

ATTACHMENT G:  
ONLINE SURVEY RESULTS

Responses Overview Closed

Responses

619

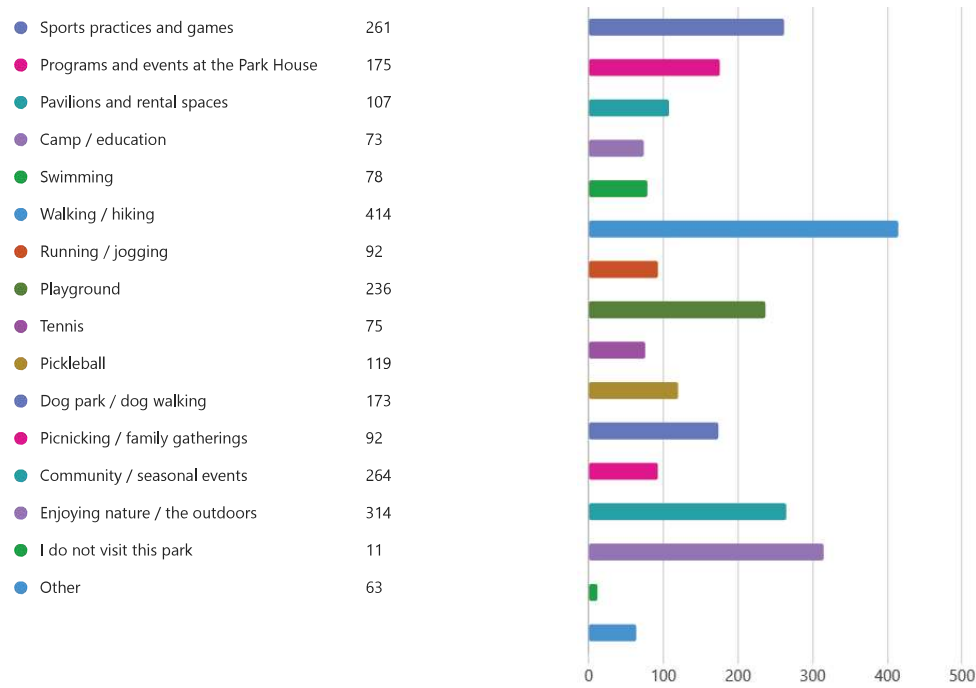
Average Time

09:09

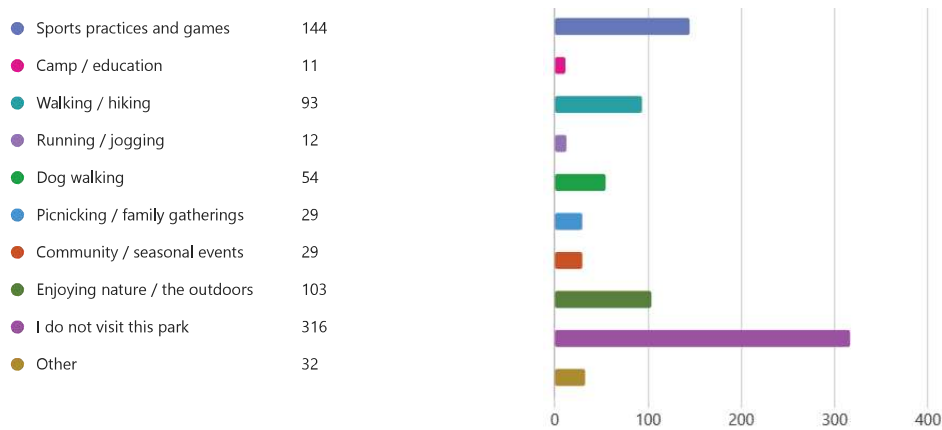
Duration

27 Days

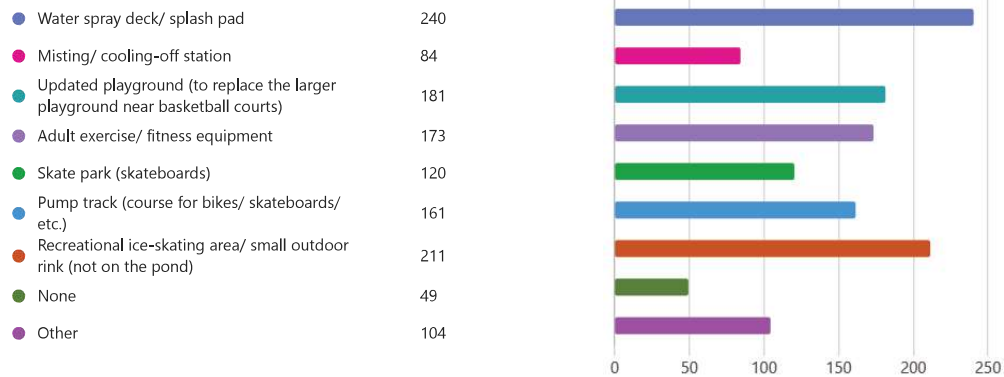
1. What are your reasons for visiting Salmon Brook Park? Choose all that apply.



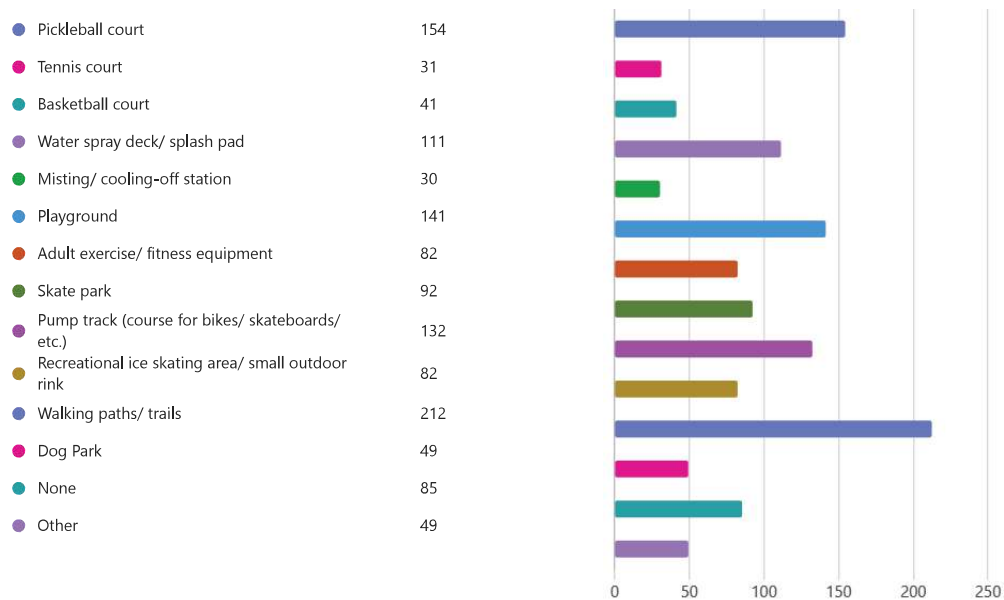
2. What are your reasons for visiting Ahrens Park? Choose all that apply.



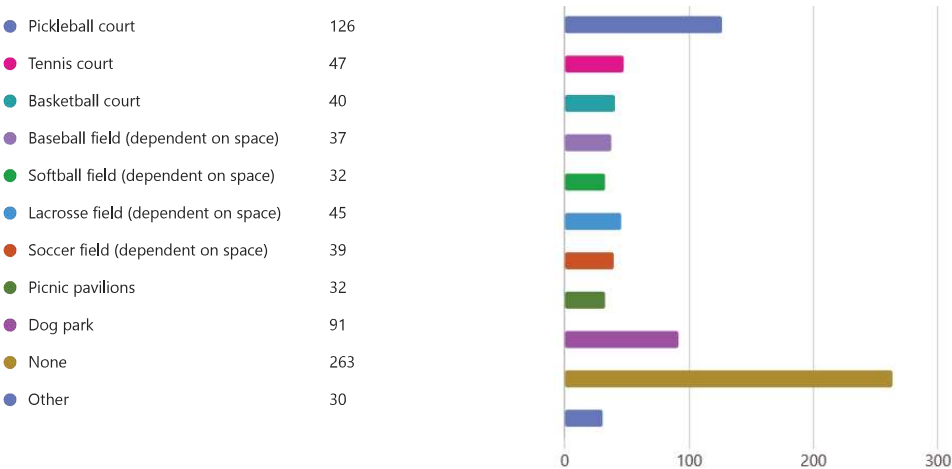
3. Select your top three priorities for potential new recreational features at Salmon Brook Park:



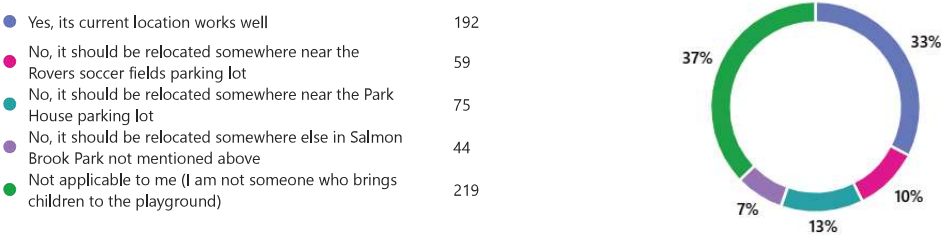
4. Select your top three priorities for potential new recreational features at Ahrens Park:



5. Would you be interested in relocating any of the following existing features from Salmon Brook Park to Ahrens Park? (So that it is no longer located at Salmon Brook and is at Ahrens Park instead). Select all that apply.



6. The larger playground at Salmon Brook Park (by the basketball courts) is located in an area that is prone to occasional flooding. When this playground is eventually replaced, should it stay in its current location?



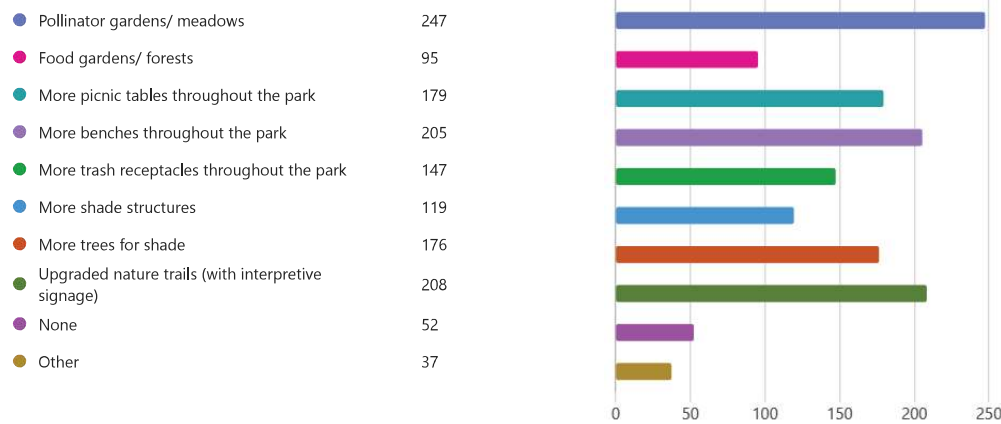
7. Would you support adding lights to some of the sports fields at Salmon Brook Park, to extend the hours of day/ length of season they can be used?



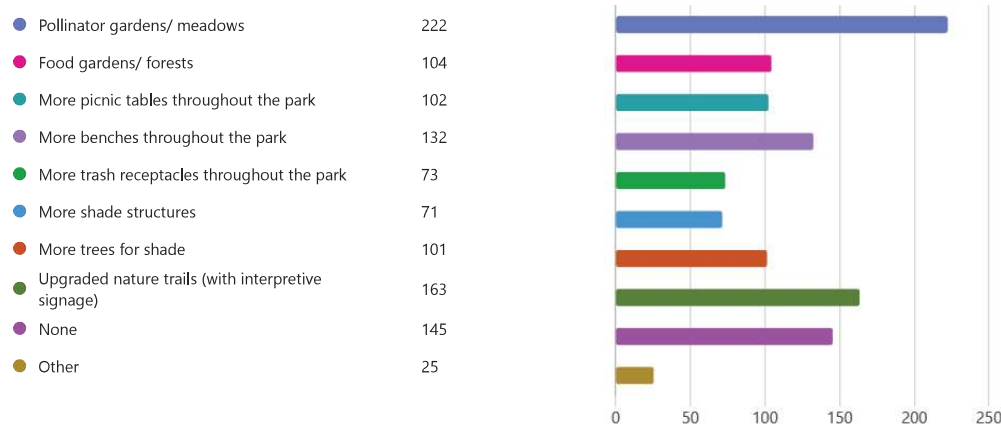
8. Would you support adding lights to some of the sports fields at Ahrens Park, to extend the hours of day/ length of season they can be used?



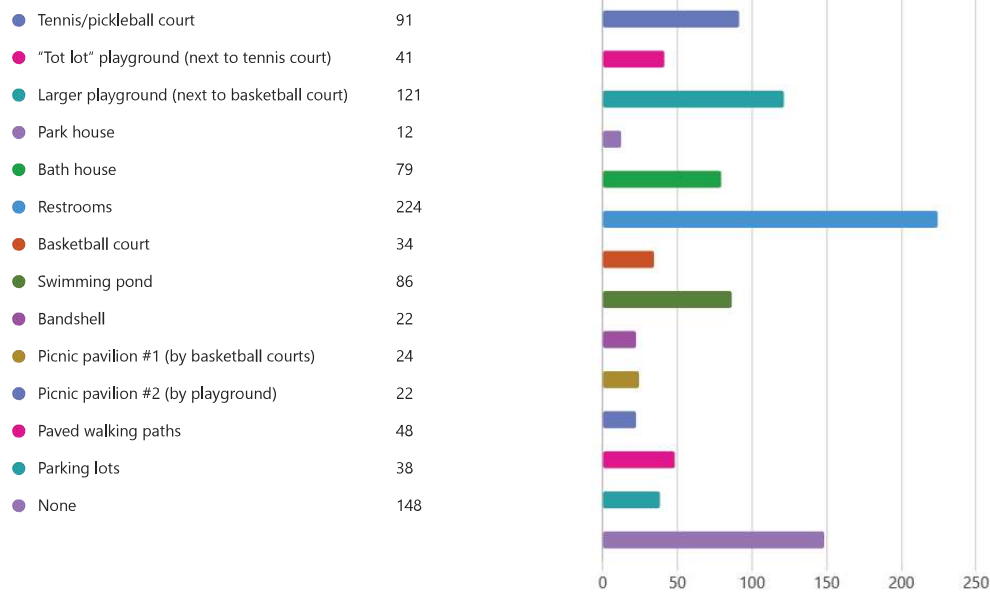
9. Select your top three priorities for new landscape features at Salmon Brook Park:



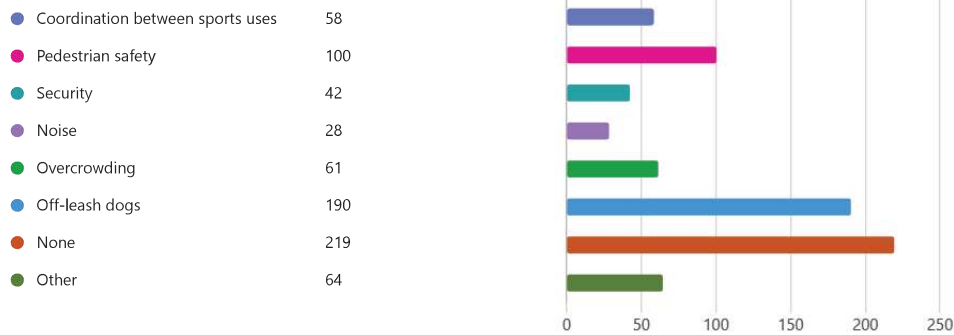
10. Select your top three priorities for new landscape features at Ahrens Park:



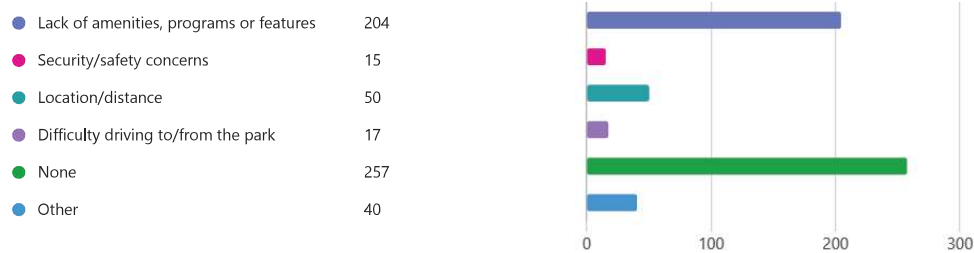
11. Do you think any of the following Town-managed facilities at Salmon Brook Park need upgrades, improvements, or better maintenance? Select all that apply.



12. Do you have concerns related to park activities at Salmon Brook Park? Select all that apply.



13. Are there barriers, difficulties or elements that impact your ability/desire to use Ahrens Park? Select all that apply.



## Granby Recreation Facilities Analysis

Online Survey: **Granby Park Use Study: Guiding the Future of Salmon Brook Park and Ahrens Park**  
Spring 2025

Write-In Response Synopsis (minor edits for clarity)

Bold numbers in parentheses indicate quantities of nearly identical comments

### 1) Reasons for visiting Salmon Brook:

- Concerts at Bandshell
- Basketball **(3)**
- Education **(2)**
- Pokemon Go
- Bicycling **(4)**
- Stargazing
- Rocket Launching **(2)**
- Horse Riding **(31)**
- Tending to horse exercise area
- Pump Track
- Dog park should be moved near to the transfer station; put playground in its place
- My family uses this park 5 days per week
- Free little library
- The brook
- Bring my own basket and play disc golf
- Sports practice when kids were younger
- Fly kites, ride bikes, roller skate, skateboard
- Celebrate Granby
- Pick up soccer

### 2) Reasons for visiting Ahrens Park:

- My kids are older now but we went there regularly for sports
- Horse Riding **(5)**
- Biking **(5)**
- Kids ride bikes in parking lot **(2)**
- Didn't know this existed, wasn't aware **(3)**
- The baseball field should be taken care of
- We used it in the past for football practice 10 years ago; never use it now
- Using my telescope/stargazing
- Bocce
- Rocket Launching
- Bearcats practices specifically. We really need this park for our organization

- There's nothing there
- Bicycle training
- Sports with my sons
- I plan to go soon; I want to see what walking and trail space exists around perimeter
- Create an area where people can set up hammocks or put out blankets to relax by the water and/or under trees that (are) away from screaming kids.
- Fly kites, ride bikes, roller skate, skateboard
- Teaching kids to park a car

### 3) Top three priorities for Salmon Brook Park:

- I want to stop paving the park
- Increase number of pickleball courts shared w/ tennis; fix 2<sup>nd</sup> court w/ asphalt problem.
- Repair tennis courts; mark courts for pickleball
- Dedicated pickleball courts; move to another location or Ahrens **(6)**
- Nature trails through wooded areas
- Nature sensory trail
- Multipurpose turf field w/ scoreboard and lights
- Disc golf course **(5)**
- Increase seating near/under shade trees (to) enjoy watching people/activities
- Lighting for baseball/softball fields **(3)**
- Lights for Rovers soccer fields
- Pool
- Swimming pool other than being told to join the YMCA
- Improve swimming area
- Update softball and baseball dugout; there are birds living in field #3 dugout
- Updated baseball areas w/ lights and scoreboards **(2)**
- Big baseball diamond
- Fresh dirt on the baseball and softball fields
- Lighted athletic fields and updates to the softball fields and their drainage. They're awful compared to other towns. Girls deserve equal resources. Also improved batting cages for softball
- More summer concerts
- Shuffleboard, croquet
- Maintain walking path (plow/de-ice) in winter
- Horse riding – area, ring, parking and trails **(5)**
- Designated horse trails
- Dog park
- Dog park for small dogs (under 20lbs)
- Replace the dog bowl option to the water fountain near the pond house, or add a place for dogs to have access to clean drinking water along the path
- More beach area
- More Pickleball
- Longer pond season/hours



- Please keep our horseback riding ring and trails open for our horses!
- Sidewalks that can safely get me to the park from my house
- Mountain bike trails
- Enhancements to existing fields. Lights on baseball fields to extend useable time and invite more opportunities to host events, draw outside interest. Adequate lighting on and around Rovers fields to ensure player/child safety and also to extend useable field time during warmer months. Please no more dog park, which draws in misbehaved animals and out-of-state visitors who pollute our parks.
- Quiet area
- Updating the sports fields
- Level lacrosse fields
- Weekly, bi-weekly or monthly outdoor flea market for vendors
- More walking paths
- Skatepark with some cool features for bmx bikes; make one like Windsor Locks
- Benches and shade trees on the walking trail
- More Benches and picnic areas
- All the above (provided list of potential priorities) are wasteful and unnecessary. Maintain what we have
- Not over-improving
- Clean up and erosion prevention of the brook behind the dog park
- Unnecessary drama and expense
- Concrete wall for lacrosse wall ball
- Garden-scaping walking path; restful spots along walking path
- Lights adjacent to walking path
- The focus of these parks, particularly Salmon Brook Park is on recreation for kids. I would like to see areas at both parks that would provide opportunities to educate kids (and adults) about nature eg. by creating pollinator gardens, raised beds for vegetable gardening, creating nature trails along with interpretive signs, etc.
- Improved hiking trails. The current trails are a mess
- Basketball court is not great (the new paving brought the hoop height down)
- Why would you replace the new playground with...Add a nice flower garden people can walk through, with benches people can sit on. More aesthetically pleasing seating and picnic areas. A meditation labyrinth (preferably far away from screaming kids). Create a walking path that goes along the river. Aesthetically pleasing lights along the walking path for winter.
- Increase horse access, dedicated bridle path around the park, weekdays the park is quiet but we feel unwelcome to venture out of the limited area we use now. I am not in favor of more paved walking paths, especially the proposed path from the overflow parking lot;
- Extend the walking path around the other ball fields. Toward the Rt 20 end. Clear the walking path in winter so it can be used.
- Repair tennis court, then remove 1-2 tennis nets and replace with pickleball nets. The nets are different widths and heights. For adult exercise equipment, please only install it next to a playground, I would workout while the kids play.

- IMO, the playground is not in bad shape- doesn't need replacing yet! The adult fitness features won't get used...they never do!
- Rather than replace...prevent flooding of playscape if possible
- Mountain bike features/trails **(2)**
- Longer pond season/hours
- More food options or snack shack opened longer

4) Top three priorities for Ahrens:

- Disc Golf Course **(2)**
- Increase in seating near/under shade trees to enjoy watching the park/people
- Pool
- Restore the football field and add lights (3) and portable bleachers
- Trail for horses (5) trailer parking and riding ring
- Dog park for small dogs (under 20lbs)
- Pollinator garden (2) native plant garden or meadow
- Is there parking for a handicapped person to access level ground to walk?
- Mountain biking **(3)**
- Improve our full-size baseball field. Build proper dugouts, fencing, etc. so (the) town will have (the) opportunity to host Babe Ruth baseball, and our kids don't have to go to Simsbury
- Multiuser single-track trails
- Baseball field should be renovated **(4)**
- Baseball field – add proper dugouts, score board and fences
- I live 5 houses up from Salmon Brook Park and wouldn't really go to Ahren's unless it was sports so I prefer to not to weigh in
- Chess boards, ping pong, tabletop games and activities
- More outdoor activities...flea market etc.
- I do think more people would go to this park if there was a playground/basketball courts or pickleball/tennis courts; would be nice to have our own ice-skating rink/water splash pad;
- Larger pavilion with an indoor meeting space
- It is pretty much perfect as (it) is
- Lighting at night
- Keep it natural
- Maintain what we have
- Not over-improving
- Who comes up with this(?) It's like paying 75 G's for a standard cookie cutter mixed use plan for property in the center of town that the town doesn't own..
- Concrete wall for lacrosse wall ball
- Why would you replace the new playground with...Add a nice flower garden people can walk through, with benches people can sit on. More aesthetically pleasing seating and picnic areas. A meditation labyrinth (preferably far away from screaming kids). Create a walking path that goes along the river. Aesthetically pleasing lights along the walking path for winter.
- Tennis courts and pickleball – maybe not have overlap on usage

- More parking
- Maybe expand the scope of the ice rink to include futsal

#### 5) Relocating existing features at Salmon Brook to Ahrens?

- You need to increase the number of pickleball courts, moving them is not sufficient
- Find better use of the areas that are now the senior league field and the back football field that is no longer used
- Does not make sense to relocate established baseball fields. Would be supportive of relocating lacrosse and other sports if there was ample parking and if resulting open space at SBP would allow for an additional full size baseball diamond...
- Horseback riding **(2)**
- Would prefer to keep the facilities at Salmon Brook since I live so close
- Put the dog park at the least busy, family friendly location. Families could care less about the dog park.
- Rather just have more available activities and options at both
- Even if dedicated pickleball courts are built at Ahren's, both pickleball and tennis should always still be available at SBP for those that play while their kids have sports practice and those that chose to live in the adjacent townhouses to enjoy the SBP amenities.
- If it means multiple dedicated pickleball courts
- Consider the NOISE levels. There are residential homes surrounding that area...homes that have been there for years, way before there was a park.
- Keeping Ahrens Park open for football and cheerleading in the summer/fall while also being able to accommodate sports in the other seasons
- Softball fields with lights. In an area with good drainage. Batting cages
- Football field needs to be used as such. Also need lights there
- Leave the ftbl and baseball field at ahrens. Maintain them properly. The ftbl field is uneven and weed filed. The baseball infield is covered in grass.
- Top 4 priorities (skate park, pump park, ice rink or splash pad) anything to make these happen
- The baseball field at ahrens park should be re-done to be little league size and be in addition to all fields at salmon brook park to support continued growth in little league.
- Put all of it in the center of town and get the 75G's back.. At least that's a sellable fantasy.
- Ideally pickleball could remain at both, but if they were to build pickleball courts at Ahrens then I would understand the removal from SBP.
- Don't relocate anything. Add on Ahrens with a playground, splash pad or pickleball. If choosing one location for splash pad, 10000% pick Salmon Brook
- Leash free dog area

#### 9) Top three priorities for new landscape features at Salmon Brook Park:

- Lights for the riding ring; better horse parking; better access to water for the horses
- More water fountains for drinking
- Pump track and skate park
- Story walk in the park <https://libguides.ctstatelibrary.org/dld/children/CTStorywalkProgram>

- Staying natural and unpaved
- More trails for multiple use including horses
- More bathrooms (4) open 365 days a year
- Leave it as natural as possible
- A skatepark in Granby would be amazing and great for the kids, too
- More parking near small playground and baseball fields
- More parking
- Additional bathroom and or porta potty options throughout the park and next to all fields.
- Not adding more pavement
- More doggie bag cans and disposal bins
- Clean up trees and debris in the brook where kids and dogs swim
- Sidewalks all through town to walk there
- Include sign of field numbers near entrance. Simsbury does this and (it is) so helpful at Plank Hill;
- Mountain biking in trails to McCleans
- Extend paved walking trail and clear it of snow and ice as needed
- Please remove the fence around the swimming pond, and extend the hours with free unsupervised swimming before 10am and after 5pm.
- Bathrooms near the dog park/soccer fields

#### 10) Top three landscape features at Ahrens:

- Add pickle ball, make better use of the whole senior league field, make better use of the back football field. Neither one are being used for what they were designed for any longer.
- Permanent seating for sports fields
- Need to leave Ahrens as-is for now and figure out its future programming for the Town.
- Butterfly garden
- Leave it as natural as possible
- Maintain what you have. The Ahrens facilities have fallen into massive disrepair. If you can't maintain what is there now, why add more?
- Drinking water
- I go to SB park often. It would use a traffic light to get out of the park. Traffic in town can often be heavy making it harder to exit safely.
- Small toddler playscape with outhouse nearby

#### 12) Concerns related to park activities at Salmon Brook:

- I want it to remain a natural space. Please don't add more pavement or lighting. Anything that gets built needs to be maintained. I am happy with maintaining current level of service or returning the park to a more natural state
- Can't play tennis; courts are always full with pickleball. Wish there were lights on tennis courts so could play in evenings / later in day (and when it's cooler in the summertime)
- Need to be able to use the bathroom in the office area year round
- Add more year round bathrooms, get rid of the porta potties, which are ugly and cost money every year

- A single entrance causes significant traffic issues
- Parking for sports weekends or special events is tough
- Dog feces on sports fields
- Concerts are too loud for neighborhood surrounding the park **(2)**
- The larger park can be littered with trash from time to time
- Restrooms
- Stagger sports games to relieve overcrowding parking lots
- Horses walk past the dog park to get to the riding, the(n) we ride behind the trees near the soccer fields to get to our next trail or to go to the parking lot. This area needs to stay open and free of benches and any planned activity so we can pass safely pas(t) people.
- Out of towners using the brook
- I'd like to see P&R help kick off organized volunteer-led walks/runs at designated times to get a community growing at various times (before and after commuting worker hours and on weekends.) If they provide the publicity and a meeting sign, I'd lead the walks.
- Bath house/restrooms
- Need for multiple uses on trails, too much walking only restrictions
- Dogs on playing fields. They leave behind chewed sticks and poop. Kids play and practice on the fields!
- Dogs going to the bathroom on the ball fields
- People complaining about people using the park for its purpose, sports, activities, etc. which sometimes generate noise
- Late night cars and pickups going into the park causing noise (that) shouldn't be there
- Overcrowding might become an issue as more people move here, more use of the walkway and more use of the tennis courts as people want to play pickleball
- Should be no dogs and bicycling on the pedestrian path. It is dangerous for seniors and handicapped people. There is a lot for children and dogs but NOTHING SAFE for seniors and the handicapped
- Restrooms **(4)**
- Parking lots
- Horse use. Have seen horses get free from their owners on a few occasions and run in front of cars
- When entering the pond you have to go through the locker rooms. A dad with daughters this has (been) a challenge when I used the park
- Not enough dog poop bag stations
- Cars driving too fast
- Out of town residents should have to pay a fee to enter like other towns do. Why are we free and overcrowded while other towns are making money from out of towners? Please look into what other towns are charging per vehicle.
- Parking
- Exit left turn lane
- Need for traffic light
- Very little in Granby for pre-teens and teens. Skate park/pump track/mountain bike trails would be a step in the right direction

- Too much pavement for horses
- Granby needs to consider the influence of adding more features may have on the town. New activities such as water features, skate or bike parks will attract individuals from many surrounding towns. This may lead to overcrowding and eliminating the small town feel
- Put in speed bumps
- Erosion from the brook flooding and swelling
- Traffic at entrance
- Dog waste
- Can't play tennis anymore; always full with pickleball players
- Need a more active security presence at the park
- Granby seems totally out of control. Where there is a patch of grass open, leave it so. The updates at Salmon Brook are good. We are not a state park, but a residential park. Small, beautiful, and plentiful for all. Since we have the pond it would be on the pond, and the water sprays etc. a blessing for the heat in the summertime. be fun to have a skating rink(.) Ahrens seems a little behind. Put your pickleball court there.
- Light pollution
- Plowing snow/ice from walking path in central area
- Pickleball courts have asphalt issues - one so big it is nicknamed the Grand Canyon
- Keep the area for horses, parking and access to trails
- Noise
- Can't walk there – no sidewalks where I live
- A lot of the time the courts are full, so having more courts (both pickleball and basketball) would be great
- Dogs jumping the dog park fence
- Cars sometimes speed around the road
- Fertilizer and pesticide applications. Lack of signage when applied
- Sometimes there is not enough parking. Can you remove the no parking signs along roads and push the barriers back from the road so there is more parking available?
- Pickleball court noise level, should be moved
- Roadway lighting

### 13) barriers that impact ability/desire to use Ahrens Park:

- Need lights for football/LAX practices
- Poor state of the 90' baseball field (2) Please refurbish the field!
- Bears in the area
- Didn't know it existed, and I've lived here since 1986.
- Lack of walking trails and restrooms!
- We would use it more if there was something to draw us there. Right now we only go there for sports games/practices. Maybe have the splash pad or ice rink here or move the tennis/pickle ball courts here
- We use Ahrens park for football and cheerleading practices; however, it would be nice for the park to have more programs and amenities in other seasons to draw people to the space

- If they had a skatepark I'd be there all the time as simsbury one is terrible. And closest nice one is Windsor locks.
- Not enough town sponsored events
- Thank you for looking into bettering our parks! Can't wait to see what comes!
- The fields are not maintained. It is embarrassing when out-of-town teams come in. Maintain what we have.
- This park is hard to get to. Hungary Road turn off route 20 is difficult at best
- The Bearcats football organization along with Granbeast little league could make an immense increase in the use of Ahrens park with the appropriate upgrades.
- Is there a way to create a path to improve access from GMMS/GMHS?;
- Very upsetting Granby doesn't have a domed stadium with 24 hour security fast track access
- No winter bathrooms, and useful outhouse is surrounded by snow piles
- Move the dog park there please, there have been dogs that jump the fence.
- I have always enjoyed going to Salmon Brook Park and haven't had a need to use Ahren's Park.