

# Venice Ocean Front Walk Playground

We're getting a new playground! LA Dept of Rec and Parks (RAP) has a significant budget and is moving quickly to replace the beach playground. Venice families have created this brief survey to provide RAP with specific feedback to help move the replacement process forward and create a fabulous playground!

**Please share your input on how to make this a great park (5 min).**

Contact email: [robinmurez@gmail.com](mailto:robinmurez@gmail.com)

Park will be between Windward Plaza and Breakwater, split into a Toddler (2-5 yo) and Older Kids (5-12 yo) Areas



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# Input on Ocean Front Walk Playground



Questions

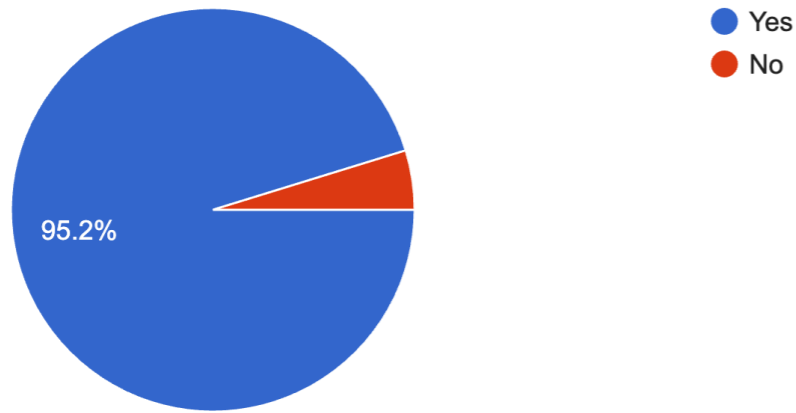
Responses

126

Settings

## Do you have kids?

126 responses



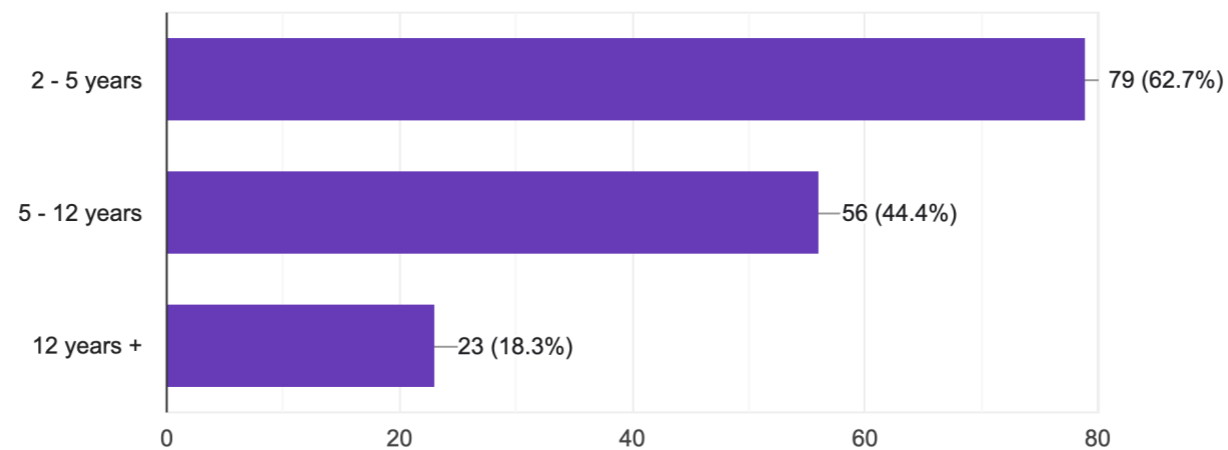
## How often did you visit the previous playground?

125 responses



## If yes, what are the ages of kids?

126 responses



# 2-5 years playground equipment

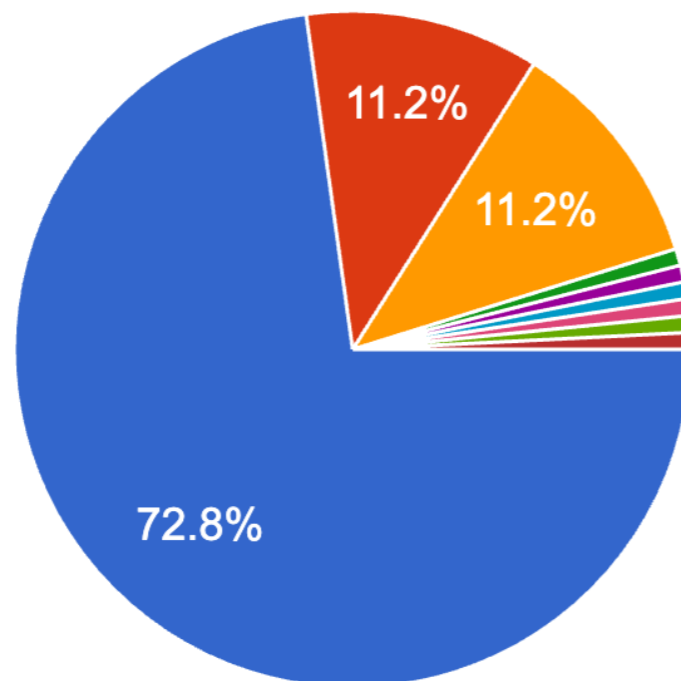
Table 1-1

BIG TOP / SMALLER CAROUSEL



Big Top/ Small Carousel: Would this add value to the park?

125 responses



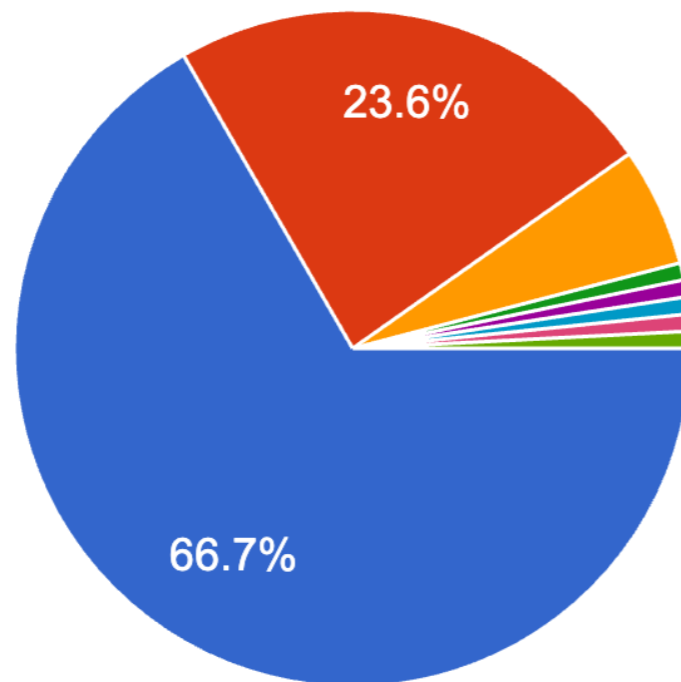
- Yes
- Yes and add even more
- No
- I appreciate the shade provided by the cover but otherwise might prefer a mo...
- What? Hello how is this better than th...
- It would attract homeless to sleep ther...
- This looks awesome. My only feedbac...
- maybe
- I've never seen carousel at a playgrou...

TOT SWINGS



### Swings: Would this add value to the park?

123 responses



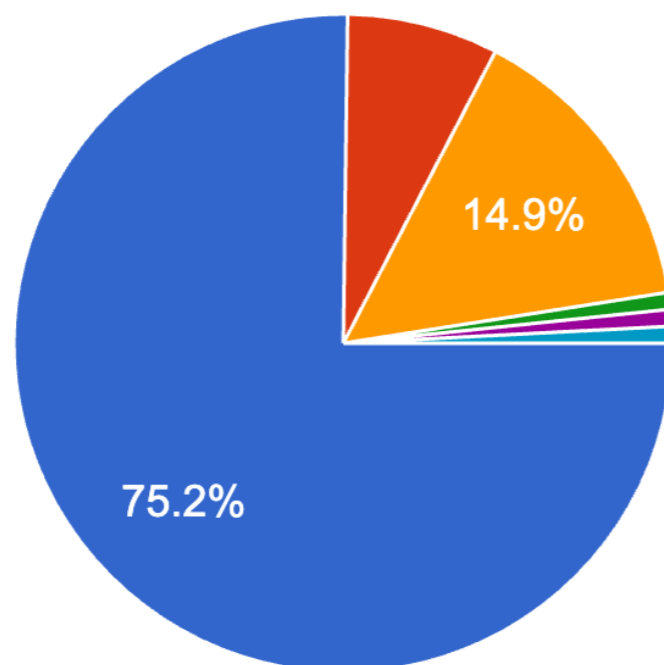
- Yes
- Yes and add even more
- No
- Swings yes
- swings for older kids
- Everyone enjoys swings
- Tots love swings! Before they can walk or crawl, they can enjoy swings. A big...
- there were 4 swings perfectly working so yes kids enjoyed them

LIFEGUARD MEGA TOWER ADA

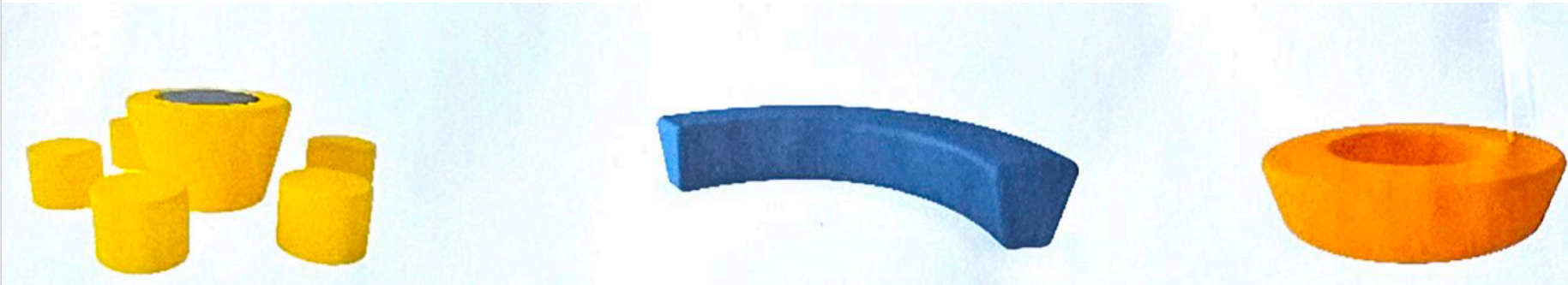


## Lifeguard Tower: Would this add value to the park?

121 responses

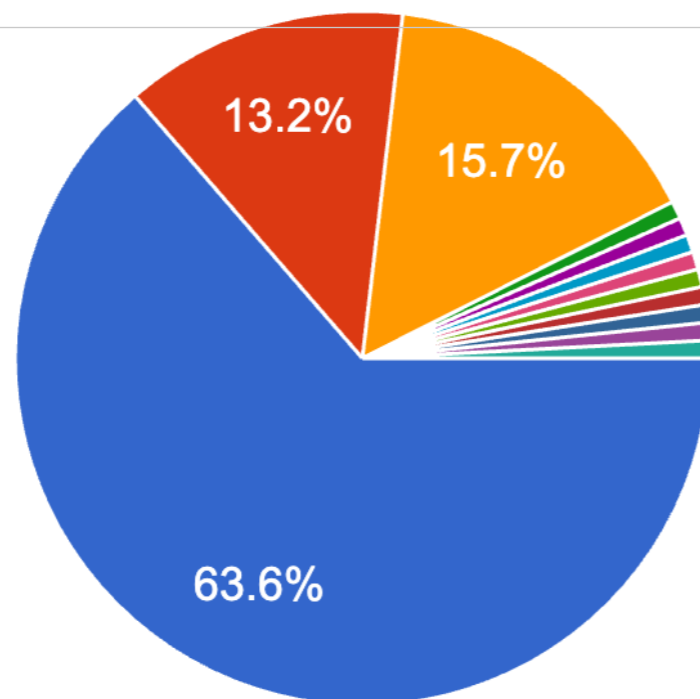


- Yes
- Yes and add even more
- No
- Would be great to see the ocean / boats from the tower
- We need playground equipment for kids with disabilities
- there were 5 slides. make a bigger climbing side.

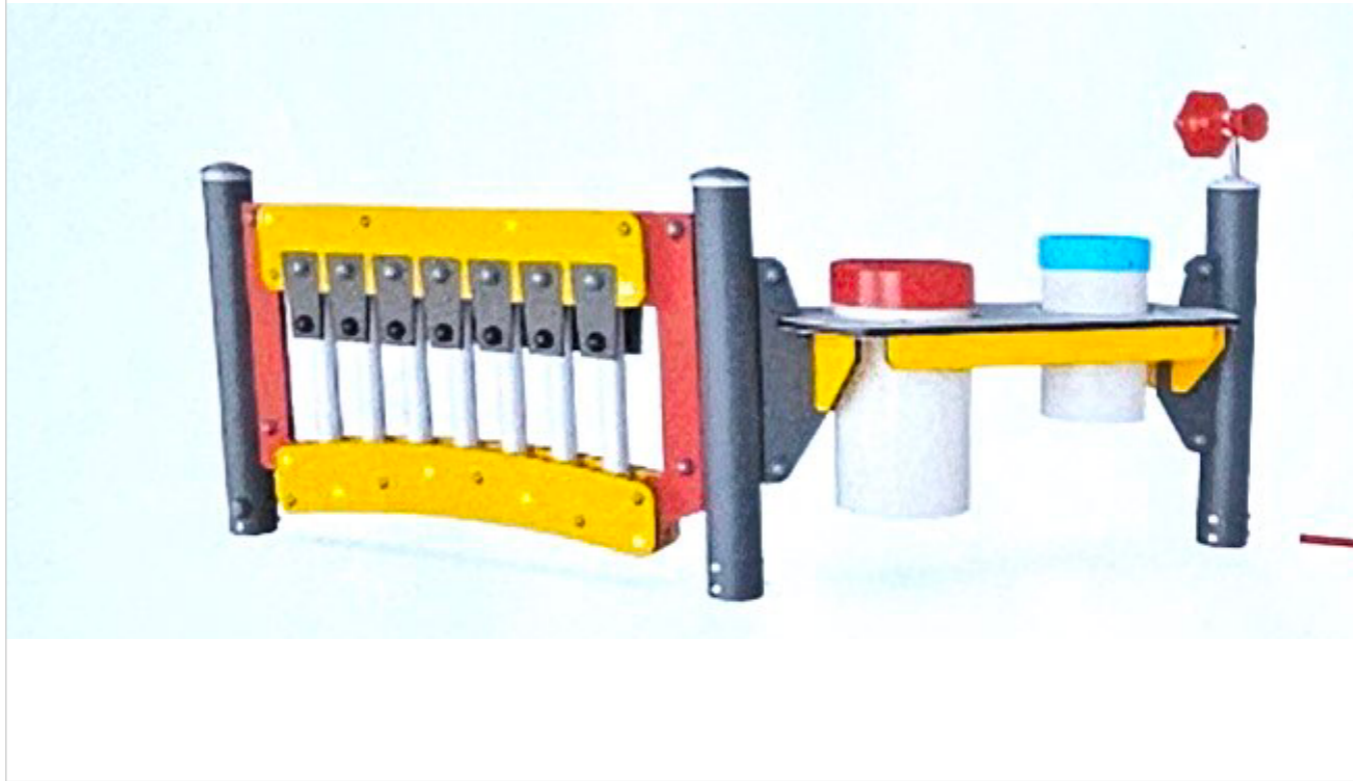


## Benches and Tables: Would this add value to the park?

121 responses

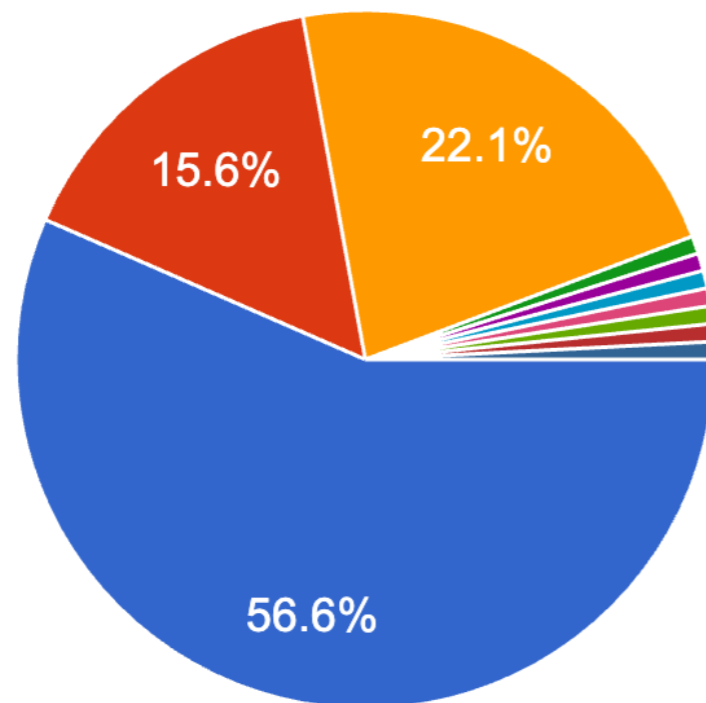


- Yes
- Yes and add even more
- No
- would like shade over seating
- more benches for parents the better
- These are ugly but yes to benches
- Particularly of under a shaded area!
- Yes provided they were shaded

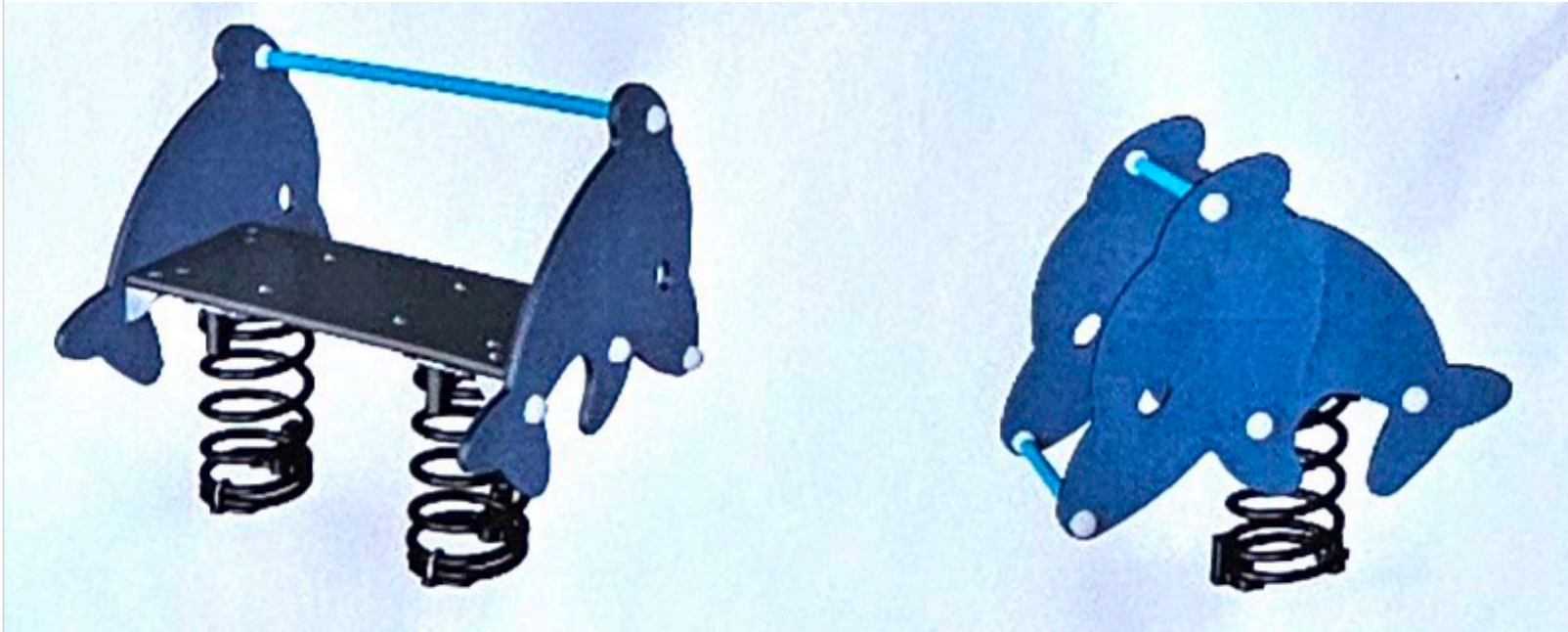


## Instruments: Would this add value to the park?

122 responses

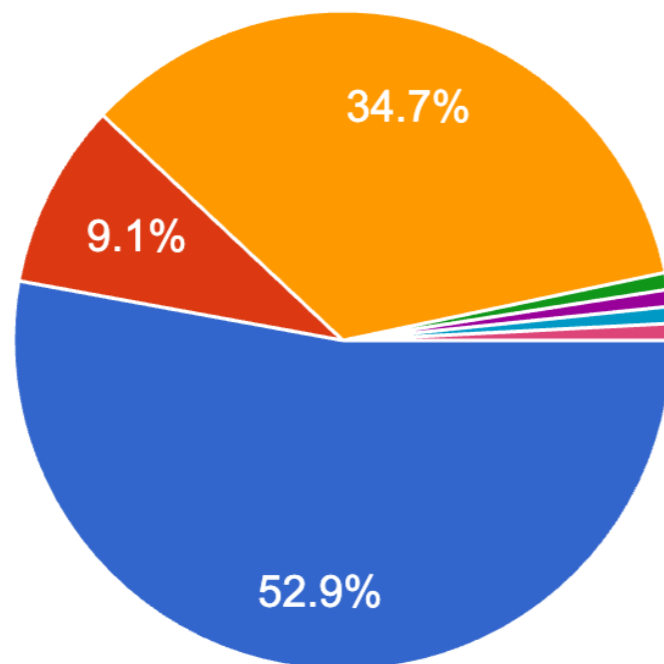


- Yes
- Yes and add even more
- No
- This is more of a nice to have - i find t...
- medium. I feel like these get played wi...
- I've never been to a part where the ins...
- If it works in sandy situation
- More advanced



### Bouncing Springers: Would this add value to the park?

121 responses



- Yes
- Yes and add even more
- No
- I could see how really littles like this, but mine aged out of it pretty quickly after 2
- Minor exercise for kids equipment
- Seesaw instead



Any other suggestions for the park that would be helpful for younger (2-5 year old) kids?

70 responses

Water feature

suspension bridges between towers, more swings including seasaw swings, pendulum swings

Park should also be accesible for children with disabilities

Rope structures that allow climbing

Sand box; Wavy bridges. matching animal games

Climbing wall, slides, and big structures to climb on/ over

Lots of swings for all ages - there are never enough swings at our local parks! slides and climbing walls / nets are also great. Having the rubber ground for certain areas is nice while also having sand areas for sand play.

Climbing gym

Rope climbing/ wall climbing, zip line, super high slide

digging areas with sand; water play; more small slides

Water, sand area and musical interaction elements would be nice. Also shade, sheltered hidey-hole areas

I believe it would be a complete shame to build a park specifically dedicated to children ages 2-5. These children already have several parks throughout west LA they can easily visit. The small children's park in the Venice canals is a prime example. This should be a park for the entire community. Parents should be able to bring all ages of children to the park, And not have this space claimed for new parents. The kids also have a small children's park located in the Marina del Rey as another example. Kids do not stop existing after the age of 5. With the budget the city is allowing we can most definitely provide a space for all of our community. It would also be amazing to maybe get a small water/sand play area. This is great for young children. Plus the park is at the beach so it would make perfect sense. Kids need to climb and play. Being active at a young age sets the children up for success and helps to build confidence. Kids also need social space to be able to learn and interact. The westside needs more options for children ages 6-12. Also the circus theme is brilliant. Venice is supposed to be fun and quirky. If you want a standard copy and paste play structure maybe move out to the valley. Kids love colors. It's supposed to be fun.

a splash zone would be amazing

Don't fence them in like they're at a zoo

When my son was this age I found that he really enjoyed sitting in trucks/cars that simulated driving, etc. In my opinion, at this age the important thing is to make climbing, etc accessible/safe for them to do on their own so that they feel accomplished!

Musical engagement activities

See saw, play house/kitchen

More climbing items and slides. Think dynamic

Make accessible (no woodchips/sand) & swings for ALL children including those with disabilities & who may use wheelchairs

Spinners! My kids love things that spin!

No

Sprinklers /water area

Splash pads

Slides of different shapes and sizes!

Moving puzzle pieces and mural

Shade!

So much more. This is barely a start.

Sand boxes, monkey bars, and natural bridges would be fun additions!

Needs to be natural materials.

More shaded areas

The old one was fine. Whatever. Waste!!!!

Is this park on the sand or a hard surface? Would suggest a rubber mat play area.

Few things that I've seen in other parks that kids seem to love

- Music based toys

- Spider web to climb

Tables where kids and caregivers can have meals.... Also, extra shade structures. I think a bridge that wobbles is also fun for children of all ages in addition to a merry go round :)

Water feature - kompan has fabulous options for water tables and spouts on their website

Disabled children need eye level toys and a swing that allows for devices

Bouncing things and musical instruments have a novelty, but kids only play with for a few seconds. Climbing, sliding, tunnels, balancing, and swinging keep kids engaged.

Mini slides. Splash pads. The little plastic animals on springs that go back and forth. Some sort of a rubber bounceable area for them to jump on. Voted no on benches because of houseless people potentially using them for sleep and whatever else. Also would love to see a zip line for the older kids! The ones with just the rope and little seat. Thanks!

Gate the whole park. The one at rose near the bathrooms has no fence to separate the park and idk what they are thinking

Monkey bars!

This is a great opportunity to have a UNIQUE playground in LA featuring items that are not yet very present on the westside and ENVIRONMENTALLY friendly such as:

ZIPLINE: <https://vimeo.com/335858210>

SPIDER CLIMB: <https://www.leader-equipements.com/structure-a-grimper/114-jeu-exterieur-araignee.html>

SLIDES and ROPES:

<https://www.mustdobrisbane.com/kids-outdoors-kids-parks/riverside-green-playground-south-bank>

<https://ccc.govt.nz/news-and-events/running-an-event/central-city-event-venues-map/margaret-mahy-playground>

ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY ITEMS that produce motion or light: <https://www.israel21c.org/the-coolest-playground-on-the-planet-is-also-educational/>

Water play area

Sand pits

Shade structures please

Separate areas for big and small kids to make it safer for little ones when they're learning to climb etc

Climbing shells where the kids can climb several stories safely.

The smaller children need areas that they can explore on their own safely and independently. If the ropes under the small bigtop are going to be too tricky for the 2-3 year olds, that should be re-thought and reintegrated with some solid platforms, ramps or bridges to create various experiences that will not need as much parent support.

Rope climbing structure. Check out Holmby Park.

Small slides

Needs regular sized swings in addition to the toddler swings (3 - 5 year-olds)

please refer to Hend Baghdady and Holden's deck

Shade!!!!

Climbing structure, multiple slides (non metal), fence around park for toddlers and to keep ppl without children out of the park

See-saw? Slides? Monkey bars?

Digging tools

More mini slides, shakey bridge, things to see and feel underneath the structure like in Oakwood, shade

Enclosed space

Climbing wall/activities

climbing, nets

Clean up surrounding area, too many homeless etc. would be better if felt safer.

Lots of safe climbing structures

An enclosed toddler area, trampolines installed in the ground, soft ground, sand pit, some kind of play thing with running water

A water component would be good for hot summer days; lots of shade — pictured canopies look very small and you need shade sails for benches and table areas or general sand areas;

We love the park at North Beach Playground in SM and the boat park just south of Rose

Mural art

No homeless

Places for parents to sit! Have a water feature/sand playing area. Or splash pad. And have armed guards as well to keep the riffraff out.

Tire/playform swing where several kids can collaborate on swinging together. Small hand push carousel (again collaborating to push). A boat in the sand to contain toddlers to play together where parents can sit around the sides.

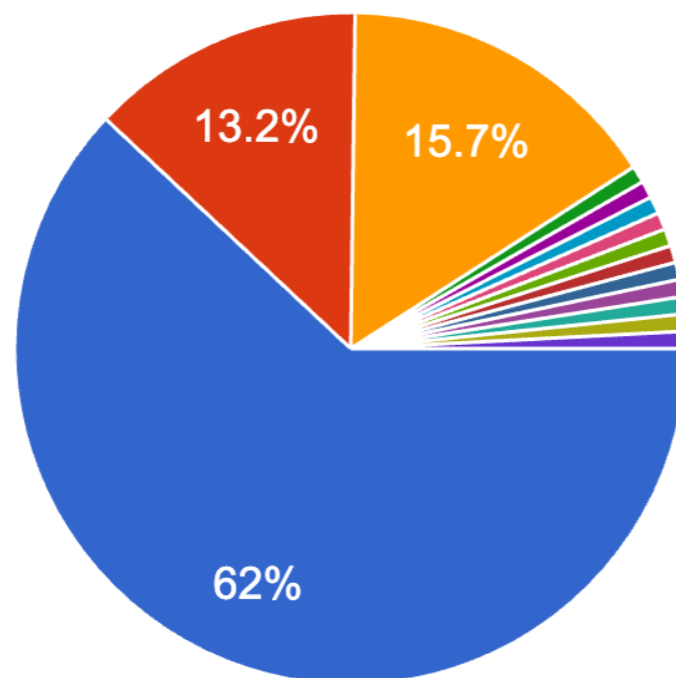
Rose ave playground has some really nice equipment inspired by occupational therapy structures.

# 5-12 Year Old Playground Equipment



Carousel: Would this add value to the park?

121 responses



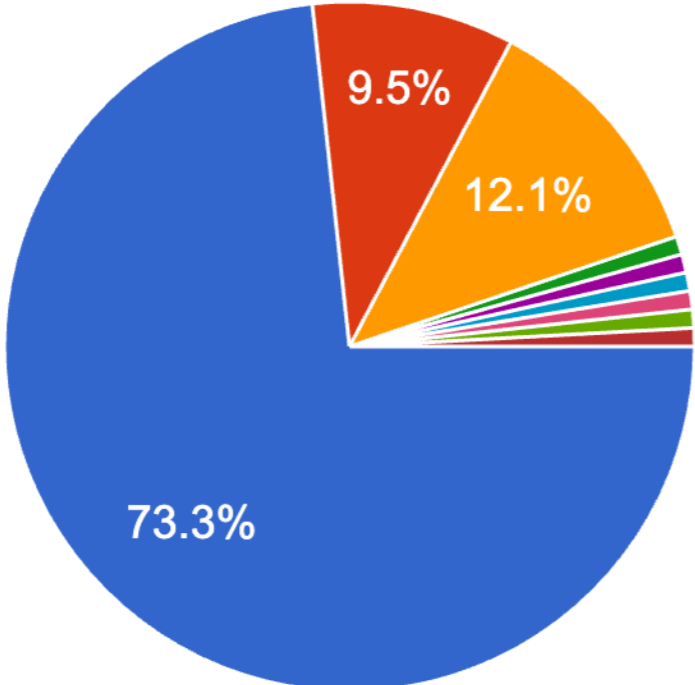
- Yes
- Yes and add even more
- No
- seems way over the top
- I think something less themed and in li...
- I would prefer a more natural aestheti...
- Too many parts. older kids would brea...
- I worry the netting is sort of of redund...

MEGA TOWER



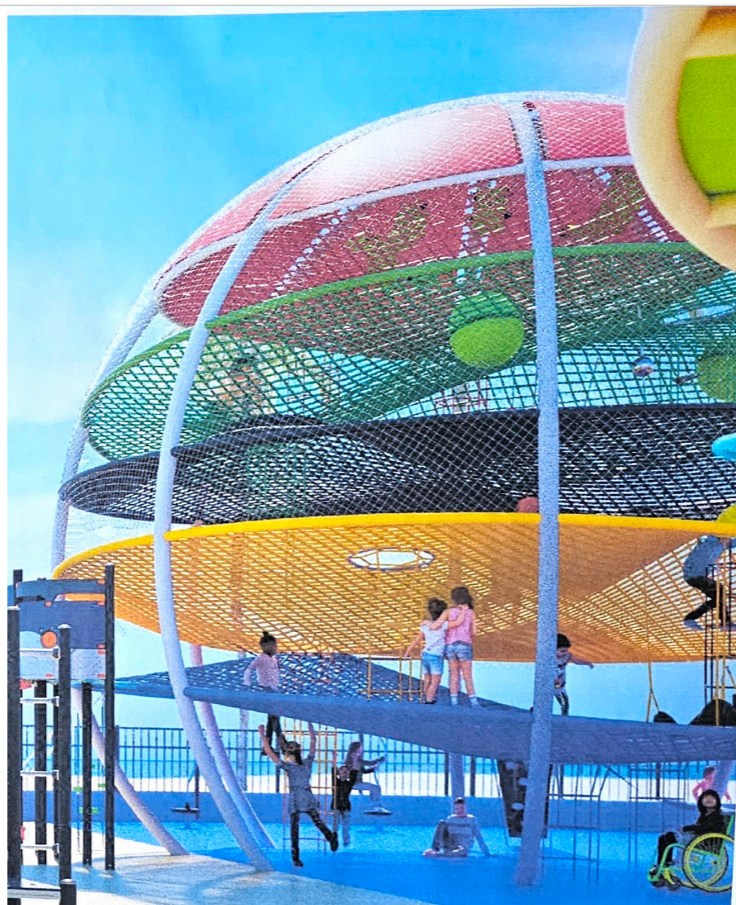
### Tower Slide: Would this add value to the park?

116 responses



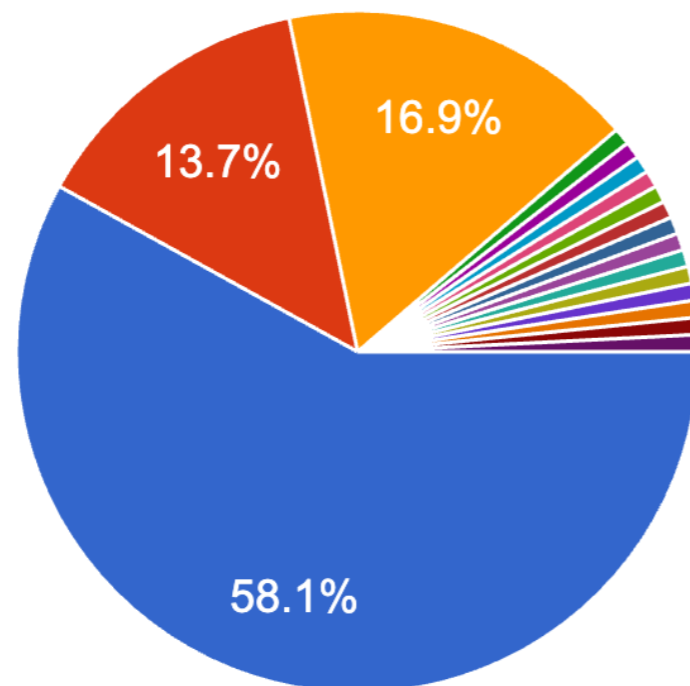
- Yes
- Yes and add even more
- No
- Too simple for the the older kids
- Other slide this is ugly
- I like this idea but would appreciate natural materials being incorporated
- It would add value but it would add val...
- please refer to Hend Baghdady and H...
- Kinda same old thing. Yawn.

SUPER SPHERE



## Super Sphere: Would this add value to the park?

124 responses



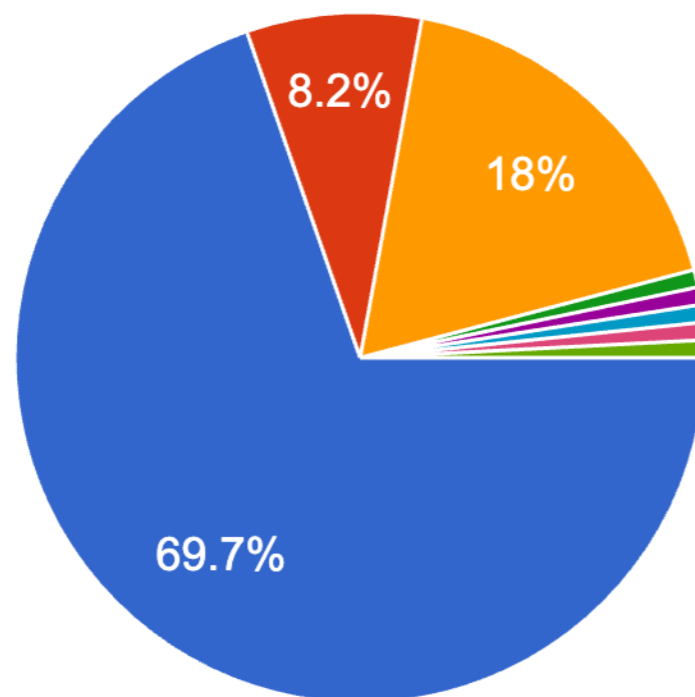
- Yes
- Yes and add even more
- No
- seems over the top and tough to find kid
- As long as this can potentially be acce...
- Yes amazing
- This makes me very nervous as a par...
- Looks like a good place for transients...

BASKET SWINGS



### Basket Swing: Would this add value to the park?

122 responses

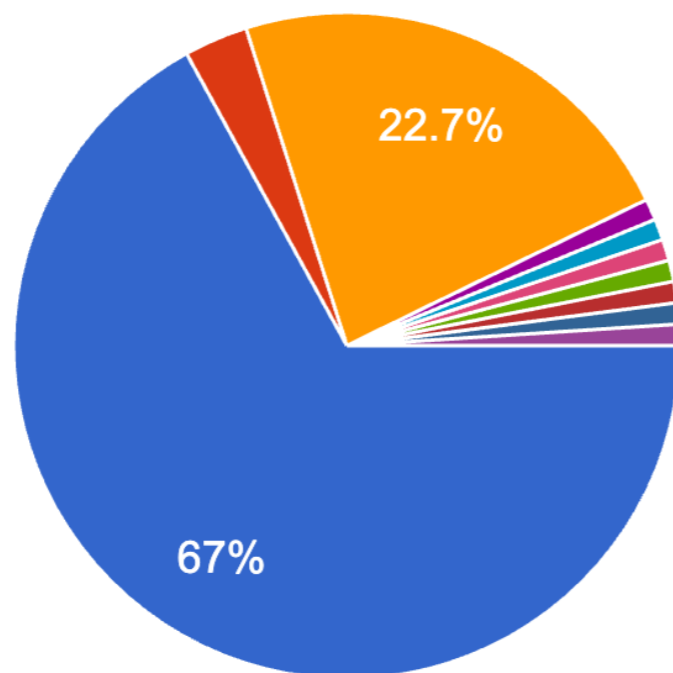


- Yes
- Yes and add even more
- No
- i've seen older kids really abuse this swing. they will have two kids on the s...
- I don't know
- please refer to HEND Baghdady and Holden Munson s deck
- kids love the tire with chains at clover...
- Keep it simple maximize space with s...



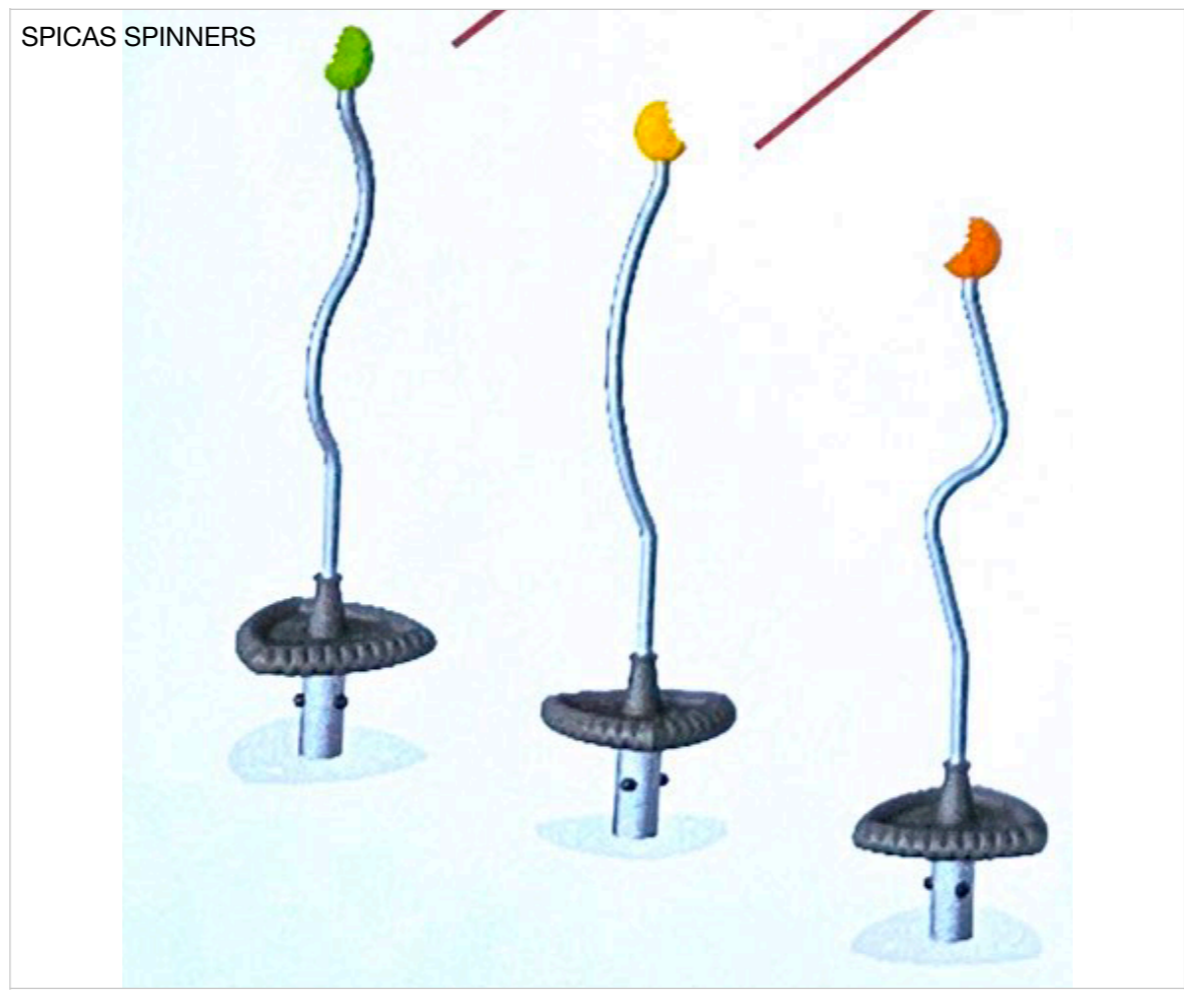
### Supernova Merry-go-round: Would this add value to the park?

97 responses



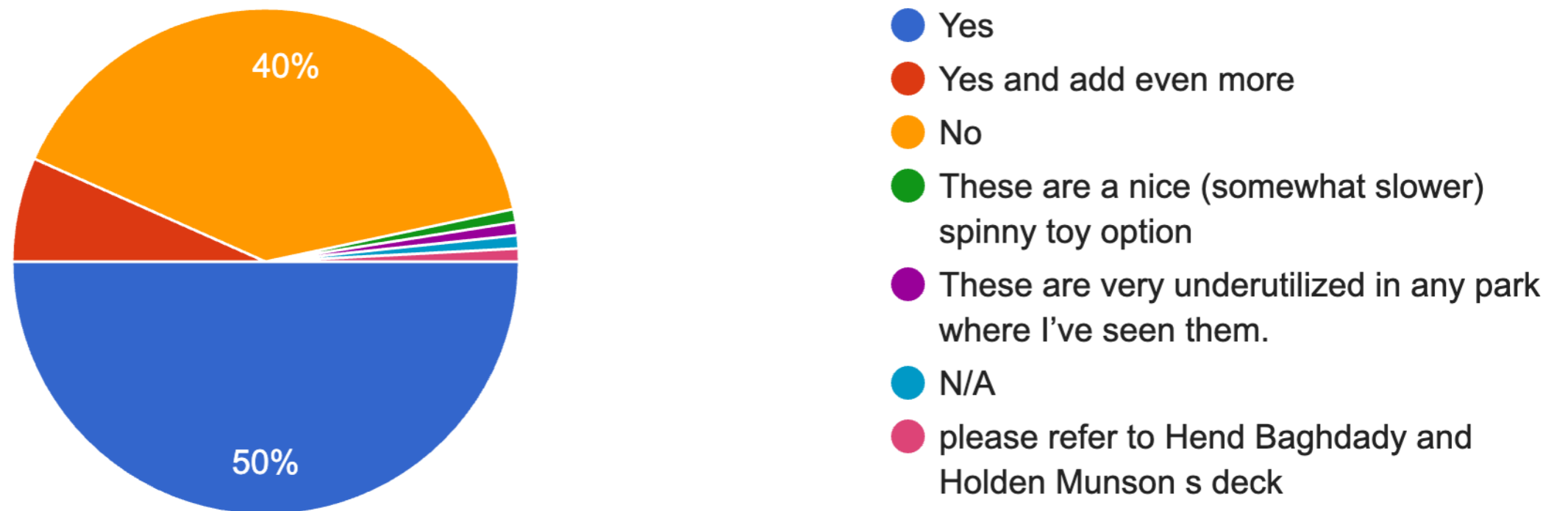
- Yes
- Yes and add even more
- No
- Other
- Hate when kids make themselves dizz...
- If it stays functional yes but most of th...
- I may be biased here but my kids hav...
- not sure what this does



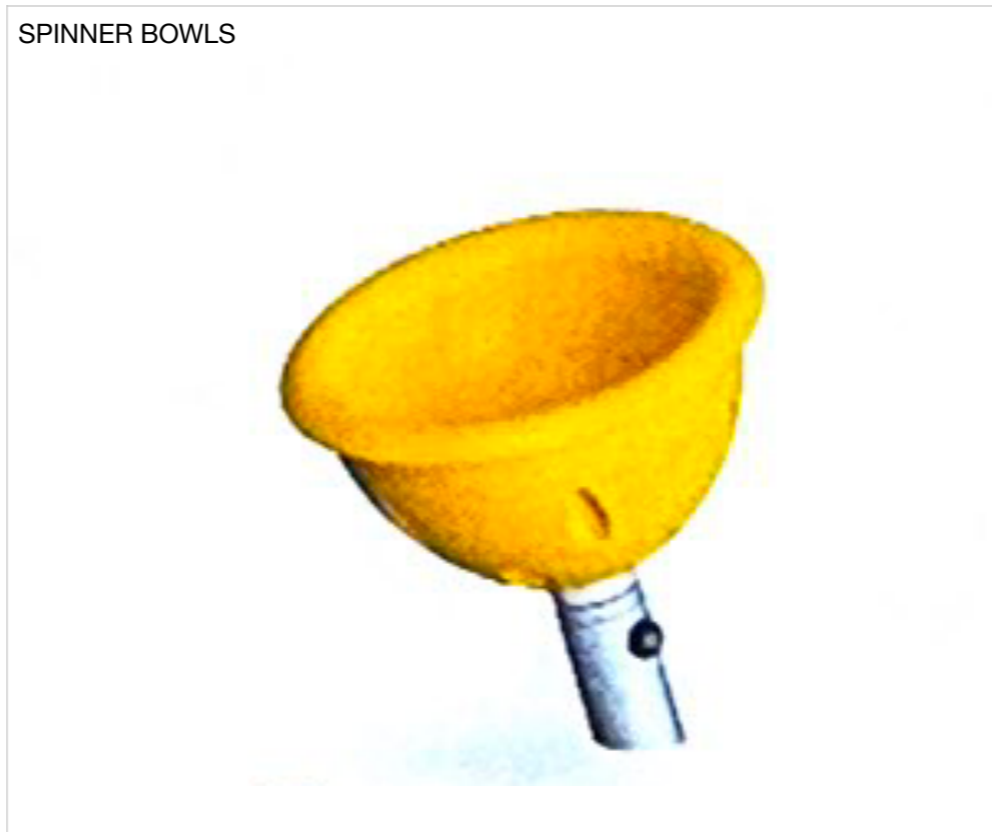


## Spinner: Would this add value to the park?

120 responses

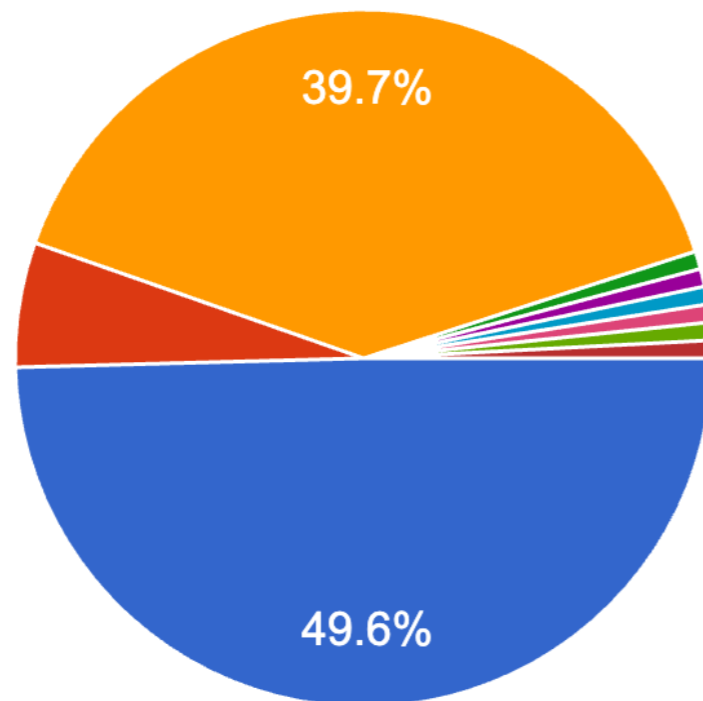


SPINNER BOWLS



### Spinner Bowls: Would this add value to the park?

121 responses



- Yes
- Yes and add even more
- No
- I don't know.
- not with all the homeless in the area. It would be used as a toilet.
- maybe, if safe
- Maybe. The always end up with trash i...
- please refer to Hend Baghdady and H...
- Not sure

STARSURFER



## Star Surfer: Would this add value to the park?

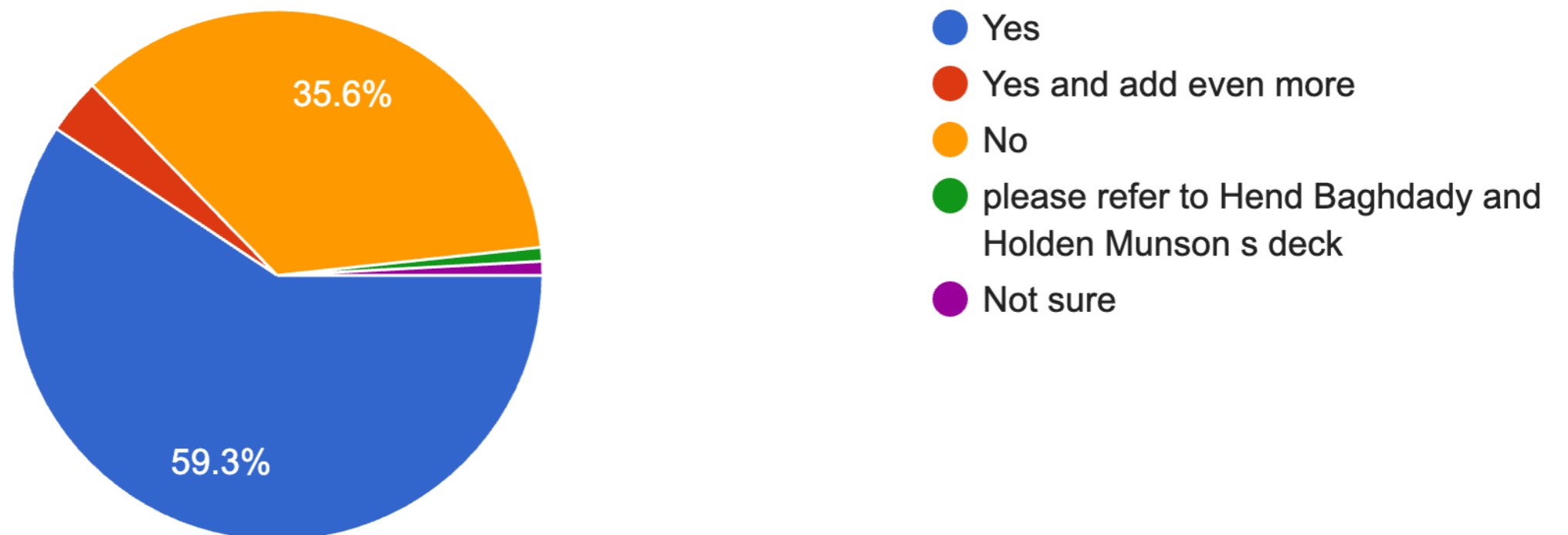
117 responses





## Rock It: Would this add value to the park?

118 responses



Any other suggestions for the park that would be helpful for older (5-12 year old) kids?

41 responses

Kids love to climb and having netting below could be safer than the open style ropes but wonder if it might create trash or homeless problems?

Rings, pickle ball court

Climbing walls are great!

I think older kids like to climb and get up high and slide down and be challenged. Smaller kids can stay away from taller more challenging elements. It is super important for big kids to play with other big kids outdoors rather than focussing their time on screens! So I am actually more interested in big kids being accommodated at this playground, relative to little kids.

As long as our older kids have space to play and climb I think this will be a successful park. Give kids spaces to explore and engage with other children a climbing wall or zipline would be fun  
more slides

Don't fence them in like they're at a zoo

I believe things that spin and that they can do collectively are good choices. A merry go round, for instance, allows them to spin it themselves and work together to have fun! Having challenging things where they are pushing themselves physically are great - climbing, balancing, jumping (safely!) are fun pastimes. Maybe even some sort of obstacle course, etc that they can navigate?

There is a rendering that I saw of a large creature shaped sculptures - those are VERY cool and appealing! I didn't see any monkey bars, but know those are big hits too!

Rope things

Monkey bars, flying Fox

Interactive puzzles!!

Water feature to cool children in summer

Natural climbing walls

Just hope it's fun and unique not generic.

Rope climb

Climbing wall

Monkey bars are a classic! And rings like muscle beach, that they can reach!

Traveling rings, monkey bars, balance beams (kid size like Santa monica muscle beach)

This is a great opportunity to have a UNIQUE playground in LA featuring items that are not yet very present on the westside and ENVIRONMENTALLY friendly such as:

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SPIDER CLIMB: <https://www.leader-equipements.com/structure-a-grimper/114-jeu-exterieur-araignee.html>

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I am sooooo excited for these ideas, and more importantly, my kids are too. They saw the original renderings and were bummed and puzzled that some parents were not happy with it. We think it's going to be amazing and can't wait for it (or a version of it) to get built. Thank you!

This looks great

Large climbing structures

Climbing nets

Climbing structures elevated structures (like oakwood park)

Two areas, one that would attract 5 and under and one 12 years down to 6 so the kids naturally want to stay in their age zones. And then benches and easy social for parent areas.

Rope structure. Check out Holmby Park.

Parkour type area

After 8 years-old, kids need more sophisticated features, such as ropes courses, obstacle courses, climbing walls and zip lines. How about a trampoline dunk basketball court!

please refer to Hend Baghdady and Holden Munson s deck

Climbing wall

Use things that can be used more than one way and by more than one kid at a time.

Make sure park has enough shade

Climbing wall, flying rings like in Santa Monica, Venice themes, model horse (there was a 1/2 size black and white horse at the beach years ago. Loved it)

Swings, climbing walls / monkeys bars, sand, floor games like hopscotch, musical area

no rubber.

make it fast. materials to be ocean proof.

Big kids love to climb. Any netting they can climb.

5-7 year olds are very different than 8-12. Cut offs are hard but lots of parents with multiple smaller kids would have a hard time with this two area concept and I would not want to have my 5 year old playing in area with 10+. Please consider age groups like 2-7 and 7-12 or something like that;

Mural art

A long zip line, a taller 3 story slide with tree house,

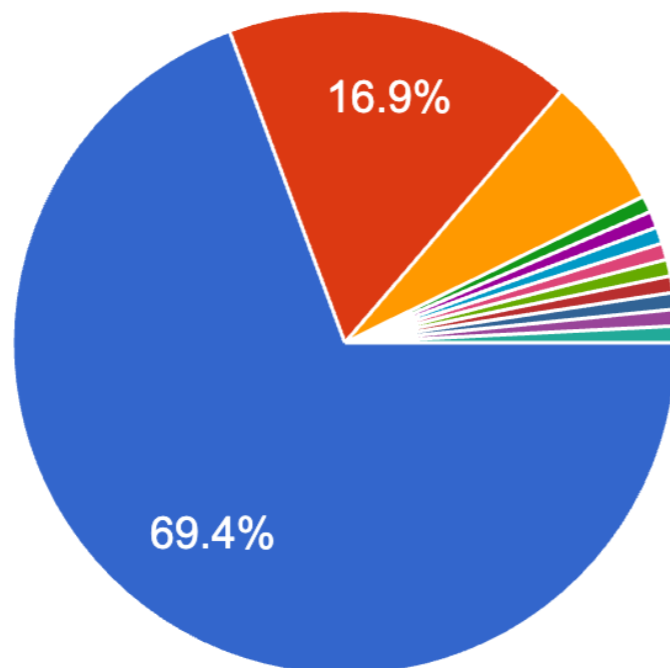
# ADDITIONAL OR ALTERNATIVE IDEAS

LARGE CLIMBING CREATURES



Creature Climbing Structure - need not be a whale Might be a Gondola, St Mark Lion or other Venice themed creature

124 responses

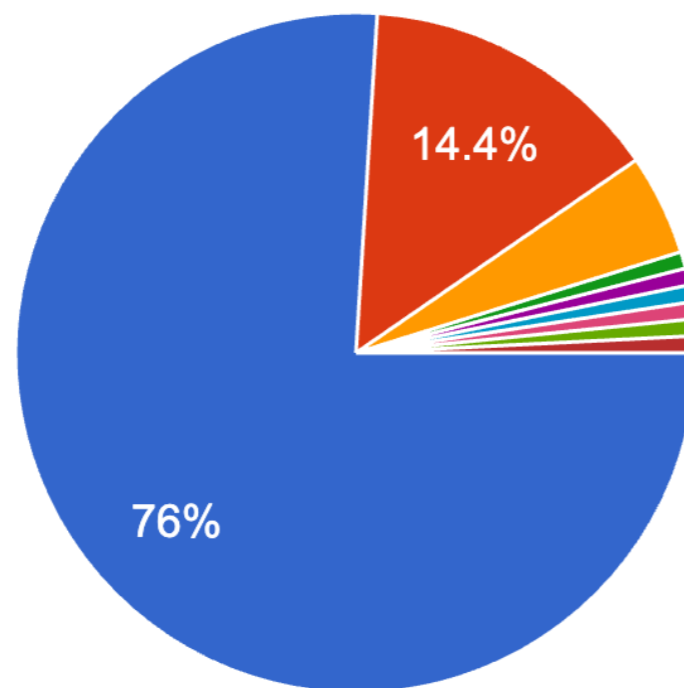


- Yes
- Yes and add even more
- No
- yes if it can be kept clean inside. A mo...
- this is really cool - more climbing obst...
- Some climbing apparatus
- LOVE this
- Love



Creature Climbers. Might be a Gondola, St Mark Lion or other Venice themed creature: Would this add value to the park?

125 responses



- Yes
- Yes and add even more
- No
- this is really cool - more climbing obstacles the better
- Love this idea
- Does somebody in the City Hall have...
- More open ended would be better (lik...
- Very cool!
- Yes, love the Venice flying lion idea

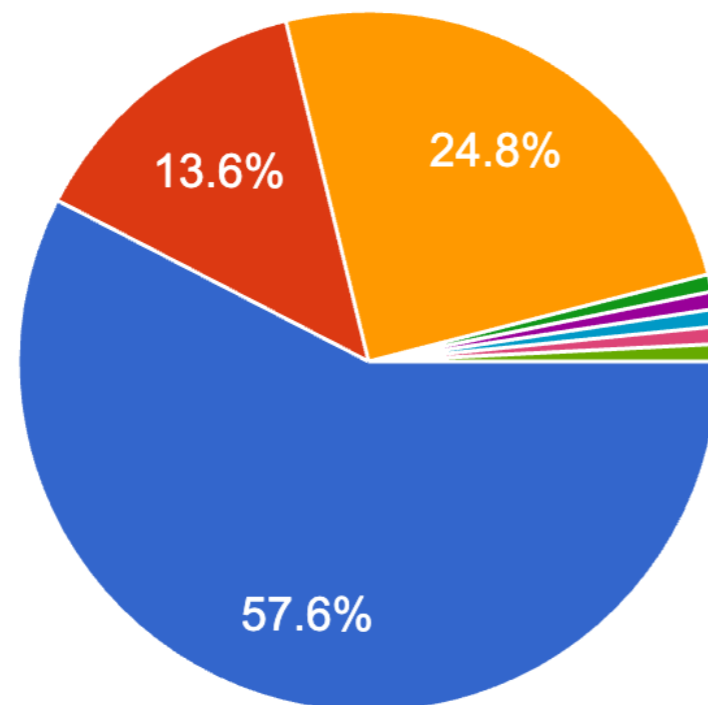


TODDLER EXCAVATOR



## Sand Excavator: Would this add value to the park?

125 responses



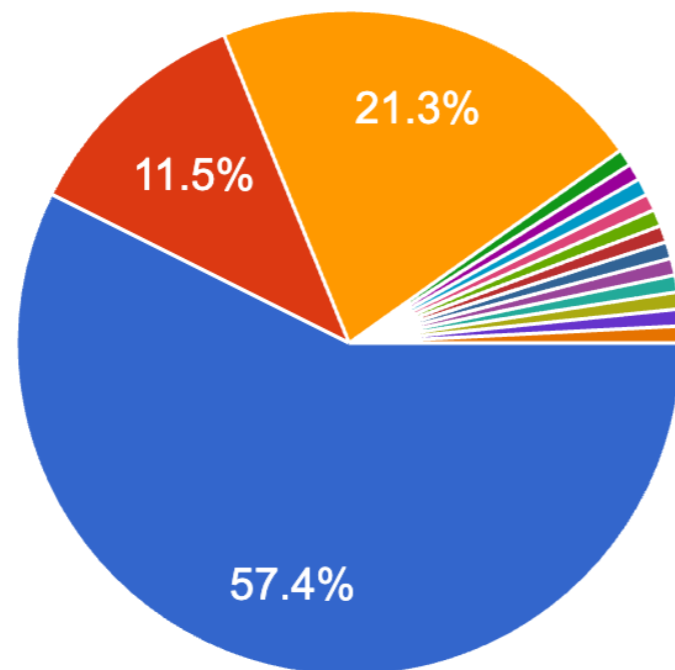
- Yes
- Yes and add even more
- No
- tough to use
- This is another one of the things that's always broken in parks.
- Those are fun if can be maintained.
- Yes! I can see these being a huge hit. You may need a few so friends can w...
- I can't imagine the line of kids waiting t...

SAND WATER SPLASH TABLE



## Water Table: Would this add value to the park?

122 responses



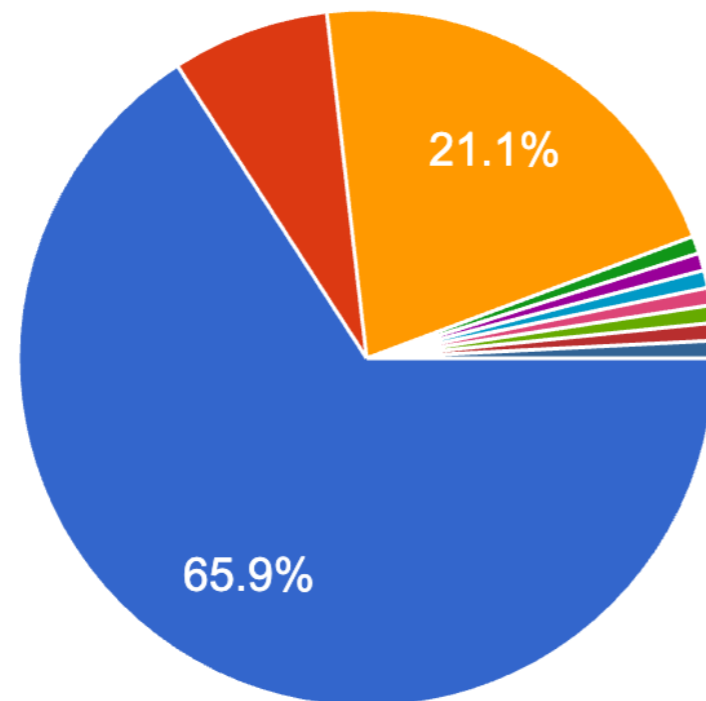
- Yes
- Yes and add even more
- No
- splash tables are great; adding a plac...
- Love the kids playing and exploring wi...
- This requires a lot of maintenance.
- Prefer sprinklers
- Fun if maintained

ALTERNATIVE SWINGS - PENDULUM



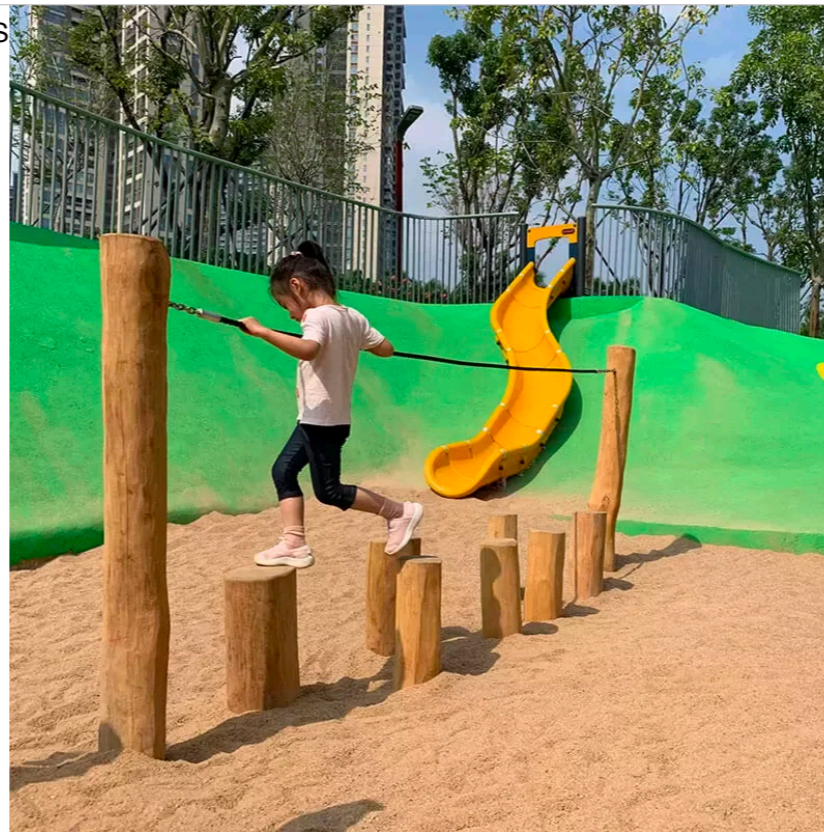
## Alternative Swings - Pendulum, SeeSaw or other swing: Would this add value to the park?

123 responses



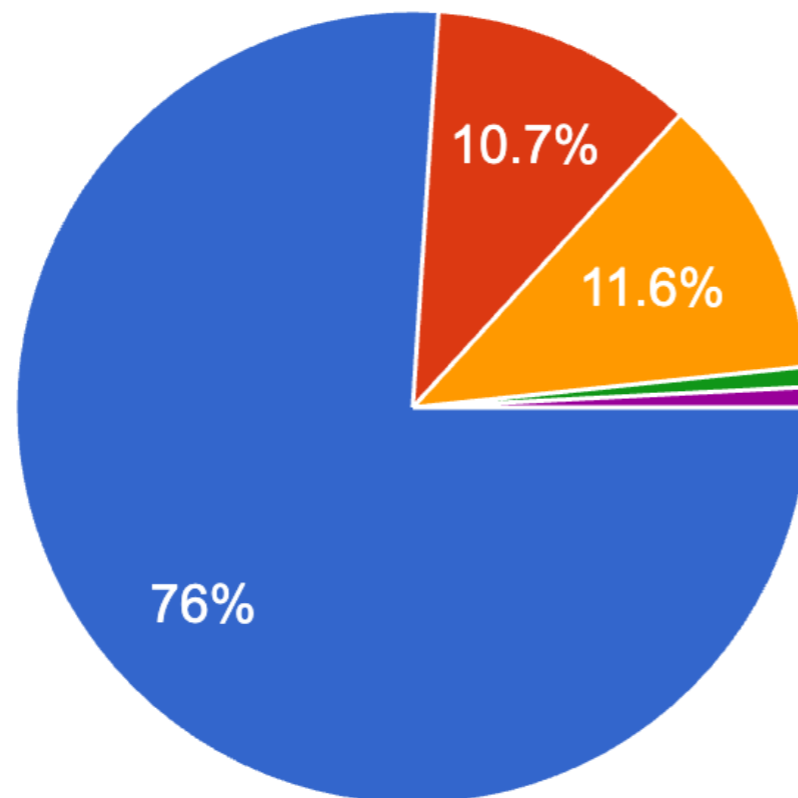
- Yes
- Yes and add even more
- No
- Looks great but I would not substitute...
- What is this? Interesting
- Yes! So long as there are plenty of sta...
- This is better than other swings.
- Maybe. One of the problems with the...

BALANCE FEATURES



## Tight Ropes: Would this add value to the park?

121 responses

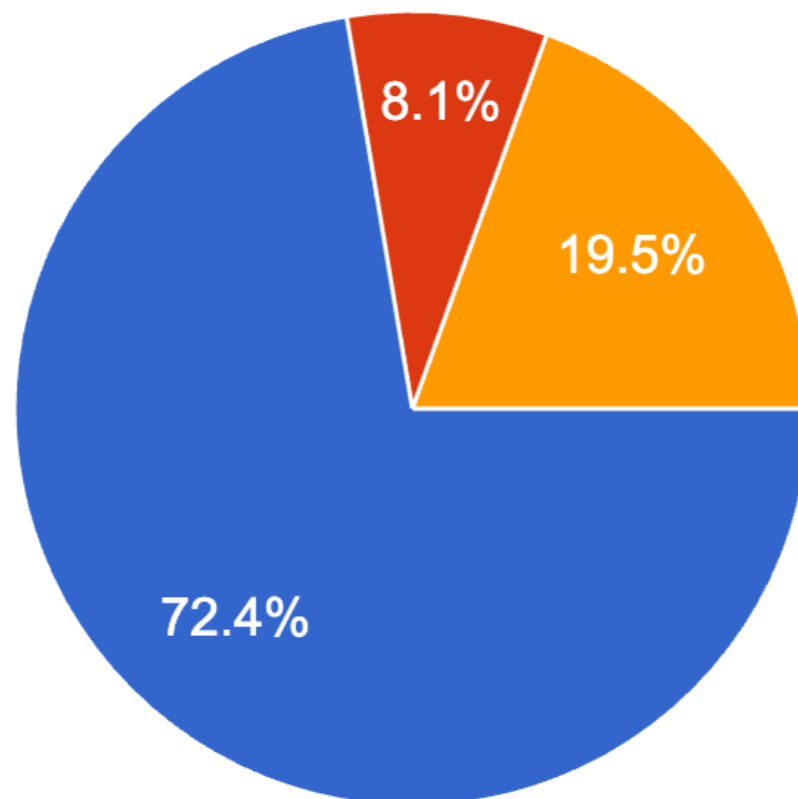


- Yes
- Yes and add even more
- No
- these are great
- I really love this!



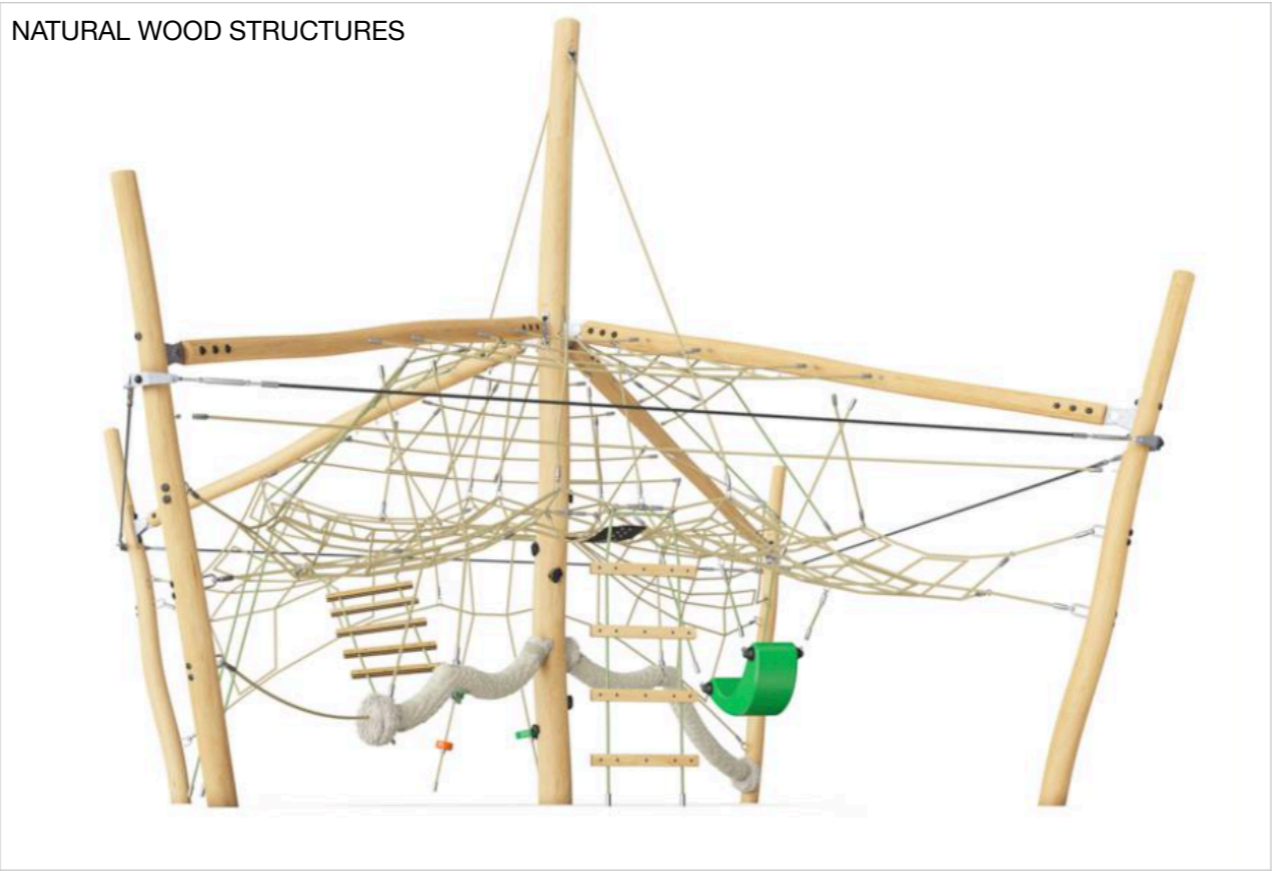
## Suspension Bridges: Would this add value to the park?

123 responses



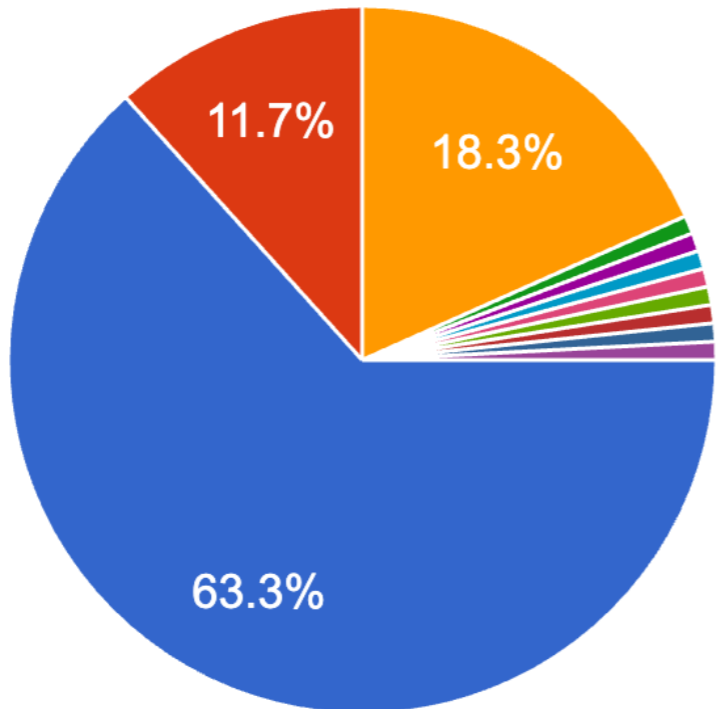
- Yes
- Yes and add even more
- No
- Other

NATURAL WOOD STRUCTURES



### Wood Climbing Structures: Would this add value to the park?

120 responses

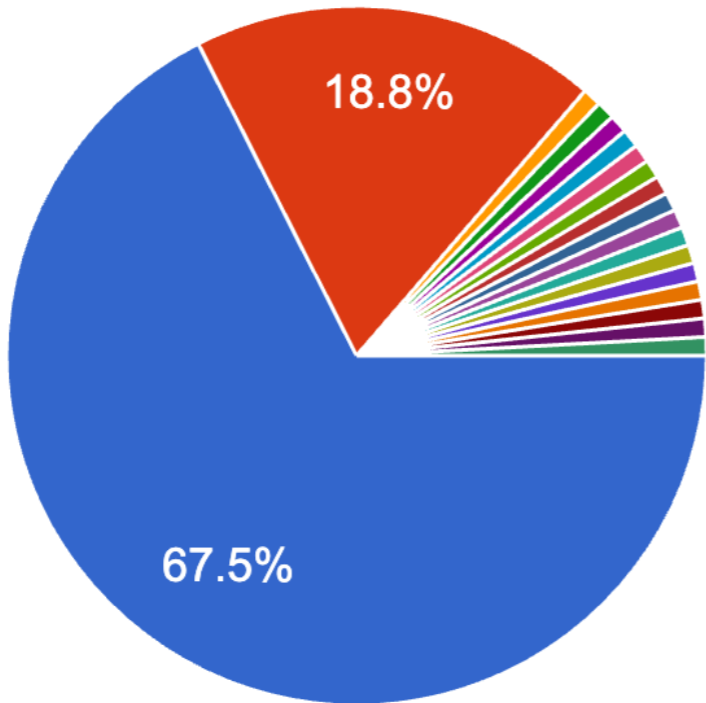


- Yes
- Yes and add even more
- No
- yes, a natural wood play area could b...
- I really like the idea of wood materials...
- This aesthetic is very nice.
- Indifferent on this one.
- maybe



### SAND or other Playground Surface: Would this add value to the park?

117 responses

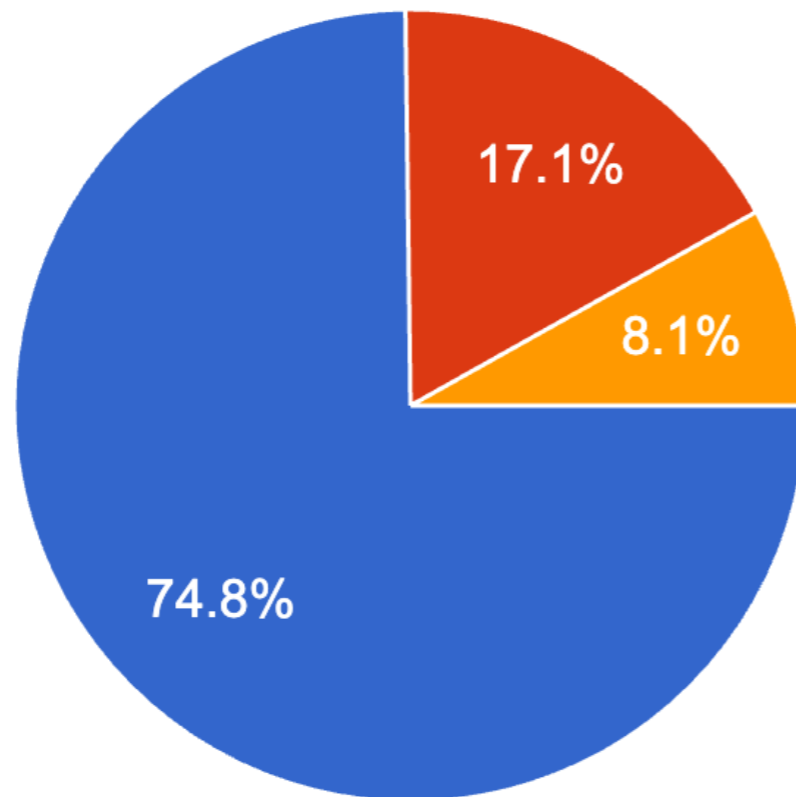


- Yes
- No
- i think you need both - sand area for p...
- some sand and some rubber for ADA
- Sand, the kids need natural sand/gras...
- Sand is great, but typically results in g...
- Sand
- Some areas of sand (excavator) ok bu...



## Trees & Other Plantings: Would this add value to the park?

123 responses



- Yes
- Yes and add even more
- No
- Other



Please add any Questions, Comments or Suggestions you might have

40 responses

Would love to see more natural oriented item. Love the mode to honor venice history and would love to see more of that. also honoring nature and the ocean. definitely want fencing around toddler areas so kids can't run out.

Security is a big concern at this playground. I've had multiple homeless people try to take my strollers. Previously there was not fenced in area for the playground. I think having a fully fenced area with multiple safety gates and safety signs with laws would be VITAL. See the pirate park as a reference for the double gates. I think you can make really cool fences and then use bushes / palm trees on the inside to further isolate from the area. There have also been many homeless people sleeping by the tennis walls right behind the park. Having as much fencing and cover from the outside should be a priority.

make sure to have shade; make it a unique Venice themed park!

I love the idea of integrating unique Venice culture into the playground, and also being sure to incorporate celebratory, colorful, fantastical structures that harken back to Venice's amusement-park history. Thank you!

water features and palm trees would be cool

It would be silly to add a sand box to a playground that is already near the largest sandbox one could ask for. Adding a sand box means kids will put sand on the slides and all the play feature, at best, and at worse, throw sand at each other (talking from experience). I also think that a water table is not necessary - we need to teach our kids to conserve water, not to play with it wastefully.

Shade covering like the boat park at the Santa Monica/venice border would be amazing

Please use trees to provide shade they're much better than tarps!

Make it clean and homeless free

Love the giant whale and giant octopus, how about a mini Venice sign too and other abbot Kinney inspiration

Shade (e.g. trees, sun shades) and safety/cleanliness (e.g. fence that is locked at night) are top priorities

Water features kids could play in

outdoor water kitchen

Shade, particularly natural shade from trees, would be AWESOME

Shaded area for caregivers to sit

Just please get this done quickly and at minimal expense. Climbing is good swings are good. What else do kids need that's about it maybe slides got it?

Amazing survey :) everything would be very fun for children

The climbing structures look amazing.

Shade areas

Please bring travelling rings to Venice!! Parkour, tight rope, muscle beach!!

This new playground needs plenty of shade, whether it's tree or other source, very hot in the summer

If I had to choose between the original renderings (circus theme) and these (aquatic life and still have very cool climbing features), it would be really tough! I like the theme of aquatic life over the theme of Venice being a circus, but man, those carousels and spheres are really cool and unique! It's going to be a win either way. Thanks for helping moving this along! Very excited!

Love it!

I much prefer recycled plastic - easier to clean, wears better at beach, doesn't splinter, etc.

Would the budget also include cleaner/safer restrooms

This survey is confusing. I'm not sure what the second option means and value is a truly subjective concept.

Trees and shade please!

I'm not sure of how much can fit but a family friendly, visitor and local friendly place to come to in mornings and weekends would be a great addition for all.

And identity extension for Venice. I'd love to see what's created as a destination like our boardwalk that locals and visitors want to come for specifically. Thats a total win!!!

Thank you!

Please make any. Planting native. Please provide shade

One of favorite features of the old park for older kids was the cross ladder bars. Kids always loved to try to make it all the way across without falling. It was a coming of age thing when they could finally make it!

Please please lots of shade and consider effect of sun on materials (hot surfaces)

Zip lines are fun at playground or tire swing zip lines, sand is a must at the beach playground as well as slides and swings.

We loved having sand

palms are already there. sand is already there. rebuilt it fast please for the kids thank you

Some shade would be great too. Txs for this survey.

I stress some sort of retractable shade solution because kids love to take shoes off and the heat and sand would make it tough to enjoy! Water tables are great!

Please use as much wood and natural materials as possible, we like the squishy ground material that's used at North Beach playground - please no sand or wood chips

Mural art - I can help with this - i am a muralist

Keep it simple. Don't try to overdue it. I highly recommend a survey to local parent asking to rank their kids favorite playground from there pull inspiration from those. My top 3 - 1) marine park 2) rose ave 3) penmar