

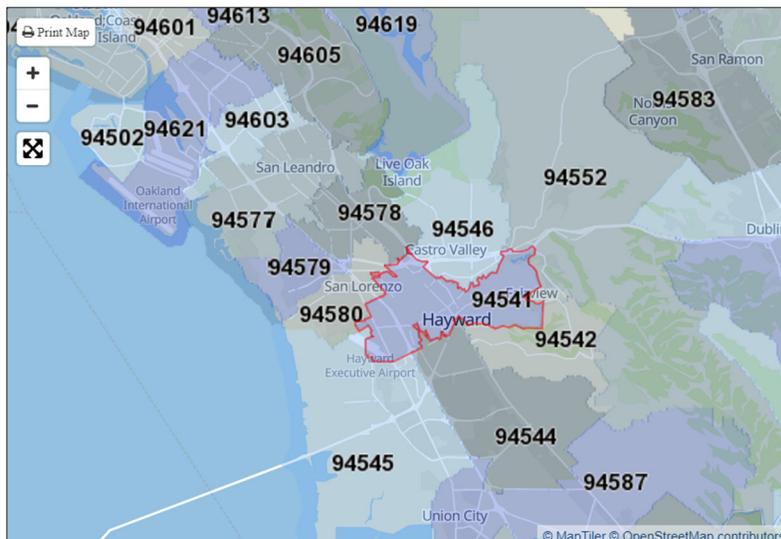
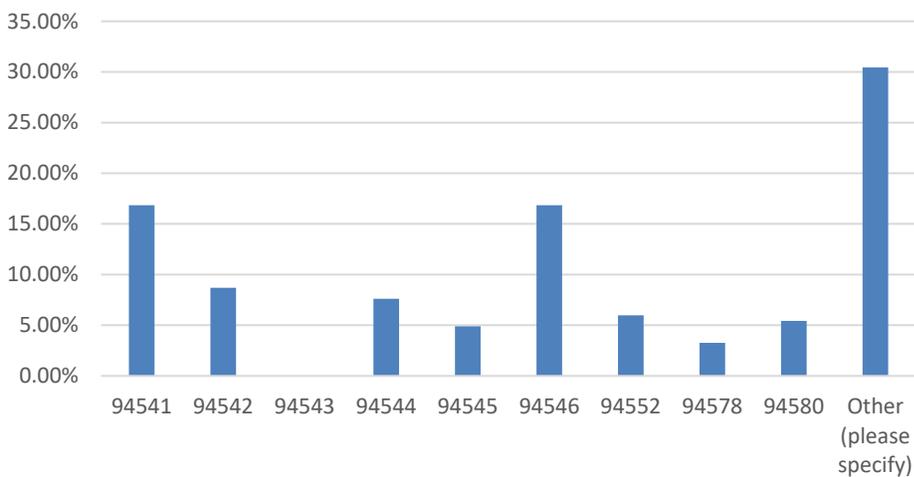
Sulphur Creek Nature Center Visioning Survey

The project website provided access to the online survey from March 1 to March 31, 2021. The survey included a total of nine questions, focused on soliciting input on the vision for SCNC as well as gathering information about participants to help ongoing outreach efforts. The survey was offered in English and Spanish, and during the survey period 186 English Surveys were completed and 3 Spanish surveys were completed. Outcomes of the survey are summarized below and key themes from input that will guide the development of the Master Plan for SCNC are identified in the “Key Outcomes” section above.

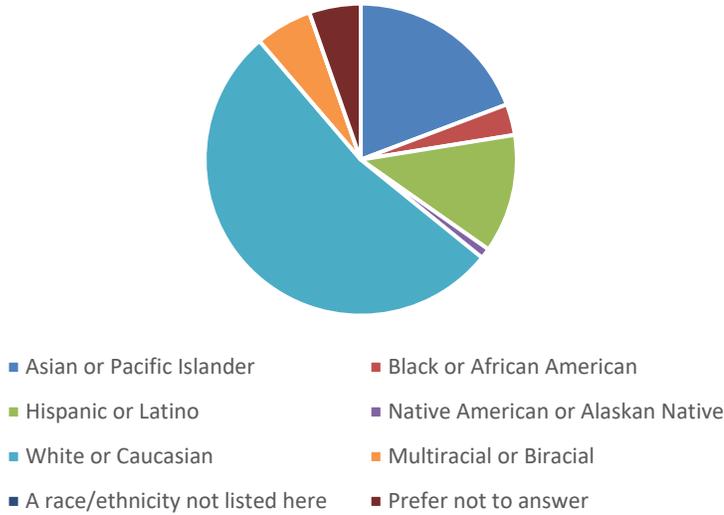
Who participated in the survey?

To understand who was participating in the survey, participants were invited to identify the zipcode in which they reside, their ethnicity and age range. Responses indicated that participation was geographically spread through the District, that a greater percentage of adults participated than youth, and that the ethnicities with the greatest representation were white/Caucasian (53%), Asian or Pacific Islander (20%), and Hispanic and Latino (12%).

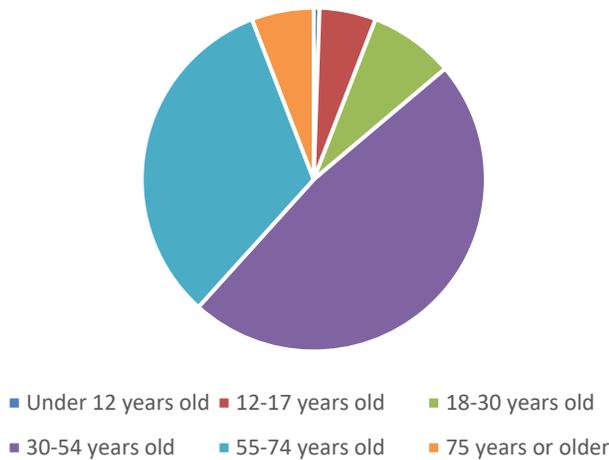
Residential Zipcodes



Participant Ethnicity



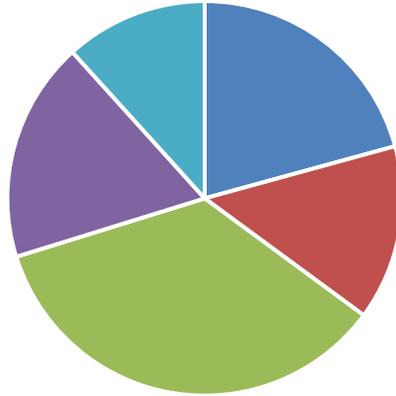
Participant Ages



Participants' Experience with SCNC

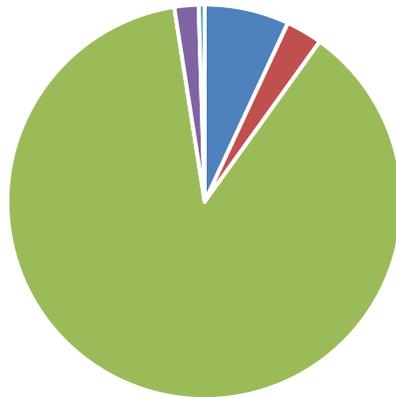
To understand how familiar participants were with SCNC and to build understanding of how participants were utilizing SCNC before the pandemic, participants were asked how often they visit, how they get to SCNC, and what their reasons are for visiting. Responses indicated that most participants were active visitors to SCNC, that most participants drive (or would drive) to SCNC, and that while survey participants enjoyed many activities at SCNC, visiting the animals and the nature center and participating in programs was the greatest attraction. One participant noted that they also utilize the 'animal rental program.'

How often do you visit Sulphur Creek?

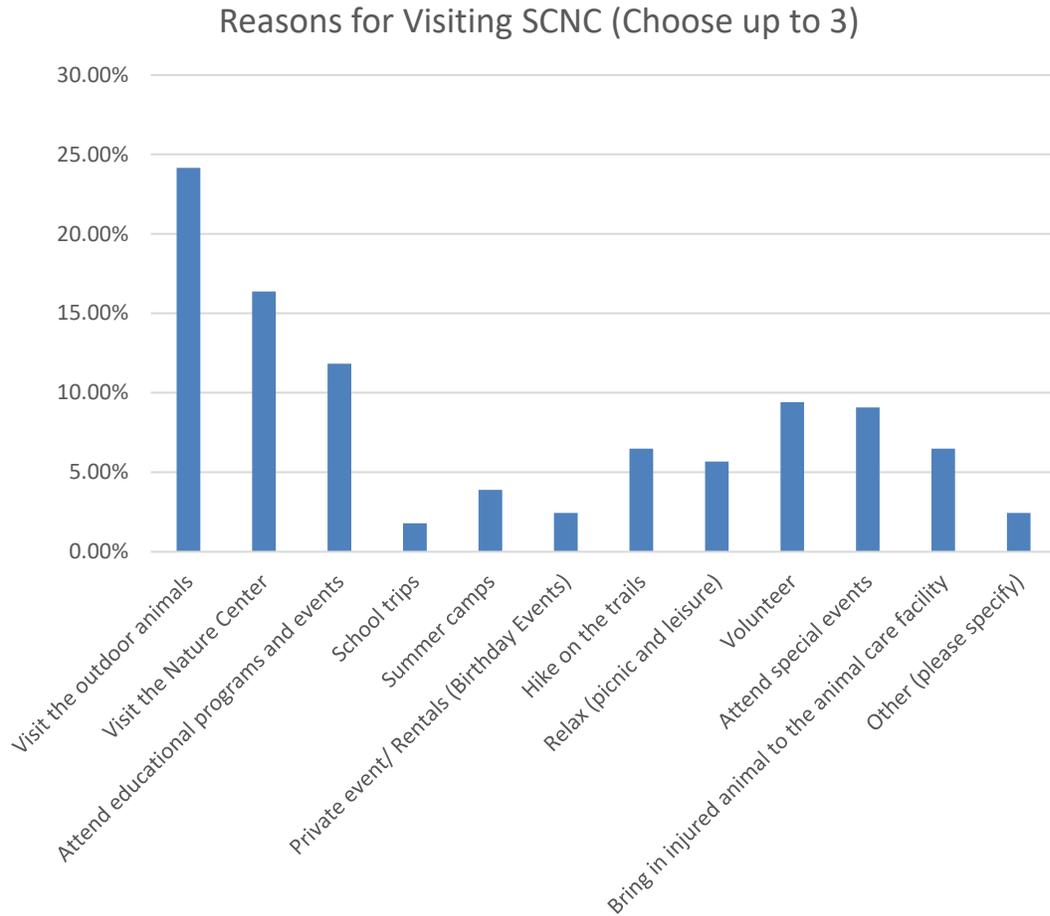


■ Weekly ■ Monthly ■ A few times a year ■ Rarely ■ I've never been (yet!)

How do you (or would you) get to SCNC?



■ Walk ■ Bike ■ Drive ■ Public Transportation ■ Other (please specify)



Vision for SCNC

Two survey questions asked participants to prioritize improvements and new features for inclusion in the Master Plan. The survey explained that the options provided in the presentation focused on improvements and features that were not already funded by the Outdoor Environmental Education Facilities (OEEF) grant that SCNC was awarded in 2018 to create outdoor classrooms and a Creekside animal program area; renovate the outdoor amphitheater; and improve interpretive and wayfinding signage.

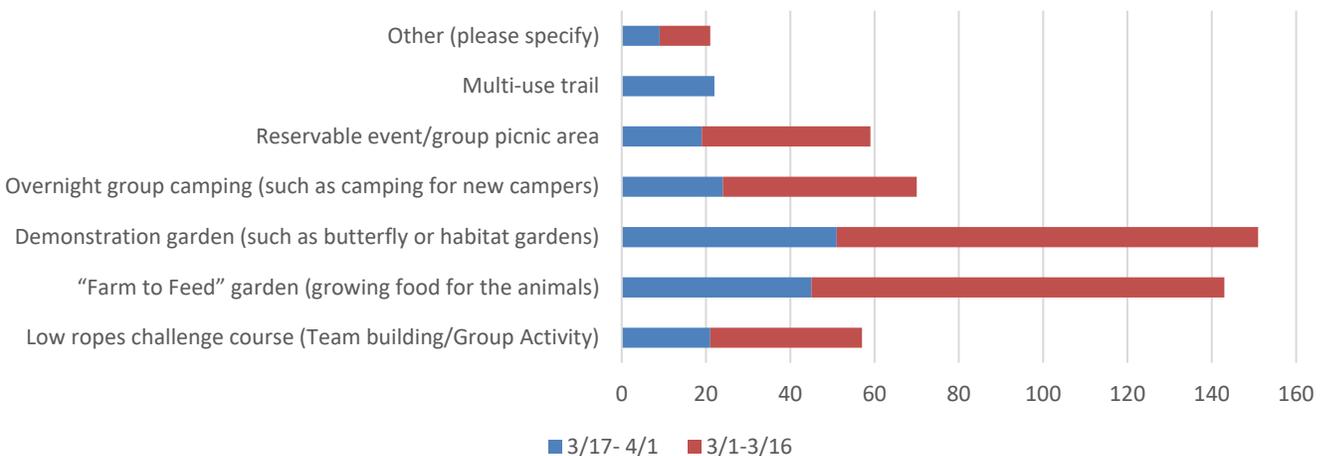
In Question #4, participants were asked to rank potential improvements for Sulphur Creek Nature Center in order of importance, 1 being the improvement that would most improve your experience. The cumulative ranking is described below, with 1 being the improvement receiving the most support.

1. Improved wildlife habitats and exhibits
2. Improved Museum space
3. Trail Improvements
4. Picnic Area Improvements

5. Improved indoor classroom space
6. Engaging, bilingual interpretative signage/elements

In Question 5, participants were provided a list of other amenities and asked to select all that they would like to see at SCNC. Participants were also given the opportunity to identify “other” and write-in additional ideas. On March 17, this question was expanded to include another “Multi-use” trail as an additional option. The results from the question before and after this change are provided below, followed by a list of all “other” ideas that were shared. Based on the similarity of the results for the other amenities during the two survey periods, it can be inferred that if “multi-use trail” had been included during the first period of the survey (3/1- 3/17) it would have received similar level of support as was received for overnight camping and/or low ropes challenge course.

What OTHER Amenities would you like to see?



Other new features and amenities identified by participants included:

- Opportunities to do citizen science
- It would be great to teach people how to participate in citizen science projects with these gardens to help people become more active global citizens. It would be great to help people learn how to develop native gardens at their homes too.
- Larger kitchen space in rehab center
- Acknowledgment of unceded Ohlone land through educational material and building relationship with Ohlone Chochenyo speaking tribes.
- Continue animal rental program
- Expanded care for injured/ sick wildlife brought in by MOPs
- Expanded urgent care for injured animals
- Large flight aviary, originally suggested by Rose Britton
- Book event / group picnic area

Open-ended Questions

Questions 6 and 7 posed open-ended questions to participants. The results are provided below, and the key themes are summarized under Key Outcomes, above.

Participants were provided space to share any other thoughts about SCNC. Participant comments and questions are sorted below into the following categories (1) Appreciation for SCNC (2) Access and Trails, (3) Other Needs and Ideas, and (4) Master Plan Process. The comments reveal a general appreciation and love for the Sulphur Creek Nature Center, and emphasize the need for improvements.

Appreciation for SCNC

- Terrific hidden gem
- Sulphur Creek Nature Center really shaped who I am, and now who my son is becoming. It is such a special oasis that is tremendously valued by people of all ages, and creatures alike. The programming offered is so important to help people connect with nature, because in the end we will only protect what we love, and for many the love starts there.
- It is one of my most favorite places ever! I feel that it needs very little improvement ;)
- Nice Place
- Great place to take my kids and now my grandkids
- I enjoy going to this site with my children. The staff take their time to educate and inform. I'd like to know more of the history of the land pre-CA state and pre-colonial. Sulphur Creek Nature Center should provide this information and reach out to the Ohlone tribes in the area.
- Sulphur Creek provides a valuable resource to the community with its wildlife rescue/rehabilitation services. Increased funding of this program would be a great investment for HARD.
- I have lived near this gem for over 45 years. I treasure it and I think it's wonderful to see that there will be improvements.
- This park is great example of nature close to humans
- I'm a volunteer and miss all the great people at SCNC. The proposed improvements are exciting, and look forward to being there again!
- My kids and grandkids just love to see the animals.
- We miss you guys
- Happy with what they do.
- It is amazing and has inspired my work at the zoo
- We adore this space as a family and are so pleased to hear there is funding for improvements! My daughter is a weekly volunteer who is anxious to get back to the animals as soon as it is deemed safe to do so. Thank you to Sulphur Creek staff and all the HARD team for what you do!

Access and Trails

- Overall love Sulphur Creek. My opinion: Improvements should be equitable. Access is my concern. Including bilingual signage and bilingual employees are a must. Trails and picnic areas being ADA compliant is a must. No idea if these areas are already ADA-compliant. I would use the money on equitable access for the public.
- I wish there was more trail access along the creek.

- Bicycles provide a great way to travel at low speed and see wildlife. Wonder if there's a way to incorporate a simple trail for young cyclists (Strider bikes or a bit bigger) to introduce cycling in natural spaces to young children at SCNC.
- More hiking trails would be great
- Is there any way we could make secure access for residents who live within walking distance of the back gate? We live on E St and there is also a condominium complex on the far end of that trail all within easy walking distance to Sulphur Creek. I would be more than willing to pay an annual fee for a key or gate code to access Sulphur Creek through the back gate. My child and I would visit much more often and it would mean we wouldn't have to find parking for special events. :)
- We love that Sulphur Creek is right in our backyard! We'd love to see improved events facilities as well as trails for hiking around the center.

Other Needs and Ideas

- I would love to see more special events like the reptile rally and other wildlife focused plus conservation and rehabilitation events. The wildlife enclosures need updated and more space for the animals. A native demonstration garden is a fabulous idea, which can also incorporate water conservation and greening of the city concepts. Sulphur Creek is a wonderful place...it just needs more amenities and upgrades to accommodate more people and take care of the animals.
- A larger kitchen space in rehab center would greatly improve speed and efficiency of meal prep for rehab and residents
- improved habitats for the animals.
- The lending library for animals it used to be more open space
- Nature education program for all ages. Improve outdoor exhibit area for birds and mammals. Adult nature program and nature hikes!!
- Sulphur Creek has been a great place to assist with injured animals and rehabilitation. It sorely lacks funding and the grounds and buildings could really use some money for upkeep. I don't think that it should lose its small, quaint and personal charm
- I think all the ideas in #5 are great! They all seem super fun and engaging and would definitely get more people to come:)
- We love this center and came here growing up. Now we bring our daughter and she attends classes for tots. Would love to see more opportunities for interaction
- Keep virtual programs Give schools a choice of in Person or virtual
- Sulphur Creek is a beautiful place. I have been visiting for nearly 40 years. HARD needs to cherish this unique space more and offer more support. The staff there conduct wonderful fund raising programs to keep the site afloat because the HARD Board of Directors continually reduce the Creek's budget. I would like to see the BOD implement a 180 and start increasing their budget and really funding this community treasure.

Master Plan Process

- Talk to the volunteers that actually do the work and care for the animals ... they can offer suggestions that may make their job easier. Don't assume that the public interface is where all the

money should be spent. Be assured that the volunteers notice when they have not been asked for input about their work or nothing has been done to help them better do their jobs.

- I'm looking forward!

Question 7: What other regional destinations do you visit for fun and education? Use the space provided to list your favorite destinations and the activities you enjoy.

Participants comments below note other favorite regional destinations and activities. Top destinations and include Lake Chabot, Coyote Hills, Garden Regional Park and the activities that participants seek include nature experience, hiking, and opportunities to view/connect with wildlife.

