OTTAWA SANDS PARK

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
& FEEDBACK

OVER 950
COMMUNITY MEMBERS ENGAGED

FROM LOCALS WITHIN 10 MILES
+
REGIONAL VISITORS BEYOND

ENGAGED MEMBERS COMMUNITY

TOP 15 OPPORTUNITIES PARTICIPANTS ARE EXCITED ABOUT
AND CONSIDERED IN THE DESIGN PROCESS. BELOW IS A SAMPLING OF OUR FINDINGS:

ON-SITE COMMUNITY FIELD DAY - JULY 18, 2020

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.

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:

COMMON & SHARED GOALS
- Coordinated management approach
- Improved and connected trails
- Unique camping experience
- Ecological & Historic Awareness
- Improved parking
- VHICULAR & PEDESTRIAN SAFETY
- Economic development & tourism
- Grand river interaction

TOP 15 PARTICIPANT CONCERNS
1. OVERUSE: (crowds, trash, noise, lack of safety, site too small for programming)
2. CAMPING: (RVs or modern camping)
3. SWIMMING: (water accesses, beneds)
4. WILDLIFE VIEWING: (disturbance, visitor behavior, photography, visitors’ dress)
5. HABITAT: (minimal to no development on site, restoration, quiet)
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, mixed trails)
9. MOTOR VEHICLES: (boats, cars, ATVs, etc.)
10. OFF-LEASE DOGS
11. SAFETY: (local disturbing, lack of staff monitoring, parking, emergency access into site)
12. INCREASED COST: (entry fees, taxes)
13. MOVING THROUGH THE DESIGN PROCESS TOO QUICKLY
14. LACK OF SHADE
15. NO BIKE TRAILS AVAILABLE

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

14% MODERN CAMPGROUND
18% MODERN CAMPGROUND WITH RV & TENT CAMPING
12% MODERN CAMPGROUND
41% GLAMPING (RAISED PLATFORMS WITH CANVAS TENTS, YURTS, OR OTHER “LIGHT-IMPACT” STRUCTURES)
9% RUSTIC PACK-IN CAMPING
10% I DO NOT SUPPORT CAMPING AT OTTAWA SANDS?

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