



# SUDBURY OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN



May 28, 2026

# MEET OUR TEAM



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Planner

# AGENDA

- What is an Open Space & Recreation Plan (OSRP)?
- How does OSRP fit into other Sudbury projects?
- Survey Results
- Open House



# What is an Open Space & Recreation Plan?

- What is Open Space?
- What is an Open Space & Recreation Plan (OSRP)?



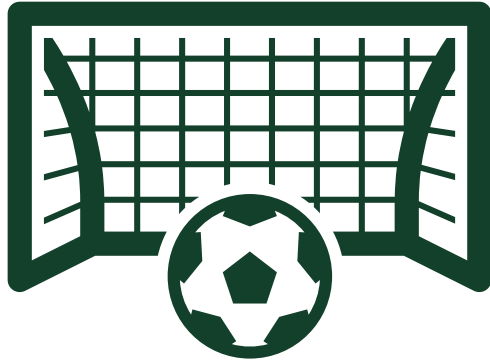
# How does OSRP fit into other Sudbury projects?

- Field Needs Assessment
- Landscape Master Plan
  - Haskell Field
  - Fairbank Community Center
- CPC Projects
  - Davis Field
  - Broadacres Articles
- Camp Sewataro Visioning



# **SURVEY RESULTS**

# SUDBURY OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN



## PARK & RECREATION FACILITY

**Haskell Field** is the most frequently visited parks facility.

**Fairbank Community Center** is the most frequently visited recreational facility.

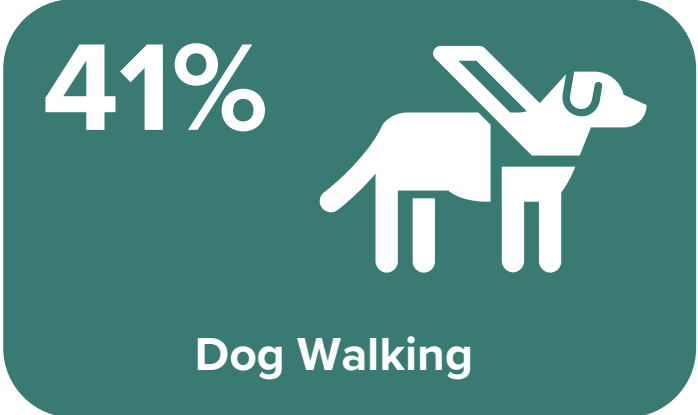


## CONSERVATION AREA

**Tippling Rock Trail** is the most frequently visited conservation area.

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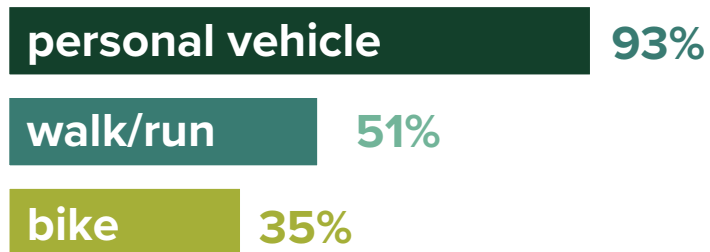
The **top six** activities respondents participate in when visiting park and recreation facilities include:



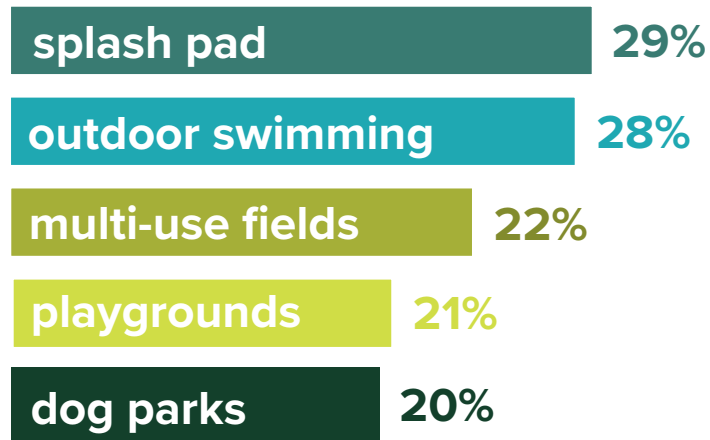
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**Top three** forms of transportation to park and recreation facilities include:

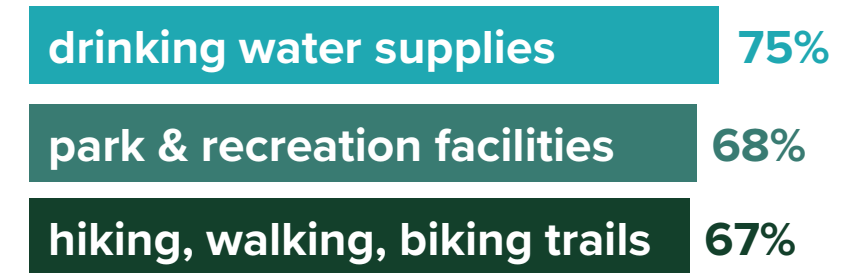


**Top five** unmet open space needs include:



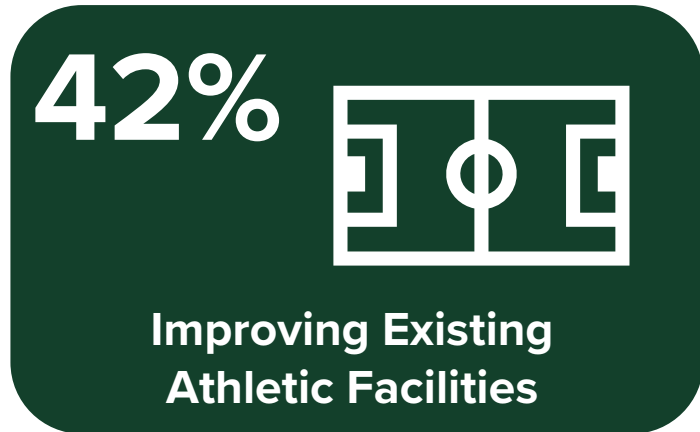
**Preserving and protecting natural areas and outdoor spaces** in Sudbury is very important.

The **top three** priorities are:

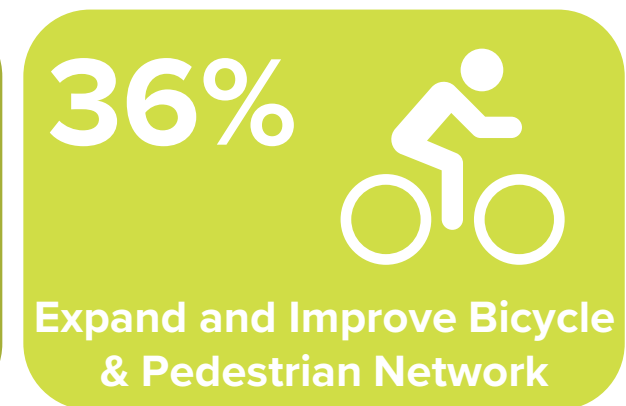
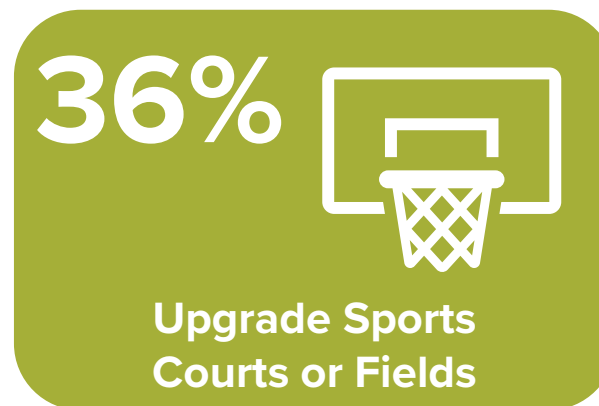


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The **top three** priorities for open space and recreational spending include:



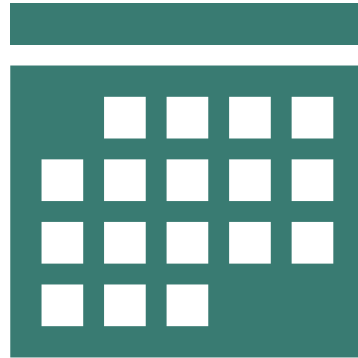
The **top four** priorities for improvements to existing park and recreation facilities include:



# SUDBURY OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN



Majority of the respondents (**72%**) indicated it takes them **under 15 minutes** to walk to a park or recreation facility located nearest to them.



The two main reasons respondents **do not** use recreation or conservation areas and programs are **lack of awareness** about available programs or opportunities (**39%**) & **lack of time (31%)**.

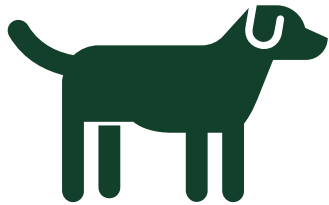


Most respondents learn about recreational programming from **friends, neighbors, or word of mouth (60%)**, or the **Park and Recreation Website or Calendar (51%)**

# Common Reasons for Avoiding Recreation and Conservation Areas in Sudbury.

## Top Reasons

Off-Leash Dogs  
& Dog Waste



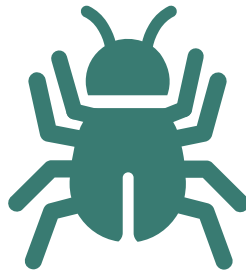
Haskell Field  
Bathroom & Playground



Sewataro  
Public Access



Ticks &  
Overgrown Trails



## Additional Concerns

Lack of Communication

Lack of Sidewalks

More Baseball Fields

Community Center  
Access for Youth

Safety Concerns  
During Hunting Season

# Unmet Needs & Desired Improvements by Key Demographic Groups

**877**

Total Responses

**618**

Household with Children

**103**

Older Adults 65+

**50**

Disability Households

Theme	Household w/ Children (n=618)	Seniors 65+ (n=103)	Disability Households (n=50)
<b>#1 Unmet Need</b>	Splash pad (36%)	Nature trails (29%)	Outdoor swimming (30%)
<b>#2 Unmet Need</b>	Multi-use fields (28%) Outdoor swimming (28%)	Outdoor swimming (24%)	Splash pad (28%)
<b>#1 Desired Improvement</b>	New restrooms (48%)	Expand bike/ped network (46%) Safer/wider sidewalks (46%)	Safer sidewalks (42%)
<b>#2 Desired Improvement</b>	Safer/wider sidewalks (45%) Upgrade sports courts or fields (45%)	Link open space & trails (41%)	New restrooms (36%)
<b>Accessibility Satisfaction</b> (physical access and proximity)	<b>Moderate - 44% satisfied</b>	<b>Moderate - 51% satisfied</b>	<b>Moderate - 42% satisfied</b>

# Themes Not Captured by Multiple Choice

**50+**

Write Ins  
**Sidewalks as a  
Barrier to Access**

**30+**

Write Ins  
**Dog Waste Enforcement**

**20+**

Write Ins  
**Lack of Communication  
& Awareness**

**18+**

Write Ins  
**Lacrosse Wall  
at Haskell**

**15+**

Write Ins  
**Community Center  
Access for Youth**

**10+**

Write Ins  
**Free or Low Cost  
Public Outdoor Pool**

**10+**

Write Ins  
**Golf & Disc Golf**

**8+**

Write Ins  
**Winter Trails &  
Ski Trails at Haskell**

**5+**

Write Ins  
**Designated Fenced  
Dog Park at Davis Field**

**5+**

Write Ins  
**Indoor Ice-Skating Rink  
For Hockey Teams**

In ten years, Sudbury's Open Space & Recreation areas should be more...



**OPEN HOUSE**

# Open House Activities



## Your Vision: Reimagine Sudbury's Open Spaces!

Have thoughts? **Write** them on a sticky note and place them in the box with the corresponding question.  
Like an idea? Vote **YES** by placing a sticker dot on the sticky note!

### What affects your use of Open Spaces in Sudbury?

*e.g., off-leash dogs, lack of sidewalks*



### What could be better about Sudbury's Open Spaces?

*e.g., dog park, splash pad, safer sidewalks*



## Field Notes: Sudbury's Open Space & Recreation Plan

**Noun:** a person, place, animal, or thing  
**Adjective:** A descriptive word  
**Verb:** an action word

One of the open spaces I visit in Sudbury is \_\_\_\_\_.  
(noun)

My favorite thing to do there is \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_.  
(verb) (verb)

I visit it with my \_\_\_\_\_. We travel there by \_\_\_\_\_.  
(noun) (noun)

It takes me about \_\_\_\_\_ minutes.  
(number)

I try to visit at least \_\_\_\_\_ times per \_\_\_\_\_.  
(number) (day/week/month)

When I'm there, I love to \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, & \_\_\_\_\_.  
(verb) (verb) (verb)

The best word to describe this place is \_\_\_\_\_.  
(adjective)

I wish this space had more \_\_\_\_\_ and less \_\_\_\_\_.  
(noun) (noun)

It would be amazing if we could \_\_\_\_\_ there someday.  
(verb)

The biggest thing that stops me from visiting more often is \_\_\_\_\_.  
(noun)

In the future, I hope this space will be full of \_\_\_\_\_  
(noun)

and feel \_\_\_\_\_ for everyone.  
(adjective)

Please share your completed activity with a facilitator at the open house, scheduled May 28 at the Fairbank Community Center, or scan and email it to Adam Burney, Director of Planning & Community Development at [burneya@sudbury.ma.us](mailto:burneya@sudbury.ma.us). Thank you for sharing your input!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_



Turn page to draw your ideas!