



Community Garden Survey Results

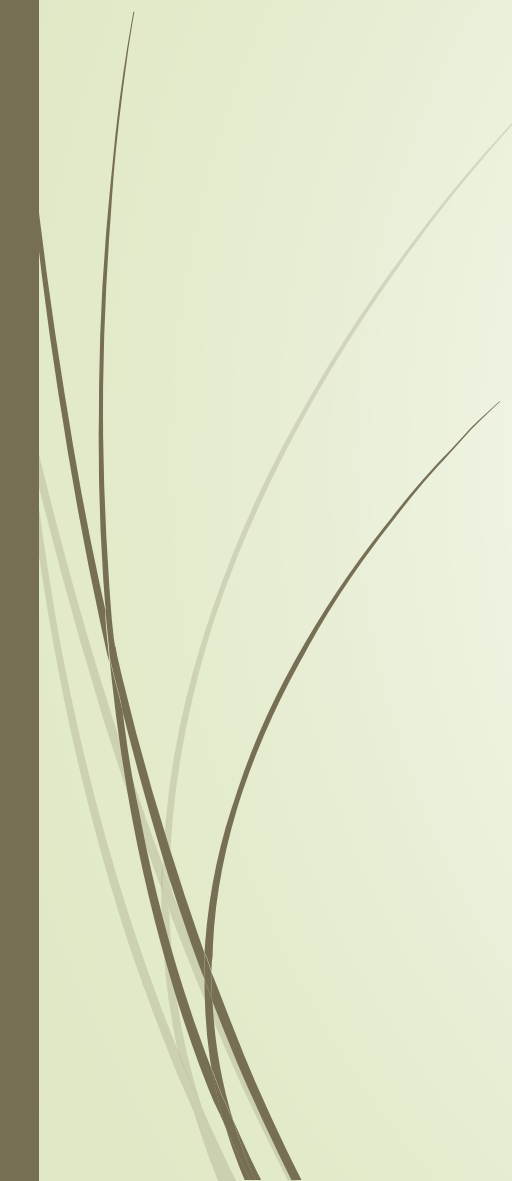
Community Garden Planning Workshop

November 13, 2016

Katherine Muncaster, Volunteer



Outline

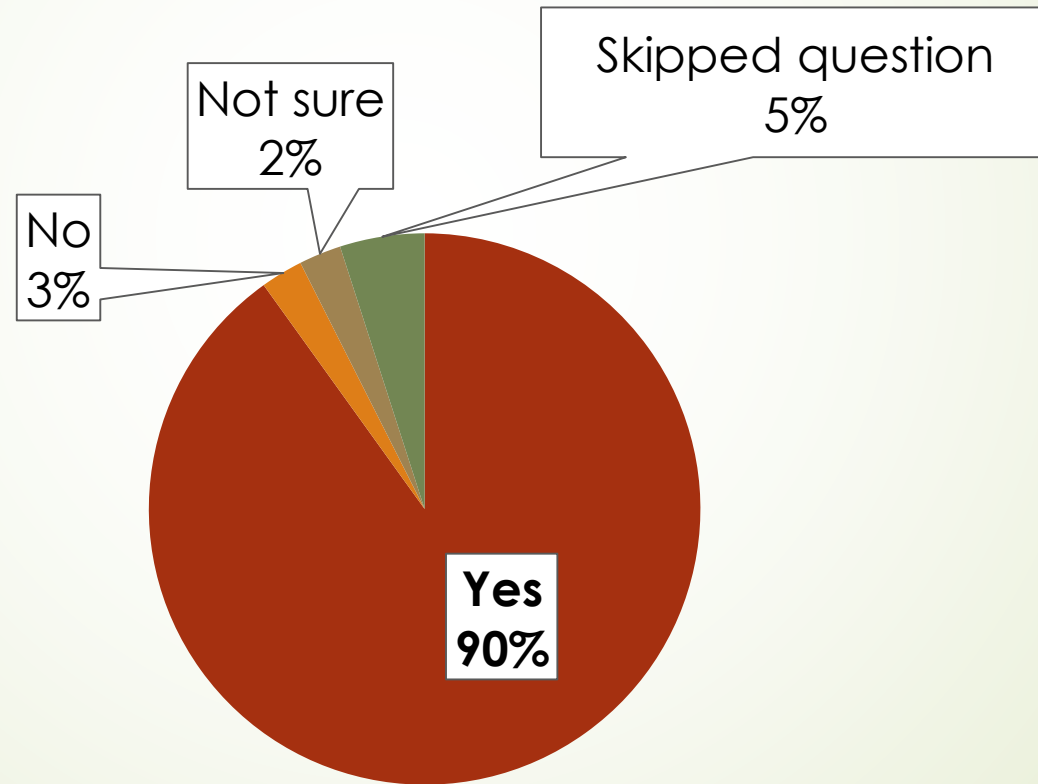
- Survey and respondents
 - Main 3 questions
 - Support level
 - Type of Garden
 - Potential Site
 - Concerns
 - General
 - Site-Specific Concerns
 - Potential involvement
- 



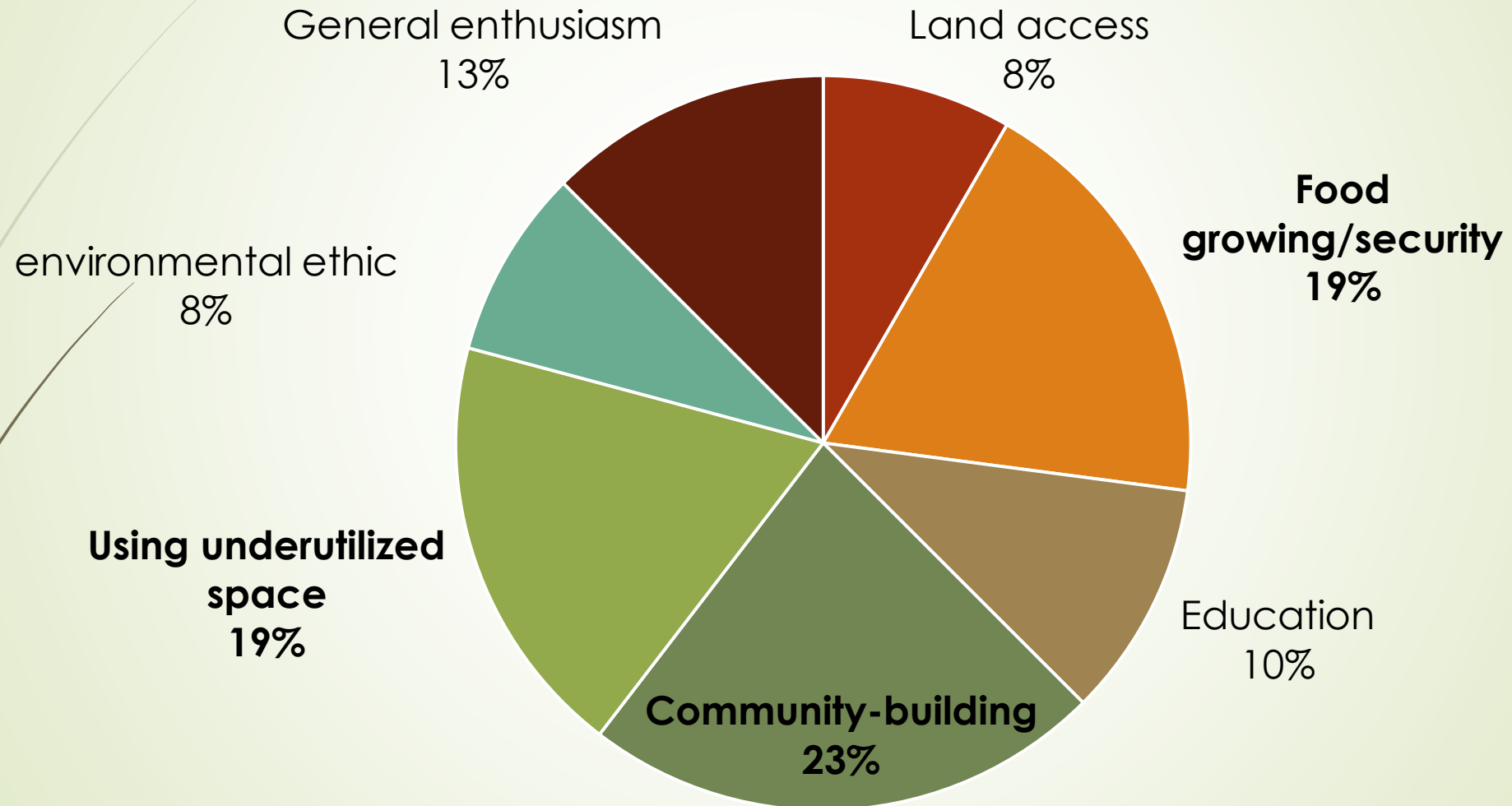
Survey

- ▶ 121 respondents
- ▶ 65% live in Oaklands, 12% work in Oaklands, 22% unknown
- ▶ 26% currently have access to gardening space
- ▶ Gathered May – August
- ▶ Paper survey: at Oaklands Sunset Market table, Haultain Street Party
- ▶ Online survey: spread through email, facebook, OCA e-newsletter, Sunset Market table signup
- ▶ Long version and short version
- ▶ Sunset Market table
 - ▶ Sticker vote on site choice (June-July)
 - ▶ Sticky Board focused on Oaklands Park (August)
- ▶ Also: Early online survey in Winter 2015 (24 respondents)

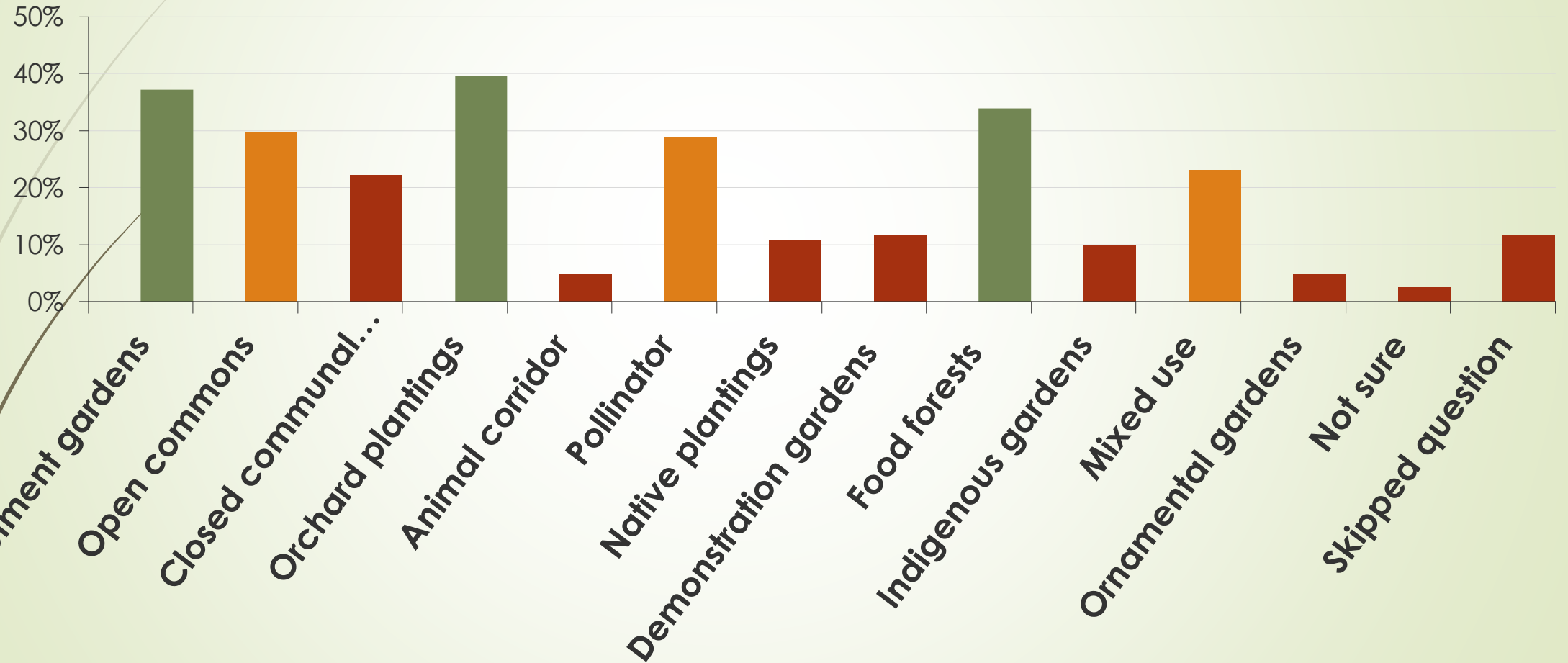
Are you in favour of community gardens on public lands in Oaklands?



Themes in Supportive Comments

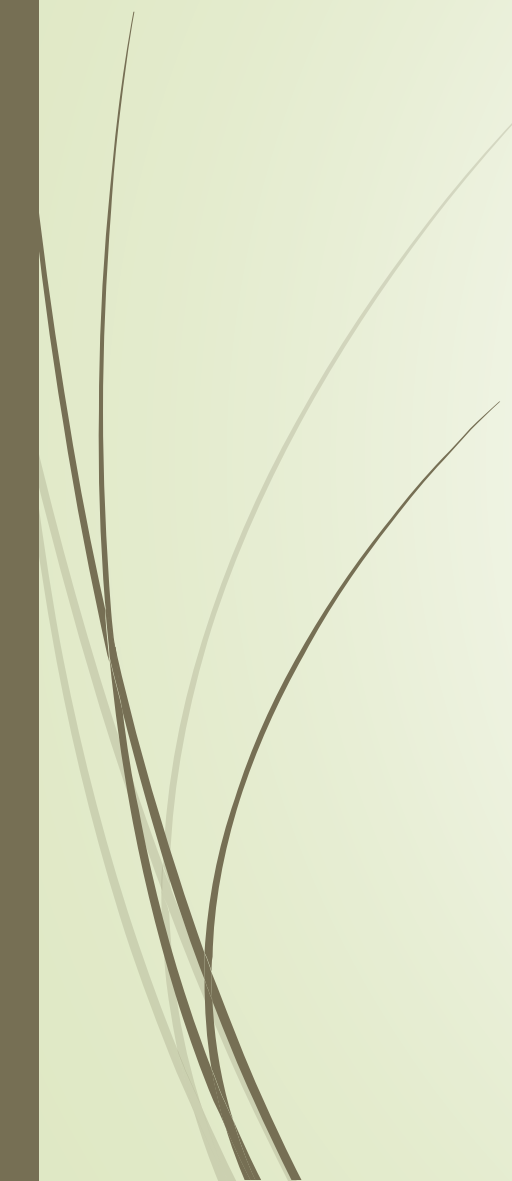


Preferred Garden Type (Top 3 Choices)

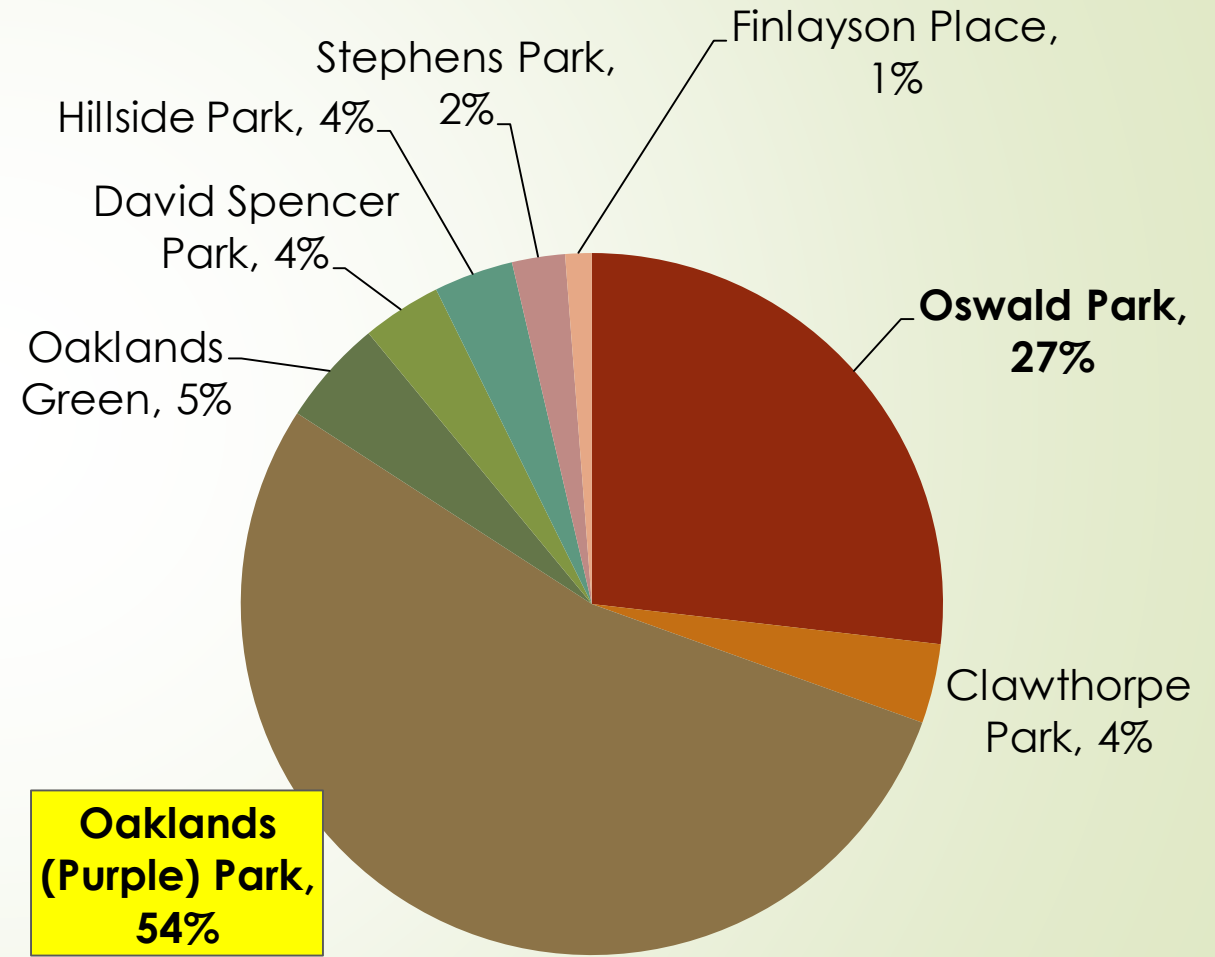
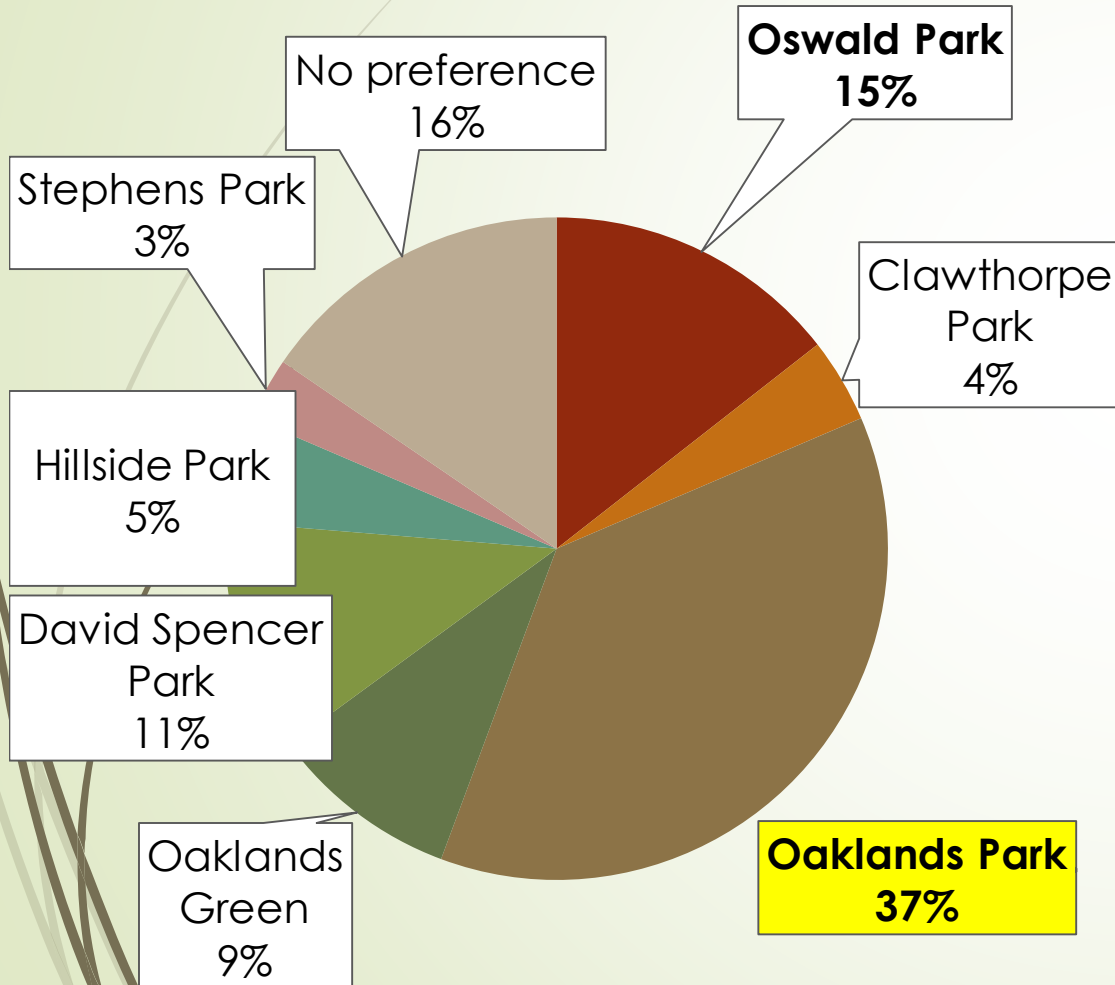




Popular Features (Sticky Board)

- ▶ Beehive
 - ▶ Berry patch
 - ▶ Meditation labyrinth
 - ▶ Living tunnel for kids
 - ▶ Curvy/artistic ferro-cement beds
 - ▶ Driftwood/willow branch art deer fence
 - ▶ Solar-powered fountain
 - ▶ Pond
 - ▶ Fairy garden
- 

Preferred Site for First Garden (Surveys vs Stickers)



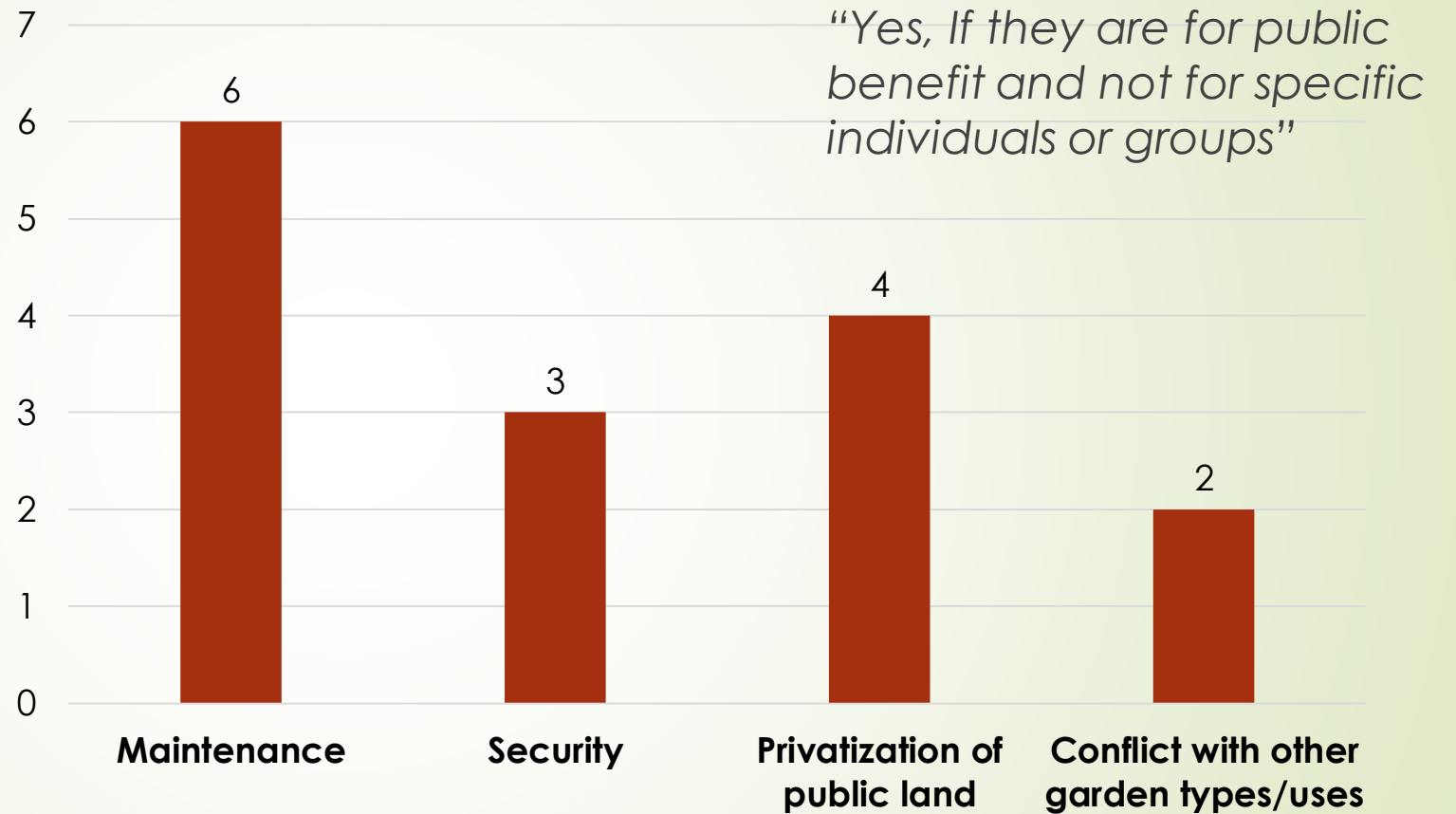


Non-Supportive Responses

- ▶ **3 “no” answers.** None provided explanatory comments.
 - ▶ Elsewhere, one of these respondents gave a preference for ornamental gardens, and another stated opposition to Oaklands Green as the site.
- ▶ **3 “unsure” answers.**
 - ▶ 1 person opposes any allotments on park lands, stating private use should be on marginal (boulevard) land only
 - ▶ 1 person later expressed concerns about maintenance
 - ▶ 1 provided no further detail

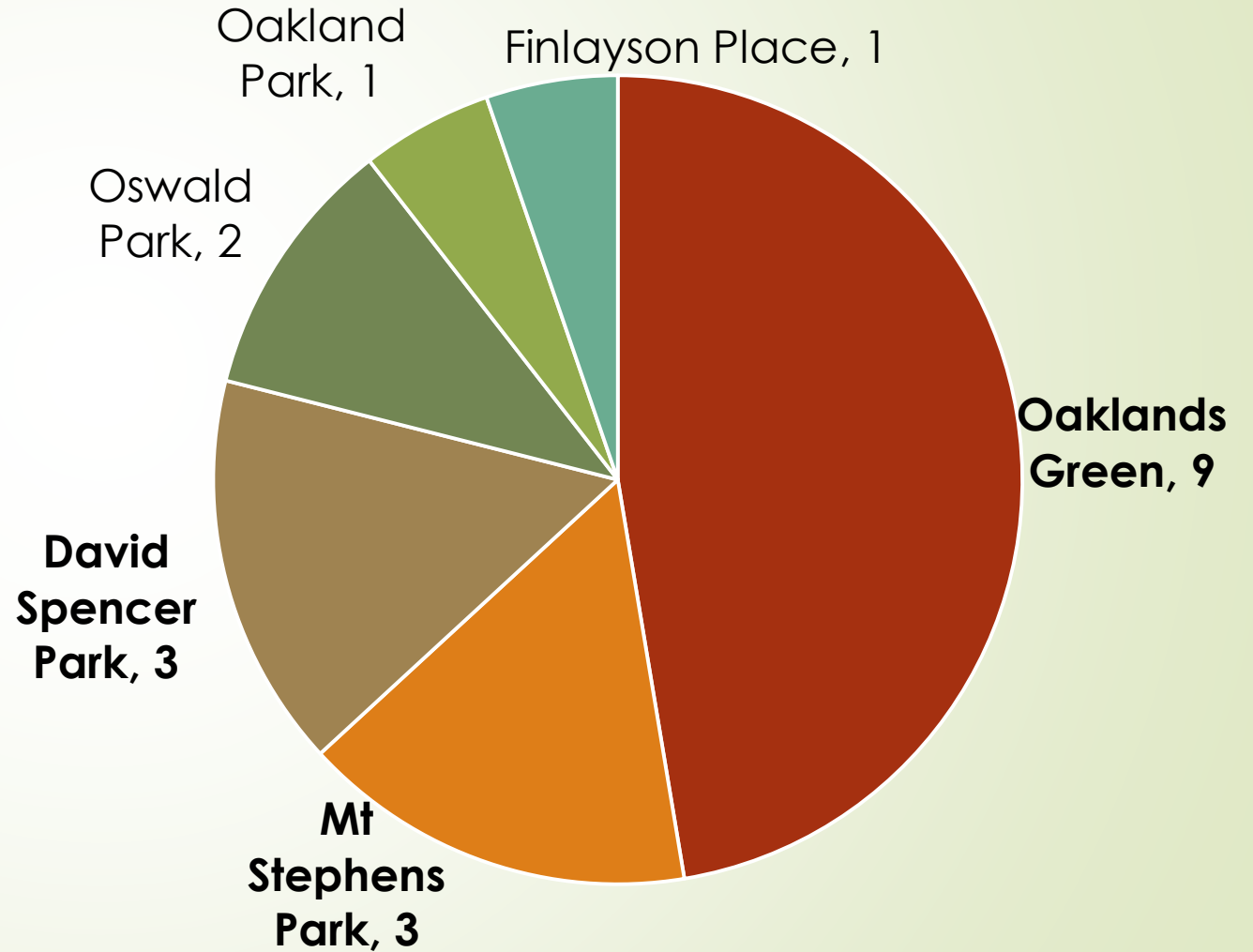
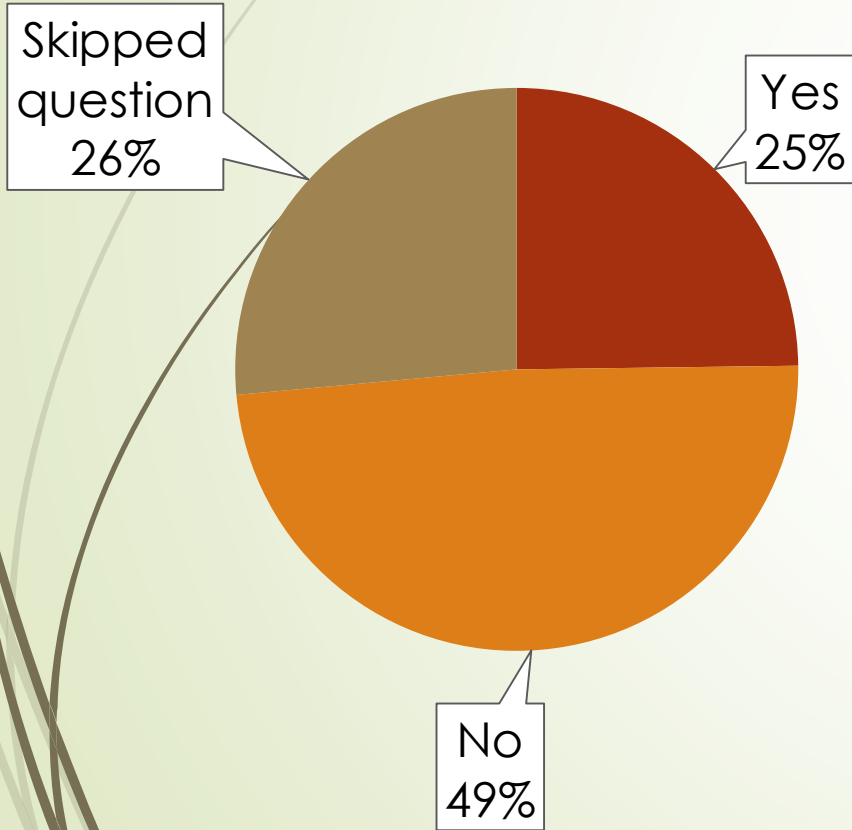
Individuals with Concerns (all Qs)

“long term oversight is absolutely required. A passing 6 month project which turns to weed for the City to restore is unacceptable”



“Main concern with any site is the unwanted target population that any garden could attract.”

Concerns with Potential Sites?



Potential Involvement

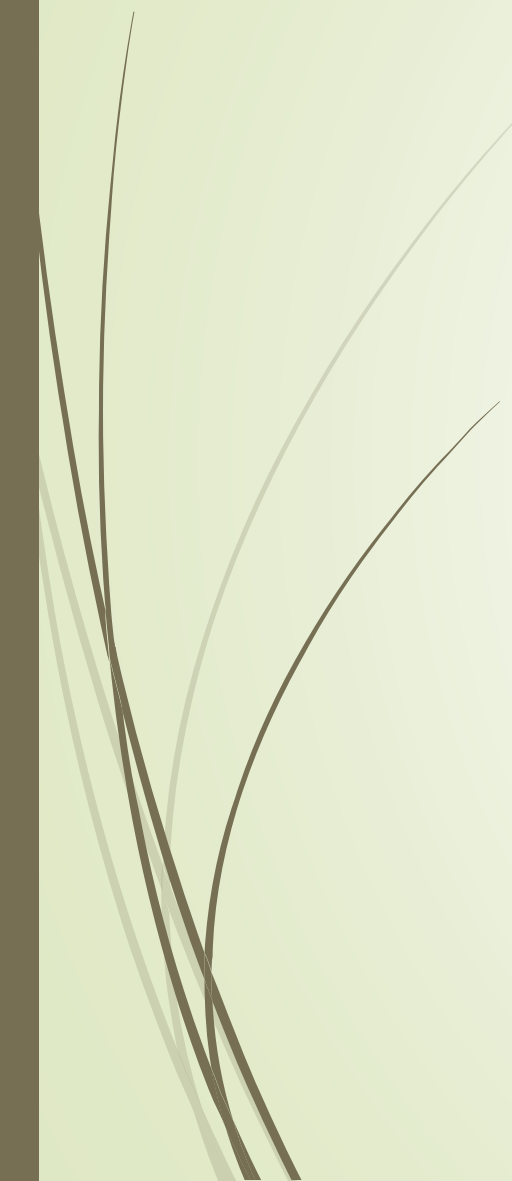
How would you like to be a part of the journey?

(Tick one or more; there's no obligation and lots of opportunity)

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Not able to participate now but keep me informed	27%	33
Help select types of gardens and locations; plan, coordinate, find resources etc.	16%	19
Construct garden spaces: planter boxes, paths, soil moving	20%	24
Dig, plant, water, weed, compost, get my hands in the soil!	25%	30
Harvest: produce, seeds, seedlings, etc.	22%	27
Get on waiting list for a plot, if it is an allotment garden	17%	21
Other (please specify)	13%	16
Skipped question	26%	32
	Total	202



Questions?

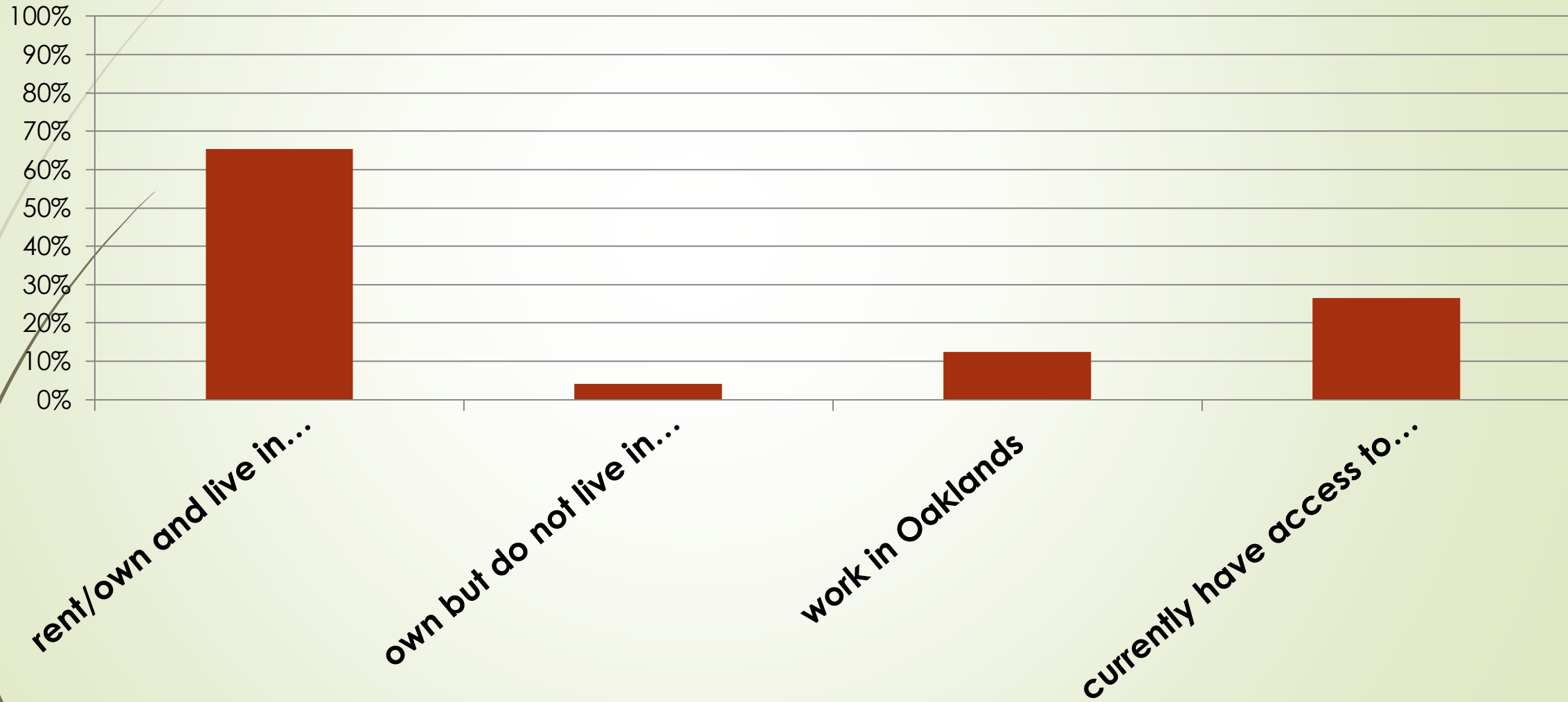
- ▶ For more details on the survey results, request our Summary of Survey Results from Katherine Muncaster
- 



Additional Information

Survey Respondents

Please check all that apply.





Themes in Supportive Comments

- ▶ Land Access: “A lovely idea for people without the place to garden!”
- ▶ Food Growing / Security: “Every city neighborhood needs more community gardens to secure the people's food supply”
- ▶ Education: “great way to teach kids about gardening and how to respect the environment.”
- ▶ Community-building: “They help people meet other members of the community”
- ▶ Using under-utilized space: “I think they add variety to areas, which would otherwise be just grass.”
- ▶ Environmental Ethic: “plants are good ... people together, caring for plants, is a good thing”
- ▶ General enthusiasm: “The more the better!”

Sample Comments: Commons vs Allotments

- ▶ “Allotments in this neighborhood seem **unnecessary** as most residents have access to a yard.”
- ▶ “Want to see **allotments** not commons, to ensure it is taken care of.”
- ▶ “**Communal growing bring people together** more than allotment, although I suspect it is harder to organize and keep running.”
- ▶ “Assigned allotments but a minimum of 4 people per plot so that its not neglected (**cooperative model**). To share, have stand with excess free produce. I belong to the Earthbound community garden and alot of plots are left neglected because people don't have time to tend properly.”
- ▶ “I was a member of a garden which had **individual allotments, but in order to keep your allotment you were expected to help maintain the communal areas** of the garden. I really like this model.”



Sample Site Concerns



- ▶ “Oaklands Green is already a native plant garden; it would be terrible to replace it.”
- ▶ “Not Mt Stephens and Ryan. Great Garry Oaks and alligator lizards.”
- ▶ David Spencer Park “would take away field needs of Oaklands School.”
- ▶ Oswald Park “already very busy”, “off-leash dog area...can dig/uproot plants and urinate on ground-level crops”
- ▶ Oaklands Park “is a sports field – conflicts exist with current use”
- ▶ General:
 - ▶ traffic exhaust
 - ▶ “Some of the other sites aren't central enough--too far from view for people to notice or care. “
 - ▶ “Properly designed, any of the sites would work”



Sticky Board: Support for Features

- ▶ Beehive√√√√√√√√
- ▶ Berry patch√√√√√√√√
- ▶ Meditation labyrinth√√√√√
- ▶ Living tunnel for kids√√√√√
- ▶ Curvy/artistic ferro-cement beds√√√√
- ▶ Driftwood/willow branch art deer fence√√√√
- ▶ Solar-powered fountain√√√√
- ▶ Pond√√√√
- ▶ Fairy garden √√√√
- ▶ Public cut-flower garden√√
- ▶ Foot-acupressure pathway√√
- ▶ Raised beds set out in mandala pattern √√
- ▶ Arbour entrance √
- ▶ Covered area for teaching√