



**Tuesday, January 9, 2024, 5:30 PM, Parks Commission
645 Pine Street Front Conference Room**

**5:30 pm, 645 Pine Front Conference Room OR Remotely via ZOOM:
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Webinar ID: 939 3656 0857

1. Agenda

Subject	1.1. Motion to amend/adopt agenda
Meeting	January 9, 2024 - Parks & Recreation Commission - Tuesday, January 9, 2024, 5:30 PM, Parks Commission 645 Pine Street Front Conference Room
Category	1. Agenda
Department	Parks, Recreation, & Waterfront
Type	Procedural
Recommended Action	Approve agenda

2. Consent Agenda

Subject	2.1. Approval of Minutes from December 12, 2023
Meeting	January 9, 2024 - Parks & Recreation Commission - Tuesday, January 9, 2024, 5:30 PM, Parks Commission 645 Pine Street Front Conference Room
Category	2. Consent Agenda
Department	Parks, Recreation, & Waterfront

Type	Action (Consent)
Recommended Action	waive the reading, accept the communication and adopt the minutes from December 12, 2023 of the Parks Commission.
Subject	2.2. Approval of Request for Special Use Permit and Sound Waiver at City Hall Park for Homelessness Awareness Day
Meeting	January 9, 2024 - Parks & Recreation Commission - Tuesday, January 9, 2024, 5:30 PM, Parks Commission 645 Pine Street Front Conference Room
Category	2. Consent Agenda
Department	Parks, Recreation, & Waterfront
Type	Action (Consent)
Recommended Action	waive the reading, accept the communication and approve the request for special use and sound waiver for use at City Hall Park

3. For Approval and Recommendation to the Parks Commission

Subject	3.1. Penny for Parks Community Requests and Recommendations
Meeting	January 9, 2024 - Parks & Recreation Commission - Tuesday, January 9, 2024, 5:30 PM, Parks Commission 645 Pine Street Front Conference Room
Category	3. For Approval and Recommendation to the Parks Commission
Department	Parks, Recreation, & Waterfront
Type	Action
Subject	3.2. Parking Fees
Meeting	January 9, 2024 - Parks & Recreation Commission - Tuesday, January 9, 2024, 5:30 PM, Parks Commission 645 Pine Street Front Conference Room
Category	3. For Approval and Recommendation to the Parks Commission
Department	Parks, Recreation, & Waterfront
Type	Action
Subject	3.3. Recreation Data Report
Meeting	January 9, 2024 - Parks & Recreation Commission - Tuesday, January 9, 2024, 5:30 PM, Parks Commission 645 Pine Street Front Conference Room
Category	3. For Approval and Recommendation to the Parks Commission
Department	Parks, Recreation, & Waterfront
Type	Information
Subject	3.4. City Public Pool

Meeting	January 9, 2024 - Parks & Recreation Commission - Tuesday, January 9, 2024, 5:30 PM, Parks Commission 645 Pine Street Front Conference Room
Category	3. For Approval and Recommendation to the Parks Commission
Department	Parks, Recreation, & Waterfront
Type	Discussion

4. Public Forum

Subject	4.1. Verbal Comments
Meeting	January 9, 2024 - Parks & Recreation Commission - Tuesday, January 9, 2024, 5:30 PM, Parks Commission 645 Pine Street Front Conference Room
Category	4. Public Forum
Department	Parks, Recreation, & Waterfront
Type	Procedural

5. Standing Items

Subject	5.1. PACC Dog Force Update (verbal)
Meeting	January 9, 2024 - Parks & Recreation Commission - Tuesday, January 9, 2024, 5:30 PM, Parks Commission 645 Pine Street Front Conference Room
Category	5. Standing Items
Department	Parks, Recreation, & Waterfront
Type	Information Report

Recommended Action

Subject	5.2. Park Foundation Update (verbal)
Meeting	January 9, 2024 - Parks & Recreation Commission - Tuesday, January 9, 2024, 5:30 PM, Parks Commission 645 Pine Street Front Conference Room
Category	5. Standing Items
Department	Parks, Recreation, & Waterfront
Type	Information Report

Recommended Action

6. Director's Items

Subject	6.1. Update from Director
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Meeting	January 9, 2024 - Parks & Recreation Commission - Tuesday, January 9, 2024, 5:30 PM, Parks Commission 645 Pine Street Front Conference Room
Category	6. Director's Items
Department	Parks, Recreation, & Waterfront
Type	Report
Recommended Action	

7. Commissioner's Items & Volunteer Hours

Subject	7.1. Update from Commissioner's & Report on Hours
Meeting	January 9, 2024 - Parks & Recreation Commission - Tuesday, January 9, 2024, 5:30 PM, Parks Commission 645 Pine Street Front Conference Room
Category	7. Commissioner's Items & Volunteer Hours
Department	Parks, Recreation, & Waterfront
Type	Information Report
Recommended Action	

8. Adjournment

Subject	8.1. Motion to adjourn
Meeting	January 9, 2024 - Parks & Recreation Commission - Tuesday, January 9, 2024, 5:30 PM, Parks Commission 645 Pine Street Front Conference Room
Category	8. Adjournment
Department	Parks, Recreation, & Waterfront
Type	Procedural
Recommended Action	



**PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
Minutes
December 12, 2023
Parks and Recreation Commission**

Commission Present: Bergmann, Duke, Johnson, Keech, Lantieri and Morrigan

Staff Present: Wight, Doyle and Putzier

The meeting was convened at 5:37 p.m. by Duke

Approval of Agenda

Duke asked for a motion to adopt the agenda, motion made by Morrigan, second by Bergmann, motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the consent agenda by Lantieri, second by Bergmann, motion carried unanimously.

Memorials in Parks Policy

Wight stated she sent a memo that was updated to Duke and the one in packet included edit, part of the review is to look at as if it fits with design and overall park.

Keech asked for some examples of current memorials in parks and was particularly concerned or interested in the part that, whomever requested the memorial was responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of. Wight explained that their needs to be a connection with the memorial and the park or place and have some relevance. Explained it could be expensive to maintain and would that financial responsibility be appropriate to fall to BPRW, could be put into a fund to maintain. Duke explained it would be more of a cost recovery type situation and would be a means to maintain.

Keech asked if there would be a monthly fee or how it would work, Wight said it would be more of a lump sum fee and not a monthly fee. Stated that the request would meet all parameters and would also cover basic maintenance of the actual memorial or structure on the front end. Stated that if no further payments for maintenance are available it might be removed if it was going to be a substantial amount of funds.

Motion to approve the Memorials in Parks policy by Morrigan, second by Bergmann, motion passed with Keech opposed.

Public Forum (Time Certain 6:00PM)

Nobody came forward to speak at the Public Forum

Memorial in Waterfront Park

Doyle introduced herself and stated she was requesting an honorary plaque, would like to put on something that is already in existence, on the Waterfront in flower gardens, brought in large boulders and is ready to put plaques on. Would like to honor Ernie Pomerleau for all of the support of Burlington in various forms and fashions, bringing to Commission for approval based on his dedication to children, particularly for Party at the Hilton that started 43 years ago, big celebration for kids that utilize human



service agencies, extend invites to agencies annually to get to clients and the event is looked forward to by agencies and families. In 2018 Ernie took over for his father Antonio and during pandemic Ernie made sure the party still happened in some type of fashion, has been dedicated to making sure that all that had been started previously has continued and would love to see Ernie honored with a small plaque in one of the newly installed rocks in the gardens on the waterfront and felt it appropriate to have on the Waterfront, will be maintained by BPRW and the City Arborists in the department and lives along the path to the Boathouse. Is asking to not only put together but for this weekend at the Pomerleau Party to be able to recognize.

Duke felt a great idea and location.

Morrigan said they appreciated the families support to Parks and Recreation and all of the contributions.

Motion to approve the request for memorial plaque in the waterfront park location for Ernie Pomerleau, by Morrigan, second by Bergmann, motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Park Fees

Wight said the Waterfront Park events fees are increased by about 5%, did not increase during Covid, also BCA rental of City Hall Park was increased by \$50 and slight hourly rate of \$10, added fee for park rentals and saw need to capture neighborhood parks events, general permit of \$150 flat fee per day. Field fees from \$10 increase as the cost of maintenance has increased, mainly paint costs. Court fees raised but commission does not approve those fees.

On a final note Wight explained that the City is undergoing user fee analysis to get a sense of where it needs to make more and where not as concerned across all departments. Will be looking at the entire City as well as outside communities, might take up to 6 months and don't want to wait that long.

Keech understood fees need to go up but asked if it has always been that all departments were analyzed at the same time and Wight was not sure, said BPRW had done their own and was not sure if other departments have in the past but it came up at Board of Finance and wanted to see that the City overall was receiving all the funding across the board that it should be.

Keech asked if the department had a relevant sample of normalcy and if the report would be accurate but seems a little surprising. Wight suggested looking at the Board of Finance meetings and can give lots of input. Keech asked about why Disc Golf was so controversial.

Duke said she was a huge proponent of setting cost recovery and what should be paying and where is the community benefit and if prices should be lowered. Really feels need to set a strategy, Wight added that the overall analysis will be leaving the City with the tools to do again on own internally.

Motion to approve fees by Lantieri, second by Morrigan, motion carried unanimously.

Collaborating with other Commissions

Duke said the commission tends to operate on its own as does other commissions and boards, working on setting up meeting with Conservation Board to have a joint meeting, open floor to how or who within the other commissions and boards should be collaborating with.



Keech said in the past topics have come up that involved joint purses with other boards/commissions and feels need to have equal information and understanding and felt others have received information that this commission has not. Felt that some of the information not provided made a difference in how that commission voted, felt needs to be shared and universal. Felt own commission and deserve information to weigh, feels a question to protect rights and strengths of this commission. Wanted to be able to make a motion to say that must share information and weigh within commission.

Bergmann asked for more information on the topic and Keech explained that there was a piece of property that was for sale and the Conservation Board had letters that were not shared.

Duke stated that she did not believe that this Commission could tell another Board what they had to do and that was why she put on the agenda as a discussion item.

Johnson said he would agree that sharing and meeting with other boards would be best to have conversations and discussions and would agree to have a few meetings to approach as a conversation rather than a mandate.

Morrigan said important to understand what mechanism have and don't have, good idea to know when commissions are making decisions that affect a joint purse, only two pathways, one pass a motion that we require ourselves to notify others when we touch that purse, don't have authority to require others, could secondly ask City Council to request/require that sharing, but this body could not regulate others.

Duke said preference would be to start within each commission having a discussion to share information and state so in a resolution.

Keech said he still felt that it warrants telling or involving the City Council as it could be happening in other entities and Boards within the City.

Keech made a motion to vow or commit to pledging to share all available information with sister Commission and Boards.

Johnson said not opposed to idea to be responsible to touch others when joint but would like to know what that mechanism is going to be and all the logistics and timeline.

Standing Items:

Report on PACC Dog Force

Duke said the report is ready and will be presented to PACC tomorrow, believes the report will be public after that and it is about 70 pages long. Said would get all of the recommendations up front in the beginning, lots of supporting information and documents. Will be sent out to all, worked really hard on and feels a great document and captures a lot of really good information.

Keech asked what the Commission's role is and was told approving policies for unfenced off-leash areas and appendix D rules and regulations. Duke said would essentially approve off-leash areas and pilot program over time and ultimately different areas that would go to other Commissions for approvals.



Keech asked if it would ultimately be up to Parks Commission to decide a yes or no on off-leash areas and Duke stated that it currently says it can now implement an area but decided it would be a city wide conversation and a task force was developed, with a recommendation it is not you must do this, but the City Council could look at and approve or disapprove.

Duke explained how got to having a task force and specifically off-leash dogs was added because it was stalled and the department was going through a comprehensive plan and never made it back and Wight began the project again and it was added with the other issues around dogs and people. Key issue is that nobody on the task force came to the mission with its own agenda and all are very open minded.

Park Foundation Update

Duke missed the last meeting but Wight said they are still working/hearing on final report from CEDO on FRAME to determine if they will get behind fundraising. Friends of Frame would be prime fundraising and BPRW would be supporting.

Director's Items

Duke stated that a citizen wanted to put in a disc park in Leddy, it would have been a 18 hole park and all the neighbors we extremely upset, heard that a few trees started to get cut and did not go over well at all.

Wight said if you get a chance to go to the Boathouse an check out the lights the manager has put up, invited to go to Pomerleau party and volunteer, explained the situation at Battery Park and very much working on the encampments but trying to keep all staff safe and put on pause currently, went out herself and did some cleaning up and did Blodgett, Barge Canal and along Battery. Goal with Battery is to have tents gone, neighbors have been very kind to department regarding the encampments, working on some discussions with CT for third party removals and also talking about a city encampment removal team when at that point, December 15th city emergency shelter should be done, will be 30 beds and 20 for season and the other 10 are first come first served, making sure all Battery folks have access to. Met with safety manager and no judgement on staff, very exhausting to them, as you move and they go to another location and very frustrating as nothing is changing.

Morrigan asked about Cemetery spaces, if Muslim friends are feeling supported and was told yes from Wight.

Commissioner's Items & Volunteer Hours

Morrigan commented on the beautiful new baby that Kirsten had and congratulated her.

Bergmann no volunteer hours but at last meeting volunteered for events advisory committee and asked if he might have missed the invite. He was given more information and added to the committee list.

Johnson had an extra hour at Calahan garden cleanup.

Lantieri stated not to active at Champlain Park, no extra hours be on lookout after the new year.

Keech said no volunteer hours, the skating event was great. Wanted to bring up item to discuss at future meeting was hoping to discuss letters of recommendation, three issues with parcel being voted for purchase, authorship, issues with content, felt literally one sentence.



Morrigan had a point of order as this was a settled matter and looked to decorum rules “majority orders should be respected as the outcome”.

Keech said he agreed that it was approved previously, but said that he was concerned that no review happened before the letter was sent and felt not the way to move forward.

Duke said discussed on agenda setting and decided not to put on the agenda and during the discussion in future when a motion is made to write a letter will decide at that time who will write the letter.

By decorum rules, can’t continue to discuss an item that has already been settled.

Morrigan had 5 additional hours of research, prep and agenda setting, sending a lot of good will to the folks working on the encampments.

Duke had 15 additional hours, regarding the dog task force, looking forward to a new year and urges all to reach out to herself and Morrigan as to what to have on future agendas and priorities and passions.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 7:00 pm. By Morrigan, second by Bergmann, motion carried unanimously.

DRAFT



MEMO

Date: January 4, 2024
To: BPRW Commission
From: Abra Clawson, BCA Event Manager
RE: Special Use Permit for January 18, 2024

Request for a Special Use Permit at City Hall Park to hold an Homelessness Awareness Day event from **5pm** to **6pm** on **January 18th** and for a waiver to allow amplified sound.

This event is part of a state-wide recognition of Homelessness Awareness Day. This is a time for local and statewide leadership, community stakeholders, and people with lived experience to come recognize the need for awareness and action to end homelessness. The Chittenden County Homeless Alliance will host a regional event in City Hall Park which will include speakers from our community partners to raise awareness and recommit to our efforts to ensure everyone has the safety and support of a permanent home.

This event is expected to have around **50** participants and **4** volunteers/staff from BCA and CEDO. Partnering organizations include the Champlain Housing Trust, as well as a TBD hot chocolate vendor. CEDO will be working with BCA to ensure all vendors follow the required guidelines and go through the proper process including having a Certificate of Insurance. They and BCA staff will be responsible for site clean-up.

Amplified Sound will take place by the steps of City Hall between **5pm** and **6pm** and consist of a few speeches. CEDO has already booked City Hall Park.

Contact for the event is **Sarah Russell**.

It is on a day with no conflicting events.

Staff Recommendations:

Allow for Special Use Permit including a waiver for amplified sound.

Penny for Park Community Requests – FY2024

Project Ranking Summary

Total budgeted: \$32,000

Total approved: \$30,000

Remaining: \$2,000

Recommendation for remaining funds: Use as additional contingency on community requests and emergent needs.

Following are short descriptions of each project request with staff notes and recommendations for FY24's qualifying Penny for Parks (PFP) project requests in their ranked order. Full PFP Request applications are attached as an appendix to this report.

1) ADA Accessible Port-o-lets in All Parks

Application Summary: Applicant submitted a request online to have all port-o-lets in parks be American with Disability Act (ADA) accessible units.

Estimated Project cost: \$40,000 (Staff Estimate)

Staff Notes: While this request was ranked highest by Staff, it is not eligible for funding with PFP funds. A review of the 2008 PFP Resolution by the City Attorney's Office confirmed that PFP funds can only be used for capital improvements and not operating expenses. Rental of port-o-lets is considered an annual operating expense. However, funds could be used to build supporting infrastructure within parks to support ADA port-o-lets, such as concrete pads or pathways.

The estimate above is also more than the current fiscal year's allocation for Community Requests. The estimate was created by BPRW Staff based on known rental cost for ADA units and the total number of units in our Parks system.

Prior to this request, BPRW staff had independently researched the cost implications and options for having all units be ADA accessible. Cost impacts included: increased liability for lost or damaged units, difficulty in moving or adjusting larger units, increased demand for portable restrooms due to homelessness, and increasing levels of damage, graffiti, and other vandalism in our City Parks. In addition to the increase in cost, vendors noted that they have a limited supply of ADA units and that it may be difficult to supply the quantity of units needed.

Recommendation: BPRW Staff will explore a potential operating budget increase with the City Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to see if this request can be fulfilled using general funds.

2) Roller Skate Space



Application Summary: Two requests were received on behalf of the Vermont Skate Society & Joy Riders VT, for Roller Skate spaces of varying sizes and complexity at either Oakledge Park and Roosevelt Park. The requests include a paved and flat surface, painted with a mural, shed or trailer for rental/loaner rollerskates, lighting, and access to an electrical service. Additionally the requester offers to help with fundraising and grant applications, procure material donations, and coordinate volunteer services for staffing and painting of on-ground murals.

Estimated Project cost: \$20,000 - 200,000 (staff estimate) depending on final site, size, and level of complexity.

Staff Notes: There is clear public support for this type of facility in our Parks system based on the attached petition and known facility usage and rentals by the Skate Society. However, the two proposed locations are not suitable for this type of facility.

A 2015 Siting Study for Oakledge Park and recently completed construction projects within the park indicate that the park does not have suitable soils for constructing additional paved or otherwise impervious surface amenities. New facilities would require a deeper layer of subbase and additional drainage and may also require removal or accommodation of bedrock, all of which would increase the cost for construction. There are also additional permitting and legal constraints on Oakledge Park (Land and Water Conservation Fund limitations (LWCF), State Stormwater Permit, and wetlands) that would increase design and consulting fees and no paved surface within the park that could be converted without impact to another use.

Roosevelt Park, while potentially suitable, is currently undergoing a Comprehensive Planning process. It would be premature to approve a dedicated roller skating space while the public outreach and planning process is still ongoing. The request submitter and other members of the Skate Society have been at public meetings related to the Comprehensive Plan and are encouraged to continue to participate in the planning process.

With that stated, there may be another suitable location for a rollerskating facility within our Parks system. Parks staff support working with members of the VT Skate Society to explore possible locations and further refine associated costs for a rollerskating space.

Recommendation: BPRW Staff to meet w/VT Skate Society members and continue developing a proposal for a rollerskate space within Burlington Parks System. BPRW recommends allocating up to \$25,000 toward construction costs for retrofitting an existing paved site, assuming a suitable location can be identified.

3) Generation Swings and/or Swinging Benches at Schmanska Park

Application Summary: Request to replace one to two belt swings at the Schmanska Park Playground with [multigenerational swings](#) and to add one to two swinging benches within Schmanska Park.



Estimated Project cost: \$1,500 for each swing seat (requester's estimate). Swinging benches could range from \$3,000-\$5,000 depending on final design.

Staff Notes: The replacement of the swing belts with multigenerational swings would be relatively simple, with installation by BPRW Staff. Installation of a new swinging bench would require some additional review to ensure any new bench would be accessible for people using mobility devices. Staff would require a concrete pad be installed around any new bench that would allow for people using wheelchairs to pull in next to the bench.

Recommendation: Allocate up to \$5,000 for purchasing and installing generational swings and swinging benches.

4) Additional Lighting at Lakeside Park

Application Summary: Requester is part of a pickup soccer group that occasionally meets at Lakeside Park. The request was to add an additional light fixture similar to one already within the park for the neighborhood ice rink to help extend the playing season.

Estimated Project cost: \$5,000-10,000 (staff estimate). Cost assumes a new pole, fixture, wiring, conduit, and equipment rental or contractor services for install.

Staff Notes: Lakeside is a smaller neighborhood-scale park. The multi-use field space does not have an irrigation system or other infrastructure that simplifies maintenance of athletic fields in our parks, particularly for increased use during the shoulder seasons. There are already outstanding community requests to light athletic fields at both Calahan and Leddy Parks, which have better infrastructure to support increased use.

Lastly, additional lighting would require support from the neighborhood. As the park's fields are directly surrounded and abutted by neighboring homes, there would need to be community outreach before adding new lighting to the park.

Recommendation: Do not allocate funds for this request as there is not required infrastructure and clear neighborhood support for additional lighting at this time.

5) Project Pickleball at Schifilliti Park/Miller Center

Application Summary: Request to convert the former tennis courts located near the Miller Center and Schifilliti ballfields for use as pickleball courts.

Estimated Project cost: \$60,000-80,000 (staff estimate).



Staff Notes: The condition of the existing pavement is poor, with numerous cracks and divots. To create a safe and uniform surface for pickleball would require full-depth reconstruction of the pavement and playings surface at a significant expense. This portion of Schifilliti Park also has a perched water-table and would require additional drainage infrastructure to ensure the new pavement would not heave and crack. While outdoor pickleball courts are in-demand, a location at the tennis courts at Leddy Park was identified during that Park's comprehensive planning process for a dedicated outdoor pickleball facility, where the soils are much more suitable for construction of playing courts.

Recommendation: Do not allocate funds for this request as there is not adequate community request funding available and a more suitable location is already on Parks capital list for this amenity.

Penny For Parks Submission : Entry # 2601

Date

10/23/2023

Name

Joanna Alpizar

Address

179 Elmwood Avenue
Unit 4
Burlington, VT 05401
United States
[Map It](#)

Email

Vermontskatesociety@gmail.com

Phone

(562) 237-2987

Organization/Volunteer Group (if applicable)

Vermont Skate Society & Joy Riders VT

Project Name

Roller Skate Space

Park Location

Roosevelt Park

Project Description

Roller Skate Space at Roosevelt Park

- 6,000 to 9,000 sq. feet
- flat, smooth surface with oval painted for "roller rink"
- similar to roller skate space at Golden Gate Park in San Francisco, CA
- sign designating space as a roller rink
- benches on perimeter
- night time lightning
- trailer for rental/loaner skates, pads, helmets

Vermont Skate Society & Joy Riders VT would volunteer to

- fundraise for mural to be painted in center oval
- build collection of rental/loaner skates through fundraising and donations from partnering roller skate shops (Bruised Boutique - New Hampshire / Pigeon's Skate Shop - California)
- if another roller skate space becomes available in Burlington, we could use the same collection of skates for those locations as well
- facilitate rentals of roller skates
- host monthly roller discos (May - October)

Penny For Parks Submission : Entry # 2601

- festival for opening day: DJ, food trucks, beginning + dance skate class, and roller disco
- offer beginning roller skate summer camp

We are attaching our petition for an outdoor roller rink with 315 signatures

<https://www.change.org/p/help-us-build-an-outdoor-roller-rink-at-the-frame>

Attached is a link to the Seven Days article about our community's desire for a roller rink

<https://www.sevendaysvt.com/vermont/as-roller-skating-ramps-up-again-local-skate-groups-look-for-a-rink-of-their-own/Content?oid=39275302>

We are also attaching photos of the roller skate space at Golden Gate Park in San Francisco, CA

File Upload

- [3A3CA95B-9385-42F9-995F-5C5C7BD7C8B3.jpeg](#)
- [F3AD2DC7-04A2-4DA8-9054-69C6270134A8.jpeg](#)
- [A1F4CB9C-981B-4D5A-849D-062A61CF6EDF.jpeg](#)
- [6847A93F-554C-4133-885E-69508366140F.jpeg](#)

Penny For Parks Submission : Entry # 2600

Date

10/23/2023

Name

Joanna Alpizar

Address

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Organization/Volunteer Group (if applicable)

Vermont Skate Society & Joy Riders VT

Project Name

Outdoor Roller/Ice Skating Rink

Park Location

Oakledge Park

Project Description

Outdoor Roller/Ice Skating Rink

- 9,000 to 14,000 sq. feet
- rink walls
- similar to rink at Bristol Airport Park, but no basketball hoops
- shed for rental/loaner rollerskates, pads, helmets, etc.
- night time lighting + power outlet

Vermont Skate Society + Joy Riders VT volunteer to

- apply for grants to cover cost
- fundraise for mural to painted in center oval by local artist (Liza_S_Art)
- build collection of rental/loaner roller skates through fundraising & donations from partnering roller skate shops (Bruised Boutique - New Hampshire / Pigeon's Roller Skate Shop - California)
- facilitate rental of roller skates
- host monthly roller discos (May - October)
- festival for opening day: DJ, food trucks, beginning + dance skate class, roller disco, guest appearances by famous skaters (Dirty Deborah Harry, Pigeon, Zero Chill Stride, and/or Estro Jen)
- offer beginning rollerskate summer camp

Penny For Parks Submission : Entry # 2600

We are attaching a link to our petition for an outdoor roller rink with 315 signatures.

<https://www.change.org/p/help-us-build-an-outdoor-roller-rink-at-the-frame>

Attached is a link to the Seven Days article about our community's desire for a roller rink

<https://www.sevendaysvt.com/vermont/as-roller-skating-ramps-up-again-local-skate-groups-look-for-a-rink-of-their-own/Content?oid=39275302>

We are also attaching a photo of the Vermont Skate Society: Barbie Roller Disco (August 2023) at the Bristol Outdoor Rink

File Upload

- [603A629E-9D51-46DC-830A-E3E26592ED30.jpeg](#)

Penny For Parks Submission : Entry # 2582**Date**

10/04/2023

Name

Amy Burleson

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[Map It](#)

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Phone

(802) 782-5610

Project Name

North Beach Bathroom Update

Park Location

North Beach

Project Description

Renovate or build new bathrooms at the campground

Penny For Parks Submission : Entry # 2581

Date

10/04/2023

Name

Kelsey Peterson

Address

88 Saratoga Ave
Burlington, VT 05408
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[Map It](#)

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Phone

(802) 343-1358

Project Name

Playground Path Improvements in Ethan Allen Park

Park Location

Ethan Allen Park

Project Description

There are no maintained paths to the playground at Ethan Allen Park. From both the rec path along the parkway and the parking lot, the existing paths are either grass/ad-hoc or gravel with tree roots. It makes it very difficult to access the playground for strollers, new walkers/toddlers, or anyone with mobility issues. Adding level, maintained gravel or paved paths would make a huge difference. This could also include improvements to sidewalk access into the park - currently there's no sidewalk connecting North Ave to the playground, parking lot, picnic area, or the rest of the path system that originates from the parking lot, making it difficult to access as a pedestrian from North Ave. This would benefit local families/residents within walking distance and connect to the bus system to promote less car dependence.

Penny For Parks Submission : Entry # 2580

Date

10/04/2023

Name

Jason J Stuffle

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[Map It](#)

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Phone

(802) 598-0805

Organization/Volunteer Group (if applicable)

Old East End Neighbors

Project Name

Group Swings

Park Location

Schmanska

Cost Estimate (if known)

Approximately \$1500 per swing

Project Description

Replace some of the single person swings on the playground with swings that can hold 2 or more people. One product is called a "generation swing" for approximately \$1200 that allows an adult to swing with a child. It would be nice to also add bench style "lawn swings" for groups of people to use together through out the park (not necessarily on the playground).

File Upload

- [generation-swing.jpg](#)
- [bench-swing.png](#)

Penny For Parks Submission : Entry # 2579

Date

10/04/2023

Name

Kenneth Pho

Address

55 South Union St
Apt 2
Burlington, VT 05401
United States
[Map It](#)

Email

kennethpho@outlook.com

Phone

(860) 808-4105

Project Name

Additional Light at Lakeside Park

Park Location

Lakeside Park

Project Description

Myself and a few other soccer players would really like to see an additional light at the lakeside park. We play pickup soccer on tuesdays and thursdays, which usually gather crowds of 20-40. The issue we have this time of the year is that we have been playing all year, so our legs are ready to go for 2 hours of playing, but we run out of daylight. There is one light that we switch on, closeish to the basketball courts.

We would benefit enormously from another light that is on the eastern side of the field, maybe right before the trees on the eastern side, and would be able to extend our playing in the September and October months for another 45 minutes or so. We already play in the dark, moving the goals closer to the one light. Another light would be a great addition to our use of the park.

Penny For Parks Submission : Entry # 2560**Date**

08/14/2023

Name

Barbara Walker

Address

138 Ferguson Ave
Burlington, Vt 05401
United States
[Map It](#)

Email

Barbara.walker@ucdenver.edu

Phone

(812) 340-1867

Project Name

Oakledge Pickleball

Park Location

Oakledge

Project Description

The lines for pickleball on the tennis courts are barely visible now. It wouldn't cost much to have them re-painted. The middle court is seriously damaged and unsafe to play on. Needs to be repaired.

Penny For Parks Submission : Entry # 2250

Date

05/04/2023

Name

Leanna Parker

Address

70 Sandra Cir
Burlington, VT 05408
United States
[Map It](#)

Email

leannaparker21@gmail.com

Phone

(802) 922-4043

Project Name

ADA Accessible Porta-Potties

Park Location

All Parks

Project Description

Hi Max,

I would like to request all parks to have ADA approved handicap accessible porta-potties that do not already have a permanent bathroom facility. This might already be an initiative, however, I do recall running into issues at some parks last year, such as Ethan Allen Park, that only had a non ADA porta-potty on site.

My son is 6 months old, and in order for us to safely enjoy the parks, it is incredibly helpful to have these larger bathroom options available. This way, I am able to wheel my son in his stroller into the bathroom with me. Otherwise, we end up leaving very early as I am not comfortable leaving him outside of the porta-potty.

I also am friends with a family residing in Burlington who recently is in need of ADA accessibility to enjoy the parks as well. In order for the father in this family to enjoy the parks with his two young daughters, he would need this bathroom option as he utilizes a wheelchair.

I hope you will consider ensuring all parks have ADA accessible bathroom options this season. I know it would be an enormous game changer for parents of young children, children with disabilities, and anyone who utilizes a wheelchair, to be able to enjoy all parks. To my understanding, it seems like a reasonable request and I would be interested in a reply back indicating if this is already the case, or something that can be accommodated.

Thank you!
Leanna Parker

Penny For Parks Submission : Entry # 2239

Date

04/26/2023

Name

Cynthia Shanks

Address

24 Sandra Circle
Burlington, VT 05408
United States
[Map It](#)

Email

Mimacindy@comcast.net

Phone

(949) 338-3420

Project Name

Project Pickleball

Park Location

Miller Center Recreational Fields

Project Description

I think the old tennis courts next to Miller Center, near the baseball fields could easily be fixed and made into several outdoor pickleball courts. There is a large need for more pickleball courts in Burlington. There is ample parking and it's a good location.

File Upload

- [IMG_3102.jpeg](#)

Penny For Parks Submission : Entry # 2026

Date

11/24/2022

Name

william webb

Address

47 Sandra cir
Burlington, VT 05408
United States
[Map It](#)

Email

Williamwebb231@gmail.com

Phone

(802) 355-5098

Project Name

Improving crime

Park Location

Ethan Allen park

Cost Estimate (if known)

Around 1000 ?

Project Description

Hi there i have noticed more crime around where used to be really safe and i'm thinking that maybe you should install lights around the park

MEMO

Date: January 9, 2024
To: Parks Commission
From: Cindi Wight, Director, Erin Moreau, Waterfront Superintendent and Harbormaster and Rob Peterson Marina Manager and Deputy Harbormaster
Subject: Parking fees

Recommendations to Parks Commission:

Approve the 2024 parking fees for BRPW controlled lots.

OVERVIEW

All parking fees require annual approval from the Parks Commission and the City Council. Once we receive Commission approval, we will move to Council approval.

COST Recovery Goals related to parking

Category – Enterprise

Our cost recovery goals for Enterprise range from 100-150%

Enterprise categories have a commercial service or contract, similar to a private operation and include specialized services. Generally more tourist-focused.

The cost recovery *Enterprise* category requires the least subsidy from the taxpayers because it serves a unique group of users. Our enterprise groups (marina, parking and campground) cover approximately 150% of expenses. It includes indirect costs but not capital expenses, typically covered through bonds or Penny for Parks (small projects).

Fee Changes

The chart below shows the suggested 2024 rates with specific changes noted below (and highlighted in the table):

1. New winter season pass for Perkins to support regular recreation users
2. Increased car & trailer day pass
3. Added 24-hour car pass to accommodate use of Perkins by Amtrak patrons
4. Replaced the overnight car & trailer with a 24-hour pass that syncs better with Park Mobile (people can add time if they get back from a boating adventure later than anticipated)
5. Changed the event rate to “market rate” to give us more flexibility with the rates we charge for special event parking.



6. New pass to offer boaters who have a second vehicle

We will continue to encourage a seasonal parking pass that allows pass holders to park at Perkins, North Beach and Oakledge for no additional fee. In addition, as noted on our [website](#), we accept the Green Mountain Passport and residents with limited income may ask for a free parking pass through our main customer service at the Miller Community Center.

See fee chart on next page



	Description	Location	Fees
Seasonal Parking	Season Pass Student	North Beach, Perkins and Oakledge	\$35
	Season Pass Resident	North Beach, Perkins and Oakledge	\$50
	Season Pass Non-Resident	North Beach, Perkins and Oakledge	\$70
	Additional Season Pass Resident	North Beach, Perkins and Oakledge	\$20
	Additional Season Pass Non-Resident	North Beach, Perkins and Oakledge	\$35
	Boater Second Vehicle Pass	Pease, Perkins	\$35
	Season Pass for League Participants	Oakledge	\$40
	Season Boat Trailer	Perkins, Coast Guard	\$30
	Winter Season Pass (new pass)	Perkins	\$25
	Monthly Business Parking Pass	Perkins	\$70

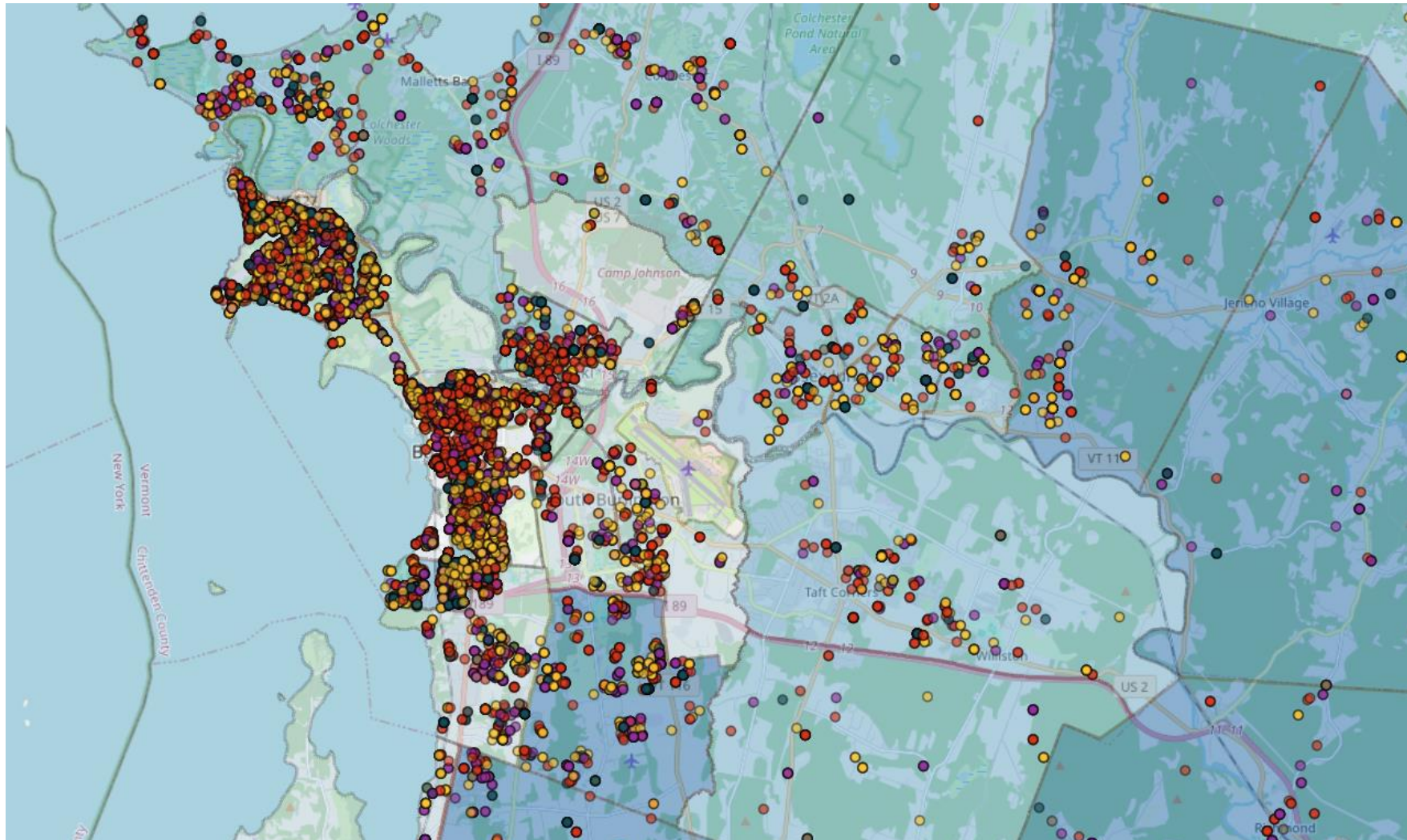
	Description	Location	Fees
Daily Parking	Hourly - Peak only (May - October 15) - new hourly at North Beach	North Beach & Oakledge	\$2
	Hourly - Pease year round	Pease	\$3
	Hourly - Peak (max \$12 May - October)	Perkins	\$3
	Hourly - Off Season (November - April)	Perkins	\$2
	Car & Trailer Day Pass (\$10 previously)	Perkins, Coast Guard	\$12
	24 hr Car Pass (new option)	Perkins	\$12
	24 hr Car & Trailer (replaces overnight)	Perkins	\$20
	Handicap Car with Trailer	Perkins	Free
	Commercial Boat Launch	Perkins	\$20
	Day Bus	North Beach, Perkins	\$20
	Event/Holiday	All	Market rate

Recreation Report

- *Total Participants*
- *Type of Program*
- *Age of Participants*
- *Scholarships*
- *Geography of Participation*

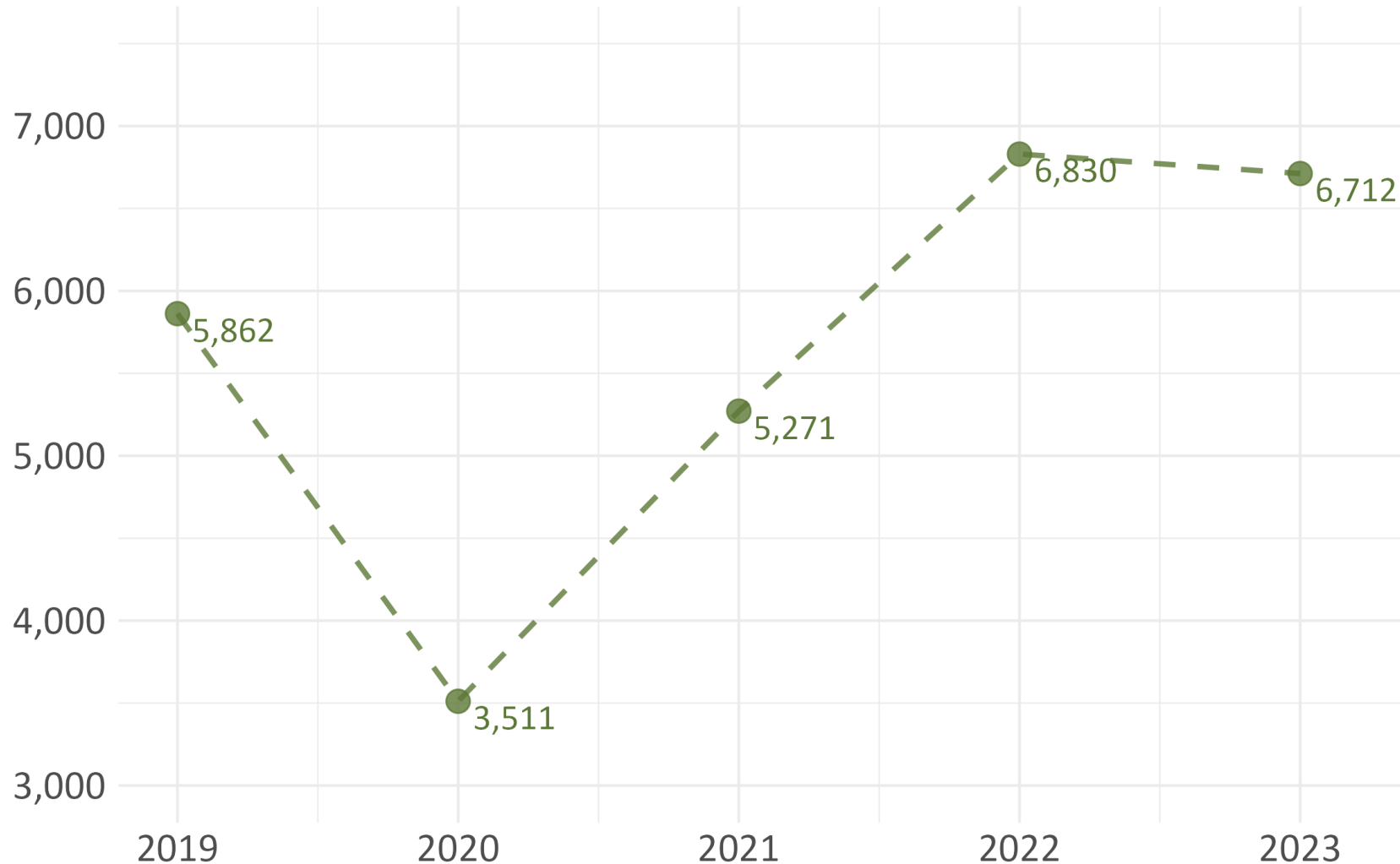
Recreation Programming Data

31,847 registrations for programs with a start date from May 2018 and December 2023



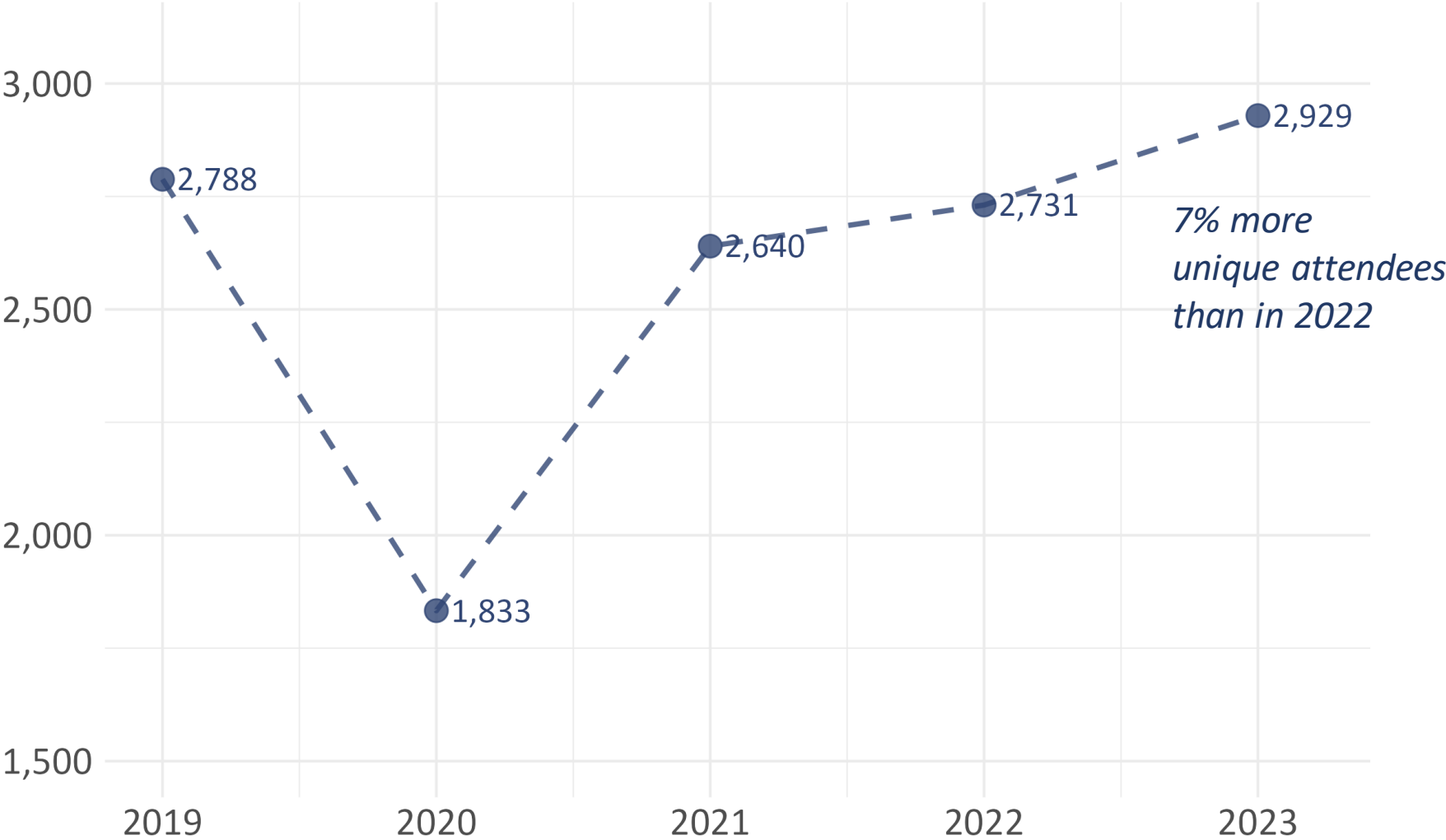
Recreation Participants

Registrations surpassed 2019 levels in 2022 and 2023.



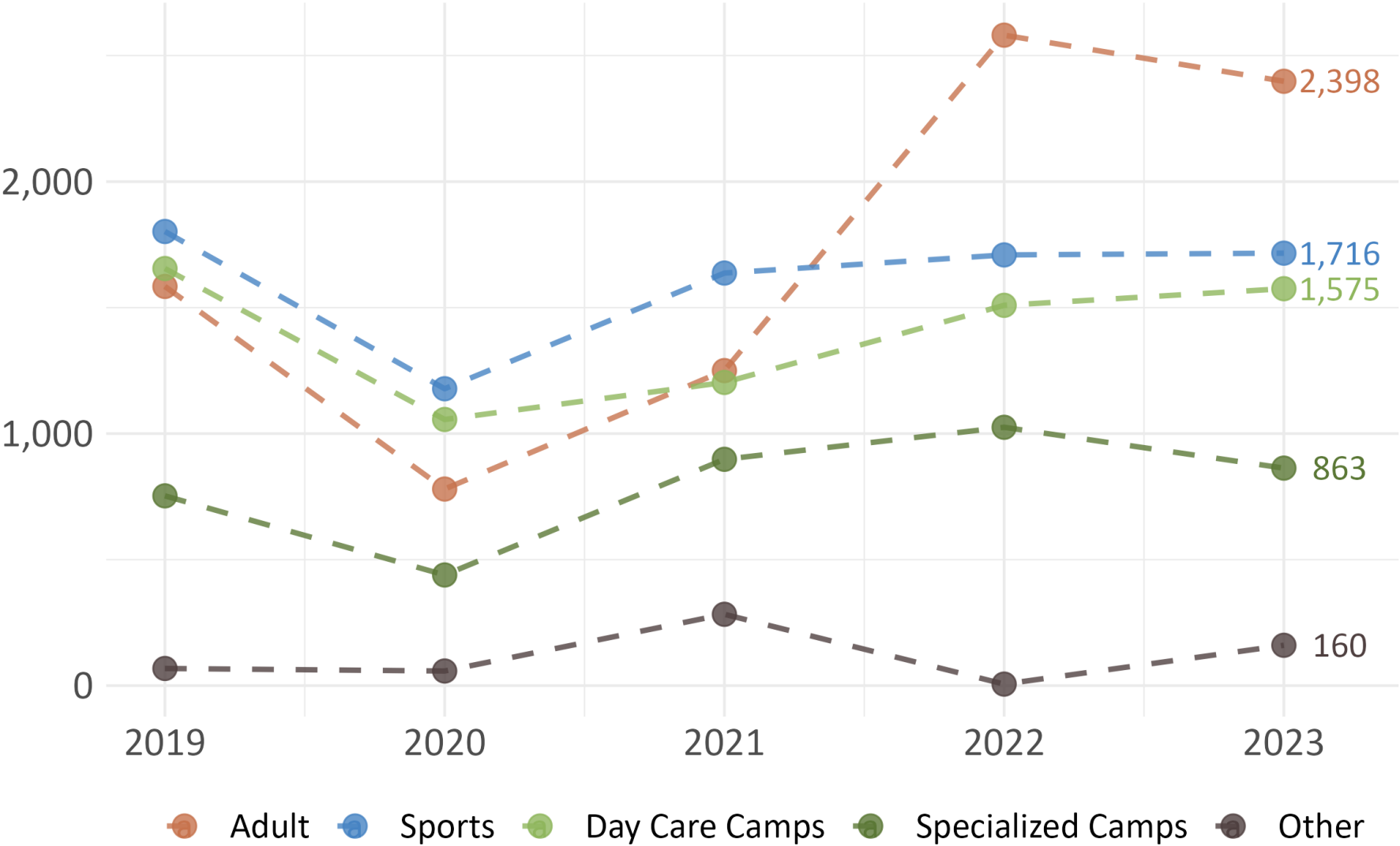
Unique Participants

Nearly three thousand unique individuals participated in recreation programs in 2023



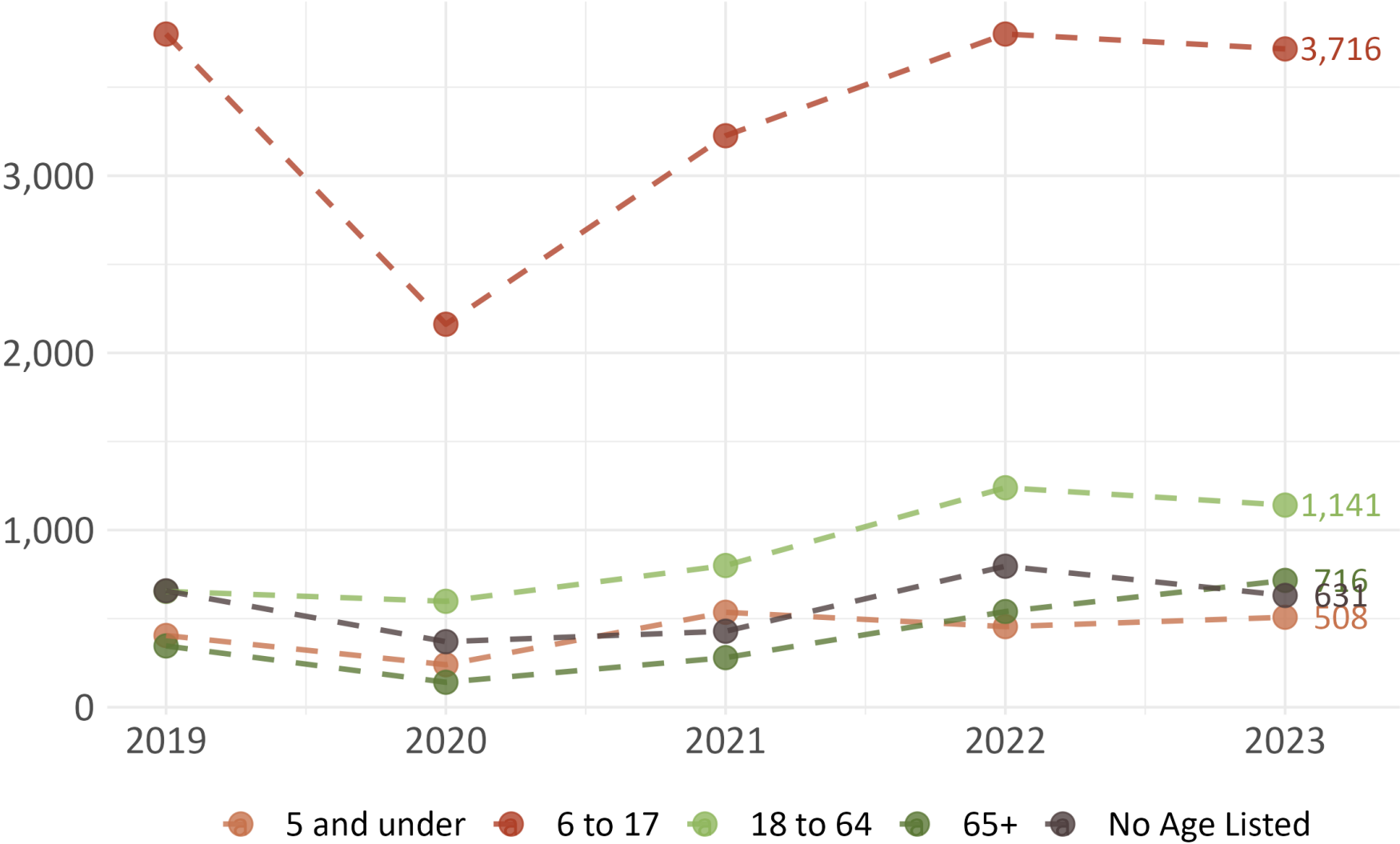
Type of Program

Day care camps and sports continually popular, adult programming more closely tracked



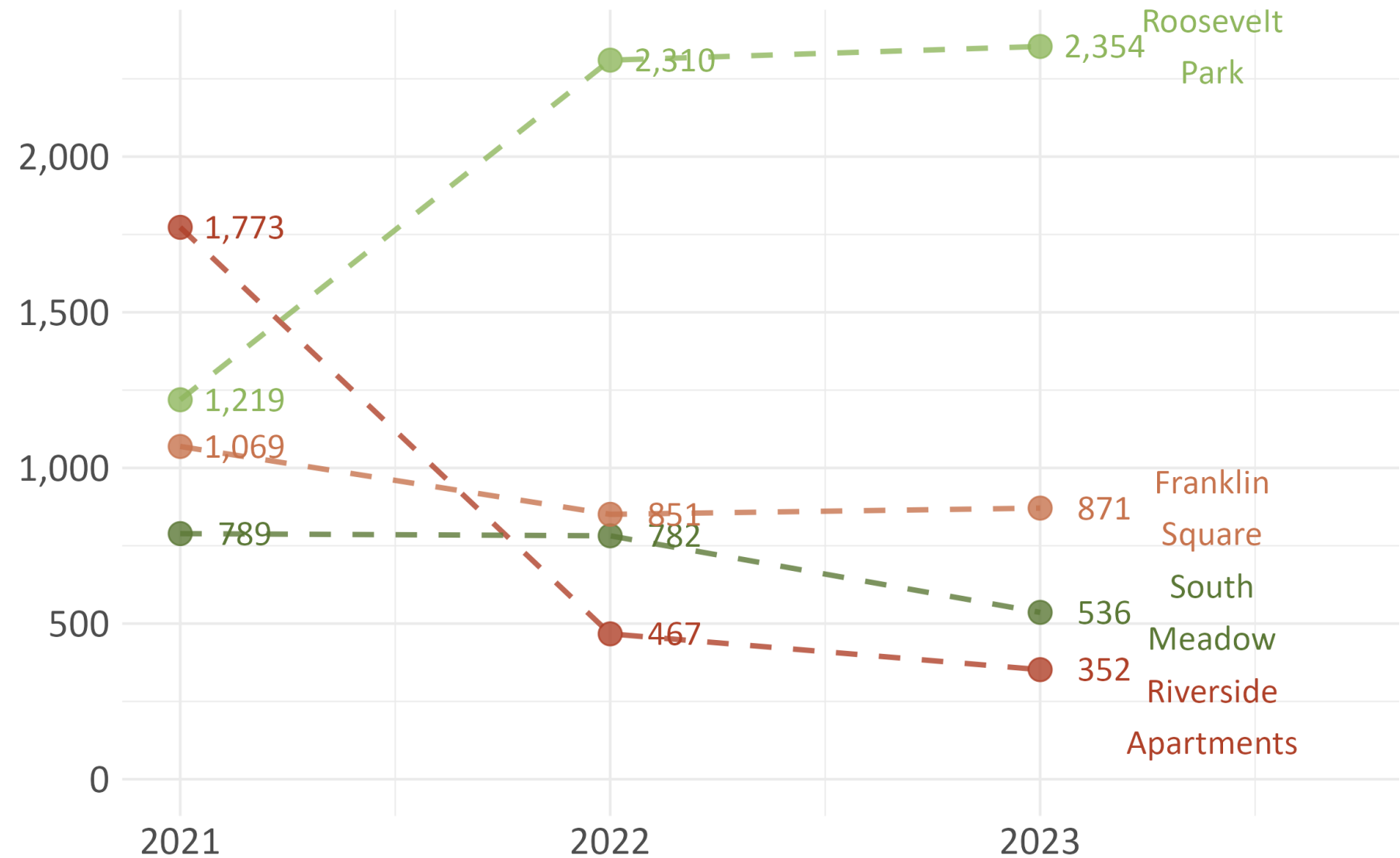
Age of Participant

Majority of participants are between 6 and 17 years old



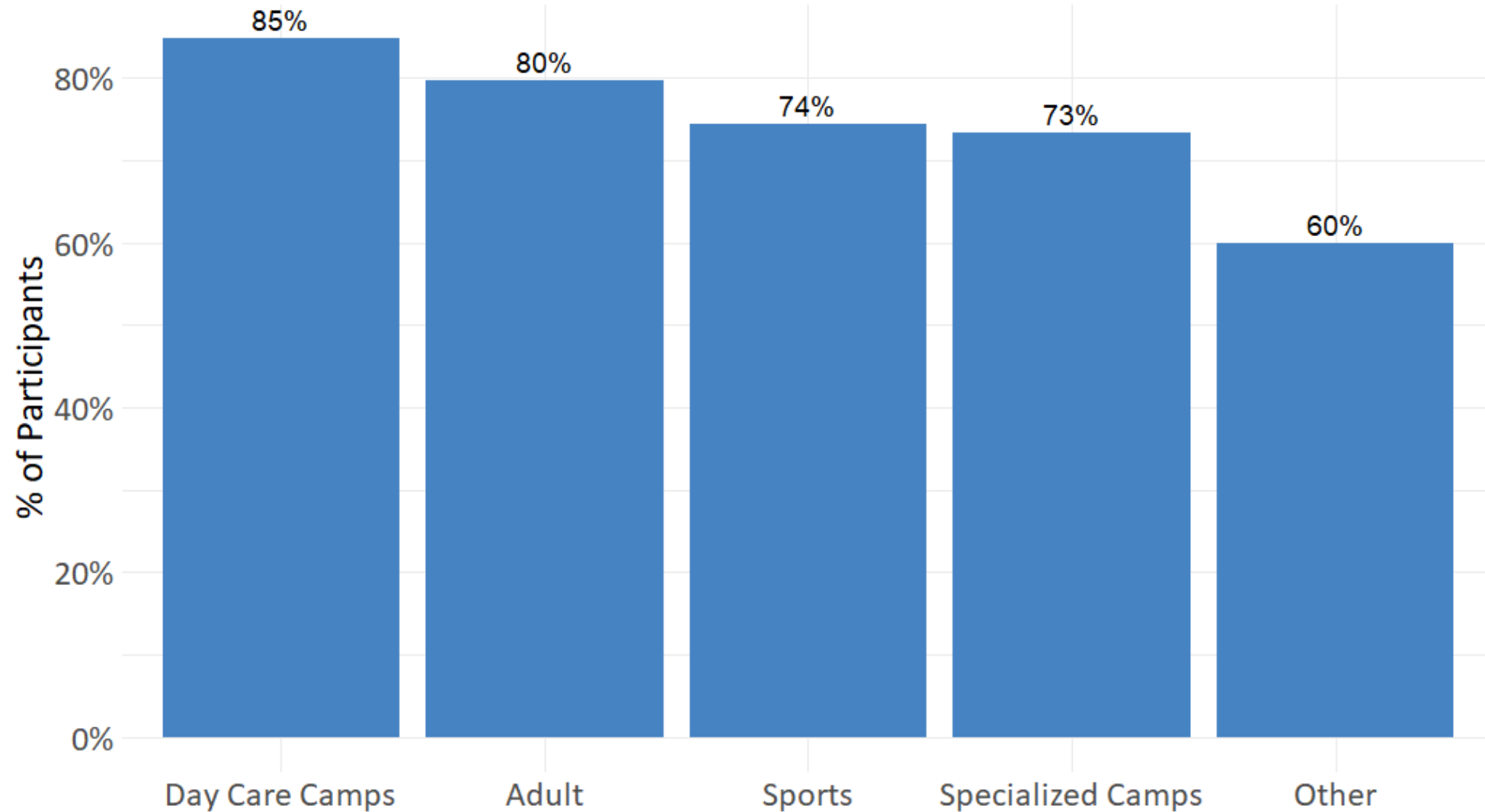
Summer Meals Program

Limited data on participants in drop-in program, take up highest at Roosevelt Park



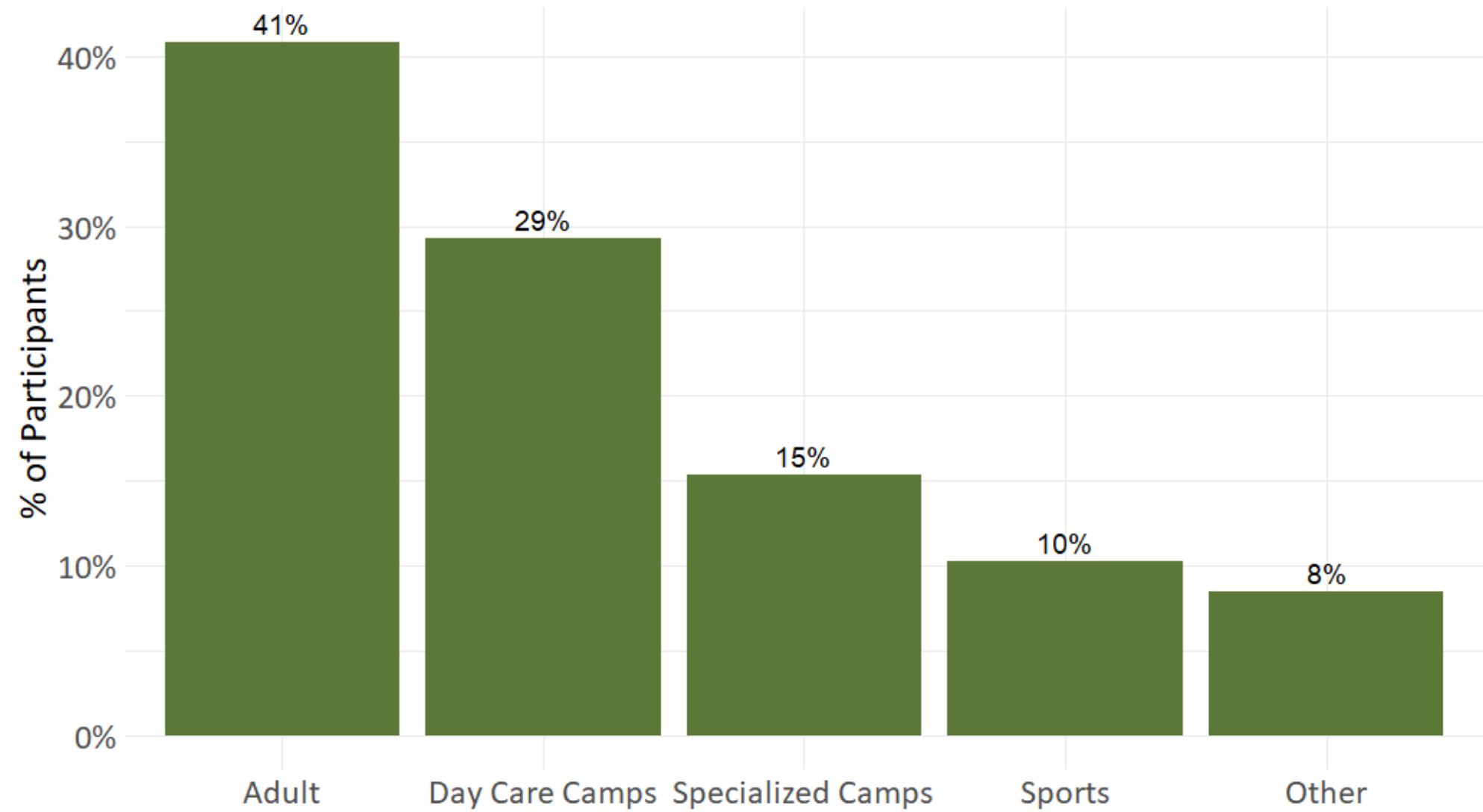
Participants from Burlington

77% of participants in Parks programming come from Burlington



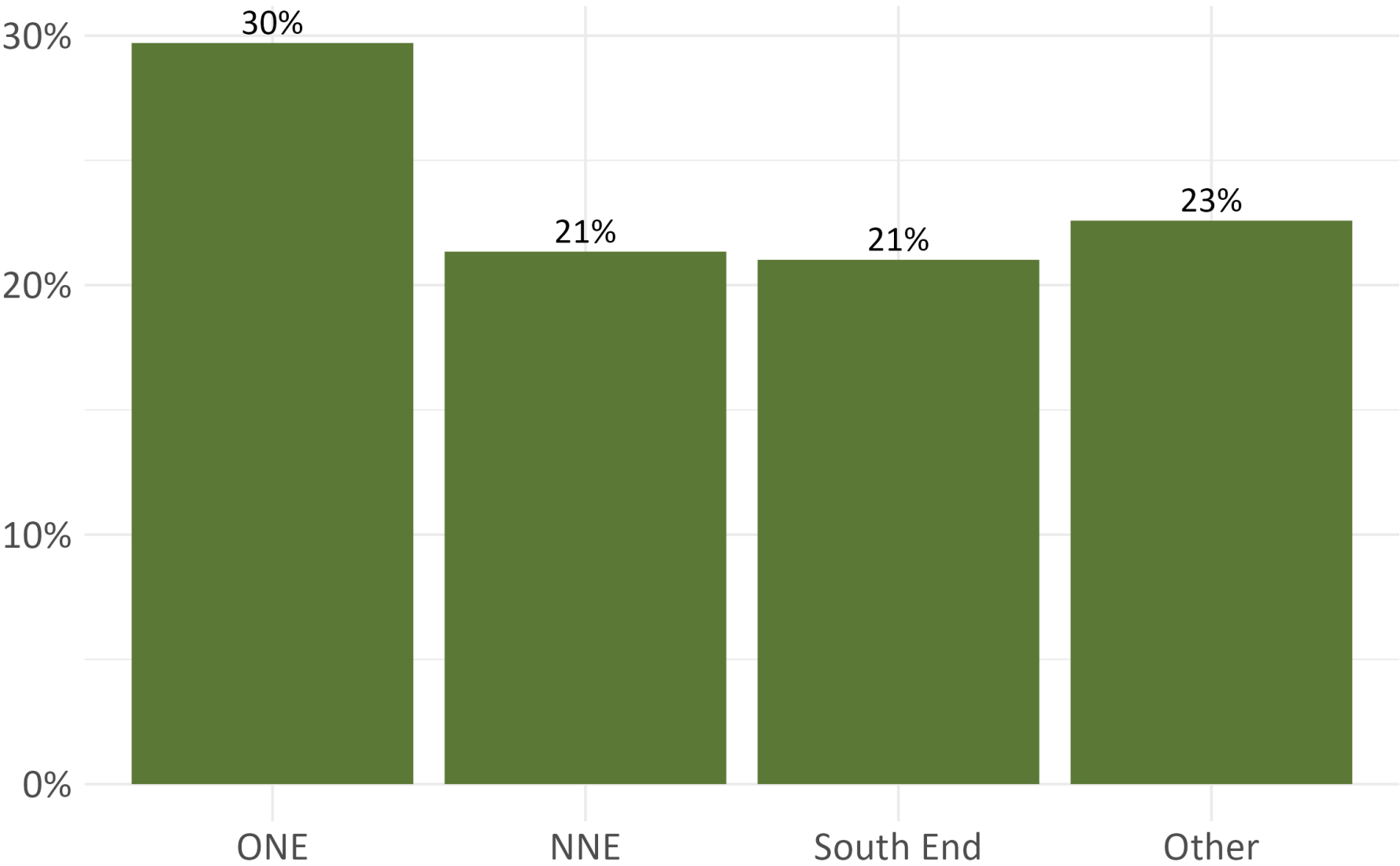
Scholarships by Program Type

2022 + 2023: Participants in adult programs have the highest rate of scholarships.



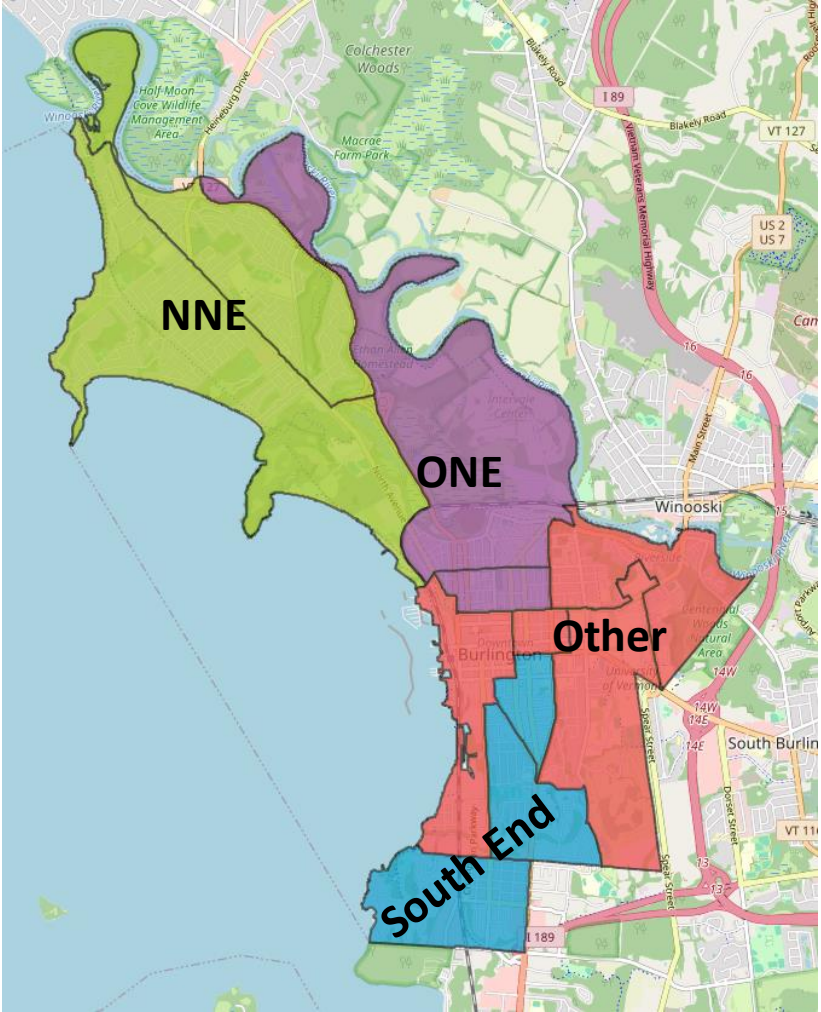
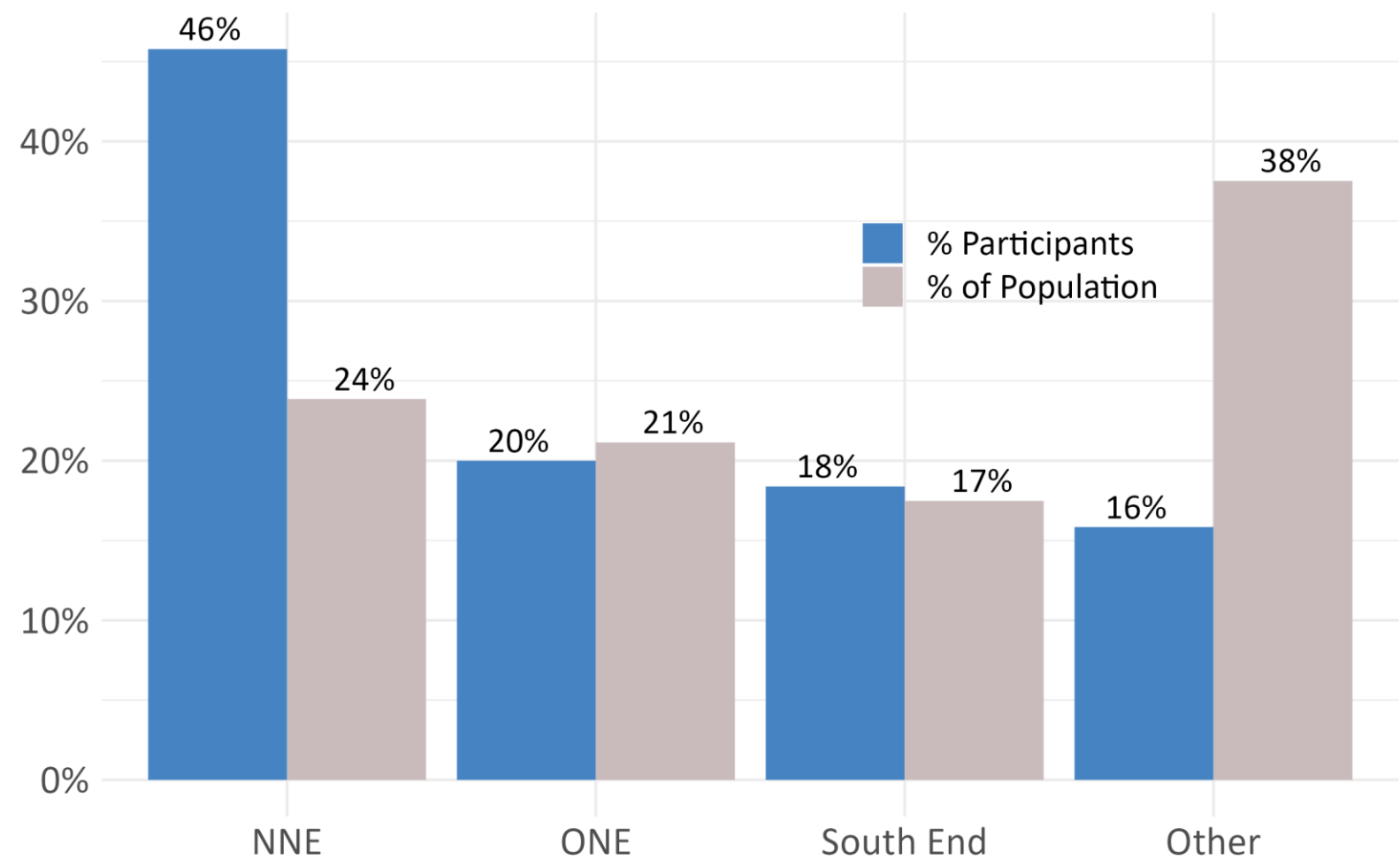
Scholarships by Neighborhood, <18

2022 + 2023: A higher fraction of children living in the ONE receive scholarships than any other neighborhood.



Participants by Neighborhood

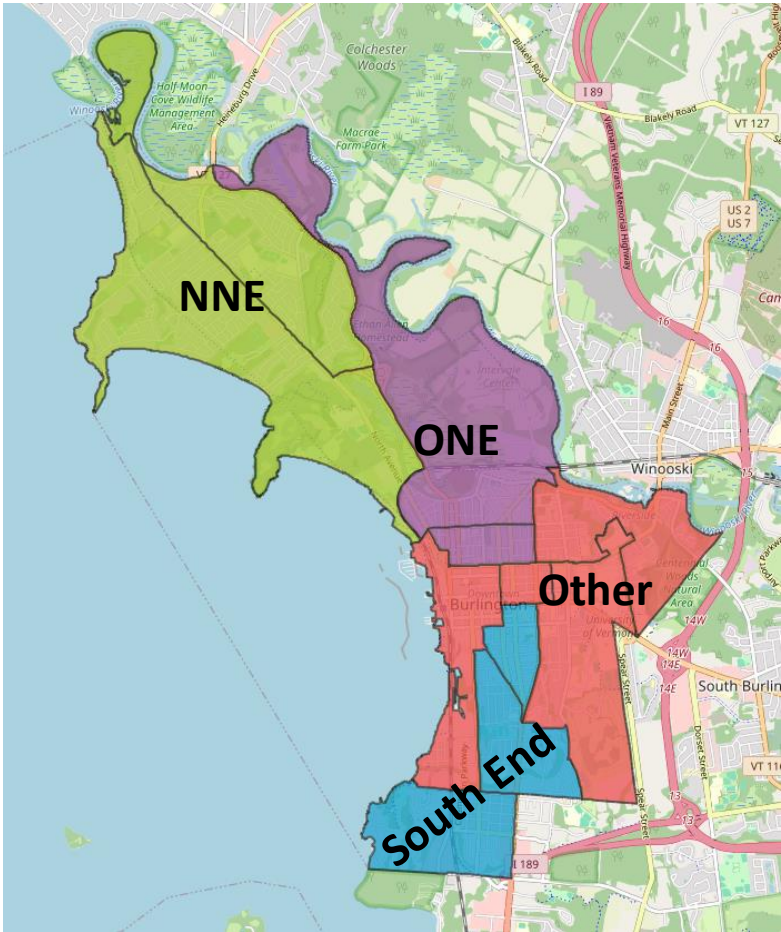
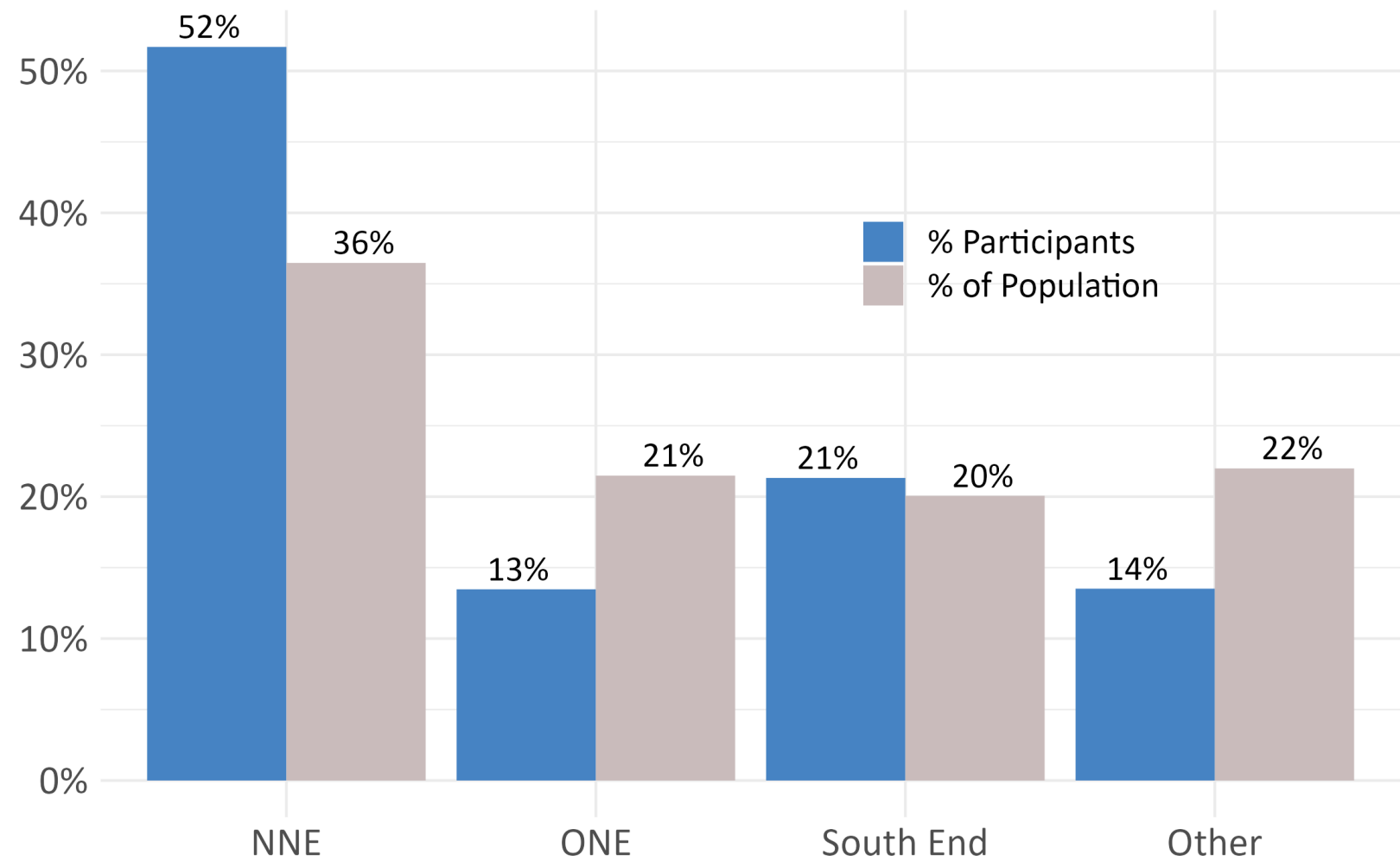
A quarter of the city lives in the NNE, 46% of program participants



*Includes **24,933** registrations from 2018-2023*

Child Participants by Neighborhood

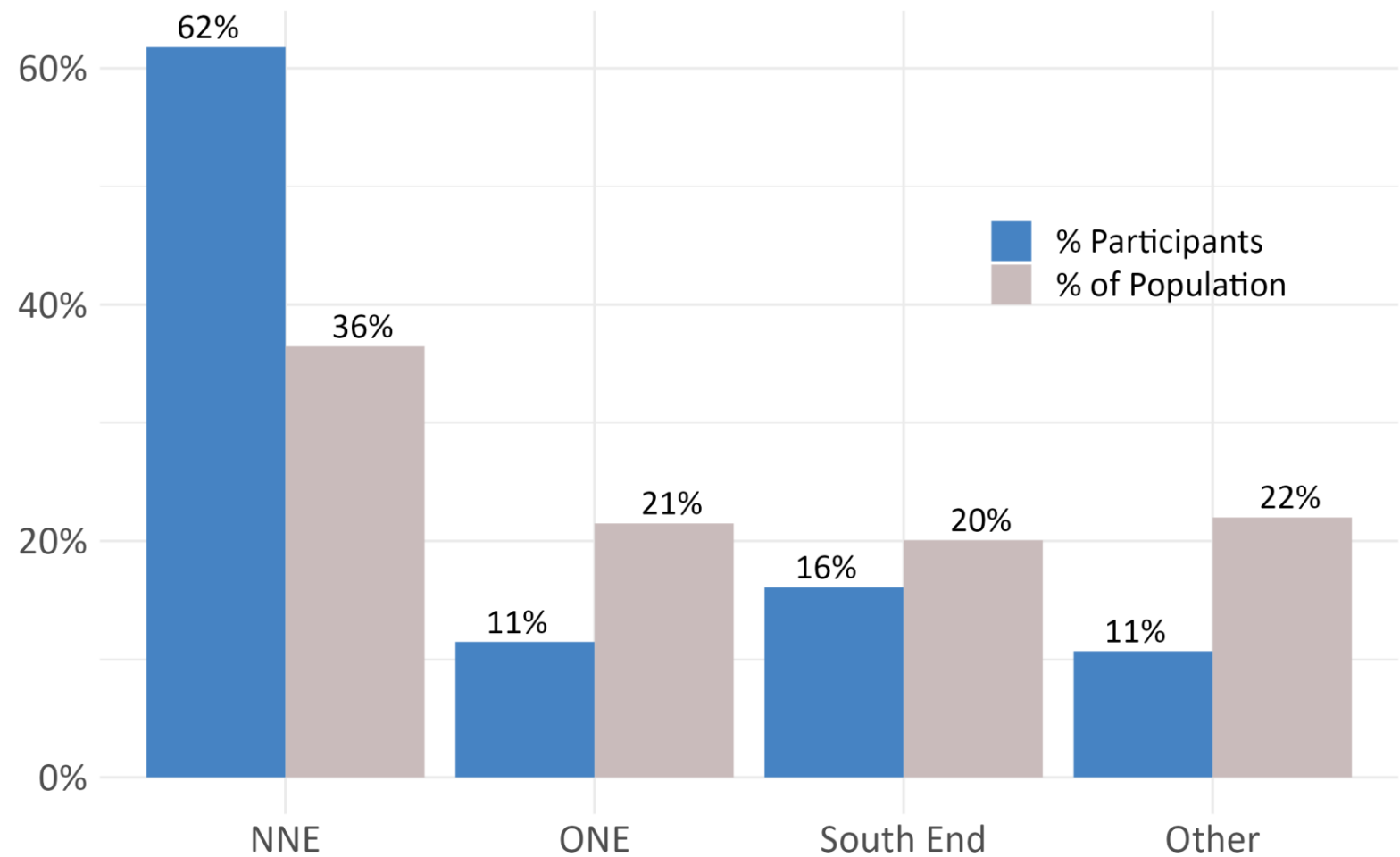
Children from the NNE make up the largest proportion of participants



*Includes **17,444** registrations for ages 17 and under from 2018-2023*

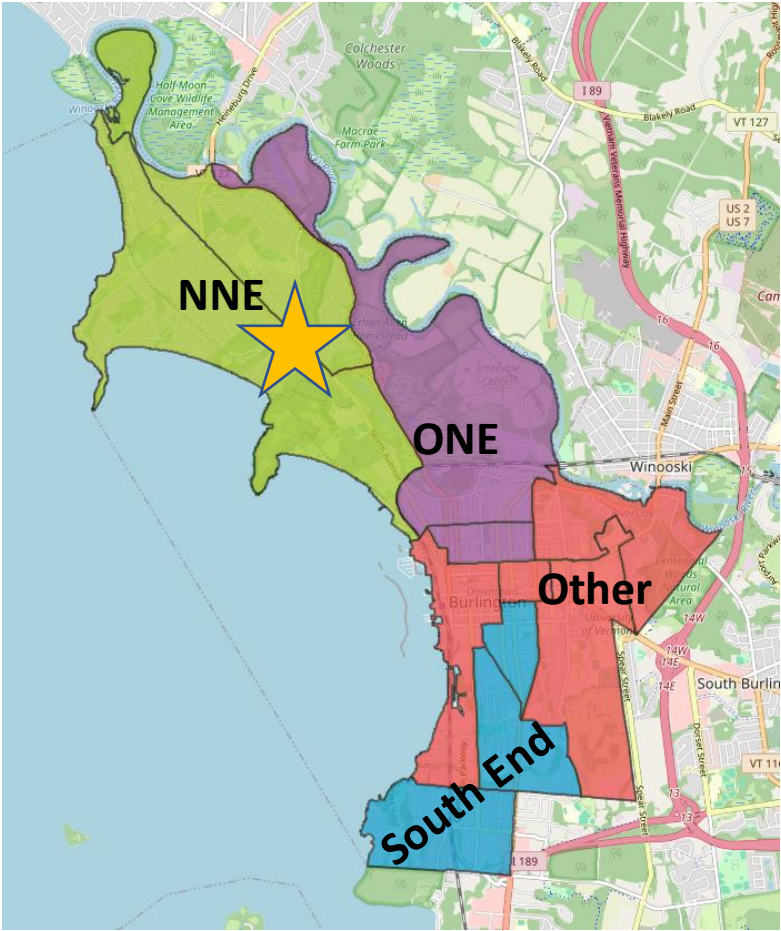
NNE Based Programs, <18 Participation

Children from the NNE make up the largest proportion of participants



*Includes **11,368** registrations in NNE programs from 2018-2023*

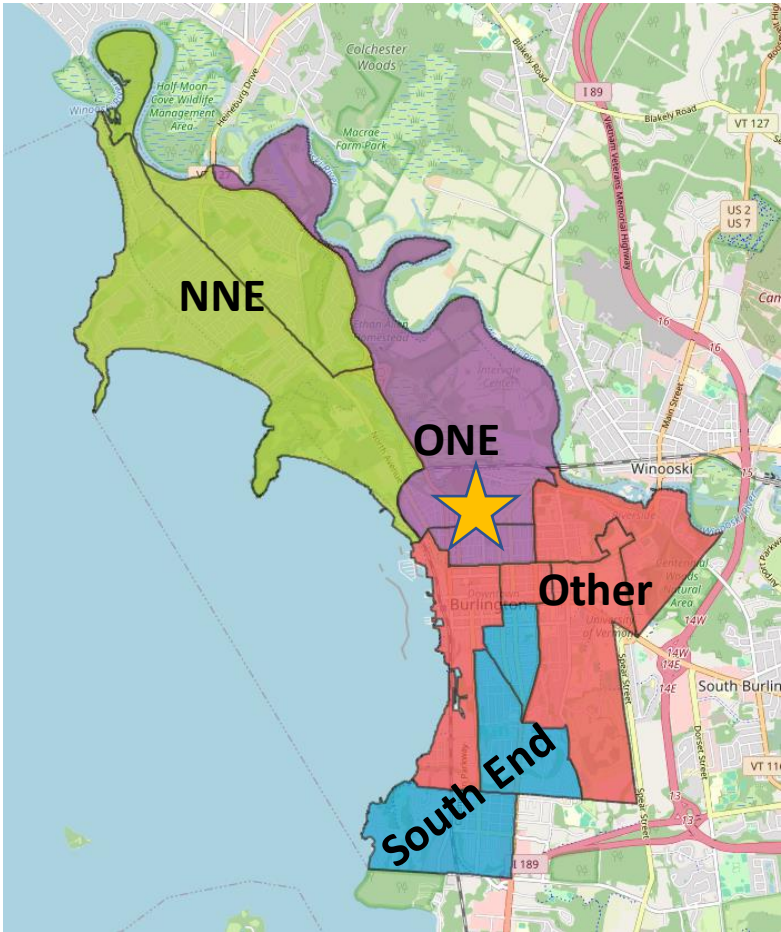
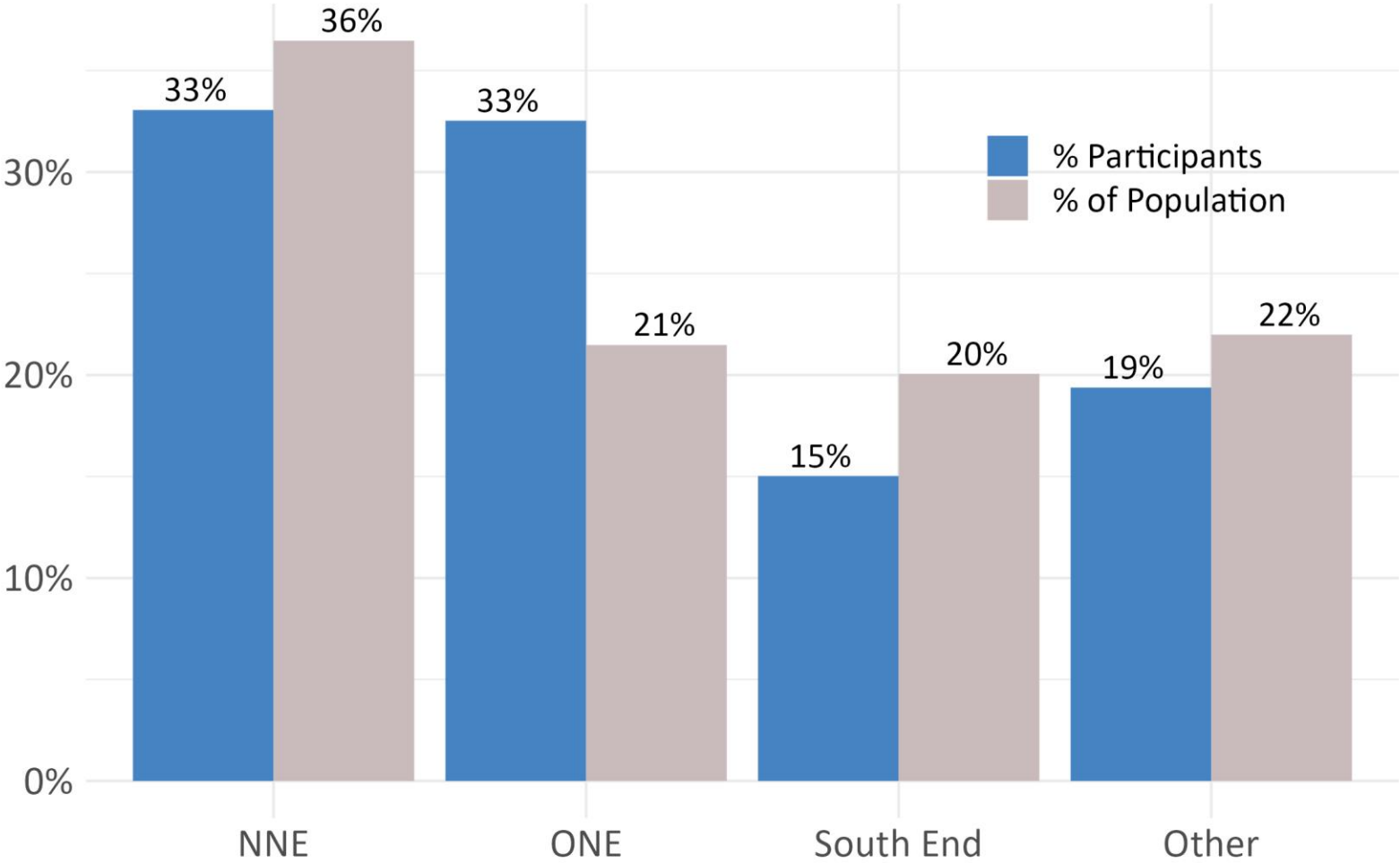
Primary Facilities:
Miller, Leddy, CP Smith



ONE Programs, <18 Participation

ONE programs serve kids in the ONE but reach other neighborhoods as well

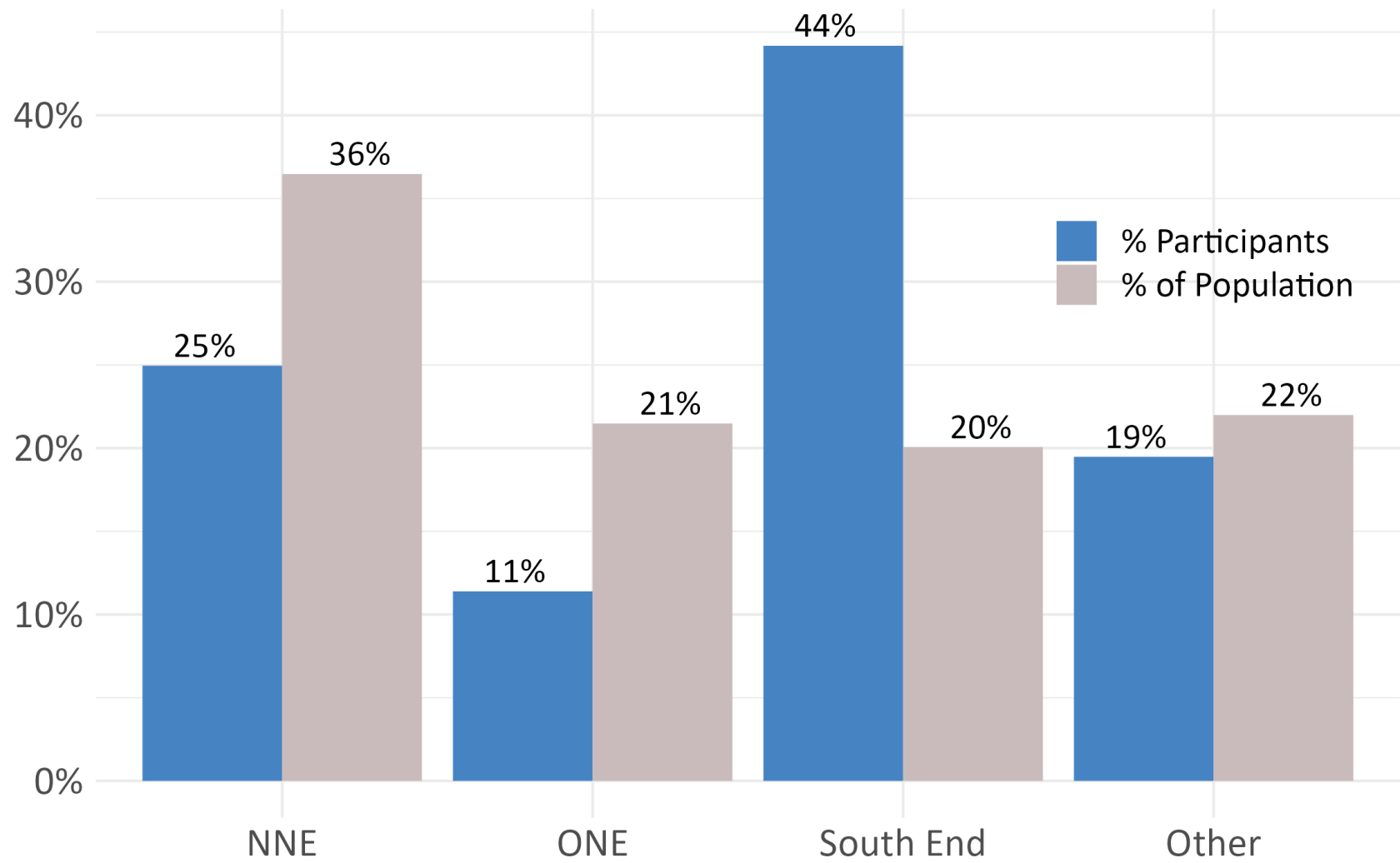
Primary Facility:
ONE Community Center



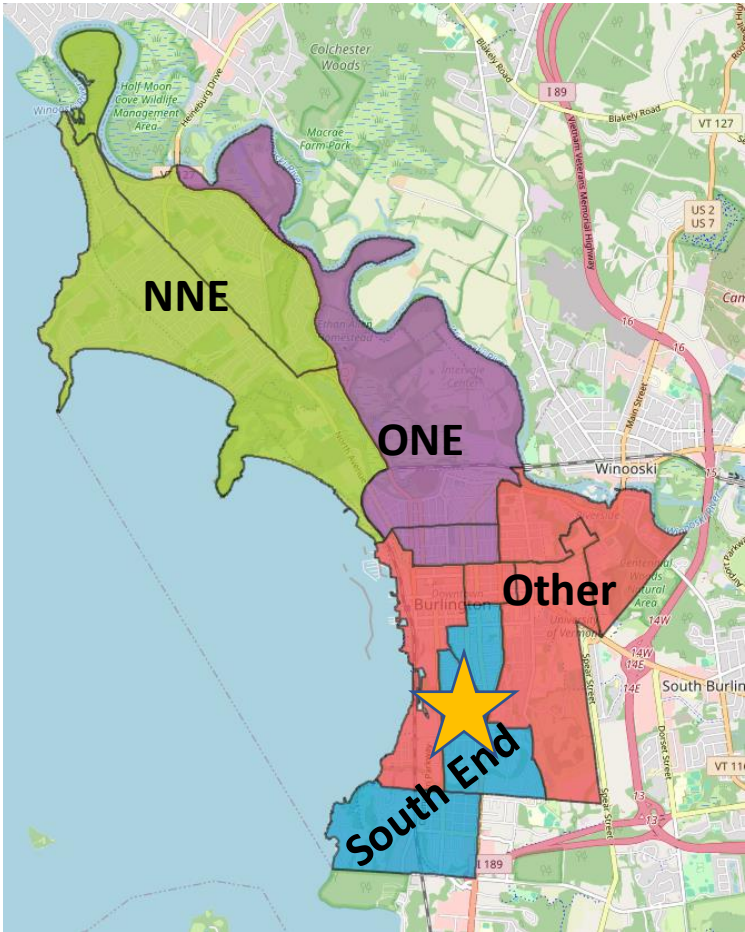
Includes **1,331** registrations in ONE programs from 2018-2023

South End Programs, <18 Participation

Programs in the South End primarily pull South End kids

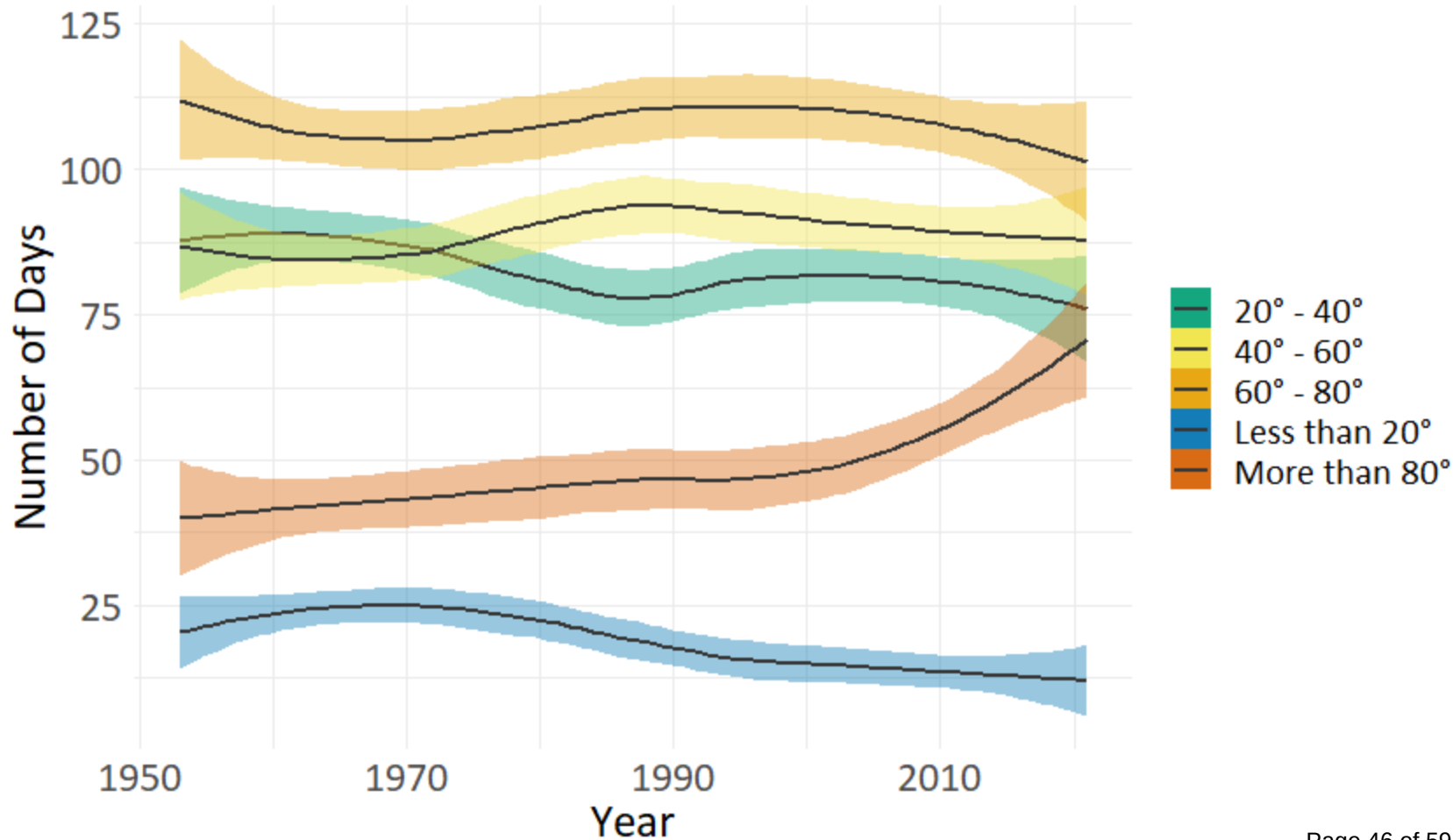


Primary Facilities:
Calahan Park, Champlain

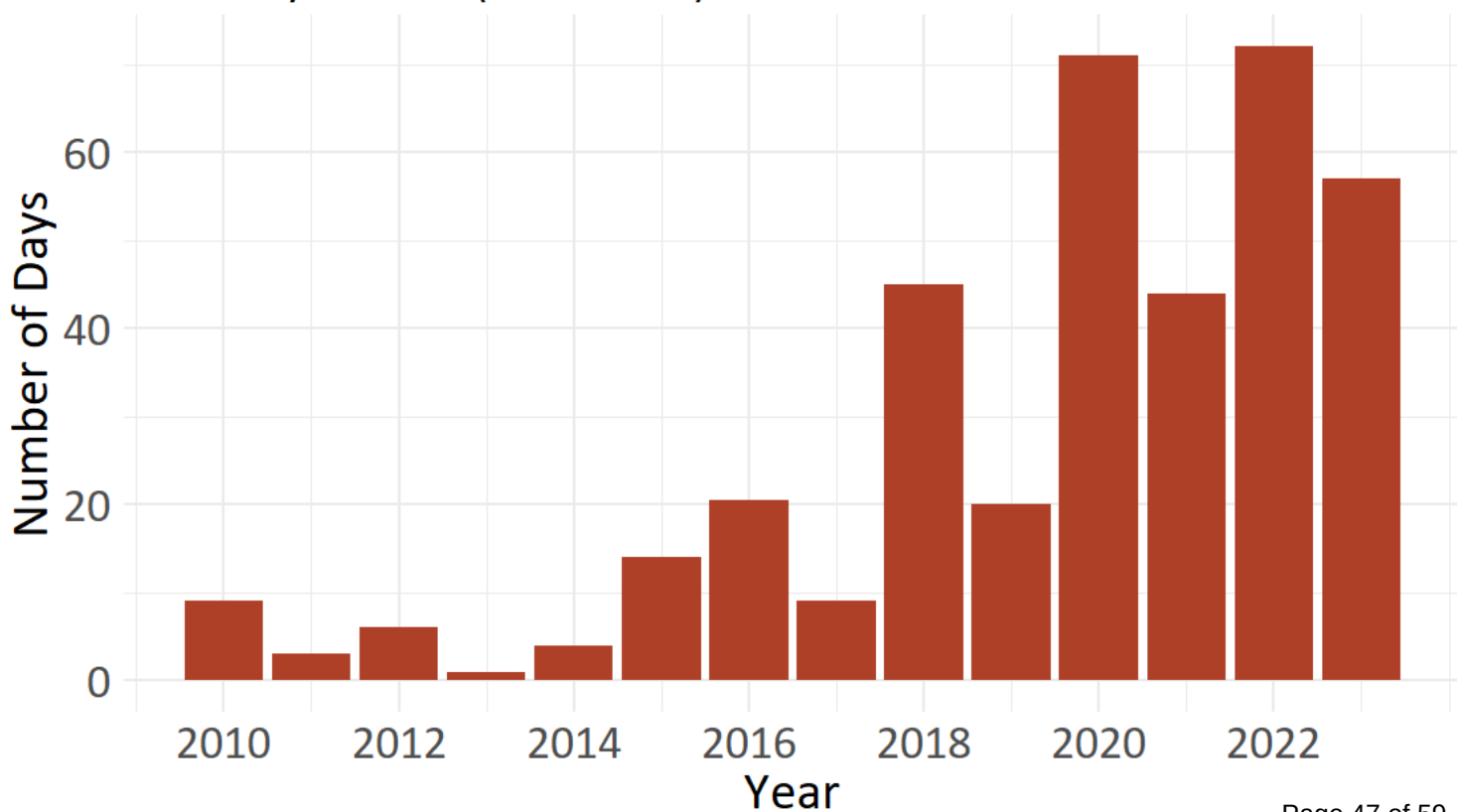


Includes 2,757 registrations in South End programs from 2018-2023

Maximum Daily Temperature Per Year BTV Airport (1953-2021)



Total Days Closed (2010-2023)



SUMMARY OF OPPORTUNITIES

Monthly Parks Commission update – January, 2024

Department accomplishments and notable staffing developments since the last report

- January work anniversaries – Max Madalinski (7), Raymond Bickings (1), Scott Hannigan (2), Sherman Wood (1), Bert Delorme (1 year in Dec),
- Gary Rogers presented on seasonal employment at the December VRPA quarterly meeting in Winooski.
-

Major upcoming events: <http://enjoyburlington.com/events/>

- Eclipse

Recreation Facilities Division Update

Leddy Arena

- Our December 9th holiday ice show, "The Gift", was a huge success with a packed crowd and 68 skaters performing in 31 numbers to holiday music. High school senior, skater Jane Sitek-Shaver, also partnered with Champlain Community Services to share in the donations at the door, resulting in a donation of \$400 to Champlain Valley Services.
- Other activities at the arena in December included over 30 one-time rentals, including birthday parties, family skates, holiday work parties, etc. The rink was even busier than usual due to the unseasonably warm weather and lack of snow or outdoor ice skating opportunities. Leddy also hosted three high school tournaments in December - six nights of hockey over nine days! To wrap up the month the arena will host an all-day VT Junior Catamounts 3 on 3 tournament on both rinks on New Years Eve. Huge thanks to our maintenance staff, who work tirelessly all year, particularly during the holiday season.
- Learn to skate programs are booming at Leddy this winter! Our December vacation week skating lessons served 40 children (with wait lists), while we already have over 125 skaters registered for the next session of group lessons, beginning the first week of January, with skaters ranging in age from 3 to 74!

Packed stands for the Gift! We appreciated seeing Commissioner Keech there to watch the show.



Miller Center

- The Miller Center gym is in huge demand this winter - in December we had over 100 rentals for pickleball, a dozen basketball rentals as well as dodgeball, indoor soccer, women's basketball, and, of course nine drop-in pickleball sessions each week.
- On December 16 the Miller Center hosted a hugely popular first annual Holiday Market. Thanks to Mellisa Cain (part-time staffer at Miller) for coordinating this first ever event in the New North End, featuring crafts, specialty foods and art from local artisans. Exhibitor slots were sold out, with a wait list and the event drew a strong crowd. Other December activities included four political gatherings, birthday parties and several school district meetings and trainings.
- December projects included reviewing CAPRA standards, CivicRec Document Management training, mid-year budget review,, cleaning and reorganizing the supply closet and updating SDS forms electronically.

CORE

- Very Merry performances in December included "Annie" on December 8 &9 and "Anastasia, the Musical" on December 15 & 16. The last performance of the fall season will be "Mean Girls" January 5-7.
- December activities and events included a Holiday Market on December 3, BPRW's Senior Holiday Dinner, Intervale Center's produce giveaway, Ward 2/3 NPA meeting and community dinner, and an additional session of pickleball each week, to keep up with demand from new players. With the addition of Gwyneth Merriman to our staff, we hope to start having some regular evening hours available for programming and rentals at the ONE Center.

Park Division Update

Conservation Program

- **Community Gardens**
 - 2024 Registration Ongoing
 - Community partners (NFNA, Intervale, BPRW, WVPD, Vermont Garden Network) initiated process for writing a garden focused element to a Burlington Intervale Flood Response Plan.
- **Trails Greenways and Natural Areas**
 - Natural surface trails getting fall leaf blow off to protect trails surface and prepare for winter.
 - Internal alignment of values and holistic goals for Burlington's natural surface trails.
 - McKenzie Management Plan Update is in first draft review
- **City-Wide Conservation Work**
 - Nature Based Climate Solutions grant program through the Conservation Legacy Fund has received 6 applications. Applications currently being reviewed and scored by sub-committee of 2 Parks Commissioners and 3 Conservation Board members. [Learn more about the grant here.](#)

Prepping for
Highlight at Contois



Central Facilities Program

- Custodial team assisted with testing and repair of City ballot boxes.
- Custodial team assisting BCA with set up for Highlight New Year's Eve events in downtown buildings.
- Project Coordinator completed CJIS recertification.
- Kickoff meeting for exterior restoration work at Fletcher Free Library.

- Replaced heat exchanger for emergency HVAC repair at Police Department.
- Completed building inspection of HVAC system at Police Department.
- Upgraded WiFi in Equipment Maintenance at 645 Pine Street.
- Worked with IT team to get information for BTVStat presentations on City building energy use.
- Contract being signed for dormitory renovation at Fire Station 2.
- Final review meeting for BPF front entry renovation.
- Updated cameras being installed at City ballot boxes.
- Continued work in Library community room.
- Continual HVAC troubleshooting and repair.
- Continual graffiti, trash and needle clean-up.

Trees and Greenways Program

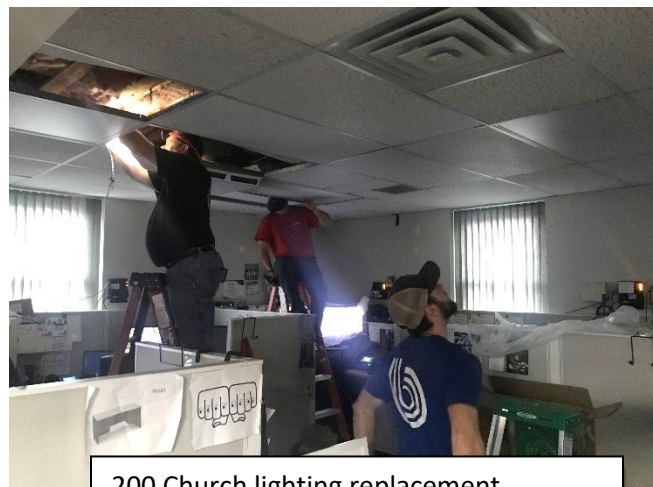
- Responded to resident requests as needed.
- Completed scheduled street tree pruning
- Ongoing updates to tree inventory.
- Continued utility line clearance work for BED contract. \$45,000 of \$105,000 contract completed.
- Regular maintenance of all equipment.
- Ongoing updates to spring tree planting plan
- Applied for grant from Vermont Urban and Community Forestry Program.

Park Facilities Program

- 200 Church St lighting replacement is 2/3 done.
- Window shades have been installed at the Red Stone Cottage.
- With the renovations almost complete at the Red Stone cottage we installed the Knox box and had BFD lock the master keys inside.
- Oakledge gate has been made operational and new signage has been installed.
- Security lighting has been installed at Leddy Tree shop to help prevent break-ins.
- We built 16 new voting booths for the City elections.
- We replaced all recalled AED pads throughout the City.
- We replaced a gas fired hot water heater for the Boat House with the help of Central Facilities.
- We are inspecting and replacing worn bushings on all of our dock systems.
- We responded to many day to day work orders.

Cemetery Program

- In the month of December Cemetery staff sold 7 new lots for burial at Lakeview Cemetery
- In the month of December Cemetery staff performed 4 cremation burials and 1 full burial



200 Church lighting replacement



Building voting booths

- Continued burial card entry in Pontem includes research into actual lot ownership, correct names of the deceased, and updating maps and logging information in Pontem. We have completed entry through “WICK.”
- Researched multiple lots for visiting families and grave researchers
- Performed equipment maintenance
- Performed grounds maintenance at Lakeview, Elmwood and Greenmount Cemeteries
- Monitored the encampment at and consequential damage to Elmwood Avenue Cemetery in conjunction with Urban Park Rangers
- Began policy review of monument regulations.
- Continued work on hedge row near bike path
- Created 19 new lots in section 5 at Lakeview Cemetery to sell to the public.
- Worked on mapping lots in section 2

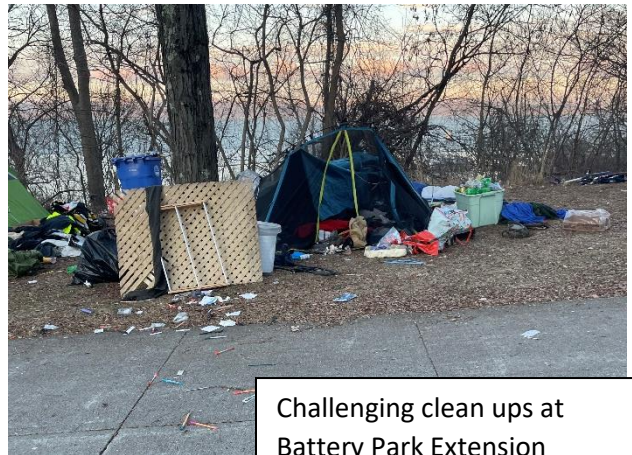


Hedge row renovation at Lakeview near Greenway



Grounds Maintenance Program

- Performed daily trash/cleaning of all parks
- Performed playground inspections
- Performed playground maintenance
- Performed equipment maintenance
- Supported Park Rangers
- Continued ice rink prep
- Responded to VUEWORKS as needed
- Continued clearing fence lines of brush and tree overgrowth.
- Plowed and salted all city parks as needed.
- Worked with fence company for fence repair along rt 127/bike path
- Continued fall clean up in all city parks
- Worked on equipment and fleet inventory



Challenging clean ups at Battery Park Extension



Supporting the City Hall Park Winter Market

Planning Division Update

- Projects Progressing:

Calahan Park Sidewalk: Under Contract. Project kicking off very soon!

-
- **Leddy Park Comprehensive Plan:** BPRW Staff working with consultants to wrap up final report of the plan. The final report will be presented at a future Parks Commission Meeting.
- **Oakledge for All Universal Access:** (ongoing) BPRW and designers Groundview are working on a solution which will be vetted with Oakledge for All before procurement and changes are made to the transfer station on the slide|
- **Roosevelt Park Comprehensive Plan:** BPRW staff continue to work on increasing diversity of the CAC and attendance at the public meetings to be representative of the neighborhood. Reaching out to several community members and contacts again in early January.
- **Schifilliti Path:** Construction Summer 2024.

Projects Starting Soon:

- **Accessibility to Parks:** Project funded and led by CCRPC to examine access to Burlington parks. Funded by transportation dollars.
- **127 Path Feasibility Study:** Project funded and to be led by CCRPC to review access and state of the path.

Projects supporting other divisions/ departments: (abbreviated)

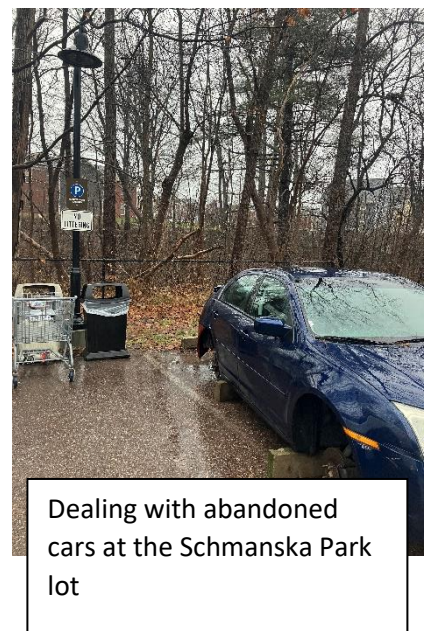
- Dredging of the Marinas
- Playground Equipment and Compliance
- Great Streets/Main Streets
- Frame Phase 2
- Barge Canal Reuse Planning
- Battery Street Corridor Study
- South End Planning
- Boathouse Feasibility Study

Waterfront Division Update

- **Park Ranger Program**

Working with BPD on the Ranger program

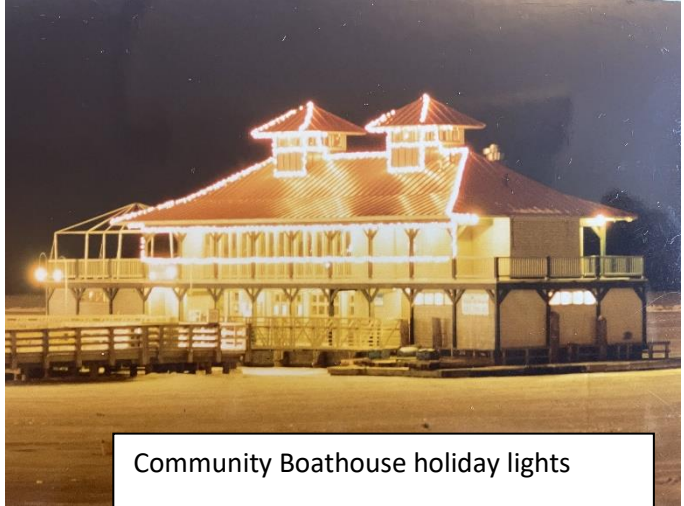
- Many tents and encampments are in a holding pattern currently, as there is nowhere for them to go.
- No movement on job descriptions or hiring of second Ranger
- **Campground & Beaches**
 - Campground Reservations for the 2024 season are opening up based on a rolling schedule, starting January 3rd reservations for July will begin.
 - We are shifting to off season projects:



- Address the failing concrete floor of the wood room with PFP funds
- Upgrade the conditions of the main Campground bathroom, as it is currently below our standards.
- Install gutters on the Office building, this is scheduled for April.
- If available funds, install a shed to store our golf carts and landscaping equipment to reduce theft and wear and tear.
- Our firewood supplier of over 10 years has announced he will be retiring after this season so we have begun looking for a new supplier.

- **Marina**

- We continue filling seasonal slips for the 2024 season.
- Marina Manager, Rob Peterson met with approximately 12 seasonal slip holders at the boathouse in December to discuss the 2023 and 2024 seasons. Ideas were shared about minor improvements that could be made. It was a successful meeting and a good check-in with many of our long-term seasonal slip holders.
- Rob Peterson attended the December Waterfront Action Group (WAG) meeting at Hotel Vermont. The next WAG meeting will be held in the Wakefield Room of the Community Boathouse on January 11th.
- The Perkins Pier restroom light renovation project was discussed with the facilities team. The plan is to begin this work during the winter this year.
- The boathouse was decorated with holiday lights from Thanksgiving to New Years Day this season, a nod to one legendary Winter Festival from decades ago when the boathouse was decorated with lights (see pictures).



Community Boathouse holiday lights
(More pictures at end of report)

- **Parking**

- A new sign design project is underway to promote better awareness of parking methods, including Park Mobile and Kiosk options at Perkins Pier, North Beach, Oakledge and the Coast Guard Lot. New signage is being designed and will be put in place this spring to increase revenue collection.

- **Events**

- All 2023 Events have concluded!
- Our proposed 5% rate increase for renting Waterfront Park for all events passed through the Commission and will go in effect for this next season.
- Our bi-annual Waterfront Park Event meeting will take place on December 5th. This will be to review the events in 2023 and look to adopt the 2024 slate of Events that have applied.

Recreation Division Update

Recreation Programs & Camps

- Magic Club ended with a flourish as parents and students were very pleased with the offering, asking about future sessions and even a specialty Summer Camp looking at the future
- Ten weeks of Piano lessons for AALV youth participants wrapped up, serving 10 kids interested in or actively studying piano, with plans to reconvene in the Spring
- 5 weeks of Swim lessons for AALV youth participants wrapped up, serving over 20 kids, with plans to reconvene in the Spring
- BPRW staff implemented a new dance program for AALV youth participants held by a new instructor, and longtime AALV staff and participant, Arbai Muhina, of 'Afro Bai,' running ten weeks through mid-February
- BPRW staff lent a hand with enhanced enrichment as part of Champ Camp, by providing an hour long culinary enrichment activity for all participants of the camp over the Winter Holiday School break. BPRW was pleased to be able to add this additional cultural offering to Champ Camp for the second year running!
- BPRW staff are primed for the start of Bolton Ski and Ride, Friday January 5th by finalizing hiring, meeting with participant family and staff alike, and enhancing procedures from last year to serve optimally the over 100 families served over two, 5 week sessions!



Magic Club

CORE Adult Center

- The Senior Moments group has been working on three comical skits this month to perform on Thursday, January 11 at 1 o'clock at the Core Adult Center gym.
- Offsite trips were very festive to the Shelburne Country store, Dakin Farms, and the Christmas loft for all to enjoy the holiday season.
- The group also enjoyed answering letters from children to Santa. They got to play Santa Claus and write them a magical letter. The letters came from the Church Street market place. There was a mailbox on the marketplace and children dropped in their letter to Santa and the group had a great time answering back and seeing what the children wanted for Christmas.
- The group enjoyed a festive holiday meal by Mulu with her delicious, homemade macaroni and cheese, and a fun pass the present game.

Recreation Events

- Our annual Senior Holiday Dinner saw approximately 70 guests! The feedback on the meal (generously supplied by our friends at Sugarsnap) was excellent as always, and Green Mountain Chorus gave a gorgeous performance. BPRW staff served the meals and even DJ-ed tunes for the duration of the event. Our volunteer Santa was gregarious and funny and guests truly got a kick out of them! While the number of guests was higher pre-pandemic, we are definitely seeing the total increase, and hope to continue that trend in 2024.

- The 43rd Annual Pomerleau Family Holiday Party at the Hilton in Burlington was truly wonderful. While the RSVP list is always far higher than the numbers in attendance, we were delighted to see a large increase in guests from last year, seating more than 250! The craft table (DIY luminaries) had non-stop traffic, and both the face painter and caricature artist were busy from the time doors opened until the very end. We had an impressive amount of great volunteers who made the day even more special, helping at tables, escorting kids to the “secret gift room” to pick out handmade ornaments (generously crafted and donated as always by M&T Bank) and donning costumes gleefully. Santa and Mrs. Claus, along with their very own team of elves, took tons of photos at our specially crafted photo area. The instant photos were put into branded frames for families and groups to have a memento of the day, along with their very cool gift bags. Senators Leahy and Sanders and their wives attended and graciously took photos with anyone who asked. It was quite a day, and our thanks go out to all BPRW staff and community volunteers and of course, the Pomerleau family as well.

Athletics

- The Melanie Davidian womxn’s basketball league resume games at the Miller Center on January 7.
- Womxn’s indoor soccer (session 1) is taking place on Sunday evenings at the Miller Center through January 21. Session 2 begins on January 28.
- Adult pickleball clinics are being offered on Tuesday evenings and Saturday afternoons throughout the winter. Pickleball ambassador Chris Tudor is instructing all clinics (beginner, low intermediate, high intermediate.)
- The Youth Basketball League starts games on Saturday, January 6. We have 214 kids participating this season and 44 volunteer coaches.
- Itty bitty basketball is full and begins on January 10.

Leddy Arena Programs

- Leddy Arena partnered with Champlain valley Skating Club to host our annual holiday season skating show “The Gift” on Saturday, January 9th. Staff noted that we hosted the largest crowd in recent memory for the two hours of dazzling skating performances.
- Skating lessons and open skating continue to be popular activities at Leddy Arena. Most of our beginner and intermediate skating lessons are full or nearly full.
- Staff are busy preparing for the Leddy Arena Winter Vacation Camp that takes place next month.

Admin Division Update

Marketing

- Working with BCA to revise our Civic Rec registration page which now houses programs from both departments, and plan consecutive launches for Summer programs in early spring 2024.
- Working on Summer programs-launch planning.

“The Gift” participants



December Break skating lessons



- Continuing promotion of Fall Recreation programs. This included a new micro-site (btvparks.my.canva.site/fall-2023), flyers, posters, ads and social media campaign.
- Working on signage for cemetery, parking, wayfinding, construction and project updates.
- Supporting the public outreach for Parks Planning projects including the Roosevelt Park Comprehensive Plan and Oakledge Universally Accessible Playground.
- Marketing is helping to transition the banner program to Waterfront events team.

Director December Highlights

- The Dog Task Force presented their final report to PACC in December and they accepted the report and sent it to City Council. We are anticipating City Council requesting a presentation to the full Council.
- Cindi is chairing the [AAPRA](#) membership committee for 2024 and continues to serve on the NRPA CAPRA training committee.
- The City had a massive hardware failure in December. While they recovered many of the shared drives, the personal drives were not recoverable. Anyone overseeing staff, tended to keep all HR files in their personal drive and I had many presentations, committee work and communications in my personal file.
- I hosted two students from Carleton College for a week in December. They met with a variety of individuals to learn more about the career of parks & recreation, and in addition, they met with others related to their interests in environmental science and geology. It is a good opportunity to “pay it forward” to the next generation.
- City Planning presented on Recreation programming data at the December PACC meeting with support from Gary Rogers, Recreation Superintendent.
- Met with BPRW teams around clean-ups of tent and encampment sites in parks to better understand staff concerns. In addition, over several weekends, cleaned up at sites to gain more understanding on the process and level of hazard. Advocating with the administration for a city-wide encampment team and an hourly stipend when doing the work.



Visiting students experience biking to work.

In

Commission notes

- No additional notes

Additional photos on next pages

Community Boathouse lit up for the season

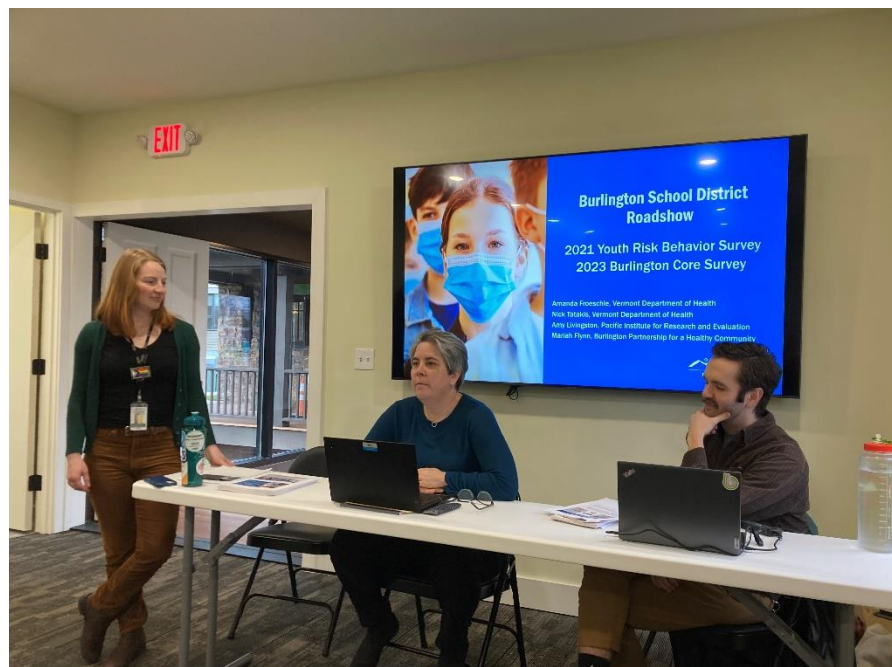


Solstice sunset at Leddy Beach



Bonfire at Waterfront Park for Highlight

Views of the “annex” at the Red Stone Cottage – we hosted the VT Department of Health for a presentation on the Youth Risk Behavior Survey results



<https://www.sevendaysvt.com/arts-culture/stuck-in-vermont-goodbye-2023-39760479>

Old East End Neighborhood Coalition
adds a kiosk at Schmanska Park

