

From: [Chris Jordan](#)
To: [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)
Subject: FW: no on bocce ball proposal
Date: Monday, November 9, 2020 4:09:05 PM

From: Yumi Ando [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 9, 2020 4:03 PM
To: City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>
Subject: no on bocce ball proposal

To City Council:

I am a resident of the Grant Park neighborhood and I am expressing my strong opposition to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park.

I ask that the city of Los Altos develop a Master Plan for Grant Park and the Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee ask for input from the residents of South Los Altos that use the park every day. We feel that this process has not been democratic in that our input has not been solicited. Much of the decisions seem to have happened behind closed-door sessions. I tried to dial in to the last community meeting, but was unsuccessful.

Residents of the neighborhood are asking for the donations be used to:

- Renew the neglected buildings at Grant Park and provide South Los Altos with meet space all year long, rain or shine
- Build a new walking path around the park (part of which is dirt)
- Add seating and benches near the buildings and at the playground
- And several other items, none of which are bocce ball courts

There is resounding, overwhelming resident opposition to bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park. Residents want to keep the open, green space. Many residents use the park's open, green space for soccer warm-ups during games, pickup tag, frisbee, football, baseball, cricket, or just free play. Families and students use the space for picnics or studying. Additionally, the donation does not cover the cost of building and maintaining the courts or the planned overhead shade structure (up to an additional \$80,000).

Cuesta Park (2.4 miles from Grant Park) is 25 acres and has bocce ball courts. Grant Park is 4 acres – it is too small for bocce ball courts. We appreciate this donation however, we ask that the City Council ensure it is dedicated to renewing the existing buildings and amenities at Grant Park so residents can have a well-functioning, comfortable place to come together in camaraderie and learning in 2021 and beyond.

Thank you for your consideration,
Yumi Ando, MD

From: [Chris Jordan](#)
To: [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)
Subject: FW: No Bocce courts at Grant park
Date: Tuesday, November 10, 2020 7:42:09 AM

From: Terri Catalano <[REDACTED]m>
Sent: Tuesday, November 10, 2020 4:29 AM
To: City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>
Subject: No Bocce courts at Grant park

To City Council:

I am a resident of the Grant Park neighborhood and I am expressing my strong opposition to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park.

I ask that the city of Los Altos develop a Master Plan for Grant Park and the Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee ask for input from the residents of South Los Altos that use the park every day.

Residents of the neighborhood are asking for the donations be used to:

- Renew the neglected buildings at Grant Park and provide South Los Altos with meet space all year long, rain or shine
- Build a new walking path around the park (part of which is dirt)
- Add seating and benches near the buildings and at the playground
- And several other items, none of which are bocce ball courts

Teresa Catalano
1391 Holt Avenue
Los Altos

From: [Chris Jordan](#)
To: [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)
Subject: FW: No Bocce Balls in Grant Park
Date: Tuesday, November 10, 2020 7:42:59 AM

From: Vani Kane [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 9, 2020 6:05 PM
To: City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>
Subject: No Bocce Balls in Grant Park

To the City Council:

I am a resident of the Grant Park neighborhood and I am expressing my strong opposition to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park.

Residents of the neighborhood are asking for the donations be used to:

- Renew the neglected buildings at Grant Park and provide South Los Altos with meet space all year long, rain or shine
- Build a new walking path around the park (part of which is dirt)
- Add seating and benches near the buildings and at the playground
- And several other items, none of which are bocce ball courts

There is resounding, overwhelming resident opposition to bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park. Residents want to keep the open, green space. Many residents use the park's open, green space for soccer warm-ups during games, pickup tag, frisbee, football, baseball, cricket, or just free play. Families and students use the space for picnics or studying. Additionally, the donation does not cover the cost of building and maintaining the courts or the planned overhead shade structure (up to an additional \$80,000).

Cuesta Park (2.4 miles from Grant Park) is 25 acres and has bocce ball courts. Grant Park is 4 acres – it is too small for bocce ball courts.

We appreciate this donation however, we ask that the City Council ensure it is dedicated to renewing the existing buildings and amenities at Grant Park so residents can have a well-functioning, comfortable place to come together in camaraderie and learning in 2021 and beyond.

Thank you for your consideration,
Vani Kane

From: [Chris Jordan](#)
To: [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)
Subject: FW: Opposition to Potential Bocce Ball Court
Date: Monday, November 9, 2020 4:14:25 PM

From: Jennifer Kremen [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 9, 2020 4:13 PM
To: City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>
Subject: Opposition to Potential Bocce Ball Court

To City Council:

I am a resident of the Grant Park neighborhood and I am expressing my strong opposition to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park.

I ask that the city of Los Altos develop a Master Plan for Grant Park and the Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee ask for input from the residents of South Los Altos that use the park every day.

Residents of the neighborhood are asking for the donations be used to:

- Renew the neglected buildings at Grant Park and provide South Los Altos with meet space all year long, rain or shine
- Build a new walking path around the park (part of which is dirt)
- Add seating and benches near the buildings and at the playground (THIS IS SORELY NEEDED. WHERE ARE PARENTS SUPPOSED TO SIT TO SUPERVISE THEIR KIDS WHILE THEY PLAY, THE GROUND??)
- And several other items, none of which are bocce ball courts

There is resounding, overwhelming resident opposition to bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park. Residents want to keep the open, green space. Many residents use the park's open, green space for soccer warm-ups during games, pickup tag, frisbee, football, baseball, cricket, or just free play. Families and students use the space for picnics or studying. Additionally, the donation does not cover the cost of building and maintaining the courts or the planned overhead shade structure (up to an additional \$80,000).

We appreciate this donation however, we ask that the City Council ensure it is dedicated to renewing the existing buildings and amenities at Grant Park so residents can have a well-functioning, comfortable place to come together in camaraderie and learning in 2021 and beyond.

Thank you for your consideration,
Jennifer Kremen

From: [Chris Jordan](#)
To: [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)
Subject: FW: Grant Park Bocce Ball
Date: Monday, November 9, 2020 4:09:20 PM

From: Harry and Rhoda Lee [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 9, 2020 4:04 PM
To: City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>
Subject: Grant Park Bocce Ball

To City Council:

I am a resident of the Grant Park neighborhood and I am expressing my strong opposition to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park.

I ask that the city of Los Altos develop a Master Plan for Grant Park and the Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee ask for input from the residents of South Los Altos that use the park every day.

Residents of the neighborhood are asking for the donations be used to:

- Renew the neglected buildings at Grant Park and provide South Los Altos with meet space all year long, rain or shine
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We appreciate this donation however, we ask that the City Council ensure it is dedicated to renewing the existing buildings and amenities at Grant Park so residents can have a well-functioning, comfortable place to come together in camaraderie and learning in 2021 and beyond.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely Yours,
Rhoda Chung
Harry Lee
1501 Ben Roe Drive,
Los Altos, CA 94024
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

From: [Donna Legge](#)
To: [Public Comment](#)
Subject: FW: BOCCE BALL POLL REPORT
Date: Monday, November 9, 2020 3:37:42 PM
Attachments: [GP Bocce Ball Poll Report 10-14-20.pptx](#)

From: Frank Martin [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 9, 2020 2:57 PM
To: Donna Legge <dlegge@losaltosca.gov>; Frank Martin <apfrank42@gmail.com>
Subject: BOCCE BALL POLL REPORT

Donna,

Please pass this report to city council. I will be a public speaker and talke about these results. If you need pdf version let me know.

Thanks,

Frank Martin

Grant Park Bocce Ball Conclusions

UNNECESSARY - Bocce Ball is a niche activity that serves very few Los Altos Seniors - already served by Hillview courts. 60.23% of poll residents believe that two Hillview courts are enough for Los Altos. Most towns do not have any courts and the few that do have one such as Blackberry Farm & Cuesta Park. Moreover, only Hillview has 28 active players that play an average of 56 times each week. And, the 2015 senior commission found that 10 nearby downs do not have any Bocce Ball courts at their senior centers or community centers.

TOO BIG - Bocce Ball requires dedicated space that does not fit any of our tiny parks other than Hillview where shared open space is in high demand. A primary reason that Parks and Recreation commissioners voted 7-0 against having dedicated dog parks is because they would need to take away shared open space at existing Los Altos parks.

UNWANTED – 78.1% of Grant Park Residents oppose Bocce Ball. What makes any one believe that a Grant Park Master Plan will find a different result?

Recommendation - A Grant Park Master Plan makes the most sense to determine whether residents have a different vision on the dedication plaque that calls for preserving Grant Park open space. **But, many residents do not want to have to continue to fight back against Bocce Ball – it should not be part of the equation!**

Grant Park Bocce Ball Poll Results

This Monkey-Survey poll has 430 individual responses. Here are the key findings:

336 (78.59%) of residents oppose dedicated space for Grant Park Bocce Ball location(s) at open shared play grass space near the basketball courts that is used by many instead of the few players.

329 (76.52%) want 100% of grass areas, land, and trees preserved. Meaning other Grant Park locations are opposed by residents as well. Most say Grant Park is too tiny for Bocce Ball.

363 (84.41%) want a GP Master Plan before considering Bocce Ball as a competing idea. But, most want Bocce Ball stopped now because this result is unlikely to change.

259 (60.23%) do not want Bocce Ball anyplace other than Hillview. One set of courts is enough for Los Altos. And most other towns have no courts or just one set.

347 (84.22%) do not play Bocce Ball.

330 (76.73%) use Grant Park at least once a week or more often.

367 (86.95%) believe that maintaining or improving the GP CC buildings and existing playground, basketball court, grass fields, and opens spaces should be the highest priority. Why can't donations be used for these needs instead?

Grant Park Bocce Ball Discussion

Introduction:

PARC Staff reports that 28 active players used Hillview Bocce Ball courts prior to new Hillview Community Center construction. Past usage over the last few decades is about 56 times each week – a very low usage rate for our large senior population.

A 2015 Senior Commission Survey shows there are not any Bocce Ball courts at dedicated Senior Centers at Cupertino, Menlo Park, Mountain View, Santa Clara, or Sunnyvale or for community centers at Almaden, Campbell, Foster City, Los Gatos or Saratoga. The inference suggests that Bocce Ball is not popular for most seniors. It is more like a niche activity like Rugby that has avid players but few in number.

There are few if any nearby cities that have any Bocce Ball courts located at parks at all – let alone more than one. And, most of these parks are more than 3 times as large as tiny Grant Park.

Bocce Ball uses dedicated park space that does not fit other tiny Los Altos park locations other than Hillview because the available shared space is in high demand. Bocce Ball is played by the few and does not benefit the many that used shared open space.

Moreover, fenced in dog parks have been unanimously rejected by the parks and recreation in part for this reason.

Discussion:

This poll was created to gather missing community resident input concerning whether or not Bocce Ball is needed, wanted, or necessary at Grant Park or anyplace other than Hillview. The poll included land use questions raised by Park and Recreation Commissioners after feedback received by resident emails and public speakers. The poll link was intentionally sent to a much wider area than the typical alert sent by the city to residents within 1,000 ft of a park like Grant Park. There are 430 poll responses.

This poll is not intended to address other competing programming ideas for Grant Park that may be evaluated during the process to create an updated Grant Park Master Plan other than to mention whether this might be a good idea or not.

The Monkey-Survey personal subscription limited the poll questions to 9 - not including personal information to record the names and addresses for residents 18 years. No attempt was made to verify the names and addresses match. But 4 records were eliminated because of duplicates or missing personal data.

Grant Park Bocce Ball Discussion

Discussion continued:

Each of these questions were tested in advance by a few residents to make sure the poll was easy to understand and not biased. One expert was consulted in advance to insure the poll met these criteria.

Afterward, two poll experts were consulted who concluded the poll addressed the stated needs and is unbiased. Moreover, Godbe Research says that a poll needs to have 400-500 responses in order to be valid for a city of the size of Los Altos. Given, that the count is 430 – this poll should be as valid as if Godbe Research has conducted it for the City and need not be repeated.

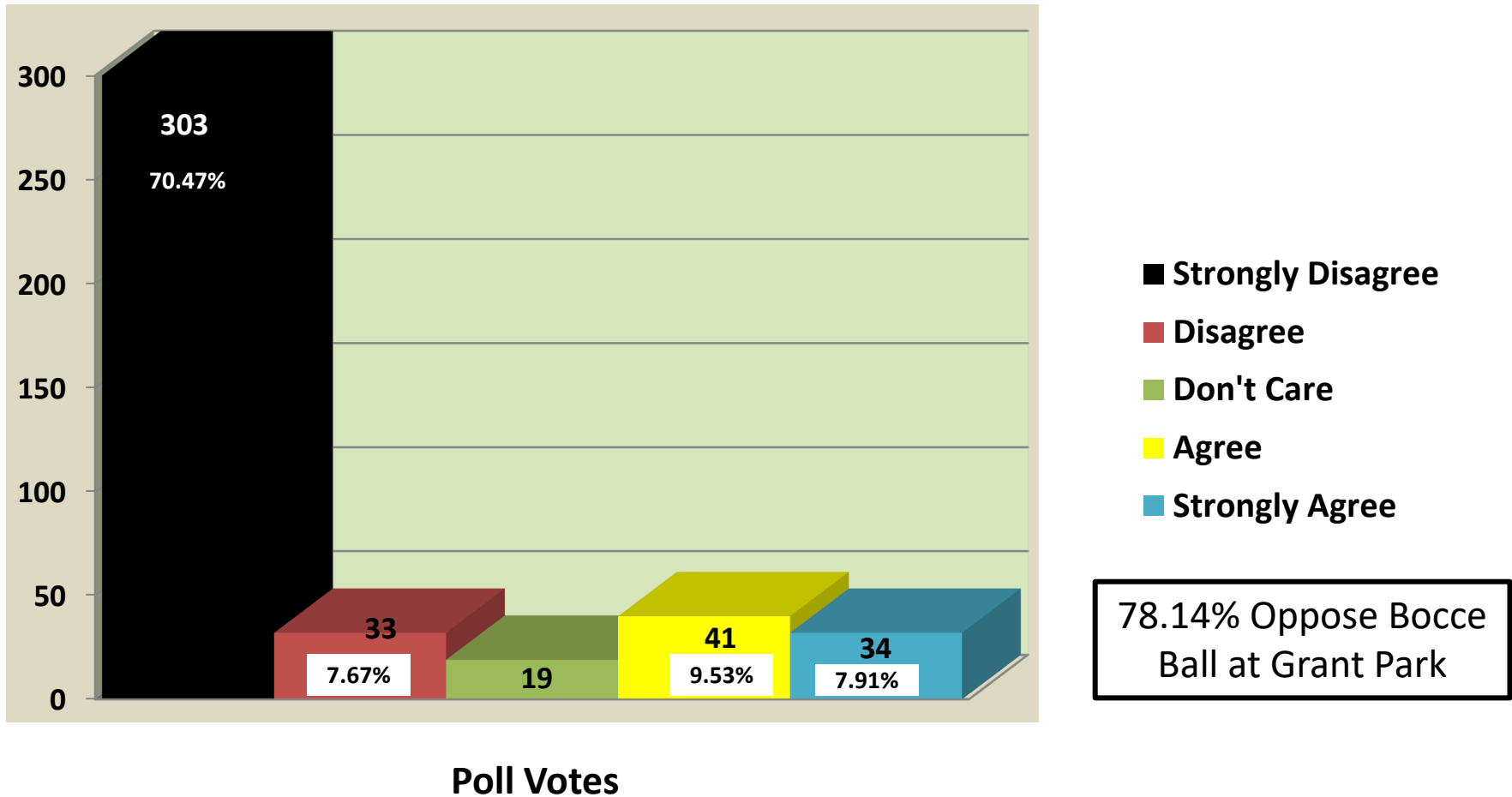
The poll was designed to take about 3 minutes to complete – the results show the average time to complete actually as 4 minutes. Each question allowed residents to offer comments as well. Most of the questions use a standard 1-5 scale.

The poll was announced to residents by posting a link and explanation to a Next Door group list of 1,827 residents that have identified themselves as Grant Park neighbors and later expanded to all other Next Door neighborhood groups later.

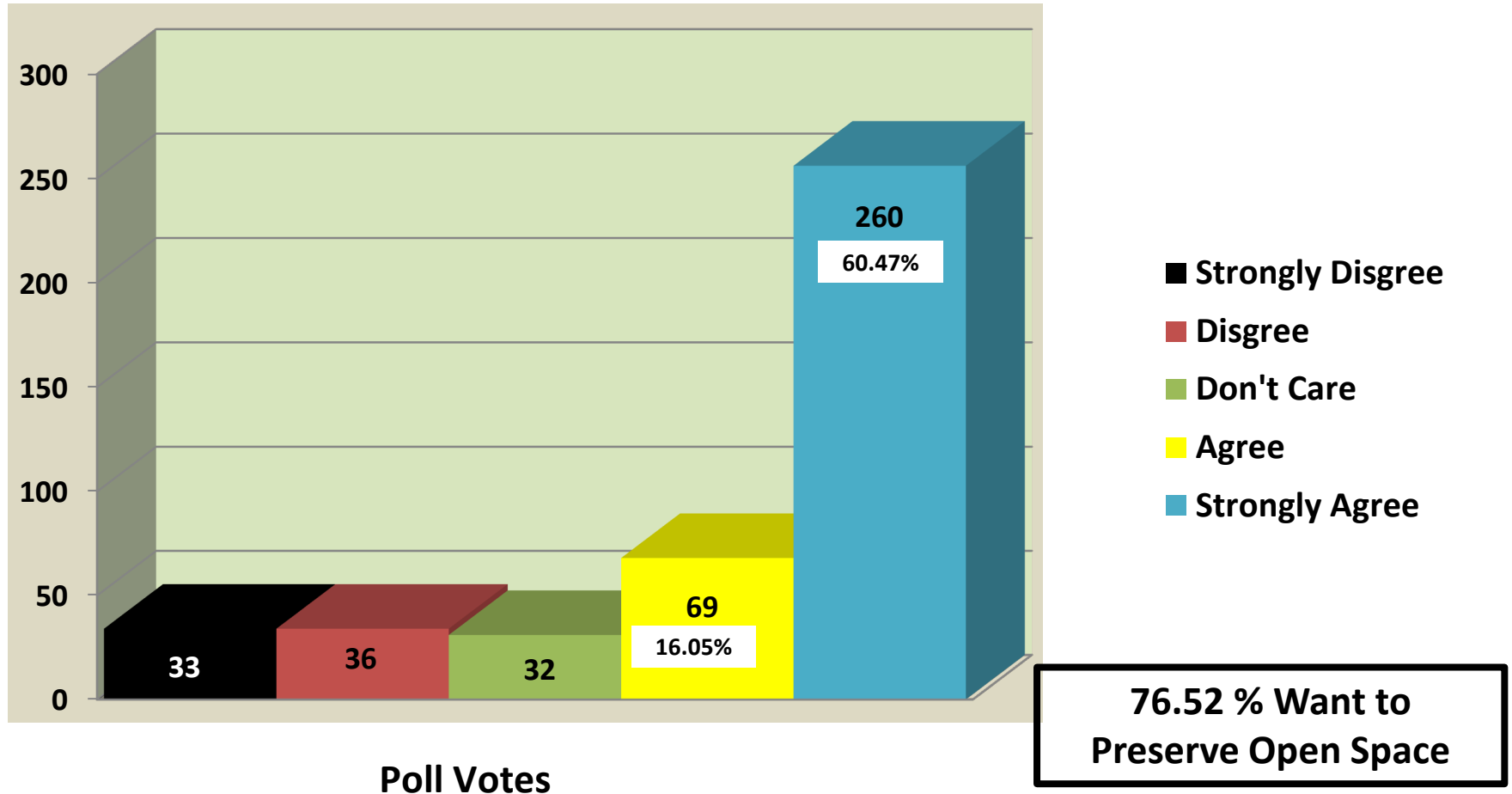
There many captured comments that have yet to be tallied. These comments will be sorted and reported on a later time if needed.

What follows is a presentation of each of the nine poll questions as bar graphs for easy viewing.

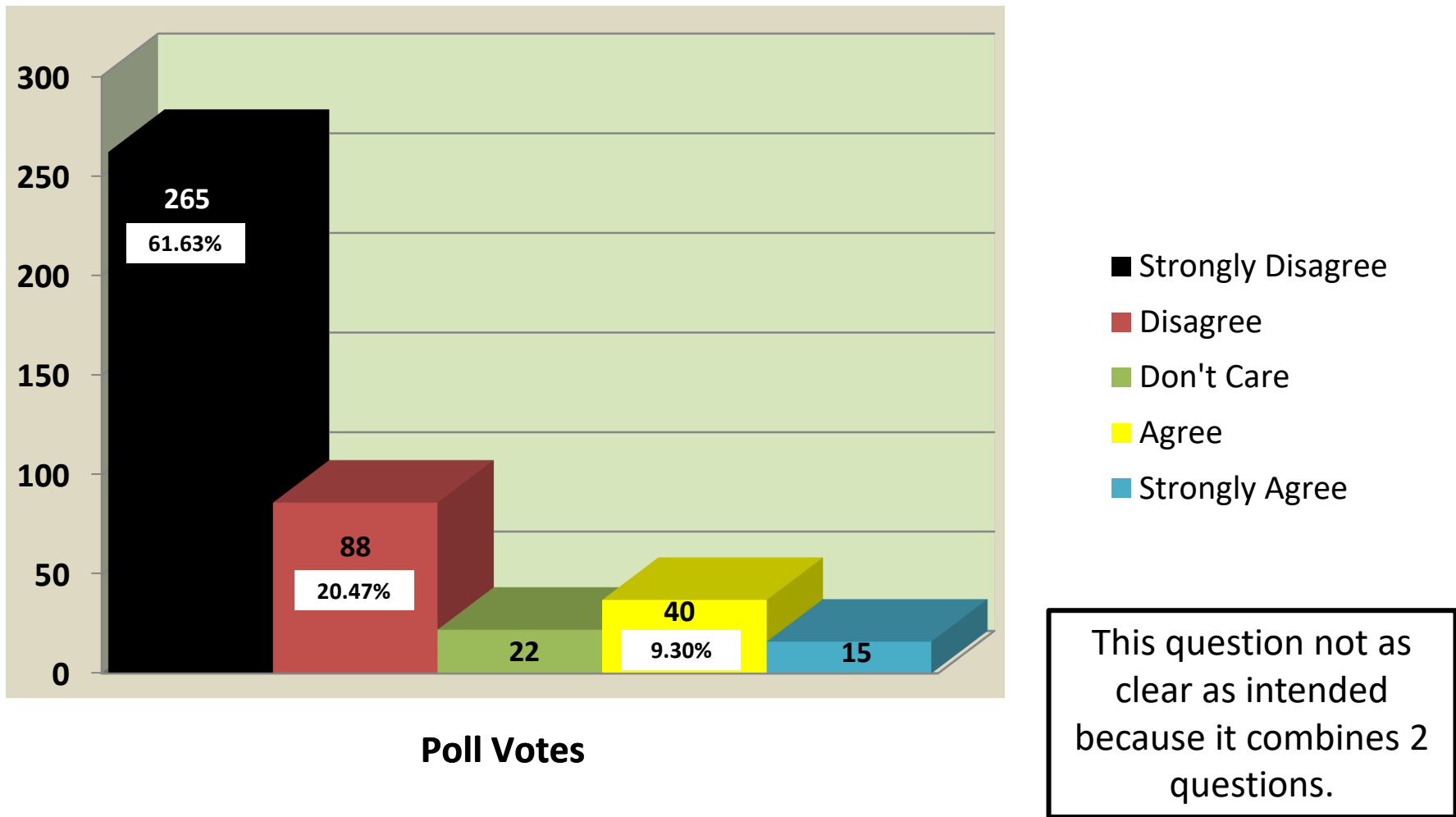
Q2 – I want Bocce Ball Courts at Grant Park [85 ft x29 ft] or 2,465 sq ft.



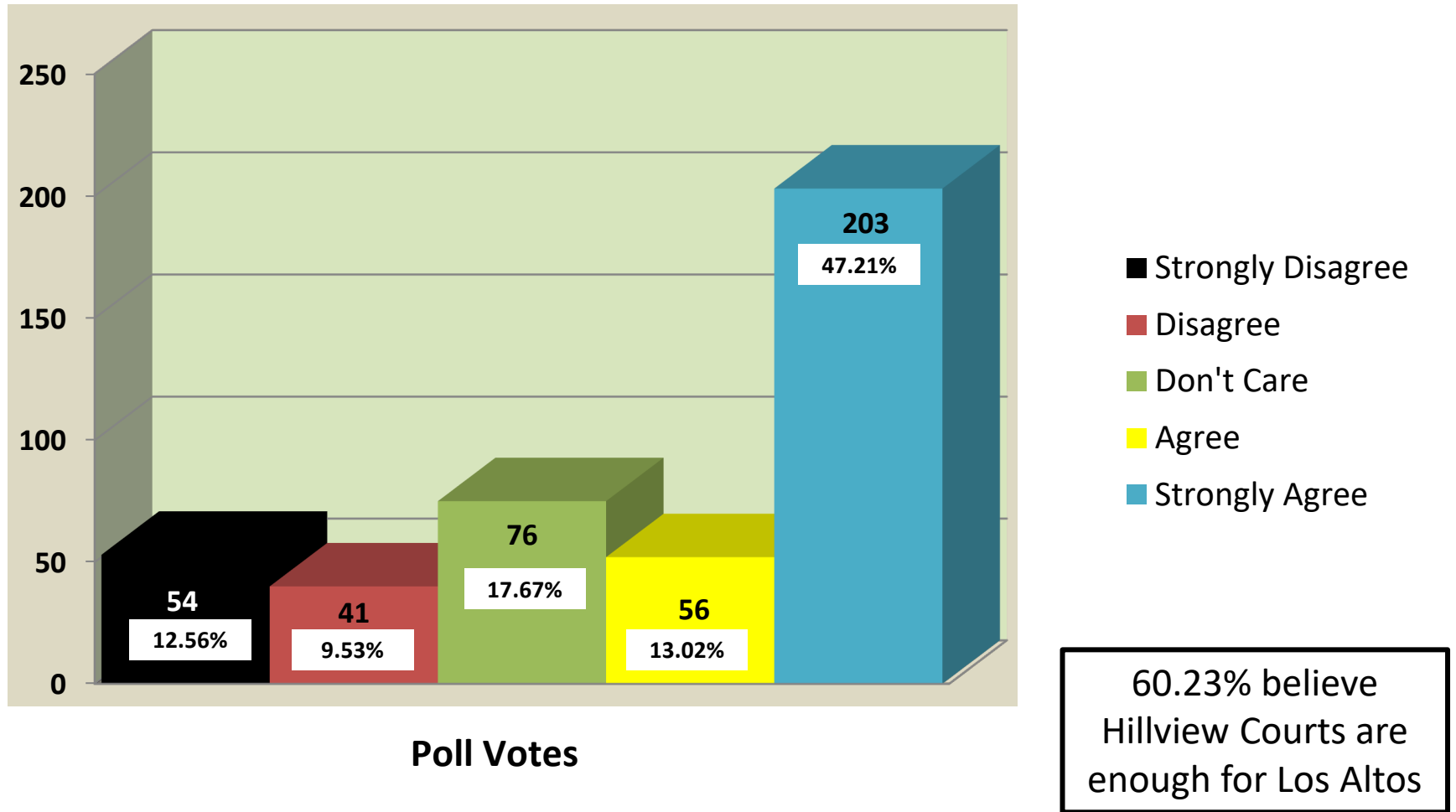
Q3 – I want 100% of GP grass areas, land, and trees preserved as open space.



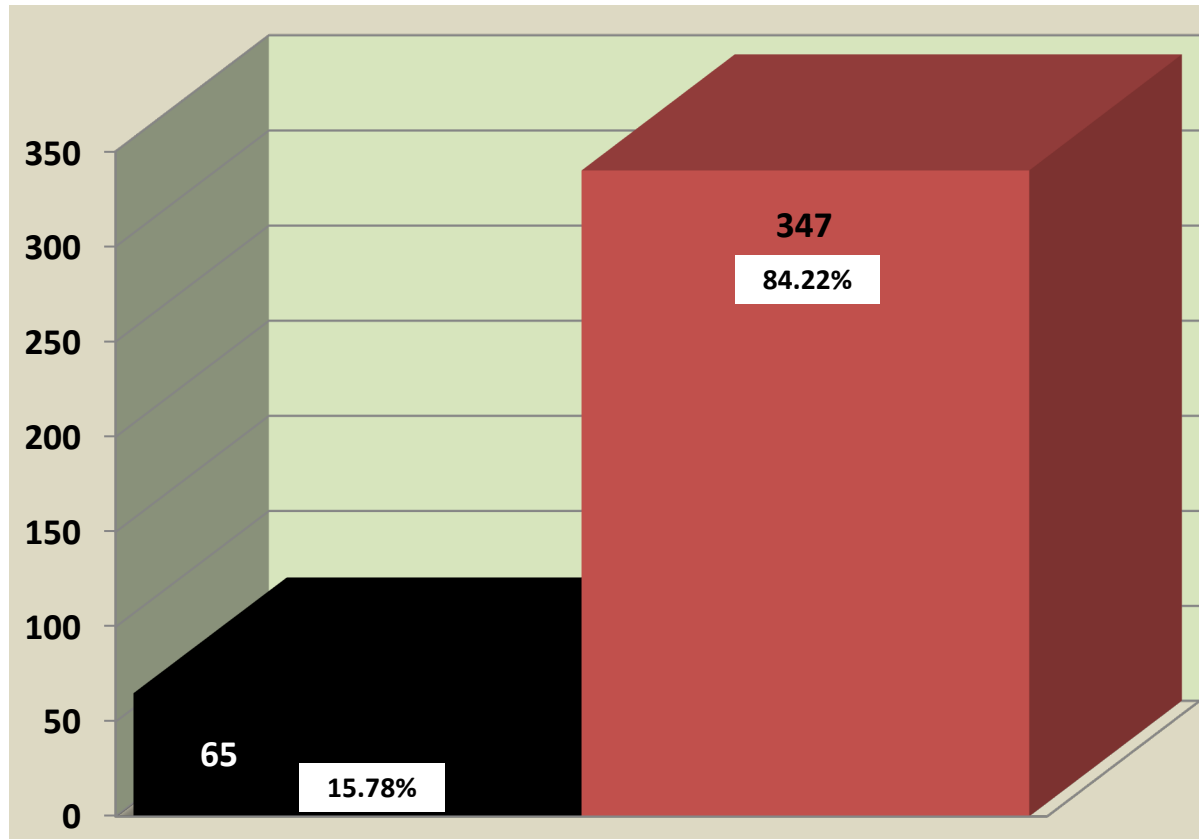
Q4 – It is okay to remove GP trees or use bare land for other purposes.



Q5 – I do not want Bocce Ball courts anywhere other than Hillview Community Center.



Q6 – I currently play Bocce Ball.

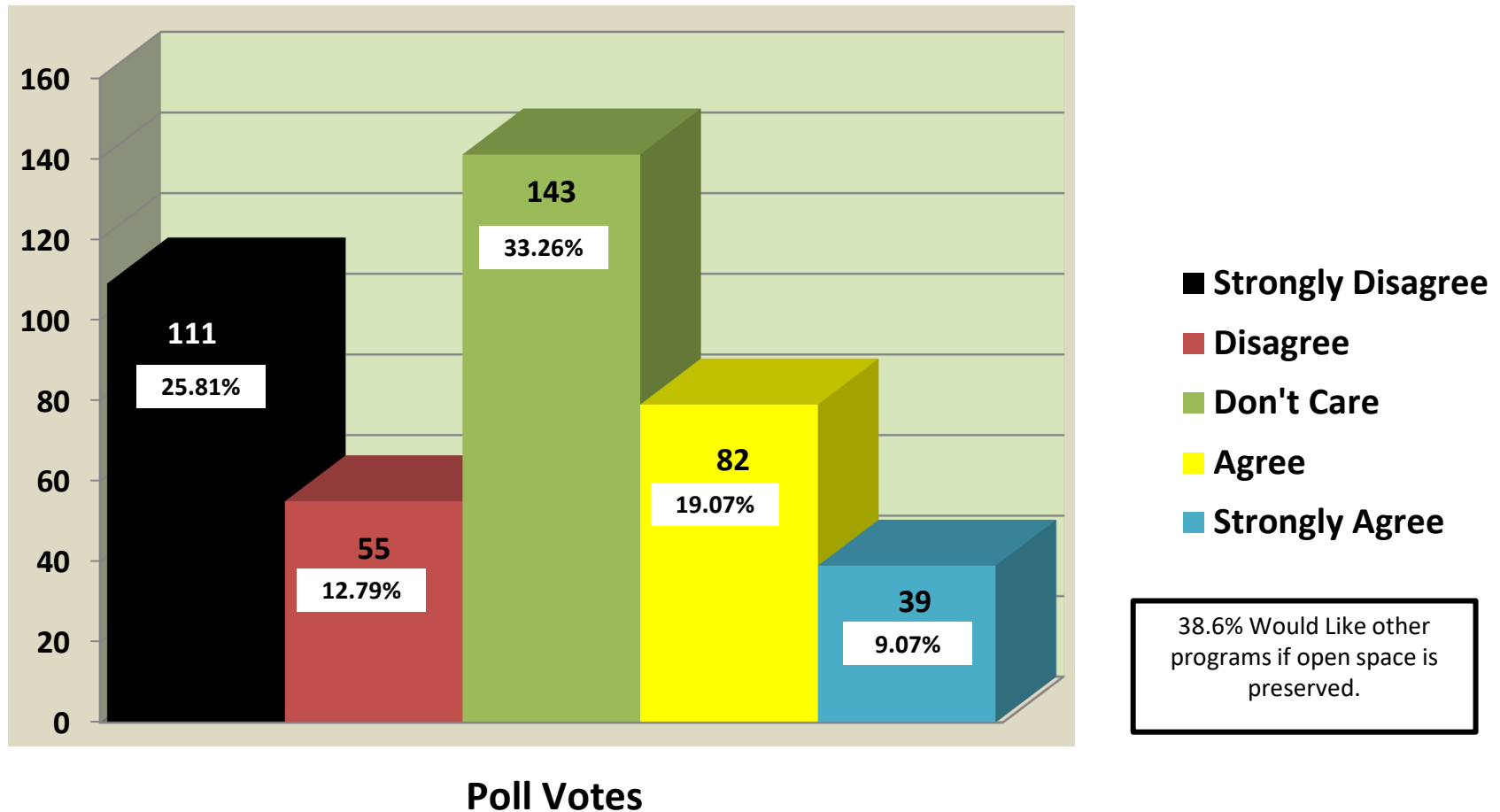


- Currently Play
- Do not play

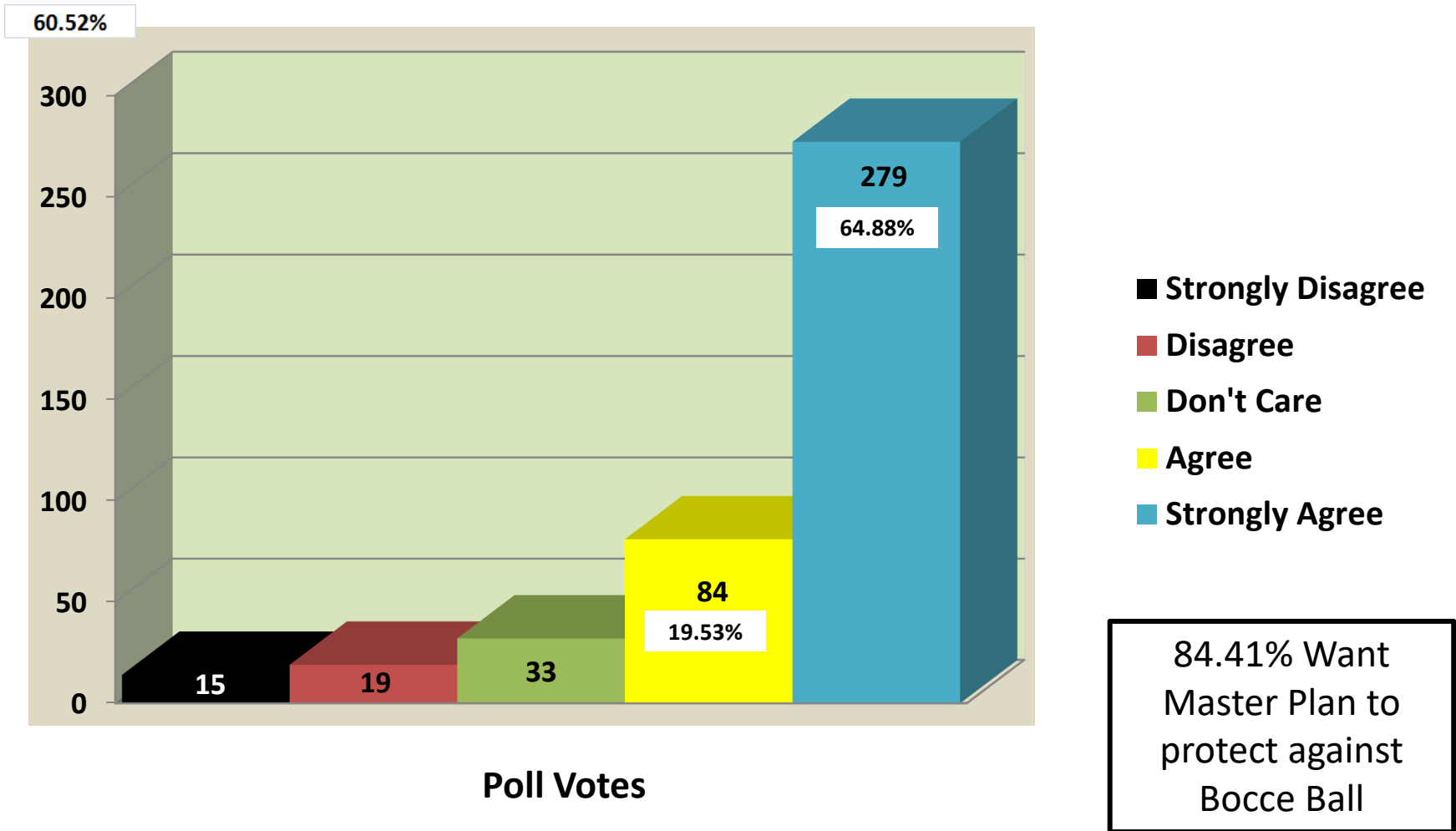
15.78% that play Bocce Ball does not match 28 active Hillview Players

Poll Votes

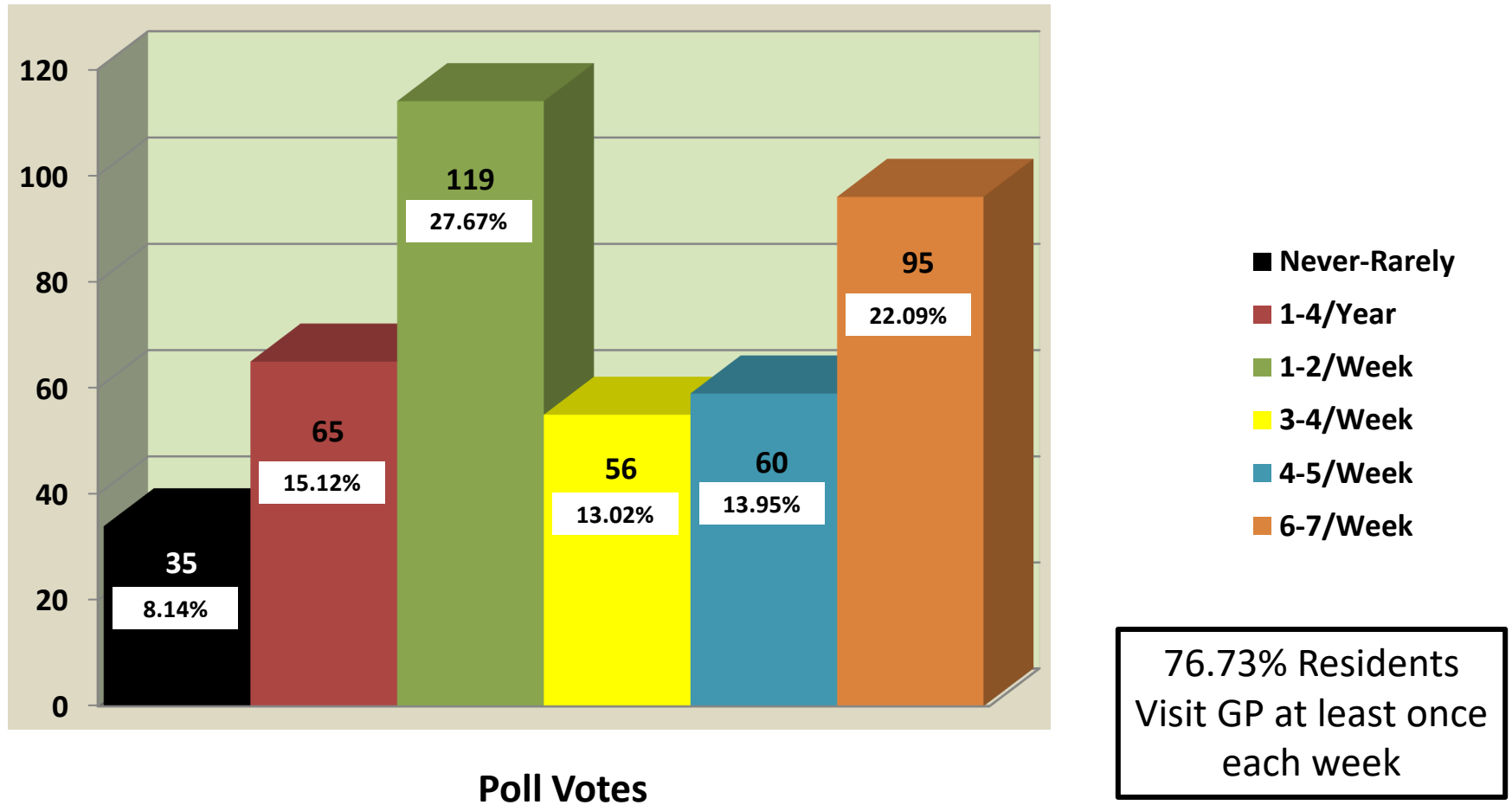
Q7 – I would like to see new activities like Pickle Ball or something else [add comment] if open space is preserved.



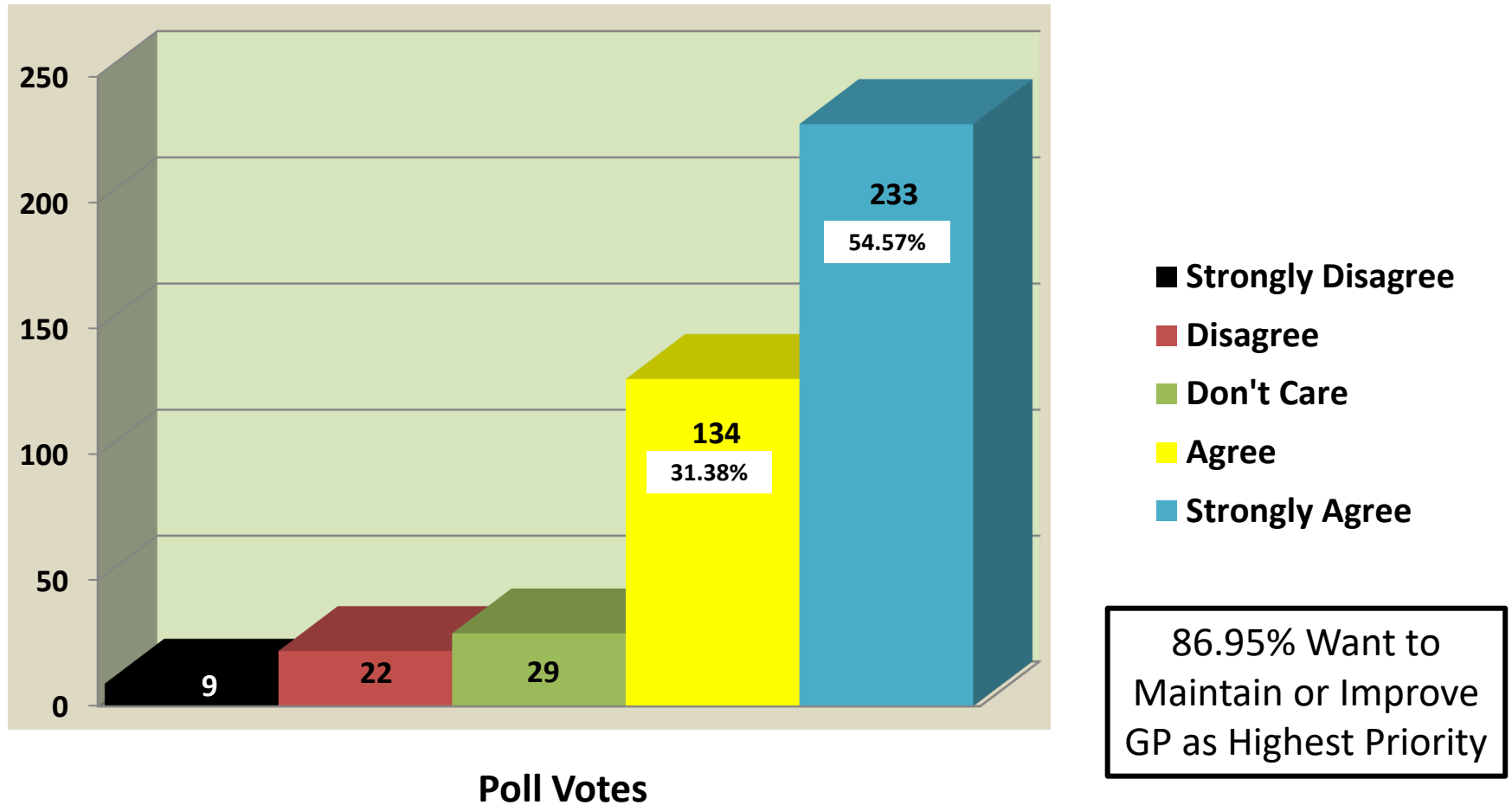
Q8 – I want a GP Master Plan with valid resident input before making any decision on whether Bocce Ball is included or not.



Q9 – How often do you visit GP or the GP Community Center?



Q10 – Maintaining or improving the GP CC buildings & existing playground, basketball court, grass fields, and open spaces should be the highest priority.



From: [Chris Jordan](#)
To: [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)
Subject: FW: Grant Park Bocce Ball - need for local community input
Date: Monday, November 9, 2020 5:50:33 PM

From: Weeks, Mark [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 9, 2020 4:31 PM
To: City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>
Subject: Grant Park Bocce Ball - need for local community input

To City Council:

We are residents of the Grant Park neighborhood and we are expressing our strong opposition to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park.

We ask that the city of Los Altos develop a Master Plan for Grant Park and the Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee ask for input from the residents of South Los Altos that use the park every day.

Residents of the neighborhood are asking for the donations be used to:

- Renew the neglected buildings at Grant Park and provide South Los Altos with meeting space all year long, rain or shine
- Build a new walking path around the park (part of which is dirt)
- Add seating and benches near the buildings and at the playground
- And several other items, none of which are bocce ball courts

There is resounding, overwhelming resident opposition to bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park. Residents want to keep the open, green space. Many residents use the park's open, green space for soccer warm-ups during games, pickup tag, frisbee, football, baseball, cricket, or just free play. Families and students use the space for picnics or studying. Additionally, the donation does not cover the cost of building and maintaining the courts or the planned overhead shade structure (up to an additional \$80,000). Furthermore and as you probably know, there are existing bocce ball courts that are available and underutilized.

We appreciate this donation however, we ask that the City Council ensure it is dedicated to renewing the existing buildings and amenities at Grant Park so residents can have a well-functioning, comfortable place to come together in camaraderie and learning in 2021 and beyond. If the donation is not available without the requirement that it be used for bocce ball courts, then we recommend you turn it down.

Mark and Cynthia Weeks
1664 Fallen Leaf Lane,
Los Altos.

Mark Weeks

Cooley LLP
3175 Hanover Street
Palo Alto, CA 94304-1130



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From: [Chris Jordan](#)
To: [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)
Subject: FW: Item #13: Bocce another day
Date: Tuesday, November 10, 2020 1:10:40 PM

From: Maria Bautista [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, November 10, 2020 12:49 PM
To: City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>
Subject: Item #13: Bocce another day

Dear City Council Members,

I believe the Bocce Ball question is another “not this, not now” item.

The city received a generous offer for in-part funding of bocce ball courts at Grant Park, but the donation offer should not drive the agenda for capital improvements.

Moreover, the city should not allocate monies (\$75,000) to further study recreational amenities at this time.

King Lear himself states

“The bocce idea was excellent, timely, and generous a year ago and may be a good idea in the future. But now we have a continuing pandemic and other issues complicating life for the City. There is a reduction in city revenues, a large hit on our city recreation programs and fees, staff has to plan on moving into the new community center, and we are electing three council members. Bocce is a low priority compared with all this.”

Please simply acknowledge the offer, looking forward to future discussions about Grant Park amenities and funding sources when the time less rife with greater concerns.

Thank you,

Maria Bautista
27 Sunkist Lane, Los Altos
[REDACTED]

From: [Chris Jordan](#)
To: [Public Comment](#); [Donna Legge](#)
Subject: FW: Oppose Bocce Ball Court Grant Park
Date: Tuesday, November 10, 2020 1:30:07 PM

From: Carol T [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, November 10, 2020 1:28 PM
To: City Council <council@losaltosca.gov>
Cc: caroltracht@gmail.com
Subject: Oppose Bocce Ball Court Grant Park

To City Council:

I am a resident of the Grant Park neighborhood, and I am expressing my strong opposition to the construction of bocce ball courts in the green space at Grant Park.

I ask that the city of Los Altos develop a Master Plan for Grant Park and the Grant Park Master Plan Subcommittee ask for input from the residents of South Los Altos that use the park every day.

I respectfully ask for the donations be used to:

- Renew the neglected buildings at Grant Park and provide South Los Altos with meet space all year long, rain or shine
- Build a new walking path around the park (part of which is dirt)
- Add seating and benches near the buildings and at the playground

It is very important to me to have green open space at Grant Park, Los Altos.

I want to keep the open, green space.

My neighbors & myself want to use the park's open, green space for soccer warm-ups during games, pickup tag, frisbee, football, baseball, cricket, or just free play. Families and students use the space for picnics or studying.

Additionally, the donation does not cover the cost of building and maintaining the courts or the planned overhead shade structure (up to an additional \$80,000).

We appreciate this donation however, we ask that the City Council ensure it is dedicated to renewing the existing buildings and amenities at Grant Park so residents can have a well-functioning, comfortable place to come together in camaraderie and learning in 2021 and beyond.

Thank you for your consideration,

CAROL NOLLER TRACHT

1451 Hollidale Ct, Los Altos, CA 94024

