



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

June 07, 2021

7:00 PM

Fridley Civic Campus - 7071 University Avenue N.E.

AGENDA

Call to Order

Roll Call

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Meeting Minutes

- [1.](#) May 3, 2021 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes

New Business

- [2.](#) Fridley Resident Survey Presentation
- [3.](#) August Commission Work Session Discussion

Staff Reports

- [4.](#) Springbrook Nature Center Report
- [5.](#) Community Engagement Report
- [6.](#) Recreation Division Highlights
- [7.](#) Park Maintenance Report

Adjournment



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: June 7, 2021

Meeting Type: Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Mike Maher, Community Services Director

Title

May 3, 2021 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes

Background

Attached are the meeting minutes from the May 3, 2021 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting.

Financial Impact

None

Recommendation

Staff recommend the approval of the May 3, 2021 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes.

Attachments and Other Resources

- May 3, 2021 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes

Vision Statement

We believe Fridley will be a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses.



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

May 03, 2021

7:00 PM

Fridley Civic Campus - 7071 University Avenue N.E.

MINUTES

Call to Order

Chair Heinz called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Members Present: Mike Heintz, EB Graham, Ryan Gerhard, Ken Schultz, Shauna Larson, and Eric Evanson.

Members Absent: Peter Borman

Others Present: Mike Maher, Springbrook Nature Center Director/Assistant Director (CSER); Parks and Facilities; Deborah Dahl, Director of Community Services and Employee Resources (CSER)

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Larson to approve the agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Schultz. MOTION passed unanimously.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

1. April 5, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Motion by Commissioner graham to approve the Meeting Minutes of April 5, 2021. Seconded by Commissioner Schultz. MOTION passed unanimously.

New Business

2. Election of Officers

Commissioner Graham nominated Mike Heinz as Chair and Shauna Larson as Vice-Chair. Seconded by Commissioner Schultz. MOTION passes unanimously.

3. Frights Frenzy Softball Tournament Application

Deborah Dahl noted that this is the second application for the year and the tournament will take place June 5-6.

Motion by Commissioner Graham to approve the Frights Frenzy Softball Tournament Application. Seconded by Commission Schultz. MOTION passed unanimously.

4. Parks Master Plan Update

Ms. Dahl stated that as of 4/27 nearly 900 surveys have been received on the Storymap. 605 on Neighborhood parks, 140 for Moore Lake, 80 for Commons Park, and 47 for Community Park. The comment period will close 5/3. Community engagement efforts included emails were sent to the participant data base/social media. Postcards, flyers were sent to neighborhood, participants, groups and e-newsletters, six pop-up events were held at various parks, the Eco Dash Event took place, Fridley Liquor Digest post and electronic billboards and mobile traffic signs. Resident phone survey was conducted of 400 households with questions about the parks master plan and results are being analyzed and compiled. Preliminary results show residents are very supportive of the parks and park improvements which validates many of the themes we've been hearing. Parks, trails, and recreation is valued. The City's demographics have changed significantly since 2013 and there is positive feedback that the City is headed in the right direction. The Capital Investment Program (CIP) is a regular part of our annual budgeting process and there is a 5-year plan.

5. Parks Capital Investment Projects

Ms. Dahl reported that an average of \$233,658 is spent per year on parks capital investment projects from 2012-2018. Since 2018, the City has increased spending to accommodate the Civic Campus and surrounding park/trail improvements as well as to begin some planning for the Parks Master Plan. Expenses were 2018 - \$15,151.63; 2019 - \$486,089.30; 2020 - \$438,513.92; 2021 - \$902,000 with an average of \$460,438.70.

Ms. Dahl said that the proposed recommendations include playground equipment replacements, part improvements, general park system improvements, court surfacing and overlays, park furnishings, SNC security upgrades and green roof finishing, parks system master plan improvements and snc fireplace installation for a total of \$787,000 for 2022.

Chair Heinz stated that we all hope that the master plan goes through, but he is concerned about spending that much money in 2-3 years. He asked if the green roof could be split over a few years or a different type of roof be installed. Or maybe the Springbrook Nature Center Foundation can help with those expenses.

Ms. Dahl replied that the current roof is functional and working but this has been delayed several years. We are still in the process of looking at other options for the roof and can reprioritize if need but funding would need to stay within the nature center as they operate under a different funding system and levy.

Chair Heinz recalled that the roof was supposed to be done at construction and there are other options to consider like solar shingles etc.

Jeff Jensen stated that this was part of the design and they are still in the process of getting donors to complete the project. We have to keep funds to finish this project which is why it has been carried on for three years. We do not know the future of the Parks Master Plan but need to make sure funds are kept in there to complete the roof. They are looking at different alternatives to make the roof look more attractive visually and cost less.

Commissioner Larson asked why the donors fell through and if they were experiencing hard times.

Mr. Jensen replied that the foundation worked to get donations and are hoping to continue. We are prepared with funds in the budget so we can finish the roof when the time comes.

Commissioner Schultz asked about the parks master plan vs. dealing with current issues. Ms. Dahl replied that this is the system has been managed over the years and knowing what maintenance needs to take place. Some projects were put on hold due to the parks master plan.

Mr. Jensen added that some playground equipment needed to be replaced because it was so bad. We need a plan to continue maintenance in the parks.

Commissioner Larson asked why Moore Lake continues to be put on hold.

Mr. Jensen replied that an analysis came in at \$4.5m to fix Moore Lake and we didn't want to put all funds into one park.

Ms. Dahl said that City Council will meet from June-October to discuss and finalize budget and CIP. Some projects may be subject to change and major projects are on hold until the Parks Master Plan is finalized. We will continue to make general improvements as in the past. Adopt-A-Park sponsorships have been helping reduce maintenance. Grants or donations may change the timing of some projects as well. The Parks Master Planning Process will develop a long-term strategic plan for park maintenance in 2023 and beyond.

6. Deer Management Summary

Mike Maher provided an update on the deer management activity that is now completed. We received approval to remove up to 30 deer. Deer management period was between 11/1 and 3/31. This year the management activity took place in month of March. They worked closely with the public safety department to determine locations so officers were on hand to be a point of contact. The sites included Springbrook Nature Center, private corporate property along the Rick Creek Corridor and Locke County Park. 11 deer were removed over three nights and they are

recommending doubling the budget for next year for deer management to get closer to remove 30 deer.

Commissioner Larson asked what was done with the deer once they were removed.

Mr. Maher replied that the DNR has a list of approved organizations that meet criteria and accept deer harvested for meat. In this case out of 11 deer, 7 went to individuals or organizations in need and the U of M did a study on urban foxes and coyotes and asked for donation of a few deer to use in their research project.

Commissioner Gerhard asked if there was anything proactive that could be done to limit the deer population, non-lethal population control.

Mr. Maher replied that a number of communities' partner with bow hunting organizations to do control hunts in larger park reserves where there is more room. Because most of Fridley parks are smaller size and close to residential areas, this does not work. Will continue to research other programs and options to be most budget effective.

7. EcoDash Recap

Short video was shared.

8. 49er's Festival Update

Ms. Dahl stated that there will be no event this year due to COVID. We have decided to continue to meet and find additional people to be involved in the group. The committee is doing vision and strategic planning sessions.

Staff Reports

9. A monthly report of activities, programs and events at the Springbrook Nature Center.

Mr. Maher shared the following:

- Tara Rogness was promoted to the Springbrook Nature Center Manager, she has been working at the Center for 20 years. As part of the staffing plan there is a position now open for an Interpretive Program Coordinator. Over 50 applications have been received so far.
- At the 4/26 City Council Meeting, Malcom and Annette Mitchell were recognized for their service at the SNC foundation. May 5th is designated as Malcom and Annette Mitchell Day in the City of Fridley.
- Outdoor classroom rental space was resumed in May.
- In partnership with recreation staff, SNC will participate in the summer concert series.
- Summer camps are completely full with waitlists.

10. Community Engagement Report

Ms. Dahl noted that community engagement is strong and promotional efforts for the Parks Master Plan. Adopt-A-Park is recruiting new volunteers. Lock Park Playground Opening Celebration is June 17 from 6:30-8 p.m. with a pre-concert welcome to the neighborhood at 6 p.m. at Civic Campus. Citywide Garage Sale is June 25-27 and registration includes promotion, on-line map, and signs. Staff are compiling results from the Resident Survey and developing a communications plan.

11. Recreation Division Highlights

Ms. Dahl stated that a brochure will be hitting mailboxes this week. Summer registrations are going strong, shelter rentals are picking up, summer hiring continues, pop-up events to support the Parks Master Plan are in place, May Day baskets were delivered by Rec N Roll Truck and the Senior Golf begins May 6.

Ms. Dahl said that COVID Protocols are still in place and continue to present challenges. Some changes to outdoor mask-wearing. An electronic packet will be printed for commission members. We will continue to work on long-term financial plan for Springbrook and Recreation Divisions. Mike Maher will be starting May 22 in his new role and Tara Rogness was promoted to Springbrook Manager effective May 22.

Adjournment

Motion by Commissioner Graham to adjourn. Seconded by Commissioner Larson. MOTION passed unanimously and meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Krista Peterson
Recording Secretary



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: June 7, 2021

Meeting Type: Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Alyssa Kruzel, Community Engagement Specialist

Title

Fridley Resident Survey Presentation

Background

Alyssa Kruzel, Community Engagement Specialist will provide a presentation on the results of the Fridley Resident Survey.

Financial Impact

None.

Recommendation

None.

Attachments and Other Resources

- Fridley Resident Survey Presentation

Vision Statement

We believe Fridley will be a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses.

City of Fridley

2021 Residential Study

The Morris Leatherman Company

Survey Methodology

Item 2.

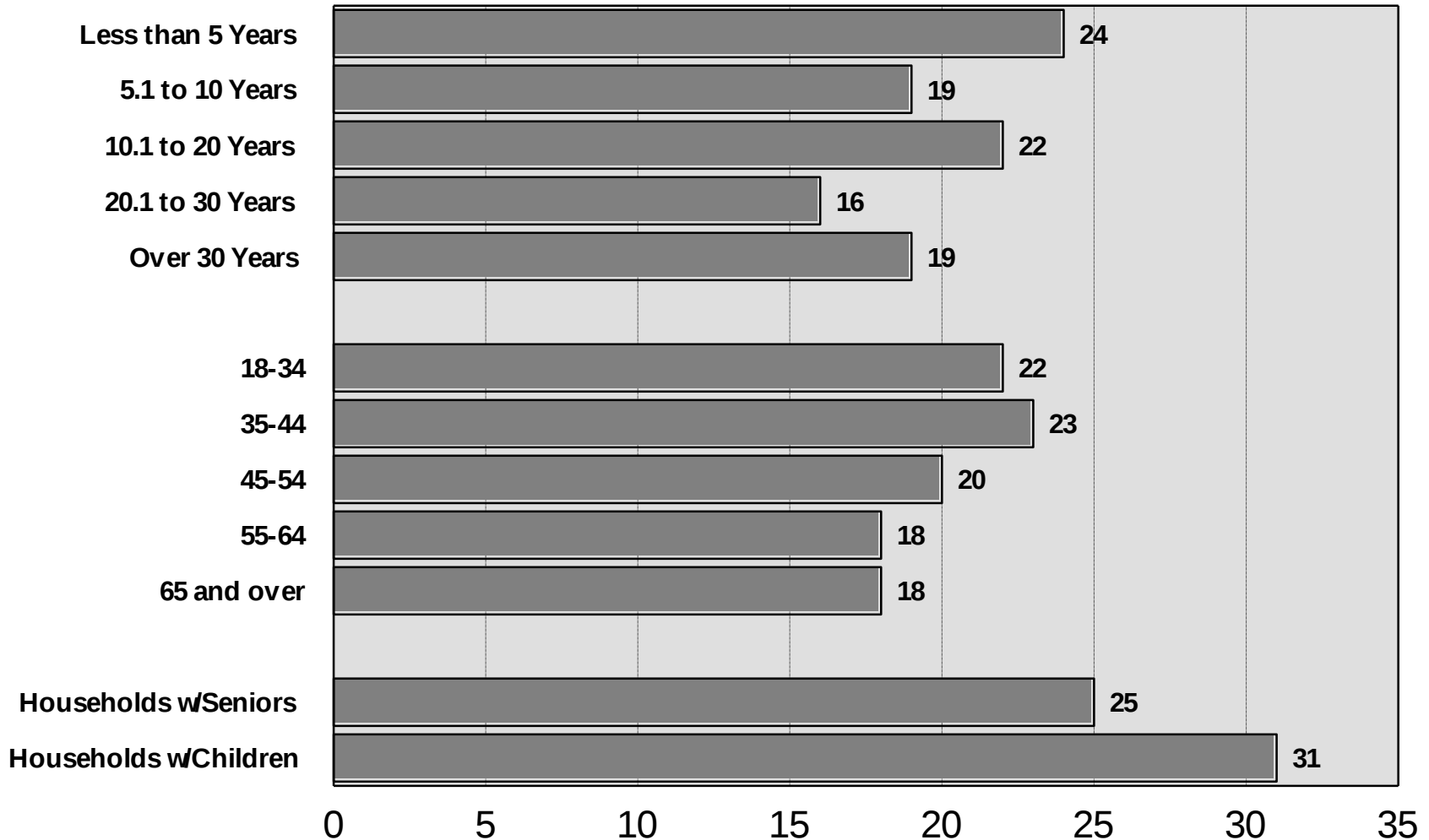
2021 City of Fridley

- ④ 400 random sample of City residents
- ④ Telephone interviews conducted between February 25th to March 30, 2021
- ④ Average interview time of 30 minutes
- ④ Non-response level of 5.5%
- ④ Results projectable within +/-5.0% in 95 out of 100 cases
- ④ Cell Phone Only Households: 45%
- ④ Landline Only Households: 13%
- ④ Both Cell Phone and Landline: 42%

Demographics I

Item 2.

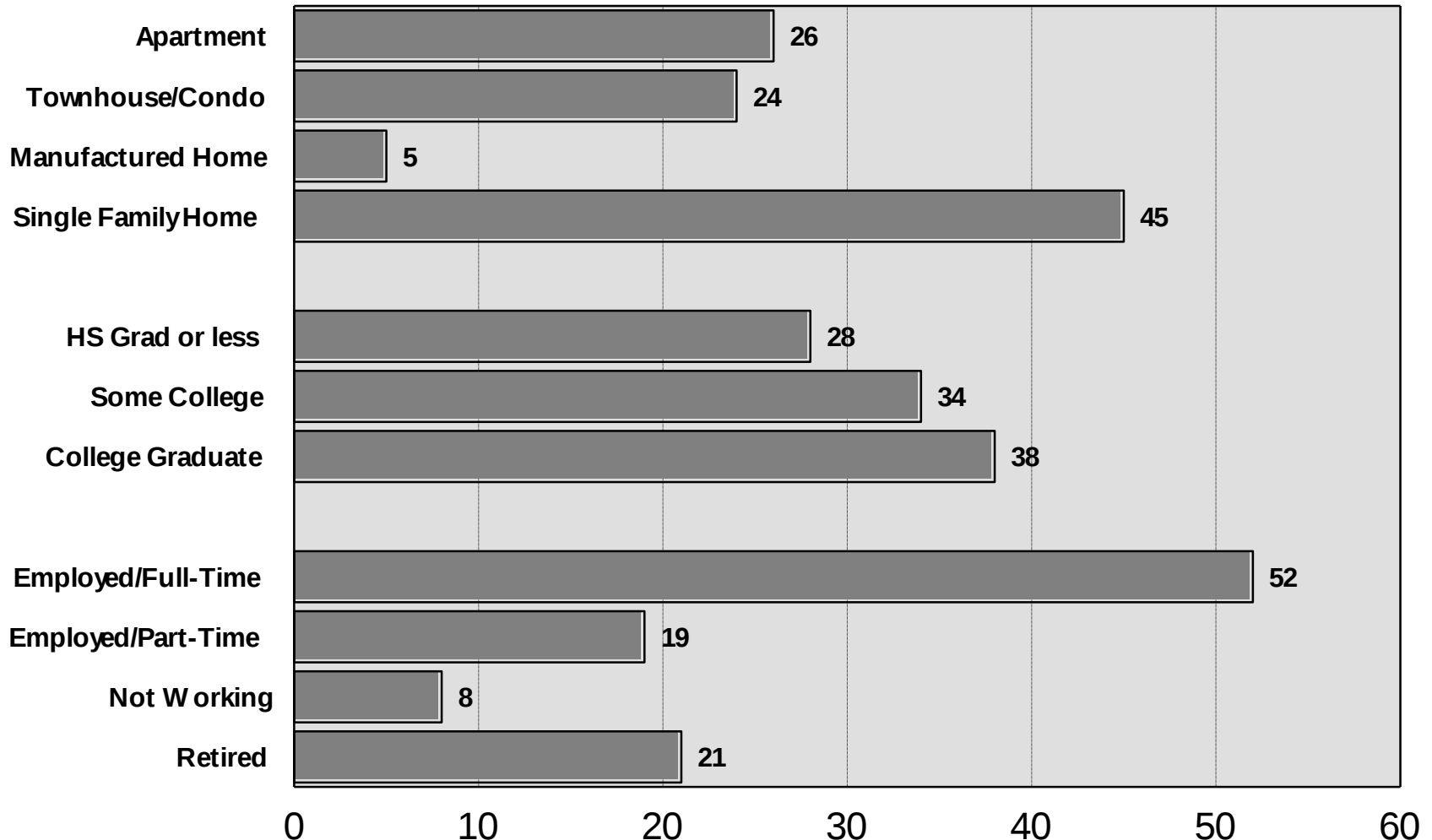
2021 City of Fridley



Demographics II

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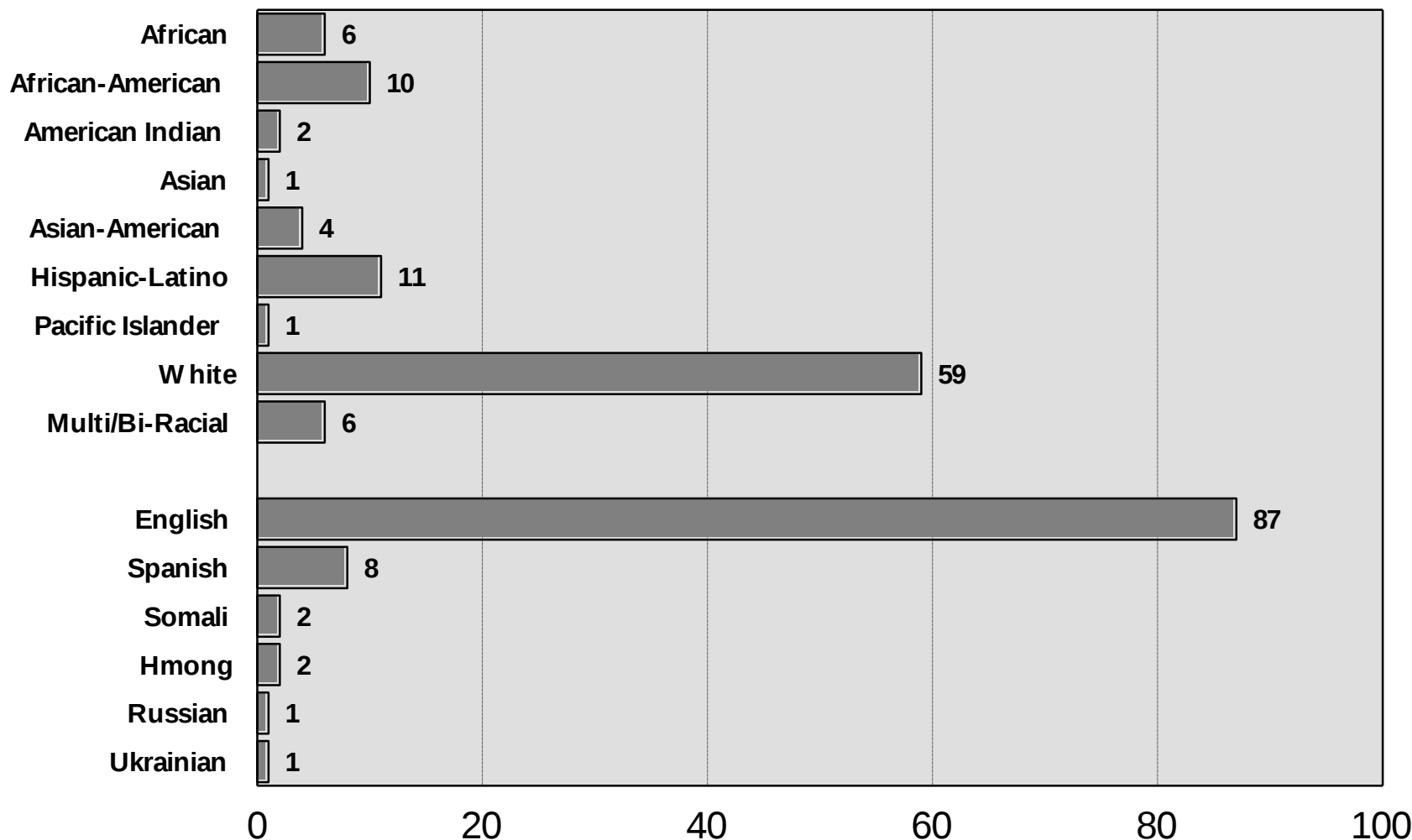
2021 City of Fridley



Demographics III

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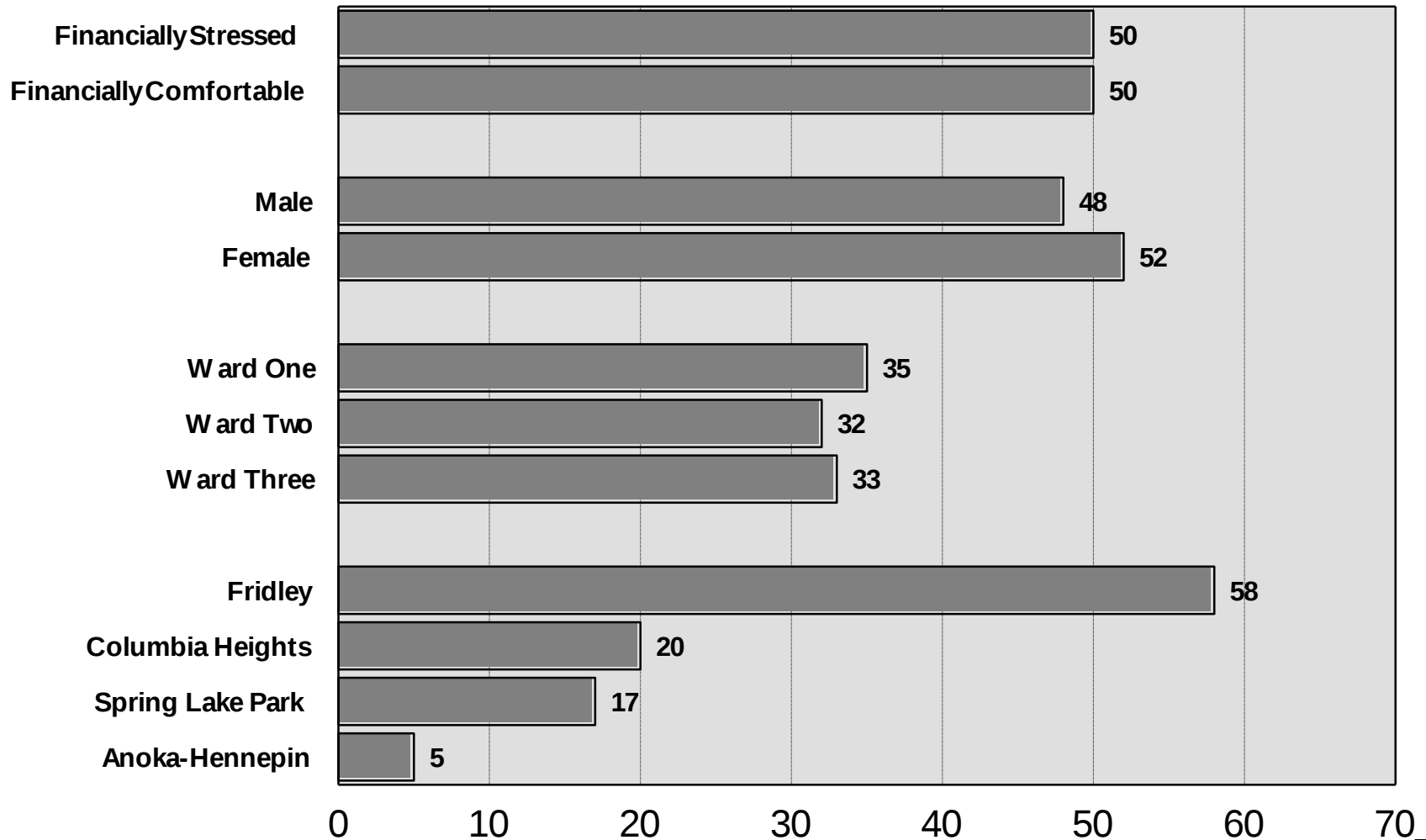
2021 City of Fridley



Demographics IV

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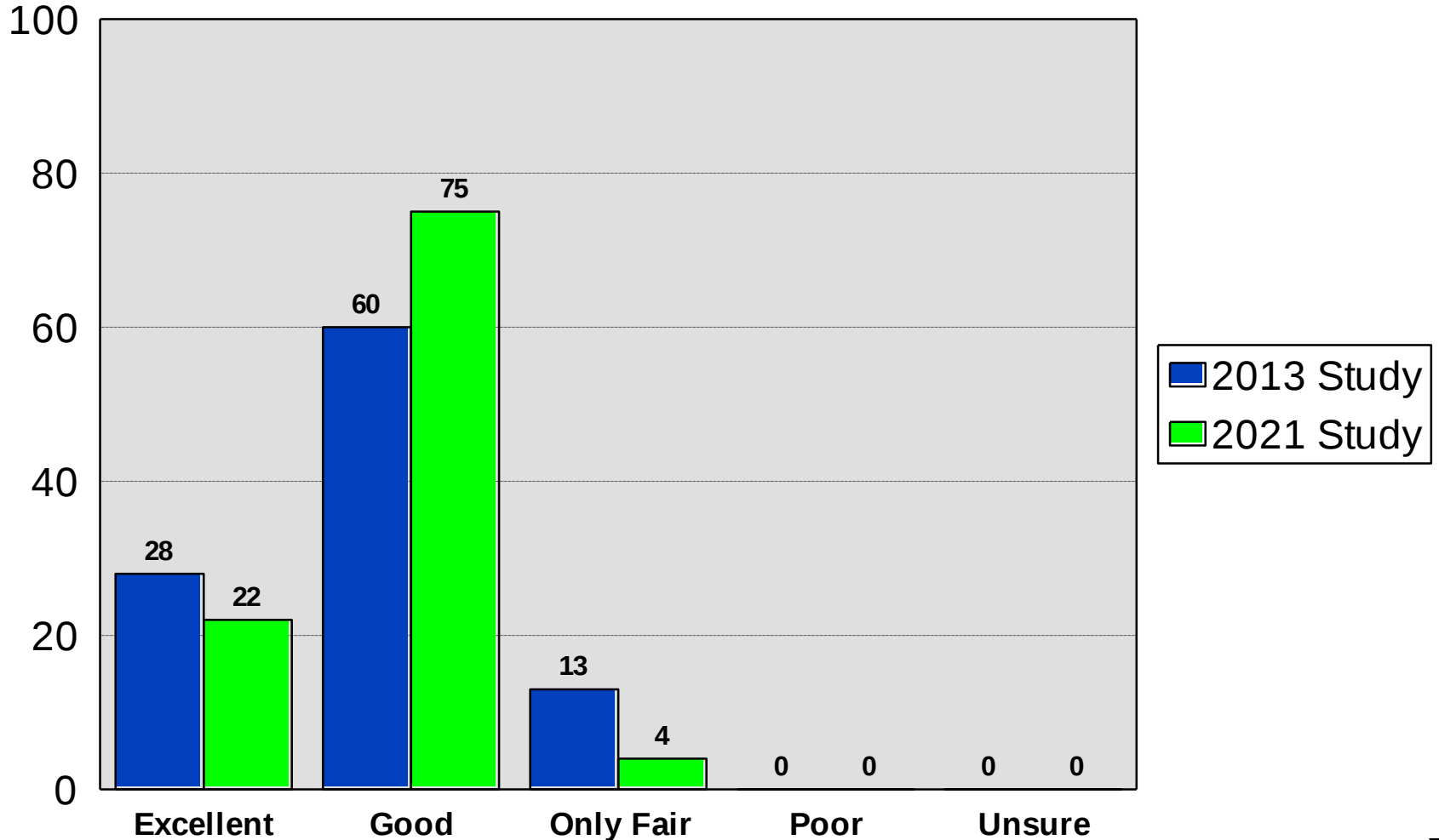
2021 City of Fridley



Quality of Life

2021 City of Fridley

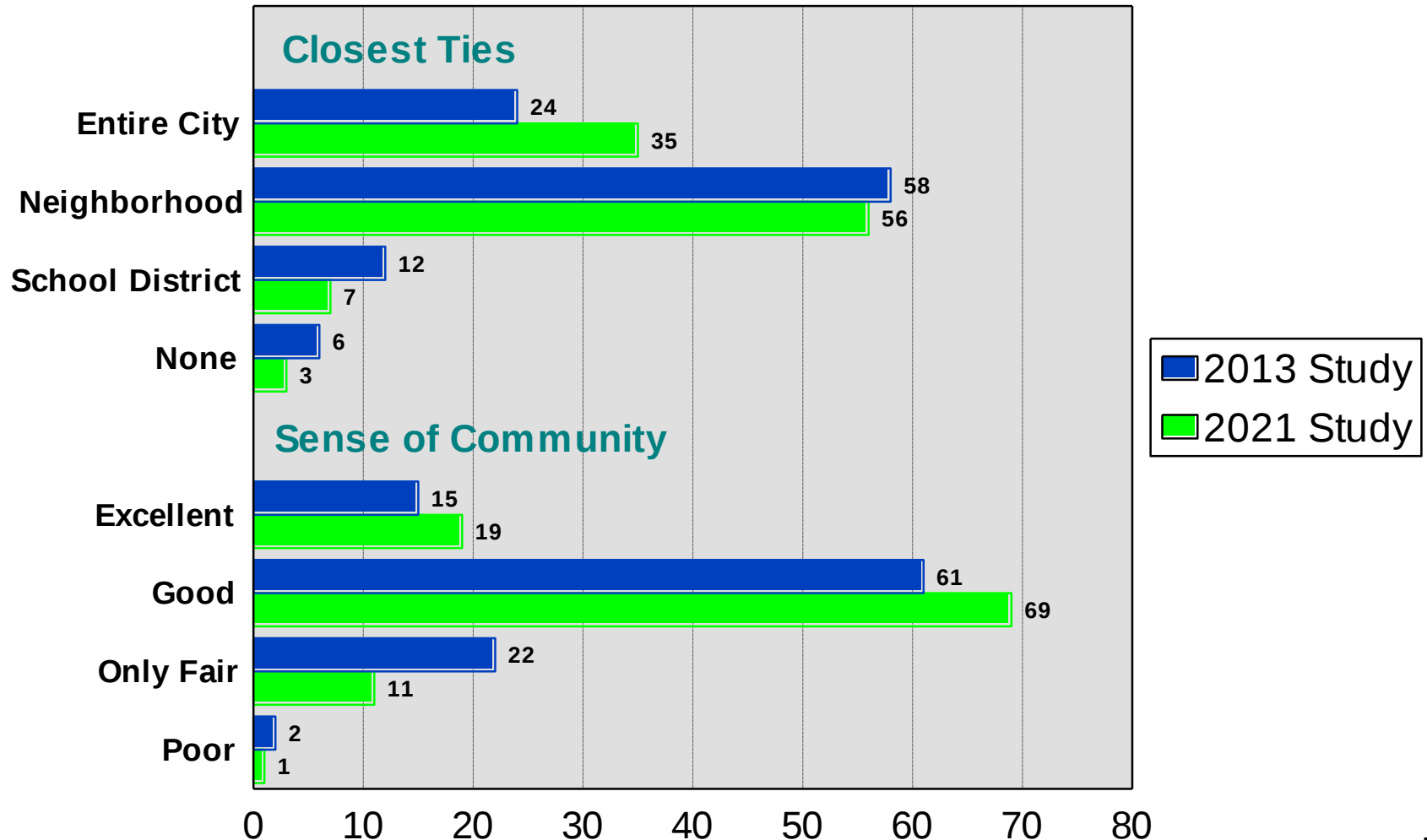
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Community Ties I

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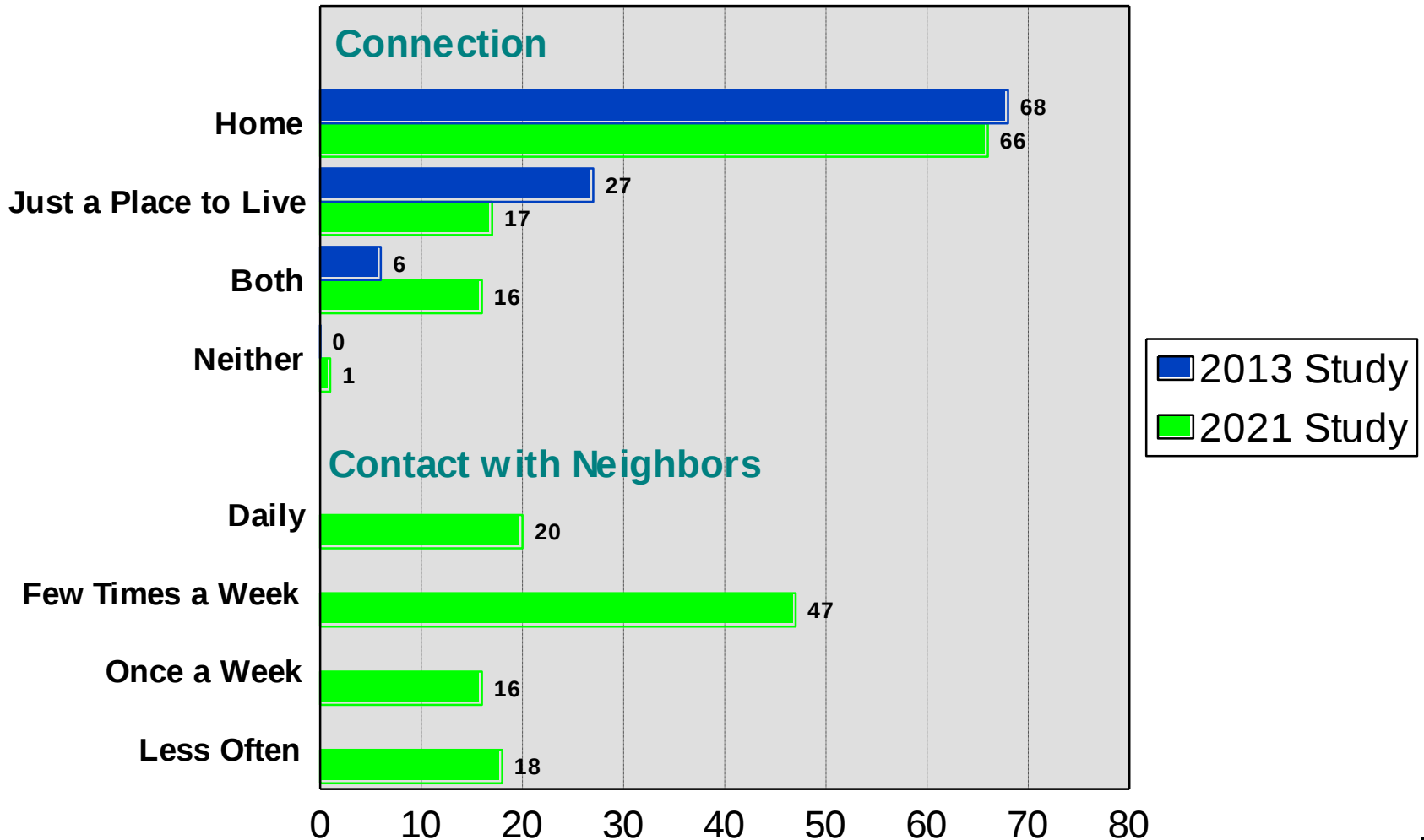
2021 City of Fridley



Community Ties II

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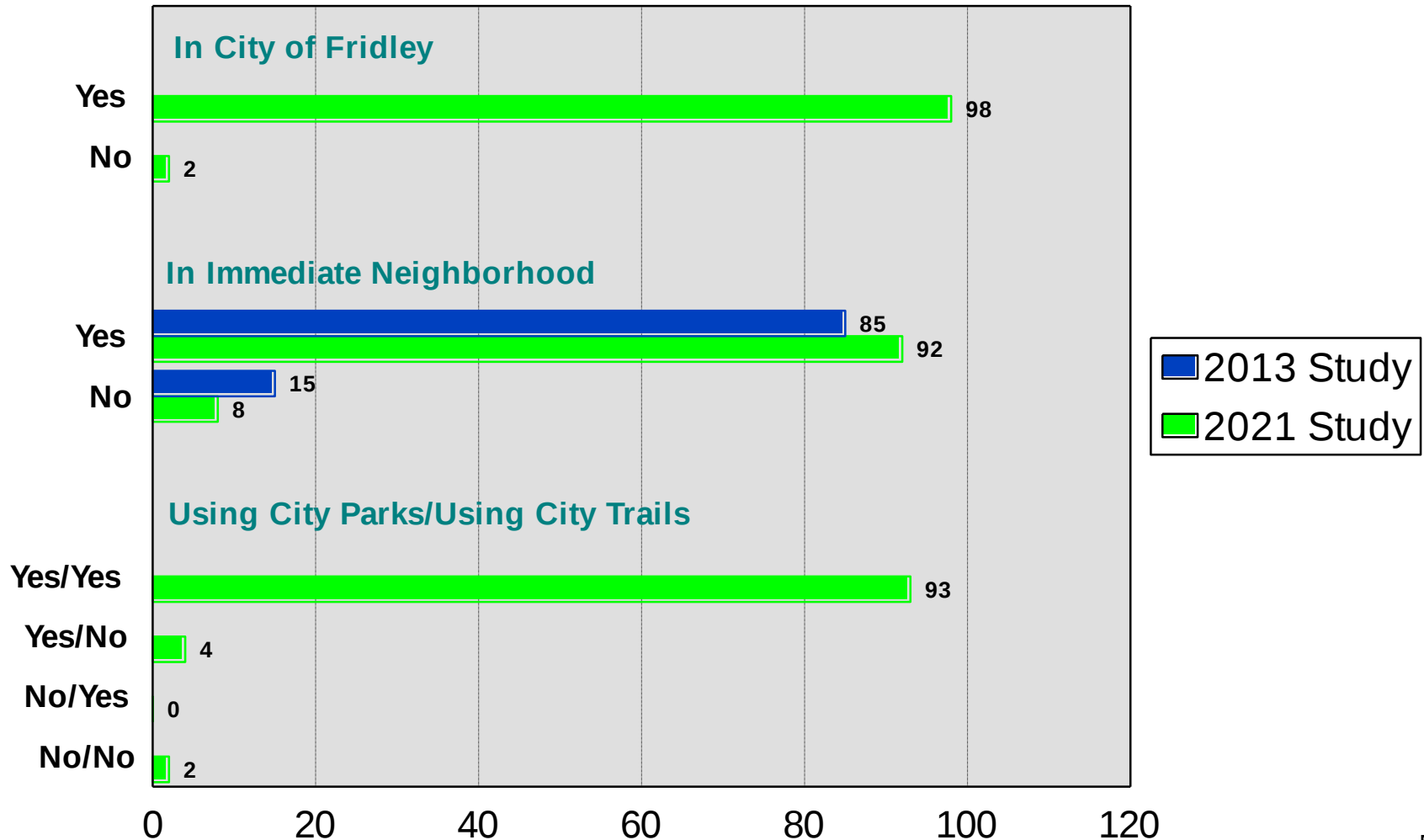
2021 City of Fridley



Feel Safe....

2021 City of Fridley

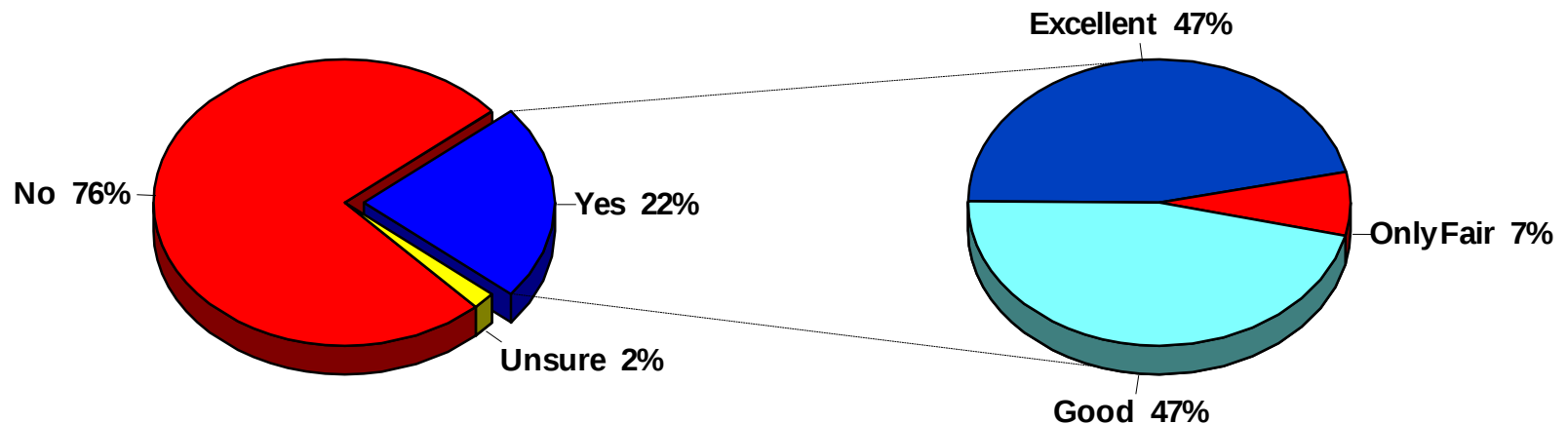
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Participated in City Park and Recreation Programs

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2021 City of Fridley

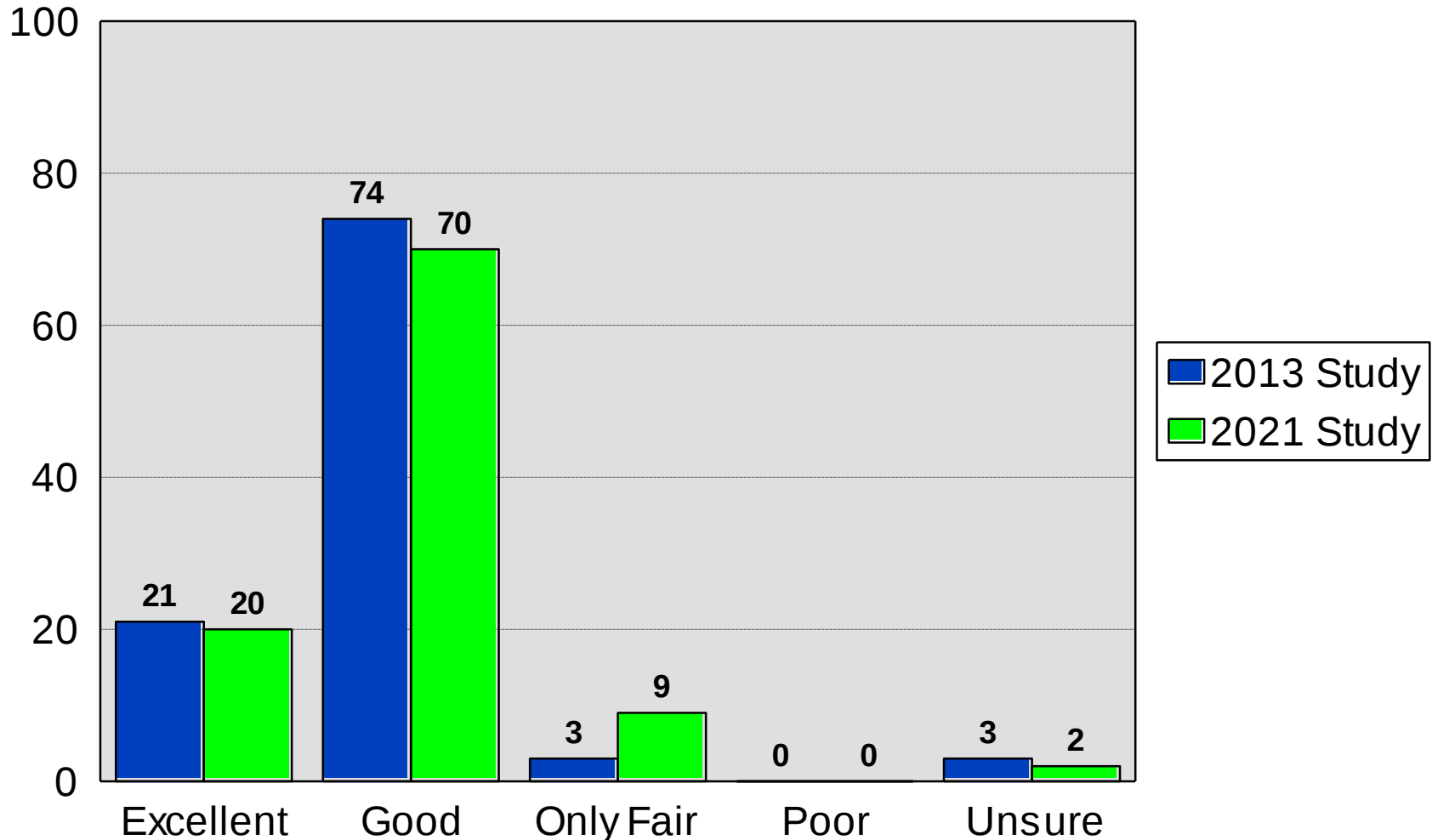


Rating of Program

Rating of Park and Recreation Facilities

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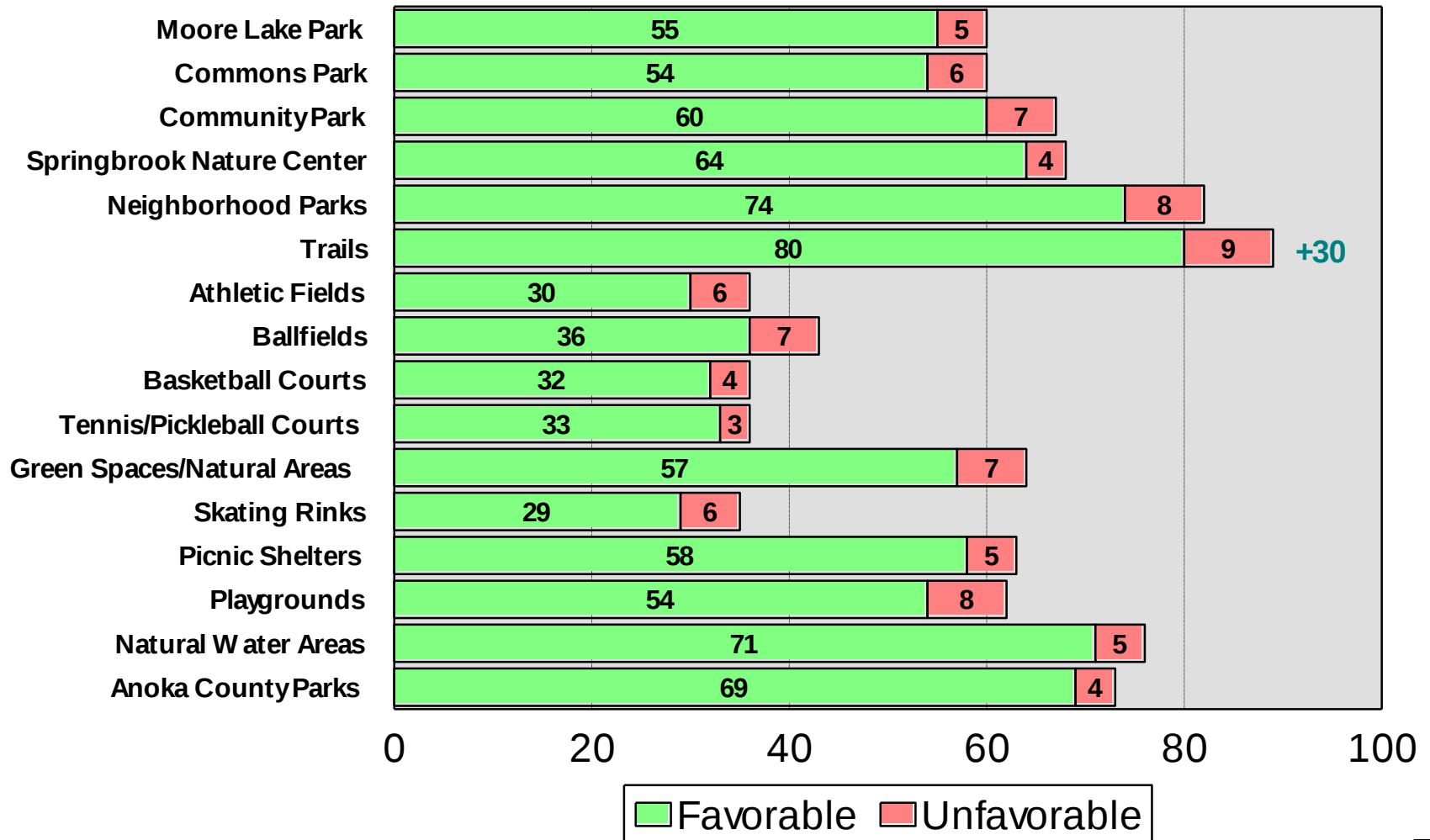
2021 City of Fridley



Park and Recreation Facilities

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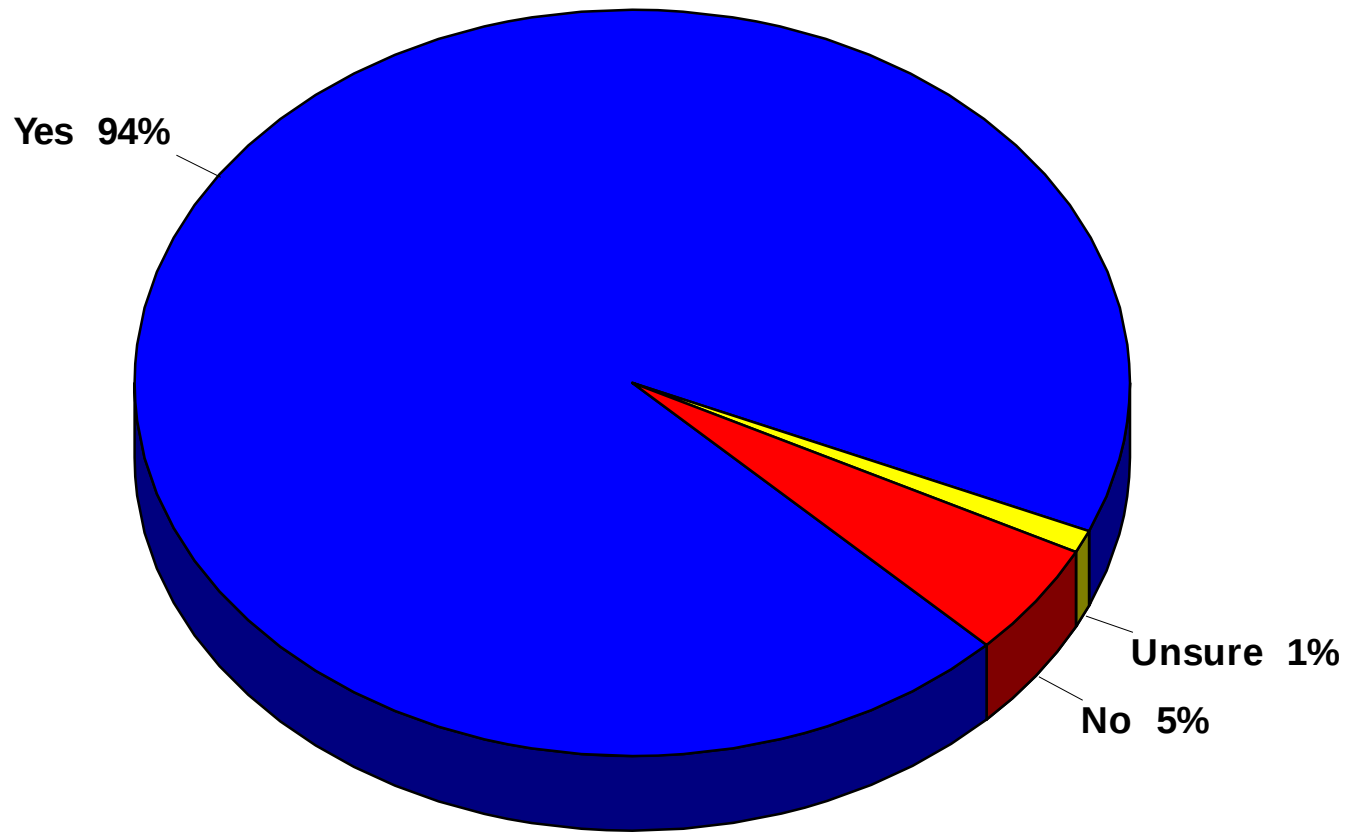
2021 City of Fridley



Existing Recreational Facilities Meet Household Needs

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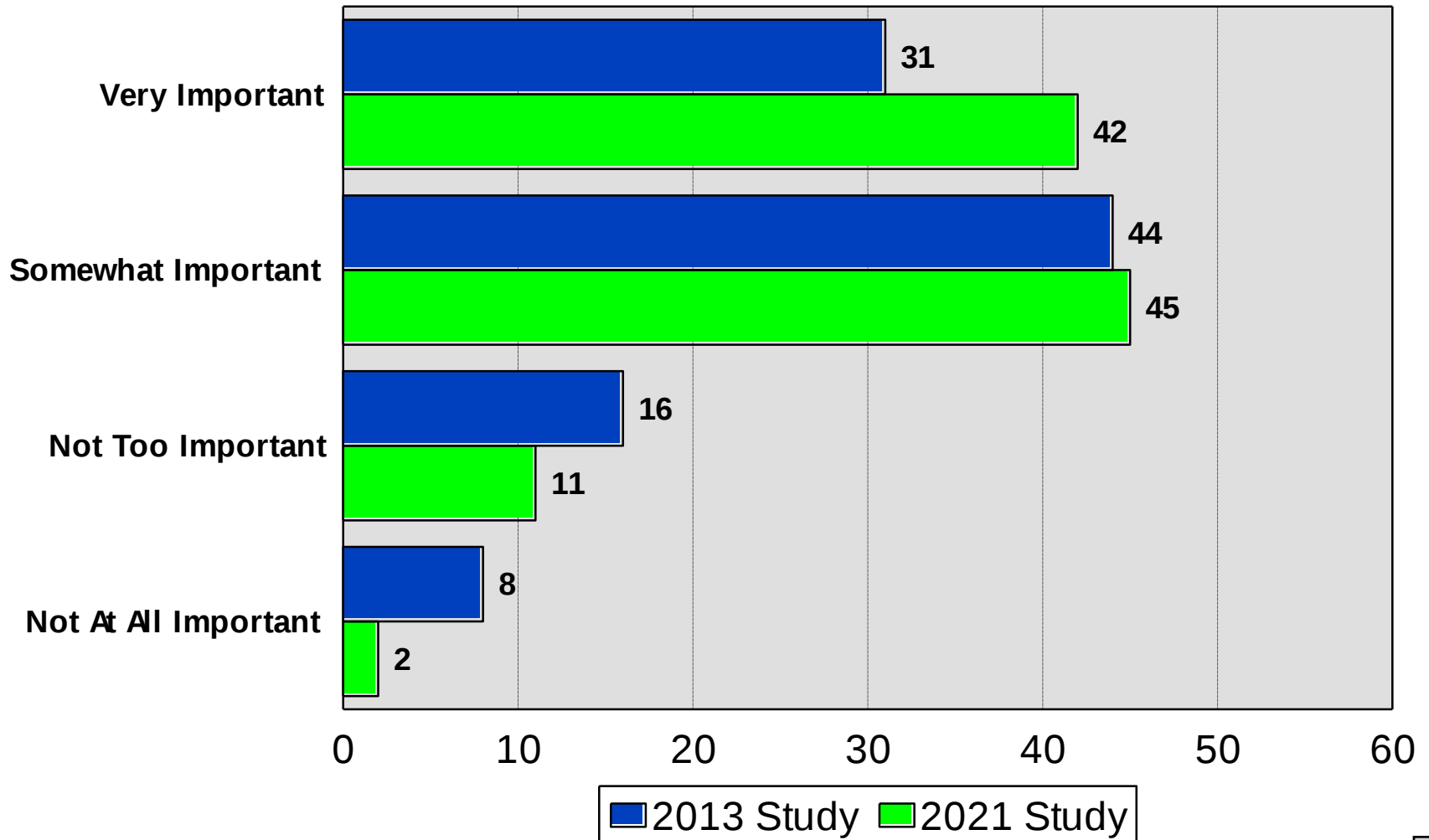
2021 City of Fridley



Parks and Quality of Life

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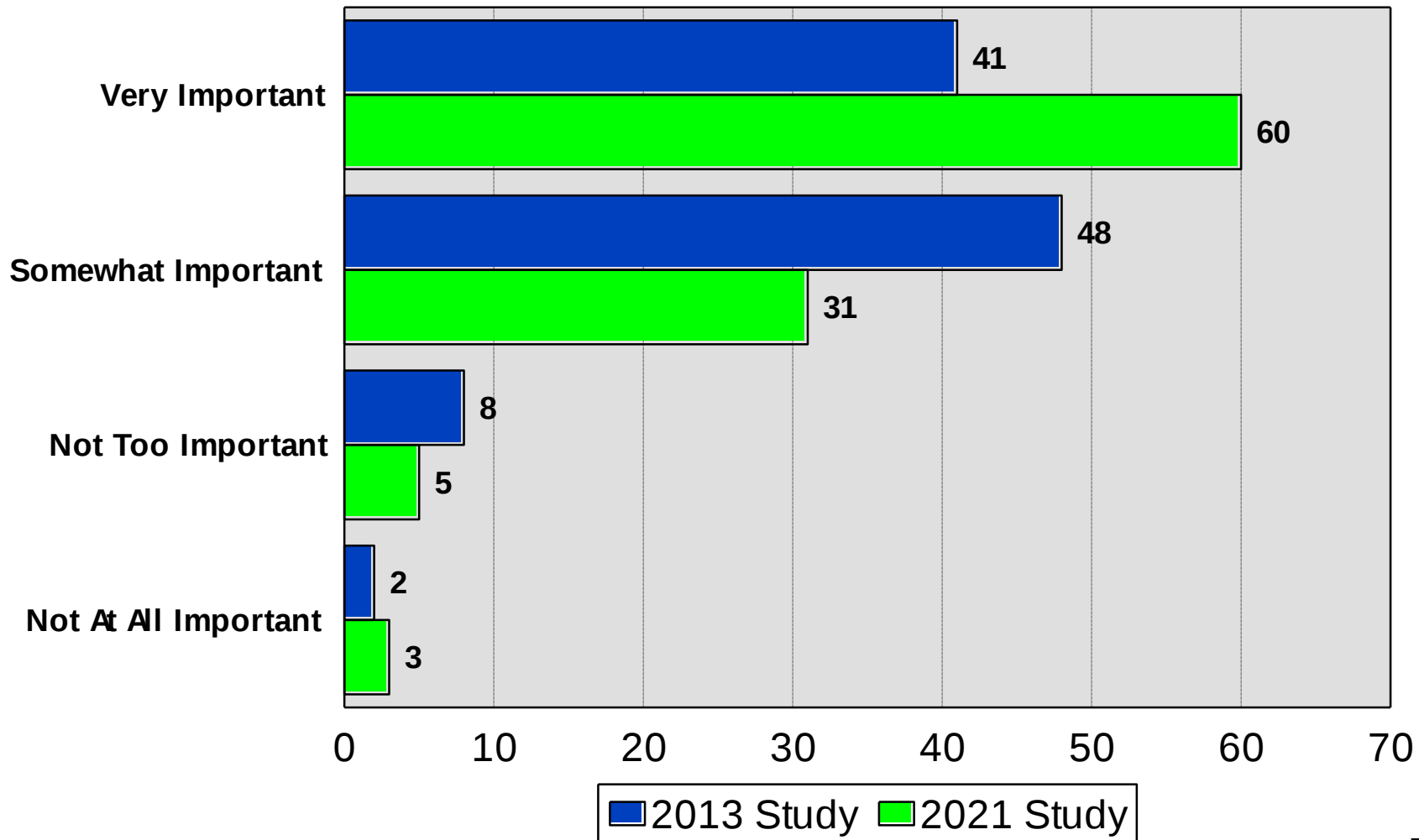
2021 City of Fridley



Appearance of Parks and Value of Hon

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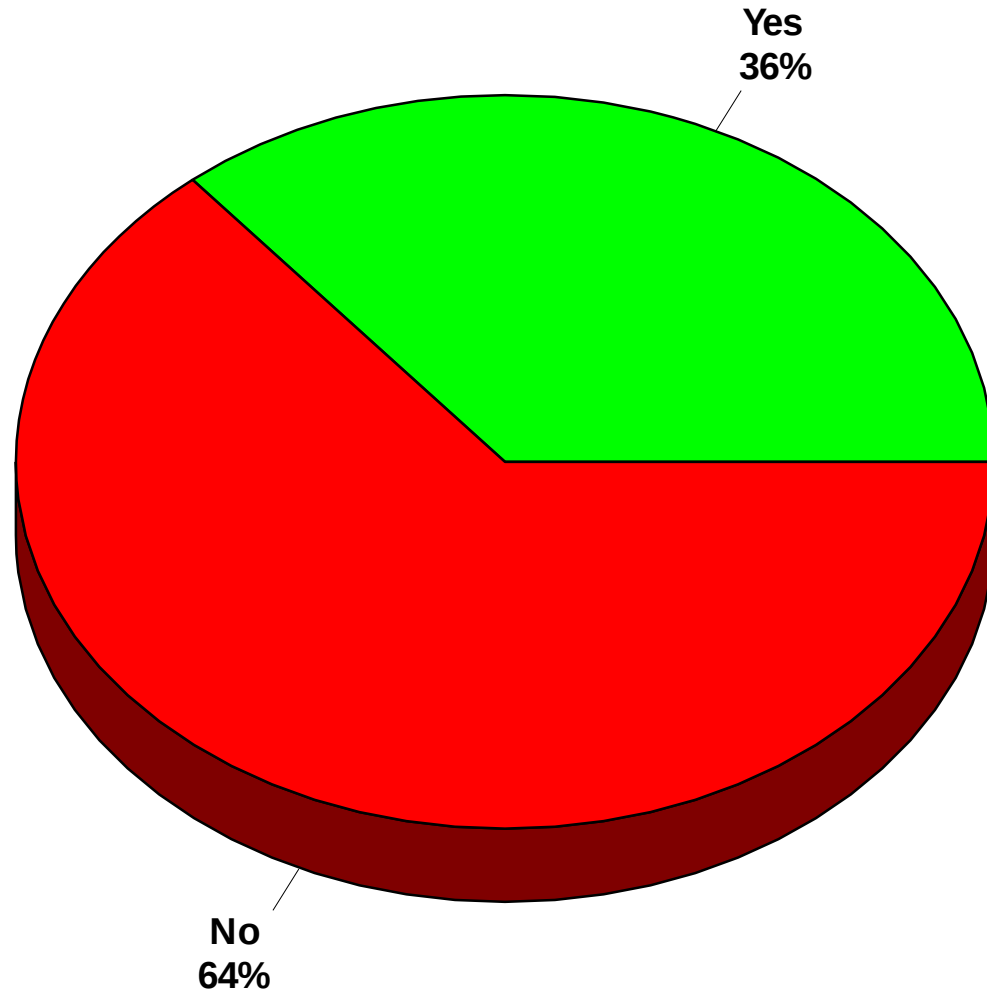
2021 City of Fridley



Awareness of Parks Master Plan

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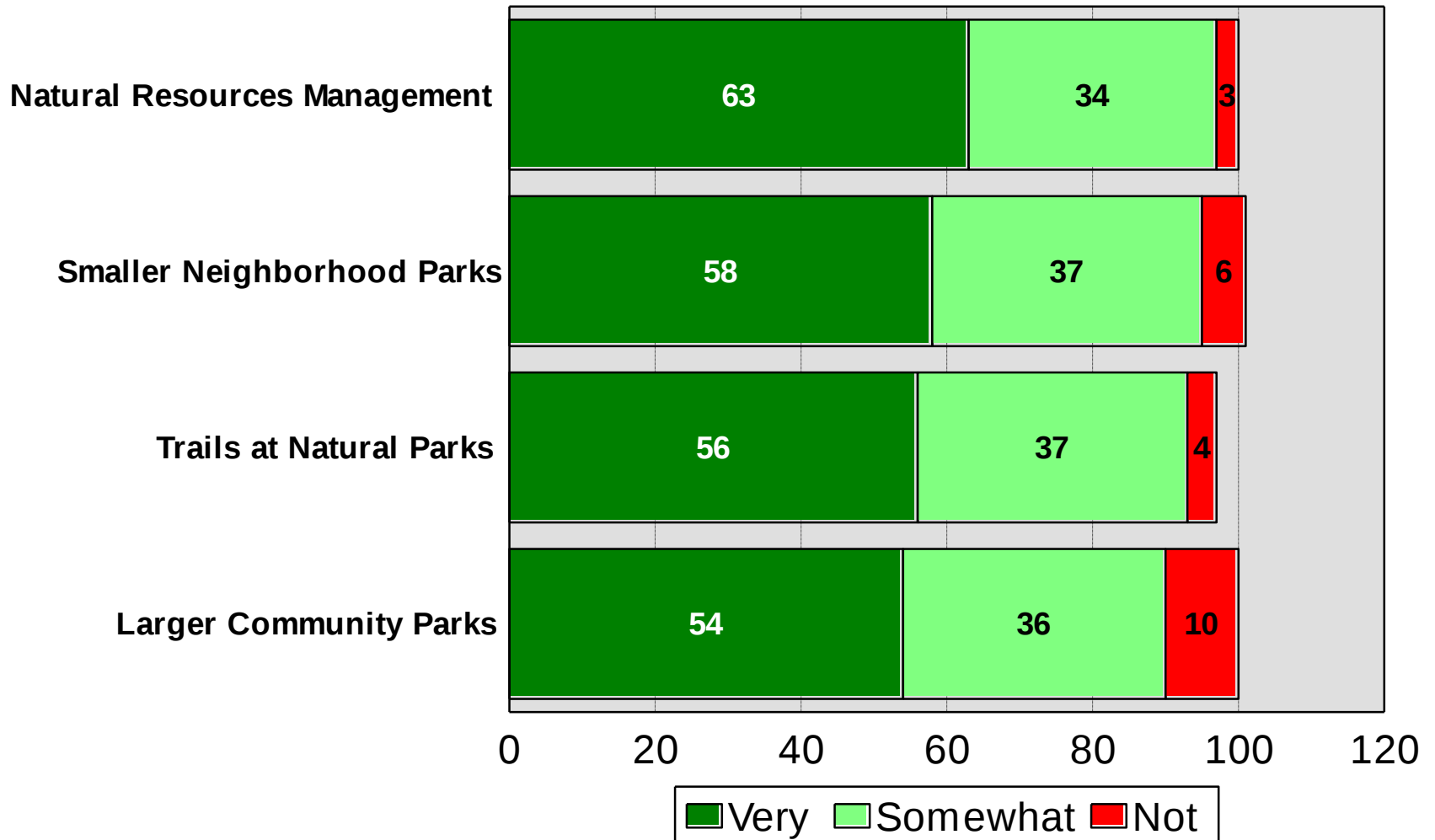
2021 City of Fridley



Importance to Improve

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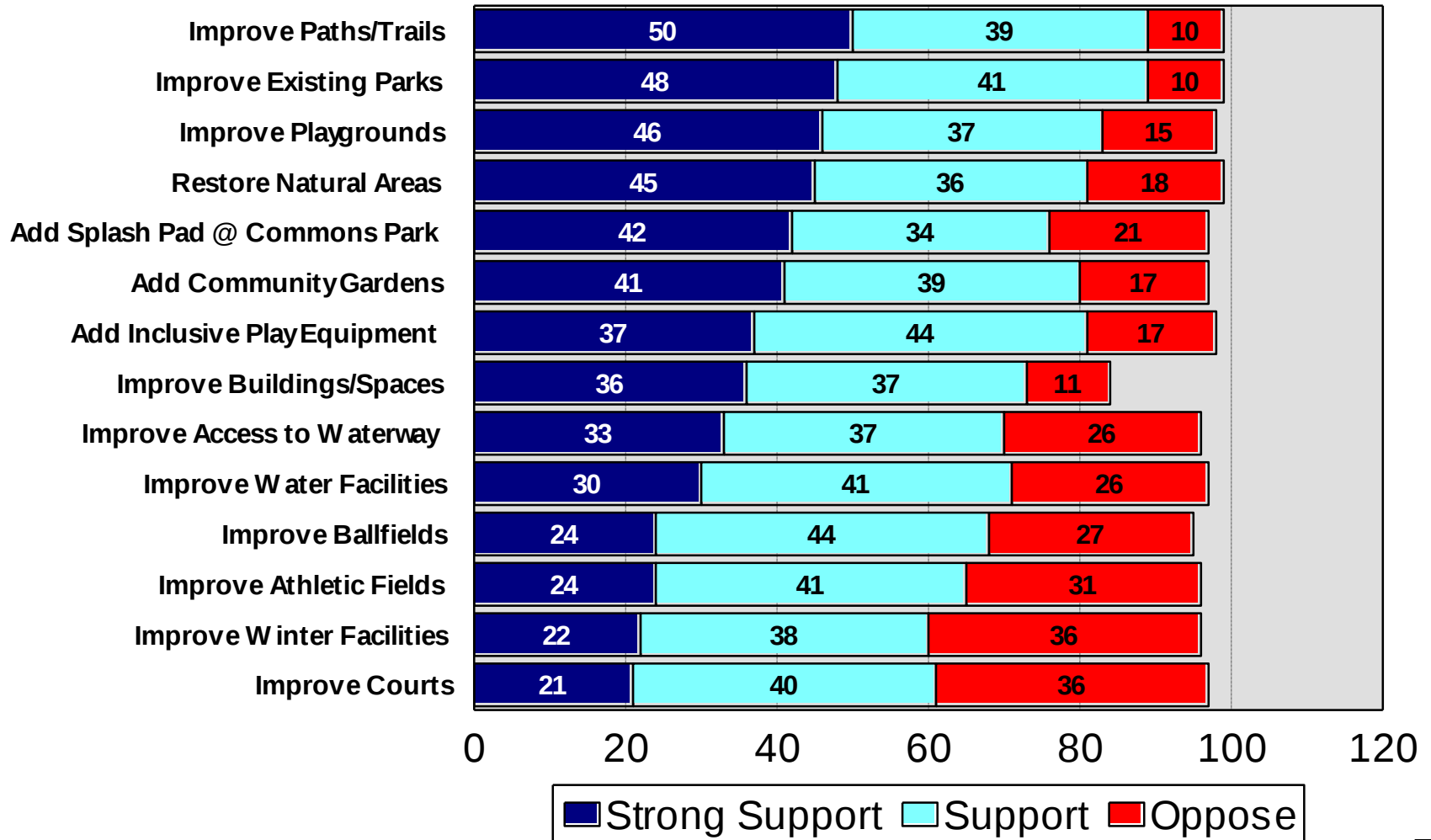
2021 City of Fridley



Property Tax Increase....

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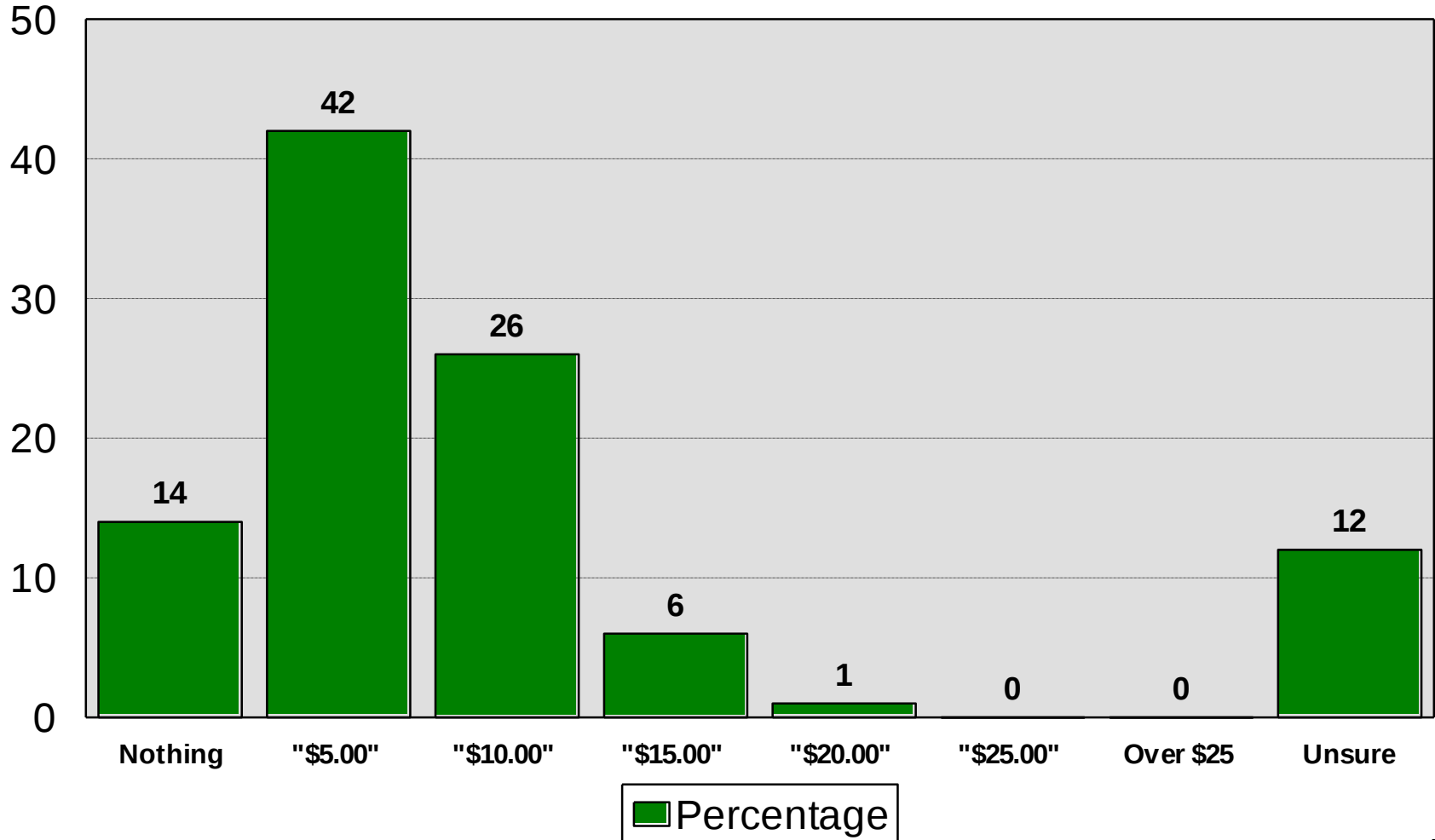
2021 City of Fridley



Property Tax Increase for Park Referendum

Item 2.

2021 City of Fridley





AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: June 7, 2021

Meeting Type: Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Mike Maher, Community Services Director

Title

August Commission Work Session Discussion

Background

The Commission will discuss its August Work Session.

Financial Impact

None

Recommendation

None

Attachments and Other Resources

Vision Statement

We believe Fridley will be a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses.



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: June 7, 2021

Meeting Type: Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Mike Maher, Community Services Director

Title

Springbrook Nature Center Report

Background

Attached is a monthly report from the Springbrook Nature Center Report.

Financial Impact

None

Recommendation

None.

Attachments and Other Resources

- Springbrook Nature Center Report

Vision Statement

We believe Fridley will be a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses.

Springbrook Nature Center

Monthly Report – June 2021



- Interviews were held the week of May 17th for a new Interpretive Program Coordinator position at Springbrook. Over 100 applications were received, and 14 candidates were interviewed. Several candidates will be invited back for second interviews.
- A free public program, Migration Celebration, was held at Springbrook Nature Center on Saturday, May 8th. It featured a variety of exhibitors, activities and programs including partnerships with the University of Minnesota Raptor Center, the Wildlife Science Center, Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge, and the Midwest Peregrine Society. This program was sponsored by the Springbrook Nature Center Foundation. 150 visitors enjoyed the event!



Kids enjoyed many educational crafts by exhibitors



Wildlife Science Center presenting live raptors

- Three Tuesday evening summer concerts will be held at Springbrook Nature Center as part of the City of Fridley's summer concert series. Anthony Miltich, (acoustic/folk) on June 15, Blue Groove (bluegrass) on July 20th, and Xibaba (Brazilian Jazz) on August 17th. The Springbrook Summer Concerts are sponsored by the Springbrook Nature Center Foundation.
- The City of Fridley entered into a grant agreement with Great River Greening that would remove invasive Garlic Mustard from 55 acres of the Springbrook Nature Center property followed by an intensive seeding program of native grasses and forbs. The total grant award is \$56,000. The City of Fridley is responsible for a match of \$7,000.
- Summer day camps begin on June 7th and camp registration is full with 36 campers per week. Camp staff hiring is complete and camp staff starts June 2nd. We are excited to welcome campers back to the nature center! Over 40 scholarships have been awarded by the Springbrook Nature Center Foundation! Camp details can be found at: <https://springbrooknaturecenter.org/808/Summer-Camps>

- School programming has been busy with dozens of classes being taught by our Naturalist staff at our partner schools and in virtual format. We even welcomed back our first two on-site field trip with Avail and Davinci Academies visiting Springbrook in May!



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: June 7, 2021

Meeting Type: Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Alyssa Kruzel, Community Engagement Specialist

Title

Community Engagement Report

Background

Attached is the monthly Community Engagement Report for June, 2021.

Financial Impact

None.

Recommendation

None.

Attachments and Other Resources

- Community Engagement Report

Vision Statement

We believe Fridley will be a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses.

Community Engagement Report June 2021

Finding your Fun in Fridley—Parks System Plan

Become a Fridley Parks Champion!

Community members passionate about Fridley parks are encouraged to become Fridley Park Champions and help advocate for the future of our Fridley parks. If you are interested in becoming a Fridley Parks Champion and getting involved to support the Fridley Parks System Plan, please contact Alyssa Kruzel, Community Engagement Specialist, at Alyssa.Kruzel@FridleyMN.gov or 763-572-3579.

Engagement Programs Update

Adopt-A-Park—Recruiting for new volunteer groups!

Twenty-six families or groups have adopted a total of 25 Fridley parks for the 2021 Adopt-A-Park program year! The Adopt-A-Park signs are here and are being put in the parks over the next couple of weeks.

There are still plenty of Fridley parks to adopt! We are still looking for groups and families to adopt Fridley parks, please consider adopting a park and/or sharing with your community connections. To learn more, visit FridleyMN.gov/AdoptAPark.

Citywide Garage Sale—June 25th - 27th

As of June 26th, there are 51 registered sales for the Fridley Citywide Garage Sale. Registration for the garage sale will close on Thursday, June 10th. Registration is \$10 and includes the price of one Citywide Garage Sale yard sign. On Sunday, June 27th, the City will then host a Trash to Treasure Day.

Online and mobile garage sale maps with registered garage sales will be available starting on Wednesday, June 23rd. Printed garage sale maps will also be available for pick up at City Hall.

It's a great opportunity to earn some extra cash, find some great bargains, meet your neighbors, and explore the Fridley community. To learn more, visit FridleyMN.gov/CitywideGarageSale.

Citywide Clean Up—September 25th

Community Engagement staff is currently planning for a fall Citywide Clean Up for Saturday, September 25 from 9-11:30am. Community Engagement staff is currently looking for community organizations and families to host a cleanup sites at local city parks and other places around the city. Please consider hosting a cleanup site and/or sharing with your community connections. Reach out to Alyssa Kruzel at Alyssa.Kruzel@FridleyMN.gov if you are interested in hosting a cleanup site. More details will come in the months to come about how community members can participate in the Citywide Clean Up.

Community Partnerships

Fridley Community Network

The last Fridley Community Network gathering took place on May 13th. Community organizations had the opportunity to share resources and connected. The next meeting will be Thursday, July 15th from 5-6pm. The format of the meeting is still to be determined.

Conocer los Parques “Meet Anoka County Parks”

Outdoor Latino Partnership Event—August 22

Fridley Community Engagement, Recreation, and Springbrook staff are working in partnership with Anoka Co Parks, Outdoor Latino as well as some Latino community members from Fridley and Anoka Co to plan an event in Locke County Park for Sunday, August 22. The event will take place from 2:00-5:00 p.m. and will include a variety of outdoor recreation, environmental education activities, music, and food. The event is being targeted to the Latino community but will be open to the entire community.

Engagement Events Update

Locke Playground Opening Celebration—June 17th

Community Engagement staff will be working with Recreation Staff to host a playground opening celebration for the new Locke Playground on Thursday, June 17th from 6:30-8:00pm. The celebration will be for the Holiday Hills neighborhood as well as the residents of the Pulte Patio Homes and Lennar Townhomes.

Pre-Concert Neighborhood Welcome—June 22nd

Community Engagement staff will be working with Recreation Staff to host a Neighborhood Welcome before the first summer concert on Tuesday, June 22nd from 6:00-7:00pm. The neighborhood welcome will be for the residents of the Pulte Patio Homes and Lennar Townhomes, and the Holiday Hills neighborhood.

Engagement Projects Update

2021 Fridley Resident Survey

Starting on Monday, June 7th, City staff will start to communicate results of the 2021 Resident Survey to the public on our city's website and social media platforms. There will also be an article about the results in the July/August City newsletter. To see the results and learn more, visit FridleyMN.gov/ResidentSurvey.

City Collaborative Projects

Craig Park Stormwater Improvement Project

Community Engagement staff is working closely with Rachel Workin, Environmental Planner, and Jeff Jensen, Operations Manager for Parks, on the Craig Park Stormwater Improvement Project. There will be neighborhood parks meeting for the project on Tuesday, June 29th from 6:00-7:00pm at Craig Park. Residents will be able to learn more about the project including the construction timeline, as well as vote on some playground elements and park amenities.



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: June 7, 2021

Meeting Type: Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Margo Numedahl, Recreation Program Supervisor

Title

Recreation Division Highlights, May 2021

Background

Attached are the Recreation Division Highlights from May, 2021.

Financial Impact

None

Recommendation

None

Attachments and Other Resources

- Recreation Division Highlights, May 2021

Vision Statement

We believe Fridley will be a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses.



HIGHLIGHTS

Recreation Division – May 2021

Spring Programs

The second session of Spring programs has ended. The list below includes class during April and May, participation numbers are included in parenthesis.

Preschool and Elementary Youth

- Soccer (19)
- Tball/Baseball (14)
- Tae Down Do (6)
- Drawing and Creative Writing (7)
- Archery (12)

Adult

- Zumba (34)
- Aqua Zumba (16)
- Senior Golf League (16)
- Pickleball Clinics (10)
- Open Pickleball (4)
- Adult Softball League (11)

Family

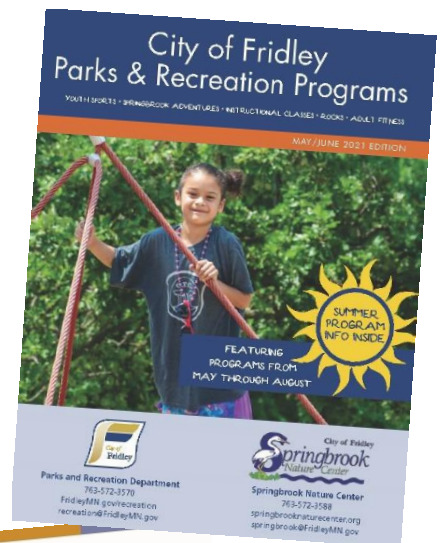
- ROX: Recreation... in a Box (20)

Summer programs are filling up!

- Summer Youth Sports (152)
- Summer Adult Zumba (18)
- ROCKS (43 – max is 45)
- Shelter Rentals (58)

Parks and Recreation Brochure

The July/August Edition of the Recreation Brochure content is completed and is currently being designed, final edits will be made and it will be



mailed to Fridley Residents the first week of July. This edition will contain programs that will take place between July and October.

Shelter and Field Rentals

Shelter Rentals have been pouring in! We currently have 58 reservations, with 44 coming in over last couple weeks. Little League fields and Commons Park have been buzzing with Fridley youth baseball and soccer use. In addition, Community Park is rented weekly by an adult softball group and was used for a tournament on May 15th. The Parks Maintenance team has worked closely with us as we have navigated the needs of the groups and has been doing a great job getting everything ready. In addition, we contracted a cleaning service to refresh the Community Park building including the concession area, restrooms and indoor spaces.

Summer Planning

Summer planning is in full swing! Staff are busy putting supplies and equipment together and preparing for staff training.

Fridley Forward 50K

The 50K just finished up! We had 20 people participate by walking, running, or biking 30 miles during the month of May.

May Day Baskets

Beep, beep it's the Rec 'n Roll truck rolling down the street with May Day basket deliveries for Fridley youth! Staff delivered goodies to twelve children's homes on Thursday, April 30th.





AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: June 7, 2021

Meeting Type: Parks and Recreation Commission

Submitted By: Jeff Jensen, Operations Manager – Parks/Streets

Title

Park Maintenance Report

Background

Attached is a monthly report from the Parks & Streets Division.

Financial Impact

None

Recommendation

None

Attachments and Other Resources

- Park Maintenance Memorandum
- Locke Playground and Neighborhood Welcome Invitation

Vision Statement

We believe Fridley will be a safe, vibrant, friendly and stable home for families and businesses.



MEMORANDUM

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission

FROM: Jeff Jensen, Operations Manager-Streets and Parks

DATE: June 2021

SUBJECT June Parks Report

The Park Department has been started our full summer work schedule and are trying to adjust to lack of seasonal employees. The City has advertised and posted for seasonal employees three times now and still are short around 6 to 7 employees. This decrease in workers is going to affect the amount of work and projects that can be completed this summer.

Summer athletics including adult softball, FYSA soccer and little league are in full swing and keeping maintenance at a high demand weekly. Summer rentals are picking up and we are noticing large increases in park use this early summer. One tournament has been completed and we have a three-day tournament in mid-June to prepare for.

Craig Park design plans have been completed and will be going out for bid in the next couple of weeks so we are hoping to get good pricing from contractors. When we get the winning bid, we will get a timeline for the project to the commission. We have a open house meeting at Craig Park on June 29th at 6:00pm to get input from neighbors in the service area about playground equipment options, bench and picnic table options and lighting options. Locke Park Playground is having its grand opening on June 17th at 6:30 pm.

Jej:jej

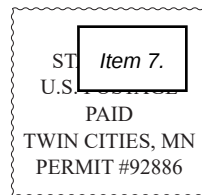
Getting There

Community members in the surrounding neighborhoods are encouraged to walk to the events by utilizing the walking paths to reach the events locations. Parking is also available on site for both events.

View a map of the parks at FridleyMN.gov/CityMaps. Search the park name and find the location as well as biking/walking facilities in the area.

Distancing & COVID-19

Community members will be asked to follow social distancing. If you are feeling sick or experiencing symptoms, please stay home.



Questions? **Call 763-571-3450.**





In case of inclement weather, the event will be rescheduled for a later date. Check our Facebook page (City of Fridley) for weather updates.

Tuesday, June 22 from 6-7 p.m.
Fridley Civic Campus Amphitheater

In case of inclement weather, the event will be rescheduled for Tuesday, June 29. Check our Facebook page for weather updates.

