

Roberts Bird Sanctuary Improvements Project

Q1 What is your home zip code?

Answered: 37 Skipped: 0

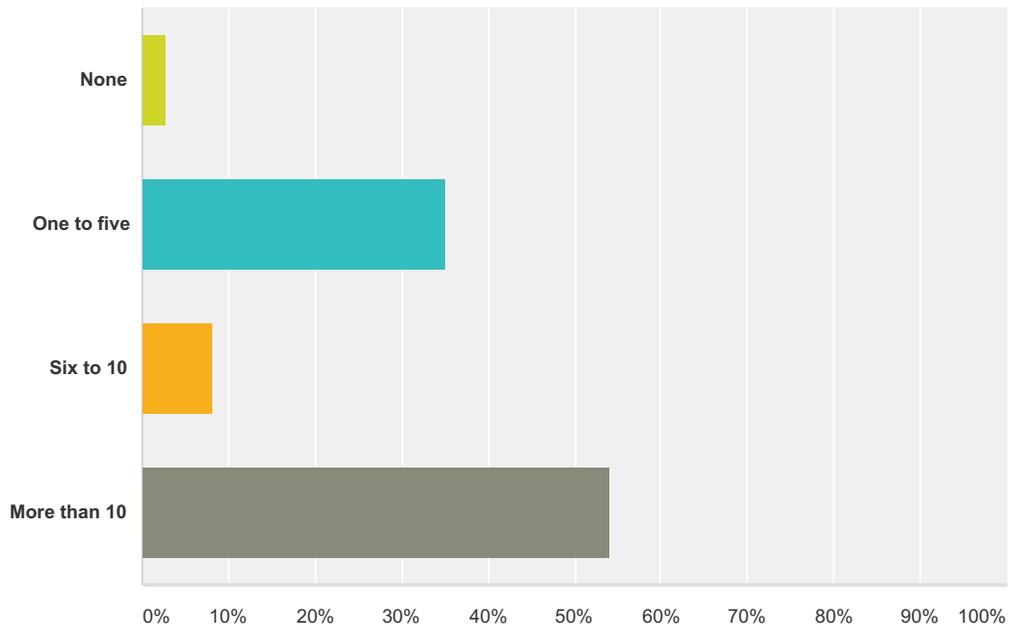
#	Responses	Date
1	55409	3/4/2016 3:25 PM
2	55406	3/3/2016 11:15 PM
3	55410	3/3/2016 3:18 PM
4	55410	3/3/2016 3:17 PM
5	55409	3/3/2016 1:31 PM
6	55406	3/3/2016 10:15 AM
7	55409	3/2/2016 10:17 PM
8	55419	3/2/2016 6:03 PM
9	55082	3/2/2016 2:34 PM
10	55410	3/2/2016 1:25 PM
11	55386	3/2/2016 8:21 AM
12	55414	2/29/2016 8:00 AM
13	55410	2/27/2016 10:10 AM
14	55436	2/26/2016 9:40 PM
15	55125	2/26/2016 9:52 AM
16	55419	2/25/2016 10:39 AM
17	55406	2/24/2016 4:04 PM
18	55419	2/23/2016 9:23 AM
19	55405	2/23/2016 8:31 AM
20	55409	2/22/2016 10:13 PM
21	55405	2/22/2016 9:13 PM
22	55408	2/22/2016 7:20 PM
23	55408	2/22/2016 4:41 PM
24	55408	2/22/2016 4:34 PM
25	55409	2/22/2016 3:55 PM
26	55405	2/22/2016 3:40 PM
27	55408	2/22/2016 3:32 PM
28	55410	2/22/2016 3:25 PM
29	55408	2/22/2016 3:17 PM
30	55409	2/22/2016 2:47 PM
31	55408	2/22/2016 12:04 PM
32	55410	2/20/2016 5:53 PM
33	55406	2/20/2016 4:19 PM
34	55410	2/19/2016 9:12 PM
35	55408	2/19/2016 8:38 PM

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36	55419	2/19/2016 5:52 PM
37	55418	2/19/2016 4:50 PM

Q2 How often have you visited Roberts Bird Sanctuary in the past year?

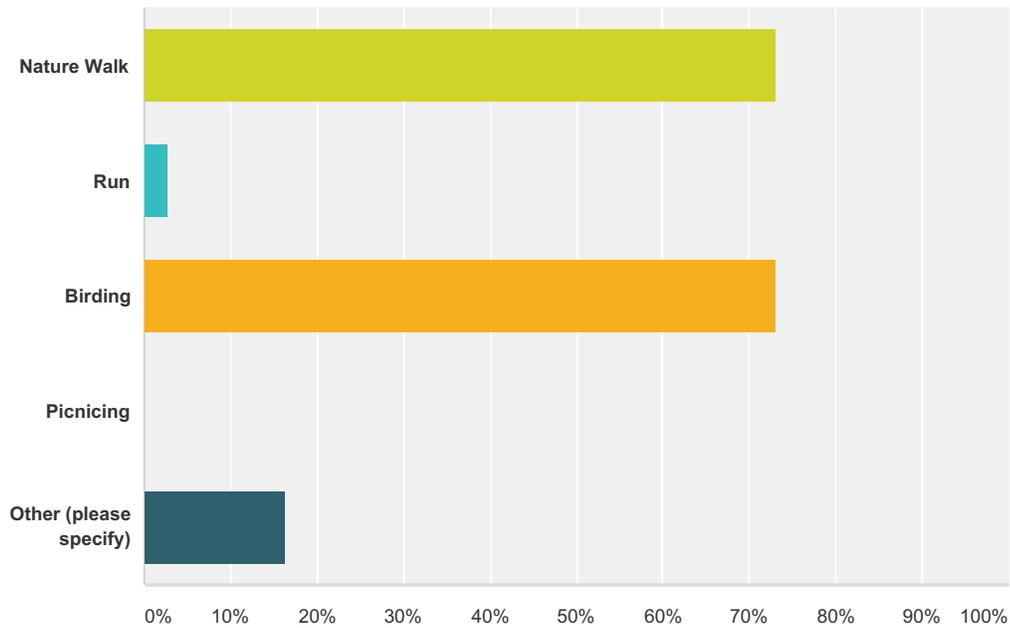
Answered: 37 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
None	2.70% 1
One to five	35.14% 13
Six to 10	8.11% 3
More than 10	54.05% 20
Total	37

Q3 What type of recreation activity do you do most often at Roberts Bird Sanctuary?

Answered: 37 Skipped: 0

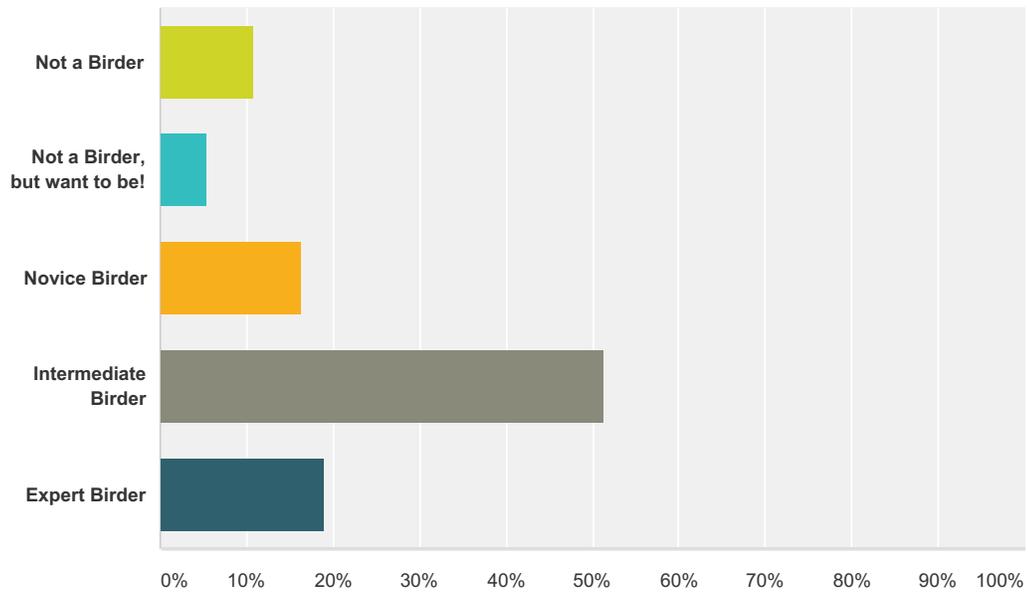


Answer Choices	Responses
Nature Walk	72.97% 27
Run	2.70% 1
Birding	72.97% 27
Picnicing	0.00% 0
Other (please specify)	16.22% 6
Total Respondents: 37	

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	quiet place to think	3/3/2016 1:31 PM
2	enjoying one of the few spaces that was and is intended to be a refuge and sanctuary, as opposed to a recreational area.	3/2/2016 1:25 PM
3	Meditation, invasive species pull with The Friends of Roberts Bird Sanctuary, Relaxing to Sounds of Nature	2/22/2016 9:13 PM
4	photography	2/22/2016 7:20 PM
5	Pulling up buckthorn!	2/22/2016 3:25 PM
6	I have not been at R.B.S. for years! Last time did not feel safe with apparent sex & men approaching me!	2/19/2016 9:12 PM

Q4 What level of Birder would you consider yourself?

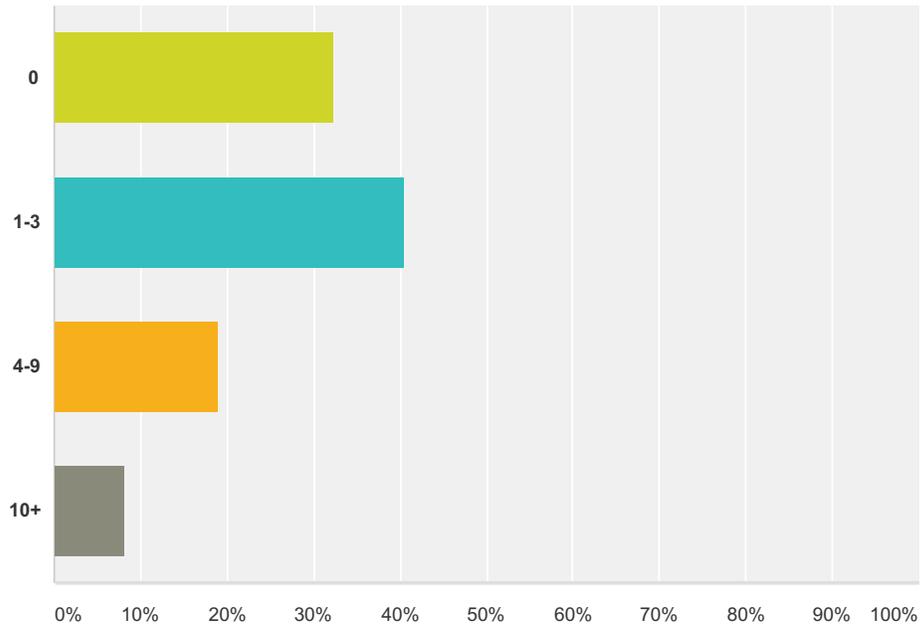
Answered: 37 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
Not a Birder	10.81% 4
Not a Birder, but want to be!	5.41% 2
Novice Birder	16.22% 6
Intermediate Birder	51.35% 19
Expert Birder	18.92% 7
Total Respondents: 37	

Q5 How many volunteer hours per month are you willing to donate at Roberts Bird Sanctuary? (pulling invasive species, planting native species, help with guided birding walks, etc.)

Answered: 37 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
0	32.43% 12
1-3	40.54% 15
4-9	18.92% 7
10+	8.11% 3
Total Respondents: 37	

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Q6 What do you love about Roberts Bird Sanctuary?

Answered: 36 Skipped: 1

#	Responses	Date
1	natural area in the heart of city	3/4/2016 3:45 PM
2	Variety of habitat, isolation in the middle of the city and of course the variety of birds.	3/3/2016 11:17 PM
3	Birding - especially during migration.	3/3/2016 3:34 PM
4	Protected birding habitat in the city	3/3/2016 3:22 PM
5	In a word - everything The fact that birds have migrated through this area for hundreds/thousands of years and still come. That people are working to protect that tiny plot of land so that the birds can continue to come forever. The wide variety of life - beyond the birds - that are in Roberts: fish, frogs, toads, deer raccoons, butterflies, dragon- and damselflies bees, wasps, spiders, squirrels, chipmunks, mink, fox; endless species of plants, mushrooms and lichens The bright blue of the sky, various forms of clouds, the smell of wet spring or fall leaves, the variations in temperature. The joy of sharing all that with others, whether they are in a bird group or just passing through - the endless possibilities of being "an ambassador of Roberts". The history of Superintendent Christian Bossen, Dr. T.S. Roberts and the long list of others who have loved and protected Roberts Bird Sanctuary as a haven for over 100 years. It is where I go to take a breath; remember all I have experienced here before, and truly enjoy all that is around me. I can then return to the rest of my life restored.	3/3/2016 1:34 PM
6	Quiet, natural space.	3/3/2016 10:32 AM
7	Nature adn quiet within the city.	3/2/2016 10:24 PM
8	Quiet beauty. Bird sounds and sighting.	3/2/2016 6:18 PM
9	I love that it exists and that you have a team looking at how to make it better for birds and for people!	3/2/2016 2:37 PM
10	As I said earlier, I love that it was and is intended to be a refuge/sanctuary/habitat area for birds and nature, and not a "all things to all people recreational area" too. There are countless recreational areas and bike paths and running paths and dog parks and playgrounds, all of which provide countless forums for our citizens and visitors to do those activities. But Roberts was intended to have a primary purpose as a refuge/sanctuary/habitat for birds (and plants and wildlife), not for bikers, runners, dogs, geocachers, etc.	3/2/2016 1:33 PM
11	That it is a sanctuary. A comparatively quieter place with no recreation except walking	3/2/2016 8:28 AM
12	The Sanctuary is a wild oasis in the city.	2/29/2016 8:06 AM
13	The fact that it was created and continues to be a unique low impact (i.e.walking) sanctuary for birds, other animals and plants.	2/27/2016 10:29 AM
14	The getting into "the woods feeling", peace and quiet, away from runners, people on phones, people walking their dogs, bicycles. Birds, other wildlife, butterflies, wild flowers, occasional old friends who frequent other Nature Places, school children (those who have been taught that it is a sanctuary, not a gymnasium!)	2/26/2016 10:03 PM
15	seeing wildlife	2/26/2016 9:59 AM
16	The history, the birds, a side trip when we are walking around Lake Harriet	2/24/2016 4:05 PM
17	The birds, huge trees, wildflowers, proximity to home--a natural refuge in the middle of the city. What a resource!	2/23/2016 9:25 AM
18	That it exists as an undeveloped space.	2/23/2016 8:35 AM
19	That it is a refuge for flora and fauna in the city.	2/22/2016 10:17 PM
20	That it is a natural area with a healthy native plant community. I love that it is mostly undeveloped (except for maintenance area, the trails, and an old building). I really like that because the sanctuary is fragmented with many trails you can see a large variety of birds. I like that it is NOT A PARK: No dogs, no smoking, no setting up picnics. It is first and foremost about the wild animals and plants that need it and I really like that.	2/22/2016 9:21 PM
21	- the birds! - the native plants - the quiet and the shade - the water areas (I'd love for there to be a good boardwalk!) - the unpaved trails (esp for running through) - the proximity to the Peace Garden and the other gardens (and the porta potties and water fountain and bike racks) - the proximity to Lake Harriet and the features there (beach, bandshell) - the proximity to where I live (CARAG/LynLake)	2/22/2016 7:35 PM

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22	Solitude, primitive, undeveloped.	2/22/2016 4:42 PM
23	The quiet, the wildlife, and the lack of other people most of the time.	2/22/2016 4:36 PM
24	The wilderness of the walk.	2/22/2016 3:58 PM
25	Variety of micro-habitats in such a small area. Lots of birds! Peaceful despite proximity to crowded lake Harriet. The water. Flooded some years, drier in others, ponds and little channel.	2/22/2016 3:42 PM
26	The wildlife and peaceful location.	2/22/2016 3:41 PM
27	It's fairly wild.	2/22/2016 3:34 PM
28	I like that it has a great diversity of birds right in the heart of the city.	2/22/2016 3:22 PM
29	peace, if you can ignore the jets	2/22/2016 2:52 PM
30	The natural woods and the birds.	2/22/2016 12:04 PM
31	That's it's an undeveloped natural area when human impacts are minimal and birds and wildlife can exist.	2/20/2016 5:55 PM
32	No tar. Quiet pathways. Lots of migrating bird sightings.	2/20/2016 4:21 PM
33	Wooded space in city to walk in.	2/19/2016 9:19 PM
34	It's a good birding spot, right here in the cities. You've got to remember: kids in the city don't know what "the woods" are!	2/19/2016 8:41 PM
35	It's close and small.	2/19/2016 5:53 PM
36	I like how wild it is. There are too few places in the park system that you can "get away from it all."	2/19/2016 4:51 PM

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Q7 What do you dislike about Roberts Bird Sanctuary?

Answered: 36 Skipped: 1

#	Responses	Date
1	not enuf people know it is here	3/4/2016 3:45 PM
2	Poor signage; hard to navigate entrances; broken fencing.	3/3/2016 11:17 PM
3	Plastic Boardwalk, occasional dog walker or cyclist, lack of public understanding that it is a sanctuary (not a recreational area).	3/3/2016 3:34 PM
4	At this point, broken and unsafe board walks	3/3/2016 3:22 PM
5	People misusing and disrespecting the bird sanctuary - biking, walking dogs, blazing trails wherever they want to go, camping overnight, leaving trash, being loud and disruptive, geocaching, photographers stressing birds. Like most of Minneapolis parkland the bird sanctuary is considered "shared space". This is a fragile 31 acre site with a lot of wetland. There are adjacent lands that are more suited for shared activities. The disruptive activities I have listed above can and should be done outside of the bird sanctuary. Just because the space could be used for multiple and varied activities doesn't necessarily mean it should be used for any and all activities. It should be a more respected quiet site.	3/3/2016 1:34 PM
6	Poor maintenance of trail. Fence and boardwalk have obviously been neglected for many years.	3/3/2016 10:32 AM
7	Invasive species, noisy people and dogs running loose.	3/2/2016 10:24 PM
8	Unsafe walkways. Presence of dogs. Poor condition of fence surrounding the area.	3/2/2016 6:18 PM
9	when I went there last there were some scruffy looking areas (broken fences etc.) and no signage or interpretation that I saw - it's likely there somewhere or in your plans	3/2/2016 2:37 PM
10	Users who come in it to run, bike, run their dog, or otherwise disrupt the refuge/habitat and the species that should be protected and safe to live, grow, inhabit the space.	3/2/2016 1:33 PM
11	People who violate restrictions e.g. Bikers, dog walkers, runners. It can be dangerous and/or scary to encounter a fast moving bike, runner or dog on the trail	3/2/2016 8:28 AM
12	Access is poor, many volunteer trails, parking fees are unbalanced with adjacent parking rates.	2/29/2016 8:06 AM
13	Use that disrespects the purpose of the sanctuary, e.g. dogs (predators, waste), bikes (speed and dangerous for walkers on path), running (same as bikes), groups that go off trail like geo-caching).	2/27/2016 10:29 AM
14	Runners, boisterous carousing children who apparently don't realize, or haven't learned, that Roberts is a Bird Sanctuary, and who are oblivious to the disturbance they are creating.....BICYCLISTS and people walking dogs, ignoring the signs forbidding these activities!	2/26/2016 10:03 PM
15	a little small	2/26/2016 9:59 AM
16	The last few times it has just felt "trashed" in an ecological sense	2/24/2016 4:05 PM
17	Airplane noise.	2/23/2016 9:25 AM
18	General disrepair invites abuse.	2/23/2016 8:35 AM
19	Too small. Very little emphasis in adjacent lands on sanctuary, conservation, preservation. I see turtles leave the wetlands and immediately cross a busy parkway with huge curbs. Those curbs are insurmountable walls to baby turtles, frogs. They fall into the road only to never be able to get out and then they get run over.	2/22/2016 10:17 PM
20	I dislike that the fence is falling down around a large portion of it. I dislike that the maintenance area is within the sanctuary and think that it should be consolidated with the other MPRB facilities nearby. I dislike that many people run through the sanctuary and bring their dogs into it.	2/22/2016 9:21 PM
21	- the broken boardwalk - the entrance on the west side (especially the lack of crosswalk/sidewalk, and the turn in the road right there - it feels unsafe to cross and enter there) - the non-native plants - when people bring dogs in (I worry about the impact on the birds)	2/22/2016 7:35 PM
22	muddy paths, standing water	2/22/2016 4:42 PM

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23	The mess and disruption left by last summer's construction. The terrible plastic walkway that is broken in several places AND dangerously slippery when wet or snowy.	2/22/2016 4:36 PM
24	More trail information.	2/22/2016 3:58 PM
25	Dog-walkers and others who aren't there for nature. They leave lots of trash, scare wildlife, etc.	2/22/2016 3:42 PM
26	The use of chemicals.	2/22/2016 3:41 PM
27	Can't think of anything.	2/22/2016 3:34 PM
28	No bike parking at west entrance. Boardwalks that fall apart making trails unusable.	2/22/2016 3:22 PM
29	people are bringing their dogs in, the new plantings along the main path	2/22/2016 2:52 PM
30	Mosquitos	2/22/2016 12:04 PM
31	The joggers running through the Sanctuary, because they disturb birders and walkers looking for quiet and calm. Runners should use the path around Lake Harriet!	2/20/2016 5:55 PM
32	Runoff from cemetary grounds. Pesticides, etc. Plastic walkway is sinking in water.	2/20/2016 4:21 PM
33	As a Man I do not want male people to "check me out" or other people to think that is why am at R.B.S. It has a lot of trash in it.	2/19/2016 9:19 PM
34	Obviously the habitat is quite degraded. We don't want much done, it should be left undeveloped, but the state of the fence and boardwalks is unacceptable.	2/19/2016 8:41 PM
35	Nothing.	2/19/2016 5:53 PM
36	There is a lot of buckthorn, and I do not always feel safe. The entrances are not very welcoming too.	2/19/2016 4:51 PM

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Q8 Any general comments or big ideas?

Answered: 31 Skipped: 6

#	Responses	Date
1	We know that Henry David Thoreau walked around Lake Harriet at least once in June 1861. I now proceed thru Roberts with his essay 'Walking' in mind.	3/4/2016 3:45 PM
2	Add a NO BICYCLES sign to the west entrance and delay any changes to the west entrance until the Calhoun-Harriet Project has been finalized.	3/3/2016 3:34 PM
3	At main entrance it would be fun and informative to post names and photos/info about birds being currently seen	3/3/2016 3:22 PM
4	<p>First do no harm / less is more I agree we should do a better job of identifying the site for what it is and its history. In addition to some carefully designed and maintained signage; there could be periodic historical or ecological presentations given in the shelter. People should know of the work to preserve and protect the Sanctuary done by Superintendent Bossen, Dr. Roberts, Friends of Roberts Bird Sanctuary, the Audubon Chapter of Minneapolis, the Minneapolis Audubon Society and many others over the years. There are already many sponsored/organized activities during the year. Friends of Roberts has volunteer opportunities, East Harriet Farmstead has nature programs for children. There is an annual bee/pollinator festival held here. Bird walks are held throughout the year by the Park Board, Audubon Chapter of Minneapolis and the Minneapolis Audubon Society. The Urban Bird Festival often holds activities in Roberts. There is also a eager willingness of many birders to talk with any and all people walking in the sanctuary. The Peace Garden gardeners have been working on their native plantings near the entrance for several years, in addition to all the great garden work they have done in all of Lyndale Park. There are now so many programs and opportunities for families to explore nature with their children, I don't feel we need to do much programing or signage (esp. smart phone tech) in the Sanctuary. I feel it would best be used primarily as a site where families and individuals could go quietly and explore on their own. There is not the space or staffing ability (paid or volunteer) to compete with all the readily available programs and natures centers. "No Child Left Indoors" does not always need to be scheduled or programmed, but there needs to be a place to just be in nature. Some signage could be placed at the entrances to the Sanctuary to briefly explain the designation and importance of this site. Put the kiosks back in the shelter and have a committee of Park Board staff/Friends of Roberts Bird Sanctuary, Audubon Chapter of Minneapolis and Minneapolis Audubon Society be in charge of keeping displays and announcements current and useful. Information explaining the Sanctuary's designation as a "National Audubon Society's Important Bird Area" as well as part of "U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Urban Migratory Bird Treaty". Planting plans and updates could consider translating existing native plants from portions of the Sanctuary with healthy populations to areas that could use more plantings. Would it be feasible - coordinated by the Park Board staff and the volunteer gardeners - for local gardeners thinning out their healthy populations of native plants to donate them to the Sanctuary? Also are there any programs through the Arbor Day Society that could assist in new plantings for Roberts? Could the part of the fence on the east side (facing rose and peace gardens) be designed to be something more than a chain link fence - something that would fit in better with the work that has been put into the gardens and therefore designate Roberts Bird Sanctuary as another part of the lovely space that is "Lyndale Park". I like the proposal to keep the current entrance and shelter (which could remain a quiet "birders' entrance with less other through-traffic) and moving the main entrance back to the currently locked gate just off the Peace Garden. Using this as the main entrance, one is lead to the recently landscaped level, graveled Bossen Lane (which, I believe was in the past referred to as the Bridle Path). This would be a readily available entrance for families with small children and strollers, handicapped people, people walking to and from bandshell and an extension of a walk through the gardens to a more natural space. Could there be a few more benches (perhaps 3-4 more - there is only one currently) spaced along that path for families, handicapped, elderly and others to have an opportunity to sit and rest and quietly enjoy nature? I am against any plan that would include paving paths - also the materials used for boardwalk need to be safe now and in the future. Plans should include replacing/rerouting boardwalk sections that are "lifted" due to tree root growth. I would be in favor of adding the corner to the Sanctuary as listed on page 25 of the draft report. It has been mention and should be considered having: martin house by Rose Garden fountains, chimney swift tower placed outside the Sanctuary but still in Lyndale Park, and keeping snags in the Sanctuary for red-headed woodpecker habitat. I would add checking the feasibility of bluebird house along the fence by the cemetery. Audubon has specific recovery projects for these birds. Perhaps some bat house could also be included. I am in favor of regular clean-up events in the Sanctuary. I know there have been Earth Day clean-ups, but perhaps adding several throughout the year would be helpful- especially one in the fall. Perhaps an "adopt-the-sanctuary" program could be tried - although as I discuss below -we should not make more administrative/organizing work for people. Plans for activities that need volunteers or programming should keep in mind that Minneapolis is rich in already existing resources and most people are already involved in other activities, programs and volunteer efforts. We do not need to complete or try to replicate these activities, but instead find quiet ways to complement them. I look forward to seeing this Roberts Sanctuary project move forward and, of course, for all of us to be able to continue to enjoy this precious Sanctuary for birds.</p>	3/3/2016 1:34 PM

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5	I am concerned about water quality in the stream and the ponds. It would be good to have more native plants.	3/3/2016 10:32 AM
6	This area is a park system treasure. Let's make the east entrance inviting and informative and close the west entrance. I would like to see the fence repaired to define the area, contain trash and to help keep people on the trails.	3/2/2016 6:18 PM
7	I would visit and volunteer if it were closer to where I live. I put 0 for vol hours per month but would likely participate in a volunteer event say 1-2x per year if you got them going.	3/2/2016 2:37 PM
8	Remember always it was and is to be a sanctuary for birds and nature -- other recreational users already have countless forums and paths and parks to enjoy those activities, and it's OK to say that Roberts is not for those uses and users.	3/2/2016 1:33 PM
9	More press about the uniqueness, importance and fragility of the site. Why the site is different (and receive protection), why it the site is important etc....This could educate the public. You don't care about what you don't understand.	3/2/2016 8:28 AM
10	Add boardwalks, bird blinds or a canopy observation tower and interpretive information.	2/29/2016 8:06 AM
11	1) There are hundreds of other parks, pathways and facilities for biking, running and dogs. Some within feet or blocks of the sanctuary. Roberts is a refuge which justifiably should have restricted uses and access (i.e. only two-legged walking). There does not seem to be any enforcement of existing rules. 2) Roberts is a refuge with many declining or threatened bird species which rely upon the Roberts habitat. So creating/maintaining habitat that supports these species is crucial.	2/27/2016 10:29 AM
12	What's so hard to understand about what a Sanctuary has been designated as a Sanctuary should be? Why is there a constant battle to keep a space like this the way it was meant to be?	2/26/2016 10:03 PM
13	may improve the webpage	2/26/2016 9:59 AM
14	I wish but am anxious to see what you come up with	2/24/2016 4:05 PM
15	Dear city of Minneapolis, please preserve this unique asset for wildlife and people.	2/23/2016 9:25 AM
16	Expand! Conservation, sanctuary and preservation do NOT happen in isolation. We need corridors, networks, connected routes and throughways to support our wildlife.	2/22/2016 10:17 PM
17	Please keep the sanctuary as undeveloped as possible. Do not build new trails and further fragment the limited space. Do not build a large ADA complaint entrance into the sanctuary. If ADA compliance is necessary please keep the entrance outside of the sanctuary and do not pave any of the sanctuary. When thinking about future use of the sanctuary just consider "less is more" in this fragile space. It is impossible to improve upon nature so anything that is done to develop the area will degrade it as a natural area. Instead, spend the funds to repair the fence and pull it up along the road instead of down in the wet lands. Spend extra money on the fence and do not leave old cement pilings buried in the earth. Remove the old plastic trail and reduce the overall number of trails within the sanctuary to increase the number of birds people get to see when they are there. Do not build a picnic area near the sanctuary when there is so many great spots for a picnic in the Peace Garden.	2/22/2016 9:21 PM
18	- Interpretative signage and other info would be great! Some info about the land's history (including Native presence/uses), and some about the current natural features. Maybe via QRC, so people can use their phones and it can be updated easily/remotely. Let's help people realize what a gem it is, so they'll be more inclined to enjoy, preserve, and maintain it! - What about a bird blind/platform overlooking the marsh area? - A few more benches and some trash/recycling/compost bins would be good. - Bicycle racks nearby on the west side. - What about a bird catalog, like the plant catalog that Eloise Butler published for that property? - Park-led walks there.	2/22/2016 7:35 PM
19	Get rid of the noxious weeds (burdock, buckthorn, etc.), repair the walkway, and otherwise leave the area as undisturbed as possible.	2/22/2016 4:36 PM
20	Fix the fence. No dogs allowed.	2/22/2016 3:58 PM
21	When was the last full bio-inventory of the bird sanctuary? This is a small enough area that I would imagine we could do not just birds, but mammals, fish, amphibians, insects and plants. (With help!) This would be a good basis for any consideration of future education signage or other programs, as well as potentially raising the visibility of the site as a place worth conserving. I also wonder about bird walks for school groups. It would be important to control numbers and behavior, but properly-managed groups from nearby schools (Southwest, Barton, Burroughs, etc) could be a supplement to trips to bigger places like Wood Lake or Wirth Park.	2/22/2016 3:42 PM
22	Stop using all chemicals in or near the Roberts Sanctuary.	2/22/2016 3:41 PM
23	Perhaps more educational informational displays, where appropriate.	2/22/2016 3:34 PM
24	Keep the design such that people do not bring their dogs into the sanctuary.	2/22/2016 3:22 PM
25	bring back the elderberry bushes that were removed during buckthorn eradication efforts	2/22/2016 2:52 PM

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26	No.	2/22/2016 12:04 PM
27	Repair the fence and leave the Sanctuary alone!	2/20/2016 5:55 PM
28	Please keep it as wild as possible.	2/20/2016 4:21 PM
29	Lets have convicted people that are sentenced to community service do routine clean up.	2/19/2016 9:19 PM
30	Just don't screw it up.	2/19/2016 8:41 PM
31	Pesticides should never be used in the sanctuary.	2/19/2016 5:53 PM