



City of Durham Public Works Department - Stormwater & GIS Services Division South Ellerbe Stormwater Project

Survey Summary **#2** May 2018

PROJECT BACKGROUND

A natural stormwater restoration is being planned at 808 West Trinity Avenue, the site of the former Duke Diet and Fitness Center. This site will be transformed into a space that will be an asset to both the community and the environment. The property is located along a South Ellerbe Creek tributary that flows into Falls Lake.

Public Surveys

Two public surveys have gathered input from residents about project goals, site amenities, and design elements. The first survey was conducted in summer, 2017 at the first public information session and through an online link for one month. The second survey was conducted at the April, 2018 public information session and through an online link. Thirty-four people responded to the first survey and 103 people responded to the second survey, which was available in English and Spanish. Key findings from the first survey were used in forming a concept plan. The second survey gathered feedback on the concept plan and art/educational opportunities.

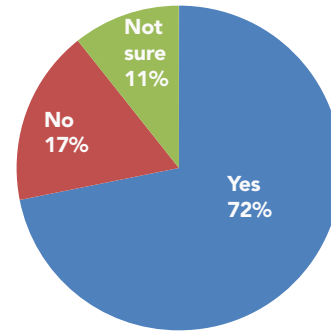
Key Findings Survey #2

More than 60% of people wrote a positive comment about the concept plan. Respondents agreed that the plan meets the major goals of the project: to improve water quality in Falls Lake and Ellerbe Creek, to improve aquatic health, and to create a premier community asset. The project also gets high marks for providing additional benefits such as improving recreational opportunities.

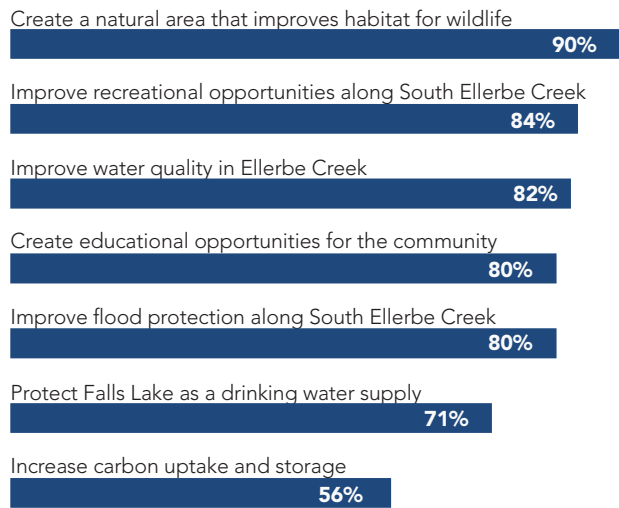
Most people plan to use the space for walking/jogging and as an urban nature refuge. Over half of respondents plan to walk or bike to the site, with 42% planning to drive. The most popular access point will be along Trinity Avenue. The favorite ways to learn about the restoration are through signs and public art. According to respondents, the signs and art should focus on water-themed interpretation. Two areas were identified as the best places for signs and art displays: along Trinity Avenue and on the elevated boardwalk that connects to the future Durham Belt Line Trail.

Question Summaries

1. Do you live or work in the Ellerbe Creek Watershed?



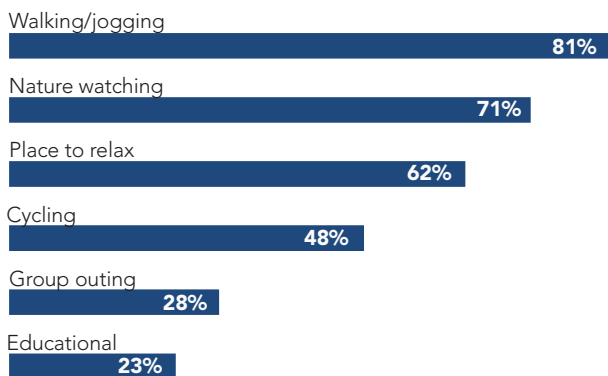
2. Has the concept plan addressed the main goals of the project? (Check all that apply.)



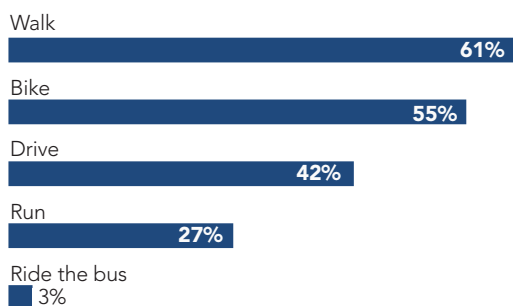
3. How often do you think you will visit the stormwater restoration once it is complete?



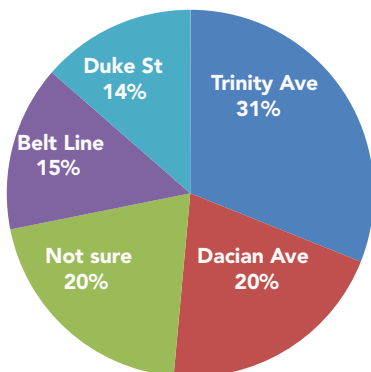
4. How do you think you will use the space once it is complete? (Check all that apply.)



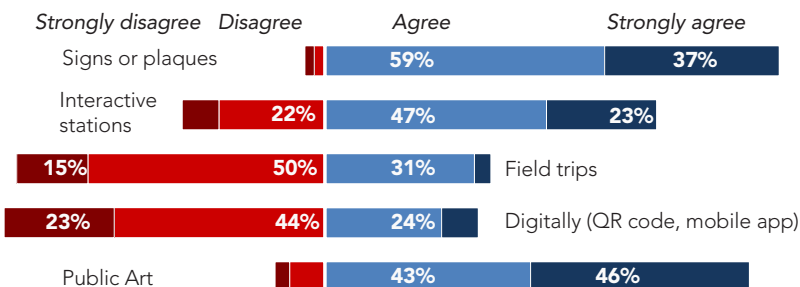
5. How would you travel to the site? (Check all that apply.)



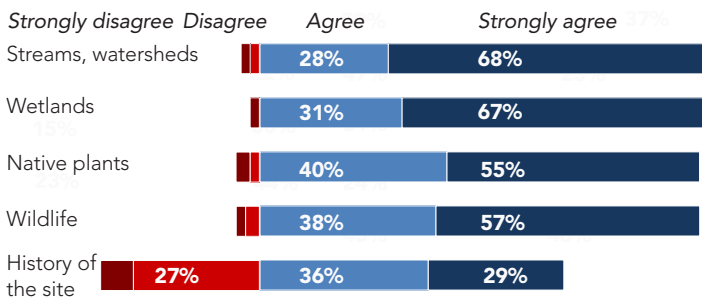
6. What do you think will be your primary access point to the site? (See attached map.)



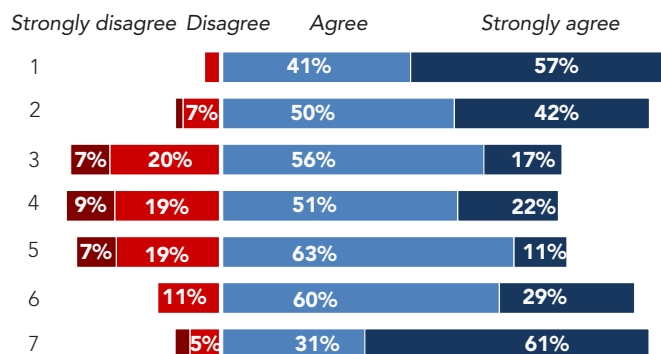
7. How do you prefer to learn about a place you are visiting?



8. When you consider which themes should be included in art or educational displays, rate the importance of each topic below.





9. What are the best locations for art or educational displays (see corresponding map).



Additional Comments

Sixty-three respondents expressed excitement and support for the concept plan. The most common theme among comments was that maintenance will be key to the success of this project, specifically control of litter, dumping, invasive plants, and smells. Recurring themes of the responses included that the design address safety and lighting; looking into the feasibility of using volunteers to help plant, maintain, and monitor the site; art could be incorporated into the design and educational elements; local artists could be used; and the use of native plants. Comments also suggested that dog walking may be common and waste stations could be incorporated. Over half of respondents heard about the project from their neighborhood listserv, 44% through email, and 37% through Facebook.

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