

miOTTAWA SANDS PARK COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & FEEDBACK

OVER **950** COMMUNITY MEMBERS ENGAGED



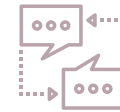
FROM LOCALS WITHIN **10 MILES** + REGIONAL VISITORS BEYOND

INCLUDING **9** LOCAL AGENCIES



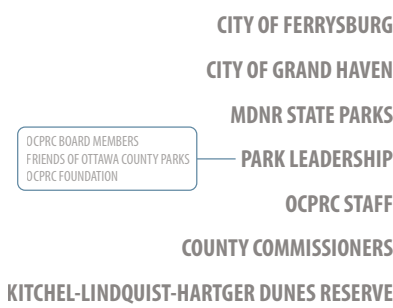
PARTICIPATED TO INFLUENCE **2 CONCEPTS**

FOR YOU TO PROVIDE FEEDBACK ON



FOCUS GROUPS: LOCAL AGENCIES & STAKEHOLDERS

THE CONSULTANT TEAM HOSTED A TWO-DAY COLLABORATIVE ENGAGEMENT SESSION WITH PROJECT PARTNERS AND STAKEHOLDER FOCUS GROUPS. THESE LOCAL EXPERTS PROVIDED VALUABLE INSIGHT AND HELPED SHAPE THE FORMAT OF THE BROADER PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT PROCESS.



COMMON & SHARED GOALS

- COORDINATED MANAGEMENT APPROACH
- IMPROVED & CONNECTED TRAILS
- UNIQUE CAMPING EXPERIENCE
- ECOLOGICAL & HISTORIC AWARENESS
- IMPROVED PARKING
- VEHICULAR & PEDESTRIAN SAFETY
- ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM
- GRAND RIVER INTERACTION

ON-SITE COMMUNITY FIELD DAY - JULY 18, 2020

OCPRC INVITED THE COMMUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN A FAMILY-FRIENDLY ENGAGEMENT DAY AT OTTAWA SANDS PARK TO UNDERSTAND THE DESIRES AND CONCERNS OF NEIGHBORS AND VISITORS AS THEY PERTAIN TO THE DEVELOPING MASTER PLAN.

PARTICIPANTS VISITED A SERIES OF INTERACTIVE STATIONS TO LEARN ABOUT THE DESIGN PROCESS AND OFFER FEEDBACK AND



ONLINE PARTICIPANT SURVEY

A VIRTUAL PARTICIPANT SURVEY WAS PROVIDED TO CAPTURE A WIDE-RANGE OF PUBLIC OPINION ON FUTURE IMPROVEMENTS TO OTTAWA SANDS COUNTY PARK. A TOTAL OF 872 RESPONSES WERE COLLECTED, RECORDED, AND CONSIDERED IN THE DESIGN PROCESS. BELOW IS A SAMPLING OF OUR FINDINGS:

TOP 15 OPPORTUNITIES PARTICIPANTS ARE EXCITED ABOUT

1. **HIKING:** (walking, natural paths, boardwalks, more/improved trails)
2. **NON-MOTORIZED BOATING:** (kayaks, canoes, paddle boarding)
3. **SWIMMING:** (inland lake access, beach)
4. **WILDLIFE VIEWING:** (birdwatching, views, photography, eagle's nest)
5. **HABITAT:** (minimal to no development on site, restoration, quiet)
6. **CAMPING:** (glamping, yurts, RVs, rustic, tents, primitive)
7. **FISHING**
8. **MOUNTAIN BIKING/BIKING TRAILS**
9. **ACCESS:** (paved trails, ADA, multi-use)
10. **REGIONAL TRAILS:** (connect to PJ Hoffmaster, trail to canal, trail through KL)
11. **PICNIC SHELTERS**
12. **EDUCATION:** (interpretive signage, Native-American history, site ecology)
13. **HUNTING:** (deer)
14. **GRAND RIVER ACCESS:** (non-motorized boat access, fishing piers, motor boat slips, views of river)
15. **MODERN RESTROOM FACILITIES**

TOP 15 PARTICIPANT CONCERNS

1. **OVERUSE:** (crowds, trash, noise, lack of safety, site too small for programming)
2. **CAMPING:** (RVs or modern camping)
3. **OVER-DEVELOPMENT:** (buildings, structures, events, pavement, commercialized)
4. **HABITAT LOSS:** (destruction, invasive species, pollution, erosion)
5. **LAKE ACCESS:** (disturbing "pristine" lake, erosion, no swimming, no boating of any kind)
6. **PARKING/TRAFFIC:** (not enough parking, paved lots, increased traffic)
7. **WILDLIFE DISRUPTION:** (hunting, over fishing, protect the eagle's nest)
8. **BIKERS:** (no bike trails, dangerous, no-mixed trails)
9. **MOTOR VEHICLES:** (boats, cars, ATVs, etc.)
10. **OFF-LEASH DOGS**
11. **SAFETY:** (social distancing, lack of staff-monitoring/policing, emergency access into site)
12. **INCREASED COST:** (entry fees, taxes)
13. **MOVING THROUGH THE DESIGN PROCESS TOO QUICKLY**
14. **LACK OF SHADE**
15. **NO BIKING TRAILS AVAILABLE**

WHAT TYPE OF CAMPING SCENARIO ARE YOU INTERESTED IN HAVING AT OTTAWA SANDS?

