



Meridian Open Space Survey

Executive Summary and Results Presentation

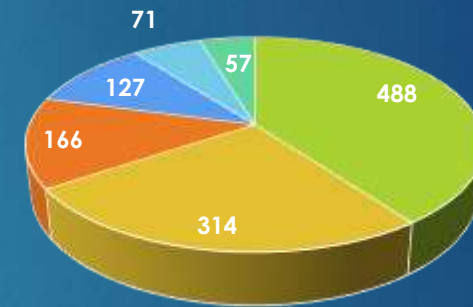
CAMERON ARIAL, PH.D.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

AUGUST 2020

Executive Summary

- ▶ Conducted May 4th through June 8th
- ▶ 1506 respondents (18+ who currently live in the City of Meridian)
- ▶ Key findings:
 - ▶ Of those surveyed Meridian citizens have positive evaluations of the value of open space.
 - ▶ Number of First Place Votes By Category:
 - ▶ Nature Reserve – 488
 - ▶ Public Parks – 314
 - ▶ Multi-Purpose Outdoor Urban Spaces – 166
 - ▶ Pathways – 127
 - ▶ Working Farm or Dairy Operation – 71
 - ▶ Historical or Cultural Significant Property – 57



■ Nature Reserve ■ Public Parks ■ Multi-purpose Outdoor
■ Pathways ■ Working Farm/Dairy ■ Historical Site

Executive Summary (cont.)

- ▶ Key findings:
 - ▶ 81% support purchasing property for open space (Q2)
 - ▶ 82% support purchasing property for an enhanced Public Parks System (Q3)
 - ▶ 79% support purchasing property for a Nature Preserve (Q6)
 - ▶ 78% support purchasing property for an enhanced Pathways System (Q4)
 - ▶ 60% support purchasing property for a Working Dairy or Farming Operation (Q8)
 - ▶ 59% support purchasing property of Historical or Cultural Significance (Q7)
 - ▶ 56% support purchasing property for a Multi-Purpose Outdoor Urban Space (Q5)
 - ▶ 457 or 48% of respondents preferred development impact fees be used to fund their open space preferences (F1)



Executive Summary (cont.)

- ▶ Other findings:
 - ▶ 66% of respondents were female and 31% were male (D1)
 - ▶ 67% of respondents are ages 25-54 (D2)
 - ▶ 71% of respondents have a Bachelor's degree or higher (D5)
 - ▶ 90% of respondents live in a Single-Family home that they own (D6)

Purchasing Property

- ▶ Key Finding – 81% support purchasing property for open space (Q2)
 - ▶ Crosstab with Length of Time in Meridian
 - ▶ The longer in Meridian the less likely to support
 - ▶ Still strong support across length of time demographics
 - ▶ Max with 3-4 years at 84%
 - ▶ Min with less than 10 years of 78.4%
 - ▶ Crosstab with Age
 - ▶ 25-34 years old is peak at 87%
 - ▶ Still strong support across age demographics
 - ▶ Crosstab with Education
 - ▶ As education increases support for open space increases
 - ▶ Max with Bachelor's degrees at 87%
 - ▶ Min with Less than High School at 67%



Parks

- ▶ Key Finding – Highest support at 82% support purchasing property for open space for Public Parks
 - ▶ Crosstab with Length of Time in Meridian
 - ▶ 3-4 years support highest at 88%
 - ▶ Crosstab with Age
 - ▶ 25-34 years old is peak at 91% and 35-44 years old is next at 87%
 - ▶ Still strong support across age demographics
 - ▶ Crosstab with Education – Strong support (>80%) across educational demographics
 - ▶ Crosstab with Housing – Multi-family – Rent is peak at 90%
 - ▶ Still strong support across age demographic



Nature Preserve

- ▶ Key Finding – Second highest support at 79% support purchasing property for open space for Nature Preserve
 - ▶ Crosstab with Length of Time in Meridian
 - ▶ Max with less than 1 years at 84%
 - ▶ Min with greater than 10 years at 78%
 - ▶ Still strong support across age demographic
 - ▶ Crosstab with Age – Younger respondents tend to support declining as age goes up
 - ▶ Max with 18-25 years old at 94%
 - ▶ Min with greater than 75 years old at 67%
 - ▶ Crosstab with Education
 - ▶ Strong support across educational demographics
 - ▶ Crosstab with Housing
 - ▶ Still strong support across housing demographic



Pathways

- ▶ Key Finding – Third highest support at 78% support purchasing property for open space for Pathways
 - ▶ Crosstab with Length of Time in Meridian – 3-4 years support highest at 83%
 - ▶ Crosstab with Age – Younger tends to support declining as age goes up
 - ▶ Max with 18-25 years old at 88%
 - ▶ Min with greater than 75 years old at 63%
 - ▶ Crosstab with Education – Strong support across educational demographics
 - ▶ Crosstab with Housing – Single-family – Rent is peak at 82%
 - ▶ Still strong support across age demographic



Funding: Development Impact Fees



- ▶ Key Finding – 48% of respondents ranked development impact fees first be used to fund their open space preferences
 - ▶ Crosstab with Length of Time in Meridian – Increases the longer the respondent has lived in Meridian
 - ▶ Max with less than 1 years at 52%
 - ▶ Min with greater than 10 years at 35%
 - ▶ Still strong support across age demographic
 - ▶ Crosstab with Age
 - ▶ 45-54 year old and 55-64 year olds ranked the highest at 54% and 56% respectively
 - ▶ Crosstab with Education
 - ▶ Doctorate degrees proportionally support this highest at 68%
 - ▶ Crosstab with Housing
 - ▶ Multi-Family Own and Multi-Family-Rent supported this highest at 56% and 60% respectively

Conclusion



- ▶ Of those surveyed, citizens value open space
- ▶ They particularly value Nature Reserve, Parks, and Pathways and are willing to pay for them. All open space types received near 60% majorities.
- ▶ Citizen's prefer development impact fees be used to procure open space over bonding and using the City's reserves