

A young child wearing a blue sun hat and a woman smiling as they play in a shallow stream. The child is reaching out with their hands in the water, and the woman is leaning over the stream, also with her hands in the water. The background shows a wooded area with trees and a path.

Oxley Creek Social Values Survey 2025 Results

Brisbane Sustainability Agency Pty Ltd

A decorative graphic of a green leaf with a small plant growing from it, located in the bottom left corner of the page.

BRISBANE
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Oxley Creek 2025 Social Values Survey Results

Background & purpose

When people value a place, they are more likely to care for and protect it. Therefore, understanding how communities perceive and value their local waterways gives an insight into how likely people are to use and look after them. The way that communities value waterways is directly related to the perception of waterway cleanliness and health as well as the ability to use and safely access the waterway corridor for walking, cycling, picnicking and water-based recreation.

The purpose of the social values survey is to gain an understanding of the value that the local community (residents and workers) and visitors place on the waterways and surrounding green open spaces within the Oxley Creek corridor.

Annual surveys have been undertaken since 2021 to assist in measuring and tracking the changes in how people use and value the Oxley Creek corridor over time. Where significant differences between results across the years were identified, they have been highlighted within this summary.

The target audience for the 2025 survey were members of the local community, both residents and businesses, as well as regional visitors. The survey was open to the public for responses from 12 September 2025 to 21 November 2025.

Over 2025, the Oxley Creek Transformation (OCT) program made significant progress. The program commenced key initiatives, including the Archerfield Wetlands Habitat Transformation Project, the Cat's Claw Creeper Eradication Project (with a biocontrol facility) and the Graceville Riverside Parklands Revitalisation Project. The OCT team continued community engagement including through birdwatching walks and planting events.

Promotion of survey

Method	Result
Electronic Direct Mail to Oxley Creek Transformation Social Survey respondents from the previous year, 2024 (327 subscribers)	Average open rate of 24.8%
Feature in three of the Brisbane Sustainability Agency's Live for Less Newsletter (residential audience of 31k)	18 clicks across the 1 newsletter
Promotional signs (located at Graceville Riverside Parklands, Oxley Creek Common, Archerfield Wetlands Discovery Trail, Archerfield Wetlands District Park, Warril Parkland, Cliveden Pocket, Norma Crocker Park, Paradise Lakes)	90 responses
In-person event: Plantapalooza - 11 October 2025	13 responses
Promotion through Oxley Creek Catchment Association	Reach unknown – shared via Facebook and in newsletter
Promotion through local ward office (Moorooka)	Reach unknown

Respondent Profile

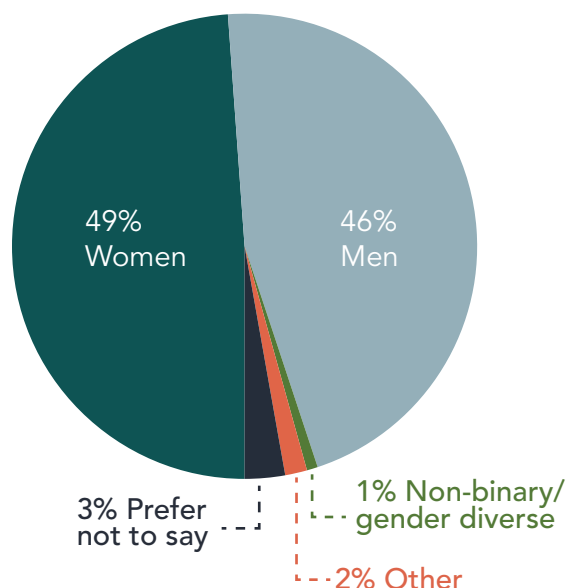
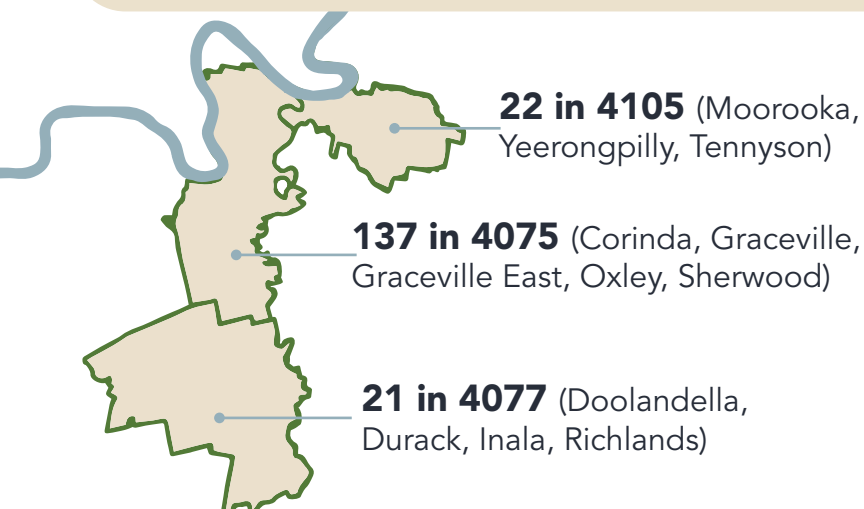
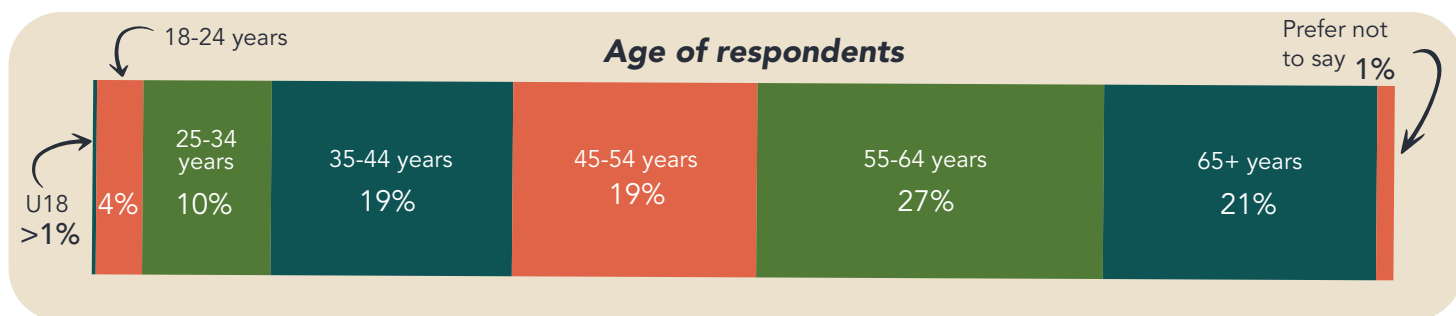
449 individual responses

560 in 2024, 577 in 2023 and 615 in 2022

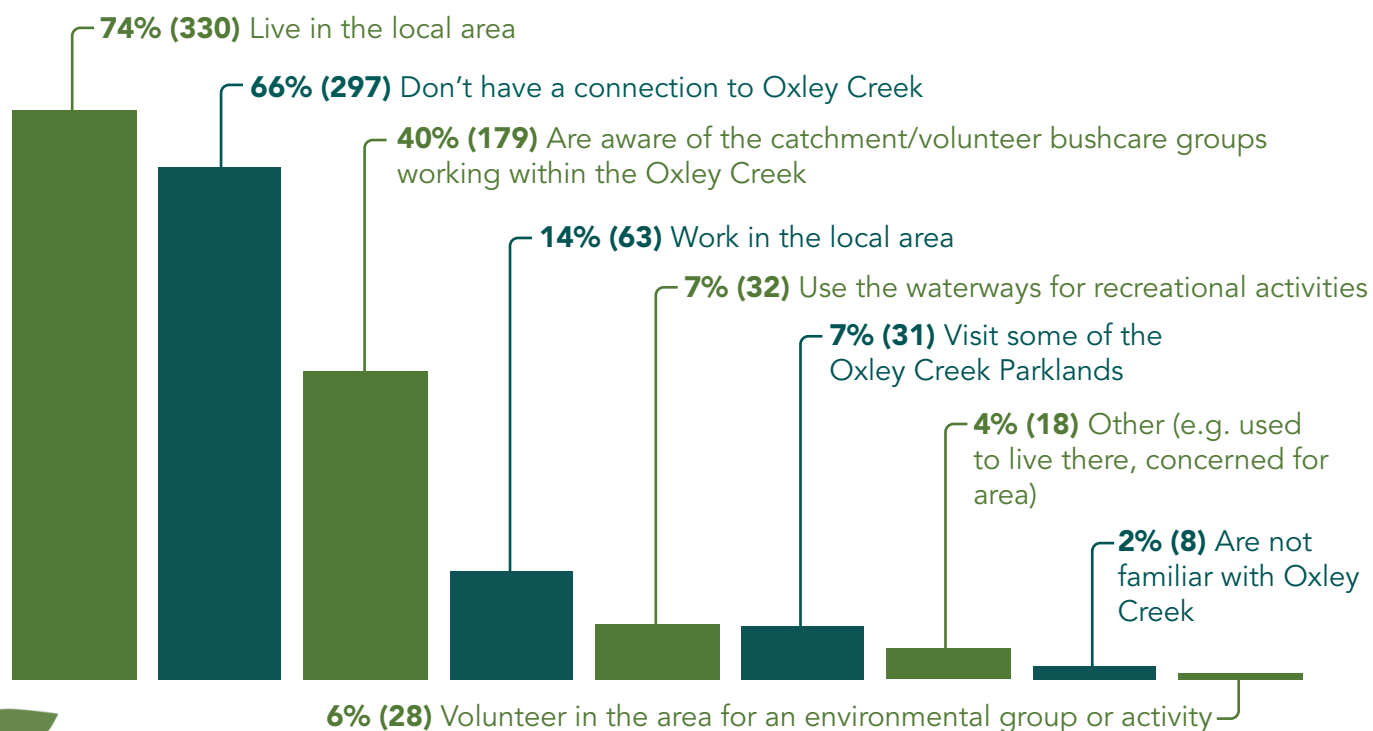
59%

of respondents had heard of the Oxley Creek Transformation project and/or its priority projects

63% in 2024, 73% in 2023 and 86% in 2022



Connection to the area

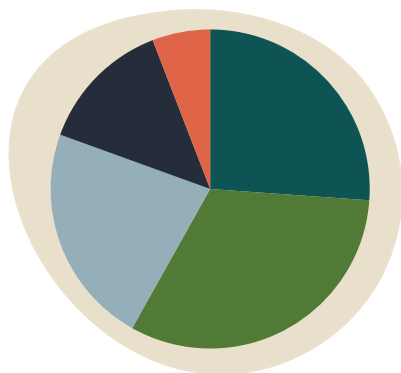


Visiting Oxley Creek

The following responses are from respondents who had visited Oxley Creek in the past 12 months

Frequency of visits

84% of the respondents had visited Oxley Creek in the past 12 months, of which:



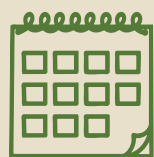
- 32% visited at least monthly
- 26% at least weekly
- 22% visited every three months
- 14% visited every six months
- 6% visited once a year

83%



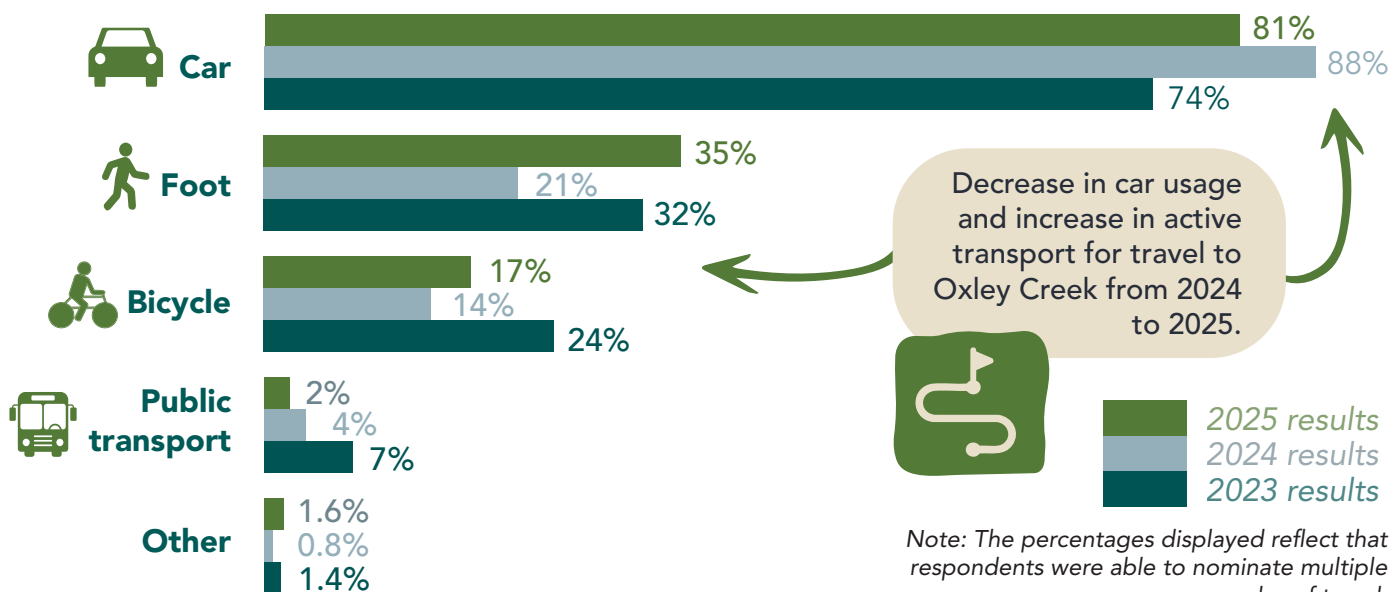
would like to visit/use Oxley Creek more often.

Weekly and monthly visits to Oxley Creek increased in



2025

How people travel to Oxley Creek



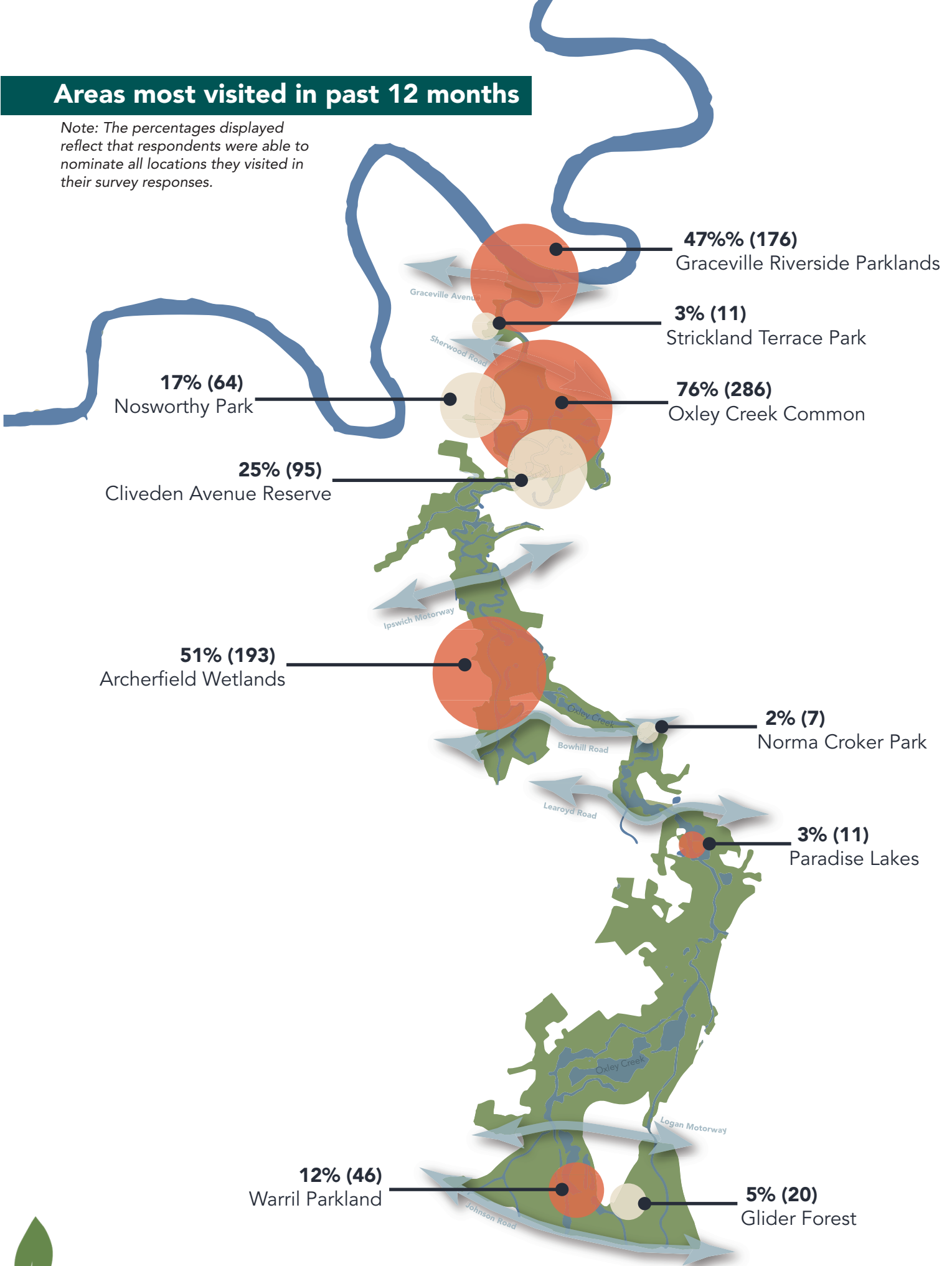
Most common activities undertaken



Note: The percentages displayed reflect that respondents were able to nominate multiple activities.

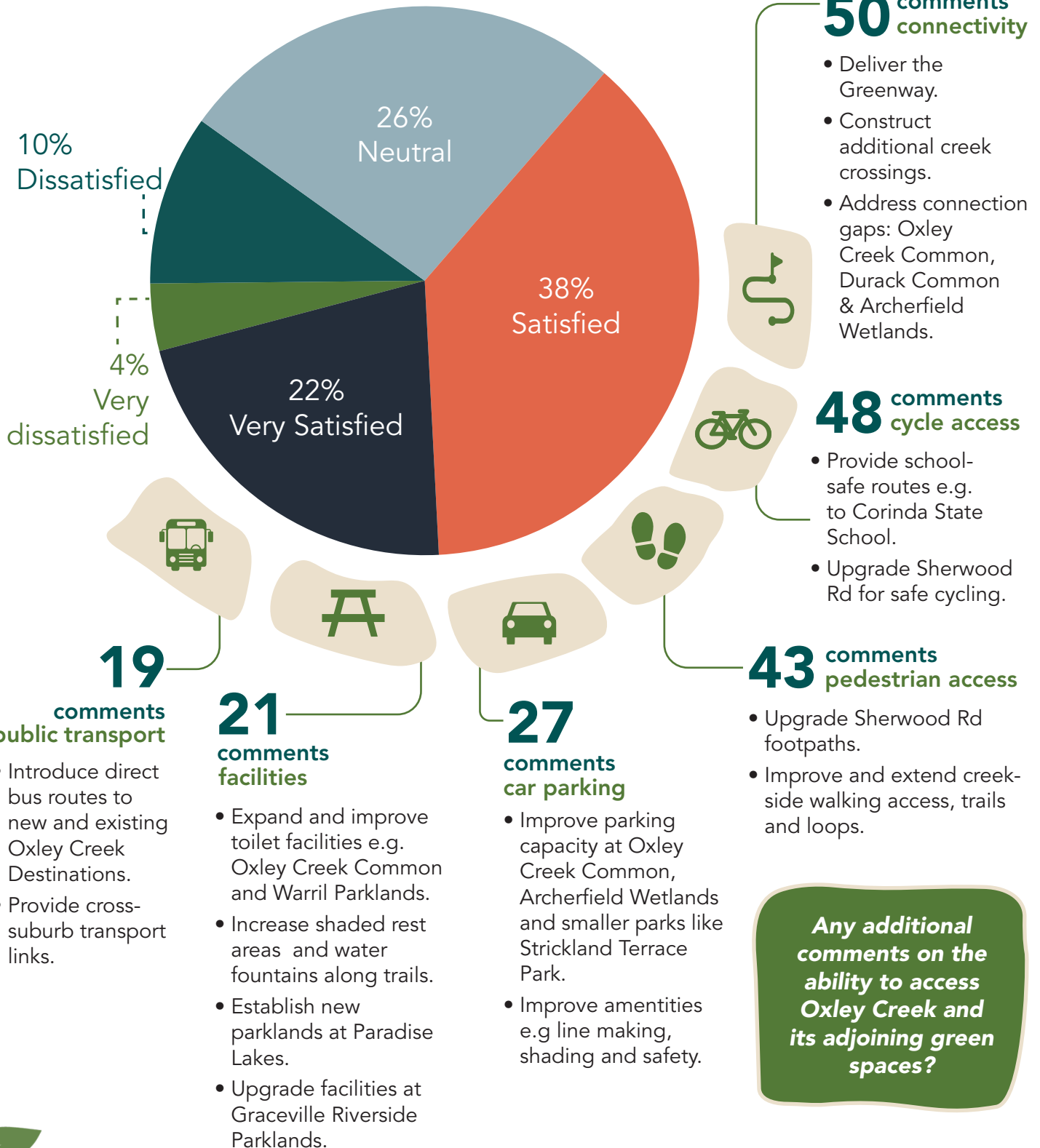
Areas most visited in past 12 months

Note: The percentages displayed reflect that respondents were able to nominate all locations they visited in their survey responses.



Satisfaction with ability to access Oxley Creek

60% of respondents who had visited Oxley Creek in the last 12 months were either satisfied or very satisfied with their ability to access the Oxley Creek parkland corridor. *Compared to 73% in 2024.*



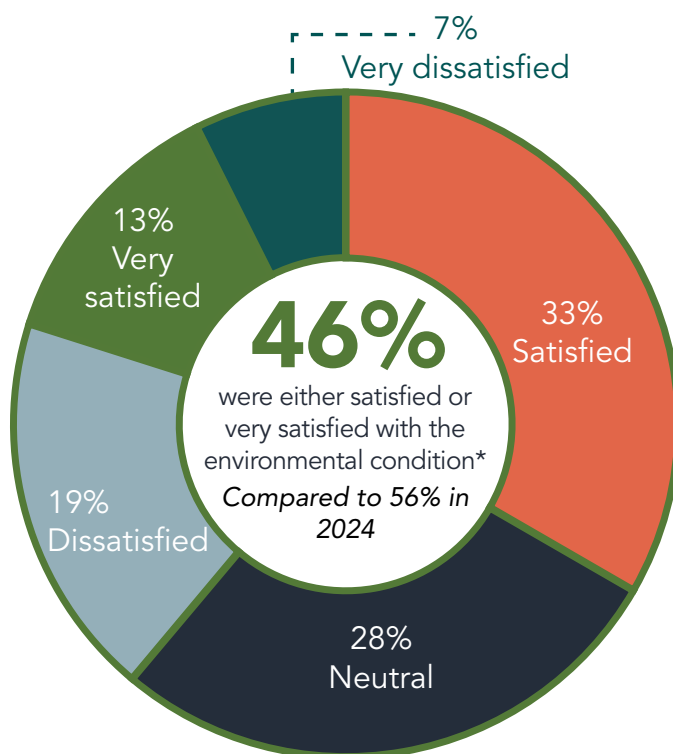
Satisfaction with overall environmental condition of Oxley Creek

Any additional comments on the overall condition of Oxley Creek?



45 comments water quality & pollution

- Reduce pollution from surrounding land uses, industrial and agricultural sources.
- Improve overall water quality to enable safe recreational use, addressing widespread perceptions of unsafe conditions.
- Strengthen monitoring, transparency and event response, including clearer public reporting and managing contamination spikes after rainfall and flooding events.



*Who had visited Oxley Creek in the past 12 months at the time of survey.

29 comments positive feedback



- Recognition of dedicated volunteer and community group contributions maintaining and improving natural areas.
- Acknowledgement of visible progress and expanding vegetation coverage.

24 comments invasive weeds



- Target specific high-risk invasive species (e.g. Tobbaco bush, asparagus fern) with coordinated and sustained removal strategies.
- Improve management of overgrown grasses and aquatic weeds, particularly in waterways and access areas.
- Increase resourcing of weed management, reducing reliance on volunteers to address widespread infestations.



29 comments gross pollutants

- Implement coordinated litter and debris management in waterways, including removal of floating and stormwater-driven waste.
- Increase waste infrastructure and access (e.g. more general and recycling bins at Oxley Creek Common).
- Target illegal dumping and industrial waste sources, with enforcement in known hotspots (e.g. Bowhill Rd, Willawong floodplain, creek-adjacent businesses).



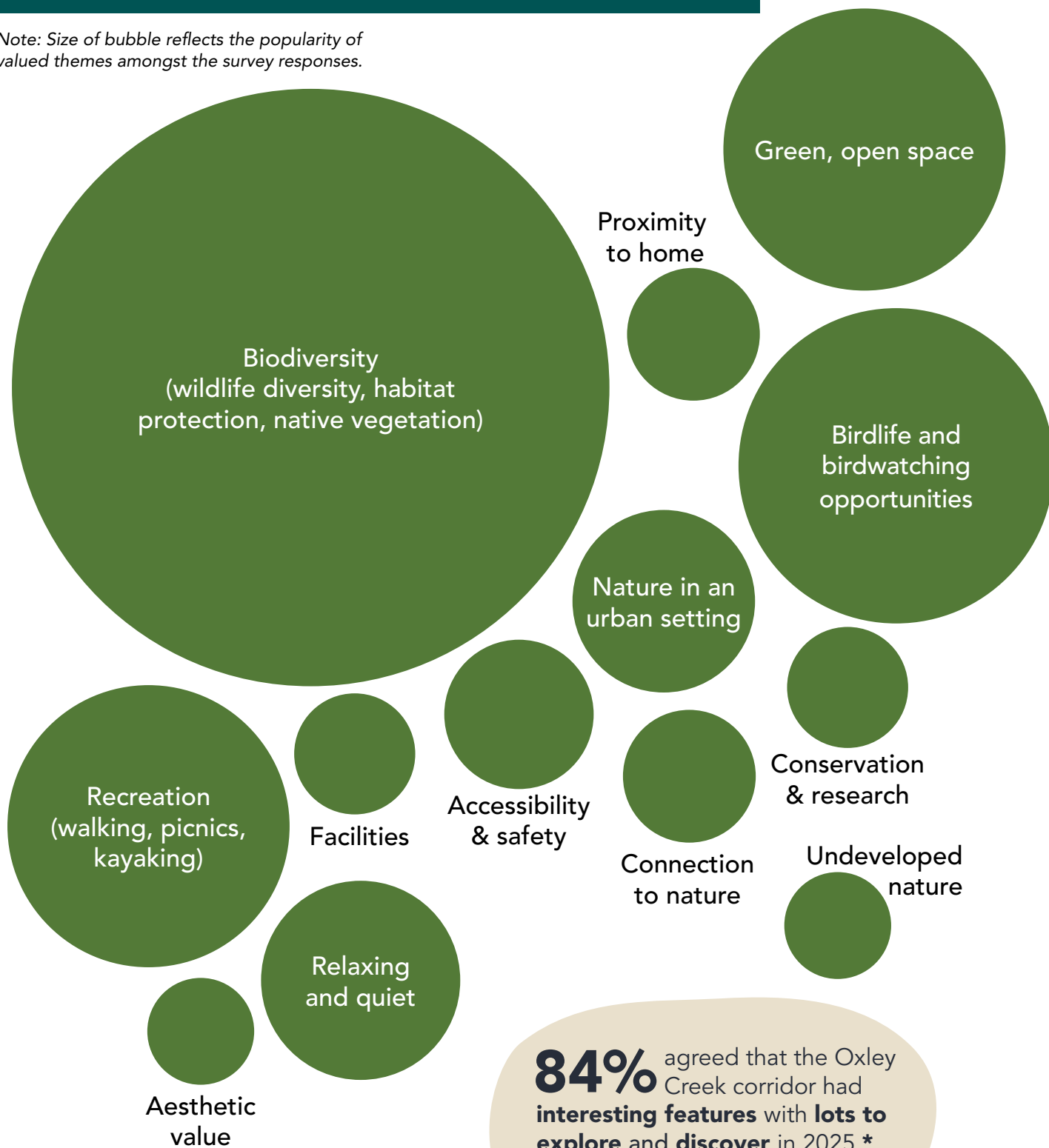
10 comments revegetation

- Increase native tree planting for shade along paths/walks.
- Expand diversity of native species and planting structure.
- Strengthen vegetation coverage across creek corridors and adjoining parklands.

Most-valued aspects of Oxley Creek

Of the respondents who had visited Oxley Creek in the last 12 months, 269 individual responses were provided to the question “**what do you value most about Oxley Creek?**” The most common themes included:

Note: Size of bubble reflects the popularity of valued themes amongst the survey responses.



84% agreed that the Oxley Creek corridor had **interesting features** with **lots to explore** and **discover** in 2025.*

*Respondents who had visited Oxley Creek within the past 12 months.



"What do you value most about Oxley Creek?"

The highest value of Oxley Creek is it's birdlife and proximity to the city.

It is a system, that although heavily disturbed, has provided First Nation peoples with life, meaning and connection to source. We need with urgency to foster this care & connection with 'new' custodians...

The ability to provide on water experiences for people with a disability.

The access to the wildlife and well maintained nature reserve for walking and running. Also provides for good community connection.

The remnant natural bushland and a chance to get away from traffic and buildings.

Simply the natural beauty that is available to us as locals to spend time in.

The conservation groups such as OCCA creating opportunities for people of all ages to take part in conservation activities and get outdoors.

The habitat it provides for a diverse range of species... the dedication of OCCA and many bushcare and environmental groups to caring for the creek.

Love being able to do a regular walk with the dog to the nearest bits of the creek and venture a bit further afield with the car when we feel like a change of scene!

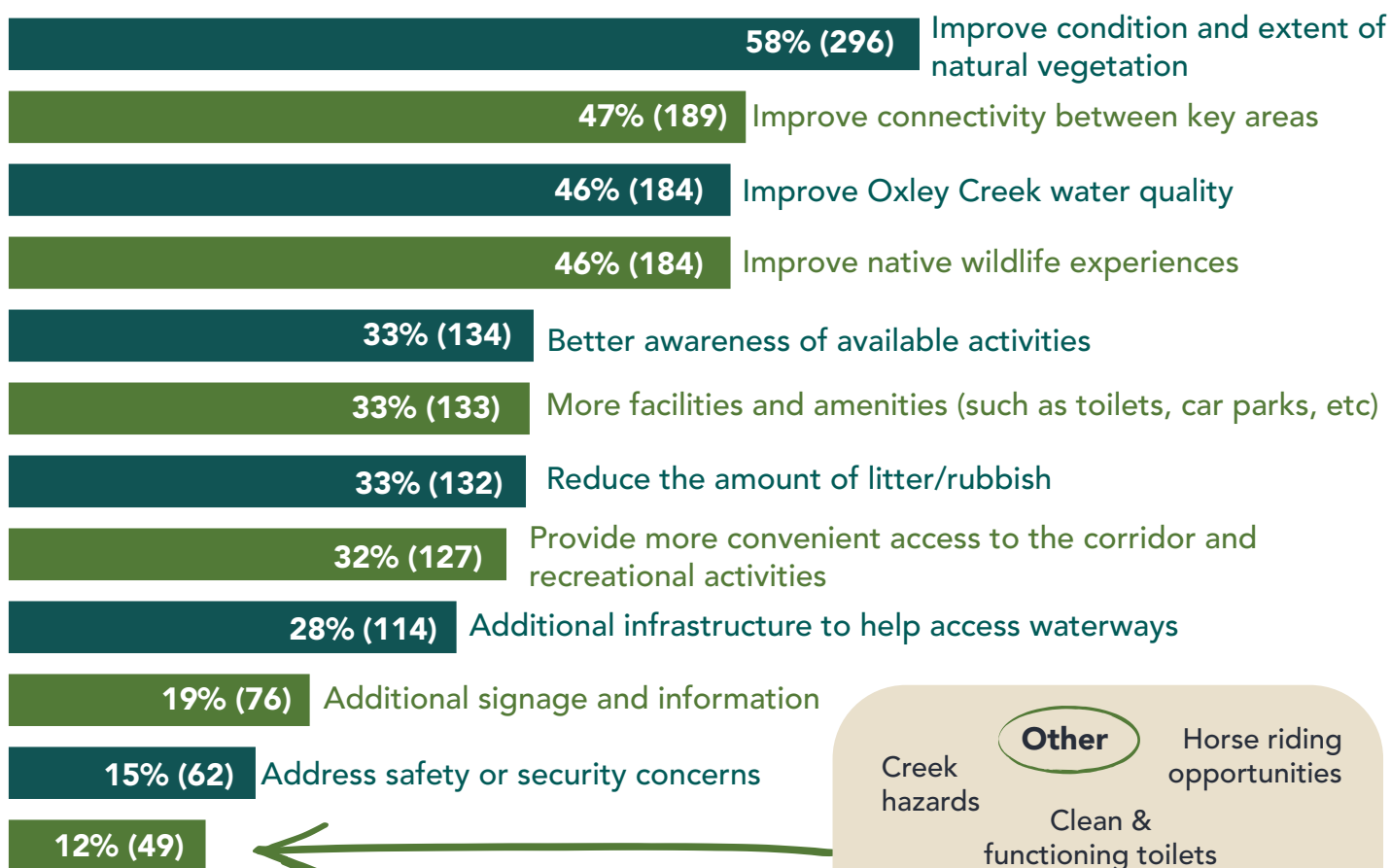
The effort volunteers put in.

A large interconnected series of parks, walks and infrastructure which keeps nature alive, accessible and enjoyable.

Slowly but surely this highly degraded land is showing signs of recovery.

It's a beautiful accessible local place to connect with nature! It brings our neighbourhood together as a community. Our kids adore the Green space for kayaking and fishing and we would love more accessibility and connection!

Ways of improving & increasing usage of Oxley Creek

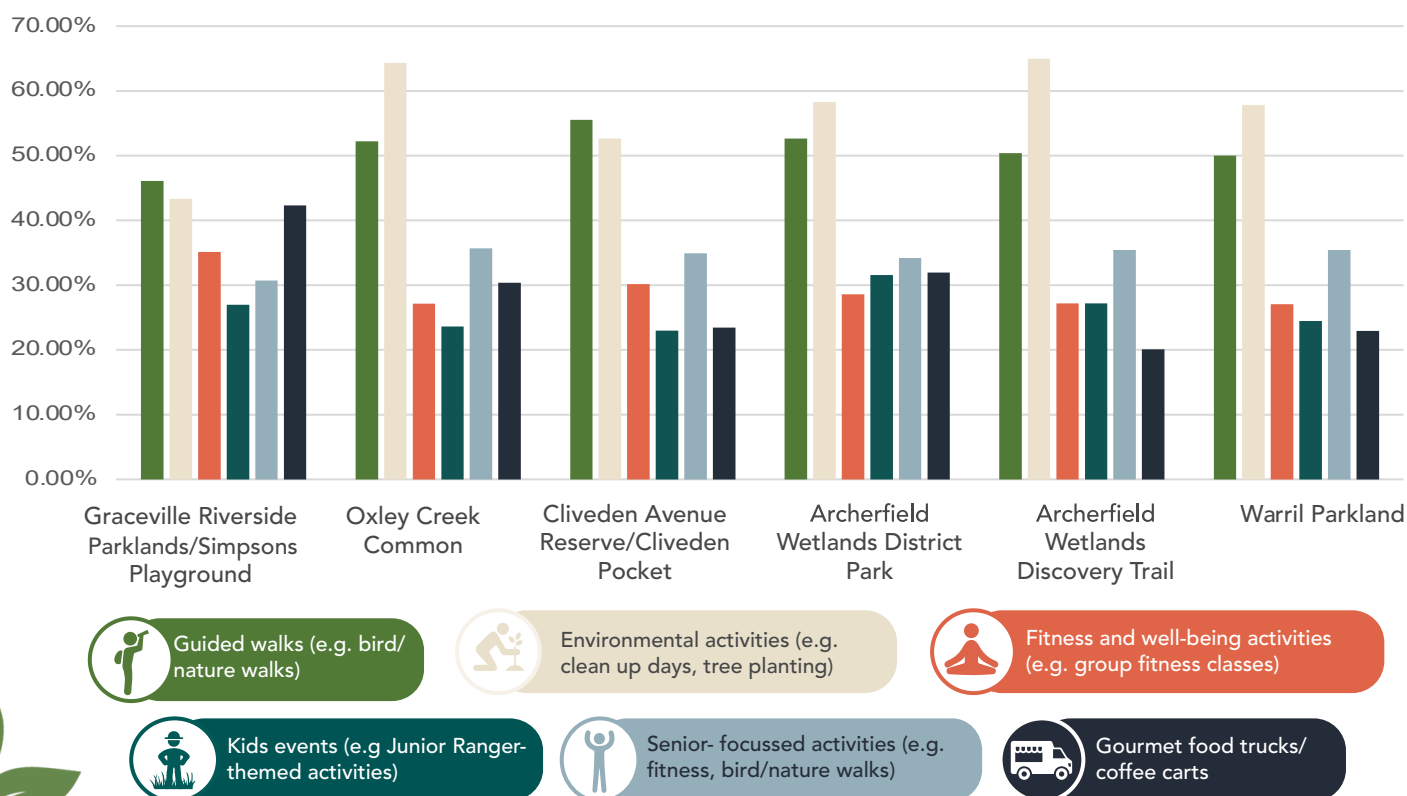


To note: The percentages displayed reflect that respondents were able to nominate multiple improvement ideas.

Other

- Creek hazards
- Less traffic & disturbances
- Horse riding opportunities
- Clean & functioning toilets
- Public transport

Preferred activities and locations along Oxley Creek



Note: The percentages displayed reflect that respondents were able to select multiple activities.

158 individual responses were provided to the question **“Do you have any other general comments relating to Oxley Creek?”** (how your use and experience could be improved and areas you would like to be able to visit but are currently unable to). The most common themes provided within the responses were:

Connectivity & pathways

53

comments



- Calls for longer routes, including loops and extensions, to replace short out and back paths e.g. Oxley Creek Common and Archerfield Wetlands District Trail.
- Support for completing the Greenway so the corridor works end to end for cycling.
- Clear demand for well designed paths that are safe and separated where needed.
- Paths requested immediately adjacent to the waterways.

Facilities & recreational opportunities

37

comments



- Concerns around the poor condition, maintenance and availability of some facilities. E.g. Graceville Riverside Parklands playground, toilets at Oxley Creek Common and Warril Parkland.
- Increase number of drinking fountains and shade at Archerfield Wetlands discovery trail.
- Support for upgrading water based infrastructure e.g. pontoons and ramps.
- Request for exercise equipment, off-leash dog parks, shaded seating and picnic spaces.

Biodiversity & habitat health

23

comments



- Improve habitat condition; clean waterways, habitat boxes and wetland management to support birds, fish, insects and other wildlife.
- Calls for ongoing weed management rather than one-off treatments.
- Increase vegetation with native shrubs and wetlands plants following weed removal to support habitat recovery.

Visitor information

14

comments



- Clearer promotion about points of interest & parks.
- Improve signage: maps and clearer identification of facilities.
- Increase interpretive information opportunities.

Other

13

comments

- Enthusiasm for Oxley Creek Transformation Projects.
- Safety concerns for those in isolated areas and watercraft users.

Pollution & water quality

17

comments



- Ongoing concerns about pollution and rubbish in the creek, including sewage, runoff and dumping.
- Calls for stronger recreational monitoring and accountability for polluters.

Access

11

comments



Barriers to waterway access, limited public transport access, insufficient parking and mobility-aid infrastructure.

Limit development

10

comments



Positive feedback

7

comments