



***WHAT WE HEARD ABOUT  
SAPRAE CREEK ESTATES:  
PEDESTRIAN TRAIL & BEAUTIFICATION***

*Engineering & Public Works Departments  
March 1 - 20, 2023*

By Will Collins | [will.collins@rmwb.ca](mailto:will.collins@rmwb.ca)  
May 15, 2023



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We humbly acknowledge that the land on which we live, learn, work and play is Treaty 8 territory, the traditional and ancestral lands of the Cree, Dene, and unceded territory of the Métis.

## ***ABOUT THE PROJECT***

The objective of this project is to enhance the overall beautification of Sapræe Creek Estates to align with other rural communities, and consider the recommendations outlined in the Parks Master Plan (May 2019). This includes exploring opportunities for a trail system, enhancing placemaking nodes, promoting pedestrian use, and creating an improved sense of arrival to Sapræe Creek Estates.

This project also considers requests from the community to put a roof cover over the mailbox area and enhance lighting in the mailbox area.

For this engagement, residents were asked to share their feedback on the location and alignment of a proposed pedestrian trail, amenities for the mailbox area, and opportunities to add beautification to Sapræe Creek Estates.

Residents' feedback will provide the Engineering and Public Works Departments with well-rounded information that can be used to help guide the design of this project.



# ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

## STAKEHOLDERS

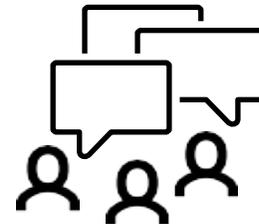
The following is a list of groups who were invited to participate in the engagement; however, residents from across the region were also welcome to share feedback and participate.

1. Residents of Sapræ Creek Estates
2. Sapræ Creek Residents Society
3. Vista Ridge Ski Hill
4. Property Owners Adjacent to Proposed Trail
5. Internal Municipal Departments
6. Indigenous Partners
7. Mayor and Councillors

## COMMUNICATION CHANNELS

The following is a list of ways we shared information and promoted the engagement to encourage residents' participation.

- ✓ Direct Contact with Stakeholders
- ✓ Electronic Message Boards
- ✓ Email Invitations
- ✓ Neighbourhood Engagement Series (NES)
- ✓ Participate Wood Buffalo (PWB)
- ✓ Posters
- ✓ Pulse
- ✓ PWB Newsletter
- ✓ Rural Newsletter
- ✓ Social Media
- ✓ Variable Message Signs



## ENGAGEMENT TACTICS

The following is a list of ways that residents were invited to learn about the project and share feedback.

- Dot-Mocracy
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Important Links
- Ideas & Opportunities Tool
- In-Person Public Engagement Session
- Interactive Map Tool
- Neighbourhood Engagement Series
- Online Discussion Forum
- Participate Wood Buffalo (PWB)
- Quick Poll
- Survey
- Questions Widget



# ENGAGEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

2,827

Social Media Reach

2,970

Social Media Impressions

183

Visits to Participate Wood Buffalo

37

Survey Submissions

11

FAQ Views

9

Quick Poll Responses

25

Engagement Session Participants

2

Stakeholder Meetings

2

Mapping Tool Contributions

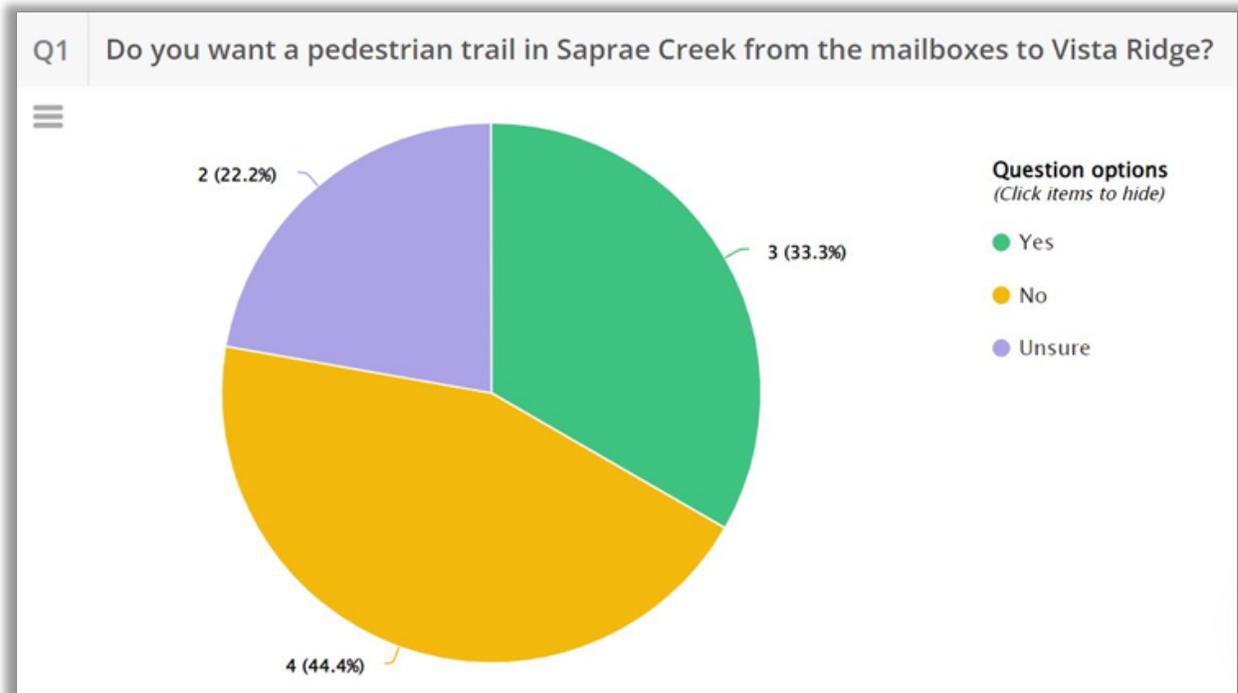
100%

Survey Participants from Saprae Creek Estates

## QUICK POLL: OVERVIEW

Quick Polls are one-question surveys designed to better understand respondents' general feeling about the topic of the engagement.

For this quick poll, we asked one question to understand whether or not respondents want a pedestrian trail in Saprae Creek from the mailboxes to Vista Ridge. Out of nine responses, three people want the trail, four do not, and two were unsure.



## SURVEY: OVERVIEW

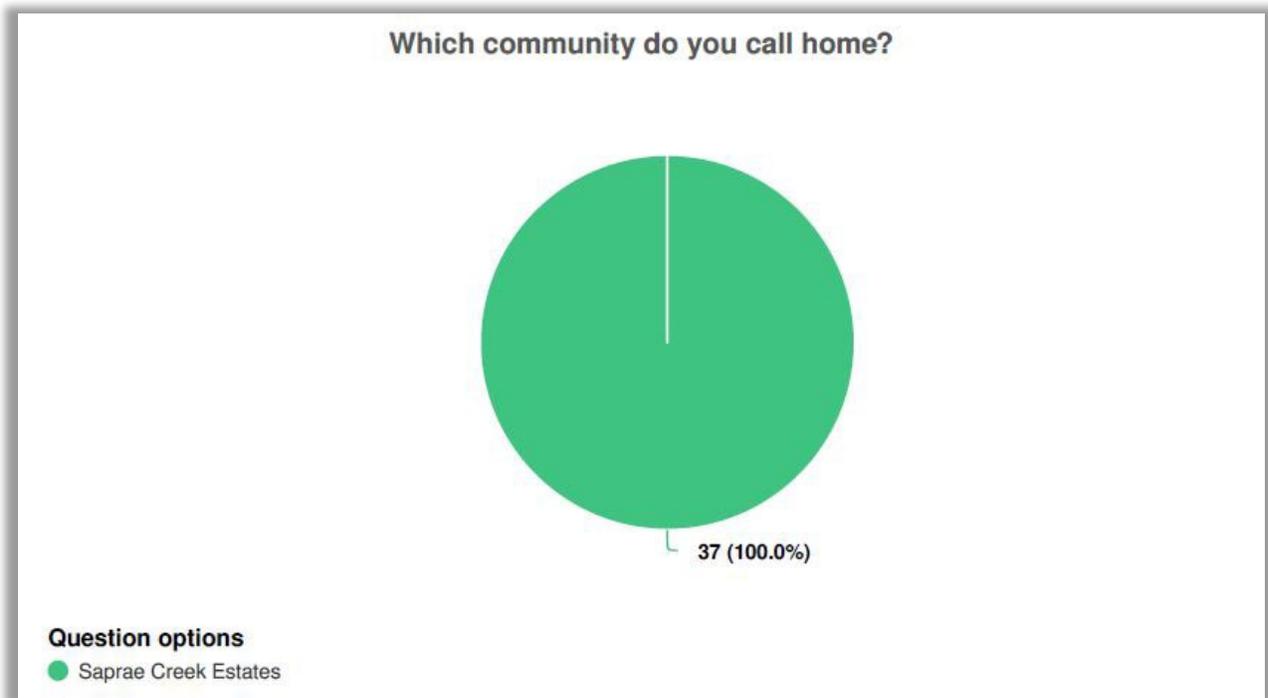
The following is an overview of the survey responses we received online and at the in-person engagement session. The total number of responses for each question vary slightly, as respondents were not required to answer each question and skipped questions they didn't want to answer.

### Question 1: Which community do you call home?

In the first survey question, we asked respondents where they call home to see if they live close to the project area, or if this project is important to residents in other parts of the region.

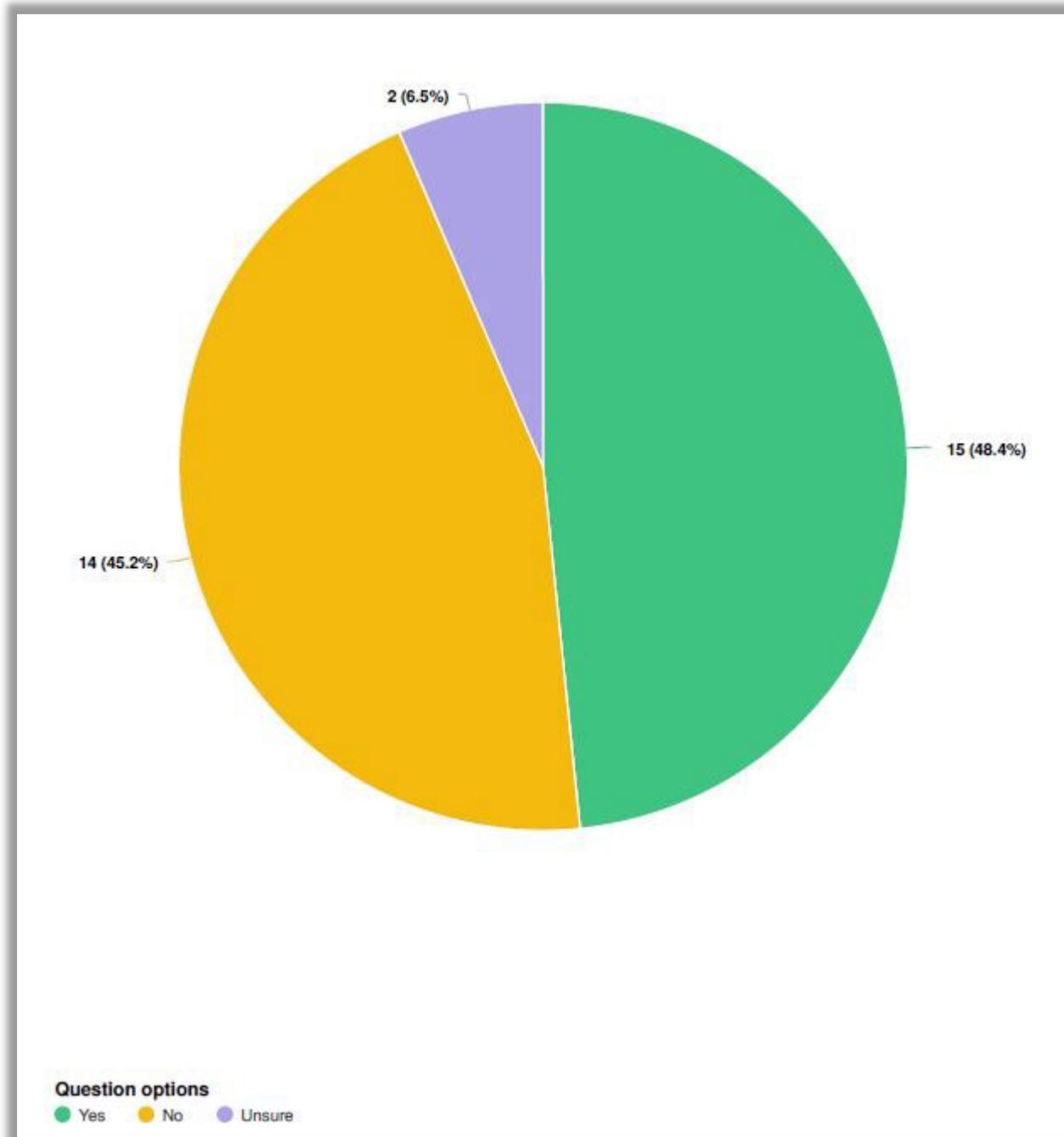
100% of survey respondents call Sapræe Creek Estates their home.

Out of 37 respondents, **100% call Sapræe Creek Estates their home**. While not everyone in Sapræe Creek Estates responded to the survey, this sample suggests that survey responses reflect the general feeling of residents in the community.



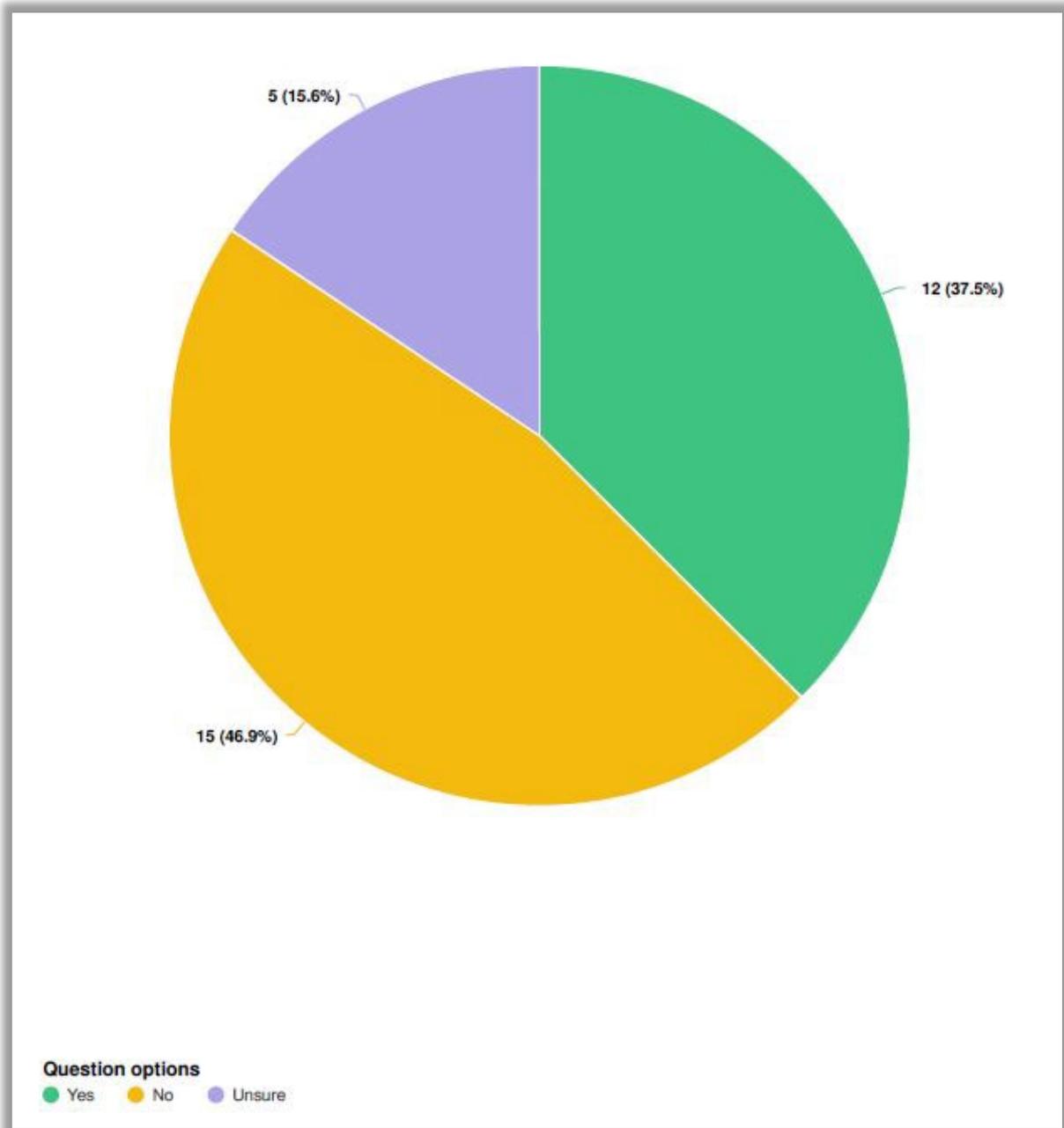
## Question 2: Do you want a pedestrian trail from the mailboxes to Vista Ridge?

Out of 31 responses, 15 (48.4%) do want the trail, while 14 respondents (45.2%) do not want the trail, and 2 respondents (6.5%) are unsure.



### Question 3 asked: Do you agree with the proposed trail alignment?

Out of 32 responses, 12 (37.5%) agree with the alignment, while 15 respondents (46.9%) do not agree with the proposed alignment, and 5 respondents (15.6%) are unsure.

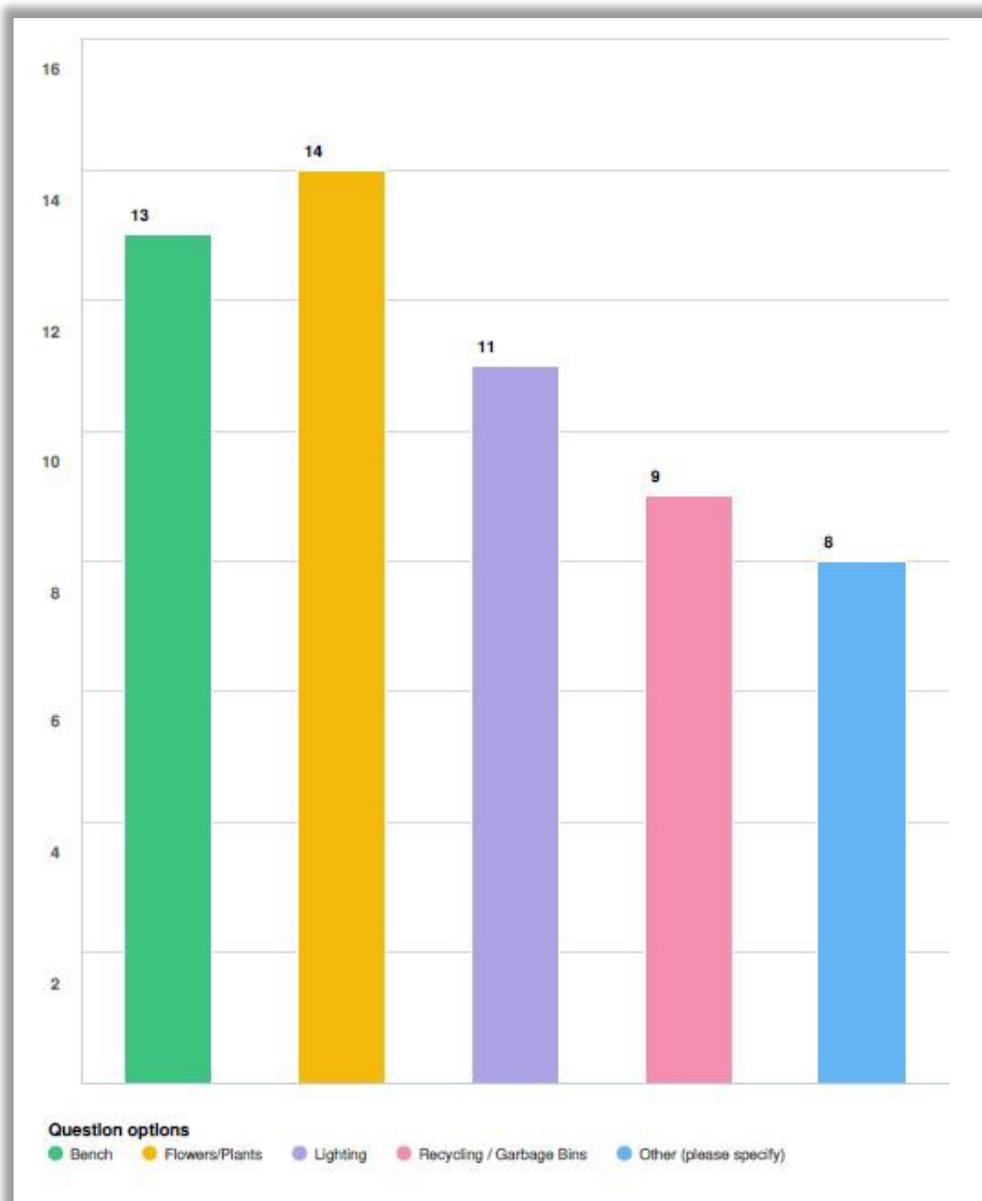


## Question 4 asked respondents to choose up to three (3) trail amenities that are most important to them.

Out of 27 responses, 14 chose flowers/plants, 13 chose bench, 11 chose lighting, 9 chose recycling/garbage bins, and 8 chose “other.”

For the “Other” category, the following is a summary of responses:

- No trail needed; takes away quad trail
- Fence along homeowners’ property
- Pavement
- Outdoor workout area
- Trail needs to be solely on the mailbox side of the road.

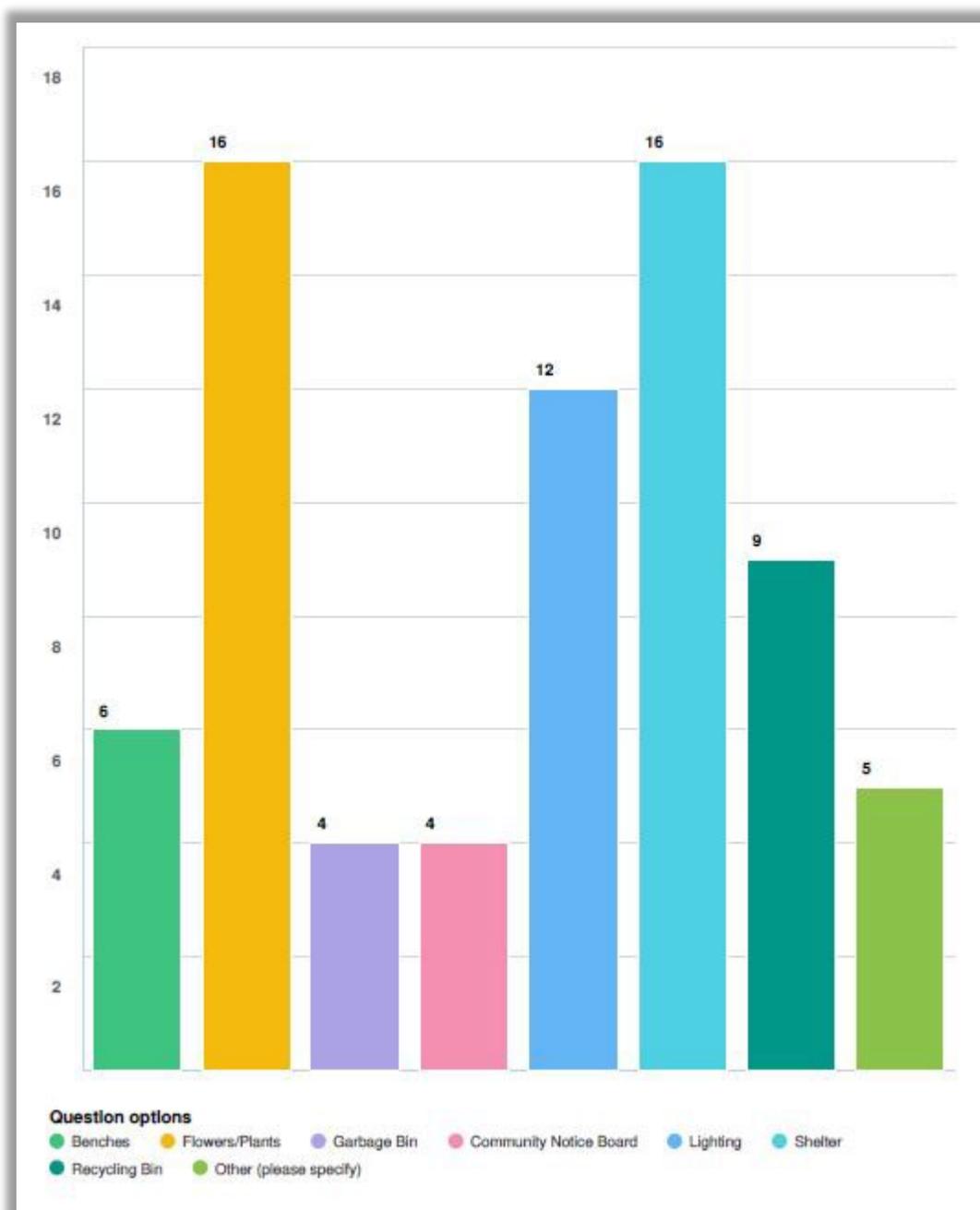


## Question 5 asked respondents to choose up to three (3) mailbox area amenities that are most important to them.

Out of 31 responses, 16 chose flowers/plants, 16 chose shelter, 12 chose lighting, 9 chose recycling bin, 6 chose benches, 5 chose other, 4 chose garbage bin and 4 chose community notice board.

The following is a summary of responses received for the “Other” category:

- Roof over mailboxes
- Everything we need is already there
- Wider entrance/exit

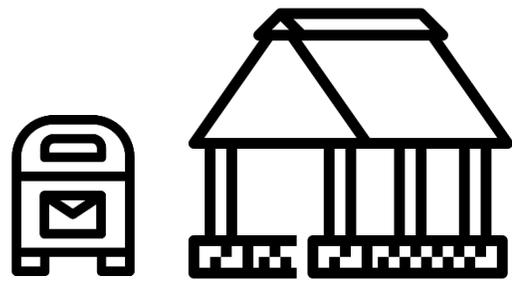


## ***Question 6 asked respondents if they had suggestions for enhancements they'd like the Municipality to consider.***

Of 33 responses from residents, 16 (48.5%) said yes, while 11 respondents (33.3%) said no, and 6 respondents (18.2%) were unsure.

The following is a summary of respondents' suggestions:

- Shelter over the mailboxes
- Lighting
- Bucket of salt for resident to sprinkle in the winter months.
- More space
- Wider entrance/exit
- Better snow removal at the message boards



## ***Question 7 asked respondents if they had additional feedback.***

The following is a summary of respondents' additional feedback about the project:

- The trail on the other side of the road is good enough. It could be upgraded.
- Trail needs to be solely on the mailbox side of the road. Don't cross the road.
- The whole area on both sides of Spruce Valley is a bog.
- Low lights to minimize light pollution.
- How would the walking trail interact with the existing ATV trail?
- Proposed pedestrian trail is an OHV trail that needs to stay.
- I am amazed at the beautification in Anzac with lighting, benches etc. Would like to see something similar in Sapræe Creek.
- Those who prefer more passive and environmentally friendly recreation, (i.e., walking/biking/running) should not be ignored.
- What is there is currently working for residents.
- Wider entrances to and from mailboxes. Repair for safety and functionality.
- Someone is going to get hurt if you make the current ATV trail a walking trail.



# OVERVIEW OF IN-PERSON ENGAGEMENT

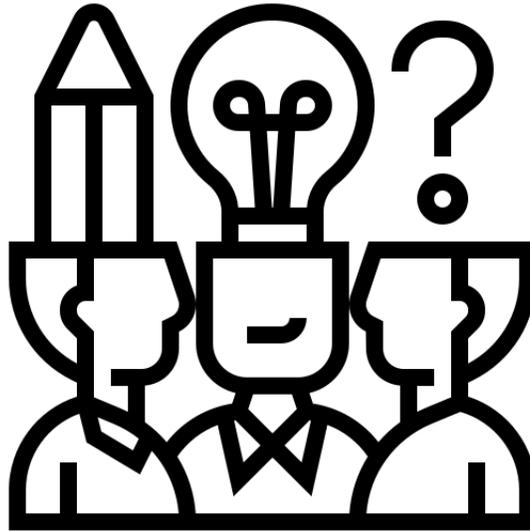
An in-person public engagement was held on March 9 at Vista Ridge in conjunction with the Neighbourhood Engagement Series event for Sapræ Creek Estates.

To support this session, municipal staff from the Public Engagement team, Indigenous and Rural Relations, Public Works (Rural Operations) and Engineering were at the meeting. In addition, the consultant for this project, Akron Engineering, also attended. Municipal staff and consultants were available to facilitate the event, present project information, and answer residents' questions.

In total, eight residents attended to watch a short presentation and engage in conversation for nearly three hours. Discussion topics and themes were consistent with the feedback received in the survey as listed above.

Example photos, illustrations, and survey questions (identical to the ones asked in the online survey) were posted around the room in a Dot-mocracy format for event attendees to put dots by their preferences. Attendees were also invited to write down and post their feedback. They also shared feedback and questions in the discussion.

Reponses received at the in-person engagement have been included in the survey responses and summaries as outlined above.

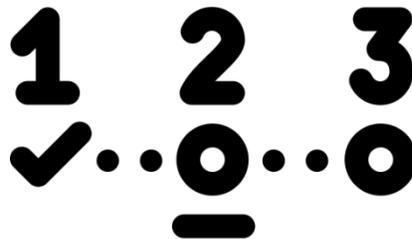


# OVERVIEW OF INTERNAL ENGAGEMENT

The project team and consultant met with internal municipal staff on February 23 to discuss the proposed project. The objective was to coordinate with other municipal departments, collaborate, and review relevant considerations before engaging with the public.

Discussion topics included the proposed trail location and alignment, available land for the project, maintenance and upkeep, public safety, trail crossings, lighting, plants/trees/shrubs, engineering standards, budget, and OHV/ATV use in the area.

Feedback and discussion topics helped to give the project team relevant information to make an informed decision on next steps. Feedback from municipal staff will be taken into consideration, along with feedback from residents, before deciding on next steps.



## NEXT STEPS

We thank you for your input and ideas throughout the engagement process for this project. The Engineering and Public Works Departments are now reviewing all the comments and feedback.

This project is currently at the early stages of conceptual design (the ideas stage). Public feedback will be used as a guide to help the project team understand current community wants and needs, and any other considerations before proceeding with further design and development.

After reviewing feedback from public engagement, the contractor will create more detailed designs. Next steps for this project will also be based on the project budget, public safety, available land, considerations of other uses in the area (e.g., OHV/ATV use), and guiding documents (i.e, Parks Master Plan, and Engineering Servicing Standards and Development Procedures).

We will follow up with the community to check in before completing final design and starting construction. Stay tuned for further updates and next steps for the project.

To stay informed about the project or to receive updates, visit the project page for the [Saprae Creek Estates Pedestrian Trail and Beautification](#).

You can continue using your voice to help make our region even better. Visit [rmwb.ca/participate](http://rmwb.ca/participate) to stay engaged and connected.





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