



# Open Space & Mountain Parks

## Master Plan Youth Engagement and Analysis

# Engagement Process

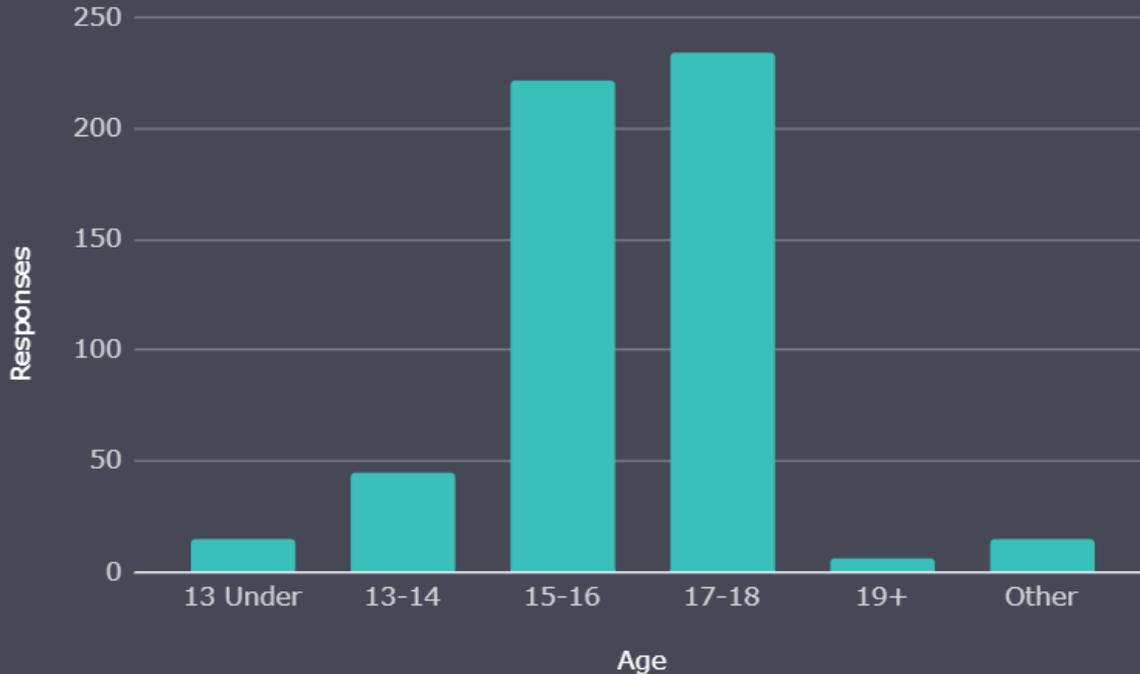
## ➤ Creating the Survey

- Determining areas of focus
- Review questions provided by OSMP in action team and with YOAB
- Write questions in areas of focus we felt needed more input
- Eliminate wordy/confusing or time consuming questions
- Limit survey to ten questions (8 content, 2 demographics)

## ➤ Engagement Window

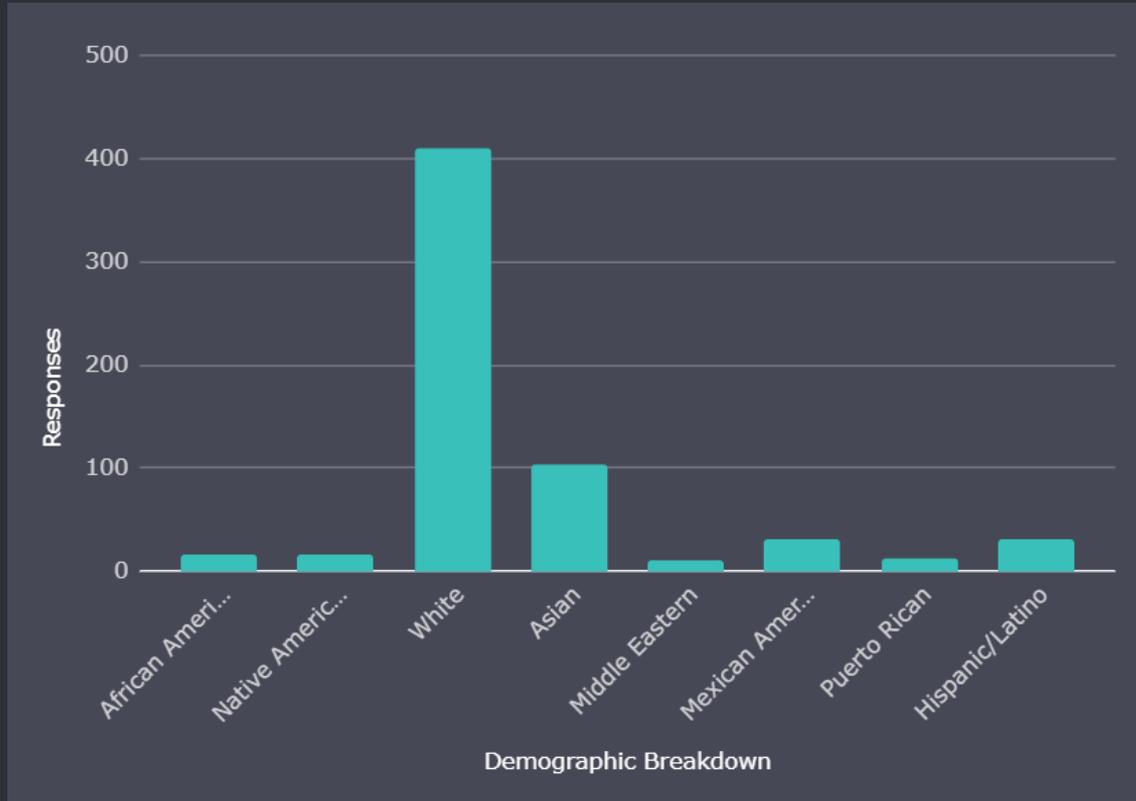
- Platforms for Engagement
  - Social Media (Snapchat, Instagram)
  - Classrooms
  - Sports Teams
  - National Honor Society (NHS)
- Total number of responses: 545

# Demographic Data - Age



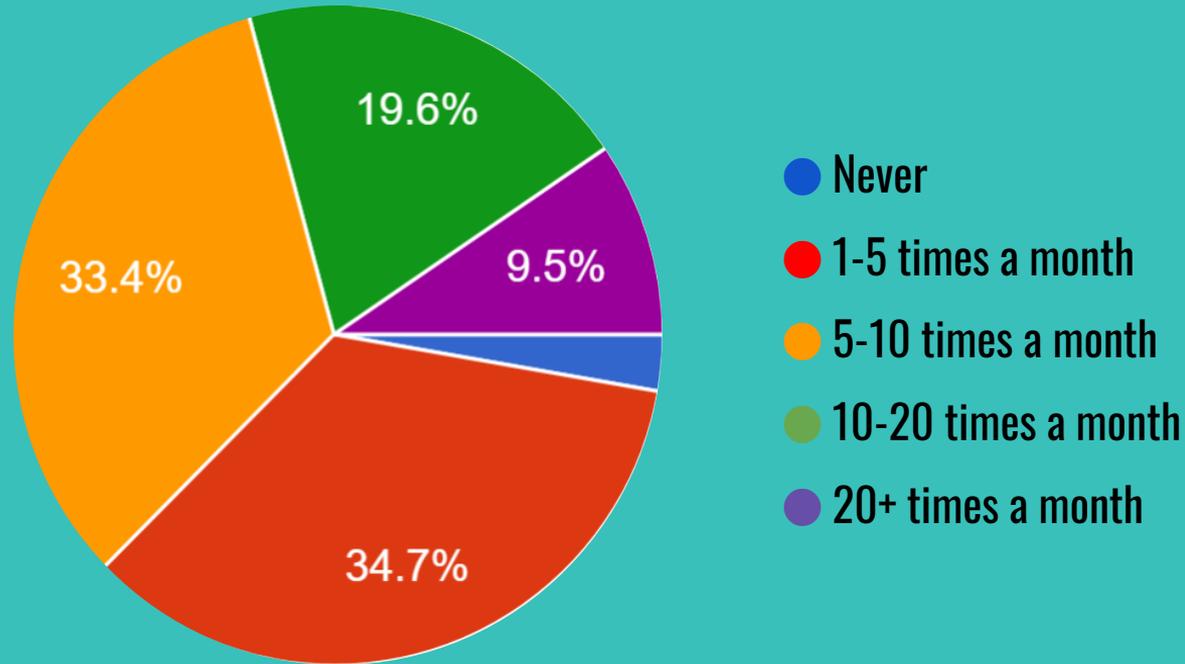
- 13 and under (15, 2.8%)
- 13-14 (45, 8.3%)
- 15-16 (222, 40.7%)
- 17-18 (234, 42.9%)
- 19+ (6, 1.1%)
- No answer (8, 1.5%)
- Other (15, 2.8%)

# Demographic Data - Ethnicity

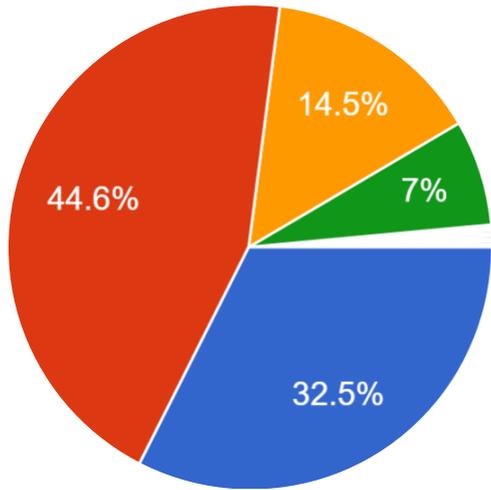


- Black/African American (17, 3.1%)
- Indian American/Alaskan Native (16, 2.9%)
- White (410, 75.2%)
- Asian (104, 19.1%)
- Middle Eastern (11, 2%)
- Mexican/Mexican American (31, 5.7%)
- Puerto Rican (13, 2.7%)
- Hispanic/Latino (32, 5.9%)

# Q1: Surveyee Land Usage Frequency



## Q2: Land Usage Concerns



- Degradation of trails and mistreatm...
- Urban sprawl and development that...
- Overcrowded trails and scenic spaces
- Diminished land use for local agricu...

Boulder is well known for its proximity to natural spaces. What is your biggest concern regarding use of OSMP land?

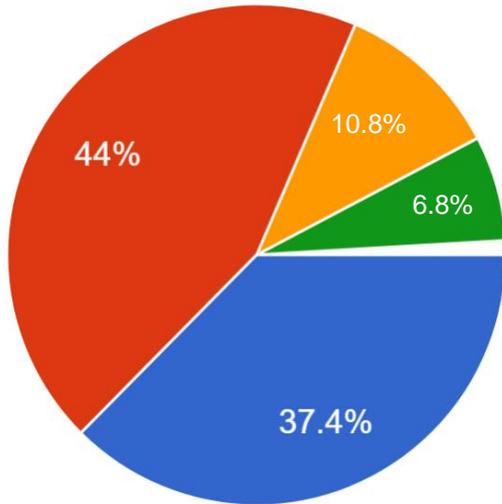
### TAKEAWAY

- Urban sprawl, degradation of trails, and mistreatment of land are the biggest concerns for youth regarding the use of OSMP land

### POTENTIAL COURSE OF ACTION

- Use zoning regulations to develop responsibly to avoid sprawl, but not hinder growth
- Use regulations and signage limit degradation of trails and mistreatment of land

# Q3: Preservation and Ecosystem Health



- Restore lands to conditions of the past-- healthy and high functioning
- Adapt lands to conditions most resilient to future climate change
- Reforming the area for housing/business/industry
- I'm not sure

When considering how to restore disturbed or degraded lands, which of the following approaches do you think are most beneficial?

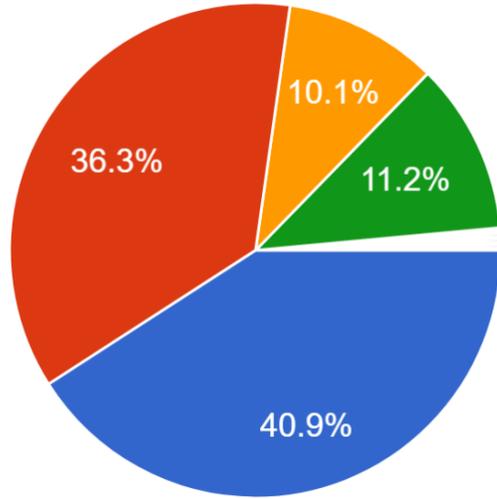
## TAKEAWAY

- Expected answer of restoration. Implications/ability for city to do so in terms of funds and resources unknown.

## POTENTIAL COURSE OF ACTION

- Restore lands to past conditions through restoration and zones of conservation
- Adapt lands to current and future climate conditions by promoting hardy natives/keystone species.

# Q4: Preservation and Ecosystem Health



- Continue our current approach for...
- Accelerate our current approach for...
- Allow nature to take care of itself.
- I'm not sure

Ecological disturbances can play an important role in ecosystem health. Using fire and forests as an example, which of the following approaches do you prefer OSMP use to maintain and improve forest health while also lowering the risk of catastrophic fires. Choose one approach.

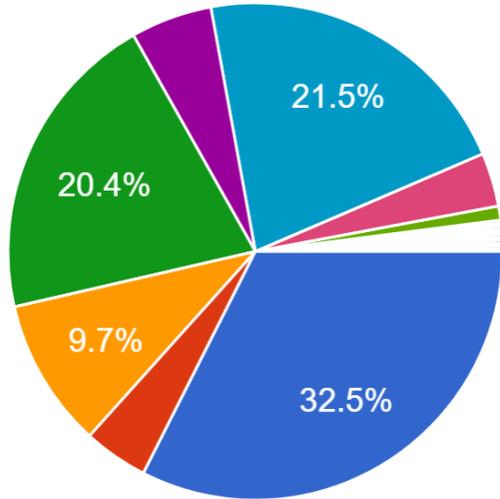
## TAKEAWAY

- General consensus to continue maintenance and regulation of forest health.

## POTENTIAL COURSE OF ACTION

- Continue with current approach, accelerate only if necessary/in response to future climate changes (drought, fire season, etc...)

# Q5: Open Space Opportunities



- Spanish or other non-English speak...
- People experiencing disabilities
- Native Americans
- All of the above
- Youth and young adults (age 9-26)
- LGBTQIA+
- Seniors
- Low income families

It is very important to OSMP that all people in our community have access to nature and feel invited to participate. What community do you feel is in need of the most support from OSMP?

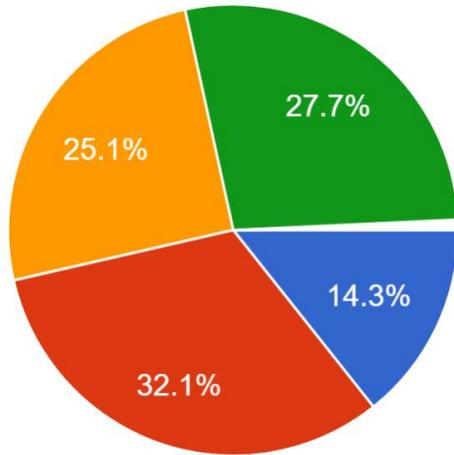
## TAKEAWAY

- Youth feel that youth and young adults, persons with disabilities, and low income families need the most support from OSMP
- Youth felt that picking one community was limiting, and that all choices implied lower socioeconomic status

## POTENTIAL COURSE OF ACTION

- Give support to all groups by leading hikes in different languages, improving accessibility, etc...

# Q6: Open Space Opportunities



- Educational programs in different languages
- Educational programs/hikes for different ability levels
- A progression of offerings that start...
- Adjusting trail-heads, interpretive si...

OSMP wants to prioritize expanding inclusive programming, reducing barriers to accessing nature, and providing opportunities for all. What do you think OSMP should focus on to achieve this?

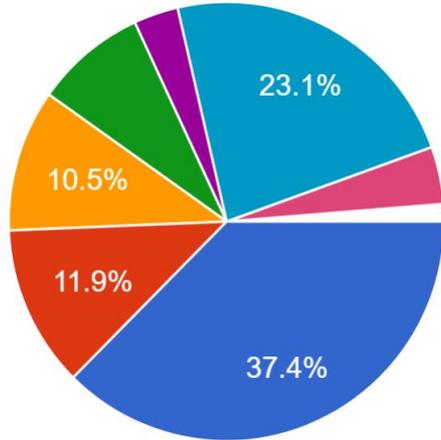
## TAKEAWAY

- Educational programs in different languages and at different ability levels, programs to slowly increase comfort in Open Space, and the adjusting of signage are all relevant in reducing barriers to Open Space

## POTENTIAL COURSE OF ACTION

- Create diverse programs to reduce barriers to Open Space, including different language programs, clearer signage, etc...

# Q7: Open Space Opportunities



- Improved facilities (trail-heads, acce...
- Clearer and more frequent signage...
- Increased enforcement of regulations
- Simplify regulations so people can...
- Increased ranger control
- Increased educational opportunities...
- Increased hikes

OSMP wants to support safe and adventurous passive recreation (refers to non-consumptive uses such as wildlife observation, walking, biking, and canoeing). In what ways do you think OSMP can improve in supporting this?

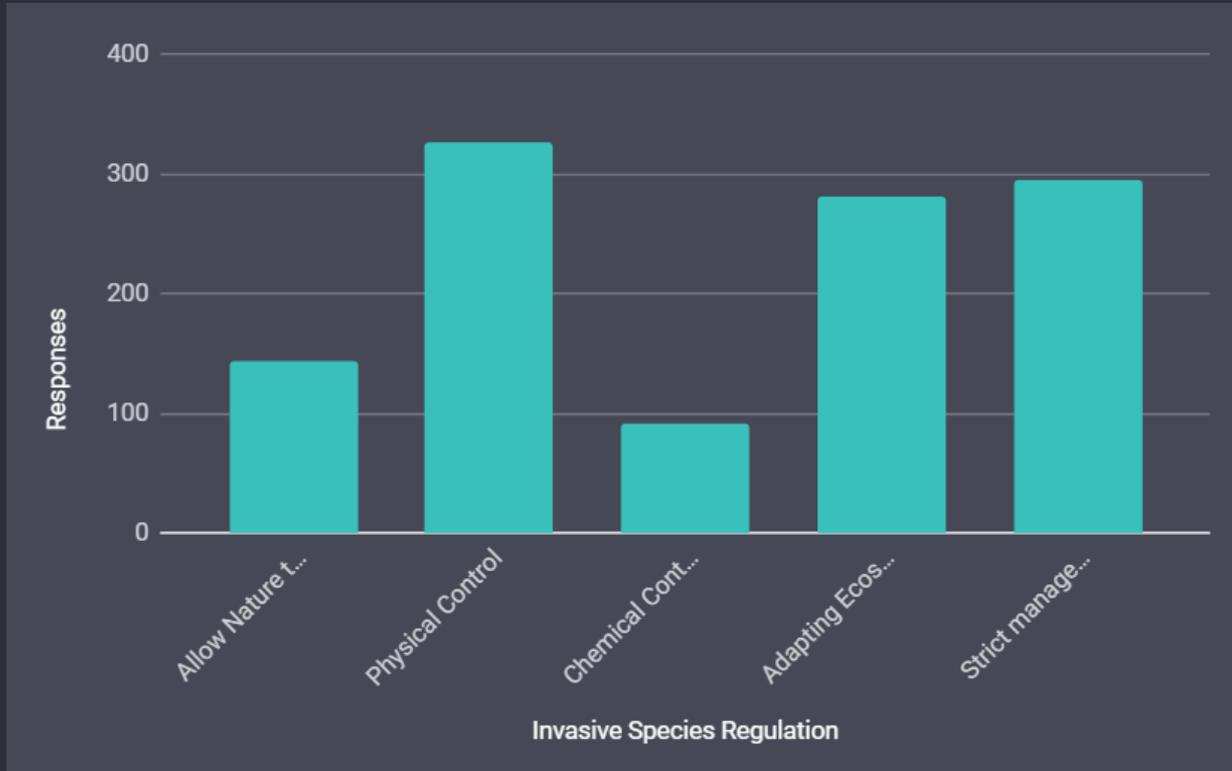
## TAKEAWAY

- According to youth, improving facilities is the most important way to support passive recreation, followed by increased educational opportunities

## POTENTIAL COURSES OF ACTION

- Improve infrastructure such as trailheads, restrooms, etc..
- Increase educational opportunities in Open Space, such as guided nature hikes

# Q8: Ecosystem Regulation - Invasive Species



## TAKEAWAY

→ General consensus to some form of control/preemptive measure to prevent outbreak (harming ecosystem trophic levels)

## POTENTIAL COURSE OF ACTION

→ Due to the impracticality of physical removal, efforts to adapt ecosystems/restore native plants should be advanced

**Thank you for your time!**