

Lower Seymour Conservation Reserve (LSCR) Survey RESULTS

Background

The purpose of the Survey was to measure local Seymour Valley Community Association (SVCA) resident's recreational uses of the LSCR so their values could best be represented by the SVCA at public forums.

Residents were surveyed at the 2003 SVCA Annual General Meeting. Surveys were handed to all residents attending (31) as they entered the meeting and completed surveys were collected (25) immediately after the meeting.

For minutes of the 2003 AGM see <http://www.seymourvalley.ca/minutes/>

The Results

Current recreational activities: The majority of residents clearly support the majority of recreational activities current promoted in the LSCR with the exception of one activity.

Major findings summary:

Only 40% of residents support Open air firearms shooting - it is the only activity where a majority of respondents felt the activity's use should be curtailed or restricted.

Theory: The Gun Club has too large a footprint due to huge area surrounded by safety fencing AND generates too much noise pollution.

Dog Walking (on leash) had solid support (80%) while Dog Walking (off leash) had soft support (60%). Theory: Off leash has a higher impact on other users and is harder on the environment.

Recreational mountain bike riding had 100% support while downhill mountain biking had only solid support (84%). Theory: Downhill biking has a higher impact on the environment AND downhill bikers also show less respect for the community as they pass through on the journey out of the LSCR.

Rollerblading, one of the major activities promoted in the LSCR had only soft support (64%). Theory: Rollerblading requires pavement and pavement does not fit the wilderness environment.

Proposed recreational activities: There are a few activities that are not currently available in the LSCR that have been discussed as possibilities given the construction of the water filtration plant and use of tree-cleared land above water storage wells. These proposed activities would further result in taming of the LSCR but even so, there appears to be moderate support for them. These activities involve the installation of playing areas to support soccer, baseball and tennis supported by 70% to 88% of respondents depending on the activity.

SVCA LSCR Recreational Survey Tabulation

results sorted by level of support in descending order

| Activity | Response Count (1 for each check) | | | | Total | Score * see note 1 | % Support ** see note 2 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|--------------------|--------------|------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| | Very Appropriate | Appropriate | Not Appropriate | No answer | | | |
| Walking / Hiking | 21 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 25 | 46 | 100% |
| Running / Jogging | 21 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 25 | 46 | 100% |
| Bike Riding – Recreational | 13 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 25 | 38 | 100% |
| River Canoeing & Kayaking | 9 | 16 | 0 | 0 | 25 | 34 | 100% |
| Picnicking / Swimming | 12 | 12 | 1 | 0 | 25 | 35 | 96% |
| Fishing – Catch & Release | 10 | 14 | 1 | 0 | 25 | 33 | 96% |
| Orienteering | 10 | 12 | 2 | 1 | 25 | 30 | 88% |
| Tennis – on future outdoor courts | 10 | 12 | 2 | 1 | 25 | 30 | 88% |
| River Tubing & Rafting | 8 | 14 | 3 | 0 | 25 | 27 | 88% |
| Boy Scout / Girl Guide Camping | 12 | 9 | 4 | 0 | 25 | 29 | 84% |
| Mountain Biking – Downhill | 6 | 15 | 3 | 1 | 25 | 24 | 84% |
| Dog Walking – On leash | 6 | 14 | 1 | 4 | 25 | 25 | 80% |
| Baseball – on future playing fields | 8 | 12 | 5 | 0 | 25 | 23 | 80% |
| Horseback Riding | 7 | 12 | 6 | 0 | 25 | 20 | 76% |
| Soccer – on future playing fields | 8 | 10 | 7 | 0 | 25 | 19 | 72% |
| Rollerblading | 5 | 11 | 8 | 1 | 25 | 13 | 64% |
| Fishing – Keep | 2 | 14 | 6 | 3 | 25 | 12 | 64% |
| Dog Walking – Off leash | 4 | 11 | 9 | 1 | 25 | 10 | 60% |
| Firearms Target Shooting – Open air | 1 | 9 | 14 | 1 | 25 | -3 | 40% |
| Total | 173 | 217 | 72 | 13 | 475 | | |

*** Note 1: Score**

| | |
|------------------|----|
| Very Appropriate | 2 |
| Appropriate | 1 |
| Not Appropriate | -1 |
| Blank | 0 |

**** Note 2: Support**

% Support = (# very appropriate + # of appropriate) / Total

Lower Seymour Conservation Reserve (LSCR) Survey

1. How often do you use the LSCR for Recreation Purposes? (Check one ✓)

- Rarely
 Occasionally (a couple of times per year)
 Regularly (every month or two)
 Frequently (every week or two or more)

2. The GVRD plans to establish a forum to involve members of the public in ongoing stewardship. Should local resident's recreational interests be represented through Community Association participation in the forum? (Check one)

- Yes No Don't know

3. For each recreational activity below, check the column that best reflects your level of support for the activity within the boundaries of the LSCR.

| Activity | Very appropriate. Promote or expand use | Appropriate, but limit growth | Not appropriate. Curtail or restrict use |
|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|--|
| Walking / Hiking | | | |
| Running / Jogging | | | |
| Bike Riding – Recreational | | | |
| Mountain Biking – Downhill | | | |
| Picnicking / Swimming | | | |
| Dog Walking – Off leash | | | |
| Dog Walking – On leash | | | |
| Horseback Riding | | | |
| Rollerblading | | | |
| Boy Scout / Girl Guide Camping | | | |
| Firearms Target Shooting – Open air | | | |
| River Canoeing & Kayaking | | | |
| River Tubing & Rafting | | | |
| Fishing – Catch & Release | | | |
| Fishing – Keep | | | |
| Soccer – on future playing fields | | | |
| Baseball – on future playing fields | | | |
| Orienteering | | | |
| Tennis – on future outdoor courts | | | |
| Other, Please Specify: | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
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