

Pop-Up Dog Park Pilot Project 2021

Summary

The Summer Pop-Up Dog Park was a pilot project, approved by Saanich Council in May 2021 and took place at five different parks during the summer of 2021. This information will be submitted to the People, Pets and Parks Strategy which will begin in 2022.

1. Program Details

Overall, the project was well received by the dog community. One observed benefit to these areas was the social aspect, as dog owners appeared to enjoy interacting with others in addition to having a safe place to socialize their dogs.

There were a total of five (5) Saanich Parks that hosted the pop-up dog park: Fowler Park, Hyacinth Park, Gorge Park, Rudd Park, Cadboro-Gyro Park. Each dog park was set-up for 2 weeks at a time at each park starting on June 29th until September 7th, 2021.

The pilot project was organized in 4-5 weeks, which included the hiring of a student. The student was hired to monitor, observe, report, document and act as an ambassador (along with other duties) for the summer. They visited the parks each day they worked (varied from week to week and included weekends).

Temporary fencing, with gates and plastic garbage totes were set-up at each location. The infrastructure was set-up and taken down by staff every two weeks. Posts were T-bars set at 8 ft. o.c., fencing was 4' high snow fencing with single aluminum farm gates. Parks staff built frames for the gates. Signage was produced by the Saanich sign shop.

A survey was available, through an online platform called SurveyMonkey, for public input throughout the entirety of the project. A total of 585 respondents were recorded.

2. General Comments

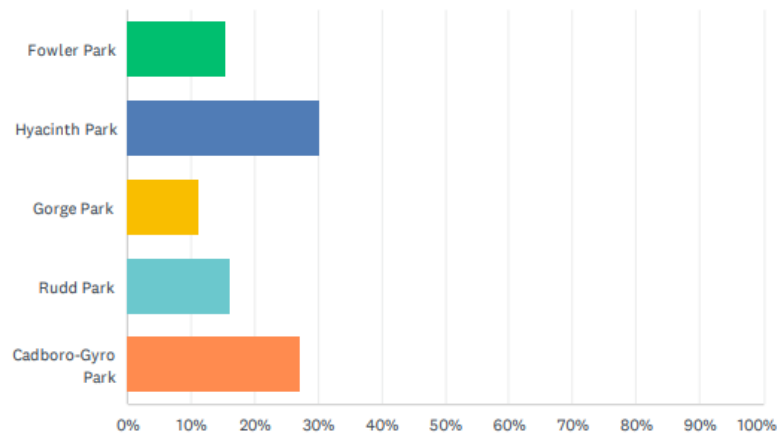
Online Survey – general comments for all sites

(Survey results for the 5 individual sites are found in Section 3)

Survey was open for comment: June 29 – September 14, 2021 *Total of 585 Respondents*

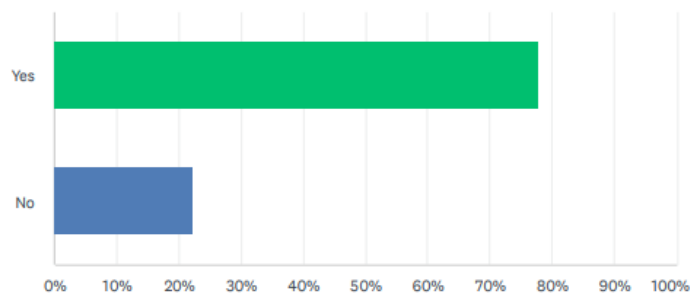
Q1 Which Park did you visit that had a pop-up dog park area in it?

Answered: 577 Skipped: 8



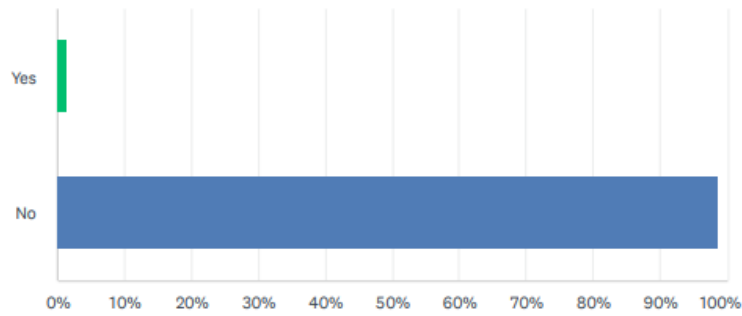
Q4 If you own a dog would you utilize this enclosed dog park if it became permanent?

Answered: 578 Skipped: 7



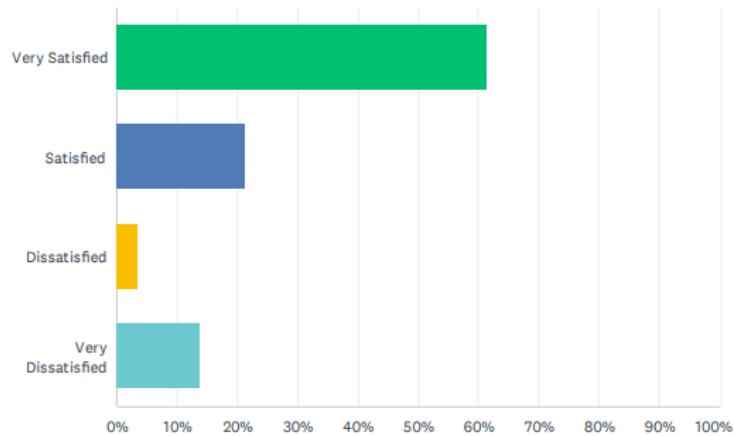
Q5 Are you a commercial dog walker?

Answered: 582 Skipped: 3



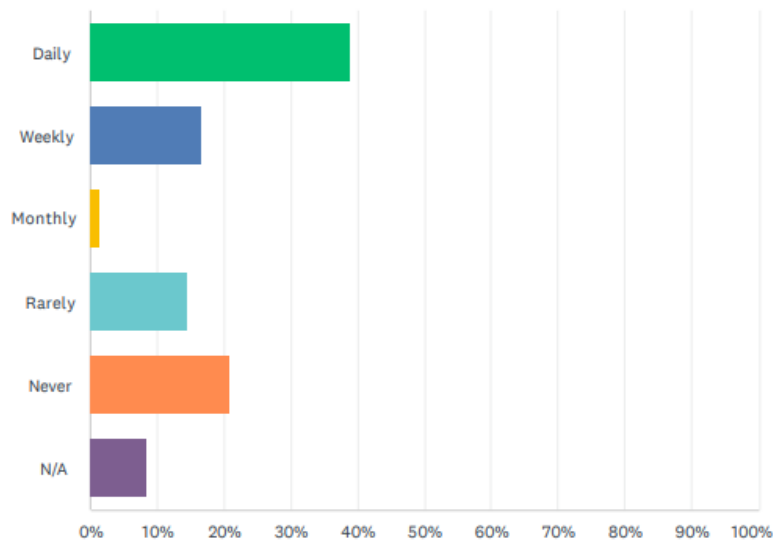
Q7 Hours for the off leash dog park have been set for use from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. How satisfied are you with these hours?

Answered: 580 Skipped: 5



Q8 On average, how often do you typically walk your dog off-leash in a Saanich Park?

Answered: 580 Skipped: 5



Q9 What, if any, concerns would you have about having an enclosed dog park in your neighborhood? (Select all that apply)

Answered: 580

Skipped: 5

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
▼ Cleanliness/Owners not picking up after their dog(s)	29.14%	169
▼ Owners not controlling their dog(s)	31.38%	182
▼ Possible aggressive dog(s)	30.34%	176
▼ Noise from barking	15.17%	88
▼ Safety of people/children	17.24%	100
▼ Loss of open park space	15.69%	91
▼ Damage to ground in enclosed area	14.66%	85
▼ No concerns	53.45%	310
▼ Other (please specify) Responses	13.79%	80
Total Respondents: 580		

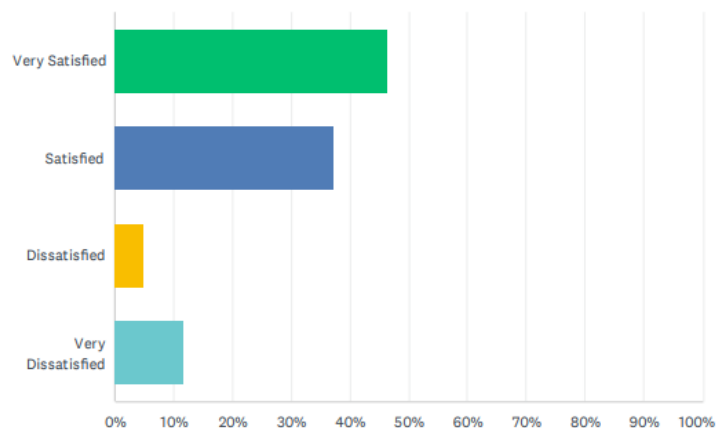
13.79% of those who answered question 9 commented on 'other'. Below are the top 5 comments of concerns expressed:

1. 1.55% parking
2. 1.37% the impact on the natural area
 - e.g. 0.86% the migratory birds at Cadboro-Gyro Park
3. 1.03% the increased dog traffic at the park
 - e.g. 0.34% the increased dog traffic at Cadboro-Gyro Park
4. Tied: 0.86% concerned about
 - a. Other dog privileges taken away
 - b. Lack of shade
 - c. Noise
 - d. Proximity to residential houses
5. Tied: 0.51% concerned about
 - a. Seasonal changes to grounds
 - b. Proximity to playgrounds
 - c. Dog owners disobeying park rules

Q10 Signs in the dog area provide Rules and Etiquette information. How satisfied are you that this will address safety, maintenance and community expectations?

Answered: 579

Skipped: 6



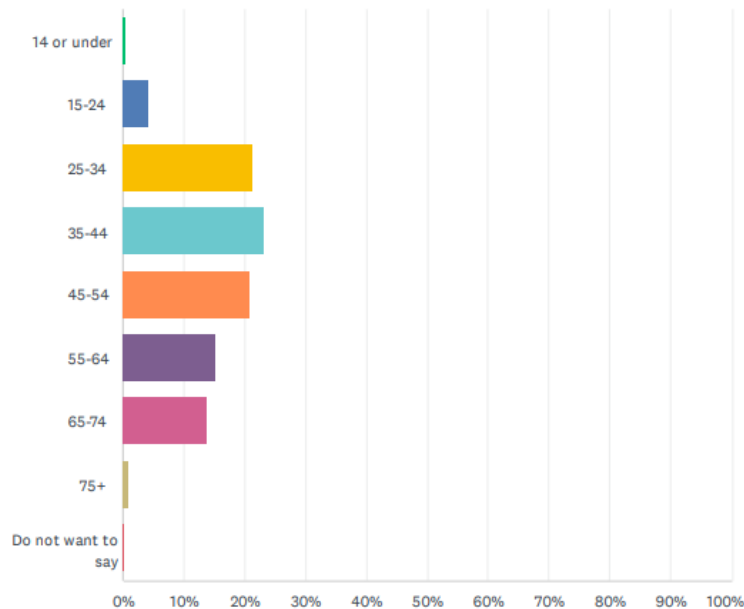
Q11 What other signage would you have liked to see on the pop-up dog park?

Answered: 317 Skipped: 268

1. 43.53% said they did not need any more signage
2. 3.78% owners must pick-up after their dog(s)
3. 3.15% behavioral and educational tips
4. 2.83% no dogs in Cadboro-Gyro Park other than the dog park and dog beach
5. Tied: 1.89%
 - Rules for children in dog park
 - Keep the dog park gate closed

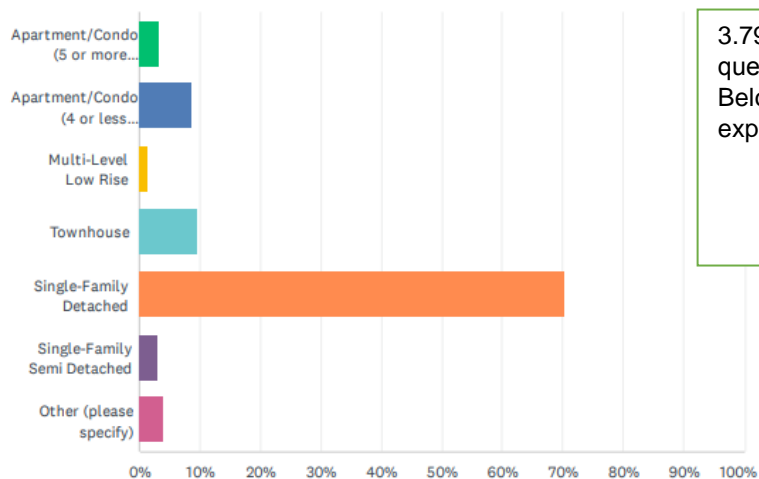
Q13 Which age category do you fall into?

Answered: 581 Skipped: 4



Q14 What kind of housing do you reside?

Answered: 580 Skipped: 5

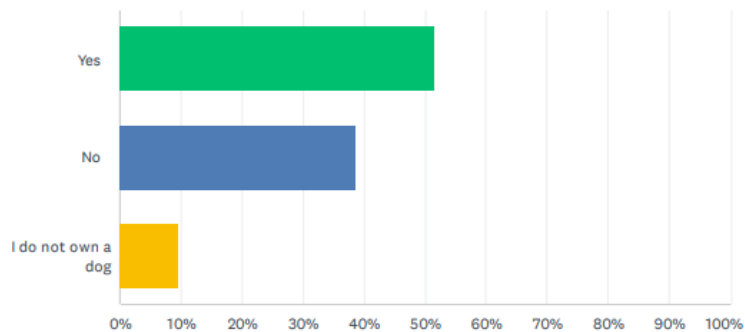


3.79% of those who answered question 14 commented on 'other'. Below are the top 3 comments expressed:

1. 2.58% rental suite
2. 0.17% duplex
3. 0.17% RV

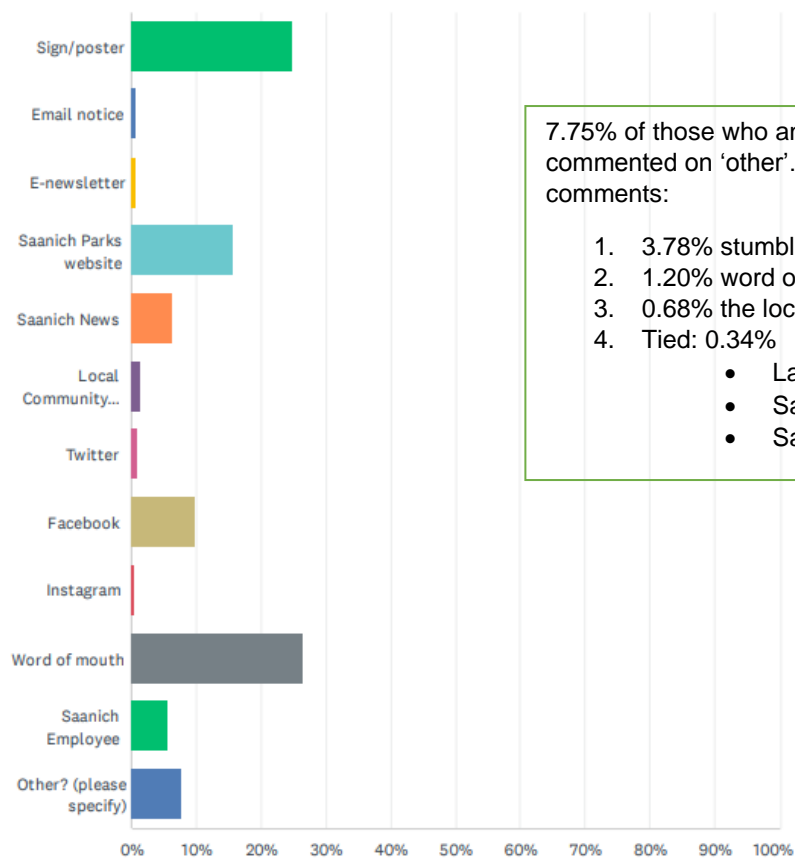
Q15 Do you have access to your own private area to exercise your dog where you live?

Answered: 579 Skipped: 6



Q16 How did you hear about this survey?

Answered: 581 Skipped: 4



7.75% of those who answered question 16 commented on 'other'. Below are the top 4 comments:

1. 3.78% stumbled upon it
2. 1.20% word of mouth
3. 0.68% the local news
4. Tied: 0.34%
 - Labtoria Facebook page
 - Saanich webpage
 - Saanich Council Meeting

Summary of Social Media, Emails and Verbal Comments Received

Social Media Data Summary

Facebook – Total of 9 comments

1. Petiquette, in Mt Doug on the Glendenning Trail.
2. There needs to be some accountability on the dog owners part at these parks. We have witnessed an aggressive dog, owner had no control over the dog. When the owner was asked to leash his dog, he's started swearing at the recipient of the aggressive dog. Lots of kids were around. This isn't the first time I have witnessed this particular owner and this behaviour at this park As wonderful as these popup parks are, this particular owner isn't making it safe for others.
3. Pop up dog park!
4. To study taking away our small off leash beach area of Gyro beach. Dogs love water don't you know? So do their humans. My dog loves the beach, not playing in a field of spear grass and large dogs chasing balls. Different dogs like different things. A fenced off area does not compare to being by the ocean. Don't fix what isn't broken.

Cadboro-Gyro Park - Aug 22, 2021

5. This part of the park could never become a year-round dog enclosure, because as people familiar with Gyro Park will know, when it floods, especially in winter, it is a favourite spot for waterfowl.
6. Yah! We have been going to all the pop up parks and my puppy loves them! Thanks!
7. FYI you got the on-site signage wrong. It should say ...dogs not allowed after 9 instead of being 9. So confusing.
8. Seems like it's against the rules and a bandage approach skirting around the real problem and radical outspoken people and dogs who started this whole situation

Hyacinth Park - July 15, 2021

9. Awesome park, great pop up dog park, would be even better with a washroom for the dog owners. Owners clean up after pets, who cleans up after the owners.

Twitter – Total of 1 comment

Rudd Park – August 9, 2021

10. nooo bring back the gorge! It was so great to have there

Date of Post	Site	Medium	Total Views	Total engagements (likes, etc.)
6/27/2021	Fowler	Facebook	1735	30
6/27/2021	Fowler	Instagram		9
6/27/2021	Fowler	Twitter	935	30
7/12/2021	Fowler to Hyacinth	Facebook	2033	21
7/12/2021	Fowler to Hyacinth	Instagram		6
7/12/2021	Fowler to Hyacinth	Twitter	1337	24
7/15/2021	Hyacinth	Facebook	3624	170
7/15/2021	Hyacinth	Instagram		9
7/15/2021	Hyacinth	Twitter	2222	24
7/25/2021	Gorge	Facebook	1652	9
7/25/2021	Gorge	Instagram		5
7/25/2021	Gorge	Twitter	725	10
8/9/2021	Rudd	Facebook	1716	19
8/9/2021	Rudd	Instagram		6
8/9/2021	Rudd	Twitter	1158	23
8/22/2021	Cadboro-Gyro	Facebook	4267	364
8/22/2021	Cadboro-Gyro	Instagram		12
8/22/2021	Cadboro-Gyro	Twitter	1542	21
TOTALS			21404	771

Summary of Emails Received

Total of 22 emails received between May-September 2021.

Below are the top comments expressed:

1. Tied: 22.72% concerned about the:
 - poor quality of ground
 - existing wildlife
2. Tied: 18.18% concerned about the:
 - lost park green space
 - dog excrement left behind
3. Tied: 9.09% said they:
 - make the area larger
 - concerned about the lack of community consultation
 - firmly attach the fencing to the ground
 - concerned with proximity to residents (neighbours)
 - concerned with the proximity to playgrounds/families
 - wanted water available

Summary of Verbal Comments Received by Saanich employees

Top 5 comments received by park visitors wanted:

1. 17.77% water available
2. 16.29% the gap below the gate to be reduced
3. 14.07% shade
4. 9.62% seating in the dog park
5. 8.88% a better gate lock

3. Individual Site Summaries (x5)

Site 1: Fowler Park Summary

The dog park was set up at Fowler Park from June 29 – July 12, 2021.

*June 25-28th weather reached highs of between 34.1°C - 39.4°C

Weather Summary

Fowler Park		
Average Temperature	Highest	21.9°C
	Lowest	15.2°C
	Total Average	18.15°C
Total sunny days	14	



Fowler Park

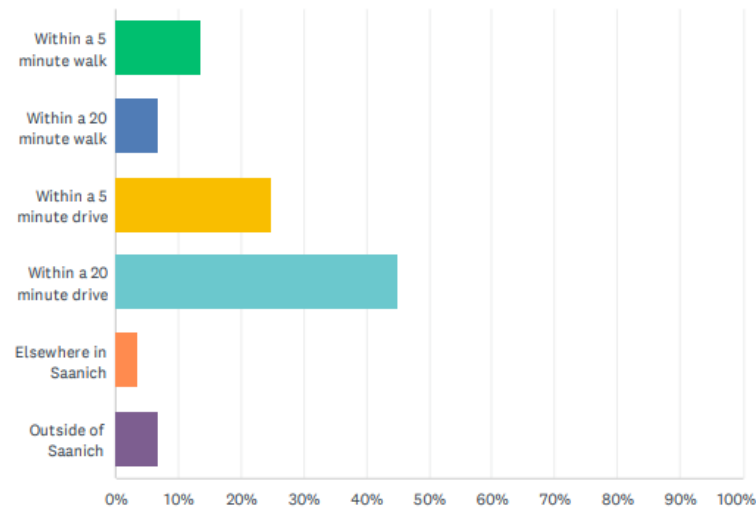


Saanich Employee Observational Data:

FOWLER PARK						
		INSIDE ENCLOSURE		OUTSIDE ENCLOSURE		Weather
Date	Time	People	Dogs	People	Dogs	
30-Jun	9:24 AM	0	0	0	0	Sunny
2-Jul	10:44 AM	4	3	0	0	Cloudy
2-Jul	4:51 PM	1	2	0	0	Sunny
3-Jul	8:23 AM	0	0	0	0	Sunny
5-Jul	7:13 AM	0	0	0	0	Sunny
5-Jul	10:43 AM	6	4	1	0	Sunny
6-Jul	6:03 PM	0	0	0	0	Sunny
7-Jul	1:00 PM	7	2	0	0	Sunny
9-Jul	8:53 PM	12	9	0	0	Cloudy
9-Jul	3:47 PM	3	2	0	0	Sunny
TOTAL		33	22			

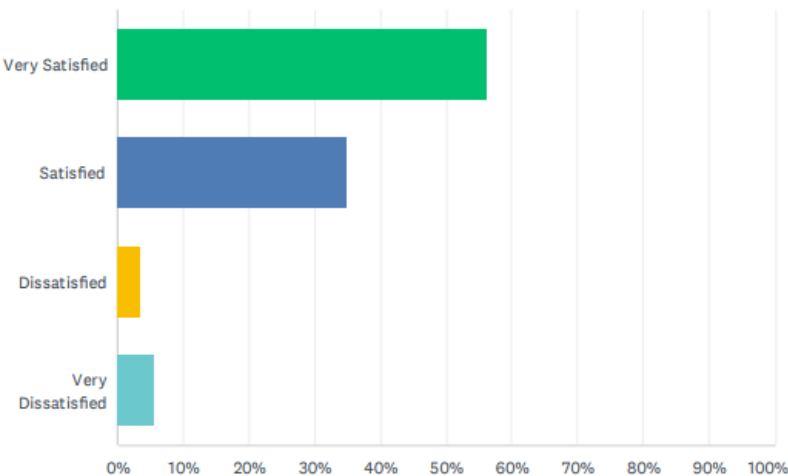
Q2 Which best describes how close you live to this park?

Answered: 89 Skipped: 0



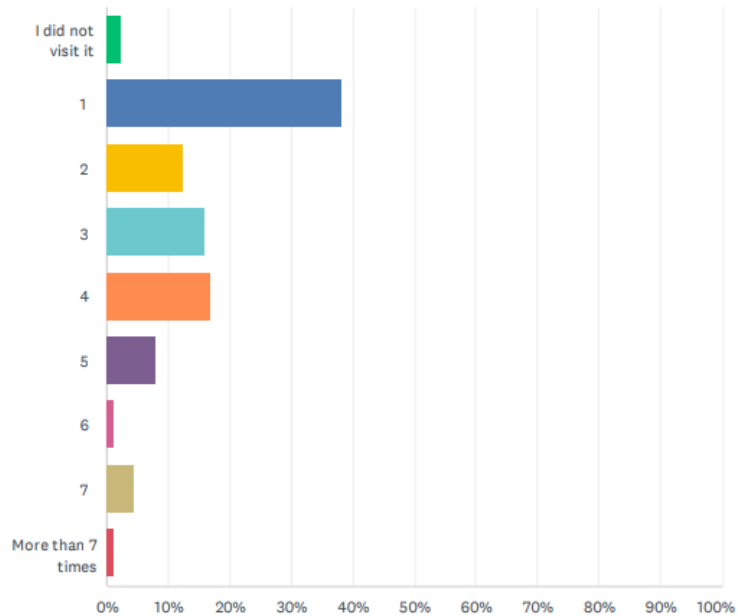
Q3 How satisfied are you about this pop-up dog park?

Answered: 89 Skipped: 0



Q6 How many time a week have you visited this pop-up dog park?

Answered: 89 Skipped: 0



Q12 Are there any other suggestions or comments you would make to this enclosed dog park? If yes, what are they?

Answered: 73 Skipped: 16

Below are the top 5 comments expressed:

1. 24.65% wanted shade
 - e.g. 4.11% suggested trees
2. 16.43% wanted water available
3. 15.06% wanted a double gate
4. Tied: 12.32%
 - wanted better quality of ground
 - liked the dog park
5. Tied: 10.95% wanted:
 - the gap below the gate to be reduce
 - fenced dog area to be made permanent
 - seating within the dog park
 - a larger area



Site 2: Hyacinth Park Summary

The dog park was set up at Hyacinth Park from July 13 – July 26, 2021.

*July 17-26 weather reached highs of between 21.9°C – 26.8°C

Weather Summary:

Hyacinth Park		
Average Temperature	Highest	19.9°C
	Lowest	15.9°C
	Total Average	17.73°C
Total sunny days	13	
Total partly sunny days	1	

Hyacinth Park

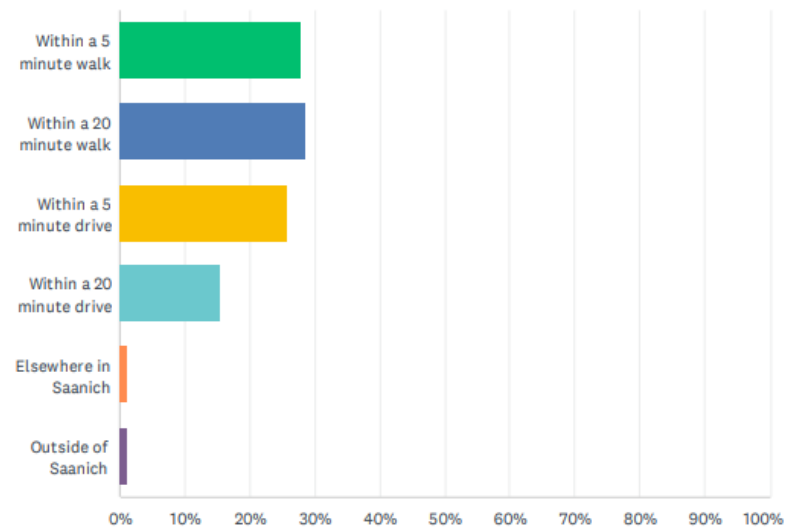


Saanich Employee Observational Data:

HYACINTH PARK						
		INSIDE ENCLOSURE		OUTSIDE ENCLOSURE		Weather
Date	Time	People	Dogs	People	Dogs	
13-Jul	9:24 AM	8	6	95	2	Sunny
14-Jul	10:44 AM	2	1	2	3	Sunny
15-Jul	4:51 PM	7	7	9	0	Sunny
16-Jul	8:23 AM	8	8	5	1	Cloudy
17-Jul	7:13 AM	3	2	2	0	Cloudy
17-Jul	10:43 AM	10	8	85	1	Sunny
19-Jul	6:03 PM	6	5	100+	2	Sunny
21-Jul	1:00 PM	4	4	1	0	Cloudy
22-Jul	8:53 PM	10	8	4	0	Sunny
23-Jul	3:47 PM	2	2	12	0	Sunny
TOTAL		60	51			

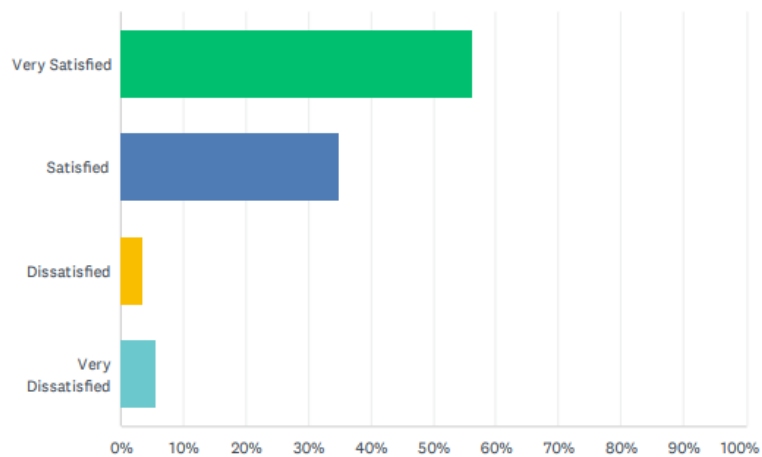
Q2 Which best describes how close you live to this park?

Answered: 175 Skipped: 0



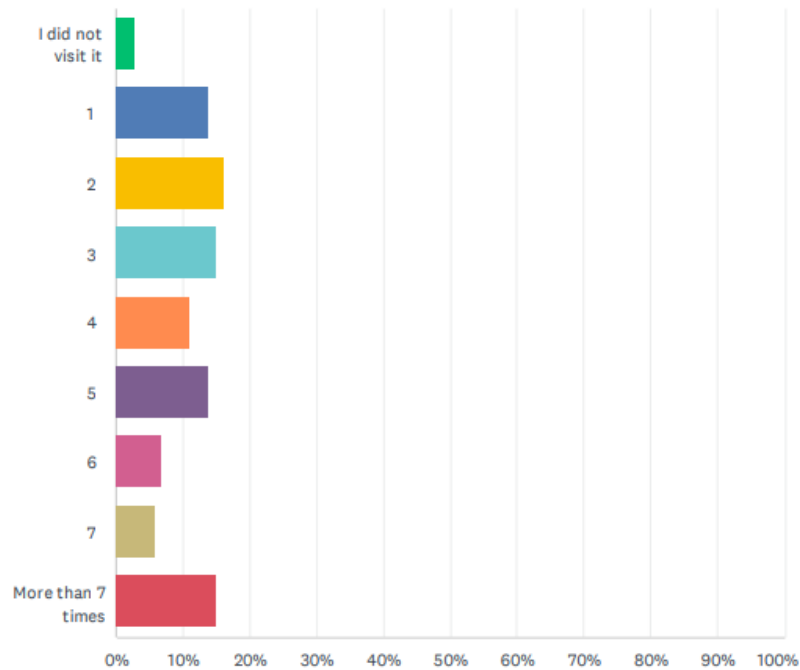
Q3 How satisfied are you about this pop-up dog park?

Answered: 89 Skipped: 0



Q6 How many time a week have you visited this pop-up dog park?

Answered: 174 Skipped: 1



Q12 Are there any other suggestions or comments you would make to this enclosed dog park? If yes, what are they?

Answered: 136 Skipped: 39

Top 5 comments expressed:

1. 19.85% wanted water available
2. 16.17% wanted dog area to be made permanent
3. 15.44% wanted shade
 - e.g. 5.88% suggested trees
4. Tied: 11.76%
 - liked the dog park
 - stated they had no comments
5. 11.02% wanted seating in the dog park



Site 3: Gorge Park Summary

The dog park was set up at Gorge Park from July 27 – August 9, 2021.

*July 28-31 weather reached highs between 25.4°C - 30.2°C

Weather Summary:

Gorge Park		
Average Temperature	Highest	21.5°C
	Lowest	17.8°C
	Total Average	19.26°C
Total sunny days	8	
Total partly sunny days	7	

Gorge Park



Site Map: 0.35 ac

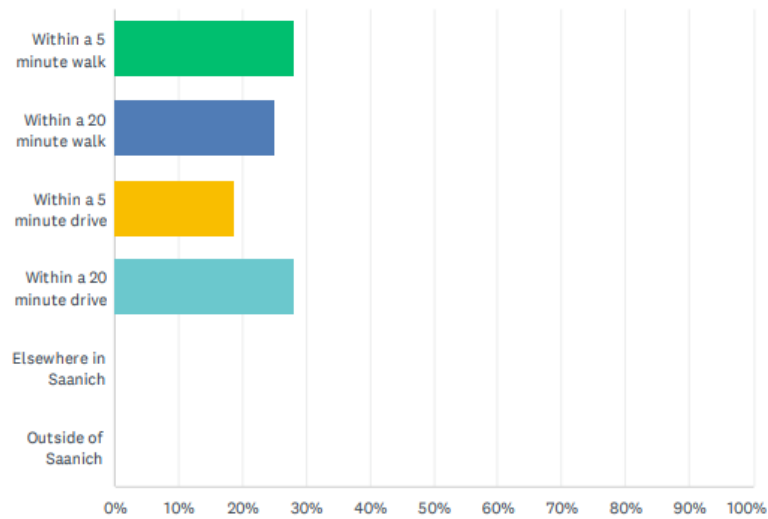


Saanich Employee Observational Data:

GORGE PARK						
		INSIDE ENCLOSURE		OUTSIDE ENCLOSURE		Weather
Date	Time	People	Dogs	People	Dogs	
27-Jul	3:30 PM	2	1	3	1	Sunny
28-Jul	6:20 PM	16	15	0	0	Sunny
29-Jul	1:20 PM	0	0	1	0	Sunny
30-Jul	7:15 AM	2	2	0	0	Cold
31-Jul	8:00 AM	3	2	0	0	Sunny
3-Aug	6:55 PM	14	11	0	0	Sunny
4-Aug	11:34 AM	0	0	0	0	Sunny
5-Aug	2:55 PM	0	0	1	0	Sunny
6-Aug	7:20 PM	0	0	2	0	Cold
TOTAL		37	31			

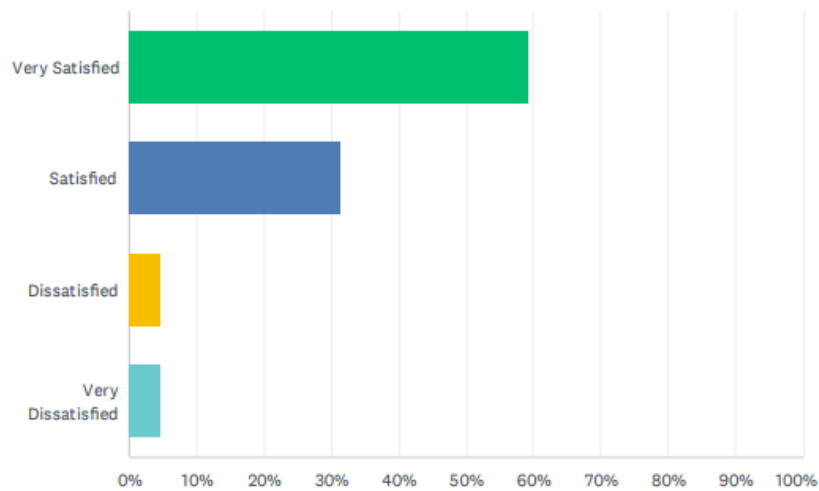
Q2 Which best describes how close you live to this park?

Answered: 64 Skipped: 0



Q3 How satisfied are you about this pop-up dog park?

Answered: 64 Skipped: 0

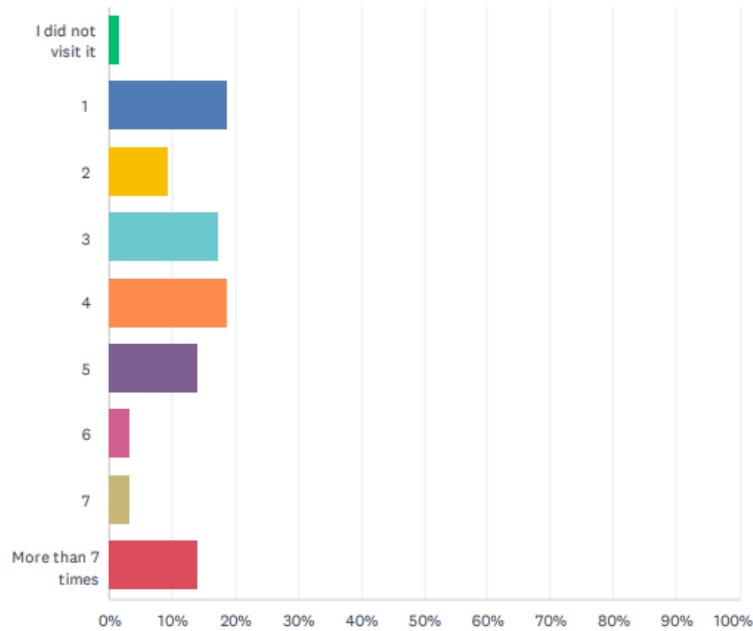


Gorge Park



Q6 How many time a week have you visited this pop-up dog park?

Answered: 64 Skipped: 0



Q12 Are there any other suggestions or comments you would make to this enclosed dog park? If yes, what are they?

Answered: 51 Skipped: 13

1. 21.56% wanted water available
2. 15.68% wanted shade
 - e.g. 1.96% suggested trees
3. 13.70% had safety concerns about the chosen area
4. 11.76% liked the dog park
5. Tied: 9.80% wanted
 - a better lock for the gate
 - the dog area to be made permanent

Gorge Park



Site 4: Rudd Park Summary

The dog park was set up at Rudd Park from August 10 – August 23, 2021.

*August 10-13 weather reached highs between 25.6°C - 35.5°C

Weather Summary:

Rudd Park		
Average Temperature	Highest	26.1°C
	Lowest	15.1°C
	Total Average	18.02°C
Total sunny days	6	
Total partly sunny days	8	



Site map: 0.35 ac

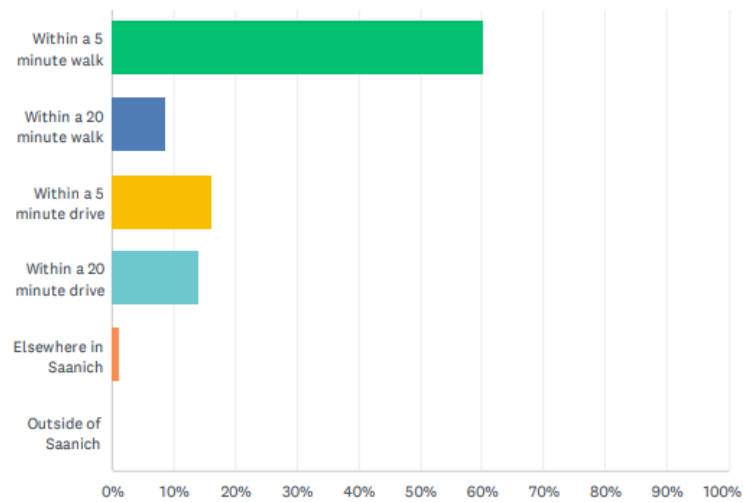


Saanich Employee Observational Data:

RUDD PARK						
		INSIDE ENCLOSURE		OUTSIDE ENCLOSURE		Weather
Date	Time	People	Dogs	People	Dogs	
10-Aug	3:05 PM	0	0	6	1	Sunny
11-Aug	7:16 AM	1	1	0	0	Sunny
12-Aug	6:48 PM	2	1	2	0	Sunny
13-Aug	9:34 AM	3	2	2	0	Sunny
14-Aug	6:30 PM	1	1	14	2	Sunny
16-Aug	8:14 AM	2	2	0	0	Cloudy
17-Aug	12:55 PM	8	7	4	2	Sunny
18-Aug	7:22 PM	25	19	9	4	Sunny
19-Aug	3:44 PM	2	2	4	1	Sunny
20-Aug	6:30 PM	5	4	6	0	Sunny
TOTAL		49	39			

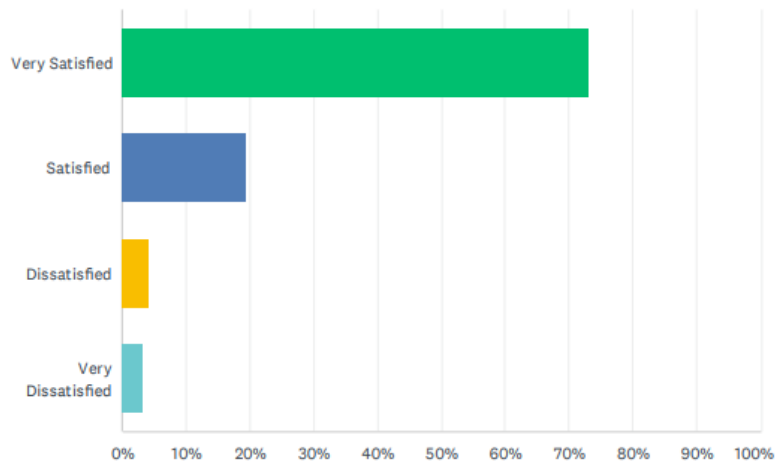
Q2 Which best describes how close you live to this park?

Answered: 93 Skipped: 0



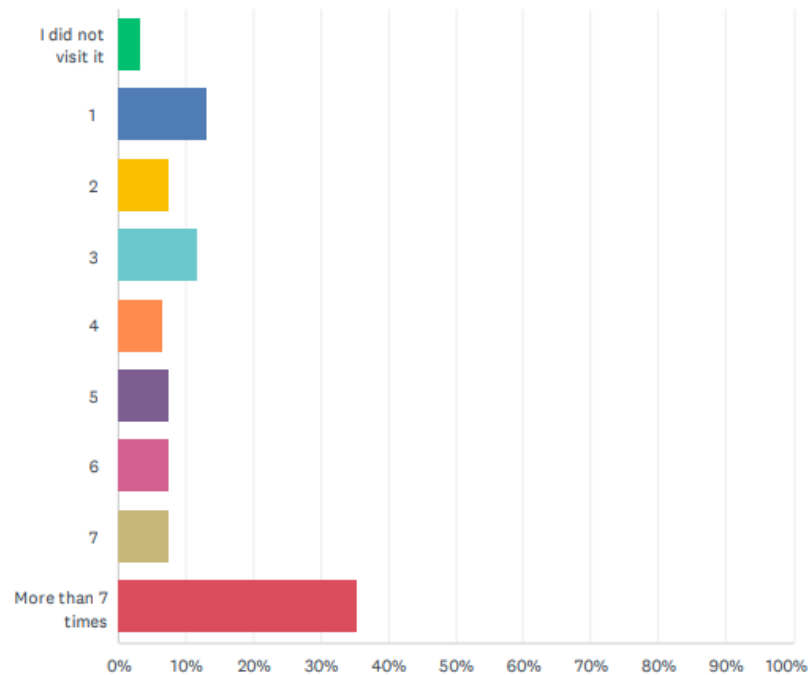
Q3 How satisfied are you about this pop-up dog park?

Answered: 93 Skipped: 0



Q6 How many time a week have you visited this pop-up dog park?

Answered: 93 Skipped: 0



Q12 Are there any other suggestions or comments you would make to this enclosed dog park? If yes, what are they?

Answered: 68 Skipped: 25

Top 5 comments expressed:

1. 30.88% wanted water available
1. 14.70% wanted shade
 - e.g. 5.88% suggested trees
2. 12.23% liked the dog park
3. Tied: 11.76%
 - wanted dog area to be made permanent
 - had no comments
4. 7.35% wanted a double gate



Site 5: Cadboro-Gyro Park Summary

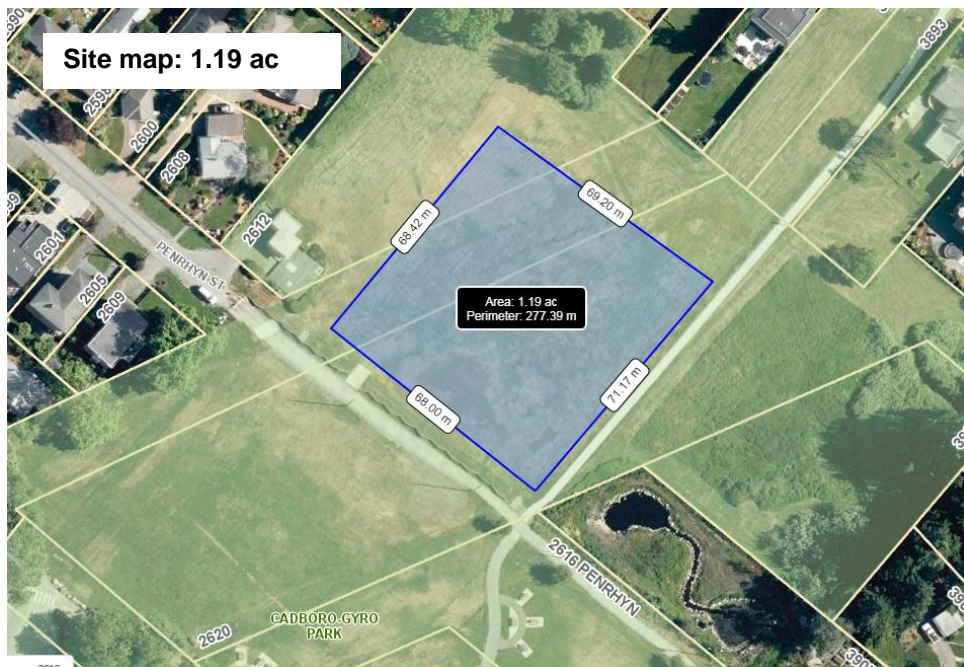
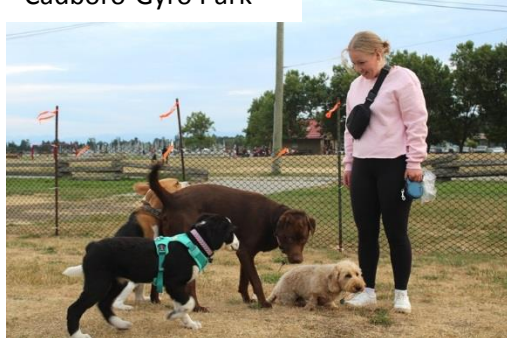
The dog park was set up at Cadboro-Gyro Park from August 24 – September 7, 2021

*September 1-2 weather reached highs between 20.3°C – 25.4°C

Weather Summary:

Cadboro-Gyro Park		
Average Temperature	Highest	16.8°C
	Lowest	13.7°C
	Total Average	15.61°C
Total sunny days	6	
Total partly sunny days	8	

Cadboro-Gyro Park

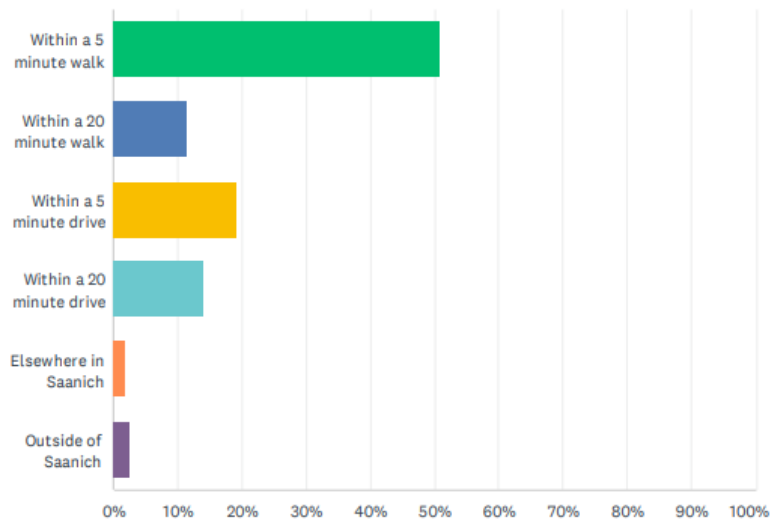


Saanich Employee Observational Data:

CADBORO-GYRO PARK						
		INSIDE ENCLOSURE		OUTSIDE ENCLOSURE		Weather
Date	Time	People	Dogs	People	Dogs	
24-Aug	5:30 PM	7	5	80	4	Sunny
25-Aug	8:10 PM	15	12	60	2	Cold
26-Aug	7:10 AM	2	2	9	3	Cold
27-Aug	10:50 AM	5	4	75	2	Sunny
28-Aug	8:30 AM	4	4	30	1	Sunny
30-Aug	6:40 PM	22	16	70	0	Sunny
31-Aug	10:15 AM	6	2	90	2	Sunny
1-Sep	8:05 AM	0	0	13	2	Sunny
2-Sep	6:00 PM	10	8	100+	3	Sunny
3-Sep	2:45 PM	3	3	100+	1	Sunny
TOTAL		74	56			

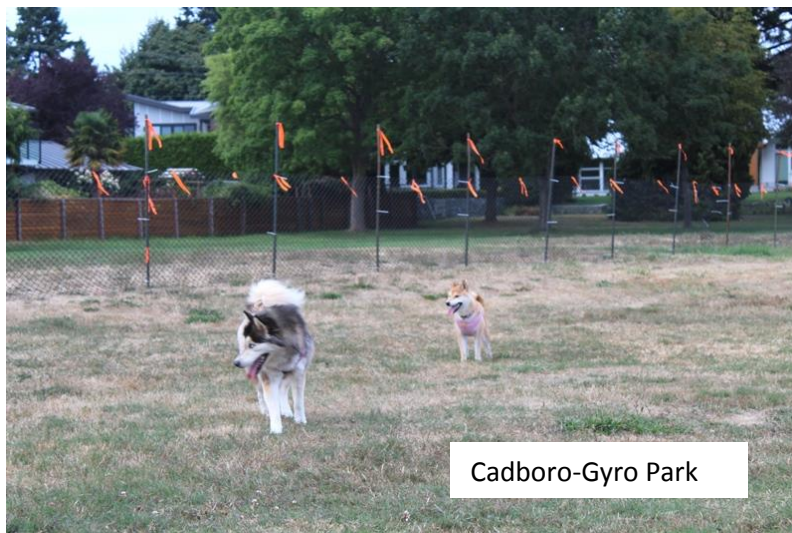
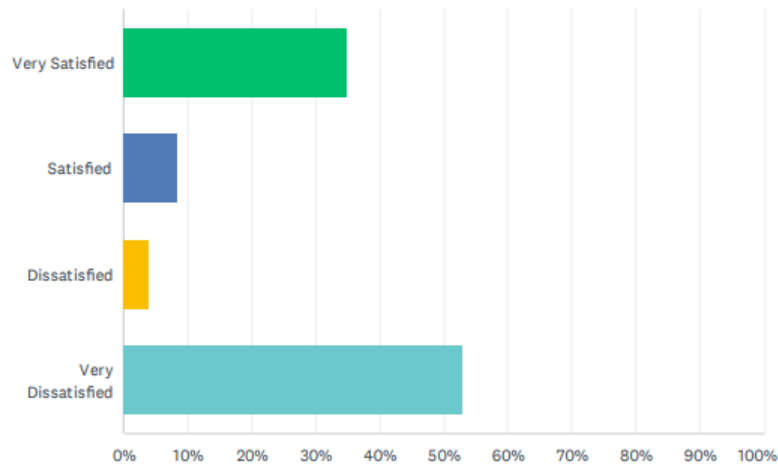
Q2 Which best describes how close you live to this park?

Answered: 156 Skipped: 0



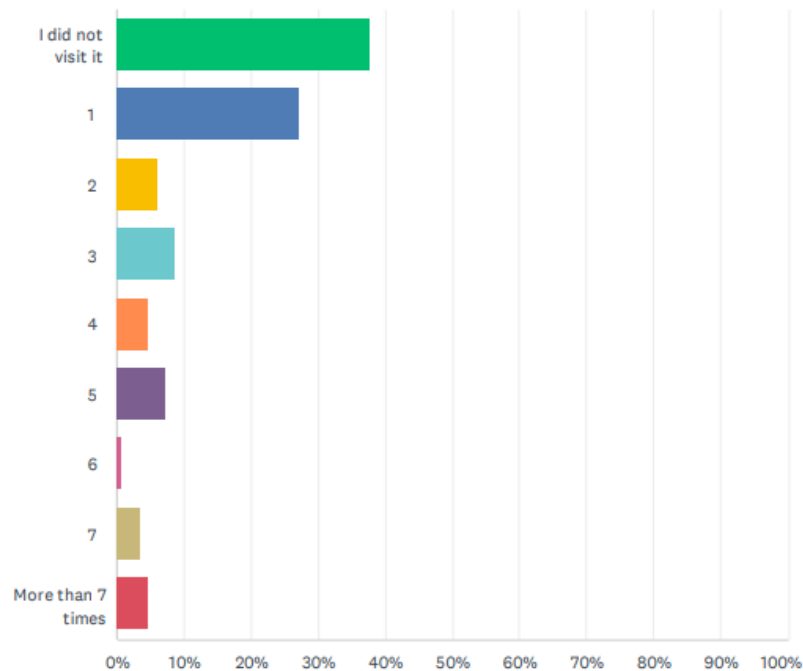
Q3 How satisfied are you about this pop-up dog park?

Answered: 155 Skipped: 1



Q6 How many time a week have you visited this pop-up dog park?

Answered: 151 Skipped: 5



Q12 Are there any other suggestions or comments you would make to this enclosed dog park? If yes, what are they?

Answered: 131 Skipped: 25

Top 5 comments expressed:

1. 28.24% did not want this at Cadboro-Gyro Park
2. 17.55% concerned of the proximity to nearby residents
3. 12.97% concerned of the proximity to a popular playground for children and families
4. Tied: 12.21% were concerned:
 - the dog park would increase dog traffic in the park
 - about the impact on wildlife
 - e.g. 8.39% were concerned about the migratory birds
5. Tied: 11.45%
 - liked the dog park
 - were concerned about the noise pollution
 - wanted shade
 - e.g. 3.81% suggested trees