



Possible Bond Referendum Public Opinion Survey Results

July 2026

Q9. If approved by voters, the proposed 20-year, \$53 million bond referendum would have an estimated annual tax impact of \$137, or about \$11 per month, for a home with a fair market value of \$400,000. How concerned, if at all, are you about the potential impact on your household budget?

☐ Very concerned
☐ Somewhat concerned
☐ Not very concerned
☐ Not at all concerned
☐ Don't know

Q10. Potential Bond Referendum Question. If a local election were held today, would you vote "yes" in favor of, or "no" to support the following ballot question:

Shall the Skokie Park District, Cook County, Illinois, build, improve, renovate, and equip park sites and facilities, including, at Sports Park East, building and equipping a new recreation center, adding or improving a walking/jogging path, park shelter, playground, golf chipping and putting area, cricket and soccer/multipurpose fields, sports lighting, and related site improvements; developing and improving a former industrial site along the North Shore Channel for conversion into a new park with green space, an ADA-compliant playground, walking/biking path, bandshell, park shelter, multipurpose facility, and related improvements; and issue its bonds to the amount of \$53,000,000 for the purpose of paying the costs thereof?

☐ Definitely yes
☐ Probably yes
☐ Probably no
☐ Definitely no
☐ Don't know

The remaining questions are for statistical purposes only.

Q11. What is your age? (If multiple people are responding, check all that apply.)

☐ 18-34
☐ 35-44
☐ 45-54
☐ 55-64
☐ 65-74
☐ 75 or older
☐ Prefer not to say

Q12. What is your gender? (If multiple people are responding, check all that apply.)

☐ Male
☐ Female
☐ Prefer to self-describe
☐ Prefer not to say

Q13. Do you have children in your household, and if so, what are their ages? (Please check all that apply.)

☐ No children under 18
☐ Children under 5
☐ Children 5-8
☐ Children 9-12
☐ Children 13-17

Q14. Do you own or rent your home?

☐ Own
☐ Rent
☐ Other

Public Opinion Survey

Your Input is Critical

The Skokie Park District is considering placing a bond referendum on the November 3, 2026 ballot to fund capital projects at two potential sites. The proposal would develop Channelside Park South and improve Sports Park East, enhancing indoor and outdoor recreation opportunities while strengthening connections between both parks and the North Shore Channel Trail. Community input will help guide next steps.

✓ Review the enclosed fact sheet.

✓ Discuss it with others in your household (if applicable).

✓ Complete the survey.

• One response per question, unless otherwise specified.

• Return the printed survey using the enclosed pre-paid envelope or drop it off at the Park District Office, 9000 Weber Park Place, Skokie.

• If you prefer, take the identical survey online using the QR code provided.

✓ Deadline: June 26, 2026.

✓ All responses are anonymous.

Your feedback matters. Thank you for participating!



Online Survey Option
To complete the survey online, scan the QR code.

Questions/Comments

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Q1. Prior to receiving this survey, how much had you read, seen, or heard about the Skokie Park District's proposed bond referendum to improve Sports Park East and develop a new Channelside Park South?

☐ A lot
☐ Some
☐ Hardly anything
☐ Nothing at all

Q2. How well do you think the Skokie Park District meets the community's parks and recreation needs?

☐ Very well
☐ Somewhat well
☐ Not very well
☐ Not at all well
☐ Don't know

Q3. When considering the overall condition of the District's parks and facilities, what letter grade would you give them?

☐ A
☐ B
☐ C
☐ D
☐ E
☐ Don't know

Q4. How confident are you that the Skokie Park District would manage funds from a voter-approved bond referendum responsibly?

☐ Very confident
☐ Somewhat confident
☐ Not very confident
☐ Not at all confident
☐ Don't know

Very
Concerning

5

5

5

5

5

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Thank you for participating! Please return this survey or complete online by June 26, 2026.

Survey continued on inside >

Skokie Sports Park and the North Shore Channel Trail	1	2	3	4	5
b) Renovated multipurpose facility with patio and pergola	1	2	3	4	5
c) Bandshell, stage, and event lawn	1	2	3	4	5
d) ADA-compliant, fully-accessible playground and zipline	1	2	3	4	5
e) Outdoor fitness equipment	1	2	3	4	5
f) Children's maze and splash pad	1	2	3	4	5
g) Benches and shelter with picnic table	1	2	3	4	5
h) Native prairie plantings and shade trees	1	2	3	4	5

g) The proposal would improve Skokie's parks and recreation facilities, strengthening property values while supporting our quality of life	1	2	3	4	5
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Q8. How convincing do you find each of the following statements opposing the possible bond referendum? Use a scale from 1 (Not At All Convincing) to 5 (Very Convincing).

	Not At All Convincing	1	2	3	4	5	Very Convincing
a) Given current economic conditions and rising household expenses, it may not be the right time for the Park District to undertake new capital projects	1	2	3	4	5		
b) The Park District is trying to do too much at once. Scaling back the number of projects would reduce the tax impact for residents	1	2	3	4	5		
c) Even though the estimated tax impact seems modest, property taxes are already high	1	2	3	4	5		
d) Demand for more indoor recreation space should be met by private health clubs, not through additional Park District investments	1	2	3	4	5		
e) Because these projects are located near each other, residents in other parts of the District may have limited access to the benefits	1	2	3	4	5		
f) Some homeowners would not use either of the proposed parks or facilities, and question whether they should help pay for the improvements	1	2	3	4	5		

Survey continued on back >



Conceptual rendering of proposed new recreation center lobby.

Sports Park East

Why Future Improvements Are Being Considered

- Expands indoor and outdoor recreation to meet community demand
- Enhances a widely-used community park
- Adds an indoor recreation center for year-round court sports, programs, and activities
- Upgrades athletic fields for games, leagues, and tournaments
- Creates a sports plaza for gathering, viewing, and access to amenities
- Adds a practice green and simulators for enhanced golf operations

- Improves outdoor recreation with a walking path, playground, challenge course, and outdoor fitness equipment
- Adds native perennial plantings to create a more natural, sustainable landscape



Sports Park East

Expanding Recreation Opportunities at an Already Popular Park

Existing conditions at Sports Park East

JUST THE FACTS

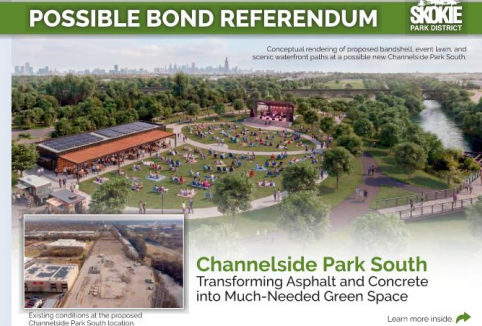


Conceptual rendering of proposed new bandshell, event lawn, and walking paths along the channel.

Channelside Park South

Why Future Development is Being Considered

- Expands green space, paths, and outdoor gathering opportunities
- Transforms an underused, paved site into a vibrant destination park
- Adds a bandshell and lawn space for community events and concerts
- Includes a multipurpose facility for programs, classes, and community use
- Provides ADA-compliant, fully accessible play areas for all ages
- Expands connected paths for walking, biking, and neighborhood access
- Adds shaded seating areas to support gathering and family use
- Enhances landscaping and stormwater management
- Increases park space in a landlocked community



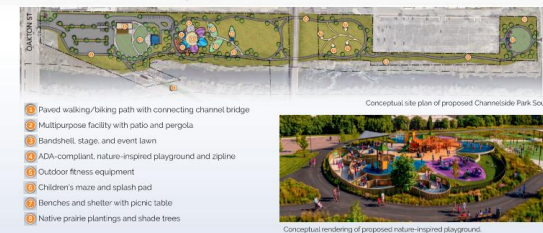
Channelside Park South

Transforming Asphalt and Concrete into Much-Needed Green Space

Learn more inside >

What's Possible: Channelside Park South

A Vibrant New Community Destination



- 1 Paved walking/biking path with connecting channel bridge
- 2 Multipurpose facility with patio and pergola
- 3 Bandshell, stage, and event lawn
- 4 ADA-compliant, nature-inspired playground and zipline
- 5 Outdoor fitness equipment
- 6 Children's maze and splash pad
- 7 Benches and shelter with picnic table
- 8 Native prairie plantings and shade trees

Conceptual site plan of proposed Channelside Park South.



Conceptual rendering of proposed nature-inspired playground.

Side or visit referendum is approximately \$237, or about \$11 per month, for a home with a fair market value of \$400,000. Tax impact estimator: skokieparks.org/Proposal

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Conceptual rendering of proposed new bandshell and event lawn.

Proposed Amenities at a New Waterfront Gathering Place

The possibilities for a new Channelside Park South include a bandshell and event lawn, a nature-inspired, accessible playground, outdoor fitness equipment, and connected walking paths along the North Shore Channel—creating a vibrant setting where nature, recreation, and community come together.

Parks that Inspire



**BEYOND
YOUR
BASE**
A CONSULTING
GROUP OF
WRIGHT & COMPANY

Introduction. Purpose. Approach.

Introduction: Beyond Your Base conducted a public opinion survey *on behalf of* the Skokie Park District

Purpose: Gather community feedback on a possible bond referendum

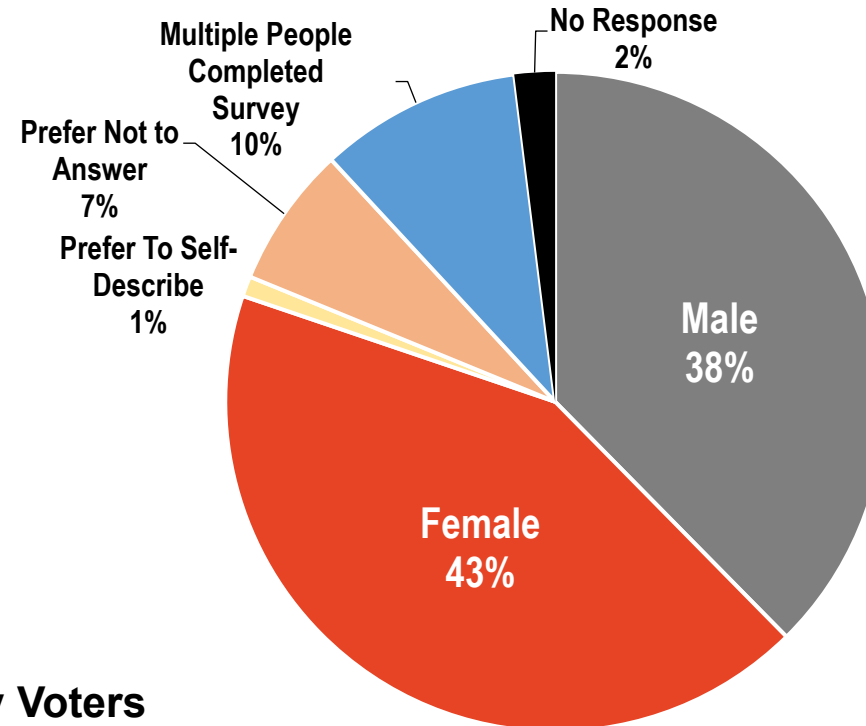
Approach:

- 14-question survey and associated fact sheet
- Printed survey and fact sheet mailed to all 21,860 registered voter households in the Skokie Park District on June 8
- Online survey accessible via QR code on printed surveys
- Follow-up text message sent to 28,826 voter cell phones on June 24

Response:

- 1,925 surveys
- 9% household response rate
- Mail (55%), QR Code (24%), Text (21%)

Gender of Survey Respondents



November 2026 Likely Voters

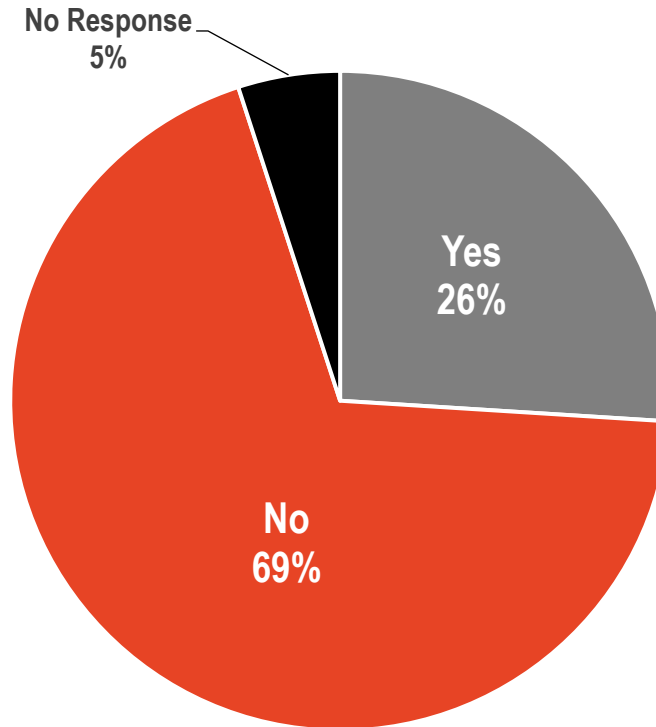
Male 45%

Female 55%

Age of Survey Respondents

Age	Likely Voters (Nov 2026)	Survey Respondents
18-34	11%	6%
35-44	16%	12%
45-54	16%	16%
55-64	18%	19%
65-74	19%	26%
75+	20%	19%
Prefer not to say		6%
No response		2%

Children Under 18 in Household



November 2026 Likely Voters

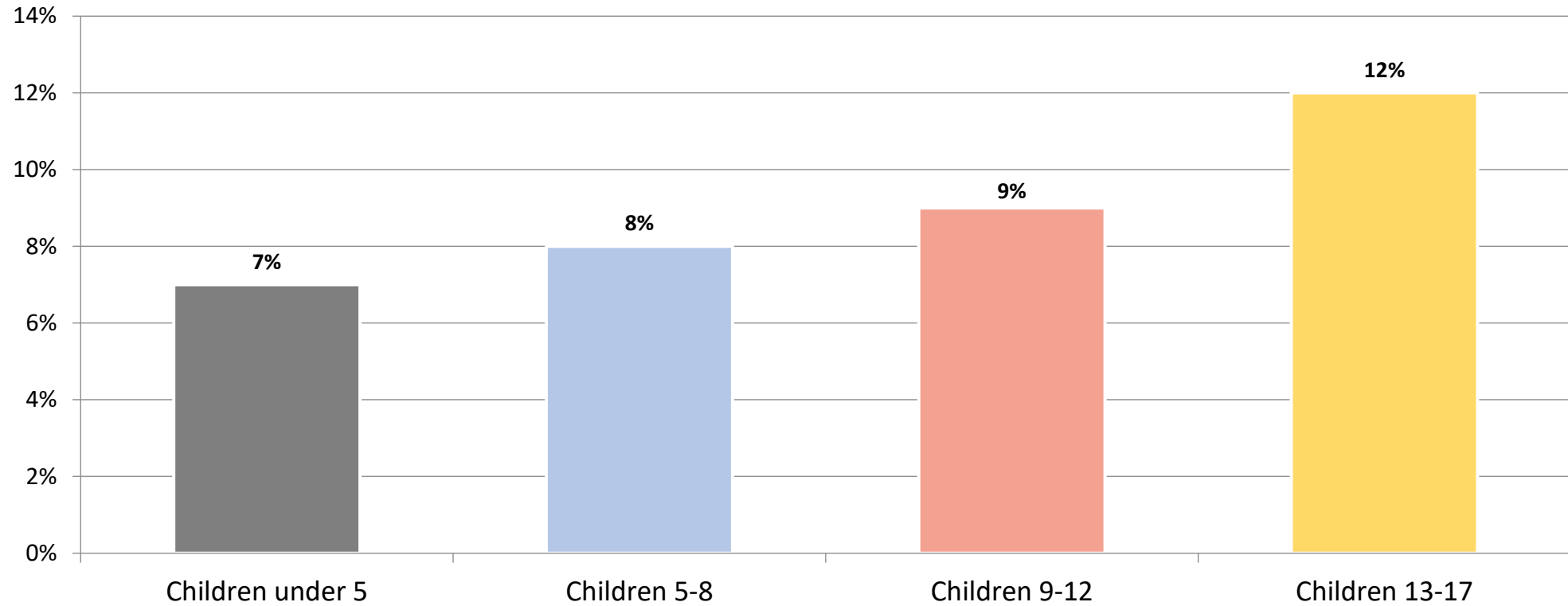
Yes 38%

No 50%

Unknown 12%

Children in Household

If yes, what are their ages? (Check all that apply.)



Home Ownership

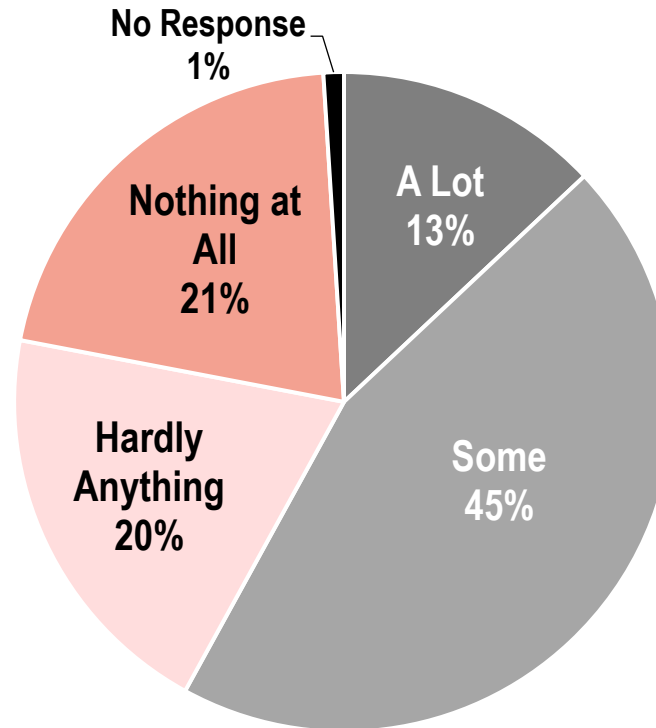
Age	Likely Voters (Nov 2026)	Survey Respondents
Own	66%	92%
Rent	22%	5%
Unknown/Other	12%	3%

8 Percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding.



Awareness of Proposal

Prior to receiving this survey, how much had you read, seen, or heard about the Skokie Park District's proposed bond referendum to improve Sports Park East and develop a new Channelside Park South?

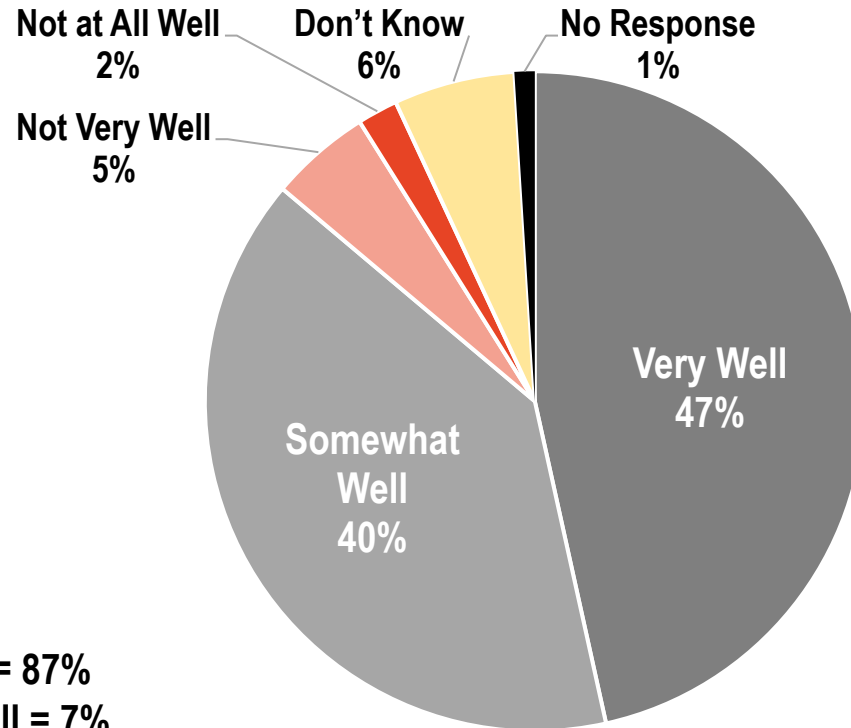


Some + A Lot = 58%

Hardly Anything + Nothing at All = 41%

Meeting Recreation Needs

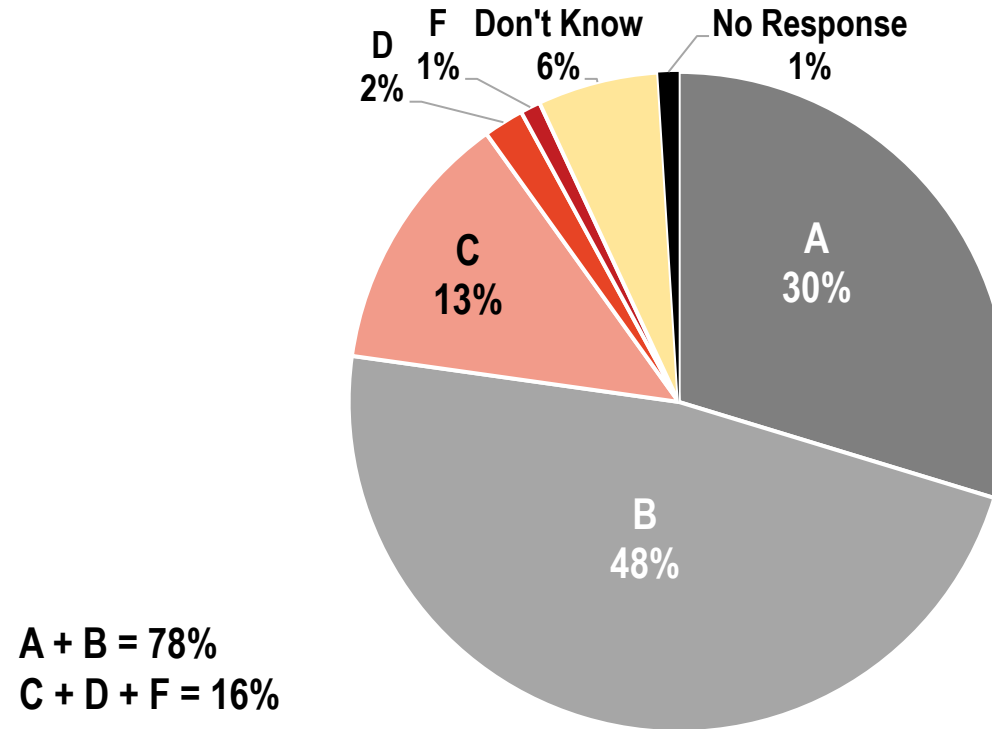
How well do you think the Skokie Park District meets the community's parks and recreation needs?



Very + Somewhat well = 87%
Not very + Not at all well = 7%

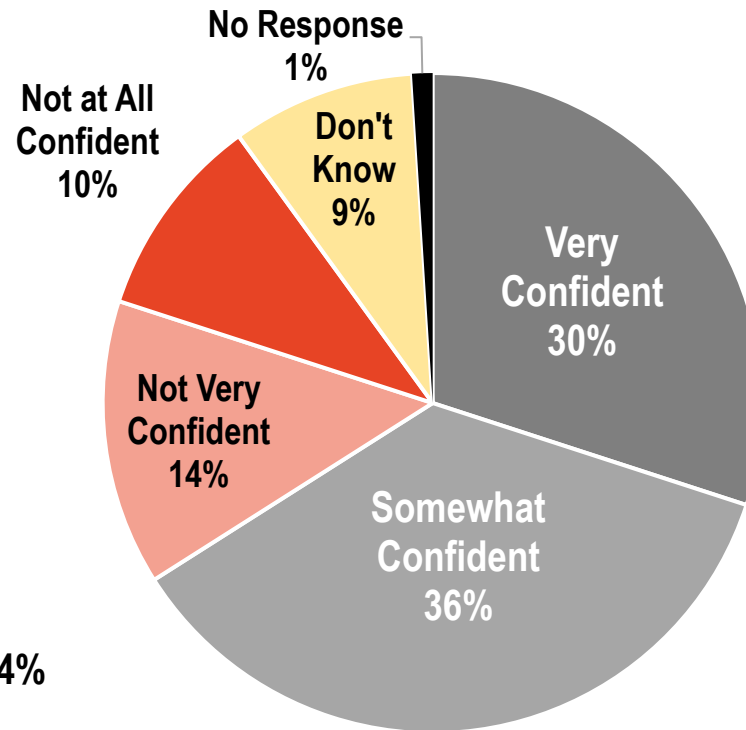
Grade the District's Parks and Facilities

When considering the overall condition of the District's parks and facilities, what letter grade would you give them?



Trust in Fiscal Management

How confident are you that the Skokie Park District would manage funds from a voter-approved bond referendum responsibly?



Somewhat + Very Confident = 66%
Not Very + Not at All Confident = 24%

What priority should be given to funding each of the following proposed amenities at Sports Park East?

Please rate each project using a scale from 1 (Low Priority) to 5 (High Priority).

	Low Priority (1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	High Priority (5)	Net Favorability (4+5) – (1+2)
New walking/jogging path .	14%	9%	17%	24%	33%	34%
Additional native perennial plantings .	18%	11%	21%	19%	29%	19%
New recreation center with multi-sport courts, flexible program/rental rooms, golf simulators, shaded patio, rain garden, and expanded parking lot.	22%	8%	18%	22%	27%	19%
New playground, challenge course, and outdoor fitness equipment .	18%	11%	19%	23%	25%	19%
Improved cricket and soccer/multipurpose fields with better drainage and new lighting, practice pitches, seating, shelter, and restrooms.	22%	12%	24%	22%	18%	6%
New golf practice green for chipping and putting .	38%	19%	21%	11%	9%	-37%
Relocated batting cages .	36%	19%	24%	11%	7%	-37%

What priority should be given to funding each of the following proposed amenities at the possible new Channelside Park South?

Please rate each project using a scale from 1 (Low Priority) to 5 (High Priority).

	Low Priority (1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	High Priority (5)	Net Favorability (4+5) – (1+2)
Paved walking/biking path with a bridge connecting to both Skokie Sports Park and the North Shore Channel Trail.	16%	6%	14%	21%	41%	40%
Native prairie plantings and shade trees .	15%	10%	19%	20%	34%	29%
Benches and shelter with picnic table.	15%	9%	21%	26%	26%	28%
ADA-compliant, fully-accessible playground and zipline .	21%	9%	18%	20%	29%	19%
Bandshell, stage, and event lawn .	23%	11%	19%	22%	23%	11%
Renovated multipurpose facility with patio and pergola.	23%	11%	22%	23%	19%	8%
Children's maze and splash pad .	22%	12%	21%	21%	21%	8%
Outdoor fitness equipment .	25%	15%	24%	18%	15%	-7%

How convincing do you find each statement supporting the possible bond referendum?

Please rate each statement on a scale from 1 to 5 where 1 is Not at All Convincing and 5 is Very Convincing.

	Not at all Convincing (1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	Very Convincing (5)	Net (4) + (5) – (1) + (2)
Expanded and connected walking, jogging, and biking paths would better link neighborhoods, parks, and the North Shore Channel Trail.	15%	9%	15%	23%	36%	35%
Transforming a former industrial site along the North Shore Channel into Channelside Park South would turn underutilized land into meaningful green space for the community.	17%	8%	14%	21%	37%	33%
New indoor and outdoor spaces would allow the Park District to offer more programs, camps, rentals, and community events for residents of all ages.	16%	9%	18%	23%	32%	30%
The proposal would improve Skokie's parks and recreation facilities, strengthening property values while supporting our quality of life.	17%	10%	17%	22%	32%	27%
Improving Sports Park East with a new indoor recreation center and upgraded sports fields would better support games, practices, leagues, tournaments, and community programs.	17%	10%	19%	25%	26%	24%
The Skokie Park District currently has only two indoor courts for more than 60,000 residents. Adding more indoor courts at Sports Park East is a fair and reasonable request.	18%	12%	20%	23%	26%	19%
The proposed projects reflect priorities identified through multiple years of community engagement, including surveys and citizen task force recommendations.	22%	13%	25%	19%	19%	3%

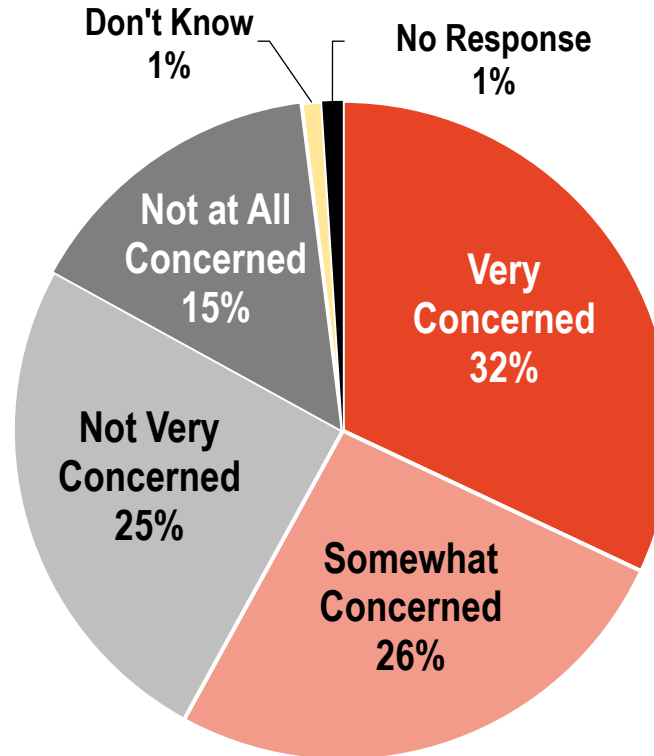
How convincing do you find each statement opposing the possible bond referendum?

Please rate each statement on a scale from 1 to 5 where 1 is Not at All Convincing and 5 is Very Convincing.

	Not at all Convincing (1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	Very Convincing (5)	Net (4) + (5) – (1) + (2)
Even though the estimated tax impact seems modest, property taxes are already high.	9%	9%	17%	18%	45%	45%
Given current economic conditions and rising household expenses, it may not be the right time for the Park District to undertake new capital projects.	12%	13%	24%	16%	34%	25%
The Park District is trying to do too much at once. Scaling back the number of projects would reduce the tax impact for residents.	13%	14%	20%	16%	34%	23%
Because these projects are located near each other, residents in other parts of the District may have limited access to the benefits.	17%	14%	26%	17%	25%	11%
Some homeowners would not use either of the proposed parks or facilities, and question whether they should help pay for the improvements.	22%	14%	17%	12%	33%	9%
Demand for more indoor recreation space should be met by private health clubs, not through additional Park District investments.	33%	17%	19%	9%	20%	-21%

Tax Sensitivity

If approved by voters, the proposed 20-year, \$53 million bond referendum would have an estimated annual tax impact of \$137, or about \$11 per month, for a home with a fair market value of \$400,000. How concerned, if at all, are you about the potential impact on your household budget?



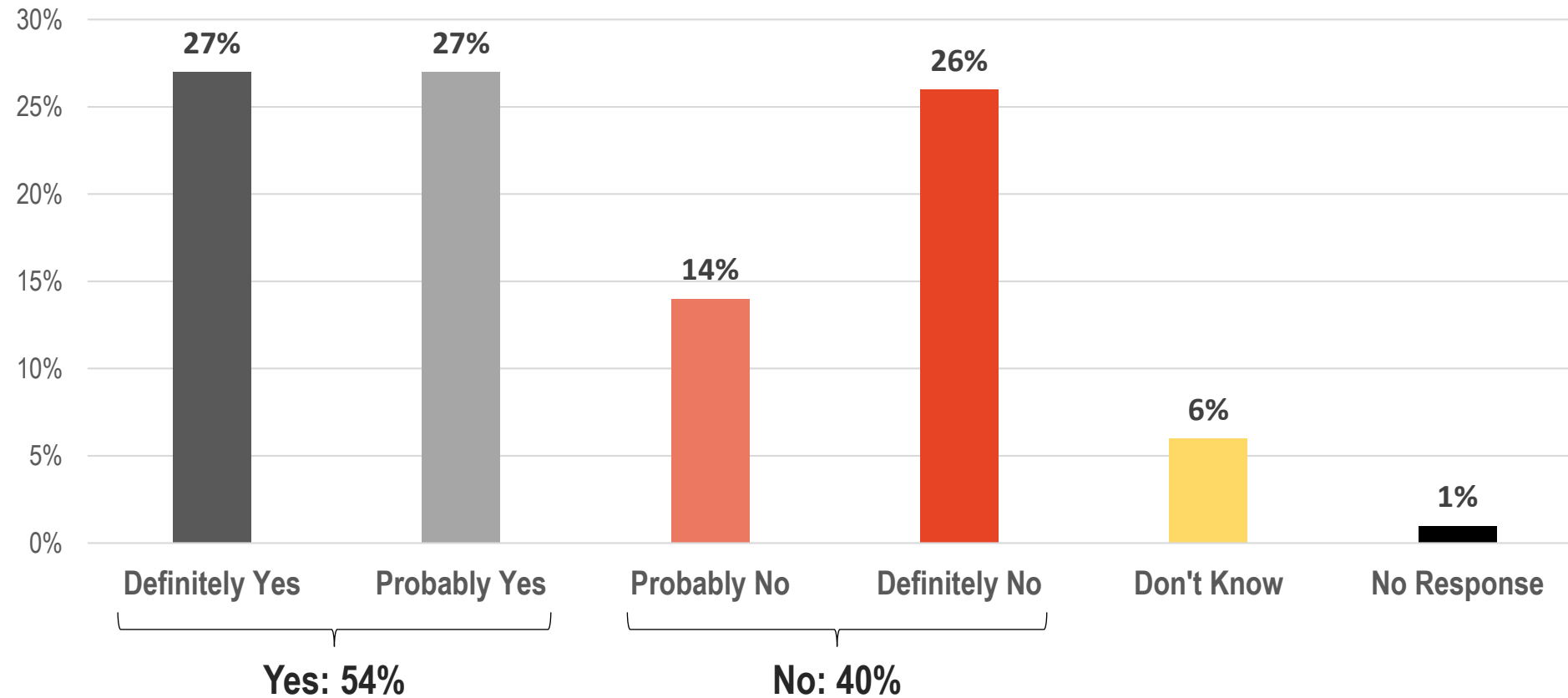
Somewhat + Very Concerned = 58%
Not Very + Not At All Concerned = 40%

Ballot Question

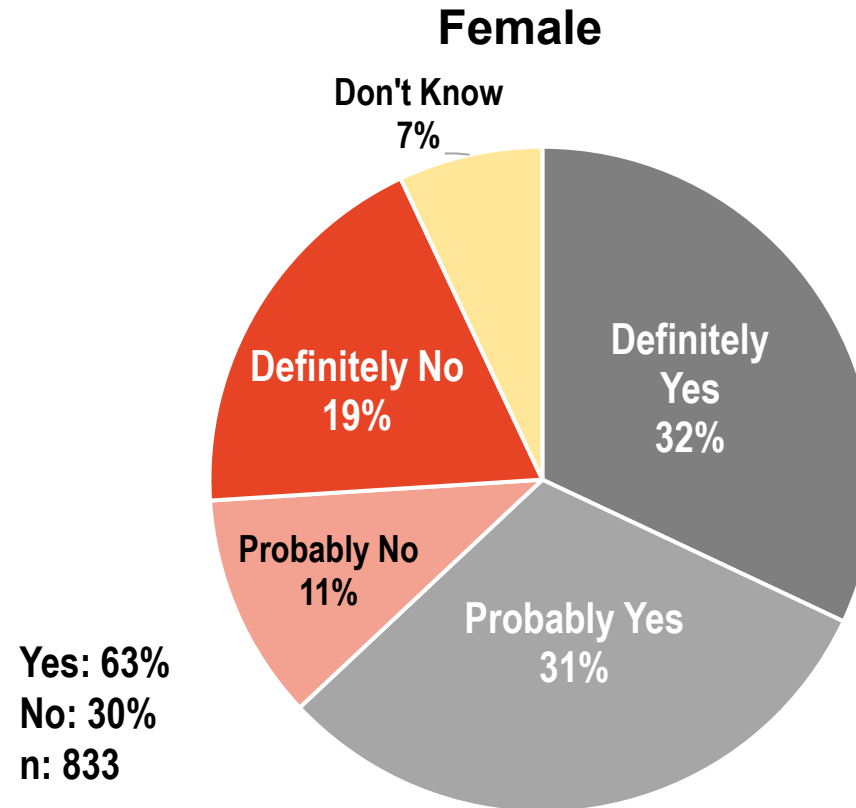
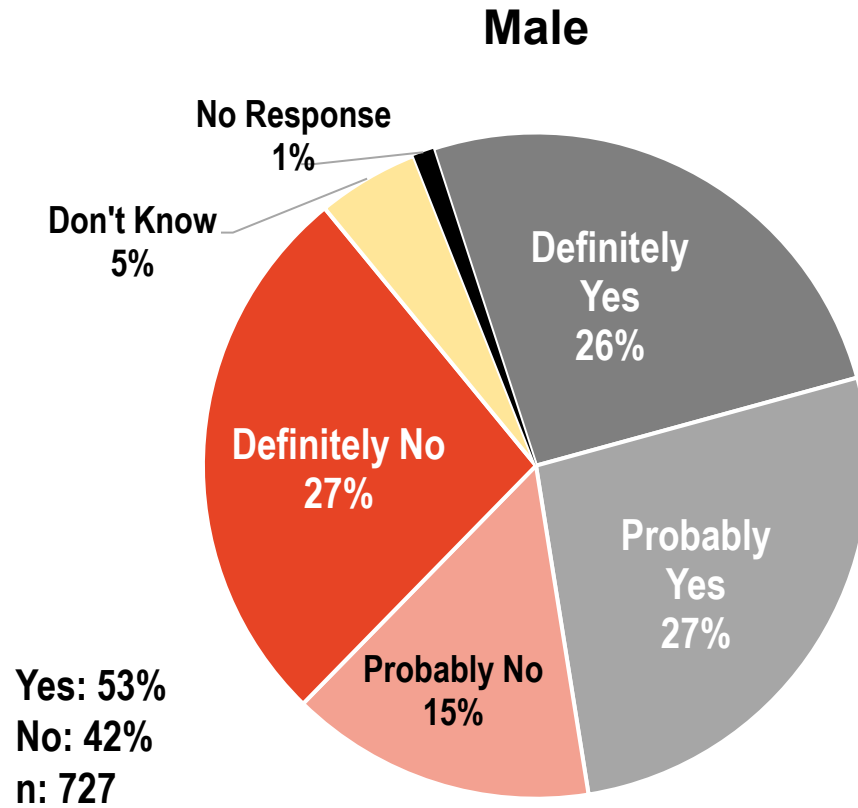
If a local election were held today, would you vote “yes” in favor of, or “no” to oppose, the following funding proposal:

Shall the Skokie Park District, Cook County, Illinois, address facility and site improvements at Sports Park East, including building and equipping a new recreation center, constructing a walking/jogging path, park shelter, playground, and golf chipping and putting area, improving cricket and soccer/multipurpose fields, and adding sports lighting, and converting a former industrial site along the North Shore Channel into a new park that includes green space, an ADA-compliant playground, walking/biking path, bandshell, park shelter, and multipurpose facility, and other park improvements, and issue its bonds to the amount of \$53,000,000 for the purpose of paying the costs thereof?

Ballot Question Results

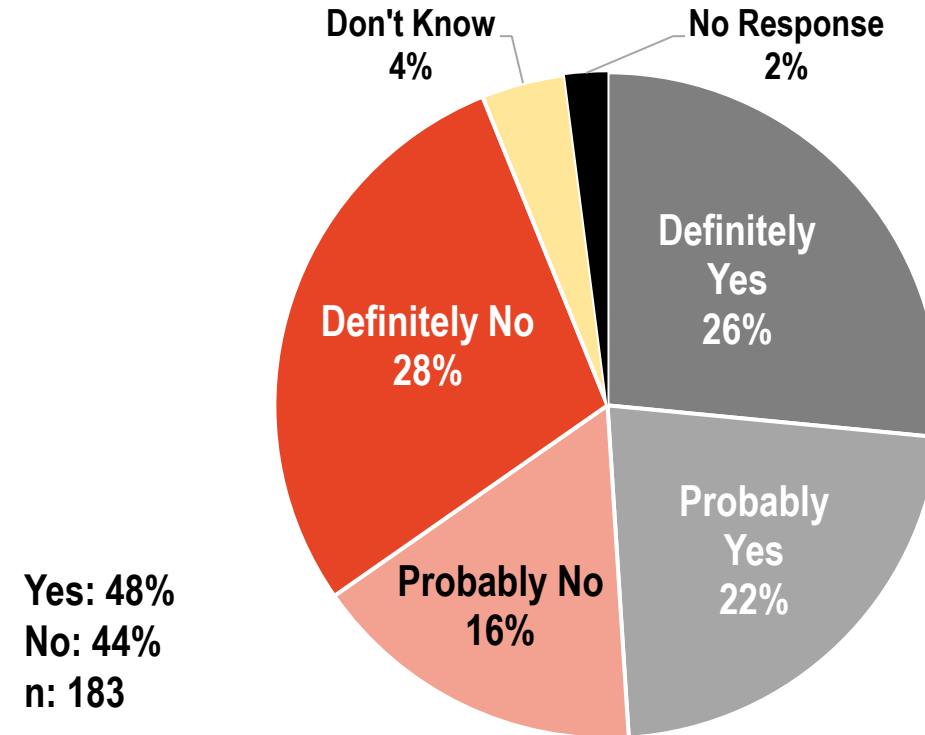


Support for Bond Referendum: Gender



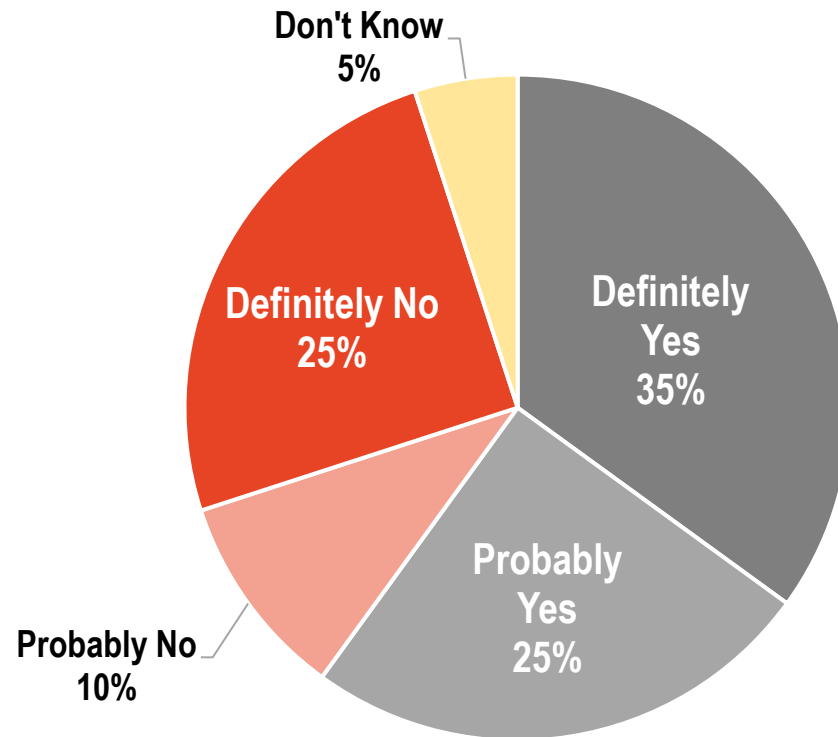
Support for Bond Referendum: Gender

More Than One Person Participated in Survey



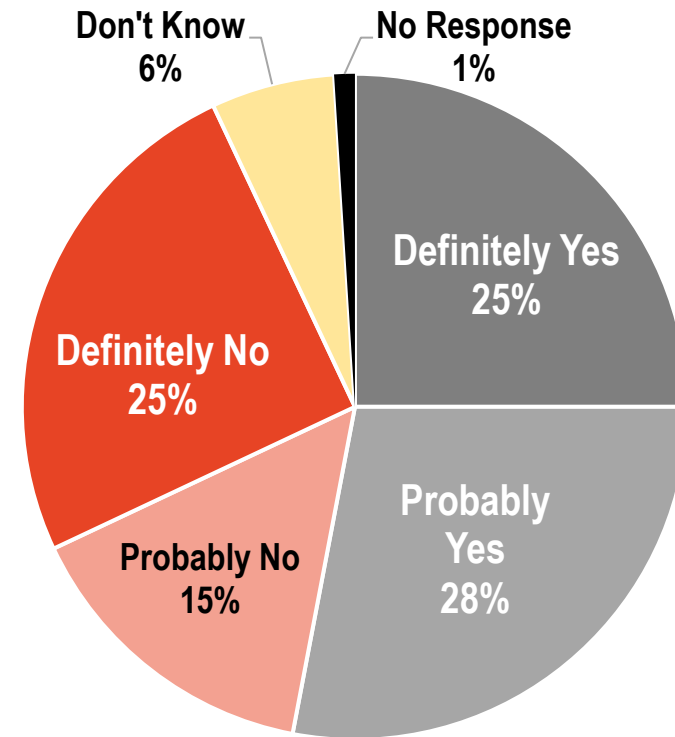
Support for Bond Referendum: Child(ren) in Household

School-Age Child(ren) in Household



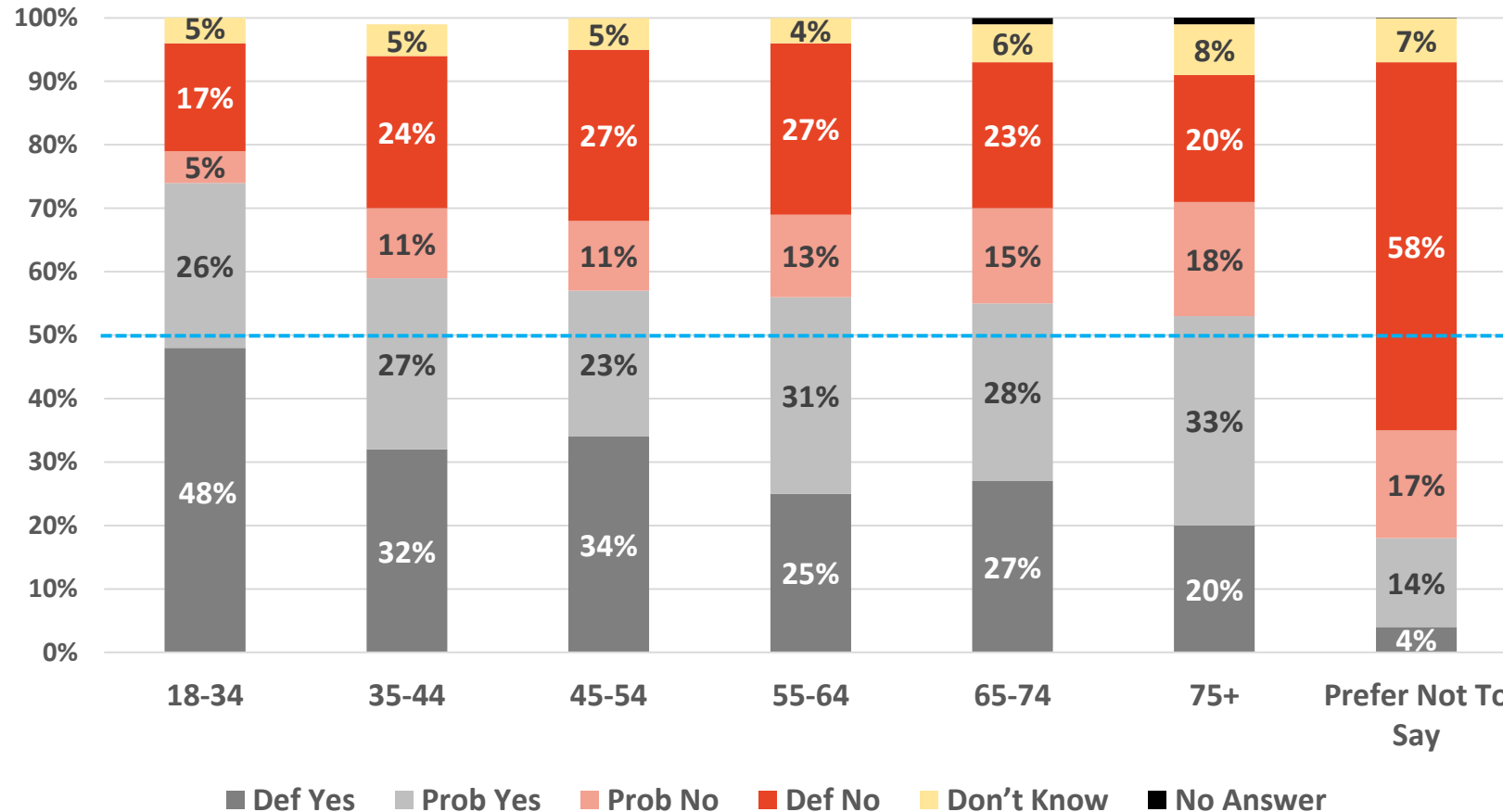
Yes: 60%
No: 35%
n: 498

No School-Age Child(ren) in Household



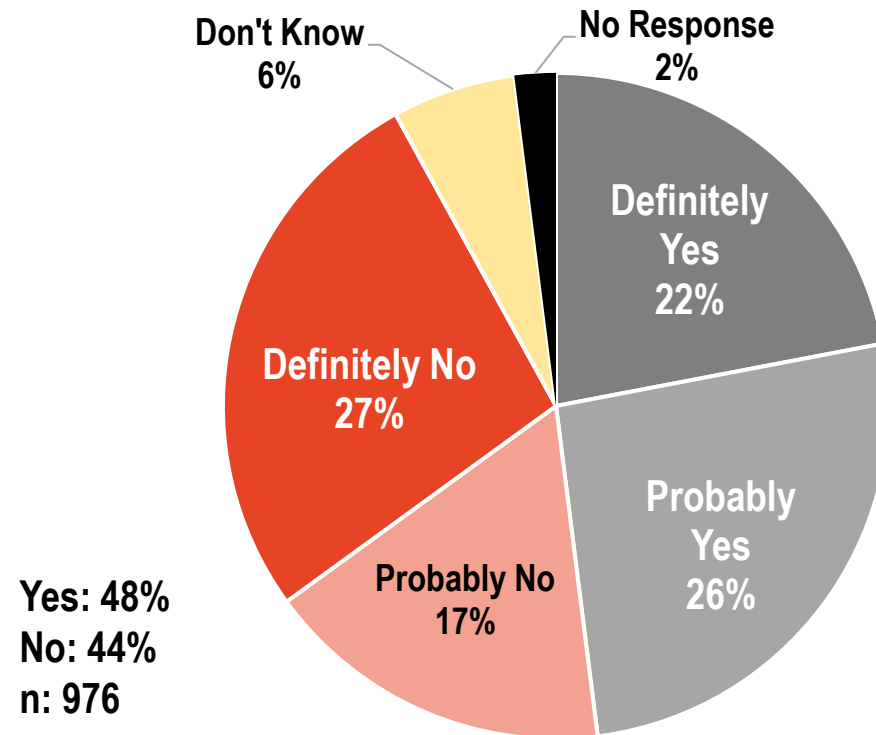
Yes: 53%
No: 40%
n: 1,334

Support for Bond Referendum: Age

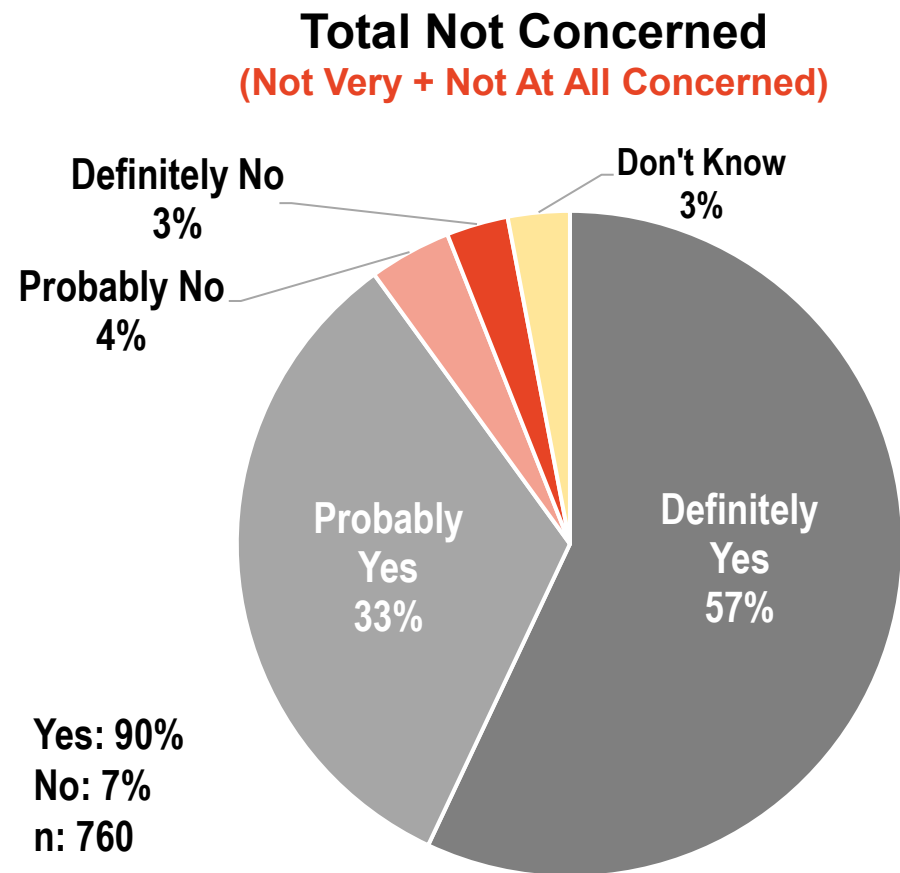
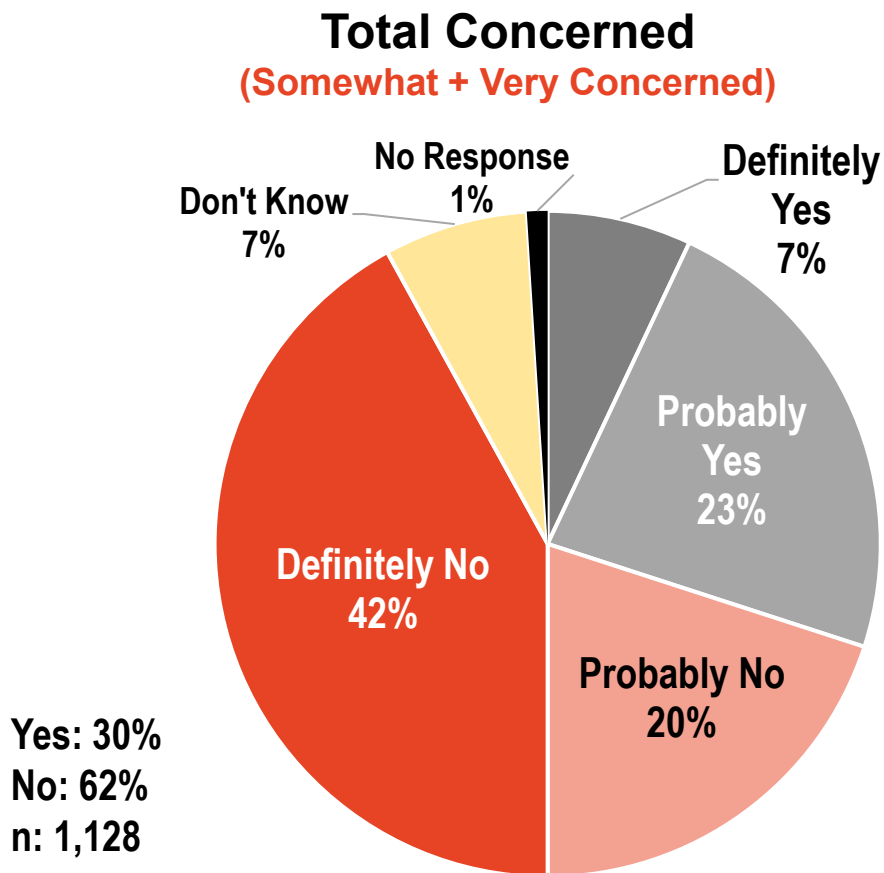


Support for Bond Referendum: Known Likely Voter

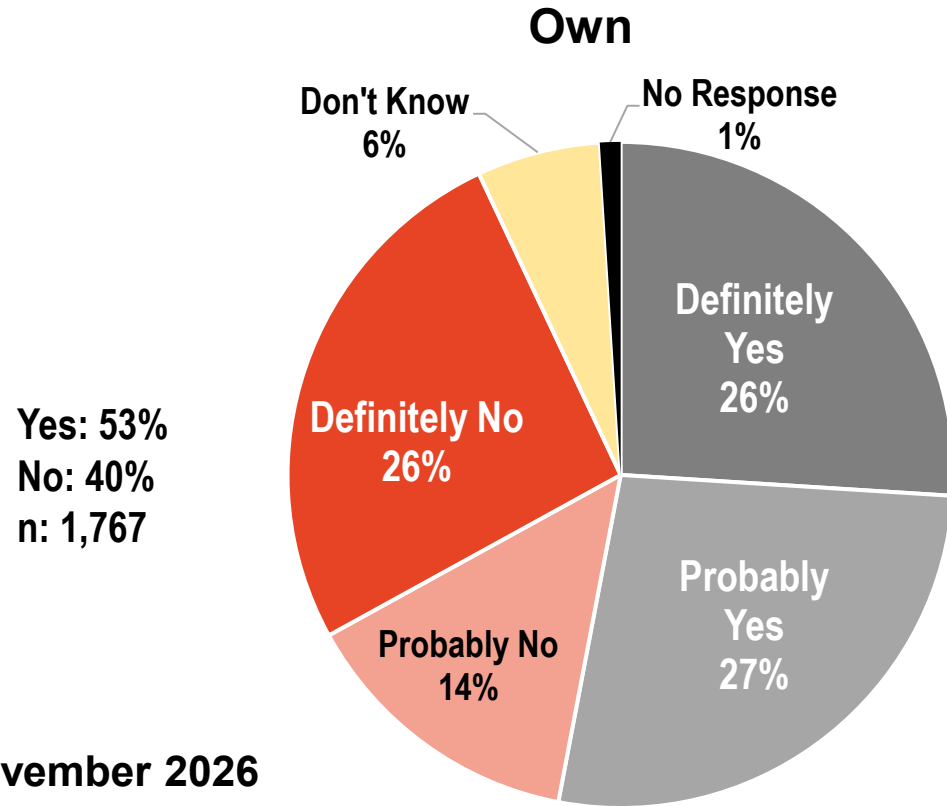
(Completed Survey Via Snail Mail)



Support for Bond Referendum: Tax Sensitivity

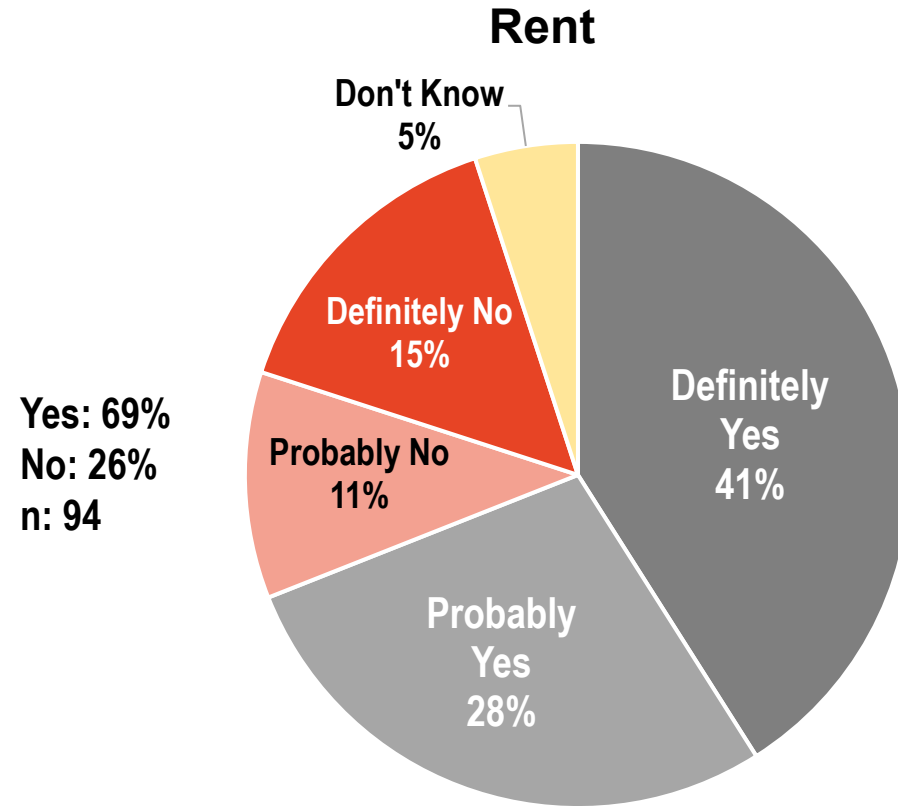


Support for Bond Referendum: Home Ownership



November 2026 Likely Voters

Own 66%
Rent 22%
Unknown 12%



Summary of Results

Support for the Proposal:

- 54% Yes
- 40% No
- 6% Undecided

Support Across Demographics:

- Females are more supportive than males (63% vs. 53%)
- Those with children are more supportive than those without (60% vs. 53%)
- 75 and older voters are the least supportive age group, but still show majority support (53%)
- Renters support at higher rates than homeowners (69% vs. 53%)
- Known likely voters are less supportive (48%), however, there are unknown likely voters in QR code and text respondents

Weighted Support if Survey Respondents Matched 2026 Likely Voter Demographics:

- 55.8% Yes
- Margin of Error = +/- 3.5% at 95% confidence
- Underrepresentation among parents, renters, and ages 18-44

Summary of Results (cont.)

Moderate Awareness: 58% had heard a lot or some about the proposed bond referendum

Park District Gets Excellent Marks: 86% very + somewhat well in meeting community's needs

Facilities Get Strong Marks: 78% A or B grades vs. 16% C, D, or F grades

Trust in Fiscal Management: 66% very + somewhat confident vs. 24% not very + not at all confident

Summary of Results (cont.)

Sports Park East Proposed Amenities

New walking/jogging path **(34%)**
Additional native perennial plantings **(19%)**
New recreation center **(19%)**
New playground, challenge course, and outdoor fitness equipment. **(19%)**
Improved cricket and soccer/multipurpose fields **(6%)**
New golf practice green for chipping and putting **(-37%)**
Relocated batting cages **(-37%)**

Channelside Park South Proposed Amenities

Paved walking/biking path with a bridge connecting to both Skokie Sports Park and the North Shore Channel Trail **(40%)**
Native prairie plantings and shade trees **(29%)**
Benches and shelter with picnic table **(28%)**
ADA-compliant, fully-accessible playground and zipline **(19%)**
Bandshell, stage, and event lawn **(11%)**
Renovated multipurpose facility with patio and pergola **(8%)**
Children's maze and splash pad **(8%)**
Outdoor fitness equipment **(-7%)**

Summary of Results (cont.)

The **strongest arguments in favor** of the bond referendum were tied to:

- Expanded and connected walking, jogging, and biking paths would better link neighborhoods, parks, and the North Shore Channel Trail.
- Transforming a former industrial site along the North Shore Channel into Channelside Park South would turn underutilized land into meaningful green space for the community.
- New indoor and outdoor spaces would allow the Park District to offer more programs, camps, rentals, and community events for residents of all ages.

The **strongest arguments against** the bond referendum were tied to:

- Even though the estimated tax impact seems modest, property taxes are already high.
- Given current economic conditions and rising household expenses, it may not be the right time for the Park District to undertake new capital projects.
- The Park District is trying to do too much at once. Scaling back the number of projects would reduce the tax impact for residents.

The Bottom Line

- At 55.8%, the weighted level of support for the \$53 million proposal is within the desired 56-58% range.
- Margin of Error = +/- 3.5% with 95% confidence.
- Solid support for most of the proposed improvements.
- Tax sensitivity is high with 58% very or somewhat concerned about the impact of the new taxes on their budget.