

Tot Park Shelter Survey Results

Background

At the 2020 AGM held in Tot Park, plans for a sheltered structure was presented to the membership and a committee was formed to explore the options for presentation at the 2021 AGM. During the 2021 AGM, the motion was passed that approved moving forward with the plans for a sheltered structure in Tot Park. With this direction, the Sandy Hook Community Association (SHCA) along with some community volunteers, applied for funding to the SCCF Legacy Fund. The project was supported by mayor and council in 2022, and funds to render the project “shovel ready” were applied for to the district in the fall of 2022 for the 2023 budget submission. This survey was created to ensure that a wider representation of the community had an opportunity to provide input. The survey was sent to the SHCA email list (100+ contacts), posted on the website, posted on the Everything Sandy Hook Facebook page with 400+ members, and information posters with hardcopies of the survey were put at each community board. The survey remained open for responses from August 13th to September 15th, and a reminder email was sent out prior to the deadline. In addition, two board members went to the houses boarding Tot Park to discuss the project. The project was discussed with the residents who were home that day.

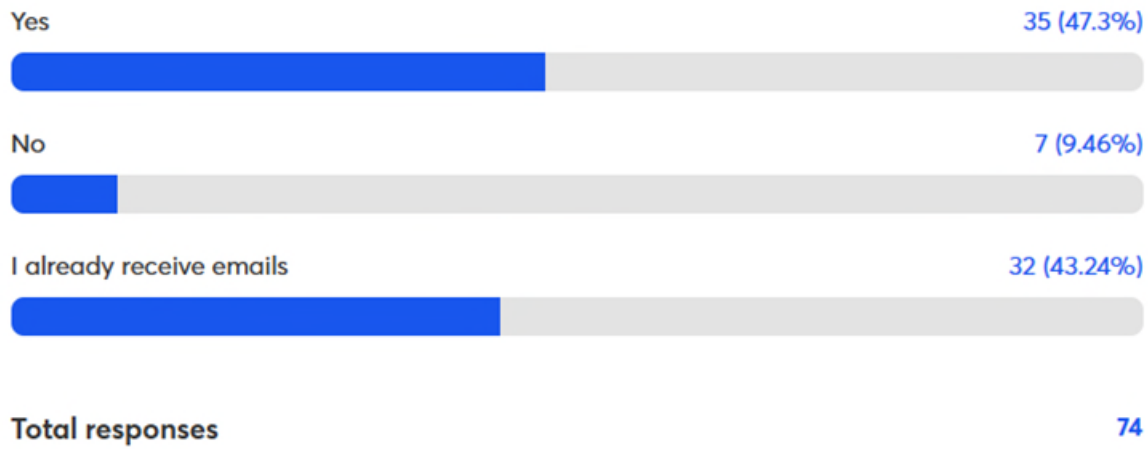
As a result of these efforts, there were 74 responses, representing 62 unique addresses, to the survey.

Below is a summary of the results.

Please state your Sandy Hook residency.

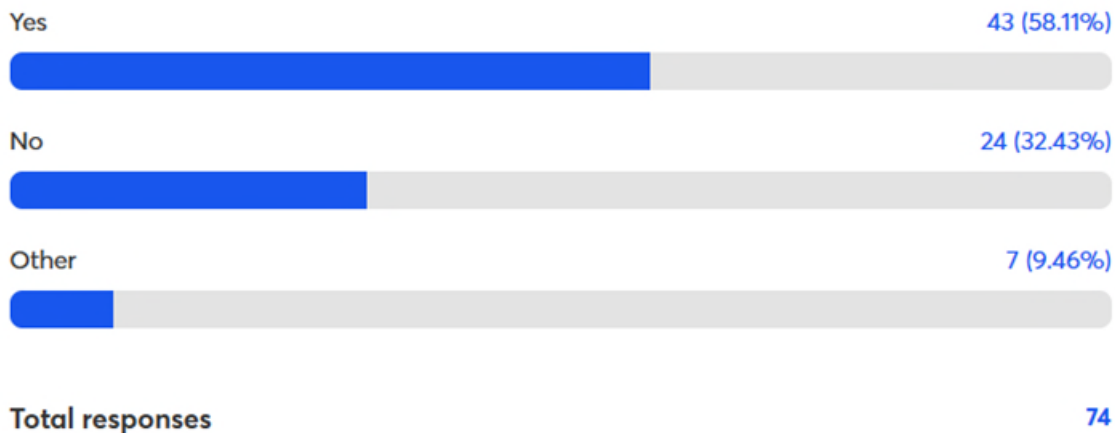


Would you like to receive emails from the Sandy Hook Community Association?



Do you support a sheltered structure in Tot Park?

Of the 74 responses, 43 are in favour, 24 are opposed, and 7 responded “other”. When the comments of the “other” responses are examined, it appears they are conditional support with the location, playground equipment, and approval of the residents surrounding the park stated. The “other” comments are listed below.



If the responses are examined by household (62), the following are the results:

Yes: 37 (60%); No: 17 (27%); Other: 5 (8%); Yes/No split: 1 (1.6%); Yes/Other split: 1 (1.6%); No/Other split: 1 (1.6%)

Other responses:

Other: I support the idea of a sheltered structure for community use, might be better at Sandy Hook Beach Park away from houses and an area that is better utilized. Tot Park can result in complaints from adjoining neighbours and takes away from kids use.

Other: I'm not opposed to it, but I would much prefer funds go to updating the very old and unsafe playground than a new shelter

Other: I am in support of the sheltered structure if those that live in close proximity to the park, support the project.

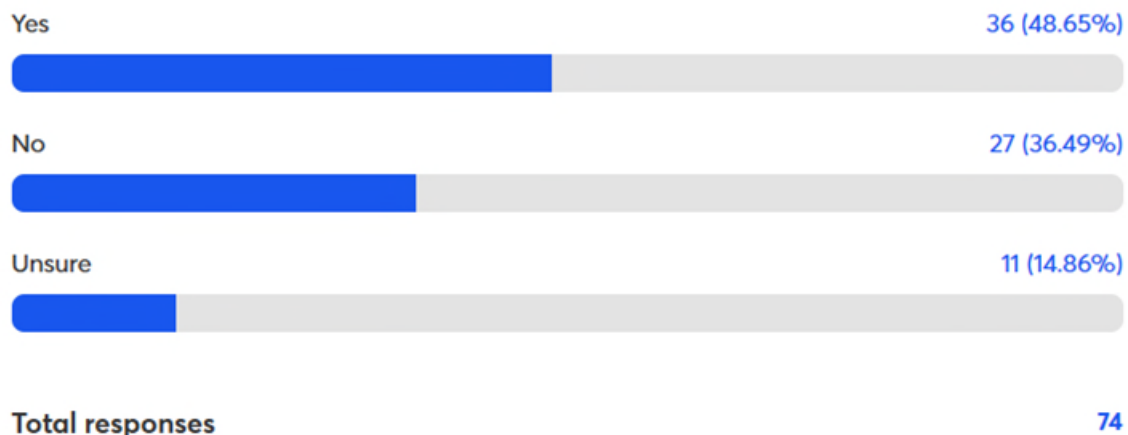
Other: I do but considering other priorities, this is not one of the top 3

Other: I think Sandyhook Park by the water would be more suitable. Access to water, better parking, more shade and a larger area

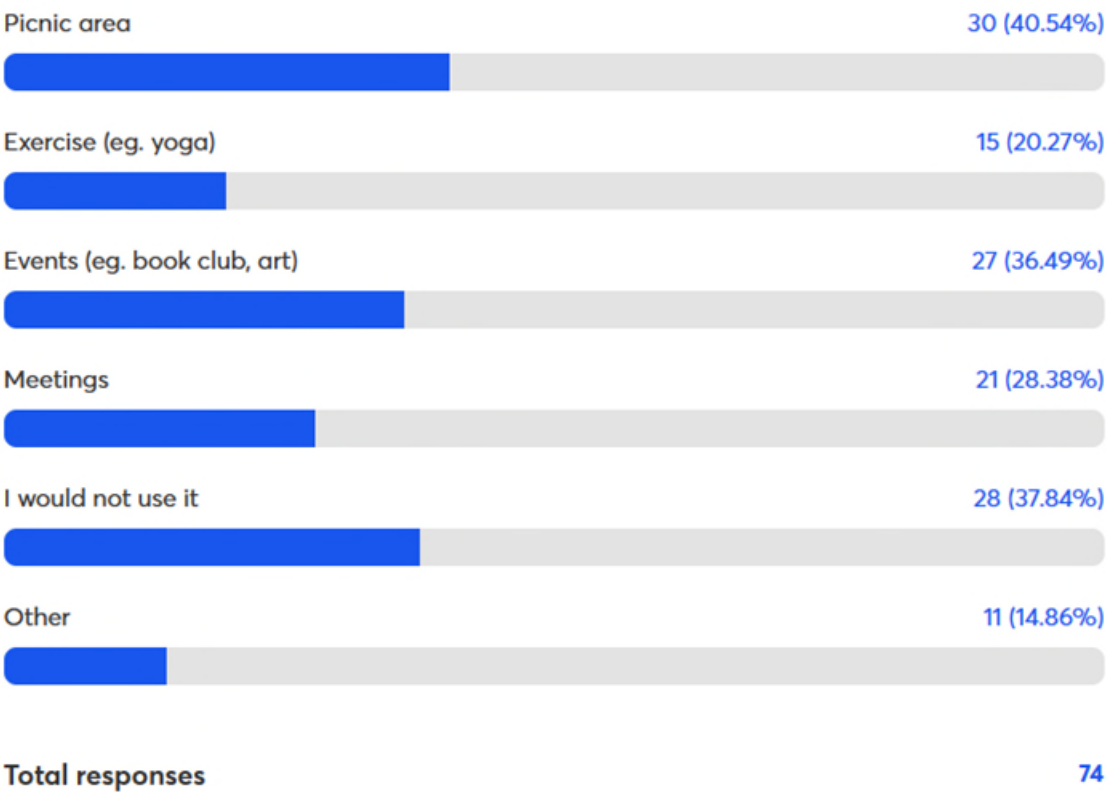
Other: If most people need and want and would use it- great. Have you considered door to door survey to see if enough people do still want and would definitely use it to make the cost worth it. This will only reach people on the Sandy Hook facebook page.

Other: Only if the surrounding residents approve.

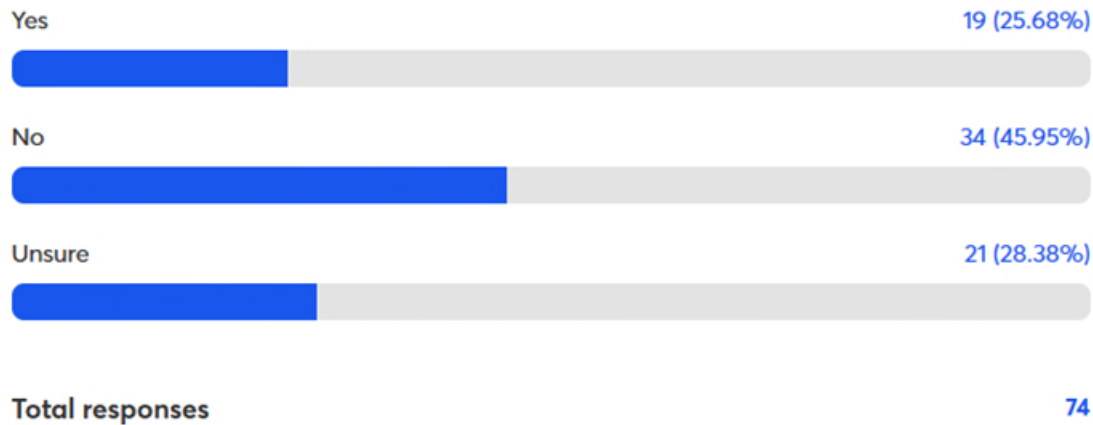
If there was a sheltered structure, would you use it?



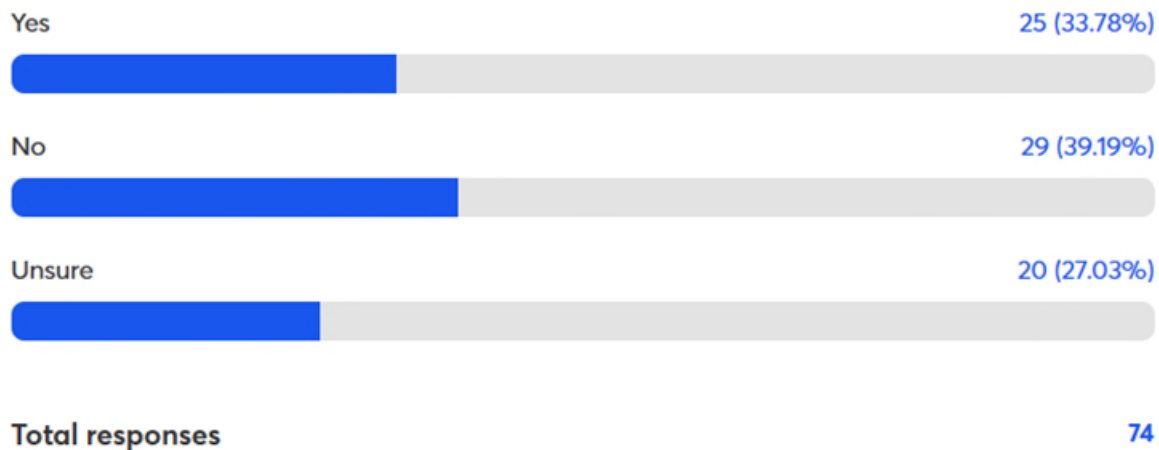
Please let us know how you would use a sheltered structure (check all that apply)



If further fundraising is required, would you be willing to help by volunteering your time?



If further fundraising is required, would be willing to donate funds?



If you have any comments, please state them in the space provided.

We already have annual events for Halloween and Christmas in park and have gotten very wet and cold! Would love to have a dry space with fire pit, surround seating etc. pulls everyone off their screens into social, healthy activities!!

This is the worst idea going. Create a space for partying Air BNB renters. No parking, ruin the park for the kids, will become a party shack, no buy in from close neighbours etc. You are not joining the community together but rather are driving a huge years long wedge into our community. Do not build this, opposition is mounting.

I just hope we have a chance to vote on the design

I fully support the project. I think it will be a good addition to Sandy Hook and will help to promote a sense of community. I did think that this was already approved at the 2021 AGM, so unsure as to why or if there is pushback on a project that already got the thumbs up from our residents.

This project moved forward without consultation with community. It's child space. Keep it that way!

People that think this is going to be used for the homeless to party in make me laugh. They just don't want change they can't control or have a say in... Especially when it's beside their house.

A covered shelter is an invitation to trouble. We have had people living in the woods and this structure would be too inviting. It would be too tempting to people who would try to build fires or drink/use drugs. The district doesn't have the personnel to patrol it, and I don't think the residents near the tot lot want to have night-time parties or events at the lot. Leave the tot lot as it is, a nice simple spot for young families to playing the daytime.

Who will maintain the structure? Vandalism concerns. Handicap accessibility? Parking? Picnic tables? Additional garbage bins? Signage addressing loud noise and camping. Would recommend not having any walls or partial height walls. Open on all sides for safety and maintenance concerns.

If business sponsors are allowed we might be able to donate a bit via our business.

Would support using available funds to improve both parks for use by young people in the neighbourhood. Currently are old structures.

we live so close to the Tot park that is why we don't think we'd ever use it. Probably for your meetings is the most valid use. I like to support your committee in any way I can but the park is not widely used and having the shelter I don't think will increase it's use. Hate to be a downer.

My concern is up-keeping the cleanliness of the facility.

My main concern is the point made about the supervision. It implies that "passers-by" will have the responsibility for supervising what happens at the structure. Given the "supervising" that we already have to do with the STRs in our neighbourhood (re: inappropriate garbage disposal, excess noise, traffic concerns, . . .) I, personally do not want to feel that each time I walk by the structure, I need to ensure that there are no "negative behaviours or unwelcome activities" happening there.

Considering our very hot summers and sometimes rainy fall and spring weather, a shelter will provide important shade for families and a place to sit and visit for seniors. It would be a welcoming gather space and child friendly with tables for drawing and creative arts.. Our local families need to be outdoors and this proposed multigenerational shelter would provide a safe and protected space for neighbours to visit and play. How about a game of checkers or chess? Good Luck!

I don't think this is necessary for our hood maybe use the money for fire prevention in sandy hook such as clean up and sprinklers for homes.

I would prefer to put the money towards playground improvements in the tot park! Similar to what is at Sandy Hook Park - we always take the kids there to play.

I use the Tot Park and would love shelter from rain and snow. We participate in carolling and other neighborhood events that would benefit from this.

Excellent plan

Sounds like and excellent idea!

I think this is super great for people with kids for birthdays etc but I don't have kids.

I wholly support this project and feel it's in the best interest of our community

Why don't you consider putting up a structure closer to the water. This will attract kids, druggies, abnb inconsiderates, just to name a few. More noise, traffic, garbage, needles etc. Who will maintain it? Who will police it? Has there been any consideration for those who live in close proximity? Open your eyes and take a look at what has happened to Sandy Hook in the past 5 years. Trailers, boats, cars parked on the road, construction vehicles parked over night.

What is the history on the decision for a structure at Tot Park? There are many that are opposed to building this structure in the park. Any plans should be stopped and further consultation

needs to be done with the residents LIVING near the park. We are the ones who will have to deal with the fallout from this.

I am opposed to the noise, the litter, the increased adult activity such a structure would invite. There is no parking. It would invite noise. It's tucked into a residential area. It seems to me Susan, you've raised this idea many times, had it shot down and here you are again trying to rush this through quickly. I plan on lodging complaints with the DOS if you continue with this. I don't want it here. Too many Sandy Hookers are apathetic since they don't have to live near it, well I DO!

I like the idea of having a covered place for people to gather and enjoy. I would use it.

This is an absolutely inconsiderate thought to any neighbouring home. I am opposing this fully and will address the district of Sechelt. This is a park with no parking will increase traffic and create more garbage for bears or any wildlife to be at risk. No more deers enjoying the grass grazing and bears roaming peacefully.

I am adamantly opposed to this idea. As someone who lives practically next door to it I think my voice matters more than those of you who are bullying this through despite living far away where it won't affect you in the slightest. My concerns are partying teens, STR partiers, homeless junkies needing shelter, garbage, beer cans, needles, left in their wake with no one willing to police or clean up, increase bear attractants, noise! no parking. This isn't a gathering place. It's a quiet tot park.

This structure would be great for those using the tot park - probably those with younger children or grandchildren. I think all Hookers should support such a project. Most of us have had kids or grandkids at one time or another.

What will be the ongoing maintenance costs of such a structure and how will it be funded? While I am in favour of community spaces, in these days of scarce resources, I just want to make sure it's been thought through and prioritized accordingly in light of other demands within the community.

Let Skookum Hut be born :)

In general, the park in upper Sandyhook is not that appealing. Sandyhook park already has an outhouse and parking. It is a better fit.

I might use it a few times per year if it were used as a meeting place for the community association. I'd be willing to make a modest donation.

There are sooooo many other, more important things the District should be spending their money on.

A shelter would encourage gatherings which are not always going to be of the sedate, community organized nature suggested above. Parties, for example. There's such opposition in Sandy Hook to large Short Term Rentals and now we're talking about providing a gathering

place for large groups? It is an incredibly quiet area. A community space should not come at a detriment to any residents neighbouring the park. My property directly overlooks the park and I vehemently object to this plan.

We are heading into a recession. Not the time for community projects.

This would really add to our community as we have no covered public gathering spot for gatherings.

I'd love to see this idea move forward and would love to see a closed-in space so it could be used as a gathering space given the wet/dark weather for two-thirds of the year. I unfortunately don't have the time to put any volunteer hours toward this project - young kids, working full time and am in online school in the evenings. But know our household is super supportive of this and has been for a number of years. I remember concerns with Tot Park as a site, could Sandy Hook Park be an option?

Users - not necessarily going to be from our area yet would bring increased traffic and noise affecting local residents. Parking an issue. Said area already has increased noise levels to due high ratio of unlicensed and licensed STRs which bylaw and police do nothing about. Who wants a magnet for noise, litter, vandalism across the street from their home. Without high proportional plebiscite from the residents of the immediate area it is unethical to go forward. Vehemently opposed.

I've noticed the new structure at Jane Bower's park. Certainly we could do something like that?

We are concerned that this shelter would receive only occasional use by residents and instead become a target for illicit activities and unhomed persons. Additionally, unless daily monitoring/cleanup is happening, food scraps left by users will attract wildlife creating a danger to animals and people.

The park's hill is a "main" year-round play area feature for sledding, biking, and rolling. With it gone there'll only be an aging slide, swings and sand. How sad. How about building the simplest shelter structure and adding a multi-use play feature to replace the hill for the kids? We do support a shelter in our community but not at the cost of removing such a fun and creative play feature. We have a view of the park and know how often the hill is used. Please reach out if needed.

The Community Association did not approve a structure in 2002. They approved a committee to look into one. Please check minutes from that meeting.

Like proposed structure and location - huge fan - nice job!

I feel that this project keeps getting pushed along by the few people who are wanting this. I do not feel that a survey that reflects the true population has been done prior to this stage. A building like this will only invite problems and who will be left to police this area but those living directly around Tot park. I am not in favour and want to see our green space left as is.

Against this and other like type. Leave this as a rural/local neighbourhood for the residents. There is enough ongoing in and out of non-residents re BnB etc that cause excessive noise/strain on our limited resources.