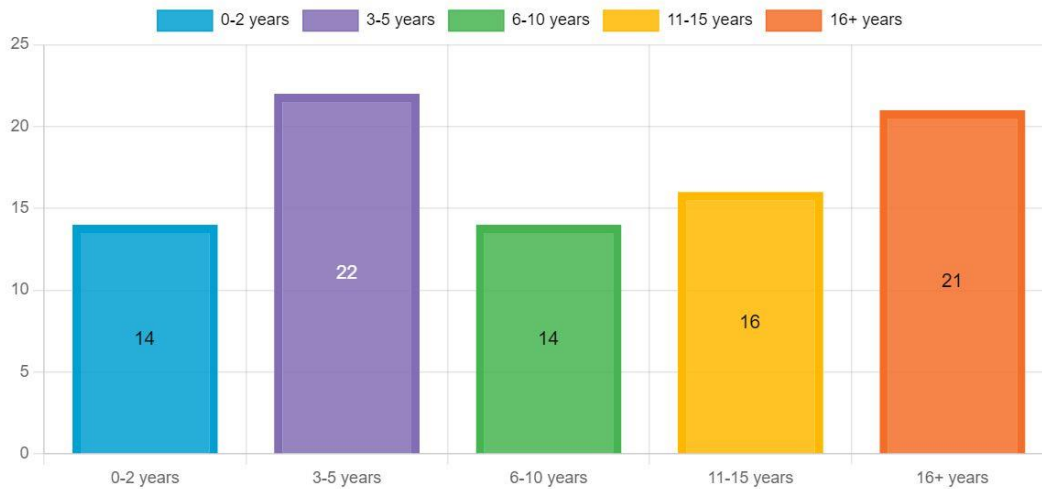


# COMMUNITY SURVEY 2023

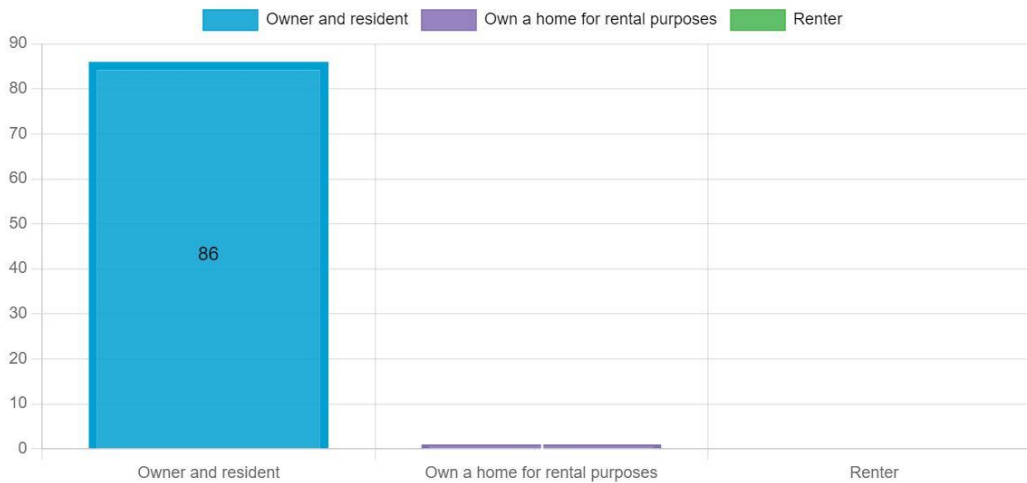
The purpose of the survey was to engage the community and obtain feedback on variety of subjects headed into 2024 budget preparations. Thank you to those that took a look (562) and an even bigger THANK YOU to those who completed the survey (87). The Town Council wanted to hear from the community on existing operations and amenities, what members value versus what may not be so highly valued; What members may want to cut back on or spend more on to see improvement(s). The survey questions were inspired by feedback and comments from the Open Space Committee, Farm Leadership Committee and members in attendance at monthly Town Council Meetings and the Annual Member Meetings.

## GENERAL QUESTIONS

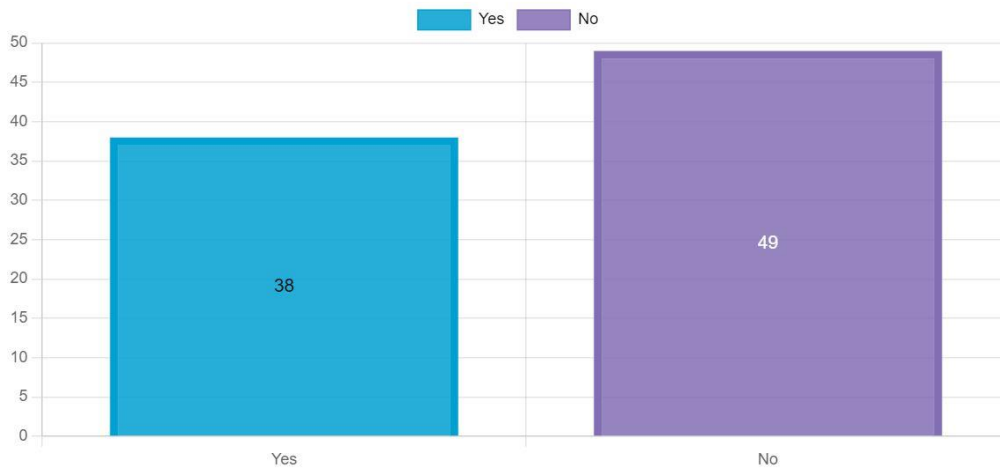
### How long have you lived in the neighborhood?



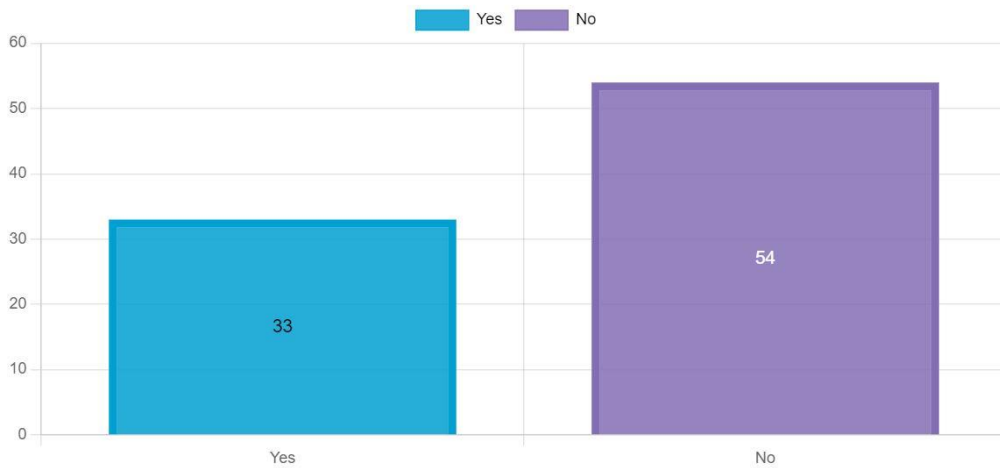
### Owner? Owner for Rental Purposes or Renter?



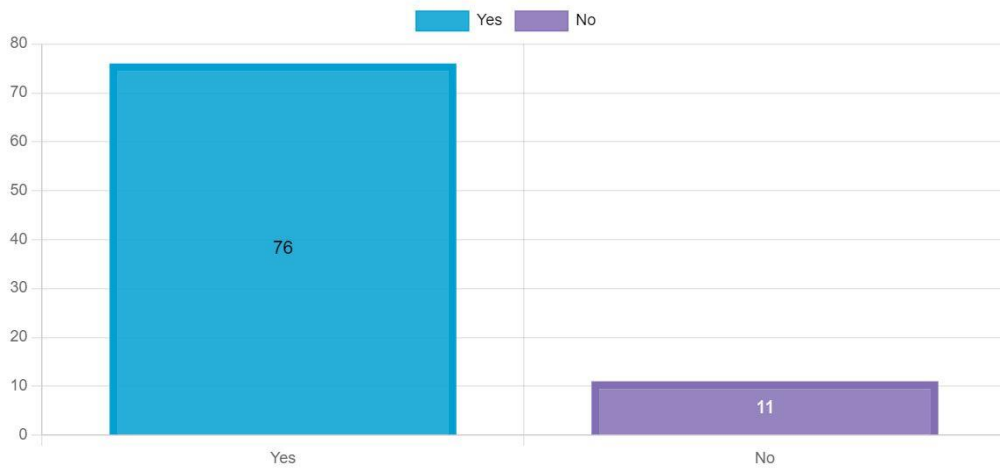
**Have you ever been to an Annual Member Meeting (held every 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday in December per the governing documents)?**



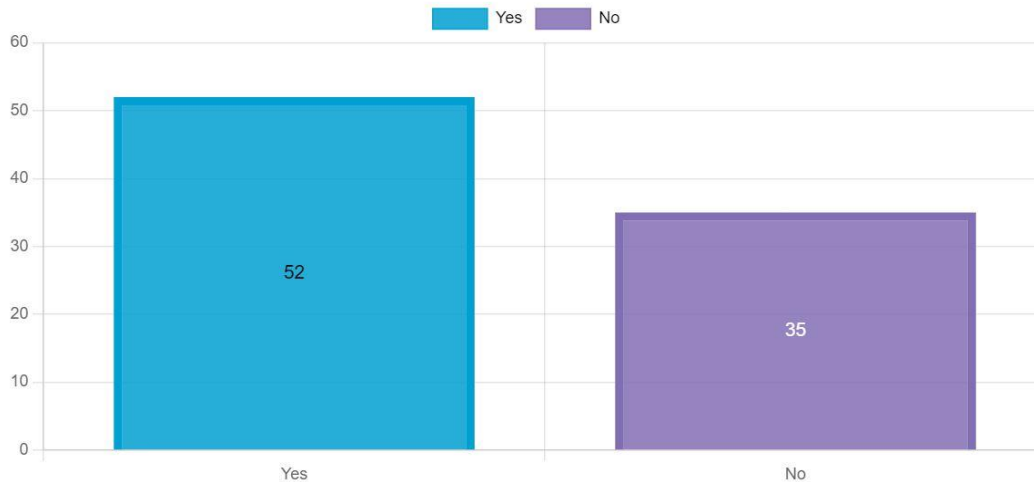
**Have you ever been to a monthly Town Council Meeting, open to residents since June 2022?**



**Have you opted in for emails and text messages on the new website platform?**



## Have you had the opportunity to volunteer on a committee? For an event? Other community projects?

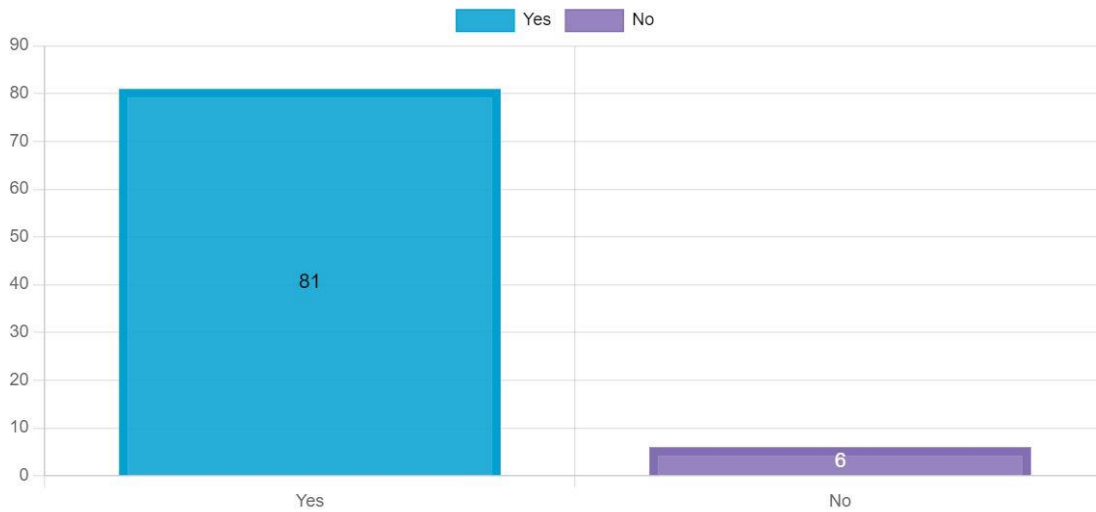


### If no, what would encourage you to become more involved in the community?

- Just a matter of available time with working full time and having two young kids.
- We're plenty interested, we are just far too busy at the moment. Both of us work full time, plus run a side business, and have a toddler.
- Knowing where to find those opportunities, we're new and haven't had a chance to familiarize ourself with the website.
- I haven't seen any correspondence from HS asking for volunteers. But I would love to be involved.
- I am unable to attend as I am disabled.
- More time.
- We just moved here full-time and are becoming acclimated to the community. We are learning more about our new surroundings and will look for ways to be involved once we feel comfortable.
- I am uncomfortable in large crowds and stay extremely busy with work.
- Free beer for volunteers.
- I currently work 70-80 hours per week and travel extensively. Once things slow down, I would be in a better place to consider increased involvement.
- Family health issues largely limit opportunities
- Work and kids sports schedules have prevented me from volunteering in the past but am hopeful as they get older that will change.
- Reducing our operation costs.
- I just have to make the decision to volunteer when the timing is right.
- We have only been here for 2 months. We look forward to helping out in the future.
- It will happen soon enough.
- Just waiting to settle in more, after our move in March, to become more involved.
- So far, it just hasn't worked out with my work and life schedule.

## STAFFING

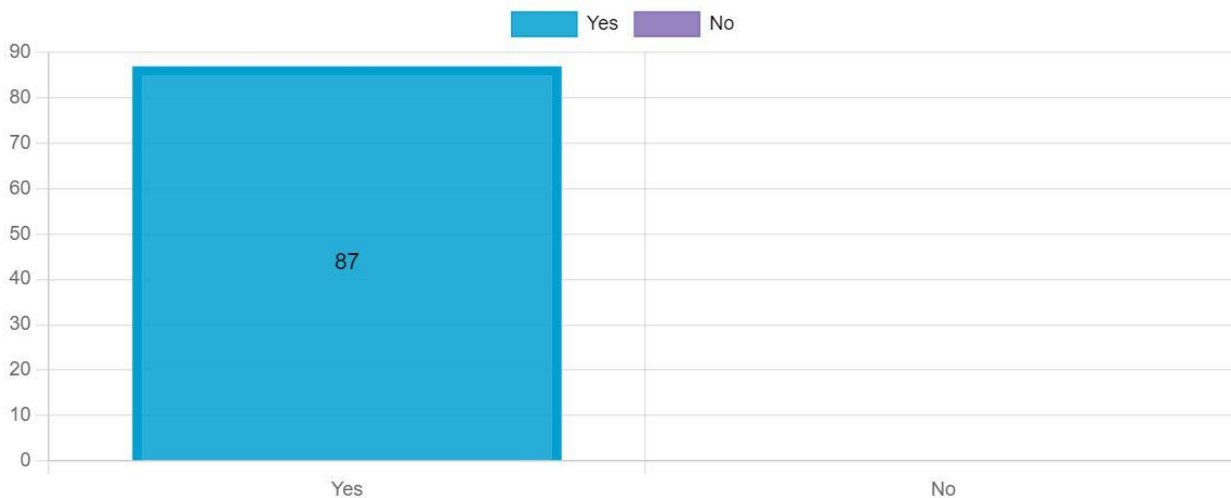
### Are the Hidden Springs Town Association Office hours convenient?



### If No, what would you prefer?

- Add Wednesdays
- More consistent hrs like for example: M/T/THR/FRI 9am-3pm or something similar whichever is easiest. Difficult to remember which days of the week/hours of schedule even after living here for a while. Just anything more consistent rather than varying dates & time.
- More hours on the days it is open would be helpful. Or, at least have someone available by phone if the office is not going to be open.
- Same hours every day.
- Should be open 5 days a week, same hours each day. Too hard to remember days and times when they are all different.

### Are you satisfied with the level of customer service provided by the Association Staff?



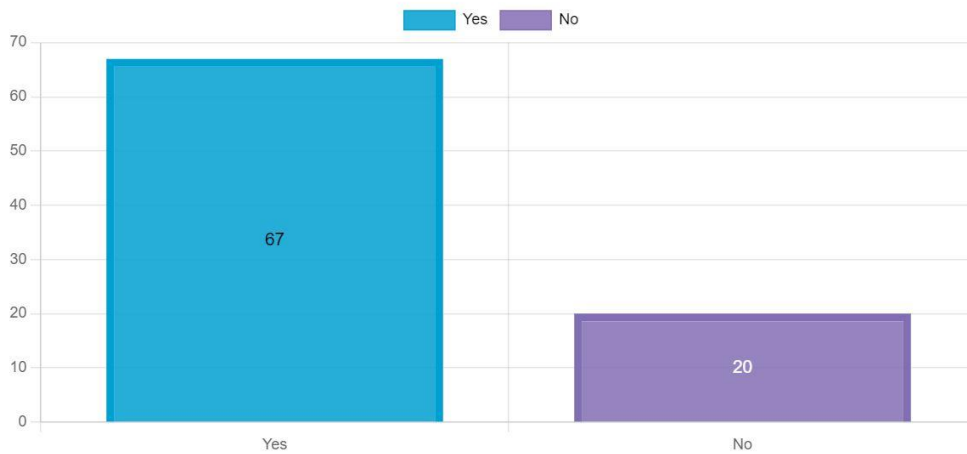
**If No, what improvements and/or changes would you like to see?**

- No comments entered.

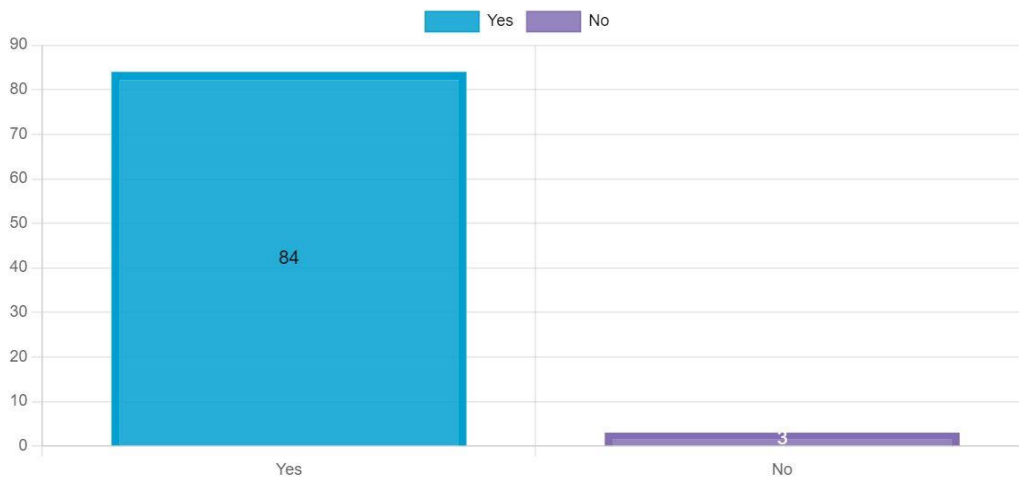
**ADMINISTRATIVE**

The Association would like to cut back on money spent on Supplies/Printing/Postage. There are a few areas where this may be possible with community support:

**Instead of Quarterly Statement Mailings do you support a change to one Annual Statement Mailing?** HOA and Sewer Assessments would still be due January 1, April 1, July 1 and October 1 however residents would NOT receive statement reminders. Savings = \$8,000 a year.



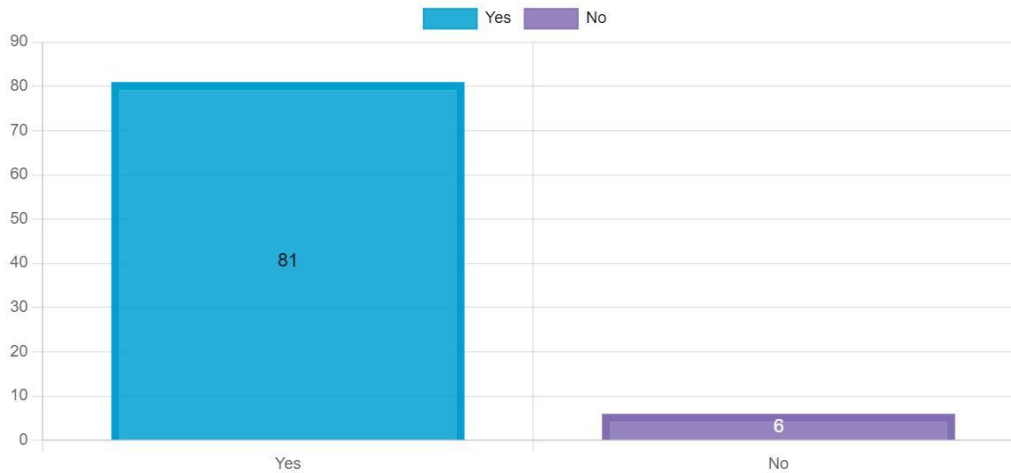
**Do you support a change to the Bylaws to allow for operational efficiency by allowing for email notification of official business and electronic voting?** Currently all “official” notifications, announcements and voting have to be delivered via mail (per the Bylaws) at escalating costs. Savings = \$5,300 less \$1,500 for online voting = \$3,800 a year. NOTE: In order to make this change, 2/3 of the members must vote in the affirmative.



## SITE OPERATIONS

Site operations includes the care and maintenance of the entrances, parks, landscape beds at facilities and parks, trash, pest control, snow removal, and utilities, equipment, supplies and fuel associated with these tasks.

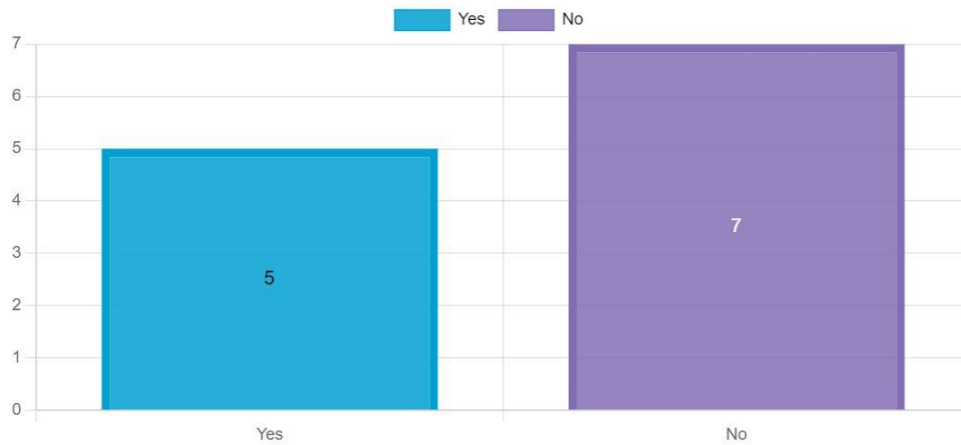
**In general, are you satisfied with how the community is being maintained based on the current budget allocation?**



**If No, what thoughts do you have on current maintenance levels and what could we do a better job at?**

- We had some serious wasp issues at the pool facilities this past summer and the execution of removing them was incredibly slow.
- Certain areas (like Rolling Hills) gets overlooked and is not well maintained.
- Overall, the neighborhood is maintained well. The grass is beautiful, but the trees along the roads could use some trimming. Greater snow removal would be appreciated beyond Hidden Springs drive and the other main arteries. Regarding the Annual Statements, HOA assessments, and Office Business issue raised above, I am fully in favor of eliminating mailed communication as long as there is an option to receive all communication via email. Every other business provides that option and it works well; it provides communication, lessens the burden on the mail room, and saves money.
- Our HOA fees are the highest in the VALLEY, even higher than AVIMOR, Legacy and some of the nicer communities. We need lower HOA fees... If you want to do events charge for them, but do not make the residents pay for them, especially if we do not attend them.
- Rolling Hills gets neglected more than Hidden Springs it seems. Weed control on the street and dry creek beds in common areas not maintained enough. Also the trail areas not cut down enough for hiking without fear of snakes.
- The trees need better trimming, the one across from N upper ridge place on Schick's Ridge is consuming the street light and thus making the area very, very dark. Also many other trees on Schicks Ridge sidewalk next to open space need trimming so you can walk down the sidewalk. What happened to the volleyball court?!?

**If you answered "No" above, and are not satisfied with the current level of maintenance, do you support an assessment increase to accomplish an increased level of maintenance throughout the community?**

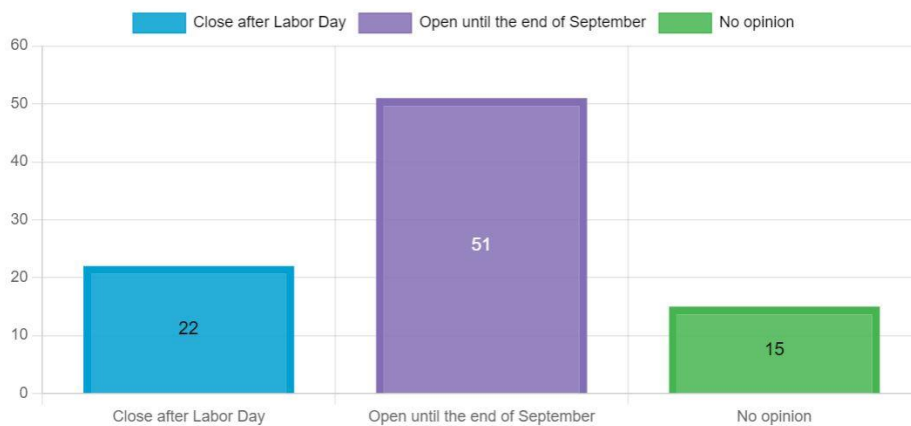


## THE POOLS

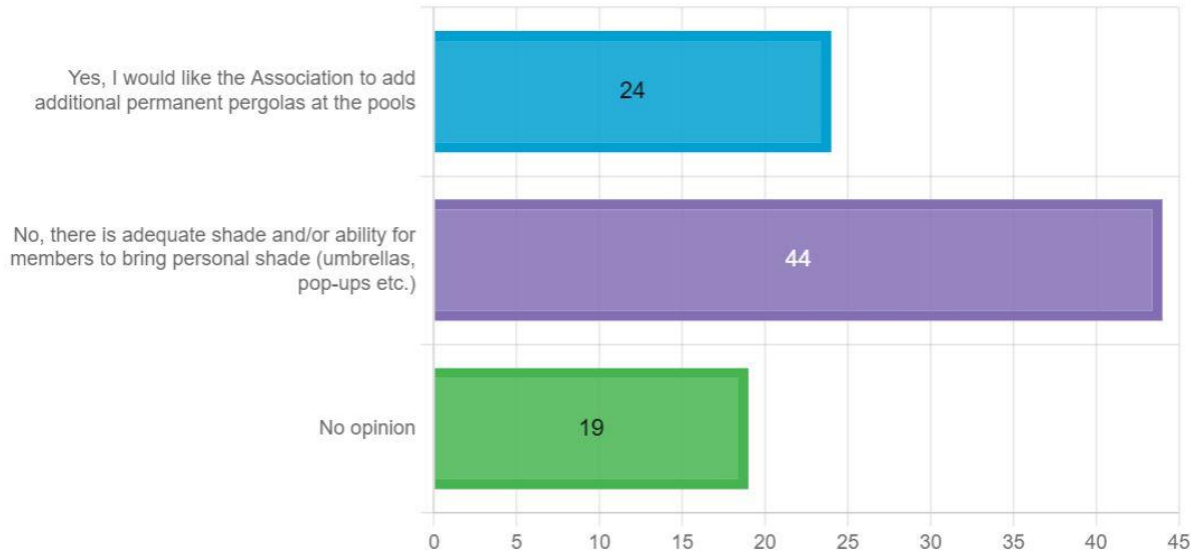
**How often do you visit the community pools?**



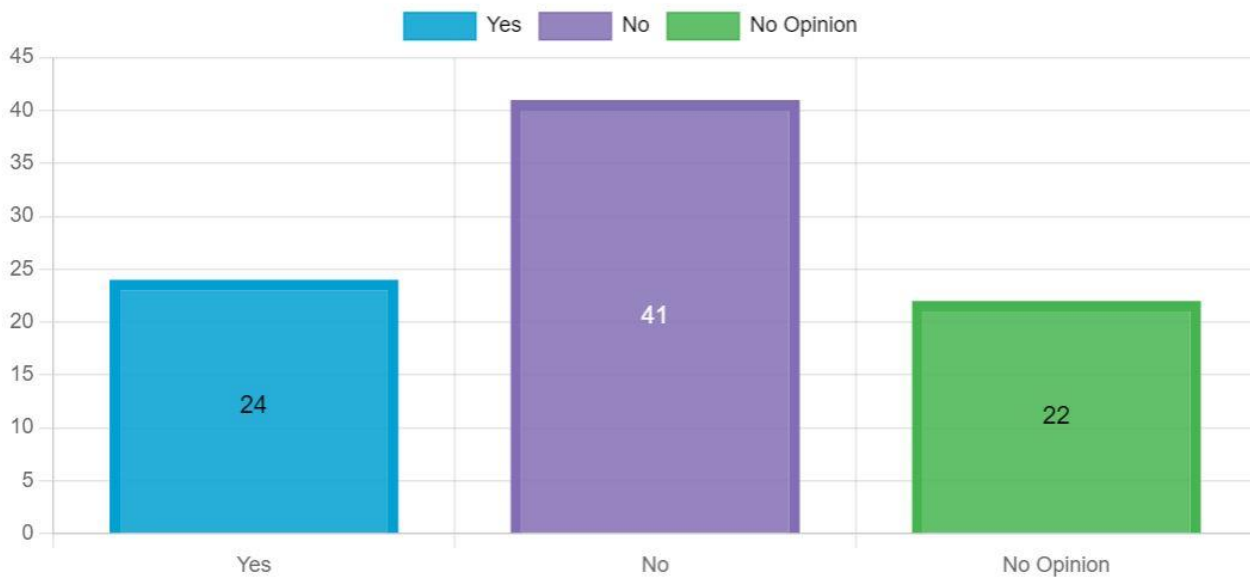
**The pools currently open at the end of May and close mid-to-end of September** (approx 17 weeks a year and \$78.42 per lot per year per the 2023 budget). The Association has been approached by some residents to close the pools after Labor Day to save money. Others prefer to have them open through the end of September.



**Shade at the pools is often a hot topic.** With the suspension of the pool monitor program and the cost and liability risk associated with umbrellas, the Association stopped purchasing them annually for use at the pools. The Association has researched sunshades which are extremely expensive (\$80K for three at South Meadow Pool in 2020). The Association could add additional permanent pergola shade structures similar to those currently in place at the pool(s) for a lot less (estimated \$20-30K).



There is very limited parking at the South Meadow Pool. **If the Association could obtain the necessary permits from ACHD, would you support adding a few additional spaces on to the current parking area?**

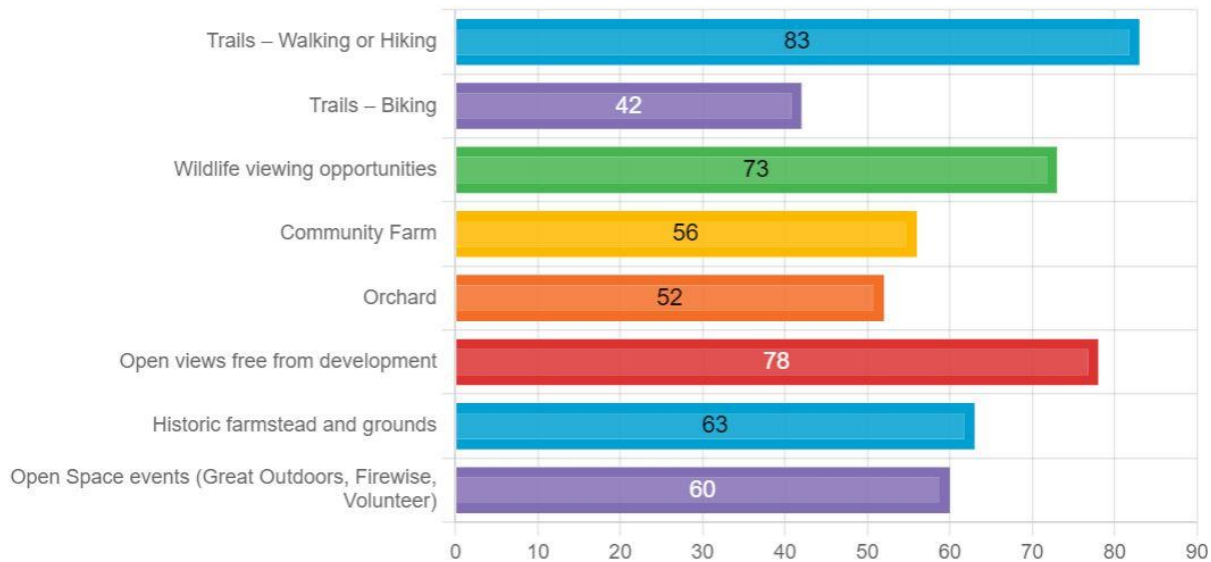


## OPEN SPACE

Hidden Springs is a planned community on approximately 1,850 acres in the Dry Creek Valley. Under the terms of the Hidden Springs Planned Community Ordinance (Section 8-21A-5E), no less than 810 acres of Hidden Springs property, designated as the "Open Space Area" are to remain open and free from development other than wildlife habitat improvement, trails and other recreational improvements, agriculture and agricultural operations and outbuildings. As of 2008, approximately 988 acres in Hidden Springs are designated as natural

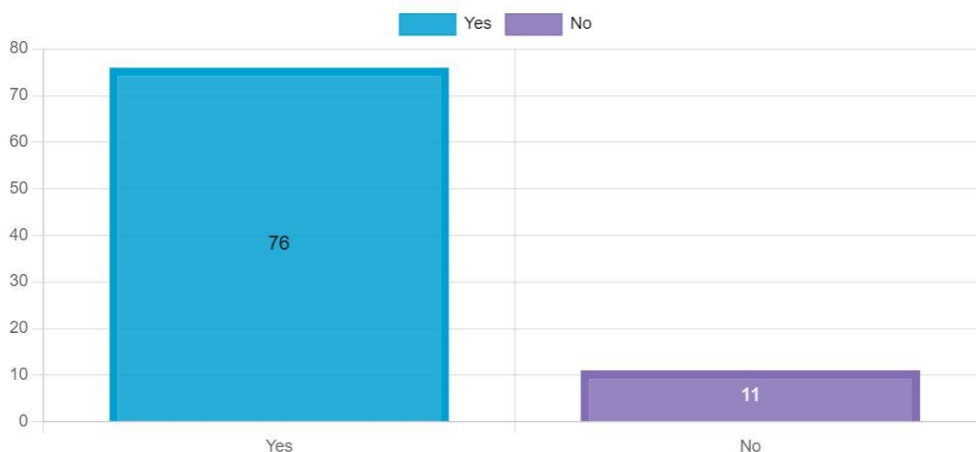


open space subject to the terms of a Conservation Easement (CE) held by Ada County. The plan divides the CE lands into five areas: Wetlands, Dry Creek Corridor, Currant Creek Corridor, Uplands and the Farm and Orchard. How do you enjoy Hidden Springs Open Space? Check all that apply.



Care of the Open Space includes, mowing, noxious weed mitigation, trees (other than parks and park strips adjacent to Association owned common areas), restoration, repairs to equipment, farming the agricultural fields, the community farm, wildfire mitigation efforts, the orchard grounds and trees, wetlands, riparian maintenance and community programs related to the farmstead and the care, preservation and restoration of Open Space.

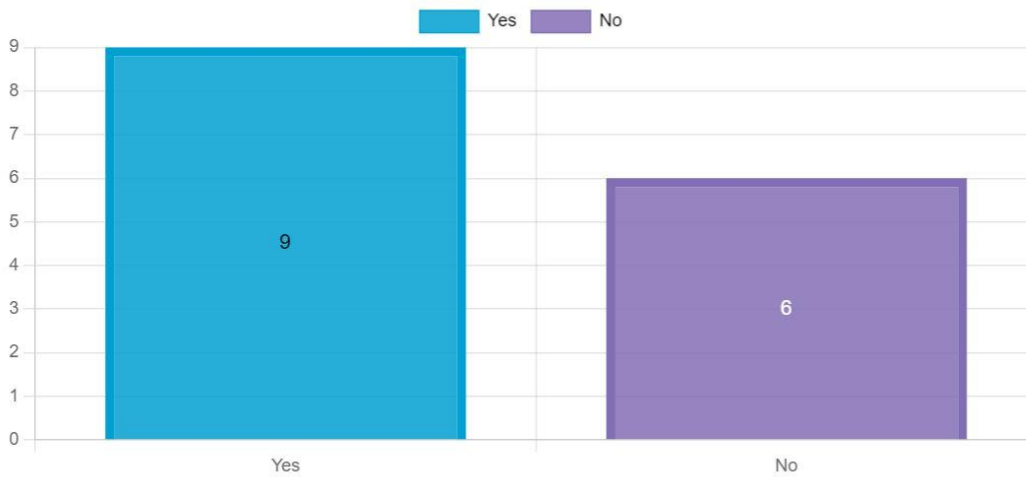
**In general, are you satisfied with how the Open Spaces are being maintained based on the current budget allocation?**



**If No, what thoughts do you have on current Open Space maintenance levels and what could we do a better job at?**

- The meadow trail has turned into pure thistle. It was just mowed but it was too long of a time between mowings. I know thistle is invasive but if the meadows by the bike park and by the meadow trail were regularly mowed it would help. Also- I know the creek was just dredged but it is dammed up again by the meadow trail and the purple loosestrife has clogged it to a trickle. Not sure if anything could be done about it.
- The common areas still struggle with being overwatered causing muddy fields and muck on the side walks, in the drains and odor. Would love to see this cut back or water sent other areas.
- Weed management is not effective. It appears all control measures are done after the weeds have set seed so the seed bank for the following year increases exponentially
- Weed control. The thistles and weeds are out of control and getting worse each year. Ada County requires that noxious weeds be eradicated.
- Easement areas are being put on the residence to manage as well as most of the trees on the streets. The residents aren't doing a good job taking care of that so the HOA should be supporting those areas.
- Regular and noxious weeds (specifically hemlock) grow at the edges of the cattails in the wetlands and infrequent HSTA mowing has meant there's no "buffer" and these weeds then begin invading backyards along this wetland perimeter.
- The trails have too high of growth on them and need to be trimmed more often. I know fire risks and it would seem appropriate for a couple of guys to carry small water packs and follow behind weed trimmers to be able to extinguish any risk of a grass fire. It just seems way overgrown during summer months and it would be great to have them cut more often.
- I know that the maintenance is limited by the budget, but I have noticed in the last couple of years things like weeds and thin grass by the ditch at 5th/Shaffer and lots of thistles in the grass in some of the common areas.
- Mowing is started way too early. Most of the time there has been no growth. I understand sometimes needed for winter cleanup, but not every week.
- Trail erosion needs to be addressed, especially where trails have devolved into deep channels with sides too steep for pedestrians (most likely caused by mountain bike use during the wetter months.) Removal of noxious weeds--esp. poison ivy and alfalfa--along the trails.
- I'm not satisfied with the level of trail maintenance, which is basically none except for what a few volunteers do on an intermittent basis. Trails have gradually degraded a little each year since I've been here. There needs to be a regular cycle of trail maintenance performed on all trails on Hidden Springs property, including those in the R2R system. Without a regular maintenance schedule, trail treads become cupped and narrowed. This encourages water to run down the trail instead of off to the side and results in trail erosion. Drains that aren't maintained eventually fill with silt and then may cause water to pool during wet periods. Trail use during wet periods then causes further damage. For those of us in the minority who hike the trails rather than ride them, narrow cupped trail treads with tall grass alongside makes for unpleasant hiking. The edges of trails should be cut during the grass / weed growing season at a planned time each year before the grass / weeds get too tall and before they dry up (this used to be the case). Brush along the trails needs to be pruned back significantly every few years. Trails are one of the most significant outdoor assets that we have in Hidden Springs. Let's make sure we take care of them.
- We always really appreciate when Hopkins mows the neighborhood trails after spring so that you can easily walk down the trail without all the overgrowth.

**If you answered "No" above, and are not satisfied with the current level of maintenance, do you support an assessment increase to accomplish an increased level of maintenance throughout in currently maintained areas of Open Space?**

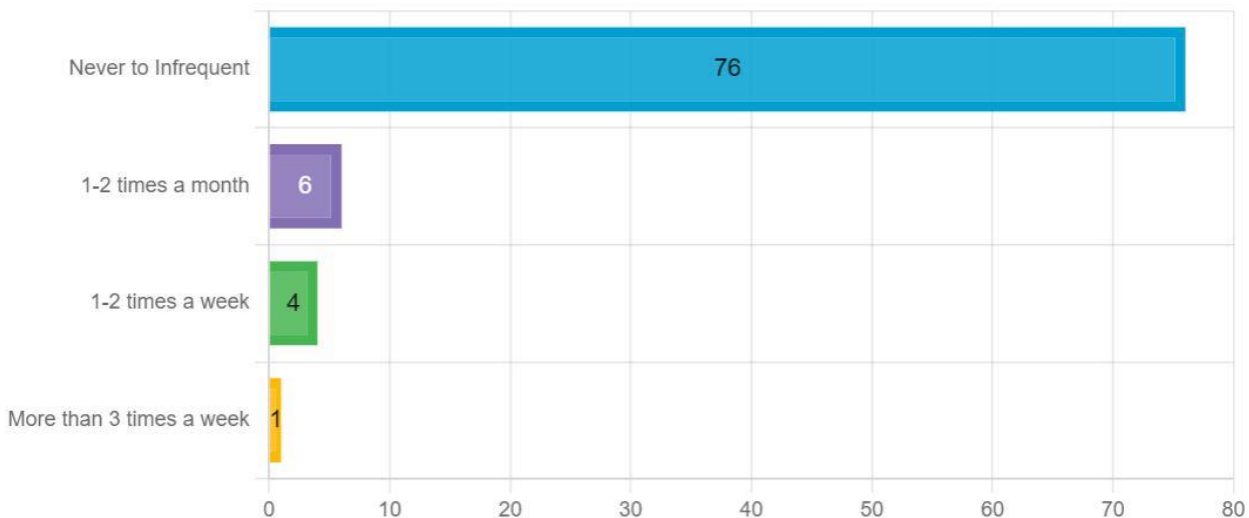


## **THE COMMUNITY FARM**

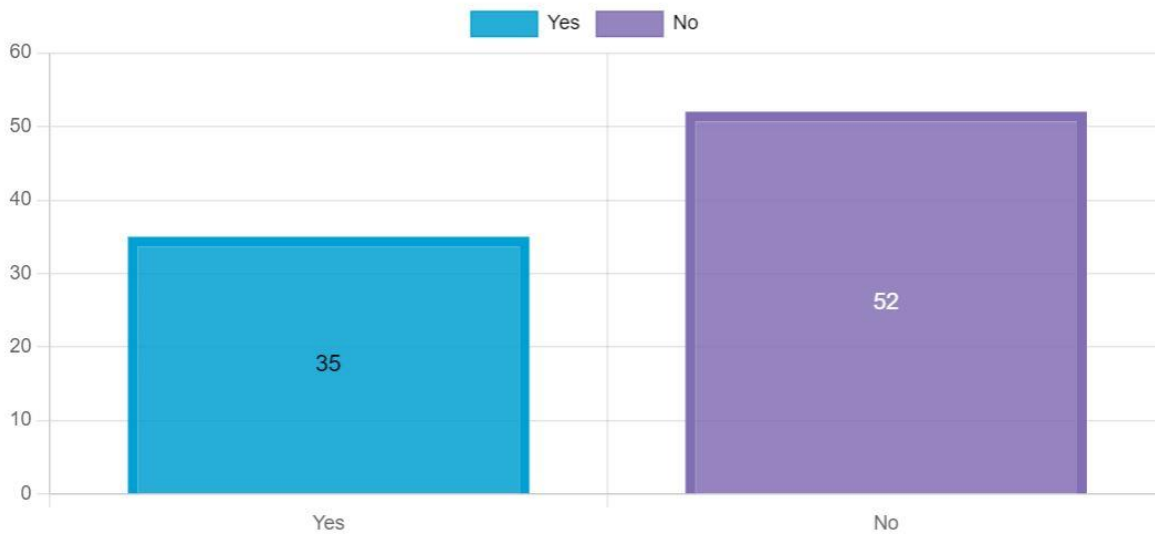
Currently the community farm operates under a “share the work/share the harvest” management style under the care of a farm consultant and leadership team. A combination of perennial crops (berries, rhubarb, asparagus) and annuals (garlic, beans, cucumbers, zucchini) are grown with volunteers splitting the harvest and 6-10 u-pick events each season. This costs roughly \$20 per lot per year based on the 2023 budget). Each year the community farm faces a number of challenges from weather, pests, wildlife and too few volunteers for the work load.

The Association is currently considering a few options for the land from maintaining the current approach, to scaling back to just a few u-pick crops, to making the land available to a 3<sup>rd</sup> party for agricultural and educational purposes.

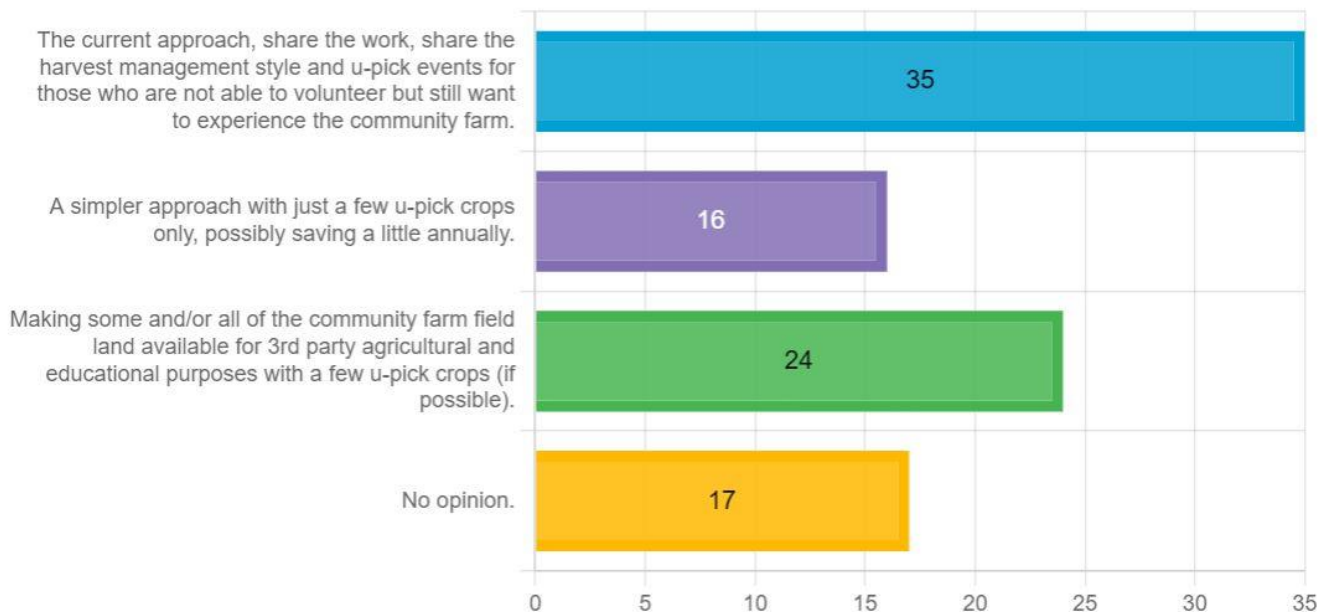
**How often do you volunteer at the community farm and share in the harvest?**



## Have you attended a u-pick event?



## Given the challenges and options noted above, what do you prefer?



## Keeping in mind, Designation of Use (Agricultural), any other thoughts or ideas?

- I love having the pumpkin patch but I think you should charge for the pumpkins to help cover the cost or if it, even if it is just an honor system somehow set up.
- We like the current approach; however, it is often difficult to participate without ample notice. Perhaps consider planning further ahead to notify community members about upcoming u-pick events and/or opportunities to help in the harvest process. We're also new, as of last year, so we're still learning! But more guidance on how to get involved would be great. We love that the neighborhood has this amenity and we love that it's exclusive.
- Keep it 100% in the HS community, it is not an amenity for CR - they need to be encouraged to set up their own farm in their open space.

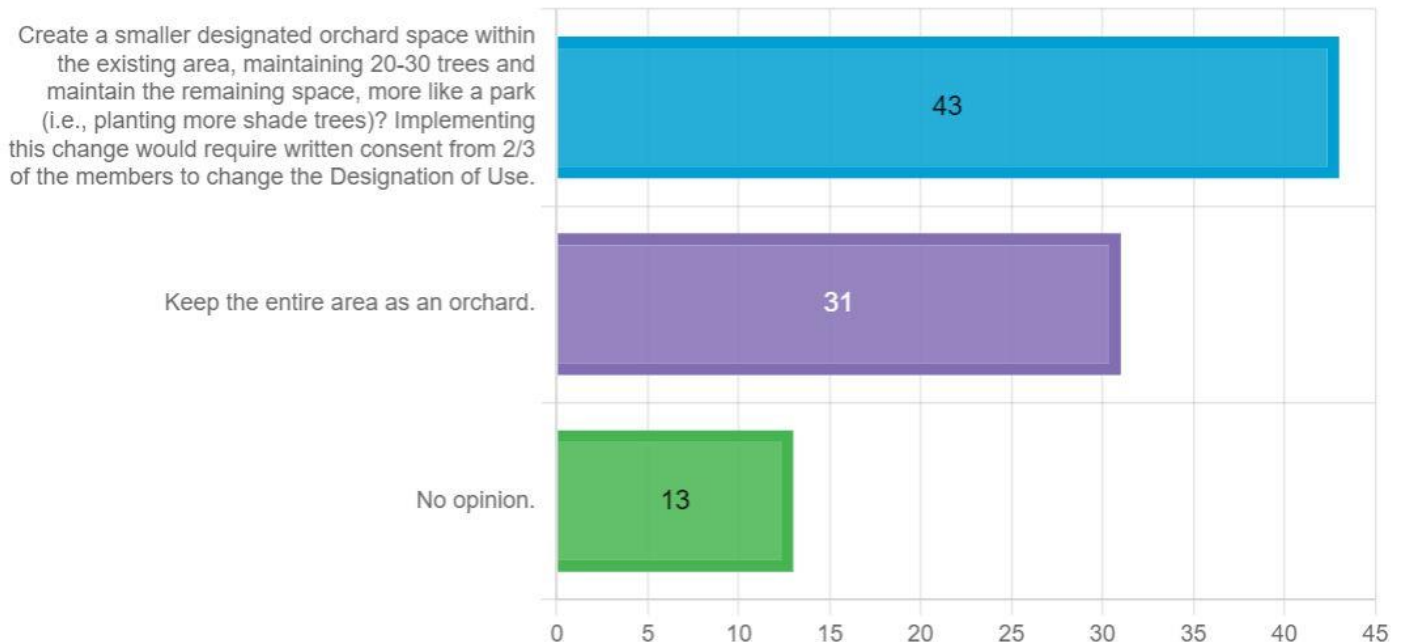
- If 3rd party Agricultural is involved 1) can HS allow for a fee/ profitable for HS? 2) HS community still can do a few Upick for a price? We have not been able to do U-pick for the longest time as hrs were not sufficient for us due to our work schedule. I liked the old days of buying pumpkins there but I know when they were free, residents were there at all hours just "picking away" far more than they should. We live close by the barn within view and a 5-min walk to the farm; have seen in the later evenings those with vehicles parked next to the area and loading multiple pumpkins. Sigh.
- We were not here in time to take advantage of the U-pick events or to volunteer, but we would like to have the opportunity to do so in the coming year.
- I would like to see a community farm whereby residents could opt in for a small plot (similar to other community farms. Plots could range from as small as 10x10 to maybe 20x20. Renters would be required to water and maintain their plots (water would be accessible via various spigots) In addition, renters would agree to donate several hours for community farm cleanup a couple times each summer. This could allow more people a sense of ownership in the farm. I am also in favor of a third party managing the farm and selling crops to homeowners via a weekly/biweekly allotment determined by various payment options in the plan.
- Definitely should strive to maintain a few u-pick crops.
- I was part of the neighborhood garden from 2012 until Clay and Josie moved Peaceful Belly to the farm on Broken Horn and started a garden class there. Once Josie and Clay moved Peaceful Belly to Caldwell, I tried to do the neighborhood garden again; however, I found that much of the work was being done during the day and I could not attend due to work. I also found there was not an inclusive environment as far as differences in personalities and being open to different strategies for accomplishing tasks. I have avoided the community garden since that experience. I would like for the neighborhood to consider neighbors being able to have their own plots they can rent, like the orchard, to grow what they would like to supplement what they have space to grow in their own backyard. I also go over to the Dry Creek Farm every week to purchase vegetables from their farm and I would really enjoy that model in our neighborhood also. If we had a model like Dry Creek Farm, where they have the option of a CSA in addition to the twice weekly farmer's market, I would participate in that.
- I would be concerned about opening up the Farm to outside parties.
- I like the idea of a combination of the choices. Volunteers share the work/share the harvest, limited u-pick events, and making some of the farm/field available for 3rd parties. There is a lot of farm/field land and not enough volunteers to manage it, so opening it up for 3rd party agriculture seems a good way to save a little money.
- Is there consideration of share the work approach to include weekends? This may allow those who can't make it during the week.....
- The people at the farm act like they own it—not always cordial. Dry creek seems to have a much more functional community farm. I'm willing to pay for locally grown fruits and veges.
- Hmm, this is tricky. I am concerned that opening the land to a 3rd party may result in changes or practices that would not align with the Hidden Springs ethos. I don't want to keep the weight a successful farm on the few either. I do like the idea of an educational purpose. Like a garden by volunteers (possibly high school or BSU) for which produce is given to food banks? Or maybe U of I or extension use for growing experimental crops. Or start an FFA. I guess I am leaning towards an educational purpose. Perhaps there is a local church (s) or various civic groups that may be interested in having plots. I wish this was easier to answer...
- No 3rd party involvement, we tend to get taken advantage of in the long term

- I do not think the value of the produce grown justifies the expense of a professional manager. It seems that the farm could at least break even with a 3rd party given the value of unlimited pressurized irrigation. I think there are some interesting possibilities to explore.
- I have my own garden and don't need to be charged for a community farm.
- Allow homeowners to sign up to use a plot of land to farm as they wish for flowers, or tomatoes or whatever they want. Other communities do this successfully.
- The current model is obviously not supported by the residents.
- I do not like the idea of allowing third-party farmers to use the agricultural fields for their own profit. I'd rather see an investment in "green manuring" techniques, where cover crops are tilled into the soil to build soil fertility & carbon capture.

## THE ORCHARD

The trees in the orchard used to be available for “adoption” by members. By adopting a tree for \$15 a year, the adoptee was to provide organic insect control, tree identification, weed control, care and attention and harvest the fruit. The Association was to provide fertilization, pruning, dormant oil, irrigation and mowing. Like the community farm, the orchard faces challenges, reuse water (high salt content), rodents, improperly planted trees and waning adoptee interest and care. Today, the Association provides organic insect control, fertilization, dormant oil, irrigation, mowing and rodent mitigation with a team of volunteers taking on the pruning. The harvest is open to the community.

**The Association would like to establish a long-term plan for the Orchard (over the next 3-5 years). There would be a cost associated with either option and funded through reserves.**



**Keeping in mind, Designation of Use as well as the need to apply reuse water, any other thoughts or ideas?**

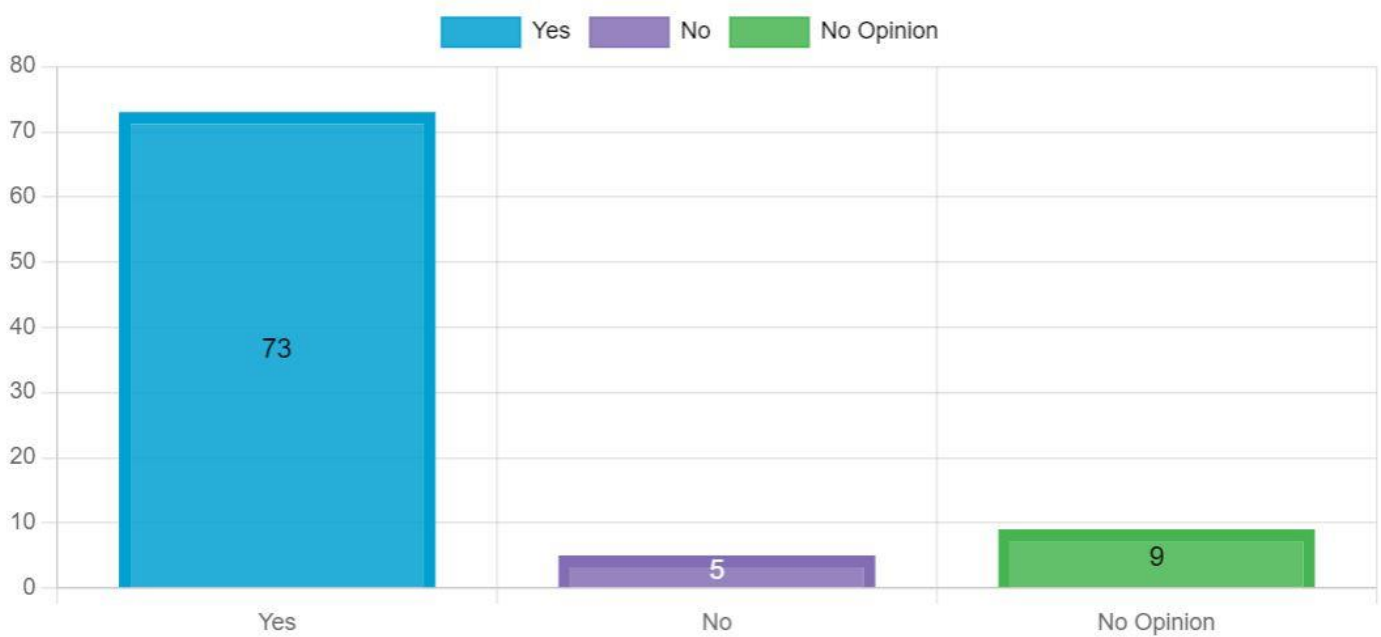
- A nice park like setting with some pickleball courts and walking paths behind the fire station would be a great addition!

- More shade trees with paths & benches would be lovely. Maybe not a "park" but a walking path or garden would be nice. Perhaps considering planting other garden-like plants, similar to the maintenance of the memorial garden.
- Once the frisbee golf course is in place, the orchard area and trees should be monitored to assure residents this usage does not have a negative impact on the orchard sustainability. Mostly a concern for damaging trees and litter.
- Like open for "picnic"- type Park for residents (sign-up required) with hopefully, responsibility for clean-up with use, etc. May require a permanent shaded structure for outdoor picnics, events, etc. This structure can be rented, as an alternative to renting the barn, perhaps. Yes, more shaded trees may be needed.
- Good place for two pickleball courts.
- I'd be pleased to see the construction of the proposed Disc Golf course through the orchard.
- I would add this area to the neighborhood garden idea of transforming our garden/orchard to the Dry Creek Farm model where a farmer is hired to farm the garden area and the orchard, make a CSA available to residents and have a farmer's market available.
- It's unfortunate the orchard is failing due to the area's use as sewer reuse water disposal. Agree with a smaller area managed just as an orchard. Maybe create an additional orchard area at the farm where it can be properly managed as such.
- Fenced dog park please!!!!
- It seems a few of the smaller, weaker fruit trees die every year. Maybe with the current maintenance this will stop at some point and we'll know more about what trees will survive and what kind of space we'll have in a couple more years.
- Interested in hearing opinions and options and costs associated with moving to a small designated orchard.
- Very excited about the frisbee golf course. It's a great use of an under-utilized space.
- I think any changes to the orchard should wait to see how the frisbee golf course goes. Perhaps some rearrangement of the trees can take place after the probationary period.
- I'm open in this. I did not know I could pick fruit.
- Keep it as a park.
- Don't need more tree expense!!!!
- Mow the orchard every 2 weeks, not every week to reduce maintenance costs.
- I support a smaller designated orchard space provided that we leave the remaining space undeveloped.
- I've volunteered to prune trees in the past and I love the orchard and open space. We already have plenty of park like spaces available.
- Wasn't there supposed to be disc golf happening in Orchard. Love that idea for families to get out and use the space. Hope that is still happening.
- I would actually encourage the potential gradual relocation of the orchard to somewhere in the primary agricultural area and convert the current orchard into a park area with more appropriate trees, possibly a mix of evergreens and deciduous trees but with a large central grassed area.

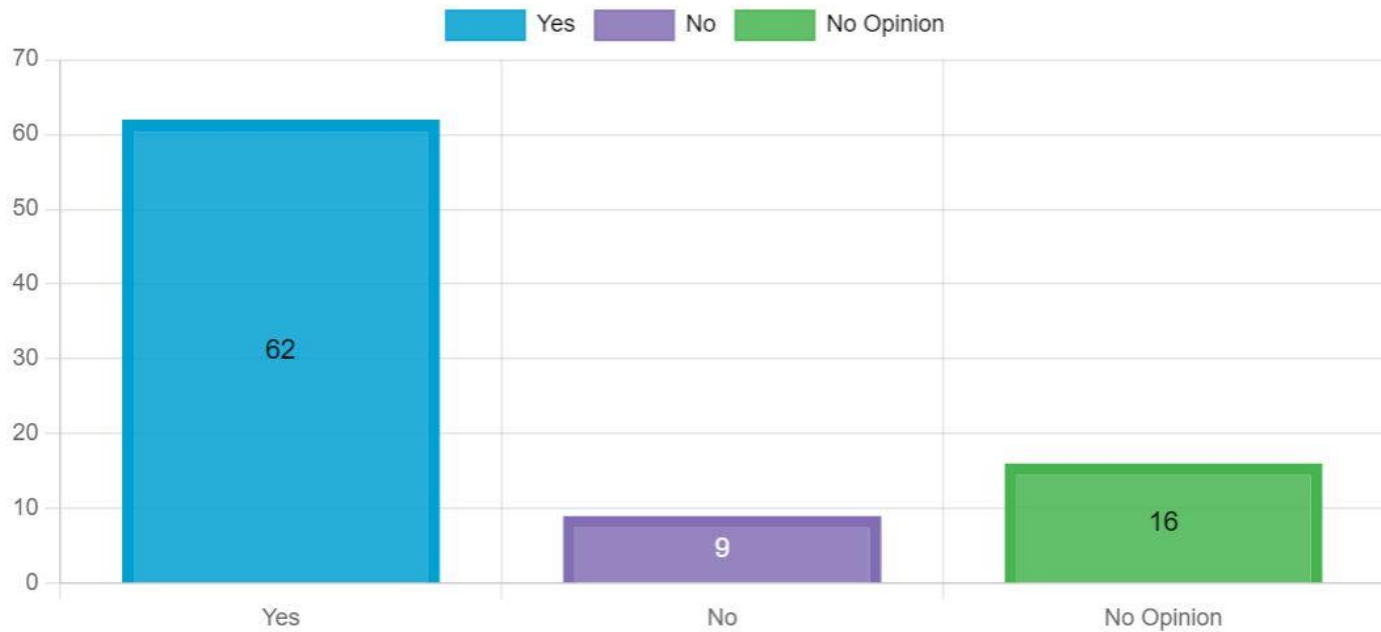
## TRAILS

Hidden Springs residents have easy access to roughly 18 miles of trail (internal community plus Ridge to Rivers regional).

Are you satisfied with the condition of trails in Hidden Springs including those in the Ridge To Rivers system?

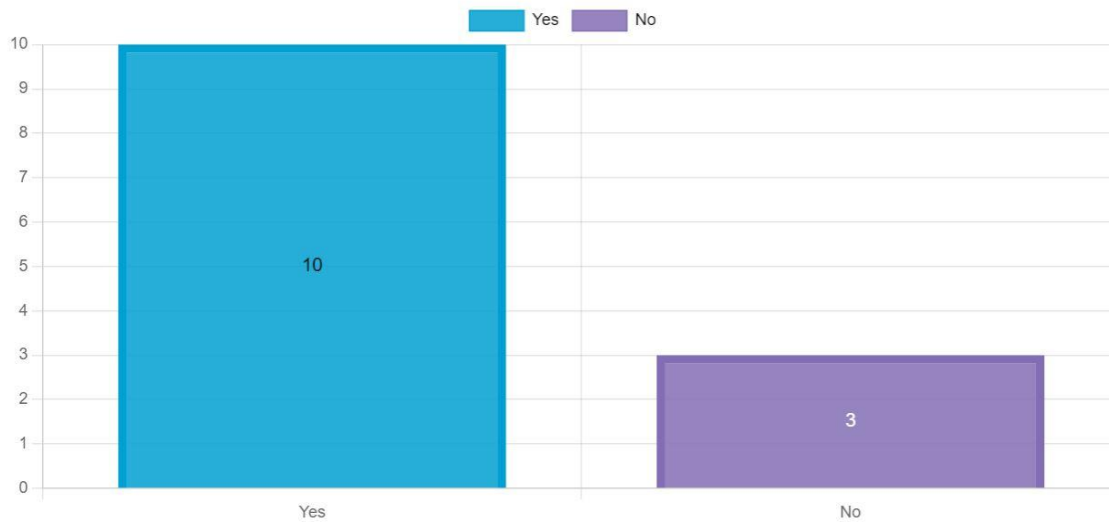


Is trail maintenance accomplished in a timely manner?

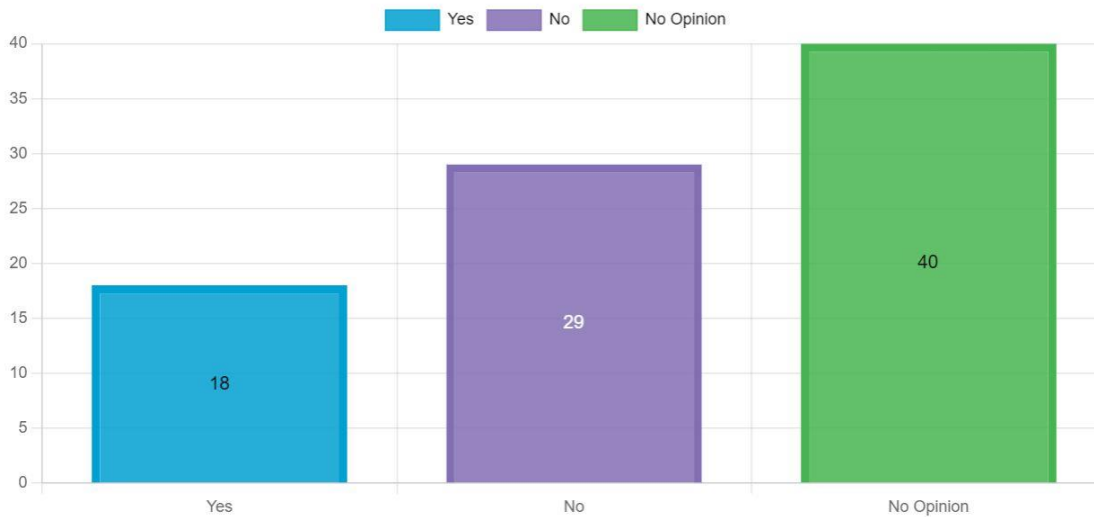




**If no, do you support additional resources or cost budgeted for a contractor to mow along foothills trails a couple of times each spring allowing for easier passage once weeds and grasses mature?**



**Would you like to see additional trails added to the current network of trails?**

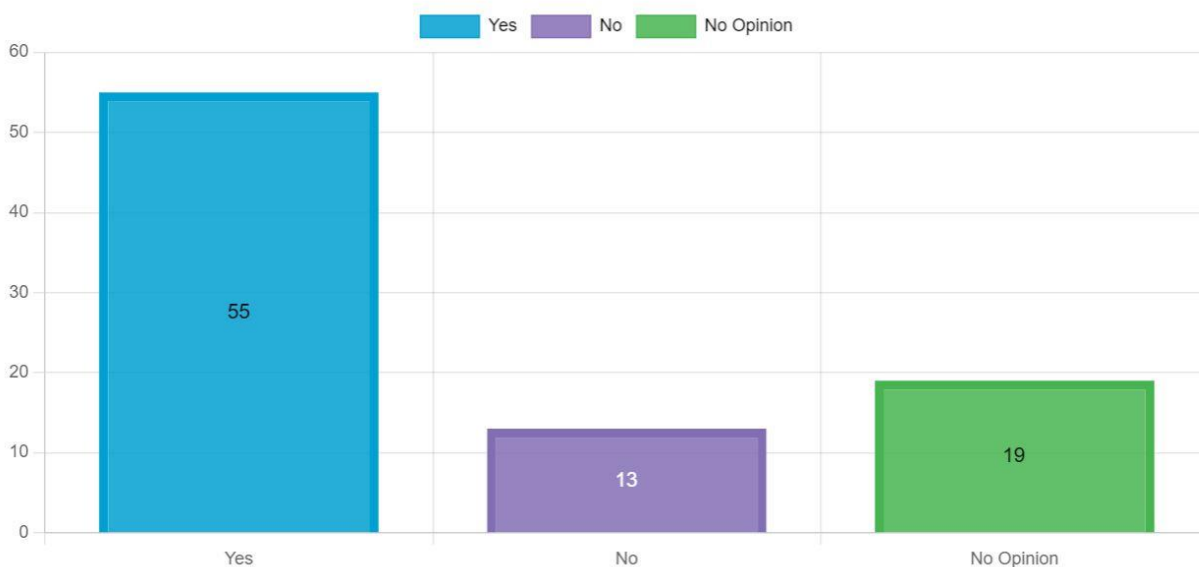


**If yes, where would you like to see more trail, connections or access points?**

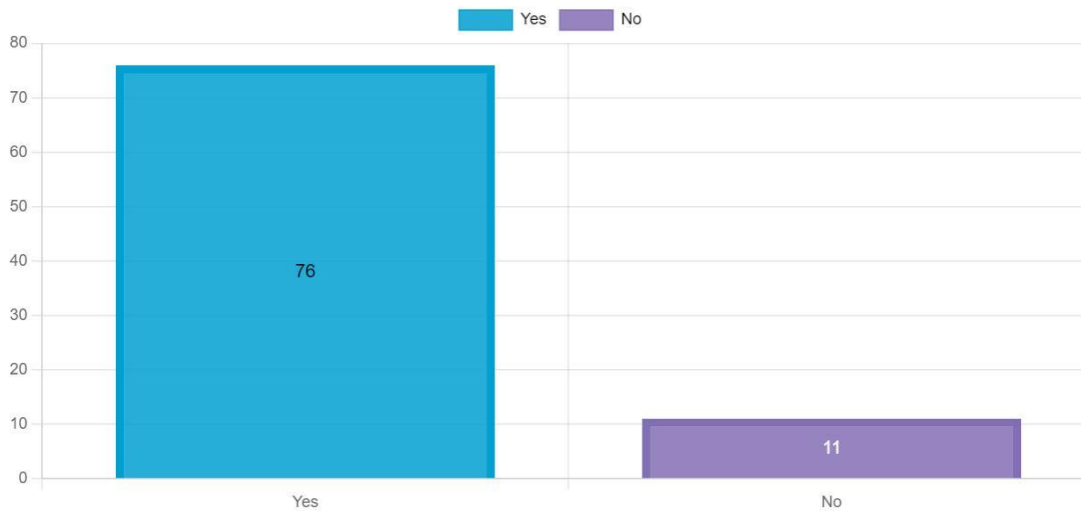
- A more direct way over to Current Creek on the red Red Tail trail possibly? And an all-weather loop trail through the orchard for the muddy season.
- It would be nice to have the trail continue on both sides of the creek past the community farm. Also love the gravel & would like to see it behind the community barn. The gravel makes the trails usable year round in the neighborhood and keeps the weeds out.
- I'd like to see the trail along the North side of Dry Creek extended to the West and a boardwalk put in across the creek in order to make a loop with the farm road. It would be awesome if it could be all weather like much of the rest of the trail along the creek.

- Top of Red tail to Currant Creek. Improve the trail along the ridge of Andy's gulch and consider a connection to water tower behind the sewer. Reestablish the tread on the trail along the north side of dry creek down past the farm.
- Before any trails are added, proper spreading of gravel on existing trails is required. The trails are very poorly maintained, if at all, in this regard. If additional trails are contemplated, we have to fix what we have first.
- Anywhere! Love the trails
- I'd love to see a trail that connects to the trail Dry Creek has promised to build going to Eagle bike park.
- The trails are a huge draw for this neighborhood.
- They were really overgrown and almost impassible this June. Please continue to maintain so everyone can enjoy.
- I'd like to see a short trail section added at roughly 43.723495 N 116.237441 W to connect the Chukar Butte Trail and the Bitterbrush Trail at the point of their nearest approach to each other. This would provide several options for both riders and hikers to travel additional or alternative routes in the area. In the long term I would like to see a new trail constructed on the north side of Currant Creek from Cartwright Road and the Currant Creek Trail to a location roughly half way up the hill to north connecting to the Red Tail Trail. This would likely require construction of a bridge across Currant Creek near Cartwright Road. I would like to consider rerouting and constructing the southern section of West Currant Creek Trail as it approaches the Lookout Loop Trail. The currant trail is steep and not as sustainable as desired. I'd also like to see a short section of new trail beginning at 43.724719 N 116.2333031 W on the Currant Creek Trail just above the Ranch Access Road and connecting to the Ranch Access Road providing a route back to Cartwright Road via the Ranch Access Road.

**Do you support additional trail connections to other communities and the regional trail system (Ridge to Rivers)?**



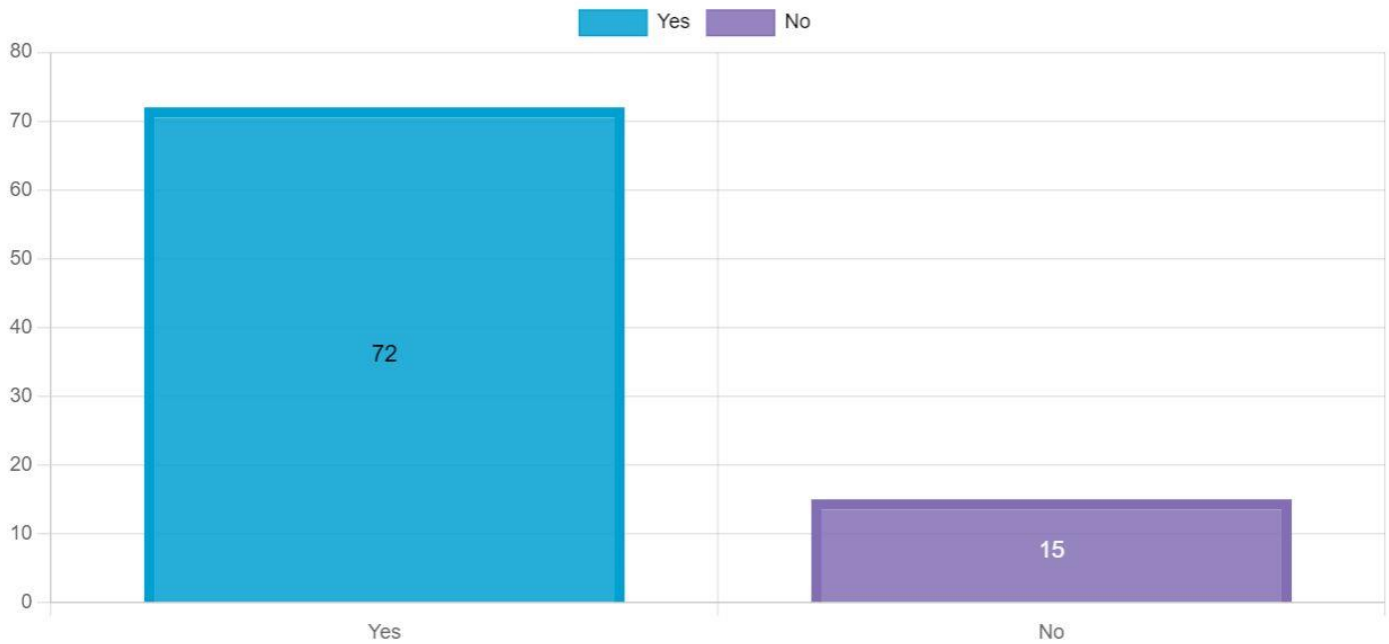
## Does the current trail signage adequately identify trails?



### If no, how can it be improved to adequately identify trails?

- Why is trail identifying signage even important? People that walk/ride know where they are going to go and trail ID signs only clutter an already cluttered use of other signs. The Ridge to Rivers metal sign posts are quite adequate.
- Since we are new to the community a map would be helpful.
- More signs
- While we have the Ridge to Rivers trail map, it doesn't seem to be current or clear in many areas in relation to the actual trails around the community (our experience has been up by the water towers). Perhaps a QR code could be included in all neighborhood trail signage that would refer to a more current online map so trail users could "check" where they are as they use the trails (trail junctures with a single QR code on a post)? Cell service doesn't seem to be a problem around the neighborhood trails so connectivity with the QR codes will work. The QR codes would refer to a specific section to amplify that area (not the whole map) to orient trailer users to their specific location.
- Rather than signage, I'd like to see a small investment (or volunteer effort?) in an updated map of the Hidden Springs area trails. There's a lot there that's not well-mapped and newbies like us are unaware of all the options.
- Add signage in locations that no signage currently exists.
- We just need every trail to have an identification at each end. I don't think we need to invest in fancy technology. There are a whole host of trail apps that people can use to figure out where they are and where trails go.

## Does the current trail signage adequately notify users of the trail rules?



### If no, how can it be improved to adequately notify users of the trail rules?

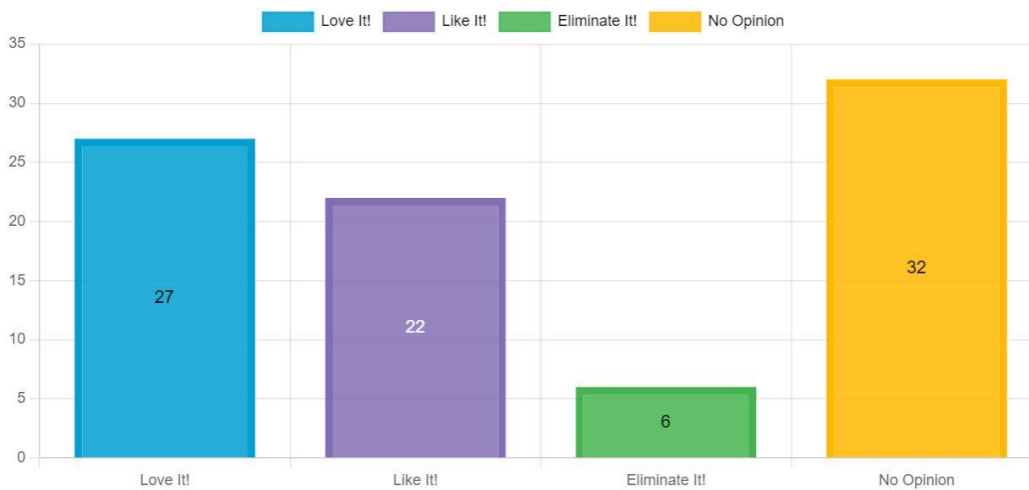
- Need signage to clearly identify the community trails as different from Ridge to Rivers. "Intended for use by HS Residents", to reduce over-use by non-residents around our houses. Also, HS trail rules should be consistent with widely known Ridge to Rivers trail rules, with signage that CLEARLY restricts e-Bikes from our trails. Class 2 and 3 e-bikes are fully motorized vehicles. Ridge to Rivers folks understand this and hence clearly restrict them from their trails throughout the foothills. I know of several non-residents who use e-Bikes specifically on our trails because our signage does not restrict them.
- We need something to keep the idiots off the trails when they are muddy!
- Internal trail signs don't really provide users of the rules of the trails. R2R signs are adequate. Additional clarification for "non-motorized" vehicle signage is needed. Trail etiquette information at strategic location would be nice. I frequently experience Cartwright Ranch people walking/riding at our eastern border along Dry Creek not having a clue (nor do they care) as to trail etiquette and use rules.
- A little more detail on the signs. Perhaps "reminder" signs along the way. For instance, if there is a long list of "rules" at the trail entrance, that would, in all probability, get very little reading. If there were several signs along the trail (not black and white road signs, but discrete but noticeable signs blending in with the area) that briefly listed a rule for that trail, those would have a much greater tendency to be read and (imagine!) perhaps even obeyed! :-)
- Dogs need to be leashed unless Ridge to Rivers trail. Must pick up after dog and take waste bag. Bikers must yield to hikers/walkers. Bikers must announce their approach when coming up behind hikers/walkers.
- Perhaps 'trail closed' signs placed during muddy conditions

- With more E Bikes and especially the E motorcycles, we need to post that any violations of HSTA rules will result in prosecution for civil or criminal trespassing. Cartwright seems to have a crew of motorheads who ignore trail rules.
- E-Bike access should be clearly addressed. I believe Class 1 should be allowed.
- The three-user-yield-to signage needs to be at every public trailhead. IMHO regular trail users (esp. mountain bikers) know & follow the rules. Less-experienced mountain bikers (those not from the HS community), and weekend visitors tend to be oblivious. Bicycle clubs should be limit the number of bicycles per group to seven. The pelotons of 20-30 mountain bikes I've encountered this year on the trails seem inherently unsafe, and promote excessive trail erosion.
- Yes, the trail signs when present do have the necessary information. The problem is that a large proportion of our trail users are sign adverse and don't really pay attention to them. I'm not sure there's any good solution in dealing with the small number of people who think that "rules" don't apply to them.

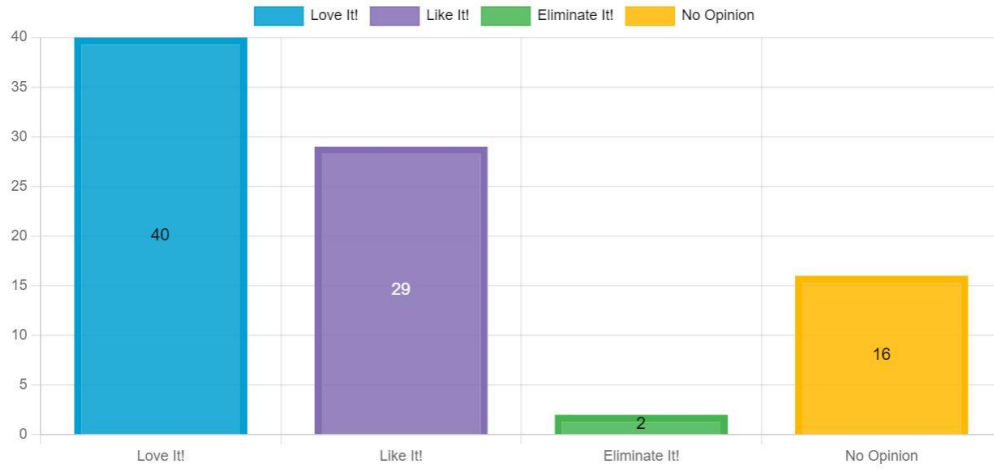
## COMMUNITY PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Currently the Association hosts/sponsors a number of community events each year. Based on the 2023 budget, that is roughly \$39.54 per lot per year for hard costs (contractors, bands, porta potties, special event insurance, permits etc.) and includes Cartwright Ranch Town Association's financial contribution. **Please rate each of the events using the menu choices (Love it! Like it! Eliminate it! No Opinion)**

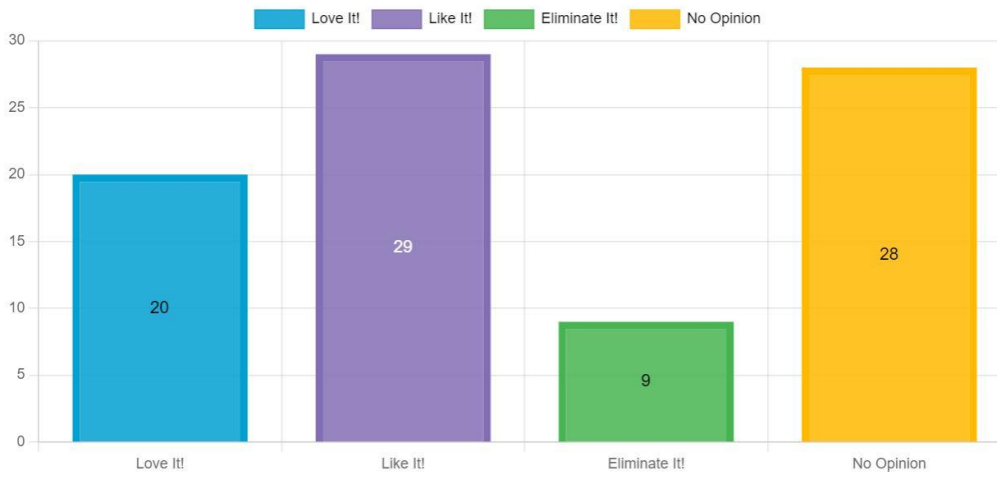
### Annual Egg Hunt



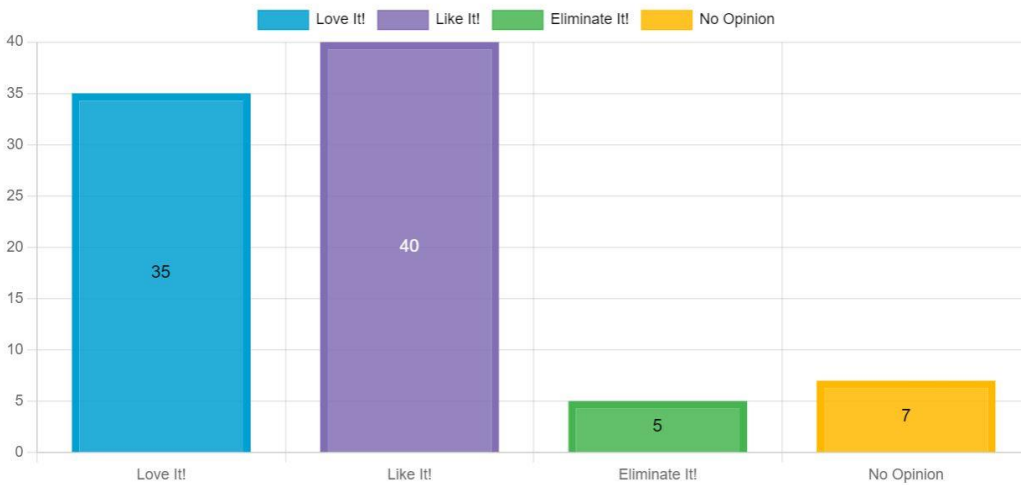
## Community Clean Up and Trail Maintenance



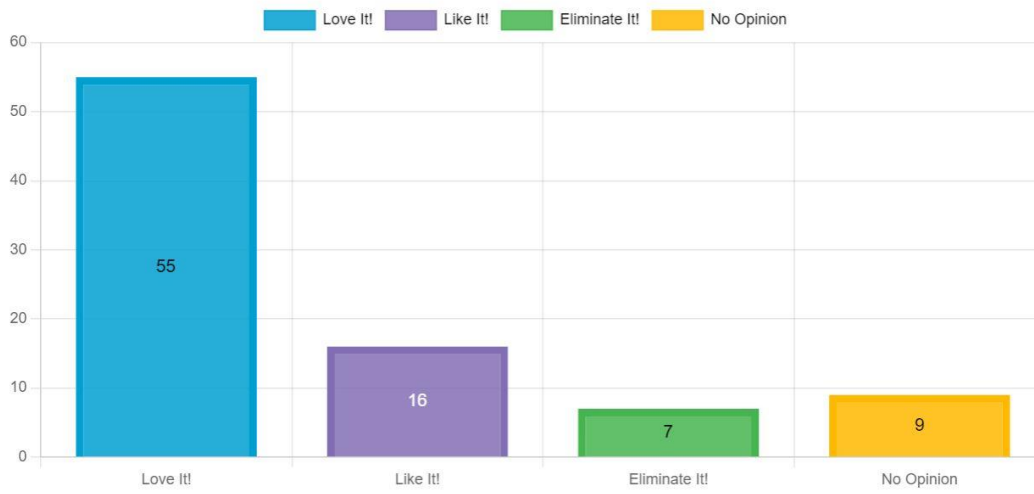
## Great Outdoors of Hidden Springs



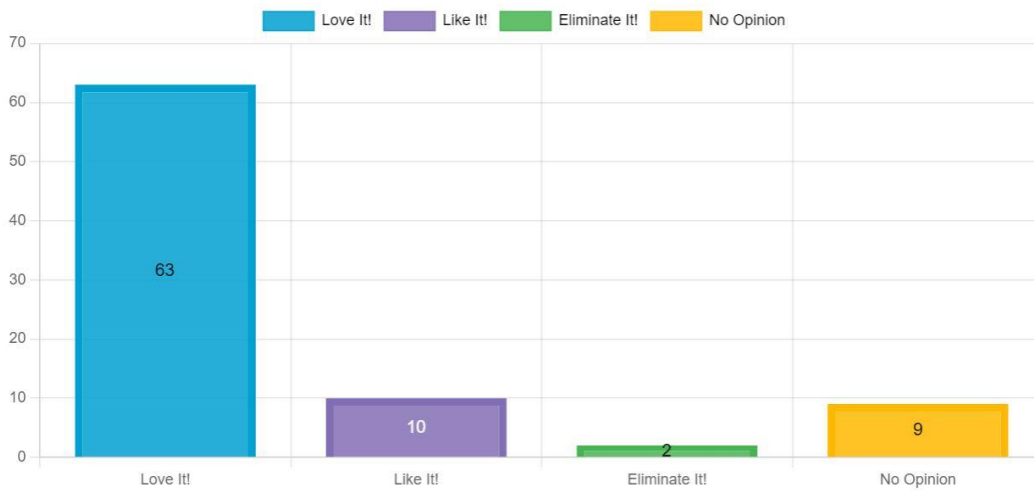
## Garage Sale



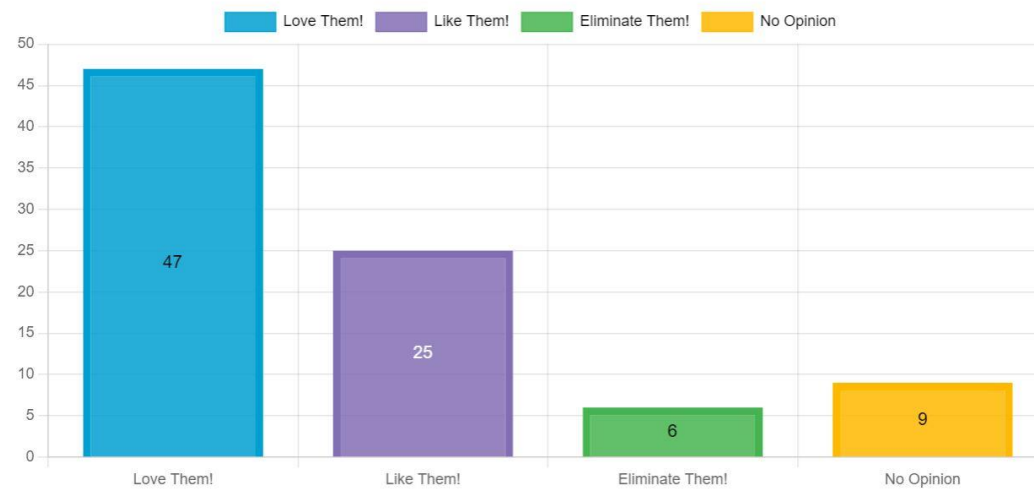
## Cruisin' Hidden Springs



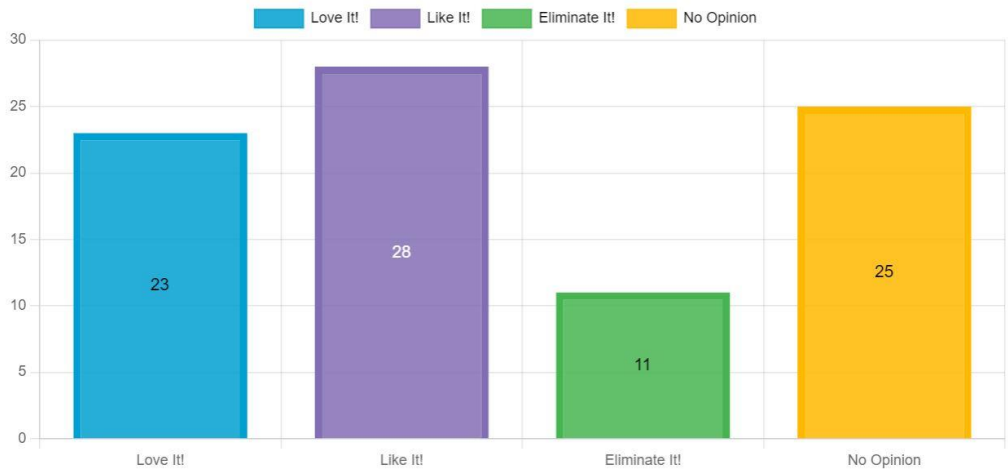
## July 4th Parade & Celebration



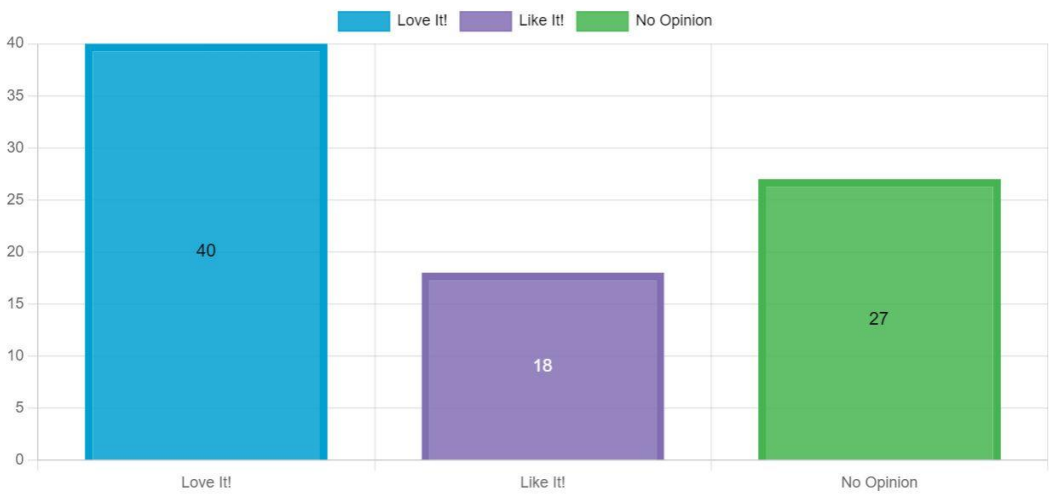
## Concerts (2-3)



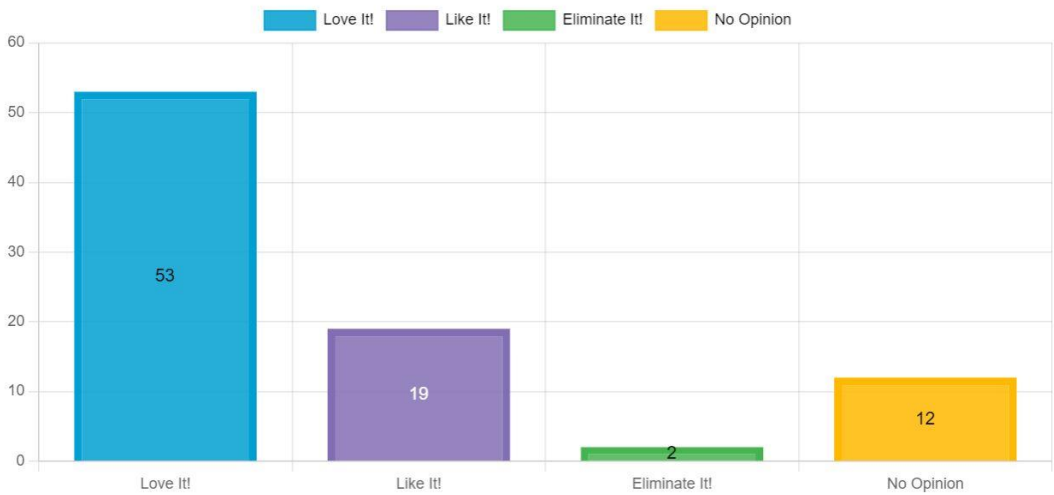
### National Night Out (Community Block Party)



### DCHS Old Time Farm Day (Association Support)

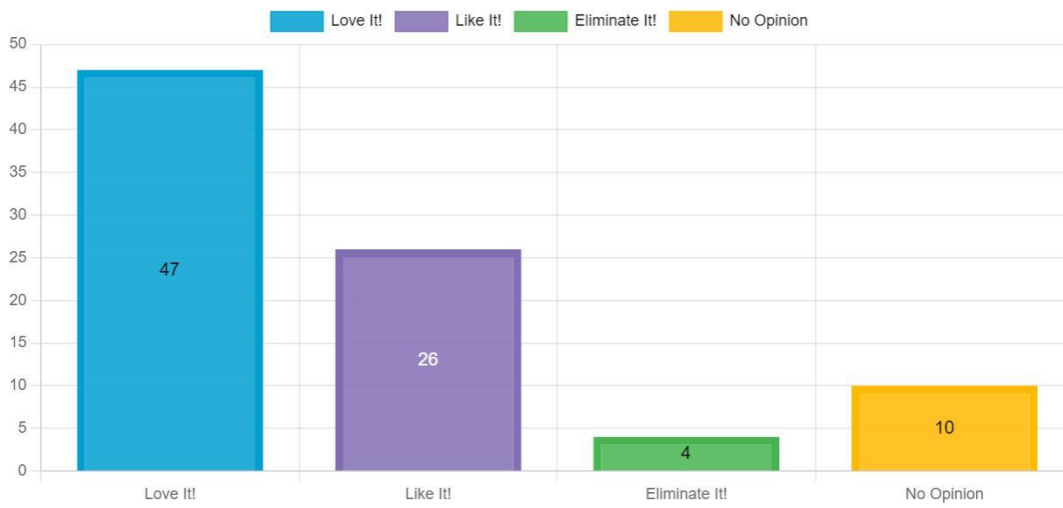


### Scarecrow Decorating Competition

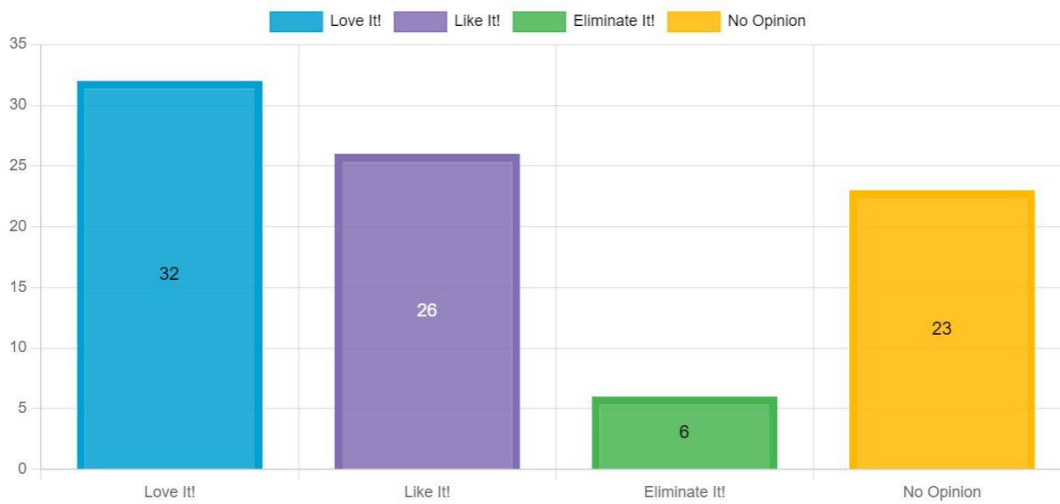




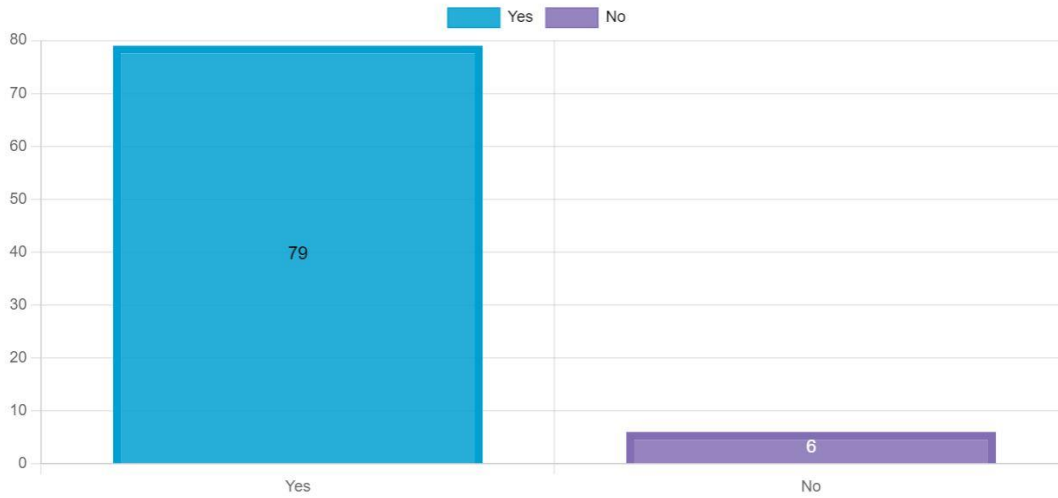
## Holiday Tree Lighting



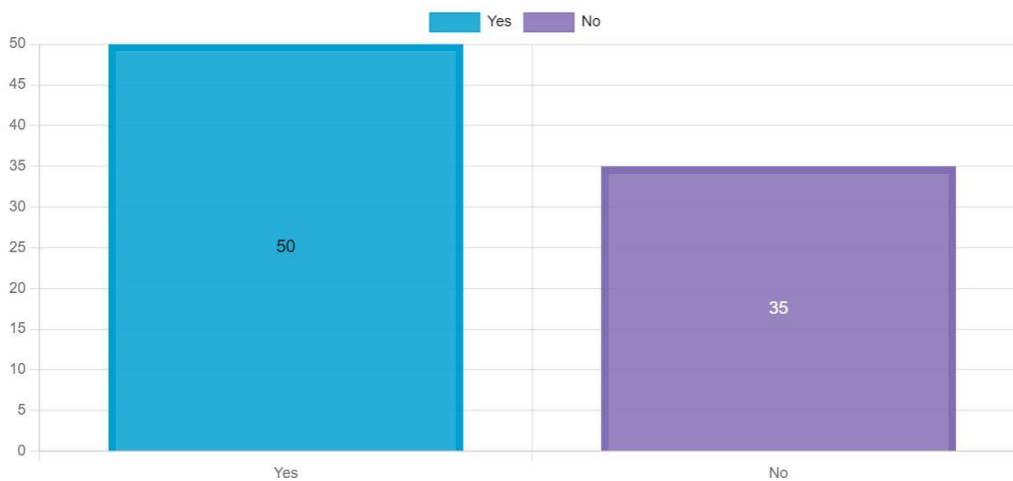
## Jolly Holly Holidays in Hidden Springs



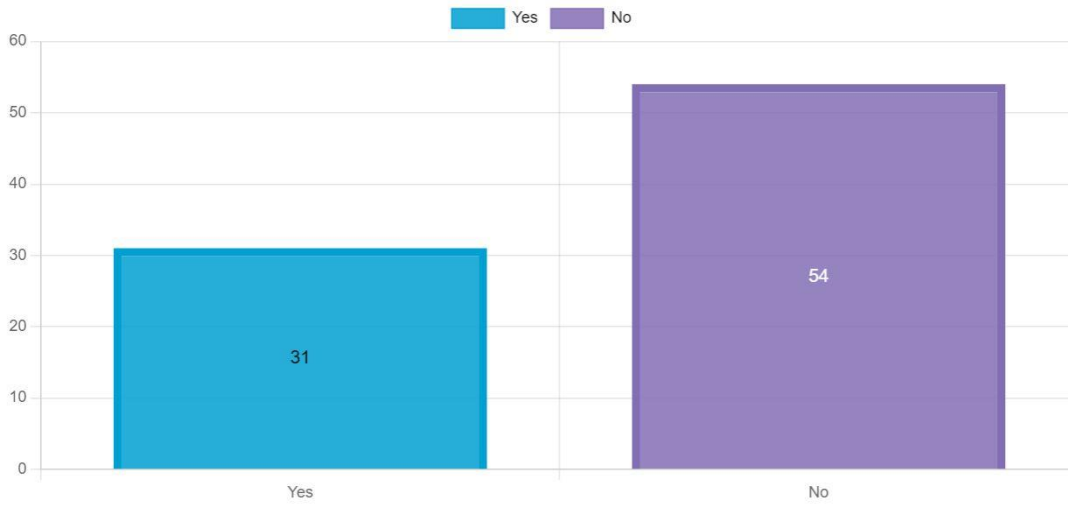
**Do you support open community events provided Cartwright Ranch continues to pay a fair share and support all of Hidden Springs Community events?** Please keep in mind the following, community proximity, Cartwright Ranch is comprised of neighbors and friends, and children attend the same school(s), For the last 3 years (2021, 2022 and 2023), Cartwright Ranch Town Association has paid a fair share of events costs via a sponsorship donation based on the hard costs (contractors, bands, porta potties, special event insurance, permits etc.) per occupied lot to participate in all events.



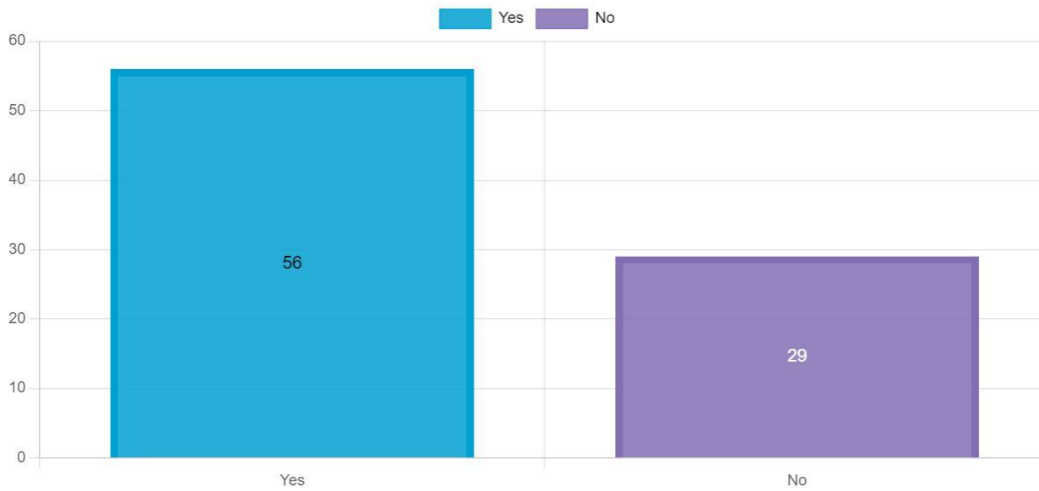
Cartwright Ranch Town Association is developing a community events program. **Do you support financially sponsoring Cartwright Ranch Town Association events, contributing a fair share, to allow for Hidden Springs Town Association residents to attend?**



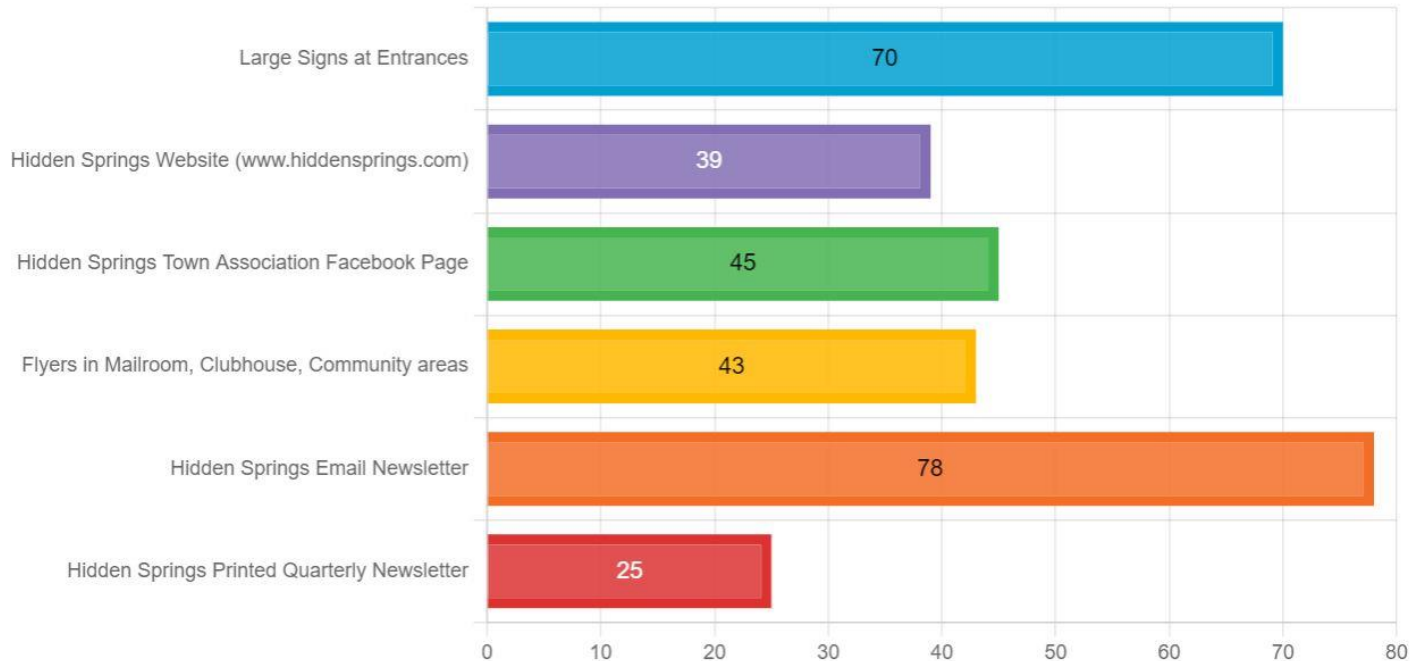
**If necessary, do you support an increase to the Hidden Springs events budget to offset the increased cost of hosting events in Hidden Springs and sponsoring Cartwright Ranch events?**



**Or, would you prefer to see the cost of the events remain flat to the 2023 budget with no increase and events eliminated or downsized as needed?**



**What method of promoting events do you find most effective? Select all that apply.**



**Keeping in mind budget constraints, is there a new or different type of event you would like to see hosted by the Association?**

- Maybe some kind of health & wellness event. And any kind of events that are geared toward children.
- Current events are just right, I would not add or take away any. Would be great to see Cartwright Ranch planning and hosting events that HS residents can enjoy in a reciprocal way. Frankly, CR residents have been relying entirely on HS for their entertainment up to this point, on our dime.
- Food Truck Festival
- We have been past participants or attended of almost all of above as a HS resident since 2005. The "block party" never has come to fruition in both blocks we've lived in (by the school and by the barn). The Community Clean Up we could never synchronize with our schedule as we participated in Ridge to Rivers trail maintenance in spring or fall or volunteering at her school (St Joe's) event for 9 years. One thing we've really missed is the October Harvest Festival at the Barn. This was great as it made another opportunity for our neighborhood kids (including our daughter) to wear their Halloween costume at the event. Lots of kids with costumes on! It was fun with carved pumpkin contest, "Spooky house or trail", chili or clam chowder / rolls served, a couple contests (apple bobbing/fishing/horseshoes), photo op of skeleton farmer on antique tractor, etc. It was low key as there were less residents and Cartwright Ranch was not in the picture yet. It was do-able but I'm sure difficult now especially with the car traffic we see at Barn area. I wish more would walk, ride a bike or ride cars together or maybe a hay wagon ride back to Cartwright Ranch (ha, ha). The HS community was meant to be more pedestrian or encourage "foot traffic" in the beginning, and I think we should try to encourage it again? We have a lot of out of state transplants who have been car dependent and likely still in that habit.
- We are in favor of collaborating with Cartwright Ranch on events but only if we can accomplish this within budget. With that said, if HSTA is able to reduce expenses in areas like mail, supplies, postage, etc. perhaps some of the savings can be used to expand events and other areas. Like most, we are not in favor of increased HOA dues to pay for events.

- P.S. Posting in the Hidden Springs Community Facebook page (in addition to the Town Association FB page) is helpful in promoting events.
- Perhaps a Christmas parade in conjunction with the Holiday Tree Lighting? Similar to the 4th of July Parade where residents decorate their golf carts & such. I don't think we need to have Santa visit twice within a month; maybe just have him at Jolly Holly Holidays.
- If Cartwright wants to be a bunch of cheapskates, then we need to enforce that they won't be able to attend our events. Wristbands and security guards at a few events will get the message out. Once they actually start having good events then I would support paying so HS residents can attend. Right now their events are poorly attended and not fun. With respect to our events, when Cartwright has shared the cost, it would seem that events should be bigger with more amenities. Instead, it seems like the events have gotten smaller. For example, one bounce house for 2 neighborhoods worth of kids is insufficient.
- A vendor event would be nice featuring small business owners in Hidden Springs either at the clubhouse or barn
- Some kind of community craft fair/sale where residents could rent table to sell their wares.
- Fenced in dog park for all the dogs in the neighborhood
- I'd like to see the Halloween celebration at the barn come back. I don't think you can put a dollar amount on the impact community events have for us. It's a way to connect and get to know neighbors and build a real connection with one another. All of these calls for reducing the budget by cutting out events is in direct conflict with the "intentional neighborhood feel" that this community was designed around.
- Do we really want to just be another suburb where people don't know one another?
- This question "If necessary, do you support an increase to the Hidden Springs events budget to offset the increased cost of hosting events in Hidden Springs and sponsoring Cartwright Ranch events or prefer to eliminate some Hidden Springs events?" really doesn't have an answer other than "yes". It should have been two questions or had an answer that said "Support increased costs" and one that said "Eliminate some events to maintain current costs." I would have selected the section.

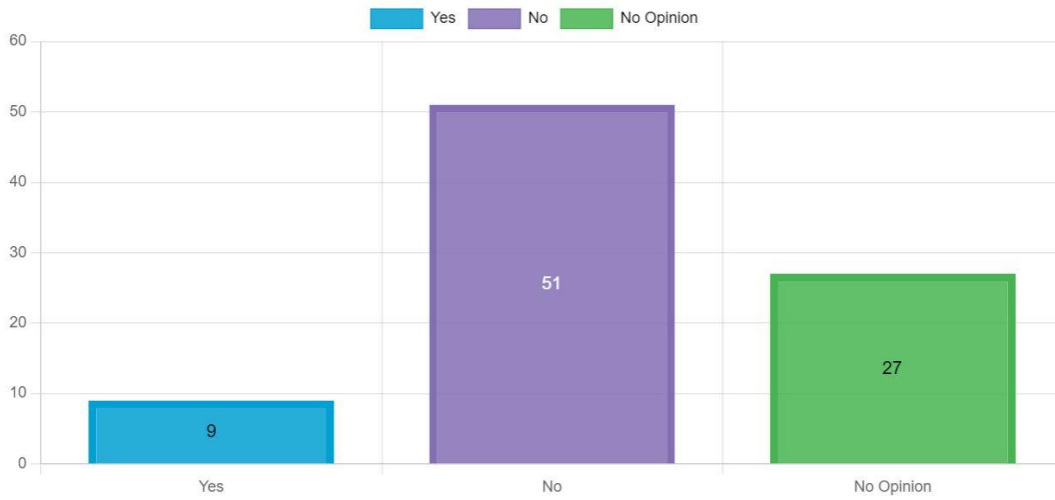
## **OTHER PROJECTS / AMENITIES**

Adding to our existing scope of amenities is often a topic of discussion in the community from pickle ball, to a larger fitness center to shade at the pool. Many of the topics were addressed above however there are a few remaining:

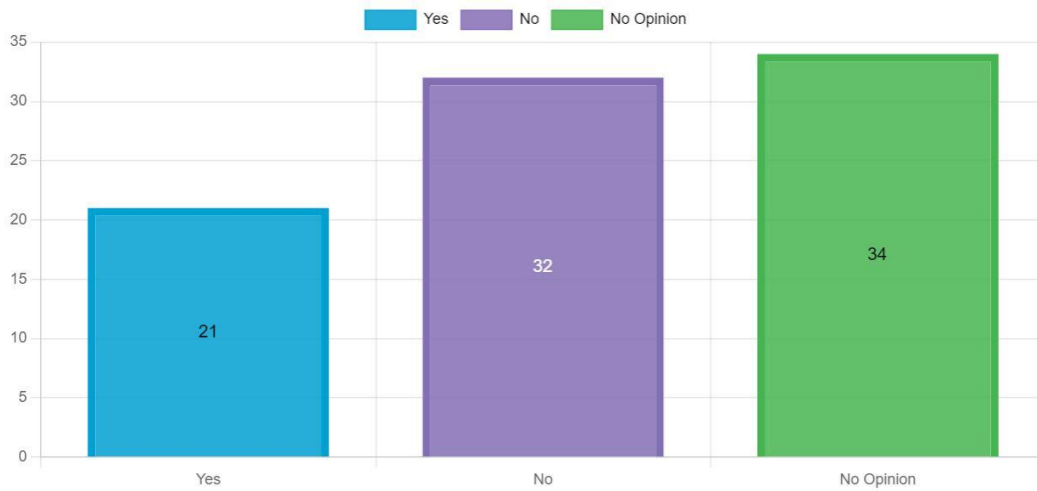
### **VOLLEYBALL COURT**

The developer built the Volleyball court in an ACHD retention basin adjacent to a wetland. The Association battles the natural elements of vegetation and a high-water table. The Association has a few options:

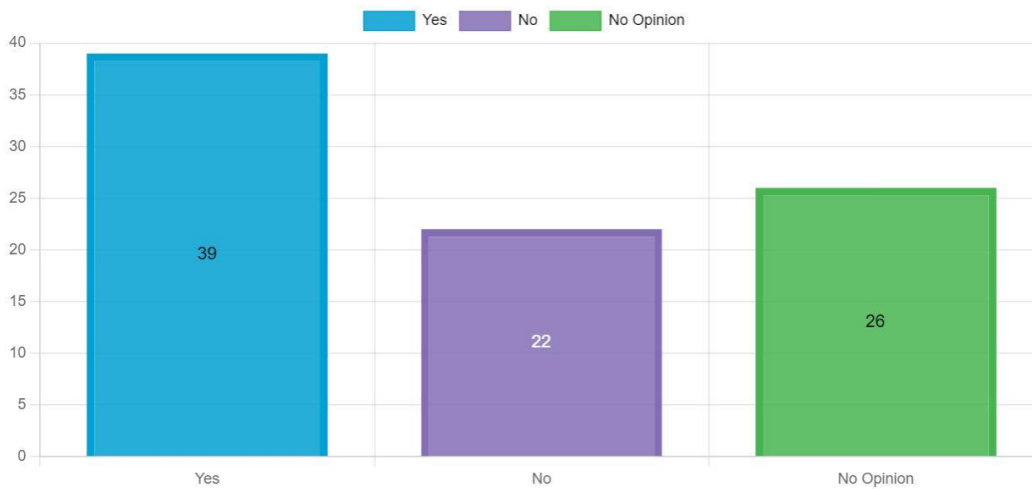
**Take steps to improve the conditions in and around the court, keeping the court where it is and available for use.**



**Is this an amenity you would like to see relocated to a more suitable location (to be identified)?**



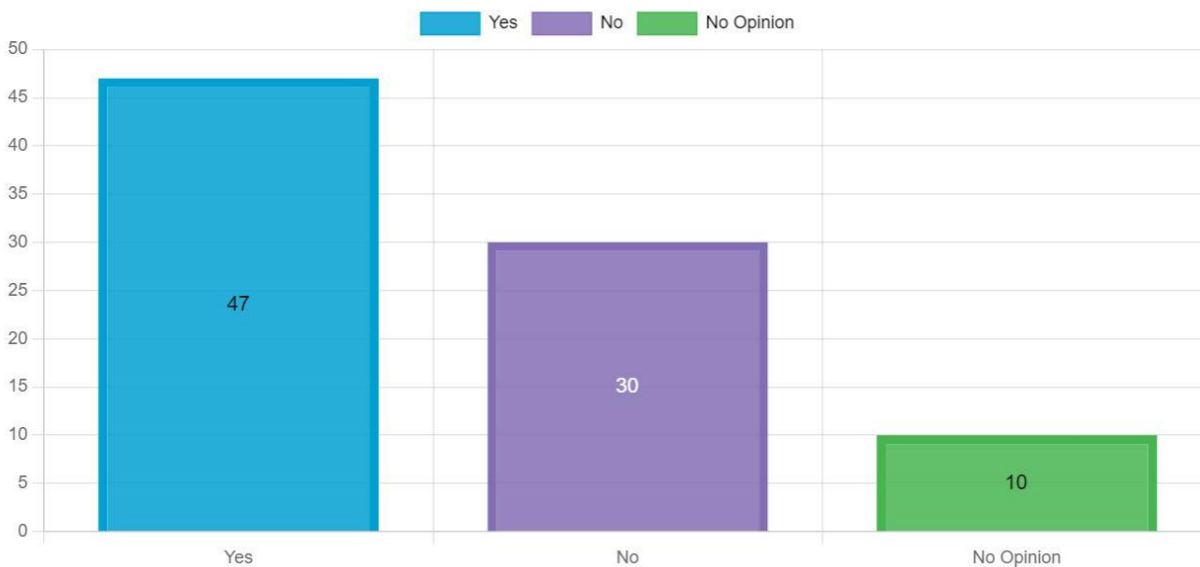
**Remove the court and restore the area.**



## TENNIS/PICKLE BALL

The Association may have the opportunity to assume the care and maintenance of the tennis courts at the Hidden Springs Elementary School. In return, the Association could mark the courts for pickle ball or convert one to pickle ball and leave one tennis. The community could use the courts after school, on weekends and holidays. The community could not use the courts when school was in session. There would be cost to the Association to resurface, mark the courts plus annual maintenance and repairs.

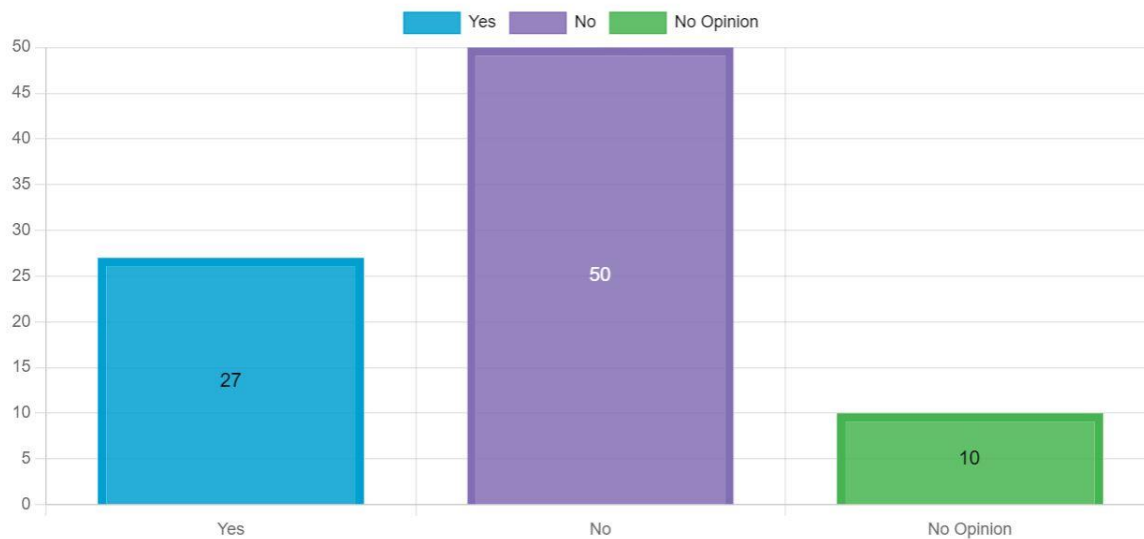
**I support the Association assuming the cost of restoration plus annual care and maintenance of the courts in exchange for use.**



## ADDITIONAL CENTRALIZED MAIL DELIVERY LOCATION

The addition of a second mailbox facility to house approximately 400 individual homeowner mailboxes in a free-standing mail room structure has been suggested. This project would include construction of a free-standing structure on a concrete pad at a location to-be-determined. Suggested locations include Rolling Hills, adjacent to Cougar Field and the Community Barn. The goal would be to identify a location that would allow for parking, individual mailboxes and parcel lockers. The purpose is to expand coverage in the community for parcel drop off at doorsteps (within a ½ mile of the centralized mail delivery location) and to ease traffic at the Merc parking lot. Please note, this project would require USPS to agree to serve the new location in addition to the current centralized mail delivery location (the mail room) as well as funding for the project from the Association.

## Do you support the construction of a second location as well as annual maintenance expenses?



## If yes, which location do you prefer?



## In closing, is there anything else you would like to share with the Town Council?

- Thank you for all your hard work! Keeping Hidden Springs a special place is an enormous task and we appreciate the great job that you are doing!
- Thank you for your work and asking for our opinion on this survey.
- Street lights need to be added in front of the Clubhouse near the school. As it's been getting darker earlier, it is nearly pitch black walking to & from the Clubhouse gym in the evenings and/or early mornings. Not sure if this is within the purview of the Town Council but it would be nice if the community could provide input as to what businesses go into the new construction on Hidden Springs Dr. We would also like to see strict noise restrictions on those businesses, as we live next door and are very concerned. (Additionally, we would like to make it known that we were explicitly told by the local realtor that the lot was a public easement and could not be built on. We were very frustrated &



disappointed to learn that was not true only after purchasing our home. If we would've known there'd be construction next door, it would have swayed our decision.)

- This survey format is excellent, very well done!!! I would like to see us incorporate an identical survey format for administering Policy 500 - where there is one survey per household, and questions posed to residents rather than just a vague request for comments. I feel Policy 500 proposals are extremely important to weigh carefully in terms of impact on the community - overall impact can be positive or negative. Also, some residents are impacted more depending upon their home's proximity to the proposed amenity and thereby deserve a little more consideration. Additionally, the proponents are given FAR too much voice in the decision - they should not be permitted to interject (rebut comments, determine how implemented, promote on social media, sit on committees, etc.) once the proposal is on the table. Establish some ground rules. Any community member sitting on a committee should be required to sign a binding Conflict of Interest agreement, otherwise they can be lobbyists for outside or personal causes. Impartiality is critical to serving the community well. Also, should define term limits on Chair positions. To all Town Council members, thank you for serving our community and keeping HS a great place to live!!!!
- I'd like to express our gratitude to Lisa Ahrens for her tireless, caring, and intelligent management of our affairs. I'd also like to extend our appreciation to Brett Hopkins and his staff (Dana in particular) for their relentless efforts in maintaining the landscape of our environment. Thank you.
- Identify an opportunity to pay dues online without a fee.
- Main concern is the high car traffic in the Merc Area parking likely due to the 2 eating establishments especially during the summer. Is there a way we can encourage folks that are going to be eating and staying for awhile to park on the side streets rather than directly in front of the Merc parking area? Perhaps make it to a loading/unloading zone especially with so many cars coming and going for mail, library, wine/drinks pick up, ice cream, etc.. One cannot see the children/people walking or on bikes; especially with LARGE vehicles (pickups/ Expeditions/ GMCs) parked there for prolonged periods of time. It is hazardous area waiting for an accident- especially some drivers back up too quickly or drive in to the parking lot too fast. Thank you for putting that 5-minute parking space for mail pick-up, much appreciated on my way in from work with all the goings-on. It has become a challenge to get the mail after work (on my drive home) at about 6pm. Although, others still use it for their food, beer, ice-cream pick-up etc parking as I have observed.
- We have had a few situations involving dogs off leash and being aggressive with our dog and requiring confrontation. I have seen the emails and reminders to residents about dogs-off-leash and how it is not allowed. At this point, if a dog becomes aggressive with myself, a family member or my dog-forget being nice or contacting the Association, I will use any means to protect myself, others and our dog. I checked with the sheriff's department and I/we are fully protected to use any means in self-defense. Maybe communicate this Idaho State Legislature and non-complying residents will wake up. Also, kids on bikes. It is great! Parents NEED to remind their kids bike etiquette. We ride as well. If they are riding their bikes on sidewalks-the pedestrian has right of way. I have been almost hit a few times now with kids riding up behind me and not saying anything and just expecting me to move. Not happening. They have also almost hit my dog while on walks. Unacceptable.
- Thank you for all you do in support of our community.
- Would love to increase the size of the tennis courts to add two additional courts for pickleball
- Instead of building a 2nd location for mail, why can't residents that live a bit away from the Merc have their own mailboxes? For example, why can't Rolling Hills residents have their own mailboxes? That could help eliminate the need to spend money and build a separate structure and help residents actually get packages delivered instead of having to drive into town to pick-up from the post office.

Overall we appreciate what Hidden Springs does for our community, yet with the increased HOA costs we don't really see increased benefits. We hope that you get insights from this survey and can make good fiscal and community decisions. Thank you.

- Will out HOA fees go down as a result of not incurring any further costs?
- The need for additional signage to watch for wildlife crossing main traffic areas on Hidden Springs Dr. The need for some type of regulations regarding electric bikes speeding on sidewalks and endangering pedestrians
- I am in favor of electronic annual assessments with electronic quarterly reminders eliminating paper mailings.
- Thank you, all of you for all of your hard work.
- I support the mail facility expansion, if you think it's necessary; however, as a resident of Rolling Hills I would \*not\* like to see us have our own facility up here, because that would eliminate one of the major opportunities, we have to regularly visit the Spring House/Merc area and feel like part of the neighborhood.
- The Association would like to cut back on money spent on Supplies/Printing/Postage. There are a few areas where this may be possible with community support. Instead of Quarterly Statement Mailings do you support a change to one Annual Statement Mailing? HOA and Sewer Assessments would still be due January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1 however residents would NOT receive statement reminders. Savings = \$8,000 a year. We voted "no" on this, as we don't like the idea of not receiving quarterly statements however; we are not opposed to receiving the statements electronically. Thanks for the work you do to maintain our beautiful community. We appreciate the opportunity to share our opinions.
- Thank you for all that you do!
- Reminder notices for quarterly payments email and or text.
- The Town Council and HSTA staff is doing a great job. Their efforts and hard work are appreciated.
- Thank you for all the hard work and dedication to our community!
- We are in full support of the Town Association and are immeasurably appreciative of the Association's hard work on behalf of our community.
- First and foremost, the staff supporting our HOA does a wonderful job for us all. The work, administration, events and projects are very professionally done, and communication is excellent. Thank you all very much!!!  
Our gym is very well cared for and the mini-AC unit added this past year is excellent. Thanks! There is fairly heavy use of the gym (I am a regular user) but it does appear to be used by only a handful of the same participants. It is frequently crowded however, so expansion would be helpful. How to make the pools accessible to adults at a time of day when it is warm (hot)? (And only for the South Meadow pool. The clubhouse pool is for kids for sure.) Maybe on cleaning day, when cleaning is done, the next one hour could be reserved at South Meadow for us old guys? So for example: Pool closed for cleaning on Thursdays till 10 AM, then senior swim hour is from 10 - 11 AM? Just a thought. Again, we have a really nice HOA, thanks again for all you do!
- Would really like a fenced dog park. Thank you for all that you do!
- Yes, we need to look at ways of reducing costs, not increasing costs here....
- While I want Cartwright Ranch residents to participate in HS events - and there is no way to prevent them from doing so anyway - it does seem like the events have gotten significantly more crowded the last couple years, which downgrades the quality of the event for everyone.
- Thank you for all your hard work!

- Thank you to all those that serve our community and putting together this survey. I am interested in access to pickleball courts, potentially with Cartwright? Not sure if the cost to go through the school would look like, or if there are other options in the community.
- I understand that ebikes are considered motorized vehicles from a literal perspective, and, as such, are not allowed on our trails. However, the non-motorized use only rule was put in place before ebikes were invented and Class 1 ebikes are extremely different from motorcycles, which is what the non-motorized used designation was designed to preclude. Class 1 ebikes do NOT damage the trails any more than other bikes do and are safe to co-exist with other trail users. I know it's difficult to change the rules around this, but could the community at least stop saying "no ebikes on the trails" in every single communication that goes out? There is no doubt in my mind that this is contributing to angst and conflict on the trails as other trail users feel compelled to try to enforce the rules themselves. We ebikers pay our HOA dues, too, and most of us are considerate trail users who respect others and have good trail etiquette. I feel like a second class citizen on the trails and the Town Association communications are contributing to that. I know we've had an incident of someone riding a Surrón on our trails and that is a completely different animal from a Class 1 ebike. Surróns are electric MOTORCYCLES that weigh about 100 pounds and can go 40+ MPH. Class 1 ebikes weigh about 50 pounds and are limited to 20MPH. They are totally different. Thank you for your consideration.
- In some cases, we put no opinion based on needing further information i.e. the post office addition. Thank so much for allowing for community input.
- I would love to see a gym that is more suitable for the number of people who live in the community. Wouldn't it be possible to move the treadmills and precor machines to inside the clubhouse, where they were located during COVID? As it stands now, there are far too many people in a small space trying to use the available equipment.
- We live in a very well-run community. Thank you for all your hard work.
- We appreciate living in a community with not only great neighbors but a supportive and functional HOA which does a great job walking the line between being "too much" and "too little" involved in daily lives! Our property values remain high because of the HOA and its enforcement, but living here is also enjoyable and positive. Staff has been exceedingly responsive and we've had positive interaction with board members. MAIL FACILITY comments: We understand the community's mailing needs have increased over the years, but the ordering and numbering of both the individual mailboxes \*as well as\* the parcel boxes is confusing at best. Could we form a volunteer committee to explore the possibility of the logical renumbering of the individual mailboxes as well as parcel boxes? This volunteer committee would work in cooperation with the Garden City Postmaster to come up with a no-cost solution. We would volunteer. PICKLEBALL comments: The school district already maintains the tennis courts and as a tax-supported school, the public has always had access to the courts during non-school hours. Rather than obligating the HOA to take on annual maintenance of the tennis courts, could we simply re-stripe both existing courts to \*add\* pickleball line marking? We've seen this done using two colors of striping; while the net is two inches difference, dual use courts are common in local parks and at other Boise-area schools. This solution would provide two courts which could be used by two different sports at the cost of just marking the courts initially and any annual paint touch-up.
- This is a wonderful community and it is a joy to have moved here. I appreciate all the hard work that the community does.
- We had countless choices for communities to choose as our new home when we moved to Boise in 2021. We started renting a home in Hidden Springs while pursuing a new construction project near downtown Boise and pulled the plug after a few short months of living in Hidden Springs. Loving the community so much, we offered to purchase the house we were renting and now call Hidden Springs

home as owners. ...and we couldn't be more pleased. As long as we are in Boise, we will be in Hidden Springs. Ever amenity we pay for and every event we support is what attracted us to Hidden Springs and is what will keep us here. The sense of community these investments foster is unmatched in any other master planned community in the region. \*Please\* do not reduce investment in these areas at the request of a vocal minority who are misled and misunderstanding of the use of our HOA funds....sure, I'd like to see some improvements to general "upkeep" of some of the common areas as things age — but a few weeds and concrete cracks aren't going to turn people away — but a drift towards a cold, impersonal community by divesting in our community events certainly would. By the way: My lack of support for the new mail facility has less to do with finances and more to do with the "forced community" aspect of the central mailroom. It's such a great concept that I'd hate to see done away with.

- We very much appreciate all that you do, how much volunteer time and effort you all give to make Hidden Springs the special place it is. And we hope that you know there are many many of us who forget to take the time to thank you. But we do!
- I would be against having a parking lot visible from the outer road perimeter such as the Cougar Field. If the barn location could use the parking lot already there, then I would opt for that. Rolling Hills should have a post office at the top of the hill if there are enough homesites to justify it, though would it be possible to make an exception for them and have the mail go door to door? I voted for all those family kid community activities because we loved it when our kids were little. Even though our family doesn't attend any of the community events anymore, I support funds continuing to go there as it is a good feeling that our neighborhood has those things. I only voted no on increasing the money going there because I don't know where that money would come from. If I were to prioritize the budget, it would probably go: 1. what is necessary to function 2. upkeep 3. trees and caring for the land to keep HS beautiful 4. savings 5. community events.
- Rolling hills should have its own mailboxes up there. But no parking for it that would intrude on the space up there. It would be unsightly. If it was just for rolling hills perhaps it wouldn't be an eyesore.
- The community seems to be run well. I do not wish for expenses to increase. It would be mentally easier if sewer billing was separate from HOA billing because a single bill makes it look like the HOA is expensive which is not accurate given the quality of HOA-related amenities.
- Thanks so much to HS Town Office administration staff for their helpfulness and efficiency. You guys do a great job.
- It would be nice to have access to the courts at the school. I think Hidden Springs should help pay for maintenance but not for all. 50/50 seems like a reasonable approach.
- Discontinue planting pansies on street corners in the fall. They don't do well and are not an asset, just an expense. The grounds in front of the library, post office, store, springhouse and rooted often look trashy and unkempt. This area needs better maintenance.
- If we can find savings along the way to defray fees to residents, all for it. Conversely, if fees need to be raised to support necessary or required improvements then I'm equally supportive. Whatever the decisions made: as long as it's in the spirit of why Hidden Springs was founded in the first place then that's the best thing to do. Hopefully, fellow residents will appreciate the work that needs to be done and feel they can be part of the process. This survey gets us there, in my opinion :) See ya at the annual meeting,
- I'm very nervous about this survey and how the responses will be used by HSTA leadership team. Understanding that if residents want to have input for direction of our community, then they need to take the time to do so. However, I strongly believe that the overwhelming majority of our community are very satisfied with the direction, decisions and actions of the HSTA Leadership. Of course, there is

a very small, though loud, group of dissatisfied people but I have been to every Town Council meeting this year and I've not heard a single valid complaint nor any valid direction changes that would be supported by the greater community. Complaining by a very small number of people because they can't afford to live in the most affluent and highly desired community is absolutely no reason for our community to be changed. Stating this with respect to those that find themselves in financially challenging situations but those people also need to be respectful of the rest of us that have chosen to live in Hidden Springs because of the excellent amenities. HSTA leadership has consistently balanced all of the necessary and the highly desired amenities of our community without unnecessary expenses. I've never seen an instance of poor spending by the current or recent HSTA leadership teams. Again, I understand the desire from the leadership to want to hear from the community but if the majority of the community does not respond to this survey, then the leadership should not, solely, use the survey for major decisions that would change the current general operations and direction of our community. I believe there is enough connection to the community with the leadership that the bulk of the pulse is known. As well, I believe the general HS resident may not understand the complexity of the underlying actions/\$\$'s and overall implications of the posed questions in the survey. Completely understand how difficult it is to develop questions to the community so the leadership can make decisions based on the desires of residents but I suggest that the overwhelming majority of the community has historically been very happy to put their trust in the HSTA leadership to make good decisions. If changes are going to be made, they need to CONTINUE to be made to improve the quality of life in HS, improve property values and the better position HSTA for the future.

- We moved here because it had a small town feel and a sense of community. Above all else, I implore you to keep that at the heart of the decisions being made. There are so many subdivisions that lack character, warmth and community. We can be fiscally responsible and still put resources towards events which build community.
- As the community continues to age, attention to maintenance is crucial to the community not becoming "tired". The continued maintenance of the property, added improvements, and oversight of homeowner maintenance will continue to draw new homeowners to the community, and help maintain the community home values. As a realtor, the planned community events has always been a huge draw to prospective buyers that I bring to the community! I'd hate to see events scaled back, as I think it's a core element of the community. I'm not certain that Cartwright will be able to pull off the scale and quality of events that we have in Hidden Springs given the staff hours HS dedicates to the events (and CR events will be volunteer coordinated??) While in theory I support having joint activities, I don't know that the CR events will be that well done and thus answered I don't think we should spend money there if there's no oversight and involvement in planning the events.
- There is a problem with the mechanics of this survey- it wouldn't let me choose "infrequent or never" for 2 questions (use of the pool and volunteer at the community farm). So, I changed my answers in order for this to get submitted, but I NEVER use either. This is a nice community to live in but it irks me to pay dues for all these activities that cater to families with kids. Is there a way we could opt-out or have a sliding scale of fees? Other than using the mailroom and the trails, I get nothing for almost \$2k a year. It's for that reason that I don't endorse increasing fees for anything. With respect to the mailbox / mailroom idea, the only thing that makes sense to me as a change to our current situation is to have Rolling Hills converted to a USPS rural route. When I first moved here several people explored this idea and decided that the USPS bureaucracy would be too much to conquer. It involves dealing not only with the USPS and the Garden City Postmaster, but the Postal Carrier's Union, and even possibly Ada County if boxes, similar to those used in Cartwright Ranch, had to be located on land currently in the conservation reserve. I would rather not have to drive the 2 miles down to the mailroom and back to pick up the mail, mostly trash ads, but I've resigned myself to the necessity of it

every few days. And on the question about reducing mailing cost by having only one mailing per year, I could probably go along with that provided there was a quarterly e-mail sent to remind me (and others) that it was time to pay up. If that weren't done, I suspect your percentage of late payments would go up significantly. I hope you get more than a handful of responses to this survey.

## **THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME!**

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. As the Town Council begins preparing the 2024 budget, they will take the responses and feed-back into consideration as they make plan for the future.