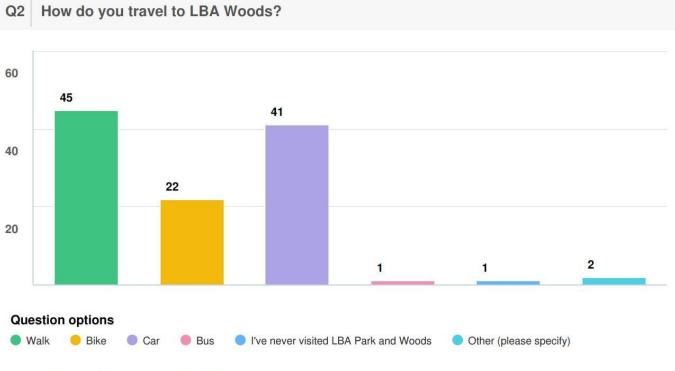
## LBA Woods Trail Improvements Survey Results from Engage Olympia

Survey Report September 24, 2019 – October 8, 2019





Optional question (76 responses, 0 skipped)

Q1

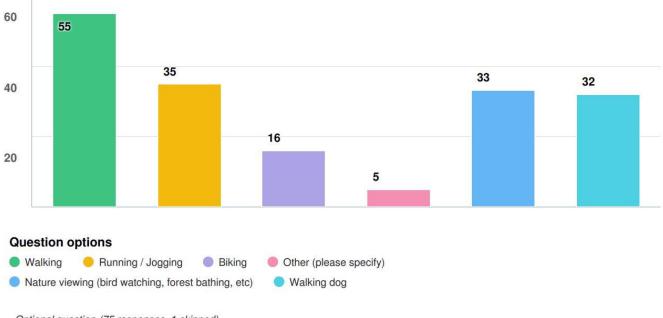
Question 3: Where do you generally enter the park? Are there any access routes/entrances you'd like to see added to the park?

No.	Contribution
1	Main parking areas.
2	The big lot by the softball field
3	No.
4	Parking lot
5	Yes! I live in Newcastle. There was a plan to connect the road between Patrick Court and Ashford Court to the proposed housing development in LBA. It would be nice to finally connect that road to the now park by clearing out the blackberries and preventing people from dumping yard waste.
6	Off log cabin
7	The main parking lot on the east side or the very small gravel parking lot just west of the new access road to the water tower.
8	By the roundabout at boulevard and log cabin road.
9	Main entrance at parking area off of Morse Merryman Road
10	50/50 between the large upper lot and the smaller lower lot.
11	Near the playground
12	Generally, via Amherst - would LOVE entrance via 37th Ave (makes for easy connection to CW Trail)
13	Via log cabin road/watertower trails or south parking area
14	LBA Park Amhurst entry, Van Epps, or Morse Merryman, depending upon the route of the day
15	I use all access we need better access from Wiggins or 37th or 40th.
16	I've used the Amherst entrance, the entrance at the large parking lot to the east, and the walk-in entrance to the far east end.
17	I generally enter from the parking areas.
18	Near LBA
19	Van Epps St. or Amhurst St.
20	Primary entrance/ Frontier/Highline Sugarloaf/water tower road Van Epps Park entrance
21	tiny gate by baseball outfield
22	For the woods, the upper e trance closer to Wiggins. I wish there was more obvious signage on Wiggins because I often drive past the turn onto s'mores-Merryman.
23	I enter through fence at corner of LBA park.
24	Morse Merryman Road
25	I use various northern entrances - and the one at Log Cabin water tank.
26	SW trail through the scotch broom or trailhead in the Wilderness neighborhood (can't remember the name of the street).of the street in the Wilderness neighborhood.
27	Amherst st entrance
28	Van Epps Street SE. Possibly new access to the eastern boundary.

29	We park in the big parking lot off Morse-Merriman and walk into the woods.
30	Newcastle entrance by Boulevard.
31	I generally enter either of the two main parking areas. Parking is usually quite adequate unless there is a big tournament going on. I have never been unable to find a spot in one lot or the other.
32	The road to the new water tower on Morse-Merryman
33	From Wilderness Do not need other routes for entrance
34	By the gas house
35	I enter in Wilderness at Highline Dr SE. My house sits immediately adjacent to the woods
36	From New Castle.
37	Newcastle Neighborhood
38	Road to the water tower
39	Usually along the northwest trail, occasionally along the north trail.
	By the water tower on Boulevard Road
40	No, there are plenty of entrances to the park already
41	From PSE utility area located at the southwest corner of the Park
42	By the old water tower near the Boulevard/Log Cabin round-about
43	Main LBA Park parking lot.
44	Off Amherst
45	Both entrances off of Morse-Merriman.
46	Boulevard
47	Access Gate by Water Tower, Gap by Chain Link Fence, Main Park Entrance.
48	Main entrance
49	From the cul de sac on the South end of the park, the trail near the water tower off of Boulevard, and morse-merry road.
50	The gravel road at Sugarloaf SE. a link up to the trails from the parking lot might be nice (a short trail from the parking lot to the east)
51	Grass field from Newcastle, at the top of Highline Dr in Wildersness, and sometimes from LBA Park
52	Van epps
53	Enter off of Morse-Merryman. No other entry points are needed.
54	Wilderness access
55	Frontier/Highline in Wilderness
56	From Morse Merryman east of McKenny elementary school
57	Across from the school
58	Main LBA entrance or Amhurst
59	From the woods on the South-East corner.
60	From my neighborhood off 41st in Newcastle.

61	Small gravel parking area between water tower entrance and main park.
62	Highline
63	morsemerryman rd
64	from morse-merryman road
65	Morse Merryman Parking lot
66	Trails by the water tower near Log Cabin road, or Van Epps neighborhood entrance.
67	Highline Drive and at the playground off Morse Merryman Road
68	Through the smaller entrance by the play structure.
69	Amhurst Lot
70	Morse merryman and amhurst
71	Morse Merryman entrance
72	I generally enter from the very small gravel parking area a little East on Morse-Merryman from the main baseball parking area. I really appreciate having an entrance that allows me to bring my dog, and bypass the smells/excitement/opportunities for him to misbehave of the children's baseball games.
73	By the water-tower off Boulevard.

## Q4 What current activities do you like to do in LBA Woods?



Optional question (75 responses, 1 skipped)

No.         Contribution           1         Signage. Establishment of some "main loops" without losing the overall routes in the park.           2         wayfinding signs           3         Better, more defined trails.           4         Incorporate trail course markings used in LBA Trail Race on 8/10-19 on a permanent basis           5         none - unless some are needed to preserve and maintain the trails; exploring the trails in the park is easy and they are all so interconnected that you eventually come back to some place that you know           6         more Trail signs, map markers, more labels of in order to know what trail you are on and where it goes.           7         Signage at intersections of trails segments and map/signs at entrance to trail network.           8         Signage and maps. I get lost walking. Also private/public boundaries.           9         Trail markers that will show a continuous trail to stay on, similar to Point Defiance Park where yellow triangles are one route, light blue circle another, and dark blue squares are the longest route. You can add a trail map at the entrance point to the trails which show the distance, or type of trail like the "Family Friendly" listed below.           10         I would love to see signage because it is easy to get lost           11         Erosion control, wayfaring signage           12         Marked trails and habitat restoration, bike routes, dog leashing enforcement.           13         Minimal. Mostly any that connect different areas	Questi	Question 5: What trail improvements would you like to see in LBA Woods?		
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17 Non-hard payment trails	16	maybe some minor directional signs for new comers to the woods. I would really hate to see any		
	17	Non-hard payment trails		

18	Simple trail signage. Information kiosk with map, trail info, natural history notes, mapsuch as at Kettle View Park or Margaret McKenny Park at the existing kiosk at edge of main LBA parking lot. Off-leash dog trail. More dog-waste-bag stations. More enforcement of leash laws. Biking rules clearly postedcurrent signs prohibit biking. Trail connectivity to neighborhoods.
19	Remove ivy and Himalayan blackberry. Keep dogs from pooping all over trail system. Keep trails primitive and unmarkedunless you wanted to add a bike pump track, then that would be sweeeeeeet
20	The loop I navigate fine, but if I go right instead I've gotten turned around or hit dead ends I think.
21	Signage
22	Signage to help enforce leash rules.
23	Improved drainage or by-pass of the 'pond' that forms in winter southerly of southwest corner of LBA Park
24	Naming the trails and putting up maps. The trails are already connected. Please don't widen them or put in gravel or bark or anything that will detract from the natural setting! Thanks.
25	Reducing erosion on hills, moving trails where they go through wet areas. However, graveling the trails is a bad option, it makes trails noisy with a continual crunch.
26	Elimination of the trail sections that promote erosion. Eliminate duplicate paths very close together. Relocate sections that are prone to flooding during wet weather.
27	Well, on one hand, having directional signs would be helpful to people. On the other hand, the foot traffic in the woods is increasing even without the signs. People do find their way.
28	Block car access from side streets. Garbage cans at the start of each trail or main entrance.
29	Posted trail maps, brush clearing, widen some narrow trails. Although part of the fun of it is figuring out the system and discovering new trails. I am a little disappointed that I think I have figured them all out now.
30	Fill in some of the low spots that fill with water in the winter. If dogs are required to be leased, post leash signage.
31	None
32	Retire some of the redundant trails - especially ones impassable due to water
33	Trail signs or map boards would help keep people from getting lost. Beyond that, just keeping the trails clear of downed trees is all that is necessary.

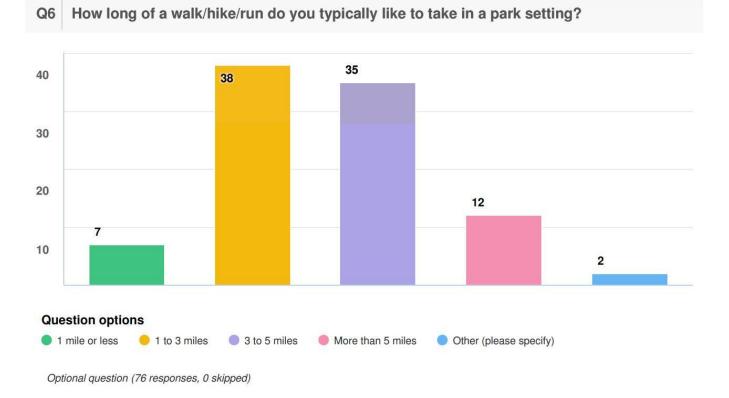
34	Improve safety
35	If anything, I would like parts of the trail that get under water improved.
36	As few as necessary.
37	Reduce or eliminate ivy, holly, scotchbroom, and some invasive blackberries. Protect habitat of birds, tree frogs and other animal friends
38	I think the trails are great as they are right now. I appreciate not having dozens of signs up and just being able to feel like I'm away from it all. I love the variety of "routes"I can walk every day but not have to walk the same route. It means every day can be a new adventure.
39	Signage, widening at some narrow paths, put in barks, connections between the two original two properties, maybe add solar lighting along major trails
40	The access near the old water tower could stand some improvement though it is totally serviceable and has been substantially improved over the past couple of years. I would prefer that the trails remain rustic, but that enough brushing be done to keep them passable.
41	Trails should be designed to meet specified criteria. This will involve abandoning some existing trails, adding some new ones, and modifying some existing ones. Because this is a large park and one can easily become lost, good signage at all entry points and trail intersections is vital. Signage should include maps that are oriented to the ground.
42	Clean up trash
43	We want clear paths through the forest.
44	A simple trail map sign/display of some kind depicting LBA Woods. At the entrances, of course, but also 2-3 interspersed throughout the Woods.
45	None, leave them as they are, that's why we like going there. As soon as you bring more attention and spend resources it will be lost as a natural area.
46	Biking features and options although I am aware of the Kaiser Woods project, it seems to have a long time table, and it is much farther away from my home.
47	Named trails and markers.
48	A few of the overgrown trails could use a bit of maintenance/clearing, but otherwise it's wonderful that it's a bit "wild"/natural!
49	Sings indicating directions to park or entrances/exits. I come across a lot of people who are lost.
50	minimal. I like the feel of the woods currently
51	Amend main trails where get inundated with water during winter.

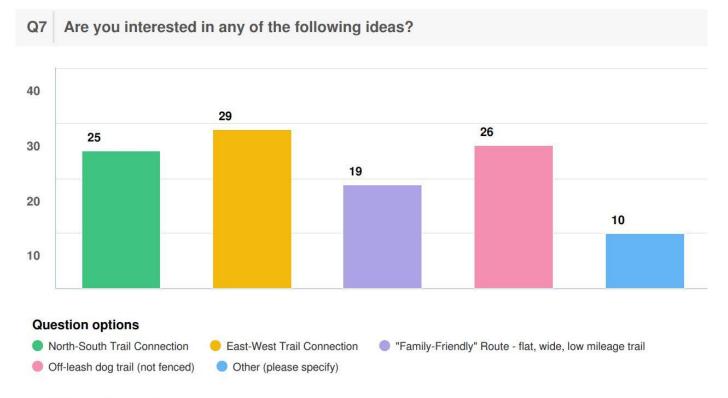
52	maps and signs to say where you are, etc.
53	Signs!
54	I think the trails are great! some of the more obscure trails are a little narrow with salal and trailing blackberry snagging on the bike or the body. Making them a little wider would help when coming across other users.
55	Overall map. Ckear some cross links.
56	Well marked trails with their corresponding distance.
57	It would be nice if the paths through the woods were widened in the areas where they're so narrow it's difficult for people to pass one another.
58	Just keeping invasive species a bay and removal of any fallen trees or branches across the trail. Putting up warning "bees" if needed.
59	Dedicated MTB trails with increased difficulty levels focusing on beginners and cross country with maybe a few jump/freeride lines. I've emailed Jonathon & Sarah from engage olympia and would love to be apart of the process. The park is big enough for all sorts of fun including pedestrian and animal fun. I'll email Yvonne from Evergreen and see if they can post something about this survey on their emails or page. V/R Dan
60	None
61	leveling, widening
62	signs. clearer marked trails. maybe a map.
63	Surfacing, vegetation pruning, drainage
64	Options for cyclists that also keep other users safe.
65	I would like to see the woods remain cleared of underbrush and snags so that one can see through the woods, walk through the woods off trail, and view wildlife from a distance. I would also like to see some of the blackberries cut back so they don't overgrow the trail. I don't think it is an appropriate place for bike riding, so would encourage one main trail for bikes or no bike trails.
66	More clearly delineated trails - there are a number of trails that end randomly or arent very clear and end up fading out or dead end. It would be nice to have a more clear system with signage.
67	I love the rugged trails - makes me feel like I'm hiking!

There are a few places where what look like regular, well-maintained trails just peter out, and there's no obvious place to go without backtracking. I'd like to see those loose ends connected up to the rest of the trail network.

68 Also, some signs with trail maps would be useful.

On a separate note, as a person who walks my dog there, I'd love to see another few public trash cans. Maybe one towards the end of the wide-ish gravel road that leads to the water tower?





Optional question (59 responses, 17 skipped)

Questic	Question 8: Are there areas you feel unsafe? What trail improvements would make you feel safe?		
No.	Contribution		
1	There are a couple areas that are overgrown and have big puddles in the winter.		
2	None		
3	Feel safe currently, but please don't let this park become a haven for addicts and vagrants, like the Chehalis Western Trail, Woodland Trail and Watershed.		
4	No, it feels safe		
5	I think some people use the park for paintball and airsoft which is not very family friendly.		
6	I feel safe in this park		
7	nope. I always feel safe.		
8	Most of my concern is simply knowing the routes and having a sense of direction along the various trail segments.		
9	There are some very obvious trails that are the "main" trails, but there are some lesser used trails interweaving within the park that look like they could be fun to use and explore, but they are not well-defined enough to know if they are "safe" to use. Either maintaining these and defining them better, or adding markers that show which trail they connect with would be helpful and provide some confidence to using them or not. Especially for the trails that look like they pick up on the other side of the fire road near the water tower (I believe).		
10	Unleashed dogs are a constant stress on myself and my kids. Some of the areas by the Log Cabin Road watertower are used for paintball/pellet ball and that's intimidating. Also there is lots of trash in the SE area where there seems to be some camping.		
11	Any meeting of off-leash dogs when mine are leashed		
12	None it's very safe.		
13	Trail names/markers/maps would help with navigation and increase safety. Some parts of trails are overgrown and could allow for people's uneasiness to grow due to the unstable homeless population in town. Organize volunteer trailwork parties or get organizations to pledge maintenance, like Friends of Capital Forest does, to keep the city's costs down and promote a sense of pride/ownership.		
14	I've personally never felt anything other than safe in these woods.		
15	No		
16	Perhaps signs stating "Exit to street" at Frontier/Van Epps/Boulevard/etc. or "Exit to parking lot" to help orient users.		

17	Trail improvements will not increase my perception of personal safety.
18	I do not feel safe walking my dog in the LBA Woods. About two years ago, my dog was attacked by an off-leash dog. I attempted to walk in the woods a couple of times since then but I saw many off-leash dogs. I have not entered the woods since then. Signs might help but it may be necessary to occasionally cite the off-leash walkers. Right now, the woods is effectively an off-leash park.
19	Coyotes have been seen in the area along the road to the water tank. Not a totally unsafe feeling thought sometimes I carry a stick. It is a thrill to see such wildlife but there needs to be an element of caution.
20	No
21	We have been using the woods for 4 years. We have never felt unsafe. As a female, I have walked alone and never felt unsafe.
22	None
23	I generally feel safe but am an adult male 6' and 175#. There are a number of dogs off leash which occasionally make me nervous. But in general they are friendly and well controlled. I have never been bitten here which I can't say about some other places. I see a number of women running and walking alone but my wife won't do it. Some of the areas (like the loop in the SE corner) are fairly remote and lightly traveled. I'm not sure what can be done, it is kind of the nature of the beast.
24	Occasionally run into unfriendly off-leash dogs and fast bicyclists.
25	There are no areas where I feel unsafe.
26	I feel safe In the woods
27	The forested areas. Homeless encampment.
28	I think LBA is very safe. There is really only on steep hill, just at the end of Huckleberry Lane, heading south.
29	I feel safe wherever i walk in the LBA woods. And as long as we can keep the homeless from camping there, I can't see that changing.
30	Not really
31	There are sometimes wild parties that seem to start in the LBA developed park and spill over into the woods. I have felt threatened by loud possibly chemically impaired people wandering the trails, but the trails themselves I don't consider a safety threat.
32	None
33	None
34	I don't feel unsafe, however, more signage and organization of trails might benefit all users.

35	Haven't felt unsafe. A central trail map board would be nice, but please no trail markers! Keep it as it is as much as possible!
36	I feel safe there
37	I feel safe in the park.
38	I've only gone through the woods once and got lost with 2 young kids. It was awful. We'd love to return and explore the woods but are worried about getting lost again
39	No
40	Bikes on blind corners
41	No, but currently there are just too many off shoots, which make navigation tricky.
42	Only feel unsafe in the sense that while running in the woods on the narrow trails, it's very easy to trip on exposed roots and fall.
43	Not at this time.
44	Clear the single track trails so you can fit on them just a bit better.
45	No
46	I rarely encounter people in the woods, and feel safe there.
47	I haven't been to LBA Woods yet as it's further from my house than is convenient and I wasn't fully aware it was usable at this stage. Typically though, I like to do trail walks with my 2 kids, so at least one 1-mile-ish, family-friendly stretch would be great. Limited tripping hazards so they can run off some steam here and there and ideally longer straight stretches so I can keep them within eyesight, but not have to have them right next to me at all times.
48	Currently I feel unsafe on the trails that aren't clear whether they have been improved or not. Some of the trails dissipate, and I don't feel confident they will have an exit point.
49	No, I've never felt unsafe in the LBA woods.
50	I generally feel safe in the woods.

Ques	Question 9: Is there any other feedback you'd like to share about LBA Woods		
No.	Contribution		
1	Thank you for preserving this park. Can't wait to organize another race there!		
2	Thank you for maintaining such a great running trail and allowing for the LBA trail race this past summer. It was a great community event for all ages.		
3	See above. Protect our parks and trails!		
4	The trail running community is very thankful for all the trail improvements made. It would encourage more people to use the trails with a defined route/course to follow. Please consider using Mathias Eichler's awesome route to establish permanent trail route markings. A shorter route could also be marked for those wishing to do a one-two mile walk or run.		
5	Please leave it as undisturbed and natural as possible		
6	Make it bigger! More parks with multi use trails! Green spaces in Olympia are tremendous and should be expanded!!		
7	I am okay with having some trails that are not 'improved' much while having some that are perhaps leveled, treated with gravel or wood chips and made easier.		
8	Mathias Eichler put on an awesome race in August and has a well thought out, continuous 3.6 mile route that would be great to mark off as a specific trail route to follow. He would be an excellent resource to offer advice or additional route options that could be added. My friends and I love running at LBA, it's a wonderful option within the city, and we appreciate the efforts that are being put into preserving the area.		
9	I participated in the Little Backyard Adventure run and it was great. I would like to see more runs hosted here		
10	Love the quiet woods in the SE area and would love to see it preserved and protected. Unleashed dogs are a huge annoyance and sometimes worse.		
11	I was delighted to see the leasing and pick up after your dog signs along the east trail in LBA Park proper!		
12	Improve access from Wiggins Rd		
13	I learned about the trails through the OlyTrailRunners club last winter during a night group run. It's a great in-town trail network and I hope to see it cared for and protected. It certainly needs some improvements (signage/markers) but it is an incredible asset.		
14	I am a pretty regular use of these woods, and despite comments I've seen from other, I've NEVER encounters any "homeless" individuals or activities in this particular location of the city.		
15	No		
16	Please keep the Log Cabin extension road from being constructed. It will ruin the park.		

1	
17	This puppy is a real gem for the community. It may not be unadulterated old growth, but solid chunks of forest are rare in the lowlands, let alone in city limits. We should protect it from invasive plant species that threaten the natural ecosystems and encourage human use that is low impact and in harmony with the forested setting. The less we alter and build the better. Spend time fighting off ivy that will quickly create a shade desert and pull down trees.
18	better signage to discourage bikes, loose dogs, no camping
19	I mostly stick to the loop as the other side can be confusing. I'd like more signage on the trail portions closer to the playground area
20	Only indirectly re LBA Woods - but adding 'dog bowl' to the drinking fountains (similar to the one on boardwalk at corner of Water and State) in LBA Park would be nice addition for those of us walking dogs in this area.
21	I love this park because it is NOT linear or structured. The smaller trails are great for birding and I would hate to see them changed.
22	Part of the attraction of the park is that it isn't overrun with visitors. I enjoy meeting people's dogs, which are almost always well behaved and often off leash. This park lends itself well for off leash dog walks. Dogs get along with each other and the people they come across. It is great to run with your dog on such trails as these and not have to worry about being constantly on leash. This is a different experience for dogs from a dog park where dogs chase around after each other.
23	The LBA Woods is conceived as and should remain a natural area. Although it is used for a number of activities it should not have a lot of development and significant trail widening and artificial surfaces. Other than nature viewing the principal activities should consist ecosystem restoration. No large group events should be permitted.
24	It's a great place. What a treat to have an undeveloped woods within the city limits.
25	Excellent area that offers surrounding communities easy access to valued greenspace & nice trails with wildlife.
26	I am glad to see the new map with the water tower and associated road. But it has a "Future Log Cabin Road Extension" running through the middle of the woods. Is this a real possibility? I am hoping not. Also the multi family housing etc in the field on the west. Bathrooms are clean and well maintained. I am glad to see Park staff working on the weekends.
27	It's a wonderful facility!
28	Under no circumstances put a connectinf road between Wiggens and Boulevard (eg: the Log Cabin Extension idea)

29	Keep it unspoiled. It is a great micro ecosystem.
30	Number 1 priority must be safety and the enforcement of existing law including anti drug and littering. We do not need another drug infested criminal sanctuary like downtown Olympia.
31	I have used these trails for about the past ten years. I'm ok with leaving them just the way they are, sort of rugged and wild.
32	Please add no new trials and limit improvements to the existing ones.
33	I think LBA is an amazing park. There are delicious berries including wild raspberries, huckleberries, three types of blackberries, thimble berries, salal berries and oregon grape berries. There are many different animal friends, including birds, coyotes, tree frogs, bunnies, snakes, rodents, butterflies, bees and creatures of unseen sorts. What is most important to me is supporting the forest habitat and protecting the biodiversity with minimal human intrusion or disruption.
34	These trails in the woods are a treasure and need to be protected. I think this is a case when less is betterlet's leave them as they are.
35	Dog should always be leased! This property was not purchased as a dog park, it should put people use at a priority.
36	I would like to see the park remain as natural as possible, but it is important to survey the trail perimeters periodically for dead trees that have the potential to fall across the trail.
37	Retain perimeter fencing as appropriate.
38	Dogs should always be leashed.
39	Clearing brush and creating marked trails would be helpful.
40	It's a treasure to have such a healthy forest with trails right in our city's "backyard". I appreciate all the citizens who have helped keep it so natural.
41	Don't allow a road to go thru
42	I think the trails are actually in pretty good shape right now, but signage might be helpful. I'd like to see the trails continue to be open to bikes, and would like the trails in LBA woods to be available for off-leash dog walking (about 50% of people are already doing this - let's make it official!)
43	It is a great park and I enjoy using it. I ride my bicycle on the trails quite a bit and hope that future plans will accommodate that kind of traffic.
44	Please preserve the primitive nature that it currently has! This is so rare to find, especially in the middle of the city/with easy access. It's nice to be able to be removed and escape for a little bit. That's what makes the Woods so awesome!
45	Thank you for preserving woods and improving the trails!

46	Please be sure to allow biking on trails at LBA, I can see perhaps designating some trails for walking only, but there should also be some trails for running and biking as well. This is the only Olympia park where biking is allowed on trails at this time.
47	Fun walk. Enjoy exploring different trails
48	Thank you so much for making the purchase a priority and taking the time for input from the community. I would be happy to donate money if there were a dedicated "pot" for signage as well as volunteer for trail upkeep if there was a predictable schedule for this.
49	I would NOT want bicycles to be using the trails, as they are not wide enough for sharing. I met one once and it was an awkward situation, slightly unsafe.
50	This is an amazing park and I look forward to the improvements.
51	Leave it as natural as possible
52	There is some sort of lean too or platform structure built in the woods, I don't know what its purpose is, but don't want to see structures built in the LBA woods. I would like to ensure that homeless encampments ARE NOT allowed to form in LBA.
53	I just want to say, we are so very excited the City is taking this project on! It really gives us a sense of community pride and we are grateful for your efforts. We heard there was talk about this area becoming a housing development, and we are just so glad the city decided to make it a trail system for all to enjoy. Thank you so very much!!
54	Thanks for keeping LBA Woods in its natural state! It's a perfect place to enjoy nature!
55	I really appreciate the woodsy, not-too-developed character of the place. I'm pregnant, and it's nice to be able to get that feeling somewhere flatter & less strenuous than, say, Watershed Park or the Evergreen woods trail system.

Mapping Tool Comments		
No.	Contribution	
1	Do not put a road between Boulevard and Wiggens	
2	Too many paths here make it easy to get lost. Also, there is a big puddle here that blocks one of the trails.	
3	The "scotchbroom" area, slated for development, contains nearly 50% of the bird species (38) of LBA Woods. We need to save this site from development.	
4	Suggest improving this loop and the trail to the north that provides access from Morse-Merryman so that it is handicapped-accessible. Providing a parking area adjacent to the street or a trail from the existing upper lot would also be needed.	
5	There is a trail across the top of this ridge that is not shown. Suggest adding the water tower and road to the map for reference.	

