



NEW IDEAS

Write your idea on a post-it note and leave it here!



HISTORIC PLACES PLAN (HiPP)

Boulder Parks and Recreation manages 12 historic places. The HiPP is currently underway to determine how to manage these properties. These historic places include:

Historic Districts:

- 1. Chautauqua Park
- 2. Columbia Cemetery
- 3. Downtown Boulder-Pearl Street Pedestrian Mall

Buildings/Structures:

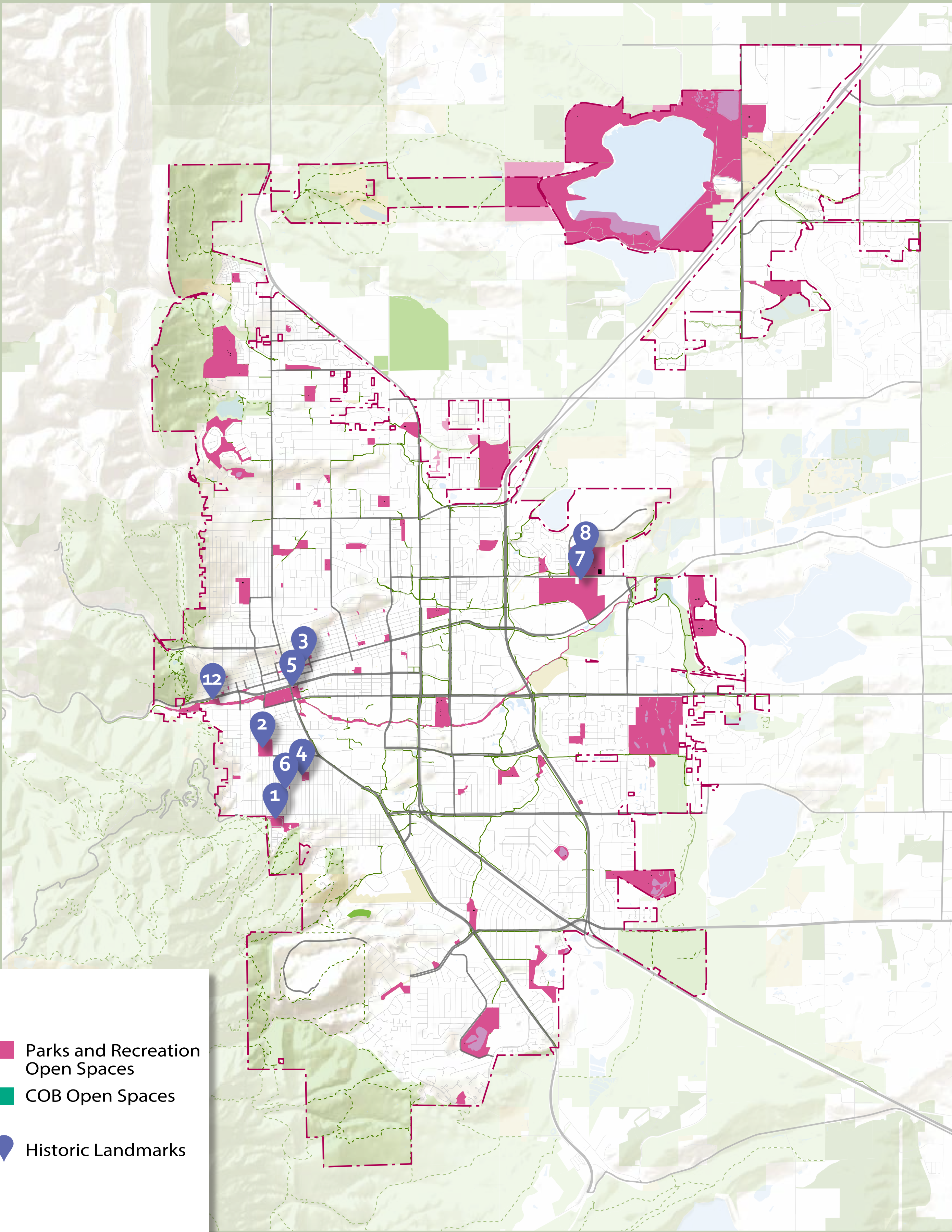
- 4. Harbeck-Bergheim House
- 5. Glen Huntington Bandshell
- 6. Fire Station No. 02 (aka Pottery Lab)
- 7. Roney House
- 8. Platt Farmhouse

Rolling Stock:

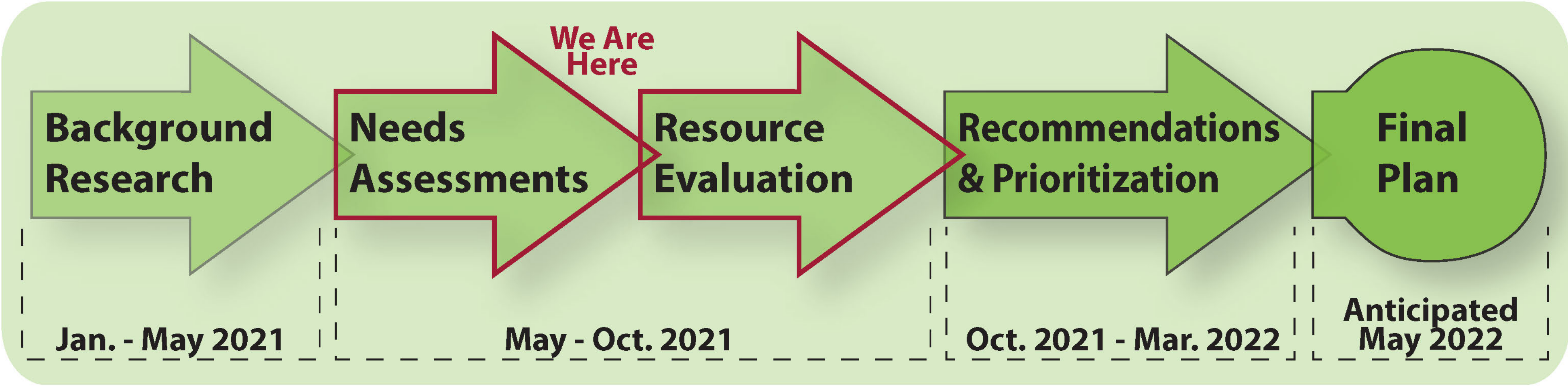
- 9. Colorado Northwestern Railroad Locomotive No. 30
- 10. Denver & Rio Grande Western Railroad Caboose No. 04990
- 11. Denver & Rio Grande Western Railroad Coach No. 280

Archeological Site:

- 12. Boyd Smelter Site



The process includes 5 phases with several upcoming opportunities for community discussions and feedback.



Phase 1
Background Research

- Archival research of existing documentation and initial site visits
- Base mapping of resources

Phase 2
Needs Assessment

- Record existing conditions and current uses
- Assess opportunities and constraints
- ADA assessment for accessibility

Phase 3
Resource Evaluation

- Refine property histories
- Assess integrity and identify character-defining features
- Analyze spatial relationships with surrounding environments

Phase 4
Recommendation and Prioritization

- Define management approaches
- Determine preservation approaches
- Future use recommendations
- Explore funding strategies

Phase 5
Final Plan

- Integrate and Illustrate the process and outcomes
- Prepare the final plan



HISTORIC PLACES PLAN (HiPP)

The research and assessments will provide a base of information that will be used to evaluate each resource with specific departmental strategies and initiatives. Below are assumptions and finance considerations required to make financially sustainable and data-informed decisions. Community values are also an important part of the decision-making process.

Assumptions

- Preservation is a priority
- Meets citywide goals (such as energy efficiency in the case of buildings)
- Existing needs
 - Current BPR programming or office space need
 - All Programs are Based on Evaluated Community Need and Cost Recovery

Finance Considerations

- Allowed use within current code
- Interior Protection (building specific, considered above what would be required by designation but desired by community)
- Capital Cost Impact
- Potential Income
- Annual operations and maintenance cost
- Annual repair and renovation impact

ACTIVITY: The following community values were considered vital to determining the best use and maintenance of the Harbeck-Bergheim House in 2019. **Would you agree or disagree that these values should be applied to the other historic places that BPR owns and manages?**

agree

disagree

COMMUNITY VALUES

Neighborhood Compatibility

Public Access

Parks and Recreation Master Plan Alignment (should align with at least 2 Key themes)

Community Use

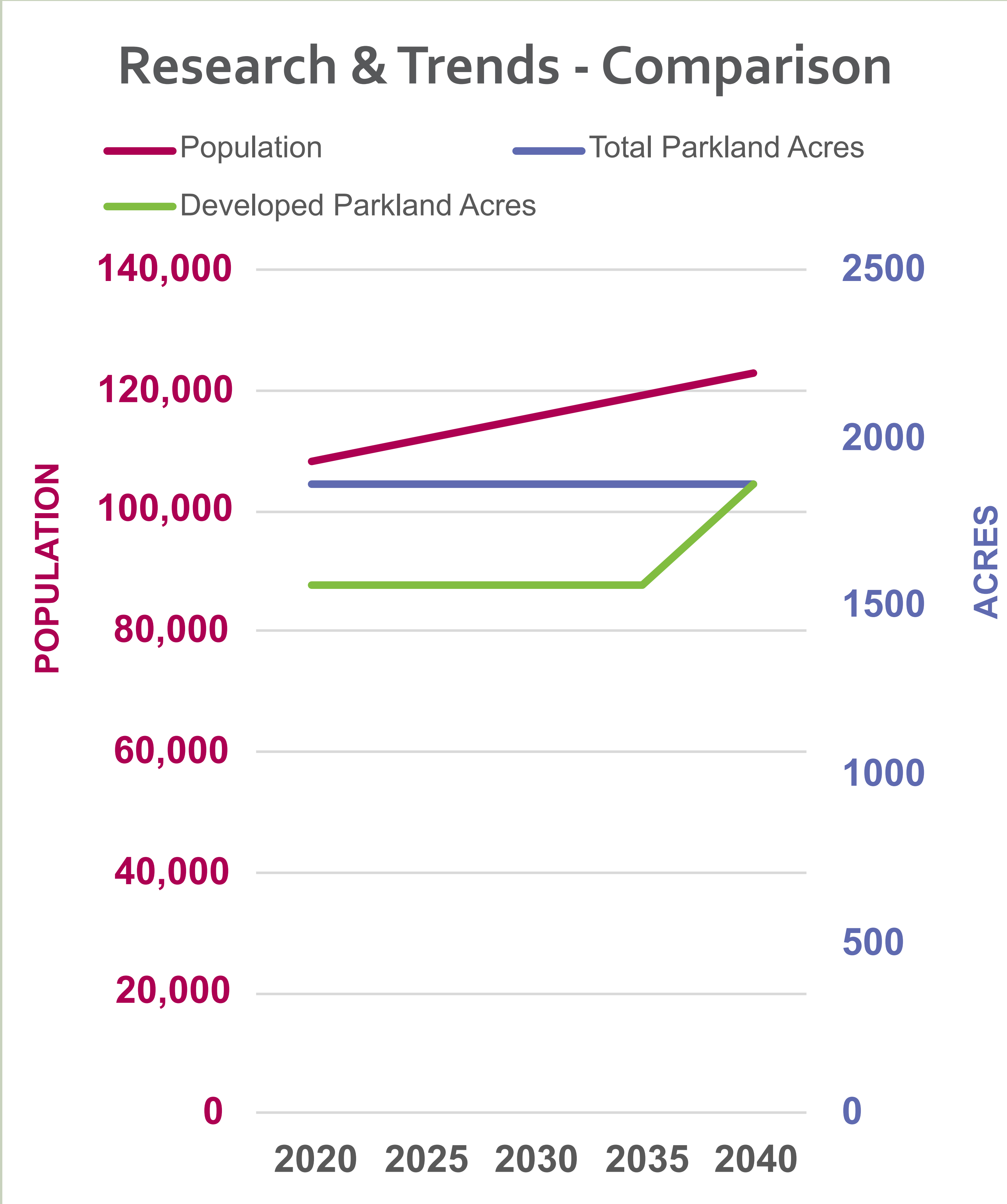
Community Benefit



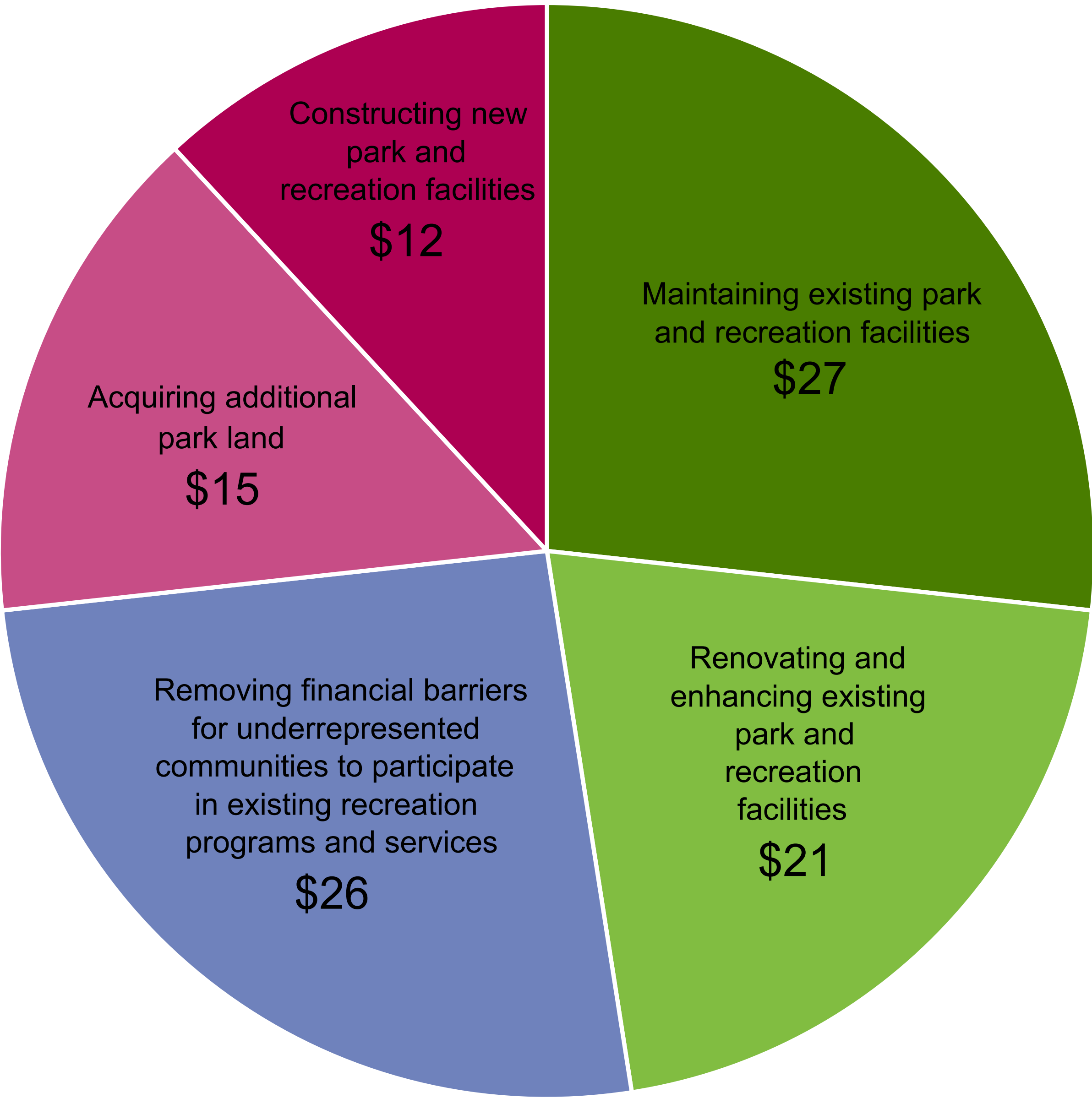
TAKING CARE OF WHAT WE HAVE

KEY FINDINGS

- Boulder is growing in population, but BPR is not adding new land for parks.



- By 2040, to keep parks serving the community in the way they are now, BPR would need to acquire an additional 226 acres of new land.
- Survey respondents agree that BPR's focus should remain maintaining existing facilities and renovating or enhancing existing facilities



- BPR needs to be able to prioritize ongoing operation and maintenance in our parks, as our resources and capacity are not keeping up with the existing needs.
- Many parks have unmaintained areas simply due to lack of capacity and resources.



TAKING CARE OF WHAT WE HAVE

ACTIVITY 1: As BPR renovates and improves parks, how important are each of these to have in your local park? **Place a dot on the scale to indicate your preference for each park feature.**

	Not important at all	Mostly unimportant	Somewhat unimportant	Somewhat important	Very important	Essential
SEATING	<div><div></div></div>					
SHADE	<div><div></div></div>					
PLAYGROUNDS	<div><div></div></div>					
PICNIC AREAS	<div><div></div></div>					
PATHS/ SIDEWALKS	<div><div></div></div>					
PARKING	<div><div></div></div>					
COURTS AND SKATE AREAS <small>(tennis, pickleball, basketball)</small>	<div><div></div></div>					
PROGRAMMED FIELDS <small>(baseball, soccer, lacrosse)</small>	<div><div></div></div>					
OPEN TURF AREAS <small>(unprogrammed sports or public use like cornhole, sunbathing, pick-up games)</small>	<div><div></div></div>					
LIGHTING	<div><div></div></div>					
BATHROOMS	<div><div></div></div>					



TAKING CARE OF WHAT WE HAVE

ACTIVITY 2: Given the high use and lack of certain types of features, how should BPR respond to the increased need for parks and facilities? **Place dots in your top two preferences.**

Need to build out planned phases of existing parks (i.e., Valmont, Foothills, Eaton, Violet, Harlow Platts, Area III).

Repurpose existing park sites such as East Mapleton Ballfields in the heart of the city to include more or different types of amenities to fill the gaps.

Purchase additional land for parks to be built upon.

Partner with private organizations to develop facilities and programs and/or allow Boulder residents to use existing private facilities.

EXAMPLE

Partner with other public entities, such as school districts or municipalities, to develop joint use recreational facilities.

Ensure existing facilities are built to support higher use and are more resilient.

EXAMPLE



SAFE, CLEAN AND WELCOMING SPACES

KEY FINDINGS

- Parks and recreation services should be available to all members of the community and are public spaces.
- BPR has seen increasing and continuous illegal use of parkland for parties, gatherings, camping and general overuse creating a strain on BPR and the limited resources available to provide core services. Staff and volunteers are having to consistently clean up from vandalism and misuse among very difficult conditions and many times closing a park or facility.
- Visitors, residents, and employees are impacted by threatening and unwelcoming behavior, which is having an impact on the community’s use of parks and public spaces as welcoming places.
- Encampments and illegal behaviors were some of the top issues and challenges facing our community in the anecdotal surveys.
- In most of the recent engagement processes related to park design, considerations and concerns about attracting encampments is always a key factor with the community.

ACTIVITY 1: Do you agree or disagree with each statement about public places? **For each statement, place a green dot if you agree, and a red dot if you disagree.**

agree

disagree

PUBLIC PLACES

People should respect the parks, natural environments and ecosystems they visit.	<div>EXAMPLE</div>
Public space should be accessible, safe, delightful, and welcoming for all, without privileging one person or group over another	<div>EXAMPLE</div>
Public space should be shared among people of different backgrounds, identities, and experiences (e.g., race, ability, income).	
Everyone has a responsibility to fulfill the social contract – an implicit commitment to mutual protection and well-being.	
The community should help define how the social contract is maintained with respect to everyone’s dignity.	



SAFE, CLEAN AND WELCOMING SPACES

ACTIVITY 2: How can BPR strive to ensure all visitors feel safe and welcomed in Boulder’s parks? **Place dots in your top two preferences.**

Increase the types of amenities that are available.	
Reduce barriers to accessing the parks (i.e., connectivity, costs, language, etc.)	
Reduce crime and illegal activities in the parks. (i.e., camping, violence, drugs, etc.)	
Prevent too many people at one time – overcrowded.	
Reduce unclean conditions, vandalism, or mitigate facilities that need maintenance.	
Trash picked up regularly.	
Increase the frequency that facilities and equipment is renovated or replaced.	
Other? Please specify using a sticky note.	<div>EXAMPLE</div>

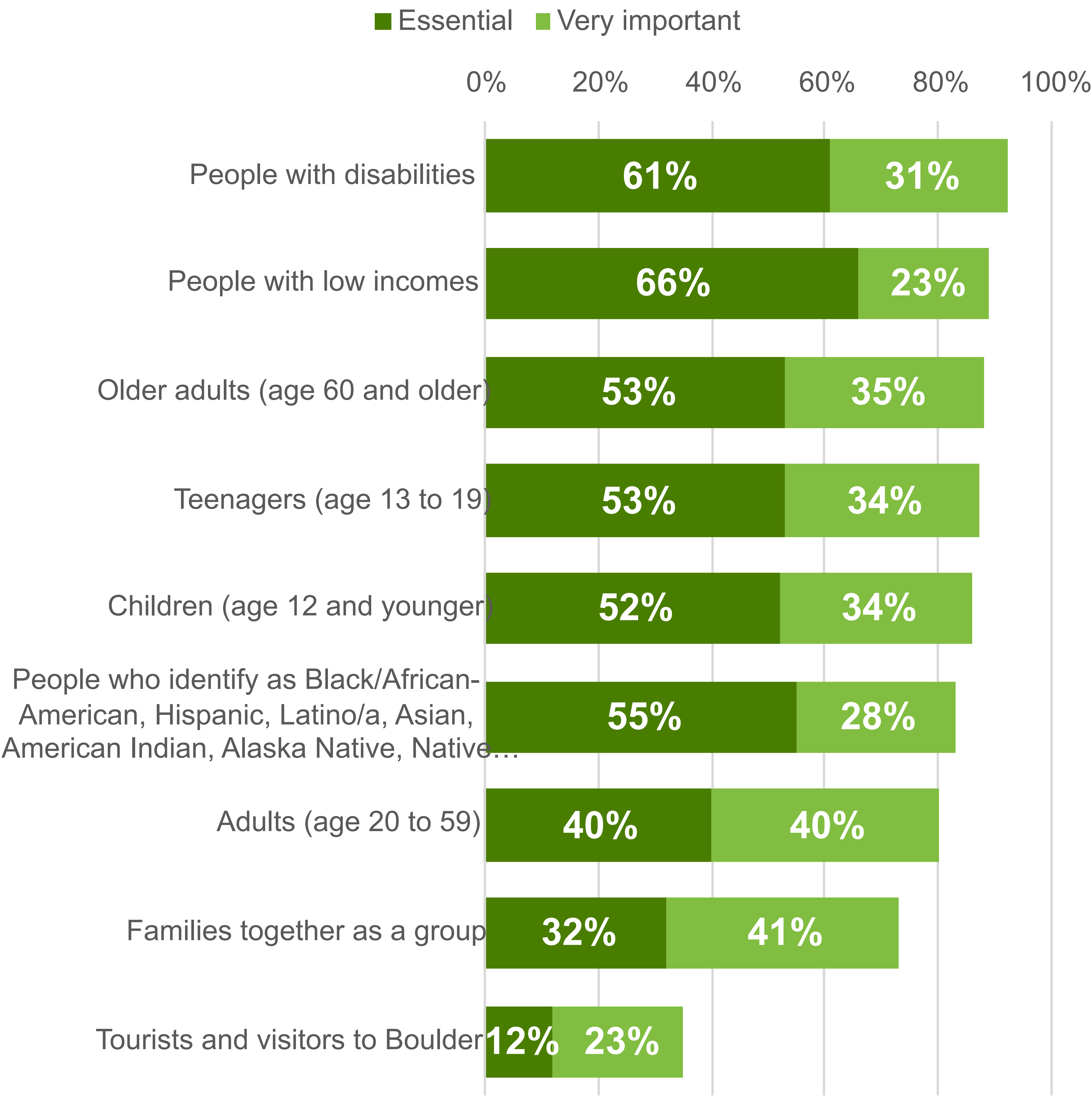


COMMUNITY HEALTH AND WELLNESS

KEY FINDINGS

- The health and wellbeing of the entire Boulder community remains a top priority and focus for the department especially in the recovery from the pandemic.
- Boulder population is aging and will require more resources and targeted approach to age well services.
- Children still struggle with childhood obesity, lack of connection to nature and increased rates of mental illness.
- Teen isolation, anxiety and separation are reaching critical levels due to the pandemic and over emphasis on devices and screen time.
- All aspects of BPR provide health and wellbeing ranging from facilities to parks and programming in an integrated approach.
- Focus on both the lack of parks near residents and/or their ability to get to parks. This includes issues around walkability, adequate parking, and public transit access.

Importance of providing recreation programs for various population groups



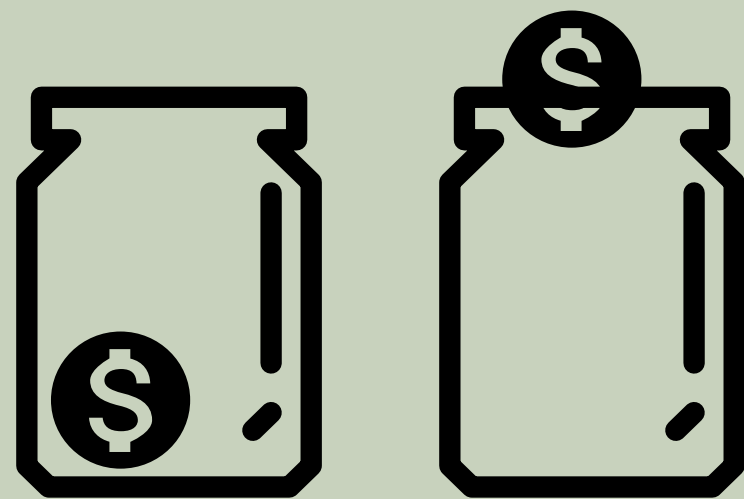


COMMUNITY HEALTH AND WELLNESS

ACTIVITY 1: How can BPR make a difference and have an impact on the health and wellness in the community? **Rate highest to lowest, with “5” for most impact and “1” for least impact.**

	More direct partnership with health care providers and schools to provide a unified approach to the community.
	Increased <i>programming</i> for children and teens in partnership with allied organizations that focus on key health challenges such as obesity, mental illness, anxiety, depression.
	Improved <i>parks and facilities</i> that provide new and desirable activities that are engaging to the community and encourage activity.
	Incentives for participation and encourage healthy lifestyles.
	More innovative and unique programming for adults that isn’t provided elsewhere.
EXAMPLE	Other (please write your idea on a sticky note, but do not rank.)

ACTIVITY 2: You get 5 pennies. Place your pennies in the jar or jars where you feel like your taxes are best spent.





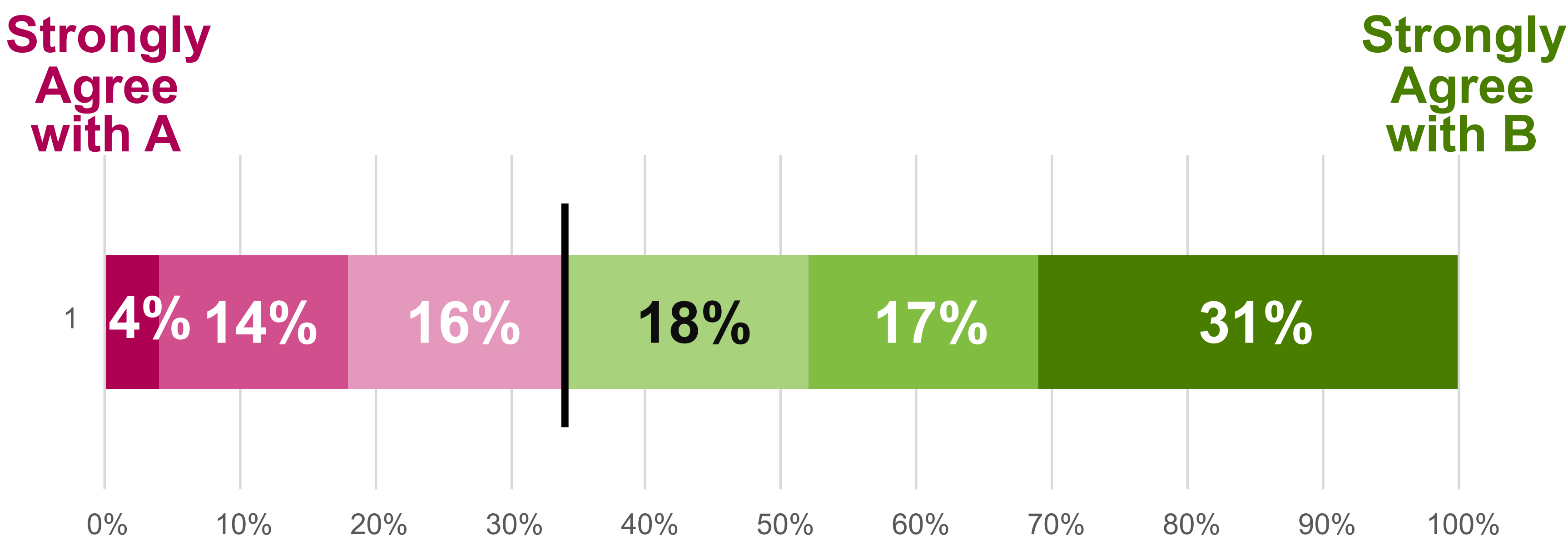
RECREATION FACILITIES

KEY FINDINGS

- Recognition from the community that BPR is providing adequate facilities and programs in some areas, with room to repurpose or recreate spaces to accommodate shifting needs.
- BPR will need to improve and enhance recreation facilities to meet new trends, efficiency in facility performance and more flexibility in demand.
- BPR fluctuates with how it stacks up with its peers in relation to certain metrics, but the community feels that BPR is adequately providing many of these resources.

	Playgrounds	Baseball Fields	Softball Fields	Rectangular or Multi-Use Fields	Skate Parks	Dog Parks	Outdoor Swimming Pools	Indoor Swimming Pools	Recreation Centers	Outdoor Tennis Courts	Outdoor Pickleball Courts
Boulder's Ranking (out of 12)	#9	#10	#11	#8	#6 (tie)	#2 (tie)	#9 (tie)	#3 (tie)	#10 (tie)	#5 (tie)	#8 (tie)
% Satisfied or Very satisfied	89%	95%	95%	95%	83%	N/A	85% / 82% (Leisure / lap)	N/A	N/A	84%	80%

- Some members of the public feel that BPR is lacking certain facility types, but the survey indicates that by and large the community feels BPR is adequately meeting facility needs.
- 67% of survey respondents felt that programming should include some popular sports and fitness activities, but also include diverse options like arts and crafts, and a variety of classes.



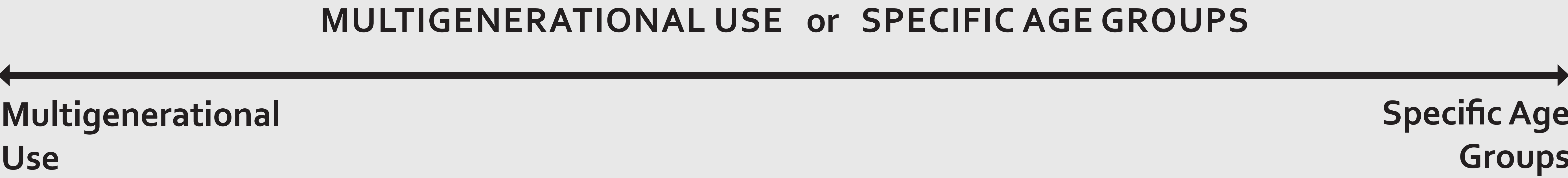
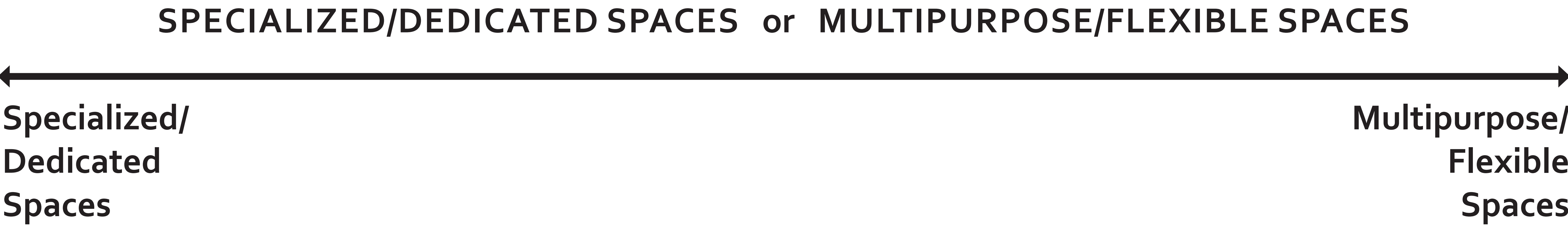
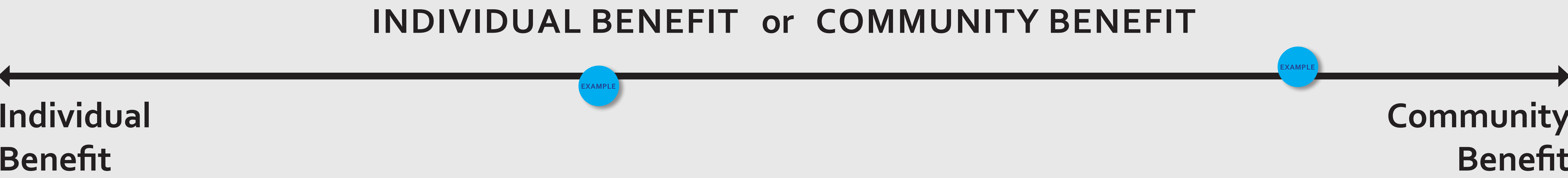
A. Parks and recreation program offerings should focus mostly on popular sports and fitness (e.g., Pilates, yoga, softball, soccer, etc.)

B. Parks and recreation program offerings should offer some popular sports and fitness activities, but also include diverse opportunities like arts and crafts, and classes (e.g., cooking drawing, etc.).



RECREATION FACILITIES

ACTIVITY: When considering the addition of new facilities or amenities, how should BPR prioritize and determine which types of amenities are built? **Please indicate your preference by placing one dot on the line between each of the pairs below.**

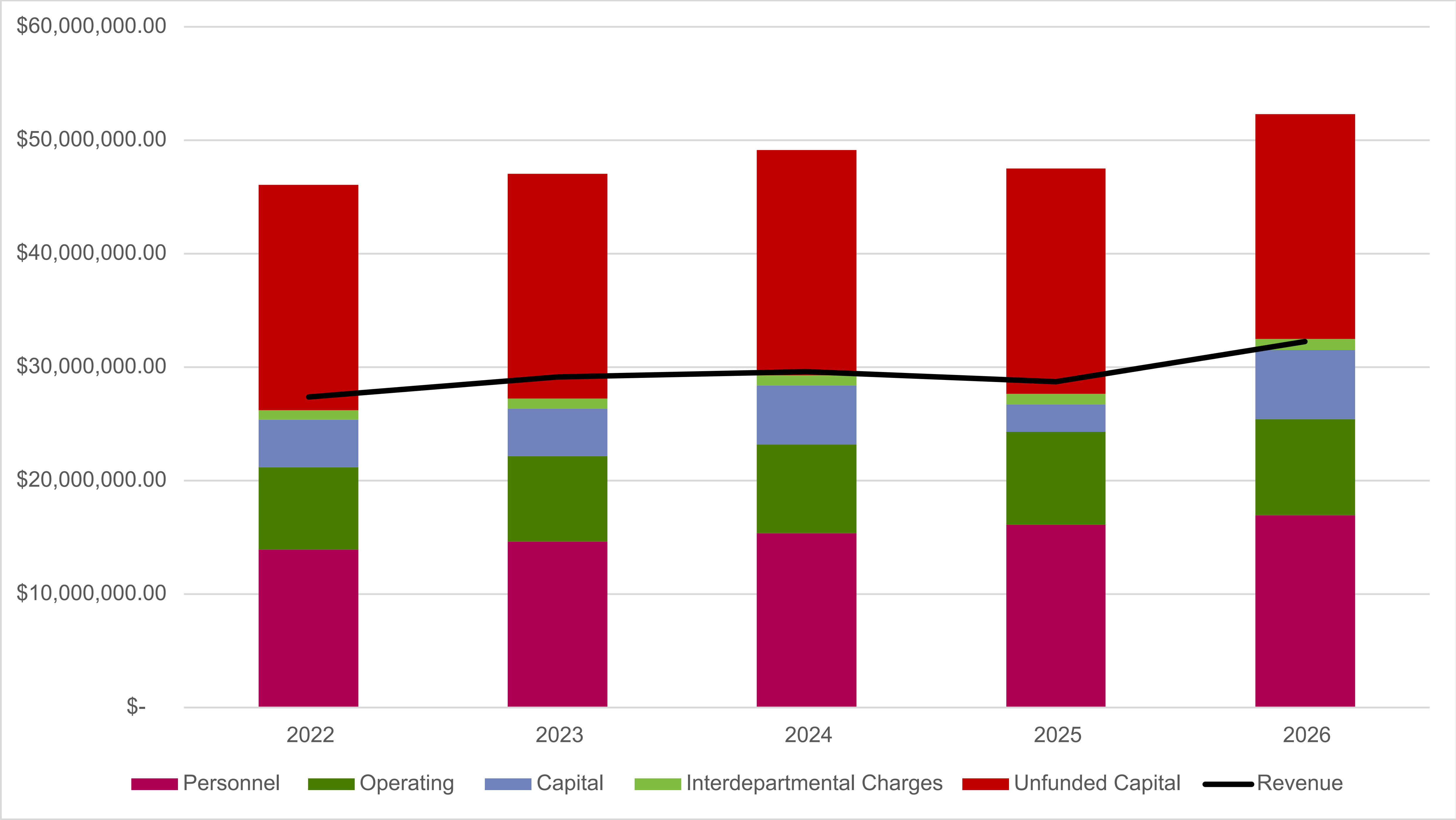




FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

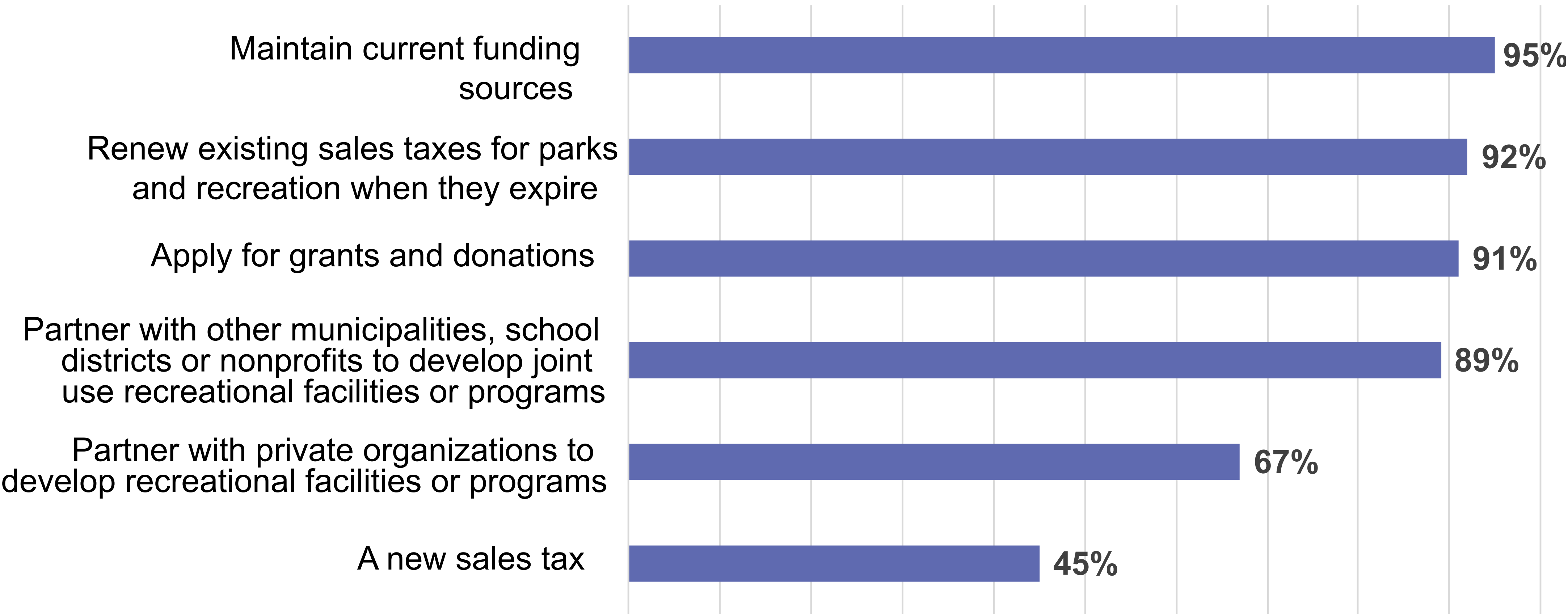
KEY FINDINGS

- Funding (revenue) has remained mostly flat between 2016 and 2021.
- To address cost escalation, BPR has increased cost recovery methodically since 2014, and yet:
 - Fees are still not sufficient to fund all expenses, and
 - Community members increasingly report concerns about facility access fees.



- Survey respondents support the following funding source options:

Survey Findings: Support for Funding Alternatives for BPR





FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY




In the coming years, BPR’s funding won’t keep pace with our growing population and the increased needs in our community, meaning that challenging decisions will need to be made to keep the budget balanced. The various programs, facilities and services offered by BPR are listed below.

ACTIVITY: Using the green dot, indicate which you would prefer BPR focus on increasing fees to pay for. Using the yellow dot, indicate which you would prefer BPR focus on finding additional funding sources to pay for (i.e., taxes, grants, donations, outsource). Using the red dot, indicate which you would prefer BPR reduce services or resources to balance the budget.

 **increase fees to pay for**

 **find additional funding sources to pay for (i.e., taxes, grants, donations, outsource)**

 **reduce services or resources to balance budget**

Maintenance of free parks and facilities (i.e. string trimming, hand weeding, trash removal)	
Renovation of free parks and facilities	
Programming that benefits the general community	
Programming that benefits certain groups or specialized uses	
Maintenance and operation of recreation centers and facilities (i.e., Boulder Reservoir, Flatirons Golf Course)	
Development of specialized facilities to drive revenue	
Financial aid provided to targeted populations within the community	



RESILIENCE, ECOSYSTEM SERVICES AND CLIMATE FOCUS

KEY FINDINGS

- BPR is a leader sustainability, climate work and ecosystem services – forestry, natural lands, rec facilities.
- Need to further implement existing plans and seek new opportunities achieve climate goals.
 - Resilience is important for adaptability and preparedness for inevitable change.
 - Community Hopes - continue to provide programs and amenities that last, and improve wildlife, forestry, and ecosystem preservation efforts.
 - Community Concerns - being unprepared to handle crises including floods, drought, and climate change.
- The burden of climate change impacts heavily low-income communities and people of color, with growing recognition that climate change is a racial justice problem.
- Low-income and persons of color communities are often the most park-deficient communities in the nation. The need for parks in these communities far outpaces the funds available to purchase new parks.
- Climate change has contributed to the degradation of natural resources, loss of biodiversity and ecosystem damages.
- Parks and natural areas are important to prevent the worst damages of climate change and to educate the public on what will be lost.
- BPR has the opportunity to evaluate its programs, services and facilities to meet city climate goals including reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, carbon sequestration, and support for native ecosystems.

EQUITY

KEY FINDINGS

- Need to further implement existing plans and seek new opportunities achieve city equity goals.
 - Community Hopes - everyone has equal access and feels welcome in BPR facilities and programs.
 - Community Concerns – not at least starting to address the issues related to privilege and institutional racism, leaving communities unheard and disconnected.
- Additional equity mapping is needed to effectively analyze the distribution of BPR facilities based on equity metrics (i.e., not location, population, etc.)
- Continued city-wide collaboration to address systemic and historic inequities.

ACTIVITY: How can we include equity and resilience in the Master Plan's goals and actions for each of the key themes? Fill out the worksheet to share!