

WEST PARK BANDSHELL INVESTIGATION & ENGAGEMENT

SUMMARY MEMO

Ann Arbor, Michigan
March 18, 2025

Prepared for:

City of Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation Department
301 E. Huron Street, 6th Floor
Ann Arbor, MI 48107

Prepared by:

SmithGroup
201 Depot Street
Ann Arbor, MI 48197



February 27, 2025

Mr. Adam Fercho
Park Planner & Landscape Architect
City of Ann Arbor
301 E. Huron Street, 6th Floor
Ann Arbor, MI 48107

Re West Park Bandshell Investigation & Engagement Summary Memo

Dear Mr. Fercho,

Enclosed is the summary memo detailing the investigation and engagement effort for the West Park Bandshell. This process was collaboratively completed by SmithGroup, Hubbel, Roth & Clark (HRC), and the City of Ann Arbor. SmithGroup was hired to engage stakeholders and the public to understand their values, opinions of the bandshell, and limitations with the current facility, as well as benchmark similar projects in other communities across the country. This memo also summarizes work completed independently by HRC and the City of Ann Arbor, including additional public engagement sessions and a foundation exploratory excavation.

The memo provides an overview of the process and key findings to guide future actions. It highlights the extensive community engagement and technical assessments that informed our conclusions, which will provide the information required to develop a vision for the Bandshell that is both feasible and aligned with the community's needs and aspirations.

We believe that the insights and recommendations presented in this memo will serve as a valuable resource for the City of Ann Arbor as it considers the next steps for the West Park Bandshell. We look forward to continuing our collaboration and supporting the city's efforts to create vibrant and sustainable parks.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or require further information.

Sincerely,



Brandon Woodle, PLA, ASLA
SmithGroup
Associate | Landscape Architect

February 27, 2025

WEST PARK BANDSHELL INVESTIGATION & ENGAGEMENT

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The West Park Bandshell is a performance venue located in West Park in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Originally built in 1938, the bandshell served as a venue for performances and community events for over 80 years. The City of Ann Arbor closed the venue in the spring of 2021 after a structural analysis found significant deterioration of the foundations and concluded the venue was structurally unsound. A preliminary cost opinion estimated it would cost \$2 million dollars in 2021 dollars to reconstruct the foundations. Considering the significant cost of repairs, the City of Ann Arbor began a process to explore the future of the bandshell with the community and stakeholders. This process included public engagement, a cost opinion comparing salvaging the bandshell to demolition, and benchmarking similar projects.

1. The public expressed a strong desire to increase activation of West Park, which could include the physical infrastructure required for a highly utilized performance venue.
2. Stakeholder engagement revealed the bandshell's infrastructure is inadequate for the needs of 21st century events. Improvements are required to make the venue more flexible and usable, including the expansion of the stage, access to public restrooms, easy ADA accessibility, and a more flexible gently sloping audience seating area.
3. There are significant challenges with repairing the bandshell in-place due to its location in the floodway, as federal regulations limit expansions and per UDC – 5.14.2.H.4, the City's goals call for removal of structures in the floodway.
4. No stakeholder voiced a strong desire or intent to host regular programming at an improved or new venue. The current main stakeholder found a new location and was not sure if they would return to West Park.
5. The benchmarking found an outdoor performance venue is a popular community program in communities of various sizes across the country.
6. If there is a relocated or new structure placed in West Park, a comprehensive park plan would need to be developed to ensure that the park is redesigned to wholistically address community needs.

PROJECT OVERVIEW & PROCESS

In the Spring of 2021, cracks were observed on the exterior of the West Park bandshell's foundation. Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation staff hired a consultant – Hubbell, Roth and Clark Inc. (HRC) – to perform a structural analysis of the foundations. The structural report identified significant structural failures in the foundation. It was determined that the bandshell needed to be closed and fenced off from the community for safety reasons. Preliminary estimates put repair of the structure at over \$2 million.

Due to the nature of the bandshell and the resources required for repair, the City determined further study of the bandshell's future was required, including community and stakeholder engagement, additional cost estimation, and benchmarking similar recent projects in towns and cities across the country. For that reason, a consultant team – SmithGroup and HRC – was hired to assist in these efforts. Below is a summary of these efforts.

PHASE II: FOUNDATION EXPLORATORY EXCAVATION

In the spring of 2021, HRC assessed the condition of the foundations by reviewing historical construction documents, investigating soil structural properties, and visually inspecting the foundations at three locations by digging test pits. HRC found the bandshell was built on soils with poor structural properties that are susceptible to settlement and the foundations were not built to withstand the soil conditions. Ground water was discovered two (2) feet below grade and was present inside and outside the building, which contributed to the degradation of the foundation. Visual inspection of the foundation found significant cracks and deterioration of the concrete block foundation walls. HRC concluded the bandshell's foundations were structurally unsound and required reconstruction to ensure the safety of the structure. However, reconstruction would not change the ground water conditions, which would reduce the lifespan of the new foundations to 30 to 50 years compared to a life expectancy of 50 to 75 years at a dry site. The cost of reconstruction was preliminarily estimated at \$2 million.



Foundation cracks and test pit filled with ground water, 2021.

PUBLIC AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Considering the significant cost of reconstruction, the City decided to engage the public and stakeholders in the process. The goal of the engagement was to understand community values, their opinion of the bandshell, and understand improvements required to host events. The community engagement took place between August 21, 2023, and March 18, 2023 and included nine activities:

- Informational Webinar *[Invitees: entire Ann Arbor area community]*
- Resident Focus Group *[Invitees: residents of properties adjacent to West Park]*
- Stakeholder Focus Group *[Invitees: past and potential future users of the bandshell]*
- Pop-Ups at West Park *[Invitees: users of West Park]*
- City of Ann Arbor Task Force *[Invitees: City of Ann Arbor staff & stakeholders]*
- Online Survey *[Invitees: entire Ann Arbor area community]*
- Ann Arbor Park Advisory Committee Meetings
- Ann Arbor City Council Meeting
- Ann Arbor Arts Commission Meeting
- Michigan Department of Natural Resources Meeting

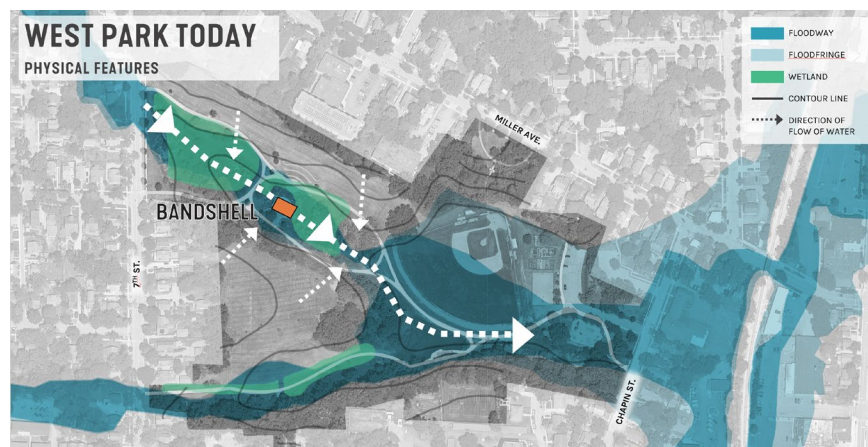
There were many common themes that revealed shared values, concerns, and priorities for the public. Additionally, responses from the public and the stakeholder group (representatives of organizations that are past or potential future renters of the bandshell) revealed improvements are required to reactivate the venue. Below are the key points from all the engagement sessions:

- Community members want increased activation of West Park.
- Community members feel strongly that performances and events are an essential part of the activities at West Park.
- A venue that is multi-purpose and flexible for various types of events to support increasing the frequency of events was identified as a high priority by the community. Stakeholders indicated the current bandshell venue is not very flexible.
- People enjoyed attending a performance in a natural setting and the connections that were built in the community.
- Community members value increasing ADA accessibility, improving stormwater / flood management, addressing safety, and fiscal prudence. The current venue has poor ADA accessibility and impedes the flow of stormwater as it is located in the floodway.
- Community members are concerned about safety in all of West Park and of bandshell's potential collapse.
- Community members would like the City to act soon, as the bandshell has been fenced off for numerous years (since 2021).
- Opinions were mixed regarding the importance of historic preservation of the bandshell structure. In the online survey, a plurality (46%) of people indicated preservation was important, 37% indicated it was unimportant, and 18% responded neutral.

- Stakeholders, including past and potential future users of the bandshell, as well as the public, indicated that improvements are required to restart hosting events at West Park. Necessary improvements include bathrooms, a larger stage and backstage, increased ADA accessibility, improved acoustics, and removing the barrier between the audience and the stage.
 - The poor acoustics of the current location are caused by sound bouncing off a tall apartment building facing the bandshell and back to the audience and performers.
 - The wetland between the stage and audience seating area limits the flexibility of the venue and isolates the performers from the attendees, which negatively impacts the experience.
 - The stage is too small for the stakeholders to host their events. For events that rely on the shell structure for acoustics, the size of usable stage space cannot be expanded by building a larger stage platform. The amount of usable space is determined by the acoustic properties of the shell, which is determined by its size. Increasing the amount of usable stage space requires construction of a larger shell.
- No stakeholder voiced a strong desire or intent to host regular programming at an improved or new venue. The current main stakeholder found a new location and was not sure if they would return to West Park.
- The City of Ann Arbor Task Force discussed the limitations on preserving the bandshell in-place due to its location in the floodway. Regulations limit expansions in the floodway and the City's flood management plans recommend removing structures in the floodway.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) is also a stakeholder, as the City of Ann Arbor received a Land and Water Conservation Fund grant from the MDNR in 1991 for \$90,000 for improvements to the bandshell. According to grant requirements, in accepting the funds, the city had an obligation to maintain the structure for 40 years – 2031.

On March 14, 2025, Staff met with the Michigan DNR Grant Coordinators to discuss the project. Permission was granted from the DNR to demolish the bandshell ahead of the 40 year requirement, should the city decide to move forward with that direction.



Map of the floodway and floodfringe around the Bandshell, shared at the public engagement meetings.

BENCHMARKING

As a first step to explore potential futures for the bandshell, the project team benchmarked similar projects in cities and towns across the country. This provided valuable information on the variety of ways a performance venue can serve a community, with different mixes of amenities, sizes, types of structures, and costs.

The benchmarking exercise documented eleven outdoor performance venue projects completed from 2017 to an estimated completion in 2025. Projects included new venues and renovations. The benchmarking exercise found communities across the country, from small towns to large cities, are investing in outdoor performance venues. Nearly all the venues are public projects and are rented and managed by both cities and non-profit organizations. Improvements were paired with a plan to actively program events at the new venues and a group responsible for activation. The venues typically host a variety of types of events, including acoustic and amplified musical performances, dance shows, plays / musicals, weddings, and social gatherings. Audience capacity was typically 1,200 - 1,800 people in a gently sloping lawn and/or plaza, with proximate access to bathrooms. The amount of enclosed space had a significant impact on cost; venues with an open-air structure cost significantly less than those with conditioned backstage spaces.

Comparing the benchmarked venues to the West Park Bandshell revealed the bandshell is limited in its flexibility to support a variety of uses due to the shape of its structure and the wetland creating a barrier surrounding the stage. Venues such as Excelsior Commons Pavilion in Excelsior, Minnesota and Volunteer Park Amphitheater in Seattle, Washington have a high degree of flexibility for a variety of uses, such as activities that typically occur in picnic shelters. They are open-air structures that provide partial cover from the elements and their stages are next to an open lawn, which makes them highly accessible and allows events to utilize the adjacent lawn.



Excelsior Commons Pavilion



Volunteer Park Amphitheater

CONCLUSIONS & NEXT STEPS

A key finding of the engagement effort, including input from stakeholders, the general Ann Arbor public, and neighbors of West Park, is support for activation of West Park, which could include a performance venue. People value the experience of attending an event in a natural setting where they can connect with their community. They also expressed a need for improvements, as the bandshell could better serve its users. Opinions were mixed regarding the importance of historic preservation of the bandshell structure. In the online survey, a plurality (46%) of people indicated preservation was important, 37% indicated it was unimportant, and 18% responded neutral.

The technical investigations and engagement efforts found numerous challenges with rebuilding the bandshell's foundations in-place, which include:

- Federal regulations limit expansions to structures in the floodway.
- The City of Ann Arbor's stormwater management goals call for removal of structures in the floodway to improve the flow of stormwater in the city.
- The foundations would have a reduced lifespan due to weathering caused by the high groundwater level.
- The acoustics of the current site are poor due to an echo caused by sound bouncing off a tall apartment building facing the bandshell.
- ADA accessibility to the stage and audience seating is limited due to topography and the distance from park entries to the venue.
- The audience seating is isolated from the stage due to the wetland surrounding the stage, which limits its flexibility for various uses and detracts from the experience of performers and attendees.

Preserving the bandshell structure by moving it elsewhere in the park with new foundations and stage platform is physically possible, however there are challenges, which include:

- The community would like the City to act soon.
- The shape and structure of a bandshell has limited flexibility for a variety of uses compared to other types of structures, such as the open-air overhead structures identified in the benchmarking exercise.
- The stage is too small for the desired size of events and the stage's usable area for acoustic events is limited by the size and acoustic properties of the shell.

Salvaging and storing the structure for potential future reuse would also be challenging, due to the complexity of disassembling a historic structure, transporting it through city streets, and uncertainty of the impacts to its structural integrity after disassembly.

As a next step, SmithGroup understands the City of Ann Arbor plans to share findings from the West Park Bandshell Investigation & Engagement effort at an upcoming Park Advisory Committee meeting to discuss the path forward.

October 15, 2021

City of Ann Arbor
Guy C. Larcom City Hall
301 E. Huron St.
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48107

Attn: Mr. Adam Fercho, Park Planner & Landscape Architect

Re: West Park Band Shell
Phase II: Foundation Exploratory Excavation – Conclusions and Recommendations

HRC Job No. 20210331.02

Dear Mr. Fercho:

General:

At the request and with the assistance of the City of Ann Arbor, and G2 Consulting Group, Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc. (HRC), performed a foundation exploratory excavation investigation on August 9, 2021. Three (3) excavation areas were performed with much of the investigation focused on the building's southeast corner quadrant and along the east wall. Test Pit #1 was located at the buildings' southeast corner, Test Pit #2 was located along the east wall at the original basement door and Test Pit #3 was in the northeast corner of the building. Historical drawings and documentation were provided to HRC to aid in the investigation. Historical Construction Photos & Plans and Observations of Significance, Photographs of Significance and Conclusions and Recommendations are as follows:

Historical Construction:

1938: The West Park Historic Bandshell located in Ann Arbor's West Park between Seventh Street and Chapin Street and north of Huron Street and was originally constructed in 1938. The Bandshell Structure consisted of a large conical bandshell and stage with an adjoining masonry and timber building. This adjoining building housed the women's and men's dressing rooms and stage corridors on its first floor and housed the women's and men's' public restroom facilities and storage area in the basement. The basement floor storage area consisted of compacted soils, not concrete. Access to the basement areas consisted of two access doors and stairs along the west wall and single door and stairs along the east wall. The utilities consisted of electrical, water and plumbing services. Heating / HVAC was not included. The concrete first floor was supported by premanufactured steel joists, steel diagonal bridging, steel lath stay-in--place forms and which is supported by the perimeter masonry basement block walls. The building block walls were supported on a continuous concrete footing. Foundation underdrains were not installed.

1993: The bandshell structure remained in service until 1993 when significant renovations and rehabilitation occurred. Structural repairs to the conical bandshell were completed, the basement stairs and retaining walls were removed, block inlay of the three doors and backfill within the stair area had occurred. An exterior stucco finish was applied and supported by steel mesh. South wall windows were replaced with block infill and the east & west wall windows were replaced with louvers with insect screens. The basement area and restroom facilities were abandoned in place and not backfilled. The timber arch truss at the face of the bandshell was replaced with a similar steel arch truss. Bathroom plumbing to the facility was severed and new electrical services were installed.

2003: The band shell remained in service until 2003 when the basement area was filled in with about 18" of crushed limestone and flowable fill up to the bottom of the existing building slab. Two-inch diameter holes at 4' on center, each way

| | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|---|--|--|
| Delhi Township 2101 Aurelius Rd. Suite 2A Holt, MI 48842 517-694-7760 | Detroit 535 Griswold St. Buhl Building, Ste 1650 Detroit, MI 48226 313-965-3330 | Grand Rapids 81925 Breton Road SE Suite 100 Grand Rapids, MI 49506 616-454-4286 | Howell 105 W. Grand River Howell, MI 48843 517-552-9199 | Jackson 401 S. Mechanic St. Suite B Jackson, MI 49201 517-292-1295 | Kalamazoo 834 King Highway Suite 107 Kalamazoo, MI 49001 269-665-2005 | Lansing 215 S. Washington SQ Suite D Lansing, MI 48933 517-292-1488 |
|--|--|--|---|---|--|--|

was drilled thru the abandoned bathroom concrete floor slab prior to backfilling. The east and west wall windows were replaced with block infill and most of the stucco finish was repaired. The top of stage area was partially scarified, and a new concrete topping system was installed.

2009: Site drainage changes occurred during 2009. Three large wetland areas and two large basins we constructed in close proximity to the band shell, site drainage was improved to accommodate storm flows from west to east and two storm treatment units were installed upstream to provide filtration improving flow characteristics. The band shell structure is located within the 100-year flood plain. No known structural changes occurred to the bandshell and adjacent building.

2015: Due to extensive cracks within the stucco finish applied on the above ground masonry block, the City requested Stantec Consulting Engineers to perform a field inspection to assess if an overall structural safety issue exists or if maintenance work is required. Stantec Consulting Engineers concluded that there was no immediate threat to the structure or public safety, but maintenance work was required.

2021: HRC site scoping meeting and preliminary investigation.

Observations and Photos of Significance:

Test Pit #1 (located in the buildings' southeast corner):

- Nominal excavation area: 5'-3" height by 5'-3" length by 3' width.
- ½" parge coating on exterior surfaces - cement & sand as waterproofing coating.
- Wall section dimensions and details match the "Typical Wall Section" as shown on the original 1938 drawing 5 (see above).
- Full height wall crack in parging noted about 16" west from east corner. Nominal crack thickness was about 0.016 mils. Moisture weeping thru crack in a small steady stream.
- Ground water flowing around the wall corner starting from about 2' below grade to bottom of the excavation.
- Abandoned sanitary line noted below bottom of footing and about 3'-4" from wall corner.
- Abandoned collapsed clay foundation drain project out at about 75 degrees from face of wall.
- No delaminations within the parge coating were noted.
- Several smaller cracks noted throughout excavated wall face.
- Ground water is flowing from underneath the concrete footing.
- Excavated material – wet silt sand with some organics and trace of gravel.
- Clay tile foundation underdrain parallel to the wall face does not exist.
- Concrete perimeter curb at grade – full depth crack noted and matches location of corner crack in wall section above.
- Ground water elevation is above the foundation frost line.

Test Pit #1



Photo 1: Southeast Corner



Photo 3: Weeping Corner Wall Cracks



Photo 2: High Ground Water Table at 27" Below Grade



Photo 4: Saturated Top & Local Erosion Below Footing

Test Pit #2 (located along the east wall at the original door opening):

- Nominal excavation area: 2' height by 3' length by 2' wide.
- Door opening was closed off with a masonry block infill and waterproofed.
- Excavated material – very wet fluid sand backfill material. 100% saturated.
- Several hairline cracks noted in waterproofing cementitious coating.
- Ground water level about 10" higher than at Test Pit #1.
- Original stairs return wall, off the building corner, was removed (consistent with 1993 construction).
- No delaminations noted in the cementitious waterproofing coating.
- An existing hole that measured about a 1" in diameter was noted at the interface between the original and infill masonry block. Deterioration of the infill block was also noted.
- Ground water elevation is above the foundation frost line.

Test Pit #2



Photo 5: Along East Wall



Photo 6: Damaged and Saturated Door Infill Area

Test Pit #3 (located along the east wall at the north corner):

- Nominal excavation area: 1' height by 2' length by 2' wide.
- Extensive flowing ground water noted at the face of wall and flowing thru the wall cracks.
- Excavated material: very wet fluid sand backfills.
- Ground water surface measured about 1.5' below the perimeter of the concrete curb.
- Steady stream of moisture thru the block wall was noted.
- Ground water elevation is above the foundation frost line.

Test Pit #3



Photo 7: Plan View of Northeast Wall Corner: Saturated Soils and Local Erosion



Photo 8: Saturated Excavated Spoil

Soils Investigation:

In efforts to better understand the characteristics and properties of the soils supporting the building foundations and the changes that have occurred over time, two soil borings were drilled by the G2 Consulting Group. One boring was drilled near the east wall of the building and the other was drilled out of the flood plain about two hundred (200) feet north to the building.

The soils supporting the structure consist of peat / organics, very soft organic silt, loose gray sandy silt that is underlain by medium silty sand – generally classified as poor soils that are susceptible to building movement and settlement. Ground water was noted to be about two (2) foot below grade and confirmed by Test Pit excavations. The soils located about two (200) feet to the north consist of medium compact to compact sand and gravel with traces of silt – generally classified as good soils not susceptible to movement and settlement. Ground water was noted to be about seven (7) feet below grade.

Conclusions and Recommendations:

The bandshell and adjoining building have been in service for over eighty (80) years. Several significant building renovations and site development modifications have occurred throughout the years causing foundation damage to the structure and re-distribution / deterioration to the supporting soils. Based on our preliminary investigation, site investigation, and review of all City provided drawings and documentations we have concluded the following:

1. At the time of investigation, the ground water table inside and outside the building foundation was approximately 2' below grade. Perimeter foundation underdrains were not originally installed. Cracks within the parging waterproofing protective coating have permitted groundwater submergence of the block walls since about 2003. This prolonged submergence has likely caused the Portland Cement material component of the block to become compromised resulting in a loss of the block wall's structural integrity.
2. Flowable fill was placed within the basement up to the bottom of the original floor slab in 2003. Due to the high interior moisture content at and above the frost line and the lack of a building heating system, repeated freeze thaw cycles have changed the flowable fill material into a sand backfill type composition. This sandy type backfill has resulted in lateral pressure being applied on the interior block wall surface along the upper exposed block wall portion and observed by the insitu bowing / horizontal outward deflection of the exposed block. The portion of the block cells filled with grout have also been susceptible to freeze thaw cycles and deterioration of the block and grout has resulted. The upper exposed portions of the block wall can be classified as serious, while the lower non-exposed portions can be classified as poor.
3. The exposed stucco finish contains large areas of delaminations, cracks and deterioration. This type of deterioration is primarily attributed to a.) the high interior moisture content migrating through to the exterior surface of the block seeking a balanced humidity condition and b.) the lateral bowing or deflections of the block causing cracks within the stucco, exposing the internal steel mesh, which then retains moisture and becomes damaged by freeze thaw cycles and expansive corrosion.
4. The prefabricated steel joists, metal lath deck forms and channel strut bridging were mostly encapsulated within the flowable fill installed in 2003. Over time, changing of the flowable fill to more of a sand characteristic (Item #2 above) has permitted moisture reactivity to the steel joists, steel bridging and steel lath forms to occur, resulting in rust, loss of section, and deterioration. Even though these joists were not visible, we expect a loss of joist structural integrity especially along the top flanges.
5. The bandshell and adjoining building are located within the 100-year flood plan and adjacent to wetlands and storage basins. Storm drainage generally travels within West Park from the west to the east. This drainage flows around, below, and within the interior basement area. During the investigation of all Test Pits, the storm drainage water flow had a slow but steady velocity and was not stagnant. Test Pit #1 had observed ground water flow below

the bottom of footing causing local erosion. Knowing the amount of observed flowing ground water and soil saturation around the footings we would expect other local areas of erosion directly below the bottom of the concrete footings. The potential loss of soil bearing pressure from the footing underside is a structural concern.

6. The poor soils supporting the structures' foundation have permitted building movement and settlement. The high moisture content / high water table of the supporting soils are directly related to the amount of freeze thaw damage and deterioration the foundations have sustained.

Based on the above stated conclusions and understanding that preservation of the historical character of the bandshell and adjoining building are the City's primary objective, we recommend that the existing foundations be replaced. Two different foundation replacement approaches for consideration are as follows:

Alternate A:

The bandshell and adjoining building would be temporarily jacked and shored, transported to a location close to the existing but outside of the 100-year floodplain, (see attached Site Location A.1 & A.2), and positioned on new cast in place concrete foundations. The structure would likely be temporarily separated into four main sections for transportation, two for the conical bandshell arch (arch bandshell & sloped roof) and two for the adjoining building (east & west half). Soils information recently acquired indicate that conventional retaining wall style foundations would be appropriate and deep foundations would not be warranted in the new location. The new above ground foundation appearance could match the existing or be slightly different pending the City's needs for maintaining the historical character of the structure. Implementing this alternative would require a specialty building moving contractor and providing a temporary transporting road to the structures' new location. Audience seating could be similar or different and a separate restroom facility could be constructed pending the City's needs. Relocating the structure to a new location close to the existing but outside of the floodplain, we would anticipate the life expectancy of the new foundations to range from about 50 to 75 years. One advantage of Alternate A is that the structure and seating area will be above the 100-year floodplain and the surrounding soils will not remain saturated. One disadvantage is that during relocation efforts the historical structure may be susceptible to damage. As with any rehabilitation project, contingencies should be included for unanticipated / unintended costs. However, this approach would minimize that risk. Anticipated conceptual cost estimates for this alternate are as follows:

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| • Bandshell and Adjoining Building Relocation and Reassembly | \$250,000 |
| • New Building Foundations | \$650,000 |
| • New Audience Seating and Patio | \$400,000 |
| • New Site: Restoration | \$100,000 |
| • Existing Site: Partial Foundations Demolition and Site Restoration | \$100,000 |
| • Contingencies, Design, and Miscellaneous (35%) | \$525,000 |
| Total Conceptual Cost Estimate: | \$2,025,000 |

Alternate B:

The bandshell and adjoining building would be temporarily jacked and shored, similarly as described in Alternate A, and temporarily relocated about fifty (50') to the south of the existing foundations to allow construction for new cast in place concrete grade beams supported by a steel helical pier foundation system. Once the foundations are complete the structure would be returned to its original location and placed on the new foundations. This approach would limit the building relocation efforts; however, the surrounding dewatering efforts and existing building foundation demolition efforts would likely be substantial. This foundation system is akin to supporting a waterfront home on stilts. The foundation design and construction would then become more complicated and will need to be waterproofed. Since the structure would remain in the 100-year floodplain, we would anticipate the life expectancy of the new foundations to range from about 30 to 50 years. Because this type of foundation system is more complicated than Alternate A, higher unanticipated / unintended costs should be expected for Alternate B. One advantage of Alternate B is that damage to the historical structure during relocation efforts and changes to the site and audience seating would be minimized. One disadvantage is that the structure remains

in the 100-year floodplain and the surrounding soils will likely remain saturated. Anticipated conceptual cost estimates for this alternate are as follows:

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| • Site Dewatering | \$125,000 |
| • Bandshell and Adjoining Building Temporary Relocation and Reassembly..... | \$250,000 |
| • Existing Foundation Demolition | \$150,000 |
| • New Building Foundations | \$825,000 |
| • Site Restoration | \$50,000 |
| • Contingencies, Design, and Miscellaneous (35%)..... | \$490,000 |
| Total Conceptual Cost Estimate:..... | \$1,890,000 |

Please note these total conceptual cost estimates include new electrical service only. All other utilities are excluded.

We understand that the City will have limited funds available for this rehabilitation project and as such have presented both Alternate A and B and their respective anticipated foundation service life and conceptual construction costs. Relocating the structure outside the 100-year floodplain (Alternative A) would provide a longer in service life and is our recommended alternative.

If you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact the undersigned.

Very truly yours,

HUBBELL, ROTH & CLARK, INC.

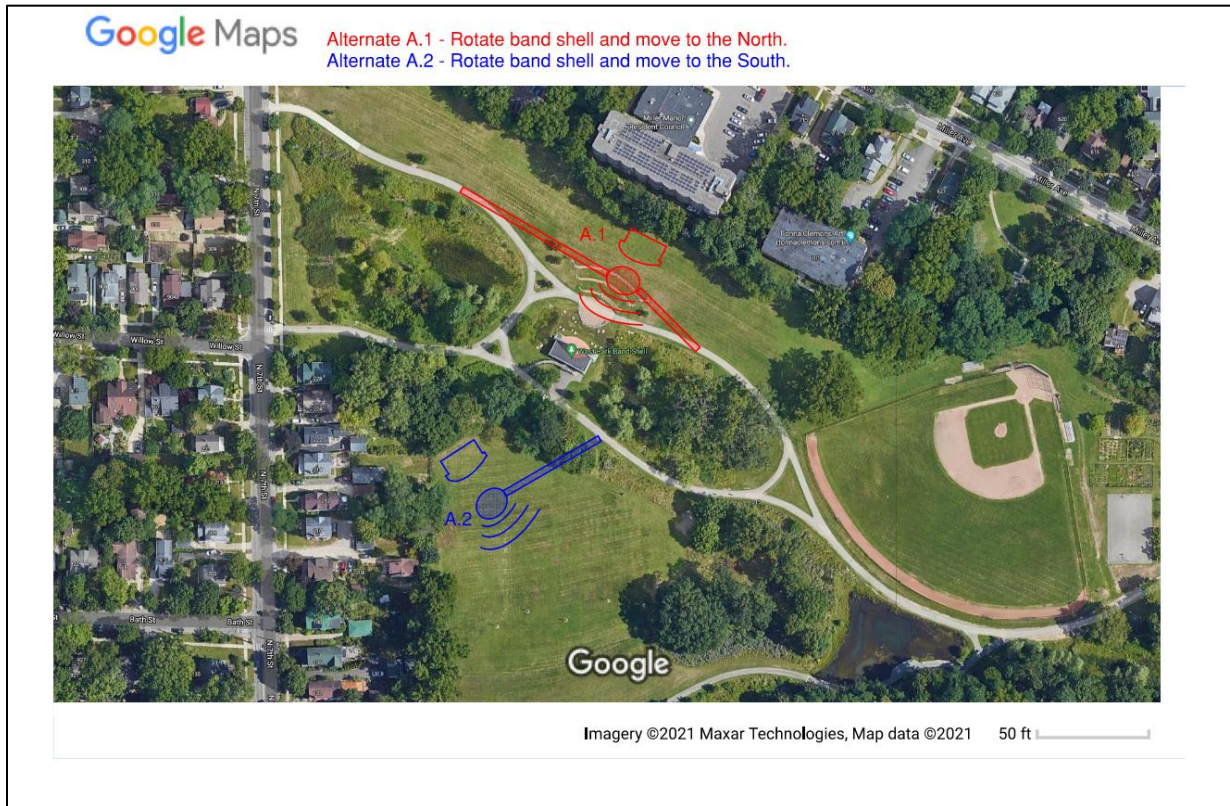


Richard B. Nacey, P.E.
Structural Department Head

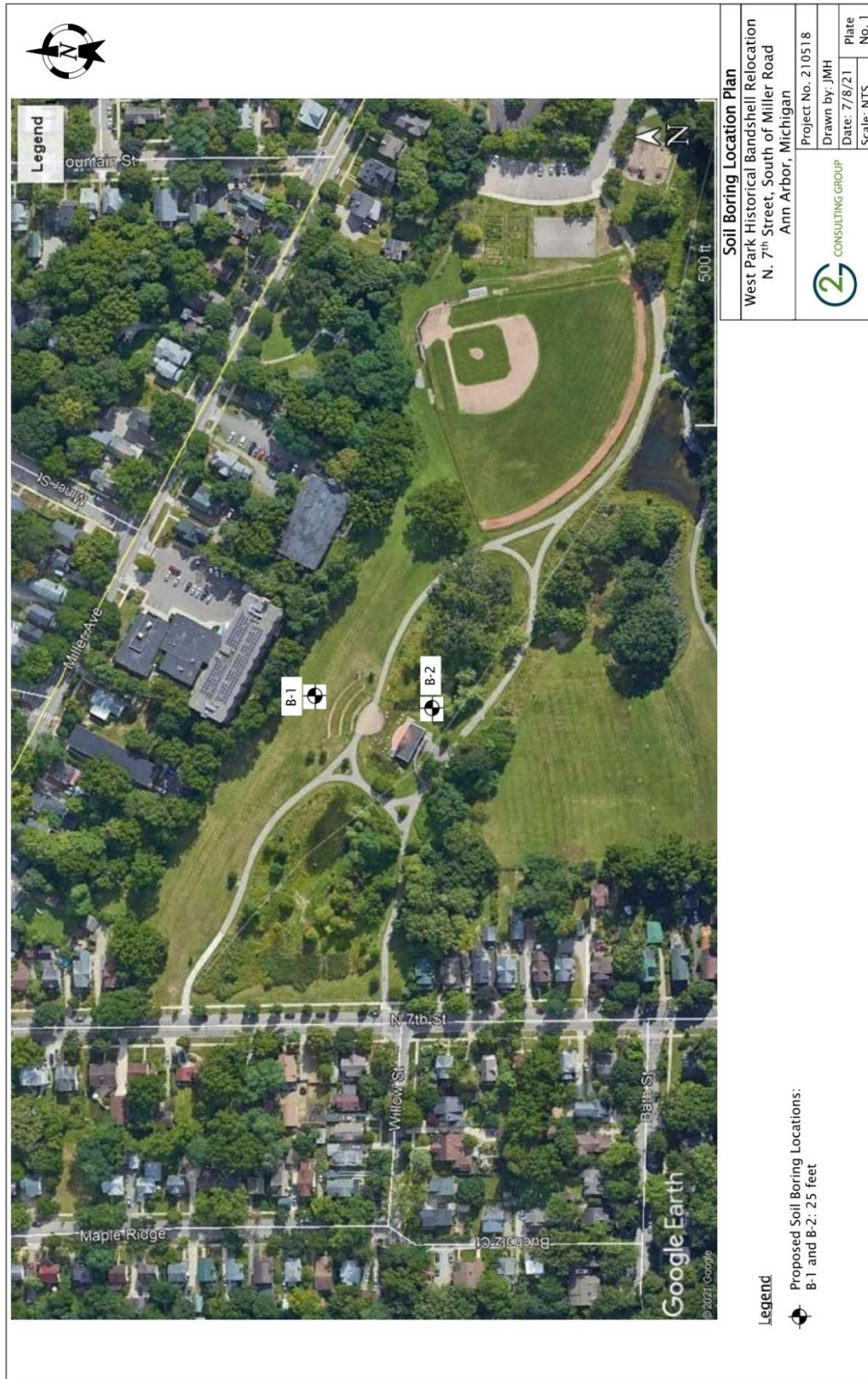
Attachments: Alternate Site Location Maps, Historical Photos, Soil Boring Logs and Plans.


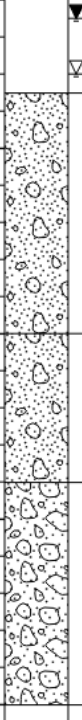
pc: City of Ann Arbor:
HRC; J. Burton, A. Melchior, File

Alternate A - Potential Relocations:





Soil Borings:



| Project Name: Proposed West Park Historical Bandshell Evaluation and Relocation Project Location: N. 7th Street, South of Miller Road Ann Arbor, Michigan G2 Project No. 210518 Latitude: N/A Longitude: N/A | | | | | Soil Boring No. B-1B  | | | | |
|--|--|---|---------------|--------------------|--|--------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| SUBSURFACE PROFILE | | | | | SOIL SAMPLE DATA | | | | |
| DEPTH (ft) | PRO- FILE | GROUND SURFACE ELEVATION: N/A | DEPTH (ft) | SAMPLE TYPE-NO. | BLOWS/ 6-INCHES | STD. PEN. RESISTANCE (N) | MOISTURE CONTENT (%) | DRY DENSITY (PCF) | UNCONF. COMP. STR. (PSF) |
| 5 |  | (Profile Drilled - No Samples Taken) 8.5 15.0 19.0 25.0 | 5 | | | | | | |
| 10 | | | S-4 | 7 7 10 | 17 | | | | |
| 15 | | | S-5 | 6 10 20 | 30 | | | | |
| 20 | | | S-6 | 9 17 21 | 38 | | | | |
| 25 | | | S-7 | 14 22 31 | 53 | | | | |
| 30 | | End of Boring @ 25 ft | 30 | | | | | | |
| Total Depth: 25 ft Drilling Date: August 6, 2021 Inspector: --- Contractor: Strata Drilling, Inc. Driller: B. Sienkiewicz | | | | | Water Level Observation: 8 feet during; 6-1/2 feet upon completion | | | | |
| Drilling Method: 2-1/4 inch inside-diameter hollow-stem auger | | | | | | | | | |

SOIL / PAVEMENT BORING: 210518 G2 CONSULTING DATA TEMPLATE.GDT 8/11/21

| Project Name: Proposed West Park Historical Bandshell Evaluation and Relocation | | | | Soil Boring No. B-2 | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Project Location: N. 7th Street, South of Miller Road Ann Arbor, Michigan | | | |  | | | | | | |
| G2 Project No. 210518 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Latitude: N/A | | | | Longitude: N/A | | | | | | |
| SUBSURFACE PROFILE | | | | SOIL SAMPLE DATA | | | | | | |
| DEPTH (ft) | PRO-FILE | GROUND SURFACE ELEVATION: N/A | | DEPTH (ft) | SAMPLE TYPE-NO. | BLOWS/ 6-INCHES | STD. PEN. RESISTANCE (N) | MOISTURE CONTENT (%) | DRY DENSITY (PCF) | UNCONF. COMP. STR. (PSF) |
| |  | Topsoil: Dark Brown Silty Clay with trace sand and gravel (18 inches) | | | | 3 | | | | |
| | | Fill: Brown Silty Sand with trace gravel | | | | 1 | | | | |
| | | Buried Peat: Soft Very Dark Brown Organic Silt with trace sand, light gray marl inclusions | | | S-1 | 2 | 3 | | | |
| 5 | | Loose Brown Silty Sand with trace gravel, occasional soft gray clay seams | | 5 | S-2 | 4 4 6 | 10 | | | |
| | | Loose Gray Sandy Silt, occasional clay seams | | | | 3 2 3 | 5 | | | |
| 10 | | | | 10 | S-4 | 3 2 3 | 5 | | | 1600** |
| | | Medium to Stiff Gray Silty Clay with trace sand and gravel, occasional sand partings | | | | 3 3 4 | 7 | | | 3000* |
| 20 | | Medium Compact Gray Silty Sand with trace gravel | | 20 | S-6 | 4 7 8 | 15 | | | |
| | | Very Compact Gray Silty Sand with trace gravel | | | | 12 14 40 | 54 | | | |
| 25 | | End of Boring @ 25 ft | | 25 | S-7 | | | | | |
| 30 | | | | 30 | | | | | | |
| Total Depth: 25 ft | | | | Water Level Observation: 3 feet during; 2-1/2 feet upon completion | | | | | | |
| Drilling Date: August 6, 2021 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Inspector: --- | | | | | | | | | | |
| Contractor: Strata Drilling, Inc. | | | | Notes: | | | | | | |
| Driller: B. Sienkiewicz | | | | * Calibrated Hand Penetrometer | | | | | | |
| | | | | ** Torvane | | | | | | |
| Drilling Method: 2-1/4 inch inside-diameter hollow-stem auger | | | | | | | | | | |

SOIL / PAVEMENT BORING 210518.GPJ 20150116 G2 CONSULTING DATA TEMPLATE.GDT 8/11/21

Historical Photos:

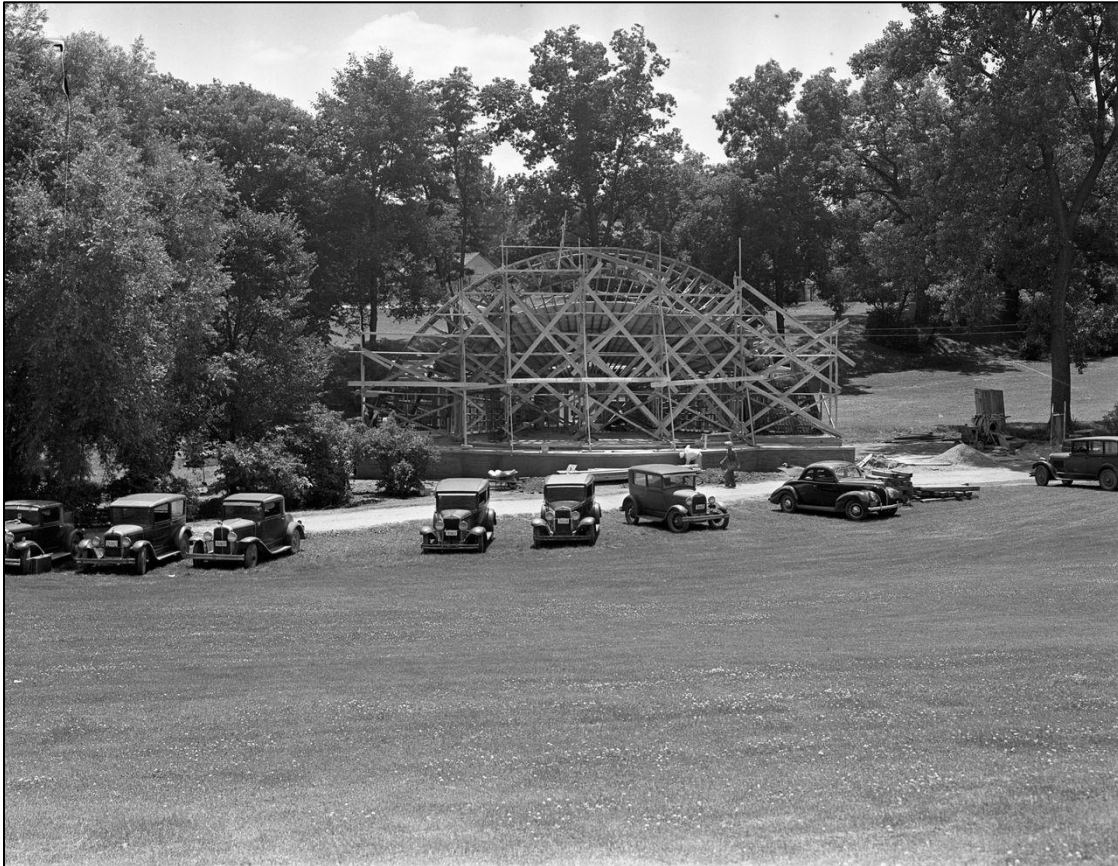


Figure 1: Historical Construction

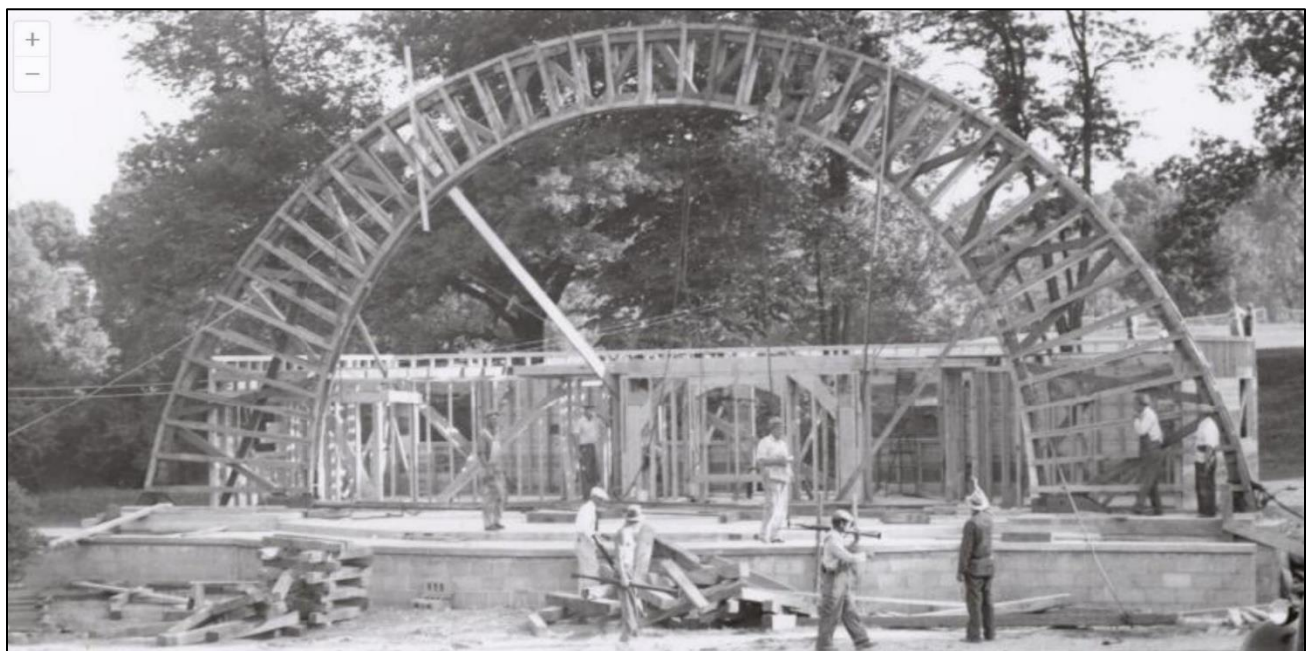


Figure 2: Historical Construction



Figure 3: Historical Construction

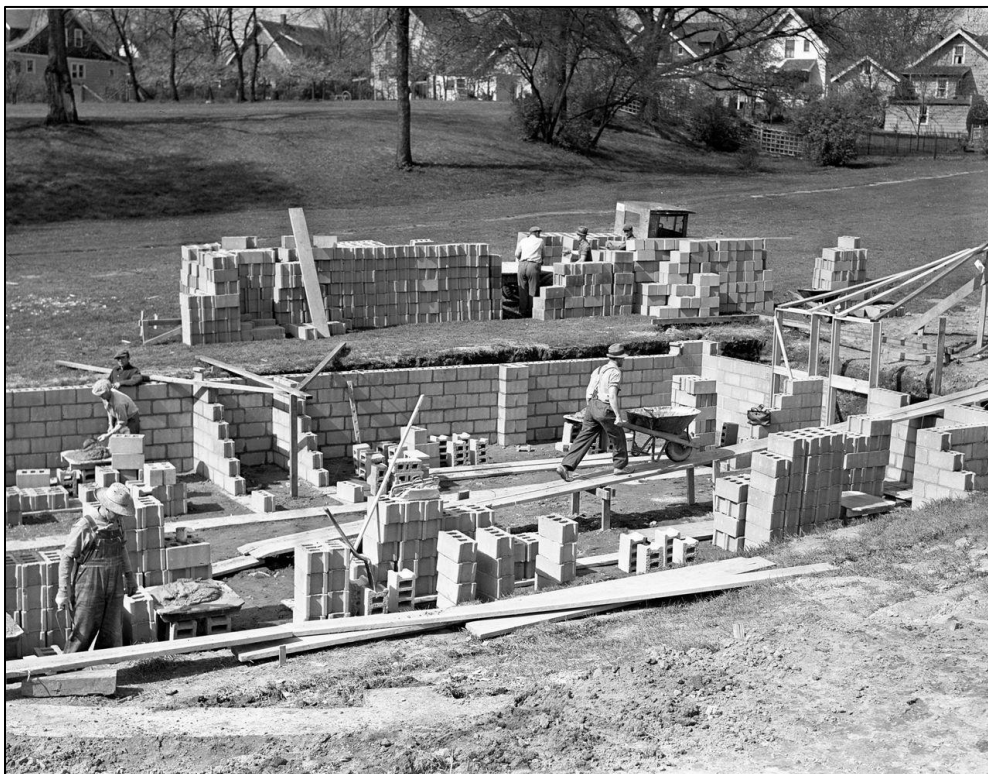
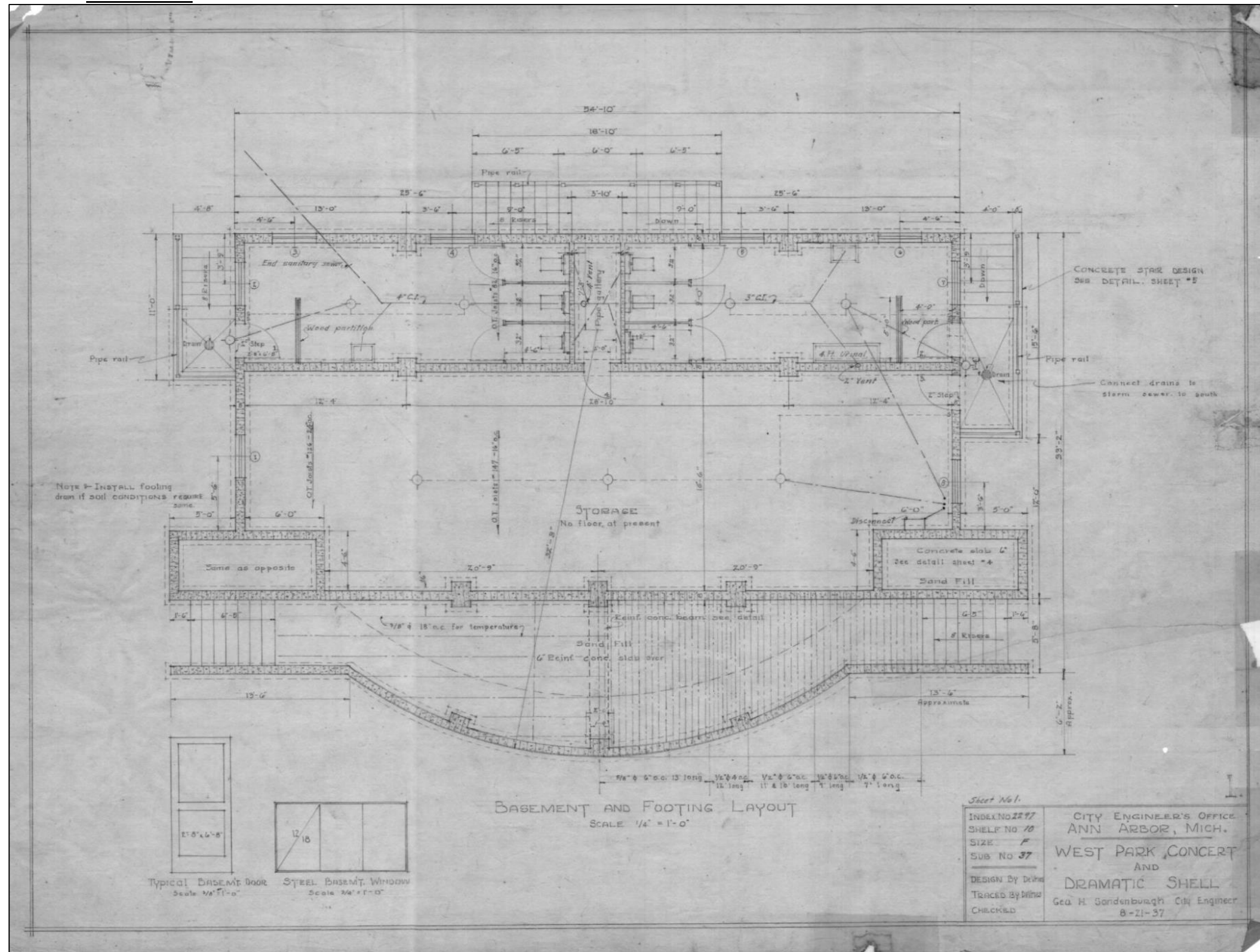


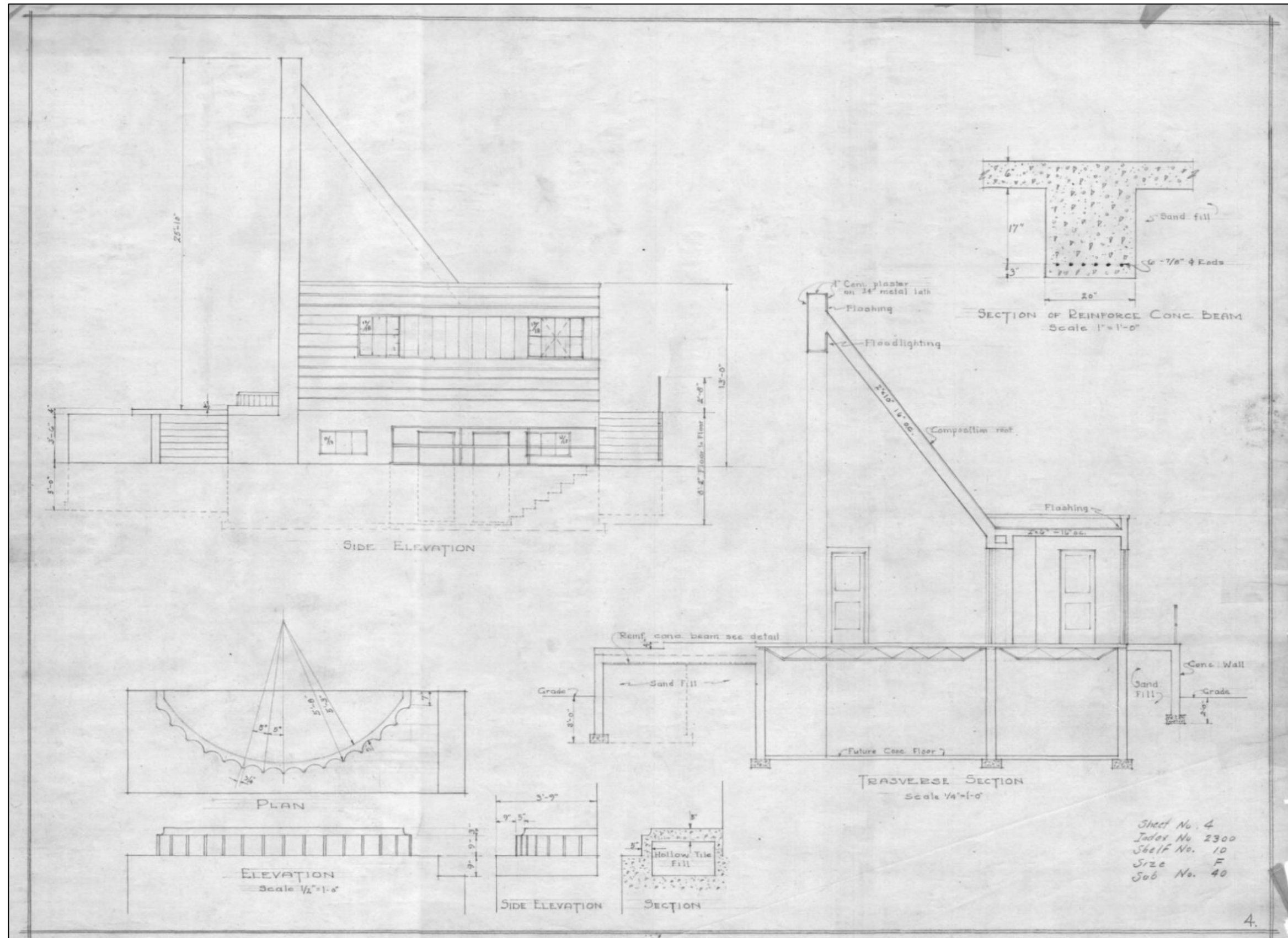
Figure 4: Historical Construction

Historical Plans:

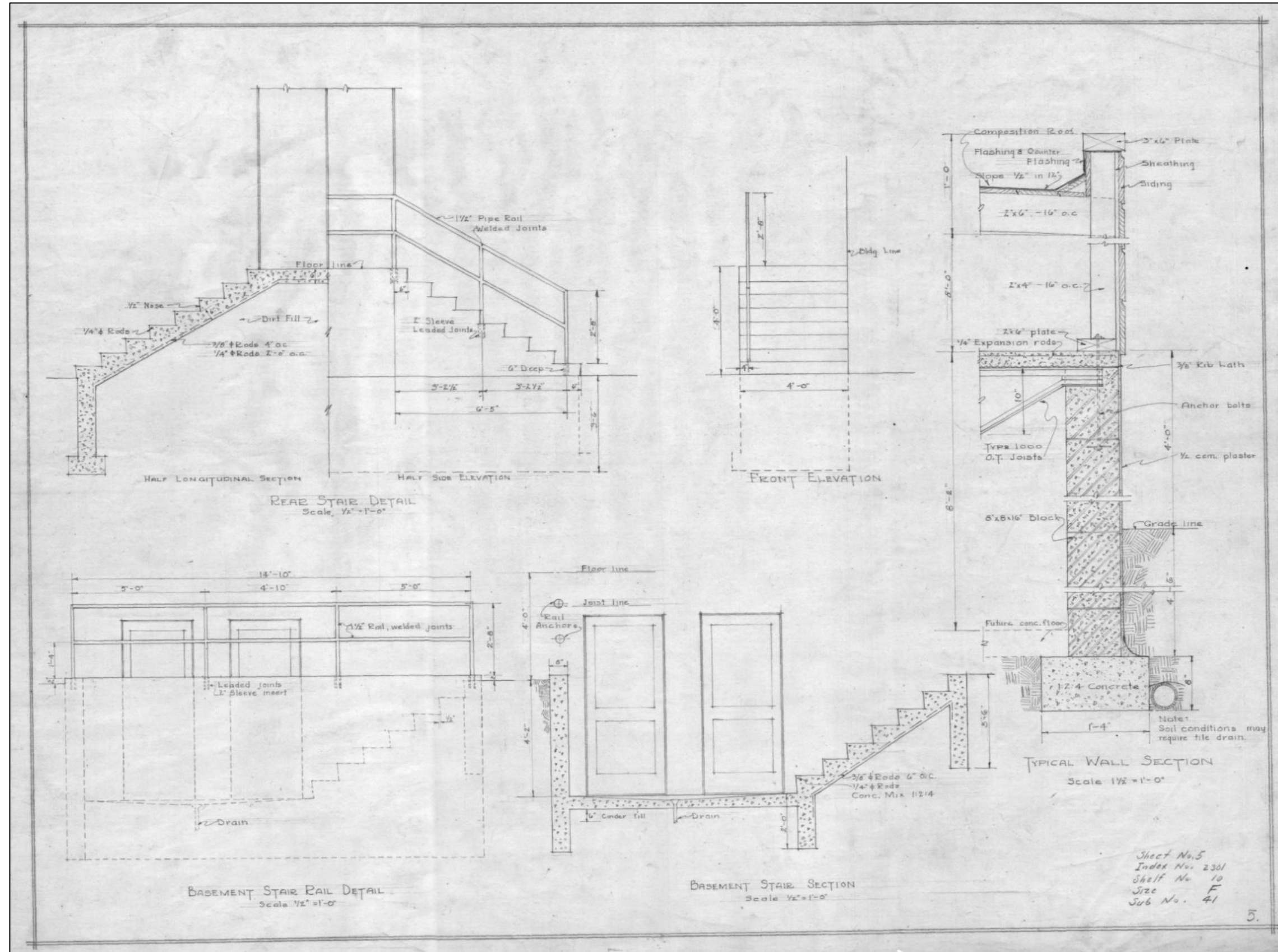


Sketch SK-1: Basement and Footing Layout





Sketch SK- 3: Sections



Sketch SK- 4: Sections Drawing 5

May 16, 2024

WEST PARK BANDSHELL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

OVERVIEW

In the Spring of 2021, cracks were observed on the exterior of the West Park bandshell's foundation. Ann Parks & Recreation staff hired a consultant – Hubbell, Roth and Clark Inc. (HRC) – to perform a structural analysis of the structure. The structural report identified significant structural failures in the foundation. It was determined that the bandshell needed to be closed and fenced off from the community for safety reasons. Preliminary estimates put repair of the structure at over \$2 million.

Park planners and staff have spent a year behind the scenes working to develop a plan for the future of the bandshell. Due to the nature of the bandshell and the resources required for repair, it is important to get community involvement and feedback. For that reason, a consultant – SmithGroup – was hired to assist in developing a comprehensive community engagement strategy, including multiple rounds of engagement. The first round of engagement took place between August 21, 2023, and October 18, 2023, and included six activities:

- Informational Webinar
- Resident Focus Group
- Stakeholder Focus Group
- Pop-Ups at West Park
- City of Ann Arbor Task Force
- Online Survey

Each activity sought to inform people about the project and gather feedback on their values, experiences attending events at the bandshell, thoughts on improvements required to host events at West Park in the future, and criteria for evaluating options for the future of the bandshell.

OVERALL SUMMARY

There were many common themes that revealed shared values, concerns, and priorities for the public. Additionally, responses from the public and the stakeholder group (representatives of organizations that are past or potential future renters of the bandshell) revealed minimum requirements to re-activate the performance venue. Below are the key points from all the engagement sessions:

- Community members feel strongly that performances and events are an essential part of the activities at West Park.
- A venue that is multi-purpose and flexible for various types of events to support increasing the frequency of events was identified as a high priority.

- People enjoyed attending a performance in a natural setting and the connections that were built in the community.
- Community members value increasing accessibility, improving stormwater / flood management, addressing safety, and fiscal prudence.
- The Task Force discussed the limitations on preserving the bandshell in-place due to its location in the floodway. Regulations prevent expansion of the footprint in the floodway and the City's flood management plans recommend removing structures in the floodway.
- Opinions were mixed regarding the importance of historic preservation of the bandshell structure. In the online survey, a plurality (46%) of people indicated preservation was important, 37% indicated it was unimportant, and 18% responded neutral.
- Past and potential future users of the bandshell as well as the public, indicated that improvements are required to restart hosting events at West Park. Necessary improvements include bathrooms, a larger stage and backstage, increased accessibility, improved acoustics, and removing the barrier between the audience and the stage.

INFORMATIONAL WEBINAR

Date: September 11, 2023, 6:30 – 7:30pm

Format: Zoom meeting

Invitees: Postcards sent to residences within ¼ mile of West Park, 34 attendees

The webinar began with an overview presentation of this project and the history of the bandshell at West Park, which was followed by five questions that participants responded to virtually using Poll Everywhere. Responses were displayed live.

See the appendix to view all the responses in chart, word cloud, or list format.

SUMMARY

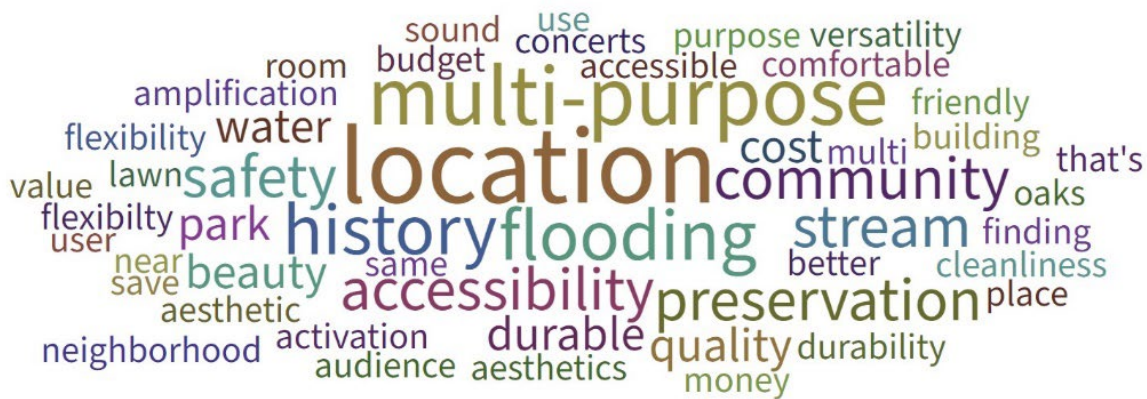
Attendees overwhelmingly felt that events are an essential part of the activities at West Park. When evaluating future options for the bandshell, the criteria with the highest number of responses included flexibility for a variety of uses, location of the venue, and impacts on stormwater / flooding. The most common responses to what attendees enjoyed about past events included feeling a sense of community, connection to nature, and the entertainment in a friendly atmosphere. Things attendees disliked about the bandshell and would like changed include the lack of bathrooms, infrequency of events, litter after events, and the lack of food options.

DETAILED OVERVIEW

- Events are an essential part of the activities at West Park (77% of respondents).
- The top 5 criteria that the City should use when evaluating future options for the bandshell include: multi-purpose / flexibility, location, stormwater / flooding, history, community.



63



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57



- The top 5 things people disliked about past events included: nothing, bathrooms, infrequent, litter, seating.



- The top 5 things people would like to see if events resumed at West Park included: music events (civic band, local bands), frequency / regular events, food trucks, amplification, plays / theater.

RESIDENT FOCUS GROUP

Date: October 11, 2023, 6:30 – 7:30pm

Format: In-person meeting at Mack School Library

Invitees: Postcards to residences on four streets that surround West Park (Miller Ave, Chapin St, 7th Street, Huron St), 12 attendees

The City of Ann Arbor met with residents that live on the four streets that surround West Park. The meeting began with an overview presentation of this project and the history of the bandshell at West Park, which was followed by a discussion of criteria the city should use when evaluating options for the future of the bandshell, likes and dislikes related to past experiences attending events at the bandshell, and improvements attendees would like to see to the venue.

SUMMARY

Similar to the Informational Webinar feedback, residents expressed a strong desire for events at West Park to resume and for the City to make improvements to the venue. It was very important to attendees that improvements increase the venue's flexibility for different types of events to ensure

any investment is successful in re-activating the park. They felt it is important for the City to keep in mind investments need to be budget conscious.

Residents valued how the current bandshell is in a natural setting that feels like an escape from the city. Additionally, they enjoyed how events brought the community together to make connections between neighbors and friends. They disliked the trash in the park after events, the distance between the stage and the seating, and the lack of shade, bathrooms, or food options.

DETAILED OVERVIEW

- What criteria should be used to evaluate options for the future of the bandshell?
 - Utility / flexibility for various uses
 - Location
 - Increased programming
 - Aesthetics
 - Cost & budget
 - Safety
 - Cultural value of local events
 - Acoustics
 - Patron amenities
- What did you enjoy about past events at the bandshell?
 - Connection to community / neighbors
 - Free
 - Aesthetics – nature venue
 - Local artists
 - Proximity to home
 - Hear music from home
 - Variety of events
- What did you dislike about past events at the bandshell?
 - Event announcements lacking
 - Trash after events
 - Loud events, sound bounces off Miller Manor
- What improvements would you like to see if concerts / events resumed at West Park?
 - Amplification for modern bands
 - Seating close to stage
 - Modernization of venue (infrastructure)
 - Announcement board / kiosk
 - Visibility to stage from all seats
 - Shade
 - Multi-use and flexible venue for various types of events
 - Restrooms
 - Lighting on paths in the park
 - Food trucks at parking lots

STAKEHOLDER FOCUS GROUP

Date: October 18, 2023, 10:00 – 11:00am

Format: Microsoft Teams meeting

Invitees: Ann Arbor Civic Band, Penny Seats Theater, The Ark, Ann Arbor Summer Festival, Creative Washtenaw, University of Michigan Music School, Sonic Lunch, Michigan Theater, and a member of a local band

The City of Ann Arbor met with organizations that either hosted events at the bandshell in the past or are interested in hosting events in the future. The meeting began with an overview presentation of the project and the history of the bandshell, which was followed by a discussion focused on limitations of the current venue and ideas for improvements to support future events.

SUMMARY

The stakeholders all expressed a desire to host concerts at West Park, as they liked its natural setting, connection to Ann Arbor neighborhoods, and proximity to downtown. However, the stakeholders said they would not return their events or start hosting new events at the bandshell without improvements to the venue because of numerous challenges. The challenges make the venue more difficult logistically and more expensive compared to other locations, and include poor acoustics, a long distance between the stage and the audience, an undersized stage, limited backstage storage and dressing room space, lack of bathrooms, and poor accessibility for both the audience and performers. Improvements to the current venue or building a new venue that addresses these issues would make West Park a more attractive rental venue.

DETAILED OVERVIEW

- Challenges related to hosting events at the current bandshell include:
 - Poor acoustics due to reverberations off Miller Manor
 - Audience is too far from the stage
 - Plaza has poor access to the backstage
 - No bathrooms for either the performers or audience
 - Stage is too small for the civic band and not temporarily expandable for larger events
 - Need more backstage space for storage and dressing rooms
 - Accessibility is poor for both the audience and performers
 - Limited power and lighting
 - Audience area is too small and does not allow for larger events
 - Insurance requirements limit users
 - Decibel limit prevents local bands from using the bandshell
- Infrastructure / improvements required to host events at West Park include:
 - Make it adaptable and scale-able – both audience and stage size
 - Improved backstage: bathrooms, storage, dressing rooms
 - Infrastructure to support bringing in A/V and lighting (power, places for mounting lights and sound, video screen)
 - Audience directly in front of the stage
 - Better acoustics / orientation of the venue

- Policy changes to decibel limit and insurance requirements for smaller bands
- More accessible performance space and audience seating
- To be successful in programming the future bandshell, the City will need to develop a Long-Term Maintenance Plan, Budgeting for Maintenance, and an Active Programming Plan.
 - If the City cannot devote resources to the bandshell, then it will be underutilized and this project is a historic preservation exercise, and not building an actively programmed venue.
- Other discussion items:
 - Stakeholders expressed an interest in hosting the following types of events, based on size:
 - Local Events / Outreach with 20-500 attendees. Events are non-promoted, non-ticketed. These events took place in the years immediately before the bandshell closed, such as Ann Arbor Civic Band performances.
 - Promoted + Ticketed Events with 1000-5000 attendees. Larger audience sizes are required for this type of event. The current configuration does not meet the needs of this type of event; the audience size is too small and the bandshell structure does not meet the needs for performance / staging of larger performances.
 - Discussion on the right location for larger events with thousands of attendees. This may not be appropriate at West Park, and if not, where could this happen in Ann Arbor?
 - Noise policy has a significant impact on the users of the venue. Improvements to the venue should match the policy of the city (i.e., provide power for amplification if the policy allows for amplified events)

POP-UPS AT WEST PARK

Date: August 21, August 24, August 28, September 8, September 11, September 16, September 20, September 27

Format: In-person drop-by conversations

Invitees: N/A – engaged people using West Park

SUMMARY

Park Staff planned and met with community members during several Pop-Up Events at West Park, adjacent to the existing bandshell structure. During these events, community members had the opportunity to talk informally about the project with Park Staff. Notes were not kept at these events, and Park Staff directed visitors to the Online Survey to submit comments and feedback.

CITY OF ANN ARBOR PROJECT TASK FORCE

Date: July 5, 2023

Format: Zoom meeting

Present Invitees: Josh Landefeld, Adam Fercho, Jessica Black, Michelle Bennett, Jerry Hancock

Absent Invitees: Jamall Bufford (absent), Marilyn Watson-White (absent), Laurence O'Connell, PAC (absent), Addarius Bryant (absent), Kimberly Mortson (absent), Jill Thacher (absent),

The purpose of the Task Force is to help guide the engagement effort of West Park and receive input from a broad range of representatives from the City of Ann Arbor. At this meeting, the Task Force discussed the engagement plan for the project and key issues and considerations for the future of the bandshell at West Park.

SUMMARY

Below are the main topics discussed at this meeting.

- **Rental Policy:** The policy changed in 2011 to limit noise due to disturbance to Miller Manor and other adjacent neighbors. Before 2011, loud concerts and events, such as rock bands, performed at the bandshell.
 - This policy changed reduced usage of the bandshell
 - Miller Manor also causes poor acoustics via sound bouncing off the building and back to the audience and performers. This was not an issue when the bandshell was original built because Miller Manor was built after the bandshell.
- **ADA Accessibility:** Accessibility for both performers and attendees is poor. Parks employees in the past have driven a golf cart to and from the stage and seating area.
- **Stage Size:** The stage is too small and limits the types of events, such the civic band.
- **Floodway:** The bandshell is within the floodway. Regulations prevent expansion in the floodway, so if the bandshell stays in the same location it can only be preserved in place. This prevents expansion of backstage space.
 - The City's flood management goals and plans include removing structures from the floodway to improve the flow of stormwater and reduce the Ann Arbor residents' flood risk.

ONLINE SURVEY

Open Dates: August 21 to October 23, 2023

Format: Online questions

Invitees: Residents of Ann Arbor + surrounding communities, 1,355 responses

See Appendix A for a report of the survey results.

The online survey provided an opportunity for the greater Ann Arbor area to provide their thoughts on the past and future of the bandshell at West Park. The survey asked about people's values related to the future of the bandshell, experiences attending events at the bandshell, experiences living within ¼ mile of West Park, and any other concerns related to the bandshell at West Park.

SUMMARY

Respondents to the online survey overwhelmingly said events are an essential part of the activities at West Park and supported an increase in programmed events to 4-6 times per week during peak season. They expressed a desire for the City to restore this amenity, and when deciding on improvements, to prioritize flexibility and adaptability of the venue, improve stormwater management, and increase accessibility. Respondents were mixed on the importance of historic preservation of the bandshell, with a plurality (46%) of people indicating preservation was important, 37% indicating it was unimportant, and 18% neutral. Respondents also asked the city to consider the following when evaluating options for the future of the bandshell: safety, cost / budget, quantity of and proximity to parking, acoustics of the venue, noise impact on neighbors, and preserving the experience of a venue in nature.

Suggestions for improvements to the performance venue included additional bathrooms, accessibility of the stage and seating, proximity to accessible parking spaces, food options during events, shade in the audience area, and locating the audience directly in front of the stage.

Respondents expressed concerns related to the bandshell and West Park as a whole, which included lack of lighting, crime, drug use, presence of unhoused individuals, and trash.

DETAILED OVERVIEW

Below is a detailed summary of the responses from the online survey. The feedback is organized into the following themes: Values, Concerns, and Programming; Experiences Attending Concerts / Events; Experiences Living Near West Park. For the full report with the responses to each question, refer to the appendix.

VALUES, CONCERNS, AND PROGRAMMING

- **It is important to most respondents that West Park host events again** [Question 1], with 78% of people indicating it was either somewhat or very important.
- **A majority of respondents indicated the following values are important** when evaluating options for the future of the bandshell [Questions 2, 3]:
 1. **Flexibility / Adaptability to Increase Usage**
 2. **Improvements to Stormwater / Floodplain**
 3. **Improve Accessibility**
- **Responses were mixed regarding the importance of historic preservation** of the bandshell structure [Questions 2, 3, 6].
- **Respondents wrote the following values** to consider when evaluating the future of the bandshell [Question 4].
 - **Reiterated values** from Questions 2 and 3 include:
 - **Accessibility** and usability of the bandshell for people of all abilities, ages, and backgrounds.

- **Stormwater/floodplain management** in the bandshell area, and the environmental impact of the bandshell.
 - **Historic preservation** of the bandshell structure, and the possibility of honoring its history in a new structure or exhibit.
 - **Flexibility and adaptability** of the bandshell to accommodate different types of events, performances, and activities.
- **New values** include:
 - **Safety** of the park and the bandshell area, especially regarding drug use and crime
 - **Unhoused individuals** living in West Park was a concern.
 - **Cost** of restoring, maintaining, or replacing the bandshell, and possible sources of funding or fundraising.
 - **Parking** availability and accessibility for visitors and performers.
 - **Community engagement** and outreach, including partnering with local artistic groups, promoting local music, and providing education and history.
 - **Concerts** and events, such as the types, frequency, diversity, and publicity of the programming.
 - **Noise** impact on the nearby residents and neighborhoods.
 - **Acoustics** and sound quality of the bandshell and the surrounding environment.
 - **Aesthetics** and design of the bandshell and the park, and the potential for adding public art or other features.
 - **Other uses** for the bandshell or the space, such as bathrooms, food trucks, rentals, etc.
 - **Other locations** for a similar outdoor venue, either within or outside West Park.
- **A vast majority (90%) of respondents support an increase in events (4-6/week) to activate the park and justify investment [Question 5].**
- **Respondents wrote the following concerns related to safety and security at the bandshell [Question 7].**
 - **No Concerns** were expressed by respondents regarding safety or security at the bandshell in its current or future state.
 - **Structural Issues** were a point of concern, with respondents highlighting the bandshell's foundation and floor as unsafe. Suggestions included repairing or replacing the bandshell, while the feasibility and cost-effectiveness of such actions were questioned by some.
 - **Crime and Drug Use** were issues raised that pertained to West Park as a whole, not just the bandshell. Respondents mentioned crime, drug use, and instances of vandalism in the park. Proposals to address these issues included more activities, improved lighting, enhanced security, and increased outreach.
 - **Encampments** were a concern, some respondents expressed concern for the unhoused individuals and others felt unsafe when they were asked for money.
 - **Stormwater Management** was brought up by some respondents, specifically the exposure of Allen Creek and the flooding of the foundation. The environmental benefits or costs of the stormwater project were also questioned.
 - **Bathrooms**, or the lack thereof, were a concern. Respondents indicated that bathrooms are needed for the comfort and convenience of park users and event attendees, with some expressing concerns about the safety or cleanliness of potential facilities.
 - **Noise** was another concern, with respondents worried that loud concerts or music could disturb nearby residents or wildlife. Suggestions included limiting the frequency or duration of events or imposing noise restrictions.
 - **The following items not relevant to safety or security were also mentioned:**
 - **Cost / Budget** was a concern for some respondents, who suggested the city should weigh the cost of maintaining the current shell versus building a new one. Some respondents felt that the city should not spend money on the bandshell and should prioritize other needs instead.

- **Design Concerns** were expressed by respondents, with preferences varying from preserving to replacing the shell structure. Others suggested improvements for accessibility, acoustics, aesthetics, or flexibility.
- **Parking** was a concern due to the limited capacity in the park. Some respondents felt that parking was insufficient for the expected number of event attendees. Traffic or congestion problems resulting from increased park usage were also mentioned by some respondents.

EXPERIENCES ATTENDING CONCERTS AND EVENTS

- The majority (72%) of respondents attended an event (or multiple) at the bandshell in the past. 25% of respondents attended an outdoor concert at another park (including outside Ann Arbor) [Question 8].
- For those that attended an event at the bandshell:
 - The vast majority (92%) attended a Concept / Music event, many (39%) attended a Show / Play, 23% attended a Group Gathering, and 10% Other [Question 9].
 - A majority of respondents traveled to the park by walking (63%), followed by driving (28%), and a smaller number bicycled (8%) or rode public transit (1%) [Question 12].
 - Opinions on the difficulty of finding parking were mixed for the people that drove to the park [Question 13].
- Respondents that attended an outdoor concert / event at the West Park bandshell wrote the following was positive about their experience [Questions 10]:
 - Sense of community was fostered through interactions with neighbors and other individuals in a casual and friendly atmosphere, with attendees enjoying the diversity and family-friendly nature of the events.
 - The park setting was appreciated for its natural and relaxing environment, stormwater features, green space, and the walkability of the location.
 - The quality and variety of music and performances were appreciated. Attendees liked the informality and accessibility of the events and enjoyed being exposed to new music or plays.
 - The history and tradition of the bandshell were noted, with shared memories of attending or performing at the bandshell as children, parents, or grandparents.
 - The positive impact of having such a resource, space, and opportunity to enjoy the arts and the outdoors in their community was expressed.
- Respondents that had not attended an event at the West Park bandshell but attended an outdoor concert / event at another park wrote the following was positive about their experience [Questions 15]:
 - Community was at the forefront of many respondents' experiences, with the engagement and gathering aspects being particularly positive.
 - Outdoor elements such as being outside, in nature, with fresh air, weather, or sunlight were enjoyed by many respondents.
 - Music, including the performers and the live music experience, was a key aspect appreciated by many respondents.
 - Accessibility features like affordability, convenience, and flexibility of the outdoor events were highly valued by many respondents.
 - Food availability, including drinks, vendors, and food trucks, was a positive aspect for some respondents.
 - The family-friendly nature of the events, including their kid-friendly and casual atmosphere, was highlighted by some respondents.
 - The space at the outdoor venues, including seating, room, and grass, received praise from some respondents.
 - Nothing was positive about some respondents' experiences.

- **Safety** was a notable point for a few respondents, who appreciated feeling safe, the presence of police, and clean facilities.
- **Other** aspects such as art, shade, parking, or local businesses were positively mentioned by a few respondents.
- Respondents that **attended an outdoor concert / event at the West Park bandshell** wrote the following was negative about their experience [Questions 11]:
 - **Nothing** was negative about the experience
 - **Parking** was difficult, limited, or far away
 - **Mosquitoes** or **bugs** were annoying or abundant
 - **Bathrooms** were nonexistent
 - **Configuration & Condition** caused problems due to size, separation from the audience, and deteriorating structure
 - **Seating** was uncomfortable, unclear, or inadequate
 - **Sound** was poor, loud, hard to hear, or echoed
 - **Unhoused** people were disruptive or made people feel unsafe
 - **Shade** was lacking or insufficient
 - **Stormwater** wetland was in the way of ideal seating area, flooding, wet seating area
- Respondents that had not attended an event at the bandshell but had **attended an outdoor concert / event at another park** wrote the following was negative about their experience [Questions 15]:
 - **Nothing** was negative about the experience for many respondents
 - **Parking** was a common issue, especially in downtown areas
 - **Bugs** or **insects** were annoying for some attendees
 - **Weather** was unpredictable or unfavorable, such as rain, heat, or mud
 - **Lack of public restrooms** or **bathroom access** was a problem for some people
 - **Acoustics** or **sound quality** were not ideal for some venues or events
 - **Seating** was troublesome, such as finding a spot, bringing chairs, or seeing the stage
 - **Crowds** or **noise** from other people or activities were distracting or unpleasant
 - **Sightlines** or **visibility** of the stage or performers were poor for some locations
 - **Lack of shade** or **sun protection** made some events too hot or uncomfortable

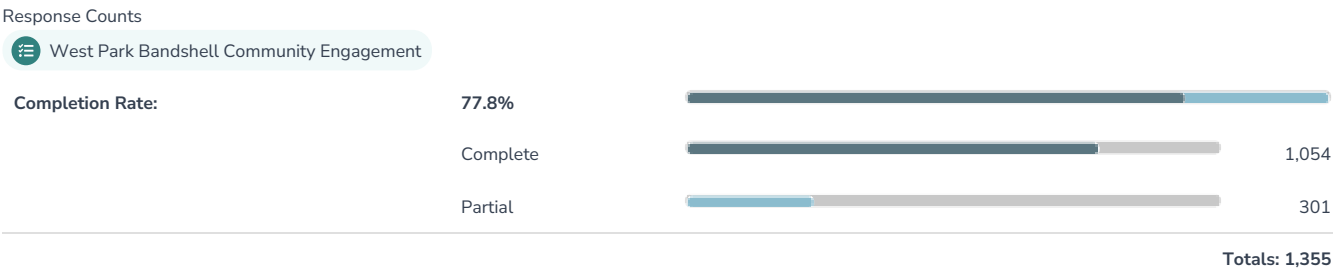
EXPERIENCES LIVING NEAR WEST PARK

- **40% of respondents lived within ¼ mile or 3-4 blocks from West Park prior to 2020** (the last year events were held at the bandshell) [Question 17].
- **51% of the people that lived within ¼ mile from West Park could hear events from their home** [Question 18].
 - **The vast majority of people felt positive about hearing events at West Park from their home**, including 58% reporting very positive and 26% somewhat positive [Question 19].
- **The people that lived within ¼ mile of West Park wrote the following concerns if West Park were programmed more frequently** (4-6 events / week) following any improvements [Question 20].
 - **Noise level** and **ending time** of the events, especially for the nearby residents and neighbors.
 - **Parking** and **traffic** issues, especially on the adjacent streets and the park's limited parking lot.
 - **None** or **no concerns**, expressing support or indifference for more frequent events.
 - **Litter, trash**, and **waste** management, especially after the events and in the park area.
 - **Safety** and **security** for the attendees and the park users, especially at night and with the presence of unhoused people and drug users.

- **Type and quality** of the events, expressing preferences or opinions for different kinds of music, performances, and activities.
 - **Accessibility and amenities** for the events, such as restrooms, concessions, seating, lighting, etc.
 - **Cost and funding** of the events and the improvements, questioning the sources and the priorities of the spending.
 - **Frequency and size** of the events, suggesting that 4-6 events per week is too much or unrealistic, and that the events should be limited to local or small-scale performers.
 - **Historical preservation and character** of the bandshell and the park, expressing appreciation or concern for the original structure and the park's natural features.
 - **Flood management and environmental impact** of the events and the improvements, mentioning the floodplain and the wetland issues and the potential damage to the park's ecology.
 - **Community engagement and diversity** of the events, expressing hope or concern for the events to reflect and serve the needs and interests of the local and multicultural community.
- **Respondents wrote the following was important for the city to know about the bandshell and West Park** [Question 21]. Note the themes below were also mentioned in prior write-in questions.
 - **Safety concerns** were prevalent among many respondents, who were worried about drug use, crime, and harassment in West Park. Suggestions to improve safety included increased police presence, better lighting, and more park activation to deter negative activities.
 - **Unhoused individuals** were a concern of some respondents. Comments mentioned there were encampments in the past, others felt uncomfortable and unsafe when asked for money, and others noted the trash around sleeping areas.
 - The **preservation of the bandshell** was important to many respondents, who saw it as a historic and cultural asset that should be preserved or renovated.
 - The idea of a **new or improved performance space** in West Park or elsewhere in the city was supported by many respondents. They cited the need for better acoustics, accessibility, parking, restrooms, and amenities, and suggested more diverse and frequent programming to attract larger audiences.
 - **Floodplain issues** were acknowledged by many respondents, who recognized the challenges of maintaining the bandshell in the floodplain. Suggestions included relocating the bandshell within the park or city, or designing a new structure that is more resilient to flooding.
 - The **natural features** of West Park, such as the pond, creek, trees, and gardens, were appreciated by many respondents. Concerns were raised about water quality, wildlife habitat, and the ecological impact of any development.
 - **Other park amenities** were suggested by some respondents, including the addition or improvement of features like a cafe, dog park, playground, or picnic tables. The need for more trash cans and frequent maintenance was also mentioned.
 - **Cost and funding** of the bandshell project were questioned by some respondents. They suggested reallocating funds to other priorities, such as housing, sustainability, or infrastructure, and mentioned the possibility of partnering with other entities or seeking donations.

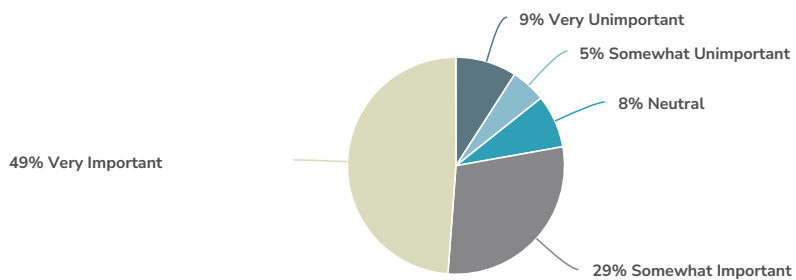
APPENDIX A

Report for West Park Bandshell Community Engagement



1. How important is it to you for West Park to host concerts and events again?

West Park Bandshell Community Engagement



| Value | Percent | Responses |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|
| Very Unimportant | 9.1% <div><div></div></div> | 99 |
| Somewhat Unimportant | 5.2% <div><div></div></div> | 57 |
| Neutral | 7.9% <div><div></div></div> | 86 |
| Somewhat Important | 29.0% <div><div></div></div> | 315 |
| Very Important | 48.8% <div><div></div></div> | 530 |
| | | Totals: 1,087 |

2. When considering options for the future of the bandshell, how important are the following values to you?

 West Park Bandshell Community Engagement

| | Very Unimportant | Somewhat Unimportant | Neutral | Somewhat Important | Very Important | Responses |
|---|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------|
| Historic preservation of the bandshell structure Count Row % | 241 21.8% | 132 12.0% | 213 19.3% | 252 22.8% | 266 24.1% | 1,104 |
| Ability for bandshell to be flexible and adaptable to increase both bandshell and park usage Count Row % | 66 6.0% | 39 3.5% | 82 7.4% | 358 32.5% | 557 50.5% | 1,102 |
| Improve accessibility so the bandshell is usable by people of all abilities Count Row % | 57 5.2% | 57 5.2% | 170 15.4% | 306 27.7% | 514 46.6% | 1,104 |
| Improve stormwater/floodplain management in the bandshell area Count Row % | 61 5.5% | 51 4.6% | 130 11.8% | 278 25.2% | 581 52.8% | 1,101 |
| Totals Total Responses | | | | | | 1104 |

3. Please distribute 100 total points across these values to show how important each is to you, with more points meaning more important. You do not have to give every value a point. For example, if stormwater management is the most important issue to you and you also care about Ability to be flexible, you could distribute 0 points to Historic preservation, 40 to Ability to be flexible, 0 to Improved accessibility, and 60 to Improve stormwater management.

 West Park Bandshell Community Engagement

| Item | Average | Min | Max | StdDev | Sum | Total Responses |
|--|---------|-----|-------|--------|----------|-----------------|
| Historic preservation of the bandshell structure | 20.7 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 20.7 | 20,745.3 | 1,001 |
| Ability for bandshell to be flexible and adaptable to increase both bandshell and park usage | 34.1 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 21.5 | 35,121.0 | 1,031 |
| Improve accessibility so the bandshell is usable by people of all abilities | 23.8 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 16.1 | 24,439.3 | 1,027 |
| Improve stormwater/floodplain management in the bandshell area | 26.9 | 0.0 | 100.0 | 19.7 | 27,719.4 | 1,029 |

4. What other values should the city consider when evaluating options for the future of the bandshell?



West Park Bandshell Community Engagement

| Count | Response |
|-------|--|
| 11 | Safety |
| 4 | Cost |
| 4 | None |
| 4 | Parking |
| 3 | Acoustics |
| 3 | Noise |
| 2 | Community engagement |
| 2 | Concerts |
| 2 | Education |
| 2 | History |
| 2 | cost |
| 2 | safety |
| 1 | "Repair" of bandshell is very expensive and does not address other problems such as audience amenities, parking in the area, etc. TAKE IT DOWN and "start over" in some other location! |
| 1 | 1) The current setup has minimal climate impact (a venue that does NOT require much parking or paving because it is surrounded by neighborhoods and downtown that are within walking distance and because much of the infrastructure is already there, including seating area which was installed relatively recently); 2) Benefit to everyone, and especially families because the programming has been of interest to folks of all ages (children to seniors--the downtown venues tend to be geared to more younger adults); 3) Intangible values, created by the sense of place (connection with historic events), uniqueness (how many other cities offer such an opportunity?), and setting (awesome view of downtown). |
| 1 | 3-4 events better than 4-6 |
| 1 | ? |
| 1 | A long-term plan from the city to regularly maintain whatever is done to keep it fresh, clean and eliminate deterioration. Develop a plan that will encourage participation from the surrounding neighborhoods for people of all ages to enjoy. |
| 1 | A nod to the history of the bandshell if a new bandshell is created, potentially through an exhibit on permanent signs with photos of bands that played there, programming events regularly such as local bands, movies, nature talks/walks, speakers/lectures, theater performances, improv, etc. etc |
| 1 | A shell large enough to accommodate large groups (120+) such as the Ann Arbor Civic Band. Amenities such as stage lighting and a sound system would also be a great addition to the space. |
| 1 | Ability to bring back music performances |
| 1 | Ability to hold large bands such as Ann Arbor civic band to enable more community participation. |
| 1 | Ability to house other event types that would benefit from an outdoor performance venue |
| 1 | Ability to program a variety of activities |
| 1 | Ability to program; partnering with community artistic groups |
| 1 | Access of the stage to younger bands not able to play in bars. |
| 1 | Access to the park |
| 1 | Accessible bathrooms |
| 1 | Acoustics -- the apartment building creates a terrible environment for sound. Maybe trees would help? Or re-orienting the bandshell on the site to face east would be better (and probably really expensive). |
| 1 | Acoustics? |

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 1 | Activating West Park / Reducing Unwanted Activity |
| 1 | Activating the park, which has felt increasingly unsafe in recent years. |
| 1 | Activation of the park is critically important |
| 1 | Activation of west park space |
| 1 | Add public art |
| 1 | Adding speakers/drop screen and there could be family movie nights in the park. |
| 1 | Address the crime in West Park |
| 1 | Adequate maintenance funds |
| 1 | Adequate parking |
| 1 | Advertising events |
| 1 | Aesthetic value, durability, structural soundness |
| 1 | Aesthetics |
| 1 | Aesthetics, ways to inspire more outdoor and community activities |
| 1 | Affordabilityrelative to effort to use |
| 1 | Allow rock concerts again and actively try to make this Ann Arbor's active Central Park with regular city-programmed summer music performances, kind of like Bank of Ann Arbor does with Sonic Lunch at Liberty Plaza, including big acts that will draw big crowds. Maybe partner with The Ark to do a summer series here with popular singer-songwriter acts they bring through town. |
| 1 | Allow small groups to use the bandshell for music, performance |
| 1 | Allowing local artists to host events as well as promoters/organizations to have bigger events |
| 1 | Along with being a good idea in general, increased public transit routes would help alleviate issues like parking in neighborhoods for events at West Park |
| 1 | Alternative use of the space |
| 1 | Amount of parking currently limits usage, suggesting it's only for a small number of residents. |
| 1 | Ample electrical usage for performers or speakers. Proper sound output to reach patrons further out/up over the lawn/hill, porta joins available for larger events with one handicapped. Proper announcing to patrons coming to event to bring protection from the weather. Umbrellas, hats, water, etc. |
| 1 | Amplified music should be allowed - modern art needs this vitally. |
| 1 | An outdoor venue like the bandshell with regular programming somewhere in Ann Arbor would be awesome. It doesn't have to be in west park though if the current location is not well suited anymore |
| 1 | Ann Arbor has lost so much of its charm. Preserve the quirky. |
| 1 | Ann Arbor has no other spaces like this and it's such a shame that it's gone mostly unused (or at least that I've been aware). Would be wonderful to see concerts there regularly |
| 1 | Any rebuilding of the bandshell should be seen as an opportunity to add a public restroom to West Park. |
| 1 | Anything that brings people in the community together to participate in and enjoy the arts in a unique and historic way should be supported. We already have acres upon acres of open grassy spaces in Ann Arbor. It would be a terrible shame to remove something as unique as the bandshell just to add a little bit more. |
| 1 | Are there better uses of limited funding, especially considering crime and related issues around and in West Park |
| 1 | Are there other locations for a outdoor concert venue, ie Buhr Park, Mary Beth Doyle, Olsen, Fuller etc |
| 1 | Area for food truck vendors |
| 1 | Areas safety |
| 1 | Art |

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 1 | Artistic creativity |
| 1 | Attracting a variety of music styles into the bandshell programming, as well as programming for kids, teens, young adults, & older adults. |
| 1 | Attractive venue for artistic and musical performances. |
| 1 | Attractive vibrant colors |
| 1 | Availability of parking, security when bandshell is not in use |
| 1 | Availability of private fundraising to cover 75% of the cost of restoration |
| 1 | Balance use of bandshell with needs of neighborhood residents |
| 1 | Ball field provides much better stormwater mgmt options than historic bandshell |
| 1 | Bandshell activities increase overall community engagement & outreach |
| 1 | Bandshell investment is not necessary - but look at new/alternative ways to host events and concerts at west park. Perhaps this is a different type of stage, temporary stages for events m, etc. |
| 1 | Bandshell music is clearly heard to Slauson Middle School. Nice! There were no late night concerts, but should be avoided for impact on a wide neighborhood area. |
| 1 | Bandshell refurbishment (and future events) would mostly benefit the nearby neighborhoods. I live in the far northeast section of Ann Arbor and would not necessarily be interested in driving there, and battling for parking, to attend a concert. The current bike lane situation here, which is nothing like what has been done around the downtown area, precludes me from riding a bicycle. |
| 1 | Bathroom facilities for visitors and performers. Accessible parking. Collaboration with local performing arts organizations. |
| 1 | Be environmental stewards |
| 1 | Being abandoned has caused nothing but problems for us that live on West Park. Mostly drug use |
| 1 | Being sure to deal with the drug use in the park that has been a big problem recently |
| 1 | Better events publicity, and transportation assistance would give this valuable community resource better visibility. |
| 1 | Better utilization of West Park overall |
| 1 | Bigger stage/back stage and capability for electric power for stage sound and lights |
| 1 | Bring concerts, theater, community gatherings back to West Park. Ypsi is doing much better. I haven't been to any of these things in A2 for years but have been to many in Ypsi |
| 1 | Bringing in local musicians would be great. |
| 1 | Bringing in orchestra and other bands |
| 1 | Broader utilization of the park |
| 1 | Budget |
| 1 | Budget to maintain safety and sustainable use of park |
| 1 | Budget to remove graffiti |
| 1 | Build a new bandshell in another better location. Having a bandshell is very important. |
| 1 | Building community among residents with events/performances at the bandshell. As well as possibly curbing the increasing drug use, abuse and an unsafe environment. |
| 1 | Can't think of any |
| 1 | Can't think of anything else |
| 1 | Civic importance for community music/theater |
| 1 | Clean up the drugs & crime to make it a safe and family friendly park |

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 1 | Cleaning up the park in general |
| 1 | Cleanliness of West Park area and surrounding neighborhoods. As someone who lives on the park border I love seeing it be used but also have been frustrated by the exponential increase of trash, human waste, and drug paraphernalia including used syringes found in the park and into my yard in the past 2-3 years |
| 1 | Climate resilience, shaded areas for hot days, bike racks for event parking |
| 1 | Commitment to promoting local music |
| 1 | Commitment to timely and routine maintenance. |
| 1 | Community - I want the community to have the opportunity to attend many kinds of outdoor concerts at low or no cost in a beautiful environment. Ann Arbor is known for the arts but I feel like that has gotten somewhat lost as the venues become more exclusive in price, capacity of people, or just whether or not it can be a family environment. Venues such as the Blue Llama, North Star Lounge, and the Ark are great but I want to see a venue that hosts music events that make it easier for anyone to enjoy the kind of musical artists drawn to Ann Arbor |
| 1 | Community Cohesiveness. A place to build community. |
| 1 | Community ability to use the bandshell |
| 1 | Community affection for it. I listened to concerts from my home on Maple Ridge as a child. It's really something special. |
| 1 | Community and homelessness |
| 1 | Community art is very important |
| 1 | Community arts opportunities |
| 1 | Community comfort: neighboring residents' concerns about noise and traffic should be investigated and addressed. |
| 1 | Community engagement and cohesiveness. |
| 1 | Community engagement, arts, |
| 1 | Community engagement- opportunities for community building |
| 1 | Community engagement. Existing infrastructure. Existing space for events relative to other parks |
| 1 | Community gathering space |
| 1 | Community gathering space that brings together neighbors north, south, east and west of the park. |
| 1 | Community impact/safety |
| 1 | Community involvement |
| 1 | Community involvement in concert going |
| 1 | Community use and engagement centered around other community activities that could also take place at the bandshell/grass area. |
| 1 | Community. Building, access to live performances |
| 1 | Compatibility with the natural environment |
| 1 | Completing the work in a timely manner. Minimizing unnecessary design churn and delay due to handwringing on minor complaints. |
| 1 | Condition of the park |
| 1 | Consider band shell at a different park that would have better parking options for concert goers. Bigger size for the ann arbor civic band |
| 1 | Consider collaboration with local arts providers for activation. Also, think about partnering with social service agencies to offer services near the park. Both the bandshell and the park are underutilized assets in the community, serving as both civic and social infrastructure. |
| 1 | Consider having no amplification or a limited amount allowed since it is designed for natural sound projection |
| 1 | Consider improvements already made for performances (tiered seating, patio area, landscaping, etc.) into the decision for repair of the bandshell. |
| 1 | Consider less, not more. It shouldn't be that complicated to have a stage. |

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 1 | Consider maximizing use for community choirs, orchestras, school bands, Neutral Zone performances and local bands. |
| 1 | Consider orienting it to the east |
| 1 | Consider the people living around it. West park has become a complete joke, barricade fencing, prison lights, open drug use and dealing. |
| 1 | Considering folks who are young professionals and/or who have families - our opinions are important, even if we aren't quite as vocal as folks who have been here for decades :) |
| 1 | Cost and the parks proximity to homeless shelter and this safety |
| 1 | Cost of improvements |
| 1 | Cost of preservation vs new structure. Anything that is done should be able to weather the water issue so we don't have this same problem in thirty years. |
| 1 | Cost per use of structure. Any investment in repair or new structure should be much higher use than this one. |
| 1 | Cost to taxpayer |
| 1 | Cost to the city and taxpayers; also consider and perhaps prioritize feedback from local residents more (Chapin, Miller, 7th, etc.) |
| 1 | Cost vs utility. May be better utilized as park space |
| 1 | Cost- can there just be a stage? Money spent better elsewhere? Concerts held elsewhere? |
| 1 | Cost. And whether there is another location that could hold those kind of events. |
| 1 | Cost; Quality of materials and workmanship so that the new bandshell or stage or whatever lasts a long time. |
| 1 | Costs of repair, upkeep, and programming |
| 1 | Could consider taking inspiration from places that deal with constant heavy rain to try to fortify it against thus |
| 1 | Create a program for high school orchestra bands to perform there. |
| 1 | Creating comfortable space for low income people to gather, inspiring grassroots creativity, promoting public education |
| 1 | Cultural accessibility to people of all income s. |
| 1 | Cultural and arts value of the structure |
| 1 | Demolish the bandshell and dedicate park facilities to other outdoor options. |
| 1 | Designing it with park safety in mind. I love going for walks, often alone, and the shell is a great hiding/shelter for unhoused and sometimes mentally unwell and I usually avoid that side of the park out of feeling unsafe. |
| 1 | Desires of the neighborhood. Opportunity cost. |
| 1 | Development and recruitment of potential bandshell performers/events |
| 1 | Diverse local groups performing, local talent encouraged, intergenerational and generation-specific performing persons and groups; no tickets required and no compensation to any performers, a strictly community-based project. |
| 1 | Diversity |
| 1 | Diversity of even types |
| 1 | Diversity of performances and uses at the bandshell |
| 1 | Do not raise our taxes. You have the funds already. Now put them to good use on something we can ALL use. |
| 1 | Does it make the park a more attractive destination for residents |
| 1 | Don't build something the city can't keep up |
| 1 | Don't create a vacant gathering spot that could decrease safety of traveling through west park further |
| 1 | Don't face the shell at nearby houses, apts |
| 1 | Don't spend any money on it and just remove. It is not needed. |

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 1 | Don't tear it down |
| 1 | Durability |
| 1 | Ease of the public's ability to schedule events for use of the bandshell |
| 1 | Easy access to know when civic performances are going on |
| 1 | Easy nonmotorised access - especially good bike parking. |
| 1 | Ecological building practices |
| 1 | EliminTing drug use and trash in the whole park |
| 1 | Encourage attendees to bike, walk, scooter, & bus to area; Consider bus/shuttle to coincide with performances; parking should be for those who cannot access other modes |
| 1 | Energy efficiency |
| 1 | Engaging programming for the community |
| 1 | Ensure it does not become a homeless shelter |
| 1 | Ensure residents in affordable housing in surrounding area are not subjected to unwanted noise nuisance |
| 1 | Ensure safety of people using park |
| 1 | Ensuring extensive future usage and programming for wide ranges of audiences should be the primary focus of these efforts. |
| 1 | Ensuring that any improvements are accessible for all community members, and not just the more affluent members of our community (i.e. not being used as a ploy to remove unhoused individuals from the park) - getting feedback from community organizations and places like Delonis and the church across the street. |
| 1 | Entertainment of the neighborhood |
| 1 | Entertainment should be family oriented and focused on the desires of the surrounding neighborhoods, not on the interested of those outside the city |
| 1 | Entirely new approaches to public even venues; for example, rethinking need for permanent structure that decays and requires hugely expensive maintenance every 30-50 years. |
| 1 | Environmentally friendly construction/features |
| 1 | Equitable access, perhaps free booking for free community events, ability to book far in advance and also save some times for more short term emergent events |
| 1 | Equity, how does this help all members of communities |
| 1 | Even if the bandshell can't be saved, replace it with something else that will be conducive to community gatherings. |
| 1 | Events |
| 1 | Events for all ages, including teens and young adults. |
| 1 | Expanding the capacity of the band shell, if possible |
| 1 | Facilities that can be used by summer camps |
| 1 | Family friendly |
| 1 | Family values. Provide activities for children near the bandshell such as an updated playground. |
| 1 | Find a way to use the space for public concerts/events after spending \$\$ on the restructuring of the creek (twice). |
| 1 | First off, is there a better location for the bandshell? Example: Burb |
| 1 | Fiscal responsibility. Net Present Value of any decision on the bandshell should be greater than or equal to 0. |
| 1 | Fiscal responsibility; make plans for event space to be used; accessibility to parking and transportation. |
| 1 | Free community events at the bandshell |

| Count | Response |
|-------|--|
| 1 | Frequent programing to activate the space and draw in a variety of users. Promote shared parking with Mack School outside of school hours. |
| 1 | Fun, attractive structure, long-lasting, sustainable materials, accessibility ideas that are efficient and meaningful |
| 1 | Functionality for LARGE ensembles on stage; acoustics and lighting; massive increase in the storage space available. |
| 1 | Funding for programming. You can't just hope programming will happen—there needs to be a plan, staff, and budget |
| 1 | Future intent to use widely |
| 1 | Future lifetime. |
| 1 | Gathering all event organizers in A2 and have them sign up for one event a year there. |
| 1 | Getting input directly from the folks at Miller Manor who see it every day and would hear any concerts whether they want to or not |
| 1 | Giving the bandstand protection status |
| 1 | Good acoustics. |
| 1 | Good bands |
| 1 | Good for concerts |
| 1 | Good music |
| 1 | Great location that has been underutilized |
| 1 | Having a bandashell/gathering space with a formal structure centrally located, NOT DOWNTOWN, is important for music events. And the question "mprove stormwater/floodplain management in the bandshell area" is a bit absurd. Yes, have flood management, But why are we assuming the bandashell has to stay in it's exact location? |
| 1 | Having a public events space enriches our community and gives many people the chance to perform and see performances, which they otherwise may not be able to do. |
| 1 | Having a space for outdoor concerts in the neighborhood promotes community and supports artists |
| 1 | Having an outdoor music venue in downtown a2 |
| 1 | Having events in that park will improve the overall usage and attractiveness of the park. |
| 1 | Having local talent and opening the stage to diverse performers |
| 1 | Having the bandshell really fosters community in a really great way. There do not need to be wall to wall crowds for us to know the value of the bandshell |
| 1 | Historic Value |
| 1 | Historic and cultural significance of communal music outdoors |
| 1 | Historic structure, community gathering |
| 1 | Historic use of park and ecology. |
| 1 | Historic value of the bandshell is more important to preserve than other areas the city has wasted money on. |
| 1 | Historic value. I suggest driving wood beams into the marsh, and supporting the structure that way— similar to buildings in Venice. |
| 1 | Historical education of community members regarding the origins of the Bandshell during the Depression and using the WPA program to build it with workers in need of jobs. Tearing it down would disappear a tangible object of incredibly important economic and social history embodied in the Bandshell. Respect for the Floodplain and allowing it to function as a floodplain is ESSENTIAL and therefore I think the Bandshell should be moved to higher ground within the park. Exact placement should be studied to optimize good acoustics for the audience with minimal carryover into neighboring residences. With advanced in the science of acoustics this is totally feasible. I should also clarify that my concern for access to people with disabilities is for access to the park and Bandshell, which already exists with the paved pathway. |
| 1 | Historical preservation is in itself essential to the identity of a city. Landmarks become visual referents and this bandshell was also used informally as a fun playground for kids to improvise performances in addition to the regular summer concerts. I rarely see any free events where old and young people used to bring their chairs to listen to music. This memory of random, free public space gathering is so rare and so valuable. Please restore the landmark and emphasize long-term durability by investing in its foundation solidly. The bandshell in itself is very simple and should remain as such |
| 1 | Historical significance, Public use of space, community |

| Count | Response |
|-------|--|
| 1 | Historical value coming from the fact bands like MC5 and the grateful dead played at the bandshell. Pictures from AADL beautifully capture these moments. Additionally, a venue for free live music is an invaluable resource for the community |
| 1 | History of space is more important than the structure itself. It's an awesome venue if we can mitigate the water. |
| 1 | Homeless help should be first. |
| 1 | Hosting a variety of events in this space to bring in revenue and build community, to help lower taxes. |
| 1 | Hosting different musical acts/youth group concerts |
| 1 | How close the surrounding buildings are to the park, in terms of limiting what types of events can occur at the current location. |
| 1 | How it fits into the surrounding neighborhood |
| 1 | How much would it really be used, considering the parking and av limitations listed? And, is it the best use of that damp space- maybe something more useable could to there, or then again maybe it is the best use? |
| 1 | How nice it is to have a venue for live music in the parks. |
| 1 | How the community would respond to the noise and activity associated with events and usage. |
| 1 | I believe it would be a mistake to spend money on this. I don't know who benefits from this. Maybe the neighborhood? But has been so historically underutilized. I know it was mentioned to make it fiscally responsible usage would need to be higher, I would be curious who is there lined up for that increase in usage? 2.5 million seems too expensive. It's not historically protected. I would imagine if it was removed it would save money long term, and a great deal of Ann Arbor taxpayers would not know it is gone. My vote would be remove, take it off the books. If it does get redone accessibility number one by far. |
| 1 | I believe that while the bandshell was underutilized in the past, I think there is also a desire for outdoor activities in the area. Considering things such as Sonic Lunch, Top of the Park, and UMS. |
| 1 | I do not care about preserving the actual structure but I would like if any new structure were to pay homage to the original structure's classic bandshell shape. I also would not like an overly modern looking structure- classic Ann Arbor seems like it would suit this area and neighborhood best. |
| 1 | I don't know what issues there are with accessibility. I also want historic preservation - but only if possible knowing there are structural issues |
| 1 | I don't think the City can program enough events to justify spending \$2.5M for a band shell. Maybe build a simple open air pavillion that people could reserve. |
| 1 | I don't think the main issue is the bandshell itself, but rather the retaining/provision of a public performance space in a beautiful park. |
| 1 | I like the bandshell because it is old and an interesting design. I have never seen it be used. I would like the structure to be preserved. I don't know that it needs to be used frequently but it would be a shame to see it demolished. |
| 1 | I live near West Park and fully support all efforts to activate and invest in the park and increase its use. I welcome concerts and events. Without active use, the park becomes a drug market and dumping ground and a hazard to residents rather than an amenity. |
| 1 | I love this band shell and have enjoyed attending concerts there - especially with my children. The band shell should be beautified with historical features preserved but ALSO given updates to make it possible for contemporary performers to have what they need. I grew up in Ann Arbor and performed in the shell with my childhood orchestra. Now as a music teacher, I've utilized the shell as a lovely venue for my Suzuki violin students to perform for a friendly audience. Concert-goers have always loved setting up their blankets on the hill and enjoying music of all kinds. Please bring this wonderful treasure back for Ann Arbor! To me it is one of the most wonderful places! |
| 1 | I raised my little girl sledding in the park in winter and watching Wednesday concerts in summer. As an adult I have danced with my class in the bandshell. I have joined the community and seniors from the nearby apartments at events in the bandshell. The bandshell is a townie treasure so worth saving. |
| 1 | I really think park should feel safer and be used |
| 1 | I think activating and programming the park as a cultural space and using this as the legacy and history to create programming in the park is what's most important - it would be nice to have a park space with music and events outside of downtown. I think it could be interested to have a new structure too - what's most important is having some kind of active urban park space for music and events in the neighborhood. |
| 1 | I think it should be torn down. It's an eyesore and the park could be better used for other purposes. |
| 1 | I think it's more important to make the bandshell as usable and assessable as possible |
| 1 | I think key is attaching more people to use the park in positive ways |
| 1 | I think the bandshell is a significant historic Ann Arbor structure |

Count Response

| | |
|---|--|
| 1 | I walk through west park at least once a week. The park is underused but it has so much potential for the community. The band shell is a no-brainer for community gatherings: music, theater, public meetings, etc. I have many memories of concerts at the band shell and think it would be an enormous addition to overall city park usages and is unique to what other Ann Arbor parks offer. Bring back classical concerts! Bring back rock concerts! Bring kids theater to the outdoor stage! Bring poetry readings to the outdoor stage! The possibilities are enormous, as well as the increase in the city's reputation as having the best parks in the State! |
| 1 | I wasn't aware of its existence and have lived for 30 years...better advertising of events. Including bus routes that serve the area since parking is an issue. Are there any schools or churches that could provide event parking? |
| 1 | I would be happy if the City choose to construct a new bandshell elsewhere with better parking, etc. it's most important to me that an outdoor performance space is available to the community, whether in West Park or another park. |
| 1 | I would like the city to NOT spend hundreds of thousands on studies and general dithering. |
| 1 | I would like to see it serve as a venue for summer arts programming |
| 1 | I'd just want it replaced by something useful. I loved the concerts. I don't love the current structure. |
| 1 | I'd like to see something that is consistent with environmental rehab, adds to the aesthetic and possibly served a function such as seating/gathering/play. I vote for a cool Clamshell statue, a plaque and picture, a rain garden and cool benches and tables. No need to overthink it. West park can still host events without an amphitheater so there might be a way to do smaller, more frequent gatherings at a lower cost. Good luck! I live next to the park and love the progress I've seen since arriving in AA in 2017 |
| 1 | I'd love a big increase in activation, this is the real potential Center of the City park |
| 1 | I'd love to have a return to amplified concerts (even though my bedroom window overlooks west park and is < 10' from the West Park property line). |
| 1 | If I could assign 100% to safety, I would. West Park no longer feels safe with the obvious drug trading, homeless camps, loud swearing from local homeless, recent murder, etc. Because of this, it's hard for me to feel enthusiastic about more events taking place at the park. Hand in hand with any improvements to the bandshell, the city needs to take a look at these issues at West Park (as well as Wheeler Park). |
| 1 | If a new bandshell is built elsewhere in the park, making sure "commuter lanes" from the neighborhoods to downtown are maintained. |
| 1 | If the Mackinaw Bridge can withstand the currents of the Great Lakes, (when built and for the life of the bridge, which is longer than 20 years) the bandshell should be able to be structurally repaired to withstand the Allen Creek water pressure for a similar amount of time. If a replacement performance venue is built to replace the bandshell, then it should also be able to withstand the Allen Creek water pressure. |
| 1 | If the bandshell is deemed unsafe or unfixable, I would hate to see it just sit and rot away as a "historic" artifact. I would like to see a new bandshell created (or maybe a park) that honors the past while also looking forwards to the future |
| 1 | If the money could be better used to serve those most in need in the Ann Arbor community. |
| 1 | If you do plan on more people and events, space for vendors such as food trucks should be considered. More planting of local and pollinator wild flowers. |
| 1 | Impact of concerts etc on the neighbors to the north |
| 1 | Impact of construction on current park users and neighbors. |
| 1 | Impact on neighborhood |
| 1 | Impact on neighbors in the area and safety in the park |
| 1 | Impact to local wildlife |
| 1 | Importance of animating the band shell with regular programming that is accessible to civic groups. |
| 1 | Importance of bringing good music to the public |
| 1 | Importance of community gathering spaces. Public spaces for music, art, performances. |
| 1 | Importance of having a place for community activities |
| 1 | Importance of this park, it's history & renovating the park and developing an excellent activation plan. |
| 1 | Improve park conditions for families and others |
| 1 | Improved parking/access |
| 1 | Improving overall usability of park |
| 1 | Inclusiveness, safety, history |

| Count | Response |
|-------|--|
| 1 | Inclusivity of people who live near West Park |
| 1 | Increase the size of the venue to accommodate larger performances and audiences. |
| 1 | Increase use of the park to reduce homeless use. Add amenities like food trucks to encourage attendance at events. |
| 1 | Increase vets in order to increase safety and reduce homeless / drug / prostitution usage |
| 1 | Increased capacity/usage of the park through smart design. |
| 1 | Increased events will decrease the presence off homeless people and undesired activity (drug deals) |
| 1 | Increasing the total number of events and use of west park |
| 1 | Increasing usage of park |
| 1 | Increasing usage of the park by the general public and making it a place that feels safe for residents of the surrounding communities. |
| 1 | Improving safety in West Park and the surrounding neighborhood and structuring the bandshell in a way that takes advantage of the beautiful views the park affords. |
| 1 | Insure safety of park by managing crime (drugs, solicitation, etc) |
| 1 | Integrating the use of the bandshell with broader park and community engagement/support. |
| 1 | Integration into the park aesthetic/environment |
| 1 | Interesting architecture / design |
| 1 | Investing in community gathering places is essential to the work of fostering an inclusive, neighborly, and engaged community. |
| 1 | Inviting welcoming town |
| 1 | Is this the best way to use 2 million or more dollars?! |
| 1 | It could be a destination for tourists |
| 1 | It is a perfect place for open air performances |
| 1 | It is extremely important for communities to have performing arts spaces open to all such as this bandshell. I am surprised that functionality of the bandshell, in terms of acoustics, is not included in the initial set of questions here. What is the point of a bandshell if it doesn't have good acoustics for projecting out in the open air setting? I have to note here that Question 5 has a mixed message that implies "concerts and events" have been lacking at the West Park bandshell. Recent use of the bandshell needs to be explained to the public before people can answer appropriately. The whole question of justification "of investments" here is, well, questionable. The background given about the water problem, and the cat tails at the site, seem to indicate that mistakes have been made that justify fixing,. |
| 1 | It is not fiscally responsible to rebuild a structure that complicates floodplain management. Nearby low-income residents should not have to deal with the disruption of an event space pointed literally at their homes. |
| 1 | It seems that the city needs to consider how it will choose to support the homeless population. It seems the park has become a refuge for some. |
| 1 | It should allow for West Park to become a center for the neighborhood community host concerts, family-friendly activities, and elevate West Park to a safe, enjoyable, center of community. |
| 1 | It should be a venue for both established acts and performers from the community. |
| 1 | It should be able to host larger groups and activities. Examples: stage productions, full concert band/orchestra. |
| 1 | It should be able to support programming from all neighborhood constituencies |
| 1 | It was great when neighbor could gather for Wednesday night concerts in the park in July! |
| 1 | It's a great park for hosting summer activities |
| 1 | It's a phenomenal community space that is widely underutilized. It would revitalize community in the Old West Side and attract visitors to Ann Arbor outside of just downtown. This would open up business opportunities in the west park area. |
| 1 | It's a wonderful place for community gatherings...it should be preserved...crime and vagrancy need a solution for ultimate optimization of the park in general |
| 1 | It's ability to be a cultural and community hub for bringing people together. |

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 1 | It's historic significance and potential use by the community in a greenspace on the west side of town |
| 1 | It's historic underinvestment in the area |
| 1 | It's important to have a space such as this for outdoor events on the west side. |
| 1 | It's very predictable that it's going to be demolished. Nobody is going to say yes to the necessary expenditures. |
| 1 | Just fix it. |
| 1 | Just get rid of it. That park is terrible and \$2.5M can be used in a million better ways. |
| 1 | Keep it in West Park, even if it has to be moved up the hill or something. |
| 1 | Keep the area clean and maybe create a fund to accomodate this. |
| 1 | Keep the capability of hosting live music regardless of final design |
| 1 | Keeping West Park active and populated will help with safety, reduce crime, and help build neighborhoods and communities. |
| 1 | Keeping the area safe at night. |
| 1 | Keeping the ares safe for the residents of Ann Arbor |
| 1 | Keeping the park safe |
| 1 | Kids play/ multiuse for community and not just events |
| 1 | Knock down the current and rebuild it if the bandshell will actually be used. It hasn't been used since well before 2020 |
| 1 | Let music acts be booked there! It has an incredible heritage (MC5, Iggy Pop, etc) and that should be carried forward. |
| 1 | Lighting |
| 1 | Lighting, posting of use guidelines, directional signage. |
| 1 | Lights for evening use of bandshell |
| 1 | Limit homeless people in the park |
| 1 | Limit noise that could affect surrounding neighbors. Make sure there's a logical place for seating in front of the bandshell, should it be relocated or reoriented. Include solar power as much as possible, downward facing lighting, and restrooms if possible. |
| 1 | Limit the size of events, especially if there will be more frequent events. Prioritize family friendly and senior friendly events. Limit to non-amplified sound. End events by 9PM. It is important to also preserve the peacefulness of the natural setting. |
| 1 | Local Mural painted |
| 1 | Local artists (musical and physical arts) |
| 1 | Local artists and community |
| 1 | Locate the bandshell in another park that had better parking and does not have a floodplain under it! We are going to have increased water issues in the future |
| 1 | Location to center city and diverse populations |
| 1 | Location, tradition, design, support of technology |
| 1 | Long term viability of repairs so constant repair not needed |
| 1 | Longevity of improvements |
| 1 | MC5 |
| 1 | Maintaining and promoting the arts |
| 1 | Maintaining historical structures is what keeps cities interesting and vibrant. The park filled with live music is fun and engaging for the local community |

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 1 | Maintaining staging for arts associated with civic activity: ie Town over Gown.. keep the facility available to the arts, rather than sports. I encourage Picnic space. |
| 1 | Maintaining the simplicity and openness of this unique neighborhood structure. |
| 1 | Make it available for a variety of activities, such as small music presentations, plays, other spoken events |
| 1 | Make it kid/family friendly |
| 1 | Make it more convenient so that is gets used more frequently. |
| 1 | Make it more kid and family friendly |
| 1 | Make rental fees accessible to increase the number and variety of performances offered |
| 1 | Make sure the seating on the hill that was invested can actually be used/enjoyed |
| 1 | Making good use of the funds for the repairs and not overspending |
| 1 | Making it an appealing place for all community members. |
| 1 | Making it more clear to residents when programming is happening, if it's kept. |
| 1 | Making it safe at night, more light in the park overall. |
| 1 | Making it useable for school events |
| 1 | Making sure it doesn't become a homeless hangout. |
| 1 | Making sure it is not a place where people will be sleeping and spending the night. |
| 1 | Making sure it is still a good place for music, it's original purpose. |
| 1 | Making sure the area is safe. Transient people are have been living in the area in tents |
| 1 | Making sure there is a plan for the space to be well-managed and activated |
| 1 | Making the park as a whole more appealing |
| 1 | Making the park feel safer. Address drug use and homeless. |
| 1 | Making the park safer |
| 1 | Making the park safer and more family friendly |
| 1 | Maximize access and usage |
| 1 | Maximize use and appeal of the stage area |
| 1 | Maximize uses for the space |
| 1 | Maybe a bandshell, if it will be regularly used, should be Mi Ed to another location—out of the flood plain. |
| 1 | Maybe we don't even need it, at all? |
| 1 | Modernizing the bandshell to meet the needs of the community |
| 1 | More attendance of people who enjoy the park would help draw attention to the currently unmonitored drug dealers et al. |
| 1 | More events possible |
| 1 | More events=more people, less crime and loitering of people doing drugs |
| 1 | More music |
| 1 | Most importantly address social factors of current oak use. Address safety of park, the fact that it is frequented by unhorsed people and drug use happens there- drug paraphernalia is let on the ground. For 4 years, 2013-2017, I shared a garden plot there through project grow and experienced theft and damage to my garden fence and plants and so did other garden tenants. Unhorsed people camped and |
| 1 | Move it after repaired to the sound is better aimed away from the housing development. |

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 1 | Move the bandshell to another area in the park. |
| 1 | Moving the shell or replicating it outside the flood plain seems to be a good idea. If replicating, make it bigger to accommodate larger performing groups. |
| 1 | Multi-functionality for events beyond music, pedestrian routes while events are happening, potential dog park addition at West Park |
| 1 | Music from community band on the west side |
| 1 | Music music music |
| 1 | Music venue, possible dramatic venue |
| 1 | Music, yoga, and community event availability |
| 1 | N/A |
| 1 | N/a |
| 1 | Na |
| 1 | Native habitat preservation/restoration |
| 1 | Natural area |
| 1 | Natural areas |
| 1 | Nature around it and use it special events |
| 1 | Neighborhood relationships |
| 1 | Neighborhood safety |
| 1 | Neighborhood/school engagement |
| 1 | Neighbors, Stormwater |
| 1 | New light simple structure |
| 1 | No adequate parking to support band shell events. Tear it down. |
| 1 | No tax increase |
| 1 | Noise and other impacts to the surrounding neighborhood |
| 1 | Noise control after 10pm |
| 1 | Noise control for future events, ie. Being careful as to what and when things are scheduled |
| 1 | Noise control of events for nearby neighbours |
| 1 | Noise disturbance of residents of Miller Manor |
| 1 | Noise impact for park neighbors. |
| 1 | Noise ordinance |
| 1 | Noise pollution created by events held at the bandshell |
| 1 | Noise problems |
| 1 | Noise to neighborhood |
| 1 | None- its useful life is over. |
| 1 | Not at West Park. It isn't designed to be a community gathering space now based on its location, housing developments, etc. AA needs to invest in a new band shell (maybe in partnership with UofM) that can host a variety of large band events. I would recommend you look at the Minneapolis area for their band shells, events that are hosted, etc. We need a central gathering place in AA for fun community-centered events. |
| 1 | Not letting the NIMBY's dictate what types of events can be held. It's a city gem that needs to be enjoyed by all! |

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 1 | Not sure what is meant by accessibility of bandshell for differently abled people; audience area seems like it is accessible given existing ramps. |
| 1 | Not wasting money on "preserving" something that has very little historical significance to a majority of Ann Arborites |
| 1 | Nothing to add |
| 1 | Onsite parking on the grass. This was available before the installation of the "Swirls", which were designed without any consideration of how the bandshell had been used previously. |
| 1 | Opportunities for a wide range and diverse audience to utilize. A true gathering space for the community |
| 1 | Optimize non-electronic amplification (imitate the shape of Hill Auditorium) |
| 1 | Options for building a new structure or something |
| 1 | Other aspects of inclusion, family friendly, diversity in programming etc |
| 1 | Other locations that are better suited to hosting event than west park considering the storm water and flood issues |
| 1 | Other optional venues for concerts |
| 1 | Other outside performance, events, concerts, plays |
| 1 | Other possible uses for the money in the parks dept. Not going overboard trying to do too much (like 4-6 events a week?) |
| 1 | Other potential locations for a similar venue |
| 1 | Other projects that money could be spent on |
| 1 | Other uses for the bandshell aside from concerts such as the new structure having accessible bathrooms or being adaptable to be a rental space other than for concerts (ability to have a wedding or party) or allow for small, less organized groups hold performances (a 5th grade elementary class perform a play) |
| 1 | Other uses for the space |
| 1 | Outdoor public space to host events, community building |
| 1 | Overall better use for the space without the bandshell |
| 1 | Park biodiversity and management of invasive species |
| 1 | Park facilities, especially the bandshell can help dilute The City's overdevelopment and rush toward destructive density |
| 1 | Park maintenance, safety, and attractiveness as a whole. Fit within the neighborhood, both added value and potential problems. |
| 1 | Park user safety, using it as part of the effort to reduce drug use in the park |
| 1 | Parkgoer safety |
| 1 | Parking around the band shell |
| 1 | Parking availability |
| 1 | Parking considerations |
| 1 | Parking is so limited along the perimeter of the park that it seems economically wasteful to fix it up when so few people can (or do) attend the band concerts. My suggestion is to move the bandshell to a different park where more people can attend the concerts. |
| 1 | Parking, funding, maintenance, safety of neighborhood, noise and impact on residents. |
| 1 | Parking/bussing options for event attendees to limit neighborhood disruptions |
| 1 | Part of community at large - chance for young people to be "on stage". Feature of West Park. |
| 1 | Partnership with the A2 YMCA for fitness class or camps at the bandshell. |
| 1 | Parts of West Park have begun to feel unsafe at certain times of day. This is really, really distressing. |
| 1 | Perhaps it could be removed and the space fenced in for a much-needed dog park? |

| Count | Response |
|-------|--|
| 1 | Pet friendly |
| 1 | Placement and design of bandshell to minimize noise for neighbors, Ability for bandshell to be used for a variety of events and activities |
| 1 | Placement in another park, Gallup, Burns, UM arboretum |
| 1 | Planning events for use of the park and bandshell. |
| 1 | Plant more trees to provide shade |
| 1 | Playground for children; benches |
| 1 | Please bring music back to the park and the bandshell!! |
| 1 | Please consider the unhoused population in evaluating future Bandshell and Westpark options. Parks are often the only places folks have for shelter to sleep out of the elements, and this must stay open for access for them. I hope the events do not cause the community to push the unhoused population out for more entertainment options. |
| 1 | Please do not prioritize parking over other transit types. |
| 1 | Please don't rebuild in a flood plain. Restore nature. Move it elsewhere. Make it accessible. Why is that even a question. |
| 1 | Please move/rebuild the bandshell to top of the hill, reorient away from Miller Manor, so can have actual concerts there again. |
| 1 | Please preserve the current historical appearance of this beautiful public performance space! Architecture is elevating to all who see it -- and this is a beautiful example of architecture which uses traditional modes to amplify sound. Such a beautiful, intimate, and awesome space of refuge in a modern world. And yes -- you can amplify, too there! But the bandshell exterior and design is so unique and offers a space for more traditional acoustic music and non-mic'd performances as well as more conventional ones. Please RESTORE this beauty! Also, it would be awesome to perhaps add some small lights in the area--- i always wish that those strange orange tree sculptures offered some light - that would be lovely for audience safety, mood setting, etc. But mostly, this is such a unique performance space with the moat around it -- so so cool. Please restore and let creatives be inspired to bring new life, music and art to this unique space! |
| 1 | Please preserve the nature and wild areas and do not cut down any trees. I love the open space where people can sit and lie down on the grass during concerts. |
| 1 | Please value a specifically Ann Arbor venue that is not tied to UM |
| 1 | Policing to keep park safe. |
| 1 | Potential increase in vehicle traffic and parking in surrounding neighborhoods |
| 1 | Practicality of Location, scale of events. |
| 1 | Preservation |
| 1 | Preserve and expand native wetland ecosystem |
| 1 | Preserve this unique structure and feature of West Park |
| 1 | Preserving some of the swamp habitat in that area of the park. |
| 1 | Preserving wetland or rain garden features; create a bandshell structure less susceptible to ground moisture |
| 1 | ProMotion and support of programming |
| 1 | Program diversity |
| 1 | Programming |
| 1 | Programming - important to ensure good programming in order to attract visitors |
| 1 | Programming and parking |
| 1 | Programming that benefits the community at large. It helps if the neighborhood was flexible with noise curfews. |
| 1 | Programming to activate the space. |
| 1 | Providing a place for community gathering that is not downtown and is located on the West side of AA |
| 1 | Proximity and access to surrounding neighborhoods and families. |

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 1 | Public Safety |
| 1 | Public availability of the structure for community arts and performances |
| 1 | Public exposure to the Gelman dioxane plume |
| 1 | Public restrooms, safety, lighting, bike parking, active programming of the space, differentiation from Broadway Park West |
| 1 | Public restrooms. Vendors, community performances, space rental, noise & traffic effects on residents bordering west park. |
| 1 | Public safety |
| 1 | Public safety and security |
| 1 | Public transportation and walkability to the park rather than increasing need for more cars and parking |
| 1 | Public usage like community meeting space, multi media rooms, ability to host events like food trucks, art fares, farmers markets, multimedia performance both indoor and outdoor |
| 1 | QUALITY OF SOUND, BEAUTY, USEFULLNESS |
| 1 | Quality programming in a safe environment. |
| 1 | Rebuild it so that the audience can be closer to the stage. |
| 1 | Regular police patrols and police kiosks could go a long way towards encouraging folks to spend time at west park and enjoy the bandshell |
| 1 | Regular programming |
| 1 | Reinstating community concert performances and local drama performances, as well as local bands. |
| 1 | Related improvements to west park, eg., toilets; a renovated bandshell and interesting performance schedule will attract more people to the park for longer visits. |
| 1 | Relocation |
| 1 | Relocation and new bandshell or stage venue with disability access/seating |
| 1 | Remove the band shell and replace it with a more adaptive concert area that requires less upkeep. |
| 1 | Removing the cattails and return the audience seating in the front, return the parking on the grass |
| 1 | Repaving Chapin St. with a bike lane. Making area available for food trucks during concerts, show outdoor movies |
| 1 | Replace the bandshell completely with a structure that isn't impacted by flood zone issues. |
| 1 | Respect for neighbors (sound, lighting, etc), meeting human needs (restrooms, food, comfort) |
| 1 | Restoration and revitalization |
| 1 | Restroom accessibility for Seniors. |
| 1 | Restroom facilities |
| 1 | Reusable energy for the shell. Solar panels on backside for energy |
| 1 | Revaluate the 35% Contingency expense - Astronomical? Get a another bid. |
| 1 | Role the bandshell has in making west park a gem in the parks of our city, a place that brings the arts to everyone and a factor which draws people together |
| 1 | Safe and free of drugs! |
| 1 | Safety and ease of use by everyone in the park |
| 1 | Safety and security. Esthetic and respectful preservation of original design wherever possible. Possibly consider renting out for events like weddings or memorials |
| 1 | Safety during events |

| Count | Response |
|-------|--|
| 1 | Safety during non-use, use by the homeless in the park at night, Miller Manor neighbors |
| 1 | Safety for users and maintenance of facility for user |
| 1 | Safety in the park |
| 1 | Safety of patrons using the park |
| 1 | Safety of residents |
| 1 | Safety of the park; making sure there is an outdoor performance space |
| 1 | Safety to community/visibility and lighting. Not becoming a place for people experiencing homeless to camp. |
| 1 | Safety, natural beauty, inclusion |
| 1 | Safety, would love to use west park more, but seems to have lots of people hanging out frequently by playground without kids |
| 1 | Safety. No building on floodplain areas. |
| 1 | Safety. I often see signs drug use and empty alcohol bottles scattered around the park area. I would feel unsafe in the area after dark, one of the few places in Ann Arbor where this is true. |
| 1 | Safety. There are not enough lights in West Park and there has been a lot of crime in the area lately. If the bandshell is meant to draw even more people to the park, safety should be a priority as well. |
| 1 | Safety/public nuisance |
| 1 | Save taxpayers money ,not to waste our money on this frivolous thing |
| 1 | Seating for audiences |
| 1 | Seating for those with disabilities. Lighting that doesn't spill into the neighborhood. Focused sound systems. More trees in the surrounding area. |
| 1 | Securing many performances by different groups |
| 1 | Security. So it is not a haven for the homeless. |
| 1 | Shared civic spaces for performance and gathering |
| 1 | Should be available for all types of music |
| 1 | Should be used, as it has been historically, as a gathering place for a diversity of people. |
| 1 | Should we be committing millions in capital and ongoing programming expenses for a performance venue in a wealthy area? If the neighborhood wants performances, they should form a nonprofit and create a new venue and program it. |
| 1 | Since it's been fenced off, it seems as though West Park has a lot more crime/drug problems. That may be perception not reality, but I've heard and observed more reports of issues in West Park in recent years. (our property backs up against the park) |
| 1 | Since the bandshell has been underused for years before the structural damage was known, it's in the floodplain, and cost to repair is prohibitive, remove the bandshell. Increase biodiversity in the park. Mown turf grass is not needed or a good use of resources. |
| 1 | Size - a group like the Ann Arbor Civic Band could no longer use the shell the size it is now |
| 1 | Size of group that the band shell could accommodate - Ann Arbor Civic Band is much larger now |
| 1 | Some of these questions seem unnecessary. Obviously it has to be accessible to all and engineering considerations are crucial. The important thing is to restore the bandshell in some fashion to make it usable again. It's really missed as a wonderful community and cultural resource for all ages. It has huge potential! |
| 1 | Sound distribution in the surrounding neighborhood |
| 1 | Sound levels for permitted events should be determined with park neighbors in mind. |
| 1 | Space for food trucks during west park events! It'd be cool to picnic and catch a show |
| 1 | Space to accommodate 100+ performers, chairs on site, bathrooms, lighting, backstage room for instrument cases, music racks provided. |
| 1 | Spending as little local money as possible on this project |

| Count | Response |
|-------|--|
| 1 | Stupid question. |
| 1 | Suitable locations for performing arts in public parks. Perhaps another park would be better for these events, but maybe not? |
| 1 | Surrounding infrastructure and access to community, park facilities, technology, seating options |
| 1 | Sustainability |
| 1 | Sustainability and ecological considerations for construction and use of the park |
| 1 | Sustainability and resilience should be the first consideration for all projects, even this one. Preserving history should be done very thoughtfully (whose history are we preserving?) and sustainably (there needs to be a future, too). |
| 1 | Sustainability of the structure eg design improvements that can be maintained with reasonable effort/cost |
| 1 | Sustainability regarding materials (embodied carbon) |
| 1 | Sustainability, solar powered |
| 1 | Sustainable |
| 1 | THE EXISTING STRUCTURE SHOULD BE DUPLICATED NEAR IT'S PRESENT LOCATION |
| 1 | That a solution looks natural and fits the environment of a city park. |
| 1 | That all city parks should NOT be required or considered to be cash-flow positive.. |
| 1 | That the entire park be cleaned up. It has greatly deteriorated this year. Grass and Project Grow plots have not been maintained. It has become a gathering place for the homeless si parents have greatly decreased bringing their children to the play structures. It is no longer a pleasant environment. |
| 1 | The Bandshell should be dismantled. |
| 1 | The Grateful Dead played there and it should be preserved.. |
| 1 | The ability for people to still walk through the park during performances |
| 1 | The ability for the park to be an informal gathering place where all members of the community feel welcome and safe on an everyday basis, not just for events and programming |
| 1 | The acoustic flaw caused by sound reflection from Miller Manor |
| 1 | The acoustic properties of the bandshell are important, we don't need screens, we need live music, poetry, etc. |
| 1 | The arts and community building - education presentation possibilities |
| 1 | The bandshell at its best supports concerts that are accessible to people of all ages. We need those kinds of activities to continue. |
| 1 | The bandshell can be built in a different park if it's too expensive and environmentally unfriendly to keep it in West Park |
| 1 | The bandshell gives needed opportunities for free, positive events |
| 1 | The bandshell has long been a community resource that brings people together. I hope it can be so again in the future. |
| 1 | The bandshell is a marquee point of interest in West Park, and represents the opportunity for this space to be available to all peoples seeking arts and recreation |
| 1 | The bandshell is a unique feature of Ann Arbor and deserves to be rehabilitated and have optimal programming. The arts are so important to vitality and creating community in our city. The bandshell is a tremendous asset. |
| 1 | The bandshell is a very unique feature, I'm unaware of anything like it w/ the history this one has in the surrounding area. I'd heavily lean on the history, who's played there, to promote its use. |
| 1 | The bandshell is about hosting the arts in the park and having the community, especially families come out for music, theater, etc. The focus should be on mitigating the flooding and making the bandshell the best possible version of itself/an outdoor stage it can be so as a city we can encourage community arts. |
| 1 | The bandshell is inclusive, multifunctional and in a central location (on transportation corridors) to enable it to be enjoyed by many. It is more than just a "band" shell, it is outdoor performance space for many types of performance art. Nice to see the City prioritize general health, safety and welfare. |
| 1 | The bandshell should be elevated to get out of the flood plain. The bandshell should also be rotated 120 degrees so that most of the sound heads towards Chapin St so that there is more flexibility in using the space |

Count Response

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|---|--|
| 1 | The bandshell should be widely available for performers in the community with time and decibels level restrictions on a daily basis. If the bandshell is not reserved, it should be available like any ballfield to the first users. |
| 1 | The city needs to allow free and easy use of the bandshell for anyone who wants to use it |
| 1 | The city should consider that West Park bounds the Old West Side Historic District and the band shell has a tremendous heritage of history. A high percentage of your survey responders will most likely respond with notable performers and groups that have played there over the past 80+ years, as well as the pleasant memories of recreational events over the years. What I find most important personally is the architectural heritage. The bandshell was principally designed by Bernard DeVries with one of the chief proponents being Ralph Hammett. Mr. Hammett later went on to work to reunite art treasures stolen by the Nazis in WWII with their rightful owners, this work being documented in the book and movie "Monuments Men". He also restored a home at 1425 Pontiac which had been used as a stop for the Underground Railroad. The rich history of the bandshell and the legacy behind it would make it a difficult treasure to lose. On the other hand the present location is not suitable for anyone tha |
| 1 | The city should consider that the new project doesn't cost too much to the funds but it is rebuild as the original bandshell. A renovation seems a bit difficult but maybe not imposible. Tearing down and building the same thing in a better structural foundation could be possible. This place is one of the best outdoors structure to perform all kind of arts and performances including the possibility of hosting school graduations. |
| 1 | The cost for it is prohibitive. I say raze the structure and put in whatever natural plantings make sense for the location. |
| 1 | The cost, how much it will be used in the future |
| 1 | The financial burden to fix/repair without any substantial plan on how to use the bandshell |
| 1 | The flood plain management is imperative for the bandshell and surrounding neighborhoods. Also West Park should not be ignored. Often I am told by the city to just go to Burns Park for concerts, skating , spray fountains. West Park is the city center park, it was built with lots of history. There are the issues of surrounding the park with Dawn Farms housing or Miller Manor or Delonis Center- but these are issues to manage with integrity and compassion while not abandoning our city center park and the people here-all of us! |
| 1 | The grateful dead played there. Preserve this. |
| 1 | The high cost of saving it--probably not worth it. |
| 1 | The history and value of the bandshell to locals, neighbors, school kids. Explore AAOpen@Mack and/or Community HS for integration/help with bandshell preservation for use for future school events. |
| 1 | The importance of performing arts in a setting less expensive for the audience than indoor theaters, and the community building aspects of outdoor summer concerts. My 5 children who grew up in A2 all cite those concerts as one of their ties to A2. |
| 1 | The infrastructure in other parts of the city could benefit more from the 2.5M funds. This structure is not worth the investment and is a poor use of taxpayer funds. |
| 1 | The joy that music and performance brings to those who use it |
| 1 | The kind of usage that is okay on that stage. Ann Arbor doesn't have much space for dance. |
| 1 | The neighborhood |
| 1 | The neighborhood, noise, homeless people |
| 1 | The new structure should support a wide variety of performance genres. |
| 1 | The opportunities lost for other park/rec projects when spending so much on a small bandshell. |
| 1 | The park is currently extremely unsafe/drugs/homeless |
| 1 | The performance area needs to be larger. More secure storage should be available, |
| 1 | The potential to move programing from the bandshell to other locations in the City with more space/accessibility. |
| 1 | The price is too high for the value. Tear it down and use the space for the much-needed west side dog park, which will likely cost far less than 2.5 million. |
| 1 | The sense of community brought by the variety of concerts that have taken place over the years, mostly from my youth |
| 1 | The sense of community it promotes is invaluable, especially as Ann Arbor increases its density and our population grows. I have lived in different areas on the west side and have attended events at the bandshell since the early 1990s. |
| 1 | The size of the bandshell in order to accommodate everyone and their needs. |
| 1 | The social aspects of the bandshell help activate the the community around it and keep it living space rather than a drug backwater. I remember walking through the park in the morning listening to various instrumentalists practicing on the stage. Beautiful music. |

Count Response

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | The stage should be modernized for modern performances for music and dance |
| 1 | The stage space is too small for more than a very small group; it is unusable by entities that the city has supported for nearly a century like the Ann Arbor Civic Band. I hope that the city chooses to preserve the shell, but to build with the money they have a new facility which will A reminder that we hope for a performance space that • is flexible • Has bathrooms and dressing rooms for performers • Includes chairs for performing groups • Has power, stage lighting and a sound system • Has easy access to parking • Has great visibility for audience members • Has potential for the City to rent the space to professional groups, UMS, Summer Festival, etc. all while continuing to support the City's commitment to community groups like the Ann Arbor Civic Band and the Penny Seats Theatre Company. |
| 1 | The surroundings of the bandshell - care of the park trees, removing overgrowth & fallen tree limbs, invasive plants |
| 1 | The use of the park should be made safe for the neighborhood. The park is not safe. Fix use of the park first and the bands he'll can follow. |
| 1 | The value of having outdoor performance space, how often it can be used, the promotion of art and performance, inspiration for the young generation |
| 1 | The value of nature, just tear it out |
| 1 | The value of not having anything there, which is to say the lost opportunity of doing nothing. |
| 1 | The wetland area as an attractant for wildlife. |
| 1 | There are other suitable locations for concerts and events in various parks around the city, it is not a necessary fixture and has very limited use as it is now. It does not make much sense to sink a lot of money into its restoration when it serves such little purpose and will likely continue to be damaged as flooding gets worse over time. |
| 1 | There is a perception (maybe true) that West Park isn't safe (which may be true), especially with the murder of Jude Walton happening nearby. Any improvements to the park have to address this perception/reality first. |
| 1 | Think ahead... \$90k was invested not long ago and did not account for the wetland environment; let's do this better! |
| 1 | This city used to celebrate youth and music and more edgy culture. The city should be paying for national acts to play here. For festivals. Rent it out. Don't let the NIMBYs take over. |
| 1 | This historic bandshell has been used, almost continuously, since it was built FOR the Civic Band! Ann Arbor is already sadly lacking in its support of community music, so this is even more important! Don't let A2 continue its reputation for throwing away its heritage! |
| 1 | This is a good place for community gatherings that doesn't clog up downtown |
| 1 | This is a wonderful resource/visiting place for young and old |
| 1 | This is an Ann Arbor Treasure which has been left to rot by the city. West Park is a problem and a police presence is needed. |
| 1 | This is an amazing community space for outdoor performance that requires a stable and smooth surface (i.e. many forms of dance) for community groups without the resources to provide their own stage, this kind of resource is very valuable. |
| 1 | This is one of the closest parks to the center of the city and has fallen into disrepair. It needs to be safe for the community to use again. |
| 1 | This neighborhood deserves to have a bandshell again. It is good for that community. |
| 1 | This park is an import part of the neighborhood- needs a picnic shelter, picnic tables and benches. The city needs to police the park better if it is worried about the homeless moving in. The park has mo services die to that underlying issue. The portable potties stink. The wet lands management plan ruined the band shell -better planning is needed to prevent another disaster like this. I took a walk today and see why the band shell foundation is ruined. This survey seems biased. |
| 1 | This question is too ambiguous. |
| 1 | This question us too ambiguous. |
| 1 | This should be a priority for city resources that are not otherwise allocated to park improvement projects. |
| 1 | This structure is unremarkable so "saving" it doesn't make sense when a new, nicer one could be built elsewhere for that money. The Cemter of the City comes to mind. |
| 1 | Those are the most important ones. |
| 1 | Tied to historic preservation-> location of bandshell within park (if better location for accessibility/floodplain management and historic preservation isn't important) |
| 1 | To be able to rent out the space for the locals to host recitals, events etc. |
| 1 | To fix it in an efficient way for the Ann Arbor civic band to be able to use it again! |

| Count | Response |
|-------|--|
| 1 | To make sure the park is a safe place to gather. |
| 1 | To preserve the original architecture and expand it carefully so that it meets 21st century standards as public performance space. |
| 1 | To protect the surrounding communities from noise. We live one street over and whenever there are concerts in West Park, it's as if the concert were in our own backyard. This is no problem as long as the event is not too late and pleasant to listen to. I most enjoyed the reduced Shakespeare play and the Wednesday afternoon concerts. Also, since question 5 below doesn't have a comment field, if there were 4-6 events/week at West Park, I would hope that they would be quiet. If there were 4-6 concert like the Wednesday orchestra concerts, I would want to move somewhere else. |
| 1 | Traffic flow |
| 1 | Transit accessibility to the park |
| 1 | True to Ann Arbor in its look/design |
| 1 | Uniqueness of a park with a historic bandshell |
| 1 | Unknown |
| 1 | Update the band shell for local events. |
| 1 | Updated Acoustics/speakers, modern visual aids (screens) |
| 1 | Upgrade seating |
| 1 | Urban heat island effect |
| 1 | Usability if that section of the park |
| 1 | Usage during downtime |
| 1 | Use of the funds for other park projects |
| 1 | Useability, inclusivity, flexibility |
| 1 | Users' emotional comfort (is that the right phrase?) regarding drug use leftovers, loitering homeless folks, children's interests, impacts on local neighborhood residents due to decisions about bandshell and park use. |
| 1 | Uses/functions/benefits to communities outside of events, such as community class space (yoga,tai chi, dance,etc) or interactive play/ learning (like the slap organ at the hands on museum). Also engagement with local Indigenous and other communities for potential cultural uses/acknowledgment. |
| 1 | Using sustainable and quality resources throughout the project. Protecting the existing wildlife areas of the park during restoration, and ensuring wildlife areas are not continually disturbed with the use of the bandshell. |
| 1 | Using the bandshell as a significant feature on the Treeline Trail to host walking/hiking/biking groups with entertainment or educational presentations. |
| 1 | Using the money in other ways to benefit the community |
| 1 | Using the space to increase opportunities for community events and gatherings, such as outdoor dancing, etc. |
| 1 | Utilization |
| 1 | Values of pragmatism, spend 2.5 million housing for low income families and programs that help persons with intellectual amd physical differem r community.. |
| 1 | Variety |
| 1 | Variety of entertainment allowed in order to spread different types of cultural events and put Ann Arbor back on the music map |
| 1 | Visual and functional appeal and maintenance |
| 1 | Ways to deter the park from being a homeless camp |
| 1 | Ways to rent it to groups to earn revenue |
| 1 | We need a bandshell that is flexible and large enough to accommodate large groups, such as a concert band with at least 100 members; restrooms and dressing rooms for performers; chairs for performing groups; and electricity, stage lighting, and a sound system |
| 1 | We need more rock here. |

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 1 | We need this performance space back as a place to gather people together again. The backup venues are not adequate. |
| 1 | West Park (especially near the basketball courts) has become a haven for drug use and drug sales. My children avoid riding their bikes through the park and don't walk home from school or downtown via West Park because they feel unsafe. My 14 year old also witnessed an active drug sale happening at the park and a fight that followed. I am hopeful that a new bandshell would bring families to the park and the unlawful activity would move elsewhere. |
| 1 | West Park is Ann Arbor's most urban park, our version of Central Park. Concerts and performances at this location are key. Value = Provide the surrounding community with cultural opportunities in a location close to the urban center of the city |
| 1 | West Park is NOT a good location for a Band shell !! There is no parking, the neighbors don't like the crowds, It isn't accessible to people with disabilities., there is no bathroom !! It is inadequate by todays standards. |
| 1 | West Park is the largest city park close to downtown. Anything which improves it and increases its use benefits the greater downtown area. |
| 1 | West Park really is a downtown park and could be considered as such. More investment in keeping it safe and revitalizing it might assuage some of the concerns people have about wanting a downtown park |
| 1 | West Park safety - create an active lively place to promote community building and safety |
| 1 | West Park's ability of serve as Ann Arbor's Central Park and venue for community discourse and public entertainment; respecting neighbors by improving sound-blocking around bandshell area; encourage small events and local performers; 4-6 events/week if most are small and local, otherwise events less often |
| 1 | West park is a gem and should serve many more people than it does. |
| 1 | West park is a neglected park- it is not well taken care of - why do we have parks with no benches— who is making theses decisions- parks are to gather in- wedt park band shell is the only place to do that. |
| 1 | West park is beautiful but I feel underused. I read posts about drug use and people feeling unsafe walking through/ using the park. I think a project that increases usage of the park is most important. Supporting local concerts, plays but also everyday use should be a goal. |
| 1 | West park is the only one place for a large West side neighborhood that could provide this type of activities |
| 1 | West part should be the city's Central Park. No need for one downtown. This is a beautiful, large, and underutilized park. |
| 1 | What are the community needs; e.g., could programming for children, adults, unhoused folks be facilitated/led in the space |
| 1 | What else could that money be used for? |
| 1 | What is the best use of West Park today? |
| 1 | What nonprofits might wish to partner with you to utilize this space-what features might benefit them and therefore the park goes |
| 1 | Where else do we have a public structure like this? |
| 1 | Where would performance space be most utilized in our park system and in manner which doesn't rely on people driving to an event. I'd the bandshell is prioritized at west park, how will that impact other park attractions. With limited resources, could we utilize those capital dollars in a manner that activates west park more effectively. how important is it to those who perform to have a city facility to make use of and what are their needs. |
| 1 | Whether city ordinance will even allow concerts there. |
| 1 | Whether or not it's actually worth the investment. It seems that older generations of Ann Arborites—or longterm residents—have more of an attachment to it than newer residents, who just want functioning parks. |
| 1 | Whether there will actually be more use of the bandshell or the park for concerts or summer festival |
| 1 | Why are there fake tree sculptures? There are plenty of real trees. Misguided sculpture |
| 1 | Why can't we substitute a new stage like the one in the Arb? |
| 1 | Wildlife in the area, ensuring it doesn't negatively impact |
| 1 | Would be nice to include architectural design to minimize noise pollution in surrounding areas. Please bring it back! |
| 1 | Would it be better to build a performing arts venue in a different park or location? |
| 1 | Year round use. We used to sled and ski there because it was so close. |
| 1 | You seem to be spending a lot of money on unnecessary dithering. Stop the CYA and just do something. |
| 1 | Youth recreation, musical and theatrical enrichment, affordable summer leisure |

| Count | Response |
|-------|--|
| 1 | accessability to performers |
| 1 | adequate parks staffing to support increased umber of events |
| 1 | aesthetic value of the structure, crime prevention in West Park |
| 1 | attractive design |
| 1 | balancing with other possible improvements and uses for West Park (ice rink, gardens, sledding, flowers, etc.) |
| 1 | bring better design to the bandshell and better the accommodations for seating, hygiene (bathrooms) and pedestrian traffic flow around (instead of thru) the bandshell seating area. |
| 1 | bring more events and audio experiences to parks |
| 1 | character of the city |
| 1 | comfortable seating |
| 1 | community arts infrastructure, future needs/growth/flexibility |
| 1 | concerts and events should be free |
| 1 | cost, potential outside donors, work with group wanting a park on the library lot |
| 1 | demonstrate "green building" materials and renewable energy. |
| 1 | designated areas for vendors to set up, ie., food trucks, etc. so that attendees could buy refreshments |
| 1 | dnr grants are supposed to be used for permanent improvements, park design incorporates bandshell, would be okay w modern amphitheater to replace it, city should navigate engineering challenges w stormwater |
| 1 | doesn't have to be a concert venue but should increase use of the park and be a structure open for anyone to use |
| 1 | don't limit the usage to certain types of music. all live music should be able to perform |
| 1 | eco impact, plantings, beauty |
| 1 | fiscal responsibility |
| 1 | food, music, events so there are more people |
| 1 | free and very low cost performance opportunities are important for the cultural enrichment of the city. Many cannot afford to go to expensive concerts at other venues. |
| 1 | higher quality park landscaping |
| 1 | historic preservation of the bandshell. |
| 1 | how to clean up the entire park area to reduce loitering and littering behavior |
| 1 | impact on the natural area- wildlife, bird habitat |
| 1 | impact on unhoused population who often use West Park for a safe area to rest |
| 1 | it's what makes the park special! |
| 1 | its close to downtown and its a big park that could be used more for entertainment |
| 1 | local talent/acts as the performers |
| 1 | location and acoustics with respect to how it affects people living within earshot. |
| 1 | make a new bandshell on higher ground. Could be an exact replica of current bandshell. |
| 1 | making it and the park usable by more people |
| 1 | minimizing tax burden on residents |
| 1 | musical / entertainment needs of those who cannot afford expensive concerts |

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 1 | n/a |
| 1 | na |
| 1 | nature areas surrounding |
| 1 | no increase in taxes to fix this find the money |
| 1 | non-motorized access |
| 1 | not surer |
| 1 | options for more parking |
| 1 | outreach to local schools for use |
| 1 | park safely, the park is often filled with homeless people |
| 1 | parking |
| 1 | parking - at least walkable to the park. |
| 1 | parking for visitors, security presence for events, support local musicians |
| 1 | parking, sound quality, sight lines from all locations, outdoor seating, multi-media projection screen |
| 1 | provisions for both acoustic and electric performances. acoustically efficient shell for projection of sound outdoor |
| 1 | public safety from crime |
| 1 | respect and understanding of homeless people who use the park: what needs is the park meeting for them and how can those needs be met in a safe park that is open to people of all income levels, housing status, and disability status |
| 1 | restroom and water available |
| 1 | safety, security |
| 1 | setting expectations with miller manor so the bandshell can be regularly used for the entire communitiy |
| 1 | summer concerts |
| 1 | talk specifically with theatre folks and music performers to see what their drivers are |
| 1 | the ability to use a very large greenspace for everyday park use |
| 1 | the bandshell has not been used in years. Please return the park to wildlife and preservation of this beautiful piece of West park. |
| 1 | the importance of a neighborhood venue for face to face gathering in an otherwise residential area, i.e., promoting mixed use |
| 1 | the vaule of this to community participation, to encourage younger artists, and the aesthetic value to all of us who use the park |
| 1 | theater |
| 1 | there is a significant homeless population that frequents west park and prevents use of the park given panhandling and drug dealing. this needs to be addressed prior to any other improvement project |
| 1 | there's only one! in ann arbor and very few anywhere. this is a special structure |
| 1 | they already spent so much money creating the seating area they mist make the bandshell useful or it makes it look like they wasted tax payer money for the seating area. |
| 1 | uniqueness of the facility in the city |
| 1 | use by community members, local small musicians, etc |
| 1 | use sustainable practices in the work for this endeavor. |
| 1 | using this amenity to promote activity and use of West Park |
| 1 | we have people camping and using hard drugs regularly in the park. it needs to be fixed so everyone can use the park benches and stairs |

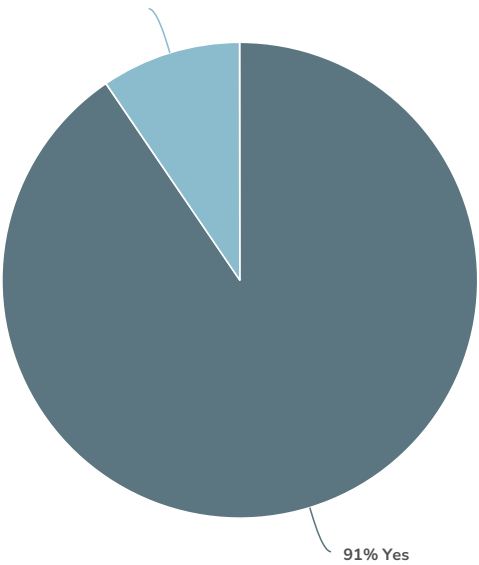
Count Response

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | whether it would be cheaper to tear it down and build a new structure that is not in a swamp |
| 1 | who will be responsibility for programming for the bandshell; frequency of programs; length of seasonal programming; off season programming |
| 1 | ☐♂ |

5. Would you support an increase in concerts and events (4-6 events/week from May-September) to activate West Park and justify any investment made to the bandshell and West Park?

West Park Bandshell Community Engagement

10% No



91% Yes

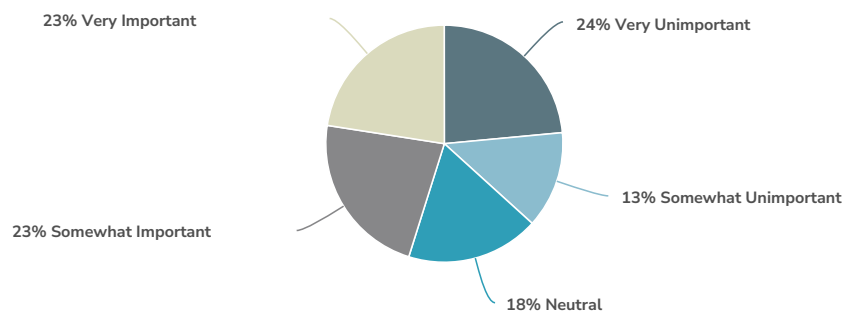
| Value | Percent | Responses |
|-------|------------------------------|-----------|
| Yes | 90.5% <div><div></div></div> | 977 |
| No | 9.5% <div><div></div></div> | 103 |

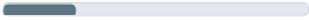
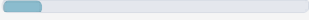
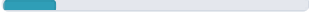
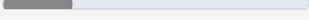
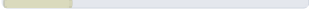
Totals: 1,080

6. The bandshell's foundations are structurally unsound and beyond repair. The bandshell's structure is salvageable and includes the shell as well as the building behind the shell. How important is it to you to preserve the Bandshell structure?



West Park Bandshell Community Engagement



| Value | Percent | Responses |
|----------------------|--|---------------|
| Very Unimportant | 23.5%  | 251 |
| Somewhat Unimportant | 13.2%  | 141 |
| Neutral | 18.1%  | 194 |
| Somewhat Important | 22.6%  | 242 |
| Very Important | 22.5%  | 241 |
| | | Totals: 1,069 |

7. Do you have any concerns about safety or security at the bandshell?



West Park Bandshell Community Engagement

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 172 | No |
| 35 | no |
| 16 | Yes |
| 14 | No. |
| 7 | None |
| 5 | No |
| 5 | No. |
| 5 | yes |
| 3 | No |
| 3 | None |
| 3 | Nope |
| 3 | Some |
| 3 | Yes. |
| 3 | no. |
| 3 | none |
| 2 | NO |
| 2 | NO. |
| 2 | No |
| 2 | Not really |
| 2 | Yes |
| 2 | nope |
| 1 | No |
| 1 | One other than what city believes |
| 1 | A bit around safety -- the parking lot tends to attract some unhoused members of the community. Want to be sure everyone can feel welcome there -- the unhoused as well -- just more lighting, dedicated bench spaces distinct from the playground, etc. would be helpful. |
| 1 | A bit. There seems to be visitors in the park who sometimes are a bit rough. |
| 1 | A little related to pedestrian safety when crossing Seventh Street amid parking cars. No concerns at the bandshell. |
| 1 | A little. Sometimes drunk or homeless people are there |
| 1 | Absolutely. The park and subsequent west park bandshell remain unusable for families or alone. I am unable to even walk in the park alone during the day after being approached to purchase drugs. I see blatant drug use/prostitution and sexual activity out in the open. Until this changes there is no reason to spend any money. |
| 1 | As an open park, I'd be worried about graffiti or defacing of the shell as it is or in the future with a new or repaired bandshell. I think investing in murals or other community artwork would be a good way to involve the community and deter people from defacing the shell |
| 1 | As it is, yes. It was already deemed unsafe. I wouldn't have safety or security concerns about a future structure that is safe. |
| 1 | As long as it's well-lit for evening events, no. |

Count Response

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | As noted earlier, it seems as though there are more safety/security concerns in West Park than there used to be. I hear/see reports of drug deals, much more litter, people appearing to live in the park, etc. Whether this is directly related to the bandshell is unclear, but it's definitely increased in the past year or so. |
| 1 | As the bandshell currently stands, it has become an eyesore and the fencing makes the park look unused and unmonitored, leading directly IMO, to some of the recent troubles and safety concerns at the park |
| 1 | As with any public event, security should be a priority with paid staff monitoring behavior. |
| 1 | At one time I worried about being in the area in the evening as groups of people congregated but that seems to no longer be a problem and I walk in the park again. |
| 1 | At the bandshell, no. In west park, yes. There are often people sleeping rough in the park or blocking the stairs from the Miller entrance by the ballpark. |
| 1 | Attendees at events need to be safe entering, exiting, and during events. |
| 1 | Bandshell should be lit and monitored to dissuade loitering |
| 1 | Based on the information in #6, yes, i do have concerns for safety. This makes me think that perhaps a new structure entirely is in order. |
| 1 | Bathrooms are needed and the area needs to be managed for the enjoyment and safety of the public. Same as other homeless, substance, mental health, social disturbance issues that the public is entitled to enjoy throughout the city and not subject to enforcement nullification at discretion of city police and/prosecutors. I.e. equal opportunity enjoyment and enforcement. |
| 1 | Before the fencing, there were many unhoused individuals sleeping at the bandshell. That's probably not great for long term security and usage. |
| 1 | Better lighting at night would be nice - I like to walk through after sunset and sometimes it feels a little unnerving |
| 1 | Better lighting is probably in order |
| 1 | Beyond the structural issues, no. |
| 1 | Both issues should be addressed in any redevelopment and/or repair of the site. Cameras are a must, for both issues, especially to prevent graffiti, public destruction, etc.. Having an emergency defibrillator type device available should be on the safety list as well. |
| 1 | Build a new bigger one |
| 1 | Can the shell be salvaged without the floor and foundation? |
| 1 | Certainly. Always good to have a police person or security person to handle anything potentially dangerous or health threatening. |
| 1 | Child safety always a concern. |
| 1 | Clear exits for this onstage |
| 1 | Clearly if the floor and foundation are not salvageable, saving the structure would merely be for historical purposes - which isn't worth the 2.5 million cost. Tear it down and use the space for a dog park. |
| 1 | Close neighbors might object to noise. |
| 1 | Compared to what? Sonic lunch? No. |
| 1 | Completely redo it if you have to, as long as it serves the purpose of a performance venue. I'm aware of safety concerns in West Park. I would avoid any design that makes it a safe haven for drug use or dealing. |
| 1 | Concern with safety of the area |
| 1 | Concerns about safety of people using park area. If the band shell is unsafe then either fix or replace. |
| 1 | Crime problems exist at west park |
| 1 | Currently yes |
| 1 | Currently yes, the cracks and water damage are bad but I expect that to be repaired |
| 1 | Currently, yes. Once it's renovated with approved plans, no. |
| 1 | Daytime and early events would bring more people to the park. |
| 1 | Definitely- after the recent home invasion and murder right across the street I think a regular police presence and patrols in the area would help make everyone feel safer when enjoying the park. |

| Count | Response |
|-------|--|
| 1 | Demolish it |
| 1 | Do you mean now or after any repairs/replacement? |
| 1 | Drug use |
| 1 | Drug use in the park Increase in crime in the area. Everything from murder to arson to vandalism |
| 1 | Due to the location, it is very concerning |
| 1 | Ensure that it is not openly accessible when not in active use to minimize vandalism, etc |
| 1 | Finding a way to preserve the structure is the most important aspect; the foundation could be made stable/safe (it doesn't need a basement for example) within that process, the floor/stage could be restored. |
| 1 | Fix - So that there are no concerns |
| 1 | General drug use and debris at the park |
| 1 | Generally have some concerns about safety at west park. Having more activities at the bandshell should help mitigate that. On the other hand a decrepit structure makes opportunities for bad behavior |
| 1 | Given the foundation and storm water issues, smart way to approach this is to start from scratch and figure out best way to build it into a community asset. |
| 1 | Greater activity and use of the bandshell would hopefully discourage illicit activities and make use of the park less intimidating |
| 1 | Have encountered individuals that caused unease for me walking alone through the park. |
| 1 | Have not enjoyed people living in the shell and using as shelter. Uncomfortable use of a park that already has some seedy characters. |
| 1 | Haven't in the past. Don't anticipate in the future. Better lighting of the area during evening events might be needed. |
| 1 | Having more people in the park will make it safer for all. |
| 1 | Homeless population and drug use are both very high at west park. Would like that to be taken into consideration. |
| 1 | Homeless population can make the park suspect at night |
| 1 | Hopefully if West Park was prioritized, safety would increase in the area. Right now, it does seem like there are lots of car break ins and stealing in the area. If more people were out and about, perhaps that would go down. |
| 1 | I am at West Park every day but I absolutely do not go there after dark - it is not a safe place to be after dark so if concerts were to run late I would be nervous about that. |
| 1 | I am concerned about possible vandalism of the bandshell structure. |
| 1 | I am concerned if the foundation & floor are not salvageable that preservation may not be the way to go.' |
| 1 | I am less concerned that the original design or structure is preserved and more concerned that it serves a purpose and has good acoustics, stage requirements (for theatre performances, not just musical). When not in use for performances, it would be great if the structure could be secured to prevent unplanned usage or loitering undesirable to the greater neighborhood. |
| 1 | I am not fully up-to-date on the problems with the current van Stan. If it was more feasible to demolish this and start new, then that may have to be considered. |
| 1 | I believe any backstage rooms should be locked to prevent vandalism. |
| 1 | I certainly wouldn't want any performers to risk injury! So, repairing or replacing the structure in a way that allows performances and makes use of the viewing space that is already so beautifully landscaped is top priority to me. |
| 1 | I don't generally use West Park in the evening hours; would feel safer if there was programming that brought more people to the park. |
| 1 | I don't have any concerns |
| 1 | I guess I might want some increased police presence for events |
| 1 | I have a lot of concerns about its current state, the picture above shows how flimsy the fence is so that is both a safety and security issue. |

Count Response

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| 1 | I have concerns about West Park in general as it's a hangout & overnight living space and the city does nothing to address this. I think a new bandshell with regular events (2-3 a week on average) is a welcome idea. I'd hope that any plan put forth includes multiple elements like what is an ideal crowd/event size for a neighborhood park, what security will be present, who sets up & cleans up after, who manages the schedule, etc. Also, a regular evaluation as to what is working, and what needs to be tweaked, all in consideration that it's a beautiful park, which is also surrounded by homes & apartments and the residents in these neighborhoods need to also be accommodated. |
| 1 | I have concerns about it being a dead space with the potential to play host to undesirable activities |
| 1 | I have concerns about personal safety in general in West Park. By improving usability of the bandshell while also increasing other community activities in the park, I believe that safety will improve as activities bring more people to the park. |
| 1 | I have concerns about safety and security NOT from the bandshell rather from the overgrown areas behind the bandshell. They are a space for hiding, sleeping. The trees in the park are not being cared for and that area is overgrown. |
| 1 | I have concerns about safety at the west park parking lot and playground - it would be great for the city to address the homelessness and drug deals going on. |
| 1 | I have concerns about safety/security at West Park in general. It's creepy there, lately, and more events might help. |
| 1 | I have concerns about the higher incidence of criminal behavior in the park |
| 1 | I have concerns about the safety and security of the West Park area in general, including the bandshell |
| 1 | I have concerns about the safety of the neighborhood following the murder of Jude Walton, who lived on the Chapin Street side of the park. I grew up at West Park and it is currently very difficult to feel safe in it knowing that public safety is no longer a priority. |
| 1 | I have concerns about the security at west park in general |
| 1 | I have felt safe at events at the bandshell in the past. I have, at times, felt uncomfortable at non-bandshell-event times in West Park because of rowdy or high citizens. I would not walk in West Park at dusk or after on a normal day but if there were events happening I think the foot traffic would increase and I would feel safer. |
| 1 | I have not made use of this park, but have attended "Sonic lunch" in downtown Ann Arbor. I am in support of live music and events in the city. The park atmosphere and large space for gathering is appealing. Liberty plaza is small. A green space for these kinds of events sounds great. |
| 1 | I have observed people camping there for extended periods occasionally. I also sometimes see people riding mopeds to the nearby picnic tables and riding electronic bikes at high speed along the path—this is not directly related to the bandshell, because it has continued even with the bandshell closed. |
| 1 | I have safety issues all over Ann Arbor lately, so yes |
| 1 | I just want to see the space used and enjoyed by the local people, It is a waste for this not to be used for theater and music |
| 1 | I know bandshell is not right next to playground, but have current concerns about taking kids to west park playground because number of people hanging out near there without kids or other standard park use |
| 1 | I know unhousef people used to camp out in the structure prior to the pandemic. That's not necessarily a security concern, but this topic is certainly worth consideration. |
| 1 | I like the bandshell design but I think it's more important to have something more flexible and usable - though quality of design is certainly important for whatever might replace it! |
| 1 | I like the existing band shell. I didn't rank salvaging the structure It would be nice to retain but also fine to replace in my opinion. |
| 1 | I mean you just told me it was unsafe |
| 1 | I shared previously that I wish there were fewer "hiding" spaces and better lighting. I want to feel safe using the park and I typically avoid the bandshell side at dawn/dusk. |
| 1 | I spend a lot of time in West Park and there is definitely an increase in adults smoking marijuana during the day, and what appears to be an influx of unhoused people. I'd like the city to take these folks into consideration when planning for West Park, not by kicking them out, but by including them in the community. Not sure how exactly. |
| 1 | I think I would have less concerns if it were in use. I have no clue if it is safe now. My biggest concern with west park is that I think it needs bathrooms. But I also think that if the park had bathrooms, they would be unsafe. |
| 1 | I think it's important to have a bandshell, not necessarily to preserve *this* bandshell if that is cost prohibitive. |
| 1 | I think it's silly to waste money on it. The city has the potential to create a flexible, usable, rentable space in another location (NOT A SWAMP!) with the same money. |
| 1 | I think most of my concerns about safety/security could be addressed/reduced by having events |

| Count | Response |
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| 1 | I think the city should weigh the cost of keeping the current shell vs. replacing the entire structure. If it is still safe and can be used with less cost then replacement then I would support that. If it will cost more to salvage the shell than to replace with a more modern and sturdy new structure then I would support total replacement. |
| 1 | I think this is a great resource, but to invest more resources would require much higher usage and the neighbors will NOT like the noise and traffic. So sadly we might need to let it go. |
| 1 | I trust the City to address that concern responsibly. |
| 1 | I want it to be safe for participants and performers. If the top and building can be preserved while the foundation is replaced/fixed, great! If it can't, then building a new or similar structure to ensure safe usage of the space should be the priority. |
| 1 | I want to make sure it doesn't become a hangout location for unfavorable behavior |
| 1 | I would like to see a bandshell somewhere in Ann Arbor, West Park doesn't need to be the site, nor do we need to consider reuse of the structure if it limits the potential. (e.g. the structure could be sold/donated to another party) |
| 1 | I would like to see some type security monitoring so the new structure does not get 'tagged' and remains a beautiful and safe venue for all. |
| 1 | I would like to see the shell structure preserved but stage and foundation replaced. If houses can be moved away from higher coastal water then I can't see why the shell could not be temporarily moved while the swampy land is amended and the foundation and stage replaced. |
| 1 | I would love to use the park with my students as our classroom is close by. However we have had to stop even going by the park due to things we have experienced there. |
| 1 | I would not want it to turn into a makeshift homeless shelter or a place where children or people with reduced mobility could get into an accident. While the bandshell was open, my preschool-age child would frequently run around it, jump on stage and 'perform'. The structure needs to be safe for people of all ages and abilities. |
| 1 | I'm concerned that it's too hard to keep the homeless out, and it becomes a risk to park goers. |
| 1 | I'm no engineer but it seems installing a wetland in front of it wasn't a good idea. |
| 1 | I'm not familiar enough with it's structural integrity / condition to know whether or not there should be concerns. |
| 1 | I'm sure when you decide what to do, it will be safe. The aesthetics of the shell are important to me. Even if it is not classified as an historic landmark, it should/could be. Work with the historic preservation committee on that. |
| 1 | I've been reading on Nextdoor about discarded needles and trash in West Park, and harassment. Anything that would discourage residents from using the park detracts from the value of the bandshell. I've never felt unsafe walking there myself, but the Nextdoor reports are concerning. |
| 1 | I've been slightly concerned that the stage is so far from the paved area. It would be nice to better link the stage to the north path and the amphitheater seating area. |
| 1 | I've heard West Park has been overrun with homeless and crime and drugs. I don't know this is true, but even if a little true, it needs to be fixed |
| 1 | I've lived in Ann Arbor near West Park for over 50 years and have enjoyed concerts at the Bandshell and was never concerned with safety. There have been episodes of graffiti but no structural damage as far as I know. |
| 1 | If it needs to be re-built, then do it from the bottom up. |
| 1 | If it's in a flood plain, seems to me it's an expensive proposition to try to salvage it, particularly with climate change models saying it's going to be wetter in this region. Doesn't seem worth the money to me. If people want an amphitheater, select a more appropriate location where we won't be fighting Mother Nature. |
| 1 | If it's not safe, it should be removed |
| 1 | If it's possible to somehow preserve or incorporate the shell structure into a new structure that would be great like the University did when it incorporated the old Carnegie Library facade into the newer North Quad https://sites.lsa.umich.edu/greekcampus/centralcampus/carnegie-library-and-frieze-building-spolia-north-quad/ Otherwise for safety and cost reasons I think echoing the shell in a new amphitheater and also having some permanent historical signage will suffice. |
| 1 | If it's not safe, fix it. Don't destroy it. Use it often. |
| 1 | If the bandshell is renovated in any form, part of the plans for renewal must include the financial infrastructure to maintain it. Dig deeper, no additional millages |
| 1 | If the bandshell is restored properly and the foundation repaired and sealed, as so many basement foundations in homes are, there is no problem with the structure being safe for use as it has been in the past. Security is an issue for the entire park and a lack of police surveillance has created a terrible problem especially near the Chapin entrance. If West Park were in Burns Park, this never would have developed. The city has turned its back on this part of town that has just as much historical value as any other part of Ann Arbor, if not more. |

| Count | Response |
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| 1 | If the foundation and floor are structurally unsound, then there are very real concerns that the bandshell could collapse. |
| 1 | If the shell is salvageable use it with a new foundation elsewhere in the park |
| 1 | If the shell structure is NOT preserved, will you put a different (better? improved?) shell structure there or just get rid of it? I don't want it NOT to have a shell structure, but this issue makes it hard to answer the above question. |
| 1 | If the structures foundation is not stable then that is a safety issue that concerns me. |
| 1 | If you're going to host concerts or events you need to ensure safety for attendees. Don't make a great concert venue that is just going to become part of a homeless camp |
| 1 | Important to consider safety and cost. |
| 1 | In general no, but ideally it would not double as a sleeping shelter |
| 1 | In general safety at West Park is an issue. Presence of park rangers or similar staff would help the situation. Having more activities in the park hopefully would deter people who use the park for illegal activities. |
| 1 | In its current condition, yes. It seems to be unsafe to use. |
| 1 | In the current distressed state, yes. If/when repaired, no |
| 1 | In the evening needs to be secure |
| 1 | In the past neighbors of the bandshell have gotten angry about performances there. There might be better parks that are more suited to hosting shows. |
| 1 | In the past things have been bad , however I think that with more events coming in to the Bandshell on a regular basis, this will help the visibility of the wrong/undesirable element |
| 1 | In the sense of safety for people utilizing the bandshell yes, in terms of security for the historical preservation of the bandshell, no |
| 1 | Increase in crime nearby |
| 1 | Increased traffic flow in the area is a nuisance, rip out the bandshell |
| 1 | Indeed, there is growing concern about safety at West Park. However, with the right partnerships and an effective activation strategy, the park has the potential to transform into a true urban gem. Beyond preserving the bandshell, think about forming robust partnerships with established local arts providers for activation. Additionally, consider collaborating with local social services agencies to conduct outreach at the park. |
| 1 | Is this because unhoused people camp there sometimes? I don't feel concerned about safety or security over that. Perhaps we should carve out some of West park to build housing. |
| 1 | Is this question here due to the park's proximity to Delonis? It feels phrased to invite such concerns, as the unsafe non-salvageable parts of the stage and foundation would need to be replaced regardless. |
| 1 | It can and must be made safe. I do not accept for a minute that this is impossible |
| 1 | It can exist safely as a structure, as it has for years. Keys for dressing rooms can be checked out through parks & rec. It seems to be an inevitable water issue being in the floodpath, BUT the current shell lasted for a lot of years on that initial investment! It would be worth spending money to revamp, even if it has an expected lifespan. |
| 1 | It depends on how much work needs to go in for it to be salvaged compared to just building a new one. For safety, knowing how often it is inspected and to what level would be helpful. |
| 1 | It does seem to be a problem based on input from friends. It does seem like the Delonis Center needs more help as their clients need more help. |
| 1 | It is such an asset to the park |
| 1 | It needs to be dissolved and a new structure built in a different location. |
| 1 | It needs to be safe |
| 1 | It needs to be safe. |
| 1 | It seems structurally unsound and having a vacant, fenced structure is likely to attract crime. |
| 1 | It should be removed. Accessible bathrooms should be higher priority and are severely lacking in Ann Arbor parks. Concerts can still be had in an area that requires less funds to maintain. |
| 1 | It should be structurally sound. |

| Count | Response |
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| 1 | It would be nice if the city had done some upkeep on the grounds around it.. it looks like an inner city dump. |
| 1 | It would be nice for this to stay open to the public and the unhoused population. |
| 1 | It would be nice to include the structure in some way within the architectural design of an updated stage or entrance. |
| 1 | It's an old feature that should be removed to conform to modern principles and practices of city park design and management. |
| 1 | It's close to Delonis and residents in the area complain about uptick in crime. |
| 1 | It's not any less safe than other A2 park facilities. |
| 1 | Just make it so we can have music shows here again. |
| 1 | Just the attractiveness of it to become a homeless hotbed. |
| 1 | Just the current state of the foundation |
| 1 | Just the walk to the bandshell, past the aggressive panhandlers and trash (both have gotten a little better but can that be maintained?) |
| 1 | Kind of, as I know West Park is a den for drug usage. |
| 1 | Lighting |
| 1 | Loud rock concerts disturb nearby residents and attract more people, which also increases the noise. |
| 1 | Make it usable at any cost |
| 1 | Make sure it is safe. |
| 1 | Managing security at any sort of outbuilding in AA parks will always be an issue, but even more so at a structure that may include valuable audio/visual equipment. |
| 1 | More generally for West Park, we need increased security for public safety |
| 1 | My big concern is that backstage accessibility is considered. As a percussionist, it was hard to navigate some of those spaces. People navigating big equipment for performance or for mobility share similar challenges. Also, the walkways around the structure need to be regularly maintained. |
| 1 | My concern about is that without improvements the park has less use and is more of a safety concern |
| 1 | My concerns are about how the city lied and said that it was okay to flood the foundation and plant invasive cattails. |
| 1 | My daughter played in a band that utilized the bandshell and it seemed dilapidated even before it was shutdown. I think safety in general is a concern at West Park but may help to have people using it in a more productive manner. |
| 1 | My main concerns relate to West Park in general. I often smell pot on the basketball court and a friend once found a knife (not a pocketknife) on the slide. |
| 1 | N/A |
| 1 | N/a |
| 1 | N/a it not needs a maintenance plan.. |
| 1 | NO! If this space is used again, that will inherently make the park and the area around it safer. Erosion of social infrastructure (spaces that are open to the public and which facilitate social gathering) are proven to increase health and safety in communities where these spaces are supported. |
| 1 | No Police need to have a better presence at all public areas- West Park is no less safe than any other park in A2. Low income housing near by does not make it less safe! |
| 1 | No - make it safe, but it needs to be put to use, and Ann Arbor needs to not be afraid to get some cool bands to play here. |
| 1 | No - I don't have concerns currently about safety or security at the bandshell. I just read an article in the paper about plans to raze historical housing to be replaced with a high rise. Historic preservation is an important goal in all communities. My father (who would have been 94 this year) enjoyed West Park and the bandshell as a child. I lived in an apartment overlooking it in grad school. My kids have taken field trips there as children. It would be nice to create continuity to the extent we can over generations. |
| 1 | No - I have lived in this neighborhood since 1990 and have never felt there was any 'safety or security' issues |
| 1 | No - I walk and bike through this part of the park several times per week for many years, and I have never felt unsafe. |

| Count | Response |
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| 1 | No - only if it remains an attractive nuisance . The more the whole community uses it the fewer druggies it will attract |
| 1 | No Boston has a nice one on the esplanade |
| 1 | No as a nearby resident since 1978 I have been informed or read of no concerns |
| 1 | No but I have concerns about the safety of the park. |
| 1 | No concerns if it's repaired/replaced. |
| 1 | No concerns. |
| 1 | No concerns. If old shell is too expensive to salvage, build something new for the community. |
| 1 | No concerns. I am a very senior senior citizen and female and feel comfortable walking through West Park using the path by the pond and the two paths by the Bandshell at all times of the day and evening and at night up to 10 or 11 pm. |
| 1 | No not especially |
| 1 | No other than structural issues |
| 1 | No, I don't think the bandshell must be preserved. Design elements of the existing bandshell might be incorporated in the development of the design for a new structure. |
| 1 | No, I used to play here all the time growing up, even the water is fine |
| 1 | No, I would feel comfortable there any time of day. |
| 1 | No, West Park is great and everyone complaining about the safety like it's the South Bronx in the mid-80s is blowing things out of proportion. |
| 1 | No, although I don't live in the area. The one concert I went to some years ago it seemed fine/safe enough. I walk a lot, and am well aware of the presence of unhoused people around the city — i think some people will think that this expensive work at West Park will "get rid of" the unhoused in the area, but it's not that simple. |
| 1 | No, and I'm a mom with two young kids. |
| 1 | No, and as long as the structural problems are addressed. |
| 1 | No, assuming the needed structural repairs are completed. |
| 1 | No, beyond structural integrity |
| 1 | No, but I have observed it is used as a shelter for the unhoused in winter months. |
| 1 | No, but I think parking would be a concern for any event that brings a lot of people to the neighborhood. |
| 1 | No, every concert I've ever been to since I was a little kid has always been a wonderful summer evening and I can't recall there ever being anything unsafe there. I wouldn't recommend the Ann arbor civic band or anyone store expensive equipment there but that's just common sense. |
| 1 | No, just let it sit. It doesn't cost any money to sit. |
| 1 | No, just the limiting size |
| 1 | No, not personal safety. |
| 1 | No- the police need to do their job of neighborhood policing and it will be fine. |
| 1 | No-but the earlier question asked about 4-6 events per week?!! What about 1/week to start?! Sheesh. |
| 1 | No. I always go with friends to concerts. The Ann Arbor Police are "there" but inobtrusive during events. The types of performances attract families, kids, and other-than-rowdy crowds. |
| 1 | No. I have concerns about safety and security in West Park more broadly. My family welcomes all efforts to activate and invest in West Park. Preserving the bandshell would be nice, but more important is ensuring that West Park is an asset to the community rather than a drug market and liability. |
| 1 | No. I live adjacent to the park and am there nearly every day. Although unhoused people sometimes seek shelter there at night, neither myself nor my children have ever had any problems. |
| 1 | No. Just that whatever is built, if it's something new, isn't ugly. |

Count Response

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| 1 | No. Do something quick. It looks so ghetto. What a mess. Should never have been neglected. The city pays for needless roundabouts but will not invest in beautiful public space. |
| 1 | No. I use West Park and the area around the bandshell along with my young children. So does my elderly mother, who lives nearby. We have never experienced anything that should be considered unsafe. If anything, I'm concerned for the safety of people who may be the target of police action—unhoused people, people of color, young people. |
| 1 | No. If the bandshell receives a new foundation, it should be fine. I think if the bandshell were removed, the city would have to seriously consider alternatives for park useage, because it is the lack of people in the park that creates concerns about safety and security. |
| 1 | No. Just because people from the Delonis Center like to hang out at West Park does not mean that it is unsafe. |
| 1 | No. Not is the facility is used frequently enough. |
| 1 | No. Not once actually being used. Abandoned, it is more of a concern |
| 1 | No. Public events are likely to be safer than individual park useage. |
| 1 | No. The current structure is not very well designed and not attractive. I hope the city agrees to a more accessible and architecturally more pleasing structure |
| 1 | No. The resource has been underresourced and underutilized for too long. It could be a jewel of the West Side and the City w walkable/cyclable access for hundreds of families and singles, elderly nearby. |
| 1 | No. West Park can be sketchy but not when it's well lit or there are crowds. |
| 1 | No....but I dont have a lot of information |
| 1 | No; if the shell is salvageable, it should only be salvaged if it does not require more funding than it would to build something new/safer/accessible. |
| 1 | Nond |
| 1 | None at all |
| 1 | None at the moment |
| 1 | None at the moment. My greatest concern is for the environment around the shell in the sense that it won't continue to degrade future structures. |
| 1 | None at this time |
| 1 | None other than the integrity of the structure. |
| 1 | None that I don't have for the entire park |
| 1 | None that wouldn't be addressed in the ordinary course of design. |
| 1 | None, I trust engineers will ensure the safety of the structure before it is reopened for use |
| 1 | None. |
| 1 | None. I have lived near this structure for more than 30 years and attended many diverse events held there and have never had issues with safety/security. |
| 1 | None. I have used the park regularly for over 30 years and remain perplexed by the few vocal fear mongers that consider the park dangerous. Frankly, I think this is just indicative of racism woven into the fabric of our society. |
| 1 | None. It should be removed. |
| 1 | None. Love west park. |
| 1 | None. We have seen, evidently, that the bandshell is NOT the issue of safety and security in West Park, but those who live AROUND West Park have been victimized by fellow residents, NOT a crumbling structure worthy of our attention. |
| 1 | Not a clear question. You mean the structure, currently? Or are you referring to personal safety issues? |
| 1 | Not after it's redesigned |

| Count | Response |
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| 1 | Not answering this question, but to comment on multiple-choice questions I've answered: Accessibility is important but it seems like it's already pretty accessible via the sidewalk/trail on the north side of the park. Also wondering why Allen Creek was exposed there, given that (a) doing so threatened the integrity of the bandshell foundation and (b) I can't see the exposed creek there so there's no aesthetic value to "exposing" it. I'd love to see a river/creek surfaced and running through the park but what's been done so far does not have that affect and why was it done when doing so threatened the bandshell? Back to the issue of safety and security, there are current concerns in those regards at West Park in general (not just near the bandshell). I know homelessness is an issue in Ann Arbor, but when I hear about more large-scale publicly funded affordable housing being put in the Water Hill area I want to ask why not do that in Burns Park or the area east of Washtenaw and sou |
| 1 | Not any more than what is currently at issue with the space. |
| 1 | Not at all |
| 1 | Not at all. |
| 1 | Not at events but on the daily , yes . |
| 1 | Not at the bandshell in particular but west park had gotten a little unsafe over the past few years. If you're going to invest in making the park a destination in A2 people need to be made to feel safe and secure hanging out there. |
| 1 | Not at the bandshell in particular, but the park often does not feel safe. |
| 1 | Not at the bandshell, but slight concerns over the past year in West Park more generally. Increased events and activity at the bandshell (or elsewhere in the park) I think would reduce any safety concerns! |
| 1 | Not beyond what had already been investigated. . If there are parts that are salvageable, that may help to keep the cost down |
| 1 | Not currently. |
| 1 | Not especially, though in its current shutdown state it doesn't seem particularly safe to hang around and I wonder how people might be occupying the space |
| 1 | Not if it is repaired |
| 1 | Not if it's been responsibly assessed by a qualified professional who doesn't have anything to gain from the Shell's success (other than getting paid for their work on the assessment) |
| 1 | Not if it's restored. |
| 1 | Not if renovated or managed properly |
| 1 | Not if the necessary repairs can be made |
| 1 | Not if the police department appropriately monitors(cameras ?) and prohibits unsafe or illegal activities at the park. |
| 1 | Not if the structure is well maintained. |
| 1 | Not if we raze it. |
| 1 | Not if we're having regular events there. It's the lack of events and use of the park by the community that has made West Park unattractive and somewhat scary. |
| 1 | Not much, not when people come |
| 1 | Not now. It maybe if concerts are reintroduced, especially if alcohol cannot be prohibited. |
| 1 | Not really |
| 1 | Not really a good idea to build in a flood plain. |
| 1 | Not really, but it be nice if we had more police control once in a while through the park because of drugs and people sleeping overnight |
| 1 | Not really, it is a simple structure. Easy in and easy out of it. |
| 1 | Not really. If it was being used often by community members, most likely, nefarious practices would likely be deterred. |
| 1 | Not specifically |
| 1 | Not specifically at the bandshell, but in the park itself. |
| 1 | Not too much. I do know that west park is sometimes a gathering place for house less folks and I've seen people doing drugs there. As always, I'd love to see an increase in public funds to support low income housing and programs to increase upward mobility for houses people. |

| Count | Response |
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| 1 | Not when it is being used. Right now, when it isn't being used, the back side of it can seem dank and a bit scary. |
| 1 | Not when it's active, but security cameras might be a good idea and there should be patrols throughout the park when it's closed (dusk to dawn). |
| 1 | Nothing in particular, West Park has gotten rougher since the pandemic, but just like Liberty Plaza, activation would keep things feeling safe. |
| 1 | Now? Yes Future if brought back for A2 - no |
| 1 | No—just the drug use and illegal activities in the park |
| 1 | Np |
| 1 | Npne |
| 1 | Obviously being structurally sound is critical. That AA allowed it to fall into such disrepair feels intentional. The lack of programming allows the park to be vacant and unappealing. Would be nice to host movie nights, community concerts, school concerts, local theater, etc |
| 1 | Obviously it would need to be safe and not accessible to those who shouldn't be using it |
| 1 | Obviously safety concerns if the foundation is not structurally sound. Security, no. |
| 1 | Of course |
| 1 | Of course, I think it's important to have safety, in terms of accessibility Electrical and protection from people |
| 1 | Ok, i didn't realize the only salvageable piece was the shell itself when I answered the other questions...i am not concerned about the historic preservation as much as i thought it was. if the shell can be kept while the floor/foundation is replaced, great. if it's cheaper to just build a new structure, we should just do that. the park needs activation and that's more important to me than the historic preservation. |
| 1 | Once it's repaired it should be safe. The park overall needs a security review. |
| 1 | Only about walking to the bandshell, because of the panhandlers. |
| 1 | Only as they relate to those issues in the Park in general. |
| 1 | Only because it's sinking and not patrolled! |
| 1 | Only concerns I have is that the neighbors will try to dictate what goes on and what doesn't go on at west park. |
| 1 | Only if experts do |
| 1 | Only if you're having concerts going on until after 10 pm. |
| 1 | Only normal security which is expected at any public park. I would suggest the adoption of adequate lighting for night events. I would broaden programming to invite a broad spectrum of guests, and have food trucks. |
| 1 | Only that folks aren't falling upwards or down when trying to be on stage for setup and take down and performing/speaking. |
| 1 | Only to not have it not become an encampment and not be used after hours. |
| 1 | Panhandlers |
| 1 | Park safety generally has deteriorated, and the bandshell just provides more areas for people to conduct illicit activities |
| 1 | People Sleeping |
| 1 | Please get rid of homeless people |
| 1 | Preserving it doesn't make sense if it's not safe. Keep the same look and rebuild it so it's safe and secure. |
| 1 | Preserving the bandshell structure is not as important as preserving the community's ability to gather and recreate together at West Park. Consider that perhaps dismantling the current structure and building one on stilts (or in a slightly different location) is worth the extra cost/time/resources to avoid repeating the costly mistake of a foundation in floodwaters. |
| 1 | Put Gayle Hurn in charge of it! She has an excellent track record of tearing down programs beloved by the community |
| 1 | Recently, West Park has been described as "not safe" at night by female friends, who switch to walking along the streets instead of through the park. |
| 1 | Right now yes!! It's nothing but blithe in our park. It's often unsafe to even walk by it! Drugs, crime and homelessness now prevail in West Park |

| Count | Response |
|-------|--|
| 1 | Safety & security should be # 1 concern |
| 1 | Safety and security at West Park seems to be the larger issue, with the bandshell being part of the park. There's not much supervision after dark. |
| 1 | Safety and security have never been a problem while the structure was still sound. |
| 1 | Safety and security in west park in general |
| 1 | Safety is always important |
| 1 | Security during hours not in use |
| 1 | Security is a a serious concern. Way to many homeless and disorderly persons using the park for extended periods of time. |
| 1 | Security is a concern at this park |
| 1 | Security is a concern given proximity to recent home invasion and murder, and significant homeless population nearby |
| 1 | Security may be something of a concern just because it would be an open-air venue in a public park, which means that people could enter the area without having to go through any sort of security. However, as far as safety regarding using the bandshell itself, I believe it would be fine as long as the proper repairs and upkeep took place. |
| 1 | Security should be a priority in view of recent incidents in the area. |
| 1 | Seems like it would be easier and more cost effective to knock down the current structure and rebuild it. |
| 1 | Should be moved or demolished. |
| 1 | Sidewalks, park paths, parking lots, and streets within and surrounding West Park need to be well- lit at night in order to make evening concerts/events safe for everyone. |
| 1 | Since its built on a wetland can it be made sound for the long run? |
| 1 | Since the town's history has been erased, any remaining "charming" aspects of aa should be preserved. This is an Olmsted park, the bandshell is part of that design, the Grateful Dead played here! Let's keep one last nice thing. |
| 1 | Some about security: before the fencing blocking access (and somewhat even after, though at a reduced frequency), the bandshell and environs has been a magnet for shelter use by unhoused folks, or people otherwise seeking cover against the elements and detection. As a result, it always felt unsafe (or at least demanding of unusual caution) to walk by there after dark on the nearby paths, especially the one to the south. This is one reason I think it might be useful to use this opportunity to rethink the architecture of performance venues. Get rid of the current structure for instance, erect a raised stage area on "stilts" or concrete pilings, and use tentlike awnings for cover and sound projection -- these awnings would be temporary and in-season features & would incorporate entirely new design possibilities. |
| 1 | Some, as the park is not well policed at the moment |
| 1 | Sometimes |
| 1 | Spaces that look like no one is taking care of them attract anti-social behavior. So yes, at the moment this doesn't feel like a safe place. |
| 1 | That it should not fall on people or result in injury |
| 1 | The Gelman dioxane plume is spreading and may cause the park itself to be unsafe to go to |
| 1 | The Miller entry to the park closest to many, many residents has recently become nearly impassable due to safety and sanitary issues. It has gotten to the point of direct harassment at times. |
| 1 | The area should be well lit and, perhaps, inaccessible when not in use. |
| 1 | The bandsheel should be ripped down. If the shell structure can be reused without any increase in total cost of the project then reuse the shell |
| 1 | The bandshell should be moved out of that naturally wet area, rather than accommodating the bandshell and getting rid of the wet area |
| 1 | The city needs to clear out the indigent / opioid addict population in the area. I frequently have found used needles in West Park. |
| 1 | The concerns I have about the bandshell are really just park concerns in general. Unfortunately, I don't always feel as safe as I could in this park and it's not necessarily about the bandshell. |
| 1 | The crime in the park is very visible, it's the most unsafe park we visit. Transient tents have been setup in the park and one has been behind the pond in the woods all summer. In addition cars pull up selling drugs in the parking lot in the daylight. You can watch foot traffic go back and forth between Miller Manor and the Delonis Center with the West Park parking lot being the meeting place. |

Count Response

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| 1 | The current structure is unsafe and prohibitively expensive to repair, so let's replace it with a functional, flexible place. I have no worries about safety and security beyond the crumbling concrete. I'm concerned that this question may be a question about housing insecure people in the park, which is a different survey. I walk through the park twice daily every weekday and have no more concerns about safety and security at West Park than I do in any part of Ann Arbor. (And yes, we need more supportive permanent housing). |
| 1 | The entire structure should be safe and able to accommodate weight of people, instruments and equipment. |
| 1 | The fence around it seems like a risk to safety |
| 1 | The key is that any new structure is built of low/no maintenance materials and construction methods so that a new bandstand has a long and productive life and is not a major burden for future maintenance and repair cost & effort |
| 1 | The most important thing is to have a cool space like this that can host events and concerts and bring people together. I like the shell structure as it is, but would be happy with a new one if it is safer and more cost-effective, |
| 1 | The new structure should be safe and secure, which the current one is not |
| 1 | The only safety concern would be the lack of parking in the area, causing the road to clog up with cars. |
| 1 | The overall quality of park maintenance has an effect on bandshell safety |
| 1 | The park as a whole has safety concerns due to open air homeless and drug use that needs to be addressed for the park to be activated. |
| 1 | The park is general feels less safe as it is used less. |
| 1 | The park itself is unsafe. There was a homicide in the neighborhood and the park is not as kid friendly as other Ann Arbor parks |
| 1 | The park should be welcoming and safe for people to use. This is critical |
| 1 | The playing area is too small for standard band sizes. Has anyone done an acoustical study of the shell to be sure that it is projecting properly? Can the band members hear each other? I also wonder about the residents of Miller Minor because the sound ricochets off their building. As to security, the place was a camp out for unhoused people before the fencing went up. |
| 1 | The shell is REALLY pretty. BUT...sometimes we hang on to things from the past at the cost of a functional future. I think it's difficult to have large community events in West Park. Given its location, it should be perfect for pop-up things, but it's not, in part because the shell can't integrate groups into any format beyond the boring and not very good community orchestra events of old. New energy would be really helpful. Although tearing down the bandshell will likely be a huge problem... |
| 1 | The structure is attractive, although the exact structure is not important because of the poor foundation. |
| 1 | The structure is not important to me at all. It would be more important to have something more accessible and safe. |
| 1 | The surrounding area should be well lit for evening events. |
| 1 | The water table in west park has gone up which created the damage |
| 1 | There are homeless who use the bandshell as a shelter which isn't a safety or security issue in itself, but in the past there has been a lot of trash and broken glass around the bandshell. |
| 1 | There are public health problems in the park related to substance abuse and chronic persistent mental illness. Having outreach services capabilities would be helpful e.g., office space for new unarmed crisis response team. Need more lighting and shade . |
| 1 | There are stories of safety incidents at west park, so yes somewhat concerned |
| 1 | There has been a significant increase of unhoused individuals in west Park over the past year, which would need to a factor in the overall security of the bandshell. |
| 1 | There have been times when people have been camping and sleeping in the bandshell, even into the winter |
| 1 | There is a homeless population but as long as there is minimal panhandling, I don't think this should be a safety concern. Revitalizing the park would help everyone involved, and show people that the park is still beautiful, which has been put into question with the increasing homeless activity there. |
| 1 | There is not adequate parking available to support bandshell events. |
| 1 | There is something very wrong with water flows having been directed toward and around the structure. Who made the decision to do so? |
| 1 | There should be lights for nighttime events, both on the stage and illuminating the area for spectators, and potentially common walking areas back to cars and transit. |
| 1 | There's not enough parking |

Count Response

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| 1 | This is an important piece of Ann Arbor history and more beautiful and eye-catching than modern stage architecture. Don't lose it. |
| 1 | This is the issue I was referring to earlier. As a City Center Park, the city needs to figure out how to address security and not abandon the park or the people- whether they come from the neighborhood or the Delonis Center! |
| 1 | This park is very dark at night for passing through. I've never had any night time safety issues (only daytime, haha) but I have seen people coming out of tall grasses after drug use (taking off rubber hosing around upper arm). Often homeless people are using the bandshell floor for sleeping (when it was not fenced off). Sometimes people use the diamond as a dog park and let their dogs off leash. |
| 1 | To make it safe for its users to be safe! |
| 1 | Unsafe structure. The atmosphere at the park feels unsafe. |
| 1 | We have lived in the neighborhood for 40 years and enjoyed many summer concerts as well as playing on the stage when my children were young. Is that a way the bandshell can be moved to another location that can sustain a foundation? |
| 1 | We should do what makes the most sense in achieving community goals for this structure, whether replacing the foundation, putting the shell on a new foundation elsewhere, or replacing it. |
| 1 | Weird area to be around, hiding places. |
| 1 | Well I have safety and security concerns about West Park in general. We have stopped walking through the park on our way downtown. We have also told our children to avoid going through there on their way downtown or to friends' homes. I would support anything that brings families, more consistent police presence, and visibility to the park. |
| 1 | Well some lady just got murdered across the street in her own home, there have been aggressive off leash dog attacks and there is currently a campsite in the park and homeless people sleeping nearby along with associated refuse. There is usually something shady going on in the parking lot. I still walk through there frequently and take my kid there, but if it gets much worse I might have to avoid it. |
| 1 | Well, I'd rather it not collapse we on anyone. |
| 1 | Well, obviously since the foundation is crumbling, I'd be concerned about anyone using the bandshell in it's current condition. |
| 1 | West Park currently seems unsafe because of the large number of people who gather (and sleep) in the park and who appear to be drinking alcohol and using other recreational drugs in the park. |
| 1 | West Park has questionable activities at its easternmost end. I would hope that that could be eliminated so that families and others would feel comfortable going to West Park, and that extends to the bandshell. |
| 1 | West Park has serious safety issues and I'm not confident that improving the bandshell will address the safety issues. The park needs to be reimaged and revamped to be safe for all ages |
| 1 | West Park in general has developed a reputation for being unsafe (harboring drug use, etc). It is important that the bandshell doesn't contribute to that by providing "safe harbor" |
| 1 | West Park is known for active illicit drug use/sales. A recent homicide also occurred near the park entrance off Chapin. Providing additional security/police presence in the area may be necessary. Also, fully securing the structure after hours may be needed to prevent damage. Otherwise, during events, I doubt much of an issue would be noted. |
| 1 | West Park looks like a swamp. The historic nature of the bandshell has been neglected and I am sad that it has been so neglected. Too bad we couldn't put a bike lane through it and maybe the city admins would have cared for it. |
| 1 | West Park often has a lot of homeless people |
| 1 | West Park will inevitably become less sketchy if events get held there constantly, it will constitute, if anything, an improvement in neighborhood safety and security |
| 1 | West park area has gotten a pretty bad reputation recently, due to the visibility of the unhoused population. I don't agree with that reputation necessarily, but I believe many people likely would not go due to the increase in visibility of unhoused people or the people going to the Delonis. Overall folks do not want to see that. Sad read on it really, but something to consider. |
| 1 | West park is sketchy at night |
| 1 | When the park has more people, it feels more safe. Establishing/encouraging events in West Park increases my sense of safety there. Building a new bandshell should contribute to increased usage of the park. |
| 1 | Will need to make sure it's not used by homeless as a shelter |
| 1 | With an excellent activation plan, activities occurring & park utilization increased, then no safety or security concerns. |

Count Response

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| 1 | With the difficult homeless situation of many people, structures can attract somewhat desperate persons seeking shelter. In the past West Park had a ranger who was skilled at gaining the respect of 'vagrants' in the park and guiding them to helpful social, health, and housing services. Having a park ranger in West Park could provide a very helpful community service. If nothing is done to guide 'vagrants' to places where they can receive help, then 'vagrants' attracted to the bandshell could behave desperately and that could be a safety or security problem. |
| 1 | YES! Thank you for asking this outright. I do feel that an increase in events would come with an increase in crime. I no longer feel safe walking through the park alone. I did note some comments on safety in the previous slide as well but I do believe this issue needs to be addressed (no matter what happens to the bandshell), but especially if an increase in events is being entertained as an idea. |
| 1 | Yea homeless drug use |
| 1 | Yes - it should be open access to the community but well monitored given increasing occurrences and tolerance of the park and parking lot for street people, etc. Would like to see it used again for yoga and meditation. |
| 1 | Yes - the majority of all drug use and transactions I've witnessed have been here. |
| 1 | Yes - there are quite a few heroine/hard drug users in this area. I have heard older, female residents of Miller Manor (who like to garden) say that there are used heroine needles in the garden beds by Miller Manor. I have repeatedly been approached by dirty-looking people with missing teeth asking for money in this area. Twice, I have had a person stand in front of my car in the street, demanding money and blocking my passage. I'd appreciate regular foot patrol police officers in West Park, especially at night, when "partying" in the park happens frequently. |
| 1 | Yes I have concerns about safety |
| 1 | Yes I have witnessed transient or unhoused folks sleeping in west park, witnessed drug use, have heard of a friend of a friend being raped in the park. |
| 1 | Yes at night |
| 1 | Yes at night would need security presence in the park |
| 1 | Yes due to the homeless people in the park. They leave the shelters and stay there all day. They also sleep in the park. |
| 1 | Yes if it costs more to preserve the bandshell to build around it, that doesn't make any sense. It is an outdated and old infrastructure and safety also has to come into mind-- if there is potential for it to be structurally unsound (and acoustically antiquated), then collapse the thing and start anew!!! |
| 1 | Yes some crime at Park |
| 1 | Yes the city has been negligent in letting this structure stand and fall apart for so long - vulnerable to vandals and others |
| 1 | Yes this area need to be more cleaned up - better lighting, better visibility and more family friendly |
| 1 | Yes west park doesn't seem safe for my family due to needles in the park |
| 1 | Yes! |
| 1 | Yes! See my note. There needs to be more lights - if there will be concerts or any evening events or more events that will attract a bigger audience to West Park, there needs to be more outdoor lighting. |
| 1 | Yes! The area is used by the homeless for drugs / drinking and other uses. The people in west park come west of 7th and break into cars not to mention the murder across the street of a woman who worked with the homeless. More events makes the area SAFER |
| 1 | Yes, I do not walk near there or take my grandchildren to the playground or to see the ducks. It feels unsafe. |
| 1 | Yes, I hate that when I walk by with my kids, they see a dilapidated, fenced in and i think it attracts the wrong kind of visitors (drug users) to congregate near it. We need to make it safe and use-able. |
| 1 | Yes, I live in the area and frequently walk through West Park and have felt threatened as a young woman with a baby or a small dog. |
| 1 | Yes, I live on West Park and there has been increased crime and vagrancy in the area. |
| 1 | Yes, I think no building structure should be built on floodplain. It will be a waste of money and resources to rebuild it on the same area. |
| 1 | Yes, I worry about vandalization at odd hours, such as the middle of the night. |
| 1 | Yes, West Park doesn't feel safe so I would not go there for a gathering of people. Best to return that location to nature. |
| 1 | Yes, after dark. I do not enter West Park after dark. Also, dogs running loose/off leash in West Park is a safety concern the city consistently ignores and will continue to ignore following this survey. |
| 1 | Yes, but that's consistent with my concerns about safety and security at the park in general. |
| 1 | Yes, concerns about creating a vacant sparsely populated area where unmonitored gathering may occur and decrease safety of west park further |

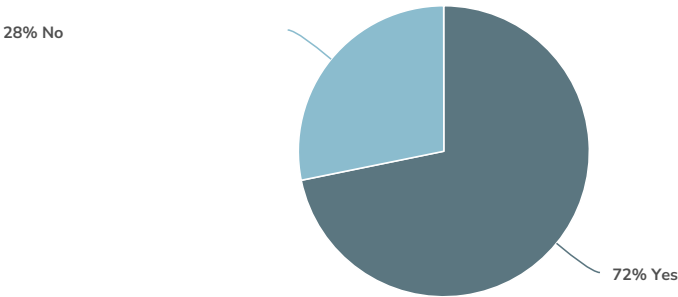
| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 1 | Yes, currently I believe it attracts people who are without a home to use as a shelter. |
| 1 | Yes, currently, the structure is failing. As a safety concern, the building rear side is vulnerable during a performance. There are many blind spots. |
| 1 | Yes, especially at night. Without numbers to back it up, it seems Use in the park has decreased over the years and criminal activity has increased. |
| 1 | Yes, homeless people |
| 1 | Yes, homeless people have slept there in the past and there's an overall increase in loitering and drug use [based on paraphernalia around the stairs, etc]. Would hate for people to not come to events because they don't perceive the park as safe. |
| 1 | Yes, if it is going to remain it should be made safe and should not continue to be a shelter for the un-housed |
| 1 | Yes, in its current fenced-off state. |
| 1 | Yes, it is important to me that people do not sleep or spend the night in the bandshell. Somehow the water needs to be rerouted if the existing bandshell is used, the vegetation in front also needs to be less to make the space a more concert/performance friendly space. Could a new bandshell be built behind the existing bandshell, I believe that might move it out of the water way. |
| 1 | Yes, it's an area I often do not feel safe walking around, especially in the evening |
| 1 | Yes, its within a community |
| 1 | Yes, lots of homeless people sleep there. |
| 1 | Yes, only starting this year. There has been much vandalism in this area of town; offensive graffiti, garbage, broken window on the MLive building. It makes the neighborhood have a less safe feel. Often homeless people are screaming nearby late into the night with vulgarity. |
| 1 | Yes, people used to sleep at the bandshell especially during the summer. |
| 1 | Yes, perhaps adding solar powered motion sensitive lights would increase safety |
| 1 | Yes, safety is my main concern within West Park. I feel safe walking around just about anywhere in the city and any hour with the exception of: West Park, Liberty Plaza, Blake Transit Center. There is enough loitering, yelling, signs of drug use and alcohol consumption that have ultimately led us to use other parks more than West Park despite this being the most convenient to our location. |
| 1 | Yes, secure from vandalism |
| 1 | Yes, the area feels isolated and unsafe, especially given the increasing drug use and crime in this area. |
| 1 | Yes, the park has a lot of drug use and crime |
| 1 | Yes, the structure needs to be very safe and ADA accessible to create an inclusive environment for all. A larger stage would be good if it is absolutely going to be redone, since the current stage limits the size that the Ann Arbor Civic Band can be. |
| 1 | Yes, there is more crime in the area. |
| 1 | Yes, there was often garbage, including sharp items, like needles, possibly with human biohazards |
| 1 | Yes, what happens if it's decided the bandshell should not be rebuilt? Does the bandshell get torn down or will it remain there in a dilapidated state? |
| 1 | Yes- increase in criminal activity around the area |
| 1 | Yes- people have been break g in and the structure is u safe. There is no lighting, drug sales are happening in the park and are not policed |
| 1 | Yes- the parking lot area needs more police presence and security measures |
| 1 | Yes. |
| 1 | Yes. All sorts of access issues for audience and performers. Lack of restroom facilities and secure storage. |
| 1 | Yes. Mainly concerns about transient people threatening park goers. The random violence in Ann Arbor is unacceptable. |
| 1 | Yes. Will need to budget for a security system and figure out how to deter homeless people from camping out. (I do feel very sorry for the homeless.) |
| 1 | Yes. Area known for drug business. |
| 1 | Yes. As someone who lives on the parks border right by a stairwell down into the park I've noticed a significant shift in the way the park is used in the past 2-3 years. I genuinely love seeing more people accessing it but in the woods and stairwells there has been so much trash and waste including human excrement, as well as the presence of more people gathering to smoke and drink in our front yard given its close proximity to the park. |

| Count | Response |
|-------|--|
| 1 | Yes. Drug activity has seemed to increase. |
| 1 | Yes. Events would need to have security or police presence. This is not a park that is considers safe currently, which is very unfortunate |
| 1 | Yes. Having an open structure can be a target for vandalism. Security cams would be needed. Events should be family friendly and alcohol free. |
| 1 | Yes. I avoid the park at night if alone. It's very dark. |
| 1 | Yes. I have concerns about protecting the natural environment and restoring the creek and wetland area around it. This important for everyone's safety in the face of climate change. Let's get creative about where we can build a new venue and how. Maybe even an elevated structure over the creek like the library! And I'm not interested in building or restoring anything if it's not maximally accessible and inclusive. ADA bare minimums aren't enough. |
| 1 | Yes. I walk there often and occasionally see evidence of bad behavior and apparent drug deals. There are occasional homeless encampments though these seem peaceful. We would need increased police presence, cameras, and cooperation from neighbors and others to report problems. |
| 1 | Yes. It should be a secure spot |
| 1 | Yes. Need more security presence |
| 1 | Yes. Obviously not safe now due to structural issues. |
| 1 | Yes. Over the last 15 years or so, West Park has become something of a haven for illegal drug and other criminal transactions. A murder was also committed on Chapin Street across from West Park within the last year. |
| 1 | Yes. Tear it down. |
| 1 | Yes. That it will collapse. Also, the park will need to be very very active year round to avoid a renovated bandshell becoming a preferred location for illegal activity |
| 1 | Yes. The reports of criminal activity is alarming. The recent murder on an adjacent street is great cause for concern. |
| 1 | Yes. There has been an increase of people sleeping in the park in recent years. |
| 1 | Yes. There is constant drug and alcohol abuse in the parking lot and various other areas of West Park. |
| 1 | Yes. This is a primary fundamental issue that must be addressed. See previous answer. I felt unsafe tending my project grow garden there due to unhorsed people Camping in the park, theft and damage to the garden and evidence of drug use there— needles on the ground. Neither project grow nor AA police were helpful with this issue. What have an expensive Reno of the park if we aren't addressing the human issue first. |
| 1 | Yes. We try to use the park, but have been harassed by homeless in the area. It has made us feel unsafe on several occasions. I would attend a crowded event with my family, but avoid walking through the park in general. |
| 1 | Yes. West park has become scary and dangerous. The neighborhood around West Park has become scary and dangerous. Making West Park more lively and engaging will help to address this. All of the marijuana stores that opened up in the past few years right around West Park seem to have something to do with this as well. People stop at Bloom and then walk straight to West Park with their pot. It seems that this attracts sales of illegal drugs too - we see that all the time now, in West Park and in the neighborhood, people standing at street corners and dealing drugs, or people who are high, and didn't see this a few years ago. Why put all of the marijuana stores right near the location of most of Ann Arbor's drug treatment locations? It doesn't seem very helpful for those suffering from substance abuse to center Ann Arbor's legal and illegal sales of drugs in the same neighborhood where they are house and treated! |
| 1 | Yes.....The design has to take into account both concerns. Security from vandalism is very important. |
| 1 | apparently the foundation and floor structure are unsound, so they must be rebuilt, while still protecting and preserving the shell super structure. |
| 1 | concerts should be family-friendly, early in evenings / security personnel should be in the park during concerts |
| 1 | if it's unsafe and needs to be torn down and replaced, then that is the action that should be taken over trying to preserve part of it |
| 1 | if more events were there and there were more people around it would be safer. |
| 1 | if you mean like the folks who sometimes call the park their temporary home, more use would increase safety and security by having more people around. |
| 1 | in this day and age there are security concerns wherever you go. but if a large enough group comes to events, it shouldn't be a problem. |
| 1 | it looks sad in the current condition and is unsafe for sure |
| 1 | it's a public space and the city needs to insure safety and security just as it should in all city spaces |
| 1 | just the surrounding areas and traffic that miller manor and the delonis center brings to west park in general. I am not a NIMBY but there is not appropriate considers to the very real issues of drug/alcohol use and violence that occurs where poverty/homelessness and addiction is present. Avalon housing and other social services cannot keep up and more services need to be implemented if this is the way ann arbor wants to go |

| Count | Response |
|-------|--|
| 1 | keep drug users and troublemakers away |
| 1 | no I do not like the trend of tearing down park structures and restrooms because a homeless person might sleep there. We need to figure out other solutions. |
| 1 | no but it looks like hell. |
| 1 | no major concerns |
| 1 | no more so than for elsewhere in the park; AAPD has done a very poor job overall of policing the park and surrounding area (specifically Miller Manor and environs). much more emphasis on community policing (officers on foot or bikes in the area). not just patrol cars, is needed. |
| 1 | no, but I would advise the city to take a more serious look at the homeless problem and the constant begging. We are better than that and this is not San Francisco. |
| 1 | no, if it is in use and kept up by the city, it will be a safe area. |
| 1 | no, more people = more safe |
| 1 | no. Going back to the previous question about the number of events/week May - September: 2-3 per week I would support. 5-6/week no. |
| 1 | none in particular |
| 1 | not at this time. |
| 1 | not particularly |
| 1 | not really |
| 1 | not right now |
| 1 | obviously yes as i have been told it is unsafe. correct the issue. |
| 1 | of course! but the city should invest in restructuring the foundation and the stage so it is functional! the financial investment would be worth the potential for usage. |
| 1 | only that the stage itself is quite small compared to the needs of groups performing on it. We are blessed with many active band and orchestra groups around town that simply will not fit on this stage. In my last few years of playing with Civic Band up there, we were perched very close to the edges. |
| 1 | only the foundation due to Allen Creek flow. |
| 1 | safety and security is always a concern at night. perhaps better (less glare) lighting that works better in a park setting. |
| 1 | save the shell, move the foundation and rearrange the amphitheater |
| 1 | some about the aggressive homeless |
| 1 | take it down |
| 1 | unknown |
| 1 | west park can be rough. important that there aren't unsecured doors or nooks to hide in. |
| 1 | yes - both the structure and the 1.4 diaoxane in the water |
| 1 | yes west park needs to be safe and inviting for all. current use as a camp site and drug use site are limiting its use |
| 1 | yes, I have concerns about the safety and security at this place in terms of structure. This building seems to be the heart of the park. If the shell structure is salvageable - then it is a possibility of lifting it and rebuilding the floors which covers floor and foundation. Nothing can't be done if the structure is weak but the shell structure can definitely can be placed on top of a new - reinforced and well build base. If the failure was due to water running under then the first step is to take care of that then build the foundations for the shell. Hopefully this wonderful outdoor "amphitheater" is preserved or "restored". |
| 1 | yes, the park is a meeting site and sometimes sleeping place for homeless people and many formerly homeless people are housed near the park. There was a home invasion and murder right across the street from the park in Spring. Many people who use the park are in a situation where their basic needs aren't being met and their lives are very unstable. I wouldn't be in the park around dark based on the reality that it is a site for drug use and informal sheltering. I would like the park to be safe around dark but believe that would require community members' needs to be better met with more appropriate resources that are easy to access along with greater pedestrian activation of the park |
| 1 | yes, the vagrancy and crime issues need to be addressed... |
| 1 | yes, there needs to be a visible security presence at events. also, that old thing doesn't look safe, build a new one |

8. Have you ever attended a concert or event at the West Park Bandshell?

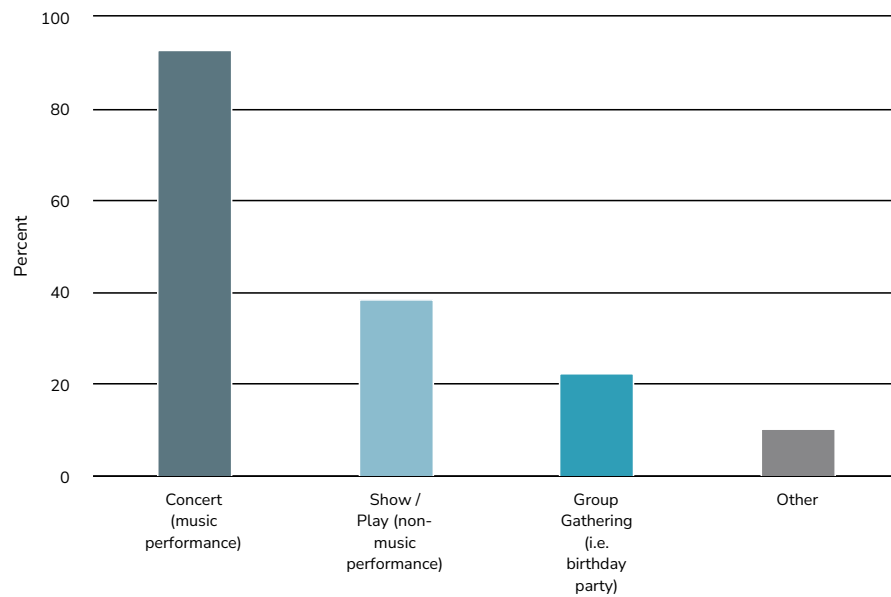
West Park Bandshell Community Engagement



| Value | Percent | Responses |
|-------|---------|---------------|
| Yes | 71.8% | 775 |
| No | 28.2% | 305 |
| | | Totals: 1,080 |

9. What type of event(s) did you attend? Check all that apply.

West Park Bandshell Community Engagement



| Value | Percent | Responses |
|---------------------------------------|---------|-----------|
| Concert (music performance) | 92.9% | 705 |
| Show / Play (non-music performance) | 38.7% | 294 |
| Group Gathering (i.e. birthday party) | 22.5% | 171 |
| Other | 10.4% | 79 |

| Other | Count |
|--|-------|
| Demonstration | 2 |
| Yoga | 2 |
| protest | 2 |
| An elementary school play | 1 |
| Baseball, garden, pond, regular walking through the park | 1 |
| Benefit festival- that I organized - when I was in high school!! | 1 |
| City council member gatherings | 1 |
| Civic engagement | 1 |
| Commitment ceremony | 1 |
| Community high school event | 1 |
| Community meeting | 1 |
| Community organizing | 1 |
| Dance event to fundraise for an organization | 1 |
| Event | 1 |
| Totals | 64 |

| Other | Count |
|---|-------|
| George floyd blm protest | 1 |
| I don't remember | 1 |
| I held a campaign event when running for city council at the | 1 |
| I used to practice my instrument there sometimes | 1 |
| Impromptu buskers playing on the "fore-stage" to the north of the bandshell proper. | 1 |
| Just going to the park | 1 |
| Meet Council Members | 1 |
| Memorial service for my sons, father | 1 |
| Our home school group did plays (1980's) | 1 |
| Overdose awareness event | 1 |
| Parks and Rec event | 1 |
| Picnic, skiing, watching the ducks, playground fornkids | 1 |
| Picnics | 1 |
| Play time with kids and friends | 1 |
| Political /community discussion by local candidates | 1 |
| Political event, Community High daytime events | 1 |
| Preschool walk to park and lunch | 1 |
| Protest - social justice gathering | 1 |
| Protests. Peace gatherings. | 1 |
| Rally | 1 |
| School Events | 1 |
| School outing | 1 |
| Sports | 1 |
| Sports cross country meets | 1 |
| T;hose with a benefit to the public | 1 |
| U-M seminar during covid | 1 |
| Used stage for improv | 1 |
| WAND Mother's Day for Peace. Several times | 1 |
| WEDDING | 1 |
| Was in a concert there! | 1 |
| We hosted my brother's memorial here. He was an artist and we were able to gather his large community of friends to celebrate him -- which for many included performing music in his honor on that stage. | 1 |
| We took photos for prom, etc there. And the kids World pretend to put on shows and perform for one another. | 1 |
| Wedding | 1 |
| YMCA performance | 1 |
| Totals | 64 |

| Other | Count |
|---|-------|
| Yoga class | 1 |
| children's play group | 1 |
| church service | 1 |
| class | 1 |
| dance | 1 |
| dance lessons / classes | 1 |
| fitness class | 1 |
| meetup with family. practicing speeches with my kids. | 1 |
| mom-kids groups over the years | 1 |
| poetry reading | 1 |
| school graduation, speakers | 1 |
| walk at the park often, aside from bandshell events | 1 |
| weddings | 1 |
| Totals | 64 |

10. What, if anything, was positive about your experience?



West Park Bandshell Community Engagement

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 2 | Community |
| 2 | Everything |
| 2 | Everything |
| 2 | Music |
| 2 | Wonderful |
| 1 | 1) The outdoor venue itself, the backdrop of trees, the feeling of not having to look at other structures while enjoying an event -- a bit of natural expanse within the city. (And even the glimpse of downtown & tall structures from the seating area reinforcing the sense of being in the country, removed from the bustle.) 2) The ability to locate lawn chairs to find that perfect seat next to neighbors and friends. 3) The natural contours that allowed sitting higher than the stage itself -- creating a kind of bowl effect and a natural amphitheater. |
| 1 | 1. Walkability from my home. 2. The diversity of the audience. |
| 1 | A beautiful spot and great opportunity to provide more community events (especially music). Attended a concert there in 2000 (local band) and a concert during the pandemic with my young daughter. |
| 1 | A great local experience! People of all ages, families, etc. |
| 1 | A joyful sense of community. |
| 1 | A lot of families sitting on the hill watching. |
| 1 | A lovely setting, community gathering, just a wonderful Summer thing in Ann Arbor. |
| 1 | A sense of community |
| 1 | A very nice venue |
| 1 | A wonderful structure for children to play around and on. Children can pretend they are on stage and talk or dance to their hearts content. Loved the summer concerts of all different kinds. |
| 1 | Accessible to the community (not fenced off). Walking distance from downtown and west side neighborhoods. Lots of open green space surrounding. |
| 1 | Acoustics |
| 1 | All |
| 1 | All of it |
| 1 | All of it was positive! |
| 1 | All was positive |
| 1 | Although now too far from the performers on stage, audience seating on hillside is nice. |
| 1 | Ann Arbor Summer Festival produced a series of concerts during the summer of 2021 – one of the only arts organizations in town producing in-person events. It felt informal and community-based, but it was well done. |
| 1 | As a child it was an important place to gather for the arts |
| 1 | As a member of the Ann Arbor civic band, it was great to perform music for the community! It was also a great place to have a memorial service for my son's father when he died! |
| 1 | As one of the band members for many years, I enjoyed the historic meaning and opportunity to showcase the venue |
| 1 | At the community concert events, the old folks being able to get there by wheelchair, while the young kids paraded up and down the hill to the marching music. At performances by blues bands and the Grateful Dead, the dancing! |
| 1 | Atmosphere |
| 1 | Atmosphere and people and performance |
| 1 | Atmosphere, being with other people enjoying the event. |

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 1 | Attending concerts at the West Park Bandshell are some of my most cherished memories of all-time |
| 1 | Attending the Ann Arbor Civic Band summer concerts on Wednesday nights was a big part of my family's summer. The teddy bear picnic week was a favorite for our then young daughter. Loved those concerts. |
| 1 | Average |
| 1 | Awesome to have an outdoor event! |
| 1 | Badly asked question because everything about the outdoor band concert was a delight : ambiance, concert quality, community gathering place, place for musicians to perform and get paid, made this neighborhood a destination. Snd a place of pride. |
| 1 | Beautiful |
| 1 | Beautiful location, love the outdoor venue. Love how people can freely pass in and out of the event and families can picnic and enjoy music or performances. |
| 1 | Beautiful location, neighborhood park and event space |
| 1 | Beautiful outdoor space, public, within walking distance of downtown |
| 1 | Beautiful park, love being outside and visiting the turtles and ducks! |
| 1 | Beautiful park, walkable to my neighborhood |
| 1 | Beautiful place for a concert |
| 1 | Beautiful setting |
| 1 | Beautiful setting for low volume music events |
| 1 | Beautiful setting for public events |
| 1 | Beautiful setting right in my community easier to access than the a2 summer festival downtown |
| 1 | Beautiful setting, accessible location, sense of community |
| 1 | Beautiful setting, loved being in an outdoor setting for a concert, the sense of community |
| 1 | Beautiful setting, walkable from home, pride in my city and neighborhood |
| 1 | Beautiful setting. Volume must be kept within certain levels out of respect for surrounding residents. |
| 1 | Beautiful space, community vibe. I loved the marriage of art, community, and natural space. |
| 1 | Beautiful tradition of performing arts in a beautiful park setting for the community. |
| 1 | Beautiful venue. Opportunity to enjoy music in community with neighbors. Sense of connection. |
| 1 | Being able to walk from my home to an outdoor cultural activity |
| 1 | Being in community outdoors in your neighborhood while supporting the arts on a Summer night is magical. |
| 1 | Being in the beautiful park, being around my neighbors, being outside, enjoying the entertainment, the food vendors, it's all just great |
| 1 | Being outdoor, historic building, not having to go downtown and deal with parking, natural, being able to sit on grass, acoustics . Just feels like a nice small town event in a big city |
| 1 | Being outdoors enjoying music close to home. Community coming together |
| 1 | Being outdoors enjoying the programming with other members of the community |
| 1 | Being outdoors for live music is the best. The bandshell keeps the sound projecting out to the crowds rather than getting lost in the trees. |
| 1 | Being outdoors, people could move around and enjoy the music while playing with their children |
| 1 | Being outside |
| 1 | Being outside |

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 1 | Being outside in my town with my neighbors enjoying music or a play etc. priceless |
| 1 | Being outside with neighbors and community, in a beautiful setting. |
| 1 | Being outside, in the summer, in a park that my taxes pay for enjoying music for free. |
| 1 | Being outside, proximity to home, seating area |
| 1 | Being outside, the variety of people who attended, |
| 1 | Being surrounded by neighbors. The casual ability to spread out blankets and picnic on the lawn. The views |
| 1 | Being together with other community members in a centrally-located accessible- from-campus place watching a free event. |
| 1 | Being with community and being out in nature, while listening to music |
| 1 | Being with other people enjoying the outdoors and the facility of entertainment, especially for providing young kids with the opportunity. |
| 1 | Brings community together - great family activity - networking - culture |
| 1 | Casual community feel to the event |
| 1 | Casual nature of the event. Being outdoors. |
| 1 | Casual neighborhood entertainment |
| 1 | Casual, outdoor event. Mingling with friends and community. |
| 1 | Central to downtown, open to all people. I want a space where fund raising events can be created for the large recovery community in Ann Arbor. Dawn Farm Spera is just off the park. |
| 1 | Children could run around the park, adults could enjoy the music. My children were never "forced" to sit still. That was the beauty of an open space with music. |
| 1 | Close to my home, interesting structure |
| 1 | Communal enjoyment of music. |
| 1 | Community |
| 1 | Community , proximity to home , lovely location |
| 1 | Community and a lovely evening or afternoon at the park. What a resource1 |
| 1 | Community building and cohesion |
| 1 | Community building, convenience of accessibility, pleasant environment |
| 1 | Community coming together to participate in and enjoy the arts. |
| 1 | Community engagement |
| 1 | Community event! |
| 1 | Community feel |
| 1 | Community fellowship and pride. |
| 1 | Community gathering |
| 1 | Community gathering allows people to meet each other, as there are really no other neighborhood events any more. How about some block parties too? |
| 1 | Community gathering and preservation of the arts. |
| 1 | Community getting together, lovely park area in a centralized location |
| 1 | Community involvement and society gathering for the community |
| 1 | Community participation. |

| Count | Response |
|-------|--|
| 1 | Community social event |
| 1 | Community, out in the open |
| 1 | Community, outdoors |
| 1 | Community, quality of the entertainment |
| 1 | Community, social gathering, joy |
| 1 | Community. Being outside. Artistic quality wasn't great but made for enjoyable enough time |
| 1 | Concert: Relaxed space, family friendly, interacted with neighbors and got to know them better, enjoyed music I would not normally listen to. Paved area and benches make it easy to find a space to sit and talk with others outdoors |
| 1 | Connecting with community, being outside |
| 1 | Convenience and setting |
| 1 | Cool venue, fun environment |
| 1 | Diverse groups of people young and old. Festive 4th of July concert played by orchestra with excellent acoustics. |
| 1 | Door summertime brought our own chair. Nice |
| 1 | Easy for community to attend and participate - I really enjoyed that. I also appreciate that this location was available for musicians to offer music to the community. I also like the design of the amphitheater terraces. |
| 1 | Easy to walk to, beautiful outdoor setting, a calm community gathering space, inspiring setting. |
| 1 | Easy to walk too |
| 1 | Engagement with community members, cool venue |
| 1 | Enjoy outdoor concerts in park setting. Enjoy being able to picnic with family before, during, and after concerts. Grateful for wheelchair access via the paved path from Seventh St. |
| 1 | Enjoyable but it was in the late 1960s and early 1970s. |
| 1 | Enjoyable concert |
| 1 | Enjoyable summer concert experience on a beautiful evening on the west side. Saw friends, heard range of music, and I didn't have to drive and park. A quality of life value of living there. |
| 1 | Enjoyed the music |
| 1 | Enjoyed the music and meeting new people. Also a space where I can bring my dog. |
| 1 | Enjoying a free concert in a lovely outdoor setting, at a wonderfully simple and historic site. |
| 1 | Enjoying arts & music from a grassy outdoor location with good visibility |
| 1 | Enjoying music in a beautiful outdoor space |
| 1 | Enjoying music outdoors. Fresh air. Community feel. |
| 1 | Enjoying the arts outside |
| 1 | Entertaining and outside |
| 1 | Entertainment, education, community, dancing, solidarity for starts. |
| 1 | Environment and atmosphere |
| 1 | Every bit of it. Community. Live events. Accessible to all income levels |
| 1 | Everything -- this has been a wonderful space for the community to gather in, and visible criminal transactions have increased since the bandshell was allowed to fall apart |
| 1 | Everything but it was many years ago |

| Count | Response |
|-------|--|
| 1 | Everything was positive about it. This is a beautiful part that should be used as a community and has many levels as possible. Not just a walk-through from one place to another put away to meet our community members and keeping the band still active is one of the most positive an important ways to keep our community flowing and interacting. |
| 1 | Everything was positive. The people, the performances, everything. |
| 1 | Everything! |
| 1 | Everything! |
| 1 | Everything. |
| 1 | Everything. I loved using the historic bandshell, the beautiful park, and its central location |
| 1 | Everything. Gathering for locals. |
| 1 | Everything. The setting outdoors is superb and the aesthetic beauty of the Bandshell design adds to the experience. |
| 1 | Excellent aucustics |
| 1 | Excellent music in the outdoor setting is great & very special. Ann Arbor should continue with music arts & other events in this historic park. |
| 1 | Excellent, acoustically unique outdoor space that focused my attention better than other outdoor venues |
| 1 | Experiencing a performance outdoors. Informality of the event, especially for young kids. |
| 1 | Families - kids having fun- the diversity of the crowd |
| 1 | Family friendly. Outdoors. |
| 1 | Feeling a sense of community |
| 1 | Feeling of community |
| 1 | Feeling of joy, of community, of summer fun!! (We also greatly miss the spray fountain and Mr. Jewett) |
| 1 | Free concerts like this provide community-centered events that are important to daily lives. These need to continue, and while they do cost someone something somewhere, they are an investment in community welfare which is vital. |
| 1 | Free entertainment a short walk from my home. |
| 1 | Free entertainment; outdoor setting |
| 1 | Free, convenient location |
| 1 | Free, family friendly |
| 1 | Free, opportunity to meet neighbors |
| 1 | Fun atmosphere, free, space for kids to run and play while adults listened to the concert |
| 1 | Fun outdoor experience, lots of space |
| 1 | Fun outdoor viewing experience |
| 1 | Fun performances |
| 1 | Fun to be outdoors and in community for a concert or show. |
| 1 | Fun to be outside seeing or playing in a concert. Great that this historic structure still stands. |
| 1 | Fun to hear music and see people enjoying the space on a summer late afternoon/evening. Nice to have some informal and free entertainment in walking distance. |
| 1 | Fun to watch stuff outdoors |
| 1 | Gathering on a summer evening, kids running around, band playing marches |
| 1 | Gathering outside with family |

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 1 | Gathering with community in a beautiful park |
| 1 | Getting to play for the Ann Arbor Civic Band in the last few years of the shell was a great privilege. The community support is amazing and we had a packed house, so to speak, each concert. |
| 1 | Good acoustics, felt sense of community, not so big as to be overwhelming |
| 1 | Good acoustics, easy access to surrounding neighborhood, local performers. |
| 1 | Good entertainment. Nice way to gather with neighbors and friends during fair weather. Pet friendly venue. |
| 1 | Good experience of community |
| 1 | Good music Great plays |
| 1 | Good music, casual environment. |
| 1 | Good music, comfortable seating, connecting with neighbors |
| 1 | Good music, enjoyable setting. |
| 1 | Good music. Nice to be in the neighborhood and share the experience with your neighbors! |
| 1 | Good sound at the performances, aesthetics. |
| 1 | Good sound system |
| 1 | Good weather |
| 1 | Great Place for Families to gather |
| 1 | Great atmosphere and positive community experience |
| 1 | Great being outdoors |
| 1 | Great central location. Great Green Space for the community. |
| 1 | Great childhood memories of the Ann Arbor symphony |
| 1 | Great community atmosphere |
| 1 | Great family atmosphere for all ages. The outdoor experience is always great. |
| 1 | Great fresh air space close to city center. Love the architecture of the band shell and the inextricable link to Ann Arbor history and historical preservation. |
| 1 | Great location |
| 1 | Great location |
| 1 | Great location to our house and downtown as well as. A beautiful view with mature trees |
| 1 | Great location, cool scenery |
| 1 | Great memories of sitting with my family outside in the summer watching music |
| 1 | Great mix of people with no charge for admission. Exposed people to live performance that might not otherwise have the opportunity. |
| 1 | Great music and wonderful to see the community come out to enjoy together |
| 1 | Great music, ability of children to move about, community spirit, ability to bring a picnic. West park band concerts are among the fondest memories in our family. |
| 1 | Great outdoor setting, good sound, fun gathering of people. |
| 1 | Great outdoor space, unique experience, |
| 1 | Great park venue for concerts. |
| 1 | Great place for community events/ musical events. |

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 1 | Great resource, easy to stumble upon community space, easy for families and young groups of friends. |
| 1 | Great sight lines due to the natural amphitheater. |
| 1 | Great sound and a central location in the city for community engagement. |
| 1 | Great space and centrally located |
| 1 | Great space and event |
| 1 | Great to be outdoors walking distance from our house! |
| 1 | Great to be outside |
| 1 | Great to sit outside and listen to beautiful classical music |
| 1 | Great use of public space; outdoors; brings people together; proud to be an engaged AA resident. |
| 1 | Great venue especially during covid restrictions to spread out and enjoy the concert |
| 1 | Group interaction |
| 1 | Happened upon it in the summer, and stayed. It was lovely, engaging, and fun. |
| 1 | Happy, well-attended daytime event (years ago). The size and character of the audience made it feel very comfortable |
| 1 | Having a public venue to see outdoor performances adds a lot of value to living in Ann Arbor. The band shell is a big improvement for outdoor music performances compared to a fully open-air experience where some of the sound gets lost. |
| 1 | Having an outdoor space for events like this is great, bringing the community together |
| 1 | Having more venues outside for communities to gather is always a positive! |
| 1 | Having performed on the bandshell with the Ann Arbor Civic Band, it was a wonderful experience sharing music with the Ann Arbor community. Attendees came from all across Ann Arbor. |
| 1 | Having the stage/shell as the central point of activity |
| 1 | Historic and beautiful setting within walking distance to my home |
| 1 | Historic neighborhood bandshell in a cool urban environment |
| 1 | History and uniqueness of the venue, and sense of community. |
| 1 | I actually really loved the way seating is arranged at the Bandshell. It blends in with the park and is multi use. |
| 1 | I also have performed countless times in the A2 Civic Band |
| 1 | I always enjoy live music in the park, and this was no exception. There is perhaps nothing especially remarkable about the ampitheater itself, but it is nice to have a permanent installation for outdoor music. |
| 1 | I appreciate the access to local theater and musical performances |
| 1 | I could walk there. It was free. My friends were there. |
| 1 | I don't remember really. It was a long time ago. Very neutral memory. Summer. Green grass. Being outdoors. |
| 1 | I enjoyed all of the events I've attended; it is a magical space. |
| 1 | I enjoyed being at a casual event that I could wander over to from my home and that was outside. It was great listening to music in the park and I liked the friendly atmosphere. |
| 1 | I enjoyed being with the Ann Arbor community, like I do at the Sonic Lunch events. |
| 1 | I enjoyed seeing local "amateur" groups perform in public for free. |
| 1 | I enjoyed the community spirit of all in attendance. |
| 1 | I enjoyed the free concerts performed by the Ann Arbor Civic Band every summer. I hope to see the shell and the band return in the near future. |

| Count | Response |
|-------|--|
| 1 | I grew up in Ann Arbor and I have very fond memories as a kid watching performances at the band shell. It was one of the many things I found to be unique to Ann Arbor. All of my experiences were positive. I made great memories with friends and family listening to music, watching magicians, etc. |
| 1 | I have both played in the civic band and attended concerts of the band. I love the sense of community that the park concerts create and I like the emphasis on amateur / participatory music making. Ann Arbor is a vibrant arts city and having a public band shell is a traditional and necessary part of the city's identity and infrastructure. |
| 1 | I have enjoyed every event I've attended at the bandshell! |
| 1 | I have grown up across the street from West Park with many concerts enjoying the park in the winter time summertime etc. I still live across the street |
| 1 | I have listened to and participated in concerts there, nice. |
| 1 | I have very fond memories of many many concerts in the park. For many summers in the 90s our family would have picnic dinners and listen to the civic band every week. I have also attended concerts by folk musicians, high school jazz bands, and more. I have been to school plays and I believe a graduation. I have seen speakers and poets. Importantly, I have also seen groups of people not performing, but just using the wonderful space to sing together, or dance together, or practicing for a play. During the pandemic, right before the foundation issues closed it, we were about to reserve the bandshell for a choir concert. The acoustic there is SO good. There is nothing else like this in our community and it is a VALUABLE part of our rich cultural life. |
| 1 | I just felt so happy to have moved to Ann Arbor where cool mid-size things like this happen. I felt like I was in a "place." I don't know if that makes sense. These days, Ann Arbor hardly feels like a "place" to belong to. I like my street and park, but that's all that's left. I don't go downtown or campus because of the panhandlers. |
| 1 | I just love attending the concerts and played in the band which performed all summer in the 60's |
| 1 | I like the amphitheater seating. The seating is very pretty, even when it isn't in use. The bandshell itself is beautiful to look at although I think the last two performances I saw, they did not perform on the bandshell. |
| 1 | I like the location. |
| 1 | I liked the set-up, that it was simple and with little sense of barrier between audience and stage. I love going to concerts outside and this setting seemed very attractive. I also appreciated that it was free. |
| 1 | I live about a mile away and love being able to walk/bike to events in the park. There are a lot of people who live within biking/walking distance to the park. It's nice to have outdoor venues for cultural events. Nice mix of permanent seating and lawn seating. |
| 1 | I live across the street all my life and enjoyed the concert ect. |
| 1 | I live nearby and love the Civic Band concerts. Sitting on the hill and listening to the music in the summer is such a wonderful way to spend an evening. |
| 1 | I love being outside, in community, and seeing performance. Like I said before, Ann Arbor doesn't have many spaces that are available for people to put on shows. Public theatre and music is great!! |
| 1 | I love listening to music with my neighbors. I also live close enough I can enjoy the music from my house. |
| 1 | I love live music. It was especially valuable to me during covid times. |
| 1 | I love that I can walk there, that I see neighbors there, and that it's a beautiful setting. I also loved the music wafting to my house from the A2 Community Band. |
| 1 | I love the ambience of West Park, and the structure itself is esthetically pleasing, both visually and acoustically. |
| 1 | I love the community building nature of outdoor public concerts. |
| 1 | I love the scale of these gatherings - smaller than what happens at Top of the Park, for example, but offering a similar low-key vibe. I really appreciate how the recreational / art aspect is set among a more natural setting. |
| 1 | I loved all the concerts and theatrical performances- it really makes you feel like you're part of the community |
| 1 | I loved sitting in the park with other neighbors watching a concert |
| 1 | I loved the Teddy Bear Picnic concert that was done for the city's children. I loved the kids marching through the park to the music. |
| 1 | I loved the natural setting and the ease of access from my neighborhood |
| 1 | I met neighbors that I'd never met before. |
| 1 | I performed in the civic band. It was a fun experience and allowed me to perform for my community |
| 1 | I performed many times as a community band member during the summer. It was a wonderful community building experience for performers and audience |

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 1 | I performed on that stage for many years with the Ann Arbor Civic Band. Good sized crowds were in attendance usually. It is a very friendly environment for young kids. And the acoustical space is excellent. This is a great place to play and listen to music. |
| 1 | I play with the civic band and loves playing there. I feel like there's a great space for community to come together and there's already built-in seating on the hillside. My kids go to Ann Arbor Open school and it has been a great space for us to utilize in the past for class outings and parties |
| 1 | I played many band concerts at West park. Great memories. |
| 1 | I played on the stage as a part of comfest, it was a positive and rewarding experience that should be kept possible for the current generation |
| 1 | I raised money for a cause and learned to book bands and organize an event. The bands were great, too. I also lived on Miller and remember the sweet sounds of bands playing there. Even bad music sounds nice there. |
| 1 | I saw people perform. |
| 1 | I took my kids to see some of the outdoor band concerts that were held there years ago. It was a nice event where little kids could run around in the park and hear some music. |
| 1 | I was a teen, it was fun |
| 1 | I was playing in the band-- it was unlike any of the hundreds of other shows I had played. |
| 1 | I went to the summer band concerts for many years. Not only did I like listening to the music, I loved the diversity of the audience - and even more than that the people who wandered through and often stayed, with their dogs, baby carriages, walkers etc. I thought the golf carts helping people reach the bandshell were a wonderful addition to the events in later years. And I had a standing date with a resident of the apartment house next to the park, Lurie Terrace - who has serious mental and physical disabilities - to meet there and have a lovely time together. |
| 1 | I've heard the AA Civic Band play there several times in the past, and it was nice to hear some music in a relaxed, open air environment. (also free!) |
| 1 | In each case, it was a delight to sit out in the park. The sound was good (even for a children's concert). It was pleasantly informal with people sitting on steps or their own chairs. |
| 1 | Intimate Community gathering Relaxed outdoor space |
| 1 | It allowed several folks to be together outdoors engaging in physical activity |
| 1 | It brought the community together and utilized a beautiful piece of architecture. It felt like a safe space to be in the evening even if I wasn't there for the event necessarily. |
| 1 | It felt like a real neighborhood experience. |
| 1 | It felt very home town, small town midwest positive. |
| 1 | It had the wonderful feeling of community engagement and the restorative feel of nature. I could walk to the event. |
| 1 | It has an intimate feeling and a great combination of feeling tucked away yet easy to stumble upon while walking in the park |
| 1 | It is a beautiful park and space that is vastly under utilized. |
| 1 | It is a beautiful setting and good location |
| 1 | It is a good community gathering place. |
| 1 | It is a pleasant setting withing walking distance from my residence |
| 1 | It is a positive nice community setting - I felt lucky to be able to walk there. |
| 1 | It is a wonderful band, shell and a wonderful park. Located in a wonderful neighborhood. |
| 1 | It is a wonderful way to experience music in a relaxed, outdoor setting. I would love the opportunity to see more shows -music and plays, there. |
| 1 | It is about being part of a community--sharing one's love of many genres of music with others in the community. Get out of the house and away from TV and be part of a larger community. |
| 1 | It is beautiful and the Grateful Dead played there |
| 1 | It is not a pleasant or functional event space. Acoustics were bad. |
| 1 | It is very special to sit outside and listen to music which is acoustically enhanced because of the "shell." |
| 1 | It made for a lovely evening, albeit with mosquitos. |

Count Response

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|---|---|
| 1 | It sounds great and is a very unique space for the entire region, not just Ann Arbor |
| 1 | It was a central, safe location to gather for events |
| 1 | It was a fun evening, picnic dinner and show with community members. I've also come across events and spontaneously sat and watched. |
| 1 | It was a great show but it was in the 90s before the spread of Gelman dioxane was discovered in Ann Arbor |
| 1 | It was a great space to hear music |
| 1 | It was a great venue to experience together with the local community. I believe there's a great need for "third spaces" and the bandshell being used for concert use would be a wonderful avenue to bring people together. |
| 1 | It was a long time ago when my child was little. My memory is that it was nice to have a local, outdoor venue where the community could enjoy an event that was open to all |
| 1 | It was a nice chance to see people performing and meet more of my neighbors especially those who'd arrived during the early months of lockdown |
| 1 | It was a nice place to hang out and see people that wasn't campus |
| 1 | It was a nice setting. We were able to park in the surrounding area. |
| 1 | It was a pretty good concert: an orchestra, classical music. It wasn't heavily attended, but that was fine. |
| 1 | It was a time for us to be together with family and local residents |
| 1 | It was amazing! They were all really fun events and fantastic chances to meet other members of the local community. |
| 1 | It was cool to attend an outdoor concert on the community and also know that it is something that has been here a long time |
| 1 | It was fun and it made me feel a part of my community and the city! |
| 1 | It was fun for my child to perform on stage. I also enjoyed watching the jazz concerts |
| 1 | It was fun sitting on the grass eating ice cream, having picnics during the concert/plays. Our kids thoroughly enjoyed the concerts and plays. |
| 1 | It was fun to talk about the people who have played in the past, it's a nice park too! |
| 1 | It was just after the redo of West Park. It was very pretty, I like how the seats are part of the new design of the park |
| 1 | It was long ago. I was excited to see something happening there. |
| 1 | It was lovely to attend such a place in the middle of the city. |
| 1 | It was magic to be outside in Ann Arbor at an event in walking distance. |
| 1 | It was magical - I loved watching the kids sing & dance along with the band on stage! |
| 1 | It was nice being able to sit outside in a local environment with other people while enjoying great music together. |
| 1 | It was nice to be able to walk to the event |
| 1 | It was so fun to perform and see families with kids that could run around and enjoy a concert together. |
| 1 | It was so long ago I can't remember |
| 1 | It was terrific to have concerts and plays nearby. It brought families together. We really miss it. |
| 1 | It was wonderful to hear the band start playing and be reminded of the concert in this way, then spontaneously gather the family and walk over there to enjoy the concert. When the reduced Shakespeare play was being performed, I took my whole family, some of whom were invited to participate in the play. It was also wonderful to see our neighbors and socialize with them in this way. |
| 1 | It's a beautiful park and I love being outdoors! |
| 1 | It's a beautiful park and the bandshell is really cool! |
| 1 | It's a beautiful setting and a gathering place of our diverse community. |

Count Response

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|---|--|
| 1 | It's a beautiful thing to be able to enjoy concerts in beautiful West Park and it brings back the happiest memories for me. It was a fantastic experience, as a young music student, to get to play in the outdoor band shell for parents and supportive audiences! As a parent, I took my young children to hear wonderful family concerts - in the outdoor atmosphere where they could run and play and picnic. As a teacher of young musicians I've so enjoyed being able to bring my students and their families to the band shell to play their music and enjoy a concert experience outdoors. The West Park band shell is unique and has such a welcoming Ann Arbor feeling. |
| 1 | It's a beautiful venue and the sound is pretty good |
| 1 | It's a gem. the beautiful afternoons with events are amazing. Sometimes I didn't know about an event until I heard music and would just walk over. I recall an innovative theater performance organized by Ann Arbor performers that was memorable. |
| 1 | It's a great location |
| 1 | It's a great location and so big. |
| 1 | It's a great place for each of these events |
| 1 | It's a great space and very unique structure with history behind it |
| 1 | It's a great venue and so nice to come together with neighbors. With improvements and safety efforts, it could be our Central Park. |
| 1 | It's a lovely gathering spot. |
| 1 | It's a lovely park and the band shell was nice |
| 1 | It's a lovely setting for all ages. Nice to bump into neighbors or friends. Civic band was always enjoyable, as well as the outdoor plays. A raised stage made it easy to see, even when sitting on a blanket. |
| 1 | It's a lovely venue that has deteriorated |
| 1 | It's a nice outdoor space in the summer. |
| 1 | It's a nice spot for music and Shakespeare. |
| 1 | It's a wonderful setting and to be outside with the community in a neighborhood |
| 1 | It's always magical! I love seeing the civic band there. |
| 1 | It's an outside venue |
| 1 | It's cool to have a performance venue in a residential neighborhood. It builds community. |
| 1 | It's great to be outside. |
| 1 | It's nice to be in a park and listen to music - open air concerts are fun. |
| 1 | It's outdoors in a park! Also West Park is a nice park, a bit too tame with too much grass and not enough trees and flowers but still reasonably nice |
| 1 | It's too easy to take this park for granted. I think of the homes around it, the sports played there, family gathering, winter activities, and a place to relax, walk or listen to the creek underground. There's a lot there. |
| 1 | Its such a wonderful thing for families to come out on a nice summer evening and listen to music while picnicking as the sun sets. Its a really great experience. Even when I was too young to appreciate the classical music I was able to run around the park with other young g rambunctious kids and I hope to take my own kids to similar events someday. |
| 1 | Just a nice neighborhood place to go and be entertained. |
| 1 | Just a wonderful was to spend a summer evening with others in the community. |
| 1 | Just like Top of the Park, Sonic Lunch, et al, any opportunity to listen to live music outdoors is a wonderful thing. I don't think we can have enough of it, especially when considering how short summer is here in Michigan. |
| 1 | Just the neighborhood/community feel of the location |
| 1 | Just the whole community environment watching an outdoor concert |
| 1 | Lawn seating, free events, feeling of community, beautiful setting. |
| 1 | Life changing |
| 1 | Liked sitting on the hill in the shade of some trees, it was hot. |

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 1 | Listening to concert outdoors |
| 1 | Live events are awesome |
| 1 | Live music |
| 1 | Location |
| 1 | Location and environment |
| 1 | Location, availability of community resources for such events |
| 1 | Location, beautiful surroundings, historic features. |
| 1 | Location, diverse attendees, fun city activity with children, grandkids Supporting A2 Civic Band |
| 1 | Lots of people enjoying the arts sitting and picnicking on the embedded rows of seating in that wonderful space with the lovely creek area. |
| 1 | Love all of it |
| 1 | Love how the grass seating allows for dispersion and greater audience capacity. |
| 1 | Love it, it's a beautiful setting |
| 1 | Love the community aspects: seeing neighbors, giving performers of all abilities a venue, etc. Love the variety of options for viewing, including places for people to set up chairs or blankets, grass for kids to run, walls for extra seating. |
| 1 | Loved being in the park watching music! |
| 1 | Loved being outside in a beautiful park. Hill good for seating/viewing. |
| 1 | Loved how close it is to home and how much the kids love bouncing around and enjoying the space. |
| 1 | Loved listening to the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra there. It was always an enjoyable time. |
| 1 | Loved seeing all the families attending a community musical event. The terraced hill provides perfect seating and plenty of space for picnics. The summer concerts provide adults and children exposure to music - by participating and by listening. It's a great park - play area, pond, baseball, and a concert area. Let's continue to use the park in this multifaceted way. |
| 1 | Loved the concerts. Just bring a chair or blanket, a picnic supper and a friend or two. Much lower key than Top of the Park. Not a fan of big crowds. Was a great place to take little kids too. |
| 1 | Loved the open air concert |
| 1 | Loved the park and community gathering |
| 1 | Lovely community gathering in a beautiful natural setting, with great sound. |
| 1 | Lovely evening, fresh air, community feeling, beautiful setting |
| 1 | Lovely outdoor setting. |
| 1 | Lovely outdoor venue |
| 1 | Lovely venue for an outdoor concert, nice central location for group meetings |
| 1 | Many things, mostly sitting outside on a beautiful spring, summer or fall day or evening enjoying the performances of the Ann Arbor Civic Band and Penny Seats Theater. |
| 1 | Many year's experience playing with the AACivic Band at West Park. Loved seeing the audience gather to listen. |
| 1 | Member of Ann Arbor Summer Civic Band 1980-1991 and sporadically since then, along with performances by other groups. A venue like this, in a park, provides a charming location for all sources of events. This structure has been a wonderful resource since 1938. Not having it available leaves a hole in the community. |
| 1 | Mingling and casual proximity to people without going to a bar, which is kind of the only other option aside from a church. Also, it was within biking and even walking distance. |
| 1 | Music! Not a great setup as far as sound etc. but people jamming in a park is never a bad thing. |

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 1 | My earliest memories. |
| 1 | My family has experienced and appreciated this venue for several generations. |
| 1 | My family has loved this as a communal space |
| 1 | My family was on the cover of the observer one month. We were sitting on the grass watching the teddy bear concert. These strong and historic community building events are a reason to choose to live in tree town. |
| 1 | My first and last because it was closed down. |
| 1 | My home borders the bandshell, and I loved hearing music from my yard and being able to go down for an impromptu performance. I also appreciated having the wetlands and pond nearby. It added a great quality to every show, having the birds chirping in the background, hearing the cattails rustling, and listening to all the ducklings throughout each performance. |
| 1 | N/A |
| 1 | Nature, beauty, live music, in the neighborhood, friends, family, welcoming... |
| 1 | Near to the house / outside |
| 1 | Neighborhood feeling, music played, multi-generational |
| 1 | Neighborhood gathering within walkable distance, pleasant outdoor venue. |
| 1 | Neighborhood gatherings facilitated by concerts, etc. promote a great sense of community. |
| 1 | Neighborhood, community feel, and just a great setting. |
| 1 | Neighbors coming together. Didn't have to drive. Very relaxing. Access to downtown. |
| 1 | Neighbors together outside |
| 1 | Nice built in, terraced seating Lovely to have this performance space in a park within walking/biking distance |
| 1 | Nice community feel, in a nice park setting |
| 1 | Nice feel, nice mix of nature and event... |
| 1 | Nice grassy area to sit on, beautiful setting, great music from the A2 civic band |
| 1 | Nice neighborhood outdoor venue |
| 1 | Nice outdoor setting |
| 1 | Nice sense of community and free musical event |
| 1 | Nice setting, good sound |
| 1 | Nice to be outdoors in a natural setting |
| 1 | Nothing that justifies a multi-million dollar investment in this facility. |
| 1 | Nothing. Band was low end and seating was uncomfortable. Plus weather turned wet and so left |
| 1 | Nothing. I HATE being there. It's swampy, smelly, full of bugs, and has no shade. |
| 1 | One show I attended was completely student led and free and had a very diverse if somewhat small audience. Another was pay what you want and attracted many people who seemed to have just wandered over from being in the park anyway. The summer concerts I already mentioned as being very important to my (now grown) children. |
| 1 | Open air, attractiveness of the band shell, general environment of community building much like Top of The Park events. |
| 1 | Open area in a city park |
| 1 | Open atmosphere, history |
| 1 | Openness and neighborhood access. Seating and park layout is unique and attractive to audience of all kinds |

| Count | Response |
|-------|--|
| 1 | Other than the positive entertainment value? Just having something to do within biking distance was a positive. This town is dead unless you want to spend \$\$\$ for a meal. |
| 1 | Outdoor activities in the community with the community |
| 1 | Outdoor activities, exercise, engaging with neighbors, listening to music, watching plays, checking out the pond "wildlife", taking pictures, enjoying the beauty of the park, having picnics on the hill, etc |
| 1 | Outdoor ambiance |
| 1 | Outdoor community experience |
| 1 | Outdoor concert Casual |
| 1 | Outdoor concert in summer are wonderful exp. |
| 1 | Outdoor concert, being able to picnic, walkable |
| 1 | Outdoor concert. Community building |
| 1 | Outdoor concert. Fresh air, easy-to-use, |
| 1 | Outdoor concerts are very easy and enjoyable activities for summer evenings |
| 1 | Outdoor entertainment is a wonderful way to attend events in MI. |
| 1 | Outdoor live music in a park is an amazing experience. |
| 1 | Outdoor music with appreciative people. Positive social interactions, sharing, music. |
| 1 | Outdoor open-air setting. |
| 1 | Outdoor setting |
| 1 | Outdoor setting in a beautiful park Relaxing setting with flexible seating and viewing. Community feeling |
| 1 | Outdoor theater is fun, different, special |
| 1 | Outdoor venue, walking distance |
| 1 | Outdoor vibe, relaxed audience, picnics |
| 1 | Outdoor, low cost entertainment |
| 1 | Outdoors. Sitting on the ground. Lots of cool people around. Close to where I lived. |
| 1 | Outside event |
| 1 | Park ambiance |
| 1 | Park setting. |
| 1 | People in the community coming together. |
| 1 | People of all ages hanging out on lovely summer evenings enjoying music; watching young children romp around, sometimes dancing in front to the music; seeing families picnic |
| 1 | Performance was fine but there are other locations for these events. This is not a good use of limited city funds. |
| 1 | Personal enjoyment, Community, Natural environment, convenient to my neighborhood. |
| 1 | Pleasant surroundings. Open air seating. Decent sound projection. |
| 1 | Potentially a great venue! Build that up. |
| 1 | Proximity to my home for easy access, lovely outdoor setting, community feel, ability to bring dogs to some events, convenient seating, public art. |
| 1 | Public, outdoor, accessible greenspace, affordable, democratic Alternative to cramped Top of the Park and Sonic Lunch. |
| 1 | QUALITY OF MUSIC, FUN PICNIC WITH FRIENDS IN THE SUMMER |

| Count | Response |
|-------|--|
| 1 | Quality of performance, pleasant outdoor experience. |
| 1 | Rare community event for this part of town |
| 1 | Really great location and opportunity to engage in community in a different way (shows and music in a public park) |
| 1 | Relaxed atmosphere. Great for families . You can spread out — so if you want to really listen to the music/presentation , you don't have to be right beside someone who has younger ,loud children . But they can enjoy it too!! |
| 1 | Relaxing |
| 1 | Relaxing outdoor entertainment with other community fellows. |
| 1 | Saw neighbors. Good play. Close to house. |
| 1 | School recitals |
| 1 | Seating on the lawn surrounded by neighbors |
| 1 | Seating was casual, which I really liked |
| 1 | Seating was good, the slope and terracing good. Acoustics were good. I like the architecture and would rather see it enhanced, fixed rather than destroyed. Or If a new shell needs building, I'm in favor of that to keep integrity of historic relationship to the town. |
| 1 | Seeing friends |
| 1 | Seeing music outside in the summer |
| 1 | Seeing neighbors and friends and enjoying the evening |
| 1 | Sense of community |
| 1 | Sense of community |
| 1 | Sense of community. Democratization of access to the arts. |
| 1 | Sense of community. Entertainment value. |
| 1 | Setting - outdoor venue, neighborhood surrounding, informal |
| 1 | Setting, acoustics |
| 1 | Shakespeare was great. Attending outdoor events with children works well |
| 1 | Simply the feeling of knowing that our community respected the legacy of the WPA's work, and how the arts connect with community and nature. |
| 1 | Sitting on the lawn with neighbors listening to music. Exposing my children to concerts and different types of music. |
| 1 | So lovely to sit outside in the park with friends and neighbors |
| 1 | So wonderful to here concerts in the evening |
| 1 | Social, evening out with friends in my neighborhood. Good play and music site. |
| 1 | Sound and the outdoor environment |
| 1 | Sound of music |
| 1 | Sound quality/amplification was great Just being outside for a music performance |
| 1 | Space has real feel of integration in the community |
| 1 | Such a lovely park with a lot of lifelong memories! |
| 1 | Sunny days+ music=what's not to love??!! |
| 1 | Surroundings, conviviality |
| 1 | Terraced viewing location opposite the bandshell Passersby stopping to listen and becoming engaged with the performance Community gathered together |

Count Response

| | |
|---|--|
| 1 | The Ann Arbor Civic band put on a delightful concert - well exceeded expectations for a summer community band - so much so that the following year my husband and I joined the band. |
| 1 | The Bandshell has been a lovely venue for community band and other concerts and events over the years. |
| 1 | The July concerts by the civic band were lovely for families to bring their children and pets and picnics. The children would run around and play and families would visit with each other. The Teddy Bear March was the best! |
| 1 | The ability to hear music outdoors in a bandshell, gathering with the local community |
| 1 | The ability to walk over and enjoy live music outside. |
| 1 | The ability to walk to the event. If there are more events then the West Park website should show where treet parking is available. |
| 1 | The area is beautiful and the bandshell is historic - MC5. Having a mini Hollywood Bowl in A2, is gold. |
| 1 | The atmosphere |
| 1 | The band shell structure and the park itself, including trees, boardwalk, ducks, frogs, fish. Also, the long and varied terraine. |
| 1 | The band shell was a fun experience, noting that very famous musicians had played there in the past, I felt like I was really someplace special. |
| 1 | The bandshell has a long history of being a community gathering place, I would like to think that the restoration of it will increase the use of it, and the benefit to the community. |
| 1 | The bandshell is a beautiful piece of architecture nestled in the heart of a beautiful park |
| 1 | The bandshell is a great space tucked into a natural seating area |
| 1 | The bandshell is a unique attraction in the park and children enjoy going on the stage and improvising. We have spent many happy hours playing in the park. I now bring my grandchild who loved to go on the stage. |
| 1 | The beauty of the park & the significance of the structure. |
| 1 | The civic band concerts brought neighbors together on summer evenings to enjoy the music, the park and one another's company. |
| 1 | The coming together of the community, and the opportunity for the musicians to play at the venue |
| 1 | The community "feel" of people gathering. |
| 1 | The community feel, outdoors, in the neighborhood, Ann Arbor legacy |
| 1 | The community together, kids dancing. Enjoying this Jewel of our town! I live adjacent to the park and have long enjoyed having events there. Myself as well as many generations, have treasured the park and Bandshell. |
| 1 | The concert |
| 1 | The concert I remember was in the late 1960s or early 1970s. MC5 I think. It was fun. My church held a service there shortly before Covid, which was delightful. |
| 1 | The concert being part of the park is very special. It's part of the environment and community rather than a separate event. It's important that events continue to be open to the public. |
| 1 | The concert brought the community together |
| 1 | The concert experience was good. |
| 1 | The concerts and the plays were so great, they are very unique to Ann Arbor. |
| 1 | The current setup keeps people too far from the stage. The plaza space in front of the amphitheater could be better used as a stage |
| 1 | The few plays I attended, pre-Covid, I really enjoyed. It would have been nice if the performances were in the bandshell as opposed to the area in front of it |
| 1 | The gathering of community members to hear and support community produced music was exhilarating, for the audience and for the performers. |
| 1 | The grassy hill and seats make for a comfortable and atmospheric experience |
| 1 | The immediate setting in front of the bandshell is peaceful and away from traffic |

| Count | Response |
|-------|--|
| 1 | The joy of hearing music outdoors, with neighbors. |
| 1 | The local and local-historical significance of the bandshell added to the experience, of being in an amazing public park that has had significant improvements and brought neighbors and locals together. The use of the bandshell for big and small and varied events, concerts and performances by locals, and (in the past), bigger and more popular artists. Having a regular schedule of concerts/music was a nice reprieve from having to go downtown for entertainment. |
| 1 | The location is amazing and there is space to enjoy. It brings families out. |
| 1 | The many different ages of the audience, from my mother, whom I brought in a wheelchair, to the kids marching to the band music up and down the hill! |
| 1 | The music by concert band |
| 1 | The music was family oriented and outdoors, which are great benefits for residents who live close by the park |
| 1 | The natural tilt of the hill by the shell makes the sightlines really good! And there was decent street parking on third when I rented one of the pavilions for a party years ago. I did it once and didn't again because the park isn't particularly user friendly. |
| 1 | The open air, self seating experience |
| 1 | The open air, the sunshine, the music floating around me as I sat on the hill. |
| 1 | The open venue and seating |
| 1 | The openness and accessibility of the space to the community. |
| 1 | The opportunity to enjoy a performance outdoors was unique and positive, however the access to getting to the concert was stressful and difficult to do because of I do not live in the area and locating parking was frustrating, plus if I had any mobility concern, I would fear the trip from the car to the bandshell because I wouldn't know clearly how far it was, and if it was all a paved path or not |
| 1 | The outdoor setting and the casual seating |
| 1 | The park can feel peaceful, open, and relaxing. The acoustics from bandshell concerts reverberate against the sloping hill. The open grass fields are wonderful for children running, playing, rolling down hills making family gatherings fun for all ages. The new sculptures, rocks, and stone surface in front of the bandshell is fun for walking, for young children's pretend play, for bringing the actors in a play close to you! |
| 1 | The park is beautiful, the sense of community is strong at these performances. |
| 1 | The park is very lovely |
| 1 | The park setting is a much nicer venue than a downtown street corner in which to attend a free performance. |
| 1 | The park setting is pleasant and having plenty of room to sit on a blanket without feeling crowded. |
| 1 | The park, when it's not invaded by sleeping homeless or leftover drug deals, is extremely pretty, and it's so convenient to several neighborhoods. It is very well maintained, too. |
| 1 | The seating for audience is large and comfortable for a variety of guests and abilities |
| 1 | The seating on the hill. You can move if someone places a chair right in front of you. |
| 1 | The sense of community and how many people came to the park. |
| 1 | The sense of community was wonderful. Folks--families with little kids, seniors, young couples--came to listen to the music from the band. It was so much fun to be together in a large group with little kids jumping around to the music, dogs sitting with their families on blankets and chairs...a colorful scene of people joined together on a summer evening. |
| 1 | The sense of community, and feeling of being connected to others in Ann Arbor. |
| 1 | The sense of community. Free access to a cultural event. Enjoying the outdoors with music. Health related activities like yoga outdoors. Positive impact on mental health. Being able to appreciate and embrace where I reside. |
| 1 | The setting is lovely, and the area is convenient to my neighborhood. |
| 1 | The setting was nice and the performances have been high quality. |
| 1 | The setting, which is very lovely, and yet where my young children could freely roam while adults visited and listened and sometimes had dinner. The venue offers many ways to experience the music! |
| 1 | The shell's acoustics are amazing. And its a beautiful structure. It's a great place for people to gather. |

| Count | Response |
|-------|--|
| 1 | The show was great and the community feeling was also wonderful. |
| 1 | The sound |
| 1 | The topography of the land, the location of the park, the uniqueness of the clamshell, the feeling of a small Central Park in our big little city, the attraction of quality musicians and acts, etc |
| 1 | The trees, the bandshell, the community feel, nature, the ballpark |
| 1 | The unique environment and setting. |
| 1 | The weather |
| 1 | The whole thing..... |
| 1 | Thee natural setting and relative expanse inside the city is quite positive. |
| 1 | There are so many areas to enjoy from the pond (which this year doesn't look very healthy) to the wildflowers. It's a beautiful park to appreciate nature. |
| 1 | They were outside on a beautiful nights. |
| 1 | This is a great community resource. The events themselves were great, as was time spent with friends/family. |
| 1 | This is a magical space, truly. I've lived in many other cities and can't say I've ever encountered a bandshell surrounded by a wetland with a paved space in front for performing, dancing etc. I grew up near the park, and would hear concerts dancing over the rooftops in the summers. One night a few years ago, before it was closed down, i happened upon a performance of The Man from La Mancha by a local theater group. My partner and I bought tickets, sat down in the audience and watched as members of our community enjoyed a space to share their skills and talents. We watched the moon rise over the bandshell, and felt like we were truly privileged to be a part of this special town that has amenities like this. |
| 1 | This is an amazing, underutilized, outdoor amphitheater. Perfect setting with the sloping hill. |
| 1 | Thw whole vibe and rich history, along with the park layout make for an enjoyable experience. |
| 1 | To be outdoors with music playing is fantastic |
| 1 | Trees, beautiful park |
| 1 | Unique community event |
| 1 | Unique experience because it's outdoors and away from downtown. |
| 1 | Unique open air environment |
| 1 | Unique, nostalgic experiences - that bring the community together |
| 1 | Until this summet, the park was always a pleasant experience to walk through, attend concerts and garden. It is no longer. |
| 1 | Very close walk from my house, pleasant atmosphere |
| 1 | Very enjoyable outdoor venue, close to the city and my home. |
| 1 | Very good music performed by members of community. |
| 1 | Very little. |
| 1 | Very pleasant and enjoyable times |
| 1 | Very pleasant setting |
| 1 | Very pleasant setting. Reasonable prices for plays. Free concerts a nice addition to the neighborhood/community. (Aside: Back in the 60s I would drive in from out-of-town to attend rock concerts at West Park. Some notable bands performed in those days and might be fun to provide some performers' names on a location plaque or online.) |
| 1 | Very positive. It's a beautiful neighborhood setting. |
| 1 | Walkable distance to natural area |
| 1 | Walkable, community oriented |
| 1 | Walkable, free, casual |

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 1 | Was nice to connect with members of the community. The events tended to lean towards the interests of white culture, i addition those of children and elderly population. |
| 1 | We could see in the grass and relax without the crowded area in a enclosure theater. Also, you have a free performance or by donation and at a luxurious open space. |
| 1 | We enjoyed the music |
| 1 | We love having a public venue in walking distance to our house that we can enjoy with our neighbors. We just want more! |
| 1 | We love the outdoor feel of sitting on a blanket or in chairs in the summertime to enjoy music |
| 1 | We loved Teddy bears on parade. And the civic band. And Black Lives Matter rallies. |
| 1 | We thoroughly enjoyed bringing our children to the concerts |
| 1 | We walked, families with children and pets, sitting on blankets with picnic treats. Great family memories of a slightly unstructured, friendly towny event. |
| 1 | West Park is a nice neighborhood park, and it's really pleasant to have west side spaces to hear outdoor music, etc. |
| 1 | West Park is beautiful. Civic band concerts were a real treat for nearby neighbors (me included) and other city residents. |
| 1 | West Park is in walking distance to our home, so it was great to have such a great community event close to home. In addition, the park is beautiful and it was great to listen to music outdoors. |
| 1 | West park is a nice central area in town to meet |
| 1 | West park is beautiful |
| 1 | When I was a kid, my elementary school performed at the bandshell for some school-end concert. Exactly what a bandshell should be for a community: a common space to be used by all for performance, music, the arts. And all the families could easily walk or bike to it. |
| 1 | Who doesn't love outdoor concerts? It's a great venue for so many types of acts. |
| 1 | Wonderful July 4th concert celebration. Great community of people in the park. |
| 1 | Wonderful outdoor venue |
| 1 | Wonderful space. |
| 1 | You got to hear live music |
| 1 | alignment is nice so that setting sun isn't in audience's line of site. Nice to listen to concerts from my window. |
| 1 | all aspects were plesant |
| 1 | beautiful setting,; traditional, historic structure |
| 1 | being able to see a concert in my neighborhood. having a picnic, being outside. Being outside |
| 1 | being outdoors and being in a city park! |
| 1 | being outdoors during the day; ease of access; proximity to the stage |
| 1 | brings the neighborhood together |
| 1 | close to home, lovely setting |
| 1 | community experience |
| 1 | community experience being outside together lovely environment sense of history there |
| 1 | concerts brings out the neighborhood and makes for a lively park. |
| 1 | convenient /beautiful location |
| 1 | enjooyed the performance, outdoors and the experience |
| 1 | enjoyed sharing the experiences with my family and community |

| Count | Response |
|-------|--|
| 1 | feeling of joy and community. |
| 1 | fun, outdoor community experience |
| 1 | good location, good acoustics |
| 1 | great natural venue with the landscaping and incline of the bandshell area |
| 1 | great park, open inviting |
| 1 | great setting |
| 1 | great surroundings |
| 1 | great use of the park. |
| 1 | i liked the ambience of a park |
| 1 | it is nice to gather in the park in the evening |
| 1 | it was a fun free concert for all |
| 1 | it was first experience with symphonic, orchestral music for my grandchildren: open, outdoor format is excellent for young children. It also provide sense if community for people living in the area |
| 1 | it was fun to be out there in our neighborhood park with neighbors |
| 1 | it was fun! |
| 1 | it was fun. Community gathering for music is a very good thing |
| 1 | it's just a great, unique feature for the city, so vastly under-utilized |
| 1 | ive music |
| 1 | live music with local community. |
| 1 | lots of memories of this being a huge community gathering space and decline in use is sad, spent a lot of weekends in 90s and early 00s here- commstock at community high! |
| 1 | love the outdoor venue |
| 1 | lovely place to sit on a blanket and listen to music alongside neighbors of all ages |
| 1 | lovely setting. |
| 1 | meeting neighbors, kids playing with kids, kids dancing near the bandshell to music, hearing music in the neighborhood even when not at concerts, feeling safe in the park because of all the activity there, jogging in the park, playing tennis there, taking my babies to the playground, feeling it safe for my kids to play in the park without adults - biking, sledding, visiting the ducks alone with friends. Those days have passed - it no longer feels safe. |
| 1 | memories are positive, music, kids playing |
| 1 | natural landform |
| 1 | nice area |
| 1 | nice outdoor concert experience, walkable from my house |
| 1 | outdoor fun event |
| 1 | outdoor venue |
| 1 | outdoors free |
| 1 | program itself and community spirit |
| 1 | relaxing outdoor experience without the work of traveling to a distant park or hauling a bunch of gear. good mix of sun and shade. water features attract some wildlife. |
| 1 | seating on the grass on a blanket or in lawn chairs people bring |

Count Response

| | |
|---|--|
| 1 | seeing the dancers on the stage, having a space for my kiddos to see dance as art as well as to explore the outdoors |
| 1 | sitting in West Park, enjoying the garden and the neighborhood |
| 1 | sitting on the grass angled towards the stage |
| 1 | so good to be there in the open |
| 1 | sound quality and atmosphere |
| 1 | stumbled upon a concert in the park and stopped to watch it, which was really nice |
| 1 | the bandshell looks cool, and a wide open space within walking distance is pretty cool |
| 1 | the bench seating is very nice |
| 1 | the community. people getting along, picnicing, kids doing the teddy bear parade |
| 1 | the concert or play itself and seeing so many people from the community. we went often. it was wonderful. |
| 1 | the grass hill is the perfect slope for stadium seating! |
| 1 | theater and music outdoors is a great experience. the bandshell, with the sloped ground and rock seating was very accessible. |
| 1 | there's a lot of space for the audience |
| 1 | this was in the late 90's and early 2000's and the sheer volume of community that came out was awesome to see! |
| 1 | totally unexpected violin solo in the middle of the pandemic, gave me hope! |
| 1 | well performed |
| 1 | what could be nicer than a sitting outside on a warm summer's evening and hearing music or watching a play.? Barton Bund did some original plays one summer that were wonderful! |
| 1 | wonderful environment, community feel, openness, availability, accessibility of the park (not the structure) |
| 1 | wonderful group feeling, pleasure at outdoor programming, nostalgia for childhood concerts in the park |
| 1 | wonderful venue for summer events. seating is accessible to families and people of varying abilities. very fun. |

11. What, if anything, was negative about your experience?



West Park Bandshell Community Engagement

| Count | Response |
|-------|--|
| 50 | Nothing |
| 21 | Nothing |
| 20 | None |
| 19 | nothing |
| 12 | Nothing. |
| 6 | n/a |
| 5 | N/a |
| 5 | Parking |
| 4 | N/A |
| 3 | Mosquitoes |
| 3 | Mosquitos |
| 3 | Na |
| 3 | Nothing was negative |
| 3 | Parking |
| 3 | mosquitoes |
| 2 | Homeless population |
| 2 | I don't recall anything negative. |
| 2 | Mosquitoes |
| 2 | NA |
| 2 | No |
| 2 | No parking |
| 2 | None |
| 2 | Nothing |
| 2 | Nothing! |
| 2 | no |
| 2 | none |
| 1 | NA |
| 1 | -too much pot. people smoking weed in the park is an issue. -Sometimes the grass can be wet, so very limited options for seating if you don't have a blanket and don't want to sit in the wet grass. -There were no working bathrooms. |
| 1 | 1. The speakers were only in the bandshell itself, which ended up with the worst combination of things being headache-inducingly loud and still not being able to clearly hear those on stage. Integrating a sound system into the amphitheatre area would allow an overall much lower volume and better clarity for listeners. Perhaps a way for people to use headphones (e.g. a small scale FM radio broadcast of the sound) too? 2. Bike parking was scarce and inconvenient - more bike parking please! |
| 1 | 1. You are kind of far away from the action (in fact, some performances moved onto the grass). 2. It isn't that easy to hear 3. The path goes right between the seating and the performers, which is a bit weird. 4. There's no shade. At some performances that is no problem and at others it has been a problem. |
| 1 | ? |

| Count | Response |
|-------|--|
| 1 | A bit far but not bad |
| 1 | A little hard to hear |
| 1 | A lot of homeless people |
| 1 | Access to getting to the band shell walking |
| 1 | Accessibility |
| 1 | Acoustics; bugs. |
| 1 | All good. |
| 1 | All of it? |
| 1 | All positive. |
| 1 | Always some yokel talking too loud :) |
| 1 | Back in the day, nothing |
| 1 | Bad sound? Mosquitoes. |
| 1 | Badly asked question. The concerts were not frequent enough . |
| 1 | Bandsell was already starting to look poorly maintained |
| 1 | Bandshell itself is depressing to look at and distracts from the event. |
| 1 | Bandshell size is a bit cramped for a large ensemble. |
| 1 | Bandshell was a bit separated from audience because of the creek. |
| 1 | Bathroom access... |
| 1 | Bathroom facilities should be added |
| 1 | Bathrooms are on other side of park |
| 1 | Bathrooms are scary |
| 1 | Better seating would be nice, but you can do well enough with chairs or a blanket |
| 1 | Bird poop |
| 1 | Bugs |
| 1 | Bugs |
| 1 | Bugs, perhaps, but that is a solvable problem. Parking is also a minor issue, but there is enough on the nearby streets and the West Park lot. |
| 1 | Bugs- |
| 1 | Bugs. But well.... |
| 1 | Can be hot in the sun with little shade |
| 1 | Can't recall. |
| 1 | Can't remember any Negatives. |
| 1 | Can't think of anything negative! |
| 1 | Can't think of anything. |
| 1 | Cat calls from apartments behind stands |
| 1 | Chances for storms & parking problems |

| Count | Response |
|-------|--|
| 1 | Civic band got too large for the current stage size and I think the back of house space was not quite large enough for all the storage needed |
| 1 | Condition of the park |
| 1 | DIFICULTY OF PARKING AND DISTANCE FROM PARKING. BUT NOW THAT WE HAVE ELECTRIC BIKES THIS WOULD NOT BE A PROBLEM:) |
| 1 | Day time visits always find homeless people sleeping on the ground or on benches. Nighttime, well, we don't go for fear of drug activity and possible violence. |
| 1 | Difficulty parking, rowdy panhandlers |
| 1 | Don't remember anything negative |
| 1 | Everything was wet and the bandshell itself wasn't as accessible as it should be from the front |
| 1 | Flooding around bandshell |
| 1 | Flooding, mosquitoes, limited stage area. |
| 1 | For paid events, it was a bit awkward. It wasn't clear who to pay or how/whether it was enforced. Also, bathroom facilities are awful. Lack of food/drinks was inconvenient. |
| 1 | For the bandshell concert, parking could be a problem if I wasn't within walking distance. It's worth thinking about. If there's no parking, especially accessible parking, but we make it a priority to make the bandshell accessible, it's unlikely that people with disabilities will use it. |
| 1 | Getting equipment in and out of the bandshell. |
| 1 | Harassment from Miller Manor, lack of parking |
| 1 | Harassment from drunk unhoused individuals |
| 1 | Hard to hear. |
| 1 | Having the shell be crumbling and cracked and lacking care. |
| 1 | Having to sit on the ground |
| 1 | Heat and insects. |
| 1 | High number of mosquitoes present due to the water/ marshlike areas adjacent to the bandshell. Difficulty of finding parking. |
| 1 | Homeless people on drugs in the area |
| 1 | Honestly, it was sad to see such a cool structure ignored when AA seems to always have money for vanity projects. |
| 1 | Honestly, there are a lot of adults that just hang out at the park without purpose and sometimes it feels like there is something shady going on and I don't want to be around when it goes down. Also, I know it sounds terrible but I don't want to be approached and asked for help or money when I'm at an event. I was with my small children alone at a play and was approached by someone who was obviously have some mental health struggles and it felt unsafe. |
| 1 | Hot! Bad sound production at both concert and community meeting. |
| 1 | I brought a folding chair and attended with family. Parking and access is not ideal but was not particularly a problem for me. |
| 1 | I can't recall. |
| 1 | I could say that anything was negative other than it got closed due to structural damages. One thing is that performances were not always shared or announced well, so sometimes we missed them. |
| 1 | I did not love loud music on Sunday mornings because I worked late on Saturday's. Maybe consider classical and chamber music and not battle of the metal bands on Sunday mornings. Otherwise, tons of metal would be great!! |
| 1 | I do not recall anything negative. |
| 1 | I don't appreciate loud amplified concerts that send the sound throughout the neighborhood. |
| 1 | I don't like the new red "trees" and the concrete levels. I preferred the hills. Well, you asked! |
| 1 | I don't remember anything neg |
| 1 | I had nothing negative ever. |

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 1 | I love west park, but so areas are just shady... not shady like shade, but just interesting characters which as a women makes me feel unsafe. |
| 1 | I personally didn't experience anything negative. |
| 1 | I really can't think of anything. |
| 1 | I remember once at an event at the Bandshell, during a musical event someone in the apartment across from the bandshell started to play loud Hawaiian music. This discord let me know that not all of the neighbors enjoyed the concert we were at. |
| 1 | I wish there was more shade sometimes during summer/daytime events. Another negative element is that there aren't enough events! |
| 1 | I would like to bring the ice skating rink back! I miss it! |
| 1 | I'm not in love with how removed the structure is from the audience area. The swale in front of it creates a lot of distance, plus this probably contributed or caused the degradation of the foundation. Why was it sitting in water? |
| 1 | I've attended the band concerts for 20 years, and it has been sad to see attendance dwindle to hardly more audience members than the number of band members themselves. A lot of work rehearsing for few people to hear. The location of the shell has never been ideal. The West-Park parking lot is so inadequate for a concert that drivers get "crazy" and public safety is endangered. |
| 1 | If it were today, the negative would be the panhandlers. |
| 1 | In my experience I never had a negative one. My only concern is the homeless shelter close by would encourage children and women to also have a companion with them. |
| 1 | In my experiences there were no negatives. Given the parking situation, I can see that getting safely to the site could be an issue. |
| 1 | It ended. |
| 1 | It has been closed. |
| 1 | It has not been the same in decades |
| 1 | It was a while ago. Don't remember anything negative. |
| 1 | It was clear that the area is deteriorating |
| 1 | It was great but seating was awful |
| 1 | It was hot that day |
| 1 | It was so long ago I can't remember |
| 1 | It was very sunny and somewhat difficult to hear. |
| 1 | It would be great to increase buoy in seating |
| 1 | It would be nice if it could accommodate larger groups so there are more opportunities to see orchestra type concerts |
| 1 | Just people asking for money and drugs being done in the park |
| 1 | Just the parking situation. |
| 1 | Kids running around |
| 1 | Kids running around among audience was distracting. |
| 1 | Lack of parking |
| 1 | Lack of parking |
| 1 | Lack of parking makes it unpleasant. That's why I never returned. |
| 1 | Lack of shade |
| 1 | Lack of shade and adequate seating |
| 1 | Lack of shade is a problem at some times of day/year. |
| 1 | Laying out on the grass or picnicking before during or after. |

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 1 | Limitations of existing space and AV |
| 1 | Limited seating |
| 1 | Limited shade and no public restrooms. Safety concerns about harassment from other park guests abusing drugs/alcohol |
| 1 | Major walk way going between performers and audience. |
| 1 | Maybe the mosquitoes |
| 1 | Miller Manor |
| 1 | Mo rest rooms |
| 1 | More recently, crime, vagrancy, and drug use has become a concern. Renovating the band shell will activate the park. |
| 1 | More shade would be nice |
| 1 | Mosquitoes! Sketchy restrooms. Limited parking |
| 1 | Mosquitoes! Need to take some bug spray. Evening bus service was limited, but may have improved since the last concert I went to. |
| 1 | Mosquitoes. |
| 1 | Mosquitoes? |
| 1 | Mosquitos |
| 1 | Mosquitos! |
| 1 | Mosquitos. |
| 1 | Mulberry bushes or ? Was a soggy purple place to sit atop a blanket (further to the top west area closest to 7th. No bathrooms as I remembered. No ability to purchase refreshment. |
| 1 | NOTHING! Please bring back to life this unique and wonderful cultural resource!!! |
| 1 | Neighbor yelling to be quiet |
| 1 | Never had a negative experience other than the bugs at dusk. |
| 1 | No bathrooms! :) May have been in other section of park. |
| 1 | No close parking or continuing sidewalk |
| 1 | No comfy chairs |
| 1 | No negative experiences. |
| 1 | No negative parts |
| 1 | No negatives, we always had a great time. |
| 1 | No part! |
| 1 | No recollection |
| 1 | No restrooms. |
| 1 | No shade |
| 1 | Noise from housing tower behind us. |
| 1 | None. |
| 1 | Nope |
| 1 | Not a great venue for a concert or a play. We were too far from the stage and the acoustics aren't good. |
| 1 | Not being able to park on the grass anymore. Having hot pavers instead of grass. |

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 1 | Not enough concerts |
| 1 | Not enough experiences of events there! |
| 1 | Not enough room on stage and backstage, horrible bathrooms, had to tote our own music stands, inadequate parking |
| 1 | Not enough seats |
| 1 | Not enough shade. Had to bring own seats (though that isn't really a problem) |
| 1 | Not enough trash cans provided |
| 1 | Not knowing exactly what concert schedules are, times or dates not posted anywhere easily accessible |
| 1 | Not much. I wish the events were sometimes earlier as we have kids that go to bed early (7 and 8pm). Most stuff happens at their bedtime. |
| 1 | Not negative specifically, but the lack of amplified sound means the real potential wasn't being realized - concerts would be great. |
| 1 | Nothing - please restore this treasure. |
| 1 | Nothing -- loved it! |
| 1 | Nothing as far as I recall. |
| 1 | Nothing at all. |
| 1 | Nothing back then. However, unless you live in the area now (I did decades ago), I would no longer know where the paths, entrances, etc are. Ditto with any available parking. Back then, it was walkable from my house, but it isn't anymore. |
| 1 | Nothing but weather needed to be favorable for outdoor setting |
| 1 | Nothing comes to mind |
| 1 | Nothing it was daylight |
| 1 | Nothing negative |
| 1 | Nothing negative about the experience. Just wish it was not so underutilized. |
| 1 | Nothing negative! Unless it was that if one missed a concert, one had to wait a week for the next one. |
| 1 | Nothing negative. |
| 1 | Nothing negative. |
| 1 | Nothing really - I imagine parking is tricky, but we lucked out & found neighborhood parking & walked the rest of the way over. |
| 1 | Nothing really, but hauling musical instruments to the stage is difficult |
| 1 | Nothing really. These days, parking (if driving). I'd probably add bus to ways to get there if I don't want to exert myself. |
| 1 | Nothing that justifies a multi-million dollar investment in this facility. |
| 1 | Nothing that you could be responsible |
| 1 | Nothing was negative in my view. But a musician friend of mine told me that the acoustics deteriorated after Miller Manor was built because the edifice bounced the sound back to the stage. This will not be a problem when the Bandshell is situated on higher ground and in a direction to optimize acoustics and minimize reverb toward residences. |
| 1 | Nothing! There was adequate parking on the lawn, and everybody could carry a chair if they wanted one. |
| 1 | Nothing, but that was a while ago. I have stopped by the park in recent years and have noticed a feeling of it as a hangout for apparently unhoused people. |
| 1 | Nothing, it was always enjoyable to be in the park with other people. |
| 1 | Nothing, this is Great and accessible venue; my relatives with mobility problems could easily navigate the space |
| 1 | Nothing. |

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 1 | Nothing. We loved every minute! |
| 1 | Nothing. Everything was positive. |
| 1 | Nothing. I understand, though, that the structure is unsafe |
| 1 | Nothing. It is still a cherished childhood memory. |
| 1 | Nothing. Not much positive or negative. It's a bandshell and it bandshelled fine. |
| 1 | Nothing... it was beautiful |
| 1 | Noticing how the city puts things in place with a grand plan and then has little follow-through for maintaining. ie: the boardwalk is deteriorating, the blacktop paths are crumbling, the pond & areas around it are overrun with invasives, tree of heaven is in multiple places in the park, etc. I wish the parks department & NAP had enough personnel to be able to maintain the city parks - I know they work hard; there just aren't enough people to do the job well. |
| 1 | Notningt |
| 1 | Now, lack of maintenance. Homeless are bothering others. |
| 1 | Occasionally there are disruptive attendees. |
| 1 | Only negatives is that it is closed and unusable for so long now |
| 1 | Open bathrooms all seasons would be a plus. I realize that comes with it's own challenges. |
| 1 | Panhandlers and disruptive people |
| 1 | Park needs more trees for shade. The actual shell needs to be substantially larger to shelter performing ensembles, provide better acoustics for projecting sound (without amplification), and provide stage lighting for the performers. Needs a lot more parking availability. |
| 1 | Parking and distance to bandshell after finding parking |
| 1 | Parking has always been an issue (even back in the 1970s) but is worse now due to removal of any grass parking resulting from the storm water improvements. |
| 1 | Parking is a toss up. |
| 1 | Parking is difficult but doable. |
| 1 | Parking is in neighborhood. Have to park blocks away for events. Band concerts now at Burns Park actually have easier parking |
| 1 | Parking is limited. Many are fine with walking a distance, however, that may be a factor for folks, making a decision whether or not to come to an event. It is even a challenge for some of our bandmembers. It was great that the city offered rides to the shell from Seventh Street and Chapin Street. And we were allowed drive in/drop off if really needed. It was good to have the Porta Johns, however in the summer sometimes they filled up quickly, and you could smell them on the audience side of the shell. |
| 1 | Parking lot had open drug/alcohol use. Fencing of stolen property. Likely human trafficking. |
| 1 | Parking options could have been better. |
| 1 | Parking was a challenge for some attendees |
| 1 | Parking was always an issue |
| 1 | Parking! But again it's Ann Arbor and parking is a premium anyways. |
| 1 | Parking, disorderly people's, rodent populations. |
| 1 | Parking, parking signage and access need improvement. Could the AAATA provide event shuttle service from another city parking location? Could there be event-only on-street parking nearby? Could there be event-only parking on the grass within West Park? |
| 1 | Parking. Moving equipment to/from stage area. Lack of rest room facilities. Stage too crowded for performers. Lighting and sound system insufficient. |
| 1 | People drinking/drugging in the corner of the lower parking lot |
| 1 | People driving in to park on 7th were speeding and ignoring the crosswalks in ways that made it very unsafe for all |
| 1 | People in the nearby apartment complexes sometimes were unhappy since the band shell pointed right at their windows. |

| Count | Response |
|-------|--|
| 1 | People on drugs |
| 1 | People standing in wetland area |
| 1 | People stealing from me |
| 1 | People walking through visual path due to walking path, somewhat hard to great hear |
| 1 | Perception of lack of restrooms. |
| 1 | Poor location, bad parking situation. While the Ann Arbor Civic Band used to fit on the bandshell's stage, it certainly can't now. |
| 1 | Pretty much everything. As a performer on stage, parking was blocks away, and I had to haul 50 lbs of equipment. The storage and backstage area is too small for ease of use. The audience members have to sit 50 yards from the stage, and often have to strain to see over the 10 foot tall cattails that someone decided were appropriate for in front of a stage. The space has no shade for audience members, no parking for anyone, and is buggy and smelly. |
| 1 | Quality of performance, seating very uncomfortable, and rain caused me to leave |
| 1 | Relatively long walk. No clear definition of the audience space. |
| 1 | Restrooms |
| 1 | Restrooms were either gross or closed. Now they are nonexistent. |
| 1 | Right now, seeing the bandshell wrapped in yellow caution tape and sitting for a couple of years now creates a sad and uncared for feeling as you walk through the park. |
| 1 | Seating |
| 1 | Seating area needs more shade |
| 1 | Seating arrangements were a little unclear, especially with some people bringing chairs and others on the grass. |
| 1 | Seating options are not great. |
| 1 | Seating, |
| 1 | Sidewalk runs between bandshell and audience causing frequent distractions during performance |
| 1 | Since the concerts were once a week and not too late, it was ok. Had they been more frequent or even louder or later, it would have been very-very annoying. Parking also increased along 7th and in our street, but fortunately not too much. |
| 1 | Sitting in the unmitigated sun for hours. |
| 1 | So much food waste needed to be cleaned up after the concert |
| 1 | Some patrons did not have their dogs under control |
| 1 | Someone once shouted from the Miller Apartments "Your music sucks!" But it actually made the event more memorable |
| 1 | Sometimes it was HOT. Not a dealbreaker for me. |
| 1 | Sometimes noise/arguments from the apartment balconies was distracting but didn't last long. |
| 1 | Sometimes see homeless near Chaplin street. |
| 1 | Sometimes the mosquitoes were bad. |
| 1 | Sometimes the site was a bit wet. It's also somewhat difficult to navigate if you have issues walking (bumpy ground, only accessible if you're on a paved path). |
| 1 | Sometimes the sound was difficult to hear. |
| 1 | Sometimes there are people in the park who appear to be drunk or not well. |
| 1 | Sometimes too loud for the neighborhood- heavy metal music etc. |
| 1 | Sonic interference from poorly located recent structure. Political interference from city authorities. |
| 1 | Sound clarity and comfortable seating were minuses. . |

| Count | Response |
|-------|--|
| 1 | Sound quality / lack of shade |
| 1 | Sound quality wasn't great |
| 1 | Sound system was not great. Would like to have restrooms or portajohns, water fountains and trash bins conveniently located. |
| 1 | Sound wasn't well amplified |
| 1 | Stage feels a bit far/separate from audience since the daylighting of the creek. |
| 1 | That they don't exist anymore. |
| 1 | The Audience sits directly in the sun which can be uncomfortable. |
| 1 | The Pretentious and privileged treating you like some people like they don't belong |
| 1 | The ability to hear actors during plays was different |
| 1 | The amount of distance from where people can put down a blanket and watch/listen. |
| 1 | The audience is forced to sit too far from the stage due to the swampy area in front of the stage. |
| 1 | The bandshell isn't ideally placed in it's location. A huge moat exists between seating area and stage. The audio reflection off of the highrise behind the seating area can be a challenge for performers (and residents). |
| 1 | The bandshell was underutilized most of the year |
| 1 | The condition of the grounds around the bandshell |
| 1 | The dilapidated state of the band shell. It was shameful how long it's been ignored. |
| 1 | The extremely loud rock music (on occasion) coming from the high-rise apartment at the band of the back edge of the park was certainly not pleasant. In addition, the closing of the restrooms in this city park is unacceptable. |
| 1 | The fact that it's been closed and unused for over 2 years. |
| 1 | The inability to perform due to the structure instability these past few years! |
| 1 | The music wasn't very good. I think it was the Ann Arbor Symphony or Band or both, and they weren't terrible, but it felt like going to support someone's child at a school concert. I was always hoping for more and different concerts. |
| 1 | The pa system was hard to hear; the music sounded fine |
| 1 | The park looks abandoned many times, there is garbage here and there. It is also used by people without homes and they keep their bags in between trees and plants. I understand the plea here but I think we should make sure as a city to treat these two as separate issues. A public space that is inviting for the community and well kept helps create community. And the issue of homeless must be addressed properly through the many other venues in place or that can be put in place. |
| 1 | The park seemed rundown and not very conducive to listening to music, outside of having a band shell there.. There was no seating near the band shell so if you just happened by or forgot your chairs, it was not encouraging for you to stay. The grassy area was not nice to sit on. |
| 1 | The parking around the venue is an issue. |
| 1 | The removal of onsite parking on the grass. |
| 1 | The shell is too small for the group we have now. Not to mention that being in wetlands means plenty of mosquitoes. |
| 1 | The sound system was horrible. The audience was too far from the stage. |
| 1 | The sound was unamplified and difficult to hear at times. |
| 1 | The swampy bits around the stage, the persistent mosquitoes, and the long hike with heavy instruments in from the available neighborhood parking were the only downsides I ever experienced there. |
| 1 | The vegetation in front of the band shell and the water in front of the bandshell. |
| 1 | The walkway that interrupts the stage from the seating area |
| 1 | The water management can be a problem with smells and bugs as well as very wet ground to sit on. |

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 1 | The water seems unhealthy, the bridge needs repair and the fencing around the bandshell makes it feel deserted. |
| 1 | The water that pools down near the front of the stage has lead to mosquitos. |
| 1 | The wider West Park community with drug dealers and drug users hanging around in surrounding areas. Concerns about safety within the wider West Park. |
| 1 | These events themselves were not negative, but more the passing through West Park, in general. Also, the negativity stems from the City doing a very poor job when it comes to maintenance of any kind. If it's not a new project, then there's no interest. Allowing the bandshell to become so unsafe is like allowing our streets to go untended. All maintenance has to have its very active, significant role and fat budget line in the work of a city. |
| 1 | Too few concerts and too short a concert season. Even other music types would be appreciated, folk singing, country music, etc. |
| 1 | Too many bugs! |
| 1 | Too rare |
| 1 | Trash not taken care of in a timely manner. |
| 1 | Uncomfortable sitting on the lawn |
| 1 | Underutilized in the last years. |
| 1 | Vagrants in park |
| 1 | Vagrants in parking lot. |
| 1 | Venue is not that great for concerts. Congestion, noise and litter will be a problem. |
| 1 | Very dark at night. |
| 1 | Very limited parking, which is difficult for musicians with large instruments |
| 1 | Very uncomfortable place to take the family. You're seated very far away from the stage, with the bike/walking path between you and the stage (lots of passersby and interruptions). No place to little kids to play (like a play structure) if they're getting restless. |
| 1 | Wackos in Miller Manor who didn't take their meds that morning. |
| 1 | Walking path between stage and audience. Bathrooms. Water. |
| 1 | Water around the bandshell |
| 1 | We walked over from about a quarter mile away but I think people who drove were frustrated by the lack of parking. Perhaps encourage walking more and/or provide more places to lock bikes. |
| 1 | Weather |
| 1 | West Park feels unsafe at times |
| 1 | Yellowjackets getting on my cotton candy |
| 1 | absolutely NOTHING NEGATIVE!!! |
| 1 | audience continually talking during concerts has discouraged me from attending |
| 1 | bathrooms were bad, no picnic tables and trash cans, Its clear the city does not want tl maintain this park. It makes me wonder why its so poorly managed - that is not happening in burns park or gallup park. |
| 1 | bugs a bit |
| 1 | can't remember anything negative... |
| 1 | competing music from the highrise during concerts - only happened a couple of times. |
| 1 | could be buggy |
| 1 | distance from where I live on the southeast side of town |
| 1 | drainage |

| Count | Response |
|-------|--|
| 1 | ground can be soggy. |
| 1 | hard to hear theater group without a sound system, they should be on the stage with a good amplified sound system |
| 1 | homeless People bothering people |
| 1 | i don't recall anything negative |
| 1 | lack of adequate seating before I knew to bring my own lawn chairs |
| 1 | low attendance |
| 1 | mosquitos |
| 1 | mosquitoes, but one should expect that |
| 1 | mosquitoes. |
| 1 | needs bathrooms since that structure was torn down |
| 1 | noise pollution from unthought park users who blast and foist their own musical experiences on others. Lack of common courtesy. Sense of entitlement by abusers. |
| 1 | not enough music events and genre's of music |
| 1 | nothing |
| 1 | nothing at all, even the mosquitos were minimal. |
| 1 | nothing bad at all |
| 1 | nothing negative. |
| 1 | nothing that i could really complain about - yeah, it was sunny and hot sometimes, but that's just the weather |
| 1 | nothing! |
| 1 | nothing. unexpected. of course in the summer you never know if the weather will cooperate or not. |
| 1 | one of the times the doors were locked without a notice to us. There was flooding and it was difficult to access the structure. |
| 1 | only good memories |
| 1 | parking bathrooms crowded |
| 1 | parking and bugs |
| 1 | parking can sometimes be a problem. |
| 1 | parking difficult |
| 1 | people yelling 'shut the fuck up ' from Miller Manor |
| 1 | restrictions on noise |
| 1 | seating |
| 1 | sitting on wall uncomfortable |
| 1 | sometimes wet |
| 1 | sound quality due to echo |
| 1 | struggles with mentally ill or unhoused persons disrupting events |
| 1 | that it was shut down without a plan |
| 1 | the swamp surrounding the bandshell |
| 1 | there is not a lot of shade near the bandshell |

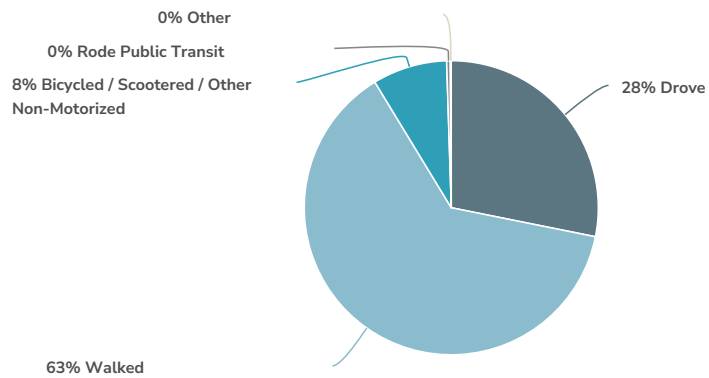
Count Response

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | we can walk but it seems parking was an issue |
|---|---|

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | would be nice if park had toilet facilities |
|---|---|

12. What was the primary way you traveled to the park?

West Park Bandshell Community Engagement



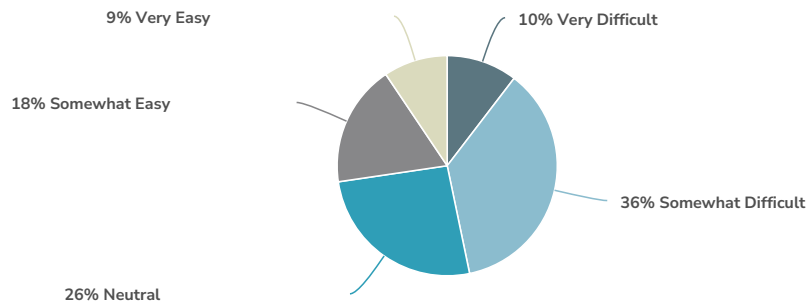
| Value | Percent | Responses |
|--|---------|-----------|
| Drove | 28.2% | 214 |
| Walked | 63.2% | 480 |
| Bicycled / Scooter / Other Non-Motorized | 8.2% | 62 |
| Rode Public Transit | 0.4% | 3 |
| Other | 0.1% | 1 |

Totals: 760

| Other | Count |
|--|-------|
| drove to a friend's house nearby and walked in | 1 |
| Totals | 1 |

13. How difficult or easy was it to find parking?

West Park Bandshell Community Engagement

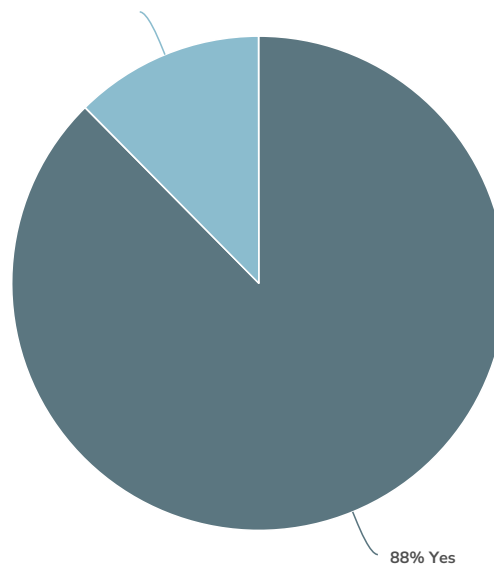


| Value | Percent | Responses |
|--------------------|---------|-------------|
| Very Difficult | 10.4% | 22 |
| Somewhat Difficult | 36.3% | 77 |
| Neutral | 25.9% | 55 |
| Somewhat Easy | 17.9% | 38 |
| Very Easy | 9.4% | 20 |
| | | Totals: 212 |

14. Have you ever attended an outdoor concert in any park? (any location, including outside Ann Arbor). If yes, where?

West Park Bandshell Community Engagement

12% No



88% Yes

| Value | Percent | Responses |
|-------------|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Yes | 87.6% <div><div></div></div> | 262 |
| No | 12.4% <div><div></div></div> | 37 |
| Totals: 299 | | |

| Yes | Count |
|--|-------|
| Burns Park | 6 |
| Top of the park | 6 |
| Detroit | 4 |
| Liberty Plaza | 4 |
| Many | 3 |
| Sonic Lunch | 3 |
| Top of the Park | 3 |
| A2SF | 2 |
| Arb | 2 |
| Boston | 2 |
| Ingalls Mall | 2 |
| (This was in Belgrade, Serbia, where I'm from) | 1 |
| . | 1 |
| A2 Summer Fest | 1 |
| A2 top of the park, DTE music, SAPAC (Saratoga NY), Frederick Meijer gardens | 1 |
| A2SF and UMS programs. | 1 |
| Totals | 231 |

| Yes | Count |
|--|-------|
| A2SF on Ingalls Mall | 1 |
| AASF | 1 |
| All over the place, too many to list. | 1 |
| All over: Central Park (NY), Prospect Park (Brooklyn), Grant Park (Chicago), Open Space (Traverse City) | 1 |
| Always go to summer fest (if that counts), there are live music events in Ludington MI that we used to go to | 1 |
| Ann Arbor Summer festival and many other parks in other cities where I have lived | 1 |
| Ann Arbor summer festival | 1 |
| Ann Arbor symphony at Concordia College | 1 |
| Ann Arbor, Detroit, Columbus, Boston, etc. | 1 |
| Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti, Columbus (OH), New York City, Milwaukee (WI) | 1 |
| Ann Arbor, all over NY, PA | 1 |
| Arb, pine knob, Oakland university, etc | 1 |
| Arboretum | 1 |
| Arcadia Park in Kalamazoo, MI | 1 |
| Bandameer Park, Liberty Plaza, Ingalls Hall, 2 more I don't remember the names of | 1 |
| Belle Isle | 1 |
| Boston, MA and Syracuse, NY | 1 |
| Boston, Seattle, New York, Washington D.C. | 1 |
| Burns Park, Burh Park | 1 |
| Burns Park, St. Joe Michigan, South Bend Ind. | 1 |
| Burns Park, UM Campus, others | 1 |
| Burns Park; Ravinia; Boston Commons;The Green (Milwaukee symphony Orchestra Summer venue) | 1 |
| Burns park. | 1 |
| Cambridge MA | 1 |
| Can't remember | 1 |
| Central Park, Interlochen, | 1 |
| Central Park, NYC: the Point in Hyde Park, Chicago; probably others | 1 |
| Chicago, IL; Ypsilanti, MI; Manistee, MI; Holland, MI; several MI bluegrass festivals; Columbus, OH; Canton Twp, MI; NYC, NY | 1 |
| Chicago, NYC | 1 |
| Coachella Festival (California), Pine Knob, Ionia Free Fair just to name a few. | 1 |
| Columbus Ohio, Miami FL, Denver CO... | 1 |
| Columbus, Ohio | 1 |
| Concordia College Campus; Liberty Park, Salt Lake City | 1 |
| Corpus Christi Texas has an amphitheater in Cole Park that I frequented as a child | 1 |
| Totals | 231 |

| Yes | Count |
|---|-------|
| DC | 1 |
| DTE, Top of the Park, other metro Detroit areas | 1 |
| DTW | 1 |
| Dearborn | 1 |
| Detroit, Chicago, St. Joseph, Benton Harbor, Ann Arbor, San Francisco, Clarkston, Cincinnati, Interlochen | 1 |
| Detroit, Ferndale, Royal Oak | 1 |
| Dexter | 1 |
| Dodge Park | 1 |
| Downtown AA, and many concerts in East Lansing parks | 1 |
| Downtown Plymouth | 1 |
| Europe | 1 |
| Fringe Fest in Edinburgh, Scotland | 1 |
| Frog island Ypsi | 1 |
| Fuller park, park on mackinac island, park near Grand haven, etc, | 1 |
| Gallup Park | 1 |
| Golden Gate Park, San Francisco | 1 |
| Golden gate park | 1 |
| Golden gate park, pine knob, shoreline amphitheater, aretha franklin amphitheater | 1 |
| Hamtramck, Clarkston | 1 |
| Hart Plaza, New Center Area, several others | 1 |
| Heritage Park in Farmington Hills | 1 |
| Houston, Indianapolis, Grand Haven | 1 |
| I can't remember the name of the park | 1 |
| In Mountain View CA | 1 |
| Ingalls mall | 1 |
| Ingalls mall | 1 |
| Jazz concert at fairgrounds | 1 |
| Juneteenth Celebration at Civic Center Park in Madison Heights, MI | 1 |
| Lebanon Memorial Park in Indiana | 1 |
| Liberty Park | 1 |
| Liberty Park Sonic Lunch; outside of Ann Arbor in Detroit, Chicago, Boston, San Francisco | 1 |
| Liberty Plaza for Sonic Lunch | 1 |
| Liberty Plaza, Chicago parks, Pineknob, Seattle, other outdoor concert venues | 1 |
| Liberty Plaza, Piedmont Park (Atlanta), Old Main Lawn (Penn State Campus)? | 1 |
| Totals | 231 |

| Yes | Count |
|---|-------|
| Liberty Plaza. Fuller Park. Prospect Park in Brooklyn. Fort Reno in DC. etc. | 1 |
| Liberty plaza | 1 |
| Liberty plaza, many other places | 1 |
| Liberty plaza, millennium park | 1 |
| London | 1 |
| Los Angeles, Greek Theatre & Hollywood Bowl | 1 |
| Many concerts, here in Ann Arbor eg summer festival, interlochen, pine knob, Bliss Fest, Midland Tridge | 1 |
| Many in Metro Detroit, New York, and Chicago | 1 |
| Many in North Carolina, where I'm from | 1 |
| Many locations, Ann Arbor, Chicago, Royal Oak, etc | 1 |
| Many outdoor venues - Red Rocks in Colorado, pavilion in Columbus OH | 1 |
| Many parks | 1 |
| Many places (e.g., Pine Knob, top of the park, sonic lunch, etc.) | 1 |
| Marshall, Michigan dulcimer festival; Marquette, MI tourist park "Hiawatha" festival | 1 |
| Massachuetts | 1 |
| Meadowbrook | 1 |
| Meadowbrook Rochester Mi | 1 |
| Meadowbrook, Riverside Detroit | 1 |
| Memphis | 1 |
| Metro Detroit | 1 |
| Michigan Lottery Amphitheatre at Freedom Hill Concert; Top of the park Ann Arbor | 1 |
| Midland Michigan, Pine Knob, Bonnaroo | 1 |
| Multiple | 1 |
| My hometown has a similar structure and regularly hosts events. | 1 |
| NYC, Austin TX, Richmond VA, + more | 1 |
| New Jersey | 1 |
| New York City | 1 |
| Nichols Arboretum; Pine Nob; National Mall; Jay Pritzker Pavilion; | 1 |
| Non city parks, e.g., on campus | 1 |
| Numerous | 1 |
| Performances in Wheeler Park; A2 Summer Fest; similar performances in parks in Washington, DC, Harrisonburg, VA | 1 |
| Petoskey, Muskegon, greenville | 1 |
| Pine Knob | 1 |
| Pine knob | 1 |
| Totals | 231 |

| Yes | Count |
|--|-------|
| Pine knob | 1 |
| Pineknob, Meadow Brook, The Summer Circle Theatre Courtyard, Freedom Hill | 1 |
| Pittsburgh, D.C., Philadelphia | 1 |
| Plymouth | 1 |
| Prospect Park in Brooklyn, NY | 1 |
| Prospect Park, Brooklyn | 1 |
| Purdue University amphitheater west of Owen Hall | 1 |
| Ravinia in Chicago, Pine knob in MI | 1 |
| Ravinia, Highland Park, IL | 1 |
| Red Rocks, Santa Barbara Bowl | 1 |
| Riverside Park Ypsi | 1 |
| Riverside Park Ypsilanti, Ford Lake Park, Delhi Metropark | 1 |
| Royal oak | 1 |
| Royal oak | 1 |
| Saratoga Springs, Ann Arbor | 1 |
| Schenectady NY (Central Park) | 1 |
| Seattle | 1 |
| Seattle, Olympic peninsula, the Arb, sleeping bear dunes, pine knob, many more | 1 |
| Seattle, WA | 1 |
| Several | 1 |
| Several in Ann Arbor parks | 1 |
| Several parks including ones run by the local park district. Also ticketed venues. | 1 |
| Shakespeare in the arb | 1 |
| So many! Detroit, Grand Rapids, Red Rocks Colorado, and beyond | 1 |
| Sonic Lunch at Liberty Plaza | 1 |
| Sonic Lunch, Clinton, locations in Minnesota | 1 |
| Sonic lunch here, many in other places I've lived including annual 4th of July concerts. | 1 |
| Sonic lunch, Shakespear in the park. I don't know of other performances in the park except the band concerts. Those haven't seemed to work with my schedule. I have gone to performances at the libraries. | 1 |
| Sonic lunch, a2sf, Harvard yard (Boston calling), millennium park (Lollapalooza), other small town music in the park events | 1 |
| Sonic lunch. Variety of concerts in SF (stern grove, hardly strictly, outside lands, etc) | 1 |
| Sporting events at Vets Park, Dexter Daze in Dexter, Concerts in downtown Plymouth Park. | 1 |
| Summer Fest events all around town | 1 |
| Summer Fest often, freedom hill, DTE ect | 1 |
| Summer fest | 1 |
| Totals | 231 |

| Yes | Count |
|--|-------|
| Summer fest, downtown AA Thursday evenings | 1 |
| Summer fest, many festivals out of town | 1 |
| Summer festival, events in Dexter | 1 |
| Summerfest | 1 |
| Summerfest/top of the park | 1 |
| Tanglewood | 1 |
| Tanglewood, Aspen | 1 |
| The arb | 1 |
| Too many to describe. | 1 |
| Too many to list. | 1 |
| Too many to mention | 1 |
| Too numerous to list them all | 1 |
| Top of Park, Liberty Plaza | 1 |
| Top of the Park, Gallup, Liberty Plaza, Chicago, Toronto, San Francisco | 1 |
| Top of the Park, Millennium Park in Chicago, Jazz in the Garden in DC, Rock the Garden in Minneapolis, many others | 1 |
| Top of the Park, Sonic Lunch, Greenfield Village, Ravinia (Chicago) | 1 |
| Top of the Park, State Street, Main Street | 1 |
| Top of the Park; Sonic Summer at Liberty Plaza; events on MainSt | 1 |
| Top of the park | 1 |
| Top of the park, Blossom Music Center in Cleveland, Chicago millennium park | 1 |
| Top of the park, and several in Cleveland area | 1 |
| Top of the park, broken branch & other home venues, water hill, many others | 1 |
| Top of the park, burns park | 1 |
| Top of the park, many others across US | 1 |
| Top of the park, sonic lunch, tree verb | 1 |
| Top of the park, water hill festival, sonic lunch | 1 |
| Top of the park, water hill music festival | 1 |
| Traverse City | 1 |
| Various locations both in and outside of Ann Arbor, including top of the park, Sonic Lunch | 1 |
| Various throughout the country and world, most recently in Milford, MI | 1 |
| Washington | 1 |
| Water hill fest, Detroit jazz fest, DEMPf | 1 |
| West Lafayette IN | 1 |
| Westerly,RI | 1 |
| Totals | 231 |

| Yes | Count |
|---|-------|
| Wolf trap, ravenna | 1 |
| Yes- burns | 1 |
| Ypsilanti, Dexter, A2SF | 1 |
| Zion Illinois | 1 |
| burns park, the arb, buhr park | 1 |
| central park, nyc | 1 |
| dance recital at SE Area Park | 1 |
| dexter, farmers market, liberty plaza, | 1 |
| golden gate park festivals | 1 |
| have attended many concerts, too many to name, As a relatively new resident of Ann Arbor and a member of the Ann Arbor civic band, I'd love the chance to play in west park at some point | 1 |
| in chicago | 1 |
| indianapolis, saline | 1 |
| many many areas | 1 |
| many times | 1 |
| royal oak, belle isle | 1 |
| top o park, kerrytown, los angeles, all over | 1 |
| top of the park | 1 |
| top of the park concerts, and purchased a private music performance during covid | 1 |
| top of the park, concerts put on by AADL | 1 |
| Totals | 231 |

15. What, if anything, was positive about your experience?



West Park Bandshell Community Engagement

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 3 | Community |
| 2 | Community engagement |
| 1 | A nice place to meet up with friends in the summer |
| 1 | A variety of events and having food options |
| 1 | Access and availability |
| 1 | Accessibility in downtown Ann Arbor |
| 1 | Acoustics, space for concert goers, trash cans & rest rooms.. good visibility of the stage |
| 1 | Affordable, accessible live music, community gathering. |
| 1 | All positive |
| 1 | Allowed for large audiences, community feel |
| 1 | Almost everything |
| 1 | Ambiance |
| 1 | An attraction for all ages to enjoy the arts outdoors with fellow members of their community |
| 1 | Art featured in the community. |
| 1 | Arts programming in public spaces fosters democracy and strengthens community ties. Furthermore, it has seen widespread success in SE Michigan. From the DIA's outdoor series to A2SF, these programs have become cherished staples of Michigan summers. The arts are deeply ingrained in Ann Arbor's identity. They play a significant role in setting us apart in many respects. We must intensify our efforts in building and activating our arts ecosystem, viewing it as both a means of social infrastructure and an economic development tool. |
| 1 | Attractive area, events, visibility of the surrounding area. Could bring own chairs and blankets to sit on. |
| 1 | Beautiful location, closeness to nature |
| 1 | Beautiful weather. |
| 1 | Beer |
| 1 | Being able to enjoy a show while also enjoying the outdoors, being able to see the stage from a variety of vantage points, nicely maintained grass for a pleasant seating experience, feeling like part of the community, being able to bring outside food and drink |
| 1 | Being able to perform on nice sunny days for people |
| 1 | Being able to relax, enjoy a picnic and an evening of music |
| 1 | Being outdoors in the beautiful weather is wonderful! Room for sitting down, laying down, or dancing. |
| 1 | Being outdoors. |
| 1 | Being outside and listening to music |
| 1 | Being outside during the summer, going somewhere in my own neighborhood |
| 1 | Being outside with community |
| 1 | Being outside with space to dance, having a fun shared experience with neighbors |
| 1 | Being with the community and enjoying the outdoors. |
| 1 | Bringing community together. Access to free live music. Something to do outside in the summer. |
| 1 | Brought in people who don't know Madison Hts. helping boost interest in the park as well as teachers. |

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 1 | Can enjoy nature and the music, able to walk around |
| 1 | Casual sitting with family and friends on lawn, eating, and listening to music |
| 1 | Cheap and easy |
| 1 | Clean facilities, feeling safe while attending, quality of performance. |
| 1 | Coming together with community, feeling invested in my home, excitement about innovative things happening in my neighborhood |
| 1 | Community |
| 1 | Community and local |
| 1 | Community aspect of events, bringing people together, exposing my kids to music and culture, fun and joy |
| 1 | Community engagement |
| 1 | Community engagement, being outdoors |
| 1 | Community experience. Ability to include small children and family members in shared experience. |
| 1 | Community gathering without Ticketmaster charging. |
| 1 | Community gathering, enjoying weather, meeting friends |
| 1 | Community, enjoy weather, ability to step away with kids |
| 1 | Community, free or cheap, safe place to spend time |
| 1 | Community, time in green space, activities for families, children, and adults without children; seeing performers I wouldn't have seen before; access to vendors and food trucks that I may not have had exposure before. |
| 1 | Community. Music. |
| 1 | Concerts in the parks are some of the best events! They promote local talent and bring the community together. The fresh air and the nature of the park surrounding is any park's greatest strength. I would like to see more advertisements when an event is taking place! |
| 1 | Connect to community, performances, outdoors |
| 1 | Connecting with community members, supporting local artists, enjoying local spaces |
| 1 | Connecting with the community and spending time outdoors |
| 1 | Crowd of people Police presence Feeling of safety |
| 1 | Crowd vibe |
| 1 | Easy access to event Ample seating area available for personal chairs No bugs Dry land to place blankets on Dry land to get to and fro event |
| 1 | Easy access. |
| 1 | Easy to happen upon even if you didn't know it was scheduled. Fun events (community band, kids concerts, Penny Seats theater performance). Lots of room to spread out. Nice to hear music outside on a beautiful summer evening. |
| 1 | Enjoying an outdoor performance with the community. The experience is very different than one held indoors. A West Park performance space could also bring non-residents who could add to our economy. |
| 1 | Enjoying beautiful weather, music, and community simultaneously |
| 1 | Enjoying music in the open air |
| 1 | Enriches the community, family friendly, makes it worth staying in Ann Arbor |
| 1 | Everything |
| 1 | Everything! Seeing usage of the park for something unexpected. |
| 1 | Family friendly |

| Count | Response |
|-------|--|
| 1 | Family friendly - very safe- very busy - food, drinks, etc |
| 1 | Flexible seating, building community vibes, |
| 1 | Food and drinks were offered |
| 1 | For the first, it being on a hill where the entrance to the shell is near the top so everyone could see the stage. Also having some seating built in and parts shaded made it more accessible. |
| 1 | Free community concerts and performances featuring community members |
| 1 | Fresh air , feeling of excitement, music, people watching |
| 1 | Fresh air, live music |
| 1 | Fresh air, music not as loud |
| 1 | Fresh air, spaciousness, ability to sit on the ground (at some) surrounded by trees, seeing the sunset, smoke etc dissipates quickly, often easy to get in and out |
| 1 | Fun to enjoy music and community gathering in the summer |
| 1 | Gathering of community, accessibility, the music, the food. Clean bathrooms. |
| 1 | Going to concerts is fun. |
| 1 | Good music and venue |
| 1 | Good sound and a friendly crowd. It was a good concert. |
| 1 | Grass seating space, ability to see act |
| 1 | Great bands, fun announcers, positive crowd, food vendors, free swag, police presence |
| 1 | Great music , good vendors, big enough space |
| 1 | Great music, being outside, enjoying a cold beer with friends |
| 1 | Great music, family-friendly |
| 1 | Great music, food trucks, vibrant atmosphere |
| 1 | I enjoy being outside, taking advantage of our gorgeous summers. |
| 1 | I enjoyed the open, almost picnic-like atmosphere. It's was also great for kids to attend. |
| 1 | I like outdoor concerts and think we should have more of them in A2. |
| 1 | I love hearing music outside and dancing with my fellow neighbors. It is fantastic to be able to have fresh air and enjoy entertainment in a free, public space. |
| 1 | I love listening to a symphony in an outdoor setting |
| 1 | I love outdoor community spaces |
| 1 | I love the idea of a bandshell, but I've never gone. I haven't been that interested in the music played there. I'm glad it was there for others but think it should be moved out of the flood plain. |
| 1 | I love w listening to music outdoors. It's great to be able to get up and love around, hear the music from a distance, bring kids, sit on the grass, bring a blanket and picnic, and people watch. |
| 1 | I loved the summer series at Miller outdoor theatre in Houston. We would bring a picnic (wine included, I think legally) and listen it music. It was such a great activity! |
| 1 | I really enjoy Outdoor concerts. All of the concerts I've attended have been without a bandshell and were great. I don't think a bandshell is necessary to have a good experience. |
| 1 | I really enjoy there being room for kids to run around and having less formal environment |

| Count | Response |
|-------|--|
| 1 | If you build it, they will come. I have been to concerts at outdoor venues where people bring their own chairs and blankets, but can either bring in food or have food available for purchase. People like to be outside during the summer months and it encourages groups to meet and have a good time. |
| 1 | In downtown plymouth I enjoy the large grassy space with town things to do right around me |
| 1 | Incredible community feeling, brings all people together, music is universal positive thing, opportunities for vendors and local businesses, local artist exposure |
| 1 | Interacting with community, spending time outside, being able to bring a picnic, affordability, convenience |
| 1 | Interaction with performers and attendees. |
| 1 | Intimate, casual, family-friendly |
| 1 | Investment in venue and commitment to bringing arts and entertainment experiences to local community |
| 1 | It brings community together and also encourages local businesses to sell food/goods. |
| 1 | It created a wonderful sense of community |
| 1 | It was a band I liked. Acoustically, outdoor concerts are inferior to indoor concerts. |
| 1 | It was a great experience |
| 1 | It was amazing. I love outdoor concerts and neighborhood festivals. |
| 1 | It was easy to walk to, and carry our lawn chairs and picnic supplies. There was no venue parking, which encouraged everyone to arrive by public transit, bike or foot. There were lots of trees to provide shade, and it wasn't just a giant lifeless lawn. |
| 1 | It was great to see community musicians and dance performances |
| 1 | It was really nice to have a free activity with local musicians both in Dexter and Ypsi. They also had a small art fair with local artists which was fun to walk through while the music was playing. |
| 1 | It's a great community building opportunity and people who normally might not attend musical performances can do so. |
| 1 | It's a lovely addition to bring the community together, allowing neighbors to get to know one another and provides entertainment as well. Events like this are what many people i know think of when describing a neighborhood as "vibrant" or "fun" |
| 1 | It's great. But 2.5M does not need to be allocated to this structure. We have other venues. Portable stages can easily be used at lower cost. |
| 1 | It's lovely to sit outside and listen to music. The atmosphere is fun and you can be comfortable with lawn chairs and blankets. |
| 1 | Just a regular summer night |
| 1 | Live Music, availability of food and drink, community |
| 1 | Local groups playing at a local venue enhances the sense of community among attendees |
| 1 | Lots of families, food to purchase, feeling safe |
| 1 | Lots of room to spread out and enjoy the concert in a natural space |
| 1 | Lots of space to spread out, enjoyment of outdoors |
| 1 | Love Top of the Park. Programming. Accessibility. Food vendors. Nexus for whole Ann Arbor Community socially and culturally. |
| 1 | Love being outside for these shows. Really like how the shows can incorporate their natural surroundings into the show. |
| 1 | Love to hear music outside, park concerts are free/all welcome |
| 1 | Loved being outside in a community setting |
| 1 | Loved the music and enthusiasm of the audience for the perfimers. Have been to outdoor performances in other places. The venue becomes part if the performance...the setting sun, the breeze in the trees... |
| 1 | Meeting community members, having a place outdoors for local activities |
| 1 | Music |

| Count | Response |
|-------|--|
| 1 | Music is better in the open air |
| 1 | Music outdoors! Packing a picnic, sitting out in a wide open area, letting kids run around. |
| 1 | Nice to be outside |
| 1 | Nice to be outside and enjoy the weather. Also good because kids can run around or play on the playground. |
| 1 | Open air Freedom of movement and seating options |
| 1 | Opportunity to have so many people. Air changes per hour. Sun, when the weather was good. |
| 1 | Outdoor atmosphere |
| 1 | Outdoor concerts are fun on a lovely day. They are a great options for parents of young kids, who may have a hard time obtaining or affording child care so they can go out. |
| 1 | Outdoor concerts are so fun |
| 1 | Outdoor music in the summer is awesome! I love that it's around the city! |
| 1 | Outdoor music is great because it is totally accessible to most people. And with Covid it is even more important. |
| 1 | Outdoor music is wonderful. |
| 1 | Outdoor open air performances. Nature. Community vibe |
| 1 | People |
| 1 | Performers. Environment. Meeting others with similar interests. |
| 1 | Pleasant surroundings Restroom available |
| 1 | Plenty of nearby parking and large updates bandshell |
| 1 | Plenty of open space, ease of parking/transportation, sound quality |
| 1 | Plenty of room to spread out in the audience and a wide stage. |
| 1 | Relaxing, safe |
| 1 | Room around the concert stage to have things like community tables, food trucks, etc |
| 1 | Safe and not overcrowded. Family friendly. |
| 1 | Seating, view |
| 1 | Seeing friends and neighbors, social atmosphere, free, informal. |
| 1 | Seeing music live outdoors in our beautiful Michigan weather is an unbeatable activity. |
| 1 | Sense of community in having open events in a public setting/ability for spontaneity in attending events held in urban public spaces |
| 1 | Sense of community. Getting to know new artists |
| 1 | Sense of community. Local / regional performers. Refreshments available (food truck etc) |
| 1 | Sightlines, fixed bench seating, ambiance. |
| 1 | Sitting on nice grass, free, open access |
| 1 | Sitting outdoors on a nice night. Close, intimate concerts. |
| 1 | Sonic Lunch was free, as well as the informal nature of the outdoor atmosphere. |
| 1 | Sound amplification and clarity, mixture of grass and stationary seating options, variety of performances for music and theater |
| 1 | Sound quality is good and consistent for the whole audience. Shade is abundant in daytime. Sufficient lighting if concert is after dark. Restroom facilities are available. |

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 1 | Split outdoor and partially covered seating |
| 1 | Summer evening weather. Sense of community. |
| 1 | Summer outdoor movies/concerts are a great way for the community and different groups to Meetup and socialize |
| 1 | Sunlight! Local food vendors. Festival/multi stage utilization of the park allowed more music and art to be shared. Also weed smoke is less of a nuisance |
| 1 | Sunshine, fresh air, meeting neighbors, meeting strangers |
| 1 | That it was a great opportunity to gather with friends and family outdoors while enjoying live music, even with small children. |
| 1 | The ability to enjoy both music and the outdoors simultaneously. The parking lot ones weren't that interesting, but the ones designed for concerts and integrated nature were fun and extra special. |
| 1 | The acts, ability to be outside, food trucks, |
| 1 | The atmosphere is great outdoors. |
| 1 | The atmosphere of live music is incomparable |
| 1 | The atmosphere of outdoor events is very relaxed and welcoming |
| 1 | The band! Access to the park from U-M |
| 1 | The collective experience of listening to music. |
| 1 | The kids really enjoyed it and it was nice being outside |
| 1 | The music, people having a good time, enjoying the weather. Just happiness. |
| 1 | The music. |
| 1 | The neighborhood/community feel |
| 1 | The outdoor concert experiences in AA have been amazing. Bringing together people of all ages to listen to music is a positive experience. Supporting local musicians is also beneficial to our community |
| 1 | The outdoor concert experiences that were most enjoyable included bands I already wanted to see, and who had a big draw. They weren't set up to be background music, but were the central attraction. Go big! |
| 1 | The outdoor experience. The sense of community. |
| 1 | The park is well maintained and seems to be an easy location for many people to attend a concert there. There are enough trees at the edge so a band can perform in the shade. |
| 1 | The performance; the community feeling |
| 1 | The structure at the Arb seems less invasive |
| 1 | There is little that compares to a fun outdoor concert on a nice summer day! It's great to sit out on blankets and hang out and listen to great music. |
| 1 | There is something very special about being entertained outside. Especially in the era of Covid. It feels much more enjoyable. Less stuffy and hot. Easier for kids to move around. |
| 1 | They're a fun way to get the community together and give local artists a chance be heard as well as see bigger or up and coming artists in your backyard. It's just a fun experience overall |
| 1 | Very positive |
| 1 | Visually stimulating park environments. Exquisite talent (Chicago, NYC). Truly local, kinda weird stuff (Ypsi). All free events. Built-in seating available, ranging from chairs to a sloped hillside (Ypsi, Manistee, Chicago, NYC). |
| 1 | Walkable from my house |
| 1 | Well attended and great performers. |
| 1 | Well attended. A mix of seats and lawn seating. Plenty of parking. |
| 1 | Well organized |

Count Response

| | |
|---|--|
| 1 | Wonderful outdoor community gathering point; excellent entertainment; ample bike parking |
| 1 | ability to picnic while listening to music |
| 1 | accessibility, variety of times and events |
| 1 | being in nature feeling the sun and breeze |
| 1 | being outdoors, meeting neighbors or other attendees, quality of performance/concert |
| 1 | being outside while enjoying concerts and events |
| 1 | being outside with the energy of a diverse crowd of people |
| 1 | brings community together |
| 1 | community building |
| 1 | community engagement, flexible, little ticketing, family friendly |
| 1 | community, location |
| 1 | getting together with people in beautiful weather to enjoy some great entertainment |
| 1 | it's nice for the community to get together for events like these. Plymouth has concerts in their downtown park every thursday and friday in the summer. |
| 1 | live music, community connection |
| 1 | music, social milieu |
| 1 | nice facilities and lots of people there |
| 1 | nothing |
| 1 | outdoor concerts are great for bringing children. You have room to move around, have food, let the kids sleep, etc. |
| 1 | sense of community, great musicians |
| 1 | space activation |
| 1 | the community and camaraderie of being at the park to enjoy the weather and the music |
| 1 | the fact that it was outside |

16. What, if anything, was negative about your experience?



West Park Bandshell Community Engagement

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 14 | Nothing |
| 7 | None |
| 3 | nothing |
| 2 | Insects |
| 2 | None |
| 2 | Nothing |
| 2 | Nothing negative |
| 2 | Nothing really. |
| 2 | Nothing. |
| 2 | Parking |
| 1 | Noise |
| 1 | Acoustics (of Burns Park - lacking any sort of walls to focus sound), visibility for audience members |
| 1 | Again, the homeless scene at the park. I remember we arrived early and the gentlemen there were upset and it got a little heated. |
| 1 | Allergies and bugs |
| 1 | At A2SF they didn't allow dogs which was a huge bummer for me. I walked all the way into town with my dog only to find dogs weren't allowed anywhere even though it's an outdoor concert. |
| 1 | Attending Coachella Festival in California desert and festival organizers not having enough water for concert goers. Temps during festival were 105 degrees. |
| 1 | Bad sound, mosquitos |
| 1 | Bad weather and bugs! |
| 1 | Bad weather! |
| 1 | Basketball courts are close to the location where the band performs (behind the band; the band sits between the audience and the courts) and while I wouldn't want to ask patrons to leave a public park due to a concert, the noise of basketballs and players is loud for the members of the band and audible to the audience. Also, due to the nature of setting up the band in the grass, music stands are prone to tip over. |
| 1 | Bring your own seating, couldn't see all of the band, sound quality due to open air |
| 1 | Bugs |
| 1 | Bugs or soggy ground are never fun |
| 1 | Bugs. Weather. Parking issues. |
| 1 | Crowds |
| 1 | Depends on the wheather |
| 1 | Difficulty parking |
| 1 | Distance to parking of I'm coming from out of town. Would need to offer special AATA transport to the area on concert nights or something |
| 1 | Downtown area is so hard to get around and its so cramped. |
| 1 | Events often scheduled too late for a family with young children |
| 1 | Finding the "sweet spot" for volume |

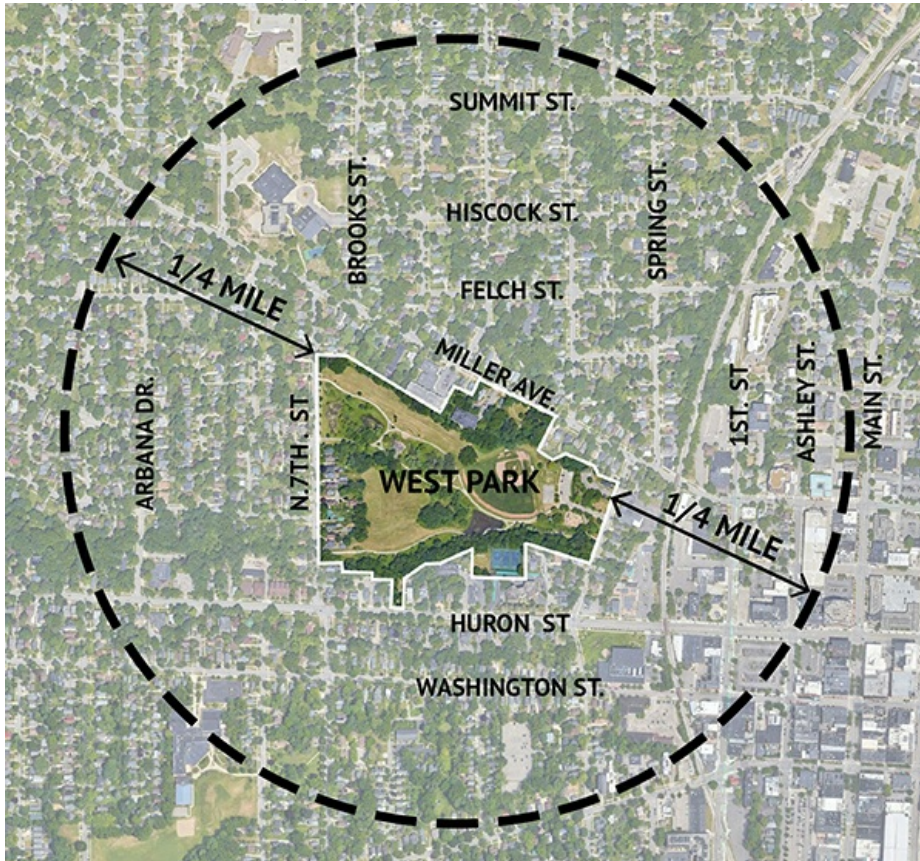
Count Response

| | |
|---|--|
| 1 | Getting to the seating area is often a long walk from parking areas. |
| 1 | Having to explain to my students what the Marijuana smell was, fellow attendees crowding students and taking their spots when they went to throw something away. |
| 1 | Heat |
| 1 | Heat with no shade and no breeze. Went to a performance at Ypsi park that was shaded by trees and an evening breeze that was wonderful. |
| 1 | Heavy traffic at the end of the concert. |
| 1 | Hot in the sun |
| 1 | Hot weather. |
| 1 | Houston, so the weather. |
| 1 | If outdoor spaces are dirty/unkempt |
| 1 | Inclement weather |
| 1 | Inclement weather, drug paraphernalia on the ground, poor bathroom conditions |
| 1 | Insects. Sight lines, traffic/parking. |
| 1 | It was San Francisco so everyone smokes weed and you do you, but I'm not a fan of the smell. |
| 1 | Just a few mosquitos! |
| 1 | Lack of public restrooms |
| 1 | Lack of shade |
| 1 | Lack of trash cans & restrooms |
| 1 | Limited access to restrooms |
| 1 | Limited bathroom access |
| 1 | Lines to get out. |
| 1 | Little shade for audience or performers |
| 1 | Livery Plaza summer events are fun, but seating is challenging. Can't see stage well from many locations. |
| 1 | Logistics, such a parking, bathrooms, food |
| 1 | Long drive home |
| 1 | Long walk to bathrooms |
| 1 | Maintaining the cleanliness of the area was difficult I recall the space often being used for skateboarding |
| 1 | Maybe excessive rain or heat has hindered good experiences |
| 1 | Maybe like West Park, I don't go to Liberty Park so much when it's not actively programmed. No issues during the event |
| 1 | Mosquitos. Please place all of West Park under a mosquito-proof dome. ;-) |
| 1 | Mud! Insufficient number of restrooms but a plethora of bushes. Unassigned seating; bc of covid and bc teens are more aggressive elbowing their way to the front these days. Seems like stage volume has to be boosted compared to indoor venues: more harmful to audience and more of a noise nuisance. |
| 1 | N/A |
| 1 | Na |
| 1 | Needs to be an easy way for people to come and go, so it doesn't allow for much overcrowding. The structure of West park seems good for this. |
| 1 | No negatives |

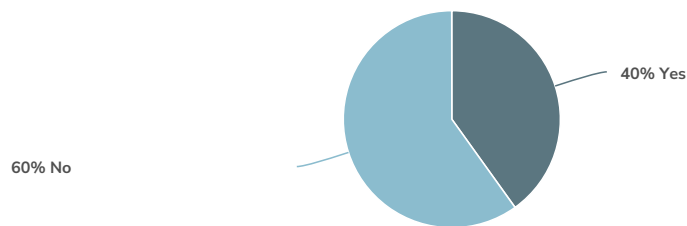
| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 1 | No video screens. |
| 1 | Noisy people |
| 1 | None! I would love more options for kid performances as the times this summer we're difficult to fit in our schedule. |
| 1 | Not an ideal space for music, difficult to avoid |
| 1 | Not being able to bring in our own food/drink |
| 1 | Not enough room to sufficiently accomodate the audience. |
| 1 | Not great acoustics |
| 1 | Nothing other than no shade |
| 1 | Nothing that I can recall |
| 1 | Nothing, as long as there are decent bathrooms |
| 1 | Nothing. They have all been wonderful. Especially when we bring a picnic. |
| 1 | Nothing. Very important to have adequate water access and waste management though. |
| 1 | Occasionally the sound system is way too loud |
| 1 | Outdoor seating area without a grade makes it hard for people of varying heights to see, especially if some people are in chairs and some are on blankets |
| 1 | Parking |
| 1 | Parking can be difficult |
| 1 | Parking was a barrier to downtown plymouth |
| 1 | People blocking others views, talking during the performances |
| 1 | Rain, mosquitos, noises not from the event |
| 1 | Seating can be troublesome (are there seats? Bring your own?) |
| 1 | Sightlines to the stage |
| 1 | Sightlines were not ideal. |
| 1 | Smoking, rain, crowds |
| 1 | Soggy Land Not enough bathrooms |
| 1 | Some occasional street noise. |
| 1 | Sometimes programming doesn't always speak to people of all generations |
| 1 | Sometimes you can't control the weather for an outdoor event |
| 1 | Sound quality, sight lines |
| 1 | Sound systems sometimes aren't very good. Sometimes too far to see well. Bugs. |
| 1 | Steep incline |
| 1 | Subject to weather (rain); crowds; parking |
| 1 | The mosquitoes were bad at the arb! |
| 1 | The sound system had issues. |
| 1 | The stage and shell were built into portable trailers which resulted in minimal space for performers or size of ensemble and decreased acoustics. |
| 1 | Too crowded. |

| Count | Response |
|-------|--|
| 1 | Too many people in the park in one spot |
| 1 | Trash everywhere |
| 1 | Uncomfortable seating |
| 1 | Usually the weather is the only negative, although acoustics can be an issue sometimes. |
| 1 | View of stage |
| 1 | Water hill: crowd control was difficult Sonic lunch: sometimes hard to get a lunch to walk there in time |
| 1 | Weather can be challenging |
| 1 | Weather can sometimes be unpredictable |
| 1 | Weather could be an issue. |
| 1 | When it rained and I thought a flash flood might wash me into a river |
| 1 | When sound systems failed |
| 1 | When the ground becomes mud. |
| 1 | When the sound was bad, stage managers were disorganized, weather turned sour. |
| 1 | When there's a long, boring (due to lack of visual stimulation--like blah lawn) walk from your mode of transportation to your seating. |
| 1 | Zero negatives. |
| 1 | bugs, heat |
| 1 | bugs, wet surface, bad sound system |
| 1 | drive distance and parking related hassle |
| 1 | drunk people, poor sanitation |
| 1 | excessive vendors |
| 1 | hot weather, no shade |
| 1 | lack of public restrooms |
| 1 | marginal acoustics |
| 1 | n/a |
| 1 | na |
| 1 | no sun shield and it could get hot. |
| 1 | not enough bathrooms, not enough shade |
| 1 | nothing really |
| 1 | parking, volumes of people in attendance |
| 1 | the lack of a proper stage made it hard for audience members to see and enjoy the performance |

17. Did you live within 3-4 blocks (appx. 1/4 mile) of West Park prior to 2020? If unsure, see the map below.



West Park Bandshell Community Engagement

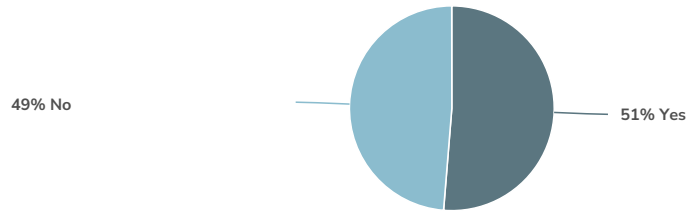


| Value | Percent | Responses |
|-------|------------------------------|-----------|
| Yes | 40.1% <div><div></div></div> | 425 |
| No | 59.9% <div><div></div></div> | 635 |

Totals: 1,060

18. Could you hear concerts or events at West Park from your home?

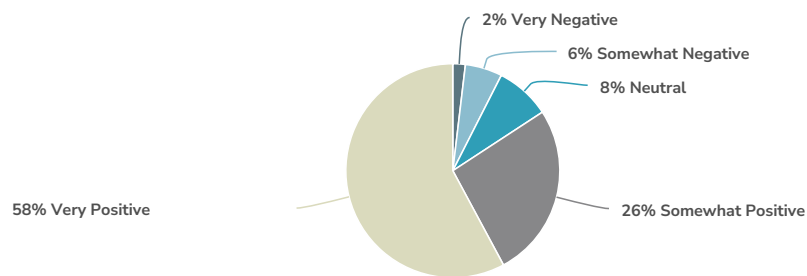
 West Park Bandshell Community Engagement



| Value | Percent | Responses |
|-------|---------|-------------|
| Yes | 51.3% | 216 |
| No | 48.7% | 205 |
| | | Totals: 421 |

19. How did you feel about hearing the concerts or events?

West Park Bandshell Community Engagement



| Value | Percent | Responses |
|-------------------|---------|-------------|
| Very Negative | 1.9% | 4 |
| Somewhat Negative | 5.6% | 12 |
| Neutral | 8.3% | 18 |
| Somewhat Positive | 26.4% | 57 |
| Very Positive | 57.9% | 125 |
| | | Totals: 216 |

20. What concerns would you have if the bandshell and West Park were programmed more frequently (4-6 concerts/events per week from May-September) following any improvements?

 West Park Bandshell Community Engagement

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 46 | None |
| 8 | None |
| 5 | none |
| 4 | Parking |
| 3 | No concerns |
| 3 | No concerns |
| 2 | None. |
| 2 | Parking |
| 2 | no concerns |
| 1 | One |
| 1 | - concerts can be perceived as noise pollution for the immediate area. hours of the concerts should be limited to daytime and not schedule into late evenings. Suggest offering concerts at various times (daytime, evenings, mornings, weekends,) to accommodate different schedules. - increase of events would require better facilities (bathrooms, food, seating, etc.) |
| 1 | 1) safety for pedestrians and cyclists from increased traffic 2) safety for neighbors from increased numbers of people in the park at night, particularly for those of us living on the park especially given the rise in crime in our area (forcible break ins, a drive by shooting, and stolen packages in my apartment building alone) 3) litter, food waste, and human excrement left behind 4) continued accessibility of park for those of us who walk dogs and children through it many times per day 5) noise |
| 1 | 4 concerts a week is more than enough |
| 1 | 4 would be enough |
| 1 | 4-6 events means the majority of the week. That could feel like a burden, especially to those next to the park. For me, 4-6 events would be ok if they were mostly small or fairly quiet events and served to support the community by giving priority to local performers and groups. The main concerns are noise for those next to the park and parking for those throughout the neighborhood. Large events infrequently, even some at high-volume, would not feel too burdensome to me. Events with low-volume sound and small event frequently would not feel too burdensome to me. |
| 1 | 4-6 seems like a lot. 2 or 3 more realistic |
| 1 | 6 may be too many. Maybe 3-5 |
| 1 | A hip hop concert |
| 1 | A mix of music |
| 1 | Accessible restrooms, concessions and end time |
| 1 | Again, don't waste our money. The west park is fine as is. |
| 1 | Ample trash cans please |
| 1 | Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra and other local bands/musicians. |
| 1 | Anything. From organized concerts and performances from official groups (local and not) to small garage bands or children's plays. It would be great to bring back the sense of community with something to please everyone. |
| 1 | As I previously said, the bandshell was closed after my first experience. |
| 1 | As long as concerts ended at a reasonable hour, say 11pm, or the existing ordinances, I would have zero concerns |
| 1 | As long as concerts over by 10pm, all ok |
| 1 | As long as it ends before 11pm I am good |
| 1 | As long as the concert ended by 11:00 PM, no other concerns. |

| Count | Response |
|-------|--|
| 1 | As long as there is adequate planning for parking, waste disposal, etc, I don't have any concerns. |
| 1 | As long as there was appropriate city involvement, as there is for any public event, relating to timely trash/site pick-up and maintenance, and police/security increased presence as/if needed I do not see any concerns |
| 1 | As long as they are completed by the City's 10 pm noise curfew, I have no problems |
| 1 | Avoidance of death-metal music groups |
| 1 | BEING TOO LOUD |
| 1 | Classic music, plays |
| 1 | Cleanliness and cultural appropriate. |
| 1 | Cost of doing this |
| 1 | Curfew time for events. End earlier than normal. Perhaps no later than 9:00 pm. |
| 1 | DJ events, dance parties, farmers markets, food trucks, artisans marketS. Multi media performances. |
| 1 | Depends on the music and events |
| 1 | Diverse— something for everyone at some point or another. Representative of the multicultural city we live in |
| 1 | Diversity of events (not more of the same) |
| 1 | Don't recall |
| 1 | Ending time for concerts. Loudness of the concerts. Concerts that would encourage disruptive behavior. Marijuana being smoked in the park. |
| 1 | Enough press for attendance |
| 1 | Family friendly |
| 1 | General concert, gatherings, etc. Nothing in particular. |
| 1 | Grateful Dead, Community Band, Revival of the Water Hill music festival, Violin Monster. Both acoustic and amplified music are fine. Why not recreate the music festival that was held in the Washington/first/Ashley/Huron parking lot in summer of 2019?...that was great, except for the rain. |
| 1 | Great! It would keep the substance-addicted from considering West Park an overnight motel |
| 1 | Happy |
| 1 | Have concerts end by 9pm |
| 1 | How about local musicians? The WaterHill concerts that took place over a few years were massive success. I would love to see all those wonderful artists and bands have a regular space where to perform. |
| 1 | How many would I be able to go to. Would be nice to have options for outdoor activities |
| 1 | I am not concerned. I moved to this area for its more urban feel and expect there is some level of noise. |
| 1 | I believe increased activities will draw more people into the park and make it a community magnet for gatherings and other activities |
| 1 | I can hear events, but they're not very loud on Hiscock at Brooks |
| 1 | I could hear only some or parts of concerts, depending on weather and particular concert. The sound was neither loud enough to enjoy the concert nor was the sound loud enough to be intrusive or objectionable. There seemed to be an increase in car traffic in the neighborhood during some concerts. Also the City needs to main a renovated bandshell and the surrounding area. Too often the city invests in projects and then fails to sufficiently maintain them. |
| 1 | I don't have any concerns but I would love to attend more of those performances there. Worth to go - specially for school orchestra concerts or theater performance because many school don't have a good auditorium so the space sometimes is limited - specially during graduation ceremonies. Think about opening it for that time in May-June when everything is happening among the schools... we have three close by. |
| 1 | I don't mind the music. |
| 1 | I fear that six concerts a week will be too much for those living adjacent to the park. The noise level would need to be factored in decision making. For example, three acoustic concerts are very tolerable vs. three very loud electronic concerts with loud speakers. I think the bandshell should be used as it was intended, with the shell controlling the acoustics. However, to maintain appeal to the masses, one or two louder concerts would be tolerated, and of course, if other events were held that also did not include noise at top volume that would be great. |

Count Response

| | |
|---|--|
| 1 | I guess there would be some sort of attempt to control for decibel levels. Otherwise it would be good to have it used. |
| 1 | I have no concerns about an increase in concerts and events at West Park. I live one block away, and my family does not mind an increase in noise if it helps the City activate and invest in West Park. |
| 1 | I have no concerns...I would be pleased with the park and bandshell being used. |
| 1 | I have to say A2 would love if it were so. I also have to say I've moved to more the East Side since I was working on this side of employment. I did however want to live back to the West Side when marrying and looking for a house. Nothing was avail at our price range, once we raised it we'd already fell in love with a home nearer our work and expressways on the East Side. |
| 1 | I hope the events are open to everyone. |
| 1 | I live directly on West Park (window looks out on it) and when I first moved here being able to regularly hear concerts over the weekend from my apartment was a huge draw! The more events the better! |
| 1 | I over here in 2019 and never had the opportunity to attend a concert. Being able to enjoy concerts was one of the positives that attracted me to the area. |
| 1 | I really do not want to be disturbed at home with loud concerts especially pop/rock music or lectures where sound amplification equipment is used. I enjoyed the AA Symphony, local jazz groups and theater productions. |
| 1 | I say only somewhat positive in that I usually love to hear the music and activities unless too loud- like heavy metal. Need to monitor sound and everything would be fine! |
| 1 | I suppose noise. In the past, you could hear special events there of a weekday, but it didn't bother me. I was glad folks used the park! |
| 1 | I suppose that orienting it to not bother people in the area would be a consideration, but not a huge one. |
| 1 | I think 4-6 is too much. I'd prefer 2-3 times per week on average - if a play is doing a run, there would be additional days, but I think music 6 times a week is too much. And who came up with the 4-6 number? It's almost like you're trying to discourage re-establishing the bandshell. The frequency of 6 times a week is not repeated in any other park in the city - think about farmers market, buhr park, burns park, cobblestone. |
| 1 | I think a variety is nice to attract different residents |
| 1 | I think it would be great and bring some much needed new energy to West Park |
| 1 | I think that would be beneficial to the park and the neighborhood. |
| 1 | I think that would be very nice. |
| 1 | I think this is a great resource, but to invest more resources would require much higher usage and the neighbors will NOT like the noise and traffic. So sadly we might need to let it go. |
| 1 | I worry about food and waste being properly cleaned up after events. I also would want there to be clear signage for pedestrians and bikers who commute through West Park so that they can avoid the paths closest to the Bandshell. Also, there is often drug paraphernalia near the tree line near the apartments across from the Bandshell. I worry about event goers stepping on abandoned needles. Finally, there needs to be better and more restroom options to support the larger crowds this would bring. |
| 1 | I would be concerned about the size of the events getting too big. Performances should be limited to local artists to encouraged live music and theater in the community. |
| 1 | I would be very concerned that the noise from these events would be disruptive on a regular basis. In addition I would be concerned about pressures to traffic and parking in the nearby neighbourhoods. |
| 1 | I would be very supportive. |
| 1 | I would be very unhappy with 4 to 6 concerts or events per week. It is already annoying to hear the "noise pollution" coming from the Main Street/Washington Street amplified bands on summer weekends, so there were be simultaneous sound bleed from both the Band Shell and downtown if more Band-Shell events were programed. *I'll mention the parking problem again, especially in conjunction with baseball games. *As you know, the West-Park parking lot and stairway to Miller Ave. have drug-dealing and alcohol problems. *The other problem with the band shell is lack of safe access to bring in sound equipment, restrooms, and backstage space. |
| 1 | I would be worried about what time it ended. An earlier time would be less disruptive. |
| 1 | I would enjoy it, but parking might be an issue. |
| 1 | I would have no concerns other than what the programming would be. Hopefully a wide variety. |
| 1 | I would hope the events wouldn't go too late at night. |

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 1 | I would hope the volume didn't disturb neighbors. Perhaps programming could be completed by 8:00 or 9:00, so not as late as Top of the Park goes since West Park is surrounded by homes and apartments and not University buildings. |
| 1 | I would like it. |
| 1 | I would love it |
| 1 | I would love it! |
| 1 | I would love to have many concerts at the bandshell during warm weather months. I think it's important for events that are loud to conclude by a reasonable hour (perhaps 10 on week nights, 11 on weekends). |
| 1 | I would mostly be concerned about parking. Many houses in my neighborhood have shared driveways, so it is common for residents to park on the street. I remember needing to be home a little early during concert evenings to get a parking spot. The noise was not a huge concern when it was 1-2 times a week, but it might be unpleasant to have it nightly, especially when we open windows in the evening. |
| 1 | I would not be bothered by this but there are some senior apartments nearby not sure if that would be good or bad. |
| 1 | I would not want programming more than 3 times per week - I feel like this would balance the use of the bandshell with the need for residents to have quieter days/evenings as well. |
| 1 | I would welcome more frequent concerts. There is enough parking on my street to accommodate attendees. |
| 1 | I'd want to make sure they don't go super late or be inappropriate for kids to overhear (ie don't need to be kid programming but just not vulgar) but I think it would be absolutely fantastic to have more things going on in the park. |
| 1 | If the volume was too loud or raucous. Wouldn't want like heavy metal concerts |
| 1 | In part, it depends on where the bandshell or its replacement is located. If it were in the same place I wouldn't have any real concerns about hearing the events in the background. If a scenario such as 1a were to be chosen, I would find it, at that frequency, incredibly impactful and negative for the quality of my life, and the life of any of my neighbors in that line of houses on the east side of 7th St. But... I wonder how the current parking availability would accommodate sizeable events at that frequency. I would very much not want to see any loss of West Park space to new parking lots; nor would I want to see cars parking on the grassy areas (especially at that frequency, but really...never). |
| 1 | Increased litter |
| 1 | It was always wonderful hearing the diversity of music coming from West Park. It's been a really long time since we've had concerts or events there, so I'm unsure about the hours for the event. Perhaps they shouldn't last beyond 8:00 p.m. |
| 1 | It will attract people that do not respect the grounds and use of the park. Trash and the like. |
| 1 | It would be fine if it was over by 9pm or so |
| 1 | It would depend on the type of events. I don't think that music events should be held that frequently in respect for the nearby neighbors. |
| 1 | It wouldn't bother me. I'd probably be right there in the audience. |
| 1 | It's fine |
| 1 | Jazz, folk, acoustic, cover bands, and even potentially a big show every so often (the types of bands that would stop by the ark, blue llama, or Michigan theatre) |
| 1 | Just that it might conflict with environmental concerns with garbage and trampling of ground. I almost want the bandshell removed so a use case for rehabbing it isn't on my list but I say test it and if it's viable give the people what they want. |
| 1 | Just that there was traffic, monitoring, possibly and security |
| 1 | Kid friendly concerts that would be beneficial for families to attend |
| 1 | Lack of facilities for attendees. Especially bathrooms -- there's just that portajohn by the community garden and playground -- but also it'd be nice to have even just a folding table selling snacks and drinks. |
| 1 | Lack of parking |
| 1 | Lack of parking for residents |
| 1 | Late night sound. |
| 1 | Level of sound (esp for music performances) would have to respect the park's near neighbors, and a reasonable quitting time for any event in that space would also have to be met. And, of course, parking would obviously be an issue, as it was back when the AA Civic Band played there during the summer. |

| Count | Response |
|-------|--|
| 1 | Litter, mostly. |
| 1 | Little to none. |
| 1 | Local performers: bands, orchestras, acoustic performances, student groups, plays, puppets, comedy etc. maintain a lower level amplification for this facility. |
| 1 | Love it |
| 1 | Love it! |
| 1 | Love it! |
| 1 | Making sure that I heard about the concerts in advance so that I could attend. |
| 1 | Making sure there are a variety of events to suit all tastes |
| 1 | Managing other wear and tear on the park - trash pick up, etc. I guess it would depend on what kind of programming and who the target audience is. I think events with a broad base of interest (eg. caters to families, seniors, young adults) would be ideal. Encouraging nearby residents or people attending the events to walk, bike, scoot or take alternatives to vehicles would also be great. |
| 1 | Maybe people parking on the street, but that occasionally happens for other events and I don't find it to be bothersome. |
| 1 | Misuse of ukelele |
| 1 | More than that may feel disruptive to the usual quiet nature of the area |
| 1 | More young acts. Not simply orchestral. |
| 1 | Music would need to end by 10pm. Parking could be an issue. I would like to see clear information on where folks can park in the marketing of scheduled concerts |
| 1 | My biggest concerns. Would be about regular events, bothering the people in the apartments, or displacing people who regularly hang out in the park. |
| 1 | My house is far enough away that the sound wasn't bothersome. It just reminded us there was something going on, so we would run over if we could. So, I personally have no concerns about the noise. People would park on the streets of my neighborhood, but that wasn't much of a problem in my opinion, and so I have no concerns about that, either. |
| 1 | My primary concern is that planned improvements would ignore the feedback and usage of individuals who currently use West Park and cater only to the upper class, predominately white, homeowners in the area. I am fully supportive of improvements in the park, however I wonder if this effort also has the motivation of removing the unhoused population that often spends time there by increasing police presence (with events) and making it more accessible for them. I believe that any improvements to the park need to take into account this community and come alongside efforts to increase housing accessibility and affordability and services to the unhoused population in Ann Arbor. |
| 1 | NIMBYs ruining it for everyone |
| 1 | NONE! Bring on the performing arts!! |
| 1 | Need added amenities like restrooms and food |
| 1 | Neutral |
| 1 | No |
| 1 | No concern. Let's rock out. Make it expected that we as a community have concerts in this park, and anyone who doesn't like it doesn't have to live next to it. Just like anyone who doesn't like living in a noisy downtown doesn't have to. |
| 1 | No concerns |
| 1 | No concerns - bandshell is made for live music and performances. |
| 1 | No concerns as long as they ended at a reasonable time, e.g. 10pm |
| 1 | No concerns but there is a large homeless contingent who need housing help living there. |
| 1 | No concerns! I love it! |
| 1 | No concerns, I am a big supporter of activating this space. |
| 1 | No concerns. |

| Count | Response |
|-------|--|
| 1 | No concerns. I would love it! |
| 1 | No concerns. I would appreciate it! Use the park & use the bandshell! |
| 1 | No concerns. People say they want events and vibrancy in Ann Arbor. But they also complain about everything that comes with it. If people want quiet solitude, rural living might be an option. But we are near the city center which means noise, traffic, congestion, and people from all ethnic and economic strata. |
| 1 | No concerns. That sounds fun and exciting |
| 1 | No problem as long as any electrified concerts were over by 9p. |
| 1 | No worries about music lofting through the neighborhood, but we don't think the that large amount of money should be spent on the bandshell. |
| 1 | No worries as long as not 4 straight days of heavy metal or electronica |
| 1 | Noise & litter |
| 1 | Noise and parking. There is limited parking. Neighborhood doesn't have an issue with a couple events per week, but 4-6 is too many. |
| 1 | Noise level |
| 1 | Noise level and what was the cut-off time |
| 1 | Noise levels late at night, safety |
| 1 | Noise, as previously mentioned, simply due to increasing the frequency up to 6 events per week. Note that I lived approximately 2 blocks further west than the Arbana street shown (on Arborview at Linda Vista), but couldn't quite tell if that was within the listed 1/4 mile. Other concern would be to highlight the fact that you can no longer make left turn onto Huron St, when driving southbound on 7th St. IF people are being drawn to this area from long ago. They may not be aware of this major change in traffic patterns (assuming that they no longer live in the immediate area, but would be drawn back now, with a major bandshell update and/or new events scheduled)! |
| 1 | Noise, especially if there's amplification, extra litter, people Not cleaning up after themselves |
| 1 | Noise- that's a lot of events! |
| 1 | Noise. Parking |
| 1 | None We want a vibrant city- this is part if being a vibrant city. With density comes noise- people need to accept this as a part of a more dense city. |
| 1 | None They could stop earlier in weekdays for local nearby residents |
| 1 | None as long as the park is clean and safe. |
| 1 | None if timing was appropriate. Not too late. And volume was considered. Things don't have to be super loud to be enjoyable- and then won't affect hearing of attendees or neighbors |
| 1 | None in particular. |
| 1 | None other than a few complainers will get it shutdown. |
| 1 | None! |
| 1 | None! |
| 1 | None! I think it only presents positive benefits to the community. |
| 1 | None, I love them! |
| 1 | None, and I am concerned that this survey is potentially weighing the voices of near neighbors more heavily than the larger community. Don't we have noise ordinances and quiet hours that Band Shell performances must adhere to? Isn't there an opportunity to educate the public and performers here? (My next door neighbor's band practices in the evenings; I know that noise over a certain decibel is not allowed after 10 pm. I'm confused why the City wouldn't communicate in this survey what the rules for using the band shell would be) |
| 1 | None, as long as there isn't super loud heavy bass and really loud (like rock concert) amplification. |
| 1 | None, being able to hear a concert from my home is not a negative |
| 1 | None, except maybe the cranky older folks in my neighborhood opposing any and all changes from the status quo. |
| 1 | None- maybe parking |

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 1 | None. |
| 1 | None. Noise is part of the deal if you buy a house next to a major park with a bandshell. |
| 1 | None. Please allow for more programming. I really think the bandshell should be moved to atop the hill and reoriented away from Miller Manor (toward downtown), so the music can be louder. Having a small play area for younger kids would be amazing for families to enjoy. |
| 1 | None. Ann Arbor needs to leverage West Park and use it for cultural events and festivals. It is easily accessible via public transport and could revitalize musical life in the neighborhoods. |
| 1 | None. I believe the increased use would discourage the recent use of the park for illicit activities. |
| 1 | None. I can hear football games during the autumn months so why not music???? |
| 1 | None. I can hear the Michigan band practice sometimes, and I've heard bands at the Blind Pig, but I've never heard west park concerts from my home. |
| 1 | None. I live at 801 Miller Ave, very close to the shell and on the side it projects into in a unit that is the absolute closest to the park/farthest from Miller Ave. I cannot hear live events when my windows are closed and if I want to hear the event, I can open them! |
| 1 | None. I want more live music and theatrical performances |
| 1 | None. I would be happy that the park was being used by the community it just the drug users and drinkers |
| 1 | None. I would see it as a positive |
| 1 | None. It's lovely to hear music happening. There might need to be sound limits to prevent extreme sound nuisance from super loud music, so that all kinds of music can be enjoyed without being destructive to peace and quiet. But i think hearing music flowing out of the park is a great way to bring folks in, enliven the area and celebrate community. |
| 1 | None. Maybe 11 pm cutoff for noise on weekdays |
| 1 | Not a problem! |
| 1 | Not enough parking, especially street parking, to support the number of attendees needed to make performances worthwhile for the performers. |
| 1 | Nothing justifies a large investment in the bandshell facility. The city has plenty of other venues of all kinds for events that might be held at the bandshell. Time to clean up the mess and MOVE ON. |
| 1 | Only ask that the events with louder activities end by 10pm |
| 1 | Only concern might be level of amplification allowed |
| 1 | Only concerns about the flood plain. I have no concerns about hearing a little music. I hear the Michigan marching band all the time. |
| 1 | Only concerns would be loud crazy music and not playing after a certain time at night. |
| 1 | Only safety concerns- that the events had some sort of police presence. |
| 1 | Parking and traffic |
| 1 | Parking and traffic flow |
| 1 | Parking be addressed. |
| 1 | Parking fir attendees traveling from outside the neighborhood |
| 1 | Parking is already tight in that area so it could create even more issues. |
| 1 | Parking is limited , and is already full on non-event days. |
| 1 | Parking might be challenging. When there's a baseball game, for example, the entire parking lot fills up and it can feel a bit chaotic. There's not a lot of parking available near the bandshell. |
| 1 | Parking options for people, sound to travel/events to end at a reasonable hour |
| 1 | Parking spilling over into adjacent streets |
| 1 | Parking! |

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 1 | Parking! Where will everyone park? Our driveway has been partially blocked in the past. Traffic on our little side street is terrible. Suggest more parking be allowed on Seventh during events. |
| 1 | Parking, bathrooms, and trash removal- We need all. |
| 1 | Parking, drunk driving |
| 1 | Parking, noise from crappy bands, accessibility for older and disabled attendees. |
| 1 | Parking. |
| 1 | Parking. I don't mind hearing the concerts from my house but I know parking is tight in that area. |
| 1 | Parking. People sometimes park illegally, overlapping my driveway during events at the park |
| 1 | Parking. Perhaps a shuttle from nearby, or Mack School |
| 1 | People would gather and become informed, not a concern, but a hope |
| 1 | People would have to be careful not to make it too loud, to figure out what to do about parking, also to make sure not to have lots of really drunk, rowdy people spilling out. Still, I think it could work and be a good thing. |
| 1 | Per week? That's absurd, think about the logistics of that? Why go to such an improbable outlier of engagements? |
| 1 | Please don't add parking. Add a special bus route for those evenings! Add bike parking racks near park entrances. Allow food trucks to park on 7th! I live 2 blocks away and I love hearing the music. |
| 1 | Possibly parking issues |
| 1 | Provided the concerts/events didn't last more that a few hours, the noise would be fine. I wouldn't want to hear noise (talking or loud music of any kind) for an entire day. |
| 1 | Quiet hours being at 9? Or 10? |
| 1 | Restoring the bandshell is not a good use of so much money. The value-added is too small. Many events could be supported with a simple seasonally-installed platform stage. |
| 1 | Restrooms. Decibel levels. |
| 1 | Running too late and keeping kids awake |
| 1 | Safety and security for the public needed from police officers |
| 1 | Since the concerts would be between May-September there should be no worries about increased need for lighting and since there is no alcohol allowed in the park there may be less rowdiness. |
| 1 | Some sort of noise level regulation would be necessary |
| 1 | Sometimes provides an invitation to attend events. Fun to watch concert band walk down my street prior to concerts. |
| 1 | Sound and lighting bothering neighbors. Garbage left behind following shows. I am mildly concerned about parking, but I would accept that inconvenience in exchange for a well-activated performance venue. Parking at Mack School should be arranged/promoted. |
| 1 | Sound for the more immediate neighbors, and also keeping the bike path clear. I frequently bike through west park. |
| 1 | Sound impacts to near neighbors |
| 1 | Sounds like a lot of fun! |
| 1 | That I wouldn't be able to attend all of them |
| 1 | That number is unrealistic. Two - three events per month would be good |
| 1 | That people wouldn't attend if it weren't marketed properly |
| 1 | That timing of concerts be reasonable (not too late); that concerts and performances of interest to the local community be scheduled |
| 1 | That would be a great idea. Nice to have something walkable from my residence. |
| 1 | That would be great! |

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 1 | That would be too much!! |
| 1 | That's too many events imo, however if volume is limited may be ok |
| 1 | The homeless people moved from Liberty Plaza to West Park after Liberty Plaza started to get used. If West Park has more events, where till the homeless people go next? |
| 1 | The kinds of acts that play at top of the park would be fun. Family friendly acts would be great too, there are a lot of young families around there! |
| 1 | The loud sound is a fairly serious concern, both because of disturbance to nearby residents and because it doesn't actually help attendees hear any better. Lower volume, higher quality audio would be vastly preferable. |
| 1 | The more the better |
| 1 | The neighborhood around Slauson picks up West Park and UM Marching Band (and some downtown outdoor music events). These add to the fun and ambience of the area. Would not love hearing music later at night than currently programmed. |
| 1 | Theaters and jazz |
| 1 | There are more residents nearby and probably more objections to noise |
| 1 | There are residences far closer to the bandshell than mine was, and I could imagine that any late night event could prove to be unpleasant for those who live nearby |
| 1 | There has never been a concert at the bandshell since I moved in (2017), to my knowledge. I have zero concerns with it being frequently programmed, the more the better. |
| 1 | There is a reason why my family and I don't live closer to downtown, campus, or the stadium: I can walk to events and the hustle and bustle if I want to be part of it but I can also get away from it most of the time. If the noise and traffic were brought literally into my backyard, much of the appeal of my neighborhood would be wiped out. As I'm typing this in early September, I can hear birds chirping, dogs barking, and the occasional car driving in the distance. If I had to hear BOOM-BOOM-BOOM-BOOM-BOOM-BOOM-BOOM-BOOM-BOOM 4-6 days a week, I would hire a lawyer to see whom I can sue for ruining the peace and quiet of the neighborhood for 5 months out of the year. |
| 1 | They should end early. General safety concerns with homeless shelter nearby. |
| 1 | This works with thoughtful beginning and ending time which I am confident the city would impose with this park nestled on all side by neighborhoods. I can also hear the UM band practicing, the halftime game show, the roar of fans in the stadium from this area of town as well as performances in the downtown area! Those tend to be louder than any concert I have heard coming from the West Park bandshell. |
| 1 | Too loud. Too many rowdy music fans, but I'm not super concerned about either of these. |
| 1 | Too many. Maybe 2/3/week |
| 1 | Too much noise for the neighborhood and trash to clean up. |
| 1 | Too much tariff and noise. |
| 1 | Traffic and parking |
| 1 | Traffic and parking around my home |
| 1 | Traffic would be a concern but I think the benefits of having more events in that park outweigh the potential negatives of increased traffic. Also, safety at the park. Open air drug dealing, encampments, alcohol use. |
| 1 | Type of music scheduled |
| 1 | User safety |
| 1 | Various concerts |
| 1 | Vehicle parking and traffic could increase and be a nuisance |
| 1 | Very positive |
| 1 | We can hear music coming from the bars downtown sometimes until 2:00 in the morning. I have little concern about hearing concerts at West Park! |
| 1 | We heard it faintly, and it made us happy to be in a lively neighborhood where things are going on. Maybe if it was much louder it could be a problem. |
| 1 | Where is the money coming from the stage the concerts. Even having a city person do the coordinating takes money. I'd rather see the Parks Department spend more money on the Nature Areas removing invasive species or planting more wild flower beds to the grass areas. |

Count Response

| | |
|---|--|
| 1 | Where would people park? In the past there was parking on the lawn, which is now a wetland. |
| 1 | Would just want to be sure park is cleaned up after. Concerts that were just concerts were great -- no food or drink to leave a mess. |
| 1 | Would not enjoy crazy-loud rock concerts. |
| 1 | Would prefer 1-3 events/week. We like to use the park for walks, and enjoy the peace and quiet |
| 1 | You have said nothing about what time of day these concerts would be held. If they're in the afternoon or early evening, I'm fine with them. But if they go on until 10 pm, I am against them. |
| 1 | Youth |
| 1 | as long as they don't go too late they are fine. Artificial amplification may need to be kept to a reasonable level |
| 1 | as long as they were during normal hours, say noon to 9 pm, no concerns |
| 1 | community bands, theatrical performances |
| 1 | homeless people approaching people |
| 1 | no concerns, it would be fantastic. |
| 1 | no improvements to the crumbling bandshell. Who is going to pay for these fixes to an old structure? The taxpayers as usual. |
| 1 | none currently |
| 1 | none, I think it would be great to have events there |
| 1 | none, I think that's a good idea |
| 1 | none, Suggest to advertise people to park at Mack school lot and walk there. |
| 1 | none, but I am no longer within ear-shot |
| 1 | none. wonderful |
| 1 | not a single concern. it would only enhance all the developments in West Park |
| 1 | nothing comes to mind. |
| 1 | parking |
| 1 | people parking on my street. quality of programming |
| 1 | possibly some noise, extra traffic, trash in park |
| 1 | probably to not go too late into the night |
| 1 | some other folks might not like it but i don't mind at all, i like the sounds of society |
| 1 | that it ends early enough for families, so by 10pm? |
| 1 | that would be fine, for I assume they will not all be just pounding beats. I loved the Penny Seats [rpdictpms tjere/ |
| 1 | the time of day is the primary concern. Evening concerts past 8:00 pm during the week would be a concern. frankly 4-6/week is unrealistic. Not many indoor venues have that many performances. I can't imagine any city department coordinating that level of programming. 4-6 /month is more likely. the venue would be available for rent/reservation just like any other public park amenity. |
| 1 | well it seems unlikely. but we already hear all kinds of noise from downtown |

21. What else do you think is important for the city to know about the bandshell and West Park?



West Park Bandshell Community Engagement

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 4 | Na |
| 3 | Nothing |
| 2 | N/a |
| 2 | None |
| 2 | Nothing |
| 1 | I e park, but a bandshell is no longer realistic or necessary . We can spend the money on more important things. |
| 1 | "Fixing" the current bandshell is expensive and insufficient. For example, the Ann Arbor Civic Band now has 130 players, far, far too many to get anywhere near the stage, much less on it. Parking and getting service vehicles to the band shell is difficult. Far, far better, in every respect would be to tear down the current band shell and "start over"--not necessarily in West Park--with larger stage, appropriate lighting and sound, easy access for performers and audience, appropriate amenities (restrooms, dressing rooms, secure storage, etc. |
| 1 | - I didn't rate the floodplain management as important at the beginning because it seems like the shell should be moved out of the floodway - I know it looks bad that I have opinions without ever seeing a show at the bandshell. For 2 years that I lived here, I had zero time for anything (grad school). The following 2.5 years before COVID was a combination of bad scheduling and few things I was interested in seeing. I doubt many people go to 100% or even 50% of events that happen in a particular location. I always valued the existence of public performances in my city, even if I wasn't watching them. - I also got involved in some art stuff that needed a performance venue and I sought out the bandshell for that, but it was closed at that point. - In general, I found this survey to be narrowly focused and leading in its questions. |
| 1 | A bandshell is not necessary in order to have fun outdoor concerts and events! |
| 1 | A functional venue is extremely important for West Park. It is one of the larger city parks. It is in a great location. The bandshell as a venue draws more people to the park, and this is a good thing. |
| 1 | A lot of drugs and tents are here and doesn't feel safe after 7pm |
| 1 | A new performance space in West Park should be designed and programmed so that amplification is not required. |
| 1 | A venue that is large enough to host larger performances is important. However, being kind to the neighbors is also a priority, so location of the shell bears investigation. |
| 1 | A well-used bandshell will drive more traffic and attention to the park, keeping it clean and safe for all! |
| 1 | Access to a public restroom would be a huge improvement to that part of the park |
| 1 | Activating west park will help with some of the other challenges that exist in that space |
| 1 | Adequate lighting in park for after-dark events |
| 1 | Again, I just want to reiterate that this park is so close to downtown, I feel it is a downtown park. I think more effort to educate people to that end is important. The more people we can get into this park, the better. I wonder if it would be helpful to move some more events to this edge of downtown in order to encourage people to understand how pretty, large, and close to downtown the park is. Is there an element of art fair that could be there? Could there be a performing arts portion of art fair that is held in West Park? I like to walk through the park with the dog, but there are an awful lot of people who run their dogs off leash there. That is sometimes a problem when the dogs don't interact well with other dogs. It sometimes keeps me out of the park even though I love it. |
| 1 | Again, the history of the space. Ball games at the baseball field. Picnics with or without a concert. It's really a great park and deserves a performance area. |
| 1 | All our city resources should be accessible; awarding points and ranking accessibility is awkward. |
| 1 | Already mentioned the rough sleepers and blocked stairs from Miller. Others may want those people helped to feel more comfortable in West Park. There was also that woman who was murdered this past year across the street. |
| 1 | Although I am opposed to demolition, empty park space would be preferable to a fenced off, dilapidated structure. |
| 1 | Although it's fun to keep historic buildings and things that are important to people, if it's too costly and just doesn't make financial sense to try to salvage part of the bandshell, then scrap it. People will probably complain, but I think it's great to have something in West Park but it doesn't have to be exactly the same if that doesn't make sense now. |
| 1 | An important Ann Arbor venue. A great summer activity. |
| 1 | An outdoor performing arts space would be nice. I am concerned about the reported prevalence of homeless camping at the park. I have not experienced it, but the word of mouth is that this space is dangerous at night. |

Count Response

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|---|--|
| 1 | An unmaintained building can provide makeshift shelter and restroom 'facilities' for people who are unhoused which can sometimes create an atmosphere of tension between pedestrians and people who appear to be sheltering. |
| 1 | Ann Arbor has continued to reduce support for community performances of any kind, making this extremely important part of life more difficult each year. Ann Arbo has a double reputation. Support the arts if it brings in big money. Forgot everyone else. This reputation makes us a laughing stock, especially since the surrounding communities di a great just of support community performances. |
| 1 | Ann Arbor is full of wonderful parks but the band shell adds such a great opportunity for more engagement within the parks. I would love to see this venue used frequently during the spring, summer and fall. |
| 1 | Ann Arbor loves music! |
| 1 | Anything that can increase the number of events in West Park would be wonderful for quality of life in the neighborhood and I think would go a long way to making the park feel generally safer. The current bandshell is in a good spot and the hill behind it makes for wonderful grass seating, but if the floodplain makes it easier to put a new bandshell somewhere else in the park, I think that's worth exploring too. In the worst case scenario and the bandshell can't be replaced, the city needs to consider putting in something else to help activate the park, even if it's just more tennis courts, for example. |
| 1 | Anything to increase safety of west park would be appreciated |
| 1 | As mentioned earlier - it's aesthetically pleasing to be able to tell visiting friends and family that A2 has a functioning bandshell |
| 1 | As a recent member of the Ann Arbor Civic Band, I would rather see money being invested in a venue that could accommodate our 120+ member band (with storage for chairs, percussion equipment, restrooms, and better parking options) than in restoring the small band shell at West Park...as much as I appreciate the history, I don't see it as a viable space for many public performances going forward. |
| 1 | As we move our city into the future with new infrastructure, we should also be mindful of our unique historic places, and preserve them. |
| 1 | At a time when historic buildings are being replaced, its important to preserve our history when we can . A plaque of some sort by the bandshell detailing its history and notable performances would be a nice addition. |
| 1 | At certain points in the year the park is utilized by the unhoused population. I do not want any hostile architecture that would prevent them from using the space. Rather park maintenance and addition of bathrooms should support those that are unhoused to live with dignity. |
| 1 | Band shell needs to be renovated and saved, area around it should be landscaped |
| 1 | Be mindful that the park will be used more if you take neighbors concerns seriously and stop ignoring folks who have been asking for the city to pay attention |
| 1 | Beautiful area to preserve, but not sure if we need that type of bandshell anymore -- rather ugly in my opinion. |
| 1 | Best for acoustics might be to reorient the shell so it's not facing Miller Manor. |
| 1 | Can't think of anything |
| 1 | Casual atmosphere is nice |
| 1 | Civic investment in the arts is important and should exist outside of the campus infrastructure. |
| 1 | Clean up the homeless population |
| 1 | Community engagement is important. Especially for those experiencing transience, suffering from mental health and substance use issues. |
| 1 | Comstock was an amazing community tradition that was disrupted due to the restrictions on decibels at the bandshell. Amplified music at a reasonable hour of the day should be allowed again. I respect the Section 8 housing location and the reasonable requests for residents to have uninterrupted sound space but the music could have reasonable schedules and work with community spaces. |
| 1 | Consider improving park and removing bandshell. Adding pickle ball courts instead or another playground or a track. |
| 1 | Could be another valuable cultural gathering venue that continues to differentiate Ann Arbor's neighborhoods. |
| 1 | Crime, liter, drugs use, panhandling, rowdy behavior all on the increase at west park |
| 1 | Currently there are some shady characters hanging out there acting inappropriate to citizens trying to use the park or walking by. |
| 1 | Definitely |
| 1 | Despite it's size and proximity to downtown, Westpark seems to be underutilized for hosting public events. Having a functional event space would allow for more community activities for the surrounding neighborhoods while drawing crowds near downtown. |
| 1 | Destroying it and depriving future generations of the experiences would be a terrible loss to the community. The failure of the foundation resulted from poor awareness of the impact on the structure from day-lighting the creek |

| Count | Response |
|-------|--|
| 1 | Do move its location, just fix the water issue. I don't remember these issues before the American Recovery Act of 2009 which I thought resurfaced the stream. |
| 1 | Don't build in the flood plain. Put the bandshell in another location if it can be used regularly |
| 1 | Don't forget the rich musical history |
| 1 | Don't know |
| 1 | Don't listen to noise complaints from neighbors. Music is the park is delightful. |
| 1 | Don't preserve something for the sake of preserving it if it doesn't meet the needs of the community. Modernize what needs to be modernized so that the band shell is usable for decades to come. |
| 1 | Don't underestimate people's affection for this treasure |
| 1 | Drugs are a huge problem, and crime. A woman was murdered. All in the past few years. We think it is connected to the dispensaries that opened in the past few years in the West Park neighborhood. Before they opened some people smoked pot quietly in the park and didn't harm anyone. Now people deal drugs right and left, a different and much bigger crowd of people smoke pot much more openly than before. There was never the level of drug dealing that there is now. Things have totally changed in West Park and in our neighborhood. Folks on Nextdoor (including folks from Miller Manor) have expressed that the city has ignored their concerns about deteriorating conditions. The park feels unsafe and abandoned by the families that were there before. Now people also deal drugs on street corners around the park, in quiet and isolated streets that formerly felt very safe but I guess for that reason feels like a safe place to deal drugs and not get caught. The opening of multiple drug dispensaries near |
| 1 | Either we should really use the bandshell, or else get rid of it and use the space for something else we would really use and appreciate. In that case, we might want to make a concert space someplace else. The most important thing is to keep making sure West Park is an attractive and pleasant place for people to go. It's been great that it has been improved and cleaned up over the last years. That makes a huge difference to the neighborhood and the people here. |
| 1 | Events allow the community to gather and feel more included, and maybe meet new people. |
| 1 | Explore addition of a west park dog park |
| 1 | Feels unsafe |
| 1 | Fill it with positives |
| 1 | Focus on FUNCTION! Do not make this yet another project where the goal is to check off boxes on whether it's green, or if it achieves a specific gender orientation or equality, or any of the myriad of things that have NOTHING to do with the usefulness and utility of a bandshell in a park. |
| 1 | For the performers that use the venue, having an outdoor venue for concerts, shows, etc. is very important and is a big perk of living in Ann Arbor |
| 1 | Free events help bring communities together. They also support the idea of diversity, equity, and inclusion |
| 1 | Fun |
| 1 | Future plans and sustainability |
| 1 | Good if other groups could use as well |
| 1 | Good place for outdoor concerts |
| 1 | Grateful Dead played here. |
| 1 | Grateful Dead played there |
| 1 | Grateful Dead played there. My school jazz and concert bands played there. It's got heritage and we deserve more from this city. Carry on the tradition, please. Make sure to form a solid board of cool people. |
| 1 | Great for family |
| 1 | Great park for the community. |
| 1 | Great place for families to gather great outdoor space for children to get away from their screens! |
| 1 | Have an outdoor space at West Park for events is important to keeping the vibrancy of neighborhood and park; does not have to be the historic structure itself. |
| 1 | Have picnic tables near bandshell. Constant police presence because of the ability to gather for drug use, especially on the Chaplin Street side. Also adequate lighting in certain areas.. This park is a treasure for Ann Arbor and should be preserved and encouraged usage for city programs. |

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 1 | Have you thought of removing the shell and turning it into a historical display of the shell and public venues in the city/county in general? |
| 1 | Having a place for live musical events is important. Saving that particular structure is not important. |
| 1 | Highly underused space. It could be so much more. Nicely located for residents west of Main all the way to Wagner Road. No need to go downtown. |
| 1 | Historic concerts at the park, records of groups that have used the venue |
| 1 | Historic value even though not protected. Wonderful ambiance and a great resource to make this park really shine |
| 1 | Historical significance, needs to be preserved. |
| 1 | Historically interesting but probably time to build a new one somewhere else where parking and ability to be more acoustically isolated from neighbors is possible. |
| 1 | History kiosks. Nature kiosks. |
| 1 | History, community, music, local talent development... |
| 1 | Homeless people (arguments) and possible drug use.... I'm never sure what I will encounter when I walk through the park. I love the pond, ducks and turtles! |
| 1 | Honoring the history of the space can and should be done with durable and permanent signage in a new space. |
| 1 | I THINK IT IS A SHAME THE CITY DOES NOT VALUE GIFTS FROM THE PAST AND MAINTAIN THEM. EXAMPLES ARE THE WADING FOUNTAIN, THE ICE SKATING SHELTER, THE LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL DIAMOND |
| 1 | I am SO happy there is activity toward engagement and action! I was going to start some but am deeply pleased that this is already in the works. Bravo! Yay! BTW I participated in the park cleanup and was surprised it wasn't as dirty as it could have been (except for the parking lot which just needs a shovel for the cigarette butts). Thank you! |
| 1 | I am a young adult who grew up in the park, and I now live in Philadelphia. West Park is an integral part of my childhood, but in recent years it has not felt like a safe space to be in, whether I was just hanging out or passing through. I have been catcalled and harassed by people loitering near the playground. There are constantly people abusing the space to get drunk or selling drugs in the parking lot on Chapin. It does not feel like a safe space for children to be in, and I should not have to feel hyper vigilant in a place I know better than the back of my hand. |
| 1 | I am concerned about the water quality in the pond, for welfare of the wildlife. The water used to be clearer but has had an unhealthy, cloudy appearance for the past two years. |
| 1 | I am new to Ann Arbor and was sorry to see such a venue closed. I know I would frequent it often if ever opened and improved. I'd also be a willing financial benefactor to a new venue. |
| 1 | I believe it's a gorgeous structure with a lot of rich history and memories associated with it and at the very least I believe it should be repaired and preserved so as to not lose that. |
| 1 | I believe the bandshell has value for residents. |
| 1 | I believe there are many residents who view it as a valuable resource. |
| 1 | I can't think of anything! |
| 1 | I currently live in a town where the city totally rebuilt their bandshell. They use it for community musical groups, a gathering area for city events (food, craft shows, etc.), and just a beautiful green space to walk through. |
| 1 | I derive great value from having live events in my neighborhood and it adds well-being in my life |
| 1 | I don't live within the 3-4 block radius of the bandshell, but live on W Liberty St and often walk and enjoy West Park |
| 1 | I don't think it makes a lot of sense to "forcibly" fix the wet ground problem if we could potentially have a bandshell at a better location in Ann Arbor. Again, I think having a bandshell would be wonderful, but it doesn't have to be at West Park and it doesn't have to use the existing structure. |
| 1 | I feel like it's a real opportunity to continue to foster community through free events that are diverse in nature and content. |
| 1 | I feel there has been a correlation between the closure of the bandshell and the increase in drug use at West Park. BRING BACK THE BANDSHELL |
| 1 | I fully support a more flexible redesign that appropriately fits in with the hydrology and natural elements of Allen Creek, and also takes cues and homage to the existing band shell. |

Count Response

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| 1 | I grew up in Ann Arbor, left for college and was gone for 15 yrs. I moved back with my two young boys last year and Ann Arbor is completely different: mainstays are demolished and traffic patterns are different (google maps/routes??). I'm thankful for the activity and excitement and general atmosphere of present-day Ann Arbor but I cannot express enough how much I miss the Ann Arbor of my childhood. I grew up across the street from West Park and remember the bandshell and Wednesday night performances and the warmth of summer and music. It's a nostalgic, selfish wish - but I really do hope the community reaches consensus to preserve the bandshell in its home at West Park. |
| 1 | I have answered this question. |
| 1 | I have been a resident of the area for 20 years, and a performer with local community music groups for all of that time. This kind of outdoor performance space is a highly visible symbol of a Great Community. If not at West Park, then we need something similar in another central yet accessible location. It is embarrassing to live in a city with such high standards for other public amenities that cannot fix the band shell. |
| 1 | I have lived at Kingsley Condos for 3 years now and there have not been any events scheduled since I lived here-Covid, closed bandshell due to structural problems, etc. - concerned about the homeless, vagabonds hanging around - more lights needed for safety in the evening - more trash cans and more frequent emptying of trash/recycle receptacles |
| 1 | I have lived in the Arborview area for 8 years and am moving to a house just north of West Park. I love to be able to walk and wish I had experienced more concerts and plays at the bandshell before it closed. I often didn't know about them. Would love to be able to walk down for live music, children's event, etc. I don't know if 4-6x/wk is necessary, but would love for community members to be able to use it/rent it. |
| 1 | I have really missed concerts in West Park. If the bandshell were safe and easily accessible, it would be a great place for new musicians/bands to try out material and for community members to attend a free concert! Make the process for signing-up easy and the musicians and audiences will come! |
| 1 | I have repeatedly walked in West Park as a single dude, trying to get exercise. Now I am the father of little girls, 5 and 3. I have taken my girls to West Park once. I probably won't do it again. There are lots of other parks in this town where the suggestion of homelessness and drug use (licit and illicit) is less on the mind when visiting. e.g., why did those two cars pull into the parking lot, just sit there for 15 minutes, and then drive away? Nobody exited or enter the vehicles? What was that about? |
| 1 | I have seen people using drugs in west park, and have been approached for money, I know these are things that happen in urban settings, I hope the city continues to help people in need find resources |
| 1 | I know efforts have been made to reduce drug use and loitering in the park, but it continues. People are sitting in the woods on the trail, camping near the pond, gathering in the parking lot and leaving garbage and personal belongings near the playground. It feels unsafe to be alone particularly near dark |
| 1 | I like the idea of a band shell but I'm not concerned with the details, repair or build new or relocate to another park is all the same to me. To me the best part is the tiered seating levels which are great for picnic-ing and people watching. |
| 1 | I like the project grow gardens (although I haven't used them) the park needs a cultural center, plaques on the band shell could share history of the park. The park used to have a building with murals about civil rights activism. The back of the bandshell could have similar murals |
| 1 | I live just outside the circle you used in the prior question, and I travel through West Park frequently (5 or more times per week). The park is underutilized. |
| 1 | I live within 3 blocks and am a huge supporter of the bandshell! I have enjoyed events here and think it's a great way to bring the same energy, sense of community, family-friendly and neighborhood-enhancing entertainment as other Ann Arbor-esque spaces like the cascades, the Arb, and Top of the Park, Sonic Lunch, and downtown during the Art Fair. As a young family we love so much to have local events we can walk to that both kids and grown ups enjoy. Preserving the actual bandshell vs building a similar structure is less important. To me, the issue should be less about historical preservation and more about converting this space to a safe, family-friendly venue. |
| 1 | I love West Park and feel strongly that it could be "the Center of the City." West Park is large enough to accommodate a performance space, and offering one encourages people to walk one block west of the YMCA to enjoy! The Band Shell can accommodate children's theatre, community theatre, Civic and school Band, Orchestra and Chorus, pop, rock and folk music. A new performance space can pay homage to the historic band shell and help make West Park even more of a community destination in Ann Arbor. |
| 1 | I love West Park and go there regularly for walks and runs. I have never felt unsafe. I do think that some people may avoid it because they hear bad things about drugs and homeless people. The more regular events and programming that we have there, the more people will come there and the safer it will feel for all. |
| 1 | I love West Park mostly for its natural features. The events I attended at the band shell were pleasant but rare. I wouldn't mind if the band shell disappeared. |
| 1 | I love being able to walk to this unique venue. |
| 1 | I love the idea of more programming at West Park. I also think it would be great to have food trucks available for West Park events! On beautiful spring, summer, and fall days, I often scan the Observer or other news sources for outdoor evening events, and I'm usually disappointed. It would be a nice addition to west side cultural options. |
| 1 | I love the natural landscaping there. The huge oaks are gorgeous. The stairs from Miller Ave. are scary. |
| 1 | I love the structure, the history, and the park. Improving West Park would address some of the needs that motivated the disastrous "library lot / center of the city" proposal. I like the idea of a big park that gets more use and supports the performing arts. The acoustics issue is real, though: Miller Manor creates an awful echo (and, I imagine, it's not so fun for the residents if the concert is not their preferred style) so the re-orienting of the shell is important to consider. |

| Count | Response |
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| 1 | I love this park |
| 1 | I love west park, and it is a great community resource. |
| 1 | I really like the 1920's architectural vibe. The arches and domed roof are pretty cool. I'd suggest going with something of a similar style if the facade/roof/arches need to be rebuilt. Minimize elements that look new/modern. |
| 1 | I ride by it many days and would love to see it restored. I think it would look lovely with a mural on the back of the shell! |
| 1 | I started using the park in 1994 when I moved in with my little girl. Last week my daughter and her two little girls played on the swings and walked by the gardens and watched the kids from the Y having fun. I love the sign with the Indian trail information. The park looks great and it was full of people. Vibrant and successful! |
| 1 | I support programming and activation of West Park as means of helping patrol the park and eliminate unwanted activities and camping within. |
| 1 | I think Ann Arbor should absolutely have a band shell / performance space in one of the City parks. The existing shell is simply not large enough to be practical. |
| 1 | I think I said most of it above. |
| 1 | I think The City of Ann Arbor would be better served by tearing down the West Park Bandshell. It could then spend its money on building a better designed outdoor performing arts venue elsewhere in Ann Arbor. Realize that the one performing arts organization that actually used the bandshell was the Ann Arbor Civic Band, which no longer fits on the bandshell stage. |
| 1 | I think West Park is a very nice way to get downtown from our neighborhood (Haisley) and many of us use it while biking, walking or running. |
| 1 | I think it is a great opportunity to connect, unify, revitalize the local community, attract new visitors and residents to the area, highlight diverse local Michigan talent, create programming for Ann Arbor's culturally diverse demographic, bring new revenue to the city and local businesses, support the arts, creativity, and small businesses in SE Michigan, and highlight Ann Arbor's vibrant past. |
| 1 | I think it is important for the city to have a bandshell in the park. However, I think it would be much better for the community to build a new, larger bandshell instead of preserving the original. A larger space would provide more space and could increase utilization of the facility. |
| 1 | I think it is important to preserve the shell as a neighborhood asset. Given noise impact on the neighborhood, I think the bandshell should be the smaller and more intimate (largely acoustic) venue in town that is complemented by a larger outdoor venue, say on the Huron Hills or Leslie Park golf course properties, that would allow for a more modern structure with video and the ability to have amplified music with less impact on neighbors. |
| 1 | I think it was underutilized before and am not sure why but it really is a nice gathering place in the city, serving the communities of the whole town but particularly those surrounding the park. It would be a real shame to permanently take away that gathering space. It's more than just a park - it's a venue for events that bring people together and make communities stronger and, ultimately, safer for all. |
| 1 | I think it would be great to host concerts there again. Shakespeare in the park, that kind of thing... |
| 1 | I think it would be great to increase use of West Park. I have seen some seemingly unsafe behaviors (drug use, intoxication) that might be less problematic if there were more events in the park. I would hope that events do not disturb the wildlife habitats in the park (marsh areas and the pond). Off leash dogs are sometimes a problem in the park, and I'm not sure if that would be better or worse with more events. |
| 1 | I think it would be great to redo the bandshell with an eye to the future. Skip all the historic preservation stuff and just do the best (within cost-effective reason) job you can do at making it a great performance space. Once it is back up and running increase the concerts and add things like Shakespeare in the park or other performances. Really help Ann Arbor continue to be a place for love of the arts and performers to have a lifelong place to get on stage and share their passion. Make it a place for families to enjoy low or no-cost evenings and enrich their children's lives. That should be the focus of this project. |
| 1 | I think it's a great idea. |
| 1 | I think it's a nice venue that's generally more accessible for the west side. It also offers better parking than many downtown venues. |
| 1 | I think it's important for the city to know and acknowledge the surge in traffic to west park since the onset of the covid pandemic. It is used by many constituencies, all of whom contribute to an increase in litter, waste, noise, etc. If we're bringing more people in regularly something needs to be done about what already feels like a somewhat untenable level of usage |
| 1 | I think it's important for the city to understand this is a unique experience in a great park, it almost defines what Ann Arbor is about. The arts, nature, and the community. |
| 1 | I think removing it would make the park less desirable and perhaps facilitate the park becoming a haven for negative activity. |
| 1 | I think spending that amount of money for the sake of memories and sentiment ("history") is just silly. The generation that treasures those things for that location will die out anyway. Tear it down. Don't build anything that needs to worry about floodplain issues \$\$\$ Just leave the paved area and the seating to be a place to have gatherings, same as park shelters or picnic tables. The existing seats are a big plus. I don't think there is anything else like it here, is there? Maybe get some electricity in there, in a limited-access, vandal-proof way available with a permit. And to partly address potential noise complaints, put in a noise compliance monitoring device or two, to make complaints a little more verifiable.. West Park could be a location for a small town vibe (that everybody moans about losing). I really wish there was a lot more seating in the park in general. I'd love to sit and read a book outdoors or just talk, in safety. As designed now, most of the |

| Count | Response |
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| 1 | I think that structures like this that allow for unique community events are incredibly important to preserve. |
| 1 | I think the money can be spent on other priorities. How about fixing the streets instead! |
| 1 | I think the recent investment to develop and improve the seating area was a good decision. I think it's a unique facility that the city should promote and exploit. I do not think the city should make any effort or expense to "preserve" the current structure just because the Grateful Dead played there a lifetime ago. |
| 1 | I think the specific use for concerts and plays should not be downplayed. We are lucky here in Ann Arbor to have a wide variety of parks and nature paths/trails, which is wonderful. But these spaces usually encourage individual or small group gatherings and are not so much conducive to bringing a larger community together. Plays and concerts are a wonderful way to connect a community at large and provide wonderful memories. The bandshell is so unique in this regard that it allows for a different type of community engagement that is hard to replicate. |
| 1 | I think there could be a push for AAPS to use it for concerts, etc. Or local music teachers/groups. Part of the under utilization, in my opinion, is that people don't really think about it as a venue. So promoting it as such might help |
| 1 | I think this is an important historical structure for the city but I also believe it could be another location to increase the culture and arts in Ann Arbor, which I am all for. |
| 1 | I think this is the only Ann Arbor public park performance space that is not owned by UM... Top of the Park is fun, but it's all on UM property, It seems like A2 should have something like this that is not under the purview of the U to have a say over-- something just for residents of the city without having to worry about campus regulations. Also-- fewer students makes for a different vibe that events closer to campus. I think we need this performance park! :) |
| 1 | I trust City staff to make good judgements on whether or not it should be renovated and how it should be used. |
| 1 | I used to go to West Park as a child in daycare and at school. I have the best memories of this park as a child before it starting to get a little sketchy with people doing drugs, etc. It would be great to have the same experience for young children in this community. |
| 1 | I walk through the park quite often. It seems underused for a nice park just a couple of blocks from downtown (closer to Main & Huron than the controversial Library Lot). It needs a larger and more welcoming parking lot. A refurbished and well-used bandshell or similar facility would help raise awareness of the whole park. |
| 1 | I walk through west park regularly. It's a beautiful park and a good opportunity for a mini forest. I'd keep the play structure, the pond, basketball and baseball, paths and gardens. It would make sense to save the bandshell if it had been used regularly, but it wasn't. |
| 1 | I was raised in AA and have now retired here after living in a couple other cities and travelling to several others. These cities and towns all had a town center or beach area with a band platform of some sort. They were well attended at least once a week all summer long. Ann Arbor has the summer festival and several wonderful indoor venues, but no easily used outdoor venue. |
| 1 | I will NOT support any new taxes for the renovation. |
| 1 | I wonder if the bandshell can be moved to a different part of the park, out of Allen creek's way? If the water keeps ruining the foundation of the bandshell and as a result repairing it is so expensive that it would need to be turned into a non-stop performance venue, could it be moved out of the flood zone, thereby bringing the cost down and the pressure to have so many events that the residents would go crazy? |
| 1 | I would enjoy nature themed events. I can see how a new stage feature could be also used for educational activities. I walk in the park every day and enjoy the peaceful open space, sounds of nature and wildlife. I don not want to do anything that would make the park too active and spoil that peace. |
| 1 | I would like the band shell to keep the style of architecture, but to be enlarged in the stage and backstage areas. It would also be nice to have restrooms included. |
| 1 | I would like to see more programming in the park to keep it a positive, safe place for families to enjoy. |
| 1 | I would love for it to be back in use again! |
| 1 | I would love to see Ann Arbor's music scene return to its former glory |
| 1 | I would love to see a cafe in the park. It would make it more of a lively community gathering place. More people in the park would also make it a safer place. While sympathetic to the plight of the unhoused, I don't believe our public gathering spaces should be considered the solution to this problem. There has been a problem with drug trafficking and people sleeping in the park for many years now. A more inhabited park because of draws like the band shell and a cafe would help. |
| 1 | I would love to see community theater happening, music, and community events. We are a family with young kids and I want them to be able to go to the park independently and feel safe. We need to clean up West Park to be the safe, enjoyable, clean park that it is meant to be and having a functional bandshell will allow people from all over ann Arbor to come and enjoy what the park has to offer. |
| 1 | I would love to see this structure revitalized and redesigned. No need to keep any of the existing structure. Better to rebuild in line with flood plain rules. It's a perfect and special place for plays, lectures, live music and other performances. |
| 1 | I would reroute the money to sustainability or housing access. It seems like this doesn't benefit the community in a practical way. It would seem this would effect only a very small population on a somewhat regular basis in the summer. Outside of that I don't know who benefits. |

Count Response

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| 1 | I'm a neighbor. I love the park and it's eclectic mix of people. Have some safety concerns and want to see the park used to it's full potential, to be safe, but not sanitized of the mix of people who use it |
| 1 | I'm generally supportive of more programming including concerts at the park. I don't care that much about the existing structure itself. I am sensitive to the fact the current shell is aimed right at the low income residents of Miller Manor and we should be especially sensitive to their concerns about noise |
| 1 | I'm hoping more events to activate the park will clear up the increasing prevalence of open drug dealing that happens in the parking lot. |
| 1 | I'm very close to many in my neighborhood and have several friends who live closer to West Park and we ALL miss the concerts. |
| 1 | I've already mentioned the concern about the permanent structure being a place that allows cover for people who don't want to be seen -- it's always a little weird walking there alone at night. But really, it's a cool space & as I think about it's value, I think more about the events than about the existing physical structure. I think this may be an opportunity to radically rethink what it would take to have the same wonderful events that make West Park special -- and possibly in much more budget friendly ways than beginning with the perceived "need" to preserve the permanent structure. |
| 1 | I've always thought West Park is an underutilized space. If city council ever decides to go along with the will of the city's citizens and build a park on top of the library lot (as we voters decided many years ago we wanted to do), the city could host concerts there instead of in West Park. The bandshell area of the park could be repurposed for other needed amenities. |
| 1 | IDK |
| 1 | IT's history |
| 1 | Idk |
| 1 | If events are there, porta potties might need to be considered. That is the most difficult decision. The porta potties should only be there at certain events, maybe events longer than 1 1/2 hours. I'm not sure about that one. Always nice to have food trucks at events too. I guess events longer than 1 1/2 hours. Not sure about that either. |
| 1 | If it is made functional again, it might be fun to invite musicians and other artists who performed in it to return for a grand re-opening. |
| 1 | If it were brought back to its prior heavy use, there would be fewer drug dealers. When I was a kid, there was always a skating rink in the field all winter, and a water sprinkler pond and whirligig on the playground. |
| 1 | If other events were staged there, i would love to attend. West Park has been improved over the years, and could become an area with a big draw for our citizens. |
| 1 | If our future includes "social distancing" due to new pandemics, an outdoor venue will be even more critical. Also, as the Allen Creek Greenway is further developed, access and use will likely increase. |
| 1 | If saving the bandshell means lower carbon footprint for renovation, I'd support that. If not, I'm not married to the structure itself, though it's beautiful. |
| 1 | If the city allows the destruction of the bandshell due to unwillingness to spend the money on it, West Park will deteriorate even more into a magnet for criminal activity for disadvantaged and desperate drug users/dealers because it keeps them off Main Street and State/Liberty where the restaurants are an economic draw for our more well-to-do citizens. The city truly needs to recognize West Park's value to a healthy community for the people who live here. The current neglect of the park would never happen in Burns Park and the city needs to own up to its responsibility to preserve the quality of life for this neighborhood and anyone who wants to enjoy the benefits of a safe and beautiful park within the city itself. Gallup Park requires a car or bike, West Park is right here among many residents who love and value its location, history and how much it adds to a sense of community. |
| 1 | If the costs to repair or rebuild the bandshell exceed those typically used to repair other park amenities or are are extravagant in comparison, the City should consider moving a feature such as a theater or amphitheater to a location that more of the public have access to, whether it be in a park where there are far more parking options, or downtown. Although county farm park is owned by the County, a bandshell there would allow it to be enjoyed by so many other types of park users, and could be funded by two entities versus one. |
| 1 | If the park and bandshell are clean, safe, accessible, and have restroom facilities, more people will enjoy using the park |
| 1 | If the project is expensive, funds should be directed elsewhere and the natural features should be restored. |
| 1 | If there is no way to keep the basic shell intact somewhere in the park, we don't want to forget it's long history. A way to communicate this to future generations needs to be planned. At the very least, it should be something like one of those glass panels around town that tells the story. |
| 1 | If there's a concert or play will there be any security? |
| 1 | If wanting to increase usage/ draw from broader community parking &/or transportation need to be considered |
| 1 | If you don't know already, there's a big safety issue with vagrants, drug dealers, and thieves. Police and/or security presence are going to be necessary. |
| 1 | If you fix it, they will come. |
| 1 | Important asset for the west side community |
| 1 | Important asset in our community. Boulder has one in a downtown park, still (near their creek and very similar to Ann Arbor's) |

| Count | Response |
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| 1 | Improve safety, would love some actual bathroom structures. |
| 1 | Improvements in West park is an opportunity to utilize an existing space to its full potential. |
| 1 | In the summer, it's a good venue for various sorts of entertainment. |
| 1 | In thinking about preserving the structure, keep in mind the acoustic advantages of a well-designed shell for concerts & performances -- it's much better than just an open space or a raised stage or gazebo. |
| 1 | In years past there was parking on the lawn from 7th street. I hope that might be considered again. I would love to see the band shell saved, but I also see the writing on the wall that it will likely not be repaired for a variety of reasons. I hope that West Park is still the venue for the city band concerts. |
| 1 | Increase perking would be nice for more handicap spots. |
| 1 | It adds character to the city. |
| 1 | It brings a sense of community, which Ann Arbor lacks. It is hard to put into words, but other places we have lived, both within Michigan and other states have a sense of community. Ann Arbor should be more than just U of M. |
| 1 | It brings joy to the members of the audience |
| 1 | It could be a fun place for all ages. |
| 1 | It could be a jewel of a venue if done right. Something that the city could be proud of as a world class venue for outdoor music and arts performances. |
| 1 | It could be utilized by school groups, local bands, summer fest. |
| 1 | It creates Community engagement |
| 1 | It creates community engagement |
| 1 | It does not get nearly enough use. It would be nice if there was some sort of commuter to go from downtown locations to West Park. |
| 1 | It encourages positive human interaction. Gets people away from screens to enjoy the outdoors, and each other, live performances. |
| 1 | It has an interesting history |
| 1 | It has the opportunity to be a world class venue to invite national acts, and possibly a small fireworks celebration in July like they do at greenfield village. |
| 1 | It helps build community. |
| 1 | It is a cultural center for West A2. |
| 1 | It is a great location, park that needs to be better utilized |
| 1 | It is a great venue to bring the community together. |
| 1 | It is a historic building and a rather unusual one at that. Is is anfabulous sitting l the park with all those large oaks behind it. It's just very cool and AA doesn't have very many cool spots left in it. |
| 1 | It is a historical and architectural gem, embodying depression-era economic and social history and should be preserved to educate future generations, and it is a unique outdoor venue for concerts, plays, creative events and meeting for the entire City. |
| 1 | It is a nice community park with a great atmosphere. |
| 1 | It is a park space NOT next to a highway, it is surrounded (at least currently) by a variety of income neighbors, it could be a nice route to pass through to someplace else (like downtown or the Y), it could be used by a variety of age groups, it offers a variety of ecological settings that could be visited by nature groups, school groups, and similar. Like any public use space, there are considerations for public behavior that are expected by all users. |
| 1 | It is a part of Ann Arbor's music history |
| 1 | It is a treasure. I was just in another town and went to a concert at their bandshell. I realized how much we miss the special things at west park in our bandshell. |
| 1 | It is a unique and valuable community asset. |
| 1 | It is a valuable park, that should be used and supported as much as possible |
| 1 | It is an historic feature that may not mean much to the newbies in town. I am a fourth generation Ann Arbor citizen who remembers West Park and the concerts as a special place and time. We would go there for elementary school picnics. Now I think of it as crime ridden and neglected and I wouldn't feel safe going there alone. |

Count Response

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| 1 | It is an important part of westside Ann Arbor history. |
| 1 | It is beautiful and ought to be used |
| 1 | It is beautiful. |
| 1 | It is in a beautiful setting between two hills. The whole audience can see and hear equally with good acoustics as well as the performers. |
| 1 | It is missed |
| 1 | It makes me sad every time I walk past the fenced-in bandstand. Getting this project off the ground and replacing the structure will be great. |
| 1 | It makes no sense to repair a building standing on floodplain. |
| 1 | It may be wiser to demolish the bandshell and reconstruct it at another location above the floodplain. It is desirable to maintain it downtown. Permanent parking does not need to be constructed for a venue that operates during the summer on dry days. Parking on the grass is sufficient. |
| 1 | It needs to be preserved. |
| 1 | It needs programming and fewer hiding opportunities. |
| 1 | It needs to be dealt with one way or another. It is currently just an eyesore. When considering costs, please compare cost to remove vs cost to repair. |
| 1 | It needs to be large enough to allow groups like Ann Arbor Civic band to continue to involving more people. 2023 band had 130 participants. The current size of the band shell would prevent half of those community musicians from participating.. |
| 1 | It needs to be prevented from falling apart. Because of its status in the "Preservation" of A2 it's surprising to me that it is even debated to be torn down . |
| 1 | It really is a wonderful park. I walk through it every day to go to work. I would like to see more benches. On my way home I would often like to see and relax but there is only the one bench on the on the southern trail west of the pond. A bathroom would also be nice. |
| 1 | It seems obvious that a city like Ann Arbor would make creating and preserving outdoor performance space a priority. |
| 1 | It seems that redoing the allen creek drainage has imperiled the mature oak trees near the band shell. I hope they can be saved and that the bandshell work will include a long term plan for nearby landscape. |
| 1 | It seems the group of people who care about the historical significance of the shell are those old enough to have seen it's previous concert use. They are a small and quite vocal group. We should ensure that we are considering what is best for the future of the park and it's users, not just it's past |
| 1 | It seems to be a hangout. |
| 1 | It serves as a safe transit corridor for bikes from Chaplin to 7th. This is the safest way to make the east - west commute. |
| 1 | It should be versatile to host a variety of event types (live music, plays, public speakers, performing arts classes and instruction, other types of community events, exercise classes/yoga, etc). Sound design should be considered to draw desirable acts. Very close play structure or other playground activities for little kids to enjoy while their parents are enjoying the concert. Possibility for concessions and/or food trucks for events. |
| 1 | It should definitely be used. This park is wonderful, and families are regularly hanging out there. I think it would be nice to have more structure events and activities that can help the neighborhood integrate. |
| 1 | It still has great potential to be an excellent community space, which should be preserved! |
| 1 | It truly is an historic structure in Ann Arbor. |
| 1 | It used to be really fun. The park surroundings are really nice. I would prefer a west park development over the proposed center of city project. |
| 1 | It was a nice way to see all neighbors in a neutral area. Wonderful! |
| 1 | It was designed by ann arborite Phil Potts who was also one of the founding members of the Ann Arbor civic orchestra (tuba player) the orchestra that became the Ann Arbor symphony. |
| 1 | It was good to hear the community band playing. Other groups could also participate |
| 1 | It was previously a wondeeful experience. Nice to see neighbors, picnic, hear music or watch the ballgames. It looks horrible this summer, so no longer a good experience. |
| 1 | It will be great when it is available for concerts. I look forward to other activities. |
| 1 | It will bring more positive park visits and likely improve the park's safety |

Count Response

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| 1 | It would be great to have more programming at West Park in general. I think it would encourage more positive mixing between all the users of the park given the proximity to downtown, residential neighborhoods, public housing. It's great to think about how everyone can belong and feel safe in this space, especially since it's set down in Allen Creek below eye level of adjacent roads. |
| 1 | It would be great to preserve the bandshell itself - visual appeal, historic preservation - but I don't think it should be the driving force. Don't let the perfect be the enemy of the good. Can't think of anything else to add. |
| 1 | It would be incredibly foolish to build a new bandshell without addressing the floodplain issues. |
| 1 | It would be nice to see a viewable poster archive somewhere at the park with photos of some of the concerts that occurred there in the late 60's and early 70's |
| 1 | It would get utilized more if there was power |
| 1 | It would need to be securely closed when not in use |
| 1 | It's Ann Arbor History |
| 1 | It's a beautiful park and would still be gorgeous without the bandshell |
| 1 | It's a beautiful spot with great views of the city and a lot of places for kids to run around and play very near to downtown. It can really be the "crown jewel" of Ann Arbor's parks if safety is improved (no more active drug deals in the parking lot or lewd comments towards women pushing strollers) and the bandshell is improved as an attraction. |
| 1 | It's a great and unique opportunity for community engagement/bonding/pride. |
| 1 | It's a great asset to the neighborhood and underutilized. |
| 1 | It's a great big oppor |
| 1 | It's a great park but I wouldn't trust my kids to go there alone until it's clearly safer |
| 1 | It's a great park, in a great location. The bandshell should be improved and maintained. |
| 1 | It's a great place to showcase so much talent |
| 1 | It's a historical landmark in Ann Arbor and we need to use it to bring the community together |
| 1 | It's a historical landmark in my opinion and should be preserved |
| 1 | It's a historical landmark. |
| 1 | It's a little small. But the structure is charming. If it needs to be rebuilt, maybe they could use the old structure as a design idea. |
| 1 | It's a lot of money to spend on a small number of people who would use it. My guess is \$2M has already been spend on consultants. |
| 1 | It's a musical, artistic, theatrical town. Bring it. |
| 1 | It's a nice symbol. But also would be nice/important to be usable for future. |
| 1 | It's a real community in a beautiful part of town |
| 1 | It's a safe place to congregate in a beautiful park to enjoy summer concerts |
| 1 | It's a terrible park in its current form and needs a complete overhaul. I'm not sure exactly how to do this, but at this point I'd support selling most of the land to developers so we can have more housing. West Park could easily be shrunk by 1/2 or 2/3 and create more downtown housing while keeping a decent park that is actually maintained. |
| 1 | It's a waste to have it sitting there in its blighted condition. It could be an important attraction, close to the downtown area. |
| 1 | It's a wonderful attraction for the community to come together. |
| 1 | It's a wonderful piece of property and it would be great to see it used even more |
| 1 | It's an amazing community amenity. I'm hoping you can save the shell and rebuild the stage to provide more accessibility, native plants and stormwater management |
| 1 | It's an eyesore. |
| 1 | It's an important place. |

| Count | Response |
|-------|--|
| 1 | It's an old facility in a an area that has changed A LOT since the inception of having concerts. It's time for a new place. |
| 1 | It's cool and is part of our history. If it can be saved for a reasonable investment, it should be. If not , it should be replaced with something comparable or better |
| 1 | It's good to furnish parks with attractions |
| 1 | It's great to make public use of parks. |
| 1 | It's history. I would love to see historic markers about the band shell and the neighborhood be a part of this endeavor. |
| 1 | It's important for helping to activate the park, but the old one needs to go and a new venue is sorely needed (and would provide so much more for the money to be spent). |
| 1 | It's important to maintain the history of Ann Arbor as independent from the University. I'd like to see programming that encourages young peoples use....perhaps in conjunction with AAPS at times, such as music and stage productions. Penny Stamps was used well. |
| 1 | It's inspiring. |
| 1 | It's nice and has a neat history but let's make the right choice for today's needs |
| 1 | It's one of that last few. things that make AA unique |
| 1 | It's places like the bandshell that are very important to the community |
| 1 | It's sad to see this site languishing. It has so much potential for good in our community and I thought it was quite special while it lasted. I'm glad you're thinking of doing something about it! |
| 1 | It's so lovely - I would love to see it utilized for concerts & shows again. With so many Ann Arbor staples disappearing, I think the bandshell reopening would be a breath of fresh air (and nostalgic). |
| 1 | It's underutilized space right now. In addition to the physical infrastructure we need to encourage programming. More concerts, Shakespeare in the Park, dance shows, schools could use it for band performances, etc. |
| 1 | Its a great part of history that keeps this town growing in a positive direction. |
| 1 | Just because it is part of the history does not mean it needs to be maintained at that site considering water issues. Let's honor the environment, not fight with it. |
| 1 | Just tear it down and build a better shell somewhere else |
| 1 | Keep it green and quiet |
| 1 | Keep it in some form; the bandshell itself is less important than the capacity for live music in city parks. |
| 1 | Keep the area around it trimmed back and cleared out. |
| 1 | Keep the park safe and clean. Ban (and enforce) all alcohol, smoking and drug use. |
| 1 | Keep the perimeters safe so families can feel safe to enjoy the park |
| 1 | Keeping history |
| 1 | Kids love it |
| 1 | Lack of this resource for the last several years has had a negative impact on the Ann Arbor community. |
| 1 | Larger stage for higher numbers of performers would be a big plus, as would a deeper roof for shelter against the rain for the performers. |
| 1 | Leaving it as it is contributes to the feeling of the park being unsafe. |
| 1 | Let's activate west park! ?? Food truck Rallies, ? Farmers/artisans markets, city/YMCA/library events! |
| 1 | Let's do it! |
| 1 | Let's move past the idea of the Library Lot "park" and instead reimagine West Park as a genuinely active and vibrant destination. Live performances, outdoor film screenings, and other events at the bandshell will be pivotal to this effort. |
| 1 | Look into the History of this Land Mark |

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 1 | Look to the Arboretum, which has multiple smaller scale venues that can be used for different purposes. We are located in the city, so having spaces where many people can meet that are covered with also be helpful. The park needs bathrooms, showers, perhaps water features. |
| 1 | Lots of people walk to the park with her dogs and their children would like to see that continue. And then enjoy the concert. |
| 1 | Maintaining a physical, iconic, meeting place for people who just want to be with there community and share music will be essential as we enter a new phase of economic hardship. |
| 1 | Make a new bandshell on much higher ground, specifically the flat area directly south and uphill of the current location. Put more resources into managing the water flow in the park - perhaps make a new pond where the bandshell is now. |
| 1 | Make it grand. Spend a lot. Make it a real jewel of the community. Include programming money in the budget that could support community theater, bands, dance, etc. |
| 1 | Many many many people use the park - it always seems to be bustling. The bandshell is just there but people are coming for the park not the bandshell. Haven't seen any concerts or events there in twenty years |
| 1 | Maybe Top of the Park could relocate to this space, once renewed? |
| 1 | Maybe it could be used to revive the Water Hill Music Festival |
| 1 | Maybe the band shell is best to be relocated to another park entirely all together where parking, noise and ADA accommodations are much more navigable. |
| 1 | Might be more opportunity to utilize the 'natural amphitheater' layout of West Park |
| 1 | More outdoor music/events in neighborhoods! |
| 1 | More use would re-engage the community to participate more. Need to also consider safety of the area in general. |
| 1 | Most people wish the city would stay the same as it was when they originally moved to town, or, in the case of a native like myself, the way it was when they were in high school. This is of course impossible, and people's "memories" should not enter into city infrastructure planning. Planning is for future generations who will remember the bandshell in whatever way you make it now, so make it sustainable, resilient, and accessible, and let today's old folks complain about it amongst themselves. |
| 1 | Moved here after the bandshell was already shut down. Would love to have a locale for music and other events in the neighborhood. |
| 1 | Multiple strategies are needed to improve this park to make it appealing to the neighborhood. |
| 1 | Music in the park is a greater addition to Ann Arbor' cultural offerings. UMS is now programming many events at different venues and the bandshell would be great. A program encouraging local bands and theater groups to use the band shell would be great. |
| 1 | Music is important |
| 1 | My daughter took a drama class at the YMCA and they preformed on the stage. I love the old historical importance to the community |
| 1 | My kid really really loves the boardwalk and pond, and all the beautiful wildflowers. We look for the turtles and ducks, and our regular walks to the playground. That's why I feel strongly that we should restore the creek and find a creative way to work with nature instead of against it. Also more trees on the hill in the middle. I really dislike baking under the sun at open air concerts. It would be much more comfortable. It would also be great to put in toilets near the parking lot. |
| 1 | My only concern about the park is safety. It has at times attracted folks who appear to have substance abuse issues and/or mental health issues. FWIW, I live JUST outside the 1/4 mile radius in your earlier question. |
| 1 | My wife wants an outdoor ping pong table |
| 1 | N/A |
| 1 | Nearby low income housing AND a park with events can and should exist together. The venue is under utilized. |
| 1 | Need to make the bandshell usable again, and also maintain the cleanliness and usability of the park in general. |
| 1 | Need to reroute the water around the band shell |
| 1 | Needs a snack and adult beverage wagon/ |
| 1 | Needs good modern design to make it last. Needs to be a lasting investment of taxpayer dollars. address the wet. |
| 1 | Needs to be a dog park at West Park. the baseball diamond could easily be used as one especially in non-baseball months |
| 1 | Neighborhood park |

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 1 | Neighborhood parks are important- esp as we become more dense. Noise can't be used as the reason to not have a band shell In our parks. Its hypocritical. |
| 1 | Nice green space. |
| 1 | No sure |
| 1 | None I can think about. |
| 1 | Normally I would advocate for historic preservation, but the cost is too high and there are other more affordable ways to use park space that can meet the needs of more residents. Remove the bandshell, use the space for the much needed, and too long overdue, west side dog park. It's far enough away from the church that they shouldn't complain this time. |
| 1 | Not needed and should be removed. Really disliked the forced ranking questions earlier - wild have given each choice 0. Bad survey design to force an outcome the city staff wants to achieve by removing free choice!!! |
| 1 | Not sure |
| 1 | Not sure that the current size/technology/facilities of the existing bandshell structure will meet modern concert/performance needs, regardless of structural issues |
| 1 | Not sure. |
| 1 | Once restored, maintain it and patrol the park |
| 1 | One of A2's treasures-do the right thing-find the funding!! |
| 1 | Other parks have unique features - like the skate park at Vets park, canoes at Gallup/Argo, and the bandshell seems like it's a unique feature of West Park that could again make the programming there unique compared to what's happening at other city parks. |
| 1 | Outdoor Musical events are an essential summertime activity for a town with so many parks. |
| 1 | Outdoor concerts and cultural performances are so important to bringing people together through shared experiences and if the city improved or replaced the venue to be more adaptable for varied uses while integrating with the waterside dynamics, the community would greatly benefit. |
| 1 | Parking limitations |
| 1 | Parking limited |
| 1 | Parking management |
| 1 | Part of the beauty and charm of the bandshell is how small it is. It brings together the community around West Park and keeps events intimate non-comercialized. The bandshell is just one part of why West Park is a fantastic community amenity, and it shouldn't overtake or overshadow the other features of the park. |
| 1 | People from much more than a quarter mile away walk to the park on a regular basis. |
| 1 | People in Ann Arbor love art, music, and community. The design should account for and highlight those elements. |
| 1 | People like the aesthetics of the bandshell when walking or riding through the park. |
| 1 | People love a safe park that can be enjoyed in multiple ways. |
| 1 | People need music. |
| 1 | People need to feel safe in West park. An upgrade to anything there could improve the community attendance. |
| 1 | Performances at the bandshell are a great way for the community to interact and get to know each other. |
| 1 | Perhaps it could be a venue for school performances |
| 1 | Please bring back this wonderful community resource!! The outdoor performance space, the wonderful acoustic, the beautiful park setting, are unique and should be a fantastic part of our city! I am aware of the current concerns about 'safety' in West Park, and the long standing concerns about noise (during events when the bandshell was functional). I really believe the 'safety' issues can only be helped by bringing people back to the park. Restoring the bandshell, and/or building something equally as wonderful that allows/facilitates acoustic performances or only needs a small amount of amplification seems better suited to the setting than something that requires a large amount of equipment like microphones and speakers (for example, Sonic Lunch, or Top of the Park, which I also value, but very differently.) For decades before I lived here, and for 3+ decades I have lived here, West Park was a wonderful place to gather to hear music, and other performing arts. Please bring th |
| 1 | Please bring it back! :) |

| Count | Response |
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| 1 | Please bring it back!! |
| 1 | Please don't let the bandshell just sit and rot and become an eyesore. Preservation is important but not at the expense of West Park and the surrounding neighborhoods. |
| 1 | Please make any new structure aesthetically pleasing and acoustically sound. |
| 1 | Please provide modern and current city park amenities. Great history, but no longer relevant to current urban needs. |
| 1 | Please renew the band shell and activate the space! |
| 1 | Please, find a better way to reach a wide variety of people in our city. This is not it. |
| 1 | Preserve and renew |
| 1 | Preserve it |
| 1 | Preserving the historical aspects as much as possible would be beneficial. It would be nice to see signage explaining the significance. |
| 1 | Proper protection from accidents |
| 1 | Real (not porta-potty) bathrooms would make events more comfortable, especially for some demographics (e.g., families with small children, anyone with frequent bathroom needs) |
| 1 | Remembrance of the shell's history is more important than being bound to it. The shell opened in 1938, and was built after the WPA put Allen Creek into a culvert. UM Marching Band director William D Revelli conducted the first concert there, and again as late as the early 1990's. What makes the most sense; fix it, or move it, or replace it. Solicit donations in a public way for its replacement, then acknowledge the donors. I would be thrilled to see this once more become a vibrant community resource. |
| 1 | Remove homeless folks |
| 1 | Reopening the bandshell will benefit the entire community: the city, the performers, and the general public. There is no better way to spend tax payer money in my opinion... I don't even care if the pot holes on my street ever get fixed, so long as the bandshell gets reopened! |
| 1 | Researching and prioritizing how the changes of the bandshell will impact the natural landscape (like the flood plain), wildlife, and native plants. |
| 1 | Residents of Ann Arbor are concerned about the Gelman dioxane plume and it's effects on public health |
| 1 | Right now it's not safe. And I've lived here for 45 years |
| 1 | Safety |
| 1 | Safety of WestcPark |
| 1 | Save the Bandshell & develop a strong activation plan to get people out to the park again. |
| 1 | Save this Ann Arbor outdoor venue |
| 1 | See above about small-time concessions. Would be nice to sell beer and wine, too. Would love to hear a concert and kick back with a glass of wine with my wife and our friends while our kids kick a soccer ball around or something like that. Living in the neighborhood and vicinity of the park, it would be great to have something like that. |
| 1 | See previous answer. Also, I would rather not have to lug a chair to attend a concert. |
| 1 | See response in earlier question about homeless population |
| 1 | Seems like a unique venue in the city to reactivate |
| 1 | Seems like it needs to be turned into something else frankly. Is it even utilized? |
| 1 | Seems like the cost of moving the shell in order to rebuild the stage is too much. Build a regular stage with scaffolding/towers around it. With today's sound and lighting systems, it will hold up better, deliver an equal if not superior performance and cost less. |
| 1 | Shouldn't the person /group that redirected the water be responsible for fixing the bandshell. Seems that the "natural wetland" that was installed should have taken this into account. |
| 1 | Site orientation relative to heat, sun, weather, views, shade, etc |
| 1 | So little is left of what makes Ann Arbor unique. If this was a hideous art installation (I'm looking at you Stadium Bridge and Main/Stadium intersection) there would be money. |

| Count | Response |
|-------|--|
| 1 | So sad that the foundation doesn't seem to have been considered/protected during the flood control project. Frustrated that this wasn't brought up then to give us choices in how to proceed and protect the bandshell |
| 1 | Some (limited) type of amphitheater seating like today is desirable |
| 1 | Some action must be taken. right now you have demolition by neglect. maybe west park is not the right location? What about the Center of the City park? This would be an appropriate location away from residential use |
| 1 | Something should be built to reflect it's history |
| 1 | Sounds like from the next-door app that more drug use it's a needle seven phone on the property |
| 1 | Speaking with neighbors there is a high desire for reviving the bandshell and having outdoor events in our neighborhood to attend together. |
| 1 | Spend the money it takes to preserve this historic landmark. |
| 1 | Start it up again!! |
| 1 | Stop investing in roundabouts and bike paths and start investing in public spaces that can be enjoyed by all. There are many people who don't or can't bike. The bike paths and roundabouts are confusing and dangerous as others don't understand them. Free public spaces that don't require a ton of set up to make it happen is critical. We shouldn't have to set up a stage like during the summer festival for concerts when we have a stage here! The community should be able to use it (schools for plays, local concerts in addition tobifger names) |
| 1 | Such a great venue! We have so many performing groups in Ann Arbor! It's been so sad that this amazing venue has been dormant. |
| 1 | Such a unique opportunity to host local band programs and other local music ventures |
| 1 | Surface water in the park has been shown to contain 1-4-dioxane, a poison that needs attention city-wide. |
| 1 | THE WPA History is a very interesting time period and can relate to today. |
| 1 | There's a whole history of summer bandshells in the US. Work with someone at the UM SMTD and/or at EMU about this tradition, how/where it is still alive. Work with architectural historians about its value. |
| 1 | That an active utilization of the park in ways that connect to the larger community are crucial, otherwise the parks seclusion is more likely to contribute to vagrancy or criminal behavior. |
| 1 | That area could be used for dog park |
| 1 | That it could be a great place if it were promoted. It is a large space that can accommodate a variety of events, which is uniquely close to downtown . The road leading to the park NEEDS renewal. It is very neglected which is a feeling I get about the park itself— neglected/underdeveloped. This space has historic importance to the many people who grew up with it. Ann Arbor needs to maintain ties to its culture historically as it is so rapidly losing qualities that make it worth living here, aside from the university. |
| 1 | That it was built during the depression and was a hard sell to City Council but that the people stepped up and got it done. That the efforts were largely made without a plan to recoup the costs. The legacy of those involved in the early stages is important (Ralph Hammett and the other council members). That West Park in those days had a large number of people that came to the park frequently to skate and play (visitation was not always event based). |
| 1 | That park and bandshell are such a historical stable for our city and neighborhood and it should be preserved and utilized to its fullest. |
| 1 | That park's true potential lies in getting rid of the baseball field. |
| 1 | That this is a unique historical treasure, remembered and enjoyed by many, going decades back. It deserves the attention and funds necessary for rehabilitation. We have spent millions in the past on other major improvements made to public facilities for installation/renovation - -Vet's Park ball fields, hiking trails, city greenway trail, low-income housing, bike amenities, city hall water fountain and all public art, etc. |
| 1 | That this is another bit of Old Ann Arbor, and people can still enjoy it. |
| 1 | The foundation may be unsalvageable, but there is no reason why a new foundation cannot be built in roughly the same footprint, given proper engineering and groundwater management. 100's of homes have had, and continue to have their entire foundations replaced every year, for about \$70K, The bandshell could be elevated; put on stilts, and have water diversion techniques applied. It was the implementation of the water management projects some years ago that caused this problem and they should be remedied. A more elevated bandshell would perhaps be a viewing improvement. And, \$\$\$??, You've spent millions on other parks in the past (total r construction of Vets Park baseball fields) and we have a parks millage especially for this type of capital improvement. I feel like the you folks in charge are simply trying to give the data and information you want in order to go ahead with an outcome you've already decided on. Stop that ! We've lost so many historic buildings in AA over the last 5 |

Count Response

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| 1 | The Ann Arbor Civic Band hopes for a new performance space that • is flexible • Has bathrooms and dressing rooms for performers • Includes chairs for performing groups • Has power, stage lighting and a sound system • Has easy access to parking • Has great visibility for audience members • Has potential for the City to rent the space to professional groups, UMS, Summer Festival, etc. all while continuing to support the City's commitment to community groups like the Ann Arbor Civic Band and the Penny Seats Theatre Company I am the current president of the Ann Arbor Civic Band. Our board has had many discussions about this situation. Please note that the Civic Band, which the city has supported (with our great thanks) for nearly a century, is twice as large as could possibly fit on the very small space that the shell affords. Even if the shell is rebuilt, we as an entity will be unable to use it. One of the very GOOD things that came out of the band shell's damage was that |
| 1 | The Band Shell is a part of Ann Arbor's history and must be preserved. Do not let it be demolished due to neglect. |
| 1 | The City broke it, they should fix it. Disruption of some bandshell usage has been the City's intention for years. If this is now an excuse for eliminating the shell, another centralized facility should be created, City Commons would be ideal! |
| 1 | The City needs to support community gathering spaces like this and the Center of the City. The City needs to prioritize support both from a financial and from a marketing standpoint. This is one of the things that makes our city great! |
| 1 | The Grateful Dead and MC5 played here. There should be a plaque telling this stage's rocking history with Leni Sinclair's photos of those shows. |
| 1 | The Grateful Dead and other notable acts have performed here; signage/information about those performances may be interesting to visitors |
| 1 | The WP bandshell is so locked in nostalgia to me and those specific to the West Side. Events in the summer air were free, with only donations collected. I realize this isn't the case with things now in A2. I think all the parks in the heavy residential neighborhoods are very important to get folks joining up for a sport or a game of chess or a concert. People are not leaving very local jobs at 5pm to come home to eat and gather outside their own property/home. I'd like to see WP get more folks out of their homes. Wouldn't a chess games tournament on the stage be cool. Wouldn't a place to grab a great truck meal be fun. Wouldn't a children's stage show be super for the wee ones? It's endless, but hey the jazz and soft soul would be so nurturing in the summer evenings, like maybe 4/5->8pm. It allows folks to walk there and back and be part of new nostalgic memories for the next generations. |
| 1 | The West Park Band Shell hosted legendary rock concerts with bands like The Stooges and The Who. By reviving rock music, we pay tribute to this heritage, keeping it alive for future generations. Reviving rock music at West Park Band Shell is a way to honor history, promote unity, support local talent, and boost the economy. Let's bring back the soulful sounds of rock and ensure this historic venue's legacy thrives in Ann Arbor. Live music events attract visitors, benefiting nearby businesses. Bringing back rock music would stimulate the local economy and aid in the city's post-pandemic recovery. |
| 1 | The West Park stream has flowed through that area since before the city was founded, and the storm water project of the early 2000s has done a marvelous job of returning nature (birds, turtles, frogs) to the city while improving the quality of our water. It is important to preserve those improvements. The bandshell is an emblem of community expression and engagement and, as a WPA project, speaks to the community coming together to get through hard times. It is important for us to remember this and to value West Park just as New York values Central Park. And we must not forget the Native American trail that runs along the south edge of West Park. In many ways West Park connects us to important history in ways that are a living part of today, bringing us closer together. The bandshell offers the possibility of adding greatly to the fun of it all. |
| 1 | The band shell is a feature of West Park. I think it will be important to involve hydrologists since water table appears higher in recent years. |
| 1 | The band shell is a good idea at the surface, but doesn't really work in reality. |
| 1 | The band shell is historic but I think its more important to keep an outdoor performance space in the park than retain the original structure |
| 1 | The band shell was quaint, but going to Top of the Park has always been more fun than going to West Park band concerts. Once my kids were beyond their preschool years we stopped going to the band concerts. If you're going to have events at West Park, they should appeal to a wider age range. But honestly it's hard to compete with Top of the Park. |
| 1 | The bandshell and West Park could be a wonderful place to build a more tight knit community on the west side. I currently live in West Ann Arbor and it can feel like a disconnected suburb. |
| 1 | The bandshell at West Park is a historic spot in Ann Arbor and recognized worldwide in certain circles thanks to famous concert photos taken there (for example, the MC5 performance in the 60s), and it should be preserved as part of the history of the city to be enjoyed by generations to come. |
| 1 | The bandshell has a great deal of history and West Park is a beautiful park that deserves some TLC. |
| 1 | The bandshell has historical significance as a concert venue not just for bands or rock music, but for other types of music that generally can not be performed completely outdoors (string instruments that need shade, acoustics that project). It would be wonderful to have a functional outdoor concert venue in the city for chamber music, symphony bands, combos, small orchestras... |
| 1 | The bandshell has hosted numerous important events prior to being closed. Ann Arbor needs an event space like this. |
| 1 | The bandshell has significant historical and community value. If repaired and upgraded, it could be more popular than ever! |
| 1 | The bandshell is a community draw--or at least it was. I know that people are more inclined to stay home these days. At the same time, Water Hill, for example, is full of young families walking with their children, runners, people of all ages out and about. The bandshell is a magnet for such people, us seniors, and those in-between. The bandshell needs repair, and I'm wondering what a redrawn plan for the shell might look like. Since the current bandshell's repairs are over \$2K, it seems feasible to look to a less expensive alternative. Is there a way to build the foundation so it's not exposed to the creek waters? Perhaps an alternative component in the foundation? |
| 1 | The bandshell is a famous Ann Arbor landmark If the structure is unsound, it would be nice to have a similar structure. |

Count Response

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| 1 | The bandshell is a pretty structure but it's in the wrong place and costs a ridiculous amount of money to rehab. I do think it's important and a good use of funds to have an amphitheater and to be able to have events/concerts someplace in the parks system. I don't think that needs to be at West Park though. What about Vets Park or one of the north/south side parks? (If we are going to spend \$2 to \$4 million, I think there are better ways to spend it.) Or maybe there's a better place in West Park to keep it (up on the plateau?). If it were used a lot, parking would be a problem. There isn't always enough parking for baseball games. West Park needs a lot more "activation" and if we could turn the area where the bandshell is into a wetland focused area (more nature interpretation around what to look for, birds, turtles, etc.). I think that would be good. |
| 1 | The bandshell is a vital structure in the overall happiness and engagement of west park. More people should be able to experience events in the setting of the band shell. |
| 1 | The bandshell is a wreck, not a historic structure. |
| 1 | The bandshell is an iconic park symbol, and I think the basic form of it should be preserved in some manor. I would like to see amphitheater type bleacher or tiered seating levels developed. |
| 1 | The bandshell is archaic and should be demolished. |
| 1 | The bandshell is iconic in Ann Arbor. Would be sad to lose the history of that structure, in some form. Creating a vision of this bandshell that serves us today is very important. |
| 1 | The bandshell is really the heart of West Park, both physical and historically; many long-time residents recall fondly the events they attended. |
| 1 | The bandshell is too small, and the baseball field takes up too much space and is underutilized. The playground should be centrally located. Pickleball courts should be added. Better security and lighting - essentially, reimagine the park in its entirety. |
| 1 | The bandshell is a valuable resource for the community, and I support a project to restore it to full use. |
| 1 | The bandshell provides the opportunity for the neighborhood and community to come together for free and ticketed events. This kind of public usage of an AA park is unique and has historically been part of West Park. |
| 1 | The bandshell represents potential for the city to herald West Park as the downtown park for everyone to enjoy, and to bring folks downtown. A solid, regular community presence in West Park will bolster community safety and involvement, not to mention bolstering business for the Miller and Huron corridors. |
| 1 | The bandshell structure is wonderful, but the seating area and the positioning of the stage (direction sound travels) makes it extremely challenging for most presenters. The city should consider rotating the direction of the bandshell, or moving it to an alternative site. |
| 1 | The bandshell was built in a different era and there are so many more venues for entertainment in Ann Arbor now that serve that purpose. I am a huge supporter of the Arts but also parks and I would rather see the \$\$ go to other park projects that would see more use. Ex. Play structures. Benches. Landscaping and maintenance. |
| 1 | The city did not ask any of the groups that used the shell before they took out the parking and flooded the area around the shell. The mosquitoes and the super tall cattails and the lack of parking/removal of grass parking for our elderly residents ruined the experience. This was a gem and the city ruined it. |
| 1 | The city needs more music venues! |
| 1 | The city needs performance venues that are not private and not part of UM. |
| 1 | The city needs to do a better job of placing drains in the area so that water can actually reach the drains. One was placed near the back side of the band shell but water would have had to run uphill across the paved walk in order to reach it. Why not use a solar energy system with storage to get power to use there? I would think it would be possible to raise the whole structure up and drill down to pour piers that would be stable and long-lived - appropriate for use in a wetland - and that would support the structure when it was lowered back down. |
| 1 | The colors are horrible. |
| 1 | The community has been waiting for increased usage of the bandshell in west park. It's something that will spark creativity and joy among our people. |
| 1 | The concerts and events at West Park are important to the quality of life in our city. I hope that the bandshell can either be refurbished or replaced in an efficient and frugal way for our citizens to enjoy shows there for many years to come. |
| 1 | The concerts are not only important for the audience members but for the performers also. |
| 1 | The costs of renovation are not justified given other options for live music in the City and the need to devote park resources toward more sustainable needs, e.g. stormwater. Additionally a natural amphitheater can be created for addressing occasional and spontaneous events. |
| 1 | The current location feels very exposed (not intimate for concerts/performance) and with tons of interruptions from walkers/bikers using the pathway separating the stage from the concert-goers. |
| 1 | The current orientation of the bandshell is far superior to the other proposed options. Please don't let the minority of voices from a few people who chose to live near a bandshell keep the huge majority of the city from enjoying concerts and other larger events. It's such a potential jewel for a community that values art as much as ours. |

Count Response

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| 1 | The design should weigh more heavily on the FUNCTIONAL side than the aesthetic one. I'd rather have a space where someone can put on a show -- it's about the art itself for me -- rather than be concerned about the cost of an ornate proscenium. |
| 1 | The estimated cost for bandshell restoration seems reasonable and not at all prohibitive. The bandshell offers something for all residents, and with a small parking lot connecting to a paved trail leading to the bandshell area , it can be made fully accessible. I suspect the bike lanes and other street improvements have easily cost as much, and those are only for the benefit of the younger portion of the population (I am not complaining! Just comparing). If the City would designate the bandshell as a historic district, then a significant portion of the cost to restore the bandshell may be covered by Certified Local Government or other grants. The cost per capita would then be quite reasonable. An alternative to the bandshell (whatever that might be) would most likely also cost as much and through demolition and construction contribute more to environmental pollution. Not having any planned activity in the park only permits room for loiterers and drug users who prefer to hang out t |
| 1 | The eventings should be better patrolled. |
| 1 | The form of the bandshell is more important than the extant physical structure, hopefully the historic art deco style of the structure can be preserved |
| 1 | The grand old Weeping Willow trees provided stormwater protection in the park until they were cut down for "improvements." |
| 1 | The grateful dead played there. You should get better power and fix the fountain and start holding more events there. |
| 1 | The gross lack of maintenance, and lack of use, which led to the bandshell being in the state it is in today is not an excuse to demolish a historical asset with a rich history (of use) within a city park that has had improvements made to accommodate residents, commuters, and city residents. Restoration and planning for revitalization would add to the neighbors, the school, and the community as a whole. |
| 1 | The historic preservation, & to embellish the beauty of the grounds, & have it be useable for all attendees is of most importance. |
| 1 | The history and community building of the bandshell is a priceless gift and should be preserved. The issue of the water is a real issue for the neighborhood too. I hope by addressing the water issue of the bandshell, that this will help improve the issue in the neighborhood which definitely also needs to be addressed! |
| 1 | The history of the park! Leni Sinclair's photos of The Grateful Dead playing there are iconic! |
| 1 | The homeless population. More positive family events in the park would be an asset to this city. It could be a beautiful city park bustling with residents of people felt it was safe. I walk there twice a day and it feels extremely run down. It could be the 'Central Park' of A2 if there were food trucks during concerts, Easter egg hunts, a Christmas tree, etc |
| 1 | The location is great for local residents, not obvious for the broader community. A music and event space larger than the old band shell would be a great addition. Other locations could be considered. |
| 1 | The location isn't great. Not a very active park in some areas. I think money could be used to improve trails, better playgrounds, or add more gardens. |
| 1 | The more people can walk to entertainment downtown, the better. |
| 1 | The newer landscape features, including day-lighted portions of Allen Creek and the unmown portions of the park with abundant native flowers, have brought hawks, herons, turtles, frogs, muskrats and a host of song birds to the edge of downtown Ann Arbor. The reconfigured playground is well used by local families and daycares, and the paved paths are an important part of many walking and bicycling commutes into town. It is a jewel of a park and should be treated as such. |
| 1 | The park could be a great neighborhood gathering area and I'd like to see more scheduled events |
| 1 | The park does not always feel safe at night or in the early morning, and increased patrolling/security would be welcome |
| 1 | The park has a bit of a homeless problem, while I've never experienced anything negative myself I know others who would not attend anything after dark |
| 1 | The park is similar to Liberty Plaza in that it is a place for the homeless community to meet their needs, and successful pedestrian activation of the park/plaza will never be successful without understanding the root causes of that: what needs are being met there and how can they be met somewhere else? How would the space look different as somewhere all neighborhood residents, housed or unhoused, can use the park and have their basic and higher level needs met? |
| 1 | The park is underutilized and it would be wonderful to have a space to enjoy concerts and other outdoor events. Our family moved here recently from NYC where we lived near Central Park and it was wonderful to attend events like Shakespeare in the Park and concerts on the Great Lawn. We have no particular attachment to the bandshell and once Mother Nature is involved we believe it's better to find a solution that works with her and in concert with the surrounding habitat. |
| 1 | The park is unsafe for families becomes it is not used by the community - we need a dog park there and a playground free of homeless |
| 1 | The park needs more security measures- lighting, police presence... |
| 1 | The park needs to be cleaned up first and foremost, and having events at the bandshell is a good way to increase interest in the park, which provides a good incentive to keep it cleaned up. |

Count Response

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| 1 | The pond is a center for wildlife. It needs to be cleaned up. Lots of sludge and still water moldering. Where have the fish and the muskrat gone? There are still turtles, but they could use more spots to lie in the sun that are not near the edge or boardwalk. Lovely old old trees; please keep them. I hope you're making a special effort to reach out to the residents who live next to the park, especially Miller Manor and Lurie Terrace, who probably don't have access to this survey. |
| 1 | The public should be free to use the property that we own |
| 1 | The relatively recent upgrades to the park were worth the wait and headaches, let's maintain what we have. |
| 1 | The senior center located across the way from the shell serves as a great overlook for its residents and affords then an opportunity to enjoy the entertainment if they desire |
| 1 | The shell is iconic and associated with West Park, but it could be rebuilt on another site and be more visible and better used. |
| 1 | The shell should have the ability to host modern concerts as well as community type events. |
| 1 | The shelter used to be a place that students could gather and play. In the 90's-00's students from community high school could plan and execute events at the park. It is important to continue to have these options for expression for young artists. |
| 1 | The size and variety of uses of the park and it's location downtown make it a unique part of ann arbor. |
| 1 | The state that is in right now is sad, and feels like a waste of a great public space, especially with the investment in the surrounding area of the park. Prior to it being blocked off there were frequently unhoused people sleeping in the bandshell in the early morning. The park is heavily used by the neighborhood for walking dogs, walking/cycling through to other areas in the city, and just enjoying for the wildlife. I wouldn't want those things to be jeopardized. I would love to see it being used more by community groups for gatherings, |
| 1 | The terracing and sculptures are very nice. Why don't you add another water feature in place of the bandshell since the pond has been such a success. It would be a wonderful spot to observe all the waterfowl that has made West Park its home. The site is not adequate for an outdoor concert venue. |
| 1 | The uniqueness gives it appeal |
| 1 | The university doesnt control it, yet (or do they?) |
| 1 | The very fact that the park has a bandshell and a venue for live music and performances is one of the things that makes this park unique. |
| 1 | The wetland in front of the bandshell that separates the shell from where the audience is not ideal for a number of aesthetic and safety reasons. |
| 1 | The younger demographic generally thinks more positively about public use spaces, whereas older people, who are likely to leave Ann Arbor after retirement, are less interested in free events, culture, or public use spaces. Moreover, the cost of the bandshell's restoration pales in comparison to the cost of the constant expansion of the Big House, or the olive budget, or tax breaks for companies, for which cost is rarely questioned. |
| 1 | Theatre and music are both very enjoyable without a bandshell. |
| 1 | There are a multitude of uses |
| 1 | There are already a number of popular outdoor music events (sonic lunch, summer festival, etc) |
| 1 | There are always people at West Park. I would love more live music outside |
| 1 | There are drug dealers that hang out by the basketball courts. |
| 1 | There are few spaces like this in the area, so saving it has high value |
| 1 | There has been a lot of violence along Chapin St the last year or so, some of which I've experienced firsthand or my friends have experienced. I still go to the park every day and I enjoy seeing people around but I think the city needs to more systematically evaluate and offer comprehensive services for people experiencing homelessness. |
| 1 | There have been some nice improvements over the years to the park, but the bandshell and the extensive open space remain question marks for best usage (perhaps just open space) |
| 1 | There is a big emptiness and void without it being in use |
| 1 | There is a brand new amphitheater in the Broadway park west plans, so the west park bandshell plan should be unique from that to justify expense |
| 1 | There is a lot of opportunity to bring external money from tourists/music fans to restaurants or local trucks. As long as parking is well planned and there is a good way for folks to come and go, this will be an amazing investment for the city culturally and financially |
| 1 | There is a lot of underutilized space in West Park that would be ideal for a dog park. The parks department has done an outstanding job creating space for wildlife, so will be important to make sure excess crowds do not interfere with wildlife |

Count Response

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| 1 | There is a rich history of public concerts in America starting in the 19th century as a public good. West Park once was vital culturally, but is a dead zone now. Nice for tranquil walks, but could be much more without disrupting the other attractive park qualities. Frederick Olmsted would approve! |
| 1 | There is a significant homeless population that frequents West Park. They panhandle, drink alcohol, and clearly sell drugs which severely limits the community use of the park. It does not feel safe to take children there as they are frequently loitering by the playground. This issue needs to be addressed before any other improvement occur as many community members avoid the park secondary to safety concerns |
| 1 | There is no other bandshell in a park like that around! Ann Arbor should have one! |
| 1 | There is wonderful potential here! |
| 1 | There used to be so many concerts there. It would be nice to have an outdoor music venue in town. |
| 1 | There were some interesting historical concerts in the early history of the bandshell |
| 1 | There's no other location/community space quite like this. We should work to preserve it for all. |
| 1 | They should create a platform with a canvas roof to replace current cement shell. Cheaper and can be raised to allow water movement. |
| 1 | This is a great place for gatherings and could be made much more user friendly. |
| 1 | This is a great through way to get into downtown safely. |
| 1 | This is a historic asset that deserves another life. We will never get another opportunity to have a concert venue located in the middle of a park on the edge of the downtown area.. When up and running, it makes Ann Arbor the truly amazing place that it is. Torn down it would be just another open park with a great history and boring future...and if there are neighbor complaints about music - tell them "too damn bad". they picked the house near a concert venue. For \$15 they can purchase some noise canceling headphones.. |
| 1 | This is a neighborhood struggling with crime and homelessness. long ignored by the city,it would be nice to have something positive |
| 1 | This is a potentially excellent community gathering site. |
| 1 | This is a quirky and beautiful neighborhood treasure, and it should be preserved. The West Park bandshell is one of the notable unique aspects of downtown Ann Arbor. |
| 1 | This is a special place and it's architecture and design are elegant, elevating and enhance the park. Please, please restore this gem to it's glory. They say if it ain't broke don't fix it. In this case, the foundation is broke, but the rest is perfect. So let's fix it back to how it was < 3 |
| 1 | This is an underused resource in a great location, I look forward to it being repaired and used again. |
| 1 | This is not an about the. bandshell. I would like to find a way to preserve it maybe in another location. My other concern about the park is that the children's playground is next to the parking lot where it seems that adults gather to party and carry on loudly. It would be nice if the playground could be moved closer to Seventh Street so the people from the adult shelter could have a place to gather without making it uncomfortable for parents and children. |
| 1 | This is presently underused but valuable space for all sorts of community activities |
| 1 | This is such a great resource, it saddens me to see it not being used. If we can't do a bandshell of this size, please think of a smaller way to use the "stage area" and sculptures that were put up there and that would allow for the community band and other small groups to utilize this space. |
| 1 | This location doesn't seem well suited for hosting loud and frequent concerts. |
| 1 | This park has a lot of resources that other parks do not have: a beautiful pond, a nice baseball field, and the bandshell. Presuming the bandshell has running water, it would be a prime location for a really nice picnic shelter, a beer garden, or a splash pad. Very few Ann Arbor parks have picnic shelters. None have beer gardens or a splash pad. |
| 1 | This used to be such a nice park, but now once you get past the playground it feels unsafe. We find needles and broken glass in the woods and people using drugs and sleeping rough. Activating it through community programming would go a long way toward restoring it. |
| 1 | This venue is amazing and should be brought back. It doesn't make sense why AA would leave this structure in disrepair for so long. |
| 1 | This would be a great location for a weekly Jazz in the Park event. Milwaukee has a weekly jazz in the park event on Thursday nights in Cathedral Park Square. Family friendly. Many food vendors. Very well attended. |
| 1 | To make this work, you'll need to add accessible bathrooms. |
| 1 | To me, having the bandshell as an amenity is the most important, and I don't care about the historic preservation aspects. Make it so multiple summer concert series and other one time events can utilize it easily (streamline booking and approvals/permitting) |
| 1 | Try to get some sort of historical recognition, plaque, backstory, marker set up so (new) users become more aware of the value, history and importance of the park, bandshell, etc. |

| Count | Response |
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| 1 | Unique community gem |
| 1 | Unnecessary expense |
| 1 | Unsure |
| 1 | Unsure |
| 1 | Use our tax dollars wisely to fix it |
| 1 | Various local bands would likely be interested in playing the venue. |
| 1 | Very distinctive structure that brings a lot of character to a city park and connects the generations. |
| 1 | WEST PARK needs Pickleball Courts. |
| 1 | Want it usable again. |
| 1 | We are losing green space and social gathering space to high rises. Put some money into our quality of life and sense of community |
| 1 | We are so fortunate to have the green space, ball diamond, Project Grow, and wildlife so close to downtown. I hope a new bandshell could be a catalyst for increasing usage of this precious resource. |
| 1 | We don't have anything else like it |
| 1 | We have lost many historical components of Ann Arbor over the years. The band shell is a gem we should try hard to restore and improve as a delightful outdoor performance venue. |
| 1 | We have no other community space for the events that used to occur there. Much smaller Ypsi has several. It is a shame. We have far more \$ and more people |
| 1 | We lived 2 houses S of the park on Chapin Street for 8 years. Raised our young children there. Actually, my oldest was born in that house. We had great play there throughout the year. |
| 1 | We love West Park and the Bandshell. For years our kids/ grandkids have enjoyed going to West Park to play on the playground and listening to the concerts/plays. It would be a shame if the Bandshell was not completely renovated |
| 1 | We loved the pound and the surroundings - it is like a heart city part for the neighborhood around - it is well located for many of us. |
| 1 | We miss it and it can be a real attraction to the city |
| 1 | We need a bandshell to have events again. |
| 1 | We need a gathering spot at west park! |
| 1 | We need a place like it! |
| 1 | We need it to be safe and not littered with bums and children and adults to feel safe |
| 1 | We need more community gathering and concert venues in A2. |
| 1 | We need music. It feeds the soul. Structures support people. Thank you for moving plans forward ♥ |
| 1 | We need programming in Liberty Plaza and other places downtown. Not in West Park. If the neighbors want it they should fund it. We should use capital dollars to improve landscaping in poorer neighborhood parks that need it. |
| 1 | We need to offer convenient parking so we don't disturb the neighbors. |
| 1 | We need to support existing parks that are so close to center city |
| 1 | We often save things believing the younger generations will want or appreciate them, only to find they could care less. Build a new, better long lasting structure or tear the thing down and plant an awesome rain garden to help with water mitigation. |
| 1 | We treasure it's place in the city and the ongoing multiplicity of its uses. |
| 1 | We would Love to see programming again at the bandshell |
| 1 | West Park could be Ann Arbor's "Central Park" because of its beauty and accessibility to downtown. It would be helpful if there were more "eyes on the park" rather than the backs of houses and buildings along it--perhaps something to think about over a longer time frame. |

| Count | Response |
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| 1 | West Park could be Ann Arbor's Central Park. There is often a feeling of threat at West Park. |
| 1 | West Park could be an incredible downtown park- a community gathering place- like A2s NYC Central Park- but events and activities need to be intentional and some measure of safety and cleanliness. |
| 1 | West Park has become an unsafe location for children and families. Children should not have to avoid the park because they feel unsafe due to the loitering and drug sales happening in the parking lot near the basketball courts. I am hopeful that some investment in the park would make it safer for our community. |
| 1 | West Park has so much potential to create a community as well as bringing funds from non-residents as they visit restaurants and shops before a performance in the park. It is currently being wasted. |
| 1 | West Park is a fantastic space for a walk along the pond, checking out the garden beds, and seeing the community outside. I would love to see the city step up and do more for the unhoused population, hoping to add more pavilions, outside bathrooms, charging ports, and showers. Parks are often the only space where they can sleep due to harassment from AAPD for sleeping on private business property. However, where would you like them to go if we keep asking them to "move along." The community had no problem hosting warm igloo structures during COVID-19 to adapt to social distancing but refuses to have tents when they serve a better purpose of providing shelter for people. We are all people and have the same values as one another, regardless of our social status. Do. Better. |
| 1 | West Park is a fun environment as a runner, and I hope it can be maintained for the numerous ways we use that space, |
| 1 | West Park is a great city asset for activities of all kinds - playground, basketball, baseball, PG garden, tennis, pond, and enough open space that people can still enjoy walking around, taking their dogs out, taking pictures, pick-up frisbee, picnics, etc. Having a bandshell again will round this out for other groups of people who want to enjoy summer afternoons & evenings. Shifting gears - I think someone at the city should have a more inviting photo of the bandshell than the one shown for this survey. It's from 20 years ago and of a concert in the rain - sheesh, do your job. |
| 1 | West Park is a great example of programmed space next to native plant habitat. That and the massive, old oaks are my favorite aspects of the park. Oh and the community gardens and doggie drinking fountain are also great |
| 1 | West Park is a great park, but it's experiencing many issues as an urban park near downtown with less eyes on it than it needs. Needles, drug dealing, gross trash in the wooded areas, homeless encampments, and nearby violence threaten to make the park unsafe for all. |
| 1 | West Park is a great resource for west side residents such as myself. I walk our dog to and around the park almost daily. |
| 1 | West Park is a main thoroughfare for people who walk or bike downtown from all the neighborhoods to the west off of Arborview and Miller, so more audiences may be interested in the use of the park and bandshell than are in the immediate 1/4 mi radius. |
| 1 | West Park is a unique place with so many uses: sport fields, community garden, nature areas with a pond, oak meadows, and native plants area, children playground. Adding functional music venue will strength appreciation of this park |
| 1 | West Park is an amazing gem of park property. If we're not going to use it to its full potential, we should make it smaller and build housing. But if we can bring more sports, music, and activities, it will be a win for the entire west side (and beyond) |
| 1 | West Park is full of drug dealers they deal on the stairs heading up to Miller |
| 1 | West Park is great. High homeless population in the park including on the bandshell stage |
| 1 | West Park is huge and it is unfortunate that there are not more people utilizing it. If the bandshell were used more I hope that it would lead to more people frequenting the park on a regular basis. |
| 1 | West Park is really lovely. The boardwalks, pond, and natural water mitigation project really added to the community. |
| 1 | West Park is very underutilized. If the bandshell is removed, I would want to see something else put in place. I know a dog park near the parking lot is unwise and unwanted by the churches, but perhaps one on the 7th St side could be reconsidered. I believe enough neighborhood residents with dogs would be able to walk or bike to that location to appreciate it. |
| 1 | West Park needs more lighting |
| 1 | West Park needs public restroom facilities and access to potable water, as well as some picnic tables located in the shade. Given the park's use by some people without homes, and the unfortunate few who do drug deals there, heightened security of some sort is required to make sure that all people feel safe being there. |
| 1 | West Park needs to have regular events again. otherwise it's just a dwindling city park. it's disturbing to see illegal activities happening right in front of children. the city park should be for everyone, but it should be a safe place for everyone too, not a place where drug deals happen. i don't have concerns about unhoused folks using the park--the park should be for everyone and being unhoused isn't a crime. but i've witnessed illegal activity happening in the park, it seems to have become a place where people think it's okay to do those things. |
| 1 | West Park once was the crown jewel of Ann Arbor urban parks. It can and should be again. |
| 1 | West Park seems like an underappreciated asset in the city and the bandshell is a unique feature in the area. This could be a great opportunity for placemaking in Ann Arbor that can foster community and arts near downtown. |

Count Response

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| 1 | West Park should be THE city park of downtown |
| 1 | West Park should be crown jewel of central Ann Arbor. It is the largest urban greenspace in town and a focal point of the West Side. For the safety, sustainability, walkability, and prosperity of the community, the City should commit to making West Park an active (and activated) place, with the attention and investment that a primary urban park should receive. Today, West Park is poorly maintained, often filled with trash, including drug paraphernalia, and serves often as a homeless encampment and drug market. Many residents avoid using it and children avoid walking through it to school. This is largely a product of neglect. Bringing more investment and visitors to the park will make it a safer place for everyone. |
| 1 | West Park should be the crown jewel of the park system and instead feels like it's forgotten. These questions are ambiguous. Is the city considering tearing it down? These questions should be clearer. In general it seems this park is being mismanaged. |
| 1 | West Park would need in my view a cafe of sorts (think Savannah's Forsyth Park but in a minimalist version). It also needs bathrooms not porto-potties. We see the old oaks dying, not sure if something can be done about it. I have mentioned other concerns already. |
| 1 | West Park's location is very accessible for residents in down town and surrounding neighborhoods. There is parking available as well. The Bandshell offers a great venue for summer events and can help to activate the park. |
| 1 | West park and the bandshell is one of A2 significant sites and should be renovated and then utilized fully. |
| 1 | West park does not always feel safe/secure |
| 1 | West park is an almost ideal location for a majority of residents in Ann Arbor. It has a large footprint and acreage that most other parks do not. |
| 1 | West park is underperforming and could be the nicest part of the city. Safety and amenities are probably a big piece of that |
| 1 | West park just keeps getting better! |
| 1 | West park needs to be made more family friendly, needs more family friendly facilities and not a 2.5m bandshell that will see infrequent use |
| 1 | West park periodically has vagrants wandering around. I think this needs to be monitored closely if we are going to increase utilization of the park. |
| 1 | Westpark is a gorgeous treasure and our neighbors and we applaud the city's Attention to restoring this historic structure |
| 1 | What I love about the park is that it's in the very middle of the block. It's easy to find, but still a surprise to find. I also love the formal entranceways to the park on Miller and Huron. You know you're going someplace special. |
| 1 | Where did my cute muskrat friends go? |
| 1 | While I think preserving the structure would be nice, it sounds very expensive. Most important is to preserve the space it creates for musical performances. A replacement structure that did that would be great and probably less expensive. A plaque commemorating the old CCC structure (with history and photos) could be included. |
| 1 | While it is historic and has been a nice focal point for this side of town, the cost to repair it is too high, and the risk of homeless taking over is still a concern. |
| 1 | While not an engineer, I suspect some of the water issues are due to the construction of the wetland area and storm water retention structure that changed the rate at which water is released resulting in much more time being wet. Until at least the 1960's, Allen Creek was free flowing above ground which in my opinion meant water went thru the park at a quicker rate. I suspect effects of the storm water changes on the bandshell may not have been fully considered and evaluated to the bandshell's detriment. |
| 1 | While this survey has characterized it as non historic, may have fond memories of attending events there and I believe it is beautiful . |
| 1 | Why did this survey not include anything about funding (taxpayer dollars, private funding, grants) for repairs and future maintenance? |
| 1 | Why repair something that was built on wet ground? Is water management feasible? |
| 1 | With all the unnecessary OKs building mega structures and wanting it to be a place for the residents... how could the city even consider getting rid of this! |
| 1 | Without events at the bandshell the park has been less populated and thus feels less safe and welcoming at times. Restoring the bandshell and planning more events at the park benefits the park itself and the neighborhoods nearby. |
| 1 | Would be a way to bring people back together after covid and by bringing attention back to this park, would help with homelessness |
| 1 | Would be great if upper structure could be moved to a more stable site in the park |
| 1 | Would like bandshell restored. But would like something done with drugs in the park. Miller Manor is a big problem. Drugs, fights all the time |
| 1 | Would love to attend more outdoor events, but they usually seem to be held downtown or farther away, West Park would be nice because we could walk to it |
| 1 | You know everything. |

| Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 1 | animals use it too |
| 1 | don't repair it |
| 1 | don't spend money on it if concerts are not allowed. |
| 1 | earlier comments re: people living in the park, increased drug use, increased litter, etc. |
| 1 | ensure it is a safe and secure area at all times |
| 1 | every "real city" needs a multi-purpose (music, theater, other events), outdoor performances space. West Park is the historic and most obvious (given the terrain) place for this in AA. |
| 1 | family tradition to spend summer concert evenings there, into third or fourth generation now |
| 1 | good place to walk and relax |
| 1 | great public space to host events |
| 1 | i have nothing to add. |
| 1 | if it is cost-prohibitive to salvage the shell, and new shell should be constructed - something that provides shade and shelter |
| 1 | it is a unique asset to city. other cities would promote such a feature. how has this been allowed to deteriorate |
| 1 | it is a unique feature and provides the opportunity to allow fairly low cost performances- in the future to bring more programming I think it would be great to coordinate with local schools, and non profit theater groups to activate the space- and give priority to local bands. it would also be interesting if the space could show movies and even host political debates on stage |
| 1 | it is always good to bring a community together! |
| 1 | it is has a rich mix of uses |
| 1 | it would be nice to have walkable events on the west side of our community |
| 1 | it's a landmark and historic one at that. that is most important. plus, live music in a park in ann arbor is a wonderful attraction and something a city like this needs. |
| 1 | it's an important asset of neighborhood life |
| 1 | just keep the park beautiful for the nature, the rest is a secondary focus |
| 1 | keep the grass cut |
| 1 | less is more in terms of private parties eg "birthday party" |
| 1 | loved the weekly band concerts in the summer |
| 1 | make it and they will come! imagining the vitality that could take place at west park is exciting. |
| 1 | na |
| 1 | no new tax to do work or improvements |
| 1 | noise complaints for neighbors should not be an issue: 1) they moved in near a bandshell, which implies musical events and 2) if events are held before 9 or 10pm, hopefully it won't be an issue |
| 1 | nothing that i can think of |
| 1 | since moving here in 2021, it hasn't always felt comfortable walking with my young children to West Park from our neighborhood because it has been an area where people loiter and litter (empty beer bottles, needles, used clothes, cigarettes); I would hope that by improving the park's infrastructure to allow concerts/events, it could reduce some of those behaviors and bring more people, families, and energy to the whole park |
| 1 | that we shouldn't let wonderful resources go to waste by neglect. not just the bandshell, but the baseball diamond, and pond with ducks and turtles. are a treat. i like the way it's a mix of mowed area and some left natural. |
| 1 | the bandshell and park are under utilized. this is an opportunity to really do something special |
| 1 | the bandshell lacks bathroom facilities and any improvements should be accompanied by new bathrooms and facilities to wash up, or places to have food (food trucks, or temporary food venues). West park could be a really great temporary food destination if facilities were provided. |

Count Response

| | |
|---|--|
| 1 | the city needs the bandshell! simple as that. keeps the community together. |
| 1 | the city needs to take crime and violence seriously. |
| 1 | the city should be certain that dnr grant does not bind them to a restoration project |
| 1 | the drug garbage left on the playground is ridiculous and there's always some sketchy argument happening in the parking lot. activating the park with events and more people is the way to go, as it is such a nice park and location. bikes, food, music, movies, gatherings - more and more please |
| 1 | the unique capability of the structure (concerts with a relatively large audience space) is more important to preserve than any elements of the current structure itself. |
| 1 | this is a great project and I really hope the venue is brought back to life! |
| 1 | to be a complete city any city needs a history. AA city government and the um are way too willing to destroy the city's history. |
| 1 | too small for local concert band |
| 1 | we miss it very much |
| 1 | west park is great and i have my garden plot there. i wish there were more tables, more activities, and a real public bathroom. i also wish there were more lamp lights for the park when its dark outside. |

WEST PARK BANDSHELL

Informational Webinar
September 11, 2023



Parks & Recreation
CITY OF ANN ARBOR



SMITHGROUP

ZOOM MEETING NORMS



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INTRODUCTION + MEETING PURPOSE

2

PROJECT BACKGROUND

3

UNDERSTANDING PERSPECTIVES

PROJECT PROCESS

MANY OPPORTUNITIES TO SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS

WE ARE HERE



Step 1 includes:

- Online Survey
- Informational Webinar (this meeting)
- Pop-Up Events at West Park
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STEP 1

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STEP 2

**ALTERNATIVE CONCEPT PLANS +
EVALUATION CRITERIA**

STEP 3

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT R2

STEP 4

**PREFERRED DIRECTION +
PROJECT COMPLETION**



Scan here to go to
the bandshell
project page.

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Park and Recreation
Manager



Adam Fercho
Landscape Architect /
Park Planner



Michelle Bennett
City Community
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Jessica Black, Customer Service

Jill Thacher, City Planning

Jerry Hancock, Stormwater / Floodplain Coordinator

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Marylin Watson-White, AAHC, Miller Manor Supervisor

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Cheryl Zuellig
Landscape Architect,
SmithGroup



Brandon Woodle
Landscape Architect,
SmithGroup



Jamie Burton
Civil Engineer, Hubbell,
Roth & Clark



Adrianna Melchior
Architect,
Hubbell, Roth & Clark

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- Provide information on the West Park Bandshell Project.
- Informing participants how to stay engaged and provide feedback throughout the project.
- Polling participants on values, priorities, and concerns.
- Hear likes and dislikes about your past experiences at events /concerts.



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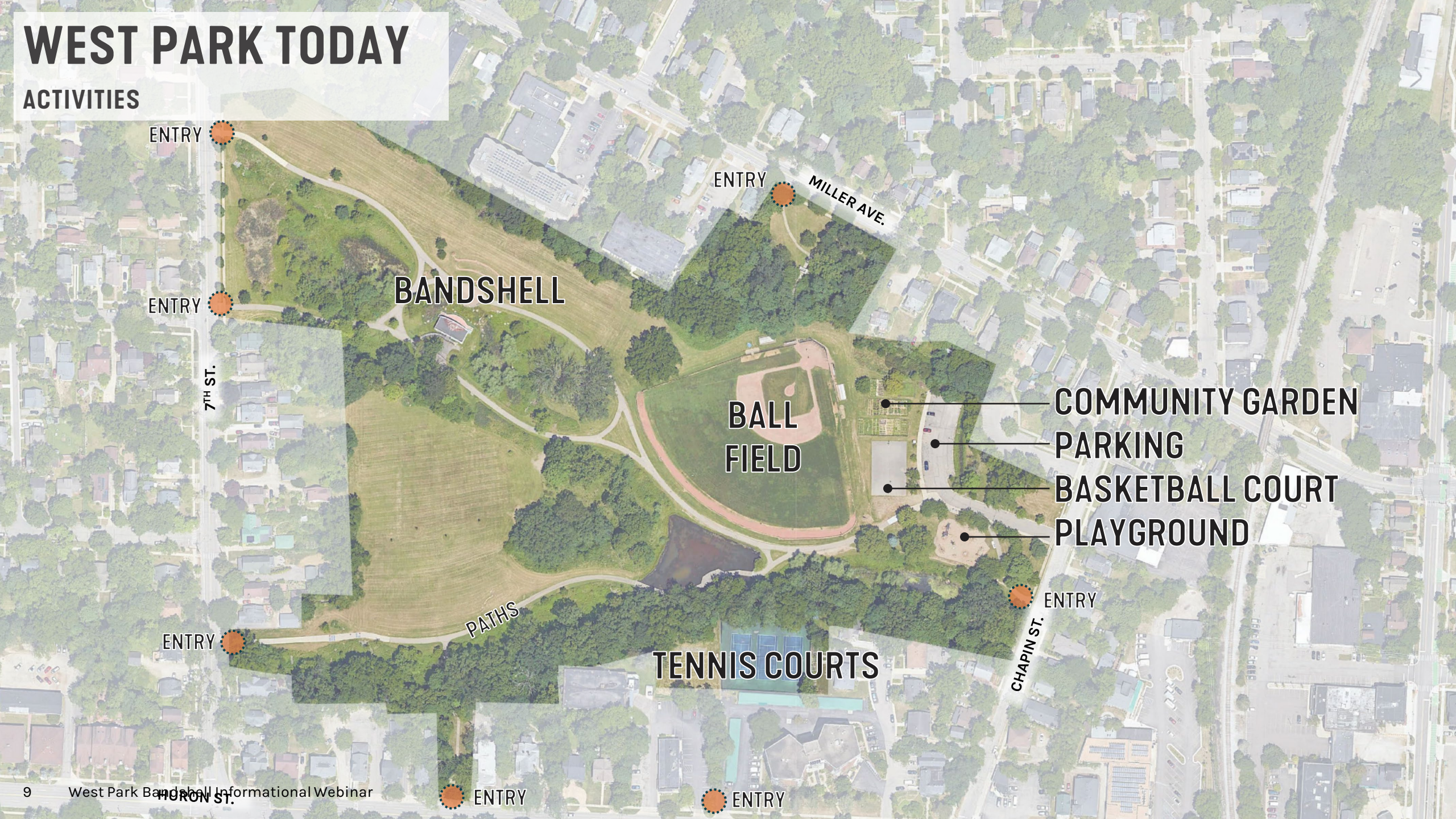
UNDERSTANDING PERSPECTIVES

LOCATION WITHIN THE CITY



WEST PARK TODAY

ACTIVITIES



ENTRY

ENTRY

MILLER AVE.

BANDSHELL

ENTRY

7TH ST.

BALL
FIELD

COMMUNITY GARDEN
PARKING
BASKETBALL COURT
PLAYGROUND

ENTRY

PATHS

TENNIS COURTS

ENTRY
CHAPIN ST.

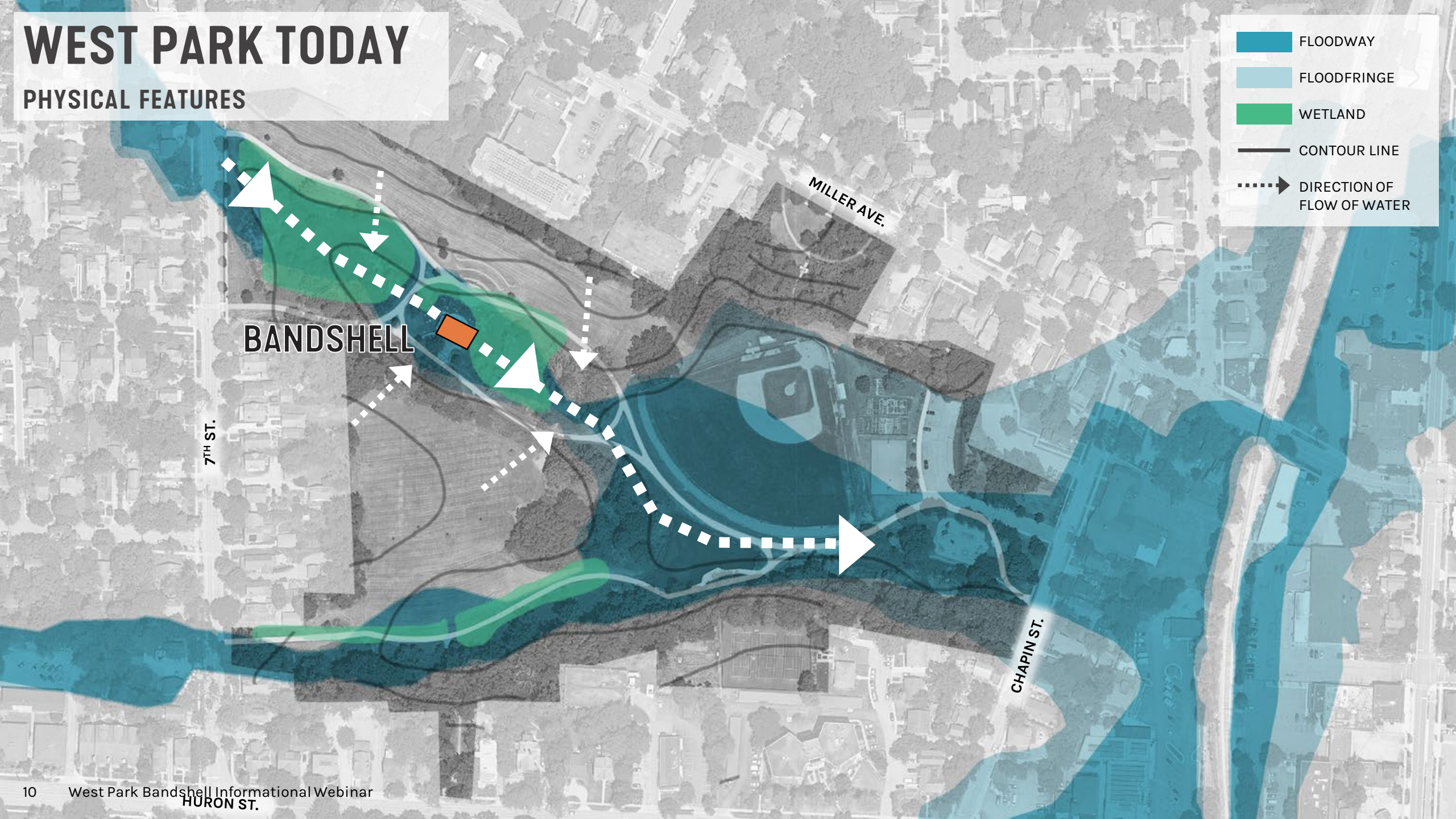
MURON ST.

ENTRY

ENTRY

WEST PARK TODAY

PHYSICAL FEATURES

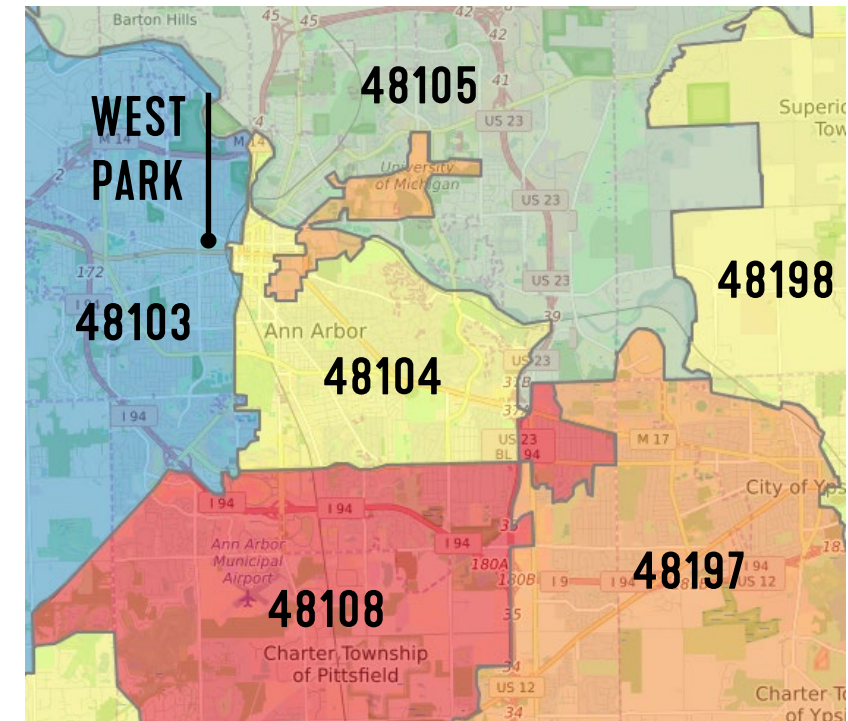


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VISITS & VISITORS BY YEAR

PARK USE VARIES YEAR TO YEAR

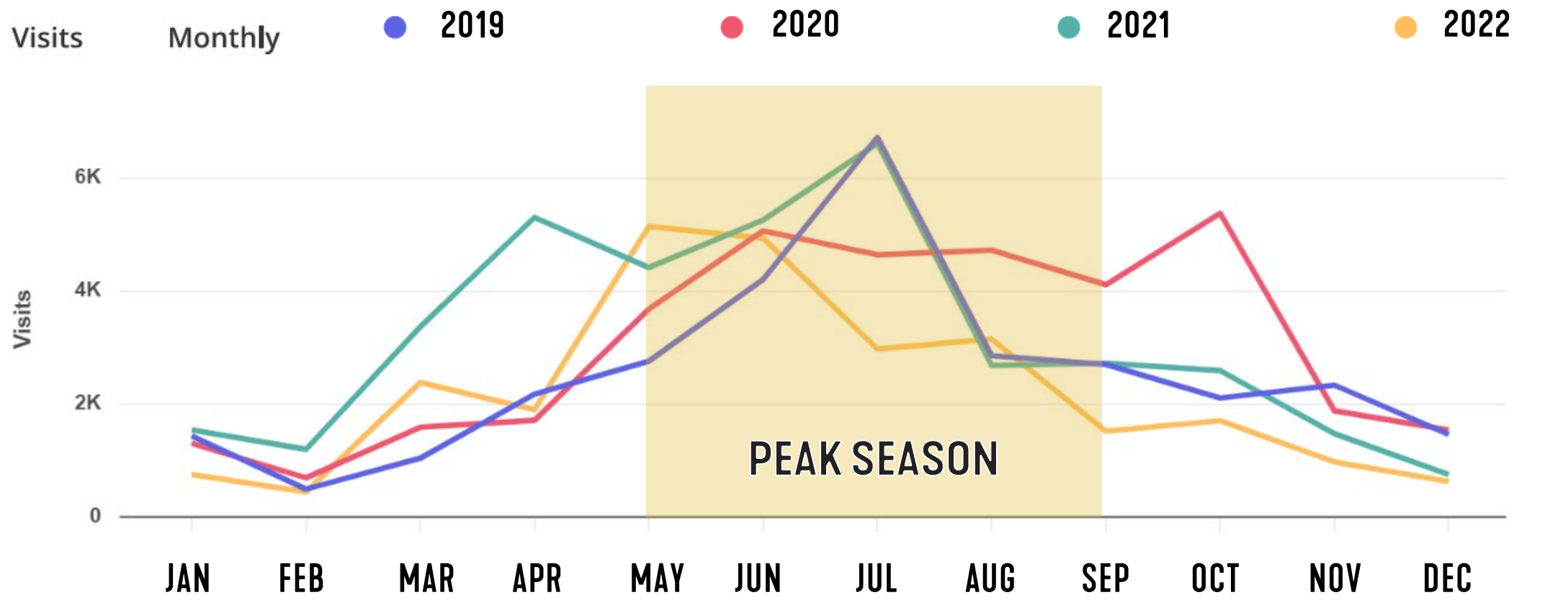


| | | | Bandshell closed, pandemic starts | | | |
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VISITS BY MONTH

MAY TO AUGUST IS PEAK SEASON



BANDSHELL USE

MORE THAN A MUSIC VENUE



AVERAGE NUMBER OF
EVENTS / YEAR

| | 2000-2010 | 2011-2019 |
|------------------|-----------|-----------|
| CONCERTS / MUSIC | 11 | 6 |
| THEATER | 0 | 25 |
| CAMPS | 25 | 32 |
| OTHER | 2 | 2 |
| TOTAL | 38 | 65 |

BANDSHELL SETTING



SEATING

PLAZA

BANDSHELL

STORMWATER

BANDSHELL STRUCTURE



STAGE + SHELL



BACKSTAGE



DRESSING ROOM



**BASEMENT (FILLED IN) BATHROOMS
STORAGE ROOM**

BANDSHELL HISTORY



1938

Bandshell opens

1991

Improvements to interior and exterior funded by a Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant

2001

Historic Protection List ruled invalid which removed all historic protections for the structure

2009

Allen Creek stormwater improvements partially daylighted the creek and directed water around the bandshell

2020

Bandshell closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic

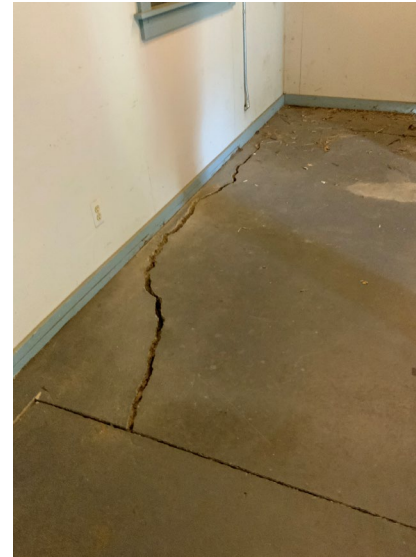
2021

Bandshell fenced off and remained closed after a structural assessment deemed the foundations a safety hazard

2021 STRUCTURAL ASSESSMENT

FINDINGS

- Foundations are structurally unsound
- Groundwater and general decay due to age caused the deterioration of the foundations
- Foundations are below the groundwater level
- Soils are of poor structural quality and susceptible to building movement / settlement
- Repairing the foundations was estimated to cost \$2.5 million dollars



AGENDA



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UNDERSTANDING PERSPECTIVES

POLL EVERYWHERE

RESPOND + SEE OTHER RESPONSES LIVE

JOIN BY SMARTPHONE:



OR JOIN BY WEB (COMPUTER OR PHONE):

[POLLEV.COM/WPB](https://pollev.com/wpwb)

PRACTICE: In as few words as possible, describe a fun memory from West Park (1 response max)

 0

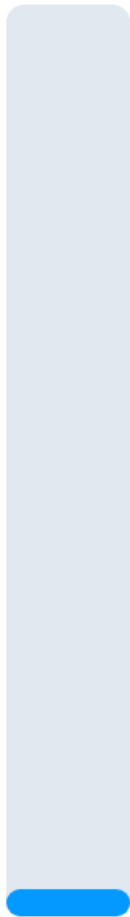
Nobody has responded yet.

Hang tight! Responses are coming in.

QUESTION 1: Are concerts and/or events an essential part of the activities at West Park?

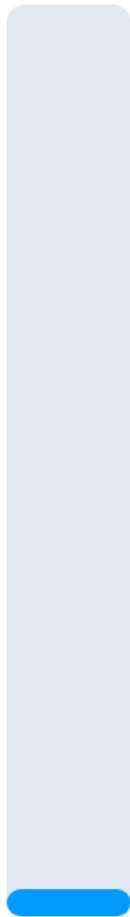
0

0%



Yes

0%



No

QUESTION 2: In one word, what criteria should be used to evaluate options for the future of the Bandshell? (3 response max)

 0

Nobody has responded yet.

Hang tight! Responses are coming in.

QUESTION 3: In one word, what did you enjoy about past events / concerts? (3 response max)

 0

Nobody has responded yet.

Hang tight! Responses are coming in.

QUESTION 4: In one word, what did you dislike about past events / concerts? (3 response max)

 0

Nobody has responded yet.

Hang tight! Responses are coming in.

QUESTION 5: In as few words as possible, what are the kinds of things you would like to see if concerts and events resumed at West Park? (3 response max)

✓ 11

Nobody has responded yet.

Hang tight! Responses are coming in.

THANK YOU!

ONLINE SURVEY ENDS SEPTEMBER 18TH

STAY TUNED FOR THE NEXT MEETING ON OPTIONS

Contact Info:

Adam Fercho

Landscape Architect /
Park Planner

afercho@a2gov.org
734.794.6230 ext.42549



Scan here to go
to the bandshell
project page.

Informational Webinar

Done

Presented by: West Park Bandshell

Current run (last updated Sep 12, 2023 2:30pm)

6

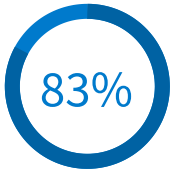
Activities

27

Participants

45

Average responses



Average engagement

PRACTICE: In as few words as possible, describe a fun memory from West Park (1 response max)

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22

"Shakespeare in the Park"

Responses

Playground for kids

Walking my dog and watching and listening to birds

Watching the heron fish

Theater

Band concerts

Walking my dog and watching ducks

Ann Arbor Band concerts with our kids

I have so many fond memories in the park! I love to go there and draw, I walk my dog hair all the time. When I was a kid I used to climb on the concrete seal and scraped my knees or build a fort under the old mulberry tree

Going to a dance to raise money for Ozone House

Teaching my daughter to ride in the park

Watching baseball

We live on the park: walks skating fountain concerts

Seeing the orchestra and plays as a kid

Taking my kid to see the animals in the pond

City Band concerts with all ages of people. Also iceskating when we were kids!

Charmander hunting the first summer of Pokemon Go!

Walks with my daughters during COVID

Watching dogs

Watching turtles in the pond.



Engagement

22

Responses

Responses

A Merlin was in the big tree. Calling.

skating

A cool "Shakespeare in the Park"

QUESTION 2: In one word, what criteria should be used to evaluate options for the future of the Bandshell? (3 response max)

QUESTION 2: In one word, what criteria should be used to evaluate options for the future of the Bandshell? (3 response max)

63

Responses

| | | | |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------|
| Accessibility | Accessible | PRESERVATION | |
| stream | Multi-purpose | Multi-purpose | |
| Multi purpose | Location | Multi-purpose | |
| history | Flooding | preservation | |
| Multi-purpose | water quality | community | |
| preservation | neighborhood | concerts | |
| Flexibility | Location | accessibility | Beauty |
| Multi-purpose | Cost | Cleanliness | |
| versatility | community stream | accessibility | |
| Lawn | HISTORY | History | |
| User and use friendly | location | location | |
| save the oaks | Beauty | location | |
| Aesthetic value | Aesthetics | Safety | money |
| Budget | Durable | History | durability |
| Activation | Safety | flexibility | |
| Finding a better place in the park that's not near the water stream | | | |
| Flooding | flooding | Durable building | |
| Location | in the park | Cost | |
| Room for audience | Sound quality | safety | |
| community | amplification | Flooding | |
| Comfortable | Same location | | |

85%

Engagement

63

Responses

QUESTION 3: In one word, what did you enjoy about past events / concerts? (3 response max)

QUESTION 3: In one word, what did you enjoy about past events / concerts? (3 response max)

57

multigenerational day outdoor sharing neighbors time concert
band proximity entertainment music location
variety safety community open walkable
civic beauty friendly neighborhood art gallery seating
also accessibility setting connection family fall
free noncommercial rock diversity outdoors

Responses

Free Our neighborhood Neighborhood

music entertainment Civic band rock

Outdoor Walkable

Setting with open skies and no tall buildings

outdoor entertainment Community

Mother's Day Concert Proximity Nature

Spontaneity

Surrounded by the beauty of the oark music

Environment amplification neighborhood

Safety Outdoors walkable friendly

Community connection Noncommercial

proximity neighbors Community

Friendly Diversity Music! Neighborhood

Sharing time with neighbors setting

Community connection Seating Kids

community community Concerts

Community Beauty variety nature

Community Multigenerational Safety

open air family friendly location Community

community Entertainment Accessibility



Engagement

57

Responses

QUESTION 4: In one word, what did you dislike about past events / concerts? (3 response max)

QUESTION 4: In one word, what did you dislike about past events / concerts? (3 response max)

42

passerby bathroom infrequent
scarcity cars sun nothing bathrooms
comes litter nimbys heavy metal glowing
enough plays grass mind

Responses

| | | |
|----------------------------|---------------|------------|
| Infrequent | Bathroom | Infrequent |
| Infrequent | Infrequent | bathroom |
| Infrequent | Bathrooms | Scarcity |
| Nothing comes to mind | | bathrooms |
| Not enough events | Bathroom | |
| No enough seating | Bathrooms | Seating |
| sun | Bathrooms | Litter |
| | | nimbys |
| Plays not allowing passage | | sun |
| | | Nothing |
| Passersby | Nothing | Nothing |
| | | infrequent |
| nothing | Garbage | nothing |
| | | Bathrooms |
| Nothing | litter | nothing |
| | | Nothing |
| Nothing | cars on grass | Nothing |
| Heavy metal | Litter | Sunny |
| | | nimbys |



Engagement

42

Responses

QUESTION 5: In as few words as possible, what are the kinds of things you would like to see if concerts and events resumed at West Park? (3 response max)

QUESTION 5: In as few words as possible, what are the kinds of things you would like to see if concerts and events resumed at West Park? (3 response max)

64

Responses

Penney Stamps cost money!!!

Ted style talks

Water refill stations

Organizing opportunities

Speakers

Top of the park alt stage

Gospel

events open to public participation -- poetry slams, open mic, teaching, classes, opportunities for people to find creative outlets to host them

good sound system for emcees, etc.

Art exhibitions

events in West Park, not sending us to Burns Park

Regular offerings

free concerts

restrooms

Food trucks- so long as trash is picked up

food trucks

Greater-frequency

Local school productions

restrooms

Setup so more people can play/use the stage

Safety in the park

Safety

Informational presentations

Local community art engagement activities

Diversity

Theater

Food trucks nearby

Local musicians

Local concerts, connection with schools, poetry slams

Amplification

local musicians

Civic band

Local theater works

89%

Engagement

64

Responses

Responses

I would love to see food trucks join the scene

Regular events

Rock/pop/etc concerts

Artistic performance

acoustic music

Frequent

plays

grateful ded

Symphony

increased stage space for bands

Frequent

Plays

Shade/covering

I would love to see more theater and small community creative outlets. It's an intimate space, and a great place for smaller orgs to showcase and share

Music - local musicians

Civic bands

Local

Concerts

Food trucks

Affordable/free

Well-programmed

Kid friendly

street musicians playing

Symphonies

music

Locally-driven

Consistency

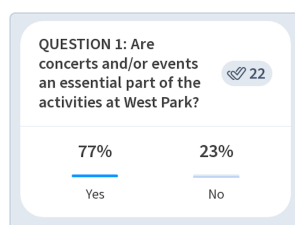
Any music

Civic band

Cleanup

amplified

QUESTION 1: Are concerts and/or events an essential part of the activities at West Park?



Response options

Yes

No

Count Percentage

17

77%

5

23%



Engagement

22

Responses

WEST PARK BANDSHELL

Neighbors Focus Group
October 11, 2023



Parks & Recreation
CITY OF ANN ARBOR



SMITHGROUP

MEETING NORMS



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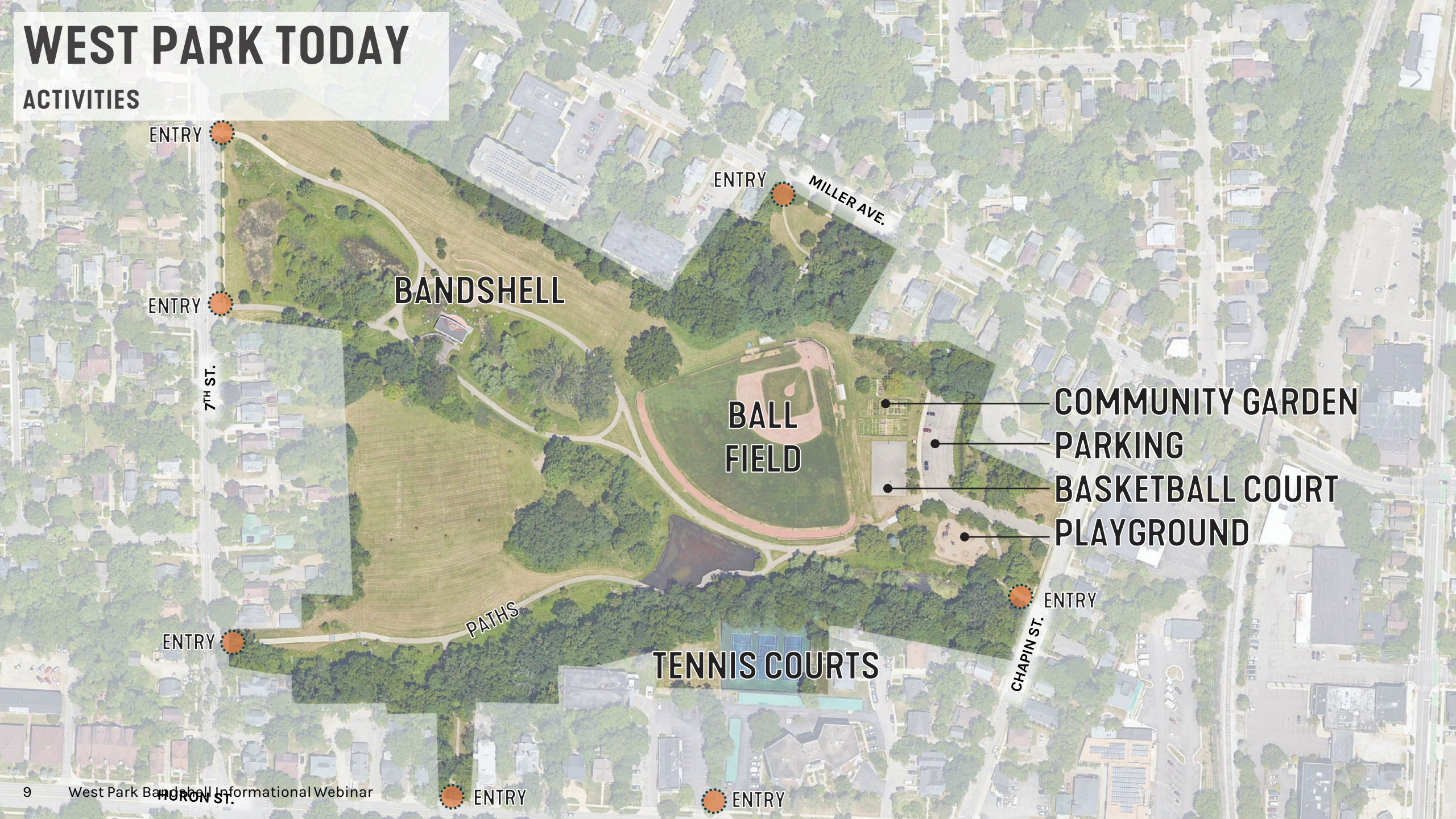
QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

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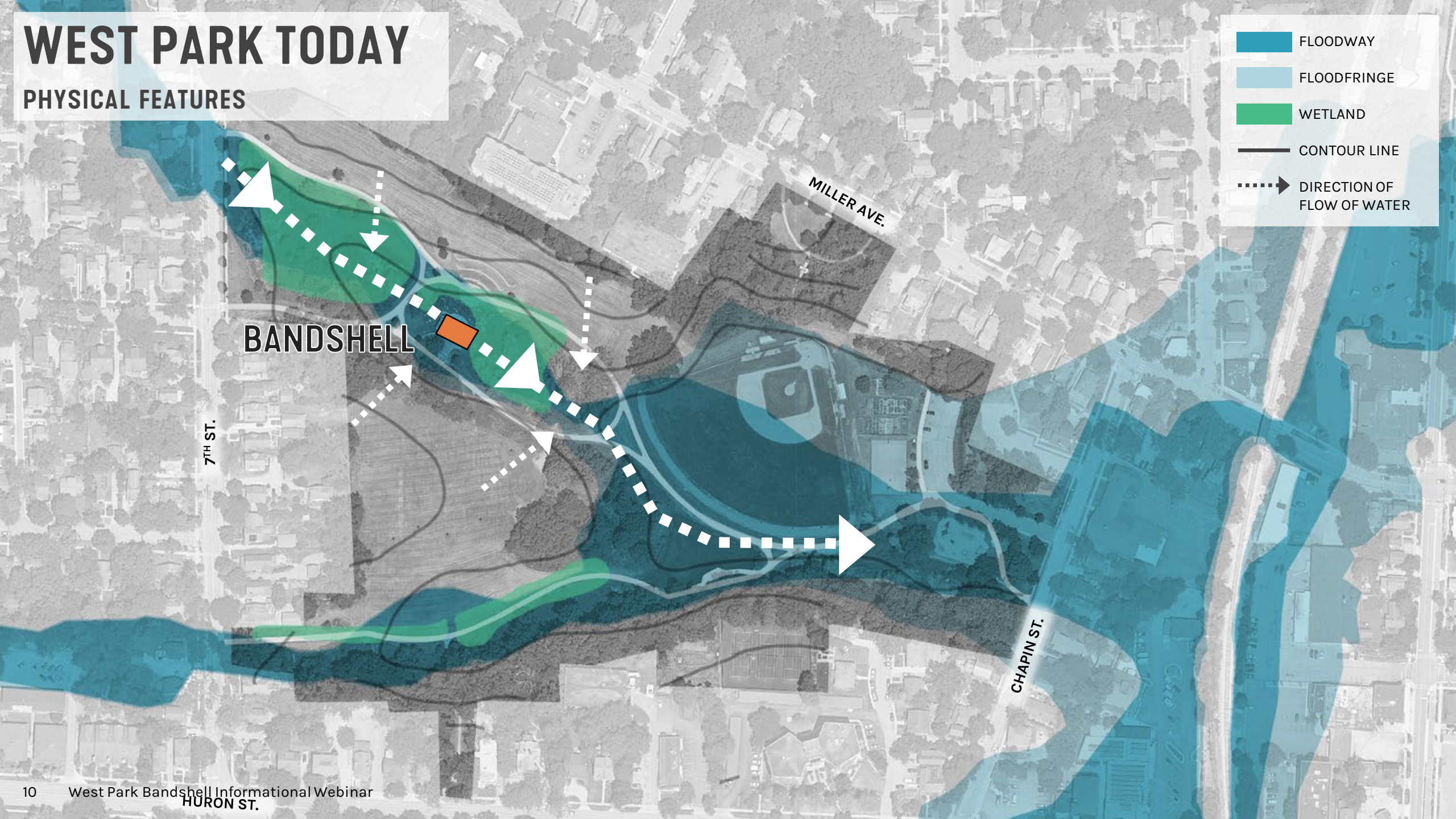
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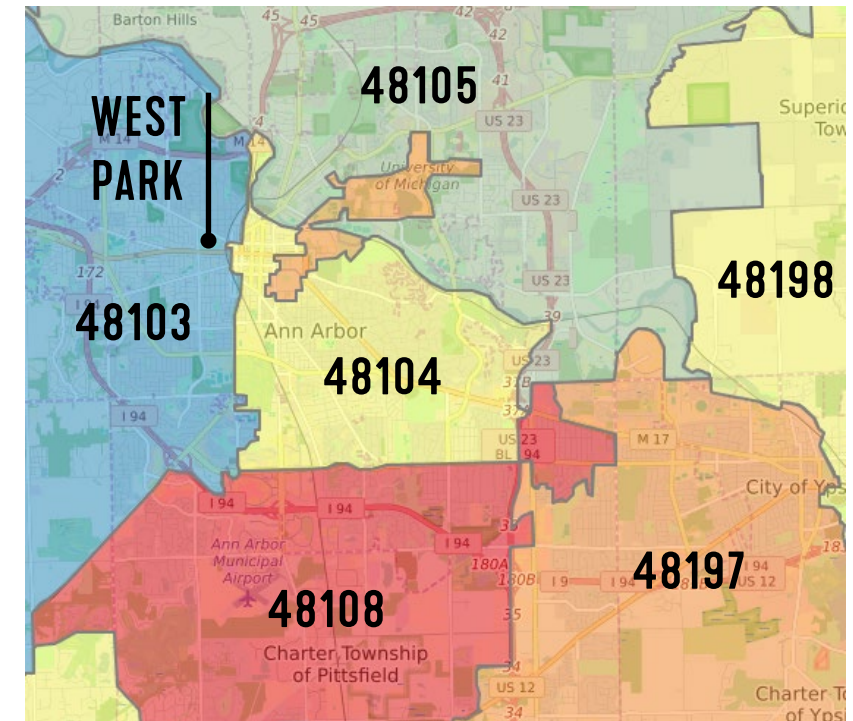


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VISITS & VISITORS BY YEAR

PARK USE VARIES YEAR TO YEAR

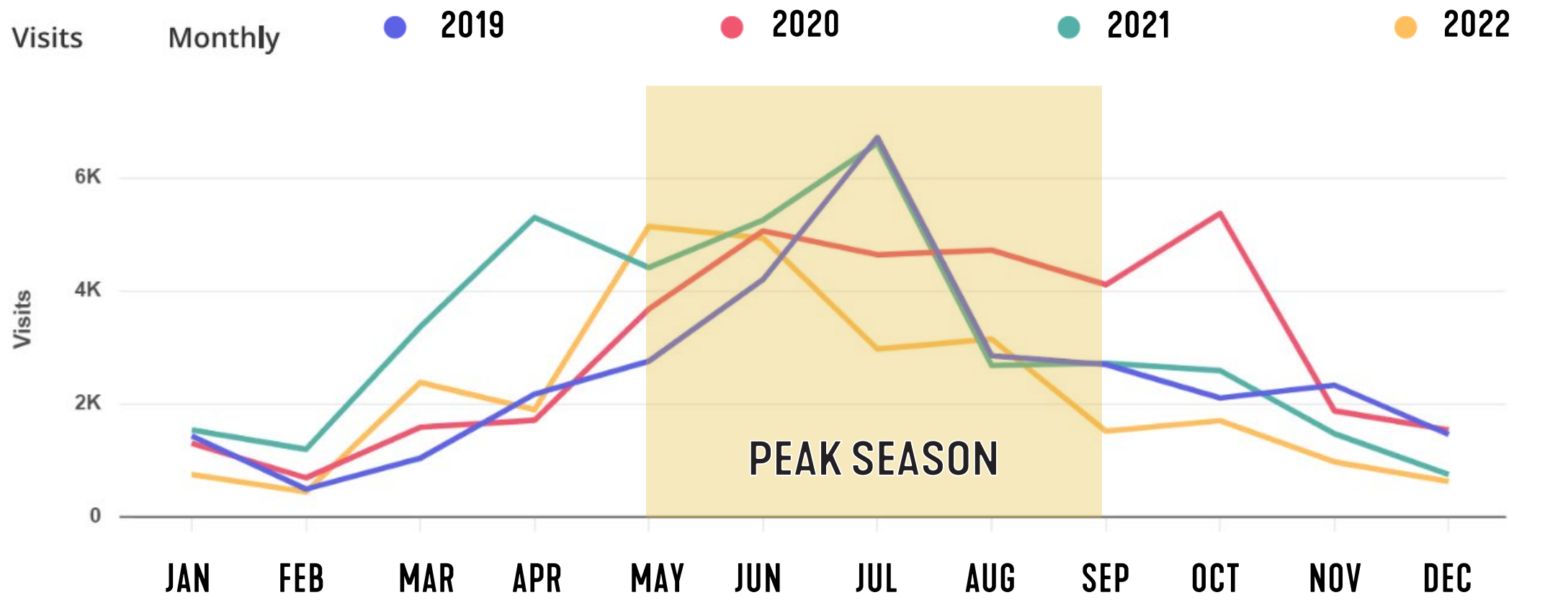


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VISITS BY MONTH

MAY TO AUGUST IS PEAK SEASON



BANDSHELL USE

MORE THAN A MUSIC VENUE



AVERAGE NUMBER OF
EVENTS / YEAR

| | 2000-2010 | 2011-2019 |
|------------------|-----------|-----------|
| CONCERTS / MUSIC | 11 | 6 |
| THEATER | 0 | 25 |
| CAMPS | 25 | 32 |
| OTHER | 2 | 2 |
| TOTAL | 38 | 65 |

BANDSHELL SETTING



SEATING

PLAZA

BANDSHELL

STORMWATER

BANDSHELL STRUCTURE



STAGE + SHELL



BACKSTAGE



DRESSING ROOM



**BASEMENT (FILLED IN) BATHROOMS
STORAGE ROOM**

BANDSHELL HISTORY



1938

Bandshell opens

1991

Improvements to interior and exterior funded by a Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant

2001

Historic Protection List ruled invalid which removed all historic protections for the structure

2009

Allen Creek stormwater improvements partially daylighted the creek and directed water around the bandshell

2020

Bandshell closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic

2021

Bandshell fenced off and remained closed after a structural assessment deemed the foundations a safety hazard

2021 STRUCTURAL ASSESSMENT

FINDINGS

- Foundations are structurally unsound
- Groundwater and general decay due to age caused the deterioration of the foundations
- Foundations are below the groundwater level
- Soils are of poor structural quality and susceptible to building movement / settlement
- Repairing the foundations was estimated to cost \$2.5 million dollars



AGENDA



1

INTRODUCTION + MEETING PURPOSE

2

PROJECT BACKGROUND

3

UNDERSTANDING PERSPECTIVES

4

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

**WHAT CRITERIA SHOULD BE USED TO EVALUATE OPTIONS FOR THE
FUTURE OF THE BANDSHELL?**

WRITE DOWN YOUR RESPONSE ON A POST-IT

[10 MINUTES]

**WHAT DID YOU ENJOY ABOUT PAST EVENTS AT THE BANDSHELL?
HOW DID YOUR PROXIMITY TO THE PARK IMPACT YOUR EXPERIENCE?**

[10 MINUTES]

**WHAT DID YOU DISLIKE ABOUT PAST EVENTS AT THE BANDSHELL?
HOW DID YOUR PROXIMITY TO THE PARK IMPACT YOUR EXPERIENCE?**

[10 MINUTES]

**WHAT IMPROVEMENTS WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE IF CONCERTS /
EVENTS RESUMED AT WEST PARK?**

[10 MINUTES]

AGENDA

1

INTRODUCTION + MEETING PURPOSE

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UNDERSTANDING PERSPECTIVES

4

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

THANK YOU!

ONLINE SURVEY ENDS SEPTEMBER 18TH

STAY TUNED FOR THE NEXT MEETING ON OPTIONS

Contact Info:

Adam Fercho

Landscape Architect /
Park Planner

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Scan here to go
to the bandshell
project page.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OVERVIEW

WEST PARK BANDSHELL



BACKGROUND



What is the goal of this engagement?

The City of Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation Unit is gathering community perspectives on the future of the bandshell at West Park.

Why are we gathering this feedback?

The city is creating and evaluating options for the future of the bandshell because it is closed due to structurally unsound foundations (see back for more information).

What input are we gathering from the community?

1. Perspectives of those that live close to West Park.
2. Community values, priorities, and concerns.
3. Positives and negatives about the bandshell at West Park.
4. Opinions on options for the future of the bandshell at West Park.

ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

Step 1: Community Engagement Round 1

Purpose: To understand community values, priorities, concerns as well as past experiences.

Includes: neighborhood meetings, stakeholder meetings, online survey.

Step 2: Options + Evaluation Criteria

Analyze the park's physical features (vehicular/pedestrian circulation, accessibility topography, trees, wetlands, floodway).

Summarize feedback from the first round of Community Engagement.

Create options for the future of the bandshell and a draft set of evaluation criteria based on findings from the analysis + engagement.

Step 3: Community Engagement Round 2

Purpose: To share the options and evaluation criteria with the community and ask for feedback.

Includes: neighborhood meetings, open house.

Step 4: Completion

Revise the evaluation criteria and options for the future of the bandshell based on engagement feedback.

Share findings at a Park Advisory Commission meeting and a City Council meeting.

WEST PARK LOCATION



WEST PARK MAP



2021 STRUCTURAL ASSESSMENT FINDINGS

What was included in the assessment?

- Visual inspection of the foundation, floor, and structure by a structural engineer.
- Excavation of 3 test pits for inspection of the below-ground foundation.
- Two soil borings and soil structural analysis.
- Development of two alternatives for preservation of the bandshell and estimated construction costs.
- Documentation of the historical events related to the structure and foundations of the bandshell.

What were the findings from the assessment?

- The foundations are structurally unsound due to significant cracking, including large cracks that extend the full depth of the foundation, and deterioration of the concrete blocks.
- Groundwater and general decay associated with age (structure is 80 years old) are the causes of the deterioration of the foundations.
- The bandshell is in the floodway and, at the time the test pits were dug, most of the foundation was below groundwater level.
- The groundwater level was above the frost depth line, which subjects the foundations to significant expansion forces during freeze/thaw cycles.
- Soils are of poor structural quality and susceptible to building movement and settlement.
- Repairing the foundations was estimated to cost \$2.5 million dollars.



See the QR code for more information on the City of Ann Arbor's website, including a download link for the 2021 Structural Assessment.

WEST PARK BANDSHELL

Benchmarking
August 7, 2024



Parks & Recreation
CITY OF ANN ARBOR



SMITHGROUP

WEST PARK BANDSHELL

ANN ARBOR, MI | POPULATION 120,000

850 SF
STAGE

1,200
AUDIENCE*

950 SF
BACKSTAGE

TBD
COST

Amenities:

- Stage, backstage storage, green room, tiered seating

Event Types:

- Plays, acoustic performances

Date: 1938, renovation in 1991

* 1,200 in lawn chair rows, 600 on picnic blankets



NEW BUILD VENUES

GREEN BAY BOTANICAL GARDEN GRAND GARDEN

GREEN BAY, WISCONSIN | POPULATION 106,000

720 SF
STAGE

1,800
AUDIENCE*

850 SF
BACKSTAGE

\$5.4M
IN 2024 DOLLARS

Improvements:

- Stage, backstage, 2,000sf concession building, two adjacent gardens, pathways and seating, three garden structures

Event Types:

- Amplified performances, concert series, weddings, corporate gatherings

Date: September 2017 opening

Programming & Management :

- Programmed by the botanical garden
- 12 ticketed concerts / summer
- Rentals through the botanical garden

* 1,800 in lawn chair rows, 900 on picnic blankets

** adjusted to 2024 dollars





VOLUNTEER PARK AMPHITHEATER

SEATTLE, WA | POPULATION 750,000

1,200 SF
STAGE

1,700+
AUDIENCE*

700 SF
BACKSTAGE

\$4.6M
IN 2024 DOLLARS

Improvements:

- Stage and bandshell, 700sf conditioned backstage, lighting

Event Types:

- Amplified performances, plays, dance recitals, movies, socials

Date: 2022 opening

Programming & Management:

- 6 free concerts / summer organized by the Volunteer Park Trust
- Additional ticketed festivals + performances
- Socials + other event rentals through Parks & Rec Department

* 1,700 in lawn chair rows, 800 on picnic blankets

** adjusted to 2024 dollars





INSPIRED BY 1915 BANDSHELL



HINSON AMPHITHEATER

NEW ALBANY, OHIO (COLUMBUS METRO) | POPULATION 11,000 (2.1M METRO)

2,500 SF
STAGE

1,100
AUDIENCE*

6,500 SF
BACKSTAGE

\$8.6M
IN 2024 DOLLARS

Improvements:

- Stage and bandshell, 6,500sf conditioned backstage with restrooms + concessions, audience canopy and paths, lighting
- Funding from private donations & corporate sponsorships

Event Types:

- Amplified performances, arts festivals, plays, dance recitals, movies, weddings

Date: 2021 opening

Programming & Management:

- 12+ ticketed concerts organized by the New Albany Community Foundation
- Rentals through the Community Foundation

* 1,100 in lawn chair rows, 550 on picnic blankets



SCHEMATIC DESIGN



CLAIR DONNELLY AMPHITHEATER & COMMUNITY PARK

MAIZE, KANSAS (WICHITA METRO) | POPULATION 6,500 (650K METRO)

1,600 SF
STAGE

1,700
AUDIENCE*

600 SF
BACKSTAGE

\$2.8M
IN 2024 DOLLARS

Improvements:

- Stage, 600sf green room with a bathroom for performers, canopy, paths + audience seating area, lighting]

Event Types:

- Amplified performances, weddings, farmers + art market

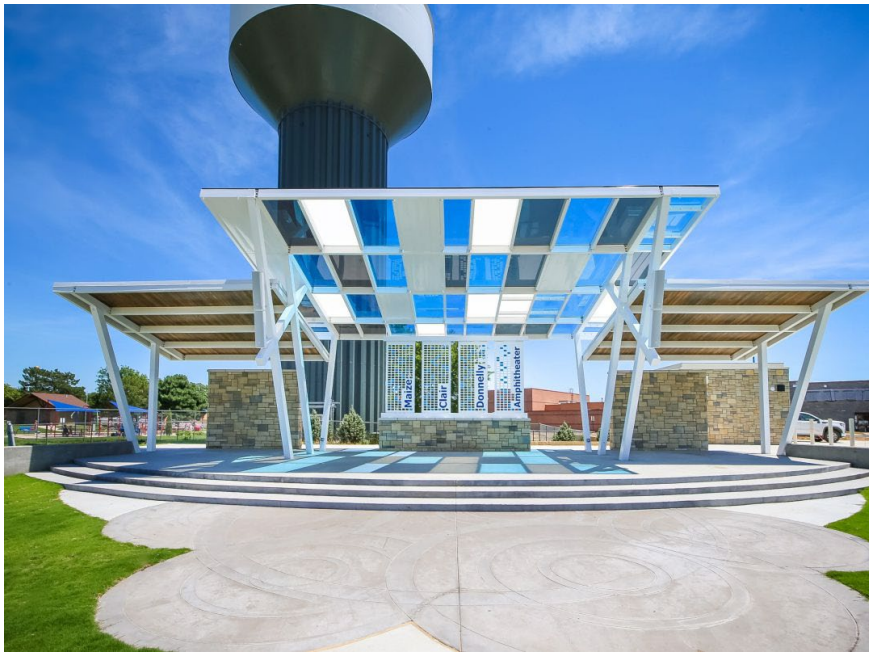
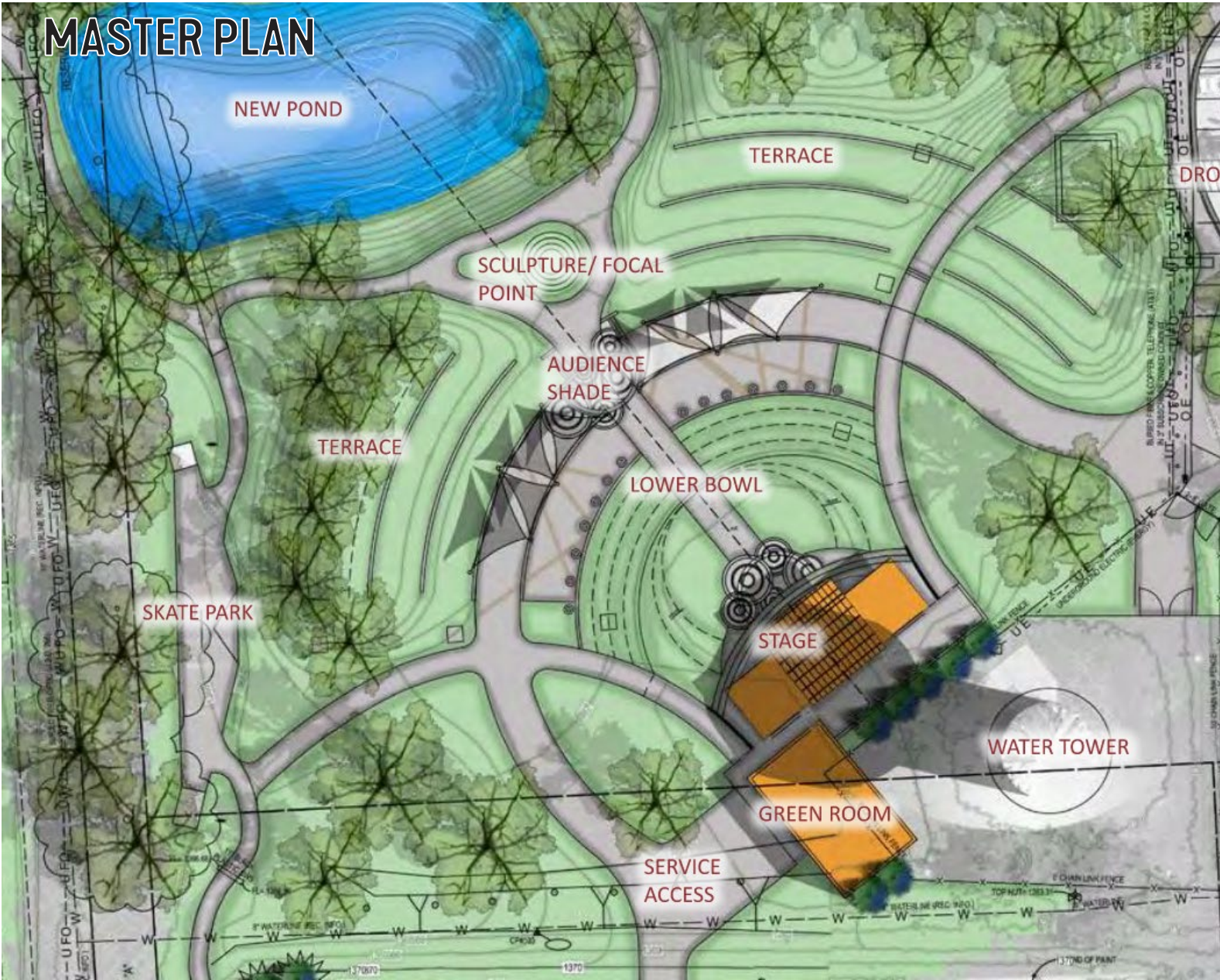
Date: 2022 opening

Programming & Management :

- Rentals through the City of Maize
- City hired an event coordinator @ 20h/w to program the space, secure sponsorships

* 1,500 in lawn chair rows, 700 on picnic blankets





EXCELSIOR COMMONS PAVILION

EXCELSIOR, MINNESOTA (MINNEAPOLIS METRO) | POPULATION 2,300 (2.9M METRO)

800 SF
STAGE

4,500
AUDIENCE*

0 SF
BACKSTAGE

\$1.5M
IN 2024 DOLLARS

Improvements:

- Stage, amphitheater walls, existing bandshell removal, minor earthwork

Event Types:

- Amplified performances, weddings, daily picnics, birthday parties + family gatherings, social hours
- 2-sided: amphitheater for small concerts, event lawn for large concerts
- Restroom + concession building is adjacent to the pavilion

Date: 2021 opening

Programming & Management :

- Rentals through the City of Excelsior
- Rotary Club organizes 8 concerts / year

* 4,500 in lawn chair rows, 2,100 on picnic blankets





FUTURE BROADWAY PARK WEST PAVILION

ANN ARBOR, MI | POPULATION 120,000



1,400 SF
STAGE

2,100
AUDIENCE*

0 SF
BACKSTAGE

UNKNOWN
DOLLARS

Anticipated Improvements:

- Stage, indoor events venue, bathrooms, park landscape development

Anticipated Event Types:

- Amplified performances, weddings, social hours
- 2-sided: amphitheater for small concerts, event lawn for large concerts
- Restroom + concession building is adjacent to the pavilion

Date: anticipated fall 2025

Programming & Management :

- Lower Town Riverfront Conservancy manages park and venue

** 2,100 in lawn chair rows, 1,000 on picnic blankets*





RENOVATIONS

LA CROSSE BANDSHELL

LA CROSSE, WISCONSIN | POPULATION 51,300

600 SF
STAGE

1,600
AUDIENCE*

0 SF
BACKSTAGE

\$2.4M
IN 2024 DOLLARS

Improvements:

- Renovated the stage platform, seating, accessibility improvements, new structure
- Funding: \$1.1M from the city, \$900k private donations

Event Types:

- Amplified performances, plays, acoustic performances, weddings

Date: 2020 opening

Programming & Management :

- 14 free concerts by the Valley View Rotary
- 11 free concerts by the La Crosse Jazz Orchestra, La Crosse Concert Band
- Rentals through Parks & Rec.

* 1,600 in lawn chair rows, 800 on picnic blankets





WENONAH PARK BANDSHELL RENOVATION

BAY CITY, MICHIGAN | POPULATION 32,000

2,000 SF
STAGE

2,600
AUDIENCE*

2,200 SF
BACKSTAGE

\$1.9M
IN 2024 DOLLARS

Improvements:

- Removed and replaced shell structure, expanded stage, lighting

Event Types:

- Amplified performances, plays, weddings

Date: 2020 opening

Programming & Management :

- 12 summer concerts programmed by the State Theater of Bay City
- Rentals through Bay City Parks & Rec.

* 2,600 in lawn chair rows, 1,250 on picnic blankets





STATE FAIRGROUNDS BANDSHELL RELOCATION

RELOCATED FROM THE FAIRGROUNDS TO PALMER PARK IN DETROIT, MI | POPULATION 620,000

1,700 SF
STAGE

1,500+
AUDIENCE*

UNKNOWN
BACKSTAGE

\$3.3M+
+ CITY SELF PERFORM
IN 2024 DOLLARS

Improvements:

- Relocated bandshell, ~80 new parking spaces, restroom building

Funding:

- American Rescue Plan Act allocation to the City of Detroit
- Detroit Building Authority disassembled and stored the bandshell. Cost savings unknown.

Event Types:

- Quieter community-focused events like plays, opera, movie nights. No loud concerts

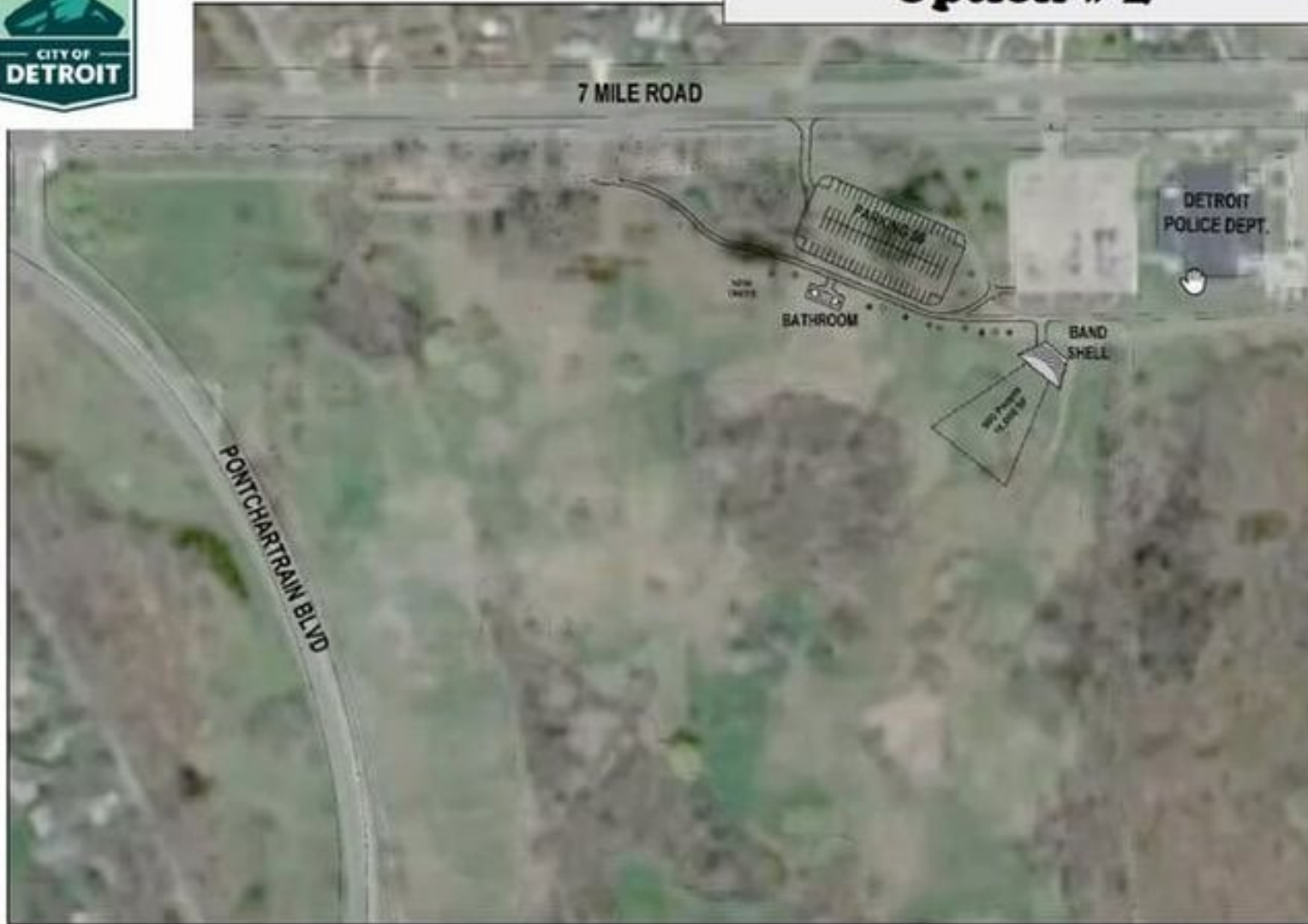
Date: estimated summer 2024

* 1,500 in lawn chair rows, 700 on picnic blankets





PALMER PARK BAND SHELL Option # 2



NEW LOCATION



HISTORIC SITE



WILLIAM'S PARK BANDSHELL

ST. PETERSBURG, FL | POPULATION 210,000

1,500 SF
STAGE

1,250
AUDIENCE*

1,400 SF
BACKSTAGE

\$2.1M
IN 2024 DOLLARS

Improvements:

- Replaced roof paneling, ADA improvements, electrical + mechanical upgrades, repairs to backstage spaces

Event Types:

- Amplified performances, plays, weddings

Date: estimated summer 2025

Programming & Management :

- Rentals through the Parks & Rec. Department

* 1,250 in lawn chair rows, 600 on picnic blankets





FLEETWOOD PARK BANDSHELL

FLEETWOOD, PA | POPULATION 4,000

950 SF
STAGE

1,250
AUDIENCE*

0 SF
BACKSTAGE

\$670K
IN 2024 DOLLARS

Improvements:

- New structure, stage, and foundations

Event Types:

- Amplified performances, plays, weddings, ceremonies

Date: 2023 opening

Programming & Management :

- 6 summer concerts organized by Fleetwood Bank
- Rentals through the Parks & Recreation Department

* 1,250 in lawn chair rows, 600 on picnic blankets





| SUMMARY | STAGE SIZE | AUDIENCE CAPACITY* | BACKSTAGE SIZE | COST IN 2024** | DATE OF COMPLETION | REGULARLY PROGRAMMED BY | RENTAL + MANAGEMENT BY |
|--|------------|--------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| WEST PARK BANDSHELL | 850 sf | 1,200 | 950 sf | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| NEW BUILDS | | | | | | | |
| GRAND GARDEN, GREEN BAY BOTANICAL GARDEN | 720 sf | 1,800 | 850 sf | \$5.4M | 2017 | Botanical Garden | Botanical Garden |
| VOLUNTEER PARK AMPHITHEATER | 1,200 sf | 1,700+ | 700 sf | \$4.6M | 2022 | Park Trust | City Parks Dept. |
| HINSON AMPHITHEATER | 2,500 sf | 1,100 | 6,500 sf | \$8.6M | 2021 | Community Found. | Community Found. |
| CLAIR DONNELLY AMPHITHEATER | 1,600 sf | 1,700 | 600 sf | \$2.8M | 2022 | City event coordinator | City event coordinator |
| EXCELSIOR COMMONS PAVILION | 800 sf | 4,500 | 0 sf | \$1.5M | 2021 | Rotary Club | City Parks Dept. |
| FUTURE BROADWAY PARK WEST PAVILION | 1,400 sf | 2,000 | 0 sf | Unknown | 2025 | TBD | Conservancy |
| RENOVATIONS | | | | | | | |
| LA CROSSE BANDSHELL RENOVATION | 600 sf | 1,600+ | 0 sf | \$2.4M | 2020 | Rotary Club | City Parks Dept. |
| WENONAH PARK BANDSHELL RENOVATION | 2,000 sf | 2,600 | 2,200 sf | \$1.9M | 2020 | State Theater of Bay City | City Parks Dept. |
| STATE FAIRGROUNDS BANDSHELL RELOCATION | 1,700 sf | 1,500+ | unknown | \$3.3M+ | Est. 2024 | Unknown | Unknown |
| WILLIAM’S PARK BANDSHELL | 1,500 sf | 1,250 | 1,400 sf | \$2.1M | Est. 2025 | Unknown | City Parks Dept. |
| FLEETWOOD PARK BANDSHELL | 950 sf | 1,250+ | 0 sf | \$670k | 2023 | Fleetwood Bank | City Parks Dept. |

BENCHMARKING FINDINGS



POLICY & MANAGEMENT

- Bandshells are being built & renovated all over the country in small towns & large cities
- Venues are rented and managed by both cities and community foundations
- Amplification is allowed at all benchmarked facilities
- Improvements were paired with a plan to actively program events. Some venues are programmed by a community partner and others were by the city, including one that hired an event coordinator
- Most venues host an annual concert series with 12+ events run by the city or a community partner, plus additional rentals by other organizations, artists, and community members
- Most venues host a variety of types of events, including non-performance uses such as weddings and social gatherings

INFRASTRUCTURE & IMPROVEMENTS

- Typical audience capacity ranges from 1,200-1,800
- Amount of backstage space varies and has a significant impact on cost
- Lower cost projects (<\$3M) installed a simple, open-air structure, built no or a small amount (600 sf) of backstage space, and had minimal audience improvements
- Nearly all venues included bathrooms or were proximate to existing bathrooms
- Most audience areas were gently sloping plazas and lawns, some venues provided rows of permanent seating
- Only one venue relocated the historic structure, which was a highly valued bandshell with significance to people across the state of Michigan