

# Wellesley Open Space Planning Forum

07 - 13 Dec 2021

Poll results

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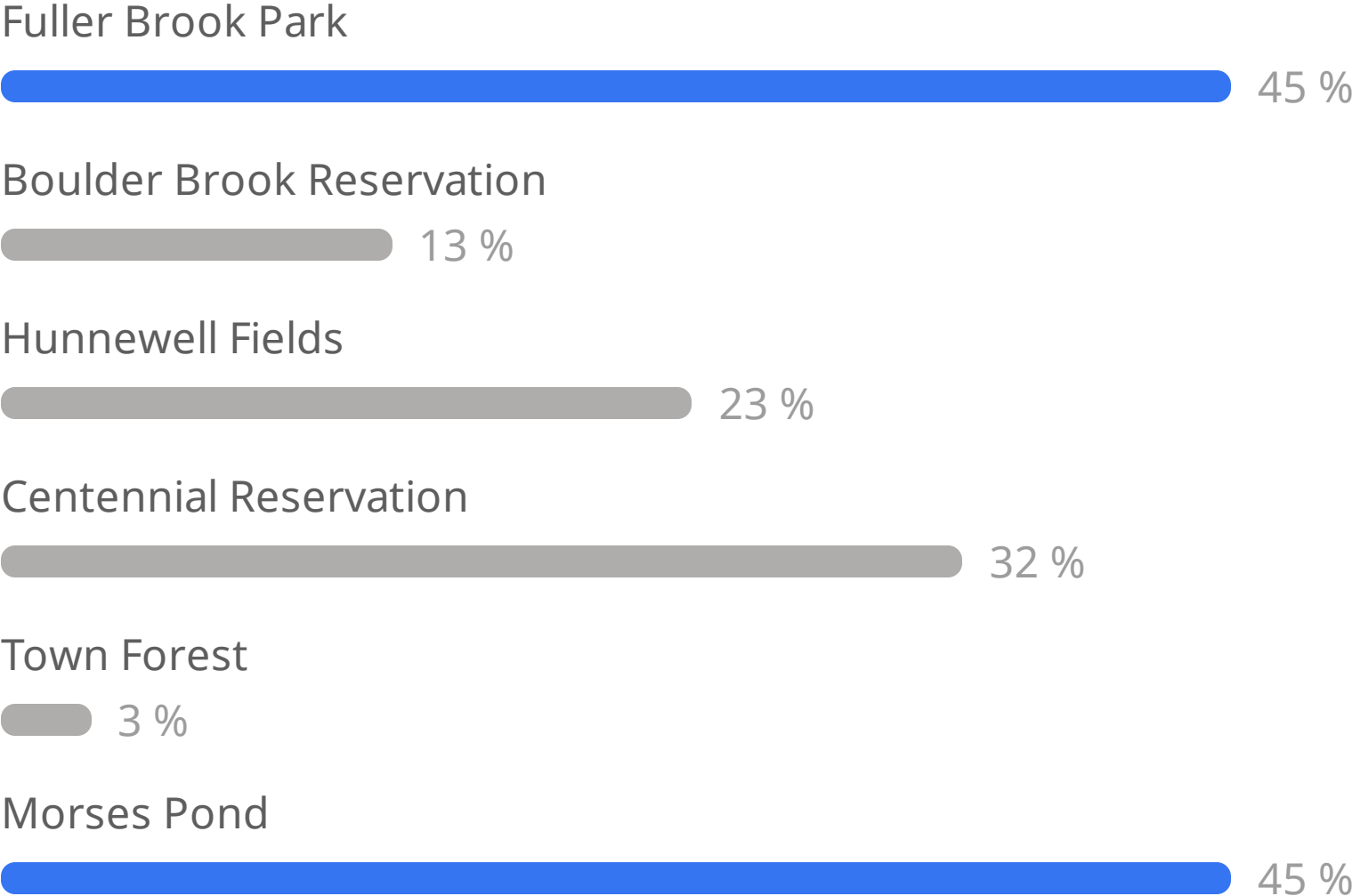
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- What Open Space and Recreational opportunities are missed?



# What is your Favorite Open Space in Wellesley (1/2)

0 3 1



# What is your Favorite Open Space in Wellesley

(2/2)

0 3 1

Perrin Park



North 40



Other



Carisbrooke Reservation

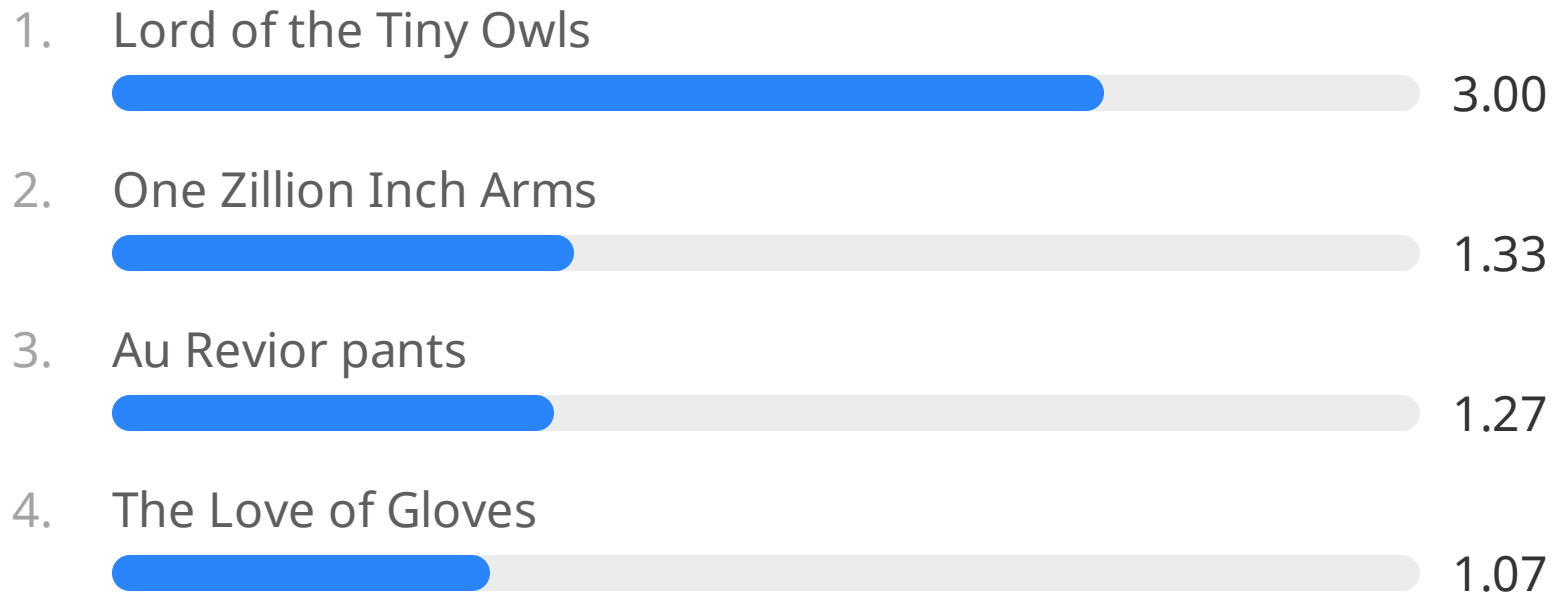


Guernsey Sanctuary






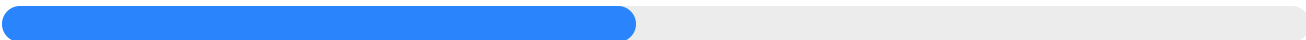
## If the group present tonight was to start the next biggest band, what would we be called?

030



## Rank the Following Actions for Goal 1: Restore, preserve, and enhance open space





0 3 2

1. Limiting development and/or the effect of development near wetlands, surface water features, and wildlife habitat areas.  
 3.06
2. Protecting trees, limiting tree removal during development, and ensuring proactive vegetation management.  
 2.94
3. Encouraging densification in appropriate areas.  
 2.13
4. Protecting existing protected lands by enforcing leash laws and minimizing harmful human practices.  
 1.88






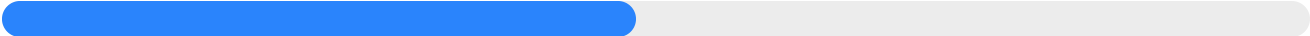
## Rank the Following Actions for Goal 2: Protect, enhance, and restore Wellesley's sensitive land, water, and wetland resources

032

1. Focusing on Lake Waban, Morses Pond, and Longfellow Pond and/or drinking water resources.  
 2.69
2. Education or awareness initiatives to engage residents and encourage environmentally friendly behaviors.  
 2.50
3. Enforcement or regulations in their comments. Most comments were focused broadly on strengthening enforcement of existing regulations.  
 2.47
4. Encouraging more environment-friendly lawn care practices with most favorable toward the idea of limiting harmful lawn care applications.  
 2.34




## Rank the Following Actions for Goal 3: Expand and Protect the tree canopy

032

1. Stronger enforcement of existing tree regulations to prevent existing trees from being removed. Comments also focused on pairing enforcement with stricter penalties for illegal tree removals.  
 2.78
2. Raising awareness of tree canopy benefits and educating residents to encourage more tree plantings (especially on private property).  
 2.69
3. More actions to protect the tree canopy by mapping, quantifying benefits, and establishing metrics and removing invasive species and planting native species.  
 2.66
4. Tree planting days and tree giveaways for residents  
 1.88

## Rank the Following Actions for Goal 4: Prevent damage to natural resources and human health (1/2)

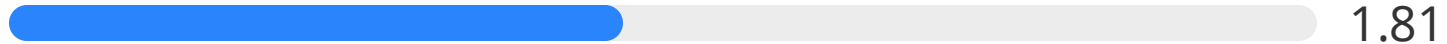
0 3 2

1. Focus on more environment-friendly lawn care practices. Limit and/or banning the use of loud, gas-powered lawn equipment (especially leaf blowers). Other comments focused on discouraging environmental harmful chemicals and encouraging native plantings.  
 3.22
2. Mechanisms to encourage environmentally friendly behaviors. Education and incentives were frequently mentioned. Respondents also mentioned increasing the number of hazardous waste disposal days to facilitate safe disposal.  
 2.69
3. Stronger enforcement and consequences for residents who violate Town regulations and by-laws.  
 2.28

**Rank the Following Actions for Goal 4: Prevent damage to natural resources and human health**  
(2/2)




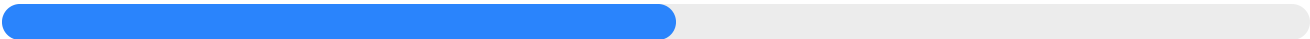
0 3 2

4. Increasing the number of hazardous waste disposal days to facilitate safe disposal, as well as educating residents about the environmental impacts of hazardous materials.



## Rank the Following Action Steps for Goal 5: Take action to address the accelerating climate change crisis.




0 3 1

1. Implementing sustainable practices within the Town's departments or on Town-owned land, in part to lead by example.  
 2.84
2. Encouraging environmentally responsible behaviors through incentives, education, and/or assistance. Composting, recycling, and trash was mentioned by multiple respondents.  
 2.77
3. More electric vehicle infrastructure/adoption and addressing idling issues with school parent-student drop-offs.  
 2.39
4. Instituting new regulations or focusing on enforcement of existing regulations, although three respondents questioned the need for more regulations and/or enforcement.  
 2.00

## Rank the Following Action Steps for Goal 6: Promote Stewardship

0 3 2

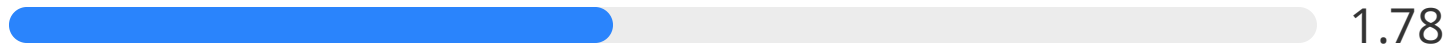
(1/2)

1. Focus on actions and engagement that would change Wellesley residents' behavior. Recommendations include incentivizing environmental protection by private actors, community education, community stewardship events, and better enforcement.  
 3.00
2. Planting more trees and plant species that provide benefits to local pollinators and protecting existing natural resources. Changing Town mowing policies to protect pond buffers and collaboration with local institutions was also mentioned.  
 2.63
3. Support increased environmental programming in K-12. Many recommended that environmental programming include younger grades to foster stewardship from an early age.  
 2.59

**Rank the Following Action Steps for Goal 6:  
Promote Stewardship**  
(2/2)





0 3 2

4. Need for regional or institutional partnerships and increasing technical capacity to support the goal and/or its objectives.



## Rank the Following Action Steps for Goal 7: Create Resource Management Strategies (1/2)

0 3 1

1. Land acquisition and/or preventing development from destroying natural habitat. Several respondents recommended the Town partner with local private land trusts to pursue land acquisition  
 4.48
2. Regulation and enforcement, including changes to existing zoning regulations to encourage more natural space  
 3.55
3. Proactive communication strategies and existing methods to engage community members  
 2.65
4. Evaluate and address planning gaps and use existing studies, if any, to inform actions.  
 2.52



**Rank the Following Action Steps for Goal 7:  
Create Resource Management Strategies**  
(2/2)



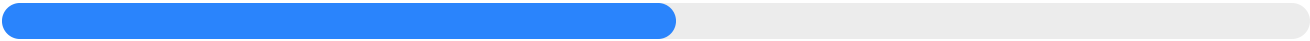
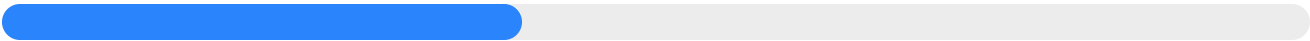
0 3 1

5. Access restrictions at Lake Waban and Wellesley College's role.



## Rank the Following Actions for Goal 8: Promote the awareness and use of parks, recreation facilities, and open space resources





0 3 1

1. Not adding too many recreational facilities, especially at the expense of natural resources and land.  
 3.29
2. Increasing community engagement, encouraging use of active and passive recreation spaces through events and education, and increasing outreach to solicit diverse community input on OSRP topics.  
 3.19
3. Adding recreation facilities, specifically a Town pool and dog park  
 2.00
4. Lights at recreation fields, with a split between wanting and not wanting lights installed  
 1.52

## Rank the Following Actions for Goal 9: Ensure that open space and recreational programs continue.

0 2 7



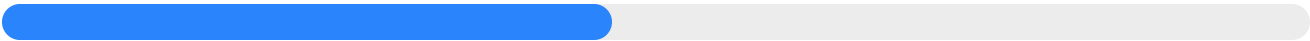
(1/2)

1. Preserving natural open space, not converting natural lands into recreational facilities, and establishing limits to recreational space.  
 5.96
2. Understanding and/or defining “needs” more clearly. Proposed action included continued engagement with community members to solicit feedback and assessing current recreation facilities to identify areas for improvement.  
 4.59
3. Establishing a walking path around Lake Waban.  
 3.93
4. Focusing the Natural Resource Commission’s activities on non-recreation spaces  
 3.70

**Rank the Following Actions for Goal 9: Ensure that open space and recreational programs continue.**



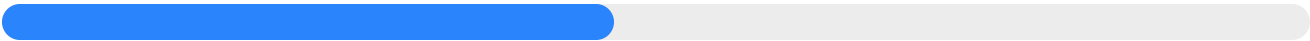
0 2 7

(2/2)

- 5. Engaging with Wellesley College.  3.33
- 5. Limiting lights versus installing lights  3.33
- 7. Expanding the Town's current roster of recreational facilities, specifically playground spaces, bike and walking trails, pools, recreational fields, and bathrooms.  3.15

## Rank the Following Actions for Goal 10: Provide opportunities for safe and enjoyable walking and bicycle access throughout Town.

0 3 1

1. Increasing dedicated cyclist and pedestrian pathways (especially bike lanes that are separated from vehicular traffic).  
 2.42
2. Adding and/or improving bike lanes and sidewalks on specific roads/paths (Weston Rd, Route 9, Brook Path, Wellesley Ave at Wellesley Country Club, Elm Bank Reservation to Wellesley Square,  
 2.23
3. Enforcing traffic rules for both vehicular traffic and cyclists on shared roads  
 1.36



## What could the Town do better and how?

0 2 9



## What Open Space and Recreational opportunities are missed?

026

