

Public Feedback Summary

Community Event #3

Introduction

The Design Collective held its second public event on November 17, 2016 at Clackamas County Community College Gregory Forum. The event offered participants opportunities to review and engage with design ideas for six key areas within the riverwalk site. The event included an open house staffed by project staff and site experts, and offered a facilitated workshop activity.

An online survey was made public on the same day as the event. Survey participants had the opportunity to provide feedback on the same six areas that were featured in the workshop. Some questions in the survey were simplified, since the facilitated workshop supported for more nuanced feedback.

An estimated 500 people participated in the in-person event and more than 1,200 people completed the survey. The following document and appendices summarize the input received during both feedback opportunities.

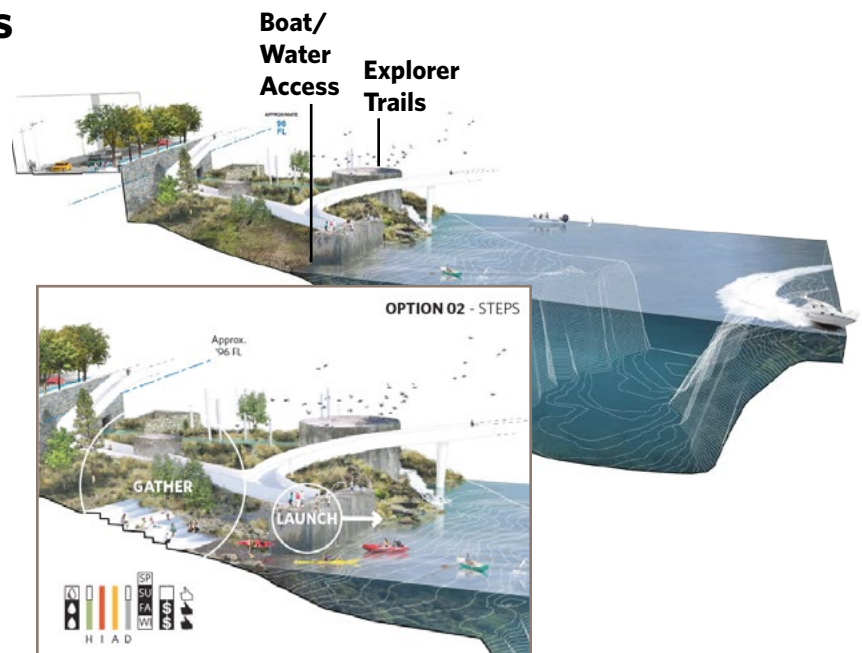
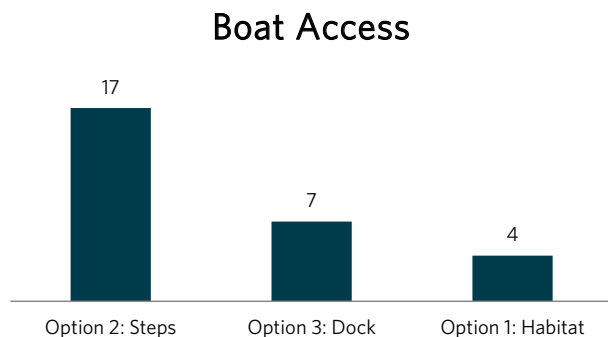
Explorer Trails and Water Access

Participants from the workshop and survey were asked to provide feedback on materials and design ideas for the explorer trails and water or boat access along the riverwalk.

A complete list of design options is included in the appendix.

Workshop Activity: Boat Access

An activity in the workshop allowed approximately 150 participants to review design ideas for boat access along the riverwalk. In a facilitated table discussion, attendees were asked to weigh in on which aspects of each design idea appealed most to them. Workshop participants selected the design ideas that best matched their desires for the site and were encouraged to write on or draw over the design options to further refine the group's ideas. The following chart shows which of the design options most closely matches the workshop participants' desires for boat access along the riverwalk.



Design Option 2: Steps was the idea that resonated most with participants.

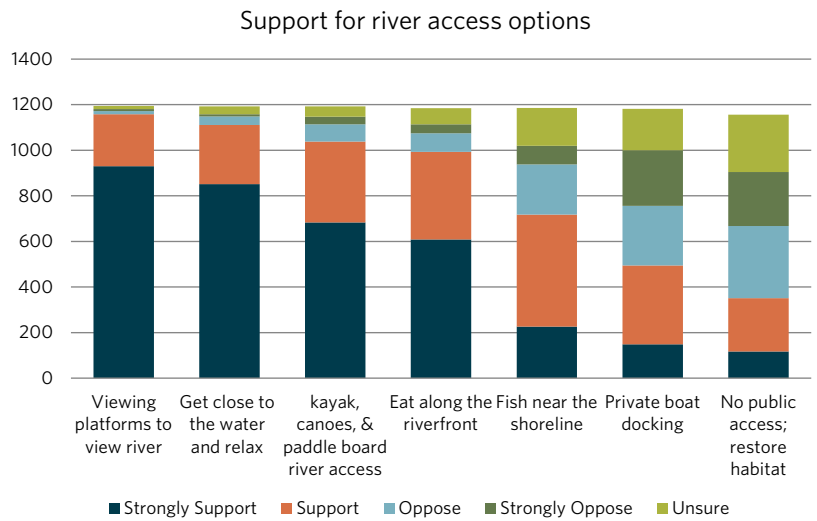
Feedback themes related to this option:

- The design should accommodate a variety of uses, such as watercraft, fishing, swimming, enjoying nature.
- There is broad support for water access, including the ability to launch non-motorized craft.
- There is some support for motorized craft, but also concern about safety, noise, pollution and conflicts with other uses.
- Consider accessibility for different users (widths of trails, materials, etc.).
- Flooding is a major consideration.
- Parking is needed but should not detract from the site.

Survey Question: Water Access

The survey asked for participants to weigh in on water access options. The question asked for people to provide their level of support for a range of safe water access options. The chart to the right summarizes the results of 1,201 responses to this question.

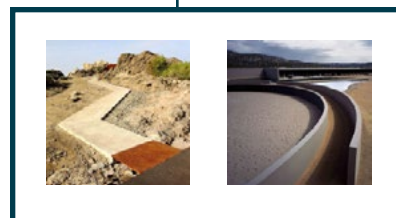
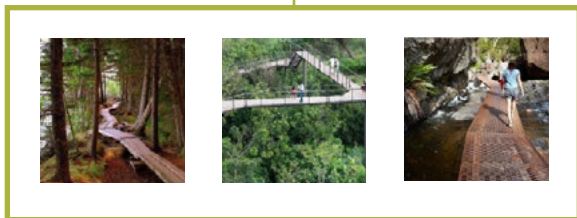
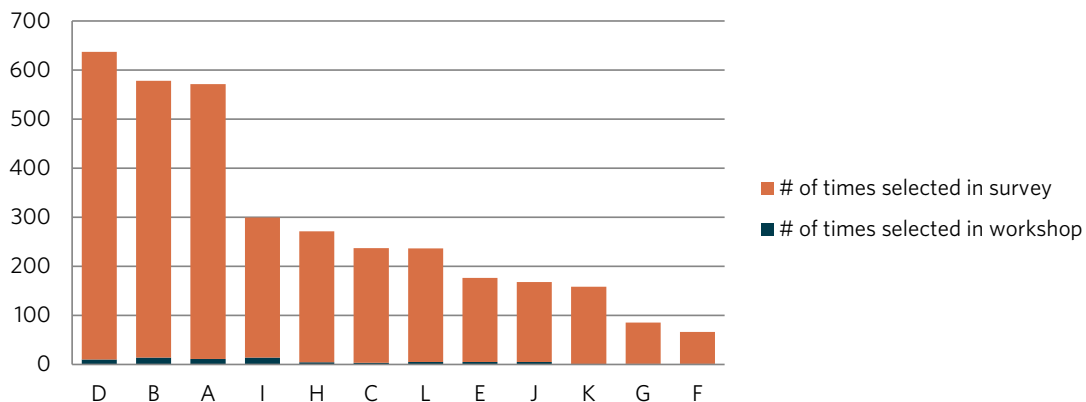
The two options that had the greatest support were providing **a viewing platforms to see up and down the river** and **a place for people to get close to the water and relax peacefully near the shoreline.**



Workshop Activity & Survey: Explorer Trails

Participants were asked to provide feedback on what type of experience they would like to have while on the explorer trails. The question provided a range of images that showed different materials and experiences. The following summarizes the feedback from the workshop (approximately 150 people) and survey input (1,214 people).

Preferred Explorer Trails Experiences



Feedback themes related to these options:

- Participants desired an interaction with nature. Raised walkways provide interaction with minimal disturbance of habitat.
- Participants were drawn to natural materials (particularly wood) that blend into the landscape.
- Safety is a primary consideration. Participants concerned about slipping but did not want "unnatural" anti-slip surfaces.

Feedback themes related to these options:

- Participants did not prefer options that were stark or provided less green space.
- Broad interest in restoring habitat and including vegetation in designs.
- Desire for trails to blend into the natural environment.

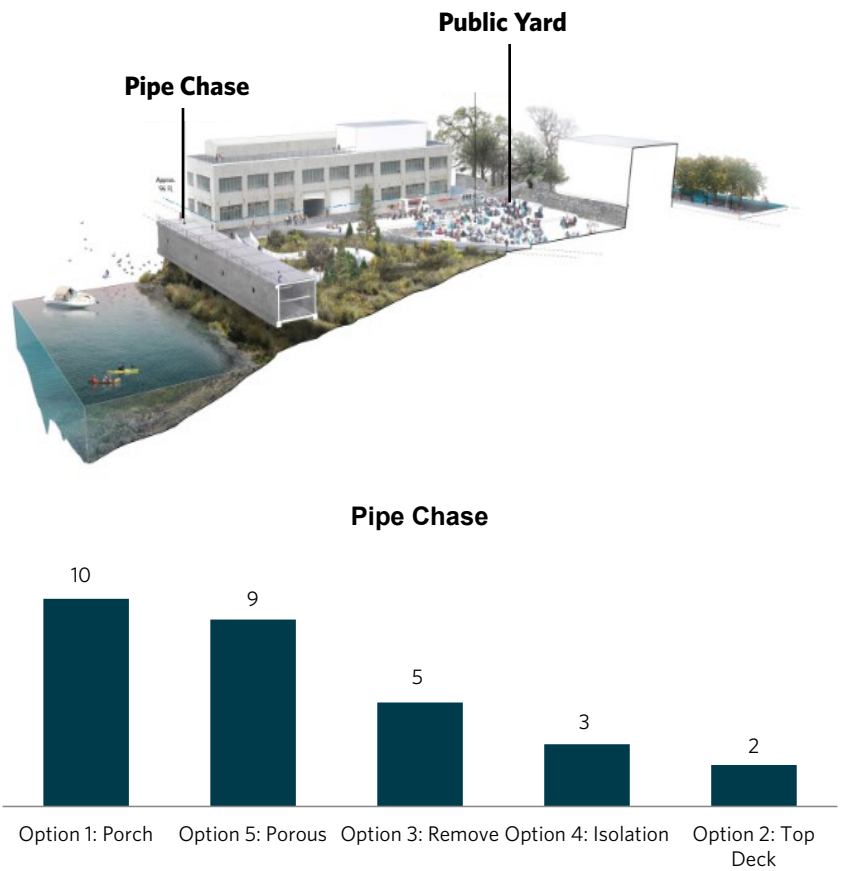
Pipe Chase and Public Yard

Participants from the workshop and survey were asked to provide feedback on materials and design ideas for the pipe chase and public yard components of the riverwalk site. A complete list of design options is included in the appendix.

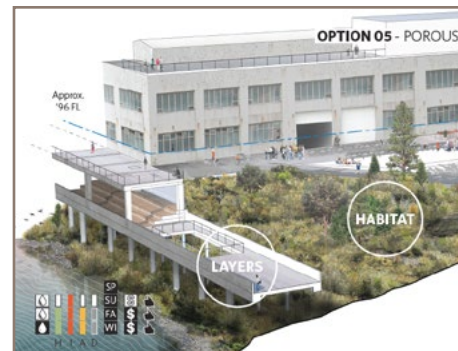
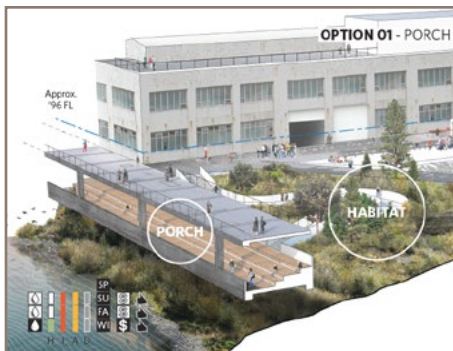
Workshop Activity: Pipe Chase

An activity in the workshop allowed approximately 150 participants to review design ideas for the pipe chase. In a facilitated table discussion, attendees were asked to weigh in on which aspects of each design idea appealed most to them. Workshop participants selected the design ideas that best matched their desires for the site and were encouraged to write on or draw over the design options to further refine the group's ideas.

The chart to the right shows which of the design options most closely matches the approximately 150 workshop participants' desires for the pipe chase.



Design Option 1: Porch and Design Option 5: Porous were the ideas that resonated most with participants.



Feedback themes related to these design options:

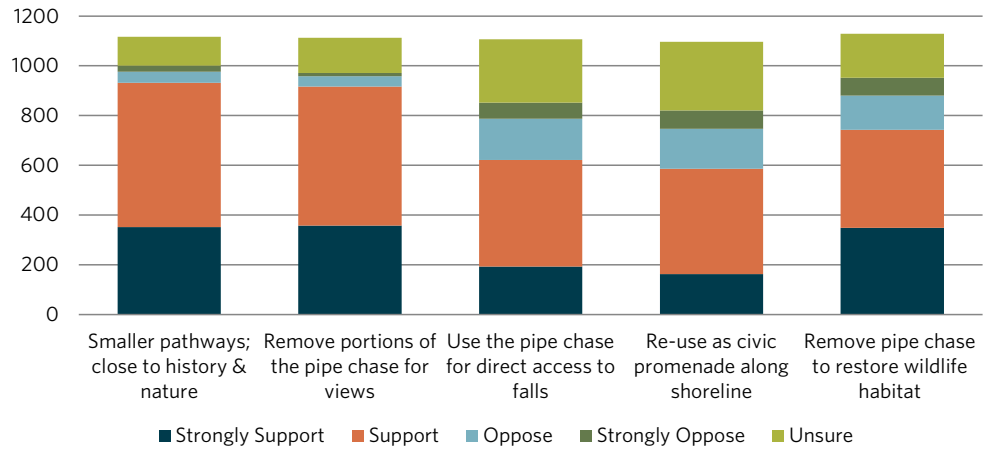
- Views are important. A pipe chase element should include broad views, perhaps to both sides. Also concern that the pipe chase would block views from public yard.
- There were many suggestions for design tweaks, such as views to river from floor; leaving some portions open to sky; keeping portions completely closed in, planting vegetation on top, etc. Many liked have at least some protection from sun and rain to increase seasonal usage.
- There was concern about the safety and security of the pipe chase, particularly during night time.
- Suggestions for interpretive information and/or having an area for cultural presentations.
- There was support for habitat restoration and also walking through habitat to the pipe chase. People wanted trails to be continuous/looping.

Survey Question: Pipe Chase

The survey asked for participants to weigh in on the pipe chase and its adjacent habitat restoration areas. The question asked for people to provide their level of support for a range of use options. The chart to the right summarizes the results of 1,145 responses to this question.

The two options that have the greatest support include **providing smaller pathways for people to get close to both history and nature** and **removing portions of the pipe chase to open up views of the river**.

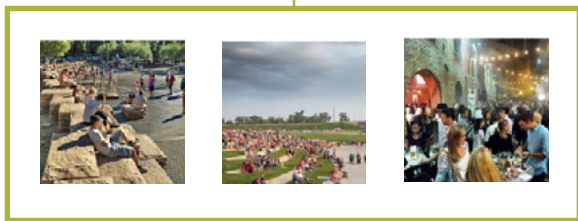
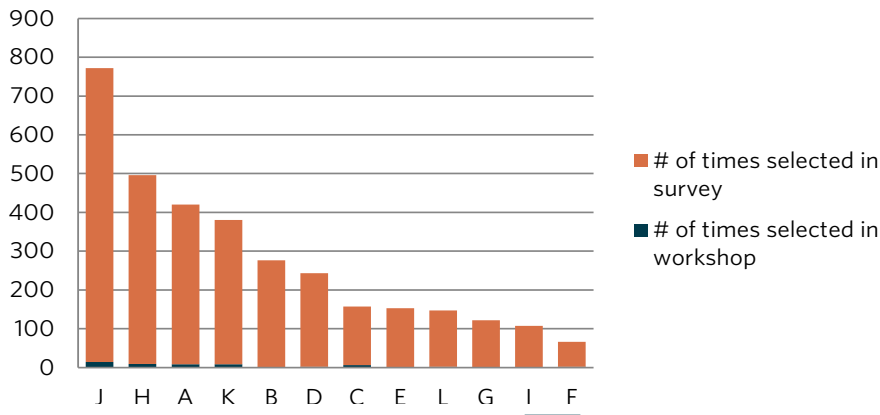
Support for Pipe Chase Reuse Options



Workshop Activity & Survey: Public Yard

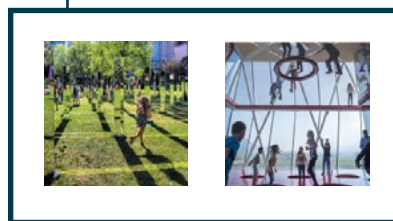
Participants were asked to provide feedback on what type of experience they would like to have while in the public yard portion of the riverwalk site. The question provided a range of images that showed different materials and experience options. The following summarizes the feedback from the workshop (approximately 150 people) and survey input (1,158 people).

Preferred Public Yard Experiences



Overall themes related to these options:

- Broad support for a flexible, interactive space that supports a variety of community uses.
- Preference for natural material, particularly basalt and pervious materials.
- Many wanted views from public yard.
- Consider a covered area for shade and rain protection.
- Effects of noise and light should be considered.



Overall themes related to these options:

- Dedicated programming was less desirable than flexible public space.
- Natural materials that blend into the landscape were preferred.
- Art features should be based on local or site history.

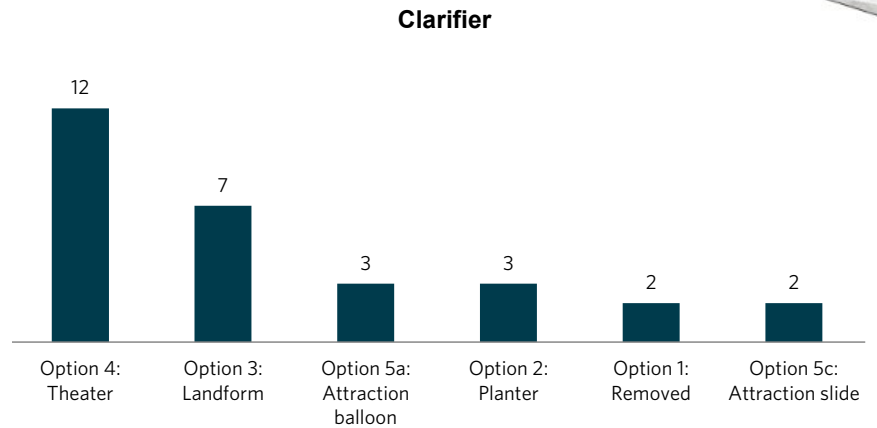
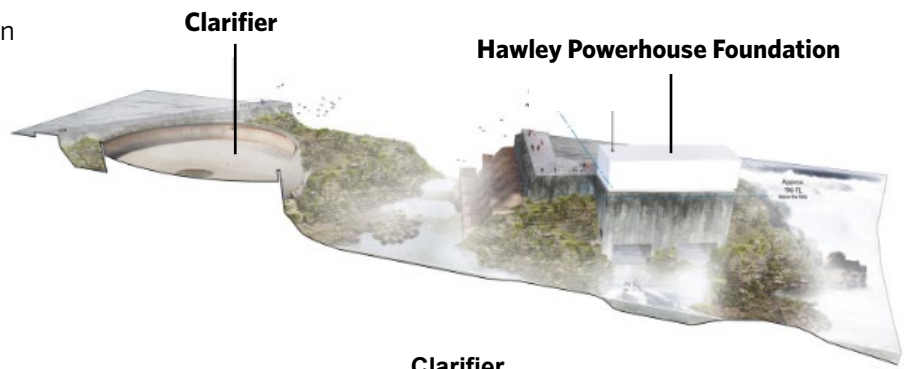
Clarifier and Hawley Powerhouse Foundation

Participants from the workshop and survey were asked to provide feedback on materials and design ideas for the clarifier and Hawley Powerhouse Foundation. A complete list of design options is included in the appendix.

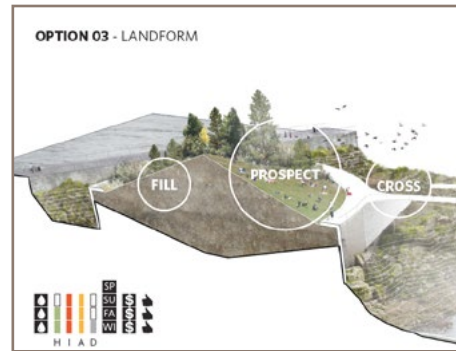
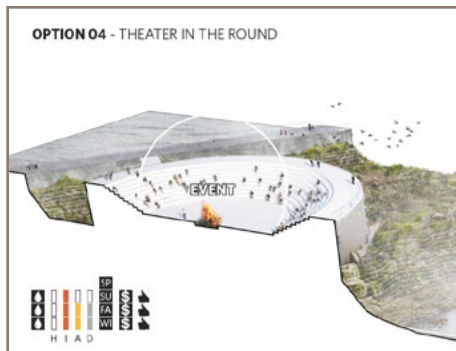
Workshop Activity: Clarifier

An activity in the workshop allowed approximately 150 participants to review design ideas for the clarifier. In a facilitated table discussion, attendees were asked to weigh in on which aspects of each design idea appealed most to them. Workshop participants selected the design ideas that best matched their desires for the site and were encouraged to write on or draw over the design options to further refine the group's ideas.

The chart to the right shows which of the design options most closely match the workshop participants' desires for the clarifier component of the riverwalk site.



Design Option 4: Theater in the Round and Design Option 3: Landform resonated most with participants.



General feedback themes related to the clarifier:

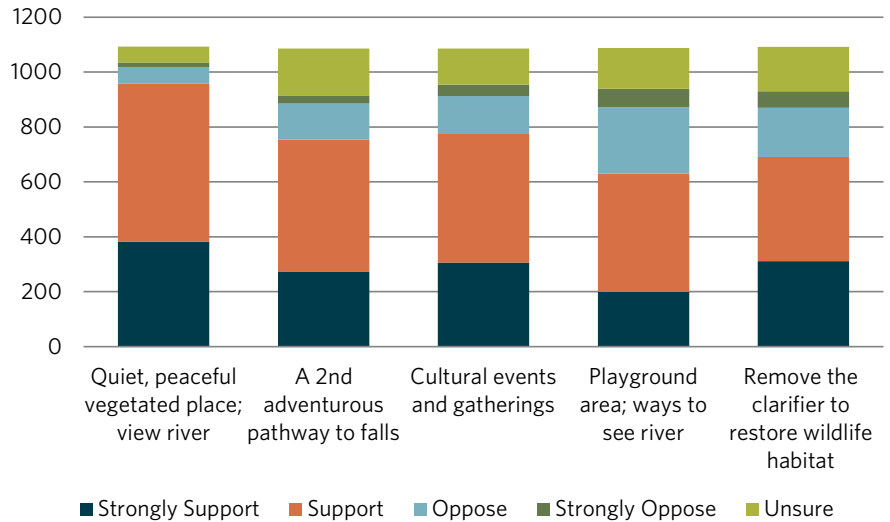
- There were mixed opinions on keeping versus removing the clarifier. Some consider it an iconic element of site. Most consider it part of the site's history and support keeping at least portions of the structure.
- As with other parts of the site, there was much support for using natural materials (stone, greenery) mixed with industrial materials (salvaged materials, clarifier relics). In contrast, some who supported Design Option 3 suggested a place starkly different from surrounding environment, making suggestions such as a glass atrium and dome covering.
- There was support for habitat restoration and supporting native ecosystems. Some liked the landform concept for this reason, whereas others wondered whether the landform was natural.
- Many indicated a desire for views from the clarifier. For the theater, some suggested removing portions to allow views. For the landform, some liked that it provided views, whereas others worried it could block views from elsewhere.
- A wide range of uses were suggested for the clarifier site - skate park, ice skating rink, lap pool, bungee, play area, aquarium, pocket park - indicating a desire for it to be a community space.
- If the clarifier becomes a theater or event space, noise should be considered.

Survey Question: Clarifier

The survey asked for participants to weigh in on different experience options for the clarifier. The question asked for people to provide their level of support for a range of use options. The chart to the right summarizes the results of 1,114 responses to this question.

The two options that have the greatest support include **providing a quiet, peaceful vegetated place to contemplate and view the river** and **a second adventurous pathway to get to the falls, useful when the dam is closed for maintenance.**

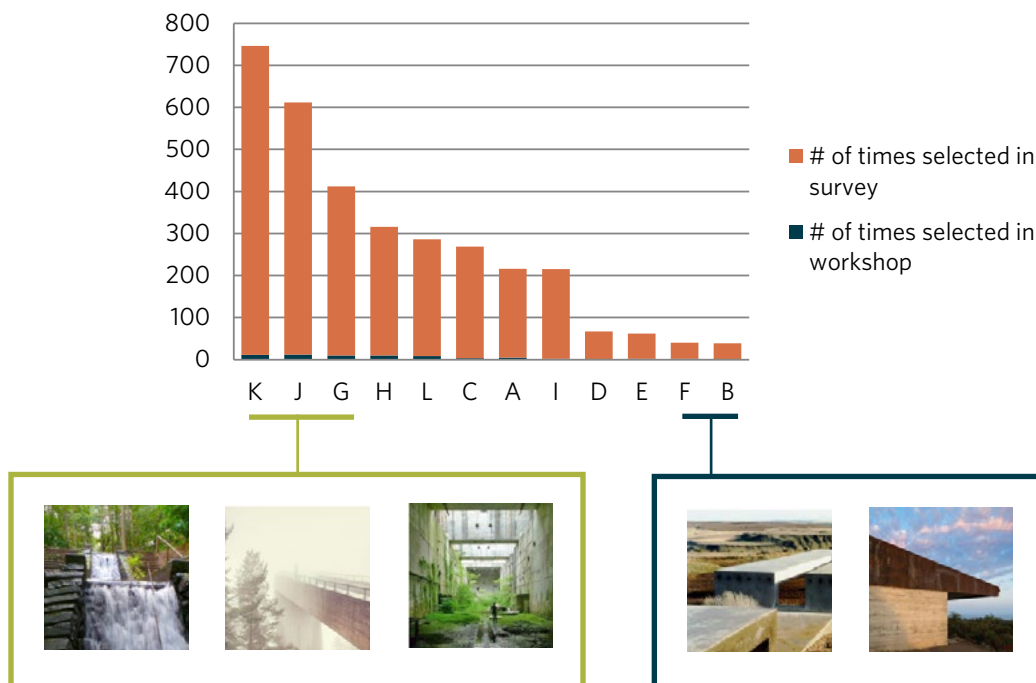
Support for Clarifier Experience Options



Workshop Activity & Survey: Hawley Powerhouse Foundation

Participants were asked to provide feedback on what type of experience they would like to have from the Hawley Powerhouse Foundation. The question provided a range of images that showed different materials and experience options. The following summarizes the feedback from the workshop (approximately 150 people) and survey input (1,129 people).

Preferred Powerhouse Foundation Experiences



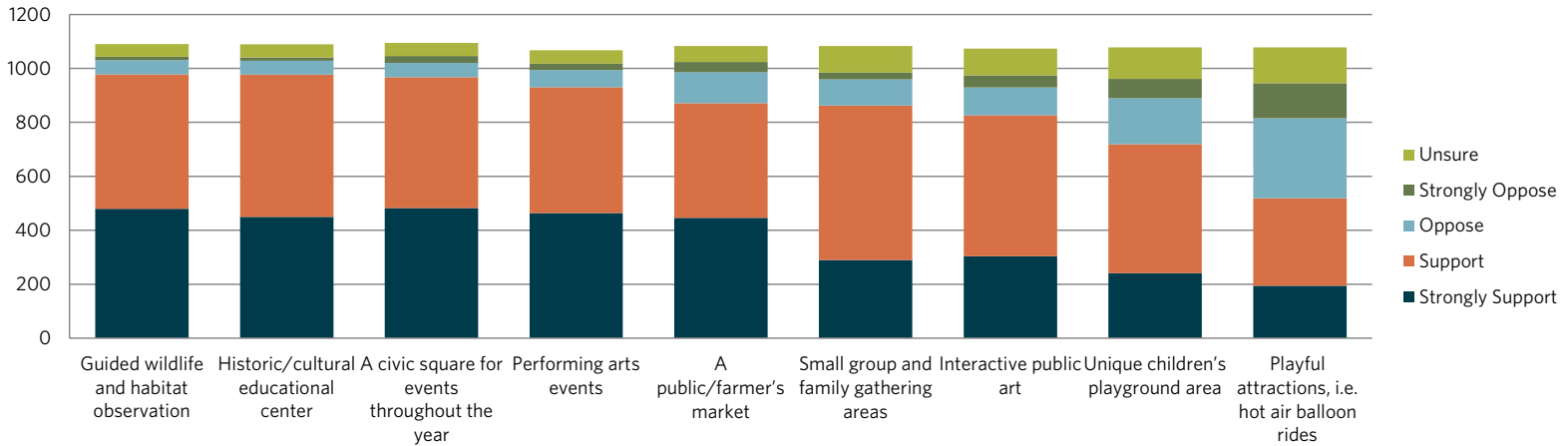
Feedback themes related to these options:

- Personal connection with falls is very important. People would like to get as close as possible, feel power and spray of falls.
- Architecture should enhance experience (drama, scale, height) but fit with the site.
- Preference for natural and industrial materials, such as basalt, wood, concrete.
- Desire for some areas with cover/protection from weather and spray.
- Provide interpretive information about site, history and cultural ties.

Riverwalk Summer Programming

Participants of the survey were asked to show their level of support for activities that can help support a unique experience at the falls in the summer season when water flow is low. The following summarizes the feedback received from 1,105 survey responses:

Support for Summer Programming Options



Of the options presented, participants support the following options the most: **guided wildlife and habitat observation; historic/cultural educational center; and, a civic square for events throughout the year.**

General Riverwalk Feedback

Participants had the opportunity to leave general comments at both the in-person event (comment cards) and with the survey (open-ended question). The project received over 300 additional comments. These comments helped to provide additional context for the feedback received through the event, workshop and survey. These comments also offer the Design Collective and overall project team other ideas that should be considered for the riverwalk site. The following are highlights of the comments received. All comments are available in the appendix.

Programming/ Uses:

- Consider preserving and restoring natural resources, for aesthetic or habitat reasons (or both).
- Water recreation, such as a whitewater park for kayaking or small boat launch, was mixed. Many advocated for this while a few opposed the idea of a whitewater park.
- A desire for a peaceful, contemplative retreat.
- A desire for river views, from vantage points or from access points at the water level.
- Feedback on commercial, retail, and restaurant uses was mixed. While some respondents want the falls to be free of commercial activity, approximately twice as many would like to see shopping and/or restaurants on-site.
- A desire for Native American interpretation, such as honoring indigenous history or ensuring tribal input into the design process.
- A desire to honor the history and industrial character of the site.
- Feedback on playgrounds is torn between an equal number of respondents who were for or against them. Those in favor want the falls to be family friendly. Those opposed to a playground on-site, want the falls to be quiet and different from other parks.
- A desire for interpretive features about the history and ecology of the site.
- A desire for gathering spaces for large and small groups, events, performances.
- Requests for pedestrian or multi-use path connections from the falls site to downtown and above the bluff.

General Riverwalk Feedback Continued

Other Design Considerations

- A need for adequate parking.
- Consider accessibility for people with mobility constraints.
- Industrial uses on the West Linn side of the river detract from views of the falls.
- Design should be bold, innovative, and creative.

General

- Many comments were praise or ideas for improvement for the survey or the public involvement process.
- Several comments related to general excitement or a positive feeling about the project.

Feedback from Event Facilitators and Volunteers

Facilitators and volunteers were asked to provide feedback on the overall comments, interactions and observations they observed at the in-person event on November 17.

Overall, facilitators and volunteers reported hearing questions and concerns regarding how habitat areas would be maintained; parking and traffic; and the demolition of the carpentry shop. Other concerns were reported regarding potential conflicts and difficulties regarding boat launching and fishing in the north end; some participants like the idea of a boat dock while others believe that currents are too strong or there should be no motorized boats here. Habitat protection, interpretation, and historic elements are valued.

Their feedback included several positive comments about the overall event. This included how engaging and interesting the activities were, how well the illustrations were done, and how well the event was organized. Critiques about the event included better directions at the venue and better guidance of how to navigate the different areas of the workshop event. Also, the technology in the survey area was difficult for some people to use, and to consider holding the event on a Saturday when more people may be available.

Participant Information

November 17 Event Highlights

- Overall, an estimated 500 people participated in the in-person the event held on November 17, 2016.
- An estimated 150 people participated in the workshop, which included over 30% of event participants (not including staff).

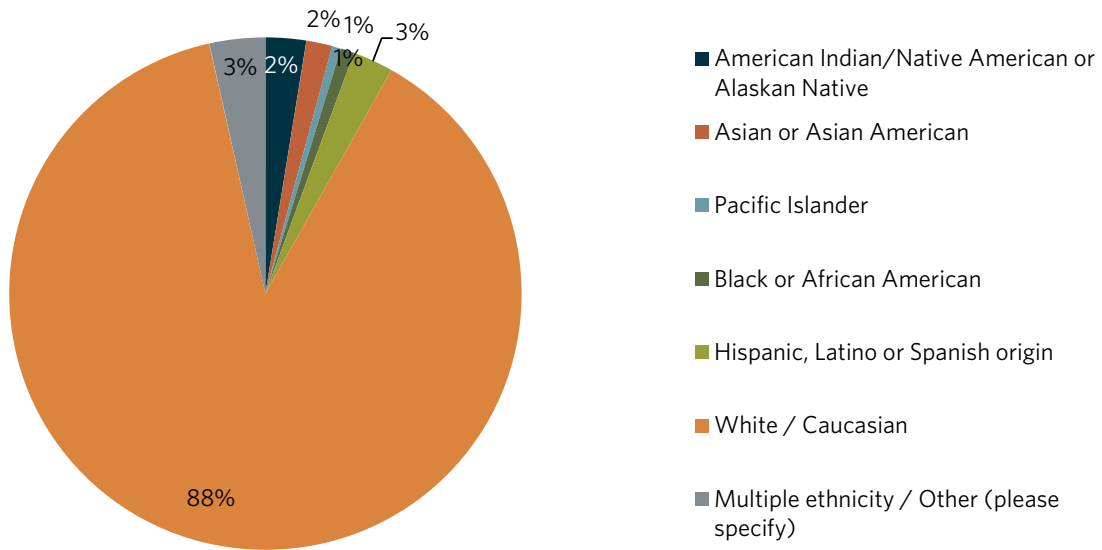
Survey Highlights

- Over 1,200 people participated in the survey between the dates of November 17 - December 7, 2016.
- The survey included an introduction video which was viewed 1,064 times.
- When asked if survey participants attended the March 30, 2016 event, 89% of participants stated that they did not attend, 11% did attend. This is a similar trend from the previous survey, which may indicate that those who choose to take project surveys don't attend the in-person events and rather participate through surveys.
- 32% of survey participants live in Oregon City (zip code 97045); 10% of survey participants live in West Linn (zip code:97068); the remaining participants live throughout the Portland-metro area, with a high amount of participants from southeast Portland or Milwaukie.

Demographics (Based on survey responses only)

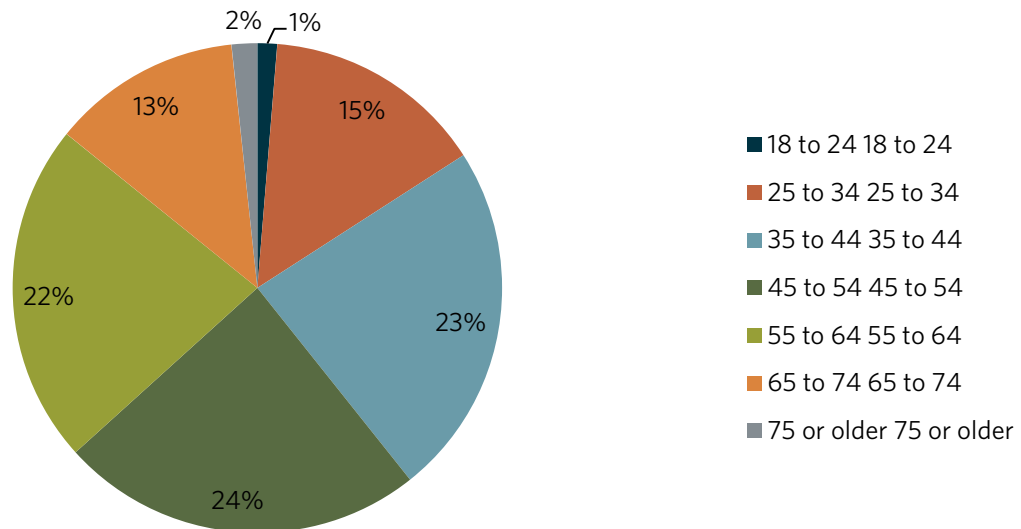
- The majority of participants identified themselves as white (88%).

Demographics of Survey Participants



- Participants were fairly evenly split between the ages of 35 - 64, at an average of 23%.

Age of Survey Participants



- Participants make a higher than average income. 20% of participants said they have an average household income of between \$75,000 - \$99,000 and 24% earn between \$100,000 - \$149,000.
- Most participants said they they do not have a disability or prefer not to say (92%), however 4% have an ambulatory difficulty (having serious difficulty walking or climbing stairs) and 3% have a hearing difficulty (deaf or having serious difficulty hearing).