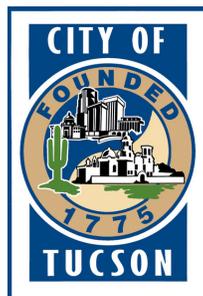


WORK IN PROGRESS, JULY 18, 2019
CITY OF TUCSON

SENTINEL PEAK ROAD

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC SURVEY

JULY 2019



OVERVIEW

The road in Sentinel Peak Park sees a variety of users, including people walking, biking, and driving, as they travel to top of 'A' Mountain, Tucson's most iconic public park. In an effort to improve safety while balancing the needs of everyone using the park, the City is considering designated car-free days or times to allow people to walk and bike up the road without the presence of cars. To explore this, city staff went out to the community to gather information on how people use and access Sentinel Peak Park.

In addition to two public open houses, a survey was created that could be responded to online or at in-person events. The survey was available March 2019 to May 2019, in both English and Spanish. In April 2019, volunteers conducted intercept surveys on Sentinel Peak. The survey was promoted through social media, various distribution lists, email, newsletters, and yard signs along Sentinel Peak Road.

SURVEY SNAPSHOT

- **2,902 people took the survey**
- 101 were in-person intercept surveys
- 32 people took the survey in Spanish

WHO WE HEARD FROM

Of the people who took the survey:

- 87% live in the City of Tucson
- Over half (52%) identify as female
- 1 in 3 survey respondents identified as a Person of Color

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

- **Preserving the natural environment, improving walking and biking facilities, and safety** emerged as the top 3 priorities for evaluating changes to Sentinel Peak Park
- **Removing trash and addressing vandalism, additional park amenities** (restrooms, water fountains, benches, etc.), and **designated car-free times** emerged as the top 3 improvements that would encourage more use

CURRENT PARK ACCESS AND USE

Of the people who took the survey:

- **Nearly half (48%) reported using a vehicle to travel on Sentinel Peak Road**
- One-third of those who drive also reported walking or biking on Sentinel Peak Road
- Close to half (49%) reported visiting Sentinel Peak Park a few times a year, 5% visit on a daily basis, and 8% had never been.

PRIORITIES FOR PARK ACCESS AND USE

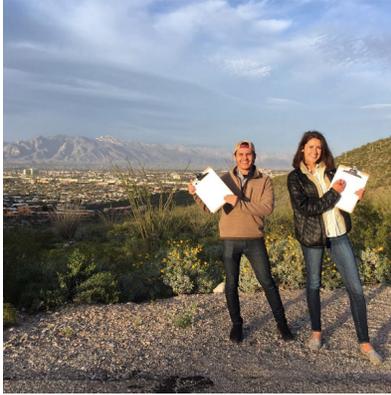
Of the people who took the survey:

- **66% supported changing the current park gate hours and creating designated car-free times** (28% selected car-free half days and 38% selected some car-free days each week)
- Just over one-third (34%) prefer keeping the current gate hours



PUBLIC OUTREACH EFFORTS

ONLINE AND INTERCEPT SURVEYS



YARD SIGNS ON SENTINEL PEAK



PUBLIC OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES & MEETINGS



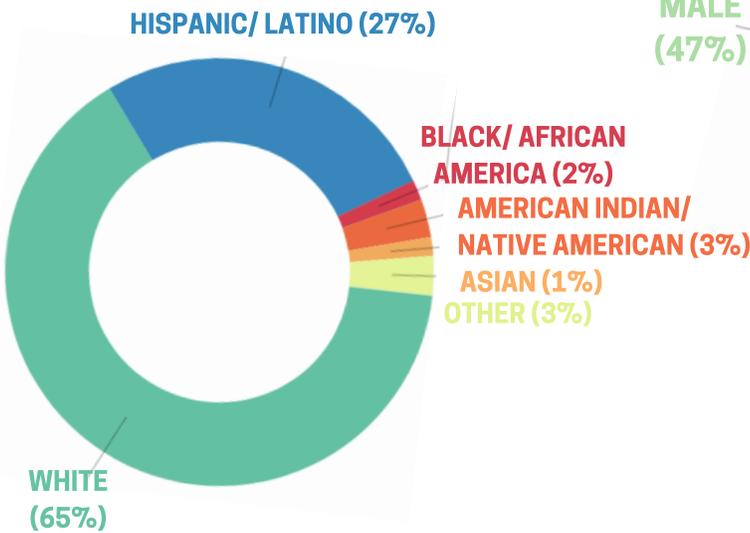
SOCIAL MEDIA AND NEWS



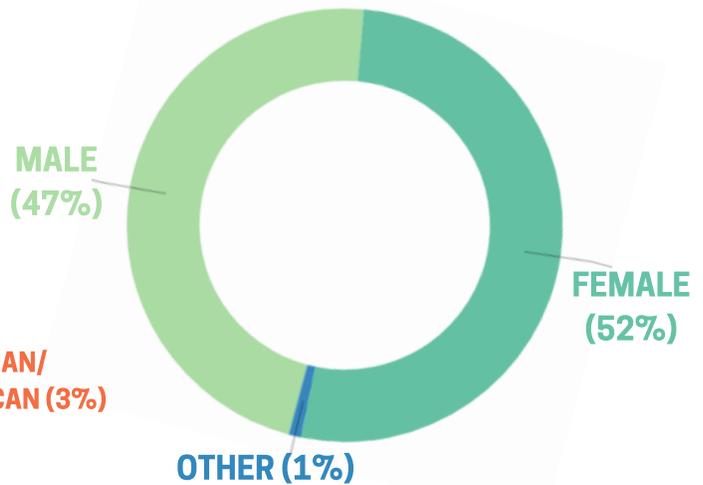
WHO WE HEARD FROM

The majority of people who took the survey live in the City of Tucson. Just over half of the survey responses were from people who identify as female. The age of survey respondents reflected a core group of people between the ages of 26 and 65, with less representation from both youth and older adults.

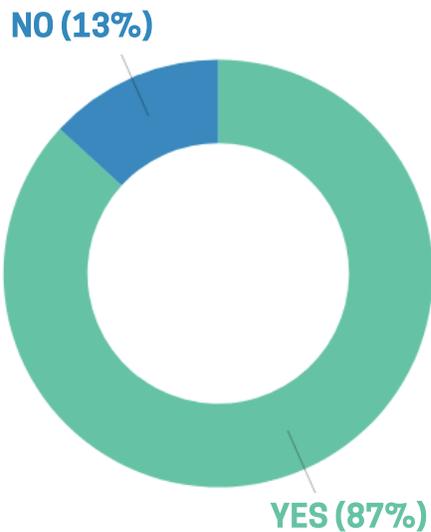
Q. WHAT IS YOUR RACE?



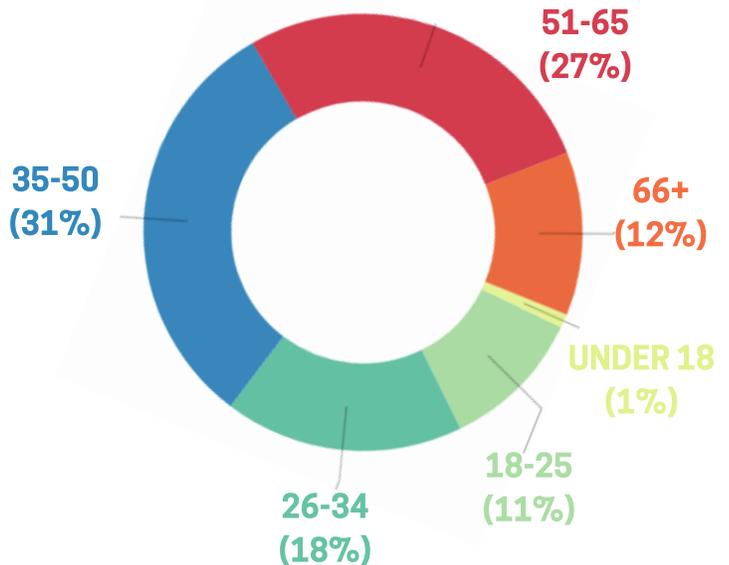
Q. WHAT IS YOUR GENDER?



Q. DO YOU LIVE IN TUCSON?



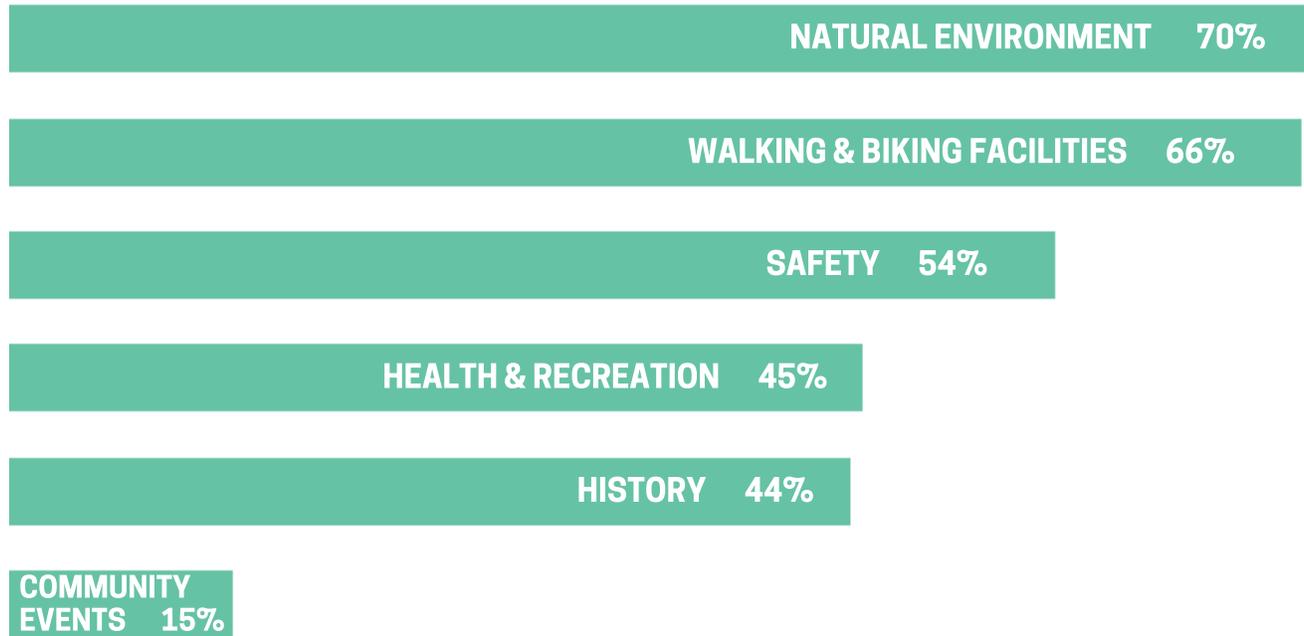
Q. WHAT IS YOUR AGE?



CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

Q. WHAT CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING CHANGES TO SENTINEL PEAK ROAD ARE MOST IMPORTANT?

(SELECT YOUR TOP 3 PRIORITIES)

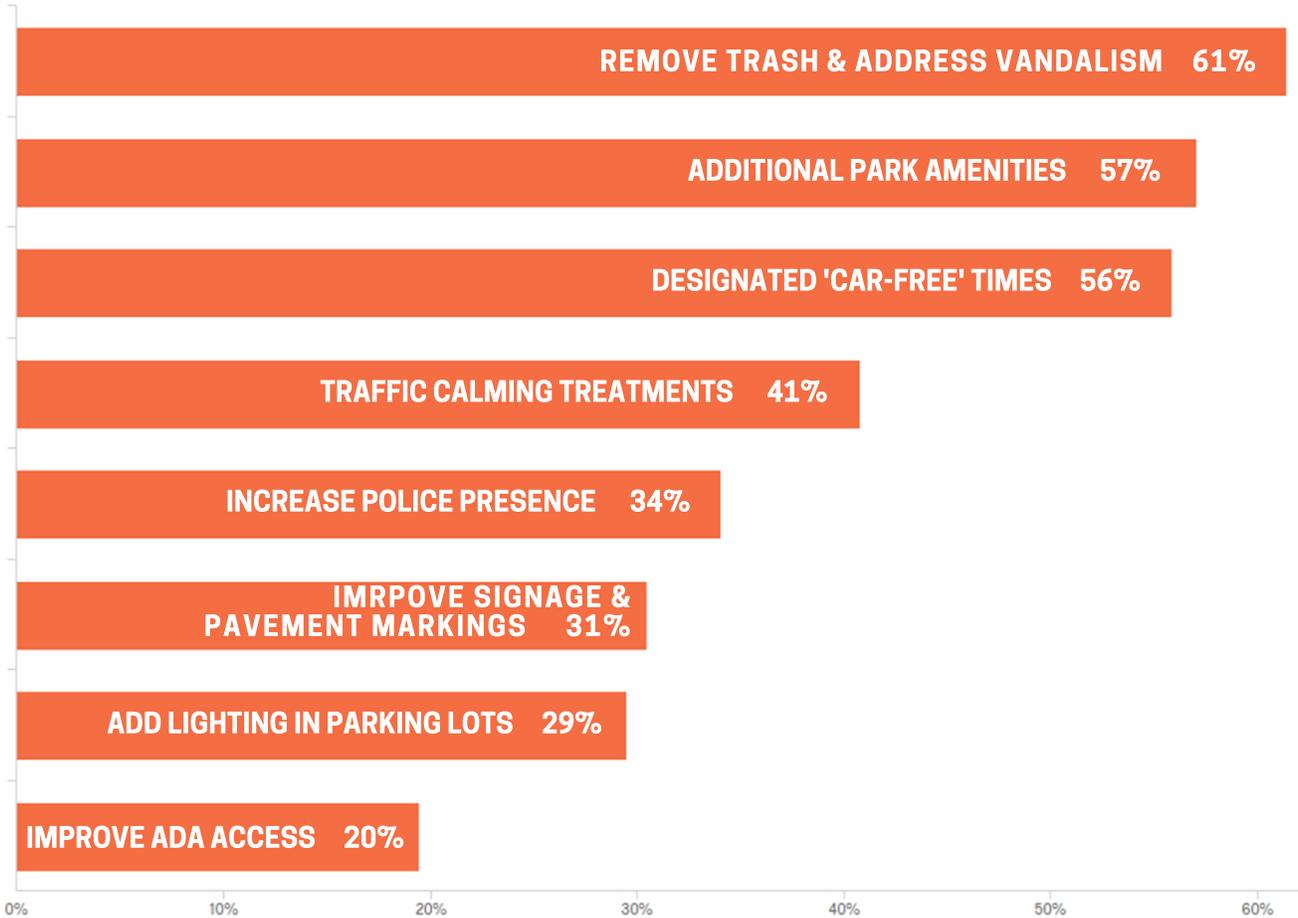


In order to develop a plan for future improvements and changes along Sentinel Peak Road, it was helpful for staff to learn what priorities are most important to Tucsonans and visitors. The survey asked respondents to choose their ‘top 3’ priorities for Sentinel Peak Park.

Preserving the natural environment, improving walking and biking facilities, and safety emerged as the top 3 priorities from this survey.

CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

Q. WHAT WOULD ENCOURAGE YOU TO VISIT MORE OFTEN? (SELECT ALL THAT APPLY)



The survey asked respondents to select the improvements that would encourage them to visit Sentinel Peak Park more often. Removing trash and addressing vandalism, additional park amenities (restrooms, water fountains, benches, etc.), and designated car-free times emerged at the top 3 areas to prioritize.

CURRENT PARK ACCESS AND USE

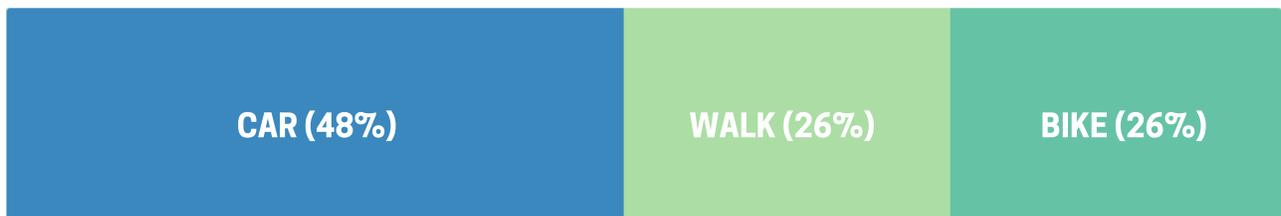
Nearly half of all survey respondents reported using a vehicle to travel on Sentinel Peak Road; however, **one-third of those who drive also reported walking or biking on Sentinel Peak Road.**

Almost half of respondents reported visiting Sentinel Peak Park a few times a year, with over one-fourth reporting that they visited a few times a month. Five percent of respondents visit the Park on a daily basis, while eight percent had never been.

Q. HOW OFTEN DO YOU VISIT SENTINEL PEAK PARK?



Q. WHEN YOU VISIT, HOW DO YOU TRAVEL ON SENTINEL PEAK RD? (SELECT ALL THAT APPLY)



One-third of respondents who drive also selected that they walk or bike on Sentinel Peak Road

PRIORITIES FOR PARK ACCESS AND USE

To gauge the public's interest on designating car-free times/days on Sentinel Peak Road, the survey asked respondents to select the option below that best represents their priority for accessing Sentinel Peak Park. (Gates for the park road are currently open Monday through Saturday from 9am to 8pm, and Sunday from 9am to 6pm - see photo below).



Q. WHAT IS YOUR PREFERENCE FOR SENTINEL PEAK RD ACCESS?

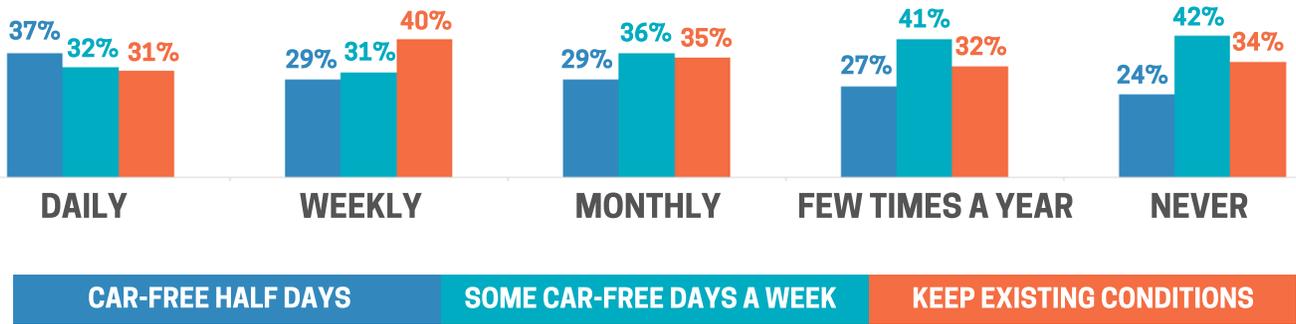


66% of survey respondents support a designated car-free time on Sentinel Peak Road

Of the survey responses, 66% support changing the current park gate hours to create designated car-free times on Sentinel Peak Road (28% selected car-free half days and 38% selected some car-free days each week). 34% of respondents prefer to keep the current gate hours.

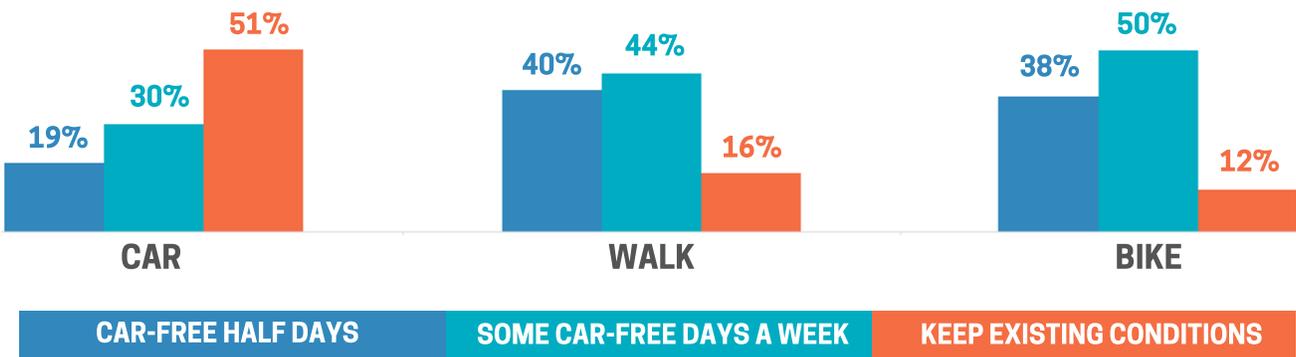
A CLOSER LOOK

Q. WHAT IS YOUR PREFERENCE FOR SENTINEL PEAK RD ACCESS? BROKEN OUT BY HOW OFTEN PEOPLE VISIT SENTINEL PEAK PARK:



When taking a closer look at survey respondents preference for park access, we wanted to see what regular park users preferred. 69% of daily park users, 60% of weekly park users, and 65% of monthly park users support changing the current park gate hours to create designated car-free times.

Q. WHAT IS YOUR PREFERENCE FOR SENTINEL PEAK RD ACCESS? BROKEN OUT BY HOW PEOPLE TRAVEL ON SENTINEL PEAK ROAD:

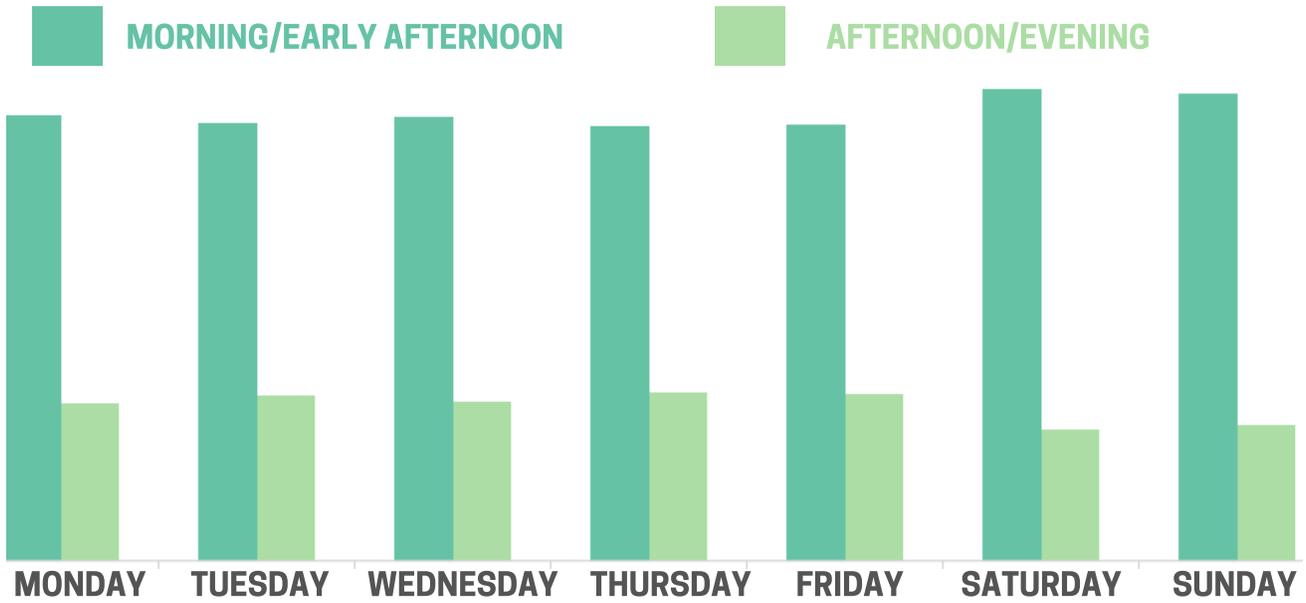


We also broke out the park access question by how people typically traveled on Sentinel Peak Road. 49% of people who drive, 84% of people who walk, and 88% of people who bike support changing the current park gate hours to create designated car-free times.

A CLOSER LOOK

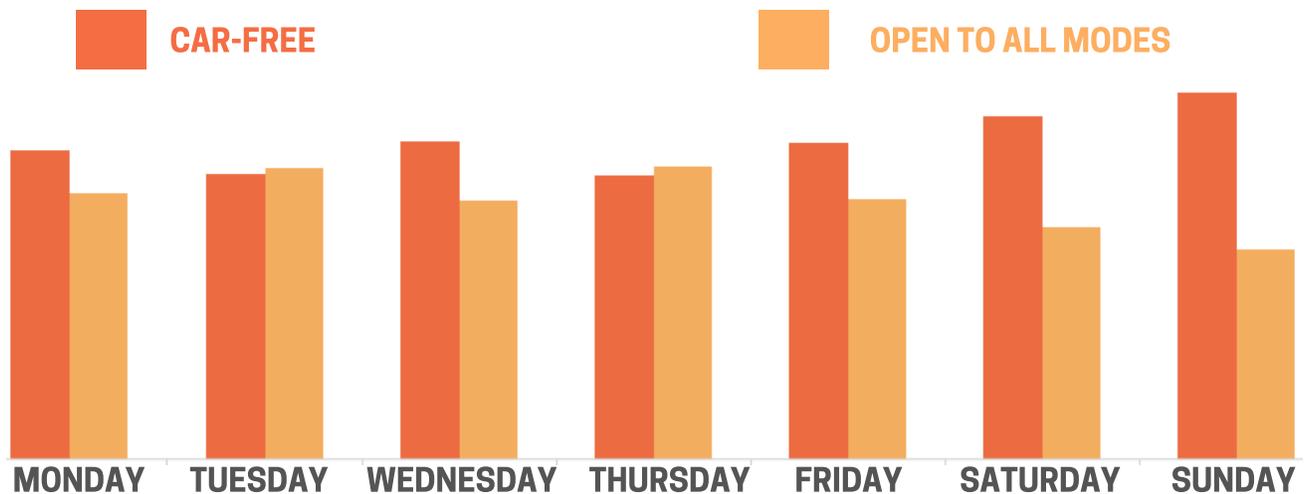
Q. WHICH HALF OF THE DAY WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE CAR-FREE?

**This question was only asked to survey respondents who selected "car-free half days" as their preference for park access.*



Q. WHICH DAYS WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE CAR-FREE?

**This question was only asked to survey respondents who selected "some car-free days" as their preference for park access.*



WHAT PEOPLE SHARED

Q. PLEASE SHARE ANY ADDITIONAL THOUGHTS AND FEEDBACK ABOUT SENTINEL PEAK PARK:

Survey participants were asked to share additional thoughts about Sentinel Peak Park. We received over one thousand comments about specific concerns on a wide range of topics. Below are some of the key themes that emerged from these comments:

SUPPORT FOR SENTINEL PEAK PARK: HISTORY, COMMUNITY, NATURAL BEAUTY

- A mountain is a beautiful place to drive up to see an amazing view of Tucson. I believe it is one of the best places to go sit on top of your car and just breath.
- It is a place where so many people can admire Tucson's beauty, where people go to unwind, to hike, or park and listen to some music. It's a great place to be because you can meet new people, be with the ones you love, or even hang out by one's self.
- Sentinel Peak Park is a part of my family's history.

SAFETY CONCERNS: TRAFFIC & PERSONAL SAFETY

- I have walked A Mountain on a daily basis for the past 15 years. I call 911 often due to witnessing reckless driving and drunk driving. I constantly pick up trash, which is comprised mostly of beer and liquor bottles. I live at the base of the mountain and have called 911 countless times due to hearing gunfire coming from the top of the mountain (and hearing drivers fire guns while driving down the mountain). I am tired of fearing for my life and the lives of my friends and family.
- Been walking the road for a long time with a good friend but as I've gotten older and more so recently, I just haven't felt safe on the road. I've seen so many scary situations, that it just starts to wear on you, especially when you just want to appreciate how beautiful it is. Seems more often than not.
- People often smoke marijuana at the top and proceed to drive down the mountain high. As a young cyclist knowing that people are driving down the mountain high while I'm riding is very nerve-racking.
- When I was younger, we loved to see the city day and night, and would take any visiting relatives there. But now the neighborhood is intimidating , especially at night when the city is most beautiful . And even during the day, there is young people and possibly gang members harassing others visiting and being loud and drinking at the scenic view.

PARK ACCESS: SUPPORT FOR KEEPING EXISTING CONDITIONS

- DO NOT change this to have car free days. There are people who cannot walk or bike up there. It is unfair to them to prohibit them from driving up. Leave it open to everyone. Closing it would also cause visitors who come at the car free times to miss out on this beautiful place. How about just incorporating more pathways for walking, instead of restricting cars.
- This mountain has been part of our neighborhood since I was little ...it's part of life....any negative things done like no cars will only ruin our mountain for us the people of A. Mountain neighborhood....please don't change it.

PARK ACCESS: SUPPORT FOR CAR-FREE DAYS/TIMES

- Please let people walk up several times a week without being harassed by cars....many drivers zoom up the mountain as fast as they can. It's a lovely walk in the morning when the gate is closed.
- I do not go as often to a mountain as I used to. The big problem is the conflict between cars and walkers. Is a beautiful spot in the city and it is being ruined by drivers who insist on drinking, taking drugs and speeding.