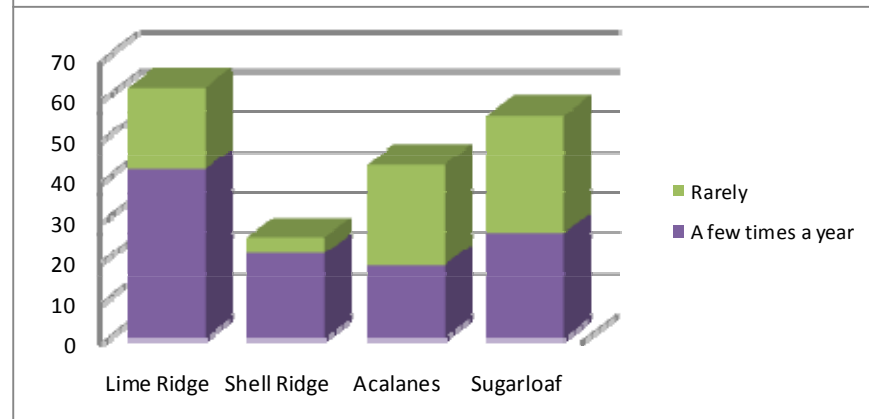
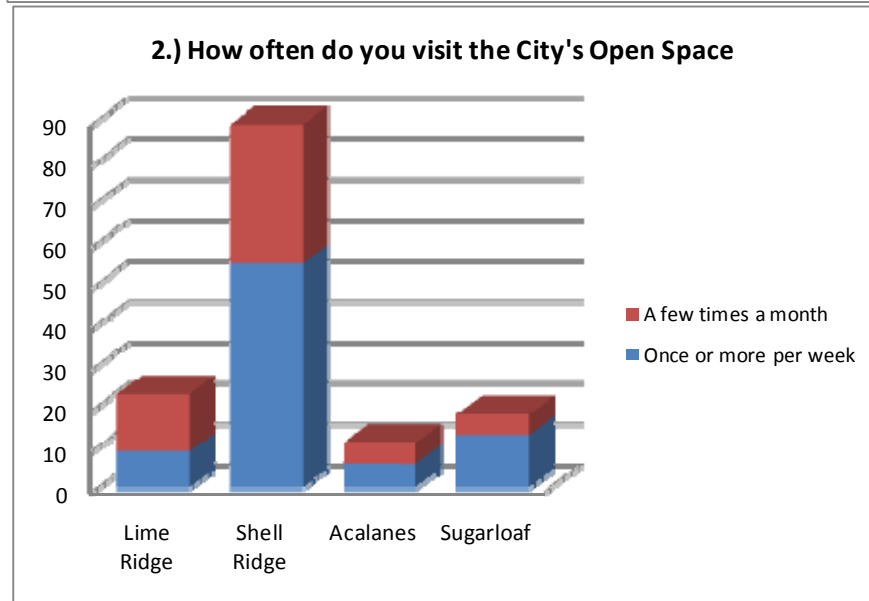
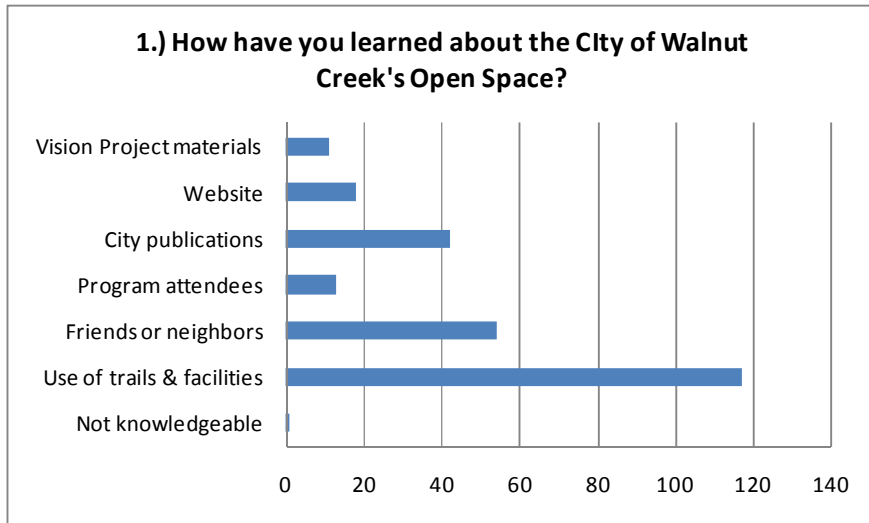


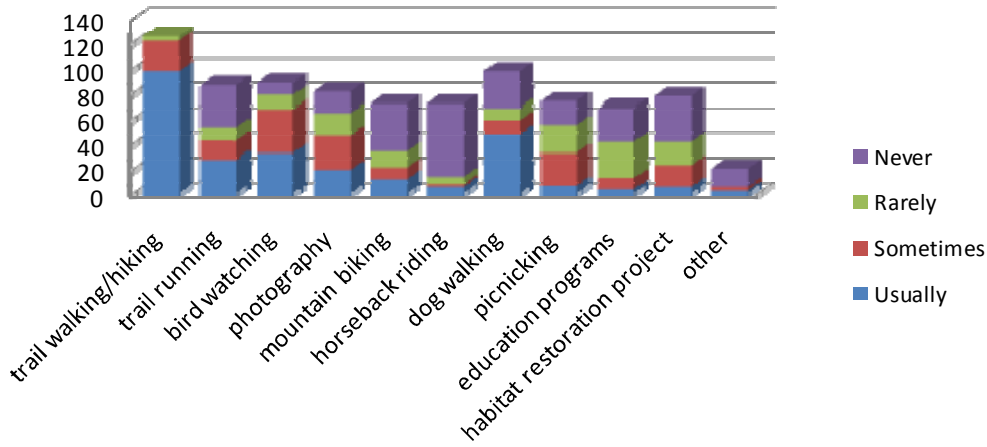
City of Walnut Creek Open Space Vision Project Survey Results

Results of 130 Surveys (124 on-line; 6 written) Submitted between 10/25/07 and 2/20/08. Two surveys were excluded because they were from non-residents.



**City of Walnut Creek Open Space Vision Project
Survey Results**

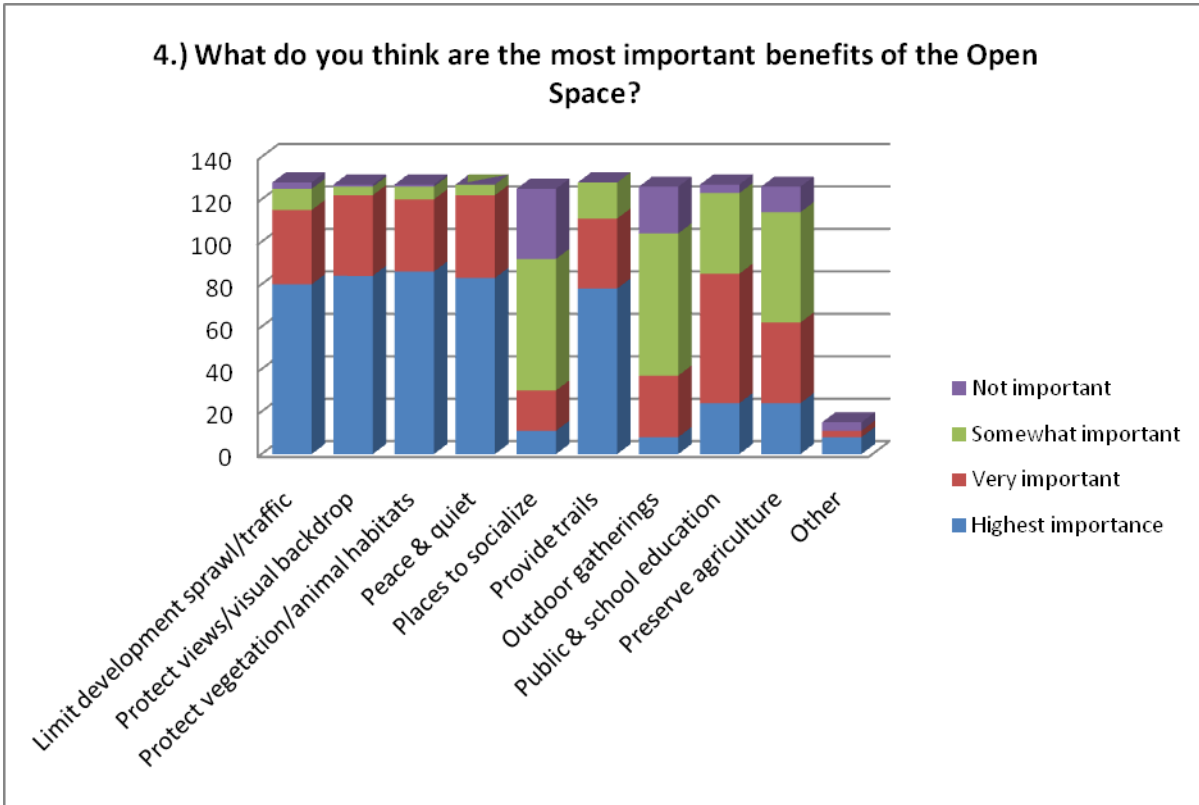
3.) If you visit City Open Space, what do you like to do there?



3.) If you visit City Open Space, what do you like to do there? Write in other activities:

1. volunteer for events, painting
2. field trips with kid's class
3. help open sp. found.
4. rehab gates & kiosks
5. sunset watching
6. dog walking
7. drawing or painting beautiful scenes
8. Take our young grandchildren to explore
9. Daily I enjoy just looking at the beauty and the grazing cows
10. to escape the cities & Traffic
11. Camping
12. mudsliding
13. Noxious weed survey

**City of Walnut Creek Open Space Vision Project
Survey Results**

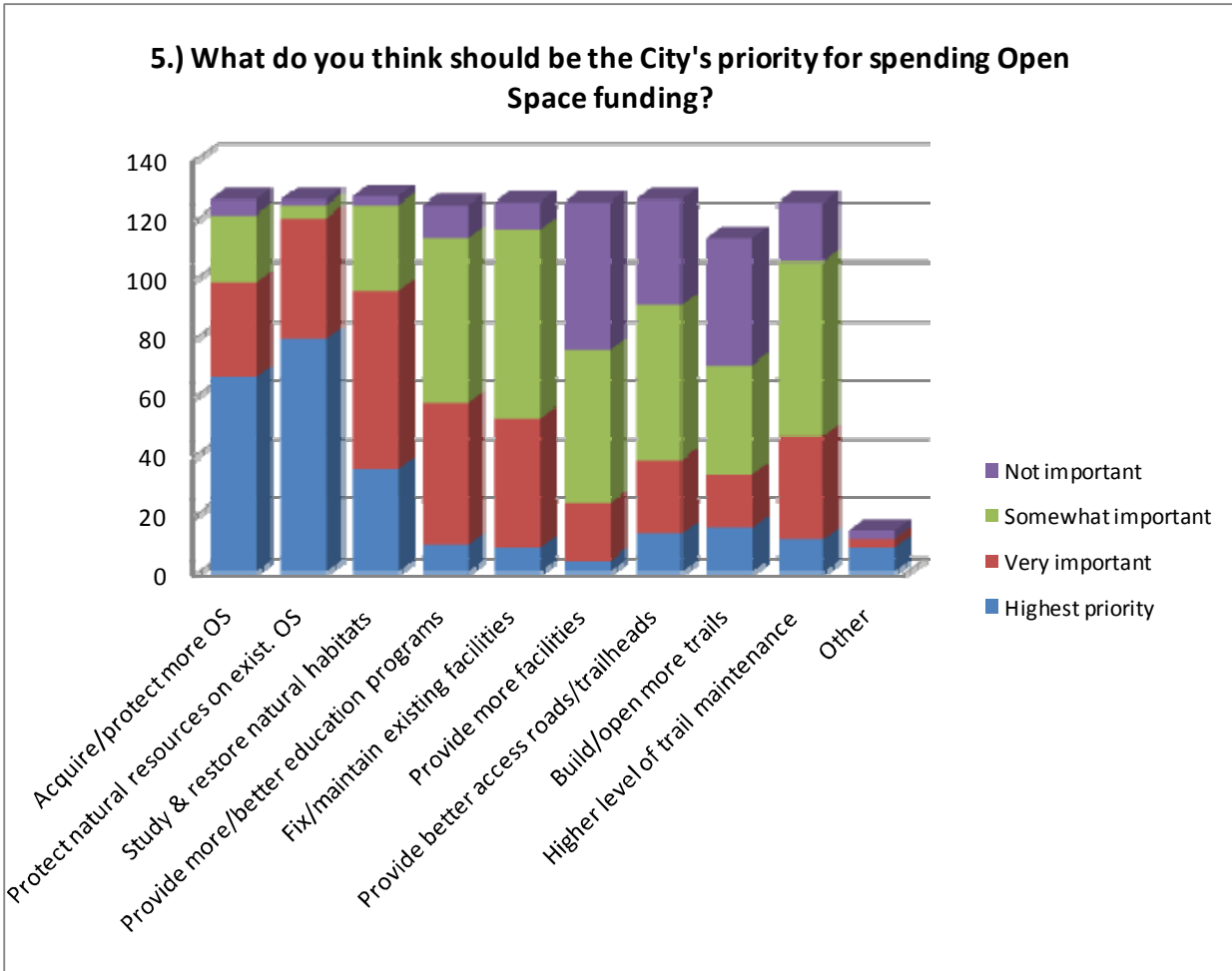


4.) What do you think are the most important benefits of the Open Space? Write in other benefits of Open Space:

1. keep it pristine, natural
2. Escaping Walnut Creek congestion
3. off leash area for dog walking
4. Reducing Urban Heat Island
5. vegetation takes in co2 gives off o2
6. historic ranch structures are wonderful, grazing damages roads and trails unless care is used for time of year
7. Preservation of Botanical and Zoological populations
8. the only place where we can ride our horses, every day, except Sunday -- from our house to the Open Space -- without crossing dangerous streets
9. Being in tune with nature, the seasons
10. able to walk in an area with a lot less air pollution
11. Peace and Quiet. NO CARS
12. No housing on the Open Space
13. Provide animal corridors
14. SO important to have this beautiful outlet available for anyone and everyone! for all reasons- exercise, meditation, dog walking, picnics...
15. unleashed dog areas
16. Unlike parks, open space provides a real and natural setting for our animals. It also increases the quality of our lives, as well as enhance the visual beauty of Walnut Creek.
17. Off Leash dog walking (site/voice control)
18. Natural beauty of area
19. Dog walking - off leash
20. An amazing place where you can just go and think and let everything go.

**City of Walnut Creek Open Space Vision Project
Survey Results**

- 21. historic ranch structures - yes; grazing - no
- 22. appreciation of nature
- 23. flood control benefits, greenhouse gas benefits



5.a) What do you think should be the City's priority for spending Open Space funding? Write in other facilities that should be provided:

- 1. None. I would hate to see the OS get too crowded
- 2. mountain biking
- 3. Mountain Biking and Hiking
- 4. None!
- 5. more multi-use trails, guidelines to allow mountain bikes into currently restricted trails
- 6. Outlying picnic tables in strategic locations to stop, chat and eat.
- 7. Horseback riding
- 8. none
- 9. Need additional access pts from Northgate Area
- 10. none - leave it as natural as possible
- 11. None. Access is good, Leave it as it is.
- 12. bathrooms at a trail head Sutherland -

**City of Walnut Creek Open Space Vision Project
Survey Results**

13. ALL trails need adequate and accurate markings. There needs to be directional signs at all trail heads indicating major areas where people park such as Indian Valley, Muirwood, Walnut Heights, Northgate. It is very easy to get lost on the trails and there needs to be more directional orientation.
14. Bathroom facilities in Shell Ridge
15. Just DON'T sell or develop it. That's the most important thing.
16. More restroom facilities at trail heads would be useful
17. hiking
18. gravel more of main trails for wet weather walking
19. more trails for hikers (single file)
20. garbage cans at trail heads
21. Trash cans @ trail heads
22. Restrooms would be nice.
23. only drinking fountains
24. provide more garbage cans
25. Sewer lines at Borges Ranch
26. More picnic and camping areas.
27. Make Sure Routes are clearly pointed out
28. Bathrooms (If Possible), Some type of telescopes, guide stations, maps
29. OUTHOUSES for us Seniors and trash cans for dog poop bags
30. Some development in the quarry to educate about that industry. Also, since cattle raising was an important historical aspect of this region some sort of educational signage/exhibit etc should be provided.
31. more picnic tables
32. there should be places for picnics and group activities.
33. trash and recycling bins
34. more rangers

5.b) What do you think should be the City's priority for spending Open Space funding? Write in reason to build/open more trails:

1. So more areas of Open Space can be enjoyed
2. Balance the trail system with the users and provide some alternative separation between incompatible user groups.
3. Mountain Biking
4. So more people can enjoy them.
5. access to single-track for bicycles
6. Improve access & connections at Coastanoan & Hanna Grove Trails.
7. trails for mountain bikes
8. recreation, hiking, biking
9. Open a loop trail in Sugar Loaf on the west side so the lower trail by the freeway doesn't end at a dead end
10. mountain biking and multi-use
11. multi-use means many of the trails are becoming less safe for riders. Some more walking (not horse) trails should be provided to limit the joggers, runners, dog walkers, bicyclists on the fire trails. Bicyclists who use the Open Space simply to see how fast they can go should go somewhere else.
12. Open Single Track Trails to Bikers
13. Do not build anything in the open space
14. single track mountain biking trails
15. So we can take advantage of the wonderful nature our region has.
16. Keep smaller trails open in winter

**City of Walnut Creek Open Space Vision Project
Survey Results**

17. There are already enough trails to allow public to use open space
18. More route variety for hiking/dog walking
19. narrow single file trails allow closer views of nature
20. hiking and walking
21. I don't believe there is a reason to build more trails. There seems to be an adequate number of trails for the people using them.
22. Specific areas should be provided for trail bike riding
23. Its is, without a doubt, my favorite part of Walnut Creek.
24. protect entry locations; they are being blocked
25. More access to more intricate parts of the trail and access to nature
26. Hiking to be free of the careless bicyclists
27. So more people are exposed to the open space and learn to respect the environment
28. So more people can walk on the trails and see more of the open space that is provided to them. some people don't like leaving the trails so if there were more trails they could see more.
29. Only to allow people with disabilities (aged) to enjoy the open space.
30. biking
31. Need a connector trail from the Iron Horse to Sugarloaf
32. more opportunities to explore hidden areas of the city
33. There are already plenty -- maybe too many.
34. more single track trails for hikers/runners ONLY; more sign posts along trails

5.c) What do you think should be the City's priority for spending Open Space funding? Write in other priorities:

1. Update & improve trail directions & signage.
2. Leave it alone - add more rangers
3. Keeping trails multi-use; promoting unity/camaraderie/knowledge among diverse trail user communities
4. WCOSF should work more closely with other knowledgeable organizations like the Lindsay Museum for better educational programs.
5. Improve gates inside open space. Some are either hard or dangerous to open on horseback. The gates need to be a certain width and not have posts in front of them and easy to handle from 56 feet off the ground.
6. Maintain the hills as the have always been.
7. educate people to clean up after dogs
8. Support a multi-use philosophy
9. Enforce regulations on mountain bike use of trails
10. deepen the ponds at S.R. for all year access--many dogs love a swim
11. We should enforce the leash law for dogs in these wild and natural places. I have a large dog, but limit my dog's off leash to specified areas in parks, never in the open space where she could disturb wildlife.
12. prevent mountain bike use on more fragile footpaths
13. keep the cows from shell ridge from ruining the environment
14. To preserve what we have by limiting access to those on foot or bike.
15. Cleaning out the thistle!
16. Safety on trails - routine monitoring of parking lots by PD
17. protect entry locations
18. Picnic benches (Shell Ridge), more garbage cans, more water fountains
19. Make Sure Routes for trials are clearly pointed out
20. Please, please, please upgrade and improve the trail signage in the park. It is non-existent in some places and map trail names do not match the signs that exist!
21. Ranger presence, rules for horses

**City of Walnut Creek Open Space Vision Project
Survey Results**

22. bike trails
23. clean up creeks/ravines of dumped garbage
24. prepare up to date trail maps as new trails are made (new map is very good!)

6.) What are your favorite Open Space areas or features, and why?

1. WC is set off from surrounding cities with our own identity
2. Shell Ridge hiking, Borges Ranch, Lime Ridge hiking. All areas make me feel like I'm way out of the city, and it's relaxing, refreshing and rejuvenating.
3. Shell Ridge and Lime Ridge, I appreciate the expanse and visual content of both of these open spaces. I am an avid mountain biker and truly enjoy the beauty of these areas and the exercise they provide me with their challenging terrain.
4. My favorite Open Space area is the "" Frog Pond"" because I like to catch all the little frogs.
5. The open space trails, although not very well maintained, are useful for running.
6. Favorite Open Space Area: Shell Ridge (due to its close proximity to my home and Mt. Diablo State Park). Features: Trails, natural vegetation, wildlife. Reasons: The Open Space areas allow one to experience the natural beauty of Walnut Creek (and California, for that matter) while escaping the noise of urban/suburban living. I can't imagine living in this area without the Open Space areas.
7. Dog walking off leash
8. All of Shell Ridge is a favorite because of the variety of trails, Oak woodlands, great vistas and proximity to my home. Borges Ranch and Howe Homestead are treasures to be protected and have been used well as education facilities.
9. It is a place to enjoy nature, to walk, to take the dog, and for complete peace and quiet.
10. Shell Ridge - I live on edge of this open space and consider it priceless for myself and my kids not to mention the whole of Walnut Creek.
11. Off-leash for the dog so she can get a lot of exercise. Beautiful hiking areas
12. Shell Ridge for diversity of trails and acreage, views, maintenance of trails and access is good. Same with Lime Ridge. Others not as familiar.
13. Shell Ridge for the choice and variation of trails and scenery.
14. preservation of natural beauty of area
15. Shell Ridge via access of Synder Lane. Trails allow some up, down, flat with great views and sometimes encounters with wildlife(coyote, hawks, various other bird species) Also like Lime Ridge during the winter time as trails are not as muddy and buckeyes are beautiful!
16. I horseback ride (primarily) and hike the Shell Ridge trails thru to Diablo Foothills and Mt Diablo State Parks; entry point Hanna Grove gate off Comistas. I love the untouched wildness: oaks, streams, coyotes, bobcats, great horned owls, eagles---we have it all and it's less than a half mile out my door! Our trails are up and down and winding---with vistas around every turn. It's peaceful and regenerative to be so close to nature. The quiet is spectacular.
17. Shell Ridge, best diversity of habitat with trails that are shaded, wonderful oaks, and rocky outcrops + the old quarries.
18. Trails off Hannah Grove gate as I can ride my horse there and access the full mountain. I live very close to the Northgate kiosk but there is no safe way for me to get my horse up there.
19. Shell Ridge. Have enjoyed this area for the entire 40 years of residence
20. Pine Canyon; Ginder Gap area, wall Point
21. The entire Open Space is beautiful. The views, the oaks, the wild grasses -- the small animals that frequent the area, the hawks, etc.
22. Shell ridge, because it is close to my house and because it provides an undeveloped gateway to Mt. Diablo State Park.

**City of Walnut Creek Open Space Vision Project
Survey Results**

23. Shell Ridge trails for dog walking and scenic beauty
24. The trails throughout which provides great recreation for all of the residents. The connection to both EBRPD and State Parks land creating 20k + acres of open space.
25. Sugar Loaf because it's next door!
26. I can walk a few yards and have a wilderness experience. I can't even tell I am in a dense urban area.
27. We love the Shell Ridge trails. There are plenty of different trails with a fabulous variety of scenery.
28. Lime Ridge, north and south, hiking and walking trails
29. I like the relatively untouched feel to the open space areas - i.e. not developed.
30. Lime Ridge area.... very diverse bird & animal life
31. Shell Ridge. I like its access to and views of Mt. Diablo. Also appreciate the ability to let my dog go unleashed.
32. Ridge Trail in Shell Ridge Open Space
33. twin ponds, creek trail, ridge trail
34. Having an area in busy Walnut Creek in which an area has been preserved for enjoying nature. It's quiet and has been used as intended thus far. The views from the ridges are also a treat.
35. Shell Ridge trails, views, solitude
36. open space, beauty
37. Twin Ponds Loop. I like the variety of the terrain and the hilliness.
38. Lime Ridge, trails to top. Riparian trails at Shell Ridge.
39. Present easy access from different locations. Like to ruggedness and 'unkempt' feeling, so we can truly appreciate the seasons and changes due to rain, and temperature. I love that I feel a million miles away from 'the world' when I'm out in the open space.
40. Ridge trails, because of the views
41. Shell Ridge and Lime Ridge. The views and the wildflowers
42. Shell Ridge because it is close to home and I like the views from there
43. Peaceful and interesting places to walk
44. Shell Ridge. Proximity to my house.
45. Excellent job done recently on upgrade of Sugarloaf- would like to see same done in Shell ridge
46. Southerland access to Shell Ridge provides a variety of trails from almost level to steep so a route can be chosen to match one's desires and ability.
47. Shell Ridge - variety of habitats and wide open vistas
48. Shell Ridge creek areas and hilltops for views, and for varied wildflower and bird sightings.
49. The wildness of them, and the fact that unlike the parks they are not filled with people.
50. Shell Ridge - diversity of habitat (ridgetops, creeks, Deer Lake) & beauty, wildlife; opportunities to exercise my Australian shepherd off leash in peaceful, wild terrain on hikes of 1-4 hours. Acalanes Ridge (the small parcel parallel to Oakvale Rd)--It's near my home & I can walk there w/o using the car. Enjoy the vistas & wildlife. Can make a 40 minute loop from through the neighborhood & up the ridge & back.
51. All the trails, readily accessible trailheads, off leash for dogs, good maps at trailheads.
52. I love the diversity of the terrain. Single track trails are the best way to explore the area and to have a chance to observe the birds, coyotes and the plants.
53. Permanent Open Space available for everyone's use - never compromised by building OR revenue generating income need to get rid of the cattle grazing!
54. The quarry areas in Shell Ridge and Lime Ridge have different flora. I appreciate the varied natural habitats with oaks, wildflowers and grasslands. I enjoy wildlife watching and the great views in the.
55. Ridge line of Shell Ridge for the view. Back side of Shell ridge for the peacefulness. Multiple trails in generally good shape

**City of Walnut Creek Open Space Vision Project
Survey Results**

56. I appreciate the openness, quietness, the ability to take our grandchildren on ""adventure walks"" without a crowd of people. My grandchildren are able to see the cows roaming, we've spotted wild animals and saw the pond full of frogs.
57. All the open trails have there own beauty, the beauty that each season brings to the various trails
58. I love taking the dogs up in the lime ridge area where they and I can enjoy peace nature and the beauty. Watching the wildlife is provides great renewal of the soul and I love the peaceful tranquil feeling of watching the grazing of the cows.
59. Sugar Loaf It is very close to where I live, and has a lot of trails and views
60. Easy access for elders to close-in areas on low land at Sugar Loaf. Connection from Sugarloaf to city parks.
61. Shell Ridge is my favorite because it is large enough to explore and ""get lost"" in. However, I use Sugarloaf often because it is so close to where I live.
62. Having areas that are pretty close to ""natural"" are really important to me - the walking/running trails at Shell Ridge are great and I see so many nice people & pets.
63. NATURE AND PEACEFULNESS TO THE AREAS
64. Shell Ridge for morning walks
65. ridge top trails
66. Shell Ridge because it is close and I can walk my dog off leash.
67. Sugarloaf - it is closest to my home
68. Shell Ridge benches under trees looking our on scenic vistas -- good place for a sandwich, contemplation, enjoyment.
69. I love Shell Ridge. I walk my dog there every day ---regardless of weather. It is a beautiful, peaceful place and I feel lucky to live close to such a resource.
70. Trails for walking the dog for exercise. Seeing Mt. Diablo, oak trees, ducks, turkeys, the changes of the seasons.
71. Year-round pond in Shell Ridge (for dog swimming)
72. Ridge Top Trail Castle Rock Trail, Buckeye Ravine Trail, Summit Ridge, Fossil Hill Access to Mt. Diablo trails Enjoy views, trees, shrubs wild flowers, solitude
73. I like getting out and getting some fresh air. It's a nice break from my heavy homework load.
74. I like running with friends occasionally, (emphasis on occasionally)
75. I like the quiet so that I can get away from cars. Cars bug me when they're are like a million (everyday life) so it's great to get away and clear my head.
76. ridge top trail and twin ponds trails in shell ridge. The former because you are often above the birds. The latter because it has open areas, hill, and wooded areas.
77. The quiet less used trails where I hike with my dog. We like ponds in the summer so she can cool off. I like the ridge trails where there are great views. I like to observed the hawks, eagles and falcons who live in the open space. Lucky viewings of other wild critters are also a treat.
78. The Lime Shell Ridge area because I love the trails back there, and as a little kid, I loved hiking to the ponds and such, and seeing the animal life.
79. Shell ridge, because it has some absolutely beautiful trails. The Ridge Top trail in the northwest end of the space has amazing views! I also like the Indian Creek trail and any trail that is mostly for hikers, although I find many bicyclists willfully disregard the bicycle area use restrictions.
80. I like getting away from the urban landscape and enjoying the fresh air and the beautiful scenery. It is nice to meditate and reflect on my life in the open space.
81. Shell Ridge Open Space, picnic tables and resting benches, creeks, shady trees, dog-friendly trails with plastic bags for picking up waste
82. sometimes, my friends and I will go up to the open space and hike or take a walk. i really enjoy walking on the trails. the open space gives my friends and i something to do on a nice day when we're bored.

**City of Walnut Creek Open Space Vision Project
Survey Results**

83. Mostly Shell Ridge because it's close to home: Coyote Pond, Indian Creek Trail, Willow Spring Pond, Ginder Cap Trail, Twin Ponds, Quail Restoration sites, Deer Lake.
84. Any area where there are buckeye trees. Reasons: spectacular scenes of natural lands, great hiking trails. The Open Space is a treasure and a privilege for us to enjoy, not an entitlement. We need to protect it and nurture it.
85. I like the view of shell ridge from Northgate High School. It is beautiful, and one can obtain an excellent view the city from the hills.
86. I like the entire open Space because there is a lot to do. I always have fun.
87. Ridge trail in Shell Ridge. Great views, physically challenging, defines oak growth on the north side etc. b) Lime Ridge (south) area leading up to summit from golf course. Varied growth, interesting wildlife etc.
88. i love the ponds because they are pretty and you can see all the tad poles and frogs.
89. The generally unobstructed views; the wildflowers in the springtime, and the wildlife.
90. Shell Ridge - all the pond areas, especially Bullfrog pond---wildlife Wildflowers - all the areas
91. It feels like I'm out in the country and I'm only a few blocks from town. Shell Ridge is the area I use on a daily basis for exercise and to relax.
92. large open areas, small trails through the woods, natural un-enhanced foothills
93. Acalanes because its close by. Other areas because of the visual benefit...like living in a busy and vibrant city, but be able to look up to the hills and see the quiet countryside so close by
94. ponds, to teach kids about water ecosystem, tadpoles.- crest trails for their views. -
95. I like to walk my dog and bird watch on the trails in Shell Ridge.
96. I like the vistas, the sense of space and peace, the trees and native flowers. And I like having all this available so close to town.
97. Historic sites, open ridges, views, wildlife, wildflowers
98. Shell Ridge diversity; Acalanes accessibility
99. The trail section between Sutherland and end of Walnut Blvd on the lee side of the hill - beautiful grotto-like spot. Also, the connections to Diablo Foothills and Mt. Diablo, a huge outdoor expanse to enjoy
100. Twin Ponds Loop area, Shell Ridge-Indian Creek, Briones-Mt. Diablo Trail through to State Park
101. Mount Diablo, Shell Ridge

7.) What changes would make the Open Space more useful to you?

1. I would like to see some additional single-track for mountain bikers only. The current fire roads are wonderful and appreciate the access to them. However, I and many of my fellow cyclists long for the same privileges that our fellow trail runners, hikers, and horsemen have and that is access to many single-track trails that lead to areas that provide solitude, extraordinary views of the surrounding areas, and trail challenges that support a healthy lifestyle through invigorating exercise. I believe sustainable trails can be built and maintained specific to usage by cyclists. This added element to our open spaces would enhance its usage, provide some equality in trail access to the various user groups and provide some separation between the various user groups.
2. I would like some more trails.
3. Well maintained trails for running and biking, as well as more access points to the open space. As it stands, there are way too many hazardous places for bicycles in the Open Space.
4. I would like to see more trails opened to cyclists, specifically single-track access. I would also like to see more trails constructed in a manner that will limit erosion and destruction to the indigenous vegetation and wildlife.
5. Better access to Shell Ridge trail system near center of Walnut Creek, perhaps from Ygnacio Valley Road at La Casa Via and the Canal trail system.
6. None, maybe updated trail maps.
7. Perfect the way they are!
8. I think that the cows do more damage than any other use, and would like to see them eliminated.

**City of Walnut Creek Open Space Vision Project
Survey Results**

9. Adding trails to connect lower west side area of sugar loaf to main ridge trail
10. Not allow cattle grazing. They ruin the trails, poop everywhere, eat the wildflowers, ruin the few water features, to name a few. If cattle grazing ""has to"" occur, be very watchful of overgrazing and high impact to features I mentioned above.
11. Less change. Ensuring that the new development bordering the open space respects Access rights. If possible (hard to enforce, I know), educate dog owners on what ""voice control"" really means. so the dogs aren't off chasing people, deer or horses. Most folks are great---but there have been a few out walking one or more dogs without a leash (and they have no leash with them) and the dogs are NOT in control.
12. I would like to see the city continue to help fund the WCOSF and other organizations which help to educate the public as to the importance in maintaining our natural surroundings; planting grasses, oaks, educating the public regarding populations of native plants and animals. More signs regarding regulations, i.e. stop mountain bikers on single track trails, more patrols by rangers and volunteers to help limit poor trail selection and educate trail use in a positive manner.
13. See #6. I would like the city to prioritize safe trail access. When one is in the ""open space"" it is difficult to know which is city land, which is EBRPD land, and what is state park. This should be seamless and if the city can provide safe access, everyone! benefits. The city is in effect the access provider to all of the land.
14. Access to open space from horse facilities on Northgate Rd. If we cannot ride to them we cannot enjoy the wonderful trails. There are few, if any, trailer-in parking sites.
15. more parking near trailheads
16. Leave just as it is
17. Let's have no more building of McMansions up close, please. What the City did with the Bank of Stockton was a disgrace. Originally the homes were to be directly behind existing homes in front of the Oerth property but the then City Attorney let them move the sites 400 feet up,(without a hearing) destroying a trail, engendering our lawsuit, and encroaching right into the Open Space. Stop.
18. Better control over trails. Too many people cut switchbacks and it degrades the overall beauty of the trail system. Sometimes the use trails are a better route than the original planned routes, but even so, one best route should be decided upon and degraded alternate routes should be restored to natural conditions.
19. Improve gates- make them easier to open on horseback. Enforce dog leash laws. Convene user group meetings, segregated by constituencies-- e.g., bikers, horse riders, runners, etc.
20. Opening up ridge trails to bikers and possibly looking at a system of specific use trails, i.e. equestrian, hiker, biker. We all pay through property tax assessment so access should be equal. Limit spring/early summer trail grading. Last year the trails were graded in June which left them in a very loose condition and susceptible to more rain erosion this winter.
21. Retirement will allow me to spend more time in the Open Space!
22. Well if I didn't have to work as much...
23. None, use it all the time now
24. try to leave them as natural as possible
25. I like it the way it is
26. none.
27. Limit commercial use, such as horse back tours with too many horses. Please do not allow cars in the open space.
28. More single tracks to be opened to mountain bikes. The same equality as the horses, even though the bikes don't damage the trails like the horses do.
29. Keep the cattle off Twin Ponds Loop.
30. Enforce regulations to keep mountain bikers off trails. This would not require much time as the illegal bikers are regulars. Reduce or eliminate cattle grazing which destroys habitat. Emphasize conservation. We have enough dog parks and don't need to make trails into mountain bike playgrounds.

**City of Walnut Creek Open Space Vision Project
Survey Results**

31. More information about the native plants and wildlife. Maybe signs at the entrance so the public can learn about the open space area.
32. Better direction signs and markings.
33. Not much
34. I like it as it is.
35. Cattle create some problem with droppings, and a significant problem when they trample a trail into deep mush after rain. Can this be reduced?
36. Provide more connections between trails and surface more trails to provide easier use for those past middle age
37. I can't think of any--it's darn near perfect and we're so lucky people cared enough to push for this Paradise in our back yard instead of letting it be developed as nearly happened in the 1970s
38. good as it is
39. more trailheads
40. None.
41. No complaints really. Some dog walkers need to be reminded to pick up after their dogs. Some users need to be reminded to share the trails.
42. Keep the cows in the more remote areas. In rainy weather they destroy the trails making them unusable, erode the hillsides and pollute the water. Not worth ""keeping the grass trimmed for fire danger"" after all , by Indian valley school you do not allow cows and fire has not been an issue in this part of the open space near homes. Environmental damage and destruction of trails not worth the trade off.
43. Reducing or discontinuing grazing practices. The cows destroy the trails during the rainy season.
44. Immediately stop the seasonal cattle grazing. Grazing destroys the natural habitat; creates severe hazards for even trail walking in wet seasons (many times there are twisted ankles due to the rutting caused by cattle); creates situations of cattle challenging/charging people, dogs, and children; etc. It's a law suit waiting to happen!!! And for what gain??? Please ask the City Council Members to personally view the damage and poor trail use conditions caused by the cattle grazing in the wet season - you might just be appalled and should be concerned for our citizens safety!
45. More habitat restoration. Better enforcement of rules on trail use.
46. More trail signs and the availability of maps at the trailheads
47. It's great the way it is.
48. better signage on the trails would be wonderful, with a map at each trail junction.
49. It would be nice to have a trash can, one that looks natural by the coral off of Ridgestone Court. As it is now, I take up a Lunardis shopping bag from time to time to pick up the trash others have left behind.
50. Good as is
51. Restoration of areas of Lime Ridge decimated by industrial extraction.
52. Provide a gate at the Layman Street trailhead to Sugarloaf. I know some older people who cannot climb over the ladder that is presently there.
53. I'd use Lime Ridge more if it had better access to trailheads
54. SIMPLY MAINTAIN AS IS
55. eliminate cows and impact from grazing; City should protect entry points and not let homeowners block access gates and trails; stop using poison to maintain trails; maintain CCFD roads and not let homeowners block roads
1. More parking to reduce impact on neighbors. 2. More garbage cans to make it easier for users to properly dispose of trash including dog droppings. 3. Improved signs, particularly with respect to bike usage.
56. More programs for families
57. I am content with the Open Space as it is. Hiking in it is a big part of my life.
58. More signs to help you find trailheads. Enforcing mountain bikers to yield to hikers.
59. I know this is selfish --- but in the more travelled areas --- cut down the foxtails in the summer.
60. I like it the way it is.

**City of Walnut Creek Open Space Vision Project
Survey Results**

61. Picnic benches, more garbage cans, more water fountains Also, I would request that barbed wire that is not currently being used (for cattle purposes, etc.) be removed - specifically, in Shell Ridge, at Sutherland entrance. Dogs tend to go through it (chasing after ground squirrels) and have gotten hurt from the barbed wire.
62. Prohibit all cattle grazing, especially when ground is wet. They make some trails impassable due to hoof holes and cow pies. they also grassland soil, destroy seedlings. Cattle detract from open space experience. restore native plants. Keep trail signs in good condition.
63. Maintenance to decrease waste from domestic animals (dogs).
64. I think some good uses would be, a get active program throughout the city of walnut creek. Therefore the city loses weight, and people take more advantage of your fine property.
65. Maps.
66. I would get rid of the cows which tempt my dog although I realize they are important for weed control. I current map of where cows are on the web site would help me select trails where they are not for my daily hikes. Outhouses please. The older I get the more I need them.
67. Nothing, just keeping on preserving it, instead of building houses on it.
68. Make sure all the trails are marked. Many signs are completely faded and many trails are unmarked. I have gotten lost with the fine map you provide, mainly in Lime Ridge. I got a copy of the old trail map from the city of Concord and apparently you changed the names of some of the trails on the new maps, WITHOUT CHANGING THE TRAIL MARKERS! This is very confusing and can reduce the enjoyment of a hike. The space is also large enough that one could possibly get lost, as has almost happened to me twice. This week I barely go back to my car before dark, because I took the wrong UNMARKED trail and guessed using the map. Unmapped illegal cut through trails are a problem too. You also need an active program to keep bicyclists on the trails they are approved to use! Some are polite and signal, but my experience is most of them blast by a hike with no consideration for safety.
69. I would distribute more flyers with directions and a list of activities.
70. Possibly a few more benches to rest on along trails
71. I honestly have to say I have never thought, while at the Open Space, gee, I wish... I guess my only complaint is cyclists who use the narrow trails they shouldn't use.
72. I would like to see a better quality of trails in shell ridge, and a easier access to the open space.
73. None
74. Idealistically one might wish for a 100 yard wide connecting band between the open space areas which would encircle the city. Unfortunately it'll never happen. Re(f) above if there is a true need for additional community facilities they should be provided but only near entrances where road access/parking areas exist.
75. Emphasis on acquiring important parcels. Reducing the presence of cattle, particularly in Acalanes and Sugarloaf; limiting grazing in the very wet winter months with the great impact on the trails; limiting equestrian use in very wet weather (as the City limits field use). Adequate trail signage. Removal of fencing that is not needed for ongoing cattle operations. More emphasis on habitat restoration activities. Establishing a permanent funding source.
76. dogs on leash - not on so called 'voice commands'
77. As far as shell ridge - I would like to keep it the same and encourage more people to take advantage of it but in an informal way not structured group activities.
78. Buy more of it, stop encroachment of housing and leave it as natural as possible
79. No changes. Like trails that run through virtually untouched terrain
80. I enjoy the open space daily
81. I like it fine the way it is. The biggest problem is controlling the mountain bikers. They cause erosion, they threaten native plants, and they need to stay off the single track trails. Some of them are also rude.
82. Control grazing, close some more open space areas to grazing

**City of Walnut Creek Open Space Vision Project
Survey Results**

- 83. Pedestrian improvements on Marshall Drive would allow more people to walk to Open Space rather than drive - this is not just an open space issue, but a larger issue of safe routes to school and encouraging kids to walk.
- 84. Addition of property along Castle Rock Road - along Pine Creek
- 85. Keep open space

8.) Other comments, or questions you'd like answered?

- 1. If more improvements to the OS are made, the staff needs to be increased in order to keep a maintenance level that the OS deserves.
- 2. I'm planning to establish a high school mountain biking club in my area to teach kids the benefits of a cycling lifestyle, which includes respect and use of the parks and wilderness. Access to Open Space areas is critical to the success of programs such as these. For more information, please contact the NorCal High School Mountain Biking League at (510) 653-BIKE, or visit their website at www.norcalmtb.org. Thank you.
- 3. Please don't build more picnic sites, or anything other structure that will bring in more people, or trash. Keep it natural.
- 4. How can we encourage more responsible dog ownership? I am fine with off leash dogs, but some dogs are aggressive and have scared people away from Shell Ridge. Also, there is dog poop everywhere, especially near the trail heads.
- 5. Continuing problem with pet waste.
- 6. not developed open space and preserve wishes of tax payers, who years ago voted on bond measure to buy and preserve nature
- 7. Why cows are allowed after rains but everyone else is excluded from the trails. I know you can't just truck them out but it doesn't make sense.
- 8. We're so lucky to have Shell Ridge---actually all 4 open spaces--in our backyard. I horseback ride and hike in Mitchell Canyon, Briones, the Oakland Hills parks, Round Valley---but mostly Shell Ridge and Mt Diablo. In my experience, the hikers, bikers and riders on ""our side of the mountain"" are courteous and accommodating of each other. I've almost gotten flattened (while on foot) by bikers in Mitchell Canyon and in the Oakland Hills. I'm not sure what the participation would be, but it would be great to have one or more ""events"" to get bikers, hikers and horseback riders together to educate each other and work together. It could be a way for some riders to get their horses more used to bikes and for bikers and hikers to get up close and personal to the horses.
- 9. Besides the natural areas the Howe Homestead Park provides a different slant which is extremely important for our burgeoning urban and suburban population. Its gardening facilities for those who don't have a place to dig in the dirt and grow vegetables is extremely important.
- 10. What goals/plans are in place to coordinate with the other protectors/managers of our wonderful natural environment/parkland?
- 11. I think the WC Open Space is the greatest enticement to living in WC
- 12. The use of open space for cattle grazing is controversial in our group because of the damage done to the single track trails in the spring. I personally like the fact that we have cattle grazing on our hill sides because I think it adds to the uniqueness of our Walnut Creek area.
- 13. It would be nice if the City would pay some attention to the areas surrounding the flood basin so they were more attractive. This area is full of expensive homes and beautiful vistas, but the fences are ancient barbed wire and the gates are jerry-built. We deserve as much oversight as the downtown area (which to my mind is way overbuilt and trendy, forcing small businesses out.)
- 14. I would also like to see the park hours extended to evening, similar to EBRPD limits of 10 p.m. This would allow use during the winter evenings which now are limited by the dusk to dawn hours.
- 15. The fence between Sugar Loaf open space and Highway #680 is dilapidated. There are dogs off leash and coyotes that live in this open space. They could easily chase one another and end up running in the freeway. Who is responsible for fixing it. This is a huge accident waiting to happen.

**City of Walnut Creek Open Space Vision Project
Survey Results**

16. Though the ability to let dogs go unleashed is fantastic - many owners do not pick up after their dogs. I'd like to see a cleanup effort to remove droppings particularly at the entry points.
17. Will luxury homes continue to infringe on the open space. It seems there's a new small exclusive sub division or home every year. We need to save to open space! Are there barriers in place, or will the extremely rich continue to take what they want from the rest of us?
18. I would like to see some pamphlet-guided nature trails that would help inform people of the many features in Open Space.
19. Education such as classes, hikes and restoration opportunities are important but don't forget that there are already some institutions providing this, such as Lindsay Wildlife Museum. Better partnering could result in less overlap.
20. The open spaces are great. No changes are needed. Please preserve the off-leash dog rules of the areas. Most people I see enjoying the space have at least one animal off leash and are a pleasure.
21. Please continue to permit off leash dog walking in areas that aren't built up.
22. How often do city council members get to the open space, particularly in wet muddy conditions when the cows are there.....!! Do you ever consult geologists or environmentalists about the cows impact on the open space?
23. Keep the open space free of buildings, antennas and other things that don't fit the natural setting.
24. Limit the encroachment of housing into the open space.
25. Will there be additional group meetings? How important is it that people attend the meetings? What's the need for additional trails?
26. At the gates I would put a warning with useful information for people regarding the Rattlesnakes. Sometimes I see people heading up into the hills that I know have no clue or understanding that they are going into wild life areas and what that means.
27. Open Space is one reason we chose to move here at ages 50 in order to be able to exercise in natural surrounds.
28. Why does the city staff permit homeowners to block trails with drainage systems, fences, concrete curbs, and block entry gates?
29. Please keep up the good work while at the same time resist the amount of money developers will undoubtedly throw at you. I cannot stand the fact that Montecito and Crystal Ranch are in existence taking the place of what was beautiful. I can just picture these developers and their checkbooks creeping around committee meetings and it scares me.
30. addressed by herbicides in the Acalanes Ridge area. It is far less prevalent now than it was a few years ago, which is good.
31. Is the year-round pond in Shell Ridge safe for dog swimming? What does (did) the sign in the pond read?
32. I filled out the form before; this is an additional suggestion to improve the walking connection between the end of the Lafayette-Moraga Trail at Olympic and the Iron Horse Trail. Currently there is a protected pedestrian walkway along Olympic to (about) El Dorado Rd, and a trail separated from Olympic from El Dorado to Tice Valley Blvd (with recently planted trees). There is a sidewalk along Tice Valley Blvd to Tice Valley Park. Below that, probably in Alamo, there are problems. In particular, along Tice Valley Blvd near Crest there are curving up-hill segments with poor visibility and little shoulder. Along Meadow road, the alternative route to Iron Horse Trail, there is again little shoulder. Thus the suggestion is to modify some road segments to improve pedestrian safety.
33. Make parking available at all trail heads. Snyder Lane and La Casa Via are terrible, no parking, poor trail access. Development at Snyder Lane access should never have been permitted. Houses and hikers do not mix.
34. I love the open spaces. It is part of what makes Walnut Creek a wonderful place to live. They provide a respite from our otherwise busy lives. I hope my replies count. I live about 50 feet south of the Walnut Creek boundary of Castle Hill Road.
35. I love the open space, it is a great place to relax at, and a great place to get exercise. I hope that it can continue to be preserved instead of new housing coming in.

**City of Walnut Creek Open Space Vision Project
Survey Results**

- 36. Great trail maintenance, when I go walking in Shell Ridge I see virtually no trash strewn about
- 37. It's a gift to have this land available for our pleasure. We are so lucky.
- 38. As a observer of two of the Visioning meetings I'm impressed with the process but concerned with the small turnout for the meetings. With a population of ~60K the total meeting turnout seems to be in the 100 person range. Not sure what the computer response numbers are but again we're talking say 500 at most out of ~60K which is 8% of the population. If it is that # in the world of surveys is that a large enough base to draw conclusions from? Also, the age distribution of the respondents/attendees. Most attendees seem to be 40+. While they are the tax payers the future users (20 or so years down the road) haven't attended the two meetings I've been at.
- 39. As more and more areas are 'built up', we are so lucky to have the Walnut Creek Open Space lands!!
- 40. Why not organize 1xyear, introductions to the open space for new users. Stop promoting it as a great running area for schools. This has lead to erosion and breakdown of some of the smaller trails.
- 41. It's hard to make a choice between acquiring more land and spending more money on taking care of what we have. I voted for acquiring more land because we have to buy it when it's available. I think more money for upkeep will follow when necessary.
- 42. Begin petitions for bonds to acquire, maintain and provide funds for delayed maintenance. Bonds should also include funds for other City needs such as tennis courts, a new swim center and other capital improvement projects prioritized by the City Council.
- 43. Rather than spend precious money to pave over precious land for parking at the Marshall entrance, is it possible to work with the School District to use their parking lot on evenings/weekends (the busiest Open Space usage times)? I know this kind of arrangement takes time to set up, but it sure seems like a sensible solution from the outside.
- 44. Raise money by allowing benches and trails to be named (for a price) for someone or for a company - acknowledged by small plates in central location.
- 45. Develop a group of volunteers to monitor proper use of trails and protection of wildness.
- 46. more trails

9) Respondent information: age and gender

12 or under	4
13-18	14
19-30	4
31-45	17
46-60	49
61-75	35
76+	7
Female	68
Male	62