



# City of Kirkland, WA Athletic Field Use & Demand Analysis Study City Council Briefing October 5, 2021





# Your Local Project Team



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Founding Partner

# Information Gathering

- **Athletic Field Use & Demand Analysis SurveyMonkey Tool Developed by GreenPlay**
  - City of Kirkland Project Team provided input and approved SurveyMonkey Tool
  - Additional Field related questions included in the Community Needs Assessment Survey just launched
  - Additional field usage information and data is being provided by City of Kirkland staff
- **55 Field User Groups Identified by City of Kirkland Staff Emailed SurveyMonkey Tool link**
  - Current Users/Past Users
  - Lake Washington School District Staff City administrators
  - Social Users/Engaged Citizens/Other Athletic League Inquiries
- **24 Field User Groups Identified by City of Kirkland Staff Completed SurveyMonkey Tool**
- **Additional Analysis Includes:**
  - Review of City of Kirkland Athletic Fields Policies and Procedure documents
  - GreenPlay Level of Service Analysis and GRASP®
  - Site Workshop assessing conditions and playability of athletic fields

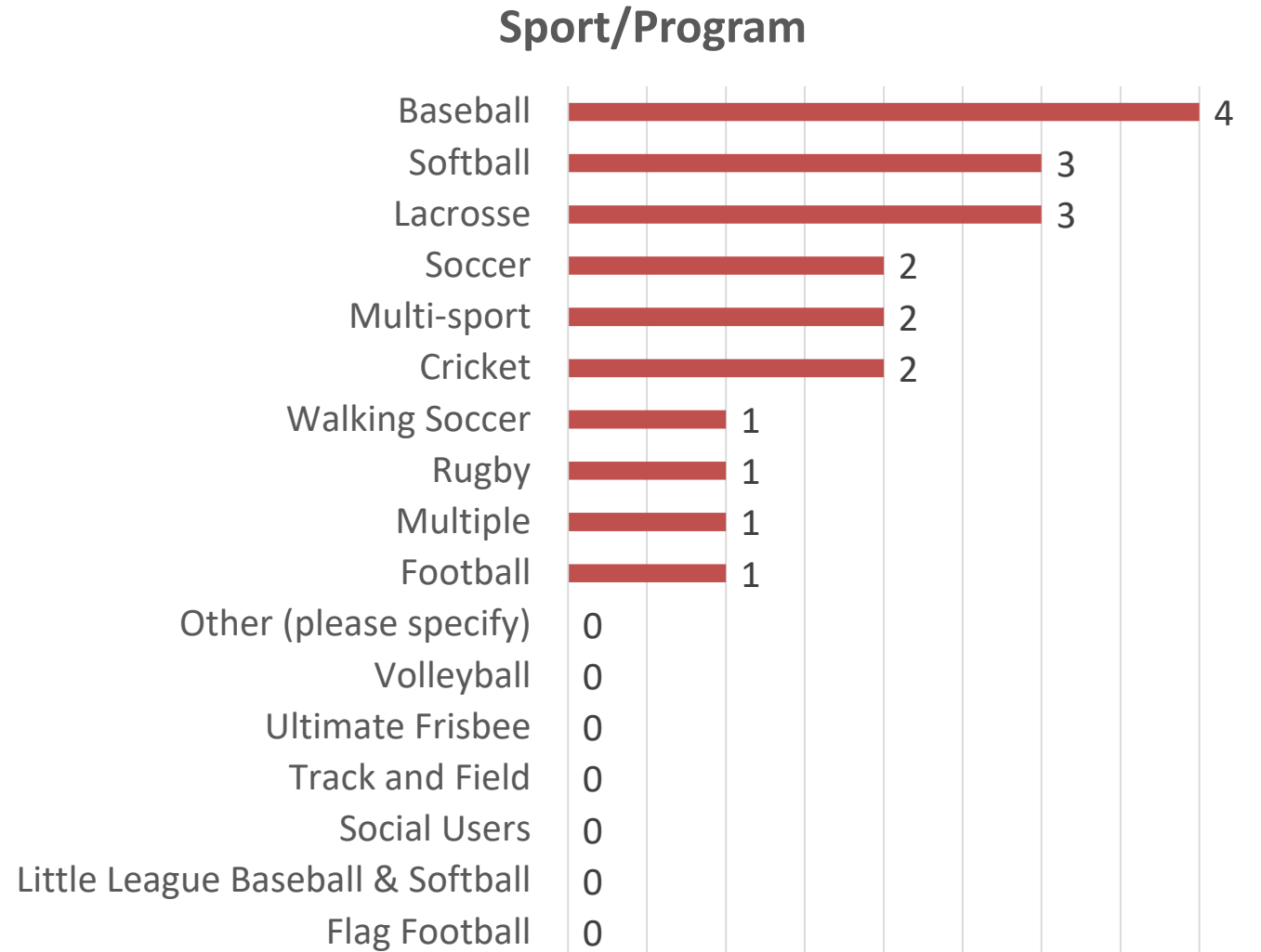
# 55 Athletic Field User Groups Invited to Complete Survey Tool

- Absolute Blast Fastpitch Association
- Boys and Girls Club of King County
- Cedar Park Church
- Churchome
- Disc Northwest
- District 9 - Little League International
- Eastside Huskies Baseball Club
- Eastside Lions Youth Rugby
- Google
- Greater Seattle Soccer League
- Juanita Baseball Club
- Juanita High School
- Juanita Lacrosse
- KB Fastpitch
- Kirkland American Little League
- Kirkland Baseball Commission
- Kirkland FC (2)
- Kirkland Merchants
- Kirkland National Little League
- Kirkland Steelers
- Lake Washington Girls Lacrosse Association
- Lake Washington High School
- Lake Washington Junior Kangs
- Lake Washington Lacrosse
- Lake Washington School District (2)
- Lake Washington Youth Soccer Association
- Lakeview Elementary PTSA
- North Lake Little League
- Northlake Soccer
- Northshore YMCA
- Northwest University
- OL Reign Academy
- Puget Sound Senior Cricket Association
- Puget Sound Senior Baseball League
- Puget Sound Senior Softball Association
- Radke Softball
- Seattle Elite Baseball
- Seattle Sounders
- Snohomish Select
- Social Users / Personal (8)
- Super 11 Cricket Academy
- Titans Premier FC
- United States Volleyball League
- Unity Soccer Club
- Washington Ladyhawks 18 Gold - Hirai/Simpson
- WW Sweets Baseball Club

# 24 Athletic Field User Groups Completed Survey Tool

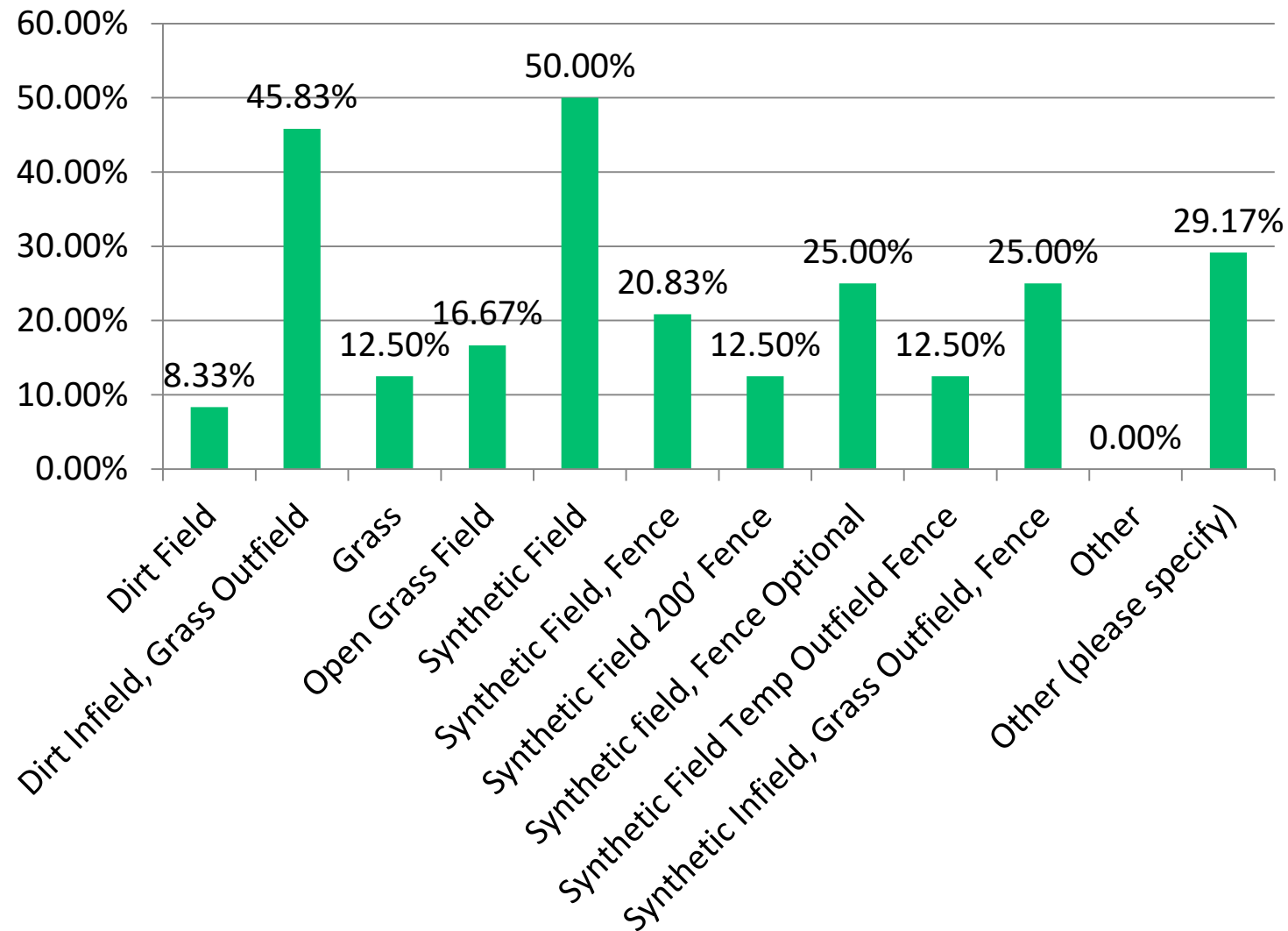
- Boys and Girls Club of King County
- District 9 - Little League International
- Eastside Huskies Baseball Club
- Eastside Lions Youth Rugby
- Greater Seattle Soccer League
- Juanita High School
- Juanita Lacrosse
- KB Fastpitch
- Kirkland American Little League
- Kirkland Baseball Commission
- Kirkland FC
- Kirkland Merchants
- Kirkland National Little League
- Kirkland Steelers
- Lake Washington Girls Lacrosse Association
- Lake Washington High School
- Lake Washington Lacrosse
- OL Reign Academy
- Other (please specify) - Personal
- Puget Sound Senior Baseball League
- Puget Sound Senior Cricket Association
- Puget Sound Senior Softball Association
- Super 11 Cricket Academy
- Washington Ladyhawks 18 Gold - Hirai/Simpson

# Number of Each Sport/Program Completing Tool



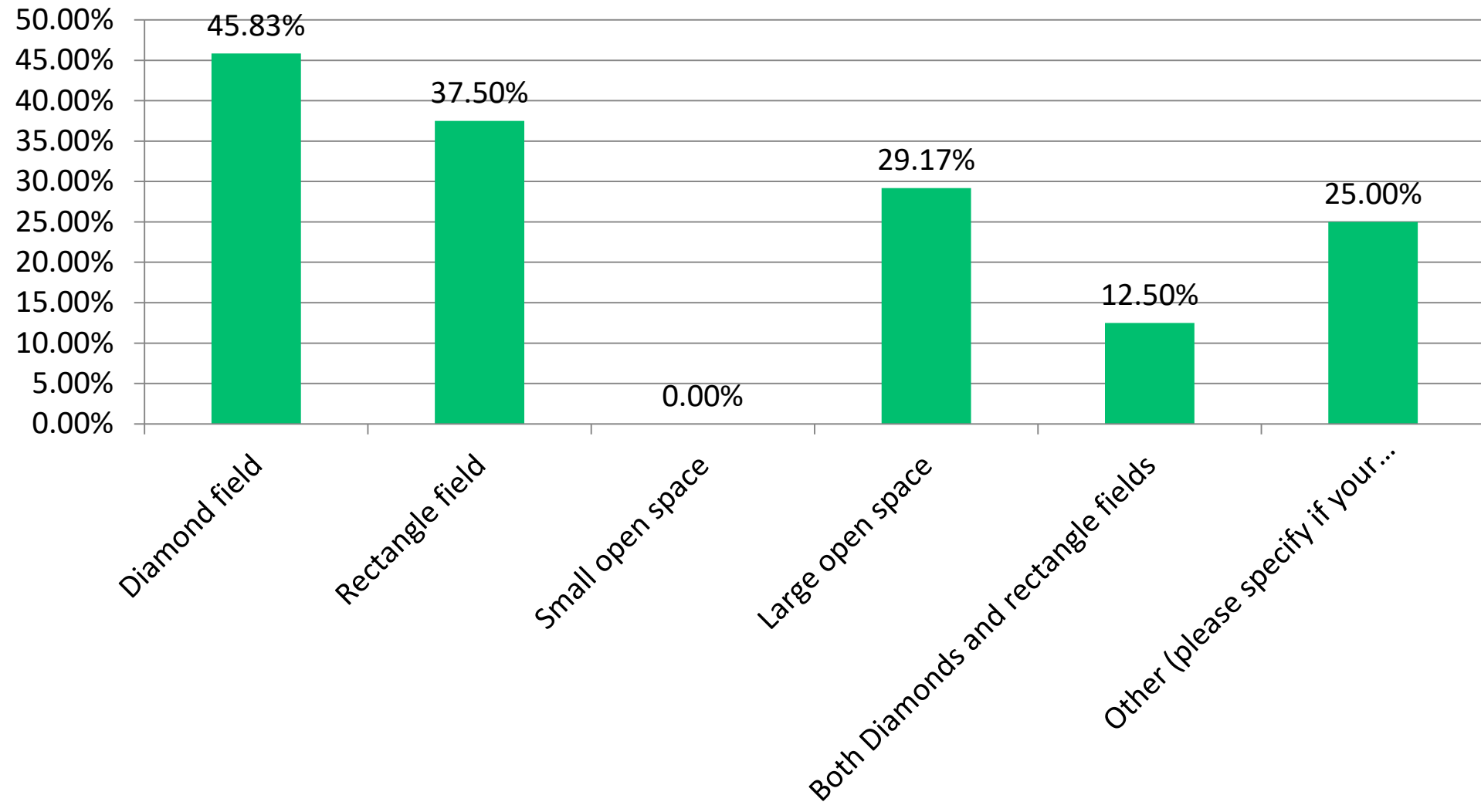
# Types of Fields Desired

**Type of field used/desired (please choose all that apply)**



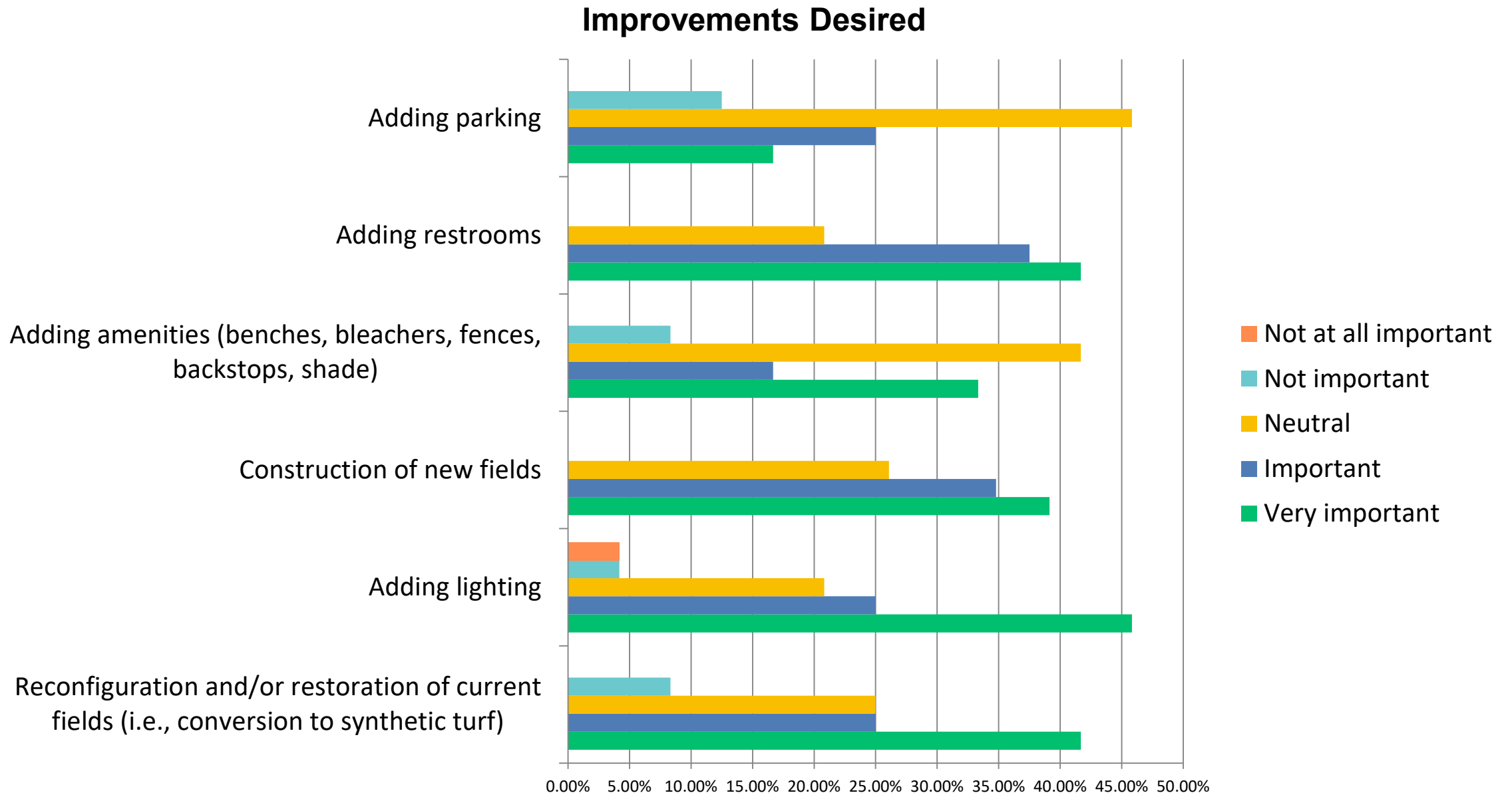
# Diamond Field, Rectangular Field, Small Open Space, or Large Open Space Desired

**Do you desire a diamond field, rectangular field, small open space, or large open space**



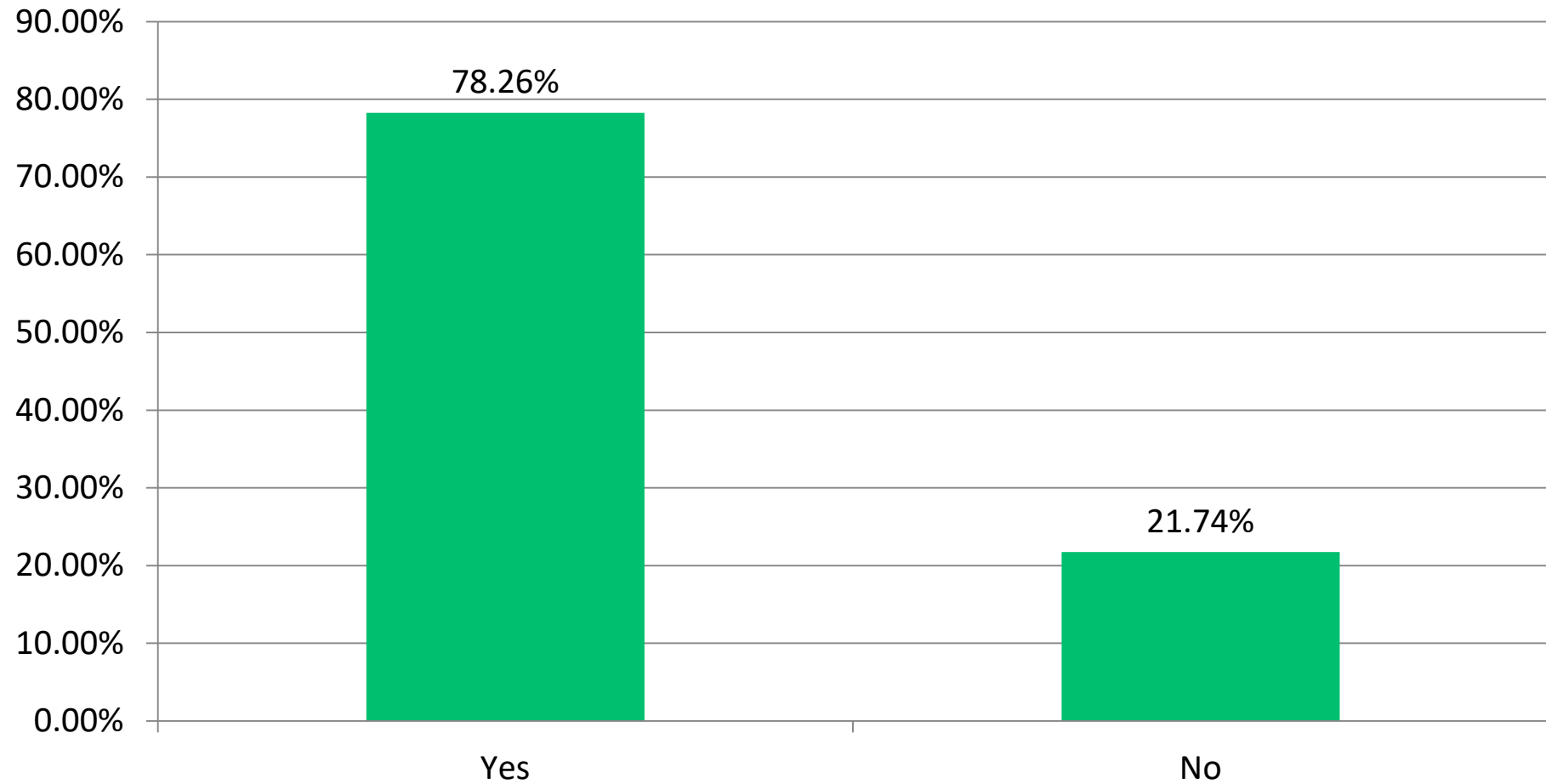


# Importance of Improvements



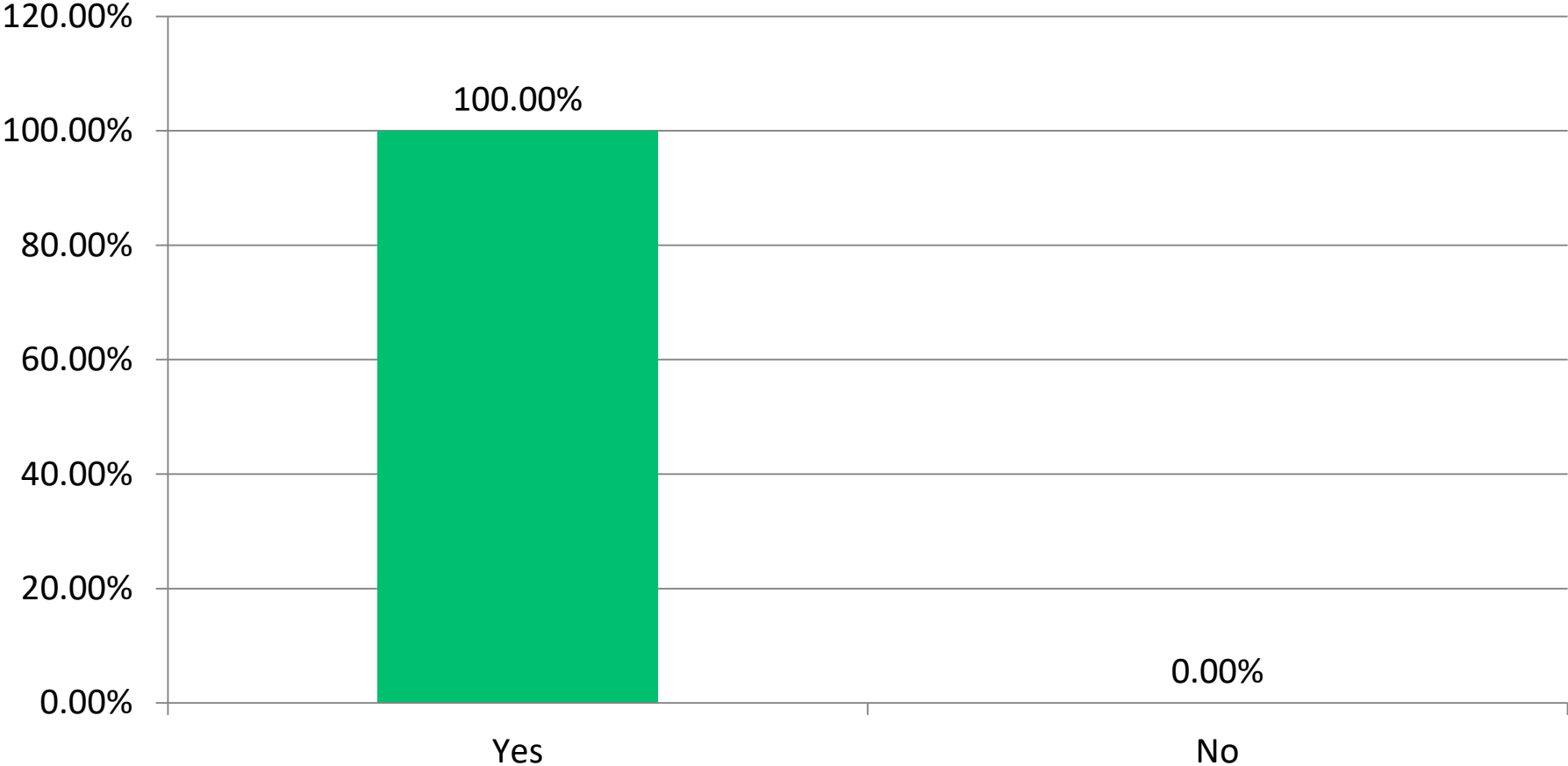
# Support for Converting Existing Fields to Synthetic Turf

Are you in favor of the City of Kirkland converting existing fields to synthetic turf?

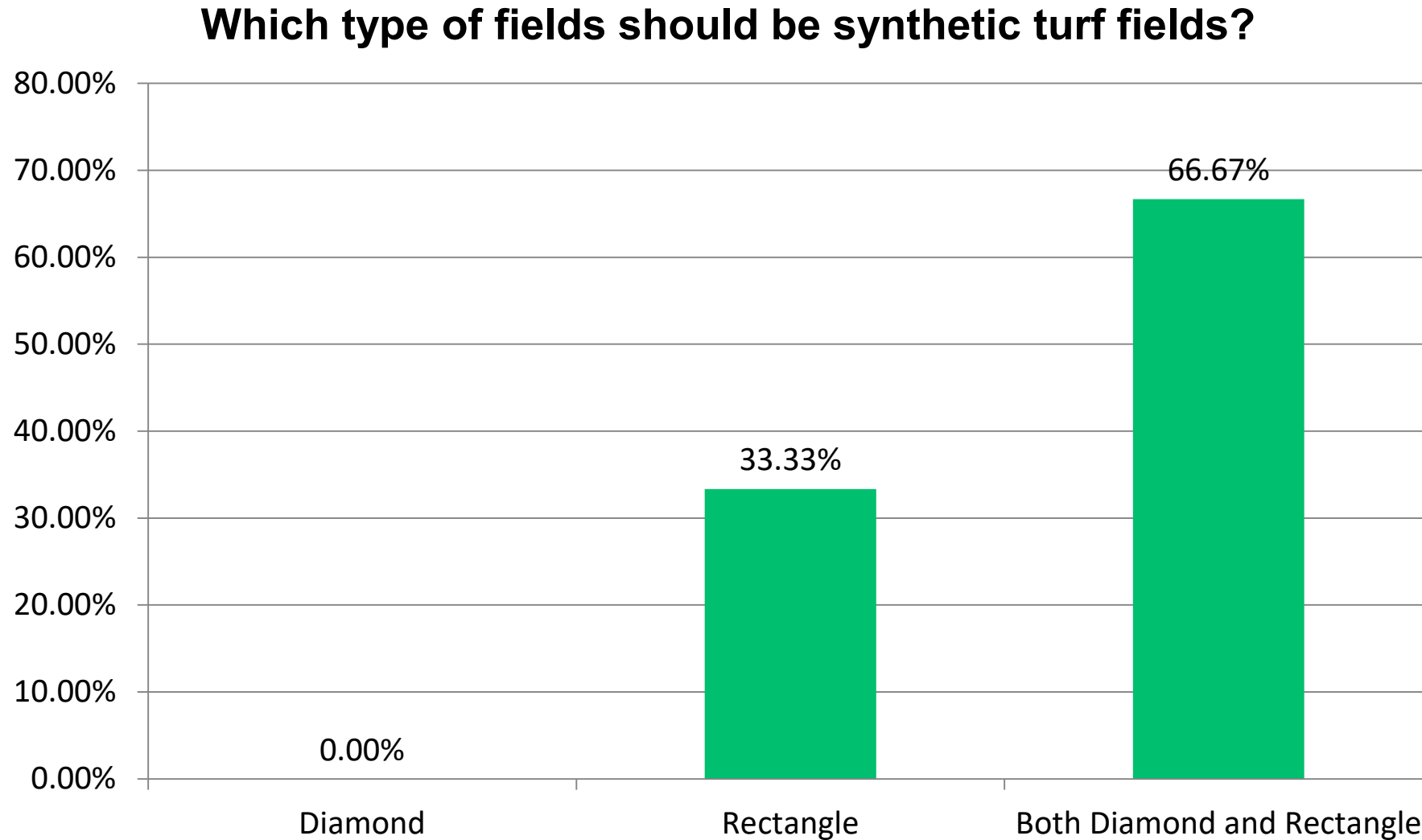


# Support for Constructing New Synthetic Turf Fields

**Are you in favor of the City of Kirkland constructing new synthetic turf fields?**



# Which Types of Fields Should be Synthetic Turf Fields





# Ongoing Analysis (1 of 2)

**Athletic field use & demand information provided by Kirkland staff being analyzed**

- **Site Workshop conducting on-site analysis of athletic fields which includes:**
  - **Current field playability condition**
  - **Condition/availability/appropriateness of amenities to support the fields**
  - **Safety concerns on/around the fields (lips at the start of outfields, broken fencing, ruts, mounds, etc.)**
  - **Assessment of field maintenance to include turf, fencing, etc.**
  - **Overall field condition - rank 1 – excellent, 2 – good, 3 – poor and a total score as well as comments describing field issues that need to be addressed or suggested improvements.**

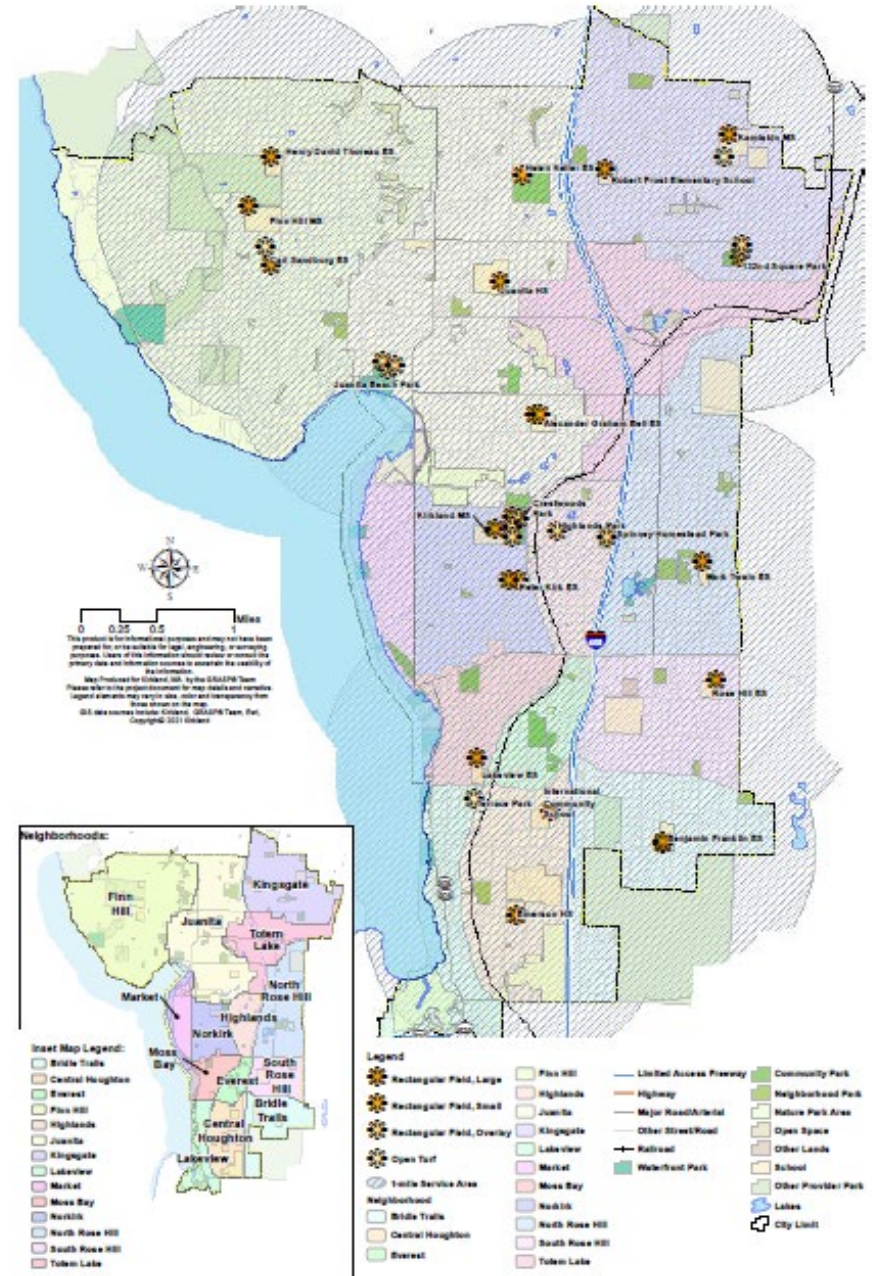
## Ongoing Analysis (2 of 2)

- **Analysis of needs assessment survey responses**
- **On-going discussions with regional natural grass specialists**
- **Future meeting with Athletic Field Users - TBD**

# Natural Grass or Synthetic Turf?

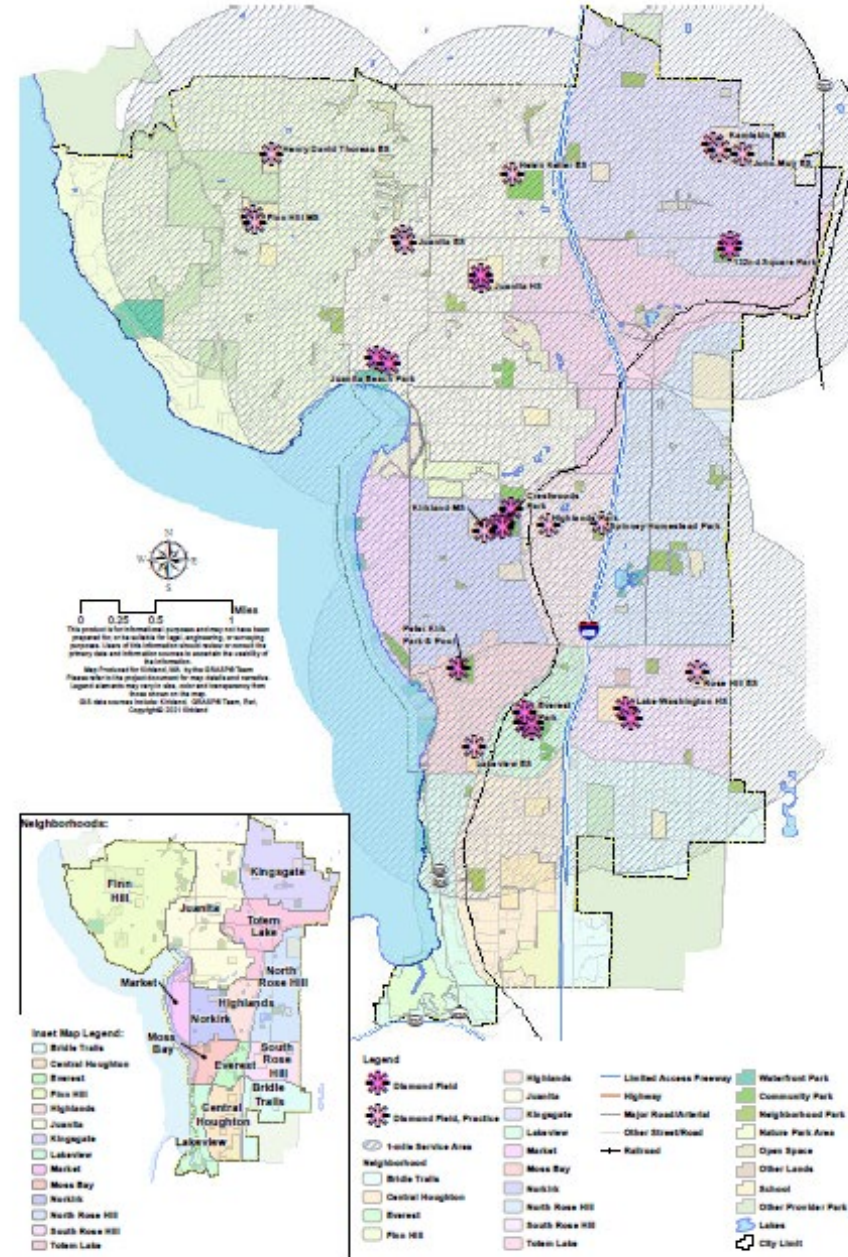
Consideration	Natural Grass Field	Synthetic Turf Field
Estimated Installation Cost	\$7 - \$10 per SF	\$11 - \$15 per SF
Irrigation	required	not required
Drainage	restricts playability	doesn't restrict playability
Maintenance	more labor intensive requires annual reseeding	less labor intensive
Field Markings	temporary	permanent
Playability	limited	unlimited
Weather	can limit use	not affected
Environment	provides oxygen	no water or chemical applications replace top surface every 8-10 years
Life Expectancy	requires regular periods of non-use	replace subsurface every 16 - 20 years
Health Concerns	use of herbicides and fertilizer	concerns regarding materials used

# Programmed Rectangular Athletic Fields (Parks and Schools)





# Programmed Diamond Athletic Fields (Parks and Schools)



# Preliminary Observations from Our GRASP® Analysis

- Potential Upgrades to Synthetic Turf:
  - The backside at Juanita Beach needs severe attention and converting those (2) fields to synthetic would help.
  - The single diamond at Peter Kirk Park is unfunctional, and the park could be reconfigured to be more like Sandpoint's War Memorial Field (synthetic turf)
  - Terrace could be upgraded to synthetic turf
  - Fields (2) at Heritage could be converted to synthetic turf
  - Could convert the fields (2-4) at Crestwood to synthetic turf
  - Could convert the fields (2-3) at the Kirkland Middle school to synthetic turf
  - Could convert AG Bell, Sandburg, Hellen Keller, Thoreau, Muir (4-6) to synthetic turf
    - This has been done this at Lakeview Elementary
  - Robert Frost Elementary School is prime for synthetic turf upgrade
  - Finn Hill and Kamiakin Middle School fields (2-4) could be upgraded to synthetic turf

# Early Preliminary Recommendations

- Through the City's partnership with the schools, convert/upgrade grass/dirt/gravel fields to multi-purpose regulation size synthetic fields with lights, especially the elementary schools to
  - Would provide improved field space for elementary school programming
  - Potential for prime programming time outside of school hours into the evenings
  - Typically parking already exists
  - Elementary schools are spread out across the City in many neighborhoods
- Consider development of one multi-purpose synthetic field complex with 4 fields
  - Would probably need to acquire that land and dedicate it to a complex
- Develop a schedule to provide a 6–8-week rest period for natural grass fields during a growing season



# Sample Multi-Use Synthetic Turf Field





# An Example of Kirkland's Expansion of Access to Athletic Fields is occurring at 132<sup>nd</sup> Street Field

- Conversion of grass field to synthetic turf in conjunction with the storm water vault.
- This expands the use with additional sports but also extends the time of day with lighting and during inclement weather.
- Field accommodates two diamond fields, soccer, lacrosse and other field sports.



*This rendering depicts the 132nd Square Park renovation, which begins June 28th and will close the park for approximately one year. The labyrinth shown will not be installed with this project.*

# Diversity, Equity, Inclusion – Considerations

The City will need to consider Diversity, Equity and Inclusion related to location of synthetic turf fields.

- The athletic field user groups desire multiple fields in one location (a field complex) to host tournaments which contrasts with placing fields throughout the community.

Policy for allocation of fields – how does diversity, equity and inclusion factor in?

Deciding upon a field design (rectangular, diamond, combination) and how it allows the City to foster equity and diversity in sports offerings.

# Thank You For Your Time

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