

Off-Leash Dog Area in vicinity of Governor's Brook Subdivision, Spryfield

What We Heard Report



April 2021

HALIFAX

OVERVIEW

The community engagement exploring potential dog off-leash areas (OLA's) in the area of Governor's Brook, Spryfield, ran from February 5, 2021 to March 8, 2021. Information, a survey, and a Q&A platform were hosted on the Shape Your City portal.

Engagement opportunities were advertised via:

- A public service announcement
- Mailouts to adjacent residents
- Alerting key stakeholders via e-mail
- Digital promotion

Digital promotion included digital screens and paid Facebook and Instagram posts. Facebook reach was over 54,000, and over 3,400 people engaged, Instagram reach was over 2,200 with 10 engaging, and Twitter reached over 19,500 people with more than 190 engaging.

The Q&A platform was not utilized.

ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

There were 222 survey respondents, 49% of who live in the Governor's Brook Subdivision and 60% within the B3P area code. An additional 25% of respondents are from adjacent postal code areas (B3N, B3R, B3V). The majority of respondents, 79%, are dog owners and the same percentage feel there is a need for a dog OLA in the Governor's Brook area.

Many respondents do not walk their dogs off-leash in Spryfield. Many travel to Point Pleasant Park and the Mainland Common, while others walk their dog off-leash in areas where off-leash activity is not permitted such as McIntosh Run Regional Park.

Of the four options presented the preferred location is Roaches Pond Ball Diamond Park.* The rank order was:

1. Roaches Pond Ball Diamond Park
2. Roaches Pond & McIntosh Run Community Trail (with select hours)
3. McIntosh Run Community Trail (all times of day)
4. McIntosh Run Community Trail (with select hours)

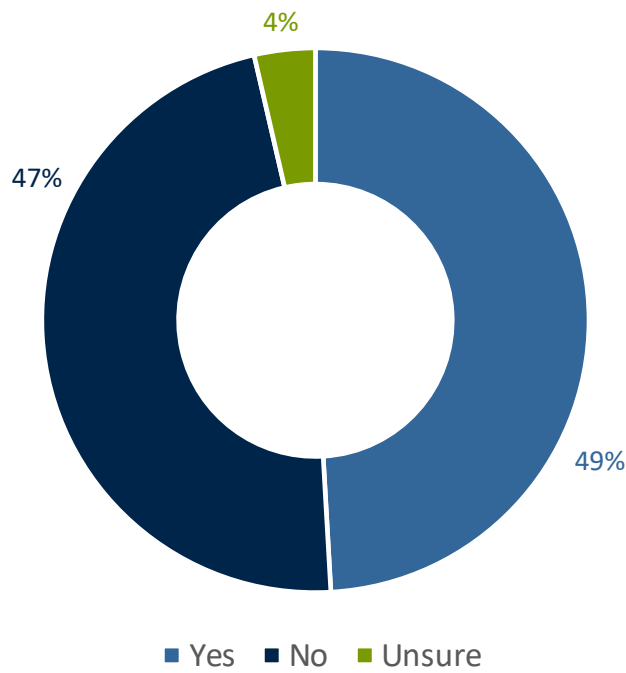
**The top two options were tied therefore the 1st and 2nd choices were combined to break the tie*

The most frequently written comments (question 9) were related to:

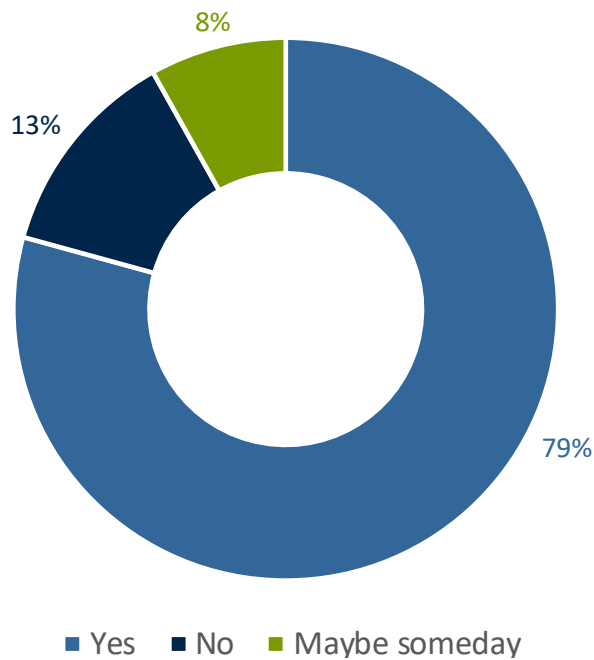
1. Opposition to an OLA on the Community Trail
2. General positivity about an OLA in the area
3. Preference for fenced-in OLA's
4. Need for off-leash rules to be followed and enforced
5. Request for adequate garbage cans and dog waste bags

SURVEY RESULTS

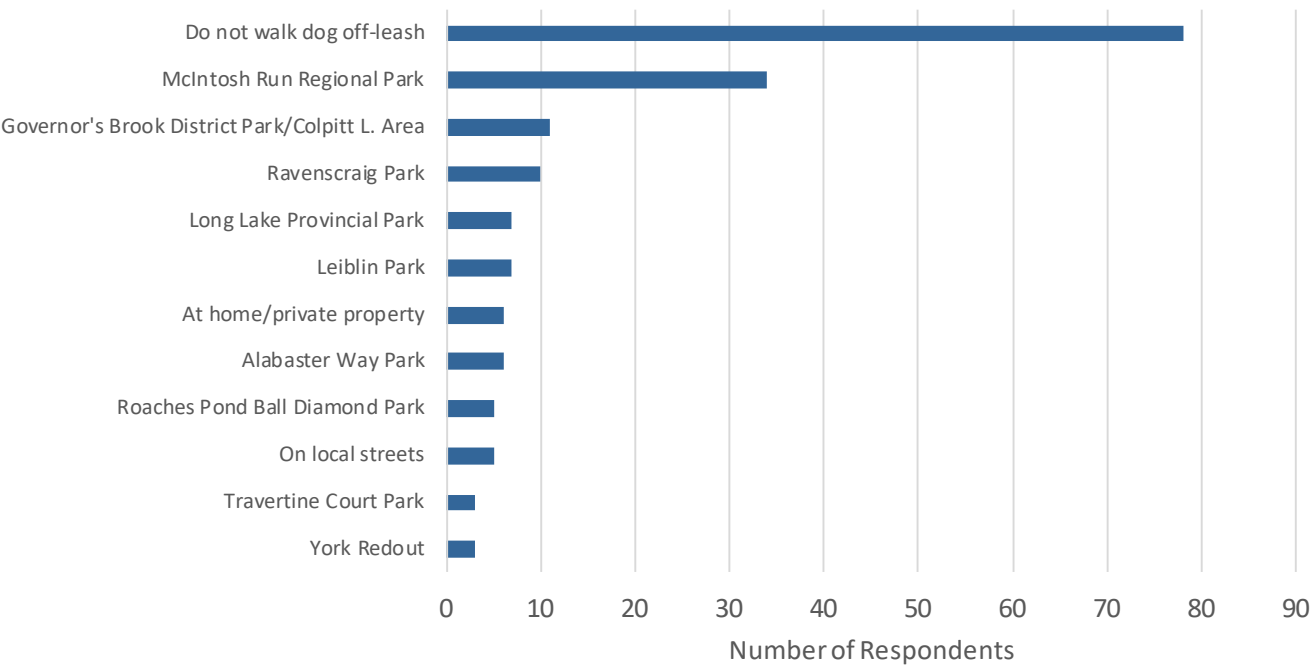
Q1. Do you live in the Governor’s Brook Subdivision?



Q2. Are you a dog owner?

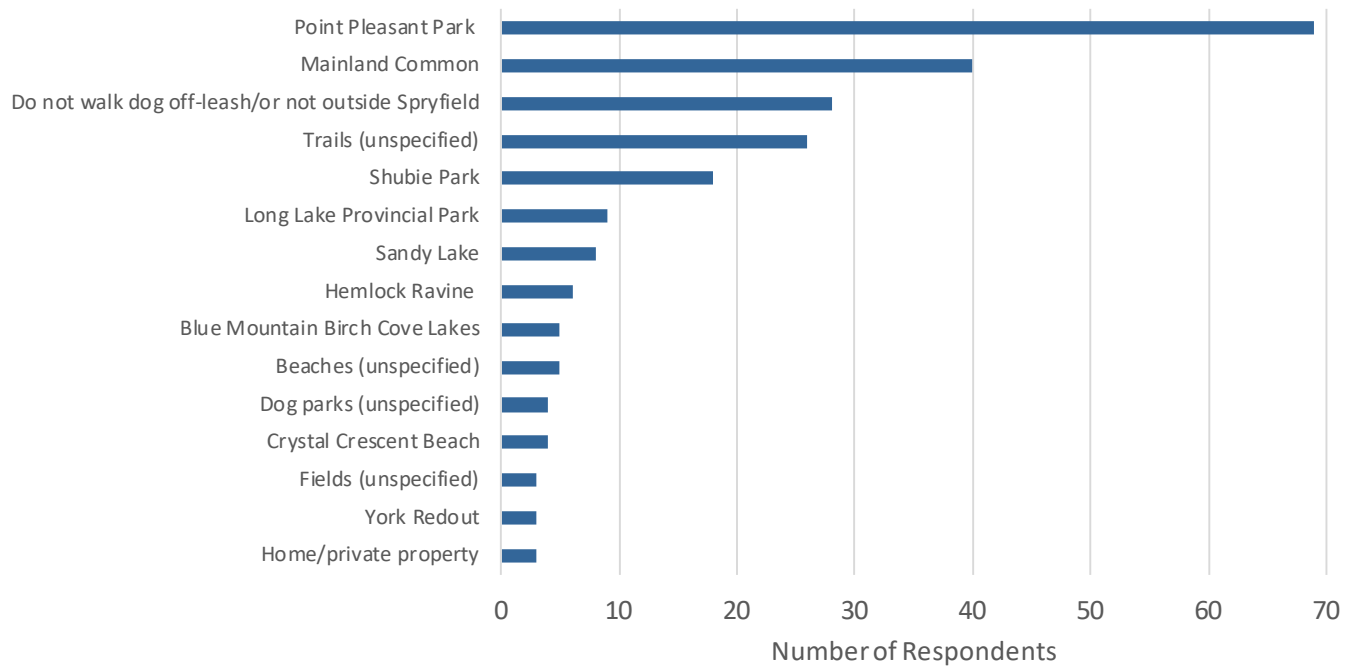


Q3. If you are a dog owner where do you walk your dog off-leash in Spryfield?*

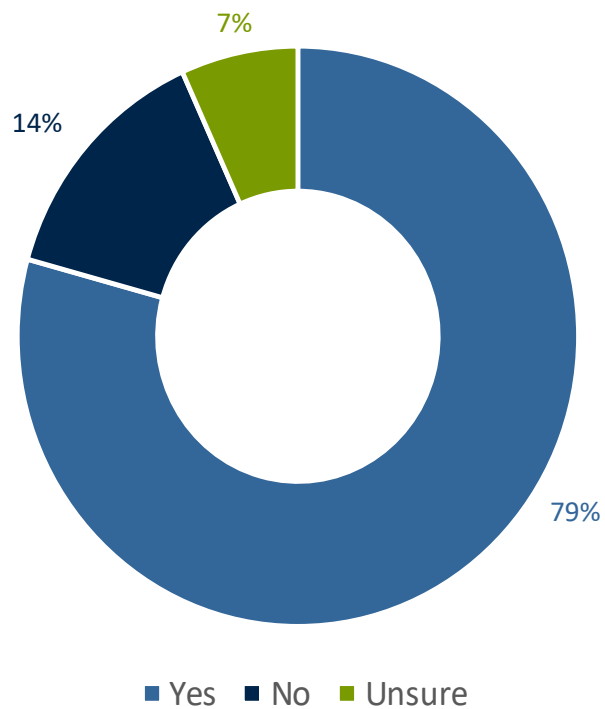


*11 other locations with one or two respondents are not shown. Respondents often cited more than one location.

Q4. If you are a dog owner where do you walk your dog off-leash outside of Spryfield?

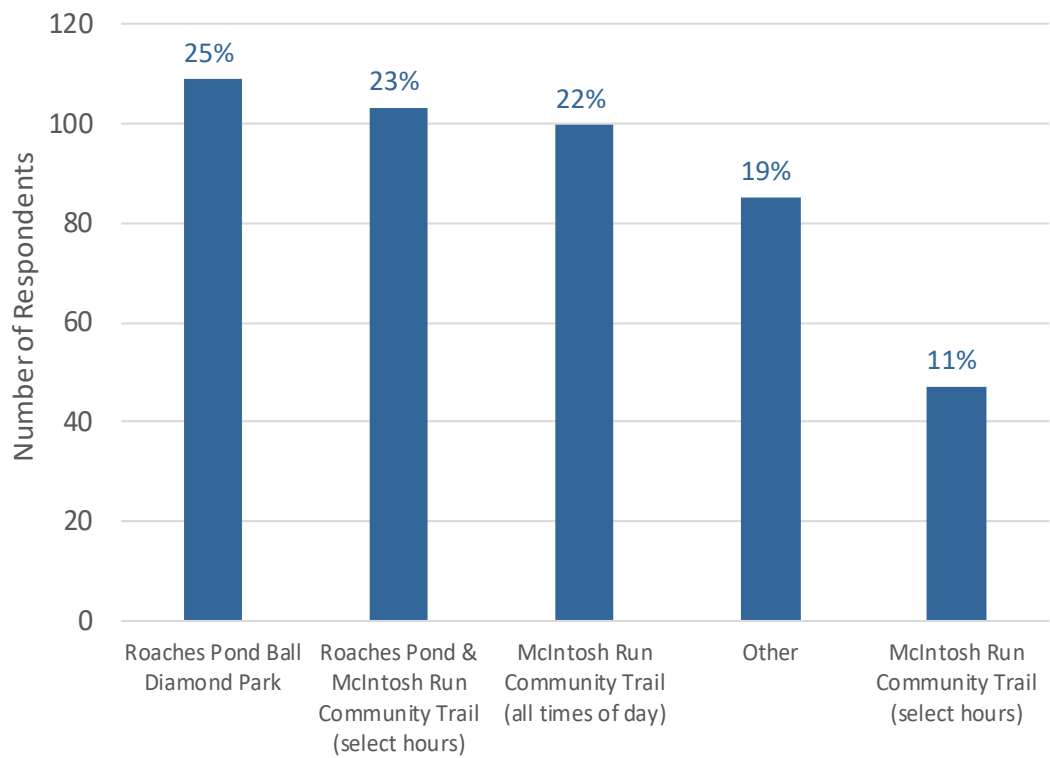


Q5. Do you feel there is a need for a dog off-leash area within the vicinity of Governor's Brook Subdivision?

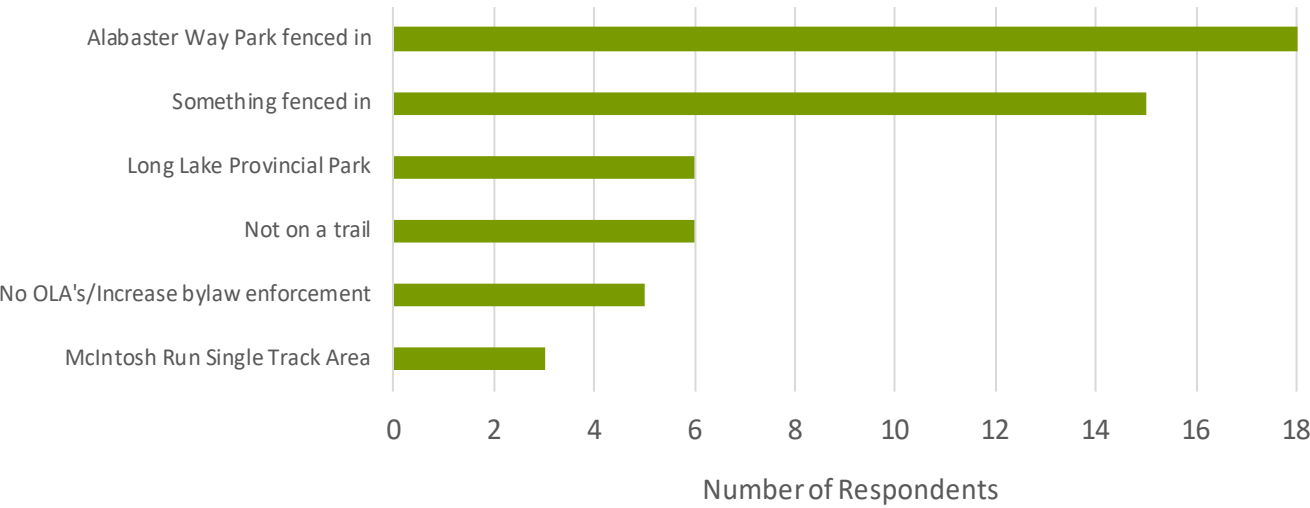


Q6. Please rank the following potential dog off-leash site options in the Governor’s Brook area based on your preferences.

First and Second Choice Selections Combined

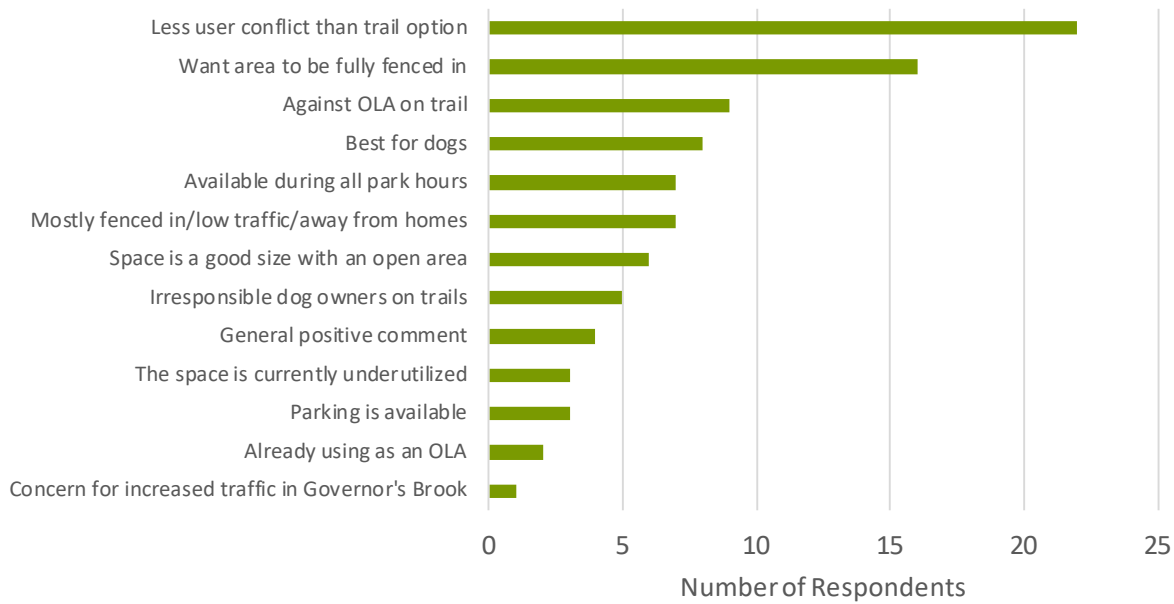


Q7. If you chose ‘Other’ for your first choice please name or describe the area.

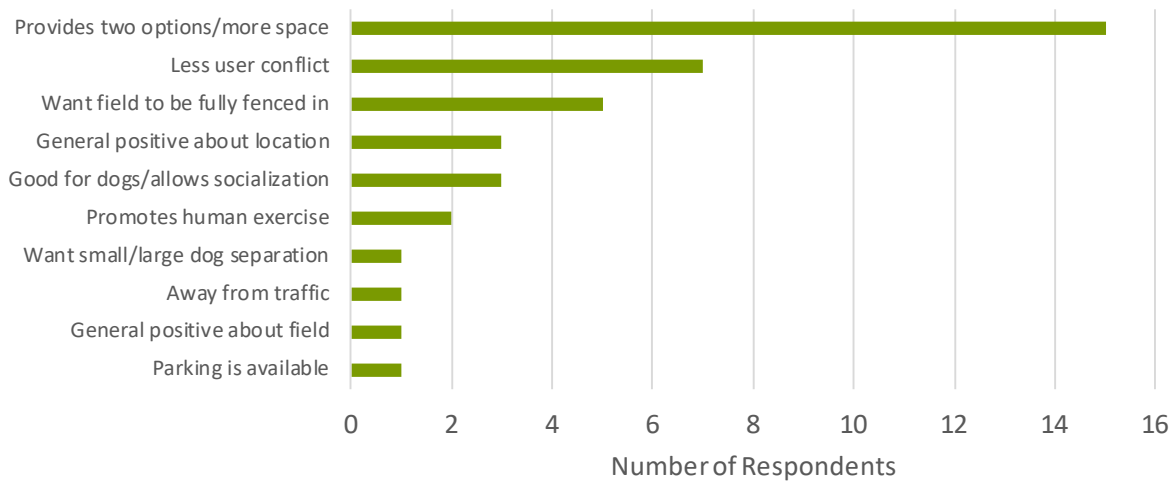


Q8. What is it about your first choice that makes it the preferred option from your perspective? (This question was optional to answer and respondents could provide more than one reason.)

Roaches Pond Ball Diamond Park

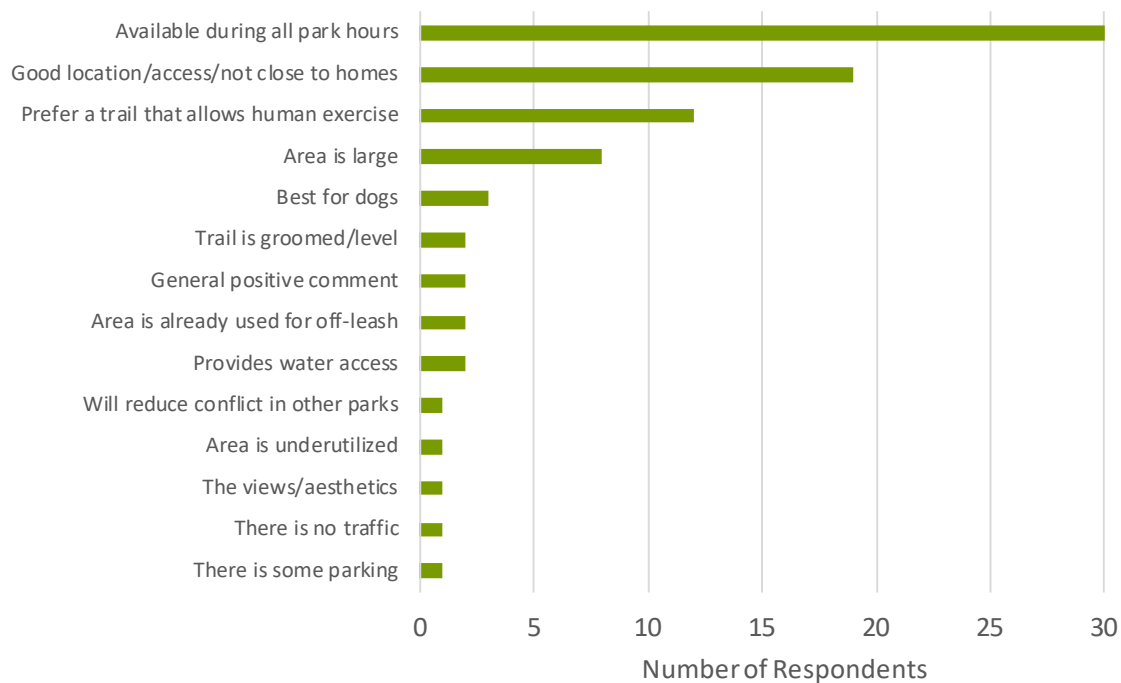


Roaches Pond Ball Diamond Park & McIntosh Run Community Trail (select hours)

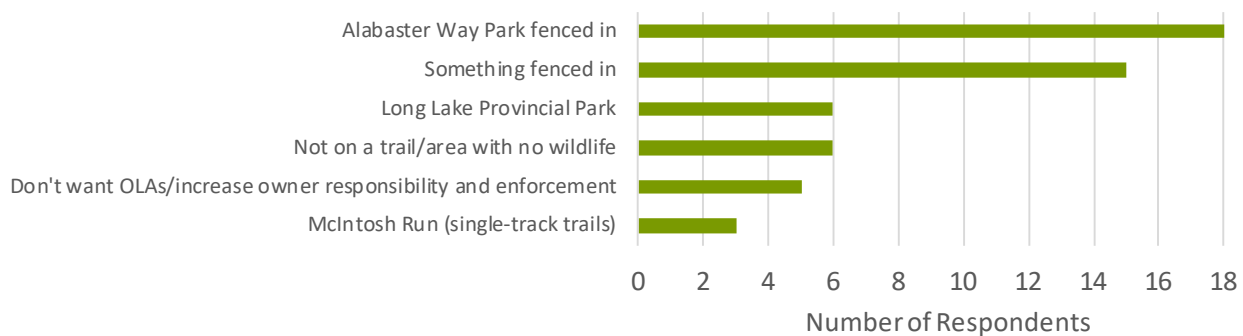


Q8. Continued

McIntosh Run Community Trail (all times of day)



Other



McIntosh Run Community Trail (select hours)

Three respondents chose this option as their first choice, reasons cited are:

- location
- already used for off-leash activity
- better for shared use

Q9. Please add any other comments directly related to this project.

