

Written Comments Parks and Commons Survey

How Frequently use space next to Commons?

107: We loved special events at the commons – plays, entertainers, etc.

139: Most Surveys include a self-addressed and stamped envelope! (see comment in additional suggestions)

150: Used to before she died

Concerns re. current space use

103: No

107: We loved the exercise class that ran for years and years in the Commons! Leaders were volunteers who loved to exercise – People paid \$2 per person – Music came thru the speaker System!! The class was M,W,F and leaders were locals. Some Waldport people came also!

112: No real concerns

126: We would absolutely love a dog park – maybe with a picnic table or two! A great way to meet other locals!

127: Why isn't there baseball (listed)?

129: Invites the homeless to hang out

131: Attended solstice, other community events. Used to go to the ball games on Saturdays in the summer. Afraid of loose dogs running up to me when I walk through

133: Do we still need a skate park? Why does the picnic shelter leak? Could it have space heaters and more plexiglass near the roof? When will we have more public parking and picnic facilities?

143: Better lighting at parking between Commons and City Hall

147: The wetlands space is a treasure. Please keep it protected.

148: My biggest concern is that not everyone picks up after their dogs. Even with the bags provided. Maybe some encouraging signs would help? More disposal location in and around town?

151: Doesn't feel safe to let kids go unsupervised with strangers in town. – Especially covid issue. Dog poop. Is there a specific space unhoused people could stay with support services?

154: P.S. It's also a good cell service area . Transients parking at night and day.(We encountered a very angry and violent couple!) Careful not to create welcome space to tourists / transient use - Locals already getting squeezed out by travelers...

167: Love it

170: Love the musical events

Possible Uses

105: Whole area should be designed as one appealing attraction not a bunch of different things. Perhaps done over time

126: Yes please (Dog Park)

130: No Mention of adding in any of public restroom in any of these new areas (No Change)

131: Baseball, kickball, horseshoes, bocce, adult exercise equipment (Baseball field – only vote)

132: City has money to start this and develop a 5-year plan. Do it – and pay for it. (Donation)

136: No way (Dog Park)

138 : So far so good – hope this survey helps.

141: Would attract homeless people to cook and get warm (Fire pit)

143: Native plantings (Open space) Expand existing?/New? (Children's play area)

151: Might be fun to have neighborhood teams adopt some maintenance jobs.
157: Last year Yachats City Council voted to ban part time residents without reduction in water/sewer bill nor taxes. Some full-time residents still promote this divisiveness. I continue to donate to Yachats, but hesitate to commit to additional at this time, as we've taken on volunteer opportunities to Waldport now.

Fire Pit

103: Great idea since we don't have anything like this now. Maybe it could be combined with a small screen area for movies. (Dual Use)
105: +Cozy -limited use. Could fire pit be part of gathering area for events.
108: Fire danger outweighs this idea
111: Close to the shelter and commons (like)
112: Not likely to be used very often
117: Easy access to beach for fires. Save this space for a different use.
120: Looks nice for medium sized groups
121: Redundant: people have fires on the beach
122: Keep things natural
127: +Community, -Hokey
129: Dislike smoke and could attract homeless
130: No mention of public restrooms being added in any of these areas
131: Depending on size it prevents activities
133: I like the idea of a place to gather with the community, but it would need good rules.
138: Would serve as an inviting gathering place for community and leave space for other additional uses around it.
142: Fire danger during warm months. Trash and half burned logs (Just like the beach)
144: Open it up. Seating too close together (Ed. referring to picture?)
145: These are often installed but rarely used.
148: It seems nice but I don't imagine it getting much use
149: I like the idea, but windy on coast. Not sure how much it would be used.
151: Concern re. risk from unsupervised fires
154: Dangerous – potentially. And limited seasonal use
160: Love the idea of this but concerned people would a) burn garbage b) leave embers unattended (both of which happens regularly when tourists are here)
161: A safe place for fire pit
162: I like the winter solstice but how many times would it be used
163: Attractive idea. Keeping the area garbage and "butt" free might be a challenge
164: It will not be used real often but if build it might attract interest by renters. The issue will be cleanup after use.
166: Good for solstice bonfire. Weatherproof benches?
167: Locals reserve
168: Localizes a fire area where people could visit, hear planned talks, events

Picnic Area

103: We have a picnic shelter already – waste of money
110: Good idea

111: Need trash barrels. Great for visitors
112: Generally good idea but who will keep the tables clean and remove trash
114: Place for families to gather off the highway
120: Spread out tables. Nice for visitors
121: Tables are already sprinkled around the area. A few more wouldn't hurt.
127: Like as long as within certain area yet spaced
129: Again, attract the homeless
130: No mention of provision of additional public restrooms being added in any of these areas
131: Very few eating events happen outdoors here
132: Gathering spot away from crowds, restaurants. Can be used for local or outside groups
133: This is something we lack, which makes it a good idea – especially for restaurant take-out.
138: Rather have them in the covered area already there
141: I think people would use it to picnic especially with dog park
143: Small grouping and some individual tables in other areas
144: Need Bar-B-Que sites!
Folks need place to sit and gather and eat – with Covid lots of take-out
149: Mostly too windy on the coast to enjoy
151: Nice place for friends/family to gather safely
154: Careful not to block open space
161: It would be a safe place for families to get together
163: Spread out
164: Outdoor space for families to be comfortable. Garbage will be an issue.
165: Just a few, maybe 2-3. Again with rain and our north wind, will not be used. Suggest put in two and test. Also, will become a sleeping space for homeless
166: Best alternative to open spaces
168: "Captures" families passing through who might shop after have a picnic. Promotes local food buying also.
170: Would be nice for Farmer's Market

Dog Park

103: Too much space for dogs. We have MILES of beach for them!
106: Dislike – encourage off leash dog handling. "My dog doesn't bite" mentality; in the park or outside the park. Dangerous. My dog has been attacked by off-leash dogs.
108: Space better for people not pets
110: I like this because fecal matter would be contained and not a problem for children
111: Will pet owners remove dog poop?
112: Not important. ½ is too small for dog park. What percentage of citizens own and walk their dogs?
116: I think it would become very muddy and unpleasant in winter months. A waste of prime greenspace in the city.
120: Wow, the cleaning and upkeep
122: There are too many dogs around as it is with their oblivious owners
126: Yes!! Love this!
127: Dog parks are unsanitary for dogs. Eyesore. Nuisance
128: Not attractive. I love dogs, but this pic looks like dirt.
129: Would not use as I don't have a dog and would be littered with poop!
130: Nothing mentions about cleaning up dogs leavings and providing signage and facilities to do so
131: Excludes any other use

132: Make it small, fenced. It can work. (See city of Gresham's small park)
133: We have beaches for this, but I'm not opposed. I just don't have a dog!
136: No Way
138: I don't have a dog but many here do and would be a nice to throw a ball or frisbee if fence off.
141: We need off leash area. Tourists would also use. Must be big enough to be useful and stay clean. Florence has a good model.
142: It would become a mud pit
143: Takes up too much space – benefits only a few
144: Too limited space for this
145: Dog parks are desirable – but lots of problems – from waste to interactions
147: Please don't. This will ruin the wetland area. The entire city is for dogs already.
148: I'd love to see an area where dogs can play off leash
149: Not a dog person
151: Like a place dogs can safely play, and random poop piles be reduced. And not-dog people can safely walk elsewhere.
153: I would like less poop around. I also am sad when I see poop bagged but left on the side of trail or road.
154: Limited use by non-dog owners. No, please! Enough dogs already! Invites use by travelers. Need poop patrol?
160: Ongoing maintenance costs seem high. If this happens, leave grass – bark chips are awful.
161: A safe place for dogs to run loose
162: They need a place to play!
163: Poop bags and garbage can would be essential. Signage and a two separate entrances pointing out courtesies and expectations e.g. check with existing users before releasing your dog. Gener open field area should have a poop bag dispenser and garbage can. It is disheartening to see all the dog poop and the bagged poop.
165: It will be used despite weather; already have a group interested in writing grants and maintaining it. Have an umbrella 501 © (3) to collect donations and write grant applications.
166: Only used by dog owners, not everybody. Area is too small to be adequate or safe.
167: We need it
168: 1) Good to enclose dogs to a space and limit waste in the common area. 2) Protects kids
170: We have many dogs in Yachats

Open Spaces with Planting

101: A park setting for all to use would be great when the beach is too windy
103: Great – like a real park!
111: Signs or labels on unusual plants. Concentrate on native species.
112: Great idea. All citizens and visitors can enjoy this.
114: Everything
120: Complements the areas trails
121: Again, we are surrounded by plants and open space
127: Love it
129: Again, more areas for the homeless
130: No provision of public restrooms being added in any of these areas
131: Upkeep, Upkeep, Upkeep
132: Lots of this around already – The ocean!
133: We have nature all over town – Log Church garden, wetlands, Gerdemann, etc.

138: With the above considerations plantings could still be accommodated around perimeters and strategically placed
142: It would be very attractive.
144: More plants/flowers the better
145: We have lots of visitors who need idyllic stopping places
148: Love all the nature
149: Contemplative area
151: Outdoor places to visit/contemplate: good use of space
154: Please design to keep open spaces available. Native plants with modest signage.
157: Would like more places to sit. I'm old enough that a rest before walking home is welcomed.
161: It would be a place to relax
162: There are a lot of places to sit around town and trails/paths to walk.
163: Do not clutter up the whole park area
165: We have lots of paths – people rather be on the ocean. Again, north wind and rain are deterrents.
166: Contemplative
167: Natives
168: Keep it simple, low maintenance,

Horseshoe Pit

103: Not sure how much this would be used?
111: Who provides the horseshoes? Donation by users?
112: In practice, how often would it be used?
120: Fun outdoors activity
121: Community activity site
127: Also Bocce
131: The equipment is hardly ever available. A better check-out is needed even now.
133: We have horseshoe pits?
138: Don't see need for this
141: No interest
142: It would be fun to play
144: Who plays horseshoes anymore?
151: Indifferent to horseshoes, but don't mind
154: Could this be a complement to other option (open spaces)
162: As long as it doesn't take any more space than the current one.
165: Will it be used?
166: Never seen the present one used!
168: It's cheap, something for everyone.
170: Would rather have Bocce Ball courts

Screen Wastewater Plant

103: Shrubs along fence – good idea. We already have a boardwalk through wetlands to the library.
105: Love idea if it screens power plant
106: Using bird attracting trees (Pussy Willows are great for migration) – self re-seeding – wax myrtle
110: Good idea to have a clear trail to library to avoid trespass on nearby homes.

112: Good idea
116: I know they are invasive, but please keep “some” blackberries. I harvest.
117: Love the idea of screening the waste water plant using native shrubs and a trail
130: This should be a necessity
131: Keep the existing trail through the wetland from being fenced off now.
133: I think this would be nice for that neighborhood. Now if you could address the occasional odors....
141: Would be easy and cover the eye sore
144: Fine like it is.
145: Just a plain old good idea
147: Great
149: Great! Maybe it will also absorb odor!
151: It'd be nice aesthetically – can library expansion funds help with this?
153 This would be nice.
154: Already lots of trails in area – and a beach!
161: Love nature
162: Hiding the waste plant would be a major plus as would more trails
163: Great idea
165: Containment from wastewater plant and road.
166: A natural area with trails?
168: Ask local business to donate a plant, or individuals to buy one. Inexpensive and inclusively allowing more people to “own” the upgrade

Speakers Area

101: This design looks dysfunctional, but a simple covered stage like we in Sisters would be nice. People bring their own chairs for events.
103: Great – we don't currently have a good outdoor space for speakers/events
111: Should speakers make reservations, passing out flyers
112: There is already too much talk and not enough action in this village
127: Just, No
128: Not sure about the design here. Looks like a Mayan structure
132: A gathering spot in nice weather is fine. or for music/entertainment?
133: The commons is good and weather proof.
138: Could be done at fire pit area
141: Hard to hear with wind and traffic
144: Need larger concert area (seating?)
145: Will it be used? - Has it been used?
147: Kids will love it (Ed. But rated a 2)
149: Not necessary at all
151: Meh, doesn't seem much call for this.
154: May invite unrest/political noise. No need – easy to set up anywhere already.
161: The Commons is good enough
162: This would be nice for mini concerts
165: Won't be used because of weather. Rain and north wind. Picnic shelter not used until it was enclosed.
166: Not in this climate!

168: "Air" pollution. Although I hone everyone's right to free speech, I don't want it happening near "play" areas for the common by proselytizers.

Native Plant Garden

103: Good but we do have community gardens already. Plantings could be incorporated into open spaces/planting areas.

110: Good idea but needs "weeders."

111: Get garden club help or from members of the community garden

112: Downside is who will look after it or will it be left to become an eye sore

114: Butterfly habitat

117: Maintenance

120: Calming

121: Will help new residents with planting ideas. Add a picnic table or two. Name tags with native uses.

127: Gardens always good

129: Could be interesting

131: Without constant care native plants rapidly turn to weed patches

133: Maybe incorporate this into the signage initiative? Logs of our sidewalk gardens have native plants, as do our state park beach areas.

138: Would rather see this in the existing wetland area.

141: Always nice to have

142: Be very pretty and birds would love it.

143: Identify as a native plant garden and identify plants.

144: OK idea

145: Lovely ---

147: Beautiful

149: Any design that brings in more plants is optimum!

151: It's be nice: not essential though – unless a list could be generated and people could sponsor the purchase of plants. Maybe create signage about the plant, anything from science to poetry, traditional uses, etc.

153: I would like to learn more about plants that can thrive here. (besides blackberries and ivy)

154: Cost!! Limits use of open space. Could combine native local plant ID (simple signage) with other use option.

160: Seems like a lovely idea.

161: We have native plants all around now!

162: Love the idea but isn't that what Prospect Park is

163: Love this idea. Weeding however be some work. Combine this with pathways and seeding. Plan in the +mulch to reduce water needs. Given months of notice Coak Creek Nursery (Ed. commercial only) would be a great supplier and offers a discount. Thompsons would be good too. Native plants.

Pollinator friendly – seasonal long coverage...(more re. native plants)

165: This could be combined with a few other areas. But who will maintain this?

166: Nice idea

Children's Play Area

103: We already have a great playground, tree house and skateboard area for kids – enough!

105: Current playground is sufficient
111: Should be supervised by adults on weekends
112: Children already have a fenced play area
114: Everything
121: Don't we have one?
122: The entire area is ideally free of dog waste
126: The kids already have playground?
127: Baseball!
129: Already have this
132: Not really used for that now – but consider it.
133: We already have a playground
136: No Way
144: Take too much space
148: There shouldn't be dog waste if everyone picked up after their dogs.
151: The kids need a secure place free of poop, glass, etc.
153: Yes, please!
160: There's already a playground and skate park, basketball hoops, and...the beach!
162: The kids need a place to play on the grass
163: Poop dispensers and garbage can could remedy this.
165: If a dog park is built, this concern will be addressed.
166: Already have a play area. Other used could be played in.
168: This is a health and safety issue for children because of some dog owners who don't pick up waste

Art

103: Love this – we don't have enough outdoor art here
105: Sculpture would add a lot.
111: Needs a director
117: Great idea if we could have it along with a ballpark
120: Shows more about the community and the arts
121: Sculpture garden is a good idea as well as a gallery of art given of artistic nature as a community
127: Yes, but in out of the way places
129: The weather could be an issue. Vandalism could be an issue.
131: Rusts, Rots, Recycled
133: Art makes a town rich in beauty
136: No Way
138: Incorporate into design with fire pit etc.
141: Would need to be weatherproof. Vandalism is a concern.
144: Easy to damage or get hurt on
145: Enhances area – promotes local artists
147: Beautiful
151: That would sure help beautify the park and celebrate local art.
154: Too busy. Not environmental. Limits open space and \$\$\$\$. Local wall art in community, civic buildings best.
160: It's important that we honor the indigenous people
163: Ooh! Please
165: Okay
168: Get funding from Oregon xx(Ed.?) for Art program

170: Rather, more space for activities

Signage

103: We have signage like this already on the many trails in Yachats – overkill

105: This is very important and could it be combined with area art by using Native sculptures.

108: Love this for community and visitors

110: Great idea!

112: Good idea provided signs are well secured and not end up as tourist souvenirs

117: Education opportunity

120: There is a great history here.

121: Prefer a pamphlet with maps and simple number sign referenced therein.

127: Sure, why not. But, not in the middle of the field

129: Interesting information

130: Provides visitors with information about the Yachats community and surrounding areas to visit

131: Signs are fine but they don't need to take up the field

132: Put to side – not in middle of fields, open space.

133: Love the ability to educate about history, culture, plants, stewardship

136: No

138: Can be done around area without much problem

141: Always good

142: Very interesting!

143: There will be more focused interpretive signage along the 804, State Park, and south of estuary.

None needed at Commons areas

144: Information about area History

147: Respectful

151: Its important, IMHO, to remember to learn about and honor indigenous people on this land – their ongoing ceremonies, cultural events

153: I do like to learn more about history and I think visitors would too.

154: OK if not dominate space or limits open areas. "sign, sign, everywhere a sign.." Careful

157: Yachats has beautiful commercial area, but always room for more art.

162: This should be able to go along with any/all other ideas

163: Wildlife also – pictures, description, etc.

165: Have two signs that describe local Native People, but most are on trails that public will not see.

166: In conjunction with another use.

170: Important!!

Contemplative

103: We already have lots of quiet spaces in Yachats

106: Would it be practical to dig the pond deeper? At one point someone added fish into the pond. A long GB Heron was very happy for a few days. Ate them all! There was even a young mink for a brief while.

105: A labyrinth would add a lot. Perhaps this is where native plants could be incorporated.

113: Personally, don't care for this design. (Note: scored as a 4, pointed to illustration)

121: What, we don't have enough in our environment already?

128: Like the idea but not this picture

130: Marie Green, a long-time librarian, would have loved this. Should be named for Marie!

131: You saw what happened to the one that was never finished by the library

132: We have the ocean and our own backyard spaces
133: I love labyrinths. Yachats is a spiritual place.
138: Go look at the natural areas all around Yachats already here to contemplate, use and enjoy
143: The existing paths, boardwalk and benches serve that purpose
144: Waste of space. That's what ocean/beach is for
148: Love the idea but we already have it
151: Love the idea of having a labyrinth
154: Narrow target group. Fills useful space
157: Would love a maze here. Not just occasional beach sand maze.
161: You already have this!
162: We have the ocean for that.
163: The wetlands, more plantings, particularly native would provide for this
165: Personally, don't think it will be used when one has the ocean and forest land available. Also rain north wind and smell from wastewater plant will be a deterrent.
166: Already outdated idea.
168: No – go to the beach, Take a walk thru the marsh paths!

Ball Field

103: Wasn't used often before, why spend \$\$\$ now?
106: Good luck with that. (Re. rodent proof) I did the original promotions (interpretive) paintings for the promotion of the ball field. The ball field wasn't used much. Never thought about the moles being a problem – that may account for the lack of usage.
110: We used to use this area a lot – don't know about today.
111: Have teams for age groups. Invite teams from nearby areas.
112: Not important
116: The weekly baseball games were a great community event. It would be great to bring them back.
117: Baseball
121: Maintenance nightmare and many, if not most, residents wouldn't be using enough
122: I like the "rodent resistant" part
126: No – doggy park please!
127: Rodent resistant materials? Not: Artificial turf. Yes Baseball (wiffleball, soft, etc.)
128: Love baseball but would it be used regularly? By whom?
129: Too expensive and too high maintenance
131: It doesn't have to be pro quality Astroturf. Just useable
133: Not sure who's young enough to enjoy this
136: No Way. Not used much B4
141: If it could be done and maintained. The ball games were fun.
144: Yachats is not a "sports arena"
147: Only a few will enjoy this
148: Can't imagine much use?
151: Ball games really reflected community spirit. Would like to see them resume. Need to examine ecological impact of "rodent resistant materials" What are they and how would they affect the ecosystem.
154: No need for elaborate field. Just not tattered. Light clean-up enough...\$
157: I enjoyed walking to town and watching the cooperative play for a while and talking to others. Was sorry to see this move to Waldport.
161: If it would be used!

- 162: The materials are not good for kids to play on.
163: Maintaining a rodent free area???
165: Except for (one person) I have heard no other interest.
168: Love Baseball!
170: Like the idea of sports field – city leagues, etc.

Thoughts and Additional Suggestions

- 101: I think the wetlands provide a contemplative area that can be used somewhat like a formal labyrinth. More paths and plantings and more seating (maybe even a couple picnic tables on new and existing trails and boardwalks would be nice). It's already charming and special, why not enhance and expand on what we have. Native plants would be low maintenance and informative new-to-the-area gardeners. With no children I don't know the needs we have in that area.
- 102: Tennis court/pickleball courts would be my top suggestion. Pickleball courts can fit on 1 tennis court.
- 105: I would like to see the selected elements coordinated to create an appealing area. I've suggested ideas for combining some of them. This could be really exciting especially if it evokes what is special about Yachats.
- 106: I've run my little dog on the field but stopped out of fear he would break one of his legs when he hits a mole hole
- 111: Thank You!! Open the Commons for exercise and cultural events, performance, films. Thank you for the chance to participate in the survey. Good work!!
- 112: The space in question should be used for the benefit of all citizens and visitors not just a select few. It's an attractive green space in the downtown area and its development should be considered carefully for the benefit of all in particular the citizens who live here.
- 116: Since I realize a "full" ball field is unlikely, how about a min-ball field? It wouldn't require nearly as much space. And could be used by kids for kickball or other similar games. I guess some adults also play kickballs, now that I mention it. And whiffle ball could be played there as well. No need for a backstop for this type of field
- 121: Native plant area, Native plant area, Native plant area, Native plant area
- 123: Dog Park, Dog Park, Dog Park
- 129: Yachats already has commons grounds plan prepared by a Harvard educated urban landscape planner. This a good start and we should follow that plan. No need to reinvent the wheel.
- 130: Please put ½ of the available space into public parking. The congestion around the Post Office and C&K and badly designed and very congested with parked cars and RVs.
- 131: We played ball there. Local kids in Youth and Family played there. Summer visitors, adults and kids played there. 4th of July there were many people played there.
- 132: 1) Think big, 2) Don't let people nitpick this to death. You will not, and cannot, please everyone. The loudest voices are not always the correct voices 3) Make a plan, fund it it over 5 years. Do it 4) It's the best municipal underutilized open space in miles. Make good use of it.
- 138: Thank you for providing this opportunity for community input. We love Yachats!
- 139: This city does not respect "2nd homeowners/nor property managed short term rental owners. Thus, do not expect the support that we have given in the past. Main issues = ability to transfer our STR license to a new owner – we are neighbors not enemies.
- 141: Indoor swimming pool
- 151: Also need to consider what water usage would be required to support some of these options. Would any of them (E.G. Firepit) increase insurance risks/costs? Would any of these tend to invite

vandalism? -How can we still have nice things. Would additional lighting be required and how would that affect our move toward dark skies? How would the recent Bill (HB3115) to allow public camping potentially affect/interact with suggested upgrades. (could there be designated spots? Even in general, would increased use of park require more access to toilet / handwashing facilities, garbage receptacles and pickup? Dog park would require poop bags and receptacles – waiving responsibility. Is that even legal? Or specific insurance? – check out dogbitelaw.com (Jeez, I'm thinking like a grownup :). This all sounds like fun. Thanks for asking. Nice presentation of options.

152: Are you asking us for cost? (two cost items) This statement is in reference to???? In the future, provide clearer instructions, thx. (ED. Did not rate any items, therefore defaulted to score of 1)

153: I wish there was a way to get from 4th to 7th without make a left onto 101 North. I think this is a wonderful place to live. Thank you for sending out this question survey.

157: Thank you for such an excellent survey. Explaining each category, with photos and text, surely increases the validity. Additional parking and restrooms may be needed, even for locals, to enjoy these wonderful features proposed.

161: Don't try to do too much!

162: A place to walk, play, swing, climb where the area is poop free.

163: Thank you for sending this survey out

165: Some of these ideas sound great but not for our weather.

166: The use need to be available to all; families, the elderly, visitors. The city holds and managed that space for the the citizens, not a specific group. It is essential that it is available to the widest possible number (ED.?) of the citizenry. This is the only open space the city owns, of any size – please keep it that way.