

Summary Report

Outdoor Aquatics- Strathcona County Aquatic Strategy

Previous survey results indicated that 89% of respondents feel that it is important to have a spray park in Strathcona County. Additionally, 51% of respondents preferred the option of one large, regional park. 37% preferred to have a network of small neighborhood sites. 13% did not want a spray park.

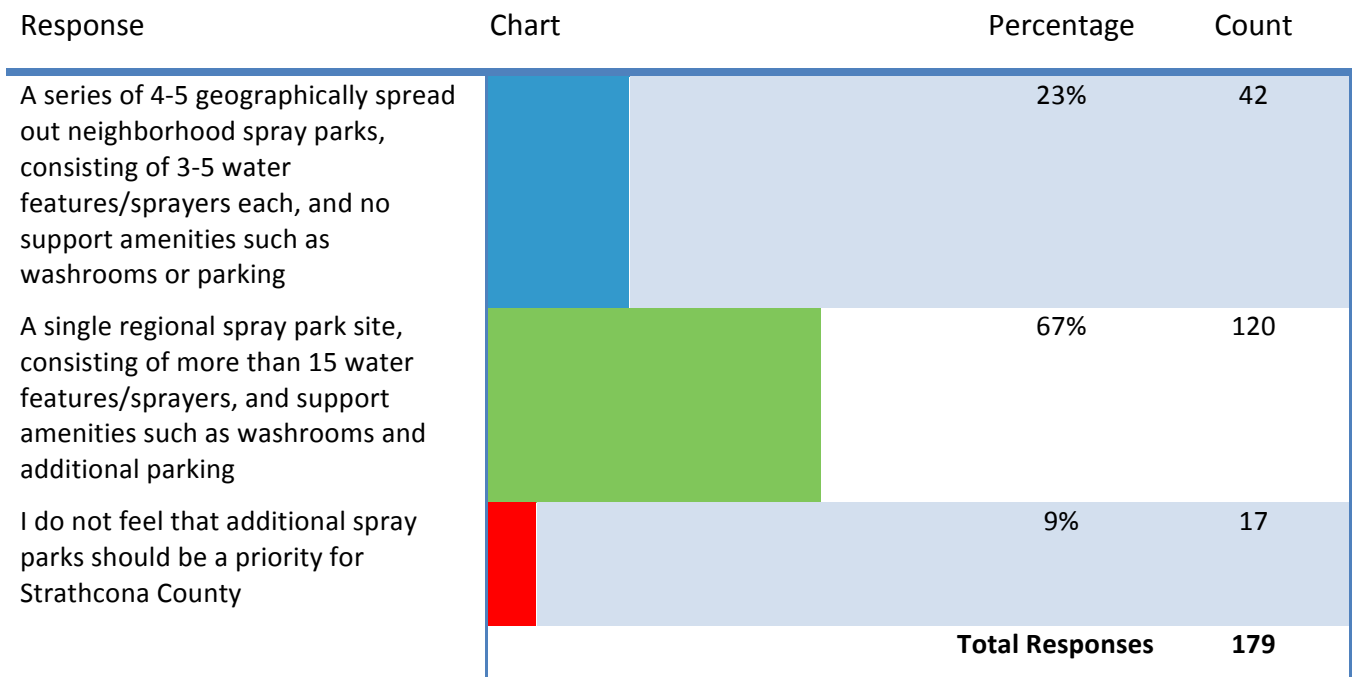
With the opening of the Clover Bar Ranch neighborhood spray deck this summer, as well as through dialogue during the focus groups, it became clear that the community is a bit fuzzy on what a regional spray park would include for features, and what a neighborhood spray deck would include.

Hopefully we can help clear up some questions and get a better understanding of what the community wants.

* Please note - the Clover Bar Ranch spray deck is NOT a model for future sites, as it is larger than a typical neighborhood spray deck, but smaller than a typical regional park.

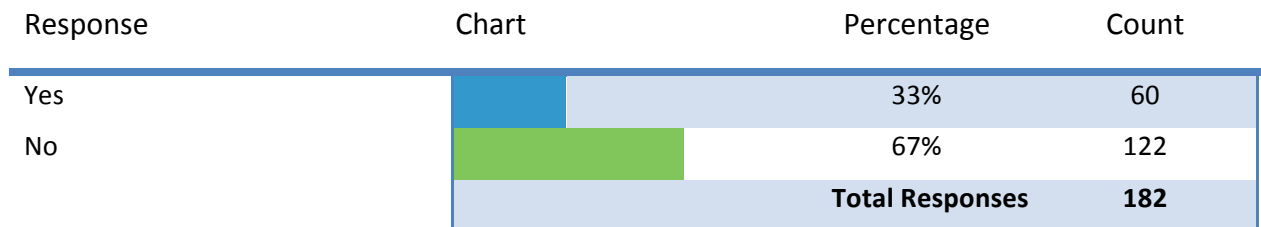
Feature	Neighborhood Spray Deck	Regional Spray Park
Water sprayers	3-5	more than 15
Washrooms	No	Yes
Picnic tables	Not always	Yes
Parking	No	Yes
Located near a playground	Usually	Yes
Safety features such as fencing, rubberized play surface	No	Potentially
Requires community support (sponsors/fundraising) to cover construction and operating costs	Most likely	Most likely
Walkable within a higher density neighborhood	Yes	Not always
Multiple sites available	Yes	No
Cost	approx \$375,000 each	approx \$1.5 million

1. Based on this more detailed information, what would you prefer to see Strathcona County focus on for outdoor aquatics in the SHORT TERM (1-5 years)?




Strathcona County is currently facing a projected budget deficit, and a new spray park would have to compete for funding with all other municipal services and programs. If a new site (neighborhood spray deck OR regional spray park) was to rely on funding from the municipality, it is likely that the cost would come from a tax increase.

Do you believe that a new spray park/deck should be funded solely by Strathcona County taxpayers?





2. Do you feel that funding for a spray park/deck should come entirely from sources OTHER than Strathcona County?








No		86%	101
		Total Responses	117

3. Do you feel that funding the cost for construction and operation of a spray park/deck (neighborhood or regional) should be SHARED between Strathcona County and other partners?

Response	Chart	Percentage	Count
Yes		92%	110
No		8%	9
		Total Responses	119

4. If you do not believe that a spray park/deck should be funded through taxpayers, where should the funding come from?

Response	Chart	Percentage	Count
User fees		10%	11
Corporate sponsors		44%	47
Community Associations (local fundraising)		18%	19
Individual sponsors		4%	4
Other sources (please specify)		25%	27
		Total Responses	108

Examples from respondents preferring funding come from “other sources”:

- part taxpayers, part fundraising, and corporate and individual sponsors
- a combination of all except user fees.
- I believe a combination of County tax payer support, a combination of corporate & individual sponsorship along with Community Associations would be the best scenario. I do not support user fees as my tax dollars are already paying - I should not have to pay twice.