



Coulter Grove Neighborhood Park

Key Takeaways from the second round of public outreach *(January 2026)*

Formerly known as the Reed Lane Neighborhood Park Site, the first round of outreach conducted by Bend Park and Recreation District (BPRD) in August/September 2025 was to solicit name recommendations for this new 3.17-acre neighborhood park. BPRD received 30 unique name suggestions, which were shared with the naming committee. At the recommendation of the naming committee, the BPRD board of directors approved “Coulter Grove” as the park’s name.

With the new name established, it was time to learn more about the experiences and amenities people desired to have in their new park. BPRD conducted public outreach to gather this information. The outreach consisted of an online survey, two open house meetings and one visit with the Kids Inc students at Pine Ridge Elementary School. The survey was open from January 16-30, 2026, and received 62 responses. It was emailed directly to HOA and apartment complex managers, the Southern Crossing and Southwest Neighborhood Associations and to individuals on the project information list. It was also available on the project website. An onsite open house was scheduled but changed to a virtual platform due to freezing fog and temperatures. There were five attendees who participated in that virtual open house. A second open house was held at the BPRD district office and there were five attendees. The visit to Pine Ridge Kids Inc engaged approximately 75 students in brainstorming ideas for the new park.

Below is a summary of the key information received from the survey. More detailed survey data is included in the following pages. The input from this round of outreach was used to develop the initial conceptual designs for the park site.

Key Takeaway #1: Save the trees! The existing mature trees are by far the most popular amenity on the property. They provide shade, foster habitat and provide a buffer from the parkway. Many commented on how much they like the contrast between the open field and the grove of trees. Others stated their hope to have the existing vegetation and rock outcrops incorporated with the new park features.

Key Takeaway #2: People want to be together. People are excited to have a park in a rapidly densifying neighborhood. A common thread throughout the survey responses was the desire to spend time in the park with family, friends and neighbors. Small shelters, tables, benches and flexible gathering spaces were amenities popular across all demographics.

Key Takeaway #3: There needs to be something for everyone. There is strong desire for both high and low intensity uses. Many suggested locating noisier activities such as basketball closer to the parkway. There was also an interest in carving out places of respite for quieter activities such as reading or “chilling”. The park should not only have features appealing to different age groups but also contain features that can be enjoyed by multiple generations together.

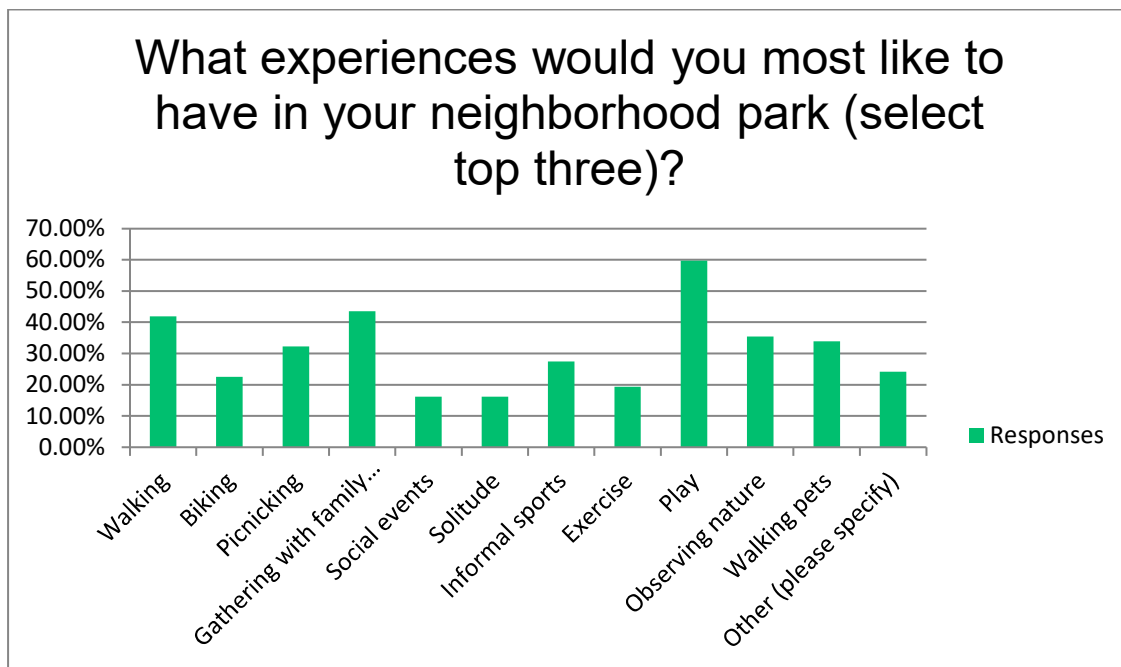


Key Takeaway #4: The Parkway is a concern. The adjacency of the property to the parkway is a significant concern due to noise, safety and pollution. Many suggestions were made for different ways to buffer the parkway from the park site. Keeping people, especially children and pets, separate from the parkway is a top priority.

For questions and comments, please contact the project manager, Bronwen Mastro, (541) 706-6152, bronwenm@bendparksandrec.org

Survey Responses

Question 1



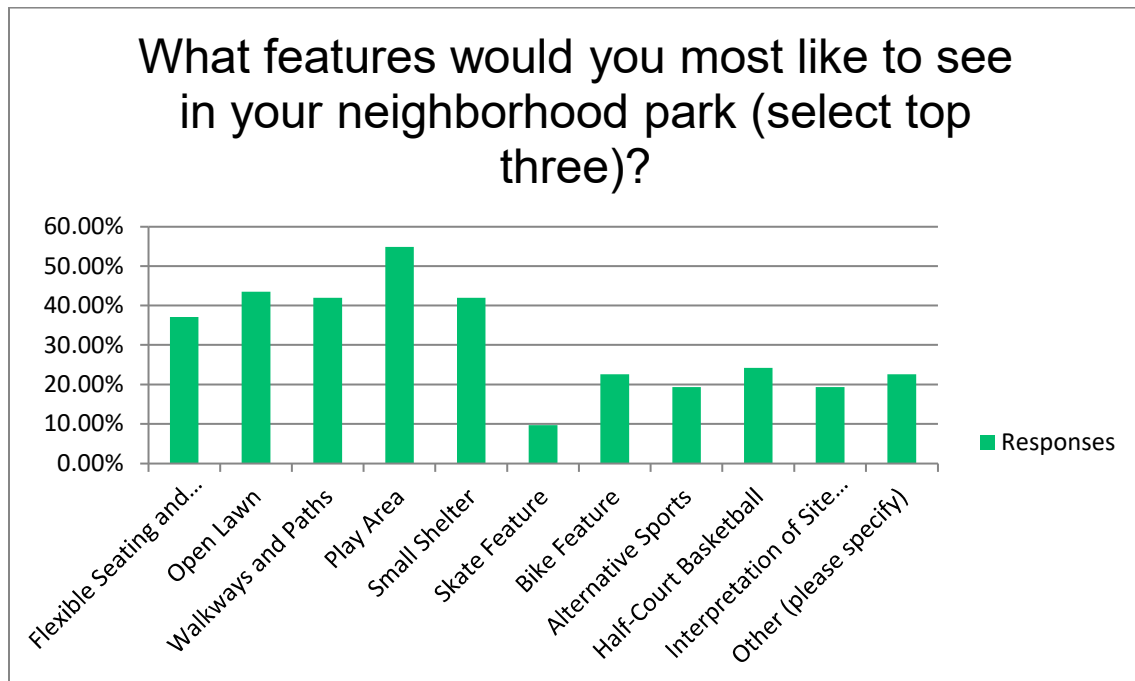
Other

- Connect to canal trail and Fred Meyer area and points east
- A quieter area to read or meet with a friend
- Basketball court , cricket ground
- Walking pets: develop an enclosed dog park on the west side of Coulter Lane.
- Remote control rock crawler course
- Covered basketball hoop
- This neighborhood does not have an off-leash dog park so is underserved in that area. As the site is right next to the parkway, a sound barrier should be included in the design. Also the property has many large trees that should be preserved.



- Play areas with natural elements (logs or lumber) instead of plastic/metal structures
- Playground
- Pump track
- Workout structures; NATURAL play structures ("fallen wood" balance beams, etc.); history of park/area.
- Dog off-leash play area
- Soccer net
- Preserved nature within built up areas

Question 2



Other

- Water feature for play (& nature) to mask parkway noise
- Native habitat/pollinator gardens
- A wall on the parkway side of the park to mitigate the sound of the traffic. A fountain!
- Cricket ground
- Like small gatherings
- Robot playset
- Off-leash dog area....please!
- Dog Park
- Trees
- Play areas AND Workout areas
- NO SKATE BOARD FEATURE!



- Dog off-leash area
- Natural areas

Question 3

Prior to being purchased by BPRD, the park property was owned by the Coulter Family for over 50 years. The park is now named for the family. On a scale of one to five (one being the least, five being the most), how important is reflection of the family history through interpretive elements such as signage?

Response Average: 2.6

Question 4



If you currently visit or use the park site, describe what you like best and/or least about the property. Please share any other observations or thoughts about the property you would like us to know. If you describe specific places within the park, use the key on the site map to locate your comment. For example, "I love the shade and variety of trees in B2 and B3."

- Possible bike trail transit corridor along parkway on westside. Love big trees + shade + habitat. Would like to see ideas to mitigate noise of parkway. Can the house be used for events or P&R classes etc
- I love how many trees there are
- I love how their trees and the open areas together.
- I would like to drive RC type cars in the middle (B1, B2, B3) Chill area (A1, A2, A3) Structures (C1, C2, C3) so people can be noisy
- Not enough packing
- I do not have further thoughts beyond what I just reported as my top three items in each category
- Near houses that currently have no close access to a park without crossing busy Brookswood
- Mature trees and the native birds and animals supported by natural habitat
- I do love the trees here
- I've never visited the site but from The picture I love that there are so many trees clustered in the center of the property. I hope those will be preserved and other features will be built around the trees.
- B2 and B3



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- C1-the crossing of Hwy 97 is incredibly dangerous. Unfortunately establishing a park on one side of the parkway with so many apartments on the other side will increase the probably of vehicle/pedestrian accidents with peds trying to cross the parkway.
- All the trees! B 1,2,3
- I like the trees in the B sections. I live in the neighborhood and am farthest away from the parkway, yet the traffic noise is always present. All day and night! Please consider a noise reduction high wall the entire length of the C sections.
- I think the seats are good
- I didn't went over there
- DNA. The area is not yet developed and open to public use.
- To begin I would like to see an area were its a spot to hangout and socialize to others while having amenities like covered benches or even a community house.
- Use the trees as a sound/visual barrier for activities on the west side of the property (save as many trees as is feasible). Consider less noise sensitive uses like biking, basketball, etc. closer to 97
- Use the C1 quadrant for parking, or any side close to the highway for parking. The trees could be nice for an area to hang a hammock, and the big open field is lovley too. Throw some disc golf in there.
- I do not visit or use the park, keeping the trees would be great and places to sit and visit
- Limited seating will be better if there is more seating for everyone.
- Nature
- Robot playset
- B2 and B3 trees are probably great - really, while we live on Duncan, we've only been back to the park property a few times at most - the parkway is simply not inviting, relaxing or peaceful. Basketball would be great at this park, because I'm not sure how much peace one could really achieve by the parkway.
- It is crucial to save all the large trees in B1, B2, B3, C2, C3. Groves of trees like these are good for human health and the environment. As noted above, a sound barrier should be constructed along the boundary of C1, C2, C3
- please keep the trees
- I love that it's near our home. I'm concerned that C1-3 is near the Hwy. Will there be a high protective barrier for kids and dogs?
- We like the middle section with trees
- I would love for as many older trees to remain as possible
- Love the trees b1-3 and trees blocking 97
- Ohhhh...I didn't even know it *was* a park, right now.
- The parkway is quite noisy. I would love to see a sound wall built along C1, C2 and C3 to help mitigate that noise as well as provide privacy. Plant a rose garden or roses along the walking path. Leave as much of the rock piles as possible. If there is not to be a designated off leash dog section, consider off leash hours, like from dawn till 8am in the summer and till 10am in the winter. Water source for dogs (water bowls), poop bags and trash can specifically for dog waste.
- Nothing specific but trees and shade are important to me. Love plants and landscape features!



- I love the shade and visual break provided by the trees in B1, B2, and B3. Please don't cut them down! Least favorite would be the road noise and visuals along C1, C2, and C3. Perhaps a barrier, or more trees/landscaping there to break it up.
- The open space in A combined with the trees in B provide a great mix of play space for kid imagination games
- B1-B3 I love all the large trees that offer a buffer from the parkway.
- I do not like that it is so close to the highway, this could be unsafe for kids and dogs. I would like it if the trees remained, so many of our parks are just open lawn which gets hot in the summer
- The proximity to the highway is the most concerning. Lots of trees and bushes would be nice to make it feel safer, look nicer, and have noise protection
- I don't like how it's across from an apartment building where people come out and smoke by the basketball hoops - that would need to be no longer permitted.
- We have not actively used this area, as it has been somewhat neglected over the past ~18 years we've lived here. What we like least is that it's wide open to the parkway, offering little to no sense of separation or protection from vehicles or passersby. What we like most is the presence of mature trees and established plant life. We strongly encourage designing around this existing growth rather than removing it entirely. Parks such as Rock Ridge have done an excellent job of thoughtfully incorporating mature vegetation into their play areas, and we see strong potential for a similar approach here.
- Ideally for safety of the children - I'd like a kids play area to be anywhere in the B1, A1, A2 and A3 area - being so close to 97, makes me nervous.
- The mature trees and rock outcropping throughout B1-B3 are so nice and important to keep on site for preserving the natural space and shade on site. It's a respite with the parkway nearby. Keep noisier activities in section C.
- Trees and location, road noise is what we like the least
- Love the trees and natural area in B2 and B3. Would prefer the amenities expected to be most popular with young children to NOT be in C1, C2, or C3 (closest to the highway).
- I would like to have as many trees remain there as possible B1-3
- I like all the trees on the property

Question 5

What would make you feel welcome in the park?

- Clear paths, dogs on leash, bike only friendly paths to get there from all over southern crossing neighborhood
- Maybe a picnic table Or bench A nice reading spot Play area for kids
- Open grass area and play structure for my kids to play and gather friends.
- Being respectful in chill areas
- Openness.
- Multiple use options
- Small trails
- EZ entrance with good parking too
- Nice walking paths through native pollinating plants
- Places to sit and have my kids play with natural materials, not plastic swing sets and slides.



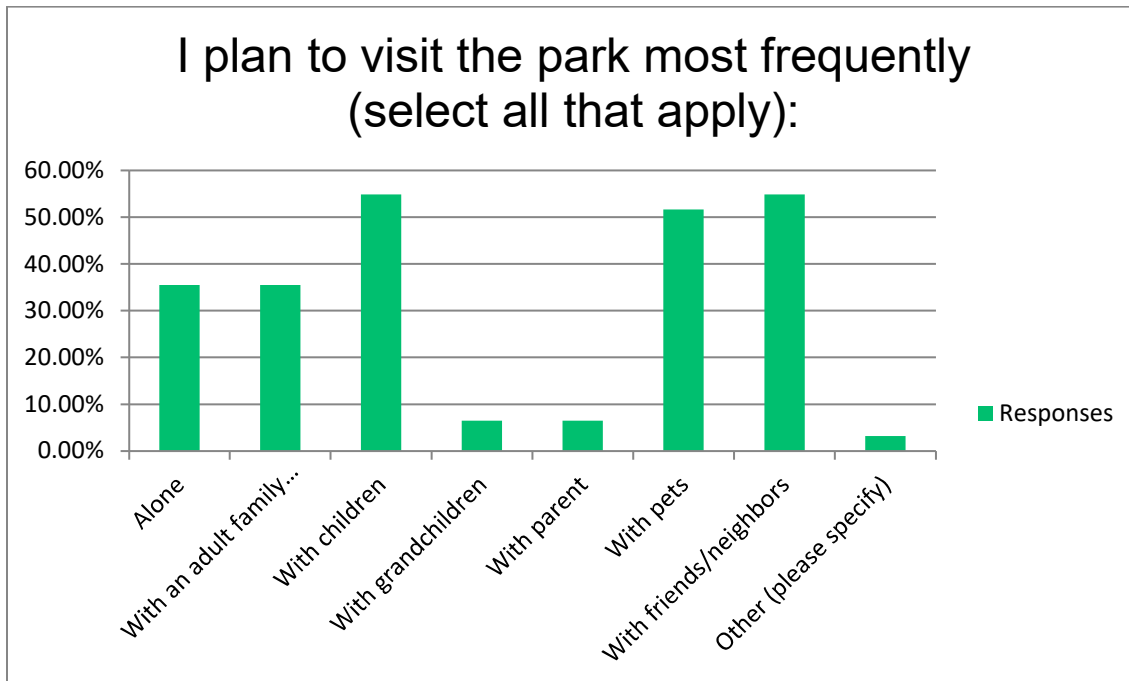
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- No off leash dogs
- Intentional green spaces, not feeling like it's a "leftover" piece of property.
- Places to sit-picnic tables and small sections of lawn
- Accessibility, good lighting, nice walkways and paths, decent clean bathrooms.
- If it was for teens
- Happiness and good activity to do
- Attractive entry sign and possible water feature.
- The environment just depends on who's on and around the park.
- A variety of experiences
- Adequate parking. Areas to walk. Open areas for play, and some ways for another open area to be more for tanning or picnic. Keep the shady trees
- Small bend history
- pathways, info on park history, keeping as much natural as possible
- A safe place like a small shelter seating area
- Sports
- A cool entrance
- A solid fence between the parkway and the park.
- Off-leash area, meandering walking paths through the property.
- Play area with swings and jungle gym for kids with soft surface, walking trails, dog park (plus area for high anxiety dogs)
- Various places to sit on benches or small tables
- Distinct areas with different amenities to allow gatherings of people with similar interest (biking vs picnicking, kids playing vs adults exercising, etc)
- Separation or barrier from the highway would make it feel safer. Would love to see the elements feel integrated with nature.
- Play area for kids
- Cute seating areas and shade.
- A dog friendly park. A walking path with plenty of benches to sit and reflect.
- Features that keep people from loitering or transients from camping given how close it is to the parkway
- I think something for everyone - a path for strollers/scooters/wheelchairs, a squishy floor area for little kids, and big kid park features like a big slide, monkey bars, fireman's pole etc and some benches for the elderly to rest and enjoy sun and shade.
- Places for families
- A variety of uses/activities. I really like the idea of a small gathering space - could be cool to do a small concert series or something. Providing enough trash bins/facilities so it stays clean and relatively dog-poop free.
- Kids play area and an open lawn. An intentional layout that provides play and recreation / nature space
- availability of doggie bags. 2. An area for off-leash dog play with separation from where kids play. 3. Have it being a place of peace where people can gather with friends and maybe play games or enjoy nature.
- Great play area for kids (monkey bars, slides, swings, etc). Dog poop stations. Picnic tables and a restroom.
- Walking pathways, benches, kids' playground - we'll have a 2 year old and a six year old in 2028



- Good parking without feeling like you are disrupting the neighborhoods around it.
- Features that the whole family could enjoy - park features for kids, or bike features & then pickleball or bocce courts for adults to enjoy - along with kids!
- Natural area and seating
- Fenced in park areas, nice play structure
- Safe crosswalks for children (and adults)
- No homeless people and no dog poop.

Question 6



Question 7

Please share any additional comments.

- We have been living in the neighborhood for 10 years Now we have two little kids and we can't wait to Head to the park after school my husband and I want to make a little Free library where the mailboxes are on the other side of the street. Maybe in the future, putting in speed bumps could be a good idea. A lot of people zoom down the street. Thank you, and we are so excited about the park!
- A is a chill area B is the RC area C is the play structure area with a fence. The fence should have art and a lot of colors.
- Free access
- Small parks are needed within high density neighborhoods
- Thanks
- This is not the place for it, but SW Bend needs some public pickleball courts!!
- Please keep as many mature trees as possible.



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- Please utilize our Central Oregon Master Gardener resource to train your employees on proper techniques for pruning! So much damage is being done to perennial shrubs and trees, due to improper techniques & a lack of understanding as to how the late season berries & stalks provide necessary habitat. Pruning classes cost as little as \$5, with a specialist that has decades of training and experience. Stop hacking the landscape!!
- I found out because of my teacher
- I want to make full court of basketball so at one time so many people can play
- I will submit more detailed recommendations to BPRD in formal document.
- If possible have the park were it feels welcome like adding activities like basketball or even an area to hang about.
- Really glad you guys are doing this. BPRD is the shizzle. I'd just hope that the park is designed so that the houses on merriewood lane have some sort of privacy both ways. Both residents of the houses, and park goers are not interacting with each other. Goes for parking and oritation of any gazebos or event spaces if they're on that side. Hope you guys take the highway into account with the design.
- Make it awsome
- Robot playset where the arms are the slides, people could climb in the head to press buttons and at light the eyes glow
- Would like as many trees preserved as possible affording residents close proximity to a natural park experience. Bend's tree canopy is dwindling as are places where people can enjoy healthy recreation in natural, open space.
- -Playground with swings, jungle gym -Dog park plus private area for high anxiety dogs - Perimeter walking trail -Rock climbing wall -Athletic field for soccer or football
- Bird houses and pollinating plants would be nice also.
- Trees and other natural elements please! Not sure if there are any boulders or large rocks on the property, but would love it if there were
- Would love to see bike lane or path connecting to existing canal trail. Speeding car traffic on Reed Ln has increased with large apartment complex having only one entrance.
- An area for workouts, w. structures specific to that would be AWESOME! (I've seen a lot of parks like this in Japan.) Walking paths to canal paths would be great. SAFETY features would be important, as it has a close proximity to the Hwy (i.e. speed and abduction.)
- For clarification, the Coulter family owned the property for 65 years.
- This is such an amazing opportunity for this neighborhood- thank you for taking the time to make thoughtful choices about our community. It means a lot!
- I'm really excited about this project! I think this will really spruce the neighborhood up a bit. I do think that it would be helpful to have a plan to mitigate / manage the road noise - 97 can get really loud at times!
- Thank you for this survey.
- There are currently no full size or even small but usable soccer nets to my knowledge in the west side of Bend available to the public. Similarly the city to my knowledge has no futsal or ground soccer areas. Other sports that require low maintenance from the city have much easier access (open lawn for baseball or basketball courts for example). It would be great to have something here accessible for this sport that has been a massively growing one in our community.
- I live within two blocks of this park and have elementary age kids and a dog, this would get used a lot!



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- So excited that there will be a park here - thank you!
- Please strongly consider not adding an off-leash dog area or any space specifically dedicated to pets. There are already numerous options in the area for dog exercise, and the canal trail is very close and well-suited for that purpose. While many people love dogs, not everyone wants every public space to be centered around them. Public expectations around dogs and their owners vary widely, and designing every new area with dogs in mind can unintentionally take focus away from children and family-oriented uses. This park represents an opportunity to prioritize kids and community gathering rather than duplicating amenities that already exist nearby. I strongly urge you not to incorporate dog-specific features into this park.
- We are excited for this park to come to our area!