

LWRP Survey Summary

1. What aspects of Elmira's Waterfront do you enjoy?

Scenic Views & Nature (45%) – Respondents indicate that they enjoy the river views, presence of wildlife (eagles, falcons, duck, geese, fish), and overall natural beauty.

Recreational Activities (25%) – Walking, biking, fishing, kayaking, canoeing, hiking, and photography were noted as popular recreational activities by respondents.

Parks & Trails (10%) – Responses highlight enjoyment of the pedestrian bridge, parks, and walking trails.

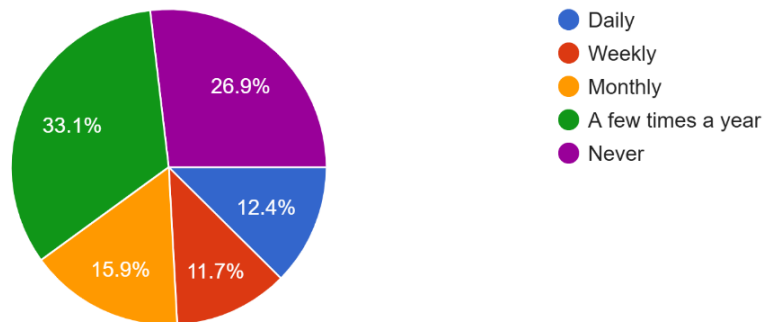
Community & Social Aspects (3%) – Some mention the desire for gathering spaces, community events, and socializing.

Do not visit the waterfront (9%) – Some respondents expressed that they do not visit the waterfront due to lack of cleanliness, homelessness, lack of activities.

2. How often do you utilize Elmira's Waterfront for recreation?

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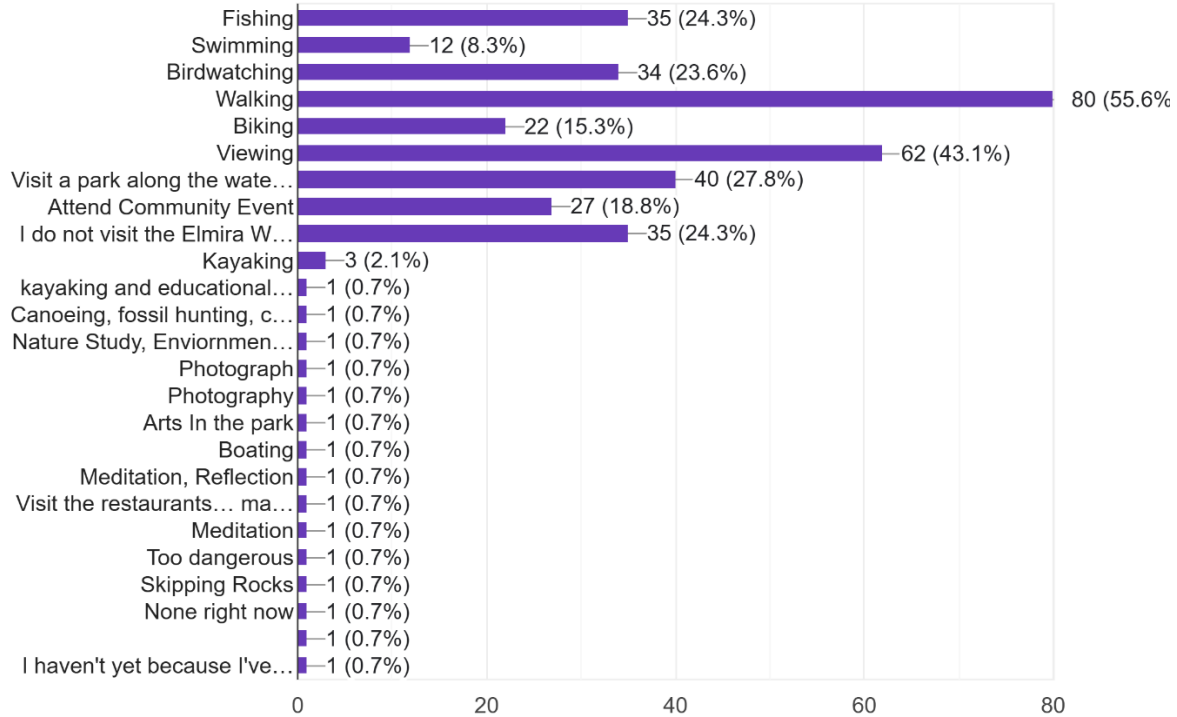
145 responses



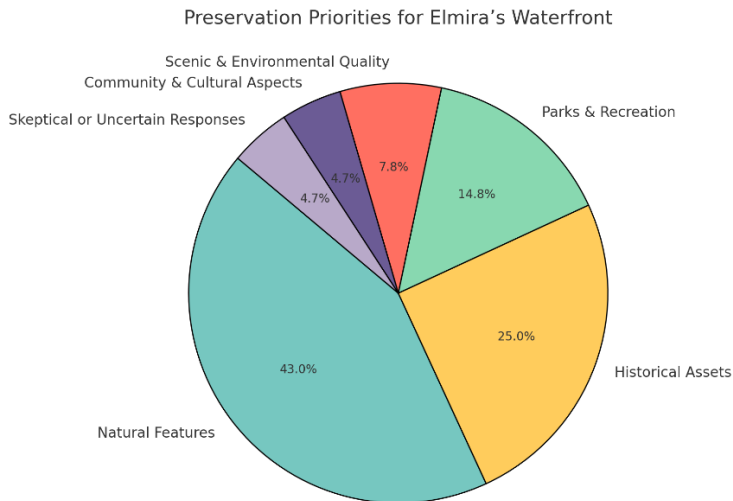
3. What activities have you participated in along the Elmira Waterfront?

What activities have you participated in along the Elmira Waterfront? (check all that apply)

144 responses



4. What assets (natural or historical) along Elmira's Waterfront should be preserved?



Natural Features (43.0%) – Trees, wildlife habitats, fish populations, water quality, shoreline stability, bird refuges, and riparian buffers.

Historical Assets (25.0%) – Civil War prison camp, historic buildings, bridges (Lake St Bridge), Samuel Clemens’ landmarks, historic walkways, and shopping areas.

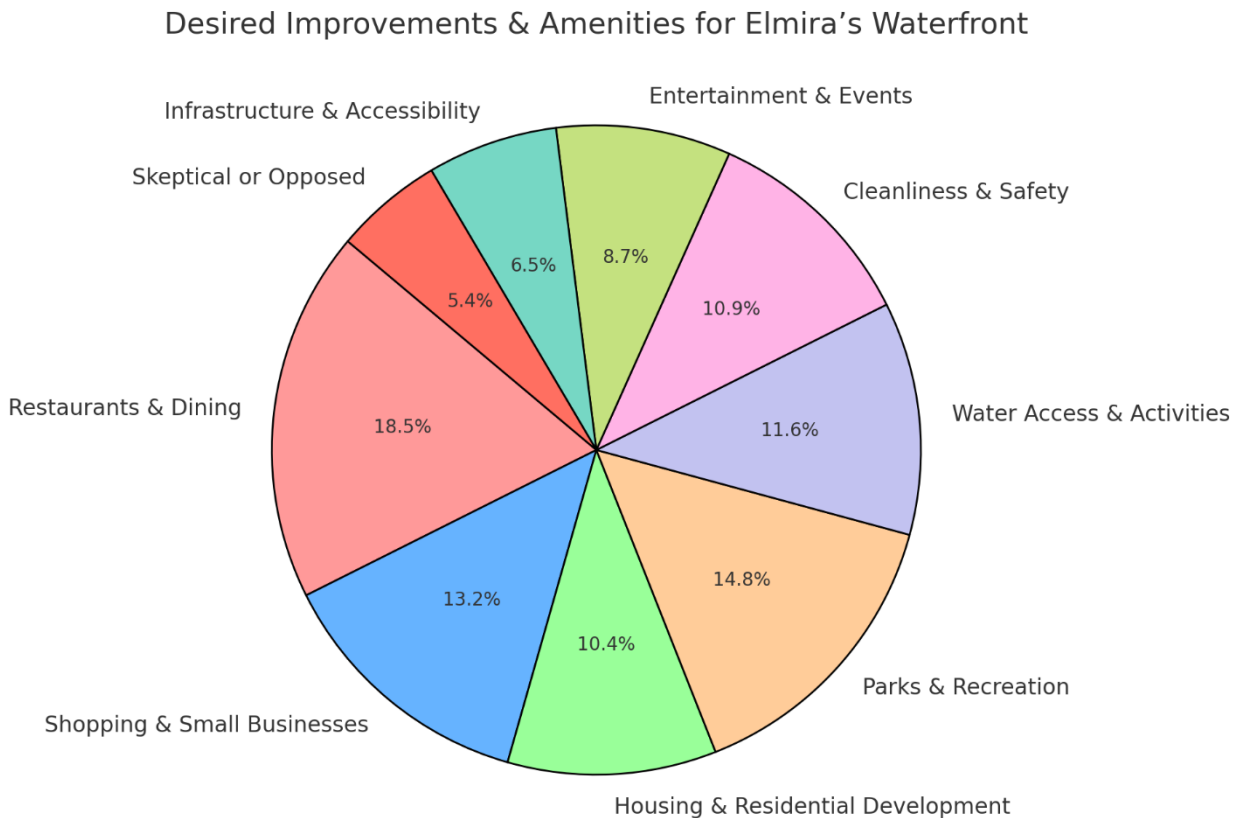
Parks & Recreation (14.8%) – Parks, walking trails, pedestrian access, observation areas, picnic spots, and river access.

Scenic & Environmental Quality (7.8%) – Views, cleanliness, shoreline aesthetics, avoiding excessive manmade alterations.

Community & Cultural Aspects (4.7%) – Small businesses, museums, historical tours, outdoor event spaces, and public gathering places.

Uncertain Responses (4.7%) – "None," "Not sure"

5. What improvements or amenities (e.g. restaurants, housing, shopping, etc.) to Elmira's Waterfront would you like to see?



Restaurants & Dining (18.5%) – Waterfront restaurants, cafés, microbreweries, food trucks, and snack bars.

Shopping & Small Businesses (13.2%) – Boutiques, markets, local shops, convenience stores, and art installations.

Housing & Residential Development (10.4%) – Apartments, mid-range and affordable housing, mixed-use developments.

Parks & Recreation (14.8%) – Boardwalks, trails, picnic areas, playgrounds, benches, seating, and public gathering spaces.

Water Access & Activities (11.6%) – Kayak and boat rentals, docks, water-related recreation, steps down to the river.

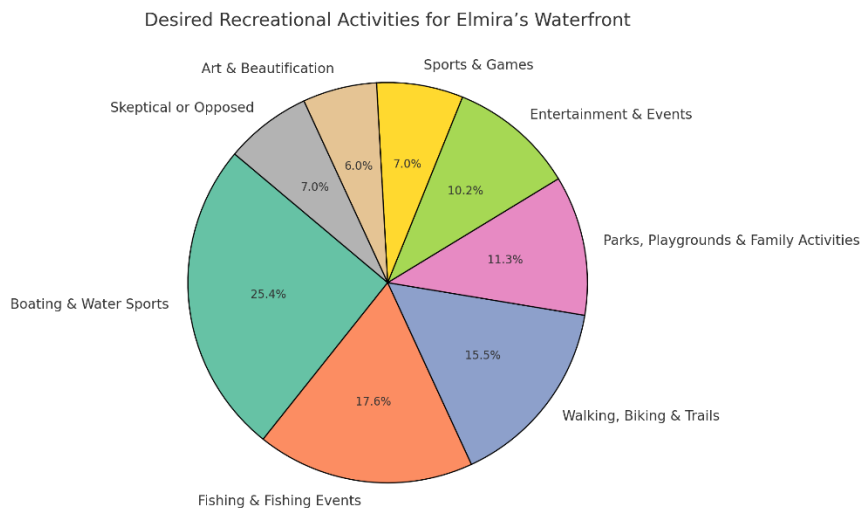
Cleanliness & Safety (10.9%) – Addressing homelessness, crime prevention, better maintenance, trash cleanup, more/better lighting.

Entertainment & Events (8.7%) – Outdoor concerts, festivals, art and cultural events, historical reenactments.

Infrastructure & Accessibility (6.5%) – Better walking bridges, viewing platforms, flood wall modifications, transportation improvements.

None (5.4%)

6. What recreational activities would you like to see available along Elmira's Waterfront?



Boating & Water Sports (25.4%) – Kayaking, canoeing, paddleboarding, tubing, jet skiing, boat launches, boat racing.

Fishing & Fishing Events (17.6%) – More fishing access, fishing tournaments, fishing derbies for kids.

Walking, Biking & Trails (15.5%) – Walking paths, bike trails, jogging areas, better viewing spots.

Parks, Playgrounds & Family Activities (11.3%) – Playgrounds, picnic areas, activities for kids, youth programs.

Entertainment & Events (10.2%) – Concerts, festivals, parades, outdoor movies, historical tours, guided walks.

Sports & Games (7.0%) – Bocce ball, beach volleyball, disc golf, basketball, horseshoes.

Art & Beautification (6.0%) – Murals, sculptures, art walks, chalk mural art, floral decorations.

N/A (7.0%) – Some responses indicated no interest in adding activities or believed space was insufficient.

7. What communities have you visited that have great waterfronts? What makes these waterfronts great and how can Elmira learn from these communities?

Watkins Glen (14.1%) – Shops, parks, scenic views, restaurants, and clean spaces.

Ithaca & Finger Lakes Region (12.3%) – Trails, seating, parks, and strong integration between communities and the waterfront.

Buffalo & Niagara Falls (9.4%) – Well-maintained public spaces, outdoor activities, community events.

Rochester (7.5%) – Riverwalk, Genesee Brew House, trails, and nightlife.

San Antonio River Walk (6.6%) – Dining, tourism, well-lit walkways, and cultural appeal.

Corning (5.7%) – Walkability, cleanliness, more developed than Elmira.

Owego & Towanda (5.7%) – multi-use trails, safe & clean public spaces.

Other notable mentions: Chicago, Albany, Skaneateles, Cleveland, Jacksonville, Baltimore, Canandaigua, Hudson Valley, Rhode Island.

8. Where do you see opportunities for improved access to the Chemung River?

Downtown Core (Along Water Street) – Better access near downtown Elmira, including boat docks, safer walking paths, and connections to restaurants and shops.

Grove St Boat Launch- Improve existing boat launches, add kayak/canoe docks/rentals, safer fishing areas, and dredging the river for better use.

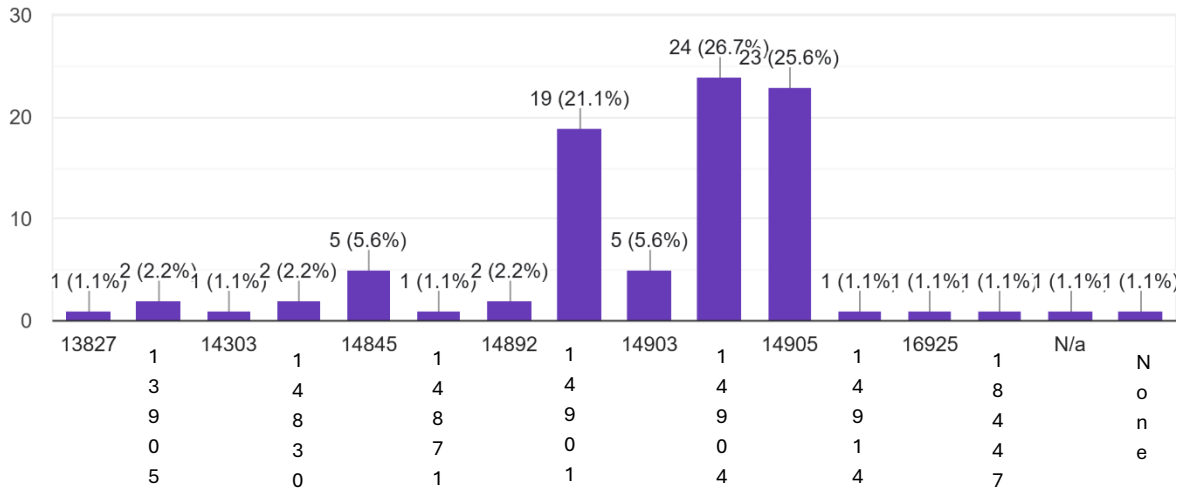
Pirozzolo Park

Along Bus Routes

LWRP Survey Demographic Information

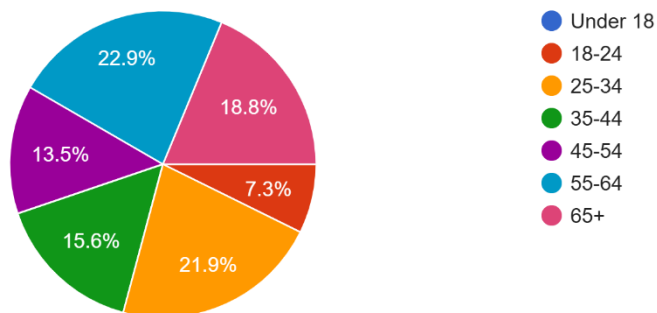
What is your home zip code?

90 responses



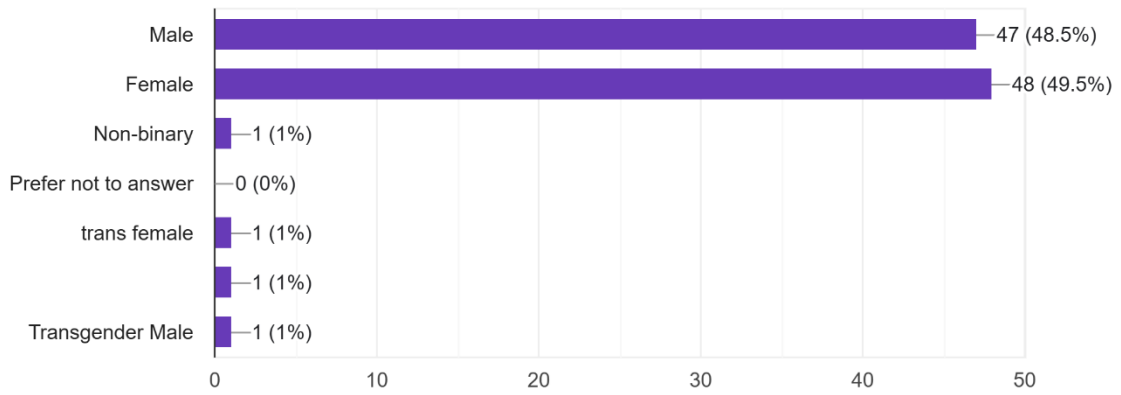
What is your age?

96 responses



What is your gender identity? (check all that apply)

97 responses



What is your race?

93 responses

