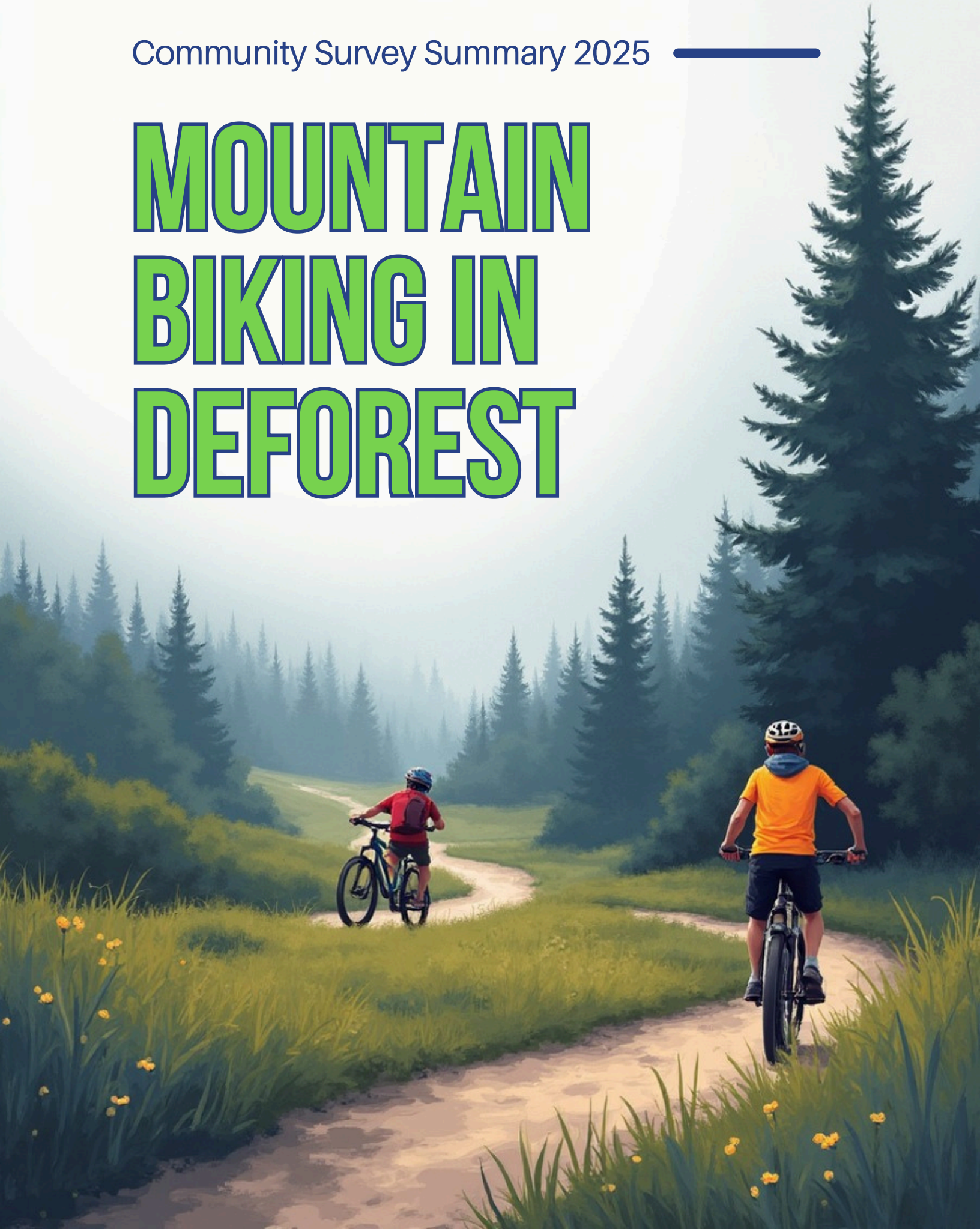
Community Survey Summary 2025

MOUNTAIN BIKING IN DEFOREST



WELCOME TO DEFOREST TRAIL GUIDE

Your Path to Community Adventure

DeForest is a community built around nature.
Now, we imagine new ways to explore it — **on two wheels.**

Together, we're designing trails that inspire adventure,
connect people with nature, and strengthen our community.

The new trail project aims to create safe, scenic,
and eco-friendly routes for riders of all ages.
Your feedback will help shape the future of DeForest parks.

Trail Facts !

- Proposed area: newly acquired parkland
- Estimated development: 2026–2027
- Focus: Sustainability & accessibility

TRAIL PROJECT OVERVIEW

Exploring DeForest's New Mountain Biking Vision

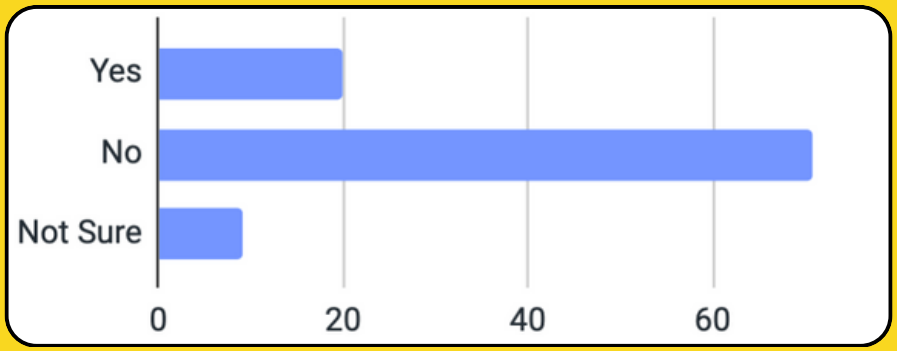


DeForest is shaping new mountain bike trails in recently acquired parkland, opening more ways to ride for residents and visitors.

Started in 2022 by the Mountain Bike Ad Hoc Group, the project is guided by public input and ongoing design work. Each trail will reflect DeForest's natural character, welcoming all skill levels while caring for sensitive habitats.

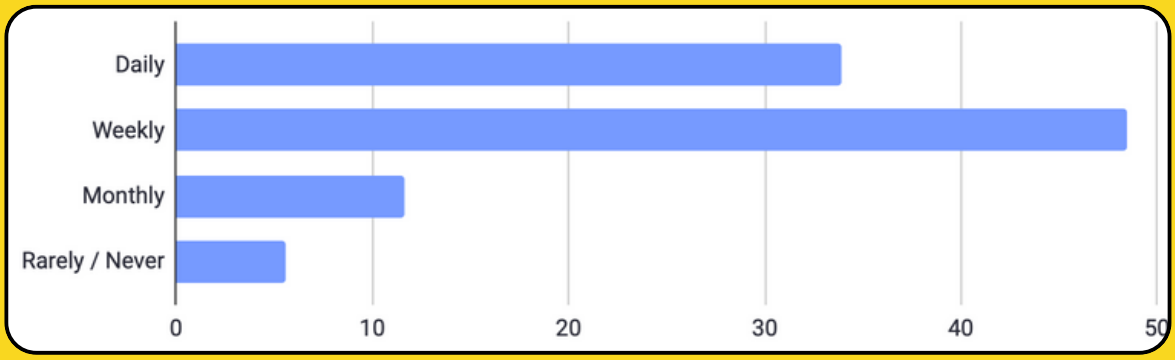
WHAT WE HEARD FROM THE COMMUNITY

🌲 Awareness of Existing Trails



Yes — 20.1% (75 respondents)
No — 70.9% (265 respondents)
Not Sure — 9.0% (34 respondents)

🚴 Park & Trail Usage Frequency

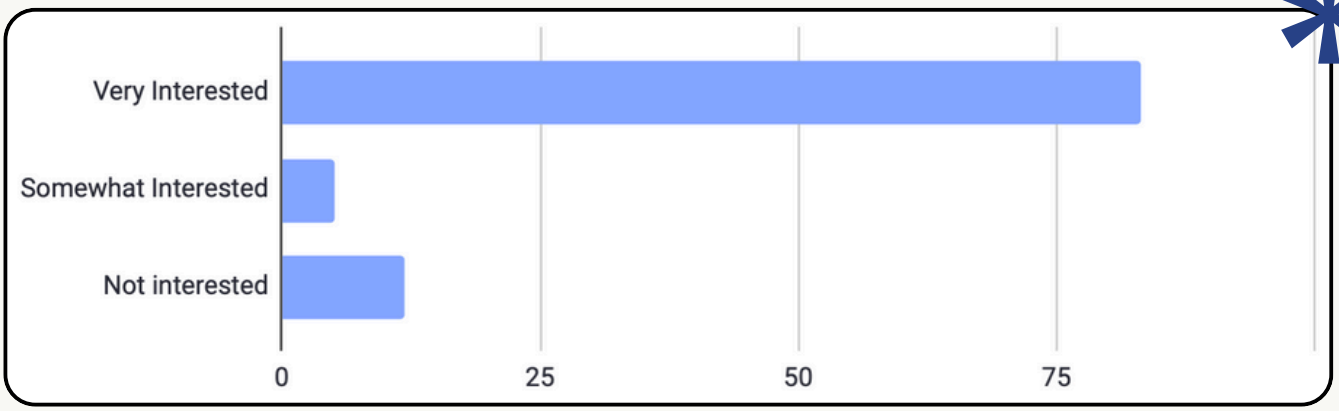


Daily — 33.9% | Weekly — 48.5% | Monthly — 11.6%
Rarely / Never — 5.6%

Over 80% of respondents use parks weekly or more, highlighting a community already engaged with outdoor spaces.

COMMUNITY INTEREST IN A NEW TRAIL

Interest in a New Eco-Friendly Trail



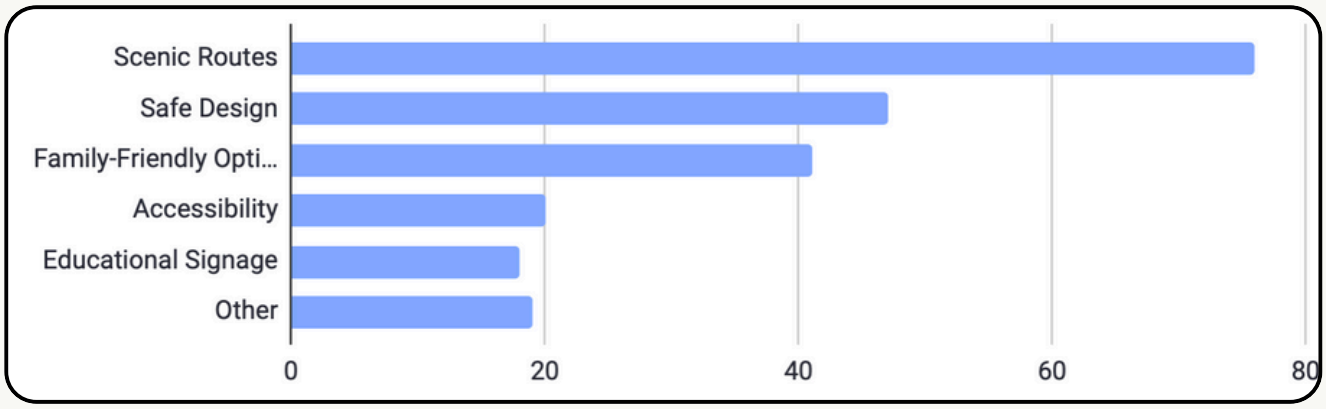
- Very Interested — 83.1% (310)
- Somewhat Interested — 5.1% (19)
- Not Interested — 11.8% (44)

A clear majority of residents are highly supportive of creating an official, sustainable mountain biking trail in DeForest.

This strong enthusiasm highlights both community readiness and the importance of thoughtful, eco-conscious planning.

WHAT MAKES A TRAIL MORE INVITING

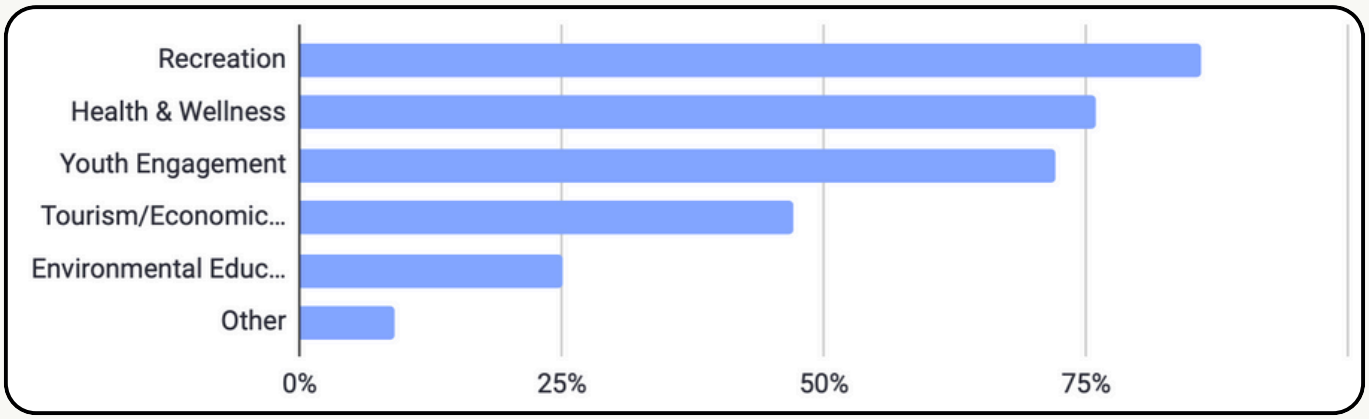
Top features that would encourage residents to use the new mountain bike trail.



- Scenic Routes — 76%
- Safe Design — 47%
- Family-Friendly Options — 41%
- Accessibility — 20%
- Educational Signage — 18%
- Other — 19%

Residents emphasized the importance of scenic and safe routes that welcome riders of all ages.

WHAT RESIDENTS EXPECT FROM A NEW TRAIL

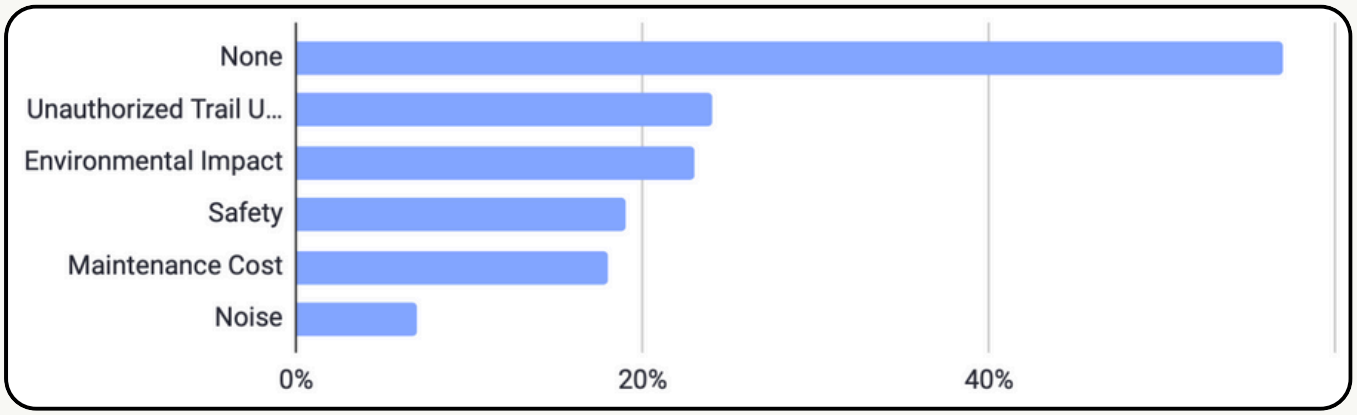


- Recreation — 86%
- Health & Wellness — 76%
- Youth Engagement — 72%
- Tourism/Economic Growth — 47%
- Environmental Education — 25%
- Other — 9%

Most respondents see the trail as a space for recreation, wellness, and youth engagement.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS AND PRIORITIES

Main concerns expressed about building a new trail.



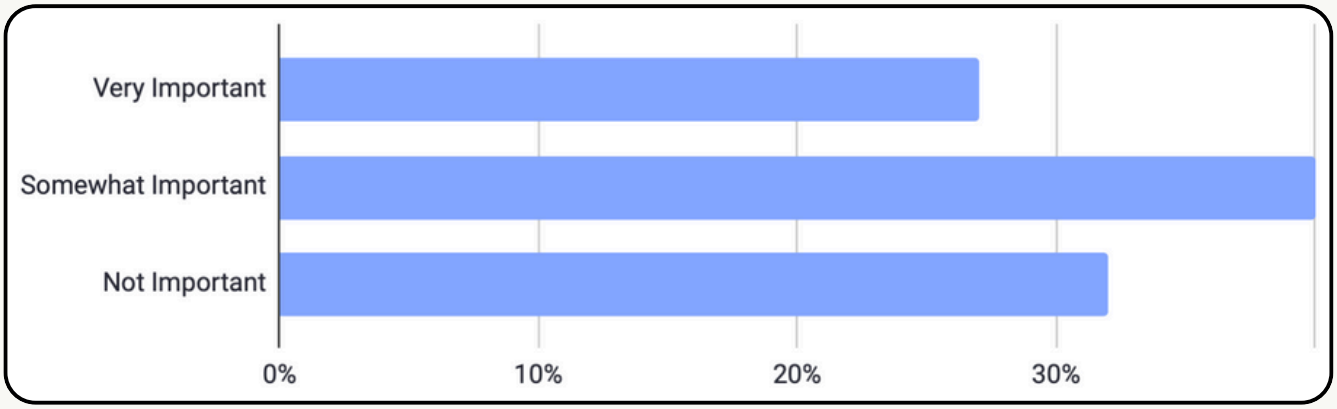
- None — 57%
- Unauthorized Trail Use — 24%
- Environmental Impact — 23%
- Safety — 19%
- Maintenance Cost — 18%
- Noise — 7%

While most expressed few concerns, environmental and safety considerations remain important.

One of your biggest concerns
— environmental impacts (23%)—
Another university student group is working on that part.

PREVENTING UNAUTHORIZED TRAILS

How important residents feel it is to manage unauthorized trail use.

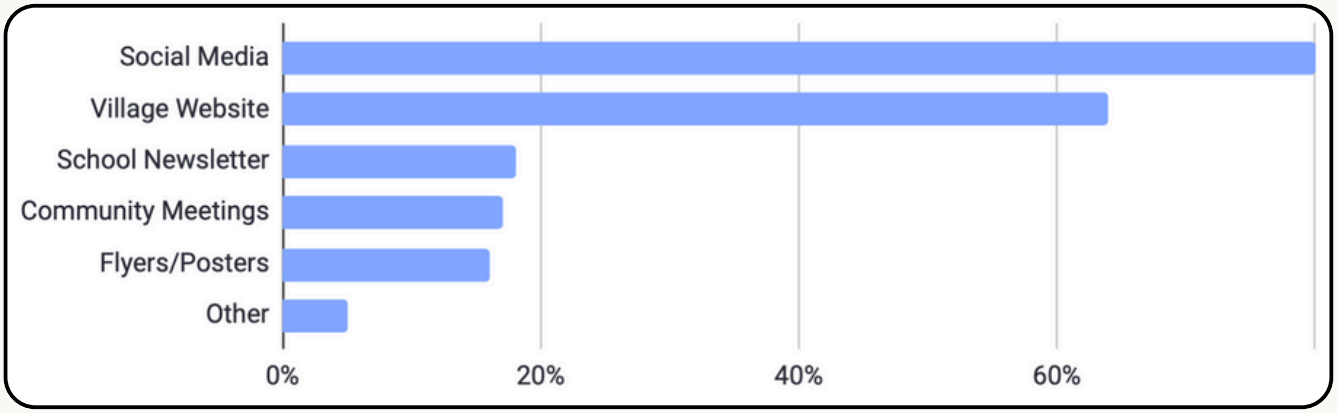


- Very Important — 27%
- Somewhat Important — 40%
- Not Important — 32%

The community values balanced oversight, emphasizing collaboration over restriction.

STAYING CONNECTED WITH THE PROJECT

Preferred ways residents would like to receive project updates.



- Social Media — 80%
- Village Website — 64%
- School Newsletter — 18%
- Community Meetings — 17%
- Flyers/Posters — 16%
- Other — 5%

Residents prefer quick, accessible digital updates, especially through social media and the Village website.

MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER

More than 80 respondents,
shared their email addresses.
We'll be setting up email distribution groups
to continue exchanging ideas and feedback.

We are excited to move forward
collaboratively.
We'll use your insights to ensure
the new trail reflects
community values, safety,
and environmental care.

Thank you for helping shape DeForest's future.