City of Milford's Parks and Recreation Survey

Executive Summary of the Parks and Recreation Survey Results

Overview of the Methodology

The City of Milford conducted a Parks and Recreation Survey during July and August of 2006 to help assist the City of Milford in determining proposed park facilities, amenities, recreation center interest and overall character of existing and future park development. The survey was designed to obtain statistically valid results from households throughout the City of Milford. The survey was administered by a combination of mail and online survey results.

The Parks and Recreation Commission worked with City of Milford staff to develop the survey.

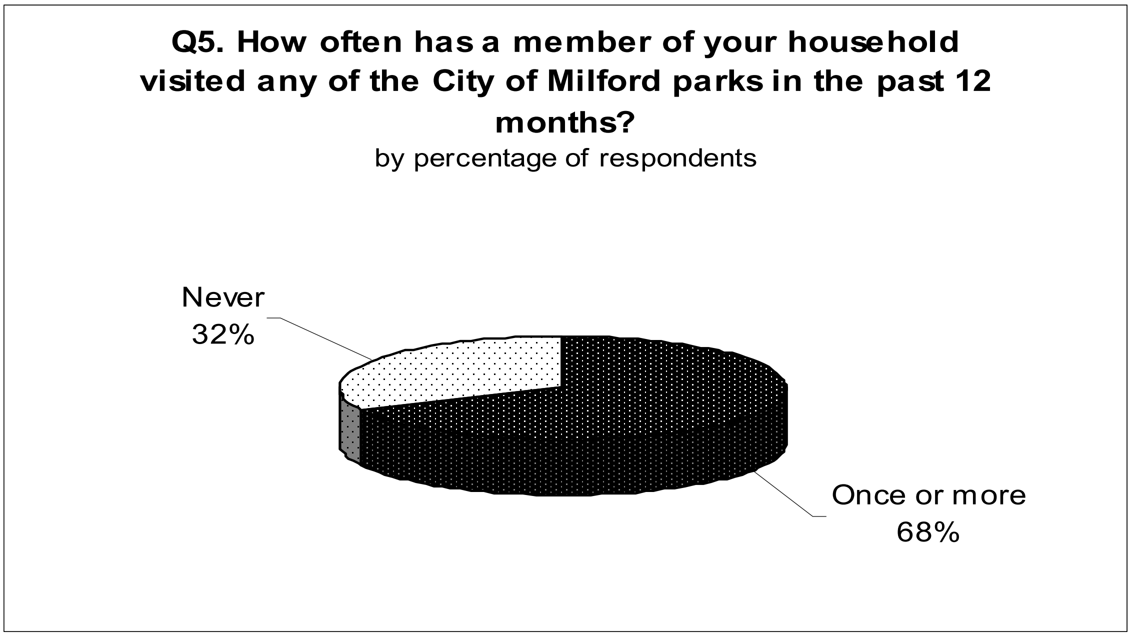
In July, a four-page survey was mailed out to all City of Milford residents. The goal was to obtain at least 200 completed surveys. This goal was accomplished, with 204 surveys having been completed and returned by the deadline of August 14, 2006.

The following pages summarize major survey findings:

Visitation to City of Milford Parks during the past 12 months.

Respondents were asked if they or members of their household have visited any City of Milford parks during the past months. The following summarizes key findings:

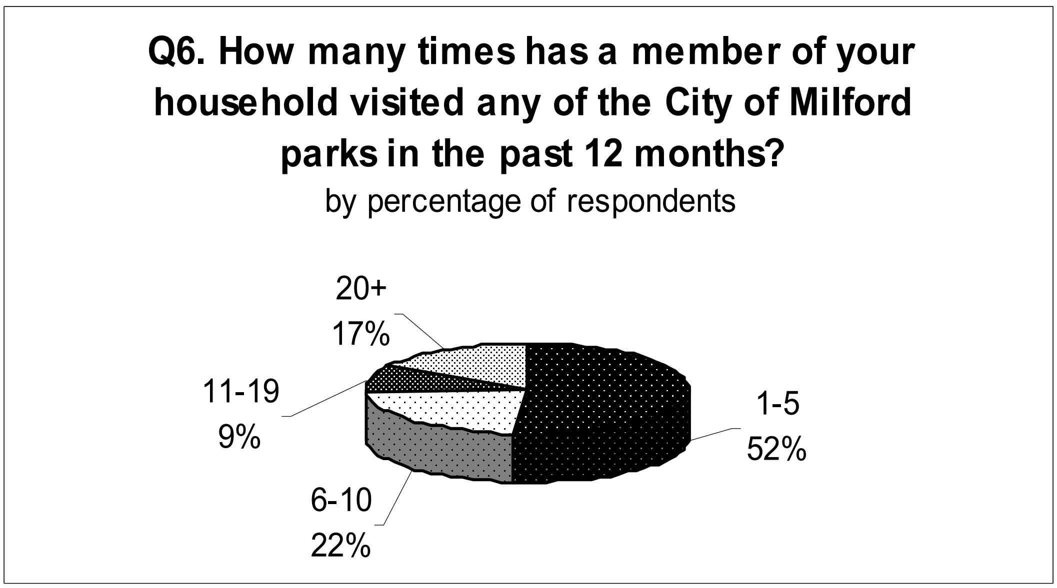
- **Sixty-eight percent (68%) of respondent households indicated they have visited City of Milford parks in the past 12 months.**



Frequency of Visits to City of Milford Parks

Respondent households were asked to indicate how many times they have visited City of Milford parks during the past 12 months. The following summarizes key finding:

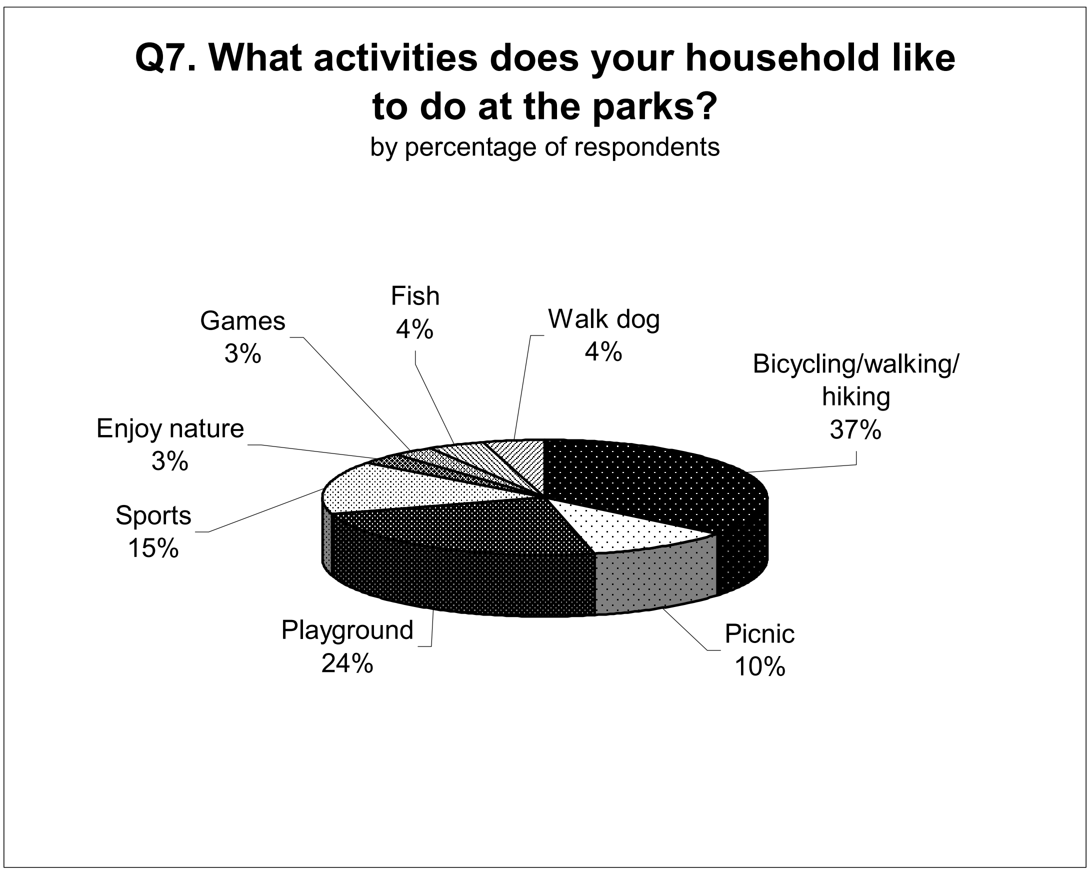
- **Fifty-two percent (52%) of respondent households that have visited City of Milford parks during the past 12 months have made 1-5 visits to parks during that time. In addition, 22% of the respondent households have made 6-10 visits, 17% of the respondent households have made 20 visits or more, and 9% of the respondent households have made 11-19 visits.**



Activities at Parks

Respondent households that visit parks were asked to indicate what activities they participate in at the parks. The following summarizes key finding:

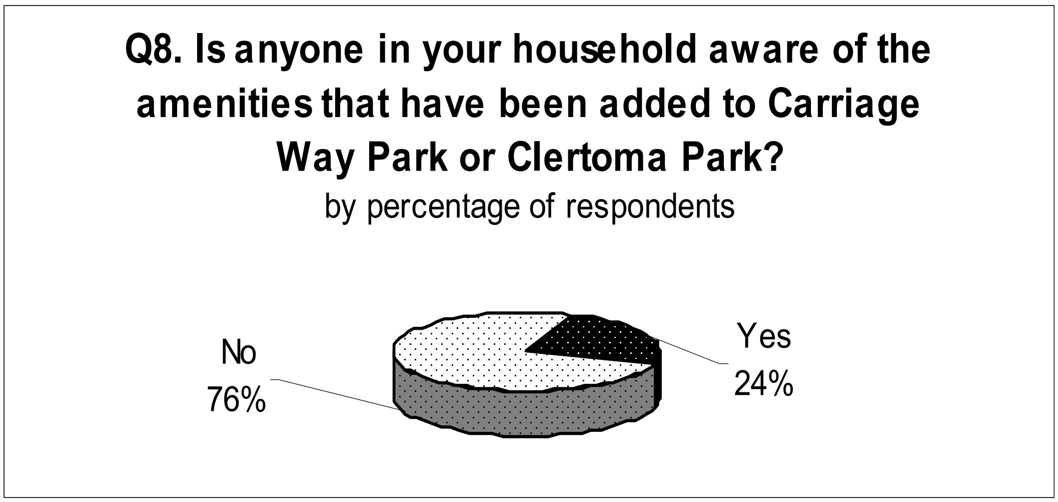
- **Sixty-one percent (61%) of respondent households that visit parks indicated they participate in the following activities: 37% of respondents participate in bicycling/walking/hiking, and 24% of respondents participate in using the playground during that time.**
- **In addition, thirty-nine percent (39%) of the respondent households indicated they participate in the following activities: 15% of the respondents participate in sports, and 4% participate in walking their dogs, 4 % participate in fishing, 3% participate in games and 3% enjoy nature.**



Changes to Carriage Way or Clertoma Park

Respondent households were asked if they were aware of the amenities that had been added to Carriage Way or Clertoma Park. The following summarizes key findings:

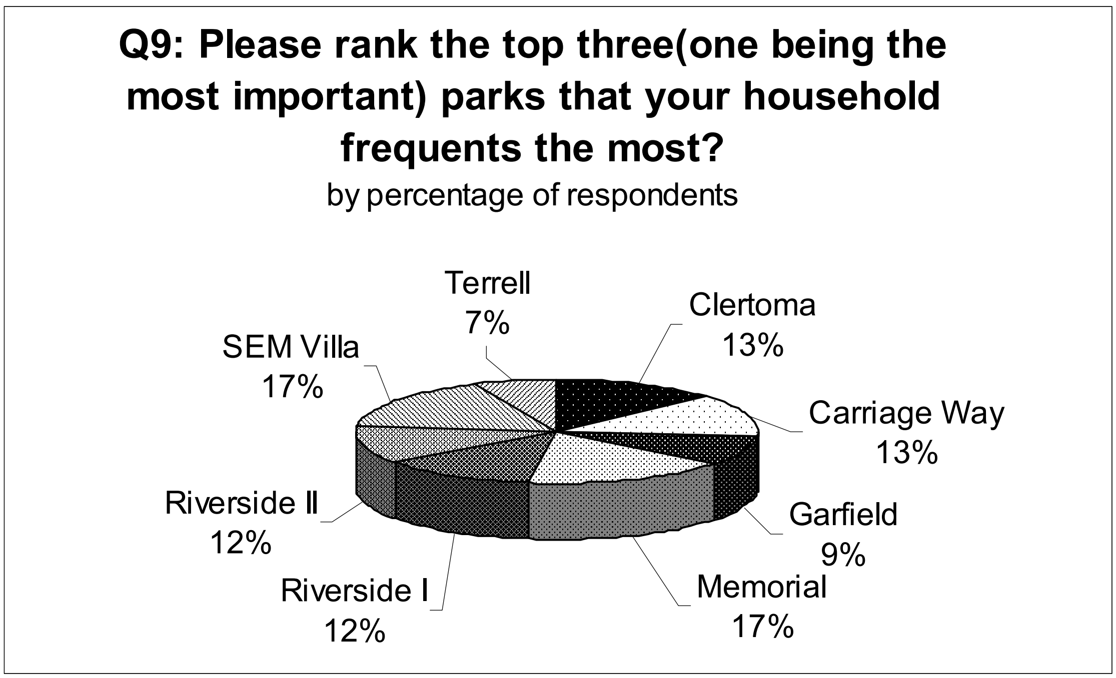
- **Seventy-six percent (76%) of respondent households were not aware of the amenities that have been added to Carriage Way or Clertoma Park.**



Rank the Top Three Parks

Respondent households were asked to rank the top three parks that their household frequents the most. The following summaries key finding:

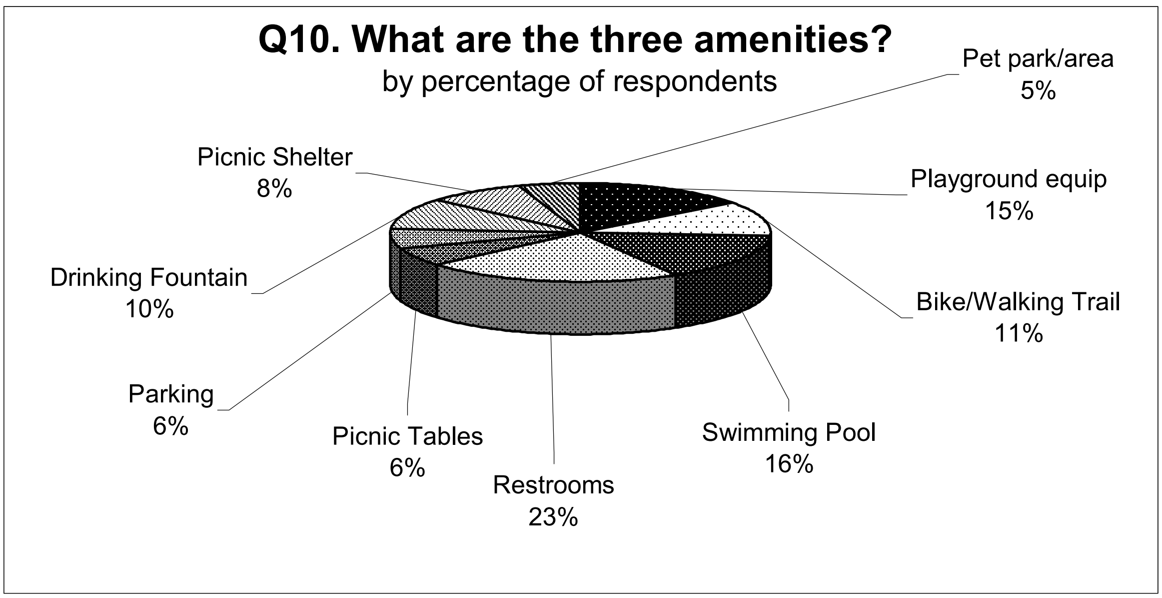
- **Thirty-four percent (34%) of the respondent households indicated they frequent the following parks: SEM Villa 17% and Memorial Park 17%.**
- **Twenty-six percent (26%) of respondent households indicated they frequent Carriage Way 13% and Clertoma 13%.**
- **Twenty-four percent (24%) of the respondent households indicate they frequent the following parks: Riverside I 12% and Riverside II 12%.**
- **Sixteen percent (16%) of respondent households indicated they frequent the following parks: 9% of the respondent households indicate they frequent Garfield and 7% of the respondent households indicate they frequent Terrell Park.**



What are the three amenities?

Respondent households were asked to identify the top three amenities that their household would like to see in the parks. The following summaries key finding:

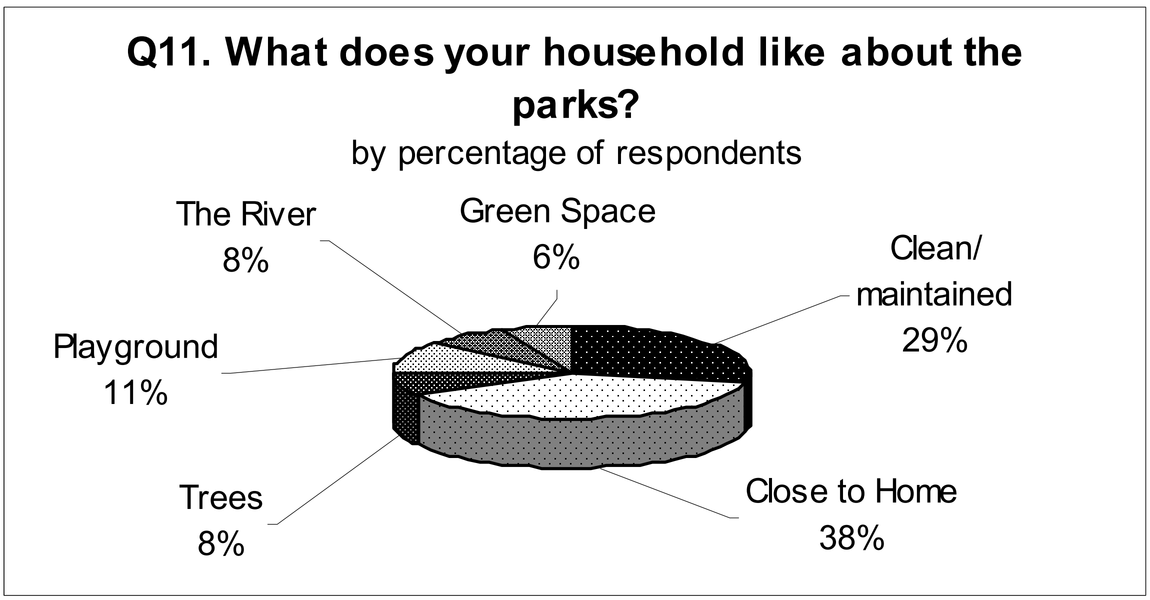
- **Fifty-four percent (54%) of respondent households indicated they would like to see the following amenities: 23% would like to see restrooms, 16% want swimming pools, and 15% want to see playground equipment.**
- **In addition, forty-six percent (46%) of respondent households indicated they would like to see the following amenities: 11% want bike/walking trails, 10% want drinking fountain, 8% want picnic shelters, 6% want parking, 6% want picnic tables, and 5% want pet parks/areas.**



What do you like about the parks?

Respondent households were asked to identify what they liked about the parks. The following summaries key finding:

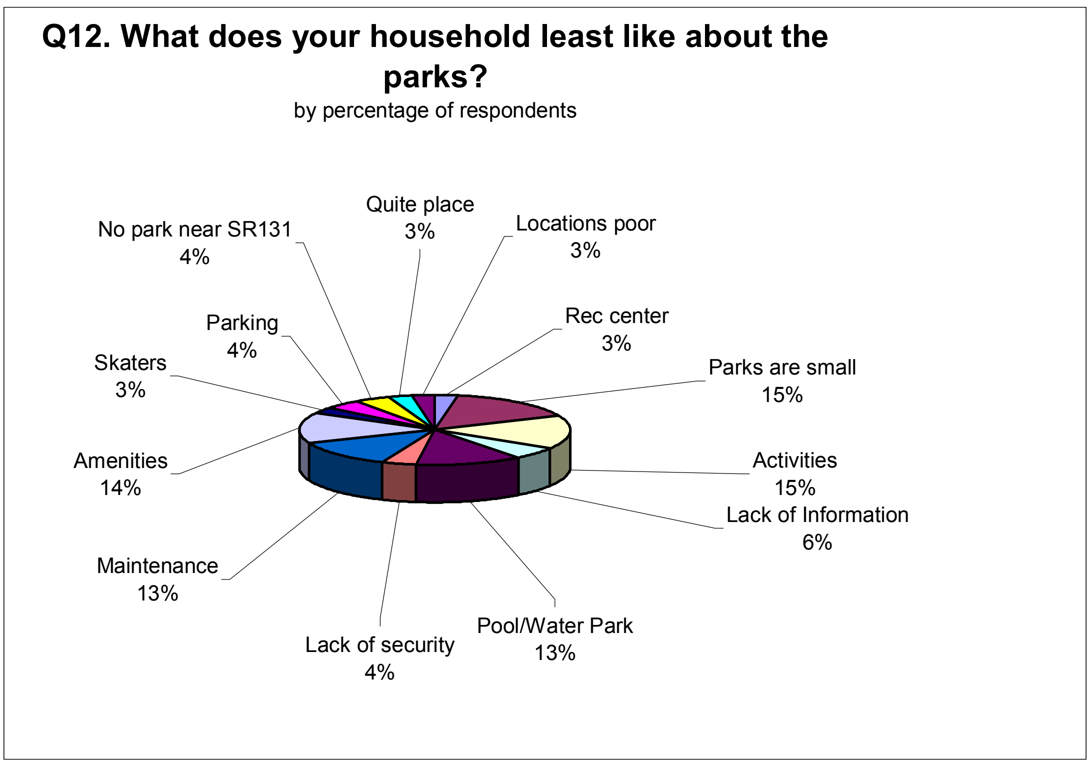
- **Sixty-seven percent (67%) of the respondent households indicated they like the locations of the parks and the cleanliness, 38% like the close to home location, 29% like the clean and maintained parks.**
- **In addition, thirty-three (33%) of the respondent households like the following items about the parks: 11% like the playground equipment, 8% like the trees, 8% like the river, and 6% like the green spaces in the parks.**



What do you like least about the parks?

Respondent households were asked to identify what they liked least about the parks. The following summaries key finding:

- **Seventy percent (70%) of the respondent households indicated they least like the locations of the parks and the cleanliness, 15% indicate they least like the small size, 15% indicate they least like that there are no activities/classes, 14% indicate they least like the amenities, 13% indicate they least like that there are no maintenance, 13% indicate they least like that there is no pool/water park.**
- **In addition, thirty percent (30%) of the respondent household least like the following items about the parks: 6% lack of information, 4% lack of security in the parks, 4% no park near 131, 4% no parking, 3% no quiet place, 3% too many skaters, 3% no recreation center and 3% poor locations.**

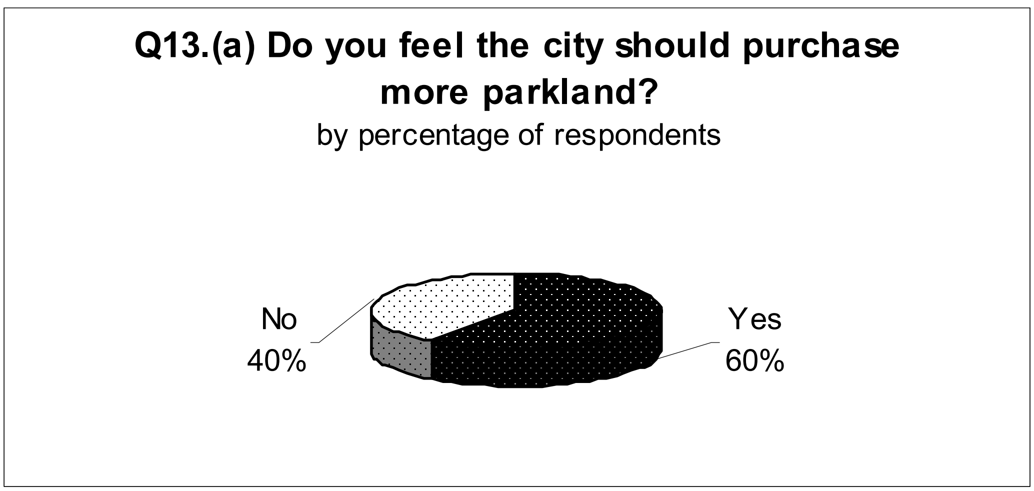


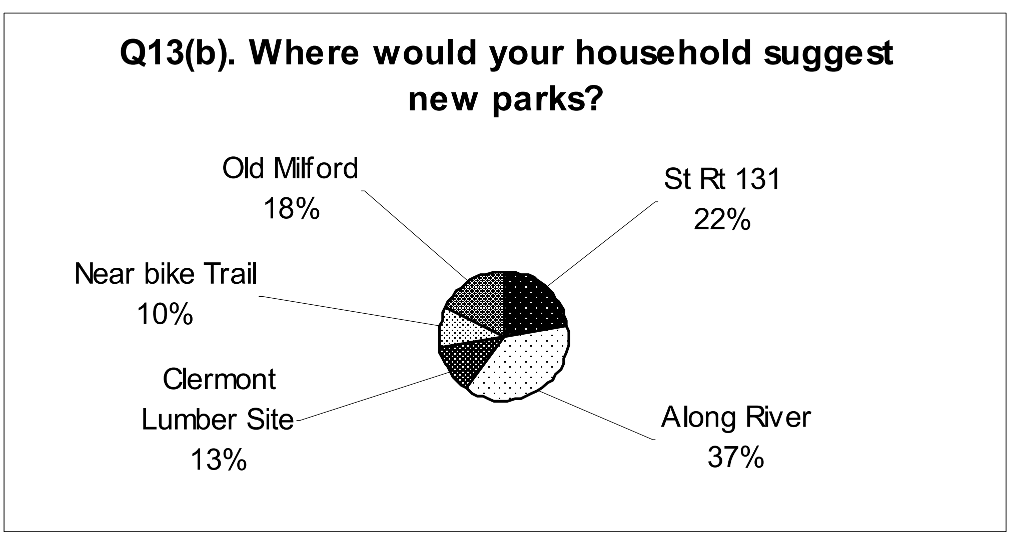
Purchase parkland

Respondents were asked if they feel the city should purchase more parkland. If so, where?

- **Sixty percent (60%) of respondent households indicated they would like the City to purchase more parkland.**

- **Fifty percent (50%) of respondent households indicated the following locations: 37% along the river and 13% at the Clermont Lumber site.**
- **In addition, fifty percent (50%) of respondent households indicated the following locations: 22% near St. Rt. 131, 18% Old Milford, and 10% near Bike Trail.**

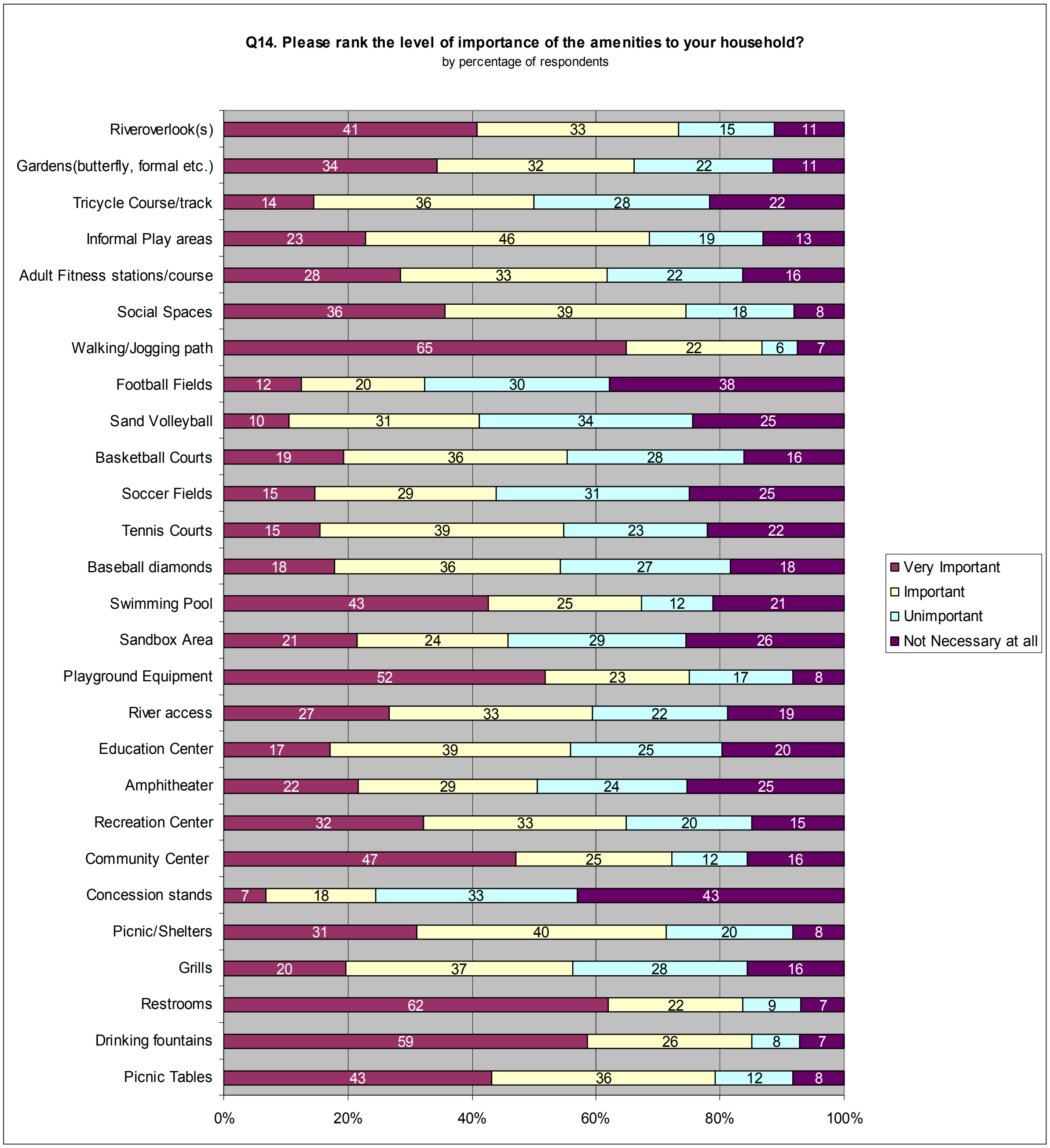




Rank the level of importance of the amenities

From the list of options, respondent households were asked to indicate how they would rank the amenities. The following summarizes key findings:

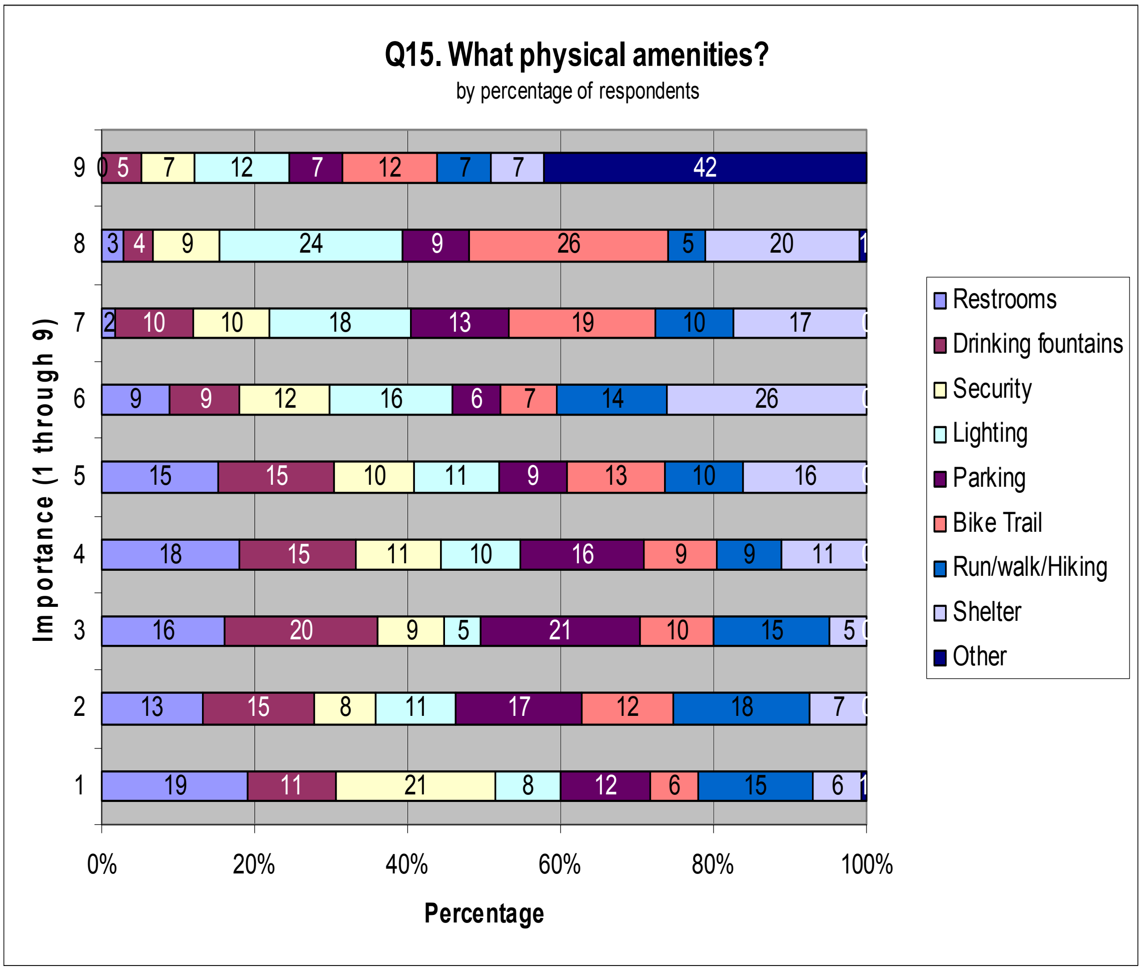
- **The most important amenities ranked by the respondent households were: walking/jogging path (65%), restrooms (62%), drinking fountains (59%), playground equipment (52%), center/pool (47%), swimming pool (43%) and picnic tables (43%).**



Rank the level of importance of the physical amenities

From the list of options, respondent households were asked to indicate how they would rank the physical amenities. The following summarizes key findings:

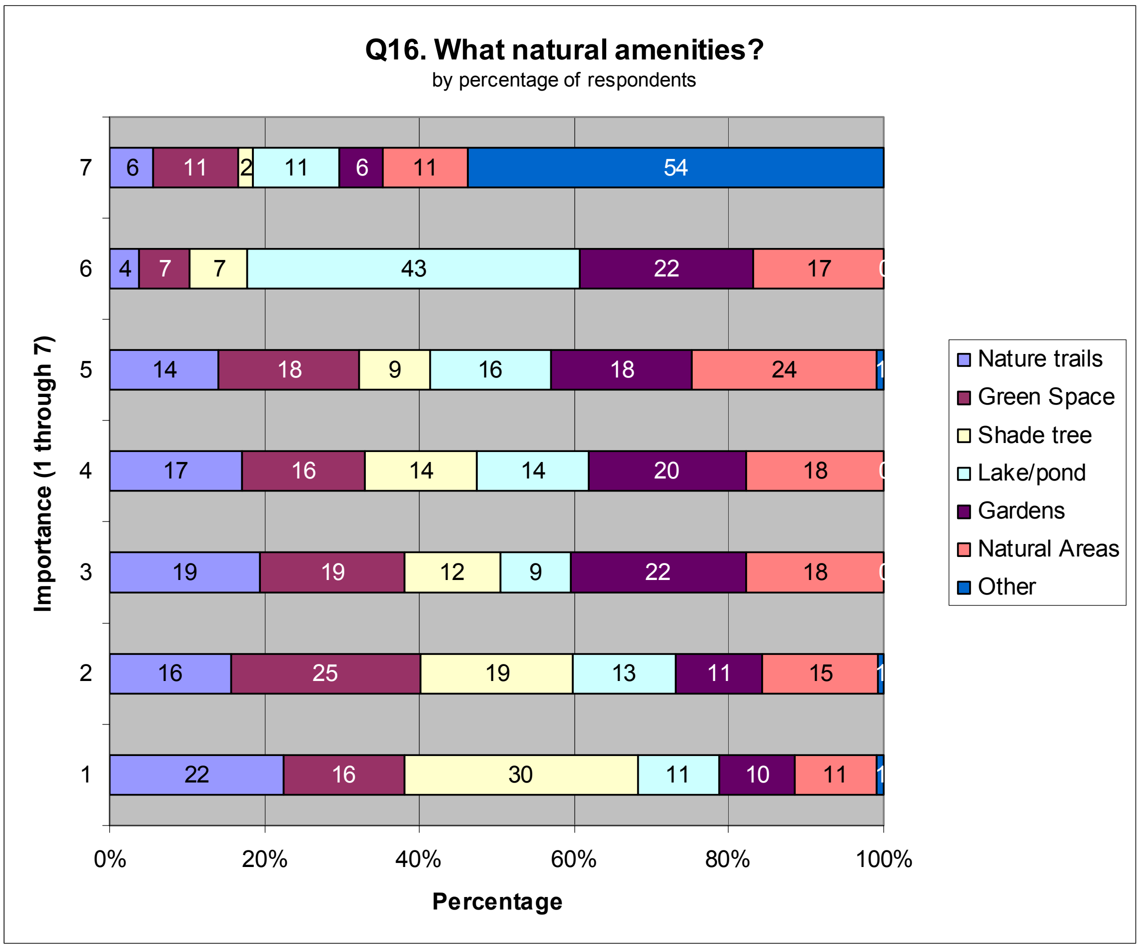
- **Fifty-five percent (55%) of the most important physical amenities were: 21% security, 19% restrooms, and 15% run/walk/hiking.**
- **In addition, forty-five (45%) of the respondent households indicated the following physical amenities were: 12% parking, 11% drinking fountains, 8% lighting, 6% shelter, and 6% bike trail.**



Rank the level of importance of the natural amenities

From the list of options, respondent households were asked to indicate how they would rank the natural amenities. The following summarizes key findings:

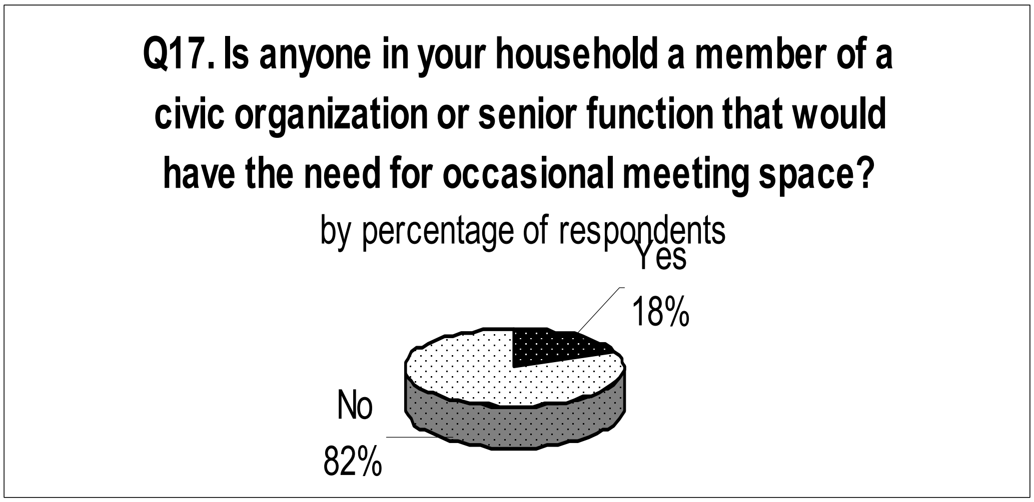
- **Fifty-two percent (52%) the most important natural amenities that received the total of were: 30% shade trees, and 22%natural trail.**
- **In addition, forty-eight percent (48%) of the votes for the most important were: 16% Green space, 11% Lake/pond, 11% Natural area, and 10% Gardens.**



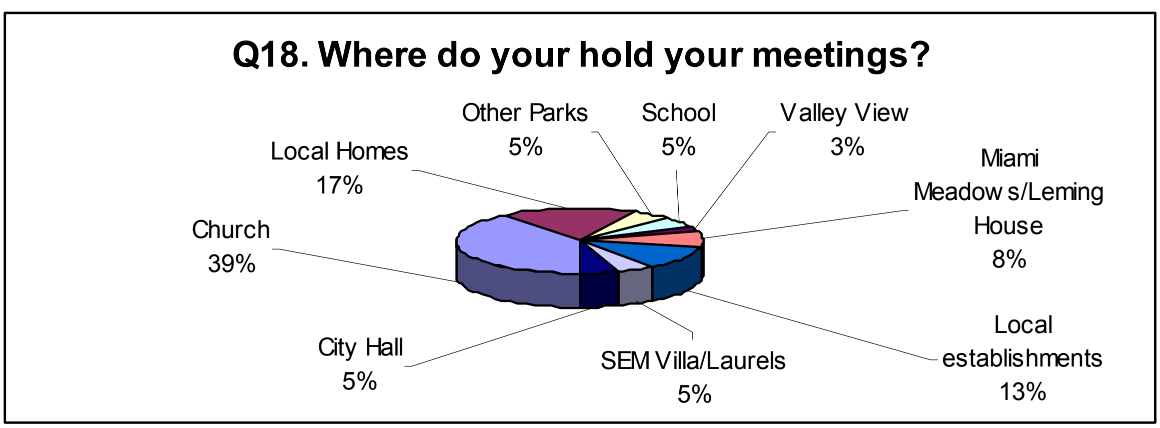
Meeting Space

Respondent households were asked if anyone is a member of a civic organization or senior function that may need a meeting space occasionally. If not, where do they hold their meetings? The following summarizes the findings:

- **Eighty-two percent (82%) of the respondents indicate that they do not need an occasional meeting space**.



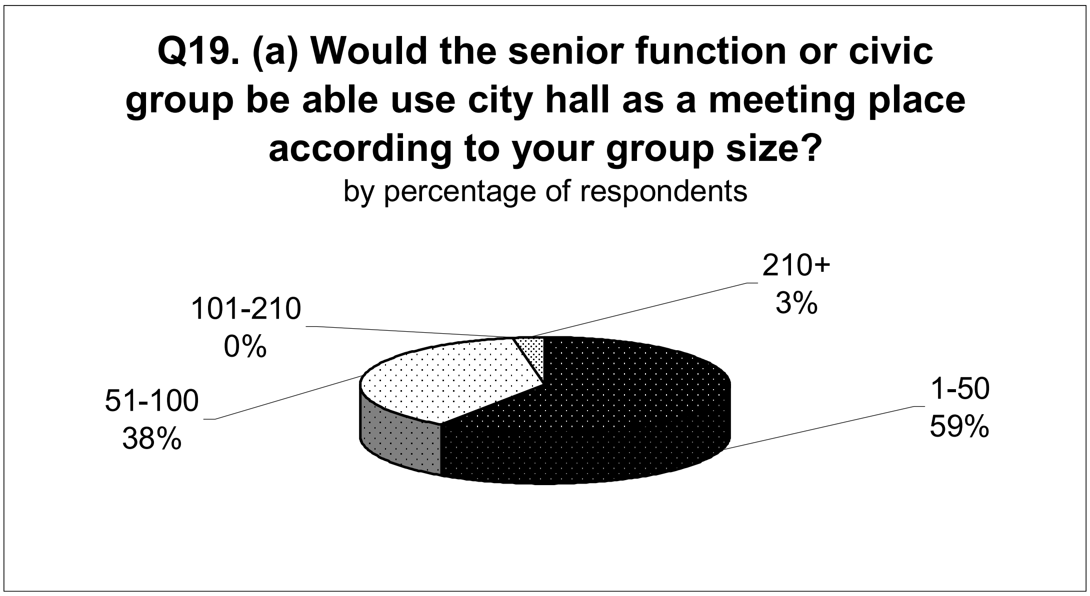
- **Sixty-nine percent (69%) of the respondents indicate that they hold their meeting at local churches, homes, and establishments. The following data indicated the breakdown of the responses: 39% hold their meetings at local churches, 17% at local homes, and 13% at local establishments.**
- **In addition, thirty-one percent (31%) indicate that they hold their meeting at the following locations: 8% hold their meetings at Miami Meadows/Leming House and 5% for each of the following locations: other parks, school, City Hall and SEM Villa/Laurels and 3% at Valley View.**



Group Size

Respondent households were asked how many members were in their group? The following summarizes the findings:

- **Ninety-seven percent (97%) of the respondents indicate that the size of their group size is 1-50 (59%) and 51-100 (38%).**
- **In addition, three percent (3%) of the respondents would not be able to use the City Hall rooms because the group has 210+ and**
- **No respondents indicated the group size is between 101-210 (0%).**

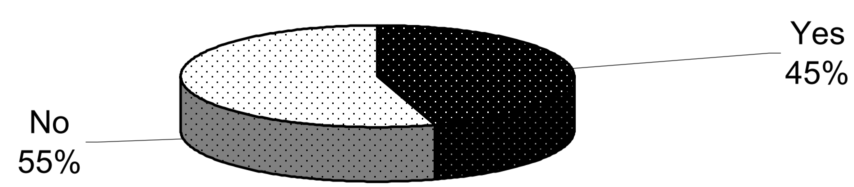


Meeting Space City Hall

Respondent households were asked if anyone is a member of a civic organization or senior function would be able to use City Hall as a meeting place. The following summarizes the findings:

- **Fifty-five percent (55%) of the respondents indicate that they would not be able to use City Hall as a meeting place.**
- **In addition, forty–five percent (45%) of respondents indicate that they would be able to use City Hall as a meeting place.**

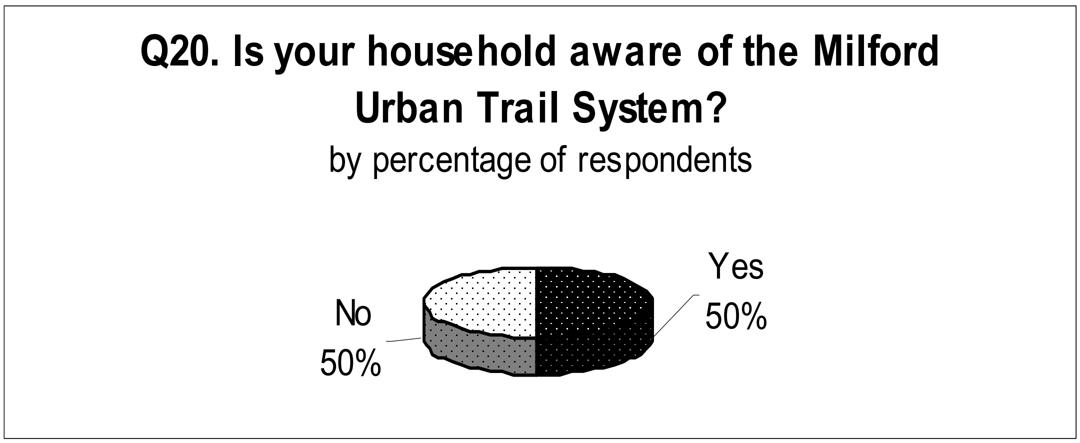
Q19. (b) Would your senior function or civic group be able use the city hall as a meeting place according to your group size-yes or no?
by percentage of respondents



Milford Urban Trail System

Respondent households were asked if they are aware of the Urban Trail System. The following summarizes the findings:

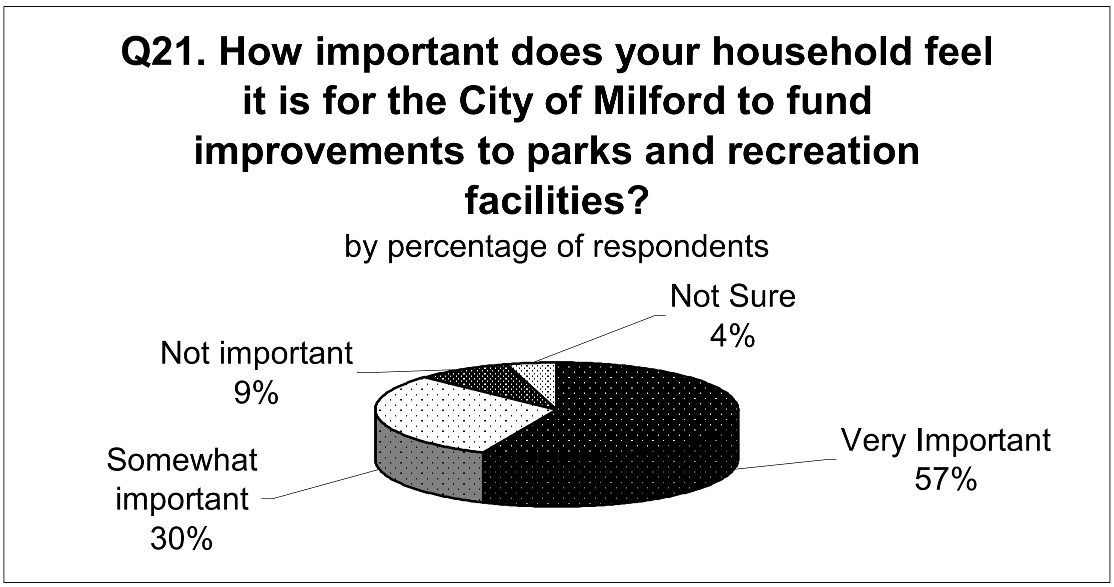
- **Fifty percent (50%) of the respondents indicate that they are aware of the Milford Urban Trail System.**
- **In addition, fifty percent (50%) of the respondents indicate that they are not aware of the Milford Urban Trail System.**



Importance of improvement to parks and recreation facilities

Respondent households were asked how important it is for the City of Milford to fund improvements to parks and recreation facilities. The following summarizes the findings:

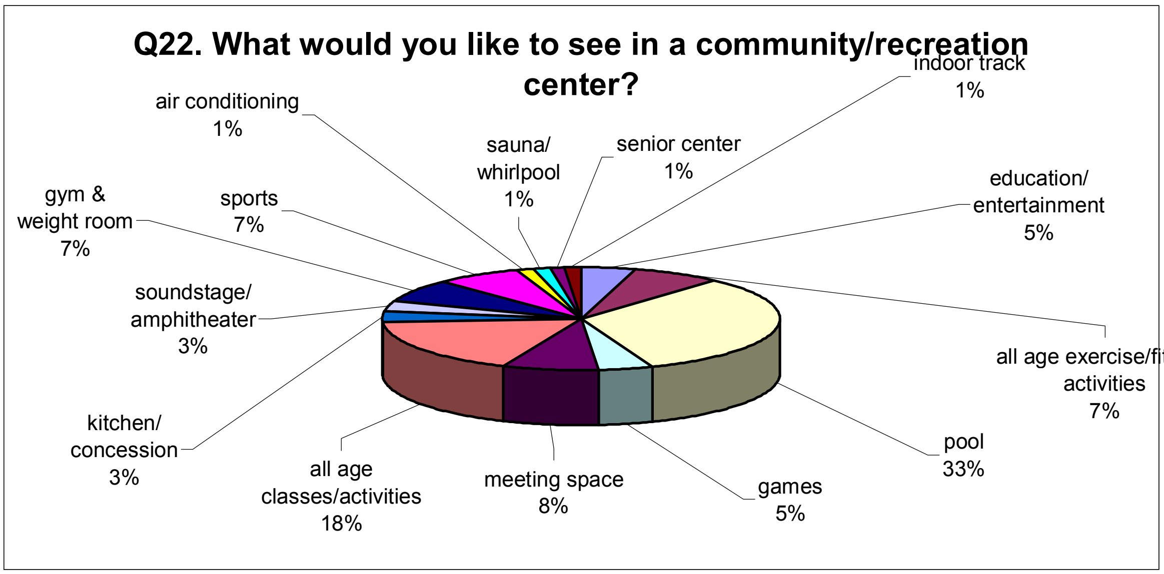
- **Eighty-seven percent (87%) of the respondents indicate the following levels of importance: 57% very important and 30% somewhat important to fund improvements to parks and recreation facilities.**
- **In addition, thirteen percent (13%) of the respondent households indicate the following levels of importance: 9% feel that it is not important and 4% that they are not sure about funding improvements.**



Importance of improvement to parks and recreation facilities

Respondent households were asked if they would like to see a community/recreation center. The following summarizes the findings:

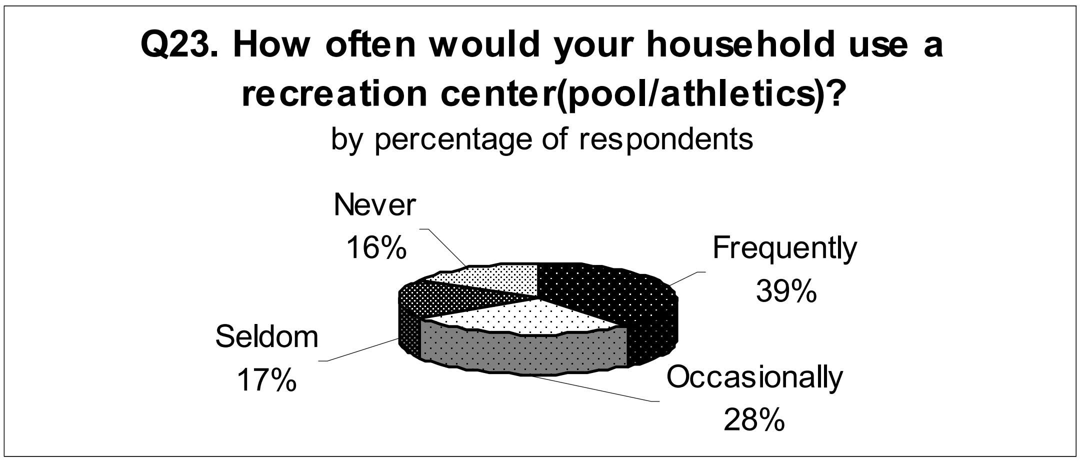
- **Eighty-seven percent (87%) of the respondents feel that it is important to fund improvements to parks and recreation facilities, very important 57% and somewhat important 30%.**
- **In addition, thirteen percent (13%) of the respondent households feel that it is not important 9% or that they are not sure 4% about funding improvements.**



Usage of the Recreation Center (pool/athletics)

Respondent households were asked how often they would use recreation center. The following summarizes the findings:

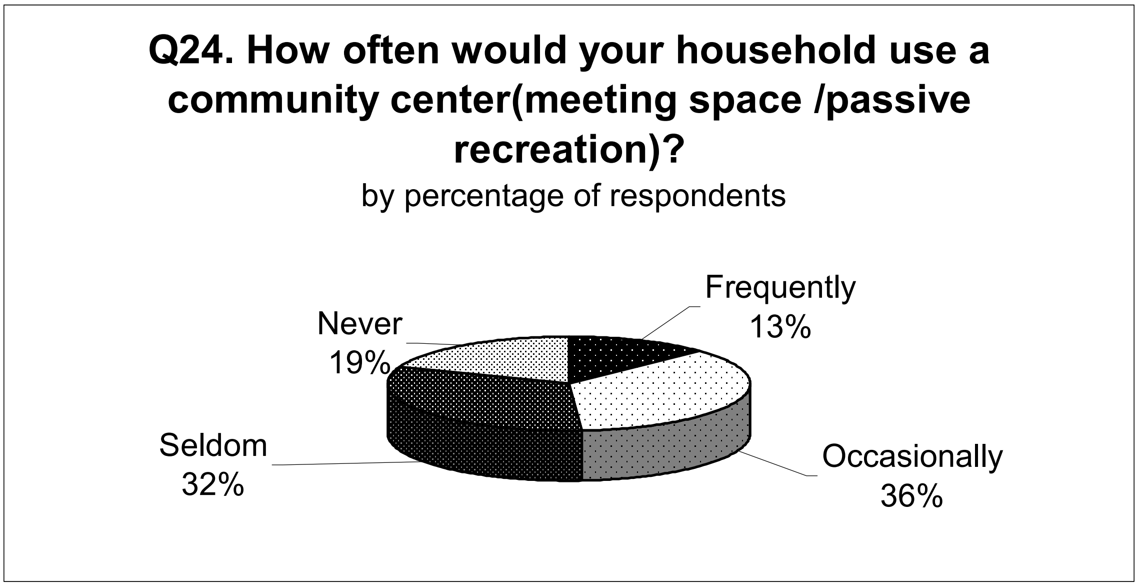
- **Sixty-seven percent (67%) of the respondents feel that they would use the recreation center frequently 39% and occasionally 28%.**
- **In addition, thirty-three percent (33%) of the respondent households feel that they would seldom 17% or never 16% use the recreation center.**



Usage of the Community Center (meeting space/passive recreation)

Respondent households were asked how often they would use community center. The following summarizes the findings:

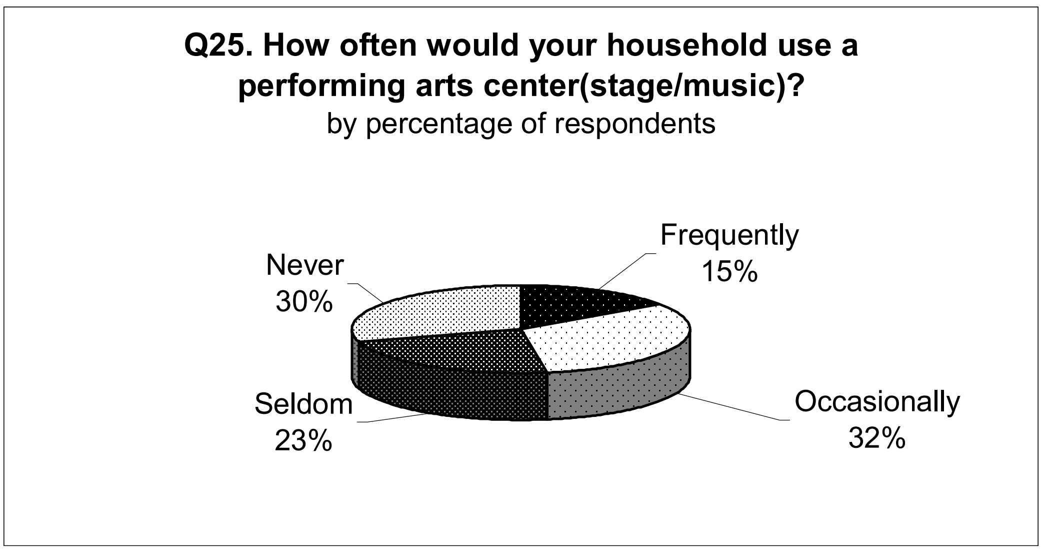
- **Forty-nine percent (49%) of the respondents feel that they would use the community center frequently 13% and occasionally 36%.**
- **In addition, fifty-one percent (51%) of the respondent households feel that they would seldom 32% or never 19% use the community center.**



Usage of the Performing Arts Center (stage/music)

Respondent households were asked how often they would use a performing arts center. The following summarizes the findings:

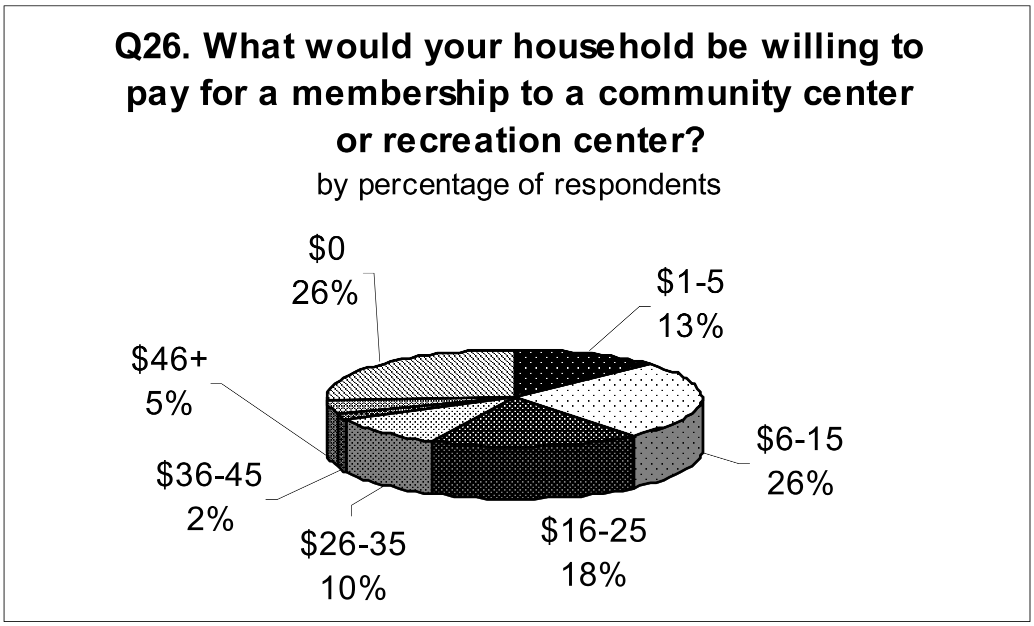
- **Forty-seven percent (47%) of the respondents indicated the following usage of the performing arts center: 15% frequently feel that they would use the performing arts center and 32% occasionally.**
- **In addition, fifty-three percent (53%) of the respondents indicated the following usage of the performing arts center: 23% seldom or 30% never.**



Maximum amount willing to pay for a membership

Respondent households were asked to indicate the maximum amount they would be willing to pay for a membership to a community center or a recreation center. The following summarizes key findings:

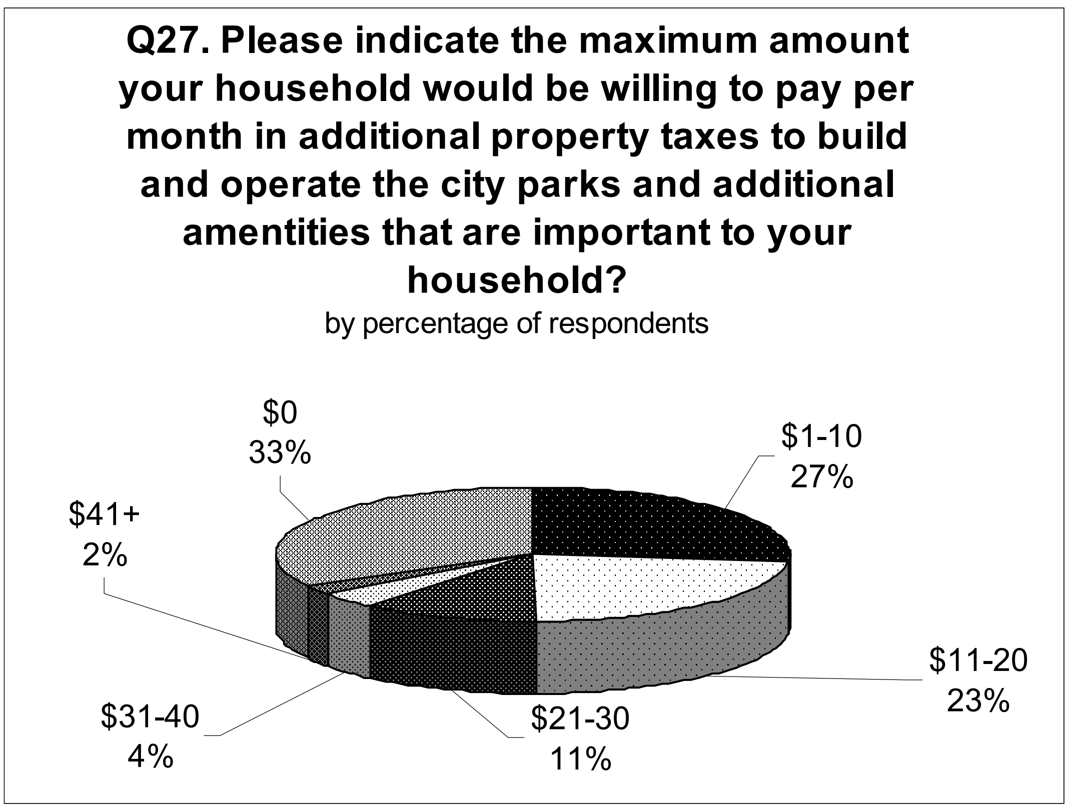
- **Sixty-seven percent (67%) of respondents indicated that the maximum amount they are willing to pay up to $35: $6-$15(26%), $16-$25(18%), $1-$5(13%), and$26-$35(10%).**
- **In addition, thirty-three percent (33%) of respondents indicated that the maximum amount they are willing to pay is $36-45(2%), $46+ (5%) and $0(26%).**



Maximum amount willing to pay per month, in additional property taxes to build and operate city parks and additional amenities

Respondent households were asked to indicate the maximum amount they would be willing to pay per month, in additional property taxes to build and operate city parks and additional amenities. The following summarizes key findings:

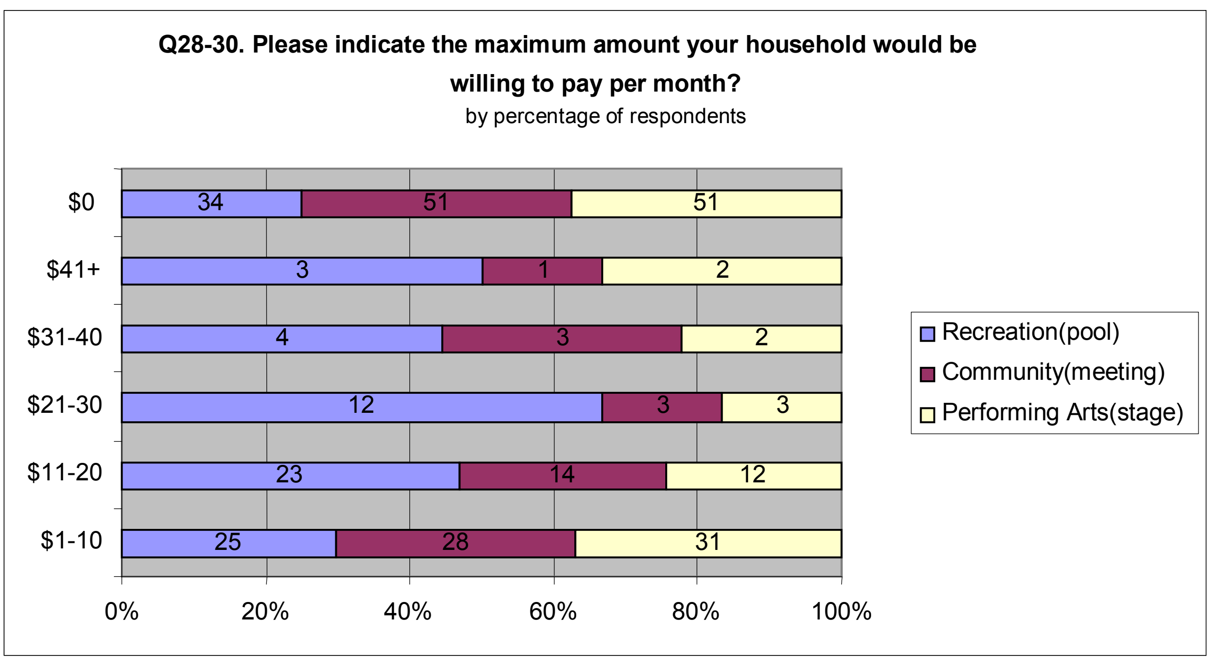
- **Sixty-one percent (61%) of respondents indicated that the maximum amount they are willing to pay $1-$10(27%), $11-$20(23%), and $21-$30(11%).**
- **In addition, thirty-nine percent (39%) of respondents indicated that the maximum amount they are willing to pay is $31-$40(4%), $41+ (2%) and $0(33%).**



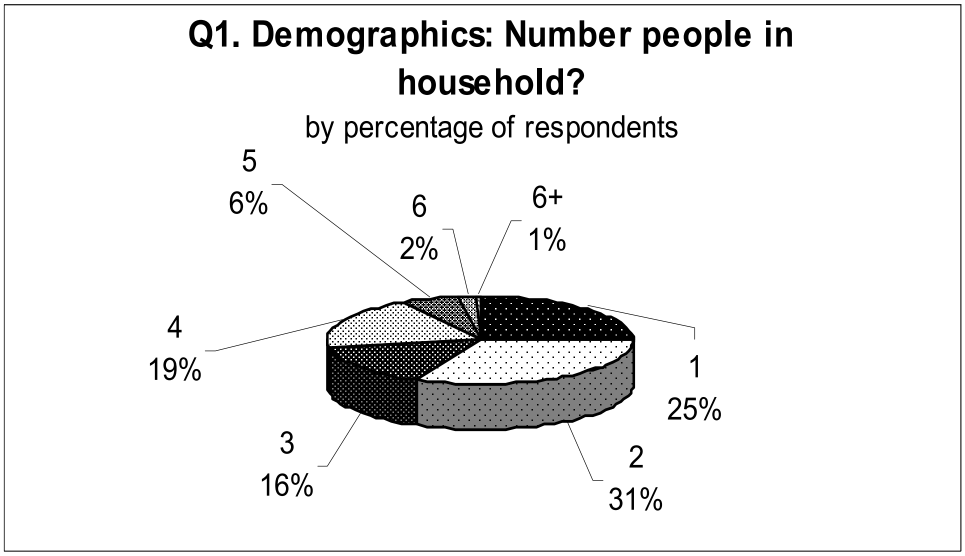
Maximum amount household would be willing to pay per month

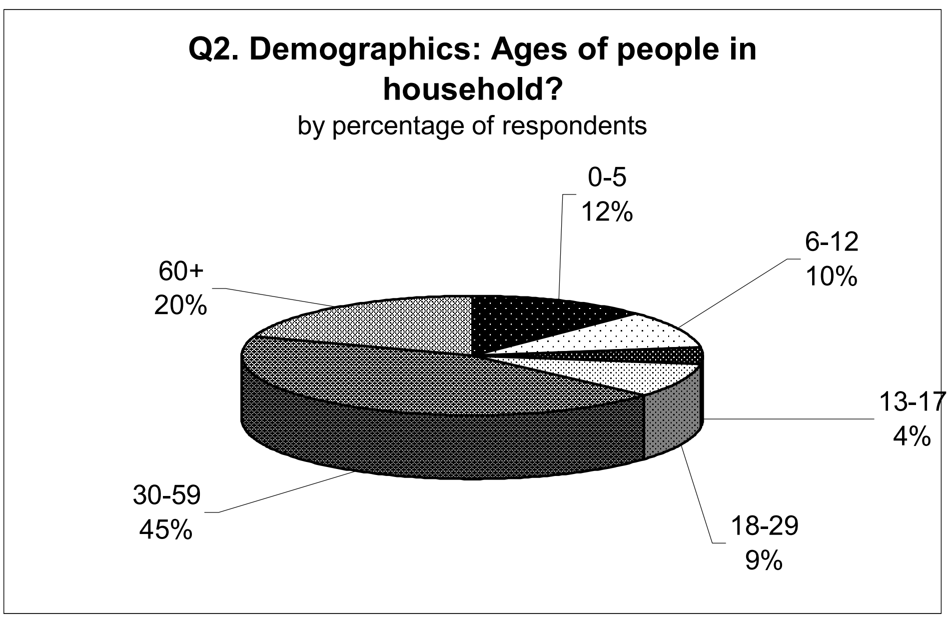
Respondent households were asked to indicate the maximum amount they would be willing to pay per month, in additional property taxes to build and operate a recreation center, community center, and performing arts center. The following summarizes key findings:

- **Recreation Center:** Forty-eight percent (48%) of respondents indicated the maximum amount they are willing to pay $20 dollars and under, $1-$10 dollars 25% and $11-$20 dollars 23%. In addition, 12% of respondents are willing to pay $21-$30 dollars, 4% of respondents are willing to pay $31-$40 dollars, 3% of respondents are willing to pay $41+ dollars and 34% of respondents are will to pay $0 for a Recreation Center.
- **Community Center:** Forty-two percent (42%) of respondents indicated the maximum amount they are willing to pay $20 dollars and under, $1-$10 dollars 28% and $11-$20 dollars 14%. In addition, 3% of respondents are willing to pay $21-$30 dollars, 3% of respondents are willing to pay $31-$40 dollars, 1% of respondents are willing to pay $41+ dollars and 51% of respondents are will to pay $0 for a Community Center.
- **Performing Arts Center:** Forty-three percent (43%) of respondents indicated the maximum amount they are willing to pay $20 dollars and under, $1-$10 dollars 31% and $11-$20 dollars 12%. In addition, 3% of respondents are willing to pay $21-$30 dollars, 2% of respondents are willing to pay $31-$40 dollars, 2% of respondents are willing to pay $41+ dollars and 51% of respondents are will to pay $0 for a Performing Arts Center.



Demographics





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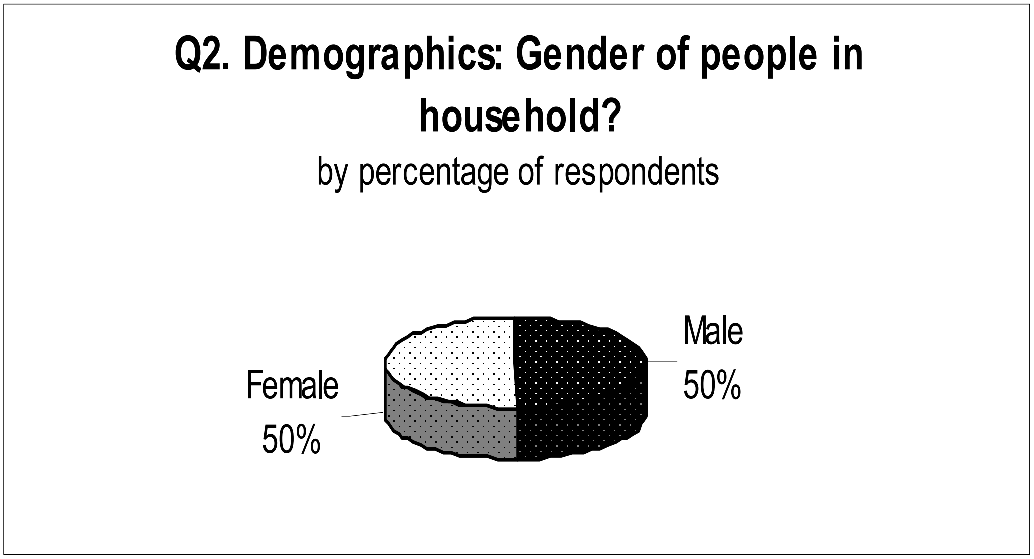

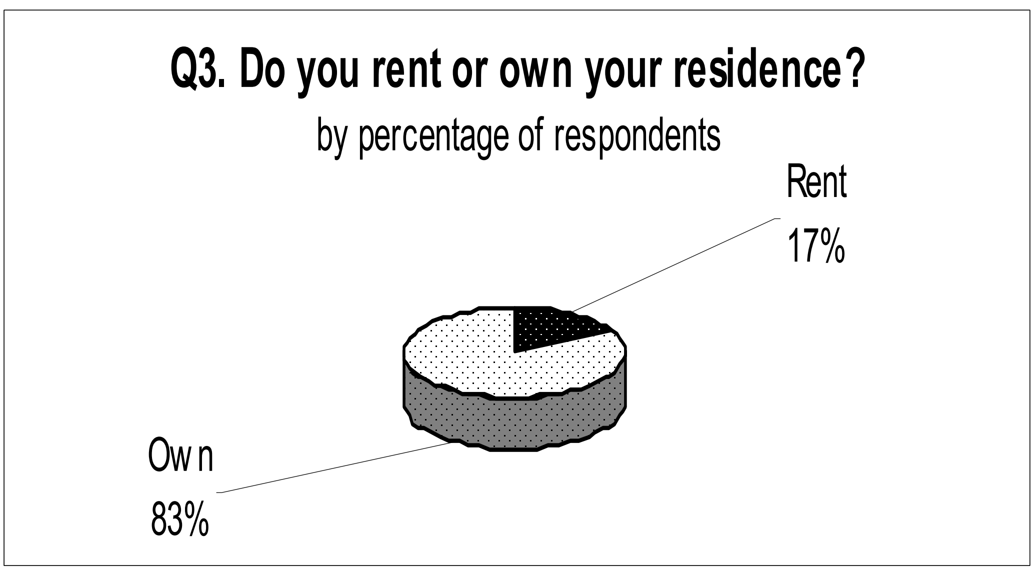

Demographics (Continued)