Appendix A

Brentwood Park Survey

What neighborhood do you live in?

- [ ] Crestview
- [ ] Allandale
- [ ] Wooten
- [ ] Brentwood
- [ ] Highland
- [ ] Other

How many people in your household are in the following age groups?

under 5 years	
5-12 years	
13-20 years	
21-30 years	
31-50 years	
51-65 years	
66 and above years	

What types of sports do you and your family members participate in?

- [ ] Basketball
- [ ] Swimming
- [ ] Martial Arts
- [ ] Football
- [ ] Tennis
- [ ] Boxing
- [ ] Baseball
- [ ] Disc Golf
- [ ] Hiking
- [ ] Soccer
- [ ] Yoga
- [ ] Walking
- [ ] Softball
- [ ] Skateboarding
- [ ] Bicycling
- [ ] Volleyball
- [ ] Gymnastics
- [ ] Work out
- [ ] Track/Field/Running
- [ ] Dance

Other (please specify)

What activities do you and your family members do at Brentwood Park?

- [ ] Tennis
- [ ] Soccer
- [ ] Yoga
- [ ] Softball
- [ ] Frisbee
- [ ] Work out
- [ ] Basketball
- [ ] Kite Flying
- [ ] Play on playscape
- [ ] Volleyball
- [ ] Picnic
- [ ] Play in sandbox
- [ ] Kickball
- [ ] Read
- [ ] Swimming
- [ ] Walk

Other (please specify)

Brentwood Park Survey

What are your favorite aspects of the park?

What are your least favorite aspects of the park?

What types of improvements would you like to see at Brentwood Park?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important
1. More benches	☐	☐	☐
2. Water fountains	☐	☐	☐
3. Trail improvements	☐	☐	☐
4. More garden areas	☐	☐	☐
5. More trees	☐	☐	☐
6. A covered pavilion (with tables)	☐	☐	☐
7. BBQ grills	☐	☐	☐
8. Fence around playscape area	☐	☐	☐
9. Bike racks	☐	☐	☐
10. Mural on bathroom exterior	☐	☐	☐
11. Other public art/sculpture	☐	☐	☐
12. Shade cover over basketball court	☐	☐	☐
13. Fence at pool modified to allow bathroom access	☐	☐	☐
14. Repair fencing at softball field	☐	☐	☐

Other:

Of the above improvements, please list your top three in priority order:

	Improvement
Priority 1.	
Priority 2.	
Priority 3.	

Do you have any additional Comments?

Brentwood Park Survey

Optional: Please enter your name and contact info (email/phone) if you would like us to add you to our mailing list or if we may contact you to discuss your responses. Questions and comments may also be emailed directly to friendsofbrentwoodpark@gmail.com. Contact information will be kept confidential.

First name:

Last name:

Phone #:

Email:

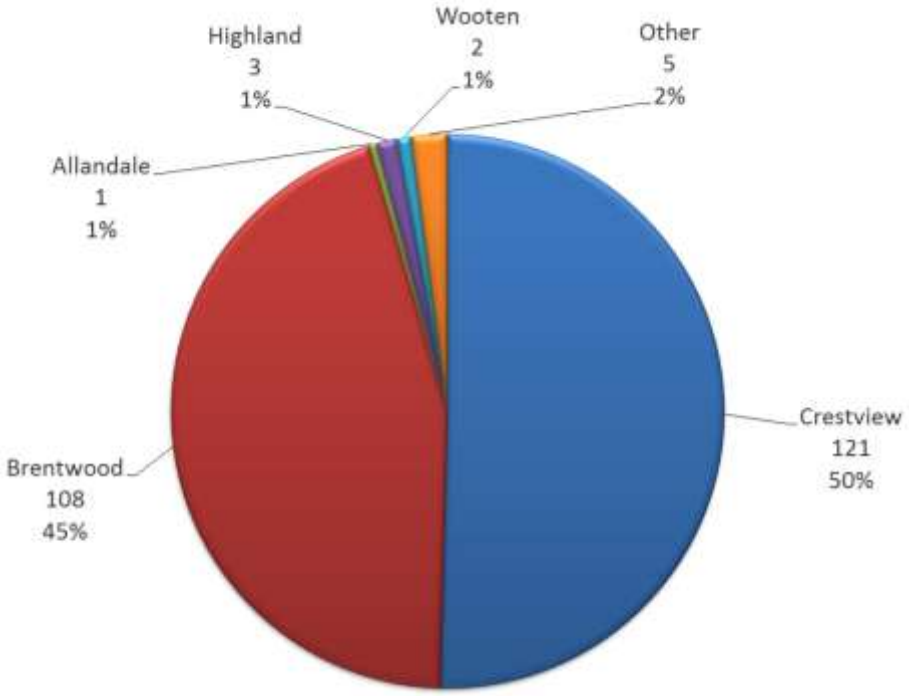
Add me to your email list

You may contact me to discuss my responses

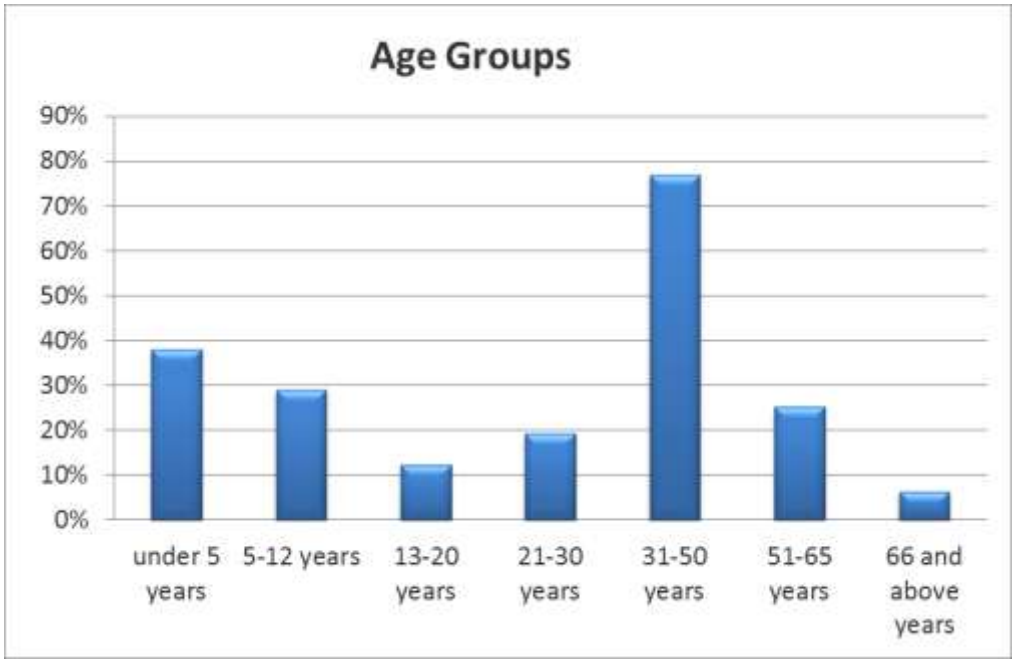
Brentwood Park Survey Summary Results

241 total respondents; ~493 residents represented (11 households turned in multiple surveys, 4 respondents did not answer question regarding # of household members)

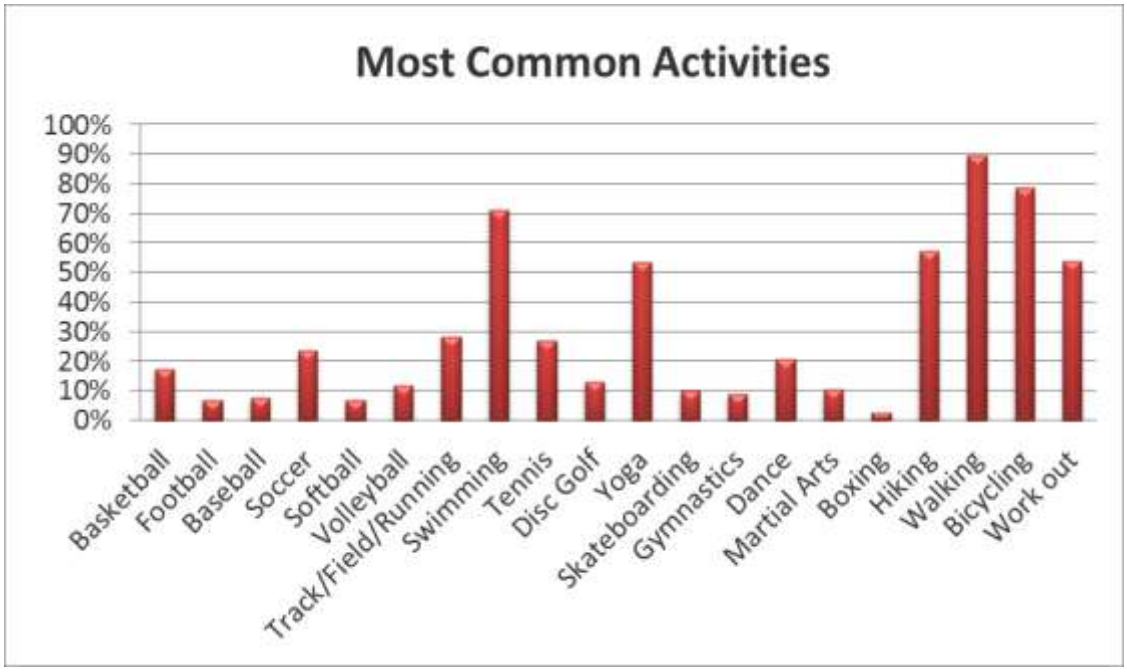
1. What neighborhood do you live in?



2. How many people in your household are in the following age groups?

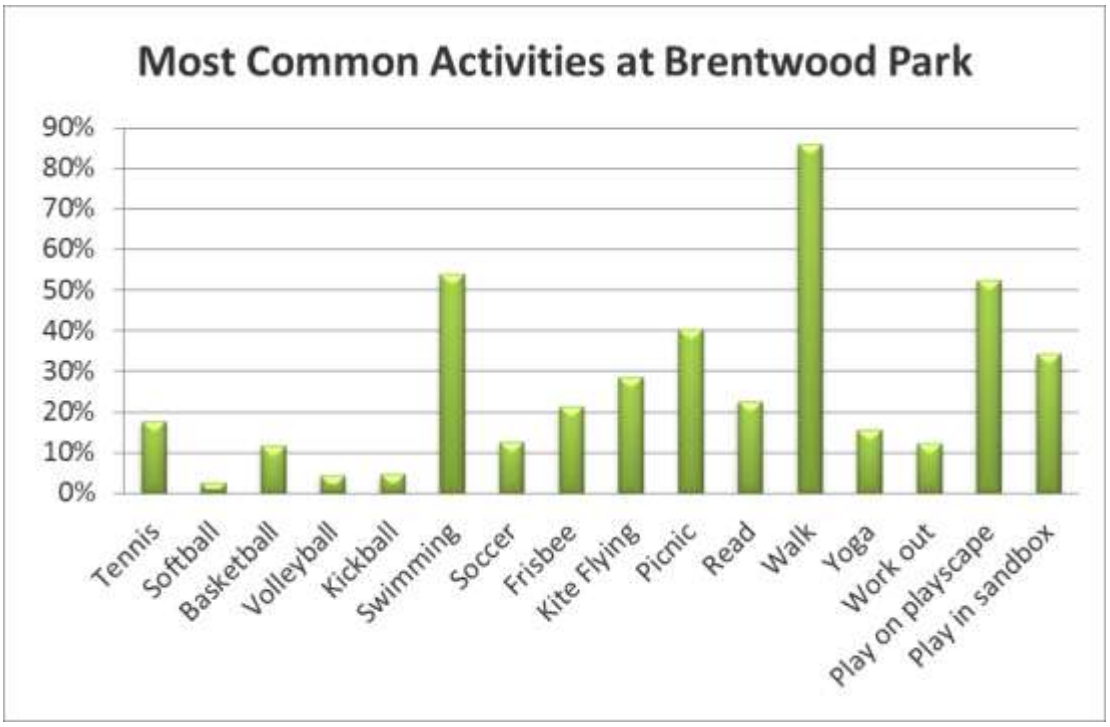


3. What types of sports do you and your family members participate in?



In addition, 12% (29 respondents) specified dog walking or dog activities

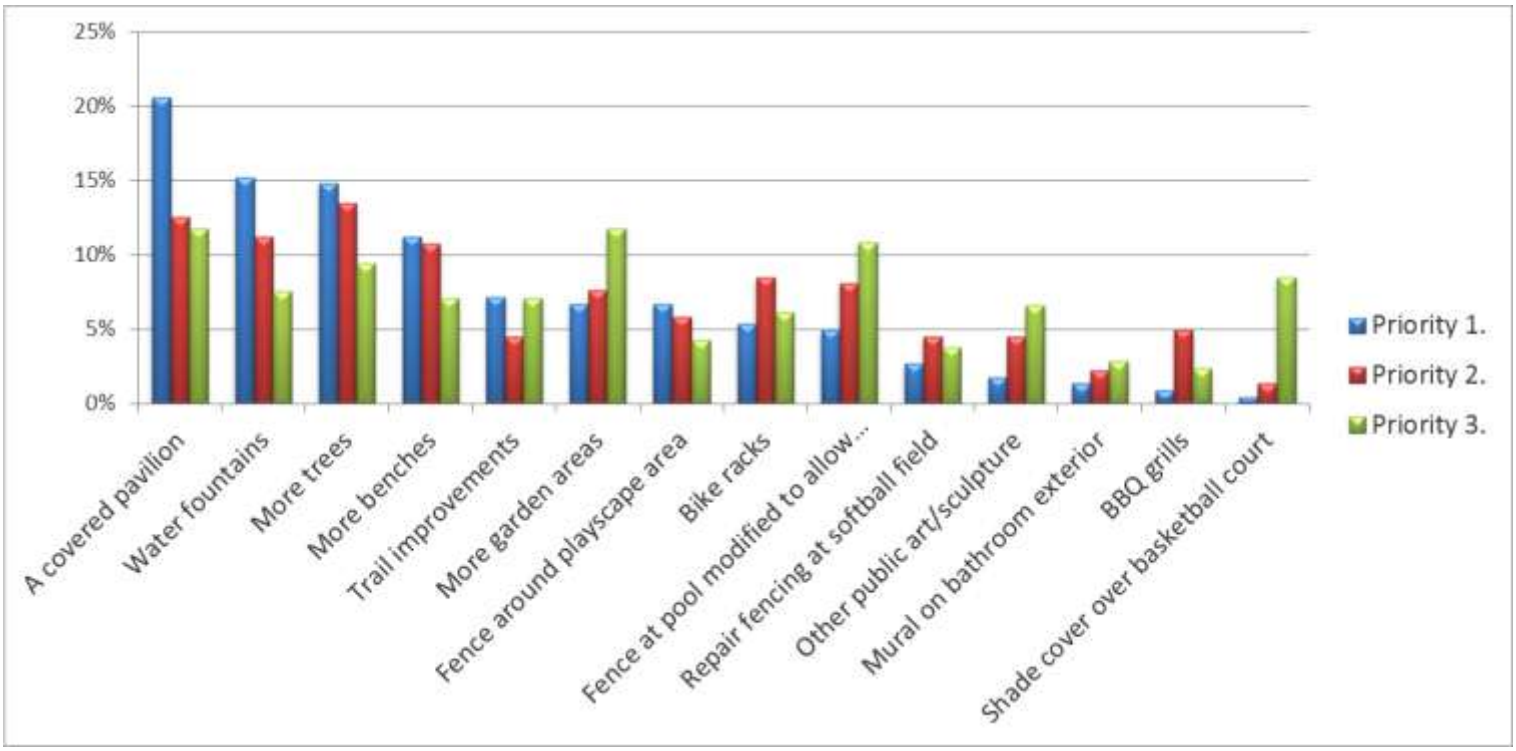
4. What types of activities do you and your family members participate in at Brentwood Park?



5. What types of improvements would you like to see at Brentwood Park?

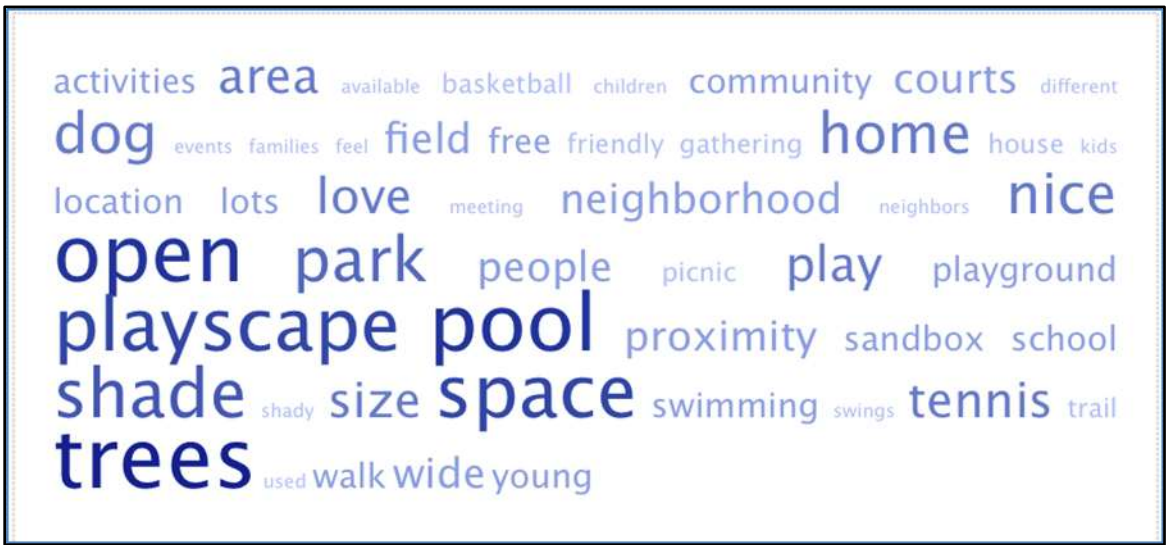
	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important
1. More benches	33%	**56%**	11%
2. Water fountains	38%	**44%**	19%
3. Trail improvements	27%	**42%**	31%
4. More garden areas	31%	**42%**	27%
5. More trees	**52%**	31%	17%
6. A covered pavilion (with tables)	**45%**	**40%**	15%
7. BBQ grills	17%	39%	**44%**
8. Fence around playscape area	19%	26%	**55%**
9. Bike racks	34%	**49%**	17%
10. Mural on bathroom exterior	16%	**43%**	**41%**
11. Other public art/sculpture	24%	**42%**	34%
12. Shade cover over basketball court	19%	34%	**48%**
13. Fence at pool modified to allow bathroom access	39%	38%	22%
14. Repair fencing at softball field	18%	**44%**	39%

6. Of the above improvements, please list your top three in priority order



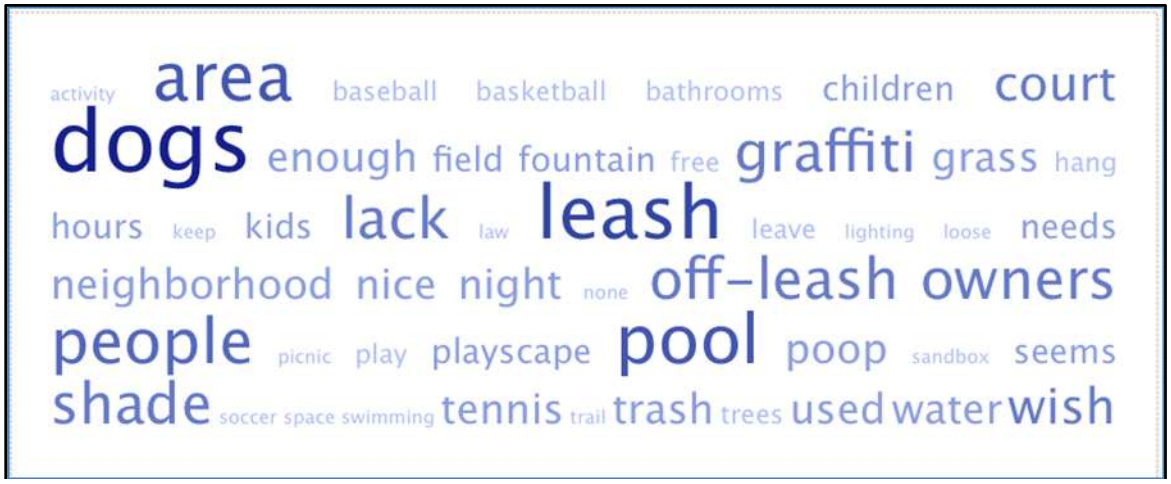
Brentwood Park Survey Results
From narrative comments sections

What people like about Brentwood Park



- Wide open space/not too developed/not crowded/Big!
- Close to home/convenient/easy to walk to
- Neighborly feel/community gathering place/friendly/sense of ownership by neighbors
- Amenities: playscape, pool, sandbox, baseball, basketball, tennis, volleyball, picnic tables, north side path
- Used by the neighbors for many types of activities/diversity of users/versatility/something for everyone
- The trees and the shade they provide/the new trees and landscaping
- Activities like movies and festivals
- Great memories
- Great for young families
- Great for walking and playing with dogs
- Proximity to the school

What people dislike about Brentwood Park



- Too dark at night/feels unsafe at night
- Graffiti/vandalism/criminal activity, esp. at night
- Unsupervised teens hanging out/gangs
- People who appear to be intoxicated/high hanging out in park
- Large groups from outside the neighborhood/groups who take over facilities preventing others from using/inconsiderate park users/noise level at night for people who live near park
- Trash, esp. large amounts left by weekend partiers/too few trashcans/no recycling
- Off leash dogs/Dog poop/irresponsible dog owners
- No off-leash area for dogs
- Lack of shade/not enough landscaping
- Pool area outdated/pool hours/too small
- Water fountains never work
- Playscape worn out/not enough items for older kids/dirty
- Rundown baseball field/tennis courts
- Condition of the bathrooms/no locks on bathroom doors
- Mulch on the trail
- Failing grass/lack of tree care/hazardous tree roots/hot, dry Bermuda grass/uneven ground surface and cracks due to lack of moisture and contraction of soil
- Not enough places to sit
- Cost of holding events may prevent future activities such as VCCW festival

What people like about Brentwood Park	What people dislike about Brentwood Park
• Wide open space/not too developed/not crowded/Big!	• Too dark at night/feels unsafe at night
• Close to home/convenient/easy to walk to	• Graffiti/vandalism/criminal activity, esp. at night
• Amenities: playscape, pool, sandbox, baseball, basketball, tennis, volleyball, picnic tables, north side path	• Failing grass/lack of tree care/hazardous tree roots/hot, dry Bermuda grass/uneven ground surface and cracks due to lack of moisture and contraction of soil
• Neighborly feel/community gathering place/friendly/sense of ownership by neighbors	• People who appear to be intoxicated/high hanging out in park
• Used by the neighbors for many types of activities/diversity of users/versatility/something for everyone	• Large groups from outside the neighborhood/groups who take over facilities preventing others from using/inconsiderate park users/noise level at night for people who live near park
• The trees and the shade they provide/the new trees and landscaping	• Trash, esp. large amounts left by weekend partiers/too few trashcans/no recycling
• Activities like movies and festivals	• Off leash dogs/Dog poop/irresponsible dog owners
• Great memories	• No off-leash area for dogs
• Great for young families	• Lack of shade/not enough landscaping
• Great for walking and playing with dogs	• Pool area outdated/pool hours/too small
• Proximity to the school	• Water fountains never work
	• Playscape worn out/not enough items for older kids/dirty
	• Rundown baseball field/tennis courts
	• Condition of the bathrooms/no locks on bathroom doors
	• Mulch on the trail
	• Unsupervised teens hanging out/gangs
	• Not enough places to sit
	• Cost of holding events may prevent future activities such as VCCW festival

Other suggestions for improvements to the park

Suggestion	Number of Respondents
off leash dog area (*behind tennis court area?)*	30
additional playscape equipment *(for older kids; like Lake Park @ Mueller; more swings; more sand; jungle gym; more creative items; fenced toddler area)*	8
more picnic tables	6
running track or path *(e.g., crushed granite path, mileage marked)*	7
tennis court improvements *(paint; fix cracks; resurface; repair fencing)*	6
wildlife habitat/xeriscape gardening *(plant markers to highlight native habitat/plants)*	5
pool improvements *(non-specific; make pool larger; expand fence to enlarge area; more seating; more shade; more green space)*	5
splash pad	4
more mutt mitt stations & signage re: scoop-the-poop and leash rules	4
more trash cans *(esp. by tennis courts)*	3
concrete benches & tables *(chess tables/benches in concrete)*	2
Volleyball court improvements *(better sand & net)*	2
amphitheater	2
soccer field *(goals; in area between playscape and softball field?)*	2
parkwide irrigation system	2
shade cover for baby pool	2
replace bermuda grass with native turf grass	1
separate foursquare area	1
art kids can climb on	1
improve water fountains	1
fix broken basketball goal	1
new restroom facility	1
community garden	1
edible landscaping	1
fix bleachers at softball field	1
More lighting	1
Mini-bike/skate park	1

(Items in parentheses are specific comments by individuals related to the item)

Although they did not fill out the survey, one of the groups that regularly uses the basketball court requested that the nets be repaired and the heights of the nets be standardized (they are off by a foot or so). They have personally repaired the nets in the past.

Items that were omitted from the list of suggested improvements because they were deemed inapplicable:

- Improvements to the amphitheater area on the Brentwood Elementary grounds (3 suggestions for this but it is not park property)

- Take care of the homeless woman who lives at the park (not really part of the mission of FOBP; service rather than infrastructure improvement)

- Mow and water the grass more often (service rather than infrastructure improvement)

- Allow dogs off-leash after playscape fenced (it is doubtful there would be enough support for turning the entire park into an official leash free area)

- Brentwood spans both sides of 2222. A nice addition would be a pedestrian/bike bridge for easier access for Brentwood neighbors south of 2222. (not a park issue) (part of the Brentwood/ Highland Neighborhood Plan recommendations, summarized below)

Sampling of comments

- "I know that it's mentioned frequently, but I would still like to see an off-leash dog area. I believe that would be of more use to the neighbors of the park (like myself) than the softball field that appears to be primarily used by people that drive in from outside of the neighborhood."

- "A large enclosed dog off leash area would provide a great place for socializing and alleviate tensions between neighbors; there's often resentful back-and-forth on our neighborhood listserves about people letting their dogs off leash in the park. I used to live in Clarksville, where the dog park was a neighborhood gathering place, even though most people lived in homes with yards! I really think it's as or even more important than the other things listed."

- "I think a high value/low cost improvement would be to move the existing northern side of the pool fence outward 20 or 30 feet, creating a large shaded area where picnic tables could be placed, and people could lounge & sunbathe. Less cost-effectively, you might also consider moving the western fence out to the sidewalk's very edge, to again create a (little) more room for post-aquatic socializing. As it it is, the pool area is unnecessarily constricted, and its current open areas are sun-stricken."

- "Our public pool is poorly shaded and its hours of operation frustrating. Placing a raised tent/cover (like Crestview UM Preschool playground), could make it so much more enjoyable. Or, consider replacing it with a splash pad and planting additional trees to provide good shade. I could see a splash pad attracting a wider audience, especially if it had extended hours (8 am-7 pm) and was open May-September."

- "So many trees have been planted lately, I think it is going to be lovely as they grow, but for now the sandbox is right in the sun where there used to be a couple of huge, nice shade trees."

- "My first priority would actually be to address the issue of the dogs that are loose there every day. Sorry, I don't mean to sound like I'm harping or totally cranky, but this is really the top issue in my book. I don't have an answer for "how" to solve it though."

- "Continue the discussion about off-leash dogs. I realize people really like their dogs - and I'm glad they do. But for the rest of us who've been bitten by friendly neighborhood dogs, we are not fans in the least. If Brentwood is a leash-use zone, it should be a leash-use zone. Period."

- "Please do NOT make any part of this park a "leash free" dog park, or a dog park at all. I love dogs, and at the same time, I want a park for people - adults and children, a park free of dog waste - it's everywhere - even when there's a fenced area. Make it more pleasant for families and older people and it will be successful as a park that draws people."

Recommendations from the Brentwood/Highland Neighborhood Plan (2004)

Because of the large scope of the neighborhood plan, the majority of recommendations in the "Parks, Open Space and Environment" chapter are not directly relevant to Brentwood Park. Those that have some bearing on the park are listed here. The full plan can be downloaded at www.ci.austin.tx.us/planning/neighborhood/

Parks and Open Space Objective B1: Maintain and improve Brentwood Park

1. Improve security at Brentwood Park:
    - Install security lighting that does not negatively impact adjacent homes
    - Request additional park police patrols after 10:00pm

2. Plant additional trees in the Park

Parks and Open Space Objective B2: Create a greenbelt and hike and bile trail along Arroyo Seco

Parks and Open Space Objective B3: Ensure that there are adequate park facilities in or near the neighborhood

1. Ensure that there are adequate lighted sports fields in or near the neighborhood.

2. The neighborhood stakeholders are interested in a dog park for the neighborhood. There is no specific proposal, but the neighborhood would like to investigate options for the future.

"The Brentwood Neighborhood is very large, stretching for one and one half (1 ½) miles from north to south, and Brentwood Park is at the northern edge of the neighborhood. The southern part of the Brentwood Neighborhood does not have any parks or other community open spaces. Residents in this area are up to a mile and a half away from Brentwood Park, and they have to cross Koenig Lane to get there. Two important goals for the southern part of the neighborhood are creating improved routes to Brentwood Park that are safe and accessible, and developing additional community open spaces wherever possible. The neighborhood plan recommends a safe pedestrian crossing across Koenig Lane at Arroyo Seco to improve access to the park. The neighborhood plan also identifies unused City-owned right-of-way in the southern part of the neighborhood that would be an ideal location for a small community open space." (emphasis added)