



**BEAUTIFICATION
ARTS & SCIENCES**
CITY OF FLAGSTAFF

Buffalo Park Water Tank Mural Connect Flagstaff Community Survey Responses

1. In thirty words or fewer, what makes Flagstaff special to you? What do you appreciate? (Use single words or short phrases)

- Beauty of the seasons
- Ponderosa Forest, wild areas, activism, social openness
- Open space, places to go explore and find new places. Community and fresh air and the Peaks
- small city feel; dark skies; citizen athletes; dark skies; FUTS and trails; dark skies. did I mention dark skies?
- Flagstaff is a mecca for runners of all ages and abilities to enjoy the trails, elevation, and climate.
- Dark skies. Clear air. Historic downtown. Natural setting. Smaller population.
- non commercial
- Embraced and nourished by a healthy forest and protected by the San Francisco Peaks, Flagstaff has unmatched beauty, diversity, and serenity.
- Accessibility, view of the peaks, wildlife mingling with people
- Nature, open space
- The setting: the mountains & the climate. The (running/hiking/biking) trails: Between the FUTS, Coconino County, and the USFS, Flagstaff is home to an AWESOME trail system. The culture: Flagstaff retains its small-town charm.
- The amount of natural landscape in such a small town filled with evergreens, Aspen trees and other colorful trees. I appreciate the many urban trails.
- Community, nature, sustainability,
- vistas, clean air, access to national forest, a community that cares, sunshine, rich history, culturally diverse population
- Four seasons, Native culture, strong arts community
- running, access to trails, open space, clean air, surrounded by national forests, clean water, dark skies, national monuments, cultural diversity.
- The community and being immersed in nature!

- Forest, Native American culture, The Peaks, History of sawmills/Riordans/Babbitts including Babbitt Ranch Gateway to Grand Canyon Museum of Northern Arizona Lowell Observatory Dark Skies Sunset Crater
- Views, Nature, hiking, kind people, community, nearby beautiful nearby locations like Sedona, Lake Powell and Grand Canyon
- Vistas, views, retreat, relaxation, energizing, deer families, exercise
- save the open spaces
- Stars, sacred mountain, beauty, community, family, connection to earth,
- Flagstaff is the premier city in the US for distance running. Also the Indigenous culture here is special.
- is a sacred mt. for Navajos and also a place responsible for most Navajo teachers.
- I appreciate the Flagstaff history that can be seen throughout areas of Flagstaff.
- Natural beauty, mountains, clear skies, not touched by humans but naturally appealing
- San Francisco Peaks
- Nature, art, creativity, people
- Nature. Community. Resilience.
- The surrounding natural areas
- Live-long local. The beauty and seasons in/around Flagstaff.
- public lands, dark night sky, welcoming, fairness, equality
- I love the mountains and the small town culture even though we are a city
- Ethnic & cultural diversity.
- Flagstaff has all 4 season you can enjoy without having to travel elsewhere
- Being surrounded by beauty
- Mountain biking, small businesses, hiking, backpacking, skiing, AZT, Grand Canyon, camping, sunflowers,
- Easy outdoor access, unique, independent shops and stores, local
- People, community, culture
- Clean air. Dark skies.
- Mountain Air, Sunflowers, Deer, Birds, Squirrels, Foxes
- the trees the peaks the people the diversity the beauty dog friendly
- High altitude, clean air, small town atmosphere, four seasons
- I appreciate the culture and community that makes Flagstaff so beautiful.
- natural beauty, snow, peaks, community, music, water
- Please stop wasting tax payer funds on art projects to “beautify” our city for tourists and focus more on the growing needs of your middle and lower class residents-housing, food shortages, economic concerns, homelessness, local healthcare issues.

- Freedom, friendly people, recreation, nature, dark sky, heady vibes, mountains, elevation, sunshine, ponderosa, natural history, Native American connections
- Peace, beauty, solitude, views!!
- Small town, friendliness, community, diversity
- Trees and mountains in the high desert are spiritual. Important to honor indigenous cultures that are here
- I love the nature and wildlife we can view at the park: stars on a clear night, the mountains and ponderosa pines, wild sunflowers in late summer, community coming together for events like the science festival and star parties, community members hiking
- Great urban trail system; 4 seasons; The Peaks; Strong volunteerism and community; Great public art
- I love the access to the outdoors as well as other climates near by: phx, Sedona, Moab.
- Seasons, landscape scenery, cool weather, kind people
- I appreciate the friendliness and beauty that surrounds Flagstaff. I like the size of town and having the University here as an employer, as well as educating people from all over the world. Diversity is key to a thriving community.
- The culture, the history and the great outdoors
- The peaks, trails, cultural diversity
- Access to public land, big skies, big clouds, big sunsets, big starscapes. Neighbors, native plants, local animals.
- Environment, people
- Friendly. Caring. Inclusive. Quirky. Active. Lovely.
- Night sky, Aspens, Wildlife, Wildflowers, Juniper, Oak, Native Flowers and Plants
- I've lived here my entire life, it's my hometown
- A friendly, active, outdoor community.
- The beautiful nature surrounding us. And our amazing community
- Open, undeveloped views. Not commercialized
- The beautiful weather, mountains, and outdoorsy chill people.
- Mountain views, community, outdoor activities.
- Nature, biking, hiking, the peaks, four seasons, cooler summers, festivals.

2. What makes Buffalo Park special?

- It's an incredibly beautiful open space with an outstanding view
- I think Buffalo Park is tragic because of its history. The trees are gone and the land is barren. Its value is the view of the mountains which is a view available elsewhere. If you add art to the tank, please make it blend in!
- It's an easy to access and use beautiful set of trails that look at our sacred peaks.

- The city should not paint the water tank. The paint on the tank requires that it is removed and replaced every 10 to 15 years to protect the tank's integrity and to prevent rusting and destruction. The mural will be a eye sore as the paint deteriorates. In addition, the current paint on the tank has a special coating to prevent graffiti on it so that will make the tank hard to paint or the paint to stick.
- The park provides unique views of both the city and the mountain. The trails provide endless opportunities to enjoy said views and put off your problems for a brief while to explore and enjoy.
- Buffalo Park is one of those places that surprises you even if you've lived in Flagstaff for years. Tucked right in the middle of town, it somehow feels miles away from everything. The moment you hit the trail, the city noise disappears and you're surrounded by open meadows, pine forest, and sweeping views of mount elden and the peaks. It's this mix of accessibility and total escape that makes Buffalo Park special, a secret slice of wilderness hiding in plain sight.
- Wide open vistas -- great place to view the weather in the summer.
- It is a world class gathering location for runners of all ages and abilities to enjoy the panoramic views, amazing trail, climate, and elevation. Champions of all ages have trained and competed at Buffalo Park. Celebrating these accomplishments would be an amazing opportunity of a mural at Buffalo Park. A running themed mural on the water tank has been discussed for a very long time. Flagstaff commemorates many aspects of the community on various murals, but Buffalo Park could best be used to highlight the running community. Other murals can be used for other aspects of the community.
- It is a beautiful open space that has great views of our city. It is used by local schools, organizations and individuals for races, church services, star gazing, exercising, photo taking, etc - it is great place to gather in the outdoors. There is abundant wildlife that also calls the park "home". It is definitively a gem in our city.
- It's beauty, peace. And community I've the center of our beloved mountain town.
- Central location. Access to national forest. Large size and openness. The park is not lighted which is good.
- the amount of open space sp close to the city
- Buffalo Park is sacred. It welcomes everyone and freely gives every visitor the restfulness of open space and natural beauty. We encounter our neighbors here in open-hearted ways, appreciating each other's enjoyment of the space. Encounters with wildlife remind us that we live in a diverse community that includes human beings, birds, wild animals, and plants. The ever-shifting light on the San Francisco Peaks and Elden Mountain invites us to embrace the beauty of the present moment.

- "This is an amazing public space that affords accessibility to the best of living in a mountain town. The views, the wildlife, the activities, able to host special events but also be open to everyone
- The recent upgrades of bathrooms and ramadas makes it even more universally usable."
- Close location to town, open space and nature, family friendly
- It is a community gathering place for outdoor exercise.
- It sits just below the San Francisco Peaks while having a view of some of the town below with views of the skyline East to West. The opened landscape as well as fresh air and easy terrain with the trail winding and rolling easy through open vegetation and through the Ponderosa trees makes it a great escape from the busyness of every day life. It is tranquil.
- Buffalo park feels like an accessible space where anyone can go to enjoy nature and get good views
- The view!! Also, easy access, its history, the fact that Flagstaff citizens did not allow a road to be built through it, great meeting place for easy walks
- Open space has remained open space. No additional buildings or structures, with the exception of the much-needed bathrooms, have been added. The trails are wonderful as are the views. It is truly an oasis in the heart of the city.
- Having been a runner most of my life, Buffalo Park is one of the greatest places to train in the country and most inspiring as you are likely to encounter famous Olympians and professional runners alongside you. Its panoramic views of the San Francisco Peaks and surrounding landscape are second to none. Early in the morning you will encounter deer, elk and antelope grazing. It also has an incredible history, and lets not forget that it was exactly 40 years ago when a number of concerned local citizens who organized the Save Buffalo Park initiative to prevent the park from being subdivided by the City Council proposed Gemini Parkway. Flagstaff would not be the same had those few residents not stepped to the plate.
- It's one of the best third spaces. People come here to see friends, process life on their own, throw parties, stay active, stargaze, take photos, get the kids out, see wildlife, etc. It's a great community space!
- When I was little, we came from Tucson for a week in summer. My favorite thing was riding the stagecoach at Buffalo Park amusement park. I also loved the animals. Imagine my delight when I returned to live in Flagstaff in 1983 that the Park was still there, as a walking and exercise trail. My family has delighted in it all these years. A place to walk, run, access hiking trails, watch Dark Skies activities!
- Wide nicely maintained trail, beautiful views, running into friends, wildlife, great location

- Buffalo Park is a rare form of retreat in the center of the City. While it is minutes away from downtown, when in the park you feel as if you are far away or elsewhere. There are increasingly fewer places within cities that have completely undeveloped land for the sole intention of enjoying the land as is. It is a place where people can retreat, rest, recreate, relax, and refresh for free in the middle of the city. It is an accessible view point for tourists interested in going on an easy "hike", runners training, friends meeting, and people contemplating. Lots of deer live in the park. It is common to see them while you walk. Over this summer there was a fawn who had twins living in the park.
- Among many things, the chorus frogs that come to life in the spring when we have enough precipitation and cloud watching.
- Buffalo park is special because it is wild and yet so accessible. Because it's on top of the Mesa it has the best stargazing in town. And the glow of sunset on the wild grasses is always breathtaking. It's a place everyone loves and where the community gathers.
- For anyone who follows professional running in the US, Buffalo Park is one of the iconic training locations for olympians and elite athletes. I feel that Flagstaff's running culture and history is not well represented in the art around town and many residents are not very aware of the city's significance in the world of endurance sports. I think this mural could be an opportunity to celebrate that aspect of Flagstaff in a very fitting location.
- Buffalo Park is a meeting ground, a walk about area. U can pretend to do some pull ups. u can run a mile. u are u. it is good to run, walk or chill in the park. everyone looks to a trip to buffalo park as a destination.
- Buffalo Park is an apex of Flagstaff that provides views of the San Francisco Peaks and vistas of the city and surrounding area. It is still a wild corridor that supports deer and elk, and allows people to experience nature. It needs to be protected from any further development in the future.
- It's where my wife and I got engaged. It is also our favorite place to go for a dog walk.
- Great trails, easy access, enjoyed by many. Get away from human noise.
- View of San Francisco Mountains with Ponderosa Pines
- 360 degree mountain views, buffalo used to roam, sports events happen here (track), people come here from all over the world, it is peaceful, people come here to better themselves
- Gathering spot. Glorious views. Nature. History.
- The openness of the area.
- Childhood memories. Native culture.
- the views of the mountains!
- Nature.
- The open space for all sports

- The parking lot can be crowded, but the trail is laid out so people are spread out and the walk does not feel crowded
- Access to beautiful views, non-technical trail, sense of community
- Easy access to walking/running with a view
- View of the peaks surrounded by trees, central to flagstaff, host to wide variety of community events
- Open trails for everyone. Friendly folks.
- The sunflowers in late summer are unbelievable.
- "the location
- the open space
- the view
- community watering hole
- all the dogs
- the history
- the buffalo sculpture
- the stars and sky
- sunsets"
- I am 64 years old and remember when my parents took me and my brother to Buffalo Park in 1965. I remember the stagecoach rides and Indian villages that existed. I think that this history should be portrayed on the mural along with what it is currently being used for as mentioned in your biography.
- Buffalo Park is home to a diverse wildlife ecosystem and it allows us to peacefully experience that.
- "the wide variety of wildlife and plant life
- marshes, plains, ponds, frogs, birds, trees, rabbits/hares, herds of deer, coyote, red fox, skunks, butterflies"
- Please stop wasting tax payer funds on art projects to "beautify" our city for tourists and focus more on the growing needs of your middle and lower class residents-housing, food shortages, economic concerns, homelessness, local healthcare issues.
- the views, sunsets, mountains, easy access, exercise stations, night sky viewing, bathrooms, location, healing, history
- It's a place you can get away from the busier areas of flag, and can come and enjoy nature and the beautiful views and peace.
- It's a great place to walk dogs, enjoy the beauty of wildflowers, trees, mountain views and if you are really lucky, you will see deer. Deer! What a thrill to see them.

- It's in the center of town, all types of people are there. When the trails are choked with snow usually it has melted at Buffalo Park and you can still get a walk in. And the view is amazing!
- Every great friendship starts with "wanna meet for a walk/jog at buffalo park?"
- It's a beautiful natural location that's easy to get to and even has some facilities (like the pavilion) for community events
- Its openness
- The wide-open view of the Peaks is stunning. It's a place where you'll see all walks of life recreating next to each other. To me, it feels like such a beautiful cross-section of Flagstaff's community. On any given day, you'll see all ages, abilities, races, and activities at Buffalo Park.
- The view of the peaks and the Indigenous people who called it home long before the settlers came.
- Beautiful open space, the skies, the deer, an easy walk for all seasons.
- When I walk Buffalo Park, I always feel special and grateful for the clean air, blue skies, scenic mountain landscape, the trees. The path is well-maintained. I enjoy seeing a community of all ages using the park in what way suits them; whether it's walking, running or biking. It's a special gift to see wildlife and all the natural plant life surrounding the mesa. It's a special place for our community.
- It is such a special piece of land- it gives wide open views and allows people of all ability levels a variety of ways to experience some of the best of Flagstaff
- "Buffalo Park is one of Flagstaff's most treasured spaces—an extraordinary resource that welcomes a wide variety of uses and experiences. It's not unusual to see world-class runners training on its trails, families out for walks, and as many dogs as people enjoying the open air. Visitors come for the sweeping views, the sunrise and sunset, and the brilliance of the night sky. It's also one of the best places to watch summer storms roll across the vast horizon. The wildlife knows it's a refuge too—elk, deer, porcupines, jackrabbits, cottontails, and tarantulas are frequent visitors.
- For many, Buffalo Park is part of their daily rhythm. The same people—and dogs—appear at the same times each day, and even if names aren't known, faces and routines are familiar. Over time, everyone becomes "waving friends." Despite its popularity, the park is remarkably well cared for; litter is rare considering how many people use it.
- Buffalo Park also serves as a key access point to the expansive public lands to the north. Community events like the annual Star Party and the concerts during ArtX are wonderful complements to the park's character—bringing people together while staying within the established trails and preserving the natural landscape that makes Buffalo Park so special."

- "Views of the peaks, the meadow, AZ lilies,
- Seeing friends- running community"
- It is an opening amid the forest, at the top of the hill that separates west Flag from East Flag. A place to find inspiration with the stunning view of the Peaks, to see a kestrel flying, to appreciate the big sky and the fascinating clouds. History yes, and today a place to admire elegant runners and greet quiet walkers from all over town. It is one of most beloved parks, one that citizens have worked hard to protect from encroaching roads and developments.
- I've been a resident of Flagstaff for over 30 years and I walked Buffalo Park with my children and my entire family since as long as I can remember! We've had picnics there. We've attended the night sky celebrations there, we go there on a full moon. It's home
- My mother tells me about visiting the park when it was first opened.
- It's a great place for running. As a Paraglider pilot Mt Elden and Buffalo park are one of my favorite places to fly.
- It is a place for everyone. I love seeing people of all ages walking running and biking. It is extremely special to me because I have learned to walk again there. Being at the base of our beautiful mountain makes the walk ride or run even more special. I often daydream as I walk about the day I will be able to hike our mountains again. It is so healing and so motivating
- It's a space where people from all walks of life come together to enjoy the outdoors and beautiful view of Mt Elden and the San Francisco Peaks. It's a space where you can train for a serious marathon, or enjoy a gentle stroll. I love seeing the hanggliders and paragliders fly about Mt Elden and watch them land in the park!
- The views, community, sunflowers, wildlife.
- Views of the peaks, trail access and proximity to the community.

3. Tell us a story about something fun or unusual that happened to you at Buffalo Park?

- When i moved to Flagstaff in 1986 it was the first place i ran. Loved it ever since
- The tarantulas cross the trail in the fall, the frogs sing in the spring.
- I brought both my dogs as young pups up to the park to run the trails, about ten years apart. Both dogs, being unruly young pups, strayed off the trails only to immediately step on cholla cacti, hobbling them. For each, I calmed them and carefully picked out the spines, which taught them to stay on the maintained path and built trust in their new owner.
- Well I was running one day, a storm came in quick and I almost go hit by lightening! Made me have a personal best!

- A few of us did a "treasure hunt" searching for the old buildings and artifacts associated with the original wild west-themed park. Found most of them. These should be protected.
- Any hike, walk, or run with my wife at Buffalo Park is a special event.
- Right after a big snow, it is fun to cross country ski in the park before all of the snow play groups show up.
- It is also very cool to see high school, college and professional teams training at the park. Have run into several filmings of professional runners in the park which is special to see."
- I got back into running at the Step Into Running program in Buffalo Park in my late 60s after being away from running for 20 years. The sunsets as we walked and ran along the trails were magical. Our park is truly a special place.
- "attending the ""moonlight sonata"" concert summer 2024.
- The gentleman who is an astronomer and piano player spoke and played as the full moon rose."
- I was a "running buddy" at a Girls on the Run event at Buffalo Park a few years back. I was paired at random with a girl I didn't know, who was getting set to run a 5K, most likely her first. I didn't have time before the race to ask her coach about her or find out what her expectations were. When she met me, she asked, "Are you fast?" I thought she was worried I would outpace her. So I reassured her that I would stay with her the whole way. We went to the starting line together and the run began. She sprinted to the lead, and I quickly realized it would be a challenge for me, a person 40+ years her senior, to keep up with this little speed demon! I tried, but once I recognized that she was indeed faster than me, I used my knowledge of the park's trails to cut across to a point where I could meet her again. She was surprised to see me there, but I felt it was important to stick with her and encourage her as the 5K distance became a reality and she slowed down. We crossed the finish line together, both of us smiling; her because she was one of the fastest runners that day, me because I recognized that I would never again assume I knew the answer when a person asked, "Are you fast?"
- Encountering a herd of 15? elk at the west side of the loop Every single trip to the park provides rewards flowers, frogs, mountain breezes, snow
- Tarantulas
- While doing a running workout, Ryan Shea ran just over a 4-minute mile. Sadly, he later passed away while running the NYC Marathon due to a heart defect.
- I have had the pleasure of walking this trail with my family, in particular, my late brother, with his daughter and her children. We joked and laughed with one another on the trail. I now see other families walk the same trail making memories and sharing a giggle or

two with one another. There are families from every walk of life and culture out there at Buffalo Park.

- I have created many wonderful memories walking and hiking in and through the park and playing on the equipment with my family.
- I remember vividly a morning run I had at Buffalo Park back in the fall of 2010. It was mid-week and the sun was barely up. It was a chilly morning and foggy. It had rained the night before. I ran up from my rental on Elm Street and passed through the parking lot—no cars and there was no one out. As I rounded the bend just before the mile mark the fog cleared and I saw a herd of 20-30 elk bedded down in the ponds on the left side of the trail. Once they saw/heard me they bolted at once in the direction of Mt. Elden. They were loud—a stampede. It was like that "Dances with Wolves" scene, the one where Kostner's character awakens with all the buffalo around him. It's now 2025 and I still run regularly through Buffalo. Though I'm sure they still pass through the park, I have never seen the elk again.
- Walking the 2-mile loop with Nat White and learning all about the history of the park and having him point out the features that were once part of the park when he moved here in 1969.
- A favorite memory of ours is going on a run and getting caught in a crazy lightning storm! Ran faster than ever back to the parking lot.
- I loved the stage coach ride a little girl, maybe 6 or 7 (or both; we came to Flagstaff every summer and went to Buffalo Park at least twice. I remember pretending I was really out in the Old West, in the piney mountains-- although I loved the Tucson desert where I grew up, Old West--ie as that was back in the day! I remember the little wickiups and earthen oven. of the 'Native American' (back then, we said Indian) village. When my own children were little, you could still see the rebar and concrete forms of this on the western part of the two mile walking trail, between the Mile 1.25 and Mile 1.5 trail markers.
- We've laughed, cried, talked, prayed, walked, ran, biked, pushed kids in strollers, caught monsoon frogs, observed wildlife, sat and stared, brought people out of town, gazed at northern lights, watched thunderstorms and clouds, and so much more!
- Recently at Buffalo Park, I saw a paraglider sailing off the top of Mount Elden. I thought that was so so cool. It was a beautiful evening at dusk. I ran into an old friend while walking the park. A little after I saw the paraglider flying and sailing down, I noticed there were several parasailers- maybe 5-8 coming off the top of Elden. I figured they must have been in a group. The paraglider landed. We walked by the paraglider on the phone; he was asking his ride to come pick him up. I was eavesdropping a bit and I heard him say that he didn't know the parasailers or see them at all, it was just a random coincidence. I thought that was funny.

- Once there was a porcupine hanging out by the tank which caught me off guard.
- We would walk Buffalo Park at night by the moonlight. We even went out on nights where there was no moon. It was so beautiful and still one of my favorite seasons of life. One of the nights we ended up being chased by a skunk. It was very eventful.
- I've enjoyed going stargazing at Buffalo Park and trying to see the northern lights.
- I love walking my dogs there and I can pretend im fit ...lol
- My wife and I got engaged in the park, and there was a magnificent sunset that evening. The sunset was 360 degrees in excerpt direction.
- "I think this park is naturally appealing, and is outside the urban area. As such, it does not need nor require human ""decoration"" on the water tank or other fixtures. (gilding the lily?) The dark green color helps it disappear, or maybe a medium sky blue would have the same effect.
- Do more to enhance natural trails in a thoughtful, well-designed way, and do not seek to add ""artificial decoration"" to the park through something like this mural idea. This is what makes it beautiful and accessible to so many of us. We are enjoying nature and do not need to see reminders of faulty human decoration when out in the most beautiful places!!"
- I have experienced the beauty of animals (especially deer), ponderosa pines and sunflowers at Buffalo Park with my grandchildren, children through 40 years. Have seen hang gliders land at Buffalo park
- I met for a first date here with my now husband!!! You should include love in the mural
- I hiked the trails with my husband and dogs
- I remember seeing Bison when I was young.
- tarantulas and dogs
- I ran my fastest when I saw elk nearby. They had no interest in me. 😄
- The fun times were the HS Cross County events and the perfect place to take pictures of all seasons
- Running races, photography clients
- Tarantulas!!!!
- Seeing all the happy faces from participants in various runs for a variety of non profits.
- I saw a fox while walking the trail at 630 am once. It was so special. Another time I saw a tarantula while I was walking, which was also really cool.
- "always running into fellow locals grateful that we came across each other
- the wonderful photos i have of sooo many kids on the buffalo!! always the greatest shots!!
- i always feel a sense of place there"

- Just the other week, I saw a huge falcon fly from one side of the park to the other right over my head. It was spectacular. I also enjoy the stargazing once a year with the dark sky commission.
- I encountered a herd of elk and watched the babies graze and socialize with their herd mates. It was so fun to get to experience such a moment!
- I love walking my dogs there and meeting other dogs (and people)
- Please stop wasting tax payer funds on art projects to “beautify” our city for tourists and focus more on the growing needs of your middle and lower class residents-housing, food shortages, economic concerns, homelessness, local healthcare issues.
- I moved to Flagstaff around 3 years ago. I had some of my best friends from back home visit last year and Buffalo Park is the first place I brought them. Now I always think of them whenever I go there.
- Once I was there to meet a friend for a walk, which is what I try to do rather than meet for beers all the time LOL. I dropped a credit card on the pathway. Someone found it, Googled me, found my cell phone and called me. He returned the card before I had left the area
- Love attending my kids cross country meets here, it’s just special. How lucky to host such beautiful things here and call it home. Also love the star parties here.
- Many good hikes and family photos taken at the park, looking for bugs and frogs and enjoying nature
- I have one friend who always forgets to meet me there but gets there in 15 minutes once I text her that I've arrived
- The other day I was riding through the park with my friend on our way to the mtb trails and came across a highschool cross-country meet. It was a fun reminder of my time as a cross-country runner and fun to see all the families gathered. As a 30-something without kids—and someone who didn't grow up in a mountain town—it's always fun to get a peak into what childhood/ adolescence looks like for the Flagstaff youths.
- There are so many special moments to experience, whether it's a visit with another walker, petting/meeting other dogs and dog lovers. There is always a good vibe happening. It's extra special when you hear the Sambatuque practicing their music! Star gazing, full moon walks. It's a gem!
- When I think of Buffalo Park, I think of training for my first marathon- running to Buffalo Park in the dark and completing a work out while the sun rises is really special.
- "I’ve personally made friends at Buffalo Park—people I think of as my early morning park friends. I don’t know their names, but in my mind they’re the determined grandmother walker, headphone guy, red-shirt runner, tracksuit grandpa, and the family with the

terriers. We all wave and acknowledge each other every day. To them, I'm probably "the runner with the naughty dog."

- My dog was actually found as a stray in Buffalo Park. He's a rez dog—a mix of every breed—and a perfect example of how many different things can come together to create something special. Just like the park itself."
- "The ephemeral wetland alongside the loop trail was filled with snowmelt on a spring day.
- The croaking of treefrogs was mesmerizing, a most unusual and unexpected sound in our dryland home. A truly special moment."
- There are so many fun stories. It's hard to pick one! For years, I took my daughter's cross-country skiing at Buffalo Park, where we would bring a backpack filled with a special tea party to have under a tree in the snow. But I'd have to say one of my favorite memories was about 30 years ago when I would take walks there in the mornings before I'd go to school at NAU and one quiet morning in the winter I was walking along and a coyote stepped in the path and stood for several seconds just staring at me about 10 feet away. We looked at each other as if we were old friends and then he or she moved on. It was a magical moment for me.
- Hang gliding/paraglider landings.
- Four days ago I flew during sunset with the full moon rising. It was a beautiful flight. When we landed at Buffalo park lots of people came up and were curious about flying and told us they had taken pictures and videos.
- I got to do a little run shuffle with our Vice Mayor! We just happened to be there at the same time. It was an amazing experience to be able to be a community and just go for a run.
- Caught in thunderstorm. Safe and beautiful
- The coolest thing is definitely the hanggliders and paragliders landing in the park! I also, love seeing events held there. It's like Flagstaff's main big playground that brings us all together.
- Senior pictures, school field trips, races.

4. What song or type of music comes to mind when you think of Buffalo Park? Why?

- Any kind of rock music. Because Buffalo Park Rocks!
- Bird song
- The yotes
- Have you Ever by Brandi Carlile
- I enjoy Buffalo Park for the quiet and sounds of nature and don't associate it with songs or music.

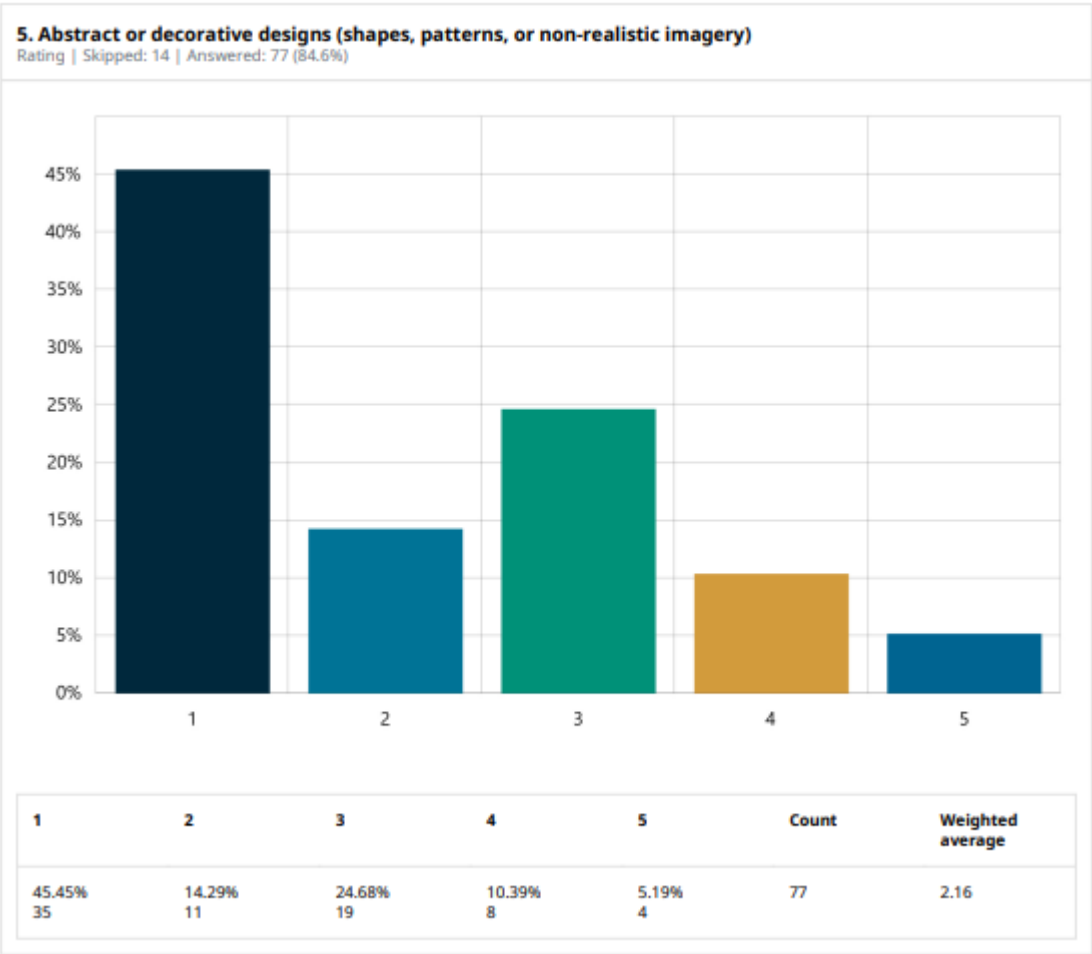
- Birdsong in the natural environment.
- "R Carlos Nakai
- Chris Thiele playing Bach on Mandolin."
- "Pop-Country for walking and viewing
- Classic orchestra for catching the sunrise
- Chariots of Fire-style for intensity runs"
- Serene & calm music.
- "John Mellencamp's "Small Town"
- Flagstaff has that small town feel and within minutes from downtown, you can be walking on a trail and in this case, Buffalo Park, and enjoy the sunrise or sunset amidst the pines on a calm blue sky day after a summer rain."
- Pop music
- Of the thousands of laps I've run in Buffalo Park, Bruce Springsteen's Born to Run comes to mind because Buffalo Park is simply the best place in the world to run!
- Home on the Range-- where the deer and the buffalo play.
- Home on the range?
- Depends on the day!
- The wind.
- Nothing. Just the sound of nature.
- many, many...depends on the day. as we all say. I think of a desert piano/
- Old cowboy songs about wagons and exploration.
- Drumming. Because often times when we are walking a drum circle is playing.
- Quiet, tune in to nature and let go of human noise. No music needed, please!
- Musical sound of frogs in the spring at Buglffalo park.
- Jazz music, because it reminds me of a time in the past
- "The Dark Skies piano concert with the moonrise was notable.
- This is such a subjective question."
- N/a
- buffalo Springfield, John Denver,
- Soft rock.
- Country and Western music. You can understand and hear the artist clearly...they may sense to society
- No songs. I like to listen to the wind and the birds
- There were once classical musicians performing at rest stops during a walk for mental health.
- Instrumental music but I would say I prefer just listening to the wind when at the park. I think more of the nature sounds.

- "starry starry night 🌟 ✨ 🌟 🌟
- open space to view our dark skies"
- Home on the Range!
- Great question. Maybe The Grand Optimist by City And Colour? That song just has a saunter to it and always provokes some kind of self reflection for me. Buffalo Park is such a beautiful place for reflecting and feeling.
- I think it is nice to have just the sounds of the birds and wind
- Please stop wasting tax payer funds on art projects to "beautify" our city for tourists and focus more on the growing needs of your middle and lower class residents-housing, food shortages, economic concerns, homelessness, local healthcare issues.
- For me I think of music with chill vibes like chill hop, downtempo, indie folk, etc.
- Bluegrass is my favorite type of music for outdoor activities, but all kinds of music are appropriate for Buffalo Park because all kinds of people gather there.
- The Eagles. I often hum their tunes when I walk the trail even though I'm not a particular fan of The Eagles
- Hmm...americana. Not country, but reminiscent of driving down a long southwest highway. Something like Black Jeans by Lucie Silvas, or All of My Love by Senora May.
- Peaceful, soft music.
- Take me home- because when I think of Flagstaff I think of the countless hours I have spent on the trails in buffalo park and the national forest just behind the park.
- I often listen to dance music and pop when I'm running at Buffalo Park. On quieter days, I lean toward more ambient, slightly chaotic music—it mirrors the changing skies and shifting light. Or, I just listen to the wind. You really can't overstate the visual power of the park—the vast openness, the endless views, and the feeling of being connected to the sky. From the trails along the mesa, you can see for miles in every direction. It's a good place to find your center.
- I can't help but think of ethereal, classical music. I've always felt this, but then when an event happened a few years ago where a classical musician played music on a baby grand piano up there, it felt absolutely perfect and relevant!
- Any song from the movie top gun, while im landing.
- I often run in the evening or night without music. It's the relative quiet I enjoy and the occasional trains off in the distance.
- Bluegrass. I just think it has a living lazy rhythm about it. The paths and my walks meander
- Greensky Bluegrass. Or Nolan McKelvey and muskellunge
- Into the great wide open (Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers), because it is mellow and fitting.

When you think about public When you think about murals in public spaces, which of these do you value most? Please score each on a scale from 1 star (least important) to 5 stars (most important):

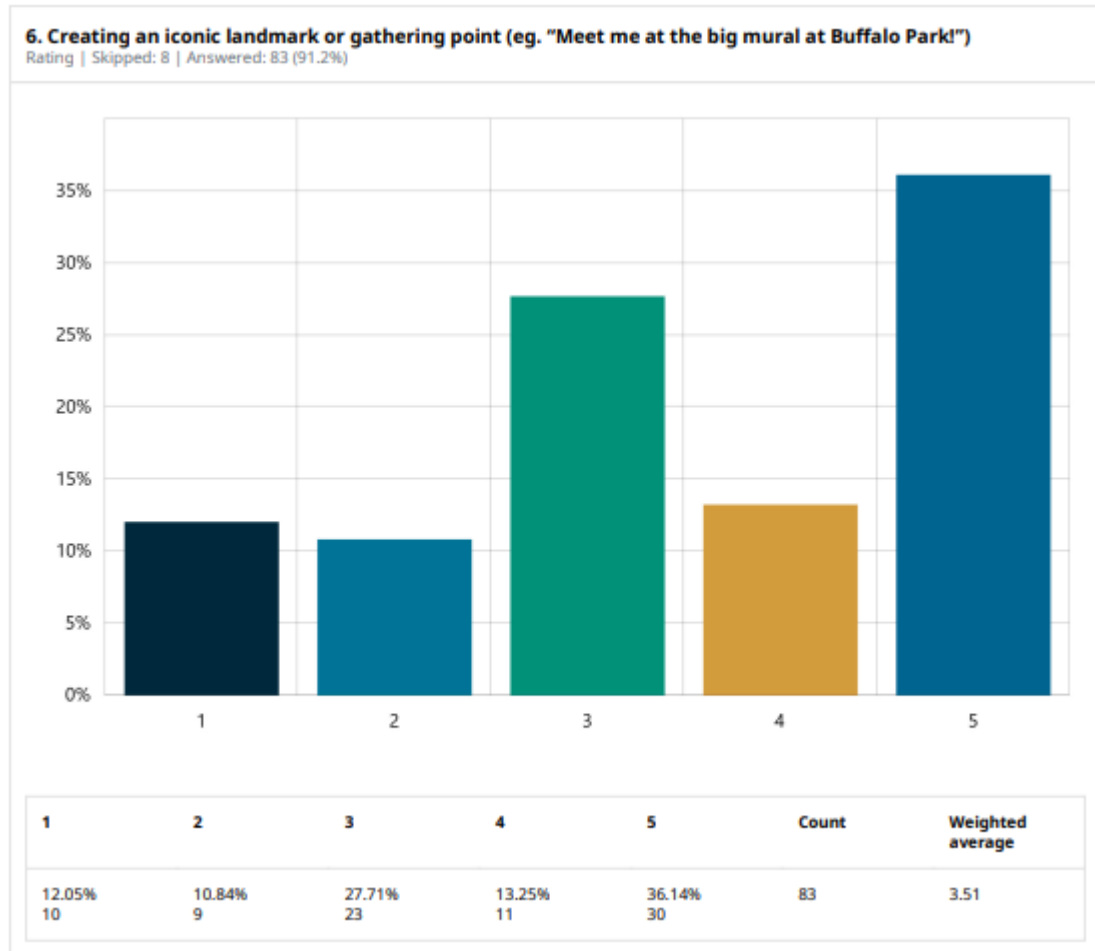
5. Abstract or decorative designs (shapes, patterns, or non-realistic imagery)

- Weighted Average: 2.16



6. Creating an iconic landmark or gathering point (eg. “Meet me at the big mural at Buffalo Park!”)

- Weighted Average: 3.51

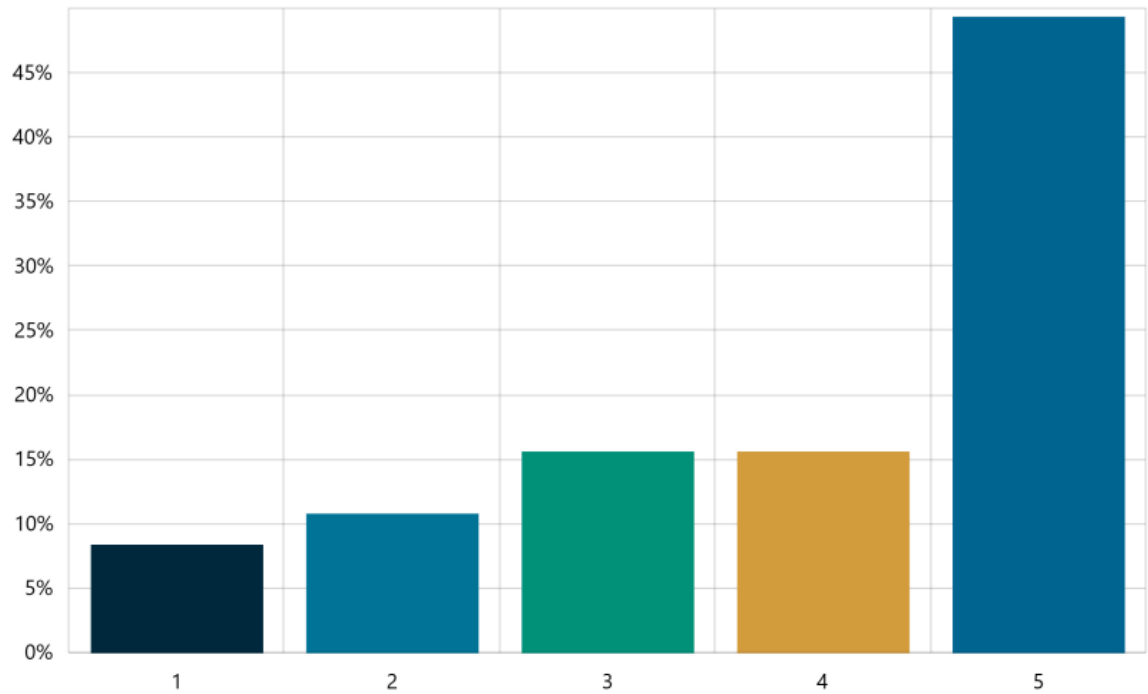


7. Featuring the diverse cultural representation of a neighborhood, city, or region

- Weighted Average: 3.87

7. Featuring the diverse cultural representation of a neighborhood, city, or region

Rating | Skipped: 8 | Answered: 83 (91.2%)



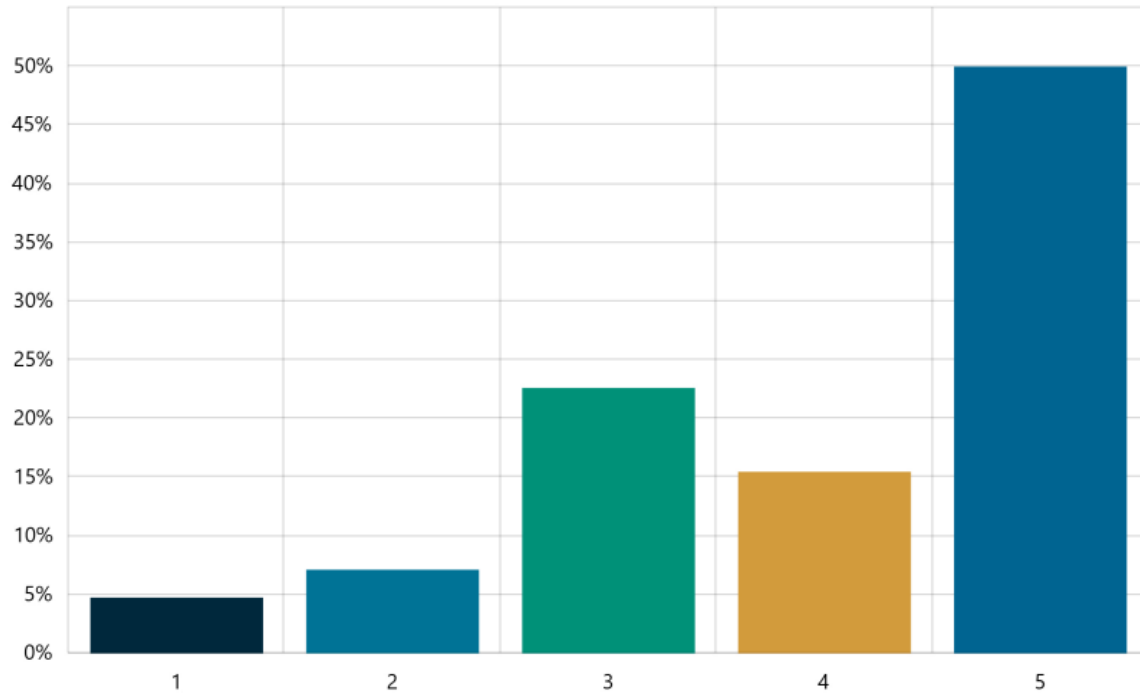
1	2	3	4	5	Count	Weighted average
8.43%	10.84%	15.66%	15.66%	49.40%	83	3.87
7	9	13	13	41		

8. Highlighting the history of culture of the location

- Weighted Average: 3.99

8. Highlighting the history of culture of the location

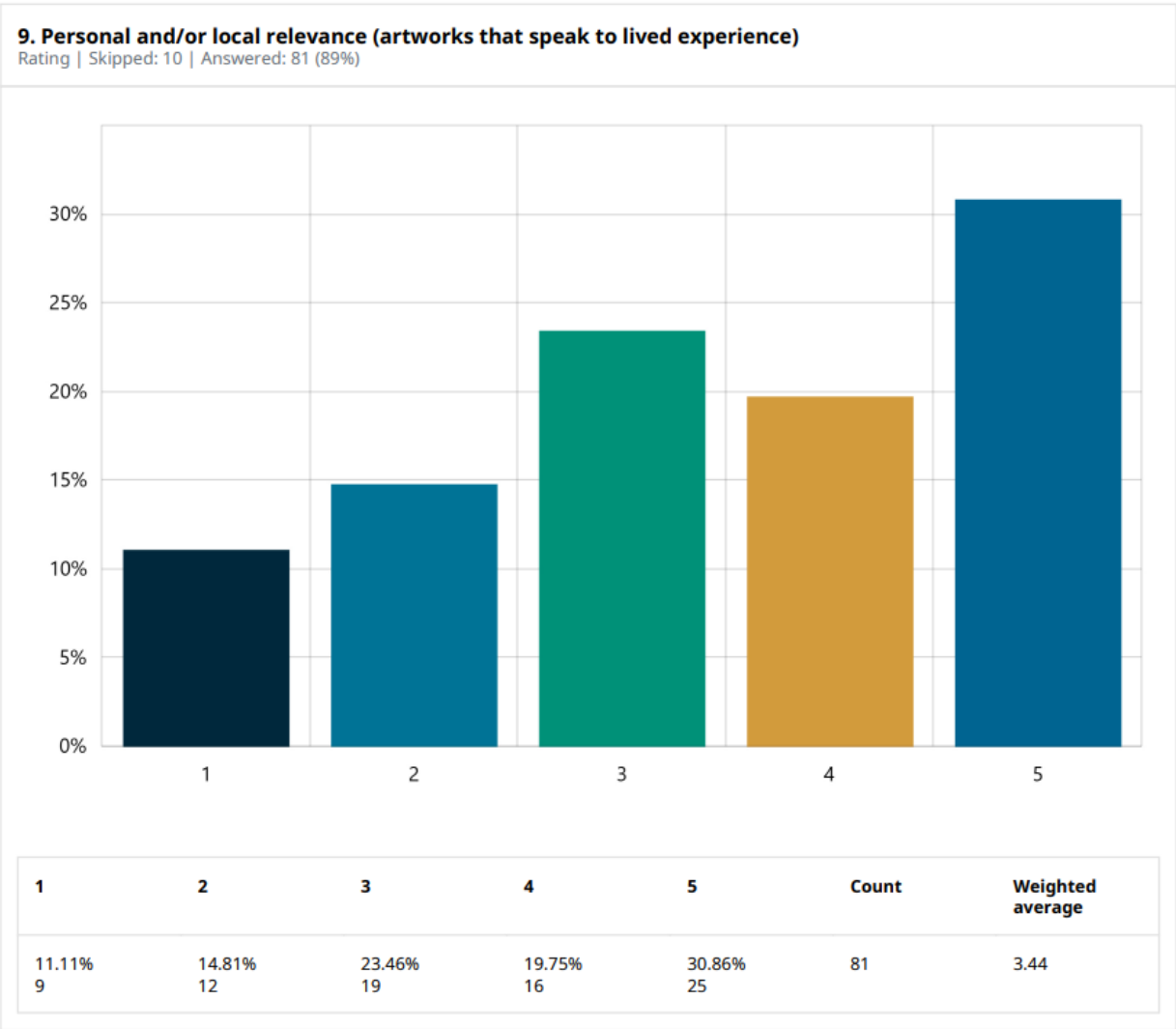
Rating | Skipped: 7 | Answered: 84 (92.3%)



1	2	3	4	5	Count	Weighted average
4.76% 4	7.14% 6	22.62% 19	15.48% 13	50.00% 42	84	3.99

9. Personal and/or local relevance (artworks that speak to lived experience).

- Weighted Average: 3.44

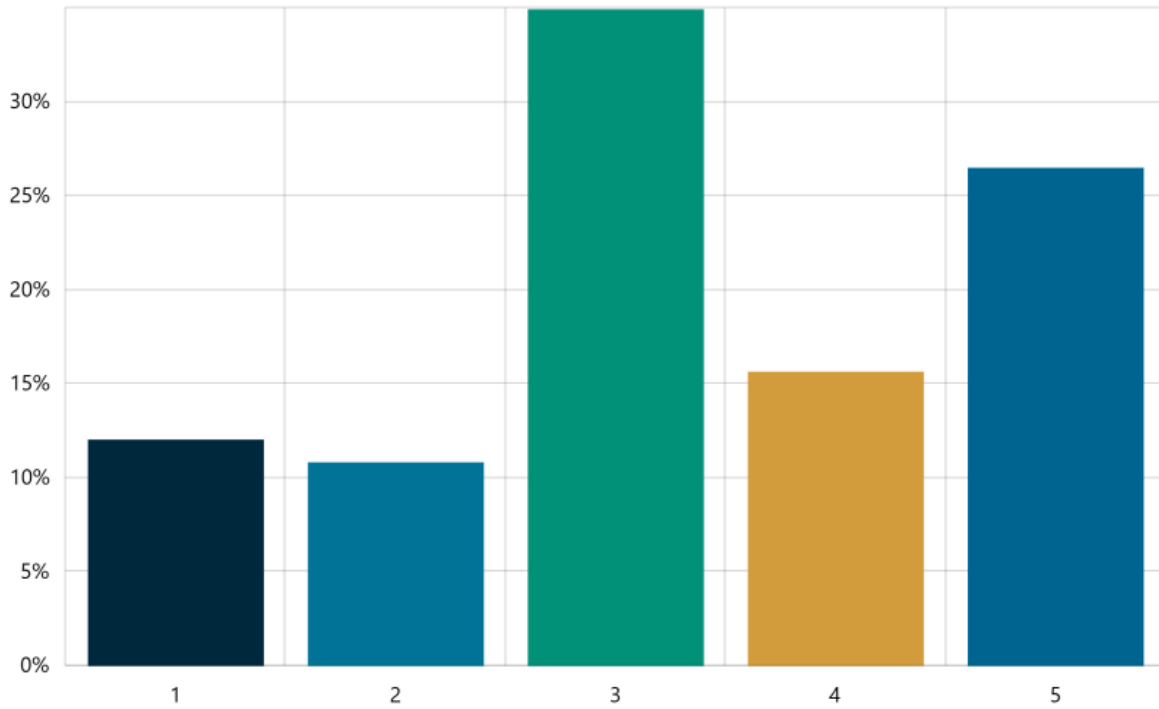


10. Reflecting how people use the space today

- Weighted Average: 3.34

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Rating | Skipped: 8 | Answered: 83 (91.2%)



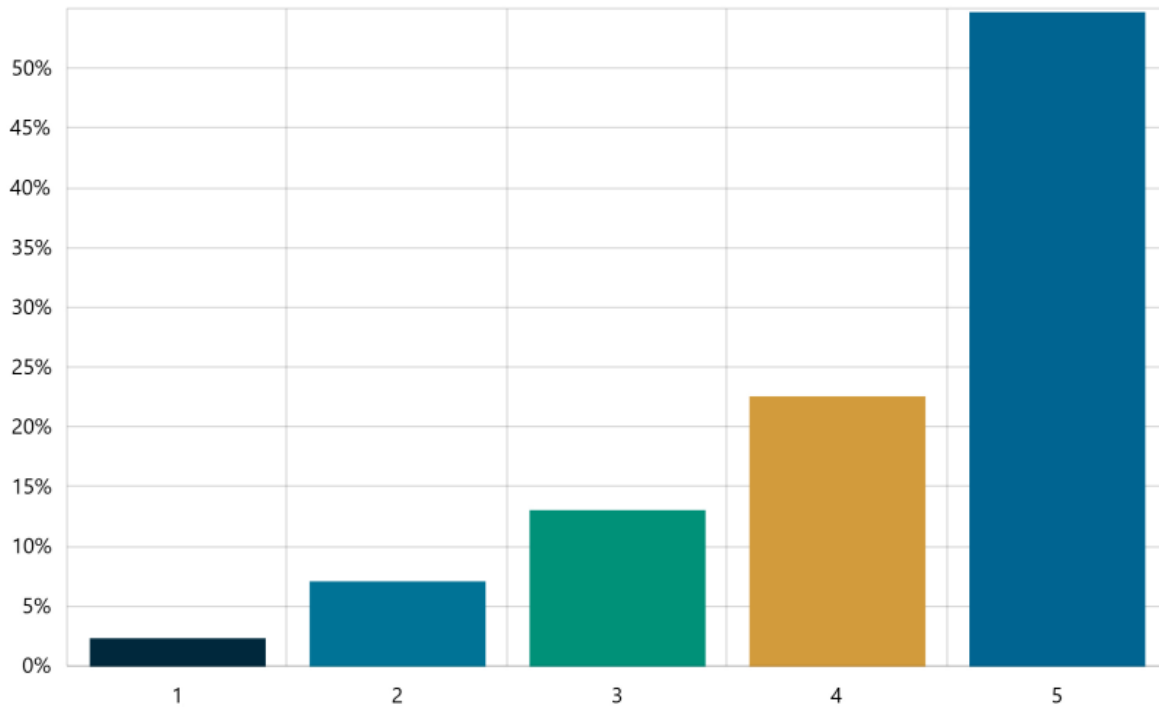
1	2	3	4	5	Count	Weighted average
12.05%	10.84%	34.94%	15.66%	26.51%	83	3.34
10	9	29	13	22		

11. Showcasing exceptional artistic skill and technical craftsmanship

- Weighted Average: 4.20

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Rating | Skipped: 7 | Answered: 84 (92.3%)

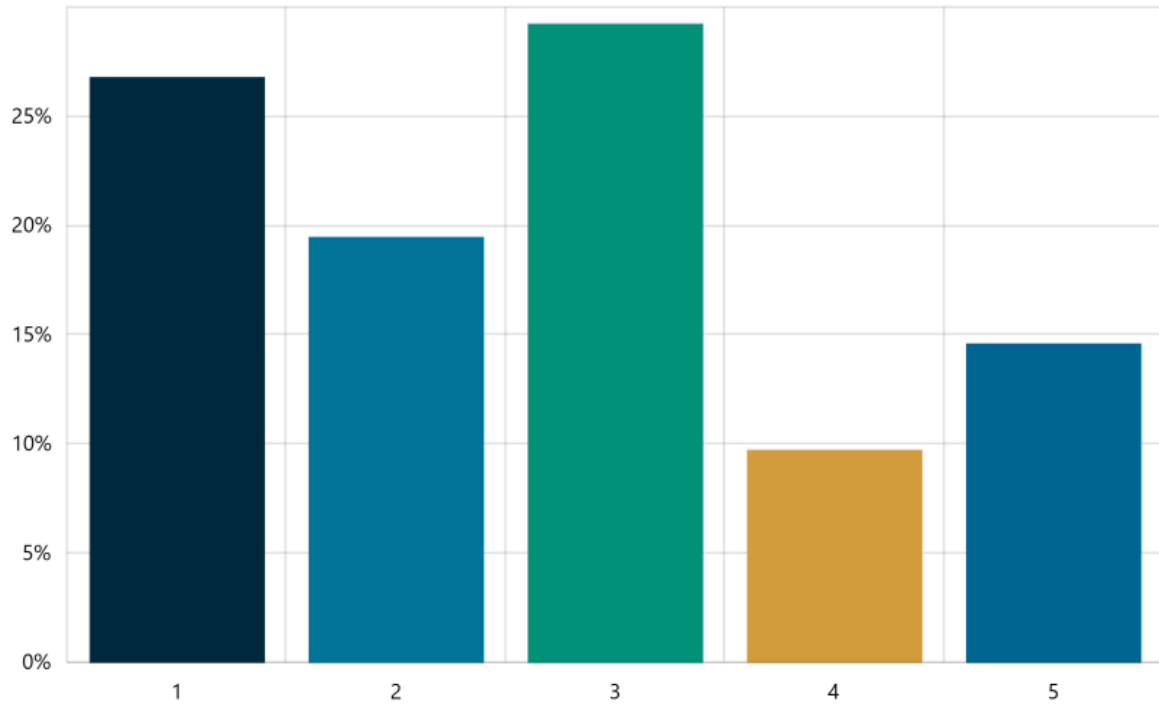


12. Surprising interventions (unexpected themes, colors, styles, etc.)

- Weighted Average: 2.66

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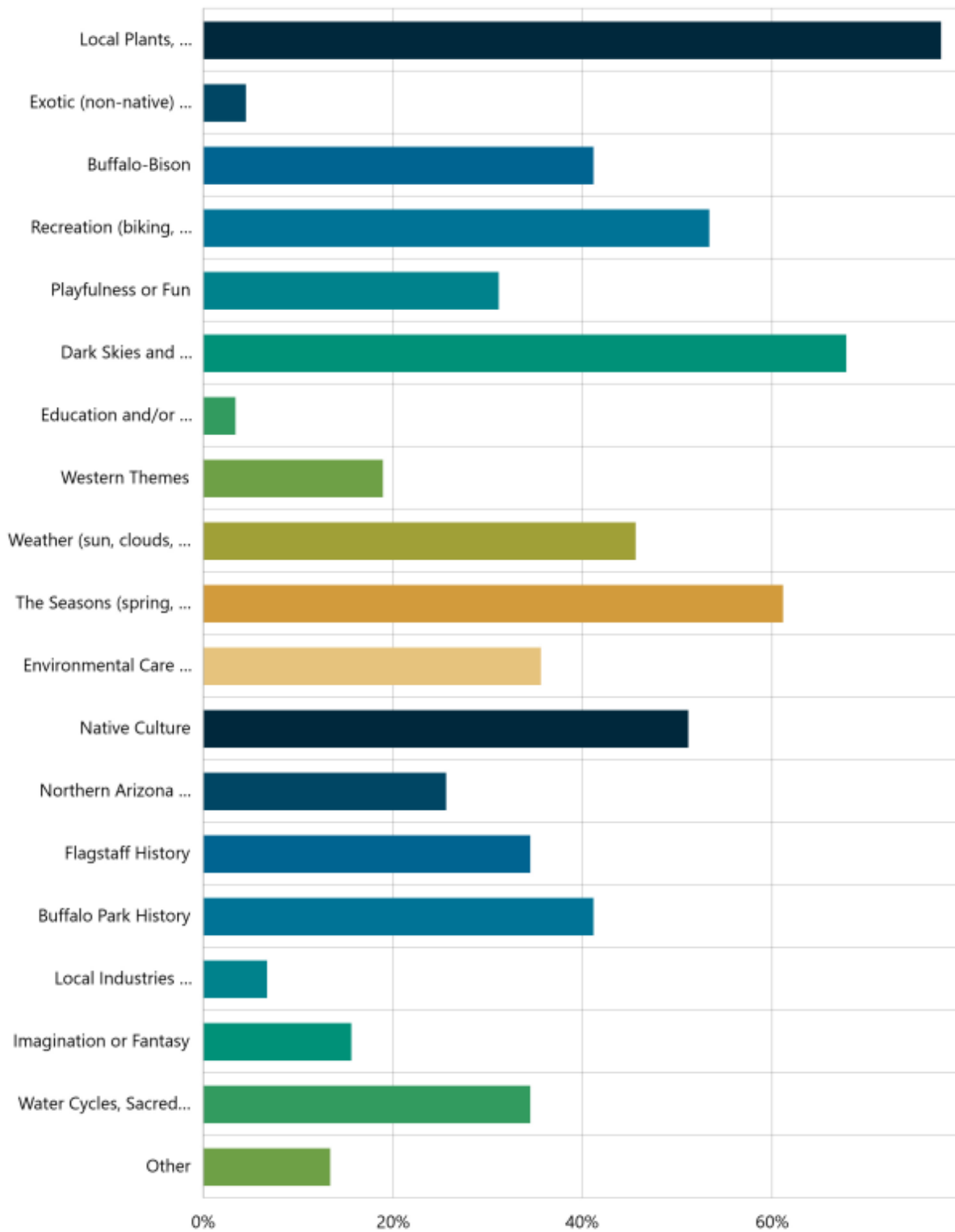
Rating | Skipped: 9 | Answered: 82 (90.1%)



13. Based on its location, this mural could include the following themes or subjects. Which do you like? [Check all that apply]:

1. Local Plants, Animals, and Nature 77.78%
2. Dark Skies and Astronomy 67.78%
3. The Seasons (spring, summer, fall, winter) 61.11%
4. Recreation (biking, hiking, running, etc.) 53.33%
5. Native Culture 51.11%
6. Weather (sun, clouds, rain, snow, etc.) 45.56%
7. Buffalo-Bison 41.11%
8. Buffalo Park History 41.11%
9. Environmental Care and Stewardship 35.56%
10. Flagstaff History 34.44%
11. Water Cycles, Sacred Waters, or Water Relationships 34.44%
12. Playfulness or Fun 31.11%
13. Northern Arizona History 25.56%
14. Western Themes 18.89%
15. Imagination or Fantasy 15.56%
16. Other 13.33%
17. Local Industries (lumber, tourism, etc.) 6.67%
18. Exotic (non-native) Plants, Animals, and Nature 4.44%
19. Education and/or NAU Connections 3.33%

See graph results on next page.



“Other” write ins:

- Scene that blends with the natural setting. No people.
 - without an exceptional artist large outdoor canvases tend to look amateurish and degrade the effect.
 - The mountains visible from Buffalo Park.
 - Reflection of different cultures: Settlers/Pioneers, Native Americans, Hispanic,
 - This is the opportunity to install an iconic artwork. Please, no more murals of the San Francisco Peaks, elk, or pine trees.
 - It's one of the best views of the peaks and the peaks are sacred to the tribes. Sacred peaks could be a good theme
 - I think you're trying too hard to overlay artificial meaning through this mural onto a naturally beautiful and enjoyable place. Leave it be, no human 'decoration' needed!! It is fine to have it disappear, and better the less it is noticed. Too many ,murals everywhere, they are usually pretty tacky!
 - It could all be music themed and even show musicians from the past
 - State flag
 - Please stop wasting tax payer funds on art projects to “beautify” our city for tourists and focus more on the growing needs of your middle and lower class residents-housing, food shortages, economic concerns, homelessness, local healthcare issues.
 - Please avoid making this a commercial mural. No Route 66 propaganda,no NAU, no quickly outdated images of cyclists or runners. Buffalo Park is timeless and the art should be, too. I'm excited to see a skilled artist interpretation of the community feedback.
- a. Hang gliding and paragliding