



Findlay and Grant Parks Community Engagement Summary Report

August 2019



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Introduction and Process

The Cincinnati Recreation Commission (CRC) is working with neighbors and community stakeholders in Over the Rhine (OTR) to identify the best way to maximize park and recreation resources in the neighborhood. The Community Building Institute (CBI) is supporting this work by helping CRC staff connect and engage with neighbors and community stakeholders to discuss recreation spaces in the neighborhood. In particular, the engagement has focused on how to reopen Findlay Park as a safe and productive neighborhood asset and how to further enhance Grant Park. What follows are the themes we heard from conversations with hundreds of people who care about these park and recreation resources. The report includes a summary of findings from the five events attend by CBI staff and the additional sessions attended by CRC staff.

Findlay Park was closed in the fall of 2018 because it had become an unsafe park and there was a pattern of use that did not serve the community. The park had become an unsafe place where there was criminal activity, drugs, guns and violence. CRC closed the Park in consultation with Cincinnati Police Department to break the pattern of use in the Park. CRC is committed to working with residents, partners, and stakeholders to reopen Findlay Park so that it better serves the community and remains a positive asset to the community.

Community Engagement Events

Initial Stakeholder Session | OTR Rec Center
Wednesday, April 24th

St. Francis Seraph Ministries | St. Anthony Center
Thursday, May 30th

Rothenberg End of School Event | Rothenberg
Thursday, May 16th

Findlay Market Lunch Hour/ Our Daily Bread
Thursday, May 23rd
Wednesday, June 5th

Grant Park Community Cookout | Grant Park
Thursday, May 16th
Hosted by Friends of Grant Park

Block Party | Grant Park
Saturday, June 8th
Hosted by Christ the King

Dribblethon | Ziegler Park
Saturday, May 18th

Community Workshop | OTR Rec Center
Wednesday, June 12th

Summary of Key Themes and Insights

The following chapter includes a summary of the key insights from the community engagement sessions completed by the Community Building Institute and Cincinnati Recreation Commission staff in May and June of 2019. The following discussion identifies four key themes and then additional insights about potential park amenities and additional overall comments. The summary reflects feedback from OTR residents, those who work in OTR, business owners in OTR and other neighborhood stakeholders.

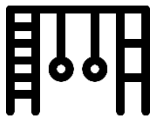
Key Themes



Theme 1 | Safe Space



Theme 2 | Family Friendly



Theme 3 | Kid Friendly



Theme 4 | Welcoming, Shared Public Spaces



Theme 1 | Safe Space

Residents and neighborhood stakeholders overwhelmingly want Findlay Park to be a safe place. People want the Park to be a drug and gun free place that is safe for children and families. The closure and the upcoming reopening of Findlay Park is intended to change the pattern of behavior and eliminate the unsafe and violent behavior that historically was taking place at the park. This approach was generally understood by residents and community stakeholders, however some longtime residents expressed fears about whether or not the new park would really be for them and whether the park would continue to serve lower income residents when it reopens. There were comments about physical changes that might make the park safer; gates, lighting, the ability to establish hours of operation and close the park, and fencing were all discussed. One of the most important ways to promote safety that was discussed was ensuring that there are positive adults in the park and programming to activate the space. People commented that there has to be “ownership” of the park by community residents, partners and CRC staff to ensure negative activity does not take over the park again. There was some discussion about how long the park needs to be closed to ensure the negative pattern of behavior, and the negative image of the place does not return. A consensus about the length of time that the park needs to be closed was not confirmed, however stakeholders recognized the importance of having programming ready to go and at least minimal physical improvements made before attempting to reopen Findlay Park.

Another important part of the discussion around safety is the relationship between the Cincinnati Police Department (CPD) and the community in this space. Residents want the park to be safe. They also want to be treated with respect and particularly for young people to have positive encounters with the police in the parks. When people talked about Grant Park in terms of safety they were more concerned with what was happening around the park, while at Findlay the concerns were about what was going on in the park.

The following points were identified by the many people who participated in this process specific to improving safety:

- Park needs to be safe and drug free (No drugs or alcohol)
- There should be a police presence (not overbearing – but there)
 - Bike police presence
 - Better police/community relations
- Prevent loitering and have regular park security
- End the violence
- Cameras and surveillance
- There should be better/more lighting
- Fence and gates to close park at night
- Park should be open so people have somewhere to go when trouble starts
- There should be positive adults and programming in the park
- Parents need to look after their kids
- People need to get along

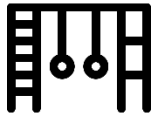


Theme 2 | Family Friendly

There was a consensus that Findlay Park and Grant Park should be designed with family use in mind and that children should be the priority. People talked about this in several different ways. They identified improvements that would support families; table and chairs, shelters, more landscaping, trees and flowers. There was also a call for restrooms and improvements that would allow people to host family celebrations there (electricity, water, food, lighting, a stage). Long- term OTR residents frequently mentioned that the parks needed to be a place for hosting family gatherings, socializing with friends and family, and barbeques. When asked to share positive memories of the parks, these stories most often included using the parks as a common space to gather with family and friends. There was conversation about ensuring that adults are with their children and there are enough benches and places for parents to be comfortable while they are watching their children.

The following points were identified specific to making the parks family friendly:

- Places for adults to sit and watch their children
- Bathrooms and water fountains
- Shade and trees
- Grills and tables
- Event and concert spaces
- Places to have family parties and cook outs
- Food for sale
- Places to have/serve food
- Flowers, trees, and nice plants
- Movie nights
- Education and wellness programming



Theme 3 | Kid Friendly

There were many comments from children and their families about what they might like in a reopened park. The first thing most people said was either swings, play equipment, or basketball courts. There were also comments about organized sports for children. Football, basketball, soccer, and baseball were all mentioned. Organized sports were talked about as an opportunity for children to be on a team and be part of a peer group, learning teamwork while also connecting with positive adult mentors.

People talked about making sure there were opportunities for children of all ages. The role of teens in the community could be enhanced and older children could play leadership roles with younger children in day camp settings, on organized teams, and as other kinds of group leaders in programmed space. Residents also talked about opportunities for teen employment related to the parks. Most people would look to the CRC staff to help coordinate this kind of activity.

When asked about Grant Park and what additions needed to be made, stakeholders talked about it in much the same way as they thought about Findlay. They are looking for a safe, family and kid-centric environment with restrooms, water, electricity and the ability to host community events. Some residents and stakeholders recognized the importance of not duplicating activities and amenities at Findlay and Grant Parks because they are so close together. Restrooms and water fountains were recognized as being needed at both parks.

There were a fair number of comments about adding a pool or a spray park, but it also seems most of the children have access to a pools and water and are making use of the other water features in the neighborhood.

The following points were identified specific to making the parks kids friendly:

- Swings and play equipment
- Basketball courts
- Athletic fields and organized team sports (baseball, football, soccer, kickball, volley ball, tennis)
- Teens should be supporting younger children (job opportunities for teens)
- Recreational staff in the park
- Summer day camp in the park
- Pool, Spray Park (kids like Ziegler and Washington Park)
- Places to have dances, parties, and food
- Boxing in the Park
- Zip line
- Police should have positive contacts with children
- Things for girls to do
- Things for big kids too (skate parks, corn hole, big swings, table tennis, chess and other games)
- Things for younger kids to do
- Free baskets of candy



Theme 4 | Welcoming, Shared Public Spaces

Parks and recreational resources are assets that should be available to everyone who lives in the neighborhood. In neighborhoods like Over the Rhine where community change is happening quickly parks can be a great opportunity for diverse people to come together and get to know one another. They can also be a flash point where people see difference. For Findlay Park to become a welcoming place for everyone who lives in the neighborhood it will take intention and community building. Cultural differences need to be respected and park management will need to reach out to broad and diverse audiences in the community. CRC staff and the Cincinnati Police Department need to work together to set the tone, and invite people back into the space in ways that change the dynamic in the park without excluding anyone.

Long-term and some lower income residents in the community, as well as organizations that work with lower income residents in the community, have expressed fears that closing the park will mean the new park will exclude long-term residents in the community. There are legitimate fears among residents that this park could represent another example of change in their community that they do not feel is for them. Residents, both new and long term, have said they want the space to be family and kid friendly. With that as the focus of the re-opening, we should be looking for support from every part of the neighborhood for programming and positive adult presence, “ownership”, and planning events and activities that attract the diverse residents of the neighborhood.

The following points were identified specific to making the parks welcoming, shared public spaces:

- People should be respectful of one another
- Need to be intentional about planning for black and white residents
- Events, art, music, and cultural activities should be diverse and could be an opportunity for sharing across cultures
- Parks should be places for people to gather
- Need to be sensitive to how we view each other
- As neighborhood changes we need to respect everyone who is here
- Parks can great places for different people to come together
- The parks should be maintained as shared, public assets and not privatized

Additional Insights

Other Park Amenities

People in the community have imagined all kinds of great improvements to make the space at Findlay Park special and remain an asset in the neighborhood. People mentioned everything from community gardens to free Wi-Fi. Several people used the term the “OTR’s living room” to describe how they thought about what the park should be. That means accommodating, comfortable, and relaxing. People would like to be able to put their imprint on the space. They see it as a setting for music, art, and community gathering for all kinds of activities.

- Free Wi-Fi (create a Wi-Fi station)
- Chess tables (a few people said no chess tables to avoid loitering)
- Everyone should feel welcomed
- Walking trails
- Live music (R&B, Jazz)
- Underground parking
- No parking (conflicting opinions about parking were presented)
- Electricity and lighting to support events
- Art in the park
- More trees
- Community gardens
- Connection to Findlay Market vendors and programming
- Club house
- A celebration of our success

Other Comments

Adults and children are using the other parks in the neighborhood. People generally had positive things to say about Ziegler and Washington Parks. Some partners pointed out that significant investment needs to be made to Findlay Park in order to truly make an improvement. Some partners suggested programming Grant Park in the interim period before Findlay is reopened.

When residents were asked their thoughts, they had other things to say in addition to their comments on the parks. Residents mentioned other community needs that are included here. Employment and wages for adults and teens was an issue. Residents also mentioned laundromats as a need.

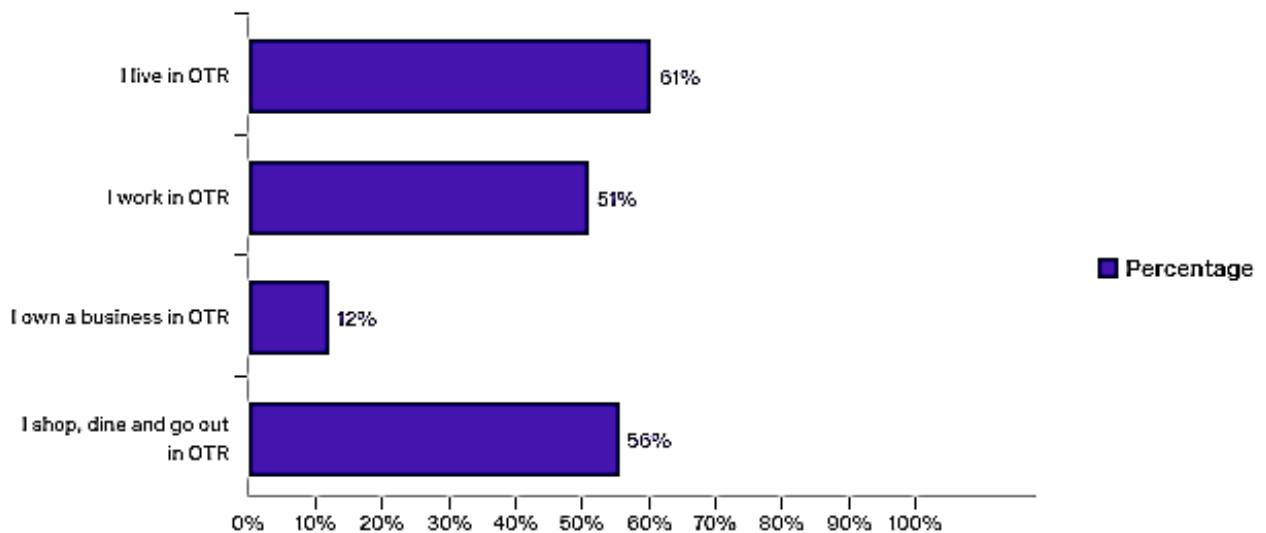
- Neighborhood needs more laundromats
- Neighborhood needs more jobs for black men
- People like Ziegler and Washington Parks
- Reopening Findlay Park as a positive community asset is going to be a challenge
 - Some residents believe the park should stay closed for a while

Survey Analysis

The following is a summary of key insights from the survey, which was distributed at the community engagement events and online. In total, 256 surveys were completed. Residents, those who work or own a business in the community, and other stakeholders who spend time in the OTR community, completed surveys.

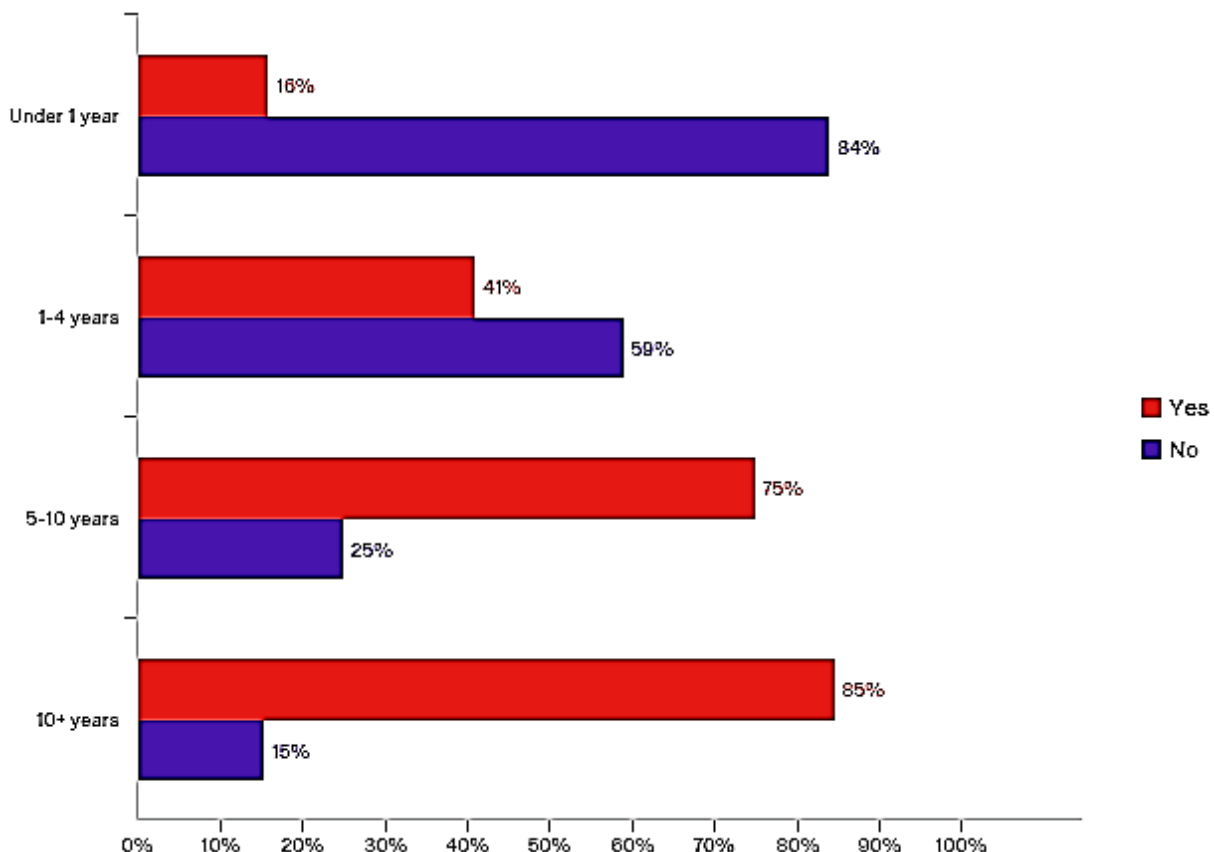
- Breakdown of Respondents (See Figure 1.1; Note: survey respondents were asked to select all categories that apply to them.)
 - 61% of respondents live in OTR
 - 30% have lived in OTR for under 1 year
 - 27% have lived in OTR for 1-4 years
 - 16% have lived in OTR for 5-10 years
 - 27% have lived in OTR for 10 or more years
 - 51% of respondents work in OTR
 - 12% of respondents own a business in OTR
 - 56% of respondents shop, dine and go out in OTR

Figure 1.1: Which best describes you?



- The majority of respondents (96%) report knowing where the parks are located. However, over half of respondents (57%) reported not having used either of the two parks in the past. Resident of OTR were more likely than other respondents to report having used the parks (51%). Residents of at least 5 years were also significantly more likely than newer residents to report having used the parks. Among residents of 5-10 years, 3 in 4 respondents (75%) reported having used the parks and more than 4 out of every 5 respondents (85%) who had lived in the neighborhood for 10 or more years reported having used the parks (See Figure 1.2.)

Figure 1.2: Whether or not respondent has used the parks by number of years as an OTR resident



- Respondents who reported not using the parks reported the following reasons:
 - Overwhelmingly, the perception of the parks being unsafe and dangerous was the most frequent reason given for not using the parks. Respondents indicated that criminal activity in the parks such as drug sales, prostitution and loitering contributed to them feeling unsafe. This issue was described as both perceived and actual lack of safety.
 - Some respondents reported not using the park because they live outside of OTR or not near these two parks in OTR.
 - Some respondents reported not using the parks because they are not clean and there is a lot of littering.

- Some respondents reported not using these parks because they feel there are better park options in other parts of OTR. Other respondents reported this in more general terms indicating that Findlay and Grant did not have enough for kids to do.
- Respondents who reported using the parks reported using them for the following activities:
 - Family gatherings like picnics, birthday parties and cookouts
 - Socializing and gathering with friends
 - Community or church events
 - A place for their kids or grandkids to play
 - Volunteering to clean up the park
 - Recreation/sports
 - Leisure/ relaxation
 - To have lunch or a meal
- The majority of respondents (85%) reported that the parks should have opening and closing hours. Resident respondents were slightly less likely (82%) than other groups of survey respondents to report wanting the parks to have opening and closing hours.
- Respondents were asked to rank several park attributes on a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the most important. A significant number of respondents did not complete this section correctly on the paper surveys, therefore the data for this question is largely incomplete.

Top park attributes rated as most important (5) for Findlay Park:

- Open space/green space
- Outdoor seating
- Restrooms
- More trees
- Parking
- Gardens

Top park attributes rates as most important (5) for Grant Park:

- Open space/green space
- Outdoor seating
- More trees
- Restrooms
- Parking
- Areas for community art and sports fields or courts (tied)

- When asked about ways respondents could contribute to making the park the best it can be 45% of respondents reported that they would help with developing a “Friends of the Park” for Findlay Park. In addition, 42% indicated that they would be willing to help with programming for the park and just under 1 in 3 respondents (31%) said they would help with finding funding for the park. In addition, 18% of respondents reported being willing to help find equipment for the park. Respondents also provided other ways in which they would be willing to help which included going to events at the

parks or using the parks more, advocating for the parks, helping with activities in the parks or volunteering, and finally helping to pick up trash and keep the parks clean. Some respondents also reported that they could help with creating something in the parks, a community garden for example, or help facilitate activities in the parks.

- When asked what makes a park safe, respondents indicated that the following factors contribute to making a park safe:
 - Security and monitoring, including cameras. Proactive police involvement and consistent patrols. A positive police- community relationship that makes people of all races feel comfortable in the parks and not targeted based on their race
 - No illegal activity and violence in the parks
 - Increased lighting in the parks
 - Regular programming and community events that reflect and include the community. The more people using the park productively, the safer it will be.
 - The community residents getting involved and having ownership over the park.
 - The community working together and committing to creating a safe place for kids. Neighbors being friendly, respectful and inclusive
 - Increased cleanliness in the park, less trash and littering
 - Long-term residents feeling welcomed in the park and not feeling like it is being taken away from them
 - Some respondents reported that keeping the park closed is not the answer
- When asked what types of activities or program respondents wanted to see in **Findlay Park**, the following responses were most common (*Responses were largely the same for Grant Park):
 - Programs, activities, and events for families with children. Ziegler Park and Washington Park programs were used as examples.
 - Water features or a water park
 - Cookouts or meals, Findlay Market related events were mentioned
 - Places to barbeque, including picnic areas and seating
 - Various sports including volleyball, basketball, baseball. Respondents also talked about formal sports leagues for both adults and children.
 - Play equipment and games for kids
 - Music space and concerts, and other art activities
 - Community gardens
 - Pet friendly spaces
- When asked about recent favorite memories in the parks respondents overwhelming recalled family events in the parks, playing with their kids or grandkids, or community events including cookouts and clean-ups. Community partners or non-profits talked about using the parks for programming and opportunities to engage with families in the community. Some respondents reported not being able to recall a positive experience in the parks.

- Other thoughts about creating a great community park:
 - The park needs to reflect the needs of longtime residents. Several respondents also commented that the parks are an opportunity for people of different backgrounds to come together and enjoy a safe place together.
 - Programming:
 - Programming that creates a positive outlet for families
 - Programming that attracts people at all hours of the day
 - Allow residents of OTR to lead programming and display the diversity of cultures in the neighborhood.
 - Activities and events for kids and families are key
 - The renovation of Ziegler and Washington Parks were mostly talked about as positive models/examples of renovated parks and positive assets in the neighborhood.

Appendix

Attachment A: Full Survey Responses

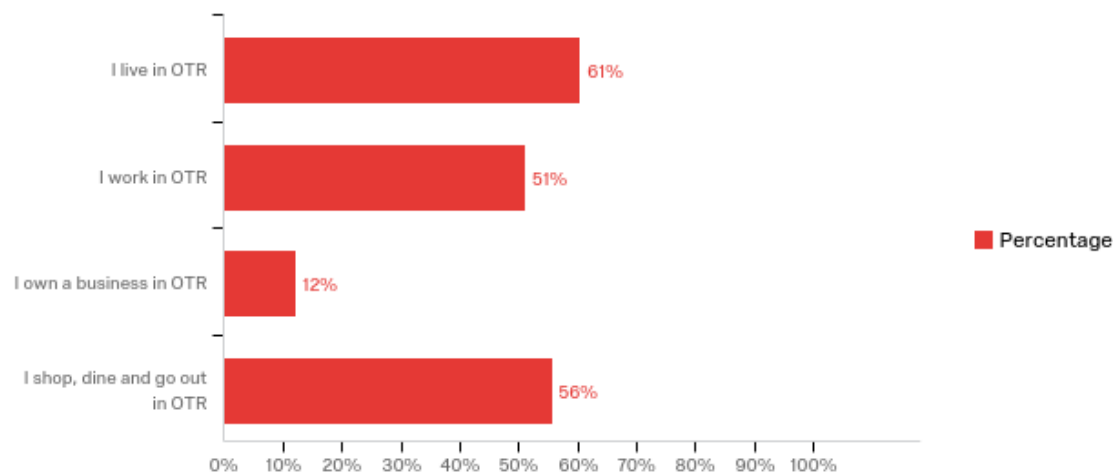
Attachment A

Full Survey Responses*

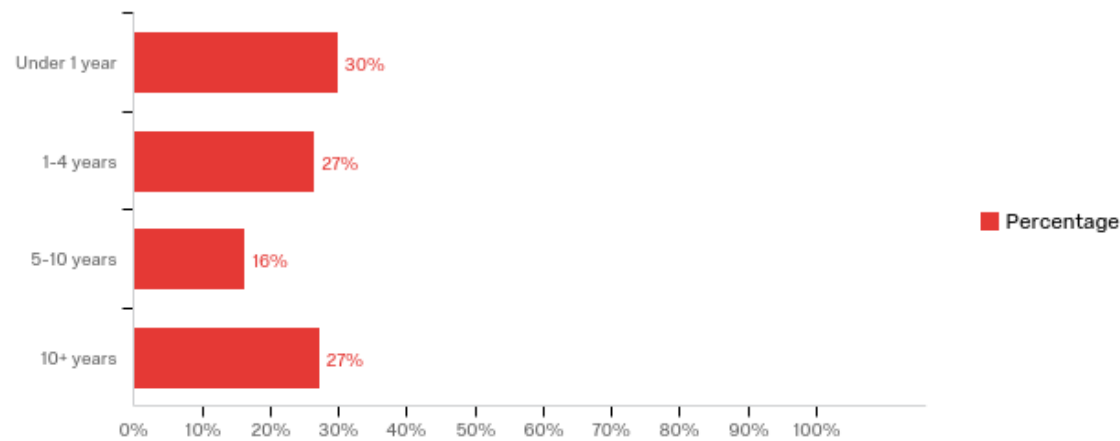
Findlay and Grant Parks Survey
August 26th 2019

**Please note that the responses provided in this report reflect the actual responses provided by survey respondents. Spelling and grammar errors were not corrected in the preparation of this report in order to respect the integrity of responses provided by respondents.*

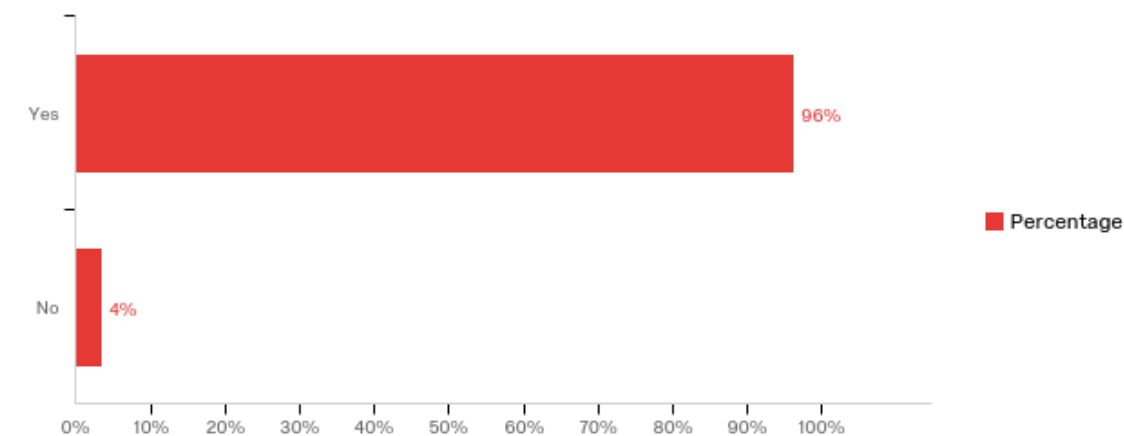
Q1 - Which best describes you? Check all that apply.



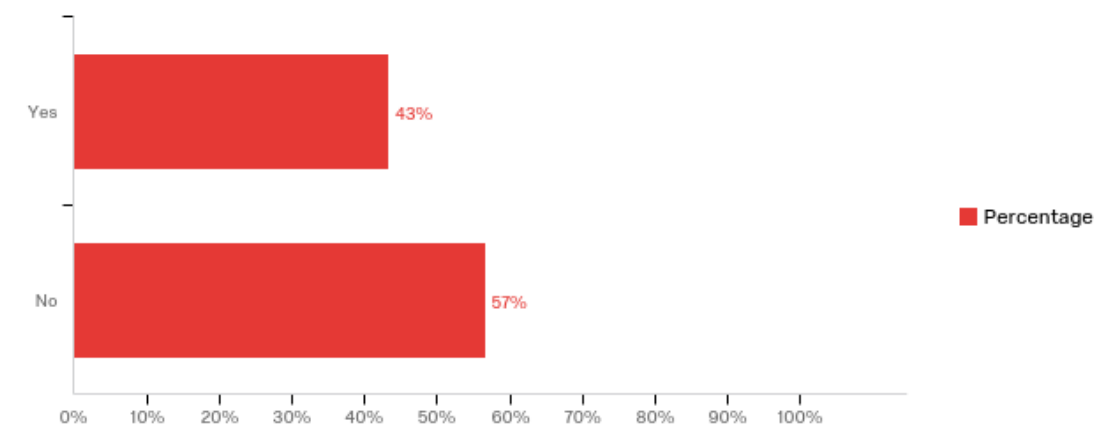
Q2 - How long have you lived in OTR?



Q3 - Do you know where Grant and Findlay Parks are located?



Q4 - Do you or have you used either of these two parks in the past?



Q5 - What did you use the park for?

- Attend events
- Attended a family picnic
- Basketball
- Basketball games, BBQ's
- Basketball, swings
- Birthday party for my babie, BBQ for my family, my kids play in the park
- Church events, memorials, picnics
- Dog walking
- Events (Bockfest, Brewery Heritage, other), kids playground, basketball
- Family
- Family outing after church, for after school before going home for the day every day

Family picnic

Findlay

Findlay

Findlay Park , Grant park needs restrooms and operating fresh water fountains. Have always used parks to rest after long day of work or recreation etc.

Findlay Park is my backyard. I live at 1830 Race. I have walked through Grant Park on my way to Moerlein Tap Room andnpassed it wheelie volunteering at Wesleyan Chapel Mission.

For my kids to play

Gathering with friends

Grant Park - Group games for our childnre's program free play on playground basketball community events (Halloween in Grant Park, Dig-In, etc) Findlay Park - too dangerous - too many intimidating groups

Grant park- took students over. Findaly- sketchy crowd

Have a cookout with family and friends Also entered under if not: Talk to friends that have not seen in a long time.

I had lunch in Findlay Park, but I don't go there often as it doesn't feel safe.

I have been involved in clean-up events and volunteer opportunities.

I like to play in the park

I use Grant Park to occasionally take my kids to play there. I've been there for a few community events.

I use the park to gether with family and friends

I walk through grant park most days. It is always fun to see and hear so many kids playing in the park. The basketball courts are an important part of the park and they are always in use by kids and families I work with.

Just to sit out and enjoy the sun.

Leasure

Leisure

Leisure

Lunch

Mostly sitting and children used play ground and the police tell us we too noisey by our building because of large family. So we would walk to findlay park to just gather.

My kids play occasionally, Depending on time of day and activity surrounding.

Neighborhood events, playing with my young son, walking tours of neighborhood

Not much

Personal recreation, social events

Pianci

Play

Play ground, group picnic, wiffle ball. Findlay park never felt like a safe place. I typically only went there to pray.

Playing Basketball

Recreation

Recreation

Recreation. Walking, being outside.

Relaxation, G-kids play

Spartes (cannot read- ES)

Talking to friends, enjoying my great grandkids

The green space

To cook

To go play basketball

To have a birthday party cookout

To let my baby play

Used Grant park for free/structured play for kids in after school program. Did not feel safe at Findlay Park. Grant park location was more convenient.

Walk the dog, flew a drone

Walking my dog

a place my kids play

backyard games and gatherings

birthday party

bring my grand kids down to play

come and bbq with my kids

entertainment

events with Wesley chapel and social enrichments with the kids

family gatherings, baseball games, barbeque, holidays

flag football, cookout, picnic, volleyball, community events, field games, basketball

hang out

kids play ground, occasional events

let my kids play with family and friends and we went to birthday party's

my grand kids and my (cannot read last phrase- ES)

myself children family friends barb-qs

play there as a kid basketball, football, baseball. I also had a football team in findlay park when I was 18

playing as a child, acterschool activities

pnics, bar-B-Q's, playing cards

recreation

recreation

recreation, kids, family outings

relax

relaxing

sitten meeting friend, grandchild swing, back to school events

swim, play basketball and socializing

swing

to bring my kids and grandbabies so that they could have somewhere to play. But these parks still need to be made a lot more safer.

to eat or bring foor plate home

to paly and grill. Reasons for not using the park in the past; because if I didn't like the park

to play

to play

to play and have fun

to play and to exersise to get songer

to see my children

to take my grandkids

took my children there, barbequed and to socialize with friends

work events, basketball, play w/ kids in playground

Q6 - Why haven't you used the park in the past?

Not enough activities for kids to play at.

Enttered for what you have used the park for: bringing my baby to the park

no occasion to do so

The parks arent safe, or dont seem safe. We typically avoid them.

Do not spend enough time in the area to use the parks. There is also a safety concern with the area and using those parks. It would be nice to have a place to eat lunch outside and not worry about safety.

I ususally go to the park with my kids. We live in Mason and I dont often come downtown with them.

These two parks seem too dangerous to take my child too. Would rather go to Washington park or Ziegler Park

security/safeness of the parks known drug and gang locations

to play football

Drugs

I stay in KY don't be over here like this

violence

We live too far (colerain)

My children are older and I have no personal need to. However, they are both NEEDED in the community for the children/families who DO use them.

The parks are dangerous with a lot of criminal activity.

Crime, Cleanliness

There is nothing that interests me about these parks and they feel somewhat dangerous.

Perceived lack of safety

Appears to be unsafe.

Too dangerous

Because it felt dangerous for my kids

Dangerous

I don't have young children, and I live closer to Washington Park. The activities at WP are more suited to my park needs.

Small and not safe in my opinion.

They look unsafe.

too dangerous.

Dangerous area

Didn't look safe to use

perception of safety

I'm usually working when I'm near these parks.

Not convenient for me

Sketchy AF

Safety concerns

Fear of being around shooting and/or around drug dealers

Criminal activity

They're too intimidating. Too much drug and alcohol usage. Too much hanging out.

Don't live in OTR

I don't have time to enjoy the parks during the work day and I have nice parks such as Mt. Airy Forest near home.

The questionable characters that hang out around the Findlay park, scared of crime

I would not feel comfortable utilizing either parks due to the adult (sometimes inappropriate/illegal) activity and daily litter those areas

shootings, drug sales,

I work next to Findlay park, but live in KY so I do not have a reason to utilize the park.

Not interested

I don't feel safe there.

Drug dealings, people urinating everywhere. Felt unsafe

Obvious illegal activity taking place

Neighborhood relative to other options

Crime I have seen there

I don't live in the area

Too ghetto!!

I have not had a reason to use the park

Higher crime. We frequently would hear gunshots and see prostitution and drug use out in the open.

Too much crime

Washington Park is closer to my place than Grant Park. Findlay Park, although closer to my place than Washington Park, it does not have appealing programming (events, fitness classes) and is less welcoming than Washington Park.

I had been told not to by locals because they can be dangerous

Not safe

unsafe environment

Findlay - way too dangerous, no place for families or kids. Grant - haven't been able to make it since it reopened. Not a convenient location for my family.

Location doesn't feel safe

Dont have children

They don't have any amenities for me.

Crime and drugs in both parks

Because of drug activity and violence

They're poorly-designed, ugly, and covered with broken glass and plastic/styrofoam garbage. The people who frequent them need constant, police-supervision and the drug dealers have created a very unsafe public space.

I didn't live in OTR before, it experiences a lot of litter and trash. Crime stats etc...

no

Because of the area it was in and people standing around

I did not live in the area so I had no reason to visit the park.

it's closed

We should remove the park. The park is a magnet for drugs and crime. Turn into another community space. Not a park though. Build 5-10 floor housing and Trader Joe's grocery on the current Findlay Park site.

It has been closed

Not an inviting crowd near the parks entrances.

Findlay has been Closed and grant hasn't always been the safest

Bad reputation

Don't like the area

Safety concerns due to the general demographic that use these locations.

I don't live in the area and they are outside the range of where I usually work / visit.

I've lived there only briefly

No need/open and prevalent drug use in the area

Safety concerns

Not interested in doing anything there. I've seen sketchy people there along with drug deals.

Findlay Park has been closed since we moved to the neighborhood; Grant Park is not as close

Very unsafe

It's closed!

Time of year(winter) and quality of cleanliness

Not safe

I don't have kids and I just moved to OTR.

drunk people, safety issues,

I did not feel safe

The parks were always full of a climate that did not feel relaxed and safe.

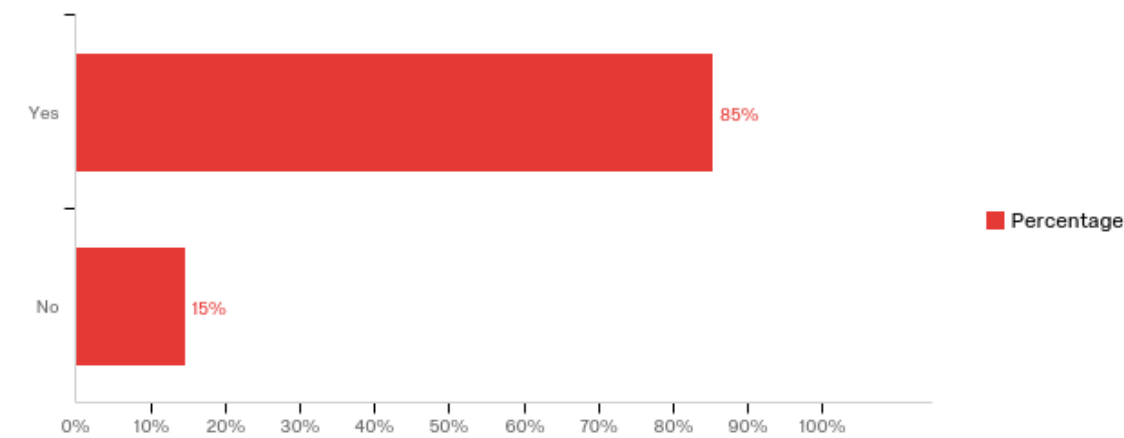
These parks have not had value for me in the past. I prefer Washington and Ziegler.

Unsafe from what I've heard

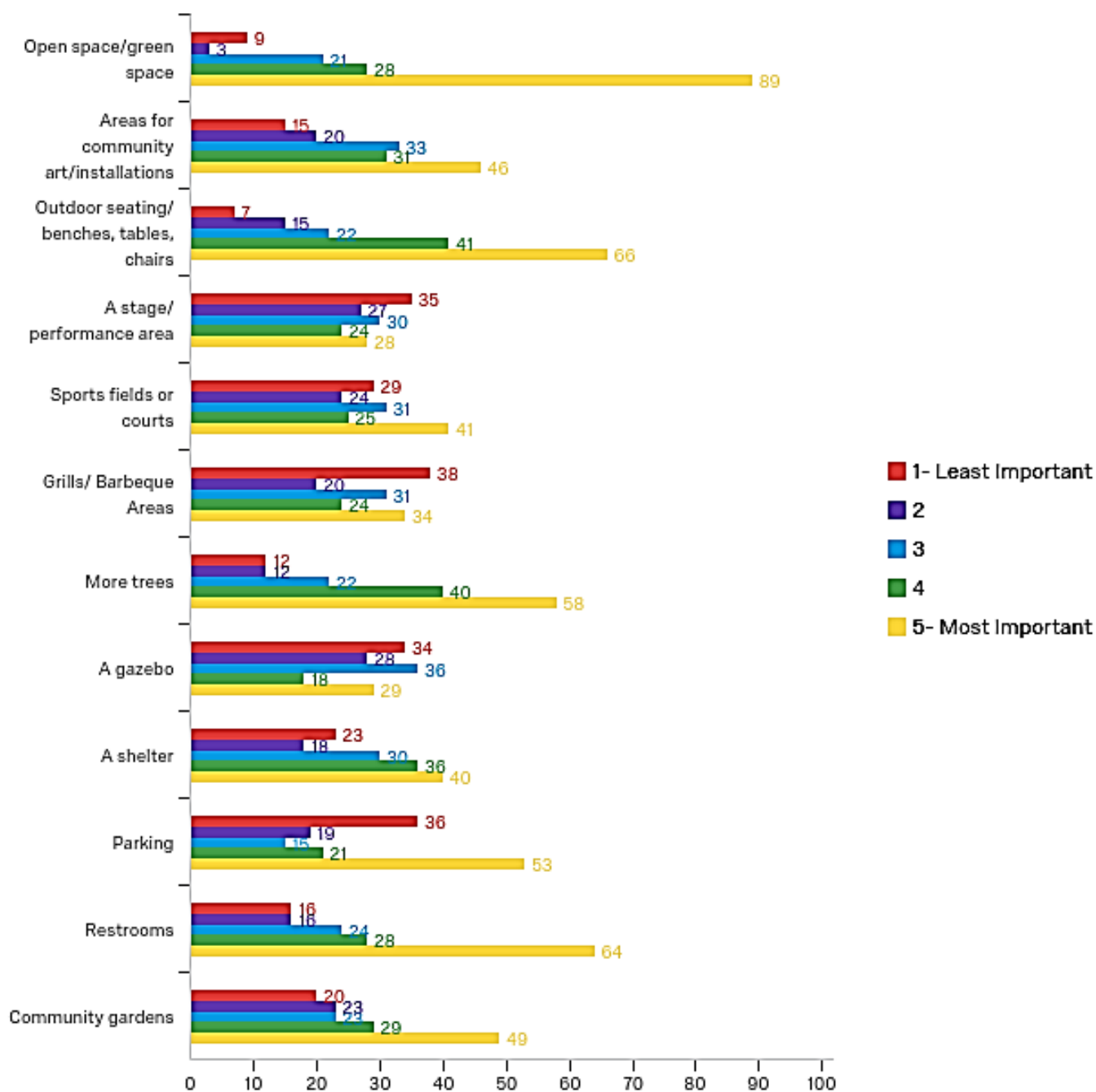
I didn't know it existed

I have not felt safe/comfortable in these parks.

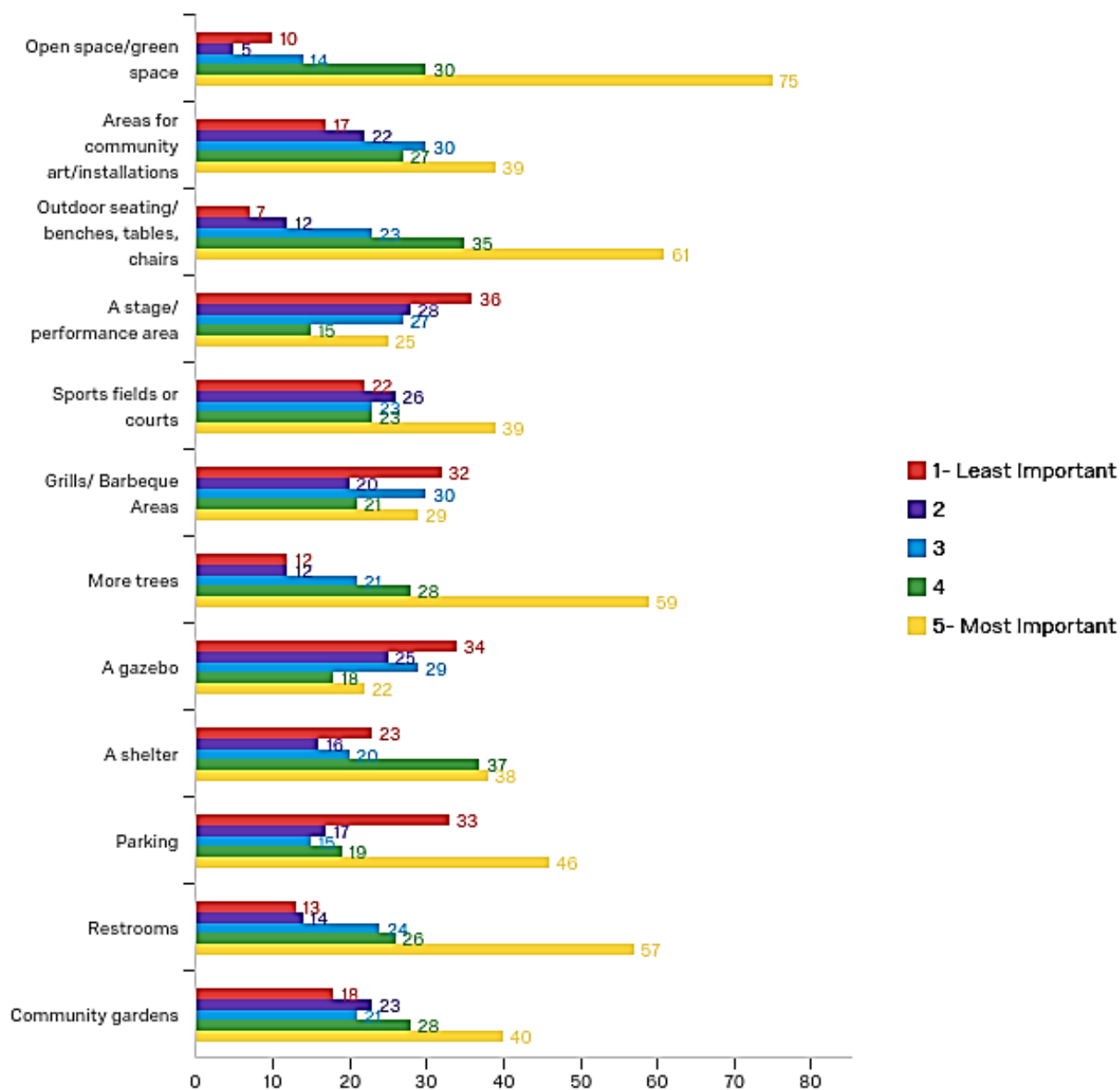
Q7 - Do you think the parks should have opening and closing hours?



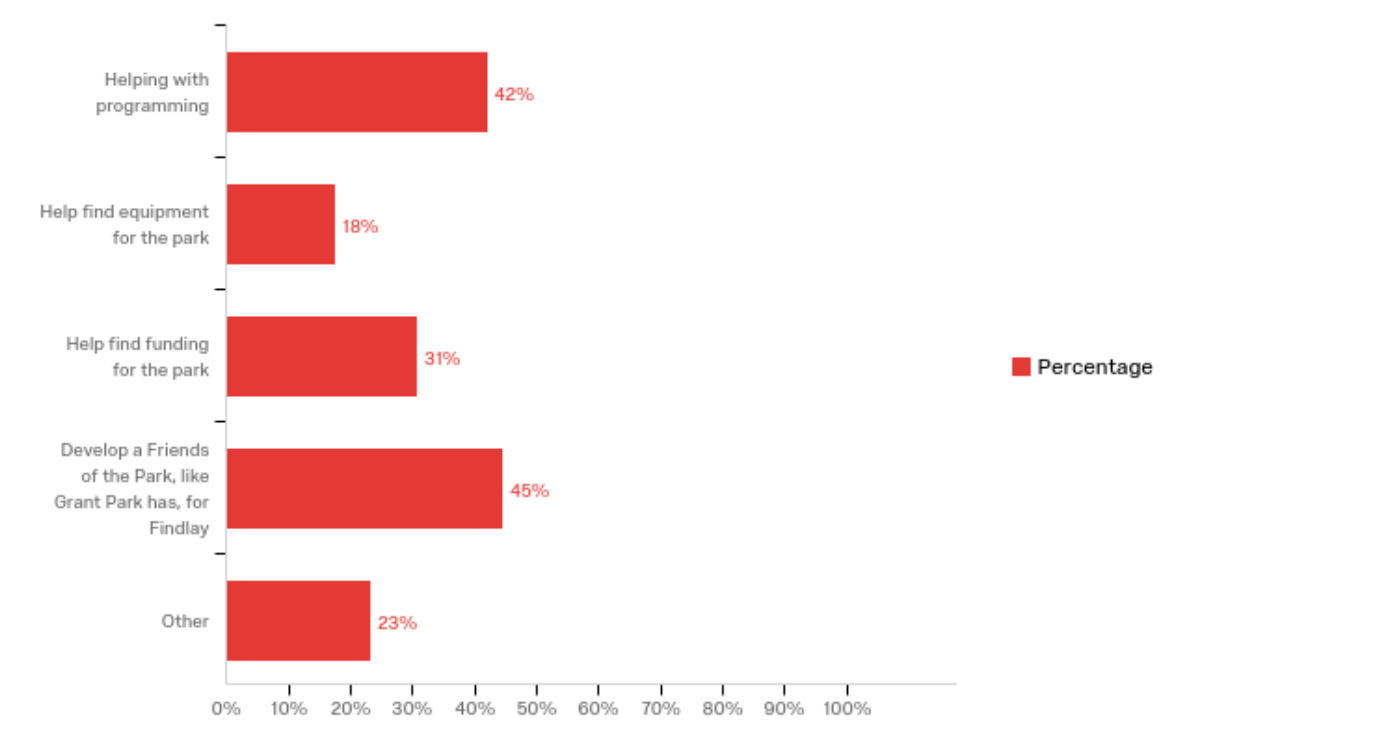
Q9 – With regard to Findlay Park, please rank each of the following park attributes that are most important to you from 1 to 5, 5 being the most important.



Q11 – With regard to Grant Park, please rank each of the following park attributes that are most important to you from 1 to 5, 5 being the most important.



Q10 - What are some of the ways that you can contribute to making this park the best it can be?



Other- text answers for Q10

- open
- grant park has more going on
- pick up trash
- clean
- Clean Up
- Pick up trash
- helping the homeless
- kids have a good time with out
- one or two grills, chess boards
- Do this survey
- Being a good neighbor to the parks
- Encourage attendance
- Support safe activities and family oriented programs
- Go to affars all the events

Findlay park by building i live

I think the park needs to be like Zeigler - needs a really big renovation, not a bunch of sad mulching like Grant Park.

Visit the park.

clean up

Not interested. Do not live in OTR

help keep it clean

volunteering

Support park improvements

using it more

Helping visitors of the park feel welcome

More basketball court and football fields

Assisting and encouraging people to go there

Advocate

I can also help with programming and finding funding.

unsure

Close Findlay Park. Envision more development in housing and retail.

I'd love to participate in creating a community garden!

Using the park in a safe and respectful manor

Perform at the park

Help facilitate Art in the Park.

Q12 - Everyone wants and deserves a safe park. What do you think helps achieve this?

By quits closing the parks

community closeness

opening back up

Everyone working and coming together as one whole

Bathrooms, more safety.

Hve rules and enforce the. Close the park at night. Eliminate "private" spots. Provide planned activities.

No drug dealing, illegal activity

Opening and closing hours. Possible security

No violence
by no shooting
Shared commitment
Less drug dealers
Less drug dealers
I think having more of a crc staff in Findlay park would help keep it clean and thus more welcoming
Keeping the parks clean, safer equipment and playground areas, and more law enforcement in the parks
Strong monitoring and unity
Community
I think these parks is a good place to have a piece of mind
I love being around the park
Community feeling like we have something. 3CDC taking everything from lower Black Families.
By stop discriminating. All people no matter circumstances
More for kids to do in the parks
Community building and community pride, more folkds coming to the neighborhood
Community events, more street patrols (canvssing neighborhood, not riding in vehicles), neighborhood clean-ups
police presence, community and business support
I think in the opening of a new park there would need to be monitering to establish that rules are being followed and that it is a safe space.
Parks need to have kid friendly areasm hours needed to prevent shady activity and police presesnce during certain hours.
More community. Regular police activity
I think that organized activities in the park (sports practice/games and or prerformance space) and viable bsuinesses aroudn the park (coffee shop, deli, ice cream/smoothie cafe) will help create a sence of community ownership and around the clock oversight that will help create a safe environment.
children
Rules and regulations, play area for children
having positive uses in the park for all ages, especially children
Keep it for the kids
Security, safety
Safely
Someone to over see the parks at all times
Safety, fun/exciting ideas and areas

Security

Rebranding/renovating, programming, lighting and monitoring.

The most important thing is to have families engaged in making improvements and establishing a sense of ownership over it. I think regular programming that reflects the interests of the families - specifically in this instance families of color. . It's important to me (as a white family) that any programming or improvements start with the families who have been using the park, despite criminal activities, for decades.

1. Programming. 2. Cameras. 3. Significant usage by a diverse group of area residents throughout the day. 4. Endorsement and involvement by neighborhood businesses and associations

Keeping drug activity out; police monitoring; renovations and regular upkeep to preserve a good/clean appearance where people will want to make an effort to keep it beautiful

Good programming and a commitment to a safe place for everyone.

Drug dealing, drug use, prostitution, fighting, lots of littering and gunshots are a common occurrence here. If we can eliminate this type of behavior the park would be amazing.

Programming for variety of users, park staff oversight and maintenance, use by persons with best interest of park at heart

To arrest violators of the law

Community and providing a safe space

proper security

camera and more activity

Park employees observing the activities and teaching the activities

Communication

More proactive policing. Not just reactive.

First, we need better lighting in and around the park to make walking along/through the park at night safer. Creating areas for children of various ages to be able to enjoy the park, instead of focusing on only children of a certain age will help families of all sizes and ages be able to enjoy the park.

More lighting at both

Fence around park

If we all work together to achieve this

Community Care

Community. Neighbors and politicians, along with police enforcing the rules in order to keep our kids safe.

Lighting. Programming. Monitoring and enforcing rules early on. Movement - walking track.

Police presence.

Police oversight in the beginning of the park opening.

A really great, big plan, not a small effort.

Active programming

Open hours and police monitoring with nice equipment

programming. having lots of people makes a park feel safe.

Community and police involvement to ensure that criminal activity does not get out-of-hand. Few people used Findlay Park for anything other than drug and alcohol use.

Community involvement

Policing

No open drug deals or barrel fires.

Rule enforcement / consequences

Police patrols

Security surveillance

crack down on open containers, open drug use and selling.

Open/close hours. Security cameras. Frequent police drive by.

Litter Picked up. Graffiti removed. Grass cut, bushes trimmed, color flowers.

The community getting involved and taking ownership of the park. The City providing protection and policing.

Regular police presence

good and constant programming. well lit possibly.

Programming, and official/sponsored things going on in the park.

Police presence

Community Education

More police presence

Police presence

Maintaining amenities, cleanliness, stop open illegal activity

community visitors, areas suitable for children, less areas for groups to "hang around" and socialize

Keeping people out that aren't there to enjoy the park but rather cause trouble. Have more kid/ family friendly activities. Enforce strict rules (hrs., littering, etc.). I believe all the local development will improve the park naturally over time.

Yes I would love for safely, police on around more often

Having ops from 3CDC walk around the park once in a while to make sure everything is okay and have police drive around the streets surrounding the park

The community

maintaining for kids and family safety and best interests

Yes, safe park

More security police

Help from everyone

More security and cleanliness!

Community partnerships

Keeping a police officer stationed at the park.

Community and inclusiveness

Keeping the park well lit and monitored by police and/or security personnel

Making it accessible and well-programmed with inclusive activities for all ages and abilities. Recognizing that a park serves the community as a place for non-commercial activities appropriate for the culture and history of the area.

People looking out for one another

Less security/cops - they make people, especially vulnerable communities including low-income people and people of color - feel unsafe. Places to rest, such as benches, that don't include hostile architecture that prevents people from lying down. Good lighting, especially at night. An environment that is welcoming to all and not exclusive/elitist. Restrooms.

Constant lighting, maybe some areas of the park can be closed at late hours. But, lighting is key. Also, constant programming that makes the community feel as owners of the park

To consider the input of residents of the area and be inclusive of everyone when thinking of the redesign/renovations whether it's a long-time resident and user of the park, or newer resident.

Being friendly and respectful

Making families of all backgrounds feel safe and welcome. Criminals seem to respect Mother's and children and tend to do business away from crowds and families. One thing I think attracts families especially during the summer is a spray ground. They are relatively safe compared to pools. The spray grounds Washington and Zeigler Parks attract a lot of families. My kids work at the pool and while I do notice some drug trafficking near the park, it seems to stay out of the park itself. I also think a dog park would be a great addition. There are lots of dogs in our neighborhood and I think it's a great way for dog owners to get to know each other and be neighborly.

A park that is designed so that all people will enjoy it. Lighting and regular police presence.

education

Police check ins, programming, active spaces, not a significant amount of open seating

Cleanliness, monitoring by police, safe parking areas

Regular events, child-friendly Parks (good playground equipment)

Lighting and visibility into park.

Community ownership

Opening closing hours, keeping the park clean, defines entrance/exit (with some sort of synthetic or natural fencing), routine police patrols

Police presence

A strong community presence

Creating more formally-designed parks that discourage criminal activity so that people who live in the area would want to use them more often.

A well supported parks board/staff

closing hours

Programmed activities, a presence of park employees

create a space that is clearly defined, with activities to do, places to sit and a welcoming essence - and dog friendly

Investment in the space, maintenance and programming.

Lighting, Security,

security cameras, patrol cars,

Well lit at night, like Washington Park. Have concession stands staffed by park employees. Have foot traffic around and through the park. Engage the community with the park's prosperity (activities for children that better the park, community art/gardens, etc)

Community outreach programs. A welcoming environment and Inclusion of all people. Excellent lighting throughout the park. Police cameras.

Security officers and cameras

Surrounding businesses

Clean out the area. Make sure the work is used as it is supposed to be used. No drugs.

Frequent police passing. Cutting down on crime in the park area.

Community involvement

Proper evening patrolling

programming and regular park maintenance

Building and ensuring sense of community

Security

Security cameras

More lighting, certain hours

Good programming, good lighting, community areas, interactive children's play!

Expanding the Cincinnati ambassador program that helps keep the central business district clean. Increased programming for activation of the space. Hours of business/ accessibility.

Park attendants, community gardens, nondrugs, no loitering , no public elimination, more special Events like Washington Park

Having opening and closing hours and frequently having the police come by the park.

park hours, police presence, events that encourage foot traffic

Opening times, better visibility of all spaces, keeping the park clean, having organized activities, community policing

Good lighting, family friendly

Lighting and measures to make the space feel nice so people keep it that way.

The community and the city respecting this space is vital to the well-being of the citizens.

Higher visibility of law enforcement; events that encourage local attendance from all manner of residents

Community involvement

A community that cares about the park.

Q13 - What types of activities or programs would you like to see in Findlay Park?

A park where the kids can play and somewhere to bbq

shows, family friendly

family friendly

concerts

the kids would play basketball

more kids programs

anything concerning the kids

arts and crafts activieis. softball and football

Extend findlay market, music

arts and music

Free summer lunches, weekly/monthly activities (face paint, art lessons, yoga, etc.)

toys and face painting

swing on the swings and ride a bike

nothing

Food fun games

Food in fun

PLaying basketball

Activites that are structured for kids maybe especially on weekends, baseball or basketball would be great

more play ground equiptment

Things for the kids

Football games, BBQ's and alot of other good activities

Love

It was a nice park

Corn Hole, Volleyball, horse shoes, community friends monitoring

Programs and activities for the homeless and kids

Water park, tennis court

swings, slides, children and family

n/a

farmers/artists markets, music, summer camps, covered areas to enjoy outdoor lunch

Art, farmers market

Programs for neighborhood children and resident to get involved

food festivals, fun sports tournaments, anything showcasing local businesses

Food events (findlay Market & other area vendors)

After schools programs, cookouts, community events, music events

animals

restrooms, rebuild

concerts, performances, plays

- soccer practice/games - space for cincinnati stars marching band - space for dance teams/elementz performances - night-friendly park (like downtown riverfront parks)

soccer, just different try jugle gym

Cookouts, smiles and fun

somthing for the kids

Concerts, religious programs

Concerts

BBQ, games

Baseball

cards, cornhole, basketball, football, pools

water park

Community outreach events like this block party

Community outreach events like here right now

water park

Music performances, food trucks and festivals.

Family meals. Music or movie nights. Drum circles. Drop in sports games like "family kickball night" or a jump rope competition.

Concerts, plays, yoga classes, dance classes, children's activities, arts and crafts events, food events, and on and on and on

concerts, festivals, exhibits, picnics

Same type of events as we see at Washington Park. Keep this park well-programmed!

We go all the way to Ziglar park as a family. I recommend duplicating what has already been shown to work and draw families.

Programming for events, kids programming, nature playscape, music

Enrichment programs for children, family events, do whatever you can to make it safe and keep it clean

Similar to the concept / activities at Washington Park

more cookouts

garden

I live at Race Street building

sports, a better playground

craft and arts for children. Food sampling from local eateries. croshaying for adults. health fairs. bingo nights, game nights.

free lunches

Kids programming, summer programming, basketball, monitor

volleyball, basebal, teterball, football, waterpark, open space

volleyball, baseball, tater ball, open space for football, basketball, water park or swimming pool

exercise classes, kids music, family-friendly events, holiday events like washington park

Workout like they do in Washington park. Make floral arrangements, cooking demonstrations, neighborhood meetings once month...

Bocce ball, pickle ball. Nice places to sit down for lunch or go for a little walk.

Build a parking lot

Sports leagues, concerts, community events, food trucks

Adult recreation sports leagues

More programs/activities for children and families. It would also be nice to see some sort of dog-friendly activities/attractions

Activities for kids

Cincy Sports Leagues

Mentoring with the youth. Formalizing activities

Safe environment

Community activity events

monthly music venue

Family oriented.

Play equipment. Dog Areas. Performance space. Fitness classes / events. Public Art displays. Space and facilities that support Findlay market and the surrounding businesses such as additional seating.

Green space for lounging and picnics, play area for children, yoga in the park.

Low key concerts, yoga, summer programs for children

concerts. anything that Summit park in blue ash has.

Small City Flea type events, yoga, live music, festivals, maybe an area for a dog park. Large play ground, perhaps a splash park.

Kids Programs

Basketball courts, picnic areas, baseball/softball field

Family BBQs, Children's programs, maybe a art fair or small concert.

Market booths, unique play equipment, maybe a little water fountains that are kid friendly. Promote the park more.

more big games for kids and play areas, no drama

a shelter, grills/barbeques areas, outdoor seating/benches, tables,a chairs, restrooms

childrens activities, more childrens areas/play ground accessories, activities for teens and adults and families

kids & adult activities, different resources on different days, free meals for families and homeless, shelter for homeless

Music, kids entertainment

Fun activities for the kids

Recycling, Green Projects, Cleanup, community involvement, gardening, etc.

more activities for kids, basketball, football

skateboarding, family events

More swings, pool

Children playing

Sports & possibly some theater activities

More fun activities like face painting

Rec leagues, youth development, gardens

Live music, exercise classes, activities for little kids like Easter Egg Hunts.

Art/music

Gardens, dog friendly area (it can be very difficult to find open green space in the area to let dogs do their business and have the space they deserve), a space for sports or games and a safe place for kids to enjoy after to school to stay out of trouble and to spend more time outside

Community art fairs, performances, organized sporting activities, chalk drawing events, day camps for kids, cooking demonstrations, outdoor meditation, ice cream socials

Things for kids and teens to do

Free community gardening space. Benches and tables. Sports equipment. Playground.

Fitness and sports-related events. Music related events.

Community building, sports games, anything that can bring the neighborhood together.

Kickball tournaments, music, dancing

Exercise classes, family oriented things. Washington Park has a great structure. If we could have something similar on a smaller scale that would benefit the whole community.

Dog park

gardening activities

Could Findlay market events take place there? (Farmers market, exercise classes, etc)

Performance series by community concert bands/theater groups, community picnics, a connection with Findlay Market, pop-up events similar to Washington Park

Related to Findlay Market-food driven

Fitness classes, splash park, vendor shows

Honestly, I don't think that urban parks should have this burden attached to them. I think most people enjoy going to the park because they want to be immersed in greenery and hopefully, some peace and quiet.

Concert series, a more reasonable dog park(not like washinton park) movie series, any sort of staff presence, anything that involves children's activities. Fitness programming.

dog park

Live music, movies, yoga, playground

a dog park or green space would be amazing!!! So many people have dogs around findlay and a nice green space for them to run would be my #1

Pop-up food, sports and activities.

Community Events that are diverse for children and adults, arts, other social programs to help build community.

community programs. baseball and basketball leagues.

art/crafts in the park, cooking classes if there are grills, outdoor skills classes, community sports events (kickball, softball, you name it), concerts

Dog park and community garden

Children's learning, free classes

Soccer goals.

Meditate garden. Nice scenery.

Live music

community garden

Urban gardening informational seminars, other educational activities for parents and children

Ones that involve the youth in the area

Weekly neighborhood sporting events

Cookouts, dance/yoga, picnics, acoustic music, community sports/pickup sports, community art (chalk, more messy things) integration with the preschool on Findlay across from the market. Expansion of farmers market on sundays and Saturday's to the park

Sports. Recreational soccer or other sports.

Theater, community garden, arts festivals, lectures and outdoor workshops on gardening, sustainability. Findlay lecture and arts series, food trucks

Dog Park, intramural sports.

Movie nights, potlucks, community meet ups

Sports, community events

Co-ed League for the neighborhood, free classes, cocktail parties

After school programs for kids, sports, performances, movie night

Nature education

Dog run

Q15 - What is your most recent, favorite memory in Findlay Park?

throwing my baby parties in the park and just come and chill

a reunions for passed family members

being open

playing basketball with my nephew

my birthday party

quietness

had plenty of cook out in the park

flag football

never been

going on the slide

swings

something

playing

Swing

kids playing

Wowo, so many, not a favorite just most memorable: When Renee Hill was murdered 6/11/05 - 15 years ago. So many memories there.

My kids have fun

Love

Music with Aletone(?) community came together, donated to amke happen

My baby took his first steps

Organizing helping homeless

Friends

Hanging with Friends

my freinds and family getting along and having fun

picniz

none

playing in bouncy house

playing

I did not have a positive experience her. Actually a drunk man told me how much he appreciated our work with the children.

my kids birthday parties

conversations. alughter

seeing old friend

barbequed

home

same

swiming pool

kids playing

I spend a lot of time in the Findlay Market area but not a lot of time in Findlay Park. I enjoy the food and architecture.

The only time I was at Findlay Park was for Blink. My kids and I were part of the parade with OTRCH. It was awesome to see the space activated.

Enjoying the view of such a pretty green space in the middle of the dense buildings. Memory? My usage has been very limited due to the park being consistently used by drug dealers and users and the homeless. I often have not felt safe even walking past it, let alone going in and enjoying some leisurely time there. Am hoping for a significant revitalization because it is a diamond in the rough right now

None

Not getting shot.

First thing in the morning, right after they pick up the trash and cut the grass, its a great green space.

Knowing it was closed

when it closed

Seeing it closed. That park was "rough."

eating sitting till the sun goes down

being clean

I play basketball with some kids and when we got done they was so happy that i play they didnt want me to leave

community counsel meeting-hub. churches preaching to the poor and giving lite lunches

Playing cards with friends

I don't think many people have fond memories of either park. That's why we're trying to improve them.

Barbeque areas, community gatherings, family football games and baseballs, teterball, volleyball

Playing baseball, football, volleyball, that way the thing I miss doing as a kid in Findlay Park

na

None. Too scared to go nearby but I live on McMicken two blocks away.

Don't have any

getting robbed walking past

Walking through on lunch hour

None.

Driving by a barrel fire.

It closed down so its now safer to work around the park.

We don't risk using it.

None. I don't live in OTR.

I would watch the riffraff from my office window.

I don't frequent the park

none

Watching kids play there from my office.

Sunshine at Lunchtime

The park closing

None - my memories are of watching drug activity from my office window.

I have none

watching the kids paly on swings and slides and playing football, kickball and basketball

playing on the basketball court, palying in the grass, sitting on the benches talking with friends and running around the perimeter of the park

The grillouts

Blink

Birthday part

None, don't go

Family get togethers

Haven't lived here long

Swings

I don't have one. In Findlay Park I have seen a person get beaten up to the point they needed an ambulance, heard gunshots on multiple occasions, everyday I'd see at least one person high on drugs. prostitutes being picked up and dropped off at the corner, I've even seen sex acts being performed in the stair well of the park. Men and women urinating and defecating in the ally... I've only walked by Grant Park a couple of times and I did not feel welcome there.

Kids getting to play and be happy

Seeing children playing the open space.

When they would bring speakers out and play music

In the 2 1/2 years I have lived on Race Street there are very few positive things I have witnessed first hand.. A couple of times men hanging out in the park were kind enough to offer to clean up the puddle of urine in our ally, for pay, of course. A proper restroom is badly needed. We saw drug dealing and use DAILY. Gunshots weren't uncommon. After hearing gunshots one Sunday morning we ran on to our rooftop to see a man on the ground throwing bags of drugs to a friend who then ran off. We would witness prostitution, and prostitutes being dropped off and picked up at the corner of Findlay and Race. Family oriented programming and a police officer stationed in the park are the best way to keep the crime away on my opinion.

It has been closed for awhile and before that it was not safe so never went there.

Meeting other people with dogs

None

Seeing someone get shot on a Sunday morning behind my business!(well, ok, not my fave, but the most relevant in this survey).

The day when it was closed to the public. I thought to myself, "finally." That park was a terrible use of public space. Crime-ridden and disgusting.

N/a

No favorite memory, it was pretty rough

all the green space, its beautiful in the summer

none

I don't have one honestly.

none

None

None.

Only memory I have is driving by it.

N/a

none

None

I have one and it involves driving by thinking "I wish I could use it."

Findlay Park is not one I had used.

Q14 - What types of activities or programs would you like to see in Grant Park?

concerts

Same

more kids programs

the keep something going on for the kids

music performances, basketball and volleyball

bball tourney, kickball, obstacle races

more organized kids activities

toys and chalk

cart wheels

nothing

Food fun games

Food in fun games

more swings and other playground equipment as there are so many kids that use the park. it would be great o have a water fountain there too

Love

tennis court/ water park

n/a

farmers/artists markets, music, summer camps, covered areas to enjoy outdoor lunch

Art, farmers market

Programs for neighborhood children and resident to get involved

food festivals, fun sports tournaments, anything showcasing local businesses

Kids area 9water features, playground)

community events, coookouts

bikes

restrooms, parking

cookout, children's acitivites. exercise classes, family movies

- free play - community events by Friends of Grant Park

Concerts, religious programs

Concerts

baseball

Pools, cornhole, basketball, football, card games

water park

Community outreach events like this block party

Community outreach events like here right now

water park

Music concerts and organized basketball.

See above.

Same as for Findlay

Sports games, picnics, playground, cookouts

Same as Washington Park.

Same as Ziglar

Programming for events

Enrichment programs for children, family events, do whatever you can to make it safe and keep it clean

Similar to the concept / activities at Washington Park

more cookouts

sports, a swimming pool

basketball tournaments like 3 on 3 matches. Free lunches served in the park

Free lunches

kids, arts, & music

Family driven program (like a little league for soccer in a green space) and events

cultural events, fitness facilities

football, volleyball, waterpark, barbeque areas

open space for football, volleyball, water park

exercise classes, kids music, family-friendly events, holiday events like washington park

Programs for neighborhood kids.

Basketball and other things for kids.

build a parking lot. Less drug traffic

Sports leagues, concerts, community events, food trucks

Kids activities

Cincy Sports Leagues

NA

Community activity events

organized adult sports (company softball teams)

Family oriented.

Play Ground. Fitness classes. Art installations. Performances.

Green space, play area for children.

Low key concerts, yoga, summer programs for children

I think a community garden there would be great. CRC summer camp play time there. Food truck festival maybe?

Kids Programs

Neighborhood recreational activities for the OTR Children and their families. ie: summer basketball camp, playground games like kickball, et.

the same as Findlay

more big games for kids and play areas, no drama

a shelter, grills/barbeques areas, outdoor seating/benches, tables,a chairs

Childrens activities, more childrens paly accessories and activities for teens, adults and families

shelter for the homeless, different resources, free meals for families & homeless

Music, kids entertainment

Community unvolvement to advance clean up & gardening & recycling.

family events

more things to play on

some type of security something to ensure kids play less adult and adult activites for findlay park and grant park
more toddler friendly

Chilren playing

Sports & possibly some theater activities

Family fun

Gardens, dog friendly area (it can be very difficult to find open green space in the area to let dogs do their business and have the space they deserve), a space for sports or games and a safe place for kids to enjoy after to school to stay out of trouble and to spend more time outside

see above for findlay park

Free community gardening space. Benches and tables. Sports equipment. Playground.

Fitness and sports-related events. Music related events.

Community building, sports games, anything that can bring the neighborhood together.

Same as above.

Playground equipment, kid friendly areas

gardening activities

Neighborhood BBQs, events for kids

Same as above

Family oriented as it's in a residential area. Also in involve the Brewery District organization

Again, I don't really think that urban parks need these things.

The parks are so close together so I think either way there should be coordination of programming and amenities so that they can compliment each other instead of duplicate.

dog park

Gatherings, family friendly events, art shows/festivals, city fleas

dog park, grill space, sitting space, a garden!!

Community Events that are diverse for children and adults, arts, other social programs to help build community.

community programs. baseball and basketball leagues. plays, performances

Gazebo and dog park

Scenic space.

N/a

community garden

Same as above

Ones that involve youth in the area

Personally a rugby fan. Withrow high school has launched a successful program and think having programming for all sports can activate this space and other parks.

NA

Intramural sports. I can help with this.

After school programs for kids, cookouts for homeless

Q16 - What is your most recent, favorite memory in Grant Park?

playing ith my grandsons

none

quietness

always something to do

national night out

playing with students

doing a field day with our high schoolers

Playing tag in playroom with afterschool program kids

learning how to swing

talking

something

football basketball

swing

flips

seeing "big" kids playing basketball in grant park at one end of the court and a group of "little kids" playing at the other end with a tiny basketball

Millie Day and block party

Love

The swimming pool

basketball

When I got a parking tickets trying to avoid the rowdy crowds after that guys got shot (just kidding thats not a fun memory)

none

I do not visit this park so I do not have any fun/favorite memories

ride bikes around the block

grill, party, play, just to have fun

dig in event was awesome this year

the Trick-or Treating event created a wonderful sense of community. I met neighbors I dont normally see and everyone had a stake (either dressing up and speaking to neighbors "Trick or Treat" , or passing out candy. It's really nice where there is a genuine exchange of "neighborly" behavior between people!

Festival

home

cookouts

kids playing

birthday party

I don't have most recent memory. BUT, I did spend the first 5 years of my life in that park.

I currently do not spend a lot of time in Grant Park.

I love the event some neighbors recently organized back in May. The DJ was great.

Haven't used it

none

Not getting shot.

NA

Mulching the playground through Keep Cincinnati Beautiful

n/a

Watching kids throwing a ball with parents watching

enjoy in the sites

The rentalvation of the park

Listening to music

not good crime

Halloween event that was put on by Friends of Grant Park

Unfortunately most memories are of people getting shot of people dealing drugs

swinging, basketball, church gatherings

na

Watching kids play

Getting offered drugs.

having someone try to sell me heroin

Helping upgrade the landscaping

Volunteering adding new playground equipment

When it was fixed up.

NA

We don't risk using it.

None. I don't live in OTR.

n/a

I don't frequent the park

volunteering for trash cleanup and re mulching.

My employer had a employee volunteer day and we cleaned up and mulched, etc.

Lunchtime Outside

Never go there - only drive by on occasion. I generally avoid that whole block.

I have none

watching the kids paly on swings and slides and playing football, kickball and basketball

Help them with the parks

running around, playing on the equiptment looking at animals, staring at the sky at night

Letting kids run in all the open green space. Love that its fenced near high moving traffic.

Playing football, tackling

none

Like the park its clean, kid friendly. Could use more things for little kids not just older kids

Family get togethers

Swings

Seeing people playing basketball and having a good time.

I don't have one.

The clean up party in May

None

Nothing

I often ride my bike past it but I never stop in. I think both Findlay and Grant Parks need to be entirely redesigned from scratch. A causal observer can easily see that both areas were never really intended to be taken seriously as "parks." They're abandoned lots, more or less. I'd like to see a more formally-designed public space...similar Washington Park.

N/A

None

n/a

I don't have one honestly.

none

None

Driving by it.

N/a

none

NA

I haven't used Grant Park.

Q17 - What other thoughts do you have about how to create a great community park?

by quit closing them or when you do reopen them so our AA kids can have somewhere to play like other communities

Make available for people of low income and that still live here and not all for white people with money

n/a

all stated

keep the kids safe

Playground w/ no mulch

no

no

nothing

adding food

I hope it make a new park

no

keep them publically operated! benches, trees, water fountains, swings and good play ground equiptment, shade and covered areas

More gardens, play grounds, activites for kids, artwork in parks, less trash, and more law enforcement to protect kids and adults at parks

nothing

Include community support from actual community members. Not outsiders.

By stop police brutality on homeless people

to get police away and leave us alone

n/a

Ensure that those walking to parks have a saef experience.

Making it a safe space for people to visit would be my number 1 priority

The surrounding community and people visiting the parks from outside the community need to care about the park. People that dont care about the parks or are there for the wrong reasonsns need to be weeded out. No one should be concerebnd about their safety at a park.

it needs to be safer

it should be clean

There is a building under renovation just "southish" from 16 E McMicken that has a stage. there may be an opportunity for collaboration with the owner and development/use of performance space for Findlay Park.

everyone should think about the kids, they need somewhere to play nstead of being in the house all the time or getting into trouble

People just getting along

no gus

lets talk

Parent watch there kids, drug out security

just to make it a nice and safe place for all ages and people no matter the color.

everybody coming together

Safety wise

family friendly people outreach. alot things positive to do

togethernest

I it is key that to create a great community park it needs to be rebranded and renovated so people know it can be a safe place to come and enjoy.

To make these park safe, the space and programming need to reflect the needs and interests of ALL families. We love Zeigler. It's size and the intimacy of the space is perfect for creating connections between families and kids. Too often as neighborhoods see additional investment by white, middle-class people, public spaces begin to reflect those interests. We need to consider how we create community parks that maintain that sense of belonging for legacy residnets.

1. Programming is essential. 2. Must be attractive to good, productive, engaged citizens in all periods of the day—morning, afternoon, and evening. Otherwise the negative element will take over. 3. Physical facilities should attract children and families-and lots of them. 4. Physical facilities should not be conducive to the homeless and unemployed just hanging out all day

Making the park as inclusive as possible to all demographics/ethnicities. Renovating parks and keeping them clean/maintained. The other parks downtown (Ziegler, Washington, Smale) have been refurnished and seem to still attract diversity.

Keep it programmed...

We have two amazing parks in OTR. Ziglar and Washington Park. Let's figure out what they did there and bring it here.

Washington Park and Ziegler Park are great examples of parks that have found vibrant new life through renovations and plenty of programming for a variety of users. 3CDC has a great handle on how to program the parks so they are used, safe, lively, and vibrant.

Seek the expertise and guidance from 3CDC

Build up (revitalize) area surrounding the parks. This will promote the right element. People will come to the park to enjoy it, instead of coming to it to get their drugs.

Washington Park is a beautiful park. I love the movies, thank you.

more tree

team work, not just taken over something. I een around my whole life I have great thing to say about the community if you ask me. Nashon Wrathers

Diversity Day: ppl of OTR come out and teach something about their culture. - like bucket bays - African culture exhibit, dance - Steps of how to change financial situations.

We need more programming and activities, lighting and safety.

More lighting, security cameras, and proactive policing to make sure everyone feels safe and comfortable in the park at any time day or night. Troublemakers just need to feel its not worth the hassel to do stupid things in or around the park areas and will go elsewhere.

It needs lighting and cameras for security, an events space, a project that can bring people together around a positive activity like a garden the kids can help with (wesley chapel could help with this), a good playground (grant does have this)

Have more activity and events for family and kis, church events book bags and school supply past out

Have more activitey and events for the kids.

Safety is key. I love to see other neighborhood kids and their parents at the playgrounds.

Movement and monitoring!

Make the area around it safer

Capital investment

aim big. connect findlay park to findlay market and the rec center near by

I think that as long as the community schedules activities and events in the park on a regular basis, criminal activity would be kept at bay. Before the park was closed, residents in the area knew that the park was not a safe space for themselves or their children. People using drugs and alcohol seemed to believe they would see little consequences for their actions.

Curtailling drug use in these parks immediately. Police presence until it dies down.

Better lighting, increased programming to draw people to the area a la Washington and Ziegler Parks. More rec sports programming.

Security cameras, police involvement, clean. Safe environment.

make it less intimidating.

None.

Small parks such as findlay and grant need to be tailored to the urban needs whild conserving space. Sports fields are great where space allows. Community Gardens make sense where space allows but not where space is at a premium. Parking for the handicaped makes sense in a small park but general parking is a waste of space -- the idea of an urban park is to encourage, not discourage, movement. Underground parking similar to Washington Park makes sense as a revenue stream and to alleviate congestion in the neighborhoods and to support businesses and events in the park. Any new underground parking should be available at minimal or no cost to low-income neighbors. Parks should be closed to loitering after dark but should be open for purposful uses during early morning or evening hours. Purposeful uses include: Fitness classes, individual exercise, public music, dog walking etc. Parks should support exercise and activity at any reasonable time of the day. Urban Parks tend to be refuges for homeless etc. We need to be sensitive to our vulnerable populations while being sensitive to the phobias of other users. It's a delicate balance.

It would be nice if there was a community "Clean Up the Park" day where people from the neighborhood could come together, meet and have a sense of ownership, pride and contribution to their park

community inclusion. make people care about it.

Community parks need to have programming all the time - like Washington Park, which keeps the park safe and maintained. This also keeps the unsafe activities away.

Community Policeing is a must

anything that fills the parks with families instead of drug gangs. I'd love to see these parks transformed like Washington Park where kids of all colors and ages are playing together, and enjoying a day outside.

Just more games and fun things

Allowing adults to stay in the park or around without being bothered by the police

Create a safe space that makes the community feel welcome without over policing the area. Give resources for the community at the park. Make the park more fun.

More parking

Bring back horeseshoe

No alcohol

none

Cut off hours for park. More cleaning.

n/a

It needs to be welcoming and catering to everyone.

Don't gentrify - make parks accessible to all community members. Parks should serve the needs of the public - in low income communities this often includes a safe place to lie down without harassment, public restrooms, and even showers.

Do this type of survey directly in the community and not just Online.

Make sure to listen to residents before making any decisions. Through community meetings, focus groups, etc. Make sure to include different perspectives, and prioritize those of long time OTR residents.

Plan activities that encourage ALL neighbors to get to know each other. Things that will preserve diversity.

A small off leash dog park in Findlay park would be wonderful. Neighbors often have pets off leash in this area - this is dangerous and they need a space to do this safely.

Use Washington Park as the bench mark to program and populate both parks

Planting interesting trees would be really cool. Hybrid chestnut trees that are immune to blight would be really awesome...and residents/visitors could gather chestnuts and roast them in the fall. I think antique-looking fountains would add a much-needed continental flair the parks. Renaming the parks would be cool. Findlay Playground could be called "Dresden Park." Grant Park needs to be smaller. It's way too big! Make it more intimate...the use the remaining land to build mixed-used development/housing.

My main concerns with the parks is that they are accessible, clean, and maintained. I definitely think that programming and events helps, but have a staff presence and sense of ownership over the space, and that is taken care of is really important. Play ground, and benches are a great start, I really think that children and pet friendly spaces help open spaces and parks up to an inviting demographic.

dog park

Planned activities - super important

including the community in the planning and organizing, making it welcome to all, giving people activities to do in the park

Involve the community, allow the individuals who live in the community to have some input on what they would like to see more of.

create so many things happening that criminals don't go there. Like Washington park, there's so many things going on that it makes criminals and bad people not be around cause they can't get away with anything because

it's too public. Like NYC, there's crime sure but because of the amount of people in the city, everyone feels safe because criminals are less likely to act around more people

There are a lot of people that have dogs in this area, but the north side of Findlay needs an area for dogs like Washington park. Especially considering there's little to no grass around. Also, parking is important considering there's already minimal parking in the area.

Scenic space with a lot of greenery.

N/a

The ability to buy drugs has to be eliminated

Allowing nature to flourish (butterfly garden ?) having a way to reserve areas for birthday parties cookouts etc, green space with shady trees to play and lounge etc.

More security, no loitering, no overnight stays, no outdoor elimination.

Allowing events to happen at the park