



# JCPRD Public Art Master Plan Public Art Questionnaire Final Report

## Purpose and Methodology

As part of the outreach process of developing the Public Art Master Plan for the Johnson County Parks and Recreation District (JCPRD) the project consultants, Via Partnership and SWT Design, conducted an online questionnaire. The questions were designed to help the consultants and JCPRD better understand the public's view on public art, how public art could have an impact in JCPRD parks, trails and facilities, and what locations are of most interest for future public art opportunities. The questionnaire was launched on January 15, 2021 and was up through February 28, 2021. The questionnaire received 1,042 responses, of which 481 were partial.

The questionnaire asked questions related to people's familiarity and relationship to JCPRD parks, trails and facilities, as well as their preferences for public art:

- Which of the following JCPRD parks have you visited?
- What are your favorite activities at these parks? (Respondents were asked to select two activities from a list of six options)
- What is the IMPACT that public art should have in JCPRD Parks? (Respondents were asked to indicate four preferences from a list of 10 options)
- (Respondents were shown 18 examples of public art from other communities). Of these projects, pick up to five that you think are visually interesting and represent the type of art that you think would be successful in JCPRD Parks. Respondents were also asked to name their favorite and describe why.
- What areas should be the focus for new public art projects? (Respondents were asked to indicate four preferences from a list of 10 options)

The questionnaire also asked three open-ended questions designed to learn about people's relationship to JCPRD parks, art in park settings, and preferences for public art.

- If you would like, we encourage you to share a personal story, memory, or powerful experience of art in any public park. We will collect and may share these stories on social media. Please mention the park name and location, especially if it is in Johnson County!
- What is one word that you would want to use to describe future public art in JCPRD Parks?
- What is one place that you would like to see a public art project in JCPRD Parks?

## Findings

Several themes emerge from the questionnaire results that cut across multiple questions and help us understand people's preferences related to public art.

### Park Usage

We received responses from people who really know and use the parks. When asked about what parks they had visited, the three parks with the highest overall attendance numbers in 2019, according to visitation numbers

provided by JCPRD, were also the parks that most respondents had visited at one time in their life – Shawnee Mission, Antioch and Heritage. The biggest difference between the 2019 data and this survey was the number of people who had ever visited Ernie Miller. One possibility is that even if respondents hadn't visited Ernie Miller in 2019, they had visited it at least once to enjoy the park, to visit the nature center, or as part of a program or field trip.

Respondents were also asked to pick two activities they enjoy in the park from a list of six options. The overwhelming selection was for Recreation (Hiking, Biking, Fishing, Playgrounds, Disc Golf, etc.) with 82% of respondents selecting this choice. The rest of the choices were split, with Programmed Events (Music, Performances, Speakers, etc.) (30%) and Education (Nature Centers, Historical Interpretation, etc.) (22%) coming in second and third. People are clearly enjoying JCPRD parks and facilities for both un-programmed recreation as well as scheduled or programmed enrichment activities.

The open-ended question asking people to share stories and memories of art in a public art generated many heartfelt responses. Many focused on favorite JCPRD parks and programs, including memories of “Western Town” in Antioch Park, flying kites in Shawnee Mission, and taking field trips to Ernie Miller. Several mentioned family traditions around Theater in the Park. Other responses pointed to the importance of the park as a place of respite during the pandemic, the role the parks play in inspiring creativity and as a place of discovery, the importance of the park to family life, and how the parks support a healthy lifestyle.

### Art and the Natural Environment

Respondents to the survey responded positively to ideas around the artwork complementing or addressing the natural environment. When asked what impact should public art have in JCPRD Parks (Q4), the top choice was *enhances and promotes enjoyment of the natural environment* (52.4%). The top six most popular images of artwork from other communities (Q5) all reflected natural themes either in subject matter, material or both. When asked why they chose these works, the relationship of the work to natural themes, natural materials, or being able to learn about nature were mentioned for all of the top six. Finally, when asked to share one word to describe future public art in JCPRD parks, one of the most shared words was *natural*. Art being located in nature or in places of ecological significance was less frequently selected. When asked what areas should be the focus for new public art projects (Q8), in sites of ecological significance was not among the top selections (26%). Natural places was mentioned by 27 respondents in the open-ended question asking people to name one location where you would most like to see a public art project in JCPRD Parks and why (Q9).

### Functional Art

Functional art was favored in the question impact should public art have in JCPRD Parks (Q4), with makes ordinary elements such as benches, signs, or shelters extraordinary being the second most selected response (46.2%). In the question asking respondents to select art from other cities that reflects the kind of work they think would be successful in JCPRD parks (Q5), some of the top works had a functional element. Projects like *Turtle Park* and the *Hands on Children's Museum* were function in that they served as a play element. And *Nested Hive* provides seating and shelter. And the *Ohio Birds Mural* was praised for turning something functional (and, some noted, an eyesore) into something beautiful.

### Interactive Art

Respondents were also interested in art that is interactive. The third most selected choice for the question about what impact should public art have in JCPRD Parks (Q4) was *encourages informal and creative play, and spaces for hands-on exploration* (40.2%). For four of the six most selected work from other cities (Q5) – *Turtle Park*, *Pinecone*, *Ohio Bird Mural*, and *Nested Hive* - the reasons most frequently cited were interactive; engaging; hands on; kid

friendly; encouraging exploration, imagination, play or activity, and educational. Respondents were attracted to works that they could imagine themselves or others engaging with both physically and thoughtfully. When asked to share one word to describe future public art in JCPRD parks, *interactive* ranked as highly as natural.

### Local Artists

For the question about what impact should public art have in JCPRD Parks (Q4), *provides opportunities for local artists and artists new to public art* almost tied with *interactive* (40.1%). Though this did not come up in any of the other responses other than the occasional mention in an open-ended question or write-in response, it is a strong preference and worth noting.

### Art in Open Spaces

When asked what areas should be the focus for new public art projects (Q8), the highest response was *in suitable open space throughout the park* (72.5%). When asked to name one location where you would most like to see a public art project in JCPRD Parks and why (q9) the top responses pointed to areas that are *popular, well used areas and/or conveniently located* (149) and *large spaces/open spaces* (77).

### Art along Trails

The second most frequently cited location when asked what areas should be the focus for new public art projects (Q8) was along *walking and biking trails* (60.2%). When asked to name one location where you would most like to see a public art project in JCPRD Parks and why (q9) along walking and biking trails was also frequently mentioned (70).

### Shawnee Mission Park

In the open-ended question that asked respondents to name one location where you would most like to see a public art project in JCPRD Parks and why (Q9), some answered with a specific park, and the park most frequently mentioned above all others was Shawnee Mission (128). No other park received near that number of responses. It may have to do with familiarity with the park - it was also the most visited among respondents. But it is worth noting its popularity.

### 1. Which of the following JCPRD parks have you visited?

Shawnee Mission Park	91.8%
Antioch Park	80.7%
Heritage Park	69.0%
Ernie Miller Park	63.9%
Meadowbrook Park	46.3%
Thomas S. Stoll Memorial Park	46.1%
Kill Creek Park	40.4%
Mid America Sports Complex	39.8%
Mill Creek Streamway Park	37.3%
Kill Creek Streamway Park	21.0%
Bill Bull Creek Park	14.8%

Lexington Lake Park	11.8%
Sunflower Nature Park	10.3%
Stilwell Community Park	7.2%
Coffee Creek Streamway Park	7.0%
Camp Branch Glade	3.6%
Verhaeghe Park	2.5%
Other - Write In	6.3%

#### Other - Write In

- Johnson County Arts & Heritage Center (7)
- Black Hoof Park (6)
- Arboretum (5)
- Franklin Park (5)
- Mildale Farm (5)
- Timber Ridge (5)
- Sar Ko Par Trails Park (4)
- Cedar Niles Park (3)
- Gezer Park (3)
- Iron Woods (3)
- South Lake (3)
- Thompson Park (3)
- 87th & Lowell and 85th & Switzer (2)
- Ilan Park (2)
- Mid America West Sports Complex(2)
- Olathe Lake (2)
- Roe Park (2)
- Roeland park (2)
- Roeland Park Community Center (2)
- Mill Creek Activity Center (2)
- Theatre in the Park(2)
- Tomahawk (2)
- Blackbob Park on 151st St (1)
- Buffalo Meadow (1)
- Coffee Creek Trail (1)
- Craigs Crossing (1)
- Erfurt Park (1)
- Flanders Park (1)
- General (1)
- Heritage (1)
- Herman E. Laird Park (1)
- Indian Creek and Tomahawk bike trails (1)
- JCPRD Golf Courses (1)

- JoCoLibrary museum (1)
- Kaufman Memorial Park (1)
- Lakeside nature center, rose gardens (1)
- Osage(1)
- Stoll (1)
- Strang (1)
- Stump Park (1)
- Tomahawk Golf (1)
- Windsor Park (1)

## 2. What are your favorite activities at these parks? (choose up to 2 categories)

Recreation (Hiking, Biking, Fishing, Playgrounds, Disc Golf, etc.)	82.0%
Programmed Events (Music, Performances, Speakers, etc.)	30.4%
Education (Nature Centers, Historical Interpretation, etc.)	22.0%
Organized Sports (Football, Baseball, Soccer etc.)	14.5%
Health and Wellness (Fitness, Yoga, etc.)	9.8%
Making Art (Photography, Drawing, Writing, etc.)	7.1%
Other - Write In	9.5%

### Other - Write In

- Dog activities / dog park / dog walking(27)
- walking (19)
- Canoeing / Kayaking / Sailing(10)
- Picnic (10)
- Golf (9)
- watching nature/sunsets/scenery/quiet(9)
- Playground (4)
- social gathering / family gatherings (4)
- Theatre (3)
- Cycling (2)
- Having lunch at parks /eating (2)
- kites (2)
- Car Shows (1)
- COVID-19 vaccine (1)
- Reading (1)
- enjoy water features and "get away" from traffic, small model airplanes at Sm PK (1)
- exercise (1)
- Festivals - like Turkey Creek at Antioch Park (1)
- Fishing (1)
- Gardens (1)
- Getting out of my apartment (1)
- Handicapped accessible (1)
- hiking (1)

- Just visit (1)
- Kids camps (1)
- Learning mah jongg (1)
- Pickle ball (1)
- Reading (1)
- Running (1)
- Scouting (1)
- Swimming (1)
- tennis (1)
- Trail running (1)
- trail skating (1)
- Trash retrieval via kayak, bike and foot. (1)
- Triathlon (1)
- unorganized sports (1)

3. If you would like, we encourage you to share a personal story, memory, or powerful experience of art in any public park. We will collect and may share these stories on social media. Please mention the park name and location, especially if it is in Johnson County! (optional - not more than 100 words)

#### Antioch Park & Dodge Town

- Antioch Park - my boys skipping across the pond and not wanting to leave the western town
- Antioch Park is very peaceful and serene. I love sitting by the water watching the ducks and the fountains.
- As a child I lived close to Antioch Park, often played in the Western Town so was glad to see that feature restored recently! I recall fondly the WWII Navy Corsair fighter aircraft, too ! My friends and I "flew" many imaginary missions in the plane and enjoyed hours of fun playing Wild West fantasy there! Later in life, when the Park was a Polling Place, I cast my first election votes there! The volunteer workers were ladies from my neighborhood who greeted me cheerfully calling me by name, a very happy memory still!
- play/barbecue/family gatherings at Antioch park
- I grew up here and have memories of camps at Antioch Park doing crafts and playing in the "old town" buildings. I love to bring my kids to play there as well!
- My sons, now 50 and 55 still remember Old Town in Antioch Park and have taken their kids to it. Love the update!
- Taking daughter to Antioch park as a child and watching her play in the old west buildings
- Antioch Park!! The cement stones to walk through the small lake!!!!!!!!!! The little village !!! Epic memories

#### Ernie Miller Park

- Ernie Miller Nature park and their offerings have been the best thing to develop and maintain a relationship of experience and learning with the outdoors for my grandchildren and myself. The programs are professionally well presented and the facility is top notch, indoors and out.
- Ernie Miller Park has provided fascinating opportunities for students to learn about animals, birds, and other environmental topics.
- I take my grandchildren to Ernie Miller Nature Park for outdoor educational activities. I have felt very safe with the Pandemic doing this there, and they love the activities with animals!!
- I went on a school field trip to Ernie Miller on my birthday in 2007. I had a great time and the school bully caught poison ivy.

### Meadowbrook

- I think Meadowbrook Park's being created from an old golf course is one of the best things that has happened in our neighborhood and we've lived here since 1986. I absolutely LOVE Meadowbrook. Thank you for creating it!
- Living in the apartments in Meadowbrook is the best experience I have had since my move to Kansas. The park is fantastic and offers walking and exercise opportunities. The beauty of the park is exceptional! Seeing how people are enjoying the park provides proves the wisdom of the vision of the planners.
- Meadowbrook has become an incredible destination for sledding in the winter, and birdwatching throughout the year.
- My husband and I used to spend many evenings sitting in the red chairs on Meadowbrook Park Clubhouse's balcony when we were dating. Sweet memories!

### Shawnee Mission Park

- Flying kites at Shawnee Mission Park was fun for us and our three boys. The wind is always strong there and the open hills helped keep the kites away from kite-eating trees.
- From the time my daughter was able to walk, the annual events held at Shawnee Mission Park and Mildale Farm became a family tradition that we looked forward to each year. Even as she has outgrown some of them now, she continues to enjoy the summer camps with friends.
- I always enjoy going to Shawnee Mission Park. I have wonderful memories there with everyone in my family. There is always so much to do and enjoy. OPKS would not be the same without it.
- I love Shawnee Mission Park. I hike there often with my dog along Mill Creek. We often see deer and ducks and other wildlife.
- SMP always ends up being my go-to default park for outdoor activities and I love taking new people there to explore.
- Shawnee Mission Park with its lake and trails has been a fun experience. It is easy to spend a lot of time there and it is always fun. I have watched it over the years and have always enjoyed the additions and changes I have experienced.
- We especially enjoy Shawnee Mission Park...often picnic there. We live near the park and drive through the park at least 2-3 times per week.
- ...I love paddle boarding at Shawnee Mission and seeing the different seasons change. I do think that having some artistic sculptures or artwork added to our parks would be beneficial. I have wonderful memories of strolling through the botanical park in New York when they had a Dale Chihuly glass exhibit, where there are many large, beautiful pieces located throughout the park.
- January 1, 2021 walk on the trails out of Shawnee Mission Park in the snow. Peaceful and invigorating
- Shawnee Mission Park is beautiful at sunrise.
- Shawnee Mission Park sunsets are their own art...

### Roe Park

- Love the running boy bronze at Roe Park. (We gave him a scarf and earmuffs for the winter. 😊) Roe and Meadowbrook have great open central areas for displaying rotating art exhibits. Interactive art exhibits in the playgrounds would be nice, too.
- The Jorge Blanco sculptures in Roeland Park and Leawood are amazing. Color, movement, placemaking...all well done.

### Overland Park Arboretum

- This is not a JCPRD park, but at the Arboretum I attend their special art events. Our family especially love the Fairy Garden art.

- Enjoy the little gnome houses at Overland Park Arboretum.
- I have really enjoyed viewing the art at the Overland Park Arboretum. They have such a nice variety that blends in well with nature.
- I love the art along the trail at the Arboretum. It always sparks conversation among people walking the pathways.
- I truly enjoy the sculpture walk at the arboretum! It's shady and allows for a slow stroll as I look at each piece.
- Overland Park Arboretum and Botanical Gardens standing artwork and multi-colored lights on trees present a very calming effect in these troubled times...
- Several years ago I visited Laumeier Sculpture Park, Sunset Hills, Missouri. The incredible experience was a well-planned combination of a nature hike and public art. This is one of the reasons I enjoy the Overland Park Arboretum, which provides beautiful scenery and walking trails, as well as themed outdoor exhibits that combine nature and art.
- The artist painting sculpture at OP Arboretum is so realistic it is easy for visitors of all ages to appreciate what the artist is doing. People notice it and It is an excellent conversation starter for that reason.
- The Overland Park Arboretum and Powell Gardens do a great job of integrating art into a park setting

#### Sar-Ko-Par Trails Park

- The whimsical, and colorful art on 87th, at Sar Ko Par Trails Park, always quickens my spirit as I walk, or drive by. It is a structure full of color and an array of shapes, that happily plays with my mind and soul.
- My favorite public art experience are the pieces in SarKoPar Trails Park, Lenexa. There are four pieces, and they are all favorites of visitors. I love to watch families interact with the art and I listen to their comments. The favorite seems to be the Dragon. People love to interact with it, climb on it, sit on it, draw it and photograph it.

#### Theatre in the Park/ live performances

- The symphony at Shawnee Mission Park this fall was wonderful. What a setting for some terrific music.
- We love Theatre in the Park. It is always a big part of your summer.
- This fall we were able to attend a concert by the KC Symphony at Meadowbrook- it was fantastic.
- Enjoyed the musicals at TIP. Shawnee Mission Park. Great entertainment!
- My family enjoyed several symphonies at the parks this year. Theatre
- I really enjoy Shawnee Mission Theater theater in the park. It provided a summer job(parking) for my son as a teenager, Fun outdoor outings for my family and visiting relatives. Also great entertainment through theater and dance.
- My older sister starred in a production at Theater in the Park in Shawnee Mission Park. I loved every second of amusing myself during rehearsals, and watching every second of the performances!
- The Theatre in the Park performances I look forward to sharing an outdoor summer evening with my sister. The experience is a summer tradition with us.
- Theatre In The Park!! I performed every summer for a decade from age 8 -18! Such a treasure...

#### Nature

- Ernie Miller was a favorite for yoga and nature hikes in past years. Looking out into nature and watching deer. Attending outdoor functions and hearing staff stories of owls and other spirits. Very much fun and now with knee surgery I'm back in joy for a new season!
- I love the hiking trails at Shawnee Mission Park. I love watching the seasons change while I hike.
- I really love being able to take my kids on the nature trails and look for local animals/insects. We appreciate all the work and dedication that the parks have done to educate and inform. My children and I go to many parks to

keep exploring new areas. I did not know about some of the parks on the map above! We will have to explore more!

- I enjoy contemplative photography, nature journaling, walking, bird watching and just simply daydreaming while at the park. I don't go for the art. Art doesn't add anything to my enjoyment.
- Just enjoy a peaceful place to enjoy nature's music
- Just the idea of being in and closer to nature is my biggest draw.

### Pandemic therapy

- Meadowbrook become part of our daily routine during lock down. We went as a family every day. It was a much needed and wonderful part of our new routine. Our kids explored, rode bikes, picnicked and rolled down the hill. We still go multiple times every week, nearly daily, for exercise, green space, connecting with nature and our health and well-being.
- Meadowbrook Park is the best money ever spent! It's been our family's COVID sanctuary for biking, fishing, kite flying and sledding.
- I go to parks every week during the pandemic just to be outside to be active to walk and for mental health. I love to paint there or just to be with nature. I enjoy fresh air.
- During the pandemic, the drive through to pickup the 2020 gold medal for the pandemic version of Kansas City Corporate Challenge was held at Shawnee Mission Park. It was a fun excursion and way to celebrate with limited contact with other people.
- In these endless times of social distancing we need more parks. More green space for outdoor activities. I enjoyed canoeing at Shawnee Mission last summer and appreciate you made the canoe season even longer.
- I am pleased that Cedar Niles park will open soon. During the pandemic enjoying nature is a good for our families physical and mental health. Park visitation is at an all time high so more parks are needed so we can safely socially distance. Thank you!

### Creating art in parks/ interactive arts

- Love my plein air watercolor class in Antioch Park with excellent teacher, Barbara
- With the advent of Covid a group of artists and I spent the Summer drawing from a model in Antioch Park. It was wonderful until it got cold.
- I'm with a writers group that visited Ernie Miller for inspiration.
- Musical playground at Meadowbrook...spontaneous concert and dance with a dozen strangers
- Art has the ability to positively impact our daily lives. It has inspired my profession (designing outdoor spaces for public enjoyment)...
- I enjoy the statues of children in Roe Park, and the variety of art at the Arboretum.
- Art in the Park organized activities for all ages—easels set up all over park and paint activities
- In the beginning of the pandemic, we brought our 'Kidz' Church group to write messages of Love and Encouragement on the sidewalk in chalk at the "Inclusive Playground" in SM Park. Before long, we had a group of people around us, reading our chalk love messages (ie: 'Together we can do this! Love Your Neighbor! ...') It was so unique given the circumstances of the pandemic, that people were very interested in what we were doing...and WHY we were doing it. The next day in Sunday school, we talked about our experiences and what the word 'community' means.

### Photography in parks

- Photography is my favorite art to create while visiting the parks. One of my favorite photos was taken at Lexington Lake as my family fished from the dock during sunset.

- The photographer who took our daughter's senior pictures asked us to meet at Antioch park. We had never been before --- beautiful! The paths, the water, the stepping stones! It's a place I recommend to many now when they walk or a photo site!
- My family had a photographer take Fall pictures of my family (four daughters and wife) twenty seven years ago and "those" pictures and backgrounds are a wonderful memory for all of us. Matter of fact - we are going to re-create it again with poses and grandkids on our thirtieth year!
- My family takes photos of the sunset at Heritage Park, especially near the island and around the old silo.
- As an avid photographer, I find combining the natural beauty of parks with hiking to be a perfect combination for healing body and soul.

### Discovery

- There used to be a face on the tree at the playground at Antioch Park. I don't know if it's still there but it always made me laugh. :)
- While exploring Ernie Miller Nature Park, my 6-year-old grandson discovered what he called his "secret spot." Hidden in the woods, Henry found an enchanting, yet obscure site. This mystical setting included a bubbling waterfall cascading into a tranquil pond, complete with croaking frogs, wriggling tadpoles, chirping birds & chattering squirrels. What a unique sanctuary and special experience for both of us!
- I remember a temporary sculpture installations placed throughout Fontanelle Forest (NE) many years ago. At first it surprised me and interrupted my nature hike - I was actually rather ticked off it was there. The installations soon became more and more compelling as I continued the hike. Very thought provoking!
- Not art exactly - but an experience that was memorable and made an impact was discovering the remains of a stone structure in Heritage Park - an old house or stable - I liked the connection to the past.
- I have fond memories of the serpent/dragon in Sar-ko-par Trails park in Lenexa. When I was a child, I loved walking over the bridge to the island where the dragon stood. It was always a magical experience!

### Fun for Kids and Families

- My grandkids like to climb on the art. I like art that encourages interaction.
- My family enjoys the fountains in lakes such as Antioch park and Aroboretum. Also, art that rotates when blown is interesting for families. Must be family friendly
- My two granddaughters have enjoyed both Antioch Park for its town when they were little and the Shawnee Mission Park as they got older, with the paddle boats, the beach, and fishing and floaty little boats on the water! They live in Lee's Summit and visit us some weekends and always ask to go to the parks!! Thank you for this beautiful opportunity!!
- I have great memories of my son and I fishing at Shawnee mission park on cold evenings after work. Even if we didn't catch anything it was great to spend time together. Now my wife and I spend time walking at Kill Creek or SMP or taking the grandkids to Antioch Park. The park system in Johnson County is terrific.
- I love exploring Shawnee Mission Park with my 2 kids.
- Moved in to Shawnee 30 years ago with young children close to shawnee mission park. Took our children there very often. Still live in the same house.
- I enjoy water features at kids parks like the roe park
- ...Functional fountains (that kids can enjoy in the hot summer months) with added accent lighting are high maintenance but also high enjoyment...
- When we moved here from out of state, we fell in love with the local parks. It's so nice to have beautiful outdoor areas to take our kids and spend the day.

### Gathering/ Welcoming

- The park is so accessible and easy for family gatherings. Some of our best family memories are playdates, walks and bbqs at local parks. Thank you for your work to make these available to all!
- TimberRidge Activity Center offered my guests off all ages hours of entertainment. Cane fishing poles and wiggle worms were a hit as well as hiking and exploring. The deck overlooking the lake was a great background for the conversationalist.
- Shawnee Mission Park, the home of Theater in the Park, has been the source of many great memories in my life. They began when, as a young child, my parents took me to Theater in the Park. Then, as a young adult, I would enjoy a summer evening there with friends. Now, as a parent, my own children have wonderful memories of evenings at the park, watching shows and listening to the symphony. This yearly tradition was greatly missed in 2020, so we are hopeful to be able to return on the summer of 2021!
- Have loved theatre in the park nights since I was a kid. Being outdoors, staying up late, watching talented artists, eating junk food, and enjoying friends and happy strangers in a shared experience.
- The Public Art at the Arts & Heritage Center is a quiet, functional and inviting piece of art that encourages all who enter to gather in the living room and to join in the JCPRD family. This piece can be enjoyed by young and old alike and serves as gathering spot for those who are waiting to enter or leave.

### Healthy/ Active lifestyles

- Mill Creek Streamway Park is a favorite place to walk my cats. I started with one, but now have two adventure cats that enjoy walking on harness and leash. We also take out the stroller on longer adventures. The terrain adds interest to their otherwise urban experience, and it has been a great conversation starter with other trail goers. I enjoy photography in the area, especially as the seasons changes, and of course, whenever I can incorporate that cats into the pic 😊
- Been with 50 Plus exercise and attended In Step in Shape events for the past 30 years.
- Love to bike in your parks and trails.
- I run with a group of awesome trail runners called the Kansas City Dirt Community at Shawnee Mission Park and it is awesome. I've gotten to see the park at different times of day, experience the trails (paved and dirt) in new ways, and make some good memories along the way.
- I've attended shows at the Theater in the Park many times, but it wasn't until about 4 years ago I became acquainted with the trails at Shawnee Mission Park. I believe they're some of the best in the region. My husband and I met our fitness goals hiking at SMP and continue to keep healthy on the trails!
- My saving grace through this ridiculous pandemic has been Shawnee Mission Park. I probably visited it 3-5 times a week from last April through September. Primarily the bike trails and hiking trails, but also exploring areas I'd never been in before--rented a paddleboard for the first time. It's a great facility and you should know my appreciation for the jobs it takes to keep it up and looking good has really grown during this time.
- We greatly appreciate kayaking at Shawnee Mission Park—so much so we bought our own kayaks! We also greatly appreciate the bike trails in Johnson County! We've exercised, observed wild animals, and felt like we escaped to the country many times.
- Spend a lot of time running and exercising and disc golfing in the parks. Great place for kids as well.
- I recently took my 93 year old mother to the Overland Park Arboretum, and we really enjoyed seeing the sculpture garden along the walking trail
- While I don't think that we have much produced public art in our parks here in Johnson County, I appreciate the art of nature I love paddle boarding at Shawnee Mission and seeing the different seasons change. I do think that having some artistic sculptures or artwork added to our parks would be beneficial.

- I ride and run many of the trails and roads that go through the parks. I enjoy many of the sculptures and are within the park. Recently a favorite moment is more of a "live art exhibit" and that is the sunflowers in Heritage Park each September. I ride my bike through the park on Monday and Tuesday nights in a group ride and love seeing them!

#### Representing History

- The Vietnam Veterans' Memorial at Antioch Park was the site of a cold but heartfelt Veterans' Day event recently.
- I like the statues that are part of the Ironwoods Park. They speak to the heritage of our area.
- The Lewis and Clark Statue overlooking the Missouri River in KCMO's Case Park is beautiful. The site encourages an appreciation of the area history.

#### Accessibility/ Equity

- Johnson County parks have provided what was a staple in my child's upbringing. As a low income single parent, having access to beautiful parks and trails where my child and I could walk and ride bikes along with anyone else, allowed for an "equalizing" aspect to our existence in one of the wealthiest counties in the nation. I am truly grateful for this resource and know how fortunate I am to live in a county that values outdoor green space. Johnson County trails and libraries act as social justice amenities in many ways. Thank you.
- My child is developmentally delayed in gross motor skills. The playgrounds at Shawnee Mission have been wonderful for advancing his skills. He also adores seeing the trains at the Mill Creek Streamway Park.
- We were able to take our wheelchair bound daughter up in the elevator at Kill Creek so that she could take a look at the view.
- My mom had Lewy body dementia. She loved to draw. I took her out to Shawnee mission park, set up all her art on easels and she told us the story of every picture.
- I think art in a public place, like a park, allows others to gain exposure to it that they may not have otherwise been afforded. My children are able to see art pieces up close and as a larger artform than they typically get to experience in their everyday lives.

#### Special Events or Exhibitions

- Fireworks at Shawnee Mission park even though the art was short lived but an all time favorite with family
- The Cow Parade was also a memorable part of my kids experience. We made a point to go on a hunt around the city and take photos. Omaha also did this with "John Doe's" again a really neat way to make it an experience to see them in various locations and tie our community together in that way - highlighting local artists.
- Christo covered all the sidewalks in Saffron in Loose Park, remember this from childhood.
- We enjoy the fall hayrides at both SMP and also Heritage! Great for families or other social groups! It's fun to have a bonfire and cider waiting when you return from the ride! We always take hotdogs and s'mores to make the adventure a little more fun!

4. What impact should public art have in JCPRD Parks? (pick your top four)  
I would like to see public art that...

Enhances and promotes enjoyment of the natural environment.	52.4%
Makes ordinary elements such as benches, signs, or shelters extraordinary.	46.2%
Encourages informal and creative play, and spaces for hands-on exploration.	40.2%
Provides opportunities for local artists and artists new to public art.	40.1%
Creates iconic landmarks.	33.7%
Highlights native cultures and/or remembers important historic events.	31.9%
Creates or anchors community gathering places within the parks.	29.4%
Provides interactive experiences in places where people gather.	29.0%
Elevates the role of art in environmental education, stewardship and remediation.	26.3%
Makes parks distinctive from one another.	22.1%
Other - Write In	7.5%

Other - Write In

- All of the above except the historical references. As we've seen those can cause problems and be hurtful.
- All of the above! (3)
- Also interested in fitness equipment that is also 'artful'
- Appropriate for all ages, especially young children.
- architecturally interesting & inviting, to think & feel innovatively inspired.
- art gardens where art and nature intertwine
- Art sculptures spectator manipulated
- Art that enhances Kansas as a state
- Art that honors our vets.
- Art that is created by established Kansas artists and compliment the natural environment. (Not modern)
- avoid controversy and offense
- Beautiful art that inspires the human and celebrates the natural form of humans and all of creation. Not grotesque art in which the human form is broken up or unrecognizable
- Blends in with and doesn't detract from natural surroundings
- Brings art to people who normally don't go to museums and galleries
- creates places for teens to gather and hang out
- don't forget KID ART!
- enjoy the park in its natural setting
- Enjoyment of art piece just for the sake of enjoying it
- expands performance opportunities beyond Theatre in the Park

- Fulfill Artists' Visions
- Highlights native cultures with art work done by native people.
- highlights state of Kansas
- Historical
- I don't need art in public parks. Aesthetically pleasing playgrounds, paths, plantings, and resting places are enough for me.
- I would be interested in serving on a committee for this or my husband, an architect.
- I would rather the money was spent elsewhere
- Iconic landmarks, which are touchable and made of lasting materials
- Innovative and experimental garden design... like the Getty Center
- Interprets nature present and past
- is not a political agenda
- is not controversial
- It should be representative of the area, not just some random piece of artwork
- It's so easy to over-curate a park. Less is more
- Just keep it natural (7)
- Merging man-made art with nature to emphasize the human relationship with our environment and planet.
- modern art is ugly
- More places to sit at dog park
- Nature is the best art. Hire nature guides
- no light or sound pollution
- No nudity no IgTBq weirdness
- None/not needed (14)
- not art for the sake of sticking art in a space... but rather art that inspires reflection and respect for the earth and one another
- Nothing controversial!! So sick of something being called "art" when it is nonrecognizable as art or crude in nature
- Provides a basis for thoughtful contemplation
- Provides a feast for our eyes that we return to in our mind's eyes later, when we are no longer there
- Reflects values of inclusion, diversity, and equity.
- Refreshes the spirit of the beholder.
- see something I like-color, texture, shape, function-I know this would be tough to do since folks have such different likes in art work
- Should not be too temporal and end up dating the project.
- Shouldn't look amateur
- Simple beauty -- beauty can be added anywhere. It doesn't have to be big to make an impact
- Some form of signage or marker that acknowledges the history behind the park or an aspect of it; i.e. Helen Cuddy Rose Garden; perhaps a marker for someone who gave funds to purchase the land, etc.
- Spend that money on infrastructure not overpriced "art" crap - improve the shelter houses and BBQ gear or add something for kids to play and imagine on! More flower gardens or natural beauty features NOT pricey 'blobs' of abstract statuary or metal sculptures of 'conceptual art'
- splash pads
- Statues of important figures from history.
- Stimulates and transports us beyond the ordinary
- Supports local artists
- The art should cause us to ask a question. And then we should agree that the art was done well.
- Water features, such as lakes, ponds, waterfalls, fountains,

5. Below is a sampling of public art projects in park settings from across the country. These projects represent different approaches, styles, media and even duration. Each project was commissioned for a specific location and with specific goals in mind. Of these projects, which do you think are visually interesting and represent the type of art you think would be successful in JCPRD Parks? (pick your top four)

Bob Cassilly, "Turtle Park," St. Louis, MO	51.1%
Patrick Dougherty, "Hands on Children's Museum," Olympia, WA	43.3%
"Ohio Birds Mural," Columbus, OH	30.1%
Floyd Elzinga, "Pine Cones," Ottawa, ON	30.0%
Re:Site, "Nested Hive," Charlotte, NC	29.0%
Elden Tefft, "Prairie Spirit," Lawrence, KS	28.4%
Stacy Levy, "Ridge and Valley," State College, PA	26.4%
Kincannon Studios, "Blackbird," Austin, TX	20.6%
Bill Fitzgibbons, "Current Drift," Allen, TX	20.3%
Matthew Mazzotta, "Cloud House," Springfield, MO	18.5%
Lake Flato, "Confluence Park Pavilion," San Antonio, TX	17.6%
Karl Unnasch, "Rustician," Montevideo, MN	13.5%
James Surls, "Ten Standing Bronze Flowers," Houston, TX	13.0%
Adam Eikamp, "Prairie Mural," Dysart, IA	12.9%
Brian Tolle, "Origin," Houston, TX	9.3%
William LaChance, "Kinloch Basketball Mural," Kinloch, MO	8.9%
Drew Ettienne, "Ped Mall Picnic Tables," Iowa City, IA	7.6%
Bill McBride, "Timber Arches," Matfield Green, KS	5.2%

Top Six



Bob Cassilly, *Turtle Park*



Pat Dougherty, Hands-on Children's Museum



Ohio Bird Mural



Floyd Elzinga, *Pinecone*



Re:SITE Studio: *Nested Hive*



Elden Tefft, *Prairie Spirit*

6. Of the works of art your chose, which one did you find the most compelling? Why? (Top Five)

Pat Dougherty, Hands-on Children's Museum

Interactive / Hands on (50)  
 Kid friendly (49)  
 Encouraging exploration / Imagination / Play / Activity (31)  
 Engaging / Appealing (19)  
 Friendly for all / All ages (15)  
 Natural materials (14)  
 Beautiful / Visually appealing (13)  
 Encouraging art appreciation (10)  
 Fun (10)  
 Educational / Learning experience (9)  
 Emphasis on nature (9)  
 Large scale (6)  
 Imaginative / Original / Iconic (6)  
 Multiple purposes / Functional (4)

Bob Cassilly, Turtle Park

Interactive (49)  
 Encouraging exploration/ Imagination / Play / Activity (49)  
 Kid friendly (47)  
 Imaginative / Artistic / Original / Iconic (25)  
 Beautiful / Visually appealing (18)  
 Friendly for all / All ages (13)  
 Natural (13)  
 Fun (12)  
 Engaging / Appealing (12)

Animal themed (9)  
 Multiple purposes / Functional (9)  
 Educational / Learning experience (8)  
 Large scale (8)  
 Long-lasting / Durable (6)  
 Well sited (5)  
 Creates a gathering place (4)  
 Photo Op (3)

Elden Tefft, Prairie Spirit

Well incorporated with the site (34)  
 Nature centered (30)  
 Highlights local history (29)  
 Beautiful (19)  
 Relevant to the area (19)  
 Inspiring / Meaningful (13)  
 Highlight Native culture (12)  
 Calm / Peaceful (11)  
 Colorful (1)  
 Different (1)  
 Kid friendly (1)  
 Unexpected (1)

RE:site Studio: Nested Hive

Interactive (42)  
 Enticing / Engaging (23)  
 Colorful (20)  
 Visually interesting (19)  
 Functional (18)  
 Unique (17)  
 Fun / Playful (16)  
 Beautiful (13)  
 Iconic / Striking (12)  
 Large scale (12)  
 Kid friendly (10)  
 Nature themed (9)  
 Enjoyed on multiple levels / Experiences (8)

Dynamic (7)  
 Bright / Bold (6)  
 Photo opportunity (6)  
 Gathering Place (5)  
 Inspiring (5)

Floyd Elzinga, Pinecone

Nature themed (42)  
 Plays with scale (28)  
 Beautiful (11)  
 Striking / Iconic (8)  
 Kid friendly (6)  
 Visually interesting (6)  
 Whimsical (5)  
 Reused / Interesting materials (5)  
 Inspirational (5)  
 Accessible / Appealing (5)  
 Unique (4)  
 Well sited (3)  
 Engaging (3)  
 Educational (2)  
 Photo Opportunity (1)  
 Repetition (1)

Ohio Birds Mural

Educational/interesting (19)  
 Nature themed/ bring attention to environment (10)  
 Beautifies existing structure (10)  
 Beautiful (10)  
 Local theme (4)  
 Low impact/simplicity (3)  
 Inviting (3)  
 Appeal to all ages (2)  
 Like birds (2)  
 Colorful (1)  
 Local artist (1)  
 Like murals (1)



8. What areas should be the focus for new public art projects? (pick your top four)

In suitable open space throughout the park	72.5%
Along walking and biking trails	60.2%
In sites of historic/cultural significance	45.7%
Adjacent to picnic shelter areas and other gathering places	44.5%
Near playground areas	36.8%
Near park entrances or trailheads	32.4%
In sites of ecological significance	26.0%
Inside community/education centers	16.6%
Adjacent to buildings within parks	15.6%
Near or within sports complexes	4.4%
Other - Write In	4.1%

Other – Write In

- Any of the above... it depends on the artworks
- Anywhere/Everywhere (2)
- Anywhere in county -- not just parks. Don't limit beauty, creativity, or impact to just parks
- area rented for venue, wedding
- AS the park or garden
- I would like to see local history of community athletes recognized in the sports complexes. Also outdoors as well as indoors
- in clever areas to get peoples attention, provide a direction or marker-like by a bridge or a trail crossing
- In sites where indigenous peoples history has been erased and can be made visible again through public art and monuments
- In spaces for older or handicapped can enjoy
- In the highest traffic areas
- inside buildings
- less is more
- Let nature be the art
- let the kids create art with nature
- libraries
- logical or rule breaking
- murals on existing structures, where appropriate
- museums
- Nature
- No new wasting tax dollars.

- no preference - work with artist on placement
- None /nowhere (7)
- on existing structures
- Open odd places with some space
- Outside/inside community centers, for both limited access seniors (& youth) to visualize & experience
- Review my previous comment in the "one word" area
- Sculpture park like Papa John's in Des Moines or at the OP Arboretum
- Should not distract from nature
- Sorry, no opinion on location
- Spend on park maintenance and functionality instead of art.
- To cover up existing eye sores
- trails
- viewable for street and sidewalks
- Water is part of the art: waterfall, fountain,
- where people picnic
- Where you can't see them

## 9. What is the one location where you would most like to see a public art project in JCPRD Parks? Why?

Popular/ Well used areas/ Conveniently located areas (149)  
Shawnee Mission Park (128)  
Large spaces/ Open spaces (77)  
Along walking and biking trails (70)  
Meadowbrook Park (53)  
Don't know/ Not sure (45)  
Spaces that don't have public art/ Spaces that could use improvement (39)  
Entrances to parks/ Trailheads (36)  
Locations for kids/ Near playgrounds (34)  
Areas to attract attention/ Bring more visitors (33)  
Antioch Park (30)  
Heritage Park (28)  
Connect to nature/ Natural places (27)  
Places where people gather (25)  
Areas to create identity/ Represent JC to visitors (24)  
Accessible spaces for a variety of mobilities (19)  
Highly visible places (19)  
Functional/ Facilities/ Benches/ Shelters/ Pavilions (18)  
Indigenous sites/ Historic locations/ Artwork to celebrate Indigenous people (16)  
Shawnee Mission Park Theatre in the Park/ Outdoor theatre/ Outdoor music (15)  
Not in parks/ Don't disrupt nature (14)  
All parks / Anywhere (14)  
Mill Creek Streamway Park (14)  
Stoll Park (14)  
Ernie Miller Park/Nature Center (13)  
Shawnee Mission Park Lake (13)  
Kill Creek Park (12)  
Unexpected/ Surprising locations (11)  
Big Bull Creek (6)  
Arts and Heritage Center (5)  
Dog parks (5)  
Cedar Niles Park (5)  
Sports Complex (4)  
Smaller parks (4)  
Disadvantaged neighborhoods (3)  
Near Community Centers/ Schools (3)  
Arboretum (3)  
Lexington Park (3)  
Stilwell Park (3)

Well maintained places (2)  
Leawood Park (2)  
Black Hoof Park /Lenexa Lake (2)  
North of 435/ I435 Corridor (2)  
Olathe (2)  
Overland Park (2)  
Mildale Farm (1)  
Broadmore (1)  
Courthouse (1)  
Gardner New Century Field House (1)  
Indian Creek (1)  
NW Johnson County (1)  
Tomahawk Park Open Space (1)  
Windsor Park (1)  
75<sup>th</sup> Street (1)

10. Do you live in Johnson County? If so, how long have you lived here?

Less than 1 year	0.6%
1 to 3 years	3.5%
4 to 6 years	4.5%
7 to 9 years	5.0%
10 to 20 years	17.0%
More than 20 years	65.0%
I do not live in Johnson County	4.5%

11. Do you work in Johnson County? If so, how long have you worked here?

Less than 1 year	1.0%
1 to 3 years	3.7%
4 to 6 years	3.9%
7 to 9 years	4.9%
10 to 20 years	17.2%
More than 20 years	34.1%
I do not work in Johnson County	35.2%

12. What is your age? (optional)

18-25	1.0%
26-34	3.7%
35-54	30.4%
55-64	22.8%
65 or older	42.0%

### 13. What is your zip code?

66212	85
66062	77
66207	63
66061	62
66208	60
66215	56
66216	45
66213	43
66205	37
66209	37
66202	35
66210	35
66203	30
66204	29
66030	25
66221	24
66226	24
66223	22
66206	19
66218	19
66220	18
66214	17
66219	16
66227	14
66018	12
66085	12

66224	11
66217	10
66211	8
66083	7
64110	5
64111	5
64114	5
66021	3
66102	3
64113	2
64133	2
64151	2
66013	2
66044	2
66049	2
66053	2
55047	1
64012	1
64014	1
64034	1
64079	1
64081	1
64098	1
64109	1
64112	1
64131	1
64138	1

64152	1
64154	1
64158	1
64701	1
65204	1
65338	1
65631	1
66012	1
66046	1
66047	1
66104	1
66111	1
66316	1
66601	1
67110	1