



Sustainability and Our Environment: Green Spaces Survey

Survey Background

Given Telosa's values of being open, fair and inclusive, we are using surveys as one mechanism to engage, learn, and co-create with our community. We are using a leading community engagement firm, Polco, to lead our survey efforts and leverage work that they have done on a national level with existing cities. This gives us access to a wider set of ideas and perspectives to benchmark our community's response.

This was our third survey working with the Telosa community to design the new city. Blue and green spaces within Telosa provide the necessary space to build social capital, enjoy the arts, maintain health and find solace in nature. Usually, we think of a city as buildings, roads, concrete, asphalt, and all the other hard, gray elements. Blue-Green Infrastructure is a network of water, green spaces, and vegetation that can shape and improve human life. It can complement or even replace our gray infrastructure, think sewer drains and floodgates, resulting in many social and economic benefits. In Telosa, these green spaces will reduce stormwater, improve water quality, provide recreational spaces, improve air quality, increase property values, and provide mental and public health benefits.

Survey Methods

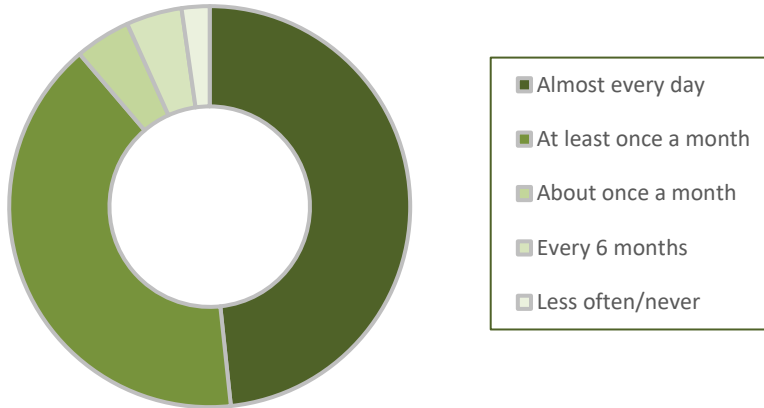
Respondents were recruited through a non-probabilistic, multi-contact method employing online invitations and social media campaigns. Respondents to the survey were self-selected people who expressed an interest in Telosa and learned about Telosa primarily through traditional media coverage.

The survey was administered on the Polco platform during the time period of October 10 to November 18, 2022. The outreach resulted in a total of 140 completed surveys. The intent is to build the representation of the Telosa panel over time so future surveys will bring not only a larger number of respondents but greater inclusivity to the survey results.

Highlights

Highlights of the survey are presented on the following pages. A full set of results is presented in a separate report.

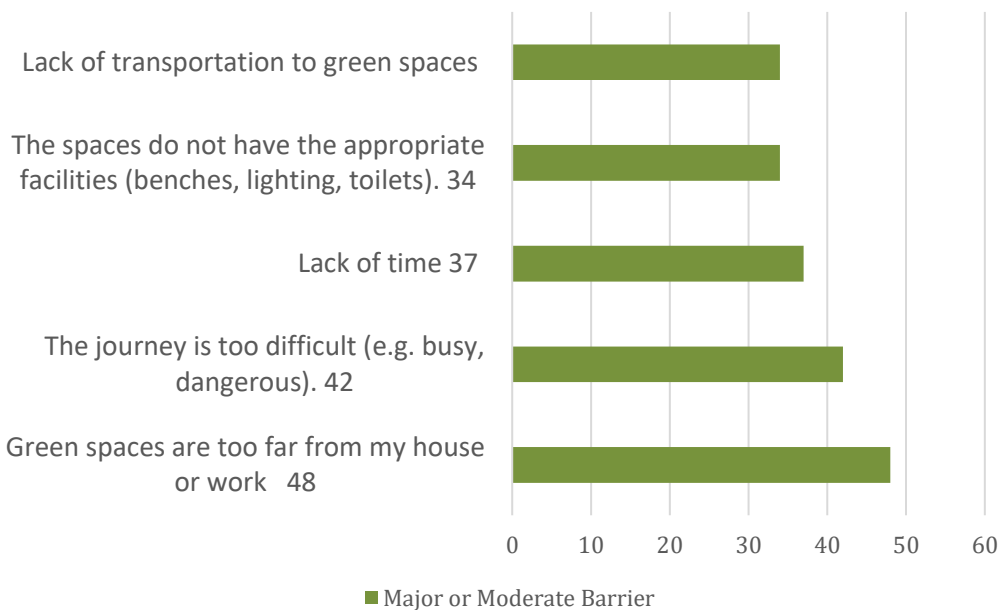
How often do you visit green spaces in your community?



The Green Spaces Survey confirmed common trends and themes across the nation. **Most importantly, 75% of survey takers use green space weekly** in their communities, primarily for fresh air, relaxation and/or exercise. However, more than half of the Telosa community felt the green spaces were not accessible to them for commuting or transportation purposes. Survey results also indicated that the usability and distribution of green spaces to residents needed to be improved.

While green spaces offer an excellent venue for arts and music, our Telosa community does not use the spaces in their current communities for those reasons. This could be a result of the design of the green spaces residents have access to in their respective cities. It is vital to incorporate thoughtful design elements into the planning of green space to ensure they can benefit residents in various uses and the community as a whole.

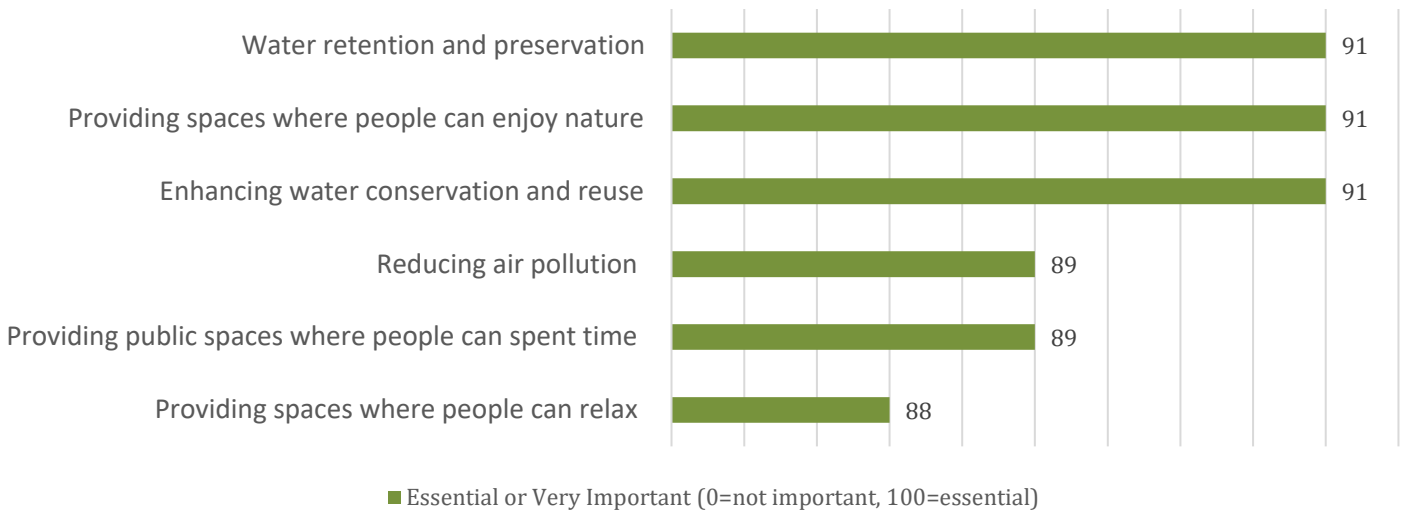
Barriers to Use of Open Spaces



The survey illuminated barriers for residents to access local green spaces or use them more often. **While many barriers exist, from major to minor challenges, some findings indicate a common theme that can be addressed in initial design and placement.** For example, ensuring equitable distribution and easy access from homes to green spaces, including important facilities such as lighting, benches, and restrooms, and providing information about the spaces for residents to use.

Lastly, the Telosa community weighed in on the various benefits of green spaces for the new city. Surprisingly, the benefit of increased property values was scored low by survey takers. **Water retention and preservation was considered the most essential benefit of green space. This was followed closely by water conservation and reuse, reducing air pollution, and providing public spaces for people to spend time and enjoy nature.**

Most Important Uses of Open Spaces



These initial survey results offer significant insights and opportunities for co-designing Telosa’s green and blue spaces. The results tell us that many of the barriers residents face in using green spaces can be overcome in the initial design of the land. Telosa can be designed to ensure all residents have access to these spaces near their homes. The spaces can be designed to have facilities such as lighting, benches, and other infrastructure that is valued by residents. Thought can be given to how art and music events could use the spaces for community gatherings and recreational activities. Overall, this is an opportunity for the blue and green spaces to be designed in a way that will benefit all future Telosa residents.



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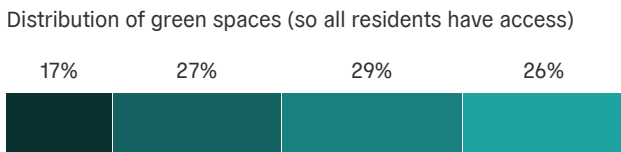
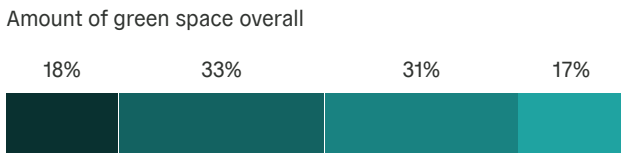
Survey Results
FINAL

12/07/2022

Thinking about your community, please rate the following characteristics related to its green spaces:

Question	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Don't know
Amount of green space overall	18%	33%	31%	17%	0%
Distribution of green spaces (so all residents have access)	17%	27%	29%	26%	1%
Usability of green spaces for residents	18%	29%	38%	15%	0%
Feeling of safety on green spaces	19%	40%	29%	10%	1%
Ability to use green spaces for commuting/transportation	8%	7%	24%	54%	6%
The contribution of green spaces to community attractiveness	23%	32%	31%	14%	1%
Overall quality of green spaces in your community	17%	31%	38%	13%	1%

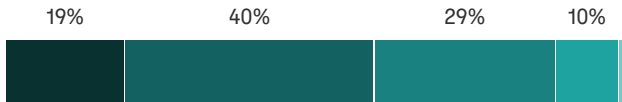
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Usability of green spaces for residents



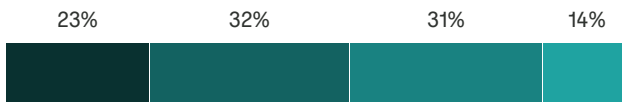
Feeling of safety on green spaces



Ability to use green spaces for commuting/transportation



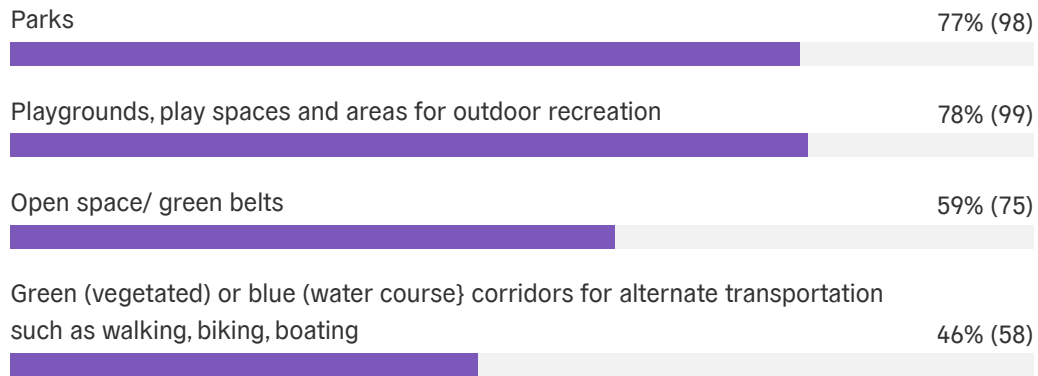
The contribution of green spaces to community attractiveness



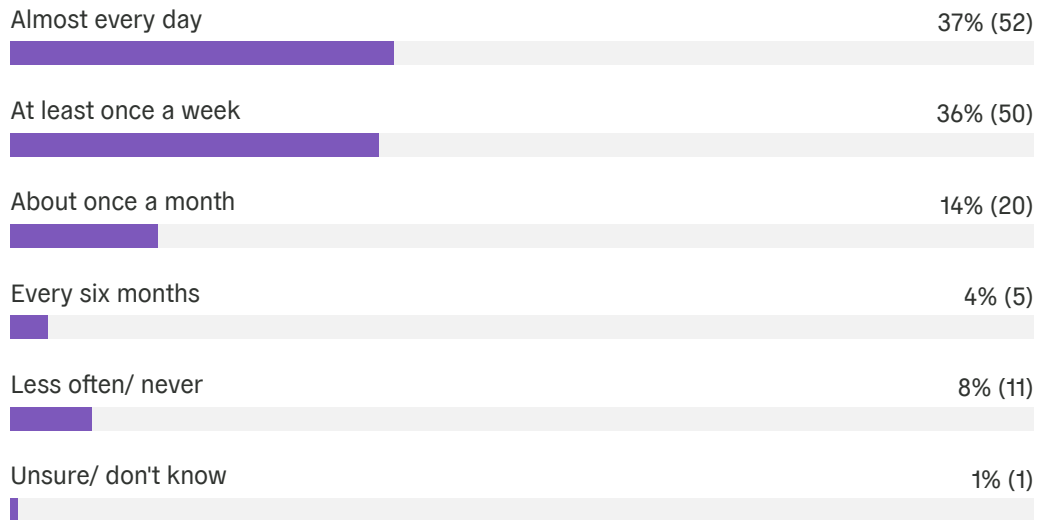
Overall quality of green spaces in your community



Thinking about your local area (that is within 15 minutes walking time of your home or place of work), which of the following green spaces do you have access to? (Please check all that apply):

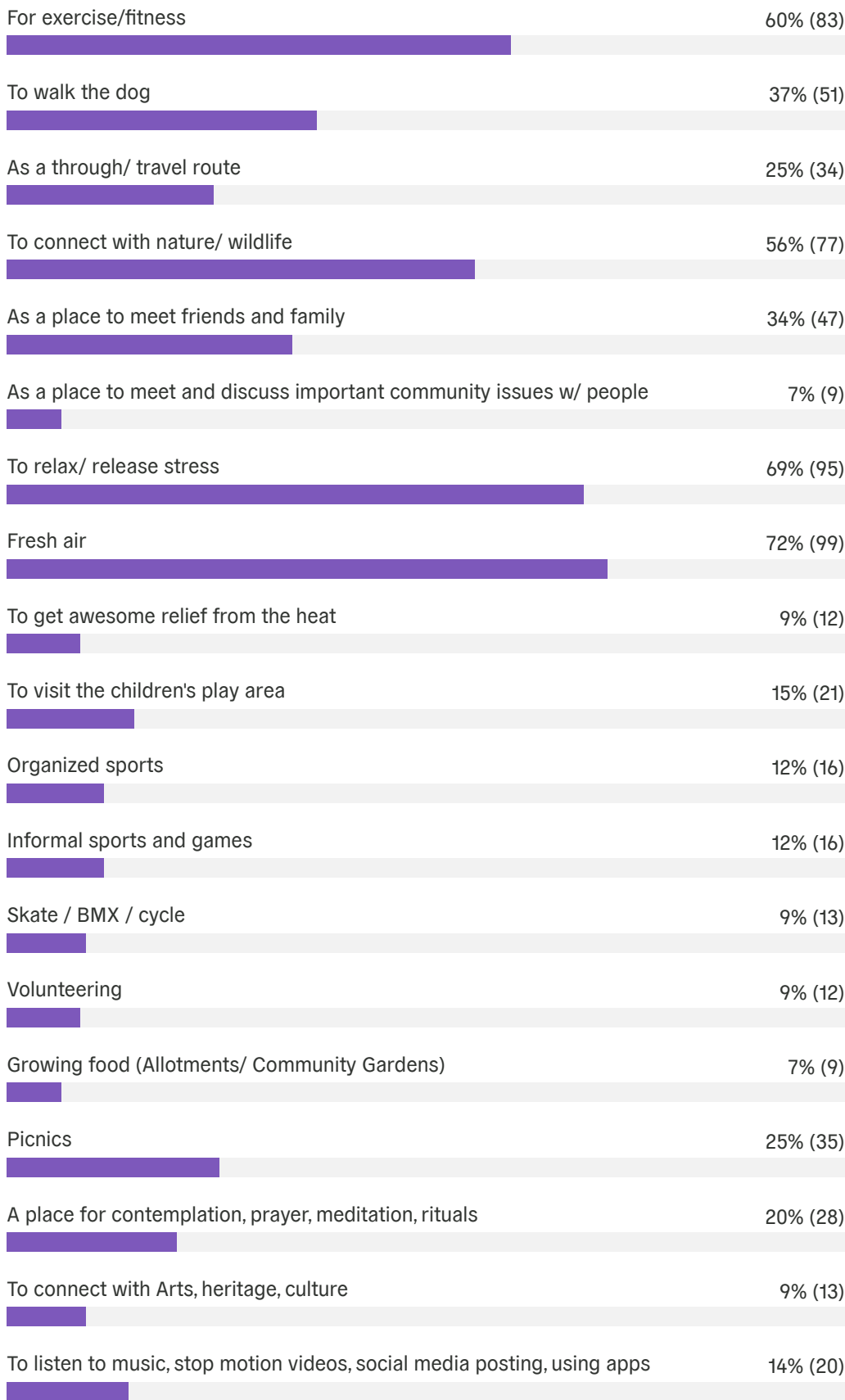


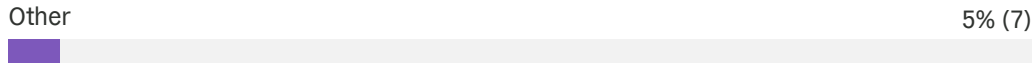
How often do you visit green spaces in your community?



For what purposes do you use / visit these spaces? (Please check all

that apply):





If you answered "other" above, please specify:

Surveys, Land Assessments, Evaluation (ex. Mobile Connectivity, Wifi)

Photo opportunities

I often times walk along the pathway next to the water course to make it to the beach club (when I'm not going towards the beach club, I take my casual walks or runs). Beach club has a swimming pool and is surrounded by trees. For the most part, I don't swim as much as I'll like to but when I go, I usually read and/or journal. Very therapeutic. I was going to select "Fresh air" because I love to get out of the house for that, but the air here is not good, at all.

Dog park

For leisure walking

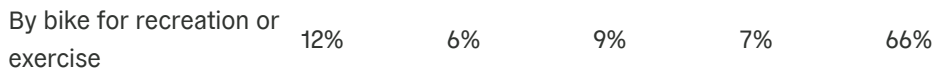
Working outside

Live in heavy wooded area

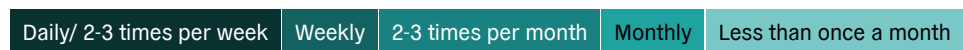
How often, if ever, do you use trails on green spaces for the following purposes?

Question	Daily/ 2-3 times per week	Weekly	2-3 times per month	Monthly	Less than once a month
On foot to access your place of work, education, children's school, shops, transport hub, etc.	16%	7%	4%	5%	68%
On foot for recreation or exercise	29%	27%	10%	10%	23%
By bike to access your place of work, education, children's school, shops,	5%	8%	6%	3%	78%

transport hub, etc.



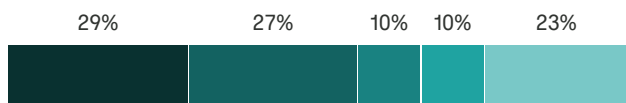
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On foot to access your place of work, education, children's school, shops, transport hub, etc.



On foot for recreation or exercise



By bike to access your place of work, education, children's school, shops, transport hub, etc.



By bike for recreation or exercise



There are many reasons why people do not spend time using green spaces. To what extent are the following barriers to accessing local green spaces or using them more often?

Question **Major challenge** **Moderate challenge** **Minor challenge** **Not a challenge** **Don't know**

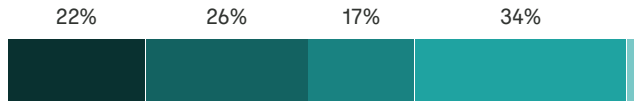
Green spaces are too far

from my house or work	22%	26%	17%	34%	1%
The journey is too difficult (e.g. busy/dangerous roads, railway lines)	21%	21%	21%	36%	1%
I do not feel safe	12%	15%	27%	46%	1%
Poor control of dogs	9%	12%	22%	54%	4%
Does not allow pets	4%	11%	10%	65%	9%
The spaces need to be better maintained	15%	13%	27%	44%	1%
The spaces do not have the appropriate facilities (benches, lighting, toilets)	15%	19%	36%	28%	1%
Lack of time	17%	20%	28%	31%	3%
I don't tend to see people 'like me' in green spaces	8%	8%	14%	65%	4%
Personal health problems	4%	4%	12%	78%	2%
No handicap access, especially for wheelchairs	8%	7%	11%	65%	9%
The areas are too crowded	6%	12%	30%	51%	1%
Lack of transportation to green spaces	17%	17%	20%	43%	3%
Lack of information about the spaces, facilities and activities	16%	15%	26%	40%	3%
I don't have the right gear/equipment (examples: shoes, jackets, bike)	4%	3%	22%	72%	0%
No one to go with	9%	15%	22%	52%	2%
The weather	7%	18%	37%	37%	1%
Not interested	2%	3%	14%	77%	4%
Other	7%	2%	0%	22%	69%

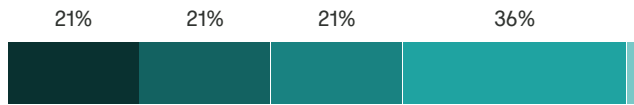
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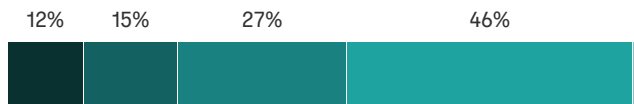
Green spaces are too far from my house or work



The journey is too difficult (e.g. busy/dangerous roads, railway lines)



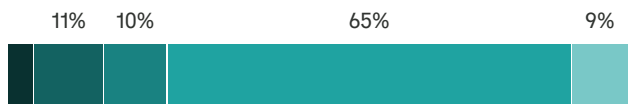
I do not feel safe



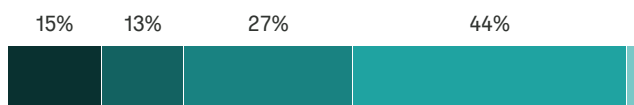
Poor control of dogs



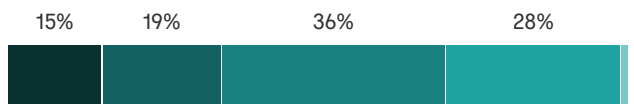
Does not allow pets



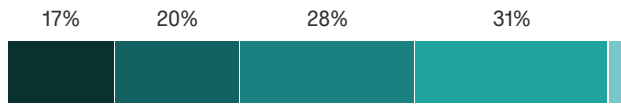
The spaces need to be better maintained



The spaces do not have the appropriate facilities (benches, lighting, toilets)



Lack of time



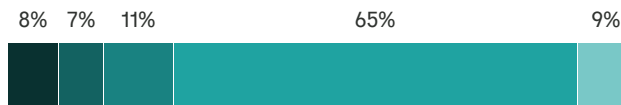
I don't tend to see people 'like me' in green spaces



Personal health problems



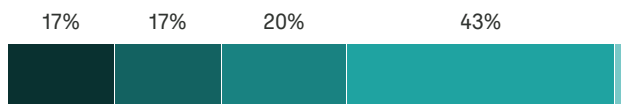
No handicap access, especially for wheelchairs



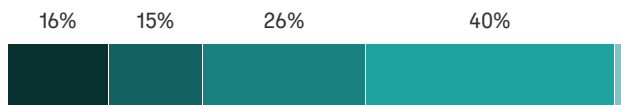
The areas are too crowded



Lack of transportation to green spaces



Lack of information about the spaces, facilities and activities



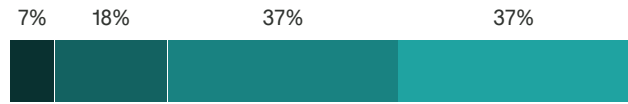
I don't have the right gear/equipment (examples: shoes, jackets, bike)



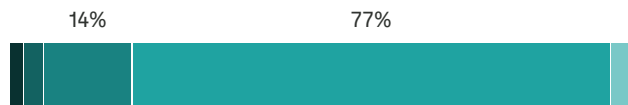
No one to go with



The weather



Not interested



Other



If you answered "other" above, please specify:

Relevance To Current Occupation

No space for cycling to / from work / recreational area safely

Take my 12 year old son, he won't leave the house. Neither will his friends. They stay in their rooms and watch videos or play video games. Sometimes they chat online. He has zero desire to go outside. That's a barrier for my wife and I. But more generally, people are so absorbed in their online lives, work and self care, they deprive other more health-supporting areas of their lives, like going to green spaces, spending time with friends and family in person, civic life, and religious practice.

Outdoor air quality

We need a community pool

There is only one very, very tiny park near me; about six acres and a pond. The small garden there is too hot during the day to work in most of the year. There is no room or plans to expand or improve the park. One of the two gates is usually locked by the community leaders. The entire place is off limits from dusk till dawn; which would be the best time to work on the garden.

Lack of sidewalks make walking or biking to green spaces not feasible.

All the green space in our community is a private golf course which we are not members.

Lack of stake in community due to renting. Don't want to invest too much time here as a "transient".

All Green Spaces in my community have turned into homeless encampments that feel extremely unsafe. Too much dog droppings, so no place to sit on the grass. No benches or places to sit and enjoy the space. Smells of dog urine and poor sanitation and lack of cleanliness and maintenance.

Thinking about the potential green spaces in Telosa, please rate how important or unimportant each of the following would be when deciding how to best use the land:

Question	Essential	Very important	Moderately important	Not too important	Don't know
Enhancing or maintaining existing habitats/biodiversity	58%	28%	13%	1%	0%
Enhancing water	67%	24%	6%	2%	1%

conservation and reuse

Providing multimodal transportation connections	46%	30%	17%	5%	1%
Providing public spaces where people can spend time	62%	27%	10%	1%	0%
Water retention and preservation	75%	16%	7%	2%	1%
Heat mitigation	50%	36%	12%	1%	1%
Reducing air pollution	66%	23%	9%	1%	0%
Reducing noise pollution	50%	27%	19%	4%	0%
Increasing food security through urban gardens	45%	24%	16%	14%	1%
Providing play spaces for children	45%	30%	20%	4%	1%
Providing opportunities for fitness and recreation	51%	33%	12%	4%	0%
Providing spaces where people can enjoy nature	65%	26%	9%	0%	0%
Providing spaces where people can relax and improve their mental health	58%	30%	10%	1%	1%
Creating an attractive environment/aesthetics	47%	35%	13%	4%	0%
Making sure the green space distribution is fair to increase community equity	53%	31%	12%	3%	1%
Increasing property values	20%	20%	34%	26%	1%

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Essential	Very important	Moderately important	Not too important	Don't know
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Enhancing or maintaining existing habitats/biodiversity



Enhancing water conservation and reuse



Providing multimodal transportation connections



Providing public spaces where people can spend time



Water retention and preservation



Heat mitigation



Reducing air pollution



Reducing noise pollution



Increasing food security through urban gardens



Providing play spaces for children



Providing opportunities for fitness and recreation



Providing spaces where people can enjoy nature



Providing spaces where people can relax and improve their mental health



Creating an attractive environment/aesthetics



Making sure the green space distribution is fair to increase community equity



Increasing property values



