



# UNIVERSITY OF CANBERRA STROMLO FOREST PARK

## REPORT ON WHAT WE HEARD

The University of Canberra Stromlo Forest Park is a multi-purpose facility attracting both recreational and professional sporting users throughout the year.

Rapidly increasing site visitation has identified the need to develop an overarching tracks and trails masterplan to guide development over the next five years.

The YourSay consultation process will help inform the design of a five-year University of Canberra Stromlo Forest Park Tracks and Trails Masterplan, which is being developed by consultants World Trail.

## THE CONVERSATION

An online YourSay consultation was open from 17 June to 31 July 2023.

The intent was to hear from diverse groups and individuals that use the park, particularly non-club sporting users.

People were invited to have their say on the future of the tracks and trails, including:

- how they are currently using the park
- the impact of the growing visitation
- the use of shared trail, safety and accessibility
- options for trail exclusivity, along with an expanded network
- what they need to access the park.

A variety of tools were employed to encourage engagement with the YourSay consultation, allowing diverse points of access for the community to provide their views and feedback. These included:

- a survey (995 contributions)
- a quick poll (136 contributions)
- ideas on a map – allowing people to drop ideas and suggestions onto an interactive map of the facility (131 contributions)
- contribute their photos (10 contributions)
- in-person, public drop-in sessions at the park
- direct feedback via email

People were also encouraged to upload images they may have of the park, or other facilities that they may use to visually share their experience and use of the facility.



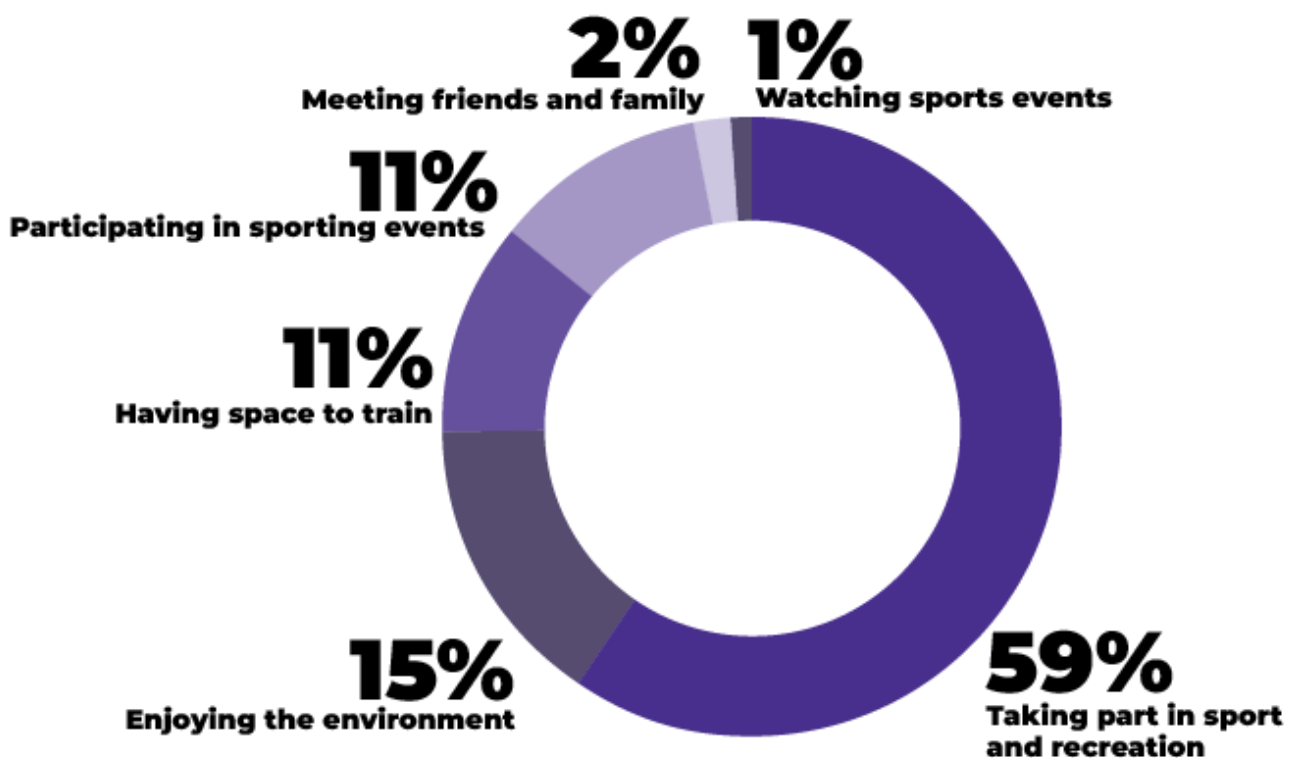
## WHO WE ENGAGED

We engaged with local and national event organisers, local residents, sporting groups, non-club users and the broader Canberra community who use or have an interest in University of Canberra Stromlo Forest Park.

A statistical overview of the YourSay audience:

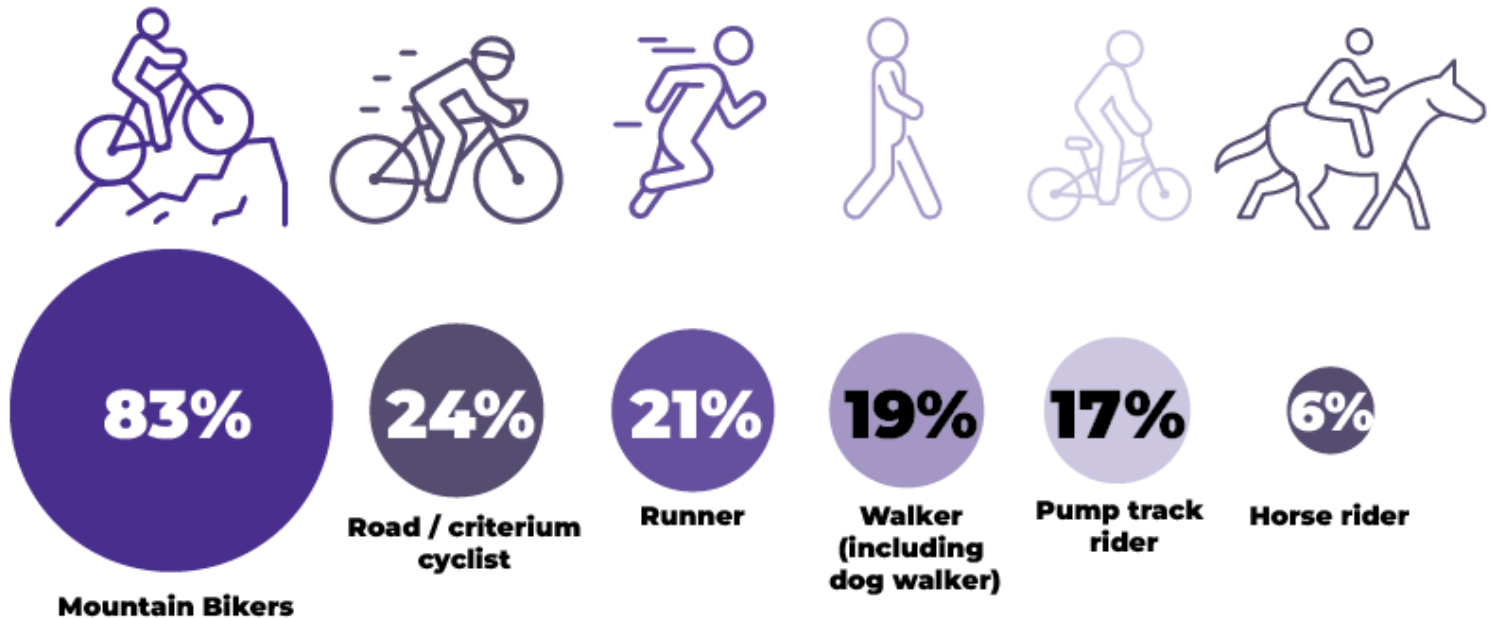
- 92% of the respondents live across the ACT
- 55% of the audience are aged between 35 and 54 years
- 57% visit the park on a weekly basis
- 82% access the site by car

## WHAT DO YOU LIKE BEST ABOUT UNIVERSITY OF CANBERRA STROMLO FOREST PARK?





## TYPES OF TRAIL USERS



## Key insights from the community

### Why are people using the Park?

Most people are using the park for general recreation and enjoyment, and for training purposes (82%).

### Masterplan priorities

Most respondents said there were not enough trails, and the condition and quality of trails was an issue impacting the trail user experience.

The majority of respondents (60%) said the masterplan's main priority should be the addition of new tracks and trails. Most mountain bike riders wanted to see more trails of all levels (easy, intermediate and difficult).

The maintenance of and upgrade of existing tracks and trails was also supported by respondents. Better signage was another suggestion, particularly from equestrian users.

### Amenities

Amenities are considered important in terms of impacting how people spend their time at the park.

Suggestions for improved amenities included more water refill stations (45%), more food and drink options (34%), more parking at different locations around the site (27%), more shaded areas (24%) and more toilets (23%).



### Shared use trails

While most people use the shared tracks and trails, they had not experienced any negative interactions with different users, and if they had, it was rare.

Conflict with others was low, with less than 10% of respondents reporting it as an issue.

Trail access during events was sometimes a concern.

## WHAT'S NEXT?

World Trail have received your feedback from the YourSay consultation process and will use the information to help design and inform the development of the five-year Tracks and Trails Masterplan.

The design of the Masterplan will be informed by YourSay feedback and other community engagement consultation.

World Trail will present a draft Masterplan to the community in November 2023.

Feedback on the draft will be invited from the community before the Masterplan is finalised through online and in-person information sessions in November 2023.

To find out more about University of Canberra Stromlo Forest Park and other initiatives, policies and projects in Canberra visit [www.yoursay.act.gov.au](http://www.yoursay.act.gov.au) or follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR FEEDBACK

**995**

We received 995  
contributions to the  
YourSay online survey

**131**

We received 131  
comments on the  
interactive social map

**10**

10 people shared their  
photos with us

**137**

We received 136 votes on  
the quick poll