



# Russellville Connected Trail System



Russellville Connected Trail System Project  
FY 2023 RAISE Grant Application  
Submitted by the City of Russellville, Arkansas to the  
United States Department of Transportation





## RAISE Grant Application 2023

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### *Community Engagement Framework*

Engagement for the project will feature three major components:

1. Community Advisory Committee
2. Stakeholder Group Interviews
3. Community-wide Input Meetings

#### Community Advisory Committee

The community advisory committee has been an integral part of the Russellville Connected Trail System project since its inception. The committee, which was established within the first two months of pulling together the concept, has played a significant role in guiding the project through its development stages. The committee's primary function is to help assess the trail route, constructability challenges, and define key amenities to be included as part of the trail project.

The advisory committee is made up of a diverse group of community stakeholders, including local business owners, property owners, community leaders, and residents. Their expertise and input have been invaluable in shaping the project's direction and ensuring that it meets the needs and desires of the community.

Throughout the project's application process, the advisory committee will continue to serve as counsel for city staff, providing feedback and guidance on key decisions. Their involvement in the project has helped to build strong community support and ensure that the trail system meets the needs of all stakeholders.

#### Stakeholder Group Interviews

Interviews with stakeholders will be conducted to better understand how the project will impact different groups. The input received will be utilized to inform and fine-tune the project and application. Emphasis will be placed on gathering insight from groups that are often underrepresented or commonly difficult to involve in community-wide engagement efforts.

Stakeholders include:

- Arkansas Tech University
- Homeless Advocates
- Pope County 100 Families Alliance
- River Valley Ozarks Offroad Cyclists
- Russellville School District
- Others

#### Community-wide Input Meetings

One to two community-wide meetings will be held as part of the planning stage to better inform project decisions. Meetings will be set up similar to a design charrette including a presentation followed by intensive group discussion to "design" a project concept and amenities.



### Russellville Connected Trails System Public Engagement

Since the conception of this project, Russellville has placed emphasis on public input from citizens through a variety of community engagement methods. The City of Russellville understands that partnerships and collaboration are the only way this project will be successful.

On February 13, 2023, a community advisory committee meeting was held to discuss the trail route and proposed amenities. The attendees of this meeting included various members of the community representing the Chamber of Commerce, Arkansas Tech University, Russellville School District, Russellville Police Department, Industry, Community Organizations, the Cycling Community, and city staff and services. During this meeting, the project was introduced including details of the proposed alignment and potential amenities. In addition, discussion included how the project will connect industry, medical services, and schools across historic barriers including I-40. Additionally, requests for comments regarding the trail alignment were made.

The City of Russellville conducted a visual preference amenity survey to gather feedback and input from community members regarding design elements and amenities for the Russellville Connected Trail System project. The survey included various options for trail amenities such as benches, lighting, landscaping, and signage, among others. The goal of the survey was to gauge the level of interest and preferences for these amenities among the community members.

The survey was distributed to the community and 1,209 participants completed the survey during the 10-day survey period. The City of Russellville received valuable insights and feedback from the survey participants, which helped in the selection of the amenities that would be included in the project. Additionally, the feedback helped in identifying areas that require improvement, and the proposed amenities would help address these needs.

The survey results were analyzed, and the City of Russellville is now working on incorporating the selected amenities into the project design. The survey also helped in identifying areas within the City Park that need improvement, and the proposed amenities would enhance the park's functionality and aesthetics. The City of Russellville values the community's input and will continue to seek feedback to ensure that the trail system meets the needs and preferences of the community.

As a part of the project, a walk audit will be performed with the community advisory committee to enhance the comprehension of the route. The audit's outcomes will be utilized to finalize the trail route and recognize potential future obstacles resulting from existing circumstances.



## Russellville Connected Trails System Amenities Survey

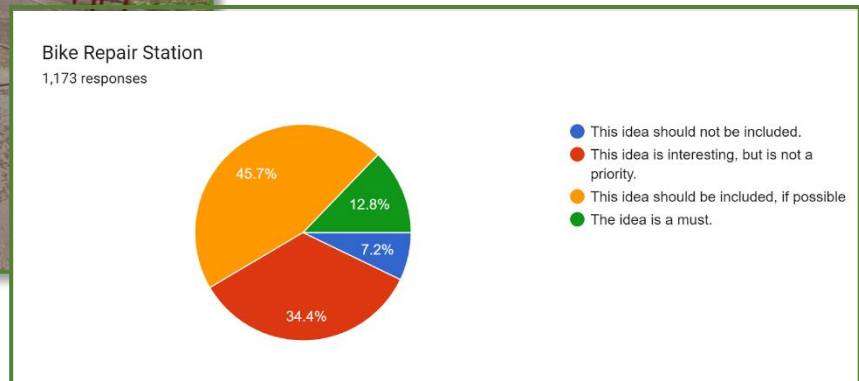
This visual preference survey showcases various design elements that may be considered for construction based on the preferences from the community. The feedback we receive from this survey will be crucial in determining what amenities should be included. Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey and please share with others in the community, we want to ensure that this trail alignment fits the needs of everyone in Russellville.

Every question has four answer options except for one. The four answer options available to survey participants are:

1. Exclude this idea.
2. This idea is interesting, but not a top priority.
3. Include this idea, if feasible.
4. This idea is essential.

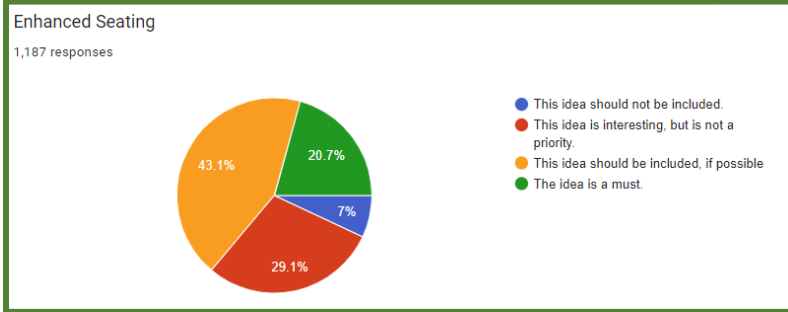
However, the question about expanding City Park or creating a Linear Park only requires participants to choose between those two options to indicate their preference.

## Bike Repair Station

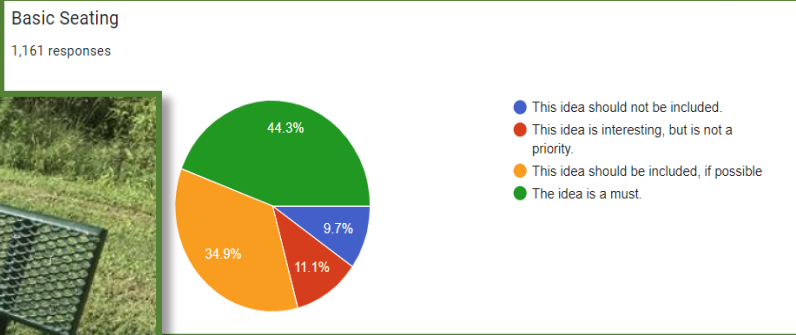




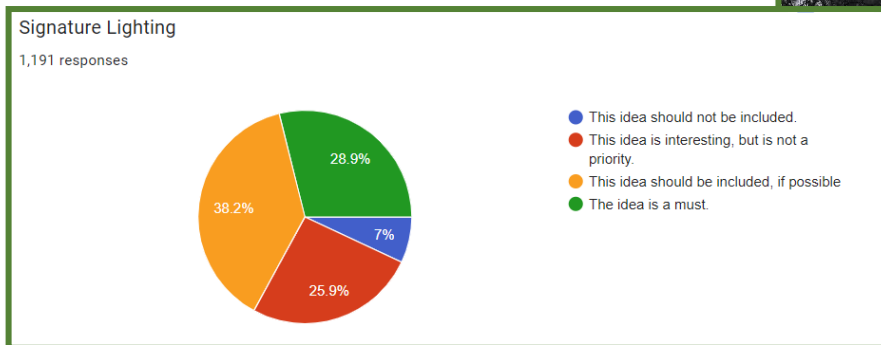
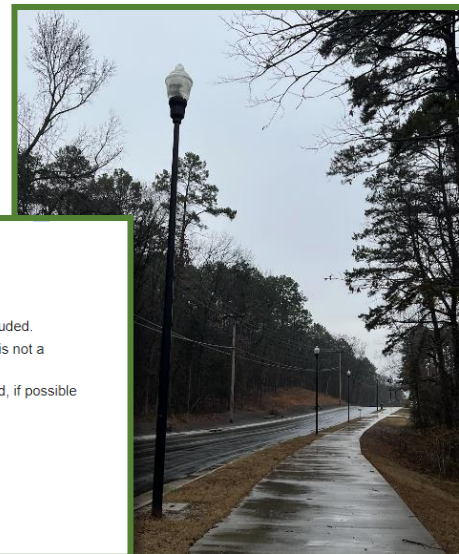
# Enhanced Seating



# Basic Seating



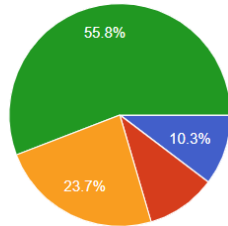
# Signature Lighting





# Basic Lighting

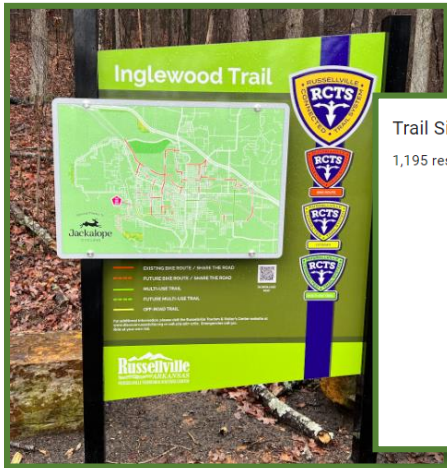
Basic Lighting  
1,159 responses



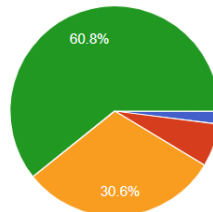
- This idea should not be included.
- This idea is interesting, but is not a priority.
- This idea should be included, if possible
- The idea is a must.



# Trail Signage



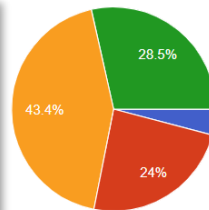
Trail Signage  
1,195 responses



- This idea should not be included.
- This idea is interesting, but is not a priority.
- This idea should be included, if possible
- The idea is a must.

# Interpretive Signage

Interpretive Signage  
1,171 responses

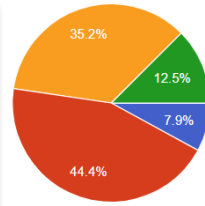


- This idea should not be included.
- This idea is interesting, but is not a priority.
- This idea should be included, if possible
- The idea is a must.



# Trail Gateways

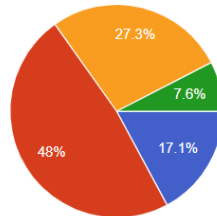
Trail Gateways  
1,187 responses



- This idea should not be included.
- This idea is interesting, but is not a priority.
- This idea should be included, if possible
- The idea is a must.

# Trail Workout Stations

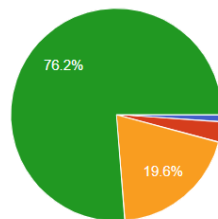
Trail Workout Stations  
1,191 responses



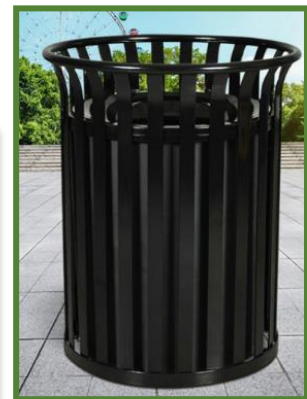
- This idea should not be included.
- This idea is interesting, but is not a priority.
- This idea should be included, if possible
- The idea is a must.

# Trash Cans

Trash Cans  
1,204 responses

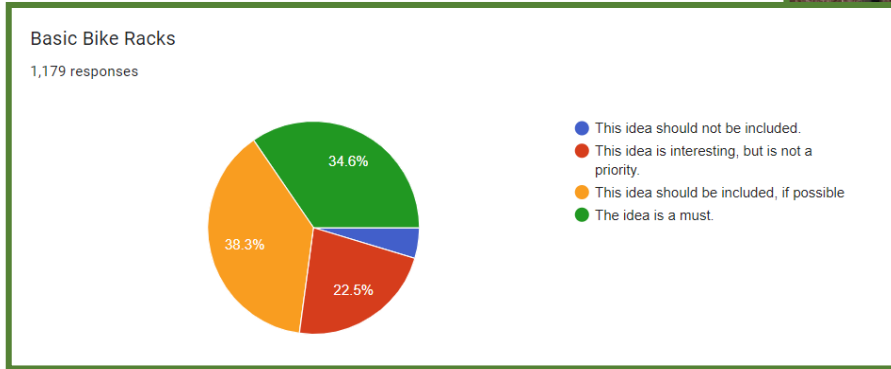


- This idea should not be included.
- This idea is interesting, but is not a priority.
- This idea should be included, if possible
- The idea is a must.

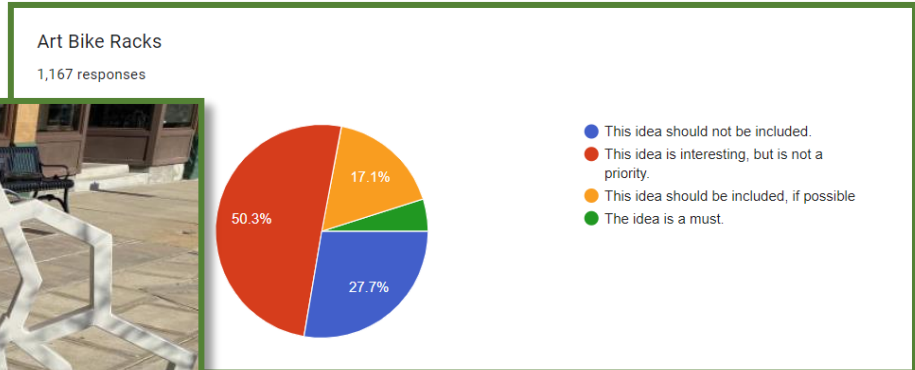




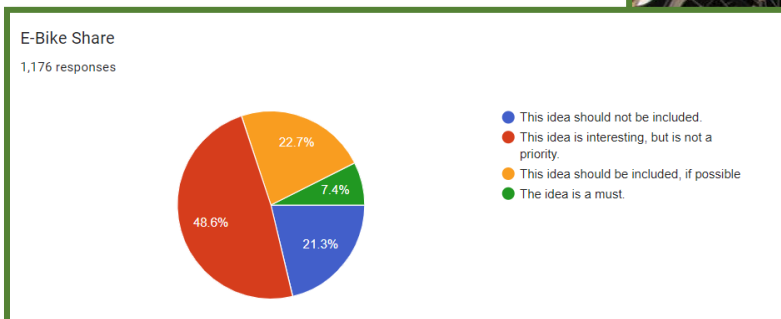
# Basic Bike Racks



# Art Bike Racks



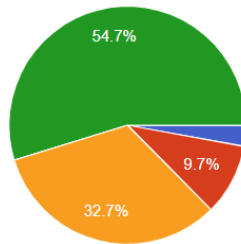
# E-Bike Share



# Drinking Fountains

## Drinking Fountains

1,193 responses



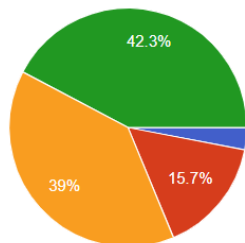
- This idea should not be included.
- This idea is interesting, but is not a priority.
- This idea should be included, if possible
- The idea is a must.



# Pet Drinking Fountains

## Pet Drinking Fountains

1,196 responses



- This idea should not be included.
- This idea is interesting, but is not a priority.
- This idea should be included, if possible
- The idea is a must.

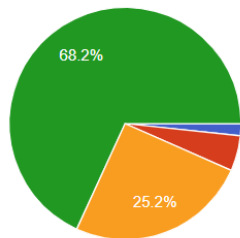


# Public Restrooms



## Public Restrooms

1,197 responses

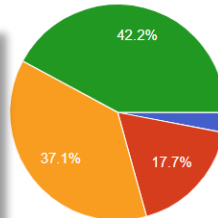


- This idea should not be included.
- This idea is interesting, but is not a priority.
- This idea should be included, if possible
- The idea is a must.

# Trees

## Trees

1,193 responses



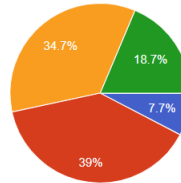
- This idea should not be included.
- This idea is interesting, but is not a priority.
- This idea should be included, if possible
- The idea is a must.



# Shade Rest/Outdoor Education Kiosks

Shade Rest/Outdoor Education Kiosks

1,188 responses



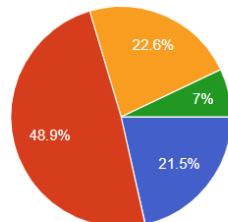
- This idea should not be included.
- This idea is interesting, but is not a priority.
- This idea should be included, if possible.
- The idea is a must.

# Trail Art



Trail Art

1,192 responses



- This idea should not be included.
- This idea is interesting, but is not a priority.
- This idea should be included, if possible.
- The idea is a must.



# Expand City Park vs Building a New Linear Park



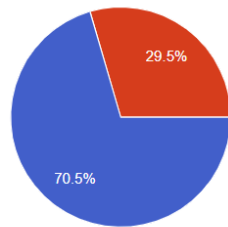
Expand City Park



Linear Park Playground

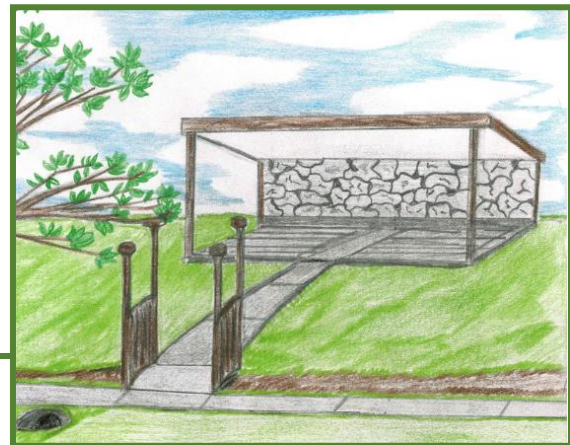
Expand City Park vs Building a New Linear Park

1,159 responses



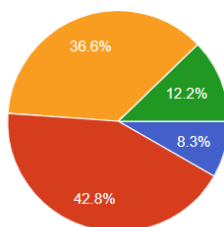
- Expand City Park
- Linear Park Playground

# Amphitheater in the City Park



Amphitheater in the City Park

1,193 responses



- This idea should not be included.
- This idea is interesting, but is not a priority.
- This idea should be included, if possible.
- The idea is a must.