

Date Received	Comment
2-Mar	<p>I would like to recommend that the planned survey have "open ended" questions and also that the questions allow for reside comments whenever possible. That is, if the questions are designed to provide for pre-prepared potential answers to choose should also be an opportunity for "other" whereby people can respond with their own created comments or answer.</p>
2-Mar	<p>I support keeping Waterdog Open Space an accessible and sustainable place for recreation, connecting with nature and buildi community. In the new Master Plan, I request you to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintaining the trails, as they are, for multi-use for hiking, biking, dog walking, exercise, connecting with nature, etc., consi best practices of other open spaces. • Continuing outreach and education to trail users and groups to ensure safe and sustainable use of our trails. The "Love Wat campaign is great. • Continuing to collaborate with community groups and volunteers to support the maintenance and preservation of the trails doing a great job along with Belmont P&R workers. Our trails get healthier every year. <p>Open space recreation carries enormous benefits for the folks that live in Belmont - a local park for stress reduction, exercise, revitalization, appreciation of nature, cultivating conservationist and environmentalist ideals, fostering community pride, and improvement of quality of life. Our community has a need for recreational open space - Waterdog has served this public need decades.</p>
4-Mar	<p>Hello, Unfortunately I won't be able to join tonight's master plan meeting. But I would love to see a skatepark being built for n and for all of us in the community.</p>
8-Mar	<p>attended the advisory committee last meeting, and a question asked was not answered. I wonder whether the process included the ability to re-designate an Open Space area because, for several reasons, it appears that the difference between a park and an open space is not well understood or appreciated by the advisory committee, the consultant(s) and perhaps even Commissioners. For example, I asked for clarification of "bike repair stations", and a panelist replied that they could be in either open space. Since if I remember correctly, this item in the survey was listed in the same space as permanent restroom facilities (flush toilets?), this would suggest that the commission thinks it would be OK to build such facilities at Water Dog Lake Open Space. Open space is an essentially undeveloped area with the aim of preservation. Developments such as flush toilets and bike pump electric bikes do NOT belong in an Open Space preserve. Bike repair stations could be located in a parking lot area but not on but I would place them elsewhere in Belmont first if funds are limited. The definition and distinction between Parks and Open should be clearly presented at the beginning of the survey. (I do recall some separate sections for these two in the survey, but specifics.) Another point I asked about was addressed to some extent. I said that "widening trails" should not be considered an "improvement" because widening a narrow single-use trail would encourage even greater IMPROPER use of such a trail by bikers. Indeed, the concept of a single-use trail for hikers only has been totally ignored by the City. The 1992 Master Plan has a map of Water Dog Lake Open Space, which indicates that the loop trail around the lake is for hiking only. Unfortunately, not only is Water Dog Lake Open Space referred to as a Park in various online places, but Trailforks.com, which in part caters to mountain bikers, lists the site with 4 stars for bikers. The Berry trail is also listed for mountain bike use on this site. The incorrect listing of Water Dog Lake "this site should be removed and signs should clearly state NO BIKES on these trails. The maps of the area provided by the city online and at the site) should also mark them as foot traffic only. If part of the Hidden Valley area is not designated as Open Space perhaps a trail there could be indicated as for bikes only? Another point I made regarding the survey and residency was also addressed but I think that the question should be placed near the beginning of the survey, not the end, and should be required-- the form</p>

Dear Belmont Parks and Recreation Commissioners and
Open Space Master Plan Advisory Committee:

Please create a separate process in the Master Plan to address future management of the Waterdog open space. Do not combine it with sporting activities or recreation classes.

Waterdog used to be a wonderful place to take peaceful nature hikes. However lately the mountain bikes are taking over the trails. Some of them are considerate. But many tear up the trails, go off trail, or ride at inappropriate times like after a rainfall when the trails are soft and vulnerable to erosion. Senior citizens (like myself) especially are starting to feel less comfortable hiking there because of the trail damage hazards and because of the fear of being hit by a bike. We can't jump out of the way of an oncoming bike as quickly as we did when we were younger.

3-Mar Please save the precious Waterdog native habitat for wildlife

With as few as 1,000 remaining, this beauty below is the rare and endangered San Francisco garter snake, christened "the mc serpent in North America."

It is found ONLY in SF and the peninsula, and needs a riparian (pond/wetland) habitat for survival.

I have seen one in Waterdog, and they are documented on the General Plan Conservation Element as present in Waterdog, but very rare and are protected under the Endangered Species Act (U.S Fish and Wildlife Service).

If you are not aware of this beautiful creature, and our legal obligation to protect it, I highly recommend visiting this website to appreciate the importance of the disappearing riparian habitat that supports the few remaining animals;
[https://sfgartersnake.wixsite.com/dhsseadisc/why-should-you-care:](https://sfgartersnake.wixsite.com/dhsseadisc/why-should-you-care)

Moreover I urge you to take immediate action to close the illegally built trail, cut by bikers, that bisects Waterdog marsh, thereby fragmenting one of the few remaining habitats of this rare and endangered snake.

14-Jan That trail violates both the existing Park Master Plan (which stipulates no development in that marsh) and the John Brooks Cc

My name is Julianne Kline and I am writing to provide a public comment for the Belmont Open Space Master Plan. My fiance and I have been enjoying Waterdog Park for years, so much so that we have recently bought a home 3 miles away.

Waterdog is one of the major venues where I learned to mountain and gravel bike over the past three years. Since it's so close (we lived nearby before the home purchase too), I can ride directly from my door to the park. It is the only place to mountain bike in the area where I do not need to load my bike into my car to get there, which makes it a convenient and environmentally friendly park. The park is also technical, and gives a newer biker like me a chance to work on difficult skills.

During this tough pandemic, Waterdog had kept me and my fiance sane. I love gravel biking up Lake Road Trail, up through SF Trail where I can come out on Canada Road. After hours on end stuck inside working from home, I enjoy taking breaks to hike on the Springs Cross Country Trail. The trails are so beautiful and fun. I've recently explored San Juan Canyon which I discovered through word-of-mouth. More signage on these trails would help in making them more accessible to the community.

3-Mar Thank you for maintaining the beautiful trails and open spaces. I urge you to continue maintaining the trails for all trail users in the plans, such that the multi-use nature of the trails will be retained for those of us who enjoy hiking, biking, dog walking, exerci

4-Mar	<p>Dear Commissioners,</p> <p>I previously sent a comment via the contact link on the Parks and Open Space Plan website (https://belmontprosplan.com/). While I understand that our parks and open space areas are available for anyone to use, it appears that there is no line asking for the home address or at least the city of residence to verify that the opinions of Belmont residents are prioritized in the community input regarding the Master Plan. Will the online survey have such a requirement?</p> <p>There is ample documentation referring to Waterdog Lake as an Open Space Area. This designation should not be changed, and as an Open Space, motorized vehicles (including electric bikes) should be prohibited as stated in the 1992 Master Plan. Is there still a plan to build a bike pump track at Waterdog Lake? I am very opposed to this idea and would like to know where it would be built, and to whom it may concern,</p>
4-Mar	<p>I'd love to see the city of Belmont build a skatepark- a few parents I know are going to try to go and support this idea.</p>
4-Mar	<p>Hello, I am very interested in seeing a Belmont skatepark constructed. Unfortunately I am not able to make the proposal meeting tonight, but I wanted to still voice my support. Thanks.</p>
4-Mar	<p>peninsula. We even have an employee that was born, raised and still lives in Belmont. I was his mentor at Carlmont HS about 10 years ago and then we hired him when he was old enough.</p> <p>I will not be able to attend tonight's meeting, but want to express my desire on behalf of the local youth to include a skatepark in the planning as it is greatly needed in Belmont. Also, please involve skateboarders in the design process so as to not flub it as seen happen in other cities.</p>
4-Mar	<p>I unfortunately can't make the virtual meeting for tonight's master plan. However, I would like the voice the need for more skateparks in the Bay Area, specifically the desire to see a skatepark built in the City of Belmont.</p> <p>I work at Atlas Skateboard Store in San Mateo and as someone born and raised in San Mateo I spent a great deal of my life in the recent past I have seen many Bay Area cities build skateparks and would love to see Belmont follow suit to help sustain the large amount of skateboarders on The Peninsula. Skateparks (or public places made available for skating) have a net positive effect on the community.</p>
4-Mar	<p>I cannot attend the meeting today. But I am very excited to see a fun place to skateboard being built in Belmont</p>
4-Mar	<p>My name is Wayne Nguyen, I won't be able to attend the master meeting tonight. I do want to discuss about having a skatepark in Belmont, it would add more public attention to the city. Please consider building a skatepark.</p>
4-Mar	<p>I am unable to join tonight's master plan meeting for a skatepark in Belmont. I was born and raised in the area and always wished there was a skatepark in Belmont. I would love to see one built for the community to enjoy.</p>
4-Mar	<p>Hello my name is Greg Smith and I work at Thrasher Magazine and grew up in San Carlos. I won't be able to make the meeting tonight but I would very much like to see a skatepark built down there. Please keep me informed and also if there is anything I can do to help.</p>
4-Mar	<p>Skating has truly become one of the best ways for me to spend quality time with my son without having to feel like I'm forcing him to do it. Having a park local to us would be amazing and I strongly encourage you all to build one for the community.</p>
4-Mar	<p>I am not able to attend tonight's Master Plan meeting, but I want to share with you now my desire for a skateboard park to be built in Belmont's future. I am 40 years old, have a PhD in mathematics, have worked as a professor and a community outreach program director, and have been a skateboarder for over 25 years. I know the value of skateboarding as a recreation, a culture, and a valuable learning life lessons. I know that the people, young and old, of Belmont would benefit from a skatepark in their city.</p>
4-Mar	<p>I will be unable to make the meeting regarding the Belmont skatepark tonight. I wanted to reach out regardless, in order to express my support. I would love to see this project come to light. I feel that it would be a positive contribution to the community and the youth. Please let me know if there is anything I can do to help.</p>
4-Mar	<p>My name is Jake London, a local lifelong skateboarder and sales representative for some of the top brands in the industry (e.g. Cruz Skateboards). I am unable to join tonight's meeting, but am interested in your master plan and would love to see a skatepark included in these plans. There are 2.2 million new skateboarders in the world as a result of 2020, and the positive mental and physical effects of this activity are invaluable. This is especially true of the youth at this time.</p>

	<p>In the past I organized youth support for other city's skate parks and worked with park and rec departments to create safe ski programs that benefit riders of all ages.</p> <p>Skateboarding has opened up a lot of paths in life because it is a community sport that teaches perseverance, struggle along with granting sweet rewards for hard work.</p>
4-Mar	Please consider the positive effects having a skate park can have on the community and local businesses.
4-Mar	My apologies for not being able to attend the meeting in person tonight I was pulled into work for a production emergency. I would like you seriously consider a skateboard in the city of Belmont. Not only is it necessary to give kids a place to hang out, it's a place to learn the hard lessons in life. Where they learn how to overcome objectives, interact with all different types of people, and form a community of peers in which they learn to rely on. With parents being forced to work long hours to make ends meet it is more necessary to have safe hang out spots for our youth. Skateboarding is entering the Olympics and the state of California has a driving force in not only the sport but the industry as well. If the city doesn't consider sanctioning off space for a skatepark it is a missed opportunity. Unfortunately I am not able to attend tonight's master plan meeting but I would like to state that I am fully in favor of a skatepark being built. Skateparks are vital to the communities they are built in as they keep the community active and act as a second home to kids. Please consider this when making your decision.
4-Mar	My name is Jesse Narvaez I won't be able to join the meeting tonight but I'd love to say a few words thru email. I grew up in Redwood City but always skated all around the peninsula and from my 23 years of experience being a skateboarder I know that a skatepark in your city helps a lot with kids staying out of trouble and best of all making friends. I now started my own skatebo company called Loopholewheels and I know that if it wasn't for the Phil Shao memorial skatepark in Redwood City I wouldn't be the same person I am today. Thank you for your time I hope Belmont gets its own skatepark in the near future.
4-Mar	<p>park.</p> <p>Not only is a skatepark a place to build community, but it helps give kids and young adults (and adults!) a sense of purpose and a place where they can exercise, practice discipline, build friendships and a community of their own.</p> <p>As a successful business owner and skateboarder myself, I truly value everything that skateboarding and it's global and local culture has done for me. It has sent me around the world and built connections and friendships that have helped me succeed in my life.</p>
4-Mar	Hello, my name is Marissa. I won't be able to join tonight's meeting but I wanted to show my interest in the idea of a new park being built. I have met so many great people in just my one year of skating and having a new park would be an amazing opportunity to meet more friends in the community, get outside away from constant technology and learn some new skills you never thought you could. It's been very mentally healthy for me and so many people I've met and I hope to see more of it.
4-Mar	I can't make it tonight, but I want to say that skate parks are a safe outside individual activity that should be encouraged.
4-Mar	Please do a skate park in Belmont.
4-Mar	I'm not able to attend tonight's master plan meeting but we would love to see a skatepark built for the community and the youth in Belmont. I've been skateboarding for over 20 years and it has taught me so many invaluable life lessons as well as introduced me to time friends that I still am close with today. I'd love to help in the future and crossing my fingers I can one day bring my kids to a skatepark.
4-Mar	I am writing as a 40 year old Carlmont high school graduate and avid skateboarder. I am not able to make it to tonight's meeting but I would absolutely love to see a skate park in Belmont.
4-Mar	<p>skatepark here.</p> <p>Skateboarding has changed significantly in the past 20 years. Not only is it shaping up to be one of the most viewed events in the olympics it is also a possible remedy to the nation's growing obesity problem among the young.</p> <p>I think the building of a new skatepark will support the following</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Offer a space for children and adults to participate in a free, accessible, and diverse physical activity. -Offer a place for high school age kids to meet and engage in healthy activity -Provide a place for kids to learn how to skateboard with the future possibility of representing their country and city in the olympics
4-Mar	Hi, Growing up, there was never a good option for us to go skate without skating in private property and getting tickets. I think it would be a great addition for Belmont and get the youth outdoors. I would also enjoy spending time riding. Please consider this when you make your decision.
4-Mar	I thank you so much for your assistance with creating a master plan in regards to our aim to building a skatepark, I'd love to see the skatepark being built.

4-Mar	I am unable to make tonights master plan meeting, but I would love to see a skatepark built in Belmont!
4-Mar	I heard the city is having a meeting about building a skatepark and I really wanted to go but I'm unavailable. I've been living in the Area my entire life and just recently city's have started building parks and I say the more the better. It doesn't have to be a m with a huge pool and big ramps but just a plaza style skatepark is best.
4-Mar	I am personally in favor of adding a skateboard park to our community. A skateboard park will offer the youth of our commur and productive place to skateboard instead of in local parking lots. I hope you consider my thoughts on the issue
4-Mar	The youth of Belmont would greatly benefit from having a skatepark built
4-Mar	My name is Robert Wilson and I am unable to attend tonights meeting about the Belmont Master Plan. I grew up skateboar Mateo and have lived in many places around the world, but throughout my travels and localities i would always reflect on how was to not only grow up in the peninsula, but that i also grew up with a skatepark and the world of skateboarding in San Mateo is essential for Belmont to build a skatepark and budget one into it's master plan because there are no skate parks in Belmont the creativity and potential of students from Carlmont high school, a skatepark would fit right in and further foster an alterna
4-Mar	Sorry I'm not able to join the master plan meeting tonight about the skate park being built I think you guys should make it thc some kids off the streets help out some kids learn some healthy active sports
4-Mar	sean_rael@yahoo.com
4-Mar	I am sending this in regards to the skatepark, as I possibly cannot make the meeting tonight at 7. Being a skateboarder from t peninsula for over 10 years, the idea of a new park brings a lot of excitement. There hasn't been a lot of new skateparks, and the area are definitely outdated and becoming rough. I think a new park brings a lot of positivity and brings the community tc considering since covid has hit skateparks have become more crowded. Thank you for putting the new skatepark into consid
4-Mar	My name is Nicholas Matter and I have been a resident of Belmont for 32 years. I grew up in this town and not only did I gro town I grew up skateboarding in this town. Obviously my opinion may seem biased, but I can say with absolute certainty that of a decent sized, well built, yet simple, and not overly expensive skatepark along with the renovation of the Barret communi would bring great value to Belmont and our community. I propose the beginning of setting plans into action to rebuild our co center, if you can really call it that(I know it used to be an old school), and include a skatepark. At least that's where I had env since there appears to be room. I would love to see a few things change in Belmont, which would greatly increase Belmonts v this would be a great start. Who am I? Just a local resident who believes in providing the highest quality experience to all peo
4-Mar	Hello, I am available to attend the Belmont master plan but I would suggest a skatepark to be built for all the local citizens and ones.
4-Mar	hello, I was unable to attend last nights meeting and would very much like a skatepark Belmont can call its own. Skateparks are a source of wholesome entertainment and exercise and bring joy to a wide and diverse range of people. I am 4 and still am gravitated to skateparks after 25 years of skateboarding!
4-Mar	Please supply our community with a skatepark
4-Mar	asking you to please hear us skateboarders out by saying we need a new skatepark; specifically in the city of Belmont. Speaking as a representative of the Skatepark on Treasure Island, as well as multiple other skateparks I have participated in d as well as build; having a well built, concrete skateboard park is the best alternative for the youth of today. Having a skateboard park in the city of Belmont would give many children, as well as young and even older adults a healthy w their time and energy. Especially during these times of Covid, and self quarantine. I believe the citizens, not only of Belmont, I larger Bay Area would greatly appreciate your consideration in building a skateboard park.

Dear Belmont City Council,

I am a long time resident of Belmont living and owning a home here for the past 35 years. My family and I have greatly enjoyed Belmont and have had much joy in being able to access Waterdog Open Space for recreational purposes including hiking and has served as a wonderful area for us as a community and spending time with family and friends of all ages connecting with nature. The community has a need for this type of space, which Waterdog has served well for many years improving the quality of life in Belmont. I am reaching out to you as I understand that you are in process of developing a new Master Plan for this area.

As you develop the new Master Plan, I ask that you please consider to maintain the existing trails which are used for multiple activities including exercising such as hiking, biking and dog walking, as well as community building and connecting with nature. These activities align with those of other Open Spaces in the area. I believe that the current volunteers and community groups who use the trails are doing an awesome job and the trails are in great shape.

I understand that there has been some discussion to change the park designation to be preserved as a wildlife preserve. I believe this would have negative impact on the overall Belmont community. Waterdog park is surrounded on all sides by residential development and the existing wildlife has adapted to the presence of people in this area. We are fortunate to already have a 23,000 acre preserve nearby on the other side of 280 (the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Peninsula Watershed). Keeping the Waterdog Open Space as the recreational park it is today is one of the highlights that leads my family to desire to stay in this area.

One of the activities that I personally enjoy in Waterdog is being able to ride my mountain bike in a safe and natural environment that is easily accessible from my home. The alternative to this would be to ride in the city streets with much traffic where even an experienced biker such as myself does not feel safe; unfortunately there are few bike lanes in Belmont and the roads are not enough to be bike friendly. The only other option involves loading my bike and driving a distance to find another place to ride which is not convenient nor good for the environment.

Just five years ago another Belmont institution, Belmont Iceland, closed operations suddenly and ended its long history of community recreation. Personally, I was involved with the hockey community there from 1978 until it closed in 2016. Needless to say, I was disappointed losing such an important part of our community. I had hoped that the city of Belmont could have kept the rink for us permanently. Looking ahead to today's agenda and the possibility of not allowing mountain biking at Waterdog in Belmont, I stand in my convictions that this should not be allowed to happen for all the reasons stated above. For this 35 year resident of Belmont,

3-Mar

I would like to amend my earlier suggestion that the difference between Parks and Open Spaces be explained at the start of the survey so that residents will understand that there is a priority for preservation of open spaces. This introduction should include a clarification that Water Dog Lake is an example of an open space, and it should be stated that there is currently a ban on motorized vehicles in Open Space. Because whether this ban includes e-bikes is debatable, a question should be added to the survey to specifically ask whether e-bikes should be prohibited in Water Dog preserve; the current ban is not being enforced regarding e-bikes, since the park chief (a mountain bike proponent) believes that he is enforcing the spirit of the law because, in his view, pedal-assist e-bikes are different from regular bikes. Yet according to what I have seen on Nextdoor.com, even some mountain bikers believe e-bikes should be prohibited. In the Advisory Committee meeting last week, I recall that e-bikes were included in a part of the survey, but I do not know where and the video recording was not clear enough to tell. Because this is a complex topic--there are three different classes of e-bikes and it is not feasible to enforce speed limits; some bikes have much wider tires with potentially greater trail impacts--I do not think the city should allow such bikes in our Open Spaces without proper review. A follow-up survey question to whether e-bikes should be prohibited should be "Should research into allowing e-bikes in Water Dog Open Space be carried out?"

Note that from the Midpeninsula Open Space website: "Electric bicycles are not, and have never been, allowed on Midpeninsula trails for use by individuals with a mobility disability on trails where bicycles are allowed." Instead of just letting people make their own decisions, signs that specifically prohibit e-bikes are currently posted at Midpen trailheads. It is true that due to public interest, [Midpen] Staff will initiate a short-term unpaved trails study to start by summer/fall 2021 on lands of a regional partner agency where e-bikes are currently allowed."

7-Mar

Dear City Council members,

We are Belmont residents and would like to share our opinion regarding the consideration to ban cycling from Waterdog. Both kids grew-up biking in these trails and our family enjoys daily walks through the park with our chocolate lab.

The use of all open spaces has increased during the pandemic, and we are happy to see how our local trails have offered a respite option for healthy outdoor activity during these difficult times. The increased traffic comes with challenges, and it is clear that modifications may be needed. However, we must remember that as the pandemic gets under better control some of this increase will decline.

We have heard/seen arguments from both sides on this issue and it is clear that few people in the community have very strong opinions regarding this topic. While they may be the loudest, we do think they represent the character of our community and the friends we see from almost everyone in the trails.

We would support the following:

Maintain all current trails open to bikes and pedestrians. Prevent the development of any new trails. Provide good maintenance on current trails, and do not close any trails.

Close trails for bikes (as needed) after rain.

Prohibit night riding.

Prohibit the use of e-bikes.

7-Mar Launch an education campaign to foster a culture of kindness, sharing and safety in the trails and in our community.

As someone who has previously develop opinion polls, surveys and worked on focus groups, I found the survey difficult to read due to the lack of organization and, in some questions, inconsistent use of categories (parks, open spaces, recreation facilities). Additionally, some questions, conflating different categories and inconsistent use of terminology creates a lack of understanding of respondent intentions.

Confusing questions, leading options, and conflating categories make any survey ineffective by failing to yield an accurate understanding of respondents' intentions. Inconsistencies and lack of organization may lead to confusion which would further negate capturing respondents' true intentions. Lack of clarity creates confusion and results will be left to interpretations rather than yielding clear, understandable results.

Because people likely will not spend excessive time trying to understand the intention of the question(s) -- making things as clear as possible is desirable.

While I would be happy to provide detailed feedback, I have limited my comments to a few obvious clarifications that are needed.

1. #5 "What factors limit your ability to visit our parks and open spaces"

"ability" refers to the participants' "skills" or "capability" or "talent" - rather I think you seek the factors that limit visitors' use of parks and open spaces.

Clearly conflating parks and open spaces means you will not know which answers apply to which area -- parks or open spaces

2. #5 relates to parks & open spaces and "facilities"

Poor condition/maintenance of facility

The facilities Does not accommodate my needs

The word "facilities" has somewhat consistently been used to address recreation facilities -- now you use the word "facilities" in parks and open spaces which is inconsistent and confusing

8-Mar 3. #7 please clarify by adding bold text: "parks (not recreation facilities or open spaces)"

questions.

1. #2 & #3 questions, you bring up three separate entities; parks, outdoor recreation facilities and open spaces but then in #4 you refer to the third entity as recreation/athletic facilities and in #8 you go back to using outdoor recreation facilities. As some of the facilities listed in #4 such as Barrett Community Center and Twin Pines Park buildings have indoor as well as outdoor facilities, the term "outdoor recreation facilities" is confusing. Why not use the term indoor/outdoor recreation facilities for ALL questions to be consistent?

2. You omitted the Belmont Sports Complex as one of the most important indoor/outdoor recreation facilities in Belmont?? How about Hidden Canyon Open Space and John Brooks Open Space Preserve?

3. In #9, the question should just read "The following would greatly enhance my experience with open spaces in Belmont" (delete amenities and uses which is confusing). You also have a typo (it should be just open, not opens spaces).

Widen and improve select existing trails is a biased question because it implies improvement which everybody favors and will strongly agree. You will then incorrectly infer that participants want wider trails.

Reduce/limit number of trails is similarly biased because it implies restrictions which nobody wants and will elicit a strongly disagree. You will then incorrectly infer that participants want more trails.

Since you allow everybody who are non residents of Belmont to answer your survey from all over the country, the answers will also represent organized special interest groups that have far more numbers than our ordinary citizens of Belmont. Therefore, the survey alone should not be used to determine the outcome of a 15 year Master Plan for our City of Belmont. Doing so could compromise property values and our tax base as well as irreversibly damage the eco-system and geological stability in our open spaces.

8-Mar

8-Mar	<p>Dear Parks and Recreation, please add me to the distribution list for upcoming PROS questionnaires and upcoming events so that I may participate. If OK, I would also like to forward the information to friends and neighbors to help get the word out. All the best, Thaddeus Block</p>
9-Mar	<p>everyone here because someone in the Advisory committee meeting asked about removing trails. I think the reply was that c could be left. A possible reason for his question may be what I experienced on a hike on the Loop trail at Water Dog Lake. The very short bifurcation on this trail, and I took the left-hand trail to increase the social distance between me and my friend onl that the trail had been modified into a bicycle ramp or jump that could not be walked down. This is the sort of unsanctioned t could be removed. I feel that simply having a place for additional comments would not fairly represent the community's conc trails and bicycles in Water Dog Open Space. It is very easy to tick a box to say you have an interest in e-bikes or want wider tr takes more effort to leave a comment. Does this place an inherent bias in the survey? Regarding widening trails, in that same January email, I said mentioned that the poison oak on narrow trails makes it hard to allow bikes to pass. I want to reiterate a comment I made at the Advisory committee meeting: widening such trails is NOT AN IMPROVEMENT as this would encourage greater improper usage of these trails by bicyclists AND widening certain trails would very beautiful species of flowers (there are a couple of purple perennial flowers at the edge of one trail--I think the Loop trail) think that bicycles should be restricted to wider trails. Finally, I want to encourage everyone to take into consideration the int I wanted to provide you my thoughts on the upcoming Master Plan for the Belmont Parks Department. My husband and I have residents of Belmont since 1985. We love the area and feel the Parks Department has done a lot to provide many avenues for to all ages. My major point I do want to make is regarding the Open Space Water Dog trails. Over the many years, we have lived here we hiked the Water Dig trails literally hundreds of times. Our kids hiked there as well. Over the last year however it has become too dangerous to hike or walk there due to the numerous bikers riding aggressively trails. There were several instances last year between May and September that my husband and I were nearly hit by bikers ro curves which did not see us or we see them until they skidded into us. The fact that they ride on the single track trails is outra We've tried to bring our 6 year old and 8 year old on the trails and they too have nearly been hit by bikers. As they are only 3ft tall, bikers cannot see them running ahead of us. We now have to hold their hand if they want hike with us. As you can imagin not want to be required to hold our hands on a 1-2 hour hike. Our daughter in law now refuses to let us take them on Water I out of fear for their safety. I must also mention that many of our friends and neighbors also have stopped coming to the trails due to their concerns over on the single track trails. I think this is ridiculous that long time residents fear for their lives and will totally avoid these trails. These single track trails should be kept open for walkers or hikers only. This should be a peaceful setting and not a situation w need to be stressed and worried about your safety. I also want to say that we used to see deer, rabbits and other wildlife. This does not happen anymore and I attribute this to th racing on these trails.</p>
20-Mar	<p>Hi karen, How does one observe/join the following PROS presentations listed on the City website? Other Presentations/Events for the PROS Plan: Belmont Rotary Presentation March 29th, 2021 12- 1 Pm Presentation at BRSSD Superintendent Meeting March 2nd, 2021 Do I interpret correctly that this is the consultant addressing these groups and offering a Q&A after? Are the comments received at these meetings "on the record"; will they be recorded for inclusion in public comments?</p>
29-Mar	<p>Thanks,</p>