

Item 10.3.1

GORS EBROOK PARK CLUBHOUSE PROJECT UPDATE

Community
Consultation



Presented by
Halifax RFC

www.gorsebrookparkclubhouse.com

Halifax, NS



Refresher ←

A FACILITY THAT CONTAINS

- Public Washrooms
- Change rooms/ showers
- Community space
- Viewing Deck
- Equipment storage

ALIGNMENT WITH CITY PRIORITIES

- Public Washroom and Drinking Fountain Strategy
- Gorsebrook Park Plan
- Community Facility Master Plan 2
- Green Network Plan

SERVES

- Sports Community
- Wider community
- Park Users



PROJECT VALUES

- Community/ Club Development
- Sustainability
- Inclusivity
- Respect for the neighborhood
- Accessibility



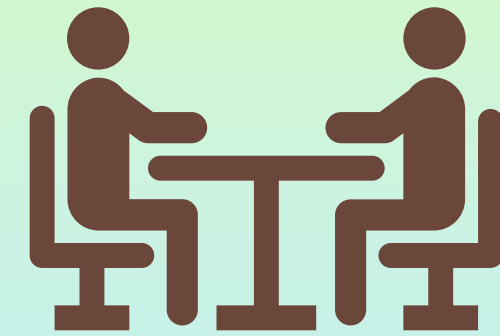
Methodology



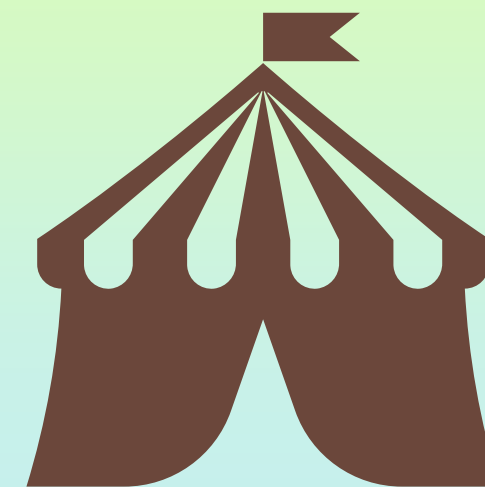
Online Survey

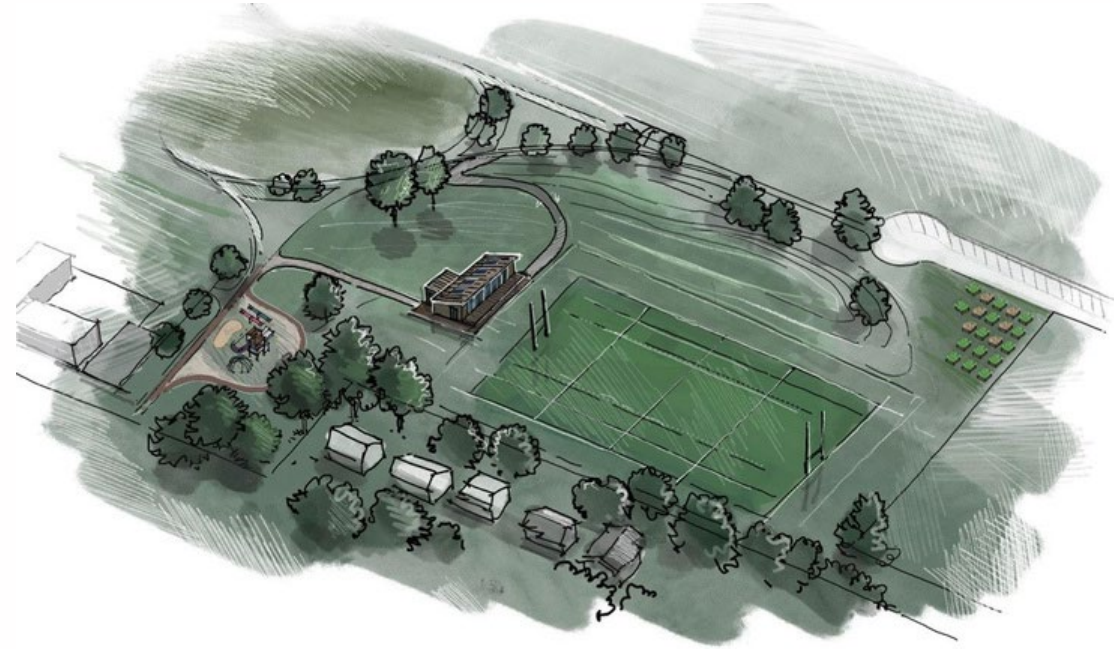


Community Meetings



Public Event





Community Engagement



242

Survey Responses



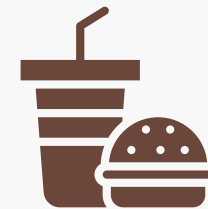
400

Flyers Distributed



9,600

Social Media Impressions



160

BBQ Visitors



9

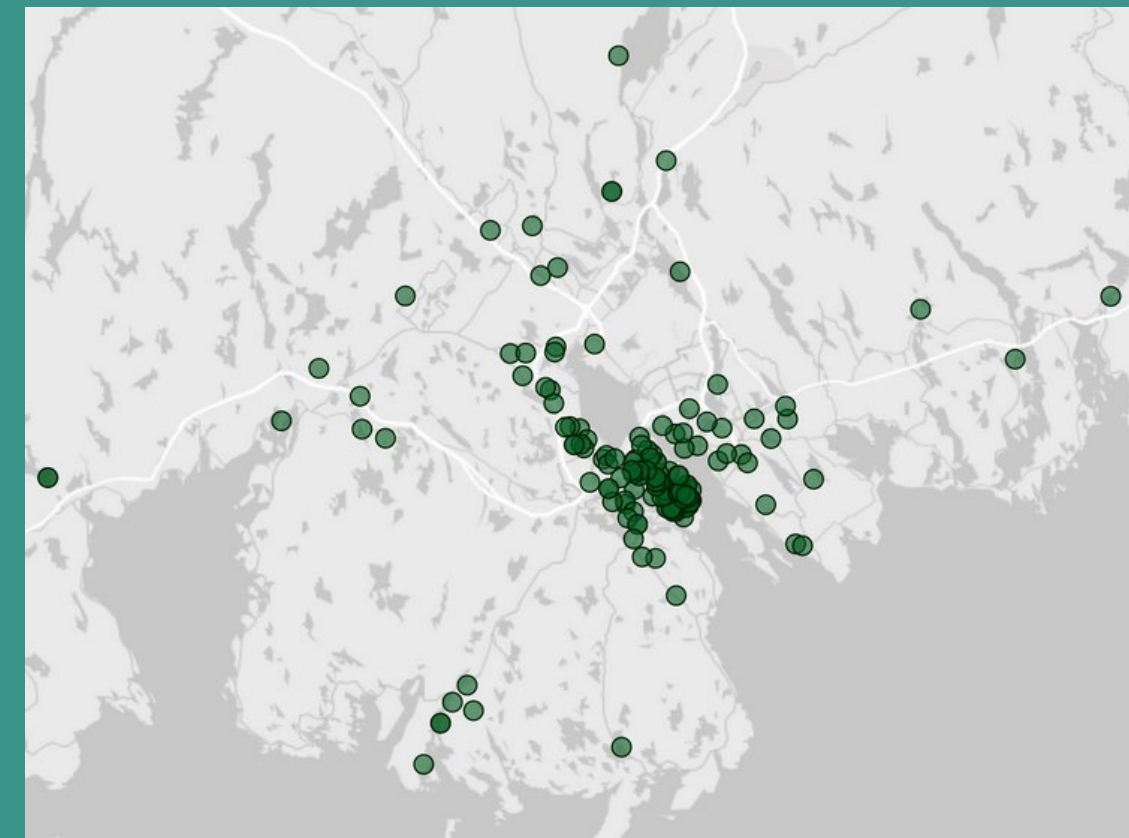
Letters of Support



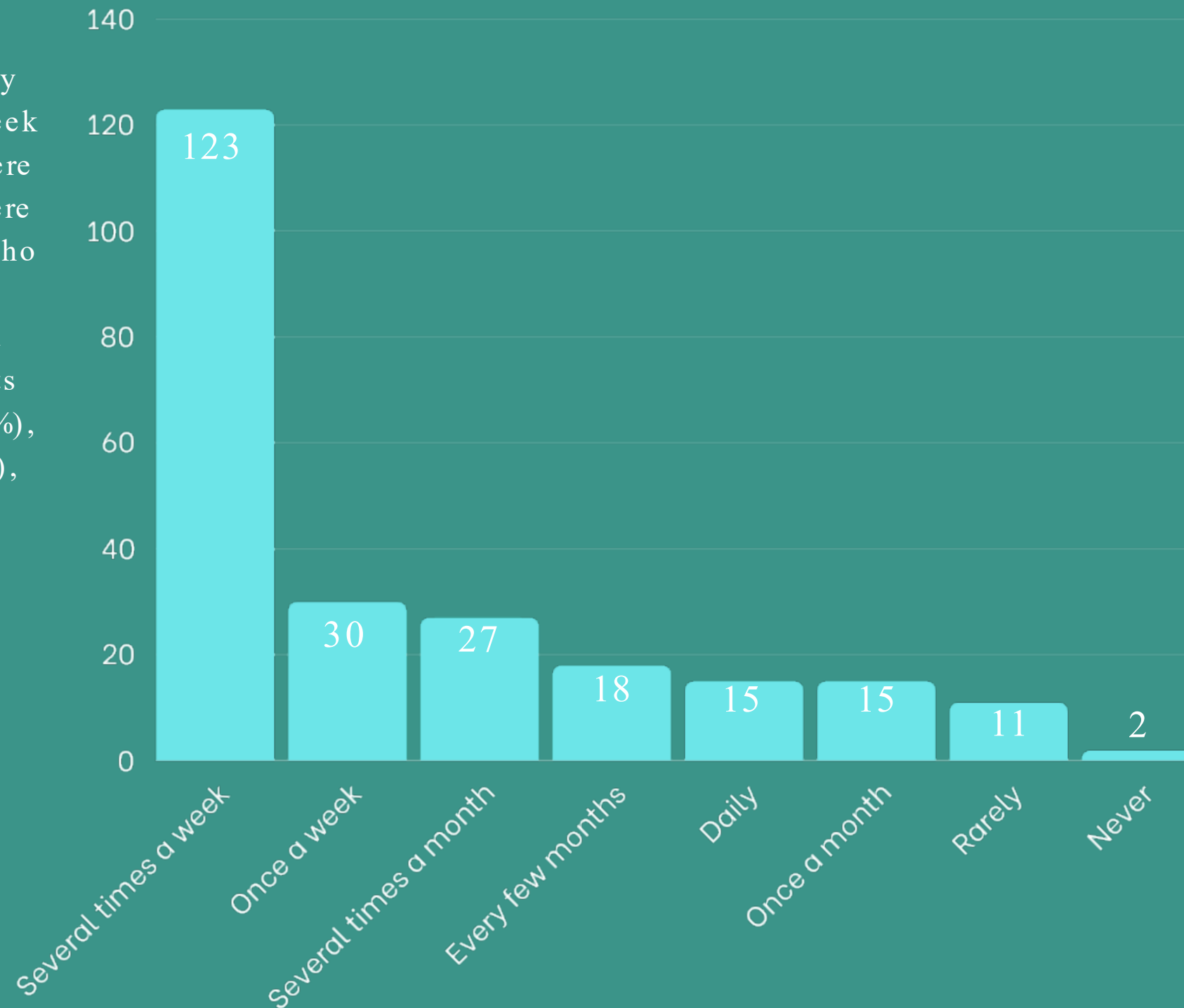
Findings

1. Who was engaged

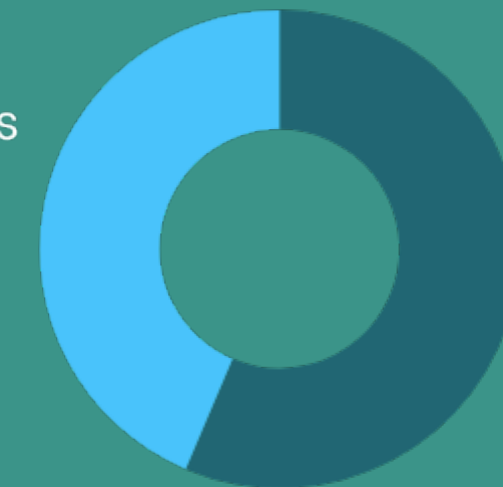
Survey respondents came from all over HRM, but with a significant concentration on the peninsula of Halifax. They were also a mix of club members and non-members. Respondents tended towards being intensive park users (nearly ¾ of respondents use the park one or more times during the week).



More than half of the survey respondents indicated that they use the park several times a week and the vast majority (90%) were users of the sports field. But there were also many respondents who used: the unstructured greenspace (33%), playground (27%), Tennis/ Basketball courts (17%), Community garden (13%), lacrosse/ ball hockey rink (10%), and ball diamonds (10%).



Park Neighbours
43.6%



Non-neighbours
56.4%

HRFC members
50.2%

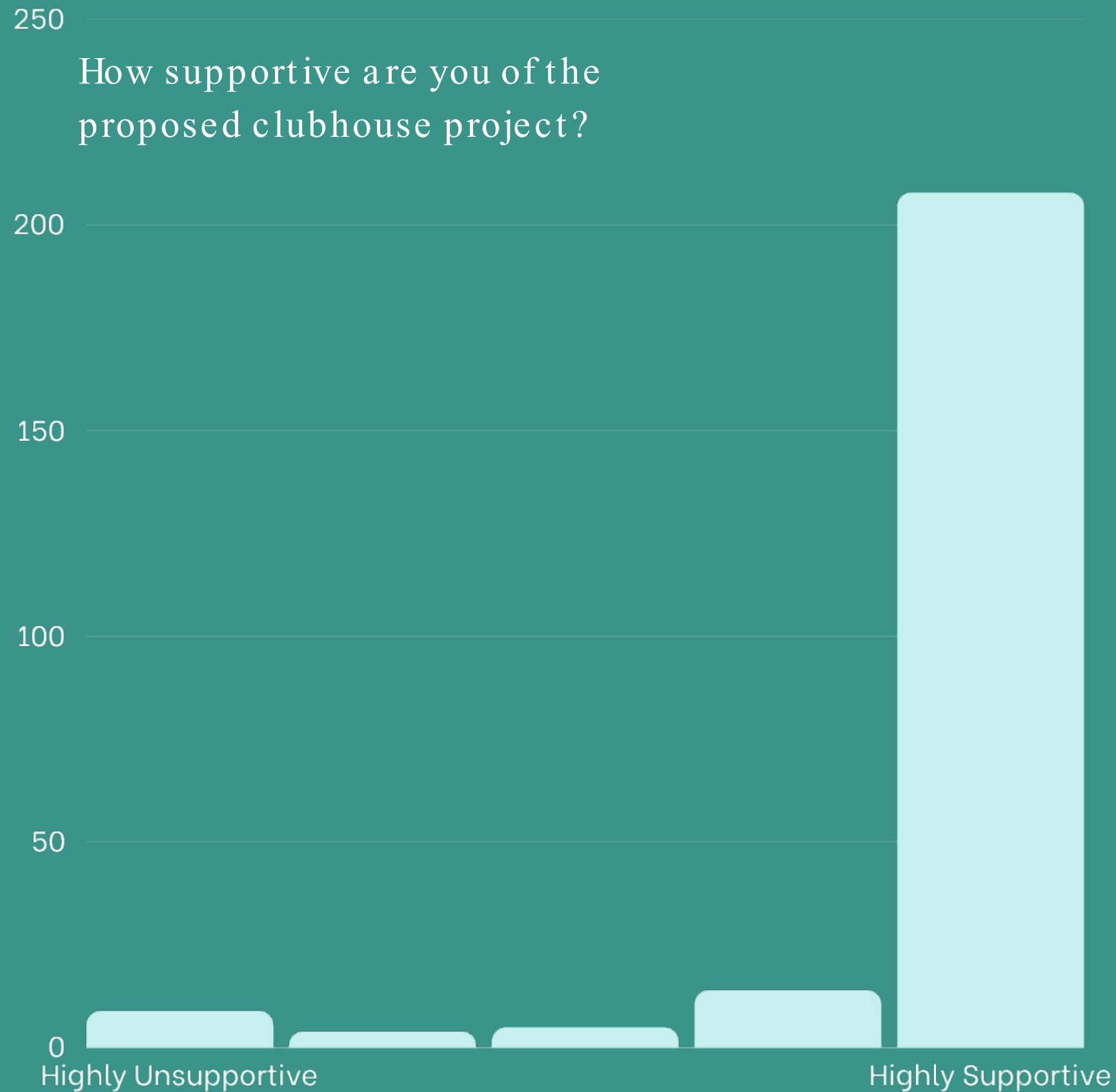


Non-members
49.8%



2. Support for the Project

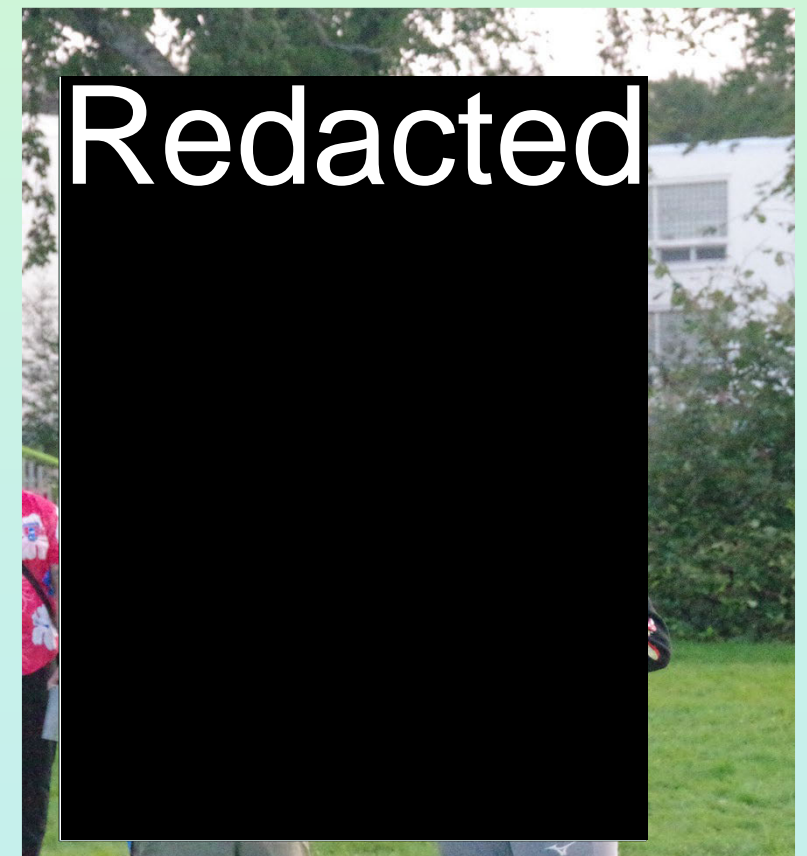
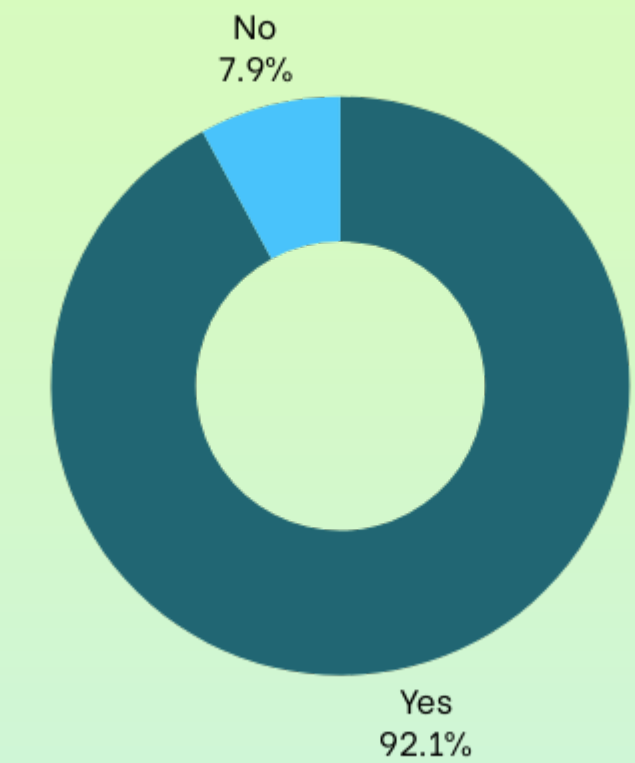
How supportive are you of the proposed clubhouse project?



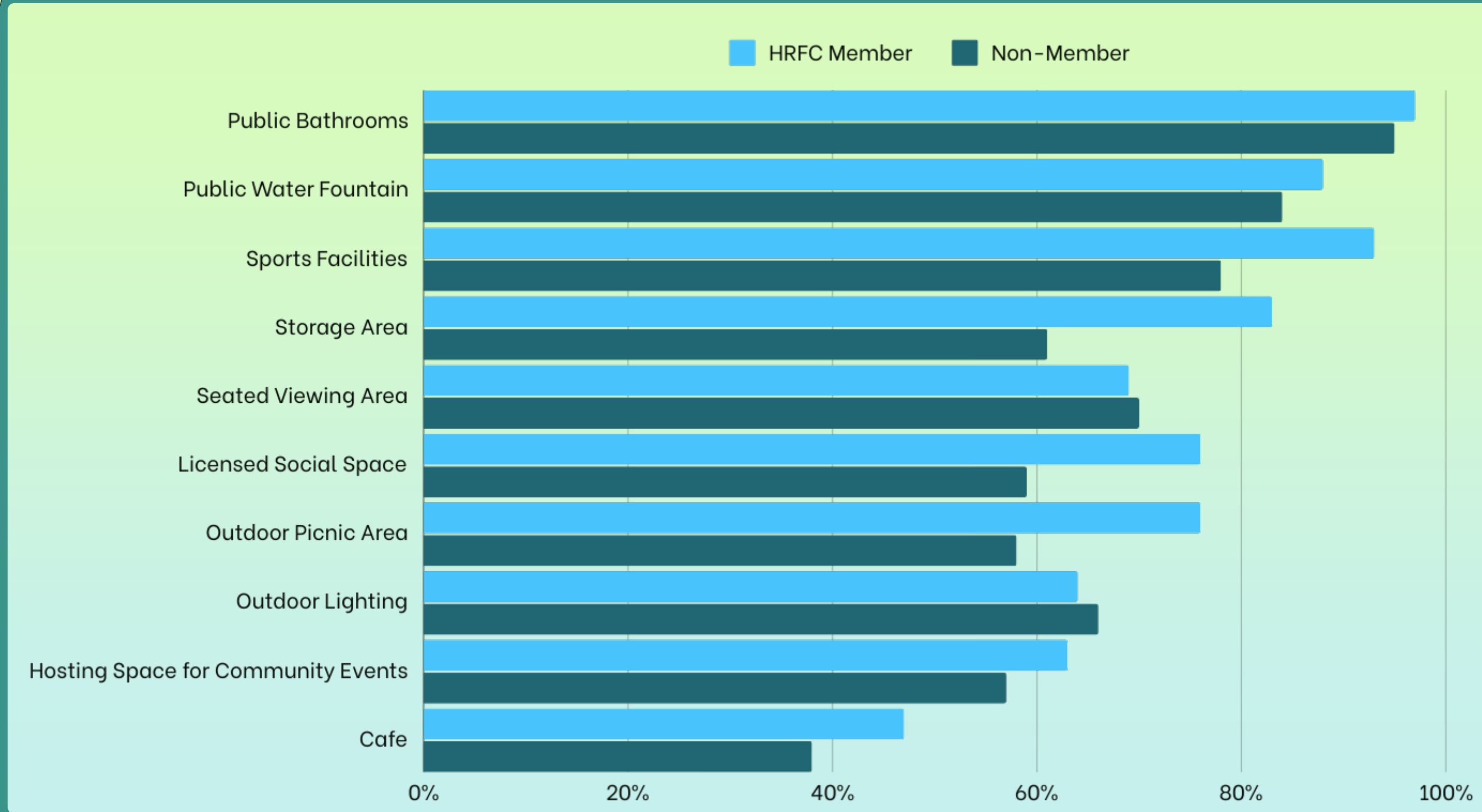
Over 92% of respondents were supportive (scored 4 or 5) with over 86% being highly supportive. 5.4% were unsupportive (scored 1 or 2).



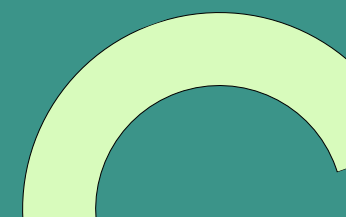
Does the proposed project increase the likelihood of you coming to the park?



3. Priority Features



Overall 96% of all respondents identified the public washroom as a priority for this project, followed by public water fountain (86%). The proposed sports facilities were supported by 85% of all respondents, which included 78% support from respondents who were not members of Halifax RFC. Out of the proposed features a cafe was the least popular option with support from under 50% of both club members and non-members alike.





4. Identified Concerns

Safety and Security

- Vandalism
- Unauthorized access
- Gathering spot for youths or the unhoused

Mitigation Strategies :

- Surveillance cameras
- Outdoor lighting
- Involving local law enforcement in creating a safety plan
- Regular safety audits could further ensure the security of the facilities .

Privatization of Public Spaces

- Restricted access to park facilities .
- Loss of public space

Mitigation Strategies :

- Clear communication about the public ownership of the facility

Local Environment and Community Character

- Environmental impact of new construction
- Blending with the existing community character .

Mitigation Strategies :

- Environmental impact assessments
- Sustainable building practices .
- Design complements the landscape and surrounding architecture .
- Community involvement in design process





Improved
Facilities for
Diverse User
Groups



Community
Cohesion and
Enhanced
Safety



Support for
Educational
and Athletic
Activities



Sustainability
and Addressing
Long-term
Community
Needs



Letters of Support



Redacted



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Hi Anthony,
Sorry for the delay! See below.

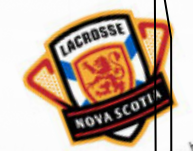
The Metro Touch Football League has been around since 1967. The addition of Halifax Rugby, would be an important addition to the Halifax football community. A clubho... football grow as a sport in Hal...

Shane Gushue
League President
Metro Touch Football League



Shane Gushue
Territory Association
Atlantic Canada

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October 24, 2023
To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter on behalf of Lacrosse Nova Scotia (LNS), to support the Halifax Rugby Football Club proposal to build a clubhouse at Gorsetbrook Park in Halifax, NS. We read through their project presentation and agree that a clubhouse would be an important and critical addition to provide needed amenities for park users.

LNS has member organizations, including the Halifax Hurricanes Lacrosse Club and our NS Special Needs Lacrosse Club, who use the Gorsetbrook Box during the spring and summer box season, for practice when weather permits. In past years, the Halifax Hurricanes have provided volunteer service to paint the Gorsetbrook Box. Our sport suffers from lack of access to appropriate venues and those we do have access to are often aging and neglected.

Looking at the bigger picture, the clubhouse improvements being proposed would address the needs of the larger community of current users, including those in the neighborhood. Specifically, having access to public washrooms, change rooms, social and meeting space, and equipment storage, would be very beneficial for all sport users. Access to water through safe drinking fountains are a critical need.

In closing, LNS has concerns about the lack of venue access for our sport, both from an indoor and field turf perspective, on the Halifax peninsula and HRM. It hinders our ability to grow our sport at a time when we are having a successful recovery from pandemic shutdowns. We are seeing youth and adults coming into our sport, because of our equity, diversity and inclusion programs. We are behind all efforts to improve facilities that will help support growth for all sports and activities, cooperatively.

Yours in Lacrosse,
Shane Gushue
Director



We would love to see a clubhouse at St Francis Field as proposed by the Halifax Rugby Club. The lack of public washrooms and changing facilities are an issue to always an issue for us at practice and for our traveling home games. Would be a great enhancement for the facility and community.

Clubhouse Project
public engagement initiative for a
In the goal of providing
our community consists
We offer multiple
1 scrimmages
e Halifax Regional

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Thank You For Your Attention

Contact Information

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 gorsebrookparkclubhouse.com



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