

# Appendix A: Public Survey Summary

## Appendix A Contents:

<b>Survey Information .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Survey Publicity .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Survey Questions .....</b>	<b>3</b>
Q1. What is your home zip code? .....	3
Q2. What is your connection to the Delta? (Select all that apply) .....	5
Q3. Which of the following descriptions best matches what you'd like the Delta Trail to be? (select one) .....	6
Q4. Do you have an example of a trail that best matches what you'd like the Delta Trail to be? If so, please share the name or location: .....	8
Q5. What would you like included in a Delta Trail system? (Select all that apply) .....	9
Q6 What is most important to you for the Delta Trail? (Select up to 3) .....	10
Q7. How would you use the Delta Trail? (Select up to 3) .....	12
Q8. What would make it easier for you to get to the Delta Trail? (Select all that apply) .....	13
Q9. What would make it easier for you to use the Delta Trail? (Select up to 3) .....	14
Q10. What challenges would you like the Master Plan to address? (Select up to 3) .....	15
<b>Public Survey Quotes .....</b>	<b>16</b>

## Survey Information

**Start Date of Survey:** Monday, May 3, 2021

**End Date of Online Survey:** Friday, June 18, 2021 (47 days / almost 7 weeks)

**Total Respondents:** 201

- **Paper Responses:** 15
- **Online Responses:** 186
- **Spanish Responses:** 1 (paper)

**Email Addresses Shared:** 131 shared for future updates

## Survey Publicity

Several notifications about the survey were posted in the Delta Happenings newsletter and emailed to the Stakeholder Advisory and Technical Advisory Committees and other individuals who opted-in to notification. In addition, English and Spanish language flyers and paper copies of the survey were posted throughout the Delta.



**Figure A-1:** 4"x6" Postcards in Spanish and English were distributed throughout the Delta to promote the survey.

## Survey Questions

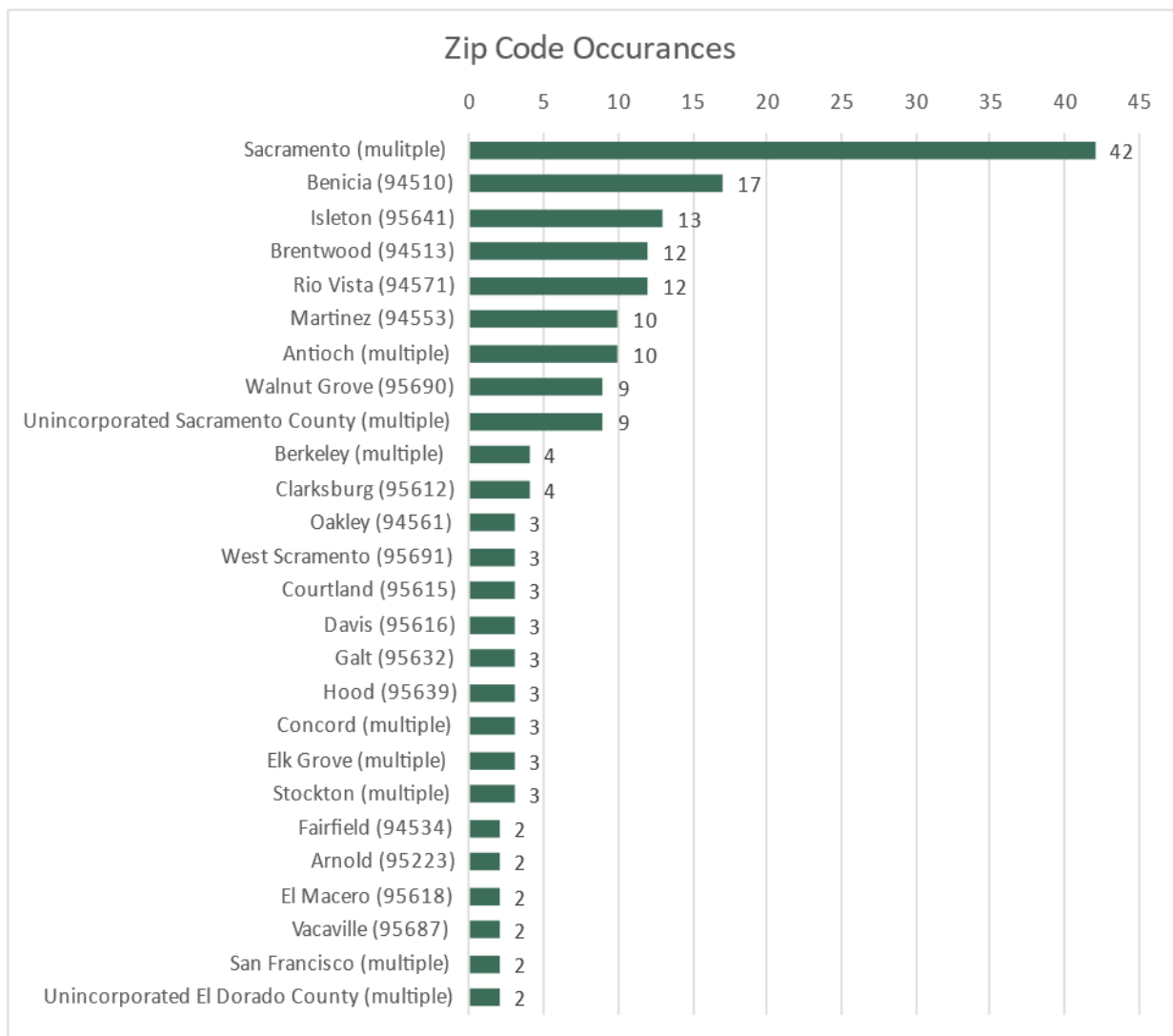
The survey consisted of 15 questions. Most were multiple choice. Most survey questions offered an option for users to enter additional text as an “other” option. The final question also prompted survey takers to write any additional thoughts. 78 survey takers added additional information in the final question. This text of the final question and the “other” responses has not been analyzed.

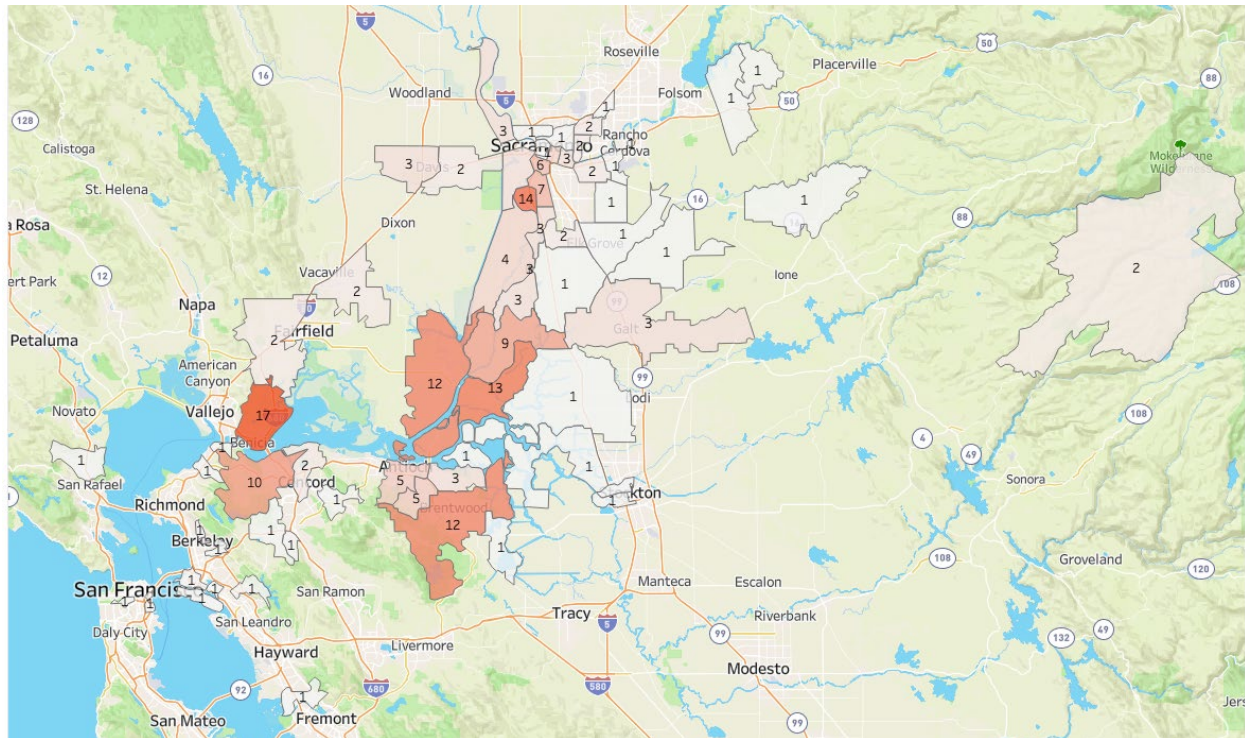
The survey results and analysis for each question are below. These results include responses to both the print survey and the online survey.

### Q1. What is your home zip code?

69 unique values returned.

The chart below reflects all zip codes with two or more responses:





**Figure A-2: Map of Delta Survey responses by zip code.**



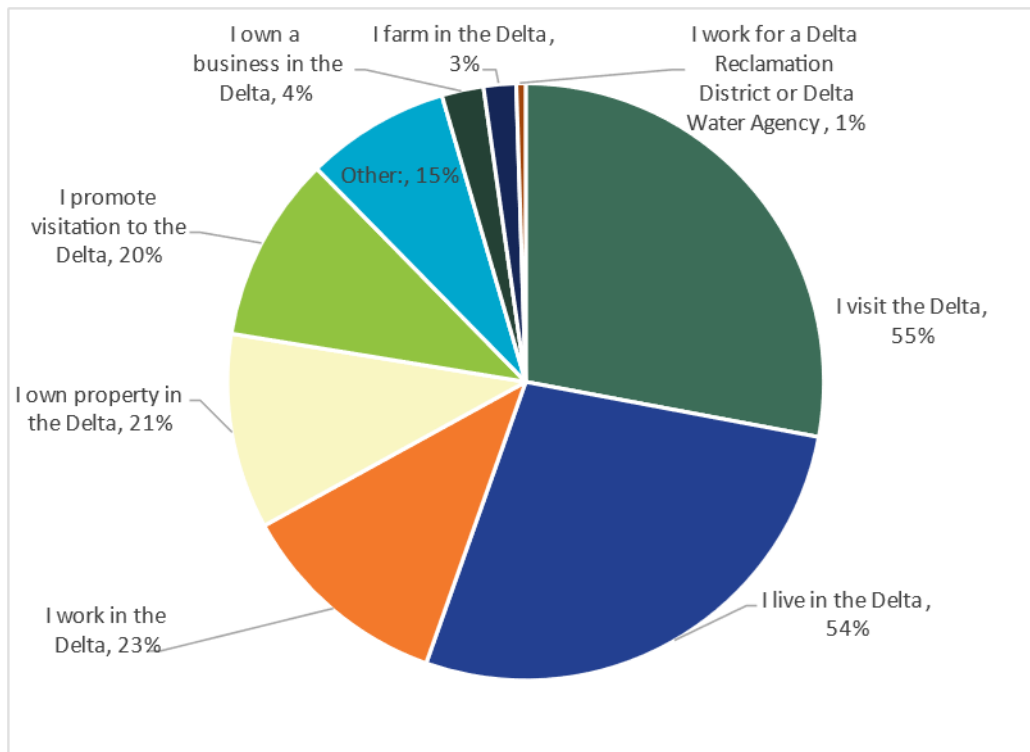
The zip code heat map above, based on the intensity of orange, indicates where the survey takers live. Zip codes with the least survey takers are shown with a pale shade of purple and zip codes with the most survey takers are shown with darker shades of purple. Most survey takers lived within the Delta Study Area, in the Greater Sacramento area, or in the Bay Area. There were no survey takers from Tracy or other communities at the southern end of the study area.

The zip code 94510 had most survey takers, 17 individuals. 94510 is located within or bordering Benicia, Vallejo, and Martinez. This zip code area spans the waterfront from the Carquinez Strait to Grizzly Bay and includes the land on either side of the Suisun Slough.

The second most common zip code for survey takers, 95831 with 14 individuals, is in the Pocket neighborhood along the Sacramento River within or bordering Sacramento and West Sacramento. This zip code is included in the overall tally for Sacramento, which had 42 individual responses over ten zip codes.

## Q2. What is your connection to the Delta? (Select all that apply)

Value	Percent	Count
I visit the Delta	55%	111
I live in the Delta	54%	109
I work in the Delta	23%	46
I own property in the Delta	21%	42
I promote visitation to the Delta	20%	40
Other:	15%	31
I own a business in the Delta	4%	9
I farm in the Delta	3%	7
I work for a Delta Reclamation District or Delta Water Agency	1%	2



Survey takers were asked to identify their relationship to the Delta. Most people have multiple connections to the Delta and were able to select as many options as desired. About half of the respondents selected one connection and almost half selected two or more connections to the Delta. Four respondents (2%) selected no connection to the Delta. Of those survey takers who selected only one connection to the Delta, 55% indicated that they visit the Delta and 54% live in the Delta. These responses indicate that the survey reached many Delta visitors and residents, but few business owners and farmers. Further follow up with those groups may be warranted.

### Other responses grouped by common themes

*Delta Recreation: 10 comments*

*Grew up in the Delta/Lived in the Delta/Family Lives in Delta: 5 comments*

*Lives near the Delta: 3 comments*

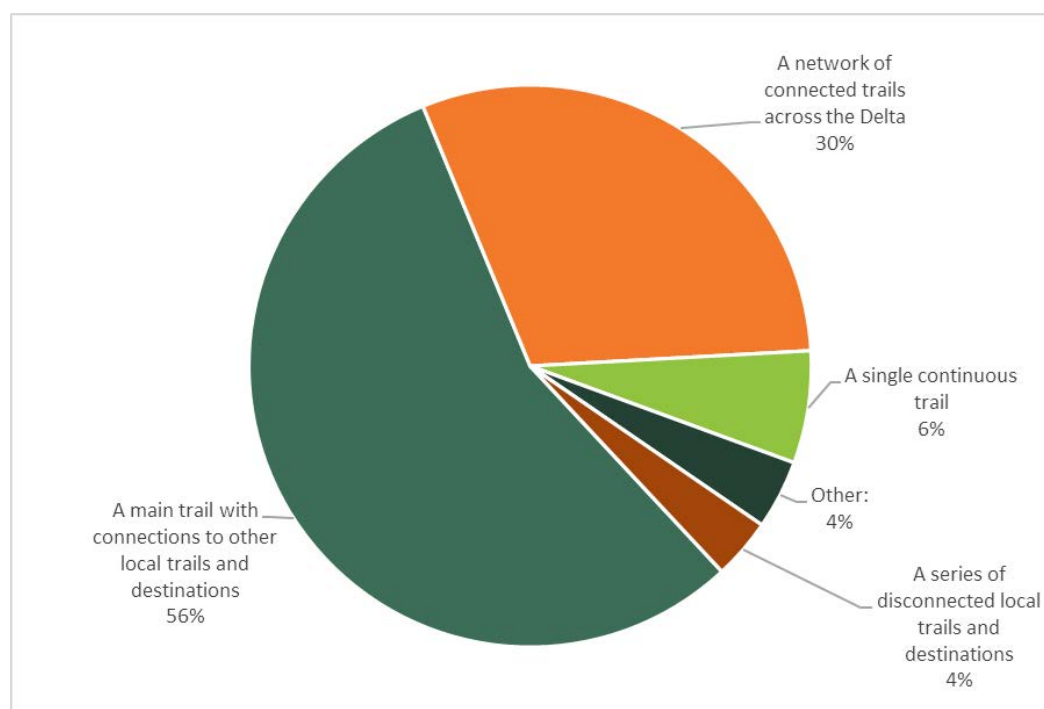
### Q3. Which of the following descriptions best matches what you'd like the Delta Trail to be? (select one)

This was the only required question in the survey. It asked survey takers to pick a trail type from four choices, with small graphics to clarify the options:



Other (write in)

The graph below shows the summary of all the responses: 56% selected Option B (Main Trail with Connections); 30% selected Option C (Network of Connected Trails Across the Delta); 6% selected Option A (Single Continuous Trail); 4% selected Option D (Series of Disconnected Local Trails and Destinations); and 4% selected Option E (Other).





**Table 1: Responses to Question 3, Trail Vision, by percent**

	Main Trail with Connections	Network of Connected Trails	Single Continuous Trail	Disconnected Local Trails and Destinations	Other	Totals
Total Percent	56.12%	30.10%	6.63%	3.57%	3.57%	100%
Total Count	112	61	13	7	8	201

**Table 2: Responses to Question 3, Trail Vision, with subtotals by respondent type**

	Main Trail with Connections	Network of Connected Trails	Single Continuous Trail	Disconnected Local Trails and Destinations	Other	Totals
Visitors	55	39	8	2	3	107
Residents	63	26	6	4	5	104
Property Owners	19	14	2	3	2	40
Promoters	23	11	1	0	2	37
Work in Delta	20	17	1	0	3	41
Other	12	9	2	1	5	29
Business Owner	3	4	0	0	2	9
Farmers	1	2	0	1	2	6
Work for Delta Agency	1	0	0	0	1	2
Spanish	0	0	1	0	0	1

## Question 3 Analysis

Most respondents selected Option B (“A main trail with connections to other local trails and destinations”) and almost one third of the survey takers selected Option C (“A network of connected trails across the Delta”). Only a small percentage selected the remaining options. Four of the “Other” responses included reference to or requests for a water trail or a water trail connection.

The “main trail with connections” trail seems to reflect the strong desire for trails throughout the Delta, along with an interest in a core trail experience. Responses to Question 3 seems to indicate that there was little interest in an isolated long-distance trail; however, responses to Question 4 reveal that a significant number of survey takers desire an unpaved, remote trail similar to popular trails across the United States for thru-hiking. This preference does not necessarily mean that these survey takers do not want connections to destinations along the trail.

#### **Q4. Do you have an example of a trail that best matches what you'd like the Delta Trail to be? If so, please share the name or location:**

82 Survey takers provided the name of one or more trails.

Of the different trails named, specific trails were counted as well as types of trails. The American River Trail was by far the most popular model trail for the Delta Trail with 24 individuals mentioning it. The Bay Trail was the second most popular model trail with 13 individuals mentioning it. After that no individual trail was mentioned by 5 or more individuals.

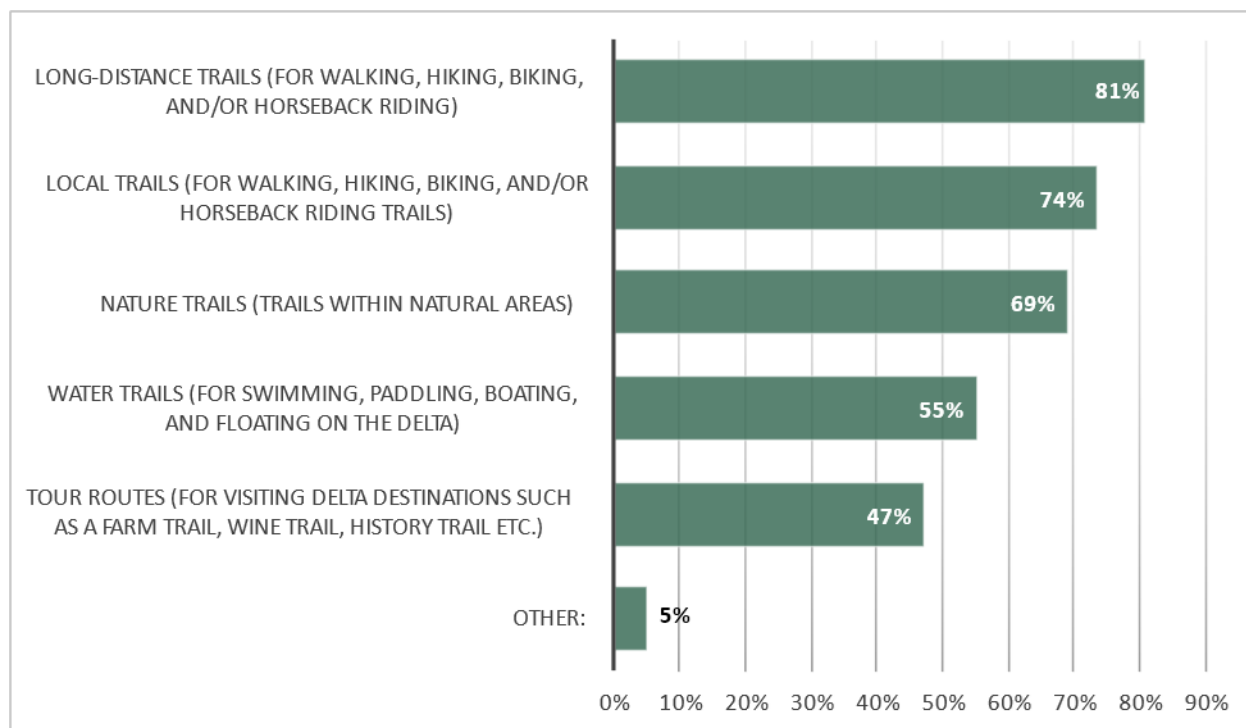
The Rails-to-Trails Conservancy's TrailLink database helped to determine popular types of trails among the many trails mentioned. 24 trails received the trail type descriptor of "greenway/non-rail trail" on TrailLink. After that, 12 trails received the trail type descriptor of "rail trail." Although not included in the table below, at least 8 trails were either water trails or canals.

#### **Top Five Trails and Trail Types**

The top five trails and trail-types mentioned were: Greenways/Non-Rail Trails (24 mentions), the American River Bike Trail (20 mentions), the San Francisco Bay Trail (14 mentions), unpaved remote trails (including Pacific Crest Trail, John Muir Trail, Tahoe Rim Trail, Bay Area Ridge Trail, and the Appalachian Trail) (13 mentions), Rail Trails (12 mentions), and Water Trails/Canals (8 mentions)

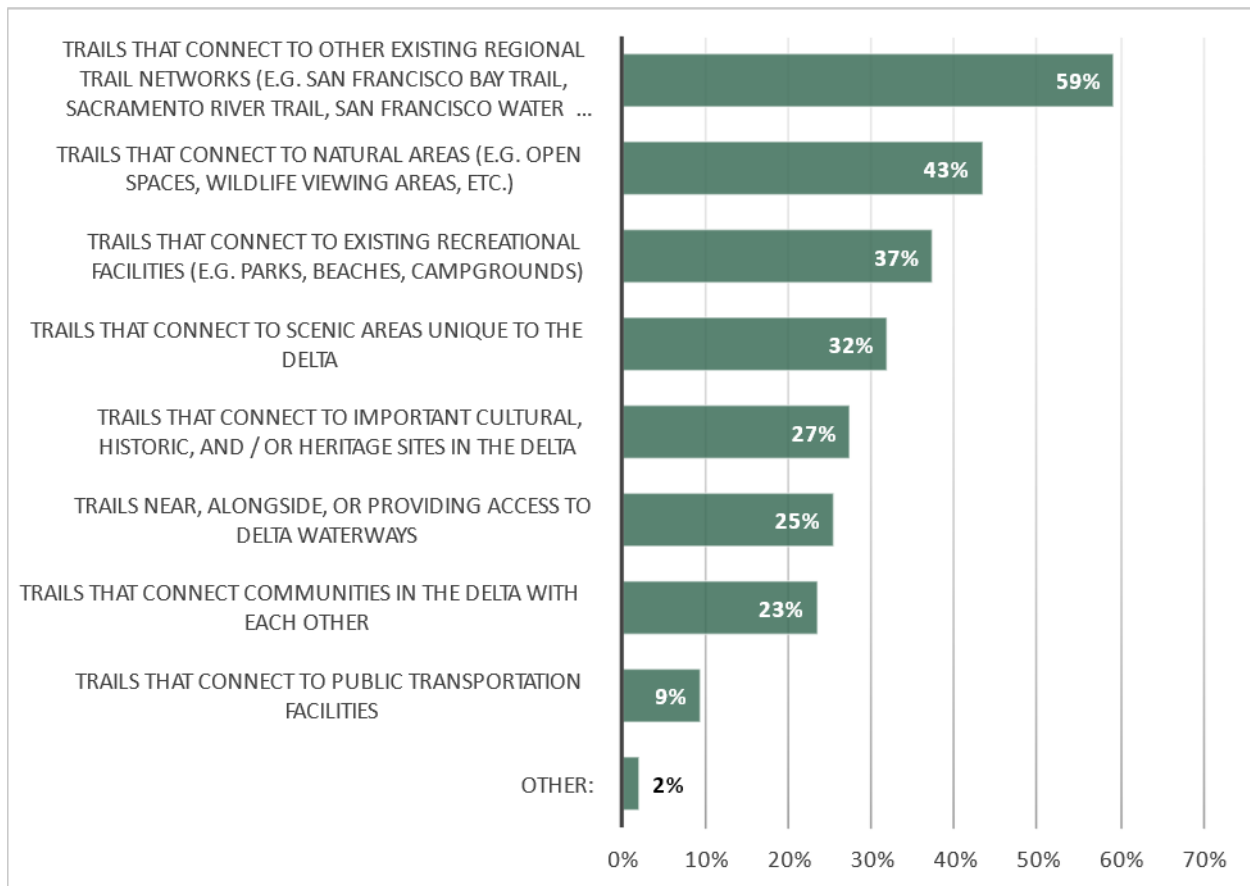


## Q5. What would you like included in a Delta Trail system? (Select all that apply)



All these features of the proposed Delta Trail system (long distance trails, local trails, nature trails, water trails, and tour routes) were extremely popular. Taken together, these features reinforce the emphasis of many survey takers on connectivity, whether in the route of the trail or in the trail design.

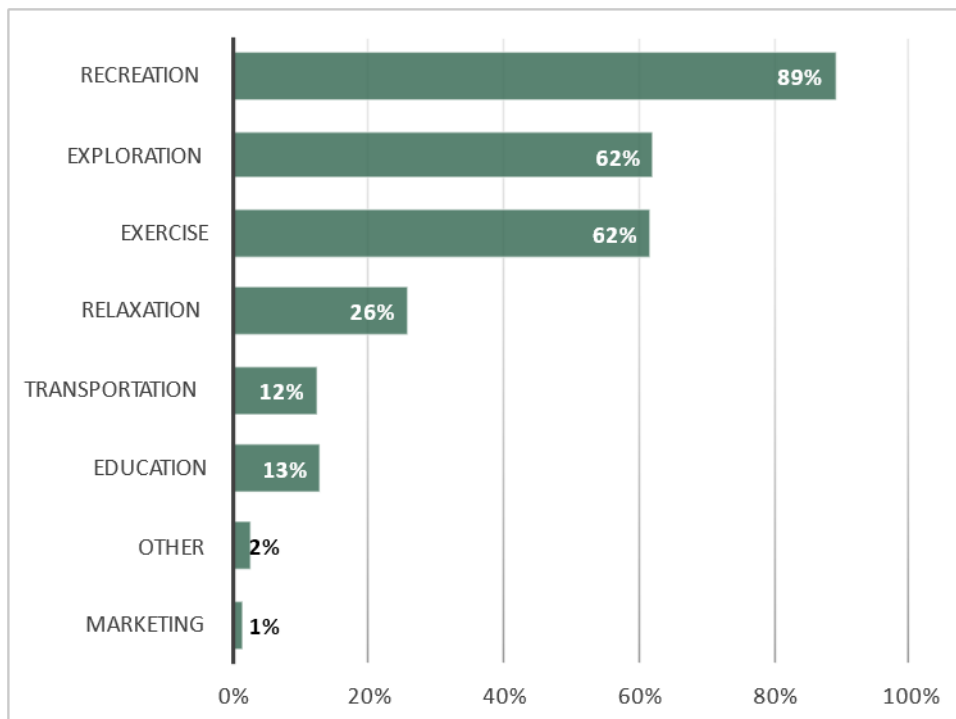
## Q6 What is most important to you for the Delta Trail? (Select up to 3)



Value	Percent of respondents (n=210)	Total responses
Trails that connect to other existing regional trail networks (e.g. San Francisco Bay Trail, Sacramento River Trail, San Francisco Water Trail, etc.)	59%	119
Trails that connect to natural areas (e.g. open spaces, wildlife viewing areas, etc.)	43%	87
Trails that connect to existing recreational facilities (e.g. parks, beaches, campgrounds)	37%	75
Trails that connect to scenic areas unique to the Delta	30%	64
Trails that connect to important cultural, historic, and / or heritage sites in the Delta	27%	55
Trails near, alongside, or providing access to Delta waterways	25%	51
Trails that connect communities in the Delta with each other	23%	47
Trails that connect to public transportation facilities	9%	19
Other:	2%	4
<b>Total</b>		<b>518</b>

Being able to explore the diversity and breadth of the Delta region via the Delta Trail emerged as a central theme in the responses to this question. The most popular connection at 59% of survey takers was to existing regional trail networks. Next, about 43% of survey takers desire connections to nature areas which often feature existing recreational facilities. About 37% of survey takers would like to access these existing recreational features via the Delta Trail. Connections to public transit facilities were the least requested connection; however, connections to communities within and beyond the Delta region via regional trails is extremely important to the survey takers.

## Q7. How would you use the Delta Trail? (Select up to 3)

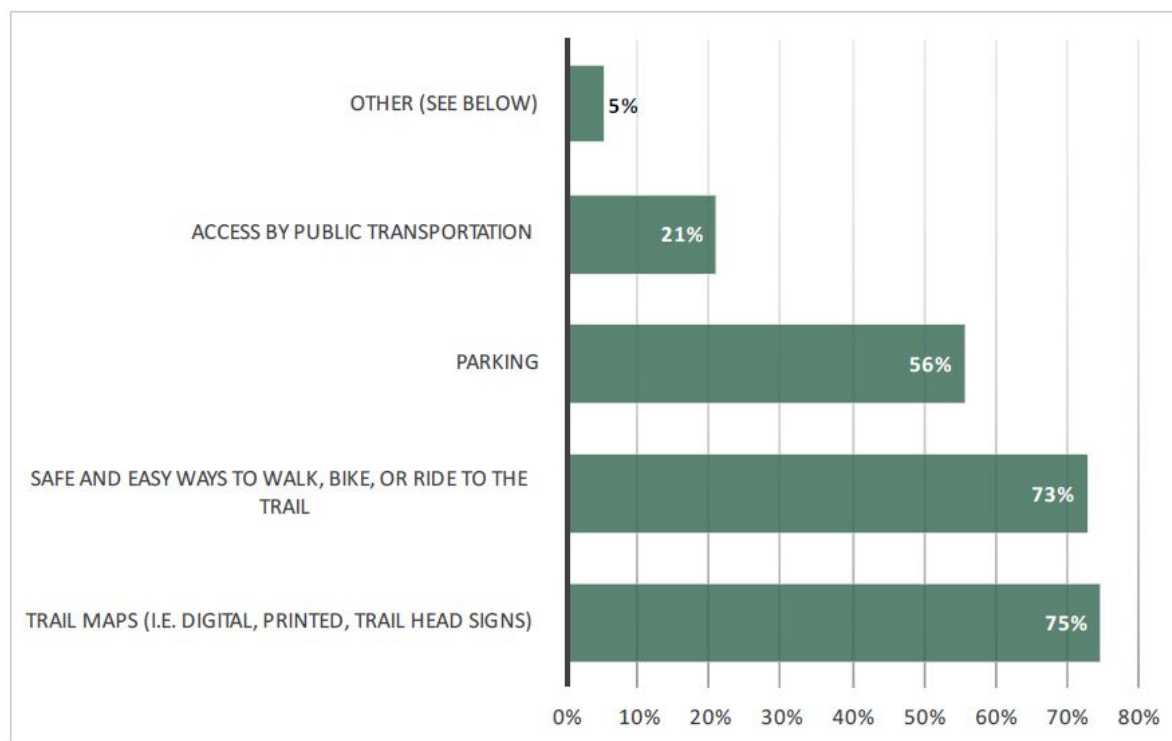


By far the highest percentage of survey takers would like to use the trail for recreation (89%) and 62% would like to use the trail for exercise and exploration.

The health benefits of being outside in nature have been, and are still being, studied. Slightly over one quarter or about 26% of respondents would like to use the Delta Trail as a place to relax, meditate, and view nature.

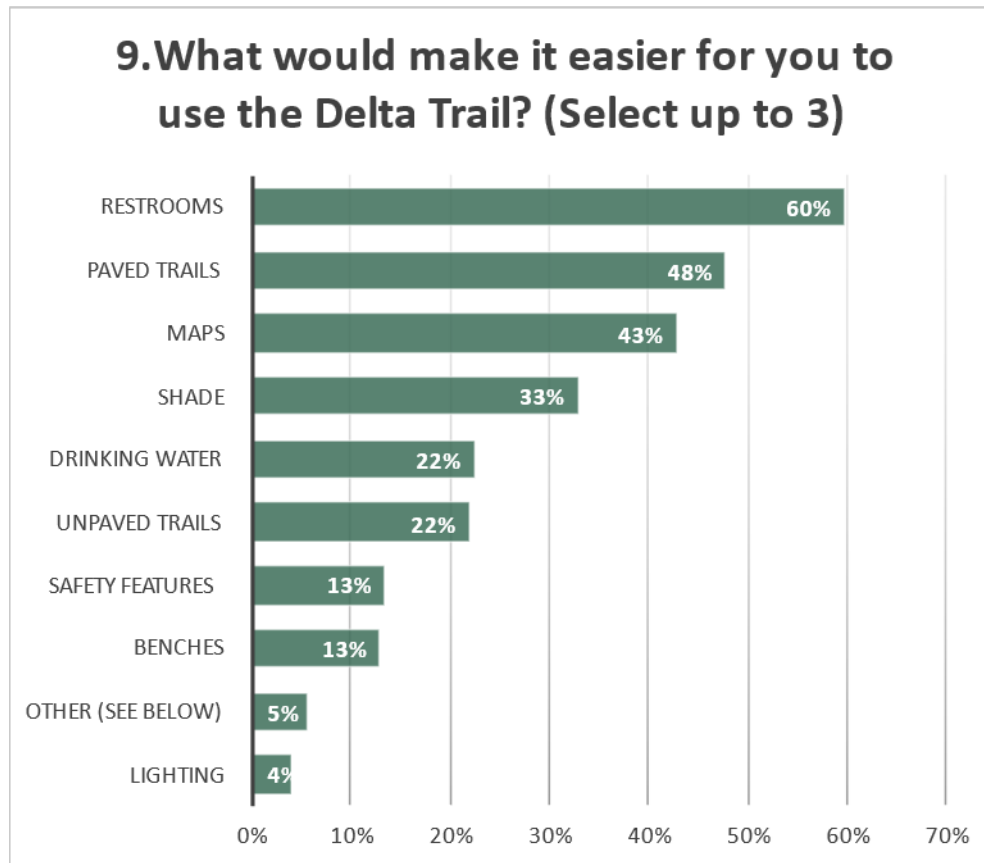
Although only 12% of survey respondents would like to use the trail for transportation, in the city with the greatest percentage of regular bicycle commuters in America, Portland, Oregon, only 6.3% of the population commutes by bike. Therefore, the 2 individuals or 12% of survey takers who expressed interest in active transportation via the Delta Trail are significant.

## Q8. What would make it easier for you to get to the Delta Trail? (Select all that apply)



One key aspect of improving access to any trail is a clear understanding of the trail route and trail amenities. Trail maps are desired by 75% of survey takers and if the maps are well-placed and easily understood, they will likely promote trail use. Safety is also critical when accessing the Delta Trail and thus the trail must be well-integrated into the existing road network. For individuals accessing the trail via private vehicles or public transit, parking, convenient transit stops, and fast, dependable transit options are necessary.

## Q9. What would make it easier for you to use the Delta Trail? (Select up to 3)



The top 3 trail amenities and aspects of trail design are first restrooms with about 60% of survey takers requesting them, then paved trails with 48%, and lastly trail maps with 43%.

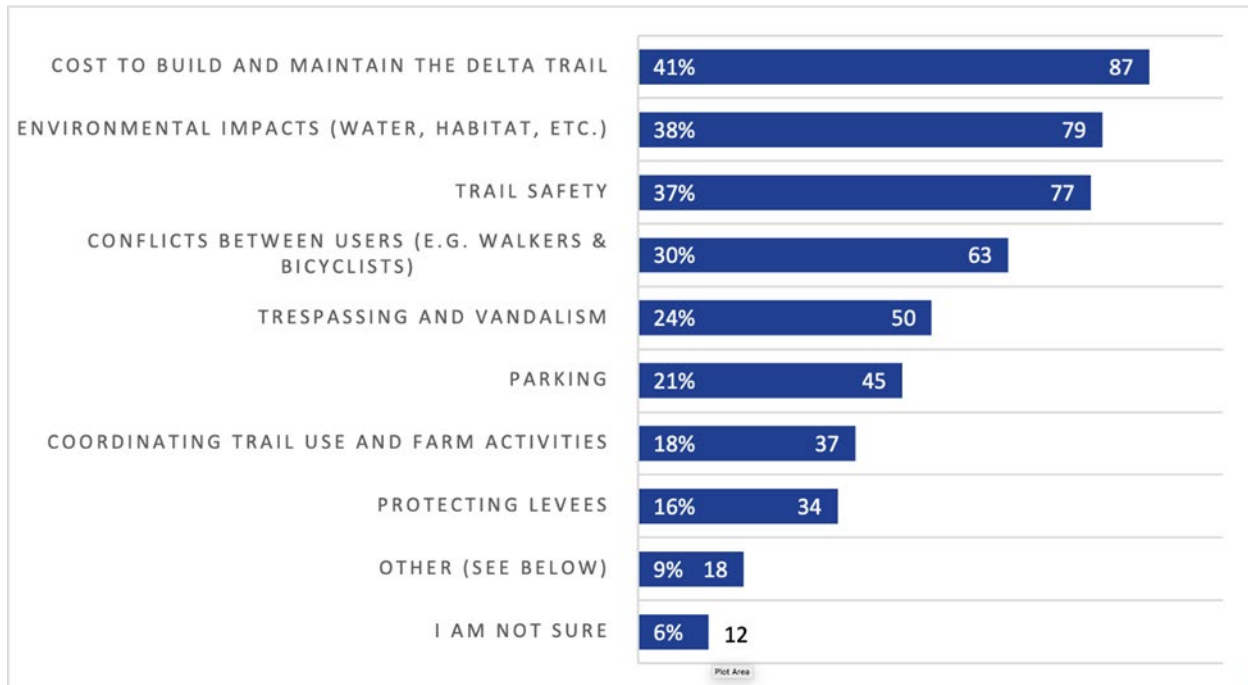
### Other Responses

*Trash facilities: 4 comments*

*Clear signage: 2 comments*



## Q10. What challenges would you like the Master Plan to address? (Select up to 3)



The top challenge that survey takers would like the Master Plan to address is the cost to build and maintain the Delta Trail. About 41% of survey takers selected this as one of their top 3 concerns. The next two challenges were environmental impacts (water, habitat, etc.) and trail safety, about 38% and 37% of survey takers respectively.

### Other Responses

*Connectivity, public access, continuous trail access: 4 comments*

*Trash receptacles and regular trash clean-up: 3 comments*

## Public Survey Quotes

"I am a lifelong resident of Brentwood and would love to see our trails connected with larger Delta area. There is much history here that should be shared."

"The Delta Trail should be a catalyst for educating and inspiring people about the California Delta's role in our history, and in dramatically improving our wetlands habitats."

"I'm really looking forward to knowing and experiencing this part of my state which visit infrequently."

"I live adjacent to the paved Sacramento levee trail at Garcia Bend Park. I use it daily, often a couple of times, for both walking and riding my bike. It's essential to me. The longer that trail is extended, and the more trails it connects with, the better."

"I am alumni of the 2019 Delta Leadership Program class and we developed a start for a Delta Water Trail. We had extensive group projects on how to design the trail and what should be included on it. This would be a great aspect to include in the Great Delta Trail Master Plan."

"This is an opportunity for amazing economic growth for small delta towns, plus progress towards developing an impressive trail network throughout N. California. As a long-distance walker, I can't wait to walk from the SF Bay to Sacramento using the SF Bay and Ridge Trails and a Great Delta Trail. Thanks!"

"I'm so excited at the prospect of Delta trails!"