Gregoire Lake Estates Community Gathering Space

What We Heard Report

September 21, 2026

Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo

We humbly acknowledge that the land on which we live, learn, work and play is Treaty 8 Territory, the traditional lands of the Cree, Dene, and the unceded territory of the Métis.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Public engagement on a potential community gathering space near Gregoire Lake Estates took place from Aug. 19 to Sept. 18, 2026. Residents and community members were invited to share their thoughts on a potential passive-use space for walking, relaxing, enjoying nature and gathering.

Engagement included online and paper surveys, with **242 surveys**, **46 Quick Poll responses** and **46 Dotmocracy responses** received. The in-person community event had approximately **65 attendees**.

Feedback will be reviewed and considered as options for the space are explored. Project information and engagement findings will be presented to Council in the coming weeks to support consideration of the project's viability and whether it should move forward.



PARTICIPANTS

Who did we talk to?

All RMWB residents

Residents of:

- Gregoire Lake Estates
- Anzac



ENGAGEMENT IN NUMBERS

aware

ways people saw communications and advertisements.

- Mailout to Anzac and GLE residents
- Rural newsletter
- Community portable sign
- RRC screens in Anzac
- Participate newsletter
- Social media
- Meta ads

ENGAGEMENT IN NUMBERS

engaged 

Times people took action to provide feedback

242	Surveys (paper and online)
46	Quick poll responses
46	Dotmocracy dots
1	In-person engagement events in each community with approx. total of 65 attendees

OVERALL KEY FINDINGS/THEMES

1. A new community space is not supported by GLE residents

- When asked about potential amenities for the community gathering space in the survey, opposition to the project was mentioned 83 times out of 105 responses.
- 82.88% of Gregoire Lake Estates residents and 53.09% of all survey responses indicate they are *very opposed* to the idea of a community gathering space near the community.
- Attendees of the in-person event noted that existing lake-access spaces were identified as meeting community needs, with suggestions to improve or expand access to these spaces rather than develop a new one.
- 50% of Quick Poll responses showed *low support* a community gathering space near Gregoire Lake Estates that's open to all residents

2. Considerations of community safety, privacy and environment

- Concerns about disruption to the community, increased traffic, privacy and the environment were mentioned 53 times in open-ended survey questions.
- During in-person conversations, Gregoire Lake Estates residents expressed concerns about safety, noise, disruption and trespassing from increased use by visitors to the area.

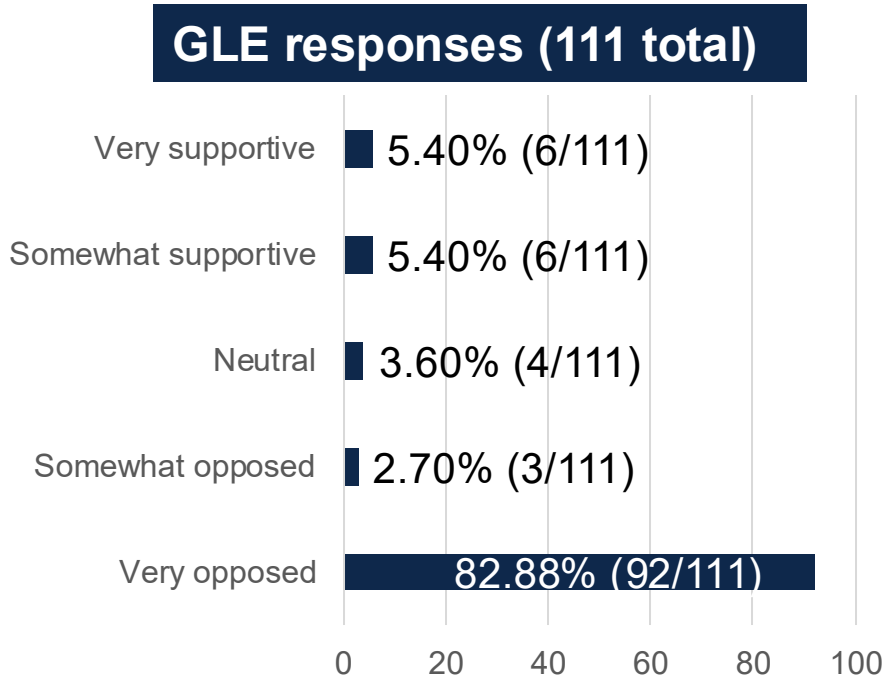
OVERALL KEY FINDINGS/THEMES

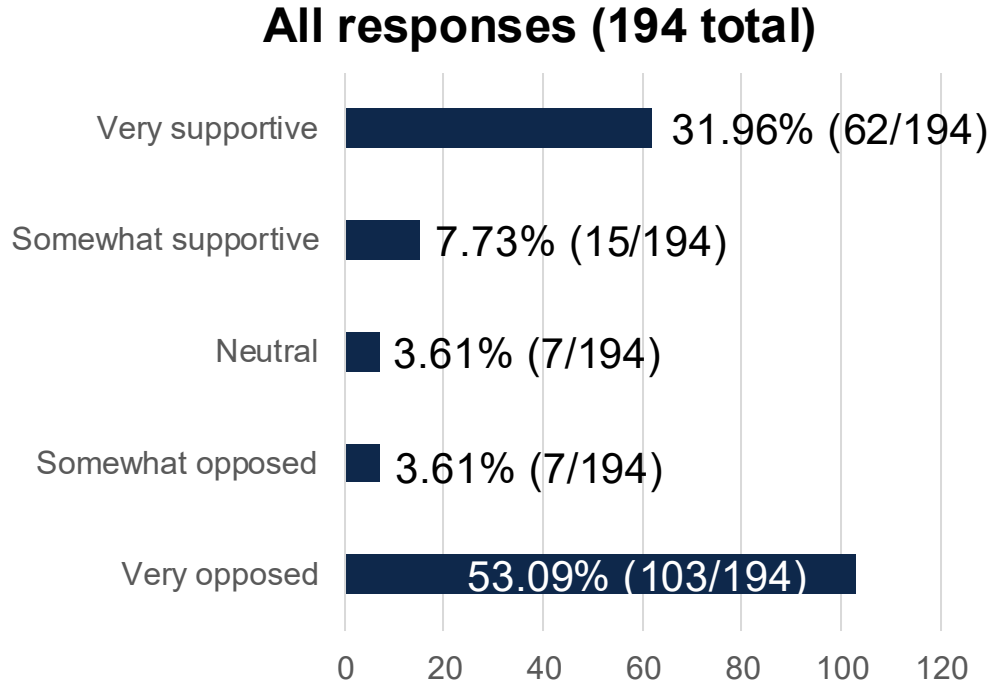
3. Support for the community space and ideas for its use

- 31.96% of all survey respondents and 5.40% of Gregoire Lake Estates residents indicate they are *very supportive* of a community space near Gregoire Lake Estates.
- 47.83% of Quick Poll respondents indicate their *high support* of a community gathering space near Gregoire Lake Estates.
- Open-ended survey responses, include 21 mentions of support for the project with suggested amenities for the space, including waterfront access, a boat launch, washrooms, a children's play area, fishing, swimming and a path to the provincial park.

SURVEY

Q5 – How would you feel about a community gathering space near Gregoire Lake Estates that is open to all residents?





NEXT STEPS

- Feedback will be considered as the project is further explored and developed.
- The project details and public engagement findings will be presented to Council in the coming weeks.
- This What We Heard Report will be shared with residents, Administration and Council to provide a summary of the feedback received.
- To receive updates on the project, visit rmwb.ca/GLECommunitySpace and click +Follow.



Thank You

For more information on this report email **participate@rmwb.ca**.

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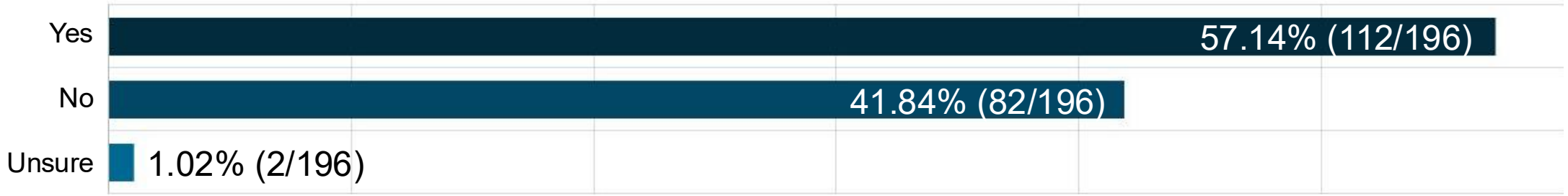
Appendix A
Survey Responses

(196 Total responses
112 participants indicated they live in GLE)

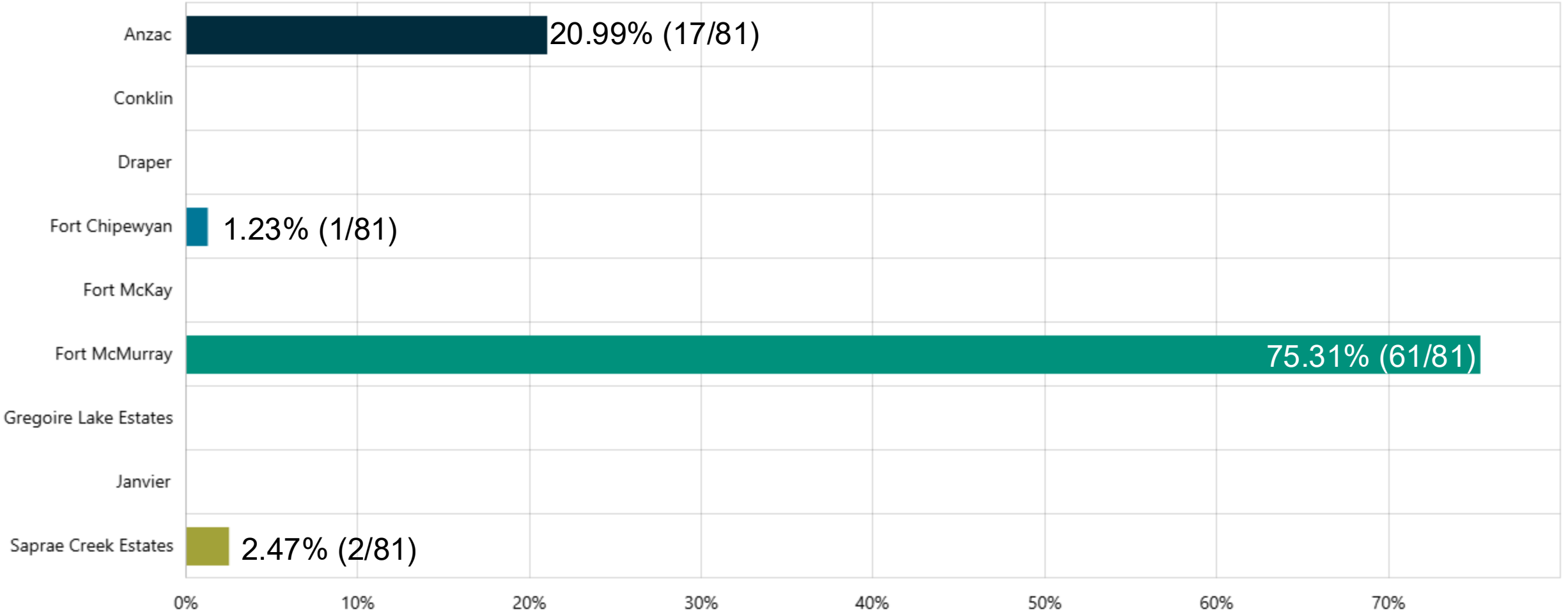
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SURVEY

Q1 – Are you a resident of Gregoire Lake Estates?
(196 responses)



Q2 – What community do you live in? (81 responses)



Q3 – What types of passive-use amenities would you like a community gathering space to include? (Select all that apply)

	GLE responses only (112 total)	All responses (195 total)
Benches, picnic tables or seating areas	**13.39% (15/112)**	**39.48% (77/195)**
Walking paths or trails	**13.39% (15/112)**	**37.44% (73/195)**
Gazebos or shade structures	**14.28% (16/112)**	**33.85% (66/195)**
Open green space	**8.9% (10/112)**	**26.67% (52/195)**
Natural landscaping	**8.03% (9/112)**	**24.62% (48/195)**
Fire pits	**10.71% (12/112)**	**28.21% (55/195)**
Public art	**2.67% (3/112)**	**11.28% (105/195)**
Waterfront access for viewing or relaxing	**12.50% (14/112)**	**42.05% (82/195)**
Other	**75.89% (85/112)**	**53.85% (105/195)**

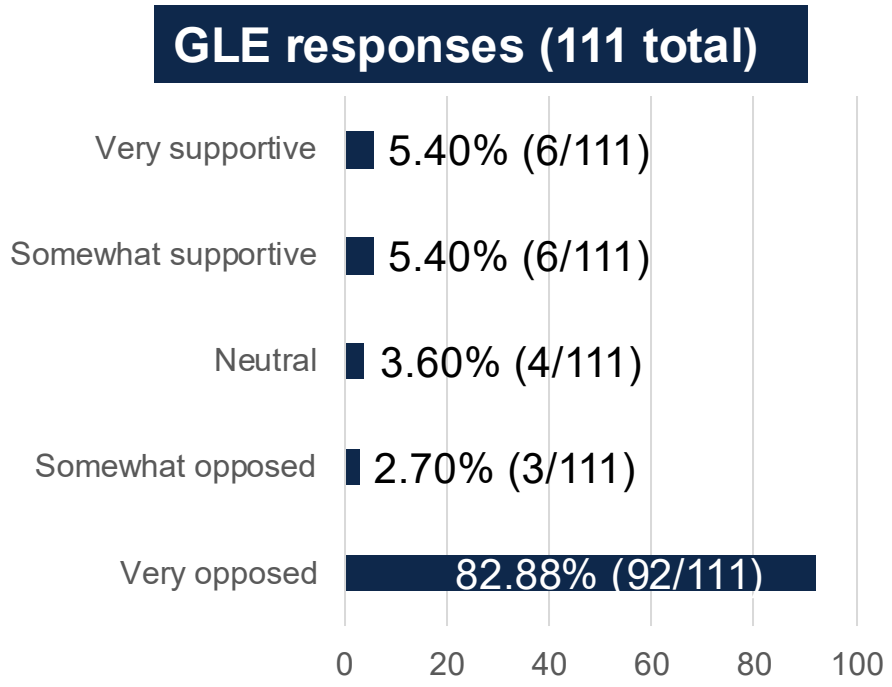
Themes from 105 "other" comments:

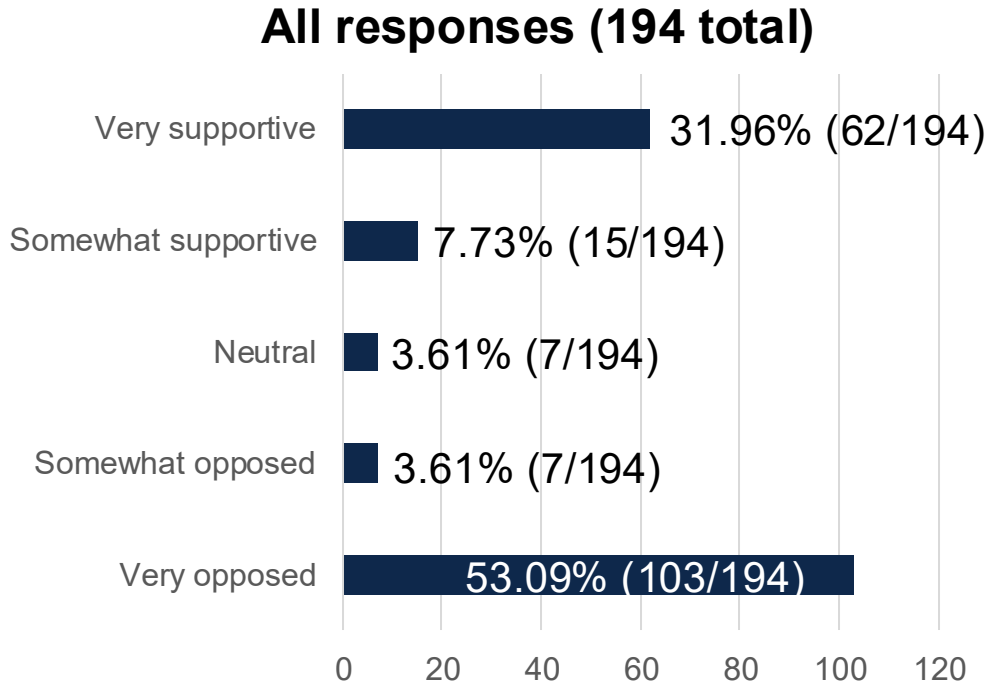
- **Opposition to the project:**
  - None, do not agree, nothing, we do not need another community space, this is a firebreak, protect the wildlife, **(mentioned 83 times)**
- **Support of the project:**
  - Add a boat launch, flush toilets, open to all residents, waterfront access, kids play area, fishing, swimming, path to the provincial park **(mentioned 18 times)**
- **Unsure:**
  - N/A **(mentioned 4 times)**

Q4 – Would you like a dock with waterfront access?

	GLE responses only (112 total)	All responses (196 total)
Yes	**11.60% (13/112)**	**37.76% (74/196)**
No	**81.25% (91/112)**	**54.59% (107/196)**
Unsure	**7.14% (8/112)**	**7.65% (15/196)**

Q5 – How would you feel about a community gathering space near Gregoire Lake Estates that is open to all residents?





Q6 – Do you have any other information or comments to share the development of a community gathering space in Gregoire Lake Estates?

(126 responses) **Top themes from long answer responses:**

Existing recreation meets community needs (mentioned 71 times)

Participants quotes:

- *These suggestions of proposed additions already exist, and I feel there is no need for additional type amenities in the neighbourhood. – GLE resident*
- *We have 3 gathering spaces already. We have lots already! – GLE resident*
- *There are many public areas on the lake. Community members live here for the quiet country life. This will increase traffic in the area. Who will be responsible for cleaning the public area? – GLE resident*

Q6 Cont'd – Do you have any other information or comments to share the development of a community gathering space in Gregoire Lake Estates?

(126 responses) **Top themes from long answer responses:**

Concerns about disruption to community, safety, privacy and the environment (mentioned 53 times)

Participants quotes:

- *I am opposed to this project. You will be ruining a beautiful, natural space & disrupting the wildlife there. – GLE resident*
- *Definite NO for this. It will negatively impact GLE community as far as safety and privacy. – GLE resident*

Q6 Cont'd – Do you have any other information or comments to share the development of a community gathering space in Gregoire Lake Estates?

(126 responses) **Top themes from long answer responses:**

Support for a community space and ideas for its use (mentioned 21 times)

Participants quotes:

- *I think this is a great idea!! The more spaces around this lake the better as it is close to Fort McMurray and lots of people gather around the lake in the summer, having another space is absolutely essential. – Anzac resident*

- *Waterfront community gathering spaces create welcoming places for residents to connect, gather and participate in community life while making use of a community's natural assets. They can strengthen community identity and provide accessible spaces for recreation, events, cultural activities and informal gatherings. – Fort McMurray resident*

Q6 Cont'd – Do you have any other information or comments to share the development of a community gathering space in Gregoire Lake Estates?

(126 responses) **Top themes from long answer responses:**

Other considerations:

- Concerns about cost (mentioned 11 times)
- The space should be for GLE residents only – no public access (mentioned 6 times)
- Open easements as walking paths to the community and the waterfront (mentioned 3 times)
- Work with the province to improve Gregoire Lake Provincial Park (mentioned 2 times)

Participants quotes:

- *The only way I would be on board with any development is if the space is strictly only for current residents of Gregoire Lake Estates. Absolutely no public use. Otherwise. Leave the land alone. We all enjoy it undisturbed as it is. – GLE resident*

- *Open up all 5 easements as walking paths from community to lake waterfront. – GLE resident*

Appendix B

Community Open House

(65 attendees)

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IN-PERSON EVENT

Where: Anzac, Gregoire Lake Estates
When: Sept. 16 at the Anzac Recreation Centre
Participation: 65 residents

How we engaged

The community engagement was held in an open-house format, beginning with a welcome/blessing from an Elder followed by a community meal. Residents could move between several topics to learn more, ask questions, speak directly with staff and provide feedback.

Summary of Conversations

- Concerns that the proposed space could lead to trespassing on nearby properties.
- Residents indicated they do not support or want the proposed community space.
- Concerns that attracting people from outside the community could result in increased noise and disruption.
- Feedback that the opinions of Gregoire Lake Estates residents should be prioritized when decisions are made about a space located within their community.
- Residents noted that existing lake-access community spaces are already available, including the Anzac Day Use Area and Camp Yogi.
- Suggestions to enhance or expand access to existing spaces, such as making Camp Yogi available for broader regional use, rather than developing a new community space.

Appendix C

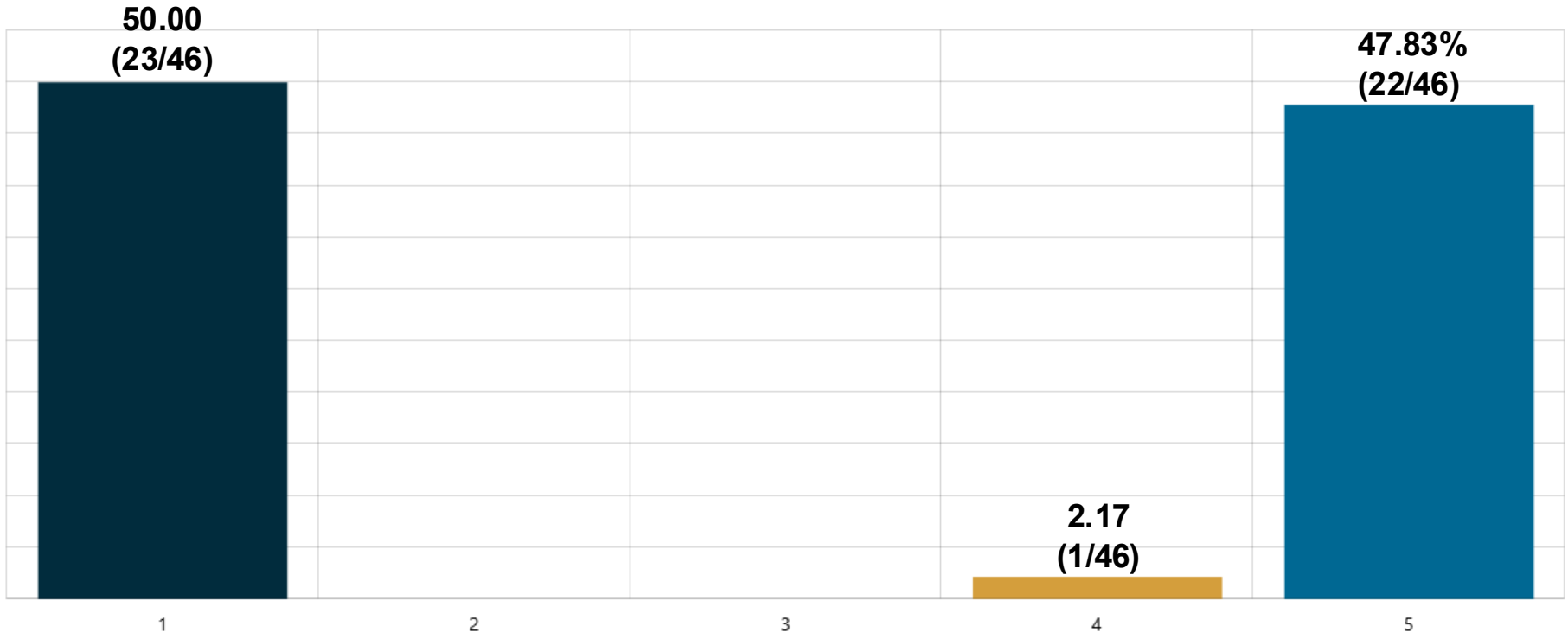
Quick Poll

(46 responses)

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QUICK POLL (online)

Q1 – How much do you like the idea of a community gathering space near Gregoire Lake Estates that's open to all residents? (1= Low support 5= High support)? (46 responses)



Appendix D

Dot-mocracy Board

(Total of 46 responses)

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DOT-MOCRACY BOARD

Dotmocracy results reflect feedback collected at the Community Open House held in Anzac on Sept. 16. Participants at the open houses placed dots on the boards to indicate their preferences.

How much do you like the idea of a community gathering space near Gregoire Lake Estates that's open to all residents?

Response option	Dotmocracy responses	By percentage
1 (Low support)	43	93.48%
2 (Limited support)	1	2.17%
3 (Neutral)	2	4.35%
4 (Moderate support)	0	0
5 (High support)	0	0