

Community Check-In Summary

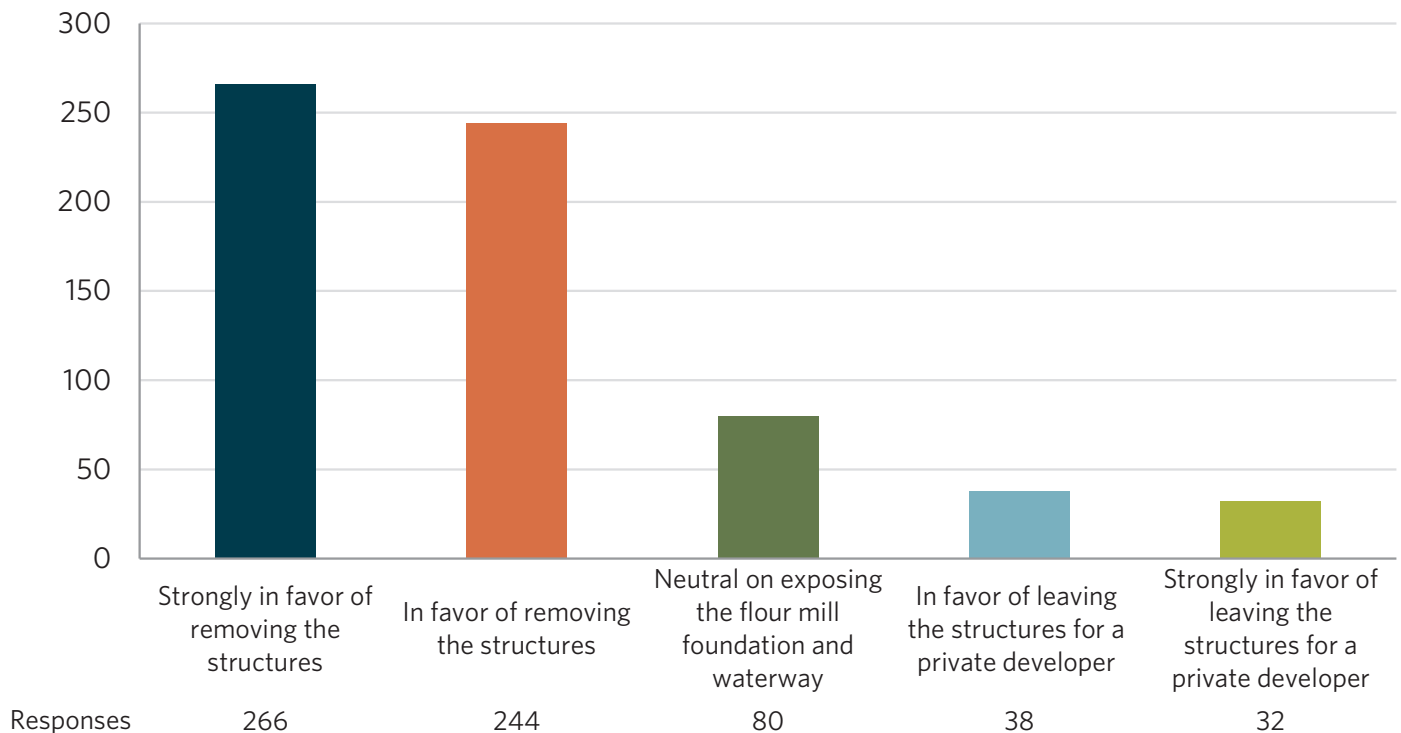
March 2017

The Preferred Design for the Willamette Falls riverwalk is well underway. The Design Collective conducted an online Community Check-In between March 6-20, 2017 to provide an update on the project progress, reflect on what we have heard from the community, describe next steps and collect feedback on site-specific questions.

The Community Check-In was hosted on the project website and included short topical videos and a brief survey. The following document summarizes the feedback received from **691 community members** through the survey-portion of the Check-In.

The Flour Mill

Participants were provided with highlights of the history of the Flour Mill structures that are found on site. With the preferred design of the riverwalk, decisions need to be made about which structures and stories should be highlighted as a part of the transformation of this property. Participants were asked to weigh in on their preference of whether the riverwalk design should consider removing the Flour Mill structures (Number 2 and 3) to expose the flour mill foundation and waterway to create open space or if the structures should remain in place and left for a private developer to redevelop. This question received a total of **660 responses**.

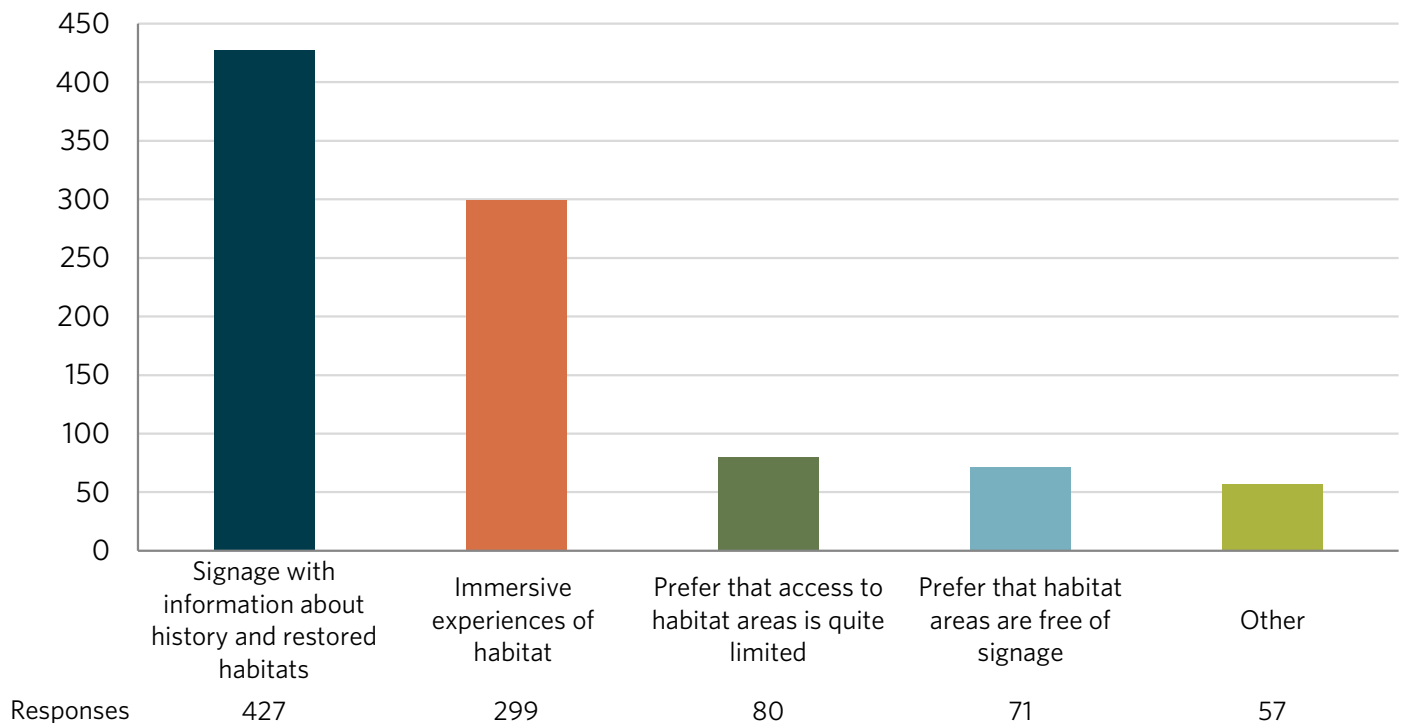


Participants were asked if they had anything else they would like to share about the flour mill site. Additional comments were received from 110 participants.

- **Consider a historical renovation with community access** (Ideas included: a museum, tours, Native history, historic photos and preservation of stone work.)
- **Restore habitat and make it natural and green** (Ideas included: removing manmade features when possible, preserving stonework and restoring green space, and considering opening the waterway to allow fish migration.)
- **Consider partial removal with some of the stonework preserved**
- **Consider building an indoor market in one of the structures**
- **Ensure seismic safety**
- **Ensure viewing access to falls**
- **Ensure private developers follow through with community desires**

Access to Nature

Many community members have requested access to natural areas along the riverwalk. The preferred design will show pathways that provide access through, but not upon sensitive habitat areas to protect wildlife habitat and water quality. Participants of the survey were asked what type of experience they would like while on the pathways that pass through the riverwalk natural areas. **A total of 661 people answered responded to this question** and provided their top two preferences.

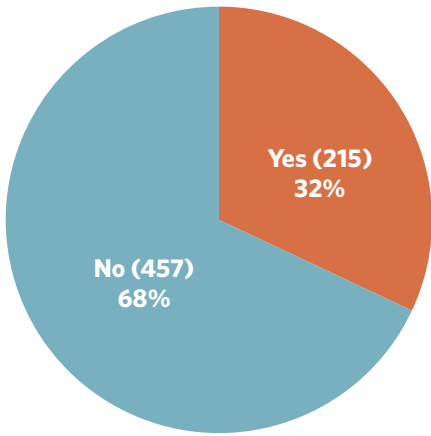


Participants were able to provide additional ideas for experiences while on the nature area pathways.

The following captures the key themes of the additional 57 additional suggestions that were submitted.

- Overall, there is a desire to have less activity and fewer structures within the natural areas, allowing the focus to be on the habitat itself
 - Limit signage and ensure that it does not obstruct views and harmonizes with the natural habitat
 - A desire for a balance of immersive experiences and habitat preservation
 - Make walkways that prevent disturbance to the natural habitat
 - Limit access seasonally to protect and preserve the habitat
 - Prefer something less tourism-focused
 - Would like views of the falls free of manmade structures
- There were several suggestions relating to how information about the site is provided, including:
 - Consider an online audio walking tour
 - Provide insight into the history of the area
 - Provide maps and information about the different elements of the site
 - Prefer that interactive information remain off site
 - Ensure information is available for those with hearing or vision impairment
- Ensure safety
- Allow river access for fishing





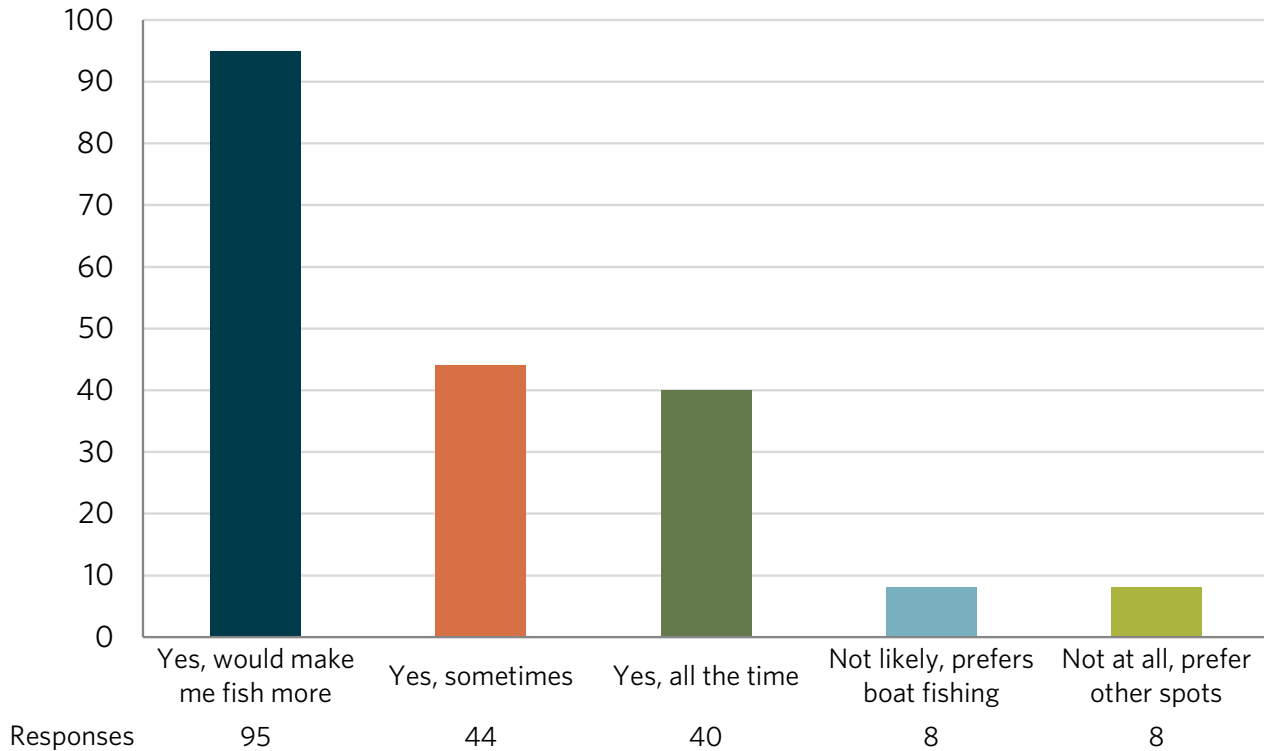
Fishing the Willamette River near the falls

Participants were asked if they are interested in fishing near the falls. Of the 672 people who responded to this question, the majority of participants said that they are not interested in fishing (68% said No).

If a participant expressed interest in fishing, they were asked some additional fishing-related questions.

Bank Fishing

There has been an interest in fishing opportunities along the shoreline of the former mill site. There are a few places along the shoreline that could potentially provide access for bank fishing. Participants were asked how likely they are to utilize these areas for bank fishing. A total of 207 people responded to this question. The majority of responses indicate that these areas would be used for fishing, if they were available.



Additional suggestions for bank fishing in this area of the site were provided by 12 people. These were the common themes:

- Consider only allowing bank fishing for Native Americans
- Bank fishing can often result in litter and degradation of the natural habitat
- Consider how to provide bank fishing access for handicapped or disabled people

Participants were also asked what makes for an ideal fishing spot. There were 67 responses to this question.

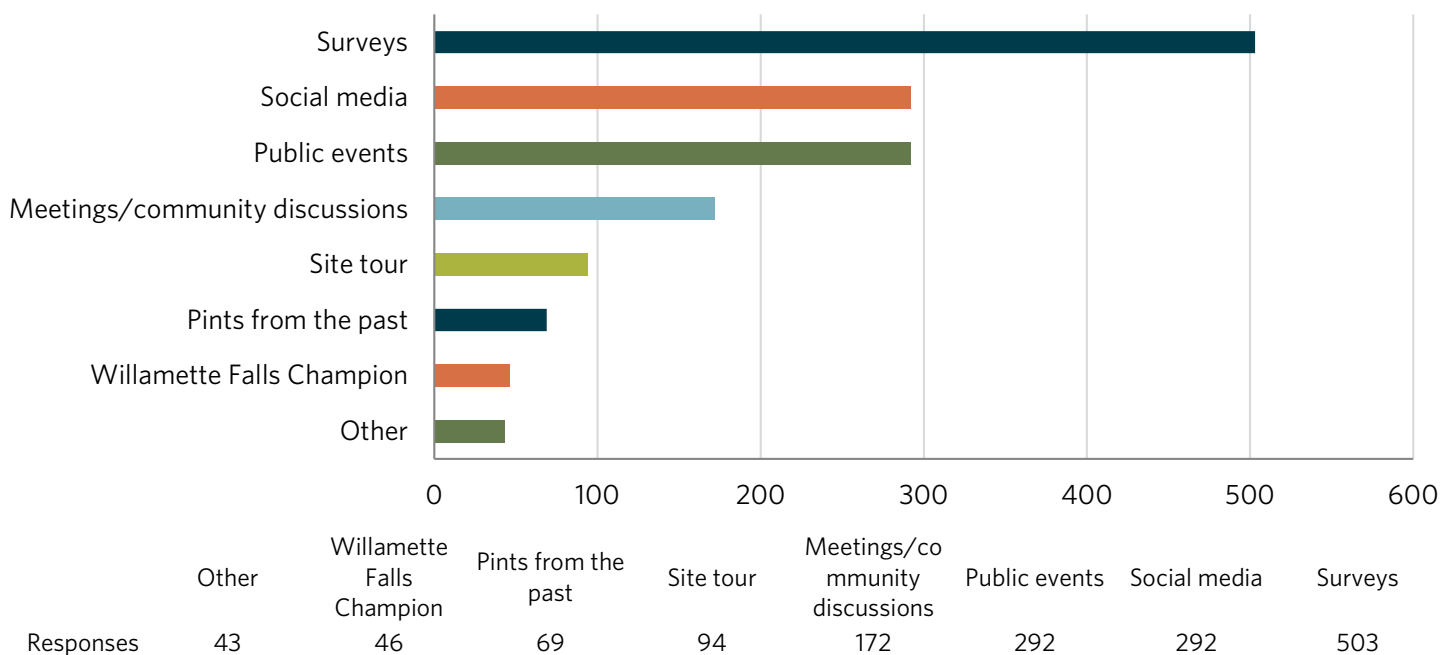
The key themes include:

- Secluded areas away from human activity or natural areas with little construction
- High fish activity and or times of fish migration
- Open riverbanks with lots of room
- Seasonal restrictions
- Access to deep water by way of dock or pier
- Access to rocks to fish off of
- There were several suggestions for amenities, access and safety:
 - Safety for children
 - Regular maintenance and facilities such as restrooms and trash cans
 - Handicap access
 - Parking

Community Participation Feedback

The Willamette Falls riverwalk project is an opportunity for Oregon City and the greater Portland region to transform the ways in which they experience the falls. Community participation and feedback has contributed greatly to the preferred design. The Design Collective surveyed participants to better understand how they have engaged in shaping this process. The following is a summary of the feedback received.

A question asked participants about the ways they have participated in the project to date. A total of **594 people** answered this question. **The majority of respondents said they have participated in surveys (503), social media (292) and public events (292).**



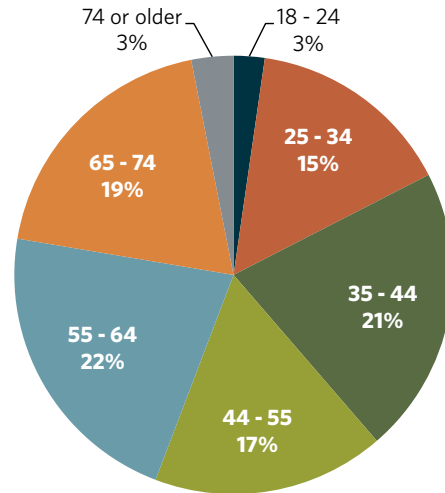
Future Participation Opportunities

Participants were asked if they are interested in participating in discussions about walking, biking, transit and parking options. A total of **603 people** responded. Of those, **316** said they were, **110** said they were not and **177** said they were not sure. Participants were also asked if they were interested in becoming a Willamette Falls Champion. Of the **538 people** that responded, **162** said they were, and **376** said they were not at this time.

Demographics

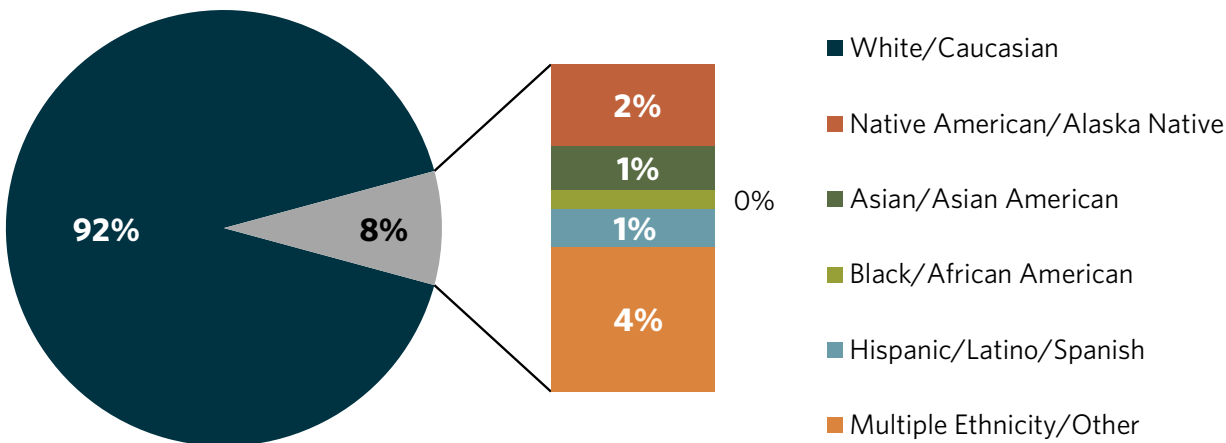
Age

A total of **613 people** answered the question regarding age.



Race/Ethnicity

A total of **601 people** answered the question regarding race/ethnicity.



Income

A total of 605 people answered the question regarding income. Of those that answered, most (150) said they made \$100,000 to \$149,999 year. Five said they made less than \$10,000, nine made between \$10,000 and \$19,999, 27 made between \$20,000 and \$29,999, 58 made between \$30,000 and \$49,999, 97 made between \$50,000 and \$74,999, 98 made between \$75,000 and \$99,999, and 69 made \$150,000 or more. A total of 92 participants preferred not to answer.

Disability

A total of 587 people answered the question regarding disability. Most (538) indicated that they do not live with a disability or that the question was not applicable. Of respondents that indicated a disability, 25 have difficulty hearing, 18 have ambulatory difficulty, six have cognitive difficulty, four have independent living difficulty, three have vision difficulty, and two have self-care difficulty.