

## ROUND 1 OUTREACH RESULTS SUMMARY

Online Survey (June 5-July 7, 2024): 434 responses (433 English / 1 Spanish)

Pop-Up Events (June 22-23, 2024): 21 participants

In-Person Community Meeting (June 18, 2024): 17 participants

Virtual Community Meeting (June 25, 2024): 11 participants

### Participant Profile

Most participants (over 90%) in outreach activities were adults aged 35 and up from the area immediately surrounding the park or another area of San Rafael. A small number of children (less than 10) participated in outreach via the survey, community meetings, and pop-up events.

84% of survey participants live in the **Terra Linda neighborhood**. (Survey Q14)

55% of survey participants visit the **park either daily or weekly**. (Q2)

29% of survey participants visit the **community center either daily or weekly**. (Q2/Q9)

69% of survey participants **walk** to the site and 65% **drive** a car to the site. (Q1)

Overall, the Terra Linda community enjoys the park and community center and appreciates its convenient location in the heart of Terra Linda near homes, schools, and shops. Outreach participants expressed concerns about old, outdated, or underutilized features and shared their excitement about potential upgrades that could improve the site's appearance and functionality. Participants want the future Terra Linda Park and Community Center to serve as a family-oriented community hub that emphasizes play, nature, and social interaction and facilitates enriching experiences for visitors of all ages.

### Key Themes

**Play** – According to outreach results, the **playground is the park's most popular amenity** of the choices offered (survey options did not include the pool), a primary reason people visit, and the feature the community is most interested in expanding and enhancing. Many participants felt that due to its size, age, and condition, the playground was underserving its users, and eagerly offered suggestions for playground improvements, such as smooth play surfacing, more climbing, swinging, and spinning elements, and separate play structures for toddlers and older children.

- 51% of survey respondents visit the park to play at the playground. (Q3)
- 54% of survey and pop-up participants selected the playground as a favorite park feature (#1 choice). (Q4)
- 60% of survey and pop-up participants voted to expand/upgrade the playground (#1 choice for enhancements). (Q7)

Other play activities, such as **basketball and outdoor games**, received some support during community outreach. While sports and games were not the most popular activities or reasons for visiting the park, the community is interested in having these recreation options at the park. According to the survey, the community wants to either enhance/expand the current basketball court or keep it the same, and an upgraded multipurpose sports court ranked highly for

enhancements to current park amenities. In terms of new park amenities, outreach participants supported outdoor games (e.g., ga-ga ball, bocce, etc.). Bocce was mentioned several times in write-in comments on the survey, as well as at the community meetings.

- 45% of survey votes supported enhancing/expanding the basketball court. (Q6)
- 46% of survey and pop-up participants want an upgraded multipurpose sports court (#2 choice for new amenities). (Q7)
- 48% of survey and pop-up participants want outdoor games added to the park (#3 choice for new amenities). (Q8)

**Nature** – The natural setting at Terra Linda Park is important to the community. Outreach participants appreciate the existing **trees and plants** for their beauty and the natural shade they provide. The park's **open lawn area** under the grove of mature trees is also a valued nature-oriented park feature liked by outreach participants. The community wants to see these elements of the park maintained and enhanced in the future.

- 51% of survey and pop-up participants selected the lawn as a favorite park feature (#2 choice). (Q4)
- 51% of survey and pop-up participants selected trees and plants as a favorite park feature (#3 choice). (Q4)
- 44% of survey and pop-up participants voted to improve/expand the lawn space (#3 choice for enhancements). (Q7)

**Community gathering** – According to outreach results, the community wants Terra Linda Park and Community Center to serve as an engaging social hub with **spaces and activities that encourage gathering**. Park users want to enjoy **picnics, parties, and community events** in a variety of areas of the site, including near the pool and playground. Community members voiced requests for social spaces at the park and community center, including those specifically geared toward teenagers, and there were also multiple comments supporting the addition of library services at the site. Outreach participants support hosting both private events such as parties or meetings and community events such as concerts and holiday celebrations at the site.

- 60% of survey votes were for the Enhancement plan to enhance/expand picnic and BBQ areas. (Q6)
- 43% of survey and pop-up participants voted to upgrade picnic and BBQ areas (#4 choice for enhancements). (Q7)
- 28% of survey and pop-up participants attend rentals for private events at the community center (#1 choice). (Q10)

**Modernize** – According to outreach participants, the park and community center needs **improvements in both appearance and functionality**. Some said that they don't visit often because of the age and condition of the site or because it doesn't offer amenities or programs that meet their needs. Based on outreach responses, the community supports removing old, outdated facilities and features, and replacing them with new, more usable ones. Entry areas,

landscaping, play amenities, picnic areas, and the community center building were all aspects of the site that participants felt needed to be made more functional and more attractive.

**Comfort and safety** – During the outreach process, community participants identified areas of the site that could be made safer and more comfortable for users. Participants appreciate the existing lawn area but expressed concerns about its safety due to a rough, uneven surface caused by gophers. According to outreach participants, a **smooth, flat lawn area** with healthy grass would make this park area more usable and enjoyable. The community also desires **safer access to the park**, e.g., clearer entries and more crosswalks. Participants expressed concern about existing playground features perceived as unsafe (e.g., boulders) and a desire to replace them with other play options. Some participants mentioned the cracked and uneven basketball court surface and hoped a new, smooth court surface could be added. In terms of comfort, the community wants to see **seating and shade in all areas** of the site, especially the playground, picnic area, sports court, and community center. Water fountains/stations for drinking, which help keep site users hydrated and refreshed, were also popular new features requested.

- 57% of survey and pop-up respondents want shade structures added to the park (#2 choice for new amenities). (Q8)
- 50% of survey and pop-up respondents want informal seating areas added to the park (#2 choice for new amenities). (Q8)

**Flexibility and synergy** – The community recognizes that maximizing the site's potential involves creating **flexible, integrated spaces that meet a variety of needs**. Outreach participants want open lawn areas that can be used for games and sports, as well as picnicking and relaxing. Community members requested changes to the park design to allow **better synergy between the pool and adjacent areas** such as the lawn and playground so users can flow more easily between these very popular spaces. Participants strongly supported a multipurpose sports court at the site. Several community members mentioned that the smooth surface of a sports court could also be used for riding bikes/scooters. Indoor spaces that can be used for classes, meetings, parties, and events are also desired. Activities and amenities at the site should appeal to a wide range of ages. Outreach participants want community center programs to serve all age groups, from children to seniors, and offer a diverse array of program options, including arts, enrichment, fitness, sports, and events.

- 78% of survey and pop-up respondents want programs to serve children ages 6 to 13 (#1 choice). Q12
- 61% of survey and pop-up respondents are interested in arts and crafts programs (#1 choice). Q13

## Other Notes

**Pool** – The pool is an extremely popular feature of the site. According to outreach participants, the pool is the primary reason people visit Terra Linda Park. The pool was one of the most frequently mentioned topics in write-in comments on the survey.

**Stage** – The existing outdoor stage was viewed as an underutilized park feature (many participants did not even know it was there), and it was voted the least-liked feature of the park in outreach activities, according to responses. The stage received a condition/usability ranking between “poor” and “fair” and received the greatest number of “remove/replace” votes on the survey. However, some community members mentioned that it would be nice to have outdoor concerts at the site and a better performance space (shade, electricity, etc.) could help facilitate that.

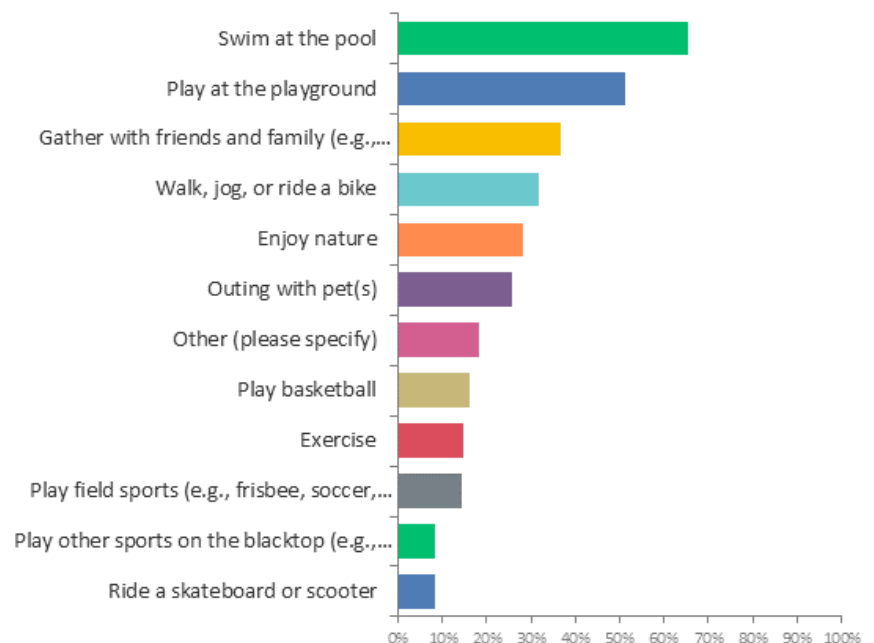
**Parking** – The existing parking at the site received the highest number of “good” ratings (50%) on the survey in terms of condition and usability (Q5). The overall rating for parking was between “fair” and “good,” indicating the community is generally satisfied with parking options. Most survey participants voted to keep parking at the site the same (67% of votes, Q6), rather than reduce or expand. Additional parking was the least desired enhancement of current amenities, with only 7% of survey and pop-up participants supporting this option.

**Ceramics** – The community is passionate about pursuing ceramics at Terra Linda. Adult ceramics classes were selected as the second most popular class that survey and pop-up participants attended, and the ceramics room was the highest-rated space at the center in terms of functionality (between “fair” and “good”). Ceramics was a popular topic in write-in comments on the survey, and these comments included numerous requests to expand and enhance ceramics facilities.

### Q3: Why do you visit Terra Linda Park? Select all that apply or write your response in ‘Other.’

Answered: 364 Skipped: 69

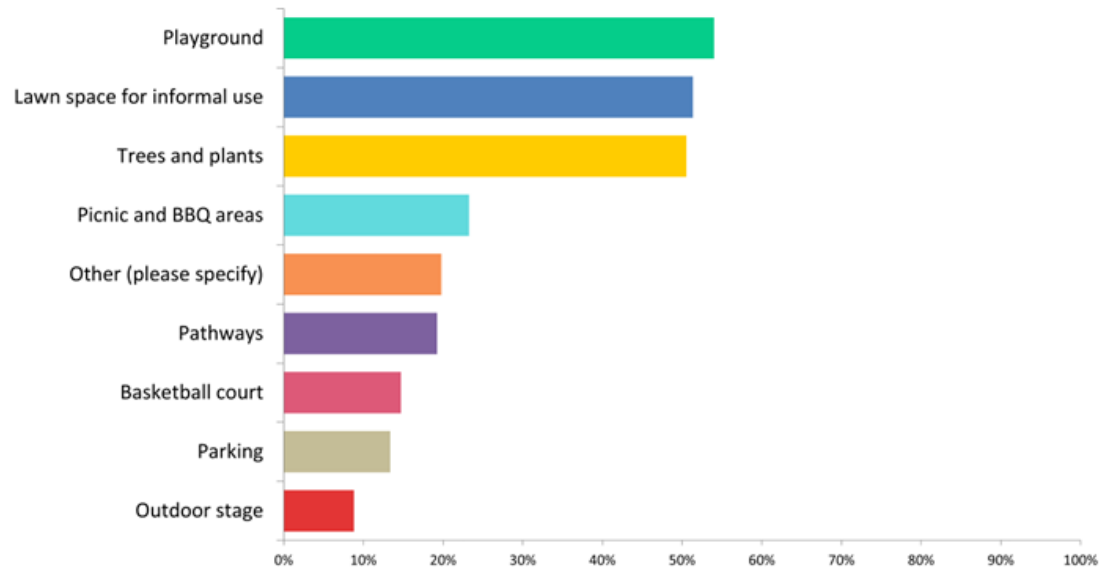
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Swim at the pool	65.38%	238
Play at the playground	51.37%	187
Gather with friends and family (e.g., picnic)	36.54%	133
Walk, jog, or ride a bike	31.87%	116
Enjoy nature	28.30%	103
Outing with pet(s)	25.55%	93
Other (please specify)	18.41%	67
Play basketball	16.21%	59
Exercise	14.84%	54
Play field sports (e.g., frisbee, soccer, football)	14.29%	52
Play other sports on the blacktop (e.g., dodgeball)	8.24%	30
Ride a skateboard or scooter	8.24%	30
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1162</b>



**Q4: What do you LIKE MOST about Terra Linda Park? Please select your top THREE (3) choices or write your response in 'Other.'**

Answered: 374 Skipped: 80

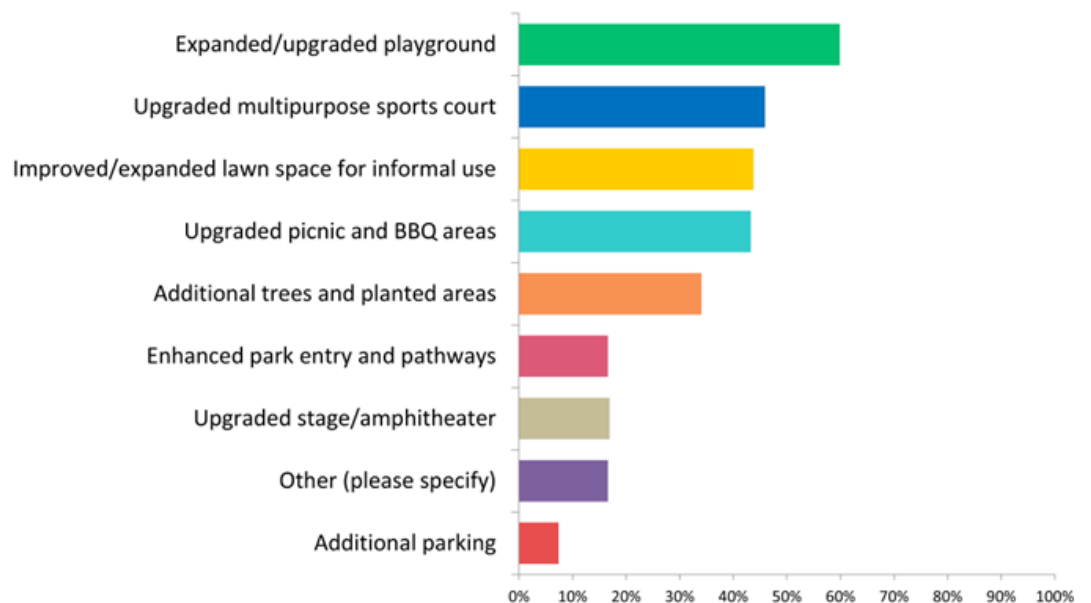
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Playground	54.01% 202
Lawn space for informal use	51.34% 192
Trees and plants	50.53% 189
Picnic and BBQ areas	23.26% 87
Other (please specify)	19.79% 74
Pathways	19.25% 72
Basketball court	14.71% 55
Parking	13.37% 50
Outdoor stage	8.82% 33
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>954</b>



**Q7: What specific ENHANCEMENTS OF CURRENT AMENITIES would you most like to see at Terra Linda Park? Please select your top THREE (3) choices or write your response in 'Other.'**

Answered: 379 Skipped: 76

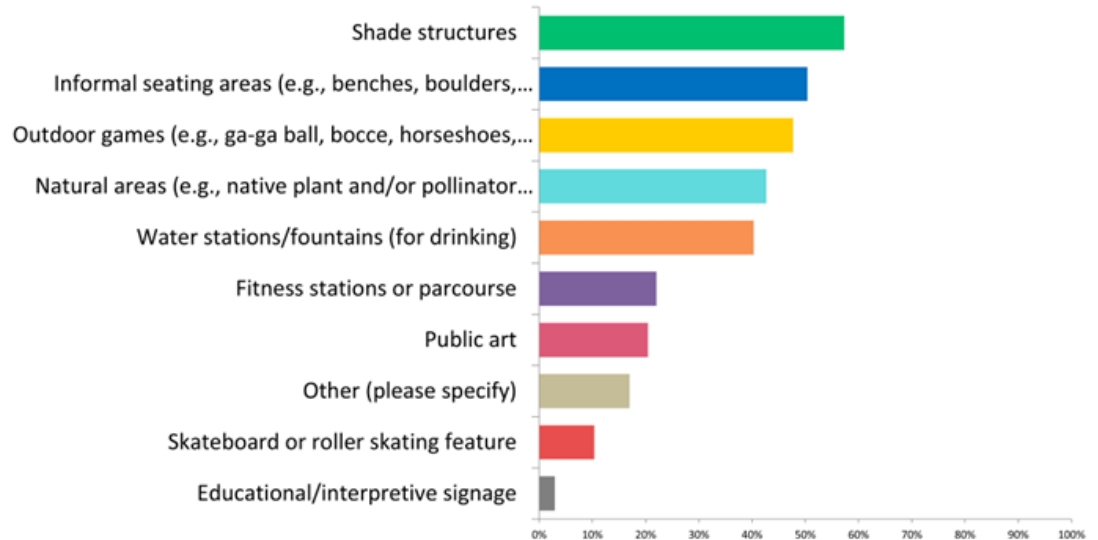
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Expanded/upgrade d playground	59.89% 227
Upgraded multipurpose sports court	45.91% 174
Improved/expande d lawn space for informal use	43.80% 166
Upgraded picnic and BBQ areas	43.27% 164
Additional trees and planted areas	34.04% 129
Enhanced park entry and pathways	16.62% 63
Upgraded stage/amphitheater	16.89% 64
Other (please specify)	16.62% 63
Additional parking	7.39% 28
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1078</b>



**Q8: What NEW AMENITIES would you most like to see at Terra Linda Park? Please select your top THREE (3) choices or write your response in 'Other.'**

Answered: 377 Skipped: 78

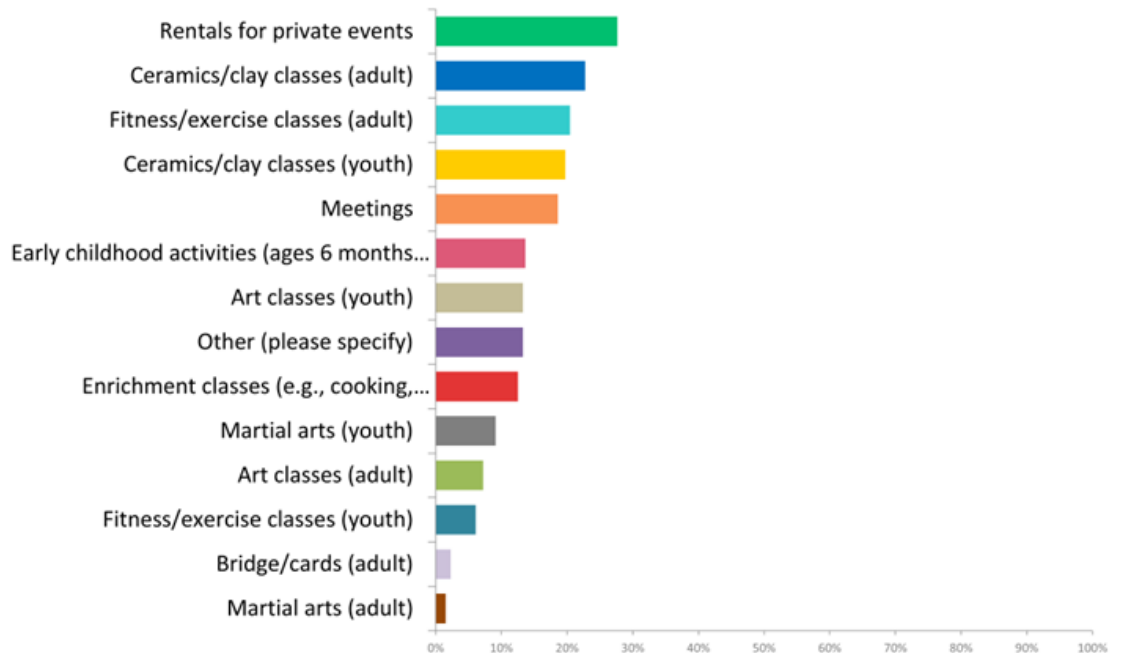
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Shade structures	57.29% 216
Informal seating areas (e.g., benches, boulders, seat walls)	50.40% 190
Outdoor games (e.g., ga-ga ball, bocce, horseshoes, cornhole, ping pong)	47.75% 180
Natural areas (e.g., native plant and/or pollinator gardens)	42.71% 161
Water stations/fountains (for drinking)	40.32% 152
Fitness stations or parcourse	22.02% 83
Public art	20.42% 77
Other (please specify)	16.98% 64
Skateboard or roller skating feature	10.34% 39
Educational/interpretive signage	2.92% 11
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1173</b>



**Q10: In what CLASSES or ACTIVITIES do you or members of your household participate at the Terra Linda Community Center? Select ALL that apply.**

Answered: 264 Skipped: 182

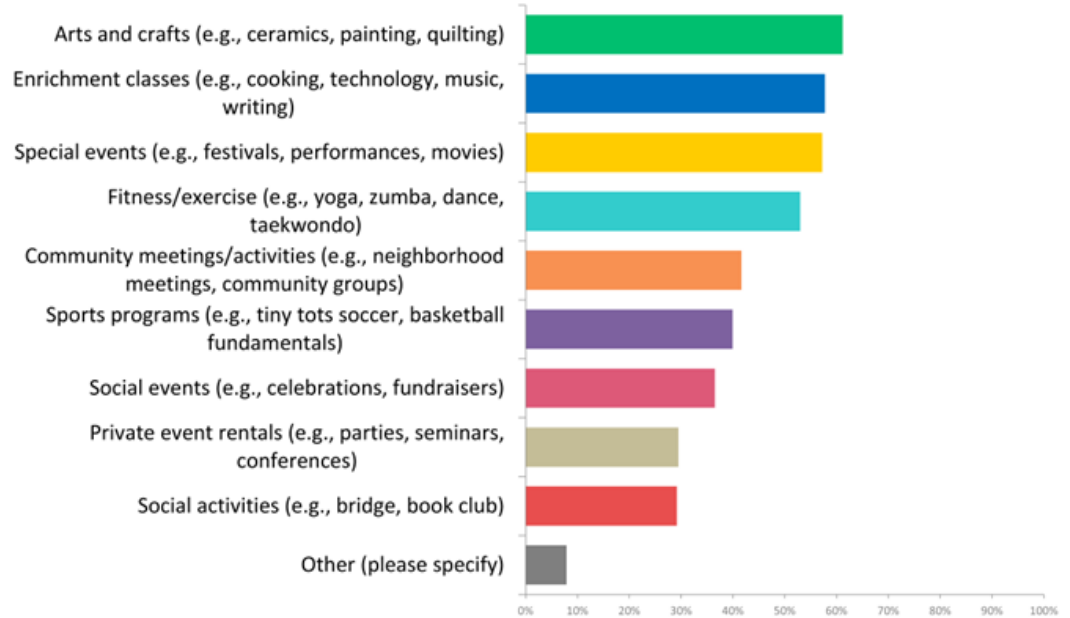
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Rentals for private events	27.65% 73
Ceramics/clay classes (adult)	22.73% 60
Fitness/exercise classes (adult)	20.45% 54
Ceramics/clay classes (youth)	19.70% 52
Meetings	18.56% 49
Early childhood activities (ages 6 months to 6 years)	13.64% 36
Art classes (youth)	13.26% 35
Other (please specify)	13.26% 35
Enrichment classes (e.g., cooking, technology, music, writing)	12.50% 33
Martial arts (youth)	9.09% 24
Art classes (adult)	7.20% 19
Fitness/exercise classes (youth)	6.06% 16
Bridge/cards (adult)	2.27% 6
Martial arts (adult)	1.52% 4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>496</b>



**Q13: In what TYPES of ACTIVITIES or PROGRAMS are you or members of your household interested in participating at Terra Linda Community Center? Select ALL that apply.**

Answered: 353 Skipped: 101

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Arts and crafts (e.g., ceramics, painting, quilting)	61.19% 216
Enrichment classes (e.g., cooking, technology, music, writing)	57.79% 204
Special events (e.g., festivals, performances, movies)	57.22% 202
Fitness/exercise (e.g., yoga, zumba, dance, taekwondo)	52.97% 187
Community meetings/activities (e.g., neighborhood meetings, community groups)	41.64% 147
Sports programs (e.g., tiny tots soccer, basketball fundamentals)	39.94% 141
Social events (e.g., celebrations, fundraisers)	36.54% 129
Private event rentals (e.g., parties, seminars, conferences)	29.46% 104
Social activities (e.g., bridge, book club)	29.18% 103
Other (please specify)	7.93% 28
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1461</b>



TERRA LINDA PARK & COMMUNITY CENTER ENHANCEMENT PLAN  
City of San Rafael

