N=59	1%	N=3	19%	N=60	0%	N=0	100%	N=319
Swimming pool activities	13%	N=40	32%	N=101	25%	N=80	7%	N=21	24%	N=76	0%	N=0	100%	N=318
Swim lessons	9%	N=29	29%	N=93	20%	N=65	5%	N=16	36%	N=117	0%	N=0	100%	N=320
Senior fitness	5%	N=15	22%	N=69	16%	N=50	4%	N=14	53%	N=171	0%	N=0	100%	N=319
After school programs	8%	N=25	17%	N=54	16%	N=52	7%	N=22	52%	N=166	0%	N=0	100%	N=320

Table 22: Question 5: Most Important Activities

Which three of the above do you think are the MOST IMPORTANT parks and recreation offerings to be provided?	Percent most important	Number
Fitness or health and wellness classes (such as aerobics, yoga, weight training, etc.)	31%	N=75
Drop-in fitness (such as weights, exercise machines, etc.)	13%	N=33
Field sports (such as baseball, softball, soccer, football, etc.)	32%	N=77
Ice skating	5%	N=12
Hockey	3%	N=8
Golf	8%	N=19
Children and teen summer swim team	5%	N=13
Children and teen summer camp	19%	N=47
Martial arts	16%	N=39
Certifications (such as CPR, AED, First Aid, Babysitting, etc.)	17%	N=40
Community events (such as Lake in the Sky Air Show, Race the Lake of the Sky SUP, Live at Lakeview Summer Concerts, etc.)	54%	N=133
Small watercraft sports (such as sailboats, canoes, paddleboats, sailboards, etc.)	14%	N=33
Disc/Frisbee golf	7%	N=17
Swimming pool activities	8%	N=20
Swim lessons	15%	N=37
Senior fitness	9%	N=21
After school programs	35%	N=86

Table 23: Question 6: Quality of Parks and Recreation Facilities

Please rate the overall quality of each of the following facilities located in the City of South Lake Tahoe and Meyers.	Excellent		Good		Fair		Poor		Don't know		No response		Total	
	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N
Recreation and Swim Complex	14%	N=44	37%	N=118	24%	N=75	6%	N=20	18%	N=57	0%	N=0	100%	N=314
Bijou Community Park	18%	N=56	45%	N=142	25%	N=78	3%	N=10	10%	N=30	0%	N=0	100%	N=317
Community Play Field	18%	N=57	39%	N=124	14%	N=45	4%	N=12	25%	N=78	0%	N=0	100%	N=316
Lakeview Commons	48%	N=152	26%	N=84	7%	N=23	1%	N=3	17%	N=55	0%	N=0	100%	N=316
El Dorado Beach	33%	N=102	43%	N=134	13%	N=42	2%	N=7	9%	N=27	0%	N=0	100%	N=313
Regan Beach	24%	N=77	40%	N=125	24%	N=75	5%	N=17	6%	N=20	0%	N=0	100%	N=314
Bonanza Park	11%	N=35	16%	N=51	11%	N=34	4%	N=13	58%	N=181	0%	N=0	100%	N=314
Explore Tahoe Visitor Center	14%	N=43	32%	N=100	19%	N=58	1%	N=5	35%	N=109	0%	N=0	100%	N=315

Please rate the overall quality of each of the following facilities located in the City of South Lake Tahoe and Meyers.	Excellent		Good		Fair		Poor		Don't know		No response		Total	
	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N
Campground by the Lake	15%	N=47	40%	N=129	21%	N=67	1%	N=3	23%	N=72	0%	N=0	100%	N=318
Senior Center	9%	N=27	22%	N=70	19%	N=59	4%	N=12	47%	N=149	0%	N=0	100%	N=316
South Tahoe Ice Arena	23%	N=72	42%	N=133	10%	N=31	2%	N=7	23%	N=73	0%	N=0	100%	N=315
Tahoe Paradise Park	12%	N=38	29%	N=92	20%	N=62	4%	N=12	36%	N=113	0%	N=0	100%	N=316
Van Sickle Park	20%	N=64	32%	N=100	9%	N=28	2%	N=5	37%	N=118	0%	N=0	100%	N=315
Bijou Golf Course	12%	N=39	35%	N=109	20%	N=63	3%	N=11	29%	N=91	0%	N=0	100%	N=313
Bijou Disc Golf	18%	N=58	40%	N=125	15%	N=48	1%	N=3	26%	N=82	0%	N=0	100%	N=316
Bijou Skate Park	16%	N=49	33%	N=102	16%	N=51	5%	N=15	31%	N=97	0%	N=0	100%	N=314
Bijou Dog Park	16%	N=50	32%	N=102	20%	N=64	5%	N=15	28%	N=88	0%	N=0	100%	N=318
Bicycle trails	20%	N=65	38%	N=119	27%	N=86	8%	N=26	7%	N=21	0%	N=0	100%	N=317

Table 24: Question 7: Most Important Facilities

Which three of the above do you think are the MOST IMPORTANT parks and recreation facilities to be provided?	Percent most important	Number
Recreation and Swim Complex	39%	N=107
Bijou Community Park	20%	N=55
Community Play Field	8%	N=22
Lakeview Commons	41%	N=112
El Dorado Beach	18%	N=50
Regan Beach	19%	N=51
Bonanza Park	2%	N=5
Explore Tahoe Visitor Center	8%	N=21
Campground by the Lake	13%	N=35
Senior Center	13%	N=37
South Tahoe Ice Arena	8%	N=23
Tahoe Paradise Park	4%	N=12
Van Sickle Park	4%	N=10
Bijou Golf Course	7%	N=18
Bijou Disc Golf	8%	N=22
Bijou Skate Park	11%	N=30
Bijou Dog Park	12%	N=34
Bicycle trails	55%	N=152

Table 25: Question 8: Ways to Improve Access of Recreation Programs

What, if anything, could we do to improve access to recreation programs in the South Shore area?	Percent of respondents	Count
Nothing	9%	N=27
Reduce admission costs/program fees	38%	N=118
Increase facility hours or operation	26%	N=82
Provide evening classes	26%	N=82
Improve website information	23%	N=72
Send email announcements about special events	30%	N=93
Offer programs in a variety of locations	34%	N=107
Improve the condition of facilities	34%	N=107
Other, please specify:	21%	N=66

Total may exceed 100% as respondents could select more than one option

Table 26: Question 9: Ways to Improve Access of Parks and Recreation Facilities

What, if anything, could we do to improve access to parks and recreation facilities in the South Shore area?	Percent of respondents	Count
Nothing	8%	N=24
Add more parking	27%	N=84
Provide more neighborhood parks	38%	N=119
Connect parks to bike routes and trails	62%	N=197
Improve signage	17%	N=55
Improve sidewalk access	44%	N=140
Distribute park maps with directions to parks	28%	N=89
Improve website information	21%	N=66
Other, please specify	13%	N=41

Total may exceed 100% as respondents could select more than one option

Table 27: Question D1: Length of Residency

How many years have you lived in the South Shore area?	Percent	Number
Less than 2 years	7%	N=21
2-5 years	10%	N=32
6-10 years	19%	N=61
11-20 years	21%	N=66
More than 20 years	44%	N=141
Total	100%	N=322

Table 28: Question D2: Respondent Gender

What is your gender?	Percent	Number
Female	49%	N=156
Male	51%	N=164
Total	100%	N=320

Table 29: Question D3: Respondent Age

Which of the following includes your age?	Percent	Number
18-24	6%	N=19
25-34	24%	N=76
35-44	19%	N=61
45-54	18%	N=57
55-64	19%	N=60
65 years or older	15%	N=47
Total	100%	N=319

Table 30: Question D4: Respondent Ethnicity/Origin

Are you Spanish, Hispanic or Latino?	Percent	Number
No, not Spanish, Hispanic or Latino	85%	N=269
Yes, I consider myself to be Spanish, Hispanic or Latino	15%	N=48
Total	100%	N=317

Table 31: Question D5: Respondent Race

What is your race?	Percent	Number
American Indian or Alaskan Native	6%	N=18
Asian, Asian Indian or Pacific Islander	4%	N=11
Black or African America	1%	N=2
White	85%	N=261
Other	13%	N=40
Total	100%	N=308

Total may exceed 100% as respondents could select more than one option.

Table 32: Question D6: Housing Unit Type

Which best describes the building you live in?	Percent	Number
Single-family house detached from any other houses	72%	N=232
House attached to one or more houses (such as a duplex or townhome)	12%	N=39
Building with two or more apartments or condominiums	14%	N=45
Mobile home	2%	N=7
Total	100%	N=322

Table 33: Question D7: Tenure (Rent or Own)

Do you rent or own your home?	Percent	Number
Rent	46%	N=148
Own	54%	N=173
Total	100%	N=321

Table 34: Questions D8, D9, D10 and D11: Children and Older Adults in Household

	Yes		No		Total	
Do any children under age 6 live in your household?	13%	N=41	87%	N=280	100%	N=321
Do any children ages 6 to 12 live in your household?	12%	N=39	88%	N=282	100%	N=321
Do any teenagers ages 13 to 17 live in your household?	11%	N=35	89%	N=286	100%	N=321
Are you or any other members of your household aged 65 or older?	20%	N=64	80%	N=259	100%	N=322

Appendix C: Benchmark Comparisons

NRC’s database of comparative resident opinion is comprised of resident perspectives gathered in surveys from as many as 500 communities whose residents evaluated the same kinds of topics on PARCS. The comparison evaluations are from the most recent survey completed in each community; most communities conduct surveys every year or in alternating years. NRC adds the latest results quickly upon survey completion, keeping the benchmark data fresh and relevant. The communities in the database represent a wide geographic and population range.

A benchmark comparison (the average rating from all the comparison agencies where a similar question was asked) has been provided when a similar question on the South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County survey was included in NRC’s database and there were at least five surveys in which the question was asked. For many questions compared to the entire dataset, there were more than 100 jurisdictions or agencies included in the benchmark comparison. However, for some of the items that are unique to PARCS, results are compared only to other PARCS participants.

Where comparisons for quality ratings of community characteristics and overall department services were available, the South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County results were generally noted as being “above” the benchmark, “below” the benchmark or “similar” to the benchmark. In instances where ratings are considerably higher or lower than the benchmark, these ratings have been further demarcated by the attribute of “much,” (for example, “much above” or “much below”). These labels come from a statistical comparison of the South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County’s rating to the benchmark.

Table 35: Comparison of the South Shore area and Neighborhood as a Place to Live Ratings to Benchmark

Service or amenity	Comparison to benchmark
The South Shore area as a place to live	Similar
Your neighborhood as a place to live	Similar

Table 36: Comparison of Attractiveness and Parks Ratings to Benchmark

Service or amenity	Comparison to benchmark
Overall attractiveness of this area	Above
Proximity of parks and recreation opportunities to your home	Similar
Number of parks in the community	Much below

Table 37: Comparison of Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability Ratings to Benchmark

Service or amenity	Comparison to benchmark
Amount of preserved natural areas/open space	Much above
Quality of overall natural environment in this area	Much above

Table 38: Comparison of Trails, Paths and Mobility Ratings to Benchmark

Service or amenity	Comparison to benchmark
Ease of bicycle travel in this area	Similar
Ease of walking in this area	Much below
Number of paths and walking/biking trails	Similar

Table 39: Comparison of Health and Wellness Opportunities Ratings to Benchmark

Service or amenity	Comparison to benchmark
This area as a place to live a healthy life	Much above
Recreational opportunities in this area	Much above
Fitness opportunities (including exercise classes and paths or trails, etc.)	Above

Table 40: Comparison of Economic Vitality Ratings to Benchmark

Service or amenity	Comparison to benchmark
This area as a place to work	Much below
This area as a place to visit	Much above
The economic vitality of this area	Much below
Activities for tourists or out-of-town visitors	Much above
Opportunities to enroll in vocational and practical skill-building classes	Much below

Table 41: Comparison of Community Inclusiveness Ratings to Benchmark

Service or amenity	Comparison to benchmark
The South Shore area as a place to raise children	Below
This area as a place to retire	Above
Recreational opportunities for children	Similar
Recreational opportunities for teenagers	Much below
Recreational opportunities for seniors	Much below
Number of playgrounds in the community	Much below

Table 42: Comparison of Social Connections and Civic Engagement Ratings to Benchmark

Service or amenity	Comparison to benchmark
Sense of community	Much below
Opportunities to attend community events	Similar
Opportunities to volunteer	Below
Opportunities to participate in social events or activities	Similar

Table 43: Comparison of Quality of Life and Community Heritage Ratings to Benchmark

Service or amenity	Comparison to benchmark
Historical preservation in this area	Similar
Community commitment to the cultural heritage of this area	Much below

Table 44: Comparison of Sports and Athletics Opportunities Ratings to Benchmark

Service or amenity	Comparison to benchmark
Opportunities to participate in outdoor recreation	Much above
Opportunities to participate in organized sports/athletics	Much below
Opportunities to participate in individualized sports (such as running, bicycling, etc.)	Much above

Table 45: Comparison of Personal Enrichment and Leisure Opportunities Ratings to Benchmark

Service or amenity	Comparison to benchmark
Opportunities for outdoor rest and relaxation	Much above
Opportunities to attend cultural activities	Below
Opportunities to enroll in personal enrichment classes	Similar

Table 46: Comparison of Services and Facilities Ratings to the Benchmark

Service or amenity	Comparison to benchmark
Overall quality of services	Below
Facilities	Much below
Programs	Much below
Parks	Much below
Availability of information about recreation offerings to the community	Much below

Appendix D: Survey Methods

The Parks and Recreation Community Survey™ (PARCS™) is offered by National Research Center, Inc. (NRC) to provide an in-depth survey of residents' attitudes about community parks, recreation and leisure services. The survey was customized for South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County to reflect its park and recreation services and so that the mailing materials used official City and County graphics, contact information and signatures.

Survey Questionnaire Development

The PARCS questionnaire contains questions related to the role of parks and recreation in the community, residents' opinions about the quality of life in the community and the quality and importance of the offerings of public parks and recreation agencies. Questions related to participation in the offerings of parks and recreation also are included. The questionnaire was developed by carrying out a national search of parks and recreation needs assessments and community surveys conducted across the U.S., reviewing the literature on the role of parks and recreation in community life and relying on NRC's experience in the design and implementation of numerous surveys and needs assessments across the country. A blue-ribbon panel of national experts contributed to the concept and content of PARCS. The final questionnaire was tested in a set of diverse U.S. communities and modifications again were made as necessary.

Survey Sampling

“Sampling” refers to the method by which survey recipients are chosen. The “sample” refers to all those who were invited to participate in the survey. All households located within the South Shore area were eligible for the survey. Because local governments generally do not have inclusive lists of all the residences in the community (tax assessor and utility billing databases often omit rental units), lists from the United States Postal Service (USPS), updated every three months, provide the best representation of all households in a specific geographic location. NRC used the USPS data to select the sample of households.

A larger list than needed was sampled so that a process referred to as “geocoding” could be used to eliminate addresses from the list that were outside the study boundaries. Geocoding is a computerized process in which addresses are compared to electronically mapped boundaries and coded as inside or outside desired boundaries. All addresses determined to be outside the study boundaries were eliminated from the sample. A random selection was made of the remaining addresses to create a final list of 1,600 addresses.

The adult (18 years or older) within each household who was most familiar with the recreational activities of all household members was selected to complete the survey. This instruction was contained in the cover letter accompanying the questionnaire.

Survey Administration

Each sampled household received three mailings beginning in August 2013. Completed surveys were collected over the following five weeks. The first mailing was a prenotification postcard announcing the upcoming survey. A week after the prenotification postcard, the first survey was sent. The second survey was sent one week after the first. The survey mailings contained a letter from the City Manager and the County's Chief Administrative Officer inviting the household to participate in PARCS, a questionnaire and postage-paid envelope in which to return the questionnaire.

Survey Response Rate and Confidence Intervals

Of the 1,600 postcards mailed, 135 were undeliverable because they either had incorrect addresses or were received by vacant housing units. Of the 1,465 households receiving the survey mailings, 324 completed the survey for an overall response rate of 22%.

It is customary to describe the precision of estimates made from surveys by a "level of confidence" and accompanying "confidence interval" (or margin of error). A traditional level of confidence, and the one used here, is 95%. The 95% confidence interval can be any size and quantifies the sampling error or imprecision of the survey results because some residents' opinions are relied on to estimate all residents' opinions. The confidence interval for the South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County PARCS is no greater than plus or minus six percentage points around any given percent reported for the entire sample (324 completed surveys).

A 95% confidence interval indicates that for every 100 random samples of this many residents, 95 of the confidence intervals created will include the "true" population response. This theory is applied in practice to mean that the "true" perspective of the target population lies within the confidence interval created for a single survey. For example, if 75% of residents rate a service as "excellent" or "good," then a 6% margin of error (for the 95% confidence interval) indicates that the range of likely responses for the entire community is between 69% and 81%. This source of error is called sampling error. In addition to sampling error, other sources of error may affect any survey, including the non-response of residents with opinions different from survey responders.

The practical difficulties of conducting any resident survey may introduce other sources of error in addition to sampling error. For example, despite best efforts to boost participation and ensure potential inclusion of all residents, some selected households will decline participation in the survey (potentially introducing non-response error) and some eligible households may be unintentionally excluded from the listed sources for the sample (referred to as coverage error).

Survey Processing (Data Entry)

Completed surveys were assigned a unique identification number. Additionally, each survey was reviewed and "cleaned" as necessary. For example, a question may have asked a

respondent to pick one response, but the respondent checked two; the cleaning process would involve randomly selecting one of the two selected responses to be recorded in the dataset.

Once all surveys were assigned a unique identification number, they were entered into an electronic dataset. This dataset was subject to a data entry protocol of “key and verify,” in which survey data were entered twice into an electronic dataset and then compared. Discrepancies were evaluated against the original survey form and corrected. “Range checks” (examination of the data for invalid values) as well as other forms of quality control were also performed.

Survey Data Weighting

The demographic characteristics of those completing the survey were compared to those found in the 2010 Census and 2011 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates for South Lake Tahoe Census County Division (CCD) residents. Sample results were weighted using these population norms to reflect the appropriate percent of those residents. The primary objective of weighting survey data is to make the survey sample reflective of the larger population of the community. This is done by: 1) reviewing the sample demographics and comparing them to the population norms from the most recent Census or other sources and 2) comparing the responses to different questions for demographic subgroups. The demographic characteristics that are least similar to the Census and yield the most different results are the best candidates for data weighting.

The variables used for weighting were gender, age, race, ethnicity, housing tenure (rent/own), and housing unit type. Other demographic discrepancies between the whole population and the sample also were aided by the weighting due to the intercorrelation of many socioeconomic characteristics. NRC professionals often test several different weighting “schemes” to ensure the best fit for the data. The results of the weighting scheme are presented in the table on the following page.

Table 47: Weighting Table for South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County PARCS

Characteristic	Population Norm ¹	Unweighted Data	Weighted Data
Housing			
Rent home	50%	24%	46%
Own home	50%	76%	54%
Detached unit ²	71%	89%	74%
Attached unit ²	29%	12%	26%
Rent detached ²	21%	15%	22%
Own detached ²	50%	74%	52%
Rent attached ²	27%	9%	24%
Own attached ²	2%	3%	2%
Race and Ethnicity			
White	82%	87%	80%
Not white	18%	13%	20%
Not Hispanic	80%	92%	85%
Hispanic	20%	8%	15%
White alone, not Hispanic	73%	83%	73%
Hispanic and/or other race	27%	17%	27%
Gender and Age			
Female	47%	54%	49%
Male	53%	46%	51%
18-34 years of age	32%	11%	30%
35-54 years of age	37%	35%	37%
55+ years of age	31%	55%	33%
Females 18-34	14%	7%	14%
Females 35-54	17%	21%	17%
Females 55+	15%	26%	17%
Males 18-34	18%	4%	16%
Males 35-54	19%	14%	20%
Males 55+	16%	29%	17%

¹ Source: 2010 Census, South Lake Tahoe Census County Division (CCD)

* Source: American Community Survey (ACS) 2011 5-year estimates

Survey Data Analysis and Reporting

The survey dataset was analyzed using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS). The “percent positive” for each item on the survey is presented in the body of the report. The percent positive is the combination of the top two most positive response options (i.e., “excellent” and “good,” “essential” and “very important,” etc.). A complete set of frequencies for each survey question is presented in *Appendix B: Complete Survey Frequencies*.

It should be noted that often the sum of the two categories displayed in the graph in the body of the report may not add exactly to the total displayed; this is due to the customary practice of rounding percentages to the nearest whole number. So, for example, a graph may show that 40% of respondents rated an item as “excellent” and 41% rated the item as “good” but the total of excellent and good is shown as 80%. In this example, it may be that the percent rating excellent was 39.7% (rounding to the 40% displayed) and the percent rating as excellent was 40.7%, rounding to 41%, but the total would be 80.4%, rounding to 80%.

On many of the questions in the survey respondents may answer “don’t know.” The proportion of respondents giving this reply is shown in the full set of responses included in *Appendix B: Complete Survey Frequencies*. However, these responses have been removed from the

analyses presented in the body of the report. In other words, the tables and graphs display the responses from respondents who had an opinion about a specific item.

Community Characteristics Quality Index

The community quality characteristics index ratings presented in the body of the report represent the average percent positive of the questions about quality included in the index. The percent positive is the combination of the top two most positive response options; in this case, the percent “excellent” and “good.” The following table shows the individual questions comprising each index score.

Table 48: Community Characteristics Quality Indices

Index	Individual Variables Used in Quality Index
Place to live	The South Shore area as a place to live
	Your neighborhood as a place to live
Physical appearance of the community	Overall attractiveness of this area
	Proximity of parks and recreation opportunities to home
	Number of parks in the community
Environmental stewardship and sustainability	Amount of preserved natural areas/open space
	Quality of overall natural environment in this area
Trails, paths and mobility	Ease of bicycle travel in this area
	Ease of walking in this area
	Number of paths and walking/biking trails
Health and wellness opportunities	This area as a place to live a healthy life
	Recreational opportunities in this area
	Fitness opportunities (including exercise classes and paths or trails, etc.)
Economic vitality	This area as a place to work
	This area as a place to visit
	The economic vitality of this area
	Activities for tourists or out-of-town visitors
	Opportunities to enroll in vocational and practical skill-building classes
Community inclusiveness	The South Shore area as a place to raise children
	This area as a place to retire
	Recreational opportunities for children
	Recreational opportunities for youth
	Recreational opportunities for seniors
	Number of playgrounds in the community
Social connections and civic engagement opportunities	Sense of community
	Opportunities to attend community events
	Opportunities to volunteer
	Opportunities to participate in social events or activities
Community heritage	Historical preservation in this area
	Community commitment to the cultural heritage of this area
Sports and athletics	Opportunities to participate in organized sports/athletics
	Opportunities to participate in outdoor recreation
	Opportunities to participate in individualized sports (such as running, bicycling, etc.)
Personal enrichment and leisure opportunities	Opportunities for outdoor rest and relaxation
	Opportunities to attend cultural activities
	Opportunities to enroll in personal enrichment classes

Community Characteristics Priorities Index

The community priorities index ratings presented in the body of the report represent the average percent positive of the questions included in the index. The percent positive is the combination of the top two most positive response options; in this case, the percent “essential” and “very important.” The following table shows the individual questions comprising each index score.

Table 49: Community Characteristics Priorities Indices

Index	Individual Variables Used in Priority Index
Physical appearance of the community	Promote a more beautiful community
	Provide green and natural spaces within the community with park lands and open space
Environmental stewardship and sustainability	Protect the natural environment and promote environmental sustainability (for example, water quality, water conservation, air quality and so on)
Trails, paths and mobility	Provide mobility, with trails and paths for residents to use for exercise and for non-motorized transportation
Health and wellness opportunities	Provide opportunities for residents to maintain and improve their physical health
Economic vitality	Contribute to the community’s economy (such as offering special events that draw visitors from inside and outside the community, offering opportunities to build employment skills, enhancing real estate values and so on)
	Help renew areas of the community
Community inclusiveness	Provide recreational opportunities to underserved residents who might not otherwise be able to participate in recreational activities (such as people with disabilities or people with low incomes)
	Provide positive activities for children and teens (age 19 and younger)
	Provide recreational, social and health strengthening opportunities for older adults
Social connections and civic engagement opportunities	Provide opportunities for residents to make social connections
Community heritage	Promote appreciation and preservation of the cultural and historical heritage of the community
	Maintain the community’s image
Sports and athletics	Provide opportunities for community members to participate in athletic or sport instruction, training and teams
Personal enrichment and leisure opportunities	Provide opportunities for community members to enhance their lives with cultural activities and personal enrichment classes

Appendix E: Survey Materials

The following pages contain copies of the survey materials sent to randomly selected households within the City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County.

Dear Resident,

Your household has been selected at random to participate in an anonymous survey about parks and recreation services offered by the City of South Lake Tahoe and the County of El Dorado. You will receive a copy of the survey next week in the mail with instructions for completing and returning it. Thank you in advance for helping us with this important project!

Sincerely,



Nancy Kerry
City Manager
South Lake Tahoe



Terri Daly
Chief Administrative Officer
County of El Dorado

Dear Resident,

Your household has been selected at random to participate in an anonymous survey about parks and recreation services offered by the City of South Lake Tahoe and the County of El Dorado. You will receive a copy of the survey next week in the mail with instructions for completing and returning it. Thank you in advance for helping us with this important project!

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Sincerely,



Nancy Kerry
City Manager
South Lake Tahoe



Terri Daly
Chief Administrative Officer
County of El Dorado



City of South Lake Tahoe
"making a positive difference now"

1901 Airport Road, Suite 203
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

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1901 Airport Road, Suite 203
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150
Phone (530) 542-6016



330 Fair Lane
Placerville, CA 95667-4197
Phone (530) 621-5360

Dear Resident,

The City of South Lake Tahoe and the County of El Dorado wants to know what you think about the parks and recreation facilities, programs and services we provide. Parks and recreation services are an important part of our community's quality of life and we would like to hear from you to understand your perspectives and preferences.

Your household has been randomly selected to participate in this survey. Please take a few minutes to fill out the enclosed questionnaire. **We request that an adult (age 18 or older) in your household most familiar with the recreational activities of all household members complete the survey. Your responses will remain completely confidential.** Please return the completed survey in the postage-paid envelope provided.

The survey results will help us make important decisions about parks and recreation in the South Shore area of El Dorado County. This includes the City of South Lake Tahoe, the community of Meyers, Meek's Bay and nearby areas. We have mailed surveys to only a small number of households, so your response is extremely important. If you have any questions about this survey, please contact Tracy Franklin, Public Information Officer at the City of South Lake Tahoe, at (530) 542-6093.

Thank you for your help and participation!

Sincerely,

Nancy Kerry
City Manager
South Lake Tahoe

Terri Daly
Chief Administrative Officer
County of El Dorado



1901 Airport Road, Suite 203
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150
Phone (530) 542-6016



330 Fair Lane
Placerville, CA 95667-4197
Phone (530) 621-5360

Dear Resident,

About a week ago, we sent you a survey about City of South Lake Tahoe and the County of El Dorado's parks and recreation services. **If you completed it and sent it back, we thank you for your time and ask you to discard this survey. Please do not respond twice.** If you have not had a chance to complete the survey, we would appreciate your response.

Parks and recreation facilities, programs and services are an important part of our community's quality of life, and we want to hear from you to understand your perspectives and preferences. Please participate!

Your household has been randomly selected to participate in this survey. Please take a few minutes to fill out the enclosed questionnaire. **We request that an adult (age 18 or older) in your household most familiar with the recreational activities of all household members complete the survey. Your responses will remain completely confidential.** Please return the completed survey in the postage-paid envelope provided.

The survey results will help us make important decisions about parks and recreation in the South Shore area of El Dorado County. This includes the City of South Lake Tahoe, the community of Meyers, Meek's Bay and nearby areas. We have mailed surveys to only a small number of households, so your response is extremely important. If you have any questions about this survey, please contact Tracy Franklin, Public Information Officer at the City of South Lake Tahoe, at (530) 542-6093.

Thank you for your help and participation!

Sincerely,

Nancy Kerry
City Manager
South Lake Tahoe

Terri Daly
Chief Administrative Officer
County of El Dorado

Parks and Recreation Community Survey (PARCS)™

Please select the response (by circling the number or checking the box) that most closely represents your opinion for each question. Your responses are anonymous and will be reported in group form only.

1. Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in the South Shore area.

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
The South Shore area as a place to live	1	2	3	4	DK
Your neighborhood as a place to live	1	2	3	4	DK
The South Shore area as a place to raise children.....	1	2	3	4	DK
This area as a place to work.....	1	2	3	4	DK
This area as a place to retire.....	1	2	3	4	DK
This area as a place to live a healthy life	1	2	3	4	DK
This area as a place to visit	1	2	3	4	DK
Overall attractiveness of the this area.....	1	2	3	4	DK
Historical preservation in this area.....	1	2	3	4	DK
Recreational opportunities in this area	1	2	3	4	DK
Proximity of parks and recreation opportunities to your home	1	2	3	4	DK
The economic vitality of this area.....	1	2	3	4	DK
Community commitment to the cultural heritage of this area	1	2	3	4	DK
Sense of community	1	2	3	4	DK
Ease of bicycle travel in this area.....	1	2	3	4	DK
Ease of walking in this area.....	1	2	3	4	DK
Number of paths and walking/biking trails	1	2	3	4	DK
Opportunities for outdoor rest and relaxation.....	1	2	3	4	DK
Opportunities to attend cultural activities	1	2	3	4	DK
Recreational opportunities for children	1	2	3	4	DK
Recreational opportunities for teenagers	1	2	3	4	DK
Recreational opportunities for seniors.....	1	2	3	4	DK
Amount of preserved natural areas/open space.....	1	2	3	4	DK
Number of parks in the community	1	2	3	4	DK
Number of playgrounds in the community	1	2	3	4	DK
Overall feeling of safety in parks	1	2	3	4	DK
Family-friendly atmosphere of parks.....	1	2	3	4	DK
Quality of overall natural environment in this area	1	2	3	4	DK
Opportunities to attend community events.....	1	2	3	4	DK
Activities for tourists or out-of-town visitors	1	2	3	4	DK
Opportunities to volunteer.....	1	2	3	4	DK
Opportunities to enroll in personal enrichment classes	1	2	3	4	DK
Opportunities to enroll in vocational and practical skill-building classes	1	2	3	4	DK
Fitness opportunities (including exercise classes and paths or trails, etc.).....	1	2	3	4	DK
Opportunities to participate in social events or activities.....	1	2	3	4	DK
Opportunities to participate in outdoor recreation	1	2	3	4	DK
Opportunities to participate in organized sports/athletics.....	1	2	3	4	DK
Opportunities to participate in individualized sports (such as running, bicycling, etc.)	1	2	3	4	DK

Parks and Recreation Community Survey (PARCS)™

2. Please rate the quality of each of the following provided by the City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County as they relate to parks and recreation.

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
Overall quality of services.....	1	2	3	4	DK
Facilities	1	2	3	4	DK
Programs.....	1	2	3	4	DK
Parks	1	2	3	4	DK
Availability of information about recreation offerings to the community...	1	2	3	4	DK

3. Municipalities and counties offer parks and recreation facilities and programs to their residents for a variety of reasons, and base their offerings on their core purposes. Please indicate how important you think it is that City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County should offer recreation facilities & programs and public parks to its residents for each of the following purposes.

	<u>Essential</u>	<u>Very Important</u>	<u>Somewhat Important</u>	<u>Not at all Important</u>
Provide opportunities for residents to maintain and improve their physical health	1	2	3	4
Provide opportunities for residents to make social connections.....	1	2	3	4
Provide recreational opportunities to underserved residents who might not otherwise be able to participate in recreational activities (such as people with disabilities or people with low incomes)	1	2	3	4
Provide positive activities for children and teens (age 19 and younger)	1	2	3	4
Provide wellness, recreational and social opportunities for older adults.....	1	2	3	4
Provide opportunities for residents to engage in family-friendly activities, events and facilities.....	1	2	3	4
Contribute to the community's economy (such as offering special events that draw visitors from inside and outside the community, offering opportunities to build employment skills, enhancing real estate values and so on).....	1	2	3	4
Promote appreciation and preservation of the cultural and historical heritage of the community.....	1	2	3	4
Promote a more beautiful community.....	1	2	3	4
Help renew areas of the community	1	2	3	4
Protect the natural environment and promote environmental sustainability (for example, water quality, water conservation, air quality and so on).....	1	2	3	4
Provide mobility, with trails and paths for residents to use for exercise and for non-motorized transportation	1	2	3	4
Provide green and natural spaces within the community with park lands and open space	1	2	3	4
Provide opportunities for community members to participate in athletic or sport instruction, training and teams.....	1	2	3	4
Provide opportunities for community members to enhance their lives with cultural activities and personal enrichment classes	1	2	3	4
Maintain the community's image as a resort community	1	2	3	4

Parks and Recreation Community Survey (PARCS)™

4. Please rate the overall quality of each of the following activities offered by the City of South Lake Tahoe.

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
a. Fitness or health and wellness classes (such as aerobics, yoga, weight training, etc.)	1	2	3	4	DK
b. "Drop-in" fitness (such as weights, exercise machines, etc.)	1	2	3	4	DK
c. Field sports (such as baseball, softball, soccer, football, etc.)	1	2	3	4	DK
d. Ice skating	1	2	3	4	DK
e. Hockey	1	2	3	4	DK
f. Golf	1	2	3	4	DK
g. Children and teen summer swim team	1	2	3	4	DK
h. Children and teen summer camp	1	2	3	4	DK
i. Martial arts	1	2	3	4	DK
j. Certifications (such as CPR, AED, First Aid, Babysitting, etc)	1	2	3	4	DK
k. Community events (such as Lake in the Sky Air Show, Race the Lake of the Sky SUP, Live at Lakeview Summer Concerts, etc.)	1	2	3	4	DK
l. Small watercraft sports (such as sailboats, canoes, paddleboats, sailboards, etc.)	1	2	3	4	DK
m. Disc/frisbee golf.....	1	2	3	4	DK
n. Swimming pool activities.....	1	2	3	4	DK
o. Swim lessons.....	1	2	3	4	DK
p. Senior fitness	1	2	3	4	DK
q. After school program.....	1	2	3	4	DK

5. Which three of the above do you think are the MOST IMPORTANT parks and recreation offerings to be provided?

_____ (write in the letter of the items above)

6. Please rate the overall quality of each of the following facilities located in the City of South Lake Tahoe and Meyers.

	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	<u>Poor</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
a. Recreation and Swim Complex	1	2	3	4	DK
b. Bijou Community Park.....	1	2	3	4	DK
c. Community Play Field	1	2	3	4	DK
d. Lakeview Commons.....	1	2	3	4	DK
e. El Dorado Beach	1	2	3	4	DK
f. Regan Beach	1	2	3	4	DK
g. Bonanza Park	1	2	3	4	DK
h. Explore Tahoe Visitor Center.....	1	2	3	4	DK
i. Campground by the Lake.....	1	2	3	4	DK
j. Senior Center	1	2	3	4	DK
k. South Tahoe Ice Arena	1	2	3	4	DK
l. Tahoe Paradise Park	1	2	3	4	DK
m. Van Sickle Park.....	1	2	3	4	DK
n. Bijou Golf Course.....	1	2	3	4	DK
o. Bijou Disc Golf.....	1	2	3	4	DK
p. Bijou Skate Park.....	1	2	3	4	DK
q. Bijou Dog Park	1	2	3	4	DK
r. Bicycle trails	1	2	3	4	DK

7. Which three of the above do you think are the MOST IMPORTANT parks and recreation facilities to be provided?

_____ (write in the letter of the items above)

8. What, if anything, could we do to improve access to recreation programs in the South Shore area?

- Nothing
- Reduce admission costs/program fees
- Increase facility hours or operation
- Provide evening classes
- Improve website information
- Send email announcements about special events
- Offer programs in a variety of locations
- Improve the condition of facilities
- Other, please specify: _____

9. What, if anything, could we do to improve access to parks and recreation facilities in the South Shore area?

- Nothing
- Add more parking
- Provide more neighborhood parks
- Connect parks to bike routes and trails
- Improve signage
- Improve sidewalk access
- Distribute park maps with directions to parks
- Improve website information
- Other, please specify: _____

Our last questions are about you and your household. Again, all of your responses to this survey are completely anonymous and will be reported in group form only.

D1. How many years have you lived in the South Shore area?

- Less than 2 years 11-20 years
- 2-5 years More than 20 years
- 6-10 years

D2. What is your gender?..... Female Male

D3. Which of the following includes your age?

- 18 - 24 45 - 54
- 25 - 34 55 - 64
- 35 - 44 65 years or older

Please respond to both questions D4 AND D5:

D4. Are you Spanish, Hispanic or Latino?

- No, not Spanish, Hispanic or Latino
- Yes, I consider myself to be Spanish, Hispanic or Latino

D5. What is your race? (Mark one or more races to indicate what race you consider yourself to be.)

- American Indian or Alaskan Native
- Asian, Asian Indian or Pacific Islander
- Black or African American
- White
- Other

D6. Which best describes the building you live in?

- Single-family house detached from any other houses
- House attached to one or more houses (such as a duplex or townhome)
- Building with two or more apartments or condominiums
- Mobile home

D7. Do you rent or own your home?..... Rent Own

D8. Do any children under age 6 live in your household? Yes No

D9. Do any children ages 6 to 12 live in your household? Yes No

D10. Do any teenagers ages 13 to 17 live in your household? Yes No

D11. Are you or any other members of your household aged 65 or older? Yes No

Thank you for taking this survey! Please return it in the enclosed postage-paid envelope to the independent organization analyzing the results at: National Research Center, Inc.; PO Box 549; Belle Mead, NJ 08502



APPENDIX C: QUESTIONNAIRE SUMMARY





PARKS, TRAILS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN

Online Questionnaire Summary

October 2013

Prepared by:



MIG, Inc.
815 SW 2nd Avenue #200
Portland, Oregon 97204
503.297.1005
www.migcom.com

A. INTRODUCTION

In Spring 2013, El Dorado County and the City of South Lake Tahoe partnered to create a new *Parks, Trails and Recreation Master Plan* for the South Shore. The project area includes the City of South Lake Tahoe, the communities of Meyers and Meek's Bay, and the Tahoe Basin area of El Dorado County. This plan will provide direction for enhancing recreation opportunities for residents and visitors by improving City and County parks, recreation facilities, trails, events and programs.

As part of this planning process, the project team designed an online survey to collect community feedback on parks visitation, community priorities and tradeoffs for parks and recreation facilities and programs. The questionnaire was available on both City and County websites from August 20 through October 6, 2013. Its launch was coordinated with other outreach events, including a focus group meeting and two intercept events, so that participants could help publicize the questionnaire. As a joint effort between the City and County, staff and Master Plan Advisory Committee (MPAC) members further publicized the questionnaire to maximize responses from City residents, County residents and visitors to the area. Outreach included emails to sports leagues and special interest recreation groups and web link cards distributed at recreation and tourism businesses, as well as community centers, trailheads and the Explore Tahoe Visitor Center. In addition, the questionnaire link was included in an Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority (LTVA) newsletter distributed to 46,000 contacts.

A total of 885 people participated in the questionnaire. Not everyone provided an answer to every question, and so response levels are reported based on the total number of participants who responded to the individual questions.

This report is organized into the following three sections:

- A. Demographics;
- B. Key Findings; and
- C. Responses by Question.

In addition, 75 pages of write-in comments were collected in response to open-ended questions in the online questionnaire. These responses appear in a memo under a separate cover. All questionnaire findings will be combined with other outreach results to assess community needs for parks, trails, and recreation services.

B. PARTICIPANT DEMOGRAPHICS

This online questionnaire was open to all respondents and designed to encourage participation from as many people as possible. In other words, results do not reflect participation of a random or representative sample of the population. However, comments due tend to reflect the insights of people who are most interested in parks and recreation in the community. To understand who these people are, the questionnaire included a number of demographic questions, resulting in the following profile:

- Over fifty percent of question respondents (309 individuals) live in the City of South Lake Tahoe. Approximately 20 percent live in Meyers or Meek's Bay, ten percent live nearby in El Dorado County, and 6 percent live nearby in Douglas County, Nevada. Another 10 percent were not from the area, but were visitors who took the time to respond.
- Despite efforts to reach area visitors (including an announcement in the Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority newsletter sent to 46,000 people), only 61 participants (10 percent of respondents) identified themselves as visitors to the area. Of those, 66 percent stated that they visit during any season, while 41 percent typically visit in the summer and 11 percent typically visit in the winter. In addition, nearly 50 percent indicated that they visit several times a year, and another 15 percent noted that they visit frequently, because they have a vacation home, condo, or timeshare here.
- Adults aged 25-54 account for nearly 72 percent of participants who provided information regarding their age. Twenty-two percent identified themselves as between ages 25 and 34, and 18 percent between 55 and 64.
- Almost one-half (47.5%) of all respondents have children living in their homes.
- Eighty-six percent of respondents identified themselves as Caucasian, compared to 74 percent of the total City of Lake Tahoe population. Only 5.5 percent of questionnaire participants identified themselves as Hispanic or Latino. In comparison, nearly one-third (31%) of all City residents are Hispanic or Latino.¹
- Females responded to the questionnaire at a higher rate than males (56 percent of respondents were female, compared to 44 percent of males).

¹ Note: To reach more youth and Hispanic/Latino respondents, the City of South Lake Tahoe is working with the Lake Tahoe Unified School District to distribute a shorter questionnaire available in English and Spanish.

C. KEY FINDINGS

Key questionnaire findings are as follows:

- **Value of parks and recreation:** Nearly 95 percent of people noted that parks and recreation are very or extremely important to the quality of life in the South Shore area.
- **Benefits of parks and recreation:** According to respondents, the most important benefits of parks and recreation in priority order include:
 - Provide opportunities to enjoy nature/outdoors (72.1%)
 - Improve health, wellness and fitness (55.9%)
 - Strengthen families, neighborhoods and our community (40.2%)
 - Protect our natural environment (37.0%)
- **Low ratings for quality of facilities and services:** Over fifty percent of respondents rated the City and County's recreation facilities, programs, and availability of information about recreation opportunities as only "fair" or "poor" (see question #3 in Section D). Forty-three percent of respondents rated overall quality of services as "fair" or "poor"; 46 percent gave parks this same rating. Despite the national renown for its outdoor recreation opportunities, only 4 to 8 percent of respondents rated the quality of parks, facilities, programs, information and services as "excellent." While 47 percent of participants rated the overall quality of park and recreation services provided by the City and County as "good," these scores are much lower than typically reported in recreation-oriented communities.
- **Most frequently visited parks and facilities:** Lakeview Commons, Bijou Park and Regan Beach stand out as the most frequently visited parks and facilities noted in open-ended, write-in responses. Beaches, trails, sports fields, and even the Kahle Community Center were also noted frequently.
- **Visitation:** Because of the variety and numbers of recreation opportunities in the area, few individual sites are visited frequently by respondents (see question #4 in Section D). However, 37 percent of respondents reported visiting U.S. Forest Service (USFS) trails and 20 percent reported visiting Lakeview Commons at El Dorado Beach at least once a week. Lakeview Commons also ranked highest as far as parks and facilities visited a couple of times per month (USFS trails and State Parks in the area ranked a close second and third, respectively). This is consistent with trends nationwide, where trails and large multi-use parks are most popular.

- **Barriers to visitation:** Top reasons for not visiting South Shore parks include crowds or lack of parking (26% of question respondents), inability to walk or bike there safely (24%), lack of time (25%), and lack of available facilities (22%). One-fifth of question respondents stated that lack of knowledge or information about park location or availability prevents them from visiting.
- **Needed parks:** According to results, over 50 percent of respondents believe parks with protected natural areas and outdoor recreation opportunities are most needed in the South Shore area. Only 23 to 27 percent of respondents noted needs for other types of parks in this priority order: neighborhood parks, community parks in the city, regional parks for tourists and residents, and community parks outside the city.
- **Needed facilities and amenities:** From a list of 11 different types of amenities and facilities, trails and pathways were noted by 46 percent of respondents as the types facilities most needed in the South Shore area. A bike park, a large amphitheatre or event venue, and facilities providing additional access to water also rate highly. Only 21 percent of respondents indicated that a new field house was needed.
- **Trails needed for park access and connectivity:** More than 75 percent of respondents indicated that more trails are needed. Surprisingly, the top priorities for trail development are trails that enhance connectivity and access. The top two reasons to develop more trails include: To make it easier to walk or bike to other destinations, e.g., school, work, grocery store, etc. (63.1% of respondents) and to make it easier to walk or bike to parks and recreation facilities (42.4% of respondents).
- **Natural resource protection balance with recreation:** When asked what role parks and recreation departments should play in protecting natural areas, nearly 70 percent of respondents stated that accessible natural areas should be acquired to both protect resources and provide outdoor recreation opportunities. Another 56 percent agreed that recreation facilities should be designed to carefully to minimize impacts to natural resources. In comparison, only 4 percent of respondent favored acquisition of natural areas with not public access.
- **Satisfactory programs, classes and events:** Forty percent of respondents rate the availability and variety of recreation classes and programs provided in the South Shore area as “satisfactory.” Only 17 percent rate them as either “excellent” or “very good”. Twenty-five percent are “not sure”.
- **Current participation in programs and events.** Most respondents and/or family members (53%) currently take advantage of the variety of community events offered in the area. Another 40 percent participate in fitness or health and wellness classes,

- 33 percent participate in small watercraft sports (sailboats, canoes, paddleboats, sailboards, etc.), and 26 percent in field sports.
- **Program/event space needs:** When asked which programs, classes or events respondents would participate in if better facilities and more programs were available, top answers included 1) fitness or health and wellness classes (38%); 2) community events (33%); and 3) environmental education and nature programs (31%). At 30 percent, “personal enrichments, certification or skill-building classes” also ranked among top responses.
 - **Funding options:** Over 60 percent of question respondents support the implementation of user fees to help bridge gaps in funding for parks and recreation. Of that group, 73 percent believe that visitors should be required to pay more than residents. On the other hand, only 26.5 percent of people thought that a tax measure should be pursued, which is only slightly higher than the number of people favoring business sponsorships (26.1 %) and volunteer efforts (23.8%) to support new projects.
 - **Support for new field house:** Over 72 percent expressed some level of support for building a new field house (35% strongly supporting and 37% somewhat supporting), compared to 17 percent who expressed some level of opposition and 10 percent who chose “don’t know.” In terms of overarching priorities, a field house is not as highly supported as other types of facilities.
 - **Spending priorities:** Top spending priorities include expanding the existing trail network (44%) and improving and maintaining the condition of existing parks and facilities (43% of respondents). “Adding more recreation facilities in existing parks” was selected by 20 percent of respondents, and investing in new big facilities (such as a field house) was supported by just 17.5 percent of respondents.

D. RESPONSES BY QUESTION

This section presents tables summarizing responses to each question. All open-ended comments and “other” question responses are available under separate cover.

1. How important are parks, recreation, trails programs and special events to our quality of life?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Extremely important	497	74.5%
Very important	136	20.4%
Moderately important	30	4.5%
Slightly important	4	0.6%
Not at all important	0	0.0%
No opinion	0	0.0%
<i>Total number of respondents</i>	<i>667</i>	<i>100.0%</i>

2. Which of the following benefits of parks, recreation and trails are most important to you? Choose three.

Answer	Count	Percentage
Provide opportunities to enjoy nature/outdoors	492	72.1%
Improve health, wellness and fitness	381	55.9%
Strengthen families, neighborhoods and our community	274	40.2%
Protect our natural environment	252	37.0%
Support youth development	159	23.3%
Promote South Tahoe as a tourist destination	140	20.5%
Provide special events and social opportunities	131	19.2%
Provide opportunities to learn new things	31	4.5%
Attract residents and businesses	72	10.6%
<i>Total number of respondents</i>	<i>682</i>	<i>100.0%</i>

3. Please rate the quality of each of the following provided by the City of South Lake Tahoe and El Dorado County as they relate to parks and recreation.

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Don't Know	<i>Total number of respondents</i>
Overall quality of services	6.1%	46.7%	36.4%	6.2%	4.5%	642
Recreation Facilities	6.2%	39.9%	38.7%	11.4%	3.7%	641
Programs	4.7%	31.2%	40.5%	12.2%	11.4%	597
Parks	8.1%	43.7%	33.6%	11.9%	2.7%	639
Availability of information about recreation opportunities	6.3%	29.5%	39.4%	20.2%	4.6%	630

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4. How frequently have you visited the following parks and facilities over the past year?

	At least once a week	A couple of times per month	Every few months	Once or twice a year	Never	Total number of respondents
Sports fields in the Tahoe area	12.4%	13.1%	17.7%	27.0%	29.7%	603
Tahoe Recreation and Swim Complex	11.0%	10.6%	18.2%	31.6%	28.6%	611
South Tahoe Ice Arena	3.6%	2.5%	12.5%	36.5%	44.9%	606
Bijou Community Park	10.6%	16.6%	28.6%	26.7%	17.6%	615
Lakeview Commons at El Dorado Beach	20.0%	28.4%	22.7%	16.5%	12.5%	631
Regan Beach	12.1%	19.1%	24.0%	28.9%	16.0%	613
Explore Tahoe Visitor Center	1.3%	2.3%	10.7%	32.8%	52.8%	600
Campground by the Lake	1.0%	1.3%	6.6%	19.4%	71.7%	593
Tahoe Paradise Park	5.4%	6.9%	13.0%	27.8%	46.9%	576
Van Sickle Park	4.3%	10.3%	20.0%	29.7%	35.7%	585
Kahle Community Center	7.3%	10.8%	16.6%	30.1%	35.3%	592
State Parks in this area (Sugar Pine Point, Bliss, Emerald Bay and Washoe Meadows State Parks)	9.0%	26.5%	28.8%	30.4%	5.4%	635
USFS trails in this area	36.8%	27.9%	17.7%	14.2%	3.4%	639
USFS campgrounds in this area	2.2%	8.2%	17.1%	37.6%	34.9%	598

6. What keeps you from visiting South Shore parks more often? Check any that apply.

Answer	Count	Percentage
Too crowded/not enough parking	180	26.4%
No time available	168	24.6%
I can't walk or bike there safely	162	23.8%
Lack of facilities	147	21.6%
Don't know where they are/don't know what's available	136	19.9%
Other	115	16.9%
Poorly maintained	108	15.8%
I don't live in the area	85	12.5%
Not interested	45	6.6%
I don't have transportation	21	3.1%
Feel unsafe	18	2.6%
I am physically unable to participate	10	1.5%
<i>Total number of respondents</i>	<i>682</i>	<i>100.0%</i>

7. Which of the following type of parks are needed in the South Shore area?

Check all that apply.

Answer	Count	Percentage
Parks with protected natural areas and outdoor recreation opportunities	343	50.3%
More neighborhood parks in my area	181	26.5%
A community park to serve city residents (located in the city)	178	26.1%
A special use park to serve tourists and the entire region	171	25.1%
A community park to serve County residents (located outside the city)	158	23.2%
Other	142	20.8%
No more parks are needed	46	6.7%
<i>Total number of respondents</i>	<i>682</i>	<i>100.0%</i>

Note: Common “other” responses include a bike park, bike paths and trails, a skatepark, and dog-friendly parks and beaches.

8. Which of the following recreation facilities are most needed in the South Shore area? Choose up to three.

Answer	Count	Percentage
More trails and pathways	315	46.2%
Bike park	241	35.3%
Large amphitheater or event venue	208	30.5%
Water access (for swimming, fishing, tubing, rafting, etc.)	207	30.4%
Field house/recreation center for indoor sports and programs	145	21.3%
Splash park	101	14.8%
Other	97	14.2%

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Answer	Count	Percentage
Playgrounds	96	14.1%
Picnic shelters and pavilions	89	13.0%
Regional sports field complex	67	9.8%
Sport fields	56	8.2%
None are needed	10	1.5%
<i>Total number of respondents</i>	<i>682</i>	<i>100.0%</i>

9. Are more trails needed in the South Shore area?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Yes	453	75.9%
No	80	13.4%
No opinion	64	10.7%
<i>Total number of respondents</i>	<i>597</i>	<i>100.0%</i>

9A. What is the primary reason to develop more trails in the South Shore area?

Choose two.

Answer	Count	Percentage
Make it easier to walk or bike to other destinations (e.g., school, work, grocery store, etc.)	286	63.1%
Make it easier to walk or bike to parks and recreation facilities	192	42.4%
Provide opportunities for recreation and leisure	140	30.9%
Provide opportunities to exercise	119	26.3%
Provide opportunities to experience nature	118	26.0%
<i>Total number of respondents</i>	<i>453</i>	<i>100.0%</i>

10. How would you rate the importance of protecting natural areas?

Answer	Count	Percentage
5 Very Important	465	73.1%
4	75	11.8%
3 Important	74	11.6%
2	16	2.5%
1 Not Important	6	0.9%
Don't Know	0	0.0%
<i>Total number of respondents</i>	<i>636</i>	<i>100.0%</i>

11. What role should parks and recreation play in protecting natural areas?

Choose two.

Answer	Count	Percentage
Acquire natural areas for resource protection and outdoor recreation (e.g., hiking, mountain biking, camping, wildlife watching)	466	68.3%
Design recreation facilities in parks carefully to minimize impacts to natural resources	384	56.3%
Acquire natural areas for resource protection and environmental education	195	28.6%
Acquire natural areas with no public access for preservation	28	4.1%
No role	19	2.8%
<i>Total number of respondents</i>	<i>682</i>	<i>100.0%</i>

12. How would you rate the variety and availability of recreation classes and programs provided in the South Shore area?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Satisfactory. There are some opportunities to do some of the recreation classes and programs I enjoy.	223	40.4%
Not sure. I don't know what is offered.	138	25.0%
Not very good. There are a few opportunities to do a few of the recreation classes and programs I enjoy.	83	15.0%
Very Good. There are several opportunities to do a lot of the recreation classes and programs I enjoy.	76	13.8%
Excellent. There are many opportunities to do all or most of the recreation classes and programs I enjoy.	20	3.6%
Totally inadequate. There are no opportunities to do any of the recreation classes and programs I enjoy.	12	2.2%
<i>Total number of respondents</i>	<i>552</i>	<i>100.0%</i>

13. What types of recreation programs, classes, or events do you or family members currently participate in? Check all that apply.

Answer	Count	Percentage
Community events (such as Lake in the Sky Air Show, Race the Lake of the Sky SUP, Live at Lakeview Summer Concerts, etc.)	330	53.1%
Fitness or health and wellness classes (aerobics, yoga, weight training, etc.)	247	39.8%
Small watercraft sports (sailboats, canoes, paddleboats, sailboards, etc.)	203	32.7%
Field sports (baseball, softball, soccer, football, etc.)	163	26.2%
Aquatics lessons, programs, water fitness, swim team	150	24.2%
Environmental education and nature programs	145	23.3%
Drop-in fitness (weights, exercise machines, etc.)	131	21.1%
Arts, dance and culture programs	118	19.0%
Personal enrichment, certifications or skill-building classes	98	15.8%
Volunteer programs	98	15.8%
Ice skating or hockey	92	14.8%
Children and teen summer camps	92	14.8%
Golf programs or events	80	12.9%
Children and youth preschool or afterschool programs	80	12.9%
Indoor court sports (basketball, pickleball, racquetball, indoor soccer, etc.)	62	10.0%
Other	62	10.0%
Senior programs, services and trips	45	7.2%
<i>Total number of respondents</i>	<i>621</i>	<i>100.0%</i>

14. Which recreation programs, classes, or events would you participate in if better facilities and more programs were available? Check all that apply.

Answer	Count	Percentage
Fitness or health and wellness classes (aerobics, yoga, weight training, etc.)	235	37.8%
Community events (such as Lake in the Sky Air Show, Race the Lake of the Sky SUP, Live at Lakeview Summer Concerts, etc.)	206	33.2%
Environmental education and nature programs	192	30.9%
Personal enrichment, certifications or skill-building classes	185	29.8%
Drop-in fitness (weights, exercise machines, etc.)	160	25.8%
Arts, dance and culture programs	154	24.8%
Small watercraft sports (sailboats, canoes, paddleboats, sailboards, etc.)	151	24.3%
Aquatics lessons, programs, water fitness, swim team	141	22.7%
Indoor court sports (basketball, pickleball, racquetball, indoor soccer, etc.)	100	16.1%
Volunteer programs	95	15.3%
Field sports (baseball, softball, soccer, football, etc.)	91	14.7%
Golf programs or events	81	13.0%
Children and teen summer camps	73	11.8%
Children and youth preschool or afterschool programs	68	11.0%
Other	62	10.0%
Ice skating or hockey	58	9.3%
Senior programs, services and trips	51	8.2%
<i>Total number of respondents</i>	<i>621</i>	<i>100.0%</i>

15. Because of funding limitations, the City and County currently struggle to staff and maintain their parks and recreation facilities. How do you think park maintenance, programs, and new parks and facilities should be funded? Select your top two answers.

Answer	Count	Percentage
User fees (visitors pay more than residents)	269	44.8%
A tax measure (with money to take care of new and existing parks)	159	26.5%
Sponsorships by local businesses	157	26.1%
Volunteer efforts	143	23.8%
A bond measure (with money to build new things)	131	21.8%
Efforts by non-profit groups	105	17.5%
User fees (same price for everyone)	102	17.0%
Don't know	31	5.2%
<i>Total number of respondents</i>	<i>601</i>	<i>100.0%</i>

16. To what extent would you support or oppose building a new stand-alone field house or recreation center for indoor sports and programs?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Somewhat support	211	37.1%
Strongly support	201	35.4%
Somewhat oppose	59	10.4%
Don't know	58	10.2%
Strongly oppose	39	6.9%
<i>Total number of respondents</i>	<i>568</i>	<i>100.0%</i>

17. Tell us how you would spend money if you were in charge! What are your top two priorities? Choose two.

Answer	Count	Percentage
Expand the trail network	262	43.6%
Improve maintenance and condition of existing parks & facilities	256	42.6%
Add more recreation facilities in existing parks	122	20.3%
Offer more programs, events and activities	105	17.5%
Invest in big facilities that support tourism and the local economy	105	17.5%
Other	80	13.3%
Protect more natural areas	76	12.6%
Provide more information about parks and recreation opportunities	69	11.5%
Build new parks	61	10.1%
<i>Total number of respondents</i>	<i>601</i>	<i>100.0%</i>

19. What is your age?

Answer	Count	Percentage
35-44	163	27.6%
45-54	134	22.7%
25-34	129	21.8%
55-64	108	18.3%
65+	40	6.8%
18-24	12	2.0%
Under 18	5	0.8%
<i>Total number of respondents</i>	591	100.0%

20. What is your gender?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Female (F)	324	55.7%
Male (M)	258	44.3%
<i>Total number of respondents</i>	582	100.0%

21. Do you live in, work in, or visit the South Shore area?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Live in the City of South Lake Tahoe	309	52.2%
Live in Meyers or Meek's Bay	117	19.8%
Live nearby in El Dorado County	62	10.5%
Visit the South Lake Tahoe area	61	10.3%
Live nearby in Douglas County, Nevada	38	6.4%
Work in the South Shore area, but do not live here	5	0.8%
<i>Total number of respondents</i>	592	100.0%

21a. How many years have you lived in the South Shore area?

Answer	Count	Percentage
More than 20 years	180	35.4%
11-20 years	132	25.9%
6-10 years	91	17.9%
2-5 years	57	11.2%
Less than 2 years	49	9.6%
<i>Total number of respondents</i>	509	100.0%

21b. How often do you visit the South Lake Tahoe area?

Answer	Count	Percentage
Several times a year	30	49.2%
Once a month or so	13	21.3%
Once a year or so	9	14.8%
Frequently, because we have a vacation home, condo, or timeshare here	9	14.8%
Have only been there once	0	0.0%
Every 3-5 years or so	0	0.0%
<i>Total number of respondents</i>	61	100.0%

21c. When do you typically visit? Check all that apply.

Answer	Count	Percentage
Any season	40	65.6%
Summer	25	41.0%
Winter	7	11.5%
Other	4	6.6%
<i>Total number of respondents</i>	61	100.0%

22. Do any children or youth live in your household? Check all that apply.

Answer	Count	Percentage
No, but I still like to play!	279	46.7%
There are no children in my home.	107	17.9%
Yes, children ages 6 to 12	102	17.1%
Yes, children under age 6	101	16.9%
Yes, teens ages 13 to 17	81	13.5%
<i>Total number of respondents</i>	598	100.0%

23. How do you describe yourself? Check all that apply.

Answer	Count	Percentage
White	517	86.5%
Hispanic or Latino	33	5.5%
Other	24	4.0%
Asian, Asian Indian or Pacific Islander	17	2.8%
American Indian or Alaskan Native	6	1.0%
Black or African American	3	0.5%
<i>Total number of respondents</i>	598	100.0%



APPENDIX D: PROJECT LIST



Table D-1: Capital and Non-Capital Project List

Reference #	PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	CAPITAL PROJECTS							STAFFING & OPERATIONS REQUIREMENT		
			Acquisition	Planning ¹	Development	Renovation / Restoration	Added Facility	Other	Non-capital Project	Maintenance	Management/Admin.	Programming
A	Regional Coordination and Collaboration											
A.1	Recreation consortium											
A.1.a	Consortium interest	Determine interest in a bi-state multi-jurisdictional consortium; discuss expectations.								•		✓
A.1.b	Identified services	Identify services to be provided by the consortium.								•		✓
A.1.c	Participation model / organization	Identify funding and staffing (if any); formalize roles and the governing or advisory model; schedule meetings.								•		✓
A.1.d	Service implementation	Establish an allowance and implement agreed-upon consortium functions and services.								•		✓
A.1.e	Performance measures	Identify measures to track consortium performance.								•		✓
A.2	Visitor services and information											
A.2.a	Consortium website	Develop a shared website for recreation information; an online facility reservation system; and online information about event venues, services and processes.								•		✓
A.2.b	Consolidated information	Consolidate recreation information and provide it in a variety of languages, as well as in easy-to-read travel formats (i.e., brochures, maps, trail guides, websites)								•		✓
A.2.c	Information through technology	Use the Web and mobile applications to provide information such as facility capacity and access information updated in real-time.								•		✓
A.2.d	Mobile application	Make an application that allows sharing of the most up-to-date information about events and activities, facilities, and programs and registration.								•		✓
A.2.e	Self-guided tour	Develop a mobile app to highlight historic or significant recreation areas throughout the South Shore.								•		✓
A.2.f	Wayfinding system	Develop well-designed maps and signs to provide users with the essential information they need to “find their way” to a variety of recreation sites.								•		✓
A.2.g	Information distribution	Distribute information to all major recreation facilities.								•		✓
A.2.h	Visitor center relocation	Consider consolidating or relocating visitor centers to visible areas or “gateway” locations.								•	✓	✓
A.3	Tahoe recreation brand											
A.3.a	Recreation brand development	Work collaboratively with consortium, regional partners and LTVA to re-brand the South Shore.								•		✓
A.3.b	Interpretive material	Create interpretive materials focused on South Shore as a recreation destination, focusing on its cultural and natural heritage.								•		✓
A.3.c	International marketing	Craft a focused marketing approach to reach the international market.								•		✓
	Subtotal											
B	Park and Facility Maintenance, Renovations and Improvements											
B.1	South Lake Tahoe Recreation Area renovation											
B.1.a	Park development and improvements	Develop a front entry, event plaza, thematic playground, small amphitheater, internal pathway system; move the maintenance yard; enhance campground (water/electrical hookups), upgrade restrooms, and provide yurts; upgrade basketball court, shelter; increase parking; provide landscaping.		•		•	•				✓	✓
B.1.b	Recreation & Swim Complex renovation	Provide a state-of-the-art multipurpose, multi-generational recreation, aquatic, senior and visitor center that includes indoor/outdoor aquatic facilities, gymnasium and fitness space, banquet room, specialized activity rooms and senior wellness center.		•		•					✓	✓
B.1.c	Ice Arena upgrades	Work with the ice rink operator and partners to renovate and potentially expand the ice rink.		•		•				•	✓	

Table D-1: Capital and Non-Capital Project List

Reference #	PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	CAPITAL PROJECTS							STAFFING & OPERATIONS REQUIREMENT		
			Acquisition	Planning ¹	Development	Renovation / Restoration	Added Facility	Other	Non-capital Project	Maintenance	Management/Admin.	Programming
C	New Park, Facility and Trail Development											
C.1	Parks and recreation facilities quality, function and sustainability											
C.1.a	Park standards and guidelines update	Amend the City and County's park classifications, acreage guidelines, and associated goals. Focus on parks that serve a large number of users and through partnerships with local recreation providers. Limit the acquisition and development of neighborhood and mini parks.		•						•		✓
C.1.b	Design and development guidelines	Implement customized design and development guidelines that match facilities with park classification, set quality requirements, emphasize public safety and improve ADA access.		•						•		✓
C.1.c	Site master plans	Create site master plans or design concepts prior to large-scale park development or major facility renovation. Consider public input, maintenance and operations needs and expansion of seasonal uses.		•						•		✓
C.1.d	Large facility management	Ensure the right information and expertise is available for the planning, development and management of large revenue-generating facilities through strategic staffing, financial feasibility assessment, and funding strategies.		•						•		✓
C.1.e	Water efficiency program	Implement a water efficiency program in compliance with best practices and State water conservation mandates.		•						•		✓
C.1.f	Sustainability measures/best practices	Incorporate sustainability measures and environmental best practices in park and facility design, development, and improvements.		•						•		✓
C.2	Outdoor events venue development											
C.2.a	Events venue partnership	Consider being an equity partner in the development of an outdoor amphitheater and events venue. Develop a feasibility study; establish partnership; acquire and develop facility.	•	•	•					•		✓
C.3	Off-street trail and bikeway system development											
C.3.a	Trail plan implementation support	Coordinate with other agencies to help implement existing plans for trails and non-motorized transportation, identify and prioritize trail alternatives that build connections to parks and key destinations.	•	•	•					•	✓	✓
	South Tahoe Greenway	Support the CTC in extending the greenway.	•	•	•						✓	
	Sawmill Bike Path extension	Extend the path from Echo View Drive to US 50/State Rout 89 intersection.	•	•	•						✓	
	Tahoe Boulevard Enhancement	Provide trails from Sawmill Road to Viking Road/D Street Intersection	•	•	•						✓	
	Other trail alignments	Support the development of other planned trails.							•		✓	
	Water trails	Work with partners to provide water trails on Lake Tahoe.							•		✓	
	Bike and ped crossing improvements	Improve bicycle and pedestrian crossings at major roadways, considering underpasses, overpasses, and signaled crosswalks at four (4) locations.	•	•	•			•			✓	
	Trailhead development	Identify and develop trailheads (2-3 locations) to minimize unsafe roadside parking and disturbance to local neighborhoods.	•	•	•			•			✓	
C.4	Trail recreation enhancements											
C.4.a	Trail variety	Consider a variety of options to provide trails targeting different skill levels and skill development, including mountain biking, hiking, and snow trails. This may require land acquisition, trail planning and development.	•	•	•						✓	
C.5	Water access improvements											
C.5.a	Water access fund	Establish a dedicated fund for the acquisition, planning and development of waterfront properties; monitor and evaluate acquisition opportunities. Acquire and develop property when feasible to do so.	•	•	•					•	✓	✓

Table D-1: Capital and Non-Capital Project List

Reference #	PROJECT NAME	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	CAPITAL PROJECTS							STAFFING & OPERATIONS REQUIREMENT		
			Acquisition	Planning ¹	Development	Renovation / Restoration	Added Facility	Other	Non-capital Project	Maintenance	Management/Admin.	Programming
E	Operations and Management											
E.1	Staff increase											
E.1.a	City of South Lake Tahoe staffing	Identify and hire the City staff to support Plan implementation.							•		✓	
E.1.b	El Dorado County staffing	Identify and hire County staff to support Plan implementation.							•		✓	
E.2	Tiered maintenance system											
E.2.a	Tiered maintenance classification system	Establish tiered maintenance classifications considering revenue generation, visitation levels, nature value and recreation value.							•		✓	
E.2.b	Funding level target establishment	Identify funding level targets for each classification, as well as a list of tasks and maintenance frequencies.							•		✓	
E.3	Asset preservation and capital replacement program											
E.3.a	Asset preservation and deferred maintenance fund	Establish a fund and schedule to address deferred maintenance and repair and replace old or worn amenities and facilities.							•	•	✓	
E.3.b	Equipment repair and replacement fund	Establish a fund and schedule to repair and replace old or worn equipment.							•	•	✓	
E.3.c	Park capital replacement fund	Establish a fund and schedule to repair and replace old or worn facilities and landscaping.							•	•	✓	
E.3.d	Facility use fees	Include the cost of asset repair and replacement in event and program fees to offset wear and tear and fund regular refreshment/replacement.							•		✓	
E.4	Community built facility proposal and approval process											
E.4.a	Park modification proposal process	Adopt and apply the standardized process for proposing modifications to parks.							•			
E.4.b	MOU development	Identify the roles of the City and proposer in funding and supporting capital development, maintenance, operations, programming and improvements.							•	•	✓	✓
E.4.c	County community-built policies	Determine if the County needs a procedure to approve community-built parks and trails.							•		✓	
E.5	Park and recreation operations business model											
E.5.a	Business plan development	Develop a business plan for park and facility administration, management and operations.		•					•		✓	
	Subtotal											
	Total											

¹ Site master plan, open space management plan, or financial feasibility and market analysis.