



Meeting Agenda

City Council

City Hall
601 4th Avenue E
Olympia, WA 98501

Information: 360.753.8244

Tuesday, April 4, 2017

5:30 PM

Council Chambers

Study Session

1. ROLL CALL

2. BUSINESS ITEM

2.A [17-0324](#) Artesian Commons Update

Attachments: [2014 Park User Outreach](#)
[2016 Park User Outreach](#)
[2016 Program and Events Report](#)
[2016 Well User Feedback](#)
[2016 Well Host and Ranger Planning Commission Update](#)
[2017 PBIA Business Survey](#)

3. ADJOURNMENT

The City of Olympia is committed to the non-discriminatory treatment of all persons in employment and the delivery of services and resources. If you require accommodation for your attendance at the City Council meeting, please contact the Council's Executive Assistant at 360.753.8244 at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting. For hearing impaired, please contact us by dialing the Washington State Relay Service at 7-1-1 or 1.800.833.6384.



City Council

Artesian Commons Update

Agenda Date: 4/4/2017
Agenda Item Number: 2.A
File Number: 17-0324

Type: study session **Version:** 1 **Status:** Study Session

Title

Artesian Commons Update

Recommended Action

Committee Recommendation:

Not referred to a committee.

City Manager Recommendation:

Receive an update on the Artesian Commons Park and provide guidance to staff on working with the Artesian Leadership Committee to facilitate a public process to develop a revised long-term vision for the park.

Report

Issue:

Whether to receive an update on the progress that has been made and the ongoing challenges of the Artesian Commons Park, and discuss a general direction for moving forward.

Staff Contact:

Paul Simmons, Director, Parks, Arts and Recreation Department, 360.753.8462

Presenter(s):

Paul Simmons, Director, Parks, Arts and Recreation Department

Background and Analysis:

On May 3 2014, the City of Olympia opened Artesian Commons Park with the vision of creating a food-truck-based plaza area, while also preserving public access to the Artesian Well. The original vision for the park was based on a previously held "Project for Public Spaces" workshop. The goal of the project was to discourage already existing negative and illegal behaviors by transforming a problematic location downtown into an active park filled with positive behavior.

For a variety of reasons, the vision to attract a variety of food trucks never materialized. There were two vendors operating within the first month, but neither was able to successfully maintain their operation at this location. With limited programming and maintenance resources, Artesian Commons Park continued to struggle with destructive behavior, violence, and illegal drug use and dealing. In addition to those challenges, the park also struggled with excessive trash and debris due to the

heavy use of the park.

Based on the ongoing safety and sanitary struggles with the park, the Land Use and Environment Committee developed a recommendation to temporarily close the park at the beginning of 2015. However, that recommendation received strong public testimony that focused on the benefits of the park. Members of the public expressed that the park provided a location that helped social service agencies connect with people in need. Members of the public also described how this is one of the few places that they felt accepted and safe. The City Council decided to conditionally keep the park open under the following management structure:

1. Implement a series of immediate actions with the intent of improving the safety and security of the park.
2. Develop the Artesian Leadership Committee made up with a variety of community stakeholders to provide ongoing feedback and guidance for the operation and continued development of the park.
3. Facilitate a Long-Term Visioning Process.

The Artesian Leadership Committee was created two years ago to provide guidance and feedback about the design and operation of Artesian Commons Park. The Committee began meeting in April 2015, and has been providing that feedback and guidance nearly every month since. The immediate actions included the installation of a fence, basketball hoop, and additional security cameras. Additionally, permanent tables, chairs, and umbrellas have also been added to the park. Enhancements continue, as the City Council has approved the replacement of the existing portable restroom with a permanent, 24-hour Portland Loo restroom facility. This project is intended to be complete by the summer of 2017.

There has been an increase in ongoing maintenance, community partner support, programming and events. In 2016, the City Council also authorized use of year-end funds to create seasonal Well Host and Park Ranger positions to help build a positive presence at the park. The presence of these positions was a key factor in a more than 50% decrease in calls for police services and a 23% decrease in arrests when comparing 2015 to 2016.

As the park has continued to evolve, the Olympia Parks, Arts & Recreation Department has continued to seek input regarding the Artesian Commons Park. Attached are two reports provided by Common Action Consulting, who facilitated two public events to generate feedback from individuals who regularly use the park. The first process was hosted in 2014, and the feedback was used to inform several design enhancements that have since occurred. The 2016 process was used to provide the Well Host and Park Ranger with a resource to guide their efforts and priority focus areas.

In addition to the park user feedback, the Olympia Parks, Arts & Recreation Department also surveyed 414 water users in the summer of 2016 and 51 local businesses through a separate PBIA survey in early 2017. Some positive feedback from the water users was that 52% felt as though the creation of Artesian Commons Park has improved their experience, while an additional 35% indicated that the experience is about the same. In contrast to the positive feedback from the water users, 64% of downtown businesses surveyed indicated that they had a poor perception of the Artesian Commons Park, and an additional 22% rated their perception as fair.

We continue to make progress as we implement a variety of design and operational strategies at the

Artesian Commons Park. However, we are still faced with ongoing behavior challenges in terms of violent and illegal behavior. We are also challenged with a negative perception of the park within our business community downtown and throughout the community at large.

As we look to the future, our options become more limited in terms of design enhancements, primarily due to limited space and incompatible uses. There is a need to work with stakeholders and the community to take a step back and evaluate what we have learned over three summers. There is also a need to re-visit the long-term vision to confirm that our day-to-day efforts and short-term enhancements are consistent and working in support of a shared vision for the park.

Neighborhood/Community Interests (if known):

The Artesian Commons Leadership Committee has been meeting nearly every month for two years and includes representatives from the following groups -

- Neighboring Property Owners
- Community Youth Services
- Downtown Ambassadors
- Olympia Police Department
- Parking and Business Improvement Area (PBIA)
- Olympia Downtown Association (ODA)
- Community Planning & Development - Downtown Liaison
- Olympia City Council
- Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee (PRAC)
- H2Olympia
- PB & J Project
- Olympia Parks Maintenance & Design
- Olympia Park Rangers
- Olympia Recreation Staff

Options:

1. Work with the Artesian Leadership Committee to facilitate a public process to develop a revised long-term vision for Artesian Commons Park.
2. Continue the current path of learning as we go, and evolving the Artesian Commons Park design and operation as resources allow.
3. Develop an alternative path forward for the Artesian Commons Park that may or may not include a combination of the options listed above.

Financial Impact:

Total operating costs for the maintenance, programming, and events at Artesian Commons Park is estimated at \$144,700 annually. In addition to all maintenance and program costs, this also includes the cost of the Well Host and Park Ranger.

In addition to the operating costs, there is currently \$40,000 remaining for continued enhancements from the 2016 Capital Budget.

Attachments:

2014 - Park User Outreach
2016 - Park User Outreach
2016 - Program and Events Report
2016 - Well User Feedback
2016 - Well Host and Ranger Planning Commission Update
2017 - PBIA Business Survey



Project Description
Artesian Commons Park (ACP)
Youth Outreach

Activities

1. The City of Olympia contracts with Adam Fletcher to conduct this phase.
2. Identify five key stakeholder organizations that currently serve or represent the target youth population, including Community Youth Services, Partners in Prevention Education, Stonewall Youth, YWCA, and GRuB;
3. Host a conversation with adults from these stakeholder organizations focused on “Youth as Assets” and collect their ideas; secure their commitment to participate in a youth workshop;
4. Facilitate a youth workshop for young participants from these stakeholder organizations focused on “Youth as Assets” and collect their ideas; secure their commitment to supporting the Artesian Commons Park in positive ways;

1

Outcomes

- Meaningful partnerships formed to foster a more successful Artesian Commons Park
- Concrete suggestions from youth users and organizations that serve them focused on improving park usage
- A summary report focused on practical implementation and real outcomes

Timeline

- ACP Youth Serving Agencies Summit—Thursday, July 31st at 4:00pm at The Olympia Center.
- ACP “Youth as Assets” Workshop—Thursday, August 21st at 4:00pm at the ACP.
- ACP Youth Report Presented to the City—Thursday, August 21st

Costs

- Planning, facilitation, and report writing—\$600

Submitted by:

Adam Fletcher

(360) 489-9680

adam@commonaction.org



Artesian Commons Park
Youth Service Providers Summit
July 31, 2014

Present

Rosalinda Noriega (PIPE), Meg Martin (EGYHOP), Lionel Collins (DSHS), Hillary Soens (YWCA), Rob Richards (Oly DT Amb), Paul Simmons, Brian Wilson, Dave Hanna, Scott Rivers, and Luke Burns (CoO), Keylee Marineau (CYS)

2

Agenda

- Impressions
- Expectations
- Hopes & Dreams
- Concerns
- Next Steps

Additional Questions

1. How can we adapt our management approach to improve the atmosphere of the Artesian Commons?
2. Do you have an interest in ongoing programming at the Artesian Commons?
 - a. If not, what are the barriers and would there be anything that the City could do to entice them to bring future programming to the Artesian?
3. Where should we focus future investments at the Artesian Commons?

1. "What Impressions Do You Have Of The Park Right Now?"

- Port-a-potty locked after bar patrons leave—its open for some, not all
- Hugely improved over what it was
- Haven't been there for a while
- Young adults covered in puke upon walking up to the park
- Play at the Park was an awesome event
- The bushes in the cement planters are holly and pokey—a horrible message that is repelling to people and doesn't send a welcome message
- Community members say "Thank god we chased those street kids away" during community events
- It feels like an "either/or" space that are exclusive, not connected
- Space is used for homeless/at risk youth to communicate, especially since they don't have phones, etc.
- Ambassadors checked in with youth to discover that they were encouraged not to attend by the OPD
- Ambassadors want youth and larger community to intermingle
- Design and management of the space can happen independently of the policing of the space
- Space is used by multiple groups of users, and not just youth

- Pro-social activities are apparent without programming
- Fighting happens, graffiti happens, anti-social behavior happens
- An important space for many people to use
- Need for a positive behavior and programming rather than idle space
- “How do I get an event here?”
- “All kinds of perspectives have been shared with the City.”
- Some people are excited about the momentum
- Some people are feeling pessimistic and grim
- The park is a moving target: What it is now isn’t what it was or what it will become...
- The downtown should feel a sense of ownership over the park
- Vending and events perspectives: “Is smoking marijuana legal in a public park?” There’s a perception that its legal to smoke marijuana at the park
- The park isn’t perceived as a safe space for customers to use the food trucks
- There is neutral behavior that isn’t especially violent or anti-social, or poor social behavior
- Picnic tables and restroom usage have abated vandalism and negative behavior
- During the design process there was a concern from the avid well users that the well couldn’t co-exist with the park. Today, people are pleased with the circulation between the well-users and the park users
- A complaint came into the office today from a well-user that can’t find the parking to use the well. The complainer suggests that parkers aren’t the well-users
- A park user was doing trash cleanup at the park

2. “What Expectations Do You Have For The Park?”

- The City of Olympia operates it the same as any other park
- Fresh, clean public water source continues
- City honors the heritage of making the space available and accessible to anyone
- Public restrooms
- Freedom to hang-out
- A non-harassment area where the City’s sit/lie ordinance doesn’t apply
- The space is safe and secure for little kids, animals, and other users
 - A watering bowl and doggie poo bags for animals
 - Space free on violent and/or destructive behavior
 - Space free from all illegal drug use
- Lighting
- Clean places for everyone to sit anywhere
- Usable features throughout the park, including elements and plants
- A place to belong
 - Recognize all acts of ownership, including individual acts in big or small ways
 - Support and foster park ownership activities



Consulting for Communities

- Recreation elements, like basketball hoops, hopscotch squares, and other activities that don't require equipment
- The City takes responsibility for creating a positive narrative about the park and continuously promoting it
- Smoke-free environment
- A Sharps disposal box
- MANY colors in a colorful space with no more black surfaces
- Murals
- Events and bands
- Flexibility of uses and ADA-compliant
- Unique features that no other park has

3. "What Hopes And Dreams Do You Have For The Park?"

- GRuB-sponsored garden boxes available to the public
- A rotating mural wall
- Replace the holly bushes with herbs and/or vegetables
- Agencies and businesses downtown could sponsor a garden box and maintain it, i.e. clean highway projects
- A "free wall" for graffiti which gets repainted monthly
- Park resources on City website like Sylvester Park, i.e. how to have events there, use the resources, etc.
- Online calendar on the City website
- Calendar posted at the park
- Host outdoor cinemas there
- Offer exercise equipment of some time to encourage physical activity
- Have a simple process for getting on the calendar
- Have local group homes host activities at the park
- Put a [literal] punching bag there
- Ensure groups can use the sound system and microphone
- Create a real water feature like the LOTT stream using the flow from the well
- Host a regular Olympia Film Society Night at the Well with chairs and a screen
- Host an agency-sponsored food cart employing formerly homeless people
- Host a simple mural contest any school, nonprofit, or business could participate in
- Have a wading pool
- Have a basketball court or just a hoop
- Have multi-agency sponsorships for murals
- Have a Market-In-The-Park like the maker markets downtown
- Have a ping pong table
- Move the City fleet so there's more space for the park
- Have rotating art like on Percival Landing

4. “What Concerns Do You Have For The Park?”

- No “Lifetime trespassing” that eliminates usage of the park
- Approach punishment at the park in a restorative way instead of a punitive way
- An absence of visually stated rules; people could be involved in creating them and make a mural out of it (Graphic notes style)
- Sit/Lie Ordinances will leak into that space (paint murals of people lying down to encourage their laying down there and that it’s okay) (Expand the mural to show different uses at the park and the different people who use it)
- Downtown polarization is targeted at the park
- Police aren’t given proper guidance on how to address the park; they’re getting mixed messages
- Funding will be affected by negative public perception that isn’t informed by actual practice
- The port-a-potty isn’t progressive; use the Portland style potty
- Targeted discrimination against juvenile offenders, especially against sex offenders and others
- Maintaining a safe and secure expectation for *all* users of the park is important
- Can the park actually be used to serve all the city’s residents, or is it inherently just for some of them?
- We won’t succeed in including everyone; instead, we’ll end up excluding more people and having more people pushed out
- Unrealistic expectations of the park—it’s becoming a symbol of larger issues instead of just as a park
- The park is a bandaid that’s been ripped off the larger wounds downtown
- Olympia is good at planning, not implementation; how can we ensure real outcomes?
- Is there a way to gather peoples’ opinions before they gather in two weeks? Multiple ways of input are vital... Different people need different ways to contribute...
- How does the City address problems with people with mental health issues? Is there a process? Is there a system?

5. Next Steps

- This document will be sent to all participating organizations and individuals. They’re invited to submit corrections and additions.
- A Youth Forum will happen on Thursday, August 21st at 4:30pm at the Artesian Well Commons Park. Participating organizations will be highly recommended to attend and bring youth they serve. The Forum will be facilitated by Adam Fletcher, and pizza will be provided for all participants. We are hoping for 60-80 participants in the Youth Forum.
- The City will implement a variety of improvements and alterations over the next year, including many items on this list. Outcomes will be reported back to participating organizations and individuals.
- Paul Simmons will continue to meet with participating organizations and individuals as needed, and will serve as a direct contact for those organizations and individuals to promote ongoing park usage.
- Additional next steps will emerge from the Youth Forum and the process will be elaborated on then.



**Artesian Well Commons Park
Youth Service Providers Summit Roster**

Name	Org	Role	Email	Phone
Brian Wilson	City of Olympia	Downtown Liaison	BWilson1@ci.olympia.wa.us	709-2790
Charles Shelan*	Community Youth Services	CEO	CShelan@communityyouthservices.org	918-7880
David Hanna	City of Olympia	Associate Parks Director	DHanna@ci.olympia.wa.us	
Dusty Weber LaMay*	Stonewall Youth	Executive Director	Dusty@stonewallyouth.org	705-2738
Hillary Soens	YWCA	Executive Director	HSoens@ywcaofolympia.org	352-0593
Keylee Marineau	Community Youth Services	Director of Services for High Risk Youth	KMarineau@ communityyouthservices.org	918-7828
Lionel Collins	DSHS	No Parole JJRC	collilx@dshs.wa.gov	486-2246
Luke Burns	City of Olympia	Recreation Specialist	LBurns@ci.olympia.wa.us	570-5857
Meg Martin	People's House/EGYHOP	Program Director	Meg@thepeopleshouseoly.org	545-3176
Paul Simmons	City of Olympia	Director of Parks, Art and Recreation	PSimmons@ci.olympia.wa.us	753-8462
Rob Richards	Olympia Downtown Ambassadors	Program Director	Rob@capitalclubhouse.org	292-0565
Rosalinda Noriega	PIPE (Partners in Prevention Education)	Executive Director	Rosalinda@youthchangeagents.org	357-4472
Sarah Wilkins*	Community Youth Services	YouthBuild Director	SLloyd@communityyouthservices.org	918-7813
Scott River	City of Olympia	Recreation Manager	SRiver@ci.olympia.wa.us	753-8506

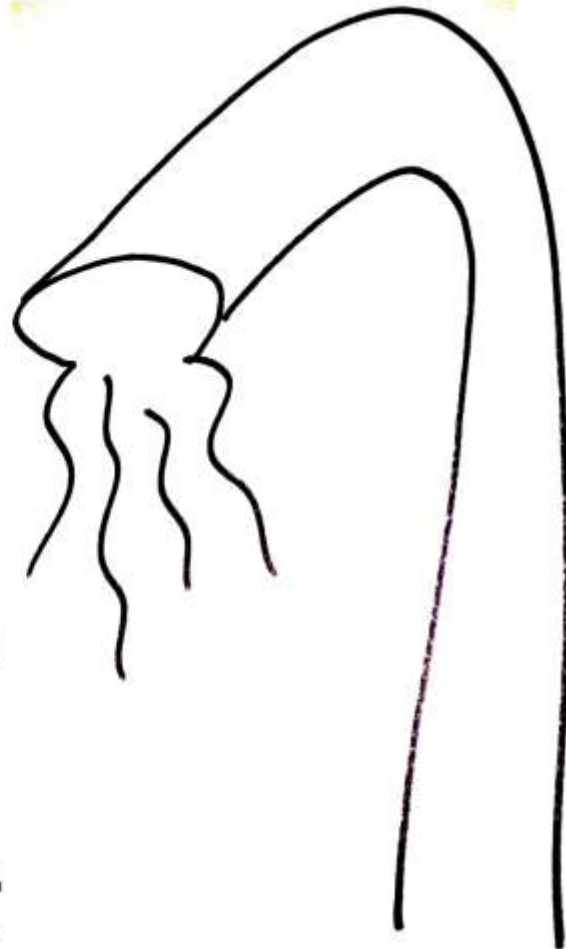
*NOTE: * indicates invited but not in attendance.*

**PO Box 6185 Olympia WA 98507-6185
CommonAction.org | 360-489-9680**

Come to the

**ALL
YOUTH
FORUM**

@ the
**WELL, about
the WELL.**



THIS Thursday, August 21st at 4pm.
Talk about the Well and YOUTH.
We want to hear what YOU think.

Artesian Well Commons Park

ALL YOUTH FORUM

August 21, 2014

8

Introduction

An ALL YOUTH FORUM was held to gather input from young people regarding the Artesian Commons Park.

- Thursday, August 21, 2014 at 4pm at the Artesian Commons Park
- Designed and facilitated by Adam Fletcher for CommonAction Consulting, a locally-owned boutique firm specializing in engaging people from historically disengaged communities in issues that matter to them
- Approximately 50 participating youth
- In addition to the participants, there were a variety of observers and others interacting, including staff from Parks, Arts and Recreation; the Olympia Downtown Ambassadors; and various agencies serving participants including Community Youth Services and DSHS.

Notes

- The process focused participants on moving straight into questions with little introduction or interaction
- Participants were informed their comments would be considered, as would many other peoples' perspectives
- The entire process took approximately 45 minutes, with lingering input shortly after.
- The order of the responses below does not indicate frequency, priority, or importance. There is no significance to the order below.
- The majority of youth attending the Forum appeared to be under 21 years old.
- Most participants were already at the ACP when the Forum began, meaning they are regular users.
- All notes were transcribed by Adam Fletcher. Most were written directly, some were interpreted, and others were left out due to their inappropriate or irrelevant nature.

Following are the main categories of questions and responses.

1. What Do You Like About The Park Right Now?

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| • The water | • Great place to meet new people |
| • The people | • We can be loud!!! |
| • Chill people | • Good people, caring people |
| • Flowers | • Taco truck |
| • Free place to relax | • Kids, dogs |
| • Free water for everyone | • Communal |
| • The restroom left open | • Everyone can be here anytime |
| • The space itself | • Hacky sack |
| • An easy place to hang out | • It's a place to be |

- Music
- Food and tables
- Fresh water
- Play at the Well events
- 24/7 access to water
- “Meet at the Well”
- Socializing
- Open and airy feeling
- Some people feel comfortable
- Everyone welcome

2. What Don't You Like About The Park Right Now?

9

- Too much concrete
- No park stuff
- No positive influences
- Crack heads
- People who behave bad
- Tweakers
- Weed isn't legal here
- Hours
- Not enough shade
- Smooth jazz
- No graffiti wall
- Too much drama
- Users leave dirty needles where people play and lay
- Too many police
- No plugins
- No electricity
- More benches
- Under cover
- The daycare going on here
- No skateboarding allowed
- The rules
- Closing at a certain time
- Cops harassing “over the level”
- Need more comfort
- Trash cleanup
- Needs more grass and plants
- Trees in pots right now keep dying
- Some people are uncomfortable
- Heroin addicts
- Food trucks should be here more days and hours
- Sex offenders
- Too much trash
- Volleyball or tennis
- Adult sex with minors
- Plants in pots feel temporary

3. What Would You Like At The Park In The Future?

- Respect from authorities
- Sanctuary
- A pool
- No sandboxes
- A fire pit
- Legal camping in tents
- Exercise equipment
- Punching bags
- Pain the concrete
- Potted trellises
- Cut grass instead of asphalt
- Places to sit
- More food trucks
- Basketball courts
- Positive, artistic graffiti
- Racquetball
- More events
- More park stuff
- “They should be willing to catch more dangerous people, because there are plenty around here that the youth have been traumatized by.”

- Less drugs
- More free food
- Better bathrooms
- A swing set
- More seating
- Days where participants can choose the music
- List for people to sign up to choose the music
- Locked needle exchange in the port-a-potty
- Just add anything to it
- Leave it alone
- 24/7 bathroom
- Sports equipment
- Jukebox
- Skate ramps
- Not enough help for the homeless
- Shade for every table
- Fans in the park
- More garbage cans
- Can we be allowed to bring our own furniture
- No electricity
- More inclusive social circles
- Doggy fountain
- Trees in the ground
- Events
- Actual stream, not just painted on
- Kids area
- A play area not for little kids
- A plug in area for recharging phones
- Barbeque area
- Permanent restrooms, not port-a-potties
- Pond with a wishing well
- Always flowing waterfall into a stream that is never nasty, high enough to shower in
- Fenced in dog area
- Make the walls a chalkboard
- Dome over the whole area
- A stream like the Children's Museum
- Umbrellas on the tables
- Smoking spot
- Park and potty open 24/7
- Plant everything in the ground

Recommendations

By Adam Fletcher

Reviewing the suggestions of the youth service providers and youth participants at the All Youth Forum, the following recommendations emerge strongly:

1. Recognize the current successes of the ACP

- Inclusive space successfully welcoming a group of users who do not feel welcome in other parks
- Strong sense of belonging, feelings of comradery and group cohesion among current users
- Growing sense of identity with the Well among ACP users

2. Acknowledge challenges faced by youth users

- Frequently identified illegal drug use and alcohol use prevalent, including paraphernalia
- Potentially inappropriate youth/adult interactions at the ACP
- Needle disposal and unsafe seating options
- Shaded areas and growing plants

3. Identify growth areas

- Increase feelings of safety and security at the ACP for current users
- Need for additional elements at the ACP such as a basketball court
- Increase feelings of safe access to police
- Increase feelings of individual ownership over healthy behavior at the ACP

4. Most importantly

Two side comments collected from participants revealed the reality of these youth:

- “We write a lot because we have something to say. Listen.”
- “This place is the one consistent thing about downtown Olympia.”

These two comments indicate that the youth attending the Forum do not feel acknowledged, and that they need stability. It is within the City of Olympia’s capability to serve these park users by:

- Facilitating regular, substantive opportunities for these youth to be heard
- Provide stabling, consistent opportunities for youth to recreate and participate at the ACP.

Submitted in completion of the Artesian Commons Park (ACP) Youth Outreach Project on August 22, 2014.

—Adam Fletcher
(360) 489-9680
adam@commonaction.org



Artesian Well Commons Park

PARK USER FORUM

JUNE 20, 2016

INTRODUCTION

- WHAT: CommonAction Consulting facilitated a PARK USER FORUM to gather input from young people regarding the Artesian Commons Park (ACP).
- WHEN: Monday, June 20, 2016 from 3:30pm to 4:30pm
- WHO: Approximately 35 participating young people at the ACP. Staff from Parks, Arts and Recreation and Community Youth Services (CYS) assisted with facilitation.
- WHY: Gather park user input on the successes, challenges and desires for the ACP.
- WHERE: Using the existing tables and adding additional tables, as well as adding pop up tables and tents for sun coverage.
- HOW: Adam Fletcher of CommonAction facilitated a process focusing on four questions:
 - What do you like about the ACP right now?
 - What don't you like about the ACP right now?
 - What would you change at the ACP right now?
 - What should never change at the ACP?

NOTES

- The process moved participants straight into questions with little introduction or interaction.
- Participants were informed their comments would be considered.
- The entire process took approximately 45 minutes, with lingering input shortly after.
- The responses below do not indicate frequency, priority, or importance. There is no significance to the order below. There are hash marks to indicate the frequency of responses.
- The majority of young people attending the Forum appeared to be under 25 years old.
- Most participants were already at the ACP when the Forum began, likely as regular users.
- All notes were transcribed by Adam Fletcher. Most were written directly, some were interpreted, and others were left out due to their inappropriate or irrelevant nature.



Following are the main categories of questions and responses.

1. WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT THE PARK RIGHT NOW?

- | | |
|---|--|
| • Park | • Basketball |
| • Open | • Friends |
| • Quiet | • Melting pot |
| • Convenient to get out of the sun and the rain | • Tables with umbrellas |
| • Fun now with books and chess | • Chalk writing walls |
| • Honey Bucket | • Benches |
| • Cold water / the well | • The people |
| • Positive vibes | • Priceless |
| • Awesome socialization / gathering of the people
 | • Respect |
| • Smoking | • Source of income—cool aid, ice cream, food |
| • Safe place to smoke weed | • Plants |
| • Safe place to come at night if we don't have
nowhere to go | • Chess |
| • Safe place to pinky [sic] | • Basketball |
| • Always nice | • Food |
| • Diverse groups of people | • Beautiful girls |
| • Good location | • Openness |
| | • Shade |

2. WHAT DON'T YOU LIKE ABOUT THE PARK RIGHT NOW?

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| • Drama | • Being in a safe place |
| • The time it closes | • Letting us police ourselves |
| • Tweekers that flail and digglers | • Not enough seating |
| • Fights | • Tar gets on shoes |
| • Swearing | • Cops – harassment |
| • The people | • Drinking |
| • The openness | |

3. WHAT SHOULD CHANGE AT THE PARK?

- Everyone get along
- Quarterpipe
- More cover for the rain
- We need a bark park as a place for dogs to go ||
- Needs person sized chess board painted
- I want cement ping pong tables
- More than two ashtrays ||||
- Basketballs
- Butts
- Flowers
- Could be more appealing to the eye
- Needs events
- Vending machines
- Showers / beds
- Concrete grass
- Push broom / broom and dustpan access ||
- Pressure wash the ground often for health and safety
- Chalk to draw
- More shade |||
- Tree |||
- A sink
- Full access to charging port ||||
- More water play on hot days—water, balloons, squirt guns
- Containers to water plants
- Plant fruits / vegetables in pots / garden ||
- More / different seating
- Grass ||
- Community card required
- Recycling bins
- BBQs |||||
- A family day at the park
- Sharps disposal container
- Display case, face in, job listings on board
- Stinks
- Closes
- Karaoke / open mic
- Cops
- Available lockers to stop all the diggling b*****
- Another portable toilet ||
- Drinking fountain with a doggie bowl
- Suggestion box
- Bathroom door broken
- New bathroom |||
- Add other activities (24 hour access)—ping pong, foosball
- Stay open later to have access to use the hoop and other things
- Kid-friendly bathroom
- More art
- Babysitter
- Don't lock up no curfew
- Bathroom smell better
- The black wall
- Fighting
- Real bathroom
- Double deck pinochle
- Cribbage club
- Picture puzzles
- People coming in to change what's already here
- Community pool or little kid water area ||
- Mural
- Hours of operation
- Should be a safe haven for the homeless
- Put lock on honey bucket
- No park rangers |||

4. WHAT SHOULD NEVER CHANGE AT THE PARK?

- Water ||||
- The feeling of safety
- Thanks to park rangers presence
- Always open daily
- Always clean water
- I like that its more than a park
- The park isn't exceptional however it doesn't lack anything
- Basketball hoop
- The liberty that takes place here—safe place to hang out, people able to smoke weed and dabs
- The way of life that takes place here
- I would like to see the wall have some type of weekly category, any idea is acceptable, like fairy tales and other types of category [sic].
- I would like to see a soda well, something that's free pouring like a well
- Umbrellas
- Tables
- Chalk
- Well must stay
- Clean up the streets not just a park
- That it is a family place

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

- 49 murders should not be gay rights, should be about the people and their parents
- One bad apple shouldn't spoil our well and effect [sic] a community meeting place
- Equipment goes a long way
- This is like a place of home for some of us
- I know that my kid is safe not coss [sic] of cops. But because people police their self
- Being watched by cops this stupid s***



Artesian Commons | 2016 Programs & Events

This year we were able to build on the success of 2015 and provide more events and programming than ever before. In 2015 our Partners, Programs and Events Action Team (PPEAT) provided 56 hours of special events and 184 hours of "Rec. Time". In 2015 PPEAT and the Artesian Leadership Committee (ALC) strongly recommended providing onsite staff at the park for 2016. The events and programs were largely successful but relied heavily on volunteers to staff the park for the programs and events. In order to provide the consistent supervision the park needed, it was unanimously believed having onsite staffing was the best route. Paid staff could help establish park rules, assist with event promotion and set up, while also welcoming people to the park and acting as a resource to the public.

The majority of problems at the park occur when there is no programing, and when no staff or volunteers are present. In order to increase programing/events at the park as well as provide more consistent staffing/supervision more resources are needed. Increasing funding to the Artesian Commons urban park is the most critical way to ensure that the park builds and maintains a safe, vibrant and welcoming atmosphere.

2015 Program & Events Report – How Can We Improve

With 2015 year-end funds, the Olympia City Council appropriated the resources for two full-time seasonal positions to work onsite at the park. In addition, the Nisqually Tribe granted Olympia Parks, Arts & Recreation a significant sum to contribute to the resources needed. With these funds we were able to create the Well Host & Park Ranger positions, ultimately leading to 111 hours of events and 540 hours of staff coverage at the park.

TRAINING NEW PARK STAFF:

The Olympia Parks, Arts & Recreation Department (OPARD) in coordination with the Downtown Ambassadors, the Olympia Police Department and the Street Outreach Team at Community Youth Services all worked together to hire and train the new Well Host and Park Ranger. The Well Host position's main focus would be to act as a concierge for the park, providing activities for users while also educating visitors on park rules and resource in the area. The Park Ranger's position was to educate and enforce the park rules, ultimately trespassing users if necessary.



Garrett Cooper, Well Host and Lee Wyatt, Park Ranger

Because of the vulnerable community that would frequent the park, along with the public's sometimes negative perception of the park, there was much trepidation towards getting the right personnel for

the job. With the help from the ALC partners, the Well Host and Park Ranger completed eight extensive days of training. Training included walking patrol with OPD and the Downtown Ambassadors, as well as completing the CYS Street Outreach employee training.

INTRODUCING NEW STAFF:

The ALC partners thought it imperative that the park users know of the new staff that would soon be in the park, regulating the park rules (e.g. no drug or alcohol use). Everyone worked together to make the transition as smooth as possible. During their training week, the Well Host and Park Ranger introduced themselves to the public during their walking patrol shifts. The Street Outreach Team and the Downtown Ambassadors helped communicate to the public what the Well Host and Park Ranger's purpose at the park would be and that the park rules would in fact be in effect. To begin, the Well Host and Park Ranger had three core focuses: reduce litter and minimize alcohol and drug use in the park.

Once training was complete, there were still concerns with how the park patrons would react to the daily presence of the Well Host and Park Ranger. For that reason we (OPARD) had daily meetings with the new employees to ensure they were getting the support they needed while also continually educating the park patrons of the park rules.

During their first week on site, the environment was tense and the Well Host and Park Ranger received verbal threats.

Over the coming weeks as the employees continually provided daily activities and held conversations with the park patrons, tensions began to ease. Every day, board games, music and arts & crafts supplies were offered to anyone and everyone. Garrett and Lee (Well Host & Park Ranger) communicated that they were there to educate park visitors and to contribute to making the park welcoming and safe for all.

By summer's end the park environment had drastically improved. Park patrons regularly communicated concerns with staff, sharing knowledge of potential issues that may arise between park patrons. Garrett and Lee worked with OPD, the Downtown Ambassadors and CYS to minimize altercations. By September there were fewer incidents at the park and the Well Host and Park Ranger felt comfortable and confident in their roles.

Olympian article: <http://www.theolympian.com/news/local/article102491417.html>



Well Host – Garrett Cooper losing at chess - June 17



Well Host – Garrett Cooper enjoying a haircut during the Youth Forum - June 20

A SUMMER OF EVENTS:

OPARD and the ALC provided another full season of programs & events. The Bridge Music Program (CYS) provided the second annual Summer Concert Series, featuring five Friday night events with local performers and two Emmy Award-winning artists (see The Bridge Summer Concert Series report attached). We held eight skateboard competitions and sessions that brought new young faces to the park. A variety of other special events occurred, including a yoga event, a blessing of the well, a pedal-powered music fest among others. The facility and park staff were able to accommodate all the proposed events the community brought forward. With the help of the onsite staff, games and activities such as Giant Chess, a water sprinkler and art projects were possible. In addition the ALC conducted a survey of visitors who came to the park to collect water (see 2016 Artesian Water Survey).



Olympia City Councilman – Clark Gilman
enjoying the Pedal-Powered Music Festival
“Biketopia” – July 19



Parks Maintenance Staff, Ansel Jardine
getting in on “Biketopia” – July 19



City Manager, Steve Hall (right) speaking with
social service workers - July 20



Happy child enjoying the “spritzer” on a hot
day - August 26

In conclusion, it was another successful summer of events. In all, the Well Host and Park Ranger trespassed two individuals from the park. While staff was onsite (540 hours), drugs and alcohol use was strictly prohibited and a mutual respect of the space was shared by all.

HOW CAN WE IMPROVE:

The Well Host & Park Ranger positions will once again be funded in 2017. We will continue to work closely with our partners to provide quality events and programs at the park. One area of focus will be to provide a flexible schedule for the onsite staff so they can help close up late night events. Meanwhile the ALC is working to improve the design of the park, in order to improve future events/programming, flow and visibility.

TESTIMONIALS:

"Countless altercations or issues were prevented because of the work that the Well Host & Park Ranger did this summer. Largely their success is due to their everyday non-enforcement interactions with the folks down there. When things go wrong or someone is having a bad day they know what baseline is and are better able to intervene, redirect them, or seek medical or law enforcement intervention as a last case scenario. It is the unique combination of civilian friend/guide without the enforcement threat that is most useful. Great program."

Lt. Sam Costello Olympia Police Department

"After 3 months of daily de-escalation and education, park patrons really began to follow the park rules and respect each other."

Lee Wyatt, Olympia Park Ranger

"I have heard many people say that what the Well needs is more social services available to folks who frequent there. Although initially skeptical about the Ranger and the Host roles, it became clear that what Lee and Garrett were offering the youth and others who frequent the well was indeed direct social services. The youth felt safe. They played basketball with them. They shared their stories with them. They respected them. And in return, the host and ranger earned the respect of most of the folks. In order for there to be sustainable change at the Well, there must be caring, trained staff members that provide a consistent, caring, professional and trauma informed container. That is precisely what Lee and Garrett did."

**Keylee Marineau, Director of Services for High Risk Youth
Community Youth Services**

"It was a really great summer in the Artesian Commons. Ranger Lee and Well Host Garrett were the perfect fit for those positions. They embraced the park and community the moment they walked in. They both left a positive impression on the park and the people they encountered."

Teal, Olympia Downtown Ambassador

Events & Programs	Date	Time	Event or Program	Hours
	January 28	9am-3pm	Thurston County Homeless Census	6
	April 22	7-8:30pm	The Bridge @ Arts Walk	2
	May 5	4-6pm	Game of SKATE	2
	May 19	4-6pm	Game of SKATE	2
	June 8	6-7 pm	Emoto Peace Project	1
	June 9	4-6 pm	Skate Jam	2
	June 10	3:30-5:30p	POSTPONED – Youth Forum	0
	June 10	7-9pm	POSTPONED – The Bridge moved to CYS parking garage	0
	June 16	5-7pm	Stand Up For Kids - tabling	2
	June 20	3:30-5:30p	Youth Forum	2
	June 21	2-5pm	Go Skateboarding Day *at Isthmus Property	0
	June 24	7-9pm	The Bridge Sumer Concert Series	2
	June 26	3-8pm	22 nd Annual Olympia Exp. Music Festival	5
	July 7	2-4pm	POSTPONED: Skate Jam	0
	July 8	7-9pm	POSTPONED: The Bridge Summer Concert Series	0
	July 14	2-4pm	Skate Jam	2
	July 15	7-9pm	The Bridge Summer Concert Series	2
	July 19	5-9pm	Pedal Powered “Biketopia” Music Festival	4
	July 21	2-4pm	Skate Jam	2
	July 22	7-9pm	The Bridge Summer Concert Series	2
	August 2	5-7pm	National Night Out	2
	August 4	2-4pm	Skate Jam	2
	August 5	4-6pm	Yoga and Music provided by “On Both Sides of Life”	2
	August 5	7-9pm	The Bridge Summer Concert Series	2
	August 17-20	8am-7p	Artesian Water Survey	44
	August 21	8am-7p	CANCELED: Artesian Water Survey	0
	August 24	4-6pm	POSTPONED: Skate Jam	0
	August 25	4-6pm	Skate Jam	2
	August 31	9am-3p	International Overdose Awareness Day	6
	September 2	7-9pm	The Bridge Summer Concert Series	2
	September 5	1-3pm	PiPE Watermelon Feed	2
	September 7	4-6pm	Back to School Skate Jam	2
	October 7	1-2pm	Tree Planting	1
	October 7	5-8pm	Arts Walk: KOWA Radio and Flower Installation	3
	October 8	2-5pm	Arts Walk: KOWA Radio and Flower Installation	3
			TOTAL	111

Year	Special Events	Total Hours of Events	Onsite staffing/volunteering
2015	19	54	184 hours of "Rec. Time" provided by partners and volunteers
2016	22	111	540 hours of paid staff coverage

Expenses	TYPE	DESCRIPTIONS	AMOUNT
	Contractual Services	Partners providing events and programs	3,653
	Supplies	Games, plants, arts supplies, prizes, etc.	2934
	Administrative Costs	Well Host phone, uniform, online calendar subscription	433
	Total		\$7020
	*Operating budget for programs, events and supplies was \$7,000 for the season.		

Location Survey Administered:

Artesian Commons Park – 415 4th Ave SE, Olympia WA 98501

Date and Time Survey Administered:

Wed. August 17 through Sat. August 20 (2016), 8am-7pm

Surveys Gathered During this Time:

414

Purpose of Survey:

During four days in August the Artesian Leadership Committee administered a survey to the public at the Artesian Commons Park in downtown Olympia. The survey had two purposes. One, to gauge the use and frequency that water is gathered at the park; and two, to gain insight into the experience of gathering water at the park.

Conducting Survey:

The survey was conducted from 8am to 7pm, Wednesday August 17th through Saturday August 20th. All surveys were administered onsite. All surveys were conducted either by an Artesian Leadership Committee representative asking the questions or by the community member filling out the survey themselves. 414 surveys were collected during this time.

**Artesian Leadership Committee:**

The Artesian Leadership Committee (ALC) is a group of public and private organizations that have an interest in the success of the park. Local business owners, social service agencies, community advocacy groups, the Olympia's Parks, Arts & Recreation Department, the Olympia City Council and the Olympia Police Department all are represented on the ALC. The ALC meets once a month to discuss issues at the park and ways to improve the overall experience.

ARTESIAN WELL SURVEY**2016**

Thank you for participating in this survey! This anonymous information will be used to better serve our community. Feel free to add comments in response to any question and/or add comments on the back of this form.

Date _____ Time _____

Home City/County _____

Age _____

Number in your household _____

About how far do you travel to visit the well? _____

How long have you been visiting the well? _____

How often do you visit the well? _____

How long do you usually stay? _____

Average amount of water you collect per trip? _____

Do you need vehicle access to the well? Yes No

Is this your primary source of drinking water? Yes No

Is this your **only** source of drinking water? Yes No

Usage? (circle one) Personal Commercial Both Other _____

Is visiting the well the primary reason for your trip today? Yes No

If Yes, will you make other stops today?

For what? (Circle any that apply) Work School Errands Entertainment Other _____

If No – what is the primary reason for your trip? Work School Errands Entertainment Other _____

In general, how has the creation of the Artesian Commons affected your experience of collecting water?

(Circle one) improved about the same worsened

Comment?

Have you had difficulty finding a place to park, to collect water? Yes No

If so, about how often?

Does the traffic flow generally work well? Yes No

If not, what problems have you experienced?

Olympia Parks and Recreation have heard from well users on a variety of behaviors of people using the Artesian Commons; some positive, some negative. Please check any you have experienced and indicate approximately how often.					
Positive	how often	Not so positive	how often	Negative	how often
cleaning up		unpleasant appearance		unhygienic behavior	
courtesy		excessive noise		aggressive begging	
friendliness		interference		intimidation	
helpfulness		rudeness		threats	
respect		harassment		drug use	
turn-taking		smoking		drug dealing	

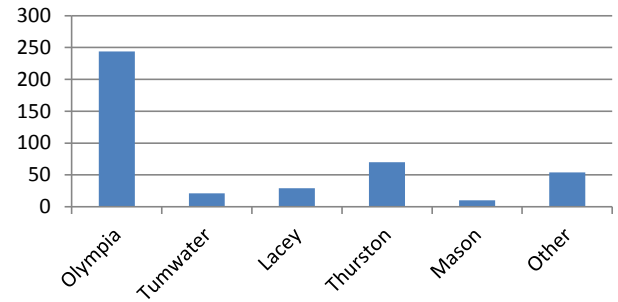
Have you been threatened, attacked or had any other difficulties with dogs in the well area or the Commons? Yes No

If so, how?

What impact have the Well Host and Park Ranger positions had on your experience?

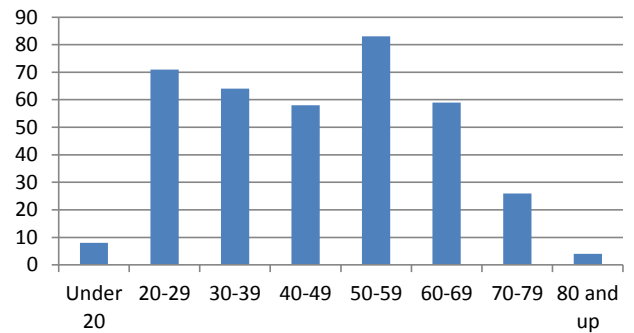
What is your home city/county?

		%
Olympia	244	0.57
Tumwater	21	0.05
Lacey	29	0.07
Thurston	70	0.16
Mason	10	0.02
Other	54	0.13
Total Responses	428	



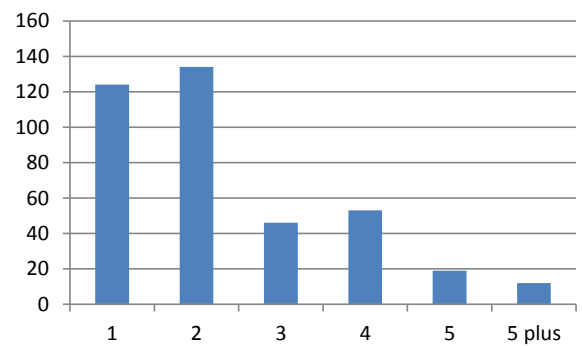
Whats your age?

		%
Under 20	8	0.02
20-29	71	0.19
30-39	64	0.17
40-49	58	0.16
50-59	83	0.22
60-69	59	0.16
70-79	26	0.07
80 and up	4	0.01
	373	



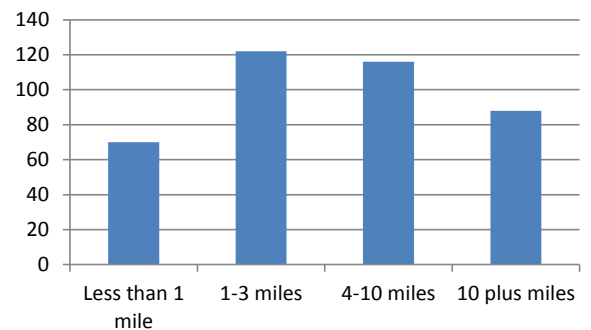
Number in your household?

		%
1	124	0.32
2	134	0.35
3	46	0.12
4	53	0.14
5	19	0.05
5 plus	12	0.03
	388	



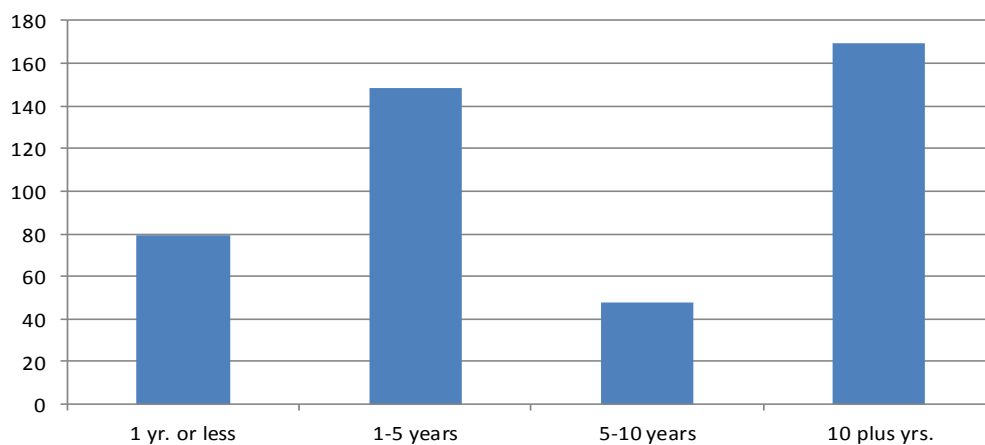
How far do you travel to visit the well?

		%
Less than 1 mile	70	0.18
1-3 miles	122	0.31
4-10 miles	116	0.29
10 plus miles	88	0.22
	396	



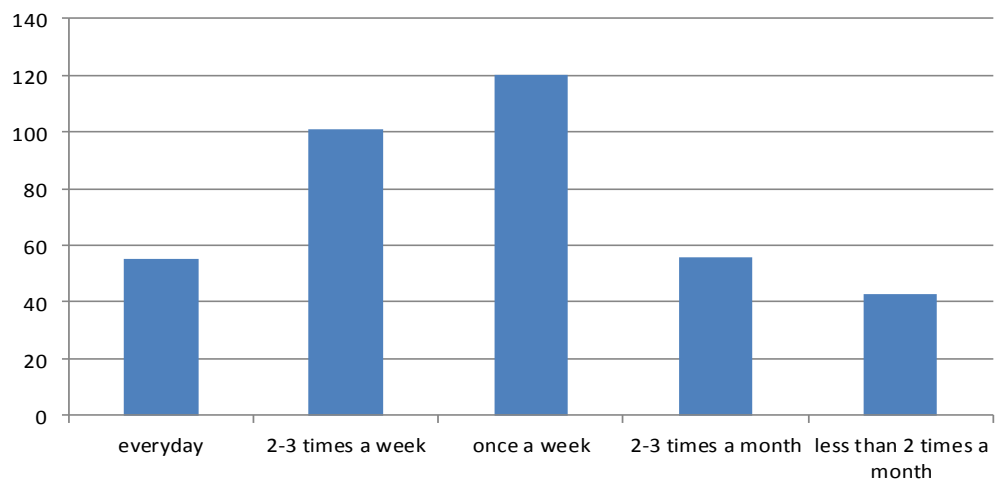
How long have you been visiting the well?

		%
1 yr. or less	79	0.18
1-5 years	148	0.33
5-10 years	48	0.11
10 plus yrs.	169	0.38
	444	



How often do you visit the well?

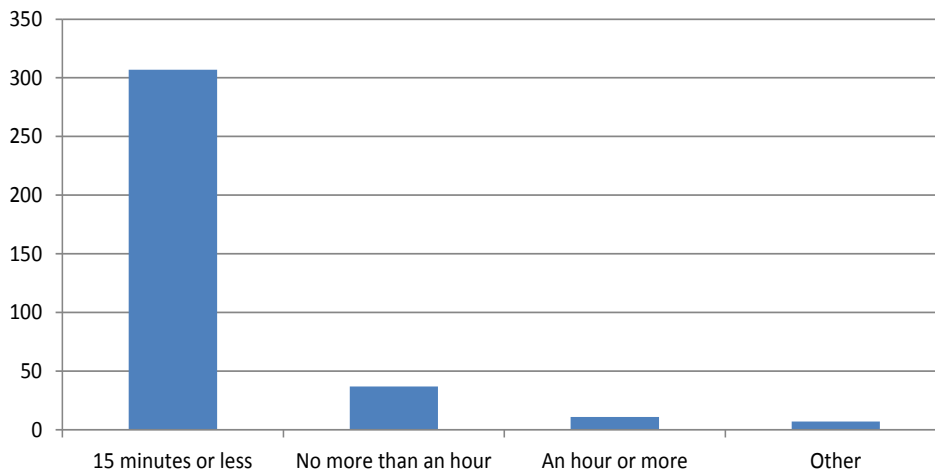
		%
everyday	55	0.15
2-3 times a week	101	0.27
once a week	120	0.32
2-3 times a month	56	0.15
less than 2 times a month	43	0.11
	375	



How long do you usually stay?

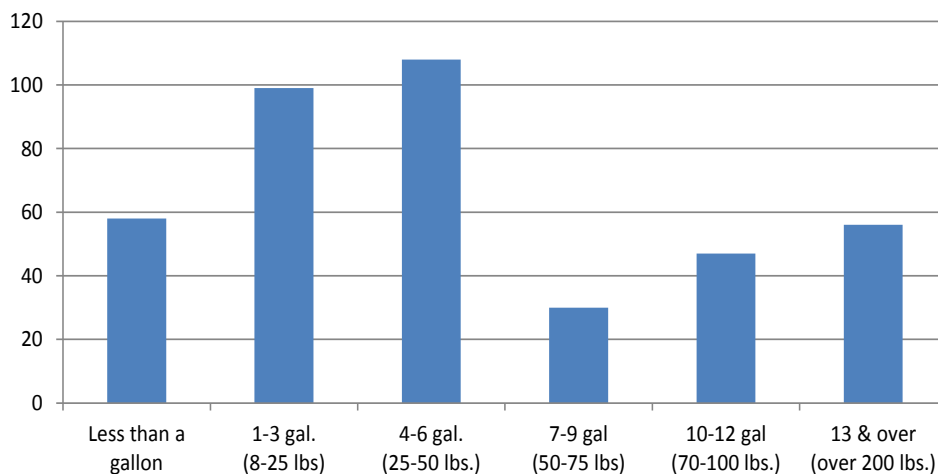
		%
15 minutes or less	307	0.85
No more than an hour	37	0.10
An hour or more	11	0.03
Other	7	0.02
	362	

This question was misleading to some. Some folks who answered that they visited the park everyday said they only stayed for 15 minutes or less, when their other responses would lead you to believe they meant they collect water for 15 minutes or less, but stay in the park longer.



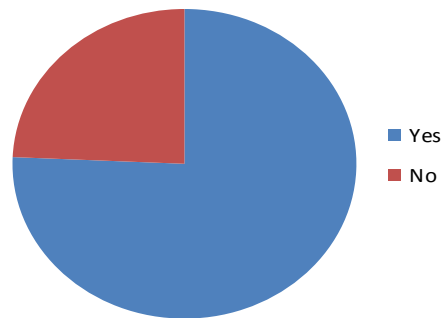
Amount of water you collect per trip?

		%
Less than a gallon	58	0.15
1-3 gal. (8-25 lbs)	99	0.25
4-6 gal. (25-50 lbs.)	108	0.27
7-9 gal (50-75 lbs)	30	0.08
10-12 gal (70-100 lbs.)	47	0.12
13 & over (over 200 lbs.)	56	0.14
	398	



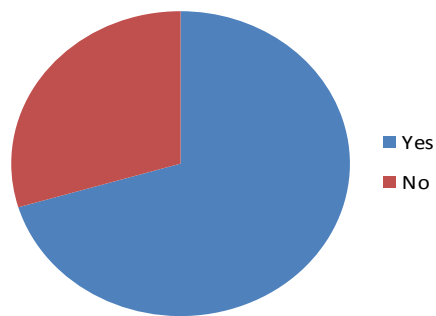
Do you need vehicle access to the well?

			%
Yes	302	0.76	
No	97	0.24	
	399		



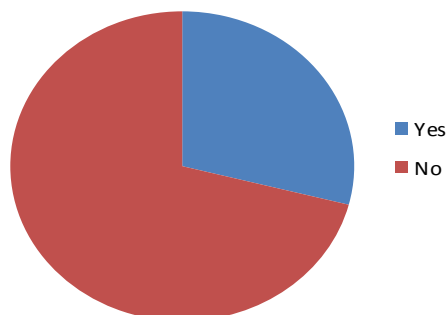
Is this your primary source of drinking water?

			%
Yes	354	0.70	
No	149	0.30	
	503		



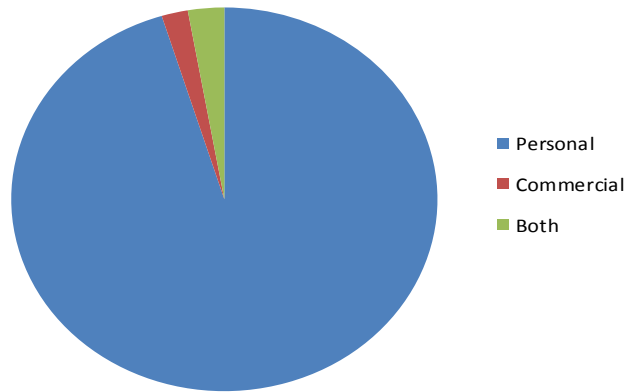
Is this your ONLY source of drinking water?

			%
Yes	114	0.29	
No	279	0.71	
	393		



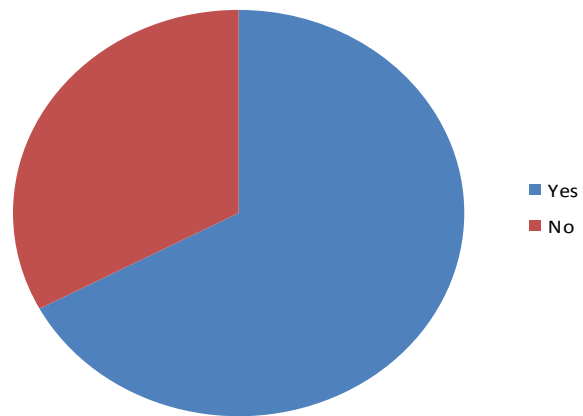
Is your usage of water personal, commercial or both?

		%
Personal	381	0.95
Commercial	8	0.02
Both	11	0.03
400		



Is visiting the well the primary reason for your trip today?

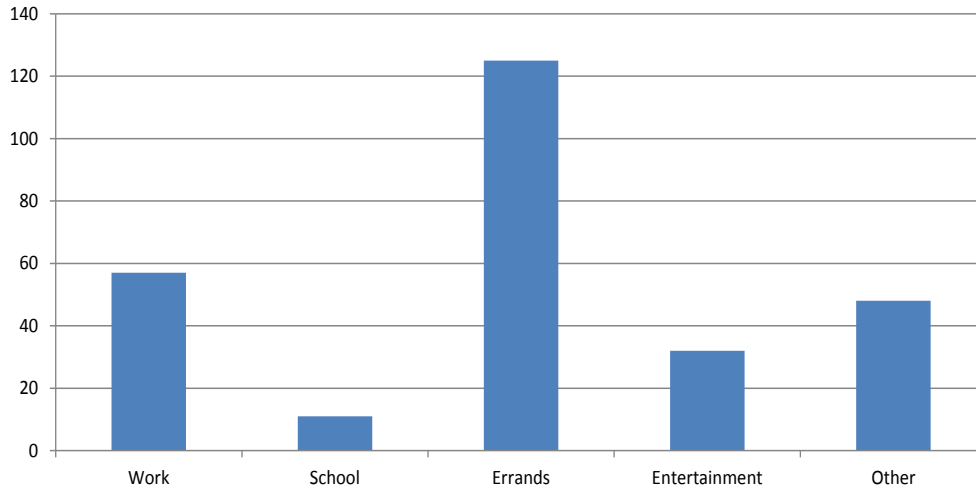
		%
Yes	252	0.67
No	123	0.33
375		



If yes, will you make other stops today?

		%
Work	57	0.21
School	11	0.04
Errands	125	0.46
Entertainment	32	0.12
Other	48	0.18

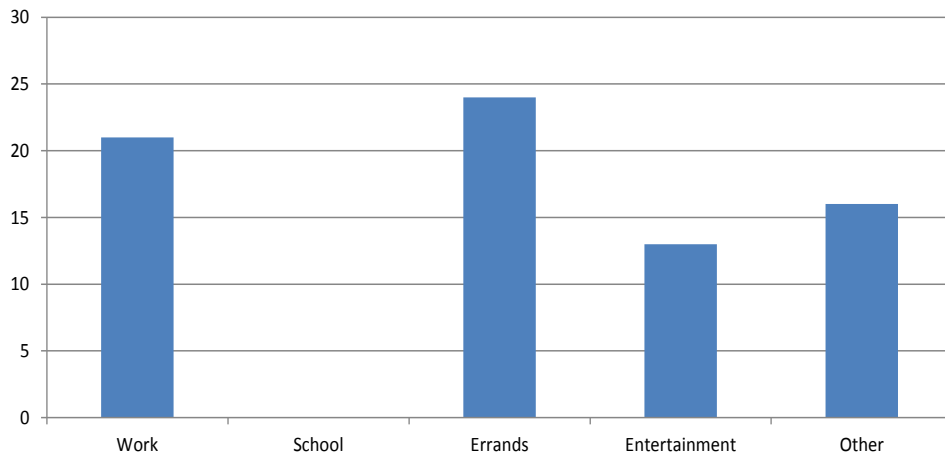
273



If no, what is the primary reason for your trip today?

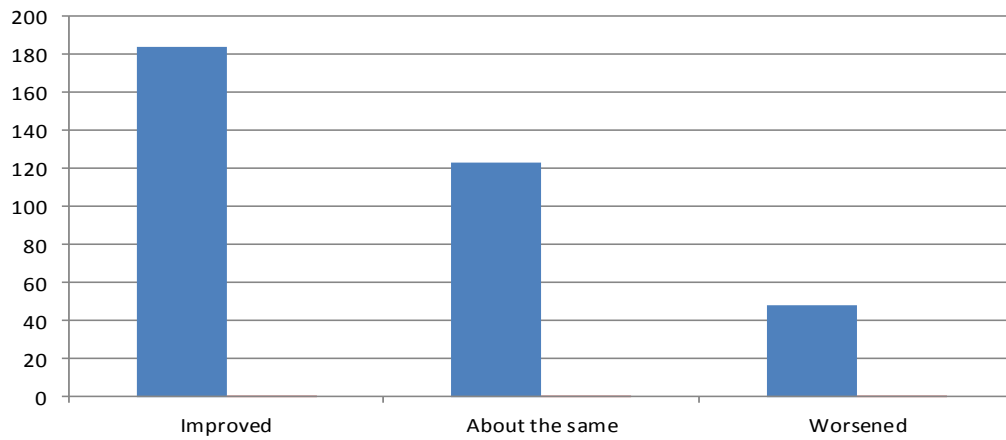
		%
Work	21	0.28
School	0	0.00
Errands	24	0.32
Entertainment	13	0.18
Other	16	0.22

74



In general, how has the creation of the Artesian Commons affected your experience of collecting water?

		%
Improved	184	0.52
About the same	123	0.35
Worsened	48	0.14
	355	



COMMENT:

more pleasant
appealing to the eye
too shined up
yup-ifacation
more beautiful
6 pm car parties
tweekers
better/cleaner
basketball has improved
cage, walk around when closed
water area should be more closed off
improved to offer social help
its rad - we love it

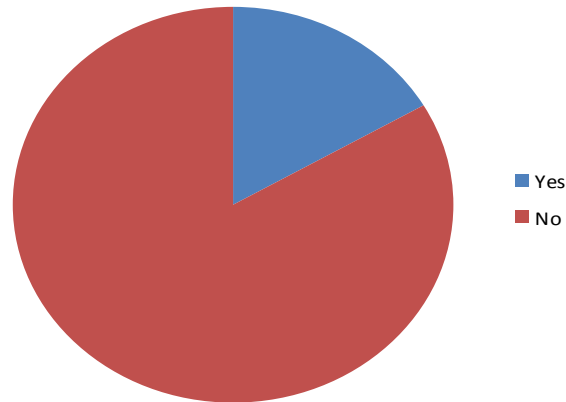
everyone seems to show love down here
cleaner
fun to see people enjoying the park
looks good
I like the improvements
very nice now
not as crowded
like fence
too many undesirables
get rid of it
outstanding
its great
all good
easily accessible
noisy & congested

Comments continued:

*didn't deal with being worried
good except for some creepy people
love it - good way to meet people as long as the homeless aren't
swearing
brightness
love the art work - like black wall
like the company - music - tables & umbrellas
looks better but not "the commons" or common community area too
comment city council for buying this property
I wish people were more respectful
many sleeping junkies - too many crazies
we need more security & food trucks
the group makes me nervous sometimes
too many incidents with homeless
widened consciousness
harassed many times - it's grass here & people (non-water drinkers)
are aggressive
these people need a place to be
love the improvements
worried about safety & security
looks great
young people off putting
need place for homeless but need to police themselves
I really only care about the water
always witness drug use and fighting
used to chat
its convenient
wife used to come
benches are good
tar is melting
would like it to be safer
privileged water users need to be more understanding,
love the mural
needs more shade
slowed it down
would like to see other wells used and improved
the park is nice
visually improved
I appreciate the park
needs smoking section
needs more green space
never had any problems,
lovely nice for people to have tables & umbrellas
I don't think the park should be asphalt
lifesaver
beautiful - amazing - I love it
kids play in the way - this is not a park - community well
not afraid of young people
like the cook - hopefully will take better care of it
needs accommodation for dogs - I don't have a dog but I see the need
too many irresponsible people hang out here
more organized! - chairs & tables
as for looks - seems to be a place for drug users - do not like bringing
my kids here for all the fights and drug users, but glad we're trying
I like the energy - people are safer
people take good care of it - sometimes a bit rowdy
our poor deserve better*

Have you had difficulty finding a place to park, to collect water?

		%
Yes	61	0.17
No	306	0.83
	367	



If so, about how often?

once in a while

35' long RV

occasionally

live & let live

too many people staying longer than necessary, time limit should be reduced to 5 minutes

more crowded

sometimes

around noon

packed during day

lost a lot of parking with City lot,

seldom

every other visit

create drive thru, parking lot too small, cars get stuck trying to back out

main reason to stay in Olympia,

try to come early

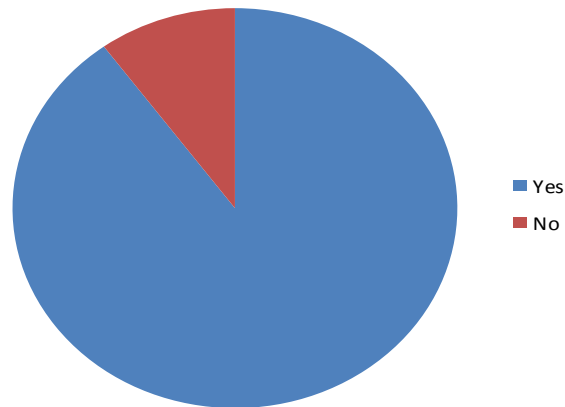
sometimes too busy

only come once a year

1 out of 5 visits

Does the traffic flow generally work well?

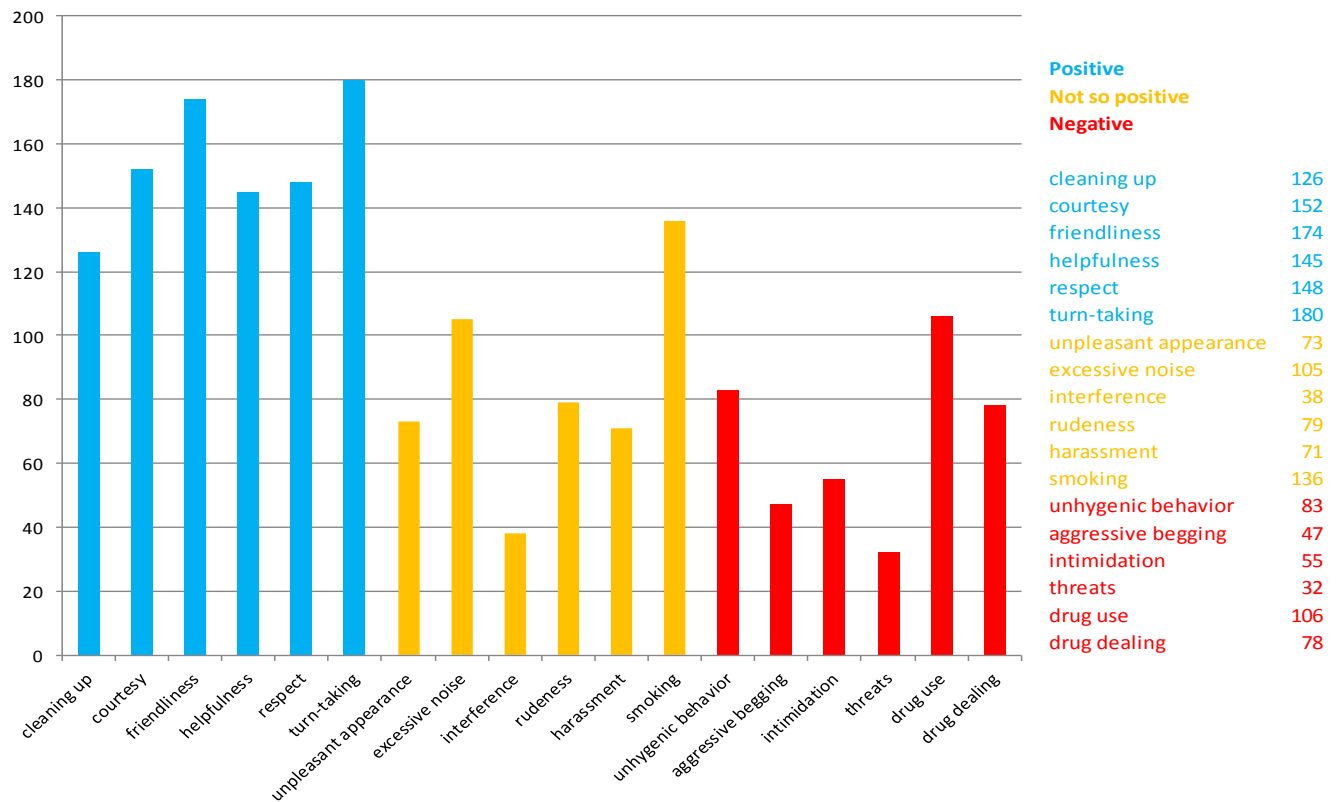
		%
Yes	314	0.90
No	35	0.10
	349	



If not, what problems have you experienced?

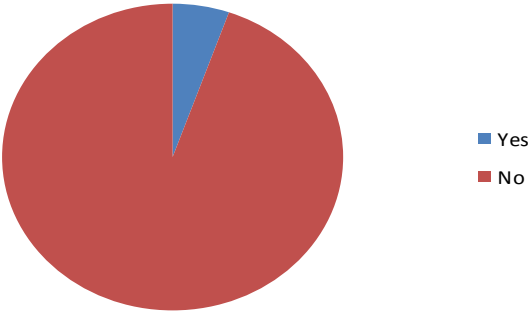
sometimes none, water collectors take up parking space
sometimes special events make it difficult
sometimes people stand in parking spaces
fair
not great
sometimes
no problems
noon is busy
need to be especially careful of pedestrians who pay no attention to traffic
the monthly parking used to be well parking, so there is less space
no problems
could easily have more than one spot
except on hotter days
no traffic in Olympia
gate walk around
older couple insists that others wait
parking used by park people
not well people

Olympia Parks, Arts & Recreation has heard from well users on a variety of behaviors of people using the Artesian Commons; some positive, some negative. Please check any you have experienced and indicate approximately how often.



Have you been threatened, attacked or had any other difficulties with dogs in the well area or the Commons?

		%
Yes	17	0.05
No	300	0.95
	317	

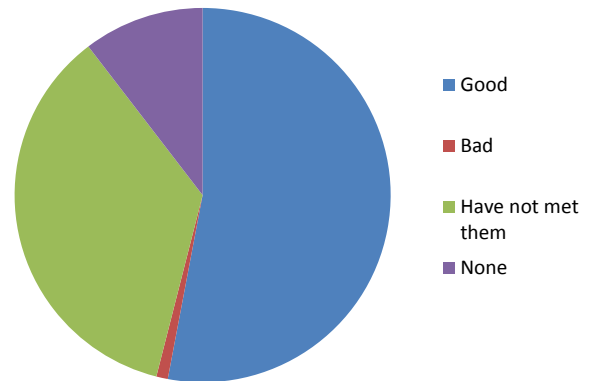


If so how?

threatening towards others
barking dogs forced me to leave when I wanted to talk to people
just people being obnoxious
others yes
too many pitbulls, basketballs running loose hitting tables, don't bring children too young
dog owners, not dogs
comment on dog drinking water and owner threatened me
bit by dog, not his fault
dogs not on leash
don't know how women feel

What impact have the Well Host and Park Ranger positions had on your experience?

		%
Good	107	0.53
Bad	2	0.01
Have not met them	72	0.36
None	21	0.10
	202	



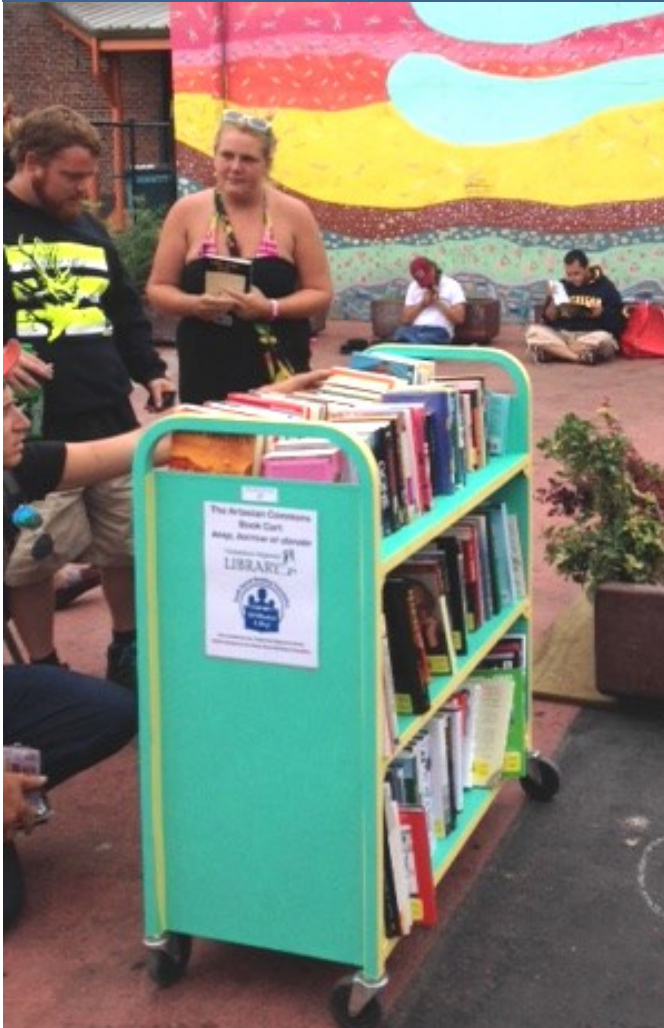
Miscellaneous comments:

- no opinion
- very pleasant!
- they keep this place in good way & safe
- feels much safer
- has friends that no longer visit well because they don't feel safe
- a very positive influence when on duty - need to be funded for more hours
- need them
- more organized - more likely to hangout here - cleaner
- not noticed
- better people using the park - more positive people - not just vagrants
- less drug use
- positive
- a good impact
- keeps everybody calmer
- would like full time security
- no bad experiences
- none but glad to know they are here
- great idea
- am sometimes uneasy because there are fights
- very welcoming and positive
- I like Garrett & Lee personally
- better parking , seems calmer
- it is a positive change , the well feels more like a community now , games/food/outreach all makes for improvement
- big difference , positive
- sexually harassed & physically threatened three times in last year
- we had a pleasant chat
- a little more safe
- the well host and park ranger were courteous and professional - they're approachable and the excessive noise and rudeness issues (around the well) have improved dramatically since they've been in the commons
- Lee and the other ranger are patient - professional and a good mediating force - cops seem more relaxed now
- present when fighting or almost fighting occurs near well , afraid & leave before it involves me, before I get injured some how. Where are the old people in the park? " " families? " " chess games are the tables? Can I come monopolize an entire table all day? Urban lot to make a park, but it is a private park. There is only one clientele that would ever use the park. Constant use of the word "f***" and variations of "f***", yelling, cursing, near fighting, bathing & soap & toothbrushing, abuse of the grounds, graffiti on murals. I get water and I get the hell out. Filthy.
- everyone should have access to free water, love well so much, well really impressed me, don't know of any city that does that
- love them
- they're great
- fashionable
- there is no way I can replace the pipes in my home
- little better
- makes me anxious, hope they don't harass people
- when they are not around it is a different crowd

July 25, 2016

Highlights

- Decrease of illicit behaviors when staff are present including: drug and alcohol use, verbal and physical fights and vandalism.
- Greet and assist Artesian Well users collecting water.
- Active participation in activities to include: reading, chess, cribbage, and other activities.
- Decrease in trash



Artesian Commons Park Update

POSITIONS STARTED JUNE 1

The new positions for the Artesian Commons Park include a Well Host and a Seasonal Park Ranger. The positions were hired in late may and started June 1st . They went through approximately 10 days of training. The training included shadowing the Downtown Ambassadors, classroom training from Community Youth Services, and walking along with OPD's downtown walking patrol. The training also included the departments standard orientation and training and a verbal de-escalation course.

The new staff members began their duties at the Artesian Commons Park on June 13th. The first week was challenging with the Ranger receiving threats on the first day. OPD Officers showed support by coming through on foot to make contact with the staff and park visitors. This support has been very important to the success of the work being done at the Artesian Commons. The staff continued to return and educate folks about the rules and provide programs. Through these conversations, relationships have been built and out of that there has been compliance to the park rules and regulations.

ROLES OF THE POSITIONS

Well Host— This position is designed to facilitate fun and engaging activities for all park users and provide a welcoming presence to all including improving the experience of well user.

Seasonal Park Ranger— The goal of the Park Ranger is to educate visitors of the park rules and regulations, gain compliance to those rules and create a presence in the park. The Park Ranger has the authority to trespass individuals who exhibit threatening behavior or repeatedly violate the park rules. The Park Ranger has no other enforcement authority and relies on OPD to enforce the Olympia Municipal Codes.

BEHAVIOR FOCUS AREAS

The Well Host and Park Ranger have been focused on three main behaviors: violence, drugs and alcohol and litter. They also keep an eye out on parking issues.

PROGRAMMING

The Well Host offers a variety of activities daily to include:

1. Basketball
2. Book cart for reading
3. Chess, checkers and cribbage
4. Art

Other partnership activities supported by the staff include the Bridge Events by CYS, the Games of S.K.A.T.E., and outreach by the Downtown Ambassadors.

SAFETY

Park visitors are no longer doing the following negative behaviors in the park while staff are present:

1. Drinking alcohol
2. Smoking marijuana
3. Selling, buying, distributing and/or using drugs
4. Physical and/or verbal fighting and harassment of others

The volume of trash has decreased from 9 cubic yards to 6 cubic yards a week. Maintenance staff report that overall the conditions in the park have been improved, especially on the days that the Well Host and Park Ranger work.

Other problem areas still exist within the downtown area, however the Park has improved when it comes to illicit and negative behaviors, thus improving the experience for the Artesian Well user and park visitors. According to some visitors' account "...the park is more peaceful and feels safer."



"Good day today. We had an altercation this afternoon around 5:35pm. One of our well participants was having a hard day and seemed to be off a bit. He started screaming at everyone in the well (which isn't like him) about trash and people killing the world. I escorted him out and spoke with him around the corner (away from everyone else's view). I had Garrett follow me out for safety reasons. His name is ____ and he has slowly been declining (mentally) the last few days. I calmed him down enough and have him walk it off. He headed down 4th Ave. and didn't return to the well. After that, there were no other issues!

On a side note, the group that was drinking yesterday was at the well again today. They approached us and apologized for their actions and their lack of knowing the park rules. Garrett and I educated them on the rules and they were happy to follow them while they were inside the well."

Park Ranger Lee Wyatt

Frequent reports are delivered at the Artesian Leadership Committee meetings (1st Thursday of every month) from partners, community members and City staff. To attend or get more information, please contact Paul Simmons, Director Olympia Parks, Arts and Recreation at psimmons@ci.olympia.wa.us.

Written & presented by:

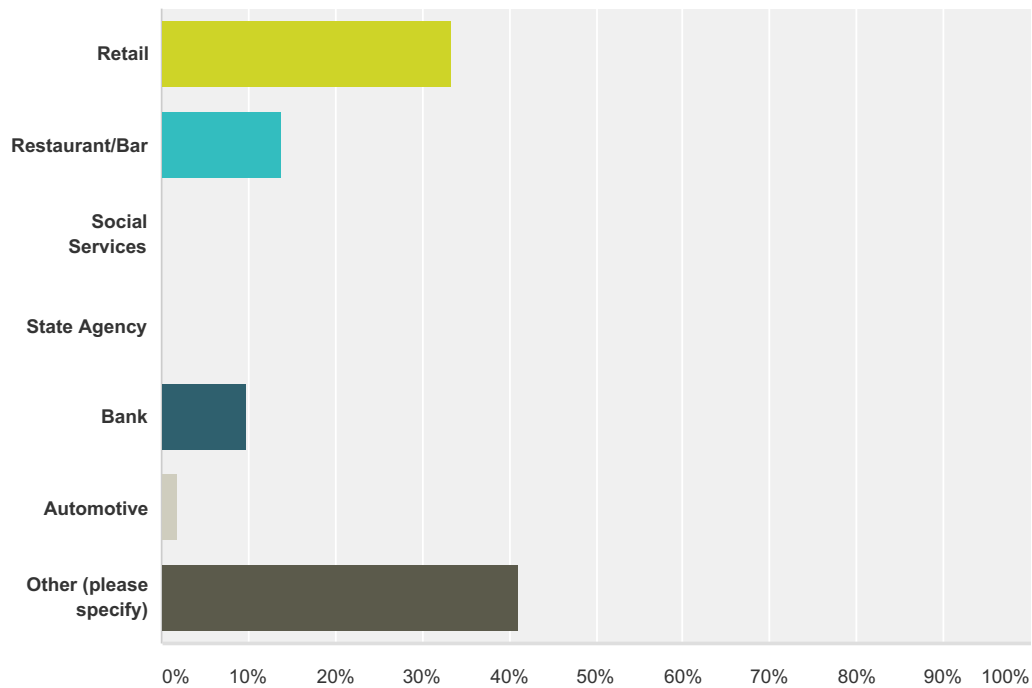
Sylvana Niehuser, Park Ranger

Olympia Parks, Arts & Recreation

sniehuse@ci.olympia.wa.us | 360.753.8365

Q1 Which category best describes your business?

Answered: 51 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
Retail	33.33% 17
Restaurant/Bar	13.73% 7
Social Services	0.00% 0
State Agency	0.00% 0
Bank	9.80% 5
Automotive	1.96% 1
Other (please specify)	41.18% 21
Total	51

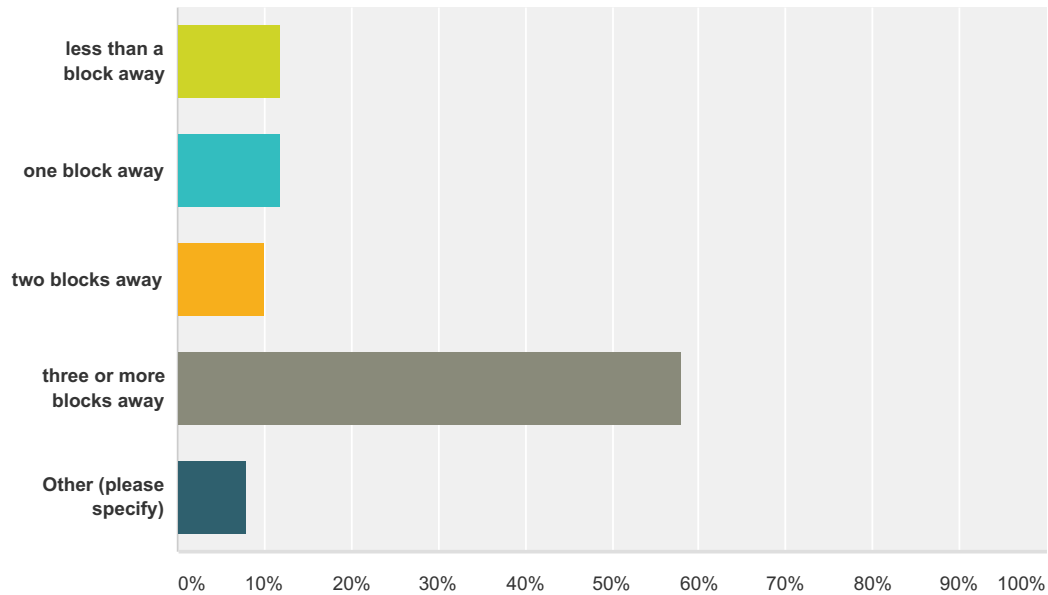
#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	deli/sandwich shop	1/16/2017 1:01 AM
2	Owner of downtown building with retail and apartments	1/10/2017 8:57 AM
3	art studio/retail	1/8/2017 10:33 AM
4	Apartments owner/manager	1/6/2017 10:01 AM
5	leasing broker of residential properties	1/6/2017 8:58 AM
6	Health care service	1/5/2017 10:49 PM
7	Professional services & retail	1/5/2017 8:24 PM
8	law firm	1/5/2017 3:53 PM

Neighboring Businesses of the Artesian Commons

9	Architectural Firm	1/5/2017 1:27 PM
10	antique shop	1/5/2017 12:53 PM
11	Professional (Architecture Firm)	1/5/2017 12:16 PM
12	service	1/5/2017 11:30 AM
13	Service (Architects)	1/5/2017 11:12 AM
14	dance studio	1/5/2017 11:12 AM
15	Media Company	1/5/2017 10:59 AM
16	cafe	1/5/2017 10:52 AM
17	501(c)3 Veteran Outreach Organization	1/5/2017 10:51 AM
18	Professional Service	1/5/2017 10:46 AM
19	Law firm	1/5/2017 10:37 AM
20	office	1/5/2017 10:35 AM
21	City	11/22/2016 4:02 PM

Q2 What is the proximity of your business/organization to the Artesian Commons?

Answered: 50 Skipped: 1

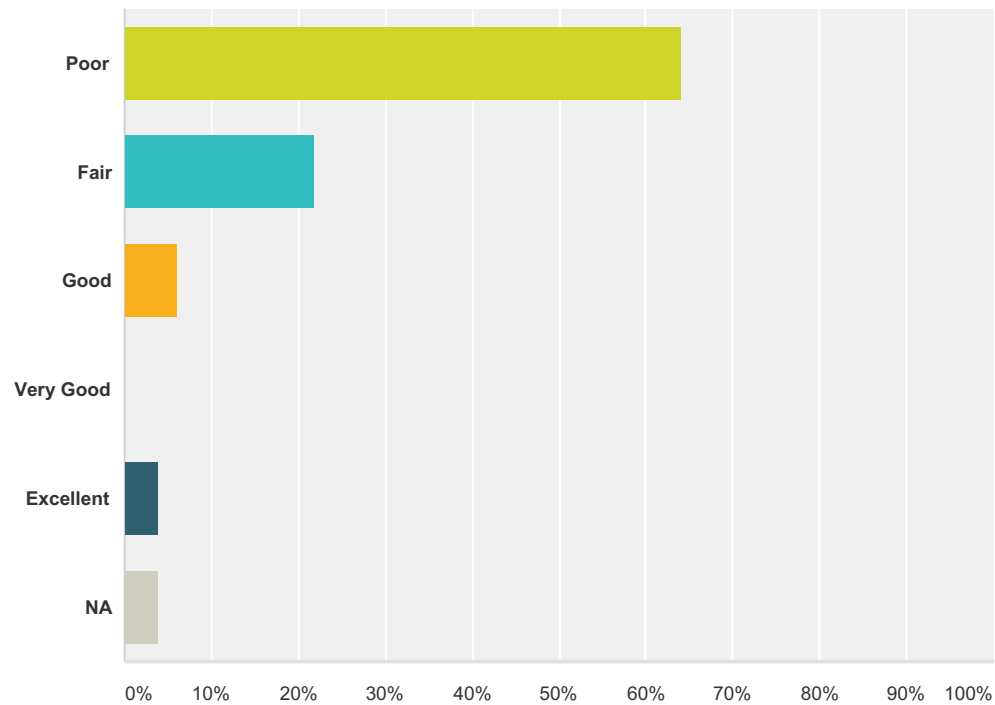


Answer Choices	Responses
less than a block away	12.00% 6
one block away	12.00% 6
two blocks away	10.00% 5
three or more blocks away	58.00% 29
Other (please specify)	8.00% 4
Total	50

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	3/4 mile	1/6/2017 10:01 AM
2	3 blocks	1/5/2017 2:16 PM
3	8 blocks away	1/5/2017 1:27 PM
4	10 blocks	1/5/2017 10:52 AM

Q3 Please rate your current perception of the Artesian Commons.

Answered: 50 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses
Poor	64.00% 32
Fair	22.00% 11
Good	6.00% 3
Very Good	0.00% 0
Excellent	4.00% 2
NA	4.00% 2
Total	50

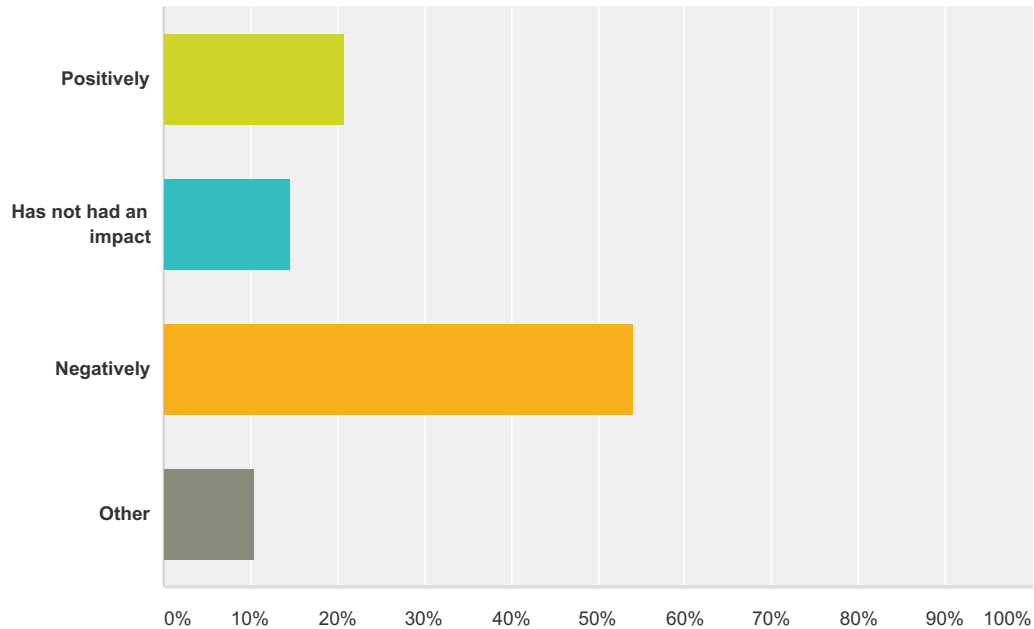
#	Comment	Date
1	I think the Artesian Commons needs a water feature fountain like on the Capitol Campus. The asphalt should be replaced with nice concrete/brick pavers.	1/16/2017 1:01 AM
2	Should be open all the time as well as bathrooms	1/10/2017 8:57 AM
3	haven of bad behavior/unsafe/scary	1/8/2017 10:33 AM
4	does not look like a healthy environment. Go to get water which is for anyone to use. And there are a lot of filthy people hanging around with dogs un-leased stinky. Public well but not inviting surroundings!	1/6/2017 2:15 PM
5	This park is an absolute mess! It's a complete waste of time, money and resources. It's become a very unfriendly space used for open drug dealing, open drug use and fighting.	1/6/2017 11:06 AM
6	Very good except for seeing all the long term loitering encampments scattered throughout the space. At times there are so many I would feel intimidated to even walk through the space..	1/6/2017 10:01 AM

Neighboring Businesses of the Artesian Commons

7	It is an eye sore for residents, and a gathering place for many negative behaviors.	1/6/2017 8:58 AM
8	I do not feel comfortable there. It is more of a hangout for young homeless people - which is fine, but just not my thing.	1/5/2017 3:53 PM
9	My office is one block away from the Artesian Well and it absolutely comes with it's challenges. At least once a day I have a group of young adults gathering in and around our entry smoking marijuana and goodness knows what other things. We constantly have to clean up the dumpster area and graffiti from the building etc. It's is seen as a hangout place for transients and the like. It is not a place I would go or advise others to go.	1/5/2017 3:14 PM
10	I am grading "fair" because of customer comments that are generally negative. Personally it has taken the burden off Sylvester Park which directly impacts my business.	1/5/2017 1:55 PM
11	I like all the improvements to make it seem like a urban pocket park but the crowd is intimidating. The basketball hoop was brilliant - in good weather I often see it being used.	1/5/2017 1:27 PM
12	You can't dress up a hardscape space w/ simple paint, fences, etc. and expect to attract the general public. It's only attracting a narrow segment of our community. Ease of policing transients is a narrowly focused reason for an urban pocket park. Our downtown Olympia "pocket parks" should attract a diversified cross section of our community; currently, it only attracts transients.	1/5/2017 12:16 PM
13	I think it is unfortunate that the police I have spoke with know there is drug activity going on there but I do not see very much police presence when I pass there. I think the we need to make it a safer place for everyone. Clearly they know the police are not going to do anything to them or they wouldnt be doing it right there.	1/5/2017 11:16 AM
14	Uncomfortable to walk past the park. Would like to stop and look around, but too uncomfortable to do so.	1/5/2017 11:12 AM
15	Before the city took over, our students/clients were not afraid to go get water at the Artesian well. Now, no one wants to go over there. It is perceived by families as not being safe, and home to dangerous characters. Being close to "the well" has a negative connotation for potential customers. It is a laughing stock. As a business owner I've never been personally approached by anyone affiliated with city (other than the amazing Renee Sunde!) to get my personal feedback, other than generic surveys. The city's approach in creating and maintaining the Commons has seemed very anti-business. It has not encouraged people to come downtown, but rather encouraged a negative stigma against downtown and the unsavory people who hang out there. Things like programming, games and basketball hoops only give these individuals that others perceive as dirty, unsafe, and unstable something to do when hanging out. It doesn't improve the public perception of the park or encourage people to visit. The Commons has been the primary reason I have considered moving my 45+ year old business from downtown and from the City of Olympia for that matter. Other than hiring Renee Sunde, the City's anti-small business outlook is very disheartening. Whenever I call the police to respond to a situation at or near the commons, they are slow to respond, unless something very violent is happening their hands seemed tied.	1/5/2017 11:12 AM
16	I think the idea was a good idea as the Artesian well is a City Landmark. The bad part is that it's overrun with drug dealers, homeless individuals, etc. is a problem. Its sad to think that people not from Olympia are directed here from the street signs, and this might be their first and only impression of Olympia. Olympia is an amazing city and this should not be the face of the city.	1/5/2017 11:06 AM
17	We love the commons. However it is no long a comfortable place to stroll, walk through show kids and friends any more. It should a destination to see when you come to Olympia instead a place to avoid because it is uncomfortable to enter.	1/5/2017 11:05 AM
18	It has become a horrible place over the last two years. No sense of community!	1/5/2017 11:04 AM
19	TO MANY STREET KIDS AND HOMELESS HANG OUT THERE	1/5/2017 11:04 AM
20	The Artesian Commons is a place that I try to avoid even walking past. It was supposed to be a place for community to come together and have a place for food trucks and to relax. it is now a place where drugs are being done in the open and fights involving 15 pound rocks are happening. Not something that is helping DT Olympia.	1/5/2017 11:00 AM
21	The Artesian Commons is a terrible blight on downtown Olympia. It is highly visible gathering place for addicts and homeless people to deal and do drugs, and assault each other. (Refer to video by The Olympian)	1/5/2017 10:55 AM
22	Increasingly sketchy & less assessible by the public as a whole	1/5/2017 10:54 AM
23	No restrooms, no security, planters are used as toilets and have dead plants in them... don't waist money planting vegetables... pissy vegetables are not healthy...	1/5/2017 10:51 AM
24	Homeless, smoking, vaping, sleeping and rowdy	1/5/2017 10:46 AM
25	I purposely avoid walking by the commons because it is not a comfortable or safe environment	1/5/2017 10:35 AM

Q4 In your opinion, how has the creation of the Artesian Commons had an impact on other areas of downtown such as 4th Ave, Sylvester Park, Intercity Transit, etc?

Answered: 48 Skipped: 3



Answer Choices	Responses
Positively	20.83% 10
Has not had an impact	14.58% 7
Negatively	54.17% 26
Other	10.42% 5
Total	48

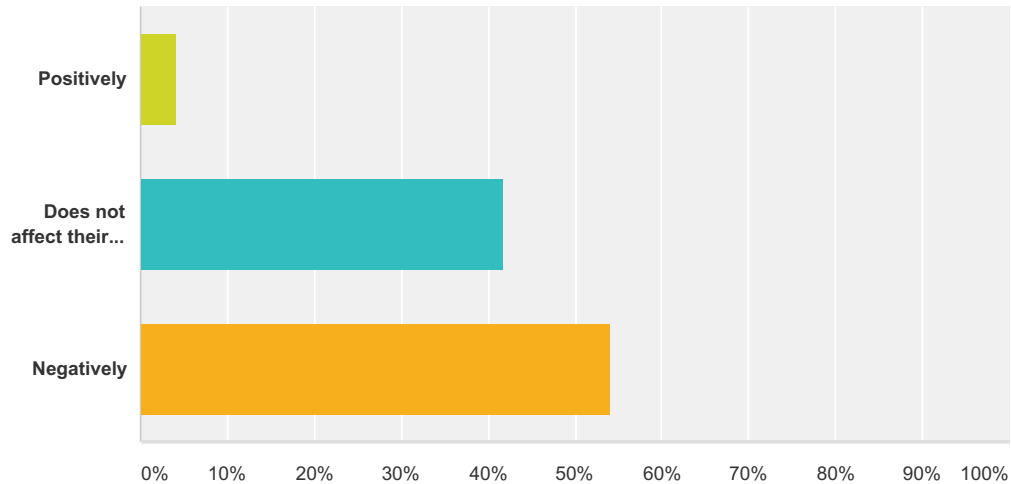
#	Comment:	Date
1	I'm not really sure I have enough information to answer that.	1/16/2017 1:01 AM
2	don't know	1/6/2017 2:15 PM
3	The Artesian Commons negatively impacts all of downtown, people associate what is happening in that space to be the image of our downtown.	1/6/2017 11:06 AM
4	Street people hanging in Sylvester park now are spending time there	1/6/2017 10:01 AM
5	I only drive by and it appears to be a gathering place for the homeless.	1/5/2017 8:24 PM
6	See my previous comment	1/5/2017 3:14 PM
7	The burden is off Sylvester Park.	1/5/2017 1:55 PM
8	I drive by every day there is so much garbage and we have to pay someone to clean it up I wouldn't want to take my family there or use the well.	1/5/2017 12:53 PM
9	It seems to be one more string in the "necklace" for our transient community.	1/5/2017 12:16 PM

Neighboring Businesses of the Artesian Commons

10	My business is losing money due to customers not wanting to come to this unsavory element of downtown Olympia	1/5/2017 11:32 AM
11	I don't think the commons has a negative impact; I think that the surrounding places (food bank, Joseph's closet, union gospel mission) attract the people and they end up hanging out in the commons.	1/5/2017 11:16 AM
12	Less loitering on 4th Ave. during the day.	1/5/2017 11:06 AM
13	It was nice for the City to provide a haven for the homeless and drug/alcohol abusers.	1/5/2017 11:04 AM
14	NOT SURE	1/5/2017 11:04 AM
15	The positive impact is that street people congregate there (instead of spreading around)	1/5/2017 10:54 AM
16	It seems to have brought more undesirables into town. More violence, and loitering to all of our establishments.	1/5/2017 10:52 AM
17	Drug use, fights all the time, no security. Transient hang out... not a place for guests of Olympia to hang and feel welcome... they get there water and are gone...	1/5/2017 10:51 AM
18	No opinion	1/5/2017 10:41 AM

Q5 How do you think the Artesian Commons affects your customers' experience when visiting your business/organization?

Answered: 48 Skipped: 3



Answer Choices	Responses
Positively	4.17% 2
Does not affect their experience	41.67% 20
Negatively	54.17% 26
Total	48

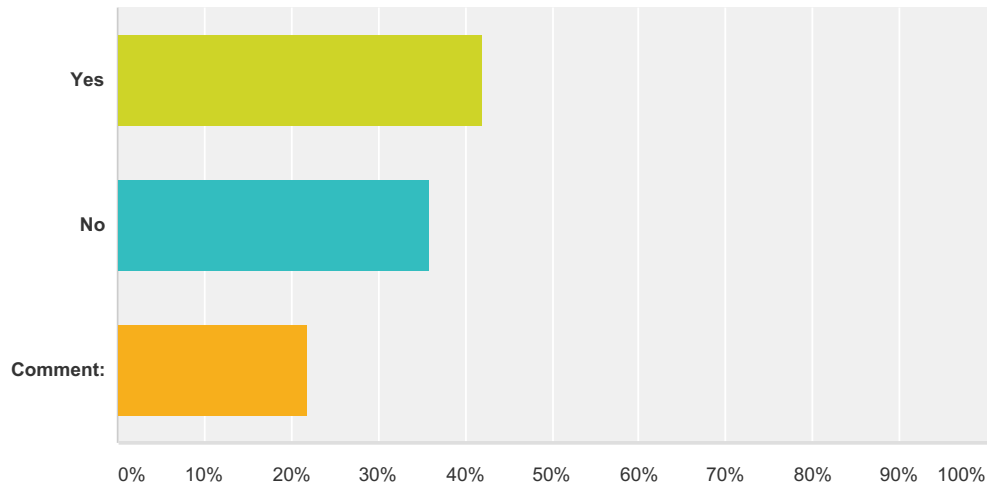
#	Comment:	Date
1	This seems like a negative spin on the Commons. I think it's helpful to have a community gathering place for all people.	1/16/2017 1:01 AM
2	anyone who ventures downtown to do business and drives by the commons has their opinions of downtown being unsafe reinforced	1/8/2017 10:33 AM
3	not close enough	1/6/2017 2:15 PM
4	Due to the proximity of the park to our business we are greatly impacted by the actions there. Our customers have to walk around the drug use, drug dealing, fighting and other nonsense that takes place.	1/6/2017 11:06 AM
5	Highly visible to those cars passing through downtown. Much discussed by those who do not use downtown and give the A C as a reason.	1/5/2017 1:55 PM
6	Customers are disgusted and in disbelief that the city of Olympia tolerates and supports this bad impression to the downtown area.	1/5/2017 11:32 AM
7	I have never heard any positive comments about the Commons. Customers regularly complain about it. It makes people uneasy and scared. It is an extra hurdle we must overcome when marketing our business and trying to entice potential customers. The city has done nothing to give any kind of assistance to my downtown business in overcoming these challenges.	1/5/2017 11:12 AM
8	Downtown needs more parking.	1/5/2017 11:06 AM
9	The space is positive the experience is negative. Bad behavior is enabled in this space and citizens avoid this great space now. we used to eat lunch there.	1/5/2017 11:05 AM

Neighboring Businesses of the Artesian Commons

10	ALOT OF COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE CROWD HANGING THERE	1/5/2017 11:04 AM
11	We hear comments in regards to what has happend to downtown, feel unsafe to walk and enjoy the downtown area.	1/5/2017 10:52 AM
12	Proximity is far enough away, but is not improving the overall invitation to enjoy/experience a vibrant city	1/5/2017 10:46 AM
13	Don't know	1/5/2017 10:41 AM

Q6 Have you received complaints from your customers regarding the Artesian Commons?

Answered: 50 Skipped: 1

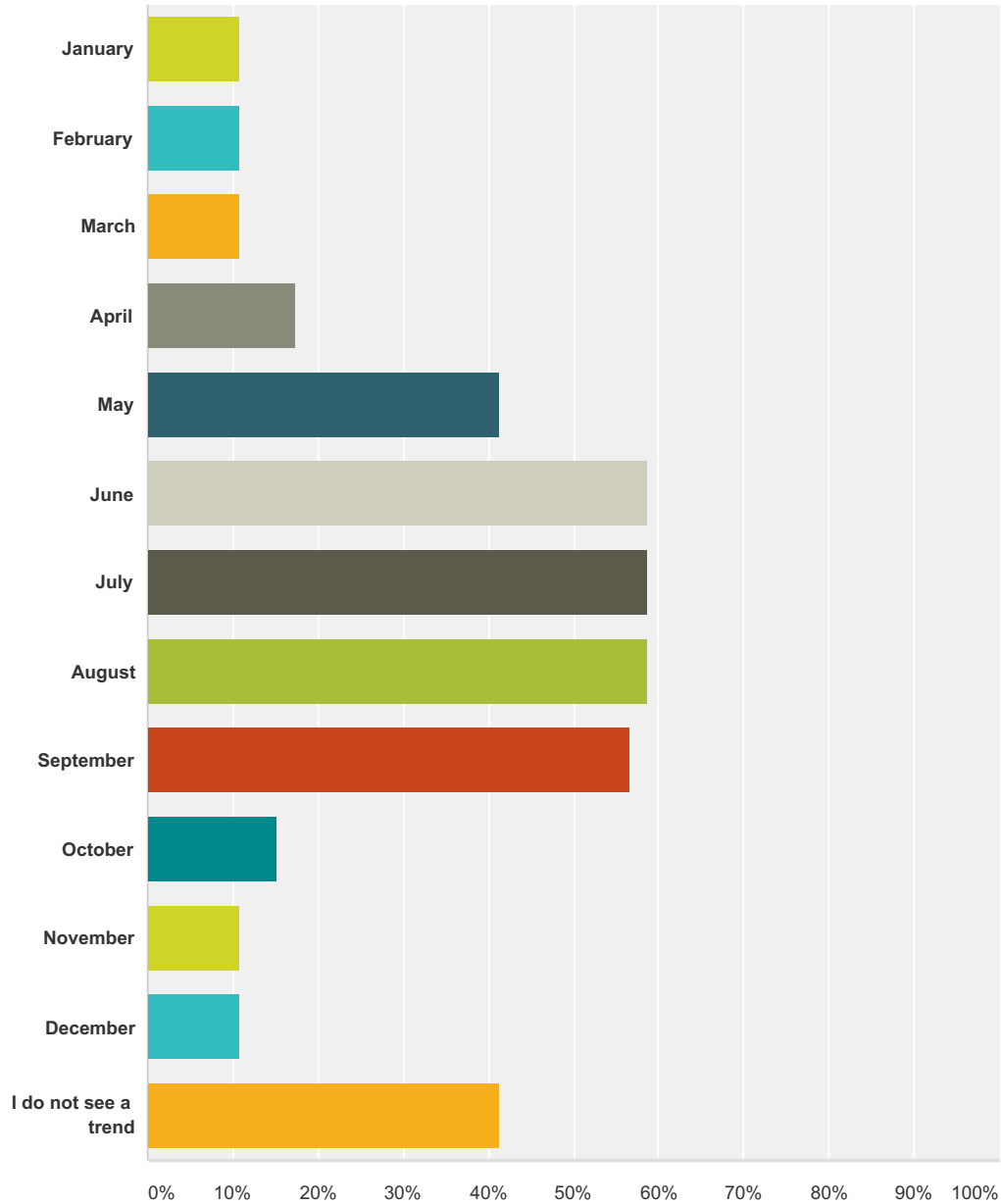


Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	42.00%	21
No	36.00%	18
Comment:	22.00%	11
Total		50

#	Comment:	Date
1	the talk is why are we paying for entertainment !!!	1/6/2017 2:15 PM
2	It appears to be a gathering place for the homeless	1/5/2017 8:24 PM
3	No one wants to park near it for fear of break ins or damage to their cars. It's difficult walking by or thru it without being harassed.	1/5/2017 3:14 PM
4	I have received comments. My customers are not directly affected by A C	1/5/2017 1:55 PM
5	We are too far away for a direct impact although I hear people talk about it in a negative way.	1/5/2017 1:27 PM
6	The complaints come from our staff who do a lot of business at Olympia City Hall. We have to negotiate the 4th Avenue "gauntlet" that now includes the Artesian Commons block.	1/5/2017 12:16 PM
7	All the time. Never anything positive.	1/5/2017 11:12 AM
8	I've had customers ask about the development of the space, about future plans, why there are not certain amenities: trees, food trucks, skate features.	1/5/2017 11:06 AM
9	Yes. The Artesian Commons is the #1 complaint we hear about downtown Olympia	1/5/2017 10:55 AM
10	That it is a haven for homeless, drugs and they don't feel safe around there.	1/5/2017 10:52 AM
11	Guests State they use to feel safe there... not at all anymore... a natural well has so much potential.... the Fact thatbits a drug user hang out is sad...	1/5/2017 10:51 AM

Q7 What month(s) do you feel, if any, are the most challenging at the Artesian Commons?

Answered: 46 Skipped: 5



Answer Choices	Responses
January	10.87% 5
February	10.87% 5
March	10.87% 5
April	17.39% 8
May	41.30% 19

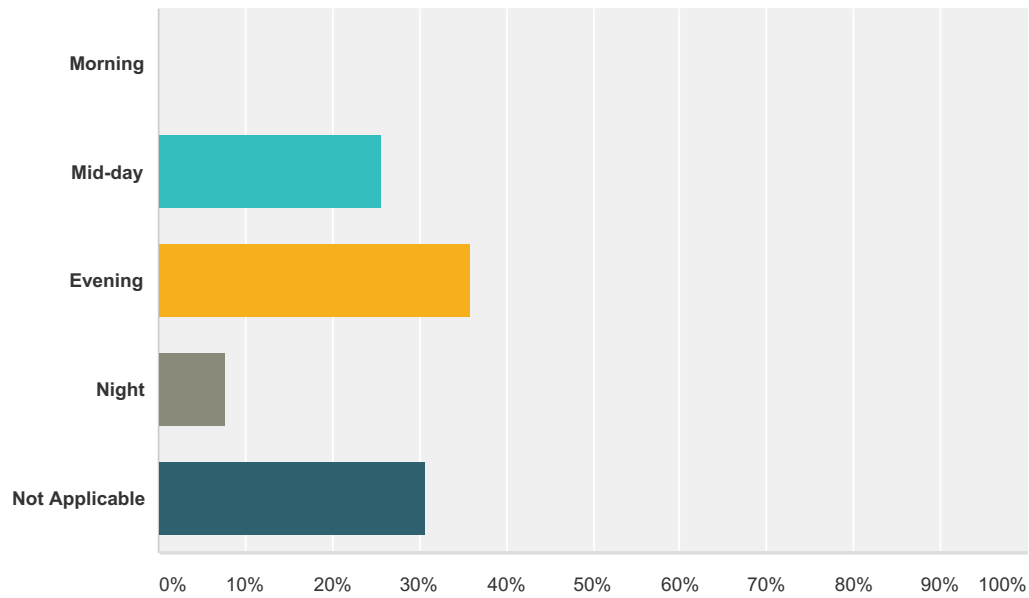
Neighboring Businesses of the Artesian Commons

June	58.70%	27
July	58.70%	27
August	58.70%	27
September	56.52%	26
October	15.22%	7
November	10.87%	5
December	10.87%	5
I do not see a trend	41.30%	19
Total Respondents: 46		

#	Comment	Date
1	The summer months are a good time to put on events to attract the community to what should be a crowning jewel/amenity (artesian well water)	1/16/2017 1:01 AM
2	I do not know.	1/10/2017 8:57 AM
3	It is always a challenge	1/6/2017 8:58 AM
4	Most likely summer months when there is more hanging out in the park	1/5/2017 10:49 PM
5	The only times I do not see a bunch of drugs deals and transient kids/adults hanging out blasting music, causing fights etc is on extremely cold or stormy days.	1/5/2017 3:14 PM
6	All year round.	1/5/2017 12:16 PM
7	It's a good thing when the rain and cold weather come. We should not have to be dependent on the weather for sensible City policies and enforcement efforts.	1/5/2017 11:32 AM
8	All months are a challenge.	1/5/2017 11:04 AM
9	MORE STREET KIDS IN THE SUMMER, MORE OF MY CUSTOMERS WORKING AROUND TO SEE THEM	1/5/2017 11:04 AM
10	Needs help... not just a bandaid... i.e. Basketball Hoop... what a joke	1/5/2017 10:51 AM

Q8 What time of day, if any, do you feel the park is most challenging?

Answered: 39 Skipped: 12



Answer Choices	Responses
Morning	0.00% 0
Mid-day	25.64% 10
Evening	35.90% 14
Night	7.69% 3
Not Applicable	30.77% 12
Total	39

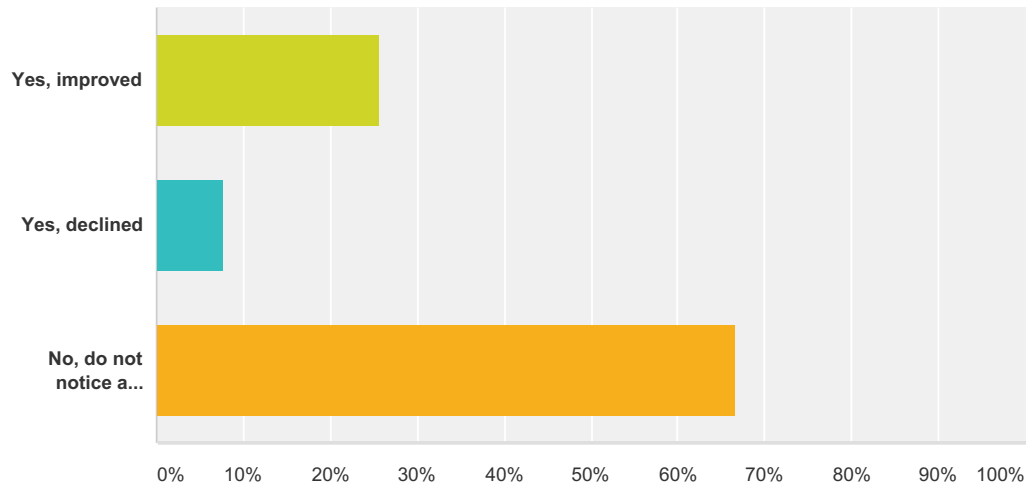
#	Other Comment:	Date
1	I make sure I go very early	1/6/2017 2:15 PM
2	Only notice during daytime walk about...	1/6/2017 10:01 AM
3	as well as early morning.	1/6/2017 8:58 AM
4	Mid-day and into the evening seems to be the most busy with the issues	1/5/2017 3:14 PM
5	Seems like it varies based on weather	1/5/2017 1:36 PM
6	All day & night.	1/5/2017 12:16 PM
7	All	1/5/2017 11:30 AM
8	I do not see a trend	1/5/2017 11:12 AM
9	All the time.	1/5/2017 11:12 AM
10	24-7	1/5/2017 11:04 AM
11	I feel like all times of day there are issues involving the park however I would say that most challenging time is dusk till dawn	1/5/2017 11:00 AM

Neighboring Businesses of the Artesian Commons

12	All times of day... see above comments	1/5/2017 10:51 AM
----	--	-------------------

Q9 Do you and your staff notice a difference in the park when there is an event occurring?

Answered: 39 Skipped: 12

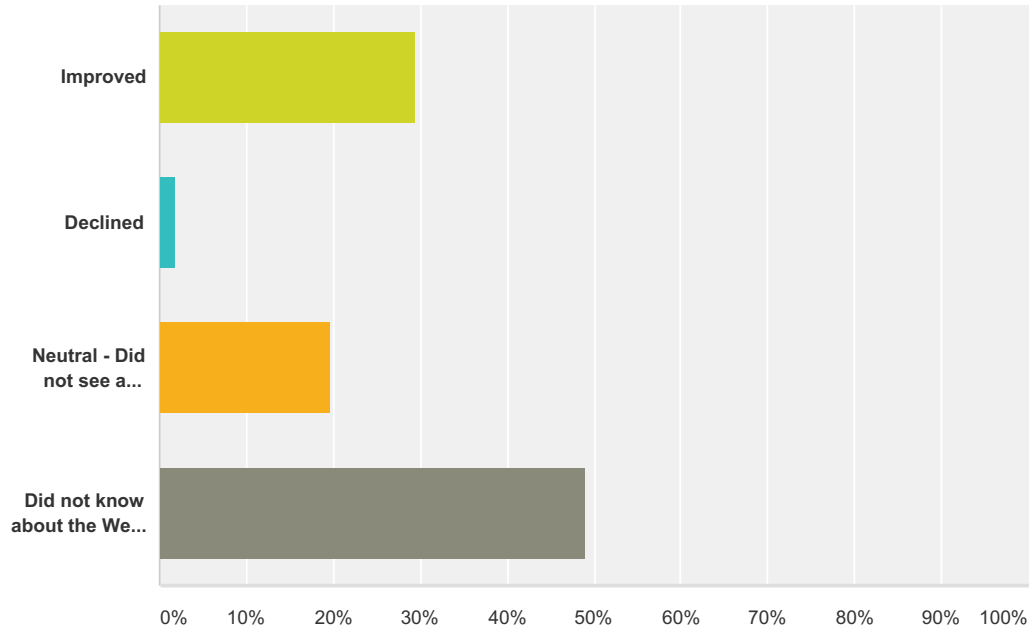


Answer Choices	Responses
Yes, improved	25.64% 10
Yes, declined	7.69% 3
No, do not notice a difference	66.67% 26
Total	39

#	Comment:	Date
1	I have gone to the Bridge Concert series and it is a very positive, uplifting, fun event.	1/16/2017 1:01 AM
2	NA	1/6/2017 2:15 PM
3	Haven't noticed	1/6/2017 10:01 AM
4	In the past two months we've witness a huge fight where several people were beaten and one individual was hurt badly. On a separate occasion there were about 10 police vehicles surrounding the well, with twice as many officers with guns drawn. I think you get the picture..	1/5/2017 3:14 PM
5	Not by their when their is an event	1/5/2017 12:53 PM
6	Have not observed the park during an event.	1/5/2017 12:16 PM
7	I notice when I attend events.	1/5/2017 11:06 AM
8	can't comment	1/5/2017 10:52 AM
9	More events would help...	1/5/2017 10:51 AM
10	Improvement only minimally depending on the patrons of the event. Feel, cleanliness and homeless still present just not as obvious. Still not a place that kids would/could play or hang out for families with a cup of coffee or picnic.	1/5/2017 10:46 AM

Q10 This year the Olympia City Council approved funds for the Park Ranger and Well Host at the Artesian Commons. They were stationed at the park Tuesday through Saturday, June - October 15th. How do you think these positions affected the environment of the park this summer?

Answered: 51 Skipped: 0

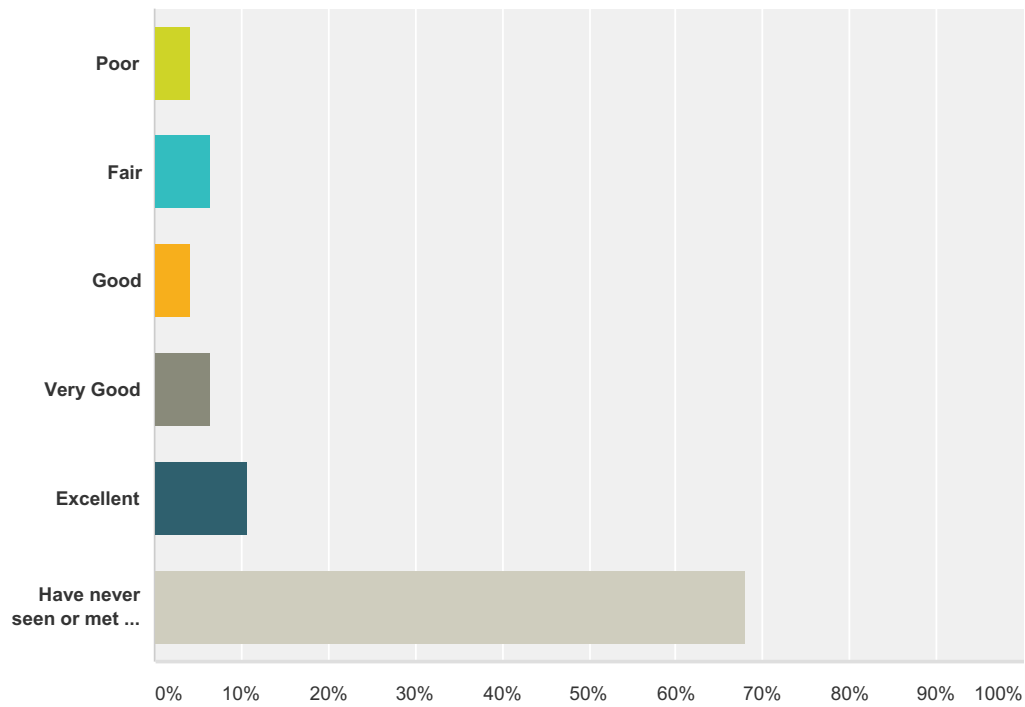


Answer Choices	Responses	
Improved	29.41%	15
Declined	1.96%	1
Neutral - Did not see a difference	19.61%	10
Did not know about the Well host or Park Ranger	49.02%	25
Total		51

#	Comment	Date
1	Garrett is wonderful!!	1/16/2017 1:01 AM
2	Total waste of time and money! Those funds should be used for more police presence.	1/6/2017 11:06 AM
3	I never saw either of these individuals and don't think it deterred from the transient/ drug issues at all.	1/5/2017 3:14 PM
4	Did not seem to have any positive impact.	1/5/2017 12:16 PM
5	Yes. But missing downtown walking patrols.	1/5/2017 11:12 AM
6	Disband them, what a waste of tax payers money!	1/5/2017 10:52 AM
7	Did not notice	1/5/2017 10:51 AM

Q11 Please rate your experience with park staff.

Answered: 47 Skipped: 4

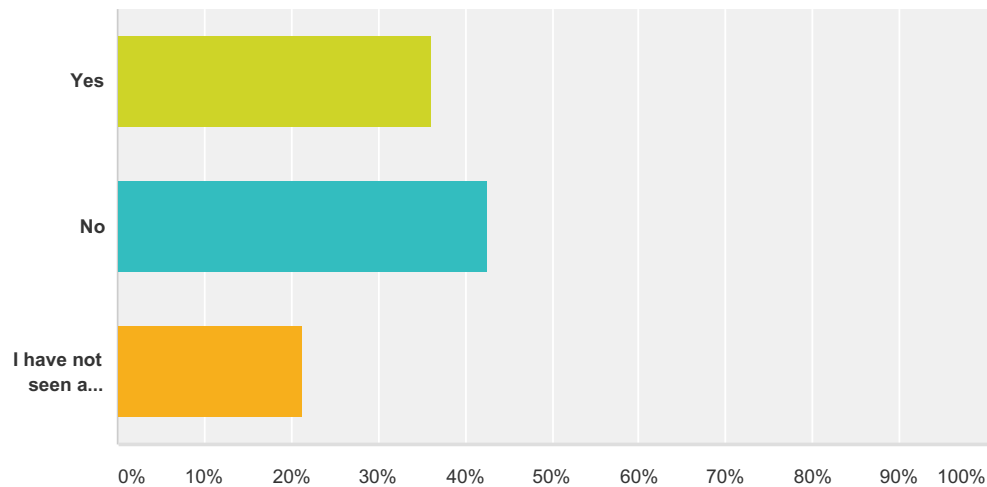


Answer Choices	Responses
Poor	4.26% 2
Fair	6.38% 3
Good	4.26% 2
Very Good	6.38% 3
Excellent	10.64% 5
Have never seen or met any park staff	68.09% 32
Total	47

#	Comment	Date
1	Garret is FANTASTIC!	1/6/2017 4:36 PM

Q12 Since the park opened, the City has been working with the community and partnering agencies to improve experiences at the park. In the last year, additional seating, a basketball hoop and a 24 hour restroom have been added. In your opinion have these additions improved the overall experience of the park?

Answered: 47 Skipped: 4



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	36.17% 17
No	42.55% 20
I have not seen a difference	21.28% 10
Total	47

#	Comment:	Date
1	Is that our tax dollars at work cleaning the honey buckets???	1/6/2017 2:15 PM
2	I will take note of the changes next time we wonder by the park.. I would assume that the space would improve with these additional features	1/6/2017 10:01 AM
3	It is not a place that customers or fellow business owners/employees would go to spend time. If anything this has only encouraged the transient/drug users/drug dealers to hang out there.	1/5/2017 3:14 PM
4	It may improve the experience for the transients who use the park.	1/5/2017 12:16 PM
5	It still looks disgusting with suspicious people hanging out that scare potential customers/visitors from downtown.	1/5/2017 11:12 AM
6	Again, neat idea, but it has only added to the systemic problem. In my eyes it has only improved the experinece for the drug dealers, and homeless individuals frequent the place.	1/5/2017 11:06 AM
7	We are happy to see the Hoops and restrooms. The loitering and drug use by the individuals that regularly occupy the space is preventing a positive experience for all to enjoy. They dominate the feeling and overall experience last time I walked through it felt like a prison yard.	1/5/2017 11:05 AM
8	None- Just provides more of a haven for criminal activity	1/5/2017 11:04 AM

Neighboring Businesses of the Artesian Commons

9	I believe this was intended to be a wonderful addition to the city, however it has become a blith on the city.	1/5/2017 11:00 AM
10	Please remove the benches and tables. The Artesion well is a community resource that has been used by many people for decades. Creating a homeless gathering space has been very negative for downtown Olympia.	1/5/2017 10:55 AM
11	The restrooms stopped some of the public urination and other in doorways and alleyways	1/5/2017 10:52 AM
12	Trying to call it a park because of a basketball hoop is laughable...	1/5/2017 10:51 AM
13	Restrooms, Not so much basketball	1/5/2017 10:35 AM

Q13 Was there an instance where staff exceeded your expectation? If so, please share your experience with us!

Answered: 9 Skipped: 42

#	Responses	Date
1	Garrett is a wonderful addition to the Commons.	1/16/2017 1:01 AM
2	Garret Cooper always impresses us with his abilities to connect with everybody he meets, from all walks of life. Can't speak to a specific instance, but he is a real asset to the city of Olympia.	1/6/2017 4:36 PM
3	WE love the ambassadors!	1/6/2017 1:26 PM
4	None.	1/5/2017 11:32 AM
5	Parks department has done a great job!	1/5/2017 11:06 AM
6	I do not go to the park and avoid that general area.	1/5/2017 11:00 AM
7	Apparently mentally ill individual was shouting at people at the Commons and scaring them. Staff person was able to calm the person.	1/5/2017 10:59 AM
8	Yes. Twenty22Many volunteering their time to clean the park ...	1/5/2017 10:51 AM
9	Garrett was the right person for the Well Host position. He had a great deal of credibility and was able to improve behavior without being overbearing. Lee also found ways to engage with park users in a positive way while commanding respect.	11/22/2016 4:02 PM

Q14 What additions or improvements would you like to see at the park in the future?

Answered: 24 Skipped: 27

#	Responses	Date
1	There should be a nice bathroom and I mentioned the water feature idea and nice pavers above.	1/16/2017 1:01 AM
2	parking garage	1/8/2017 10:33 AM
3	Add 24-hour restrooms with soap and running water and staff them to keep them clean.	1/6/2017 4:36 PM
4	More events	1/6/2017 1:26 PM
5	Keep access to the great water resource for people to enjoy. Close the park.	1/6/2017 11:06 AM
6	Camera surveillance dome, working or not, might prevent illegal activities? At least in the park.. Are there any plans to have space for food truck parking next to park? Good place for a public postings space (job's, services, events..)	1/6/2017 10:01 AM
7	Supervised activities that bring families to the AC may alter the community perspective and give a more balanced population to the park.	1/5/2017 1:55 PM
8	I have mixed feelings about permanent restrooms. I feel like people won't travel to use one. I see men urinating on the outside of the public restroom at the boardwalk (seriously- just a couple more steps and they would be inside).	1/5/2017 1:27 PM
9	They should clean up their own mess	1/5/2017 12:53 PM
10	Decide if you want to create a park for a broader cross section of our community. If so, the park needs to have reasons for people, other than transients, to go there. There should be at least some soft scape (trees, plantings), high quality paving (brick or cobblestone pavers), enjoyable features for children, well designed night time lighting, etc.	1/5/2017 12:16 PM
11	Close it.	1/5/2017 11:32 AM
12	Get rid of it!	1/5/2017 11:30 AM
13	close the park and turn it back in to a parking lot	1/5/2017 11:19 AM
14	I believe the general public would enjoy the water feature if in a more public location. For example, it could be a water feature in front of City Hall. The current location of the water does not feel integrated into the urban fabric.	1/5/2017 11:12 AM
15	Not a hangout for unsavory characters. Turning back into a parking lot would be best.	1/5/2017 11:12 AM
16	Trees, food trucks, skate features, new mural, living wall, live music, permanent nice restroom, less black, my 11 year old suggested a monthly petting zoo??... more support from city administration, council and OPD.	1/5/2017 11:06 AM
17	Behavior expectations, no drug use, none smoking let families/ visitors feel welcome	1/5/2017 11:05 AM
18	Turn it back into an area that can be enjoyed by all without feeling intimidated by surroundings	1/5/2017 11:04 AM
19	MADE SO NORMAL PEOPLE CAN SIT AND ENJOY THE PARK, NOT A PLAYGROUND FOR STREET KIDS AND HOMELESS	1/5/2017 11:04 AM
20	I would like the city to stop putting our money into a this place. The intentions were exciting when the park first reopened and I utilized the park and patronized the food trucks. And now it has become a place for drug dealers and users to use and sell drugs and bludgeon each other with rocks.	1/5/2017 11:00 AM
21	Staffed bathroom. Shelter from weather.	1/5/2017 10:59 AM
22	Remove all tables and benches. Add outdoor speakers playing classical music. DO NOT WASTE TAXPAYER MONEY ON A BATHROOM.	1/5/2017 10:55 AM
23	Again, Security Patrols... offering Empowerment Programs for homeless.... more events to promote park... allow musicians to play music and pan handle...	1/5/2017 10:51 AM
24	The park is too small and confined. If the corner property was incorporated into the park and the Cryptatropa removed that space would be opened up to easier observation and would be less claustrophobic.	11/22/2016 4:02 PM

Neighboring Businesses of the Artesian Commons

Q15 Is there anything else you would like to add?

Answered: 26 Skipped: 25

#	Responses	Date
1	The well is a huge asset and attraction to the community. It should be treated as such and build out to look better than an asphalt parking lot. Another mural on the eastern wall would be nice.	1/16/2017 1:01 AM
2	The video of the fight in park pretty much sums it	1/10/2017 3:39 PM
3	I hope that the park has a 24 hour restroom and is open 24/7. I have a serious problem with street people hanging out at my building at the corner of 4th and Franklin and it helps if there is somewhere else to hang out. I do not live in town but hear from my residential and retail tenants and am worried about losing other tenants due to the street people and police not enforcing my No Trespass orders.	1/10/2017 8:57 AM
4	There is too much loitering of displaced youth at the park. Also smells terrible and feels dirty.	1/8/2017 7:01 PM
5	close it down	1/8/2017 10:33 AM
6	Thank you	1/6/2017 1:26 PM
7	This park is a drain on resources in downtown. Put the limited resources we have towards more officers to help our community start to feel safer again.	1/6/2017 11:06 AM
8	I understand the need for people to have a place, but the location is very damaging to residents and business. It should be in an area that does not affect business. This area, makes it hard for the consumers to want to participate in downtown businesses, and homes close to the well.	1/6/2017 8:58 AM
9	It is not a safe place. I think the intentions for the park were good, but what it has become is not what was intended.	1/5/2017 3:14 PM
10	yes, don't put the new bathroom there, it's supposed to be for customers and homeless, this is not a convenient or inviting area of downtown	1/5/2017 2:16 PM
11	We should work on the A C to make it a true public space for all.	1/5/2017 1:55 PM
12	It is a sore spot in downtown and adds to the challenged image downtown already struggles with.	1/5/2017 1:36 PM
13	I think we have spent enough money on the park at this point. It's unfortunate we have to babysit adults.	1/5/2017 1:27 PM
14	Alot of money spent on something that didn't work like it was suppose too.	1/5/2017 12:53 PM
15	Make a fundamental decision: who's the park for? If for all, don't keep dressing up the pig...do it right! Yes, it takes money, but this is a great example of what could be a necklace of artesian well pocket parks that are unique to our historic downtown Olympia. Many new sub-districts are being created (Olympia Downtown Strategy), each should have one or more artesian pocket parks. As the density of our downtown increases, especially with so many more people living downtown, the need for these pocket parks is going to grow exponentially.	1/5/2017 12:16 PM
16	close the park and make it in to parking lot.	1/5/2017 11:19 AM
17	I would like to see the continuation in supporting this area. I just want there to be a "police/patrol" person there to monitor activity so people do not feel like they can stake claim or intimidate others so they are not comfortable.	1/5/2017 11:16 AM
18	The lack of communication when constructing the commons & adjacent fenced parking area was horrible and since that time has been limited. The City's anti-small business attitude (other than Renee Sunde who is amazing) is disturbing. It seems as if the Council and City is more interested in creating a hang out for unsavory characters rather than having downtown be a positive and active place for small businesses and their customers.	1/5/2017 11:12 AM
19	I really feel that the city should cut their losses, and convert it back to additional parking for downtown business. Great idea, but no one could have fully anticipated what it turned into.	1/5/2017 11:06 AM
20	Thank you for the effort in the experiment of urban green space. Building a positive relationship with nearby property and business owners will lead to success. More recreation and green as well as monitoring can only help. I think it is terrible that OPD records activity there and puts it on Twitter. How on earth is that helpful? Stay positive! Thank you!	1/5/2017 11:06 AM
21	Great work! Challenging to manage but this space represents our wealth and freedom to it. Very important to me and my business.	1/5/2017 11:05 AM
22	I would like to turn it into a parking lot again, so that it would be useful to visitors coming to downtown Olympia.	1/5/2017 11:00 AM

Neighboring Businesses of the Artesian Commons

23	The Artesian Commons was a good idea that went bad. Admit that you made a mistake, turn it back into a parking lot and eliminate the blight on downtown Olympia.	1/5/2017 10:55 AM
24	I have never seen anything but problems associated with this locale and think unless there are drastic changes to what is allowed ie camping out, drugs, etc. this "park" will never be the jewel of the city only a waste of tax dollars.	1/5/2017 10:52 AM
25	Twenty2Many could be a good presence.... now that we have volunteered cleaning the well for over a year we have earned the trust and respect of the homeless... just ask... we are Veterans organization that genuinely cares about its city and its citizens... Love and Light	1/5/2017 10:51 AM
26	The well is a community asset and park surrounding it needs to enhance it and not distract from it. This is an urban park and will not be a place to take the family until the area surrounding the park significantly transforms which doesn't seem likely in the near term.	11/22/2016 4:02 PM